

Velocity and Other Rate of Change (AP Questions)

1. A particle moves along the x -axis with its position at time t given by $x(t) = (t - a)(t - b)$, where a and b are constants and $a \neq b$. For which of the following values of t is the particle at rest?

(A) $t = ab$

(B) $t = \frac{a+b}{2}$

(C) $t = a + b$

(D) $t = 2(a + b)$

(E) $t = a$ and $t = b$

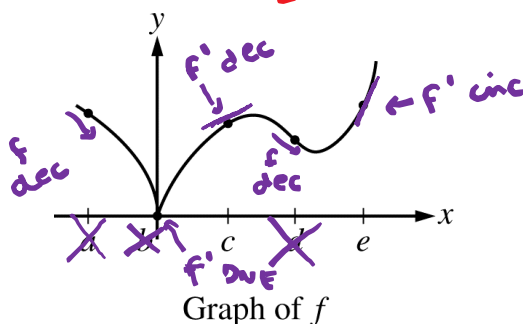
$$\begin{aligned} x'(t) &= v(t) = (t-b)(1) + (t-a)(1) \\ &= t-b+t-a \\ &= 2t-b-a \end{aligned}$$

$$v(t) = 0$$

$$0 = 2t - b - a$$

$$a + b = 2t$$

$$\frac{a+b}{2} = t$$



2. The graph of the function f is shown in the figure above. For which of the following values of x is $f'(x)$ positive and increasing?

~~(A)~~ a

~~(B)~~ b

~~(C)~~ c

~~(D)~~ d

(E) e

f inc $\rightarrow f'$ inc \rightarrow slopes of f getting steeper

$f' < 0$ @ $x=a$ b/c f dec @ $x=a$

f' DNE @ $x=b$ b/c $\lim_{x \rightarrow b^-} f'(x) \neq \lim_{x \rightarrow b^+} f'(x)$

f' dec @ $x=c$ b/c slopes of f are getting less steep @ $x=c$

$f' < 0$ @ $x=d$ b/c f dec @ $x=d$

P.O.E.

f' inc @ $x=e$ b/c slopes of f are getting steeper @ $x=e$

