

# TIME AND LENGTH

The Universe, Life and Light 14

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참조: 최강신. (2016). 빛보다 느린 세상

## Two principles

Einstein, A. (1905). Zur elektrodynamik bewegter  
körper. *Annalen der physik*, 322(10), 891-921.

1. The speed of light is constant, regardless of the observer.
2. Observers moving relatively at constant velocity are equal.

We have no way to tell which is better.

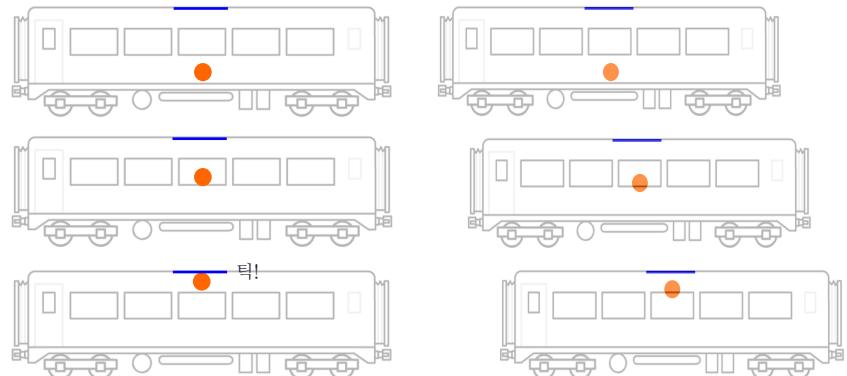
• Tacit assumption: Length and time is absolute.

- The length and time of a moving body  
is the same as that at rest.

• We should reconsider the notion of space and time.

## Speed of light is the same

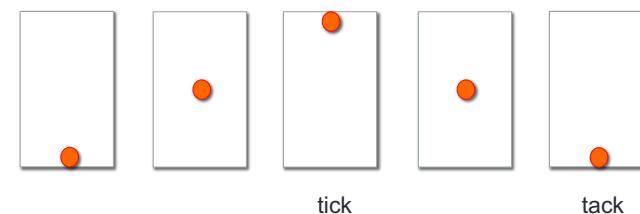
- Two trains: the left is at rest and the right is moving



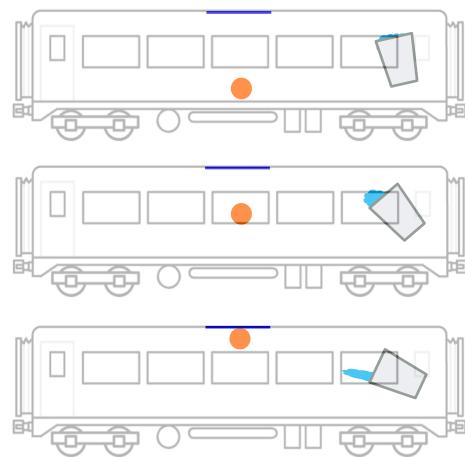
- Simultaneity broken.
- Regardless of the motion of constant velocity.
- That on the right has not arrived yet.

## Agreeing on time

- Alice and bob prepares the same clock.
- Using light.
- Event: collision of two.
  - ex. Light and detector. It happens or not to both observers.



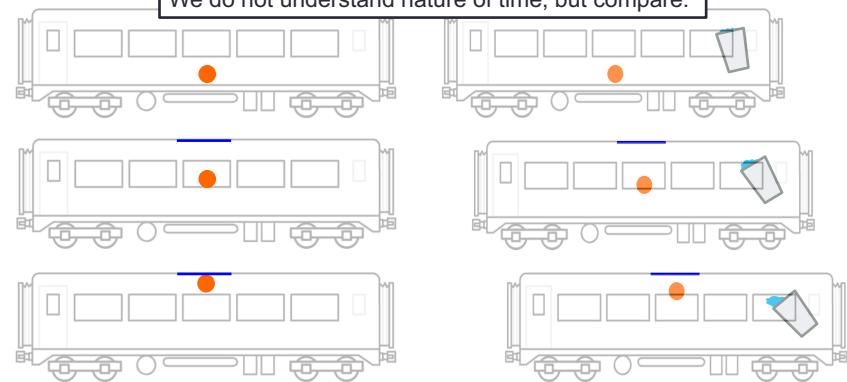
## Time between events



$$t_{\text{rest}} = \text{height} / c$$

## Time dilation 팽창, 늘어짐

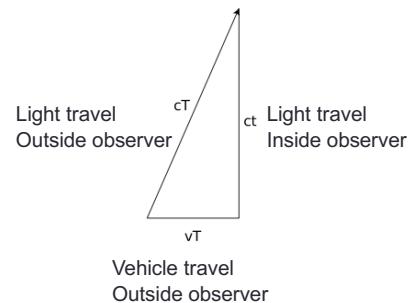
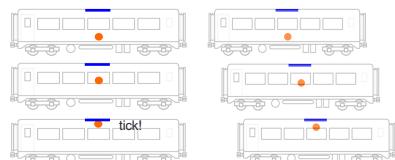
We do not understand nature of time, but compare.



- Already one tick on the left, not yet on the right.
- The right is a slow-motion of the left.  $T_{\text{moving}}$  is longer than  $\text{not height} / c$

## Time dilation

- Speed = distance / time



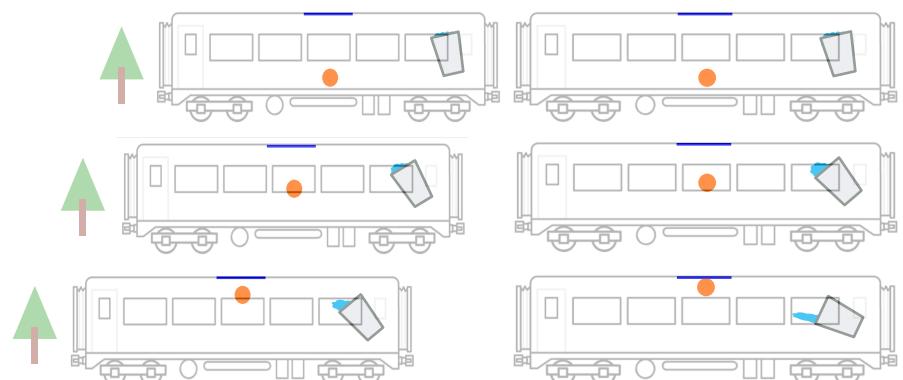
- Using Pythagoras' theorem,

$$(cT)^2 = (vT)^2 + (ct)^2$$

$$T = \frac{t}{\sqrt{1 - (v/c)^2}}$$

- To outside observer, the time **interval** inside  $T$  is longer than her own  $t$ : **moving time flows slower than her own**.

## Relativity

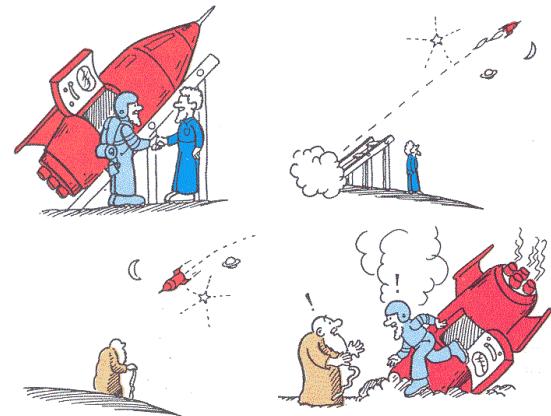


- From the moving observer's viewpoint, the left train is moving.
- Whose clock is slower?

## Twin paradox

Langevin (1911)

- If we the moving train is observed short, what happens my rest train seen from the moving train?



## Constant $c$



- From various experiments, we found that the speed of light is always same regardless of observer.



- $u + v$  is modified to

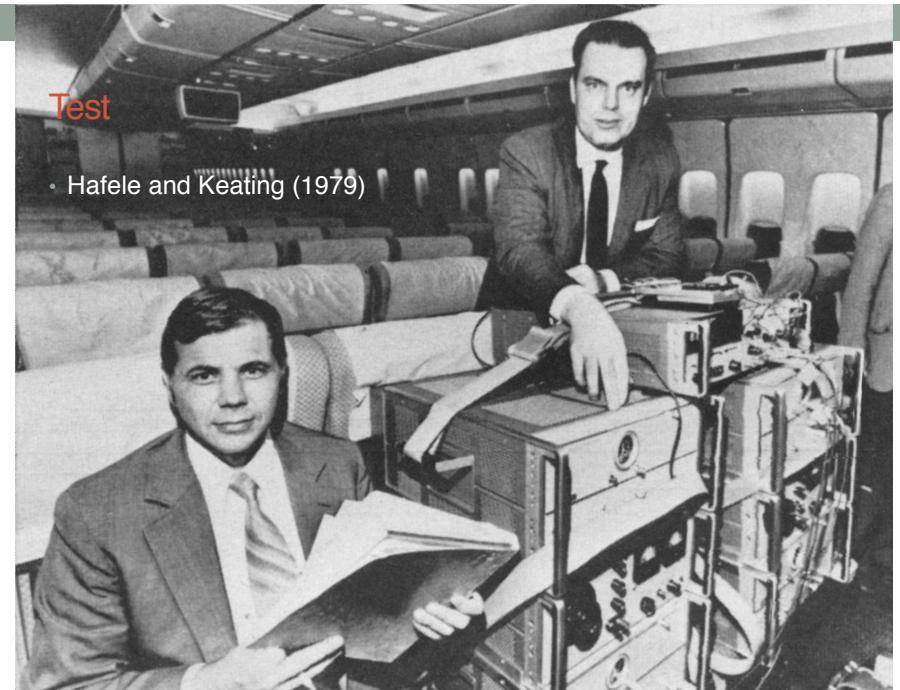
$$\frac{u + v}{1 + \frac{uv}{c^2}}$$

- Addition of  $c + \frac{1}{2} c$ : not  $\frac{3}{2} c$  but...
- For large  $c$  it is practically  $u + v$ .
- Time change; length change cancelled.

This addition rule is the most general addition rule for 'uniform space'.

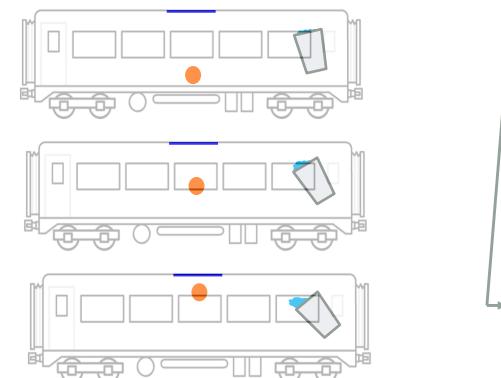
## Test

- Hafele and Keating (1979)

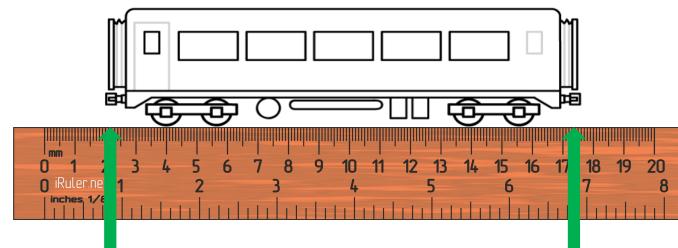


## Why we don't see it?

- Usually, the train speed  $v \sim 60\text{km/h}$  is much less than the speed of light  $c \sim 940000000\text{ km/h}$ .



## Measuring length

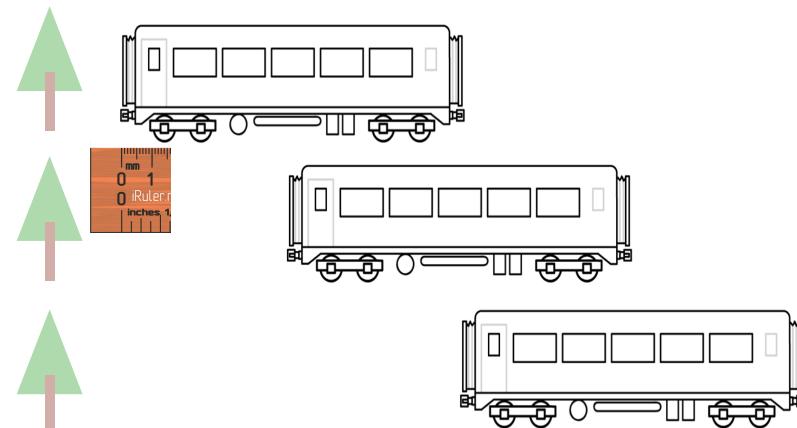


- Problems

- Only with meter stick we can measure relative length.
- Only one part we can observe at each moment.
- Finite speed of light.

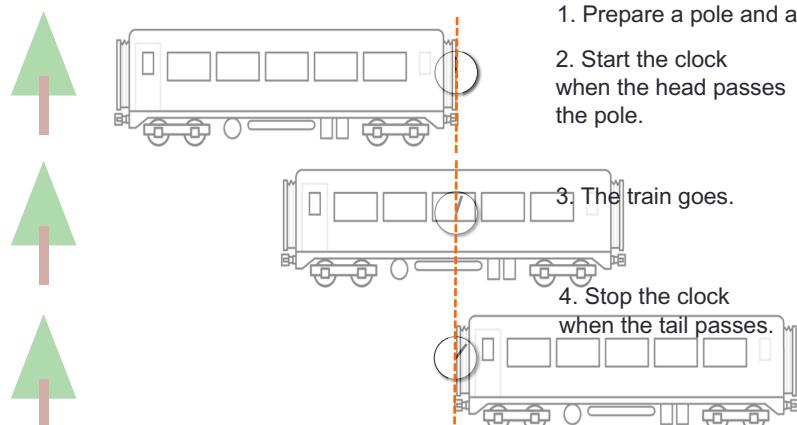
Difference of the numbers  
at the same moment.

## The moving length



We cannot do it to the moving train.

## The moving length



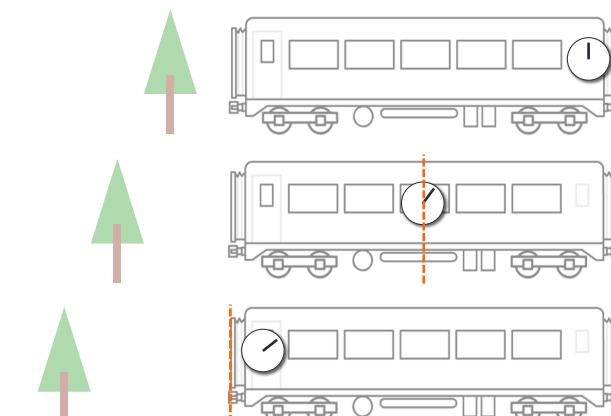
The moving length observed at the station

$$L_{\text{moving}} = v t$$

The clock runs at the normal rate.

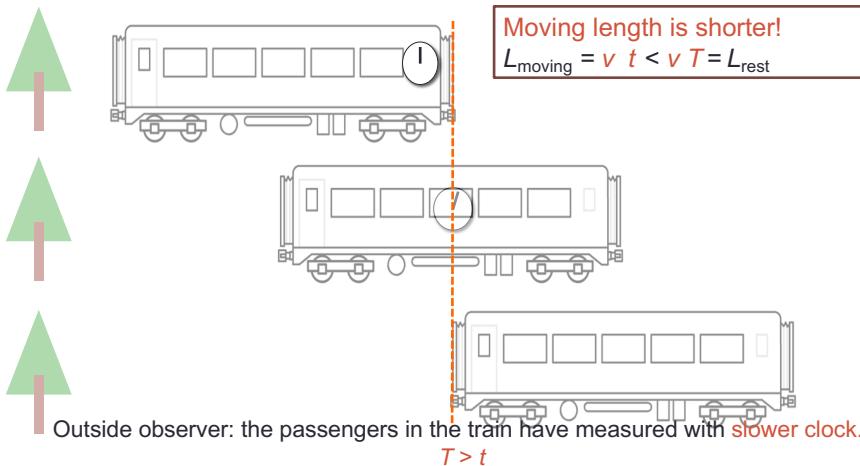
## The rest length

Passengers: "we are measuring the length of the train at rest."



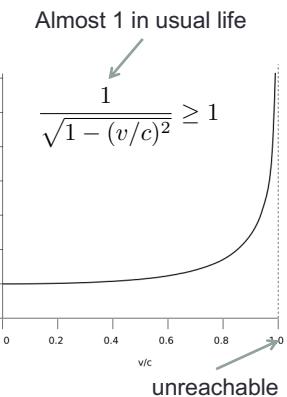
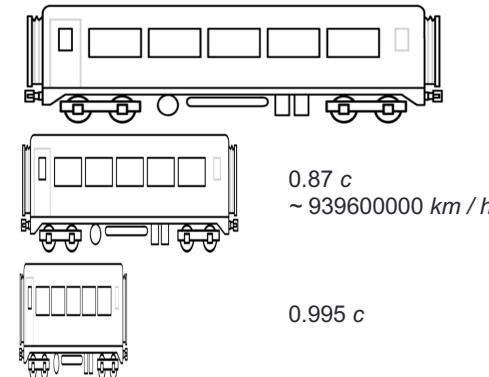
$$v T = L_{\text{rest}}$$

## The rest length, clocks, seen from outside



## Length contraction

- The faster the vehicle, the shorter the length.



## Summary

- Two principles
  - Principle of relativity: The experiments should be the same for every constantly moving observers
  - Invariance of speed of light.
- Explained by introducing relative length and time.
  - Length and time are to be compared with others.
  - No absolute length and time.
- Moving object
  - Slower time flow
  - Length contraction