Q37.12 When a monochromatic light source moves toward an observer, its wavelength appears to be shorter than the value measured when the source is at rest. Does this contradict the hypothesis that the speed of light is the same for all observers? Explain.

Q37.13 In principle, does a hot gas have more mass than the same gas when it is cold? Explain. In practice, would this be a measurable effect? Explain.

Q37.14 Why do you think the development of Newtonian mechanics preceded the more refined relativistic mechanics by so many years?

EXERCISES

Section 37.2 Relativity of Simultaneity

37.1 • Suppose the two lightning bolts shown in Fig. 37.5a are simultaneous to an observer on the train. Show that they are *not* simultaneous to an observer on the ground. Which lightning strike does the ground observer measure to come first?

Section 37.3 Relativity of Time Intervals

37.2 • The positive muon (μ^+), an unstable particle, lives on average 2.20×10^{-6} s (measured in its own frame of reference) before decaying. (a) If such a particle is moving, with respect to the laboratory, with a speed of $0.900c$, what average lifetime is measured in the laboratory? (b) What average distance, measured in the laboratory, does the particle move before decaying?

37.3 • How fast must a rocket travel relative to the earth so that time in the rocket "slows down" to half its rate as measured by earth-based observers? Do present-day jet planes approach such speeds?

37.4 • A spaceship flies past Mars with a speed of $0.985c$ relative to the surface of the planet. When the spaceship is directly overhead, a signal light on the Martian surface blinks on and then off. An observer on Mars measures that the signal light was on for 75.0 μs. (a) Does the observer on Mars or the pilot on the spaceship measure the proper time? (b) What is the duration of the light pulse measured by the pilot of the spaceship?

37.5 • The negative pion (π^-) is an unstable particle with an average lifetime of 2.60×10^{-8} s (measured in the rest frame of the pion). (a) If the pion is made to travel at very high speed relative to a laboratory, its average lifetime is measured in the laboratory to be 4.20×10^{-7} s. Calculate the speed of the pion expressed as a fraction of c. (b) What distance, measured in the laboratory, does the pion travel during its average lifetime?

37.6 •• As you pilot your space utility vehicle at a constant speed toward the moon, a race pilot flies past you in her spaceracer at a constant speed of $0.800c$ relative to you. At the instant the spaceracer passes you, both of you start timers at zero. (a) At the instant when you measure that the spaceracer has traveled 1.20×10^8 m past you, what does the race pilot read on her timer? (b) When the race pilot reads the value calculated in part (a) on her timer, what does she measure to be your distance from her? (c) At the instant when the race pilot reads the value calculated in part (a) on her timer, what do you read on yours?

37.7 •• A spacecraft flies away from the earth with a speed of 4.80×10^6 m/s relative to the earth and then returns at the same speed. The spacecraft carries an atomic clock that has been carefully synchronized with an identical clock that remains at rest on earth. The spacecraft returns to its starting point 365 days (1 year) later, as measured by the clock that remained on earth. What is the difference in the elapsed times on the two clocks, measured in hours? Which clock, the one in the spacecraft or the one on earth, shows the shorter elapsed time?

37.8 • An alien spacecraft is flying overhead at a great distance as you stand in your backyard. You see its searchlight blink on for 0.190 s. The first officer on the spacecraft measures that the searchlight is on for 12.0 ms. (a) Which of these two measured times is the proper time? (b) What is the speed of the spacecraft relative to the earth expressed as a fraction of the speed of light c?

Section 37.4 Relativity of Length

37.9 • A spacecraft of the Trade Federation flies past the planet Coruscant at a speed of $0.600c$. A scientist on Coruscant measures the length of the moving spacecraft to be 74.0 m. The spacecraft later lands on Coruscant, and the same scientist measures the length of the now stationary spacecraft. What value does she get?

37.10 • A meter stick moves past you at great speed. Its motion relative to you is parallel to its long axis. If you measure the length of the moving meter stick to be 1.00 ft (1 ft = 0.3048 m)—for example, by comparing it to a 1-foot ruler that is at rest relative to you—at what speed is the meter stick moving relative to you?

37.11 •• **Why Are We Bombarded by Muons?** Muons are unstable subatomic particles that decay to electrons with a mean lifetime of 2.2 μs. They are produced when cosmic rays bombard the upper atmosphere about 10 km above the earth's surface, and they travel very close to the speed of light. The problem we want to address is why we see any of them at the earth's surface. (a) What is the greatest distance a muon could travel during its 2.2-μs lifetime? (b) According to your answer in part (a), it would seem that muons could never make it to the ground. But the 2.2-μs lifetime is measured in the frame of the muon, and muons are moving very fast. At a speed of $0.999c$, what is the mean lifetime of a muon as measured by an observer at rest on the earth? How far would the muon travel in this time? Does this result explain why we find muons in cosmic rays? (c) From the point of view of the muon, it still lives for only 2.2 μs, so how does it make it to the ground? What is the thickness of the 10 km of atmosphere through which the muon must travel, as measured by the muon? Is it now clear how the muon is able to reach the ground?

37.12 • An unstable particle is created in the upper atmosphere from a cosmic ray and travels straight down toward the surface of the earth with a speed of $0.99540c$ relative to the earth. A scientist at rest on the earth's surface measures that the particle is created at an altitude of 45.0 km. (a) As measured by the scientist, how much time does it take the particle to travel the 45.0 km to the surface of the earth? (b) Use the length-contraction formula to calculate the distance from where the particle is created to the surface of the earth as measured in the particle's frame. (c) In the particle's frame, how much time does it take the particle to travel from where it is created to the surface of the earth? Calculate this time both by the time dilation formula and from the distance calculated in part (b). Do the two results agree?

37.13 • As measured by an observer on the earth, a spacecraft runway on earth has a length of 3600 m. (a) What is the length of the runway as measured by a pilot of a spacecraft flying past at a speed of 4.00×10^7 m/s relative to the earth? (b) An observer on earth measures the time interval from when the spacecraft is directly over one end of the runway until it is directly over the other end. What result does she get? (c) The pilot of the spacecraft measures the time it takes him to travel from one end of the runway to the other end. What value does he get?

37.14 • A rocket ship flies past the earth at 85.0% of the speed of light. Inside, an astronaut who is undergoing a physical examination is having his height measured while he is lying down parallel to the direction the rocket ship is moving. (a) If his height is measured to be 2.00 m by his doctor inside the ship, what height would a person watching this from earth measure for his height? (b) If the earth-based person had measured 2.00 m, what would the doctor in the spaceship have measured for the astronaut's height? Is this a reasonable height? (c) Suppose the astronaut in part (a) gets up after the examination and stands with his body perpendicular to the direction of motion. What would the doctor in the rocket and the observer on earth measure for his height now?

Section 37.5 The Lorentz Transformations

37.15 • An observer in frame S' is moving to the right ($+x$-direction) at speed $u = 0.600c$ away from a stationary observer in frame S. The observer in S' measures the speed v' of a particle moving to the right away from her. What speed v does the observer in S measure for the particle if (a) $v' = 0.400c$; (b) $v' = 0.900c$; (c) $v' = 0.990c$?

37.16 • Space pilot Mavis zips past Stanley at a constant speed relative to him of 0.800c. Mavis and Stanley start timers at zero when the front of Mavis's ship is directly above Stanley. When Mavis reads 5.00 s on her timer, she turns on a bright light under the front of her spaceship. (a) Use the Lorentz coordinate transformation derived in Example 37.6 to calculate x and t as measured by Stanley for the event of turning on the light. (b) Use the time dilation formula, Eq. (37.6), to calculate the time interval between the two events (the front of the spaceship passing overhead and turning on the light) as measured by Stanley. Compare to the value of t you calculated in part (a). (c) Multiply the time interval by Mavis's speed, both as measured by Stanley, to calculate the distance she has traveled as measured by him when the light turns on. Compare to the value of x you calculated in part (a).

37.17 •• A pursuit spacecraft from the planet Tatooine is attempting to catch up with a Trade Federation cruiser. As measured by an observer on Tatooine, the cruiser is traveling away from the planet with a speed of 0.600c. The pursuit ship is traveling at a speed of 0.800c relative to Tatooine, in the same direction as the cruiser. (a) For the pursuit ship to catch the cruiser, should the velocity of the cruiser relative to the pursuit ship be directed toward or away from the pursuit ship? (b) What is the speed of the cruiser relative to the pursuit ship?

37.18 • An extraterrestrial spaceship is moving away from the earth after an unpleasant encounter with its inhabitants. As it departs, the spaceship fires a missile toward the earth. An observer on earth measures that the spaceship is moving away with a speed of 0.600c. An observer in the spaceship measures that the missile is moving away from him at a speed of 0.800c. As measured by an observer on earth, how fast is the missile approaching the earth?

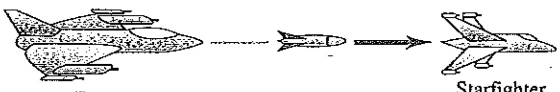
37.19 •• Two particles are created in a high-energy accelerator and move off in opposite directions. The speed of one particle, as measured in the laboratory, is 0.650c, and the speed of each particle relative to the other is 0.950c. What is the speed of the second particle, as measured in the laboratory?

37.20 •• Two particles in a high-energy accelerator experiment are approaching each other head-on, each with a speed of 0.9520c as measured in the laboratory. What is the magnitude of the velocity of one particle relative to the other?

37.21 •• Two particles in a high-energy accelerator experiment approach each other head-on with a relative speed of 0.890c. Both particles travel at the same speed as measured in the laboratory. What is the speed of each particle, as measured in the laboratory?

37.22 •• An enemy spaceship is moving toward your starfighter with a speed, as measured in your frame, of 0.400c. The enemy ship fires a missile toward you at a speed of 0.700c relative to the enemy ship (Fig. E37.22). (a) What is the speed of the missile relative to you? Express your answer in terms of the speed of light. (b) If you measure that the enemy ship is 8.00×10^6 km away from you when the missile is fired, how much time, measured in your frame, will it take the missile to reach you?

Figure **E37.22**



37.23 • An imperial spaceship, moving at high speed relative to the planet Arrakis, fires a rocket toward the planet with a speed of 0.920c relative to the spaceship. An observer on Arrakis measures that the rocket is approaching with a speed of 0.360c. What is the speed of the spaceship relative to Arrakis? Is the spaceship moving toward or away from Arrakis?

Section 37.6 The Doppler Effect for Electromagnetic Waves

37.24 • Electromagnetic radiation from a star is observed with an earth-based telescope. The star is moving away from the earth with a speed of 0.600c. If the radiation has a frequency of 8.64×10^{14} Hz in the rest frame of the star, what is the frequency measured by an observer on earth?

37.25 • **Tell It to the Judge.** (a) How fast must you be approaching a red traffic light ($\lambda = 675$ nm) for it to appear yellow ($\lambda = 575$ nm)? Express your answer in terms of the speed of light. (b) If you used this as a reason not to get a ticket for running a red light, how much of a fine would you get for speeding? Assume that the fine is \$1.00 for each kilometer per hour that your speed exceeds the posted limit of 90 km/h.

37.26 • A source of electromagnetic radiation is moving in a radial direction relative to you. The frequency you measure is 1.25 times the frequency measured in the rest frame of the source. What is the speed of the source relative to you? Is the source moving toward you or away from you?

Section 37.7 Relativistic Momentum

37.27 • A proton has momentum with magnitude p_0 when its speed is 0.400c. In terms of p_0, what is the magnitude of the proton's momentum when its speed is doubled to 0.800c?

37.28 • **When Should You Use Relativity?** As you have seen, relativistic calculations usually involve the quantity γ. When γ is appreciably greater than 1, we must use relativistic formulas instead of Newtonian ones. For what speed v (in terms of c) is the value of γ (a) 1.0% greater than 1; (b) 10% greater than 1; (c) 100% greater than 1?

37.29 • (a) At what speed is the momentum of a particle twice as great as the result obtained from the nonrelativistic expression mv? Express your answer in terms of the speed of light. (b) A force is applied to a particle along its direction of motion. At what speed is the magnitude of force required to produce a given acceleration twice as great as the force required to produce the same acceleration when the particle is at rest? Express your answer in terms of the speed of light.

37.30 • As measured in an earth-based frame, a proton is moving in the $+x$-direction at a speed of 2.30×10^8 m/s. (a) What force (magnitude and direction) is required to produce an acceleration in the $-x$-direction that has magnitude 2.30×10^8 m/s^2? (b) What magnitude of acceleration does the force calculated in part (a) give to a proton that is initially at rest?

37.31 • An electron is acted upon by a force of 5.00×10^{-15} N due to an electric field. Find the acceleration this force produces in each case: (a) The electron's speed is 1.00 km/s. (b) The electron's speed is 2.50×10^8 m/s and the force is parallel to the velocity.

37.32 • **Relativistic Baseball.** Calculate the magnitude of the force required to give a 0.145-kg baseball an acceleration $a = 1.00\ \text{m/s}^2$ in the direction of the baseball's initial velocity when this velocity has a magnitude of (a) 10.0 m/s; (b) $0.900c$; (c) $0.990c$. (d) Repeat parts (a), (b), and (c) if the force and acceleration are perpendicular to the velocity.

Section 37.8 Relativistic Work and Energy

37.33 •• What is the speed of a particle whose kinetic energy is equal to (a) its rest energy and (b) five times its rest energy?

37.34 • If a muon is traveling at $0.999c$, what are its momentum and kinetic energy? (The mass of such a muon at rest in the laboratory is 207 times the electron mass.)

37.35 • A proton (rest mass 1.67×10^{-27} kg) has total energy that is 4.00 times its rest energy. What are (a) the kinetic energy of the proton; (b) the magnitude of the momentum of the proton; (c) the speed of the proton?

37.36 •• (a) How much work must be done on a particle with mass m to accelerate it (a) from rest to a speed of $0.090c$ and (b) from a speed of $0.900c$ to a speed of $0.990c$? (Express the answers in terms of mc^2.) (c) How do your answers in parts (a) and (b) compare?

37.37 • **CP** (a) By what percentage does your rest mass increase when you climb 30 m to the top of a ten-story building? Are you aware of this increase? Explain. (b) By how many grams does the mass of a 12.0-g spring with force constant 200 N/cm change when you compress it by 6.0 cm? Does the mass increase or decrease? Would you notice the change in mass if you were holding the spring? Explain.

37.38 • A 60.0-kg person is standing at rest on level ground. How fast would she have to run to (a) double her total energy and (b) increase her total energy by a factor of 10?

37.39 • **An Antimatter Reactor.** When a particle meets its antiparticle, they annihilate each other and their mass is converted to light energy. The United States uses approximately 1.0×10^{20} J of energy per year. (a) If all this energy came from a futuristic antimatter reactor, how much mass of matter and antimatter fuel would be consumed yearly? (b) If this fuel had the density of iron ($7.86\ \text{g/cm}^3$) and were stacked in bricks to form a cubical pile, how high would it be? (Before you get your hopes up, antimatter reactors are a *long* way in the future—if they ever will be feasible.)

37.40 •• Electrons are accelerated through a potential difference of 750 kV, so that their kinetic energy is 7.50×10^5 eV. (a) What is the ratio of the speed v of an electron having this energy to the speed of light, c? (b) What would the speed be if it were computed from the principles of classical mechanics?

37.41 • A particle has rest mass 6.64×10^{-27} kg and momentum $2.10 \times 10^{-18}\ \text{kg} \cdot \text{m/s}$. (a) What is the total energy (kinetic plus rest energy) of the particle? (b) What is the kinetic energy of the particle? (c) What is the ratio of the kinetic energy to the rest energy of the particle?

37.42 •• A 0.100-μg speck of dust is accelerated from rest to a speed of $0.900c$ by a constant 1.00×10^6 N force. (a) If the nonrelativistic mechanics is used, how far does the object travel to reach its final speed? (b) Using the correct relativistic treatment of Section 37.8, how far does the object travel to reach its final speed? (c) Which distance is greater? Why?

37.43 • Compute the kinetic energy of a proton (mass 1.67×10^{-27} kg) using both the nonrelativistic and relativistic expressions, and compute the ratio of the two results (relativistic divided by nonrelativistic) for speeds of (a) 8.00×10^7 m/s and (b) 2.85×10^8 m/s.

37.44 • What is the kinetic energy of a proton moving at (a) $0.100c$; (b) $0.500c$; (c) $0.900c$? How much work must be done to (d) increase the proton's speed from $0.100c$ to $0.500c$ and (e) increase the proton's speed from $0.500c$ to $0.900c$? (f) How do the last two results compare to results obtained in the nonrelativistic limit?

37.45 • (a) Through what potential difference does an electron have to be accelerated, starting from rest, to achieve a speed of $0.980c$? (b) What is the kinetic energy of the electron at this speed? Express your answer in joules and in electron volts.

37.46 • **Creating a Particle.** Two protons (each with rest mass $M = 1.67 \times 10^{-27}$ kg) are initially moving with equal speeds in opposite directions. The protons continue to exist after a collision that also produces an η^0 particle (see Chapter 44). The rest mass of the η^0 is $m = 9.75 \times 10^{-28}$ kg. (a) If the two protons and the η^0 are all at rest after the collision, find the initial speed of the protons, expressed as a fraction of the speed of light. (b) What is the kinetic energy of each proton? Express your answer in MeV. (c) What is the rest energy of the η^0, expressed in MeV? (d) Discuss the relationship between the answers to parts (b) and (c).

37.47 • The sun produces energy by nuclear fusion reactions, in which matter is converted into energy. By measuring the amount of energy we receive from the sun, we know that it is producing energy at a rate of 3.8×10^{26} W. (a) How many kilograms of matter does the sun lose each second? Approximately how many tons of matter is this (1 ton = 2000 lbs)? (b) At this rate, how long would it take the sun to use up all its mass?

PROBLEMS

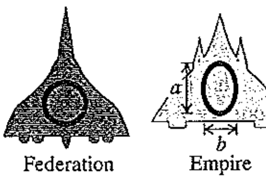
37.48 • Inside a spaceship flying past the earth at three-fourths the speed of light, a pendulum is swinging. (a) If each swing takes 1.50 s as measured by an astronaut performing an experiment inside the spaceship, how long will the swing take as measured by a person at mission control on earth who is watching the experiment? (b) If each swing takes 1.50 s as measured by a person at mission control on earth, how long will it take as measured by the astronaut in the spaceship?

37.49 • After being produced in a collision between elementary particles, a positive pion (π^+) must travel down a 1.90-km-long tube to reach an experimental area. A π^+ particle has an average lifetime (measured in its rest frame) of 2.60×10^{-8} s; the π^+ we are considering has this lifetime. (a) How fast must the π^+ travel if it is not to decay before it reaches the end of the tube? (Since u will be very close to c, write $u = (1 - \Delta)c$ and give your answer in terms of Δ rather than u.) (b) The π^+ has a rest energy of 139.6 MeV. What is the total energy of the π^+ at the speed calculated in part (a)?

37.50 •• A cube of metal with sides of length a sits at rest in a frame S with one edge parallel to the x-axis. Therefore, in S the cube has volume a^3. Frame S' moves along the x-axis with a speed u. As measured by an observer in frame S', what is the volume of the metal cube?

37.51 ••• The starships of the Solar Federation are marked with the symbol of the federation, a circle, while starships of the Denebian Empire are marked with the empire's symbol, an ellipse whose major axis is 1.40 times longer than its minor axis ($a = 1.40b$ in Fig. P37.51). How fast, relative to an observer, does an empire ship have to travel for its marking to be confused with the marking of a federation ship?

Figure **P37.51**



37.52 •• A space probe is sent to the vicinity of the star Capella, which is 42.2 light-years from the earth. (A light-year is the distance light travels in a year.) The probe travels with a speed of $0.9930c$. An astronaut recruit on board is 19 years old when the probe leaves the earth. What is her biological age when the probe reaches Capella?

37.53 • A particle is said to be *extremely relativistic* when its kinetic energy is much greater than its rest energy. (a) What is the speed of a particle (expressed as a fraction of c) such that the total energy is ten times the rest energy? (b) What is the percentage difference between the left and right sides of Eq. (37.39) if $(mc^2)^2$ is neglected for a particle with the speed calculated in part (a)?

37.54 •• **Everyday Time Dilation.** Two atomic clocks are carefully synchronized. One remains in New York, and the other is loaded on an airliner that travels at an average speed of 250 m/s and then returns to New York. When the plane returns, the elapsed time on the clock that stayed behind is 4.00 h. By how much will the readings of the two clocks differ, and which clock will show the shorter elapsed time? (*Hint:* Since $u \ll c$, you can simplify $\sqrt{1 - u^2/c^2}$ by a binomial expansion.)

37.55 • **The Large Hadron Collider (LHC).** Physicists and engineers from around the world have come together to build the largest accelerator in the world, the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) at the CERN Laboratory in Geneva, Switzerland. The machine will accelerate protons to kinetic energies of 7 TeV in an underground ring 27 km in circumference. (For the latest news and more information on the LHC, visit www.cern.ch.) (a) What speed v will protons reach in the LHC? (Since v is very close to c, write $v = (1 - \Delta)c$ and give your answer in terms of Δ.) (b) Find the relativistic mass, m_{rel}, of the accelerated protons in terms of their rest mass.

37.56 • **CP** A nuclear bomb containing 12.0 kg of plutonium explodes. The sum of the rest masses of the products of the explosion is less than the original rest mass by one part in 10^4. (a) How much energy is released in the explosion? (b) If the explosion takes place in 4.00 μs, what is the average power developed by the bomb? (c) What mass of water could the released energy lift to a height of 1.00 km?

37.57 • **CP Čerenkov Radiation.** The Russian physicist P. A. Čerenkov discovered that a charged particle traveling in a solid with a speed exceeding the speed of light in that material radiates electromagnetic radiation. (This is analogous to the sonic boom produced by an aircraft moving faster than the speed of sound in air; see Section 16.9. Čerenkov shared the 1958 Nobel Prize for this discovery.) What is the minimum kinetic energy (in electron volts) that an electron must have while traveling inside a slab of crown glass ($n = 1.52$) in order to create this Čerenkov radiation?

37.58 •• A photon with energy E is emitted by an atom with mass m, which recoils in the opposite direction. (a) Assuming that the motion of the atom can be treated nonrelativistically, compute the recoil speed of the atom. (b) From the result of part (a), show that the recoil speed is much less than c whenever E is much less than the rest energy mc^2 of the atom.

37.59 •• In an experiment, two protons are shot directly toward each other, each moving at half the speed of light relative to the laboratory. (a) What speed does one proton measure for the other proton? (b) What would be the answer to part (a) if we used only nonrelativistic Newtonian mechanics? (c) What is the kinetic energy of each proton as measured by (i) an observer at rest in the laboratory and (ii) an observer riding along with one of the protons? (d) What would be the answers to part (c) if we used only nonrelativistic Newtonian mechanics?

37.60 •• Two protons are moving away from each other. In the frame of each proton, the other proton has a speed of $0.600c$. What does an observer in the rest frame of the earth measure for the speed of each proton?

37.61 •• Frame S' has an x-component of velocity u relative to frame S, and at $t = t' = 0$ the two frames coincide (see Fig. 37.3). A light pulse with a spherical wave front is emitted at the origin of S' at time $t' = 0$. Its distance x' from the origin after a time t' is given by $x'^2 = c^2t'^2$. Use the Lorentz coordinate transformation to transform this equation to an equation in x and t, and show that the result is $x^2 = c^2t^2$; that is, the motion appears exactly the same in frame of reference S as it does in S'; the wave front is observed to be spherical in both frames.

37.62 • In certain radioactive beta decay processes, the beta particle (an electron) leaves the atomic nucleus with a speed of 99.95% the speed of light relative to the decaying nucleus. If this nucleus is moving at 75.00% the speed of light in the laboratory reference frame, find the speed of the emitted electron relative to the laboratory reference frame if the electron is emitted (a) in the same direction that the nucleus is moving and (b) in the opposite direction from the nucleus's velocity. (c) In each case in parts (a) and (b), find the kinetic energy of the electron as measured in (i) the laboratory frame and (ii) the reference frame of the decaying nucleus.

37.63 •• **CALC** A particle with mass m accelerated from rest by a constant force F will, according to Newtonian mechanics, continue to accelerate without bound; that is, as $t \to \infty$, $v \to \infty$. Show that according to relativistic mechanics, the particle's speed approaches c as $t \to \infty$. [*Note:* A useful integral is $\int (1 - x^2)^{-3/2} dx = x/\sqrt{1 - x^2}$.]

37.64 •• Two events are observed in a frame of reference S to occur at the same space point, the second occurring 1.80 s after the first. In a second frame S' moving relative to S, the second event is observed to occur 2.35 s after the first. What is the difference between the positions of the two events as measured in S'?

37.65 ••• Two events observed in a frame of reference S have positions and times given by (x_1, t_1) and (x_2, t_2), respectively. (a) Frame S' moves along the x-axis just fast enough that the two events occur at the same position in S'. Show that in S', the time interval $\Delta t'$ between the two events is given by

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

where $\Delta x = x_2 - x_1$ and $\Delta t = t_2 - t_1$. Hence show that if $\Delta x > c\,\Delta t$, there is *no* frame S' in which the two events occur at the same point. The interval $\Delta t'$ is sometimes called the *proper time interval* for the events. Is this term appropriate? (b) Show that if $\Delta x > c\,\Delta t$, there is a different frame of reference S' in which the two events occur *simultaneously*. Find the distance between the two events in S'; express your answer in terms of Δx, Δt, and c. This distance is sometimes called a *proper length*. Is this term appropriate? (c) Two events are observed in a frame of reference S' to occur simultaneously at points separated by a distance of 2.50 m. In a second frame S moving relative to S' along the line joining the two points in S', the two events appear to be separated by 5.00 m. What is the time interval between the events as measured in S? [*Hint:* Apply the result obtained in part (b).]

37.66 •• **Albert in Wonderland.** Einstein and Lorentz, being avid tennis players, play a fast-paced game on a court where they stand 20.0 m from each other. Being very skilled players, they play without a net. The tennis ball has mass 0.0580 kg. You can ignore gravity and assume that the ball travels parallel to the ground as it travels between the two players. Unless otherwise specified, all measurements are made by the two men. (a) Lorentz serves the ball at 80.0 m/s. What is the ball's kinetic energy? (b) Einstein slams a return at 1.80×10^8 m/s. What is the ball's kinetic energy? (c) During Einstein's return of the ball in part (a), a white rabbit runs beside the court in the direction from Einstein to Lorentz. The rabbit has a speed of 2.20×10^8 m/s relative to the two men. What is the speed of the rabbit relative to the ball? (d) What does the rabbit measure as the distance from Einstein to Lorentz? (e) How much time does it take for the rabbit to run 20.0 m, according to the players? (f) The white rabbit carries a pocket watch. He uses this watch to measure the time (as he sees it) for the distance from Einstein to Lorentz to pass by under him. What time does he measure?

37.67 • One of the wavelengths of light emitted by hydrogen atoms under normal laboratory conditions is $\lambda = 656.3$ nm, in the red portion of the electromagnetic spectrum. In the light emitted from a distant galaxy this same spectral line is observed to be Doppler-shifted to $\lambda = 953.4$ nm, in the infrared portion of the spectrum. How fast are the emitting atoms moving relative to the earth? Are they approaching the earth or receding from it?

37.68 •• **Measuring Speed by Radar.** A baseball coach uses a radar device to measure the speed of an approaching pitched baseball. This device sends out electromagnetic waves with frequency f_0 and then measures the shift in frequency Δf of the waves reflected from the moving baseball. If the fractional frequency shift produced by a baseball is $\Delta f/f_0 = 2.86 \times 10^{-7}$, what is the baseball's speed in km/h? (*Hint:* Are the waves Doppler-shifted a second time when reflected off the ball?)

37.69 • **Space Travel?** Travel to the stars requires hundreds or thousands of years, even at the speed of light. Some people have suggested that we can get around this difficulty by accelerating the rocket (and its astronauts) to very high speeds so that they will age less due to time dilation. The fly in this ointment is that it takes a great deal of energy to do this. Suppose you want to go to the immense red giant Betelgeuse, which is about 500 light-years away. (A light-year is the distance that light travels in a year.) You plan to travel at constant speed in a 1000-kg rocket ship (a little over a ton), which, in reality, is far too small for this purpose. In each case that follows, calculate the time for the trip, as measured by people on earth and by astronauts in the rocket ship, the energy needed in joules, and the energy needed as a percentage of U.S. yearly use (which is 1.0×10^{20} J). For comparison, arrange your results in a table showing v_{rocket}, t_{earth}, t_{rocket}, E (in J), and E (as % of U.S. use). The rocket ship's speed is (a) 0.50c; (b) 0.99c; (c) 0.9999c. On the basis of your results, does it seem likely that any government will invest in such high-speed space travel any time soon?

37.70 •• A spaceship moving at constant speed u relative to us broadcasts a radio signal at constant frequency f_0. As the spaceship approaches us, we receive a higher frequency f; after it has passed, we receive a lower frequency. (a) As the spaceship passes by, so it is instantaneously moving neither toward nor away from us, show that the frequency we receive is not f_0, and derive an expression for the frequency we do receive. Is the frequency we receive higher or lower than f_0? (*Hint:* In this case, successive wave crests move the same distance to the observer and so they have the same transit time. Thus f equals $1/T$. Use the time dilation formula to relate the periods in the stationary and moving frames.) (b) A spaceship emits electromagnetic waves of frequency $f_0 = 345$ MHz as measured in a frame moving with the ship. The spaceship is moving at a constant speed $0.758c$ relative to us. What frequency f do we receive when the spaceship is approaching us? When it is moving away? In each case what is the shift in frequency, $f - f_0$? (c) Use the result of part (a) to calculate the frequency f and the frequency shift $(f - f_0)$ we receive at the instant that the ship passes by us. How does the shift in frequency calculated here compare to the shifts calculated in part (b)?

37.71 • **CP** In a particle accelerator a proton moves with constant speed $0.750c$ in a circle of radius 628 m. What is the net force on the proton?

37.72 •• **CP** The French physicist Armand Fizeau was the first to measure the speed of light accurately. He also found experimentally that the speed, relative to the lab frame, of light traveling in a tank of water that is itself moving at a speed V relative to the lab frame is

$$v = \frac{c}{n} + kV$$

where $n = 1.333$ is the index of refraction of water. Fizeau called k the dragging coefficient and obtained an experimental value of $k = 0.44$. What value of k do you calculate from relativistic transformations?

CHALLENGE PROBLEMS

37.73 ••• **CALC Lorentz Transformation for Acceleration.** Using a method analogous to the one in the text to find the Lorentz transformation formula for velocity, we can find the Lorentz transformation for *acceleration*. Let frame S' have a constant x-component of velocity u relative to frame S. An object moves relative to frame S along the x-axis with instantaneous velocity v_x and instantaneous acceleration a_x. (a) Show that its instantaneous acceleration in frame S' is

$$a'_x = a_x\left(1 - \frac{u^2}{c^2}\right)^{3/2}\left(1 - \frac{uv_x}{c^2}\right)^{-3}$$

[*Hint:* Express the acceleration in S' as $a'_x = dv'_x/dt'$. Then use Eq. (37.21) to express dt' in terms of dt and dx, and use Eq. (37.22) to express dv'_x in terms of u and dv_x. The velocity of the object in S is $v_x = dx/dt$.] (b) Show that the acceleration in frame S can be expressed as

$$a_x = a'_x\left(1 - \frac{u^2}{c^2}\right)^{3/2}\left(1 + \frac{uv'_x}{c^2}\right)^{-3}$$

where $v'_x = dx'/dt'$ is the velocity of the object in frame S'.

37.74 ••• **CALC A Realistic Version of the Twin Paradox.** A rocket ship leaves the earth on January 1, 2100. Stella, one of a pair of twins born in the year 2075, pilots the rocket (reference frame S'); the other twin, Terra, stays on the earth (reference frame S). The rocket ship has an acceleration of constant magnitude g in its own reference frame (this makes the pilot feel at home, since it simulates the earth's gravity). The path of the rocket ship is a straight line in the $+x$-direction in frame S. (a) Using the results of Challenge Problem 37.73, show that in Terra's earth frame S, the rocket's acceleration is

$$\frac{du}{dt} = g\left(1 - \frac{u^2}{c^2}\right)^{3/2}$$

where u is the rocket's instantaneous velocity in frame S. (b) Write the result of part (a) in the form $dt = f(u)\,du$, where $f(u)$ is a function of u, and integrate both sides. (*Hint:* Use the integral given in Problem 37.63.) Show that in Terra's frame, the time when Stella attains a velocity v_{1x} is

$$t_1 = \frac{v_{1x}}{g\sqrt{1 - v_{1x}^2/c^2}}$$

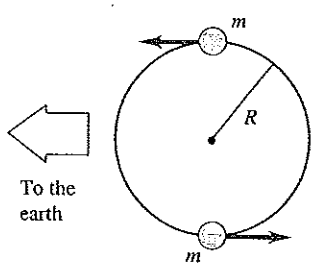
(c) Use the time dilation formula to relate dt and dt' (infinitesimal time intervals measured in frames S and S', respectively). Combine this result with the result of part (a) and integrate as in part (b) to show the following: When Stella attains a velocity v_{1x} relative to Terra, the time t_1' that has elapsed in frame S' is

$$t_1' = \frac{c}{g}\operatorname{arctanh}\left(\frac{v_{1x}}{c}\right)$$

Here arctanh is the inverse hyperbolic tangent. (*Hint:* Use the integral given in Challenge Problem 5.124.) (d) Combine the results of parts (b) and (c) to find t_1 in terms of t_1', g, and c alone. (e) Stella accelerates in a straight-line path for five years (by her clock), slows down at the same rate for five years, turns around, accelerates for five years, slows down for five years, and lands back on the earth. According to Stella's clock, the date is January 1, 2120. What is the date according to Terra's clock?

37.75 ••• CP Determining the Masses of Stars. Many of the stars in the sky are actually *binary stars,* in which two stars orbit about their common center of mass. If the orbital speeds of the stars are high enough, the motion of the stars can be detected by the Doppler shifts of the light they emit. Stars for which this is the case are called *spectroscopic binary stars.* Figure P37.75 shows the simplest case of a spectroscopic binary star: two identical stars, each with mass m, orbiting their center of mass in a circle of radius R. The plane of the stars' orbits is edge-on to the line of sight of an observer on the earth. (a) The light produced by heated hydrogen gas in a laboratory on the earth has a frequency of 4.568110×10^{14} Hz. In the light received from the stars by a telescope on the earth, hydrogen light is observed to vary in frequency between 4.567710×10^{14} Hz and 4.568910×10^{14} Hz. Determine whether the binary star system as a whole is moving toward or away from the earth, the speed of this motion, and the orbital speeds of the stars. (*Hint:* The speeds involved are much less than c, so you may use the approximate result $\Delta f/f = u/c$ given in Section 37.6.) (b) The light from each star in the binary system varies from its maximum frequency to its minimum frequency and back again in 11.0 days. Determine the orbital radius R and the mass m of each star. Give your answer for m in kilograms and as a multiple of the mass of the sun, 1.99×10^{30} kg. Compare the value of R to the distance from the earth to the sun, 1.50×10^{11} m. (This technique is actually used in astronomy to determine the masses of stars. In practice, the problem is more complicated because the two stars in a binary system are usually not identical, the orbits are usually not circular, and the plane of the orbits is usually tilted with respect to the line of sight from the earth.)

Figure **P37.75**



37.76 ••• CP CALC Relativity and the Wave Equation. (a) Consider the Galilean transformation along the x-direction: $x' = x - vt$ and $t' = t$. In frame S the wave equation for electromagnetic waves in a vacuum is

$$\frac{\partial^2 E(x,t)}{\partial x^2} - \frac{1}{c^2}\frac{\partial^2 E(x,t)}{\partial t^2} = 0$$

where E represents the electric field in the wave. Show that by using the Galilean transformation the wave equation in frame S' is found to be

$$\left(1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}\right)\frac{\partial^2 E(x',t')}{\partial x'^2} + \frac{2v}{c^2}\frac{\partial^2 E(x',t')}{\partial x'\partial t'} - \frac{1}{c^2}\frac{\partial^2 E(x',t')}{\partial t'^2} = 0$$

This has a different form than the wave equation in S. Hence the Galilean transformation *violates* the first relativity postulate that all physical laws have the same form in all inertial reference frames. (*Hint:* Express the derivatives $\partial/\partial x$ and $\partial/\partial t$ in terms of $\partial/\partial x'$ and $\partial/\partial t'$ by use of the chain rule.) (b) Repeat the analysis of part (a), but use the Lorentz coordinate transformations, Eqs. (37.21), and show that in frame S' the wave equation has the same form as in frame S:

$$\frac{\partial^2 E(x',t')}{\partial x^2} - \frac{1}{c^2}\frac{\partial^2 E(x',t')}{\partial t'^2} = 0$$

Explain why this shows that the speed of light in vacuum is c in both frames S and S'.

37.77 ••• CP Kaon Production. In high-energy physics, new particles can be created by collisions of fast-moving projectile particles with stationary particles. Some of the kinetic energy of the incident particle is used to create the mass of the new particle. A proton–proton collision can result in the creation of a negative kaon (K^-) and a positive kaon (K^+)

$$p + p \rightarrow p + p + K^- + K^+$$

(a) Calculate the minimum kinetic energy of the incident proton that will allow this reaction to occur if the second (target) proton is initially at rest. The rest energy of each kaon is 493.7 MeV, and the rest energy of each proton is 938.3 MeV. (*Hint:* It is useful here to work in the frame in which the total momentum is zero. But note that the Lorentz transformation must be used to relate the velocities in the laboratory frame to those in the zero-total-momentum frame.) (b) How does this calculated minimum kinetic energy compare with the total rest mass energy of the created kaons? (c) Suppose that instead the two protons are both in motion with velocities of equal magnitude and opposite direction. Find the minimum combined kinetic energy of the two protons that will allow the reaction to occur. How does this calculated minimum kinetic energy compare with the total rest mass energy of the created kaons? (This example shows that when colliding beams of particles are used instead of a stationary target, the energy requirements for producing new particles are reduced substantially.)

Answers

Chapter Opening Question ?

No. While the speed of light c is the ultimate "speed limit" for any particle, there is *no* upper limit on a particle's kinetic energy (see Fig. 37.21). As the speed approaches c, a small increase in speed corresponds to a large increase in kinetic energy.

Test Your Understanding Questions

37.1 Answers: (a) (i), (b) no You, too, will measure a spherical wave front that expands at the same speed c in all directions. This is a consequence of Einstein's second postulate. The wave front that you measure is *not* centered on the current position of the spaceship; rather, it is centered on the point P where the spaceship was located at the instant that it emitted the light pulse. For example, suppose the spaceship is moving at speed $c/2$. When your watch shows that a time t has elapsed since the pulse of light was emitted, your measurements will show that the wave front is a sphere of radius ct centered on P and that the spaceship is a distance $ct/2$ from P.

37.2 Answer: (iii) In Mavis's frame of reference, the two events (the Ogdenville clock striking noon and the North Haverbrook clock striking noon) are not simultaneous. Figure 37.5 shows that the event toward the front of the rail car occurs first. Since the rail car is moving toward North Haverbrook, that clock struck noon before the one on Ogdenville. So, according to Mavis, it is after noon in North Haverbrook.

37.3 Answers: (a) (ii), (b) (ii) The statement that moving clocks run slow refers to any clock that is moving relative to an observer. Maria and her stopwatch are moving relative to Samir, so Samir measures Maria's stopwatch to be running slow and to have ticked off fewer seconds than his own stopwatch. Samir and his stopwatch are moving relative to Maria, so she likewise measures Samir's stopwatch to be running slow. Each observer's measurement is correct for his or her own frame of reference. *Both* observers conclude that a moving stopwatch runs slow. This is consistent with the principle of relativity (see Section 37.1), which states that the laws of physics are the same in all inertial frames of reference.

37.4 Answer: (ii), (i) and (iii) (tie), (iv) You measure the rest length of the stationary meter stick and the contracted length of the moving spaceship to both be 1 meter. The rest length of the spaceship is greater than the contracted length that you measure, and so must be greater than 1 meter. A miniature observer on board the spaceship would measure a contracted length for the meter stick of less than 1 meter. Note that in your frame of reference the nose and tail of the spaceship can simultaneously align with the two ends of the meter stick, since in your frame of reference they have the same length of 1 meter. In the spaceship's frame these two alignments cannot happen simultaneously because the meter stick is shorter than the spaceship. Section 37.2 tells us that this shouldn't be a surprise; two events that are simultaneous to one observer may not be simultaneous to a second observer moving relative to the first one.

37.5 Answers: (a) P_1, (b) P_4 (a) The last of Eqs. (37.21) tells us the times of the two events in S': $t'_1 = \gamma(t_1 - ux_1/c^2)$ and $t'_2 = \gamma(t_2 - ux_2/c^2)$. In frame S the two events occur at the same x-coordinate, so $x_1 = x_2$, and event P_1 occurs before event P_2, so $t_1 < t_2$. Hence you can see that $t'_1 < t'_2$ and event P_1 happens before P_2 in frame S', too. This says that if event P_1 happens before P_2 in a frame of reference S where the two events occur at the same position, then P_1 happens before P_2 in any other frame moving relative to S. (b) In frame S the two events occur at different x-coordinates such that $x_3 < x_4$, and events P_3 and P_4 occur at the same time, so $t_3 = t_4$. Hence you can see that $t'_3 = \gamma(t_3 - ux_3/c^2)$ is greater than $t'_4 = \gamma(t_4 - ux_4/c^2)$, so event P_4 happens before P_3 in frame S'. This says that even though the two events are simultaneous in frame S, they need not be simultaneous in a frame moving relative to S.

37.7 Answer: (ii) Equation (37.27) tells us that the magnitude of momentum of a particle with mass m and speed v is $p = mv/\sqrt{1 - v^2/c^2}$. If v increases by a factor of 2, the numerator mv increases by a factor of 2 *and* the denominator $\sqrt{1 - v^2/c^2}$ decreases. Hence p increases by a factor greater than 2. (Note that in order to double the speed, the initial speed must be less than $c/2$. That's because the speed of light is the ultimate speed limit.)

37.8 Answer: (i) As the proton moves a distance s, the constant force of magnitude F does work $W = Fs$ and increases the kinetic energy by an amount $\Delta K = W = Fs$. This is true no matter what the speed of the proton before moving this distance. Thus the constant force increases the proton's kinetic energy by the same amount during the first meter of travel as during any subsequent meter of travel. (It's true that as the proton approaches the ultimate speed limit of c, the increase in the proton's *speed* is less and less with each subsequent meter of travel. That's not what the question is asking, however.)

Bridging Problem

Answers: (a) $0.268c$ (b) 35.6 MeV (c) 145 MeV