

AP Physics

Instructor: Mr. Butler

Rectilinear Kinematics

Average Velocity vs Instantaneous Velocity (Graphically)

We can determine velocity graphically by finding the slopes of the secant or tangent lines on a graph curve that plots position vs time.

Average Velocity: the velocity of an object during or over a time interval (use the secant line).

Instantaneous Velocity: the velocity of an object at a particular instant in time (use the tangent line).

Average and instantaneous velocities in x-t graph

