

Due on Monday, April 19th.

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1. $A = (A^0, A^1, A^2, A^3)$ and $B = (B^0, B^1, B^2, B^3)$ are 4-vectors. Under a Lorentz transformation from frame Σ to $\tilde{\Sigma}$, the components of A transform as

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{A}^0 &= \gamma_v \left(A^0 - \frac{v}{c} A^1 \right) , & \tilde{A}^1 &= \gamma_v \left(A^1 - \frac{v}{c} A^0 \right) , \\ \tilde{A}^2 &= A^2 \cos \theta + A^3 \sin \theta , & \tilde{A}^3 &= -A^2 \sin \theta + A^3 \cos \theta .\end{aligned}$$

- (a) [**2 pts**] Write down the transformations for the components of B .
- (b) [**6 pts**] Show that the inner product, defined as

$$A \star B = A^0 B^0 - A^1 B^1 - A^2 B^2 - A^3 B^3 ,$$

is invariant under this transformation.

- (c) [**2 pts**] The Lorentz transformation described here consists of a boost and a rotation. Describe in words how frame $\tilde{\Sigma}$ is moving and oriented with respect to frame Σ .
- (d) [**SELF**] Write the given transformations (for the components of A) as a matrix equation.

2. In the lab frame, particle B moves to the right with speed u , and particle C moves to the left with speed v . In the frame of C , particle B is seen to move to the right with speed w , while particle C itself is of course at rest.

Of course, w can be written down in terms of u and v using the velocity addition formula, but we will re-derive this formula below using 4-velocities.

I encourage you to use $c = 1$ units for this problem. (But you can choose.)

- (a) [**3 pts**] In the lab frame, write down the 4-velocities for particle B and for particle C .
- (b) [**3 pts**] In C 's frame, write down the 4-velocities for B and C .
- (c) [**3 pts**] The inner product of the two 4-velocities should be invariant. Write down an equation equating the inner product in the two frames.
- (d) [**3 pts**] From the inner product invariance, derive an expression for γ_w in terms of γ_u , γ_v , u and v . (This equation should be familiar.)
- (e) [**3 pts**] From the equation relating γ 's, derive an expression for w in terms of u and v . You should have recovered a familiar formula.

3. (Compton scattering.) A photon of wavelength λ collides with a stationary electron. After the collision, the photon scatters at an angle θ with respect to the incident direction, and has wavelength λ' . The electron moves with momentum p_e after the collision, in a direction making angle ϕ with the incident direction of the photon.

(a) [**3 pts**] Draw the situations before and after, clearly showing everything relevant.

(b) [**6 pts**] Write down the equation for energy conservation, and two equations for momentum conservation. (Since momentum is a vector, you have one equation for each relevant direction.)

(c) [**6 pts**] Show that

$$\lambda' = \lambda + \frac{h}{mc}(1 - \cos \theta)$$

Hint: you don't need to introduce velocity. If you need to transform between energy and momentum, use the relation $E^2 = p^2c^2 + m^2c^4$.

4. Frames Σ and Σ' are aligned at $t = t' = 0$, and Σ' moves with velocity v relative to Σ in the common x, x' direction.

(a) [**2 pts**] Represent (draw) both frames on a common spacetime diagram such that the ct and x axes are perpendicular. What angles are made by the ct' and x' axes? How are the units for x' related to the units for x ?

(b) [**SELF**] A stick of length L lies at rest in the Σ' frame, with one end at the origin of the Σ' frame. Draw the world sheet of the stick.

(c) [**8 pts**] Calculate geometrically the length of the stick measured in the Σ frame. (This will require careful drawings, so please do not submit your first attempt — first work out on rough paper what you want to present, and then produce neat drawings.)