

Hi, my name is Key

AP Calculus AB: 5.4 Intervals of Direction

1. A particle's velocity is given by the function $v(t) = (3t - 2)(t - 5)^2$ where velocity is measured in m/s and time is measured in seconds for the interval $0 \leq t \leq 9$.

a) Find the interval(s) where the particle is traveling to the left.

$v(t) = 0$
 $3t - 2 = 0 \quad (t - 5)^2 = 0$
 $t = \frac{2}{3} \quad t = 5$

$\leftarrow \begin{array}{c} + \\ \frac{2}{3} \quad 5 \end{array} \rightarrow$

$v(0) = (-)(+) = -$
 $v(1) = (+)(+) = +$
 $v(10) = (+)(+) = +$

$\left[0, \frac{2}{3}\right]$ because $v(t)$ is negative

b) Find when the particle changes direction.

$t = \frac{2}{3}$ because $v(t)$ changes signs

c) Find when $a(t) = 0$

$v'(t) = a(t) = (t - 5)^2(3) + (3t - 2)2(t - 5)'(1) = (t - 5)[3t - 15 + 6t - 4]$
 $a(t) = 0$
 $t - 5 = 0 \quad 9t - 19 = 0$
 $t = 5 \quad t = \frac{19}{9}$

d) Find the average acceleration of the particle from $t=0$ to $t=3$.

$\frac{v(3) - v(0)}{3 - 0} = \frac{20 + 50}{3} = \frac{70}{3} = 23\frac{1}{3}$

(Calculator Allowed)

2. A particle's position, for time interval $-1 \leq t \leq 1$, is given by the formula

$s(t) = 5 + (2t^3 - 4)^{\frac{5}{3}} - t^2$, $s(t)$ is measured in meters and t is measured in seconds.

a) What is the particle's instantaneous velocity at $t=0.3$

$s'(0.3) = 1.65 \text{ m/s}$

b) Find all the times between $-1 \leq t \leq 1$ when the particle changes direction.

Justify.

Graph $s'(t)$ or $v(t)$ and find where $v(t)$ crosses the x -axis.

$t = 0 \frac{1}{2} \approx 0.79$ because $v(t)$ changes signs.

c) Find all the times when the acceleration of the particle is equal to 0.5 m/s^2 on the time interval $-1 \leq t \leq 1$.

$v'(t) = a(t) = .5$

$t = .05 \frac{1}{2} \approx .99$