

Time dilatation or dilation

Moving clocks run slower.

$$T = \gamma T_0 = \frac{T_0}{\sqrt{1 - \beta^2}} = \frac{T_0}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}}}$$

T_0 : proper time : time measured in the resting frame

T : time measured in the moving frame

Lorentz contraction

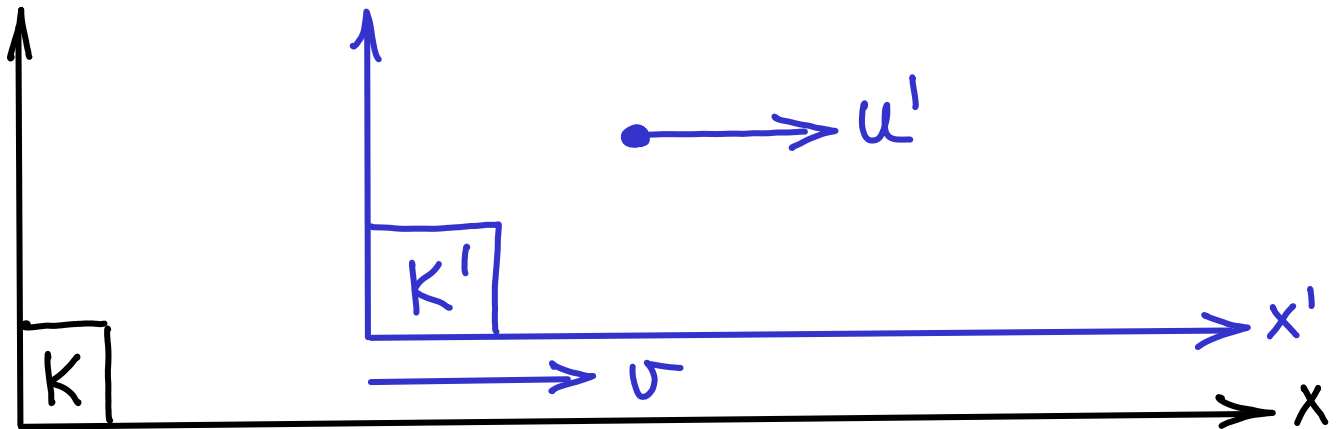
or length contraction

$$L = \frac{L_0}{\gamma} = L_0 \cdot \sqrt{1 - \beta^2} = L_0 \cdot \sqrt{1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}}$$

L_0 : proper length

L : length measured in the moving frame

Velocity addition



$$u = \frac{v + u'}{1 + \frac{vu'}{c^2}} \Rightarrow \beta = \frac{\beta + \beta'}{1 + \beta\beta'}$$

Special cases:

→ If $u' \ll c$ and $v \ll c$, then $u = v + u'$
(Galilean velocity addition)

→ If $u' = c$ and $v \ll c$, then:

$$u = \frac{v + c}{1 + \frac{vc}{c^2}} = \frac{v + c}{1 + \frac{v}{c}} = \frac{v + c}{\frac{c + v}{c}} = c$$

→ If $u' = c$ and $v = c$, then:

$$u = \frac{c + c}{1 + \frac{c^2}{c^2}} = \frac{2c}{1 + 1} = \frac{2c}{2} = c$$

Distances, geometry

Euclidian distance:

$$(\Delta r)^2 = (\Delta x)^2 + (\Delta y)^2 + (\Delta z)^2$$

Spacetime interval:

$$(\Delta s)^2 = (\Delta x)^2 + (\Delta y)^2 + (\Delta z)^2 - (c\Delta t)^2$$

$$(\Delta s)^2 = (\Delta r)^2 - (c\Delta t)^2$$

The spacetime interval is invariant under the Lorentz transformation:

$$(\Delta s)^2 = (\Delta s')^2$$

Three vector: $\vec{r} = (x, y, z)$

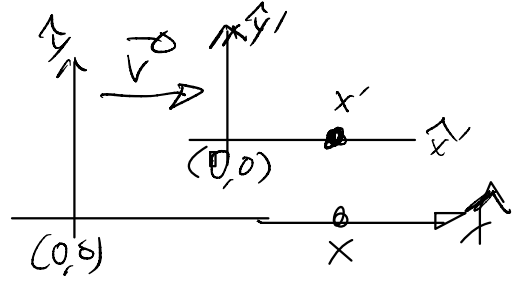
Four vector: (x, y, z, ict)

(i : imaginary unit : $i = \sqrt{-1}$)

$$\Delta x' = \gamma(\Delta x - v \Delta t)$$

$$\Delta t' = \gamma\left(\Delta t - \frac{v}{c^2} \Delta x\right)$$

$$\begin{cases} \Delta y' = \Delta y \\ \Delta z' = \Delta z \end{cases}$$



$$(\Delta x')^2 - (c \Delta t')^2 = (\Delta x)^2 - (c \Delta t)^2$$

$$(\Delta x')^2 + (\Delta y')^2 + (\Delta z')^2 - (c \Delta t')^2 = (\Delta x)^2 + (\Delta y)^2 + (\Delta z)^2 - (c \Delta t)^2 \equiv (\Delta S)^2$$

$$(\Delta x')^2 = \gamma^2 [(\Delta x)^2 + v^2 (\Delta t)^2 - 2v \Delta x \Delta t]$$

$$(c \Delta t')^2 = \gamma^2 \left[(c \Delta t)^2 + \frac{v^2}{c^2} (\Delta x)^2 - 2v (\Delta t) (\Delta x) \right]$$

$$\Rightarrow (\Delta x')^2 - (c \Delta t')^2 = \underbrace{\gamma^2 \left(1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}\right)}_{=1} \left[(\Delta x)^2 - (c \Delta t)^2 \right]$$

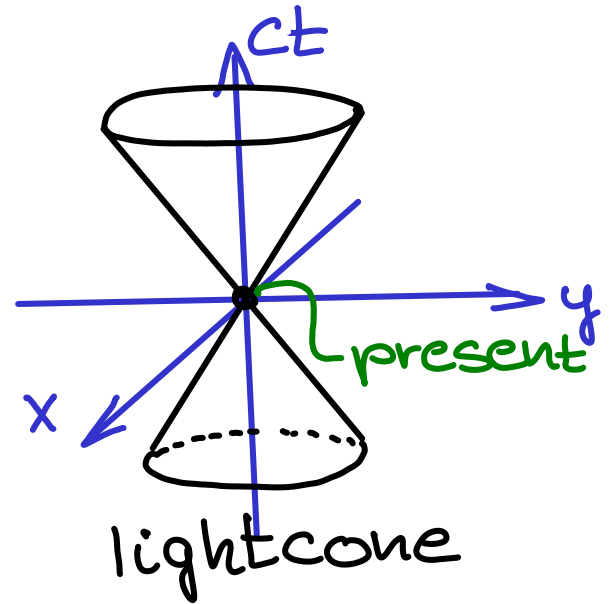
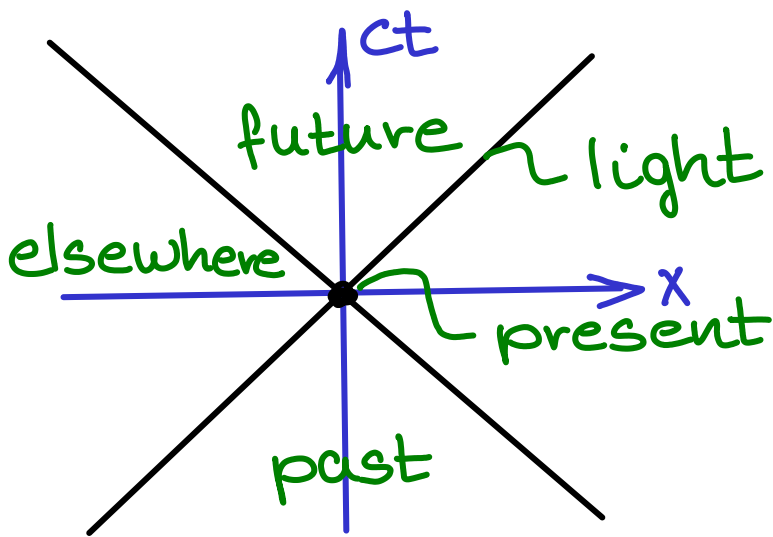
$$= 1 \quad \text{for} \quad \gamma^2 = \frac{1}{1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}}$$

When two events are connected by light signal,

$$(\Delta S)^2 = (\Delta x)^2 + (\Delta y)^2 + (\Delta z)^2 - (c \Delta t)^2$$

$$= 0, \quad c = 3 \times 10^8 \text{ m/sec} = \text{the speed of light}$$

Spacetime, Minkowski diagram



Spacetime interval:

$$(\Delta s)^2 = (\Delta r)^2 - (c\Delta t)^2$$

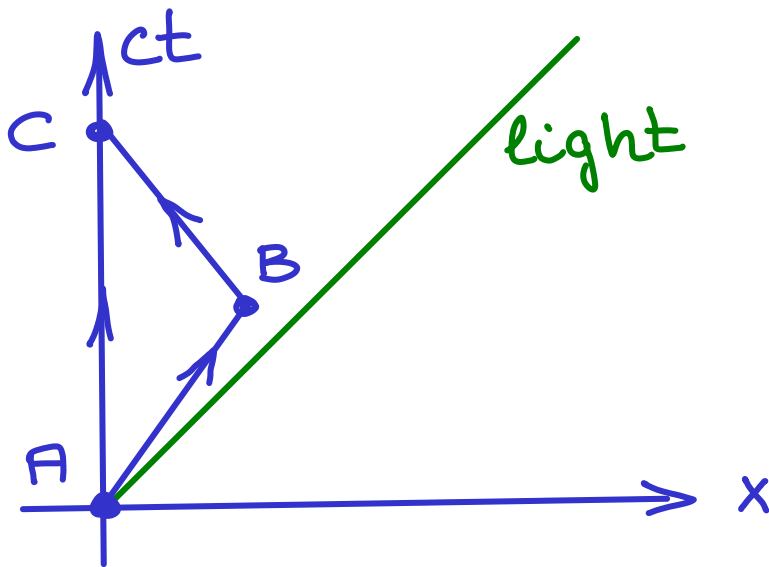
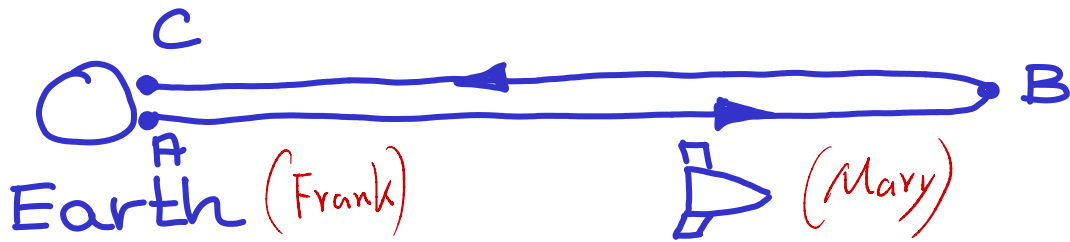
or
$$(\Delta s)^2 = (\Delta x)^2 - (c\Delta t)^2$$

$$(\Delta s)^2 = 0 : \text{lightlike}$$

$$(\Delta s)^2 > 0 : \text{spacelike}$$

$$(\Delta s)^2 < 0 : \text{timelike}$$

Twin paradox



Special relativity: there is no absolute motion, only relative motion. But then which clock will slow down?