

Relativity of Simultaneity [mln51]

Light signal sent out to synchronized, equidistant clocks in frame S' .

Arrival times observed in S' : $ct'_1 = ct'_2 = \ell_0/2 \Rightarrow \Delta t' = 0$.

Arrival times observed in S : $ct_1 = \ell/2 - vt_1$, $ct_2 = \ell/2 + vt_2$.

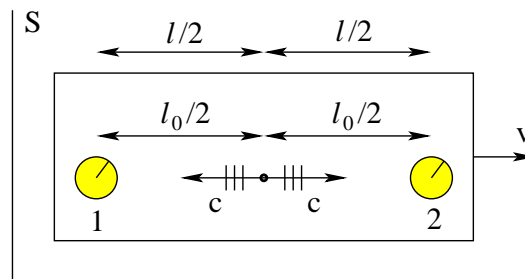
$$\Rightarrow \Delta t = t_2 - t_1 = \frac{\ell/2}{c - v} - \frac{\ell/2}{c + v} = \frac{\ell v/c^2}{1 - v^2/c^2} = \frac{\ell_0 v/c^2}{\sqrt{1 - v^2/c^2}}$$

Time difference translated from S to S' : $\Delta t' = \Delta t \sqrt{1 - v^2/c^2} = \frac{\ell_0 v}{c^2}$.

Result in conflict with actual observation $\Delta t' = 0$ made in S' .

Resolution of paradox:

When viewed from S , clock 1 was set ahead of clock 2 by $\ell_0 v/c^2$.



Consider two arrays of synchronized clocks in relative motion as shown.

When an observer in frame S asks about the time t' in frame S' , the answer depends on the position x' ... and vice versa.

