

# Re: On The Measurement Of Speed

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  - *Date:* Mon, 29 May 2006 00:14:10 GMT
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"The Ghost In The Machine" <[ewill3@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:ewill3@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)> wrote in message [news:pan.2006.05.28.21.50.52.356417@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:pan.2006.05.28.21.50.52.356417@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)  
| Herewith several problems for the assemblage -- you know who you are.

|  
| [1] I travel from Atlanta to Boston, then back to Atlanta. Assuming 2200  
| miles total [\*] and 44 hours driving time (not counting stops for lunch  
| and sleeping), how do I calculate my average speed?

Your AVERAGE speed is zero. The calculation is simple.  
The distance from Atlanta to Atlanta is zero.  
You are probably be more interested in your instantaneous speed  
as recorded by the car's speedometer to avoid a speeding ticket  
but there is nothing average about that. One cannot get on the  
turnpike, get a time stamped receipt and use that in a court of law  
to prove you were not speeding, it will not work.

|  
| [2] A friend travels from Chicago to Detroit, meets a friend there, then  
| travels back. Assuming 280 miles and 5 hours, 36 minute driving time (not  
| counting stopping for lunch with said friend), how do I calculate his or  
| her average speed?

It's still zero <shrug>

[rest snipped.]

Here's a better one:  
<http://www.jimloy.com/geometry/every.htm>

Oops, that's too hard for you...  
This one:  
<http://204.241.96.11/jokes.html>

If you drive on a trip at 25 miles per hour for the first half of the  
distance, how fast must you travel over the second half to average 50 miles  
per hour for the whole trip?

Androcles.

