

Question: why we need to prove Lorentz Transformation over Galilian Transformation?

Ans:

we need to prove Lorentz Transformation because Galilian transformation failed to solve the problem of constancy of speed of light but Lorentz transformation satisfy the 2nd postulate of special theory of relativity.

Lorentz Transformation:

$$x' = \gamma (x - vt)$$

$$y' = y$$

$$z' = z$$

$$t' = \gamma \left(t - \frac{v}{c^2} x \right)$$

where

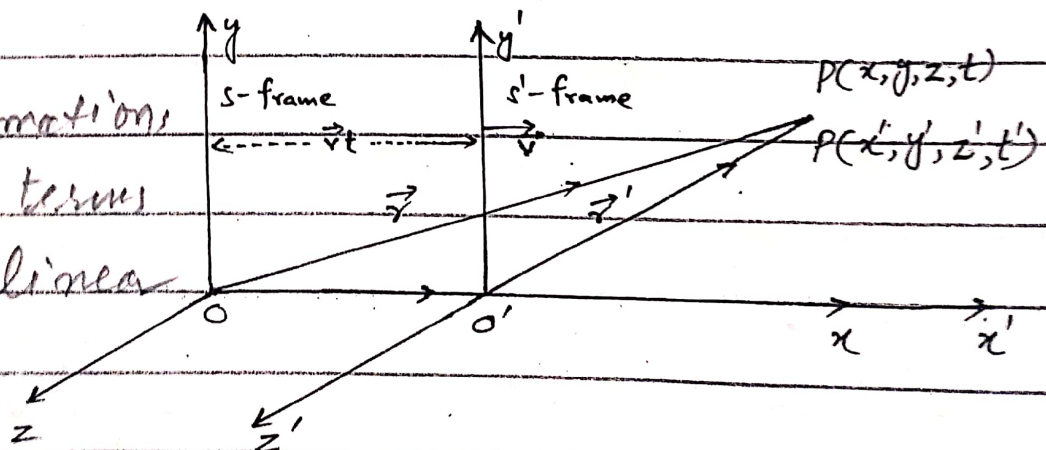
$$\gamma = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}}}$$

called Lorentz factor.

proof:

Consider two frames S & S' . Initially these frames coincides so $t' = t = 0$ if S' frame moving along x -axis with velocity \vec{v} . Then axis remains parallel to each other.

The transformation (x', y', z', t') in terms of (x, y, z, t) is linear



where k is a scalar factor to be determined

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Since $S \parallel S'$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{if } \vec{a} \parallel \vec{b} \\ \Rightarrow \vec{a} = \lambda \vec{b} \end{array} \right\}$$

Therefore

$$x' = k(x - vt) \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

$$x = k(x' + vt') \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

According to the Lorentz $t \neq t'$

For value of k .

$$\therefore \left[\begin{array}{l} \text{G.T} \\ x' = x - vt \\ x = x' + vt' \\ \text{where} \\ t' = t \end{array} \right]$$

Consider a ray of light instead of particle

Then ($S = vt$)

$$x = ct \quad \text{in } S\text{-frame}$$

$$x' = ct' \quad \text{in } S'\text{-frame}$$

Here

$$[c' = c]$$

put in (1) & (2), we get:

$$\text{(1)} \Rightarrow ct' = k(ct - vt)$$

$$ct' = k(c - v)t \quad \text{--- (3)}$$

$$\text{(2)} \Rightarrow ct = k(ct' + vt')$$

$$ct = k(c + v)t' \quad \text{--- (4)}$$

Multiplying (3) & (4)

$$ct' \times ct = k(c - v)t \times k(c + v)t'$$

$$c^2 t t' = k^2 (c - v)(c + v) t t'$$

$$c^2 = k^2 (c^2 - v^2)$$

$$\frac{c^2}{c^2 - v^2} = k^2$$

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

Taking square-root

$$k = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}}} = \gamma \quad (\text{say}) \quad \text{--- (5)}$$

$$\text{if } \beta = \frac{v}{c} \quad (\text{speed parameter}) \Rightarrow \gamma = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \beta^2}}$$

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Using equation (5) in (1)

$$x' = \gamma (x - vt)$$

Now for value of t'

$$(2) \Rightarrow x = k (x' + vt')$$

$$\frac{x}{k} = x' + vt'$$

$$\frac{x}{k} - x' = vt'$$

$$vt' = \frac{x}{k} - x'$$

$$t' = \frac{x - kx'}{kv} \quad \text{--- (6)}$$

put $x' = k(x - vt)$ in equ (6)

$$t' = \frac{x - k[k(x - vt)]}{kv}$$

$$t' = \frac{x - k^2x + kvt}{kv}$$

$$t' = k \left[\frac{k^2vt - (k^2 - 1)x}{k^2v} \right]$$

$$t' = k \left[\frac{k^2vt - (k^2 - 1)x}{k^2v} \right]$$

$$t' = k \left[\frac{k^2vt}{k^2v} - \frac{(k^2 - 1)x}{k^2v} \right]$$

$$t' = k \left[t - \left(\frac{k^2 - 1}{k^2} \right) \frac{x}{v} \right] \quad \text{--- (7)}$$

Since

$$k = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - v^2/c^2}} \Rightarrow k^2 = \frac{1}{1 - v^2/c^2}$$

$$k^2 - 1 = \frac{1}{1 - v^2/c^2} - 1$$

$$k^2 - 1 = \frac{1 - 1 + v^2/c^2}{1 - v^2/c^2}$$

$$\frac{k^2 - 1}{k^2} = \left(\frac{v^2/c^2}{1 - v^2/c^2} \right) \left/ \left(\frac{1}{1 - v^2/c^2} \right) \right. = \frac{k^2 - 1}{k^2} = \frac{v^2}{c^2} \quad \text{(8)}$$

using eqn (1) in (1)

$$t' = \gamma \left[t - \frac{v}{c^2} x \right]$$

$$\left[t' = \gamma \left(t - \frac{v}{c^2} x \right) \right] \quad \therefore k = \gamma$$

Hence proved the Lorentz transformation are

$$x' = \gamma(x - vt)$$

$$\text{where } \gamma = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - v^2/c^2}}$$

$$y' = y$$

$$z' = z$$

$$\& \beta = \frac{v}{c}$$

$$t' = \gamma \left(t - \frac{v}{c^2} x \right)$$

Question:

Show that Lorentz Transform satisfy the 2nd postulate of Special theory of relativity? (Principle of constancy of speed of light).

Solution:

According to the Lorentz Transformation we have

$$x' = \gamma(x - vt)$$

Differentiate w.r.t t'

$$\frac{dx'}{dt'} = \gamma \frac{d}{dt'} (x - vt)$$

where $t' \neq t$

$$\frac{dx'}{dt'} = \gamma \frac{d}{dt} (x - vt) \frac{dt}{dt'}$$

(By chain rule)

$$\frac{dx'}{dt'} = \gamma \left[\frac{dx}{dt} - v \right] \frac{dt}{dt'}$$

By considering the light ray instead of particle so speed of light = c

$$c' = \gamma (c - v) \frac{dt}{dt'} \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

Again by using Lorentz Transformation.

$$t' = \gamma \left(t - \frac{v}{c^2} x \right)$$

Differentiate w.r.t t

$$\frac{dt'}{dt} = \gamma \frac{d}{dt} \left(t - \frac{v}{c^2} x \right)$$

$$\frac{dt'}{dt} = \gamma \left(\frac{dt}{dt} - \frac{v}{c^2} \frac{dx}{dt} \right)$$

$\therefore \frac{dx}{dt} = c$
speed of light

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

$$\frac{dt'}{dt} = \gamma \left(\frac{c-v}{c} \right)$$

$$\frac{dt'}{dt} = \frac{\gamma(c-v)}{c}$$

(Inverting eqn)

$$\frac{dt}{dt'} = \frac{c}{\gamma(c-v)} \quad (2)$$

using (2) in (1)

$$c' = \gamma(c-v) \cdot \frac{c}{\gamma(c-v)}$$

$$\boxed{c' = c}$$

Hence the Lorentz transformation satisfies the 2nd postulate of S.T.R that speed of light remain constant in all intertial frames.

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