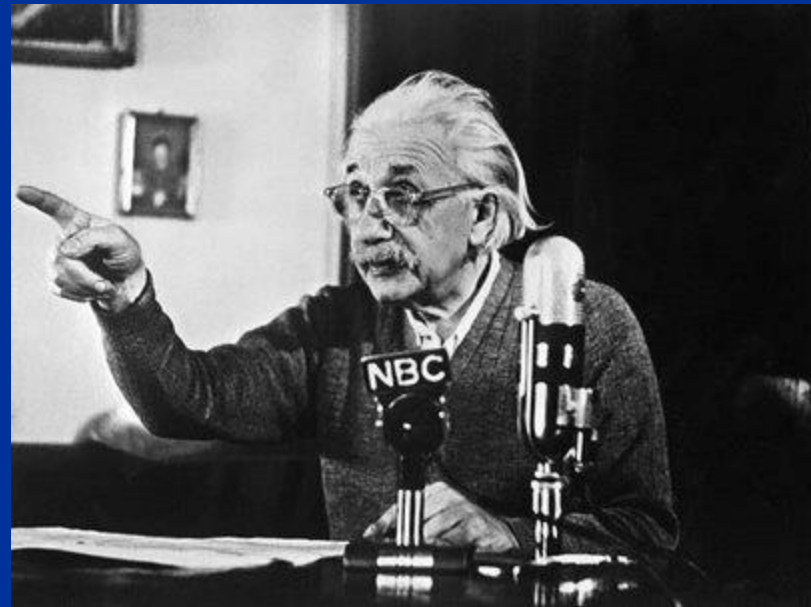


# Special Theory of **Relativity**



13<sup>th</sup> Lecture

2017



## **UNIVERSITY OF SRI JAYEWARDANEPURA**

**B.Sc. General/Special Degree Third Year Course Unit Examination –  
October, 2017.**

**PHY 207 1.0 / PHY 257 1.0 / PHY 302 1.0 / PHY 327 1.0**

**- Special Theory of Relativity**

**Time : One hour**

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**Answer all questions**

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Assume, velocity of Light ( $c$ ) =  $3 \times 10^8 \text{ ms}^{-1}$

**01.** Write down the **two** main Einstein's Postulates in Special Theory of Relativity (STR).

Obtain the following relativistic time equation, starting from the above Postulates in STR.

$$t_2 = t_1 \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}}} \quad (\text{Symbols have their usual meanings})$$

How many times will the half-life of an unstable particle increase, compared its stationary value, if it moves with a velocity of  $0.99 c$  ?

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How many times will the half-life of an unstable particle increase, compared its stationary value, if it moves with a velocity of  $0.99 c$  ?

$$t_2 = t_1 \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}}}$$

$$\frac{t_2 - t_1}{t_1} = \frac{t_1 \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}}} - t_1}{t_1}$$

**02.** Derive an expression for the length contraction ( $l^1 = l \sqrt{1 - v^2/c^2}$ ) starting from the relativistic time equation (Symbols have their usual meanings).

A solid cube has each side  $a$  while at rest. It is now set into motion with velocity  $kc$  where  $k$  is a constant and  $c$  is the velocity of light, along the direction of the base diagonal.

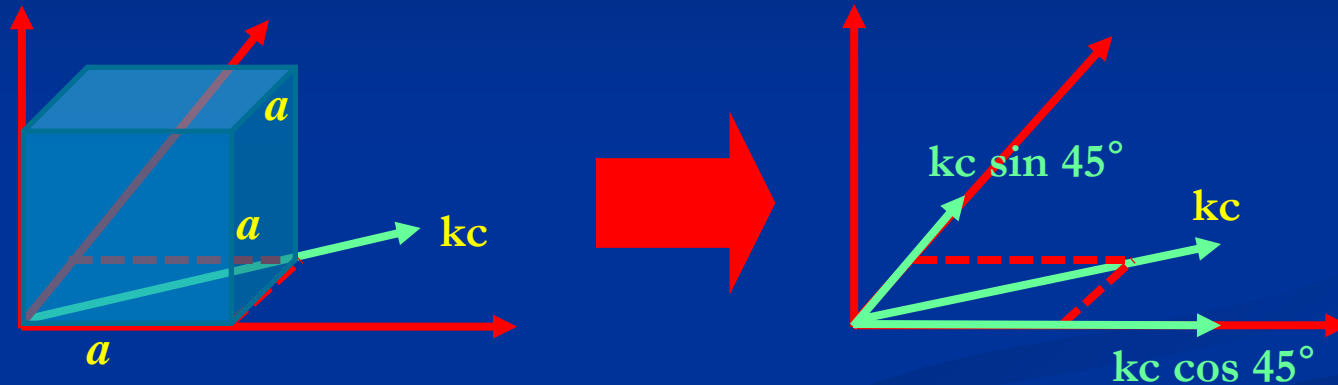
What is its volume as seen by a stationary observer ?



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What is its volume as seen by a stationary observer ?



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



$$l_x^1 = a \sqrt{1 - \frac{(kc \cos 45^\circ)^2}{c^2}}$$

$$l_y^1 = a \sqrt{1 - \frac{(kc \sin 45^\circ)^2}{c^2}}$$

$$\text{Volume as seen by Sta; Obs;} = V = l_x^1 \times l_y^1 \times l_z^1 = l_x^1 \times l_y^1 \times a$$

**03.** Derive the expression,  $E^2 = m_0^2 c^4 + p^2 c^2$ , starting from the equation,  $E = m c^2$  (symbols have their usual meanings).

Hence, obtain the equation,  $m = \frac{m_0}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}}}$  for **mass variation** in relativistic dynamics. (Symbols have their usual meanings)

If  $M = \frac{m}{m_0}$  and  $\beta = \frac{v}{c}$ , sketch the variation of  $M$  vs  $\beta$ .

For a particle of the rest mass  $m_0$ , relativistic mass  $m$ , rest energy  $E_0$  and total relativistic energy  $E$ , prove the following relations;

$$(a) \quad v = \frac{c\sqrt{(E + E_0)(E - E_0)}}{E}$$

$$(b) \quad v = \frac{c\sqrt{(m + m_0)(m - m_0)}}{m}$$

**03.** Derive the expression,  $E^2 = m_o^2 c^4 + p^2 c^2$ , starting from the equation,  $E = m c^2$  (symbols have their usual meanings).

**Hence**, obtain the equation,  $m = \frac{m_0}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}}}$  for **mass variation** in relativistic dynamics. (Symbols have their usual meanings)

If  $M = m/m_0$  and  $\beta = \frac{v}{c}$ , sketch the variation of  $M$  vs  $\beta$ .

$$m = \frac{m_0}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}}} = m_0 \left( 1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2} \right)^{-1/2}$$

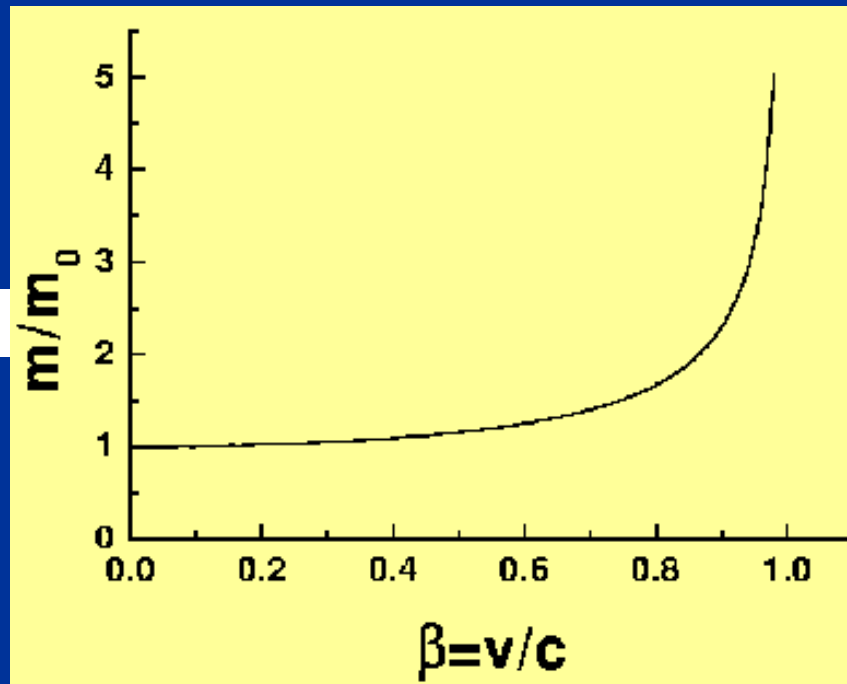


$$\frac{m}{m_0} = \left( 1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2} \right)^{-1/2}$$



$$M = \left( 1 - \beta^2 \right)^{-1/2}$$

$M =$



Where,  $\beta = \frac{v}{c}$

and

$$\frac{m}{m_0} = M$$

For a particle of the rest mass  $m_0$ , relativistic mass  $m$ , rest energy  $E_0$  and total relativistic energy  $E$ , prove the following relations;

$$(a) \quad v = \frac{c\sqrt{(E + E_0)(E - E_0)}}{E}$$

$$(b) \quad v = \frac{c\sqrt{(m + m_0)(m - m_0)}}{m}$$

$$E^2 = p^2 c^2 + m_0^2 c^4$$

$$E^2 = (mv)^2 c^2 + (m_0 c^2)^2$$

$$E^2 = (mc)^2 v^2 + E_0^2$$

$$E^2 = \frac{E^2}{c^2} v^2 + E_0^2$$

$$\frac{c^2 (E^2 - E_0^2)}{E^2} = v^2$$

$$\frac{c\sqrt{(E + E_0)(E - E_0)}}{E} = v$$

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$$(a) \quad v = \frac{c\sqrt{(E + E_0)(E - E_0)}}{E}$$

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$$E^2 = p^2 c^2 + m_0^2 c^4$$

$$(mc^2)^2 = (mv)^2 c^2 + (m_0 c^2)^2$$

$$m^2 c^4 = m^2 v^2 c^2 + m_0^2 c^4$$

$$m^2 c^4 - m_0^2 c^4 = m^2 v^2 c^2$$

$$\frac{(m^2 - m_0^2) c^4}{m^2 c^2} = v^2$$

$$\frac{c\sqrt{(m + m_0)(m - m_0)}}{m} = v$$



**04.** What is meant by the **Doppler Effect** in Relativity for a moving light source?

**You are given** the following mathematical equation for the Doppler effect,

$$f_o = \frac{f_s}{\gamma (1 - \beta \cos \theta)}. \text{ Where } \gamma = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \beta^2}}, \quad \beta = \frac{v}{c} \text{ and other symbols}$$

have their usual meanings.

In Astronomy, Astronomical Charts display “**actual**” colour and **speed of stars** in the Universe. Such charts indicate the colours of the stars observed on the Earth. However, indicating their “actual” colours and speeds seems beyond common sense.

Write down your views on the basis on which above information are included in Astronomical Charts.

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For the stars are situated very far, we can observed their frequency with respect to the Earth frame. Also we san observed their frequency shift with respect to the Earth frame.

Then we get a such colour lamp (Na Lamp) and move it a very fast in the laboratory frame that we can observed the same frequency shift with respect to the laboratory frame. Then we assume that is the velocity of the star.

Then we calculated the original colour using Doppler’s Effect equation in STR

# Assignments

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## Special Theory of Relativity

### Assignment No 02

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Assume, velocity of Light ( $c$ ) =  $3 \times 10^8 \text{ ms}^{-1}$

**Identify** the symbols  $E$ ,  $p$  and  $m_o$  in the following equation,

$$E^2 - p^2 c^2 = m_o^2 c^4 .$$

**Obtain** the equation,

$$m = \frac{m_o}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}}}$$

for **mass variation** in relativistic dynamics. (Symbols have their usual meanings)

The rest mass of the electron is,  $m_e = 9.1 \times 10^{-31} \text{ kg}$ . **What** will be its mass if it was moving with velocity  $0.8c$  ?

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## Special Theory of Relativity

### Assignment No 01

---

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An **alpha** particle and a **beta** particle, which are created in a **particle accelerator**, travel a total distance of 10.0 m between two detectors in 50 ns and 40 ns respectively, as measured in the **laboratory frame**.

- (a) What is the lifetime of the alpha particle as measured in its own frame?
- (b) What is the lifetime of the alpha particle as measured in the frame of the beta particle?

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*Thank You !*