Do faster than light particles violate special relativity?

Judit Madarász and Gergely Székely

Alfréd Rényi Institute of Mathematics, Hungarian Academy of Sciences

September 21, 2012

• Time to time experiments (MINOS 2007, OPERA 2011, etc.) suggest that there may be faster than light particles.

- Time to time experiments (MINOS 2007, OPERA 2011, etc.) suggest that there may be faster than light particles.
- Question: Does faster than light motion contradict Einstein's relativity theory?

- Time to time experiments (MINOS 2007, OPERA 2011, etc.) suggest that there may be faster than light particles.
- Question: Does faster than light motion contradict Einstein's relativity theory?
- We will investigate this question within a first-order logic frame.

• FTL motion of observers contradicts special relativity theory.

Judit Madarász and Gergely Székely Do faster than light particles violate special relativity?

▶ < 글 ▶ < 글 ▶</p>

- FTL motion of observers contradicts special relativity theory.
- However, we will see that existence of FTL particles does NOT contradict Einstein's special relativistic dynamics.

3 K 4 3 K

- FTL motion of observers contradicts special relativity theory.
- However, we will see that existence of FTL particles does NOT contradict Einstein's special relativistic dynamics.
- We will build up relativistic dynamics in first-order logic, obtaining axiom system SRdyn and we will see that the existence of FTL particles is independent of SRdyn.

• First we build up the kinematics of special relativity theory. Then we build up the dynamics of relativity theory.

- First we build up the kinematics of special relativity theory. Then we build up the dynamics of relativity theory.
- Axiom system SR for kinematics contains Einstein's two original postulates and some auxiliary axioms implicitly assumed by Einstein.

• • • • • • • • •

- First we build up the kinematics of special relativity theory. Then we build up the dynamics of relativity theory.
- Axiom system SR for kinematics contains Einstein's two original postulates and some auxiliary axioms implicitly assumed by Einstein.
- Axiom system SRdyn for dynamics consists of SR and the axioms for dynamics of relativity theory, which are some natural assumptions on collision of particles. The axioms concern FTL particles, too.

- 同下 - 三下 - 三下

Two informal postulates of Einstein (1905):

• 3 • 4 3

Two informal postulates of Einstein (1905):

• Principle of relativity: "The laws of nature are the same for every inertial observer."

Two informal postulates of Einstein (1905):

- **Principle of relativity:** "The laws of nature are the same for every inertial observer."
- Light postulate: "Any ray of light moves in the 'stationary' system of co-ordinates with the determined velocity *c*, whether the ray be emitted by a stationary or by a moving body,"

• • • • • • • • •

Two informal postulates of Einstein (1905):

- **Principle of relativity:** "The laws of nature are the same for every inertial observer."
- Light postulate: "Any ray of light moves in the 'stationary' system of co-ordinates with the determined velocity *c*, whether the ray be emitted by a stationary or by a moving body,"

To axiomatize relativity theory within logic, we need a language (set of basic concepts).

(周) (ヨ) (ヨ)



B $\leftrightarrow \rightarrow$ Bodies (things that move)

 $\mathsf{Q} \longleftrightarrow \mathsf{Q}$ uantities

<回> < 回> < 回> < 回> -

3



B ↔ → Bodies (things that move) IOb ↔ → Inertial Observers → Ph ↔ Photons (light signals) Q ↔ → Quantities

A B N A B N



 $\begin{array}{l} B \nleftrightarrow Bodies (things that move) \\ IOb \nleftrightarrow Inertial Observers & Ph \nleftrightarrow Photons (light signals) \\ Q \nleftrightarrow Quantities \\ +, \cdot \mbox{ and } \leq \mbox{ field operations and ordering} \end{array}$

▲ 国 ▶ | ▲ 国 ▶ |

Language: $\{B, IOb, Ph, Q, +, \cdot, \leq, W, M\}$



 $W \subseteq IOb \times B \times Q^4$ Q^4 is the coordinate system. $W(i, b, \bar{x}) \iff$

" Inertial observer *i* coordinatizes body *b* at spacetime location \bar{x} ."

• • • • • • • • •

 $W \subseteq IOb \times B \times Q^4$ Q^4 is the coordinate system. $W(i, b, \bar{x}) \iff$

"Inertial observer *i* coordinatizes body *b* at spacetime location \bar{x} ."

 $\mathsf{M}:\mathsf{IOb}\times\mathsf{B}\longrightarrow\mathsf{Q}.$

 $m_i(b) := M(i, b)$ is the relativistic mass of body b according to observer i.

< 同) < 回) < 回) < 回) < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < () < ()



Judit Madarász and Gergely Székely Do faster than light particles violate special relativity?









Judit Madarász and Gergely Székely Do faster than light particles violate special relativity?

Judit Madarász and Gergely Székely Do faster than light particles violate special relativity?

world-line of body *b* as "seen" by inertial observer *i* is the set of coordinate-points where *i* "sees" *b* by W: wline_i(b) := { $\bar{x} \in Q^4$: W(*i*, *b*, \bar{x}) }

world-line of body b as "seen" by inertial observer i is the set of coordinate-points where i "sees" b by W: $wline_i(b) := \{ \bar{x} \in \mathbb{Q}^4 : W(i, b, \bar{x}) \}$ event happened at coordinate point \bar{x} for inertial observer i is the set of bodies "seen" by i at \bar{x} by W: $ev_i(\bar{x}) := \{ b \in B : W(i, b, \bar{x}) \}$

world-line of body b as "seen" by inertial observer i is the set of coordinate-points where i "sees" b by W: $wline_i(b) := \{ \bar{x} \in \mathbb{Q}^4 : W(i, b, \bar{x}) \}$ event happened at coordinate point \bar{x} for inertial observer i is the set of bodies "seen" by i at \bar{x} by W:

 $ev_i(\bar{x}) := \{ b \in \mathsf{B} : \mathsf{W}(i, b, \bar{x}) \}$

world-view transformation w_{hi} between inertial observers h and i is the set of pairs of coordinate-points $\langle \bar{x}, \bar{y} \rangle$ such that h and i see the same event in \bar{x} and \bar{y} , respectively: $w_{hi} := \{ \langle \bar{x}, \bar{y} \rangle \in Q^4 \times Q^4 : ev_h(\bar{x}) = ev_i(\bar{y}) \}.$

world-view transformation w_{hi} between inertial observers h and i is the set of pairs of coordinate-points $\langle \bar{x}, \bar{y} \rangle$ such that h and i see the same event in \bar{x} and \bar{y} , respectively: $w_{hi} := \{ \langle \bar{x}, \bar{y} \rangle \in Q^4 \times Q^4 : ev_h(\bar{x}) = ev_i(\bar{y}) \}.$

Under mild assumptions $w_{hi} : Q^4 \rightarrow Q^4$ is a bijective function.

AxLight :

There is an inertial observer, according to whom, any light signal moves with the same velocity c in every direction.

$$\exists ic \Big[\mathsf{IOb}(i) \land c > 0 \land \forall \bar{x} \bar{y} \left(\exists p \Big[\mathsf{Ph}(p) \land \mathsf{W}(i, p, \bar{x}) \\ \land \mathsf{W}(i, p, \bar{y}) \Big] \leftrightarrow \mathsf{space}(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) = c \cdot \mathsf{time}(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) \Big) \Big]$$

Let \mathcal{F} be the set of **potential laws of physics**.

$\mathsf{SPR}_\mathcal{F}:$

Every $\varphi \in \mathcal{F}$ potential law of physics either holds for every inertial observer or none of them.

$$\big\{ \operatorname{\mathsf{IOb}}(m) \wedge \operatorname{\mathsf{IOb}}(k)
ightarrow \big[\varphi(m, \bar{x}) \leftrightarrow \varphi(k, \bar{x}) \big] \, : \, \varphi \in \mathcal{F} \big\}.$$

• • = • • = •

Potential laws of physics $(\mathcal{F}) = ???$

 $\mathsf{SPR}_{\mathcal{F}}: \{\mathsf{IOb}(m) \land \mathsf{IOb}(k) \to [\varphi(m,\bar{x}) \leftrightarrow \varphi(k,\bar{x})] : \varphi \in \mathcal{F}\}.$

◆□▶ ◆□▶ ◆三▶ ◆三▶ 三三 - のへで

Potential laws of physics $(\mathcal{F}) = ???$

 $\mathsf{SPR}_{\mathcal{F}}: \{\mathsf{IOb}(m) \land \mathsf{IOb}(k) \to [\varphi(m,\bar{x}) \leftrightarrow \varphi(k,\bar{x})] : \varphi \in \mathcal{F}\}.$

• $\mathcal{F} \subseteq$ "Formulas expressible in the language of the theory."

Judit Madarász and Gergely Székely Do faster than light particles violate special relativity?
$\mathsf{SPR}_{\mathcal{F}}: \{\mathsf{IOb}(m) \land \mathsf{IOb}(k) \to [\varphi(m,\bar{x}) \leftrightarrow \varphi(k,\bar{x})] : \varphi \in \mathcal{F}\}.$

- ullet $\mathcal{F}\subseteq$ "Formulas expressible in the language of the theory."
- We need a free variable for the observer on which we will evaluate the formula.

(過) (ヨン (ヨン)

 $\mathsf{SPR}_{\mathcal{F}}: \{\mathsf{IOb}(m) \land \mathsf{IOb}(k) \to [\varphi(m,\bar{x}) \leftrightarrow \varphi(k,\bar{x})] : \varphi \in \mathcal{F}\}.$

- $\mathcal{F} \subseteq$ "Formulas expressible in the language of the theory."
- We need a free variable for the observer on which we will evaluate the formula.
- We do not want more free variables of type bodies.

(過) (ヨン (ヨン)

 $\mathsf{SPR}_{\mathcal{F}}: \{\mathsf{IOb}(m) \land \mathsf{IOb}(k) \to [\varphi(m,\bar{x}) \leftrightarrow \varphi(k,\bar{x})] : \varphi \in \mathcal{F}\}.$

- $\mathcal{F} \subseteq$ "Formulas expressible in the language of the theory."
- We need a free variable for the observer on which we will evaluate the formula.
- We do not want more free variables of type bodies.
- We would like to use numbers as parameters.

・ 戸 ト ・ ヨ ト ・ ヨ ト ・

 $\mathsf{SPR}_{\mathcal{F}}: \{\mathsf{IOb}(m) \land \mathsf{IOb}(k) \to [\varphi(m,\bar{x}) \leftrightarrow \varphi(k,\bar{x})] : \varphi \in \mathcal{F}\}.$

- ullet $\mathcal{F}\subseteq$ "Formulas expressible in the language of the theory."
- We need a free variable for the observer on which we will evaluate the formula.
- We do not want more free variables of type bodies.
- We would like to use numbers as parameters.

 ${\sf SPR}^+$: when ${\cal F}$ contains all the formulas having only 1 free variable of type bodies.

・ 同 トー・ ヨート・・ モート・・・

The structure of quantities $\langle Q, +, \cdot, \leq \rangle$ is a Euclidean field.

Judit Madarász and Gergely Székely Do faster than light particles violate special relativity?

(1日) (日) (日) 日

The structure of quantities $\langle Q, +, \cdot, \leq \rangle$ is a Euclidean field.

AuxiliaryAxiom :

Inertial observers coordinatize the same events.

<回と < 回と < 回と -

æ

The structure of quantities $\langle Q, +, \cdot, \leq \rangle$ is a Euclidean field.

AuxiliaryAxiom :

Inertial observers coordinatize the same events.

AuxiliaryAxiom :

Inertial observers can move with any speed slower than that of light. Every slower than light straight-line is the worldline of some observer.

The structure of quantities $\langle Q, +, \cdot, \leq \rangle$ is a Euclidean field.

AuxiliaryAxiom :

Inertial observers coordinatize the same events.

AuxiliaryAxiom :

Inertial observers can move with any speed slower than that of light. Every slower than light straight-line is the worldline of some observer.

AuxiliaryAxiom :

Every Inertial observer is stationary according to himself.

A (10) N (10)

The structure of quantities $\langle \mathbb{Q},+,\cdot,\leq\rangle$ is a Euclidean field.

AuxiliaryAxiom :

Inertial observers coordinatize the same events.

AuxiliaryAxiom :

Inertial observers can move with any speed slower than that of light. Every slower than light straight-line is the worldline of some observer.

AuxiliaryAxiom :

Every Inertial observer is stationary according to himself.

AuxiliaryAxiom :

Inertial observers agree as to the spatial distance between two events if these two events are simultaneous for both of them. Furthermore, the speed of light is 1.

Axiom system for kinematics of special relativity theory

 $SR := AxLight + SPR^+ + Auxiliary Axioms.$

Judit Madarász and Gergely Székely Do faster than light particles violate special relativity?

• • • • • • • • •

Some theorems of ${\sf SR}$

Judit Madarász and Gergely Székely Do faster than light particles violate special relativity?

・ロト ・四ト ・ヨト ・ヨト

990

æ

Some theorems of ${\sf SR}$

Theorem:

 $SR \vdash$ "No inertial observer can move faster than light."

Judit Madarász and Gergely Székely Do faster than light particles violate special relativity?

<回> < 回> < 回> < 回>

æ

Some theorems of ${\sf SR}$

Theorem:

SR ⊢ "No inertial observer can move faster than light."

Theorem:

SR ⊢ "The worldview transformations between inertial observers are Poincaré transformations."

▲□→ ▲ □→ ▲ □→ ---

Dynamics

Collisions of particles

Judit Madarász and Gergely Székely Do faster than light particles violate special relativity?

4 王

An anomaly to be solved:



inelastic collision

3

An anomaly to be solved:





inelastic collision



(1日) (日) (日)

æ

Judit Madarász and Gergely Székely Do faster than light particles violate special relativity?

b is inertial body iff for every inertial observer *i*:

 $wline_i(b) \subseteq$ (a straight-line).

<回> < 回> < 回> < 回>

æ

b is inertial body iff for every inertial observer *i*:

 $wline_i(b) \subseteq$ (a straight-line).

b is inertial particle iff it is an inertial body and for every inertial observer *i*:

$$\mathsf{m}_i(b) \neq 0$$
 if $speed_i(b) < \infty$.

• • • • • • • • •



프 에 세 프 에



 $coll_i(b_1 \dots b_5)$



◆□▶ ◆圖▶ ◆臣▶ ◆臣▶ ─ 臣 -

990

Judit Madarász and Gergely Székely Do faster than light particles violate special relativity?



$$coll(b_1...b_n) \iff \exists \bar{x} \bigwedge_{j=1}^n [inc_i(b_j, \bar{x}) \lor out_i(b_j, \bar{x})] \land$$

(conservation of mass and momentum:) $\sum_{inc} P_i(b_j) = \sum_{out} P_i(b_j)$

◆□▶ ◆圖▶ ◆臣▶ ◆臣▶ ─ 臣 -

990

Axioms for dynamics

AxColl :

Possible collisions do not depend on the observer.

・ 同 ト ・ ヨ ト ・ ヨ ト

Axioms for dynamics

AxColl :

Possible collisions do not depend on the observer.



 $coll_i(b_1 \dots b_n) \land \land speed_h(b_j) < \infty \implies coll_h(b_1 \dots b_n)$

Judit Madarász and Gergely Székely Do faster than light particles violate special relativity?

(周) (日) (日)





inelastic collision

decay

・ロト ・四ト ・ヨト ・ヨト

æ

Judit Madarász and Gergely Székely Do faster than light particles violate special relativity?

Def:

 $b \cong_i b' \iff \mathsf{m}_i(b) = \mathsf{m}_i(b') \land velocity_i(b) = velocity_i(b')$ $\iff P_i(b) = P_i(b').$



▲御♪ ▲ 臣♪ ▲ 臣♪ ― 臣

Def:

 $b \cong_i b' \iff \mathsf{m}_i(b) = \mathsf{m}_i(b') \land velocity_i(b) = velocity_i(b')$ $\iff P_i(b) = P_i(b').$



AuxiliaryAxiom :

Congruence \cong_i does not depend on the observer.

<回> < 回> < 回> < 回>

æ

Ax∀Inecoll :

Any two particles can be collided inelastically at any coordinate point according to any observer.

<回と < 回と < 回と -

3

Ax∀Inecoll :

Any two particles can be collided inelastically at any coordinate point according to any observer.



 $\forall a b \bar{x} i \qquad \mathbf{m}(a) + \mathbf{m}(b) \neq 0 \implies$

> < 프 > < 프 >

3

Ax∀Inecoll :

Any two particles can be collided inelastically at any coordinate point according to any observer.



 $\forall a b \bar{x} i \quad \mathbf{m}(a) + \mathbf{m}(b) \neq 0 = 0$

 $\exists a' b' c (a' \cong a \land b' \cong b \land coll(a'b'c) \land inc(a') \land inc(b') \land out(c))$

▲御♪ ▲ 臣♪ ▲ 臣♪ ― 臣

Relativistic masses of slower than light inertial particles depend only on their speeds.

Relativistic masses of slower than light inertial particles depend only on their speeds.

AuxiliaryAxiom :

On every slower than light straight line there is a particle with arbitrary positive mass.

Relativistic masses of slower than light inertial particles depend only on their speeds.

AuxiliaryAxiom :

On every slower than light straight line there is a particle with arbitrary positive mass.

 $SRdyn := SR + AxColl + Ax\forall Inecoll + Auxiliary Axioms.$

 \exists FTLip there is a faster that light inertial particle.

 $\exists \mathsf{FTLip} \quad \exists i \ b \quad speed_i(b) > 1.$

Judit Madarász and Gergely Székely Do faster than light particles violate special relativity?

(四) (目) (日)

3

 \exists FTLip there is a faster that light inertial particle.

 $\exists \mathsf{FTLip} \quad \exists i \ b \quad speed_i(b) > 1.$

Theorem:

∃FTLip is independent of SRdyn, that is

 $\mathsf{SRdyn} \not\vdash \exists \mathsf{FTLip} \qquad \mathsf{SRdyn} \not\vdash \neg \exists \mathsf{FTLip}.$

Judit Madarász and Gergely Székely Do faster than light particles violate special relativity?

・ 同 トー・ ヨート・・ モート・・・

3

 \exists FTLip there is a faster that light inertial particle.

 $\exists \mathsf{FTLip} \quad \exists i \ b \quad speed_i(b) > 1.$

Theorem:

∃FTLip is independent of SRdyn, that is

 $\mathsf{SRdyn} \not\vdash \exists \mathsf{FTLip} \qquad \mathsf{SRdyn} \not\vdash \neg \exists \mathsf{FTLip}.$

Proof: $\mathfrak{M}_1 \models \exists \mathsf{FTLip}$ and $\mathfrak{M}_2 \models \neg \exists \mathsf{FTLip}$.

・ 何 ト ・ ヨ ト ・ ヨ ト ・ ヨ





Judit Madarász and Gergely Székely Do faster than light particles violate special relativity?

▲□▶ ▲□▶ ▲□▶ ▲□▶ ▲□▶ ▲□▶








▲□▶ ▲□▶ ▲□▶ ▲□▶ ▲□▶ ▲□▶









▲□▶ ▲□▶ ▲□▶ ▲□▶ ▲□▶ ▲□▶

Judit Madarász and Gergely Székely Do faster than light particles violate special relativity?

Theorem:

Assume SRdyn⁻ and that masses are positive.

$$\mathsf{m}_k(b) \cdot \sqrt{|1-speed_k^2(b)|} = \mathsf{m}_h(b) \cdot \sqrt{|1-speed_h^2(b)|}$$



<回> < 回> < 回> < 回>

3