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SUPERLUMINAL EFFECTS AND TACHYON THEORY

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I. INTRODUCTION: EXTENDED RELATIVITY

The possible existence of faster-than-light objects has a long history, which, since the early 1900s, can be traced back in pre-relativistic times) to J. J. Thomson and A. Sommerfeld (see the excellent review in Ref. 1 by Recami for a full historical account). After the advent of special relativity in 1905, light speed (the speed of light) in vacuum was considered as the maximal causal speed, as an upper limit for any velocity. Such a common belief lasted for about half a century, when the problem of faster-than-light particles was reconsidered

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