

Lecture 27.

Relativity of transverse waves and 4-vectors

(Ch. 2-5 of Unit 2 4.05.12)

Introducing per-spacetime 4-vector $(\omega_0, \omega_x, \omega_y, \omega_z) = (\omega, ck_x, ck_y, ck_z)$ transformation

Reviewing the *stellar aberration angle* σ vs. *rapidity* ρ in Epstein's cosmic speedometer[†]

Reviewing “Sin-Tan Rosetta” geometry

Reviewing relativistic quantum Lagrangian-Hamiltonian contact relations

Epstein's space-proper-time $(x, c\tau)$ plots (“c-tau” plots)[†]

Time contraction-dilation revisited

Length contraction-dilation revisited

Twin-paradox revisited

Velocity addition revisited

Lorentz symmetry effects

How it makes momentum and energy be conserved

[†]Lewis Carroll Epstein, *Relativity Visualized*
Insight Press, San Francisco, CA 94107

See also: L. C. Epstein, *Thinking Physics Press*,
Insight Press, San Francisco, CA 94107

Reviewing the stellar aberration angle σ vs. rapidity ρ

Together, rapidity $\rho = \ln b$ and stellar aberration angle σ are parameters of relative velocity

The rapidity $\rho = \ln b$ is based on longitudinal wave Doppler shift $b = e^\rho$ defined by $u/c = \tanh(\rho)$.

At low speed: $u/c \sim \rho$.

The stellar aberration angle σ is based on the transverse wave rotation $R = e^{i\sigma}$ defined by $u/c = \sin(\sigma)$.

At low speed: $u/c \sim \sigma$.

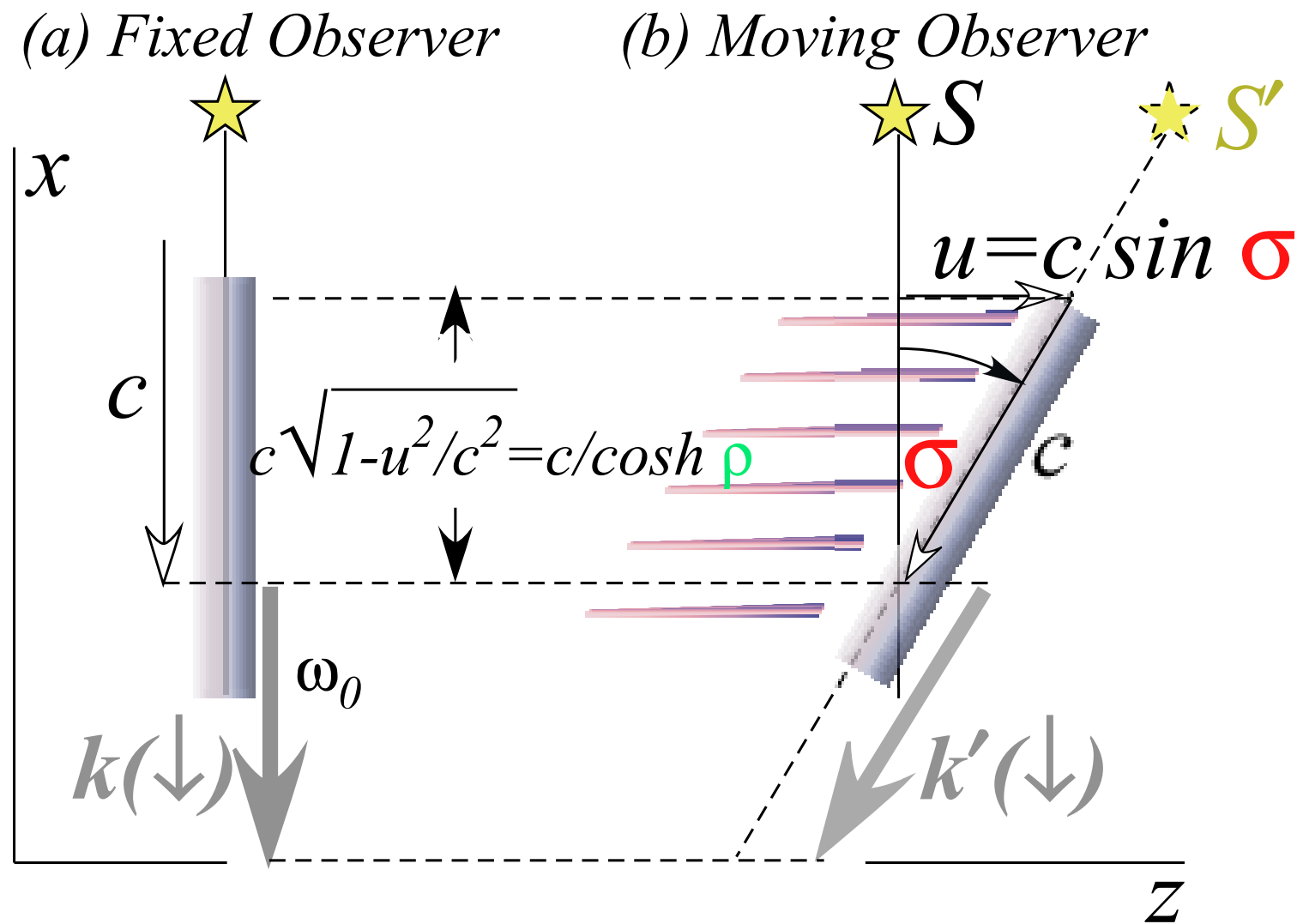
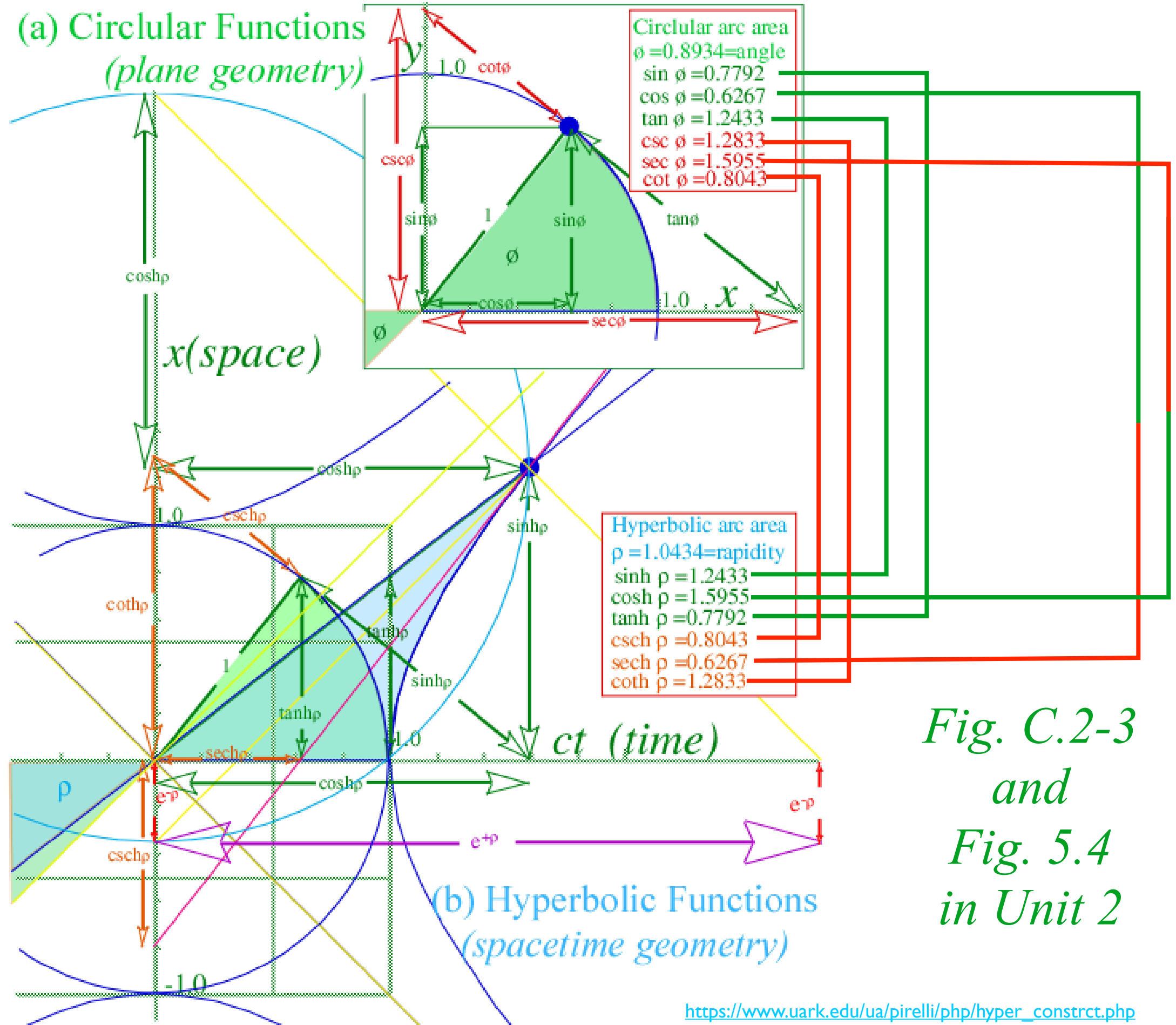


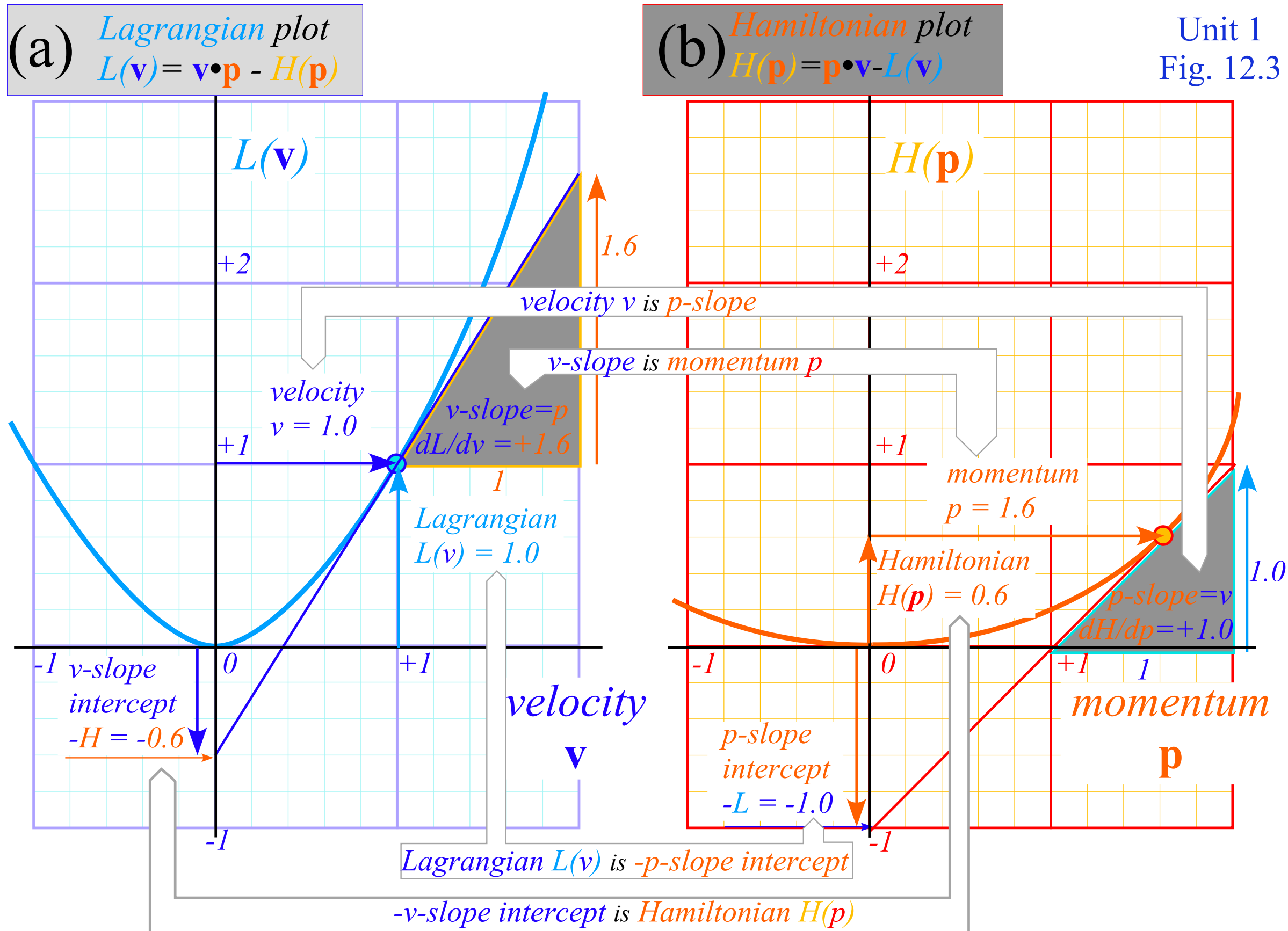
Fig. 5.6 Epstein's cosmic speedometer with aberration angle σ and transverse Doppler shift $\cosh \rho$.



*Fig. C.2-3
and
Fig. 5.4
in Unit 2*

Reviewing classical quantum Lagrangian-Hamiltonian relations

Unit 1
Fig. 12.3



Reviewing relativistic quantum Lagrangian-Hamiltonian relations

Start with phase Φ and set $k=0$ to get product of proper frequency $\mu = Mc^2/\hbar$ and proper time τ

$$d\Phi = kdx - \omega dt = -\mu d\tau = -(Mc^2/\hbar) d\tau.$$

$$d\tau = dt \sqrt{1-u^2/c^2} = dt \operatorname{sech} \rho$$

Differential action: $dS = L dt = p \cdot dx - H \cdot dt = \hbar k \cdot dx - \hbar \omega \cdot dt = \hbar d\Phi$

is Planck scale \hbar times differential phase: $dS = \hbar d\Phi$

For constant u the Lagrangian is: $L = -\hbar\mu\tau = -Mc^2\sqrt{1-u^2/c^2} = -Mc^2 \operatorname{sech} \rho = -Mc^2 \cos \sigma$

...with Poincare invariant: $L = p \cdot \dot{x} - H = p \cdot u - H$

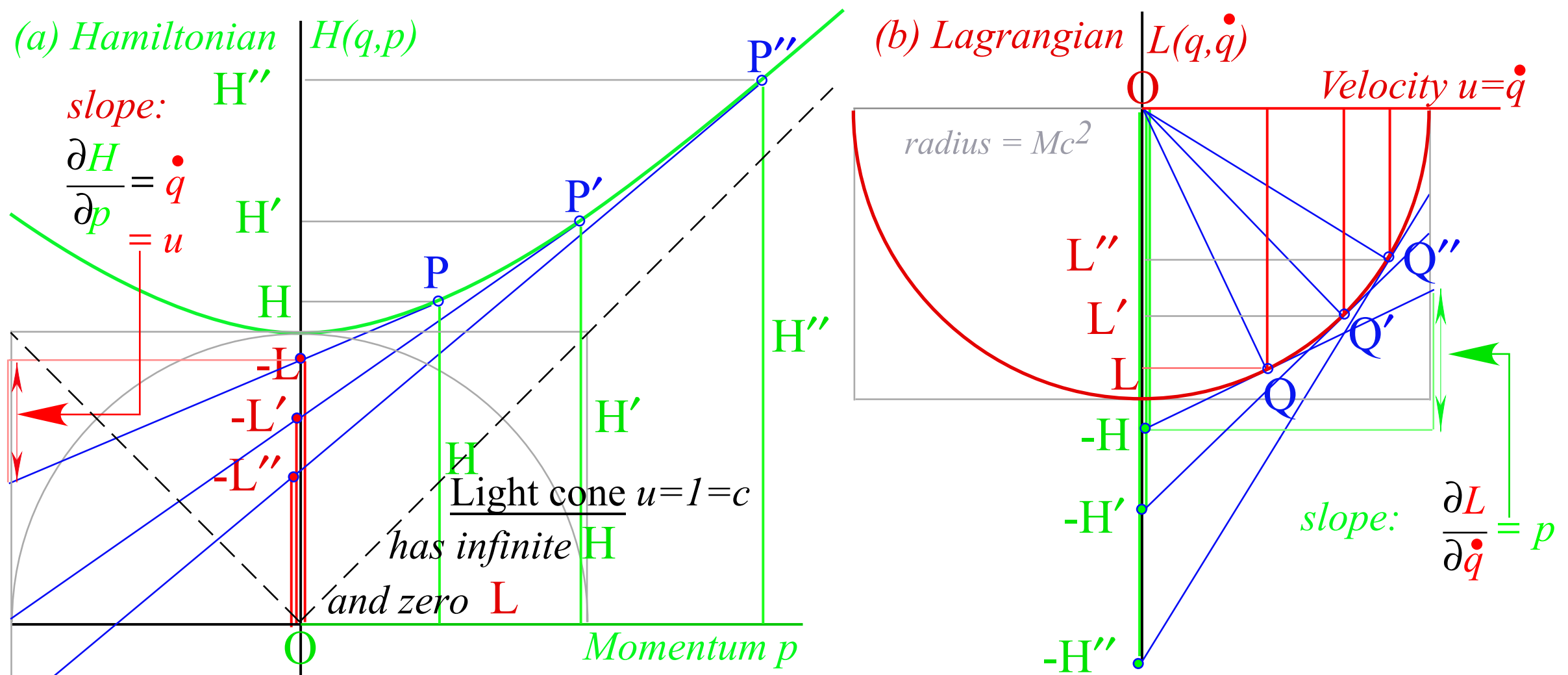
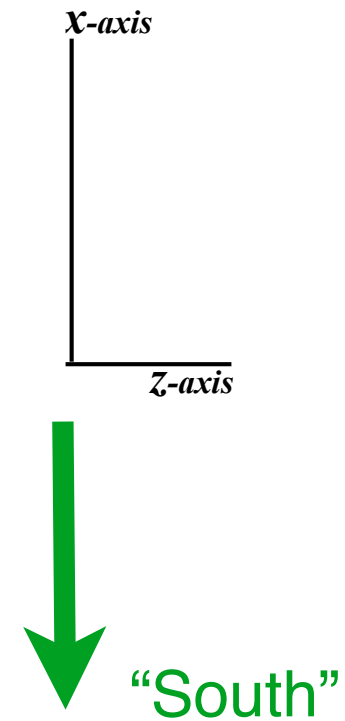
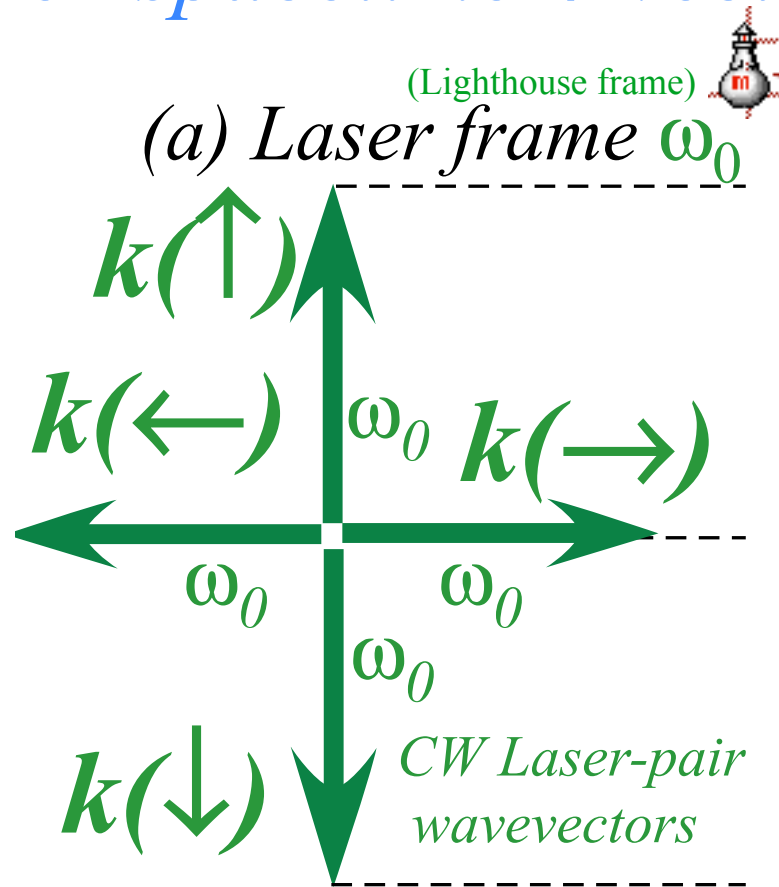


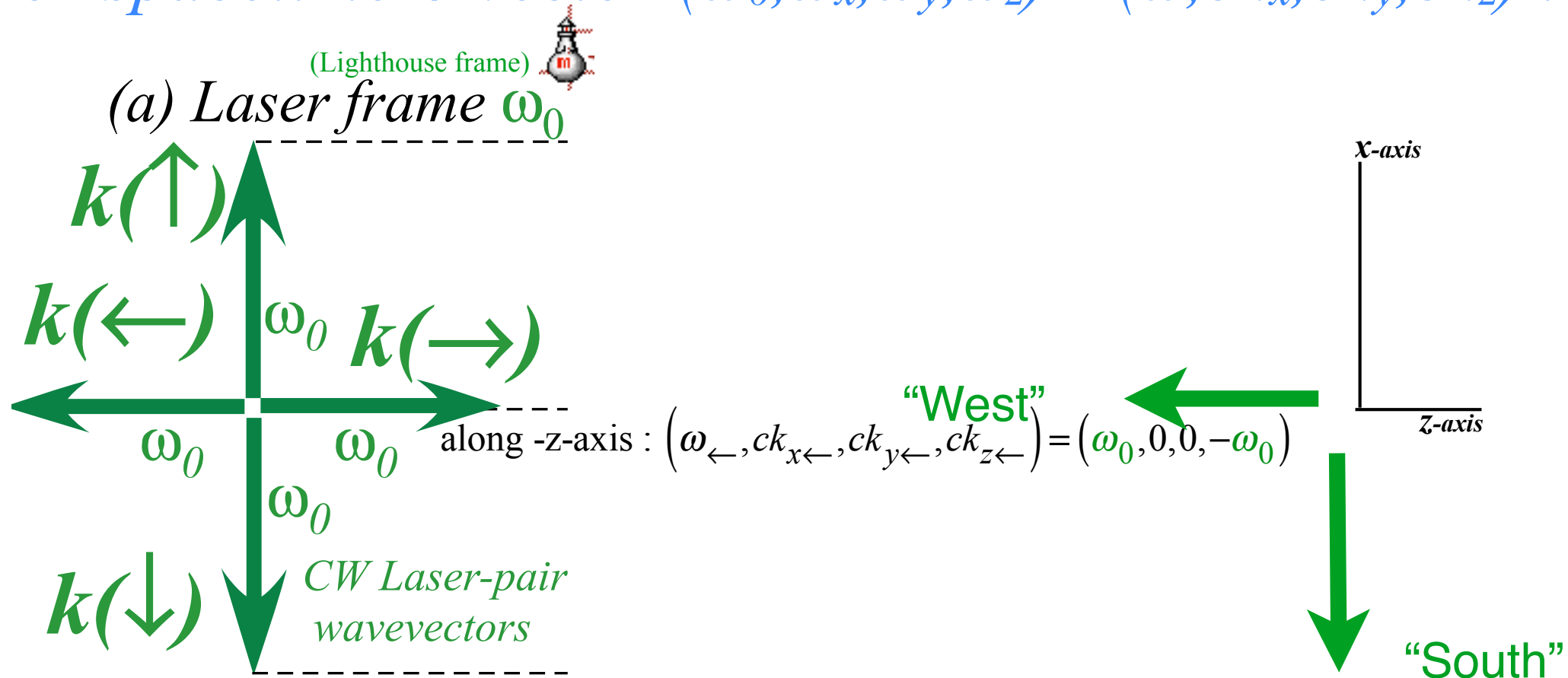
Fig. 5.1. Geometry of contact transformation between relativistic (a) Hamiltonian (b) Lagrangian

Per-spacetime 4-vector $(\omega_0, \omega_x, \omega_y, \omega_z) = (\omega, ck_x, ck_y, ck_z)$ transformation



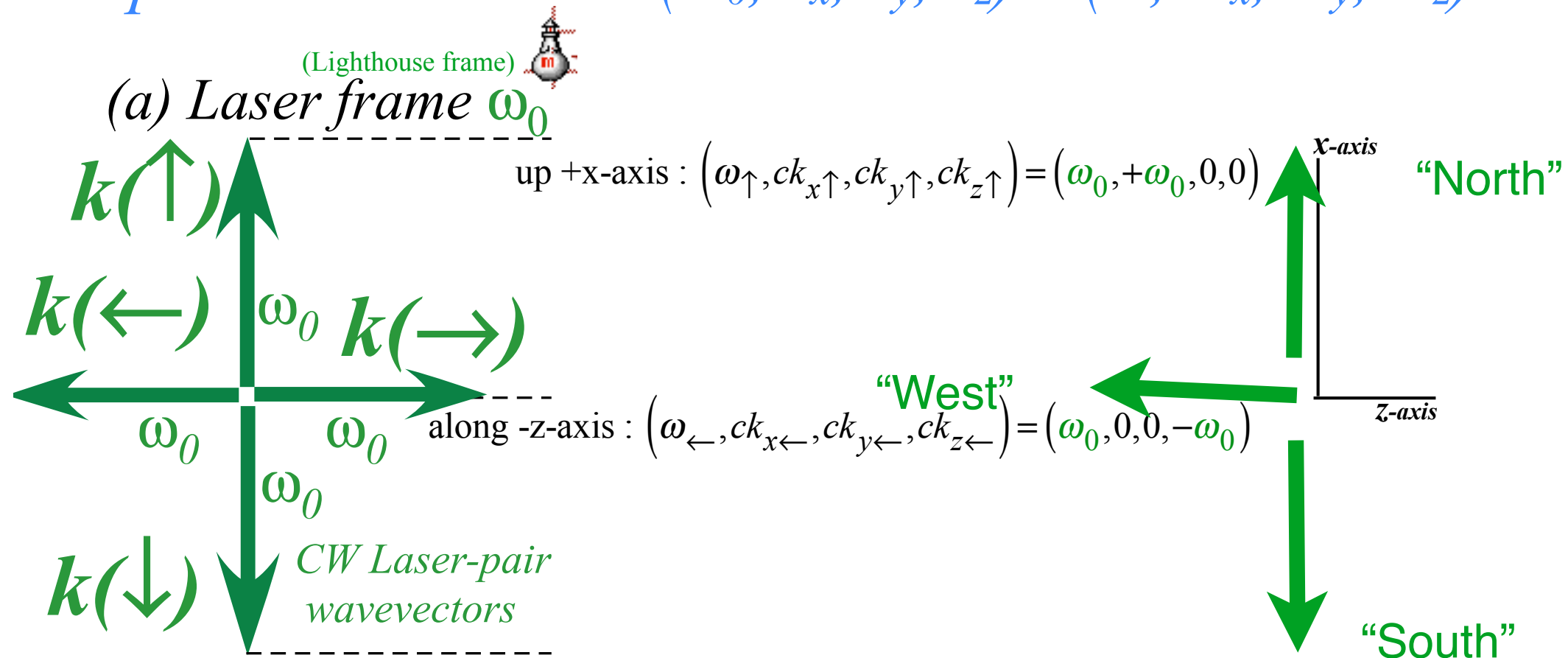
Suppose starlight in lighthouse frame is straight down x-axis : $(\omega_{\downarrow}, ck_{x\downarrow}, ck_{y\downarrow}, ck_{z\downarrow}) = (\omega_0, -\omega_0, 0, 0)$

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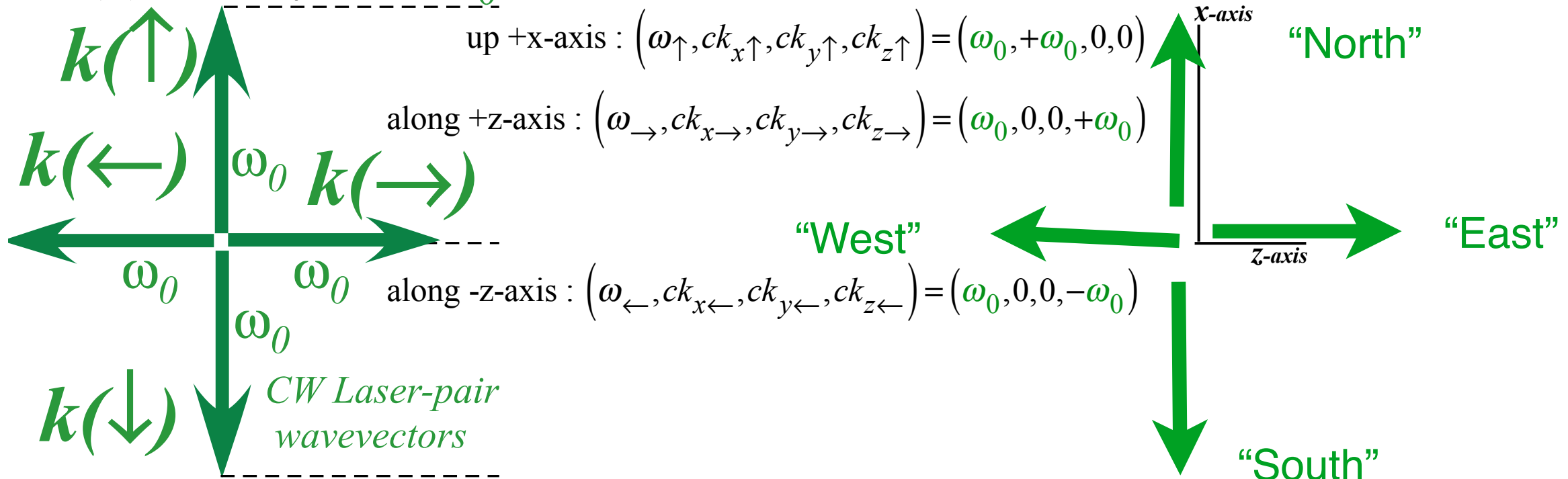


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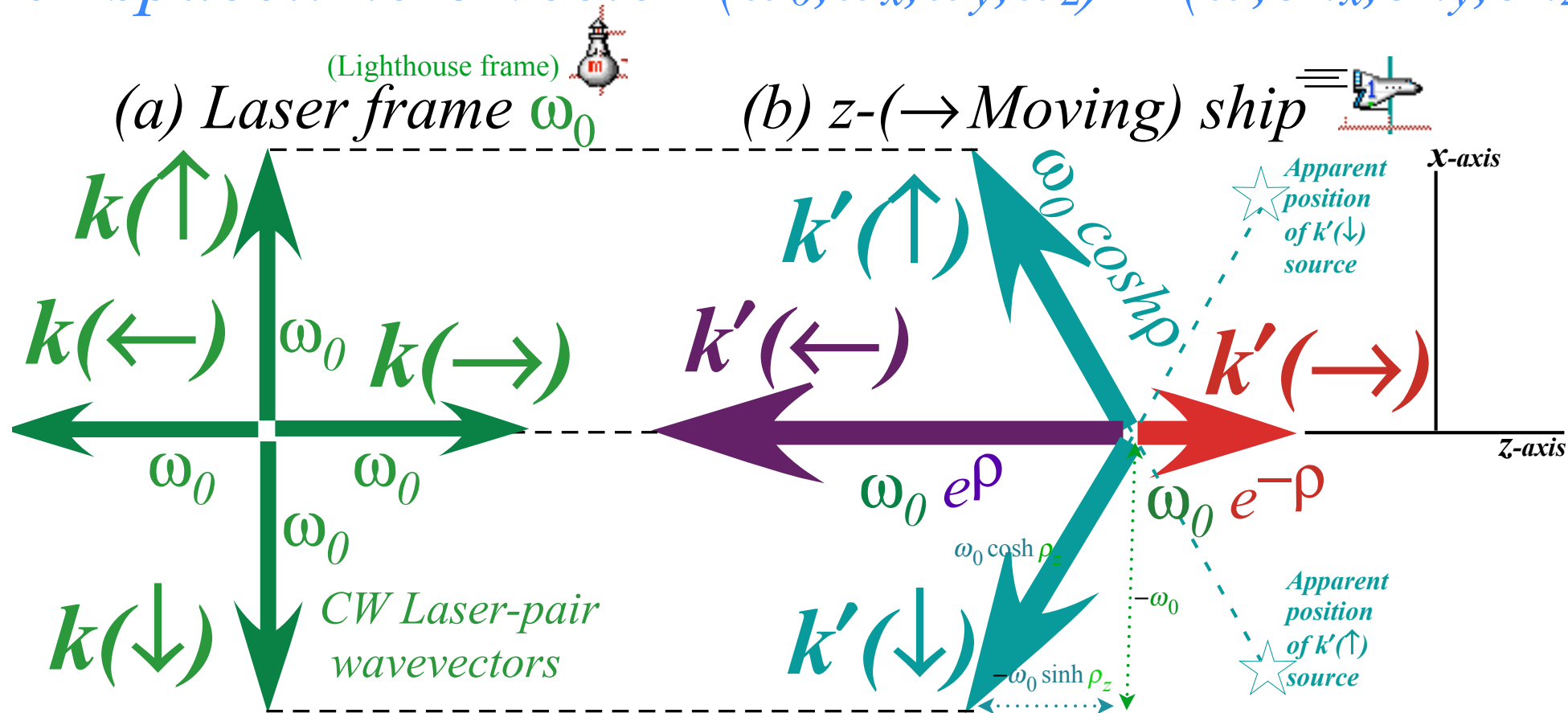
(Lighthouse frame) 

(a) Laser frame ω_0



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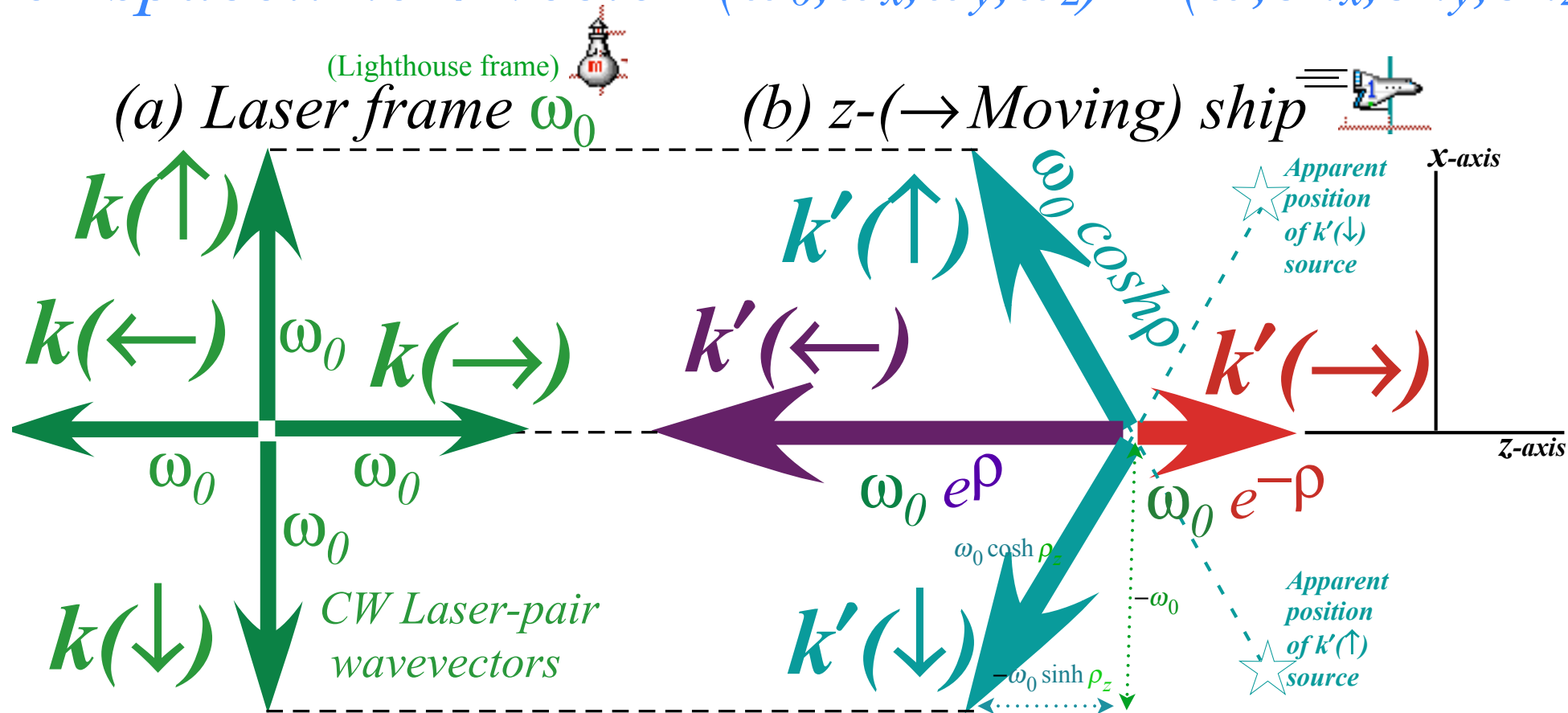
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$+\rho_z$ -rapidity ship frame sees starlight Lorentz transformed to : $(\omega'_{\downarrow}, ck'_{x\downarrow}, ck'_{y\downarrow}, ck'_{z\downarrow}) = (\omega_0 \cosh \rho_z, -\omega_0, 0, -\omega_0 \sinh \rho_z)$

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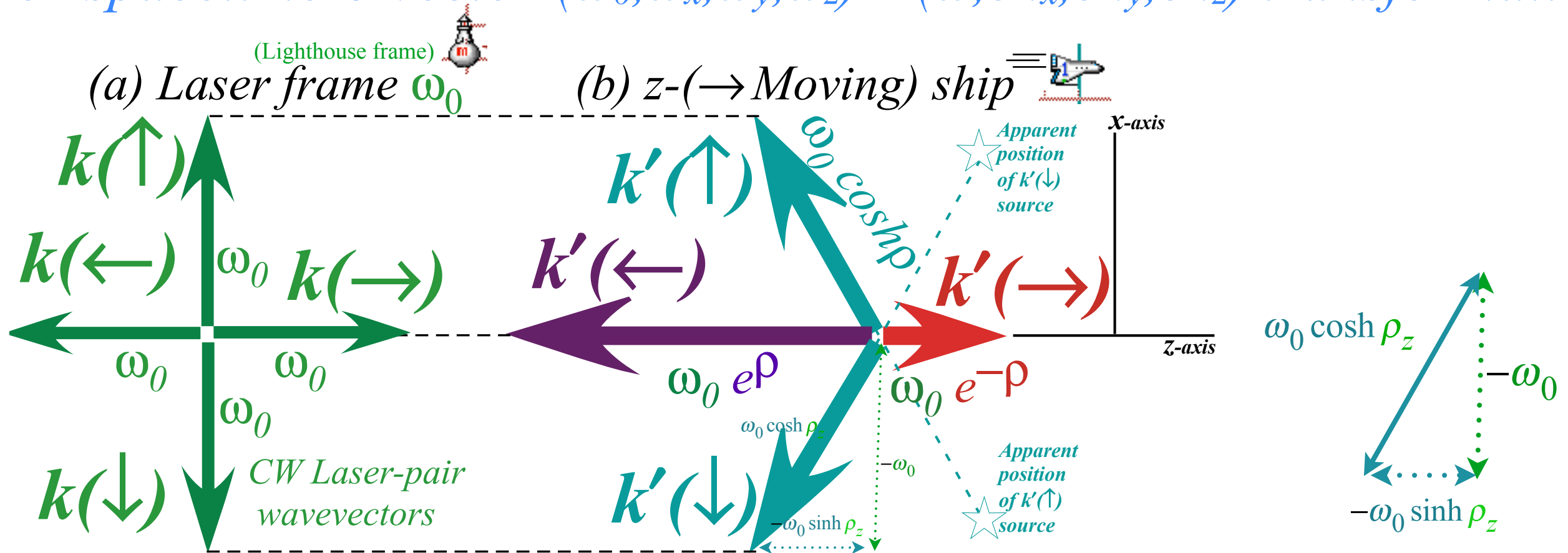


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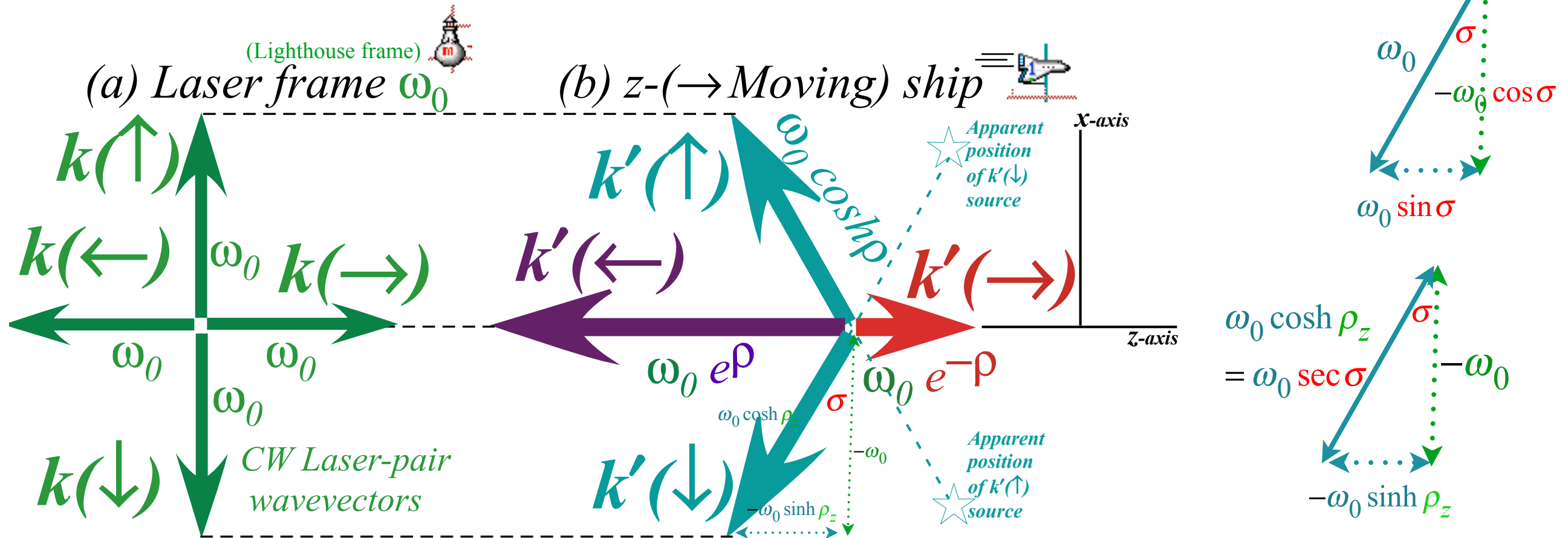
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After the 4-vector transformation, $\omega_0 = \omega_{\downarrow}$ is *transverse Doppler shifted* to $\omega_0 \cosh \rho_z$, while $ck_z = 0$ becomes $ck'_z = -\omega_0 \sinh \rho_z$.
(The x-component is unchanged: $ck'_x = -\omega_0 = ck_x$ and so is y-component: $ck'_y = -\omega_0 = ck_y$.)

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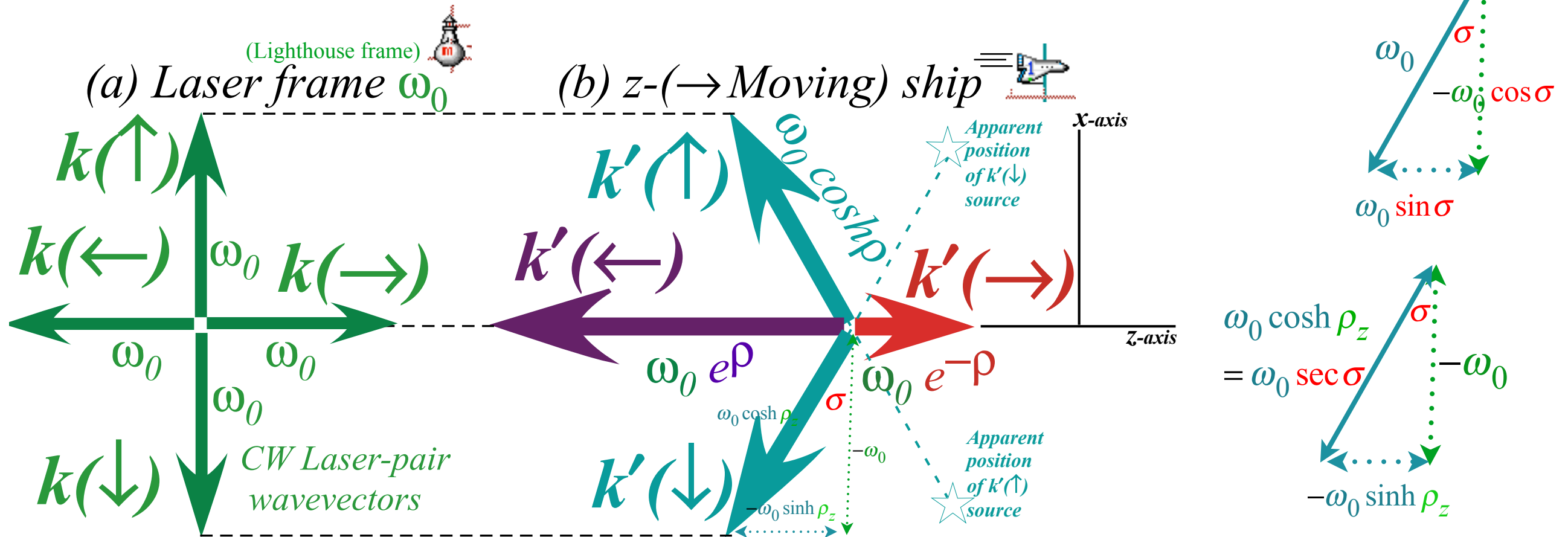
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Recall hyperbolic invariant to Lorentz transform: $\omega^2 - c^2 k^2 = \omega'^2 - c^2 k'^2$ ($=0$ for 1-CW light)

The 4-vector form of this is: $\omega^2 - c^2 \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{k} = \omega'^2 - c^2 \mathbf{k}' \cdot \mathbf{k}'$ ($=0$ " ")

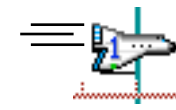
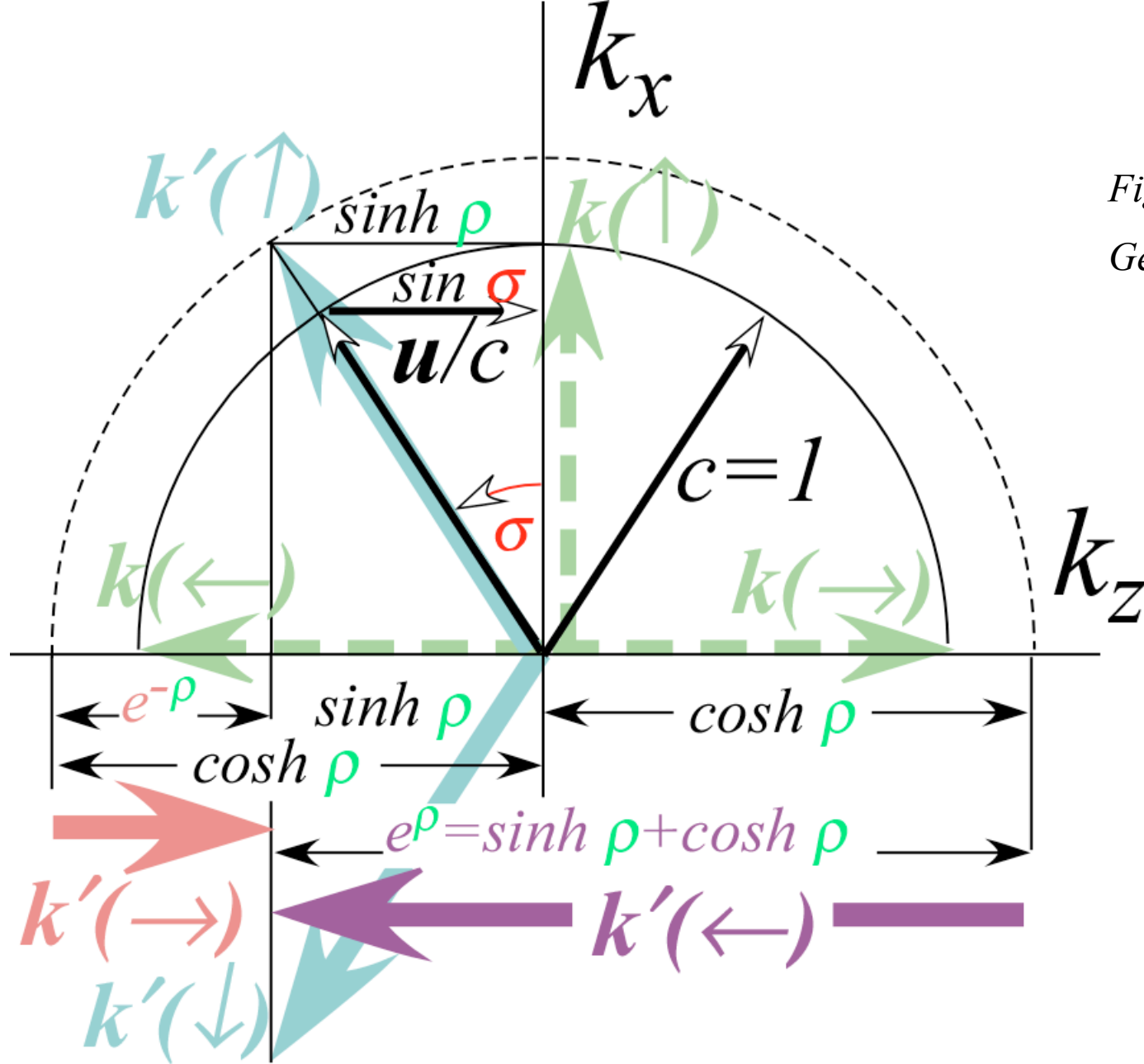


Fig. 5.10 CW cosmic speedometer.
 Geometry of Lorentz boost of counter-propagating waves.



Epstein's space-proper-time $(x, c\tau)$ plots ("c-tau" plots)

Time contraction-dilation revisited

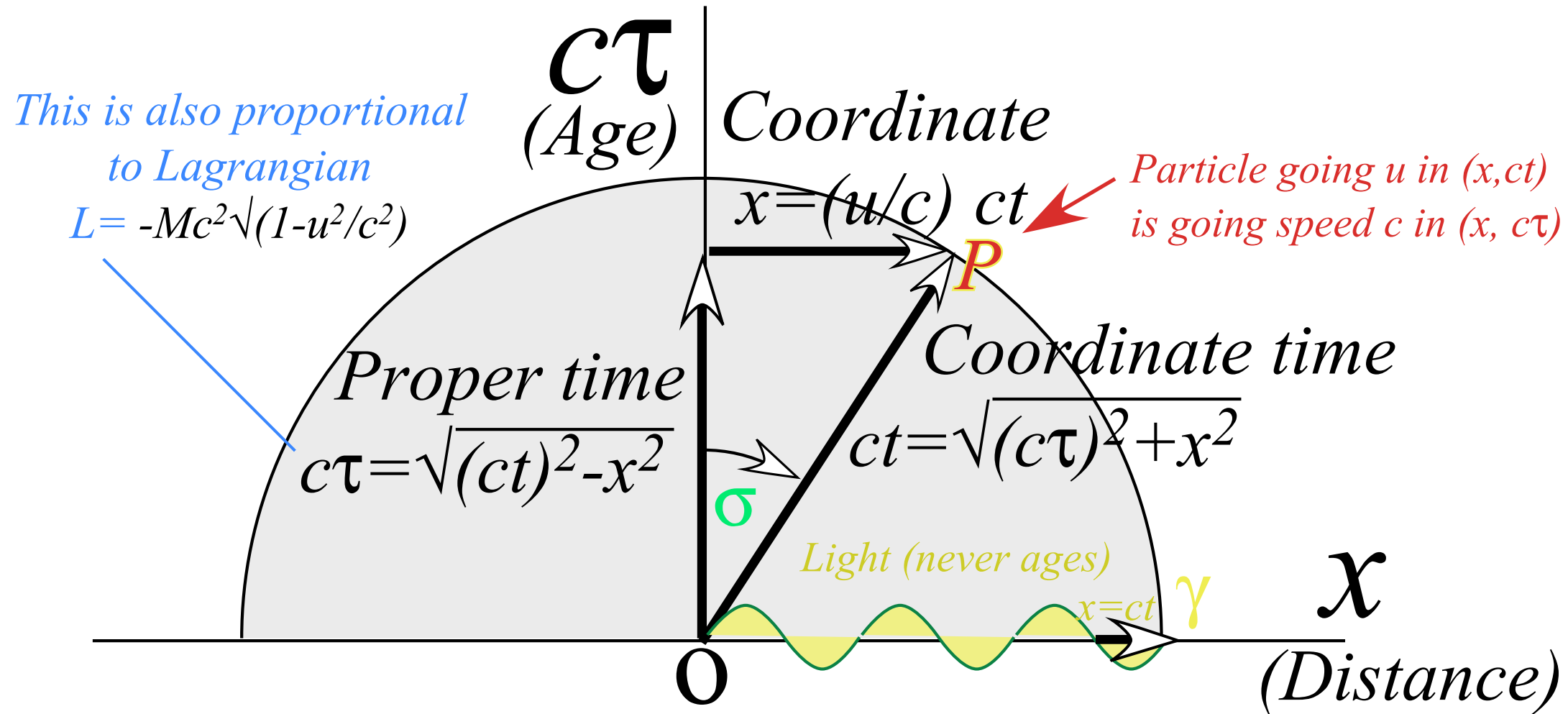
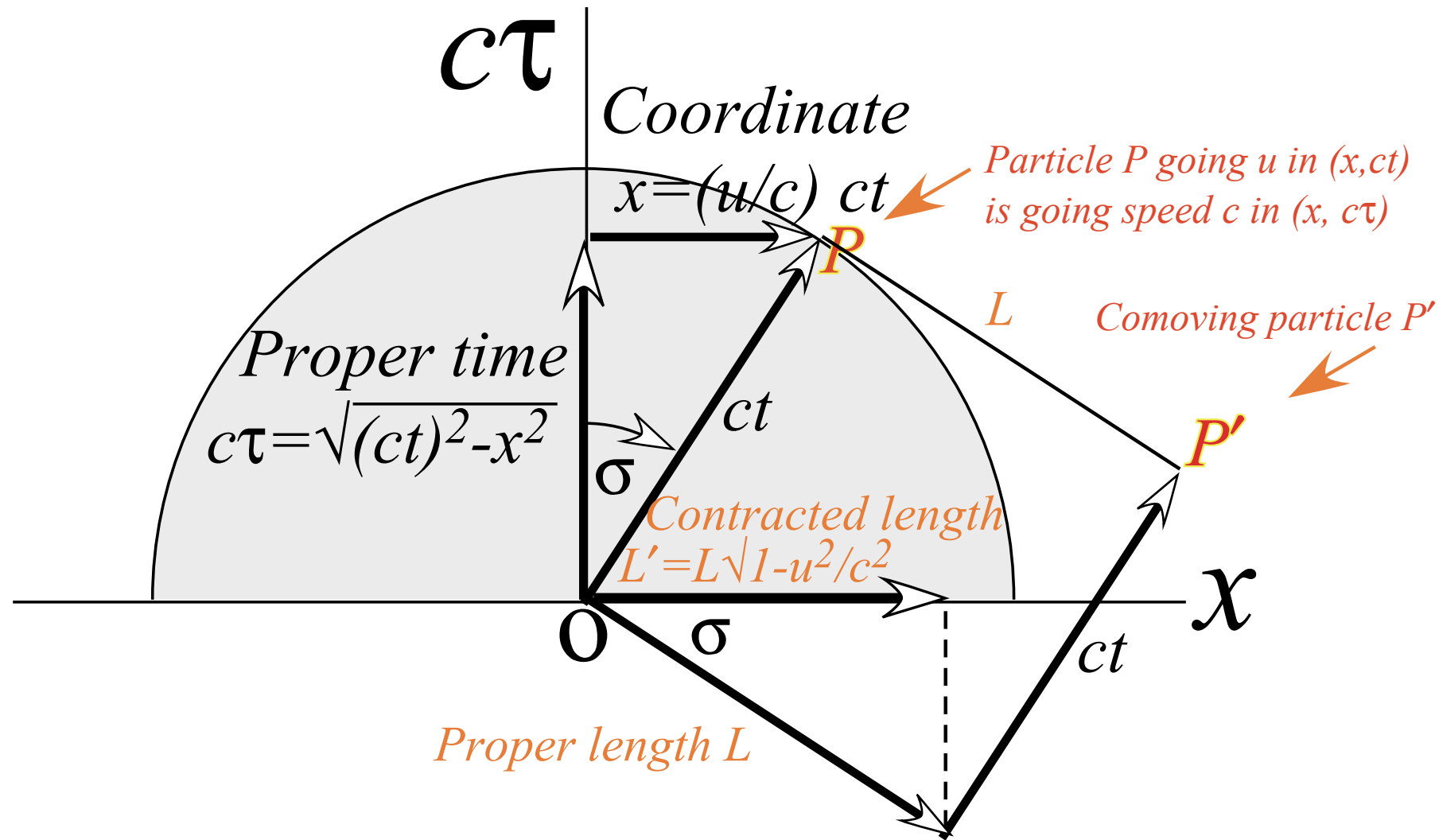


Fig. 5.8 Space-proper-time plot makes all objects move at speed c along their cosmic speedometer.

Epstein's space-proper-time $(x, c\tau)$ plots ("c-tau" plots)

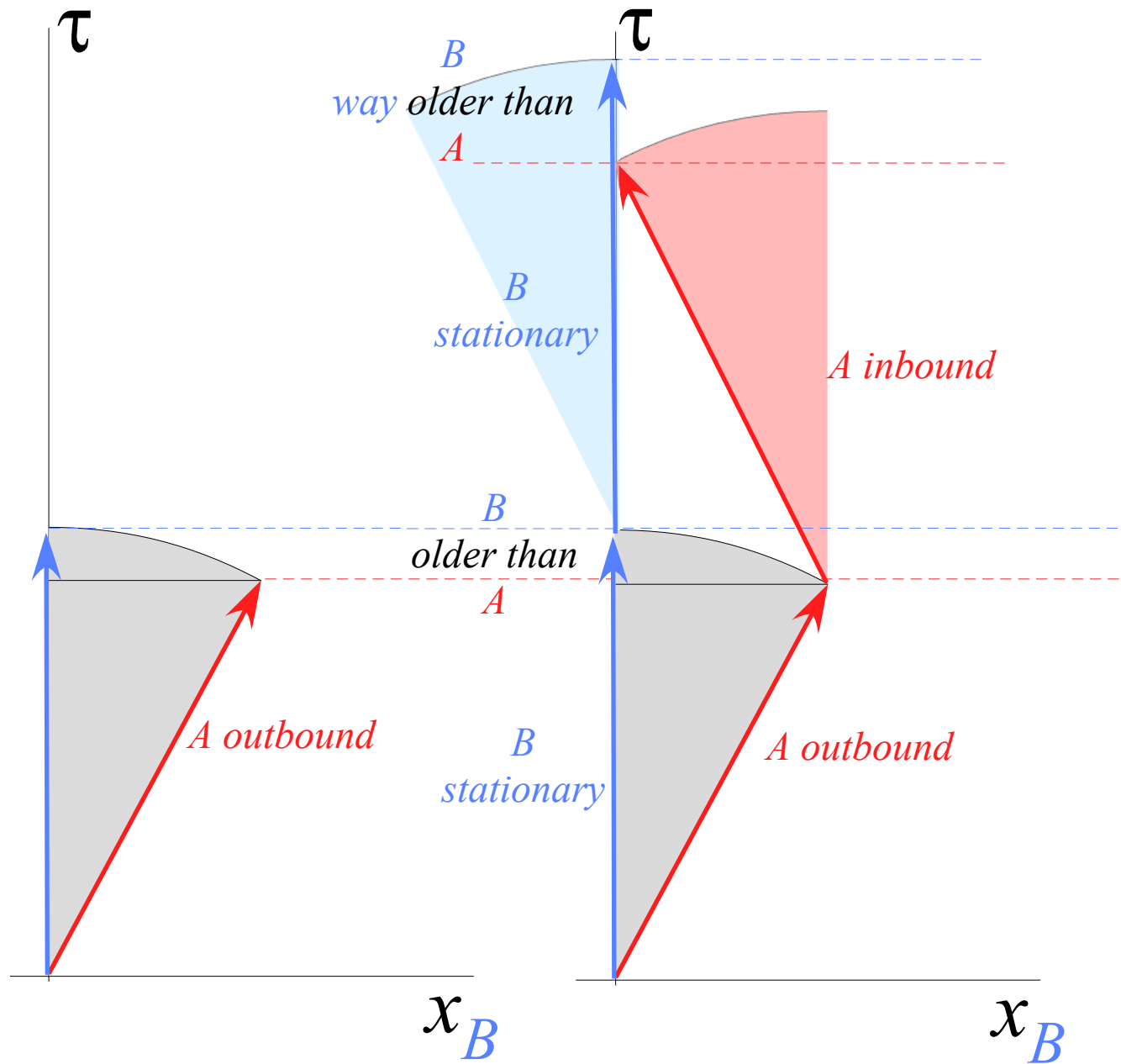
Length contraction-dilation revisited

A cute Epstein feature is that Lorentz-Fitzgerald contraction of a proper length L to $L' = L\sqrt{1-u^2/c^2}$ is simply rotational projection onto the x -axis of a length L rotated by σ .



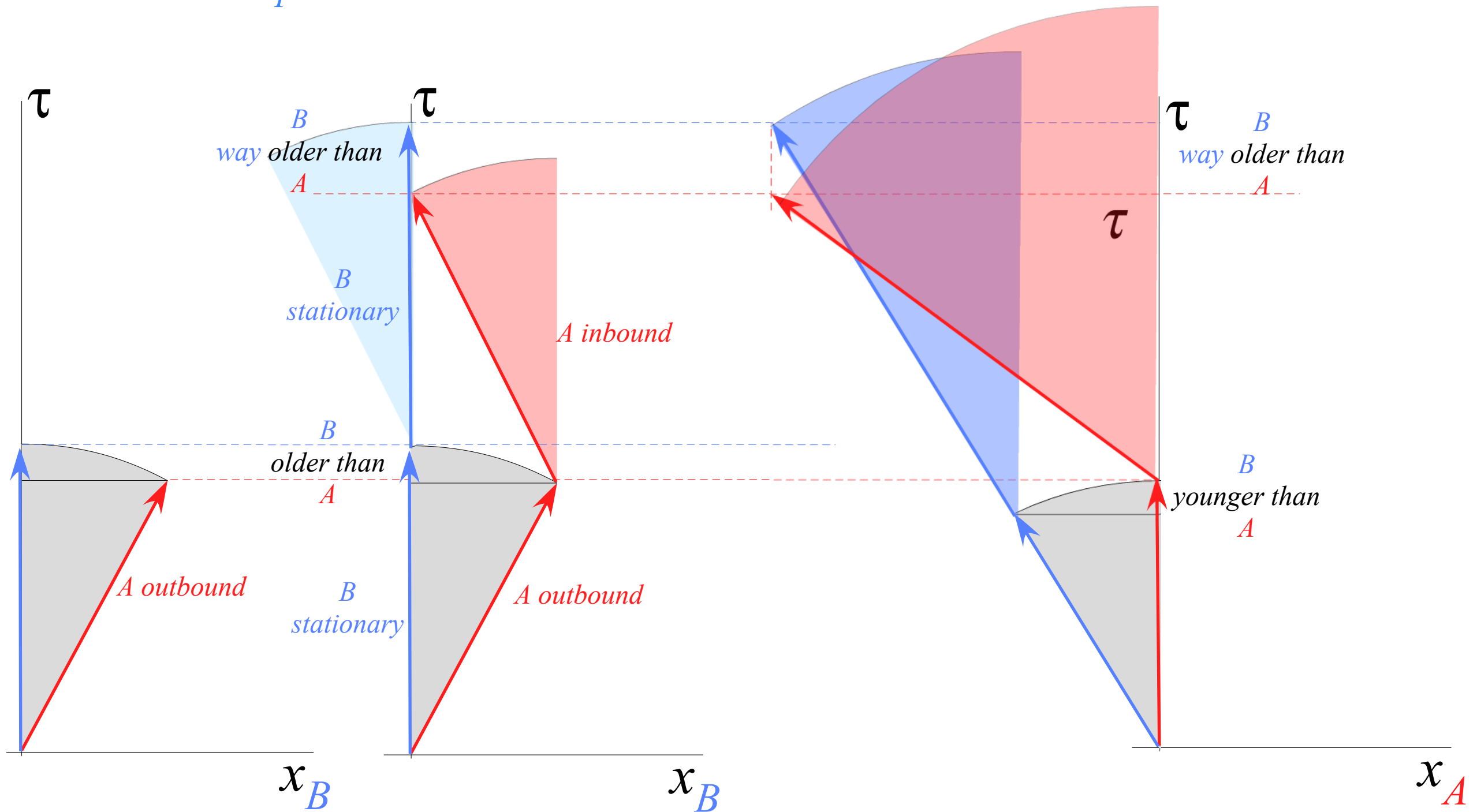
Epstein's space-proper-time ($x, c\tau$) plots ("c-tau" plots)

Twin-paradox revisited



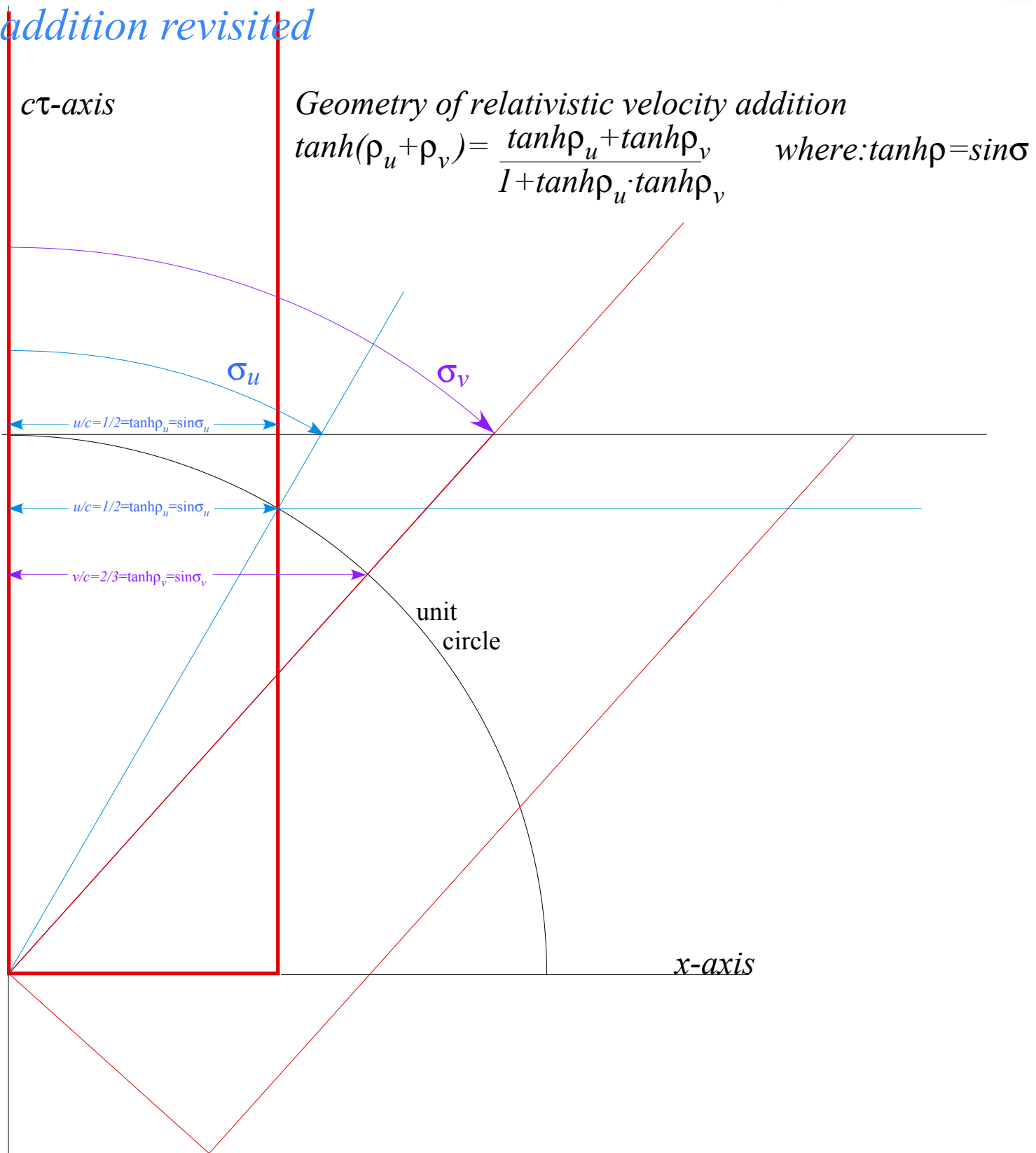
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Twin-paradox revisited



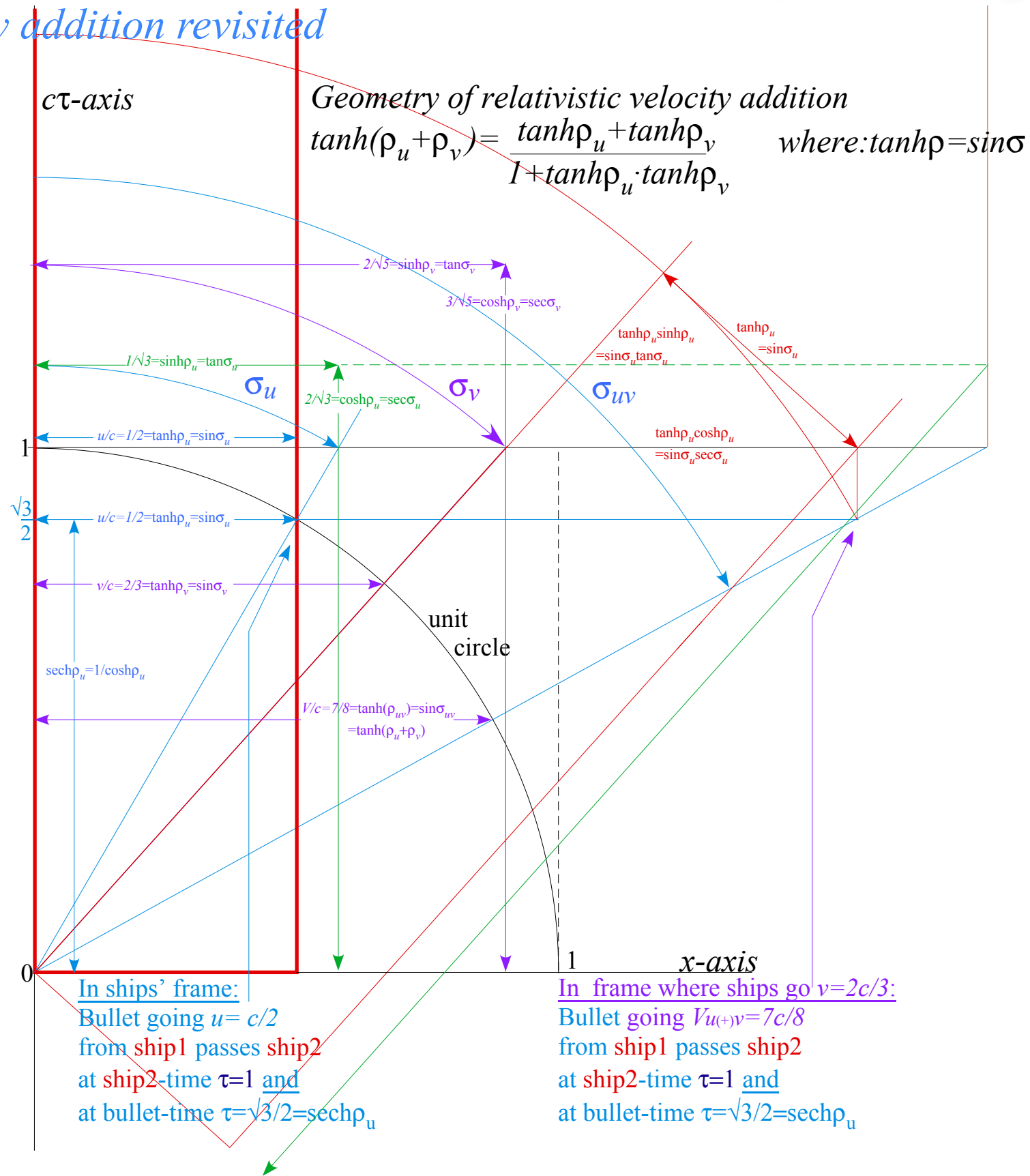
Epstein's space-proper-time ($x, c\tau$) plots ("c-tau" plots)

Velocity addition revisited

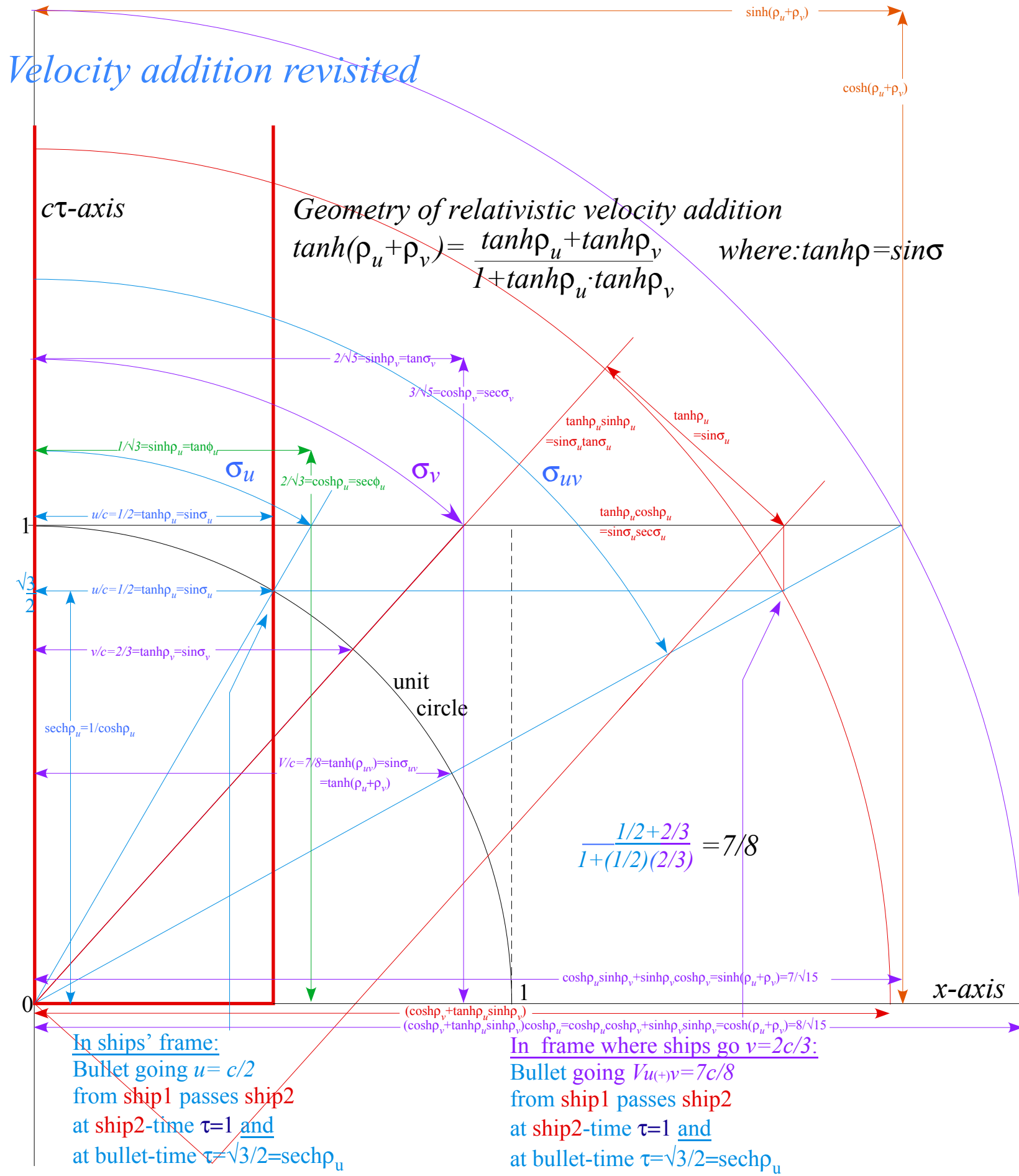


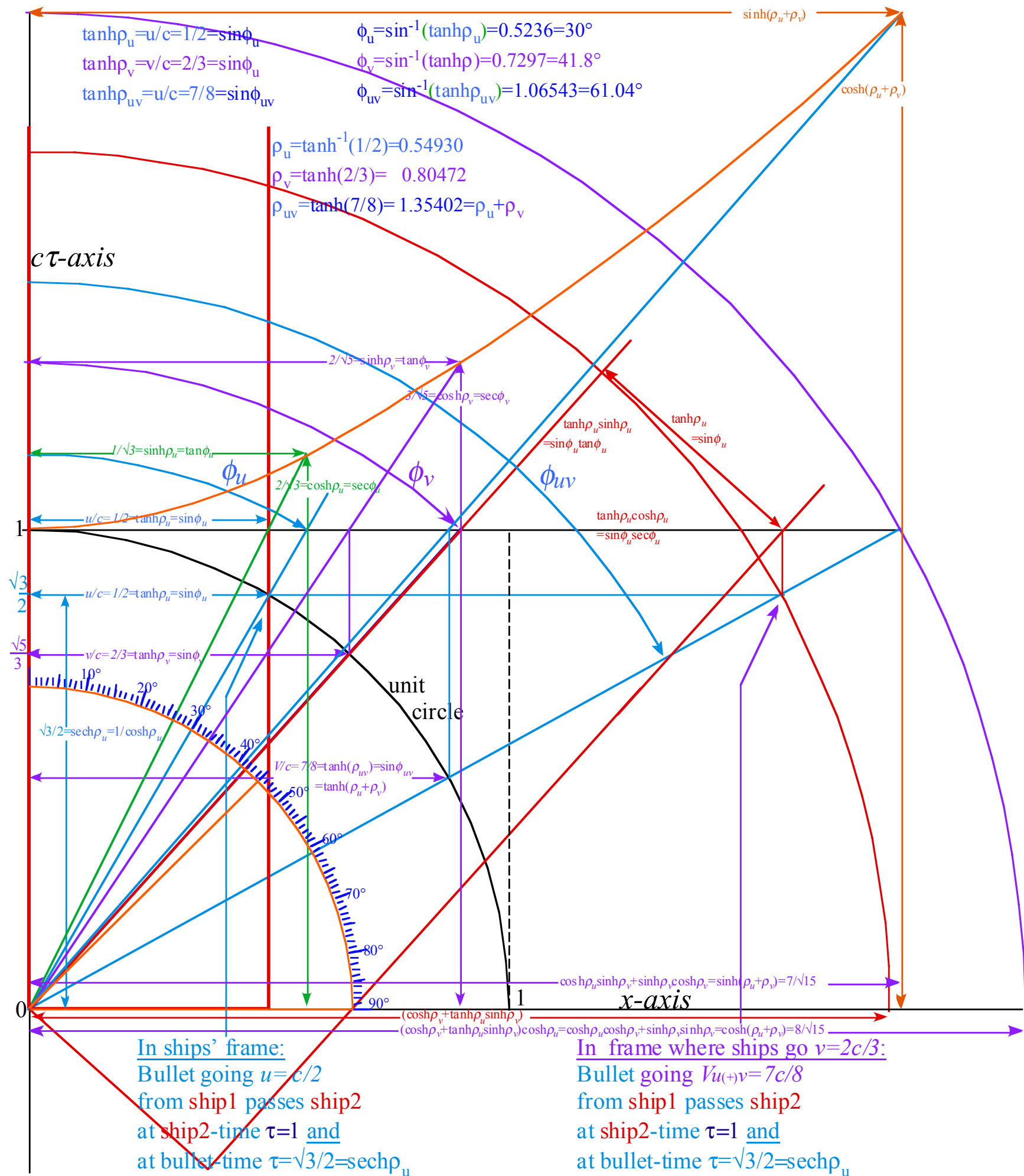
Epstein's space-proper-time ($x, c\tau$) plots ("c-tau" plots)

Velocity addition revisited



Velocity addition revisited





Lorentz symmetry effects

How it makes momentum and energy be conserved

A strength (and also, weakness) of CW axioms (1.1-2) is that they are *symmetry* principles

due to the Lorentz-Poincare isotropy of space-time (invariance to space-time translation $\mathbf{T}(\delta, \tau)$ in the vacuum).

Operator \mathbf{T} has plane wave eigenfunctions $\psi_{k,\omega} = Ae^{i(kx-\omega t)}$ with roots-of-unity eigenvalues $e^{i(k\cdot\delta-\omega\cdot\tau)}$.

$$\langle \psi_{k,\omega} | \mathbf{T}^\dagger = \langle \psi_{k,\omega} | e^{-i(k\cdot\delta-\omega\cdot\tau)} \quad (5.18a)$$

$$\mathbf{T} | \psi_{k,\omega} \rangle = e^{i(k\cdot\delta-\omega\cdot\tau)} | \psi_{k,\omega} \rangle \quad (5.18b)$$

This also applies to 2-part or “2-particle” product states $\Psi_{K,\Omega} = \psi_{k_1,\omega_1} \psi_{k_2,\omega_2}$ where exponents add (k,ω) -values of

each constituent to $K=k_1+k_2$ and $\Omega=\omega_1+\omega_2$, and $\mathbf{T}(\delta,\tau)$ -eigenvalues also have that form $e^{i(K\cdot\delta-\Omega\cdot\tau)}$.

Matrix $\langle \Psi'_{K',\Omega'} | \mathbf{U} | \Psi_{K,\Omega} \rangle$ of \mathbf{T} -symmetric evolution \mathbf{U} is zero unless $K' = k'_1 + k'_2 = K$ and $\Omega' = \omega'_1 + \omega'_2 = \Omega$.

$$\langle \Psi'_{K',\Omega'} | \mathbf{U} | \Psi_{K,\Omega} \rangle = \langle \Psi'_{K',\Omega'} | \mathbf{T}^\dagger(\delta,\tau) \mathbf{U} \mathbf{T}(\delta,\tau) | \Psi_{K,\Omega} \rangle \quad (\text{if } \mathbf{U}\mathbf{T} = \mathbf{T}\mathbf{U} \text{ for all } \delta \text{ and } \tau)$$

$$= e^{-i(K'\cdot\delta-\Omega'\cdot\tau)} e^{i(K\cdot\delta-\Omega\cdot\tau)} \langle \Psi'_{K',\Omega'} | \mathbf{U} | \Psi_{K,\Omega} \rangle = 0 \quad \text{unless: } K' = K \text{ and: } \Omega' = \Omega$$

That's momentum ($P=hK$) and energy ($E=hW$) conservation!