

PHY 247    Lecture 18    Gary Shiu    10/18/06

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- Recap:
- Velocity transformation
  - spacetime diagram (useful for conceptual questions, not in details such as calibration)
  - Spacetime Interval (causality)

- Today
- Doppler's effect (applications: Hubble's law)
  - Twin Paradox (more paradoxes in lab)

# Doppler's Effect

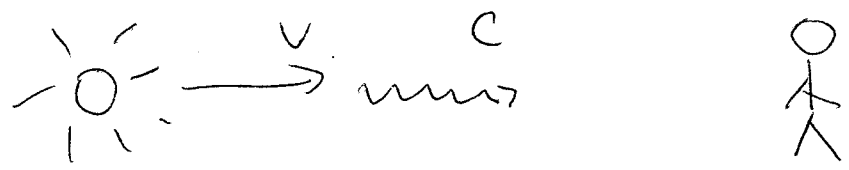
Also exists for sound (siren of an ambulance)

but

change in frequency depends on whether source or receiver is moving because sound propagates in a medium (air)

Different for light: Einstein's postulate

⇒ Need to derive Doppler's formula from scratch!



Source emits  $N$  waves in  $\Delta t$

Wave travels distance =  $c \Delta t$  (Why?)

Source " " =  $v \Delta t$

According to observer , train of  $N$  waves

occupies a distance  $c \Delta t - v \Delta t$

$$\text{Wavelength} = \lambda = \frac{c \Delta t - v \Delta t}{N}$$

$$\text{Frequency} = f = \frac{c}{\lambda} = \frac{cN}{(c-v)\Delta t}$$

Relate  $f$  to the proper frequency  
 ↓ rest frame of source

$$f_0 = \frac{N}{\Delta t'} = \frac{\gamma N}{\Delta t} \quad \text{time dilation}$$

$$\Rightarrow f = \frac{1}{1-\beta} \frac{N}{\Delta t} \quad \beta \equiv \frac{v}{c}$$

$$= \frac{f_0}{(1-\beta)\gamma} \leftarrow \text{relativity effect} \sim \beta^2$$

(in contrast  $\beta$  effect in usual Doppler's effect)

Relativistic Doppler effect differs from usual  
 by 2nd order effects in  $\frac{v}{c}$

$$f = \frac{\sqrt{1-\beta^2}}{1-\beta} f_0 = \sqrt{\frac{1+\beta}{1-\beta}} f_0$$

Source  
 approaching  
 observer

$$f > f_0$$

"blueshift"

Similarly



Replace  $ct - vt$  by  $ct + vt$  in derivation

$$f = \frac{\sqrt{1-\beta^2}}{1+\beta} f_0 = \sqrt{\frac{1-\beta}{1+\beta}} f_0$$

receding

$f < f_0$

"redshift"

For small  $\frac{v}{c} \equiv \beta$ , use Taylor expansion

$$f = \begin{cases} f_0 (1 + \frac{1}{2}\beta + \dots) (1 + \frac{1}{2}\beta + \dots) & \text{blueshift} \\ f_0 (1 - \frac{1}{2}\beta + \dots) (1 - \frac{1}{2}\beta + \dots) & \text{redshift} \end{cases}$$

$= f_0 (1 \pm \beta)$

+ ~~receding~~ approaching

- receding

However, astronomical source can move very fast away from us, use exact expression

Hubble's law : distant object appears to be receding from us with velocity  $\sim$  distance  
 [deduce from measuring spectral lines]

Hubble's law  $v = H r$   
 $\uparrow$   
 Hubble constant

Red shift factor

$$z = \frac{f_0 - f}{f}$$

$$z = \sqrt{\frac{1+\beta}{1-\beta}} - 1$$

$$\beta = \frac{(z+1)^2 - 1}{(z+1)^2 + 1}$$

Not unusual to talk about  $z \sim$  a few

e.g. quasar

$z \sim 3.78$

$\beta \sim 0.91c$  !

Example

$$\lambda_0 = 656 \text{ nm}$$

Balmer series

$$\lambda = 1458 \text{ nm}$$

What is  $v$ ? approaching (receding)?  $z = ?$

① receding since  $f \sim \frac{1}{\lambda}$  is redshift (smaller)

$$\textcircled{2} \quad f = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-\beta}} f_0$$

$$\frac{1-\beta}{1+\beta} \sim \left(\frac{f}{f_0}\right)^2 \sim \left(\frac{\lambda_0}{\lambda}\right)^2 \sim \left(\frac{656}{1458}\right)^2 \sim 0.202$$

$$\beta \sim 0.664$$

$$\begin{aligned} \textcircled{3} \quad z &= \frac{f_0 - f}{f} = \frac{\frac{c}{\lambda_0} - \frac{c}{\lambda}}{\frac{c}{\lambda}} \\ &= \frac{\lambda - \lambda_0}{\lambda_0} = \frac{1458 - 656}{656} \end{aligned}$$

$$\sim 1.22$$

