

Compare: $\frac{|x_B - x_A|}{t_B - t_A}$ to c !

$$\frac{|x_B - x_A|}{t_B - t_A} > c, \text{ then}$$

A cannot influence B

There exists a frame where:

A + B are simultaneous,
but physically
separated.

SPACE-LIKE

$$\frac{|x_B - x_A|}{t_B - t_A} < c$$

A can influence B

No frame where A + B simultaneous,
but a frame where $x'_A = x'_B$
with $\Delta t = t'_B - t'_A$

TIME-LIKE

Look in a different frame
 Define: $L = \Delta x_B - x_A > \underline{0}$ ^{assume}

$$T = \Delta t_B - t_A$$

$$x_A' = \gamma(x_A - ut_A) \quad x_B' = \gamma(x_B - ut_B)$$

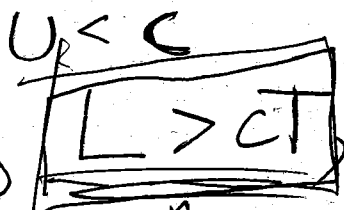
$$t_A' = \gamma\left(t_A - \frac{u}{c} \frac{x_A}{c}\right) \quad t_B' = \gamma\left(t_B - \frac{u}{c} \frac{x_B}{c}\right)$$

$$L' = \gamma(x_A - x_B - u(t_B - t_A)) = \gamma(\Delta x - u\Delta t)$$

$$L' = \gamma(L - uT)$$

$$T' = \gamma\left(T - \frac{u}{c} \frac{L}{c}\right)$$

← stare.



- is: L' $\begin{cases} \text{A) always } > 0 \\ \text{B) always } = 0 \\ \text{C) always } < 0 \\ \text{D) none of above} \end{cases}$

Then:

L' can never change sign. "

"space like"

$$T' = \gamma\left(T - \beta \cdot \frac{L}{c}\right)$$

↑ big

T' can be ... $\begin{cases} > 0 \\ = 0 \\ < 0 \end{cases}$ β super small
 β just right

Event A : $x_A = 0, t_A = 0$

Event B : $x_B = 20 \text{ ft}, t_B = 40 \text{ ns}$

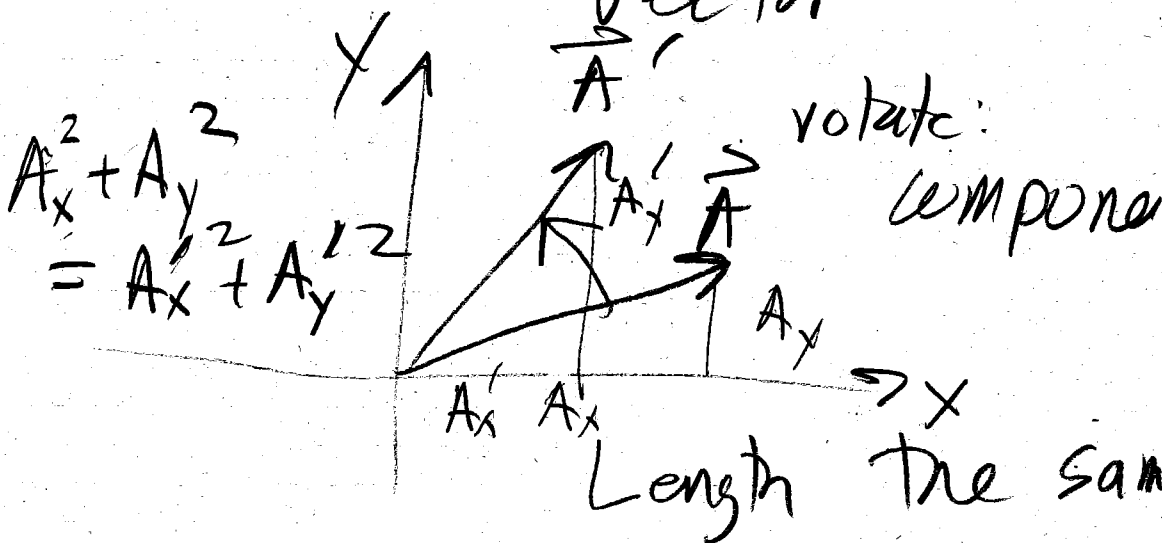
(A) SPACE-LIKE

(B) TIME-LIKE

Consider the "Interval"

Lorentz Invariant

Analogy : Length of a Vector



$$L < cT$$

now $T' = \gamma \left(T - \frac{v}{c} \frac{L}{c} \right) > 0$

$$\uparrow < 1$$

no matter what!

TIME-LIKE

$$L' = \gamma(L - vT)$$

$$\begin{aligned} &> 0 \\ &= 0 \\ &0 \end{aligned}$$

choose

$$v = \frac{L}{T}$$

$$\underline{\underline{L' = 0}}$$

but

Events on
TOP of
each
other.

$$T' = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}}} \left(T - \frac{L^2}{c^2 T} \right)$$

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

big ↑

↑ small

when $L > cT$, a frame where two events simultaneous exists.

$$T' = 0 = \gamma \left(T - \frac{v}{c} \frac{L}{c} \right)$$

$$T = \frac{v}{c} \frac{L}{c}$$

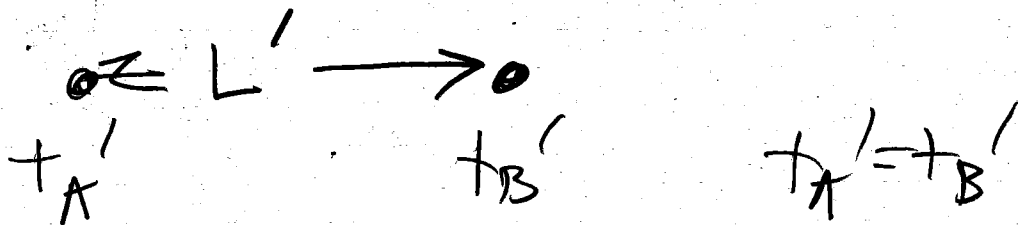
$$v = \frac{c^2 T}{L}, \quad \beta = \frac{v}{c} = \frac{cT}{L}$$

then

$$L' = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{cT}{L}\right)^2}} \left(L - \frac{c^2 T^2}{L} \right)$$

$$L' = L \cdot \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{cT}{L}\right)^2} = \sqrt{L^2 - (cT)^2}$$

in this frame



obvious A + B cannot influence one another!