

The amplitudes as measured by 2 observers are

$$f(\vec{x}, t) \propto e^{i(\vec{k} \cdot \vec{x} - \omega t)}, \quad f(\vec{x}', t') \propto e^{i(\vec{k}' \cdot \vec{x}' - \omega' t')}$$

we demand the amplitudes be equal

$$e^{i(\vec{k} \cdot \vec{x} - \omega t)} = e^{i(\vec{k}' \cdot \vec{x}' - \omega' t')}$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{k} \cdot \vec{x} - \omega t = \vec{k}' \cdot \vec{x}' - \omega' t'$$

Introduce 4-vectors  $x^\mu = (ct, \vec{x})$ ,  $k^\mu = (\frac{\omega}{c}, \vec{k})$

This suggests  $x^\mu k_\nu g_{\mu\nu} = x^\mu k_\mu$  is Lorentz invariant,

consequently,  $k^\mu$  is covariant.

By covariance of  $k^\mu$ , we know it follows Lorentz transformation:

Recall the transformation on spacetime coordinates:

$$\begin{cases} ct' = \gamma(ct - \vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{r}) \\ \vec{r}' = \vec{r} + \frac{(\vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{r})\vec{\beta}(ct-1)}{\beta^2} - \vec{\beta} r ct \end{cases}$$

This suggests the transformation for  $k^\mu$ :

$$\begin{aligned} k'^0 &= \gamma(k^0 - \vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{k}) \\ \Rightarrow \frac{\omega'}{c} &= \gamma\left(\frac{\omega}{c} - \vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{k}\right), \end{aligned}$$

$$\boxed{\omega' = \gamma(\omega - \vec{v} \cdot \vec{k})}$$

This is not the familiar form of relativistic doppler;  
to get such, do assume

$$\vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{k} = \beta k, \quad (\text{boosts align with } \vec{k})$$

Then  $\omega' = \gamma(\omega - \beta k)$

use dispersion  $\frac{\omega}{k} = c, \quad k = \frac{\omega}{c}$

$$\omega' = \gamma(\omega - \beta \omega)$$

$$= \omega \frac{(1-\beta)}{\sqrt{1-\beta^2}}$$

$$= \omega \sqrt{\frac{(1-\beta)(1-\beta)}{(1-\beta)(1+\beta)}}$$

$$\boxed{\omega' = \omega \sqrt{\frac{(1-\beta)}{(1+\beta)}}}$$

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