



I'm not robot



**I am not robot!**

A related and useful quantity is the "space we rescale time and plot  $ct$  on the vertical instead. The vertical axis is usually plotted as the time axis. In PHYS, we often visualize motion in one dimension by plotting the  $x$  coordinate on the vertical axis and the  $t$  coordinate on the horizontal axis. We will use a simple graphing technique called a Minkowski spacetime diagram, or simply a "spacetime diagram," to illustrate and understand complex scenarios in special relativity. (Although the true definition of Minkowski space is complete on the vertical axis. We'll use the vertical axis to denote time, and the horizontal axis to denote space.)

A space-time diagram shows the history of objects moving through space (usually in just one dimension). A specific point on a space-time diagram is called an "event." To make a space-time diagram, take many snapshots of the objects over time and set them on top of each other. Draw a spacetime diagram in Ann's reference frame depicting the world lines of both Bob and Chu, and label the important spacetime events along these worldlines. A very useful intuitive tool for understanding Special Relativity is the space-time diagram. But things look much nicer if we rescale time and plot  $ct$  on the vertical instead. A very useful intuitive tool for understanding Special Relativity is the space-time diagram. A specific point on a space-time diagram is called an "event." To make a space-time diagram, take many snapshots of the objects over time and set them on top of each other. Draw a spacetime diagram in Ann's reference frame depicting the world lines of both Bob and Chu, and label the important spacetime events along these worldlines.

A very useful intuitive tool for Special Relativity. Any point in spacetime is called a world point, and a series of worldpoints representing the motion of some object is called a world line. The spacetime diagram is a tool to help us visualize Lorentz transformations and multiple events in different reference frames. One Reference Frame. Recall "proper time",  $dt^2 = dt^2 - (dx^2 + dy^2 + dz^2)/c^2$ . A related and useful quantity is the "space-time interval" (some texts call this the "line element");  $dS = c dt$ . The aspect ratio of  $\sim 3/1$  in the top two panels represents a spacetime diagram allows events to be plotted as points on the diagram, where each point's coordinates specify the values of position ( $x$ ) and time ( $t$ ) at which that event occurred. In the context of special relativity, space and time is called Minkowski space. A very useful intuitive tool for Special Relativity. Use the diagram to determine the time on Ann's clock in her spaceship (not at the lattice point in her reference frame) when she sees through her telescope that Chu has changed speed. Spacetime Diagrams We'll find it very useful to introduce a simple spacetime diagram to illustrate the physics of relativity. We look at the diagrams for two observers. Recall "proper time",  $dt^2 = dt^2 - (dx^2 + dy^2 + dz^2)/c^2$ .

One Reference Frame. In a fixed inertial frame,  $S$ , we draw one direction of space—say  $x$ —along the horizontal axis and time on the vertical axis. The first observer  $O$  is stationary in the frame of the diagrams, and a second observer  $O'$  moves with velocity  $v$ . A Minkowski spacetime diagram is a geometric representation of motions in spacetime. Consider a slice of space-time  $\Sigma$ . This diagram was originally developed by Hermann Minkowski in 1908 and is useful for objects that move at a substantial fraction of the speed of light.