

Re: Is Lorentz contraction objectively real?

Source: <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.physics.relativity/2004-09/3650.html>

From: Androcles (*androcles_at_nospamblueyonder.co.uk*)

Date: 09/13/04

Date: Mon, 13 Sep 2004 17:40:59 GMT

"Gregory L. Hansen" <glhansen@steel.ucs.indiana.edu> wrote in message
news:ci4k5k\$f81\$1@hood.uits.indiana.edu...

| In article

<Pine.LNX.4.44.0409131117310.31124-100000@erodium.hep.wisc.edu>,

| Creighton Hogg <wchogg@hep.wisc.edu> wrote:

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|>On Mon, 13 Sep 2004, Gregory L. Hansen wrote:

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|>> In article <4144ebfb@sys13.hou.wt.net>,

|>> Eugene Shubert <<http://www.everythingimportant.org>> wrote:

|>>

|>>> Lorentz contraction is coordinate dependent. It is subjective,

|>>> misleading and not objectively real.

|>>>

|>>> Frame dependent, not coordinate dependent.

|>>>

|>>> And it's just like velocity in Newtonian mechanics, which is also frame

|>>> dependent. That means velocity is subjective, misleading, and not

|>>> objectively real.

|>>>

|>>> Whatever shall we do?

|>>>

|>>> Get stinking drunk and try running into walls? If velocity is misleading

|>>> and not objectively real, then neither is kinetic energy.

|

| Except that the distance to an object like a wall is also frame dependent,

| which means it's also not objectively real! So it would be impossible to

| run into walls because you cannot traverse something that doesn't exist.

|

| Except I still have a scar on my forehead from running into the edge of a

| half-opened door. Eugene and I must be making a mistake somewhere in

| our reasoning.

Well, most of us would reason that running into the edge of doors is an unreasonable thing to do, so maybe you should take your suggestion and correct the mistake in your reasoning. Maybe you thought it had a

sci.physics.relativity: Re: Is Lorentz contraction objectively real?

user-serviceable part inside? Aside from the catch or lock, doors rarely do,
and the access is not usually obtained at the edge, but from the side :-)
Androcles.

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| "'No user-serviceable parts inside.' I'll be the judge of that!"