

Soln 1-6

Work done equals the change in kinetic energy. Note that $v = c\beta$, so that $K_{\text{Newtonian}} = \frac{1}{2}m_0c^2\beta^2$.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{a) } W_{\text{Relativistic}} &= \Delta K = (\gamma_{0.12} - 1)m_0c^2 - (\gamma_{0.10} - 1)m_0c^2 = (\gamma_{0.12} - \gamma_{0.10})m_0c^2 = \\ &= \left((1 - 0.12^2)^{-\frac{1}{2}} - (1 - 0.10^2)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \right) m_0c^2 = 0.00224 \times 1 \times (3 \times 10^8)^2 \\ &= 2.096 \times 10^{14} \text{ J} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{b) } W_{\text{Newtonian}} &= \Delta K = \frac{1}{2}m_0c^2\beta_{0.12}^2 - \frac{1}{2}m_0c^2\beta_{0.10}^2 = (\beta_{0.12}^2 - \beta_{0.10}^2)\frac{1}{2}m_0c^2 = \\ &= (0.12^2 - 0.10^2)\frac{1}{2}(1)(3 \times 10^8)^2 = 1.980 \times 10^{14} \text{ J} \end{aligned}$$

Notice that the difference between the Newtonian and relativistic results is fairly small, even at 10% of the speed of light.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{c) } W_{\text{Relativistic}} &= \Delta K = (\gamma_{0.97} - 1)m_0c^2 - (\gamma_{0.95} - 1)m_0c^2 = (\gamma_{0.97} - \gamma_{0.95})m_0c^2 = \\ &= \left((1 - 0.97^2)^{-\frac{1}{2}} - (1 - 0.95^2)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \right) m_0c^2 = 0.91089 \times 1 \times (3 \times 10^8)^2 \\ &= 8.198 \times 10^{16} \text{ J} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{d) } W_{\text{Newtonian}} &= \Delta K = \frac{1}{2}m_0c^2\beta_{0.97}^2 - \frac{1}{2}m_0c^2\beta_{0.95}^2 = (\beta_{0.97}^2 - \beta_{0.95}^2)\frac{1}{2}m_0c^2 = \\ &= (0.97^2 - 0.95^2)\frac{1}{2}(1)(3 \times 10^8)^2 = 1.728 \times 10^{16} \text{ J} \end{aligned}$$

Here, we see quite a large difference.