

Physics 100

Assignment #2. Answer Key

A). In interval D: $t_1 = 10 \text{ (s)}$, $x_1 = -20 \text{ (m)}$;
 $t_2 = 12 \text{ (s)}$, $x_2 = -20 \text{ (m)}$;

displacement: $\Delta x = x_2 - x_1 = 0 \text{ (m)}$

B). In interval A: $t_1 = 0$, $t_2 = 2 \text{ (s)}$;
 $x_1 = 10 \text{ (m)}$, $x_2 = 30 \text{ (m)}$;

average velocity:
$$v_{av} = \frac{\Delta x}{\Delta t}$$
$$= \frac{x_2 - x_1}{t_2 - t_1}$$
$$= \frac{30 \text{ (m)} - 10 \text{ (m)}}{2 \text{ (s)} - 0 \text{ (s)}}$$
$$= 10 \text{ m/s}$$

C). In interval C: Since the slope of $x-t$ curve is negative (downward) at any time in C, the instantaneous velocity is negative in interval C.