

R1.

## Relativity

The laws of classical mechanics are the same in all "inertial reference frames"  $\leftarrow$  at rest or moving with constant velocity

How defined: Newton's First law holds  
object experiencing no forces moves  
in straight line at constant speed

Mathematically  $\vec{F} = m \vec{a} = m \frac{d^2 \vec{r}}{dt^2}$

$$\vec{r}' = \vec{r} + \vec{v}t$$

$$\vec{a}' = \frac{d^2 \vec{r}'}{dt^2} = \vec{a}$$

but do forces depend on  $\vec{v}$ ? No, even  
friction is relative velocity of two objects in the frame

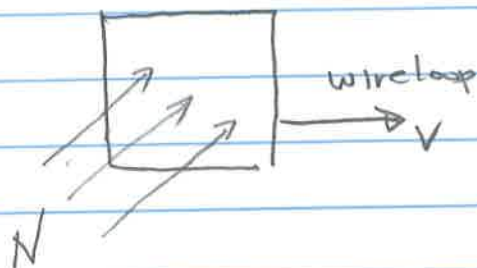
$E+M$  appears to violate relativity. In rest

frame it produces  $\vec{E}$  but not  $\vec{B}$ . Likewise

moving frame depends on  $\vec{v}$ .

R2

S



1) To observer moving with wire loop: The loop is at rest. There are no magnetic forces on charges in loop. But a magnet moves past, changing flux produces electric field (Faraday). Electric force gives EMF  $-\frac{d\phi}{dt}$

2) observer at rest wrt magnets: the wire loop is in motion. charges feel a magnetic force. If we compute the motional EMF will get  $\mathcal{E} = -\frac{d\phi}{dt}$



$$\vec{F}_{\text{mag}} = q \vec{v} \times \vec{B} \rightarrow q v B$$

$$F l = q B \underbrace{v l}_{\frac{dA}{dt}} \rightarrow q \frac{d\phi}{dt}$$

Same result!

This suggests Electromagnetic phenomena also might obey principle of relativity.

R3

relativity

of course tied to issue of presence of special

Inertial reference frame at rest with respect to the "ether"

the medium whose mechanical vibrations carry light

Michelson-Morley  
interpreted  
expt as  
confirmation  
of "ether drag"

Michelson-Morley expt: speed of light is same in

$5 \cdot 10^4$  m/s

$\leftarrow \sim 10^{-4} c$

all directions - even though earth moving at 50 km/s

around sun, and sun around galaxy, and galaxy in universe

Lorentz-  
 Fitzgerald  
 contraction  
 compresses  
 matter to  
 conceal  
 the speed  
 variation

SIMILAR IDEA TO LIGO

280 trips of 4 km arm!

Einstein's

- Laws of physics same in all inertial frames
- speed of light in vacuum is the same for all inertial observers

requires replacing  $v_{AC} = v_{AB} + v_{BC}$

by 
$$v_{AC} = \frac{v_{AB} + v_{BC}}{1 + v_{AB}v_{BC}/c^2}$$

reduces to "common sense" rule when  $v_{AB}, v_{BC} \ll c$   
and when  $v_{BC} = c$

$$v_{AC} = \frac{v_{AB} + c}{1 + v_{AB}/c} = c$$

Relativity is governed mathematically by Lorentz transformations.  
Before introducing these, consider 3 key phenomena qualitatively,

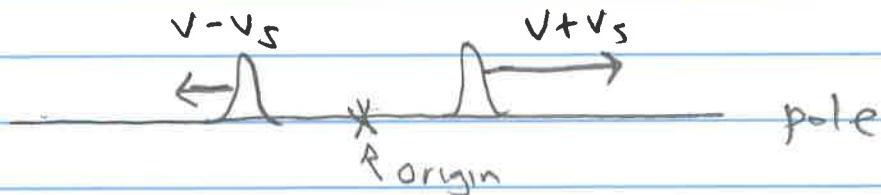
R5A

## Sound problem cont'd

Observer outside train

Sound going to right moves at  $v + v_s$

Sound going to left moves at  $v - v_s$



pulse traveling to right:  $(v + v_s)t_B = \frac{l}{2} + vt_B$

pulse traveling to left:  $(v - v_s)t_A = -\frac{l}{2} + vt_A$

$$t_B = \frac{l}{2v_s}$$

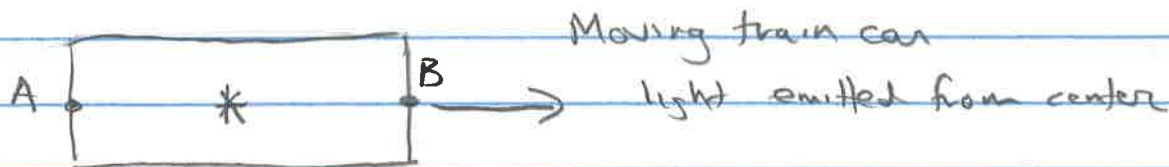
$$t_A = \frac{l}{2v_s}$$

} Same answer  
as observer  
on train

and Simultaneous

# Qualitative Discussion of Relativity

## \* Relativity of simultaneity



1) observer inside train : light reaches A and B at same time

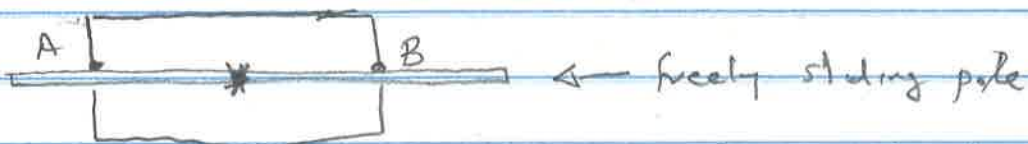
2) observe on ground : light reaches A before B



Events which are simultaneous in one frame are not so in another

Important : Discussion has nothing to do with time it takes for results of expt to get to observer. The observer has assistants at A and B with synchronized watches who record arrival of light right at the scene.

What would happen to sound waves



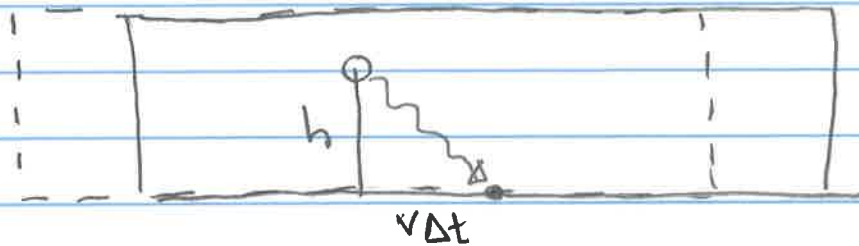
\* strike pole at center so sound wave propagates

What does observer outside train say?

R6

## \* Time Dilation

Consider light ray leaving bulb going downwards



observer on train  $\Delta t'_0 = h/c$

observer outside train  $\Delta t' = \sqrt{h^2 + v^2(\Delta t)^2} / c$

$$c^2(\Delta t')^2 = h^2 + v^2(\Delta t)^2$$

Again: interesting  
to analyze  
this for sound!

$$\Delta t = \frac{\sqrt{h^2}}{\sqrt{c^2 - v^2}} = \frac{h}{c} \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - v^2/c^2}}$$

Assumes "h"

is same for  
two observers

see page R9

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

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

Moving clocks run slow  $< 1$

Evidence: muon lifetime =  $2 \cdot 10^{-6}$  sec

particle accelerators muons moving  
close to speed of light: lifetime  $\gg 2 \cdot 10^{-6}$

R7

Possible contradiction: Who is moving, observer on moon or observer on ground? Then if this is not answerable, whose clock runs slow?

Two observers, each with cargo of muons.

They move with velocity  $v$  wrt each other. Who

has more muons in the future? Answer tied

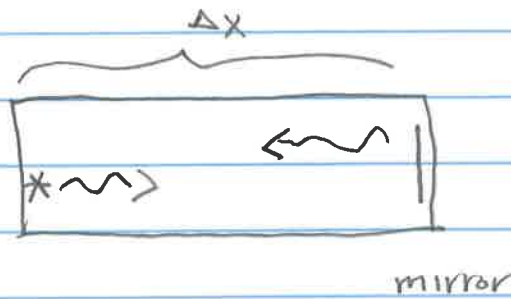
to question of when in future they compare: Simultaneous

does not have same meaning for them, and they need to

compare at the same time.



\* Lorentz contraction



Observer in train

$$\Delta t' = \frac{2\Delta x'}{c}$$

observer on ground

$$\Delta t_1' = \frac{\Delta x' + v\Delta t_1'}{c} \quad \leftarrow \text{mirror moving away light travels extra distance}$$

$$\Delta t_2' = \frac{\Delta x' - v\Delta t_2'}{c} \quad \leftarrow \text{receiver moving towards light travels less far}$$

$$\Delta t_1' = \frac{\Delta x'}{c-v}$$

$$\Delta t_2' = \frac{\Delta x'}{c+v}$$

$$\Rightarrow \Delta t' = \Delta x' \frac{2c}{c^2 - v^2}$$

$$= \frac{2\Delta x'}{c} \frac{1}{1 - v^2/c^2}$$

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

So  $\frac{2\Delta x'}{c} = \sqrt{1 - v^2/c^2} \frac{2\Delta x'}{c} \frac{1}{1 - v^2/c^2}$

$$\Delta x = \frac{\Delta x'}{\sqrt{1 - v^2/c^2}} \quad \leftarrow \text{Observer on ground}$$

observer on train

Moving objects are shortened

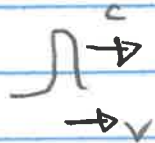
$$\Delta x = \sqrt{1 - v^2/c^2} \Delta x' \quad \leftarrow \Delta x'$$

R-8A

Again, amusing to check for Lorentz contraction via "usual" or "classical" notion of velocity addition

$$\Delta t_1 = \frac{\Delta x + v \Delta t_1}{c + v}$$

$$\Delta t_2 = \frac{\Delta x - v \Delta t_2}{c - v}$$



speed of light is changed by motion of train

Evidently

$$c \Delta t_1 = \Delta x$$

$$c \Delta t_2 = \Delta x$$

$$\Delta t = \Delta t_1 + \Delta t_2 = \frac{2\Delta x}{c}$$

agrees perfectly with

$$\Delta t' = \frac{2\Delta x'}{c}$$

R9

Ladder in barn paradox, like bundle of muon paradox, has resolution in question of simultaneity:

"In the barn" means both ends of ladder inside

at same time, and 2 observers disagree about

what "at same time" means.

Lorentz contraction applies only to along direction of motion, Dimensions  $\perp$  to velocity are not contracted.

Wall beside railroad tracks  
passenger on train holds <sup>red</sup> paint brush out of window  
1 meter above train floor in her frame.  
observer outside train paints blue line 1 m  
above ground in her frame.

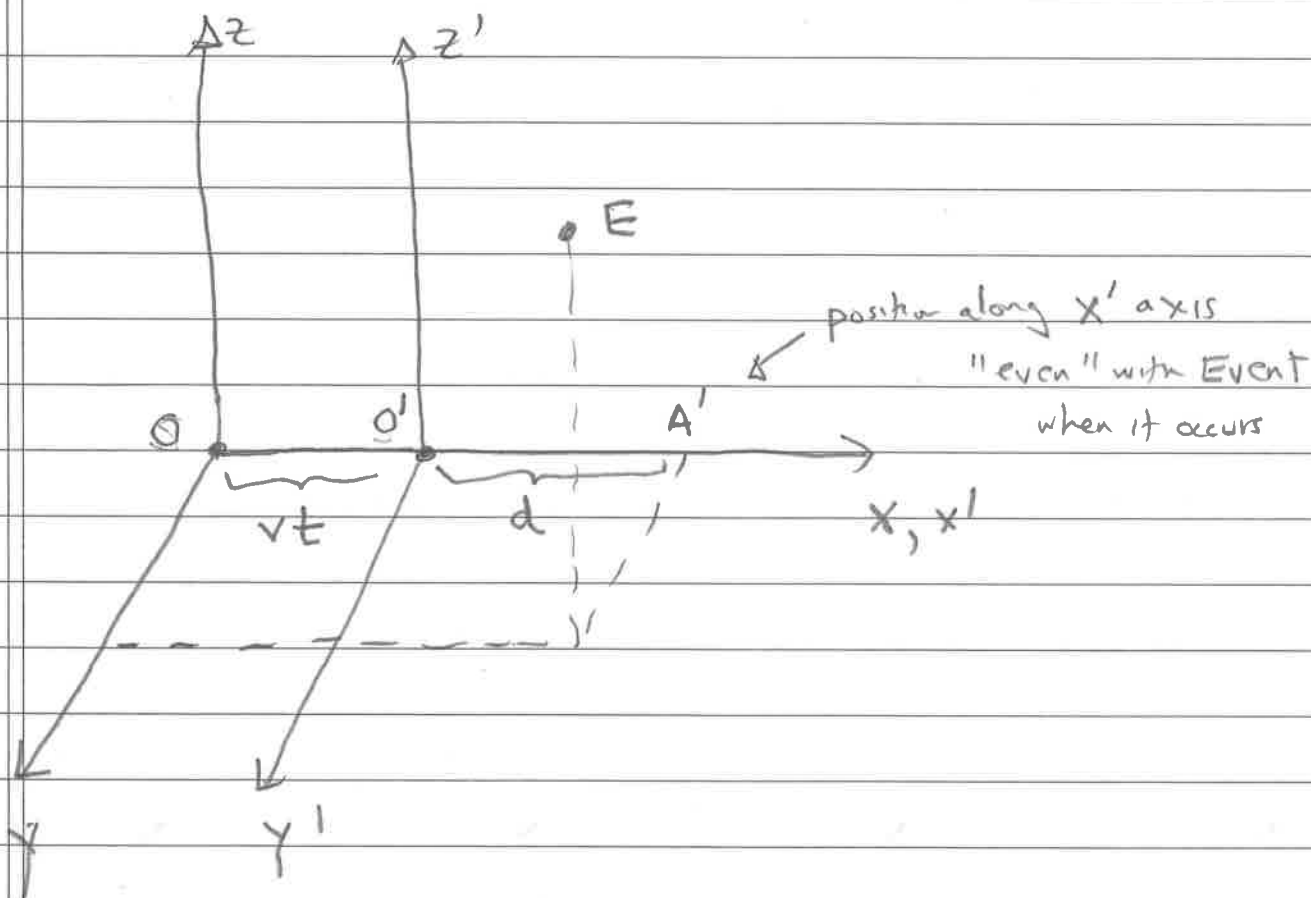
Which is higher?

R16

## Lorentz Transformation (Skip)

Event : something that takes place at specific location  $(x, y, z)$  at specific time  $t$

How are  $(x', y', z')$  and  $t'$  in a frame  $S'$  moving wrt frame  $S$  related to  $(x, y, z)$  and  $t$



From view point of person in  $S$  :

$$x = d + vt \quad \text{and "obviously" } d = x'$$

$$x' = x - vt$$

$$y' = y$$

$$z' = z$$

$$t' = t \quad \leftarrow \text{of course time is same!}$$

R11

But  $d \neq x'$  !

$d$  is the distance between  $O'$  and  $A'$  in  $S$

Whereas  $x'$  is distance between  $O'$  and  $A'$  in  $S'$

$O'$  and  $A'$  are at rest in  $S'$ , so  $x'$  appears

contracted in  $S$ :  $d = \frac{x'}{\gamma}$   $x' = d\gamma$

$$\gamma = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-v^2/c^2}} > 1$$

$$\frac{1}{\gamma} = \sqrt{1-v^2/c^2} < 1$$

$$x' = \gamma(x - vt)$$

$$y' = y$$

$$z' = z$$

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

$$x = \gamma(x' + vt')$$

$$y = y'$$

$$z = z'$$

$$t = \gamma\left(t' + \frac{vx'}{c^2}\right)$$

This follows from  
using the symmetrical reln

$$\begin{aligned} X &= \gamma(x' + vt') \\ &= \gamma(\gamma(x - vt) + vt') \\ &= \gamma^2 x - \gamma^2 vt + \gamma vt' \end{aligned}$$

$$t' = \frac{\gamma t}{\gamma v} + \frac{1}{\gamma v} (1 - \gamma^2) x$$

$$\quad \quad \quad \uparrow$$

$$\quad \quad \quad -\frac{v^2}{c^2} \gamma^2$$

$$t' = \gamma t + \gamma \frac{vx}{c^2}$$

$$\gamma = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-v^2/c^2}}$$

$$\gamma^2 = \frac{1}{1-v^2/c^2}$$

$$1 - \gamma^2 = 1 - \frac{1}{1-v^2/c^2}$$

$$= \frac{-v^2/c^2}{1-v^2/c^2} = -\frac{v^2}{c^2} \gamma^2$$

R12

relativity +  
Can rediscover simultaneity, time dilation,

and Lorentz contraction from Lorentz transformation

SIMULTANEITY Event A  $x_A = 0$   $t_A = 0$

Event B  $x_B = b$   $t_B = 0$

$$\rightarrow \begin{cases} x'_A = \gamma(x_A - vt_A) = 0 \\ t'_A = \gamma\left(t_A - \frac{vx_A}{c^2}\right) = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\rightarrow \begin{cases} x'_B = \gamma(x_B - vt_B) = \gamma b \\ t'_B = \gamma\left(t_B - \frac{vx_B}{c^2}\right) = -\frac{\gamma v b}{c^2} \end{cases} \leftarrow \text{B occurs} \\ \text{before A}$$

DILATION

If we watch a clock in  $S'$  at fixed position  $x'$

(SKIP)

and compare time between two events

$$t_B = \gamma\left(t'_B + \frac{vx'_B}{c^2}\right)$$

$$x'_A = x'_B$$

$$t_A = \gamma\left(t'_A + \frac{vx'_A}{c^2}\right)$$

$$t_B - t_A = \gamma(t'_B - t'_A)$$

$$\Delta t = \gamma \Delta t'$$

$$\Delta t' = \frac{1}{\gamma} \Delta t$$

R13

Loventz  
Contraction

Can also be verified

Einstein's  
Velocity  
addition  
Rule

R14

Write Lorentz transformation in matrix form

$$x^0 = ct$$

$$x^1 = x$$

$$x^2 = y$$

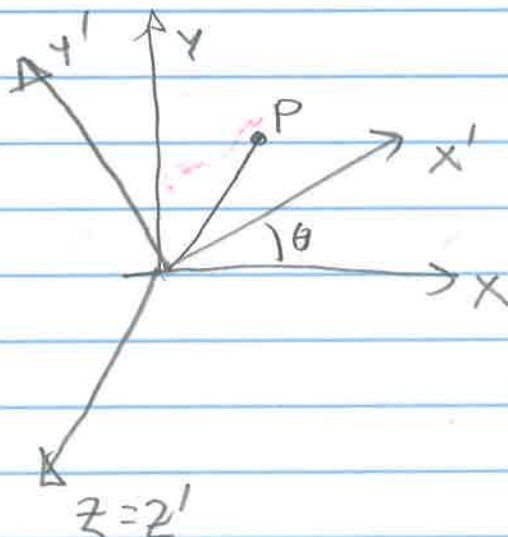
$$x^3 = z$$

 $\Lambda^M_{\nu}$ 
Lorentz  
transformation  
matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} x^0 \\ x^1 \\ x^2 \\ x^3 \end{pmatrix}' = \begin{pmatrix} \gamma & -\gamma\beta & 0 & 0 \\ -\gamma\beta & \gamma & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x^0 \\ x^1 \\ x^2 \\ x^3 \end{pmatrix}$$

Of course reminiscent of rotation eg about z axis

$$\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix}' = \begin{pmatrix} \cos\theta & \sin\theta & 0 \\ -\sin\theta & \cos\theta & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix}$$



$$(a^M)' = \sum_{\nu=0}^3 \Lambda^M_{\nu} a^{\nu}$$

 $\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}$ 

transformation rule

for any "4 vector"



R15

Similarity even more evident

$$\cosh \theta = \gamma$$

$$\sinh \theta = \beta \gamma$$

$$\left( \frac{e^{\theta} + e^{-\theta}}{2} \right)^2 + \left( \frac{e^{\theta} - e^{-\theta}}{2} \right)^2$$

$$\cosh^2 \theta - \sinh^2 \theta = 1$$

$$\gamma^2 - \beta^2 \gamma^2 = \gamma^2 (1 - v^2/c^2) = 1 \quad \checkmark$$

Rotation:  $(x^2 + y^2 + z^2)' = (x^2 + y^2 + z^2)$

Length of vector invariant

$$(-a^0 b^0 + a^1 b^1 + a^2 b^2 + a^3 b^3)'$$

↑  
"contravariant"  
=  $(-a^0 b^0 + a^1 b^1 + a^2 b^2 + a^3 b^3)$

Keep track of sign by introducing "covariant"

$$a_{\mu} = (a_0, a_1, a_2, a_3) = (-a^0, a^1, a^2, a^3)$$

$$a_{\mu} = g_{\mu\nu} a^{\nu}$$

$$g_{\mu\nu} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

↑  
"Minkowski Metric"

R16

$\sum_{\mu} a^{\mu} a_{\mu}$  is invariant under Lorentz transformations



$\therefore$  sensible to characterize

all observers will agree  $\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} a^{\mu} a_{\mu} > 0 & \text{spacelike} \\ a^{\mu} a_{\mu} = 0 & \text{lightlike} \\ a^{\mu} a_{\mu} < 0 & \text{timelike} \end{array} \right.$

~~$\Delta x^{\mu} = x^{\mu}_A - x^{\mu}_B$~~

timelike: there is an inertial system where  
2 events occur at same point

$$\Delta x^{\mu} = x^{\mu}_A - x^{\mu}_B$$

spacelike: can find inertial system where  
events occur at same time (simultaneous)

Relativistic momentum

$$\vec{p} = \frac{m\vec{v}}{\sqrt{1-v^2/c^2}} = \gamma m \vec{v}$$

$$E = cp^0 = \frac{mc^2}{\sqrt{1-v^2/c^2}} = \gamma mc^2$$

$p^\mu$  is a 4-vector like  $x^\mu$  obeying

same transformation eqn.

Expt fact: With these definitions energy and momentum are conserved. This rests on expt just as Lorentz transform rests on Michelson Morley demonstration that  $c$  is same in all reference frames

$$\begin{aligned} p^\mu p_{\mu} &= -(p^0)^2 + (p^1)^2 + (p^2)^2 + (p^3)^2 \\ &= -\gamma^2 m^2 c^2 + m^2 \frac{v^2}{1-v^2/c^2} \\ &= +\gamma^2 c^2 m^2 \underbrace{(-1 + v^2/c^2)}_{-1/\gamma^2} = -m^2 c^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$E^2 - c^2 p^2 = m^2 c^4$$

For a photon (massless particle)  $E = cp$

R17A

Distinguish invariant  $\leftarrow$  same in all inertial frames

conserved  $\leftarrow$  same before and after some process in given frame

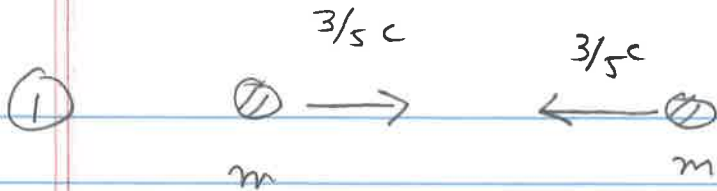
$m$ : invariant, not conserved

$E$ : conserved, not invariant

$q$ : conserved and invariant

$V$ : not conserved, not invariant

R18



Conservation of momentum is trivial: zero before + after

Energy before  $mc^2 / \sqrt{1 - (3/5)^2} = \frac{5}{4} mc^2$

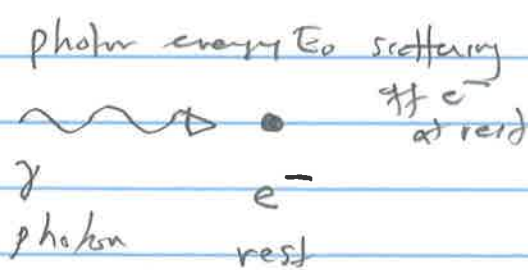
↑  
x2

Energy after  $M c^2 = \frac{5}{2} mc^2$

$M = \frac{5}{2} m \leftarrow$  more than  $2m$ !

"Kinetic energy" or "internal energy"  
represented as mass of  
composite object.

②



Goal: Relate energy to scattering angle



$y$ :  $p_e \sin \phi = p_\gamma \sin \theta$

$p_e, p_\gamma, \theta, \phi$   
+ 3 eqns

$\sin \phi = \frac{E}{p_e c} \sin \theta$

R19

$$X: \quad p_y \cos \theta + p_e \cos \phi = \overset{p_x \text{ originally}}{E_0/c}$$

$$\frac{E}{c} \cos \theta + p_e \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{E \sin \theta}{p_e c}\right)^2} = E_0/c$$

$$\begin{aligned} \cos^2 \phi &= 1 - \sin^2 \phi \\ &= 1 - \left(\frac{E \sin \theta}{p_e c}\right)^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$p_e^2 \left(1 - \frac{E^2}{p_e^2 c^2} \sin^2 \theta\right) = \frac{(E_0 - E \cos \theta)^2}{c^2}$$

$$\begin{aligned} p_e^2 c^2 &= (E_0 - E \cos \theta)^2 + E^2 \sin^2 \theta \\ &= E_0^2 - 2EE_0 \cos \theta + E^2 \end{aligned}$$

Energy conservation

$$\begin{aligned} E_0^2 + m_e c^2 &= E + \sqrt{m_e^2 c^4 + p_e^2 c^2} \\ &= E + \sqrt{m_e^2 c^4 + E_0^2 - 2EE_0 \cos \theta + E^2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{solve for } E = \frac{1}{(1 - \cos \theta)/mc^2 + 1/E_0}$$

Using Definition  $E = h\nu = hc/\lambda$ 

$$\lambda = \lambda_0 + \frac{h}{mc} (1 - \cos \theta)$$

Compton Scattering

R19A

$$(E_0 + m_e c^2 - E) = \sqrt{m_e^2 c^4 + E_0^2 - 2E_0 E \cos \theta + E^2}$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} E_0^2 + m_e^2 c^4 + E^2 \\ + 2E_0 m_e c^2 - 2E_0 E \\ - 2E m_e c^2 \end{array} \right\} = \begin{array}{l} m_e^2 c^4 + E_0^2 + E^2 \\ - 2E E_0 \cos \theta \end{array}$$

$$\Rightarrow E_0 m_e c^2 = E (E_0 + m_e c^2 - 2E_0 \cos \theta)$$

$$E = \frac{E_0 m_e c^2}{E_0 (1 - \cos \theta) + m_e c^2}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\frac{1 - \cos \theta}{m_e c^2} + \frac{1}{E_0}}$$