

## 15-Velocity addition

$$\Delta x = \gamma(\Delta x' + \beta c \Delta t')$$

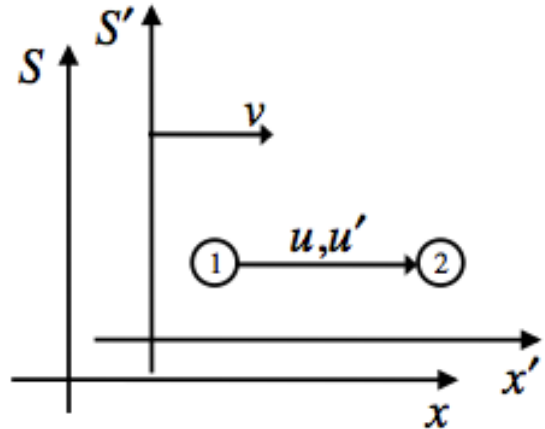
$$c \Delta t = \gamma(c \Delta t' + \beta \Delta x')$$

Frame  $S$  moves with a constant velocity  $v$  relative to frame  $S'$ . An object moves from Event 1 to Event 2 with constant speed along the  $x/x'$  direction.

In frame  $S$ , its velocity is  $u = \frac{\Delta x}{\Delta t}$ .

In frame  $S'$ , its velocity is  $u' = \frac{\Delta x'}{\Delta t'}$ .

Rewrite  $u$  in terms of the primed variables  $\Delta x'$  and  $\Delta t'$  using the Lorentz transformations at the top of the page.



Simplify this result to find a relationship between  $u$  and  $u'$ .  
(Notice that this is not a simple Lorentz transformation. Why not?)

Challenge questions: What is  $u$  if  $v < c$ , but  $u' = c$ ?