



since $t_1 = t_3$ & $p_1 = p_3$, then $t = 2t_1 + t_2, p = 2p_1 + p_2$
 a : acceleration cm/sec^2
 v : velocity in cm/sec after t_1 seconds
 t_1 : time travelling with constant acceleration a
 t_2 time travelling with constant velocity v
 t_3 time travelling with constant deceleration a
 p_1, p_2, p_3 distances covered in cm
 p : total distance travelled

Solution of profile:

Note: a, v and t are known quantities

$$p_1 = \frac{1}{2}at_1^2 \text{ ----(1)}$$

$$p_2 = vt_2 \text{ -----(2)}$$

$$p = 2p_1 + p_2, \text{ using (1) and (2)}$$

$$p = at_1^2 + vt_2 \text{ -----(3), substituting } t_2 = t - 2t_1 \text{ in (3) gives}$$

$$p = at_1^2 + v(t - 2t_1)$$

$$p = at_1^2 + vt - 2vt_1 \text{ -----(4), rearranging (3) gives}$$

$$at_1^2 - 2vt_1 + (vt - p) = 0, \text{ a quadratic equation in } t_1$$

The general quadratic $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ has solution $x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$, comparing coefficients gives

$$t_1 = \frac{2v \pm \sqrt{(-2v)^2 - 4a(vt - p)}}{2a}$$

$$t_1 = \frac{v \pm \sqrt{v^2 - a(vt - p)}}{a}, \text{ (numerator/denominator has been divided by 2)}$$

$$t_2 = t - 2t_1$$

Note:

- (1) if $v^2 - a(vt - p) < 0$, profile does not exist (roots are complex)
- (2) If a profile exists, it's unique- only one profile