What structures can numbers have in relativity theory?

Gergely Székely

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• Obviously the real (or the complex) numbers!

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- Obviously the rational numbers (or even the integers)!

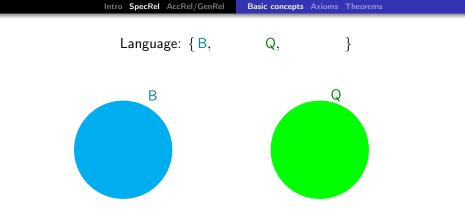
- Obviously the real (or the complex) numbers!
- Obviously the rational numbers (or even the integers)!

The question at this level is too naive/vague...

What structures can quantities have in certain physical theories?

What structures can quantities have in certain spacetime theories?

What structures can quantities have in special relativity?



$B \leftrightarrow Bodies$ (things that move)

 $\mathsf{Q} \leftrightsquigarrow \mathsf{Quantities}$

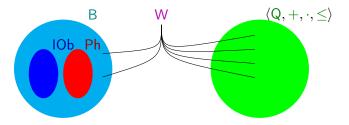
Language: $\{B, IOb, Ph, Q, \}$



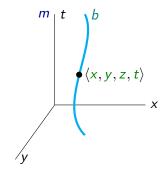
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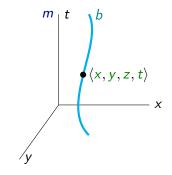
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 $W(m, b, x, y, z, t) \iff$, observer *m* coordinatizes body *b* at spacetime location $\langle x, y, z, t \rangle$."



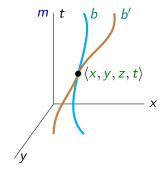
 $W(m, b, x, y, z, t) \iff$, observer *m* coordinatizes body *b* at spacetime location $\langle x, y, z, t \rangle$."



The worldline of body b according to observer m

$$\textit{wline}_{\textit{m}}(\textit{b}) = \{ \langle x, y, z, t \rangle \in \mathsf{Q}^{\mathsf{4}} : \mathsf{W}(\textit{m},\textit{b},x,y,z,t) \}$$

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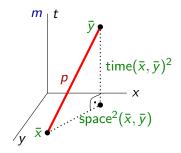


The *event* coordinatized by observe *m* at $\langle x, y, z, t \rangle$:

$$ev_m(\langle x, y, z, t \rangle) = \{ b \in \mathsf{B} : \mathsf{W}(m, b, x, y, z, t) \}$$

Axiom [AxPh]:

For any inertial observer, the speed of light is the same in every direction everywhere, and it is finite. Furthermore, it is possible to send out a light signal in any direction.



$$\mathsf{IOb}(m) \to \exists c \Big[c > 0 \land \forall \bar{x} \bar{y} \left(\exists p \big[\mathsf{Ph}(p) \land \mathsf{W}(m, p, \bar{x}) \\ \land \mathsf{W}(m, p, \bar{y}) \big] \leftrightarrow \mathsf{space}^2(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) = c^2 \cdot \mathsf{time}(\bar{x}, \bar{y})^2 \Big) \Big]$$

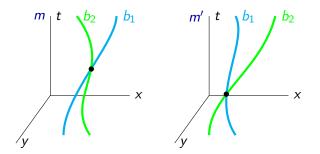
Axiom [AxField]:

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

- Rational numbers: Q,
- $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}), \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{3}), \mathbb{Q}(\pi), \ldots$
- Computable numbers,
- Constructable numbers,
- Real algebraic numbers: $\overline{\mathbb{Q}} \cap \mathbb{R}$,
- <u>Real numbers</u>: ℝ,
- Hyperrational numbers: \mathbb{Q}^* ,
- Hyperreal numbers: \mathbb{R}^* ,
- Etc.

Axiom [AxEv]:

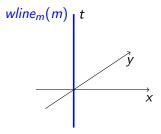
Inertial observers coordinatize the same events (meetings of bodies).



 $\forall m \ m'\bar{x} \ \mathsf{IOb}(m) \land \mathsf{IOb}(m') \to \big[\exists \bar{x}' \ \forall b \ \mathsf{W}(m, b, \bar{x}) \leftrightarrow \mathsf{W}(m', b, \bar{x}') \big].$

Axiom [AxSelf]:

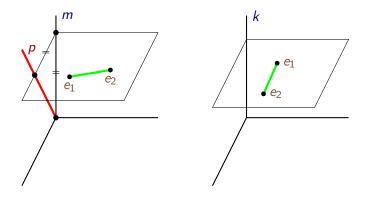
Inertial observers are stationary according to themselves.



$$\forall mxyzt \ (\mathsf{IOb}(m) \to [\mathsf{W}(m,m,x,y,z,t) \leftrightarrow x = y = z = 0]).$$

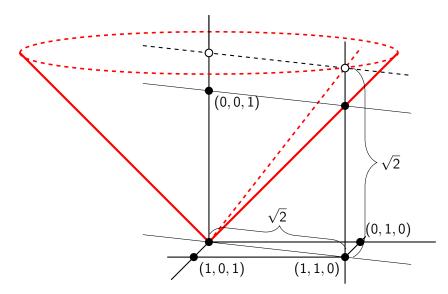
Axiom [AxSym]:

Inertial observers can use the same units of measurements.



SpecRel= AxPh+ AxField+ AxEv+ AxSelf+ AxSym

Missing lines over \mathbb{Q}



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SpecRel = AxField + AxPh + AxEv + AxSelf + AxSym

Theorem: (Andréka–Madarász–Németi,1998)

SpecRel |= ,,moving clocks get out of synchronism," ,,moving clocks slow down," ,,moving spaceships shrink," etc.

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Theorem: (Andréka–Madarász–Németi,1998)

SpecRel \= ,,moving clocks get out of synchronism,"
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Question: (Research direction)

What would remain from the theorems of SpecRel, if we replaced ordered fields with other algebraic structures, e.g., with ordered rings?

This framework generalizes naturally over any dimension $d \ge 2$.

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Def.:

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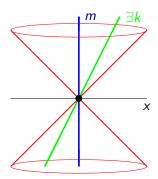
Example:

 $Numbers_n(SpecRel) = ordered fields$

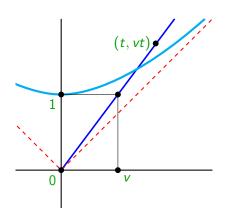
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Axiom [AxThExp]:

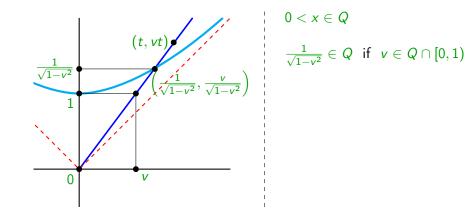
Inertial observers can move in any direction at any speed less than the speed of light.



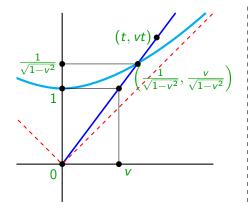
Numbers_n(SpecRel + AxThExp) = {Euclidean ordered fields}



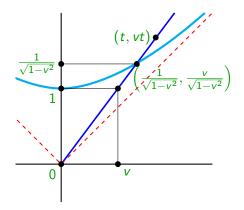
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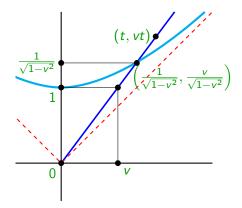


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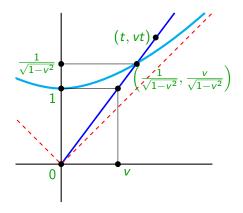
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$$\sqrt{x} \in Q$$

Theorem: (Andréka–Madarász–Németi, 1998)

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Question: $(n \ge 4)$

Numbers_n(SpecRel₀ + AxThExp) =???

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Conjecture:

Numbers_n(SpecRel + $AxThExp^{-}$) = ordered fields

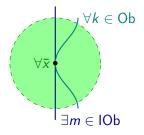
What structures can quantities have in general relativity?

Accelerated observers (AccRel) / general relativity (GenRel)

The language of AccRel/GenRel is the same as that of SpecRel.

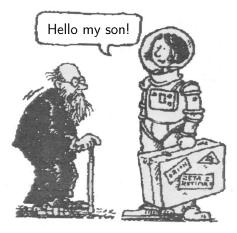
Axiom [AxCmv]:

At each moment of its life, every observer coordinatizes the nearby world for a short while in the same way as an inertial observer does.



 $\forall k \in \text{Ob } \forall \bar{x} \in \textit{wline}_k(k) \exists m \in \text{IOb} \quad d_{\bar{x}} w_{mk} = Id, \text{ where} \\ d_{\bar{x}} w_{mk} = L \stackrel{\textit{def}}{\longleftrightarrow} \forall \varepsilon > 0 \; \exists \delta > 0 \; \forall \bar{y} \; |\bar{y} - \bar{x}| \le \delta \\ \rightarrow |w_{mk}(\bar{y}) - L(\bar{y})| \le \varepsilon |\bar{y} - \bar{x}|.$

$\mathsf{Twin} \ \mathsf{paradox} \rightsquigarrow \mathsf{TwP}$



Theorem: (Sz, 2004)

$\mathsf{SpecRel} + \mathsf{AxCmv} + \langle \mathsf{Q}, +, \cdot, \leq \rangle \cong \mathbb{R} \hspace{0.2cm} \models \hspace{0.2cm} \mathsf{TwP}$

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$\begin{array}{lll} \mathsf{SpecRel} + \mathsf{AxCmv} + \langle \mathsf{Q}, +, \cdot, \leq \rangle \cong \mathbb{R} & \models & \mathsf{TwP} \\ & & \mathsf{SpecRel} + \mathsf{AxCmv} + \mathsf{Th}(\mathbb{R}) & \not\models & \mathsf{TwP} \end{array}$

Axiom schema [CONT]:

Every definable, bounded and nonempty subset of ${\rm Q}$ has a supremum.

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- Computable numbers,
- Constructible numbers,
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$SpecRel + AxCmv + CONT \models TwP$

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Axiom [AxEv⁻]:

Any observer encounters the events in which he was observed.

Axiom [AxSelf⁻]:

The worldline of an observer is an open interval of the time-axis, in his own worldview.

 $AccRel = SpecRel + AxCmv + CONT + AxEv^{-} + AxSelf^{-}$

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Proposition:

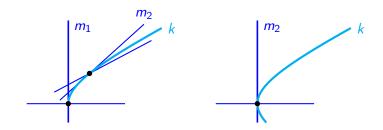
Numbers_n(AccRel) = real closed fields.

Are real closed fields enough to model every accelerated observer?

Axiom [Ax∃UnifOb]:

Observers can accelerate uniformly.

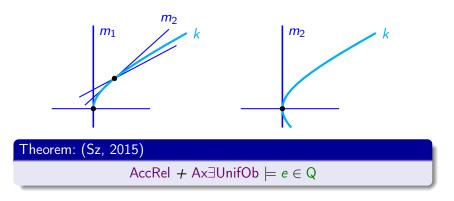
Uniform acceleration: the acceleration is the same according to every inertial comoving observer.



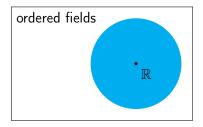
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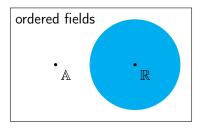
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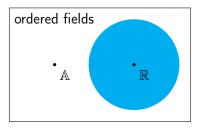
The class of coordinate time structures of theory AccRel + $Ax\exists$ UnifOb is not axiomatizable in the language $\langle +, \cdot, \leq \rangle$.



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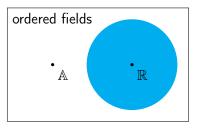


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 $\mathbb{A}\sim\mathbb{R}$

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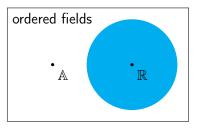


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Question:

Numbers_n(AccRel + \exists UnifOb) =???

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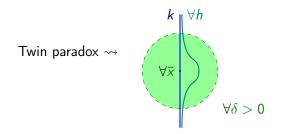
?Exponential ordered fields? (Salma Kuhlmann)

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What about even more fancy observers?

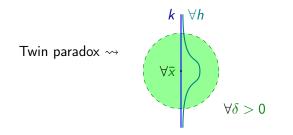
Def. (Geodesic):

The worldline of an observer is called timelike geodesic if it ,,locally maximizes measured time."



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Axiom schema [COMPR]:

For any parametrically definable timelike curve in any observers worldview, there is another observer whose worldline is the range of this curve.

Proposition:

Numbers_n(AccRel + COMPR) \subseteq Numbers_n(AccRel + \exists UnifOb)

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Question:

Numbers_n(AccRel + COMPR) =??? Numbers_n(GenRel + COMPR) =???

???differentially closed fields??? (Abraham Robinson)

