PHYSICS 225A HOMEWORK 1

Do the following problems from Shutz Chapter 1.14: 1, 3, 8, 17, 21

Do the following problems from Shutz Chapter 2.9: 2,11,13,14,25,28,29,30

1. Frame $\overline{\mathcal{O}}$ moves with velocity v with respect to frame \mathcal{O} .

(a) A rod in frame $\overline{\mathcal{O}}$ makes an angle $\overline{\theta}$ with respect to the forward direction of motion. What is the angle θ measured in frame \mathcal{O} ?

(b) An object in frame $\overline{\mathcal{O}}$ is fired with velocity u at angle $\overline{\theta}$ with respect to forward direction of motion. What is angle θ measured in \mathcal{O} ? How about if the object is a light ray?

2. A particle with rest mass m and 4-momentum \vec{p} is observed by someone moving with 4-velocity \vec{u} . Show that:

(a) the energy observed is $E = -\vec{p} \cdot \vec{u}$

(b) the rest mass they observe is $m^2 = -\vec{p} \cdot \vec{p}$

(c) the 3-vector (ordinary) momentum they observe has magnitude $|\mathbf{p}| = [(\vec{p} \cdot \vec{u})^2 + \vec{p} \cdot \vec{p}]^{1/2}$

(d) The ordinary velocity they measure is: $|\mathbf{v}| = \left(1 + \frac{\vec{p} \cdot \vec{p}}{(\vec{p} \cdot \vec{a})^2}\right)^{1/2}$

(e) The 4-vector \vec{v} , whose components in the observer's frame are $v^0 = 0$, $v^i = dx^i/dt$ = ordinary velocity, is given by $\vec{v} = -\vec{u} - \vec{p}/(\vec{p} \cdot \vec{u})$.