

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Consider the world line of an object drawn on a Minkowski (space-time) diagram. At any point in that space, the slope of that line is:

- A. larger than 1
- B. less than 1
- C. able to take on any value

- Last Quiz (This Friday)
 - Use special relativity to determine the time between signals
 - Discuss if events are timelike or spacelike separated and how you know
 - Explain why two events could occur at the same place (or time)
- Last Homework
 - Due next Friday NOT Monday! No project problem
- Rest of class
 - Finish up Relativity (next Monday-ish) and discuss E&M in general (next Wednesday-ish)
 - Extra credit assessment (next Friday)

The space time interval is defined by:

$$I \equiv x^2 + c^2 t^2$$

Events with common space time intervals lie on a hyperbole of constant I .

True or False: A Lorentz boost can allow you to shift between different hyperboles.

- A. True
- B. False

Points that lie outside the light cone for a given event are:

- A. accessible no matter where they are
- B. accessible for given world lines (trajectories)
- C. always inaccessible

Consider the product of the speed of light and the proper time: $c d\tau$.

Is this quantity invariant?

- A. Yes
- B. No
- C. I don't know how to tell

What is $\frac{dt}{d\tau}$?

- A. γ
- B. $1/\gamma$
- C. γ^2
- D. $1/\gamma^2$
- E. Something else

Is this "4-velocity" a contravariant 4-vector?

$$\eta^\mu \equiv \frac{dx^\mu}{d\tau}$$

- A. Yes
- B. No
- C. I don't know how to tell

With $\eta^0 = c\gamma$ and $\vec{\eta} = \gamma\vec{u}$, what is the square of η ?

$$\eta^2 \equiv \eta \cdot \eta = \eta_\mu \eta^\mu$$

- A. c^2
- B. u^2
- C. $-c^2$
- D. $-u^2$
- E. Something else

The momentum vector \vec{p} is given by,

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

What is $|\vec{p}|$ as u approaches zero?

- A. zero
- B. $m u$
- C. $m c$
- D. Something else

$$E - E_{rest} = (\gamma - 1)mc^2$$

What happens to the difference in the total and rest energies when the particle speed (u) is much smaller than c ?

- A. It goes to zero
- B. It goes to $m c^2$
- C. It goes to $1/2 m u^2$
- D. It depends