physicshelpline

learn basic concepts of physics through problem solving

Q- The particle's velocity moving along the x-axis varies according to the expression velocity = $50 - 10 \, t^2$, Find the average acceleration in the time interval t = 0 to t = 2.0 seconds.

The average acceleration is the ratio of change in velocity to the time interval, or

$$\langle a \rangle = \frac{\Delta v}{\Delta t}$$

Now velocity is given by

$$v = 50 - 10 t^2$$

Thus, velocity at t = 0 is given by

$$v_0 = 50 - 10 * 0^2 = 50 \, m/s$$

And velocity at t = 0 is given by

$$v_2 = 50 - 10 * 2^2 = 10 m/s$$

Thus, the change in velocity during this time interval of 2s is

$$\Delta v = v_2 - v_0 = 10 - 50 = -40 \, \text{m/s}$$

Hence the average acceleration during this interval is

$$\langle a \rangle = \frac{\Delta v}{\Delta t} = \frac{-40}{2-0} = -20 \text{ m/s}^2$$

(Negative shows retardation)

NWW. PHYSICSHEIPLINE. CORP.