

# Re: The physical motions of photons in free space!

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*Source:* <http://sci.tech--archive.net/Archive/sci.physics.relativity/2005-11/msg01001.html>

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- *From:* [surrealistic-dream@xxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:surrealistic-dream@xxxxxxxxxxx)
  - *Date:* 16 Nov 2005 08:59:27 -0800
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harry wrote:

> surrealistic-dr...@xxxxxxxxxxx wrote:

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>> Commonsense has been shown to be a detriment to understanding physics

>> in the first place. There is extensive literature on this.

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> I don't need to read literature about other people's experience to know

> my own.

Common sense does not refer to the opinions of any one person. Common sense is the sense common to most people in a given population. There is no such thing as a personal common sense.

> I only really understand SRT since the time that I could make sense of it (which was about two or three years ago).

And I believe that your initial inability to "understand" or "make sense of" relativity was almost certainly SOLELY due to the atrociously bad way that relativity is taught in most popular or textbooks accounts of it. Adding to that stumbling stone to apprehension is the fact that Newtonian mechanics (assuming that you even studied it) is taught so badly in most cases. One never seems to learn in such a presentation what is even meant by a "law of physics" and a Galilean transformation of coordinates and what importance they have in the evolution of physical concepts. Lacking this foundational material to Einstein's relativity is a sure way to get hopelessly confused about relativity itself and what problems that research program was trying to solve. Einstein wasn't the only prominent relativist. Galileo and Mach were two others worth noting. The three of these physicists asked themselves this profound question: To what degree can the laws of physics be developed without the use of references to absolute spaces of either velocity or acceleration?

The physical concepts that are taught in textbooks never just came from nowhere or are introduced frivolously. They evolved slowly since the time of Galileo as a result of the need of particular creative physicists in their attempts to invent successful theories in terms of

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formal points of view they preferred themselves. This principle is true both for relativity and for quantum mechanics.

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• *Follow-Ups:*

- ◆ **Re: The physical motions of photons in free space!**  
◇ From: Black Knight

• *References:*

- ◆ **The physical motions of photons in free space!**  
◇ From: Gerald L. O'Barr
- ◆ **Re: The physical motions of photons in free space!**  
◇ From: Harry
- ◆ **Re: The physical motions of photons in free space!**  
◇ From: surrealistic-dream
- ◆ **Re: The physical motions of photons in free space!**  
◇ From: Harry
- ◆ **Re: The physical motions of photons in free space!**  
◇ From: surrealistic-dream
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◇ From: surrealistic-dream
- ◆ **Re: The physical motions of photons in free space!**  
◇ From: harry

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