

Learning objectives:

1. Applications of derivative in measuring rates of change
2. Motions of particles in physics.
3. Current in electrodynamics.
4. Marginal cost in economics.

Example 1. The position of a particle is given by the equation $s(t) = t^3 - 6t^2 + 9t$, where t is measured in seconds and s is measured in meters.

1. Find the velocity at time t .

$$v(t) = s'(t)$$

$$= 3t^2 - 12t + 9$$

2. What is the velocity after 2 s? After 4 s?

$$v(2) = 3(2)^2 - 12(2) + 9 = -3 \text{ m/s.} \rightarrow \text{Particle is moving to the left}$$

$$v(4) = 3(4)^2 - 12(4) + 9 = 9 \text{ m/s.} \rightarrow \text{moving to the right}$$

3. When is the particle at rest?

$$\text{At rest } v(t) = 0$$

$$3t^2 - 12t + 9 = 0 \Rightarrow 3(t^2 - 4t + 3) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 3(t-1)(t-3) = 0 \Rightarrow t-1=0 \text{ or } t-3=0 \Rightarrow \boxed{t=1, t=3}$$

↑
instants of rest.

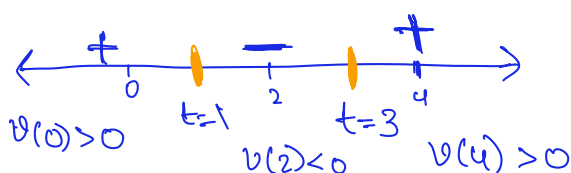
4. When is the particle moving forward (that is, in the positive direction)?

Velocity is +ve

$$v(t) > 0$$

• Find t for which $v(t) = 0 \Rightarrow t = 1$ or $t = 3$

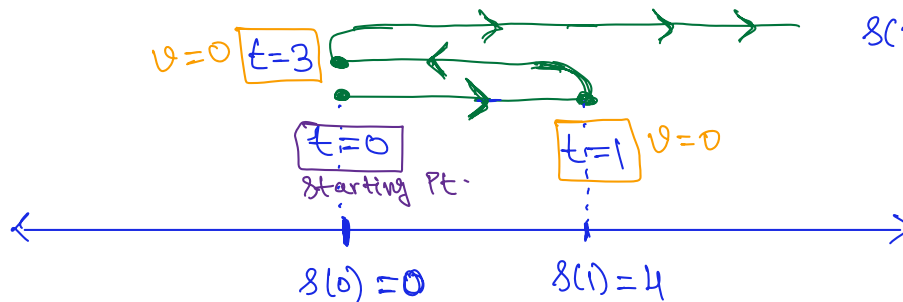
• Draw the number line and locate $t = 1$ and $t = 3$



\Rightarrow moving forward when

$t < 1$ or when $t > 3$

5. Draw a diagram to represent the motion of the particle. $s(t) = t^3 - 6t^2 + 9t$
 $s(0) = 0, s(1) = 4$
 $s(3) = 27 - 54 + 27 = 0$



6. Find the total distance traveled by the particle during the first five seconds.

(cannot just say distance is $s(5) - s(0)$, displacement.)

$$\text{distance} = |s(1) - s(0)| + |s(3) - s(1)| + |s(5) - s(3)|$$

$$s(5) = 5^3 - 6(5)^2 + 9(5) = 20 \quad = |4 - 0| + |0 - 4| + |20 - 0|$$

$$= 4 + 4 + 20 = 28 \text{ m.}$$

7. Find the acceleration at time t and after 4 s.

$$a(t) = v'(t) = \frac{d}{dt}(3t^2 - 12t + 9) = 6t - 12$$

$$a(4) = 6(4) - 12 = 12 \text{ m/s}^2$$

8. When is the particle speeding up? When is it slowing down?

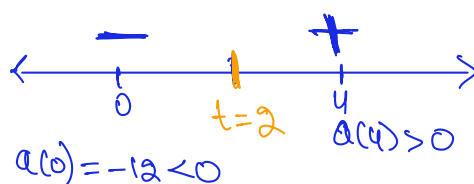
Positive
acceleration

Negative
acceleration.

- Find t for which $a(t) = 0$

$$a(t) = 6t - 12 = 0 \Rightarrow 6t = 12 \Rightarrow t = 2 \text{ s.}$$

- Draw a number line and locate points t when $a(t) = 0$



Speeding up when $t > 2$ s and slowing down when $t < 2$ s

Example 2. The charge flowing through a circuit varies with times as $q(t) = 10t + 0.1 \sin(50t + \pi)$ coulombs.

1. Find the amount of current in amperes flowing through the circuit at time t .
2. What are the maximum and minimum values of the current flowing through the circuit.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \textcircled{1} \quad i(t) &= q'(t) = \frac{dq}{dt} \\
 &= \frac{d}{dt} (10t + 0.1 \sin(50t + \pi)) \\
 &= \frac{d}{dt} (10t) + 0.1 \frac{d}{dt} (\sin(50t + \pi)) \\
 &= 10 + (0.1) \cos(50t + \pi) \underbrace{\frac{d}{dt} (50t + \pi)}_{\text{chain rule}} \\
 &= 10 + (0.1) 50 \cos(50t + \pi) = 10 + 5 \cos(50t + \pi) \text{ Amps}
 \end{aligned}$$

b/w -1 and +1

$$\textcircled{2} \quad -1 \leq \cos(50t + \pi) \leq 1 \Rightarrow -5 \leq 5 \cos(50t + \pi) \leq 5$$

$$10 - 5 \leq 10 + 5 \cos(50t + \pi) \leq 10 + 5 \Rightarrow 5 \leq i(t) \leq 15$$

max.
↑
Lmin

Example 3. The cost of producing x units of an item is given by $10,000 + 5x + 0.01x^2$ dollars. Find the cost of producing one more item after 500 items have been produced.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{C(501) - C(500)}{501 - 500} &\approx C'(500) \\
 C'(x) &= \frac{d}{dx} (10000 + 5x + 0.01x^2) \\
 &= 0 + 5 + (0.01)2x = 5 + 0.02x \\
 C'(500) &= 5 + (0.02)(500) = 15 \text{ dollars}
 \end{aligned}$$

↑
marginal cost