

Reverse transform obtained by taking  $v \rightarrow -v$  in above

~~$$\begin{cases} ct = \gamma ct' + \gamma \left(\frac{v}{c}\right) x' \\ x = \gamma \left(\frac{v}{c}\right) ct' + \gamma x' \end{cases}$$~~

### 4-vectors

4-position:  $x_\mu = (x_1, x_2, x_3, ict)$   $x_4 \equiv ict$

summation convention  $x_\mu x_\mu \equiv \sum_{\mu=1}^4 x_\mu^2 = r^2 - c^2 t^2$  Lorentz invariant scalar  
 - sum over repeated indices - has same value in all

Lorentz transf for  $K \rightarrow K'$  where  $K'$  moves with  $v$  w.r.t as seen by  $K$ . inertial frames

$$\left. \begin{aligned} x_1' &= \gamma \left( x_1 + i \left(\frac{v}{c}\right) x_4 \right) \\ x_2' &= x_2 \\ x_3' &= x_3 \\ x_4' &= \gamma \left( x_4 - i \left(\frac{v}{c}\right) x_1 \right) \end{aligned} \right\} \text{linear transf, can be represented by a matrix}$$

or  $x'_\mu = a_{\mu\nu}(L) x_\nu$

$\mathbb{L}$  matrix of Lorentz transformation  $L$

$$a(L) = \begin{pmatrix} \gamma & 0 & 0 & i \frac{v}{c} \gamma \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -i \frac{v}{c} \gamma & 0 & 0 & \gamma \end{pmatrix}$$

inverse:  $x_\mu = a_{\mu\nu}(L^{-1}) x'_\nu$

$a_{\mu\nu}(L^{-1})$  is given by taking  $v \rightarrow -v$  in  $a_{\mu\nu}(L)$

we see  $a_{\mu\nu}(L^{-1}) = a_{\nu\mu}(L)$   
 inverse = transpose  $\Rightarrow$  "orthogonal"

More generally

Since  $x_\mu^2$  is Lorentz invariant scalar,

$$x_\mu'^2 = a_{\mu\nu}(L) a_{\mu\lambda}(L) x_\nu x_\lambda = x_\lambda^2$$

$$\Rightarrow a_{\mu\nu}(L) a_{\mu\lambda}(L) = \delta_{\nu\lambda}$$

$$\Rightarrow a_{\nu\mu}^t(L) a_{\mu\lambda}(L) = \delta_{\nu\lambda}$$

$$\Rightarrow a_{\nu\mu}^t = a_{\mu\nu}^{-1}(L) \quad \text{transpose} = \text{inverse}$$

a matrix whose transpose equals its inverse is called an orthogonal matrix.  $a_{\mu\nu}$  is 4x4 orthogonal matrix

If  $L_1$  is a Lorentz transf from  $K$  to  $K'$

$L_2$  is a Lorentz transf from  $K'$  to  $K''$

Then the Lorentz transf from  $K$  to  $K''$  is given by the matrix

$$a(L_2 L_1) = a(L_2) a(L_1)$$

if  $L_1 = L$  and  $L_2 = L^{-1}$  so  $L_2 L_1 = I$  identity

$$\Rightarrow a^{-1}(L) = a(L^{-1})$$

4-differential

$$dx_\mu = (dx_1, dx_2, dx_3, icdt)$$

particle on trajectory  $\vec{r}(t)$   
 $dx_1 = x_1(t+dt) - x_1(t)$   
etc

$$-(dx_\mu)^2 \equiv c^2 ds^2 = c^2 dt^2 - dr^2 \quad \text{Lorentz invariant scalar}$$

$$ds^2 = dt^2 \left[ 1 - \frac{1}{c^2} \left( \frac{dx_1}{dt} \right)^2 - \frac{1}{c^2} \left( \frac{dx_2}{dt} \right)^2 - \frac{1}{c^2} \left( \frac{dx_3}{dt} \right)^2 \right]$$

$$ds^2 = \frac{dt^2}{\gamma^2}$$

$$\vec{v} = \frac{d\vec{r}}{dt}$$

$$\boxed{ds = \frac{dt}{\gamma}}$$

proper time interval

$ds$  is the same in all inertial frames.

A 4-vector is any 4 numbers that transform under a Lorentz transformation the same way as does  $x_\mu$

4-velocity  $u_\mu \equiv \frac{dx_\mu}{ds} \equiv \dot{x}_\mu$  dot indicates derivative with respect to  $s$

$$= \gamma \frac{dx_\mu}{dt}$$

since  $dx_\mu$  is a 4-vector and  $ds$  is Lorentz invariant scalar, then  $\frac{dx_\mu}{ds}$  is a

4-vector,

space components  $\vec{u} = \gamma \vec{v}$

$$u_4 = ic\gamma$$

$$u_\mu = \gamma(\vec{v}, ic)$$

$$u_\mu u_\mu = \gamma^2 v^2 - c^2 \gamma^2 = \gamma^2 (v^2 - c^2)$$

$$= \frac{v^2 - c^2}{1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}} = -c^2 \quad \text{Lorentz invariant scalar}$$

4-acceleration  $a_\mu \equiv \frac{du_\mu}{ds} = \gamma \frac{du_\mu}{dt}$

4-gradient  $\frac{\partial}{\partial x_\mu} \equiv \left( \vec{\nabla}, -\frac{i}{c} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \right) = \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1}, \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2}, \frac{\partial}{\partial x_3}, \frac{\partial}{\partial x_4} \right)$

where  $x_4 = ict$

proof  $\frac{\partial}{\partial x_\mu}$  is a 4-vector

by chain rule:  $\frac{\partial}{\partial x_\mu} = \frac{\partial x_\lambda}{\partial x'_\mu} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_\lambda}$   $\longrightarrow$  but  $\frac{\partial x_\lambda}{\partial x'_\mu} = a_{\mu\lambda}(L^{-1}) = a_{\lambda\mu}(L)$

So  $\frac{\partial}{\partial x'_\mu} = a_{\lambda\mu}(L) \frac{\partial}{\partial x_\lambda}$  inverse = transpose

so transforms same as  $x_\mu$

$$\left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x_\mu} \right)^2 = \nabla^2 - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2}$$

wave equation operator!

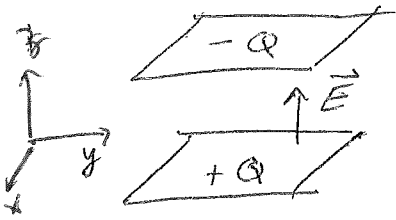
inner products

If  $u_\mu$  and  $v_\mu$  are 4-vectors, then  $u_\mu v_\mu$  is Lorentz invariant scalar

## Maxwell's Equations in Relativistic Form

How do  $\vec{E}$  and  $\vec{B}$  transform under Lorentz transformation?  
 $\vec{E}$  and  $\vec{B}$  have much more complicated transformation laws than position 4-vector  $x^\mu = (\vec{r}, ict)$ .

Example: parallel plate capacitor at rest in  $K$   
 plates have area  $A$ , charge  $Q$



$$\vec{E} = \frac{Q}{A\epsilon_0} \hat{z} \quad \text{uniform} \quad \frac{Q}{A} = \sigma \text{ surface charge den.}$$

$$\vec{B} = 0$$

In  $K'$ , moving with  $\vec{v} = v\hat{y}$  wrt  $K$ ,  $y$  dimension of plates is contracted by factor  $\gamma$  (FitzGerald Contraction)

$$\sigma' = \frac{Q}{A'} = \frac{\gamma Q}{A} = \gamma\sigma$$

$$\vec{E}' = \frac{Q}{A'\epsilon_0} \hat{z} = \frac{\gamma Q}{A\epsilon_0} \hat{z} = \gamma \vec{E} \quad \vec{E} \text{ is along } \hat{z} \perp \vec{v}$$

This is different than transf. law for  $\vec{r}$ .

Under L.T. components of  $\vec{r} \perp \vec{v}$  do not change

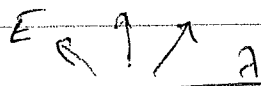
But components of  $\vec{E} \perp \vec{v}$  do change

Also, moving surface charge  $\sigma'$  gives rise to surface current density  $\Rightarrow$  there will be magnetic field  $\vec{B}'$  in frame  $K'$ .  $\Rightarrow$  Lorentz transf must couple together the components of  $\vec{E}$  and  $\vec{B}$ .

## Electromagnetism

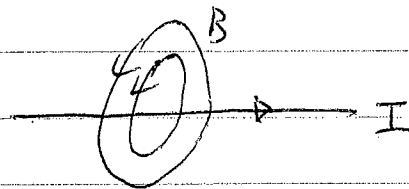
Clearly  $\vec{E} + \vec{B}$  must transform into each other under Lorentz transform.

in inertial frame K  
stationary line charge  $\lambda$



cylindrical outward  
electric field  
no B-field

in frame K' moving with  $\vec{v}$  || to wire



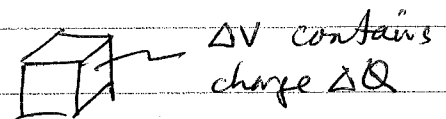
moving line charge gives current  
 $\Rightarrow$  B circulating around wire  
as well as outward radial E

## Lorentz force

$$\vec{F} = q\vec{E} + q\vec{v} \times \vec{B}$$

What is the velocity  $\vec{v}$  here? velocity with respect to what inertial frame? clearly  $\vec{E}$  and  $\vec{B}$  must change from one inertial frame to another if this force law can make sense.

charge density, current density



Consider charge  $\Delta Q$  contained in a vol  $\Delta V$ .  
 $\Delta Q$  is a Lorentz invariant scalar.

Consider the reference frame in which the charge is instantaneously at rest. In this frame

$$\Delta Q = \rho^0 \Delta V^0 \quad \rho^0 \text{ is charge density in rest frame of charge}$$

$\Delta V^0$  is volume of box in rest frame

$\rho^0$  is a Lorentz invariant scalar by definition

Now transform to another frame moving with velocity  $\vec{v}$  with respect to the rest frame.

$\Delta Q$  remains the same.

$$\Delta V = \frac{\Delta V^0}{\gamma} \quad \text{volume contracts in direction } \parallel \text{ to } \vec{v}$$

$$\Rightarrow \rho = \frac{\Delta Q}{\Delta V} = \frac{\Delta Q}{\Delta V^0} \gamma = \rho^0 \gamma \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{spatial components} \\ \swarrow \text{of 4-velocity} \end{array}$$

$$\text{current density } \vec{j} = \rho \vec{v} = (\rho/\gamma)(\gamma \vec{v}) = \rho^0 \vec{u}$$

$$\text{Define 4-current } j_\mu \equiv \rho^0 u_\mu = \rho^0 (\vec{u}, ic\gamma)$$

spatial components of  $j_\mu$  are  $\vec{j} = \rho^0 \vec{u} = \rho \vec{v}$  current density

temporal component of  $j_\mu$  is  $j_4 = ic\rho^0 \gamma = ic\rho$  charge density

$$\text{So } \boxed{j_\mu = (\vec{j}, ic\rho)}$$

$j_\mu$  is a 4-vector since  $u_\mu$  is a 4-vector and  $\rho^0$  is Lorentz invariant scalar

$$\text{length of the 4-current is } j_\mu j_\mu = |\vec{j}|^2 - c^2 \rho^2 = \rho^0{}^2 u_\mu u_\mu = -c^2 \rho^0{}^2$$

Charge conservation

$$0 = \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{j} + \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} = \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{j} + \frac{\partial (ic\rho)}{\partial (ict)} = \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{j} + \frac{\partial j_4}{\partial x_4}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\frac{\partial j_\mu}{\partial x_\mu} = 0} \quad \text{charge conservation in Lorentz covariant form}$$

## Equations for potentials in Lorentz gauge

$$\left(\nabla^2 - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2}\right) \vec{A} = \square^2 \vec{A} = -\mu_0 \vec{j} \quad c^2 = \frac{1}{\mu_0 \epsilon_0}$$

$$\left(\nabla^2 - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2}\right) V = \square^2 V = -\rho/\epsilon_0 = -c^2 \mu_0 \rho$$

$$= -\mu_0 (ic\rho) \left(\frac{c}{i}\right)$$

$$= -\mu_0 j_4 \left(\frac{c}{i}\right)$$

So

$$\square^2 \vec{A} = -\mu_0 \vec{j}$$

$$\square^2 (iV/c) = -\mu_0 j_4$$

Define 4-potential  $A_\mu = (\vec{A}, iV/c)$

$$\Rightarrow \square^2 A_\mu = -\mu_0 j_\mu \quad \text{equation for potentials}$$

$\square^2 = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_\nu^2}$  is Lorentz invariant operator

So we can write the above as

$$\frac{\partial^2 A_\mu}{\partial x_\nu^2} = -\mu_0 j_\mu$$

Lorentz gauge condition is

$$0 = \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{A} + \mu_0 \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial V}{\partial t} = \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{A} + \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial V}{\partial t}$$

$$= \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{A} + \frac{\partial (iV/c)}{\partial (ict)} = \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{A} + \frac{\partial A_4}{\partial x_4}$$

$$= \frac{\partial A_\mu}{\partial x_\mu}$$

So Lorentz Gauge condition is

$$\frac{\partial A_\mu}{\partial x_\mu} = 0$$

## Electric and Magnetic Fields

$$\vec{B} = \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{A} \Rightarrow \boxed{B_i = \frac{\partial A_k}{\partial x_j} - \frac{\partial A_j}{\partial x_k}}$$

where  $i, j, k$   
are a cyclic  
permutation of  $1, 2, 3$

$$\vec{E} = -\vec{\nabla}V - \frac{\partial \vec{A}}{\partial t}$$

$$V = \frac{cA_4}{i}, \quad x_4 = ict$$

$$\Rightarrow E_i = -\frac{\partial (\frac{c}{i}A_4)}{\partial x_i} - \frac{\partial A_i}{\partial (\frac{x_4}{ic})} = -\frac{c}{i} \frac{\partial A_4}{\partial x_i} - ic \frac{\partial A_i}{\partial x_4}$$

$$\boxed{\frac{E_i}{c} = i \left( \frac{\partial A_4}{\partial x_i} - \frac{\partial A_i}{\partial x_4} \right)}$$

has a similar form to  $B_i$

We define the field strength tensor

$$\boxed{F_{\mu\nu} = \frac{\partial A_\nu}{\partial x_\mu} - \frac{\partial A_\mu}{\partial x_\nu} = -F_{\nu\mu}}$$

$4 \times 4$  antisymmetric  
2nd rank tensor

$$F_{\mu\nu} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & B_3 & -B_2 & -iE_1/c \\ -B_3 & 0 & B_1 & -iE_2/c \\ B_2 & -B_1 & 0 & -iE_3/c \\ iE_1/c & iE_2/c & iE_3/c & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

"curl" of a 4-vector is a  $4 \times 4$  antisymmetric  
2nd rank tensor

$4 \times 4$  antisymmetric 2nd rank tensor has only 6  
independent components - just the right number  
to specify the  $\vec{E}$  and  $\vec{B}$  fields!



$F_{\mu\nu}$  transforms under a Lorentz transformation just like a tensor (ie not like a vector)

$$F'_{\mu\nu} = \frac{\partial A'_\nu}{\partial x'^\mu} - \frac{\partial A'_\mu}{\partial x'^\nu} \quad \text{use } A'_\sigma = a_{\nu\lambda} A_\lambda \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \text{since} \\ A_\mu \text{ and} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x^\sigma} \text{ are} \\ \text{both 4-vectors} \end{array} \right\}$$

$$F'_{\mu\nu} = a_{\nu\lambda} a_{\mu\sigma} \frac{\partial A_\lambda}{\partial x^\sigma} - a_{\mu\sigma} a_{\nu\lambda} \frac{\partial A_\sigma}{\partial x^\lambda}$$

$$= a_{\mu\sigma} a_{\nu\lambda} \left( \frac{\partial A_\lambda}{\partial x^\sigma} - \frac{\partial A_\sigma}{\partial x^\lambda} \right)$$

$$\boxed{F'_{\mu\nu} = a_{\mu\sigma} a_{\nu\lambda} F_{\sigma\lambda}} \quad \leftarrow \text{transformation law for a 2nd rank tensor}$$

In terms of matrix multiplication, and writing for the transpose of a matrix  $a_{\nu\lambda} = a_{\lambda\nu}^t$ , the above can be written as

$$F'_{\mu\nu} = a_{\mu\sigma} F_{\sigma\lambda} a_{\lambda\nu}^t$$

The above has the form of the product of three matrices

If we write out the above transformation law component by component we get the following transformation law for the  $\vec{E}$  and  $\vec{B}$  fields.

For a transformation from  $K$  to  $K'$ , where  $K'$  moves with velocity  $v\hat{x}$  as seen from  $K$ ,

$$E'_1 = E_1$$

$$E'_2 = \gamma(E_2 - vB_3)$$

$$E'_3 = \gamma(E_3 + vB_2)$$

$$B'_1 = B_1$$

$$B'_2 = \gamma(B_2 + \frac{v}{c^2} E_3)$$

$$B'_3 = \gamma(B_3 - \frac{v}{c^2} E_2)$$

where  $(1, 2, 3) = (x, y, z)$