

What is light?

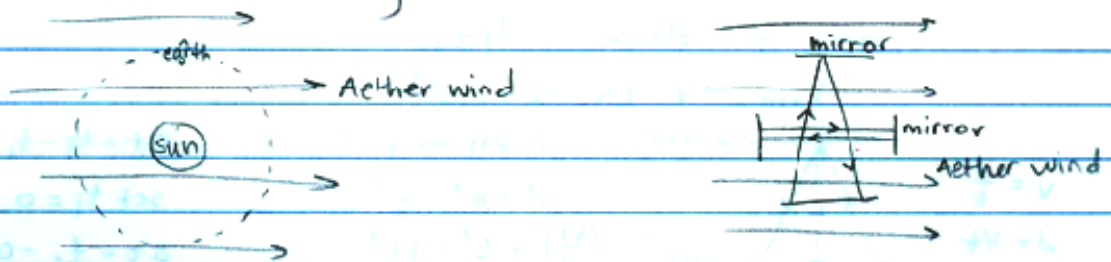
- particle or wave

Aether: medium for light

1801: Thomas Young's Double Slit Experiment

↳ proved light is a wave

1887: Michelson-Morely Interferometer



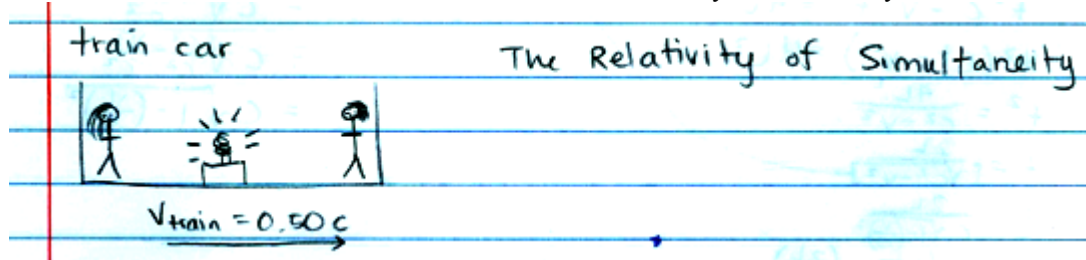
↳ proved that there is no aether

↳ proved $c = 3.00 \times 10^8 \frac{m}{s}$ no matter who measures it

Light is EM waves

- Alternating E & B fields
- the only known self-propagating wave

Video Lecture #3 – Introduction to the Relativity of Simultaneity



1905: Albert Einstein

- special theory of relativity

Time Dilation

- Light clock



$$d = 2L$$

$$V = \frac{d}{t} = \frac{2L}{t}$$

$$t = \frac{2L}{V}$$

$$t_0 = \frac{2L}{c}$$

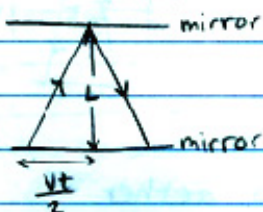
- t_0 : proper time: time measured w/ a single clock @ rest in the frame in which the events take place.

- put light clock on train

$V_{\text{train}} = V$ (to the right)

$$V = \frac{d}{t}$$

$$d = Vt$$



$$d = 2H \Rightarrow H = ?$$

$$a^2 + b^2 = c^2$$

$$\left(\frac{Vt}{2}\right)^2 + L^2 = H^2$$

$$H = \sqrt{\left(\frac{Vt}{2}\right)^2 + L^2}$$

$$\Delta t = t_f - t_i$$

set $t_i = 0$

$$\Delta t = t_f - 0$$

$$\Delta t = t_f = t$$

$$d = 2H = 2\sqrt{\left(\frac{Vt}{2}\right)^2 + L^2}$$

$$V = \frac{d}{t} \Rightarrow t = \frac{d}{V} = \frac{2\sqrt{\left(\frac{Vt}{2}\right)^2 + L^2}}{c}$$

$$t = \frac{2}{c} \sqrt{\left(\frac{Vt}{2}\right)^2 + L^2}$$

$$t^2 = \frac{4}{c^2} \left(\left(\frac{Vt}{2}\right)^2 + L^2 \right)$$

$$t^2 c^2 = 4 \left(\frac{V^2 t^2}{4} + L^2 \right)$$

$$t^2 c^2 = V^2 t^2 + 4L^2$$

$$t^2 c^2 - V^2 t^2 = 4L^2$$

$$t^2 (c^2 - V^2) = 4L^2$$

$$t^2 = \frac{4L^2}{c^2 - V^2}$$

$$t = \frac{2L}{\sqrt{c^2 - V^2}}$$

$$t = \frac{2L}{c \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{V}{c}\right)^2}}$$

$$t = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{V}{c}\right)^2}} \left(\frac{2L}{c} \right)$$

$$t = \gamma t_0$$

$$\gamma = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{V}{c}\right)^2}}$$

$$\sqrt{c^2 - V^2} = \frac{c}{c} \sqrt{c^2 - V^2}$$

$$= c \sqrt{\frac{c^2 - V^2}{c^2}}$$

$$= c \sqrt{\frac{c^2 - \frac{V^2}{c^2} c^2}{c^2}}$$

$$= c \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{V}{c}\right)^2}$$

Twin Paradox

- twin on ship
- $v_{\text{ship}} = 0.95c$

ship time

- 10.0 years away earth
- 10.0 years back to earth

↳ how old are each of you?

- A: twin = 20.0 y.o.

$$\gamma = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{v}{c}\right)^2}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{0.95c}{c}\right)^2}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - 0.95^2}} = 3.20256$$

$$t = \gamma t_0 = (3.20256)(20.0) = 64.0512 \text{ y.o.} = \text{you}$$

Length contraction

$$\hookrightarrow L = \frac{L_0}{\gamma}$$

$$\hookrightarrow E_0 = mc^2 \Rightarrow \text{rest energy}$$

$$\hookrightarrow E = \gamma E_0$$

Limits $v \Rightarrow c$

- when $v=c$, $\gamma = \frac{1}{0}$

$$\gamma = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{v}{c}\right)^2}}$$

- when $v \Rightarrow c$ (a little smaller), $\gamma \Rightarrow \infty$

- c is the universal speed limit.

Video Lecture #7 – A Discussion of the Consequences of The Special Theory of Relativity

Length contraction

$$\rightarrow L = \frac{L_0}{\gamma}$$

$$\rightarrow E_0 = mc^2 \Rightarrow \text{rest energy}$$

$$\rightarrow E = \gamma E_0$$

Limits $v \Rightarrow c$

- when $v = c$, $\gamma = \frac{1}{0}$

$$\gamma = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - (\frac{v}{c})^2}}$$

- when $v \Rightarrow c$ (a little smaller), $\gamma \Rightarrow \infty$

- c is the universal speed limit.

Video Lecture #7 – A Discussion of Black Holes, How to Find Them and Spaghettification (no lecture notes)

Video Lecture #8 – A Discussion of our Galaxy, The Universe and How Insignificant We Are (no lecture notes)