

1 Exercise 5.1

Consider an inertial frame S with coordinates $x^\mu = (t, x, y, z)$ and a frame S' with coordinates x'^μ related to S by a boost with velocity parameter v along the y -axis. Imagine we have a wall at rest in S' , lying along the line $x' = -y'$. From the point of view of S , what is the relationship between the incident angle of a ball hitting the wall (travelling in the x - y plane) and the reflected angle? What about the velocity before and after?

2 Exercise 5.2

Imagine that space (not spacetime) is actually a finite box, or in more sophisticated terms, a three-torus, of size L . By this we mean that there is a coordinate system $x^\mu = (t, x, y, z)$ such that every point with coordinates (t, x, y, z) is identified with every point with coordinates $(t, x + L, y, z), (t, x, y + L, z)$ and $(t, x, y, z + L)$. Note that the time coordinate is the same. Now consider two observers; observer A is at rest in this coordinate system (constant spatial coordinates), while observer B moves in the x -direction with constant velocity v . A and B begin at the same event, and while A remains atill, B moves once around the univers and comes back to intersect the worldline of A without ever having to accelerate (since the univers is periodic). What are the relative proper times experienced in this interval by A and B ? Is this consistent with your understanding of Lorentz invariance?

3 Exercise 5.3

Three events A, B, C , are seen by observer \mathcal{O} to occur in the order $A B C$. Another observer, $\bar{\mathcal{O}}$, sees the events to occur in the order $C B A$. Is it possible that a third observer sees the events in the order $A C B$? Support your conclusion by drawing a spacetime diagram.

4 Exercise 5.4

Projection effects can trick you into thinking that an astrophysical object is moving “superluminally”. Consider a quasar that ejects gas with speed v at angle θ with respect to the line-of-sight of the observer. Projected onto the sky, the gas appears to travel perpendicular to the line-of-sight with angular speed v_{app}/D , where D is the distance to to the quasar and v_{app} is the apparent speed. Derive an expression for v_{app} in terms of v and θ . Show that, for appropriate values of v and θ , v_{app} can be greater than 1.

5 Exercise 5.5

Particle physicists are used to setting $c = 1$ that they measure mass in units of energy. In particular, they tend to use electron volts ($1 \text{ eV} = 1.6 \times 10^{-12} \text{ erg} = 1.8 \times 10^{-33} \text{ g}$), or, more commonly, keV, MeV, and GeV (10^3 eV , 10^6 eV , and 10^9 eV , respectively). The muon has been measured to have a mass of 0.106 GeV and a rest frame lifetime of 2.19×10^{-6} seconds. Imagine that such a muon is moving in the circular storage ring of a particle accelerator, 1 kilometer in diameter, such that the muon's total energy is 1000 GeV . How long would it appear to live from the experimenter's point of view? How many radians would it travel around the ring?