

What About Momentum?

Newton says:

$$\mathbf{p} = m\mathbf{v}$$

$$\mathbf{F} = \frac{d\mathbf{p}}{dt} = m\mathbf{a}$$

We also have:

Conservation of momentum

Conservation of energy

As $\mathbf{p} \rightarrow \infty$, classically $\mathbf{v} \rightarrow \infty$

In fact:

$$\mathbf{p}_{\text{rel}} = \gamma m_0 \mathbf{v}$$

This is **not** allowed in special relativity.

Therefore: $\mathbf{p}_{\text{rel}} = m_0 f(v) \mathbf{v}$

Where m_0 is the **REST MASS**.

Newton's Second Law

$$\mathbf{F}_{\text{rel}} = \frac{d\mathbf{p}_{\text{rel}}}{dt} = m \frac{d}{dt} [\gamma \mathbf{v}]$$

Therefore Force = mass x acceleration
is **not** valid in special relativity.

$$\mathbf{F}_{\text{rel}} = \gamma m \mathbf{a} + m \mathbf{v} \frac{d\gamma}{dt}$$

Lorentz Force

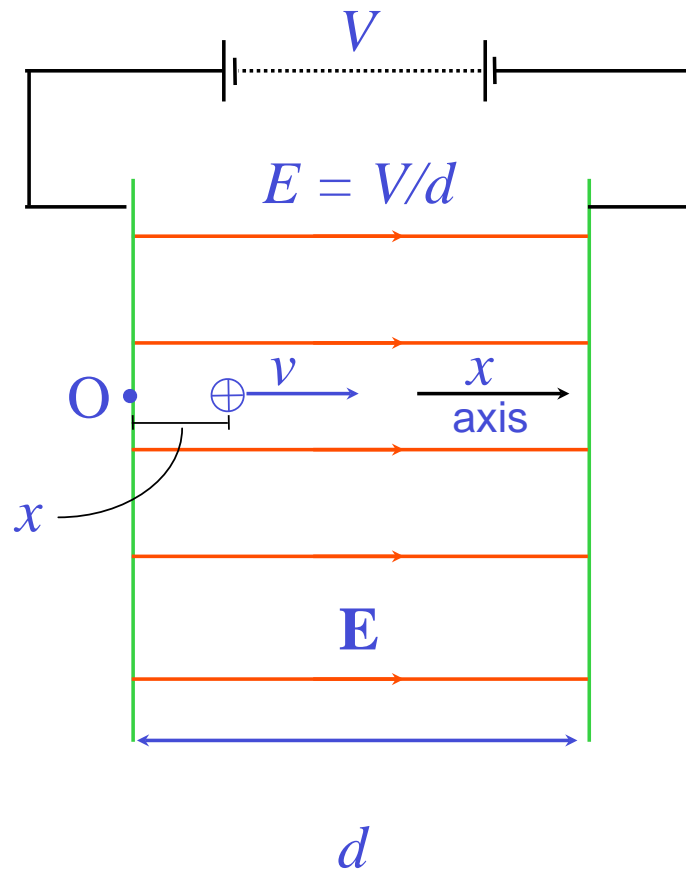
$$\mathbf{F} = \frac{d}{dt} (\gamma m \mathbf{v}) = q \mathbf{E} + q \mathbf{v} \wedge \mathbf{B}$$

q = charge (**INVARIANT**)

\mathbf{E} = electric field

\mathbf{B} = magnetic flux density

Capacitor Example



$$\frac{d}{dt} = \left[\frac{v}{(1 - v^2/c^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}} \right] = \frac{qE}{m}$$

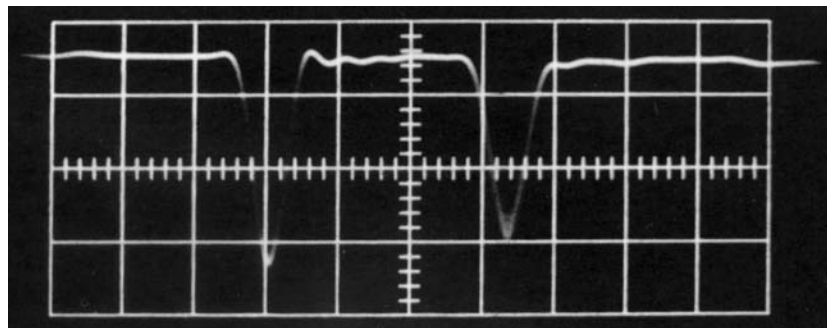
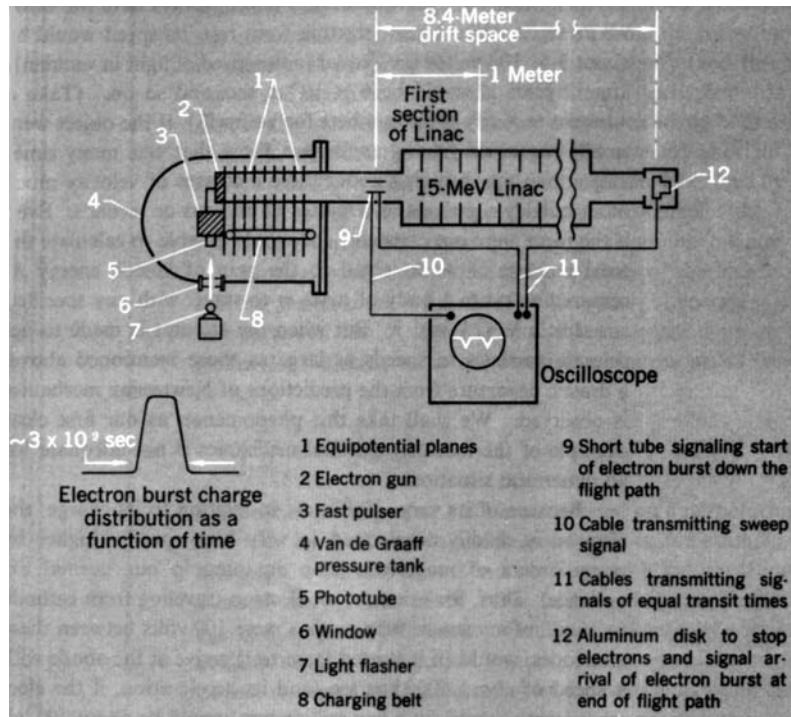
$$v = \frac{c}{(1 + m^2 c^2 / q^2 E^2 t^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}}$$

for $v \ll c$

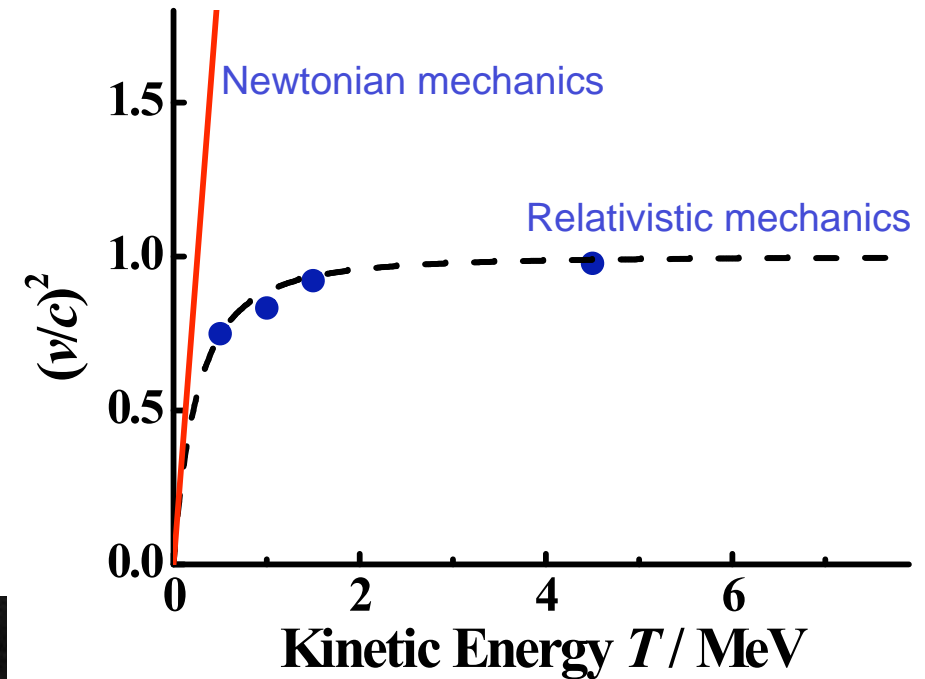
$$v \approx \frac{qEt}{m}$$

(as required by
Newton)

Momenergy

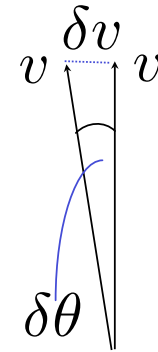
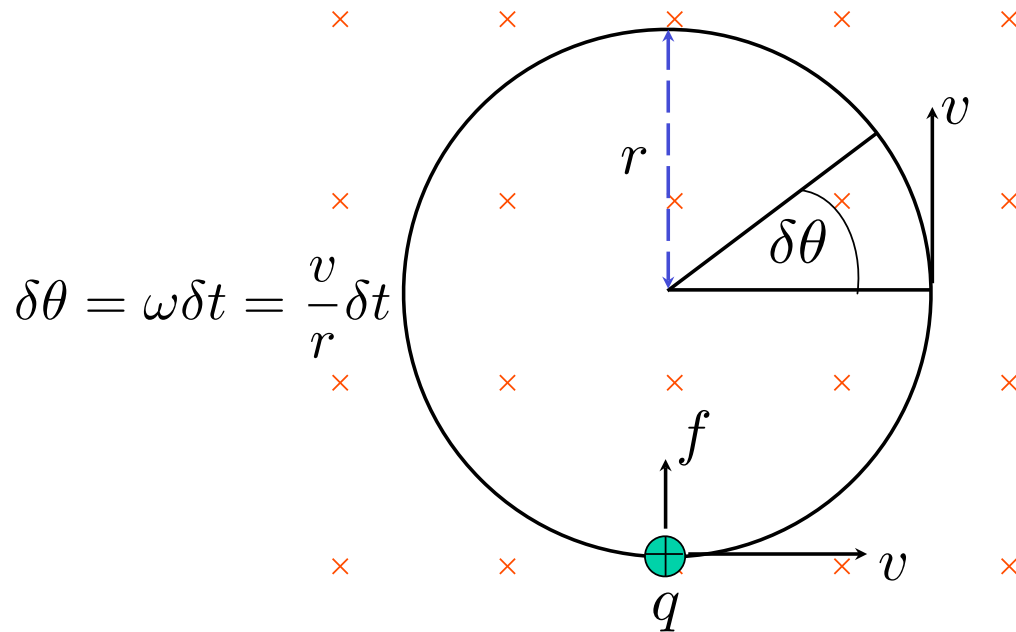


1ns/division



Motion in a Magnetic Field

B points down into page



$$\frac{\delta v}{v} \approx \delta\theta$$

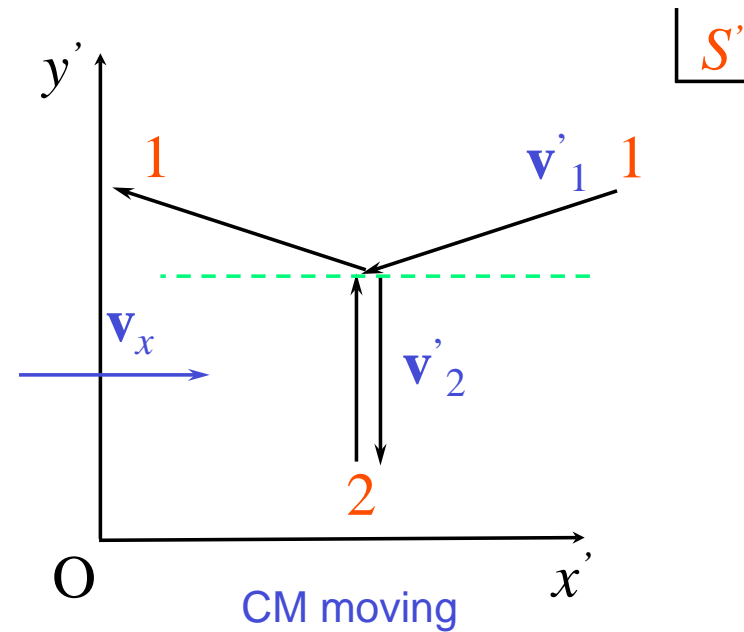
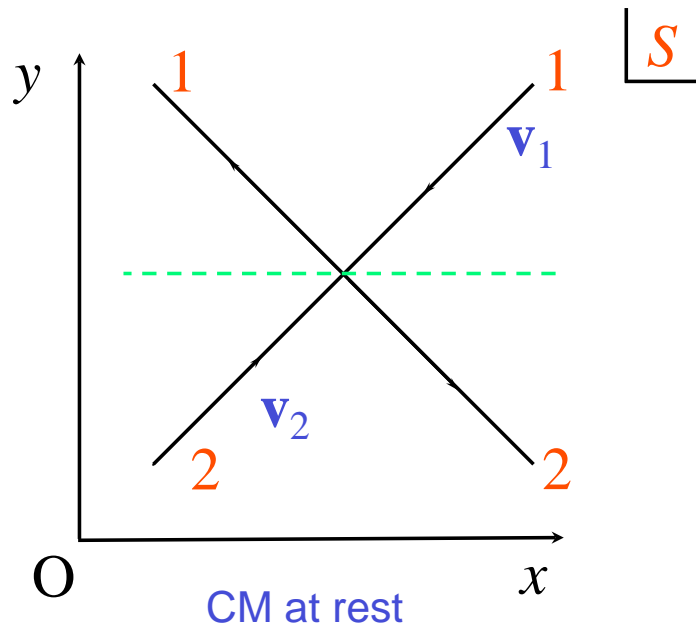
$$\approx \frac{v}{r}\delta t$$

$$a = \frac{\delta v}{\delta t} = \frac{v^2}{r}$$

$$f_{\text{mag}} = qvB = \gamma m \frac{dv}{dt}$$

$$a = \frac{qvB}{\gamma m} = \frac{v^2}{r} \quad \& \quad r = \frac{\gamma m v}{qB} \quad \& \quad \omega = \frac{qB}{\gamma m}$$

Elastic Collision



$$\begin{array}{cc} \mathbf{v}_1 & \mathbf{v}_2 \\ (-v_x, -v_y) & (v_x, v_y) \\ (-v_x, v_y) & (v_x, -v_y) \end{array}$$

Before

After

$$\begin{array}{cc} \mathbf{v}'_1 & \mathbf{v}'_2 \\ (-v'_x, -v'_{1y'}) & (0, v'_{2y'}) \\ (-v'_x, v'_{1y'}) & (0, -v'_{2y'}) \end{array}$$

$$\sum m\mathbf{v} = 0 \text{ in } y \text{ direction}$$

$$\sum m\mathbf{v}' \neq 0 \text{ in } y' \text{ direction since}$$

$$v'_{1y'} \neq v'_{2y'}$$

Relativistic Energy

$$W = \int F dx = \int_0^t F v dt$$

Then:

$$Fv = mv^2 \frac{d\gamma}{dt} + m\gamma v \frac{dv}{dt}$$

$$W = mc^2(\gamma - 1) = mc^2 \left[\frac{1}{(1 - v^2/c^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}} - 1 \right]$$

This is the **Relativistic Kinetic Energy**.

$$E = W + mc^2 = \gamma mc^2$$

Then

$$E^2 - p^2 c^2 = m^2 c^4$$

Thus $E^2 - p^2 c^2$ is an **INVARIANT**

And so we have :-

