Facilitating Access to Knowledge - Implementing the WIPO Development Agenda

TransAtlantic Consumer Dialogue Conference
The Reform of WIPO
Geneva, September 17, 2007

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Electronic Frontier Foundation

Facilitating Access to Knowledge

- A2K requires:
  - Appropriate incentives for creation and distribution of knowledge;
  - Legal rules that facilitate access to knowledge goods;
  - Innovative information communication technologies to enable a2k.
- Challenges and Opportunities.

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Challenges - TPMs

- Overbroad legal protection for TPMs can restrict a2k by:
  - Overriding national CR exceptions & limitations;
  - Precluding access to PD & non-copyrightable information;
  - Impeding technological innovation, reducing availability of information technology & tools.

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Opportunities - TPMs

- To facilitate A2K:
  - Provide Member States with information about all WCT/ WPPT implementation options (and not just the most restrictive);
  - Revise "old" WIPO Model Law TPM provision
    - limit legal protection to scope of copyright
    - protect against anticompetitive misuse;
  - Make "new" WIPO Model Law available for analysis;
  - Produce new implementation guidelines in collaboration with NGOs and academics.

A2K requires Information & Communication Technologies

- Internet search engines (e.g. Google, Live MSN)

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Special relativity

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

For a less technical and generally accessible introduction to the topic, see Introduction to special relativity.

The **special theory of relativity** was proposed in 1905 by Albert Einstein in his article "On the Electrodynamics of Moving Bodies". Some three centuries earlier, Galileo's principle of relativity had stated that all uniform motion was relative, and that there was no absolute and well-defined state of rest; a person on the deck of a ship may be at rest in his opinion, but someone observing from the shore would say that he was moving. Einstein's theory generalized Galilean relativity from only mechanics to all laws of physics including electrodynamics. To stress this point, Einstein not only widened the postulate of relativity, but added the second postulate - that all observers will always measure the speed of light to be the same no matter what their state of uniform linear motion is.[1]

This theory has a variety of surprising consequences that seem to violate common sense, but all have been experimentally verified. Special relativity overthrows Newtonian notions of absolute space and time by stating that distance and time depend on the observer, and that time and space are perceived differently, depending on the observer. It yields the equivalence of matter and energy, as expressed in the mass-energy equivalence formula $E = mc^2$, where c is the speed of light in a vacuum. Special relativity agrees with Newtonian mechanics in their common realm of applicability, in experiments in which all velocities are small compared to the speed of light.

The theory was called "special" because it applies the principle of relativity only to inertial frames. Einstein developed general relativity to apply the principle generally, that is, to any frame, and that theory includes the effects of gravity. Special relativity does not account for gravity, but it can deal with accelerations.

Although special relativity makes some quantities relative, such as time, that we would have imagined to be absolute based on everyday experience, it also makes absolute some others that we would have thought were relative. In particular, it states that the speed of light is the same for all observers, even if they are in motion relative to one another. Special relativity reveals that c is not just the velocity of a certain phenomenon - light - but rather a fundamental feature of the way space and time are tied together. In particular, special relativity states that it is impossible for any material object to accelerate to light speed.

For history and motivation, see the article: **history of special relativity**

Contents [hide]

A2K requires Information & Communication Technologies

- Internet search engines (e.g. Google, Live MSN)
- Free & reliable hosting platform for user-generated content.
  - University lecture courses on YouTube
  - University lecture courses as downloadable podcasts
- Mobile content delivery, off Internet.
- Decentralized P2P Networks - BitTorrent

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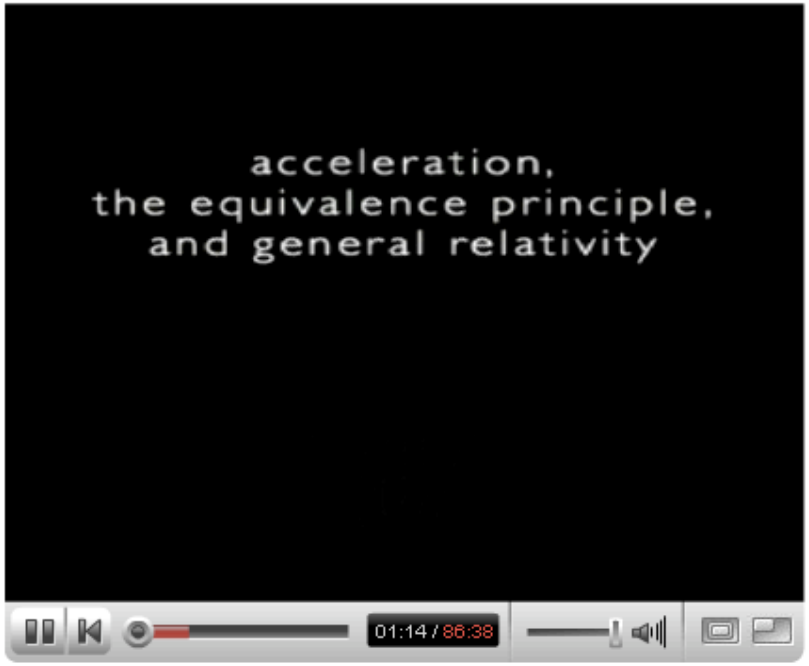

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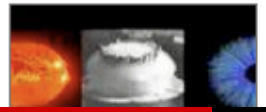

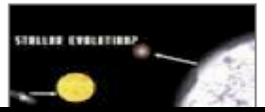

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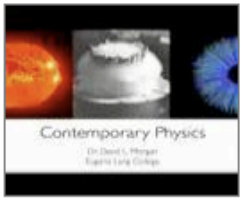

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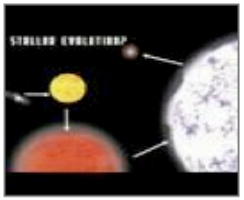

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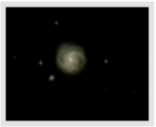

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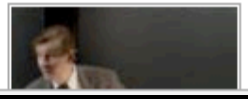

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Challenges - Providing environment conducive to tech innovation

- Copyright can hinder or facilitate creation and sharing of ICTs
  - Secondary Liability
    - No international harmonization
    - Rules that leave room for tech capable of non-infringing use (Sony Betamax)
    - Safe harbors/ liability limitation
  - Direct Liability - temporary reproduction

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Opportunities - Providing environment conducive to tech innovation

- WIPO could facilitate a2k technology:
  - Do nothing on 2ndy liability;
  - Amend WIPO Model Law temp. reproduction to minimize liability;
  - Best practices on robust safe harbors;
  - Exceptions for search engines, ICTs.
  - Min. exceptions libraries, education, disabled.

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