

A missing curvature term in the Liénard-Wiechert retardation equations

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In 3+1 space, the differentiations for the first derivatives are just in space, or just in time. There are no space-time cross terms in the first derivatives, so the non-orthogonality of the coordinates does not affect them. The Maxwell equations are in terms of the second derivatives, and the chain rule for differentiation would be required in 3+1 space, as the solutions would otherwise be incomplete. The chain rule is not needed if the differentiations are performed in 4-space and then projected into 3+1 space. An equivalent procedure is to obtain a potential equation that differentiates correctly in 3+1 space.

The LW retardation equations represent a projection of 4-space into 3+1 space. The potential solutions are then differentiated in 3+1 space to obtain the fields. Due to the non-orthogonality of the coordinates in 4-space, the chain rule for differentiation would be required in 3+1 space. The chain rule is not needed if the derivatives are computed in 4-space in the first place, then projected into 3+1 space. An equivalent procedure is to obtain a potential equation that differentiates correctly in 3+1 space. It is possible to differentiate twice then integrate once, so the first derivatives are not actually as accurate as they seem to be. The solutions obtained this way are not solutions to the Maxwell equations. They are solutions to the Proca equations. The Proca equations reduce to the Maxwell equations when the conditions are mild.

Arguments are presented that the LW retardation equations are for the wrong particle. The chain rule for differentiation is then used to obtain the solution for the right particle.

The Newton equations are the equations of a removable singularity

If the coordinates are first-known at two points on a trajectory, the time for a particle to traverse between the two points goes to infinity as the particle velocity goes to zero. The equations are singular at zero velocity. The singularity is removable. After it is removed, the equations are not the Newton equations. There are space-time cross terms in the full solution.

A method for uncoupling the acceleration and angular velocity terms of the Newton equations.

It is shown that the Newton equations are coordinate-dependent unless events at the location of the particle are simultaneous with events at the origin of the coordinate system. The angular velocity and the acceleration terms are coupled when they are not simultaneous, making it impossible to integrate the particle's acceleration until they are separated. After the terms are separated, the solutions of the LW retardation equations are no longer solutions to the Maxwell equations. They are solutions to the Proca equations.

Arguments are presented that the Newton equations are coordinate-dependent. Coordinate dependencies can exist in either space or time. The angular velocity and acceleration terms are coupled in the solutions of the equations, causing the double integral of acceleration to depend on where the origin of the coordinate system is. The Newton series has the form of a Maclaurin series. In representing the derivatives at a displaced point, a Taylor series is more general. By converting the Newton series to a Taylor series, it becomes possible to apply the equations without knowing what time it is at the origin of the coordinate system.

It is shown that the Newton equations are coordinate-dependent. They cannot be applied without knowing when time $t=0$ should be. The basis of the limitation is that there are space-time cross terms that are of no consequence for the first derivative, but that grow faster than the first order terms when integrating in time. The solution contains $\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{v}$ cross terms that have a connection to the Thomas precession.

An extension of the Newton equations to include angular velocity

Any equation that can be used to integrate around a circle in 3-space can also be used to compute the value of pi. Several nonlinear integrals are known with that capability [].

It is shown that the Newton equations are missing angular velocity terms. The equations would be for the wrong particle even if the speed of light were infinite. The missing terms result in the loss of the precessional terms in orbital solutions. The basis of the shortcoming is that either the chain rule for differentiation or the multivariate Taylor theorem is required when the variables are not independent. The x and y coordinates are not independent variables in the equation for a circle, and orbital solutions are scarcely simpler.

Arguments are presented that the LW retardation equations are not for one particle. They are for a family of particles. After a potential solution is differentiated to obtain the solution for the fields, the fields are for the wrong member of the family. The problem can be avoided by first selecting the coordinates for the right particle, then integrating them in time to obtain the coordinates for the right particle at a later time. The retarded potentials are the integral of the fields. They cannot be differentiated in time until the coordinates have been integrated in time.

Due to the constantly changing angular relationships when there is a transverse velocity, the trajectory of an unaccelerated and retarded particle is perceived as being curved. The particle appears to move along a straight line, but there is a false acceleration term parallel to the retarded velocity, which is a form of curvature.

The false curvature term causes the solutions of the LW retardation equations to not be for an inertial particle. The actual retarded time at the particle can be obtained by integrating the retarded dt interval, then the actual time used for deriving the retardation equations for charged particles.

The LW retardation equations do not contain any terms that are identifiable with the transverse doppler effect of the relativistic doppler equation. A light cone equation is obtained that does predict the right doppler frequency.

There are additional terms in the solution if the particle is accelerated, jerked, yanked, or hammered, but the solution for a hammered particle is divergent.

It is then used to derive the equations for the retarded potentials of accelerated charged particles. Like the LW equations, the equations do not contain acceleration terms, but acceleration terms do occur after a global potential solution is differentiated to obtain the fields.

This paper is not finished. Only some of the calculations are shown in this version.

It is shown that the derivatives of the light cone equation are singular at the point on the trajectory where the particle is at its closest approach to the observer. The singularity can be removed with L'Hôpital's rule, and in other ways. After it is removed, the simultaneous point is no longer where it was thought to be, which accounts for the transverse doppler effect. The correction causes the Liénard-Wiechert retardation equations to be for the wrong particle. The retardation solutions for the right particle are no longer solutions to the Maxwell equations. They are solutions to the Proca equations.

It is shown that the equation for the doppler shift predicted by the light cone equation is singular at the point of a particle's closest approach to the observer. Singularities of the form 0/0 are capable of yielding specific solutions, but they need to be removed. This one can be removed by differentiating, then integrating and providing a constant of integration. The constant of integration causes the simultaneous point on a trajectory to be at a different location than is predicted by undifferentiated vector equations, which accounts for the transverse doppler effect of the relativistic doppler equation. Since the simultaneous point is not where it was thought to be, the LW retardation equations are for the wrong particle. The solution for the right particle is not a solution to the Maxwell equations. It is a solution to the Proca equations.

There are no terms in the Liénard-Wiechert retardation equations that are identifiable with the transverse doppler effect. It is shown that the light cone equation contains a removable singularity at the point on the trajectory where the particle is at its closest approach to the observer. The light cone solutions do contain transverse doppler terms after the singularity is removed. This version of the paper is in preliminary form. The methods and the reasons for removing the singularity are not shown, but the consequences of doing so are presented.

The error in representing the curve by a straight line does vanish as the magnitude of dr goes to zero, but it does not vanish quadratically. The same limitation applies when the tip of dr is moving.

The derivation of the LW equations assumes that both the location and the retarded time at the particle are already known at some point on the trajectory. The time and space coordinates are not independent variables in light cone solutions. When the observations are delayed by the light time across the system, it is not possible to instantly determine both where a particle was and when it was there. The LW equations assume that more is known than is knowable. When more realistic constraints are imposed on the light cone equation, the solutions are not solutions to the Maxwell equations. They are solutions to the Proca equations.

A comparison of the LW retardation equations with the relativistic doppler equation indicates that the retardation equations are missing a constant of integration.

The vector from an observer to a particle rotates as the particle moves. The vector from the particle to the observer rotates in the opposite direction. While it cannot matter which direction the vector is rotating, it is sometimes necessary to know if the solution is left handed or right handed in order to select the right sign. Vectors that behave this way are not true vectors. They are pseudo vectors. Treating a pseudo vector as a true vector results in the loss of all multipoles beyond the dipole, which is why there are no symmetric terms in the solutions of the Liénard-Wiechert retardation equations.

With true vector equations, the difference between two closely spaced vectors is itself a vector. There are no quadratic terms in the equations. There are no multipoles beyond the dipole. In more general solutions, the difference between two closely spaced vectors is a pseudo vector. True vectors and pseudo vectors behave differently for rotations and sign inversions. Applying the methods of vector analysis to pseudo vector equations results in the loss of all multipoles beyond the dipole. The derivation of the Liénard-Wiechert retardation equations assumes that pseudo vectors behave in the same way as true vectors, hence they are true vector equations. More general solutions are not solutions to the Maxwell equations. They are solutions to the Proca equations. The Proca equations reduce to the Maxwell equations when the conditions are mild.

The gradient of a vector is a tensor of the second rank, which includes both symmetric and anti-symmetric terms, yet the 4-potential solutions of the Liénard-Wiechert retardation equations do not have any symmetric

terms. The degeneration appears to be a consequence of treating pseudo vectors as vectors. Pseudo vectors behave differently than true vectors for rotations and sign inversions.

The Liénard-Wiechert retardation equations do not contain acceleration terms, but acceleration terms do occur after a global potential solution is differentiated to obtain the fields. The computed fields are for accelerated particles. The fields are always solutions to the Maxwell equations. There are no \dot{a} terms in the solutions.

It is possible to directly retard the E and B fields. There are \dot{a} terms in those solutions if the light cone equation is solved with the time at the particle being the independent variable. The solutions are for jerked charged particles. The solutions are not solutions to the Maxwell equations. They are solutions to the Proca equations. The Proca equations reduce to the Maxwell equations when the conditions are mild, and for distances small in relation to the range of the fields. The range of the fields is not yet known. It is assumed to be infinite in the approximate solutions obtained, restricting the solutions to the nearby region of the cosmos.

If a high velocity particle is radially approaching the observer and emits a photon when at a great distance, the particle and the photon then both continue their journey to the observer. At extremely high velocities, the particle is traveling nearly as fast as the photon, so the difference in the arrival times of the photon and the particle can be only an instant, yet the travel time can be an eternity. If the particle emits a second photon just before it arrives, there would have been ample time for the acceleration of the particle to deflect it in the transverse direction between the two events.

Consequently, no matter how small dt is, the bogus curvature terms in Eq – are still present if the particle only barely misses the observer. It is therefore necessary to integrate over an interval that looks like and infinitesimal quantity, but does not behave like one.

This behavior is not contrary to the theorems of Euclidean calculus. It is rather that the chain rule for differentiation is required whenever the variables are not independent. The time and space coordinates depend on each other in light cone solutions, tending to confound applications of the chain rule, but it is nevertheless applicable. The chain rule can be applied recursively. It is capable of converting first derivatives into derivatives of any order.

This relationship makes it necessary to integrate the retarded coordinates over the dt interval, no matter how short the dt interval is. However, the equations are linearly dependent if the dt interval is subdivided. Curvature is not representable with the first derivative.

This relationship implies that the retardation equations in potential form should be obtained by integrating the equations for the retarded fields. Not all equations are integrable, so the integral might or might not exist.

... The transformations between these two perspectives are probably more important than which perspective is the right one. The transform is the solution. Each perspective is one aspect of the problem.

When working the retardation problem, the observational data points are always stale and incomplete.

This relationship implies that equations for the first frame of reference sometimes need a factor of γ even when there is no second frame of reference (that we know of).

A closely related solution is obtainable by computing the first derivative at a displaced point.

The gradient of a vector is a tensor of the second rank, yet there are no symmetric terms in the retarded vector potential. There should be.

There is ample time for quadratic or even cubic terms to affect the trajectory of the particle. The simplest way of retaining the curvature terms is to work the problem in the frame of reference of the particle.

The curvature terms are not representable with the first derivative in the frame of reference of the field point. They are easier to represent in the frame of reference of the particle.

Consequently, after differentiation to obtain the fields, the LW retardation equations are missing acceleration terms. The missing terms represent the Thomas precession from the perspective of an observer in the first frame of reference.

There are no space-time cross terms in the first derivatives of 3+1 space. The differentiations are just in space, or just in time. There are cross terms in the first derivative if it is computed at a point displaced in space or time, but that is one of the contributors to the second derivative. Conversely if the second derivative is needed, the calculation should begin by computing the first derivative at a displaced point. The Maxwell equations are in terms of the second derivatives of the potentials. The first derivative of the LW retardation equations at a point displaced in space is not a solution to the Maxwell equations. It is a solution to the Proca equations. The Proca equations reduce to the Maxwell equations when the conditions are mild.

The gradient of a vector is a tensor of the second rank, which represents both symmetric and anti-symmetric terms. The symmetric terms are irretrievably lost if the derivatives of Liénard-Wiechert retardation equations are computed as though the retarded space and time coordinates were independent variables. The symmetric

terms can be retained by computing the gradient of the vector potential symbolically, then directly retarding the derivatives of the retarded potentials. The solutions are not solutions to the Maxwell equations. They are solutions to the Proca equations. The Proca equations reduce to the Maxwell equations when the conditions are mild. The associated retardation equations are for jerked particles, which reduce to the solutions for accelerated particles. There are angular velocity terms in the solutions that behave like acceleration terms. Consequently, the solutions for unaccelerated particles do not reduce to the Newtonian.

It is shown that the space derivatives of light cone solutions cannot be fully reduced to first order. The solutions can be developed as a series expansion parameterized by the retarded velocity, acceleration, and higher order terms. The first term of the series is the Coulomb solution. The LW solution is the second term.

The gradient of a vector is a contravariant tensor of the second rank, which includes both symmetric and antisymmetric terms, yet the solutions of the Liénard-Wiechert retardation equations do not have any symmetric terms.

The space and time coordinates are not independent variables in light cone solutions, requiring the chain rule for differentiation. There are space-time cross terms in the second derivatives that are missing if the chain rule is not used. The solutions are not solutions to the Maxwell equations. They are solutions to the Proca equations.

Retardation equations are intrinsically observer dependent, but their basis should be equations that are the same for all observers. The first derivatives of the Liénard-Wiechert equations in the frame of reference of the particle depend on which observer is watching the particle. The aberration is a consequence of the non-orthogonality of the space and time coordinates in the second frame of reference. The non-orthogonality causes the observer dependent angular velocity of the particle to masquerade as a Newtonian acceleration term that is parallel to the retarded velocity. Consequently, the Liénard-Wiechert equations are not for inertial particles. They are nevertheless adequate when relativistic corrections can be neglected, which is always the case for stationary current carrying wires. They are a legitimate term of the retardation series.

The light cone equation can be solved with either the time of an event or the location of the event being the independent variable. When a space vector is the independent variable, the angular relationships between a velocity vector and a space vector are not vector equations. They are tensor equations.

The relativistic doppler equation and the Liénard-Wiechert retardation equations are both based on the Lorentz transform, but the doppler equation is in differential form, while the retardation equations represent an undifferentiated function. The two solutions cannot be directly compared without integrating the doppler equation in both space and time, which is hard to do. It is easier to discover a light cone solution with a first time derivative that is the same as the doppler equation. The comparison indicates that the Liénard-Wiechert equations are missing a factor of $(1 - v^2/c^2)^{-1/2}$, which is ubiquitous in relativistic equations. The doppler equation is thought to be for an inertial particle, implying that the Liénard-Wiechert solution needs a mass term to represent the trajectory of an inertial particle.

In merging the terms for the radial and transverse doppler shift into one term, it is not possible for an observer to determine which particle a solution is for, making it impossible to integrate the equation. The LW equations have the inverse problem. In not distinguishing between the radial and transverse components of a velocity vector, they cannot be differentiated without knowing which observer they are for. Neither equation is for both the right particle and the right observer.

I. OVERVIEW

This paper has not been refereed. Critical comments and suggestions, including grammatical corrections, are welcome at gary@s-4.com.

Most calculations are shown in more detail in the Supplemental Online Material (SOM). Due to the length of the expressions, some of the calculations are only available in the SOM.

I will submit the material to a journal after some more development. For now, please reference the ver-

sion at [dx.doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.5477056](https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.5477056) if you make use of the material. The PDF file is also available at ..., but there is no supplemental data at that site.

The preferred download site is www.s-4.com/cone, and the version available there may be more recent, but personal web pages are not satisfactory for archive purposes.

This paper is archived at <http://vixra.org/abs/1707.0344> and https://figshare.com/articles/An_approximate_non-quantum_calculation_of_the_Aharonov-Bohm_effect/5477056. The latest version will always be available at www.s-4.com/cone. There is no supplemental data at the vixra.org site.

The supplemental data is available at www.s-4.com/cone. All of the supplemental files are in the HTML

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Most browsers have the capability of navigating HTML files on a local disc in the same way they are viewed on the internet. The entry point is index.html. All other files are accessible links from this file.

The file is a single .zip file containing many HTML files. It has been renamed to som.zip to prevent overly eager software from automatically decompressing it. It will have to be renamed to som.zip in order for decompression software to recognize its true format.

The compressed file contains many HTML files. There are no subdirectories, and there are no files that are not in the HTML format. All files are accessible with links from the entry page, which is index.html. The decompressed files can be stored in any directory on any disc. Most browsers have the capability of navigating files on a hard drive in the same way they are viewed on the internet.

The material at the s-4.com site does not require decompression. It can be navigated like any other web page, so it is more convenient.

I cannot provide a conventional reference yet, but please acknowledge the source if you make use of the material. The s-4.com site is the preferred download location, but personal web pages are not satisfactory for archive purposes.

The supplemental data at the figshare.com site is a single .zip file containing many HTML files. The file must be downloaded and decompressed for viewing. The top level file is index.html, and all files are accessible with links from the entry page. There are no subdirectories. Most browsers have the capability of navigating files on a hard disc in the same way that they are viewed on the internet. The files can be stored in any directory on any drive. The supplemental files at www.s-4.com/cone are easier to access if they are still available. They can be navigated like any other web page.

II. INTRODUCTION

If the protons and conduction electrons are retarded separately, as must be done, the Liénard–Wiechert⁹ (LW) retardation solution for a rotating current loop is the same as for a stationary loop, even when the rim velocity is near c . It seems there should be relativistic corrections for the magnetic field. The magnetic field is of order v^1 and relativistic corrections are of order $(v/c)^2$, so the missing terms should be of order v^3 .

The solutions to the LW equations are always solutions to the Maxwell equations. Unless the Maxwell equations are more general than the LW equations, they have the same shortcoming.

There is a connection between retardation equations and the doppler shift. When the time interval at the source is longer than the interval at the field point, the flux becomes concentrated into a shorter interval, enhancing the signal strength.

In our frame of reference, provided the wind is not blowing, similar equations apply to the constantly changing doppler shifted acoustic tone of a passing high speed vehicle. A changing pitch could be due to the transverse velocity of an unaccelerated vehicle, or it could mean that the vehicle is approaching radially and decelerating. Unlike the Newton equations, acceleration and angular velocity are not instantly separable when the data points are delayed by the propagation delay across the system. Until they are separated, angular velocity is capable of masquerading as acceleration, and conversely. The doppler frequency cannot be integrated until the contributors to its rate of change are separated.

A closely related relationship is that the angular acoustic location of a low flying jetliner lags noticeably behind its visual location.

Interplanetary spacecraft navigation software incorporates corrections from the general theory of relativity when integrating the round trip doppler frequency²². We do know how to integrate the doppler frequency.

In modern times, the four dimensional space is the space we experience every day.

Because angular velocity and acceleration are not quickly distinguishable, there are ambiguities in observations of short duration, regardless of the precision of the measurements. The ambiguities are not present for a field of observers. Classical equations represent the perspective of a field of observers. They represent a perspective that we can know, but can only experience with isolated glimpses. A memory of past events is required to connect the glimpses.

The solutions of the Proca equations [] include exponential terms that represent the range of the fields. There is a static scalar solution and a static vector solution¹¹. The vector solution will not be considered further at this time. The static scalar solution reduces to the Coulomb solution in the nearby region. The static solutions have to be transformed when the particle is in motion.

In the reference, it is stated that the $\nabla(\nabla\cdot\mathbf{A})$ of the static vector solution is a vector. It is actually a pseudo vector¹⁵.

If the coordinates are first-known when a particle is at the simultaneous point, the angle between the simultaneous point and the retarded point can be large. The computed angular velocity, relative to the simultaneous point, does not depend on how far away the particle is. This relationship causes the behavior of retarded angular

velocity to be unintuitive. Curvature terms that would otherwise vanish at great distances do not vanish at all.

The non-vanishing curvature terms result in some similarities to the problem of reducing 3-space rotations to first order. The radius vector rotates as the particle moves, but it rotates even when the particle is moving along a straight line. Retardation equations are a more general form of the equations for circular motion. They would also work for an elliptical orbit.

There is no known way of reducing 3-space circular motion to first order with one linear equation unless it contains π , which is obtained with a nonlinear integral²³. In being capable of representing more general forms of periodic motion, it is indicated that exact linear retardation equations do not exist.

3-space rotations do not include the speed of light, but including it is scarcely a simplification.

later *****

An equation can be reduced to a system of several first order equations², but not in one step. For example, the two linear equations for integrating around a circular Newtonian orbit are $\mathbf{r}_{n+1} = \mathbf{r}_n + \mathbf{v}_n dt$ and $\mathbf{v}_{n+1} = \mathbf{v}_n + \mathbf{a}_n dt$. The integral becomes exact as dt becomes arbitrarily small. The equations are of first order, suggesting that the light cone equation could also be reduced to first order with a sufficient number of linear equations.

III. PSEUDO VECTORS

When the speed of light does not matter, the difference between an approaching and receding particle can be represented by inverting the sign of the velocity vector. Rotating the vector by 180 degrees and translating it would have the same effect.

The equations for approaching and receding particles are not symmetrical when the speed of light matters. Vectors and pseudo vectors behave differently for sign inversions and rotations¹⁵.

There are no symmetric terms in true vector equations, but the Lorentz condition, $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A} + 1/c^2 \partial\psi/\partial t$, is a symmetric pseudo vector equation (however, it is always zero for solutions in the Lorentz gauge). $\nabla^2 \mathbf{A} = \nabla \cdot (\nabla \mathbf{A})$ is a pseudo vector, while $\nabla \mathbf{A}$ is a tensor of the second rank.

The magnetic field, $\mathbf{b} = \text{del} \text{ cross } \mathbf{a}_v$, is another pseudo vector. It is related to $\text{del}^2 \mathbf{a}$ by the identity $\text{del}^2 \mathbf{a} = \dots$. $\text{div } \mathbf{a}_v$ is zero in the static current loop solution. There are no symmetric terms in the solutions of the Maxwell equations.

The decomposition products of the contravariant tensors include pseudo vectors, which are of the dipole symmetry, along with other multipoles []. The tensor theorem is in a static 3-space. Two or more closely spaced (and retarded) snapshots are required when the vectors are in motion, but a space rotation is still a space rotation.

[later] The Legendre polynomials represent the scalar multipoles. The vector spherical harmonics^{2,21} represent

the vector multipoles. Both are irreducible. They cannot be synthesized by any linear combination of lower order multipoles.

There are no multipoles beyond the dipole in the solutions of the LW equations. They are true vector equations. The contravariant tensor of the second rank represents the first derivatives []. Technically, the LW equations are not differentiable.

[?] Vector equations are not differentiable by the methods of vector analysis unless the solution represents three independent copies of the equations for one space dimension. Correctness of the equations for one space coordinate does not imply that the differential angular relationships are correct.

This relationship remains true even for non-relativistic 3-space rotations. There is no known way of integrating around a circle with one linear equation unless it contains π , which is obtained with a nonlinear integral²³. Regardless of its complexity, the problem cannot be reduced to first order with one linear vector equation.

IV. CURVATURE

When integrating around a unit circle in 3-space, the first infinitesimal step is

$$\begin{aligned} y &= \sin d\theta \\ x &= \cos d\theta. \end{aligned}$$

To third order

$$\begin{aligned} y &= d\theta - d\theta^3/6 \\ x &= 1 - d\theta^2/2. \end{aligned}$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} dy/d\theta &= 1 - d\theta^2/6 \\ dx/d\theta &= -d\theta/2. \end{aligned}$$

θ is a function of time in a circular orbit, but the orbital equations in 3+1 space are otherwise the same as for 3-space rotations.

If the magnitude of dy is reduced by a factor of two then the error in dx is also reduced by a factor of two, but then twice as many steps are required to integrate around a circle, so nothing is accomplished. There is no value for dy that is small enough to reduce the problem to first order.

Several nonlinear equations are known for integrating around a circle [], but there is no known way of doing with one linear equation unless it contains π , which is obtained with a nonlinear integral. (Complex exponentials implicitly contain π).

It is nevertheless possible to accurately extrapolate part way around a circle with the Taylor theorem for one variable, which is a linear equation. The curvature represented this way is not exact, but it becomes more accurate if more terms are carried. The series expansion would work equally well for elliptical orbits. With

this approach, $d\theta$ maps into an arbitrarily short line segment is curved, but the segment remains curved, no matter how small $d\theta$ is.

... In the figure, no matter how small $d\theta$ is, the line segment is curved. The curvature is of no consequence for the first derivative, but it cannot be neglected when integrating along a curve.

When reducing a problem to first order, terms must either vanish quadratically or be carried. The basis of this limitation is that the chain rule for differentiation is generally required when the variables are not independent.

For light cone solutions, Rv and t are not independent variables, even when the particle is unaccelerated.

θ is a function of time in circular orbits, but non-relativistic orbital equations are otherwise the same as for 3-space rotations. The angular relationships for elliptical orbits are necessarily more elaborate.

If an observer in free fall, the angular velocity of a nearby particle depends on how long it has been in free fall. The solution should probably be integrated in time if the observer has a memory of past events, even when the velocity is so low that the speed of light does not matter. Observations of short duration are ambiguous.

An equation can be reduced to a system of several first order equations², so it is possible to integrate around a circle with more than one linear equation. For example, the two linear equations for integrating around a circular Newtonian orbit are $\mathbf{r}_{n+1} = \mathbf{r}_n + \mathbf{v}_n dt$ and $\mathbf{v}_{n+1} = \mathbf{v}_n + \mathbf{a}_n dt$, which is a differential equation.

The equation $d\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{a} dt$ is not the total differential of the Newton equations. It is only one of the terms.

Pseudo vectors are so ubiquitous and have been around for so long that they are usually just called vectors. The difference frequently does not matter until the equations are integrated. The retarded potentials are the integral of the fields. Because terms must either vanish quadratically or be carried, terms that are of no consequence for field equations can be vital for potential equations. However, the same terms are no less important if the solutions of field equations are integrated in space and time.

When integrating the gradient of the Newton equations, for what reasons are the symmetric terms neglected?

xxx The Maxwell equations are sometimes inappropriately associated with the tensor of the second rank. It is the tensor of the third rank that represents the second derivatives, such as $\nabla \times (\nabla \times \mathbf{A}) = \nabla \times \mathbf{B}$. Its decomposition products are a scalar, three pseudo vectors, two quadrupoles, and an octupole \square .

xxx However, the solutions of the LW equations are degenerate. There are no multipoles beyond the dipole in the solutions. They are true vector equations.

xxx It has been established that acceleration is not representable with true vector equations⁸.

The tensor irreducibility theorem⁶ is in 3-space, but a

space rotation is still a space rotation when the vectors are in motion. More accurately, it is because of the motion that there are multipoles beyond the dipole. Two consecutive static 3-space solutions do not become a 4-space solution just because the 3-space coordinates are different in the two solutions. The two 3-space solutions are disconnected. To some extent, they can be connected with the Newton equations, but they are still disconnected unless it is shown that both solutions are for the same particle.

The equations are ill behaved when the particle is nearly on a collision course with the observer at extremely high velocities. In that case, the observer is the target and the particle is traveling nearly as fast as the photon. No matter how far away the particle was when the photon was emitted, the difference in the arrival times of the photon and the particle can be only an instant, yet the travel time can be an eternity. There is ample time for the acceleration of the particle to deflect it in the transverse direction. The two vectors from the observer to the locations of the particle at times $t_f + 0$ and $t_f + dt_f$ are disconnected. The solution is not for one particle. It is for a family of particles with different histories that pass through two widely separated points. That would not matter unless the equation needs to be differentiated.

When a particle is at its closest approach to the observer, the observer cannot tell from the doppler frequency itself whether the particle is moving from the left to the right or from the right to the left. Rotating the observer 180 degrees about the line of sight would exchange left and right. The equations have to work in the same way for any orientation of the observer, but the two doppler solutions are disconnected. The disconnected solutions for two particles traveling in opposite directions could be connected by requiring that the solution for one particle be rotationally invariant with respect to the orientation of the observer. The calculation would require the space derivatives unless the observer is a point.

The nature of the connection between the two light cone solutions for particles traveling in opposite directions is of no consequence unless the equation needs to be differentiated. The doppler frequency is a derivative.

The light cone equation is not a true vector equation. The time and space coordinates are not independent variables. They depend on each other. It is difficult to determine both where a particle was and when it was there. It can be done, but not instantly.

The theorems of Euclidian calculus do not apply unless two nearby points are connected. When there is only one independent variable, being nearby is a sufficient condition for them to be connected. But when the variables are not free and independent quantities, the chain rule for differentiation and the tensor irreducibility theorem are essential parts of modern Euclidian geometry.

In the equation $f(dx) = 1/(dx_0 + dx)$, where dx_0 is an arbitrarily small constant, $f(dx)$ is a straight line. But the equation $f(dx, dy) = 1/(dx_0 + dx)^2 + (dy_0 + dy^2)^{1/2}$ represents a family of solutions. This relationship would

be of no consequence if we knew where we were in space and time. Equations of physical significance are a subset of the equations that can be written. We have to select the right particle from a family of particles. A Taylor series always represents a family of particles.

Even if the speed of light were infinite, the Newton equations would still be for the wrong particle unless the angular velocity of the particle is zero. Classical equations are observer-free, but angular velocity depends on where the observer is, which is a dilemma for the physicists to ponder, along with the question of whether or not an event without an observer has a meaning.

As illustrated by Ol. paradox [], inverse square law relationships are ill behaved at infinity. Curvature equations are singular at infinity, and the singularity is not necessarily removable. It is mostly necessary to restrict the attention to lesser distances.

When integrating around a unit circle in 3-space, the first infinitesimal step is

$$\begin{aligned} y &= \sin d\theta \\ x &= \cos d\theta. \end{aligned}$$

To third order

$$\begin{aligned} y &= d\theta - d\theta^3/6 \\ x &= 1 - d\theta^2/2. \end{aligned}$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} dy/d\theta &= 1 - d\theta^2/6 \\ dx/d\theta &= -d\theta/2. \end{aligned}$$

When integrating numerically in n steps, terms must either vanish as $1/n^2$ or be carried. After integration, terms that vanish as $1/n$, while usually small, are in the same order as the solution. The equation is not of first order unless the residual vanishes as $1/n^2$ in each step of the n steps of the integration. The $dx/d\theta$ term is usually small in other problems, but it does not vanish as $1/n^2$ when dy is the independent variable.

An equation can be reduced to a system of several first order equations², but not in one step. For example, the two equations for integrating numerically around a circular Newtonian orbit are $\mathbf{r}_{n+1} = \mathbf{r}_n + \mathbf{v}_n dt$ and $\mathbf{v}_{n+1} = \mathbf{v}_n + \mathbf{a}_n dt$. The integral seems to become exact as dt becomes arbitrarily small, although the behaviour is degenerate. In a circular orbit, the $\dot{\mathbf{v}}$ vector is anti-parallel to the velocity vector, concealing the fact that the orbital velocity contains an error of order ω^2 . A third equation would be required to take out the error.

In Fig. -, $drv1$ is not a true vector. It is a pseudo vector. The error in representing a short section of the curve by dr vanishes as dr becomes small, but it does not vanish quadratically. The same limitation applies if the tip of drv is moving.

When the tip of drv is moving, the Coulomb equation is a familiar example of this behavior. ...

When the tip of drv is moving, $1/r$ term in this solution is associated with angular velocity and the magnetic field.

There is no hope for linear 4-space equations until the 3-space equations are right.

Angular velocity is associated with the magnetic field of an orbiting charged particle. There are curvature terms in 3-space that should not be neglected when extending the equations to particles that are in motion, as doing so would result in the loss of the magnetic field. 3-space is no flatter than 4-space unless terms are dropped that should not be dropped.

There are no $1/r$ terms in the first derivative if the trajectory is represented by a Taylor series for one variable, no matter how many terms are carried. The x and y coordinates in Fig - are not independent variables. The Taylor series for one independent variable is the wrong equation. There is a multivariate extension of the theorem².

While the first derivative of the Taylor series for one variable is too slippery for effectively constraining the place and time of the particle, representing a prolonged portion of the trajectory with a series expansion does provide effective constraints, because the first derivative at a displaced point is one of the contributors to the second derivative, while the first derivative at a twice displaced point is one of the contributors to the third derivative. Consequently, depending on the method of calculation, it is not necessarily true that the multivariate version of the theorem is required. However, it is required if only two nearby points on the trajectory are known, as there would otherwise be no magnetic field in the solutions. For the same reason, there would be no multipoles beyond the dipole in the relativistic doppler equation.

There are cross terms in the multivariate version that are not present in the solution for one independent variable. In 3-space, the cross terms are between x and y . When the particle is moving, they are between r and t .

Since the infinitesimal difference between vectors $rv1$ and $rv2$ in Fig - cannot be reduced to first order with linear equations, and retardation equations are linear equations, it is necessary to develop the problem as a series expansion.

There are several nonlinear formulas for integrating around a circle in 3-space²³, but they do not apply to retardation equations. The Einstein tensor⁸ is the basis of a nonlinear formula for integrating around a circle in 4-space. All of the nonlinear formulas provide a means of computing the value of π , which in 4-space depends on the circumstances.

It is not possible to integrate around a circle with one linear equation unless it contains π . The only reason it is possible at all is that the nonlinear 3-space integral was discovered long ago. (Complex exponentials implicitly contain π .) The calculations of the Thomas precession⁷ attempt to integrate around a circle with one linear equation.

The advantage of this approach is that the solutions look and behave like vector equations, even though the solutions are not obtainable by the methods of vector analysis. That is possible, because vector equations are slip-

per than they seem to be. A Taylor series always represents a family of solutions and a family of particles. A smaller family of particles can be selected by carrying more terms in the series. If only two nearby points on a trajectory are known, the family of particles is so large that the derivatives are unusable. The multivariate Taylor does impose more constraints. It is better suited to obtaining field equations.

Retardation equations do not form a complete representation. They are just one aspect of a much larger problem. They are the solution for a distant and detached observer and one particle. The solutions are unphysical if the momentum constraints for systems of two or more particles are not developed separately. Radiation transfers momentum, so the far field radiative terms would probably provide useful clues of unphysical behavior, but the relationships would still require a separate development. For example, there is a possibility that the integral of the acceleration vector over the surface of a sphere would reveal the mass in the interior region, even in radiative systems.

In representing the starting and ending points of a definite integral between the location of the particle at time $t_f + 0$ and its location at time $t_f + dt_f$, the vector between the two points is not a true vector. It is a pseudo vector. Since there are quadratic terms in the integral, pseudo vectors do not add and subtract like true vectors. There are space-time cross terms in the equations.

No matter how small dt_f is, the two points on the trajectory can differ by an eternity. They are disconnected. They can be connected by integration. In representing the beginning and ending points of a definite integral, the difference between the two vectors is a pseudo vector.

Under these circumstances, the coordinates of the particle at the times $t_f + 0$ and $t_f + dt_f$ are disconnected. The two points have to be connected by a path integral. Since the integral contains quadratic terms, the vector pointing from the first point to the second point is not a true vector. It is a pseudo vector. The integral contains quadratic terms, so pseudo vectors do not add and subtract like true vectors. There are space-time cross terms in the equations.

Pseudo vectors reduce to true vectors when the path is short enough that it can be represented by a straight line. Integration degenerates to multiplication in that case. With the Newton equations, the path integral of velocity times time degenerates to multiplication.

If the midpoint of a straight line is not at the middle then the trajectory is curved in a way that is not representable with the roots of Euclidian geometry. That is because straight lines in 3-space do not have tick marks at regularly spaced intervals representing the ticks of a moving clock. This form of curvature occurs with the Newton equations when the acceleration and velocity vectors are parallel, such as for a particle in radial free fall. The Newton equations are in 4-space, but in not containing the speed of light as a parameter, they are introductory

equations.

The modern form of Euclidian geometry includes the chain rule for differentiation and the tensor irreducibility theorem, which are needed when integration does not degenerate to multiplication.

The actual meaning of the infinitesimal is not that a quantity is small. The actual meaning is that the equations are of first order. There is no known way of reducing 4-space to first order, making it necessary to proceed one step at a time. The velocity terms come first.

Due to the non-orthogonality of the space and time coordinates, there are always space-time cross terms in dynamic solutions. In being first order in space and first order in time, the cross terms vanish quadratically in a small region of space-time, while the space and time terms are each of first order. For the same reason, the cross terms grow quadratically when integrating in space and time, so they cannot be neglected if the equation is to be integrated.

The cross terms do not actually either vanish quadratically or grow quadratically. It only seems that way with vector equations. Their actual basis is angular relations that do not depend on the size of a small region. But since the quadratic growth of terms that vanish quadratically is not representable with vector equations, a constant of integration is required. In being the integral of the fields, potential equations implicitly contain a constant of integration.

In implicitly containing a constant of integration that is not present in field equations, potential equations have more flexibility than field equations. However, the retarded potentials exist only for the purpose of being differentiated. It is only their derivatives that are locally measurable.

It is possible to differentiate field equations, then integrate the derivatives twice and provide two constants of integration to obtain potential equations. After differentiation, the two constants of integration provide additional degrees of freedom.

With retardation equations, the constant of integration is only a constant for a specific trajectory and a specific observer. In more general solutions, the constant of integration varies from place to place, and from time to time.

A constant of integration is not needed for a definite integral. However, a definite integral is not an absolute quantity. The whole integral can be offset by an amount that is not discernable until the equation is differentiated again. It is possible, even easy, for a local observer to overlook an offset that a distant observer would require, especially in radiative solutions.

An example of an offset for a definite integral in the outbound direction is the minimum radius at the Schwarzschild singularity. A distant observer is not the one who needs a constant of integration.

If a test mass is at rest inside a mass shell and a string attached to the mass is jerked, then, according to Mach's

principle¹², there should be a frame dragging effect on the mass shell. With true vector equations, space-time cross terms vanish in the infinitesimal and have to be dropped. The light cone equation is not a true vector equation. Cross terms cannot necessarily be dropped, especially if they are radiative. Radiation is capable of transferring momentum from the test particle to the mass shell.

The cross terms vanish as $1/n$, so they cannot be dropped if the equation is to be integrated.

When integrating numerically in n steps, the relative weight of the cross term is $1/n$ times either of the other terms, so it cannot be dropped.

The Coulomb equation is a familiar example of the behavior. It is usable in quasi-static solutions, but because the magnetic field is of order v/c , the solutions contain a small error of the first order, no matter how low the velocity is. This behavior makes it impossible to reduce 4-space to first order, making it necessary to proceed one step at a time.

While it is not possible to fully reduce the problem to first order, the tensor irreducibility theorem⁶ provides useful clues for the next step, and cautions against assuming that there is no next step. It is always possible to differentiate again, then integrate again and provide a constant of integration that was not noticed before. It is the nature of retardation equations that the constant of integration varies from place to place, and from time to time. The role played by the constants of integration is similar to that of the angular relationships that are not representable with vector equations.

[later] An incomplete solution for the seven multipoles of the third rank tensor with 4-potential parameterization is shown in Ref.¹³. The solution is incomplete because the scalar of the solution is $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E}$. The first time derivative of the Lorentz condition is also a scalar, so it should be included in the solution. It seems that vector equations in the first frame of reference are always missing terms. The basis of the calculations is the tensor decomposition equation in Ref.⁶.

The vector spherical harmonics^{2,21} represent the multipoles of static pseudo vector solutions. Two closely spaced snapshots are required to represent the first time derivatives.

The Lorentz transform only transforms true vectors. It is not capable of transforming pseudo vectors. If it could, it would be all right to choose the origin of the coordinate system to be at the observer and the time shown by a nearby clock to be zero, then not bother with transforming the tail of the vector. The shortcut may seem justifiable when the time at the particle and the time at the observer are both zero, but it assumes that we already know where the particle is. We cannot know where a particle is until waiting for the light time across the system. The shortcut is unphysical.

In 3-space, pseudo vectors sometimes seem to have only one end, enabling shortcuts in some cases. In 4-space,

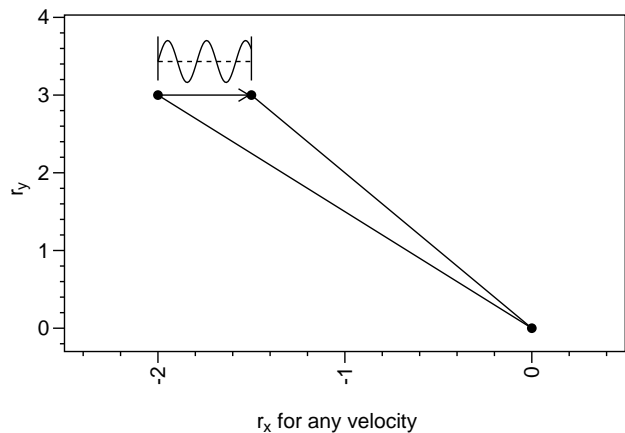


FIG. 1. The doppler shift.

both ends of a vector should always be transformed unless a solution is wanted that is representable with a true vector equation.

V. THE RELATIVISTIC DOPPLER EQUATION

The relativistic doppler equation²⁰ is

$$\frac{f_f}{f_s} = \frac{\lambda_s}{\lambda_f} = \frac{dt_s}{dt_f} = \frac{1}{\gamma(1 + \frac{v}{c} \cos \theta)}. \quad (1)$$

γ is $(1 - v^2/c^2)^{-1/2}$. θ is the angle between the line of sight and the velocity vector. θ is 0 for a radially receding particle. It is $\pi/2$ at the point of closest approach, and π for a radially approaching particle.

The signal is blueshifted for an approaching particle. The frequency shift vanishes slightly before the point of closest approach, then becomes redshifted to $f_f/f_s = 1/\gamma$ at the point of closest approach, which represents the transverse doppler effect.

The $\hat{\mathbf{R}} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{v}}$ terms of the following calculations are the same as the $\cos \theta$ in this equation.

A directional antenna does not point to the retarded location of a monochromatic transmitter. It points in a direction perpendicular to the received wavefront.

Thus, the predicted moment of impact depends on how far away the particle was. ... The observer in 1+1 space is using the wrong equation. It would be the right equation if the time and space coordinates were independent variables, but they are not. Eq - is the right equation.

The derivation of the LW equations [] assumes that we know when the particle is at the simultaneous point before performing any calculations. As illustrated by the Einstein tensor [], the relationships of space and time are not instantly separable, making it difficult to quickly determine both where a particle was and when it was there. This equation does not assume that we know the answer yet.

On the other hand, when applying retardation equations to engineering problems, it is nevertheless necessary to assume that the location of the simultaneous point is already known in order to compute the retarded location.

With true vector equations, these relationships are contradictory. The light cone equation is not a true vector equation, so questions are not so easily resolved.

This interpretation (which is from the reference) assumes that we know when the particle is at the simultaneous point before performing any calculations. As illustrated by the Einstein tensor \square , the relationships of space and time are not instantly separable, making it difficult to quickly determine both where a particle was and when it was there.

On the other hand, when applying retardation equations to engineering problems, it is nevertheless necessary to assume that the location of the simultaneous point is already known in order to compute the retarded location.

With true vector equations, these relationships are contradictory. The light cone equation is not a true vector equation, so the relationships are not so easily resolved.

This interpretation assumes that we already know when the particle is at the simultaneous point. There can be a stream of particles passing by the simultaneous point. How do we know which particle is the right particle?

In being the integral of the fields, potential equations represent a global perspective. The 4-potential transforms in the same way as the coordinates, implying that the coordinates can be viewed as being a potential representation.

There can be more than one particle in the same orbit. Even with the Newton equations, prolonged astronomical snapshots are required to insure that all of the data points are for the same particle, especially when the angle between the plane of the orbit and the line of sight is not already known.

Since the doppler shift can be due to either the radial and transverse velocity, the doppler phase cannot be integrated unless the angle of the trajectory with respect to the line of sight is already known. Interplanetary spacecraft navigation software incorporates corrections from the general theory of relativity. The accuracy of the corrections has been demonstrated \square , confirming that the doppler equation cannot be integrated without additional considerations. (Spacecraft navigation usually uses round trip doppler, which would complicate an analysis.)

Similarly, the discussion in §xx indicates that angular velocity and Newtonian acceleration cannot be separated if only three closely spaced doppler samples are available, complicating the integration unless the angle between the trajectory and the line of sight is already known.

The simultaneous point is where the particle is now. We have to wait for the light time across the system before we can find out where it is now. An assistant near the trajectory could report the time that the particle passes by an at-rest clock, but that would not allow us to find out

where it is any sooner.

But since we can see the particle after waiting for the light time across the system, it is possible to begin at the simultaneous point.

Conceptually, the light cone equation is still an integral of the doppler frequency, but since there are no longer any quadratic terms in the equation, the integration would not serve any purpose.

If the $\hat{\mathbf{R}} \cdot \mathbf{v}$ terms in Eqs. (2) are written as $v \hat{\mathbf{R}} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{v}}$, then they should be the same as $v \cos \beta$. The magnitude of the radius vector is at a quadratic minimum at the point of closest approach. The radial velocity of the particle is zero at that point, so there is no transverse doppler term.

... but not in 4-space. The doppler equation would require both the time and space derivatives before it can be integrated. .. wavefront angle.

The absence of a transverse doppler term in the light cone equation is therefore inconclusive until the constant of integration is determined.

On the other hand, the absence of a transverse doppler term in the light cone equation is conclusive. The doppler equation has been experimentally confirmed, so there should be one.

There do not appear to be any terms in the retardation equations that are identifiable with the transverse doppler effect, although the impression is inconclusive until a constant of integration is determined.

The doppler equation does not specify how far away the particle was, while the distance is required for the potential equations, hence the need for a constant of integration when evaluating a connection between the two equations.

At extremely high velocities, location of the simultaneous point can be almost anywhere. In that regime, eq – is not usable unless the location of the simultaneous point is already known. If its location is already known then we already have a global solution and do not need to know how to integrate the doppler equation.

An important special case occurs when the particle is at the point of closest approach to the observer. In that case, the point of closest approach and the location of the simultaneous point are the same. The transverse term of the doppler equation has been experimentally verified for this configuration. That does not imply that there are no multipoles beyond the dipole in other configurations.

$\cos 2\beta$ terms represent solutions of the quadrupole symmetry, $\cos 3\beta$ terms are contributors to an octupole, and so on. The Legendre polynomials represent the scalar terms. The vector spherical harmonics \square represent the vector terms. In containing only $\cos \beta$ terms, the relativistic doppler equation is a true vector equation. 4-vector equations are also true vector equations unless the solutions contain multipoles beyond the dipole.

Except for a constant of integration, one aspect of the problem can also be investigated by discovering a light cone equation that differentiates correctly. The doppler equation has been experimentally confirmed, so the equation does need to differentiate correctly.

This solution is interpretable in two ways. The traditional interpretation is that the solutions of the Lorentz transform do not exhibit absolute simultaneity [1]. The interpretation in this paper is that the simultaneous point is not where we thought it was, in which case the LW equations are for the wrong particle.

After discovering a solution for just one power of velocity, the procedure was then repeated for the next power. After a few terms in the series are obtained this way, it is not too difficult to guess at the closed form solution, which is

The doppler shifted wavelength is identical to that of Eq. (1).

At the point of closest approach, t and $\sin \tau$ are both zero. The solution at that point is then $0/0$. The singularity is not just for one point. When it occurs depends on what time it is. We do not know what time it is.

It is mathematically possible for equations of the form $0/0$ to yield specific solutions. However, it is usually better to avoid singularities in the first place. The light cone equation is not a true vector equation. Applying the methods of vector analysis to it pushes them beyond their limits.

The potentials are the integral of the fields, implying that the constant of integration depends on the history of the particle. It is only a constant for a specific trajectory and a specific observer. At any given instant, it is possible for particles with different histories to have the same retarded fields, as it is only the recent history of the particle that matters. A longer history is required if the equations are to be differentiated more times.

Regardless of the point on the trajectory selected for deriving the LW equations, the case where $\mathbf{R} \cdot \mathbf{v}$ is zero is included in the solution set.

Due to the presence of $v_x v_y$ cross terms in the solution, the light cone equation is not a true vector equation. It is a tensor equation. Being a tensor equation does not necessarily preclude the need for a constant of integration. The constant of integration might take the form of a displacement for the starting point of a definite integral. The simultaneous point is not a physical quantity. Choosing an unreal point as an anchor point could lead to unreal solutions.

The light cone equation can also be viewed as being a pseudo-vector equation, provided that the methods of vector analysis are not unconditionally applied to it.

... the absence of a transverse doppler term in the light cone equation is therefore inconclusive until the constant of integration is determined.

The constant of integration can be evaluated indirectly by discovering a light cone equation that differentiates correctly.

Since the doppler equation does not specify how far away the particle was, but the distance is required for the retardation equations, the integral will require a constant of integration. Eq. (1) provides another perspective of why the doppler equation needs to be integrated.

The doppler equation has been experimentally confirmed, while the LW equations assume that the constant of integration is zero

[later] The basis of the calculations in this section is that the loop integral of the derivative of a potential should be zero.

[later] There is probably a way of determining where the particle is, but not with these figures. They provide two different solutions, and they are both wrong.

[later] This solution should be zero. The bogus terms are a consequence of angular velocity masquerading as an acceleration term, as discussed in section §xx. The bogus terms make it impossible to integrate the retarded Newtonian acceleration in kinematic solutions.

The equations can be reduced to first order by the same method used in §-.

The LW equations represent an undifferentiated function, whereas the doppler equation is in differential form, making direct comparisons inappropriate until the doppler equation is integrated in space and time. (The doppler equation does not specify how far away the particle was, but the distance is required for the retardation equations.) There nevertheless do not appear to be any terms in the retardation equations that are identifiable with the transverse doppler effect.

As illustrated by the Einstein tensor⁸, the relationships of space and time are generally not separable. The doppler equation needs both time and space derivatives to be complete. Either the time or the space derivatives would be sufficient in 3+1 space, but not in 4-space. The response of a directional antenna is at a maximum in a direction perpendicular to the wavefront angle. The space derivatives are required for computing the wavefront angle.

Interplanetary spacecraft navigation software incorporates corrections from the general theory of relativity when integrating the doppler frequency. The accuracy of the corrections has been demonstrated. It may be possible to infer the full form of the doppler equation for accelerated particles from those solutions. Barycenter corrected solutions would be easier to interpret. The calculation would be relevant, but it would probably not help in reconciling the LW equations with the doppler equation.

VI. THE FIRST FRAME OF REFERENCE

There is always a point of closest approach, so there is a possibility that the more general ill behaved solution could be transformed into a well behaved solution. There is always more than one way of working a problem. The essential consideration is that there are angular relationships that are important for the light cone equation but that have no special significance for true vector equations.

gamma is more difficult to identify when the simultaneous point is not at the point of closest approach, but

it is still present in the equations for the first frame of reference.

Due to the presence of kx^2 and kx^3 terms in the solution, the particle is not half way to any destination in half of the computed travel time. The particle seems to be accelerated in a direction parallel to the retarded velocity. The acceleration is not real, but that is why it needs to be considered when integrating the trajectory of an inertial particle. The retarded potentials also need to be for inertial particles rather than ghost particles.

Acceleration parallel to the velocity vector is a form of curvature. It occurs for a particle in radial free fall, for example. The essential relationships are no different than for the case where the vectors are not parallel.

The simultaneous point is rarely at the point of closest approach, but it can be, and the equations are simpler in that case. $\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{v}$ is zero at that point. The retarded point, the simultaneous point, and the field point define a right triangle.

If the velocity vector is parallel to the x axis, then γ appears in the solution for x , but not in the solution for dx/dt . The connection between the function and the derivative of the function is not the same as it is for true vector equations. The equations for the point of closest approach should not be overgeneralized, although there is always a point of closest approach.

The basis of this relationship is that the time and space coordinates are not independent variables in light cone solutions. The chain rule for differentiation, or an equivalent method, is generally required when the variables are not independent. Equivalent methods may be preferred in some cases, but the theoretical basis is still the chain rule.

Applying a relativistic correction to a Euclidean solution for the angular velocity would also work.

A solution can be obtained by integrating the derivatives, or by differentiating correctly in the first place. It is easier to differentiate than to integrate, which is why there are the retarded potentials.

Since the acceleration and velocity terms are not instantly separable, the equation is difficult to integrate unless the angle between the trajectory and the line of sight is already known. The acceleration and velocity terms are orthogonal with the Newton equations. They are generally not orthogonal when the speed of light (or sound) matters. There are cross terms in the equations.

The perceived angular location of electromagnetic radiation also lags behind the current location of the particle. The acoustic wave behaves differently when there is a wind, so this analogy is incomplete. The aether does not have a wind, allowing the electromagnetic retardation equations to be simpler.

It is sometimes too easy to assume that we know more than is measurable. As illustrated by the Einstein tensor \square , the relationships of space and time are not instantly separable. Prolonged observations are required to deter-

mine both where a particle was and when it was there.

The Doppler frequency is a constant high frequency when an unaccelerated source is radially approaching the observer. It instantly switches to a constant low frequency after it passes the observer. The observer cannot determine from either signal alone when the time of closest approach is. Determining the time of closest approach when the source is not on a collision course with the observer is no easier. It is sometimes too easy to assume that more is known than is measurable.

VII. THE LIENARD-WIECHERT EQUATIONS

In obtaining light cone solutions, there can be one observer and many particles, or one particle and many observers. The equations for one observer are⁹

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{A} &= \frac{\mu_0 q}{4\pi R} \frac{\mathbf{v}}{1 + \hat{\mathbf{R}} \cdot \mathbf{v}/c} \\ \psi &= \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R} \frac{1}{1 + \hat{\mathbf{R}} \cdot \mathbf{v}/c}. \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

\mathbf{A} is the vector potential and ψ is the scalar potential. \mathbf{R} is the retarded location of the particle; \mathbf{v} is the retarded velocity. $\hat{\mathbf{R}}$ points from the field point to the source with this sign choice.

The identities $\mu_0 = 1/(\epsilon_0 c^2)$ and $\epsilon_0 = 1/(\mu_0 c^2)$ can be applied to the solutions as appropriate. μ_0 is traditionally associated with the magnetic field, but since the magnetic field is a transformed E field, there are usually options in choosing the parameterization of the solutions.

The potential equations do not contain acceleration terms, but acceleration terms do occur after the velocity of the particle is differentiated to obtain the fields. The LW equations are known to work well for accelerated particles.

The Lorentz transform in vector form is

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{r}' &= \gamma(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{v}t) - (\gamma - 1)(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{v}\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{r}/v^2) \\ t' &= \gamma(t - \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{r}/c^2), \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

with $\gamma = (1 - v^2/c^2)^{-1/2}$. Except for a power of c , the 4-potential transforms in the same way as the coordinates.

The quantity $\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{r} - c^2 t^2$ is invariant with the Lorentz transform. The invariant quantity is zero for light cone solutions. They are special cases of more general solutions.

Light cone solutions can be obtained by selecting one of the roots of a polynomial. There is no equation for the fifth root of a polynomial, implying that there is something different about high order light cone solutions. Lower order equations tend to be difficult to simplify when there are acceleration terms. The method of successive approximation is frequently a more convenient way of obtaining solutions.

As illustrated by the calculations of the Thomas precession⁷, two consecutive Lorentz transforms are not

representable with a single Lorentz transform. Two consecutive transforms are equivalent to a single transform followed by a space rotation. The Lorentz transform is therefore not the most general invariant coordinate transform. The rotations of the Lorentz group^{6,10} are still more general.

VIII. AN ALTERNATIVE FORMULATION OF THE LW EQUATIONS

For light cone solutions only, the retarded location of a particle can be expanded as a Taylor series in \mathbf{R}

$$\mathbf{R} = \mathbf{R}_0 + \dot{\mathbf{R}}_0 t_f + \frac{1}{2} \ddot{\mathbf{R}}_0 t_f^2 + \frac{1}{6} \dddot{\mathbf{R}}_0 t_f^3 + \dots$$

\mathbf{R} and the retarded \mathbf{r} are the same, but $\dot{\mathbf{r}}$ is likely to be interpreted as a Newtonian quantity.

This series is differentiated with respect the time at the the tail of the vector from from the observer to the particle, while the Newton series is differentiated with respect to the time at the head of the vector.

The series represents the perceived location of a particle. It is observer-dependent. The Newton series is usually better suited to kinematic calculations.

Vectors and pseudo-vectors behave differently for sign inversions¹⁵. \mathbf{R} is a pseudo-vector. It can be rotated, but it cannot be inverted without transforming to the other frame of reference, in which case it points at us. (A vector can be taken as pointing in either direction, but the usage has to be consistent.)

The advanced potentials for a charge that is at rest in our frame of reference are the retarded potentials for an observer in the other frame of reference. A dual series exists for the advanced potentials.

The light cone constraint is

$$t_s = t_f - \frac{1}{c} (\mathbf{R} \cdot \mathbf{R})^{1/2},$$

where t_s is the time at the source and t_f is the time at the field point. Differentiating with respect to t_f

$$dt_s/dt_f = 1 - \frac{1}{c} (\mathbf{R} \cdot \dot{\mathbf{R}}) / (\mathbf{R} \cdot \mathbf{R})^{1/2}$$

It can be seen by inspection that

$$\hat{\mathbf{R}} \cdot \dot{\mathbf{R}} = \dot{R} = \frac{\mathbf{R} \cdot \dot{\mathbf{R}}}{R} \quad (4)$$

Substituting $\mathbf{R} \cdot \mathbf{R} = R^2$ and applying the identities in Eq 4

$$dt_s/dt_f = 1 - \hat{\mathbf{R}} \cdot \dot{\mathbf{R}} / c = 1 - \dot{R} / c \quad (5)$$

and

$$dt_f/dt_s = 1 / (1 - \hat{\mathbf{R}} \cdot \dot{\mathbf{R}} / c) = 1 / (1 - \dot{R} / c). \quad (6)$$

The retarded velocity is $d\mathbf{R}/dt_s = d\mathbf{R}/dt_f dt_f/dt_s$. Substituting for dt_f/dt_s from Eq 6

$$\mathbf{v} = \dot{\mathbf{R}} / (1 - \hat{\mathbf{R}} \cdot \dot{\mathbf{R}} / c) = \dot{\mathbf{R}} / (1 - \dot{R} / c). \quad (7)$$

After substituting for \mathbf{v} from Eq (7) into Eqs. (2) and simplifying, the LW equations become

$$\mathbf{A} = \frac{\mu_0 q}{4\pi} \frac{\dot{\mathbf{R}}}{R} \quad (8)$$

$$\psi = \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{1 - \dot{R}/c}{R}.$$

\dot{R}/c is less than +1 for radially receding particles. It is unbounded for approaching particles. This asymmetry is one of the relationships that account for the superluminal jets of some astrophysical objects (they only seem to be superluminal).

The effort required to obtain solutions to practical problems with this parameterization is about the same as with the Newtonian parameterization. The solutions are exactly the same either way.

A non-zero value for $\ddot{\mathbf{R}}$ can mean that the retarded Newtonian acceleration is not zero, or it can be due to the angular velocity of an unaccelerated particle.

While $\dot{\mathbf{R}}$ is ambiguous in this respect, a charged particle does not radiate power unless the retarded Newtonian acceleration is not zero. Retardation equations are intrinsically observer-dependent. The terms in the equations do not have an unambiguous meaning for other observers until a specific global solution is obtained.

The LW equations are form invariant for extrapolations in time. Eq. (8) can be written as

$$\mathbf{A}_0 = \frac{\mu_0 q}{4\pi} \frac{d\mathbf{R}_0}{dt} \frac{1}{(\mathbf{R}_0 \cdot \mathbf{R}_0)^{1/2}}. \quad (9)$$

The solution at time $t + dt$ is

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{A}_1 &= \mathbf{A}_0 + \frac{d\mathbf{A}_0}{dt} dt \\ &= \frac{\mu_0 q}{4\pi} \left[\frac{d\mathbf{R}_0}{dt} \frac{1}{(\mathbf{R}_0 \cdot \mathbf{R}_0)^{1/2}} \right. \\ &\quad - \left(\mathbf{R}_0 \cdot \frac{d\mathbf{R}_0}{dt} \right) \frac{d\mathbf{R}_0}{dt} \frac{1}{(\mathbf{R}_0 \cdot \mathbf{R}_0)^{3/2}} \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{d^2 \mathbf{R}_0}{dt^2} \frac{1}{(\mathbf{R}_0 \cdot \mathbf{R}_0)^{1/2}} \right] dt. \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

After substituting $\mathbf{R}_0 = \mathbf{R}_1 - (d\mathbf{R}_1/dt) dt$ and expanding in a series in dt , keeping only the first power of dt , the solution is the same as Eq.(8). The scalar equation works the same way. Thus, when the coordinates are first-known at time t , the LW equations look the same at time $t + dt$ as they do at time t . The solution could then be extrapolated and reparameterized a second time, and the equations would still look the same. Equations that behave this way are rare. For example, the Coulomb equation does not. Retardation equations have to work

this way, because they have to work in the same way for the same particle at a later time.

This calculation assumes that Eq. (10) represents the total differential. The calculations in § LIV indicate that it is not the total differential, although it is close enough for many practical problems when the particle velocity is low. The LW equations are a legitimate term of the retardation series. They are frequently the only term that is needed.

IX. THE RETARDED E AND B FIELDS

The usual way of applying retardation equations is to first obtain a global potential solution, then differentiate it to obtain the solution for the fields. While the method is not of much practical interest, it is possible to directly retard the fields in the first place.

The symmetric cross terms in Eq. (10) are important, but they cannot be locally represented with the first derivatives of true vector equations. In being first order in space and first order in time, the cross terms always vanish quadratically in a small region of space-time, while the space and time terms are each of first order.

The cross terms are required if the equation is to be differentiated, or if the second derivatives are to be integrated twice, yet they vanish. That seems to be a dilemma, but not really. If terms vanish quadratically then, for the same reason, they also grow quadratically when integrating in space and time. It becomes necessary to differentiate, then integrate and provide a constant of integration. The cross terms seem to vanish because the LW equations are missing a constant of integration.

The constant is only a constant for a specific trajectory and a specific observer. It is the nature of retardation equations that the constant of integration varies from place to place and time to time.

The symmetric terms are nevertheless required for computing the second derivatives, or if the second derivatives are to be integrated twice, which poses a dilemma for true vector equations.

Potential equations represent a global perspective. They are capable of representing terms that are difficult to obtain locally unless a constant of integration can be locally evaluated.

[needs work] The same dilemma occurs for an observer in radial free fall. Due to tidal forces and other relationships, the vector from the observer to a nearby marble is changing with time, which should result in antisymmetric space-time cross terms. However, with true vector equations, the cross terms always vanish in the infinitesimal. The vector to the nearby marble is not actually a true vector. It is a pseudo vector. In representing a potential relationship, the solution would have to be obtained by integrating from infinity unless a constant of integration can be locally determined.

Despite the missing symmetric terms, the LW equations are accurate at low velocities. They are frequently

the only retardation equations that are needed. Indeed, the velocity of conduction electrons in stationary copper wire is so low that relativistic corrections are completely undetectable, even at currents high enough to melt the wire. They appear to be the correctly determined retardation equations for the tensor of the first rank, a vector.

The retardation equation for the tensor of the zeroth rank is the Coulomb solution, which is usable in quasi-static solutions when the magnetic field is weak enough that it can be neglected.

[delete] In being the gradient of a static scalar, Newtonian gravity is in the same order as the Coulomb solution. If we expect more from electrical equations, it is only because the gravitational field is weak on the laboratory scale of things, and even in our solar system. The roles are reversed in extreme astrophysical systems.

In this section, the retarded potentials are computed for a nearby observer, then the solution is reparameterized by the coordinates first-known at the nearby place. Since we have no way of knowing where we are in space and time, the nearby observer could be us.

It is therefore plausible that, even when the retarded velocity is zero, the retarded potentials do depend on the acceleration of the particle.

X. THE FIRST DERIVATIVE

There are some mathematical similarities between the light cone equation and 3-space rotations.

When integrating around a unit circle in 3-space, the first infinitesimal step is

$$\begin{aligned} y &= \sin d\theta \\ x &= \cos d\theta. \end{aligned}$$

To third order

$$\begin{aligned} y &= d\theta - d\theta^3/6 \\ x &= 1 - d\theta^2/2. \end{aligned}$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} dy/d\theta &= 1 - d\theta^2/6 \\ dx/d\theta &= -d\theta/2. \end{aligned}$$

When integrating numerically in n steps, terms must either vanish as $1/n^2$ or be carried. After integration, terms that vanish as $1/n$, while usually small, are in the same order as the solution. The equation is not of first order unless the residual vanishes as $1/n^2$ in each step of the n steps of the integration. The $dx/d\theta$ term is usually small in other problems, but it does not vanish as $1/n^2$ when dy is the independent variable. The equations are not linear if dx and dy are the independent variables [].

Consequently, if the equation is linear, it cannot be reduced to first order by choosing an arbitrarily small value for dy . If the magnitude of dy is reduced by a factor of two then the error is also reduced by a factor of two, but then twice as many steps are required to integrate

around a circle, so nothing is accomplished. The basis of this limitation is that x and y are not independent variables in circular motion. The chain rule for differentiation is generally required when the variables are not independent.

An equation can be reduced to a system of several first order equations², but not in one step. For example, the two linear equations for integrating around a circular Newtonian orbit are $\mathbf{r}_{n+1} = \mathbf{r}_n + \mathbf{v}_n dt$ and $\mathbf{v}_{n+1} = \mathbf{v}_n + \mathbf{a}_n dt$. The integral becomes exact as dt becomes arbitrarily small. The equations are of first order. It might be possible to reduce the light cone equation to first order with more than two linear equations.

The equations are different, but the time and space coordinates are also not independent in light cone solutions. It is difficult to determine both where a particle was and when it was there.

...

In 3+1 space, the quadratic terms are not representable with the first derivative at the field point, making it necessary to integrate before differentiating. The solution does not have to be in 3+1 space, but it can be.

It may be possible to apply these relationships recursively, in which case a double integral would be required to reduce the light cone equation to first order.

It may be possible to apply these relationships recursively, in which case a double integral would be required to reduce the light cone equation to first order.

The acceleration terms will need further evaluation, but there is no hope for them until the velocity terms are right.

... Consequently, even though the cross terms vanish in the infinitesimal, it is not possible to choose values for dr and dt that are small enough to reduce the problem to first order (with linear equations).

The equation $1/2at^2$ is not linear, but it does not have any essential advantages, as the same solution can be obtained by the integration of linear equations. Furthermore, solutions obtained by integration sometimes need a constant of integration that would otherwise be difficult to discern.

XI. SOME INCONSISTENCIES

In Fig –, the time at the field point is the independent variable in the light cone equation, which has the effect of artificially pre-compensating the doppler shift so that a constant frequency is received.

As can be seen in the figure, the signal is blueshifted at the time $t_f = ry/c$. According to Eq –, it should be redshifted.

Eqs – and – are both for a particle that is on the light cone, but the solutions are not for the same particle. So which particle should be used for deriving the retardation equations? According to the LW equations, it does not matter. The solution is the same either way. The calculations are shown in the SOM.

From one perspective, this result makes sense. The retardation equations for a particle should not depend on when it reaches the simultaneous point. On the other hand, there are two different particles that reach the simultaneous point at different times, yet the equations are the same for both particles.

In this way, the nonlinear equation $\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{r}_0 + \mathbf{v}_0 t + \mathbf{a}_0 t^2/2$ is reduced to two linear equations.

When integrating from standstill, a particle acquires the velocity $d\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{a} dt$ at time dt . There are no relativistic corrections that are first order in v . The equations for accelerated particles are vector equations at time dt .

In deriving the LW equations, the Lorentz transform takes out the velocity terms. The particle is initially at rest in the second frame of reference. The first derivatives of the LW equations are for accelerated particles. They are vector equations.

There are relativistic corrections at time $dt_1 + dt_2$, causing symmetric terms to become important in the second infinitesimal step. True vector equations cannot represent symmetric terms, but pseudo-vector equations can. The Lorentz condition, $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A} + 1/c^2 \partial\psi/\partial t$, is a symmetric pseudo-vector equation. It vanishes for the first infinitesimal step, but 4-space cannot be reduced to first order in one step.

The derivatives are always exact – until they are differentiated again. The completeness required of the first derivative depends on how many times it is to be differentiated.

The equations would not behave this way if the first derivative represented the total differential in the first place. Obtaining the total differential is more difficult when the chain rule for differentiation is required.

XII. THE RETARDED FIRST DERIVATIVE

There are no space-time cross terms in the first derivatives of 3+1 space. There are cross terms in the equations, but the first derivative at a point displaced in either space or time is one of the contributors to the second derivative. In 3+1 space, it is not possible for there to be space-time cross terms in the first derivative. They always vanish quadratically.

There are nevertheless cross terms in the second derivatives. In potential form, the term $\partial/\partial t \nabla \psi$ is one of the contributors to the Maxwell equations. It is a space-time cross term.

The light cone equation is not a true vector equation, so its derivatives are not necessarily computed in the same way as they are for vector equations. The solution for the sum of two velocity vectors is generally not in the same direction as the vector sum of the velocities. The additional velocity $d\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{a} dt$ acquired by an accelerated particle at time dt counts as a second velocity vector. The behavior of the solutions does approach that of vector equations at low velocities.

While vector equations are a good approximation at low velocities, they can nevertheless contain an error of the first order. For example, the Coulomb solution is usable in quasi-static solutions, but since the magnetic field is of order v^1 , they contain a small error of the first order, no matter how low the velocity is.

This simplification causes the $d^3\mathbf{R}/dt^3$ terms to be lost. Once they are lost, then cannot be recovered by differentiating the solution.

XIII. THE RETARDED SECOND DERIVATIVE

There are $d^5\mathbf{R}/dt^5$ terms in the solution for five consecutive infinitesimal steps in time. Three steps in time and two in space are required to compute the second derivatives of the LW equations in a fully general way. There are also $d^5\mathbf{R}/dt^5$ terms in the retarded solution. Thus, there are similarities between a step in time and a step in space, but there are also differences, partly because there is only one direction in time – forward.

There are no $d^6\mathbf{R}/dt^6$ terms in the solution for the second derivative. The solution is shown in the SOM, but solutions of this complexity should be recomputed on an as-needed basis to insure that there are no software compatibility issues.

The tensor of each rank is irreducible⁶, implying that the solution for three steps in space will be different than this solution.

The ... and ... terms have no effect at all on the final solution for the second derivative, so it would be all right to drop them from the beginning. It seems that we are always one step behind in 3+1 space – sometimes two steps.

These would be our retardation equations when we are at the location \mathbf{r} . The equations would be different if we were at the origin of the coordinate system. But since we have no way of knowing when we are at the origin, we would have to use the other equation. There is this difference between mathematics and physics.

XIV. THE FIRST DERIVATIVE

Clocks do not show absolute time. They show elapsed time. The time shown by a clock is not usable until it has been synchronized.

As the flying clock experiments show⁷, the time shown by a clock depends on its history. A moving clock runs slow by a factor of γ . Unless the history of the clock is known, we do not know what time it is in the second frame of reference.

The Lorentz transform implicitly assumes that the clocks have been satisfactorily synchronized. It will hold the quantity $\mathbf{r}\cdot\mathbf{r} - c^2t^2$ invariant regardless of the accuracy of the synchronization. The transform does not exhibit absolute simultaneity^{1,16}, so there are no indications that the clocks are inherently synchronized.

It is not physically possible to synchronize a clock when it is at the simultaneous point. The clock is visible at the field point at the time $t_s + r/c$, but by then the clock has moved on to a new location. Since the clock is visible at the time r/c , it could in principle be synchronized at that time, but because the space and time derivatives are not separable, an observer in the second frame of reference might not agree on when that time is. The clock rate does not matter at first if both clocks are reset to zero when at a time when the moving clock is visible (the clock is permanently visible, but the equations can be for times when it is not visible.)

The second derivative is required for computing the first derivative at a displaced point. The retarded point is displaced, relative to the simultaneous point. For this reason, terms that would be first derivatives in a simultaneous system can look like second derivatives at the retarded point.

XV. THE FIRST FRAME OF REFERENCE

(Eq – was selected for illustrative purposes. It is not necessarily the right equation.)

It is always possible to rotate the coordinates about the observer so that the velocity vector has only one component at the point of closest approach. A velocity vector with one component is mathematically equivalent to a scalar, so the equations are simpler. The coordinates can be rotated back their original angles after the calculations, so there is no loss of generality in choosing a particular coordinate system.

This method of construction reduces to the basis of vector equations when the particle is on a collision course with the observer.

True vector equations cannot represent multipoles beyond the dipole. Multipoles beyond the dipole exist even in 3-space. The spherical vector harmonics² are an example. A true multipole is irreducible. It cannot be represented by any linear combination of dipole solutions.

The tensor irreducibility theorem⁶ represents the differential angular relationships between the tips of two or more closely spaced vectors in 3-space. There are other terms in 3+1 space, but a space rotation is still a space rotation. The theorem would not apply if the light cone equation were a true vector equation, but it is not.

The radial and transverse velocities are orthogonal with the Newton equations, but they are coupled in light cone solutions. In being coupled, Newtonian methods of vector analysis are capable of producing misleading results. They assume an orthogonality of the four coordinates that does not exist in 4-space.

By rotating the coordinates to this point, the radial and transverse components become orthogonalized and Newtonian methods of vector analysis become applicable to some extent, but never completely.

There can be a particle at that place and time, and the light cone equation works just as well for it as for any other particle, but it is the wrong particle.

The solution $x_{sim} = 0$ is the right solution for vector equations. There is nothing wrong with vector equations. However, the gradient of a vector is a tensor of the second rank, which includes symmetric terms. The other solution is required if the symmetric terms are to be carried.

The integral of time dilation is a time offset. In being the integral of the fields, potential would be expected to contain offsets rather than rates.

Thus, even though the two solutions look identical, there is a possibility that they do not have the same meaning. The role of absolute simultaneity in the solutions needs further investigation.

There are vectors and there are pseudo-vectors. The tensor irreducibility theorem⁶ represents the differential angular relationships of 3-space pseudo-vectors. There are other terms in 3+1 space, but a space rotation is still a space rotation.

If a particle is perceived as radially receding now then it was approaching from the rear at an earlier time. The former observer was the target. Vectors and pseudo-vectors do not work in the same way.

From the perspective of an observer in the frame of reference of the particle, the doppler equation is for one particle. But at any given instant, an observer at the field point cannot tell whether the doppler shift is due to the radial or transverse component of the velocity vector. The solution is for a family of particles with various radial and transverse velocities. One member of the family can be selected by rotating the coordinate system so that the velocity vector has only one component at the point of closest approach.

In implicitly assuming the existence of absolute simultaneity, the LW equations appear to be for the wrong particle. There are other equations, such as the calculations of the Thomas precession⁷, that implicitly assume the existence of absolute simultaneity. It could be possible to apply corrections to reduce the ambiguity in the equations.

The transverse component of the velocity vector is the only component at the point of closest approach, effectively uncoupling the two contributors. The particle acquires a longitudinal component at other times.

It should prove easier to integrate the doppler equation if the coordinates are rotated to this point, as the radial and transverse component become orthogonalized.

Equations can be confusing when they are for the wrong particle. They tend to defy the methods of reason.

When the equations are for the wrong particle, that can have the unfortunate effect of leading to the conclusion that the methods of reason no longer work.

The particle is on a collision course with an unfortunate second observer at the point of closest approach, but the motion is purely radial from the other observer's perspective. The radial and transverse components of a velocity vector become orthogonalized for that special observer, because there is no transverse component, which makes the equations easier to solve.

Other observers in the same frame of reference would agree on when the particle is at its closest approach to our location in space and time, making it possible for us to obtain the solution for them. We need to do that, because one of the other observers could be us next time.

Dipoles are the only multipole terms that vector equations can represent. It is always possible to rotate the coordinates so that the velocity vector has only one component at the point of closest approach. The particle is then on a collision course with an unfortunate second observer located at that point, but the multipole terms drop out. A velocity with one component is mathematically equivalent to a scalar, which does not have multipoles. After the solution is obtained in that particular coordinate system, the multipoles beyond the dipole can be recovered by rotating the coordinates back to their original location.

Because of Olbers' paradox, we know from the study of geometry that we cannot see to infinity, indicating that the expansion factor of the cosmos needs to be included in the scalar term. It is unintuitive, but mathematical singularities at infinity are also possible. It is not a satisfactory reference point for equations. The cosmological term will be neglected for now, but it may need further consideration. The expansion factor stretches the coordinates isotropically.

The first multipole beyond the dipole becomes

There are probably better ways of representing it.

t_f can be set to zero at the start of an experiment. It does not matter when the clock is reset, but it cannot be reset again during the course of a given experiment.

XVI. THE LW EQUATIONS

The virtual acceleration term is not real. The linear momentum of a particle is independent of its angular velocity.

The particle is visible forever. Obtaining a solution that is valid forever may be overly ambitious.

The magnitude of the radius vector is at a quadratic minimum at the point of closest approach, so the light cone equation cannot precisely define the time of the event. Consequently, light cone solutions can be for the wrong particle if they are based on an extrapolation from the time of closest approach.

It is possible to work the retardation problem without assuming that the time of closest approach is already known.

There can be several observers of the same particle. The solution would be unphysical if location of a particle in the second frame of reference depended on which observer is watching. The LW solution appears to be the right equation for the wrong particle.

The radial and transverse velocity components are observer-dependent, leading to ambiguities in the interpretation of the projection of the retarded potentials into 3+1 space.

The transverse doppler term at this point on the trajectory is approximately twice the value given by Eq. ... The transverse doppler term vanishes at this point on the trajectory. The doppler term would be approximately correct midway between the two points, but equations of that form are not usable, because we do not know what time it is.

The virtual acceleration term is not real. The linear momentum of a particle is independent of its angular velocity. The solution is not for an inertial particle. The solution is the right equation for the wrong particle.

The trajectory is not for an inertial particle. Any one observer does perceive the trajectory as being curved. However, the inertial momentum of a particle is unrelated to its angular velocity.

Even though the retarded potentials are intrinsically observer-dependent, they have to work in the same way without knowing whether the equation of radial or transverse velocity should be used, because the contributions of the two terms constantly change roles in orbital motion.

The kx^2 terms represent a false curvature term that has to be taken out. Acceleration terms are important, but they cannot be developed until it is possible to write the equation for a straight line. Actually, the line is straight, but it is not uniformly stretched, which is a form of curvature that is not representable with straight lines unless they have uniformly spaced tick marks. It is only in 4-space that straight lines have tick marks indicating the time shown by a clock moving along the line.

The time required for a particle to reach a specified marker goes to infinity as the velocity of the particle goes to zero. The singularity at zero velocity can cause the equations to be ill behaved even at low velocities. The singularity can be explicit in potential equations. It tends to be hidden in the derivatives, but the inverse relationship is also present in them.

An equation can be reduced to a system of several first order equations², but not in one step. For example, the two linear equations An equation has to be of first order before it can be integrated. The first derivative is free of error, but there are not many equations can be reduced to first order in one step.

Consequently, no matter how small the velocity is, the integral will contain an error of the first order unless the equation is of first order. The error is usually small, but when integrating numerically in n steps, terms must either vanish as $1/nx^2$ or be carried.

The transverse doppler is, which is approximately

twice the value shown in Eq. The basis of the discrepancy is that the LW equations are missing a factor of γ . The redshift is visible in the bottom panel of Fig. for the slanted line that is coincident with the location of the particle at the point of closest approach.

There are no indications that this solution is the last term of the series.

With other ways of deriving the LW equations, it is possible to interpret the transverse doppler term as being zero. There are ambiguities in interpreting the roles of the radial and transverse velocities with vector equations. The ambiguities are not resolvable with vector equations, so an equally valid interpretation is that the transverse doppler term is zero. In any case, the equations do not correctly represent the term.

In the figure, R0 and R1 are not parallel, but the angle between them should be computed from the space coordinates rather than from the time coordinate.

The distortion does not affect the LW equations – until they are differentiated.

The endpoint of each line is at an observer. One of the other observers could be us next time. Or maybe this is the next time.

XVII. ROTATIONAL INVARIANCE

By carrying more terms in the series expansions, the dropped cross terms can be made arbitrarily small. However in being of higher order, the dropped terms grow faster than lower order terms when integrating in time. No matter how small they are, they eventually become dominant. When computing the difference between two Taylor expansions, it can be necessary to carry more terms than seem to be needed if the terms are not orthogonal and difference is to be integrated.

?these relationships are from the perspective of an observer in the first frame of reference. An observer in the other frame of reference would perceive the same relationships differently.

Rotational and translational invariance are not independent concepts. The transverse velocity for one observer can be the radial velocity for another observer at a different location.

Working the retardation problem implicitly requires two applications of the Lorentz transform, although shortcuts can be taken that should not be taken. It is only the difference between the two transforms that matters. The absolute value of a coordinate is not of physical significance.

No matter how many terms are carried, the neglected cross terms, in being of higher order, grow faster than lower order terms when integrating in time, and eventually become dominant.

Due to the non-orthogonality of the Newton series in 4-space, one more power of velocity must sometimes be carried than will be required in the final solution. The Taylor theorem does not work this way in an orthogonal

system. When in doubt, carry one more power. After dropping the excess terms in the final solution, if a more accurate calculation makes any difference at all, then it is required.

In an orthogonal system, the difference between two Taylor extrapolations is just as accurate as either extrapolation. That is not necessarily true when there are cross terms. The cross terms can be of higher order than the terms of either extrapolation. This behavior is rare, but the Taylor theorem does contain the assumption that the terms are orthogonal.

The flaw tends to be invisible if the variables are assumed to be orthogonal when they are not. No matter how many terms are carried, the missing cross terms are of still higher order, but they grow faster than lower order terms and ultimately become dominant. The requirement for rotational invariance is one of the few ways of nailing the elusive terms.

The vx^3 terms in this solution are incomplete. Due to the non-orthogonality of the Newton series in 4-space, they must nevertheless be carried to obtain usable accuracy. In 3+1 space, we are always one step behind – sometimes two steps.

The order of an equation is difficult to judge by its appearance. It is the highest order multipole in the solutions that matters.

The vx^3 terms are actually in the order of the octupole. There are no octupoles in the solutions of this order, but due to the non-orthogonality of the Newton series in 4-space, that does not imply that the vx^3 terms can be dropped. We are always one step behind.

dx and dy have dropped out. If the solution is valid for the location $y+dy$ then it is also valid for the location $y+0$. The inverse relationship is not necessarily true.

The vx^3 terms are actually in the order of the octupole. For reasons of mathematical self-consistency, they nevertheless need to be carried in lower order solutions.

It follows that the vx^2 terms in the space derivatives of the LW equations are not rotationally invariant. However, due to the non-orthogonality of the Newton series in 4-space, powers of velocity beyond the first have to be carried to obtain usable accuracy in the LW solutions. The additional powers are incomplete but harmless.

However the series expansion for $1/(1+v/c)$ contains powers of velocity in all orders. For reasons of mathematical self-consistency, powers of velocity beyond the first should usually be carried when applying the equations.

The absolute value of a coordinate is not a measurable quantity. Only coordinate differences are of physical significance, so there can be no preferred orientation for a coordinate system. The equations have to be rotationally invariant.

From either perspective, it is only coordinate differences that represent measurable relationships. Transforming the coordinates back to the first frame of reference does not help, because the Lorentz transform will restore the original coordinates regardless of the accuracy of the solution in the other frame of reference.

The retarded potentials provide a means of resolving one aspect of the enigma. After transforming the coordinates to the second frame of reference, they are used to parameterize the potentials in that frame of reference. The scalar potential has no angular sensitivity, so angular relationships are lost when computing it. However, the same rotation occurs with the other sign when transforming the potentials back to the field point, making it possible to determine if the solution is rotationally invariant. By proceeding in this way, it becomes possible to know what cannot be seen.

There is a possibility that the calculation should be extended to the third frame of reference, so the following calculations may be incomplete in more ways than not carrying enough powers of velocity.

When working the retardation problem, there are implicitly two transforms, one for the simultaneous point and one for the retarded point.

Since an explicit Δt and Δr are not visible in the second frame of reference, assuming the difference between two separate Lorentz transforms is not coordinate dependent would require justification, especially when the two events are widely separated in time.

While coordinate absolutes clearly could play a role in the solution, it is difficult to be sure that it does. The following calculations show that the solutions are not rotationally invariant, which represents the intrusion of coordinate absoluteness in a different but related way.

It may be possible to apply a correction for the behaviour, but it seems better to choose the right particle in the first place, especially for kinematic calculations.

As shown in the SOM, the light cone equation is rotationally invariant for a single rotation about the z axis, but it is not rotationally invariant after transforming with the Lorentz transform. It would not be appropriate to blame the Lorentz transform until the light cone equation works in the right way. However, the problems are scarcely independent.

It is not sufficient that equations hold the speed of light invariant. They must also be rotationally invariant, as they would otherwise contain an unphysical coordinate dependency.

Since the light cone solution is rotationally invariant, it might seem that it is the Lorentz transform is not, but the conclusion is not justifiable. The problem is that the solution is for the wrong particle.

To assume that the location of the particle at the simultaneous point is already known it to assume that the solution is known before working the problem. The Lorentz transform does not exhibit absolute simultaneity, so it does not help in determining which particle is the right one.

There is an octupole in the solution for the angle $\phi_1 + d\phi_1 + d\phi_2$. The octupole vanishes unless the vx^4 terms are carried. It will not be considered at this time.

There would not be any point in carrying the vx^4 terms in these calculations. Those terms belong in the third frame of reference. We cannot be sure that the third frame

of reference is not our frame of reference.

There are special cases where a moving clock can be synchronized and then read at a later time, but we usually do not know the history of the clock, so we do not know what time it is in the other frame of reference.

We do not know what time it is in our frame of reference either, but that is not a problem. The Lorentz transform can be applied independently at two times and it is only the coordinate differences that matter. However, the coordinates are not orthogonal in the second frame of reference. The time difference becomes contaminated by an absolute space coordinate that is not yet known, or conversely. Consequently, the solution depends on what time it is, but we do not know what time it is.

The particle is visible forever, so it needs to be permanently on the light cone. We cannot see forever, so the equation is missing terms that will need further attention.

The solution is the LW solution. However, retardation equations are intrinsically observer dependent. The solution is the right equation for the wrong observer.

The solution is the LW solution. The LW equations are very adequate when the particle velocity is low, which is always the case for stationary current carrying wires.

That allows the absoluteness of the coordinates to contaminate the solution, causing it to be unphysical.

By proceeding this way, it is only time differences that appear in the equations, so we no longer care what time it is in the other frame of reference.

The consequences of the lack of absolute simultaneity are somewhat different for retardation equations. If the simultaneous point is not where it is thought to be then the computed retarded location will be for the wrong particle.

This approach also suffers from logical circularity, because the actual retarded location of the particle was not known in the first place.

Consequently, the absolute value of the coordinates pervades the solutions, causing them to be unphysical. The problem could be corrected by orthogonalizing the coordinates. That would require the location of the particle, and the objective was to compute its location. The problem is logically circular. The disconnect between the time intervals is manifested in the solutions of the Lorentz transform by the absence of absolute simultaneity.

There are four ways for two observers to observe two consecutive events from the same particle. It might be possible to impose some additional constraints by requiring that all four observations be for the same particle. The consequences of the absence of absolute simultaneity should be included in the calculations, as the solution would otherwise be logically circular and self-fulfilling.

The problem is somewhat different for the retarded potentials.

This disconnect is manifested in the solutions of the Lorentz transform by the absence of absolute simultaneity.

This approach also suffers from logical circularity, be-

cause the actual retarded location of the particle was not known in the first place.

The consequences of the absence of absolute simultaneity has to be included in the calculations, as the result is otherwise logically circular.

This calculation also suffers from logical circularity, because we did not know where the particle was in the first place. But when applying retardation equations, the location of the particle is assumed to be already available, then the derivatives are computed. The retarded potentials exist only for the purpose of being differentiated. The actual location of the particle is of secondary importance. The considerations for orbit determination would be different.

This location is where the field point will be when the signal arrives there. It is in the other observer's future. The other observer now has to compute when the signal should be transmitted so that it will arrive at the expected place at the expected time.

The correction is large when the velocity is high. It makes the application of vector equations at the Hubble distance inappropriate.

But since the objective is to compute the location of the particle, there is an element of logical circularity in the problem.

Retardation equations offer an advantage in this respect. If the location of the retarded point is taken as a reference point, the magnitude of the disconnect at the simultaneous point is computable, making possible to apply a correction for it.

The magnitude of the disconnect at the simultaneous point, considered in relation to the disconnect at the retarded point, is computable, making it possible to apply a correction for it.

When working the retardation problem, the magnitude of the disconnect between the retarded and simultaneous points becomes substantial at high velocities.

The kx^2 terms represent a false curvature term that needs to be taken out. An unaccelerated inertial particle should be half way to the destination in half of the travel time.

Any one observer does not perceive the particle as being half way to the destination when k is $1/2$, but a field of observers would conclude that it really is half way there. Retardation equations are intrinsically observer dependent, but their basis should be equations that are the same for all observers.

The most distant objects visible to us are about 13 billion light years away and receding at nearly c , so they must be around 26 billion light years away now, if they still exist. Large galaxies can survive for 13 billion years, so they are probably still there, but we will have to wait another 13 billion years to see where they are now. That is not on the agenda.

It is probably not possible to prove that it works that way, but there is no solution without assumptions.

We cannot see the particle when it is at the simultaneous point, so we did not know where it is in the first

place. There is no contradiction in the solution. It is rather that the guess was not very very accurate.

This choice for the location of the simultaneous point appears to be the right choice for vector equations. There is nothing wrong with vector equations, however the gradient of a vector is a tensor of the second rank, which includes both symmetric and antisymmetric terms. The solutions of the LW equation do not include any symmetric terms, indicating that the solutions are incomplete.

A more accurate estimate of the location of the simultaneous point is needed if the symmetric terms are to be carried.

The particle is not on a collision course with the observer in this solution, which is why it contradicts itself. The solution is not obtainable with true vector equations. There are vectors and there are pseudo vectors. Their behavior with sign inversions is different, meaning that pseudo-vector solutions have to be obtained by rotations. The solution for the observer's backside cannot be obtained by inverting signs.

The absolute value of a coordinate does not represent a measurable relationship. It is only coordinate differences that are measurable. The difference in the readings between a clock in our frame of reference and the other clock is a coordinate difference, but the solution is usually for the wrong particle. As the flying clock experiments show⁷, the time shown by a clock depends on its history. When the history of the clock is unknown, the only option is to connect the difference between two times in the other frame of reference with two times in ours.

If neither transform is for the right particle, then assuming that the difference is for the same particle would require justification.

The solutions of the Lorentz transform do not exhibit absolute simultaneity. If the simultaneous point is not where it is thought to be then the computed retarded location will be for the wrong particle, and conversely.

4-space equations tend to be logically circular.

The solution for the special case should be obtained by a limiting process from a more general global solution.

The radial velocity for one observer is a transverse velocity for another observer at a different place. Retardation equations are intrinsically observer dependent, yet they have to work in the same way without knowing whether the equation for radial or transverse velocity should be used. They require more information than the doppler equation provides, although the doppler equation would provide more information if the space derivatives were obtained.

Because the equation merges the contributions of the transverse and radial components of the velocity vector into one term, it cannot be integrated until the contributors are separated. Obtaining the space derivatives of the equation would help, although the space and time derivatives are generally not uncoupled either.

The simultaneous point is where the particle is now.

The particle velocity cannot exceed c , so an unaccelerated radially receding particle had to be at least half way to where it is now when it emitted the signal. When the particle is radially approaching with a velocity near c , it is traveling nearly as fast as the signal, so the simultaneous point is nearby (we think). The Lorentz transform does not exhibit absolute simultaneity, so it is difficult to be sure of where it is. It is plausible that the location of the simultaneous point in the other frame of reference is more important than it is in ours, which could provide another approach to working the problem. In any case, the absolute value of a coordinate does not represent a measurable quantity.

By proceeding in this way, it becomes possible to compute where the simultaneous point is without knowing what time it is in the other frame of reference. That is important, because we do not know what time it is in our frame of reference either.

If the radial velocity were the only velocity that mattered then the time in the other frame of reference could be computed with the equation $t_s = r/c$, thereby avoiding absolute coordinate values. As the doppler equation shows, the radial velocity is not the only velocity that matters. It is only when the particle is on a collision course with the observer, either in the future or in the past, that the radial velocity is the only one that matters. In other cases the Lorentz transform assumes a coordinate absoluteness that is not measurable.

Yet, if the calculations are to be performed with the Lorentz transform, there is no alternative to assuming that the solution is known before working the problem.

Retardation equations are intrinsically observer dependent, yet they have to work in the same way at different times and at different places.

The solutions are coordinate-dependent and therefore unphysical, even for unaccelerated particles.

It is nearly impossible to show that there is anything wrong with coordinate-dependent equations. The requirement is a physical constraint that mathematical theorems do not necessarily consider.

The observer at this location has no way of knowing when the time $t_{rf}=0$ should be. It has to drop out of the solution if the equations are to be of physical significance.

When working the retardation problem, the particle emits a signal at the retarded location. The signal propagates to the field point with the velocity c . In the meantime, the particle proceeds on to the simultaneous point. It arrives at the simultaneous at the same time that the signal arrives at the field point.

We cannot see where the particle is when it is at the simultaneous point. The particle is at rest in the other frame of reference. The other observer does know where the particle is then, but the other observer cannot see where we are.

A similar disconnect is present in the solutions of the Lorentz transform. They do not exhibit absolute simultaneity.

The speed of light is the same in all frames of refer-

nce, but the two frames of reference are disconnected from each other. Similarly, the solutions of the Lorentz transform do not exhibit absolute simultaneity. As the flying clock experiments show⁷, the time shown by a clock depends on its history, so it is doubtful that any transform exhibits absolute simultaneity.

It has to be possible to perform calculations without knowing what time it is in the other frame of reference. It is only coordinate differences that represent measurable relationships. The absolute value of a coordinate is not of physical significance.

Comparing the absolute time in the other frame of reference to the absolute time in our frame of reference is not meaningful in a physical sense. We do not know what time it is in either frame of reference.

The equations are less logically circular if the requirement is imposed that the solution be for the same particle at two different times in its history. The constraint is related to the requirement that the solution be for one inertial particle rather than two ghost particles. The solution is still logically circular, but less so.

The solution in the other frame of reference is timeless. The particle is always in the same place so it is not necessary to compute when it was there.

Due to the absence of absolute simultaneity, the location of the particle at the simultaneous point has to be computed. The location of the particle at that point is of little interest in its own right. It is rather that the location of the retarded point is not computable until the simultaneous point becomes known.

This solution is only for the first derivative. More observers and more events would be needed for a more complete solution. There is always more than one way of working a problem. There are probably better methods. The equations from the rotations of the Lorentz group cited are suggestive.

There are four ways for two observers to observe two consecutive events from the same particle. The four perspectives are not independent.

The unknown offset would not matter if the transverse velocity did not matter, but the Doppler equation shows that the radial and transverse velocities are not instantly separable.

Comparisons of the absolute time in the other frame of reference to the absolute time in our frame of reference have no physical meaning. We do not know what time it is in either frame of reference.

It becomes necessary to compute the location of the simultaneous point without knowing what time it is. Actually, we do not know what time it is in our frame of reference either.

The simultaneous point is not in our future, but it is in the particle's future. Since it is not possible to predict the future perfectly, it is not possible to predict exactly where the particle will be when the signal reached the field point. The simultaneous point is required for computing the retarded location, so there is a strong element of logical circularity in the problem. There is no solution without

making assumptions. Assumptions can be either wrong or incomplete. It is not likely that there are other options.

Since the retarded potentials are first-known in the other frame of reference, a plausible assumption is that the location of the simultaneous point in the other frame of reference is more important than it is in ours. The assumption will lead to contradictions if it is wrong. It is inevitable that contradictions will arise, for the tensor of each rank is irreducible⁶.

The connection to the Thomas precession is that those calculations implicitly assume the existence of absolute simultaneity. These calculations take out the Thomas precession. However, taking a term out of one equation can have the effect of putting it into another equation. The Thomas rotation survives in clearly recognizable form as a rotation of the retarded vector potential. The Thomas rotation is of order v/c . The vector potential is of order v/c , so the rotation in potential form is of order v^2/c^2 .

While the particle is not visible when it is at the simultaneous point, it is nevertheless an essential mathematical anchor point for projecting the solution into 3+1 space. The solutions would defy the methods of reason if we already knew where the particle was when it is at the simultaneous point, but we do not. The other observer does, but we do not.

In 3+1 space, the location of the simultaneous point has to be computed. Logical contradictions will arise if the time shown by a clock in the other frame of reference is assumed to be known before working the problem. It is only coordinate differences that are measurable. The absolute time shown by the other clock is not knowable. It is only the difference in the displayed clock numbers in its journey from the retarded and simultaneous points on the trajectory that is knowable.

The absolute numbers that the clock displayed at either point on its journey from the retarded point to the simultaneous point is not knowable in a general way. It is only coordinate differences that are knowable in a physical sense.

The Lorentz transform does not exhibit absolute simultaneity. If the simultaneous point in the other frame of reference is not where it is thought to be then the computed retarded location will be for the wrong particle. The derivation of the LW equations assumes the existence of absolute simultaneity, which is why they are for the wrong particle.

The location of the simultaneous point has to be computed. The solutions will defy the methods of reason if the location is assumed to be known before working the problem.

It is only the relationship between the two displayed clock numbers that has a meaning. The absolute time shown by the clock at either point on the trajectory has no general meaning.

The methods of reason will fail, and properly so, if the location of the particle at the simultaneous point is assumed to be known before working the problem. All

things measurable are relative, but it is not the clock in our frame of reference that they are relative to.

Eq – suggests that the light cone equation in the first frame of reference should be the inverse of the equation for when the coordinates are first-known in unretarded form.

If the particle is at the location $x = 0$, $y = r_y$ at the point of closest approach and the velocity vector is in the $+x$ direction, the angle between the line of sight and the velocity vector is

$$\theta = \arcsin \frac{r_y}{(r_x^2 + r_y^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}}. \quad (11)$$

Then

$$\cos \theta = \pm \left(1 - \frac{r_y^2}{(r_x^2 + r_y^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}}\right). \quad (12)$$

The minus sign is selected for approaching particles.

In our frame of reference, the particle can be thought of as moving along a marked course. There is a synchronized clock at each grid intersection. A second observer near the trajectory could report the time that the particle passes by a clock, but that would not allow us to find out where it was any sooner. We can find out where it was, but not until after waiting for the light time across the system.

It may not be obvious, but retarded equations and the calculations associated with them have to predict the future of the particle, based on past events. The identity of the particle becomes established when it reaches the simultaneous point. The simultaneous point is not in our future, but it is in the particle's future. The particle is not visible when it is at the simultaneous point, but it is nevertheless an essential mathematical anchor point. It is not possible to predict perfectly when the particle will reach the simultaneous point, making it difficult to be sure of which particle the equation is for in the first place. Because it is not possible to predict the future perfectly, light cone solutions are not necessarily for the right particle.

If a solution seems to defy the methods of reason, it may be because it is for the wrong particle (or the wrong observer).

As noted in the solution for Eq –, it is important that Eq – not be overgeneralized.

This behavior can be difficult to interpret, because if the solution is for the wrong particle in the first frame of reference it will still be for the wrong particle in the second system.

There could be other reasons for doubting that the solution actually is for the right particle.

These relationships are not independent of the concept of absolute simultaneity. If the simultaneous point in the other frame of reference is not where it is thought to be then the computed location of the retarded location will be for the wrong particle. The solutions of the Lorentz transform do not exhibit absolute simultaneity^{1,16}. It should be possible to apply a correction for the effect, but

there would still be some uncertainty in the computed retarded location of the particle if a truncated Taylor series is used to extrapolate the trajectory to the simultaneous point.

From another perspective, if the solution is for the wrong particle in the first frame of reference then it will still be for the wrong particle in the second frame of reference. These relationships are all part of the same system. They cannot be considered on at a time.

The integral of time dilation is a time offset. Consequently, retarded equations do not include rate terms until the solutions are differentiated.

From the perspective of an observer located elsewhere, this method of construction reduces to the basis of vector equations when the point of closest approach is arbitrarily close to the origin of the coordinate system. However, the angular velocity goes to infinity as the miss distance goes to zero. The singularity at the origin is invisible in 3-space, but a singularity is not a good place for an observer to be when working the retarded equation program.

Actually, the singularity is not perfectly invisible in 3-space. Inverting the sign of the radius vector in spherical coordinates is usually not the right way to rotate it by 180 degrees.

More terms are required to reliably identify a series. More terms are shown in the SOM, and the two solutions are the same.

Even in our frame of reference, it is not possible to quickly determine where a particle was. We can find out where it was, but not until after waiting for the light time across the system. Even in our frame of reference, it is possible to write light cone equations for relationships that predicting the future of the particle. The simultaneous point is not in our future, but it is in the future of the particle. There are limitations on how accurately the future of the particle can be predicted, even when the events are in our past.

Events simultaneous in one frame of reference are not necessarily simultaneous in a different frame of reference⁷. If the time $t=0$ at the field point does not correspond precisely to the time $t=0$ in the frame of reference of the particle, there is no obvious justification for assuming the time $t_s=t_f-r/c$ is precisely known either. The transverse term may be explainable as being due to the absence of absolute simultaneity. On the other hand, there is no possibility of computing the time in the other frame of reference if it is not known in our frame of reference.

XVIII. ABSOLUTE SIMULTANEITY

Since we cannot see where the particle is when it is at the simultaneous point, it is probably not a satisfactory reference point for equations of physical significance.

Some interpretations of the transverse doppler effect assume the existence of absolute simultaneity, which is not thought to exist¹. If absolute simultaneity does not ex-

ist, then the time when the other observer transmitted a signal has to be computed in relation to something else. All things measurable are relative, but it is not the clock in our frame of reference that they are relative to.

In not establishing a connection between the simultaneous points in the two frames of reference, there are no assurance that the potentials in the LW equations in the frame of reference of the particle and in the frame of reference are for the same particle.

Most interpretations of the Thomas precession⁷ implicitly assume the existence of absolute simultaneity. The thomson calculations do not have to be for light cone events, but they can be.

The derivation of the doppler does not make similar assumptions, but the transverse doppler effect would defy reason if it did exist.

All things measurable are relative, but it is not the clock in our frame of reference that they are relative to.

[delete] The discussions throughout are for equations in the real number system. The methods and the perspectives for complex number equations may be different.

The potential solution obtained this way is not necessarily unique, because potential equations are subject to gauge transformations. In not including mass terms, the solution is also incomplete.

More complete comparisons could be performed by computing the retarded space derivatives of the doppler shift.

Under ideal circumstances, the particle in this solution is the same particle that the LW equations are for, but the solution is for a different point in the history of the particle. The identity of the particle has to be determined by extrapolating the trajectory to the simultaneous point.

It is not true that we always need to know the identity of a particle. There can be more than one particle in the same orbit. It is usually sufficient to know the shape of the orbit rather than which of the particles the solution is for.

Good estimates of where the particle will be at the simultaneous point are achievable, but exact solutions for future events are not possible. The simultaneous point is not in our future, but it is in the particle's future. Our inability to predict the future perfectly results in some uncertainty in where the particle was.

The LW equations have the same problem, because they assume that the location at the simultaneous point is known before working the problem. That has the effect of hiding the uncertainty.

The identity of a particle becomes established when the time that it is at the simultaneous point becomes known. If the particle is on an inertial trajectory, it can be determined if a light cone event for a different time is for the same particle.

The particle in this solution is not the same particle that the LW equations are for. We do not yet know which particle it is. If the retarded location and velocity is

known, its location at the simultaneous can be predicted. The location of the particle at the simultaneous point will be about the same as with the LW equations, but predictions of what will happen in the future are never exact. The simultaneous point is not in our future, but it is in the particle's future. The prediction is accurate at low velocities, but it becomes more difficult at high velocities or for accelerated particles. The $\dot{\mathbf{a}}$ and $\ddot{\mathbf{a}}$ terms also make a small contribution.

While there is some uncertainty in the identity of the particle at the start of an integration, the integration itself is accurate if enough terms are carried. However, there is still nebulousness in predicting where the particle will be when the signal arrives at the field point. The nebulousness is not cumulative in periodic solutions, since it follows approximately the same cycle in the next orbit. The nebulousness is no worse for a distant orbit than it is for a nearby orbit.

It is always possible to rotate a coordinate system about the field point so that the velocity vector has only one component at the point of closest approach. If required, the coordinates could be rotated back to the original angles after the calculations are performed, so there is no loss of generality in choosing a particular coordinate system.

Because the velocity vector can always be reduced to one component, there is the possibility that fully general vector equations are too general.

But since it is difficult to be sure of precisely when a particle is at the simultaneous point, there is some uncertainty in the identity of a particle at a light cone event.

The LW equation is relative to the simultaneous point. This equation is relative to the retarded location. The solution is now for an inertial particle on the light cone, but we no longer know which particle it is. We did not know in the first place. At low velocities, the light cone equations does provide a good estimate of where the simultaneous point is, but the solution is not exact, because it predicts the future. The simultaneous point is not in our future, but it is in the particle's future.

The solution is now for an inertial particle that is on the light cone, but we no longer know which particle it is. We did not know in the first place.

The uncertainty only affects the initial conditions. Thereafter, the integration is accurate if enough terms are carried. However, there is still some nebulousness in predicting where the particle will be when the signal arrives at the field point. The nebulousness is not cumulative in periodic solutions, since it follows approximately the same cycle in the next orbit.

The LW equations do not include acceleration terms. There is a family of accelerated particles with different histories that all have the same retarded velocity at a given place and time. The LW equations are not for one particle. They are for a family of particles. The member of the family that the solution is for is not known until a specific global solution is obtained. In practice, the problem is worked backwards by assuming that a specific

global solution is already available, such for an antenna configuration, then the derivatives are computed.

[delete] This solution could be obtained with the doppler equation alone, but that approach could be interpreted as meaning that our frame of reference is special. It actually is special, because it is the only one we can ever measure anything in. Equations that work in our frame of refernce are vital. However, inertial relationships are not relative to us.

From one perspective, the solution looks like the solution for an inertial particle. From a differnt perspective, an unaccelerated inertial particle should be half way to the destination in half of the travel time. There should not be any k^2 terms. They cause the trajectory to seem to be curved when it is not. The k^2 terms vanish for radial motion, where $\hat{r} \cdot \hat{v}$ is ± 1 . They are observer-dependent. A transverse velocity for one observer is a radial velocity for an observer at a different location. Retardation equations are observer-dependent, but they should be based on equations that are the same for all observers.

One observer cannot see that the eqations are observer dependent, because the observer cannot tell the difference between the solutons for one observer and two particles or two observers and one particle. The ambiguity in the strength of the magnetic field is of order $(v/c)^2$, so it can be neglected at low velocities.

It is possible for one oberver to distinguish between the two cases if all of the events are known to be for the same particle, but it is difficult to be sure that they are.

It is indicated that the relativistic doppler equation is for an inertial particle, whereas the LW equations are not.

XIX. DISCUSSION

The problem is different for the retarded potentials, since the trajectory is assumed to be already known, but the same ambiguity is present.

A transverse velocity for one observer can be a radial velocity for a different observer. One obserer cannot distinguish between the solutions for one observer and two particles or two observers and one particle unless all of the events are known to be for the same particle. It is not possible to be sure that they are unless the future location of the simulenous point can be predicted perfectly. Consequently, light cone solutons are not necessarily for inertial particles.

XX. THE METHOD OF RETARDATION

When integrating in time, the importance of the assumed initial conditions fades into history as the integration proceeds. Eventually, the derivatives dominate the integral.

However, there are many particles that were at various locations long ago that behave in about the same

way for a short time at the retarded intersection. It is only the derivatives of the retarded potentials that are of interest in the laboratory, because we cannot quickly determine which particle in a family of particles the integral is for. A smaller family can be selected by obtaining more derivatives, but we cannot be sure which particle is the right particle until a global solution is obtained.

In periodic orbital solutions, the integral of the derivatives changes sign on the other side of the orbit, so the integral does not accumulate indefinitely. But for short times, the double integral of the $\dot{\mathbf{a}}$ terms grows faster than the single integral of the \mathbf{a} terms.

Integration in the infinitesimal degenerates to multiplication. There are no curvature terms in the infinitesimal. That does not imply that curvature can be neglected in the integral.

The retarded potentials are the integral of the retarded fields. They are arbitrary to within a constant of integration. The constant of integration depends on the history of the particle. It is not uniquely defined until a global solution is obtained. Since the retarded potentils exist only for the purpose of being differentiated, it is not necessary to know what the constant of integration is, but the equations are nevertheless subject to gauge transformations. Potential equations are not necessarily unique.

Potential equations do not represent locally measurable relationships. They represent a global perspective. A global perspective can be acquired by a field of observers, or by one observer with prolonged observations. When the solution is obtained by a field of observers, the propagation delay in communicating the data points from one observer to another is part of the problem. Regardless of the precision of the measurements, there are ambiguities in solutions based on delayed observations of short duration.

An observer in an orbit about a distant star would have the same problem in obtaining the solution at our location. The retarded potentials would exist if we were not even here. The barycenter correction in our frame of reference would still be required.

Zero doppler shift does not occur at the point of closest approach. It occurs slightly before then. (There would be other terms for a circular orbit.)

Doppler measurements within our solar system have the same problem to a lessor extent, which is why interplanetary spacecraft navigation software incorporates corrections from the general theory of relativity.

It should be possibe to perform a second infitesimal transform from our orbital velocity at time t to our velocity at time $t+dt$. Because we are in an approximately circular orbit, these corrections do not accumulate indefinitely. They change signs later in the orbit.

Astrophysical doppler measurements require a correction to the barycenter of our solar system. A short data record of a distant pulsar would be impossible to interpret if we did not already know where we were.

not know where we were in the first place. An observer at the barycenter could perform a Lorentz transform to our frame of reference, and then perform a second Lorentz transform to the velocity of the pulsar. In that way, our velocity and the velocity of the pulsar would both be accommodated. Two consecutive Lorentz transforms are not representable with a single Lorentz transform. They are equivalent to a single transform followed by a space rotation⁷. Consequently, if we use a single Lorentz transform in our frame of reference, the angular relationships are wrong. We do not seem to be accelerated, but we are in free fall about the sun.

By normalizing observations made at various points in the Earth's orbit to the barycenter, the observations can be directly compared.

Our velocity is normally very small in relation to that of an orbiting pulsar, in which case an infinitesimal Lorentz transform to our frame of reference is adequate.

If we were not in free fall, then an orbiting pulsar would be. The problem is the same from a different perspective.

With the Newton equations, there would be a false velocity term if an attempt were made to separate acceleration and velocity with two points on the trajectory. The retarded location of a particle depends on both its location and its velocity. There is a false acceleration term if an attempt is made to separate acceleration and velocity with three points on the trajectory. There would be a false \dot{a} term in the solution for four points on the trajectory. We are always one step behind. That is because the tensor of each rank is irreducible⁶.

An assistant near the source could record the time that the particle passes each clock in a field of synchronized clocks. We usually do not have access to those numbers.

The gradient of a vector is a tensor of the second rank. This relationship can be misleading, because there is no point in extrapolating a vector if a global vector solution is already known. That is why there are potential equations. Equations that look like vector equations are not necessarily obtainable with vector equations.

This limitation is plausible. After transforming to the second frame of reference with the Lorentz transform, the acceleration and velocity terms are coupled. We have no way of knowing whether we are in the first or second frame of reference. That does not matter when we assume our velocity is zero, but two observers cannot make the same assumption at the same time.

A tensor of the second rank is required to extrapolate a vector to a nearby point unless a global vector solution is already known. If a global vector solution is already known then there is no point in extrapolating a vector, but it is not implied that the solution is obtainable with the methods of vector analysis. The difference between any two points in the solution is nevertheless a vector. However, the differential angular relationships between two or more closely spaced vectors are represented by

the contravariant tensors.

The tensor of rank $n+1$ is the gradient of the tensor of rank n . The tensor of the first rank is a vector. Regardless of how many integrations are performed to obtain a global vector solution, the difference between any two points in the solution is a vector, although it is not necessarily a vector that we are adept at measuring.

In any case, the derivative of the integral is the function.

Actually, there are vectors and there are pseudo-vectors. They are not locally distinguishable, but their behavior with sign inversions is different.

The potentials are the integral of the fields. A global vector solution is a potential solution. Potentials are not locally measurable. In a physical sense, they are not real. Or is it that the potentials are real and our ability to perceive them is limited?. We might never know.

The terms in this series have the same form as the Newton series, but the Newton equations do not contain c , so the terms do not have the same meaning.

There would be transverse terms in Eq – if the particle is not at the origin at the time $-r_0/c$. When ... is zero, the light cone equation does not impose a first order constraint on the location of the particle. It is therefore possible for the LW solution to be the right equation for the wrong particle.

This solution is for a particle that is on the light cone, but we cannot tell which particle it is until a global solution is obtained.

XXI. THE RETARDAION EQUATIONS

From the perspective of the observer at the barycenter, the time interval at the field point is a dependent variable. The chain rule for differentiation is required if it is treated as an independent variable. An example of applying the chain rule to the retardaion problem is given in the derivation of the electromagnetic tensor in Ref –. The chain rule can be applied recursively for computing derivatives beyond the first.

It is possible to integrate the derivatives to synthesize retardaion equations that can be differentiated without the chain rule.

ts_0 is a free parameter in the solution. If its value is zero then the particle is approaching the distant observer at the point of closest approach, which is a contradiction.

An unaccelerated particle does not have a barycenter, but there could be a second observer anyway. The transverse terms of the light cone equation are better constrained when there are two observers.

rvf has dropped out, so it does not matter whether the observer is near the particle or at a distance, although there is still some slipperiness in the equations.

The particle seems to be approaching us when it is at the point of closest approach, which is a contradiction. We perceive the particle at an earlier time in its history

when it is on the other side of its barycenter from us, and there was a radial component of velocity at that time. An unaccelerated particle does not have a barycenter, but the effect is still present when there is one.

The particle seems to be approaching us. We perceive the particle earlier in its history when it is on the other side of its barycenter from us. It was approaching us then, but not when $u \cdot v$ is zero. Constant velocity particles do not have a barycenter, so there are additional considerations orbiting particles, but the velocity terms are of lower order.

While it should be possible to obtain the solutions with the chain rule, the other observer could be us next time, so it is sometimes simpler to explore the perspectives.

The following calculations are closely related to the calculations of the Thomas precession⁷. The difference is that the radius vector is initially from the barycenter to the particle rather than from the observer to the particle. The difference is important unless the particle is orbiting the observer.

The distant observer is not intrinsically impaired. It is rather than the θ^2 terms are not computable with two points on the trajectory. Since the radius vector rotates as the particle moves, $u \cdot v$ cannot be zero at both times t and $t+dt$ for an unaccelerated particle. The equations have to work for unaccelerated particles before there any hope for accelerated particle.

In Cartesian coordinates, this degree of freedom becomes visible when one of the coordinates is parallel to the trajectory. The only effect of a coordinate rotation is to distribute the ambiguity amongst the three coordinates.

The radius vector rotates as the particle moves. It is less likely that $u \cdot v$ is zero for two nearby points than it is for one point, although it is still possible if the particle is accelerated.

The light cone equation does not impose a first order constraint on the transverse location of the particle when $u \cdot v$ is zero. An infinitesimal rotation of the radius vector does not affect a first order solution. A light cone solution could be for the wrong particle and we would not know it.

This degree of freedom is more visible in Cartesian coordinates when one of the coordinates is parallel to the retarded trajectory of the particle. The ambiguity is less visible with other orientations, but a coordinate rotation only distributes it amongst the three coordinates.

dt has dropped out of the solution. If this is the right equation at time $t+dt$ then it is also the right equation at time $t+0$. On the other hand, an equation that works at the time t will also work at the time $t+dt$, but the solutions are not necessarily for the same particle.

From the perspective of an observer at the barycenter, the dt interval of a distant observer is a dependent variable, making the chain rule for differentiation necessary. No matter how small the dt interval is, the observer at the barycenter can subdivide its projection onto a small distant orbit into two segments that are not parallel to each other, in that way representing the θ^2 terms.

The θ^2 terms drop out of the solution for the distant observer. That would not affect the distant observer if they were not radiative, but they are. Dipole radiation is the only kind of radiation that is representable with one infinitesimal rotation by the distant observer.

The solution is for a family of particles at the retarded intersection. All members of the family are at the same place and have the same velocity at two nearby points on the trajectory. One member of the family has to be selected by applying the equations to a global solution. Since the equations do not specify the acceleration of the particle, its identity is not determinable until a global solution is obtained.

When the trajectory of the particle is artificially constrained, such as in the solutions for rotating electrical equipment, the global solution and the identity of the particle is already known, but there are usually additional considerations for insuring that the orbit is physically realizable.

The retardation equations do not specify where the barycenter is, but its location does have to be known before they can be applied. Retardation equations do not form a complete representation. They are just one slice of a much larger problem.

The 4-potential and the coordinates transform in the same way, however the angular information was lost in computing the magnitude of R in Eq. -. There is this difference between the behavior of the 4-potential and the coordinates. The gradient of a vector is a tensor of the second rank, while the gradient of a scalar is a vector. For this reason, potential equations can be simpler.

The derivatives constrain the location of the particle more accurately, but if the light cone solution is for the wrong particle in the first place then differentiating it without imposing the light cone constraint at each step in the differentiations would not accomplish anything. The chain rule is not used in the following calculations, but it should be possible to perform them with it. An example of applying the chain rule to the retardation problem is shown in the derivation of the electromagnetic tensor in Ref. -.

With the Newton equations, the location of the particle at time $t+dt_1+dt_2$ is computable from the location at time t . The trajectory is not necessarily Newtonian. Eq. - looks like the Newton equations, but it is a Taylor expansion of the trajectory of the particle. The Taylor theorem has a more general meaning than the Newton equations.

We can know our velocity relative to the barycenter of an orbiting particle, but we cannot determine where the barycenter is with two points on the trajectory.

What seems to be one solution is actually a family of solutions. It is not possible to determine which member of the family the retardation equations are for until they are applied to a global solution. Once that is done, we will know whether we are orbiting the particle or the particle is orbiting us. We can and should know which way it is, but it cannot be done with two points on the

trajectory.

The location of the particle at time $t=0$ is not yet known. We do need to know where the particle was then, but that depends on the acceleration of the particle, and the equations do not contain acceleration terms. The acceleration terms are not computable until the equations are applied to a specific global problem. The retardation equations represent a family of solutions. We have to select one member of the family, and it cannot be done when only two points on the trajectory are known. The retardation equations do not specify where the barycenter is, but its location must nevertheless be known before they can be applied. Retardation equations do not form a complete representation. They are just one slice of a much larger problem.

It may be possible to select a smaller family of particles by including the $\dot{\mathbf{a}}$ terms in the calculations. The equations would not be so slippery that way.

No matter how small Δt is, the observer at the barycenter can subdivide its projection onto a small distant orbit into two short segments that are not parallel to each other, and in that way represent the θ^2 terms. That would not affect the distant observer if the θ^2 terms were not radiative, but they are.

The $\dot{\mathbf{a}}$ terms can be neglected in observations of short duration, but they grow faster than lower order terms when integrating in time. They will be neglected in these preliminary calculations.

Determining where the barycenter is is not easy, especially for an observer in free fall. We are always in free fall.

The first derivative becomes exact as the interval goes to zero. This principle only applies to independent variables. The chain rule for differentiation is required when the variables are not independent. From the perspective of an observer at the barycenter, the Δt interval of a distant observer is a dependent variable in light cone solutions.

The derivatives impose tighter constraints on the transverse location of the particle, but differentiating the equation does not help if the light cone solution is for the wrong particle. The LW solution is the right equation for the wrong particle.

In being closer to the particle, the angle from the observer to two points on the orbit is larger than for a distant observer. An infinitesimal rotation of the radius vector maps into a shorter section of the orbit, although there is still some slipperiness in the equations.

The solution is for two points on the trajectory at times $t+\Delta t_1$ and $t+\Delta t_1+\Delta t_2$. We cannot determine where the particle was at time t until a global solution is obtained. Potential equations do not represent locally measurable relationships. We can and should know where the particle was at time t , but not until after we know whether we are orbiting the particle or the particle is orbiting us. It could be either way if we are in free fall and only two points on the trajectory are known. The retarded potentials do not form a complete representation. They are just one slice of a much larger problem.

No matter how small the Δt interval is, an observer at the barycenter can subdivide its projection onto a small orbit into two short segments that are not parallel to each other. That would not affect the distant observer if the curvature terms were not radiative, but they are. The curvature terms are also visible to the distant observer in other ways, provided that the observer knows where the particle was.

The trajectory of an accelerated particle is curved. It has been established by Newton and others that there are no velocity-dependent curvature terms when the speed of light does not matter. Quadratic terms are required to represent curvature. The incremental velocity of a particle at time t is $\dot{\mathbf{a}}t^2/2$, so the $\dot{\mathbf{a}}$ terms have to be carried to represent velocity-dependent curvature. The equation $\mathbf{a} = \ddot{\mathbf{a}}t^2/2$ is another quadratic term. It can be neglected at first when the orbital radius is large, but it grows faster than lower order terms when integrating in time.

In applying retardation equations, the location of the particle is assumed to be already known, then the derivatives are computed. On the other hand, the derivatives must be integrated to obtain the trajectory of a particle. The perspectives are very different.

This solution would be the same as the LW solution if the location of the particle is assumed to be already known at time $t=0$, but the light cone equation is too slippery for accurate calculations at that point on the trajectory. The trajectory of the particle is better constrained by including the $\dot{\mathbf{a}}$ terms, although there are still some ambiguities in the solutions.

The tensor irreducibility theorem⁶ represents the differential angular relationships between the tips of two or more closely spaced vectors. Many of the theorems of Euclidian calculus are for one independent variable, in which case the chain rule for differentiation may be needed first, especially for problems involving angular relationships.

Many advances in the study of the geometry of rotations have been made during the past century. The Thomas precession is one of them, however those terms appear to be incomplete. Incompleteness does not have the same meaning as being wrong. It is our destiny to use incomplete equations.

XXII. AN INTRODUCTION TO EUCLIDIAN GEOMETRY

The modern form of Euclidian geometry is Euclidian calculus. Euclid did not know about the chain rule for differentiation.

The vector from the field point to the particle rotates as the particle moves. During the full traverse of an unaccelerated particle, the angle ranges from $-\pi/2$ to $+\pi/2$. $\hat{\mathbf{R}}$ rotates through half of a circle. It depends on

where the particle was, not where it is. The equation is Euclidian, but it is not a true vector equation.

This example is for one velocity, but in other problems the light cone solution for the sum of two velocity vectors is generally not in the same direction as the vector sum of the velocities. When a particle is accelerated, $\dot{\mathbf{v}} dt$ is a second velocity vector.

The contravariant tensors represent the differential angular relationships between the tips of two or more closely spaced vectors². The tensor of each rank is irreducible⁶, as manifested by the multipole order of the solutions increasing with the rank of the tensor. The highest order multipole of the tensor of the fourth rank is a hexadecapole (4 lobes). The decomposition products of the fourth rank tensor include six vectors. The tensor of the first rank is a vector, but tensors of any rank can be the basis of equations that look like vector equations. As exemplified by the the Lorentz condition, $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A} + 1/c^2 \partial\psi/\partial t$, the equations include symmetric terms. The gradient of the Lorentz condition is another vector, and its divergence is one of the scalars represented by the tensor of the fourth rank. The highest order multipole of the LW equations is a dipole. (The sum of two dipole solutions is sometimes referred to as a quadrupole, but it is reducible to two dipoles.)

Actually, there are vectors and there are pseudo-vectors. They are not locally distinguishable, but their behavior with sign inversions is different.

The tensor irreducibility theorem only applies to linear equations. Retardation equations are linear equations. The equations of the general theory of relativity are not linear equations⁸.

Retardation equations represent the perspective of a distant observer. They are not usable in an accelerated frame of reference, except that the earth's gravity is weak enough that it can usually be neglected.

XXIII. THE LIGHT CONE EQUATION

The light cone equation, $\mathbf{R} \cdot \mathbf{R} - c^2 t^2 = 0$, can be solved by the method of successive approximation or by selecting one of the roots of a polynomial. Due to the presence of quadratic terms in the equation, the solution for the sum of two velocity vectors is generally not in the same direction as the vector sum of the velocities. $\dot{\mathbf{v}} dt$ is a second velocity, so the cross terms between a velocity vector and its derivatives are present in light cone solutions. The Lorentz transform has the same characteristic.

As shown in the SOM, two of the cross terms are

$$\dot{\mathbf{R}} = -\frac{1}{c}(\mathbf{v} \hat{\mathbf{R}} \cdot \dot{\mathbf{v}} + 2\dot{\mathbf{v}} \hat{\mathbf{R}} \cdot \mathbf{v}) dt$$

There are other terms in the full solution that are not cross terms. Despite the nonlinearity of the light cone equation, there are no cross terms between the components of one velocity vector. A single velocity vector is

rotationally invariant, allowing the light cone equation to behave like a vector equation in more ways than it is.

There would be more cross terms if the $\ddot{\mathbf{v}}$ terms were carried. Unlike the Newton equations, the solution depends on the angles between the derivatives. The contravariant tensors represent the differential angular relationships between the tips of two or more closely spaced vectors^{2,6}. The difference between two closely spaced vectors is itself a vector, but in general the two vectors are connected by a tensor of the second rank.

The decomposition products of the tensor of each rank include vectors⁶. The tensor of the first rank is a vector, but tensors of any rank can be the basis of equations that look like vector equations. As exemplified by the the Lorentz condition, $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A} + 1/c^2 \partial\psi/\partial t$, the equations include symmetric terms.

There are vectors and there are pseudo-vectors. They are not locally distinguishable, but their behavior with sign inversions is different.

XXIV. SOME LIGHT CONE SOLUTIONS

the solutions are not affected by translating the coordinates in either space or time.

In this solution the particle emits a signal at the time $r_0/c + t_f = 0$. The signal arrives at the field point at the time $t_f = 0$, with the total time being $+r_0/c$. In the meantime, the particle proceeds on to the simultaneous point, still on the light cone. It arrives at the simultaneous point at the same time the signal arrives at the field point. If it emits a second signal when at the simultaneous point it will be received at the field point at the time $+r_0/c$. The events are shown in Fig. 2 for the case where the motion is radial.

The slanted lines in the figure could represent periodic pulses transmitted by the source. The time interval is longer at the source than at the field point, so the pulses are compressed in time and doppler shifted to a higher frequency. The period of all the pulses is the same, so the received frequency is constant. The transfer function is linear in time.

2+1 space light cone solution when the transverse velocity is low. The field point is at the location $z = r_z$. The particle moves left to right along the y axis. $c = 1$. The top of each slanted line is the scalar distance from the field point to the particle when it emitted the signal.

The figure assumes that the particle is at the tip of the r_0 vector when $t_f = r_0/c$, but it is difficult to be sure of where the particle actually is then without a nearby assistant to report the time of the coincidence.

The LW solution is unaffected by translating the Eq - coordinates in time by the amount $-r_0/c$. The equations can also be parameterized by the value of the radius vector at the time $t_f = -r_0/c$, and it makes no difference in the final solution. It also does not matter whether the light cone equation is solved in the first or second frame

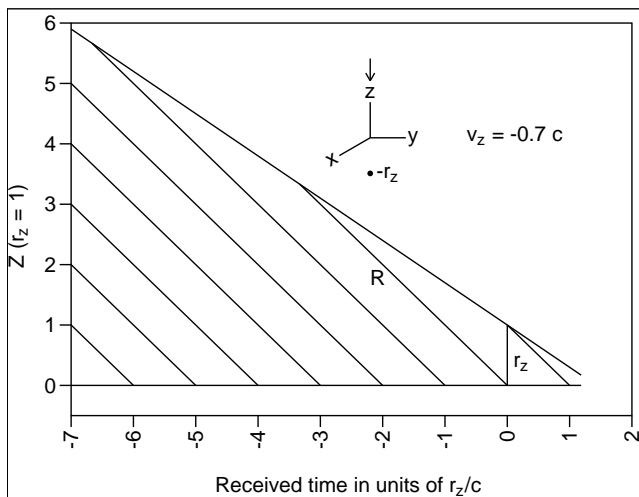


FIG. 2. 1+1 space light cone solution for retarded radial motion. The top line is the trajectory of a particle approaching the field point along the z axis. The slanted lines from the trajectory are light rays propagating downward to the field point. The field point is at the location $z = r_z$, with $r_x = r_y = 0$. $c = 1$. All calculations shown in the figures are based on an exact root of a polynomial. The series calculations used elsewhere are not accurate enough.

of reference. The LW equations are the same either way. There are endless ways of deriving the LW equations.

The coupling of angular and translational velocities is unique to the four dimensional space. Doppler shifted acoustic signals are also in 4-space, so the light cone equation would work equally well for them, with c being the speed of sound rather than the speed of light. The coupling is a consequence of the propagation delay, which has no meaning in 3-space. Straight lines in 3-space do not have tick marks equally spaced along their length, so we cannot tell when they have been stretched. In 4-space, straight lines are curved when the stretch is not uniform along their length. Some of the stretch is due to the cosmological expansion factor, which exists within a mass shell. The expansion factor affects the time and space coordinates equally, so the locally measured speed of light is not affected].

The coupling of the angular and translational velocities can be neglected when the velocity is low. But when the relativistic corrections are already of order $(v/c)^2$ times the momentum of the particle, the coupling is in the same order as the corrections, in small systems.

The equations are parameterized by $rv1$ instead of $rf0$, but they look same at either time. They are form invariant for translations in time. Form invariance has about the same meaning as the requirement that the equations should not contain a coordinate dependency. Coordinate dependencies can exist in either space or time.

When there is more than one observer in a problem, each observer is not free to choose their own coordinate system. Both observers must use the same system. This is what the solution looks like when the coordinates are

first-known at time $t_{off} = -r_0/(2c)$ by the other observer.

The retarded Newtonian acceleration is zero in the figure, but, for observations of short duration, the solution would look the same if the particle had a different retarded velocity and a non-zero retarded acceleration parallel to the retarded velocity. One observer cannot quickly tell the difference between Newtonian acceleration and angular velocity. Two observers would know the difference. One observer evaluating a system at two widely separated times counts as two observers.

In being of order v^3 , the midpoint shift depends so strongly on velocity that the LW equations are usable even at moderately high velocities. The v^3 terms also occur with acoustic signals. The propagation delay causes the acoustic location of a low flying high speed aircraft to lag behind its visual location. The doppler shifted tone of a passing vehicle is constantly changing. At low velocities, the rate of change of the tone is at a maximum at the closest approach. As illustrated by the top panel of Fig.??, the v^3 terms cause the maximum to occur earlier in the trajectory when the velocity is high.

In the figure, $Rvdot$ is shown aligned with the time at the source, but the effects of $Rvdot$ are not perceived at the field point until one light time later. In Eq (), the solution for $Rvdot$ is not delayed. The LW equations include only the radial aspect of the propagation delay. The consequences of the propagation delay on the transverse component are not included.

An isolated and unaccelerated inertial particle will reach half way to the destination in half of the travel time. The LW equations assume that light cone solutions behave the same way. They usually do not. The LW equations are not for inertial particles.

This calculation was not performed the right way, so it is difficult to be sure of what it means. It does indicate that the vx^2 terms of the scalar equation and the vx^3 terms of the vector equation are not meaningful.

The basis of the inconsistency is that the LW equations assume that an unaccelerated particle reaches half way to the destination in half of the travel time. Isolated and unaccelerated inertial particles do behave that way. Light cone solutions usually do not.

The basis of the inconsistency is that the LW equations are not form invariant when there is a transverse velocity component.

The equations are still form invariant if the v^2 terms are dropped from the scalar equation and the v^3 terms from the vector equation. The vector equation is already of order v^1 , so a $(v/c)^2$ correction to the LW equations is needed. That does not imply that there is anything wrong with the equations if they are applied within their range of validity. There is no possibility of detecting the shortcoming with currents in stationary wires.

The solution becomes form-invariant if the v^2 and v^3 terms are dropped. The velocity of conduction electrons in copper wire is so low that the LW equations are more than adequate in those applications. They are the

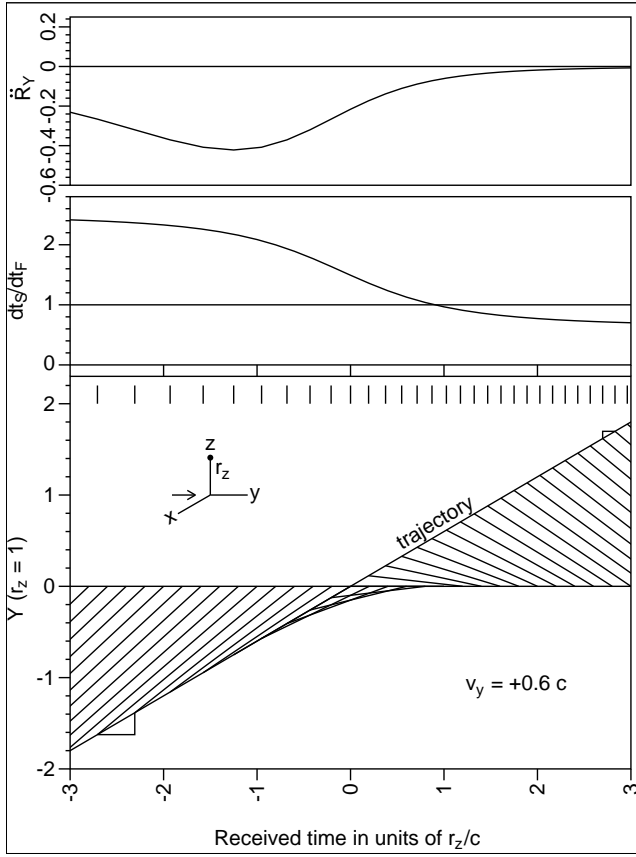


FIG. 3. One slice of the 2+1 space light cone geometry. The transmitter is moving left to right along the y axis. The receiver is at $x = y = 0, z = r_z$. The tick marks along the top of the bottom panel show when each pulse was transmitted. The pulses are not sent at regular intervals, but they are received at regular intervals. The dt_s/dt_t curve in the middle panel represents the doppler shift. The \ddot{R}_y curve in the top panel is shown aligned with the time at the tip of \mathbf{R} . \ddot{R}_x and \ddot{R}_z are zero. $c = 1$.

valid second term of the retardation series. The static Coulomb solution is the first term of the series. Newtonian gravity is in the same order as the Coulomb solution. The Newton equations may seem to be more accurate, but that is mostly because the gravitational field is weak on the laboratory scale of things.

The time when $t_f = 0$ can be chosen arbitrarily. Once the time is selected, the equations cannot be readjusted as needed if there is, or could be, another observer in the problem. There could be another observer at the particle, and it could be us.

The basis of the inconsistency is that the midpoint of a time interval at the particle does not map into the midpoint of the corresponding time interval at the field point when there is a transverse velocity component. The transfer function is not linear. The duration of the two intervals is also different. The frequency of a doppler shifted frequency is constantly changing when the motion

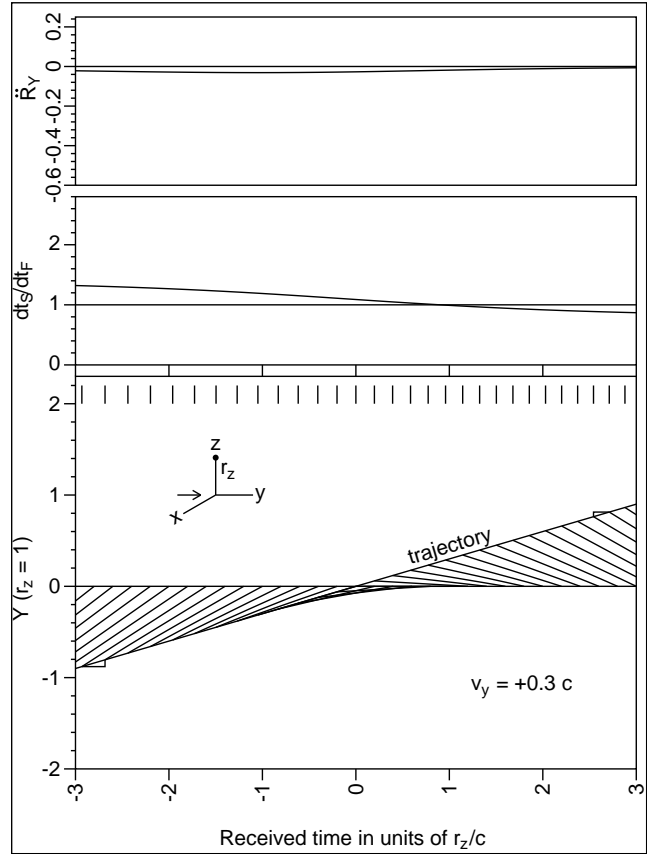


FIG. 4. The scales in this figure are the same as in Fig. 3, but the velocity is only half. The perceived acceleration depends so strongly on the velocity of the particle that it can usually be neglected.

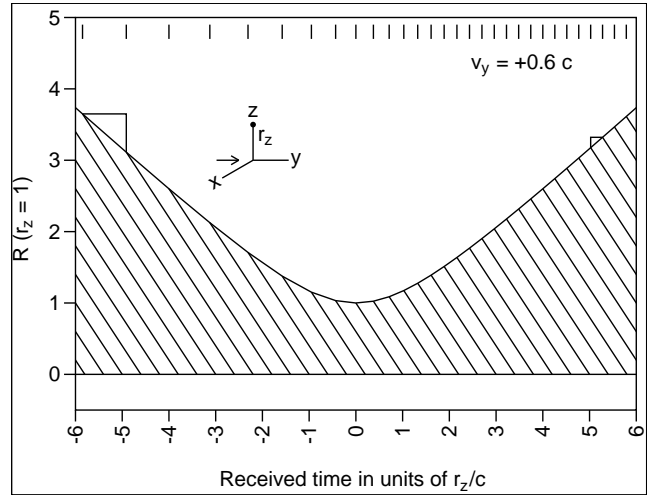


FIG. 5. This sketch shows the same data as in Fig. 3, except that the magnitude of ΔR is shown instead of the y component of the position vector.

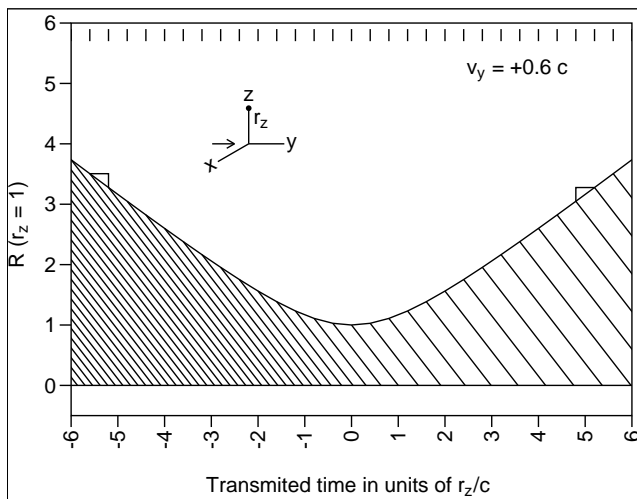


FIG. 6. This sketch shows the same data as in Fig. 3, except that the light cone equation was solved for t_s as the independent variable. It represents the solution from the perspective of the other observer. The pulses are transmitted at a uniform rate, but they are doppler shifted to a higher frequency when the source is approaching the field point.

is not radial. That makes it difficult to determine what the number displayed by the other clock was, and it is more difficult when the midpoint of one time interval does not map into the midpoint of the other.

Since an unaccelerated clock does run at a constant rate, the time shown by the other clock should be obtainable in prolonged observations by requiring that its computed rate be constant after correcting for the propagation delay.

The vector r_0 in Fig 1 is easily identifiable in a global solution, but it has to be possible to apply retarded equations without knowing when the time $t_f=0$ will occur.

The perceived velocity is greater when the particle is nearby. The perceived angular and translational velocities are coupled, making it difficult to separate them unless the retarded velocity is already known, which is usually not the case.

The basis of this relationship is the delay from the particle to the field point. A change in the velocity of the particle is not perceived at the field point until one light time later. In the meantime, cycles of radiation are piling up along the propagation path, and the cycles do not lie along a straight line when there is a transverse velocity component. Simplistic doppler equations are not valid when the angular relationships are constantly changing. The angular relationships causes a transverse velocity term to look like a Newtonian acceleration term that is parallel to the retarded velocity. Thus there are two different effects that determine the frequency of a doppler shifted signal, and they are difficult to separate. In being of order $(v/c)^3$, the angular terms are small enough that they can usually be neglected.

The LW equations are for the time $t_f=0$. Other choices would be equally valid, but translating the coordinates in time has no effect on the solution, so there is no point in choosing a different value.

In being the integral of the fields, potential solutions are arbitrary to within a constant of integration. It is the nature of retarded equations that the constant of integration depends on where the particle is, relative to the observer. Unlike simpler equations, the derivatives of a function will not be consistent with the function if the constant is not correctly determined. Other equations also have this characteristic if they represent a double integral and the first constant of integration is included in the second integration.

Only the derivatives of the retarded potentials are measurable. Local physical arguments should not be applied to potential equations until they are suitably differentiated, as they do not represent locally measurable relationships.

In being representable as a 4-vector, the 4-potential transforms in the same way as the coordinates, implying that the coordinates can be viewed as being a potential representation. The coordinates in 3+1 space have an absoluteness that leads to contradictions if there is more than one observer in the problem. One observer evaluating a system at two widely separated times counts as two observers.

XXV. THE LORENTZ TRANSFORM

The curvature term vanishes when t_f is zero. The LW retarded equations are for the time $t_f = 0$.

In 3+1 space, we are always free to choose $t_f = 0$. Other choices would be equally valid, but choosing other values does not accomplish anything, because curvature is not representable in 3+1 space.

In 3+1 space, the derivatives of \mathbf{R} would be exact in all orders, because the four coordinates are mutually orthogonal. It has been established that the four dimensional space cannot be reduced to first order so easily⁸. It is doubtful that it can even be fully reduced to first order.

A more accurate solution can be obtained by representing the trajectory by two or more straight line segments. Two segments are sufficient if the v^4 terms are not carried. Subdividing the time interval at the field point does not accomplish anything. It is necessary to take the interval at the particle as being the independent variable. It is necessary to integrate in the frame of reference of the particle before differentiating in the frame of reference of the field point, except that a full integral is not required. When working in series form, only a few straight-line segments are needed.

An observer at the field point would not know what to do with this solution, because time does not progress at a uniform rate.

In 3+1 space, this derivative would be exact. Indeed, in 3+1 space, the derivatives in all orders would be exact, because the four coordinates are mutually orthogonal.

If the light cone equation is solved for one specific instant, the derivatives in 3+1 space are uniquely defined in all orders, because the four coordinates are mutually orthogonal. The four dimensional space is not so easily reduced to first order⁸. The derivatives in 3+1 space are degenerate.

Being degenerate does not have the same meaning as being wrong. The Coulomb solution is degenerate, but it is not wrong.

An observer watching a moving particle does not glimpse it at one instant. It is continuously visible. It is permanently on the light cone.

The light cone equation is $(\Delta \mathbf{R}) \cdot (\Delta \mathbf{R}) - c^2(\Delta t)^2 = 0$. The equation can be solved by selecting one of the roots of a polynomial. One of the roots is for a signal propagating from the particle to the field point. The other is for a signal propagating from the field point to the particle. Depending on the application, both roots are meaningful. There are more than two roots if the \mathbf{a} and $\dot{\mathbf{a}}$ terms are carried. The method of successive approximation is usually better when working in series form. The constant velocity solution is obtained in the SOM.

One of the terms of the velocity of the retarded intersection is

The velocity of the retarded intersection is not the same as the retarded velocity. The retarded velocity is

$$\frac{\mathbf{R}(dt_f) - \mathbf{R}(0)}{t_s(dt_f) - t_s(0)} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}}{\partial t_f} \frac{\partial t_f}{\partial t_s} = \mathbf{v}_0 \quad (13)$$

The retarded velocity cannot be measured without having an assistant near the source. The assistant could take various forms, but in most cases the retarded Newtonian velocity is not measurable from afar. It is usually only the perceived velocity that is measurable, such as with a doppler shifted monochromatic signal. The perceived velocity is delayed by the propagation time from the source.

The retarded velocity is obtained by differentiating with respect to the retarded time at the source. The perceived velocity is obtained by differentiating with respect to the time at the field point.

Assuming that the coordinates at the simultaneous point are already known, which is usually the case when working the retardation problem, the trajectory parametrized by \mathbf{R} and its derivative can be expanded as the Taylor series

Since the location in this solution is not where the particle is known to be, a correction is required to account for the propagation delay.

Both solutions are correct, depending on how the measurements are made. However, if the particle is known to be on an inertial trajectory, and independent measurements provided by a distant observer are not available, a correction must be applied to the measurements of \mathbf{R} and its derivatives to account for the propagation delay. Since the trajectory is perceived as being curved, a more

accurate solution can be obtained by approximating the trajectory with two straight line segments rather than just one. That has the effect of refining a constant of integration.

Eq – is a solution for a particle on the light cone, but it is not the solution for an inertial particle. An isolated and unaccelerated particle would be half way to the destination in half of the travel time. The particle is perceived as having an acceleration component in the same direction as the retarded velocity. The perception is real, but a relativistic correction is required if the objective is to reconstruct the trajectory of the particle.

We are not free to choose a coordinate system that follows us as we move about in space and time if there is, or could be, another observer in the problem. Such solutions are coordinate-dependent. Our frame of reference is nevertheless the only one we can ever measure anything in, and it is possible to obtain equations that work in our frame of reference. However, they require transformation for any other frame of reference. They have no absolute significance.

a correction to Rvdot measurements at the midpoint of the trajectory is required. A similar correction is required when $tf=0$.

In increasing linearly with time, the $\dot{\mathbf{R}}$ term looks like an acceleration term, but it is present for unaccelerated particles. It vanishes when \mathbf{v} and \mathbf{R} are parallel or anti-parallel. When \mathbf{v} and \mathbf{R} are perpendicular, it has the form of the angular velocity of the particle, multiplied by a $(v/c)^2$ relativistic correction. For unaccelerated particles, there is no curvature without the relativistic correction.

Due to the constantly changing propagation delay from a moving clock to the observer, the trajectory of an unaccelerated clock is perceived as being curved when there is a transverse velocity component. The relativistic correction to the angular velocity represents the curvature. For unaccelerated particles, there is no curvature without the relativistic correction.

The curvature is more than just a visual effect. It will influence the interactions of the particle with other particles.

The particle velocity cannot exceed c , but angular velocity is unbounded. It becomes progressively more difficult to obtain accurate solutions as the size of the system becomes smaller.

The curvature term vanishes when t_f is zero. The LW equations are for the time $t_f = 0$. Once the term is lost, differentiating the potential solutions cannot reinstate it.

XXVI. COORDINATE DEPENDENCY

The solution is for a particle on the light cone, but it is not the solution for a particle on an inertial trajectory. An unaccelerated inertial particle should be half way to the destination in half of the travel time.

For each observer, the solution is for a particle on the

light cone, but it is not the solution for a particle on an inertial trajectory. The solution is observer-dependent. At time $-r_0/(2c)$, no two observers can agree on where the particle is.

The solution is for a particle that is permanently on the light cone, but it is not for the right particle.

The solution is coordinate-dependent. Equations of physical significance have to work in the same way at different places and at different times. If C1 is zero, then after the data measurements are processed, no two observers could agree on what the trajectory of the particle was.

XXVII. INERTIAL PARTICLES

The solution in Eq – is for a particle on the light cone, but it is not the right particle unless it has an independent means of propulsion.

In the calculation of this section, the particle is on the light cone for an instant at the retarded intersection. It emits a signal at that point that propagates at c to the field point. In the meantime, the particle proceeds on to the simultaneous point. The particle arrives at the simultaneous point at the same time that the signal arrives at the field point.

An observer can never know what is happening at the simultaneous point while it is happening, which poses a problem in establishing a reference point. The equations are slippery. There are no absolute reference points that are accessible for us.

An isolated inertial particle should move with a constant velocity unless it has an independent means of propulsion.

For an isolated and unaccelerated inertial particle, both halves of the journey should take the same time. The trajectory seems to be curved, but that is because the solution is coordinate-dependent. Coordinate-dependent solutions are not of physical significance, for we can never know where we are in space and time.

XXVIII. THE SECOND INFINITESIMAL STEP

Finite difference equations are widely used in digital engineering applications, where they are used to approximate analog transfer functions. The second and third differences are closely related to the second and third derivatives.

The extrapolation formulas for the n th difference are elementary. They are derived at .. The extrapolation formula is simply $\delta_k(t_f)n^k$. k is 2 for the second difference, 3 for the third difference, and n is the number of straight-line segments used to approximate the trajectory. This extrapolation formula cannot be used unless all of the $\delta_{k+1}(t_f)$ differences are zero. When they are zero, integration degenerates to multiplication for the sum of the $\delta_k(t_f)$ terms. In effect, it is necessary to integrate the

light cone equation before differentiating it, except that a full integral is not required. Only a few straight-line segments are needed to approximate the trajectory.

Subdividing the trajectory into more segments makes no difference at all in the solution, showing that the solution exists in the first order of the infinitesimal. However, the third difference would be required if the v^4 terms are carried. The extrapolation formula for the third difference is $\delta_3(t_f)n^3$.

The two distances should be the same for an unaccelerated inertial particle.

For quantities that are of order v^1 , such as the magnetic field and the momentum of a particle, the refined v^3 terms represent a $(v/c)^2$ relativistic correction.

The trajectory would have to be divided into three segments if the v^4 terms were carried, but it will be necessary to venture into the four dimensional space one step at a time.

Eq – is a solution for a particle on the light cone, but it is not the solution for an inertial particle. The solution depends on where the observer is. The coordinate system for one observer does not work for a different observer.

It contains a coordinate dependency. No two observers can agree on what the trajectory is if each observer is free to choose a coordinate system that is centered upon themselves.

In reconstructing a Newtonian trajectory for an isolated and unaccelerated source from light cone events, such as a doppler shifted monochromatic signal, the quantity of interest is not where the source was when it emitted the signal. With the Newton equations, it is where it will be when the signal is received at the field point that matters. The objective is to accurately reconstruct the trajectory in 3+1 space, despite the propagation delay from the source to the field point. The calculation requires a relativistic correction.

The solution in Eq – is for a particle that is on the light cone, but it is not the right particle. The computed trajectory is not that of an inertial particle. The reconstructed trajectory depends on where the observer is. No two observers can agree on what the trajectory was. Solutions that follow us as we move about, such as Eq –, contain a coordinate dependency. Equations of physical significance must not depend on the choice for a coordinate system, for we can never know where we are in space and time. We are not free to choose a coordinate system that follows us as we move about if there is, or could be, another observer in the problem.

The invariance of the speed of light is a necessary but not sufficient condition.

The solution is not right, as the retarded Newtonian velocity of the particle was already known. The problem is to measure the retarded velocity correctly despite the propagation delay from the particle. *If* the location of the particle is assumed to be already known when the signal reaches the field point, which is usually the case when working the retardation problem, then its location

at the retardation intersection is computable.

The observer at the field point can not know what is happening at the simultaneous point while it is happening, but it is necessary to make an assumption to obtain a solution. The assumption does leave a loophole.

Equations that look like they are exact are convenient, however there would be other terms in this solution if the vx^4 terms were carried from the beginning.

The vx^4 terms would have to be carried from the beginning if they are needed, which would require four nearby light cone events.

The compactness of equations that look like they are exact is convenient, but this solution is an approximation. The vx^4 terms would have to be carried from the beginning if they are needed, which would require four nearby light cone events.

These relationships look like vector equations, and they are, but the underlying relationships are actually tensor equations. As shown in the SOM, the same solution is obtainable more elegantly with tensor equations, which is not to say that the calculations in the SOM are elegant. The essential relationship is that the gradient of a vector is a tensor of the second rank.

We still do not know where the particle was when it emitted the signals. In computing the first derivatives of the retarded potentials, which are the \mathbf{E} and \mathbf{B} fields, it is not necessarily true that we have to know precisely where it was. The constraints would be stronger if the first derivatives of the \mathbf{E} and \mathbf{B} fields are needed.

Four light cone events would be required to compute the differential position relationships for three points. We are always one step behind, but that is all right if the vx^4 terms are not carried.

This solution is only accurate to order $(v/c)^3$. Three nearby points on the trajectory would be required if the v^4 terms are to be carried.

XXIX. THE FIRST INFINITESIMAL STEP

A more complete solution could be obtained by carrying the v^4 terms from the beginning.

The light cone equation represents an undifferentiated vector function. The gradient of a vector is a tensor of the second rank. The tensor irreducibility theorem [1] is in 3-space, but a space rotation in 3-space is still a space rotation in 4-space. The rotations of the Lorentz group [2] represent the angular relationships in a more general way.

The Lorentz transform takes out the velocity terms. It is the acceleration terms that represent the first derivative. We have to carry extra terms in the equations to represent the first derivative in our frame of reference.

XXX. FORM INVARIANCE

Retardation equations have to work in the same way when applied in different places and at different times.

This solution looks like the LW solution in series form, but it is not, because the location of the particle is different at time dt .

dt has not dropped out, showing that the LW equations do not look like the same equations at time $t+t_f+dt$. The first derivative at a later time is one of the contributors to the second derivative.

Form invariance has the same meaning as the requirement that equations of physical significance should not contain a coordinate dependency. The invariance of the speed of light invariant is a necessary but not sufficient condition. For this reason, we are not free to choose a coordinate system that remains centered upon ourselves. It is necessary to consider how an observer in the other frame of reference would perceive us. We can never be sure that we are not the other observer.

Coordinate systems are not portable. They do not follow us as we move about in space and time.

XXXI. SOME PRELIMINARIES

The second differences are all the same, so integration degenerates to multiplication.

The tx^2 terms drop out if the vx^3 terms are not carried, then the solution is the same as the LW solution. The vx^4 terms do not drop out of the second difference, but they do drop out of the third difference. The extrapolation coefficient for the third difference is nx^3 .

The Lorentz transform takes out the velocity terms. The particle is initially at rest in the second frame of reference, where the acceleration terms represent the first derivative. The tensor of the second rank represents the first derivatives⁶. We need additional terms to represent the first derivative in our frame of reference.

A retardation solution has no special significance for other observers until it is transformed. For the same reason, a solution in our frame of reference does not apply to a sensor that is moving in our frame of reference until it is transformed. The equation for the transverse force on a charged particle, $\mathbf{F} = q\mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B}$, is an example of a transformed solution.

There are no velocity terms in the Maxwell equations. They apply in a frame of reference where the velocity is zero, in which case we are in the second frame of reference without knowing it. How would we know?

There would be terms quadratic in t_f if the v^4 terms were carried, so they have to be set aside for future study. The first order of the infinitesimal is free of error, but that does not mean that any equation can be reduced to first order in one step.

Comparing the value of computed constants to laboratory measurements provides a way to test our understanding.

The particle is not where it would be in 3+1 space, but it is still on the light cone. The \dot{r} in eq – is the same as in Eq ().

\dot{r} is the same as in eq –, so the particle is still on the light cone.

The $\ddot{\mathbf{R}}$ contribution to the location of particle could be obtained with a double integral, but the Taylor theorem provides a more convenient way of integrating all of the derivatives in this solution. There are derivatives in all orders, depending on how many powers of velocity are carried.

of integration can be determined with a definite integral from infinity. Most potential equations can be viewed as representing the perspective of an observer at infinity, however that is a perspective that we can never know.

The particle is at the center of a sphere of radius r_0 at the time $t_s = 0$. A signal emitted by that particle at that instant reaches all points on the surface of the sphere at the same time, even if the particle is accelerated. For $k = 1$, the time at the field point is r_0/c and a light cone solution is obtained without calculation. When $k = 0$ the time at the field point is 0 and the particle is at the location Rv . The time at the source is then $-Rv + rv - /c$.

The acceleration and the velocity of the particle both contribute to the perceived curvature of the trajectory, so they are not separable in observations of short duration, but they are separable in prolonged observations.

The acceleration of a particle does not affect its location at the time dt , so it is not possible to tell from this solution which terms are acceleration terms. The Newtonian velocity and acceleration of the particle are nevertheless separable in prolonged observations.

The number displayed by an accelerometer attached to a particle can be read by observers in any frame of reference. In the frame of reference of an accelerated particle, the particle acquires the velocity $\mathbf{a} dt$ at time dt . There are no relativistic corrections of order v^1 , so the number displayed by the accelerometer is an invariant quantity. There are relativistic corrections at time $dt_1 + dt_2$, so the Newton equations no longer apply, even in the frame of reference of the particle.

It would of course be possible to represent the trajectory with more than two straight-line segments, in which case the \dot{r} terms would have to be carried. In light cone problems in the first frame of reference, and always in the second frame of reference, the \dot{r} terms are in the same order as the \dot{r} terms. The \dot{r} terms integrate to acceleration terms in the time dt , so not much should be expected of solutions that do not include the \dot{r} terms.

Even though the Newtonian acceleration and velocity terms are both curvature terms, they can be separated in prolonged observations, and there is sometimes a need to separate them.

It would of course be possible to divide the path into three or more segments, and in more general solutions the acceleration terms should be carried even with only two

segments.

No matter how small the interval is, the midpoint of the line element is not at the middle, and the error is of the first order. The behavior is unphysical. If a long thin wire with slowly varying properties is stretched, the elongation will not be uniformly distributed along the wire, but it will be uniform in any arbitrarily short section.

The behavior is unacceptable for physical rather than mathematical reasons. The clock in the frame of reference of a distant and detached observer runs at a constant rate.

There are two ways of viewing this problem. In our frame of reference, there is only one way of viewing it, because we have to use a clock that is at rest in our frame of reference as a time standard. We cannot use a clock in a different frame of reference as a standard. The distinction between the two perspectives is not important for the first infinitesimal step, but it does become important in subsequent steps. More generally, only first order equations can be reduced to first order in one step.

If the signal arrives at the time dt then it must have been transmitted approximately at the time t . It becomes necessary to start over with the better estimate.

This calculation illustrates that only first order equations can be reduced to first order in one step, even though the first order of the infinitesimal is free of error. This principle is not unique to the four dimensional space $[4]$.

The equation is similar to the equation for the Thomas precession $[5]$, which occurs in the other frame of reference. In this case the other frame of reference is our frame of reference. We can never know which frame of reference we are in. A distant and detached observer would not perceive any acceleration, so a second transform is required to take it out. A third transform would be required to take out the \dot{r} terms if the \dot{r} terms were carried.

.. The vector has the same magnitude as it would have in 3+1 space, but it is rotated. The rotations of the Lorentz group $[6]$ represent the 4-space angular relationships in a more general manner.

The calculations have not used the chain rule for differentiation, but it should be possible to obtain the solution in a more concise form with it.

The time interval indicated by dt is correct, but the elapsed time shown by the other terms depends on when the observation is performed. The behavior is unacceptable in the first frame of reference, and it is difficult to obtain a solution that an observer in the second frame of reference would not object to. t_0 is a free parameter. A common meeting ground is obtainable by choosing it so that the time in the first frame of reference is 0

These relationships could be expressed more elegantly with the chain rule for differentiation, but other methods are sometimes easier to visualize. The chain rule is required whenever the variables are not independent. The time and space coordinates are not independent variables in light cone solutions, or in more general solutions in the second frame of reference. Light cone solutions are

special cases of more general solutions.

The chain rule for differentiation is required when the variables are not independent, and the retarded potentials exist only for the purpose of being differentiated. The terms of a Taylor expansion are mutually orthogonal, but the terms of the Newton series cease to be orthogonal in light cone solutions, or in more general solutions in the second frame of reference. Light cone solutions are special cases of more general solutions.

For light cone solutions only, the retarded position vector can be expanded in a Taylor series.

This series expansion does not represent the trajectory of an inertial particle, nor does the Newton series. The terms of a Taylor series are mutually orthogonal. The chain rule for differentiation is not needed when the terms are orthogonal, but it is necessary to insure that the terms in the equations actually are orthogonal.

The Newtonian acceleration and velocity terms are not independent variables in light cone solutions, making it difficult to separate them, as both terms cause the perceived trajectory of a particle to be curved. The terms are nevertheless separable.

In being quadratic in time, the curvature is in the same order as acceleration, so the solution for the perceived curvature would not be complete without the acceleration terms. But acceleration is obtained by differentiating velocity. The acceleration solution is not obtainable without knowing the velocity solution first. (It would be possible to integrate acceleration to obtain the velocity, but those equations would be of a different form.)

The particle is still on the light cone and the potentials propagate at c , but they were not emitted by the particle when the LW equations assume that they were.

.. is where the observer thinks the particle is. .. is where it actually is. A field of observers would know where the particle actually is. How could one observer know? Actually, there is a way for one observer to know. That is to observe the particle for a long time and then integrate the trajectory. The trajectory cannot be integrated unless the derivatives of the function are computable from it.

?? The light cone equation is traditionally solved in our frame of reference, but it can also be solved in the frame of reference of the particle. It is possible that the way the other observer perceives us is not the same as the way we perceive ourselves.

The solution will be shown in a more compact form in a later version of this paper.

The constant of integration was not determined in this calculation, so the solution is not necessarily unique.

The thing that matters is not the constant of integration itself. The thing that matters is that the function and its derivatives are not consistent. Discovering a function that differentiates correctly is an indirect way of refining the constant of integration.

Fortunately, dt has dropped out of the solution. Since the solution does not depend on the value of dt , it remains

valid when dt is zero.

The solution will be shown in a more compact form in the next version of this paper.

In representing the integral of the fields, potential solutions are arbitrary to within a constant of integration. Retardation equations express a relationship between one observer and one particle. The constant of integration has no special significance for other particles or other observers. The thing that matters is that the function and its derivatives should be self-consistent. Discovering a function that differentiates correctly is one way of refining the constant of integration. There is probably more than one method of discovery.

With continued use and familiarity, the potentials can seem to become more real than the fields, which is fine if it assists the comprehension of the equations, but the model can develop fractures if carried too far. Worse than that, it can cause an explorer to become lost in space and time, seeking a solution that does not exist.

It is sometimes necessary to know if an accelerometer attached to the particle would register an acceleration, and the Newtonian parametrization is needed for that purpose. The accelerometer dial can be read from afar, so it is the same for observers in all frames of reference.

The acceleration terms also vary as t^2 , so they are in the same order as the angular velocity. In periodic solutions, it would not be consistent to obtain the solution for the angular velocity without including the acceleration terms. Non-periodic solutions are included in the more general solution as special cases.

The retarded acceleration may or may not be zero in solutions containing d^2A/dt^2 terms. Angular velocity and acceleration are difficult to separate. The need to separate them is sometimes artificial, but it can be done.

Two consecutive infinitesimal reparametrizations would be required in order to carry the \dot{a} terms. In the second frame of reference, the a^2 terms are in the same order as the \dot{a} terms. The a^2 terms will become important in intense field solutions.

The Lorentz transform is for one point. It is not known to represent a smooth and continuous differentiable function without additional processing.

When the interval is small, the first difference behaves in the same way as the first derivative. The second and third differences are closely related to the second and third derivatives, but they are different.

Discrete difference equations are widely used in digital engineering applications, but they are not covered in calculus textbooks. Some basic characteristics are shown at ...

In being a velocity transform, the second difference is appropriate for computing acceleration with the Lorentz transform. The first derivative of velocity would be satisfactory if the Lorentz transform was an acceleration transform, but it is not. The solution can no doubt be obtained with the second derivative, and it should be done, but the second difference will be used here.

The curvature in the infinitesimal is more than just a visual effect. It will influence the interactions of the particle with other particles.

That does not imply that curvature can be reduced to first order in two steps. A parabola can be in closer contact to a circle than a straight line tangent to it, but a cubic equation is even better.

The angular velocity of a particle depends on where the observer is. Its value does not have a meaning for other observers unless it is transformed. The particle velocity cannot exceed c , but its angular velocity is unbounded. Obtaining accurate solutions becomes progressively more difficult as the size of the system becomes smaller.

When dr is arbitrarily small, the acceleration of each particle passing through the line element vanishes in the infinitesimal. The velocity of all the particles in the infinitesimal line element can be assumed to be the same, so the solution of the n particles within the line element at any given instant is simply n times the solution for one particle.

However, the length of the line element, and therefore the amount of charge within it, depends on its angular velocity and the acceleration of the particles. The time dt at the field point maps into a Δt_s interval in the current loop, and there are $(\delta t_s)^2$ terms in the equations, even when the particle is not accelerated. An accelerated particle acquires the velocity $a\delta t_s/2$ at the midpoint of the line element, then the velocity change integrates to a position change during the second half of the traverse.

As shown in the SOM, the location of the particle at time dt_1+dt_2 also depends on the $avdot$ and $avddot$ terms.

This solution is only valid when the line element and the observer are in the same frame of reference. The potentials have to be transformed in other cases. The 4-potential transforms in the same way as the coordinates.

This model exists in 3+1 space, and it contains a loop-hole. A moving clock does not run at the same rate as an at-rest clock. The time shown by a clock, as read from afar, depends on its history.

These relationships exist in the first frame of reference. It should not matter what frame of reference the problem is worked in, but transforming incomplete solutions to the second frame of reference would not be helpful.

The calculations of the Thomas precession \square assume that the trajectory is Newtonian. The transformed Newton equations are the Newton equations in disguise.

The particle is not where it was thought to be. But where is it actually? The angular velocity of a particle depends on where the observer is, so there is no general answer. It is the transform that matters.

The tensor of the zeroth rank is a scalar. The zeroth order retardation equation for charge is the Coulomb solution. It is often possible to obtain useful solutions with the lowest order potential equations, but they contain an error of the first order. That is because the magnetic field is of order v^1 . The error resulting from the neglect of the

magnetic field becomes arbitrarily small as the transverse velocity becomes arbitrarily small, but it does not vanish quadratically, meaning that it does not vanish at all. The theorems of Euclidian calculus apply, but the chain rule for differentiation is required when the variables are not independent. No matter how low the velocity of the particle is, the zeroth order potential equations contain an error of the first order.

As shown in the SOM, the $\dot{\mathbf{a}}$ terms affect the location of the particle at time dt_1+dt_2 . One of the velocity terms at time dt_1 is $d\mathbf{r} = -3\dot{\mathbf{a}}r_0v_0^2/c^3 dt_1$, but that does not imply that curvature can be reduced to first order in two steps.

appears in the solution. There are no conflicts between these solutions and the theorems of Euclidian calculus, as the chain rule for differentiation is required when the variables are not independent. It is capable of conferring first derivatives into derivatives of any order. The terms of the Newton series not independent variables in light cone solutions, where the time and space coordinates are strongly coupled.

The following calculations assume that the observer and the current loop are in the same frame of reference. The calculations would necessarily be more elaborate in other cases.

When $d\mathbf{r}$ is arbitrarily small the particle acceleration vanishes in the limit. The velocity of the particles in that region can be assumed to be constant throughout the interval, then the LW equations can be applied to the amount of charge that exists in that infinitesimal line element.

The space and time coordinates are strongly coupled in light cone solutions. One of the consequences of the coupling is that acceleration and velocity not independent variables in global solutions. The chain rule for differentiation is required when the variables are not independent, and the retarded potentials exist only for the purpose of being differentiated. The chain rule is not used in the following calculations, but that is only because it is not needed if the terms are orthogonalized first.

In the first frame of reference, we are one step behind – sometimes two steps.

The behavior of the first derivative and the first difference are the same when the interval is small. The second difference is closely related to the second derivative, but it is not the same. In not being an acceleration transform, velocity has to be reduced to second differences when applying the Lorentz transform. The second differences sometimes work for the Newton equations, but not always.

Eq – shows where the first observer thinks the particle is. Eq – shows where the other observer thinks it is. So which solution is the right one? From the perspective of an observer in a third frame of reference, neither of them. It is the transform that matters.

The t in these equations is actually Δt , with the actual time being $t+\Delta t$. In the interest of brevity Δt is abbreviated to t , however the solutions are only valid for short time intervals.

Using more than two steps has no effect at all on the solution, showing the the locatin of the particle at time t_2 can be reduced to first order in two steps. The same is true of the Newton equaions, but the equations are not the same.

The chain rule for differentiaion is capable of converting first derivaries into derivtives higer order. In that case, the theorms of Eucludian calculus do not necessarily apply until *after* the chain rule has been used.

Translating the coordinate sysem in space by the amount rv would not affect the final solution. The coordinates could also be translated in time. We can never know where we are in space and time, so coordinate-dependent solutions are not of physical significacne. Furthermore, coordinate systems are not portable. Portable coordinate systems lead to egocentric theories.

It is nevertheless true retardaion equations are intrinsically egocentric. There is a practical need for egocentric solutions, but those solutions are special cases of more general solutions.

There would be $1/2 av t_2$ terms in the solution if the t_2 terms were carried. However, the Lorentz transform is a velocity transform and the veocity at that time is $1/2 j_0 t_2$. The solutin would be incomplete without the j_0 terms. The Newton series is always one step behind.

avdot terms apper in the soluton after the trajectory is differnteiate in the first frame of reference. ... The solution is for a jerked particle.

Accurate solutions become progressively more difficult as the systems become smaller. This solution is not the last term of the series.

t_0 is a constant for differenting in time. The $t_0 t_2$ terms could be carried, then an accelertion transform would be required for diferentiating the solution at time $t_0 t_2$. The Lorentz transform is not an acceleration transform. The location of the particle in the second frame of reference depends on both its location and velocity in the first system. Newtonian concepts do not apply. More generally, the chain rule for differentain is required when the variables are not independen. Acceleration and velocity are not independent variables in 4-space.

The vector from the particle to the field point is rotated in the fourth frame of reference. The pivot point for the rotation is the same as the origin of the coordinate system. In this soluton the origin is at the particle, so the coordinates of the tip of the vecor are different in the fourth system. The field point would be the pivot point if the orgin is selected to be there. A vector is not affected by a translation of the coordinate system.

There is, of course, no requirement that the problem be worked in the first frame of reference, although it is as good as any.

There are several similarities between this soluton and the equations of the Thomas precession [1]. That is not surprising, as our frame of reference is not special, and it is not differnt. Indeed, it should not matter which frame of reference is used for working the problem. However,

the Thomas calculions represent the transformation of the Newton equations to the second and third frames of refernce. The transformed Newton equations are still the Newton equations.

That amounts to projecting the solution into 3+1 space, then proceeding as though it were a real space. The interpretation would not be acceptable for field equations, but these are potential equations. Physical arguments should not be applied to potential equations until they have been suitbly differentiated.

The solution represents a projection of the retarded potentials into a flat 3+1 space. The equations are applied in the same way the LW equations are applied. 3+1 space is not a real space, but physical arguments should not be applied to potential equaions until they are suitably differentiated, because they do not represent locally measurable relationships. Local in a cosmological context covers a lot of territory.

There are three known ways of differentiating the solutions.

The E field transforms into a magnetic field. It is not yet known what the gravitational field transforms into.

After transforming the Newton equations to the second frame of reference, they are still the Newton equations, but from a different perspective. It does not matter which frame of reference the problem is worked in, but the equations do have to be right in some frame of reference before they are projected elsewhere.

The expansion factor of the cosmos is not zero, so it is doubtful that the velocity terms are real either. The expansion factor does not affect the measured speed of light when the test particles are stationary [1]. It is not yet known if it can be neglected high order local equations, but, for now, it will be neglected.

Since the time in the equation is not the time shown by an accelerated clock, the terms in the equation are not real in a physical sense. The equation is in 3+1 space. 3+1 space is an abstract mathematical space. However, it is the space where the theorms of Eucludian calculus were discovered. The chain rule for differentiation is one of those theorms. It is capable of converting first derivatives into higer order derivativs, in which case other theorms for the first derivative do not apply until afterer the chain rule is used.

The expansion factor is not zero inside a mass shell, but it does not affect the locally measured speed of light [1]. The expansion factor of the cosmos is not zero, but its space and time aspects are linearly dependent in low order laboratory measurements, so it should be all right to neglect it at first. The expansion factor is assumed to be zero in the following calculations.

The Liénard–Wiechert⁹ (LW) retardation equations are for the contravariant tensor of the first rank, a vector. History skipped the gravitatioal solution for the first rank tensor. The Newtonian gravitational field is the 3-space gradient of a scalar. The equations do not contain the speed of light. The LW equations do. That is not because electrical equations are essentially different. It

is because history skipped a step that is of too low an order to be of much interest. The first order electrical solutions are more interesting because an E field transforms into a magnetic field. The first order gravitational field transforms into itself.

The following calculations do not assume that the location of the particle at the simultaneous point is knowable. The considerations would be different for a field of observers, but that is not the way of the retarded potentials.

The $\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{v}$ cross terms vanish when $\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{v}$ and $\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{v}$ are parallel or anti-parallel. There are various other similarities to the calculation of the Thomas precession [1]. However, there is no point in transforming to the second frame of reference until the coordinates are known in the first system. The transformed Newton equations are the Newton equations from a different perspective.

The basis of these relationships is that the time and space coordinates are strongly coupled in light cone solutions. The equations do not behave in the same way as they would in an orthogonal coordinate system. The relationships would be representable in an orthogonal system, but the chain rule for differentiation is required when the variables are not independent.

A second observer at a greater distance receives the signal when the velocity of the decelerating particle was higher, with the result being that the potential does not decay with distance in a simultaneous system. The behavior might or might not be unphysical, depending on how the derivatives behave. The LW equations have this characteristic. Even less intuitively, the $\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{v}$ terms can actually increase with distance in a simultaneous system. However, the particle velocity would quickly exceed c with this artificial trajectory, so the consequences of the odd behavior are bounded.

The fields computed from the retarded potentials are for sensors that are at rest in the frame of reference of an unaccelerated observer. The advanced potentials are needed when a sensor is moving relative to a stationary charge. The advanced potentials in our frame of reference are the retarded potentials for an observer in the other frame of reference. The advanced potentials do not matter for us, but they do matter for everyone else.

The tensor irreducibility theorem⁶ represents the differential 3-space angular relationships. The 4-space equations are different, but a space rotation is still a space rotation – in some frame of reference. A space rotation does not affect the invariant quantity $\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{r} - c^2 t^2$.

The expansion factor also does not affect the invariant quantity⁸. The expansion factor of the cosmos is not zero, but it will be neglected in the following calculations. However, it remains to be determined if the expansion factor can be neglected in laboratory measurements of sufficiently high order.

When Δx is arbitrarily small, it can be replaced by the sum $\Delta x_1 + \Delta x_2$. Only two steps are needed to reduce the equation to first order unless the $\mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{v}$ terms are carried.

This solution differs from the LW solution in the or-

dered $\mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{v}$. With the LW equations, the vector potential is parallel to the retarded velocity vector. This solution contains an $\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{v}$ term, meaning that it depends on the angular velocity of the particle.

Provided that the $\mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{v}$ terms are neglected, approximating the trajectory with more than two straight-line segments does not affect the solution. The calculations for three line segments are shown in the SOM. The solution is

The differences from the LW solution are small, so they would be difficult to detect in the laboratory in direct comparisons. Solutions with symmetries alien to the LW equations would be easier to experimentally isolate.

The Liénard–Wiechert⁹ (LW) retardation equations are contained in the representations of the contravariant tensor of the first rank, a vector. In deriving the equations, the coordinates are transformed to the velocity of the particle at the retarded intersection. In that frame of reference the potential solution for a charged particle moving tangentially to the trajectory is the Coulomb solution,

$$\begin{aligned}\psi &= q/(4\pi\epsilon_0 R') \\ \mathbf{A} &= 0.\end{aligned}$$

The potentials are then transformed back to the first frame of reference. In being representable as a 4-vector, the potentials transform in the same way as the coordinates. The solutions are in the Lorentz gauge, satisfying the condition $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A} + 1/c^2 \partial\psi/\partial t = 0$ (SI units). The potentials are then differentiated to obtain the fields with the equations

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{E} &= -\partial\mathbf{A}/\partial t - \nabla\psi \\ \mathbf{B} &= \nabla \times \mathbf{A}.\end{aligned}$$

All behaved solutions are mathematically possible⁵, but in real problems the solutions are always solutions to the Maxwell equations.

The fields computed from the retarded potentials are for sensors that are at rest in the frame of reference of an unaccelerated observer. The advanced potentials are needed when a sensor is moving relative to a stationary charge. The advanced potentials in our frame of reference are the retarded potentials for an observer in the other frame of reference. The advanced potentials do not matter for us, but they do matter for everyone else.

The invariance of the speed of light is sometimes interpreted as meaning that our frame of reference is the only one that matters. The advanced potentials do not matter for us, but they do matter for everyone else.

Invariance is a necessary but not sufficient condition. Invariant solutions are not of physical significance if they contain a coordinate dependency. Coordinate systems are not portable. The Lorentz transform is easily misinterpreted in this respect.

The meaning of the equation is best found by relating Δx with Δt . Like the zeroth order potential equations, no matter how small Δt is, the solution contains an error of

the first order. The chain rule for differentiation is required when the variables are not independent. The Newtonian v and a are not independent variables when the speed of light matters. There is no point in transforming to another frame of reference until we know where the particle is in ours.

In the most general solutions, the a and \dot{a} terms are also independent variables with the Newton equations.

With further development, the right way of telling time should be testable in the laboratory.

XXXII. THE METHOD OF RETARDATION

This behavior is not contrary to the LW equations. It is included in them. For a given transverse velocity, the magnetic field goes to infinity as the radius goes to zero.

For unaccelerated particles, this behavior is not in any way contrary to the solutions of the LW equations. It is rather that this is the way the LW equations work. The angular velocity terms do not appear in the solutions until the potentials are differentiated to obtain the fields.

The following calculations do not require that the location of the particle at the simultaneous point be known before working the problem.

There are additional terms in the equations when the retarded acceleration is not zero.

From the perspective of an observer at the field point, the trajectory does seem to be curved, and it does seem to depend on the angular velocity of the particle, even though the actual trajectory is straight line unaccelerated motion.

For unaccelerated clocks, the two ways of telling time are identical.

The various observers cannot agree on where the particle is at time t . Depending on the perspective, the solution is coordinate-dependent or observer-dependent.

These calculations are closely related to the calculations of the Thomas precession [1]. Those calculations are interpreted as showing that the coordinates are spinning in the frame of reference of the particle. Their actual meaning is that if we do not know where the particle is in our frame of reference then we do not know where the particle is in any frame of reference.

This way of telling time has a meaning in our frame of reference, however the time shown by a field of synchronized clocks has no special significance for observers in other frames of reference.

The angular velocity terms cause the trajectory of the particle to appear to be curved, even though the particle is moving in straight line unaccelerated motion.

When working the retardation problem, the particle is on the light cone for an instant at the location \mathbf{R} and the time $t_s = -R/c$. The time at the field point is $t_f = 0$. The particle then continues its journey to the simultaneous point at the location \mathbf{R}_0 . The time at the field point is then R_0/c .

An observer watching a moving particle does not glimpse it at two closely spaced instants. It is continuously visible. It is permanently on the light cone.

The coordinates of the particle are

$$\mathbf{r}_s = \mathbf{r}_0 + \mathbf{v}t_s$$

$$t_s = t_s.$$

The coordinates of the field point are

$$\mathbf{r}_f = 0$$

$$t_f = t_f.$$

The trajectory appears to be curved. The curvature has the form $t_f(v/c)^2$ times the angular velocity of the particle. The angular velocity terms vanish when t_f is zero, however the retarded potentials exist only for the purpose of being differentiated.

The converse relationship exists for an observer in the frame of reference of an unaccelerated particle. Due to the continuously changing propagation delay to the field point, the trajectory of the field point is perceived as being curved. The curvature is not included in the LW equations.

The curvature is more than just a visual effect. It will influence the interaction of a particle with other particles.

From the perspective of the observer, a trajectory that is perceived as being curved cannot be integrated in one step.

The curvature is more than just a visual effect. It will influence the interaction of the particle with other particles. Even though the trajectory is perceived as being curved, an accelerometer attached to the particle would not register an acceleration unless the retarded acceleration is not zero.

The trajectory of the particle could include acceleration terms. The retarded potentials for light cone events would not be expected to depend on the history of the particle, although the history of the particle is required for computing the location where it is on the light cone. (It can in some cases be necessary to integrate the history of the fields to obtain a potential solution, but the following calculations are not of that form.)

The equation is a polynomial in t_{s0} . It has two roots. Choosing the root for which the signal propagates from the particle to the field point,

When working in series form, the light cone equation can also be solved by the method of successive approximation.

These calculations are not in the second frame of reference, but our frame of reference is not special, and it is not different. Furthermore, it is not possible to transform to the second frame of reference until we know where the particle is in our frame of reference. The invariance of the speed of light is a necessary but not sufficient condition. Invariant equations are not of physical significance if they contain a coordinate dependency. Coordinate systems are not portable.

The retarded velocities computed by different observers on the surface of the sphere are not for the same

particle. Alternatively, in being coordinate-dependent, the solution is not of physical significance.

That is better, but the tensor of each rank is irreducible \square . We are always one step behind – sometimes two steps. The tensor of the first rank is not sufficient.

In so far as is known, the acceleration of the particle does not affect the retarded potentials at any given instant, but the acceleration is nevertheless required for computing the location of the particle at the retarded time. It is plausible that the acceleration does matter, but it is reasonable to defer the question until contradictions arise.

XXXIII. THE TWO WAYS OF READING CLOCKS

The basis of this relationship is that the location of a particle in the second frame of reference depends on both its location and its velocity in the first frame of reference. In the first frame of reference, we start out one step behind, and can never catch up.

The tensor of each rank is irreducible \square . We are always one step behind – sometimes two steps.

All of the observers on the surface of the sphere are not performing calculations for the same particle. Like the zeroth order potential equations, the LW equations contain an error of the first order. It is of order v^2 instead of the v^1 of the zeroth order equations, but it is first order in dt . The tensor of each rank is irreducible \square . We are always one step behind – sometimes two steps.

There are two ways of computing the retarded velocity. In eq –, the particle moves along a marked course. The location of the particle is the nearest grid intersection and the time is the time shown by the nearest stationary clock in a field of clocks. The retarded time is the same for all stationary observers at different angular locations. Eq – implies that this method of calculation is only usable for observers at infinity.

The time at the particle can also be obtained by reading the number displayed by a moving clock. With this method, the time read is delayed by the light time from the clock to the observer. The time read is different for other stationary observers with different angular relationships relative to the velocity vector, but if the retarded location of the particle is known, the delayed time read by the observer can be corrected for the propagation delay. After applying the correction, both ways of telling time are the same in 3+1 space, as is illustrated by the following calculations. The coordinates are orthogonal in 3+1 space.

With this parameterization, the LW equations \square become

The identities \dots and \dots can be applied as appropriate. These equations are in all ways equivalent to the solution with Newtonian parameterization. The labor required to obtain the solutions to practical problems is about the same either way.

These relationships can be extended to the retarded acceleration. If that is done, $rvddto$ is generally not zero for straight line unaccelerated motion, so the occurrence of $avddot$ terms in a solution does not necessarily mean that the retarded acceleration is not zero.

Similar relationships exist for the advanced intersection. The advanced potentials tend to be neglected, but neglecting them assumes that our frame of reference is the only one that matters. While it is true that our frame of reference is the only one we can ever measure anything in, we are nevertheless free to send messengers elsewhere. Egocentric theories have an irresistible appeal, but they do make simplifying assumptions.

The constant has a meaning similar to that of π , except that it can only exist when the particles are in motion. Comparing the computed value of constants with the values measured in the laboratory provides a means of evaluating the depth of our understanding.

The calculations in the SOM do not use tensor notation, but tensor relationships are sometimes representable by carrying vectors in component form in a Cartesian coordinate system. The essential relationship is that the gradient of a vector is a tensor of the second rank.

If a particle is approaching an observer and decelerating, the retarded velocity for a second observer further away from the particle is higher. Consequently the potentials do not decay with distance. The LW equations have this characteristic. Depending on the global behaviour of the derivatives, it is not necessarily unphysical.

Terms that do not decay with distance, when combined with the $1/r^2$ terms of Eq –, decay as $1/r$. $1/r$ terms are radiative. However, the near field $1/r^2$ terms in quasi-static solutions are experimentally more accessible.

For quantities that are of order v^1 , such as the magnetic field and the momentum of a particle, v^3 terms represent a $(v/c)^2$ relativistic correction.

In the solutions for rotating electrical equipment, the quantity of interest is not the velocity of the conduction electrons, but rather the sum of their velocity and the rim velocity. The velocity of the conduction electrons is not necessarily in the same direction as the rim velocity. The protons must of course be included in the calculation.

We cannot tell which particle is which. The Lorentz transform is not helpful in obtaining the solution for an inertial particle.

The basis of these difficulties is that coordinate systems are not portable. Choosing one that follows as we move about in space and time has a certain appeal, but it leads to contradictions if there is, or could be, another observer in the problem.

The solution depends on where the origin of the coordinate system is. It is coordinate-dependent. Coordinate-dependent solutions are not usable, for we can never know where we are in space and time.

Similarly, if we choose a coordinate system that fol-

lows us as we move about in space and time then the solution is coordinate-dependent if there is, or could be, another observer in the problem. All things measurable are relative, but it is not us that they are relative to.

Potential equations represent the view from infinity. That is a view we can never know, so it is not our perspective.

For the purpose of reconstructing the trajectory of the particle with subsequent processing of the delayed measurements, both observers have to be able to agree on where the particle was.

A correction must be applied to account for the propagation delay from the source to the field point when using the measurements of Rv and its derivatives to reconstruct a Newtonian trajectory.

The basis of this discrepancy is that the perceived values of Rv and its derivatives are delayed by the light time from the source to the field point. If the objective is to reconstruct a Newtonian trajectory from the perceived values then a correction is required to account for the delay.

... is zero, showing that the particle is on the light cone, but it is not the same particle as in Eqs ().

Three steps would be required if the v^4 terms are carried or if the solution needs to be differentiated three times.

The inconsistency vanishes when vv and rv are parallel or anti-parallel at the simultaneous point. It is only when there is a transverse velocity component that the problem occurs.

In 3+1 space, we are free to choose a coordinate system that follows us as we move about in space and time. We still are with this solution, but only by a tiny amount. This solution would not work if there was a third navigator at the location

\dot{R} requires a relativistic correction for inertial particles.

While it is possible to determine where the particle was, distant observers cannot know where it is.

Actually, we do not know where the particle was, but in working the retardation problem it might be necessary to assume that the location is already known. The assumption will require further evaluation. If the assumption is valid, then the \dot{R} in Eq () should be replaced by \dot{R}' .

Another way of working the problem would be to obtain the location by integrating \dot{R}' . In 3+1 space, the solution could be obtained by integrating \dot{R} .

The time ticks along the trajectory of the particle will be evenly spaced if t_s is taken to be the independent variable in the light cone equation. But then the time ticks are not uniformly distributed for an observer at the field point. There is a conflict.

The invariance of the speed of light is a necessary but not sufficient condition. Invariant solutions are not necessarily of physical significance. Laboratory evaluation is required to be sure of which invariant solutions are the right ones. However, when there is a conflict between a function and its derivatives, it means that the solution should be obtained by integration.

A distant assistant reporting the times that the moving clock is nearly coincident with a field of at-rest clocks would not agree with this equation. The assistant is usually not available, although it could be done. In any case, it is the transform that matters.

The virtual acceleration occurs because the solution is coordinate-dependent. Coordinate dependent solutions are not of physical significance, because we have no way of knowing which coordinate system we should use.

drv has dropped out of the solution, showing that it does not matter where the navigator is. However, this solution would not work if the navigator was at the location

In 3+1 space, we are free to choose a coordinate system that follows us as we move about in space and time. In 4-space, such solutions are coordinate-dependent if there is, or could be, another observer in the problem.

Suppose that the perceived velocity of a particle, as evaluated by a distant observer, is γv , with With this correction, the radius vector from the observer to the particle appears to be spinning, relative to where it would be in 3+1 space. Similarly, the radius vector appears to be spinning in the calculations of the Thomas precession⁷. The angular relationships of the four dimensional space are represented more generally by the rotations of the Lorentz group []. The 3-space angular relationships are represented by the tensor irreducibility theorem []. There are additional terms in 4-space, but a space rotation is still space rotation.

Equations of physical significance also have to work in the same way when applied in different places.

The Newton equations and the LW equations are for one navigator. Both equations have a respectable level of accuracy and they are not wrong, but they are incomplete.

XXXIV. THE THIRD TERM OF THE RETARDATION SERIES

The first term of the retardation series for charged particles is the Coulomb solution. It is the basis of all the other terms, except that it requires adjustments in a cosmological context. The second term of the series is the LW solution. Each term of the series stands alone.

When vv and rv are perpendicular there is no first order constraint on the particle location. The light cone equation is slippery.

The second observer requires this choice, and the first observer did not know where the particle was in the first place.

To first order, the transverse location of the particle is unconstrained. Equations of physical significance have to work in the same way when applied in different places. A second nearby observer is helpful in obtaining a better estimate of where the particle was. Distant observers cannot know where it is, but it is possible to obtain useful estimates of where it was.

It may be possible to obtain a more complete solution by considering an observer at ..., or in other ways. There is always more than one way of working a problem. The equations in the rotations of the Lorentz group [] are probably relevant. The calculations of the Thomas precession [] are closely related to those equations. However, the calculations of the Thomas precession assume that the location of the particle is computable with the Newton equations, which leads to contradictions.

drv has to drop out if the equation is to be usable without knowing where the origin of the coordinate system should be.

Two observers will not be able to agree on where the particle was unless drv drops out. The solution cannot be differentiated unless two nearby observers can agree on where the particle was. Actually, the equation could be differentiated, but the solution would not mean anything unless both points are for the same particle. The first derivative is not sufficient unless the equation is of first order, but it is a necessary starting point.

The two observers cannot agree on where the particle was unless drv drops out. The first derivative does not mean anything unless both points are for the same particle.

drv has to drop out. If it does not drop out, the two points needed for computing the first derivative are not for the same particle.

... The particle is on the light cone for the first observer, but its location depends on where the second observer is. Neither observer knows where the particle was.

Both observers now agree on where the particle was. The two points required for computing the first derivative are for the same particle.

The curvature term vanishes when $tf=0$. The function is not consistent with its derivatives. When there is such a conflict, it means that the solution should be obtained by integration.

XXXV. INERTIAL TRAJECTORIES

Distant observers cannot know what is happening at the simultaneous point while it is happening. It is necessary to either extrapolate to that point with light cone events or wait a while to find out what happened there.

This inconsistency does not occur unless there is a velocity component in the transverse direction, which requires at least two directions in space. More generally, the gradient of a vector is a tensor of the second rank. However, $(d\mathbf{r} \cdot \nabla)\mathbf{R}$ is a vector.

The angular velocity term in Eq – can be retained by integrating in time by the amount $r0/c$, which cancels the $1/r0$ term. The integral does not look like an angular velocity term, and it is not, however the retarded potentials exist only for the purpose of being differentiated.

Except in special circumstances, the gradient of a vector is a tensor of the second rank, which is probably the

appropriate way of performing the integration. There appears to be a shortcut way of obtaining the solution.

... The light cone constraint is slippery in the infinitesimal.

In the first frame of reference, there are powers of velocity in all orders at time dtf, but they are a consequence of representing $1/(1+v/c)$ in series form. The implied accuracy of the series expansion, especially in the transverse direction, is illusionary. It is not possible to quickly determine where the particle was with light cone equations.

$$\Delta_{01} = \Delta_{12} = \Delta^2 \mathbf{R} =$$

The magnitude of $\Delta \mathbf{R}$ needs to be considered in relation to the magnitude of R .

$$\frac{\Delta(\Delta \mathbf{R})}{R^2} = \quad (14)$$

When \mathbf{R} and \mathbf{v} are perpendicular, the equation has the form of the angular velocity of the particle, multiplied by a $(v/c)^2$ relativistic correction.

From the perspective of the second observer, the particle is not where the first observer thought it was. The second observer is probably wrong too.

The equations would also be interpretable as meaning that the first observer was right and the second observer is wrong. The retarded potentials exist only for the purpose of being differentiated. The difference between the solutions is more important than the value of either.

The two observers cannot agree on where the particle was. The retarded potentials exist only for the purpose of being differentiated. The difference between the two perspectives is more important than the correctness of either.

The equations could be developed further by taking Eq () as the assumed starting point instead of Eq ().

The particle is on the light cone, but it is not the same particle.

Something is amiss.

The full transform in Eq () will also halt the particle in a single step. Are we sure the solution is for the right particle?

The propagation delay from the particle to the field point, when combined with the constantly changing angular relationships, results in a virtual acceleration term that is parallel to the retarded velocity. The virtual acceleration is perceived, but it is not real. A relativistic correction for the angular velocity of the particle is needed.

XXXVI. ONE PARTICLE, MANY OBSERVERS

The LW equations can be derived from the Lorentz transform, suggesting that the Lorentz transform is not for an inertial particle.

When computing the retarded potentials for two particles, the retarded velocity of each particle must be computed, but that is only the first part of the problem. The

contribution from each particle must be delayed by the light time to the field point. The two signals cannot be added simultaneously. When the two particles are closely spaced, and there are only two particles in the problem, it is only the differential delay that needs to be considered when adding the two signals. There are similar considerations for one particle at two times.

The implied curvature of the trajectory is not real. It is an observational artifact. A relativistic correction for the angular velocity of the particle is needed.

...

The derivatives of the function are not consistent with the function. That normally means that the function must be obtained by integration. But since the retarded potentials exist only for the purpose of being differentiated, it does not appear necessary to actually perform the integration. However, because the integral of the derivative is arbitrary to within a constant of integration, the potential solution obtained with the shortcut method is not necessarily unique. It is only the derivatives of the potentials that are measurable, so a potential equation does not have to be unique. Gauge transforms exploit this characteristic of potential equations. It is necessary to assume that we know where the particle was when working the retardation problem, but it is difficult to be sure that we do know where it was. An observer at infinity would know, but that is not our perspective.

If \dot{R} were computed in three orthogonal directions and interpreted as the components of a vector, the result would be the same as the LW vector equation in Eq (). That would be the right way to differentiate a vector in 3+1 space.

It has to be possible to apply retardation equations without knowing what time it is. They have to work in the same way for any value of t_f .

The only thing that this calculation shows is that the derivatives of a function are consistent with the function, and we knew that already.

This would be the solution for the retarded potentials in 3+1 space. The problem is not in 3+1 space.

This solution is for the first time derivative. The solution for the second derivative will be more elaborate unless the relationships are degenerate.

There are two ways of viewing this solution. Since the particle is not accelerated, it is a visual artifact and is not real. On the other hand, it is the delayed signal that a charged particle will respond to.

The expansion factor within a mass shell stretches distances and times by the same amount, so the measured speed of light is not affected⁸. It is not yet known if the cosmological expansion factor affects laboratory electrical measurements, but it should be possible to find out if it does by including it in the retardation equations. The location of a particle at the simultaneous point contains a hidden degree of freedom in this respect.

Unsurprisingly, as shown in the SOM, the Lorentz transform is obtainable by integrating the infinitesimal transform. However, the integral is arbitrary to within a con-

stant of integration.

There can be one observer and many particles, or one particle and many observers. When there is one particle and many observers, each observer is not free to choose their own coordinate system. It is not meaningful to ask which perspective is the right one. It is the transform that matters. It is more difficult to transform from one observer to another observer than to transform from the particle to one observer.

From the perspective of an observer in the frame of reference of an unaccelerated particle, a clock in our frame of reference would appear to be accelerated in the direction of the retarded velocity, so a clock in our frame of reference would not be a good choice for a time standard.

In Eq (), it can be seen by inspection that $R=r_0$ when $t_f=0$. The equations assume that the solution is known before working the problem. The formulation is overconstrained, leading to an unphysical solution.

Potential equations exist only for the purpose of being differentiated. In not representing locally measurable relationships, local physical arguments should not be applied to them.

In Eq (), the derivatives of the function are not consistent with the function. It is sufficient to obtain a function that differentiates correctly. Always in concept, and sometimes in practice, potential equations can be gauge transformed, so there is no requirement that the function be unique. There is also no requirement that it have local physical significance. Potential equations allow us to see ourselves as others see us, to know what we cannot see.

The solution is the LW solution when $t_f=0$. However, the solution is for the wrong particle at time t_f .

Since the coordinates appear to be spinning, the transform must be performed in two steps, first to take out the translational velocity, then to take out the spin of the particle. A point charge cannot actually spin, but it does seem to be spinning.

Other choices would be equally valid, but choosing other locations does not accomplish anything, because curvature is not representable in 3+1 space. However, 4-space can be projected into 3+1 space with potential equations.

The method of retardation is so different from the methods of field equations that it is often difficult to see why there should even be a connection, but there is. Neither field equations nor retardation equations form a complete representation. Field equations constrain the fields without specifying the physical processes responsible for them. Retardation equations do specify the physical processes, but they are inept in other ways.

It remains to be determined if there are electrical terms in the solution for a hammered mass, and conversely.

Refer to Ref. 11 and www.s-4.com/som2/som.htm for some useful background material and equations.

It is unlikely that the second derivative can be obtained by differentiating this solution in 3+1 space, but ob-

taining the second derivative that way should be a good approximation when the velocity is low. Conversely, it would be easy to carry more powers of velocity in the solution for the first derivative, but their validity will need further investigation.

dr/dt and dt would be orthogonal if both were defined at the field point, in which case the dr/dt cross term would vanish. In this solution dt is at the field point and dr is at the particle. The two terms are not orthogonal.

The spin of the particle must now be taken out by transforming from the tip of the vector to the tail of the vector.

The rotation causes the velocity vector in the second frame of reference to not be parallel to the vector in the first frame of reference. The rotation is not included in the derivation of the LW equations. It is also not included in the calculations of the Thomas precession. It is not included in any of the calculations of the special theory of relativity.

It is possible to interpret this solution in a different way – that simultaneous events in the first frame of reference are not simultaneous in the second system.

The solution can be interpreted in two ways. With one interpretation, events that are simultaneous in the first frame of reference are not simultaneous in the second system. With the other interpretation, the velocity vector in the second system is not parallel to the vector in the first system. Light cone solutions can be helpful in resolving the ambiguity.

.. A second transform is required to take out the virtual spin of the particle. The equations would be muddled if the angular and translational velocity terms were not separated.

The angular velocity of the particle is $v = \omega r_0$. When v and r are perpendicular, the equation simplifies to $\Delta r = w(v/c)^2$ [at time $t=0$].

The traditional interpretation of this and similar relationships is that simultaneous events in the first frame of reference are not simultaneous in the second system.

It follows from the calculations of the Thomas precession that two consecutive Lorentz transforms are not representable with a single Lorentz transform. Two transforms are equivalent to a single transform followed by a space rotation. It is the velocity of the tip of the radius vector that is relevant in the second frame of reference. Since it is not the same as the velocity of the tail of the vector, two consecutive transforms are required for transforming the potentials back to the field point.

Potential equations can usually be viewed as representing the perspective of an observer at infinity. The perspective can be mathematically convenient, but it is one that we cannot know.

This solution can be interpreted in two ways. In one way, events that are simultaneous in the first frame of reference are not simultaneous in the second system. With the other interpretation, the radius vector is spinning in the second system. The second interpretation is used in the following calculations. However, there is not necessarily

anything wrong with the first perspective, provided that its consequences are developed. It is the transform that matters, not which perspective is the right one.

As shown in the SOM, this calculation can be obtained by solving the light cone equation twice, first for time t_0 then for time t_0+t_1 , and the solution is the same as this one.

This equation applies equally well to doppler shifted acoustic signals. although they do not transform in the same way as electromagnetic signals.

The constant of integration would evidently depend on where the observer is, relative to the particle, so it may be difficult to determine it in a general way.

In 3+1 space, this would be the retarded velocity of the particle at time t_f , and the retarded acceleration would be zero. For light cone solutions, and more generally in the second frame of reference, the time of an event depends on both the location and the velocity of the particle, so the acceleration cannot be computed until the velocity becomes known. That requires one more step. Similarly, an extra step would be needed for the \dot{a} terms. In 3+1 space, we are always one step behind. There is nothing wrong with being one step behind, provided that we do not try to lead.

The solution indicates that a relativistic correction for the angular velocity of the particle is needed. Euclidian calculus does not neglect this form of curvature, because the chain rule for differentiation is required whenever the variables are not independent. The investigation will be continued.

The trajectory is perceived as being curved. The trajectory is a straight line, but the time intervals along the line are not properly spaced.

Since the trajectory is perceived as being curved, a more accurate solution can be obtained by representing the trajectory with two segments. The two segments are parallel, but their lengths have to be computed.

The LW equations are not form invariant for translations in time. This relationship causes the first time derivative of the LW equations to be wrong, even though the equations are correct at time $t_f=0$. The derivatives of the function are not consistent with the function. If the time at the field point were the only available time that would mean that the function would have to be obtained by integration. For the purpose of deriving the retardation equations, the time at the source is also available, although it is not available for field equations.

The mapping of the time at the source to the time at the field point is not a linear function of the time. The midpoint of a time interval at the source does not map into the midpoint of the corresponding interval at the field point, no matter how small the interval is. It is easy to misapply the theorems of Euclidian calculus when the midpoint of an infinitesimal line element is not at the middle. However, the chain rule for differentiation is always required when the variables are not independent. The chain rule is not needed when the time at the source is taken as the independent variable.

The LW equations work correctly at time $t_f=0$ and time $t_f=+r_0/c$. The equations have a different form at other times. It is not possible to apply the equations without knowing what time it is. We cannot know what time it is.

Our frame of reference is not special for anyone except us. Coordinate systems are not portable if there is, or could be another observer in the problem. One observer evaluating a system at two widely spaced times counts as two observers. It is nevertheless possible to obtain equations where the coordinate system seems to be portable, within limits. That is equivalent to stating that the equations can be differentiated specified number of times. The count for the LW equations is zero.

The gradient of a vector is not a vector, but $(dr \cdot v_{\text{dot}} / dl) Rv$ is, and the equation can be applied recursively. It is possible to obtain vector equations that behave like vector equations, within limits.

The LW equations are also form invariant for translations in time, provided that they are not differentiated.

The solution shows that the LW equations cannot be differentiated without knowing what time it is. We cannot know what time it is. Coordinate dependencies can exist in either space or time.

The propagation delay from the particle to the field point causes the angular velocity of a particle to become coupled to the perceived translational velocity. This relationship is included in the LW equations. The retarded velocity is still v_0 .

The basis of this relationship is that the midpoint of a time interval at the source does not map into the midpoint of the corresponding time interval at the field point. The durations of the two intervals are also different.

An observer in the frame of reference of an unaccelerated clock would insist that the clock runs at a constant rate, as would an observer at the field point. Dynamically adjusting the clock rates is not an option. Distorting the mapping by adjusting the midpoint of one or the other is not possible either, because it would affect the propagation velocity.

However, the time shown by the other clock was not known in the first place, so now we have the opportunity to synchronize it, to the extent that it is possible with the retarded potentials. By displacing all of the events associated with the other clock in time, the two midpoints can be brought into alignment.

The midpoint is now at the middle, and the false acceleration term has vanished. Or is it that a curvature term has been added? That depends on the perspective. It could be that the charged particle is at rest in our frame of reference and the other observer is moving, so both perspectives are needed.

It can be seen in Eq – that the closest approach occurs at time $t_{f1}=0$. Something is amiss.

The retarded potentials exist only for the purpose of being differentiated, so it is not necessarily true that we have to know where the particle actually was if the derivatives are consistent. But when applying retarded-

tion equations to specific configurations, it is necessary to assume that we know where it was. However, potential equations are subject to gauge transformations, so the assumed potential solution is not necessarily unique. In any case, potential equations do not represent locally measurable relationships, so local physical arguments should not be applied to them.

This adjustment seems contradictory, but perhaps not. In 3+1 space, the time of an event depends only on its location. For light cone solutions, and more generally in the second frame of reference, the time of an event depends on both the location and the velocity of the particle. It is difficult to be sure that all of the events in Eq () are for the same particle.

The perceived transverse velocity is parallel to the retarded velocity, but there is a relativistic correction for it when the particle is nearby.

Either Eq – is not for an inertial particle, or all of the events are not for the same particle. It is difficult to be sure which particle is the right one when the angular and translational velocities are coupled.

There are no longer any angular velocity terms in the solution. The angular and translational velocities have been decoupled.

There are still angular velocity terms in the solution, but they are no longer coupled to the translational velocity. That is how it would be if there were no propagation delay.

The constantly changing angular relationships, when combined with the propagation delay, cause the other clock to not be perceived as running at a constant rate, even though it does. The rate for an unaccelerated clock is not subject to dynamic adjustments, but it can be that the time shown by the clock is not what it was thought to be.

The perceived transverse velocity is not the same as the retarded velocity when the particle is nearby. It is the same when the particle is at a great distance.

The nonlinear mapping, when combined with the propagation delay, causes the rate of the other clock to seem to be variable. An unaccelerated clock will run at a constant rate, so the perceived variation in the rate can be used to derive a constant offset to the times that were incorrectly assumed to be the time shown by the other clock in Eq ().

The other clock is now perceived as running at a constant rate.

However, taking the Thomas precession out of the retardation equations puts it in to the solutions at the field point. From the perspective of an observer in the frame of reference of the particle, the LW equations contain terms that do not belong there. From the perspective of the observer at the field point, the LW equations are missing terms.

The nonlinear transfer function, when combined with the propagation delay, causes the clock to appear to run at a non-uniform rate. An unaccelerated clock does run at a constant rate, but it is difficult to determine the time

shown by the clock when there is a transverse velocity component. Since the clock is known to run at a constant rate, it is possible to synchronize it by choosing a time offset from the times assumed in Eq () that causes the rate to appear to be constant. The times assumed in writing Eqs() seem reasonable, but they lead to subtle contradictions.

From the perspective of an observer at the particle, the correction removes a visual aberration. From the perspective of an observer at the field point, it adds a minor correction to the much larger curvature terms that are already present in the LW equations. The LW equations are not in the same order as the Newton equations. The static Coulomb solution is in the same order as the Newton equations.

??The problem could be worked in the first frame of reference, and the equations would be interesting, but it turns out that it is computationally easier to synchronize the other clock by solving the light cone equation in the second frame of reference.

It has to be possible to apply retardation equations without knowing what time it is, because we do not actually know the time. Coordinate dependencies can exist in either space or time.

The magnitude of ΔR needs to be considered in relation to the magnitude of R . The second difference is

For the purpose of applying the retardation equations to specific configurations, a suitable reference point can be obtained by requiring the the time of closest approach in Eq () coincide with the time of closest approach in Eq (), even though we cannot know where the particle actually is at the simultaneous point until after waiting a while.

Our frame of reference is not special or different, so it should also be possible to work solve all of the equations in the other frame of reference.

There is a very old belief that we know the time in our frame of reference, and it is true that our frame of reference is as good as any.

If our frame of reference were the only one that matters then the effect of the correction would be to add a minor correction to the much larger curvature terms that already exist in the LW equations.

Potential equations are arbitrary to within a constant of integration. It is the nature of retardation equations that the constant of integration depends on where the observer is, relative to the source, so it does not look like a constant. That makes the chain rule for differentiation necessary, because the variables are not independent. Potential equations that do not require the chain rule are more convenient, but they do not represent locally measurable relationships, so local physical arguments should not be applied to them.

It should be possible to work the problem in either frame of reference, but the calculations are simpler if the light cone equation is solved in the second frame of reference.

Retardation equations have to work in the same way

when applied at different times, because we have no way of knowing when the time $t_f=0$ should be. The time $t_f=0$ can be chosen arbitrarily, but once selected, it cannot be readjusted.

Eq () assumes that we can know what is happening at the simultaneous point while it is happening. That is not possible. There is no physical basis for assuming that the location of the particle at time $t_f = 0$ in Eq () is knowable. There is a particle at that point in space and time, but it is difficult to be sure that it is the right particle.

the the particle is at the location r_0 when the time at the field point is r_0/c . There is a particle at that point in space and time, and it is on the light cone, but it is difficult to be sure that it is the same particle as when the time is $-r_0/(2c)$. It might be possible to determine if the two particles are the same if the transfer function were linear, but it is not linear. It does become linear if the location of the particle on its trajectory is displaced in time.

The retardation equations now look the same at three different times. The quadratic terms have been taken out. The equations will be more difficult to linearize when the velocity is high enough that the t_{so}^2 have to be carried.

The perceived velocity contains vv/R vsq terms, which represent a relativistic correction to the angular velocity.

This is the LW solution when the coordinates are first-known at time $t_f=-r_0/c$. It has the same form as when they are first-known at time $t_f=0$.

This is the LW solution for the time $t_f=-r_0/(2c)$. We have no way of knowing when the time $t_f=-r_0/(2c)$ is.

This relationship causes the derivatives of the function to contradict the function. That can mean either that the derivatives are being computed the wrong way or that the function is wrong. The two perspectives are not necessarily mutually exclusive, but the equations do need to be self consistent.

Form invariance has about the same meaning as the requirement that the equations should not contain a coordinate dependency. Coordinate dependencies can exist in either space or time.

The time at the source is

Differentiating with respect to t_f

The clock rate will be constant if the first derivative of t_s is 0.

Orthogonalizing the angular and translational velocities has the effect of taking out the Thomas precession. However, taking it out of the light cone equation has the effect of putting in to the solutions of the retarded potentials, where it appears in clearly recognizable form as a rotation of the retarded vector potential. The Thomas precession is of order $ax_1 vx_1$. The vector potential is of order vx_1 , so the rotation is of order $ax_1 vx_2$ when the particle is accelerated.

The potential equations do not contain acceleration terms, but they are the integral of the fields, so the acceleration terms do not appear until the solutions are

differentiated.

This transform takes out the quadratic terms, but there are other corrections needed if the vx^4 terms are to be carried.

No matter how short the time intervals are, the midpoint does not map into the middle. That would complicate the theorms of Eucludian calculus if the chain rule for differentiation is not applied first. The chain rule is not needed if the equations are orthogonalized. It is doubtful that complete orthogonalizaion is possilbe, but the problem can be developed as a series expansion.

It is for this reason that the LW equations do not work the same way at the midpoint of the interal as they do at either end. The midpoint of an interval at the particle does not map into the midpoint of the corresponding interval at the field point. The transfer function is not linear in time. The location of the particle is linear in the time at the source, so the time at the source should be taken as the independent variable for inertial particles.

The time at the field point then does not progress at a uniform rate. There are circumstances when we should care about what time it is at the field point, but approximate solutions for the retarded potentials can be obtained without knowing what time it is there. That is because the retarded potentials exist only for the purpose of being differentiated. The only requirment is that the eqations be linear for a short time at the field point.

There is no upper limit for the angular velocity of the partile, so this approximation will become unusable if the particle is too close. It is possible for the interval at the particle to be far longer than the interval at the field point, in which case the model is not accurate.

The observer at the field point cannot know where the midpoint of a line is, causing the equations to be nonlinear in a way that Eucluid neglected. In 3-space, straight lines do not have tic marks at regularly spaced intervals along their length.

The retarded potentials exist only for the purpose of being differentiated, so we do not need to know where the midpoint of a long line is. There are circumstances when we should care about what time it is in our frame of reference, but approximate solutions for the retarded potentials can be obtained without knowing the time.

The tic marks are almost equally spaced along short lines, but the observer at the field point probably does not understand what short lines are. In Min- space [], the distance between light cone events is zero.

The other observer already knows the time, so it is easier to work the problem from the other perspective. The retarded potentials exist only for the purpose of being differentiated, so the actual time in our frame of refernce does not matter. It is only the derivtives that matter.

From the perspective of an observer at the particle, this soluton removes a false visual abberation. From the perspevive of an observer at the field point, it adds curvature term. It is the transform that matters.

The dt interval would have to be subdivided into three intervals when the vx^4 terms are needed.

The other observer already knows the time, so it is easier to work the problem in the second frame of reference. The retarded potentials exist only for the purpose of being differentiated, so the time in our frame of refernce is a secondary consideration if the derivatives are correct. In being the integral of the fields, potential solutions are arbitrary to within a constant of integration. The potential solution obtained this way is therefore not necessarily unique, and there is no requirement that it be unique.

As was first realized by Einstein [], and developed from a different perspective with the equations of the Lorentz group [], the Lorentz transform contains hidden degrees of freedom. We cannot tell the difference between angular and translational velocity in observations of short duration, but we need to know the difference in global solutions, as we could not otherwise tell if we are orbiting a particle, or if the particle is orbiting us. It could be either way.

This equation is the appropriate equation when we do not care what time it is, although it there are circumstances when we should care. But in obtaining retardation solutions for one observer and many particles, it is only necessary to know the solution for a short time. However, the solution will not be valid for a long time unless more terms are carried in the equations. The solution has to be accurate for longer times if it is to be differentiated more times. The LW solutin is accurate enough to compute the first derivatves. The Maxwell equations are in terms of the second derivatives.

This solution satisfies the equation $\mathbf{r}' \cdot \mathbf{r}' = \mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{r}$. That is possible, because a space rotation does not affect the magnitude of a vector. Rotations are mathematically simpler in the complex number domain, but they are harder to understand for most of us. There is an extensive and relevant literature on the subject []. No attempt has been make to find equivalent equations in the literature, but they almost certainly exist, and in a more elegant form.

In the first frame of reference, the vector from the field point to the particle rotates as the particle moves. The observer in the frame of refence of the particle perceives the vector as rotating in the other direction. For one choice of the coordinates, right handed rotation becomes left handed rotation. For unobvious reasons, the other observer does not think the particle is where we think it is. The potential solution is first-known in the frame of reference of the particle, so the other perspective is the appropriate one.

Which of us is right? Since we do not know our own velocity, an arbitrer at infinity might be able to resolve the question. Potential equations can usually be viewed as representing the perspective of an observer at infinity. The 4-potenital transforms in the same way as the coordinates, it is implied that the coordinates can be viewed as being a potential representaion.

Potential equations do not represent locally measurable relationships, so local physical arguments should not be applied to them.

If the coordinates are not viewed as being a potential representation, then the chain rule for differentiation is always required when the variables are not independent. The time and space coordinates are not independent variables in light cone solutions or in the second frame of reference. It is not sufficient that light cone solutions specify the function. They must also specify the derivatives of the function, which can require integrating the derivatives in order to obtain mathematical self consistency.

There is an extensive literature on invariant equations [1]. There is a good possibility that a solution equivalent to this one exists somewhere in it, perhaps in an abstract form that is difficult to recognize.

The chain rule for differentiation is required when the variables are not independent, so there should be a way of working this problem with the chain rule. The chain rule is not needed if the relationships are orthogonalized. In this case, orthogonalization appears to have the same meaning as linearizing the equations by using the time at the source as the independent variable in the light cone equation.

It should also be possible to linearize the trajectory of the particle with the chain rule for differentiation. If the chain rule is used, the value of a vector at a nearby point is $Rv + (dRv \cdot v \cdot dt) Rv$. The thing that matters is that the time shown by a clock in our frame of reference is not the right time base for the kinematic relationships of the particle. In containing velocity, eq - makes it look like there is a connection, but the equation is misleading. The equation represents a sequence of static light cone events having no connection to the trajectory of an inertial particle. The equation looks like it is in 4-space, but it is in 3-space. The equally spaced tick marks along straight lines are not visible in 3-space, but they are there.

The mapping is linear when the motion is radial, and a simple correction can be applied. The mapping is not linear when there is a transverse velocity component and the particle is nearby. The time shown by a clock in our frame of reference is not a satisfactory time standard for computing the trajectory of an inertial particle unless the angular velocity is zero. Corrections could be applied for the nonlinearity, but they are not simple, and they become more elaborate when the particle is closer.

It is for this reason that the solution to the LW equations in Eq - looks different. The midpoint of the three solutions is not at the middle in the sense that it cannot be obtained by linearly interpolating the other two solutions. The midpoint would be much closer to the middle if a short time span for the three solutions were used, but the solution would have to be integrated, and the large discrepancy would re-appear after integration. There is no known way of reducing the four dimensional space to first order, although it can be linearized in various stages.

The propagation delay, when combined with a transverse velocity component, causes the transfer function to be nonlinear in time, making it difficult to use the clock at the field point as the time standard, although it could

be done.

Each of the events in Eqs () is for a particle on the light cone, but there is no physical basis for assuming that all of the events are for the same particle. The function is technically correct, but the derivatives of the function contradict it. That means that either the function has to be obtained by integration or a different function computed. The time and space coordinates are not independent variables in light cone solutions, so the chain rule for differentiation would be required if the function is to be obtained by integrating the derivatives.

It would be possible to use the clock in our frame of reference by applying a correction for the nonlinear transfer function. The location of the particle is already a linear function of the time at the source, so it is easier to use the time at the source as the time standard.

It is for this reason that the LW solution in Eq - at the midpoint of two times cannot be linearly interpolated from the other two solutions. The transfer function is not linear in time when there is a transverse velocity component. Since the particle velocity cannot exceed c , the nonlinearity is only important for observations of short duration when the particle is nearby. But even when it is not nearby, it is not where it was thought to be.

The retarded potentials exist only for the purpose of being differentiated, so the time in our frame of reference is not very important. We do not even need to know the time in our frame of reference to compute the derivatives of the retarded potentials. The location of the particle is a linear function of the time at the source, so it is easier to use the other clock as the time standard than it would be to apply a nonlinear correction for the time in our frame of reference.

A short time interval in our frame of reference maps linearly into a short interval in the frame of reference of the particle. The retarded potentials exist only for the purpose of being differentiated, so it is not necessary to know what time it is in our frame of reference. There is therefore no need for nonlinear corrections to the time shown by our clock.

The location of the particle is already a linear function of the time at the source, so it is easier to use the other clock as the time standard. We do not need to know the time in our frame of reference to compute the retarded potentials, so it is then no longer necessary to apply a nonlinear correction for the time shown by our clock.

There is no upper limit to the angular velocity of a particle when it is nearby, so there are probably limitations to this model, with the neglect of the acceleration terms being one of them. It is doubtful that large powers of velocity can be carried in these calculations without additional considerations. There may be additional considerations for the v^3 terms.

The following calculations neglect the acceleration terms. They will be considered in a later version of this paper, but velocity terms are of lower order.

The value of R_0 in our frame of reference has no meaning for the other observer.

Taking out the false acceleration term has the effect of applying a relativistic correction to the curvature terms that already exist in the LW solutions.

The propagation delay causes a false acceleration term to appear in the light cone solution when there is a transverse velocity component. This difficulty does not occur when the motion is radial.

The Newtonian parameters are obtained by differentiating with respect to the time at the tip of the radius vector. The perceived quantities are obtained by differentiating with respect to the time at the tail of the vector.

The particle is perceived as moving along a straight line, but it does not appear to move at a uniform rate along the line when it is nearby and there is a transverse velocity component. The trajectory seems to be curved in a way that has no meaning in 3-space. Straight lines in 3-space do not have equally spaced tick marks along their lengths. 4-space can be projected into 3-space, but the tick marks are not a part of 3-space geometry. The curvature causes the angular and translational velocities to become coupled when the particle is nearby. The two kinds of velocity are easily distinguishable in global solutions, but it takes a while to determine which is which when the observations are delayed by the light time across the system. The perceived velocity depends on both the distance to the particle and the angle of the trajectory. The angular and translational velocities are coupled. It is not possible to quickly determine which is which unless the retarded velocity is known by independent means.

The propagation delay results in a virtual acceleration parallel to the retarded velocity. It is not possible to quickly distinguish between the virtual acceleration and real acceleration unless the retarded velocity is known by independent means. (An accelerometer in free-fall does not register an acceleration, so the meaning of real acceleration is negotiable.)

Translational and angular velocities are easily distinguishable in global solutions, and in any solution when the propagation time across the system is zero. When the observations are delayed, it is not possible to quickly determine which is which unless the retarded velocity is known by independent means.

The Lorentz transform has the same problem, and for the same reason. The midpoint is not at the middle. The particle appears to be accelerated in a direction parallel to transform velocity. For this solution, there is no connection between the transform velocity and the kinematic behavior of the particle. The false acceleration terms need to be taken out if the other observer is to concur with what we already know – that the particle is at rest in our frame of reference.

There is no ambiguity in the reading shown by an accelerometer dial attached to the particle. The dial can be read from any frame of reference. The other observer should read the same dial.

It has been established that the Lorentz transform is not the right transform for inertial particles⁸. There is an

extensive literature on invariant equations []. The equations tend to be abstract and difficult to interpret. It is possible that a satisfactory transform has been discovered but has not been recognized.

The calculations of the Thomas precession[] do not distinguish between the virtual acceleration terms and the acceleration measured by an accelerometer attached to the particle.

The midpoint is at the middle when the motion of the distant observer is radial, but the special case is not of much interest. The solution is otherwise for a fictitious particle. On the other hand, our frame of reference is the only one we can ever measure anything in. The best that can be done is to understand the idiosyncry of our perspective.

Eqs – represent a family of light cone events. The events are not all for the same particle. The midpoint of a time interval at the field point does not map into the midpoint of the corresponding time interval at the particle. The nonlinearity of the transfer function is shown in Eq () and in Fig. 1.

The coupling is a consequence of the non-orthogonality of the time and space coordinates. They are not independent variables in light cone solutions, so the chain rule for differentiation is required. The tensor of each rank is irreducible [], so it is not possible to fully orthogonalize the coordinates with the chain rule, but it can be done in stages. The zeroth rank tensor is a scalar, and the Coulomb solution is the retardation equation in that order. The solutions can be differentiated, but the derivatives are degenerate. The LW equations are for the tensor of the first rank, a vector. The solutions can be differentiated, but the derivatives are degenerate, because the gradient of a vector is a tensor of the second rank. The contravariant tensor of the second rank represents the first derivatives. Its decomposition products are a scalar, a vector, and a quadrupole []. The scalar is the Lorentz condition, ... The scalar is always zero in the solutions of the LW equations. The vector is the E field, According to the LW equations, the magnetic field is a transformed E field, so it does not have an independent role. It is possible that the magnetic field has a more general interpretation.

There is no known need for the quadrupole in 4-potential equations, but it is there unless the Lorentz condition is zero. The analogs of the elongation and shear terms contribute to the quadrupole. They are not mathematically separable [], but they do seem to have distinguishable intuitive meanings, and their meanings would be more clear in the decomposition products of the tensor of the third rank, which are a scalar, three vectors, two quadrupoles, and an octopole. As will be developed later, the scalar is $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E}$. The scalar is always zero in the solutions of the LW equations. There are too many zeros in those solutions.

Since the time and space coordinates are not independent variables in light cone solutions, the chain rule for differentiation is required. The location of a particle at

time dt_f is

$$\mathbf{R} = \mathbf{R}_0 + \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}}{\partial t_f} dt_f + \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}}{\partial \mathbf{R}_0} \cdot \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_0}{\partial t_f} dt_f$$

The second term in this equation can be dropped when the velocity is low. $\partial \mathbf{R} / \partial \mathbf{R}_0$ stands for a tensor of the second rank. The equation reduces to the form used for the solutions of the LW equations when the tensor has no significant off-diagonal terms, which is the appropriate form at low velocities. The equations could be applied recursively if the potential solution needs to be differentiated twice, which is frequently the case, but it will be better to proceed one step at a time. The second derivatives of the first step can still be computed after the solution is obtained, but they will be incomplete.

It is likely that a more appealing representation exists. Obtaining more terms in the series should be helpful in inferring its form.

3+1 space exists only in the mind, but it is a convenient space.

The Rvdot in Eq – would be the correct value in an orthogonal coordinate system, and the coordinates are indeed approximately orthogonal at low velocities.

The angular and translational velocities have been decoupled. Whether or not they need decoupling depends on the perspective.

It is for this reason that the solution for the midpoint of the time interval in Eq – cannot be linearly interpolated from the other two solutions. The three solutions are not connected by a linear equation. It is not a linear equation because the solution is not for an inertial particle. The location of an unaccelerated particle is linear in time.

The coordinates are not orthogonal in light cone solutions, but one small step in space, along with one small step in time, is the same as one small step in space-time. The space-time cross term vanishes in the infinitesimal of the first frame of reference. It does not vanish in the second frame of reference. The second frame of reference could be our frame of reference next time, so it also vanishes in the second system when the coordinates are first-known there.

The equations are linear for small steps in our frame of reference. There is a space-time cross term in the second frame of reference. However, the equations are also linear for one small step in space-time in the second frame of reference if the coordinates are first-known in the second frame of reference. The retarded potentials are first-known in the other frame of reference. It is the perspective of the other observer that matters.

The second step works in the same way as the first step, but it is not possible to take the second step in either frame of reference without the chain rule for differentiation.

Now that the coordinates are first-known at time dt , the second infinitesimal step would work the same way as the first step. The second step is not needed when the vx^4 terms are small enough that they can be neglected, but the solutions will contain multipole terms that are not present in the solutions for the first step.

A clock in our frame of reference is not a satisfactory time base for separating the angular and translational velocities of light cone events. On the other hand, our clock is the only one that we have.

In our frame of reference, the radius vector to the particle rotates as the particle moves. From the perspective of the other observer, it rotates at a different rate than we think it does. There are irreconcilable differences. The retarded potentials are first-known in the other frame of reference, so it is the perspective of the other observer that matters for them. That would not be the appropriate perspective for most calculations.

The acceleration terms can be neglected when only the first derivatives are needed. The Maxwell equations are in terms of the second derivatives, so there will be some inconsistencies.

The midpoint of a short time interval is closer to the middle when the interval is short, but it is never exactly at the middle. That can mean that the chain rule for differentiation is needed.

The meaning of these calculations is that the chain rule for differentiation is required when the variables are not independent. The chain rule was not used in the calculations, but there is usually more than one way of obtaining a solution.

t_s has dropped out of the solution. We do not need to know the time in either frame of reference to compute the derivatives of the retarded potentials. They are special in this respect. However, in being the integral of the fields, they are arbitrary to within a constant of integration. This solution is therefore not necessarily unique. We do not know where the particle was yet, but when applying retardation equations to specific configurations, it is necessary to assume that we already know where it was.

Rvdot dot \mathbf{r}_u is 1 when the motion is radial. Substituting $\mathbf{R} \cdot \dot{\mathbf{r}}_u = 1$ into eq –

The equations are the same when the motion is radial. The difference between eqs – and – occurs because the gradient of a vector is a tensor of the second rank.

Equations have to free of first order error before they can be integrated, as the error will otherwise grow without bounds when the equation is integrated. Only first order equations can be reduced to first order in one step, but it is a necessary step in the progression. The order of the four dimensional space is not yet known.

t_{f0} does not drop out of the solution, so there is an error that exists in the first order of the infinitesimal. The error will grow without bounds when the equations are integrated, but it will be small in observations of short duration. t_{f0} can be set to zero in those solutions.

These relationships could be expressed more elegantly with the chain rule for differentiation. The chain rule is always required when the variables are not independent, although it does not necessarily need to appear explicitly in the equations. The essential consideration is that, after extrapolation to a nearby point, a vector is still a vector, but the two vectors are connected by a tensor of the second rank. Similarly, three closely spaced vectors are

connected by a tensor of the third rank \square . The tensor of the third rank is irreducible in the sense that the solutions will contain multipole terms that are not representable with the first derivative.

As is more clear in the form shown in Eqs (), the solution mostly represents the first derivative, even though it does not look like a first derivative. We do not yet know where the particle is, but it is necessary to assume that we already know where it is when applying retarded equations to specific configurations.

While the transfer function from the time at the source to the time at the field point is not linear, any short section of it is approximately linear. Indeed, even quite a long path is linear enough for the LW equations, and there is nothing wrong with that when the solutions are accurate enough. A shorter section is not perfectly linear, and the problem becomes harder when the particle is closer. No matter how short the path is, the midpoint is not perfectly at middle. There is no known way of reducing the four dimensional space to first order, although it can be orthogonalized in stages.

While the mapping is not linear, a short interval at the source maps into a short interval at the field point, and the mapping is approximately linear for short sections. We do not need to know the time in either frame of reference to compute the derivatives of the retarded potentials. But because we do not yet know the time shown by either clock, the equations of the retarded potentials are inept in many ways. They are just one perspective of a much larger problem.

The light cone equation has to be solved twice so that both the function and its first derivatives will be defined.

dru dot ru_0 is *plusminus*1 for radial motion. dru drops out altogether in that case.

The retarded potentials exist only for the purpose of being differentiated, so the terms multiplied by tf_0 are in the same order as the solution for the fields. It is assumed in the following calculations that the error introduced by setting them to zero is small. They are set to zero, but it is indicated that the solution for the second derivatives is needed.

The light cone equation must now be solved a second time so that both the function and its derivatives will be defined. The retarded potentials exist only for the purpose of being differentiated, so the derivatives are more important than the function.

After differentiation to obtain the fields, the tf_0 terms in the solution are in the same order as the fields, so they should be carried, but they cannot be carried when applying the equations to specific problems. It is indicated that the second derivatives are needed. Since the LW equations have the same problem, it is likely that the error from setting the tf_0 terms to zero is small.

This should be a linear equation. The quadratic terms make it seem that the particle is accelerated when it is not. In some sense, the quadratic terms are real, but they do not belong in the equations for the retarded potentials.

we have never known where the particle was. We have

always assumed that the particle is either approaching or receding from us. That is not true. The transverse velocity matters, especially in tiny systems.

That is computationally convenient, but it is also a weakness, because there are many calculations where we do need to know what time it is.

The first derivative at a displaced point is normally one of the contributors to the second derivative. But in this case, since the equations must be form invariant, it must not matter when the first derivative is computed, so it is only what it looks like – a first derivative.

The error at the midpoint can be neglected when the v^3 terms of the vector equation are not needed. There is nothing wrong when the LW equations when they are applied within their range of validity.

We are always one step behind in 3+1 space. A calculation that would normally be for the second derivative is only for the first.

The LW equations have the same problem, so there is a precedent for neglecting the residual, even though it does not vanish properly. First order terms do not vanish at all, but they can be small enough to neglect.

Unsurprisingly, the LT has the same problem. That is because the LW equations can be derived with the LT. The basis of the problem is that we cannot tell the difference between angular and translational velocities in observations of short duration if the signal is delayed by the light time across the system. There are two velocities in a problem where there would be only one if the speed of light did not matter.

The basis of this relationship is that the midpoint of time interval in the second frame of reference does not map into the midpoint of the corresponding interval in the first system. That represents a form of curvature that has no meaning in 3-space. The midpoint is closer to the middle in short time intervals, but it is never perfectly at the middle. The discrepancy is small, but of first order, no matter how short the interval is. The behavior is different than in 3-space, where curvature vanishes in the limit. However, the 3-space curvature equation is singular for straight lines.

The infinitesimal transform can halt a particle in a single step, no matter how high the velocity of the particle is. The equations should not work this way. The infinitesimal transform is only valid at low velocities.

There is not necessarily anything wrong with being one step behind, but the considerations are not the same as for the leader. The equations have to look like second derivatives to compute the first derivative. They have to look like third derivatives to compute the second derivative.

To order v_{xx} , this solution reduces to the Lorentz transform when the motion is radial. The midpoint is at the middle of the time interval in both frames of reference for radial motion.

The trajectory seems to be curved in a way that has no meaning in 3-space. The trajectory of an isolated unaccelerated particle is not actually curved. The so-

lution is not for an inertial particle. As has long been known [], the Lorentz transform is not for inertial particles.

The basis of this aberration is that the midpoint of a time interval in the first frame of reference does not map into the midpoint of the corresponding interval in the second frame of reference when there is a transverse velocity component. The aberration is real in some sense, as an observer would not perceive a particle as moving at a uniform velocity when there is a transverse velocity component and the particle is nearby. While it is possible to view the aberration as being real, that is not the perspective of the retarded potentials.

As has been known from the beginning, the Lorentz transform is not for inertial particles [].

In many ways, retardation equations have an inverse meaning to field equations. They do have one thing in common. The solution should be for an inertial particle.

No matter how high the velocity of the particle is, the infinitesimal transform can halt it in a single step. The solution looks like it is exact, but of course it is not.

For observations of short duration, the composite of an angular and translational velocity can be viewed as being the sum of two translational velocities, although we are not yet sure of which is which.

There is no upper bound for angular velocity, so the problem becomes harder when the particle is closer.

The solution reduces to the Lorentz transform when the motion is radial. The midpoint is at the middle in those solutions.

Like the Lorentz transform, this solution holds the quantity $r \cdot r - cx^2 - cy^2$ invariant. There is an extensive literature on invariant coordinate transforms []. It is unlikely an invariant transform exists that was not discovered long ago, although the literature does tend to be abstract and difficult to interpret.

The velocity of the tip of the vector from the other observer to the field point is v_0 and its acceleration is zero. It is from the perspective of an observer at the tail of the vector that the motion of the particle is not perceived as being uniform along the straight-line trajectory. These two perspectives are not distinguishable when there is no propagation delay, but 4-space equations without a propagation delay are not actually in 4-space.

Thus, the Lorentz transform is not for an inertial particle, and for the same reason that the light cone solution is not. The midpoint in one frame of reference does not map into the midpoint of the other frame of reference. It has been known from the beginning that the Lorentz transform is not for an inertial particle [].

It is not sufficient that equations hold the speed of light invariant. They must also not depend on the choice of a coordinate system. Since the transfer function is not linear in time, projecting the time shown by a clock in our frame of reference onto the second frame of reference causes the solutions to become coordinate-dependent if there is a transverse velocity component. The midpoint remains at the middle if the motion is radial.

The curvature vanishes when only the v^1 terms are carried. The infinitesimal Lorentz transform represents the v^1 terms, and it can be applied recursively.

The solution is the LW solution when $t_f=0$. However, the solution depends on what time it is, and we have no way of knowing what time should be used. Retardation equations have to work without knowing the time.

There is an extensive literature on invariant coordinate transforms [], and it is likely that there is a satisfactory transform for obtaining the equations of the retardation potentials, but it is not the Lorentz transform if the solution is to be for inertial particles.

There are no longer any tvx^1 terms in the solution. That would be acceptable if only the first derivatives were needed. The Maxwell equations are in terms of the second derivatives.

The Lorentz transform is not for inertial particles, and for the same reason that the light cone equation is not. The midpoint is not at the middle when there is a transverse velocity component.

We have no way of knowing where on this curve an isolated light cone event is. Retardation equations have to work in the same way at any point on the curve.

The Lorentz transform has the same problem, and for the same reason. The midpoint of a straight line is not at the middle. .. The transfer function is linear for radial motion, but that subset of the solutions is of limited interest.

Due to the nonlinear transfer function from the source to the field point, the equations of the retarded potentials have to be usable without knowing which region of the nonlinear curve the solution is for. The region would be identifiable in global solutions, but the global solution is not yet known. The retarded potentials exist only for the purpose of being differentiated, so it is sufficient that the derivatives be correct for any region of the curve. Conversely, in being the integral of the fields, potential equations are arbitrary to within a constant of integration. The potential solution obtained below is therefore not necessarily unique. The solution obtained does not specify where the particle actually is, whereas an invariant coordinate transform should be able to specify its location, at least in differential form.

It can be inferred from Fig 3 that the second derivative becomes smaller, relative to the first derivative, when the time $t=0$ is further in the future. That makes it possible to predict when the time when the particle will be at its closest approach. There are obviously other considerations for accelerated particles, but the velocity terms come first.

It would be easy to carry more powers of velocity in this calculation, but it might be that the third derivative should not be neglected, so more accurate solutions will not be considered at this time.

This solution is for one space dimension and one time dimension. With this simplification, the trajectory of particle is always coincident with the field point at some point in the future. That is not true when there are two

space dimensions, so the solution for two space dimensions will need further analysis.

Fig .. The geometry of light cone events. This figure represents the light cone events from the perspective of an observer at the particle. The construction is not usable at the field point because time does not progress at a uniform rate at the field point in this construction.

In the construction as shown, $R_{\dot{v}}$ is the same of all of the events, but R is longer at earlier times. The $R_{\dot{v}}/R$ term in Eq – is therefore not an invariant equation. There is an extensive literature on invariant equations [], and it may well be that a satisfactory coordinate transform exists, but it is not the Lorentz transform.

The particle emits a signal at time $t=-r_0/c$. The light ray arrives at the field point at the time $t_f=0$. The particle arrives at the tip of the vector r_0 at the same time that the signal arrives at the field point. When there is only one space coordinate, the particle is coincident with the field point at some point on the trajectory. That is rarely the case when there is more than one space coordinate.

The figure assumes that the location of the particle at time $t=0$ is already known. There is no simple way of knowing where the particle actually is then, but when applying retardation equations to specific configurations it is necessary to assume that the location is already known. However, in being the integral of the fields, potential equations are arbitrary to within a constant of integration. The solution obtained is therefore not necessarily unique, nor is it necessarily true that we know where the particle actually was.

? t_f and t_{f1} have dropped out of the solution, so it does not matter what time it is.

Despite the different angles and lengths of R for the events in the figure, the equation for the retarded potentials has to look the same for all of them. It has to be an invariant equation. The LW equations are invariant, but only at low velocities.

These calculations can be extended to three or more virtual particles.

discussion

At time $(\Delta t)^2$, the real $at^2/2$ terms are in the same order as the v^2 terms, so they should be carried in periodic solutions for small systems. The virtual \dot{a} terms are small but in the same order as the real acceleration terms, so they should be taken out when good accuracy is needed. The Newton series is not an orthogonal series when the speed of light matters. Individual terms of the series, considered in isolation, do not have a meaning.

In many ways, retardation equations have an inverse meaning to field equations. A false term from one perspective can be a neglected term from a different perspective. The perspectives do have one thing in common. The solution should be for an inertial particle.

Since the trajectory is perceived as being curved, it is necessary to approximate it as a series of straight-line segments. The segments are all parallel to each other, but their lengths vary. At low velocities one segment is sufficiently good approximation, and the solution in that

order is the LW solution.

There are quadratic terms in Eq –. No matter how small dt is in our frame of reference, it is not small enough to satisfy the other observer. Dividing dt into two steps is enough to represent the lowest order curvature terms.

It is also not zero when the retarded Newtonian acceleration is not zero. When obtaining solutions for the retarded potentials, we do not need to know which case is which. There are other circumstances where we do need to know the difference. Retardation equations are just one perspective of a much larger problem.

Since the time and space coordinates are not independent variables in light cone solutions, it should be possible to subdivide the infinitesimal with the chain rule for differentiation, as it is capable of converting terms that look like first derivatives into second derivatives. There is always more than one way of working a problem.

The transfer function is linear for radial motion, but the special case is not of much interest.

These calculations are based on the premise that it is not possible to transform to the second frame of reference until the coordinates are known in the first system. There is a possibility that the same relationships can be interpreted as meaning that the Lorentz transform is not the right transform for inertial particles. There is an extensive literature in invariant coordinate transforms []. In any case, it is the transformations amongst the perspectives that matters, not which one is the right one.

The segments are all parallel to each other, but their lengths vary in a way that has no meaning in a pure 3-space.

While the transfer function is linear in time, the linearity is misleading. A radially approaching source will eventually coincide with the field point. Assuming a near miss, the higher doppler shifted frequency of an approaching transmitter instantly switches to the lower but still constant doppler frequency for a receding transmitter. The LW equations are form invariant for either portion of the trajectory, but they are not capable of bridging the discontinuity between the two segments.

There is no discontinuity when the motion is not radial, but then there is a transverse component to the velocity.

The retarded potentials depend on both the velocity and the location of the particle, and two closely spaced points on the trajectory are sufficient to define them. However, the retarded potential exists only for the purpose of being differentiated, and three points on the trajectory are required to represent the first time derivative of the potential solution. It will be computationally convenient if the differentiations can be performed without having to consider the fact that the midpoint of the three points on the trajectory is not at the middle. The differentiations could be performed anyway, but the chain rule for differentiation would be required. Potential solutions that do not require the chain rule for computing the \mathbf{E} and \mathbf{B} fields will be easier to apply.

More than two straight-line segments would be required if the second derivatives are needed. The Maxwell equa-

tions are in terms of the second derivatives, but it is sometimes best to proceed one step at a time.

At low velocities, it is only the radial velocity that is important. The doppler shift depends mostly on \dot{R} .

As shown in Fig –, at high velocities, the difference between a scalar and a vector becomes important. \dot{R} is no longer a good indicator of the doppler frequency. $\dot{\mathbf{R}}$ is now required in the equations. The asymmetry between negative and positive times is due to the propagation delay from the source to the field point. The quantity that matters is where the transmitter was, not where it is. The asymmetry between negative and positive times is responsible for the transverse doppler effect²⁰. The asymmetry is of order v^3 , but the doppler shift is of order v^1 , so the transverse correction is of order v^2 . (The figures are based on exact calculations. The v^3 calculations shown elsewhere are not accurate enough.)

These figures would apply equally well to doppler shifted monochromatic acoustic signals. Acoustic signals are not in 3-space. They are in 4-space.

The LW equations are form invariant for either portion of a radial trajectory, but they do not provide a means of connecting the two portions.

The basis of this inconsistency is that the LW equations are not the right equations for inertial particles unless the motion is radial.

The shift in the midpoint is small when the three points are closely spaced, but it is in the same order as the retarded Newtonian acceleration of the particle.

The time and space coordinates are not independent variables in light cone solutions, and the chain rule for differentiation is generally required when the variable are not independent. The chain rule could be used to apply a correction for the midpoint shift.

When the velocity is low, the scalar \dot{R} is a good indicator of the doppler shift, even when there is a small transverse velocity.

The LW equations are form invariant for either portion of the trajectory. There is a discontinuity between the two segments that no differentiable equation can bridge.

The equations obtained this way represent a projection of 4-space into 3+1 space. While 4-space can be projected into 3+1 space, the reverse projection is incomplete. 3+1 space is not a real space, so the equations are unphysical.

It will be computationally convenient to obtain approximate potential equations that do not require the chain rule for computing the \mathbf{E} and \mathbf{B} fields.

The doppler shift is too small to be easily visible in the figure, but if pulses are transmitted at regular intervals by the source, they will be doppler shifted to a slightly higher frequency when the particle is approaching on the left side of the figure, then shifted to a lower frequency when it is receding on the right side. The LW equations are a good approximation in this regime. They do in fact represent the transverse velocity terms. The transverse terms are responsible for the magnetic field, but they are only accurate to the extent that the rate of change of

a doppler shifted frequency can be represented with the rate of change of three scalar \dot{R} terms in three orthogonal directions, considered separately. In 4-space, the rate of change of a vector is not necessarily representable with vector equations.

While the terms of the series in Rv are mutually orthogonal in the first frame of reference, they are not orthogonal in the frame of reference of the particle. The lack of orthogonality results in an unfamiliar coupling between the orders. The dt interval has to be subdivided into two steps if the potential solutions are to be differentiated once. It would have to be subdivided into three intervals if the second derivative is needed. When working in 3+1 space, we are always one step behind.

In more elaborate problems, where there are both real and virtual acceleration terms, the virtual terms usually mean that we do not yet know where the particle was. This perspective would be appropriate for orbit determination. Orbit determination will be more difficult when the retarded virtual jerk is significant.

There are other problems where the trajectory of the particle is artificially constrained, such as in rotating electrical equipment. When the location of the particle is already known by independent means, the virtual acceleration terms need to be taken out. In more extreme circumstances, the retarded virtual jerk must also be taken out.

The light cone equation can be solved with t_s being the independent variable. If that is done the pulses would be transmitted at regular intervals but received at irregular intervals. The LW equations can be derived either way. The retarded potentials depend on both the velocity and the position of the particle, so their first derivative is the second derivative of position. It should be possible to work the problem either way, but the irregularly spaced pulses at the field point would need consideration in computing the second derivative. In 3+1 space, we are always one step behind. What looks like a first derivative is actually a second derivative.

Being one step behind is not a serious condition, but the methods are not the same as for the leader.

No matter how short the interval is, the midpoint at the field point does not map into the midpoint of the interval at the particle. The midpoint shift is small when the interval is small, but it is in the same order as the retarded Newtonian acceleration.

The retarded potentials are not physical quantities. It is only their derivatives that are of interest. That makes it possible to append a virtual velocity term to the retardation equations, which, after differentiation, takes out the virtual acceleration terms.

An approach better aligned with physical concepts would be to use the chain rule for differentiation to correct for the midpoint shift. The calculations have not been carried through, but it should be possible to work the problem that way.

It is possible to solve the light cone equation with t_s

being the independent variable. The pulses would then be transmitted at regular intervals, but they would be irregularly spaced at the receiver, and the same problem would be present from a different perspective.

This behavior seems contrary to the theorems of Euclidian calculus, but it is not, because the chain rule for differentiation is one of those theorems. The chain rule is required when the variables are not independent, and they are not independent in light cone solutions. The chain rule is capable of converting terms that look like first derivatives into derivatives of any order.

The time shown by a clock at the field point is obviously not a good choice for a time standard when evaluating the kinematic behavior of the particle, but the observer has no other option unless the retarded velocity of the source is known by independent means.

The \hat{a} terms are degenerate with the Newton equations. The \hat{a} terms are not zero in the solutions, but it is not possible to carry them when integrating numerically. There is no known way of reducing the four dimensional space to first order, so it follows that the \hat{a} terms, whether virtual or real, are not degenerate in 4-space.

Since the potentials are the integral of the fields, a more accurate solution can be obtained by integrating before differentiating. The simplest possible form of integration consists of approximating a curve with two straight-line segments. While the midpoint shift is not representable with the first derivative in the first frame of reference, it does influence the integral. That makes it possible to subdivide the infinitesimal. The subdivision is only possible with potential equations, as the subdivisions would otherwise be linearly dependent. The midpoint is always at the middle when the relationships are linearly dependent.

The actual meaning of the infinitesimal is that the relationships are of first order. Infinitesimal quantities can be of substantial magnitude, yet not be capable of subdivision because the relationships are linearly dependent.

The following calculations do not explicitly use the chain rule for differentiation, but recursive applications of the chain rule is the actual mathematical basis for the calculations. The chain rule is capable of converting terms that look like first derivatives into derivatives of any order.

The midpoint shift results in a virtual retarded Newtonian acceleration term that does not represent the behavior of an inertial particle.

The retarded potentials are not physical quantities. They exist only for the purpose of being differentiated, so the potential equations should be compensated for the midpoint shift so that they will differentiate correctly.

In the frame of reference of the field point, the retarded position vector represents three copies of the scalar \hat{R} in three orthogonal directions. The same is true for the advanced position vector in the frame of reference of the particle. However, the retarded and advanced position vectors are not connected by a vector equation.

The retarded potentials are first-known in the frame of reference of the particle. It is the perspective of the other observer that is relevant for their derivation. From the perspective of the other observer, the advanced potentials at our location would exist without our presence.

The differences between the two doppler curves are subtle and not important at low velocities. At low velocities, the connection between the advanced and retarded position vectors can be approximated with vector equations, and the LW equations are a satisfactory approximation in that regime. Indeed, the velocity of conduction electrons in wire is so low that there is no possibility of detecting the difference in those configurations. The behavior of electron beams near the wires is a different problem.

All of the data shown in the figures is based on the exact root of a polynomial. The series calculations shown elsewhere are not accurate enough for the figures.

The midpoint shift introduces a false acceleration term into the solutions for the E and B fields. Four points on the trajectory would be required to compute the second derivatives of the potentials. The Maxwell equations are in terms of second derivatives.

The midpoint shift does not affect the retarded velocity of the particle. After differentiation to obtain the fields, velocity terms become acceleration terms, then the midpoint shift introduces false Newtonian acceleration terms.

The basis of the inconsistency is that the LW equations are not for an inertial particle. They assume that an unaccelerated particle is half way to the destination in half the travel time. For light cone solutions, that is only true for radial motion.

It is for this reason that the solution in Eq cannot be obtained by linearly interpolating the other two solutions. The three solutions are not connected by a linear equation, but the LW equations assume that the connection is linear time.

By dropping the quadratic terms, the time intervals become of first order in both frames of reference.

The LW equations are only exact in 1+1 space. When the transverse velocity is low, 3+1 space can be approximated with the three scalars ..., but there are cross terms in the derivatives that require the chain rule for differentiation when the velocity is high.

It would obviously be necessary to take more steps if more powers of velocity were carried.

The velocity of a particle can be decomposed into a component v_{ru} parallel to the line of sight and a component dv in a different direction.

The solution shows that the time and space coordinates of the doppler equation are difficult to separate.

The solution shows that the perceived acceleration of a particle depends on both its distance and the angle of the trajectory.

The basis of the inconsistency is that the LW equations assume that the particle reaches half way to the destination in half the travel time. Isolated and unaccelerated inertial particles do behave that way, but light

cone solutions do not when there is a transverse velocity component.

Since the trajectory is perceived as being curved, it needs to be represented by a series of straight-line segments. Two segments are better than one segment.

This solution assumes that the location of the particle is already known. That is the appropriate perspective when the trajectory is artificially constrained or otherwise independently obtained, as in the solutions for rotating electrical equipment. It would not be the appropriate perspective for orbital calculations.

As with the Lorentz transform, there are cross terms in the light cone solution for the sum of two velocities. Vectors do not add as vectors. In 1+1 space, the sum of two velocities is still one velocity. The cross terms of 2+1 space are not representable in 1+1 space. There are other cross terms in the solutions.

The solution for a low transverse velocity is shown in Eq -. There is some doppler shift in the figure, but it is barely visible. Even though the LW equations belong in 1+1 space, they are a usable approximation in this regime.

A time interval at the field point maps linearly into the time interval at the particle when the motion is radial. Equivalently, a doppler shifted frequency is constant for radial motion.

None of the solutions are affected by translating the coordinates in either time or space.

The angular velocity and the perceived Newtonian acceleration are coupled in light cone solutions. It is not possible to quickly determine which is which unless the retarded velocity is known by independent means.

There are essential differences for the light cone equation in 2+1 space. There are related differences for the doppler frequency. The doppler shift is constant for radial motion, but it is constantly changing when there is a transverse velocity.

The cross terms between radial and transverse velocities are visible in the 3+1 space derivatives. Light cone solutions in 2+1 space are not representable with two copies of the 1+1 space equations.

Solutions to the light cone equation contain ... cross terms in the first frame of reference. The terms are similar in form and meaning to the Thomas precession []. The solution shows that light cone solutions in 2+1 space are not representable with two copies of the 1+1 space equations. The rotations of the Lorentz group [] represent the 4-space angular relationships in a more general way.

The calculations of the Thomas precession⁷ do not have to be for light cone events, but they can be, in which case transforming the wrong equation to the second frame of reference confounds the problem. The $av \times v$ terms of the Thomas precession exist in the first frame of reference when the speed of light matters. That is as it should be unless our frame of reference is special. It

does seem special, and it actually is special in some ways, because it is the only one we can ever measure anything in. However, the retarded potentials are first-known in the other frame of reference.

At low velocities, the vector sum of the rate of change of the three scalars \dot{R}_x , \dot{R}_y , and \dot{R}_z , considered one at a time, is a good indicator of the rate of change of a doppler shifted signal. The cross terms can be neglected at low velocities. The chain rule for differentiation would be required at higher velocities. The chain rule is not needed when there is only one space coordinate.

Due to the presence of cross terms in the derivatives of the light cone equation, the chain rule for differentiation would be required at higher velocities.

At low velocities, the doppler shift can be accurately computed with the three scalars. The relativistic doppler equation²⁰ is a good approximation in this regime. For the same reason, the LW equations are also a good approximation in this regime.

The midpoint shift does not affect the retarded velocity. However, after differentiating the potential solution to obtain the E and B fields, velocity terms become acceleration terms, and three points on the trajectory are required to represent them. The midpoint shift introduces false acceleration terms into solutions for the retarded fields.

The retarded potentials are not physical quantities. They exist only for the purpose of being differentiated. The solutions should show the retarded Newtonian acceleration to be zero when it is already known to be zero. The false acceleration terms can be canceled by appending virtual acceleration terms of the opposite sign.

The correct interpretation depends on the circumstances. When the conditions are mild the distance in the equation stands for itself, and equations in that order are the LW equations. When the solution is more demanding, the quantity in the solution is $\int \dot{R} dt$. Under still more extreme conditions the solution should be interpreted as $\int (\int \ddot{R} dt) dt$.

The constant of integration has to be determined from physical principles. The retarded Newtonian acceleration should be zero in solutions where it is known to be zero.

When the solution is a double integral, the first constant of integration is not a constant after the second integration.

While angular and translational velocities do not need separate consideration with vector equations in the first frame of reference, the distinction is important for the other observer.

This solution is for the first derivative. The Maxwell equations are in terms of the second derivatives, but it will be best to proceed one step at a time.

One of the considerations is that the first constant of integration in a double integral is not a constant in the solution. There appears to be a connection to the rotations of the Lorentz group Those equations may provide a more reliable basis for the next step.

It is not normally necessary to distinguish between an-

gular and translational velocities in the first frame of reference. Indeed, there is really no point in it when the speed of light does not matter, but the distinction can be important in more general solutions.

It is not necessary to distinguish between angular and translational velocities in 3+1 space. There is only one velocity associated with a particle. But because the two kinds of velocity are coupled in light cone solutions, it is necessary to formulate the problem in such a way that it is possible to determine which is which in order to separate them. The chain rule for differentiation is not necessary when the variables are independent. For short times, angular and translational velocities can be represented as two translational velocities. The pivot point for the angular term cannot be at the field point. One point is not a satisfactory angular reference.

The solution in this form looks like it is exact, and its compactness can be convenient, but it is no more accurate than Eq ().

In the calculations for the Thomas precession in Ref – contain an error. The calculations assumed that velocities add as vectors in the light cone equation. That is not true. There are cross terms in the solution. The error is corrected in the following calculations.

There is a close connection between this solution and the calculations of the Thomas precession []. The Thomas calculations project 3+1 space into 4-space. This calculation projects 4-space into 3+1 space. The equations are essentially the same either way, but the meanings are different.

Fig. 4 shows the same data as Fig. 3 with the same scales but half the velocity. The false acceleration varies as $(v/c)^3$, so it is only significant at very high velocities. On the other hand, since the doppler shift is of order v^1 , it requires a v^2 correction to the doppler shift.

?At very low velocities the false acceleration term is insignificant but at a maximum at the point of closest approach. The maximum moves to progressively earlier times at higher velocities.

Figs. 5 and 6 show the data from other perspectives.

The Newtonian retarded av and $avdot$ terms are in the same order as the calculations of this section. The velocity terms are of lower order, and it will be best to proceed one step at a time.

This equation applies to the solution at the tip of the radius vector \mathbf{R} , as interpreted from delayed observations. An observer at the other end of the vector would see the world differently.

The cross terms between the radial and transverse velocities depend so strongly on the velocity of the particle that they can usually be neglected.

The false acceleration terms are in the same order as the Newtonian $\dot{\mathbf{a}}$ terms, indicating that they could be cancelled by appending false $\dot{\mathbf{a}}$ terms. However, the false terms should not be in the solution in the first place.

There is an extensive literature on invariant coordinate transforms []. It is likely that this solution is obtainable in other ways.

The terms of the Taylor series look the same as those of the Newton series, but the Taylor theorem has a more general meaning.

This solution is in 4-space. The Newton equations are in 3+1 space. 4-space can be projected into 3+1 space, but the reverse projection is incomplete.

Direct calculation shows that the v_{xn} terms should not be carried without also carrying the $avdot$ terms.

The particle is on the light cone, but it is not the same particle as in Eq –.

No matter how small Δt_f is, it is not small enough to cause the midpoint to be at the middle, as there are still terms quadratic in Δt_s in the light cone solution.

A smaller interval could be selected by dropping the quadratic terms, but then the solution would miss terms at time dt_f , because the dt_s interval is not linear in dt_f . Light cone solutions cannot be reduced to first order in the same way that the equations of 3 space are.

Straight lines in 3-space do not have tick marks at regularly spaced intervals, making it impossible to determine when they have been stretched. In 4-space, we know when they have been stretched.

It becomes necessary to subdivide the infinitesimal dt_f interval. The corresponding segments of the trajectory are all parallel if the retarded Newtonian acceleration is zero, but their lengths vary. In effect, it is necessary to integrate before differentiating. The midpoint of the curve represented by several straight-line segments is still not at the middle, but the equations are otherwise of first order, and the first order relationships are recovered after the potential solutions are differentiated.

At low velocities, it is not necessary to subdivide dt_f in order to obtain satisfactory accuracy, and the equations of that order are the LW equations.

To the extent that the curvature of the trajectory can be approximated by two straight-line segments during the dt_f interval, the particle is now on the light cone at time dt_f .

The discontinuity goes away when the motion is not radial, as the particle will always miss the field point when there is a transverse component to the velocity.

The solution is of first order in dt_s , but it contains terms quadratic in Δt_f . From the perspective of the other observer, the equations are not of first order, and there would be no point in subdividing dt_s , as the equations would be linearly dependent. The retarded potentials are first-known in the other frame of reference, so the perspective of the other observer is important.

The equation can be reduced to first order by dropping the terms quadratic in dt_s . But from the perspective of the other observer, the solution would be missing terms, because the quadratic terms belong in the solution, no matter how small dt_s is. The equations can be reduced to first order from both perspectives by integrating over the dt_f interval.

In performing the integration, the curved trajectory can be approximated with just a few straight-line segments.

When the equations are of first order from both perspectives, the midpoint is at the middle of each segment. One segment is sufficient when the velocity is low enough. The equations of that order are the LW equations. No segments at all are needed at the still lower velocities where the Coulomb solution is adequate.

The potentials are the integral of the fields. The integral is already known, so there is no point in differentiating and then integrating again. The considerations would be different for orbital calculations.

In orbital calculations, the derivatives are integrated to obtain the location of the particle. Retardation equations assume that the location is already known, then the derivatives are computed. There are many cases where the location can be independently obtained, such as in the solutions for rotating electrical equipment.

Potential equations are arbitrary to within a constant of integration, so the solution obtained this way is not necessarily unique. It is the nature of retardation equations that the constant of integration depends on where the particle is, relative to the observer, and we are not sure yet of where it is. Alternatively, potential equations can sometimes be gauge transformed. Local physical arguments should not be applied to potential equations, because they do not represent locally measurable relationships. They exist only for the purpose of being differentiated.

An isolated and unaccelerated inertial particle will reach half way to the destination in half of the travel time. The LW equations assume that light cone equations behave the same way. That is not true unless the motion is radial.

The solution represents the value of Rv from the perspective of an observer who cannot tell the difference between angular and translational velocity. The observer would know the difference if the retarded velocity were known by independent means, but that is frequently not the case.

The cross terms causes the Taylor theorem to behave differently in 4-space than it does in 3-space.

The Newton series, ... looks like the terms of a Taylor expansion, but the problem is more fundamental than that. The problem is that the Taylor theorem exists in 3-space. Due to the presence of cross terms, it is necessary to carry more terms in 4-space than would be necessary in 3-space. Vector equations do not have cross terms, so the calculations cannot be performed with vector equations.

This behavior is a fundamental property of the four dimensional space. Perceiving it is an everyday experience. It occurs when the doppler shifted tone of a passing vehicle is constantly changing. The equations for it are not simple.

The midpoint shift is small when the interval is small, but it is in the same order as the retarded Newtonian acceleration. The particle is perceived as being accelerated in the same direction as the retarded velocity.

The midpoint shift does not affect the retarded veloc-

ity. But after the potential solution is differentiated to obtain the E and B fields, velocity terms become acceleration terms. Three points on the trajectory are required to represent acceleration terms. The midpoint shift introduces false acceleration terms into the solutions for the retarded E and B fields.

In being of order $(v/c)^3$, the midpoint shift depends so strongly on velocity that the LW equations remain usable even at moderately high velocities.

That does not mean that the midpoint shift does not belong in the equations. It is rather that its meaning is ambiguous.

Since Eqs (2) can be derived with the Lorentz transform⁹, all of these calculations could be performed equally well with the Lorentz transform. However, the light cone equation should be included in the calculations if the solution is to be for light cone events. (The calculations in Ref.¹¹ contain an oversight in this respect.)

The retarded Newtonian acceleration terms are in the same order as the calculations of this section, so they should be included. In being of lower order, the velocity terms are more important. In the interest of simplicity, the acceleration terms are neglected in this section, but they are included in the calculation of the next section.

For observations of short duration, the signature of a retarded Newtonian that is parallel to the retarded velocity would be the same. The light cone equation does not specify the behavior of inertial particles. The interpretation of the solutions is ambiguous on short time scales.

The first term of the retardation series is the Coulomb solution. It is usable in quasi-static solutions when the magnetic field is weak enough that it can be neglected. The second term is the LW solution. It is usable when the symmetric terms are small enough that they can be neglected. The Lorentz condition, $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A} + 1/c^2 \partial\psi/\partial t$, is a symmetric vector equation, but is always zero in the LW solutions.

This behavior is one of the signatures of a four dimensional space. The same effect occurs when the doppler shifted tone of a passing high speed vehicle is perceived as constantly changing. The v^3 term depends so strongly on velocity that it is usually not noticeable, although it is occasionally obvious, as the acoustic location of a low flying high speed aircraft is not the same as the visual location. Similarly, the minimum of the \ddot{R}_y term in Fig. ... occurs before the closest approach. At low velocities the minimum would occur nearly at the closest approach.

Since we have no way of knowing where we are in space and time, each observer is free to choose a coordinate system that is centered upon themselves. But when there are two observers in the same problem, both observers must use the same coordinate system. One observer evaluating a system at two widely separated times counts as two observers.

The particle is on the light cone at time t_f , but there is no solution for the time $t_f + dt_f$. The calculation assumes that the angular velocity does not matter. The

assumption leads to a contradiction when the particle is nearby.

The difference between two closely spaced vectors is a vector, but the vector is not computable unless a global vector solution is already known.

This result can be interpreted in two ways. It could be taken to mean that the Lorentz transform is not sufficiently general, and more general invariant coordinate transforms are known. With the other interpretation, there is no point in transforming to the other frame of reference until the coordinates are known in the first system.

It is for this reason that Eq () is inconsistent. The LW equations are not for an inertial particle.

The particle seems to be on the light cone at time $t+dt$, however the calculation is only accurate to first order. Only first order equations can be reduced to first order in one step. The second derivative is required for computing the first derivative at a displaced point.

The solution is also invariant when Rv and vv are perpendicular. However, the light cone condition does not provide a first order constraint on the magnitude of R at that point on the trajectory. The transverse location of the particle at time $t_s = -r_0/c$ is not accurately constrained.

When \hat{v} and \hat{r} are perpendicular, the point of zero doppler shift does not occur at the point of closest approach. It occurs slightly earlier. The wavelength stretch is of order dR^2 , but dR is $v_0 t_s$, so it is of order $(vt)^3$.

The transverse doppler term²⁰ has no first order effect on the light cone equation, but it causes the solutions for the LW equations to be for a particle that is not on an inertial trajectory. There will be additional transverse doppler terms when the retarded Newtonian acceleration is parallel to the velocity vector. They will not have a first order effect on the solution, but transverse doppler is not of first order either.

The particle appears to be accelerated. An accelerometer attached to it would not register an acceleration, and the accelerometer dial can be read from any frame of reference. The LW equations are not for an inertial particle.

The first derivative at time $t+dt$ is always different than the first derivative at time t unless the second derivative is zero.

Only first order equations can be reduced to first order in one step. Higher order equations can be reduced to a system of first order equations², but not in one step.

The particle seems to be on the light cone at time $t+dt$, however the equation is only accurate to first order. Only first order equations can be reduced to first order in one step. The second derivative is required for computing the first derivative at time t . The Maxwell equations are in terms of the second derivatives of the potentials.

The retarded potentials exist only for the purpose of being differentiated. It is not sufficient that the particle be on the light cone at time t . It must also be on the

light cone at time $t + dt$, but it is not.

$\hat{R} \cdot \hat{v}$ is ± 1 for radial motion and the inconsistency vanishes. It also vanishes when \hat{R} and \hat{v} are perpendicular, or when the v^3 terms are dropped. At low velocities, the particle is on the light cone for any angle.

The solution in Eq could be obtained for the time t_f , then the substitution $t_f = t_f + dt$ made, and the particle would seem to be on the light cone at time $t_f + dt$. To first order, it would in fact be on the light cone, but only first order equations can be reduced to first order in one step. For more general equations, computing the first derivative at a displaced point requires the second derivative. The second derivative has to be free of second order error. The first order of the infinitesimal is free of error, yet differential equations of all orders exist.

The solution becomes invariant if the t_f^2 terms are dropped, suggesting that an invariant solution could be obtained by integration. The solution would require a constant of integration.

Coordinates do not have an absolute significance. It is only coordinate differences that are relevant in either frame of reference. The origin of the coordinate system in our frame of reference has no special significance for an observer in the other system, and conversely.

The perceived acceleration of the particle depends on both its distance and the angle of the trajectory. The angular and translational velocities are coupled and difficult to separate unless the retarded velocity is known by independent means.

As shown by the dashed line in the top panel of Fig.-, the midpoint shift depends so strongly on velocity that it can be neglected even at moderately high velocities. At low velocities, the magnitude of \ddot{R} is at a maximum at the point of closest approach. The maximum occurs earlier at high velocities.

The retarded velocity at time $t + dt$ should be v , but it is not. The LW equations are not for an inertial particle, which is why Eq - is inconsistent.

There is no mathematical contradiction in this calculation, because only first order equations can be reduced to first order in one step. The equation has to be reduced to first order if it is to be integrated.

The solution seems to be for the wrong particle, and it may be. On the other hand, since we cannot know what is happening at the simultaneous point while it is happening, it is difficult to be sure of which particle is the right one.

Even though dts/dtf contains quadratic terms, choosing a smaller value for dtf does not accomplish anything, because the solution for a smaller value of dtf is linearly dependent. But from the perspective of the other observer, no matter how small dtf is, it is not small enough to reduce the problem to first order.

The third derivative would be required to compute the first derivative at a twice displaced point.

Eq () becomes invariant if the t_f^2 terms are dropped.

The $-r_0/c$ term can still be arbitrarily large, but the particle will only be on the light cone for a short time.

The midpoint shift only occurs when the clock at the field point is used as the time standard. In Fig. ..., the light cone equation was solved with t_s as the independent variable. From the perspective of the other observer, the midpoint shift occurs at the field point.

Equations of physical significance must not depend on the orientation of the coordinate system. The principle is much older than the theory of relativity.

The acceleration terms should be carried in equations that are quadratic in time, but they will be neglected in these calculations.

The acceleration terms are in the same order as the transverse doppler terms, so they should be carried. Due to the length of the expressions, only the velocity terms are considered here. Similarly, the $\dot{\mathbf{a}}$ terms are in the same order as the v^4 terms, but they can be neglected when the conditions are mild.

The $-r_0/c$ term can still be arbitrarily large, but the particle will only be on the light cone for a short time – just long enough to compute the second derivatives.

The light cone equation does not provide a first order constraint on the transverse location of the particle.

The equation represents the transverse doppler effect. When \dots is zero, the point on the trajectory for which the doppler shift is zero does not occur at the particle's closest approach. It occurs slightly sooner.

Differentiating Eq – with respect to t_f

This solution is wrong. The transverse doppler when \dots is zero is half of that value.

From the perspective of the other observer, this is the right equation for the transverse doppler. Sometimes we need to see ourselves as others see us. It is too easy to write the equations as though we were at the center of the universe, while denying that we are doing what we are doing.

From the perspective of the other observer, this is the equation for the transverse doppler. It is probably our equation too.

The time and space coordinates are not independent variables in light cone solutions, making the chain rule for differentiation necessary. The equations do not work in the same way as they do for one independent variable.

This relationship indicates that the chain rule for differentiation is required.

$$dR = \text{partial } r_v / dt \, dt + (dr_v \cdot \text{del}) \, r_v \, dr_v$$

$\text{del } r_v$ is a tensor of the second rank. r_v is the Newtonian location of the particle. R_v is the perceived location.

There are no relativistic corrections when t_f is 0 and $r_u \cdot v_u$ is also zero. The solution is the same as the solution for a stationary charge at that location.

The solution does contain transverse terms at time dt , but they are lost when dt is set to 0 to obtain the retardation equations. There are no assurances that they can be recovered by differentiating in the first frame of reference.

There is a connection between the doppler shift of a moving monochromatic source and the retarded potentials. Flux is emitted by a charged particle at a constant rate. When the time interval at the field point is shorter than the interval at the source, the flux becomes concentrated into a shorter time, enhancing the field strength. (A source of power would be required for a stationary particle to emit anything. This is just a model, one that needs refinement.)

The retarded potentials are first-known in the frame of reference of the particle, so the time interval in that system is a more plausible choice for computing the flux rate.

dt_f can be the period of a monochromatic signal. There is no doppler shift at the point of closest approach.

Since the speed of light is the same in all frames of reference, it would be easy to conclude that we can always consider events in relation to ourselves. The retarded potentials would exist if we were not here.

When we are at one fixed point, angular relationships in relation to ourselves have no meaning. On the other hand, there is a very old question as to whether an event without an observer has a meaning.

The doppler shift seems to be zero at the point of closest approach.

This is the right equation for transverse doppler.

It may seem that we have always known where the particle is when k is zero, but it is difficult to be sure, because the time at the field point is then $+r_0/c$. The location of the particle at that point on the trajectory could be determined by an assistant near there. The assistant could observe the time that the particle is adjacent to a nearby clock in a field of synchronized clocks. However, the observer at the field point could not know the outcome of the observation until a later time. We cannot know what is happening at the simultaneous point while it is happening.

The solutions contain fluctuating virtual charge. Preliminary indications are that the global sum of the virtual charge is zero.

The light cone equation does not impose a first order constraint on the location of the particle at time $t_f = +r_0/c$. A more accurate solution can be obtained by extrapolating to that point from a region of the trajectory where the constraints are of first order.

k has dropped out of the solution, so it does not matter when the coordinates are first-known.

There is no transverse doppler term if the location of the particle is the same as the one assumed in the derivation of the LW equations. Transverse doppler is of order v^3 , but doppler is of order v^1 , so it represents a $(v/c)^2$ correction.

When integrating numerically in n steps, it is not sufficient that the error vanish in the limit. The term must either vanish as $1/n^2$ or be carried. After integration, terms that vanish as $1/n$ are in the same order as the solution.

dt_f could be the period of a doppler shifted monochro-

matic signal. This is not the right equation for radial doppler.

... There is no transverse doppler at the point of closest approach.

For unaccelerated particles, \dot{R} is zero when \mathbf{R} and \mathbf{v} are perpendicular. The light cone equation does not impose a first order constraint on \dot{R} at that point on the trajectory. It is difficult to be sure of exactly where the particle is then. That does not matter for the retarded potentials, as they are free of first order error. However, they exist only for the purpose of being differentiated twice.

The particle is on the light cone, but it is not the same particle that the LW equations are for.

We cannot know what is happening at the simultaneous point while it is happening. We can find out what happened there, but not until after waiting a while. Determining exactly where the particle was then is not easy, and it cannot be done quickly.

In Eq (), dt_f/dt is 1 at the point of closest approach. There is no transverse doppler.

An assistant near the source could record the time that the particle passes the nearest clock in a field of synchronized clocks, but the assistant is usually not available. A distant observer must infer the number that the assistant would read by extrapolating to that point with several delayed observational data points.

The solutions are the same as those of the relativistic doppler equation.

There are two ways of viewing this solution. In one way, the Lorentz transform is not the right transform for the problem, and other invariant coordinate transforms are known. In the other way, there is no point in transforming to the other frame of reference until the coordinates are known in our frame of reference.

The particle is on the light cone, but it is not the same particle that the LW equations are for. The LW equations are not for an inertial particle.

This solution represents a projection of 4-space into 3+1 space. The location of the particle appears to be where it is thought to be in a conventional Newtonian light cone calculation. This statement represents an interpretation, one that may need further evaluation. The considerations for computing the orbit of a free particle would be different.

A more accurate solution can be obtained by extrapolating to the poorly constrained portion of the trajectory from the solution for other times where the light cone constraint is of first order.

The particle is on the light cone. To first order, it is also on the light cone in Eq (), but this solution is more accurate. There is no transverse doppler term^{17,20} in Eq ().

dt_f can be the period of a doppler shifted monochromatic signal. There is no transverse doppler at the point of closest approach.

The sign of \hat{r} can be inverted if the usage is consistent. There are no relativistic corrections when $t_f = 0$. Translating the coordinates has no effect.

The light cone constraint does not impose a first order constraint on the location of the particle when $t_f = 0$. The calculation assumes that we already know where the particle is, but we actually do not know exactly where it is yet. There are some fairly obvious ways of discovering a good answer, but it would be better to understand why it is the right answer.

There is a particle at the origin of the coordinate system when $t_f = r/c$, and it is on the light cone, but it is difficult to be sure that it is the right particle.

The observer cannot both assume that they already know where the particle is. The retarded potentials are first-known in the other frame of reference. The opinion of the other observer is more relevant.

There can be many particles and many other observers. It is not clear that the location of the particle has an absolute meaning, but its location can be bounded.

In a simultaneous system, the location of the particle is

When extrapolating around a circle, the first infinitesimal step is free of first order error. If the equations are then reparameterized by coordinates first-known after the first step, the second infinitesimal step works in the same way as the first step.

There are necessarily other ways of working the problem. Some of the equations of the Lorentz group^{6,10} are probably relevant to the retardation problem. Retardation equations should not contain time as a parameter, because we do not know what time it is.

In being the integral of the fields, potential solutions are arbitrary to within a constant of integration. The retarded potentials exist only for the purpose of being differentiated, so the constant is probably superfluous, but it could be important from other perspectives. In any case, in being subject to gauge transformations, potential equations are not necessarily unique.

The solution would have been the same as the LW equations if the integration had been performed in one step. There does not appear to be anything wrong with the LW equations when they are of sufficient accuracy.

We have no way of knowing what time it is. Retardation equations have to work in the same way at time $t+dt$ as they do at time t .

When a particle is moving parallel to the vector pointing from one observer to another observer, either observer should be able to solve the light cone equation for the other observer. The solution should not depend on how far apart the two observers are unless a cosmological term is included.

The expansion factor within a mass shell is not locally detectable⁸, but it is responsible for the gravitational redshift for distant observers. The expansion factor will be assumed to be zero in these preliminary calculations.

The acceleration terms will need development, but velocity terms do come first.

This terms results in fluctuating virtual charge. Preliminary indications are that a positive virtual charge in one region is canceled by a negative virtual charge in another region.

This calculation specifies the magnitude of this term. However, in so far as the Proca equations are concerned, T is a free parameter. T will be carried as a free parameter until its magnitude can be better constrained. This behavior suggests that T has an obscure connection to a constant of integration. A constant for the first integration is not a constant after the second integration. In being the integral of the fields, potential equations are arbitrary to within a constant of integration. There can be more than one constant of integration in multiple integrals. Alternatively, potential equations are subject to gauge transformations.

T has no first order effect on the solution when t_f is zero, but it does affect the solution at other times. The calculations in Ref were obtained by integrating the first time derivative the time $t_f = 0$, while this solution is for any time. This solution is more general.

Most solutions are unaffected by choosing a time other than $t_f = 0$, which can be misleading if there are other observers.

Since the relationships of space and time are not independent, it is indicated that the textbook calculations of the Thomas precession are missing terms representing the integration to a different place but at the same time. A tensor of the second rank is required to extrapolate a vector to a nearby point unless a global vector solution is already known. If a global vector solution is already known then there is no point in extrapolating a vector. Vector equations contain an enormous loophole in this respect.

Translating the coordinates has no effect on Δt_f . A choice other than $t_f = 0$ would immediately drop out of the equations, there would be no point in choosing a different time.

The scalar and vector solutions are not symmetrical. The gradient of a vector is a tensor of the second rank. The gradient of a scalar is a vector. The equations should be symmetrical if they do not need to be differentiated, but not otherwise. Furthermore, the second derivative of the scalar equation is a tensor of the second rank. This solution is incomplete. It must be so, for the tensor of each rank is irreducible⁶.

It cannot be a true free parameter, but it is likely that further investigation will be required to accurately determine its value.

There is no point in extrapolating a vector when a global vector solution is already known, which is why there are potential equations. However the retarded potentials do not represent locally measurable relationships, so local physical arguments should not be applied to them. They are just one of many perspectives.

The equations behave as though the clock at the source

were running slow. This equation is similar to the transverse doppler equation.

The other observer could attach an accelerometer to the particle. The other observer's opinion of what the acceleration of the particle is is more reliable than ours – unless the other observer is in free fall.

Probably so, but that should not be assumed until it is shown.

The transverse doppler equation suggests that T is 1. However the doppler equation does not include acceleration terms, so the degrees of freedom of the problem may need further investigation. T cannot be a free parameter, but it will be carried as one until a more convincing argument for its correct value is obtained.

The calculations of the Thomas precession do not include the virtual acceleration term. Invariant coordinate transforms that are more general than the Lorentz transform are known, and they may be relevant for the retardation problem.

The T in the equation is an undetermined coefficient.

The solution is the same as for a charge that is at rest at the same location. There are no transverse doppler terms.

The solution is the same as for a charged particle at rest at the same location. There are no transverse doppler terms²⁰. There are no transverse terms because the doppler equation represents the derivatives of the function, whereas the LW equations represent the function itself. That would be all right if the function did not need to be differentiated. Once the transverse terms are lost, they cannot be recovered by differentiating in the first frame of reference. In being of order v^3 , the transverse terms can be neglected even at moderately high velocities.

The relativistic doppler equation does not include acceleration terms. The equations of the general theory of relativity do⁸.

This solution does not imply that we already know where the particle is at time $t=0$. The retarded potentials exist only for the purpose of being differentiated. When applying retardation equations, it is necessary to assume that the location of the particle is already known. The considerations for computing the orbit of a free particle would be different.

The acceleration terms should be included in the following calculations. They will be neglected in these preliminary results. In being of lower order, the velocity terms do come first.

The following material is presented for those who wish to pursue independent investigations. More complete calculations will be shown here later.

There is always more than one way of working a problem. The ways of transformation amongst the perspectives is the solution.

The solution contains a false acceleration term, with its basis being that the acceleration and velocity are not orthogonal.

The solution for the retarded location of an accelerated particle will need further investigation.

The point of zero doppler shift does not occur at the point of closest approach. The relativistic doppler equation is probably not a reliable guide for inferring the form of the acceleration terms for the retardation equations, and conversely.

For that observer, a particle moving in the x-y plane is timeless at first. At first, the velocity of the charge has no effect on $d\phi/dt$. The solution might as well be for a charge that is at rest at the origin. But for the observers in the x and y directions, $d\phi/dt$ is of first order. In some ways, $d\phi/dt$ behaves more like a vector than a scalar. It is implied that, in some ways, the static vector solution in Ref. ... behaves like a tensor of the second rank.

The observer in the +z direction could be us. We need two assistants in the +x and +y directions if the solution is to be differential with respect to x or y.

It seems that we did not know where the particle was in the first place. If the three observers make three independent calculations for $d\phi/dt$ then they are for three different particles. That could be confusing if the three observers believed that the solutions were all for the same particle.

We need an assistant in the +y direction. But if the particle is moving parallel to the x axis then the assistant has the same dilemma that we have. $d\phi/dt$ is zero, but the Maxwell equations are in terms of the second derivatives. For the observer at +y, if $d\phi/dt$ is zero the $d^2\phi/dt^2$ is also zero.

The solution is timeless at first. But for a third observer in the +x direction, the motion is radial and the equations are first order. Between the three of us, we can know more than any one alone.

However, the coordinates have to be communicated at the speed of light from one observer to the other, which imposes observational restrictions. Observational restrictions and computational restrictions do not have the same meaning.

These relationships can be misleading, because it seems that one observer should be able to figure out precisely where the particle is by simply waiting a while. Direct calculation shows that the equations contain linear dependencies. The linear dependencies are easily misinterpreted as meaning that the particle is where we thought it was. The conclusion is logically circular when there is only one observer.

Both solutions are based on the Lorentz transform, but the doppler equation represents the derivatives, while the LW equations represent the undifferentiated function.

Angular relationships in relation to ourselves have no meaning unless there are two other points. There are two other points when the location of the particle is represented in relation to the tip of the vector to the point of closest approach. $vv \times \hat{R}$ is zero at the point of closest approach.

The particle is also on the light cone for us, but we are no longer alone. It is better that way, because angles in relationship to ourselves have no meaning.

By proceeding in this way, it is possible to work the re-

tardation problem for someone who believes that velocities are relative to them. It turns out that their assumption is correct.

Our equations are different because the particle is usually not on a collision course with us.

With the Newton equations, once the velocity terms become known, the acceleration terms are also known. These are not the Newton equations, but the solution for the velocity terms should be meaningful when the conditions are sufficiently mild.

The motion is radial for the third observer, and there is some point in the history of the particle when it was coincident with the observer. That provides a reference point for determining where the particle is at other times. The third observer knows where the particle is.

Unless the particle is on a collision course, there is always some point on the trajectory when Rv and vv are perpendicular. The particle is then at the point of closest approach. One observer can assume that the location is already known. The calculations will reaffirm the assumption in great detail, but they are for the wrong particle.

The vector points to an observer who knows the radial distance to the particle.

The other two observers could assume that they already know when the particle is at the point of closest approach, and the calculations would reaffirm their assumption in great detail, but they would be for the wrong particle. Only one of the three observers knows accurately when the particle is at that point. Eq - is for the wrong particle unless $ru \cdot vu$ is ± 1 .

There are no terms in the solution that are identifiable with the transverse doppler equation. The solution is the same as it would be for a particle at rest at that location.

The four dimensional space is adept at convincing us that we know more than we do. The behavior is not malicious. It prevents the equations associated with a tensor of a given rank from contradicting themselves.

The other two observers can assume that they know where the particle is, and the calculations will reaffirm their assumptions in exquisite detail. However the solutions are for the wrong particle. The third observer is the only one who knows where the particle is. Eqs () are for the wrong particle unless $vu \cdot ru$ is ± 1 . R is a scalar. From the perspective of three observers, it behaves more like a vector.

There are no transverse doppler terms for the other observer. The retardation equations are simpler for the other observer than they are for us.

We thought we knew where the particle was, but the other observer's calculations are simpler and more reliable than ours.

The retardation equations for the other observer are the LW equations, but they are not our equations.

These are the retardation equations for the other observer. They are the LW equations. The other observer does not have to include the transverse doppler terms, so the equations are simpler than they are for us. These are our

equations.

The particle is on the light cone for us too, but the other observer's calculation is more accurate than ours. At the point of closest approach for us, R is at a quadratic minimum. The light cone equation does not impose a first order constraint on its location. At the point of closest approach for us, the particle is coincident with the other observer. The other observer knows where the particle is.

These are the retardation equations for the other observer. They are the LW equations. They are simpler than our retardation equations, because the other observer does not have to include the transverse doppler terms.

There are no terms that are identifiable with the transverse terms of the relativistic doppler equation²⁰. The scalar solution is the same as for a particle at rest at the same location.

It would not be difficult to carry more powers of velocity in this solution, but it is doubtful that very many powers are meaningful in periodic solutions without including the acceleration terms.

That may be because the calculations in the reference dropped a term, but it is indicated that the Thomas equations are too egocentric. It is not possible to use the first derivative to determine we are orbiting a particle or if the particle is orbiting us. It could be either way, but the acceleration terms are not the same.

The distant observer is us.

According to the relativistic doppler equation²⁰, the doppler shift is not zero at the point of closest approach. There are no terms in Eq – that are identifiable with a transverse doppler term. The scalar solution is the same as for a particle at rest at that location.

In being at a quadratic minimum, the solution for R at time dt does not impose any new constraints. The constraints at time t+dt1+dt2 are adequate for computing the second time derivative.

We are one step behind, so the equations will require more terms than the Newton equations would.

Two points on the trajectory are enough for computing the Newtonian velocity. Three points are required for the retarded velocity. We are always one step behind.

The acceleration terms will be needed in most practical calculations, but the velocity terms do come first.

The dipole terms are the same as those of the LW equations. The LW solutions do not have other multipoles. In being the terms of an orthogonal series, each of the vectors of the Newton series is in and independent direction.

This solution could be represented with the spherical vector harmonics².

The LW equations assume that the particle is at the origin when $t_f=0$. Each observer on the surface of the sphere is free to make the assumption, and there are no contradictions within it, but two widely spaced observers cannot make the same assumption at the same time.

There would be transverse terms in Eq () if the particle is not where the LW equations assume that it is. The light cone equation does not impose a first order constraint on the location of the particle when $\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{v}$ is zero. It is difficult to be sure of exactly where the particle is then. There is a particle at that point in space and time, and it is on the light cone, but it is difficult to be sure that it is the right particle. The right particle could be at the same place at a different time. We can tell the difference, because there are transverse terms in the solution if the LW equations are for the wrong particle.

One of the terms has been multiplied by T to tag the Thomas terms in all solutions. They would otherwise be difficult to recognize. The solutions are solutions to the Proca equations for any value of T. The LW solutions are obtained by setting T to 0. T cannot be a free parameter, but it is possible that these calculations are too limited to constrain its value. It will be carried as an undetermined coefficient until its value can be evaluated.

The acceleration terms will be required for the second infinitesimal step. In periodic solutions, it would not be meaningful to carry very many powers of velocity without also carrying the acceleration terms.

It would be better to subdivide the dt1 interval, but the avdot terms should be carried if that is done. The ax2 terms are in the same order as the avdot terms.

The Newton series is not orthogonal for light cone events. The ax2 terms are in the same order as the avdot terms. The ax3 terms are in the same order as the avddot terms.

There is a connection between the a terms in the solution and the acceleration of the particle, but the connection is nebulous, because Newtonian acceleration is not computable with two points on the trajectory.

The chain rule for differentiation would be required in the following calculations if the time at the field point is taken as being the independent variable.

When integrating velocity in several steps, the acceleration and other terms are in the same order as the solution, so they cannot be neglected in practical problems, but the geometry of the velocity terms is a prerequisite for those calculations.

It may be possible to view the constant as existing in the infinitesimal of 3-space. The question borders on the philosophical, so it will be deferred.

In being of very low order, the solution for an unaccelerated particle will not be of much practical interest, but it is the second term of the series. The first term is the Coulomb solution.

The second infinitesimal step works in the same way as the first step if the coordinates are first-known at time t_{s0} .

The second infinitesimal step works in the same way as the first step if the coordinates are first-known at time t_{f0} . The chain rule for differentiation would otherwise be required for the second step.

The integral represents an infinity of infinitesimal

steps. The second infinitesimal step follows the first step.

The acceleration terms will be required for the second infinitesimal step. In periodic solutions, there is no point in carrying very many velocity terms without the acceleration terms.

If two observers are in free fall, one behind the other, then each will perceive the other as being accelerated. There are relativistic corrections to the problem, but the gradient of Newtonian acceleration is a tensor of the second rank. It is easier to difference two vectors, but the tensor is still there.

The gradient of static Newtonian is a tensor of the second rank. It is easier to obtain the solution for a nearby point by differencing two vectors, but that only works when a global vector solution is already known.

The difference between two closely spaced vectors is itself a vector, but that does not imply that the solution is always obtainable with vector equations.

From the perspective of an observer at the field point, the two points on the trajectory defined by the points rv and $rv+drv$ define an angle. The two points defined by the terms rv and $rv+dv dt$ also define an angle, but the calculation assumes that the time and space coordinates of light cone events are independent variables.

To first order, the acceleration of the particle does not affect its location at time $t+dt$. But computing the coordinates at time $t+dt$ and $rv + drv$ requires two steps unless the coordinates are orthogonal. At time $t+dt$, the light cone coordinates do depend on the acceleration of the particle.

The LW solution might be the right equation for the wrong particle. How would we know? Particles do not have name tags.

On the other hand, if the trajectory of the particle is known by independent means, then we do know which particle the solution is for, and the retardation equations can be used to compute the derivatives.

The particle velocity in this series will eventually exceed c , so there are limitations to its applicability.

The LW solution could be the right equation for the wrong particle.

There will be additional terms in the solution when the retarded Newtonian acceleration is not zero. The solutions shown in the SOM are of too low an order to be of much practical interest, but the velocity terms do come first.

The doppler frequency changes as the particle moves, but the doppler equation has to work in the same way at any time, because we do not know what time it is. It is not sufficient that equations of physical significance be invariant. They must also not depend on the choice for a coordinate system. Coordinate dependencies can exist in either space or time. This solution depends on when the time $t_s=0$ (or $t_f=0$) is chosen to be, so it is not of physical significance.

However, the ts^2 terms can be neglected for observations of short duration, so the solution is a useful approximation in that regime, even though the v^2 terms of the doppler equation are missing when $t_s=0$ is set to

zero. The velocity of conduction electrons in stationary copper wire is so low that the angular relationships do not change significantly for substantial times. Indeed, relativistic corrections are undetectable in those configurations, even at currents high enough to melt the wire. There is nothing wrong with using true vector equations when they provide satisfactory accuracy. The LW equations are a legitimate term of the retardation series. The Coulomb solution is the first term of the series, which is of satisfactory accuracy in quasi-static solutions when the magnetic field is weak enough that it can be neglected.

The series expansion for $1/(1+...)$ has powers of velocity in all orders. The terms have to be carried for reasons of mathematical self consistency, but the additional terms do not improve the accuracy of Eq -.

There will probably be another constant of integration in the solutions if the particle is accelerated, but it should be all right to neglect the acceleration terms in observations of short duration.

The particle velocity in this series expansion will eventually exceed c , so the equation is only valid for a short time. It is usable for a longer time if the particle velocity and acceleration are low.

If observations are made at two different points on the trajectory of a particle then enough derivatives must be known that the trajectory can be extrapolated to the other point in order to insure that both data sets are for the same particle.

We cannot be sure of how long it has been since the moment of creation, so equations of physical significance have to work without knowing what time it is.

That does not matter for the retardation equations, as they are free of first order error. However, they exist only for the purpose of being differentiated twice.

Retardation equations have to work in the same way when applied at different locations and at different times. Unless the cosmos is evolving, it should not be necessary to know what time it is.

All things measurable are relative. It cannot be us that they are relative to, because we do not know where the particle was.

An assistant near the source could record the time that the particle passes the nearest clock in a field of synchronized clocks, but the particle would be elsewhere after the data point is transmitted at the speed of light to the field point. It is easy to assume that we know more than is knowable.

The particle not on the light cone when t_f and t_s are both zero. We cannot see where it is then. We do not know where it is yet.

This result is not a contradiction, because we did not know where the particle was in the first place. An assistant near the source could record the time that the particle passed the nearest clock in a field of synchronized clocks, but that would not allow us to find out where it was any sooner unless superluminal communication is possible.

The location of the particle at time r_0/c depends on

when the observations are made. The light cone constraint is slippery. It is difficult to be sure which particle the solution is for.

The light cone constraint is slippery when $\mathbf{rv} \cdot \mathbf{vv}$ is zero. There would be transverse terms in the solution if the particle is not exactly at the origin at the time $t_f = r_0/c$. Due to the lack of a first order constraint, it is possible for the particle to be at a slightly different location while still being on the light cone.

It is less obvious, but the quasi-static solutions were also lost, and they tend to be more accessible for laboratory investigations.

XXXVII. A COORDINATE DEPENDENCY

The solution is the LW solution at time $t_f = 0$, but not for any other time. It should not be necessary to know what time it is in order to apply retardation equations.

This relationship can be misleading, because the derivation of the LW equations is unaffected by translating the coordinates in time. However, once a coordinate system is selected, it cannot be readjusted as needed.

The $1/r^2$ terms can be neglected at great distances, indicating that the solution is missing angular terms.

Due to the difference between the behavior of approaching and receding particles, retardation equations do not exhibit time reversal symmetry. One of the consequences of the asymmetry is that the time of zero doppler shift occurs slightly before the point of closest approach.

making it possible to compute when the particle is at the point of closest approach. The time of zero doppler shift occurs slightly before the point of closest approach. consequently, the LW solution is the right equation for the wrong particle.

There are no relativistic corrections when $\mathbf{ru} \cdot \mathbf{vu}$ is zero. There are no terms that are identifiable with the transverse doppler effect.

It is just as likely that the particle is moving in the other direction. That solution can be obtained by substituting $-\mathbf{vv}$ for \mathbf{vv} .

The particle is on the light cone, but it is not the same particle that the LW equations are for.

There are no relativistic corrections when $\hat{\mathbf{R}} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{v}}$ is zero. There are no terms in the solution that are identifiable with the transverse doppler effect²⁰.

These solutions will need further development when the \mathbf{a} and $\dot{\mathbf{a}}$ terms are not small enough that they can be neglected. However, the velocity terms do come first.

Photons cannot travel backwards in time. It is possible to obtain retardation solutions using only forward time progression.

The solution is the LW solution when $t_f = 0$, but not for any other time. The solution can be for any time if the coordinates are translated in time, but it is still only

valid for one specific time, meaning that it cannot be differentiated in time.

In general, the gradient of a vector is a tensor of the second rank. It represents both symmetric and antisymmetric terms⁶. The LW solutions do not have any symmetric terms, nor do true vector equations.

The equation is not form invariant for translations in time unless T is 1. Form invariance has about the same meaning as the requirement that equations of physical significance should not contain a coordinate dependency.

In practical applications, the missing $(v/c)^2$ relativistic corrections are so small that they can be neglected even at moderately high velocities.

In the frame of reference of the particle, the velocity is initially zero. Acceleration is the first term of the series in that frame of reference. Velocity is the first term from the perspective of a distant observer.

For local equations, it does not matter whether the sun is orbiting us or we are orbiting the sun. It does matter in global solutions. The speed of light is locally invariant, but light rays travel slower in the gravitational field of a distant object. Potential equations represent a global perspective.

There will be additional terms in the solution for the second infinitesimal step. It follows from the tensor irreducibility theorem⁶ that angular relationships cannot be fully reduced to first order.

We are always free to choose a coordinate system that is centered upon ourselves. However, unless the sun is orbiting us, the coordinate system is not portable.

The solutions for accelerated particles will need further development. However, from the perspective of a distant observer, acceleration is not the first term of the series.

There will be other terms in the solution when the particle is accelerated. The velocity terms are of lower order, so it should be all right to neglect the relativistic corrections for the acceleration terms when the orbital radius is large.

Eqs - and - are not necessarily for the same particle. We cannot be sure which particle is the right particle until a global solution is obtained. More derivatives would constrain the trajectory more accurately and make it easier to identify the right particle.

This solution looks like the LW equations, but it is not, because \mathbf{rv}_0 is not where the particle was.

In Eq -, when $t_f = 0$ the particle is not at the origin. The LW solution appears to be the right equation for the wrong particle.

Retardation equations have to work in the same way when applied in different places and at different times. The solution becomes form-invariant if t_f is set to

Form invariance has about the same meaning as the requirement that equations of physical significance should not depend on the choice for a coordinate system.

There are no assurances that the solution for accelerated particles can be obtained by differentiating this solution in the first frame of reference. But since the ve-

locity terms are of lower order than the acceleration terms, it should be all right to neglect the relativistic corrections for the acceleration terms when the orbital radius is large.

In Eq. (1), the events at the source and field point are simultaneous when $t_f = 0$. In Eq. (2), they are not simultaneous unless T is zero. The solutions of the Lorentz transform generally do not exhibit absolute simultaneity^{2,7}.

We cannot know what is happening at the simultaneous point while it is happening. We can find out what happened there, but not until after waiting a while. There is no obvious reason for assuming that the location of the particle is knowable before working the problem. The LW solution appears to be the right equation for the wrong particle.

In Ref. (3), the first time derivative of the retarded potentials was computed in a manner that directly parallels the derivation of the Thomas precession⁷. The first time derivative was then integrated in time for the dipole and current loop antennas. The method of calculation results in the loss of the static solutions. It is less obvious, but the quasi-static solutions were also lost. To order v/c^3 , the solutions to Eq. (1) are identical to those solutions, but they include the static terms.

The solutions for non-degenerate acceleration terms might nevertheless be more interesting in the laboratory.

The light cone constraint is slippery. There is a small family of particles that is on the light cone at the time $t_f = r_0/c$. It is not yet clear which particle is the right particle.

Using the relativistic doppler equation²⁰ as a guide, a plausible form for the retarded location of the particle is v is the Newtonian velocity, but the measured velocity of the particle cannot exceed c with this equation. In this context, the Newtonian velocity is a mathematical abstraction.

Two of the terms have been multiplied by T to tag the terms that represent the Thomas precession. T should be set to 1 in the final solution. The solution reduces to the LW solution when T is 0. It would not be difficult to carry more powers of velocity in the solution, but not many powers would be meaningful in periodic solutions without including the acceleration terms.

The first infinitesimal step

Curvature in the infinitesimal is not representable in our frame of reference. The retarded potentials are first-known in the other frame of reference. Ours is not the one that matters. The retarded potentials could have originated long ago at a distant place. They would exist if we were not even here.

But also, the source for the future retarded potentials for distant observer could be a charge that is at rest in our frame of reference. The advanced potentials would be needed for those solutions.

In representing dt/dt_f , the doppler equation is in differential form. The retarded potentials represent an integral. Even though both equations are obtained from the Lorentz transform, it is conceivable that the poten-

tial solution would have to be differentiated in a suitable manner and then be integrated to obtain a commensurate solution. A constant of integration could affect the potential solution at the point on the trajectory where $ru \cdot vu$ is zero, even though the constant has no role in the differential solution.

Integration in the infinitesimal degenerates to multiplication, which is basis of the Newton equation $dv = av dt$. From the perspective of the other observer, dt_f is not an infinitesimal quantity. The additional velocity of an accelerated particle acquired at the time $dt_f/2$ contributes to the light cone solution at the time dt_f . The equation is not Newtonian. The solution would have to be obtained by integration.

As discussed in §2, angular velocity and acceleration are not instantly separable with delayed observational data.

Repeating the calculation with more steps shows that two steps are sufficient to reduce velocity to first order unless the v^4 terms are carried. The first infinitesimal step is much smaller than it seems to be in our frame of reference. But then, our frame of reference is not really special or different. It only seems that way.

The av terms integrate to acceleration terms, which integrate to velocity terms, but it should be all right to neglect the av terms when the orbital radius is large.

dt_f has not dropped out, showing that the LW equations do not work in the same way at time $t+dt$ as they do at time t . We cannot tell the difference between the two times.

The LW equations do not look the same at time $t+dt$ as they do at time t . They are not form invariant for translations in time. Form invariance has about the same meaning as the requirement that the equations should not contain a coordinate dependency.

The gradient of a vector is a tensor of the second rank, which represents both symmetric and antisymmetric terms. The LW solutions do not have any symmetric terms. Retardation equations that are form invariant just long enough to compute the first derivative would be useful.

There will be additional terms in the solution if the acceleration terms are carried. However, the velocity terms do come first.

The Proca equations would allow other values for T if more refined calculations show that it is not 1.

The Proca equations reduce to the Maxwell equations when T is 0. The additional v^3 terms of the Proca equations are so small in relation to the first order terms that they can be neglected even at moderately high velocities. The LW equations appear to be the correctly determined retardation equations for the tensor of the first rank, a vector. There are no symmetric terms in true vector equations. The Lorentz condition is nevertheless a symmetric vector equation.

Since the gradient of a vector is a tensor of the sec-

ond rank, it is not mathematically possible to differentiate vector equations unless the symmetric terms are small enough that they can be neglected.

As discussed in §- and -, we cannot tell whether the tagged terms in this solution are for an accelerated particle or for a constant velocity particle with a transverse velocity component until a global solution is obtained. It is a conventional interpretation that potential equations exist only for the purpose of computational convenience. They do not represent locally measurable physical quantities.

The solution reduces to the LW solution when av and vv are parallel or antiparallel. The solution represents the integral of the Thomas precession in potential form. The solution will be much more elaborate if the \dot{a} terms are carried. The a^2 terms are in the same order as the \dot{a} terms.

From the perspective of the other observer, ΔR_V is an infinitesimal quantity.

The mathematical meaning of the infinitesimal is that the equations are linearly dependent if it is subdivided. Δt_f behaves like an infinitesimal quantity in our frame of reference, so it can be written as dt . Eqs - become

We are always one step behind, so the av terms of the solution will need further development. Beyond that, the ax^2 terms are usually in the same order as the $avdt$ terms when the equations are not Newtonian.

ts_1 has dropped out, indicating that the solution is valid for any value of ts_1 , including the time $ts_1=0$.

We have no way of knowing what time it is. The equations have to work in the same way for a range of times if they are to be differentiated in time.

Acceleration has dropped out of the solution, but that does not necessarily mean that the particle is not accelerated. Three points on the trajectory are required to determine if it is accelerated. The solution is for two points. The equation is ambiguous until a global solution is obtained.

The equation could be extended to three points, but we would still be one step behind.

***** *****

Due to the nonlinearity of the light cone equation, the solution for the sum of two velocities is generally not in the same direction as the vector sum of the velocities. The additional velocity that an accelerated particle acquires at the time dt counts as a second velocity. Since the $av_0 dt$ and vv_0 terms do not add as vectors, the light cone solution cannot be obtained by the methods of vector analysis.

The Lorentz transform has the same characteristic, regardless of whether or not the events are on the light cone. The more general solutions are usually better suited to kinematic calculations.

The calculations of the Thomas precession assume that the trajectory is Newtonian at time ts_1+ts_2 . It is not. The velocity is initially zero in the frame of reference of the particle. The velocity at time dt is $av dt$, and there

are no relativistic corrections that are first order in v . There are corrections at time dt_1+dt_2 . They are small, but they accumulate as the integration proceeds.

The acceleration and velocity terms can be orthogonalized by solving the light cone separately for each of them. The equations still contain quadratic terms, but truncated polynomials are nevertheless linear equations.

The acceleration terms have dropped out, but they will reappear after the solution is differentiated to obtain the fields.

In being the terms of a Taylor series, the terms of the Newton series are mutually orthogonal. rv is a vector, $av dt$ is a vector, and $1/2 jv dt^2$ is still a vector. The cross terms in light cone solutions cause the orthogonality to be lost. Since velocities do not add as vectors, the methods of vector analysis cannot be used to obtain light cone solutions. The terms of the Newton series have to be processed sequentially. Each term in the series is a vector, but only when it is considered in isolation.

The lack of orthogonality can be viewed another way. The chain rule for differentiation is required when the variables are not independent, and the time and space coordinates are strongly coupled in light cone solutions. The chain rule is not needed if the terms are orthogonalized first.

The tagged velocity terms can be velocity terms, or they can be integrated acceleration terms. A longer observation would be required to determine which is the case.

Fortunately, ts_0 has dropped out of the solution. It is essential that retardation equations work this way. The equations would not be usable if we had to know what time it is in order to apply them. Other equations may be valid, but they are not retardation equations.

ts_0 has dropped out of the solution. It is no longer necessary to know when $ts_0=0$ was. Retardation equation have to work this way, because we have no way of knowing when the time $ts_0=0$ occurred.

We do not know yet if the vx_1 terms represent velocity or the integral of acceleration.

av has dropped out of the solution. It does matter if the particle is accelerated, but we cannot quickly determine if it is.

Potential solutions do not represent locally measurable relationships. They represent a global perspective. A global perspective cannot be acquired quickly by one observer. If it is obtained by a field of observers then the propagation delay in communicating the data points from one observer to another is part of the problem.

... This is a vector equation, but it is one that is alien to the Newton equations.

According to the multivariate Taylor theorem, the vx_3 vx_1 terms are in the same order as the vx_4 terms, so they have been dropped.

The perspective of field equations is different. The chain rule for differentiation is required when the variables are not independent.

dt has dropped out of the solution. Retardation equations have to work this way, because we have no way of knowing when the time $t=0$ should be.

The LW equations also behave properly in this respect. However, the gradient of a vector is a tensor of the second rank. The LW solutions do not have any symmetric terms. Other than that, there is nothing wrong with them. Vector calculations will always reaffirm that the LW equations are the right equations, and they are.

Both particles are on the light cone, but it is not possible to determine which particle is the right particle with the first derivative.

The quantity ... in this solution is the same as in Eq -, but the solution is not for the same particle. The vector is rotated. A rotation does not affect the magnitude of a vector.

We do not know yet if we are orbiting the particle or if the particle is orbiting us. We would know in a global solution.

The potentials are the integral of the fields. They represent a global perspective. They do not represent locally measurable relationships.

The speed of light is invariant, yet photons travel slower through the gravitational field of a distant galaxy. Local and global perspectives are not interchangeable.

Since velocities do not add as vectors, the methods of vector analysis are not necessarily reliable for light cone calculations.

They are small, but they accumulate when integrating in time. They can be avoided by transforming to a fourth frame of reference with the velocity av dts. The particle is initially at rest at time dt in that system, then another acceleration term can be appended.

In the first frame of reference, the dtf interval is an infinitesimal quantity. An infinitesimal quantity can be subdivided, but it does not accomplish anything, because the equations are linearly dependent.

When a particle is approaching us at high velocity, the elapsed time at the particle in a light cone solution can be arbitrarily greater than the elapsed time at the field point. There is ample time for the acceleration of the particle to influence the first derivative. From the perspective of the other observer, dtf is still free of first order error for velocity terms, but not for acceleration terms.

There is more than one way of working a problem. The chain rule for differentiation is required when the variables are not independent. The time and space coordinates are strongly coupled in light cone solutions.

We cannot determine whether the terms in the solution represent velocity or the integral of acceleration until a global solution is obtained. The terms are distinguishable when the time $t = 0$ is known. With retardation equations, we have no way of knowing when the time $t = 0$ should be.

The terms in this solution can represent either velocity or the integral of acceleration. When the time $t=0$ is known, the difference is distinguishable. Retardation

equations do not contain time, so it is not possible to determine which terms are acceleration terms until a global solution is obtained.

It would be dimensionally possible for retardation equations to contain av or $avdot$ terms in some order. The solutions for accelerated particles will need further investigation.

the other observer would be inappropriate.

The LW equations appear to be the properly determined retardation equations for the tensor of the first rank, a vector. They are usually the only retardation equations needed. However, the tensor of each rank is irreducible and self-adjoint.

The gradient of a vector is a tensor of the second rank, which includes both symmetric and antisymmetric terms. The solutions to the LW equations do not have any symmetric terms.

The light cone equation does not impose a first order constraint on the transverse location of a particle, so it is not very important for us. It is important for a different observer. The other observer could be us next time.

dr has dropped out, indicating that the solution is valid for both us and a nearby observer.

The difference between two nearby vectors is itself a vector. But in general, the two vectors are connected by a tensor of the second rank, which includes both symmetric and antisymmetric terms. The Lorentz condition, ... , is a symmetric vector equation.

There is a radial component for other observers. The light cone equation is not as slippery for them, so they can perform a more accurate calculation than we can. Since we did not care about the precise transverse location of the particle in the first place, it is all right for us to use the more precise value provided by other observers.

dr has dropped out of the solution. If it is the right equation for the other observer, then it is also our equation, because it would remain valid when $dr=0$.

For a short time, the orbit can be approximated by a straight line.

The approximations used in the following calculations restrict the solutions to the exterior region of a long magnetic solenoid or charged sphere. The interior solutions need further investigation. There is a possibility that the LW equations are the right equations for the interior region.

This solution is only valid for a short time.

For a short time, the velocity of the barycenter, relative to ourselves, is

As the solution shows, our velocity does not matter – unless we wait a while and check again.

It is possible to interpret the location of the other observer as being at the barycenter. If so, we cannot tell whether we are orbiting a local barycenter or a distant particle is orbiting its barycenter. We know how to observe the difference between the two cases, so it matters. Including acceleration terms in the calculation should help in resolving the ambiguity.

Since the equation works for all observers except us, it should work for us too.

The opinion of another observer would be helpful in refining the transverse location of the particle.

All observers except one think they know where the particle is.

All of the other observers provide the same solution, so it must be our solution too.

The other observers are all in agreement. Since we were not sure of the transverse location in the first place, it is appropriate to use their calculation.

When the time $t=0$ is known, velocity is the integral of acceleration. It is easy to determine which is which. Retardation equations are timeless. We cannot tell which terms are acceleration terms until a global solution is obtained. Then we will know if the particle is orbiting us, or if we are orbiting the particle. Until then, we are not sure. We know how to observe the difference, so it does matter, but potential equations do not represent locally measurable relationships.

The speed of light is invariant, yet photons travel slower through the gravitational field of a distant galaxy. Local and global perspectives are not interchangeable.

In some sense, the LW equations appear to be the properly determined retardation equations for accelerated charged particles. However, as discussed in §-, four points on a trajectory are required to compute the retarded acceleration.

Since the solution does not depend on where the other observer is, it should work for us too.

We know how to observe the difference, so it does matter, but potential equations do not represent locally measurable relationships. There are limitations to how much they can reveal of a system. Including acceleration terms in the calculation may help in resolving the ambiguity.

The retarded potentials depend on both the radial velocity and angular relationship. There are no angular relationships for one observer and one particle. There are angular relationships for the same particle at two times, but connecting the events requires assumptions. When $ru \cdot vv$ is zero, the light cone equation does not impose a first order constraint on the transverse location of the particle. Applying the light cone equation to the same particle at two closely spaced times therefore does not adequately constrain the angular relationships.

The solution does not contain acceleration terms, so we cannot tell whether we are orbiting the particle or the particle is orbiting us. We would know the difference in a global solution.

The angular relationships are better constrained if they are represented relative to the particle's barycenter rather than relative to us. There is still some slipperiness, especially in the near field solutions.

r_0 is the radius of curvature, which is not necessarily constant throughout the orbit.

This calculation is similar to the calculations of the Thomas precession⁷. The difference is that the angles in the solution are relative to the barycenter, while in

the Thomas solution they are relative to us. However, as shown in Ref -, differentiating the Thomas equations in time, then integrating in time, provides the same solutions as the solutions to these equations. There is evidently nothing wrong with representing angles relative to ourselves, but the solutions are harder to obtain. But since the solutions are the same either way, the precessional terms of these solutions clearly represent the Thomas precession from a different perspective.

Differentiating the Thomas equations twice in time and then integrating twice should provide more accurate solutions, so this inconsistency is not necessarily fundamental. It could also be due to an oversight in the calculations in the reference. In any case, it is the transformations amongst the perspectives that matters, not which perspective is the right one, so the inconsistency needs further investigation. It also needs to be kept in mind that there is no known way of integrating around a circle with one linear equation unless it contains π .

The angle from the barycenter to the location of the particle at times t and $t+dt$ is larger than the angle from the observer to the particle. The θ^2 terms drop out of the solution for a distant observer, but not for the barycenter angle.

The θ^2 terms do affect the time derivatives of the radiative terms if the equations of the Thomas precession⁷ are used in the calculations. There is a possibility that the second time derivative of the Thomas precession, after being integrated twice, will be in better agreement with the dipole solutions obtained here, but the calculations have not been carried through.

There does not appear to be anything wrong with the LW equations when the angles are small enough that the θ^2 terms and their derivatives are not needed, which is always the case for stationary current carrying wires. There might be exceptions for semiconductor fabrication methods.

The magnetic field of a static current loop is of order $r_0 \times 2$, so it is not representable with the solutions of this order. Other terms are representable, and more complete solutions are shown in the SOM.

When integrating around a unit circle in 3-space, the first infinitesimal step is

Eq - contains r_0 and dt rather than x and dx , but its form is similar to a 3-space rotation. 3-space rotations are not representable with linear equations when they are parameterized by x and y . They are linear when θ is the independent variable, which is suggestive of the form for the second infinitesimal step.

The distant observer did not know where the particle was in the first place, so there are no contradictions in that respect.

The solution is interpretable as meaning that this is not the right way to derive the LW equations.

The origin of the coordinate system is at the barycenter, but a different choice would not affect the solution.

The light cone equations do not impose a first order

constraint on the transverse location of a particle where \dot{v} is zero. It is not possible to determine precisely where the particle was. The radius vector could be rotated to an infinitesimally different angle and it would not affect a first order solution.

From the perspective of an observer at the center of a small orbit, the angle to two points on the trajectory is larger than the angle to the same two points from the perspective of a distant observer. The θ^2 terms are important, while they drop out of the solution for a distant observer. That would not matter if the θ^2 terms were not radiative, but they are.

There is still some slipperiness in low order constraining relationships for an observer at the barycenter.

The Thomas precession looks different from the perspective of an observer at the barycenter, but it is the same solution from a different perspective.

The solution reduces to the LW equations if the a^2 and j_0 terms are not carried. They appear to be the correctly determined retarded equations for accelerated particles, except that the distant observer is always one step behind.

But since dtf is not an independent variable from the perspective of the observer at the barycenter, the quadratic terms can also be captured by subdividing it and then integrating over the interval. From the perspective of the other observer, dtf behaves like a macroscopic quantity in light cone solutions, no matter how small it is.

While the observer at the barycenter is in a preferred location, it should not be necessary to know where the barycenter is to apply retarded equations.

There are mathematical similarities between 3-space rotations and light cone solutions, so this constant might also exist in 3-space. The constant may be known, but it is difficult to reliably identify it with this method of calculation. There is also the possibility that 4-space constants do not correspond exactly to 3-space constants.

An infinitesimal rotation of the radius vector maps into a shorter section of the trajectory for an observer at the barycenter, so the other observer knows more accurately where the particle was, although there is still some slipperiness in the equations.

The actual location of the particle is not computable this way. In applying retarded equations, the location of the particle is assumed to be already known, then the derivatives are computed. On the other hand, the derivatives are integrated to obtain the trajectory of a particle. The perspectives are very different.

After differentiating the solutions to obtain the fields, they are for jerked particles. The LW equations are for accelerated particles. There does not appear to be anything wrong with them when the \dot{a} terms can be neglected, which is usually the case.

The location of the barycenter frequently needs to be known in order to formulate the retarded problem, but

the retarded potentials themselves should not depend on anything except the location of the particle and its derivatives.

This calculation reduces to the LW equations if the \dot{v} terms are assumed to be zero. The LW equations are the retarded equations for an accelerated particle. There does not appear to be anything wrong with them when the \dot{v} terms are small enough that they can be neglected.

Perhaps surprisingly, the first rotation is included in the LW equations, even though it is not visible in the first frame of reference. In the frame of reference of the particle, it acquires the velocity $d\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{a} dt$ at time dt . There are no relativistic corrections that are first order in velocity. The equations are vector equations. There are relativistic corrections at time $dt_1 + dt_2$ and the symmetric terms become important.

The symmetric terms are not included in the calculations of the Thomas precession until they are differentiated. The \dot{v} terms then become important. The \dot{v} terms are small at first, but they grow faster than lower order terms when integrating in time. The \dot{v} terms serve no purpose in the solutions for free particles when the speed of light does not matter.

While the Thomas equations themselves do not include the symmetric terms of the second infinitesimal step, they do appear in differential form after the equations are differentiated in time. Since the 4-potential transforms in the same way as the coordinates, the same equations apply to the retarded potentials.

That does not affect the location of an accelerated particle at time $t + dt$, but two points on the trajectory are required for computing both the location and velocity at time $t + dt$. The \dot{v} terms have to be carried for computing the location of the third point, which has the effect of rotating the velocity vector at time $t + dt$. The rotation drops out of the solution if the observer at the barycenter is not included in the problem.

The curvature is not visible for the distant observer until the solution is differentiated. However, the curvature is visible to the distant observer if the location of the particle at time Δt^2 is computed. Curvature is not representable with two points on the trajectory, even when the particle is accelerated.

The observer at the barycenter can therefore subdivide the dtf interval, making it possible to obtain a more accurate estimate of where the particle was, although there is still some slipperiness in the equations.

With these selections, the radius vector $\mathbf{r}_1 = \mathbf{r}_v + \mathbf{r}_0$ extends directly from the distant observer to the particle, which is on the light cone. The particle appears to be approaching the distant observer at the point of closest approach, which is a contradiction. From the perspective of a second observer closer to the particle, that is as it should be, because the more distant observer perceives the particle earlier in its history, when $\mathbf{r}_1 \cdot \dot{\mathbf{v}}$ was not zero and there was a radial velocity component. Due to the slipperiness of the light cone equation, the distant

observer's calculations are for the wrong particle.

Two closely spaced events are required to represent the period of a doppler shifted monochromatic signal for one observer, which is the time aspect of the problem. The solution for two observers and one event is the space aspect of the same problem. The time and space aspects are connected by the light cone equation.

When the doppler shift is constant, the coordinates of one event, relative to the observer, are sufficient to define the doppler shift. Other points on the trajectory are linearly dependent. Two nearby events are required when the motion is not radial. When the transverse velocity is low, the solution for one event, applied independently at various points on the trajectory, is usually close enough, but the solutions are not all for the same particle.

There are additional considerations for orbiting particles or orbiting observers.

An isolated and unaccelerated inertial particle would be half way to the destination in half of the travel time. Light cone solutions for one observer and one particle are for ghost particles unless other constraints are applied.

The distant observer should be able to obtain the solution without knowing the value of r_0 .

The light cone solution is superficially valid forever. As a starting point, a solution that is valid just long enough to compute the first derivative would be useful.

dtf has dropped out of the solution, indicating that the solution is valid just long enough to compute the first derivative. The solutions can be differentiated more than once, however the derivatives will be missing terms unless more events are considered in deriving the equations. r_0 has also dropped out, showing that it does not matter where the other observer is if r_0 is small.

Light cone solutions are for ghost particles until the transverse terms are better constrained. The acceleration terms in the equations are important, but the velocity terms do come first.

This degree of freedom is less visible in Cartesian coordinates unless one of the coordinates is parallel to the retarded trajectory. If the solution is for the wrong particle, rotating the coordinate system only distributes the error amongst the three coordinates.

It may seem that we have always known where the particle is at the simultaneous point. When the speed of light matters, we cannot know what is happening there while it is happening. It is necessary to observe the trajectory for a while then extrapolate to the simultaneous point. The inverse calculation assumes that the solution is known before working the problem.

The rotation does not corrupt the distant observer's calculations. The distant observer did not know where the particle was in the first place. Actually, the second observer does not know either, but the second observer is closer to the problem.

The distant observer can know the true transverse velocity of the particle, but not quickly with the light cone equation. The light cone equation is too slippery for calculations that are both accurate and of short duration.

For observations of short duration, the distant observer should rely on the more accurate calculations of an observer closer to the particle. The second observer does not know exactly where the particle was either, but the estimate is better.

While the radius vector should be rotated, and there would be some magnitude change in the rotation, it can be seen in Eq – below that the rotation would have no first order effect on the scalar potential in the second frame of reference. The retarded potentials also depend on the velocity of the particle.

k has dropped out of the solution, demonstrating that the location of the particle is not adequately constrained. A distant observer can know where the particle was, but not with light cone calculations for short intervals. It takes a while to determine precisely where the particle was.

The location of the barycenter has dropped out of the solution, but its location does have to be known when applying the equations. The acceleration terms of the solution will need further development.

Light cone solutions are not necessarily for inertial particles.

The light cone solution of the distant observer is for a small family of particles. The distant observer needs to select a different particle from the family in such a way that the calculations of both observers are for the same particle.

The light cone solution of the distant observer is for a particle that defies the methods of reason.

There are additional considerations if the particle is in an orbit. It could be orbiting the observer. Probably not, but we would know if it is.

r_0 is zero when there is only one observer in the problem. The radial velocity of the particle is then zero at the point of closest approach to the observer, which is an agreeable conclusion. However, from the perspective of the second observer, the particle is approaching the distant observer at the point of closest approach. That is because the more distant observer perceives the particle earlier in its history when $\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{v}$ was not zero and there was a radial velocity component.

The distant observer could simply ignore the other observer, but there is another problem. The equations have to be for the same particle when applied at different time. The solution for two observers and one event or one observer and two events are not independent. They are different perspectives of the same problem.

It seems that equations that work for two observers and one event should also work for one observer and two events. More than two events would be needed if the equations are to be non-degenerately differentiated more than once.

From the perspective of the distant observer, the magnitude of ts_1 is inconsequential. From the other perspective, it goes to infinity as r_0 goes to zero. The solution for $r_0=0$ is a removable singularity.

The distant observer has a second problem, one that

is harder to see. The equations have to be for the same particle when applied at a different time.

When the speed of light matters, we cannot know what is happening at the simultaneous point while it is happening. One aspect of the problem is to determine precisely where the particle is when it is at a point on its trajectory where we cannot see it. Contradictions will arise if we assume that we know the answer before working the problem.

It is not yet possible to be sure of precisely which particle the solution is for. We would know its identity if it had identifying marks, but small particles do not have them. One more step helps in minimizing the ambiguities of the problem, because it is necessary to observe the trajectory for a longer time to compute another derivative. We will eventually know which particle the equations are for, but not until a global solution is obtained.

The other terms can be neglected when the orbital radius is large, however the av and $av\dot{t}$ terms are in the same order as the velocity terms, so they do need to be carried in the solutions for small orbits.

The advanced potentials in the frame of reference of the particle are the retarded potentials in the frame of reference of the field point. In the second frame of reference, the scalar potential at the field point does not depend on when the field point will be at that point. It only depends on where it will be. The light cone equation is only needed for computing the derivatives, but the retarded potentials exist only for the purpose of being differentiated. They represent the integral of the derivative. The dtf interval can be subdivided for the purpose of computing the derivatives, so it is appropriate to subdivide it for the purpose of computing the integral. The first derivative becomes free of error as the interval becomes small, but that does not imply that the equation has been reduced to first order.

Since our frame of reference is not special or different, the Thomas precession also exists in our frame of reference, although from a different perspective. The $-$ term in the solution is closely related to the Thomas precession.

An equation can be reduced to a system of several first order equations², but not in one step. For example two equations are required to integrate around a circle. It cannot be done with one linear equation. The two linear equations for integrating around a circular Newtonian orbit are . . .

It may seem possible to integrate around a circle with one linear equation if it contains π , but that is only because the 3-space integral was discovered long ago. Obtaining the integral in 4-space is more difficult.

Integration in the infinitesimal degenerates to multiplication, so there are no curvature terms in the infinitesimal, but that does not imply that curvature can be neglected in the double integral of acceleration. The spinning coordinates of the Thomas precession are for a single integral. That is not the right way to integrate around a circle unless the equation contains π .

In 3+1 space, the two linear equations for integrating around a circular orbit are the Newton equations, $rv(n+1)=r(n)+vv(n) dt$ and $vv(n+1)=vv(n) av dt$. The \dot{a} terms are degenerate in 3+1 space.

dtf has dropped out of the solution. If the solution is valid for the time $t+dtf$ then it is also valid for the time $t+0$.

Even though dtf has dropped out, the solution is for one observer and two nearby events. The two events can be reconstructed by extrapolating the vector potential to a nearby point with the equation $Av = A0+d A0/dt dt$, which is sufficient for computing the first derivative. The second derivative will be missing terms unless the solution is for three events.

From a different perspective, the gradient of a vector is a tensor of the second rank, which represents both symmetric and antisymmetric terms. A vector cannot be extrapolated without the chain rule unless the equations contain symmetric terms. The Lorentz condition, $\nabla \cdot A = -\dot{a}$, is a symmetric vector equation but it is always zero in the LW solutions.

The gradient of the Lorentz condition is another vector, however the tensor of the third rank represents the second derivatives⁶. The third vector in the solution for two events is evidently incomplete.

drv and dtf have dropped out. The solution is valid just long enough to compute the first derivative in either space or time.

In the first frame of reference, the time and space coordinates are orthogonal, making the chain rule for differentiation unnecessary. The time and space derivatives can be computed separately and independently. The retarded potentials are first-known in the second frame of reference.

Actually, our frame of reference is neither special nor different, but it is mathematically convenient to work in a projection into 3+1 space.

The solution is for two events. The solution for one event can be obtained by setting dtf to 0 in Eq -. The solution for one event cannot be differentiated in the first frame of reference without applying the chain rule for differentiation. The LW solution is for one event.

XXXVIII. THE INCOMPLETENESS OF THE LW EQUATIONS

Being incomplete and being wrong do not have the same meaning. The equations for one observer and one event are missing terms, but they are not wrong.

The relativistic doppler equation²⁰ seems to be for one event, but in being in differential form, it is actually for two events. It represents the transformation of the time interval dts at the source to the interval dtf at the field point. When the function is a straight line, the derivative is a constant, but the solution is still for two points, allowing the equations to seem simpler than they are. The

actual relationship is that integration in the infinitesimal degenerates to multiplication. There are no curvature terms in the infinitesimal, but that does not imply that curvature can be neglected in the integral. The doppler frequency is approximately constant for a short time, allowing the doppler equation to be a good approximation for a short time. But for long times, the integral of the doppler frequency is for the wrong particle. The integral has to be of the total differential. The chain rule for differentiation is required for computing the total differential unless the variables are independent.

The solution reduces to the LW equations when the \dot{a} terms are small enough that they can be neglected. They appear to be the correctly determined retardation equations for accelerated particles.

The \ddot{a} terms will be needed when integrating for a longer time. They are small at first, but they grow faster than lower order terms. The ax^3 and avx^2 terms are usually in the same order as the \ddot{a} terms.

Since our frame of reference is not special or different, it should not matter which frame of reference is used for the calculations. The equations of the rotations of the Lorentz group are more general than the Lorentz transform, so they may be relevant.

Due to the length of the calculations for jerked particles, they are only shown in the supplemental material. The following calculations are for accelerated particles. The retardation equations of that order are the LW equations. The calculations for a jerked particle proceed in the same way, except that the light cone solution for the time $t+dt_1+dt_2$ is needed.

The zeroth order solution is not radiative, but there are elaborate near field velocity-dependent terms at the particle's closest approach to the field point. The solution shown in the SOM. The same solution is obtainable as a special case with the LW equations.

The LW solution is only valid for an instant if the particle is accelerated. This solution is only valid for a short time, but it is more than an instant.

dtf_0 has dropped out of the solution, so it is not necessary to know when the time $t=0$ was. This behavior is the signature of a retardation equation. They can be applied without knowing what time it is. They are form invariant for translations in time. However, the solution is only form invariant long enough to compute the first derivative. In the light time across the system, \dot{a} terms would integrate to a terms, which would have to be integrated twice again to obtain the location of the particle. The particle would be elsewhere if the \dot{a} terms were significant. Extrapolating with the Taylor theorem is equivalent to integrating.

This solution could be obtained from a different perspective. If the retarded location of the particle is assumed to be already known at time t , then the total differential would be needed when integrating to a different time, even when the different time is $t+dt$. The chain rule for differentiation is required for computing the total differential unless the variables are independent.

dtf is an infinitesimal quantity in the frame of reference of the field point. dtf/dt can be arbitrarily large, so dtf in the same solution is not an infinitesimal quantity if the particle is accelerated. From the perspective of the other observer, it is necessary to integrate over an infinitesimal interval. Integration in the infinitesimal degenerates to multiplication. There are no curvature terms in the infinitesimal, but that does not imply that curvature can be neglected in the double integral of acceleration.

In applying retardation equations, the location of the particle is assumed to be already known, then the derivatives are computed. In orbital calculations, the derivatives are integrated to obtain the location of the particle. The perspectives are very different.

dt has dropped out of the solution. That is the signature of a retardation equation. They are form invariant for translations in time. They work in the same way at time $t+dt$ as they do at time $t+0$. The LW equations have the same characteristic, but they are for one observer and one event. There are two events in the solutions for times t and $t+dt$. There are three events in the solution for the time $t+dt_1+dt_2$, but the solution for three events can be obtained by integrating the solution for two events unless it is missing terms. It is nearly impossible to show that an equation is not missing terms, especially in a cosmological context, but the four points on the trajectory do constrain the slipperiness of the light cone equation better than three points can.

The location of the barycenter has dropped out of the solution. It is nevertheless necessary to know where it is when applying the retardation equations. As shown in the SOM, the solution reduces to the LW solution when the observer is at the barycenter. That location would be valid at the center of a current loop, but not for nearby points, making it impossible to compute the space derivatives.

The angular velocity of the particle depends on the retarded acceleration. Angular velocity and acceleration are uncoupled with the Newton equations.

Vector equations do not have symmetric terms. The second infinitesimal step does not work in the same way as the first step unless the equation is Newtonian.

From the perspective of the other observer, the particle is approaching the more distant observer. The two observers are not performing calculations for the same particle.

An isolated and unaccelerated inertial particle would be half way to the destination in half of the travel time. At least one of the three solutions is for the wrong particle.

Similarly, while the LW equations do not have to be for an accelerated particle, they can be.

The distant observer needs assistance in determining precisely which particle is the right one.

XXXIX. RIGHT EQUATION, WRONG PARTICLE

From the perspective of the distant observer, the radial velocity is zero at the point of closest approach, which is in accord with the methods of reason. However, the magnitude of R is at a quadratic minimum at that point. The distant observer does not know precisely when the particle is at the point of closest approach. The solution is actually for a small family of particles.

Integration in the infinitesimal degenerates to multiplication. When the equations do not behave that way, it means that the integral was not what it was thought to be.

If subdividing the infinitesimal makes any difference at all, it does not mean that there is anything wrong with the theorems of the calculus. It means that the equations were not of first order in the first place.

An equation can be reduced to a system of several first order equations², but not in one step. For example, The nonlinear Newton equation $r = r_0 + v_0 t + 1/2 a v t^2$ can be reduced to the two linear equations Numerically integrating with the two equations is equivalent to evaluating the double integral $\int \int (v dt)$.

Reducing 4-space acceleration to first order is more difficult. The second infinitesimal step does not work in the same way as the first step.

An equation has to be free of first order error in each infinitesimal step before it can be integrated. It is not sufficient that it be free of error in the first step. The spinning coordinates of the Thomas precession [] assume that 4-space acceleration can be reduced to first order with two linear equations. That is not true⁸.

The pivot point for the Thomas rotation is the same as the origin of the coordinate system, which can be anywhere. The difference between a particle orbiting us and us orbiting a particle is important, but the Thomas calculations do not distinguish between the two cases.

... The coordinates in the last frame of reference are the same as the were in the first. The 4-potential transforms in the same way as the coordinates. A potential is not a true potential unless the loop integral is zero.

In Eq -, there are no relativistic corrections when $v \cdot v$ is zero. The scalar solution is the same as for a particle at rest at the same retarded distance. There are no terms that are identifiable with the transverse doppler effect²⁰ Both solutions are based on the Lorentz transform, but in representing dt_s/dt_f , the doppler equation is in differential form, while the potential equation represents an undifferentiated function. It would be necessary to integrate the doppler equation and supply a constant of integration in order to directly compare the two equations, but it does seem that there should be relativistic corrections.

For the observer at the field point, the same equation has to work for any particle. For an observer in the frame of reference of the particle, the same equation has to work for many observers at various locations, in which case the

time at the field point is not an independent variable. From the perspective of the other observer, the chain rule for differentiation is required when a variable is not independent.

The particle can be thought of as moving along a marked course that is at rest in the frame of reference of the field point. A synchronized clock is at rest at each grid intersection. A second observer near the trajectory can report the time shown by the nearest clock when the particle passes by it. From this perspective, an unaccelerated particle should be half way to the destination in half of the travel time if it has inertia. The solution is for a particle on the light cone, but it is not the solution for an inertial particle.

A second observer near the trajectory could report the time that the particle passes by a synchronized clock that is at rest in our frame of reference, but that would not allow us to find out where the particle was any sooner.

The particle would also be half way to the half way to the destination in half of the travel time when it is on a collision course with the observer. The discrepancy occurs when the trajectory is at a 45 degree angle to the line of sight.

From the perspective of an observer co-moving with the particle, the equations for the retarded potentials cannot depend on what time it is. That is because there can be many observers at many locations, and the same equation has to work for all of them.

Since the magnitude of R is the same from both perspectives, the particle is on the light cone from both perspectives, but it is not the same particle that the LW equations are for.

The LW solution appears to be the right equation for the wrong particle.

The solution for the time $t_s = -r_1/c$ is the same as in Eq -. If the angular velocity of the particle did not matter, two points on the trajectory would be sufficient for defining the solution for an unaccelerated particle for all time. The angular velocity does matter.

Retardation equations have to work in the same way when applied in different places and at different times. They have to be form invariant for translations in space and time. That is because we do not know where we are, and we do not know what time it is. Form invariance has about the same meaning as the requirement that equations of physical significance should not depend on the choice of a coordinate system.

This is what the LW equations look like at time $t_s = -r_1/(2c)$.

We are always free to choose a coordinate system that is centered upon ourselves. But once the selection is made, the coordinates cannot be readjusted as time progresses. It is not all right to choose a new coordinate system at time $t_s = -r_1/(2c)$.

Static and quasi-static terms are lost when integrating the time derivative, so the solutions obtained there are necessarily missing terms, but the radiative terms are identical for either method of calculation.

ts has to drop out of the solution if the solution is to be form invariant for translations in time.

The solution for t_{off} is observer-dependent. It does not have a general meaning.

The particle is not half way to the destination in half of the travel time. The solution is for a particle on the light cone, but it is not the solution for an inertial particle.

We cannot know what is happening at the simultaneous point while it is happening. We can find out what happened there, but not until after waiting a while. It is difficult to be sure of precisely when a particle is at its closest approach to the observer with delayed observational data. There would be no uncertainty if the observations were not delayed.

In this solution, the particle is visible forever. It is permanently on the light cone.

It is difficult to be sure of precisely when a particle is at its closest approach to us when the observational data are delayed. An observer co-moving with the particle could report the time that it is coincident with a clock that is at rest in our frame of reference, but that would not allow us to find out where it was any sooner.

This is what the LW equation look like at time $t_s = -r_1/(2c)$. In Eq -, the particle is visible forever. It is permanently on the light cone. The time $t_s = -r_1/(2c)$ is not special. The solution is coordinate-dependent.

The solution is contradictory. dr/dt is vv , yet an unaccelerated particle does not travel at a uniform velocity. The solution is not for an inertial particle. An unaccelerated inertial particle will be half way to the destination in half of the travel time.

The loophole will be explained in a later version of this paper, but anyone adept with the methods of vector analysis can work through the details.

The vector from the observer to the particle is perpendicular to the velocity vector at the particle's closest approach to the observer. But it can be perpendicular at the time $t_s = 0$ and $t_f = +r/c$, or at the time $t_s = -r/c$ and $t_f = 0$, or at any other time. It has to be possible to apply retardation equations without knowing when the time $t_f = 0$ should be, because we do not know what time it is. It is not sufficient that equations of physical significance be invariant. They must also not depend on the choice of a coordinate system.

At the point of closest approach, the velocity vector is perpendicular to the radius vector. A coordinate system can be selected such that one of the coordinates is perpendicular to the velocity. There are then no cross terms between the components of the velocity vector. The equations behave like vector equations, although they are not actually vector equations. A true vector equation is unaffected by a coordinate rotation.

They are for the right particle if t_s is taken as the independent variable, but then the chain rule for differentiation is required for differentiating with respect to t_f . It is only the derivatives of the retarded potentials that are of interest.

The particle is on a collision course with the other ob-

server. The radial velocity of the particle is the only velocity that matters. By taking the time at the particle to be the independent variable in light cone solutions, an observer located elsewhere can compute the effects of a transverse velocity. The LW equations assume that the retarded radial velocity is the only velocity that matters.

This is the transverse doppler effect²⁰. The chain rule for differentiation would be required if t_f is taken as the independent variable in light cone solutions.

Solutions for two observers and one event or one observer and two consecutive events from the same particle are not independent. They are two perspectives of the same problem. Both cases can be accommodated by taking the time at the source as the independent variable, although there is always more than one way of working a problem.

We have no way of knowing when the time $t_f = 0$ should be. Retardation equations have to work in the same way at any time.

There is another condition. The solutions at times $t_f = 0$ and $t_f = +r_0/c$ have to be for the same particle if it is on an inertial trajectory.

A space rotation does not affect the invariant quantity $r \cdot dr - c^2 t^2$. It is difficult to be sure the all of the calculations of this section are in the same coordinate system from all perspectives.

The retarded potentials exist only for the purpose of being differentiated. They do not necessarily have to be form invariant for a particle that is visible forever. It may be sufficient that they are only form invariant for a short time.

We cannot know what is happening at the simultaneous point while it is happening. We can find out what happened there, but not until after waiting for the light time across the system. The LW equations assume that the retarded location of a particle is known before working the problem.

??In spherical solutions, inverting the sign of the radius vector is not the right way to rotate it by 180 degrees. The coordinate system in the solution is not specified, but it could be in a spherical system.

When $\hat{r} \cdot d\hat{v}$ is zero the equation simplifies to. This is not the right equation for the transverse doppler effect. The correct equation is²⁰

When $\theta = 0$, the solution to order v^3 is

t_s and t_f are not independent variables in light cone solutions. The solution depends on which is taken to be the independent variable.

Right equation, wrong particle

From the perspective of the contravariant tensors, which have not been regarded very highly since the success of the Einstein tensor, the particle moves along a marked course that is at rest in our frame of reference. There is a synchronized clock at rest at each grid intersection. Other observers near the trajectory could report the time that the particle passes by each clock, but that

would not allow us to find out where the particle was any sooner. We cannot know what is happening at the simultaneous point while it is happening. We can find out what happened there, but not until after waiting for the light time across the system.

This is not the right equation for the doppler shift either²⁰.

The is not the right equation for the doppler shift. The doppler shift depends on what time it is when there is a transverse velocity, but the doppler equation cannot, because we do not know what time it is.

These calculations are shown in detail in the SOM.

It is easy to see why the contravariant tensors are not regarded very highly. With this method of calculation, they are coordinate-dependent. Coordinate dependencies can exist in either space or time.

The particle is at the simultaneous point when $t_f = t_s$. The LW equations assume that we already know where the particle was when the time at the field point is $t_s + r/c$. There can be a particle at that place and time, but it is difficult to be sure if it is the right particle.

The particle is visible forever. If we could see to infinity, retardation equations for the same particle would have to work in the same way forever.

In 3-space, the tensor of each rank is irreducible, with the highest order multipole increasing with the rank of the tensor⁶. There are other terms in 4-space, but a space rotation is still a space rotation. A space rotation does not affect the invariant quantity $r \cdot \dot{r} - c^2 t^2$.

Tensors were originally developed for the study of the deformation of elastic media, and those calculation still provide an intuitive basis². Those calculations usually neglect terms beyond the quadrupole. The irreducibility theorem shows that there are octupole and hexadecapole terms when the deformations are large. The sum of three dipole solutions can resemble an octupole, but a true octupole cannot be synthesized by any linear combination of dipoles and quadrupoles.

Since the transverse term was zero at the time $t = r_0/c$, it would be the correct value if the solution were obtained for the time $t_f = r_0/(2c)$. However, we have no way of knowing when this time is unless we know when the particle was at its closest approach to us.

The LW equations are invariant. However, they exist only for the purpose of being differentiated. It has to be possible to differentiate retardation equations without knowing what time it is.

When the particle is on a collision course with us,

This is not the right equation for the doppler shift²⁰. The solution is missing a factor of $\gamma = (1 - v^2/c^2)^{-1/2}$. That would not matter if the potential solutions did not need to be differentiated in time. The LW equations are nevertheless known to be very adequate when the relativistic corrections are small, which is always the case for stationary current carrying wires. The LW equations appear to be the correctly determined retardation equations for the tensor of the first rank, a vector.

That does not mean that retardation equations should

include γ . The LW equations are a transformed Coulomb solution, so it was already included in deriving the retardation equations. The same correction should not be applied twice.

The particle is only on the light cone for an instant at the time $t_s = 0$. It emits a signal at the retarded location, then continues on to the simultaneous point. The particle arrives at the simultaneous point at the same time that the signal arrives at the field point.

The LW equations work the same way, but the LW solution is missing relativistic corrections, causing the trajectory to be for the wrong particle. Those calculations assume that the simultaneous point is already known, then the retarded point is computed. With these equations, the retarded location is first-known then the simultaneous point is computed.

But when applying retardation equations, it is the simultaneous point that is first-known, so these equations have to be inverted. The particle is not visible at the simultaneous point, but it is an essential mathematical reference point for mapping the solution into 3+1 space.

The same correction should not be applied twice. When applying retardation equations, the location of the particle at the simultaneous point is assumed to be already known, even though the location is fictitious in a physical sense. A distant observer could know where the particle is then, but we cannot see where it is yet.

Potential equations represent the perspective of a distant observer. They do not represent locally measurable relationships until they are suitably differentiated. The speed of light is invariant, yet photons travel slower through the gravitational field of a distant galaxy. Local and global perspectives are not interchangeable. Neither is right and neither is wrong. They are just different.

γ is traditionally associated with the other frame of reference. It appears to have a role in our frame of reference too. That is as it should be unless our frame of reference is special. However, that does not necessarily mean that retardation equations should explicitly contain γ .

The particle is not visible at the simultaneous point, but for computational purposes, its location can be assumed to be first-known at that point in space and time.

There are relativistic corrections when $\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{v}$ is zero. They are of a different symmetry than the LW terms, so they will result in multipole terms that are not present in LW solutions. That will make it easier to experimentally separate them from the much larger LW multipoles in the solutions for rotating electrical equipment. It is likely that there are quasi-static solutions to the Maxwell equations that are not obtainable with LW equations, even when the radiative terms are not solutions. Apparatus design would be on firmer ground when familiar design equations can be used.

There is no requirement that potential equations be unique. If using the actual location of the particle rather than its computed location provides the right derivatives then it should be acceptable. The interpretation would

not be acceptable if the retarded potentials represented locally measurable relationships, but they do not. They exist only for the purpose of being differentiated. The considerations would be different when integrating the derivatives to obtain an orbit.

In being the integral of the fields, the retarded potentials are arbitrary to within a constant of integration. The constant of integration depends on the history of the particle. There are many particles with different histories that have the same retarded velocity. It is not possible to determine which particle in a family of particles the retarded equations are for until a global solution is obtained. The particle could have been at the origin at a different time but with a small acceleration parallel to the velocity vector and the retarded velocity would be the same.

The reasoning is inverted but the method of solution is computationally convenient. It makes it seem that our frame of reference is the only one that matters, which has a strong intuitive appeal.

The reasoning leading to Eq – is inverted. It is the retarded location that is known. The simultaneous point has to be computed. There are many accelerated particles with different histories that have the same retarded velocity at a given place and time. From this perspective, the simultaneous point is not uniquely defined until a global solution is obtained.

But when applying retardation equations, the simultaneous point has to be assumed to be already known in order to compute the retarded location. The retarded potentials exist only for the purpose of being differentiated. If applying a relativistic correction to Eq – provides the correct derivatives then that should be acceptable.

This is the series expansion for gamma, and it remains that if more powers of velocity are carried. That does not necessarily mean that retarded equations should explicitly contain gamma. If it is independently computable then it was there all along.

When applying retardation equations, the location of the particle is assumed to be already known, then the derivatives are computed. On the other hand, the derivatives are integrated to obtain an orbit. The perspectives are very different.

t_f is the appropriate independent variable in our frame of reference. t_s is the appropriate time from the perspective of the other observer.

Thus, even in the first frame of reference, there are two perspectives on where the particle was.

The radius vector from the field point to the particle rotates as the particle moves. The angular velocity in Eq – does not appear to be the correct value for light cone events.

These relationships can be inverted. If the particle location is first-known at the retarded intersection then the simultaneous point can be computed.

The particle is not visible at the simultaneous point, but the light cone equation can be solved for a particle at that place and time. If the $-r_0/c$ time drops out of

the solution, then the equation does not depend on what time it is.

This procedure may seem unnecessary for unaccelerated particles, but there can be no harm in insuring that the calculations can be performed without knowing the identity of the particle. The considerations would be different if the objective were to compute an orbit by integrating the derivatives. In that case we would have to know the identity of the particle.

This is not the right equation for the doppler shift. There is no transverse doppler term. The actual problem is worse than it seems to be in this solution. The equation for the doppler shift is different at time $t_f=0$. The doppler shift changes with time when there is a transverse velocity, but the doppler equation has to work without knowing when the time $t_f=r/c$ or $t_f=0$ should be, because we do not know what time it is. The relativistic doppler equation does work that way²⁰.

The doppler equation and the LW solution are both based on the Lorentz transform, but the doppler equation is in differential form while the LW solution represents an undifferentiated function. The two equations cannot be directly compared.

The missing terms would not matter if the retarded potentials did not need to be differentiated in time, but they exist only for the purpose of being differentiated. We do not even care what the retarded potentials are, so long as their derivatives are right.

In being the integral of the fields, potential equations are arbitrary to within a constant of integration. It is not necessarily true that the constant of integration needs to be known in order to compute the derivatives. From a different but related perspective, potential equations are subject to gauge transformations. For these reasons, the retarded potentials do not represent physical quantities. Physical arguments should not be applied to them until they are suitably differentiated.

In deriving the LW equations, the simultaneous point is assumed to be known, then the retarded location is computed. The reasoning can be inverted. The retarded location can be assumed to be known, then the simultaneous point computed. The particle is not visible at the simultaneous point, so this perspective is more commensurate with measurable relationships.

There are many accelerated particles with different histories that have the same retarded velocity at a given point in space and time. Unless the equations contain acceleration terms, the retarded potentials are for a family of accelerated particles. The identity of the particle is not known until a global solution is obtained.

The procedure may seem unnecessary for unaccelerated particles, but there can be no harm in insuring that the retarded potentials are computable without knowing the identity of the particle. That is important, because we do not know the identity of the particle unless we know where it is at the simultaneous point, but we cannot see where it is then. A distant observer could know

where it is then, but we do not.

The considerations would be different if the objective were to integrate the derivatives to compute an orbit. Even in that case, it is not always true that we need to know which particle the solution is for. There could be more than one particle in the same orbit. It is usually sufficient to know the shape of the orbit rather than which particle the solution is for. The identity of the particle would be important when integrating from standstill, but that would be a hard way of obtaining the solution.

There is no possibility of computing an orbit if the equations are for the wrong particle. It is better to be unsure of the particle's identity than to assume that more is known than is knowable.

Even though we do not know where the simultaneous point is yet, a connection to the equations of 3+1 space has to be established, because that is the space where the theorems of Euclidian calculus exist. Eq – provides this connection. There are additional considerations for accelerated particles, but the velocity terms do come first.

It is therefore necessary to derive the equations for the retarded potentials without knowing the identity of the particle. Its identity will become known after a global solution is obtained, but not before then.

That has the effect of applying relativistic corrections to the 3+1 space solution. The calculation is capable of being logically circular, so further evaluation will be needed.

The reasoning leading to Eq – is inverted. We can see the particle when it is at the retarded intersection. We cannot see where it is when it is at the simultaneous point. A distant observer near the trajectory could know where it is then, but we cannot.

Since we cannot see when the particle is at the simultaneous point, it is difficult to be sure of the identity of the particle that the equations are for.

If the equations are to represent observable relationships, the coordinates should be taken as first-known at the retarded point, even though we are not yet sure which particle is at that place and time.

The LW equations do not depend on the acceleration of the particle. If this relationship holds true, then there is a family of accelerated particles with different histories that all have the same retarded velocity at a given place and time. In that case it has to be possible to derive the retarded equations without knowing which particle the equations are for.

The simultaneous point is known, but the particle is

The coordinates should be taken as first-known at the retarded point. That poses a problem, because the retarded point is not computable without assuming that the simultaneous point is already known.

But since the calculations leading to the LW equations are known to work well at low velocities, it should be all right to rely on them for obtaining a preliminary estimate of the retarded location, although the algorithm is capable of being logically circular. There are probably other terms at cosmological distances.

The radius vector from the field point to the particle rotates as the particle moves if there is a transverse velocity.

This rotation appears to be closely related to the Thomas precession⁷.

The simultaneous point is not the same as in Eq –. We did not know where it was in the first place, so that should not be a problem.

We tend to favor coordinate systems that are centered upon ourselves. It is only coordinate differences that matter, so that is all right, provided that the coordinate system does not follow us when we are orbiting a particle. These calculations are for a distant and detached observer.

The solution can then be iteratively refined, which amounts to obtaining the solution by the method of successive approximation. There are probably several other ways of obtaining the solution.

If this relationship is true, then it has to be possible to derive the equations for the retarded potentials without knowing the identity of the particle. Its identity will eventually be known, but not until a global solution is obtained. Similarly we will not know where the simultaneous point is until a global solution is obtained. This is a difficult concept to accept, but attempting to know the unknowable leads to endless frustrations.

If this relationship is true, then it has to be possible to derive the retarded equations without knowing the identity of the particle. The identity of the particle will eventually be known, but not until a specific global solution is obtained.

By knowing when the particle is at the simultaneous point, its identity at other times is established. However, the location of the simultaneous point is not observable by us. A distant observer near the trajectory could know where the particle is then, but we cannot.

The radius vector from the field point to the particle rotates as the particle moves. The trajectory cannot be that of an inertial particle if the pivot point is an unobservable mathematical abstraction.

The calculations seem to be firmly anchored in our frame of reference. That is not the reference point used to establish the identity of the particle at two different times in the trajectory. There is no measurable way of insuring that the solutions for two times are for the same particle.

The coordinates should be taken as first-known at the retarded point. There is a penalty for doing so. At first, we have no way of knowing which particle the solution is for, although a small family of particles can be selected by the methods used in computing the retarded location for the LW equations. The advantage is that the location of the particle at time $t_s + dt_s$ becomes relative to its location at time t_s . The initial conditions are uncertain, because we do not know which particle in a small family of particles the solution is for, but the integral thereafter is accurate. It is not necessary to re-introduce the uncertainty at each infinitesimal step, as is done when the location of the simultaneous point is assumed to be

already known at each step in the integraion.

Even at a velocity of 0.1 c , relativistic corrections are only about 0.5 percent. Equations for the wrong particle can work well even at moderately high velocities.

The following calculations are the same as the LW solution if only one infinitesimal step is taken. They appear to be the properly determined retardation equations for the tensor of the first rank, a vector. They are usually the only retardation equations needed.

When the time that a particle is at the simultaneous point becomes known, the identity of the particle becomes known. It can be determined if a light cone event for a different time is for the same particle if it is on an inertial trajectory. However, the simultaneous point is not visible for us. Since we cannot know when a particle is at the simultaneous point, we cannot know precisely which particle a light cone event is for.

The reasoning leading to the derivation of the LW equations is inverted. The particle is visible at the retarded intersection, so the coordinates should be taken as first-known at the retarded intersection. If the location of the simultaneous point is needed, it would ideally be recomputed as needed, although that can be difficult to do.

There is a penalty for taking the retarded location as first-known. We have no way of knowing precisely which particle the solution is for until a global solution is obtained, because we do not yet know precisely when the particle will be at the simultaneous point. The problem is logically circular. The light cone equation provides a good estimate of the relationships for inertial particles, especially at low velocities, but the solution is not precise.

Intuitive understanding is useful but more precise equations are needed.

The problem can be worked backwards by discovering a constant of integration that provides the correct derivatives. It is not necessarily true that the solution obtained this way is unique.

If it is to be possible to apply the retardation equations without knowing what time it is, they have to look the same at time $t+dt$ as they do at time t .

The second infinitesimal step should be taken if the second derivatives are needed.

The gradient of a vector is a tensor of the second rank. The relativistic doppler equation would be no simpler than the retardation equations if it included both time and space derivatives.

The relativistic doppler equation appears to be correctly determined, in which case we can rely on it to select the right particle, even though we cannot see which particle is the right one.

The doppler equation is in differential form. The time at the particle is the integral of the doppler equation, plus a constant of integration. Selecting the right particle is therefore the same as determining the constant of integration. It is the nature of retardation equations that the constant of integration depends on the history of

the particle, as perceived by the observer. The constant of integration is observer-dependent. The retarded potentials would exist if we were not even here. Selecting the right constant of integration customizes the retarded potentials for our use.

Kinematic solutions do not have to be for light cone events, but they can be, in which case the same considerations apply to them. There is no possibility of computing the orbit if the equations are for the wrong particle.

The retarded potentials would exist if we were not even here, but retardation equations are observer dependent. The constant of integration customizes the retarded potentials for a specific observer.

If the particle is known to be on an inertial trajectory, the light cone equation provides a good estimate of the relationships between the retarded and simultaneous points, but the solutions are not exact, because both observers have to make unobservable assumptions in order to obtain a solution.

When the time that a particle is at the simultaneous becomes known, the identity of the particle becomes known. If it is on an inertial trajectory, it can be determined if a light cone event at a different time is for the same particle. But since we cannot see the particle at the simultaneous point, there is some uncertainty in the identity of a particle at a light cone event.

Intuitive perspectives are useful, but more precise equations are needed.

The constant of integration depends on the history of the particle. The perceived history of the particle depends on where the observer is, relative to the particle. Retardation equations are intrinsically observer dependent.

The simultaneous point is not a satisfactory reference point for equations of physical significance. A distant observer near the trajectory can know where the particle is then, but we cannot. The other observer could report the coordinates to us, but that would now allow us to find out where the particle is any sooner.

The space and time derivatives of the retarded potentials generally cannot be considered independently. According to the Maxwell equations, $\nabla \times \mathbf{A}$ has an independent physical meaning, but $\nabla \times \times \mathbf{A}v$ does not. Only certain ways of differentiating the retarded potentials are meaningful, but the light cone equation is not a potential equation.

From the perspective of the other observer, the particle is traveling backwards in time, which is not the solution for an inertial particle.

Since the simultaneous point is a mathematical abstraction, the retarded location can be taken as first-known.

If we did not already know about the retarded potentials, the solution would have to be obtained by integration. It is easier to discover a light cone equation that provides the right doppler shift, but conceptually it amounts to evaluating a constant of integration.

The transformed coordinates are normally relative to the simultaneous point. In this solution they are relative

to the retarded point. The conclusions drawn do not necessarily apply to other problems.

All times in the equations are in the same frame of reference. The retarded velocity dr/dts is vv_0 at all points on the trajectory, yet the particle is not half way to the destination in half of the travel time when there is a transverse velocity. The solution does not consistently represent the trajectory of an inertial particle.

The particle is on the light cone at this time, but it is not the same particle that the LW equations are for.

When there is only one observer, the same equations have to work for a different particle. It is difficult for one observer to distinguish between the solutions for one observer and two particles or two observers and one particle.

Solutions for two consecutive events from the one particle and one observer are not independent of the solution for two observers and one event. They are two perspectives of the same problem. It is difficult for one observer to be sure that all of the events are for the same particle. If they are not, then the solution is not for an inertial particle.

The same equations have to work for a second particle at a different location. The second particle could be the first particle at a different time. This relationship makes it difficult for one observer to distinguish between the solutions for two observers and one event or one observer and two consecutive events from the same particle.

A transverse velocity for one observer can be a radial velocity for a second observer at a different location. The equations for one observer have to work for a second particle at a different location. The second particle could be the first particle at a different time. This relationship makes it difficult for one observer to decide which equation to use. Some assistance from a second observer would make the problem easier.

There is a false curvature term in the solution that needs to be taken out.

This relationship is difficult to interpret, because taking the curvature out of one equation can have the effect of putting into another equation.

Thus, the LW equations actually do predict the existence of a transverse doppler term. The problem with the equations is that they do not specify when the particle is at its closest approach to the observer. What looks like one solution is actually a family of solutions. It is difficult to show that there is wrong with the LW equations, because one member of the family is usually the right member. In some sense, there is not anything wrong with them, but more specific solutions are needed when there are relativistic corrections. The LW equations are nevertheless very adequate when relativistic corrections can be neglected.

The tensor irreducibility theorem⁶ implies that retardation equations are always for a family of solutions, but the practical consequences of the theorem will need further study.

An unaccelerated inertial particle should be half way

to the destination in half of the travel time. The solution is for a ghost particle unless the kx^2 terms are taken out.

The equation is singular at $r_0=0$. That is because the angular velocity of the particle at the point of closest approach goes to infinity as r_0 goes to zero. Exact solutions are not likely to exist.

The observer does not actually care where the simultaneous point is. It is the retarded point that matters.

For vector equations, ts_0 can be taken as zero. To the extent possible with true vector equations, they are free of error. However, the gradient of a vector is a tensor of the second rank, so they are missing terms that are not representable with true vector equations. The first derivative of the LW equations is technically not computable. What looks like one solution is actually a family of solutions. The correct member of the family is usually contained somewhere in the solution, making it difficult to show that there is anything wrong with it. The LW equations are not wrong. They are too slippery. That is not important when relativistic corrections can be neglected which is often the case.

By comparing the space derivatives of the doppler equation to the light cone equation, it should be possible to insure that the solutions for times t and $t + dt$ are for the same particle. When integrating an equation, it is important that the equation be for the right particle. When integrating numerically in n steps, terms must either vanish as $1/n^2$ or be carried. After integration, terms that vanish as $1/n$, no matter how small they are, are in the same order as the solution. It is not sufficient that terms vanish in the limit. They must vanish quadratically.

There are two solutions. One is $ts=0$, which leads to the LW equations. They appear to be the correctly determined retardation equations for the tensor of the first rank, a vector. However, the gradient of a vector is a tensor of the second rank, so they cannot represent the symmetric terms.

There is a particle at that place and time, but it is not the right particle, which would cause the retardation equations to be for the wrong particle.

γ is traditionally associated with the second frame of reference. Unless our frame of reference is special, it should exist in our frame of reference too.

The solution indicates that if retardation equations in 3+1 space are to satisfy the equation $f=1/\lambda$ then the equations sometimes need to include γ . It is possible that there are other interpretations, but one of the considerations is that 3+1 space does not intrinsically restrict velocities to less than c . The limitation has to be projected into 3+1 space. 3+1 space and our frame of reference do not have quite the same meaning.

In an earlier time, 3+1 space was thought to be a real space, but we now know that it is a mathematical abstraction. The space does not intrinsically limit particle velocities to less than c . The limitation has to be projected into it. As Eq - illustrates, neglecting a factor of γ can cause trajectories that look straight in 3+1 space to

look curved in 4-space, meaning that the solutions are not for inertial particles. Despite its limitations, 3+1 space is a convenient space to work in.

According to the Newton equations, the particle arrives at the simultaneous point at the same time the signal arrives at the field point.

Light cone solutions can be obtained by finding the roots of a polynomial or by the method of successive approximation. The preferred method depends on the problem. There are two roots in this solution. Selecting the root for which the time at the particle is less than the time at the field point and expanding in a series in v

The other root is for the advanced potentials, which are required when a charged particle is at rest in our frame of reference and the other observer is moving. There are more than two roots if acceleration and other terms are carried.

According to the Newton equations, the trajectory of the particle is $v v t s = k t f r_0/c$,

When there is a transverse velocity, the k^2 terms show that Newton equations contain false acceleration terms that have to be taken out if the solution is to be for an inertial particle. The particle would be on the light cone if they were not taken out, but it would be the solution for a ghost particle.

The retarded location should be assumed to be first-known, then let the simultaneous point fall as it may. We already know from the relativistic doppler equation where the simultaneous point should be.

The LW equations assume that we already know where the simultaneous point is in our frame of reference. We cannot see where the particle is then, so it is difficult to be sure. However, for the purpose of establishing a connection to 3+1 space, it is necessary to assume that the location of the simultaneous point is already known, because the location of the retard location would not otherwise be computable in 3+1 space. It might be computable in some other space, but not in 3+1 space.

If we assume that the simultaneous point is known then the computed retarded point is wrong, and conversely. One of the points needs a relativistic correction. It could be that the observer in the other frame of reference knows where the simultaneous point is. We can find out if the other observer does, because we already know where it is from the relativistic doppler equation.

The speed of light is the same in all frames of reference, however the two frames of reference are disconnected. The two observers do not necessarily agree on where the simultaneous point is.

The point of no doppler shift occurs slightly before the point of closest approach, then becomes a redshift at the point of closest approach. The equations do not work that way in 3+1 space, but it may be possible to project the solution into 3+1 space.

Since the two frames of reference are disconnected, the simultaneous point is not a satisfactory reference point for the retarded potentials.

One of the considerations in interpreting the solutions

is that the light cone equation is not a true vector equation. The light cone solution for the sum of two velocity vectors is generally not in the same direction as the vector sum of the velocities. The behavior of the solutions is therefore not necessarily explainable with the methods of vector analysis.

The coordinates seem to be spinning. The spin is due to the angular velocity of the field point. The calculations of the Thomas precession⁷ represent closely related relationships, but they do implicitly assume that absolute simultaneity exists.

It should be possible to extend the calculations to obtain the solution for time dt_1+dt_2 .

There would be a second rotation if the dt_1 , then three rotations in the third infinitesimal step. There are only three Euler angles, suggesting that a cosmological term will become appropriate at some point in the progression. The expansion factor of the general theory of relativity is a likely candidate.

The solutions shown in this section could be incomplete in more ways than neglecting the v^4 terms. Some of the relationships are still being investigated.

From the perspective of an observer in 3+1 space, the coordinates appear to be spinning about the second observer. The spin is related to the rotation of the Thomas precession⁷. One of the differences is that the Thomas calculations implicitly assume the existence of absolute simultaneity.

Many of the equations in this version were typeset by unsophisticated software and need cosmetic improvements.

The ts_0x_2 terms represent the spin of the system. They vanish for radial motion, where $ru \cdot vu$ is zero. The spin terms are singular at $r=0$ because the angular velocity at the particle at the point of closest approach goes to infinity as r_0 goes to zero.

When $ru \cdot vu$ is zero, the angular velocity of the field point is v/r . The $v/r (v/c)^2$ terms represent a relativistic correction to the angular velocity. These terms vanish for radial motion, where $ru \cdot vu$ is pm 1.

Dipoles are the only multipole that vector equations are capable of representing. The light cone equation can represent other multipoles, which is why this solution is not obtainable with true vector equations.

The equation is singular at infinity, but we cannot see to infinity, so that should not be a problem. Mathematical singularities at infinity are not uncommon. Intuitively, a reference point at infinity may seem like a good choice, but it is beyond the range of validity of many equations.

The more general solution is more important, but the equations are also harder to solve from that perspective.

However, if the equation is for the wrong particle in our frame of reference it will still be for the wrong particle in the other frame of reference. It is not always the other observer who does not know where the particle is.

That is usually interpreted to mean that it is the other

observer who does not know where the particle is. The other observer could be us next time.

This method of construction reduces to the basis of vector equations when the particle is on a collision course with the observer, which is not the preferred location for the observer.

One of the observers does not know where the particle was. That is because the solutions of the Lorentz transform do not exhibit absolute simultaneity.

It is indicated that it is not the other observer who does not know where the particle is (or was).

By rotating the coordinate system so that the equation for a family of particles becomes the equation for one particle, it should be easier to integrate the relative Doppler equation. It will not be easy, but it should be easier.

From the perspective of an observer in the frame of reference of the particle, the Doppler equation is for one particle. From the perspective of an observer at the field point, it is for a family of particles. One member of the family can be selected by rotating the coordinates to the point where the velocity vector has only one component. It may then become possible to integrate the equation.

The Lorentz transform does not exhibit absolute simultaneity x, x' . However, the particle is at rest in the other frame of reference. The other observer is not the one who does not know where the particle is.

The particle is at rest in the other frame of reference. The observer who does not know where the particle is is not necessarily in the other frame of reference.

It is not necessarily true that this solution provides the actual location of the particle. The retarded potentials exist only for the purpose of being differentiated. It is sufficient that the derivatives be consistent. The derivatives would have to be integrated to obtain the actual location of the particle.

The location in this solution is not necessarily the actual location of the particle, but since the retarded potentials exist only for the purpose of being differentiated, it does not have to be.

Both observers are now in agreement on where the particle was. However this is not the true location of the particle.

The solutions of the Lorentz transform do not exhibit absolute simultaneity t, t' . The solution will not be for the right particle unless the simultaneous point is where it is thought to be. It cannot be assumed that the solution is automatically for the right particle. The location of the particle in our frame of reference is not an independent consideration.

This location is not the true location of the particle. When applying retarded equations, the location is assumed to be already known, based on a light cone calculation, then the derivatives are computed. It is only the derivatives of the retarded potentials that are of interest. On the other hand, the derivatives would have to be integrated to obtain the location for a trajectory calculation. The integral would require a constant of integration, making it difficult to be sure of where the particle

actually was in a general way.

It is not true that we always need to know the identity of a particle. [shape]

Due to the absence of absolute simultaneity, it cannot be assumed that the solution in the other frame of reference is automatically for the right particle. The location of the particle in our frame of reference is not an independent consideration.

Because it is not possible to predict the future perfectly, if the coordinates are first-known at the retarded point, there is some uncertainty in predicting where the particle will be when the signal arrives at the field point, especially if the calculations are performed with a truncated Taylor series.

For the purpose of projecting the 4-space first derivative into 3+1 space, it appears justifiable to interpret the solution as being for the wrong particle when $t_0=0$. The discrepancy is due to a coupling of the angular and translational velocities. There is no coupling in 3+1 space. The only options are to abandon 3+1 space or assume the solution is for the wrong particle.

The assumption that the solution is for the wrong particle is not completely arbitrary. The integral of time dilation is a time offset. Consequently, when comparing events at the simultaneous and retarded points, one will be offset in time. A clock will not pass a reference point at the expected time when the clock runs slow between the events, making difficult to be sure which particle is the right particle. The time dilation terms are recovered after the potential solutions are differentiated.

For reasons that are not independent, the Lorentz transform is also capable of producing solutions for the wrong particle.

rx_0 has the meaning of a constant of integration. The calculations constrain rx_0 by the method of undetermined coefficients.

Calculations based on the Lorentz transform are rampant that implicitly assume the existence of absolute simultaneity, while at the same time denying that it exists.

The time shown by a clock depends on the history of the clock, making it unlikely that absolute simultaneity does exist. The loop integral of a true potential should nevertheless be zero, even when part of the path is in the other frame of reference. A zero loop integral does not require absolute simultaneity if two frames of reference can be consistently connected at two different times.

It is nearly impossible to use vector equations to show that there is anything wrong with vector equations. Vector calculations will usually show that the two frames of reference are already consistently connected.

These shortcomings preclude their use in practical problems. To order v^2/c^2 , the solutions are nevertheless identical to those of the LW equations. They appear to be the correct departure point for the next term of the series. The LW equations are obtained by setting γ to 1 in this solution.

With true vector equations, the Lorentz transform will

always halt a particle in a single step. These are not true vector equations. The particle is still moving.

With this interpretation, the LW equations achieve a utilitarian goal by dropping terms that should not be dropped. Furthermore, the gradient of a vector is a tensor of the second rank, which includes symmetric terms. The LW equations do not have any symmetric terms, indicating that they are for the tensor of the first rank, a vector. The vx^2 terms of the solutions do not appear to be meaningful, which is why the predicted doppler shift of eq – is the wrong value.

True vector equations are technically not differentiable. It is the contravariant tensor of the second rank that represents the first derivatives.

In some cases, the equations achieve good accuracy in a peculiar way by dropping terms that should not be dropped.

The true order that the equations belong in is visible in the doppler equation, which is missing the vx^2 terms.

The coordinates in the light cone solution appear to be spinning when there is a transverse velocity. The spin represents a relativistic correction for the angular velocity of the particle.

The coordinates seem to be spinning about the observer, but not really. It is just a relativistic correction for the angular velocity of the particle. There are no corrections for true vector equations, but that is because true vector equations are not differential. The gradient of vector is a tensor of the second rank, which includes both symmetric and antisymmetric terms. There are no symmetric terms in true vector equations, meaning that they are not differentiable.

The second infinitesimal step would be required if the vx^4 terms are to be carried. The solution for no steps at all is a subset of the LW solutions. The LW equations appear to drop terms that should not be dropped, which is a peculiar way of improving the accuracy of the equations. The peculiar way only works in special circumstances. The LW equations are of great practical importance, but they are not a satisfactory basis for further theoretical developments.

Unlike the solutions for true vector equations, the particle is still moving in the second frame of reference.

It seems that the observer in the first frame of reference did not know where the particle was in the first place. That is not necessarily a problem. When applying retardation equations, the location of the particle is assumed to be already available, based on a light cone solution. The solution is then differentiated. The retarded potentials exist only for the purpose of being differentiated, so the actual location of the particle is a secondary consideration. On the other hand, the derivatives would have to be integrated to obtain the actual location of the particle. The integral would require a constant of integration, which makes it difficult to be sure of which particle the solution is for in a general way.

Absolute simultaneity is not thought to exist either. This solution does not imply that it does. It is rather that

three coordinate differences between the retarded and simultaneous points are consistent between the two frames of reference.

The integral of time dilation is a time offset. Potential equations therefore contain coordinate offsets rather than rate terms. The rate terms are recovered after the solutions are differentiated. Potential equations do not require absolute simultaneity. It is sufficient that the coordinate offsets between the simultaneous and retarded locations be self-consistent. It is only coordinate differences that represent measurable relationships.

The infinitesimal transform can halt the particle in a single step, no matter how high its velocity is. The full transform has the same capability, but something is amiss. It is much too easy to halt the particle.

As the flying clock experiments show, the time shown by a clock depends on its history. There is little possibility of knowing absolute time in the other frame of reference. When working the retardation problem, we do not need to know the absolute time. The difference in the displayed clock numbers between the retarded and simultaneous points is all that matters.

When using the Lorentz transform to compute the difference between the two times, the absolute time does affect each of the two transforms. If we were lucky, the absolute time would drop out of the difference. The prowess of the infinitesimal transform implies that we ran out of luck long ago.

The full Lorentz transform will also halt the particle in a single step, but the ease of halting the particle causes its prowess to be suspect.

Equally important, if the ... from the rear Pseudo-vectors and vectors do not work in the same way. The tensor irreducibly theorem represents the differential angular relationships of pseudo-vectors.

The transform velocity and the particle velocity do not have to be the same. The events are simultaneous when the particle is at rest in the first frame of reference.

If we are lucky, the absolute time in the other frame of reference will drop out of the solution for the difference between the solution for the same particle at two different times. The prowess of the infinitesimal transform implies that we ran out of luck long ago.

The particle has now been halted in the last frame of reference, even though it was not moving in the first place.

The flying clock experiments cited show that the time shown by a clock depends on the history of the clock, so there is little possibility of knowing the absolute time in the other frame of reference. Yet it is not possible to apply the transform without knowing the absolute time. If we are lucky, the absolute time will drop out of the solution for the differences between two solutions for the same particle at two different times. The prowess of the infinitesimal transform implies that we ran out of luck long ago.

It is therefore not possible to compute the retarded time at the particle with the equation $t_s = t_f - r/c$ unless the radial and transverse velocities are separately known.

The problem with the Lorentz transform

This solution neglects the expansion factor of the cosmos. The expansion factor stretches the coordinates within a mass shell isotropically. We know that we cannot see to infinity, so the equations should not assume that we can. It is not necessarily true that the expansion factor has no effect on laboratory measurements. It is difficult to be sure, because we cannot perform experiments without the cosmological term. We are not detached observers.

The retardation equations will not be developed at this time, but other investigators can avoid some frustration by being aware that the solutions are not solutions to the Maxwell equations. Refer to Ref. - for some useful background material.

It is only coordinate differences that represent measurable relationships. The absolute value of a coordinate is not of physical significance. The coordinates in the second frame of reference are relative to other points in that frame of reference. All things measurable are relative, but it is not the clock in our frame of reference that they are relative to.

The absolute value of a coordinate is not of physical significance. It is only coordinate differences that represent measurable relationships. The time shown by the clock in the other frame of reference has to be in relation to something. Due to the ambiguities in the Doppler equation, the clock in our frame of reference is not a satisfactory time standard, because the equations do not specify precisely which particle the equation is for.

The moving clock can be synchronized to a clock that is at rest in our frame of reference at the moment it passes by the clock. Thereafter, due to the effects of time dilation, the moving clock will run slower than the at-rest clock.

These relationships are not independent of the concept of absolute simultaneity. Many calculations, including the derivation of the LW equations, assume the existence of absolute simultaneity without stating that they do.

The ambiguity of the Doppler equation and the absence of absolute simultaneity are not independent concepts. They are two ways of being unsure of where the particle was.

The full transform also halts the particle in a single step, but since the infinitesimal transform has the same capability, there is not much reassurance that the solution is for the right particle.

The transform velocity and the particle velocity do not have to be the same.

The absence of absolute simultaneity and the ambiguity of the Doppler equation are not unrelated phenomena. They are two parts of the same system.

It is not possible to apply the Lorentz transform without knowing the history of the clock. If the radial velocity were the only velocity that mattered then the time in the other frame of reference could be computed by the equation $t_s = t_f - r_0/c$, but the Doppler equation shows that the radial velocity is not the only one that matters.

There are special cases where the history of the clock is known, so it may be possible to approach the problem

from other perspectives.

It is plausible that the location of the simultaneous point is more important in the other frame of reference than it is in ours, which could provide yet another approach. There is always more than one way of working a problem. In any case, the absolute value of a coordinate is not a measurable quantity.

The quadrupole terms are essentially invisible to Maxwellian methods of detection. However, the energy density of a wave is quadratic in field strength. Two nearby non-Maxwellian transmitters radiate more when they are in phase than when they are out of phase, so there will be a beat frequency within each transmitter when the two frequencies are slightly different. The terms will be too small to detect in stationary current carrying wires.

This problem does not appear to be with the transform itself. It is rather that if the location of the particle is not known in the first frame of reference then it will not be known in the second system either.

On the other hand, it might be that the constant will emerge naturally as an uncomputable constant of integration.

After rotating once about each of the three coordinates, it would be possible to start over and rotate three more times. A solution for three rotations is not necessarily complete when the rotations are parameterized by other quantities.

XL. THE METHOD OF RETARDATION

The absolute value of a coordinate is not a measurable quantity. It is only coordinate differences that are of physical significance. This limitation is not just for us. It also applies to the observer in the other frame of reference. The methods are the same either way. All things measurable are relative, but it is not the clock in our frame of reference that they are relative to.

As the flying clock experiments show⁷, the time shown by a clock depends on its history. In special cases, it would be possible to synchronize a moving clock and then read the number that it shows at a later time. In other cases, in not knowing the history of the clock, we do not know what time it is in the other frame of reference.

The light cone equation does provide a specific time, relative to the time on our frame of reference, but the equation does not include the transverse Doppler effect, so it is not known which particle the solution is for. In being relative to the time in our frame of reference, the computed time is disconnected from the actual time shown by the other clock.

It arrives at the simultaneous point at the same time the signal arrives at the field point – maybe. We cannot see the particle when it is at the simultaneous point, so it is difficult to be sure of where it is then, especially in the presence of the cosmological expansion factor. The expansion factor stretches the coordinates isotropically

within a stationary mass shell⁸. It is possible that the expansion factor affects laboratory electrical measurements that include mass terms, in which case we can find out if it does, but it will be necessary to defer the question for a while yet.

The absolute time in the second frame of reference is not yet known. It is only Δt s that matters. The equations are simpler if the coordinates are translated in time so that events that were simultaneous in the first frame of reference are also simultaneous in the second system.

The moving clock can conceptually be synchronized with the other clock at the instant the signal arrives at the field point. The moving clock runs slower, so it will not remain synchronized. The integral of time dilation between the simultaneous and retarded points is a time offset.

Consequently, potential equations do not contain rate terms. They contain offsets.

The acceleration term is not real. It is an observer-dependent consequence of the angular velocity of the particle. Retardation equations themselves are intrinsically observer dependent, but their basis should be equations that are the same for all observers. The false acceleration term has to be taken out.

Dividing by velocity in this step makes it necessary to carry twice as many powers of velocity in the intermediate calculations as will be needed in the final solution. The behavior is very odd for a series calculation. When in doubt, carry another power of velocity.

Since the x component of the vector potential does not contain any coordinate-dependent terms, it is possible that the equation for the x component works in the same way for other orientations of the coordinate system.

The solutions of the Proca equations include exponential terms that represent the range of the fields¹¹. The range of the fields is assumed to be infinite in the following calculations. We know that we cannot see to infinity, so the additional terms will need further consideration. The expansion factor within a stationary mass shell stretches the coordinates isotropically⁸. The expansion factor of the cosmos is a likely candidate for assimilating the range of the fields into retardation equations.

If it is possible that the expansion factor has an effect on laboratory electrical measurements if the equations include mass terms. We cannot perform experiments without it, so it is difficult to be sure, but we will eventually know.

It is conceivable that the expansion factor affects the location of the simultaneous point, in relation to the retarded point. The particle is not visible when it is at the simultaneous point, so only indirect methods of evaluation are feasible. These calculations tentatively assume that the expansion factor is zero.

The Doppler equation appears to be missing terms when the point of closest approach is nearby. The difficulty is that the angular velocity goes to infinity as the miss distance goes to zero.

As shown in the SOM, the Ax component behaves like a component in a true vector equation, except that it does

not contain any coordinate-dependent terms. The Ax solution is the whole vector solution.

k is not an independent variable. Enough powers of k have to be carried that more powers have no effect at all on the final solution. k allows the solution to be developed as a perturbation of the LW solution. The LW solution would be obtained by setting k to 1, except that the equations are singular for k=1. The singularity is removable in low order solutions.

The solution depends on both where the particle was and when it was there. The solution is not usable as a retardation equation. It has too many degrees of freedom. No way has thus far been found to express the solution in 3+1 space.

However, the retarded potentials are not real in a physical sense. They exist only for the purpose of being differentiated. It does appear possible to project the potentials into 3+1 space.

It is shown in the SOM that the solution is rotationally invariant. The solution for Ax can be used for any orientation of the coordinate system.

That poses a problem for the Lorentz transform. It is not possible to apply the transform unless the time in the other frame of reference is assumed to be known before working the problem.

Time t₁ has dropped out of the solution. It is important that it drop out, because we do not know what time it is.

There is, of course, no restriction to motion along the y axis. The solution for Ay becomes the whole solution if the subscript is dropped. Vector equations just work that way.

The tensor of the second rank represents the first derivatives. The highest order multipole that it can represent is a quadrupole. One of its decomposition products is a vector, so assistance from the tensor of the first rank is not needed. The tensor of each rank stands alone. The vector represents the E field. According to the LW equations, the magnetic field is a transformed E field. In being a derived quantity, the magnetic field is not one of the decomposition products.

In applying to just one instant in time, the LW equations cannot be consistently differentiated. Actually, they can be differentiated, but the derivatives are all degenerate. Being degenerate does not have the same meaning as being wrong. Degenerate derivatives can be useful.

If the light cone equation were a true vector equation then it could be reliably concluded that two events in the history of the particle are connected by the Newton equations. The light cone equation is not a true vector equation and the Newton equations do not work well when the speed of light matters. A stronger demonstration is needed that two consecutive events are for the same particle.

There is a large family of accelerated particles that have the same coordinates at two points on the trajec-

tory. This solution does not specify which member of the family the solution is for. Three points on the trajectory are needed to better constrain the identity of the particle. The acceleration terms are important, but those terms cannot be developed until acceleration and velocity become distinguishable.

The same ambiguity exists in the first frame of reference. The following calculations are in the first frame of reference, but it is important that the equations not depend on which frame of reference is used for the calculations, so it should also be possible to perform them in the second system.

The equations themselves do not provide any assurance that both solutions are for the same particle. If they are not, then neither solution is for an inertial particle.

Dividing by the velocity in the intermediate steps of the derivation has an odd effect on the behavior of the equations. It is necessary to carry twice as many powers of velocity throughout the derivation as will be needed in the final solution.

The time required for a particle to reach a specified marker goes to infinity as the velocity goes to zero. A singularity at zero velocity is fundamental when the equations are in terms of the integral of the derivative. The singularity is capable of upsetting computational methods appropriate for the derivatives. No matter how small the velocity is, the equations can contain an error of the first order. This behavior is not at all alien to the theorems of Euclidian calculus. It is rather that those theorems are its basis. An equation can be reduced to a system of several first order equations², but not in one step. The equation has to be of first order if it is to be integrated. The behavior looks different when the equations are in terms of the integral in the first place, but its basis is the same in both cases. Even though the first derivative is free of error, there are not many equations that can be reduced to first order in one step.

More powers of velocity are shown in the SOM. With guidance from the relativistic doppler equation, the solution was obtained by the method of undetermined coefficients

Another point on the trajectory is needed to better constrain the identity of the particle. Acceleration terms are important, but there is no hope for them until acceleration and velocity terms become distinguishable.

t_f has dropped out of the solution, as it must, for we do not know what time it is.

The following calculations are in the first frame of reference, but there are related considerations for the second system.

The angular relationships in the top panel are distorted by the projection into 3+1 space. The angular relationships are correct in the bottom panel.

The following calculations are for the first frame of reference, but there are related considerations for the second system that need further attention.

Both events would be for the same particle if the light

cone equation were Newtonian, but it is not.

The solution is for a particle that was on the light cone, but we have no way of knowing which particle it was. Determining the identity of the particle would usually be a difficult orbit determination problem. The retardation solution for two points in the orbit could be connected with the Newton equations if the orbit were Newtonian, but it is not. The identity of the particle (or device) will be somewhat better constrained if it emits two consecutive signals.

The acceleration terms are important, but it is necessary to distinguish between angular velocity and acceleration before they can be developed.

The solution does not provide any clues as to which particle is the right particle. In 3+1 space, the solution for a different particle in the stream of particles could be obtained by simply translating the coordinates in time. The problem can be projected into 3+1 space, but the reverse projection does not work.

The identity of the particle becomes even better constrained if it emits three consecutive signals. Acceleration terms are important, but they cannot be developed until it becomes possible to write the equation for a straight line.

Time is the independent variable in the top panel, which causes the angular relationships in the projection into two space dimensions to be distorted. The angular relationships are correct in the bottom panel, but they are not usable without referring to the top panel.

It is not necessarily true that it should be possible to transform to the Hubble distance in a single step. Many small consecutive transforms are probably a more appropriate approach for connecting the two regions.

The solution can now be for one particle at two times or two particles at the same time. It does not matter which way it is. However, there could be a third particle midway between the other two.

The velocity vector is not restricted to being parallel to the x axis. The solution for A_x becomes the whole solution by substituting \mathbf{A} for A_x .

The result is the LW equations. There are several ways of deriving the equations. This method is just one of the ways.

The alternative perspective is important, because the gradient of a vector is a tensor of the second rank, which includes both symmetric and antisymmetric terms. The solutions of the LW equations do not have any symmetric terms. The Lorentz condition, ... is a symmetric vector (or pseudo-vector) equation, but it is always zero in the LW solutions.

There can be a stream of particles that passes by the point of closest approach, with all of the particles being on the same trajectory. The solution for a different particle in the stream of particles can be selected by translating the coordinates in time. In a fully general solution, the solution for the same particle at a different time could also be obtained by translating the coordinates in time. This solution is not fully general. It is only valid

at the point of closest approach. The solution for the same particle at a different time is not obtainable with it.

Actually, the solutions can be differentiated, and the derivatives are approximately correct at low velocities, but they nevertheless belong in a space with four mutually orthogonal coordinates.

Discussion

Neither field equations nor retardation equations form a complete representation. Field equations constrain the fields without specifying the physical processes responsible for them. The physical processes are not necessarily what they are thought to be. Due to the non-orthogonality of the coordinates, it is generally not possible to attribute a field as being purely associated with either the space derivatives or the time derivatives. The multipoles of the solutions of field equations are inherently incapable of distinguishing between the solutions for charge and mass, except that the terms are orthogonal in vector equations. Retardation equations do specify the physical processes, but they are inept in other ways.

Neither panel is right and neither is wrong. It is the connection between the two slices of 4-space that matters.

However, there could be a third particle midway between the other two. The job is not done yet.

After factoring a polynomial in the denominator, it becomes the square root of a quantity squared.

The angular location of a transmitter should be obtained with a directional antenna. The direction is perpendicular to the wavefront. The space derivatives of the Doppler equation would be required for determining the angle of the wavefront. The space and time derivatives are usually both required. Inferring the location of the source from the time derivatives alone is inappropriate, and unnecessarily challenges the intellect.

Any one observer perceives a virtual acceleration term in the trajectory. A field of observers would nevertheless conclude that an unaccelerated particle moves at a uniform rate along a straight line. Retardation equations are intrinsically observer dependent, but their basis should be equations that are the same for all observers.

An accelerometer in free fall would not register an acceleration, but a field of distant observers would still conclude that it is accelerated.

The angles in top panel are distorted in projecting one space coordinate and one time coordinate into two space coordinates. The angles in the bottom panel are correct.

Time is the independent coordinate in the light cone solution in the top panel. The space coordinate is the independent variable for the same solution in the bottom panel. The angular relationships in the top panel are distorted in the projection of one time coordinate and one space coordinate into two space coordinates. This distortion does not occur with the Newton equations, but it is important when the speed of light matters.

When the range of the fields is infinite, the particle is visible forever. It is permanently on the light cone. Fig

– shows the case where the particle is receding and t_{fl} is positive. The disconnect between the time and space angular relationships is less intuitive in that case.

Is the coordinate difference contaminated by coordinate absoluteness? It is difficult to be sure. The location $r=0$, $t=0$ in the first frame of reference is the same in the second frame of reference. Translating the coordinates to this location does not necessarily insure that the coordinates are not contaminated by absolute cross terms, but it is a more conservative choice. Restricting the coordinate translation to an infinitesimal amount, while possibly unnecessary, is still more conservative. With further development, it should be possible to perform two consecutive infinitesimal translations to obtain a more general solution.

Retardation equations do not contain time as a parameter. They look the same at a second time as do at the first time. They are form invariant for translations in time. Translating the coordinates will not have any effect on them if they are correctly determined.

Within limits, that makes it possible to apply the equations without knowing what time it is.

This solution is only valid for one instant in time. If it is valid for one instant then it is also valid for a second instant, but it does not provide a way of determining if both solutions are for the same particle. If they are not for the same particle, then neither solution is for an inertial particle.

The family member that the retardation equations are for is not known until a global solution is obtained, but the identity of the particle does become better constrained than it is for one event in the history of the particle.

The solutions of the Proca equations contain exponential terms that are interpretable in a cosmological context¹¹. Those terms are neglected in the following calculations, but they will need further attention.

It is conceivable that the expansion factor affects the location of the simultaneous point, in relation to the retarded point. If so, it may be a satisfactory basis for assimilating the exponential terms into the retardation equations. It is not necessarily true that it should be possible to transform to the Hubble distance in a single step. A large number of small consecutive transforms would be a more reasonable approach.

No arguments are presented that the simultaneous point is where it is assumed to be in the following calculations, so the assumption will need further evaluation, especially when the expansion factor is not zero.

This solution provides no means of determining if all of the events are for the same particle. The solution could be for a ghost particle and we would not know. At the point of closest approach, the light cone equation does not impose a first order constraint on which particle in a stream of particles the solution is for. If the solution is for the wrong particle at the point of closest approach then it is always for the wrong particle.

That does not matter in a universe consisting of one observer and one particle. It does matter if there are two

observers or two particles.

This solution is only for the first derivative. Three consecutive events would be required for computing the second derivative.

The derivatives in this solution contradict the function they are obtained from. When that happens, it means that the function should be discarded and the solution obtained by integration. Reducing a problem to first order, then obtaining the solution by integration, is a traditional approach. In neglecting the second derivatives, this solution is not actually of first order, but the same considerations apply.

The solution appears to be the retardation equation for the tensor of the first rank, a vector. History skipped this solution. History also skipped a step the gravitational solutions, probably because of the limited observational capability of an earlier era. It is sometimes best to begin at the beginning, which is easier to do when the solutions are already known.

This solution appears to be the retardation equation for the tensor of the second rank. The tensor of the second rank includes symmetric terms, but, in the order of the quadrupole, they are not associated with the motion of charged particles.

The solution is only valid for one instant in time at the point of closest approach. It cannot be differentiated.

Each of the slanted lines terminates at an observer. We do not know which of the observers is us yet, and we do not need to know yet, because the retardation equations are the same for all of them. We would know which of the observers is us after a global solution is obtained and the identity of the particle becomes established by its history. The equations for one observer and one particle at one instant in time are too slippery to be useful without further processing.

the chase

The prowess of the infinitesimal transform is impressive but not credible. The transform velocity does not have to be the same as the particle velocity. It is possible to transform with a small fraction of the particle velocity, and in that way chase the particle until it is eventually halted. The calculation is analogous to obtaining a solution by integration.

The assumption will need further evaluation, but it is probably all right to neglect the expansion factor in low order solutions.

Neither solution is in agreement with the relativistic doppler equation²⁰. The solutions are missing a factor of γ .

Furthermore, if the location of the simultaneous point in the other frame of reference depends on what time is in the first frame of reference, then the particle must be moving in the other frame of reference, even though the Lorentz transform shows no indication that the particle is in motion. We know that the particle is moving in our frame of reference. It is supposed to remain halted in the other system. There can be many observers of the same particle. They should all be able to agree on where it is,

even though none of them can see it when it is at the simultaneous point.

The location of the particle in the second frame of reference should not depend on what time it is in the first system. Furthermore, if it did, the particle would have to be moving in the second system, even though the Lorentz transform shows no indication that it is in motion. The perceived motion is an observer-dependent effect. It is not real in a kinematic sense.

There can be many observers of the same particle. The location of the particle in the second frame of reference should not depend on which observer is watching it.

There can be several observers at various locations for the same particle. From the perspective of an observer in the frame of reference of the particle, the solution would be unphysical if the location of the particle depended on which of the distant observers is watching. The equations for the other observers are observer-dependent and require a correction. Being observer-dependent has about the same meaning as being coordinate-dependent. Retardation equations are intrinsically observer-dependent, but their basis should be equations that are the same for all observers.

The solutions of the Lorentz transform usually do not exhibit absolute simultaneity. This solution is a special case of more general solutions.

In an orthogonal coordinate system, the two ways of computing dtf would be the same. The four coordinates are not mutually orthogonal in 4-space. 4-space can be projected into 3+1 space, but the gradient of a vector is not obtainable in a flat 3+1 space.

Light cone equations are correct, but in being unaffected by a space rotation, they are slippery. The light cone solution in Eq - is not for one particle. It is for a family of particles parameterized by the angle $\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{v}$. One member of the family has to be selected, but there is no possible way of making the selection that is not observer-dependent. Observer-dependent solutions depend on the coordinates of the observer, so they are also coordinate-dependent.

Eq - is also for a family of particles, but it is a smaller family. There is a family of accelerated particles that all pass through two points on the trajectory. This solution does not specify which family member is the right one. One member of the family can be selected by obtaining a specific global solution, but the history of the particle is not well constrained.

dt has dropped out, showing that the equation works in the same way at time $t+dt$ as it does at time t . That is as it should be, because we do not know what time it is.

This is not the right equation for the transverse doppler effect.

When r_x is $\frac{1}{\gamma}$ r_y the solution approaches Eq - is for the reciprocal of this term. It shows that this solution is approximately twice the correct value. This solution is missing a factor of γ .

This would be the right answer in a flat 3+1 space. However, the gradient of a vector is not obtainable in 3+1 space.

dt has dropped out, showing that the equation works in the same way at time t+dt as it does at time t. The equation is form invariant for translations in time, although only for a short time.

The events are equally spaced along the vertical dotted line, but they are not equally spaced in time. The rate that the clock runs at depends on where the observer is. Watching a clock should not affect the rate that it runs at. The basis of this inconsistency is that the construction assumes that the four coordinates are mutually orthogonal in 4-space. That is not true.

However, the distance rx_0 in Fig - is not $v ts$. It is $\gamma v ts$. It is as though the moving clock were running slow by a factor of γ .

The time that a particle is at the simultaneous point depends on how far away it is. That is usually not a problem for one observer, but it would be a serious complication if two observers at different locations needed to reconcile their observations. This relationship can be misleading, because it does not matter how far away y_0 is. Regardless of what y_0 is, the inconsistency occurs at points between here and there. There is a false curvature term in the equations. The false term is invisible unless there are two observers or two consecutive events from the same particle.

In this figure the retarded location of the particle is relative to the simultaneous point rather than relative to the observer.

As the flying clock experiments show, the time shown by a clock depends on its history⁷. The history of the clock is usually unknown. The clock is on the light cone at time ts_0 in Fig -. The clock is visible to an observer at the field point then, and the number that it displays can be used to establish a connection to the time shown by an at-rest clock in the observer's frame of reference.

The calculations are not in a real space. They represent a projection of 4-space into 3+1 space, which is an abstract mathematical space. Unlike real clocks, moving clocks run at the same rate as stationary clocks in 3+1 space.

The solutions of the Lorentz transform generally do not exhibit absolute simultaneity. This relationship is not independent of when and how the clocks were synchronized.

This result is unreal.

It is only coordinate difference that matter. ts can be taken as zero and tf as $+ry/c$ at this instant.

These would be the coordinates of the moving clock at the time $tf=0$ if it were synchronized at the time $tf=+ry/c$. The moving clock can be reset when it is at this location. Resetting the clock will not affect where it is.

In eq -, both clocks show zero when the other clock is at the point of closest approach. Both clocks now show zero when the moving clock is on the retarded light cone

at the time $tf=0$. In a simultaneous system, the time shown by the field clock at this instant is $\dots = -ry/c$. In a conventional sense, the clocks are not synchronized. While it is possible to synchronize the clock, it will not stay synchronized. It is as though the moving clock were running slow by a factor of γ . That is not possible in 3+1 space, but it does seem that way.

There is no transverse doppler term when $ru \cdot vu$ is zero. There is a doppler shift at other times, but it is not in agreement with Eq -.

As the flying clock experiments show, the time shown by a clock depends on its history⁷. A moving clock runs slow by a factor of γ .

Unless the history of a clock is known, it has to be synchronized before the number that it displays is usable. This limitation applies even when all the clocks are in the same frame of reference. More generally, the absolute value of a coordinate is not a measurable quantity. It is only coordinate differences that are of physical significance.

The Lorentz transform implicitly contains the assumption that the clocks have been satisfactorily synchronized. The transform will hold the quantity $r \cdot v - c^2 t^2$ invariant regardless of the accuracy of the synchronization.

In practice, the number shown by the other clock would be recorded and used for computing subsequent time differences. It is computationally simpler to reset the other clock to zero at that instant. We did not know what time it was in the other frame of reference in the first place, so resetting the clock at the beginning of an experiment should have no effect on measurable relationships. The other clock is not visible when it is at the simultaneous point. It is not physically possible to synchronize the two clocks at that time.

The following calculations represent a projection of 4-space into 3+1 space. 3+1 space is not a real space. It is a mathematical abstraction. Straight lines in 3+1 space do not have uniformly spaced tick marks along their length indicating the ticks of a moving clock. Consequently, it is not possible to tell if a straight line has been non-uniformly stretched. Unlike real clocks, moving clocks seem to run at the same rate as stationary clocks, because we cannot tell the difference in 3+1 space.

This computational model for a moving clock would not be acceptable if the retarded potentials were real in a physical sense, but they are not. It is only their derivatives that are of interest in the laboratory. The integral of the derivatives is also a measurable quantity, however the space and time terms cannot be integrated independently. Except possibly in static solutions, neither the scalar nor the vector potential has a separately identifiable physical meaning. Static solutions cease to be static if the observer is moving, in which case the scalar and vector terms again become inseparable.

dt has dropped out of the solution, showing that the equation works in the same way at time t+dt as it does at

time t . That is important, because it should not matter when we reset the elapsed time clock at the beginning of an experiment.

These are the LW equations when dt is zero. They appear to be the correctly determined retardation equations for each particle in a stream of particles. However, the retarded potentials exist only for the purpose of being differentiated twice. Provided that the vx^4 terms can be neglected, the missing terms for the first derivative can be set aside.

These are the LW equations. They appear to be the retardation equations for any particle in a swarm of particles. However, they do not explicitly specify the connection between two consecutive events from the same particle.

An inconsistency

Since the acceleration term is not real, it cannot yet be concluded that the particle actually does arrive at the simultaneous point at the same time the signal arrives at the field point. The solutions of the Lorentz transform do not exhibit absolute simultaneity, making it difficult to be sure of exactly where the simultaneous point is. Retardation equations will be for the wrong particle if the simultaneous point is not where it is thought to be.

A particle at that location is visible at the field point at the time $+ry/c$, but since a moving clock runs slow by a factor of γ , a correction for the clock rate would be required for computing the retarded location of the clock at the time $t_f=0$.

The connection between the retarded and simultaneous points would be more elaborate when the particle is accelerated. If the location of the particle is first-known at the retarded point then the simultaneous point is in the particle's future, even though it is not in our future. It is not possible to predict the future perfectly. In general, a Taylor expansion with an infinity of terms would be required to connect the retarded and simultaneous points.

It is possible to synchronize the clocks with sufficient accuracy without assuming that events far into the future can be predicted accurately.

This solution assumes that the solutions at times t and $t+dt$ are connected by the Newton equation. The Newton equations work well at low velocities, but corrections are needed at higher velocities.

There could be several streams of particles at various distances, in which case the solution is for a swarm of particles.

Fig - shows the light cone solutions for a stream of equally spaced particles that are all on the same trajectory. Each particle transmits a signal at a different time, but all of the signals arrive at the field point at the time $t_f=0$. Each particle is moving left to right, but each particle transmits only one pulse during its traverse.

It is also possible for one particle to transmit a continuous monochromatic signal. The particle is then permanently visible and this discontinuity becomes undetectable. It is only in the space derivatives that the gap is present.

The gradient of a vector is a tensor of the second

rank, which includes both symmetric and antisymmetric terms. The symmetric terms are not obtainable by differentiating in time in 3+1 space. Misinterpreting the true nature of 3+1 space can result in it being unfairly penalized. The decomposition products of the second rank contravariant tensor are a scalar, a vector, and a quadrupole⁶.

There is no vector in the tensor equations for deformed elastic media². Depending on the perspective, that is either because the solutions are static or because they do not include charged particles.

The locations at the simultaneous point so densely packed that the location of the particle at that time is nearly useless for predicting where it was at other times. The problem is worse than that. ... The equations contradict themselves. There are ambiguities in projecting 4-space into 3+1 space.

There is no first order round trip constraint on the first derivative. The anchor point for the derivation of the LW equations is much too slippery. The fault does not necessarily lie in 3-space itself. It is rather that singular points are best avoided. Solutions near either side of a singular point are not trustworthy either.

dt has dropped out of the solution. Since the value of dt does not matter, if this is the right solution for the time $t+dt$, then it must also be the solution for the time $t+0$. Equations that behave in this way are rare. They are not retardation equations unless dt does drop out, because we have no way of knowing when the time $t=0$ should be. The LW equations have the same characteristic, except that the solutions for times t and $t+dt$ are the same.

The basis of this relationship is that the first derivative at a displaced point is one of the contributors to the second derivative. When the coordinates are first-known at the retarded point, we are always one step behind.

Obtaining retardation equations that are valid forever for each particle in a swarm of particles may be too ambitious a goal.

A clock at that place and time is visible at the field point at a later time, but by then the clock has moved on to another location. It is not physically possible to synchronize a clock when it is at the simultaneous point.

The solutions of the Lorentz transform do not exhibit absolute simultaneity. There are no indications that the clocks are inherently synchronized.

Retardation equations will be for the wrong particle if the unobservable simultaneous point is used as an anchor point and it is not where it is thought to be.

For a short time, but not necessarily forever, the retarded location of one particle in a swarm of particles is

Because the time and space coordinates cannot be integrated independently, the assumption that moving clocks run at the same rate as stationary clocks is only valid for a short time.

section - A swarm of particles

The solution for the first derivative is for a tiny swarm of particles, but it is a better departure point than the

solution for a string of particles.

Due to a coupling of the radial and transverse components of a velocity vector, γ tends to be invisible in the first frame of reference, but it is no less important than in any other frame of reference.

This term looks like a second derivative, however the second derivative is required for computing the first derivative at a displaced point. The retarded point is displaced relative to the simultaneous point. When working at the retarded point, we are always one step behind – sometimes two steps.

An observer at the field point can read the number shown by a moving clock, then use the number for computing coordinate differences in subsequent calculations.

Clocks do not show absolute time. They show elapsed time. The displayed time is not usable until the clock is synchronized. This limitation applies even when all the clocks are in the same frame of reference.

The significance of this relationship is that it is not possible to integrate around a circle with one linear equation unless it contains π . The only reason it is possible at all is that the 3-space integral was discovered long ago. Nonlinear equations for integrating around a circle in 3-space are easily obtained. It is nevertheless possible to integrate numerically around a Newtonian orbit with the two linear equations ... More generally, an equation can be reduced to a system of several first order equations, although it is doubtful that 4-space can be fully reduced to first order.

Singular equations are sometimes capable of yielding specific solutions, but the singularity does need to be either removed or avoided. Applying l'Hospital's rule to this solution to remove the singularity would be approximately equivalent to formulating the problem in terms of the second derivatives.

The LW equations do not look the same at time $t+dt$ as they do at time $t+0$. That probably means that the chain rule for differentiation is needed for obtaining consistent derivatives, with that being because the time and space coordinates are not independent variables in light cone solutions.

It is computationally more convenient to obtain an artificial potential solution that does not require the chain rule. It is only the derivatives of the retarded potentials that are of interest in the laboratory. There is no requirement that they be real in physical sense.

There is no magnetic field in this frame of reference, but there would be in the frame of reference of a moving test particle. The particle must hover at a fixed point if the magnetic field is to be neglected.

The Coulomb solution is not accurate for moving charged particles. The particle must hover at a fixed point in this frame of reference if the Coulomb solution is to be applicable. The basis of this relationship is that the time and space coordinates are not independent in light cone solutions. The chain rule for differentiation would be required to halt the particle in the second frame of reference.

The retarded potentials are not real in a physical sense. They are an artificial mathematical construct. They will be more convenient to apply if the first derivatives behave as though the four coordinates were mutually orthogonal. The approach represents a projection of 4-space into 3+1 space. The reverse projection does not work.

Eqs – and – would be the same in an orthogonal coordinate system. The two paths are analogous to exchanging the order of differentiation.

The solution for a point that is displaced in both space and time can be reached by another path.

The particle seems to be halted in Eq –, but it is actually still moving. That is because the clocks have not been correctly synchronized.

In this solution, the time shown by the clock when it is at the simultaneous point depends on when the observer at the field point synchronized it when it was at the retarded point. When there is more than one observer, the time depends on which observer is watching.

The particle is not visible when it is at the simultaneous point, but it is nevertheless an essential mathematical anchor point when applying the Lorentz transform to the problem.

The particle is permanently on the light cone in this solution. k is a free parameter. The particle is at the point of closest approach when k is 1. The magnitude of radius vector is at a quadratic minimum at the point of closest approach. Consequently, there is no transverse Doppler term.

The rate that a clock runs at in 3+1 space is a free parameter. That is not very important until straight lines are non-uniformly stretched. The non-uniformity is invisible with unadorned straight lines.

This limitation applies even when all the clocks are in the same frame of reference. Clocks do not display absolute time. They display elapsed time.

The derivation of the LW equations assumes that the time at the particle when the signal arrives at the field point is inherently known. The time is not inherently known. Indeed, it is not even knowable until the clock is synchronized.

The figure represents a projection into 1+1 space, where the space and time coordinates are mutually orthogonal. An observer in the second frame of reference would perceive the relationships differently. The derivatives cannot necessarily be reliably inferred from the figure, with the consideration being that the chain rule for differentiation is generally required when the variables are not independent.

Since clock is visible at the time $+R/c$, the clocks could be synchronized at that time, except that an observer in the second frame of reference might not agree on when that time is unless the clocks have been synchronized.

The magnitude of R is at a quadratic minimum at the point of closest approach. Consequently, the light cone equation does not impose a first order constraint on when the particle passes that point. The second derivative is required to impose a first order constraint. The LW solu-

tion is for a particle on the light cone, but it is the right equation for the wrong particle.

There are no indications that this solution is the last term of the retardation series.

The simultaneous point is not in our future, but it is in the particle's future. The future location of the particle would not be expected to affect the retarded potentials, suggesting that the solution is applicable to accelerated particles.

This solution represents an infinitesimal integral of the first derivative. The solution for the double integral of the second derivative will not necessarily be the same.

It is not difficult to carry more powers of velocity in this solution, but there is no point in doing so because the v^4 terms would be different at time $t_1 + dt_1$ and $t_2 + dt_2$. The compactness of equations that look like they are exact is nevertheless useful. The 'exact' derivation is shown in the SOM. It is

The angle τ does not show where the particle was when it emitted the signal. It shows where it will be when the signal arrives at the field point. The particle will be at the simultaneous point when the signal arrives at the field point. The location of the simultaneous point is not important for light cone solutions, but it is an essential reference point for the Lorentz transform.

This solution can be differentiated more than once, but derivatives beyond the first will be incomplete if the differentiations are performed in $3+1$ space.

This is the LW solution when $dt_1 = 0$. However, r_0 is not where the particle was when it emitted the signal.

γ is usually associated with the second frame of reference, but it also has a role in our frame of reference.

The figure represents a projection into $1+1$ space. The time and space coordinates are independent variables in $1+1$ space, but not in light cone solutions. For this reason, the derivatives cannot be reliably inferred from the figure.

In fig - the time at the field point is the independent variable in the light cone solution. It shows that the time of closest approach is poorly constrained. Indeed, as illustrated by Eq - there is no first order constraint.

Consequently, it is possible for light cone solutions to be for the wrong particle if the time that it reaches the simultaneous point is assumed to be known before working the problem.

Despite these contradictions, the LW equations appear to be the correctly determined retardation equations for the tensor of the first rank, a vector. The Coulomb solution is the retardation tensor for the tensor of the zeroth rank, a scalar. The tensor of rank $n+1$ is the gradient of the tensor of rank n .

The tensor irreducibility theorem cited represents the differential angular relationships between the tips two or more vector in 3 -space. There are other terms in $3+1$ space, but a space rotation is still a space rotation. The theorem implies that exact retardation equations cannot exist in $3+1$ space.

The LW equations are nevertheless the only retarda-

tion equations that are needed when relativistic corrections can be neglected, which is always the case for stationary current carrying wires, even when the current is high enough to melt the wires.

The primary interest in the relativistic corrections is not that of a small correction to the LW solutions. It is rather the solutions contain multipole terms that are not present in the LW equations. Multipole terms that do not exist in the LW solutions are easier to experimentally separate from the much larger LW terms. The additional multipoles will be larger for rotating electrical equipment or in electron beam experiments.

The particle velocity cannot exceed c , but angular velocity is unbounded. Angular velocity is more important in tiny systems, so they will also be of experimental interest.

A tiny system in gravitational solutions is vastly larger than in electrical solutions.

The equation is not of first order unless the residual vanishes as $1/r^2$.

The second particle could be the first particle at a later time, in which case there should be a connection between the solution for two nearby particles and the Doppler equation.

If the simultaneous point is not where it is thought to be then retardation equations can be for the wrong particle in another way, which would not necessarily be an unrelated way.

The Coulomb solution is usable in quasi-static solutions, but it is not accurate unless the particle is at rest. The nearby particle has to be halted when good accuracy is needed for the first derivatives.

The behavior is more elaborate when the signal is monochromatic and the receiving antenna is many wavelengths in diameter. The wavefront is parallel to the trajectory of the transmitter. A directional antenna will produce a maximum response when it is aimed at the simultaneous point, but that was not the actual retarded location of the transmitter. This effect is insignificant for natural sources unless their angular velocity is high, which is only possible if they are nearby. It is a near field effect that is not relevant for distant sources. The behavior of the near terms of antenna solutions are always very different from those of far field inverse square law radiation.

Fig -. When the velocity is high, a directional antenna will produce a stronger response when it is aimed at the simultaneous point than when it is aimed at the actual retarded location of the transmitter. This effect is insignificant unless the transmitter is monochromatic and nearby. The wavefront angle is perpendicular to the propagation direction in the far field.

Unintuitively, the perceived angular location of the source is where it will be when the signal is received rather than where it was when the signal was emitted.

All antenna solutions contain near field terms that behave differently than inverse square law radiation, although the near field E and B terms normally decay as

$1/rx^2$ or faster. This effect is unconventional in that it decays as $1/r$. $1/r$ terms are radiative in some sense, yet the wavefront angle becomes increasingly perpendicular to the propagation direction at great distances.

The angular velocity of astrophysical sources is always negligible, even when the transverse velocity is near c , but VLBI angular measurements are very precise, so the term may be detectable that way.

However, because the transverse particle velocity cannot exceed c , the wavefront angle becomes progressively more perpendicular to the direction of propagation at great distances.

The basis of this inconsistency is that the LW equations confuse the angular velocity of the particle with the retarded Newtonian acceleration. That does not matter when the angular velocity is low, which is always the case for stationary current carrying wires. The LW equations serve well when the velocity is low.

The simplification should be usable when the orbital radius is large, but the acceleration terms do need to be carried when the angular velocity is high.

There is only one vector in 3-space, but are two in 3+1 space, with those representing the E and B fields. $\text{grad} L$ defines a third vector, but in representing the second derivatives, it is probably incomplete in the solution for the first derivative.

It should be possible to remove the singularity with l'Hospital's rule. Obtaining the soliton for the second derivative would have a similar effect. It would then be necessary to integrate the second derivative to obtain a global solution for the first derivative. The singularity is unique to our frame of reference. It is easier to obtain the solution for the first derivative from the perspective of the other observer than it would be to integrate the second derivative.

Consequently, no matter how small dt is, and no matter how low the velocity is, the first space derivatives cannot be reduced to first order in the first frame of reference.

Applying the chain rule for differentiation to the problem would help, but then the equations would contain space-time cross terms representing the second derivatives.

A vector extrapolates as three scalars. The extrapolated vector is still a vector, but the two closely spaced vectors are connected by a tensor of the second rank^{2,6}. In general, Eq - is not the right way to extrapolate a vector, but it is the only way that is available in the projection into 3+1 space. There are no tensors beyond the first rank in a flat 3+1 space. 3+1 space is not a real space. It is a mathematical abstraction.

The solution contains a transverse $\text{rv} \cdot \dot{\text{r}}$ term that does not decay with distance. The LW equations contain a similar term for radial motion. If a particle is approaching the observer and decelerating, then a second observer further from the particle perceives it earlier in its history when its velocity was higher. The result is a potential that does not decay with distance. However,

a particle cannot decelerate forever, so the extent of the radiated pulse is bounded in global solutions.

The transverse term has the opposite sign on the other side of a radiative current loop. Due to the propagation delay across the loop, the signals from the nearside and farside of the loop are not exactly out of phase, so there is a net contribution, but the global solution is well behaved.

The space-time cross terms do not exist for vectors in 3+1 space. The equations will be easier to apply if they are projected into an orthogonal coordinate system.

In 3+1 space, a scalar extrapolates to a nearby point with the equation $\psi = \psi_0 + \text{grad}(\psi_0) \cdot dr + d\psi/dt dt$. An extrapolation to a nearby point in both space and time should include space-time cross terms. It would represent the first derivative at a displaced point, which is one of the contributors to the second derivative. Those solutions are more general, but they are not the equations for the first derivative in 3+1 space, where the space and time coordinates are orthogonal.

From Eq -, $d\psi/dt$ is $\text{grad}(\psi) \cdot [dx, dy, dz]$ is

It is usually more convenient to retard the potentials then differentiate the solution to obtain the fields, but it is possible to directly retard the E and B fields.

For light cone solutions, what looks like one step in space is actually two steps, one in space and one in time. Two consecutive first order extrapolations represent the second derivative in an equation that an observer in the first frame of reference would view as a first derivative.

The particle does not move when obtaining light cone solution for the displaced point. It is frozen in time for the first step in space.

In the first frame of reference, a vector extrapolates in space and time with the equations $A_v = A_{v0} + (dr \cdot \nabla) A_0 + v \cdot dt \dot{A}$.

Since there are no space-time cross terms in the first derivative, the time at the displaced point has to be the same as the time at the central point.

When the displaced point is closer to the particle than the central point, the signal arrives at the displaced point sooner than it does at the central point. It is now necessary to wait a while until the displaced point comes onto the light cone at the time dt .

There are other terms in the equations when the tips of the vectors are moving, but a space rotation is still a space rotation.

The second time derivative would also impose a first order constraint. However, if the light cone solution is for the wrong particle in the first place then the result is logically circular.

Consequently, light cone solutions can be for a small family of particles rather than for a single particle. One member of the family is automatically selected when a global solution is obtained, but it is not necessarily the right member.

More points on the trajectory are better for constraining the transverse location of the particle, which requires

that the equations be differentiated again.

The velocity of a particle cannot exceed c , but angular velocity is unbounded, so nanometer scale circuitry may also be of interest, such as in the solution for a nanometer scale phased array antenna.

It is not necessary to know how to build a receiving antenna for non-Maxwellian radiation. When two transmitters are operated at slightly different frequencies, the mutual interaction energy will result in a beat frequency in the current flow within each antenna. The mutual interaction energy obeys the inverse square law when the antennas are widely separated. All antenna solutions also contain near field terms that behave differently.

There are other terms in 3+1 space, but a space rotation is still a space rotation.

Since an extrapolated vector is still a vector, it is possible for vector solutions to exist that are not obtainable by the methods of vector analysis.

But since the Lorentz condition plays no role in the Maxwell equations proper, which are in terms of the fields rather than the potentials, it may be justifiable to set this inconsistency aside in some cases, since the inconsistency is invisible to the Maxwell equations themselves.

This inconsistency implies that the retarded space and time coordinates are not really as independent as they seem to be. It is rather that the dependency is not visible in the first derivatives of the coordinates. It is visible in the near field region of the retarded potentials, because angular velocity is more important in the near field region.

While the interaction has not converged perfectly, the first derivative is nevertheless exact for an arbitrarily small region of space and time. That is because it is not possible to choose a small value of dr_1 without also choosing a small value for dt_1 , and conversely. Since the coordinates depend on each other, the error in either coordinate seems to vanish quadratically. In some sense, the exactitude is illusory, but it is the best that can be done with the first derivative in 3+1 space.

Since this inconsistency is perfectly invisible to the Maxwell equations themselves, it is all right to simply ignore it when the objective is to obtain a solution to those equations.

The velocity of conduction electrons in stationary wires is so low that the inconsistency is undetectable in those solutions. Indeed, relativistic corrections can frequently be neglected even at moderately high velocities. In being the gradient of a scalar, Newtonian gravitational acceleration is in the same order as the Coulomb solution, yet those equations continue to serve well. Choose the right equation for the job is important.

Performing more iterations has no effect at all on the solution. The method of successive approximation refuses to provide an exact solution for the simultaneous time.

This behavior is not unique to light cone solutions. When integrating around a unit circle in 3-space ...

Even though the iterations failed to converge perfectly, the first derivative is exact for an arbitrarily small

region of space and time. That is because it is not possible to choose a small value of dr_1 without also choosing a small value for dt_1 , and conversely. Since the coordinates depend on each other, the error in either coordinate vanishes quadratically.

There are no space-time cross terms in the first derivative. There are cross terms in the equations, but the first derivative at a point displaced in either space or time is one of the contributors to the second derivative. For the first derivative, the displacements are just in space, or just in time.

?? This term is included in the calculations of the next section, and it should be included. However, that is not the way vector equations work in an orthogonal coordinate system. For true vector equations, the first derivative is computed by extrapolations just in space or just in time. For those equations, the first time derivative at a point displaced in space is one of the contributors to the second derivative.

??? When there is only one step in space and one in time, it is all right to combine the two steps into a single composite step in space-time. But when there is more than one step in either coordinate, it is necessary to proceed just one step at a time, as the method of successive will otherwise converge sooner than it should.

While the first derivative is for a displacement that is just in space or just in time, the first derivative at a point displaced in both space and time has to be obtained before the fully general second derivatives can be computed.

The more general second derivatives can then be integrated to determine what the first derivatives should have been in the first place. The total differential is harder to obtain when the chain rule for differentiation is required. These calculations do not explicitly utilize the chain rule, but it lurks within the equations.

Fortunately, dr and dt have both dropped out of the solution. They have to drop out if the solution is to be valid, because retardation equations have to work in the same way without knowing what time it is, or where we are. Most equations do not work this way, because most equations are not retardation equations.

For the first derivative, the translations are just in space, or just in time. There are no space-time cross terms in the equations. The first derivative at a point displaced in either space or time is one of the contributors to the second derivative. Cross terms do occur in the equations, but not until they are differentiated again.

However, unless the first derivative is the total differential, it could be that it is missing terms.

These calculations assume that the retarded location of the particle does not depend on its retarded acceleration. It is possible that the assumption is an oversimplification. The details are not yet clear, but it is clear that additional considerations in some form will be required to obtain convergent solutions for the d^5/dt^5 terms. In an intuitive sense, this limitation might be related to the fact that there is no equation for the fifth root of a polynomial. Another possibility for obtaining convergence might be to

include the gravitational expansion factor. For now, the d5 terms will have to be set aside for future investigations of the solutions for hammered particles. The r3 terms are for jerked particles, the r4 terms are for yanked particles. The LW equations are for accelerated particles.

This would normally be the solution for the first derivative in either space or time. But since the LW equations are in terms of the first time derivative of the coordinates, one more step in time is required for computing the potentials at a point that is displaced in time.

The solutions for jerked particles can be obtained by dropping the d4 terms. The solutions for accelerated particles can be obtained by dropping the d3 terms. The solutions cannot be reduced further unless the angular velocity of the particle is zero.

These would be our equations if we were at a point displaced in space and time. But since we did not know where we were in the first place, it is difficult to be sure they are not ours.

The particle velocity cannot exceed c , but angular velocity is unbounded. There are no indications exact retardation equations are obtainable.

If these are then right retardation equations when we are at the location dr rather than at the origin of the coordinate system, then we would also have to use them when we are at the origin, because we have no way of knowing when we are at the origin.

The first derivative is a good approximation at low velocities. However, solutions for an arbitrarily low velocity can contain a small error of the first order. For example, the Coulomb solution is usable in quasi-static solutions, but since the magnetic field is of order v^1 , the solutions contain an error of the first order, no matter how low the velocity is.

Thus, the LW equations are not form invariant for translations in space. It is doubtful that this solution is either, but it is once removed from an absolute coordinate system.

Consequently, it is possible for light cone solutions to be the right equation for the wrong particle.

In these calculations, t_e is the time shown by an elapsed time clock that is reset just before the experiment begins. The outcome of the experiment must not depend on when the timer is reset, so t_e has to drop out of the solution for the retarded potentials. The retardation equations are valid for a longer time if more powers of t_e are carried. The particle is visible forever. Retardation equations would ideally be valid forever also, but that may be too ambitious a goal.

In the solution of this section, t_e is set to zero. The retardation equations are valid just long enough to compute the first derivative. They are not valid long enough to compute the second derivative.

Carrying more terms in the Taylor expansion helps, but it also exacerbates the rate at which the cross terms grow, to the extent that it is not feasible to compute the first derivative at a point that is displaced very far in either space or time.

While the solutions of this order technically cannot be differentiated at all, the error is small enough at low velocities that the equations can be differentiated anyway in practical problems.

Once the vx^3 term drops out, it is gone forever. The surviving terms are for accelerated particles.

This characteristic of the Taylor theorem tends to be invisible if we do not know how to look for it.

The method of successive approximation has again converged in just one step. If the calculation seems too easy that is because it is.

The \vec{R} term represents the trajectory of a jerked particle. Discarding the term is bothersome, but there is no choice. It is not mathematically possible to retain the term in the first derivatives of 3+1 space. The cross terms always vanish quadratically. The surviving terms are for accelerated particles. After discarding all of the cross terms, the solution simplifies to

The LW equations are in terms of the first time derivative of the coordinates, so one more step in time is required for computing the retarded potentials at the time dt .

Again, the method of successive approximation has converged in just one iteration. More iterations would be required if the solution was for a nearby observer.

No matter how many terms are carried in the series expansion, the cross terms are of higher order and grow faster. Carrying more terms in the Taylor series helps some, but equations are so ill behaved that it is not feasible to compute the first derivative at a point that is displaced very far in either space or time.

Carrying more terms in the series expansion helps some, but it also exacerbates the problem by creating new cross terms that grow even faster. The equations are so ill behaved that it is not feasible to compute the first derivative at a point that is displaced very far in either space or time.

It may seem that there is no ambiguity in determining which particle is the right particle when the motion is purely radial, but that is not true. The corrections of the relativistic doppler equation²⁰ are missing in Eq -. The light cone equation does predict a doppler shift, but it is the wrong equation.

There seems to be no ambiguity in the identity of the particle when the motion is radial, but that is not necessarily true. The doppler shift predicted by Eq - is not in agreement with the relativistic doppler equation cited. The light cone equation is missing a factor of γ .

Clocks do not show absolute time. They show elapsed time. If a timer is reset to zero at the start of an experiment, the outcome of the experiment must not depend on when the timer was reset, even though the retarded angular relationships do depend on when the timer of the reset.

Some solutions is shown in the SOM, but the more elaborate solutions should be recomputed on an as-needed basis to insure that there are no software compatibility issues.

The light cone equation is for a particle on the light

cone, but it is difficult to be sure it is the right particle. A second opinion from another observer helps in identifying the particle.

In the calculations of this section, another observer is at the origin of the coordinate system. We have to develop the retardation equations for our use without caring where the other observer is. While the equations are for our use, we still need the second opinion provided by the other observer for resolving the ambiguities of the problem.

dr_1 has dropped out of the solution. While we require a second opinion in establishing the identity of the particle, we do not care where the other observer is, provided the other observer is nearby.

It would be possible to directly retard the second derivatives, but it is easier to retard the potentials and then differentiate the solution.

We are using the wrong equation if the measurements seem to depend on when the timer was reset. Using the right equation for the wrong particle is no better.

The tensor of rank $n+1$ is the gradient of the tensor of rank n . The tensor of the zeroth rank is a scalar. The retardation equation in that order is the Coulomb solution.

The first derivative in 3+1 space is misleading in this respect. Again, the method of successive approximation has converged in with only one iteration. The first derivative in 3+1 space is misleading in this respect. The equations seem to be more accurate than they are.

The solutions for the third and fourth steps are shown in the SOM, but the more elaborate solutions should be recomputed on an as-needed basis to insure that there are no software compatibility issues.

The tensor of the zeroth rank is a scalar. The Coulomb solution is the retardation equation in that order. The zeroth order retardation equation is usable in quasi-static solutions when the magnetic field can be neglected.

The gradient of a scalar is a tensor of the first rank, a vector. The LW equations are the retardation equations of that order.

The basis of this inconsistency is that the light cone solution is not for one particle. It is for a small family of particles.

For the first derivative, any member of this family is a solution at the time of closest approach. If the solution is for the wrong particle at the time of closest approach then it is for the wrong particle at any time. (Eq – is probably not the right equation. The equation was selected for illustrative purposes.)

The magnitude of R is at a quadratic minimum at the time of closest approach, so a smaller family can be selected with the second derivative. However, because the tensor of each rank is irreducible, it is doubtful that the solution for a single particle is obtainable.

The tensor of the zeroth rank is a scalar. The gradient of a scalar is a vector (actually a 4-vector in this case).

???In 3-space, the vector is normally taken as the starting point, then its gradient is the first derivative. But in 3+1 space, the 4-vector is the first derivative, then its gradient is the second derivative. The 4-gradient of a

vector is more closely related to the 3-space tensor of the third rank.

??? The basis of this relationship is that computing the first derivative at a point displaced in space requires two steps, one in space and one in time, while there is only one step in 3-space. There are mathematical similarities between two consecutive steps in space and one step in space followed by one step in time.

However, the retardation equations of this order are incomplete. There are three vectors in the decomposition products for the third rank tensor case. There are only two vectors in this solution.

The equations for the retarded potentials must not depend on when the timer is reset, because we do not know what time it is.

Clocks do not show absolute time. They show the elapsed time. In the following calculations, t_f is the time shown by a timer that is reset just before an experiment begins. The outcome of the experiment must not depend on the elapsed time since the timer was reset. The timer is used for computing time differences. The absolute value of the number shown by the timer is of no interest. For physical reasons, it has to drop out of the solution.

It does not matter when the experiment begins, so long as it is not too long after the timer is reset. The retardation equations of this order are not valid long enough for the experiment to begin at time dt_1+dt_2 .

There are other terms in 3+1 space, but a space rotation is still a space rotation, so the decomposition products of the 3-space tensors are a useful reference.

Since a vector is the gradient of a scalar, from the perspective of the tensor series, the gradient of a vector can be viewed as being a second derivative.

There is still some uncertainty in the actual location of the particle in this solution, but, in being of higher order, the location should be better constrained.

Now matter how small dr and dt are, the solution contains an error of the first order. Retardation equations are intrinsically observer dependent, but the trajectory of an inertial particle does not depend on which observer is watching. The solution is for the wrong particle.

No matter how small dr and dt are, the solution is not of first order. It is first order in dr and first order in dt , but the total differential is not just in space, or just in time.

Retardation equations are intrinsically observer dependent. No one observer can be sure of which particle is the right particle. A field of observers could be sure. With prolonged observations, one observer can also be sure.

The problem would be harder if more powers of t_f were carried.

When integrating numerically in n steps, an error that vanishes as $1/n$ does not vanish at all.

The observer at the field point is not necessarily at the origin of the coordinate system. A more general solution can be obtained by reparameterizing the solution for coordinates that are first-known by an observer at a different

location.

The Newton series is not an orthogonal series when the speed of light matters. The terms ... are all in the same order for light cone solutions. For close encounters, it is possible for the velocity to be arbitrarily high when the acceleration is low, but in orbital calculations it is not meaningful to carry excessively high powers of velocity while neglecting the powers of the other Newtonian terms.

This relationship is of no consequence for an observer in the first frame of reference. It does not matter whether the light cone solution is obtained in one or two steps. But due to the non-orthogonality of the coordinates in the second frame of reference, the other observer cannot take the computational shortcut.

In Eqs. (1), dr is of first order and dt is of first order, but it does not necessarily follow the equations represent the total differential. The derivatives are always exact – until they are differentiated again.

There is no known series where the terms are orthogonal at both ends of \mathbf{R} .

To some extent, the problem can be orthogonalized by obtaining the retardation solution one term at a time. With this approach, the solution for the \dot{a} terms is developed as a perturbation of the solution for the v terms.

By proceeding this way, it may be possible to obtain equations that behave as though the four coordinates were mutually orthogonal, even though they are not. The retarded potentials are an observer-dependent mathematical abstraction. There is no requirement that they be real in a physical sense.

A computer program was used to re-arrange the vector components to coordinate-free vector equations. The algorithm used in the calculations was empirical, but it is closely related to the methods used for obtaining solutions by the method of undetermined coefficients. The calculations for more elaborate solutions are much more efficient if the solutions are obtained several passes, with each pass being for only one power of velocity.

The two contributors to the E field are not experimentally separable in local observations of short duration. Each contributor behaves like a quasi-potential in this respect. The full solution is

The Lorentz condition behaves like a quasi-potential. It is not locally measurable until it is differentiated.

The first derivative of this solution seems to represent the first derivative at a point displaced in both space and time. But since we did not know where we were in the first place, it is difficult to be sure.

When the particle is accelerated, its location should be evaluated relative to the solution for an unaccelerated particle, rather than relative to us. The retarded potentials would exist if we were not even here.

From the perspective of an observer in the frame of reference of the particle, the location of an accelerated particle should be evaluated in relation to the location of an unaccelerated particle rather than in relation to a

distant observer, because the solution depends on where the distant observer is. The solution would be unreal if the location of the particle depended on who is watching.

These three steps in space-time can be combined into a single composite step and the solution is the same.

Some solutions for the retarded E and B fields are shown in the SOM. The solutions are exactly the same as the solutions of the LW equations.

The observer is not necessarily at the origin of the coordinate system. It is now necessary to reparametrize the solution by the coordinates first-known by an observer at a different place and time.

However, the location of the simultaneous point in the first frame of reference has no special significance for the other observer. The solutions of the Lorentz transform generally do not exhibit absolute simultaneity either.

If the problem is not worked this way, there are angular velocity terms that masquerade as acceleration terms, causing the solution to be for the wrong particle.

The \dot{a} terms grow as t^2 ; the \ddot{a} terms grow as t^3 . The \dot{a} \dot{a} cross term grows as t^5 , placing it in the same order as the \dot{a} \dot{a} terms. Attempting to improve the accuracy of the series expansion by including the \ddot{a} terms would not help. The \dot{a} terms are nearly meaningless. The first derivative at a displaced point is one of the terms that is required for computing the higher order derivatives at a point that is not displaced. Attempting to improve the accuracy of the derivatives at a point that is not displaced by carrying more terms in a Taylor series representation of the trajectory is futile.

The consequences of the cross terms can be minimized by developing the trajectory of an accelerated particle as a perturbation of the trajectory of a constant velocity particle.

The terms in this series do not have the same physical meaning as the terms of the Newton equations, but the Taylor theorem has a meaning in its own right.

If dt actually is an infinitesimal quantity in light cone solutions, then integrating over the dt interval will have no effect, because integration in the infinitesimal degenerates to multiplication.

The acceleration terms should be carried in the following calculations. Velocity terms are of lower order than acceleration terms, so the acceleration of the particle can be neglected when the conditions are sufficiently mild. The acceleration terms are important, so not much should be expected of the solutions of this order, but the velocity terms do come first.

If it actually is an infinitesimal quantity for light cone solutions, then integrating over the dt interval is harmless, because integration in the infinitesimal degenerates to multiplication.

The acceleration terms are important. The solution obtained by dropping them is of too low an order to be of much interest, but the velocity terms do come first.

This behavior would be contrary to the theorems of Euclidean calculus if the retarded time and space coordinates were independent variables, but they are not. They

depend on each other. The chain rule for differentiation is normally required when the variables are not independent, but it is not clear how it should be applied when they depend on each other.

The procedure can be viewed as chasing the particle in many small steps, and adjusting the direction of the steps as necessary to eventually bring the particle onto the light cone.

The integration would have no net effect if Eq – represented the total differential.

In obtaining a solution by the method of successive approximation, a more cautious approach is to chase the particle with many small steps rather than with a single large leap through space and time. The equations are ill behaved at high velocities. For a radially approaching particle, dt/dt_f goes to infinity as v goes to c . There are special cases where infinity can be reduced to first order in one step, but those cases are very restrictive.

is not real. However, the solution illustrates that it is possible of angular velocity to masquerade as an acceleration term, and conversely.

This algorithm would exponentially approach the solution, but it would never converge. A convergence factor can be used to obtain larger steps near the end of the chase, where the residual is already small. With i running from 1 to $n-1$, a satisfactory convergence factor is $(i/(n-1))^2$. The convergence factor is an empirical equation, and there are many choices for it. It affects the speed of the convergence, but it has no effect at all on the asymptotic solution, provided that all of the steps are small.

From the perspective of the observer at the field point, infinity can be reduced to first order in one step. An observer co-moving with the particle would disagree.

The first derivative at a point displaced in both space and time is required for computing the second derivatives, so there are cross terms in the second derivatives but not in the first. For example, the cross term ... is one of the contributors to the Maxwell equations.

Fortunately, the method of successive approximation has converged in a single step.

There are now rv terms in the solution, showing that there are some similarities between two steps in time and one step in space followed by one step in time. But there are also differences. There are three directions in space, but only one in time.

Retardation equations are ill behaved when the velocity is high. From the perspective of an observer at the field point, dt is nevertheless of first order in the sense that subdividing dt_f has no effect at all on the form of the equations. But from the perspective of an observer co-moving with the particle, since dt can be arbitrarily large, there is ample time for acceleration terms to affect the location of the particle when the dt interval is mapped into the dt_f interval. From the perspective of the other observer, the solution at time dt_f should be obtained by integration, even though dt_f is arbitrarily small.

When integrating over the dt_f interval in n steps, Eq –

becomes

There is ample time for quadratic terms to affect the trajectory. No matter how small the dt_f interval is, it is necessary to integrate over the interval to retain the curvature terms. However, integration in the infinitesimal degenerates to multiplication, so the integration would not accomplish anything. It would be necessary to differentiate the equation, integrate it, then supply a constant of integration. There may be other ways of obtaining the solution, but it is a hard problem in the first frame of reference.

It is possible for there to be a second observer who is not at the origin of the coordinate system. The solution can be translated in space to obtain the solution for the other observer. Since we have no way of knowing where the origin of the coordinate system should be, the other observer could be us.

An infinitesimal translation in space in the frame of reference of the field point is an infinitesimal rotation in the frame of reference of the particle. There is no known way of integrating around a circle with one linear equation unless it contains π , implying that the solution for the second infinitesimal rotation will be different than this one.

It is likely that there is a connection to the rotations of the Lorentz group cited.

XLI. THE FIRST ROTATION

The light cone constraint becomes stronger if more derivatives are carried. However, invariant equations are not for inertial particles unless they are for the right particle. When they are for the right particle, more than one observer can agree on its identity.

The space derivatives are effective in localizing the retarded location of the particle.

Retardation equations are intrinsically observer dependent, yet they have to work in the same way for all observers. That is because the other observer could be us next time.

These appear to be the retardation equations for a nearby observer. But since we did not know where we were in the first place, they could be our equations too. There could be a third observer in the problem. It is difficult to be sure that the third observer is not us.

There are no space-time cross terms in the first derivatives of 3+1 space. As exemplified by the Maxwell equations in potential form, there are cross terms in the second derivatives, but not in the first. The cross terms always vanish quadratically in the first derivatives.

There could be a third observer in the problem. Since we do not know where we are in the first place, it is difficult to be sure that the third observer is not us.

In the calculations of S –, the coordinate system was centered on the observer. In this section, the coordinate system is centered on a second and nearby observer. Ideally, the retarded potentials should not depend on where the origin of the coordinate system is. That goal may be

difficult to achieve, but we can at least acknowledge the existence of other observers.

Fortunately, the method of successive approximation has converged in a single iteration. (However, the calculation assumes that the location of the particle at the time $t=0$ is already known.)

The space derivatives are helpful in localizing the retarded location of the particle.

If an observer at the origin of the coordinate system does not know when the time $t=0$ should be then a nearby observer probably does not either, but the other observer does provide a second opinion.

The acceleration terms will need further evaluation. However, there is no hope for the acceleration terms until the angular velocity and acceleration terms become distinguishable.

Since we have no way of knowing where the origin of the coordinate system should be, the nearby observer could be us.

The acceleration terms will need further evaluation. However, there is no hope for the acceleration terms until the velocity terms are right.

The calculations of this section take some shortcuts that should not be taken, but the solution nevertheless appears to be a valid term of the retardation series. The equations of this order are vector equations. There are no symmetric terms in the solutions.

The acceleration terms should be carried in the following calculations. But since the velocity terms are of lower order than the acceleration terms, the acceleration of the particle can be neglected when the conditions are sufficiently mild.

The Lorentz condition is a symmetric vector equation, but it is always zero in the solutions of the LW equations. (It is actually a pseudo-vector equation. True vector equations do not have symmetric terms.)

The equations of this section are for an observer who is at the origin of the coordinate system. The solution for a nearby observer is shown in S -.

However, in observations of short duration, one observer cannot see that the equations are for the wrong particle.

True vector equations cannot represent symmetric terms. Vectors and pseudo-vectors behave differently for sign inversions. The Lorentz condition is a symmetric pseudo-vector equation.

For an observer at the origin of the coordinate system, the cross terms vanish quadratically. They have no effect on the first derivatives. There are cross terms in the second derivatives, but not in the first.

We are always free to choose a coordinate system that is centered upon ourselves, in which case the cross terms vanish. We are not free to choose a coordinate system that follows us as we orbit the sun, but, for a short time, it is nevertheless all right to choose a coordinate system that is centered upon ourselves.

The cross terms vanish quadratically as dr and dt both become arbitrarily small, so the $Rv\dot{t}$ terms can be neg-

lected in a small region of space and time at the field point.

In an orthogonal coordinate system, the cross terms vanish quadratically as dr and dt both become arbitrarily small, so they can be neglected in a small region of space and time at the field point. (On the other hand, there would not be any cross terms in an orthogonal system.)

The gradient of a scalar is a vector. The gradient of a vector is a tensor of the second rank. The scalar is R . From the perspective of the tensor series, the gradient of a vector is the second derivative, not the first.

On the other hand, concluding that the cross terms vanish quadratically in an orthogonal system is contradictory, because there are no cross terms in an orthogonal system.

However, the equations are linearly dependent if the dt interval is subdivided. Integrating the first derivative over the dt interval would not accomplish anything. It would be necessary to integrate the second derivative, then supply a constant of integration. The constant of integration would represent a correction to where we thought the particle was.

The solution at location dr and time dt would be for the same particle as the solution at $dr=0$ if the equations were of first order, but they are not, because rotations cannot be reduced to first order in one step.

If the equations were of first order then dt and dR would be linearly dependent and the magnitude of dt would not matter. However, rotations cannot be reduced to first order in one step.

dt has dropped out of the solution, showing that, no matter how high the velocity of the particle is, the infinitesimal transform can halt it in a single step. It could not possibly be the right particle.

Our frame of reference is the only one we can ever measure anything in, which makes it important. However, the other observer should be able to work the retardation problem without knowing where we are.

It is possible to either obtain a global solution for the retarded potentials and then differentiate it to obtain the fields, or to directly retard the E and B fields. As developed in §xx, the equations of this section are for the wrong particle, but they are nevertheless known to work well at low velocities, and they are usually the only retardation equations needed. The velocity of conduction electrons in stationary copper wire is so low that the inconsistencies are not detectable in those configurations.

We need to know how to compute the retarded potentials for a second nearby observer. Because we have no way of knowing where we are in space and time, the nearby observer could be us. Ideally, we would be able to obtain the solution of another observer anywhere in the universe. A less ambitious goal is to proceed one small step at a time.

As shown in the SOM, the derivation of the LW equations does not depend on whether the time at the source or the time at the field point is the independent variable. The solution is the same either way. However, due to the

constantly changing doppler frequency when there is a transverse velocity, the derivatives do depend on which time is the independent variable. The correct equations are derived in §xx. The derivatives of this section appear to be for the wrong particle in the sense that it is not a particle on an inertial trajectory, but they are an excellent approximation when the velocity is low.

However, as developed in §xx, the rapid convergence is a consequence of obtaining a light cone solution for the wrong particle.

This inconsistency indicates that the calculations are not working in the expected way. The basis of the inconsistency is developed in §xx.

The midpoint shift vanishes quadratically as dt becomes small. Consequently, the midpoint is at the middle in that case so the shift has no effect on the first derivative. It does affect the retarded second derivative.

This relationship is not contrary to the theorems of Euclidian calculus. It is rather that the chain rule for differentiation is required when the variables are not independent.

The tensor of the zeroth rank is a scalar \square . The retardation equation of that order is the Coulomb solution. According to the LW equations, the magnetic field is a transformed E field. There are no velocity terms in the Coulomb solution, so there is no magnetic field, but the equations are nevertheless usable in quasi-static solutions.

The LW equations appear to be the second term of the retardation series.

Fortunately, the method of successive approximation has converged in a single iteration. However, as shown in §-, the solution is for the wrong particle. The solution is nevertheless a good approximation when the particle velocity is low. Indeed, the velocity of conduction electrons in stationary copper wire is so low that the discrepancy is undetectable in those configurations.

The tensor irreducibility theorem \square represents the differential angular relationships in 3-space. There are other terms in 3+1 space, but a space rotation is still a space rotation. The irreducibility of the 3-space tensors implies that exact retardation equations do not exist. The basis of the irreducibility theorem is that the highest order multipole in the solutions increases with the rank of the tensor.

At low velocities, the $R\dot{2}$ terms reduce to Newtonian acceleration terms and the $R\dot{3}$ terms reduce to $av\dot{t}$ terms. The solutions are for jerked particles. It may be possible to obtain solution for yanked particles by carrying the $R\dot{4}$ terms in Eq -.

The calculation seems to have converged in a single iteration, but not really, because the solution is for the wrong particle. It is not sufficient that the particle be on the light cone. It must also be on an inertial trajectory if it has mass. The inconsistency is illustrated in Fig - for a radially approaching particle.

Even though the solution is for the wrong particle, the error is small when the velocity is low. Indeed, the ve-

locity of conduction electrons in stationary copper wire is so low that the error is undetectable even at currents high enough to melt the wire.

In the top panel, $\cos \tau$ is the same as \dot{v} . The relativistic doppler equation \square is parameterized by $\cos \tau$ rather than \dot{v} . There are no terms in the LW equations that are identifiable with the transverse doppler effect - in Eq -, there are no relativistic corrections when $R \dot{v}$ is zero.

All things measurable are relative, but it is not us that they are relative to. In the calculations of this section, the time at the particle is the independent variable. The time at the field point is the dependent variable.

It may be possible to integrate the solution for the retarded fields in a general way to obtain the equation for the retarded potentials. Not all equations are integrable, so the integral might or might not exist.

Since dr has dropped out of the solution, it does not matter where the other nearby observer is. Consequently, the other nearby observer could be where we are.

If a particle moves along a marked course with a synchronized clock at rest at each grid intersection, then an assistant near the trajectory could report the time that the particle passes by each clock. The time that the assistant would report is not the same as the time computed with the light cone equation if the time at the field point is the independent variable.

The times that the assistant would report represent the trajectory of an inertial particle. The computed source times do not, because an unaccelerated particle is not half way to the destination in half of the computed travel time.

γ is usually associated with the second frame of reference. However, in so far as is known, the only thing special about our frame of reference is that it is ours. It should not matter which frame of reference is used for calculations.

Unless our frame of reference is special, it should be possible to obtain the missing terms in the other frame of reference.

Since the tensor of each rank is irreducible \square , it might be that the solution obtained by directly retarding the derivatives will be different than the solution obtained by retarding the potentials and then differentiating the solution. In any case, the velocity terms come first.

Since the 4-potential transforms in the same way as the coordinates, the calculations of the Thomas precession are applicable to the retarded potentials. Those equations are used in Ref - to compute the first time derivatives of the retarded potentials, then the solutions were integrated in time for the current loop and dipole solutions. To order v^3 only, the radiative terms of those solutions are identical to these solutions. The static and quasi-static terms are lost when integrating the time derivatives, so the near field solutions are necessarily different. The calculation implies that it is possible to obtain the solution for missing terms in the other frame of reference. That is as it should be unless our frame of reference is

special.

When a short dipole antenna is at the location $y=0$ and the field point is also at $y=0$, $dtf=dts$ and there is no doppler shift. In the figure, the time at the field point is then $+ry/c$, but the solution is unaffected by translating the coordinates so that the time at the dipole is $-ry/c$ and the time at the field point is zero. When retarding several particles, the time at the field point is taken to be zero for each particle, so the coordinate translation is different for each particle. In practice, the coordinates are not translated – the time at the field point is taken to be zero in the first place, so that the signals from all of the particles arrive at the field point at the same time.

The time interval at the field point is longer than at the particle, so a periodic signal is redshifted. This is the transverse doppler effect in Eq. (1).

The angle β in the top panel is the same as the β in Eq. (1) (drawn on wrong side).

The calculations in the reference imply that the missing terms are computable in the frame of reference of the particle. That is as it should be unless our frame of reference is special.

If there is a short dipole antenna parallel to the x axis at the location $x=0$, then a charged particle in the antenna is always near $x=0$, regardless of its instantaneous velocity.

The space vectors are based on the angular relationships in the middle panel. The slanted lines in the bottom panel do not represent 3-space angular relationships.

The doppler shift in the top panel is $f_r/f_s = dt_s/dt_r$. For an unaccelerated transmitter, the maximum rate of change of the doppler shift occurs at the point of closest approach. In Fig. (1), the maximum rate of change occurs before the point of closest approach.

The maximum rate of change could of course occur at any time if the transmitter is accelerated. When the transmitter is in a distant circular orbit, it is accelerated, so the point of zero doppler shift does not occur at the point of closest approach. Similarly, the point of zero doppler shift does not occur when the transmitter is at the maximum distance from the receiver on the far side of the orbit. The acceleration contribution to the perceived orbital phase is negligible at low velocities.

It is always possible to rotate the coordinates so that the trajectory is parallel to the x axis at the point of closest approach, and it is always possible to translate the coordinates in time so that the time is zero at the field point at the point of closest approach, so the figure is more general than it seems to be. The figure can nevertheless be misleading at high velocities if the trajectory angle is first-known at a point far away and the point of closest approach is nearby – that causes the observer to be near the target.

In applying the LW equations to apparatus design, the particle moves along a marked course. Since all of the clocks are in the same frame of reference and the magnitude of R is at a quadratic minimum at the point of closest approach, there is no transverse doppler term.

Clocks do not show absolute time. They show elapsed time. It may be justifiable to assume that a clock moving along the marked course needs synchronization in the first frame of reference.

In 3+1 space, the equations would work in the same way at time $t_f = +ry/c$ in Fig. (1). There should be a transverse doppler term at that point, but there is none. However, the four coordinates are mutually orthogonal in 3+1 space. The solution is not in 3+1 space, and the vector from the field point to the particle is not a true vector. It is a pseudo-vector. Vectors and pseudo-vectors behave differently for sign inversions. There are no multipoles beyond the dipole with true vector equations.

Being unable to obtain the right doppler shift at the time $t_f = +ry/c$ is not necessarily a restriction. The velocity can be of either sign, and the particle is always on the retarded light cone at some point in its history. Fig. (1) is just one slice of the projection into two space dimensions.

The solution at the time $t_f = 0$ could be extrapolated to time $t_f = +ry/c$, with the Taylor theorem, but the extrapolation cannot be performed by simply translating the coordinates without annoying the observer in the frame of reference of the particle.

The vector from the field point to the particle is not a true vector. It is a pseudo-vector. The solution for the observer's backside cannot be obtained by inverting the vector and translating it.

For any given choice for the coordinate system in which the time at the field point is zero, it should be possible to develop the problem as a series expansion parameterized by the retarded Newton series. The \mathbf{a} and $\dot{\mathbf{a}}$ terms of the series are important, but there is no possibility of representing them until the velocity terms are right.

The time at the particle, as evaluated in the first frame of reference, is now compatible with the Newton equations, and the midpoint of a line is at the middle. It is possible to nonuniformly stretch a wire so that the midpoint is no longer at the center, but the derivatives would be more elaborate.

The same equation should apply to the acoustic wave, but only if there is no wind.

Light cone solutions normally include both radial and transverse velocities. There is no radial velocity at the point of closest approach, allowing γ to become visible in the first frame of reference. γ is usually associated with the second frame of reference. Unless our frame of reference is special or different, it should also be visible to us.

It may be possible to work this problem with the time at the field point as the independent variable. If the problem is worked that way, it should be kept in mind that $\dot{\mathbf{a}}$ terms integrate to acceleration terms.

The retarded velocity usually has both radial and transverse components in light cone solutions, tending to obscure the role that γ plays in the first frame of reference. The radial velocity is zero at the point of closest approach, allowing γ to become more visible.

In the figure, vector equations would not be affected if the coordinates are rotated about the z axis, or indeed about any axis.

There appear to be differences of opinion that are not reconcilable with vector equations, but it is the transform that matters.

The solution at the time ry/c in Fig – is computable, but it cannot be obtained by translating the coordinate system in the first frame of reference without annoying the observer in the frame of reference of the particle.

It does not matter when the time $tf=0$ is chosen to be. If the solution for the time $tf=+ry/c$ in fig – is needed, then then $tf=0$ should be chosen to be at that point, and the solution would look the same.

The Maxwell and LW equations are nevertheless of a good form when the particle velocity is low, and they provide an essential reference point. They are usually the only electrical equations that are needed.

Newton gravity is the gradient of a static scalar, as is the E field of the static Coulomb solution. The Maxwell equations are of higher order than the Newton gravitational equations.

(The chain rule for differentiation would be required of performing these calculations in differential form.)

The magnitude of R' is at a quadratic minimum at the point of closest approach, so dR'/dt is zero at that point. (In 3+1 space, the point of closest approach would be the same in both frames of reference.)

The potentials are not traditionally viewed as representing physical quantities. They are subject to gauge transformations, so there is not necessarily a requirement that this computational model correspond directly to physical processes, provided that a gauge transform can be discovered that provides the same solutions for the E and B fields, and that is also interpretable in a physical context.

Those calculations suggest that the solitons are obtainable in the other frame of reference, where there are transverse doppler terms.

3-space vectors are based on the angular relationships in the top panel. The slanted lines in the bottom panel do not represent 3-space vectors. In the top panel, $\cos \beta$ is the same as the $\dot{R}vdotv/c$ of Eqs. –. Vector equations throughout are unaffected by rotating the coordinates by the three Euler angles.

Since the computational models are different, it is conceivable that they are connected by a gauge transform. In any case, the transform is the solution. Each perspective is one aspect of the problem.

In Fig –, the time at the particle is taken as the independent variable. An unaccelerated particle is now half way to the destination in half of the computed travel time, which makes the Newton equations easier to interpret. The acceleration terms are important, but the velocity terms do come first.

While the particle can be at the point of closest approach at the time $ts=0$, in the following calculations it can be anywhere.

These relationships will be developed further in later versions of this paper. Refer to Ref. – for some relevant background material for the Proca equations.

The solutions of this section appear to be missing relativistic corrections. The corrections are negligible at low velocities. The LW equations are of a good form at low velocities, and they are usually the only retardation equations that are needed. The velocity of conduction electrons in stationary copper wire is so low that the corrections are undetectable in those configurations.

The expansion factor inside a stationary mass shell stretches the coordinates isotropically. The time and space coordinates are affected equally, so the locally measured speed of light is not affected⁸.

It is conceivable that the expansion factor affects the location of the simultaneous point, in relation to the retarded point. The particle is not visible when it is at the simultaneous point, so there would be no direct way of observing the relationship.

It is not yet known if the expansion factor affects laboratory electrical measurements that contain mass terms. There could be no effect inside a stationary mass shell. However, we cannot know whether it is the particle or the shell that is moving. It is mathematically possible for there to be a vector in the interior region of a moving mass shell that is parallel to the shell's velocity. An effect on massless charged particles would not be expected, but there are no known particles of that form.

A solution that is spherically symmetric in the interior region of a mass shell is not spherically symmetric in the frame of reference of a moving particle. Measurable relationships should not depend on which frame of reference is used for calculations. Our frame of reference would be special if we knew which one it is, but we do not, and cannot. An observer at rest in the interior region of a mass shell is not in a preferred frame of reference. It is probably all right to neglect the expansion factor in low order solutions, but the assumption will need further evaluation, especially in a cosmological context.

The calculations in this section are for a second nearby observer. Since we cannot know where we are in space and time, we cannot tell if the other solution is for us, but it does not matter, because the equations are the same for both observers.

dr has dropped out of the solution, so we cannot tell which of the two observers is us. That is important, because we have no way of knowing where the origin of the coordinate system should be.

The light cone equation can be solved with either ts or tf as the independent variable. In Fig –, the time at field point is the independent variable. This figure corresponds to the application of the LW equations to practical problems.

The LW equations can be derived with the Lorentz

transform⁹. As shown in the figure, the time at the particle in the first frame of reference is $-\gamma ry/c$ when deriving the retardation equations if the particle is unaccelerated. If the particle is accelerated, then the solution is for a different particle moving tangentially to the trajectory at the retarded intersection, in which case the particle will not be at the location $x=0$ when t_s is 0.

Even though the trajectory is not that of an inertial particle, the particle is at rest in the second frame of reference, so it is not possible to tell that the solution is unphysical until it is differentiated. That is because, as shown in Fig –, the location of the particle in the first frame of reference is the same when t_s is the independent variable. The retarded potentials do not depend on whether t_s or t_f is the independent variable until the solution is differentiated.

Acceleration terms are important, but there is no possibility of representing them correctly until the velocity terms are for an inertial particle.

In being the terms of an orthogonal series, each of the vectors of the Newton series is in an independent direction and the multipoles of each order can be obtained separately.

There are necessarily other ways of working this problem. The calculations were performed with vector equations, but the underlying relationships are absurdly not vector equations.

No straightforward way of performing this calculation with the Lorentz transform has thus far been found. More general invariant coordinate transforms are known, and they may be relevant to the retardation problem.

The dipole solution is not the same as the solution in Ref.¹¹. The discrepancy needs to be resolved, but I have not had time to do it yet.

Attempts at obtaining this solution with the undifferentiated Lorentz transform have not thus far been successful. A traditional approach is to reduce the problem to first order, then obtain the solution by integration. It is doubtful that the four dimensional space can be fully reduced to first order, but it should be possible to develop the problem as a series expansion. Other invariant coordinate transforms are known, and they may be relevant to the retardation problem.

When computing an orbit, the derivatives are integrated to obtain the location of the particle. When applying retardation equations, the location of the particle is assumed to be already known, then the derivatives are computed. The location of the particle has to be known by independent means before retardation equations can be applied.

The LW equations are known to work well at low velocities, so that method of calculation can be used to estimate an approximate initial location of the particle. Thereafter, the location should be obtained by integration.

It is not yet known if the cosmological expansion factor affects laboratory electrical measurements. It may be

possible to find out if it does by including it in the retardation equations. There is no possible way of recognizing cosmological terms without the appropriate equations, as they have been there from the beginning. The expansion factor is already known, which would facilitate evaluation of the equations.

There is a possibility that the cosmological constant will emerge naturally as a free parameter in the form of a constant of integration. An uncontrived solution would be the best of all ways.

Thus, while the scalar solution is different than the solution in the reference, it appears to be because this perspective applies to all phases. This additional degree of freedom appears to be inaccessible in the textbook calculations of the Thomas precession. However, all of these calculations are preliminary.

It is indicated that the textbook calculations of the Thomas precession are missing the terms that would represent an integration to a different place, but for the same time.

The meaning of this degree of freedom is not yet clear. It is entirely possible that it is due to inadequate calculations, but it is conceivable that the solutions contain degrees of freedom that can only be constrained by laboratory measurements. On the other hand, there is no known role for empirical pure number quantities in geometrical equations. The ratio of the electrostatic to gravitational force between two electrons is a pure number quantity. Is it a computable or an empirical quantity? We do not know yet. For now, T will be carried as a free parameter, but that cannot be.

There will be other multipoles for the other Newtonian vectors. In being a monopole, it should be possible to separate the cosmological expansion factor from the other terms.

The acceleration of the particle is frequently not weak enough that it can be neglected, so those solutions will be of limited practical interest. However, the acceleration term is not the first term of the series.

If both observers are included in the problem then three points on the trajectory are required to compute the retarded velocity. We are one step behind.

The acceleration of the particle during the second infinitesimal step can be neglected if it is weak enough, although it does make a first order contribution to the location of the particle at the end of the second step.

From the perspective of the other observer, the field point is accelerated. The field point can be accelerated, but not when the solution is for a distant and detached observer.

The other observer may be right. The field point can be accelerated, but retardation equations represent the perspective of a distant and detached observer. They are not usable in an accelerated frame of reference.

From the perspective of the other observer, the particle seems to be accelerated. When the particle is known to far from all fields, both observers should be able to agree that it is not accelerated. When there is a weak

acceleration, neither can compute the orbit of the particle if there is a velocity term that looks like an acceleration term.

If two observers are in radial free fall, one behind the other, then each will perceive the other as being accelerated, so it is not true that the acceleration terms in such solutions should always be zero. They should be zero when both observers are far from all fields. They should be small when the fields are weak.

When $t_{f1} = -t_{f0}$ the particle must be where it was in the first place.

The solution is the same as the LW solutions if the \dot{a} terms are not carried. The LW equations appear to be the correctly determined equations for accelerated particles. This is the equation of the retarded jerk.

The particle is initially at rest in the second frame of reference. Its velocity at time dt is $dv = a \, dt$. There are no relativistic corrections that are first order in velocity. The equations for accelerated particles are vector equations. There are relativistic corrections in the frame of reference of the particle at time $dt_1 + dt_2$. The equations for the second derivative are not true vector equations, and the second derivative is required if the equations are to be integrated – unless trajectory is Newtonian.

The solution for a yanked particle is obtained by including the \dot{a} terms.

In these solutions, the acceleration is the gradient of the expansion factor. According to the Einstein tensor, the expansion factor of the gravitational wave is zero at infinity. The radius of curvature is infinite at infinity, so it is difficult to be sure what exists there.

From a global perspective, the solution exhibits the symmetry of a quadrupole, while the LW equations exhibit the symmetry of a dipole. The local and global perspectives are not at all independent. Multipoles of all orders exist, so this solution is in the lowest order of interest. The tensor irreducibility theorem⁶ specifies the relationships between the local and global perspectives of 3-space rotations. Those relationships are intuitively more clear in the equations for the deformations of elastic media². There are other terms in 4-space, but a space rotation is still a space rotation.

Neither retarded equations nor field equations form a complete representation. Field equations constrain the fields without specifying what causes them. It is sometimes possible to guess what causes them, but it is difficult to be sure. Retarded equations do specify the physical basis of the solution, but they have grave limitations in other ways.

The radial and transverse velocities have now been separated at the point of closest approach. Unlike the Doppler equation, there is no longer an ambiguity in identifying the particle, so the equation can be integrated. (The Doppler equation would also be less ambiguous if the space derivatives were included.)

It is possible that the quantum theories have developed a peculiar way of viewing the symmetric terms. If our frame of reference is the only one that matters then it

makes no difference at all whether the sun is orbiting us or we are orbiting the sun.

The gravitational wave does not contain acceleration terms at infinity⁸. However, we cannot see to infinity.

XLII. FUTURE WORK

The a , \dot{a} , and \ddot{a} terms would drop out of the solution if the particle was at the origin at the time $t = r_0/c$, but that is not where it was.

The potential equations in Ref. ... have two static solutions, which are shown there. Both have terms that appear to be cosmological terms. A vector transforms as three scalars, so it should be possible to transform the static vector potential solution.

It is conceivable that the retarded series could become degenerate or divergent at some point in the progression.

The expansion factor within a stationary mass shell stretches the time and space coordinates by like amounts, so the locally measured speed of light is not affected⁸. The cosmological expansion factor may need consideration when the particle was not where it was thought to be.

The particle could have an accelerometer attached to it, and the accelerometer dial could be read from any frame of reference. Both observers should be able to agree on what the dial reading is.

The LW equations are nevertheless known to serve well at low velocities. The tools used should be appropriate for the job.

XLIII. THE LIGHT CONE EQUATION

In fig –, the particle emits two photons at the same instant. The two photons are presumably entangled. One of the photons propagates to ... The angular relationships of this solution are those of true vector equations.

The assistant is usually not available, making it more difficult to determine both where a particle was and when it was there.

The perceived angular relationships in an expanding universe need more attention than they have received. Intuitive extrapolations from low velocity vector equations are not reliable.

There can be a stream of particles, all on the same trajectory, that pass by the simultaneous point at different times. If the location of the simultaneous point had an absolute significance then we would know which particle in the stream is the right particle. But because the angular relationships are observer-dependent, one observer cannot quickly determine which particle in the stream is the right one.

A field of observers would know which particle is the right one. If one observer keeps prolonged records of

angular relationships, then one observer counts as several observers.

If the simultaneous point is taken as a reference point, then the equations need a relativistic correction.

It is the transform that matters, not which perspective is the right one.

There can be a stream of particles, all on the same trajectory, that pass by the retarded point at different times. In 3+1 space, we would know which particle is the right particle without performing any calculations. The problem is not in 3+1 space. Eq - is for the wrong particle.

tx0 has to drop out of the solution, because it has to be possible to apply the equations without knowing what time it is. With true vector equations, tx0 will always drop out. The light cone equation is not a true vector equation.

If the location of the simultaneous point is known for one observer, then its location for any other observer in the same frame of reference is easily computable with simple vector equations.

Consequently, the location of the simultaneous point becomes relative to the observer in a manner that is not simply related to the simultaneous point for other observers. One manifestation of this relationship is that the Lorentz transform does not exhibit absolute simultaneity []

The basis of this inconsistency is that the angular relationships for a distant observer have no special significance for an observer co-moving with the particle - there could be several distant observers at various angles.

The procedure converges in one step, no matter how many powers of velocity are carried, implying that the solution could be obtained in simpler ways.

In 3+1 space, the light cone equation for unaccelerated particles can be written as

Translating the coordinates in either space or time does not affect the solutions.

When the angle between the simultaneous and retarded points is large, the location of the simultaneous point depends on both how far away the particle was and the angle between the line of sight and the velocity vector. The angular relationships for one observer have no special significance for any other observer, including the one co-moving with the particle.

A vector cannot be rotated about both ends at the same time. The first rotation is about the head of the vector. The particle is frozen in time for this rotation.

In 3+1 space, the events at both ends of drv1 have to be simultaneous when computing the first space derivatives, so dts1 is not a free parameter.

The first space derivatives are specified by the equation $dAv = (drv \cdot \text{del}) A$. $\text{del} A$ is a tensor of the second rank. Its decomposition products are a scalar, a pseudo vector, and a quadrupole []. The scalar is $\text{del} \cdot a$. The pseudo vector is $\text{del} \times a$. The quadrupole has no role in the solutions of the Maxwell equations.

Pseudo vectors and true vectors behave differently for sign inversions and rotations [].

In 4-space, the scalar becomes the Lorentz condition, ..., and there is the another vector, $-dA/dt$..

Eq - contained $Rv0$ and $vv0$ terms, so they were re-introduced in these calculations. The solution has to be obtained by the method of successive approximation. All of the calculations are repeated until all of the original variables drop out. The number of iterations required depends on the maximum power of velocity carried, but the convergence is rapid.

The terms of this series are mutually orthogonal in Newtonian solutions. There are cross terms in light cone solutions. The $ax2$ and $avdot$ terms are usually in the same order.

The radius vector from the field point to the particle cannot be rotated about both ends at the same time, so the rotations have to be performed in two steps. The first rotation is about the tail of the vector.

It is possible that this inconsistency is due to the neglect of the $avdot$ terms in Eq -. The $avdot$ terms are more important in tiny orbits.

The $avdot$ terms drop out when there are only two nearby observers, which has the effect of restricting the equations to experiments of short duration.

It would be possible to obtain accurate solutions when the simultaneous point is taken as a reference point, but a relativistic correction would be required.

This solution is not necessarily in conflict with Eq -, since we have no way of knowing then the time $tf=0$ in the equation should be.

While one observer could resolve the ambiguities in the doppler equation with prolonged observations of the angular relationships, the relationships of space and time are not independent, so several coordinated observers at different locations have the same capability. The observations do have to be coordinated, since several disconnected observations are no better than one observation.

Clocks do not show absolute time. They show elapsed time. It does not matter when a timer is reset to zero. However, once it has been reset, it cannot be reset again for the duration of an experiment. The calculations of this section correspond to an elapsed time of $toff$ in Eq -. $toff$ is an infinitesimal time.

In 3+1 space, the events at both ends of drv have to be simultaneous when computing the space derivatives, so $dts1$ is not a free parameter.

It is possible to perform an accurate calculation, but because the simultaneous point is relative to the observer, the solution would need a relativistic correction if there is another observer in the problem.

In Eq -, we have no way of knowing when the time $tf=0$ should be, because we do not know what time it is. The calculations of this section are for the time $toff$, where $toff$ is an infinitesimal quantity.

In 3+1 space, the solutions at both ends of drv have to be simultaneous when computing the space derivatives, so $dts1$ is not a free parameter.

In 3+1 space, the differentiations for the first derivatives are just in space, or just in time. There are no space-time cross terms in the equations. The dr/dt^2 cross term is important, but it is in the same order as the second space derivatives and second time derivative, so it has to be dropped in the solution for the first derivatives. Consequently, the solution for the second derivatives will not be obtainable by differentiating the first derivatives in 3+1 space.

Even when an observer already knows where the simultaneous point is, they still cannot correctly compute the location of the retarded point, at least not with simple vector equations.

When ΔR is small, the solution for both observers is required for computing the first derivatives of the retarded potentials. Since the retarded potentials exist only for the purpose of being differentiated, it is not necessarily true that either observer needs to know the actual retarded location, provided that the derivatives are correct. Even for kinematic solutions, if the integral of the derivatives, plus a constant of integrations, works out correctly, then it is still not necessarily that the actual retarded location needs to be known at first.

These complications seem to vanish if the coordinates are first-known at the retarded point, but the simplification is illusory, because we have no way of knowing when the time t_f+0 in Eq - should be.

Eqs - are not for the same particle. The difference is closely related to the fact that the Lorentz transform does not exhibit absolute simultaneity []. Since the retarded potentials are first-known in the frame of reference of the particle, it is more important that the equations be for the same particle from the perspectives of an observer co-moving with the particle.

In 3+1 space, the differentiations for the first derivatives are just in space, or just in time. There are no space-time cross terms in the equations. The cross terms nevertheless need to be carried if the first derivatives are to be differentiated.

In Eq -, if we knew when the time $t+0$ should be then we would also know which particle in the stream is the right particle. The right particle cannot be selected that way, because we do not know what time it is.

The LW equations can be applied to two closely spaced points on the trajectory for the purpose of computing the first time derivative. Since we are not sure of which particle in the stream is the right particle, there are no assurances that the two solutions are for the same particle. There is a loophole in the derivatives of the LW equations.

As shown below, the LW equations can be derived by writing ts in this solution as $ts=dts1+dts2$. Most of the terms in the equation drop out in this case. To first order, the location of the particle at time $dts1$ does not depend on its acceleration, but the location at time $dts1+dts2$ is required for computing the velocity of the particle at time $dts1$ for transforming the frame of reference of the

particle. The LW equations are for accelerated particles. There are no acceleration terms in the potential equations, but that is because the potentials are the integral of the fields. The acceleration terms do not emerge until the potential solutions are differentiated.

In Eq -, the retarded coordinates of the particle can be first-known at any point on the trajectory. If we knew when the time $t_f=0$ should be then we would also know where the particle is then, but we do not know what time it is. Equivalently, in a global solution we would know which particle is the right one, but we do not have a global solution yet.

There can be a stream of particles, all on the same trajectory, that pass by the retarded point at different times. Because the angular velocity and acceleration terms of the solution cannot be quickly separated, it is not possible to quickly determine which particle in the stream is the right particle. In a global solution, we would know which particle is the right particle, but we do not have a global solution yet.

By writing $ts=$, then the two points on the trajectory used for computing the first derivatives of the retarded potentials are explicitly for the same particle. In principle, this correction could be applied in 3+1 space by using the chain rule for differentiation. Applying the chain rule to the retardation problem is tricky, because the space and time coordinates depend on each other. It is simpler to obtain the right solution in the first place.

The doppler effect

The acceleration is not real. It is an observer-dependent aberration, but it nevertheless makes it impossible to integrate the doppler frequency until the two contributors to its rate of change are separated.

A steadily decreasing doppler frequency can mean that a particle is approaching radially and decelerating, or it can be due to the transverse velocity of an unaccelerated particle when the angle between the velocity vector and the line of sight is greater than 90 degrees.

Similar equations apply to the whine of a low flying jetliner, except that the acoustic wave behaves differently if the wind is blowing. The aether does not have a wind.

... Interplanetary ... The precision of the navigations has established that the equations correctly accommodate the aberration.

If a particle is accelerated, or could be, angular relationships cannot be neglected when integrating the doppler frequency.

This is the relativistic doppler equation []. The interpretation of the transverse doppler effect in the reference from the perspective of the other observer. Due to the absence of absolute simultaneity [], the interpretation does not apply in our frame of reference.

The solutions for the first derivatives therefore contain a loophole. The loophole is not very important when the velocity is low. Indeed, the velocity of conduction electrons in stationary copper wire is so low that the

loophole is not even detectable in those solutions.

If the the t_s in the equation – is written as $t_{x0}+dt_{s1}+dt_{s2}$ then the solution for the first derivatives is explicitly for the same particle, closing the loophole. The solutions of this order are for a jerked particle. The loophole can probably be closed in other ways, but not in 3+1 space, at least not without the chain rule for differentiation.

However, there is now a new loophole for the first derivatives of the first derivatives.

This loophole can be closed by writing the equation as $t_s=t_{x0}+t_{x1}+dt_{s1}+dt_{s2}$. The equations of this order would be for a yanked particle.

In 3+1 space, we are always one step behind – sometimes two steps.

There can be a stream of particles, all on the same trajectory, that pass by the retarded point at different times. In eq –, the retarded coordinates can become first-known at any point on the trajectory. Due to the ambiguities in separating angular velocity and acceleration, we are no longer sure of which particle in the stream is the right particle. In a global solution, we would know which particle is the right particle, but we do not have a global solution yet.

By writing the t_s in eq as $t_{x0} + dt_s$, it becomes possible to determine that the solutions at time $t_{x0}=0$ and t_{x0} are for the same particle, making it possible to unambiguously compute the first derivatives of the first derivatives.

Proceeding further, by carrying both the t_{x0} and t_{x1} terms, it would become possible to compute the second derivatives of the first derivatives, while remaining confident that all of the points on the trajectory really are for the same particle. The solutions would be for yanked particles.

When t_{x0} is included in the equations, then we do know that the solutions for two nearby points on the trajectory really are for the same particle, but we are only sure of its identification for a time just long enough to compute the first derivatives of the first derivatives.

There are no acceleration terms in the LW equations, but that is because the potentials are the integral of the fields. The acceleration terms do not appear in the solutions until they are differentiated.

There can be a stream of particles, all on the same trajectory, that pass by the retarded point at different times. In Eq –, the retarded coordinates can be first-known at any point on the trajectory. Since angular velocity and acceleration of the particle are not instantly separable, we cannot be sure at first which particle in the stream is the right particle. After a global solution is obtained, we would know when particle is the right one, but not at first.

Consequently if t_{x0} and t_{x1} are both zero in eq –, then the equations for the first derivatives can be differentiated in time, but since we do not yet know which particle is the right particle, there are no assurances that both points on the trajectory are for the same particle.

The following calculations are for a jerked particle. The third power of velocity is the minimum power in the solu-

tions of this order. More powers of velocity are sometimes meaningful. Due to the length of the expressions, the v_{x3} terms are not shown here in the intermediate steps. They are shown in detail in the SOM, and in the solution.

When t_{x0} and t_{x1} are both zero, the first derivatives cannot be differentiated in 3+1 space to obtain the second derivatives. Actually, they can be differentiated, but since, at first, we are not sure of which particle in the stream is the right particle, there are no assurances that the two points on the trajectory are for the same particle. When t_{x0} is explicitly in the equations, then we know that they really are for the same particle.

Similarly, when t_{x0} and t_{x1} are both carried, it would become possible to differentiate the first derivatives twice to obtain the third derivatives. The additional degree of freedom in the solutions of this order would allow each particle to have a richer history, while at the same time remaining uniquely identifiable.

The terms in this series are mutually orthogonal with the Newton equations, but there are cross terms in periodic light cone solutions. The a^3 \dot{a}^2 and \ddot{a} terms are all in the same order.

Similarly, the retardation equations for jerked particles do not have any \dot{a} terms until specific global solutions are differentiated to obtain the field.

There can be a stream of particles, all on the same trajectory, that pass by the retarded point at different times. When the data points are delayed by the light time across the system, it is not possible to instantly determine which particle in the stream is the right particle. The right particle can be identified after a specific global solution is obtained. The retardation equations themselves are not capable of instantly specifying which particle in the stream is the right particle.

Carrying more of the t_0 terms imposes fewer constraints on the history of the particle, allowing it to have a richer history in specific global solutions.

Proceeding further, if this term is written as $t_{01}+t_{02}$, then it would become necessary to carry the \dot{a} terms in order to consistently compute the first derivatives at a point twice displaced in time, which are contributors to the third derivatives. The velocity at a point displaced three times in time would still be required for the Lorentz transform, so the solutions would be for yanked particles.

Because global solutions are obtainable by integrating from the infinitesimal, there are limits to how far this series can be extended in a simplistic manner without developing the exponential terms that represent the range of the fields $[\]$. The exponential terms could significantly influence high order local solutions. It should be all right to neglect them in low order local solutions, where simple inverse square law terms are a good approximation. However, for exponential terms, the distance to which an approximate inverse square law equation remains accurate can depend on how many times it is differentiated. It is conceivable that, in some order, there is no distance small enough that the exponential terms can be neglected. The exponential terms are important, but they can be

set aside for a while.

The exponential terms can be expanded as a series in the radial distance, so it is not necessary to obtain complete solutions. The series expansions represent the solution in the interior region of a sphere. Their behavior is very different than the solutions for the exterior region.

The $\ddot{\mathbf{a}}$ terms represent the trajectory of a yanked particle. They drop out of the solution for the first derivative in 3+1 space, so they are not carried in the following calculations, but they will be needed for the second derivatives. For periodic light cone solutions, the $\dot{a}ot^2$ terms are in the same order as the $\ddot{\mathbf{a}}$ terms.

The $\dot{\mathbf{a}}$ terms represent the trajectory of a jerked particle. The a^2 terms are in the same order as the $\dot{\mathbf{a}}$ terms.

The \mathbf{a} terms are for an accelerated particle. The v^2 terms are in the same order as the \mathbf{a} terms. Carrying more powers of velocity in periodic solutions is harmless, but they do not actually mean anything. They can be meaningful in non-periodic solutions. The solution in this order is the LW equations. In practical problems, they are frequently the only retardation equations needed. The solutions of this order are always solutions to the Maxwell equations.

Powers of t_o beyond the first could be carried in the calculations, but doing so while neglecting the $\ddot{\mathbf{a}}$ terms would cause terms in the same order as the t_o^2 to be dropped.

Retardation equations have to work in the same way without knowing what time it is, hence the need for t_o . It is possible to derive invariant equations that are only valid at the time $t_o = 0$. However, we have no way of knowing when the time $t_o = 0$ should be, so the solutions are coordinate-dependent.

In 3+1 space, it does not matter when the time $t_o = 0$ is chosen to be, so the coordinate dependency is not visible in 3+1 space if there is only one observer, or if two observers independently use the same equation. If two observers do independently use the same equation, then they are disconnected from each other.

$dts1$ has not dropped out of the solution. In 3+1 space, the equations cannot be applied without knowing what time it is. Coordinate dependencies can exist in either space or time.

The computed location for the retarded point is wrong.

The basis of the difficulty is that the location of the simultaneous point is relative to the observer, introducing an element of logical circularity in the solutions. Newtonian calculations would not be logically circular.

The derivation of the LW equations [] assumes that the retarded location of the particle is computable with Eq -. The equation would be the right equation in 3+1 space. The acceleration terms are important, but there is no hope for them until the velocity terms are right.

This solution is for the first derivatives. The second derivatives obtained by differentiating the first derivatives in 3+1 space should be a useful approximation when the conditions are mild, but the solutions will be missing

terms unless the differentiations are performed in 4-space in the first place.

? As shown in the SOM, carrying more powers of velocity would have no effect at all on the final solution of this section.

This completes the solution for the first derivative. The $\dot{a}ot$ terms would be required for the second derivative. In 3+1 space, we are always one step behind – sometimes two steps.

Thus, the two observers obtain different results for the location of the retarded point, and they are both wrong, yet neither observer can see that anything is wrong until they compare results. The basis of this inconsistency is that the simultaneous point is relative to the observer.

Neither observer can correctly compute the location of the retarded point, yet neither observer can see that anything is wrong until they compare results.

In 3+1 space, two at-rest observers can be simultaneous with each other while at the same time being simultaneous with a moving particle. In 4-space, the two observers can still be simultaneous with each other, but they cannot also both be simultaneous with a moving particle at the same point on its trajectory. The basis of this limitation is that the location of the simultaneous point is relative to the observer.

Now that the solution is in 3+1 space, the sign of ru can be inverted.

In this solution, $rv=0$ is where an observer in 3+1 space at the location $drv=0$ thinks the particle should be.

In 3+1 space, two observers can be simultaneous with each other and also be simultaneous with moving particle. The problem is not in 3+1 space.

Even when the observers know where the simultaneous point is, they cannot correctly compute the retarded location, and each observer obtains a different solution.

The two observers are now on the light cone at different times, but the solutions have to be for the same particle.

The two observers are now simultaneous with each other, and with the same particle at different points on its trajectory.

Both observers can now consistently compute the retarded location of the particle, but since neither observer could obtain the right solution in the first place, the solutions would be consistently wrong.

The retarded potentials exist only for the purpose of being differentiated, so we do not necessarily care where the particle actually was, provided that the derivatives are correct. If the derivatives are correct, then they can be integrated and supplemented by a constant of integration to obtain the actual location. In being the integral of the fields, the potentials are always arbitrary to within a constant of integration anyway. When only the derivatives are needed, the constant of integration is not of interest, although it would be required in kinematic solutions.

While the retarded location could be computed, the acceleration of a particle would integrate to a velocity term at the retarded point, which would complicate the cal-

calculations for accelerated particles, although it could be done.

The calculations are easier if the particle is left in place, but viewed from the field point at a later time when it is on the light cone.

The equation could now be used to compute the first derivatives of the retarded potentials. It will be more convenient to set the solution for the location $dr=0$ aside and defer the differentiations until after a specific solution is obtained.

When computing the first derivatives in 3+1 space, the differentiations are just in space or just in time. There are no space-time cross terms in the equations. The cross terms are important, but they are contributors to the second derivatives.

The solution for the location drv and time dtf therefore has to be set aside until the solution of all of the second derivatives is obtained. The second space derivative and the second time derivative are in the same order as the cross term. It would not be consistent to carry the cross term without them, so the $dr\ dt^2$ terms have to be dropped in the solution for the first derivative.

Because the cross term is actually two steps in time and one step in space, we will still be one step behind, but it will be a smaller step. The terms of this series have the form of a multivariate Taylor series in space and time \square .

The first derivatives of the retarded potentials could be computed from these equations. It is computationally more convenient to defer the differentiations until a specific solution is obtained.

All three points could be simultaneous in 3+1 space, but the problem is not in 3+1 space.

Since neither observer can correctly compute the retarded location of the particle, the location obtained this way is not for the right particle. But since the retarded potentials exist only for the purpose of being differentiated, that does not matter if the derivatives are correct.

The basis of the connection to the Thomas precession is evidently the coupling of the angular velocity and acceleration terms in Eq -.

Even for kinematic solutions, it is not necessarily true that we care where the particle actually was, provided that the integral of the derivatives, plus a constant of integration, works out correctly.

The retarded location computed this way is not the actual location. But since the retarded potentials exist only for the purpose of being differentiated, that does not matter if the derivatives are correct.

When computing the first derivatives in 3+1 space, the differentiations are just in space, or just in time. There are no space-time cross terms in the equations. The cross terms are important, but they are terms of the second derivatives. Consequently, for the first derivatives, there is no requirement that the solution at location drv and time dtf be for the same particle as the solution for the location $drv=0$.

The retarded location computed this way is not the ac-

tual location, but it is a convenient way of obtaining potential solutions. It is only their derivatives that are of interest. The correction has effect of projecting the first derivatives into 3+1 space.

The Proca equations are in terms of the second derivatives, so there will be some inconsistencies for the second derivatives, since the second derivatives obtained by differentiating the first derivatives in 3+1 space are for the wrong particle.

It is possible to differentiate three times and then integrate once, so there are no assurances that the second derivatives will be complete either.

Since the location of the simultaneous point is relative to the observer, one observer's calculations for the location of the retarded point do not mean anything for other observers.

Two observers can be simultaneous with each other. One observer can be simultaneous with one particle. Two observers cannot be simultaneous with each other and a moving particle at the same time. They could in 3+1 space, but the problem is not in 3+1 space. These relationships are shown in Fig -.

The acceleration terms need to be carried in the following calculations. They will be developed in a later version of this paper. In being of lower order, the velocity terms do come first.

Since the location of the simultaneous point is relative to the observer, each observer's calculation for the location of the retarded point is logically circular.

Thus, if two nearby observers compute the retarded location of a particle, then the two solutions are not for the same particle, and neither solution is for the right particle. The observers cannot see that there is anything wrong with their calculations until they compare results.

This solution does not represent a contradiction. The first observer did not know where the particle was in the first place. The observer needed a second opinion.

However, because angular velocity and acceleration are not quickly separable, observations of short duration are ambiguous.

The solution does not represent a contradiction, since observations of short duration are ambiguous. Two observers can resolve the ambiguities more quickly than one observer can.

An equivalent procedure is to obtain a potential equation that differentiates correctly in 3+1 space.

This solution is only for the first derivatives, but the solutions obtained by differentiating it in 3+1 space should be a useful approximation if the conditions are mild.

When computing the first derivatives in 3+1 space, the differentiations are just in space, or just in time. There are no space-time cross terms in the equations. The cross terms are important, but they are terms of the second derivatives. Consequently, for the first derivatives, there is no requirement that the solution for the location drv and time dtf be for the same particle as the solution at location $drv=0$. The Maxwell equations are in terms of the second derivatives, so these relationships will need

further development.

But since the solution for a nearby observer is for the wrong particle, it becomes necessary to apply a relativistic correction for the nearby observer, which has the effect of projecting the first derivatives into 3+1 space. The Maxwell equations are in terms of the second derivatives, but it is best to begin at the beginning.

If the two observers do independently assume that they are simultaneous with each other and with the particle, then the two computed retarded locations are not for the same particle. Neither observer can see the discrepancy until they compare observations.

When computing the space derivatives in 3+1 space, two nearby observers have to be simultaneous with each other. They also have to be for the same particle, but the two solutions do not map into the same point on the trajectory.

A related limitation is that angular velocity cannot be localized. Since the angle between the simultaneous and retarded points does not depend on how far away the particle is, the corrections are of first order, no matter how small the distance is. The corrections are not visible in a simultaneous system.

Since the location of the simultaneous point is relative to the observer, each of these calculations is logically circular, causing each solution to be for the wrong particle, although in a way that neither observer can see. The idiosyncratic nature of the solutions does become visible if the two observers compare observations.

There can be a stream of particles, all on the same trajectory, that pass by the simultaneous point at different times. In 3+1 space, an observer would know which particle in the stream is the right particle without performing any calculations. The problem is not in 3+1 space. In 4-space, one observer cannot quickly determine which particle in the stream is the right particle. Two coordinated observers can select the right particle in less time than one observer can.

Consequently, for the first derivatives, there is no requirement that the solutions be simultaneous at both ends of drive at time $t_1 + dt_1$ and $t_2 + dt_2$.

In this solution, each observer exists in their own special world. Neither can see that their solution for the location of the retarded point is wrong until they compare observations. Since the location of the simultaneous point is relative to the observer, each calculation is logically circular and self-fulfilling.

The relationships of space and time are not independent, so if one observer keeps prolonged records of angular relationships, then one observer counts as several observers.

A related limitation is that, since the angle between the simultaneous and retarded points does not depend on how far away a particle is, there is no distance that is small enough to localize angular velocity when the particle is nearby. No matter how small they are, the relativistic corrections for angular velocity are first order in distance. Consequently, they are also of first order in distance if the

equation is integrated, so choosing a smaller distance does not accomplish anything. The integral still contains a small error of the first order.

In the top panel, coordinates are first-known at the retarded point then the simultaneous point is computed. In the bottom panel the coordinates are first-known at the simultaneous point. When the velocity is low, the two perspectives are approximately equivalent. When the velocity is high, each of the observers in the bottom panel exists in their own special world, a world that revolves about them.

This velocity is not real. It is an observer-dependent aberration, with its basis being that the location of the simultaneous point does not have an absolute meaning.

When applying retarded equations to engineering problems, it is convenient to assume that the location of the particle at the simultaneous point is already known, then use it to compute the location of the retarded point. But since the location of the simultaneous point is relative to the observer, solutions obtained this way represent the perspective of an observer that exists in their own special world, a world that revolves about them.

While Eq. (1) is not real in a physical sense, it does correctly represent the perceived angular relationships as a function of time, provided that we know which particle in a stream of particles the solution is for.

An assistant near the trajectory could report the time that the particle passes by an at-rest synchronized clock. We would then know which particle in the stream is the right particle, but not until after waiting for the light time across the system.

In being intrinsically observer dependent, the retarded potentials can evidently be viewed as being an observer dependent aberration. In any case, local physical arguments should not be applied to them until it is shown that they cannot be gauge transformed.

But since the location of the simultaneous point is relative to the observer, the solutions obtained this way are for an observer that exists in their own special world, a world that revolves about them. This problem can be circumvented by applying a relativistic correction to the solutions of engineering problems, which has the effect of projecting the solutions into a 3+1 space. 3+1 space is not a real space, but it is a convenient space to work in, provided the reverse projection is not attempted.

If the observers assume that the simultaneous point has an absolute significance, then the two calculations for the location of the retarded point are not for the same particle.

However, the two observers are not simultaneous with each other. They need to find a way to coordinate their observations if they are not shown where the particle is.

This problem can be circumvented by applying the equations to practical problems as though the simultaneous point has an absolute significance, then applying a relative correction to account for the fact that it does not.

A solution for two observers and one particle is shown in Fig. -. The particle is on the retarded light cone for both observers. It then moves to the right with the velocity v_x for the time $[(\Delta x)^2 + (\Delta y)^2]^{1/2}/c$.

If the observers assume that the simultaneous point has an absolute significance, then neither observer can see that their solution for the retarded point is not the same as that obtained by the other observer. Each observer is certain of their solution, but the two observers are disconnected from each other. Each exists in their own special world.

The relationships of space and time are not independent, so if one observer keeps prolonged records of angular relationships, then one observer counts as several observers.

Since the location of the simultaneous point is relative to the observer, equations are idiosyncratic if they are relative to the simultaneous point. They are not necessarily wrong, but they are difficult for other observers to interpret.

In 3+1 space, the solutions at both ends of drive have to be simultaneous when computing the space derivatives, so the two solutions map into different points on the trajectory.

When working the retardation problem, the particle emits a single photon when it is at the retarded point. The photon propagates to the field point with the velocity c . In the meantime, the particle continues its journey to the simultaneous point. It arrives at the simultaneous point at the same instant the photon arrives at the field point.

The Lorentz transform does not exhibit absolute simultaneity¹, so there is some ambiguity in what is meant by the same instant.

Except for a power of c , the 4-potential transforms in the same way as the coordinates, implying the coordinates can be viewed as a potential representation. The loop integral of a potential is zero.

As expected, the loop integral of a potential actually is zero.

The false acceleration term would need consideration if the doppler equation were to be integrated, but the calculations of this paper are for the retarded potentials.

The LW equations do work in the same way at different times. They are form invariant for translations in time, which has about the same meaning as not containing a coordinate dependency.

However, they assume that the assistant's reports are instantly available. An observer at the field point would rather use a nearby clock for a time standard, which leads back to the problem with Eq -.

The particle can be viewed as moving along a marked course. There is a synchronized clock at each grid intersection. An assistant near the trajectory can report the time that the particle passes by each at-rest clock. Eqs - are the appropriate equations for this model.

At low velocities, there are no significant quadratic terms in the equations and simple vector equations are

a good approximation. But when the angle between the simultaneous and retarded points is large, the location of the simultaneous point depends strongly on where the observer is, relative to the particle. It becomes relative to the observer. It ceases to have a meaning for any other observer.

One way of measuring the magnetic field is by the deflection of a moving charged particle. For an observer in the frame of reference of the particle, the moving conductive electrons and stationary protons must be retarded separately. From the perspective of the other observer, the magnetic field is still a transformed E field, even though there is no external E field in the laboratory frame of reference. The meaning of the magnetic field is not as concrete as it seems to be.

For the same reason, the Coulomb equation is not the right equation for computing the trajectory of a charged particle is a static E field, although it is a good approximation.

The observer either has to wait for the assistant's reports to reach the field point or use a nearby clock for a time standard. This solution assumes that the location of the particle is knowable sooner than it is. The equation does work in the same way at different times, but it achieves it by assuming that the assistant's reports are instantly available. The observer at the field point would rather use a nearby clock as a time standard, which leads back to the problem with Eq -.

The advanced potentials in the frame of reference of the particle are our retarded potentials. There is no magnetic field in the other frame of reference (neglecting the spin of the particle), but there is in our frame of reference. The magnetic field is a transformed E field. The distant field point needs to be brought onto the future light cone.

Eqs - are both for a particle on the light cone, but they are not for the same particle. One of the particles is a ghost particle. The Lorentz transform will hold the trajectories of a ghost particle invariant. There are other considerations for equations of physical significance. More specifically, coordinate dependencies can exist in either space or time. It has to be possible to apply the equations without knowing what time it is.

The observer dependencies makes it possible for an observer to develop an idiosyncratic view of the universe. Each observer systematically applies the same biases, tending to make them difficult to see.

The biases do become visible if an observer keeps records of angular relationships. The records have to be for several events and prolonged intervals, as they will otherwise contain ambiguities that one observer cannot see. If one observer cannot see them then another observer cannot see them either. However, in this case, the correct choices should not be based on a popular vote.

When there is one observer and a nearby particle, there is no distance that is small enough to localize angular velocity, because the angle between the simultaneous and retarded points does not depend on how far away the par-

ticle is. That would not matter if there were no relativistic correctins for angular velocity, but there are correctins when the data points are delayed by the propagation time.

The acceleration terms of this solution will need further development. However, in being of lower order, the velocity terms do come first.

An observer at the field point would rather use a nearby clock for a time standard. The equation can be inverted by the method of successive approximation. Most calculations are shown in detail in the SOM.

Due to the presence of quadratic terms in the solution, the particle is not half way to any destination in half of the computed travel time. It seems to be accelerated in a direction parallel to the retarded velocity. When $\mathbf{R} \cdot \mathbf{v}$ is zero, the double integral of the acceleration has the form $v^2/(2c^2)$ times the angular velocity of the particle. The acceleration vanishes for radial motion, where $\mathbf{R} \cdot \mathbf{v}$ is ± 1 .

The acceleration is not real. It is an observer-dependent aberration, but it does make it difficult to determine if a particle actually is accelerated.

The solution is for a particle on the light cone, but it is a ghost particle. The underlying difficulty is that the inertia of a particle does not depend on who is watching.

The advanced potentials for a charged particle that is at rest in our frame of reference are the retarded potentials for the other observer. In this case, we are the other observer.

In 3+1 space, a distant observer knows which particle in the stream is the right particle without performing any calculations. The problem is not in 3+1 space.

The advanced potentials for a charge that is at rest in our frame of reference are the retarded potentials for a second observer that is moving. There is no magnetic field in our frame of reference, but there is for the other observer. Consequently, the Coulomb equation is not the right equation for computing the trajectory of a charged particle in a static E field, although it is a good approximation. Until magnetic monopoles are discovered, the magnetic field is a transformed E field. It does not have an unambiguous meaning in its own right.

The conduction electrons and protons in a metal conductor have to be retarded separately if the conductor is carrying a current. The magnetic field is still the transformed E field of each particle, considered one at a time, even though there is no net external E field. The behavior would be intuitively more clear if a ring of moving conduction electrons and a ring of stationary protons were slightly displaced from each other. The textbook equations for transforming the E and B fields are for one charged particle. The terms should not be cancelled prematurely.

From another perspective, since the angle between the simultaneous and retarded points does not depend on how far away a particle is, there is no distance that is small enough to localize the angular velocity of a nearby particle. That would not matter if there were no relativistic correctins for angular velocity, but there are when the data

points are delayed by the propagation time.

The observer dependency makes it possible for an observer to develop an indosyncric view of the universe, one that other observers would not agree with.

However, if one observer keeps records of angular relationships, then one observer counts as several observers. The records have to be for several events over a prolonged interval, or else they will contain ambiguities that the observer cannot see.

.. The particle is not where an observer in 3+1 space thinks it should be.

The relationships in Fig - have to be inverted to obtain equations that are not egocentric.

Now that the relationships are in a simultaneous system, the static Coulomb solution becomes applicable.

The capability of the infinitesimal transform to halt a particle in a single step is, of course, illusory. The transform needs to be integrated to obtain more general solutions.

If the solution is not for one particle, but for two nearby particles, then the composite particle seems to be spinning. The spin of the particle is not an unfamiliar concept. The Thomas precession was originally used to resolve a factor of two discrepancy in the spin-orbit coupling of the electron \square .

There is no spin-orbit coupling in the solutions of the general theory. A gyroscope that is not spinning at all precesses at the same rate as one that is spinning.

With true vector equations, the particle that is at the tip of Rv when the time at the tail of Rv is zero is the right particle. However, we have no way of knowing when the time $t_f=0$ should be, because we do not know what time it is.

If clocks showed absolute time then we would know which particle in the stream is the right particle. It would be the one at $-rv$ when $t_f=0$. Clocks are actually timers. It does not matter when a timer is reset to zero. We cannot identify the right particle that way.

Thus, the infinitesimal Lorentz transform will halt the particle in a single step, no matter how high its velocity is. It is easy to halt the particle. It is harder to determine which particle is the right particle.

The velocity of conduction electrons in stationary copper wire is so low that the LW equations are frequently the only retardation equations that are needed. They are degenerate, but using degenerate equations is our destiny. The solutions to the LW equations are always solutions to the Maxwell equations, although there are usually a few loopholes in equations.

In 3+1 space, we know which particle in the stream is the right particle without performing any calculations. Identifying the right particle is more difficult when the chain rule for differentiation is required.

This limitation may need consideration for an observer in free fall. The angular velocity of a nearby particle depends on how long it has been in free fall. The potentials are the integral of the fields. Terms that are of no consequence in observations of short duration can be important

in the integral. If an equation is to be integrated, it is not sufficient that the terms vanish in the limit. They must either vanish quadratically or be carried.

Clocks do not show absolute time. They show elapsed time, so there is the freedom of changing the numbers at the bottom of the figure to anything at all, which amounts to translating the coordinates in time. The translation changes the time of closest approach, but nothing else in the figure is affected.

The Lorentz transform does not exhibit absolute simultaneity, so the observer in the frame of reference of the particle does not perceive the same time for the point of closest approach, assuming that the clocks have been satisfactorily synchronized.

Thus, the particle is not where true vector equations predict that it should be. It has already passed by the point where true vector equations predict that the doppler shift should be zero.

Even though the particle is not where it should be with true vector equations, true vector equations are mathematically convenient. However, the derivatives are not computable by the methods of vector analysis.

It is not necessarily true that we care where the particle actually was, provided that the integral of the derivatives, plus a constant of integration, works out correctly. Reducing a problem to first order, then obtaining the solution by integration, is a traditional approach. But since 3-space rotations cannot be fully reduced to first order with linear equations, and 4-space rotations are scarcely simpler, it is necessary to either develop the problem as a series expansion or use nonlinear equations.

If an observer is in free fall, the angular velocity of a nearby particle depends on how long it has been in free fall, provided the observer has a good long term memory. The potentials are the integral of the fields.

When the displacements are just in time, the light cone equation becomes

This is the relativistic doppler equation, although the interpretation of the terms is somewhat different in this solution. (The cosine of the angle of the reference is the same as the ratio of the velocity of this solution.)

However, if the simultaneous point is taken as an anchor point, then the derivatives will not be computable by the methods of vector analysis.

Actually, it is not necessarily true that we even care where the particle was, provided that the integral of the derivatives, plus a constant of integration, works out correctly.

Similarly, the retarded potentials exist only for the purpose of being differentiated. Since potential equations can sometimes be gauge transformed, there are no assurances that a particular potential equation means anything until it is shown that it cannot be gauge transformed.

The connection between the simultaneous and retarded points is analogous to these equations, except that the displacements can be in either space or time. However, the quadrupole is usually not visible if the methods of vector analysis are applied to the problem.

The quadrupole is not always invisible. The vector potential of a current loop has the symmetries of a shear term.

In general, the vector between two closely spaced vectors is not a true vector. It is a pseudo vector. The decomposition products of the contravariant tensors include pseudo vectors, which are of the dipole symmetry, along with other multipoles.

Unlike true vector equations, the solution for the time $t-dt$ is not obtainable by inverting the sign of the solution for the time $t+dt$.

The light cone equation is ill behaved when we are nearly the target. We tend not to think of ourselves as being a target, but we could be.

If an absolute significance is attributed to the simultaneous point, then two nearby observers are disconnected, because the simultaneous point is relative to the observer. Neither observer can obtain the solution for the other observer until corrections are applied to take out the observer dependency.

Similarly, because the angle between the simultaneous and retarded points does not depend on how far away the particle is, there is no distance that is small enough to localize angular velocity.

In other words, when the frequency is low, a periodically twisting magnetic field is a solution to the Maxwell equations. Solutions of this form are sometimes preferred, as familiar engineering design methods can be applied to the apparatus.

Since the simultaneous point is relative to the observer, two nearby observers are disconnected from each other. Neither can obtain the solution for the other until corrections are applied for the observer-dependent aspect of the solutions.

The vector potential of a current loop is a shear term. However, because magnetic monopoles are not known to exist, it does not need separate consideration. It is obtainable from the charge solution. The vector term in this solution will be set aside for future study.

The angle between the simultaneous and retarded points does not depend on how far away a particle is. Consequently, there is no distance that is small enough to localize angular velocity. This limitation may be relevant for an observer in free fall. If an equation is to be integrated, it is not sufficient that terms vanish in the limit. They must either vanish quadratically or be carried.

Even though the location of the simultaneous point is an unphysical abstraction, it has an essential role when applying retarded equations to engineering problems. The location of the particle at the simultaneous point has to be assumed to be already known in order to compute the retarded location. Pseudo vector equations nevertheless cannot be differentiated by the methods of vector analysis, as there would otherwise be no multipoles beyond the dipole.

It is not necessarily true that we even care where the particle actually was, so long as the integral of the deriva-

tives, plus a constant of integration, works out correctly.

As illustrated by the Einstein tensor [], the relationships of space and time are not instantly separable. When the data points are delayed by the light time across the system, determining both where a particle was and when it was there is a difficult problem. Because angular velocity can masquerade as acceleration, and conversely, it cannot be done quickly, regardless of the precision of the measurements. There is an element of deterministic uncertainty in observations of short duration.

The LW equations represent a projection of 4-space into 3+1 space. The solutions are then differentiated in 3+1 space. Since 3+1 space is not a real space, it is better to project the derivatives in the first place.

We have no way of knowing when the time dtf1 should be. Clocks show elapsed time. They do not show absolute time.

Thus $dts1 = \gamma dts2$. True vector equations do not work this way, but the light cone equation is not a true vector equation. Sign inversions and rotations are not interchangeable with pseudo vectors.

It is computationally more convenient to project potential equations that can be differentiated without using the chain rule for differentiation, not that there would be anything wrong with applying the chain rule when it is needed. The only thing wrong with the LW equations is that they cannot be differentiated in 3+1 space.

In a more familiar context, unless a particle is on a collision course with the observer, the wavelengths of two consecutive doppler cycles are different, no matter how high the frequency is. Consequently, the projected midpoint of a straight line is not at the middle, no matter how short the line element is. The particle seems to be accelerated in a direction parallel to the retarded velocity. The perceived acceleration is not real, but that is why it needs consideration when obtaining solutions of inertial particles. The underlying difficulty is that the inertia of a particle does not depend on who is watching.

In 3-space, straight lines do not have tick marks at regularly spaced intervals representing the ticks of a moving clock. They do in 4-space. The modern form of Euclidean geometry is Euclidean calculus, which includes the chain rule for differentiation and the tensor irreducibility theorem. The meaning of Euclidean is negotiable, but only if the equations for two different times are for the same particle.

Retardation equations are intrinsically observer dependent, but their basis should be equations that are the same for all observers. From the perspective of an observer in the frame of reference of the particle, the advanced potentials for a field of distant observers depend on where each observer is, but no one of the observers is special.

It should not matter which frame of reference is used for calculations, so all of the following relationships are obtainable in the other frame of reference. It is nevertheless important to understand the only frame of reference we can ever know.

Potential equations represent the perspective of a dis-

tant observer. Sometimes we are a distant observer, and sometimes we are a local observer. The transform is the solution. Each perspective is one aspect of the problem.

Photons travel slower through the center of a distant galaxy. From the perspective of a distant observer, the vacuum speed of light depends on the circumstances. Local and global perspectives are not interchangeable.

The perceived retarded location is not the same as the actual location. A field of observers would perceive the problem differently, but we are not a field of observers.

It is easier to obtain this solution with the Lorentz transform, but it is also important that we understand the only frame of reference we can ever know.

The relationships in the figure assume that we already know which particle in a stream of particles is the right particle. There is a transverse doppler term at the point of closest approach for other particles in the same stream.

The Lorentz transform does not exhibit absolute simultaneity []. ... the two observers cannot agree on where the point of closest approach is.

Potential equations represent the perspective of a distant observer. A distant observer would know which of the two local observers has the right answer.

... In Fig -, there is no justification for assuming that the transverse doppler is always zero at the point of closest approach.

The angle between the simultaneous and retarded points does not depend on how far away the particle is. There is no distance that is small enough to localize angular velocity, even if the observer is in free fall. The differential angular velocity of two nearby particles depends on how long they have been in free fall. In this context, the observer is one of the particles.

Sometimes we are a distant observer, and sometimes we are a local observer. The transform is the solution. Each perspective is one aspect of the problem.

The simultaneous point is not normally at the point of closest approach, but it could be, and the equations are simpler in that case.

The doppler frequency depends on what time it is, but the doppler equation should work in the same way at any time. Both solutions are for the wrong particle in a stream of particles.

This relationship remains true even if two nearby observers are in free fall. Two coordinated observers can perceive relationships that are invisible to any one observer.

The relationships would become visible to one observer if the equations were integrated in time before computing the space derivatives. There is no compelling reason that one observer should not have a good long term memory.

In observations of short duration, this coupling of angular velocity and retarded Newtonian acceleration is invisible to any one observer. Two observers are required to see it. It would become visible to one observer if the equations were integrated in time. However, it is easier to differentiate than it is to integrate, which is why there

are the retarded potentials.

Eq – is egocentric. It only works for one observer.

The only known kinematic equations that are not egocentric are the Newton equations, and they require corrections.

Potential equations represent the perspective of a distant observer. Sometimes we are a distant observer, and sometimes we are not. The transform is the solution. Each perspective is one aspect of the problem.

This limitation remains true even if two nearby observers are in free fall. The two observers are disconnected. Neither can obtain the solution for the other.

The angle between the simultaneous and retarded points does not depend on how far away the particle is. There is no distance that is small enough to localize angular velocity.

Angular velocity terms become important if two nearby particles are allowed to fall for a long time in a spherical gravitational field. The angular relationships for the two particles are different. The gradient of a vector is not a vector.

The solution is for a particle on the light cone, but it is not an inertial particle. It is a ghost particle. The underlying difficulty is that the inertia of a particle does not depend on who is watching.

The acceleration is not real. The solution is for a ghost particle. However, the Lorentz transform will hold the trajectories of ghost particles invariant.

In eq –, there is no value for dy that is small enough to reduce the problem to first order. For the same reason, there is no value for dtf that is small enough in light cone solutions. In circular motion, it is x any y that are not independent. In light cone solutions, it is Rv and t that are not independent.

The inertia of a particle does not depend on who is watching. Retardation equations are intrinsically observer dependent, but their basis should be equations that are the same for all observers.

There is a large family of accelerated particles that all have the same retarded velocity, even though the simultaneous points vary greatly. The retarded potentials should not depend on the distant history of a particle, so it is possible that a solution for unaccelerated particles is usable for accelerated particles when the acceleration is weak.

If the coordinates are first-known at the simultaneous point, then, due to the presence of quadratic terms in the equations, the solution for the retarded point would have to be obtained by integration if true vector equations are used for the calculation.

It is easier to differentiate than it is to integrate, which is why there are the retarded potentials.

The result evaluates to zero after substituting for γ , showing that the particle is on the light cone. However, it is not the same particle that the LW equations are for.

Potential equations represent the perspective of an observer at infinity. The view from infinity is on that we

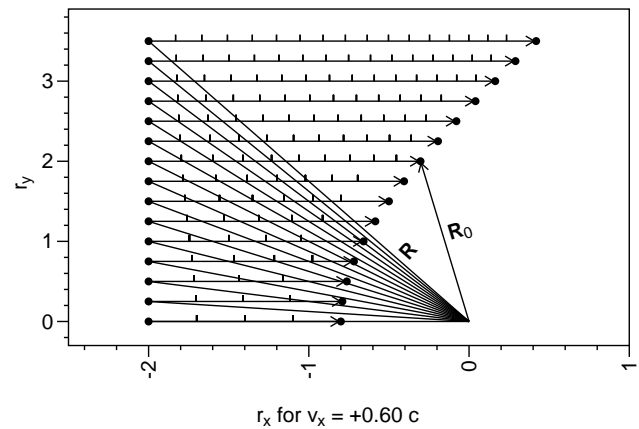


FIG. 7. The computed location of the simultaneous point when the retarded location of the particle is first-known. If a particle is approaching from the left now, it will be receding on the right at a later time. The solutions for particles on the left or on the right of the observer are not symmetrical.

can never experience, but it is one that we can know.

This doppler equation is not usable without knowing when the particle is at this location.

$dts1$ has dropped out of the solution. If this is the right doppler equation from the time $dts1$, then it is also the right equation at the time $dts1=0$.

The inverse relationship is not true. When the coordinates are first-known at the simultaneous point, the location of the simultaneous point is relative to the observer. The computed retarded point does not mean anything to other observers in the same frame of reference.

By beginning with the retarded coordinates, computing the location of the simultaneous point, then inverting the solution, the computed retarded location does acquire a global meaning.

The angle between Rr and vv does not matter. The only thing that matters is how far away the particle was. When the coordinates are first-known at the retarded point, the equation for computing the location of the simultaneous point is a true vector equation.

Angular relationships become important when the coordinates are first-known at the simultaneous point. The relationships in fig – cannot be inverted by the methods of vector analysis.

With the Newton equations, the simultaneous point is the same for all observers. It is an absolute. At low velocities, the relationships are approximately Newtonian.

But when the angle between the simultaneous and retarded points is large, as shown in Fig. 7, the location of the simultaneous point depends strongly on where the observer is, relative to the particle. The location of the simultaneous point ceases to mean anything to another observer in the same frame of reference. Consequently, it could not mean anything to another observer when the other observer is moving, which is why the Lorentz transform does not exhibit absolute simultaneity¹.

In the figure, the field point is at the origin of the coordinate system. The retarded location of the particle is one of the dots on the left. The retarded time at the particle is $-(x^2 + y^2)^{1/2}/c$. The particle then moves to the right with the velocity v_x for the time $(x^2 + y^2)^{1/2}/c$.

The time at the tail of vector \mathbf{R}_r is zero. The time at the head of vector Rv_s is also zero. When the particle is at the simultaneous point, it becomes visible at the field point when the time at the field point is $+(\mathbf{R}_s \cdot \mathbf{R}_s)^{1/2}/c$.

If the particle is one of the dots in the upper portion of the figure, it has already passed by the point of closest approach when it reaches the simultaneous point. It is then receding from the observer, causing the doppler frequency to be redshifted.

It is always possible to rotate the coordinates about the observer by the three Euler angles so that the particle is moving in the $+x$ direction at the point of closest approach, so the relationships shown in the figure are fully general (for unaccelerated particles).

The coordinate rotations could still be performed when the particle is on a collision course with the observer, but they would not serve any purpose. Indeed, with true vector equations, they would not serve a purpose in any case. Those solutions are always rotationally invariant, so nothing new could be learned by rotating the coordinates.

There can be a stream of particles, all on the same trajectory, that pass by the simultaneous point at different times. With true vector equations, such as the Newton equations or the LW equations, we know which particle in the stream is the right particle without performing any calculations. Identifying the right particle is more difficult when the chain rule for differentiation is required.

The particle is not half way to any destination in half of the computed travel time. It seems to be accelerated in a direction parallel to the retarded velocity. The acceleration is not real, but that is why it needs consideration when obtaining solutions for inertial particles. The inertia of a particle does not depend on who is watching.

The underlying difficulty with this solution is that the identity of the particle was assumed to be known before working the problem.

Due to the presence of quadratic terms in the equations, the connection between the simultaneous and retarded points would have to be established by integration. It could be done, but it is easier to differentiate than it is to integrate, which is why there are the retarded potentials.

The solution may seem to defy the methods of reason, but it is actually true vector equations that behave irrationally. Due to the presence of quadratic terms in Eq. 1, the connection between the simultaneous and retarded points would have to be established by integration. It could be done, but it is easier to differentiate than it is to integrate, which is why there are the retarded potentials.

This solution is observer dependent and wrong. It might mean something to one observer, but the equations have

to work in the same way for a second nearby observer if the solution is to be differentiable.

There are additional considerations for accelerated particles. In being of lower order, the velocity terms do come first. The velocity solution should be a useful approximation when the acceleration is weak. In 2-body gravitational solutions, the acceleration and velocity are in the same plane, so two space coordinates are still sufficient, but three space dimensions would be required for 3-body problems.

.. which is why the Lorentz transform does not exhibit absolute simultaneity []. Since the location of the simultaneous point does not have an absolute meaning when two observers are in the same frame of reference, then it is scarcely possible for it to have one when the other observer is moving.

The solution is observer dependent, which is a politically correct term for being coordinate dependent. Coordinate dependent solutions are not of physical significance, because we do not know where we are, or what time it is.

In being observer-dependent, the location of the simultaneous point is not a satisfactory reference point for obtaining the solutions for inertial particles. That is because the inertia of a particle does not depend on who is watching. But since the simultaneous location is unavoidable when obtaining solutions to engineering problems, a correction is required to take out the observer dependency.

This is the wrong answer. It may mean something to one observer, but it does not mean anything to other observers at other locations in the same frame of reference.

The particle seems to be accelerated in a direction parallel to the retarded velocity. The acceleration is not real, but that is why it needs to be considered when obtaining solutions for inertial particles. The underlying difficulty is that the inertia of a particle does not depend on who is watching.

In the figure, the time at the tip of vector \mathbf{R}_s is simultaneous with the time at the tail of \mathbf{R}_r , yet the particle has already passed the point of closest approach and is receding, causing the doppler frequency to be redshifted at the simultaneous point.

The solution could now be easily inverted to obtain the actual retarded location when the coordinates are first known at the simultaneous point. But since both points are for the same particle, it does not matter where on the trajectory the retarded potentials are for. The thing that does matter is that, unlike eq. 1, the equations have to work in the same way at any time.

The location of the simultaneous point does not mean anything for another observer located elsewhere in the same frame of reference, which is one of the reasons the Lorentz transform does not exhibit absolute simultaneity [].

Even though the simultaneous point is an unphysical abstraction, it is nevertheless necessary to assume its location is already known when applying retardation equations to engineering problems. The inertia of a particle does not depend on who is watching, so solutions

obtained that way require a relativistic correction if they are to be of physical significance.

The solution is the same as Eq. (1). In this solution, all of the clocks are on the same frame of reference, so there is no time dilation. There is nevertheless no conflict with the equations for time dilation. As illustrated by the Einstein tensor $G_{\mu\nu}$, the relationships of space and time are not instantly separable. Conflicts that would exist if the time and space coordinates were independent variables are therefore not necessarily real.

When applied to inertial particles, the solutions still contain a small error of the first order, with that being because the inertia of a particle does not depend on who is watching.

Consequently, there is no value for t_f that is small enough to reduce the problem to first order. The solution would have to be obtained by integration.

On the other hand, in Eq. (1), the relationships are linear in θ . The light cone equation also represents angular relationships if the time at the source is written as $t_s = R_0/c + k$, where k is an arbitrarily small quantity.

The velocity of the particle at time t_f depends on its acceleration, so there are additional considerations for accelerated particles.

The v_n in this solution is the Newtonian velocity. Many equations assume that the Newton equations are accurate when the acceleration is zero. That is not true, because angular velocity can masquerade as acceleration.

Due to the presence of quadratic terms in Eq. (1), an unaccelerated particle is not half way to any destination in half of the computed travel time. The particle seems to be accelerated in a direction that is parallel to the retarded velocity. The acceleration is not real, but that is why it needs to be considered when obtaining solutions for inertial particles.

The false acceleration terms can be avoided by dropping the quadratic terms.

In not containing any quadratic terms, this solution is only valid for a short time, but it is valid long enough to compute the first derivative. The solution for the second derivative will need further study. The solution is not obtainable by simply retaining the quadratic terms, because then the doppler equation would be wrong.

The false acceleration terms are a consequence of assuming that the location of the simultaneous point is known before performing any calculations.

In this solution, the location of the simultaneous point would be computable, but we do not necessarily care where it is, because it would not mean anything to anyone except us.

When R_0 is large, there is ample time for the retarded Newtonian acceleration to cause the trajectory to be curved during the t_{f1} interval. However, curvature is not representable with first order equations. If the solution for an accelerated particle is needed, then the solution should be obtained for the time $t_{f1} + t_{f2}$. The acceleration terms are important, but they are obtained by suitably differentiating velocity terms.

The following solution remains valid no matter how small t_{f1} is, but the inverse relationship is not true. Due to the presence of quadratic terms in Eq. (1), if the time at the source were taken to be t_s and the time at the field point taken to be t_f , then the solution for time t_f would have to be obtained by integration. That would be a hard way of obtaining the solution.

While, in a physical sense, the simultaneous point is an unreal abstraction, it nevertheless provides an essential connection to the theorems of Euclidean calculus, which include the chain rule for differentiation and the tensor irreducibility theorem.

This relationship is the 4-space equivalent of reducing dx to first order in Eq. (1). It cannot be done in one step with linear equations. Three steps would be better than two steps. In the limit, an integral would be required.

Newtonian acceleration problems require a double integral. It is not plausible that including the speed of light simplifies the problem.

In Eq. (1), the location of the simultaneous point was assumed to be already known, yet the computed location is different. The calculation contradicts itself. This is not the right equation for the doppler frequency. Eq. (1) is the right equation.

The doppler equation can be obtained in a way that is better suited to further development in the first frame of reference.

But when the angle between the simultaneous and retarded points is large, its location, to some extent, depends on where the observer is. The location of the simultaneous point ceases to have an absolute meaning, which is one of the reasons the Lorentz transform does not exhibit absolute simultaneity \square .

There is a time when the solution at the retarded point would be the right value, and there is a time when the solution at the simultaneous point would be the right value, but we do not know what time it is. We do know that both solutions should be for the same particle. Due to the absence of absolute simultaneity, the Newton equations cannot be used to determine if both solutions actually are for the same particle, even when the particle is unaccelerated.

This simplification restricts the solution to times that are small in relation to the time required for the particle to reach the simultaneous point.

The retarded potentials exist only for the purpose of being differentiated, so we do not necessarily care where the particle will be when it reaches the simultaneous point.

Singularities of this form are hard to see, because they follow us as we move about in space and time.

The basis of the singularity is that there is no transverse doppler term in Eq. (1) when $\mathbf{R} \cdot \mathbf{v}$ is zero, but there should be.

By translating the coordinates in time, the solution in Eq. (1) for the time $t_f = 0$ can be for a time that is only slightly later than the time $t_f = 0$ in Eq. (1). Since the two points are then nearby on the same trajectory, the t_{f2} and t_{f3}

terms can be dropped.

There is now no doppler shift in either equation, but that cannot be, because the particle cannot be at the point of closest approach at both locations.

There is no transverse doppler at that point on the trajectory, but there is none in Eq – either. The angles are different in the two solutions, so the doppler shift cannot be zero at both points on the trajectory.

For a short time, the doppler equation can now be applied without knowing what time it is. It would be better if could be applied for a longer time, but that will require representing the trajectory with more than one straight-line segment, even when the particle is unaccelerated. The acceleration terms are important, but there is no hope for them until the velocity terms are right.

For a short time only, the doppler equation now works in the same way at any time. It is form invariant for translations in time. Form invariance has about the same meaning as the requirement that equations of physical significance should not depend on the choice for a coordinate system.

This solution is only for the first derivative, and only when the acceleration of the particle can be neglected.

This calculation does not have the meaning of improving the accuracy of a solution by dropping terms. The quadratic terms did not mean anything in the first place.

There is always more than one way of working a problem. Removing the singularity by other methods should lead to a better understanding of why the four dimensional space works the way that it does.

The only essential difference between these two solutions is that they are for different times for the same trajectory. It is not possible to select the right particle in the stream without knowing what time it is. We do not know what time it is, which is a satisfactory physical principle for selecting the right particle.

The equations are singular when $\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{v}$ is zero, making it impossible to compute the retarded velocity until the singularity is removed. It could probably be removed in more than one way. The basis of the singularity is that there is no transverse doppler term in the solution, but there should be.

Suppose that the coordinates are first known at a much later time, but still at a time that is short in relation to the time required for the particle to reach the simultaneous point. Since we do not know which particle the equations are for yet, that point could be the solution for $t_f=0$ in Eq –.

The doppler frequency depends on what time it is, but the doppler equation has to work in the same way at any time. This solution is not of physical significance.

This solution is for the wrong particle. The difficulty is that the location of the particle when it is at the simultaneous point was assumed to be known before working the problem.

The velocity terms are of lower order than acceleration terms, so the acceleration can be neglected when it is weak, and the calculations are simpler.

The solution of this section is only valid for one instant, so it cannot be differentiated in time.

The solution in this section is valid for any small value for t_s , so it can be differentiated once in time. But even when the particle is unaccelerated, the solution is only valid for a short time.

The terms are carried in this section, so the solution can be differentiated twice in time. But even when the particle is unaccelerated, the solution is only valid for a short time.

The relativistic correction to the doppler equation is approximately twice the value shown in Eq –.

This calculation assumes that we already know where the particle is when it is at the simultaneous point. The false assumption corrupts the behavior of the equations.

In being observer-dependent, the simultaneous point is not a satisfactory anchor point when there is more than one observer in a problem. It is for this reason that the solutions of the Lorentz transform do not exhibit absolute simultaneity [].

The location of the simultaneous point would have an absolute significance with the Newton equations, which are true vector equations.

This solution assumes that we can know where the simultaneous point is without performing any calculations.

... The curvature could be taken out by using t_f rather than $k r_0/c$ in Eq – and choosing a small value for t_f , but then the doppler equation would be wrong. A better way of representing the curvature of the trajectory would be to subdivide k into two sections.

The acceleration terms are important and the k interval does need to be subdivided, but there is no hope for the acceleration terms until the velocity terms are right.

After dropping the t_f^2 terms, the particle is only on the light cone for a short time. The retarded potentials exist only for the purpose of being differentiated, so it is sufficient that they only be accurate for a short time.

But no matter how large the distance $k v r_0/c$ is, it is always possible to choose a value for k that is small enough to take out the acceleration terms.

However, the limiting behavior of this equation is similar to Eq –, and for the same reason. The x and y coordinates are not independent variables in circular motion, and the time and space coordinates are not independent in light cone solutions. Consequently, while the residual does vanish as k goes to zero, it does not vanish quadratically. A more accurate solution could be obtained by subdividing k , but that is neither necessary nor possible for the first derivatives of the retarded potentials. In the first frame of reference, we are always one step behind – sometimes two steps.

When r_0 is large, the quantity $k v r_0/c$ can be a substantial distance, but the equation is still of first order if powers of k are not carried.

However, as discussed in S –, the residual in first order equations has to vanish quadratically if the equation is to be integrated. The error in this equation does vanish as k

becomes small, but it does not vanish quadratically.

Conversely, this solution is not obtainable by integrating the dtf interval unless the chain rule for differentiation or a nonlinear equation is used. (There are sometimes other equations that are equivalent to the chain rule but that do not explicitly include partial derivatives. The theoretical basis is still the chain rule.)

This equation approaches the undefined form $0 \cdot \infty$ at infinity. It is evidently not possible to retard a particle at infinity, but there are no indications that we will ever need to.

Equations of physical significance have to work in the same way at either time. But since retarded equations exist only for the purpose of being differentiated, the solution requires interpretation in this case. It is sufficient that retarded equations be accurate for a short time at the retarded point.

The acceleration terms should be carried in the following calculations. The acceleration terms are important, but there is no hope for them until the velocity terms are right.

As illustrated by the calculations in the SOM, the location of the simultaneous point plays no role in obtaining radiative antenna solutions. We do not necessarily know or care where it is, although we could find out where it is if we needed to. That is just as well, as the Lorentz transform does not exhibit absolute simultaneity []. The location of the simultaneous point does not have an absolute meaning. It would have an absolute meaning with the Newton equations or other true vector equations, such as the LW equations, but the light cone equation is not one of them.

The acceleration is not real, which is why it needs to be considered when obtaining solutions for inertial particles.

For short times, the trajectory can be represented by one straight line, with the midpoint of the line being at the middle.

Approximating a curve with two straight-line segments is not sufficient, but it is better than using one segment.

The Lorentz transform takes out the velocity terms. In the frame of reference of the particle, acceleration is the first term of the series. In the frame of reference of the field point, velocity is the first term. We are always one step behind – sometimes two steps. What looks like a second derivative in these calculations is actually a first derivative. The contravariant tensor of the second rank represent the first derivatives [].

The calculation of the Thomas precession [] do not have to be for light cone events, but they can be, in which case they are missing the xx terms in this solution.

These are the retarded equations for the tensor of the first rank, a vector. They are the LW equations []. Technically, the solutions of this order are not differentiable, although they are known to work well at low velocities. Indeed, the velocity of conduction electrons in stationary copper wire is so low that the symmetric terms are not detectable, even at currents high enough to melt the wire.

There is no transverse doppler term in this solution. Transforming the wrong equation to the second frame of reference will only reaffirm that we still do not know what we did not know in the first place. Refer to Ref. ... for one of the correct ways of obtaining the solution.

From the perspective of true vector equations, the derivatives of the function are inconsistent with the function. The retarded potentials exist only for the purpose of being differentiated, so we do not necessarily care what the function is – we do not necessarily care where the particle will be when it reaches the simultaneous point. However, when applying retarded equations to engineering problems, it is necessary to assume that the location of the particle at the simultaneous point is already known in order to compute the retarded location. It becomes necessary to apply a relativistic correction to Eq –.

On the other hand, if the coordinates are first-known at the retarded point, the equation becomes ... This equation is more appropriate when only the derivatives are of interest, but it is not satisfactory for deriving the equations of the retarded potentials, as they represent the integral of the derivatives. This equation would be better suited to kinematic studies. Since we do not actually know where the particle was in the first place, the solutions would need a constant of integration.

The light cone equation is not a true vector equation, necessitating the use of physical principles to identify the right particle.

As with many other problems, approximating the trajectory with several short straight-line segments is better than performing the calculation in a single large step. In this case, the trajectory actually is straight, but there is a bogus acceleration term parallel to the retarded velocity that needs to be taken out if the trajectory is to be for an inertial particle.

For unaccelerated particles, the doppler equation now works in the same way at any time. That is important, because we do not know what time it is.

The solution is the same as those of Eq – when k is 1, but that is not sufficient if the solutions are to be differentiated.

The solution for accelerated particles will require further study. For unaccelerated particles, it is indicated that Eq – should be written as

We might not realize that it had happened, as the Lorentz transform will hold the trajectories of ghost particles invariant.

The first observer could be us. We are important, but not important enough that everyone else needs to know where we are.

The simultaneous point is a mathematical abstraction. We do not actually care where the particle will be when it is at the simultaneous time. However, when applying Eq – to engineering problems, it is necessary to assume that the location is already known in order to compute the retarded location.

The doppler frequency depends on what time it is, but the doppler equation has to work in the same way at any

time. This soluton is not for the right particle.

It should be possible to determine which particle is the right one, however the particle will not be at the simultaneous point when the time at the field point is $+r_0/c$, which would make it difficult to apply Eq – to engineering problems.

By assuming that the particle is at the simultaneous point when $t_f=0$, even though it actually is not, but that it is traveling at the velocity v/γ rather than v , the computed value for the doppler frequency in Eq – works out right anyway. That amounts to applying a relativistic correction to equation –.

However, the simultaneous point is a mathematical abstraction. Do we actually care where the particle will be then?. The thing that matters is that the doppler equation works in the same way at any time.

This soluton is not for an inertial particle. That is because the momentum of a particle does not depend on who is watching. The computed momentum should be the same for observers at both ends of drv.

The location of the particle at the simultaneous point could be computed, then we would know which particle the solution is for, but we really do not care where the particle will be then. The simultaneous point is a mathematical abstraction with no physical significance. The thing that matters is that the doppler equation works in the same way at different times.

The only essential difference between these two solutions is that they are for different times on the same trajectory. The doppler equation has to work in the same way at either time. This soluton is for the wrong particle.

This is not the solution for an inertial particle. That is because the momentum of a particle does not depend on who is watching. The computed momentum should be the same for observers at both ends of drv.

This doppler equation works in the same way at any time. That is important, because clocks show the elapsed time from a point that we choose arbitrarily.

The thing that matters is that the computed outcome of an experiment cannot depend on when a timer is reset to zero. Clocks measure elapsed time. They do not measure absolute time.

With this equation, it is not possible to compute the doppler frequency without knowing what time it is. We do not know what time it is.

It would not be difficult to compute where the particle will be when it reaches the simultaneous point, but we really do not care where it will be then. The thing that matters is that we be able to compute the retarded potentials without knowing what time it is, because we do not know what time it is.

It is not true that we inherently know which particle in the stream is the right particle. We have to determine which one is the right one from physical principles. A satisfactory principle is that the solutions should be for inertial particles.

While the doppler frequency depends on what time it is, the doppler equation has to work in the same way at

any time. This soluton is for the wrong particle.

The momentum of a particle does not depend on who is watching. This solution is not for an inertial particle.

It would be possible to compute where the particle will be when it reaches the simultaneous point, but we do not care where it will be then. There is nothing special about the simultaneous point. The thing that matters is the the soluton be for an inertial particle.

Thus, while from the perspective of true vector equations, the trajectory seems to be curved, that is only because they are for the wrong particle. An unaccelerated particle actually moves at a uniform rate along a straight line.

This solution can also be obtained with the chain rule for differentiation, and this method will probably be better suited to obtaining the solution for accelerated, jerked, or yanked particles.

From the perspective of an observer co-moving with the particle, the retarded velocity depends on how far away the first observer is, but the second observer does not really care where the first observer is, because there could be several of them out there.

With true vector equations, the trajectory appears to be curved. With pseudo vector equations, the particle appears to move in a straight line. The equations might seem to be simpler that way, but not really.

Thus, the simultaneous point occurs when true vector equations predict that it should, but not where they predict it should. When the particle is at the simultaneous point it has already passed by the point of closest approach and is receding, which accounts for the transverse doppler effect. From the perspective of true vector equations, the trajectory seems to be curved, but that is because the equations are for the wrong particle.

The vector from the tip of R_v at time t to the location of the particle at time $t+dt$ is not a true vector. It is a pseudo vector. True vectors and pseudo vectors behave differently for sign inversions and rotations [].

Since the doppler shift at the retarded point is too large by a factor of two, for a short time when a particle is near that location, a relativistic correction can be applied by dividing the velocity in Eq – by γ .

The coordinates in Eq – are also first known at the simultaneous point, implying that those equations need the same correction. For unaccelerated particles, the correction only needs to be accurate for times that are small in relation to the time required for the particle to reach the simultaneous point in Eq –, which is a long time if the particle is far away. The mathematical meaning of the infinitesimal is that the equations are of first order. They do not necessarily have to be small. The correction would have to be accurate for longer times if the particle is accelerated.

If we knew that the solutions at the retarded and simultaneous points were for the same particle, then the equations would have to work in the same way at either point on the trajectory. But since the equations are not true vector equations, we do not know yet which particle

is the right particle.

The retarded potentials exist only for the purpose of being differentiated, so it is not necessarily true that we need to know which particle is the right one. It should be sufficient that the derivatives be accurate for a short time at the retarded point. With this interpretation, we do not care where the particle will be when it reaches the simultaneous point.

After waiting for the light time across the system, the location of the particle when it is at the simultaneous point does become visible, but it would be necessary to insure that the equations at that time are for the same particle. It may be possible to determine which particle is the right one, but the identification does not appear to be essential.

If the coordinates in this solution are assumed to be first-known at the simultaneous point, and since the doppler shift at the retarded point is twice the correct value in that case, the correct doppler equation at the retarded point can be obtained by dividing the velocity by gamma. This correction does not work when the particle is at the simultaneous point, as there is still no transverse doppler term at that point.

The retarded potentials exist only for the purpose of being differentiated, so there is actually no requirement that they be valid throughout a large region.

The traditional interpretation of the velocity in Eq – is that it is real, but that it must be restricted to values less than c . Restricting the velocity this way is not sufficient for mapping 3+1 space into 4-space. A more natural way of restricting the range to divide the velocity in the equation by gamma, making it impossible for the retarded velocity to exceed c . With this interpretation, the velocity in Eq – is the Newtonian velocity. In not containing c as a parameter, the Newton equations do not intrinsically restrict the velocity to values less than c . This correction causes Newtonian light cone solutions to be better behaved at high velocities.

From another perspective, since gamma is already present in the equations for the first frame of reference in Eq –, it is important to not apply the same correction twice when transforming to the second frame of reference. Depending on the signs, applying the same correction twice could cause it to drop out altogether in light cone solutions. We would not necessarily know it, as the Lorentz transform will hold the trajectories of ghost particles invariant.

The light cone equation is not a true vector equation. The chain rule for differentiation, or an equivalent method, is generally required when the variables are not independent. For this reason, unless the chain rule is employed, the retarded velocity should be computed by differentiating with respect to ts_0 rather than dt_s , but that is not possible, as ts_0 is a constant.

Because the particle is always on the light cone in this solution, the equation can be differentiated in time without undue complications (for unaccelerated particles).

The only essential difference between these two solutions

is that they are for different times. Equations of physical significance have to work in the same way at either time. That because the momentum of an unaccelerated particle does not depend on when it is observed, or who is watching.

While some equations for inertial particles would in fact have to work in the same way at either time, the retarded potentials exist only for the purpose of being differentiated, so there is actually no requirement that they be valid over a large region. It is sufficient that they be accurate over a small region of space-time that is just large enough to compute the derivatives. A larger region is required if the equations are to be differentiated more times.

Because the chain rule for differentiation is required when the variables are not independent, the retarded velocity really should be computed by differentiating with respect to ts_0 rather than dt_s , but that is not possible, as ts_0 is a constant. This solution for the retarded velocity implicitly assumes that the equations are in the orthogonal coordinate system of 3+1 space.

The equations become differentiable with respect to ts if the particle is kept permanently on the light cone.

The only essential difference between the two points is that they are for different points on the same trajectory, so there is a physical requirement that the equations work in the same way at either point. It is unlikely that the objective is obtainable with vector equations. But since the retarded potentials exist only for the purpose of being differentiated, it is sufficient that they only be accurate in a small region of space-time at one of the points. The solution for a far away point would have to be obtained by integration.

The velocity in Eq – is traditionally interpreted as being real, but with the limitation that it must be restricted to values less than c . Mapping 3+1 space into a real space entails more than restricting the velocity, so other interpretations of the equation may be possible.

In Eq – the angle between the simultaneous and retarded points is larger by a factor of gamma than it would be for the Newton equations. The angle becomes the same as it would be for the Newton equations if v is divided by gamma. In not containing c as a parameter, the Newton equations are not real, but this correction causes high velocity Newtonian calculations solutions to be better behaved, as the retarded velocity cannot exceed c .

There is a connection between these relationships and the equations for time dilation. As the flying clock experiments illustrate [], a clock acquires a permanent offset when moved around a closed path. The scalar and vector potentials are not independent variables, so they cannot be integrated separately around the path. Moving a physical clock around a path does not have the same meaning as integrating the 4-potential around the path. The loop integral of a potential is zero.

The 4-potential transforms in the same way as the co-

ordinates, implying that the coordinates can be viewed as being a potential representation. A concrete physical meaning should not be attributed to the terms in a potential equation until it is shown that it cannot be gauge transformed. Consequently it is not necessarily the time in the equations that needs a relativistic correction unless it is shown that the equation cannot be gauge transformed.

Potential equations do not represent locally measurable relationships until they are suitably differentiated in space and time.

With true vector equations, we would know which particle in the stream is the right particle without performing any calculations. We do not yet know which particle is the right particle.

This is not the right equation for the retarded velocity. The retarded velocity should be obtained by differentiation with respect to time t_0 , but that is not possible, because it is a constant. (This solution is nevertheless a good approximation when the angle between the simultaneous and retarded points is small, and it always is when the velocity is low.)

In this solution, the only essential difference in the solutions for the retarded and simultaneous points is that they are for different times on the same trajectory. Retardation equations have to work in the same way at either time, because we do not know what time it is.

This is not the retarded velocity of the particle. The retarded velocity is dRv/dt_0 , but t_0 is a constant, so it is not computable with this equation.

The only essential difference between the solutions at the retarded and simultaneous points is that the particle is observed at different times. The equations have to work the same way at either time, because we do not know what time it is.

XLIV. DISCUSSION

There is no longitudinal component in the gravitational wave \square . However, curvature equations are singular at infinity. It is not possible to be certain that there is no longitudinal component at great distances until the singularity is removed. Olber's paradox \square suggests that it is not removable.

An observer in free fall might choose a simultaneous point that is the same as their location, in which case Eq. 1 – becomes applicable. A second nearby observer in the same frame of reference cannot use the same point, because the location of the simultaneous point is relative to the observer. Two nearby observers are disconnected. Neither observer can obtain the solution for the other.

The angle between the simultaneous and retarded points does not depend on how far away the particle is. There is no distance that is small enough to localize angular velocity.

The corrections will be associated with the angular momentum of a spinning particle. Except for spin-orbit

coupling, the angular momentum of a spinning particle is mostly independent of orbital calculations. According to the general theory, the behavior of a gyroscope does not depend on how fast it is spinning. Observations of orbiting pulsars seem to confirm this prediction \square , but validating the wrong equation with the wrong pulsar model would be logically circular.

The reference states that the precession conserves the total angular momentum of the system. The angular momentum of the pulsar is not included in the calculations, so how would we know if it does? There is no spin-orbit coupling in the solutions of the general theory. A gyroscope that is not spinning at all precesses at the same rate as one that is spinning.

If two nearby particles are allowed to fall for a long time in a spherical gravitational field, the constantly changing acceleration causes the $\dot{\mathbf{a}}$ and $\ddot{\mathbf{a}}$ terms to become important. The solution has to be obtained by integration. The angular relationships for the two particles are different. The gradient of a vector is not a vector.

Potential equations represent the perspective of a distant observer. Sometimes we are a distant observer, and sometimes we are not. The transform is the solution. Each perspective is one aspect of the problem.

\square Retardation equations are intrinsically observer dependent, but their basis should be equations that are the same for all observers. Even if we are in free fall, it becomes necessary to see ourselves as others see us; to know what we cannot see.

If the equations are retarded, it is possible that a particle inside a mass shell would be dragged along by the translational velocity of the shell, and conversely. It is not possible to use the equivalence principle to determine if this form of frame dragging exists, because there is no such effect with the Newton equations. The coupling would be due to near field radiative terms, which do not behave in the same way as far field terms. Near field terms can be of the dipole symmetry, even though far field radiative dipole terms are not known to exist in gravitational solutions. Dipole terms are antisymmetric.

Curvature terms are singular at infinity, so the singularity would have to be removed in far field solutions – if it is removable. Olber's paradox¹⁹ suggests that it is not removable.

Photons travel slower through the center of a distant galaxy. From the perspective of a distant observer, the vacuum speed of light depends on the circumstances. It is important to not overgeneralize. In being the integral of the fields, potential equations represent a global perspective, which is the same as the perspective obtained by integrating the solutions of field equations.

Many popular equations assume that the Newton equations are accurate if the acceleration is zero. That is not true. Due to the absence of absolute simultaneity, the equations are usually for the wrong particle.

It is easier to differentiate than it is to integrate, which is why there are the retarded potentials.

The solutions of the Proca equations include exponen-

tal terms that represent the range of the fields \square . There is a static scalar solution and a static vector solution.

The range of the fields is not currently known, but it must be a great distance or else it would have been noticed, so it is probably all right to neglect it in low order local solutions. But because global solutions are obtainable by integrating from the infinitesimal, it probably cannot be neglected in high order local solutions, which should make it possible to accurately compute the range of the fields. The equations will necessarily include uncomputable physical constants.

Neither field equations nor retardation equations form a complete representation. Each provides one perspective of a much larger problem. There are still too many loopholes in the equations.

If two nearby particles are allowed to free fall from a great distance in a Newtonian solution, the local differential relationships in a Cartesian coordinate system become increasingly elaborate as the particle velocity becomes higher. The acceleration of each particle increases steadily, so the $\dot{\mathbf{a}}$ and $\ddot{\mathbf{a}}$ terms are important. The solution has to be obtained by integration.

It probably should be confirmed that a Newtonian solution can be localized by the methods of vector analysis before attempting it in 4-space.

Some equations for one particle in Newtonian free fall are shown in Ref. 24. The solution for two nearby particles is not obtainable by differentiating those equations, as the initial conditions for the two particles are different. Solutions obtained this way are of the contravariant form. They require transformation if the coordinates are first-known in the frame of reference of a local observer. Retardation equations are also of the contravariant form.

The gradient of a vector is a tensor of the second rank. Its decomposition products are a scalar, a pseudo vector, and a quadrupole \square . Pseudo vectors are of the dipole symmetry, so there should be antisymmetric terms in this solution. Unlike 3-space equations, the gradient of a vector depends on what time it is.

The solution for the first derivative will obviously require relativistic corrections if the velocity is high, but a Newtonian solution should be usable at low velocities.

If the coordinates are first-known at a great distance and if a particle traveling with a velocity near c is nearly on a collision course with the observer, the difference between the arrival times of the particle and a photon can be only an instant, yet the travel time can be an eternity. The local differential angular relationships are ill behaved. Similarly, if two nearby particles are allowed to free fall from a great distance, the local differential relationships become increasingly ill behaved as their velocity approaches c .

All things measurable are relative, but it is not us that they are relative to.

There can be a stream of particles that are all on the

same trajectory but that pass by the simultaneous point at different times. With true vector equations, we already know which particle in the stream is the right particle without performing any calculations.

The light cone equation is not a true vector equation. The chain rule for differentiation, or an equivalent method, is generally required when the variables are not independent. That makes it more difficult to identify the right particle. The problem is that the locations of a particle at two widely separated points on the trajectory are no longer connected by vector equations. The connection between the two points has to be established by integration, or an equivalent method.

γ is more difficult to identify when the simultaneous point is not at the closest approach, but it is still present in the equations for the first frame of reference. That is as it should be unless our frame of reference is special. But also, the same correction should not be applied twice when transforming to the second frame of reference. Depending on the signs, it could drop out altogether. We would not necessarily know it, because the Lorentz transform will hold the speed of light invariant even if the coordinates represent the trajectory of a ghost particle.

The calculations provide a good estimate when the angle between the simultaneous and retarded locations is small, which it is at low velocities, but the solution is not accurate for large angles.

Because the particle is always on the light cone in this solution, the angular velocity of the particle, relative to the simultaneous point, is computable, which in turn makes it possible to compute the retarded linear velocity.

Retarded angular velocity is not computable with true vector equations, although it could probably be done by integrating vector equations.

Photons travel slower through the center of a distant galaxy. From the perspective of a distant observer, the vacuum speed of light depends on the circumstances. Local and global perspectives are not interchangeable. Global relationships are obtained by integrating local relationships; local relationships are obtained by differentiating global relationships. In representing the integral of the fields, potential equations represent a global perspective.

On the other hand, when a particle is nearly on a collision course with the observer, the angular velocity at the point of closest approach becomes higher as the miss distance becomes smaller. There is no miss distance that is small enough to localize the equations. We are not a good reference point when we are the target.

Except in special cases, the difference between two closely spaced vectors is not a true vector. It is a pseudo vector. True vectors and pseudo vectors behave differently for sign inversions and rotations \square . The methods of vector analysis are not reliable when the speed of light matters.

The closer a particle is to us the higher is its Newtonian angular velocity. The equations are singular when the distance is zero, so there is no value for the radius vector

from us to a particle that is small enough to localize the equations. Similarly, eq – is required even when dr is an infinitesimal quantity, which it is for the local equations of an observer in free fall.

making it difficult to be sure when a particle is close enough to localize the equations. The equations are singular when the miss distance is zero, so the solution would probably have to be obtained by l'Hospital rule. This relationship might be relevant for a particle in free fall. The methods of vector analysis have limitations.

A satisfactory principle for selecting the right particle is that retarded equations have to work for any particle in the stream, regardless of when it will reach the simultaneous point.

However, when applying retarded equations to engineering problems, it is necessary to assume that the time when the particle reaches the simultaneous point is already known in order to compute the retarded location. The reasoning is backwards, making it necessary to apply relativistic corrections to engineering problems.

The retarded angular velocity is required for the calculation because, as discussed in S –, retarded equations are a more general form of the equations for circular motion.

There can be a stream of particles that are all on the same trajectory but that pass by the simultaneous point at different times. With true vector equations, we would know which particle in the stream is the right particle without performing any calculations.

The light cone equation is not a true vector equation. The chain rule for differentiation or an equivalent method is generally required when the variables are not independent. That makes it more difficult to determine which particle in the stream is the right particle.

The underlying principle is that retardation equations have to work in the same way without knowing what time it is, because we do not know what time it is. Coordinate dependencies can exist in either space or time. The LW equations actually are coordinate independent, but it becomes more difficult to retain coordinate independence if the equations are differentiated again. It would nevertheless be logically circular to try to use vector equations to show that there is anything wrong with vector equations.

The light cone equation is not a true vector equation. The retarded angular velocity is not computable this way.

This solution is only for unaccelerated particles, but there is no hope for the acceleration terms until the velocity terms are right.

It is more difficult to identify the right particle when the chain rule for differentiation is required. The chain rule, or an equivalent method, is generally required when the variables are not independent. The chain rule is not required if the terms are orthogonalized first.

In this solution, we cannot tell from the equation itself whether the coordinates should be first-known at the simultaneous point or at the retarded point. Even though

the equation is more accurate than Eq –, it cannot be used to obtain specific solutions until this ambiguity is resolved.

In eq –, the coordinates are always first-known at the simultaneous point, but the solutions for the retarded velocity and location are inconsistent, because the computed angular velocity terms are not accurate for large angles.

While neither equation can be used to identify the right particle, the combined equations do constrain the solution. By assuming that the coordinates are first-known at the simultaneous point in Eq –, it becomes possible to apply a relativistic correction to Eq –.

When the coordinates are first-known at the retarded point, the angular velocity is represented by the component of the velocity vector that is perpendicular to the retarded radius vector. It is likely that there are other ways of obtaining these solutions, and they may be preferred for accelerated or jerked particles.

XLV. THE RETARDED POTENTIALS

This solution reduces to the LW equations if γ is set to 1, which is an appropriate simplification for many practical problems. The solutions obtained that way are always solutions to the Maxwell equations.

Some antenna solutions are shown in the SOM when γ is included. The dipole solutions are the same as for the LW equations. The degeneration is probably due to the neglect of the acceleration terms.

To order $(v/c)^3$, the solution for a single charge in circular motion is a solution to the Proca equations. It is not a solution if the v^4 terms are carried. It is possible that this inconsistency is due to the neglect of the acceleration terms. The particle velocity cannot exceed c , but angular velocity is unbounded, making it difficult to obtain accurate solutions for tiny orbits.

Field equations are vital for providing cross checks of the solutions of retarded equations, and conversely.

There is a convoluted connection between this solution and the Thomas precession [1]. The connection is that the Thomas calculations assume that the Newton equations are accurate when the acceleration is zero. That is not true, because the angular velocity of the particle can masquerade as a retarded Newton acceleration, and conversely. At best, the equations are ambiguous.

The Thomas calculations do not have to be for light cone events, but they can be. The rotations are the same for light cone solutions as they are in other cases.

There is a connection between these solutions and the Thomas precession [1]. The connection is that taking a term out of one equation can have the effect of putting it into another equation, where it survives in clearly recognizable form in this case [1].

The Thomas calculations do not have to be for light cone events, but they can be. The rotations are the same as for more general solutions.

The equations of the rotations of the Lorentz group \square are more general than those of the Thomas precession. They should make it possible to extrapolate further around a circle, or around an ellipse.

With true vector equations, we would know that the entire cosmos is receding madly away from us. The light cone equation is not true vector equation. The moment of creation needs to be retarded. True vectors and pseudo vectors behave differently for sign inversions and rotations. The solution is not obtainable with vector equations when there is more than one space dimension.

There is nothing wrong with egocentric equations, provided that they do not exclude other observers in the same coordinate system.

XLVI. CONTRAVARIANT TENSORS IN 3+1 SPACE

The order of the highest order multipole in a solution increases with the rank of the tensor. A true multipole is irreducible. It cannot be represented by any linear combination of lower order multipoles, which is the basis of the tensor irreducibility theorem⁶. The theorem only applies to linear equations.

Tensors were originally developed for the study of deformed elastic media, and those equations remain instructive. For the first derivatives, the static terms are the expansion factor and a quadrupole. Since the shear and elongation terms are inseparable in quadrupoles², and the vector spherical harmonics^{2,21} are irreducible, it is implied that both the shear and elongation terms of quadrupoles can be represented by a single vector spherical harmonic.

An object cannot be compressed to a negative length, so there are necessarily deviations from Hooke's law when the deformations are large. The second derivatives remain accurate for larger deformations when there are both shear and elongation terms. They represent an octupole.

There is no vector in the first derivatives of deformed elastic media², but that is because the solution is static. A vector belongs in the solution if it is not static, as it is one of the decomposition products of the second rank contravariant tensor, which represents the first derivatives.

The time and space coordinates can be treated independently in true vector equations, but the coordinates are inseparable in 4-space. There are space-time cross terms when the solution is not static.

In being first order in space and first order in time, the cross terms always vanish quadratically in a small region of space-time, but they cannot be dropped if the equation is to be integrated. (Terms that vanish quadratically with one independent variable can be dropped, but in these solutions the space and time terms are not independent.) The space-time cross terms vanish in the infinitesimal if the vectors are assumed to be true vectors rather than pseudo-vectors.

The vector terms are anti-symmetric. The anti-symmetric cross terms vanish in the infinitesimal if they are assumed to represent a true vector rather than a pseudo vector.

If a space term transforms into a time term when the observer is at rest and the particle is in motion, then a similar transformation occurs when the particle is at rest and the observer is moving. Velocity has a more concrete meaning for an observer at the barycenter of a system, but the second observer is one aspect of the solution, not one aspect of the problem. Until the location of the barycenter becomes known, velocity does not have an absolute significance. It takes a while to determine where the barycenter is. It is important to not assume that the solution is known before working the problem.

The space-time cross terms are not very important for the first space derivatives, but there are missing terms in the second derivatives without them.

XLVII. TENSOR DECOMPOSITION

The 4-potential transforms in the same way as the coordinates, so there are some similarities between 4-potential and kinematic solutions.

In 4-potential form, the second rank tensor still represents the first derivatives. In electrical solutions, its decomposition products are a scalar (the Lorentz condition, $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A} + 1/c^2 \partial\psi/\partial t$), a vector, (the \mathbf{E} field, $-\partial\mathbf{A}/\partial t - \nabla\psi$), and a quadrupole. The magnetic field is not one of the decomposition products, and it is not needed if there are no magnetic monopoles, as it can be obtained by transforming the \mathbf{E} field. The quadrupole will be investigated in a later paper. It does not fit well in electrical solutions.

The third rank tensor represents the second derivatives. Its decomposition products are a scalar, three vectors (or pseudo vectors), two quadrupoles, and an octupole. In 4-potential form, the scalar is $-\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E}$. One of the vectors is $\partial\mathbf{B}/\partial t$. The other decomposition products are shown in Ref. 13. They include all of the terms of the Maxwell equations in potential form, along with the quadrupoles and the octupole.

The solutions are based on the tensor decomposition equation in Ref. 6. The quadrupole and octupole components in the reference are only for a real valued 3x3 tensor with both space and time terms, but there are indications that an equivalent 4-vector representation exists. The 4-vector representation will be preferred, as the coefficients in the 3x3 tensor would upset many familiar equations. The 3x3 tensor is nevertheless required for establishing a connection to the 3-space tensor irreducibility theorem.

The $-\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E}$ term can be neglected when the velocities are low. Electrical equations reduce to the Maxwell equations in this regime. At higher velocities, a non-zero value does not imply the lack of charge conservation if Gauss's law provides the right answer for the charge within a

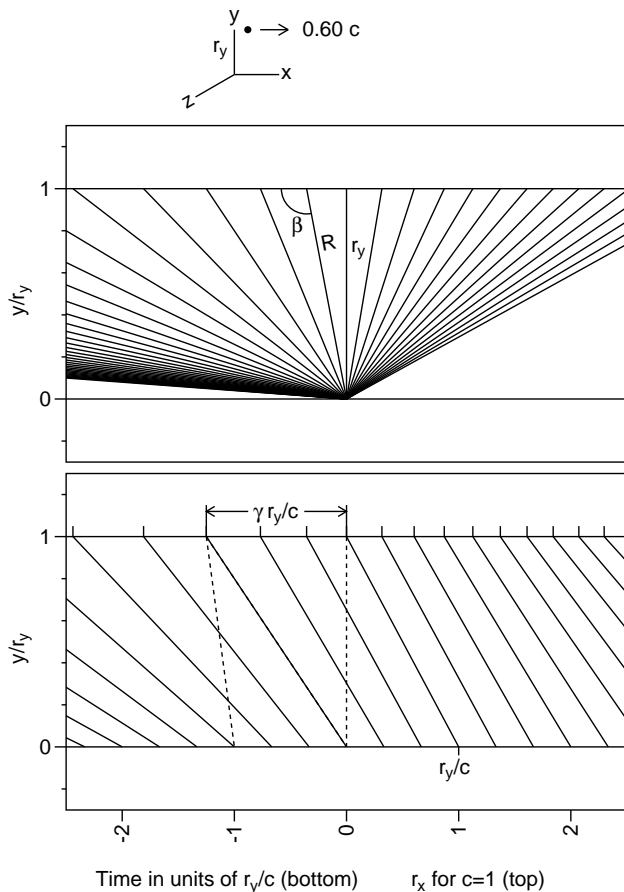


FIG. 8. In the bottom panel, the transmitter moves left to right and sends non-uniformly spaced pulses at the top of each slanted line. The transmit times are contrived to cause them to arrive at the field point at regularly spaced intervals, which is necessary if the time at the field point is to correspond to the time shown by clock located near the observer. The vertical dashed line is at the point of closest approach. In the top panel, the top of each slanted line shows where the transmitter was. All of the pulses are received at the same place but at different times.

sphere, but the solutions do contain fluctuating virtual charge.

The decomposition products of the third rank contravariant tensor can be interpreted in more than one way. The $-\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E}$ term would have a different meaning in a kinematic context, but it would still be an isotropic term with anti-symmetric contributors. In being alien to the Newton equations, its meaning in a kinematic context is elusive.

XLVIII. THE LIGHT CONE EQUATION

When applying the LW equations to engineering problems, the particle moves along a marked course. There is a synchronized clock at each grid intersection. The

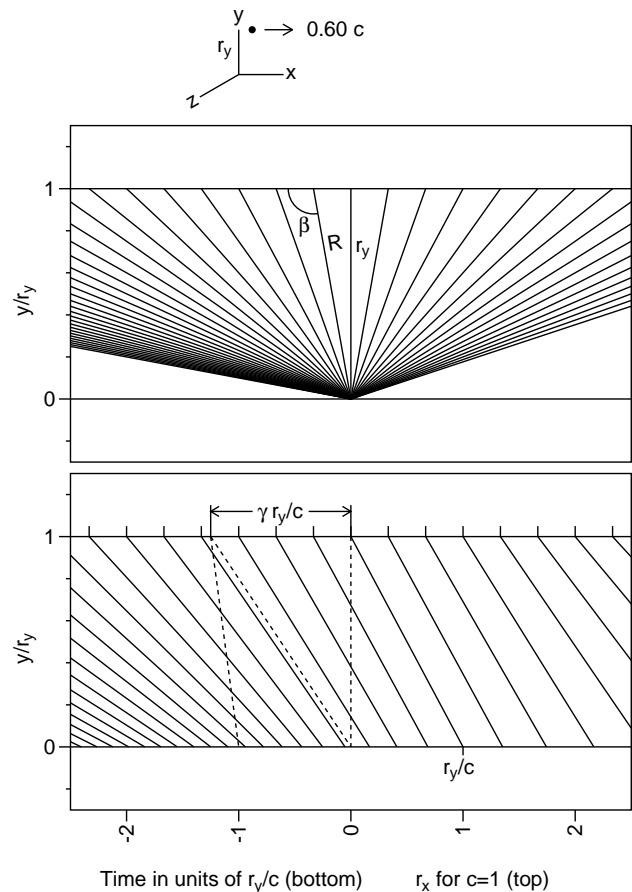


FIG. 9. In the bottom panel, the transmitter moves left to right and sends regularly spaced pulses at the top of each slanted line. The constantly changing intervals of the received times represents the doppler shift. The pulses are doppler shifted to a higher frequency when the particle is approaching the field point and to a lower frequency when it is receding. The vertical dashed line is at the point of closest approach. In the top panel, the top of each slanted line shows where the transmitter was. All of the pulses are received at the same place but at different times.

time in the equations is the computed time that the particle passes by each at-rest clock. On the other hand, the number displayed by a moving clock can be read from afar. Each perspective is one aspect of the problem. The transform is the solution.

Since all of the clocks are in the same frame of reference, there are no transverse doppler terms. The transverse doppler effect has been interpreted as being due to time dilation in the second frame of reference²⁰.

If retardation equations are viewed as representing a projection of 4-space into 3+1 space, then this computational model for retarding the potentials in engineering problems is not necessarily wrong, even though there are no time dilation terms in the equations.

The observer is at the location $\mathbf{r}_0 = 0$ in the first frame of reference. The time of the observation is t_f . The par-

ticle is moving on the trajectory $\mathbf{r}_0 + \mathbf{v}t_s$. The retarded time at the particle is t_s . Then the light cone solution is $\Delta\mathbf{r}\cdot\Delta\mathbf{r} - c^2(\Delta t)^2 = 0$, or

$$r_0^2 - c^2(t_s - t_f)^2 + t_s^2v^2 + 2r_0t_sv\hat{\mathbf{r}}\cdot\hat{\mathbf{v}} = 0.$$

A particular solution can be obtained by setting $\hat{\mathbf{r}}\cdot\hat{\mathbf{v}}$ and t_f to zero

$$r_0^2 - c^2t_s^2 + t_s^2v^2 = 0.$$

The polynomial has two roots

$$t_s = \pm ir_0(-c^2 + v^2)^{-\frac{1}{2}}.$$

Selecting the root for which the time at the particle is earlier than the time at the field point and simplifying

$$t_s = -\frac{r_0}{c}\left(1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}\right)^{-\frac{1}{2}} = -\frac{r_0}{c}\gamma. \quad (15)$$

γ is usually associated with the second frame of reference. It is also visible in the first frame of reference at the point of closest approach. This point is indicated in Fig. 8.

When solving the light cone equation, either the time at the source or the time at the field point can be taken as the independent variable. In Fig. 8, t_f is the independent variable. It is t_s in Fig. 9. Fig. 8 represents the relationship relevant for the LW equations. The only essential equation used in producing the figures was $\mathbf{r}\cdot\mathbf{r} - c^2t^2 = 0$, along with the equation for obtaining the roots of a polynomial.

It is always possible to rotate the coordinates by the three Euler angles so that the trajectory is parallel to the x axis at the point of closest approach to the observer. For unaccelerated particles, the problem is then reduced to two space coordinates and one time coordinate. A third space coordinate would be required for other points if there is an out-of-plane acceleration term, which in general is possible.

In the bottom panels, the time at the top of each slanted line is the transmit time; the time at the bottom is the received time. The angular relationships in the bottom panels do not represent 3-space vectors. Space vectors are based on the angular relationships in the top panels.

For the coordinates shown, there is no doppler shift in either figure at the time $t_f = +r_y/c$. The particle is at the point of closest approach at that time. The coordinates can be translated in time so that the point of closest approach occurs at any time, so this special case for the origin of the time coordinate is not of general interest.

In Fig. 8, the retarded velocity, $d\mathbf{R}/dt_s$, is \mathbf{v} , and the retarded acceleration is zero, yet the particle is not half way to a destination in half of the computed travel time. That makes integrating the retarded acceleration tricky. The derivatives are correct, but the dt_s interval used in computing them is constantly changing in a manner that is inexplicable with the Newton equations. The

equations can probably be integrated, but not with the Newton equations until the acceleration and angular velocity terms are separated. The angular velocity terms are observer-dependent. The Newton equations are only valid for inertial particles, because the inertia of a particle does not depend on which of several observers is watching. (The equation would be easy to integrate if the particle is allowed to stray from the light cone, but it needs to stay on the light cone for this calculation.)

The calculations of the Thomas precession⁷ do not have to be for light cone events, but they can be, in which case they assume that the retarded acceleration is Newtonian, but it is not. However, taking the Thomas precession out of one equation will have the effect of putting it into another equation. The Thomas equations appear to be correct, but their meaning is elusive.

In a circular Newtonian orbit, $v = r\omega$ and $a = r\omega^2$, so the $\mathbf{a}\times\mathbf{v}$ Thomas terms are of order $r^2\omega^3$. After substituting $\omega = v/r$, the solution becomes v^3/r . The angular velocity is v/r , so they represent a relativistic correction to angular velocity, which is the same as a relativistic correction to the magnetic field of an orbiting charged particle.

The particle velocity cannot exceed c , but angular velocity is unbounded, causing the Thomas terms to be more important in tiny systems. The Thomas precession was originally used to successfully resolve a factor of two discrepancy in the spin-orbit coupling of the electron⁷. The original calculation has faded into history, but it has never been invalidated.

If the calculations are performed with true vector equations, the the coordinates appear to be spinning. There would be a Coriolis term if the coordinates were spinning. That does not imply that the Thomas equations are wrong, because true vectors and pseudo vectors behave differently for rotations and translations.

In Fig. 9, an unaccelerated particle is half way to a destination in half of the travel time, making the Newton equations easier to interpret.

However, there are now quadratic terms in the solution for the time at the field point, which complicates the interpretation of the derivatives at the field point. There are, of course, no quadratic terms when the time at the field point is the independent variable. Uncomplicating the derivatives at one end of the vector complicates them at the other end, with mixed benefits.

[check extrapolated sim point] ... the solution is for a particle on the light cone, but it is not the right particle.

Fig. 10 is the same as Fig. 8, except that the observer has been rotated 180 degrees about the line of sight, which has the effect of causing the particle to appear to move right to left. The doppler shift in the bottom panel is unaffected, but the top panel becomes a mirror image.

Unless some point on the trajectory is known by independent means, an observer at the field point cannot tell from the doppler signal itself in which direction the particle is moving.

This solution represents an extreme case, but the

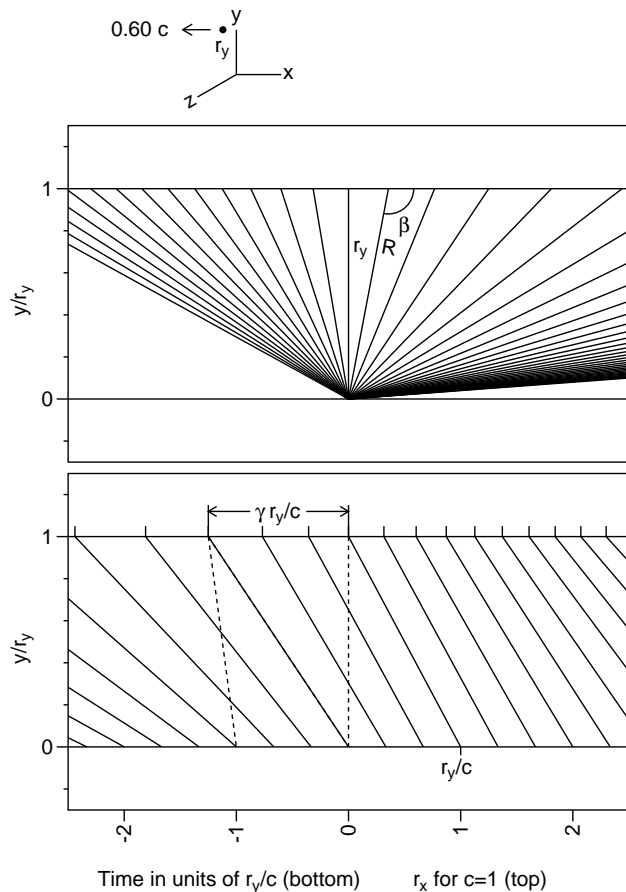


FIG. 10. This figure is the same as Fig. 8 except that the observer has been rotated 180 degrees about the line of sight.

doppler equation is double valued whenever there is a velocity component perpendicular to the line of sight. The right particle can be selected with a directional antenna. The response of a directional antenna is at a maximum in the direction perpendicular to the wavefront angle. The space derivatives are required for computing the wavefront angle. The relationships of space and time are generally not separable. It is not sufficient to know just the space derivatives or just the time derivatives. Except in static solutions, there are always space-time cross terms.

The Maxwell equations also exhibit this characteristic. The magnetic field is $\mathbf{B} = \nabla \times \mathbf{A}$, but $\nabla \times (\nabla \times \mathbf{A})$ does not have a separately identifiable physical meaning. In being first order in space and first order in time, the cross terms vanish quadratically in a small region of space-time, while the space and time terms are each of first order. For the same reason, the cross terms also grow quadratically when the equation is integrated in space and time, so they cannot be neglected if the equation is to be integrated.

The terms do not actually either vanish quadratically or grow quadratically. It only seems that way with vector equations. The actual basis of the cross terms is the

non-orthogonality of the space and time coordinates. The relative importance of the cross terms in a small region of space-time does not depend on the size of the region, because the cross terms represent angular relationships. However, the angular relationships are not representable with true vector equations, so they seem to inexplicitly grow quadratically.

... The cross terms are now twice as important as they were before, yet twice and infinitesimal quantity is still an infinitesimal quantity. This behaviour makes it impossible to fully reduce 4-space to first order, making it necessary to proceed one step at a time.

[relevant?] Retardation equations cannot depend on whether the particle is moving left to right or right to left, or if the observer is a fruit bat. The orientation of the observer is not an absolute. It is relative to what is being observed. For an observer in radial free fall, the orientation of the observer is not even relevant. It is what lies ahead that matters. The equations have to be rotationally invariant with respect to the orientation of the observer. The LW equations behave correctly in this respect. They are legitimate retardation equations. However, there are no symmetric terms in the solutions.

[no inconsistencies] The doppler equation is single valued for radial motion. However, in that case the doppler frequency switches instantly from a constant high frequency to a constant low frequency when the particle passes by the observer, hopefully with a near miss. The solutions for the observer's frontside and backside are disconnected, illustrating one aspect of the difference between true vectors and pseudo vectors. Pseudo vectors cannot be arbitrarily inverted and translated.

the computed trajectory is not that of an unaccelerated inertial particle. There is a false acceleration term that is parallel to the retarded velocity. The culprit is a term that can be written as

The term vanishes for radial motion, where ... is zero. In other cases the term represents an unreal coupling of acceleration and angular velocity of the particle.

For unaccelerated particles, the correctly obtained doppler equation can be applied without knowing what time it is²⁰. The acceleration terms are important, but there is no hope for them until the velocity terms are right.

The difficulty with both of these calculations is that they do not correctly represent the space-time cross terms. There are no cross terms in an orthogonal coordinate system, but the time and space coordinates are not independent variables in light cone solutions. They depend on each other.

XLIX. WHERE WAS THE PARTICLE?

Because the x and y coordinates are not independent variables, the multivariate Maclaurin theorem [] (sometimes referred to as the multivariate Taylor theorem) would be required for extrapolating around a circle. The multi-

variate version has cross terms that are missing in the equations for one independent variable.

The cross terms are of no consequence for the first infinitesimal step, but they grow faster than the first order terms when integrating around a circle. In representing a series expansion at a displaced point, the Taylor theorem is more general than the Maclauren series. By integrating part way around the circle, allowing the cross terms to grow, then representing the solution at a displaced point with a Taylor series, the consequences of the cross terms become assimilated into the integral, even though they do not explicitly appear in the equations. The equations obtained this way look like vector equations, but they are actually pseudo vector equations, because there are no multipoles beyond the dipole with true vector equations.

Solutions in series form always represent a family of particles. The solution is not complete until we select the right member of the family. It can be done, but not instantly.

When integrating around a circular orbit, there are cross terms between r and t for the same reason that there are x - y cross terms when integrating around a circle in 3-space.

If a solution is valid everywhere except at one point, then that point is not of physical significance. This solution is scarcely valid everywhere, but the dt interval is longer than an instant.

Thus, by converting a Maclauren series to a Taylor series, it becomes possible to determine if the equations work in the same way at other times. If they do work in the same way, then the offset of the Taylor series will drop out of the solution. This behavior is important for equations of physical significance, because we do not know what time it is.

All of the nonlinear equations provide a means of computing the value of π . It is doubtful that it is possible to compute its value with linear equations.

The Newton series appears to be valid at the time $t=0$. However, because clocks display elapsed time rather than absolute time, we have no way of knowing when the time $t=0$ should be. The Taylor theorem represents the derivatives at a displaced point. By obtaining the derivatives for a point displaced in time, it becomes possible, for a short time, to apply the equations without knowing what time it is.

The derivatives could also be computed at a point that is not displaced, but either the chain rule for differentiation or the multivariate Maclauren theorem \square is required when the variables are not independent.

From the perspective of the retarded potentials, the basis of the Newton equations is unphysical.

The tensor of each rank is irreducible \square , indicating that this solution contains a small error of the first order.

Light cone solutions are special cases of more general solutions. They are observer-dependent, but their basis should be equations that are the same for all observers.

The basis of this relationship is that the x any y co-

ordinates are not independent variables. They are not independent variables in a circular orbit either.

This solution is coordinate dependent. By rotating the coordinates, y can be chosen to be zero at any point on the circle. However, we are not free to choose a new coordinate system each time we need another data point.

In Eq \square , the $\cos(\beta)$ term is a dipole term. A quadrupole would have a $\cos(2\beta)$ term. There are multipoles beyond the dipole in 3-space, but not in the relativistic Doppler equation, which is odd.

There are multipoles beyond the dipole in 3-space, but not in the relativistic Doppler equation, which makes no sense at all.

While it is possible for events to be simultaneous with an event at the origin of the coordinate system, they have no special significance. Indeed, they are not even visible for an observer at the origin until after waiting for the light time across the system.

The Newton equations would be applicable if events were always simultaneous with events at the origin of any coordinate system.

The equations are not of the same form when the variables are not independent. The chain rule for differentiation, the multivariate extension of the Maclauren series \square , and the tensor irreducibility theorem \square all become relevant.

In general, the rv , $r\dot{v}$, and $r\ddot{v}$ terms are all independent variables. Any solution in series form represents a family of particles. The solution is not complete until we select the right member of the family. Newton presented some principles for selecting the right member, but they did not include its angular velocity.

All that means is that the wrong equation was used for computing the time at the particle.

Acceleration terms are important, but since they are obtained by differentiating the velocity terms, there is no hope for them until the velocity equations do not contradict themselves.

If an undiscovered superpotential exists then we do not know where the beginning is, but it is not possible to perform calculations without assumptions.

If a long string is attached to a test mass inside a mass shell, then the string is jerked, does the force on the string depend on the mass of the shell? According to Mach's principle¹², there should be a frame dragging effect. A less philosophical interpretation would be that an accelerated mass radiates and the radiation transfers momentum to the mass shell. When the shell is nearby, the conservation of linear momentum requires that there be a back-reaction on the particle. It is plausible that there is such an effect, but we cannot be sure yet.

The decomposition products of the fourth rank contravariant tensor include six pseudo vectors \square . Pseudo vector solutions form a rich solution set.

This relationship is important. A solution is coordinate-dependent if it depends on where or when the coordinates of a particle are first-known. It has to be possible to apply the equations without knowing what time it is, because we do not know what time it is.

Light cone equations are special cases of more general solutions. Equations that do not work in the right way for them will not work in most other cases either.

This solution is coordinate dependent. It does not matter where on the circle the point $y=0$ is chosen to be, but we are not free to choose a new coordinate system each time we need another data point.

The curvature cannot be represented with two points on the trajectory. A third point between the two points is required. However, true vector equations are three copies of one independent variable and one dependent variable. With true vector equations, the midpoint of two closely spaced points is exactly half way between them, causing the curvature terms to be lost.

This solution does not have the same meaning as subdividing the infinitesimal. If subdividing a quantity makes any difference at all, then all it means is that the quantity was not an infinitesimal quantity.

An isolated and unaccelerated particle is of course half way to a destination in half of the travel time. All this solution means is that the wrong equation was used in obtaining it.

The acceleration terms are important, but there is no hope for them until the velocity terms are right.

This relationship makes integrating the retarded Newtonian acceleration tricky. The equations of this paper are not retardation equations, but retardation equations sometimes provide useful insights into the nature of the problem.

True vector equations represent three copies of the relationships for one independent variable and one dependent variable. The x and y coordinates are not independent variables when integrating around a circle in 3-space, requiring nonlinear equations for the integration. The problem cannot be fully reduced to first order, but by working in component form it is possible to take smaller steps than is possible with true vector equations, resulting in more accurate solutions for circular orbits. The resulting equations look and behave like vector equations, but they are actually pseudo vector equations. True vectors and pseudo vectors behave differently for sign inversions and rotations.

This solution is not contrary to the theorems of Euclidean calculus. The actual meaning of the infinitesimal is that the relationships are of first order. If subdividing a quantity makes any difference at all, then all it means is that the quantity was not an infinitesimal quantity.

This solution is coordinate dependent. It is valid at any time, but we are not free to choose a new coordinate system each time we need another data point.

The $1/r$ term in the solution is due to the fact that the x and y coordinates are not independent variables. There is no $1/r$ term in the solution if the trajectory is represented by a Maclaurin series for one independent variable. There are cross terms in the multivariate version of the theorem [], so it should be possible to make progress by using the more general equation.

Acceleration and angular velocity are not instantly separable. We cannot tell whether this solution represents

acceleration or angular velocity until a global solution is obtained.

Light cone solutions are intrinsically observer dependent. If the origin of the coordinate system is chosen to be at the observer then the solution depends on where the origin is, and correctly so. But when there is no observer in the problem, it should not matter where or when the origin is. In being an observer-dependent solution, this solution is inconclusive. The inconsistency requires resolution in any case, but its nature requires further investigation.

... an eternity.

Even when the speed of light does not matter, solutions in series form are always for a family of particles. A smaller family can be selected by carrying more terms in the series, but we are never sure of precisely which particle is the right particle until a global solution is obtained.

There can be more than one particle in the same orbit. Prolonged observation are required to insure that all of the snapshots are for the right particle.

Computing the first time derivative requires two consecutive 3-space solutions, so the equations for moving particles are scarcely independent of 3-space equations.

The angular velocity is associated with the magnetic field of an orbiting charged particle. The $1/r$ term occurs because the x and y variables are not independent. There is no $1/r$ term when the space and time coordinates are independent.

When integrating around a circle in 3-space, no matter how short the line element is, it is still curved.

Within the limitations of a series expansion, by obtaining the Taylor series for a different time, it will become possible to apply the Newton equations without knowing what time it is.

All of the equations provide a means of computing the value of π . There is no known way of reducing the problem to first order with linear equations.

The calculations of this paper are not retardation equations, but there is a connection, so there may be additional considerations.

It is not possible to apply this equation without knowing when the time $t=0$ should be. The equation is not of physical significance, because we do not know what time it is. There is this difference between mathematics and physics.

The solutions obtained this way look and behave like vector equations, yet they are not obtainable by the methods of vector analysis.

r can be viewed as being the radius vector from the barycenter of a system to an orbiting particle, but its more general meaning is that it is the radius of curvature of any trajectory.

The constant of integration is not for the location of the distant stars. It is the local observer who is lost.

The shear and elongation terms can be recovered by differentiating a global potential solution. However, retardation equations do not form a complete representation. They are just one aspect of a much larger problem.

This term represents a virtual shear term. The shear term is one of the contributors to the quadrupole². However, from the perspective of the retarded potentials, the term is an observer-dependent aberration that needs to be removed.

While the retarded potentials themselves are observer-dependent, but their basis should be equations that are the same for all observers. Since both particles are moving in unison with the same velocity, an observer co-moving with a particle would perceive a nearby particle as hovering at a fixed location. This relationship does not depend on who is watching.

This relationship represents an observer-dependent aberration. Since both particles are traveling with the same velocity, an observer co-moving with a particle would perceive a nearby particle as hovering in a fixed location.

Since an unaccelerated particle is not half way there in half of the travel time, the wrong equation was used for computing the time at the particle. Even though the particle is unaccelerated, the trajectory is perceived as being curved if the clock at the field point is used as the time standard, so the trajectory needs to be integrated.

Since the location of the simultaneous point is not where it was incorrectly assumed to be, equations based on a contradictory assumption require a relativistic correction.

If it was real, this term would be a shear term.

This term is an elongation term. The shear and elongation terms are the two contributors to the quadrupole. They are inseparable², implying that both terms could be represented by a single vector spherical harmonic $Y_{2,0}$ – if they were real.

Actually the contemplation of what is real and what is not is best left to the philosophers. The rest of us have to settle for computational models. Does an event without an observer have a meaning? There is no equation for the answer. However, there are two observers in these solutions, one at each end of the vector, and we are not usually sure of which one is us.

The location of the simultaneous point is not where true vector equations predict that it should be, but true vector equations do not have any space-time cross terms.

The time and space coordinates in light cone solutions are not independent variables. They depend on each other. In Fig. 1, the time and place for the particle were both assumed to be known before performing any calculations, causing the solution to be logically circular. The problem can also be worked by assuming that the coordinates are first-known at the simultaneous point, although we are never quite sure which is the retarded point and which is the simultaneous point. The identification of which is which depends on when in the history of the particle we view it.

This rotation is an observer-dependent aberration. An observer co-moving with the particle and at the particle's location would not perceive the second particle as rotating about the observer. Since both particles have the same velocity, the second particle would appear to be at rest.

A definite integral is not an absolute quantity. The

whole integral can be offset by an amount that is not discernable until the equation is differentiated again. We do not know where the particle was yet.

As the flying clock experiments show⁷, moving a clock around a closed path result in a permanent offset of the clock reading. On the other hand, the loop integral of the 4-potential should be zero. It is possible for both relationships to be true, as the space and time contributions to 4-potential solutions are inseparable, while moving a physical clock around a closed path makes it possible to evaluate the time terms independently. The 4-potential would nevertheless be expected to achieve closure after being transformed through any number of frames of reference. The two relationships do not have the same meaning.

The elongation and shear terms have now both vanished. The only reason they were there in the first place is because the equations were for the wrong particle. The coupling of the angular velocity and acceleration terms is not real. It is an aberration that needs to be taken out.

Since the simultaneous point is not where true vector equations predict that it should be, true vector equations require a relativistic correction. The correction can be neglected at low velocities. Indeed, the velocity of conduction electrons in stationary copper wire is so low that relativistic corrections are undetectable in those configurations, even at currents high enough to melt the wire.

The flying clock experiments show that a moving clock runs slow⁷, but moving a physical clock around a closed path does not have quite the same meaning as integrating the 4-potential around a closed path. The loop integral of a potential should be zero, but the time and space aspects of the 4-potential cannot be separated, while the time aspect can be considered separately for a clock moved around a closed path. This solution should not be interpreted as meaning that the space and time aspects are instantly separable.

Now that the particle has been brought onto the light cone, it can be kept permanently on it as it continues its journey to the simultaneous point. It will arrive there at the time R/c . Then the computed location of the particle during the traverse is kR/c .

However, the particle did not reach the half way point in half of the travel time. The solution is not for an unaccelerated inertial particle. The culprit is the term

Since the trajectory is curved, the solution needs to be obtained by integration, or by an equivalent method. This kind of curvature also occurs with the Newton equations when the acceleration and velocity vectors are parallel, such as for a particle in radial free fall.

Thus, while we do not actually care where the particle will be when the photon arrives at the field point, the simultaneous point cannot be abandoned altogether when obtaining solutions to engineering problems. But since the simultaneous point is not where true vector equations predict that it should be, true vector equations require a correction.

But since it is only the derivatives of the retarded po-

tentials that are of interest, it should be all right to compute the retarded location of the particle as it has always been done, then use a different equation for computing the derivatives. That has the effect of projecting curvature terms into a flat 3+1 space. A flat 3+1 space is not a real space, but then the retarded potentials are not real either. Or is it that true vector equations are not real? In any case, philosophy is best left to the philosophers.

The time and space coordinates are not independent variables in light cone solutions. They depend on each other. In Fig. –, it was assumed that the retarded place and time for the particle were both known before performing any calculations, causing the solution to be logically circular and self-fulfilling.

After waiting for the light time across the system, the particle is also visible when it is at the simultaneous point, so the calculation can be repeated for that point in the particle's history.

The location of the simultaneous point is different when the solution is obtained by integration rather than by multiplication.

When applying retardation equations to engineering problems, the location of the simultaneous point is assumed to be already known, then the retarded location is computed with true vector equation. If the problem is to be worked that way, the equation for computing the location of the retarded point needs adjustment.

It is difficult to determine both where a particle was and when it was there. It can be done, but not instantly.

The solution for accelerated particles is not obtainable by integrating the first derivative. It can be a useful approximation for a short time, but the acceleration terms grow faster as time progresses.

The time and space coordinates are not independent variables in light cone solutions. They depend on each other. It is difficult to determine both where a particle was and when it was there. It can be done, but not instantly.

The second derivatives are required for integrating acceleration terms. The Newton equations can be integrated with a double integral, or with the two equations ... The acceleration terms are not degenerate in 4-space, but they can be neglected when the conditions are mild.

When two particles are in a mutual orbit, the radiation from each particle will perturb the orbit of the other particle. Static terms decay as $1/r^2$, but radiative terms decay as $1/r$, making the problem much more difficult, although the perturbation will usually be small. Radiation can transfer momentum, which can cause the location of the barycenter to wobble slightly.

When working the retardation problem, a particle emits a single photon when it is at the retarded point. While the photon is traveling to the field point, the particle continues its journey to the simultaneous point. The particle arrives at the simultaneous point at the same instant that the photon arrives at the field point.

Their relationship is not one that can be proven to be true. It is an assumption with consequences, con-

sequences that are capable of being contradictory.

The simultaneous point is not in our future, but it is in the particle's future. The future location of the particle is not a satisfactory anchor point for equations of physical significance.

But when applying retardation equations to engineering problems, the location of the simultaneous point is assumed to be already known, then the retarded point is computed, relative to it. For this reason, even though the simultaneous point is an unphysical mathematical abstraction, it cannot be abandoned when obtaining solutions to real problems.

It is actually the connection between the retarded and simultaneous point that matters. It does not matter which comes first if the equations can correctly connect the two points. With true vector equations, the location of the simultaneous point is precisely computable. The light cone equation is not a true vector equation.

This solution is not for one particle. Since the trajectory of an accelerated particle is curved, there is a family of particles with different trajectories that all converge to the center of the sphere at the time t_0 . At that instant, all of the particles have the same velocity.

This solution would be the same if the acceleration terms were not carried, but that calculation tends to be confusing, as it can be interpreted as being for one particle rather than a family of particles. The distant past of the particle does not matter for the retarded potentials.

Potential equations are different from the equations for orbit determination in this respect. When integrating the trajectory of a particle, we have to know which particle the equations are for. But when applying retardation equations, we cannot know which particle is the right particle until after a global potential is obtained. A global solution specifies the full history of the particle, but we only need the recent history for computing the retarded potentials at any given instant. Retardation equations are not usable unless the trajectory of the particle is known by independent means.

However, a longer history is required if the solution is to be differentiated twice. This solution is for the first derivatives. The contravariant tensor of the second rank represents the first derivatives⁶.

They depend on each other. It is difficult to determine both where a particle was and when it was there. In this solution, the time and place for r_0 were assumed to be already known before even performing any calculations. We should make sure that the assumption does not contradict itself.

It is not necessarily true that this solution does not contain any contradictions, but it does appear to be a better guess of where the particle was and when it was there.

It is our purpose to contradict our own equations. The tensor irreducibility theorem⁷ insures that there is always a way of doing it.

It is difficult

The particle is now on the light cone at the center of a sphere of radius R_2 . The observer is somewhere on the

surface of the sphere. The particle is at the simultaneous point. It is visible now, but that is because the observer is in the particle's future. The particle was not visible at that location when the time at the observer was the same as the time at the particle.

This calculation assumes that the coordinates of the particle when it was at the retarded point were known before working the problem. The reasoning is backwards. The coordinates assumed for r_{v0} were fictitious. They exist only in the mind.

The solution is not for one particle. It is for a family of particles. Since the trajectory of an accelerated particle is curved, there are many particles with different histories that are at the same place and have the same velocity at the center of the sphere. If the acceleration and velocity are both known from future observations then the solution is for a smaller family of particles, but the \dot{a} term would still be a free parameter. By continuing further, while we can never know precisely which particle the solution is for, a small enough family of particles will behave in about the same way as a single particle for a short time near the center of the sphere, and for observers anywhere on the surface of the sphere. In other words, real particles seem to be fuzzy, but they become less fuzzy in observations of longer duration, where more terms of the Taylor expansion of the trajectory become determinable.

Since the particle is visible when the observer is on the future light cone, the history of the particle is obtainable by extrapolating the trajectory backwards in time.

No matter how many terms are carried, the particle is slightly fuzzy. But for a short time near the center of the sphere, a tiny fuzzy particle will behave in about the same way as a single particle.

These coordinates can be translated in space or time, or both, and the translation will have no effect on the final solution.

The transmitted frequency could be capacitively coupled to the turntable. Mechanical imperfections would result in small variations in the received phase that depend on the angle of the turntable. A phase locked loop with a long time constant could be used to extract the average phase. Other methods of transferring the reference frequency may be better.

In some ways, it would be better to take r_{v0} as pointing from the center of the sphere to the observer, but this sign choice is better when there is more than one particle in the problem, which is always the case when integrating around a current loop. The "right" direction for an observer co-moving with the particle is the wrong direction for the observer at the field point, and conversely. The direction that r_{v0} points does not matter if the usage is consistent.

A phase shifter would not be exact, but if the transmit frequency is digitally synthesized to be slightly different than the received frequency then the phase will drift steadily at a precisely computable rate. Phase pulling effects can also introduce false harmonics, when two fre-

quencies interact, but the problem is easily managed with digital frequency synthesis and physical isolation.

In this order, the retarded equations for massless charged particles are the LW equations []. In the true vector equations, the solutions do not contain any multipoles beyond the dipole. Massless charged particles are not known to exist. The LW equations are nevertheless a legitimate term of the retarded series. They are frequently the only retarded equations needed.

At the point of closest approach to the observer, ... is zero in Eq. (1), so the solution of this order does not have a transverse Doppler term.

r_{v0} should actually be taken as pointing from the center of the sphere to the observer, but most observers prefer the other direction, which is not a problem unless the vector is rotated about its tip. Furthermore, this sign choice is better when there is more than one particle in the problem. It is nevertheless a choice, and it does not matter which direction a vector points if the usage is consistent.

The observational data for orbiting pulsars⁴ would work just as well, but this experiment provides a means of evaluating the equivalence principle in greater detail for yanked particles.

In the beginning, there is a charged particle at rest at the center of a sphere. The observer is anywhere on the surface of the sphere. In this order, the retardation equation for charged particles is the Coulomb equation, which is usable in quasi-static solutions if the velocity of the particle is low enough that the magnetic field can be neglected. This solution is for the tensor of the zeroth rank, a scalar.

The solution assumes that an undiscovered superpotential does not exist. If one does exist, then the scalar potential is a derived quantity, in which case we do not know where the beginning is.

The following calculations assume that the retarded potentials for a particle that is at rest in our frame of reference, but accelerated, are the same as for an unaccelerated particle. That is not necessarily true, but there is no solution without assumptions. Contradictions will arise at some point in the progression if the assumption is wrong. While the acceleration terms are important, there is no hope for them until the velocity terms are right.

There would be a Coriolis term in our frame of reference if the coordinates were spinning. That does not mean that the Thomas equations are wrong. It means that pseudo vectors and true vectors do not behave in the same way for rotations and translations.

When working the retarded problem, a particle emits a single photon when it is at the retarded location. While the photon is travelling to the field point, the particle continues its journey to the simultaneous point. The particle arrives at the simultaneous point at the same instant the photon arrives at the field point.

Even though, in a physical sense, we do not care where the particle will be when the photon arrives at the field

point, the location of the simultaneous point provides a vital connection to the theorems of Euclidian calculus, which include the chain rule for differentiation and the tensor irreducibility theorem⁶. The modern form of Euclidian geometry is much more advanced than it was for the ancient geometricians, but not to the extent that the location of the simultaneous point can be abandoned.

However, the simultaneous point is a mathematical abstraction that has to be computed. It is not a satisfactory anchor point for equations of physical significance, because we cannot know where a particle is now until after waiting for the light time across the system. Many equations of the special theory¹ do attribute an absolute significance to the location of the simultaneous point, but they should not. The simultaneous point is not in our future, but it is in the particle's future. We can never be completely sure of what the future of the particle will be, although we can make reasonable extrapolations for a short time into the future.

In only being accurate to order v/c , there are no transverse doppler terms in the solution of this order.

If the particle is being jerked then it was nowhere near the center of the sphere at the time $t_s=0$, but the distant past of the particle does not matter for the doppler equation.

If the particle is accelerated then it was not at the center of the sphere at the time $t_s=0$, but the doppler equation is still valid for a short time.

But the additional terms do not improve the accuracy of the solution. It is only accurate to order v/c . Even when there are no acceleration terms, because of the coupling of the angular velocity and acceleration terms, this solution is only valid for a short time.

If true vector equations are used for the calculations, then the coordinates appear to be spinning, but that is because acceleration is not representable with true vector equations. That does not mean that the Thomas equations are wrong. It means that rotations and translations do not work in the same for pseudo vectors as they do for true vectors.

There is, of course, no doppler shift in the frame of reference of the particle because the particle is at rest in that frame of reference.

Under these circumstances, no matter how small dt is, it is not small enough to reduce the problem to first order. From the considerations of §-, this behaviour is not contrary to the theorems of Euclidian calculus unless the equation at the field point is known to represent the total differential.

The time and space coordinates are not independent variables in light cone solutions. They depend on each other, making it difficult to determine both where a particle was and when it was there. It can be done, but not instantly.

In this solution, the pseudo vector pointing from a particle at the location y to a nearby particle at $y+dy$ appears to rotate as the two particles move in unison. If the clock at the field point is used as a time standard, then the

chain rule for differentiation would be required for connecting the trajectories of the two particles. The angle of rotation does not depend on the magnitude of dy , so it cannot be neglected by simply choosing a smaller value for dy . This term is a shear term.

... This term represents an elongation. The shear and elongation terms both contribute to the quadrupole of the second rank tensor, but they are inseparable².

The shear and elongation terms have now both vanished. They were only there in the first place because the equations were for the wrong particle. However, these calculations represent the perspective of a distant and detached observer. The equations for a local observer would be different. There would not even be any quadrupole terms if the particle is unaccelerated, although there would be if it is accelerated.

From a different perspective, the radius of curvature is infinite at infinity. The singularity at infinity might be removable.

The solution reduces to the relativistic doppler equation²⁰ if the $\cos 2\beta$ terms are dropped.

α and β are disconnected in this solution. β can be any value when t_s is zero. If t_s is zero and β is $\pi/2$ at the point of closest approach, then the \sin^2 terms vanish. The transverse doppler terms have been experimentally verified, but the \sin^2 terms have not been noticed. It is unlikely that they would have been, as detecting them would require very precise mechanical motion. On the other hand, detecting the second harmonic of a miniature radio transmitter in a circular orbit would be relatively easy, as phase coherent detection methods are effective in extracting weak periodic signals from noise. Multipath effects from nearby reflectors could be minimized by adding a variable phase delay to the transmitter, then correcting for it in the receiver. There would be other harmonics if the t_s^2 terms were carried.

This solution seems not to contain γ but, as shown in the SOM, repeating the calculation with more powers of velocity shows that it does.

t_s is zero when the particle is at the simultaneous point. The simultaneous point can be almost anywhere when the particle velocity is high. We cannot know where it is until a global solution is obtained. If we already know a global solution, then we do not need to know how to integrate the doppler equation. Unless the solution is known before working the problem, it has to be possible to apply the doppler equation without knowing what time it is.

The fourier transform is effective for separating weak periodic signals, so the other terms may be experimentally accessible for a transmitter in a circular orbit. However, the doppler equation for accelerated particles should be obtained before attempting the experiment. The experiment is not actually necessary, as the orbiting pulsar data is already available⁴, although constructing a miniature model of an orbiting pulsar in the laboratory would be fun.

This solution reduces to the relativistic doppler

equation²⁰ if the $\sin^2 \beta$ terms are dropped. The calculations shown the reference take some shortcuts that should not be taken. There is no general way of abbreviating the Lorentz transform.

The textbook version of the relativistic doppler equations appears to contain an error, with the basis of the error being the use of an oversimplified version of the Lorentz transform.

The transvers doppler terms equation have been experimentally verified, but evaluating the \dots terms would be experimentally difficult, as the doppler shift is large when they are large. The measurement would have to detect a small discrepancy in a large value, which would require very precise mechanical motion. On the other hand, experiential evaluation of the harmonics of circular motion may be feasible. However, the doppler equation in the first frame of reference for accelerated particles should be obtained before attempting the experiment. It is not true that equations for the second frame of reference automatically apply to our frame of reference, especially for radiative solutions.

It is not possible to extrapolate past the $\pi/2$ point of a circular orbit with the Taylor theorem, so the location of the simultaneous point is not in general computable with the Taylor theorem for one variable. The simultaneous point is a mathematical abstraction. The location of the particle at that point is not observable until after waiting for the light time across the system. There are nevertheless essential mathematical relationships between the simultaneous and retarded points. The simultaneous point cannot be abandoned altogether without abandoning the methods of Euclidean calculus.

t_s has dropped out of the solution. It is now independent of the selected coordinate system for time just long enough to compute the first derivative.

Actually, the solutions can be differentiated more than once, but derivatives beyond the first are degenerate. Degeneration does not have the same meaning as being wrong, but not much should be expected of them.

The coupling is not real. It is an aberration that has to be corrected, but it makes integrating the retarded Newtonian acceleration tricky.

The doppler frequency changes with time as the particle moves, but the doppler equation has to work the same way at any time, because we do not know what time it is.

t_s does not drop out of eq – if terms quadratic in t_s are carried, indicating that the the solution is coordinate-dependent for observations of longer duration. Since Eq – was not derived with the Lorentz transform, its meaning is not necessarily quite the same as relative doppler equation, even though the solution is the same for observers of short duration. The light cone equation appears to need some more work, because we do not know what time it is.

The solution for an observer in radial free fall is not static, so there are anisymmetric space-time cross terms in the solution. Even though they vanish in the infinitesimal,

they grow faster than the first order terms when integrating in space and time, so they probably should not be neglected. This paper is for the retarded potentials.

dr_1 has dropped out of the solution, meaning that it can be differentiated once in space. Actually it can be differentiated more than once, but the derivatives will be degenerate. Being degenerate does not have the same meaning as being wrong, but not too much should be expected of them.

Thus, the particle was not where the first observer thought it was. The retarded time and space coordinates are not independent variables. It is extremely difficult to determine both where a particle was and when it was there. Assuming that the solution is known before working the problem is not appropriate, although it is necessary to start somewhere. The LW equations are a good starting point for a long journey.

The location of the particle at simultaneous point is not where the observer in the first frame of reference thought it should be. But how could the observer have known where it should be? The location of the particle at that point is not visible until after waiting for the light time across the system. On the other hand, the particle is at rest in the second frame of reference. The other observer knows where the particle is.

The distant observer could enlist an assistant to report the time that the particle passes by a synchronized clock that is at rest in the first frame of reference, but that would not allow the observer to find out where it was any sooner.

Thus, the particle was not where the observer in the first frame of reference thought it was. The time and space coordinates are not independent variables in light cone solutions. They depend on each other. It is all right to assume that either one is already known. It is not all right to assume that both are already known before working the problem. It is difficult to determine both where a particle was and when it was there. It cannot be done instantly.

We do not know where the particle was yet, but it is only the derivatives of the retarded potentials that are of interest. However, a longer history of the particle would be required if the potential solution is to be differentiated more than once. The Maxwell equations are in terms of the second derivatives. Perhaps one day we will know where the particle was, but not soon, for the tensor of each rank to at least the fifth is irreducible⁶.

The contravariant tensor of the second rank represents the first infinitesimal step⁶. However, the tensor of rank $n+1$ is the gradient of the tensor of rank n , and potential solutions have to be suitably differentiated to obtain the fields. The tensor of the third rank is therefore more relevant for contravariant field equations. There have been some historical misunderstandings in this respect.

two inconsistencies

It is this term that is responsible for the perceived unphysical behavior of the particle. The term is zero for

radial motion, where is pm 1. It is at a maximum for a transverse velocity, where .. is zero. These terms result in a coupling of the angular velocity and retarded acceleration. The coupling is not real. It is an aberration that has to be corrected before the doppler frequency can be integrated.

The doppler frequency changes as the particle moves, but the doppler equation has to work in the same way at any time, because we do not know what time it is. This solution depends on when the time $dt_s=0$ (or $dt_f=0$) is chosen to be. This solution is unphysical. It is also the wrong equation for the doppler wavelength [].

It is not sufficient that equaintns of physical signifiance be invariant. They must also not depend on the choice of a coordinate system. Coordinate dependencies can exist in either space or time.

Interpl...

After substituting $\beta =$ into Eq. -, its reciprocal becomes

τ ranges from $-\pi/2$ to $+\pi/2$. It is negative for approaching particles, and zero at the point of closest approach.

The solution is singular when the velocity is radial, in which case the particle collides with the observer. The solutions are restricted to cases where the particle misses the observer by a small amount. At the point of closest approach, the angular velocity of the particle goes to infinity as the miss distance goes to zero, so the equation are ill behaved in that region.

A third space coordinate would be required to represent the out-of-plane terms of accelerated particles, but two space coordinates are sufficient for unaccelerated particles.

A solution was obtained by the method of undetermined coefficients. The solution was first expanded in a series in v_0 , then the coefficients for each power of velocity were discovered, one power at a time, working upward. After several terms are obtained this way, it is not too difficult to guess the closed form solution.

The singularity could be removed with L'H's rule [], except that the rule only applies to pure-number quantities. The numerator is a dimensioned quantity in this case, which is probably manageable complication, but there is another way of obtaining the solution.

The rule only applies to pure-number quantities. The units would be wrong in this solution if only some of the terms were differentiated.

The time and space coordinates are not independent variables in light cone solutions. They depend on each other. But now that t_s has dropped out, R_{x0} can be chosen independently. It is no longer necessary to treat it as a constant.

γ is usually associated with the second frame of reference. It usually goes unnoticed in the first system, but it occasionally occurs in those equations too.

The singularity can be removed with L'h's rule [], except that the rule only applies to pure-number quantities. It can be used with dimensioned quantities if the units of the numerator and denominator are both the same, which

can be accomplished by dividing through by R_{x0} . But since R_{x0} is a constant at this point, dividing through by it does not affect the derivatives.

The singularity could be removed with L'H.'s rule []. However, the doppler equation has to work in the same way at any time, not just at the time of closest approach, so the procedure would not be useful.

τ is pm $\pi/2$ for radial motion, so removing the singularity at the closest approach creates a new one for radial motion. The particle is on a collision course with the observer in that case, but a near miss is more likely.

Removing the singularity has no effect on the doppler equation, but it does affect the solution for the retarded potentials.

In general, there are out-of-plane terms when the particle is accelerated, so the solution for two space coordinates and one time coordinate is not applicable in that case. But for a short time, the angular relationships at the retarded point do not change significantly, so the solution for unaccelerated particles should be a useful approximation, albeit of too low an order to be of much practical interest.

From the perspective of a distant observer when integrating in the inbound direction, this surplus degree of freedom does not look like a constant of integration. But from the perspective of a local observer when integrating in the outbound direction, the surplus degree of freedom is nearly invisible, requiring a constant of integration if the equations are to behave correctly at great distances. The outbound integral represents the perspective to evaluate the constant. However, retarded equations do not form a complete representation. They are just one aspect of a much larger problem.

This solution could also be obtained by taking two consecutive steps in time rather than one in space and one in time.

This reparameterization has the effect of determining a constant of integration. From the perspective of a distant observer, it does not look like a constant of integration when integrating in the inbound direction. But from the perspectives of a local observer integrating in the outbound direction, the starting point of a definite integral would have to be offset in order to obtain solutions that are commensurate with those of the distant observer.

The other perspective represents the integral of field equations, which would require a constant of integration in global solutions.

In being first order in space and first order in time, cross terms vanish quadratically in a small region of space-time. For the same reason, the cross terms grow quadratically when integrating in space and time. Consequently, even though the cross terms are not very important for local observers, they cannot be neglected if the solutions are to behave properly at great distances. The cross terms cannot be completely neglected in the local region either.

The singularity at the Sch... radius is an example of

the offset that is required when integrating in the outbound direction, while the offset is vanishingly small for a distant observer when integrating in the inbound direction. From the perspective of the distant observer, it does not even look like a constant of integration, but it is in a global solution.

With other methods of solution, a constant of integration would probably be required to take out this superfluous degree of freedom if the fields are to behave properly at great distances. The constant of integration could take the form of a displacement in the starting point of a definite integral.

From the perspective of a local observer, the starting point of a definite integral can be assumed to be zero when integrating in the outbound direction. A distant observer would not necessarily agree with the consequences of the assumption.

We would not know what to do with the equations of the retarded potentials if we had to know what time it is before applying them, because we do not know what time it is. The $t=0$ terms have to be taken out. For a short time only, the equations will then be usable.

The doppler shift depends on what time it is, but the doppler equation should work in the same way at any time. This equation depends on when the time $t=0$ is chosen to be. It contains a coordinate dependency. Coordinate dependencies can exist in either space or time.

A possible approach would be to integrate the first time derivative of the doppler shift, which would require at least two steps in time. There are mathematical similarities between two steps in time and one step in time followed by one step in space. The advantage of this approach is that the space and time terms are each of first order, although there is always more than one way of working a problem.

There is the possibility that this equation is not the only solution that can be discovered. The behavior of the equation is shown in detail in the SOM.

The singularity is presumably removable, perhaps with L'Hôpital's rule or by other methods, but since its basis is a misunderstanding, the equation will not be developed further at this time.

We cannot know where a particle is now until waiting for the light time across the system. The simultaneous point is not in our future, but it is in the particle's future. The future location of a particle is not a satisfactory anchor point for equations of physical significance.

The tensor of the zeroth rank is a scalar. The tensor of rank $n + 1$ is the gradient of the tensor of rank n . If the solution for the tensor of the zeroth rank is complete then nothing else is required. It is doubtful that complete solutions are obtainable, but it is usually best to begin at the beginning and not skip steps.

The following calculations assume that the retarded potentials for a charged particle that is at rest in our frame of reference but accelerated are the same as for an unaccelerated particle. That is not necessarily true, but there is no solution without assumptions.

The calculations also assume that an undiscovered superpotential does not exist. If one does exist, then the scalar potential of these solutions is a derived quantity.

As shown in Ref. 11, the solutions of the Proca equations contain exponential terms that represent the range of the fields. The range of the fields is assumed to be infinite in these calculations. Due to Olber's paradox¹⁹ and the singularity of curvature terms at infinity, where the radius of curvature is also infinite, it is likely that the range of the fields cannot be neglected in high order radiative solutions, but it probably can be neglected in low order solutions.

As mentioned in §-, this solution is for two space coordinates and one time coordinate. There will probably be additional terms in the solution for accelerated particles. But since the LW equations are known to be usable for accelerated particles, it is likely that this solution is also.

Thus, no matter how small dt is, it is not small enough to reduce the problem to first order. The dt interval might or might not be small enough, but in any case is much smaller at high velocities.

It is possible to begin a new experiment at this time, in which case the distant past of the particle is no longer of interest.

This solution is therefore incomplete. In missing a cosmological term, it is probably incomplete in more than one way.

A potential equation has to be valid at the time $t+dt$ if it is to be differentiated once in time. Unless the equation is valid at that time then, while it might be valid in some sense, it is missing a constant of integration. It is the nature of retardation equations that the constant of integration varies from place to place and time to time, so the equation needs to be integrated if it is to be differentiated.

From the perspective of a local observer, the constant of integration takes the form of a displacement in the starting point of a definite integral when integrating in the outbound direction. The constant of integration is required if the equations are to behave properly at great distances, even though it is of little consequence for local observers. From the perspective of a distant observer, when integrating in the inbound direction, the constant is zero, or nearly so, making it easier to evaluate, especially when the local observers do not even know that they need one.

The chain rule is not needed when there is only one independent variable. Provided that the particle is not accelerated, there is only one independent variable in the calculations of this section. The solutions for unaccelerated particles are not of much practical interest, but the velocity terms do come first. Furthermore, after the potential solutions are differentiated to obtain the fields, acceleration terms do occur in the solutions.

The doppler shift, in terms of wavelengths, is

There is no transverse doppler term when t_s and $R_{u1} \cdot v_u$ are both zero. However, since t_s did not drop out of the solution, we do not know when the particle is at

the point of closest approach. The solution is not for one particle. It is for a family of particles. The v^2 terms can be neglected at low velocities, in which case it is a small family.

The underlying difficulty with this calculation is that the chain rule for differentiation is generally required when the variables are not independent. The time and space coordinates of light cone solutions are not independent. They depend on each other.

The $1/R$ terms result in a coupling of the angular velocity and acceleration terms. The coupling is not real. It is an aberration that has to be corrected before the Doppler equation can be integrated.

It is only the derivatives of the retarded potentials that are of interest, so this bogus curvature term is not necessarily a culprit in its own right, but there are consequences of it.

The light cone equation is not a true vector equation. It cannot be reduced to first order in the same way that true vector equations are.

There is always more than one way of working a problem. Possible alternatives in this case would be to apply the chain rule for differentiation or to integrate over the dt interval. The following calculations represent a different way, which might or might not be the preferred way.

Discrete difference equations are widely used in digital signal processing. The discrete Fourier transform is one of these algorithms. The solutions approach analog solutions when n is large.

When the interval is arbitrarily small, the first difference is equivalent to the first derivative. But the second difference is only equivalent to the second derivative when n is large. However, for the light cone equation, n does not have to be large for the second difference to be zero, simplifying the equations.

Similarly, the third difference would be zero for accelerated particles, and the fourth difference would be zero if the v^2 terms were carried. Consequently only a few points are required to reduce the equations to first order. The light cone equation is special in this respect, and only when the time at the source is the independent variable. Most equations do not behave this way. For most equations, the second difference at one point is not an accurate substitute of the second derivative unless n is large.

This extrapolation equation for the second difference is not accurate unless the third difference is zero. For most equations, the third difference is not zero.

The simultaneous point is a mathematical abstraction. It is not a satisfactory anchor point for equations of physical significance.

The solution cannot be integrated in this form, because the Doppler shift is not for the time $dt=0$. The transverse Doppler term vanishes at that time.

Extrapolating the first difference is equivalent to extrapolating the first derivative.

This equation for extrapolating the third difference is not accurate unless the fourth difference is zero. It is not

zero for most equations.

L. AN INFINITY OF INFINITESIMAL STEPS

While the dtf interval at the field point seems like an infinitesimal quantity, the dR at the other end of the vector can be arbitrarily large when the velocity is high. The other end of the vector needs to be integrated over the dtf interval.

Thus, the simultaneous point is not where true vector equations predict that it should be. Except in special cases, the difference between two closely spaced vectors is not a true vector. It is a pseudo vector. The decomposition products of the fourth rank contravariant tensor include six pseudo vectors⁶. The order of an equation cannot be easily judged by its appearance.

Whenever the data points are delayed by the light time across the system, many terms in a Taylor expansion would be required to extrapolate the trajectory to the simultaneous point. The $1/6\dot{a}t^2$ and $1/24\ddot{a}t^3$ terms would make a large contribution when the simultaneous point is far into the future. The solution for unaccelerated particles is much simpler.

All the absence of absolute simultaneity^{1,16} means is that we did not know where the particle is in the first place.

In other words, the observer does not need to know what time it is in order to apply the retarded equations.

The observer at the field point would like for this vector to be dR rather than ΔR , but that is not possible. No matter how small the dtf interval is at the field point, Δt is still an eternity.

The time and space coordinates are not independent variables in light cone solutions. The chain rule for differentiation is generally required when the variables are not independent. By formulating the problem this way, there is only one independent variable, avoiding the need for the chain rule, not that there would be anything wrong with applying the chain rule to the equations. There is always more than one way of working a problem.

The acceleration terms should be carried in these calculations. The appropriate equation in that case is $v_n = v_{n+1} - a_{n+1} dt$, but, for now, the acceleration terms will be neglected.

A computer program ends up in an endless loop, producing the same wrong solution on every pass. The location of the simultaneous point is not computable this way.

The acceleration terms really should be carried in these calculations, but the velocity terms do come first.

The solution would have powers of velocity in all orders if t were the independent variable. From the perspective of an observer co-moving with the particle, that is only because the series expansion of $1/(1+v/c)$ has powers in all orders. From the perspective of the other observer, powers beyond the first are not meaningful, although they have to be carried to obtain self-consistent solutions. But

from the perspective of the other observer, the solution is not nearly accurate enough to predict where a high velocity particle will be when it arrives in the vicinity of the field point.

To order v^2 , this solution is the same as the doppler equation in §-. The solution would be more accurate if more powers of velocity were carried. However, it is rarely useful to carry very many terms in velocity equations while neglecting the acceleration terms.

The acceleration terms will need further study. However, there is no hope for them until the velocity terms are right. But also, it is rarely useful to carry very many terms in velocity solutions while neglecting the acceleration terms.

In the figure, we have no interest in where the particle will be when the signal arrives at the field point. It is only the derivatives in the vicinity of the retarded point that are of practical interest.

The relationships in Fig - are ill behaved when the particle is on a collision course with the observer, or nearly so, with a velocity near c . In extreme cases, the difference between the arrival time of the photon and the particle can be only an instant, yet the travel time can be an eternity, making it difficult to compute precisely where the particle will be when it arrives in the vicinity of the field point. There is ample time for transverse acceleration terms to deflect the particle, yet acceleration terms are not representable with dt_f . The problem cannot be reduced to first order by simply choosing a small value for dt_f .

If the particle is far away, the equation is not nearly accurate enough to predict where it will be when it arrives to the neighborhood of the field point.

There are still quadratic terms in the vicinity of the retarded point, but since it is not necessary to extrapolate to a point near infinity from a nearby simultaneous point, the equations are simpler when it is not necessary to know where the simultaneous point is. We do not care where it is in the first place, so there would be no point in confounding the equations with a singularity at infinity. We cannot see that far anyway.

The radius of curvature, relative to ourselves, is infinity at infinity. It may be unintuitive, but it is possible for equations to be singular at infinity, and indeed they frequently are, as is illustrated by Olber's paradox¹⁹. A singularity at infinity is not necessarily removable.

For retardation equations, the singular point is not far away. It is arbitrarily close to us if the photon and the particle arrive at about the same time. The singularity might be removable, or it might not be. It is possible to find out if it is removable with L'Hôpital's rule¹⁸.

As shown in the SOM, the method of successive approximation does not converge when attempting to compute the location of the simultaneous point. All the absence of absolute simultaneity¹⁶ means is that we did not know where the particle is in the first place. We cannot know precisely where the particle is without a perfect ability to predict the future of the particle from delayed observations.

Thus, even though the particle was not where the equations of 3+1 space predict that it should have been, the equations are slippery enough to accommodate the alternative value. This relationship remains true if more powers of velocity are carried.

The acceleration terms will need more work. But since the LW equations are known to work well for accelerated particles, it is plausible that these equations do too, even though they are incomplete.

In Eq -, the additional velocity $av dt$ s acquired during the first infinitesimal step will cause gamma to be slightly different for the second step.

When working the retardation problem for unaccelerated particles, the particle emits a single photon when it is at the retarded location.

While the particle is continuously visible, it is necessary to consider just one point at a time when developing the equations. From this perspective, the particle is only on the retarded light cone for an instant, then it continues its journey to the simultaneous point in darkness.

But since the particle actually is continuously visible, it is possible to write equations for that case too.

The coupling is not real. It is an observer-dependent aberration that has to be corrected before the doppler equation can be integrated.

needs to be corrected if the solution is to be for an inertial particle. Measured data points for real particles are always delayed by the light time across the system.

The coupling is not real. It is an aberration that has to be corrected before the retarded Newtonian acceleration can be integrated.

The coupling is not real. It is an aberration that causes the integration of the retarded Newtonian acceleration to be tricky.

The simultaneous point and the point of closest approach to the observer are the same when ts and $ru \cdot vu$ are both zero. In that case ... is gamma, which is the transverse doppler effect. The frequency is redshifted at that point.

ts can be chosen to be zero at any point on the trajectory. The equations contain a coordinate dependency if that is not possible. Equations with a coordinate dependency are not of physical significance.

If we already know where the particle will be when it arrives at the simultaneous point, for any choice of ts , then we already have a global solution and do not need to know how to integrate the doppler frequency. In other cases, it has to be possible to apply the equation without knowing what time it is, because we do not know what time it is. The relativistic doppler equation is slippery. It has more degrees of freedom than constraints.

Interplanetary spacecraft navigation software incorporates corrections from the general theory of relativity when integrating the doppler frequency. The accuracy of the corrections has been demonstrated²². We do know how to integrate the doppler frequency, but the light cone equation needs some more work.

The cos theta term of the relativistic doppler equation is a dipole term. There are no multipoles beyond the dipole in the solution.

The calculations of this paper are for the retarded potentials. They represent the perspective of a distant and detached observer. The retarded potentials are not usable for orbit determination calculations. On the other hand, retardation equations are not obtainable without knowing the recent history of the particle, so the problems are not completely independent.

When two particles are in orbit about each other, the radiation from each particle perturbs the orbit of the other particle. Static terms decay as $1/r^2$, while radiative terms decay as $1/r$, causing the full solution to be of formidable complexity, even when the particles are well separated. It may be tractable by developing the radiative terms as a perturbation of the non-radiative solution, but this relationship makes it difficult to determine the recent history of the particle.

The problem would be simpler if the location of the barycenter is assumed to be known before working the problem. The problem is harder if the barycenter wobbles, even though that is not possible with the Newton equations. The location of the barycenter is one aspect of the solution. It is mostly not a good idea to assume that a solution is known before working the problem, especially when there are radiative terms in the equations.

While the doppler shift depends on what time it is, the doppler equations themselves should work in the same way at any time. That makes it possible to work the problem backwards by discovering a constant of integration for which the doppler equation can be applied without knowing what time it is.

It may be possible to infer the full form of the doppler equation for accelerated particles from those solutions. Barycenter corrected solutions would be easier to interpret. The calculation would be relevant, but it would probably not help in reconciling the LW equations with the doppler equation.

It often seems that we should already know where the particle is if it is not accelerated. It does seem that way, but intuition is not a good guide in the four dimensional space.

[later] The inverse relationship applies for a particle in radial free fall. Even though the antisymmetric terms vanish in the infinitesimal, they are nevertheless required if the equation is to be either differentiated or integrated.

Thus, when a clock near the observer is used as a time standard, the angular velocity and Newtonian acceleration of the particle are coupled. The coupling makes it impossible to integrate the retarded Newton acceleration until the angular velocity and acceleration terms are separated.

While the particle is continuously visible, it is necessary to consider just one point at a time when writing the equations. The particle is on the light cone for an instant at the retarded intersection, then it continues its journey to the simultaneous point in darkness.

While the assistants can report the times that the particle passes by each clock, that does not allow the distant observer to find out where the particle was any sooner. The distant observer cannot know when the particle reaches the simultaneous point until waiting for the light time across the system. The distant observer can nevertheless rely on the reports from the assistants for the purpose of refining the retardation equations.

The simultaneous point is not in our future, but it is in the particle's future. The future location of the particle is not a satisfactory anchor point for equations of physical significance. The future is not perfectly predictable. Even when there is only one particle, many terms in a Taylor expansion of the trajectory would be required to accurately extrapolate it far into the future. The extrapolation quickly becomes intractable if there are many particles. Extrapolating the simultaneous coordinates backwards in time to the location of the particle where it was visible would be equally difficult.

The simultaneous point is a mathematical abstraction. The future location of the particle is not a satisfactory anchor point of equations of physical significance. There are nevertheless essential mathematical relationships between the retarded and simultaneous points.

Due to the presence of quadratic terms in the equation, if the coordinates are first-known at the simultaneous point, the location of the retarded point would have to be obtained by integration, plus a constant of integration. Since the doppler equation has been experimentally confirmed, it is indicated that the constant of integration is not zero.

Similarly, if the coordinates are first-known at the retarded point, then the location of the simultaneous point would have to be obtained by integration, plus a constant of integration. However, when deriving the equations for the retarded potentials, we do not care where the particle will be when the signal arrives at the field point.

Since the simultaneous point is not a physical quantity, it is not a satisfactory anchor point for the integral from the simultaneous point to the retarded point. The integral may require a constant of integration to account for the unreal nature of the simultaneous point.

For equations of physical significance, the reasoning leading to figs - - is backwards. The location of the particle at the simultaneous point is a mathematical abstraction. We do not care where the particle is when it is not visible.

Thus, the angular velocity terms masquerade as acceleration terms, distorting the connection between the retarded and simultaneous points.

Figures ..-, and - all assume that we already know where the particle is when it is at the simultaneous point. We cannot know where the particle is then until waiting for the light time across the system. All three figures are unphysical.

the point of closest approach, where $\hat{r} \cdot \hat{v}$ is zero, it also becomes visible in the first frame of reference.

The usual way of working the retardation problem is

to assume that the location of the particle at the simultaneous point is already known, then compute its location at the retarded point. It is possible to invert the reasoning by assuming that the location is first-known at the retarded point, then computing the simultaneous point.

In Fig. 7, each particle emits a single photon when it is at the location on the left side of the figure. The photons travel to the field point with the velocity c . The photons are emitted sooner when the particle is further away from the observer. All of the photons arrive at the field point at the same instant. In the meantime, each particle continues its journey to the simultaneous point. The particles arrive at the simultaneous points at the same instant that the photons arrive at the field point.

The four coordinates are mutually orthogonal in 3+1 space, but not in 4-space. It may be possible to orthogonalize the equations by taking one step in space or one step in time, but never one step in space and time.

The initial particle location is r_x and r_y . The retarded time at the particle is $t_s = -(r_x^2 + r_y^2)^{1/2}/c$. The particle then moves to the right with the velocity $0.6c$ for the time $-t_s$.

In the figure, the time at the head of the vector \mathbf{R}_0 is 0. The particle becomes visible when it is at the simultaneous point when the time at the tail of the vector is $+(\mathbf{R}_0 \cdot \mathbf{R}_0)^{1/2}/c$, although by then it has moved on to a new location. The time at the tail of the vector \mathbf{R} is zero.

Each projection of 4-space into two space dimensions represents just one slice of the problem. None of the projections, considered one at a time, is capable of representing the whole solution.

The simultaneous point is not in our future, but it is in the particle's future. The future location of the particle is not a satisfactory anchor point for equations of physical significance. There are nevertheless essential mathematical relationships between the retarded and simultaneous points. It does not matter which comes first if the equations are right, but true vector equations do not predict the right location.

The trajectory should to be extrapolated from current observations, which are always delayed by the light time across the system. On the other hand, the location of the simultaneous point provides an important but indirect mathematical connection to the equations of Euclidian calculus.

The particle is not half way to the destination in half of the travel time. The solution is not for an unaccelerated inertial particle. The angular velocity terms masquerade as acceleration terms, distorting the connection between the simultaneous and retarded points. Due to the presence of k^2 (and k^3) terms in the equation, the connection would have to be established by integration.

The bogus terms make it impossible to integrate the retarded Newtonian acceleration without further analysis.

The function and its derivative are not consistent in this solution. The time at the field point actually should be obtained by integration, and there would be a possibility

of obtaining a consistent solution that way. But since it is only the derivatives of the retarded potentials that are of interest, there appears to be a shortcut.

The solution for accelerated particles will need some more work, and some more contemplation. The incremental velocity acquired by the particle by the equation $dv = av \, dt$ will cause the value of gamma to be slightly different for the second infinitesimal step.

For retarded equations, we do not actually care where the particle is. It is only the derivatives of the retarded potentials that are of interest.

With some inspiration from the doppler equation in §-, it is not difficult to discover the closed form equation with the same series solution. (More powers of velocity are shown in the SOM.)

LII. THE SECOND INFINITESIMAL STEP

The first step is always the hardest. There is nevertheless some uncharted territory ahead.

LIII. CHASING THE PARTICLE

LIV. WALKING THE VECTOR

LIV. THE CHARGE SOLUTION

There are no indications that this solution is the last term of the series.

The third space coordinate will need further consideration. However, the equations are not Newtonian.

Perhaps one day we will stop believing the the sun orbits about us, but probably not soon.

This residual is closely related to the Thomas precession. The connection is that some textbook interpretations of the $\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{v}$ terms do not distinguish between angular velocity and Newtonian acceleration, even though they are globally very different.

The acceleration terms in the following calculations will need further study. However, there is no hope for them until the velocity terms are right.

All powers of velocity are present in the series expansion for $1/(1+v/c)$, but there are no v^4 powers in the above calculations when dt is the independent variable, so there is no possibility that the solution is complete.

There are no $dt_1 \, dt_2$ cross terms in the first frame of reference, making it impossible for an observer at the field point to determine that the solution is not of first order, since subdividing a straight line does not accomplish anything. To the observer at the field point, $dt_1 + dt_2 + dt_3$ is the same as dt . The capability of the observer for reducing the problem to first order is impaired, but there is no remedy for the limitation with vector equations.

A third space coordinate is not needed for obtaining the solution for an unaccelerated particle. Introducing a

superfluous degree of freedom would result in the loss of all multipoles beyond the dipole.

These calculations can be performed in the other frame of reference, but we sometimes neglect our own frame of reference more than we should. After all, it is the only one we will ever know.

The velocity vector has a component parallel to the line of sight at the retarded intersection, making it possible for the light cone equation to accurately constrain the time that the particle is at that location if it is known to be unaccelerated. The acceleration terms are important, but there is no hope for them until the velocity terms are right.

The solution for accelerated particles will need further study, but there is no hope for the acceleration terms until the velocity terms are right.

This solution is in the lowest order of interest.

Our orientation is not an absolute. We should not project it onto the cosmos, as was done in S –.

The acceleration terms will need further study, but there is no hope for them until the velocity terms are right.

These relationships will be developed further in later versions of this paper, but understanding why equations work the way they do is more important than knowing what the equations are.

r_{x0} has dropped out of the solution, yet the behavior of the equations is not comprehensible without it.

The simultaneous point is where the particle is now. It can be at the point of closest approach, but it does not have to be. The particle is not visible when it is at the simultaneous point. It is possible to find out where it is, but not until waiting for the light time across the system.

The particle is visible when it is at the retarded intersection, so the equations are more real in a physical sense if the retarded location is taken as a reference point.

When retarding a current loop, if the conduction electrons are moving left to right on the nearside of the loop then they are moving right to left on the farside. Retardation equations have to work in the same for either direction. It would be hard to write an equation that works in the same way for both Figs – and –.

Time has dropped out of the solution. That is good, because we do not know what time it is.

The handedness of the solution cannot matter, but it is nevertheless sometimes necessary to know what it is in order to choose the right sign in an equation.

Ideally, retardation equations would be valid forever. A less ambitious goal is to obtain equations that are valid just long enough to compute the first derivative.

This solution is in the lowest order of interest. There will be additional terms in the equations for more elaborate constructs.

Except for the point labeled $\gamma r_y/c$ in the figure, the bottom panel is the same for a particle traveling in either direction, but the top panel would be mirror image of the one shown.

Since the two particles are moving in opposite directions along the same trajectory, their locations must be coincident at some point on the trajectory.

The location of the field point is taken as being first-known when applying retardation equations to engineering problems, so the location of the particle has to be adjusted.

An assistant near the trajectory could report the time that a particle passes by one of the at-rest clocks, but that would not allow the observer at the field point to find out where the particle was any sooner. When relying on stale observational data, it is difficult to be sure of precisely where the particle was.

The solution is interpretable as meaning that the field point traveling backwards in time. If the other observer does not need this solution then we do not either.

Inverting the sign of v in this solution would be interpretable as representing the trajectory of a particle moving backwards in time. The particle would not be on the light cone, so that solution is no longer available.

In this solution, v_u can be in any possible direction. But its sign cannot be inverted, because the solution for a particle traveling in the other direction is different.

There is no requirement that the equations for the first frame of reference be vector equations. But if they are, then they have to work in the same way for either sign of the velocity vector, because we have no way of knowing what the right sign should be.

However, if the equations are not true vector equations, there is a possibility that the right sign for the velocity vector could be selected anyway. The vector from the field point to the particle rotates as the particle moves. From the perspective of an observer in the frame of reference of the particle, it rotates in the other direction. If one rotation is left handed then the other is right handed. While it does not matter whether the rotation is right handed or left handed, it is conceivable that the chirality of the solution matters in the transform.

The following solution is therefore not necessarily unique. Until uniqueness is shown, it would not be acceptable to claim that we know where the particle actually was.

The following calculations are for the tensor of the zeroth rank, a scalar. The tensor of rank $n + 1$ is the gradient of the tensor of rank n , provided that the equation for the tensor of rank n is not degenerate, in which case there are no more terms in the series. It is possible to interpret degeneration as representing completeness, but its actual meaning is nearly the opposite. On the other hand, being degenerate does not have the same meaning as being wrong.

Obtaining exact light cone solutions requires selecting the root of a polynomial. There is no known equation for the fifth root of a polynomial, suggesting that the solutions are either degenerate or divergent in some order, probably a low order.

dtf has dropped out of the solution, so if the equation is valid at the time $t_f + dtf$ then it must also be valid at

the time t_f+0 . That is just long enough to compute the first derivative in a manner that does not depend on the choice for a coordinate system.

This solution is obviously only valid for the first derivatives. The contravariant tensor of the second rank represents the first derivatives², but the tensor of the third rank is irreducible.

It no longer matters whether the particle is moving to the left or to the right. The equations will work in the same way for fruit bats as they do for us (not that they would care).

This solution is unphysical. The clock at the field point runs at a different rate when the particle is at the retarded point than it does when the particle is at the simultaneous point.

This solution makes no sense. The clock at the tail of R_v0 runs at a different rate than the clock at the tail of R_v , yet it is the same clock. The solution is for a particle on the light cone, but it is not the right particle.

The time in this equation is the computed time that a particle passes by an at-rest clock. It is not the same as the time read from the displayed number of a moving clock. It is important that the two ways of integrating not be used interchangeably.

The solution for an accelerated particle will need further study. The solution would be expected to contain additional multipole terms as the observer rotates through 360 degrees about the line of sight.

Eq - indicates that this solution could also be obtained by integration. However, the solution could still be incomplete if the constant of integration is not correctly determined. The constant of integration must not be neglected, because the location of the simultaneous point is not a physical quantity. It is not a satisfactory anchor point.

Just as the symmetric cross terms vanish in the infinitesimal in Eq -, the antisymmetric cross terms will also vanish if there are no anti-symmetric terms in the first place. The cross terms vanish in infinitesimal, but not in the integral. More precisely, the cross terms do not actually vanish at all, it is just that they are not representable with true vector equations.

The particle was evidently not where it was thought to be. 4-space can be projected into 3+1 space, but the reverse projections do not appear to be reliable if the calculations are based on true vector equations.

[later] As shown in the SOM, the exact solution (for unaccelerated particles) is

Sadly, the particle was not where we thought it was. But then, determining where the particle was in the four dimensional space is not easy, and it cannot be done quickly, because the angular velocity and retarded acceleration terms are coupled.

Actually, we do not care where the particle was. The thing that matters is that the derivatives integrate correctly. We cannot know where the particle was until a

specific global solution is obtained. An observer near the trajectory can know where the particle was, but we cannot.

In an historical context, this solution can legitimately be interpreted as representing the Thomas precession. The equations were correct. Understanding what they mean is our responsibility.

Similar equations for kinematic solutions should exist. There is the intriguing possibility that in some order, probably not in this order, the precession of the periastron becomes synched, with even and odd orbits being different. The calculations have not been carried through, so the possibility is purely speculative.

There can be several distant observers, and the time of closest approach for one observer has no meaning for the other observers. The observer in the frame of reference of the particle needs to customize the time of closest approach for each of the distant observers.

The unreal nature of the simultaneous point in Eq - is of no directly measurable consequence, since it exists only in the mind. The equations might have taken a different path if the doppler shift had been discovered earlier, but it wasn't. The vehicles of long ago were too slow to notice it.

The acceleration terms will need further study. Eq - implies that this solution could also be obtained by integration. The calculations shown here are oriented to studying the form of the relationships, and are not necessarily the best way of approaching the problem. There are probably several other ways. The chain rule for differentiation, which can be applied recursively, is a likely candidate. Recursive applications are capable of converting first derivatives into derivatives of any order.

LV. X9

When applying the retardation equations to engineering problems, the observer at the field point would believe the location of the particle to be given by Eq -.

In this frame of reference, the head of the vector is anchored and the tail is rotating, which does not appear to be appropriate behavior for a pseudo vector.

The tail of the vector is not anchored at the particle while the tip of the vector follows the future location of the field point. The retarded potentials in our frame of reference are the advanced potentials for an observer in the frame of reference of the particle.

Now translate the coordinates in space so that the tail of the vector is where we will be after the first infinitesimal step.

there are dx^2 terms in the solution, but they can be dropped if the first step is a small step.

The Newton series is usually better suited to kinematic calculations. It can also be used to parametrize the retarded potentials. It is the transform that matters, not which perspective is the right one.

Time marches on. dt1 has dropped out of the solution. There is no way back, not that we would want to go back.

This solution appears to be for the first derivatives of the potentials. The tensor of the second rank represents the first derivatives. The tensor of rank n+1 is the gradient of the tensor of rank n, so the derivatives of the retarded potentials would be expected to correspond to the decomposition products of the third rank tensor in S-. It has not been confirmed that they do.

The actual problem is that velocity has the other sign in the second frame of reference. The field point is not actually traveling backwards in time, but it does look like it is. If the coordinates were first-known in the frame of reference of the particle, then the other observer would not write the equations this way. The other observer would choose the other sign, so that the field point seems to be moving forward in time.

While it does not matter if a system is left handed or right handed, it is plausible that the transformation from one to the other entails more than an inversion of the sign of the velocity vector.

If one vector is rotating clockwise and the other is rotating counterclockwise, then they coincide at one point. In this calculation, the origin of the time coordinate in the first frame of reference has been contrived so that the point of coincidence is the same in both frames of reference.

The two solutions represent the solutions for two different particles traveling in opposite directions, so they are very different, yet it should not matter which particle the solution is for - if the equation is a true vector equation.

There is no requirement that the equations be true vector equations in the first frame of reference. But if they are, then these solutions represent the solutions for two different particles traveling in opposite directions, and both solutions should be valid.

Thus, it does not matter which direction the particle is traveling. That is the way vector equations should work.

Thus, it could be that the light cone solution is for the wrong particle when it is at the point of closest approach, and we would not know it. We have access to a second opinion for the identity of the right particle.

The same equation can be interpreted in another way. If eq - represents a particle moving forward in time the eq + can mean that the particle is moving backwards in time. In the first frame of reference, one observer cannot use the light cone equation to tell the difference between the two solutions, yet they have different meanings.

The observer in the frame of reference of the particle can help in distinguishing between the two solutions.

It is not sufficient that retarded equations work for particles moving left to right. They must also work for particles moving right to left.

For these particular equations, the difference between left and right and the difference between a particle moving forward or backwards in time is not always clear. While the difference between left and right does not matter, photons do not travel backwards in time.

The similarity to the doppler equation is apparent, but

the two equations should nevertheless not be directly compared, as the doppler equation is missing the space derivatives. There is no possibility that it could be used for navigational purposes without the space derivatives.

There is no point in transforming to the second frame of reference until the location of the particle is known in the first frame of reference. On the other hand, unless our frame of reference is special or different, it should also be possible to work the problem in the second frame of reference.

Since the magnitude of R is at a quadratic minimum, the light cone equation cannot precisely constrain the time of closest approach, although it will be a good approximation.

Consequently, it is possible for light cone solutions to be for the wrong particle if the time of closest approach is assumed to be already known. Furthermore, for any given uncertainty in the location of the particle at that point, the uncertainty in the time of closest approach becomes larger when the velocity of the particle becomes lower. No matter how low the velocity of the particle is, there is a systematic error in the time of the event.

The equations for computing the time and place of the closest approach are ill behaved. If the coordinates are first-known when the particle is far away and the motion is nearly radial, a minuscule error in computing the angle of the trajectory can result in a large error in the miss distance.

In this equation, a more general solution can be obtained by replacing y with $(y^2 + z^2)^{1/2}$, which can be arbitrarily small, but not zero. Introducing a third space coordinate at the point of closest approach would introduce a superfluous degree of freedom, allowing the constraining relationships to become sloppy and misleading.

These calculations assume that the range of the fields is infinite. We know that we cannot see to infinity, so there are additional refinements that are needed, but they can be deferred for a while. It is not necessarily true that the refinements will have no effect on local solutions, but it should be all right to neglect them in low order solutions.

However, if we knew how old the universe is, then we would know what time it is. Conversely, if we get the wrong answer for this calculation, it might seem that we know more than we do.

In a universe where the range of the fields is infinite, the constant of integration for the doppler equation is

There should be another constant of integration in the equations if the first time derivative of the doppler equation is integrated. The dimensioned constants of physics are not computable. They have to be measured. Empirical pure number constants are not of proper form.

Remarkably, observers cannot tell which frame of reference they are in. They all look the same.

LVI. DISCUSSION

There is no gravitational field inside a spherical mass shell, but the expansion factor in that region is not zero⁸. The gravitational redshift is a manifestation of the expansion factor. The expansion factor will influence the connection between the simultaneous and retarded points. But since the simultaneous and retarded points are the same in static solutions, the expansion factor is not locally detectable in static solutions. It may nevertheless be measurable in dynamic solutions, such as when a test particle is at rest and the mass shell is moving. When there are no acceleration terms, we have no way of knowing whether the shell or the particle is moving.

Similarly, the cosmological expansion factor due to the average mass density of the cosmos will also influence the connection between the retarded and simultaneous points, although not in a way that is easily noticeable, since we have never experienced what life in the laboratory would be like in an empty universe. All things measurable are relative, but sometimes we are not sure of what they are relative to. In any case, it is not us that they are relative to.

The LT effect does predict measurable relationships when the shell is spinning⁸. There is no known measurable effect in the interior region for unaccelerated translational motion, perhaps because the equations are missing space-time cross terms that vanish in the infinitesimal. Just as the symmetric cross terms in Eq- vanish quadratically, the anti-symmetric cross terms of dynamic symmetric solutions will also vanish, but that does not necessarily mean that the constant of integration is zero.

A back-reaction for an accelerated test mass that depends on the mass of the surrounding mass shell would be in accord with Mach's principle¹², although the equations for radiating particles and momentum conservation would be more concise. (The test mass could be jerked by a long string.)

With true vector equations, dR vanishes quadratically at the simultaneous point for transverse velocity. However, when the simultaneous point is not where it is thought to be, it is mathematically possible for $dR - R_0$ to be both anti-symmetric and of first order, although the offset would not be observable in static solutions. The integral of space-time cross terms would be required for the terms to be observable.

It is possible for cross terms that vanish quadratically to also grow quadratically when integrating in the outbound direction, requiring that the starting point of a definite integral be displaced by a constant of integration if the equations are to behave correctly at a great distance. But from the perspective of a distant observer, when integrating in the inbound direction, the constant of integration is zero, or nearly so, making it easier for the distant observer to evaluate the constant.

When the test mass is at rest and a surrounding mass shell is moving, the solution would represent a form of frame dragging. The role played by Mach's principle will

be investigated in future papers, from the perspective of a distant and detached observer.

The orientation of an observer is not an absolute. If the observer is in radial free fall, the observer's orientation is not even relevant. It is the vector to what lies ahead that matters. Since the vector is unrelated to the observer's orientation, it should be rotationally invariant and single valued. The velocity of the observer is not an absolute either, so the calculation would be easier to perform if the observer is initially at rest and the particle is moving. Assuming that the location of the barycenter is known before obtaining a global solution is contrary to the relativity principle. The assumption attributes an absoluteness to either the observer or the particle that does not exist.

In a cosmological context, it is not plausible that the constant of integration is computable – it would have to be measured. It is possible, even likely, that there are undiscovered geometrical relationships amongst the dimensioned physical constants, but in general their values are not computable. On the other hand, pure number empirical constants, such as the ratio of the electrostatic to gravitational force for charged particle, are not of proper form.

This simplified integral in space and time does not have the same meaning as moving a physical clock around a closed path. As the flying clock experiment illustrates⁷, the loop integral of the clock rate in that case is not zero.

The dipole is one of the multipoles that can be lost if pseudo vectors are treated as true vectors. That is because there are no space-time cross terms in true vector equations. In being first order in space and first order in time, the cross terms vanish quadratically in a small region of space-time, but they cannot be dropped if the equation is to be integrated.

The magnetic field is $\mathbf{B} = \nabla \times \mathbf{A}$, which looks like a pure space term, but, according to the Maxwell equations, $\nabla \times (\nabla \times \mathbf{A})$ does not have a separately identifiable physical meaning. In dynamic solutions, there are no pure space terms, and there are no pure time terms. There are always cross terms.

Refer to Ref. 11 for some useful background material for the Proca equations and the Thomas precession. The equations shown there need to be converted to SI units. As shown there, the Proca equations contain two static solutions. The equations of this paper are only for the transformed scalar solution, and only for regions small in relation to the range of the fields.

It is likely that the range of the fields affects local solutions, but it should be all right to neglect those terms in low order solutions. But eventually, we should be able to infer the range of the fields from local laboratory measurements. We do not exist in isolation in an empty universe.

The decomposition products of the third rank contravariant tensor in electrical solutions are shown in Ref. 13. Those calculations need to be extended to the

tensor of the fourth rank.

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