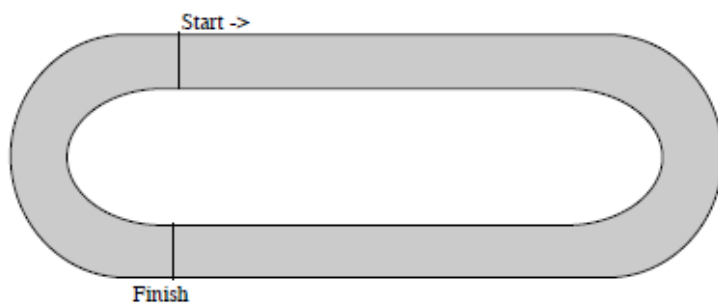


Level D

You are an Olympic runner. You have just qualified to be in the finals of the 1,500-meter race. The track is 400 meters in an oval shape. The race is three and three-fourth laps around the track.



The favorite to win the race is a Kenyan, who holds the current best time, which is 3 minutes 29.4 seconds. The Kenyan runs a very steady race. Each of the Kenyan's lap times (400 meters) are within a second of each other.

You run a completely different type of race. You have a very strong kick, which means you usually lag behind for the first three laps to save energy and then when the leader has 300 meters to go you pour it on to win at the tape. You like to save energy in the first three laps, but you don't want to be more than 50 meters behind when you start your kick to the finish line.

Determine your strategy to win this race. What is the average speed you need to run the first part of the race? What is the average speed you need to run during your kick to win the race? How might your race change if the Kenyan runs two seconds faster?