

7. Using  $x = 3t - 4t^2 + t^3$  with SI units understood is efficient (and is the approach we will use), but if we wished to make the units explicit we would write  $x = (3 \text{ m/s})t - (4 \text{ m/s}^2)t^2 + (1 \text{ m/s}^3)t^3$ . We will quote our answers to one or two significant figures, and not try to follow the significant figure rules rigorously.

(a) Plugging in  $t = 1 \text{ s}$  yields  $x = 0$ . With  $t = 2 \text{ s}$  we get  $x = -2 \text{ m}$ . Similarly,  $t = 3 \text{ s}$  yields  $x = 0$  and  $t = 4 \text{ s}$  yields  $x = 12 \text{ m}$ . For later reference, we also note that the position at  $t = 0$  is  $x = 0$ .

(b) The position at  $t = 0$  is subtracted from the position at  $t = 4 \text{ s}$  to find the displacement  $\Delta x = 12 \text{ m}$ .

(c) The position at  $t = 2 \text{ s}$  is subtracted from the position at  $t = 4 \text{ s}$  to give the displacement  $\Delta x = 14 \text{ m}$ . Eq. 2-2, then, leads to

$$v_{\text{avg}} = \frac{\Delta x}{\Delta t} = \frac{14}{2} = 7 \text{ m/s} .$$

(d) The horizontal axis is  $0 \leq t \leq 4$  with SI units understood.

Not shown is a straight line drawn from the point at  $(t, x) = (2, -2)$  to the highest point shown (at  $t = 4 \text{ s}$ ) which would represent the answer for part (c).

