

# RELATIVITY [OF MEASUREMENTS]

- DID NOT ORIGINATE WITH EINSTEIN.
- HOW WOULD ONE SAY THAT SOMETHING WAS MOVING UNLESS YOU HAD ANOTHER OBJECT TO COMPARE AGAINST.

## SUNG DYNASTY POET:

The boat looks red amidst the dancing  
flowers,  
A hundred li of elms in a half-day's  
wind,  
Reclining I watch the clouds stand  
still,  
Not knowing the clouds and I both  
travel east.

Bishop BERKELEY [1685-1753]:

motion → distance between two objs. changing  
with time.

BUT WHICH OBJECT IS MOVING?

"convenience."

"common sense because earth is large"

But in space, two nearly equal objs?

In real life  $\Rightarrow$  jerks give us perception of motion [speeding up/down]

What about cruising steadily or at rest?

$\Rightarrow$  NO ABSOLUTE MOTION

$\rightarrow$  FIRST DOCUMENTED EXPERIMENTS: GALILEO

GALILEAN TRANSFORMATION

GALILEAN, TRANSLATION, ROTATION



AT HEART OF NEWTON'S  
LAWS OF MOTION

# NEWTON'S LAWS OF MOTION

A] (1) Body at rest remains at rest unless acted upon by a force

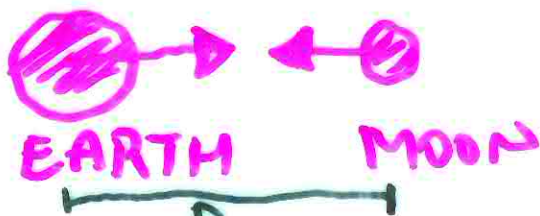
(2) Body moving in straight line at constant speed will continue to do so unless acted upon by a force

B] ACCELERATION IS PROPORTIONAL TO FORCE ACTING ON A BODY

$$F = ma$$

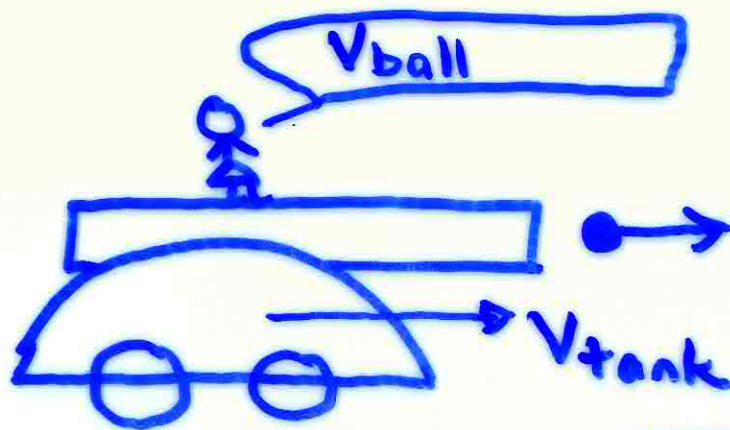
change in speed or direction with time

C] Whenever one body exerts a force on second body, the second exerts equal and opposite force back on the first



$$F_{\text{grav}} = \frac{G M_{\text{earth}} M_{\text{moon}}}{R^2}$$

# NEWTONIAN MECHANICS



Stick figure:  $\text{BALL} = V_{\text{ball}} + V_{\text{tank}}$



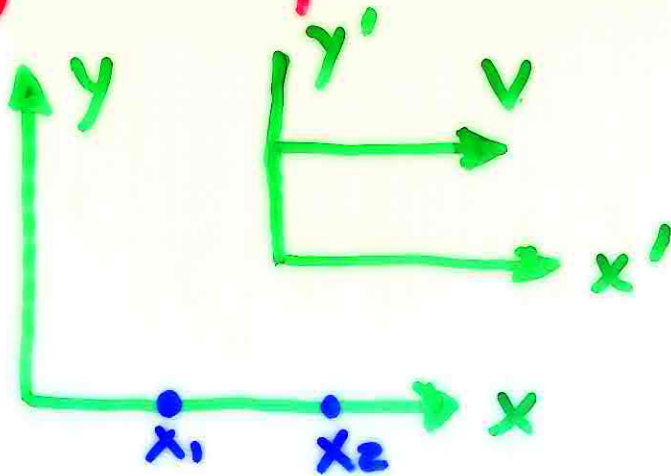
Stick figure:  $\text{BALL} = V_{\text{ball}} - V_{\text{tank}}$

- OBJECTS MOVE IN ABSOLUTE SPACE
- MAY MOVE THRU IT DIFFERENTLY BUT EXPERIENCE IT SAME
- LENGTHS, WIDTHS, BREADTHS SAME
- TIME IS ABSOLUTE
- WE WILL ALL AGREE ON DURATIONS.

NEWTON

# NEWTONIAN PHYSICS [1700-1800s]

- Objects moved in absolute space
- Objects experienced absolute time



$$\text{Length} = x_2 - x_1$$

In moving frame

$$\begin{aligned} x_2' &= x_2 - vt \\ x_1' &= x_1 - vt \end{aligned}$$

[ Assume two -  
coincide at start ]

$$\left. \begin{aligned} x_2' &= x_2 - vt \\ x_1' &= x_1 - vt \end{aligned} \right\} \text{Length} = x_2 - x_1$$

↑  
same!



Imagine "me" standing on back of truck.

I throw a stone forward at 5 m/s

If truck is stopped how fast would you measure the

rock to be moving?

ANSWER: 5 m/s.

If truck is moving forward @ 10 m/s

ANSWER:  $5 + 10 = 15$  m/s

What if truck was moving backward at 10 m/s?

ANSWER:  $5 - 10 = -5$  m/s

You'd actually see rock moving backward!

# MAXWELL & ELECTROMAGNETIC THEORY.

[1700-1800]

## Electric & Magnetism:

- LODESTONE & AMBER
- 1785 COULOMB FORCE BET. CHARGES
- 1789 Galvani dissecting frog  
⇒ current (twitch)
- Volta → battery [chemical Rx]
- ØERSTED CURRENT CAUSES MAGNETIC FIELDS.



- FARADAY : moving charge is current  
voltage [Coulomb force] → mot. field



MAXWELL (1850s):

Accumulated & summarized all known facts:

IN VACUUM.

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{B} = 0$$

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E} = 0$$

$$\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{B} = \epsilon_0 \mu_0 \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t}$$

$$\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{E} = -\frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t}$$

COMBINED THESE TO DISCOVER LIGHT.

$$\frac{\partial^2 \vec{E}}{\partial t^2} - \frac{1}{\epsilon_0 \mu_0} \nabla^2 \vec{E} = 0$$

whose speed is  $c = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\epsilon_0 \mu_0}}$

\* IN VACUUM, ONCE EMITTED, SPEED IS INDEPENDENT OF SOURCE SPEED!!

COMPARE TO ROCK & TRUCK.

MOREOVER  $\mu_0, \epsilon_0$  ARE CONSTANTS THAT DESCRIBE NATURE OF "MEDIUM" IN WHICH THIS WAVE PROPAGATES.

IF OBSERVER IS MOVING, GALILEAN TRANSFORMATION SAYS

$$c' = c \pm v$$

BUT THIS WOULD IMPLY  $\mu_0', \epsilon_0'$

IE: MOVING OBS WOULD EXPERIENCE VACUUM DIFFERENTLY

∴ INERTIAL FRAMES NOT ALL EQUAL!

OR

MAXWELL IS RIGHT, RELATIVITY/EQUIVALENCE IS RIGHT BUT GALILEAN TRANSF. IS NOT SYMMETRY OF NATURE!