

8. Special theory of relativity

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① Basic postulate

A. Galilean invariance

$$\underline{x}' = \underline{x} - \underline{v}t, \quad t' = t \quad ((x,t) \text{ in } S, (x',t') \text{ in } S')$$

$$\underline{F} = m \frac{d^2 \underline{x}}{dt^2} = m \frac{d^2 \underline{x}'}{dt'^2} \quad (\text{Galilean invariance})$$

$$\Delta t = t_2 - t_1 = t'_2 - t'_1 = \Delta t' \quad (\text{universal elapsed time})$$

$$\text{cf) } \underline{u}' = \frac{d\underline{x}'}{dt} = \frac{d\underline{x}}{dt} - \underline{v} = \underline{u} - \underline{v} \quad \nleftrightarrow (\text{no universal velocity})$$

$$\text{However, } c = c' \quad (\text{constancy of light velocity})$$

B. Invariant spacetime interval

• Einstein's basic postulates for special theory of relativity

(1) The laws of physics are the same to all inertial observers.

(2) Speed of light c is the same to all inertial observers.

• Minkowski spacetime

$$\boxed{\Delta S^2 = (c\Delta t)^2 - (\Delta x^2 + \Delta y^2 + \Delta z^2)} \quad \text{"Invariant spacetime interval"}$$

Different inertial observer use different spacetime coordinates,

but ΔS between two events in spacetime is the same to all of them

(Emission of light : $\Delta S = 0$)

◦ proper time interval (고유시간)

두 사건을 한 장소에서 측정한 관찰자의 시간 ($\Delta s^2 > 0$)

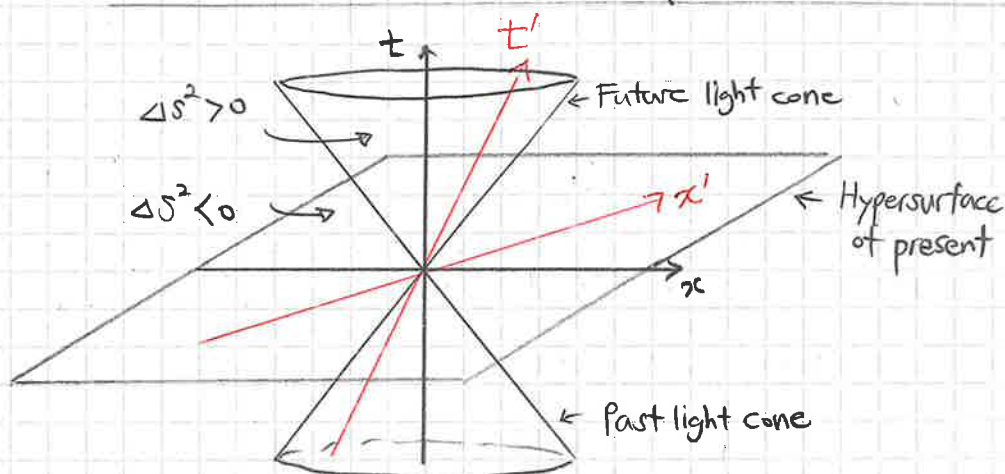
$$\Delta s^2 = c^2 \Delta \tau^2$$

◦ time dilation (시간 지연, 시간 팽창)

$$\Delta s^2 = c^2 \Delta \tau^2 = (c \Delta t)^2 - (v \Delta t)^2 \rightarrow \Delta t = \frac{\Delta \tau}{(1 - v^2/c^2)^{1/2}} = \frac{\Delta \tau}{(1 - \beta^2)^{1/2}} > \Delta \tau$$

$$\text{Define, } \beta = \frac{v}{c}, \quad \gamma = \frac{1}{(1 - \beta^2)^{1/2}}$$

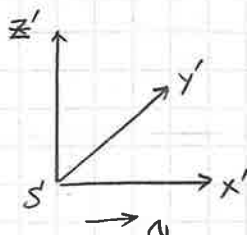
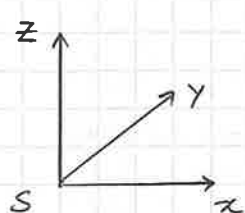
$$\text{or } \Delta t = \gamma \Delta \tau$$



($\Delta s^2 > 0$: 모든 관찰자들은 동일한 사건 선후 관계를 관찰
 $\Delta s^2 < 0$: 관찰자에 따라 사건 선후가 바뀔수 있음)

② Lorentz transformations

A. Formula for the Lorentz boost in the x-direction



By symmetry: $dy = dy'$, $dz = dz'$

Invariance of spacetime interval: $c^2 dt^2 - dx^2 = c^2 dt'^2 - dx'^2$

$$\begin{bmatrix} c dt' \\ dx' \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} L_{00} & L_{01} \\ L_{10} & L_{11} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} c dt \\ dx \end{bmatrix} \text{ which satisfies } \underline{\underline{L}}^T \underline{\underline{L}} = \underline{\underline{I}}$$

$$\underline{\underline{L}}^T \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \underline{\underline{L}} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

($\underline{a} = \begin{bmatrix} c dt \\ dx \end{bmatrix}$)
to ensure $c^2 dt^2 - dx^2 = c^2 dt'^2 - dx'^2$

$$\Rightarrow L_{00}^2 - L_{10}^2 = 1, L_{01}^2 - L_{11}^2 = -1, L_{00}L_{01} - L_{10}L_{11} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{General solution is given by } \underline{L_{00} = L_{11} = \cosh \psi, L_{10} = L_{01} = \sinh \psi}$$

($\because \cosh^2 \psi - \sinh^2 \psi = 1$)

\Rightarrow For two events that occur at the origin of frame S' ,

$$dx' = L_{10} c dt + L_{11} dx \quad \xrightarrow{\substack{\text{at } x=0 \\ \text{at } t=0}} 0 = c t \sinh \psi + v t \cosh \psi$$

$$\therefore \tanh \psi = -\frac{v}{c} = -\beta, \quad \cosh \psi = (1 - \tanh^2 \psi)^{-1/2} = \gamma, \quad \sinh \psi = -\beta \gamma$$

\therefore Lorentz boost in the x-direction

$$\begin{bmatrix} c dt' \\ dx' \\ dy' \\ dz' \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \gamma & -\gamma\beta & 0 & 0 \\ -\gamma\beta & \gamma & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} c dt \\ dx \\ dy \\ dz \end{bmatrix}$$

B. Formula for the general boosts

- Suppose that observer S' is moving at \underline{v} w.r.t observer S .

Then, defining $\underline{\beta} = \underline{v}/c$, gives the relation:

$$\begin{bmatrix} c dt' \\ \frac{1}{\beta^2} \underline{\beta} \cdot d\underline{x}' \underline{\beta} \\ d\underline{x}' - \frac{1}{\beta^2} \underline{\beta} \cdot d\underline{x}' \underline{\beta} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \gamma & -\gamma \underline{\beta}^T & 0 \\ -\gamma \underline{\beta} & \gamma \underline{1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \underline{1} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} c dt \\ \frac{1}{\beta^2} \underline{\beta} \cdot d\underline{x} \underline{\beta} \\ d\underline{x} - \frac{1}{\beta^2} \underline{\beta} \cdot d\underline{x} \underline{\beta} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{c dt' = \gamma (c dt - \underline{\beta} \cdot d\underline{x})}$$

$$d\underline{x}' = \frac{1}{\beta^2} \underline{\beta} \cdot d\underline{x}' \underline{\beta} + \left(d\underline{x} - \frac{1}{\beta^2} \underline{\beta} \cdot d\underline{x}' \underline{\beta} \right)$$

$$= -\beta \gamma c dt + \gamma \frac{1}{\beta^2} \underline{\beta} \cdot d\underline{x} \underline{\beta} + \left(d\underline{x} - \frac{1}{\beta^2} \underline{\beta} \cdot d\underline{x} \underline{\beta} \right)$$

$$\boxed{d\underline{x}' = d\underline{x} + \frac{\gamma-1}{\beta^2} \underline{\beta} \cdot d\underline{x} \underline{\beta} - \beta \gamma c dt} \quad \left(\text{note that for } \beta \ll 1, d\underline{x}' = d\underline{x} - \underline{v} dt \right) \\ (\gamma \approx 1)$$

- Relativistic addition of velocities

$$\boxed{\underline{u}' = \frac{d\underline{x}'}{dt} = \frac{\underline{u} + (\gamma-1)(\underline{\beta} \cdot \underline{u})\underline{\beta}/\beta^2 - \beta \gamma c}{\gamma(1 - \underline{\beta} \cdot \underline{u}/c)}$$

(note that for $\beta \ll 1$, $\underline{u}' = \underline{u} - \underline{v}$)

③ Vectors and tensors

A. Covariant and contravariant components of vectors

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{basis vector } \{\underline{e}_\lambda\}, \\ \text{inverse basis vector } \{\underline{e}^\lambda\} \end{array} \right\} \rightarrow \underline{e}_\lambda \cdot \underline{e}^\mu = \delta_\lambda^\mu$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{covariant components} : V_\lambda = \underline{v} \cdot \underline{e}_\lambda \Leftrightarrow \underline{v} = V^\lambda \underline{e}_\lambda \\ \text{contravariant components} : V^\lambda = \underline{v} \cdot \underline{e}^\lambda \Leftrightarrow \underline{v} = V_\lambda \underline{e}^\lambda \end{array} \right.$$

• Change of basis :

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \underline{e}'_\lambda = \Lambda_\lambda^\mu \underline{e}_\mu \\ \underline{e}'^\lambda = \tilde{\Lambda}^\lambda_\mu \underline{e}^\mu \end{array} \right\} \rightarrow \delta_\mu^\lambda = \underline{e}'^\lambda \cdot \underline{e}'_\mu = \tilde{\Lambda}^\lambda_\nu \Lambda_\mu^\rho \underline{e}^\nu \underline{e}_\rho = \tilde{\Lambda}^\lambda_\nu \Lambda_\mu^\nu \Rightarrow \boxed{\begin{array}{l} \underline{e}'_\lambda = \Lambda_\lambda^\mu \underline{e}_\mu \\ \underline{e}'^\lambda = (\Lambda^{-1})^\lambda_\mu \underline{e}^\mu \end{array}}$$

$$\therefore \tilde{\Lambda}^\lambda_\mu = (\Lambda^{-1})^\lambda_\mu \rightarrow \underline{e}'^\lambda = (\Lambda^{-1})^\lambda_\mu \underline{e}^\mu$$

Thus $V'_\lambda = \underline{v} \cdot \underline{e}'_\lambda = \Lambda_\lambda^\mu \underline{v} \cdot \underline{e}_\mu = \Lambda_\lambda^\mu V_\mu$ ← covariant

$V'^\lambda = \underline{v} \cdot \underline{e}'^\lambda = (\Lambda^{-1})^\lambda_\mu \underline{v} \cdot \underline{e}^\mu = (\Lambda^{-1})^\lambda_\mu V^\mu$ ← contravariant.

B. Scalars and tensors

• Scalar remains invariant under a change of basis.

• Tensor of rank (n,p) $T_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_p}^{\lambda_1 \dots \lambda_n} \rightarrow \boxed{T'^{\lambda_1 \dots \lambda_n}_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_p} = (\Lambda^{-1})^{\lambda_1}_{\nu_1} \dots (\Lambda^{-1})^{\lambda_n}_{\nu_n} \Lambda_{\mu_1}^{\rho_1} \dots \Lambda_{\mu_p}^{\rho_p} T_{\rho_1 \dots \rho_p}^{\nu_1 \dots \nu_n}$

↳ 이렇게 transform 하는 대상을 ≡ "텐서"

$$\underline{u} \cdot \underline{v} = \begin{cases} (u^\lambda \underline{e}_\lambda) \cdot (v^\mu \underline{e}_\mu) = g_{\lambda\mu} u^\lambda v^\mu \\ (u_\lambda \underline{e}^\lambda) \cdot (v_\mu \underline{e}^\mu) = g^{\lambda\mu} u_\lambda v_\mu \\ (u^\lambda \underline{e}_\lambda) \cdot (v_\mu \underline{e}^\mu) = u^\lambda v_\lambda \\ (u_\lambda \underline{e}^\lambda) \cdot (v^\mu \underline{e}_\mu) = u_\lambda v^\lambda \end{cases} \left. \begin{array}{l} \\ \\ \\ \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} v_\lambda = g_{\lambda\mu} v^\mu \\ v^\lambda = g^{\lambda\mu} v_\mu \end{array}$$

where $\boxed{g_{\lambda\mu} \equiv \underline{e}_\lambda \cdot \underline{e}_\mu}$, $\boxed{g^{\lambda\mu} \equiv \underline{e}^\lambda \cdot \underline{e}^\mu}$ ((inverse) metric tensor)

④ 4-vectors in the Minkowski spacetime

• $x^\lambda = (x^0, x^1, x^2, x^3) = (ct, x, y, z)$

• $ds^2 = c^2 dt^2 - dx^2 - dy^2 - dz^2 = dx^\lambda dx_\lambda \rightarrow dx_\lambda = (cdt, -dx, -dy, -dz)$

$\Rightarrow \underline{x^\lambda = (ct, x, y, z), x_\lambda = (ct, -x, -y, -z)} \Rightarrow \underline{g = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}}$

• Del operator

$\frac{dx^\lambda}{dx^\mu} = \delta^\lambda_\mu$, if $x'^\lambda = (\Lambda^{-1})^\lambda_\mu x^\mu$, then $\frac{d}{dx'^\lambda} = \Lambda^\mu_\lambda \frac{d}{dx^\mu} \neq$ covariant

$\Rightarrow \underline{d_\lambda \equiv \frac{d}{dx^\lambda} = \left(\frac{1}{c} \frac{d}{dt}, \frac{d}{dx}, \frac{d}{dy}, \frac{d}{dz} \right)}$, $\underline{d^\lambda \equiv \frac{d}{dx_\lambda} = \left(\frac{1}{c} \frac{d}{dt}, -\frac{d}{dx}, -\frac{d}{dy}, -\frac{d}{dz} \right)}$
(covariant del operator) (contravariant del operator)

4-Laplacian (d'Alembertian) operator: $\square \equiv d^\lambda d_\lambda = \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{d^2}{dt^2} - \nabla^2$

• 4-velocity

$u^\lambda \equiv \frac{dx^\lambda}{d\tau}$ (where τ is proper time)

$dt = \gamma d\tau \rightarrow u^\lambda = \frac{dx^\lambda}{dt} \frac{dt}{d\tau} = \gamma \frac{dx^\lambda}{dt}$

$\therefore \underline{u^\lambda = \gamma(c, \dot{x}, \dot{y}, \dot{z}), u_\lambda = \gamma(c, -\dot{x}, -\dot{y}, -\dot{z})}$ ($u^\lambda u_\lambda = \gamma^2(c^2 - v^2) = c^2$)

• 4-momentum and covariant force

i) $p^\lambda \equiv m u^\lambda \rightarrow \underline{p^\lambda = \gamma m(c, \dot{x}, \dot{y}, \dot{z}), p_\lambda = \gamma m(c, -\dot{x}, -\dot{y}, -\dot{z})}$, ($p^\lambda p_\lambda = m^2 c^2$)

$\hookrightarrow p^0 = \gamma m c = \left(1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}\right)^{-\frac{1}{2}} m c \simeq \left(1 + \frac{v^2}{2c^2}\right) m c = \frac{1}{c} (m c^2 + \frac{1}{2} m v^2) = \frac{E}{c}$

$\therefore \underline{p^\lambda = (E/c, \mathbf{p}), p_\lambda = (E/c, -\mathbf{p})}$, ($p^\lambda p_\lambda = \frac{1}{c^2} (E^2 - p^2 c^2) = m^2 c^2$)

$E^2 - p^2 c^2 = m^2 c^4$, $E_0 = m c^2$

ii) $K^\lambda \equiv \frac{dp^\lambda}{d\tau} \Rightarrow \underline{K^\lambda = \gamma \left(\frac{\dot{E}}{c}, \dot{\mathbf{p}} \right), K_\lambda = \gamma \left(\frac{\dot{E}}{c}, -\dot{\mathbf{p}} \right)}$

⑤ Manifestly covariant formalism for electromagnetism

• 4-potential : $A^\lambda = (\phi/c, \mathbf{A})$, $A_\lambda = (\phi/c, -\mathbf{A})$

• Electromagnetic field tensor (Faraday tensor) : $F_{\lambda\mu} = \partial_\lambda A_\mu - \partial_\mu A_\lambda$ ($= -F_{\mu\lambda}$)

- Gauge transformation : $A_\lambda \rightarrow A'_\lambda - \partial_\lambda X$ do not change $F_{\lambda\mu}$

- Skew-symmetric : $F_{\lambda\mu} = -F_{\mu\lambda}$ (diagonal entries = 0)

- For $i=1,2,3$: $F_{0i} = -F_{i0} = -\frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial A_i}{\partial t} - \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x_i} = \frac{E_i}{c}$

For $i,j \in \{1,2,3\}$: $F_{ij} = -F_{ji} = -\frac{\partial A_j}{\partial x_i} + \frac{\partial A_i}{\partial x_j} = -\epsilon_{ijk} (\partial_j A_k) = -\epsilon_{ijk} B_k$

- Contravariant form : $F^{\lambda\mu} = g^{\lambda\nu} F_{\nu\rho} g^{\rho\mu}$

For $i,j \in \{1,2,3\}$: $F^{0i} = -F^{i0} = -E_i/c$, $F^{ij} = -F^{ji} = -\epsilon_{ijk} B_k$
(부호 반대) (그대칭)

- $F_{\lambda\mu} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & E_x/c & E_y/c & E_z/c \\ -E_x/c & 0 & -B_z & B_y \\ -E_y/c & B_z & 0 & -B_x \\ -E_z/c & -B_y & B_x & 0 \end{bmatrix}$, $F^{\lambda\mu} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -E_x/c & -E_y/c & -E_z/c \\ E_x/c & 0 & -B_z & B_y \\ E_y/c & B_z & 0 & -B_x \\ E_z/c & -B_y & B_x & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

• Covariant Lorentz force law

$$\boxed{K^\lambda = q F^{\lambda\mu} u_\mu}$$

$$\Rightarrow K^0 = q F^{0i} u_i = q \left(-\frac{E_i}{c} \right) (-\gamma v_i) = \frac{\gamma q}{c} \mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{v}$$

$$K^i = q (F^{i0} u_0 + F^{ij} u_j) = q \left(\frac{E_i}{c} \gamma c + \epsilon_{ijk} \gamma v_j B_k \right) = \gamma q (\mathbf{E} + \mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B})$$

$$\Rightarrow \dot{\mathbf{E}} = q \mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{v}, \quad \vec{F} = q (\mathbf{E} + \mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B})$$

• Covariant Maxwell's equation

- Homogeneous Maxwell's equation

$$\partial_\lambda F_{\mu\nu} + \partial_\nu F_{\lambda\mu} + \partial_\mu F_{\nu\lambda} = 0$$

(using Levi-Civita), $0 = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon^{\lambda\mu\nu\rho} \partial_\mu F_{\nu\rho} = \partial_\mu \tilde{F}^{\lambda\mu} = -\partial_\mu \tilde{F}^{\mu\lambda}$

where $\tilde{F}^{\lambda\mu} = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon^{\lambda\mu\nu\rho} F_{\nu\rho} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -B_x & -B_y & -B_z \\ B_x & 0 & E_z/c & -E_y/c \\ B_y & -E_z/c & 0 & E_x/c \\ B_z & E_y/c & -E_x/c & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

$$\partial_\lambda \tilde{F}^{\lambda\mu} = 0 \Rightarrow \begin{cases} \textcircled{1} \mu=0, & \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{B} = 0 \\ \textcircled{2} \mu=1,2,3, & \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{E} = -\frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t} \end{cases}$$

These eqns are trivial mathematical identities stemming from $F_{\lambda\mu} = \partial_\lambda A_\mu - \partial_\mu A_\lambda$

- Inhomogeneous Maxwell's equation

define: $j^\lambda \equiv (\rho c, \vec{j})$

$$\partial_\lambda F^{\lambda\mu} = \mu_0 j^\mu \Rightarrow \begin{cases} \textcircled{1} \mu=0, & \frac{1}{c} \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E} = \mu_0 \rho c \Rightarrow \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E} = \frac{\rho}{\epsilon_0} \\ \textcircled{2} \mu=1,2,3, & -\frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t} + \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{B} = \mu_0 \vec{j} \Rightarrow \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{B} = \mu_0 \left(\vec{j} + \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t} \right) \end{cases}$$

Maxwell's equations are covariant under Lorentz transformation

⑥ Lagrangian formulation of relativistic field theories

A. General formalism (follow the formalism of §7. continuum mechanics)

- covariant Hamilton's principle

$$\int \int_{\Omega} d^4x^\lambda \mathcal{L}(u_\mu, u_{\mu,\lambda}; x^\lambda) = 0$$

- covariant Euler-Lagrange equations

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial u_\mu} - d_\lambda \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial u_{\mu,\lambda}} = 0$$

- Noether's theorem

$$d_\lambda \left[\left(L \delta_\mu^\lambda - \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial u_{\mu,\lambda}} u_{\mu,\mu} \right) X^\mu + \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial u_{\mu,\lambda}} U_\mu^\lambda - G^{\lambda\lambda} \right] = 0$$

- covariant stress-energy tensor

$$T_\mu^\lambda \equiv \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial u_{\mu,\lambda}} u_{\mu,\mu} - L \delta_\mu^\lambda, \quad T^{\mu\lambda} = g^{\mu\nu} T_\nu^\lambda = g^{\mu\nu} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial u_{\nu,\lambda}} u_{\nu,\mu} - g^{\mu\lambda} L$$

B. Application to the electromagnetic field

- Lagrangian density describing the electromagnetic field:

$$\mathcal{L}(A_\lambda, A_{\lambda,\mu}; x^\mu) = -\frac{1}{4\mu_0} F_{\lambda\mu} F^{\lambda\mu} - j_\lambda(x^\mu) A^\lambda = \frac{\epsilon_0}{2} (\underline{E}^2 - c^2 \underline{B}^2) - \rho \phi + \underline{j} \cdot \underline{A}$$

- Euler-Lagrange equations are given by

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial A_\lambda} - d_\mu \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial A_{\lambda,\mu}} &= -j^\lambda + \frac{1}{2\mu_0} d_\mu \left(F^{\mu\lambda} \frac{\partial F_{\mu\lambda}}{\partial A_{\lambda,\mu}} \right) = -j^\lambda + \frac{1}{2\mu_0} d_\mu (F^{\mu\lambda} - F^{\lambda\mu}) \\ &= -j^\lambda + \frac{1}{\mu_0} d_\mu F^{\mu\lambda} = 0 \end{aligned} \quad \therefore \boxed{d_\mu F^{\mu\lambda} = \mu_0 j^\lambda}$$