

1.

## Announcement

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- Exams
  - March 2
  - April 6
  - Final May 5

5/10/2006

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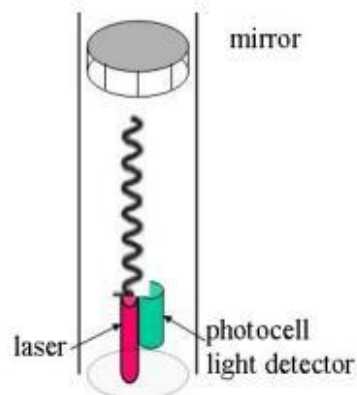
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2.

## Construct light clock

# Construct light clock



Light hits mirror &  
reflects back  
To go 1 meter takes  
 $1/(3.0 \times 10^8 \text{ m/sec})$   
 $= 3.3 \times 10^{-9} \text{ sec}$   
 $= 3.3 \text{ nanoseconds}$

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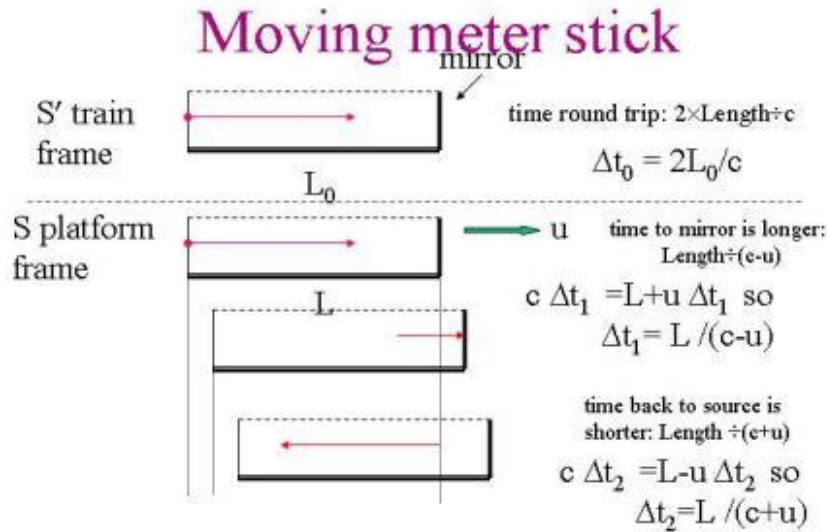
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### Moving meter stick



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### Meter stick length

## Meter stick length

- $\Delta t = \Delta t_1 + \Delta t_2 = 2L / [c(1-u^2/c^2)]$
- But  $\Delta t = \Delta t_0 / \sqrt{(1-u^2/c^2)}$  time dilation
- hence  $2L / [c(1-u^2/c^2)] = 2L_0 / [c\sqrt{(1-u^2/c^2)}]$
- or  $L = L_0 \sqrt{(1-u^2/c^2)} < L_0$  (proper length or length measured in "rest frame")
  - Length Contraction
  - moving meter stick "appears" short

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5. Lecture 6: Space-time, Velocity, Twins: Slide 5

**Einstein's notes attempting to explain length contraction and time dilation to David Rothman without math!**

QuickTime™ and a TIFF (LZW) decompressor are needed to see this picture.

Sept.1939 - The above calculations are in Prof. Einstein's own hand, used to explain to me without the use of mathematics the reason for the contraction of a rod in the direction of its motion and why a clock changes its rhythm.  
David A. Rothman

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6. Time and space are relative

## Time and space are relative

- Duration (or time elapsed) of physical process depends on Frame
  - Shortest duration in Rest Frame of process ( $\Delta t' = \Delta t_0$ ) "moving clock appears slow"
  - All processes are basically physical
- Size of phenomenon (or lengths) depends on Frame
  - Longest length (along motion) in Rest Frame of measuring stick ( $\Delta L' = \Delta L_0$ ) "moving meter stick appears short"
- **Primed frame is train (with fixed clock & meter stick) moving at  $v$  relative to station's unprimed frame**

$$\Delta t = \frac{\Delta t'}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}}}$$

$$\Delta L = \Delta L' \sqrt{1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}}$$

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7. Examples

## Examples

- Clocks on nearby satellite vs. Earth observers
  - Circles earth in 90 minutes  
 $=60 \times 90 \text{ sec} = 5400 \text{ s} = 5.4 \times 10^3 \text{ s}$
  - Circumference = 24,000 mi = 39,000 Km  
 $= 3.9 \times 10^7 \text{ m}$
  - Speed  $v = 3.9 \times 10^7 \text{ m} / 5.4 \times 10^3 \text{ s} = 7.2 \times 10^3 \text{ m/s}$
  - Dilation factor  $1/\sqrt{1-v^2/c^2}$
  - $v/c = 7.2 \times 10^3 / 3.0 \times 10^8 = 2.4 \times 10^{-5}$
  - $(v/c)^2 = 5.8 \times 10^{-10}$  or 0.58 per billion
  - then  $\sqrt{1-v^2/c^2}$  less than 1 by 0.3 per billion &
  - $1/\sqrt{1-v^2/c^2}$  is 1 plus  $0.3 \times 10^{-9}$  or 0.3 nanoseconds longer than 1 sec on satellite's clocks  
 (Need 11 place accuracy for small correction)
- Size of satellite vs. Earth observers - appears to be shorter by 0.3 parts per billion
  - If satellite is 30 m long it "appears"  $30 \times 0.3 \times 10^{-9} = 9.0 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}$  shorter

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8. Keeping more accuracy

## Keeping more accuracy

- `> evalf(1/sqrt(1-((3.9*10^7/(5.4*10^3))^2/(3.0*10^8)^2)),24);`
- `1.00000000030000000013500`
- `> evalf(%-1.0,24);`
- `3.0000000013500*10^-10`
- `> evalf(1/sqrt(1-((3.9*10^7/(5.4*10^3))^2/(3.0*10^8)^2)),12);`
- `1.00000000030`
- `> evalf(%-1.0,12);`
- `3.0*10^-10`

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9. Simultaneity is relative

## Simultaneity is relative

Two *events* in  $S'$  (e.g. train's frame):

2 lights ( $x_1'=0$ ) and ( $x_2'=a$ ) turned on simultaneously at  $t'=0$

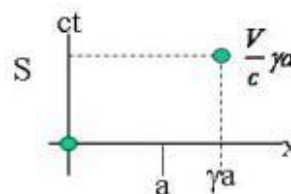
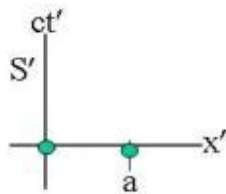
An *Event* is a **space-time** point.

Let  $S'$  frame be moving with  $V$  relative to stationary  $S$

In  $S$ :  $x_1 = \gamma x_1' = 0, t_1 = 0$  (using  $\gamma = 1/\sqrt{1-V^2/c^2}$ )

$x_2 = \gamma a, t_2 = \gamma Va/c^2$  which is later ( $\gamma > 1$ )

2nd event appears later & further away



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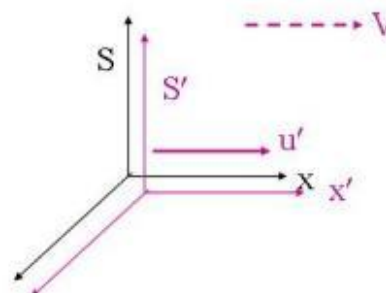
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10. Velocity transformation

## Velocity transformation

- In  $S'$ : object moving with velocity  $\underline{u}'$ 
  - $S'$  moves at  $V$  relative to  $S$
- Classically get  $\underline{u} = (\underline{u}' + V)$ 
  - Would have  $c$  exceeded
- Relativity:  $\underline{u} = (\underline{u}' + V)/(1 + V\underline{u}'/c^2)$
- Example - light:

$$u'=c \Rightarrow u=c$$



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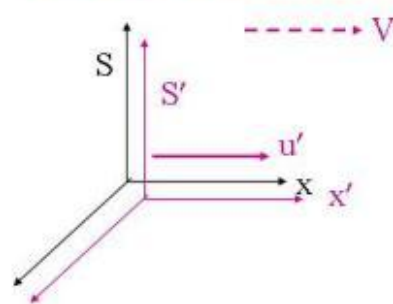
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11. Velocity transformation - example

### Velocity transformation - example



Suppose  $S'$  is frame of spaceship with  $V=0.8c$ . It launches a probe from its deck with  $u'=0.9c$ . What does Earth viewer see?

$$u = (0.8c + 0.9c) / (1 + 0.8 \times 0.9) = 1.7c / 1.72 = 0.99c$$

- Can not exceed  $c$ , no matter how close  $u'$  &  $V$  are to  $c$ .

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12. Velocity transformation - examples

### Velocity transformation - examples

- 2 rockets approach earth from opposite directions along one axis with
- $u_1 = 0.8c$  and  $u_2 = -0.8c$  from earth frame
- In rocket 1 frame  $u_2' = (u_2 - u_1) / (1 + [-u_1]u_2/c^2) = -1.6c / (1 + .8^2) = -0.98c$
- Relative speed can never exceed  $1c$

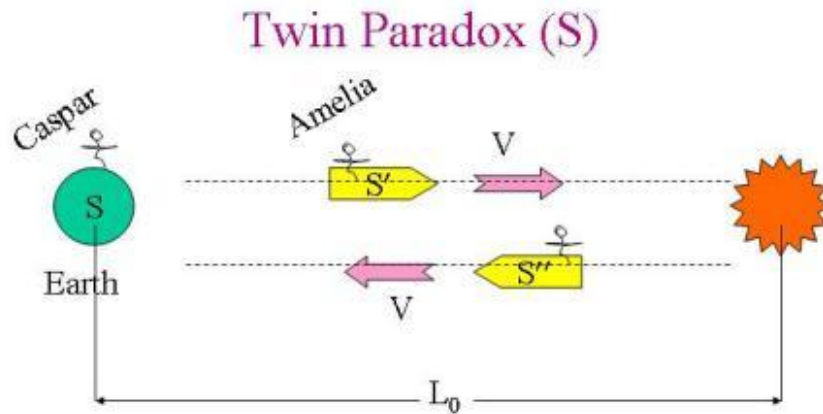
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13. Twin Paradox (S)



$L_0 = 12 \text{ lt yr} = 12 \text{ (years)} \times c$   
 $(= 12 \times [3.1 \times 10^7 \text{ sec}] \times [3.0 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}] = 1.1 \times 10^{17} \text{ m})$   
 $V = 0.6 c$   
 so  $\Delta t = 20 \text{ yr}$  one way ( $12 \text{ yr} \times c / 0.6c = 12/0.6 \text{ yr} = 20 \text{ yr}$ )  
 and  $20 \text{ yr}$  return (quick turn around). Casper ages **40 yr**.

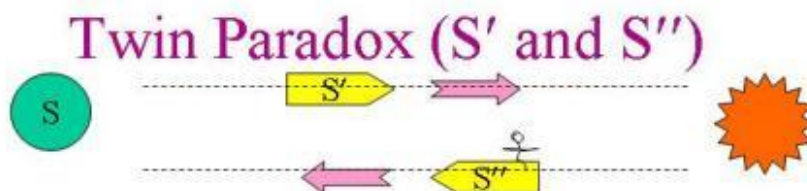
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14. Twin Paradox (S' and S'')



$S': \Delta t' = \Delta t / \gamma = 20 * 4/5 = 16 \text{ yr}$        $\gamma = 1/\sqrt{1-0.6^2}$   
 $= 1/\sqrt{.64} = 1/.8 = 5/4$

Same for S'' so Amelia ages only **32 yr**.

Note that  $L' = L_0 / \gamma = 12 * 4/5 = 9.6 \text{ lt yr}$  as Star approaches rocket at  $V=0.6c$ .

**WHY** doesn't Caspar age less as determined from Amelia's frame? Caspar stays in a *single* inertial frame, Amelia does *not*. They are not reciprocal.

Actual experiment sending atomic clock around the world!

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