

September 13, 2010 Physics 121 Prof. E. F. Redish

- **Theme Music:** Elton John
Rocket Man
- **Cartoon:** Bill Waterson
Calvin & Hobbes

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Outline

- Quiz 1 (10 minutes)
- Recap Velocity
 - average and instantaneous
 - words, equations, and graphs
 - Examples
- ILD 1
- Multiple Representations

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Graphing velocity: Figuring it out from the position

■ You can figure out the velocity graph from the position graph using

$$\langle v \rangle = \frac{\Delta x}{\Delta t} \quad \Delta x = \langle v \rangle \Delta t$$

**Graphing Velocity:
Figuring it out from the motion**

- An object in uniform motion has constant velocity.
- This means the instantaneous velocity does not change with time. Its graph is a horizontal line.
- You can make sense of this by putting your mind in “velocity mode” and running a mental movie.

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ILD 1

**The Case of
Motion Graphs**

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What have we learned?

Position

- We specify position (along a given line) by
 - choosing a reference point (origin)
 - choosing a line
 - choosing a scale
- We specify a direction with a (dimensionless) arrow \hat{i} and multiply it by a (positive or negative) distance to tell us where we are.
$$\hat{r} = x\hat{i} \quad (\text{where } x \text{ is a length})$$

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What have we learned? ☑

Velocity

- Average velocity is defined by

$$\langle \vec{v} \rangle = \frac{\Delta \vec{r}}{\Delta t} = \frac{\text{displacement}}{\text{time it took to do it}}$$

Note: an average velocity goes with a time interval.
- Instantaneous velocity is what we get when we consider a very small time interval (compared to times we care about)

$$\vec{v} = \frac{d\vec{r}}{dt}$$

Note: an instantaneous velocity goes with a specific time.

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Position to velocity

$$v(t) = \frac{dx}{dt}$$

$$v(t) = \frac{x(t + \Delta t/2) - x(t - \Delta t/2)}{\Delta t}$$

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Velocity to position

$$dx = v(t) dt$$

change in position over a small time interval


sum ("Σ") in the changes in position over many small time intervals

$$x = \sum dx = \int v(t) dt$$


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Multiple Representations

- We choose different ways of representing things depending on what we want to do.



- Adding multiple sensory modes adds to our sense of an object's reality.



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Seventh Icon: Multiple Representations

- We have many different ways that we represent information:
 - Words
 - Equations
 - Diagrams
 - Pictures
- Each gives its own way of building up something "real" in our minds.



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What have we learned? Representations and consistency



- Visualizing where an object is at different times → a position graph
- Visualizing how fast an object is moving at different times → a velocity graph
- Position graph → velocity graph slopes $v = \frac{\Delta x}{\Delta t}$
- Velocity graph → position graph areas $\Delta x = v \Delta t$

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