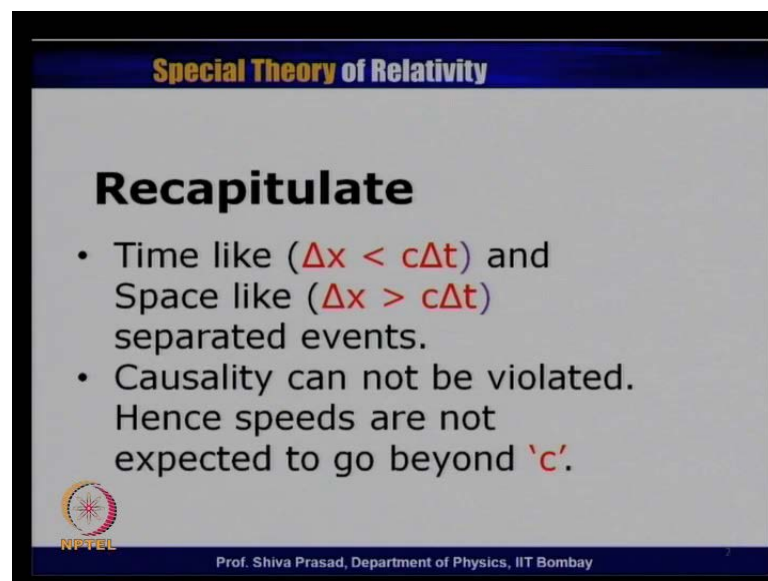


Special Theory of Relativity
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Lecture - 11
Problem involving Causality and Need to Redefine Momentum

Hello, in our last lecture, we had described time like and space like events, we had discussed that, what are the basis on which it was postulated that space greater than speed of light, would not be allowed in special theory of relativity. So, let us quickly recapitulate, we had given an example of pool events and we had said that if Δx is the coordinate difference between these two events, and Δt is the time difference between these two events.

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Special Theory of Relativity

Recapitulate

- Time like ($\Delta x < c\Delta t$) and Space like ($\Delta x > c\Delta t$) separated events.
- Causality can not be violated. Hence speeds are not expected to go beyond 'c'.

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Assuming Δx and Δt to be positive then if Δx turns out to be smaller than $c\Delta t$, we call these events as time like separated events. Just to remember, when we say, time like, it is time factor Δt , which is large. Similarly, if Δx turns out to be larger than $c\Delta t$ then we call these events as space like separated events, when we say space like, Δx is suppose to be larger, just to remember.

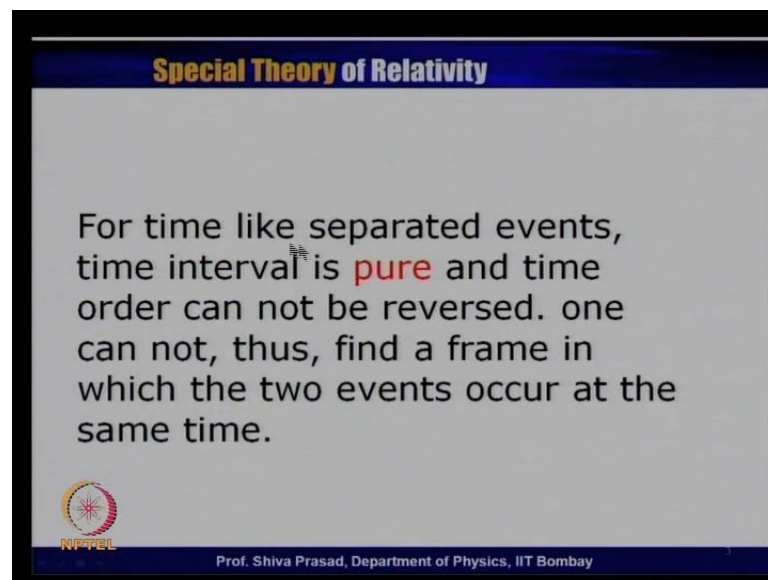
And we had mentioned that, in case we want the causality not to be violated it means, if in a frame of reference two events occur, the second event is an out come of the first

event. First event is the cause of the second event, then you would like that in any other frame of reference, we should always have the same order of the events. We cannot see in any other frame that whatever has whatever is the result or whatever is the out come has come first and the reason for that is coming later.

They have given an example that suppose, I shoot somebody then in my frame of reference, shooting of the gun, if it is event number 1 and that person being hit by the bullet is event number 2. Obviously, event number 2 has to occur after event number 1 then we should not be able to find out a frame of reference, in which it so happens that, that persons observes that, the person is hit by the bullet first and the bullet is shot later.

So, the same order of events must be maintained, if first event is the cause of the second event so this is what, we called causality. So, we do not expect from the physics point of view that, causality should be violated and that is possible only, if we do not allow space greater than speed of light, so that is what, is the physics reason for this particular conclusion.

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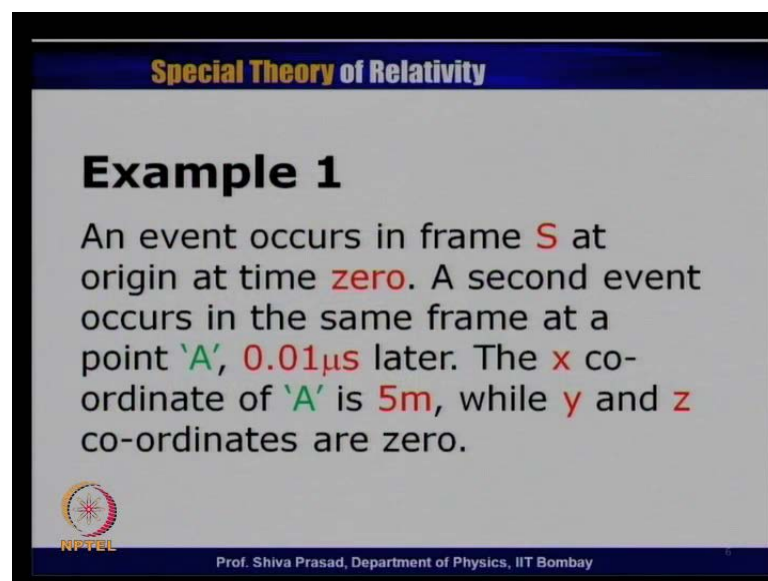


Just to mention again, I am writing here, for time like separated events, time interval is pure and time order cannot be reversed of course, if it means that, time order cannot be reversed it means that, we cannot find out a frame of reference, in which $\Delta t = 0$. It means, we cannot find a frame of reference, in which the two events occur at the same time.

Similarly, for space like separated events, space interval is pure and position order cannot be reversed by again the same logic, if it has to be reversed it means that, we cannot also not find out the frame of reference, in which these events occur at the same place. So, that is what, I have written, for space like separated events, space interval is pure and position order cannot be reversed, one cannot thus find a frame, in which the two events occur at the same place.

So, this is what, we had discussed essentially in our last lecture, the most general behavior of these space like and time like, they will be discussing little later. So, let us postpone this particular discussion, until we evolve certain other concepts, at the moment what I would like to give, is a few examples of space like and time like events and the cause and outcome related events, just to make our ideas clear. So, let us go to one or two very, very simple examples.

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Special Theory of Relativity

Example 1

An event occurs in frame **S** at origin at time **zero**. A second event occurs in the same frame at a point '**A**', **0.01 μ s** later. The **x** co-ordinate of '**A**' is **5m**, while **y** and **z** co-ordinates are zero.

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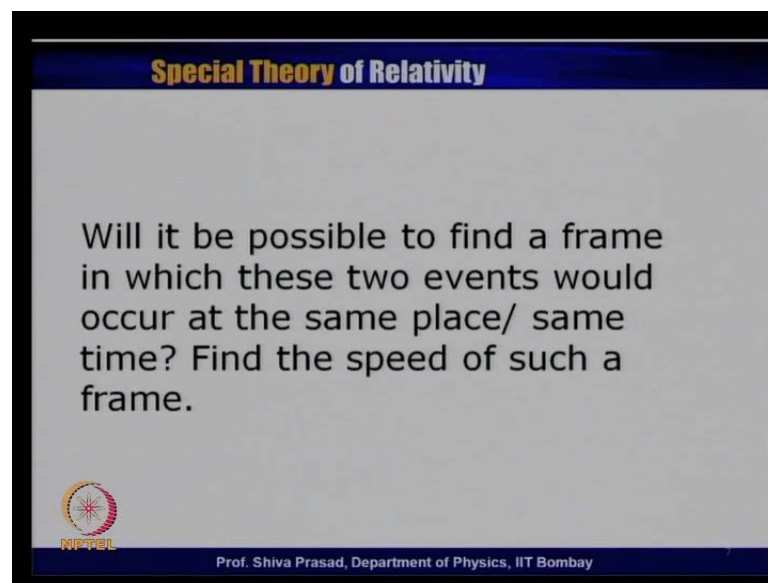
Let me take the example number 1, let us assume that an event occurs in a frame of reference **S**, at origin at time zero and event it could be for example, lightning, striking or anything, whatever we can imagine of. So, one event occurs in a frame **S** at origin, origin means **x** is equal to 0, **y** is equal to 0, **z** is equal to 0 and I also assume that, this occurred at time **t** is equal to 0.

Again the same frame **S**, a second event is formed to be observed, which is at a point **A** and the time difference, it means it occurs at 0.01 micro second later, micro is 10 to

power minus 6 second. So, it is 10^{-6} seconds later, another event is found to be observed at point A, not at the origin and the x coordinate of A has been given as 5 meters, while y and z coordinates are same.

So, we have two events, one occurring at x is equal to 0, another occurring at x is equal to 5, the first event occurring at time t is equal to 0 and the second event occurring at time t is equal to 0.01 micro second.

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Special Theory of Relativity

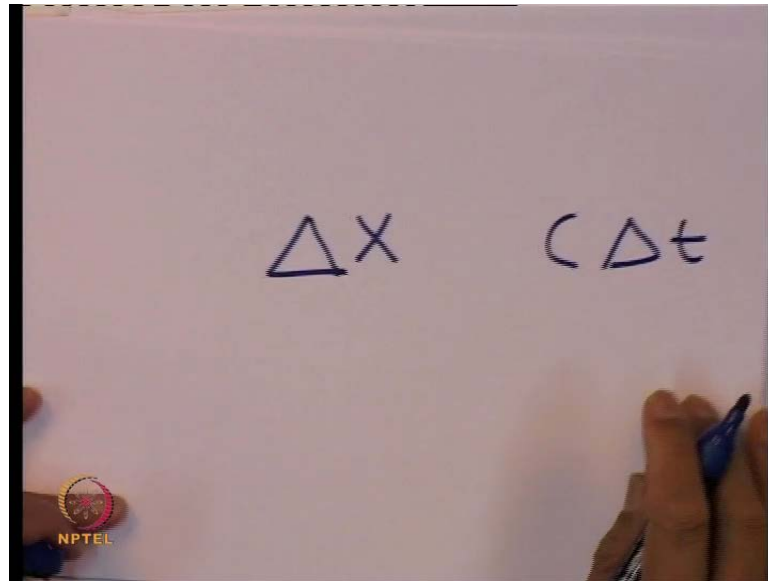
Will it be possible to find a frame in which these two events would occur at the same place/ same time? Find the speed of such a frame.

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The question is, will it be possible to find a frame, in which these two events would occur at the same place slash same time, find the speed of such a frames. So, first we have to resolve, whether it should be possible to find a frame of reference, in which these two events occur at the same place or at same time or whatever it is. And once, we find out then we have to find out the speed of that particular frame of reference, in which these events either occur at the same place or at same time, depending upon the situation.

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The problem is essentially simple, all we have to do is, to take Δx and compare it with $c \Delta t$. If Δx happens to be larger than $c \Delta t$, then we know that, it is a space like event, if it happens to be smaller than $c \Delta t$ then we know that, it is a time like separated events. Then accordingly, we can conclude, whether it is possible to find a frame of reference, in which these two events occur at the same position or at same time so we have given everything so let us look at this particular thing.

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Special Theory of Relativity

In S , the x and t co-ordinates of the events are as follows:

$E1: (0,0)$

$E2: (5m, 1 \times 10^{-8}s)$

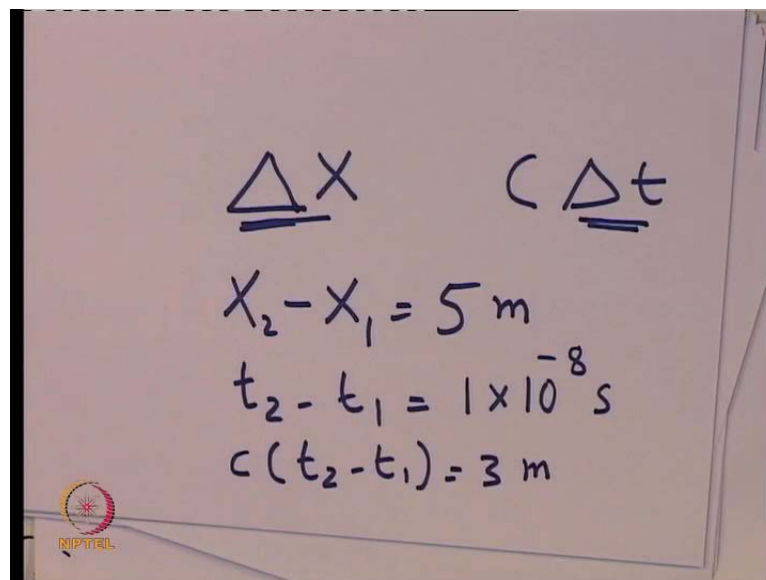
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In S, the x and t co-ordinates of the events, I have just listed, I have removed y and z reference of y and z coordinates because that is not really material as far as this particular problem is concerned. Because, in both the events, y and z's are 0 so with a event number 1, which occurs at x is equal to 0 and t is equal to 0, S has been given in the question where, event number 2, which occurs at point A, which is at a distance of 5 meters along the x direction from the origin.

So, x co-ordinate is 5 meters and as we have mentioned that, it occurs at a time 0.01 micro second it means, the time was 1 into 10 to power minus 8 second. So, we have written by event table, my event number 1 is occurring at 0 0 and event number 2 is occurring at 5 meters and 1 into 10 to power minus 8 second.

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$$\Delta X \quad c \Delta t$$

$$X_2 - X_1 = 5 \text{ m}$$

$$t_2 - t_1 = 1 \times 10^{-8} \text{ s}$$

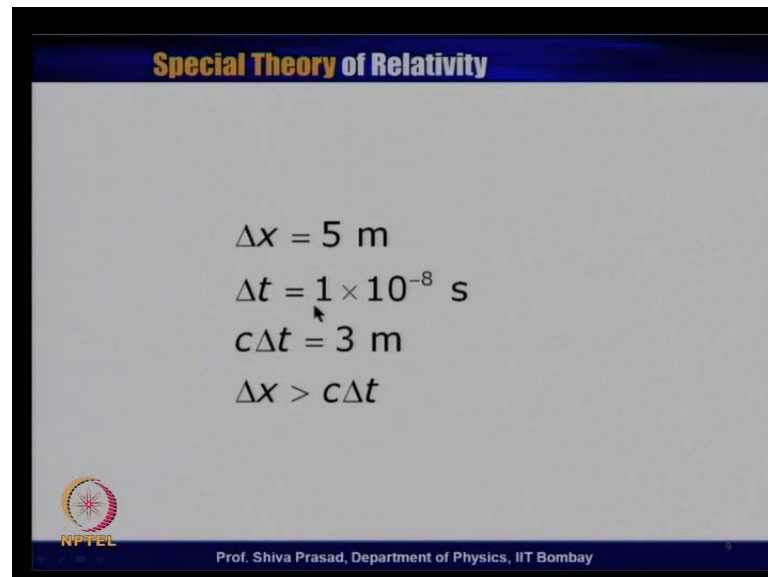
$$c(t_2 - t_1) = 3 \text{ m}$$

Now, all I have to do is, to find out this delta x then we have to find out this delta t then multiply by c and compare the two, that is all I have to do. Anyway, it is very easy to see that, for the first event x was equal to 0, for the second event x was 5 meters so; obviously, delta x is 5 meters, $x_2 - x_1$ is 5 meters. Similarly, $t_2 - t_1$, t_1 occurred at time t is equal to 0 I mean, event 1 occurred at time t is equal to 0, event number 2 occurred at time 0.01 micro second so $t_2 - t_1$ there will be 1 into 10 to power minus 8 second.

If I am multiply this by c, to compare with this and if I take c is equal to 3 into 10 to power 8, will be 3, 10 to power 8 will cancel out 10 power minus 8 so this will become 3

meters. So, as I see very clearly that, Δx is 5 meters while $c \Delta t$ is 3 meters that is what, I have written in this particular transparency. Δx is equal to 5 meters, Δt is equal to 1×10^{-8} second, $c \Delta t$ is therefore 3 meters therefore, Δx is greater than $c \Delta t$ it means, these events are separated space like.

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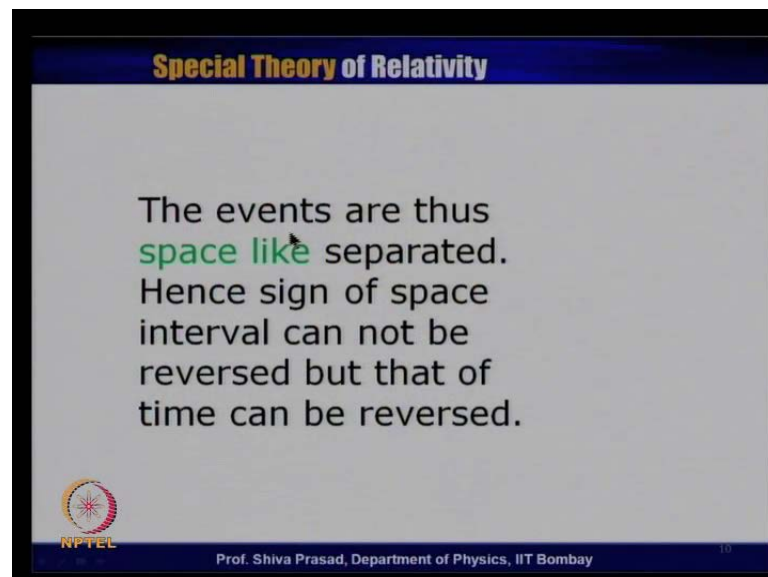


Special Theory of Relativity

$$\Delta x = 5 \text{ m}$$
$$\Delta t = 1 \times 10^{-8} \text{ s}$$
$$c \Delta t = 3 \text{ m}$$
$$\Delta x > c \Delta t$$

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Special Theory of Relativity

The events are thus **space like** separated. Hence sign of space interval can not be reversed but that of time can be reversed.

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Because, Δx is turning out to be larger than $c \Delta t$ and if the events are separated space like, it is not possible reverse the position order of the events it means, it is not possible to find a frame of reference, in which these two events will occur at the same

position. Though it is possible to find out the frame of reference, in which these two events will occur at the same time that is, you see and verify whatever we are telling. This what I have mentioned just now, the events are space like separated hence, sign of space interval cannot be reversed but that of time can reversed. How do we find this particular thing, just use Lorentz transformation.

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Special Theory of Relativity

Hence it is possible to find a frame in which the two events occur at the **same time**, but we can not find one, in which the events occur at **same place**.

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This what I have mention again hence, it is possible to find a frame, in which the two events occur at the same time but we cannot find one, in which the events occur at the same place.

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Special Theory of Relativity

Go to a frame S' assumed to be moving relative to S with a velocity v .

$$\Delta t' = \gamma \left(\Delta t - \frac{v \Delta x}{c^2} \right)$$
$$= \gamma \left(1 \times 10^{-8} - \frac{v \times 5}{9 \times 10^{16}} \right) = 0$$
$$v = 1.8 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s} < c$$

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Now, we go to Lorentz transformation assume that, there is a frame reference, frame of reference S' , which is moving a relative to S with a velocity v and I know that, it is possible to have $\Delta t'$ is equal to 0. All I have to is, to find the speed of that particular frame of reference, for which $\Delta t'$ will turn out to be 0.

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



So, I write $\Delta t'$ is equal to $\gamma \Delta t$ minus $v \Delta x$ by c^2 , this is standard Lorentz transformation. Now, what I have to do, I know my Δt , I know my Δx , how to find out a v , for which $\Delta t'$ is equal to 0. I substitute $\Delta t'$

is equal to 0, substitute therefore, delta t 1 into 10 to power minus 8 second, I substitute for delta x 5 meters, solve for v, this is what, I have done in this particular transparency.

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Special Theory of Relativity

Go to a frame S' assumed to be moving relative to S with a velocity v .

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

$$= \gamma \left(1 \times 10^{-8} - \frac{v \times 5}{9 \times 10^{16}} \right) = 0$$

$v = 1.8 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s} < c$

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I have written delta t prime is equal to gamma delta t minus v delta x by c square, for delta t I have substituted 1 into 10 to power minus 8 second, for delta x I have substituted 5, for c square I have substituted 9 into 10 to power 16 assuming of course, that c is equal to 3 into 10 to power 8 meters per second. Just solve this equation, we get v is equal to 1.8 into 10 to power 8 meters per second obviously, this is speed, this is smaller than speed of light.

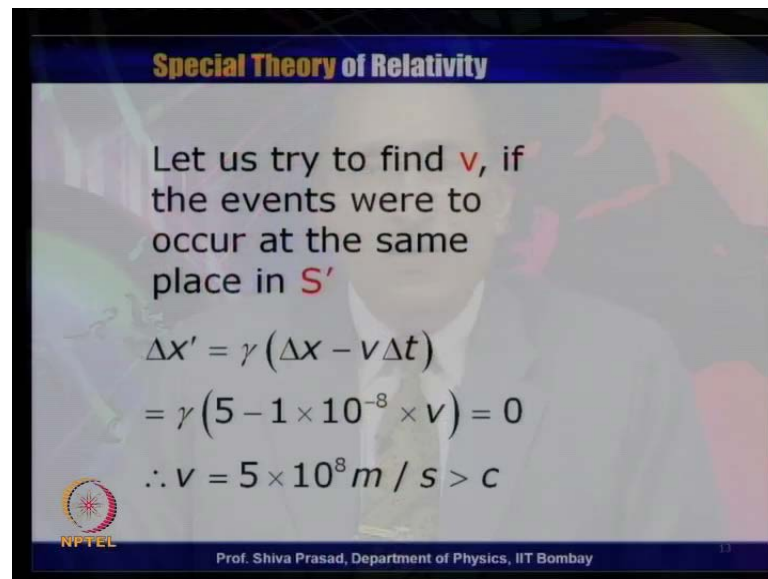
It means, it is physically possible to find out the frame of reference, in which these two events would occur at the same time it means, the time difference between these two events will turn out to be 0 in this frame of reference. And that frame of reference would be moving relative to S, with a speed of 1.8 into 10 to power 8 meters per second. Obviously, it is clearer that, if v would have been larger than this particular value, if you look at this particular equation, if v would have been larger than this particular value, delta t prime would turn out to be negative.

And time order of the events would get reversed, which is possible in this particular phase because the events are space like separated and not time like separated. Now, some of you can ask question, why cannot I do the same exercise and try to see, whether I can

really make $\Delta x'$ equal to 0 and if whatever we have said is correct, I should be able to get a speed greater than speed of light.

Then only, it will be possible for me to make $\Delta x'$ is equal to 0. So, let us just look into that to satisfy ourselves that, whatever we are saying is correct.

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Special Theory of Relativity

Let us try to find v , if the events were to occur at the same place in S'

$$\Delta x' = \gamma(\Delta x - v\Delta t)$$
$$= \gamma(5 - 1 \times 10^{-8} \times v) = 0$$
$$\therefore v = 5 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s} > c$$

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So, I do exactly the same thing instead of, $\Delta t'$ making equal to 0, I try to make $\Delta x'$ equal to 0. So, let us try to find v , a speed of frame of reference, in which I assume if at all possible that, these two events occur at the same position. So, now, instead of writing Δt , the transformation Lorentz transformation corresponding to time, I will write a Lorentz transformation corresponding to space.

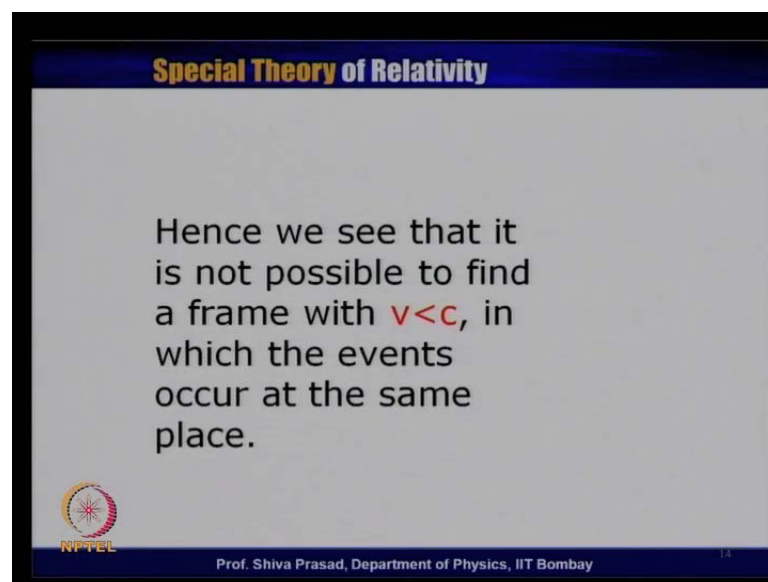
So, that is what it gives here, $\Delta x'$ is equal to $\gamma(\Delta x - v\Delta t)$, which is the Lorentz transformation corresponding to the x coordinate. I substitute my numbers, Δx is equal to 5 meters, I substituted here 5 meters, Δt was equal to 1×10^{-8} second, I substituted the value of 1×10^{-8} second here multiplied by v .

I solve for this particular thing, we can see that γ will turn out to be is equal to 0, this one when divided by 5 will make this 5 and this 10^{-8} then it goes to numerator, it will become 10^8 .

And v will turn out to be 5×10^8 meters per second, which is obviously greater than speed of light. So, it means, if at all it was possible for us to have a frame of reference with v greater than c , which in this particular case is 5×10^8 meters per second then it was possible for us to find these two events at the same position.

But, as we have already seen that, on the ground of physics and also some extent on the mathematical ground, we have rejected speeds greater than speed of light. Therefore, it I would generally conclude that, it is not possible to find out a frame of reference, in which these two events occur at the same position.

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This what, I have written here hence, we see that it is not possible to find a frame with v less than c , in which the events occur at the same place. Now, we have just now said that, it is possible in the particular case to revert the time order, to reverse the time order, it is possible to find out a frame of reference with v less than c , in which the time order Δt turns out to be negative.

It means, events number 2 occurs before event number 1, we have said also that, this is not possible if these two events are cause and outcome related. It means event number 1 and event number 2 have to be totally independent events, event number 2 cannot be a cause of event number 1, if this particular condition has to happen, let us just look and try to clarify our ideas little further.

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Special Theory of Relativity

Can the two events described in the example be cause/ effect type?
For example Can **Event 1** be a car passing by origin and **Event 2** be the same car passing 'A'.

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That is what, I have written here, can the two events described in the event be cause and effect time for example, let us imagine a particular case.

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The diagram shows a car moving from origin O to point A with velocity v . The distance between O and A is 5 m . Below the diagram, the velocity is calculated as $v = \frac{5\text{ m}}{1 \times 10^{-8}\text{ s}} = 5 \times 10^8\text{ m/s}$. To the right, the displacement and time intervals are given as $\Delta x = 5\text{ m}$ and $\Delta t = 1 \times 10^{-8}\text{ s}$.

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That, this was my origin O and this was my point A, and this distance is 5 meters, everything being described in S frame. Now, let us assume that, event number 1 was one car, which is moving to the right was been found at origin, we have solved many such problems. So, let us assume that, events number 1 was that, this particular car, was found

at x is equal to 0 and this car is moving with a constant velocity v along the plus x direction.

And let us assume that, event number 2 is that this same car being found here at x , is equal to A . Now; obviously, these two events are cause and outcome related, if the car was not starting from this particular point, car would have never this particular point A . Therefore, for event number 2 to occur, event number 1 was essential, the car must have passed through this particular origin and must have come to point A .

So, these two events are related, event number 1 is sort of a cause for event number 2 because car must pass through the origin then only it has to reach at A . Now, if this happens, can these two events lead to situation, which is given in this particular problem, involving Δx is equal to 5 meters and Δt involved in equal to 1×10^{-8} second.

Is it possible that, these two events are separated of course, Δx is given as 5 meters and the time interval between these two events was 1×10^{-8} second. That is what, I have written here in this transparency, can the two events described in the example be cause effect time. For example, can the event 1 be a car passing by origin and event 2 be the same car passing at A .

If this happens it means, and if the time separation between these two events is 1×10^{-8} second it means, the car must have taken 1×10^{-8} second in of course, S frame, we are talking of only one particular frame, which is S frame. So, it means, the car must have taken 1×10^{-8} second to reach from O to A and the distance between O and A is 5 meters.

Therefore, the speed of the car must be 5 meters divided by the time, which is 1×10^{-8} second, which will give you 5×10^8 meter per second, which is obviously, larger than speed of light. Therefore, if these two events for example, were related like this then this car must travel with speed greater than speed of light and if this is not happening then it is not possible in a situation like this, for this particular situation to arise where, Δx turns out to be larger than $c \Delta t$.

And remember, only in a situation where, Δx is larger than $c \Delta t$, it is possible to revert time interval and because these two situation cannot lead to this particular Δx

be greater than $c \Delta t$. Therefore, we always say that, time order cannot be reversed as far as, these two events are concerned.

Because, these two events relating to the motion of the car cannot lead to this situation and only if they though have let to situation of Δx being greater than $c \Delta t$, it would have been possible for me to find a frame of reference, in which the car would have reached A first before starting from O. Hence, you can see that, by limiting the speed to a value less than or equal to c , we have avoided a situation, in which causality would be violated.

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Special Theory of Relativity

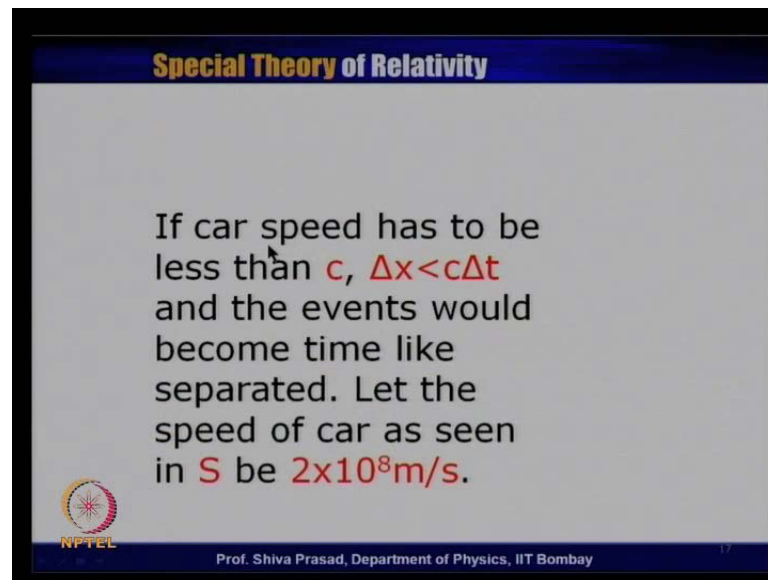
If that happens the car has to travel a distance of 5m in $1 \times 10^{-8} \text{ s}$, as seen by an observer in S . Which would mean its speed would be $5 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}$ which is greater than c .

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Same thing I have written here, in this particular transparency, if that happens, the car has to travel a distance of 5 meter in in 1×10^{-8} second, as seen by an observer in S , which would mean it is speed would be 5×10^8 meters per second, which is greater than c .

Now, let us take a situation, make it little more realistic, let us assume that car is not really traveling with speed greater than speed of light. So, I change my, my Δx is fix as 5 meters, I change my Δt , let me still call my event number 1 as the car passing through O and event number 2 as car passing through point A. But, I assign a speed to the car, which is less than speed of light, this what I have written here.

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Special Theory of Relativity

If car speed has to be less than c , $\Delta x < c\Delta t$ and the events would become time like separated. Let the speed of car as seen in S be $2 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}$.

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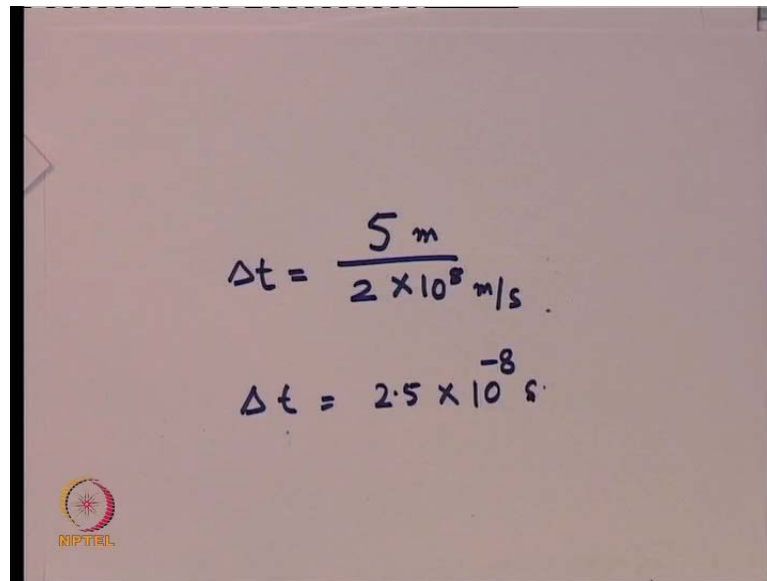
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If car has to have speed less than c then Δx has to be less than $c \Delta t$ and the events would become time like separated. If the events are becoming time like separated, as we have discussed, it is not possible to revert the time order in any other frame of reference. And therefore, it is not possible to find the violation of causality it means, we will not be able to find a frame, in which the car reaches A first before starting from O.

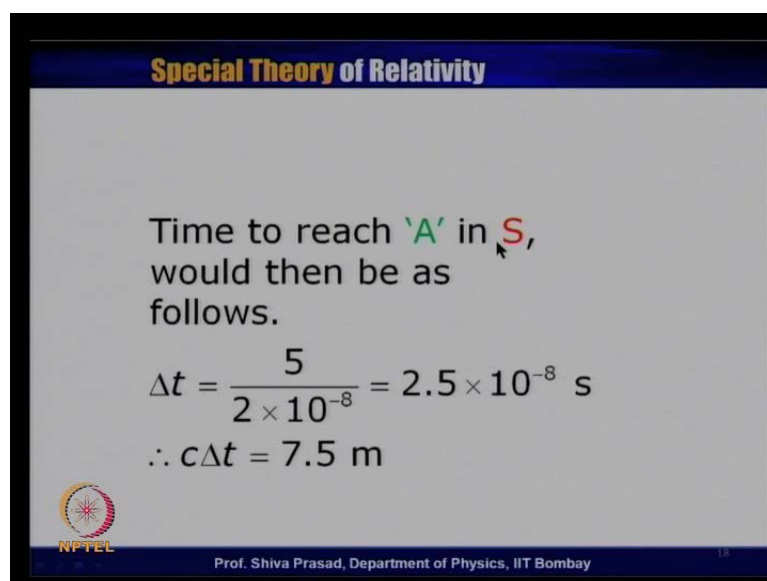
So, let us this, let us assume that the speed of car, as seen in A I am sorry as seen in S is 2×10^8 meter per second, this is some value, which I have taken some arbitrary value, which is of course, less than speed of light. Of course, Δx is still 5 meters and if the car's speed happens to be 2×10^8 meters per second. I can find out, how much time this particular car would take, to reach point A which is of course, given by the distance, which is 5 meters divided by the speed, which is 2×10^8 meters per second, as I have described earlier. So, this time Δt would be given by this, which I can simplify $5 \div 2$ is 2.5×10^{-8} second. So, in this case, we will find that, Δt turns out to be equal to 2.5×10^{-8} second now, let us compare Δx with $c \Delta t$.

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$$\Delta t = \frac{5 \text{ m}}{2 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}}$$
$$\Delta t = 2.5 \times 10^{-8} \text{ s}$$

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Special Theory of Relativity

Time to reach 'A' in S, would then be as follows.

$$\Delta t = \frac{5}{2 \times 10^8} = 2.5 \times 10^{-8} \text{ s}$$
$$\therefore c \Delta t = 7.5 \text{ m}$$

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That is what, I have written here, time to reach A in S would then be given by 5 into 2 into 5 divided by 2 into 10 to power minus 8, which is 2.5 into 10 to power minus 8 second. I have to just multiply it by c, to find out what is my c delta t, if I take c is equal to 3 into 10 to power 8 meters per second, this 10 to power 8 and (Refer Slide Time: 25:11) this 10 to power minus 8, their product will lead v 1.

So, 2.5 multiplied by 3, which gives me 7.5 meters obviously, c delta t is larger than delta x and therefore, these are time like separated events. Now, it is possible to find out

a frame of reference, in which these two events occur at the same position but now I will not be able to find a frame of reference, in which these two events occur at the same time, let us just see.

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Special Theory of Relativity

The speed of the frame in which the two events occur at same place would then be given as follows.

$$\Delta x' = \gamma (\Delta x - v \Delta t)$$

$$= \gamma (5 - 2.5 \times 10^{-8} \times v) = 0$$

$$\therefore v = 2 \times 10^8 \text{ m / s} < c$$

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The speed of the frame, in which the two events occur at the same place now, I do exactly the same thing but slightly different numbers. Delta x still 5 meters but delta t has now, become 2.5 into 10 to power minus 8 second, I use exactly the same expression delta x prime is equal to gamma delta x minus v delta t. Delta x being 5 meters, delta t being 2.5 into 10 to power minus 8 second multiplied by v, I can solve for v, this gamma would of course, cancel because there is a 0 here.

This 5 divided by 2.5 will give me 2, which is 2 into 10 to power 8 meters per second, which is of course, smaller than c, this result was also obvious, this turns out to be same as the speed of the car, which we know. Because in the speed of the car, when if a person sitting on in the car will observe both the events to be occurring at the same position, we have noted many such problems earlier.

That, if a person is sitting in the car, he will find that O is approaching him and the point A is approaching him and as far as, his concern, he or she's concern, both the events are occurring at the same position. Therefore, delta x is 0, which I am able to find out of course, in this particular case, with a realistic speed, which is less than c, which is equal to 2 into 10 to power 8 meters per second.

But now, if I want to make delta t prime equal to 0, I will not be able to do it, unless I allow speed is greater than speed of light, let us try and see.

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This is the same as the speed of the car as expected. Now the speed of the frame in which the events could occur at same time would be given as follows.

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Of course, just the same narration, which I have said earlier, this is the same as the speed of the car, as expected. Now, the speed of the frame, in which the events could occur at the same time would be given as follows.

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Special Theory of Relativity

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

$$= \gamma \left(2.5 \times 10^{-8} - \frac{v \times 5}{9 \times 10^{16}} \right) = 0$$

$$\therefore v = 4.5 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s} > c$$

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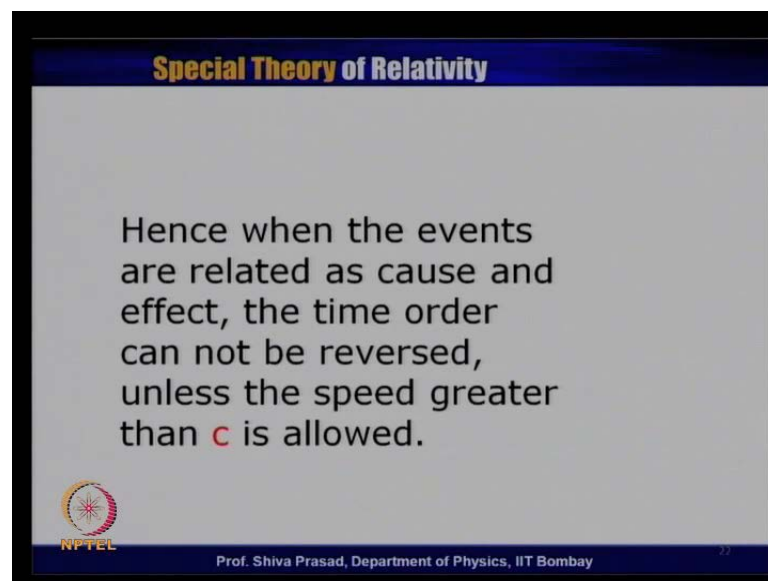
Which is given by, delta t prime is equal to gamma delta t minus v delta x by c square, I substitute the new numbers. For delta t, I have 2.5 into 10 to power minus 8 seconds,

Δx is same 5 meters, I workout this particular equation, I will get 4.5 into 10 to power 8 meters per second, which is obviously larger than speed of light.

So, only if they would having the frame travelling with this much speed then only, it would have been possible for us to find out that, the two events occur at the same time. Because of physical reasons, I have avoided, I have said, the speeds like this are not allowed therefore, I would conclude that, it is not possible to find a frame of reference, in which the two events occur at the same time.

And of course, it would mean that, it will not be possible to find a frame of reference, in which the time orders are reverse. Therefore, causality is is excepted, it is not rejected, causality has to be has to maintain, has to be maintained and we have to maintain this causality, as we have seen that, we have to restrict speeds to speeds less than equal to speed of light.

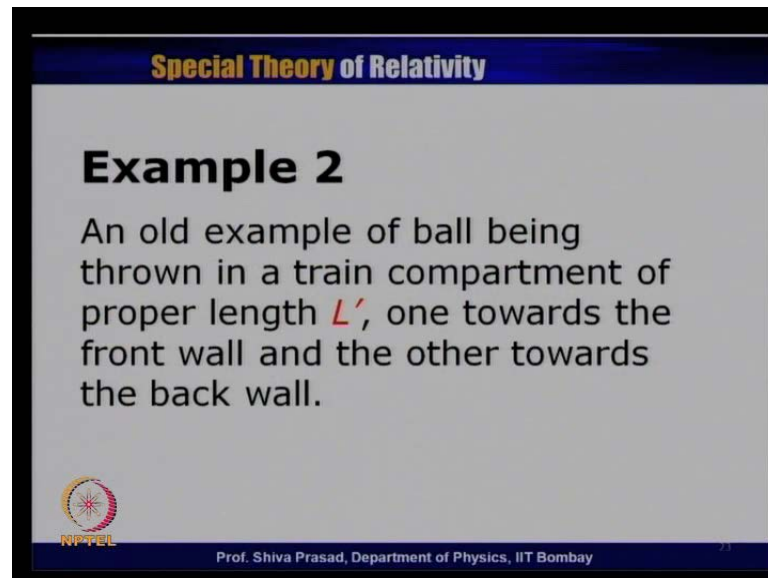
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What I have written hence, when the events are related as cause and effect, the time order cannot be reversed, unless the speed greater than c is allowed. Instead of this particular train, you could have taken any other example and still you could have seen that, the causality will not be violated. And in the case, they has their their events, which are related as cause and effect then they will necessarily turn out to be time like events and in that case, time order cannot be reversed.

Let us take one more example, this is still a simpler example and example like this, we have been discussing earlier.

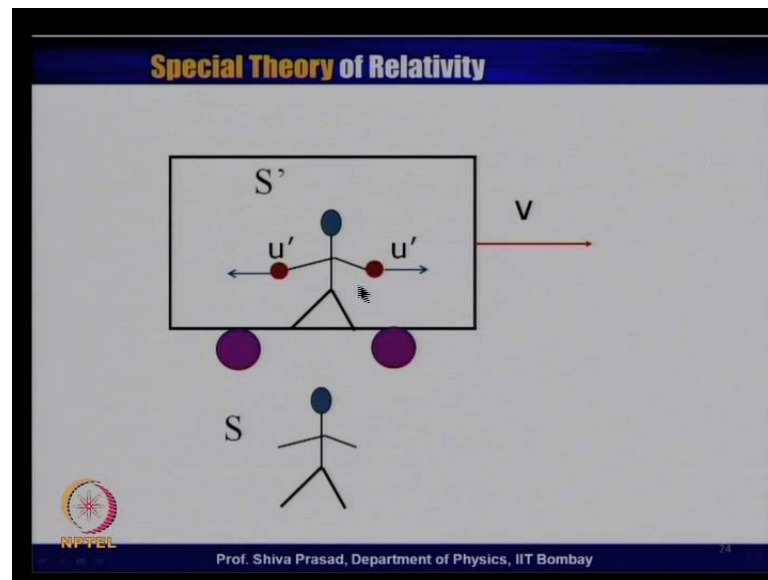
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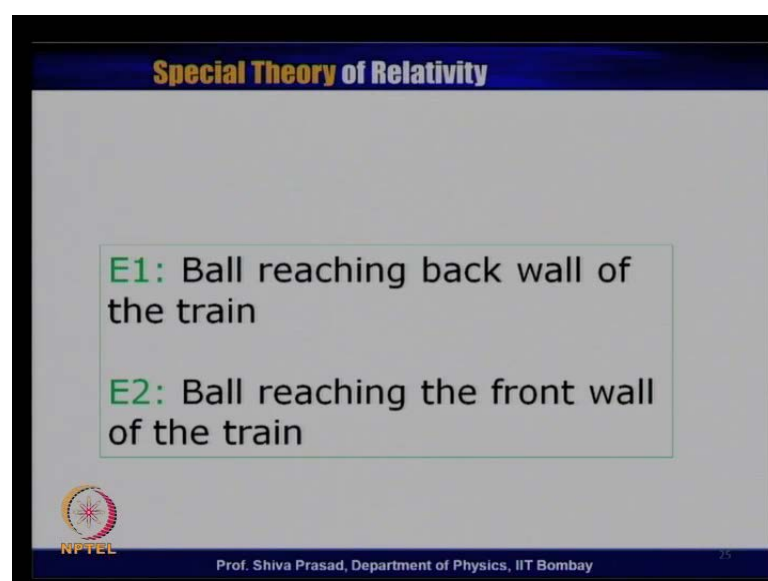
There is an old example of a ball being thrown in a train compartment of proper length L plane it means, there is a particular compartment, which is moving, it is a relative to earth assuming, earth to be a inertial frame of reference. And the length, as measured by an observer in the compartment is L' because that is a proper length because the compartment is at rest and in its own frame. One ball is thrown towards the front wall and another is thrown towards the back wall.

This is what, I have shown in the picture, similar picture we have drawn earlier that, this is a person, which throws a ball to the first, towards the front of a wall, the front being described like this. If this is the direction of the speed then this wall is the front wall, this wall is the back wall so person throws simultaneously one ball in this side, another ball on this particular side. And my event number 1 and event number 2 are corresponding to the events of the ball being received at the two walls.

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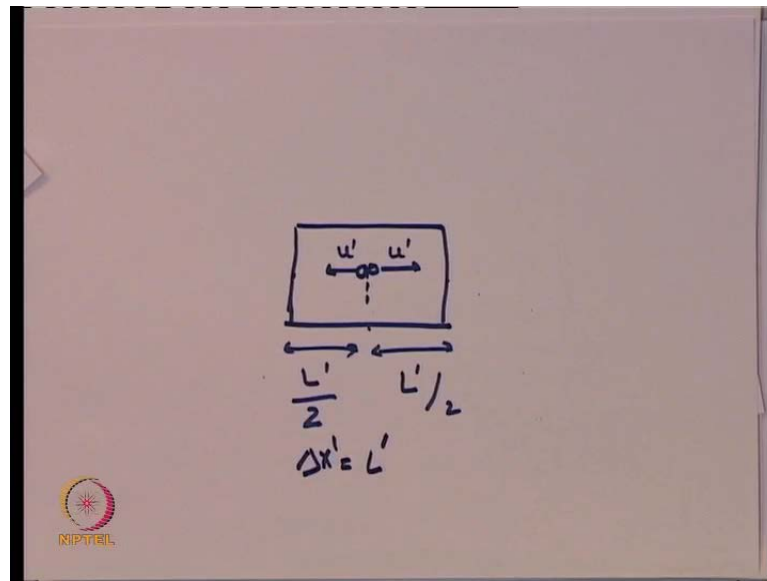
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So, this is what, I have described here, event 1, ball reaching the back wall of the train, event number 2, ball reaching the front wall of the train. Now, if we remember this type of problem, we have done with ball then we have done with speed of light, light being flashed at the two ends, we have done many times. Because, the ball is being thrown from the center of the compartment therefore, each ball has to travel a distance, a horizontal distance along the x direction, as L prime by 2.

And both of them travel with the same speed, as seen in the S prime observer, as seen in the S prime frame of reference. Therefore, both the balls would reach the wall together it means, Δt between these two events will be equal to 0. As per the first event is concerned, I assume that the center of the compartment is at the origin then the first event occurs at a distance of minus L by 2, second event occurs at a distance of plus L by 2.

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Let me draw my compartment here, this is the center point, a ball is thrown through the right and a ball is thrown through the left, this distance is L prime by 2, this distance is L prime by 2. Therefore, if I calculate this speed as I said u prime, this speed I have said as u prime, if I have to calculate the time that it takes then all I have to do should divide this L prime by 2, by this speed and because this distance is same as this distance, this speed is same as this speed.

So, the time when this ball hits here and the time when this ball hits here, these two times must be same. So, if this I call as t_1 , if this, I call it, this time I call as t_2 , t_2 minus t_1 must be equal to 0. But, this event as far the first event is concerned, it occurs before the origin, at a distance of minus L prime by 2 and at a distance L prime by 2 but it is in the negative sign. This events occur in the plus x value at a distance of L prime by 2 so if I take this as the difference, the difference will be turning out to be L prime so therefore, Δx prime will be equal to L prime.

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Special Theory of Relativity

In S' Frame

$$\Delta x' = L'$$
$$\Delta t' = 0$$
$$\Delta x' > c \Delta t'$$

These are, therefore, **space like** separated events and hence time interval can change sign.

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So, this is what, I have written here, the $\Delta x'$ is equal to L' and $\Delta t'$ is equal to 0 of course, $\Delta t'$ is obviously equal to 0. Therefore, $\Delta x'$ is greater than $c \Delta t'$ because L' is positive and non zero. Therefore, because $\Delta x'$ is greater than $c \Delta t'$, these events are space like separated events and therefore, it is possible that, the time order gets reversed as far as, these events are concerned but it is not possible that, the position order gets reversed.

(Refer Slide Time: 34:06)

Special Theory of Relativity

In S Frame

$$\Delta x = \gamma (L' + v \times 0) = \gamma L'$$
$$\Delta t = \gamma \left(0 + \frac{v L'}{c^2} \right) = \gamma \frac{v L'}{c^2}$$

Thus depending upon the sign of v , Δt can be positive or negative.

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Let us assume as frame, which is the gone frame an observer is observing while sitting in the ground, this particular train. I applied the Lorentz transformation of course, I have to apply inverse transformation here because my S prime frame of reference is moving with speed v . If I say, Δx equal to $\gamma \Delta x' + v \Delta t'$, plus sign we got this inverse transformation, Δx was L' , $\Delta t'$ was equal to 0 therefore, Δx will turn out to be equal to $\gamma L'$.

I would not discuss this particular issue because we have discussed this particular issue earlier, as we have said that, it is not possible to find, when this particular x , Δx is 0. But, I have escaped, this case I have taken a specific example shown so if I take Δt , Δt is equal to $\gamma \Delta t' + v \Delta x' / c^2$, $\Delta x'$ is L' , this is 0.

So, Δt turns out to be equal to $\gamma v L' / c^2$ so we can see that, the time difference Δt , in a S frame of reference will turn out to be $v \gamma L' / c^2$. Of course, depending upon v , v happens to be positive, this Δt will turn out to be positive, if v happens to be negative because I can always assume that, this particular train was moving other way that, this $\Delta t'$ will turn Δt will turn not to be negative.

Therefore, depending upon the sign of v , Δt can be positive or negative, as we have seen this particular example. Now, I would, all I would like to emphasis that, these two events, although they appear to be thrown by the same person, from the center of the box and same time, these are not cause and effect related events. Because, the motion of the first wall is independent of the motion of the second wall, it is not because that the ball one must thrown, that ball two has to be thrown.

It just matter that, we decided that person sitting there, decided to throw the two balls at the same time otherwise, he could have thrown one ball earlier than the second ball. In no way, the motion of throwing of the first ball is related to the throwing of the second ball. For, as far as, these two events are concerned, they are not cause and effect related. Though it appeared as with the same man is throwing the two balls, may be one is outcome of the second, of the cause of the second event, this is not correct because these two big balls being thrown are sort of independent each other.

Hence, it is possible to reverse the time order but I could have gone into this slightly different situation. When I could have made these two events later, let us see, let me first read, what ever I have said.

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Special Theory of Relativity

Note these events are not cause/effect type. If there was a single ball thrown and events would have been related to its motion then they would be cause/effect type of events and hence would only be **time like** separated.

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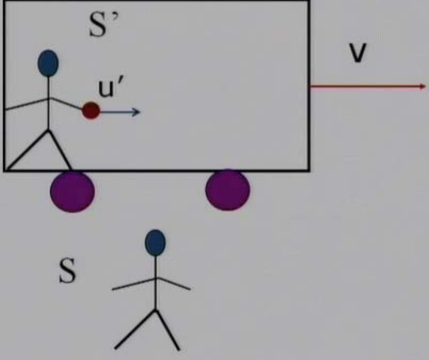
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Note, these events are not cause and effect type, if there was single ball thrown and the events would have been related to the motion of that single ball, then they would have been cause and effect related and then only they will be time like separated.

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Special Theory of Relativity



The diagram illustrates two reference frames, S and S'. Frame S is represented by a stick figure at the bottom. Frame S' is represented by a box above it, which is moving to the right with velocity v relative to S, as indicated by a red arrow labeled v . Inside frame S', a stick figure is shown, and a red ball is moving to the right with velocity u' , as indicated by a blue arrow labeled u' . Two purple circles are positioned on the horizontal axis between the two frames, representing events. The NPTEL logo is in the bottom left corner, and the text 'Prof. Shiva Prasad, Department of Physics, IIT Bombay' and the slide number '29' are in the bottom right corner.

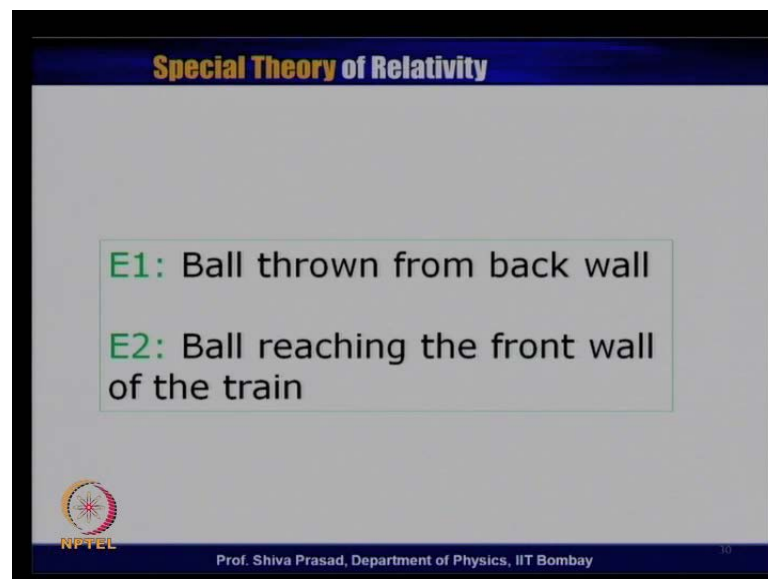
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Let take an example here, suppose, this person would have been sitting at the end of the compartment and was throwing a ball from this particular end towards the front and event number 1 would have been throwing the ball and event number 2 would have been receive, ball being received at the front end. Then these two events are cause and effect related because unless this ball would have been thrown, the ball would not have reached here and in this case, we will find that the events are time like that is what, I wanted to emphasis.

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So, let look at this situation and assumes that, event number 1 is ball thrown from the back wall and event number 2 is ball reaching the front wall of the train. I can find out exactly the same way, what are Δx and Δt corresponding to these two events of course, $\Delta x'$ is L' . Because the first event occurred at the back of the compartment.

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Special Theory of Relativity

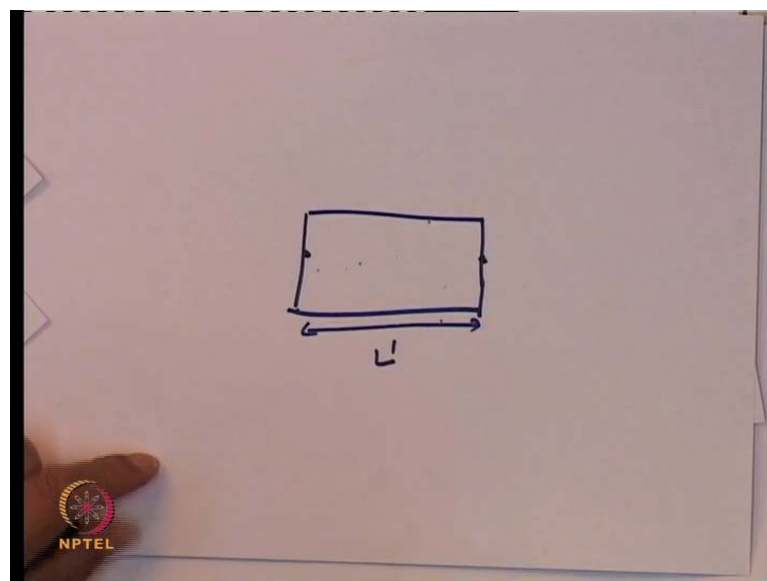
In S' Frame

$$\Delta x' = L'$$
$$\Delta t' = \frac{L'}{u'}$$
$$\Delta x' - c\Delta t' = L' \left(1 - \frac{c}{u'} \right) < 0$$

These are, therefore, time like separated events.

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The ball was being thrown here, so first event occurred here let assume that my origins now here. So, the first event occurred at this particular point, second event occurred at this particular point, these two are separated by distance of L' . Therefore, Δx , S seen in observer S' , the compartment frame is obviously L' so $\Delta x'$ has not change, which is L' .

But, but the ball takes a finite amount of time to go from this particular end to this particular ends now, $\Delta t'$ is not equal to 0, $\Delta t'$ is equal to the, will be

equal the time taken by the ball to travel a distance from here to here in the x direction and that distance given by L prime divided by this speed.

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Special Theory of Relativity

In S' Frame

$$\Delta x' = L'$$

$$\Delta t' = \frac{L'}{u'}$$

$$\Delta x' - c\Delta t' = L' \left(1 - \frac{c}{u'} \right) < 0$$

These are, therefore, time like separated events.

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This is what, I have written here in this particular transparency that, delta x prime though is equal to L prime but delta t prime is now L prime divided by u prime because this is the time that, this ball will take to go from the back end to the front end, as seen in observer, as prime. And if I calculate delta x prime minus c delta prime, I have to multiply this by c and if I multiply by this c and take L prime common so I can write this, I take this L prime out.

So, in the bracket, I will left with this L prime has to be taken out so this will evolve here, L prime has to been taken out so it will be 1 divided by u prime, I have multiplied by c so to be c divided by u prime. And because c is expected to be larger than u prime therefore, this quantity is negative therefore, c delta t prime is larger than delta x prime. And these two events become time like separated events then it is not possible to find a frame of reference, in which the time order of this two events will gets reversed.

Now, let us try to calculate delta t, just to see that, this cannot become negative so let us, let me comeback to the frame S, apply inverse Lorentz transformation.

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Special Theory of Relativity

In S Frame

$$\Delta t = \gamma \left(\frac{L'}{u'} + \frac{vL'}{c^2} \right) = \frac{\gamma L'}{u'} \left(1 + \frac{vu'}{c^2} \right)$$

Δt can not be negative irrespective of the sign of v , so long the speeds are lower than c .

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I write delta t is equal to gamma delta t prime, which is L prime divided by u prime, as we just now, discussed plus because this was an inverse transformation then v delta x is any way here, delta x was L prime divided by c square. So, this should this is what, will be the value of delta t, as seen in S frame of reference, what I am doing, gamma is any way out of this particular bracket. I take L prime also, out of this particular bracket and I also force u prime outside this particular bracket.

I take L prime divided by u prime, common from this particular bracket, if I take here then this factor will become 1, if I am taking L prime anyway, L prime here but there is no u prime here so I have to multiply by u prime. So, this factor becomes equal to gamma L prime divided by u prime multiplied by 1 plus v u prime by c square. As you can see that, this delta t cannot be negative of course, it cannot be negative, if v is positive but even if v is negative, this particular factor because v and u prime, both are going to be smaller than c individually.

Therefore, this factor cannot exceed c square therefore, this factor has to be always less than 1 and even if it is of negative sign, the whole quantity delta t will always lead me in positive value. Hence, what I have written, delta t cannot be negative, irrespective of the sign of v, so long this speeds are lower than c and therefore, it is not possible to find a frame, in which the time order get reversed.

This is what was sort of discussion of giving some example about time like and space like events. Now, let us go little ahead, in Lorentz transformation, enough, as it given me all the information about relativity or do I require something more. What I would like to mention here is that, this was only the first step, just doing Lorentz transformation is not enough in order that, the postulate special theory relativity that, all the laws of physics remains same in all the frames.

It is necessary to do something more and what I would like to say is that, atleast I would have to redefine my momentum. So, now, I will give you a very simple example, it is a classical mechanics, this particular example solved in a very, very simple fashion, which we call as, completely inelastic collision. In a completely inelastic collision in a classical mechanics, we always say that, the momentum has to be conserved but the mechanical energy is not conserved.

Actually, if you take the total energy that, should be conserved there also but it is converted into some sort of energy, which is not really mechanical. And traditionally, in the classical mechanics, whenever we are solving collision problems, we apply conservation momentum of course. And conservation of energy, which is happens to be the conservation of mechanical energy, only those cases where, the collisions are elastic.

It is possible to have non elastic collisions or the example, which I have gave you as completely inelastic collisions, in which the two bonds come together and gets stuck to each other, in which we do not conserve the mechanical energy, we conserve only the momentum. Now, we take this particular example of completely inelastic collision, as given in a particular frame and of course, in this particular frame, we will say that, momentum is conserved.

Now, what I will like to show that, if I change my frame of reference with different frame of difference then in that particular frame of reference, momentum need not be conserved, if we just take only the Lorentz transformation into consideration. Therefore, something else is need to be done, to make conservation of momentum, which we believe to be one of the fundamental principles of physics to be valid in all initial frames. So, I take one specific example, the example is essentially very simple but even in this particular example, we will show that, this violets the universality of conservation of momentum

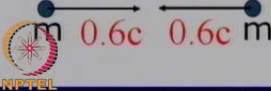
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Special Theory of Relativity

Need to redefine momentum

Consider a completely in elastic collision in **S** frame.

Before collision



m $0.6c$ $0.6c$ m

After collision



$2m$

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So, this what the example I have, title I have to need to redefined in momentum, consider a completely inelastic collision in S frame. So, let us assume that, there is a frame S in with one particular particle of mass m , is found to trouble to the right with a speed of $0.6c$, in the same frame another mass travels to the left with the same speed, which is $0.6c$. Now, the observer S finds that, these two masses collide and then get stuck to each other so what we call, completely inelastic collision.

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$$p_i = m \times 0.6c - m \times 0.6c$$
$$= 0$$

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So, this was a situation before collision where, one mass was travel to the right with the speed of $0.6c$, another mass exactly identical, was travel into the left with speed $0.6c$. They have a head on collision and then two masses get stuck together so what is remaining is, just a single mass of total mass $2m$. The two masses stuck together and this particular mass comes to rest, and as you can very easily see that, this will conserve momentum.

Because, if I take the momentum of the first particle, that will be given by m into $0.6c$, if I take the momentum of the second particle, the magnitude of that will also be m into $0.6c$. But because this speeds are in different direction, opposite direction therefore, the momentum direction, momentum being that will be opposite so this will be the net momentum because this magnitude is same as this magnitude so this should be equal to 0.

So, this will be what, I called as a initial momentum it means, according to conservation momentum, the final momentum must also be equal to 0 because mass is 10 obviously. Therefore, it means, the mass must come to rest, because then only, it is possible for momentum to be conserved or to become 0. So, this speed has to become 0. And that is what, I am saying that, after the collision, the two masses are come together and got stuck, and have come to rest.

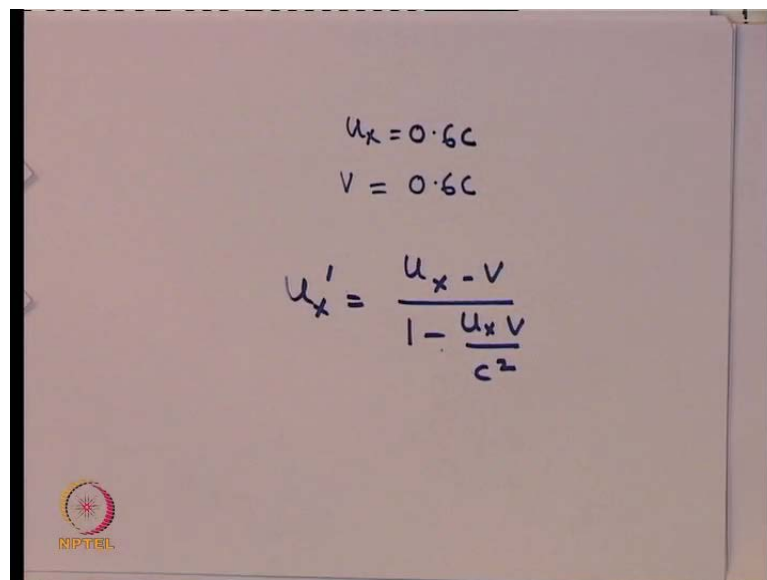
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The slide is titled "Special Theory of Relativity" in a blue header. Below the title, it says "In S Frame". The text on the slide states: "Initial momentum = 0", "Final momentum = 0", and "Momentum is conserved." with a mouse cursor pointing at the word "conserved". Below this, it says "Let us view this collision from S' frame with $v=0.6c$ ". At the bottom left is the NPTEL logo, and at the bottom center is the text "Prof. Shiva Prasad, Department of Physics, IIT Bombay". The slide number "24" is in the bottom right corner. The background of the slide features a faint image of a man in a suit.

Therefore, the final momentum is also 0, so we have a situation where, initial momentum is also equal to 0, final momentum is also equal to 0 therefore, momentum is conserved. So, as you have seen just now that, initial momentum is 0, final momentum also 0 therefore, in S frame, the momentum is conserved. Now, let us try to look this particular collision, from one particular frame on specific frame, S frame, which happens to be moving with the same speed S, the initial speed of the first particle, which is 0.6 c. And we show that, in this particular frame, this conservation is valid, even if you can show violation in one particular frame of reference, the law gets valid.

So, just one example contrary is enough to say, that this particular law is valid so let us go to S prime frame of reference, in which the relative speed v is 0.6 c.

(Refer Slide Time: 49:14)



The image shows a handwritten slide with the following content:

$$u_x = 0.6c$$
$$v = 0.6c$$
$$u'_x = \frac{u_x - v}{1 - \frac{u_x v}{c^2}}$$

In the bottom left corner, there is a small circular logo with a star-like pattern and the text "NIPITIL" below it.

As we have seen, this tender formula for velocity transformation is u_x minus v divided by 1 minus $u_x v$ by c square. In this particular case, the relative speed within the frames has been chosen as 0.6 c, if we applied this particular thing to the first particle, that first particle has a u_x , which is equal to same as 0.6 c. I substitute these two quantity in this particular formula, to find out this speed of this particular particle in S prime frame of reference, which is what I have done here.

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Special Theory of Relativity

In S' Frame

The velocity of the first particle before collision.

$$u'_{1x} = \frac{0.6c - 0.6c}{1 - 0.36} = 0, \quad u'_{1y} = 0, \quad u'_{1z} = 0$$

This is as expected.

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So, u_x was equal to $0.6c$, v was equal to $0.6c$ divided by 1 minus u_x into v divided by c square, c square gets cancel, this becomes 1.36 , what as you can see, numerator we have $0.6c$ minus $0.6c$, this gives me 0 . So, irrespective of the denominator of course, denominator is not equal to 0 , I will get for the first particle this S component of this speed is equal to 0 , which is expected.

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Special Theory of Relativity

The velocity of the second particle before collision.

$$u'_{2x} = \frac{-0.6c - 0.6c}{1 + 0.36} = -\frac{1.2}{1.36}c$$
$$u'_{2y} = 0$$
$$u'_{2z} = 0$$

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Because, if a frame of reference is moving along with the particle, with moving with the same speed of the particle that particular in that particular frame of reference, the particle

would appear to be at rest. It would not be appear to be moving therefore, I am getting this speed to be 0, which is obvious.

Now, let us calculate the velocity of the second particle before the collision. This particular particle was having the same speed but in a different direction so my u_x was equal to minus 0.6 c. So, therefore, I write here as minus 0.6 c, v was any where 0.6 c and because this is negative so this particular sign becomes plus. So, I get 1 plus 0.36, which when I calculate is turning out to be minus 1.2 divided by 1.36 c.

So, observer S prime would notice that, this speed of the second particle of course, is in minus x direction and is equal to 1.2 divided by 1.36 c. Now, let us try to calculate this speed of the two particle, which of course, now turn into a single particle, after the collision. This particular particle was at rest in S frame of reference so let us try to calculate this speed, here the speed in S frame was 0, here v is 0.6 c.

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Special Theory of Relativity

The velocity of the combined particle after collision.

$$u'_{fx} = \frac{0 - 0.6c}{1 - \frac{0 \times 0.6c}{c^2}} = -0.6c$$

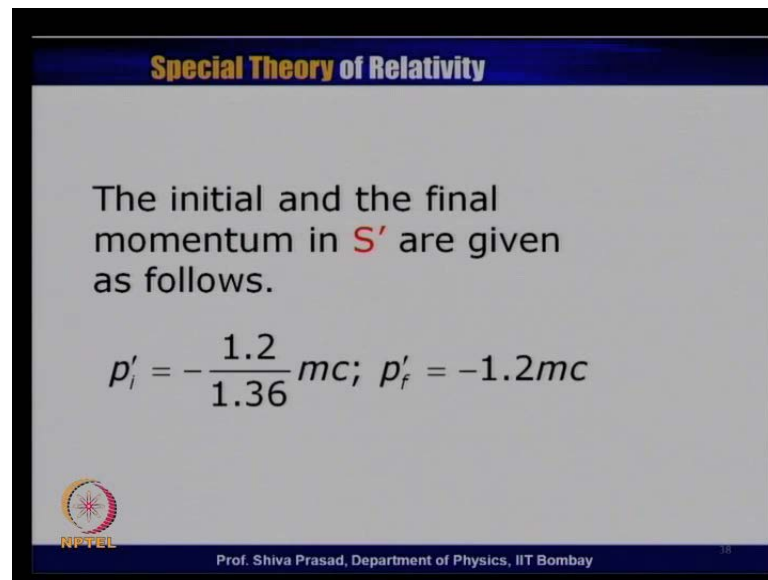
$$u'_{fy} = 0$$

$$u'_{fz} = 0$$

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Therefore, which I am saying is the final speed, u_{fx} prime is equal to 0 minus 0.6 c, which is v divided by 1 minus u , which is equal to 0.6 c divided by c^2 . This quantity becomes 0 because of, 0 here, denominator is 1 and you get minus 0.6 c therefore, the speed of the two particles, two combine particle after the collision, as seen in S prime frame of reference will be turning out to be equal to be minus 0.6 c.

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Special Theory of Relativity

The initial and the final momentum in S' are given as follows.

$$p'_i = -\frac{1.2}{1.36}mc; \quad p'_f = -1.2mc$$

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Now, let us try to calculate the momentum of the particle, the initial and the final momentum, the first particle in S' prime frame of reference was having a 0 velocity, so obviously, it has a 0 momentum. The second particle was having a speed of minus 1.2 divided by 1.36 c , this multiplied by the mass, the momentum of the second particle, which happens to be the total initial momentum as observed in S' prime frame of reference.

This initial momentum as observed in S' prime frame of reference, which will be equal to minus 1.2 divided by 1.36 $m c$. Now, final momentum, there is only one particular particle, which has a mass $2 m$ and that particular particle, as we seen in the previous transparency, was moving with the speed of minus $0.6 c$ in a S' prime frame of a reference.

So, this multiplied by the mass of the particle which is of $2 m$, the final momentum is turn out to be equal to minus $1.2 m c$, as we can clearly see that, this is not same as this. According to S' frame observer, the momentum of the particle has not conserved so according to an observer S' frame of reference, this collision really let to conservation of momentum.

But, if everything what ever I am saying is true then according to an observer S' prime frame of reference, the momentum was not conserved in this particular process. Hence, either we say that, conservation of momentum is not a fundamental principle of physics,

which I am not sure, anyone of us will agree, which means that, we must change we must do something else so that, the momentum is also conserved in S' prime frame of reference.

Therefore, we need to redefine our momentum so in the event, we will summarize, what we have discussed today. We discussed two examples related to space and time like separated event and specifically, we saw the cause and outcome related events. Then finally, we discussed one simple example of completely inelastic collision and we said that, we must redefined our momentum.

Thank you.