

# Announcements

- Problem 2 is now available!
  - due 02/02 @ 11:59pm
- Exploration paper 1 is also now available!

## Today:

- Einstein, special relativity, general relativity
- Time dilation

# Newton's concept of time

Time moves forward *continuously from past to future*

Time is completely *independent* from 3d space

*Everyone experiences time the same way*



Doctor Who  
“Blink”

Written:  
Steven Moffat

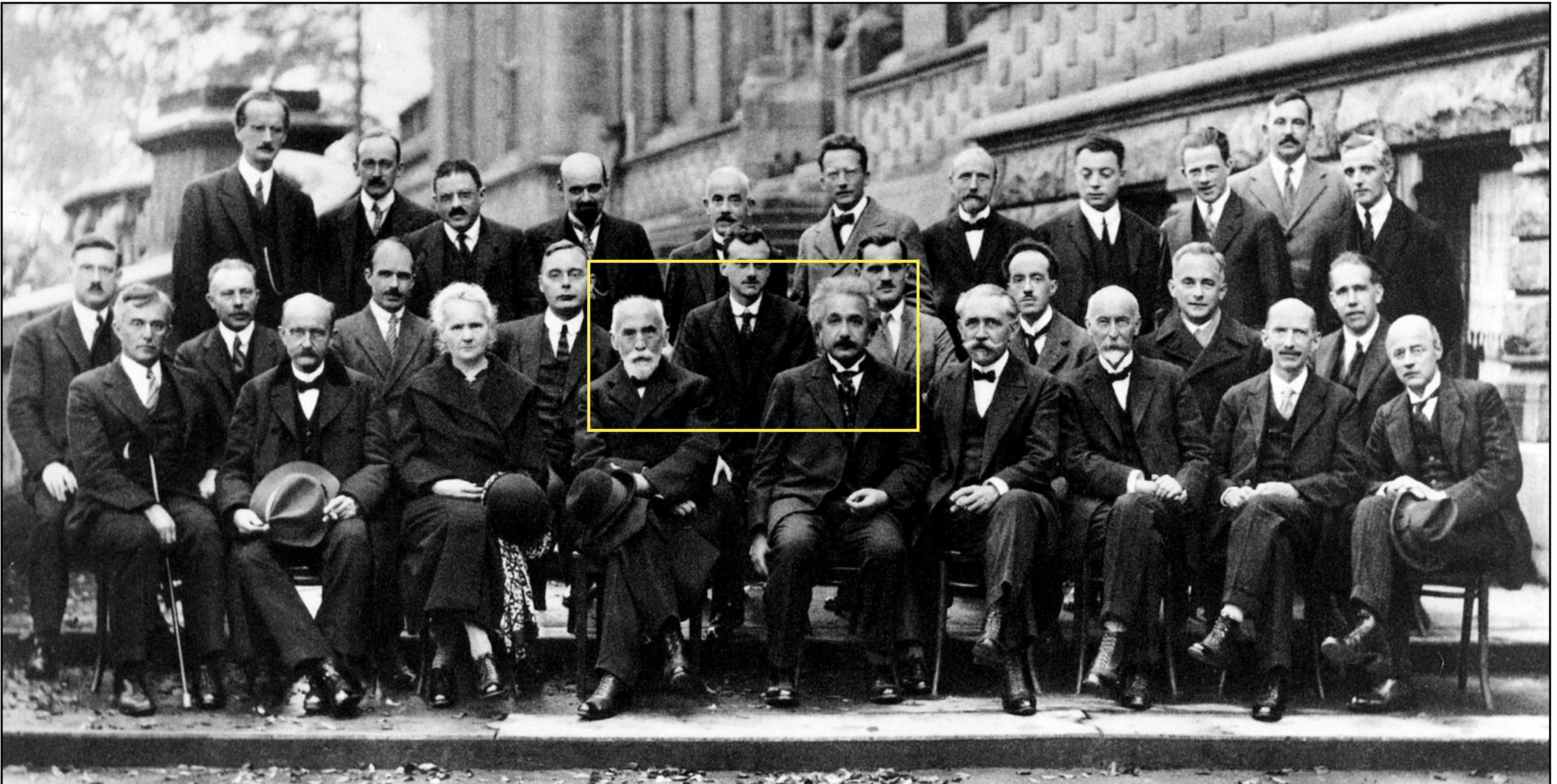
BBC (2007)

“It's bigger on the inside”



# The T.A.R.D.I.S. Time And Relative Dimension In Space

Doctor Who explores the concepts of time & time travel  
~ wibbly, wobbly, timey, wimey ~



Top row: A. Piccard, E. Henriot, P. Ehrenfest, E. Herzen, Th. De Donder, E. Schrödinger, J.E. Verschaffelt, W. Pauli, W. Heisenberg, R.H. Fowler, L. Brillouin;  
Middle row: P. Debye, M. Knudsen, W.L. Bragg, H.A. Kramers, P.A.M. Dirac, A.H. Compton, L. de Broglie, M. Born, N. Bohr;  
Bottom row: I. Langmuir, M. Planck, M. Curie, H.A. Lorentz, A. Einstein, P. Langevin, Ch. E. Guye, C.T.R. Wilson, O.W. Richardson

# Special relativity: 1905

The speed of light is constant in  
*all reference frames*

Time and space are described as a  
single 4-dimensional spacetime

$$\text{spacetime} = (x, y, z, c * t)$$

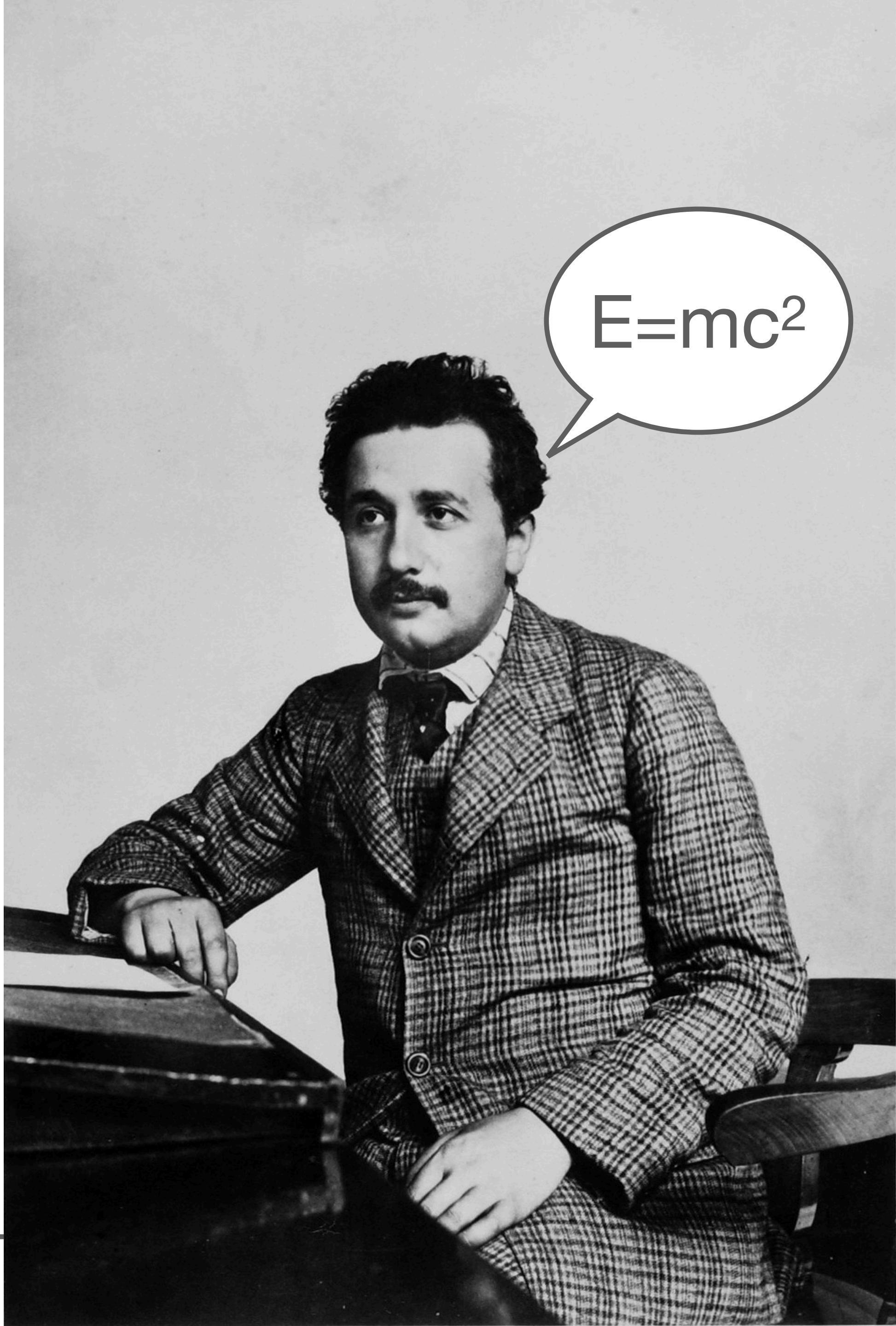


# Special relativity: 1905

The speed of light is constant in  
*all reference frames*

Time and space are described as a  
single 4-dimensional spacetime

Perception of space and time  
depends on relative motion

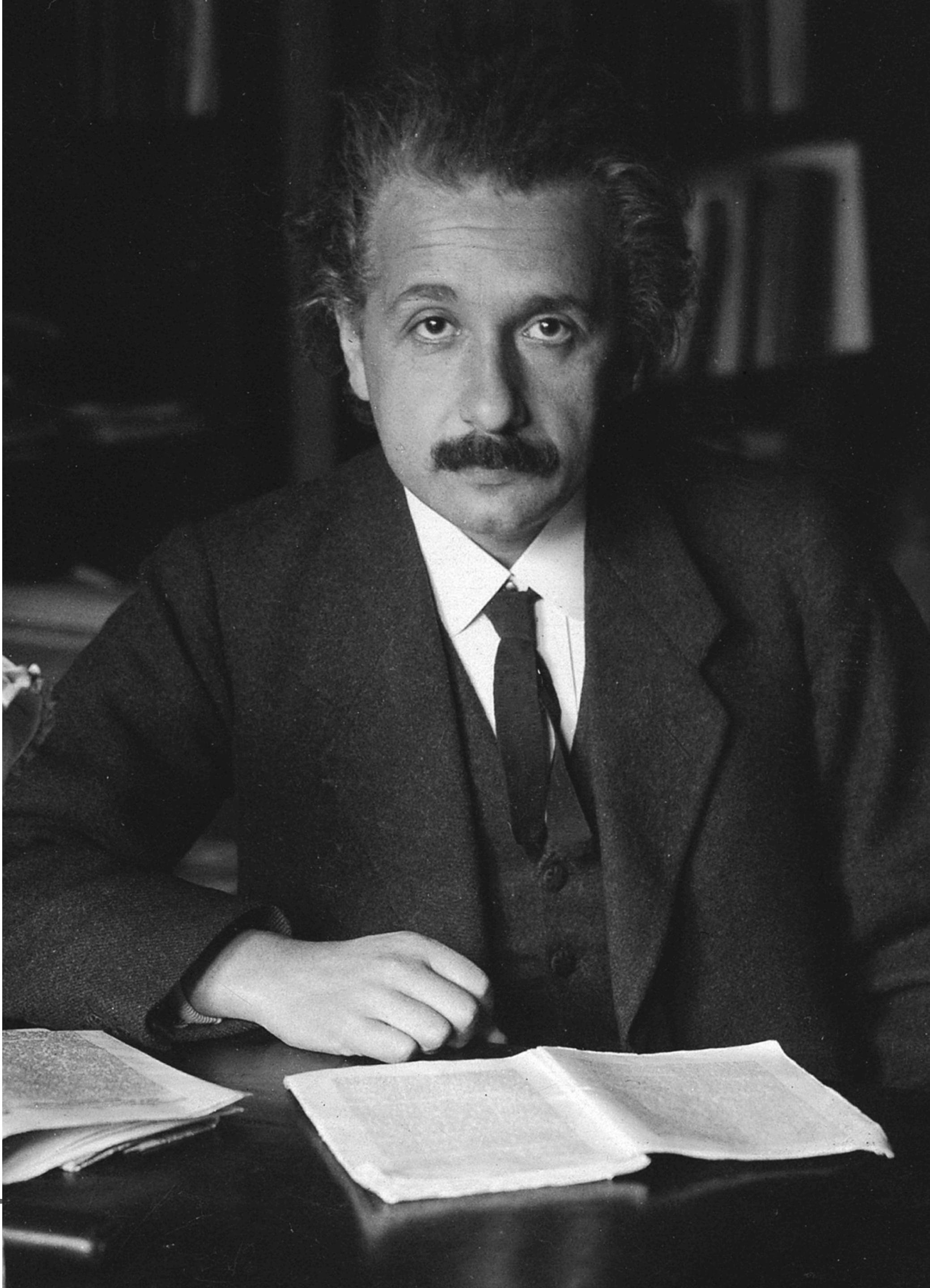


# General relativity: 1915

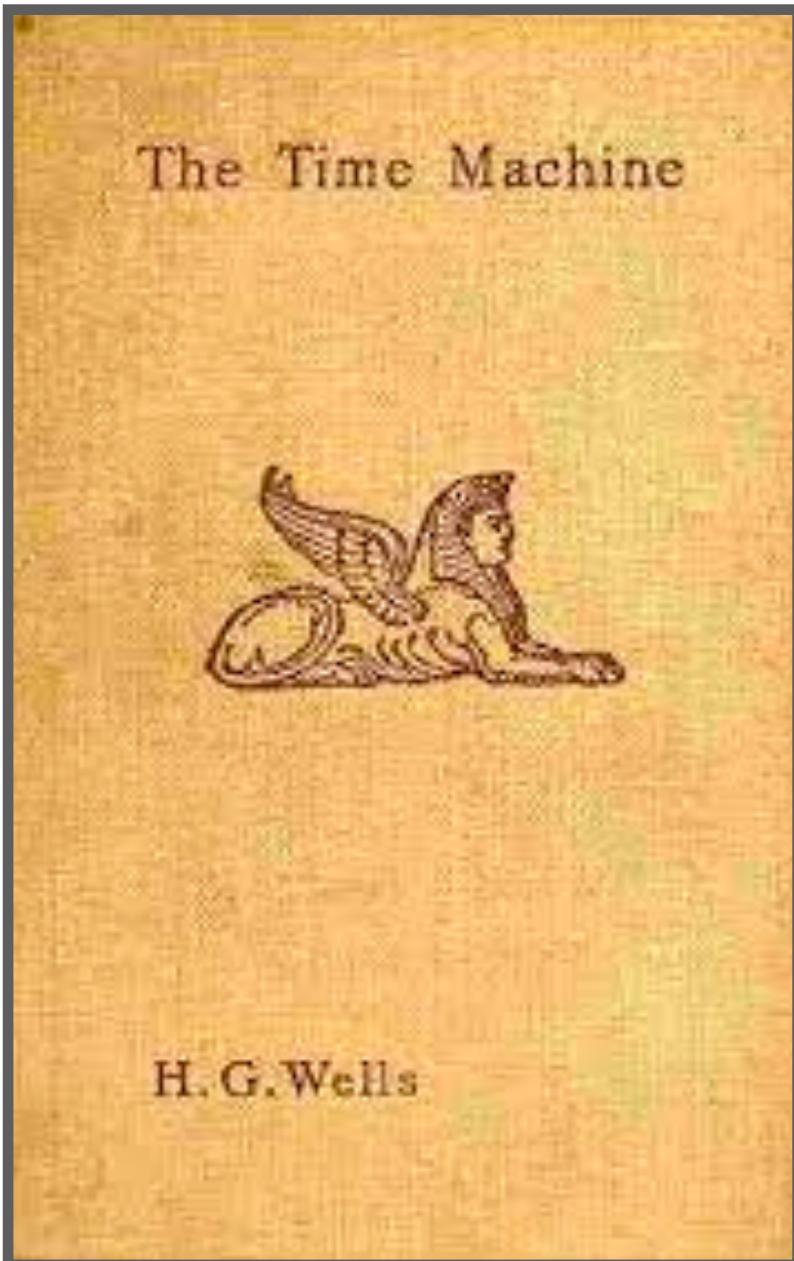
The speed of light is constant in  
*all reference frames*

Time and space are described as a  
single 4-dimensional spacetime that  
**move at the speed of light**

Gravity is the manifestation of mass  
distorting spacetime



# The Time Machine



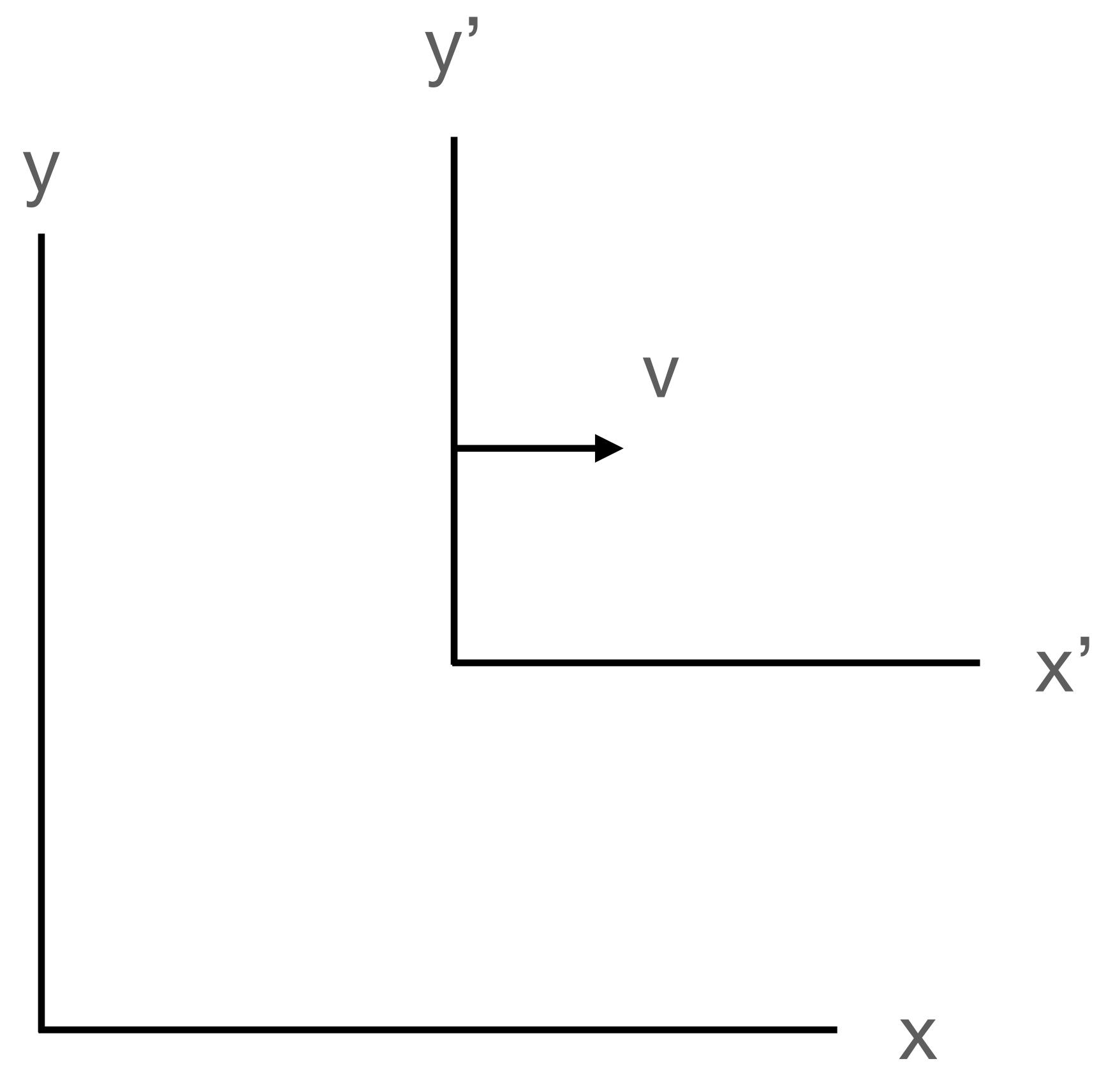
H.G. Wells

—  
published in 1895!

See page 26 in chapter 2 of  
the textbook for an excerpt!

## Special relativity:

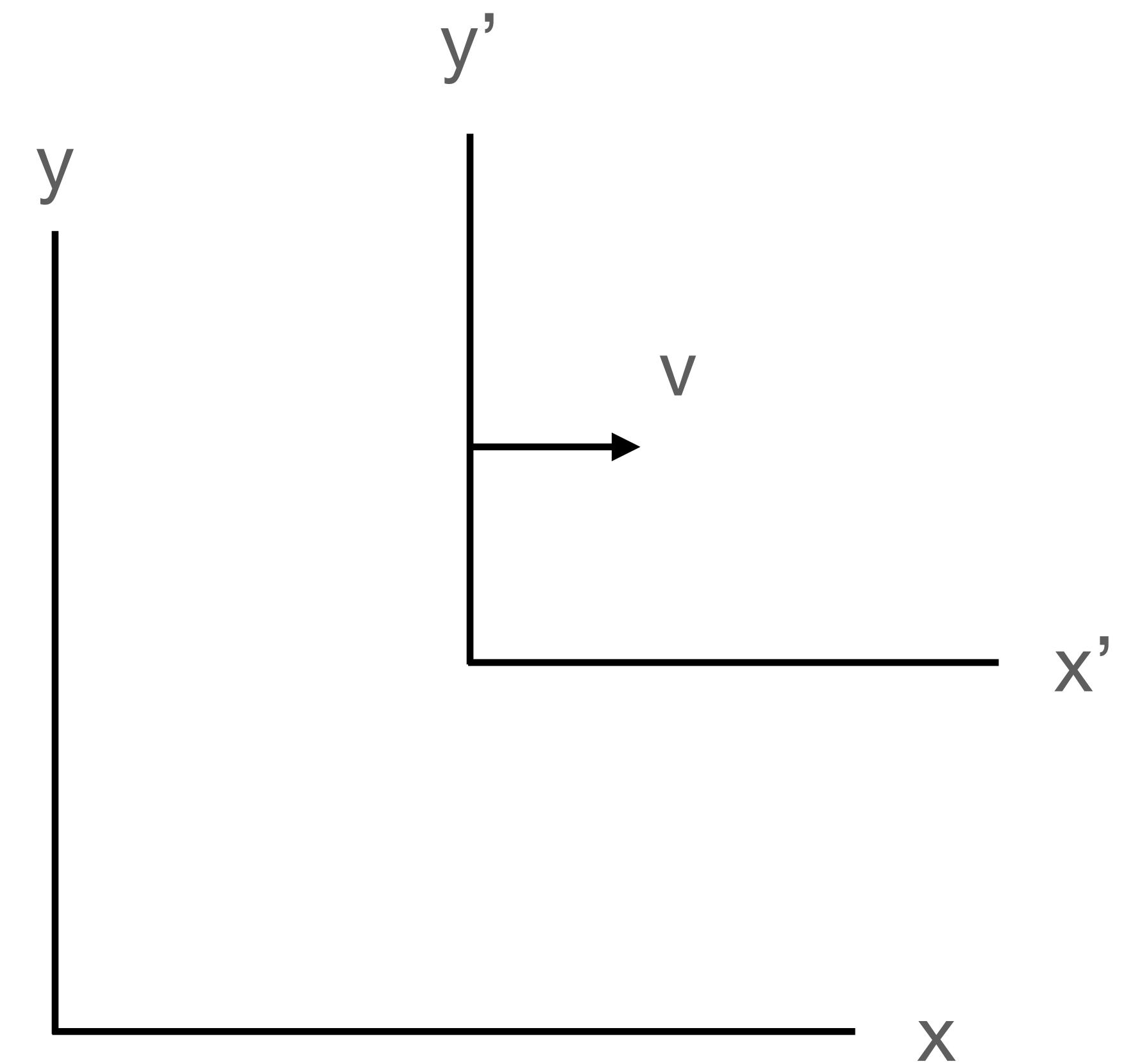
relative motion  
between reference  
frames introduces  
differences in how  
quickly time passes  
according to  
observers in each  
reference frame



## Time dilation

$$t = \frac{t'}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}}}$$

What can we say about time  
in each frame?



Time moves **faster** in rest frame; **slower** in moving frame

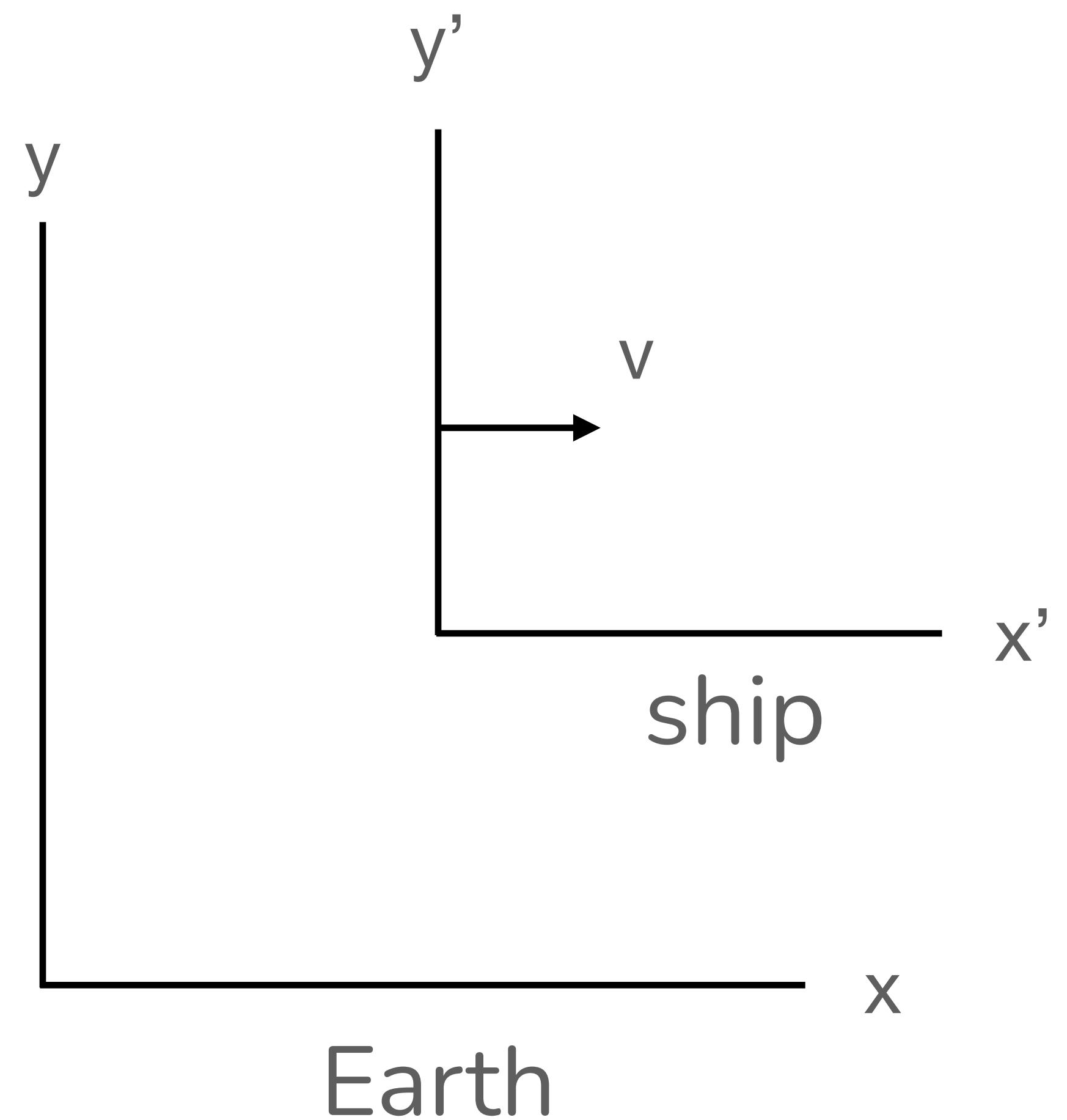


# Planet of the Apes

Directed:  
Franklin J. Schaffner

20th Century  
Fox (1968)

$$t = \frac{t'}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}}}$$

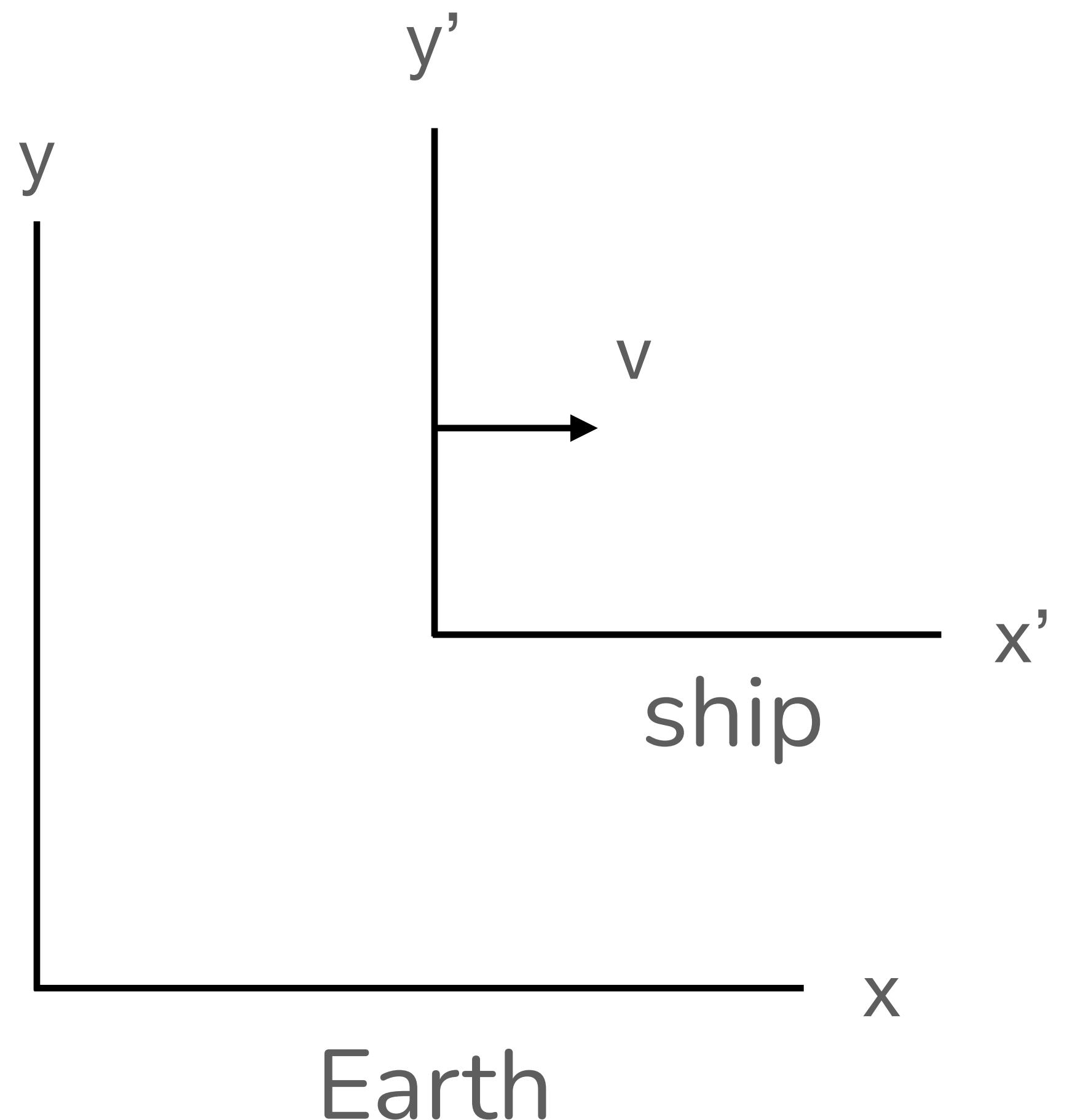


$$t = \frac{t'}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}}}$$

ship date: 07/14/1972

launch date: 01/14/1972

earth date: 03/24/2673

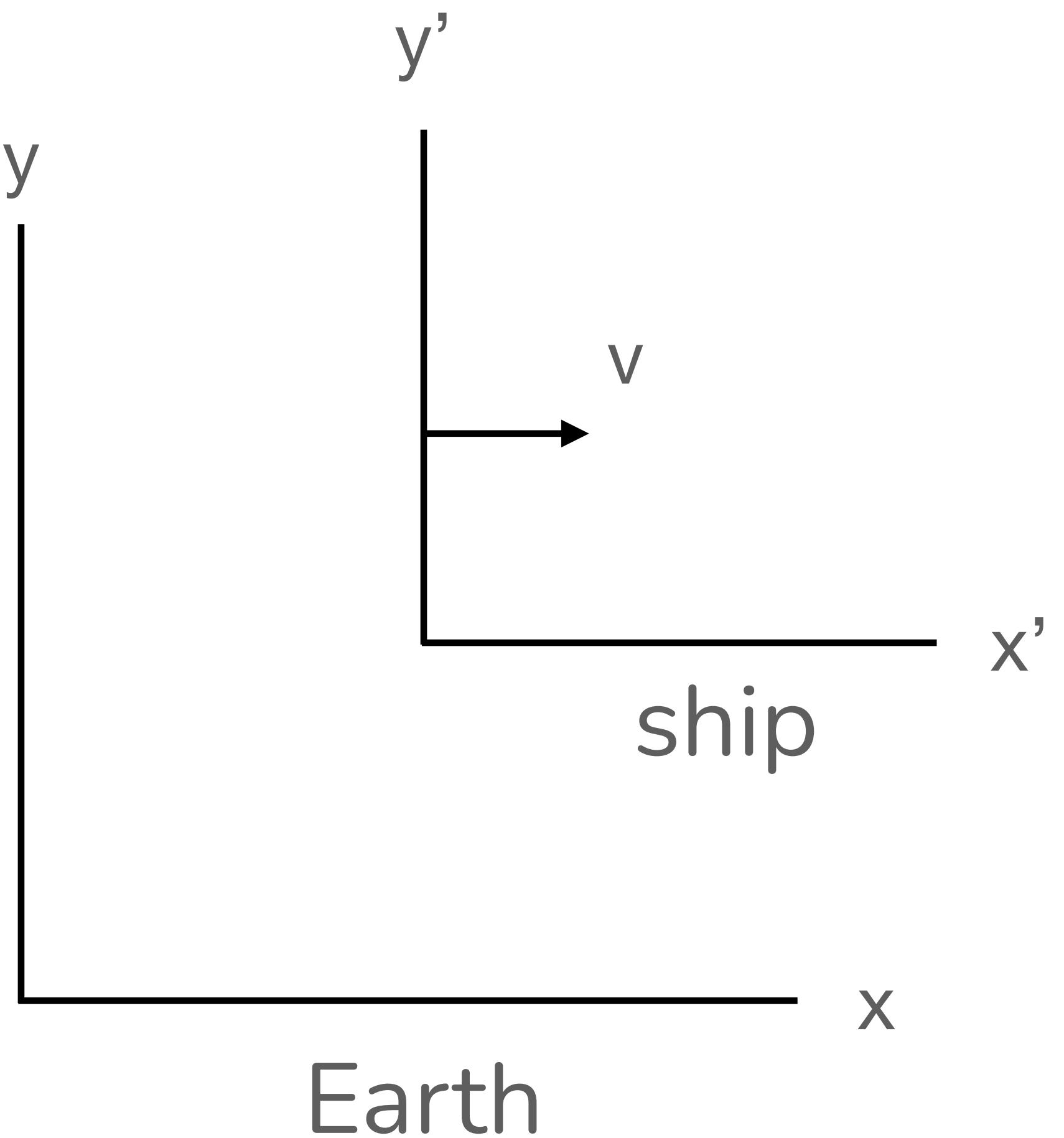


$$t = \frac{t'}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}}}$$

$t = 6 \text{ months} = 0.5 \text{ yr}$

$t' = 702 \text{ yr}$

So how fast was the  
ship traveling?



So how fast was the  
ship traveling?

$$t = \frac{t'}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}}}$$

$$\sqrt{1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}} = \frac{t'}{t}$$

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

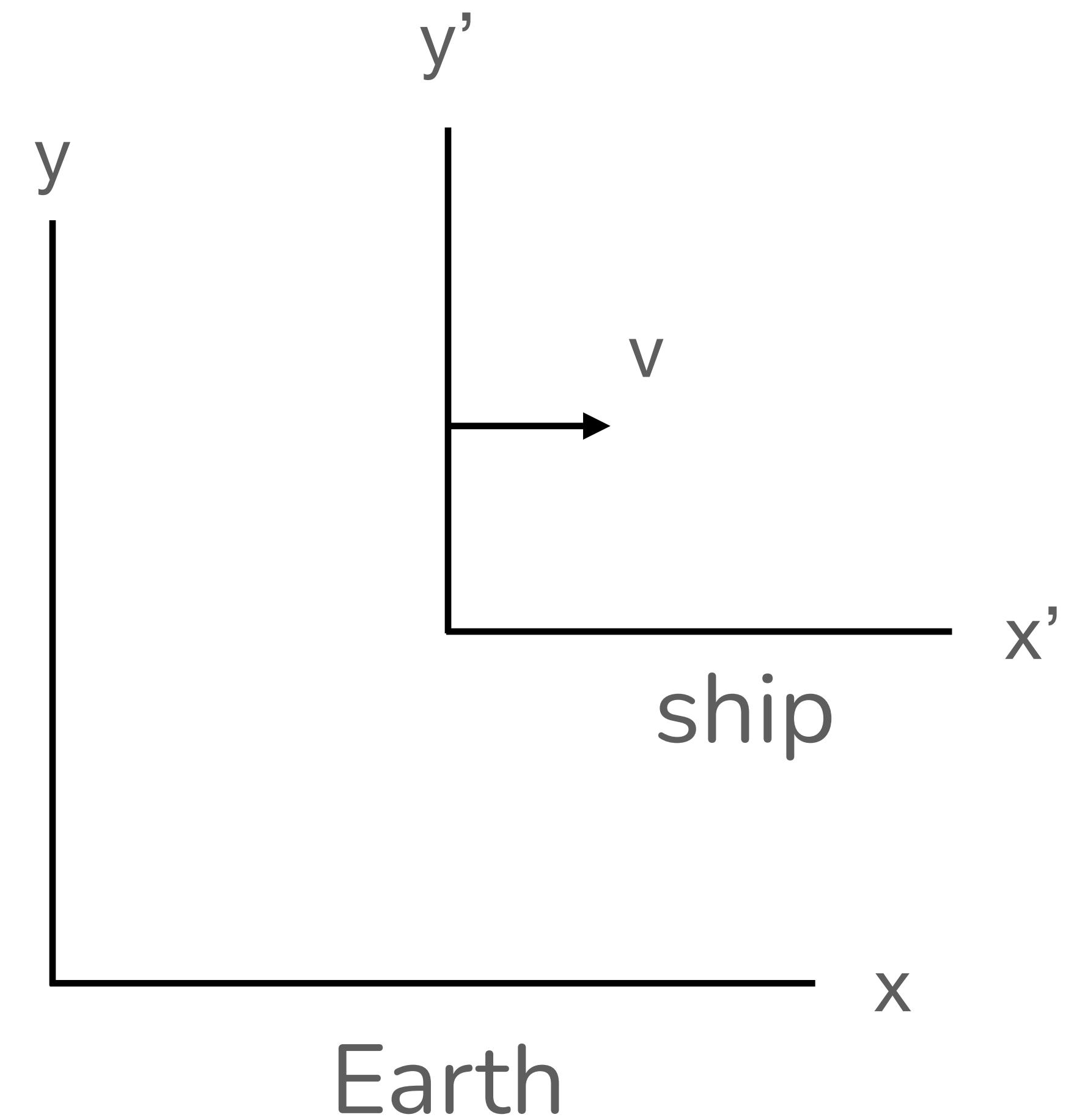
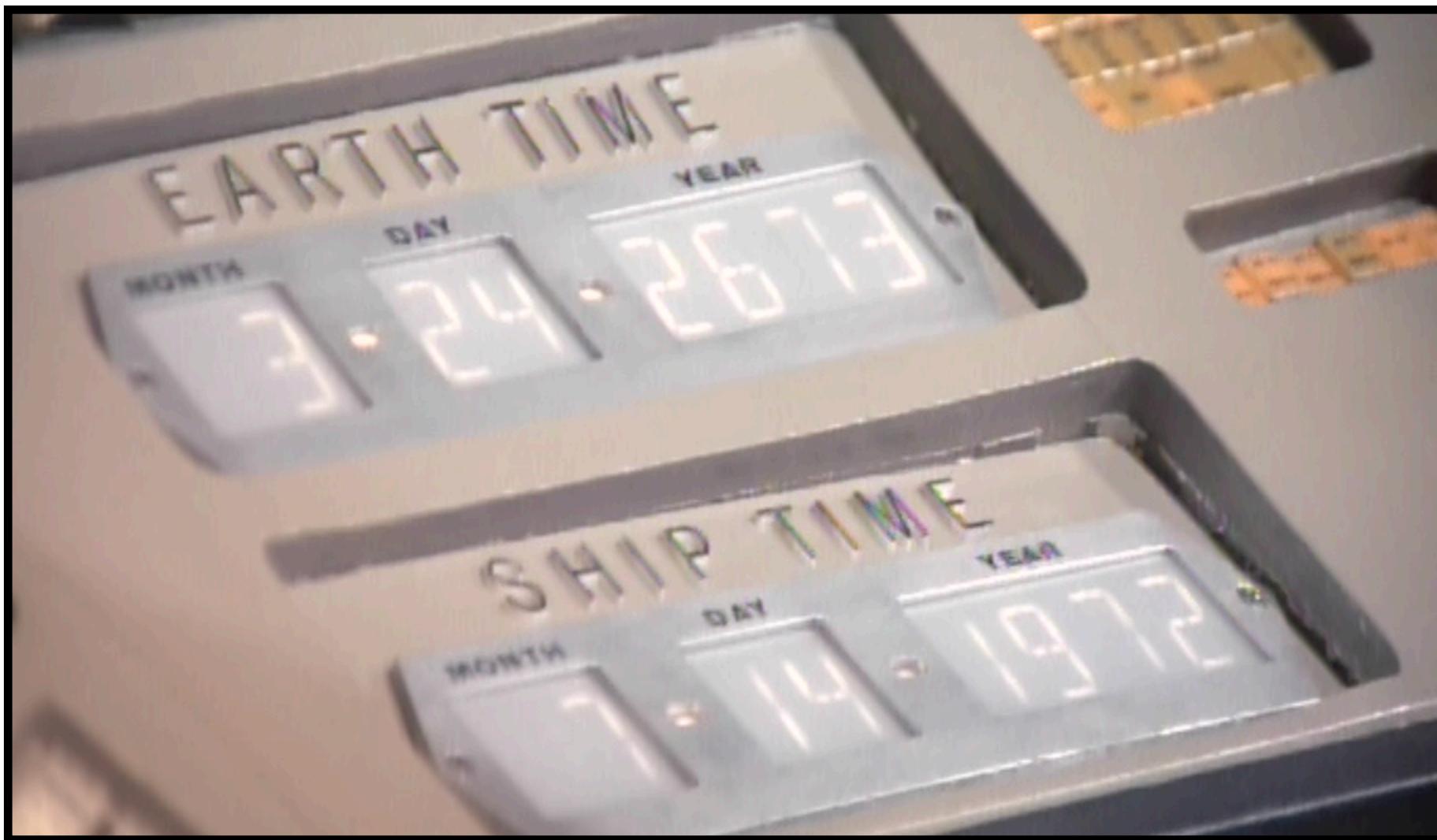
$$\frac{v^2}{c^2} = 1 - \left(\frac{t'}{t}\right)^2$$

$$\frac{v}{c} = \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{t'}{t}\right)^2}$$

$$\frac{v}{c} = \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{0.5 \text{ yr}}{702 \text{ yr}}\right)^2}$$

$$\frac{v}{c} = 0.999999746349$$

But wait! There was  
another time scaling  
shown in the film!

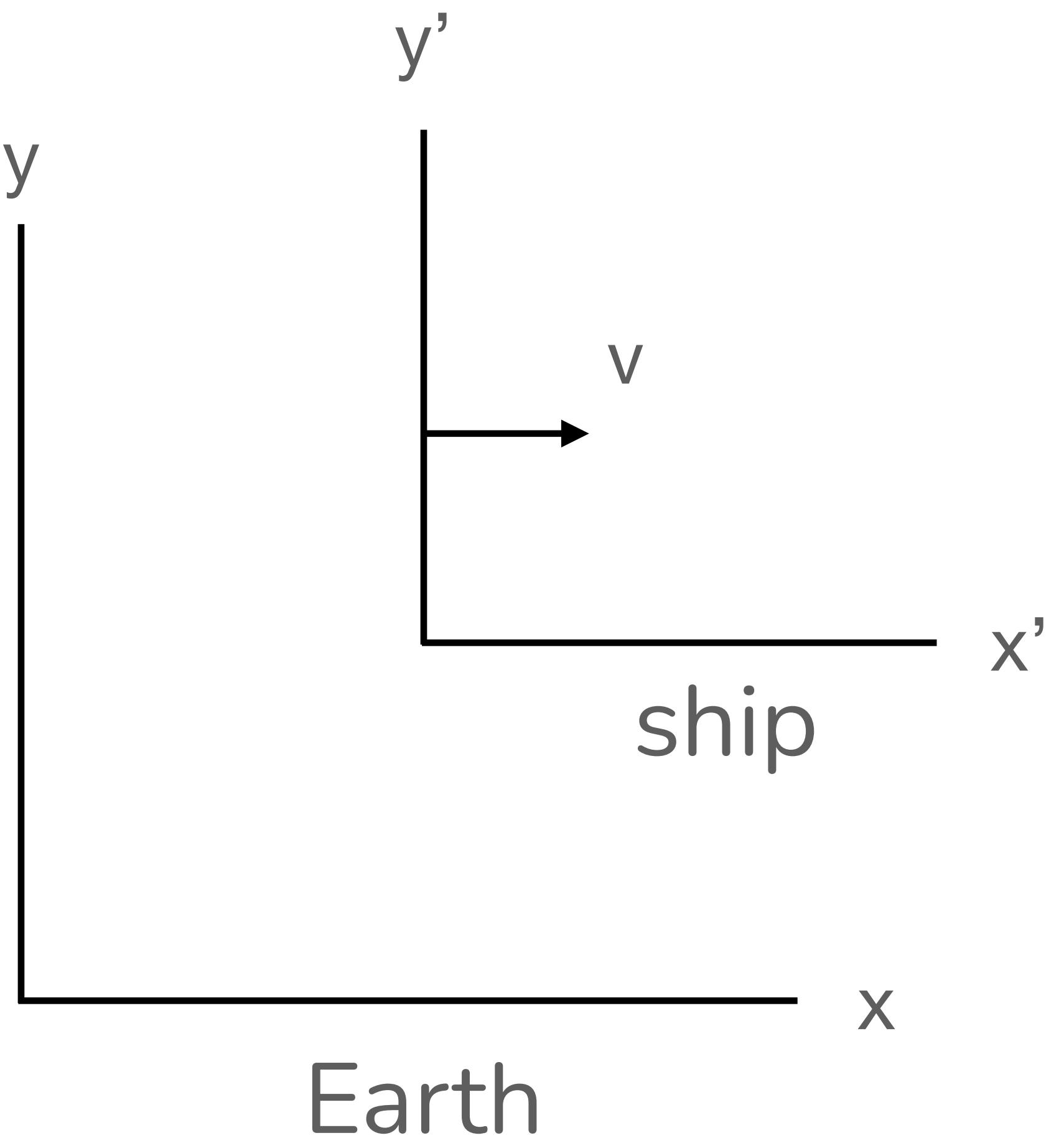


$$t = \frac{t'}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}}}$$

$$t = 3 \text{ days} = 259200 \text{ s}$$

$$t' = 90 \text{ s}$$

So how fast was the  
ship traveling?



So how fast was the  
ship traveling?

$$t = \frac{t'}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}}}$$

$$\sqrt{1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}} = \frac{t'}{t}$$

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

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

$$\frac{v}{c} = \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{t'}{t}\right)^2}$$

$$\frac{v}{c} = \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{0.5 \text{ yr}}{702 \text{ yr}}\right)^2}$$

$$\frac{v}{c} = 0.999999746349$$

So how fast was the  
ship traveling?

$$t = \frac{t'}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}}}$$

$$\sqrt{1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}} = \frac{t'}{t}$$

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

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

$$\frac{v}{c} = \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{t'}{t}\right)^2}$$

$$\frac{v}{c} = \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{90 \text{ s}}{259,200 \text{ s}}\right)^2}$$

$$\frac{v}{c} = 0.99999993972$$

$$\frac{v}{c} = 0.99999993972$$

speed during the clip

$$\frac{v}{c} = 0.999999746349$$

average ship speed

So what's the deal here??



There must have been acceleration!

Problem 2 is similar to this process but applied to the space station!

$$t = \frac{t'}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}}}$$

$$\sqrt{1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}} = \frac{t'}{t}$$

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

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

$$\frac{v}{c} = \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{t'}{t}\right)^2}$$

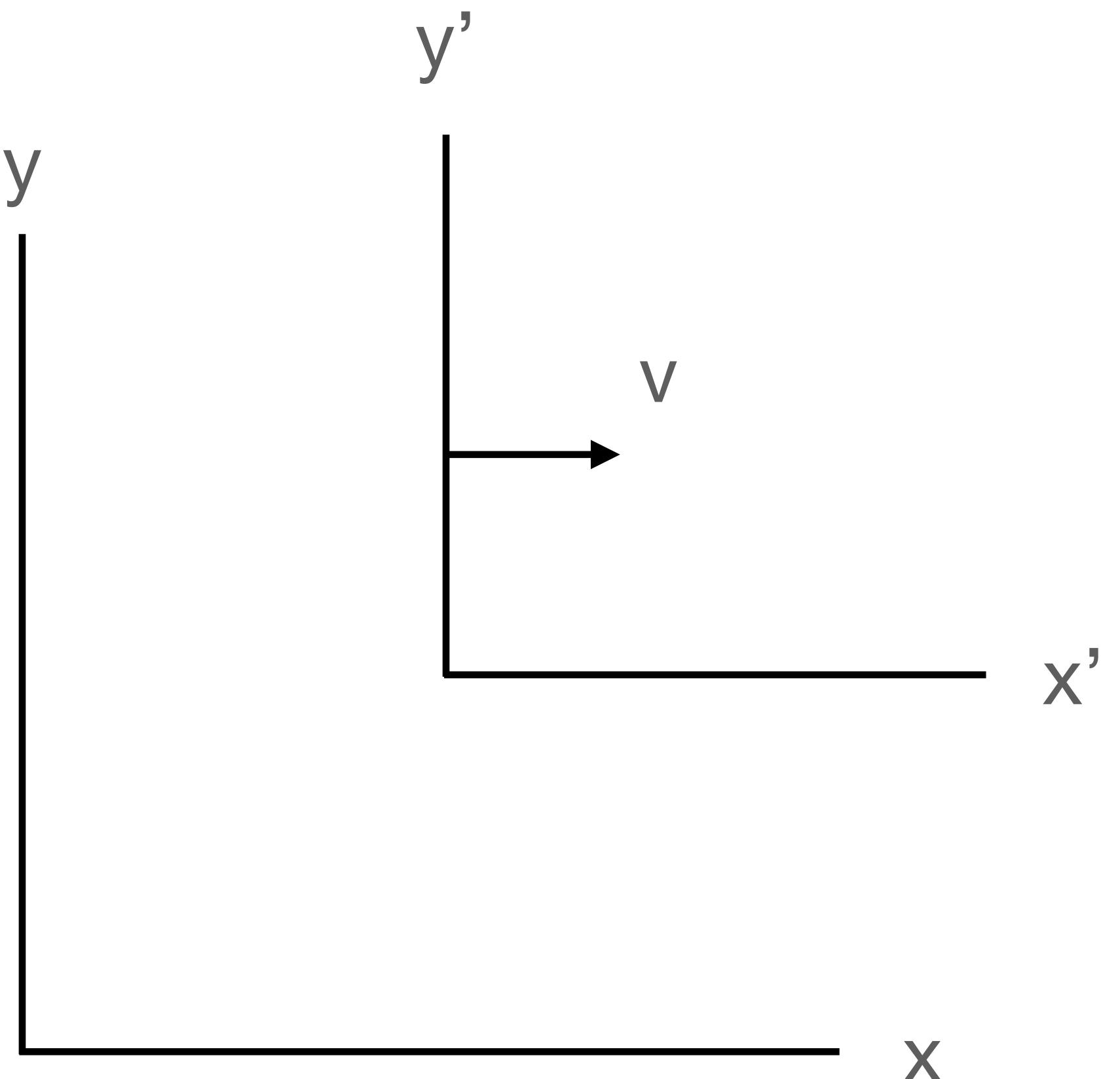
$$\frac{v}{c} = \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{90 \text{ s}}{259,200 \text{ s}}\right)^2}$$

$$\frac{v}{c} = 0.99999993972$$

$$t = \frac{t'}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}}}$$

What is the limiting speed  
in the moving frame?

What happens if  $v=c$ ?



**imaginary** time is not negative time  $\rightarrow$  no going back in time

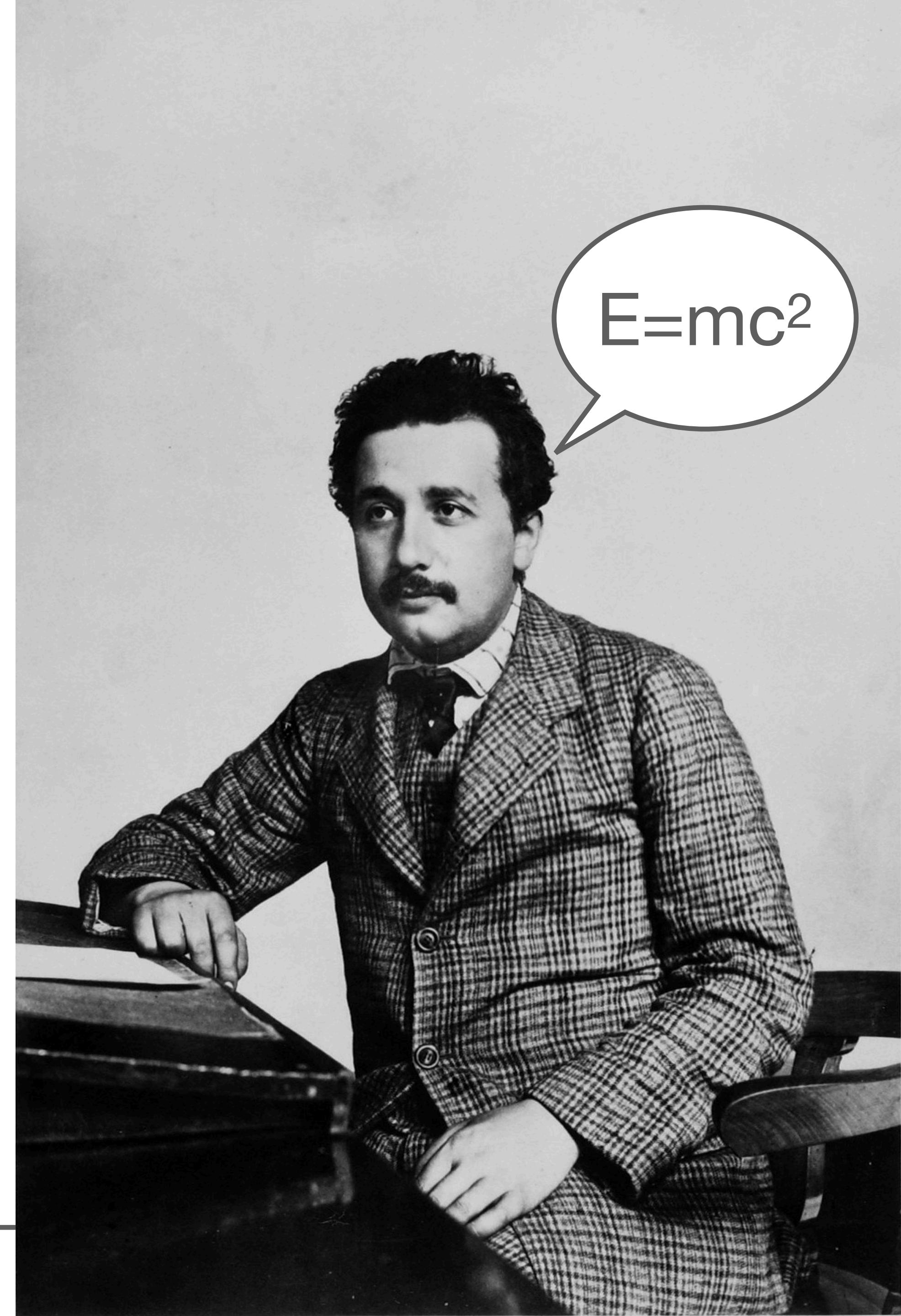
# Special relativity: 1905

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Nothing travels faster than  
the speed of light  
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Time and space are described as a  
single 4-dimensional spacetime

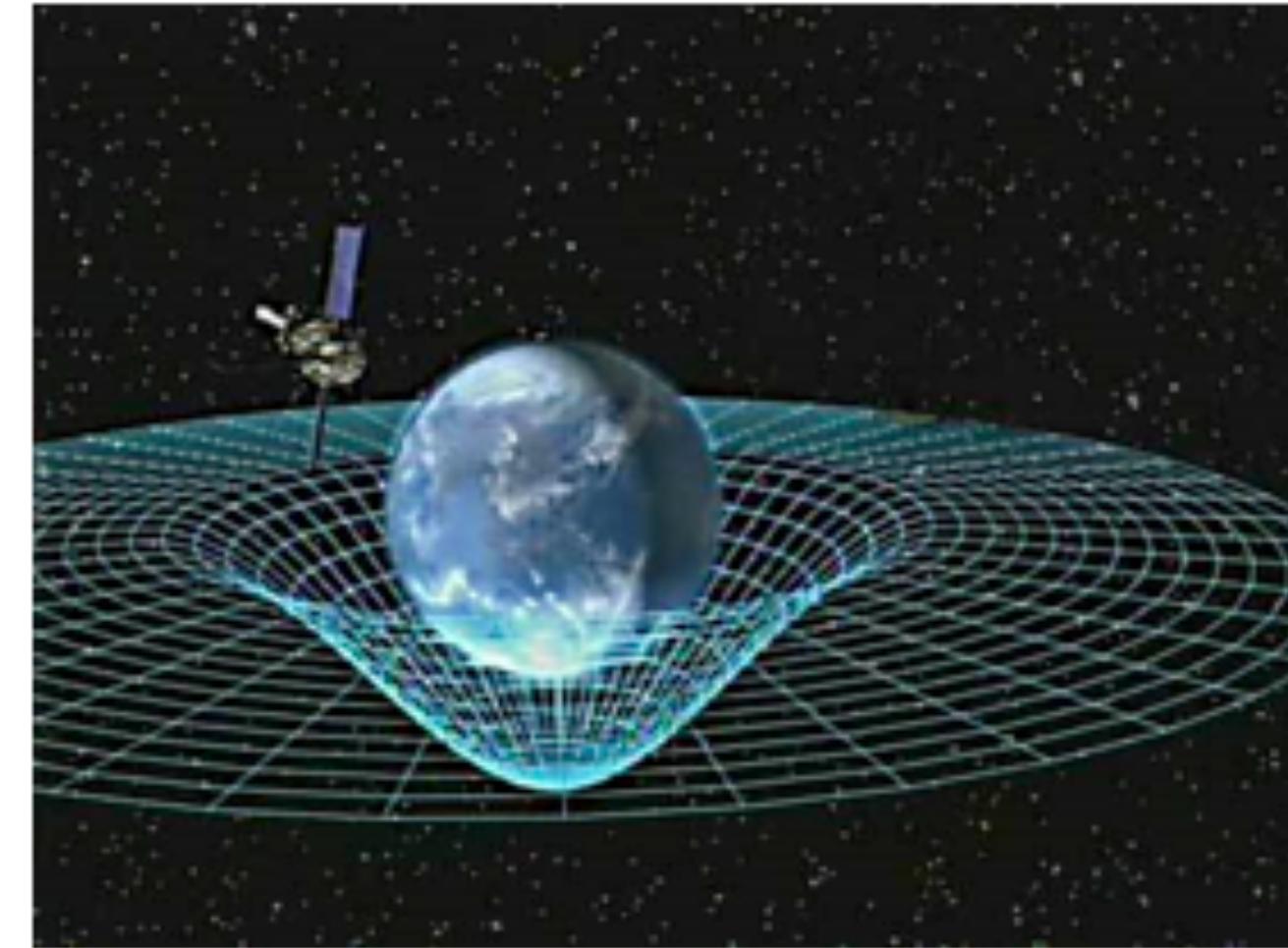
Perception of space and time  
depends on relative motion

Time moves slower in moving frames



## Next time:

- ▶ Continue relativity!
- ▶ Dive into general relativity
- ▶ Gravitational time dilation & GPS
- ▶ Gravitational waves & black holes



What is the nature of space and time?

## Reminder:

- Problem 2: now available and due Feb 2
- Exploration paper 1: now available and due Feb 7