

# The Medium Underlying Lorentz Symmetry: What Einstein Removed

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## Abstract

We show that the full mathematical structure of Einsteinian relativity emerges naturally from the dynamics of a frictionless scalar-pressure medium. Within Quarkbase Cosmology, the  $\Psi$ -field—representing the quarkic ether—possesses a finite re-organisation speed  $c_\Psi$  that generates Lorentz symmetry without requiring postulated invariants, intrinsic mass, or geometric axioms. The universal constant  $c$  is recovered as the luminal resonant mode of this medium, determined by its elastic-inertial properties and by the microgeometry of quarkbase displacement. Time dilation, length contraction, relativistic energy relations, and gravitational weak-field behaviour follow directly from delayed pressure recovery. Einstein's formalism is retained intact; what changes is its ontological basis. Relativity appears not as a fundamental structure imposed on spacetime, but as the emergent macroscopic behaviour of a coherent pressure continuum.

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# 1 Relativity, Ether, and the Status of $(c)$

For more than a century, Einstein’s programme has been interpreted as the definitive dismissal of the ether. In this reading, the invariance of the speed of light becomes a fundamental postulate, and spacetime is treated as a purely geometric entity devoid of physical substrate. This perspective has anchored a rigid intuition within the physics community:

- if relativity is correct, an ether is unnecessary;
- if an ether exists, it must contradict Lorentz invariance.

Quarkbase Cosmology shows that this dichotomy is artificial. The Lorentz structure underlying special and general relativity can be recovered from the dynamics of a frictionless pressure medium, without invoking intrinsic “mass”, without modifying geometry, and without assuming spacetime symmetries. The ether is not a mechanical gas but a quarkic plasma described by a scalar pressure field  $\Psi(x, t)$ . Its response to displaced volume gives rise to inertia, relativistic kinematics, and gravitational behaviour.

Under this formulation, the universal constant  $c$  no longer plays the role of a primitive axiom. Instead, it emerges as the unique luminal resonant mode of the  $\Psi$ -field: the only dispersionless, self-coherent pattern that can propagate through the medium without leaving a wake. Time dilation, length contraction, and the divergence of energetic cost as  $v \rightarrow c_\Psi$  are hydrodynamic consequences of finite pressure-recovery speed, not geometric assumptions.

This reinterpretation casts Einstein’s original move in a new light. Since Lorentz symmetry can be obtained either with or without an explicit medium, Einstein chose to eliminate the medium and retain the symmetry. In doing so, the constancy of the light speed becomes a postulate: without a physical continuum constraining propagation, invariance must be declared by fiat.

In the quarkic-ether picture, the logical order is reversed. A frictionless pressure medium with basal pressure  $P_0$  and inertial density  $\rho_{\Psi,0}$  necessarily implies a propagation speed

$$c_\Psi^2 = \frac{P_0}{\rho_{\Psi,0}},$$

and the luminal resonant mode of this medium defines the causal structure that relativity describes. The Minkowski metric is not a primitive assumption; it is the effective metric of the ether when operating at its luminal limit.

This article develops this inversion. Specifically:

1. Relativistic kinematics arise from delayed pressure restoration in the ether.
2. The constant  $c$  is derived from the microgeometry of displaced volume, especially the 12-quarkbase electron.
3. The gravitational constant  $G$  reflects the response of the ether’s propagation index  $n_\Psi(x)$  to gradients of displaced volume.

Einstein’s relativity is thus recovered in full mathematical detail, but its ontological interpretation is reversed: **geometry becomes the emergent behaviour of a perfectly coherent pressure medium.**

## 2 Why Relativity Remains Valid in the Presence of an Ether

A widespread misconception inherited from early 20th-century debates is that the existence of an ether would necessarily violate Lorentz invariance. This belief arose from mechanical ether models—rigid, viscous, or shear-supporting continua—that predicted detectable anisotropies of light speed and velocity-dependent drag. Michelson–Morley–type null results were interpreted as evidence against any medium whatsoever.

Quarkbase Cosmology resolves this conflict not by eliminating the ether, but by defining its properties axiomatically. The quarkic ether is:

- **frictionless** ( $\mu = 0$ ), so objects do not experience drag;
- **perfectly coherent**, so disturbances propagate without dispersion except at the luminal mode;
- **incapable of supporting shear**, ruling out rigid-body or quasi-solid interpretations;
- **responsive only through scalar pressure variations** encoded in  $\Psi(x, t)$ .

A medium with these properties cannot reveal its rest frame. No closed experiment—optical, mechanical, electronic or interferometric—can detect uniform motion relative to it. Its dynamical behaviour is observationally indistinguishable from Minkowski spacetime.

This is the core shift: relativity does not forbid a medium; it forbids the *wrong kind* of medium. A shearless, frictionless scalar-pressure continuum is fully compatible with every empirical constraint of Special Relativity.

The key point is ontological rather than mathematical. In conventional relativity, Lorentz symmetry is an axiom of spacetime structure. In Quarkbase Cosmology, Lorentz symmetry is a **material consequence** of the finite reorganisation speed of the medium. The invariance of  $c$  arises because no deformation of  $\Psi$  can relax faster than the basal propagation speed  $c_\Psi$ . Thus, the Lorentz group is enforced not by geometry but by the underlying physics of the medium.

In this sense, Quarkbase Cosmology does not alter relativity: **it derives relativity**.

### 2.1 The Propagation Speed $c_\Psi$ as a Derived Quantity

Einstein introduced the speed of light as a universal constant whose invariance must be postulated. In the quarkic-ether framework, the constant arises mechanistically.

Longitudinal pressure disturbances in the medium satisfy a wave equation whose characteristic speed is

$$c_\Psi^2 = \frac{P_0}{\rho_{\Psi,0}},$$

where

- $P_0$  is the basal pressure of the ether,
- $\rho_{\Psi,0}$  is its effective inertial density.

This relation is not assumed; it is the natural propagation law of a scalar, frictionless continuum.

Crucially, the microgeometry of the electron—the 12-quarkbase icosahedral shell—defines the minimal scale at which the ether must reorganise pressure in a stationary configuration. The stiffness and effective compressibility imposed by this geometry fix the physical value of  $c_\Psi$ .

Thus the universality of  $c$  arises because the medium itself is universal; its microstructural properties are the same everywhere in the cosmos.

In Quarkbase Cosmology:

- $c$  is not metaphysical;
- $c$  is not geometric;
- $c$  is **material**, derived from the structure of the ether.

## 2.2 Relativistic Effects as Delayed Ether Recovery

When a quarkbase—or any composite structure made of quarkbases—moves through the medium, it displaces ether and generates a pressure gradient. Because recovery is finite rather than instantaneous, the deformation becomes asymmetric:

- compressed region ahead of the motion;
- rarefied region behind;
- lateral lag in the transverse recovery.

Every relativistic effect follows directly.

**Time dilation.** Local oscillatory processes slow because the forward region is more compressed and the rear region more relaxed. This modifies the phase-velocity of internal  $\Psi$ -modes.

**Length contraction.** The ether cannot reclose lateral displaced volume at the full speed of motion. Thus stationary pressure surfaces contract in the direction of travel.

**Velocity-addition law.** No combination of deformations can exceed  $c_\Psi$ , because the medium cannot reorganise faster than this basal limit.

**Divergence of required energy as  $v \rightarrow c_\Psi$ .** As speed increases, displaced-volume recovery becomes increasingly asymmetric. Near  $c_\Psi$ , the pressure front becomes singular and recovery is effectively impossible.

These effects reproduce every prediction of Einstein's relativity **without invoking geometry**. Their forms are identical because Lorentz symmetry is the natural symmetry of a frictionless pressure continuum.

## 2.3 Why Einstein Eliminated the Ether

Historically, Einstein did not reject the ether on empirical grounds but on methodological ones. He faced two logical possibilities:

1. Assume a medium with very special properties, and derive Lorentz symmetry.
2. Postulate Lorentz symmetry directly, and eliminate the medium as superfluous.

He chose (2). By doing so, he avoided the need to explain the physical origin of  $c$  and inertia, and he gained a theory defined entirely by symmetry principles. But this choice forces the value of  $c$  to become an axiom.

In Quarkbase Cosmology, the decision is reversed. The medium is real; the symmetry is emergent. Einstein's mathematics remains fully correct, but its ontological foundation is changed from geometric postulate to physical mechanism.

## 2.4 Structural Consequence

Einstein's relativity is not contradicted. It is **completed**.

Geometry becomes the macroscopic description of the pressure medium. The Lorentz group becomes the emergent symmetry of a frictionless ether. The constant  $c$  becomes a material property rather than an assumed invariant.

This closes the conceptual loop left open in the Einsteinian programme: **why should nature be Lorentz-invariant at all?** Quarkbase Cosmology provides the answer: because the ether's reorganisation dynamics enforce it.

# 3 Formal Equivalence Between Einsteinian Relativity and Ether-Pressure Relativity

The two uploaded manuscripts—*Why c Exists* and *And Ether Said: Let There Be Relativity*—already contain every element needed to establish the full equivalence between Special Relativity and the quarkic-ether formulation. The key insight is simple:

**All Einsteinian kinematics reappear unchanged when the constant  $c$  is replaced by the etheric propagation speed  $c_\Psi$ .**

The mathematical structure of relativity is preserved exactly; what changes is the physical meaning of the symbols involved.

### 3.1 Lorentz factor

#### 3.1.1 Einstein

$$\gamma = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - v^2/c^2}}.$$

### 3.1.2 Quarkbase / Ether

$$\gamma_\Psi = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - v^2/c_\Psi^2}}.$$

The form is identical. The interpretation is not:

- In Einstein's view,  $c$  is an axiom of spacetime geometry.
- In Quarkbase Cosmology,  $c_\Psi$  is the maximal reorganisation speed of the pressure medium.

This identity already appears explicitly in both manuscripts.

## 3.2 Limiting velocity

### 3.2.1 Einstein

The speed of light  $c$  is postulated invariant and unattainable by massive bodies.

### 3.2.2 Quarkbase

The limit appears because the ether **cannot close displaced volume** faster than  $c_\Psi$ . As  $v \rightarrow c_\Psi$ , the frontal compression becomes singular.

Thus:

$$c \equiv c_\Psi$$

but derived—never assumed.

## 3.3 Energy of motion

### 3.3.1 Einstein

$$E = \gamma mc^2.$$

### 3.3.2 Quarkbase

$$E = \gamma_\Psi P_0 V_q c_\Psi^2.$$

Mapping:

- Einstein's  $mc^2$  term is the “rest energy” or “mass-energy”.
- In the quarkic ether, the analogue is  $P_0 V_q c_\Psi^2$ : the **baseline compression energy associated with the displaced-volume pocket**.

Thus:

$$mc^2 \longrightarrow P_0 V_q c_\Psi^2.$$

This substitution reproduces **every relativistic energy expression** without ever invoking mass.

## 3.4 Rest energy

### 3.4.1 Einstein

$$E_0 = mc^2.$$

### 3.4.2 Quarkbase

$$E_0 = P_0 V_q c_\Psi^2.$$

Or, at the electron scale,

$$E_e = P_0 V_{\text{disp}}.$$

Rest energy is simply **etheric compression energy**.

## 3.5 Energy–momentum relation

### 3.5.1 Einstein

$$E^2 = p^2 c^2 + m^2 c^4.$$

### 3.5.2 Quarkbase

$$E^2 = p^2 c_\Psi^2 + (P_0 V_q)^2 c_\Psi^4.$$

Identical in structure. The mass term is replaced by the topological compression term.

## 3.6 Proper time

### 3.6.1 Einstein

$$d\tau = \frac{dt}{\gamma}.$$

### 3.6.2 Quarkbase

$$d\tau = \frac{dt}{\gamma_\Psi}.$$

The mathematics is the same. But the reason for dilation differs:

- Einstein: geometry;
- Quarkbase: **pressure recovery lag**.

## 3.7 Length contraction

### 3.7.1 Einstein

$$L_{\parallel} = \frac{L_0}{\gamma}.$$

### 3.7.2 Quarkbase

$$L_{\parallel} = \frac{L_0}{\gamma_{\Psi}}.$$

Again identical form, different origin.

## 3.8 Velocity-addition law

### 3.8.1 Einstein

$$u \oplus v = \frac{u + v}{1 + uv/c^2}.$$

### 3.8.2 Quarkbase

$$u \oplus_{\Psi} v = \frac{u + v}{1 + uv/c_{\Psi}^2}.$$

The law emerges from the **composition of pressure deformations**, not from space-time geometry.

## 3.9 Gravity: curvature vs. pressure-index gradient

Einstein (weak-field limit):

$$\nabla^2 \Phi_N = 4\pi G \rho.$$

Quarkbase:

$$(\nabla^2 - \lambda^{-2}) \Phi_{\Psi} = -\kappa \rho_{\text{src}}.$$

Mapping (from the manuscripts):

$$\Phi_N = c^2 \xi \Phi_{\Psi}, \quad G = \frac{\xi \kappa}{4\pi} \frac{c^4}{P_0}.$$

Gravity corresponds to variations of the local propagation index:

$$n_{\Psi}(x) = \frac{c_{\Psi}^{(\infty)}}{c_{\Psi}(x)}.$$

The full Einsteinian limit is reproduced by a scalar pressure gradient.

## 4 Master Correspondence Table

| Concept            | Einstein Relativity       | Ether-Pressure Relativity                   |
|--------------------|---------------------------|---|
| Limiting speed     | $c$                       | $c_\Psi$                                    |
| Relativity factor  | $\gamma$                  | $\gamma_\Psi$                               |
| Rest energy        | $mc^2$                    | $P_0 V_q c_\Psi^2$                          |
| Energy in motion   | $\gamma mc^2$             | $\gamma_\Psi P_0 V_q c_\Psi^2$              |
| Energy-momentum    | $E^2 = p^2 c^2 + m^2 c^4$ | $E^2 = p^2 c_\Psi^2 + (P_0 V_q)^2 c_\Psi^4$ |
| Proper time        | $dt/\gamma$               | $dt/\gamma_\Psi$                            |
| Length contraction | $L_0/\gamma$              | $L_0/\gamma_\Psi$                           |
| Gravity            | metric curvature          | index gradient $n_\Psi(x)$                  |
| Radiation          | Maxwell EM                | $\Psi$ -luminal mode                        |
| Inertia            | mass property             | delayed closure of ether                    |

## 5 Ontological Inversion: What Relativity Becomes in a Physical Medium

The equivalence established in the previous section is formal: all the kinematic equations of Special Relativity reappear exactly when the constant  $c$  is replaced by the pressure-propagation speed  $c_\Psi$ . But this equivalence carries a deeper conceptual consequence.

In Einstein's framework:

- spacetime is the primitive entity;
- geometry dictates physics;
- Lorentz symmetry is an axiom;
- $c$  has no origin beyond the postulate that light speed is invariant.

In the quarkic-ether framework:

- the medium is the primitive entity;
- physics dictates geometry;
- Lorentz symmetry is emergent;
- $c_\Psi$  has a physical origin in the elastic-inertial structure of the ether.

This is a **complete inversion of ontology**.

Einstein built a theory in which the world behaves as if a physical medium existed but declared the medium unnecessary. Quarkbase Cosmology builds a theory in which the medium exists and shows why the world behaves relativistically.

The mathematics coincide; the meaning does not.

## 6 Predictions Beyond Einstein — What the Ether Adds

Because the ether is a real medium with definable properties, it introduces predictions and constraints that the Einsteinian programme cannot address.

### 6.1 The physical origin of $c$

In Einstein's relativity,  $c$  is a primitive constant of nature. In the quarkic ether,  $c_\Psi$  is derived from:

- basal pressure  $P_0$ ,
- inertial density  $\rho_{\Psi,0}$ ,
- topology of displaced volume,
- geometry of the 12-quarkbase electron.

Thus the theory predicts:

1.  $c$  is not metaphysically fundamental.
2. Its value is determined by the microstructure of matter.
3. Variations in ether properties would change the local effective “speed of light”.

This alone lies outside the Einsteinian formalism.

### 6.2 A physical origin of inertia

In relativity, inertial resistance is not explained; it is a postulate encoded in the rest mass  $m$ . In the quarkic ether:

**inertia = failure of ether to instantaneously restore displaced volume.**

The dynamic model predicts:

- the inertial term  $mc^2$  is replaced by the compression term  $P_0 V_q c_\Psi^2$ ;
- inertia increases when the pressure configuration becomes harder to reclose.

Thus, inertia becomes a **mechanical property of the medium**, not a primitive trait.

### 6.3 A direct physical mechanism for time dilation

Einstein's theory offers no mechanism; it offers a postulate: time dilates because the geometry of spacetime demands it.

Quarkbase Cosmology offers a mechanism:

- time dilation = phase retardation of internal  $\Psi$ -field vibrations,
- caused by pressure gradients in front of a moving structure.

Thus:

- every oscillatory process slows for a concrete physical reason;
- the magnitude of slowing matches Einstein's formula.

This is explanatory, not axiomatic.

### 6.4 Gravity as pressure-index gradient

General relativity interprets gravity as curvature of a geometric manifold. Quarkbase Cosmology interprets gravity as:

$$n_\Psi(x) = \frac{c_\Psi^{(\infty)}}{c_\Psi(x)}.$$

This yields identical predictions in the weak field while supplying a physical substrate that GR lacks.

In effect:

- curvature = macroscopic description,
- pressure-index gradient = microscopic cause.

## 7 Experimental Indistinguishability — Why We Cannot Measure Motion Relative to the Ether

The medium has the properties:

- frictionless,
- shearless,
- isotropic in pressure response,
- perfectly coherent.

In such a medium:

- moving bodies do not produce wakes,

- waves propagate without drag,
- closed experiments cannot detect uniform motion relative to the medium.

Thus:

- Michelson–Morley = null result → predicted,
- Kennedy–Thorndike = null result → predicted,
- modern interferometry = null → predicted,
- time dilation = predicted,
- particle accelerators = predicted,
- relativistic Doppler = predicted.

Everything Einstein demanded is enforced by the physical structure of the medium. The medium is **undetectable at uniform motion** precisely because its symmetry group is the Lorentz group.

## 8 Implications for Gravity and $G$

In Einstein's general relativity:

- $G$  is fundamental;
- curvature has no material explanation.

In the quarkic-ether formulation:

- $G$  is not fundamental;
- it arises from the stiffness and compressibility of the medium.

Specifically, mapping:

$$G = \frac{\xi \kappa}{4\pi} \frac{c^4}{P_0}$$

shows that:

- $G$  depends on basal pressure  $P_0$ ,
- and on how easily  $\Psi$ -field gradients propagate.

Thus, variations in ether properties imply:

- $G$  could vary in environments of extreme pressure or density;
- relativistic cosmology becomes a problem in continuum mechanics.

This is conceptually impossible within Einstein's geometric framework.

## 9 Implications for Cosmology

Once gravity is reinterpreted as a pressure-index gradient, several consequences follow immediately:

- large-scale structures arise from pressure equilibria, not metric curvature;
- redshift = variation of the etheric index over time (not metric expansion);
- dark matter is unnecessary because galaxy rotation curves follow from finite-range Yukawa-like pressure response of the medium;
- dark energy emerges from negative-pressure domains in the  $\Psi$ -field.

This restores cosmology to a physical description rather than a purely geometric one.

## 10 Implications for Quantum Theory

The etheric pressure medium provides:

- a physical substrate for wave-particle duality,
- a mechanism for coherence,
- an explanation of entanglement as a single extended  $\Psi$ -configuration,
- a unification of electromagnetic, gravitational, and “quantum” behaviours in a single scalar field.

Thus, the “quantum formalism” becomes a statistical description of the vibrational configurations of the medium.

## 11 What Einstein Built — and What Was Missing

The formal equivalence established in previous sections allows a definitive assessment of Einstein’s programme.

Einstein built a theory whose mathematical structure captures every observable aspect of motion, time dilation, Lorentz symmetry, and gravitation. This achievement stands unchanged. Nothing in the quarkic-ether formulation contradicts Einstein’s equations.

What was missing is not correctness but **mechanism**.

Einstein’s postulates—constancy of  $c$ , Lorentz symmetry, inertial mass, geometric curvature—describe with remarkable accuracy what the world does. But they do not explain **why** nature behaves this way.

In the Einsteinian framework:

- inertia is unexplained,
- the value of  $c$  is unexplained,

- time dilation is unexplained beyond geometry,
- mass-energy equivalence is unexplained,
- gravity is geometric rather than physical.

By elevating Lorentz invariance to a primitive axiom, Einstein removed the need to justify the underlying material structure. This choice made relativity conceptually elegant but ontologically incomplete.

Quarkbase Cosmology fills the missing layer. It shows that:

- the value of  $c$  arises from the elastic-inertial properties of a real medium;
- inertia arises from delayed pressure closure;
- time dilation is a dynamical phase-lag;
- mass-energy equivalence is compression energy;
- gravity is a gradient of propagation index;
- Lorentz invariance is the natural symmetry of a frictionless scalar medium.

Einstein described the structure of observed phenomena. Quarkbase Cosmology provides the physical substrate that generates that structure.

The two theories are not competitors. One is the emergent description of the other.

## 12 Relativity Completed, Not Replaced

The conclusion of the quarkic-ether programme is not a rejection of relativity. It is a completion.

Relativity appears not as an axiomatic rewriting of spacetime but as a limit theory of a deeper continuum-dynamical system. Every relativistic equation—kinematic or gravitational—is retained. The mathematical content of Einstein’s work remains untouched.

What changes is the ontological foundation:

- spacetime geometry becomes the macroscopic phenomenology of the medium;
- Lorentz symmetry becomes the signature of finite reorganisation speed;
- curvature becomes the macroscopic limit of pressure-index gradients;
- rest energy becomes stored compression;
- inertial mass becomes emergent, not fundamental.

The quarkic ether does not break relativity. It **generates** relativity.

This identifies the role of relativity within physics: a powerful and exact emergent approximation of an underlying scalar-pressure medium whose dynamics unify inertia, motion, gravitation, and radiation.

Nothing in relativity is lost. Everything in relativity receives a physical origin.

## A Appendix — Derivation of the Lorentz Factor $\gamma_\Psi$ from Pressure-Recovery Lag

The quarkic ether is defined as a frictionless scalar continuum where any moving quarkbase displaces a finite volume of ether. Because recovery is not instantaneous, the displacement is asymmetric:

- the forward region becomes over-compressed;
- the rear region becomes under-compressed;
- lateral recovery lags due to finite propagation speed  $c_\Psi$ .

The oscillatory dynamics internal to any quarkbase-based structure (electron or composite) depend on the local pressure of the surrounding medium. Thus the **phase velocity** of these internal  $\Psi$ -modes is modulated by the asymmetric pressure distribution.

Let:

- $P_0$  be the basal ether pressure at rest,
- $P_f$  the forward pressure at velocity  $v$ ,
- $P_r$  the rear pressure at velocity  $v$ .

The internal oscillation frequency  $\omega$  is proportional to the local effective stiffness of the ether. To leading order:

$$\omega(v) \propto \sqrt{P_{\text{eff}}(v)}.$$

But finite recovery implies:

$$P_{\text{eff}}(v) = P_0 \left(1 - \frac{v^2}{c_\Psi^2}\right).$$

This follows from the fact that transverse pressure recovery must satisfy the same dynamical equation as longitudinal propagation, yielding an effective stiffness reduced by  $1 - v^2/c_\Psi^2$ .

Therefore:

$$\frac{\omega(v)}{\omega_0} = \sqrt{1 - \frac{v^2}{c_\Psi^2}}.$$

Proper time is defined by internal oscillatory phase evolution, so:

$$\frac{d\tau}{dt} = \frac{\omega(v)}{\omega_0} = \sqrt{1 - \frac{v^2}{c_\Psi^2}}.$$

Thus:

$$d\tau = dt \sqrt{1 - \frac{v^2}{c_\Psi^2}}.$$

Inverting:

$$\frac{dt}{d\tau} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - v^2/c_\Psi^2}} \equiv \gamma_\Psi.$$

This derivation reproduces the Lorentz factor **exactly**, with no geometric assumptions and no mass. The factor  $\gamma_\Psi$  arises solely from:

- delayed ether recovery,
- asymmetry in pressure configuration around a moving quarkbase,
- finite propagation speed of the  $\Psi$ -field.

Thus:

$$\boxed{\gamma_\Psi = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - v^2/c_\Psi^2}}}$$

is not a spacetime symmetry imposed by postulate, but a **hydrodynamic consequence of a frictionless pressure medium**.

## B Appendix — Mapping Between Electromagnetic Waves and the $\Psi$ -Luminal Mode

Electromagnetic radiation in the standard description is governed by Maxwell's equations in vacuum, leading to the well-known wave equation for the electric and magnetic fields:

$$\square \mathbf{E} = 0, \quad \square \mathbf{B} = 0,$$

where

$$\square \equiv \frac{1}{c^2} \partial_t^2 - \nabla^2.$$

In this formulation, the speed  $c$  is introduced as a fundamental constant. The vacuum itself has no structure: it is inert and does not participate physically in the propagation of the wave.

In Quarkbase Cosmology, electromagnetic radiation is reinterpreted as a **particular oscillatory mode** of the quarkic ether described by the scalar pressure field  $\Psi(x, t)$ . The medium has no shear, so only scalar degrees of freedom exist at the fundamental level, but **vorticity emerges as a secondary, effective descriptor** of the boundary dynamics of pressure oscillations.

The governing equation for the pressure field is:

$$\frac{1}{c_\Psi^2} \partial_t^2 \Psi - \nabla^2 \Psi = 0,$$

identical in form to the vacuum electromagnetic wave equation, with the substitution:

$$c \longrightarrow c_\Psi.$$

This identity is the foundation of the mapping.

## B.1 Pressure Pulses as Electromagnetic Luminal Modes

Consider a perturbation  $\delta\Psi(x, t)$  propagating through the frictionless ether. Because the medium:

- supports no shear,
- is invariant under rotations,
- and transmits disturbances at  $c_\Psi$ ,

the only dispersionless, self-coherent waveform that can propagate without distortion is the luminal mode satisfying the wave equation above.

This mode corresponds exactly to the electromagnetic vacuum solution — but with the physical meaning reversed:

- In Maxwell's framework, the wave is a self-propagating oscillation of  $\mathbf{E}$  and  $\mathbf{B}$ .
- In the Quarkbase framework, it is a self-propagating oscillation of the scalar ether pressure field whose **effective vorticities** and **pressure gradients** correspond to what we perceive as electric and magnetic fields.

Thus:

$$\mathbf{E} \sim -\nabla\Psi, \quad \mathbf{B} \sim \nabla \times (\mathbf{v} * \Psi),$$

where  $\mathbf{v} * \Psi$  is the local ether displacement velocity.

This mapping matches every structural feature of Maxwell's theory **without requiring independent vector fields**.

## B.2 Dispersionless Propagation and the Constancy of $c_\Psi$

Maxwell's equations predict that electromagnetic waves in vacuum propagate without dispersion because:

$$c = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\epsilon_0\mu_0}}.$$

In Quarkbase Cosmology, the absence of dispersion follows from:

- the frictionless nature of the ether, and
- its inability to support shear modes.

The propagation speed:

$$c_\Psi^2 = \frac{P_0}{\rho_{\Psi,0}}$$

is independent of frequency, amplitude, and waveform. This is why electromagnetic radiation (the luminal  $\Psi$ -mode) behaves identically to Maxwell's waves.

Thus the absence of dispersion in vacuum is not mysterious: it is the signature of the fact that the ether is perfectly coherent.

### B.3 Why Only the Luminal Mode Mimics Maxwell Radiation

The scalar field  $\Psi$  supports multiple modes:

- subluminal pressure gradients,
- localized stationary perturbations,
- non-propagating confinement pockets (sources),
- luminal resonant modes.

Only the luminal resonant mode:

- maintains shape,
- propagates with constant velocity,
- carries energy without dissipation,
- and matches Maxwell's transformations under Lorentz symmetry.

Thus the electromagnetic field is not fundamental, but the **effective kinematic expression** of a scalar ether wave constrained to propagate at the medium's maximal reorganizational speed.

That is why:

Electromagnetic radiation = luminal  $\Psi$ -mode

both mathematically and physically.

### B.4 Lorentz Transformations of the Luminal Mode

Maxwell's equations are Lorentz-invariant because the wave operator is Lorentz-invariant. The  $\Psi$ -field wave equation has exactly the same operator:

$$\square_\Psi = \frac{1}{c_\Psi^2} \partial_t^2 - \nabla^2.$$

Thus:

$$\Psi'(x', t') = \Psi(x, t)$$

under Lorentz transformations with limiting speed  $c_\Psi$ .

This is why the electromagnetic field behaves relativistically:

- it is a luminal excitation of a medium whose symmetry group is already the Lorentz group.

The invariance is not imposed but inherited from the medium.

## B.5 Why No Magnetic Monopoles Exist

In the quarkic ether:

- vorticity is always closed,
- circulation arises only as induced patterns of pressure flow,
- global monopole solutions are forbidden.

Therefore Maxwell's condition:

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0$$

is a direct consequence of the topology of  $\Psi$ -field configurations. It is not an independent law.

## B.6 Conclusion of the Mapping

| Maxwell Vacuum EM                                | $\Psi$ -Luminal Mode in Ether                                  |
|--|--|
| $\square \mathbf{E} = 0, \square \mathbf{B} = 0$ | $\square_\Psi \Psi = 0$  |
| Light speed $c$ universal                        | Propagation speed $c_\Psi$ universal                           |
| Fields $\mathbf{E}, \mathbf{B}$ fundamental      | Effective descriptors of pressure gradients and flow vorticity |
| No medium  | Medium = quarkic scalar-pressure ether                         |
| No monopoles                                     | Vorticity always closed  |
| Lorentz invariance postulated                    | Lorentz invariance emergent                                    |

Thus the electromagnetic field is a **macroscopic representation of the luminal behaviour of the quarkic ether**, not a separate fundamental interaction.

## C Appendix — Equivalence Between the Schwarzschild Weak-Field Limit and $n_\Psi$ -Gradient Gravity

In the standard relativistic description, the gravitational field outside a static, spherically symmetric mass  $M$  is described by the Schwarzschild solution. In the weak-field, slow-motion limit ( $|\Phi_N| \ll c^2$ ), the line element can be written as:

$$ds^2 \simeq - \left(1 + \frac{2\Phi_N}{c^2}\right) c^2 dt^2 + \left(1 - \frac{2\Phi_N}{c^2}\right) d\mathbf{x}^2,$$

where  $\Phi_N(\mathbf{x})$  is the Newtonian potential satisfying:

$$\nabla^2 \Phi_N = 4\pi G \rho.$$

Light propagation in this metric can be equivalently described as travel in a medium with an **effective refractive index**  $n_{\text{GR}}(\mathbf{x})$  given, to first order, by:

$$n_{\text{GR}}(\mathbf{x}) \simeq 1 - \frac{2\Phi_N(\mathbf{x})}{c^2}.$$

This is the standard optical-mechanical analogy: curvature is recast as an inhomogeneous index.

## C.1 Ether Gravity Equation and the Potential $\Phi_\Psi$

In Quarkbase Cosmology, the gravitational field is not geometric but arises from the scalar ether potential  $\Phi_\Psi(\mathbf{x})$ , solution of a Yukawa-type equation:

$$(\nabla^2 - \lambda^{-2})\Phi_\Psi(\mathbf{x}) = -\kappa \rho_{\text{src}}(\mathbf{x}),$$

where:

- $\rho_{\text{src}}$  is the effective density of quarkbase sources,
- $\kappa$  is a coupling constant of the  $\Psi$ -field to sources,
- $\lambda$  is the characteristic range of the pressure response.

In the regime where distances  $r$  satisfy  $r \ll \lambda$ , the term  $\lambda^{-2}\Phi_\Psi$  becomes negligible and the equation reduces to the Poisson form:

$$\nabla^2\Phi_\Psi(\mathbf{x}) \simeq -\kappa \rho_{\text{src}}(\mathbf{x}).$$

We now **define a linear mapping** between the Newtonian potential  $\Phi_N$  and the ether potential  $\Phi_\Psi$ :

$$\Phi_N(\mathbf{x}) = c^2 \xi \Phi_\Psi(\mathbf{x}),$$

with  $\xi$  a dimensionless scaling constant.

Substituting into the Poisson equation:

$$\nabla^2\Phi_N = c^2 \xi \nabla^2\Phi_\Psi \simeq c^2 \xi (-\kappa \rho_{\text{src}}).$$

Identifying this with the Newtonian equation

$$\nabla^2\Phi_N = 4\pi G \rho,$$

we obtain:

$$4\pi G \rho = -c^2 \xi \kappa \rho_{\text{src}}.$$

Assuming  $\rho_{\text{src}}$  and  $\rho$  are proportional (same mass-energy content expressed in different units), the proportionality can be absorbed into  $\kappa$ . Then we can write:

$$G = \frac{\xi \kappa c^2}{4\pi \alpha},$$

where  $\alpha$  collects the conversion factor between  $\rho_{\text{src}}$  and  $\rho$ . If  $\kappa$  is defined directly with respect to the usual density  $\rho$ , the result can be written more compactly as:

$$G = \frac{\xi \kappa c^4}{4\pi P_0},$$

once the relation  $c^2 \sim P_0/\rho_{\Psi,0}$  is incorporated between the luminal speed and the medium parameters.

In either form, the key point is:

- $G$  is not fundamental;
- $G$  derives from  $\kappa$ ,  $P_0$ ,  $\rho_{\Psi,0}$ , and the scaling constant  $\xi$ .

## C.2 Ether Propagation Index $n_{\Psi}(x)$

In the ether framework, gravity is not geometric curvature but variation of the medium's propagation index:

$$n_{\Psi}(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{c_{\Psi}^{(\infty)}}{c_{\Psi}(\mathbf{x})},$$

where:

- $c_{\Psi}^{(\infty)}$  is the propagation speed of the  $\Psi$ -field far from sources (asymptotically flat),
- $c_{\Psi}(\mathbf{x})$  is the local speed in the presence of sources and gradients.

For small perturbations around the basal value, we write:

$$c_{\Psi}(\mathbf{x}) = c_{\Psi}^{(\infty)}(1 + \delta(\mathbf{x})), \quad |\delta(\mathbf{x})| \ll 1.$$

Then:

$$n_{\Psi}(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{1 + \delta} \simeq 1 - \delta(\mathbf{x}).$$

The perturbation  $\delta(\mathbf{x})$  is determined by the local variation of the pressure potential  $\Phi_{\Psi}$ . To first order:

$$\delta(\mathbf{x}) = \alpha_{\Psi} \Phi_{\Psi}(\mathbf{x}),$$

for some coefficient  $\alpha_{\Psi}$  that depends on the effective elasticity of the medium. Then:

$$n_{\Psi}(\mathbf{x}) \simeq 1 - \alpha_{\Psi} \Phi_{\Psi}(\mathbf{x}).$$

Substituting the relation  $\Phi_N = c^2 \xi \Phi_{\Psi}$ :

$$n_{\Psi}(\mathbf{x}) \simeq 1 - \alpha_{\Psi} \frac{\Phi_N(\mathbf{x})}{c^2 \xi}.$$

Defining:

$$\beta \equiv \frac{\alpha_{\Psi}}{\xi},$$

we obtain:

$$n_{\Psi}(\mathbf{x}) \simeq 1 - \beta \frac{\Phi_N(\mathbf{x})}{c^2}.$$

The theory predicts that, for an appropriate choice of  $\beta$ , the ether index reproduces exactly the effective optical index of relativistic weak-field gravity:

$$n_{\text{GR}}(\mathbf{x}) \simeq 1 - \frac{2\Phi_N(\mathbf{x})}{c^2}.$$

The equality is achieved simply by setting:

$$\beta = 2.$$

Thus:

$$n_\Psi(\mathbf{x}) \simeq 1 - \frac{2\Phi_N(\mathbf{x})}{c^2}$$

which is **exactly** the refractive-index form arising from the weak-field Schwarzschild metric.

### C.3 Consequence: Complete Optical Equivalence

In the GR description:

- light follows null geodesics of the curved metric;
- in the weak-field limit, this is equivalent to propagation in a medium with index  $n_{\text{GR}}(\mathbf{x})$ .

In the ether description:

- light is the luminal mode of the  $\Psi$ -field;
- sources modify  $c_\Psi(\mathbf{x})$ ;
- this yields an index  $n_\Psi(\mathbf{x})$  which, in the weak-field limit, matches  $n_{\text{GR}}(\mathbf{x})$ .

Therefore, all weak-field gravitational effects on light in general relativity:

- gravitational deflection,
- Shapiro delay,
- gravitational redshift,

are reproduced exactly by variation of the ether propagation index  $n_\Psi(\mathbf{x})$ . The geometric curvature of Schwarzschild is, in this regime, **indistinguishable from a gradient of ether index**.

This closes the equivalence:

$$\text{Weak-field Schwarzschild} \iff \text{gravity as } \nabla n_\Psi(\mathbf{x}).$$

## D Appendix — Why Michelson–Morley Cannot Detect the Ether (and Why That Is a Prediction, Not a Problem)

The Michelson–Morley experiment is historically interpreted as the definitive refutation of any ether model. That conclusion is only valid for **mechanical ethers**: media with shear rigidity, viscosity, or drag. Quarkbase Cosmology does **not** belong to this class. The predictions differ because the axioms differ.

Below is the formal explanation.

## D.1 The Three Conditions Under Which Michelson–Morley Detects a Medium

The experiment can only detect a preferred medium if **at least one** of the following is true:

1. **The medium has drag**

A body moving through it produces a wake or loses momentum.

2. **The medium has directional response**

Waves propagate at different speeds depending on motion relative to the medium.

3. **The medium interacts with matter's bulk velocity**

A closed interferometer changes its optical length when moved relative to the medium.

A positive signal requires at minimum (2) or (3).

## D.2 Quarkbase Ether Satisfies None of These Conditions

By axioms explicitly stated in the framework:

- **No friction:**

$$\mu = 0$$

No drag. No wake. No energy transfer from motion.

- **No shear modes:**

Only scalar pressure oscillations exist. No directional rigidity, no anisotropy under motion.

- **Perfect internal coherence:**

The ether reorganizes around moving quarkbases without leaving detectable imprint at subluminal speeds.

- **Closed apparatus insensitivity:**

Because the optical path depends only on the local luminal mode of the  $\Psi$ -field, and that mode is the same in all inertial frames, a rigidly co-moving interferometer cannot detect motion relative to the medium.

Thus, the Quarkbase ether **predicts** the null result.

Not only is the Michelson–Morley outcome compatible with the theory— **it is required by the axioms of the  $\Psi$ -field**.

## D.3 Why the Null Result Follows Automatically

Let  $c_\Psi$  be the luminal mode of the pressure field. For a closed apparatus moving at any subluminal velocity ( $v < c_\Psi$ ):

$$c_{\Psi,\parallel} = c_{\Psi,\perp} = c_\Psi$$

because:

- longitudinal pressure rearrangement follows the same wave equation as transverse propagation,
- motion cannot modify local coherence,
- the ether perfectly reorganizes displaced volume without shear.

Thus, the two arms of the interferometer see **identical** propagation times:

$$t_{\parallel}(v) = t_{\perp}(v)$$

and therefore:

$$\Delta t(v) = 0.$$

This matches Michelson–Morley exactly.

The crucial point: the **null** result is not evidence against a medium— it is evidence against an **incorrect** kind of medium.

## D.4 Historical Misinterpretation

Einstein’s success cemented the belief that:

*“If an ether exists, an interferometer must detect it.”*

This is only true for mechanical ethers. Einstein eliminated the ether because the only models considered in 1905 were mechanical. He never considered a frictionless scalar medium with:

- zero drag,
- no shear,
- no anisotropy,
- luminal coherence,
- no internal dissipative structure.

The Quarkbase ether satisfies all these properties. It is the **unique** structure that:

- preserves Lorentz invariance,
- reproduces relativity,
- remains undetectable by Michelson–Morley.

Einstein kept the symmetry, removed the medium, and elevated  $c$  to a postulate. Quarkbase Cosmology restores the medium, derives  $c_{\Psi}$ , and keeps the symmetry.

## D.5 A Camera Test: Why No First-Order Experiments Can Detect the Ether

Any apparatus constructed from quarkbases is embedded in and co-moving with the local  $\Psi$ -field configuration that defines its dynamics. Thus:

- clocks tick by the internal oscillations of the medium;
- rods are defined by equilibrium compression profiles;
- light is the luminal coherent mode of the same medium.

Consequently:

**Every component of the interferometer transforms coherently with the ether.**

The apparatus cannot “slip” relative to the medium whose internal geometry defines its length and time standards.

Therefore:

- no fringe shift,
- no anisotropy,
- no aberration,
- no preferred frame detectable.

This is the same structural reason why **Lorentz covariance** emerges.

## D.6 Conclusion

Michelson–Morley does **not** refute the Quarkbase ether. It **confirms** it. Because:

1. The ether is frictionless  $\rightarrow$  no drag.
2. The ether supports only scalar pressure waves  $\rightarrow$  no directional anisotropy.
3. All matter is boundary condition of the ether  $\rightarrow$  closed apparatus co-moves.
4. The luminal mode is invariant  $\rightarrow$  identical propagation times.
5. Relativity emerges hydrodynamically  $\rightarrow$  Lorentz invariance is built-in.

Therefore, the Michelson–Morley null result is not a problem. It is a **prediction** of the theory.

## Conclusion

The analysis developed in this work shows that the full mathematical structure of Einsteinian relativity can be recovered from the dynamics of a frictionless scalar-pressure medium. In the framework of Quarkbase Cosmology, the ether is not a mechanical substrate but a quarkic plasma whose state is governed by the field  $\Psi(x, t)$ . Its response to displaced volume, and the finite speed at which this response propagates, generate the Lorentz structure without invoking intrinsic mass, postulated symmetries, or geometric axioms.

The constant  $c$  arises as the unique luminal resonant mode of the  $\Psi$ -field. It is not fundamental in itself; it is a derived quantity determined by the microgeometry of quarkbase packing and the elastic–inertial properties of the ether. Time dilation, length contraction, the divergence of energetic cost at high velocities, the velocity-addition law, and the full energy–momentum relation follow from the delayed restoration of pressure around moving quarkbases. All relativistic effects are hydrodynamic in origin.

Einstein’s elimination of the ether can be reinterpreted in this light. Since the Lorentz transformations can be obtained either by assuming a perfectly coherent medium with a finite propagation speed or by postulating that spacetime possesses these symmetries intrinsically, Einstein chose the latter route. This choice elevates  $c$  to an axiom. In the present framework, the logic is reversed: the properties of the  $\Psi$ -field enforce the symmetry, and the relativistic description emerges from a physically interpretable substrate.

The resulting picture is not a modification of relativity but a completion of it. The geometric formulation remains valid as an effective description, while its underlying physical origin becomes explicit. The quarkic ether generates the relativistic kinematics that Einstein described, making the two formulations mathematically equivalent and empirically indistinguishable, but ontologically distinct. A universe governed by a coherent pressure medium yields the same relativistic phenomena as a universe governed by spacetime symmetries—yet the former provides a material basis for the latter.

This reconstruction establishes a unified account in which relativity, inertia, and propagation limits arise from the same principle: the finite and coherent reorganisation speed of the ether. It opens the path to a fully mechanistic understanding of relativistic physics, consistent with the broader structure of Quarkbase Cosmology and its treatment of nuclear structure, electromagnetism, and gravitation.

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