

(A) and (B) represent the same physical process.  
There is a Galilean transformation taking (A) to (B)

Special category: boosts

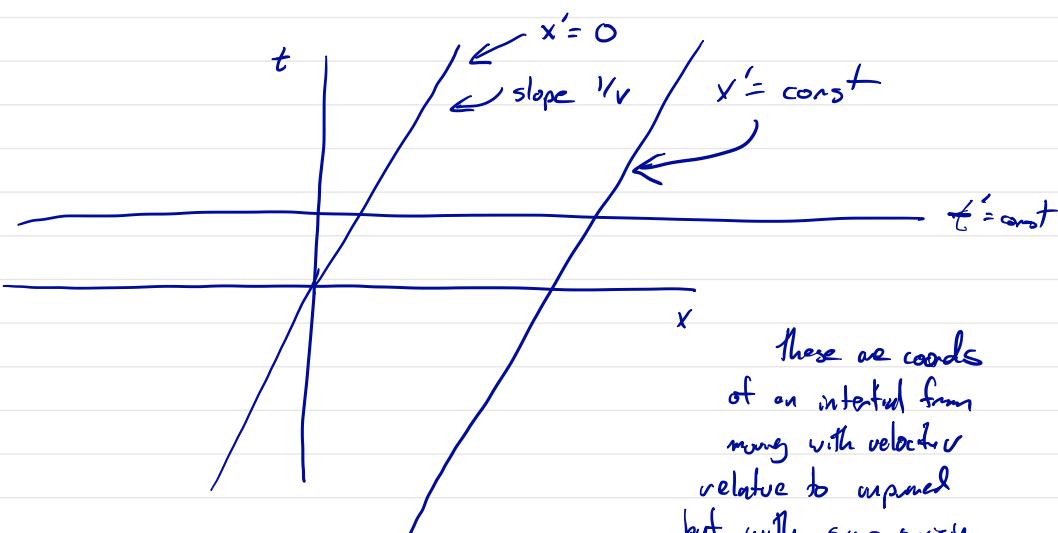
$$A = I$$

$$y_0 = 0, t_0 = 0 \quad \vec{v} = (v, 0, 0)$$

$$t = t'$$

$$x = x' + vt' = x' + vt$$

$$t = \frac{1}{v} x$$



These are coords  
of an interval from  
moving with velocity  $v$   
relative to unprimed  
but with same origin.

## Other special categories

Translations:  $(t, x) \mapsto (t + t_0, x + x_0)$

Spacial rotations:  $(t, x) \mapsto (t, Hx)$ .

Every Galilean transformation is a composition of these three,  
in the sense that any given is a composition of a rotation  
and a translation.

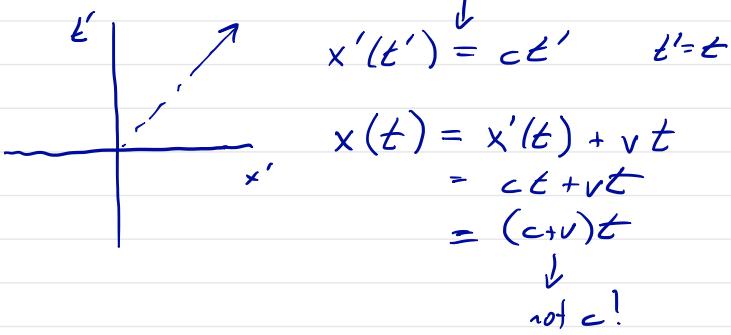
Alas, the Galilean picture is not the universe we live in.

Observed fact: the speed of light is the same for all observers. Contradicts Galilean relativity

$c = \text{speed of light}$ , particle traveling with speed  $c$

$$x' \quad | \quad x' \quad \downarrow \quad x'(t') = ct' \quad t' = t$$

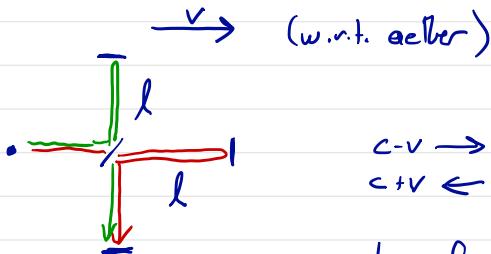
in pos.  $x'$   
distr.



How? Michelson - Morley '89

Principle: Electromagnetic waves are waves in something: aether

Earth is moving with respect to aether.



$\xrightarrow{v}$  (w.r.t. aether)

$c-v \rightarrow$   
 $c+v \leftarrow$

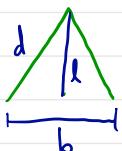
time for red out and back

$$\frac{l}{c+v} + \frac{l}{c-v} = \frac{2cl}{c^2-v^2}$$

$$= \frac{2l}{c} \left[ \frac{1}{1-\left(\frac{v}{c}\right)^2} \right]$$

$$= \frac{2l}{c} \left[ 1 + \left(\frac{v}{c}\right)^2 + O\left(\left(\frac{v}{c}\right)^4\right) \right]$$

Green: in rest-frame of aether



Time for one leg:  $\frac{d}{c}$

Time for both legs  $\frac{2d}{c}$

Distance of b:  $\frac{2d}{c} \cdot v = 2d \left(\frac{v}{c}\right)$

$$d^2 = l^2 + d^2 \left(\frac{v^2}{c^2}\right)$$

$$d^2 \left[ 1 - \left(\frac{v}{c}\right)^2 \right] = l^2$$

$$d \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{v}{c}\right)^2} = l$$

$$\frac{2d}{c} = \frac{2l}{c} \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{v}{c}\right)^2}}$$

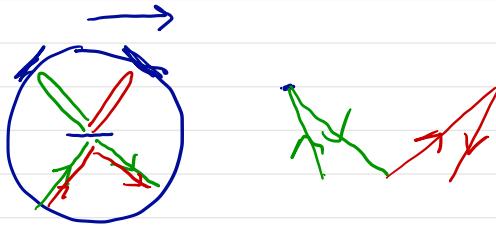
$$= \frac{2l}{c} \left[ 1 + \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{v}{c}\right)^2 + O\left(\left(\frac{v}{c}\right)^4\right) \right]$$

$$= \frac{2l}{c} + \frac{l}{c} \left(\frac{v}{c}\right)^2 + \frac{2l}{c} O\left(\left(\frac{v}{c}\right)^4\right)$$

Time difference: red - green =  $\frac{l}{c} \left(\frac{v}{c}\right)^2 + \frac{2l}{c} O\left(\left(\frac{v}{c}\right)^4\right)$

↑ small compared with

But



By symmetry, path lengths, and time are same.

Waves add constructively:

$$\sin(\omega t) + \sin(\omega t) = 2\sin(\omega t)$$

$$\sin(\omega t + \pi) + \sin(\omega t) = 0$$

lends to interference patterns

So the difference in travel time should cause different interference patterns for the two configurations, and should smoothly transition as apparatus is rotated.

Instead: pattern is independent of orientation of apparatus.

Conclusion:  $v = 0$  w.r.t. aether.

(Full Aether drag)

Inconsistent with two other experiments

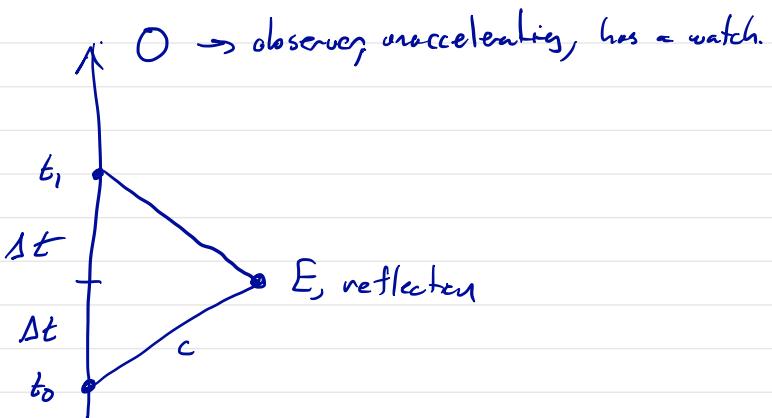
stellar aberration: suggests no aether drag

Fizeau: consistent with partial aether drag

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Way out: Light travels with velocity  $c$  for all material observes. (So in rest frame of experiment, no time difference as apparatus is rotated).

How to put coordinates on spacetime (radar method.)

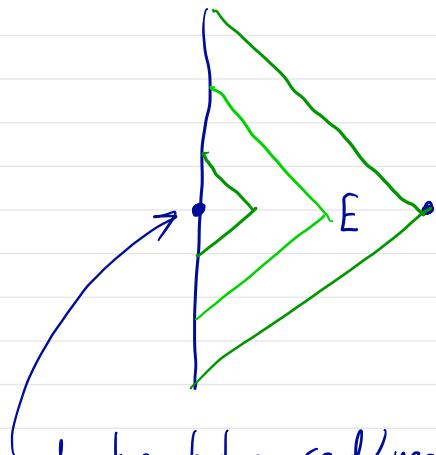


By symmetry  $E$  has time coordinate  $\frac{t_0 + t_1}{2}$ .

How far away?  $t_1 - t_0 = 2\Delta t$

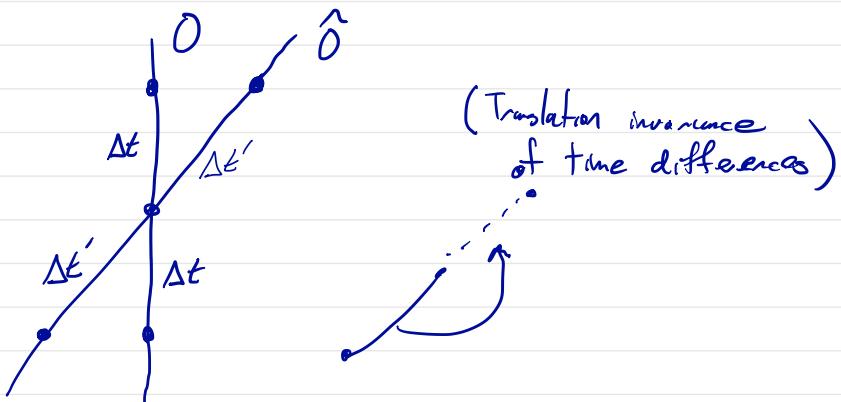
$$\Delta x = c \Delta t = \frac{t_1 - t_0}{2} c$$

What are events simultaneous with E?

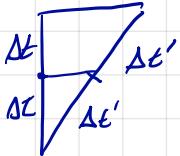


midway time between send/receive is the same.

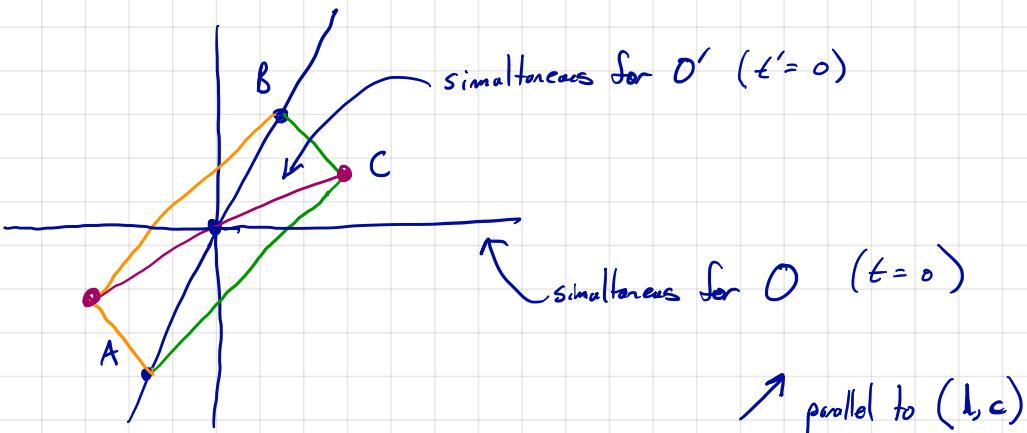
Now consider  $O'$  traveling with velocity  $v$  relative to  $O$



I



Now suppose  $O'$  does radar:



$$\text{For } O: \quad A = (-\Delta t, -v \Delta t)$$
$$B = (\Delta t, v \Delta t)$$

$$C = A + \lambda_A (1, c)$$
$$= B + \lambda_B (1, -c)$$

$$\begin{aligned} -\Delta t + \lambda_A &= \Delta t + \lambda_B \Rightarrow \lambda_A - \lambda_B = 2\Delta t \\ -v\Delta t + \lambda_A c &= v\Delta t - \lambda_B c = (\lambda_A + \lambda_B)c = 2v\Delta t \end{aligned}$$

OMIT

$$\lambda_A + \lambda_B = 2\left(\frac{v}{c}\right)\Delta t$$

Add:  $2\lambda_A = 2\Delta t \left[ 1 + \left(\frac{v}{c}\right) \right]$

$$\lambda_A = \Delta t \left[ 1 + \left(\frac{v}{c}\right) \right]$$

$$\lambda_B = \lambda_A - 2\Delta t = \Delta t \left[ -1 + \left(\frac{v}{c}\right) \right]$$

$$C = (-\Delta t, -v\Delta t) + \Delta t \left[ 1 + \left(\frac{v}{c}\right) \right] (1, c)$$

$$= \left( \Delta t \left(\frac{v}{c}\right), \Delta t \right)$$



via algebra.

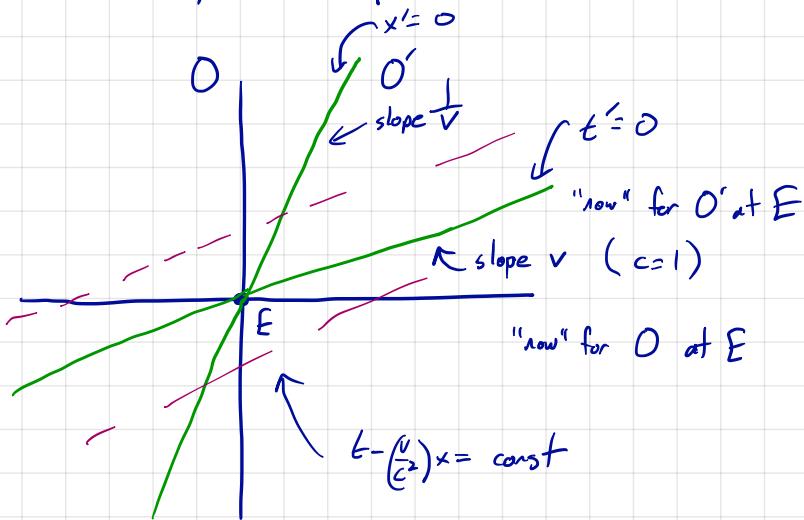
But  $C$  is on  $t' = 0$ .

I.e.  $C$  has  $t' = 0 \Leftrightarrow C = \Delta t \left[ \left(\frac{v}{c}\right), c \right]$  for some  $\Delta t$ .

$C = (t, x)$ , on  $t' = 0 \Leftrightarrow -ct + \left(\frac{v}{c}\right)x = 0$

$$\text{i.e. } t = \left(\frac{v}{c^2}\right)x$$

It is handy to draw pictures with units  $c=1$ .

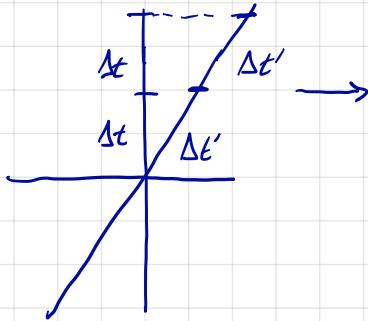


Repeat at different spots on  $O'$ 's world line and get

$$t - \left(\frac{v}{c^2}\right)x = \text{const} \Leftrightarrow t' = \text{const}$$

$$t' = f(t - \left(\frac{v}{c^2}\right)x)$$

What's  $f$ ?



$$\Delta t' = \alpha \Delta t \quad \text{when } x' = 0 \quad (\text{i.e. } x = vt)$$

$$t' = \alpha t \quad \text{when } x' = 0$$

$$t' = f\left(t - \frac{v}{c^2}x\right)$$

$$\alpha t = f\left(t \underbrace{\left(1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}\right)}_s\right) \quad [x = vt]$$

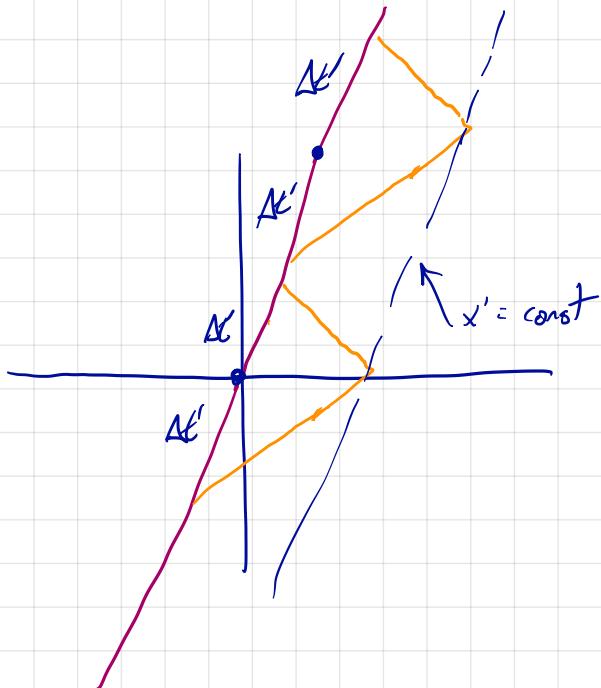
$$\frac{\alpha s}{1 - \left(\frac{v}{c}\right)^2} = f(s)$$

I.e. we've identified  $f$  up to  $\alpha$ .

$$f(s) = \gamma s \quad \text{for some } \gamma = \frac{\alpha}{1 - \left(\frac{v}{c}\right)^2}$$

$$t' = \gamma \left[ t - \frac{v}{c^2}x \right]$$

Similarly,  $x'$  is constant on lines parallel to  $x=vt$



$$x' = g(x - vt)$$

Value of  $x'$  is determined from value when  $t'=0$ .



$$t = \frac{v}{c^2} x$$

$$x' = g\left(x\left(1 - \left(\frac{v}{c}\right)^2\right)\right)$$

on the line  $t'=0$ .

Claim:  $x' = \beta x$  on line  $t'=0$  for some  $\beta$ .

Assuming this, since  $t'=0 \Leftrightarrow t - \frac{v}{c^2} x = 0$

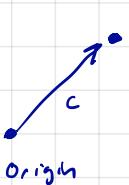
$$\beta x = x' = g\left(x - vt\right) = g\left(x\left(1 - \left(\frac{v}{c}\right)^2\right)\right)$$

$$\Rightarrow g(s) = \frac{\beta}{1 - \left(\frac{v}{c}\right)^2} s$$

$\hat{\delta}$  for now.

I.e.  $x' = \gamma(x - vt) = \hat{\gamma}(x - vt)$

Moreover:  $\hat{\gamma} = \gamma$

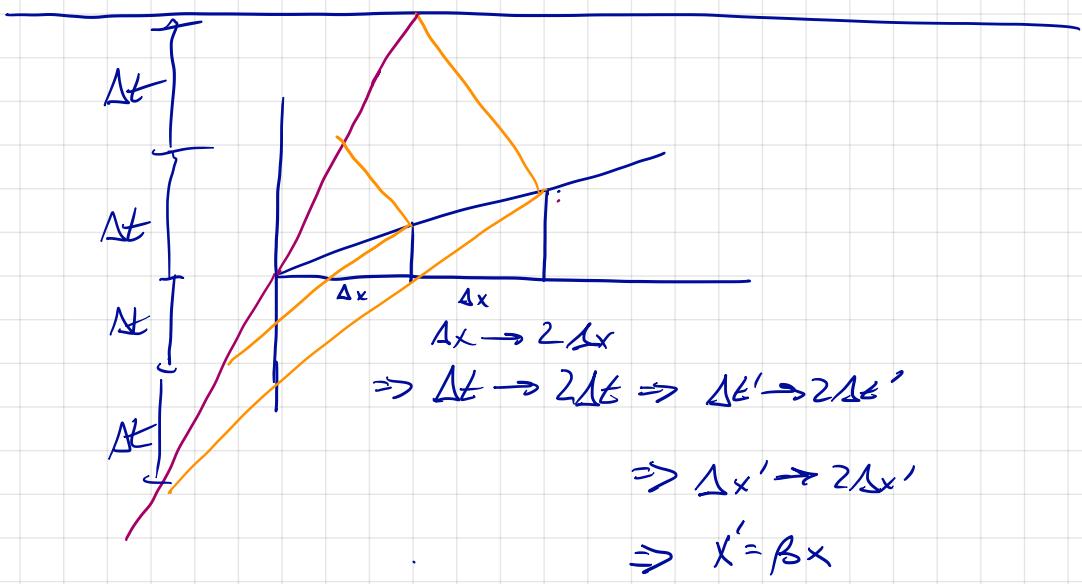


$(t, ct)$  O-coords  
 $(t', ct')$   $O'$ -coords

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

$$\begin{aligned} x' &= \hat{\gamma}(x - vt) = \hat{\gamma}(ct - vt) \\ &= \hat{\gamma}ct(1 - \frac{v}{c}) \end{aligned}$$

$$x' = ct' \Rightarrow \hat{\gamma} = \gamma.$$



What's the value of  $\gamma$ ?

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

$$t' = \gamma(t - \frac{v}{c}x)$$

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

$$t = \gamma'(x' + vt')$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} t' \\ x' \end{pmatrix} = \gamma \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -\frac{v}{c} \\ -v & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} t \\ x \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} t' \\ x' \end{pmatrix} = \gamma' \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \frac{v}{c} \\ v & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} t \\ x \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} ct' \\ x' \end{pmatrix} = \gamma \begin{pmatrix} c & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -\frac{v}{c^2} \\ -v & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c^{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} ct \\ x \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \gamma \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -\frac{v}{c^2} \\ -v & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} ct \\ x \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} ct \\ x \end{pmatrix} = \gamma' \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \frac{v}{c^2} \\ \frac{v}{c^2} & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} ct' \\ x' \end{pmatrix}$$

$$I = \gamma \gamma' \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -\frac{v}{c^2} \\ -v & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \frac{v}{c^2} \\ \frac{v}{c^2} & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 - (\frac{v}{c})^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 - (\frac{v}{c})^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

Reasonable symmetry:  $\gamma$  depends on  $|v|$  only, so  $\gamma = \gamma'$

$$\gamma^2 = \frac{1}{1 - (\frac{v}{c})^2} \Rightarrow \gamma = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - (\frac{v}{c})^2}}$$

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