Constant One-way Speed of Light

Challenging Special Relativity with a Constant One-way Speed of Light

# Abstract

This paper presents equations for the propagation of a one-way speed of light. Challenges to the Theory of Special Relativity are made apparent by the math. Space has through time been thought to be a medium which has properties, until Einstein, and Special Relativity. Space is thought to not exist as a medium because interferometer tests do not show any drag. This paper will show that, given the proper math, that a null result from interferometer experiments should have been expected even at the time, and that space as a medium can still exist.

# Introduction

Starting from the ground up to derive the math of Special Relativity, starting with the propagation of light at a constant speed in a stationary medium, or alternatively that there were at least three observers, who all agree that the speed of light was constant in any direction, they may have to consider their own velocity relative to the point the light was emitted from, and any effects their velocity may have on their own clock. The resulting equations challenge aspects of the Principle of Equivalence employed by Einstein. The math also results in a system that expects a null result from any interferometer experiments such as Michelson-Morley, or interferometer implementations such as The Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory (LIGO).

I’ve often first been asked by people with a background in physics and math, ‘What is a frame?’ A frame is a set of orthogonal axes which measure distances between locations within the frame, the orientation of the frame, and a time. When a velocity is applied, the whole frame moves in the direction and speed of the velocity. There are a minimum of 3 frames; the global frame itself has no velocity, and is always in the same location, both the observer and observed have their own frames. The global frame has an origin defined at a location defined as appropriate for the situation being evaluated. In this paper all frames share the same origin and orientation at T=0

Given a propagation speed of C, in a stationary, frictionless(?), massless medium, in which bodies move at some speed and direction or combining speed and direction into a single term, at a velocity. This medium is called space. Space has no velocity or orientation, and the clock in the frame of space ticks at constant rate. The clock in this frame is called the global clock. A frame which moves within the space frame, or global frame, is called a local frame. A local frame has a local clock, which may tick at a different rate than the global clock.

The specific density of space (the average distance between two points) in a frame may differ at various locations. This paper does not implement varied density, and only considers frames that have entirely homogeneous coordinates. The global frame may have a velocity, the effective results do not change. The velocity of the global frame is a constant bias to the velocities of any frame within the global frame.

A body can only be observed if it has emitted or re-emitted a photon. A photon on an observed body will come from position on the observed body. The photon, once emitted, travels in the global frame, independent of the body it was emitted from. An observer has a body itself and will observe the photon from the observed body at some position in the frame of the observer a later time after the body emitted a photon.

Once the basic math of propagation of light at a constant speed in space, with an observed frame and an observer’s frame was developed, then I considered other aspects detailed by Special Relativity, since they were not immediately obvious from the propagation. Those aspects being length contraction, and time dilation. Time dilation would be better called time contraction, since less time passes on a clock, much like length contraction there’s less distance than a real distance. The details of [length contraction](#_Length_Contraction) and [time contraction](#_Time_Contraction) will be discussed later.

Light aberration was the last missing factor from the system. Light aberration is an effect that for a moving body, the angle light is seen is advanced in the direction of the velocity of the viewer. While light propagation usually results in a lagged view of an observed body, light aberration advances the angle, which counteracts the effects of a delayed propagation. Light aberration then makes two bodies that are relatively stationary, at the same speed that are side-by-side still appear side-by-side, even though the photons seen by an observer would normally appear to be lagged behind the observer.

Evaluating the resulting math with an [interferometer demonstration](#InterferometerDemo), then led to the development of the expression for doppler effect, or the shift of frequency of photons emitted from a body at a velocity, or as seen from another body with another velocity. The doppler effect equation is quite dissimilar from Einstein’s equation. There are predicted red/blue shifts with Transverse Doppler Effect with Einstein’s equations; while mine would show no frequency change in the transverse direction.

## Conventions

Variables are upper case, while functions are lower case (No specific functions are defined).

* Velocity is a vector .
* Speed refers to the magnitude of the velocity (   ).
* Direction refers to the unit vector of velocity ( ).
* Position is a vector of the same order as velocity, is an example.
* denotes a cross product.
* denotes a dot product. This may also be written as .
* is the same as .
* is the same as
* X ⋅ Y denotes a multiplication of two simple numbers; may also be written as XY.
* Δ denotes a delta or change from one value to another.

is the constant speed of propagation typically defined in light-seconds per second usually, but it may also be used as a distance, in which case light-seconds and has the same value as , but with units of length instead of speed. For example, could be in meters per second (300,000,000 approximately), and then meter-seconds would be 300,000,000. The value is always actually identical to C other than the units that it is in, = 1s−1 or = 1s.

The phrase 'emits an event' is 'emits a photon that will be seen' describes the creation of a signal that propagates through space. A body that emits an event, emits a signal. It is the signal that propagates through space. Reception of a signal is also observation of an event.

## Rotation

Rotations are 3D vectors is an example; they are effectively the log of a quaternion. No matrices or quaternions are used.

* The angular rate is the magnitude of a rotation vector ( ).
* The axis of rotation is the unit vector of a rotation( ).
* An applied rotation will be represented like a function Q(X) that results in X rotated around Q.
* Given a rotation vector around Q: (), angular rate is θ = |||| and axis used in the following equation:

## The Equivalence Principle

The equivalence principle is an idea which is used for thought experiments to equate one situation to another similar situation. The principle only applies within certain limits. Two bodies that are moving at the same velocity to each other are relatively stationary, but that is not equivalent to being stationary. Through the development of this I will show that an observer moving at any velocity with an observed body will see the body exactly the same as if they were actually stationary ( see [3D Demo](#VoxelariumDemo) ). However, let us consider a more classical example, instead of locking the observer in a room with no access to the outside, they are freely able to go to the deck of a ship and observe things. On a boat that is stationary, let’s say it bobs up and down, and therefore emits waves in concentric circles around it. When it starts to move, a wake is formed, and the concentric circles from its bobbing motion are no longer concentric but are offset. If there were two boats stationary, and one takes off at some speed, it is illogical to say 'no, I'm not moving, it's the other boat moving, and it has a wake in front of it'. You can clearly see that your boat is making a wake, and that the other is still emitting concentric circles of waves. This is also true of light traveling at a one-way constant speed in space, that all observers can agree it is traveling at. A stationary body is one that is still near where it has previously emitted photons, while a moving body is one that has changed position from where it has previously emitted photons. This doesn't remove the idea of a frame being relatively stationary with another frame, or having a relative velocity to another, but it does have consequences which will be discussed later. The equivalence principle will not be used, and further issues will be discussed later.

## Relative Light Speed

Once a photon is emitted, then it is in space and is no longer related with the body that emitted it. The photon travels at its own constant speed through space. This means that a photon emitted from the front of a moving body towards the back, where front and back are determined by the velocity of the body; the back is moving towards the photon moving at C with a speed of V, and the light effectively travels at C+V. Conversely, a photon emitted from the back, and moving towards the front is moving at C, and the front is moving away from the photon at V, which gives an effective velocity of C-V; that the photon is never relatively at the speed of light, unless the body is stationary.

## One Way Constant Speed of Light(C)

Given a propagation speed of C, in a stationary, frictionless(?), massless medium, bodies move at various speeds in various directions, or combined into a single term at a certain velocity. This medium is called space. Space has no velocity, so there is nothing like length contraction or time contraction (this is a term that will be defined later) that applies, the clock in the frame of space ticks at the fastest and constant rate. This clock may also be called the global clock as opposed to a local clock on a moving body, or in a local frame.

# Light Propagation

A point observed on a body is represented by where is the position on the body that emitted a signal, is the velocity of the body, is the time in the frame of space.

At a constant velocity, the position of an observer is .

is the observers position in the observing frame, Vo is the velocity of the observer's frame, and is the time in the frame of space which the observer sees the event. The observer's time of observation may be decomposed into the base time plus a delta : . In practice, computing the delta time just adds an additional step of adding the delta to the base time.

Propagation time is computed for the direct distance between emitter and receiver; this essentially treats emission as a perfect circle from the point of emission until reception. The math is not based on such a geometry, and is just an algebraic solution.

The delta time for the observer to see the emitted event is:

The time for the observer to see the emitted event is:

solved for T (step-by-step solution in [Appendix A](#_Appendix_A_(T))

(define partial expression P to make the solution somewhat shorter)

Alternative expressions for above solution for T using partial expressions...

Delta solution given a time of observation ([Appendix C](#_Appendix_C_(𝚫T)):

The above equations are the propagation delay between any two points on two moving bodies each with their own independent velocities.

This is only valid for V < C, or V > C; if V > C, then the negative of the square root should also be considered as a solution; this will show the craft going backwards towards where it came from, as the signals it had emitted when it was there will finally reach the viewer. If V = C, there is a special case formula which can used. Instead of the first equation

Replace C with ||Ve||, and solve as normal ([Appendix D](#_Appendix_D_(V=C))):

Which gives the equation:

Simplified with partial expression:

# Light Aberration

"The discovery of the aberration of light in 1725 by James Bradle"(ref 1).

Light aberration is an effect that is seen as advancing the angle of a received photon in a moving frame. It also applies for photons that are emitted.

I used the existing math for light aberration as derived by Einstein from Wikipedia 'Relativistic Aberration' [[ref 1](#RelativsiticAberration)]:

Where is the observed angle for a frame moving at speed . I extended the math slightly to include the direction part of the velocity:

is the change in the angle observed. This, again, applies for both transmission and reception. If this did not apply to transmission, then a light beam emitted at 90 degrees across a rocket of sufficient size, the light would drift down the wall by an amount relative to the speed of the rocket, and an interferometer would have a non-null result.

The above formula generally works for the 3D case, but because arccos aka only returns to , a correction needs to be applied based on the input angle.

Given an input of which is the direction the body is travelling (where 0 is towards positive infinity on the X axis), and which is the angle the observer is travelling, the delta angle is . The multipart equation computes a multiplier based on the angle; every units the sign of the result flips; this is the absolute value of the floor of dA divided by , mod 2, then if the result is 0 the value is 1, otherwise the value is -1:

And the aberrated angle is:

The calculation to determine the angle that resulted in an aberrated angle of is:

## 3D Aberration with Rotation

The partial expressions required for producing the angle of aberration can also be used to perform a rotation on a 3D vector. In the 3D case, the potential error from arccos only resulting with a value from 0 to pi are fixed by having the full cross product which is rotated around. Even in the case of the plane that is entirely edge-on to the observer, the cross-product Z axis is positive or negative whether the angle is on the left or right side, so the above N term does not have to be computed. The cross-product also gives the axis of rotation for the aberration.

Calculate delta position:

Compute cross product of position and observer's velocity:

Normalize the cross product (axis of rotation):

Calculate dot product of position and normalized observer's velocity:

Normalize the dot product (cosine of angle between delta position and velocity)

Compute angle of aberration:

Do rotation plus base point of observer:

# Length Contraction

There is a phenomenon called Length Contraction, where the length of a body moving with a velocity is contracted in the direction of the velocity. The length of the body is physically contracted. It is impossible to measure length contraction of a frame, because any ruler in the frame is likewise contracted, and even if LIDAR is used – the propagation time to a target and back in any direction takes the same time. The contraction comes from the fact that propagation of electromagnetic forces happens at the same speed as the propagation of light; therefore, even the electron clouds of atoms are contracted so the electrons orbit the same speed in any direction. The worst-case travel time of forward-backward gets scaled to the best-case lateral travel time; that is the time a photon travels perpendicular to the velocity, that scalar is then applied to the length in the direction of the velocity vector.

The best-case time is:

A black triangle with black lines

Description automatically generated  
Figure 1: Graph relating for distance related to velocity and for velocity related to velocity. Used to show the geometric relation used for calculation .

# Vector Expression to Apply Length Contraction

Compute the vector that is the position projected on the velocity vector.

Subtract the projected position vector, and then add the projection length contracted:

Refactor of the previous equation – subtract the amount of the projected vector that has been contracted out.

# Time Contraction

Time contracts according to the speed of a moving body. Contraction in the sense that clocks run slower. This contraction happens when normalizing the time it takes for worst-case time of forward and backward propagation across the contracted length, or by normalizing the lateral propagation time.

Forward and backward, the time light takes to cover the contracted distance of C light-seconds is:

Multiplying the fraction for the distance of over C+V by C-V over C-V and over C-V by C+V over C+V reduces the expression to the following expression. The units will not change since cancels out the units and becomes just a scalar still has units of length over velocity, not velocity squared.

Which is then:

And the reciprocal, which scales the clock so 1 tick happens per light-tick is

Alternatively, it is possible to compute the time it takes for a photon clock mounted laterally to tick... and the result is the same as above. the time it takes for light to travel along the lateral path of C light-seconds is

And, again, the reciprocal, which scales the clock so 1 tick happens per light-tick is:

# Full Process to Compute Observation

Length contraction is applied to points on each body according to their own velocities.

The time between a point on the emitting body and observing body is computed using the observing body's real time coordinate, giving the emitting bodies real time when the event was emitted.

The absolute position can then be computed from emitter to observer, and then the light aberration for the observer based on the angle the signal is detected, resulting in a final actual position that the body being observed is perceived.

Given:

* : Position being observed at T=0
* : Velocity of body emitting a signal
* : Position of observer at T=0
* : Velocity of observer

Length contract points:

Propagation Delay from contracted point to observer:

Light aberration:

Finally:

# Doppler Effect or Frequency Shift

The frequency shift depends on the angle the light was emitted, after aberration is applied. Theta () in the equation is the emission angle relative to the velocity direction, and V is just the speed component of the velocity.

The above factor is a scalar on the frequency, and should be used to scale the wavelength.

The composite frequency shift and light aberration function:

## Derivation of Doppler Shift

(These are my notes for the derivation, but I didn’t comment each step, especially the given A and B vectors)

A\_O is the angle observed. (same as in aberration)

D is the direction the emitter is travelling. (same as in aberration)

Square both sides, to work to getting length of the vector:

Combine common terms:

Remove terms that combine to be 1, and simplify complex trig identity:

Take square root of both sides to result in length, and divide both sides by C:

Resulting equation:

# Results

## ?

The expression for energy and mass only depends on gamma, and the gamma term is the same; there is no consequence or modification for this expression.

## Relative Velocities

An observer which is offset from the path of an observer has several relative velocities while the body only has a constant velocity. An observed body will at the furthest extent be seen as traveling towards the observer with a velocity that points towards the observer (-V in a 2D sense), will slowly change to 0, and then appear to accelerate back to velocity V away from the observer. If there is 0 distance (or an insignificant fraction of the speed of light-seconds away), then the velocity instantly changes from -V (towards the observer) to V (away from the observer).

In the following equation, D is the distance to the straight line (1 in the graph), V is the velocity (1 in the graph), T is the time (x in the graph).

Example Graph:

  
Figure 2: a constant velocity (V) is shown as the green line, while the relative time to an observer at X=0 is shown in purple. The X-axis is a distance from the observer. The Y-axis is the velocity.

## Relative Time Dilation

It's said that only the relative difference matters between two bodies. Consider a scenario where 8 craft pass by Earth at the same time (T=0), and their clocks are all exactly synchronized. Each craft is 0.1c faster than the previous.

Each ship has an additional distance of 0.1 light seconds per second, which is a lag of +0.1 seconds per second, or after 10 seconds there's 1 light-second between them which is an additional delay of 1 second. Between the first and last ship then is 8 seconds of delay per 10 seconds of travel.

If considered entirely relatively, then each ship has a relative time contraction of 0.995 compared to the previous ship, or the same as the contraction between the earth and the first ship. After 1 second, each ship’s clock is 10\*(1-0.995) = 0.050 slower seconds per 10 seconds of travel slower than the previous ship.

A side note: obviously the Lorentz Transform that results in 0.05 second contraction does not include the 1 second of propagation time between each ship. Each ship would see the next as 1.05 seconds per 10 seconds slower when including the propagation delay. The total difference from the first ship to the last is at least 7 seconds of lag.

The time contraction for the 8th ship relative to the earth is (1-0.6 = 0.4 which indicates it loses 4 seconds in 10) and 8\*(1-0.995) is 0.040, which is the total contraction the 8th ship would have if considered as only relative to the prior ship. 0.040(total relative) is not equal to 0.40(relative to earth).

The below table shows the actual and relative differences for their local clock.

Table 1

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | Comments |
| 1.0  0 | 0.995  0.005 | 0.978  0.022 | 0.954  0.046 | 0.917  0.073 | 0.866  0.134 | 0.800  0.200 | 0.714  0.276 | 0.600  0.400 | Actual time contraction; how much time each clock loses |
| 1.0  0 | 0.995  0.005 | 0.990  0.010 | 0.985  0.015 | 0.980  0.020 | 0.975  0.025 | 0.970  0.030 | 0.965  0.035 | 0.960  0.040 | Total tTime contraction if time was relative to the previous |

The following is across 10 seconds, and including propagation delay:

* Observer 1 sees 2 as 1 second + 10(0.995-0.978)=0.15 seconds ... so 1 sees 2 lagged by 1.15 seconds*.*
* Observer in 7 sees 8 as 1 second + 10(0.714-0.600)=1.14 seconds ... so 7 to 8 sees 8’s clock lagged by 2.14 seconds per 10 seconds compared to its own clock.

Remember 7 to 8 and 1 to 2 are both relative to each other by only 0.1c, so the time dilation that 7 sees from 8 should still be just 0.995 seconds from time dilation according to Special Relativity.

## The Twin Paradox

There is no paradox in this system. Every observer can agree which is moving and which is stationary. The moving twin ages slower, and at a known rate compared to their twin back in the nearly stationary frame of Earth.

The Twin Paradox stems from equivalence where the moving twin pretends that they are stationary, and therefore the stationary twin is the one that is moving, and therefore has the slow clock, when really the slow clock is always on the side which is really moving.

## Demonstrations and Simulations

While developing this I made a series of demonstration programs to investigate various behaviors. This is not a comprehensive list.

<https://github.com/d3x0r/STFRPhysics/blob/master/LightSpeedSim.md> Is the main document for the project that has the list of demos, and more information about the demonstrations.

[Stationary Observer, Moving Observable, at V>C](https://d3x0r.github.io/STFRPhysics/math/indexLightSpeed.html) – This was the first idea – just to see what the behavior was for a body that was able to move faster than the speed of light (or speed of sound, or speed of water waves); an interesting realization was that for a supersonic plane, as I often heard when living in Las Vegas from Nellis Air Force Base, there would be a loud noise, followed by very loud jet sounds; but the sound would actually appear to go towards the base and away from the base. It was very hard to know if they were returning or leaving, since the plane was closest before I ever heard it, and then the sound for whatever direction it came from would overlap the sound from the direction it was going.

[Stationary Observer, moving Observable, V as a fraction of C](https://d3x0r.github.io/STFRPhysics/math/indexLightSpeed1.html) – This is the same as the first demonstration, but limits velocity to a maximum of C.

[Stationary Observable, moving observer](https://d3x0r.github.io/STFRPhysics/math/indexLightSpeed2a.html) – this becomes mostly about light aberration, since the position the observes sees the stationary thing from is always the same. The length does not contract for things that are not moving relative to the moving observer; this is another place where the symmetry of the Lorentz Transform, and when claiming that the moving observer is stationary, while the body that is stationary is the one that is moving, is invalid.

[Moving body with an observer in it](https://d3x0r.github.io/STFRPhysics/math/indexLightSpeed3.html) – this would be like a train with a passenger inside the train. This demonstration only supported one direction.

[Moving body with observer, supports changing direction of velocity](https://d3x0r.github.io/STFRPhysics/math/indexLightSpeed4.html)

[2D Bodies, each with their own velocity and direction](https://d3x0r.github.io/STFRPhysics/math/indexLightSpeed3b.html) – This showed the transform of space and was part of trying to match the Lorentz Transform space-time graphs; there’s an option to enable X-T Graph specifically about that. This compares how a 2D space is transformed for an observer in a square ship, watching another square ship with its own velocity and directions. This employs length contraction and light aberration, and I had an inspiration that maybe because of light aberration of the propagation delayed points might look more correct in perspective. In 2D, however, this would just be a circle, and not being a flatlander, I’m not very good with interpreting a perspective of a plane in a circle.

[3D Orthogonal vs Perspective Test](https://d3x0r.github.io/Voxelarium.js/index2-dual-view.html) – I implemented another test in another project that had a voxel cube. I implemented moving the points according to the velocity and delay of propagation and light aberration in the shader which changes the shape of the geometry in real time. The orthogonal view and perspective views do the same transformation, and the camera position and orientation is also exactly the same. This shows, when velocity and direction are locked, that even though the geometry is highly deformed by the propagation time of where a point on the moving body is seen from, and the light aberration, that at any speed the frame still looks exactly square. Even with VR enabled, other than the color changes, there is no perceivable difference between moving along with the body at any speed and being stationary in that body.

[Testing Time dilation and propagation delays](https://d3x0r.github.io/STFRPhysics/math/indexLightSpeed-Clocks.html) – This demonstration was to challenge an [entrance exam question](#_Appendix_E_(Exam) for college. I further implemented various clocks to test time contraction.

[Interferometer demonstration](https://d3x0r.github.io/STFRPhysics/math/indexInterferometer4.html), I implemented various versions of an interferometer which used light aberration, and length contraction, and this final version allows choosing an arbitrary angle, to show the identical lengths of each path of light takes, demonstrating the expected null result. This version has a ‘4’ at the end of its link, there is also (no number), 2 and 3 versions; 3 is almost like 4, but for also includes multiple photons emitted at the nodes of a specified wavelength and assisted in deriving the doppler shift equation.

## Consequences

Several consequences of a one-way speed of light are immediately obvious.

1. For all clocks to behave the same in all frames, acceleration due to a specific force is no longer constant. Instead, the velocity imparted due to a specific acceleration must be scaled depending on the direction of the force relative to the velocity of the frame it is in. An acceleration applied backward must be scaled by and applied forward must be scaled by ; or more generally an acceleration applied in a direction θ is (approximately). I don’t know if the acceleration itself just ends up scaled or if it’s just effectively different than it would seem. Here are a few clock ideas for 0G clocks like an hourglass in a centrifuge, a machine that launches marbles in various directions until they hit a detector, similarly a turntable with marbles in a cage, that the cage drops launching the ball centrifugally. (With a spring-plunger mechanism, with a magnetic field, etc. In the case of the magnetic field, then it behaves like photons, and the ball in one direction would see more flux from the field in one direction that some other direction, which would mean the force was actually changed, rather than just results in a different momentum).
2. The one-way velocity of light is not constant, and adding the velocity of the two directions is not a constant, but what is constant is the amount of time it takes light to cover a certain distance two-ways. The time can be expressed as A + B = 2C (C here is just a variable, not the speed of light constant). A distance divided by a time is a velocity, but it’s not the velocity of light in either direction.
3. The experience of travelling at a velocity ends up meaning that for a given velocity V, with the time factor scaled by the time contraction of , means that at 0.707c, that the frame ‘feels like’ it is travelling at 1c. It travels 1 light second in what feels like 1 second in the frame. If the ship emitted a signal every second, a pulse would be seen by external observers every 1 light second, but there would be more than 1 second between pulses (ignoring light propagation time). At 0.861 the ship would emit a pulse every 2 light seconds every second... a ship would feel like it was going many times the speed of light before it reached the speed of light. (this could probably be expanded). (This idea has been criticized as not making any sense since nothing can go faster than the speed of light - but it's really not it just 'feels like' it's going faster than the speed of light.)
4. The universe doesn't contract when a body is moving through it - a stationary object that is bounded by say 2 walls that emit a signal that is its local time, will always be seen as 2 light seconds apart (other than effects from light aberration).
5. An observer that is traveling with a body at some speed will always see that body in perspective as the same as when it was stationary. The length contraction and light aberration causes the various observed positions to look, in perspective (as in 3D graphics perspective, or as light is projected on the retina as a 2D surface) to be the same.... the light from the back of the craft takes a longer time to reach the observer, and intuitively it would seem like it would come from further away, but the light aberration from the back widens out the perceived distance, and results after a perspective correction as exactly the same perspective as being stationary. Similarly light from the front of the craft would arrive sooner, and the front wall should appear closer to the viewer, but light aberration contracts the width of it, and ends up looking in perspective exactly as it did when the frame was stationary. If there was a perceivable cycling signal of lights say going red-green-blue-red-etc, then the light that is closest to 'now' would come from further in front of the observer, and the back would lag behind; but within reasonable limits, (since we don't build space craft that are 300,000km long), there is no notable difference.
6. As mentioned before, light aberration takes place on transmission too - this is somewhat like a transfer of inertia to the emitted light. If this aberration did not take place, then a laser light shining across a craft moving at some speed would drift down the wall when not under acceleration, but at increased speeds; this doesn't happen. That means the light from the laser when it leaves the last bit of the lens medium and enters free space, will have been aberrated by some angle such that it will cross the craft at exactly 90 degrees; similarly if there is a reflective surface like a mirror, the mirror will aberrate the light it receives, and appear to have received the light from directly across, instead of an angle lagged behind, and on reflection, will aberrate the light further forward. This is part of the reason that interferometers like LIGO or Michelson-Morley experiment don't detect any drag on the light. The other part that plays a part is length contraction. Between the two effects, the time light travels between splitters, and mirrors is exactly the same in any direction; but depending on the direction of the device may take a longer or shorter time, but the time along each path the light takes will still be the same, and the light will come back in phase with itself and interfere as expected.
7. The Lorentz Transform is incomplete; and is truly only valid considering bodies that are 0 distance from each other, or at best an insignificant fraction of a light-second. I tried several times to bias a space-time graph to the Lorentz Transform space-time graph, but it truly only aligns at T>0 and X>0 if V>0 or X<0 if V<0; there is an asymmetry that is induced when you consider the propagation delay. A ship that is travelling towards an observer is elongated, even factoring in the length contraction, it’s still seen as longer; while a ship that is moving away from an observer is contracted, even more than the length contraction applies.
8. General Relativity – A side project included applying the Einstein Field equations to space, and performing the curvature directly, without a factor of time; more information in [Appendix G](#_Appendix_G_(GR)

# Proposed Experiment

This is a test for difference in 1 way speed of light, rather than strictly measuring the speed of light.

Using unsynchronized clocks, an apparatus with 2 devices, called emitters, which have stable clocks, with minimal drift between each other so they always emit a pulse of light (or radio > 5Ghz) with a fixed interval. The pulse should be short, but only needs to be off long enough to register a distinct 'on' event later. The time between the pulses should be more than the transmission time between pulse generator and detector, given a standard speed of light.

A third device called a detector detects the pulses from the emitters and records the time from a local clock when the leading edge of the pulse is detected, or when the pulse is first able to be detected.

This image shows the short pulse and long delay, or at least as much delay as between the detector and emitter. (This isn't strictly a requirement, but a higher frequency isn't going to add any information either.)

  
Figure 3: Example of pulse generation, which has a very short period of on-time, and a delay between pulses that is longer than the transmission delay between emitter and detector.

## The arrangement

The detector should receive from two emitters, which are placed in opposing directions at the same distance from the detector. The central detector records the time that pulses are received from each detector against a local high precision clock. This clock needs to be at least a few hundred picoseconds in resolution.

Arms are formed from the center detector and each emitter; the angle between the arms should be 180 degrees to catch the worst case. If one arm is 90 degrees to the other, then there will always just be an average on one; and the maximum difference will not be found.

The emitters should be 10,000ft away from the central detector, which makes the total length 20,000ft or about 4 miles.

This is about the limit of what can be seen – the horizon at 2.67ft is 2 miles away; at 5ft is 2.73 miles away, much further than 2 miles would require a tower to mount the emitters to be seen by the detector. (, R = 20,856,000ft, h is height, d is distance to horizon).

## Notes on clocks

Relativistic time dilation effects don't matter once the device is placed, and the clock in the central detector is used to record the time the remote clocks are seen; the clocks in the pulse generators are used to generate stable span between leading edges of the pulse they emit. The modulation might be something like a moving mirror, or a wheel with a notch, rather than having to warm up a laser diode or some other emission source.

Gravitational time dilation might affect the clocks of the various devices depending on where they are placed. It's more important that the pulse generators are in a similar gravitational gradient; otherwise, a constant skew will be in the data also; which can be removed when analyzing the signals but would of course be best if the skew wasn't there. The exact tick rates of the emitters versus the central detector is irrelavent; the span recorded between the pulses may be contracted or dilated vs the emitters, the interval will still be a constant against the local clock.

## Hypothesis

If the speed of light is different, by a rate of C + V or C − V, where C is what's used for the constant speed of light, and V is a velocity. In the direction of the velocity, those are the speeds that apply, laterally, it's just C. The distance in the worst-case direction is contracted by and the clock is contracted by the same amount. The effective local time to cross 1 unit is or (distance(1) times gamma divided by relative speed = time in seconds times gamma). The lateral time is or (the time to cover the lateral distance increases with speed; hence dividing by square root of C squared minus V squared and the resulting time contracted, so multiply by gamma).

A graph of x and y with a cross

Description automatically generated  
Figure 4: the X-axis is the speed of a body, the Y-axis is time to cover a unit distance, the green line is the time from front to back at a speed, the purple line is the time from back to front, and the black line through 1 is the time laterally. Green plus purple over 2 is a constant 1 time, matching the two-way propagation in the worst-case scenario.

## Some relevant speeds

370,000m/s: We are moving at 370km/s relative to the CMB in the direction of the constellation of Virgo.

30,290 m/s: Earth orbits the sun so +/-10%(roughly) deviation.

460 m/s: Earth spins this fast, so +/-0.1%(roughly) deviation (1/100 orbit speed)

The most significant part is the motion towards the Virgo constellation as demonstrated by the redshift of the CMB.

## Expected Result

Using an approximation of light travelling 1 foot per nanosecond (one Ghz tick is 1ns; so in the clock rate of CPU's, light goes about 1 foot (slightly less)). The worst case advance/delay of the speed 1.2ns per 1000ns, so in 10,000 ns (distance/C) a +/-12ns difference can be measured - one arm will be +12ns and the other -12ns for a total delta of 24ns. This will reach a maximum when the apparatus is aligned in the direction of motion with the CMBR- and minimum separation at 90 degrees to the velocity. So this should be placed on the ground such that Virgo is seen on the horizon at some point; but this will only happen once per day, when the planet is 180 degrees around (12 hours later) the device will have a negative angle of alignment with the constellation. Perhaps deploying something at the north or south pole at 9 degrees off the pole would be an option?

10,000ns is 10,000 ft which is about 2 miles; which is a total span of 4 files with 2 emitters and a detector.

## Data Evaluation

Events from a single detector, and the related timestamps are a stream. The streams are mostly independant. Starting with a pulse, subtracting the timestamp from itself biases the tick to 0. Each stream is biased to 0 itself; this syncrhonizes the pulses at a specific point. This may be a average case, or a worst case or somewhere inbetween. One stream should be slightly ahead of the 0, and have at a positive offset, this stream is delayed; the other stream should be behind 0, and have a negative offset that is the same as the positive from that point. This offset will go toward a maximum case and then to an average case. Given that only alignment in a very specific direction produces THE worst case, random chance will be that there will be little deviation from average and just be +/-0. Any progressive skew that does not go away is probably from a slightly different gravitational gradient; though slight differences in north latitude will also skew the clock time, from a difference in linear rate while the earth rotates.

## Increased Accuracy

It might be a good idea to put a splitter near each emitter, and record locally a similar resolution timestamp to the central detector, which can compensate for jitter in the electronics which switch the laser on.

## No Clock Transport

There is no requirement for synchronization of the remote clocks, and it doesn't matter whether they are transported or not, they can be switched no at any particular time, and as long as they tick at the same period can still produce a signal that the delta can be detected in.

## Alternative deployments

LISA - The interferometer satellite array could measure +/-10ms; millisecond resolution is surely notable - although it does have bent arms, so the difference between the arms is fairly minimal.

## What’s different about GPS?

GPS satellites are synchronous clocks that emit pulses and are clocked over a distance for the speed of light. GPS satellites orbit at an altitude of 20,200km or 12,550 miles (66,264,000 feet). It was argued that if there was an anisotropic speed of light, then they would be off by a significant amount of time when received; they would be off by potentially approximately 81 microseconds.

Gravity also propagates at the speed of light. This means that in the direction of travel of the solar system relative to the CMBR (370km/s or 0.00123 light-seconds per second) that effectively the orbit of the satellites in the direction of the velocity is 24.9km (15.5 miles or 81,624ft) further from the earth, as the gravity field has not yet extended as far, compensating for the shorter reception time as the earth moves into the emitted signal. Conversely, the gravity field on the trailing side is extended, and makes the orbit closer, compensating for the earth moving away from the emitted signal. This is only extreme in a specific alignment.

It’s not that the space of that whole system is contracted; space does not contract with velocity, only the matter in the space.

This then goes to what about the laser ranging satellites. They rely on a two-way communication, and if there was such an elevation difference, that would show up in their measurements, and the model they build would be offset. Satellite programs that map the elevation of Earth have low orbit, and the difference would only be a couple hundred meters, which is larger than the difference of their perigee-apogee.

* ICESat-2 orbits @ 479-482km.
* Cryosat-2 @ 718-732km
* ADM-Aeolus @ 320km
* [TanDEM-X](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/TanDEM-X) & TerraSAR-X @ 514-516km

# Data availability

Data sharing is not applicable to this article as no datasets were generated or analyzed during the current study.

# Code availability

Example code and demonstrations are available on Github at <https://github.com/d3x0r/STFRPhysics>.

# References

1. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Relativistic_aberration>

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Relativistic_Doppler_effect>

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aberration_(astronomy)>

# Author Contributions

Single author, no other contributions.

# Competing Interests

The authors declare no competing interest.

# Appendix A (T solve)

Solve initial equation for T...

Can also be written as:

Define partial term for base position:

Move to the left side, substitute , and multiply both sides by , then square both sides to remove the square root.

Expand expressions which have T in them, FOIL right side:

Move T terms to the left, else to the right; also combined terms:

Combine coefficients of T 2 and T:

Combine expressions with T, factor to a simple square:

Take the square root of both sides:

Move

Multiply right-side top and bottom by

Simplify with partial expressions:

# Appendix B (

Solve propagation equation for

Define position term :

Substitute P into the expression:

Isolate the radical, move T to the left, multiply both sides by C:

Square both sides:

Expand squared expressions:

Move terms with to the left, and terms with only to the right.

Combine common factors of :

Define partial expression to simplify terms later:

Substitute partial expression:

Factor left side into a square expression, plus a correction for the extra term that shows up:

Move expression with T in it to the right side:

Take square root of both sides:

Move expression with T to the right side:

Divide by Coefficient of :

Multiply right-side by .

Simplify with partial expressions:

# Appendix C (T solve)

Solve for delta T…

(Follows the same basic steps as above, description of steps omitted)

Move non expression to the right, divide by coefficient of

Multiply by :

Simplify with partial expressions:

# Appendix D (V=C)

Solve for T when =C…

Convert magnitudes to square root of vectors squared:

Define partial expression P to simplify later operations

Substitute P into expression:

Move T expression to left side, preparing to square both sides

Square both sides:

Expanded squares, move to the left side:

Move expressions with only to the right:

is removed since it’s on both sides, move T term to left:

Factor out common term:

Divide both sides by coefficient of T:

Remember so replace some expressions with

Simplify with partial expressions:

# Appendix E (Exam Question)

Having developed the math, even though it was different from the Lorentz Transformation, I figured it would be good to test in answering some questions on a forum; unfortunately, I found that although the answers were correct, they were incorrect if the Lorentz Transform was required to be applied. Here’s the question.

"While you're having breakfast in the morning, a creature in the Andromeda galaxy is doing the same. We call the two breakfast events event X (on Earth) and event Y (in the Andromeda galaxy). "Simultaneously" means simultaneous in your reference frame. If instead we describe the two events in another reference frame, that of a space traveler who is traveling at a very high speed from the Andromeda galaxy towards Earth, which of the following statements is correct?

- A. Event X and event Y are simultaneous.

- B. Event X occurs before event Y.

- C. Event Y occurs before event X.

- D. The question is not well-defined, as we cannot define simultaneity for events that do not occur at the same place in space.

I get that it has something to do with that the traveler is going at relativistic speeds which means things will move slower relative to him. I just don't get how the gamma factor ties in to the problem context"

To get a single answer, I had to interpret that the breakfast was simultaneous \*to 'you' while eating breakfast\* (that you were watching them eat breakfast on a monitor while you are also eating), which makes the answer ‘C’. (The ‘correct’ answer is ‘B’) Otherwise there are multiple choices. And even made an image.

A diagram of lines and letters

Description automatically generated  
Figure E-1 : On the left, would be based on the reasoning applied to get a single answer. On the right, however, at some real time A(ndromeda) and E(arth) have breakfast, and the light cones of those events are drawn in black; probably the thickness of the line is the entire duration of that event. Depending on when the ship passes Andromeda at some high speed, they could see (1) earth first, and then never Andromeda, if they passed Andromeda after breakfast was eaten. (2) that they see andromeda first and then earth. Or (3) that they could see earth first and then andromeda. Another line between 2 and 3 could be drawn that would intersect in the middle when the light cones intersect, and they could say they were simultaneous. The 4th line off the bottom would also show Earth first and Andromeda some long time later; but they would be past earth when they saw the earth event catch up to them. This doesn’t even really care about the relatively variable speed of light for the observing ship; it’s just a flat world line graph.

I would think light cones in figure E-1 would be pretty much the constant speed of light every frame can agree with. It’s also not a matter of poor phrasing of the question, but rather is an inherent flaw in Lorentz Transform that students will just have to ‘shut up and calculate’ since there’s no other means to reason the solution.

<https://phys.libretexts.org/Bookshelves/University_Physics/Book%3A_University_Physics_(OpenStax)/University_Physics_III_-_Optics_and_Modern_Physics_(OpenStax)/05%3A__Relativity/5.06%3A_The_Lorentz_Transformation> This link has a section about halfway down that is basically the same scenario, and uses the Lorentz Transform in the same way that would get ‘B’ as an answer. I didn’t record the math of another person who helped the questioner, since it was the same sort of terms as this.

In these scenarios the observer that is ‘between’ Andromeda and Earth or in the train is chained to the center of the train and is unable to move. An observer that is ‘near the train’ is really under the train, or the train is passing through them. Given those constraints, then since the ship is moving from andromeda to earth, they must see the earth event first and then andromeda. There is no freedom to intersect anywhere in-between, but rather they must start from the center between Andromeda and Earth.

# Appendix F (Wayback Demo Links)

Wayback Machine links to demos

These pages were captured to make sure they will exist – it is doubtful the github sources will disappear… but anything can happen.

<https://web.archive.org/web/20231205094627/https://d3x0r.github.io/STFRPhysics/math/indexLightSpeed.html>

<https://web.archive.org/web/20231205115312/https://d3x0r.github.io/STFRPhysics/math/indexLightSpeed1.html>

<https://web.archive.org/web/20231205115526/https://d3x0r.github.io/STFRPhysics/math/indexLightSpeed2a.html>

<https://web.archive.org/web/20231205095133/https://d3x0r.github.io/STFRPhysics/math/indexLightSpeed3.html>

<https://web.archive.org/web/20231205094911/https://d3x0r.github.io/STFRPhysics/math/indexLightSpeed4.html>

<https://web.archive.org/web/20231205095346/https://d3x0r.github.io/STFRPhysics/math/indexLightSpeed-Clocks.html>

<https://web.archive.org/web/20231205084208/https://d3x0r.github.io/STFRPhysics/math/indexInterferometer4.html>

The Voxelarium demo is too complex – and relies on import; wayback wraps the javascript in a function which makes the imports fail though.

# Appendix G (GR Hypothesis)

General Relativity was developed on the back of Special Relativity. There are several factors of Special Relativity which have been challenged, and probably in the case of the reality of relativity will in turn affect General Relativity.

Before developing math for the one-way constant speed of light through space, I had researched General Relativity and Einstein Field Equations. I found that it would be possible to curve space directly, rather than over time. The equation of is not symmetric in this case; the propagation equations would be something of a replacement for this expression. In General Relativity it’s taken that everything moves at the speed C through space-time. Moving at the speed of C for an object which has a low velocity means it’s moving quickly through time to compensate. This idea would require each body to have its own time, when in reality it seems there is only a single ‘now’ across the whole universe; a single moment of time. During each moment of time things move, emit and receive photons, but there is nothing that has already happened, which would be something that happens after ‘now’, and things that have already happened no longer exist in that state, there is no before ‘now’ that one could return to. The only thing about time that changes is the speed of clocks, so having a different velocity through time would be meaningless.

I started testing the compression idea using Geogebra, which provides a free 3D graphing calculator.

* [Geogebra 3D graph](https://www.geogebra.org/3d/mb5wpnu6) - I started testing the math here, but subtracting |x| and |y| independently from the hyperbolic displacements make more of a bell curve instead of an arc; especially very close to 0.

Then I did some demos to test displacing straight lines by an extrinsic curvature. Light travels straight lines through space, although due to a displacement or curvature of space, the path may not be actually straight. (More on this later)

* [Single Source](https://d3x0r.github.io/STFRPhysics/math/mathSphereDecay) - This shows curvature for a single point displacement.
* [4 Sources](https://d3x0r.github.io/STFRPhysics/math/gravityFields.html) - This is four point displacements; the points do not move and do not scale with the displacement they generate.
* [3D 4 sources](https://d3x0r.github.io/STFRPhysics/3d/index-gravity-field.html) - 3D stack of multiple planes; with the 'zLevel' set near 0, the planes of 'geodesic light paths' include the plane of the displacements.
* [Inner Rotation Curve Explorer](https://d3x0r.github.io/STFRPhysics/3d/indexSphereMap3.html) - This explores what the frames are for the proposed filler curve; turns out to be geodesic rotations of a frame from one pole through the other and back to the start with the originating orientation.

It has been proposed that in order to curve a space, that one additional dimension is required. In the case of a 1 dimensional, straight line, it only requires one dimension to represent, but requires 2 in a higher level to bend the line, and 3 to curve the line into a helix. Similarly, if you have a 2D plane, and make a hill in it, it requires an additional dimension to represent, but you can also maintain the flat plane orientation and curve it only in that plane. Finally, in the case of a 3D space, it might seem logical to propose that a 4th dimension is required in order to curve it, but it doesn’t take a 4th dimension in order to curve a block of clay into a vase.

Space as an incompressible medium could also be curved by just applying a force to displace the space from its original position. This would stretch/elongate the space around the displacement source, and in order to maintain the same volume, would shorten in the direction perpendicular to the displacement. The Geogebra graph above has a hyperbolic plane that represents the ratio of compression of various levels.

A diagram of a graph

Description automatically generated with medium confidence  
Figure G-1 : Example graph from Geogebra calculator showing hyperbolic surface, and falloff rings.

The falloff of the compression is , which is the same as the falloff of gravity. I haven’t fully developed and applied the math for this to physics but did experiment with curvature as seen by the Eddington Experiment. (I don’t find the notes I made, was somewhat temporary, so there may be glaring errors) The displacement required at the surface of the sun is only 9000km, to displace the path of light through space the 1.75 arcseconds that was seen. Computing how much space from the total mass of the sun, if it was filled entirely with hydrogen atoms, gave a number for the size of a proton as 200fm. The actual size is expected to be 3.3fm; there is a rather large discrepancy and gets worse if considering that heavier atoms don’t displace much more space.

## Hypothesis regarding the difference between calculation and experiment

Hypothetically, this difference is because of the way space is curved around a mass. Since photons travel through space, the space very near a mass will deflect the photon around the mass and not actually interact with it. If the photon is exactly head on, then there isn’t so much distinction about what direction to go around the mass, and there’s a high degree of uncertainty. Since the wavelength of the measurement occupies some lateral space, it will only really be able to detect the displacement in space at a distance of the wavelength of the wave; otherwise, the wave would likely all go around one side or another of the mass, and not actually interact with it.

## Some other papers

These are some other long notes with images and examples.

<https://github.com/d3x0r/STFRPhysics/blob/master/math/TheNotBang.md>

<https://github.com/d3x0r/STFRPhysics/blob/master/math/mathSphereDecay.md>

## Gravitational Redshift

The Pound-Rebka experiment tested red and blue shift of heated Iron emitting photons up and down a very tall tower at Harvard. Light emitted from lower in a gravity well, will be in space that is stretched, but is also compressed along the gravitational gradient, and as it goes up enters space, which is less stretched, but relaxes in the length of the space along the gravity gradient which is less compressed. Additionally, the detector will be in space that is less stretched and be smaller than expected; relatively it will detect a photon as more red shifted from space with more stretch, while additionally the photon will already be emitted as a wider version of itself and would seem red shifted compared to a photon emitted in more compressed space. This process reverses and causes a blue shift when light is emitted in compressed space and enters more stretched space; the detector will be wider than a detector higher in the gravity well and receive the wavelength as longer than it is, but additionally the photon will be more compressed along the direction of the gravitational gradient. It may be that the lateral stretching/compression which happens affects the amplitude of the wave while the stretching/compression along the length of a photon (although at the speed of light, one would expect a photon to be contracted to 0 length, but it may be that this length contraction doesn’t apply as much as the time it takes – since light is emitted in a wave the start and end of the wave happen at different times, so the overall length of a photon depends on the amount of time it took to emit it.

Any displacement that occurs is persistent and never actually disappears. The space between galaxies across the universe is cumulatively stretched by all of the galaxies that exist. Light which passes through this space is progressively red shifted since the space is effectively more and more stretched from the point of emission until the point of reception. We only see photons that do not collide/interact with something along the way. At one point I did a random source of displacements of various sizes to see what the cumulative effect might be.

A green and blue grid with white dots

Description automatically generated  
Figure G-2 : An example of a bunch of displacements of space scattered around. This makes for a fairly homogeneous expansion of space.

I later turned it into a more algorithmic demonstration:

Figure G-3: Progressive expansion with a geometric distribution. Showing how space has definitive cumulative expansion.

As more and more sources of displacement are passed, the space is stretched more and more. But even this is not actually so obvious, since all of the displacements along the bottom row also shove the space to the left, which makes it look further to the left… until they are all visible, then the right edge is somewhat stretched to the right (mostly visible in the blue light geodesics).

The basic math is just where D is the displacement. This could be negative to test a negative curvature, but in experimentation, a negative curvature, as it is assumed space currently has around massive objects, would mean that a black hole would block out an arc of the light behind it, and there would be space missing; though hypothetically it could be a pocket into a imaginary 3 dimensions or an additional 3 dimensions beyond X,Y, and Z.

This calculation is really a very one-dimensional sort of calculation, since it’s just a radial offset of a distance from its original position. The is just the distance from a point of displacement to some point in space, and the displacement might as well be . The summation of multiple points of displacement must also be done such that the closest point of displacement to the point is applied last. This allows space to flow over a displacement, without being counter-displaced by the last displacement. Algorithmically, just maintain 1 closest displacement, until a closer displacement is found, and then replace the closest with the new closest, then after all other displacements have been applied, apply the closest.

## On Curvature

I had investigated parallel transport curvature on a surface for a while, and setup [this curvature explorer demo](https://d3x0r.github.io/STFRPhysics/3d/indexSphereMap2.html). It takes 100 steps of some length around a curved surface and then turns a specified angle 5 times. I also included taking one step, turning by a fixed amount, and then taking another step for 100 steps. This was to compare what taking a long chain of 100 step and turn to the step-turn result ending up back at the pole (or at some point on the sphere).

The curvature of the sphere initially starts at very near 0, so it is basically like walking on a plane, the curvature can go up quite high, such that you can walk all the way around back to the pole before turning, or that it might only take one turn to get back to the starting pole by going 180 degrees around the sphere to its opposite pole.

The 3D rotation vectors are plotted too, and the difference in the Y direction might be compared as the Ricci Tensor… (might as in, it’s something like that but not exactly).

I realized that as curvature increased more and more (as one might expect for a black hole), that really the radius was just tighter, and effectively would be somewhat meaningless. The universe as far as we can see IS flat, but space is locally curved. At that point, I dug deeper into the Einstein Field Equations, to see what they would effectively generate, and found they simplified to just adding a 4th dimension to the length; although, it’s not really a 4th dimension, it’s just a force that is otherwise outside of what we think of as 3D space that photons travel through, but still within the 3 dimensions of space.

  
Figure G-4: Comparison graph of positive curvature (on the left), and negative curvature (on the right). Positive curvature inserts volume into space, while negative curvature would subtract a volume of space.

## Gravity and Time Dilation (Contraction)

The time dilation caused by gravity is the same as travelling at the escape velocity from that gravity well. Since time contraction is caused by a clock having to cover more space in a certain time than it would if it was stationary, this also gives how much space is stretched at a level in a gravitational well.

# Appendix H (Changelog)