

Question 3

Is the particle in Figure Q1.3 speeding up? Slowing down? Or can you tell? Explain.

FIGURE Q1.3 • • • • •

Solution

It's impossible to tell without arrows. If the particle is moving to the left, it's slowing down, and if the particle is moving to the right, it's speeding up. In either case, the acceleration in the horizontal x -direction is positive.