

## 1 Shooting a Box

Suppose the spaceship is approaching the Earth at  $3c/5$  and shoots a box at a speed of  $4c/5$  (from the spaceship's perspective).

- (a) At what velocity will an Earth-bound observer see the box if it is shot directly **towards** the Earth?
- (b) *Sensemaking: Reasonable Value*  
Briefly discuss why (or why not) your answer seem reasonable.

## 2 Zapping with d

Zap the following equations with “d”:

- (a)  $f = 3x^3 - e^{2x}$
- (b)  $g = \sin(y^2)$
- (c)  $5z^4 = \ln(p)$

## 3 Relativistic Explosion

A lump of clay with mass  $M$  explodes into two equal pieces  $m$  moving directly away from each other.

- (a) What is the speed of each of the pieces after the explosion?
- (b) *Sensemaking: Check a Special Case*  
Conceptually, what would you expect the speed of the lumps to be if  $m = \frac{M}{2}$ ? Show that your answer to part (a) works for this special case.
- (c) What is the relativistic kinetic energy of each of the pieces?

## 4 Moving Clocks Run Slow

Imagine that you have a light clock with a period  $T$  (1 “tick” takes time  $T$ ).

Another observer moves relative to you with velocity  $+V$

- (a) Draw a spacetime diagram of 1 tick of the your light clock.
- (b) What are the spacetime coordinates of the end of the “tick” of your light clock in:
  - (a) Your reference frame?
  - (b) The other observer's frame?
- (c) Now imagine that the other observer has an identical light clock. Draw a **new** spacetime diagram of 1 “tick” of the other observer's light clock.

- (d) What are the spacetime coordinates of the end of the “tick” of the other observer’s light clock in:
- (a) The other observer’s frame?
  - (b) Your reference frame?
- (e) *Sensemaking: Tell a Conceptual Story*  
Imagine that one of your classmates says, “Moving clocks run slow.” Do you agree? Explain your reasoning.

