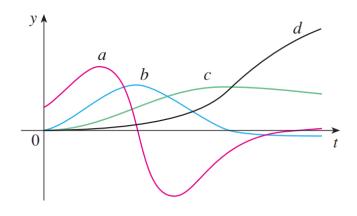
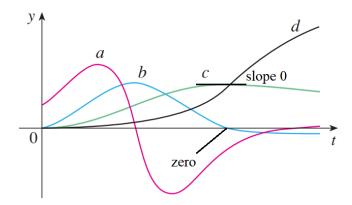
Exercise 52

The figure shows the graphs of four functions. One is the position function of a car, one is the velocity of the car, one is its acceleration, and one is its jerk. Identify each curve, and explain your choices.



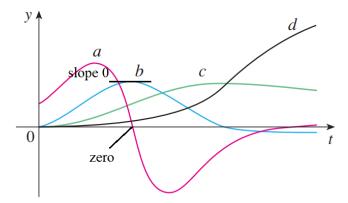
Solution

Notice that the c-curve reaches a maximum when the d-curve starts to taper off, so the c-curve is the derivative of the d-curve.



The b-curve is the derivative of the c-curve because the b-curve is zero where the c-curve has zero slope.

The a-curve is the derivative of the b-curve because the a-curve is zero where the b-curve has zero slope.



Therefore, the d-curve is the position, the c-curve is the velocity, the b-curve is the acceleration, and the a-curve is the jerk.