

Answer on Question #51401 – Math – Algorithms | Quantitative Methods

The time versus velocity data of a particle is given in the table below. Use Lagrange's interpolation formula to find the distance moved by a particle and its acceleration at the end of 3 seconds.

t : 0, 1, 2, 5
 v: 2, 3, 12, 147

Solution

The interpolation polynomial in the Lagrange form is

$$V(t) = \sum_{i=0}^n V_i * l_i(t),$$

where $t_0 = 0, t_1 = 1, t_2 = 2, t_3 = 5, v_0 = 2, v_1 = 3, v_2 = 12, v_3 = 147$.

Calculate

$$\begin{aligned} l_0(t) &= \prod_{m=1}^3 \frac{t - t_m}{t_0 - t_m} = \frac{t - 1}{0 - 1} * \frac{t - 2}{0 - 2} * \frac{t - 5}{0 - 5} = -\frac{1}{10}(t^3 - 8t^2 + 17t - 10); \\ l_1(t) &= \prod_{m=0, m \neq 1}^3 \frac{t - t_m}{t_1 - t_m} = \frac{t - 0}{1 - 0} * \frac{t - 2}{1 - 2} * \frac{t - 5}{1 - 5} = \frac{1}{4}(t^3 - 7t^2 + 10t); \\ l_2(t) &= \prod_{m=0, m \neq 2}^3 \frac{t - t_m}{t_2 - t_m} = \frac{t - 0}{2 - 0} * \frac{t - 1}{2 - 1} * \frac{t - 5}{2 - 5} = -\frac{1}{6}(t^3 - 6t^2 + 5t); \\ l_3(t) &= \prod_{m=0}^2 \frac{t - t_m}{t_3 - t_m} = \frac{t - 0}{5 - 0} * \frac{t - 1}{5 - 1} * \frac{t - 2}{5 - 2} = \frac{1}{60}(t^3 - 3t^2 + 2t); \end{aligned}$$

Velocity

$$\begin{aligned} V(t) &= -\frac{1}{10} * 2 * (t^3 - 8t^2 + 17t - 10) + \frac{1}{4} * 3 * (t^3 - 7t^2 + 10t) - \frac{1}{6} * 12 * \\ &\quad * (t^3 - 6t^2 + 5t) + \frac{1}{60} * 147 * (t^3 - 3t^2 + 2t) = t^3 + t^2 - t + 2; \end{aligned}$$

Acceleration

$$a(t) = \frac{dV}{dt} = 3t^2 + 2t - 1;$$

Acceleration at the end of 3 seconds

$$a(3) = 3 * 9 + 2 * 3 - 1 = 32;$$

The distance moved by a particle

$$S(t) = \int_0^t V(u) du;$$

The distance moved by a particle at the end of 3 seconds

$$S(3) = \int_0^3 (t^3 + t^2 - t + 2) dt = \left(\frac{t^4}{4} + \frac{t^3}{3} - \frac{t^2}{2} + 2t \right) \Big|_0^3 = 30.75;$$

(integration rule for powers and Newton-Leibnitz formula were applied here).

Answer: Distance = 30.75 and acceleration = 32.