

2017 AP[®] CALCULUS AB FREE-RESPONSE QUESTIONS

5. Two particles move along the x -axis. For $0 \leq t \leq 8$, the position of particle P at time t is given by $x_P(t) = \ln(t^2 - 2t + 10)$, while the velocity of particle Q at time t is given by $v_Q(t) = t^2 - 8t + 15$. Particle Q is at position $x = 5$ at time $t = 0$.
- (a) For $0 \leq t \leq 8$, when is particle P moving to the left?
- (b) For $0 \leq t \leq 8$, find all times t during which the two particles travel in the same direction.
- (c) Find the acceleration of particle Q at time $t = 2$. Is the speed of particle Q increasing, decreasing, or neither at time $t = 2$? Explain your reasoning.
- (d) Find the position of particle Q the first time it changes direction.

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2. A particle moves along the x -axis with velocity given by $v(t) = \frac{10 \sin(0.4t^2)}{t^2 - t + 3}$ for time $0 \leq t \leq 3.5$.

The particle is at position $x = -5$ at time $t = 0$.

- (a) Find the acceleration of the particle at time $t = 3$.
- (b) Find the position of the particle at time $t = 3$.
- (c) Evaluate $\int_0^{3.5} v(t) dt$, and evaluate $\int_0^{3.5} |v(t)| dt$. Interpret the meaning of each integral in the context of the problem.
- (d) A second particle moves along the x -axis with position given by $x_2(t) = t^2 - t$ for $0 \leq t \leq 3.5$. At what time t are the two particles moving with the same velocity?

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Question 5

(a) $x'_P(t) = \frac{2t - 2}{t^2 - 2t + 10} = \frac{2(t - 1)}{t^2 - 2t + 10}$

$t^2 - 2t + 10 > 0$ for all t .

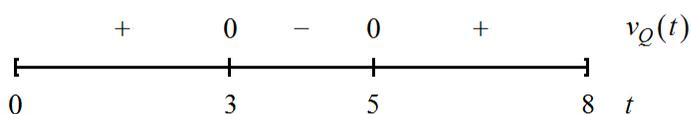
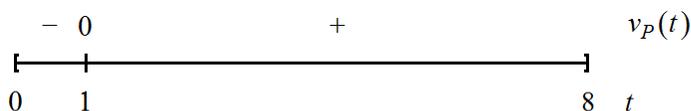
$x'_P(t) = 0 \Rightarrow t = 1$

$x'_P(t) < 0$ for $0 \leq t < 1$.

Therefore, the particle is moving to the left for $0 \leq t < 1$.

(b) $v_Q(t) = (t - 5)(t - 3)$

$v_Q(t) = 0 \Rightarrow t = 3, t = 5$



Both particles move in the same direction for $1 < t < 3$ and $5 < t \leq 8$ since $v_P(t) = x'_P(t)$ and $v_Q(t)$ have the same sign on these intervals.

(c) $a_Q(t) = v'_Q(t) = 2t - 8$

$a_Q(2) = 2 \cdot 2 - 8 = -4$

$a_Q(2) < 0$ and $v_Q(2) = 3 > 0$

At time $t = 2$, the speed of the particle is decreasing because velocity and acceleration have opposite signs.

(d) Particle Q first changes direction at time $t = 3$.

$$x_Q(3) = x_Q(0) + \int_0^3 v_Q(t) dt = 5 + \int_0^3 (t^2 - 8t + 15) dt$$

$$= 5 + \left[\frac{1}{3}t^3 - 4t^2 + 15t \right]_{t=0}^{t=3} = 5 + (9 - 36 + 45) = 23$$

2 : $\begin{cases} 1 : x'_P(t) \\ 1 : \text{interval} \end{cases}$

2 : $\begin{cases} 1 : \text{intervals} \\ 1 : \text{analysis using } v_P(t) \text{ and } v_Q(t) \end{cases}$

Note: 1/2 if only one interval with analysis

Note: 0/2 if no analysis

2 : $\begin{cases} 1 : a_Q(2) \\ 1 : \text{speed decreasing with reason} \end{cases}$

3 : $\begin{cases} 1 : \text{antiderivative} \\ 1 : \text{uses initial condition} \\ 1 : \text{answer} \end{cases}$

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Question 2

(a) $v'(3) = -2.118$

The acceleration of the particle at time $t = 3$ is -2.118 .

1 : answer

(b) $x(3) = x(0) + \int_0^3 v(t) dt = -5 + \int_0^3 v(t) dt = -1.760213$

The position of the particle at time $t = 3$ is -1.760 .

3 : $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} 1 : \int_0^3 v(t) dt \\ 1 : \text{uses initial condition} \\ 1 : \text{answer} \end{array} \right.$

(c) $\int_0^{3.5} v(t) dt = 2.844$ (or 2.843)

$$\int_0^{3.5} |v(t)| dt = 3.737$$

The integral $\int_0^{3.5} v(t) dt$ is the displacement of the particle over the time interval $0 \leq t \leq 3.5$.

The integral $\int_0^{3.5} |v(t)| dt$ is the total distance traveled by the particle over the time interval $0 \leq t \leq 3.5$.

3 : $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} 1 : \text{answers} \\ 2 : \text{interpretations of } \int_0^{3.5} v(t) dt \\ \text{and } \int_0^{3.5} |v(t)| dt \end{array} \right.$

(d) $v(t) = x_2'(t)$

$$v(t) = 2t - 1 \Rightarrow t = 1.57054$$

The two particles are moving with the same velocity at time $t = 1.571$ (or 1.570).

2 : $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} 1 : \text{sets } v(t) = x_2'(t) \\ 1 : \text{answer} \end{array} \right.$