

LECTURE NOTES 17

Proper Time and Proper Velocity

- As **you** progress along **your** world line {moving with “**ordinary**” velocity \vec{u} in **lab** frame IRF(S)} on the ct vs. x Minkowski/space-time diagram, **your** watch runs **slow** {in **your rest** frame IRF(S')} in comparison to clocks on the wall in the **lab** frame IRF(S).

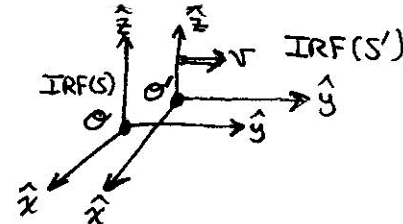
- The clocks on the wall in the **lab** frame IRF(S) tick off a time interval dt , whereas in **your rest** frame IRF(S') the time interval is: $dt' = dt/\gamma_u = \sqrt{1 - \beta_u^2} dt$

- n.b.* this is the **exact same** time dilation formula that we obtained earlier, with:

$$\gamma_u \equiv 1/\sqrt{1 - (u/c)^2} = 1/\sqrt{1 - \beta_u^2} \quad \text{and:} \quad \beta_u \equiv (u/c)$$

- We use $u = |\vec{u}|$ = relative speed of an **object** as observed in an inertial reference frame {**here**, u = speed of **you**, as observed in the **lab** IRF(S)}.

- We will henceforth use $v = |\vec{v}|$ = relative speed between two inertial systems – e.g. IRF(S') relative to IRF(S):



- Because the time **interval** dt' occurs in **your rest** frame IRF(S'), we give it a **special** name: $d\tau' = dt'$ = **proper time interval** (in **your rest** frame), and: $\tau' = t'$ = **proper time** (in **your rest** frame).

- The name “**proper**” is due to a mis-translation of the French word “**propre**”, meaning “**own**”.

- Proper** time τ' is **different** than “**ordinary**” time, t .

Proper time τ' is a **Lorentz-invariant** quantity, whereas “**ordinary**” time t depends on the choice of IRF - i.e. “**ordinary**” time is **not** a **Lorentz-invariant** quantity.

The Lorentz-invariant interval: $dI \equiv dx'_\mu dx'^\mu = dx^\mu dx_\mu = ds'^2 = -c^2 dt'^2 + dx'^2 + dy'^2 + dz'^2$

Proper time interval: $d\tau' \equiv \sqrt{-dI/c^2} = \sqrt{-ds'^2/c^2} = \sqrt{dt'^2 - \underbrace{(dx'^2 + dy'^2 + dz'^2)}_{= 0 \text{ in rest frame IRF(S')}}/c^2} = \sqrt{dt'^2} = dt'$

Proper time: $\tau' \equiv \tau'_2 - \tau'_1 \equiv \int_{\tau'_1}^{\tau'_2} d\tau' = \int_{t'_1}^{t'_2} dt' = t'_2 - t'_1 = \Delta t'$

- Because $d\tau'$ and τ' are **Lorentz-invariant** quantities: $d\tau' = d\tau$ and: $\tau' = \tau$ {i.e. drop primes}.
- In terms of 4-D space-time, **proper** time is analogous to **arc length** S in 3-D Euclidean space.
- Special designation** is given to being in the **rest** frame of an object.
- The **rest** frame of an object = the **proper** frame.

Consider a situation where **you** are on an airplane flight from NYC to LA. The pilot comes on the loudspeaker and announces in mid-flight that the jet stream is flowing backwards today, and that the plane's present velocity is $u = 0.8c$ ($\beta_u = 0.8!!$), due **west**.

What the pilot means by "velocity" is the spatial displacement $d\vec{\ell}$ per unit time interval dt .

The pilot is referring to the plane's velocity **relative to the ground** (*n.b. here*, we make the simplifying assumption that the earth is **non-rotating/non-moving**, so that we **can** use IRF's...)

Thus, $d\vec{\ell}$ and dt are quantities as **measured by an observer on the ground** (e.g. an airplane flight controller, using RADAR) in the **ground-based (lab) IRF(S)**.

Thus: $\vec{u} = \frac{d\vec{\ell}}{dt}$ = "**ordinary**" velocity in the **lab** IRF(S) $d\vec{\ell}$ and dt are measured in the **ground-based (lab) IRF(S)**

You, on the other hand are in **your** own **rest** frame IRF(S') in the airplane, sitting in your seat.

You know that the distance from NYC to LA is $L = 2763$ miles (as measured on the **ground**, referring to your trusty Rand-McNally Road Atlas {back pages} that you brought along with you).

So **you**, from **your** perspective, might be more interested in the quantity known as **your proper** velocity $\vec{\eta}$, defined as:

Proper 3-Velocity: $\vec{\eta} \equiv \frac{d\vec{\ell}}{d\tau}$ = **hybrid** measurement = Spatial displacement, as measured on the **ground** (in **lab** IRF(S)) **per unit time interval**, as measured in **your** (or an **object's**) **rest** frame (in IRF(S')).

Since: $d\tau = dt' = \frac{1}{\gamma_u} dt = \sqrt{1 - \beta_u^2} dt = \sqrt{1 - (u/c)^2} dt$ and: $\gamma_u \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \beta_u^2}}$, $\beta_u \equiv (u/c)$

Then: $\vec{\eta} \equiv \frac{d\vec{\ell}}{d\tau} = \frac{d\vec{\ell}}{\frac{1}{\gamma_u} dt} = \gamma_u \frac{d\vec{\ell}}{dt}$, but: $\vec{u} \equiv \frac{d\vec{\ell}}{dt}$ \therefore $\vec{\eta} = \gamma_u \vec{u} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \beta_u^2}} \vec{u} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - (u/c)^2}} \vec{u}$ *n.b.*
 $0 \leq \gamma_u \leq \infty$

If $u = 0.8c$ ($\beta_u = 0.8$), then: $\gamma_u = 1/\sqrt{1 - \beta_u^2} = 1/\sqrt{1 - 0.8^2} = \frac{5}{3}$, hence: $|\vec{\eta}| = \gamma_u |\vec{u}| = \frac{5}{3} 0.8c = \frac{5}{3} \frac{4}{5} c = \frac{4}{3} c !!!$

Of course, for **non-relativistic** speeds $u \ll c$, then: $\vec{\eta} \approx \vec{u}$ to a high degree.

From a theoretical perspective, an appealing aspect of **proper** 3-velocity $\vec{\eta}$ is that it Lorentz-transforms **simply** from one IRF to another IRF.

$\vec{\eta}$ = 3-D **spatial** component(s) of a **relativistic 4-vector**, η^μ

The {contravariant} **proper 4-velocity** is: $\eta^\mu \equiv \frac{dx^\mu}{d\tau}$ whose **zeroth/temporal/scalar** component is:

$\eta^0 \equiv \frac{dx^0}{d\tau} = \frac{cdt}{d\tau} = c \frac{dt}{\frac{1}{\gamma_u} dt} = \gamma_u c \frac{dt}{dt} = \gamma_u c = \frac{c}{\sqrt{1 - \beta_u^2}} = \frac{c}{\sqrt{1 - (u/c)^2}}$ with: $\gamma_u \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \beta_u^2}}$
 $\beta_u \equiv (u/c)$

The **proper** 4-velocity vector is:

$$\eta^\mu \equiv \frac{dx^\mu}{d\tau} = (\eta^0, \vec{\eta}) = (\gamma_u c, \vec{\eta}) \quad \text{or:} \quad \eta^\mu = \begin{pmatrix} \eta^0 \\ \eta^1 \\ \eta^2 \\ \eta^3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \gamma_u c \\ \gamma_u u_x \\ \gamma_u u_y \\ \gamma_u u_z \end{pmatrix} = \gamma_u \begin{pmatrix} c \\ u_x \\ u_y \\ u_z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{dx^0}{d\tau} \\ \frac{dx^1}{d\tau} \\ \frac{dx^2}{d\tau} \\ \frac{dx^3}{d\tau} \end{pmatrix}$$

The **numerator** of the **proper** 4-velocity dx^μ is the **displacement** 4-vector (as measured in the **ground-based (lab)** IRF(S)). The **denominator** of the **proper** 4-velocity $d\tau = \text{proper}$ time interval (as measured in **your** (or an object's) **rest** frame IRF(S')).

The Lorentz Transformation of a Proper 4-Velocity η^μ :

Suppose we want to Lorentz transform **your** proper 4-velocity from the **lab** IRF(S) to **another** (different) IRF(S'') along a common \hat{x} -axis, in which IRF(S'') is moving with relative velocity $\vec{v} = v\hat{x}$ with respect to **lab** IRF(S):

Most generally, in tensor notation: $\eta^{\mu\prime\prime} = \Lambda^\mu_{\nu\prime\prime} \eta^\nu$ with $\Lambda^\mu_{\nu\prime\prime} =$ Lorentz boost tensor. Thus:

$$\eta^{\mu\prime\prime} = \Lambda^\mu_{\nu\prime\prime} \eta^\nu \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} \eta^{\prime\prime 0} \\ \eta^{\prime\prime 1} \\ \eta^{\prime\prime 2} \\ \eta^{\prime\prime 3} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \gamma & -\gamma\beta & 0 & 0 \\ -\gamma\beta & \gamma & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \eta^0 \\ \eta^1 \\ \eta^2 \\ \eta^3 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} \eta^{\prime\prime 0} \\ \eta^{\prime\prime 1} \\ \eta^{\prime\prime 2} \\ \eta^{\prime\prime 3} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \gamma(\eta^0 - \beta\eta^1) \\ \gamma(\eta^1 - \beta\eta^0) \\ \eta^2 \\ \eta^3 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{with:} \quad \begin{cases} \gamma \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-\beta^2}} \\ \beta \equiv \frac{v}{c} \end{cases}$$

Where: $\eta^{\mu\prime\prime} \equiv \frac{dx^{\mu\prime\prime}}{d\tau}$ and: $\eta^\mu \equiv \frac{dx^\mu}{d\tau}$

Compare this result to the same Lorentz transformation of “**ordinary**” 3-velocities, along a common \hat{x} -axis. We use the Einstein velocity addition rule:

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{u} &= u_x \hat{x} + u_y \hat{y} + u_z \hat{z} & u_x^{\prime\prime} &= \frac{dx^{\prime\prime}}{dt^{\prime\prime}} = \frac{u_x - v}{1 - (u_x v/c^2)} \\ \vec{u} &= u_x^{\prime\prime} \hat{x} + u_y^{\prime\prime} \hat{y} + u_z^{\prime\prime} \hat{z} & u_y^{\prime\prime} &= \frac{dy^{\prime\prime}}{dt^{\prime\prime}} = \frac{u_y}{\gamma(1 - (u_x v/c^2))} & \text{with: } & \gamma \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-\beta^2}} & \text{and: } & \beta \equiv \frac{v}{c} \\ & & u_z^{\prime\prime} &= \frac{dz^{\prime\prime}}{dt^{\prime\prime}} = \frac{u_z}{\gamma(1 - (u_x v/c^2))} \end{aligned}$$

{See Griffiths Example 12.6 (p. 497-98) and Griffiths Problem 12.14 (p. 498)}

Now we can see why Lorentz transformation of “**ordinary**” velocities is more cumbersome than Lorentz transformation of **proper** 4-velocities:

- For “**ordinary**” 3-velocities $\vec{u} \equiv \frac{d\vec{\ell}}{dt}$, we must Lorentz transform **both** $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{numerator, } d\vec{\ell} \\ \text{denominator, } dt \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} d\vec{\ell}'' \\ dt'' \end{array} \right\}$
- For **proper** 4-velocities $\eta^\mu \equiv \frac{dx^\mu}{d\tau}$ we only need to transform the **numerator**, $d\vec{\ell} \Rightarrow d\vec{\ell}''$.

Relativistic Energy and Momentum - Relativistic 4-Momentum:

In **classical** mechanics, the 3-D vector linear momentum $\vec{p} = \text{mass} \times \text{velocity } \vec{v}$, i.e. $\boxed{\vec{p} = m\vec{v}}$. How do we extend this to **relativistic** mechanics?

Should we use the “**ordinary**” velocity $\vec{u} \equiv \frac{d\vec{\ell}}{dt}$ for \vec{v} ,
or should we use the **proper** velocity $\vec{\eta} \equiv \frac{d\vec{\ell}}{d\tau}$ for \vec{v} ??

In **classical** mechanics, $\vec{\eta}$ and \vec{u} are identical.
In **relativistic** mechanics, $\vec{\eta}$ and \vec{u} are **not** identical.

⇒ We **must** use the **proper** velocity $\vec{\eta}$ in **relativistic** mechanics, because otherwise, the **law of conservation of momentum** would be **inconsistent** with the **principle of relativity** {the laws of physics are the **same** in all IRF’s} if we **were** to define **relativistic 3-momentum** as: $\vec{p} = m\vec{u}$. **No!!**

Thus, we define the **relativistically-correct 3-momentum** as:

$$\boxed{\vec{p} \equiv m\vec{\eta} = \gamma_u m\vec{u} = \frac{m\vec{u}}{\sqrt{1-\beta_u^2}} = \frac{m\vec{u}}{\sqrt{1-(u/c)^2}}} \quad \text{with: } \boxed{\gamma_u \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-\beta_u^2}}} \quad \text{and: } \boxed{\beta_u \equiv \left(\frac{u}{c}\right)}$$

Relativistic 3-momentum: $\boxed{\vec{p} = m\vec{\eta} = \gamma_u m\vec{u}}$ is the **spatial** part of a relativistic 4-momentum vector: $\boxed{p^\mu \equiv m\eta^\mu}$, i.e. $\boxed{p^\mu = (p^0, \vec{p})}$.

The **temporal/zeroth/scalar** component of the relativistic 4-momentum vector is: $\boxed{p^0 = E/c}$

But: $\boxed{p^0 \equiv m\eta^0 = \gamma_u mc = \frac{mc}{\sqrt{1-\beta_u^2}} = \frac{mc}{\sqrt{1-(u/c)^2}}}$ with: $\boxed{\gamma_u \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-\beta_u^2}}}$ and: $\boxed{\beta_u \equiv (u/c)}$

Thus: $\boxed{p^0 = E/c = m\eta^0 = \gamma_u mc}$ where: $\boxed{\eta^0 = \gamma_u c = \frac{c}{\sqrt{1-\beta_u^2}} = \frac{c}{\sqrt{1-(u/c)^2}}}$

Since: $\boxed{\vec{p} = m\vec{\eta} = \gamma_u m\vec{u}}$, then: $\boxed{p = |\vec{p}| = \gamma_u m|\vec{u}| = \gamma_u mu = \gamma_u \beta_u mc = \beta_u (\gamma_u mc) = \beta_u E/c}$.

Relativistic Energy: $E \equiv \gamma_u mc^2 = \frac{mc^2}{\sqrt{1-\beta_u^2}} = \frac{mc^2}{\sqrt{1-(u/c)^2}}$ with: $\gamma_u \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-\beta_u^2}}$ and: $\beta_u \equiv (u/c)$

Therefore, the components of the relativistic 4-momentum are:

$$p^\mu = \begin{pmatrix} p^0 \\ p^1 \\ p^2 \\ p^3 \end{pmatrix} \equiv \begin{pmatrix} E/c \\ p_x \\ p_y \\ p_z \end{pmatrix}$$

The 4-vector dot/scalar product $p_\mu p^\mu$ is a **Lorentz-invariant** quantity (**same** in all IRF's):

$$p_\mu p^\mu = -(E/c)^2 + p_x^2 + p_y^2 + p_z^2 = -(E/c)^2 + p^2 = -(mc)^2$$

This can be rewritten in the more familiar form as: $E^2 = (pc)^2 + (mc^2)^2$ or: $E = \sqrt{(pc)^2 + (mc^2)^2}$.

Since: $E \equiv \gamma_u mc^2$ then: $\gamma_u^2 (mc^2)^2 = (pc)^2 + (mc^2)^2$ or: $(pc)^2 = (\gamma_u^2 - 1)(mc^2)^2$. But: $\gamma_u \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-\beta_u^2}}$

hence: $(pc)^2 = (\gamma_u^2 - 1)(mc^2)^2 = \left(\frac{1}{1-\beta_u^2} - 1\right)(mc^2)^2 = \left(\frac{1-1+\beta_u^2}{1-\beta_u^2}\right)(mc^2)^2 = \left(\frac{\beta_u^2}{1-\beta_u^2}\right)(mc^2)^2$

or: $pc = \gamma_u \beta_u mc^2$. However: $E \equiv \gamma_u mc^2$. Thus, we {again} also see that: $p = |\vec{p}| = \beta_u E/c$.

Note that the relativistic energy E of a **massive** object is **non-zero** even when that object is **stationary** - *i.e.* in its own **rest** frame - when: $p = 0$, $\beta_u = 0$ and: $\gamma_u = 1/\sqrt{1-\beta_u^2} = 1$.

Then: $E_{rest} = mc^2$ = rest energy = rest mass * c^2 . \Leftarrow Einstein's famous formula!

If $\beta_u \neq 0$, then the **remainder** of the relativistic energy E is attributable to the **motion** of the particle - *i.e.* it is relativistic **kinetic** energy, E_{kin} .

Total Relativistic Energy: $E \equiv E_{tot} = E_{kin} + E_{rest} = \gamma_u mc^2$ but: $E_{rest} = mc^2$

$$\therefore E_{kin} = E_{tot} - E_{rest} = \gamma_u mc^2 - mc^2 = (\gamma_u - 1) mc^2$$

Relativistic Kinetic Energy: $E_{kin} = (\gamma_u - 1) mc^2 = \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{1-\beta_u^2}} - 1\right) mc^2 = \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{1-(u/c)^2}} - 1\right) mc^2$

In the **non-relativistic** regime $u \ll c$, then: $E_{kin} = \frac{1}{2}mu^2 + \frac{3}{8}\frac{mu^4}{c^2} + \dots \approx \frac{1}{2}mu^2$ (**classical** formula).

However, for $u \ll c$ then: $p \approx mu$ and thus: $E_{kin} \approx \frac{p^2}{2m}$ (**classical** formula).

Note that **total** relativistic energy, E_{tot} and **total** relativistic 3-momentum, $p_{tot} = |\vec{p}_{tot}|$ are **separately conserved** in a **closed** system.

If the system is **not** closed, (e.g. **external** forces are present) then E_{tot} and \vec{p}_{tot} will **not** {necessarily} be conserved. \Rightarrow Simply expand/enlarge the definition of the “system” until it **is** closed {e.g. include what’s producing the external forces}, then the (new) E_{tot} and \vec{p}_{tot} **will** be conserved.

Note the distinction between a **Lorentz-invariant** quantity and a **conserved** quantity.

Same in **all** inertial reference frames

Same before vs. after a process/an “event”

Rest mass m is a **Lorentz-invariant** quantity, but it is **not** {necessarily} a **conserved** quantity.

Example: The {unstable} charged pi-meson decays (via weak charged-current interaction, with mean/proper lifetime $\tau_{\pi^+} = 26.0 \text{ ns}$) to a muon and muon neutrino: $\pi^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ \nu_{\mu}$. The charged pion **mass** m_{π^+} is **not** conserved in the decay $\{m_{\pi^+} > (m_{\mu^+} + m_{\nu_{\mu}})\}$, however the relativistic **energy** of the charged pion $E_{\pi^+} = \sqrt{p_{\pi^+}^2 c^2 + m_{\pi^+}^2 c^4}$ **is** a **conserved** quantity: $E_{\pi^+} = E_{\mu^+} + E_{\nu_{\mu}}$, but E_{π^+} is **not** a **Lorentz-invariant** quantity.

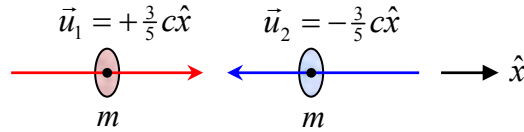
Since the scalar product of **any** relativistic 4-vector a^μ with itself **is** a **Lorentz-invariant** quantity (i.e. = same numerical value in **any** IRF): then **here**, for $\pi^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ \nu_{\mu}$ decay:

$$p_\mu p^\mu = p^\mu p_\mu = -(p^0)^2 + (\vec{p} \cdot \vec{p}) = -(E_{\pi^+}/c)^2 + p_{\pi^+}^2 \quad \text{But:} \quad (E_{\pi^+}/c)^2 = p_{\pi^+}^2 + (m_{\pi^+} c)^2$$

Thus: $p_\mu p^\mu = -\cancel{p_{\pi^+}^2} - (m_{\pi^+} c)^2 + \cancel{p_{\pi^+}^2} = -(m_{\pi^+} c)^2$

Griffiths Example 12.7: Relativistic Kinematics

Two **relativistic** lumps of clay {each of rest mass m } collide head-on with each other. Each lump of clay is traveling at relativistic speed $u = \frac{3}{5}c$ as shown in the figure below:



The two relativistic lumps of clay **stick together** (i.e. this is an **inelastic** collision).

What is the **total** mass M of the composite lump of clay **after** the collision?

Conservation of momentum - before vs. after:

Since the two lumps of clay have identical rest masses and equal, but opposite velocities:

$$\vec{p}_{tot}^{before} = \vec{p}_1 + \vec{p}_2 \quad \text{but:} \quad \vec{p}_1 = -\vec{p}_2 = \gamma_u m \vec{u}_1 \quad \text{where:} \quad \gamma_u = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-\beta_u^2}} \quad \therefore \quad \vec{p}_{tot}^{before} = 0$$

Conservation of energy - before vs. after:

Before: Each lump of clay has total energy:

$$E = \gamma_u mc^2 = \frac{mc^2}{\sqrt{1-\beta_u^2}} = \frac{mc^2}{\sqrt{1-(u/c)^2}} = \gamma_u mc^2$$

$$\therefore E = \frac{mc^2}{\sqrt{1-\left(\frac{3}{5}\right)^2}} = \frac{mc^2}{\sqrt{1-\frac{9}{25}}} = \frac{mc^2}{\sqrt{\frac{16}{25}}} = \frac{5}{4} mc^2$$

Thus: $E_{tot}^{before} = E_{tot_1} + E_{tot_2} = 2\gamma_u mc^2 = 2 \cdot \frac{5}{4} mc^2 = \frac{5}{2} mc^2$

However, E_{tot} is **{always}** conserved in a **closed** system. $\Rightarrow E_{tot}^{after} = E_{tot}^{before} = \frac{5}{2} mc^2$

And \vec{p}_{tot} is also **{always}** **separately** conserved in a **closed** system. $\Rightarrow \vec{p}_{tot}^{after} = \vec{p}_{tot}^{before} = 0$

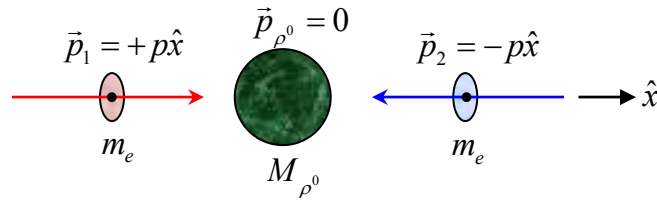
$\Rightarrow \vec{u}^{after} = 0$ since: $\vec{p}_{tot}^{after} = \gamma_{u_{after}} M \vec{u}^{after} = 0$. n.b. $\Rightarrow \gamma_{u_{after}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-\beta_{u_{after}}^2}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-(u_{after}/c)^2}} = 1$

Then: $E_{tot}^{after} = \gamma_{u_{after}} M c^2 = M c^2 = \frac{5}{2} mc^2 (= E_{Tot}^{before}) \therefore M = \frac{5}{2} m \neq 2m$!!! Does this sound **crazy??**

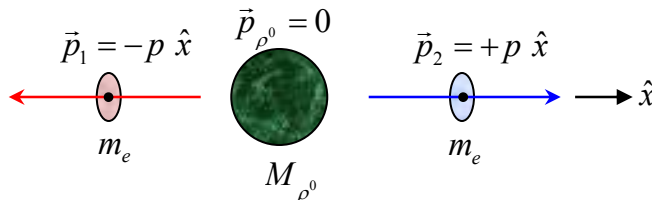
This is what happens in the “everyday” world of particle physics! It’s perfectly OK !!!

e.g. The production of a neutral rho meson in electron-positron collisions: $e^+ + e^- \rightarrow \rho^0$.

The rest mass of the neutral rho meson is: $M_{\rho^0} = 770 \text{ MeV}/c^2$ Electron rest mass: $m_e = 0.511 \text{ MeV}/c^2$



Run the collision process backwards in time, e.g. the decay of a neutral rho meson: $\rho^0 \rightarrow e^+ + e^-$



The production of a neutral rho meson $e^+ + e^- \rightarrow \rho^0$ manifestly involves the *EM* interaction. Similarly, the time-reversed situation: the decay of a neutral rho meson $\rho^0 \rightarrow e^+ + e^-$ manifestly also involves the *EM* interaction.

The *EM* interaction is invariant under time-reversal, i.e. $t \rightarrow -t$, thus {in the rest frame of the neutral rho meson} the transition rate $\Gamma(e^+ + e^- \rightarrow \rho^0)$ (#/sec) vs. the decay rate $\Gamma(\rho^0 \rightarrow e^+ + e^-)$ (#/sec) are identical {for the same/identical electron / positron momenta in neutral rho meson production vs. decay}. Experimentally: $\Gamma(\rho^0 \rightarrow e^+ + e^-) = 7.02 \text{ KeV} = 1.70 \times 10^{18} \text{ sec}^{-1}$.

For our above macroscopic inelastic collision problem, microscopically what would the new matter of the macroscopic mass M be made up of, since $\Delta M = M - 2m = \frac{5}{2}m - 2m = \frac{1}{2}m$???

In a classical analysis of the inelastic collision of two relativistic macroscopic lumps of clay {each of mass m } the composite / stuck-together single lump of clay of mass $M = \frac{5}{2}m > 2m$ would be very hot – it would have a great deal of thermal energy in fact !!!

$$Mc^2 = \frac{5}{2}mc^2 = \underbrace{2mc^2}_{\text{classical mass of composite lump}} + E_{\text{thermal}} \Rightarrow E_{\text{thermal}} = 0.5mc^2!!! \quad E = mc^2 = \text{Einstein's energy-mass formula}$$

Conserved Quantities vs. Lorentz-Invariant Quantities in Collisions/Scattering Processes:

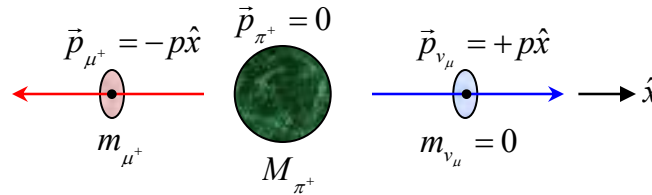
Before: $p_{\text{before}}^{\mu} = (E_{\text{before}}/c, \vec{p}_{\text{before}})$ **After:** $p_{\text{after}}^{\mu} = (E_{\text{after}}/c, \vec{p}_{\text{after}})$. Neither is a Lorentz invariant quantity. However, total relativistic energy E and total relativistic momentum \vec{p} are **separately conserved** quantities: $E_{\text{after}} = E_{\text{before}} = Mc^2$ and: $\vec{p}_{\text{after}} = \vec{p}_{\text{before}} = 0$. The scalar 4-vector dot-product is a Lorentz invariant quantity, which is also a conserved quantity – i.e. its value is the **same** before vs. after the collision/scattering process:

$$p_{\mu} p^{\mu} = p^{\mu} p_{\mu} = -(p^0)^2 + (\vec{p} \cdot \vec{p}) = -(E/c)^2 + p^2 = -M^2 c^2 + 0 = -M^2 c^2$$

Griffiths Example 12.8: Relativistic Kinematics Associated with $\pi^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ \nu_{\mu}$ Decay.

Pion rest mass: $m_{\pi^+} = 139.57 \text{ MeV}/c^2$ Pion mean lifetime: $\tau_{\pi^+} = 26.033 \text{ nsec} = 26.033 \times 10^{-9} \text{ sec}$
 Muon rest mass: $m_{\mu^+} = 105.66 \text{ MeV}/c^2$ Muon neutrino rest mass: $m_{\nu_{\mu}} = 0$ (assumed).

In the rest frame of the π^+ meson:


Energy Conservation:
Momentum Conservation:

Before: $E_{\text{tot}}^{\text{before}} = m_{\pi^+} c^2$

$\vec{p}_{\text{tot}}^{\text{before}} = 0$

After: $E_{\text{tot}}^{\text{after}} = E_{\mu^+} + E_{\nu_{\mu}} = m_{\pi^+} c^2$

$\vec{p}_{\text{tot}}^{\text{after}} = \vec{p}_{\mu^+} + \vec{p}_{\nu_{\mu}} = 0 \Rightarrow \vec{p}_{\mu^+} = -\vec{p}_{\nu_{\mu}} = -p \hat{x}$

But: $E_{\nu_{\mu}} = p_{\nu_{\mu}} c = |\vec{p}_{\nu_{\mu}}| c$ since: $m_{\nu_{\mu}} = 0$.

$\Rightarrow p_{\mu^+} = |\vec{p}_{\mu^+}| = p_{\nu_{\mu}} = |\vec{p}_{\nu_{\mu}}|$

And: $E_{\mu^+}^2 = p_{\mu^+}^2 c^2 + m_{\mu^+}^2 c^4$ or: $p_{\mu^+}^2 c^2 = E_{\mu^+}^2 - m_{\mu^+}^2 c^4 \Rightarrow p_{\mu^+} c = \sqrt{E_{\mu^+}^2 - m_{\mu^+}^2 c^4}$

$\therefore p_{\mu^+} = |\vec{p}_{\mu^+}| = p_{\nu_{\mu}} = |\vec{p}_{\nu_{\mu}}| = \sqrt{E_{\mu^+}^2 - m_{\mu^+}^2 c^4} / c$

Then: $E_{\text{tot}}^{\text{after}} = E_{\mu^+} + E_{\nu_{\mu}} = E_{\mu^+} + p_{\nu_{\mu}} c$ but: $p_{\nu_{\mu}} = p_{\mu^+} = \frac{\sqrt{E_{\mu^+}^2 - m_{\mu^+}^2 c^4}}{c}$

$\therefore E_{\text{tot}}^{\text{after}} = E_{\mu^+} + E_{\nu_{\mu}} = E_{\mu^+} + p_{\nu_{\mu}} c = E_{\mu^+} + \sqrt{E_{\mu^+}^2 - m_{\mu^+}^2 c^4} = E_{\text{tot}}^{\text{before}} = m_{\pi^+} c^2$

$\therefore E_{\mu^+} + \sqrt{E_{\mu^+}^2 - m_{\mu^+}^2 c^4} = m_{\pi^+} c^2$ Solve for E_{μ^+} :

$E_{\mu^+}^2 - m_{\mu^+}^2 c^4 = (m_{\pi^+} c^2 - E_{\mu^+})^2 = m_{\pi^+}^2 c^4 - 2(m_{\pi^+} c^2 E_{\mu^+}) + E_{\mu^+}^2$ or: $2m_{\pi^+} c^2 E_{\mu^+} = m_{\pi^+}^2 c^4 - m_{\mu^+}^2 c^4$

Thus: $E_{\mu^+} = \frac{m_{\pi^+}^2 c^4 - m_{\mu^+}^2 c^4}{2m_{\pi^+} c^2} = \frac{(m_{\pi^+}^2 - m_{\mu^+}^2) c^2}{2m_{\pi^+}}$ and: $p_{\nu_{\mu}} = p_{\mu^+} = \frac{\sqrt{E_{\mu^+}^2 - m_{\mu^+}^2 c^4}}{c}$ with: $\vec{p}_{\mu^+} = -\vec{p}_{\nu_{\mu}}$

as viewed from the **rest** frame of the π^+ meson.

- In **classical** collisions, total **3-momentum** \vec{p}_{tot} and total **mass**, m_{tot} are **always conserved**:

$$\boxed{\vec{p}_{tot}^{before} = \vec{p}_{tot}^{after}}, \quad \boxed{m_{tot}^{before} = m_{tot}^{after}}.$$

- In **classical** collisions, if total **kinetic** energy E_{kin}^{tot} is **not** conserved \Rightarrow **inelastic** collision.
- An **inelastic** (i.e. a “sticky”) collision generates **heat** at the expense of **kinetic** energy.
- An **inelastic** collision of an electron (e^-) with an atom {initially in its **ground** state} may leave the atom in an **excited** state, or even **ionized**, kicking out a once-bound atomic electron!
 \Rightarrow Internal {quantum} degrees of freedom can be excited in **inelastic** e^- - atom collisions.
- An “**explosive**” collision generates **kinetic** energy at the expense of **chemical** (i.e. EM) energy, or **nuclear** (i.e. **strong-force**) energy, or **weak-force** energy. . . .
- If **kinetic** energy **is** conserved (**classically**), \Rightarrow **elastic** (i.e. billiard-ball) collision.
- In **relativistic** collisions, total **3-momentum** and total **energy** are **always** conserved (in a **closed** system) but total **mass** and total **kinetic** energy are **not** in general conserved.
 - * Once again, in **relativistic** collisions, a process is called **elastic** if the total **kinetic** energy **is** conserved \Rightarrow total mass is **also** conserved in relativistic **elastic** collisions.
 - * A relativistic collision is called **inelastic** if the total kinetic energy is **not** conserved.
 \Rightarrow Total mass is **not** conserved in a relativistic **inelastic** collision.

Griffiths Example 12.9:

Compton Scattering = Relativistic Elastic Scattering of Photons with Electrons.

An incident photon of energy $E_\gamma^0 = p_\gamma^0 c$ **elastically** scatters (i.e. “bounces” off of/recoils) from an electron, which is initially at **rest** in the **lab** frame. Determine the final energy E_γ of the outgoing **scattered** photon as a function of the scattering angle θ of the photon:

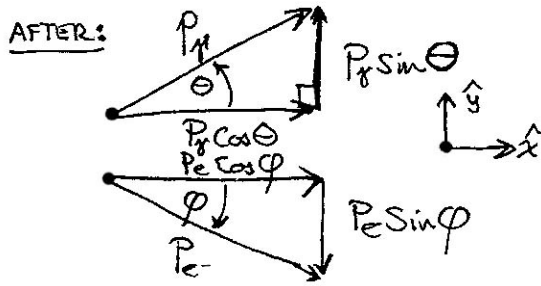


Consider conservation of relativistic momentum in the **transverse** (\perp) (i.e. \hat{y} -axis) direction:

$$\boxed{p_{\perp tot}^{before} = 0 = p_{\perp tot}^{after}}$$

$$\boxed{p_{\perp tot}^{before} = p_{\perp \gamma}^{before} + p_{\perp e^-}^{before} = 0 + 0 = 0}$$

$$\boxed{p_{\perp tot}^{after} = p_{\perp \gamma}^{after} + p_{\perp e^-}^{after} = 0} \Rightarrow \begin{matrix} +\hat{y} \text{ direction} & -\hat{y} \text{ direction} \\ \overbrace{p_{\perp \gamma}^{after}} & = - \overbrace{p_{\perp e^-}^{after}} \end{matrix}$$



Since:
$$\overbrace{p_{\perp\gamma}^{\text{after}}}^{+\hat{y} \text{ direction}} = - \overbrace{p_{\perp e^-}^{\text{after}}}^{-\hat{y} \text{ direction}}$$

Or:
$$|p_{\perp\gamma}^{\text{after}}| = |p_{\perp e^-}^{\text{after}}|$$

Or:
$$p_{\gamma} \sin \theta = p_{e^-} \sin \phi$$

But:
$$p_{\gamma} = E_{\gamma}/c$$

\therefore
$$\frac{E_{\gamma}}{c} \sin \theta = p_{e^-} \sin \phi$$

Solve for $\sin \phi$:
$$\sin \phi = \left(\frac{E_{\gamma}}{p_{e^-} c} \right) \sin \theta$$

Conservation of relativistic momentum in the **longitudinal** (i.e. \hat{x}) direction gives:

$$p_{\parallel \text{tot}}^{\text{before}} = \frac{E_{\gamma}^0}{c} \quad (\text{n.b. } p_{e^-}^{\text{before}} = 0, \text{ since } e^- \text{ initially at rest, hence } p_{\parallel e^-}^{\text{before}} = 0)$$

$$p_{\parallel \text{tot}}^{\text{after}} = p_{\parallel\gamma}^{\text{after}} + p_{\parallel e^-}^{\text{after}} = p_{\gamma} \cos \theta + p_{e^-} \cos \phi$$

Since: $p_{\parallel \text{tot}}^{\text{before}} = p_{\parallel \text{tot}}^{\text{after}}$ then:
$$E_{\gamma}^0/c = p_{\gamma} \cos \theta + p_{e^-} \cos \phi$$

But:
$$\sin \phi = \left(\frac{E_{\gamma}}{p_{e^-} c} \right) \cos \theta \quad \text{thus:} \quad \cos \phi = \sqrt{1 - \sin^2 \phi} = \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{E_{\gamma}}{p_{e^-} c} \right)^2 \sin^2 \theta}$$

\therefore
$$\frac{E_{\gamma}^0}{c} = p_{\gamma} \cos \theta + p_{e^-} \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{E_{\gamma}}{p_{e^-} c} \right)^2 \sin^2 \theta}$$

Or:
$$p_{e^-}^2 c^2 = (E_{\gamma}^0 - E_{\gamma} \cos \theta)^2 + E_{\gamma}^2 \sin^2 \theta = E_{\gamma}^{0^2} - 2E_{\gamma}^0 E_{\gamma} \cos \theta + E_{\gamma}^2$$

Conservation of Energy:
$$E_{\text{tot}}^{\text{before}} = E_{\text{tot}}^{\text{after}} \Rightarrow \overbrace{E_{\gamma}^0 + m_e c^2}^{E_{\text{tot}}^{\text{before}}} = \overbrace{E_{\gamma} + E_{e^-}}^{E_{\text{tot}}^{\text{after}}} = E_{\gamma} + \sqrt{p_e^2 c^2 + m_e^2 c^4}$$

\therefore
$$E_{\gamma}^0 + m_e c^2 = E_{\gamma} + \sqrt{E_{\gamma}^{0^2} - 2E_{\gamma}^0 E_{\gamma} \cos \theta + E_{\gamma}^2 + m_e^2 c^4}$$

Solve for E_{γ} (after some algebra):
$$E_{\gamma} = \frac{1}{\left[(1 - \cos \theta)/m_e c^2 + 1/E_{\gamma}^0 \right]}$$

E_{γ} = energy of recoil photon in terms of initial photon energy E_{γ}^0 , scattering angle of photon θ and rest energy/mass of electron, $m_e c^2$.

We can alternatively express this relation in terms of photon wavelengths:

Before: $E_\gamma^0 = hf_\gamma^0 = hc/\lambda_\gamma^0$

After: $E_\gamma = hf_\gamma = hc/\lambda_\gamma$

Useful constants:

$$hc = 1239.841 \text{ eV}\cdot\text{nm} \approx 1240 \text{ eV}\cdot\text{nm}$$

Get:
$$\lambda_\gamma = \lambda_0 + \left(\frac{hc}{m_e c^2} \right) (1 - \cos \theta)$$

$$m_e c^2 \approx 0.511 \text{ MeV} = 0.511 \times 10^6 \text{ eV}$$

Define the so-called Compton wavelength of the electron:

$$\lambda_e \equiv \left(\frac{hc}{m_e c^2} \right) = 2.426 \times 10^{-12} \text{ m}$$

Then:
$$\lambda_\gamma = \lambda_0 + \lambda_e (1 - \cos \theta)$$

The Compton Differential Scattering Cross Section:

As we learned in P436 Lecture Notes 14.5 (p. 9-22) non-relativistic photon-free electron scattering ($E_\gamma^0 \ll m_e c^2$) is adequately described by the classical EM physics-derived {unpolarized} differential Thomson scattering cross section:

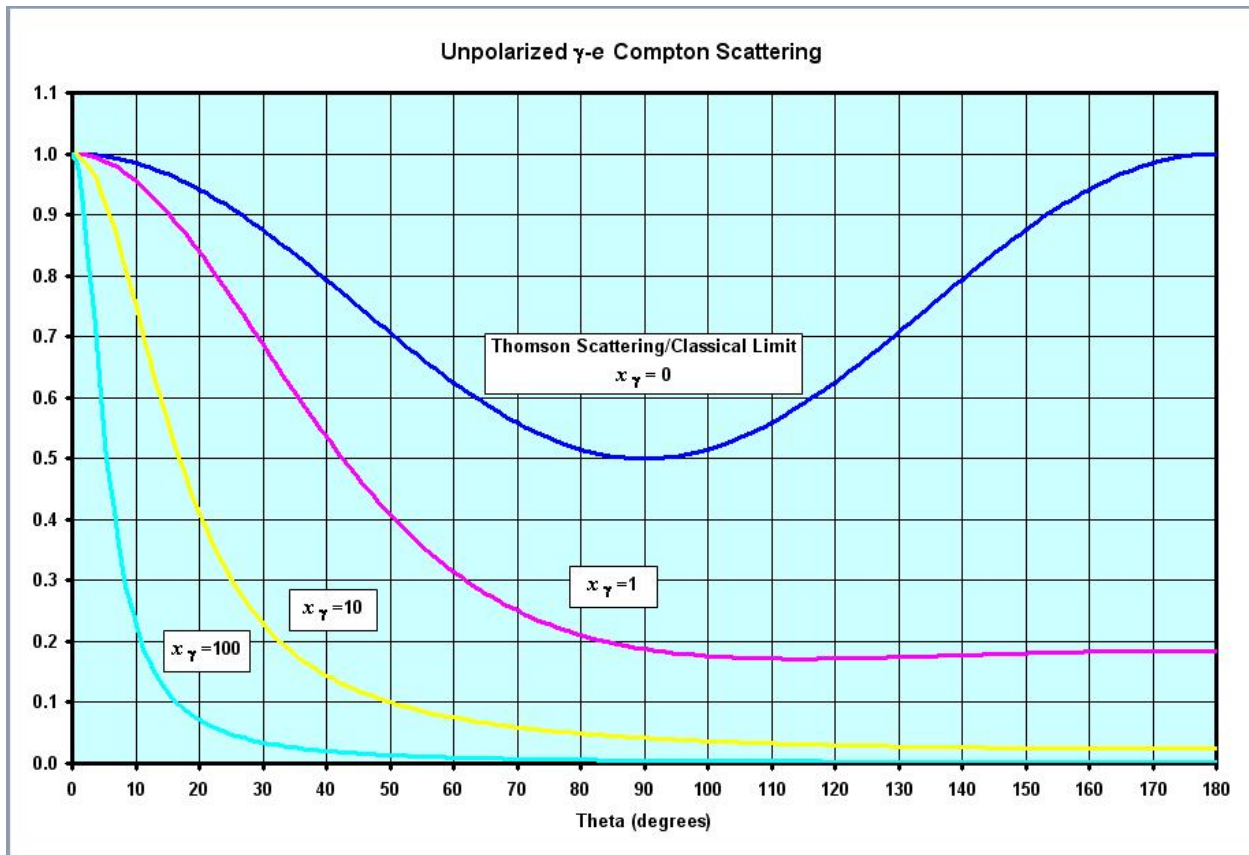
$$\frac{d\sigma_{T_e}^{\text{unpol}}(\theta, \varphi)}{d\Omega} \approx \frac{1}{2} r_e^2 (1 + \cos^2 \theta) \quad \text{where:} \quad r_e \equiv \frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 m_e c^2} \approx 2.82 \times 10^{-15} \text{ m} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{Classical} \\ \text{electron} \\ \text{radius} \end{array}$$

However, when $E_\gamma^0 \geq m_e c^2$ from the above discussion of the relativistic kinematics of photon-free electron scattering, it is obvious that the classical theory is not valid in this regime. The fully-relativistic quantum mechanical theory – that of quantum electrodynamics (QED) – is required to get it right... Without going into the gory details, the results of the QED calculation associated with the two Feynman graphs {the so-called *s*- and *u*-channel diagrams} shown on p. 5 of P436 Lect. Notes 14.5 for the Compton differential scattering cross section – known as the Klein-Nishina formula for relativistic {unpolarized} photon-free electron scattering is:

$$\frac{d\sigma_{C_e}^{\text{unpol}}(\theta, \varphi)}{d\Omega} = \frac{1}{2} r_e^2 (1 + \cos^2 \theta) \frac{1}{[1 + x_\gamma (1 - \cos \theta)]^2} \left[1 + \frac{x_\gamma^2 (1 - \cos \theta)^2}{(1 + \cos^2 \theta) [1 + x_\gamma (1 - \cos \theta)]} \right]$$

where: $x_\gamma \equiv E_\gamma^0 / m_e c^2 = hf_\gamma^0 / m_e c^2$. In the non-relativistic limit ($x_\gamma \rightarrow 0$), the relativistic Compton scattering cross section agrees with the classical Thomson scattering cross section, as shown in the figure below of the normalized differential scattering cross section $\frac{1}{r_e^2} d\sigma_{C_e}^{\text{unpol}}(\theta) / d \cos \theta$ vs. θ .

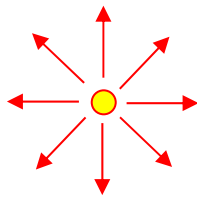
Note that as $x_\gamma \rightarrow \infty$ the relativistic Compton differential scattering cross section becomes increasingly sharply peaked in the forward direction, $\theta \rightarrow 0$.



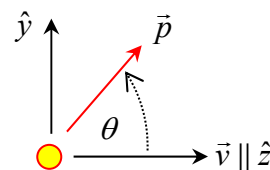
The Relativistic Doppler Shift – for Photons/Light:

A rapidly moving atom isotropically emits monochromatic light (photons of frequency f') in its own **rest** frame IRF'. What is the frequency f of the emitted photons as observed in the **lab** frame IRF as a function of the **lab** angle θ between the atom's velocity $\vec{v} \parallel +\hat{z}$ and the direction of observation $\{ = \text{photon's momentum vector } \vec{p} \}$ in the **lab** frame?

Rest frame of atom, IRF':



Lab frame, IRF:



Without any loss of generality, we can choose the **lab** velocity \vec{v} of the atom to be along the $+\hat{z}$ axis in the **lab** frame IRF {note that: $\hat{z}' \parallel \hat{z} \parallel \vec{v}$ }.

The energy of the photon in the atom's **rest** frame IRF' is: $E' = p'c = hf'$ where: $p' = |\vec{p}'| = \frac{hf'}{c}$ is the magnitude of the photon's momentum in the atom's **rest** frame IRF'. We can **also** assume without loss of generality that the emitted photon's momentum vector \vec{p}' lies in the $y'-z'$ plane of the atom's **rest** frame IRF'. In the atom's **rest** frame IRF', the emitted photon makes an angle θ' with respect to the $+\hat{z}'$ axis.

Hence: $p'_z = p' \cos \theta' = (E'/c) \cos \theta'$ and: $p'_y = p' \sin \theta' = (E'/c) \sin \theta'$ and: $p'_x = 0$.

The 4-momentum vector of the emitted photon in the atom's **rest** frame IRF' is thus:

$$p'_\mu = (E'/c, p'_x, p'_y, p'_z) = \left(\frac{hf'}{c}, 0, \frac{hf'}{c} \sin \theta', \frac{hf'}{c} \cos \theta' \right) = \frac{hf'}{c} (1, 0, \sin \theta', \cos \theta')$$

We then carry out a 1-D Lorentz transformation from the atom's **rest** frame IRF' to the **lab** frame IRF, boosted along the $+\hat{z}' \{ \parallel \hat{z} \parallel \vec{v} \}$ axis (see e.g. Physics 436 Lect. Notes 16, p. 11), where:

$$\beta \equiv v/c \quad \text{and:} \quad \gamma \equiv 1/\sqrt{1-\beta^2}$$

$$p^\mu = \begin{pmatrix} E/c \\ p_x \\ p_y \\ p_z \end{pmatrix} = \Lambda'^\mu{}_\nu p'^\nu = \begin{pmatrix} \gamma & 0 & 0 & +\gamma\beta \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ +\gamma\beta & 0 & 0 & \gamma \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} E'/c \\ p'_x \\ p'_y \\ p'_z \end{pmatrix} = \frac{hf'}{c} \begin{pmatrix} \gamma & 0 & 0 & +\gamma\beta \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ +\gamma\beta & 0 & 0 & \gamma \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ \sin \theta' \\ \cos \theta' \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \frac{hf'}{c} \begin{pmatrix} \gamma + \gamma\beta \cos \theta' \\ 0 \\ \sin \theta' \\ \gamma\beta + \gamma \cos \theta' \end{pmatrix} = \frac{hf'}{c} \begin{pmatrix} \gamma(1 + \beta \cos \theta') \\ 0 \\ \sin \theta' \\ \gamma(\beta + \cos \theta') \end{pmatrix}$$

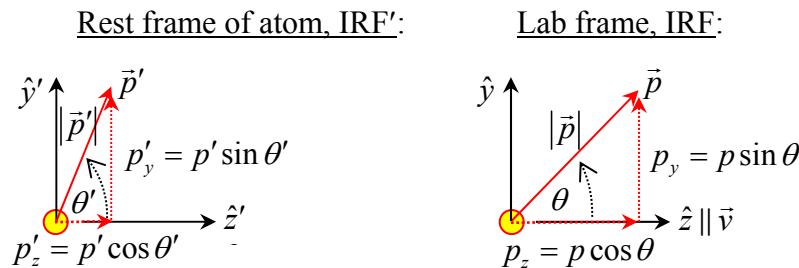
Thus, in the **lab** IRF, the emitted photon's 4-momentum vector is:

$$p_\mu = (E/c, p_x, p_y, p_z) = \frac{hf'}{c} (\gamma(1 + \beta \cos \theta'), 0, \sin \theta', \gamma(\beta + \cos \theta'))$$

The emitted photon's energy as observed in the **lab** IRF is: $E = hf = \gamma hf' (1 + \beta \cos \theta')$.

The frequency of the emitted photon observed in the **lab** IRF is: $f = \gamma f' (1 + \beta \cos \theta')$.

Experimentally, the atom's **rest** frame photon emission angle θ' is {often} **not** measurable; the **lab** frame photon emission angle θ **is** what is measured experimentally. Hence, in order for this formula to be **useful**, we must re-write this expression in terms of the **lab** frame photon emission angle θ . The relationship between the atom's **rest** frame photon emission angle θ' and the **lab** frame photon emission angle θ can be obtained by analyzing the 3-momentum components of the photon in the atom's **rest** frame \vec{p}' vs. the **lab** frame \vec{p} , as shown in the figures below:



In the **lab** frame IRF, the 4-vector momentum components of the emitted photon are:

$$\begin{aligned} E &= hf = \gamma hf' (1 + \beta \cos \theta') = \gamma E' (1 + \beta \cos \theta') \\ p_x &= 0 = p'_x \\ p_y &= p \sin \theta = p' \sin \theta' = p'_y \\ p_z &= p \cos \theta = \gamma p' (\beta + \cos \theta') \end{aligned}$$

We see that: $p_z = p \cos \theta = \gamma p' (\beta + \cos \theta')$. But for photons: $p = E/c$ and: $p' = E'/c$

Thus: $p_z = (E/c) \cos \theta = \gamma (E'/c) (\beta + \cos \theta')$. But: $E = \gamma E' (1 + \beta \cos \theta')$

Hence: $p_z = (\gamma E' (1 + \beta \cos \theta') / c) \cos \theta = \gamma (E'/c) (\beta + \cos \theta')$

Or: $\cancel{\gamma E'} (1 + \beta \cos \theta') \cos \theta = \cancel{\gamma E'} (\beta + \cos \theta') \Rightarrow (1 + \beta \cos \theta') \cos \theta = (\beta + \cos \theta')$.

Thus: $\cos \theta = \frac{\cos \theta' + \beta}{1 + \beta \cos \theta'} = \frac{\beta + \cos \theta'}{1 + \beta \cos \theta'}$.

However, we need an expression for $\cos \theta'$ in terms of $\cos \theta$. Solve for $\cos \theta'$:

$$\begin{aligned} (1 + \beta \cos \theta') \cos \theta &= (\beta + \cos \theta') \Rightarrow \cos \theta + \beta \cos \theta' \cos \theta = \beta + \cos \theta' \\ \Rightarrow \beta \cos \theta' \cos \theta - \cos \theta' &= \beta - \cos \theta \Rightarrow (\beta \cos \theta - 1) \cos \theta' = \beta - \cos \theta \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \cos \theta' = \frac{\beta - \cos \theta}{\beta \cos \theta - 1} = \frac{\cos \theta - \beta}{1 - \beta \cos \theta}$$

Thus: $f = \gamma f' (1 + \beta \cos \theta') = \gamma f' \left(1 + \beta \left[\frac{\cos \theta - \beta}{1 - \beta \cos \theta} \right] \right)$ where: $\gamma \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \beta^2}}$ and: $\beta \equiv \frac{v}{c}$

Or: $f' = \frac{1}{\gamma} \left(1 + \beta \left[\frac{\cos \theta - \beta}{1 - \beta \cos \theta} \right] \right)^{-1} f = \frac{1}{\gamma} \left(\frac{1 - \beta \cos \theta}{1 - \beta^2} \right) f = \gamma (1 - \beta \cos \theta) f \leftarrow$

n.b. RHS expressed entirely in **lab** frame IRF variables – i.e. experimentally measured quantities

Similarly, we can **also** obtain a relation for $\sin \theta$ using:

$p_y = p \sin \theta = p' \sin \theta' = p'_y$. But for photons: $p = E/c$ and: $p' = E'/c$

Thus: $p_y = (E/c) \sin \theta = (E'/c) \sin \theta'$ But: $E = \gamma E' (1 + \beta \cos \theta')$

Hence: $p_y = \gamma \cancel{(E'/c)} (1 + \beta \cos \theta') \sin \theta = \cancel{(E'/c)} \sin \theta' \Rightarrow \gamma (1 + \beta \cos \theta') \sin \theta = \sin \theta'$

Thus: $\sin \theta = \frac{\sin \theta'}{\gamma (1 + \beta \cos \theta')}$

And: $\cos \theta = \frac{\cos \theta' + \beta}{(1 + \beta \cos \theta')}$

Hence: $\tan \theta = \frac{\sin \theta}{\cos \theta} = \frac{\sin \theta'}{\gamma (\cos \theta' + \beta)}$

Since:
$$\cos \theta' = \frac{\cos \theta - \beta}{1 - \beta \cos \theta}$$

Then:

$$\begin{aligned} \sin \theta &= \frac{\sin \theta'}{\gamma(1 + \beta \cos \theta')} = \frac{\sin \theta'}{\gamma \left(1 + \beta \left(\frac{\cos \theta - \beta}{1 - \beta \cos \theta} \right) \right)} = \frac{\sin \theta'}{\gamma \left(\frac{1 - \beta \cos \theta + \beta \cos \theta - \beta^2}{1 - \beta \cos \theta} \right)} \\ &= \frac{\sin \theta'}{\gamma \left(\frac{1 - \beta^2}{1 - \beta \cos \theta} \right)} = \frac{\cancel{\gamma} (1 - \beta \cos \theta) \sin \theta'}{\cancel{\gamma} (1 - \beta^2)} = \gamma (1 - \beta \cos \theta) \sin \theta' \end{aligned}$$

Thus:
$$\sin \theta' = \frac{\sin \theta}{\gamma(1 - \beta \cos \theta)}$$

And:
$$\cos \theta' = \frac{\cos \theta - \beta}{(1 - \beta \cos \theta)}$$

Hence:
$$\tan \theta' = \frac{\sin \theta'}{\cos \theta'} = \frac{\sin \theta}{\gamma(\cos \theta - \beta)}$$

Comments:

From:
$$\cos \theta = \frac{\cos \theta' + \beta}{(1 + \beta \cos \theta')}$$
 and:
$$f = \gamma f' (1 + \beta \cos \theta') = \gamma f' \left(1 + \beta \left[\frac{\cos \theta - \beta}{1 - \beta \cos \theta} \right] \right)$$

1.) The photon will be emitted in the **forward** direction in the **lab** frame IRF $\{0^\circ \leq \theta \leq 90^\circ\}$ when the numerator: $\cos \theta' + \beta \geq 0$, i.e. when: $\beta \geq -\cos \theta'$ {n.b. $\cos \theta' < 0$ for $90^\circ < \theta' \leq 180^\circ$ }.

2.) The photon will be emitted in the **backward** direction in the **lab** frame IRF $\{90^\circ < \theta \leq 180^\circ\}$ when the numerator: $\cos \theta' + \beta < 0$, i.e. when: $\beta < -\cos \theta'$.

3.) When $\beta \rightarrow 1$ ($v \rightarrow c$), **all** photons are emitted in the **forward** direction in the **lab** frame IRF.

4.) When: $\theta' = 0^\circ$, then: $\theta = 0^\circ = \theta'$, and: $f = \gamma f' (1 + \beta)$.

5.) When: $\theta' = 90^\circ$, then: $f = \gamma f'$. When: $\theta = 90^\circ$, then: $f = \gamma f' (1 - \beta^2) = f' / \gamma$.

n.b. so-called **transverse** Doppler shift(s)

6.) When: $\theta' = 180^\circ$, then: $\theta = 180^\circ = \theta'$, and: $f = \gamma f' (1 - \beta)$.

Special Relativity and Stellar Luminosity:

In its own **rest** frame IRF', a star **isotropically** radiates {thermal/black-body} photons. For simplicity's sake **{here}**, we will assume that **all** radiated photons in the star's **rest** frame IRF' have the **same** energy E' . The **total rate** of emission of such photons into 4π steradians in the **rest** frame IRF' of the star {assumed to be constant} is: $R' = dN/dt'$ (#/sec). Note that in the star's **rest** frame IRF', the temporal interval $dt' = d\tau'$ = the **proper** time interval. The **total luminosity** of the star in its **rest** frame IRF' is: $L' = E'R' = E'(dN/dt')$ (Joules/sec = Watts).

The **differential rate** of emission of such photons into solid angle element $d\Omega' = d \cos \theta' d\phi'$ in the star's **rest** frame IRF' is:

$$\frac{dR'}{d\Omega'} = \frac{d}{d\Omega'} \left(\frac{dN}{dt'} \right) = \frac{d(dN/dt')}{d\Omega'} \text{ (#/sec/sr)}$$

The **differential luminosity** of the star as measured in its **rest** frame IRF' is:

$$\frac{dL'}{d\Omega'} = \frac{d(E'R')}{d\Omega'} = E' \frac{dR'}{d\Omega'} = E' \frac{d}{d\Omega'} \left(\frac{dN}{dt'} \right) = E' \frac{d(dN/dt')}{d\Omega'} \text{ (Joules/sec/sr = Watts/sr)}$$

Suppose that **you** are an astronomer on earth, observing this star through a telescope. **Your** inertial reference frame is the **lab** frame IRF. {For simplicity's sake **here**, we neglect/ignore the motion of the earth}. If the star is moving with velocity $\vec{v} \parallel \hat{z} \parallel \hat{z}'$, then what is the **differential luminosity** $dL/d\Omega$ in the earth's **lab** frame IRF – i.e. how is $dL/d\Omega$ related to $dL'/d\Omega'$?

There are **three** inertial reference frame effects that must be taken into account **here**:

- Time dilation: $dt \neq dt'$ ←
 - Angle transformation: $d\Omega \neq d\Omega'$ ←
 - Doppler effect: $E \neq E'$ ←
- Rate of emission in **rest** frame IRF' \neq rate of emission in **lab** frame IRF
Lorentz transformation from **rest** frame IRF' of star to **lab** frame IRF.

The time dilation effect is: $dt = \gamma dt'$ or: $\frac{dt'}{dt} = \frac{1}{\gamma}$, where: $\gamma \equiv 1/\sqrt{1-\beta^2}$ and: $\beta \equiv v/c$.

The 1-D Lorentz transformation from the star's **rest** frame IRF' to the **lab** frame IRF on earth, for $\vec{v} \parallel \hat{z} \parallel \hat{z}'$ is the same as that for the above relativistic Doppler shift example:

The 4-momentum vector associated with a photon emitted from the surface of the star in the **rest** frame IRF' of the star is: $p'_\mu = (E'/c, p'_x, p'_y, p'_z) = (\frac{E'}{c}, 0, \frac{E'}{c} \sin \theta', \frac{E'}{c} \cos \theta') = \frac{E'}{c} (1, 0, \sin \theta', \cos \theta')$

The Lorentz transformation is:

$$p^\mu = \begin{pmatrix} E/c \\ p_x \\ p_y \\ p_z \end{pmatrix} = \Lambda'^\mu{}_\nu p'^\nu = \begin{pmatrix} \gamma & 0 & 0 & +\gamma\beta \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ +\gamma\beta & 0 & 0 & \gamma \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} E'/c \\ p'_x \\ p'_y \\ p'_z \end{pmatrix} = \frac{E'}{c} \begin{pmatrix} \gamma(1 + \beta \cos \theta') \\ 0 \\ \sin \theta' \\ \gamma(\beta + \cos \theta') \end{pmatrix}$$

Thus, the photon's 4-momentum vector as seen by an astronomer in the **lab** frame IRF is:

$$p_\mu = (E/c, p_x, p_y, p_z) = \frac{E'}{c} (\gamma(1 + \beta \cos \theta'), 0, \sin \theta', \gamma(\beta + \cos \theta'))$$

Here {again}, we need to express this result in terms of **lab** frame IRF measured variables {only}:

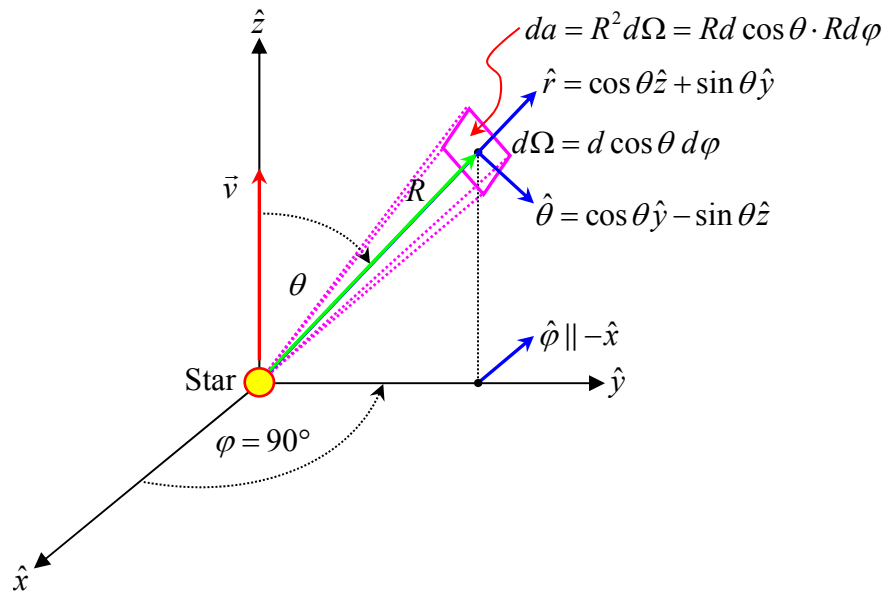
$$\cos \theta' = \frac{\cos \theta - \beta}{(1 - \beta \cos \theta)}, \quad \sin \theta' = \frac{\sin \theta}{\gamma(1 - \beta \cos \theta)} \quad \text{and:} \quad E' = \gamma(1 - \beta \cos \theta) E$$

Now, the **lab** frame IRF vs. the star's **rest** frame IRF' **solid angle elements** are, respectively:

$$d\Omega = d \cos \theta d\varphi \quad \text{and:} \quad d\Omega' = d \cos \theta' d\varphi'$$

The infinitesimal **solid angle element** $d\Omega = d \cos \theta d\varphi$ and the infinitesimal **area element** $da = R^2 d\Omega = R d \cos \theta \cdot R d\varphi$ {where the infinitesimal θ and φ **arc lengths** $S_\theta = R d \cos \theta$ and $S_\varphi = R d\varphi$, respectively} associated with the **lab** frame IRF are shown in the figure below.

As per the above discussion of the relativistic Doppler shift, for $\vec{v} \parallel \hat{z} \{ \parallel \hat{z}' \}$, without any loss of generality we can choose the observation point $P(\vec{r} = R\hat{r})$ to lie in the y - z plane ($\varphi = 90^\circ$):



For the choice of observation point $P(\vec{r} = R\hat{r})$ lying in the y - z plane ($\varphi = 90^\circ$), note that $\hat{\varphi} \parallel -\hat{x}$ is \perp to $\hat{r} = \cos \theta \hat{z} + \sin \theta \hat{y}$. Thus, since **transverse** components of a 4-vector are **unaffected** by a Lorentz transformation *e.g.* from the **rest** frame IRF' to the **lab** frame IRF, then $\hat{\varphi} = \hat{\varphi}'$, hence $\varphi = \varphi'$ and $d\varphi = d\varphi'$. Thus, in order to determine the relationship between solid angle element $d\Omega = d \cos \theta d\varphi$ and $d\Omega' = d \cos \theta' d\varphi'$, we only need to determine how $d \cos \theta$ is related to $d \cos \theta'$. From above, we already have the relation:

$$\cos \theta' = \frac{\cos \theta - \beta}{(1 - \beta \cos \theta)}$$

Thus, using the chain rule of differentiation:

$$\frac{d \cos \theta'}{d \cos \theta} = \frac{d}{d \cos \theta} \left\{ \frac{\cos \theta - \beta}{(1 - \beta \cos \theta)} \right\} = \frac{1}{(1 - \beta \cos \theta)} - \frac{-\beta(\cos \theta - \beta)}{(1 - \beta \cos \theta)^2}$$

$$= \frac{1 - \cancel{\beta \cos \theta} + \cancel{\beta \cos \theta} - \beta^2}{(1 - \beta \cos \theta)^2} = \frac{1 - \beta^2}{(1 - \beta \cos \theta)^2} = \frac{1}{\gamma^2} \frac{1}{(1 - \beta \cos \theta)^2}$$

Hence:

$$\frac{d\Omega'}{d\Omega} = \frac{d \cos \theta'}{d \cos \theta} \cdot \underbrace{\frac{d\varphi'}{d\varphi}}_{=1} = \frac{d \cos \theta'}{d \cos \theta} = \frac{1}{\gamma^2} \frac{1}{(1 - \beta \cos \theta)^2}$$

We also already have the relationship between E and E' from the Lorentz transformation result:

$$E' = \gamma(1 - \beta \cos \theta) E \quad \text{or:} \quad \frac{E}{E'} = \frac{1}{\gamma(1 - \beta \cos \theta)}$$

The **lab** frame vs. **rest** frame **differential luminosity** of the star are related to each other by:

$$\frac{dL}{d\Omega} = E \frac{dR}{d\Omega} = E \frac{d}{d\Omega} \left(\frac{dN}{dt} \right) = \left(\frac{dt'}{dt} \right) \left(\frac{d\Omega'}{d\Omega} \right) \left(\frac{E}{E'} \right) E' \frac{d}{d\Omega'} \left(\frac{dN}{dt'} \right)$$

$$= \left(\frac{dt'}{dt} \right) \left(\frac{d\Omega'}{d\Omega} \right) \left(\frac{E}{E'} \right) E' \frac{dR'}{d\Omega'} = \left(\frac{dt'}{dt} \right) \left(\frac{d\Omega'}{d\Omega} \right) \left(\frac{E}{E'} \right) \frac{dL'}{d\Omega'} \left(\frac{\text{Watts}}{\text{sr}} \right)$$

Thus:

$$\frac{dL}{d\Omega} = \left(\frac{dt'}{dt} \right) \left(\frac{d\Omega'}{d\Omega} \right) \left(\frac{E}{E'} \right) \frac{dL'}{d\Omega'} = \left(\frac{1}{\gamma} \right) \left(\frac{1}{\gamma^2} \frac{1}{(1 - \beta \cos \theta)^2} \right) \left(\frac{1}{\gamma(1 - \beta \cos \theta)} \right) \frac{dL'}{d\Omega'} \left(\frac{\text{Watts}}{\text{sr}} \right)$$

Or:

$$\frac{dL}{d\Omega} = \frac{1}{\gamma^4} \frac{1}{(1 - \beta \cos \theta)^3} \frac{dL'}{d\Omega'} \left(\frac{\text{Watts}}{\text{sr}} \right) \quad \Leftarrow \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{n.b. peaks sharply in } \theta=0 \text{ (forward)} \\ \text{direction, and } \rightarrow 0 \text{ in } \theta=\pi \text{ (backward)} \\ \text{direction as } \beta \rightarrow 1 \text{ (} \gamma \rightarrow \infty \text{).} \end{array}$$

The **differential luminosity** of the star in its own **rest** frame IRF' is thus:

$$\frac{dL'}{d\Omega'} = \gamma^4 (1 - \beta \cos \theta)^3 \frac{dL}{d\Omega} \left(\frac{\text{Watts}}{\text{sr}} \right) \quad \Leftarrow \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{n.b. RHS expressed entirely in } \text{lab} \\ \text{frame IRF variables - i.e.} \\ \text{experimentally measured quantities} \end{array}$$

The **total** luminosity of the star in its own **rest** frame IRF' is: $L' = \int \frac{dL'}{d\Omega'} d\Omega' = 4\pi \frac{dL'}{d\Omega'} \text{ (Watts)}$

since the emission of photons in the star's own **rest** frame is **isotropic**.

Hence the **total** luminosity of the star in its own **rest** frame IRF' is:

$$L' = 4\pi \frac{dL'}{d\Omega'} = 4\pi \gamma^4 (1 - \beta \cos \theta)^3 \frac{dL}{d\Omega} \text{ (Watts)} \quad \Leftarrow \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{n.b. RHS expressed entirely in } \text{lab} \\ \text{frame IRF variables - i.e.} \\ \text{experimentally measured quantities} \end{array}$$

Relativistic Dynamics

Newton's 1st Law of Motion: "An object at rest remains at rest, an object moving with speed v continues to move at speed v , unless acted upon by a net/non-zero/unbalanced force"
 – the Law of Inertia – is built/incorporated into in the **Principle of Relativity**.

Newton's 2nd law of motion {**classical** mechanics} retains its validity in **relativistic** mechanics, provided that **relativistic** momentum is used:

$$\vec{F}(\vec{r}, t) = \frac{d\vec{p}(\vec{r}, t)}{dt} (= m\vec{a}(\vec{r}, t))$$

Griffiths Example 12.10: 1-D Relativistic Motion Under a Constant Force.

A particle of (rest) mass m is subject to a **constant** force: $\vec{F}(\vec{r}, t) = \vec{F} = F\hat{x} = \text{constant vector}$.

If the particle starts from **rest** at the origin at time $t = 0$, find its position $x(t)$ as a function of t .

Since the relativistic motion is 1-D, then: $F = \frac{dp(t)}{dt} = \text{constant}$, or: $\frac{dp(t)}{dt} = F = \text{constant}$.

$\Rightarrow p(t) = Ft + \text{constant of integration}$. The particle starts from **rest** at $t = 0$. $\therefore p(t=0) = 0$

$\Rightarrow \text{constant of integration} = 0$. $\therefore p(t) = Ft$ {**here**}

Relativistically: $p(t) = \gamma_u(t)mu(t) = \frac{mu(t)}{\sqrt{1-(u(t)/c)^2}} = Ft$ where: $\gamma_u(t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-(u(t)/c)^2}}$

Solve for $u(t)$: $m^2u^2 = F^2t^2(1-(u^2/c^2)) = F^2t^2 - (F^2t^2/c^2)u^2 \Rightarrow (m^2 + (F^2t^2/c^2))u^2 = F^2t^2$

Or: $u^2 = \frac{F^2t^2}{m^2 + (F^2t^2/c^2)} = \frac{(Ft/m)^2}{1 + (Ft/mc)^2} \Rightarrow u(t) = \frac{Ft/m}{\sqrt{1 + (Ft/mc)^2}} = \text{Relativistic particle velocity for **constant** applied force } \vec{F}$

n.b. when: $(Ft/mc) \ll 1$ i.e. $(Ft/m) \ll c$ then: $u(t) \approx Ft/m \Leftarrow$ Classical dynamics answer.

Note also that as $t \rightarrow \infty$: $u(t \rightarrow \infty) \rightarrow c$!!! (Relativistic denominator **ensures** this!)

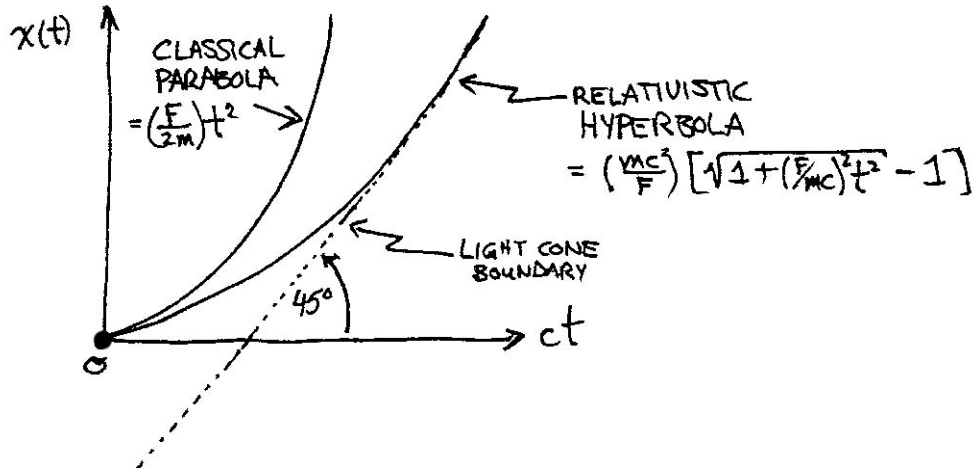
Since: $u(t) = \frac{Ft/m}{\sqrt{1 + (Ft/mc)^2}} = \frac{dx(t)}{dt}$ Then: $x(t) = \int_0^t u(t') dt' = (F/m) \int_0^t \frac{t'}{\sqrt{1 + (F/mc)^2 t'^2}} dt'$

The motion is **hyperbolic**: $x(t) = \left(\frac{F}{m}\right) \left(\frac{mc}{F}\right)^2 \sqrt{1 + (F/mc)^2 t'^2} \Big|_0^t = \left(\frac{mc^2}{F}\right) \left[\sqrt{1 + (F/mc)^2 t^2} - 1 \right]$

n.b. Had we done this in **classical** dynamics, the result would have been **parabolic** motion:

$$x(t) = \left(\frac{F}{2m}\right) t^2$$

Thus, in **relativistic** dynamics – e.g. a charged particle placed in a **uniform** electric field \vec{E} , the resulting motion under a constant force $\vec{F} = q\vec{E}$ is **hyperbolic** motion (not **parabolic** motion, as in **classical** dynamics) – see/compare two cases, as shown in figure below:



Relativistic Work:

Relativistic work is defined the same as **classical** work: $W \equiv \int \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{\ell}$

The **Work-Energy Theorem** (the net work done **on** a particle = **increase** in particle's kinetic energy) also holds relativistically:

$$W = \int \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{\ell} = \int \frac{d\vec{p}}{dt} \cdot d\vec{\ell} = \int \frac{d\vec{p}}{dt} \cdot \frac{d\vec{\ell}}{dt} dt = \int \frac{d\vec{p}}{dt} \cdot \vec{u} dt = \Delta E_{kin} \quad \text{since: } \vec{u} = \frac{d\vec{\ell}}{dt}$$

But: $\left(\frac{d\vec{p}}{dt} \cdot \vec{u} \right) = \frac{d}{dt} \frac{m\vec{u}}{\sqrt{1-(u/c)^2}} \cdot \vec{u}$ since: $\vec{p} = \gamma_u m\vec{u} = \frac{m\vec{u}}{\sqrt{1-\beta_u^2}} = \frac{m\vec{u}}{\sqrt{1-(u/c)^2}}$

Thus:

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\frac{d\vec{p}}{dt} \cdot \vec{u} \right) &= \frac{m}{\sqrt{1-(u/c)^2}} \left(\frac{d\vec{u}}{dt} \right) \cdot \vec{u} + \frac{\left(m\vec{u}/c^2 \right) u}{\left[1-(u/c)^2 \right]^{3/2}} \left(\frac{du}{dt} \right) \cdot \vec{u} = \frac{m\vec{u}}{\sqrt{1-(u/c)^2}} \cdot \frac{d\vec{u}}{dt} + \frac{m(u/c)^2 \vec{u}}{\left[1-(u/c)^2 \right]^{3/2}} \cdot \frac{d\vec{u}}{dt} \\ &= \left\{ \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-(u/c)^2}} + \frac{(u/c)^2}{\left[1-(u/c)^2 \right]^{3/2}} \right\} m\vec{u} \cdot \frac{d\vec{u}}{dt} = \left\{ \frac{1-(u/c)^2 + (u/c)^2}{\left[1-(u/c)^2 \right]^{3/2}} \right\} m\vec{u} \cdot \frac{d\vec{u}}{dt} = \frac{m\vec{u}}{\left[1-(u/c)^2 \right]^{3/2}} \cdot \frac{d\vec{u}}{dt} \\ &= \frac{mu}{\left[1-(u/c)^2 \right]^{3/2}} \frac{du}{dt} = \frac{d}{dt} \left\{ \frac{mc^2}{\sqrt{1-(u/c)^2}} \right\} \end{aligned}$$

But: $\gamma_u \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-(u/c)^2}} \therefore \left(\frac{d\vec{p}}{dt} \cdot \vec{u} \right) = \frac{d}{dt} \{ \gamma_u m c^2 \} = \frac{dE_{tot}}{dt}$

Thus:
$$W = \int \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{\ell} = \int \frac{d\vec{p}}{dt} \cdot d\vec{\ell} = \int \frac{d\vec{p}}{dt} \cdot \frac{d\vec{\ell}}{dt} dt = \int \frac{d\vec{p}}{dt} \cdot \vec{u} dt = \Delta E_{kin}$$

$$= \int \frac{dE_{tot}}{dt} \cdot dt = E_{tot}^{final} - E_{tot}^{initial} = \Delta E_{tot}$$

But: $E_{tot} = E_{kin} + E_{rest} = E_{kin} + mc^2$ n.b. $E_{tot} = \gamma_u mc^2 = \underbrace{(\gamma_u - 1) mc^2}_{E_{kin}} + mc^2$, $E_{kin} = (\gamma_u - 1) mc^2$

$\therefore \underbrace{E_{tot}^{final} - E_{tot}^{initial}}_{=\Delta E_{tot}} = \left(E_{kin}^{final} + mc^2 \right) - \left(E_{kin}^{initial} + mc^2 \right) = \underbrace{E_{kin}^{final} - E_{kin}^{initial}}_{=\Delta E_{kin}}$ (final-initial) difference in total energy = (final-initial) difference in kinetic energy = work done on particle.

i.e. $W = \Delta E_{tot} = E_{tot}^{final} - E_{tot}^{initial} = \Delta E_{kin} = E_{kin}^{final} - E_{kin}^{initial}$

As we have already encountered elsewhere in *E&M*, Newton's 3rd Law of Motion ("For every action (force) there is an equal and opposite reaction") does **NOT** (in general) extend to the relativistic domain, because e.g. if two objects are separated in 3-D space, the 3rd Law is incompatible with the relativity of simultaneity.

Suppose the 3-D force of *A* acting on *B* at some instant *t* is: $\vec{F}_{AB}(\vec{r}_B, t) = +\vec{F}(\vec{r}_B, t)$
 and the 3-D force of *B* acting on *A* at the same instant *t* is: $\vec{F}_{BA}(\vec{r}_A, t) = -\vec{F}(\vec{r}_A, t)$ } As observed e.g. in lab IRF(*S*)

Then Newton's 3rd Law **does** apply in this reference frame.

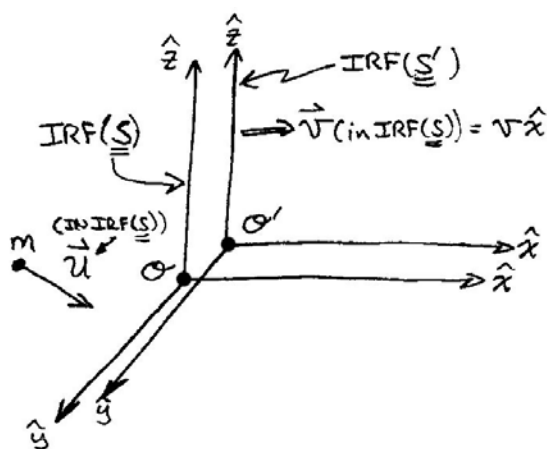
However, a moving observer {moving relative to the above IRF(*S*)} will report that these equal-but-opposite 3-D forces occurred at different times as seen from his/her IRF(*S'*), thus in his/her IRF(*S'*), Newton's 3rd Law is **violated** (the two 3-D forces $\vec{F}'_{AB}(\vec{r}'_B, t')$ and $\vec{F}'_{BA}(\vec{r}'_A, t')$ at the same time *t'* in IRF(*S'*) are **quite unlikely** to be **equal and opposite**, e.g. if they are changing in time in IRF(*S*)).

Only in the case of **contact interactions** (i.e. 2 point particles at same point in space-time = (*x_A*, *t_A*)) where the two 3-D forces $\vec{F}_{AB}(\vec{r}_B, t)$ and $\vec{F}_{BA}(\vec{r}_A, t)$ are applied at the same point (*x_A*) at the same time, and in the {trivial} case where forces are **constant**, does Newton's 3rd Law hold!

$$\vec{F}(\vec{r}, t) = \frac{d\vec{p}(\vec{r}, t)}{dt}$$

The observant student may have noticed that because $\vec{F}(\vec{r}, t)$ is the derivative of the (relativistic) momentum $\vec{p}(\vec{r}, t)$ with respect to the **ordinary** (and **not** the **proper**) time *t*, it "suffers" from the same "ugly" behavior that "**ordinary**" velocity does, in Lorentz-transforming it from one IRF to another: both **numerator** and **denominator** of $\frac{d\vec{p}(\vec{r}, t)}{dt}$ must be transformed.

Thus, if we carry out a Lorentz transformation from IRF(S) to IRF(S'), along the \hat{x} -axis where $\vec{v} = v\hat{x}$ is velocity vector of IRF(S') as observed in IRF(S), and \vec{u} is the velocity vector of a particle of mass m as observed in IRF(S):



Then: $\gamma \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-\beta^2}}$ where: $\beta \equiv \frac{v}{c}$ with: $\vec{v} = v\hat{x}$

The γ and β factors are needed for the Lorentz transformation of kinematic quantities from IRF(S) \rightarrow IRF(S').

First, let us work out the \hat{y}' and \hat{z}' (i.e. the **transverse**) components of the 3-D force $\vec{F}'(\vec{r}', t')$ as seen in IRF(S') {they are simpler / easier to obtain. . . }:

Noting that: $\vec{F} = \frac{d\vec{p}}{dt}$, $\vec{F}' = \frac{d\vec{p}'}{dt'}$ and that: $dt' = \gamma dt - \frac{\gamma\beta}{c} dx$ and: $u_x = \frac{dx}{dt}$

In IRF(S'): $F'_y = \frac{dp'_y}{dt'} = \frac{dp_y}{\gamma dt - \frac{\gamma\beta}{c} dx} = \frac{\frac{dp_y}{dt}}{\gamma \left(1 - \frac{\beta}{c} \frac{dx}{dt}\right)} = \frac{F_y}{\gamma (1 - (\beta u_x / c))}$

Similarly: $F'_z = \frac{dp'_z}{dt'} = \frac{dp_z}{\gamma dt - \frac{\gamma\beta}{c} dx} = \frac{\frac{dp_z}{dt}}{\gamma \left(1 - \frac{\beta}{c} \frac{dx}{dt}\right)} = \frac{F_z}{\gamma (1 - (\beta u_x / c))}$

Now calculate the \hat{x}' -component of the force $\vec{F}'(\vec{r}', t')$ in IRF(S'):

In IRF(S'): $F'_x = \frac{dp'_x}{dt'} = \frac{\cancel{\chi} dp_x - \cancel{\chi} \beta dp^0}{\cancel{\chi} dt - \frac{\cancel{\chi} \beta}{c} dx} = \frac{\frac{dp_x}{dt} - \beta \frac{dp^0}{dt}}{1 - \frac{\beta}{c} \frac{dx}{dt}} = \frac{F_x - (\beta/c) \frac{dE_{tot}}{dt}}{1 - (\beta u_x / c)}$ where: $p^0 = \frac{E_{tot}}{c}$

But we have calculated $\frac{dE_{tot}}{dt}$ above / earlier: $\frac{dE_{tot}}{dt} = \frac{d\vec{p}}{dt} \cdot \vec{u} = \vec{F} \cdot \vec{u} = \vec{u} \cdot \vec{F}$ since: $\vec{F} = \frac{d\vec{p}}{dt}$

$$\therefore \left. \begin{array}{l} F'_x = \frac{F_x - \beta(\vec{u} \cdot \vec{F})/c}{1 - (\beta u_x/c)} \\ F'_y = \frac{F_y}{\gamma(1 - (\beta u_x/c))} \\ F'_z = \frac{F_z}{\gamma(1 - (\beta u_x/c))} \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} \text{Relativistic “ordinary” } x, y, z \text{ force components} \\ \text{observed in IRF}(S') \text{ acting on particle of mass } m, \text{ for a} \\ \text{Lorentz transformation from lab IRF}(S) \text{ to IRF}(S'). \\ \\ \text{IRF}(S') \text{ moving with velocity } \vec{v} = v\hat{x} \text{ relative to} \\ \text{IRF}(S) \text{ (as seen in IRF}(S)), \gamma \equiv 1/\sqrt{1 - \beta^2}, \beta \equiv v/c. \\ \\ \text{Particle of mass } m \text{ is moving with “ordinary” velocity} \\ \vec{u} \text{ as seen in IRF}(S). \end{array}$$

We see that **only** when the particle of mass m is **instantaneously** at rest in lab IRF(S) (i.e. $\vec{u}(t) = 0$) will we then have a “simple” Lorentz transformation of the “ordinary” force $\vec{F} \rightarrow \vec{F}'$:

$$\vec{u} = 0: \left\{ \begin{array}{l} F'_x = F_x \\ F'_y = F_y/\gamma \\ F'_z = F_z/\gamma \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} F'_\parallel = F_\parallel \\ F'_\perp = F_\perp/\gamma \end{array} \right\} \leftarrow \text{n.b. } \parallel \text{ force components are same/identical !!!}$$

Where the subscripts \parallel (\perp) refer to the parallel (perpendicular) components of the force with respect to the motion of IRF(S') relative to IRF(S), respectively.

Note that for $\vec{u} = 0$, the component of $\vec{F} \parallel$ to the Lorentz boost direction is **unchanged**.
For $\vec{u} = 0$, the component of $\vec{F} \perp$ to the Lorentz boost direction is **reduced** by the factor $1/\gamma$.

Proper Force – The Minkowski Force:

In analogy to the definition of the **proper** time interval $d\tau$ and the **proper** velocity $\vec{\eta} = d\vec{\ell}/d\tau$ versus the “ordinary” time interval dt and the “ordinary” velocity $\vec{u} = d\vec{\ell}/dt$, we define a **proper** force \vec{K} (also known as the Minkowski force), which is the derivative of the **relativistic** momentum \vec{p} with respect to **proper** time $d\tau$:

$$\vec{K} \equiv \frac{d\vec{p}}{d\tau} = \left(\frac{dt}{d\tau} \right) \frac{d\vec{p}}{dt} \quad \text{but:} \quad \frac{dt}{d\tau} = \frac{dt}{dt'} = \gamma_u \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \beta_u^2}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - (u/c)^2}}$$

$$\therefore \vec{K} \equiv \frac{d\vec{p}}{d\tau} = \left(\frac{dt}{d\tau} \right) \frac{d\vec{p}}{dt} = \gamma_u \vec{F} \quad \text{where:} \quad \vec{F} \equiv \frac{d\vec{p}}{dt}$$

$$\text{Thus:} \quad \vec{K} = \gamma_u \vec{F} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \beta_u^2}} \vec{F} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - (u/c)^2}} \vec{F} \quad \text{where:} \quad \gamma_u \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \beta_u^2}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - (u/c)^2}} \quad \text{and:} \quad \beta_u \equiv \frac{u}{c}$$

We can “4-vectorize” the Minkowski Force, because it’s plainly / clearly a 4-vector:

$$\begin{array}{l}
 \underline{ct}: \quad \boxed{K^0 \equiv \frac{dp^0}{d\tau} = \frac{1}{c} \frac{dE_{tot}}{d\tau}} \quad \text{since: } \boxed{p^0 = \frac{E_{tot}}{c}} \Rightarrow K^0 = \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{Proper rate at which energy of particle} \\ \text{increases (or decreases)} \\ = \text{(Proper **power** delivered to the particle)/}c ! \end{array} \\
 \underline{x}: \quad \boxed{K^1 \equiv \frac{dp^1}{d\tau} = \gamma_u F^1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-\beta_u^2}} F^1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-(u/c)^2}} F^1} \\
 \underline{y}: \quad \boxed{K^2 \equiv \frac{dp^2}{d\tau} = \gamma_u F^2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-\beta_u^2}} F^2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-(u/c)^2}} F^2} \\
 \underline{z}: \quad \boxed{K^3 \equiv \frac{dp^3}{d\tau} = \gamma_u F^3 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-\beta_u^2}} F^3 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-(u/c)^2}} F^3} \\
 \text{with: } \quad \boxed{\gamma_u \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-\beta_u^2}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-(u/c)^2}}} \\
 \text{Thus: } \quad \boxed{K^\mu \equiv \frac{dp^\mu}{d\tau}} \leftarrow \text{Minkowski 4-vector force} = \text{proper 4-vector force.}
 \end{array}$$

Relativistic dynamics can be formulated in terms of either “ordinary” quantities or “proper” (particle rest frame) quantities. The latter is much neater / elegant, but it is (by its nature) restricted to the particle’s rest frame IRF(*S'*) {*n.b.* We can always Lorentz boost this “proper” result to any other inertial reference frame. . . }

There is a very simple reason for this! Since we humans live in the lab frame IRF(*S*) – we want to know everything about particle’s trajectory, the forces acting on it, *etc.* in the lab because this is the only IRF that we can (easily) carry out physical measurements in – often, it is not possible to make physical measurements *e.g.* in a particle’s rest frame / proper frame, especially if the particles are in relativistic motion (*e.g.* at Fermilab/LHC/... hadron colliders).

In the long run, we will (usually) be interested in the particle’s trajectory as a function of “ordinary” time, so in fact the “ordinary” 4-force $\boxed{F^\mu \equiv dp^\mu/dt}$ is often more useful, even if it is more painful / cumbersome to calculate / compute...

We want to obtain the relativistic generalization of the classical Lorentz force law $\boxed{\vec{F}_C = q\vec{E} + q\vec{u} \times \vec{B}}$ { \vec{u} = particle’s “ordinary” velocity in IRF(*S*)}. Does the classical formula \vec{F}_C correspond to the “ordinary” relativistic force \vec{F} , or to the proper / Minkowski force \vec{K} ?

Thus, for the relativistic Lorentz force, should we write: $\boxed{\vec{F} = q\vec{E} + q\vec{u} \times \vec{B} = q(\vec{E} + \vec{u} \times \vec{B})}$???

Or rather, should the relativistic Lorentz force relation be: $\boxed{\vec{K} = q\vec{E} + q\vec{u} \times \vec{B} = q(\vec{E} + \vec{u} \times \vec{B})}$???

Since proper time and “ordinary” time are identical in classical physics / Euclidean / Galilean 3-space, classical physics can’t tell us the answer.

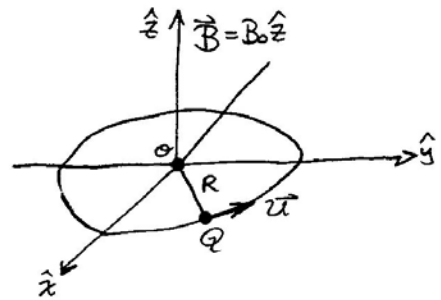
It turns out that the Lorentz force law is an “ordinary” relativistic force law: $\boxed{\vec{F} = q(\vec{E} + \vec{u} \times \vec{B})}$
We’ll see why shortly... We’ll also construct the proper / Minkowski EM force law, as well . . .

But first, some examples:

Griffiths Example 12.11: Relativistic Charged Particle Moving in a Uniform Magnetic Field

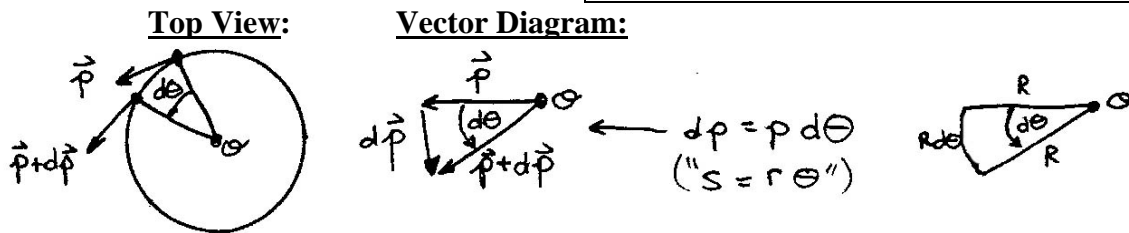
We've discussed this before, from a classical dynamics point of view:

The typical trajectory of a charged particle (charge Q , mass m) moving in a uniform magnetic field is cyclotron motion. If the velocity of particle (\vec{u}) lies in the x - y plane and $\vec{B} = B_o \hat{z}$, then $\vec{F} = Q\vec{u} \times \vec{B} = QuB_o (-\hat{r}) = -QuB_o \hat{r}$ as shown on the right:



The magnetic force points radially inward – it provides the centripetal acceleration needed to sustain the circular motion. However, in special relativity the centripetal force is not mu^2/R

(as it is in classical mechanics). Rather, it is: $F = \frac{dp}{dt} = p \frac{d\theta}{dt} = p \frac{R}{R} \frac{d\theta}{dt} = p \frac{1}{R} \left(\frac{R d\theta}{dt} \right) = p \frac{u}{R}$.



$\vec{F} = p \frac{u}{R} (-\hat{r})$ n.b. Classically: $\vec{p} = m\vec{u}$ thus, classically: $\vec{F} = m \frac{u^2}{R} (-\hat{r})$

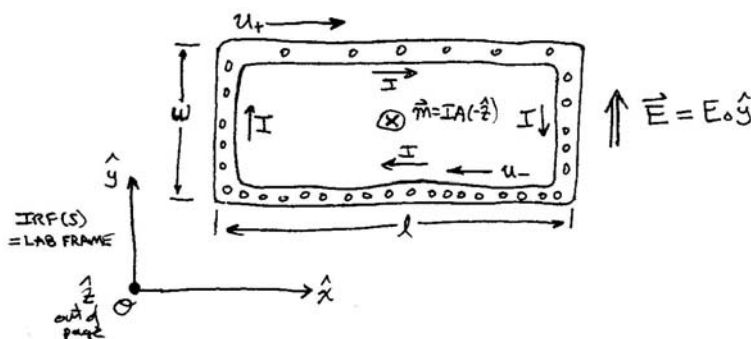
Thus, relativistically: $QuB_o (-\hat{r}) = p \frac{u}{R} (-\hat{r})$ or: $QuB_o = p \frac{u}{R}$ or: $p = QB_o R$

The relativistic cyclotron formula is identical to the classical / non-relativistic formula!

However here, \vec{p} is understood to be the relativistic 3-momentum: $\vec{p} = m\vec{\eta} = \gamma_u m\vec{u}$.

Griffiths Example 12.12: Hidden Momentum

Consider a magnetic dipole moment \vec{m} modeled as a rectangular loop of wire (dimensions $\ell \times w$) carrying a steady current I . Imagine the current as a uniform stream of non-interacting positive charges flowing freely through the wire at constant speed u . (*i.e.* a fictitious kind of superconductor.) A uniform electric field \vec{E} is applied as shown in the figure below:



The application of the external uniform electric field $\vec{E} = E_0 \hat{y}$ changes the physics – the electric charges are accelerated in the left segment of the loop and decelerated in the right segment of the loop. [*n.b.* admittedly this is not a very realistic model, but other more realistic models do lead to the same result – see *e.g.* V. Hnizdo, Am. J. Phys. **65**, 92 (1997)].

Find the total momentum of all of the charges in the loop.

The momenta associated with the electric charges in the left and right segments of the loop cancel each other (*i.e.* \vec{p} (in left segment) = $-\vec{p}$ (in right segment)), so we only need to consider the momenta associated with the electric charges flowing in the top and bottom segments of the loop.

Suppose there are N_+ charges flowing in the top segment of the loop, moving in $+\hat{x}$ direction with speed $u_+ > u$ ($\vec{E} = 0$) {because they underwent acceleration traveling on the LHS segment} and N_- charges flowing in the bottom segment of the loop, moving in the $-\hat{x}$ direction with speed $u_- < u$ ($\vec{E} = 0$) {because they underwent deceleration traveling on the RHS segment}.

Note that the current $I = \lambda u$ must be the same in all four segments of the loop, otherwise charges would be piling up somewhere.

In particular: $I = I_+$ (top segment of loop) = I_- (bottom segment of loop), *i.e.* $I = I_+ = I_-$.

$$\text{Since: } \lambda \equiv \frac{Q_{\text{tot}}}{\ell} = \frac{NQ}{\ell} \text{ then: } I_+ = \lambda u_+ = N_+ \left(\frac{Q}{\ell} \right) u_+ = I_- = \lambda u_- = N_- \left(\frac{Q}{\ell} \right) u_-$$

$$\therefore N_+ \left(\frac{Q}{\ell} \right) u_+ = N_- \left(\frac{Q}{\ell} \right) u_- = I \Rightarrow N_+ u_+ = N_- u_- = \frac{I\ell}{Q}$$

Classically, the linear momentum of each electric charge is $\vec{p}_{\text{classical}} = m_0 \vec{u}$ where $m_0 =$ mass of the charged particle.

The total **classical** linear momentum of the charged particles flowing to the **right** in the **top** segment of the loop is:

$$\vec{p}_{+classical}^{top\ segment} = \sum_{i=1}^{N_+} m_Q \vec{u}_+ = N_+ m_Q u_+ (+\hat{x})$$

The total **classical** linear momentum of the charged particles flowing to the **left** in the **bottom** segment of the loop is:

$$\vec{p}_{-classical}^{bottom\ segment} = \sum_{i=1}^{N_-} m_Q \vec{u}_- = N_- m_Q u_- (-\hat{x})$$

The net (or total) **classical** linear momentum of the charged particles flowing in the loop is:

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{P}_{classical}^{tot} &= \cancel{\vec{p}_{classical}^{left\ segment}} + \vec{p}_{+classical}^{top\ segment} + \cancel{\vec{p}_{classical}^{right\ segment}} + \vec{p}_{-classical}^{bottom\ segment} = \vec{p}_{+classical}^{top\ segment} + \vec{p}_{-classical}^{bottom\ segment} \\ &= N_+ m_Q u_+ \hat{x} - N_- m_Q u_- \hat{x} = (N_+ u_+ - N_- u_-) m_Q \hat{x} = (I\ell/Q - I\ell/Q) m_Q \hat{x} = 0 \quad !!! \end{aligned}$$

Thus, $\vec{P}_{classical}^{tot} = 0$ as we expected, since we know the loop is not moving.

However, now let us consider the **relativistic** momentum:

$$\vec{P}_{rel} = \gamma_u m_Q \vec{u} \quad (\text{even if } |\vec{u}| = u \ll c) \quad \text{where:} \quad \gamma_u \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \beta_u^2}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - (u/c)^2}}$$

The total **relativistic** momentum of the charged particles flowing to the **right** in the **top** segment of the loop is:

$$\vec{p}_{+rel}^{top\ segment} = \gamma_{u^+} N_+ m_Q u_+ (+\hat{x}) \quad \text{where:} \quad \gamma_{u^+} \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \beta_+^2}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - (u_+/c)^2}}$$

The total **relativistic** momentum of the charged particles flowing to the **left** in the **bottom** segment of the loop is:

$$\vec{p}_{-rel}^{bottom\ segment} = \gamma_{u^-} N_- m_Q u_- (-\hat{x}) \quad \text{where:} \quad \gamma_{u^-} \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \beta_-^2}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - (u_-/c)^2}}$$

The net / total **relativistic** momentum is:

$$\vec{P}_{rel}^{tot} = \vec{p}_{+rel}^{top\ segment} + \vec{p}_{-rel}^{bottom\ segment} = (\gamma_{u^+} N_+ m_Q u_+ - \gamma_{u^-} N_- m_Q u_-) \hat{x} = (\gamma_{u^+} N_+ u_+ - \gamma_{u^-} N_- u_-) m_Q \hat{x}$$

But $I = I_+ = I_-$ gave us: $N_+ u_+ = N_- u_- = \frac{I\ell}{Q} \therefore \vec{P}_{rel}^{tot} = (\gamma_{u^+} - \gamma_{u^-}) m_Q \left(\frac{I\ell}{Q} \right) \hat{x} \neq 0$ because $\gamma_{u^+} \neq \gamma_{u^-}$!!!

Charged particles flowing in the **top** segment of the loop are moving **faster** than those flowing in the **bottom** segment of the loop.

The **gain** in energy ($\gamma_u m c^2$) of the charged particles going up the **left** segment of the loop = the work done **on** the charges by the **electric** force ($W = QE_o w$) (w = height of the rectangle).

Thus, for a charged particle going up the **left** segment of the loop, the energy **gain** is:

$$\Delta E = \gamma_{u^+} m_Q c^2 - \gamma_{u^-} m_Q c^2 = (\gamma_{u^+} - \gamma_{u^-}) m_Q c^2 = W = QE_o w \Rightarrow (\gamma_{u^+} - \gamma_{u^-}) = \frac{QE_o w}{m_Q c^2}$$

Where E_o = the magnitude of the {uniform/constant} electric field.

$$\therefore \vec{p}_{rel}^{tot} = (\gamma_{u^+} - \gamma_{u^-}) m_Q \left(\frac{I\ell}{Q} \right) \hat{x} = \left(\frac{QE_o w}{\cancel{m}_Q c^2} \right) \cancel{m}_Q \left(\frac{I\ell}{Q} \right) \hat{x} = \left(\frac{E_o I \ell w}{c^2} \right) \hat{x}$$

But: $\ell w = A$ = area of the loop. $\therefore \vec{p}_{rel}^{TOT} = \frac{E_o I A}{c^2} \hat{x}$ but: $m = |\vec{m}| = IA \Rightarrow \vec{p}_{rel}^{TOT} = \frac{m E_o}{c^2} \hat{x}$

But: $\vec{m} = m(-\hat{z})$ (see picture above) and: $\vec{E} = E_o \hat{y}$ i.e. $\vec{m} \perp \vec{E}$ **{here}**.

Thus, vectorially we {actually} have: $\vec{p}_{rel}^{tot} = \frac{1}{c^2} (\vec{m} \times \vec{E})$ where: $(\vec{m} \times E) = m E_o \overbrace{(-\hat{z} \times \hat{y})}^{=+\hat{x}}$

Thus a magnetic dipole moment \vec{m} in the presence of an electric field \vec{E} carries relativistic linear momentum \vec{p} , even though it is not moving !!!

n.b. it also (therefore) carries relativistic angular momentum $\vec{L}_{rel} = \vec{r} \times \vec{p}_{rel}$.

How big is this effect? Explicit numerical example - use "everyday" values:

$$\begin{aligned} E_o &= 1000 \text{ V/m} \\ I &= 1 \text{ Amp} \\ A &= (10 \text{ cm})^2 = 0.01 \text{ m}^2 \\ m &= IA = 0.01 \text{ A-m}^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$|\vec{p}_{rel}^{tot}| = \frac{m E_o}{c^2} = \frac{10^{-2} \times 10^{+3}}{(3 \times 10^8)^2} = 10^{-16} \text{ kg-m/s} \quad \text{Tiny !!! The } 1/c^2 \text{ factor } \underline{\text{kills}} \text{ this effect !!!}$$

This so-called macroscopic hidden **linear** momentum is strictly relativistic, purely mechanical. But note that it **precisely** cancels the **electromagnetic** linear momentum stored in the \vec{E} and \vec{B} fields!!! (Microscopically, the momentum imbalance arises from the imbalance of virtual photon emission on top segment of the loop vs. the bottom segment of the loop.)

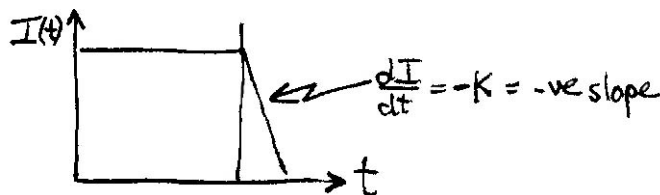
Likewise, the corresponding hidden **angular** momentum precisely cancels the electromagnetic **angular** momentum stored in the \vec{E} and \vec{B} fields.

→ Now go back and take another look at Griffiths Example 8.3, pages 356-57. (The coax cable carrying uniform charge / unit length λ and steady current I flowing down / back cable.)

Let's pursue this problem a little further...

Suppose there is a **change** in the current, e.g. suppose the current drops / decreases to zero.

For simplicity's sake, assume $\frac{dI}{dt} = -K$ (i.e. the current decreases linearly with time)



Classically: $I(t) = I_+(t) = I_-(t)$ (as before)

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} I_+(t) = N_+(t) \left(\frac{Q}{\ell} \right) u_+ \\ I_-(t) = N_-(t) \left(\frac{Q}{\ell} \right) u_- \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} N_+(t) \left(\frac{Q}{\ell} \right) u_+ = N_-(t) \left(\frac{Q}{\ell} \right) u_- \\ \text{We assume that } u, u_+ \text{ and } u_- \text{ are} \\ \text{unaffected by the change in the} \\ \text{current with time.} \end{array}$$

Then: $\frac{dI}{dt} = \frac{dI_+(t)}{dt} = \frac{dI_-(t)}{dt} \Rightarrow \left(\frac{Q}{\ell} \right) u_+ \frac{dN_+(t)}{dt} = \left(\frac{Q}{\ell} \right) u_- \frac{dN_-(t)}{dt} = -K$

$\therefore \frac{dN_+(t)}{dt} u_+ = \frac{dN_-(t)}{dt} u_- = -\frac{K\ell}{Q} = \text{constant (no time dependence on RHS of equation)}$

Then:

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \frac{d\vec{p}_{+,\text{classical}}(t)}{dt} = \frac{dN_+(t)}{dt} m_Q u_+ (+\hat{x}) = -\frac{K\ell m_Q}{Q} (+\hat{x}) = -\frac{K\ell m_Q}{Q} \hat{x} \\ \frac{d\vec{p}_{-,\text{classical}}(t)}{dt} = \frac{dN_-(t)}{dt} m_Q u_- (-\hat{x}) = -\frac{K\ell m_Q}{Q} (-\hat{x}) = +\frac{K\ell m_Q}{Q} \hat{x} \end{array} \right\} \text{Constant}$$

\therefore The net / total classical time-rate of change of **linear** momentum is:

$$\vec{F}_{\text{classical}}^{\text{tot}}(t) = \frac{d\vec{p}_{\text{classical}}^{\text{tot}}(t)}{dt} = \frac{d\vec{p}_{+,\text{classical}}(t)}{dt} + \frac{d\vec{p}_{-,\text{classical}}(t)}{dt} = -\frac{K\ell m_Q}{Q} \hat{x} + \frac{K\ell m_Q}{Q} \hat{x} = 0$$

Thus: $\vec{F}_{\text{classical}}^{\text{tot}}(t) = \frac{d\vec{p}_{\text{classical}}^{\text{tot}}(t)}{dt} = 0$ as we expected, since the loop is not moving.

Now, let's investigate this situation **relativistically**:

Since: $\vec{p}_{\text{rel}} = \gamma_u m_Q \vec{u} \Rightarrow \vec{p}_{+,\text{rel}} = \gamma_{u^+} m_Q \vec{u}_+$ and: $\vec{p}_{-,\text{rel}} = \gamma_{u^-} m_Q \vec{u}_-$ For individual charges with mass m_Q

Then: $\vec{p}_{+,\text{rel}}^{\text{top segment}}(t) = \gamma_{u^+} N_+(t) m_Q u_+ (+\hat{x})$ where: $\gamma_{u^+} \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-\beta_+^2}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-(u_+/c)^2}}$

And: $\vec{p}_{-,\text{rel}}^{\text{bottom segment}}(t) = \gamma_{u^-} N_-(t) m_Q u_- (-\hat{x})$ where: $\gamma_{u^-} \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-\beta_-^2}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-(u_-/c)^2}}$

And: $\frac{d\vec{p}_{+,\text{rel}}^{\text{top segment}}(t)}{dt} = \gamma_{u^+} m_Q u_+ \frac{dN_+(t)}{dt} (\hat{x}) = \text{constant} = -\gamma_{u^+} \left(\frac{K\ell m_Q}{Q} \right) \hat{x}$

And: $\frac{d\vec{p}_{-,\text{rel}}^{\text{bottom segment}}(t)}{dt} = \gamma_{u^-} m_Q u_- \frac{dN_-(t)}{dt} (-\hat{x}) = \text{constant} = +\gamma_{u^-} \left(\frac{K\ell m_Q}{Q} \right) \hat{x}$

The net / total time rate of change of relativistic linear momentum is:

$$\frac{d\vec{p}_{rel}^{tot}(t)}{dt} = \frac{d\vec{p}_{+rel}^{top\ segment}(t)}{dt} + \frac{d\vec{p}_{-rel}^{bottom\ segment}(t)}{dt} = -\gamma_{u^+} \left(\frac{K \ell m_Q}{Q} \right) \hat{x} + \gamma_{u^-} \left(\frac{K \ell m_Q}{Q} \right) \hat{x}$$

$$= (\gamma_{u^+} - \gamma_{u^-}) \left(\frac{K \ell m_Q}{Q} \right) \hat{x} \neq 0 \quad (\gamma_{u^+} \neq \gamma_{u^-})$$

From above (p. 20): $\left(\gamma_{u^+} - \gamma_{u^-} \right) = \frac{QE_o w}{m_Q c^2}$ where: E_o = electric field amplitude

$$\frac{d\vec{p}_{rel}^{tot}(t)}{dt} = - \left(\frac{QE_o w}{m_Q c^2} \right) \left(\frac{K \ell m_Q}{Q} \right) \hat{x} = - \frac{E_o K \ell w}{c^2} \hat{x} = - \frac{E_o K A}{c^2} \hat{x}$$

$A = \ell \times w = \text{cross-sectional area of the loop}$

Now: $\frac{dI}{dt} = -K$ and: $m = IA \rightarrow \frac{dm}{dt} = \frac{dI}{dt} A$ (Since $A = \text{constant}$).

$\therefore \frac{dm}{dt} = -KA = \frac{dI}{dt} A = \text{time rate of change of the magnetic dipole moment of the loop.}$

$\Rightarrow \frac{d\vec{p}_{rel}^{tot}(t)}{dt} = \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{dm(t)}{dt} E_o \hat{x}$ but: $(\vec{m} = m(-\hat{z})) \perp (\vec{E} = E_o \hat{y})$

$\therefore \vec{F}_{rel}(t) = \frac{d\vec{p}_{rel}^{tot}(t)}{dt} = \frac{1}{c^2} \left(\frac{d\vec{m}(t)}{dt} \times \vec{E} \right) \neq 0$ (assuming external \vec{E} -field is constant in time)

Thus, \exists a net “hidden” **force** acting on the magnetic dipole, when $dI/dt \neq 0$.

One **might** think that this net “hidden” force would be **exactly** cancelled / compensated for by a countering force due to the electromagnetic fields, as we saw in the static case ($dI/dt = 0$), with a steady current I . **But it isn't!!** Why??

As we saw for M(1) magnetic dipole radiation, a time-varying current in a loop produces *EM* radiation. Essentially there is a radiation reaction / back-force that acts on the “antenna” – a radiation pressure – much like the recoil / impulse from firing a bullet out of a gun – the short explosive “pulse” launches the bullet, but the gun is also kicked backwards, too.

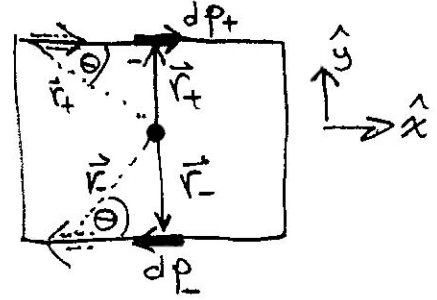
The same thing happens here when $dI/dt \neq 0$ - the far zone *EM* radiation fields are produced (*i.e.* real photons) while $dI/dt \neq 0$ and carry away **linear** momentum, and since $dI/dt \neq 0$, \exists a net force **imbalance** on the radiating object! (*n.b.* – *e.g.* by linear momentum conservation, a laser pen has a recoil force acting on it from emitting the laser radiation – a radiation back reaction)

Likewise, the net “hidden” time rate of change of relativistic **angular** momentum is:

$$\boxed{\frac{d\vec{L}_{rel}^{tot}(t)}{dt} = \vec{r} \times \frac{d\vec{p}_{rel}^{tot}(t)}{dt} = \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{dm(t)}{dt} E_o (\vec{r} \times \hat{x})}$$

Which will also **not** be **exactly** cancelled either, for the **same** reason – the *EM* radiation field can / will carry away angular momentum...

In reality, in order to calculate $\frac{d\vec{L}_{rel}^{tot}(t)}{dt}$, we need to go back and integrate infinitesimal contributions along the (short) segments of upper and lower / top and bottom segments of the loop because $|\vec{r} \times \vec{p}| = rp \sin \theta$, $\theta = \angle$ between \vec{r} and \vec{p} .



Same for $\left| \vec{r} \times \frac{d\vec{p}}{dt} \right| = r \frac{dp}{dt} \sin \theta$.

Will get result that has geometrical factor of order ≤ 1 .
 → Conclusions won't be changed by this, just actual #.

As we know, the time rate of change of angular momentum: $\boxed{\frac{d\vec{L}}{dt} = \vec{\tau}}$ = torque.

Thus, the time rate of change of the net / total “hidden” relativistic angular momentum $\frac{d\vec{L}_{rel}^{tot}(t)}{dt}$ = net “hidden” relativistic torque, $\vec{\tau}_{rel}^{tot}(t)$.

Thus:
$$\boxed{\vec{\tau}_{rel}^{tot}(t) = \frac{d\vec{L}_{rel}^{tot}(t)}{dt} = \vec{r} \times \frac{d\vec{p}_{rel}^{tot}(t)}{dt} = \vec{r} \times \vec{F}_{rel}^{tot}(t) = \frac{1}{c^2} \vec{r} \times \left(\frac{d\vec{m}(t)}{dt} \times \vec{E} \right) \neq 0}$$

Which is **not** completely / **exactly** cancelled when $dI(t)/dt \neq 0$!!!

Linear momentum, angular momentum, energy, *etc.* are **all** conserved for this whole system, it's just that the *EM* radiation emitted from the antenna is free-streaming, carrying away all these quantities with it!

In the **static** situation $I = \text{constant}$, the “hidden” relativistic linear momentum and angular momentum is **exactly** cancelled by the linear momentum and angular momentum (respectively) carried by the (macroscopic) static electromagnetic fields \vec{E} and \vec{B} . Microscopically, the field linear and angular momentum is carried by the static, virtual photons associated with the macroscopic \vec{E} and \vec{B} fields, cancelling the (macroscopic) “hidden” linear and angular relativistic momentum of the magnetic dipole in a uniform \vec{E} -field.

In the **non-static** situation $dI(t)/dt \neq 0$, **virtual** photons undergo space-time rotation, becoming **real** photons, which carry away {real} linear and angular momentum. “Hidden” relativistic linear and angular momentum is no longer **exactly** cancelled by the (now) real field linear and angular momentum associated with the *EM* radiation fields. It is only partially cancelled by remaining / extant virtual / near-zone / inductive zone *EM* fields.

Griffiths Problem 12.36: Relativistic “Ordinary” Force

 In **classical** mechanics Newton’s 2nd Law is: $\vec{F} = m\vec{a}$.

 The **relativistic** “**ordinary**” force relation; $\vec{F}_{rel} = \frac{d\vec{p}}{dt}$ cannot be so simply expressed.

$$\vec{F}_{rel} = \frac{d\vec{p}}{dt} = \frac{d}{dt}(\gamma_u m \vec{u}) = \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{1-(u/c)^2}} m \vec{u} \right) \quad \text{where: } \gamma_u \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-(u/c)^2}}$$

$$\vec{F}_{rel} = m \left\{ \frac{\frac{d\vec{u}}{dt}}{\sqrt{1-(u/c)^2}} + \vec{u} \left(-\frac{1}{2} \right) \frac{\frac{1}{c^2} 2\vec{u} \cdot \frac{d\vec{u}}{dt}}{\left(1-(u/c)^2\right)^{3/2}} \right\} \quad \text{where: } \vec{a} \equiv \frac{d\vec{u}}{dt} = \text{“ordinary” acceleration.}$$

$$\therefore \vec{F}_{rel} = \frac{m}{\sqrt{1-(u/c)^2}} \left\{ \vec{a} + \frac{\vec{u}(\vec{u} \cdot \vec{a})}{c^2(1-(u/c)^2)} \right\} = \frac{m}{\sqrt{1-(u/c)^2}} \left\{ \vec{a} + \frac{\vec{u}(\vec{u} \cdot \vec{a})}{(c^2 - u^2)} \right\} \quad Q.E.D.$$

Griffiths Problem 12.38: Proper Acceleration

 We define the **proper** four-vector acceleration in the obvious way, as:

$$\alpha^\mu \equiv \frac{d\eta^\mu}{d\tau} = \frac{d^2 x^\mu}{d\tau^2} = (\alpha^0, \vec{\alpha}) \quad \text{where: } \eta^\mu \equiv \frac{dx^\mu}{d\tau} = (\eta^0, \vec{\eta}) = (\gamma_u c, \gamma_u \vec{u}) = \text{“proper” four-velocity}$$

 a.) Find α^0 and $\vec{\alpha}$ in terms of \vec{u} and \vec{a} (= “**ordinary**” velocity, “**ordinary**” acceleration):

$$\alpha^0 = \frac{d\eta^0}{d\tau} = \frac{d\eta^0}{dt} \frac{dt}{d\tau} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-(u/c)^2}} \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{c}{\sqrt{1-(u/c)^2}} \right) \quad \text{since: } d\tau = \frac{1}{\gamma_u} dt \Rightarrow \frac{dt}{d\tau} = \gamma_u = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-(u/c)^2}}$$

$$\alpha^0 = \frac{c}{\sqrt{1-(u/c)^2}} \frac{\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)\left(-\frac{1}{c^2}\right) 2\vec{u} \cdot \vec{a}}{\left(1-(u/c)^2\right)^{3/2}} = \frac{1}{c} \frac{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{a}}{\left(1-(u/c)^2\right)^2} \quad \text{where: } \vec{a} \equiv \frac{d\vec{u}}{dt}$$

Similarly:

$$\vec{\alpha} = \frac{d\vec{\eta}}{d\tau} = \frac{d\vec{\eta}}{dt} \frac{dt}{d\tau} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-(u/c)^2}} \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\vec{u}}{\sqrt{1-(u/c)^2}} \right) \quad \text{since: } \vec{\eta} = \gamma_u \vec{u} \quad \text{and: } \gamma_u = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-(u/c)^2}}$$

$$\vec{\alpha} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-(u/c)^2}} \left\{ \frac{\vec{a}}{\sqrt{1-(u/c)^2}} + \vec{u} \frac{\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)\left(-\frac{1}{c^2}\right) 2\vec{u} \cdot \vec{a}}{\left(1-(u/c)^2\right)^{3/2}} \right\}$$

$$\vec{\alpha} = \frac{1}{(1-(u/c)^2)} \left\{ \vec{a} + \frac{\vec{u}(\vec{u} \cdot \vec{a})}{(c^2 - u^2)} \right\} = \gamma_u \left(\frac{\vec{F}_{rel}}{m} \right) \leftarrow \text{see Problem 12.36 above.}$$

b.) Express $\alpha_\mu \alpha^\mu$ in terms of \vec{u} and \vec{a} :

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_\mu \alpha^\mu &= -(\alpha^0)^2 + \vec{\alpha} \cdot \vec{\alpha} = -\frac{1}{c^2} \frac{(\vec{u} \cdot \vec{a})^2}{(1-(u/c)^2)^4} + \frac{1}{(1-(u/c)^2)^4} \left[\vec{a} \left(1 - (u/c)^2 \right) + \frac{1}{c^2} \vec{u} (\vec{u} \cdot \vec{a}) \right]^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{(1-(u/c)^2)^4} \left\{ -\frac{1}{c^2} (\vec{u} \cdot \vec{a})^2 + a^2 \left(1 - (u/c)^2 \right)^2 + \frac{2}{c^2} \left(1 - (u/c)^2 \right) (\vec{u} \cdot \vec{a})^2 + \frac{1}{c^4} u^2 (\vec{u} \cdot \vec{a})^2 \right\} \\ &= \frac{1}{(1-(u/c)^2)^4} \left\{ a^2 \left(1 - (u/c)^2 \right)^2 + \frac{(\vec{u} \cdot \vec{a})^2}{c^2} \left(-1 + 2 - 2 \left(\frac{u}{c} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{u}{c} \right)^2 \right) \right\} \end{aligned}$$

Or: $\alpha_\mu \alpha^\mu = \frac{1}{(1-(u/c)^2)^4} \left[a^2 + \frac{(\vec{u} \cdot \vec{a})^2}{(c^2 - u^2)} \right] \leftarrow n.b. \text{ Lorentz-invariant quantity - same in all IRFs.}$

c.) Show $\eta^\mu \alpha_\mu = 0$.

Recall that the “dot-product” of **any** two relativistic four-vectors is a **Lorentz-invariant quantity**.

Thus, if we deliberately/consciously choose to evaluate $\eta_\mu \eta^\mu = \eta^\mu \eta_\mu = -(\eta^0)^2 + \vec{\eta} \cdot \vec{\eta}$ in the **rest** frame of an object, where $\vec{\eta} \cdot \vec{\eta} = 0$, $\beta = 0$, $\gamma = 1$ and $\eta^0 = c$, then:

$$\eta_\mu \eta^\mu = \eta^\mu \eta_\mu = -(\eta^0)^2 + \underbrace{\vec{\eta} \cdot \vec{\eta}}_{=0} = -(\eta^0)^2 = -c^2 = \text{constant.}$$

Note that $\eta^\mu \alpha_\mu = \eta^\mu \frac{d\eta_\mu}{d\tau}$ is **also** the “dot-product” of two relativistic four vectors $\{\eta^\mu$ and $\alpha_\mu\}$.

Note also that: $\frac{d}{d\tau} (\eta^\mu \eta_\mu) = \frac{d\eta^\mu}{d\tau} \eta_\mu + \eta^\mu \frac{d\eta_\mu}{d\tau} = \alpha^\mu \eta_\mu + \eta^\mu \alpha_\mu = 2\alpha^\mu \eta_\mu$

But: $\eta^\mu \eta_\mu = -c^2$ = constant (from above). Thus: $\frac{d}{d\tau} (\eta^\mu \eta_\mu) = \frac{d}{d\tau} (-c^2) = 0 \rightarrow \therefore \alpha^\mu \eta_\mu = 0$.

d.) Write the Minkowski / **proper** force version of Newton’s 2nd law, $K^\mu = \frac{dp^\mu}{d\tau}$ in terms of the **proper** acceleration α^μ .

$$K^\mu = \frac{dp^\mu}{d\tau} = \frac{d}{d\tau} (m\eta^\mu) = m \frac{d\eta^\mu}{d\tau} = m\alpha^\mu$$

e.) Evaluate the Lorentz-invariant 4-vector “dot product” $K^\mu \eta_\mu$:

$$K^\mu \eta_\mu = m \alpha^\mu \eta_\mu \quad \text{but:} \quad \alpha^\mu \eta_\mu = 0 \quad \text{from part c.) above.}$$

$$\therefore K^\mu \eta_\mu = 0$$