Universal Specificity Investigation 8: Determining Which Frame is Universally Stationary

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Prior investigations into the theory of universal specificity (or specificity for short) found a proper conception of time missed in common practice. In addition, it was found that a universally stationary frame (USF) must exist; which led to the discovery that for any inertial reference frame the average effective speed of light, c_0, is less than or equal to c, and equal in all directions; which led to discovering the cause of total time dilation; which led to a total specific energy model complete with specific internal energy, specific kinetic energy and specific potential energy terms; which finally led to a relationship between specific energy and energy, and updating the total energy model to incorporate potential energy.

The focus of the next investigation is to circle back to one of the original questions: is there a way to objectively determine which inertial reference frame is the USF?

1. Universal Inertial Frame

A *universally stationary frame* (USF) is the only inertial reference frame that is still (no velocity) in the universe. There is such a frame for rotation, where it is easy to measure which frame has no angular velocity. A simple water in a buck experiment can tell you if the reference frame anchored to the bucket is rotating or not. If the bucket is rotating, then the surface of the water will create a bowl shape; otherwise, if it is not rotating, then the surface will be flat, as shown in Figure 1.

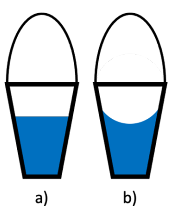

Figure 1. a) Non-rotating bucket of water. b) Rotating bucket of water.

A similar experiment cannot determine if a reference frame has velocity relative to the USF, as shown in Figure 2.

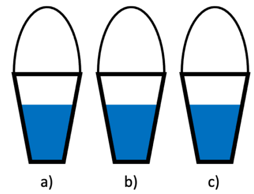

Figure 2. a) Universally stationary. b) Velocity is $0.5c$. c) Velocity is $0.\overline{9}c$.

Michelson and Morely tried (and failed) to determine the relative motion of earth with respect to the USF by measuring the difference in the velocity of light from the same source at different points in earth's orbit, but instead demonstrated the interesting fact that the speed of light measured in any inertial frame is constant [1], or at least the average relative speed of light is constant [2] (also see investigation 2). Something is special about translational velocity, as compared to rotational velocity, where any inertial frame at any translational velocity appears to be stationary, while frames with rotational velocity are immediately noticeable.

Several experiments have been devised [3] that might measure motion relative to the USF, given the correctness of different theories [2]. Our aim in this investigation, given the correctness of specificity, is to devise another experiment that can objectively measure motion relative to the USF.

To begin, you might have noticed a peculiarity about kinetic time dilation, which is that despite the base unit (or just unit for short) changes caused by work done, all pair-wise reference frames seem to agree on their respective relative velocities between each other. This is our first clue as to why translational velocity is special.

2. A Survey of Unit Changes

We know that the units of measurement change for space and time when work is done, but why not velocity? First it is important to know that any two observers always agree on their miscalibrated relative speed [4]. Velocity, being a ratio of a change in distance to a change in time gives us Equation (1).

$$|v_1| = |-v_2| \tag{1a}$$
$$\frac{dx_1}{dt_1} = \frac{dx_2}{dt_2} \tag{1b}$$
$$\frac{dt_2}{dt_1} = \frac{dx_1}{dx_2} \;\blacksquare \tag{1c}$$

Mind you, $\frac{dx_1}{dx_2}$ is not length contraction. If we are to use a laser to measure a remote object's velocity, then dx_1 is the measure of distance light appears to travel to the second frame and back (assuming that the speed of light is constant and c). Likewise, dx_2 is the measure of distance light appears to travel to the first frame and back. This ratio of apparent distance traveled to apparent duration of travel cancels any noticeable effect that a change in units might otherwise create. This is what makes velocity special. All attempts to date to measure motion relative to a USF has relied on propagating light in some novel fassion, e.g., the one way speed of light experiments [3][5], which have thus far proved incapable of detecting the USF. It is not difficult to see why such attempts have failed to detect the USF, since the only effect of being in an inertial reference frame different from the USF is a change of units caused by work done, so of course we ought to expect a failed detection if we use a measurement where the effect is nullified.

What is required to objectively measure the USF is to use a measurement that does not nullify the effect of being in a reference frame different from the USF. What is required is a means to observe the unit change caused by work done, so that we can calculate an object's velocity in the USF. Then we can relate that object's velocity to everything else using known methods.

3. How to Objectively Measure the Universally Stationary Frame

Experimenting with acceleration appears to be where we must first look to detect the USF, since relative observers do not agree on pairwise acceleration estimates [6]. In fact, if one takes a closer look at the bucket experiment, one notices that this test also involved acceleration. Rotational velocity might only correlate to the test result—rotational acceleration might be the cause.

We, therefore, need a similar test involving translational acceleration. Only two forms of translational acceleration that involve a unit change are known: kinetic and gravitational. Only gravitational acceleration ends up being useful.

A kinetic acceleration experiment might involve studying unit changes caused by accelerating a rocket to Alpha Centauri and back, like in the twins paradox setup. The problem with this experiment is that it would rely on remote measurements, which takes time and distance to make these kinds of measurements. The best form of remote measurement involves using photons, like LADAR, to make estimates of speed (via Doppler frequency shifts) and estimates of distance (via lap time of returns). Therefore, this experiment depends on the speed of light traveling for some time and distance, which nullifies the effects we are attempting to measure. This experiment, therefore, has to fail in detecting the USF.

A gravitational acceleration experiment, on the other hand, only has to rely on local measurements. As an example, one such experiment might involve using six identical gravimeters, like the one derived in investigation 5, shown in Figure 3. If this experiment is set up appropriately, and given that the specificity is correct, then it will allow us to calculate which frame is the USF.

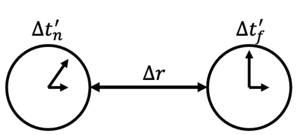

Figure 3. Gravimeter.

Recall from investigation 5 that the gravimeter is measuring two elapsed times—nearest gravitational source is $\Delta t'_f$ and farthest gravitational source is $\Delta t'_n$—via identical clocks some distance, Δr, apart from each other. Additionally, Δr is normal to the time dilation gradient. Lastly, these measurements translates to gravitational acceleration as shown in Equation (2), with the positive direction pointing away from the gravitational source.

$$\text{Let}: \ \nabla\tau^2 = \frac{\tau^2}{\Delta r} = \frac{\left(1 - \left(\frac{\Delta t'_n}{\Delta t'_f}\right)^2\right)}{\Delta r} \tag{2a}$$

$$g(r) = \lim_{\Delta r \to 0} -e_T \nabla\tau^2 \tag{2b}$$

The gravimeter in this experiment would measure the gravitational acceleration of a massive object, but in three orthogonal dimensions (two gravimeters per dimension). The speed of each gravimeter would be equivalent, measured in the massed object's reference frame (MOF), and directed towards its center of mass. Two of three dimensions are shown in Figure 4.[2]

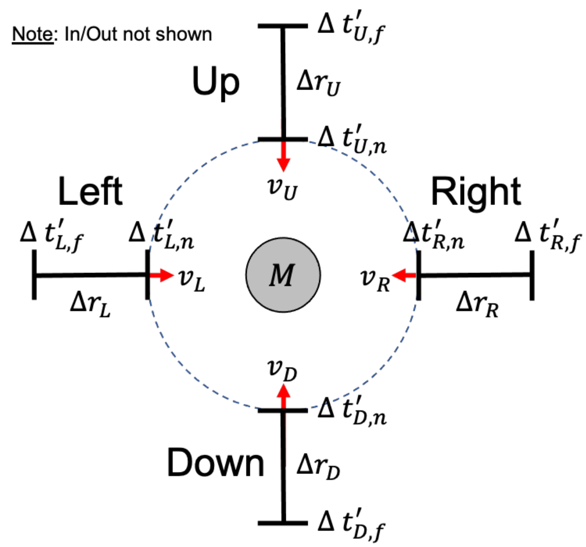

Figure 4. USF detection experimental setup.

How this experiment works is that the gravimeter's clocks take a measure of $\Delta t'_f$ and $d\Delta t'_n$ once the nearest clock reaches some marked threshold some radius from the center of mass, as measured in the MOF. Each gravimeter, being identical and calibrated to the same initial inertial reference frame, assumes Δr is the same under any condition; however, the radial location where $\Delta t'_f$ is measured could change since the base unit subsumed under Δr could physically change in different frames due to length contraction. Additionally, for each gravimeter, the physical change to its Δr is independent from all the other gravimeters' physical changes, and only depends on what the particular gravimeter's velocity is in the USF. Lastly, any changes to the ratio $\frac{\Delta t'_n}{\Delta t'_f}$ in Equation (2) due to kinematic time dilation is nullified, in the same way it is nullified for velocity; therefore, the only change in the ratio $\frac{\Delta t'_n}{\Delta t'_f}$ will be due to changes in the location where $\Delta t'_f$ is measured, which is ultimately governed by the velocity of the MOF in the USF.

[2]Note: in and out of paper dimension is not show.

Once gravitational acceleration is measured by each gravimeter, an analytical solution for the velocity of the massed object relative to the USF might not be possible because of the set of non-linear equations. However, a simulation can run the set of possible velocities relative to the USF and experimental results can be compared to simulated results. That way the simulated results that line up with experimental results will indicate the MOF's relative velocity in the USF for a given dimension. Subtracting that velocity from the MOF tells us which frame, relative to the MOF, is the USF.

Even though we lack experimental results, a simulation was ran for a notional case to demonstrate how this simulated numerical solution would appear. In order to gain the necessary precision, the gravitational acceleration in orbit measured in the MOF, and the speed of all the gravimeters in the MOF, had to be quite large. A simulation for a single dimension was ran (see code in Appendix), and the parameters for the executed simulation were:

- Mass of object: $1000\ [Solar\ Masses]$
- Original distance, Δr, clocks were apart in MOF: $1\ [km]$
- dt measurement distance from center of mass: $0.5\ [AU]$
- Speed of gravimeters in the MOF: $0.1\ [fraction\ of\ c]$

The results of this simulation can be seen in Figure 5. From the results we can see how the MOF's velocity in the USF (x-axis) affects the gravimeter readings (y-axis). Three gravimeters were simulated: an orbital gravimeter, a gravimeter traveling faster than the MOF in the USF (gravimeter1), and a gravimeter traveling slower (gravimeter2).

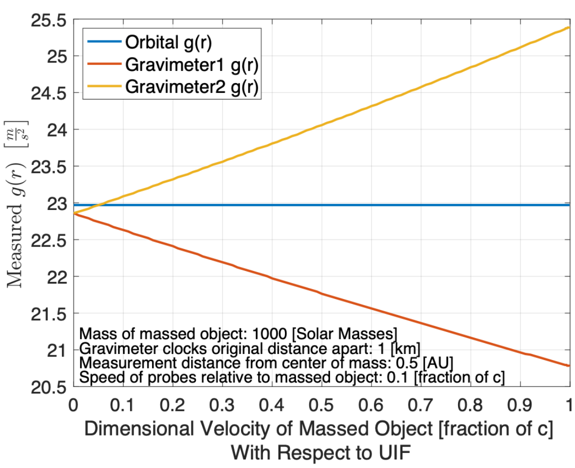

Figure 5. **Simulated results.**

Suppose we were able to execute a real experiment with such parameters, and found that the measured gravitational acceleration, $g(r)$, were found to be $21.75\left[ms^{-2}\right]$ and $24.05\left[ms^{-2}\right]$ for gravimeter1 and gravimeter2 respectively. That would mean the MOF had a dimensional speed of $0.5c$ relative to the USF in the direction of gravimeter1's velocity.

4. Conclusion

In conclusion, it was shown that it is possible to detect the USF if measurements are taken that do not nullify the effects of changes of units caused by work done. The designed experiment involving sending gravimeters hurtling towards the center of mass of a massive object is capable of such a detection, if specificity is correct.

The last question to be investigated by this specificity series is: if spacetime is not a real thing, and therefore, cannot be responsible for any time dilation, as an environmental affect on objects, then what causes everything in the same reference frame to be effected by time dilation to the same degree? Addressing that question is the focus of the next (and last) investigation.

References

[1] A. Michelson & E. Morley, *On the relative motion of the Earth and the luminiferous ether*,American Journal of Science, vol. s3-34, no. 203, pp. 333–345, 1887.

[2] K. Szostek and R. Szostek, *Kinematics in the special theory of ether*, Moscow University Physics Bulletin, vol. 73, no. 4, pp. 413–421, 2018.

[3] K. Szostek and R. Szostek, *The concept of a mechanical system for measuring the one-way speed of light*, Technical Transactions, No. 2023/003, e2023003, 1-9, 2023, ISSN 0011-4561

[4] R. Buenker, *On the equality of relative velocities between two objects for observers in different rest frames*. Apeiron, Volume 20, No. 2., December 2015.

[5] *One-way speed of light*. Wikipedia. Retrieved March 15, 2023, from https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/One-way_speed_of_light

[6] *Acceleration (special relativity)* Wikipedia, 29-July-2022. [Online]. Available: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Acceleration_(special_relativity). [Accessed: 26-Sep-2022].

APPENDIX

MATLAB CODE

```matlab
% Code designed to demonstrate detection of universally stationary frame (USF)
function USF_via_gravity()
%% initializations, constants and simple functions
% initialization
clear all
clc
close all

% constants
c  = 299792458;  % [m/s] speed of light
G  = 6.6744e-11; % [m^3/(kg s)] gravitational constant
Me = 5.97219e24; % [kg] earth's mass
Ms = 333000*Me;  % [kg] sun's mass
et = 0.5*c^2;    % [m^2/s^2] specific total energy
AU = 152.03e9;   % [m] distance from sun to earth

% simple functions
gamma        = @(v) 1./sqrt(1-v.^2);
add_vel      = @(v1_in,v2_in) (v1_in+v2_in)/(1 + v1_in*v2_in);
grav_2_dt    = @(g,r) sqrt(1-g*r/et);
r_2_gravObj  = @(M,r) G*M/r^2;
gravimeter   = @(dtnear_dtfar,dr) (c^2/(2*dr))*(1-(dtnear_dtfar)^2);

%% experiement: travel two gravimeters (probes) towards center of massed object (MO)
% set conditions (in MO's frame)
M_MO      = 1e3*Ms; % [kg] mass of object at center of experiment
r_measure = AU/2;   % [m] nearest clock distance from center of MO
probe_dv  = 0.1;    % [frac of c] speed of probes relative to MO
gmtr_dr   = 1000;   % [m] clocks distance apart when stationary

% initialize
gr_orbit_all  = [];
gr_probe1_all = [];
gr_probe2_all = [];

% loop through range of MO velocities
v_obj_all = [0:0.01:0.99 0.99:0.001:0.999]; % [frac of c] speed of MO (in USF)
for ivo = 1 : length(v_obj_all)
    % (in USF)
    v_obj          = v_obj_all(ivo);            % [frac of c] velocity of MO
    v_p1           = add_vel(v_obj,probe_dv);   % [frac of c] velocity of probe1
    v_p2           = add_vel(v_obj,-probe_dv);  % [frac of c] velocity of probe2
    drUSF_drp_obj  = gamma(v_obj);              % [-] kinetic differential for MO
    drUSF_drp_p1   = gamma(v_p1);               % [-] kinetic differential for probe1
    drUSF_drp_p2   = gamma(v_p2);               % [-] kinetic differential for probe2

    % determine kinetic time/space dilation effects on grivimeters (in USF)
    gmtr_dr_USF_obj = gmtr_dr/drUSF_drp_obj; % [m] clocks distance apart
    gmtr_dr_USF_p1  = gmtr_dr/drUSF_drp_p1;  % [m] clocks distance apart
    gmtr_dr_USF_p2  = gmtr_dr/drUSF_drp_p2;  % [m] clocks distance apart

    % determine effects on gravimeter from orbit of MO (in MO frame)
    dr_obit        = drUSF_drp_obj*gmtr_dr_USF_obj;      % [m] clocks distance apart
    r_f_orbit      = r_measure+dr_obit;                  % [m] farthest clock distance to MO
    r_n_orbit      = r_measure;                          % [m] nearest clock distance to MO
    dtn_dtf_orbit  = frames_dtn_dtf(r_f_orbit,r_n_orbit); % [-] clock differential
    g_m_orbit      = gravimeter(dtn_dtf_orbit,gmtr_dr);  % [m/s^2] measured g

    % determine effects on gravimeter from probe 1 (in MO frame)
    dr_p1          = drUSF_drp_obj*gmtr_dr_USF_p1;       % [m] clocks distance apart
    r_f_probe1     = r_measure+dr_p1;                    % [m] farthest clock distance to MO
```

```
    r_n_probe1     = r_measure;                          % [m] nearest clock distance to MO
    dtn_dtf_probe1 = frames_dtn_dtf(r_f_probe1,r_n_probe1); % [-] clock differential
    g_m_probe1     = gravimeter(dtn_dtf_probe1,gmtr_dr);    % [m/s^2] measured g

   % determine effects on gravimeter from probe 2 (in  MO frame)
    dr_probe2      = drUSF_drp_obj*gmtr_dr_USF_p2;          % [m] clocks distance apart
    r_f_probe2     = r_measure+dr_probe2;                   % [m] farthest clock distance to MO
    r_n_probe2     = r_measure;                             % [m] nearest clock distance to MO
    dtn_dtf_probe2 = frames_dtn_dtf(r_f_probe2,r_n_probe2); % [-] clock differential
    g_m_probe2     = gravimeter(dtn_dtf_probe2,gmtr_dr);    % [m/s^2] measured g

   % store results
    gr_orbit_all  = [gr_orbit_all g_m_orbit];
    gr_probe1_all = [gr_probe1_all g_m_probe1];
    gr_probe2_all = [gr_probe2_all g_m_probe2];
end

% plot results
fig = figure(1);
hold off
plot(v_obj_all, gr_orbit_all,'LineWidth',2);
hold on
plot(v_obj_all, gr_probe1_all,'LineWidth',2);
plot(v_obj_all, gr_probe2_all,'LineWidth',2);

% clean up plot
legend('Orbital g(r)','Gravimeter1 g(r)','Gravimeter2 g(r)','FontSize',16,'location','NW');
xlabel({'Dimensional Velocity of Massed Object [fraction of c]','With Respect to USF'},'FontSize',16);
ylabel('Measured $g(r)~\left[\frac{m}{s^2}\right]$','FontSize',16,'Interpreter','latex');
grid on
a = get(gca,'XTickLabel');
set(gca,'XTickLabel',a,'fontsize',16)
xticks([0:.1:1]);
annotation(fig, 'textbox', [.13 .10 .8 .2], 'String'...
    ,sprintf('Mass of massed object: %d [Solar Masses]',M_MO/Ms)...
    ,'EdgeColor','none','FontSize',14);
annotation(fig, 'textbox', [.13 .07 .8 .2], 'String'...
    ,sprintf('Gravimeter clocks original distance apart: %d [km]',gmtr_dr/1e3)...
    ,'EdgeColor','none','FontSize',14);
annotation(fig, 'textbox', [.13 .04 .8 .2], 'String'...
    ,sprintf('Measurement distance from center of mass: %0.1f [AU]',r_measure/AU)...
    ,'EdgeColor','none','FontSize',14);
annotation(fig, 'textbox', [.13 .01 .8 .2], 'String'...
    ,sprintf('Speed of probes relative to massed object: %0.1f [fraction of c]',probe_dv)...
    ,'EdgeColor','none','FontSize',14);

%% supporting function
    function dtn_dtf = frames_dtn_dtf(r_f,r_n)
        % (in MO frame)
        g_f     = r_2_gravObj(M_MO,r_f); % gravitational specific force at clock farthest from MO
        g_n     = r_2_gravObj(M_MO,r_n); % gravitational specific force at clock nearest to MO
        dt_f    = grav_2_dt(g_f,r_f);    % time dilation of clock farthest from MO
        dt_n    = grav_2_dt(g_n,r_n);    % time dilation of clock nearest to MO
        dtn_dtf = dt_n/dt_f;             % relative time differential between closest and farthest clock
    end
end
```