

42. (a) Squaring Eq. 38-44 gives

$$E^2 = (mc^2)^2 + 2mc^2K + K^2$$

which we set equal to Eq. 38-52. Thus,

$$(mc^2)^2 + 2mc^2K + K^2 = (pc)^2 + (mc^2)^2 \implies m = \frac{(pc)^2 - K^2}{2Kc^2} .$$

(b) At low speeds, the pre-Einsteinian expressions  $p = mv$  and  $K = \frac{1}{2}mv^2$  apply. We note that  $pc \gg K$  at low speeds since  $c \gg v$  in this regime. Thus,

$$m \rightarrow \frac{(mvc)^2 - \left(\frac{1}{2}mv^2\right)^2}{2\left(\frac{1}{2}mv^2\right)c^2} \approx \frac{(mvc)^2}{2\left(\frac{1}{2}mv^2\right)c^2} = m .$$

(c) Here,  $pc = 121 \text{ MeV}$ , so

$$m = \frac{121^2 - 55^2}{2(55)c^2} = 105.6 \text{ MeV}/c^2 .$$

Now, the mass of the electron (see Table 38-3) is  $m_e = 0.511 \text{ MeV}/c^2$ , so our result is roughly 207 times bigger than an electron mass.