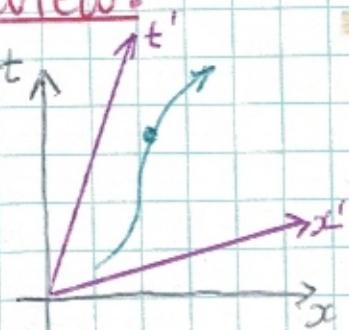


# Finally - Relativistic Constant Acceleration.

## Review:



- a particle moves thru space-time
- we can describe its path as a function  $x(t)$  wrt some inertial reference frame  $O$ .
- but it's equally correct to describe its coordinates in another frame  $O'$  as  $x'(t')$ .

- $(x, t)$  &  $(x', t')$  are related by the Lorentz transformation

$$t' = \gamma(t - ux)$$

where  $c=1$  &  $\gamma = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-u^2}}$ .

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

- which frame you use is arbitrary & it would be nice to have a standard, canonical or PROPER way of doing this all inertial frames can agree on, i.e., one  $X(T)$  function.

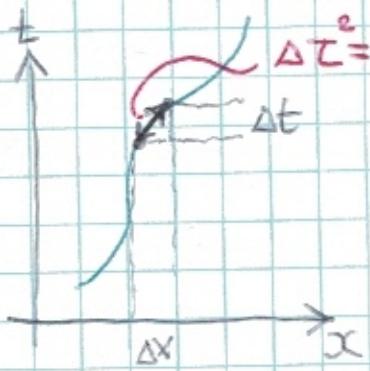
- recall the idea of invariants from before (e.g. bouncing light beam on a moving boxcar).

① The Interval  $\Delta S^2 = \Delta x^2 - c \Delta t^2$

② Proper Time  $\Delta \tau^2 = c \Delta t^2 - \Delta x^2 \rightarrow$  note  $\Delta \tau^2 = -\Delta S^2$

- all inertial frames "see" the same proper time.

-use whichever is convenient.

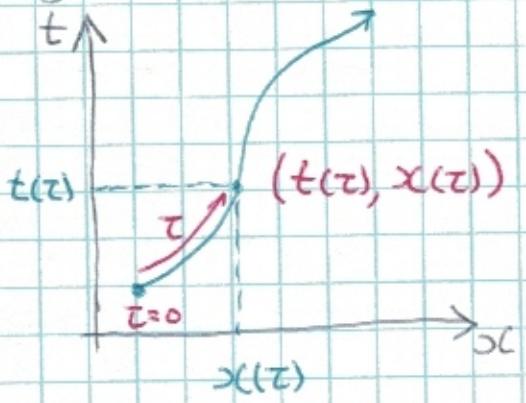


$$\Delta\tau^2 = \Delta t^2 - \Delta x^2$$

(setting  $c=1$  from now on).

- $\Delta\tau$  (or  $-\Delta s$ ) acts as an arclength along the path, or world line of the particle.
- it's just the time measured by the traveller's watch as he moves about.

- parameterizing the co-ords  $(x, y, z)$  of points on a curve by the arclength along the curve is standard.



- we can write the curve as
- $$x^\alpha = (x^0(\tau), x^\alpha(\tau))$$
- $$= (t(\tau), x^\alpha(\tau))$$
- $$= x^\alpha(\tau).$$

### DEFINITION OF 4-VELOCITY

- the velocity of the particle is just the rate of change of its position wrt time.
- using **proper time** this define the particle's 4-velocity.

$$U^\alpha \equiv \boxed{\frac{dx^\alpha}{d\tau}}$$

→ this vector is tangent to the curve

- now find the components of the velocity 4-vector in familiar terms.

- recall we showed that between inertial frames

that  $\Delta t = \gamma \Delta \tau$

Why? The clock in the moving frame is stationary in the moving frame.

so  $\frac{\Delta t}{\Delta \tau} = \gamma$

or  $\frac{dt}{d\tau} = \gamma$

or  $\frac{dx^0}{d\tau} = \gamma$  ← time component

So  $c^2 \Delta \tau^2 - \Delta x^0 \overset{0}{\cancel{\Delta x^0}} = c^2 \Delta t^2 - \Delta x^0$

$$c^2 \Delta \tau = \sqrt{\Delta t^2 - \frac{\Delta x^0}{c^2}}$$

$$\Delta \tau = \sqrt{1 - \frac{\Delta x^0}{\Delta t^2 c^2}} \cdot \Delta t$$

$$\Delta \tau = \sqrt{1 - v^2/c^2} \cdot \Delta t$$

$$\Delta \tau = \frac{1}{\gamma} \Delta t \quad \checkmark$$

- $\frac{dx^1}{d\tau} = \frac{dx}{dt} \cdot \frac{dt}{d\tau}$

$$u^x = u_x \cdot \gamma \quad \leftarrow x\text{-component}$$

- Similarly

$$u^y = \gamma u_y$$

$$u^z = \gamma u_z$$

⇒ Putting the pieces together we get the 4-velocity

$$u^\alpha = (\gamma, \gamma \vec{v}) = \gamma(1, u^x, u^y, u^z) = \gamma(1, \vec{v})$$

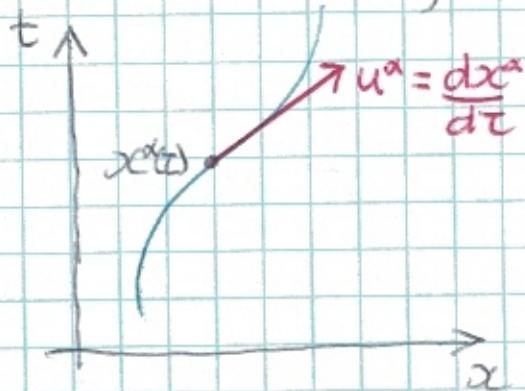
when stationary in  $(x, y, z)$  then  $\vec{v} = 0$  &  $\gamma = 1$

$$\therefore u^\alpha = (1, 0, 0, 0)$$

NOTE! This is the rest frame of the moving particle.

∴ the 4-velocity is the time-axis for a frame  
(momentarily) co-moving<sup>(at rest)</sup> with the particle

- this is a first step in defining a local co-ordinate system  
for an arbitrarily moving particle.



### MAGNITUDE OF 4-VELOCITY

recall the Minkowski metric

$$ds^2 = -dt^2 + dx^2 + dy^2 + dz^2$$

$$ds^2 = \eta_{\alpha\beta} dx^\alpha dx^\beta \quad \text{where } \eta_{\alpha\beta} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

the general inner product of two

4-vectors,  $\underline{a}, \underline{b}$ , in M.S. is given by

$$\underline{a} \cdot \underline{b} = \eta_{\alpha\beta} a^\alpha b^\beta$$

$$\text{and } |\underline{a}|^2 = \underline{a} \cdot \underline{a}$$

- So for the 4-velocity,

$$\underline{|u|^2 = u \cdot u}$$

$$\boxed{|u|^2 = \eta_{\alpha\beta} \frac{dx^\alpha}{d\tau} \frac{dx^\beta}{d\tau}}$$

- but look at the metric,

$$ds^2 = \eta_{\alpha\beta} dx^\alpha dx^\beta$$

$$-d\tau^2 = \eta_{\alpha\beta} dx^\alpha dx^\beta$$

$$d\tau^2 = -\eta_{\alpha\beta} dx^\alpha dx^\beta$$

$$\frac{d\tau^2}{d\tau^2} = -\eta_{\alpha\beta} \frac{dx^\alpha dx^\beta}{d\tau^2}$$

$$1 = -\eta_{\alpha\beta} \frac{dx^\alpha dx^\beta}{d\tau d\tau}$$

$$\therefore \boxed{\eta_{\alpha\beta} \frac{dx^\alpha}{d\tau} \frac{dx^\beta}{d\tau} = -1}$$

- $\therefore \boxed{|u|^2 = -1}$  ↵ note the negative makes the vector time-like, as expected
- and it's already normalized to a unit.

### Independent Check.

- we showed the 4-velocity has the form:

$$u^\alpha = (1, \gamma v_\alpha) \quad \leftarrow \text{In Mink. 1-1 space.}$$

- here  $\eta_{\alpha\beta} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{so } |\underline{u}|^2 &= \eta_{\alpha\beta} u^\alpha u^\beta \\ &= (-1) \cdot (\cancel{1})^2 + (1) \cdot (\cancel{8} u_x)^2 \end{aligned}$$

$\uparrow \quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow$   
 $\eta_{tt} \quad u^t \quad \eta_{xx} \quad u^x$

$$\begin{aligned} &= -1 \cdot \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-u_x^2}} \right)^2 + \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-u_x^2}} \cdot u_x \right)^2 \\ &= \frac{-1}{1-u_x^2} + \frac{u_x^2}{1-u_x^2} \\ &= -\frac{(1-u_x^2)}{1-u_x^2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore \boxed{|\underline{u}|^2 = -1} \quad \checkmark \quad \text{- consistency checks.}$$

## 4-ACCELERATION

- similarly we can define the 4-acc<sup>a</sup>.

$$\boxed{a(\tau) = \frac{du}{d\tau}}$$

- but we have  $u \cdot \underline{u} = 1$

- diff' both sides

$$\frac{d}{d\tau} (u \cdot \underline{u}) = \frac{d}{d\tau} (-1).$$

$$\text{So } \underline{u} \cdot \frac{du}{dt} + \frac{du}{dt} \cdot \underline{u} = 0$$

$$\rightarrow 2\underline{u} \cdot \frac{du}{dt} = 0$$

or  $\boxed{\underline{u} \cdot \underline{a} = 0}$

∴ the 4-velocity & 4-acc<sup>a</sup> are always orthogonal.

### PROPER Acc<sup>a</sup>

- in the moving & accelerating observer's frame, his Velocity is always

$$\underline{u}' = \boxed{(1, \vec{0})}$$

- since his acc<sup>a</sup> is always orthogonal, the observer's frame's acc<sup>a</sup> must have the form

$$\underline{a}' = \boxed{(0, \vec{a})}$$

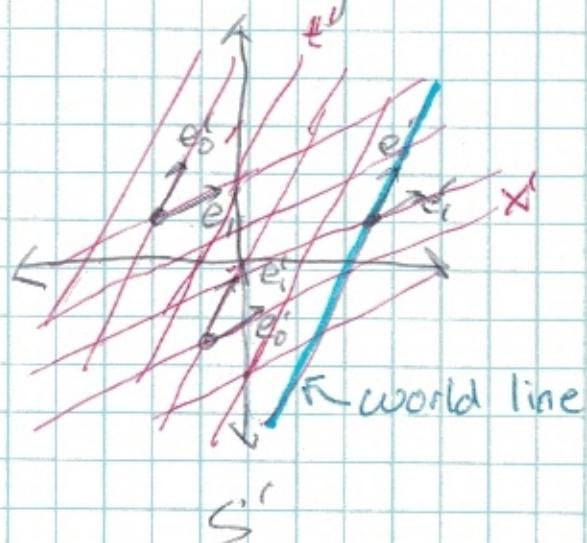
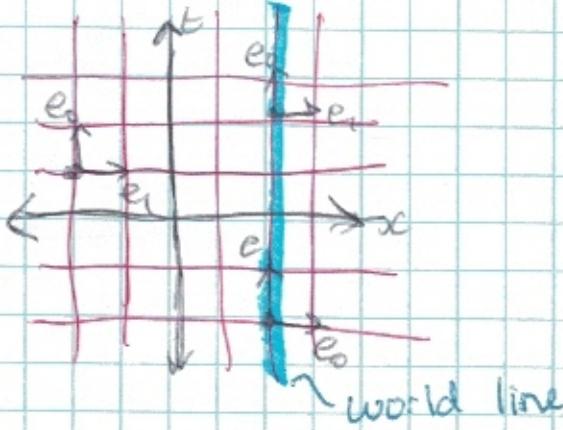
where  $\vec{a} = \left( \frac{d^2x}{dt^2}, \frac{d^2y}{dt^2}, \frac{d^2z}{dt^2} \right)$  in comoving frame

$$= \frac{d}{dt} (v_x, v_y, v_z) \quad | \quad \text{in cmf.}$$

$$\boxed{\vec{a} = \frac{d}{dt} \vec{v}} \quad | \quad \text{in cmf}$$

← this is called **proper acc<sup>a</sup>**

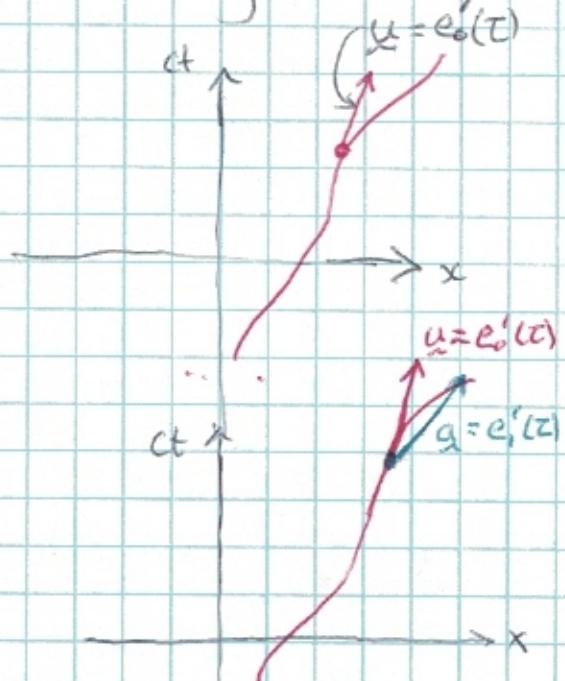
Recall the co-ord frames of a stationary & inertial frame. 25



$S$

$S'$

- the co-ord system's basis are fixed for const. veloci
- when the velocity varies under acc<sup>2</sup> define the instantaneous rest frame  $S'$  for which the moving observer is momentarily at rest.



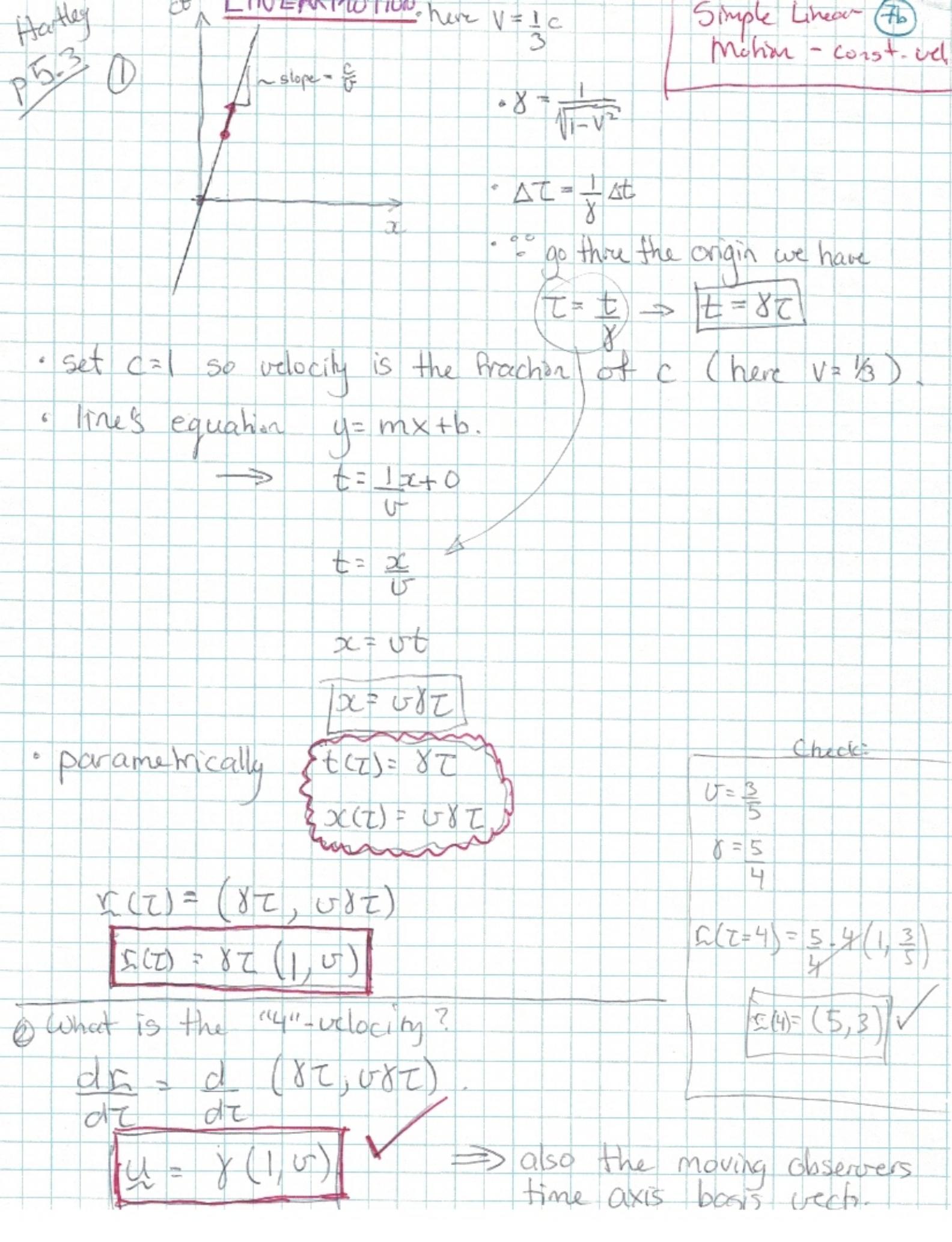
• so the velocity vector in general defines a local time axis.

$$\boxed{e'_0(t) = \hat{u}(t)}$$

• so  $e'_0(t) = \hat{u}(t)$ .  
in  $(t, x)$  1-1 space we can take the orthogonal  $\hat{a}(t)$  to be the spatial basis vector at that pt

$$\boxed{\hat{e}'_1(t) = \hat{a}(t)}$$

\* This forms a (momentarily inertial) co-moving frame along the moving observer's world line \*



## CONSTANT Acc<sup>^x</sup> - Parametric Eq's.

(8)

- Suppose we have constant proper acc<sup>^x</sup> as experienced by the moving observer.

- In the observer's frame  $\underline{a} = (0, \underline{a})$  so  $|\underline{a}|^2 = a^2$

In general then, for any frame,

$$|\underline{a}|^2 = a^\mu a_\mu = a^2$$

← constant acc<sup>^x</sup>

$$u^\mu a_\mu = 0$$

← orthogonality of velocity & acc<sup>^x</sup>

$$u^\mu u^\nu = -1$$

← unit magnitude of time-like velocity

- recalling  $x^\mu y_\mu = \eta_{\mu\nu} x^\mu y^\nu$  for inner products of vectors, where  $\eta = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$

- we can expand the equations as.

$$\textcircled{1} \quad -a^0 a^0 + a^1 a^1 = a^2$$

← set of coupled 2nd order polynomial eq's.

$$\textcircled{2} \quad -u^0 a^0 + u^1 a^1 = 0$$

$$\textcircled{3} \quad -u^0 u^0 + u^1 u^1 = -1$$

- solve for the two acc<sup>^x</sup>'s in terms of the two velocities

- can solve these to show:

$$a^0 = au^1$$

← use Maple, Mathematica to do.

$$a^1 = au^0$$

- substituting into eqn's ①②, ③ verifies the sol'.

- So we now have a pair of coupled first order ordinary differential eq's to solve:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{du^0}{dz} &= au' \\ \frac{du'}{dz} &= au^0 \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow$  impose initial conditions:

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} t(z=0) = 0 \\ x(z=0) = \frac{1}{a} \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} \text{- will be seen} \\ \text{to be} \\ \text{convenient.} \end{array}$$

- these have the solutions:

$$\begin{aligned} t(z) &= \frac{1}{a} \sinh(az) \\ x(z) &= \frac{1}{a} \cosh(az) \end{aligned}$$

$\leftarrow$  again, use a computer algebra package.

$\leftarrow$  check with substituting  
using  $\cosh(x)' = \sinh(x)$   
 $\sinh(x)' = \cosh(x)$ .

### SOME INTERESTING POINTS.

i) It's a hyperbola

$$\begin{aligned} \text{we have } x^2 - t^2 &= \frac{1}{a^2} \cosh^2(az) - \frac{1}{a^2} \sinh^2(az) \\ &= \frac{1}{a^2} (\cosh^2(az) - \sinh^2(az)) \end{aligned}$$

$$x^2 - t^2 = \frac{1}{a^2}$$

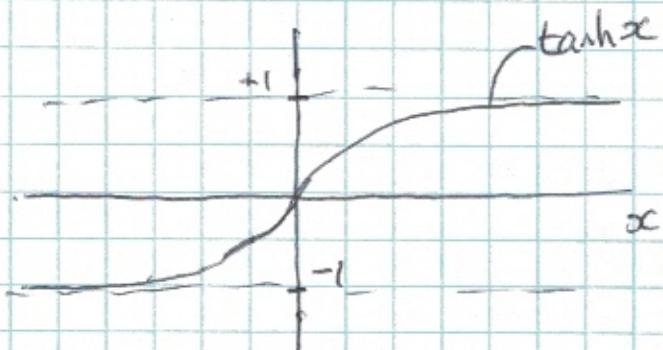
② Co-ordinate velocity only approaches c.

$$U_x = \frac{dx}{dt} = \frac{dx}{d\tau} \cdot \frac{d\tau}{dt}$$

$$= \frac{dx}{d\tau} / \frac{dt}{d\tau}$$

$$= \frac{\sinh(a\tau)}{\cosh(a\tau)}$$

$U_x = \tanh(a\tau)$



③ Lines of constant  $\tau$  are radial.

- we have  $\frac{t(\tau)}{x(\tau)} = \frac{1/a \sinh(a\tau)}{1/a \cosh(a\tau)}$ .

$$\therefore \frac{t}{x} = \tanh(a\tau)$$

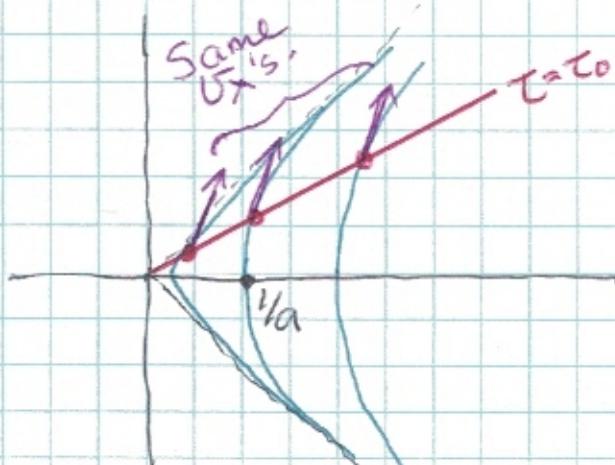
$t = \tanh(a\tau) \cdot x$

→ for a given proper time  
 $\tau = \tau_0$

$t = \tanh(a\tau_0) \cdot x$

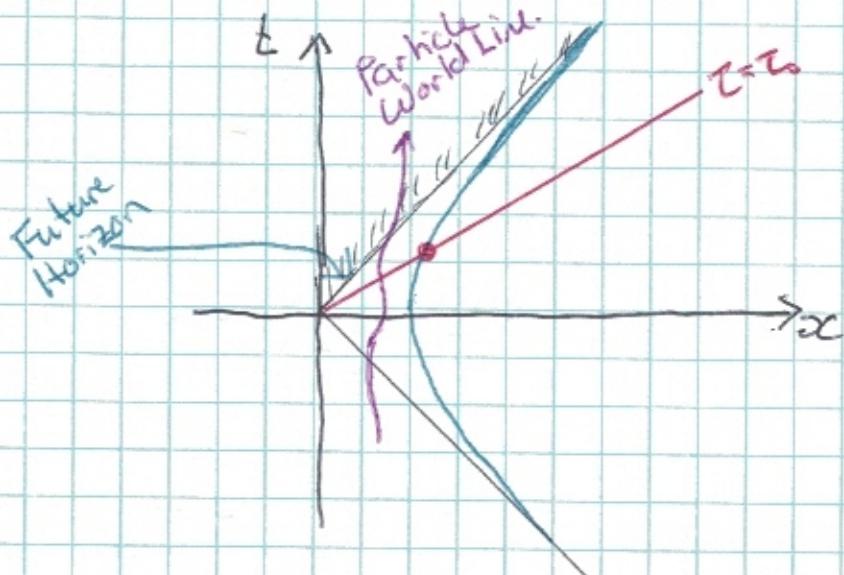
constant for  
given  $\tau = \tau_0$

④ Picture.

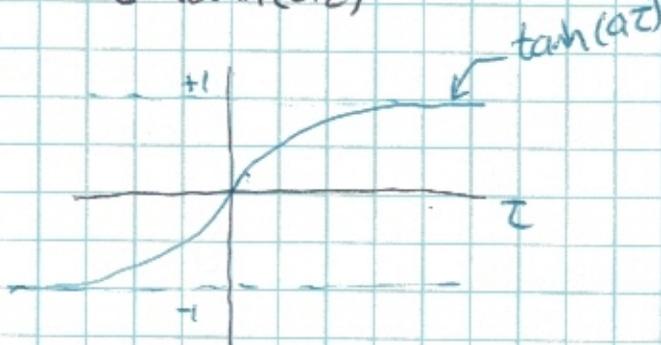


## ⑤ There is an event horizon.

11



$$t = \tanh(\alpha z)$$



- to the inertial observer the particle just moves along normally.

- the accelerated observer never sees the particle cross the future horizon

→ it will slow and slow as  $\tau \rightarrow \infty$  and freeze at the point it crosses the horizon.

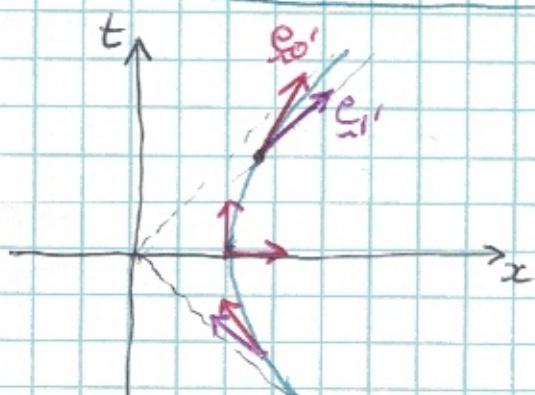
## ⑥ Local accelerating observer co-ords.

- position:  $\xi(\tau) = \frac{1}{\alpha} (\sinh(\alpha\tau), \cosh(\alpha\tau))$

- Velocity:  $\dot{\xi}(\tau) = (\cosh(\alpha\tau), \sinh(\alpha\tau)) \Rightarrow \hat{e}_0'$

- acc<sup>2</sup>:  $\ddot{\xi}(\tau) = \alpha(\sinh(\alpha\tau), \cosh(\alpha\tau)) \Rightarrow \hat{e}_1' = (\sinh(\alpha\tau), \cosh(\alpha\tau))$

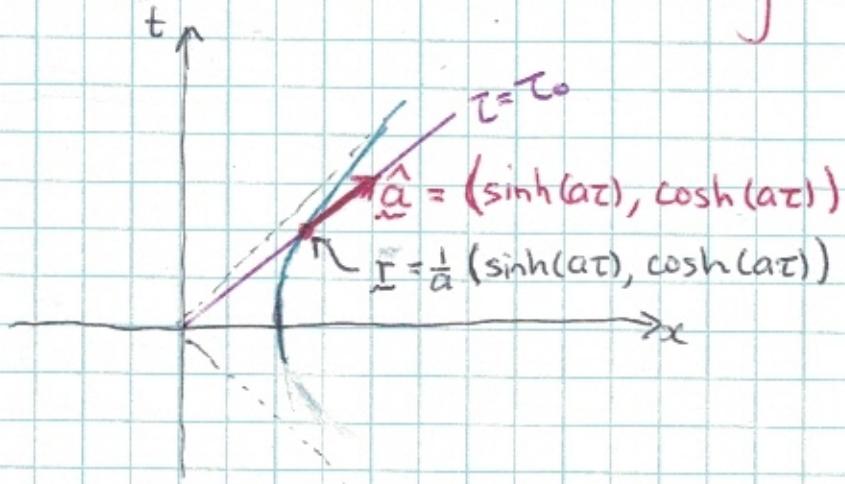
time  
local basis



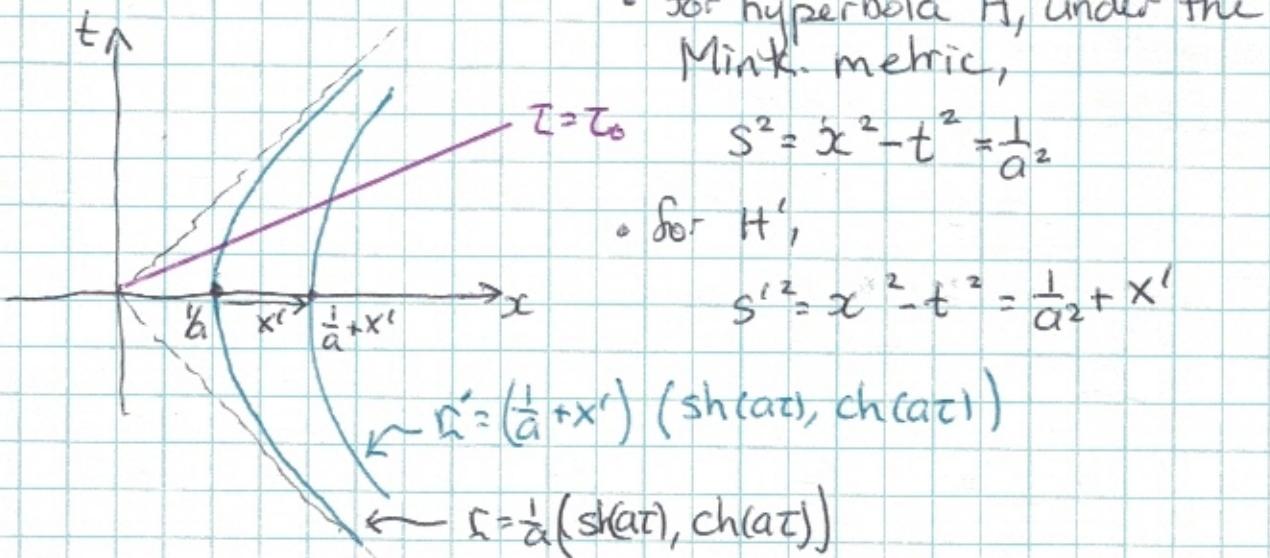
# LOCAL Coord' System OF AN Acc'd OBSERVER.

## POINTS:

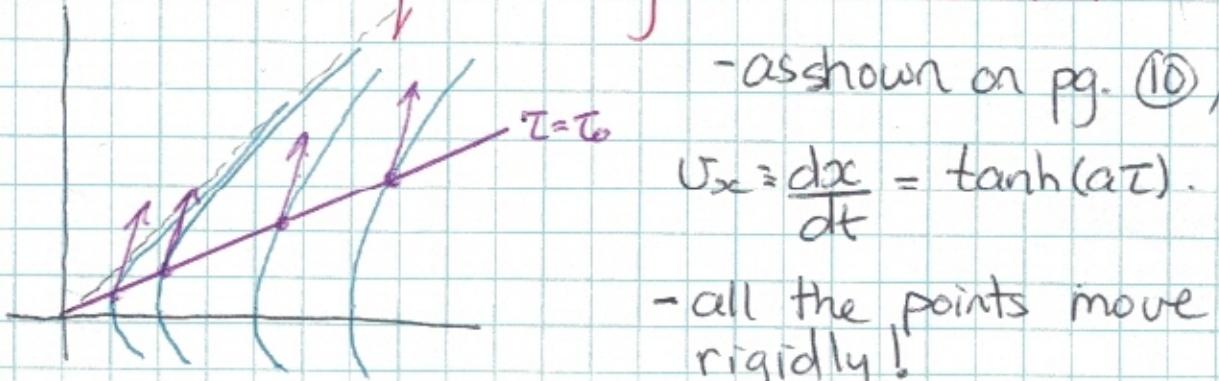
- ① Unit acceleration vectors lie along lines of constant  $\tau$ .



- ② In the Minkowski metric, hyperbolas are separated by a constant distance.



- ③ The 4-velocities are equal along lines of constant  $\tau$ .



- as shown on pg. 10,

$$U_x \approx \frac{dx}{dt} = \tanh(\alpha\tau).$$

- all the points move rigidly!

## LOCAL COORD's.

- for a rocket acc'ing w acc<sup>2</sup> a, define a spatial co-ord  $x'$  as the distance from the floor (the origin).
- define time as the proper time measured by the rocket,  $t' \equiv \tau$ .
- the relationship btwn the acc'ing local co-ords and inertial co-ords,  $(x, t)$ , are:

$$t = \left( \frac{1}{a} + x' \right) \sinh(at')$$

$$x = \left( \frac{1}{a} + x' \right) \cosh(at')$$

METRIC  
↓

- now calculate the metric  $ds^2 = dt^2 - dx^2$  in terms of the local co-ords:

$$dt = \sinh(at') dx' + (1+ax') \cosh(at') dt'$$

$$dx = \cosh(at') dx' + (1+ax') \sinh(at') dt'$$

$$\Rightarrow dt^2 - dx^2 = S^2 \cdot dx'^2 + (1+ax')^2 c^2 dt'^2 + 2(1+ax') S \cdot c \cdot dx' dt'$$

$$-c^2 \cdot dx'^2 - (1+ax')^2 S^2 dt'^2 - 2(1+ax') \cdot S \cdot c \cdot dx' dt'$$

$$ds^2 = (1+ax')^2 dt'^2 - dx'^2$$

Recall:

$$\cosh^2 \theta - \sinh^2 \theta = 1$$

NOTE: This is still Minkowski space!

## Transformation of metric:

- for convenience define the new variables:

$$\boxed{\rho = \frac{1}{a} + x^1} \Rightarrow dx^1 = d\rho$$

$$\boxed{\varphi = at'} \quad dt' = \frac{1}{a} d\varphi.$$

- now  $ds^2 = \alpha^2 \rho^2 \frac{1}{q^2} d\varphi^2 - d\rho^2$

$$\boxed{ds^2 = \rho^2 d\varphi^2 - d\rho^2} \quad \leftarrow \text{The Rindler metric.}$$

- compare w/ Euclidean space metric:

Euclidean

Cartesian

$$ds^2 = dx^2 + dy^2$$

Polar

$$ds^2 = r^2 d\theta^2 + dr^2$$

Minkowski

$$ds^2 = dt^2 - dx^2$$

$$\boxed{ds^2 = \rho^2 d\varphi^2 - d\rho^2}$$

Rindler

## Christoffel Symbols of Metric

- standard calculations show:

$$\boxed{\Gamma_{\varphi\rho}^\varphi = \Gamma_{\rho\varphi}^\varphi = \frac{1}{\rho}}$$

$$\boxed{\Gamma_{\varphi\varphi}^\rho = \rho}$$

## Geodesic Eq<sup>z</sup>:

- geodesic eq<sup>z</sup> =  $\boxed{\frac{d^2x^a}{dt^2} + \Gamma_{\beta\gamma}^a \frac{dx^\beta}{dz} \frac{dx^\gamma}{dz} = 0}$

where  $\Gamma_{\alpha\beta}^\psi = \Gamma_{\beta\alpha}^\psi = \frac{1}{\rho}$

$$\Gamma_{\alpha\beta}^\rho = \rho$$

- substituting we get

$$\boxed{\begin{aligned} a) \quad & \ddot{\psi} + \frac{2}{\rho} \dot{\psi} \dot{\rho} = 0 \\ b) \quad & \ddot{\rho} + \rho (\dot{\psi})^2 = 0 \end{aligned}}$$

## Solving the Geodesic Equations.

- solve for the functions  $\psi(t)$ ,  $\rho(z)$  ~~or~~  $\rho(\psi)$  - eliminate the  $t$ .

- the metric provides a third relationship

$$dt^2 = \rho^2 d\psi^2 - d\rho^2$$

→ divide by  $ds^2$  on the left & right hand side.

$$1 = \rho^2 \left( \frac{d\psi}{dz} \right)^2 - \left( \frac{d\rho}{dz} \right)^2$$

$$\boxed{c) \quad 1 = \rho^2 (\dot{\psi})^2 - (\dot{\rho})^2}$$

NOTE:  $t$  is proper time along the geodesic

• d)  $\rightarrow \frac{d^2\psi}{dt^2} + \frac{2}{\rho} \frac{d\psi}{dt} \frac{dp}{dt} = 0$

Rewrite as:

$$\frac{1}{\rho^2} \frac{d}{dt} \left( \rho^2 \frac{d\psi}{dt} \right) = 0$$

$$\therefore \frac{d}{dt} \left( \rho^2 \frac{d\psi}{dt} \right) = 0$$

d)  $\therefore \boxed{\rho^2 \frac{d\psi}{dt} = k}$  - a constant.

• Insert d) into c) :  $I = \overbrace{\rho^2 \left( \frac{d\psi}{dt} \right)^2}^1 - \left( \frac{dp}{dt} \right)^2$

$$I = \frac{1}{\rho^2} \left( \rho^2 \dot{\psi} \right)^2 - \dot{p}^2$$

$$\therefore I = \frac{k^2}{\rho^2} - \dot{p}^2$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\frac{dp}{dt} = \sqrt{\frac{k^2}{\rho^2} - I}}$$

• From d)

$$\boxed{\frac{d\psi}{dt} = \frac{k}{\rho^2}}$$

} Eliminate the  $t$ -dependence by dividing:

$$\frac{d\psi}{dp} = \frac{\frac{d\psi}{ds}}{\frac{dp}{ds}}$$

$$\frac{d\psi}{dp} = \frac{k}{\rho^2} / \left( \frac{k^2}{\rho^2} - I \right)^{1/2}$$

$$\text{So } \boxed{\frac{d\psi}{dp} = \frac{k}{p^2} \left( \frac{k^2}{p^2} - 1 \right)^{-1/2}}$$

• solve by integration.

$$\int d\psi = \int_p \frac{k}{p^2} \left( \frac{k^2}{p^2} - 1 \right)^{-1/2} dp.$$

$$\Rightarrow \psi - \psi_0 = -\cosh^{-1}\left(\frac{k}{p}\right)$$

$$\cosh(\psi_0 - \psi) = \frac{k}{p}.$$

$$\text{So: } \boxed{p \cosh(\psi - \psi_0) = k}$$

← Geodesic Eq<sup>n</sup> in Rindler co-ords.

### Geodesic In Inertial (x,t) Coord's

• expand the cosh fcn:

$$p (\cosh \psi \cdot \cosh \psi_0 - \sinh \psi \sinh \psi_0) = k$$

$$\cosh \psi_0 \cdot x - \sinh \psi_0 \cdot t = k$$

$$x = \left( \frac{\sinh \psi_0}{\cosh \psi_0} \right) t + \frac{k}{\cosh \psi_0}$$

$$\boxed{x = \tanh(\psi_0) \cdot t + \frac{k}{\cosh \psi_0}}$$

Compare to the eq<sup>n</sup> of a line:

$$x = mt + b$$

↑ ↑

slope y-intercept.

⇒ a line as expected.

## Physical Meaning of $\varphi_0, k$ ?

- We have  $x = \tanh(\varphi_0) \cdot t + \frac{k}{\cosh(\varphi_0)}$

$$\therefore \frac{dx}{dt} = \tanh(\varphi_0).$$

OR

$$\tanh \varphi_0 = v_x$$

$$\varphi_0 = \tanh^{-1}(v_x)$$

$\Rightarrow$  the velocity of the moving particle.

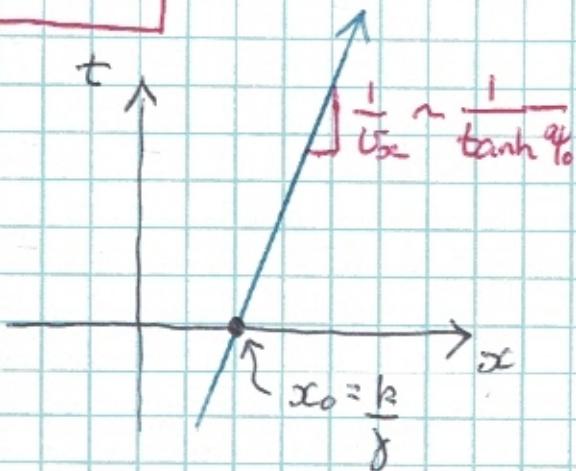
- also  $x(t=0) = \left[ \frac{k}{\cosh \varphi_0} \right] = x_0$  - the  $x$ -intercept.

- But  $\cosh(\varphi_0) = \cosh(\tanh^{-1}(v_x))$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-v_x^2}}$$

$$= \gamma ! \text{ The Lorentz factor } \gamma = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-v_x^2}}$$

$$\therefore k = \gamma x_0$$

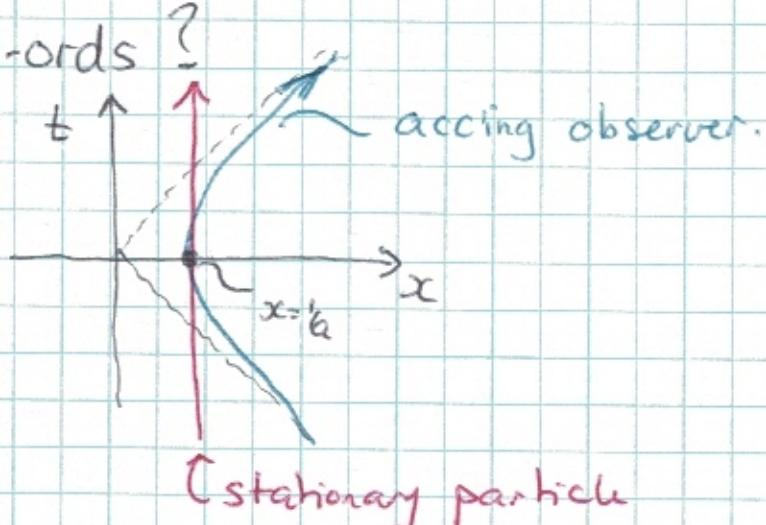


Picture

# What Does The Acc'ng Observer "SEE"?

(19)

- suppose the acc'ng observer is moving in acc'n a & a particle is placed at  $x = \frac{1}{a}$ . & stationary.
- what does the observer measure in his local co-ords?



- the particle's velocity is  $v_x = 0 \Rightarrow \gamma = 1$ . &  $\varphi_0 = 0$
- It's x intercept is  $x_0 = \frac{1}{a}$
- it's eq<sup>n</sup> of motion in Rindler co-ords is

$$\rho \cosh \varphi = \frac{1}{a}$$

where  $\rho = \frac{1}{a} + x'$   
 $\varphi = at'$

$$\text{so } \left( \frac{1}{a} + x' \right) \cosh(at') = \frac{1}{a}$$

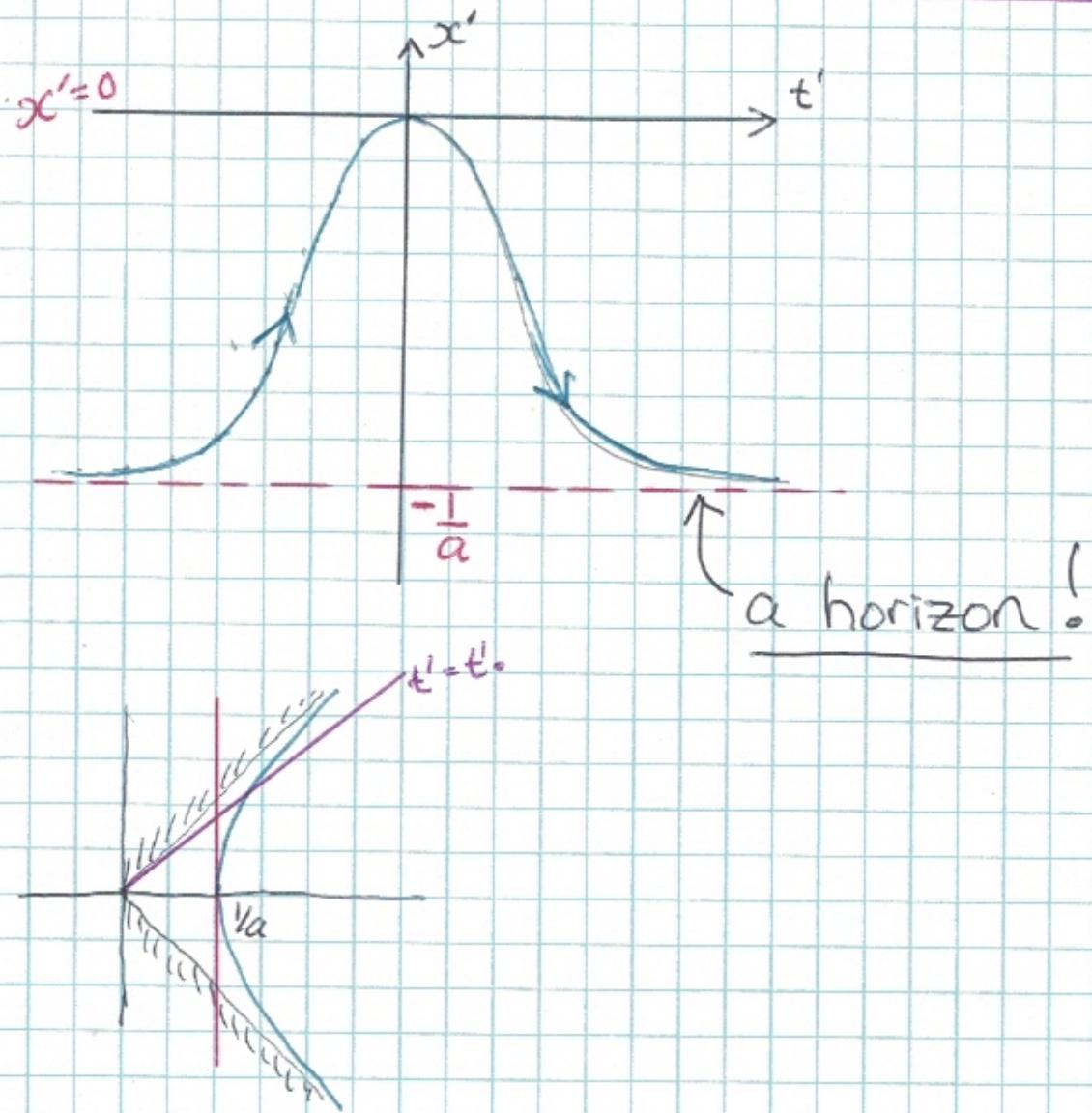
$$x' = \frac{1}{a \cosh(at')} - \frac{1}{a}$$

NOTE ① At  $t' = 0 \Rightarrow x' = 0$  as expected

② As  $t' \rightarrow \pm\infty \Rightarrow x' = -\frac{1}{a} \Leftarrow \text{surprise!}$

## (20)

### PLOT OF STATIONARY PARTICLE IN Acc'd Coord's



### EXPANSION NEAR $t' = 0$

- Taylor expanding  $x' = \frac{1}{a \cosh(at')}$  about  $t' = 0$ :

$$x' = -\frac{1}{2} a t'^2 + \frac{5}{24} a^3 t'^4 + O(t'^6)$$

↑ classical result!