

**PHY 711 Classical Mechanics and  
Mathematical Methods**  
**10:10:50 AM MWF Olin 103**

**Plan for Lecture 1:**

- 1. Welcome & overview**
- 2. Class structure & announcements**
- 3. Introduction to Maple software**
- 4. Chapter 1 – scattering theory**

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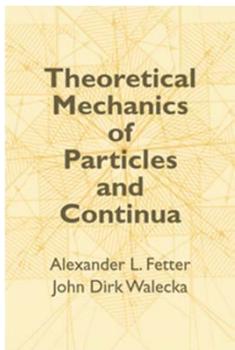


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Textbook:



**SIGNIFICANT NAMES IN MECHANICS  
AND MATHEMATICAL PHYSICS\***

Isaac Newton (1642-1727)  
David Hume (1711-1776)  
Leonhard Euler (1707-1783)  
Jean Le Rond d'Alembert (1717-1783)  
Joseph Louis Lagrange (1736-1813)  
Pierre Simon de Laplace (1749-1827)  
Adrien Marie Legendre (1752-1833)  
Jean Baptiste Biot (1774-1862)  
Karl Friedrich Gauss (1777-1855)  
Siméon-Denis Poisson (1771-1850)  
Frédéric Auguste Barthélémy (1762-1846)  
Augustin-Louis Cauchy (1789-1857)  
George Green (1793-1841)  
Carl Gustav Jacobi (1804-1851)  
William Rowan Hamilton (1805-1865)  
Joseph Liouville (1809-1882)  
Georg Simon Ohm (1789-1859)  
Hermann Ludwig Ferdinand Helmholtz (1821-1894)  
Gustav Robert Kirchhoff (1824-1887)  
Willhelm Ostwald (1853-1932)  
Georg Friedrich Bernhard Riemann (1826-1866)  
John William Strutt (Lord Rayleigh) (1842-1919)

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**Fall 2012 Schedule  
for N. A. W. Holzwarth**

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:00-9:00	Lecture Preparation/ Office Hours		Lecture Preparation/ Office Hours		Lecture Preparation/ Office Hours
9:00-10:00	General Physics I PHY113	Lecture Preparation/ Office Hours	General Physics I PHY113	Lecture Preparation/ Office Hours	General Physics I PHY113
10:00-11:00	Classical Mech PHY711		Classical Mech PHY711		Classical Mech PHY711
11:00-12:30	Office Hours		Office Hours		Office Hours
12:30-2:00	Condensed Matter Theory Journal Club	Physics Research	Physics Research	Physics Research	Physics Research
2:00-3:30			Physics Colloquium		CEES -- Renewable Energy Research
3:30-5:00	Physics Research				

Travel dates:

- Oct. 17, 2012 Duquesne University

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Comment about Physics Colloquia

The screenshot shows the Wake Forest University Department of Physics website. The left sidebar has links for Home, Undergraduate, Graduate, People, Research, Facilities, Education, News & Events, and Resources. A box on the left says "Wake Forest Physics, nationally recognized for research advances and leadership on interdisciplinary study and cross disciplinary collaborations." The main content area has a "News" section with three items and an "Events" section with three items. One event, "Wed Aug 29, 2012 Welcome Tea and Summer Research Opportunities," is circled in red.

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FOREST UNIVERSITY Department of Physics

**WFU Physics Colloquium**

**TITLE:** "Welcome to the WFU Physics Department"

**TIME:** Wednesday Aug. 29, 2012 at **3:45 PM**\*

**PLACE:** George P. Williams, Jr. Lecture Hall, (Olin 101)

\* Note: early starting time.

Refreshments will be served at **3:15 PM** in the lounge. All interested persons are cordially invited to attend.

**PROGRAM**

The purpose of this first seminar is to help new, returning, and prospective students (including both undergraduate and graduate students), faculty, and staff to become acquainted with each other and with the Physics Department. After refreshments in the lounge in the lobby of Olin Physical Laboratory (starting at 3:15), we will meet in the George P. Williams, Jr. Lecture Hall (Olin 101) at 3:45 PM for some announcements followed by presentations by some undergraduate students, highlighting their summer research experiences.

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**PHY 711 Classical Mechanics and Mathematical Methods**

**MWF 10 AM-10:50 PM OPL 103** <http://www.wfu.edu/~natalie/ft12phy711/>

**Instructor:** Natalie Holzwarth **Phone:** 758-5510 **Office:** 300 OPL **e-mail:** natalie@wfu.edu

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**General Information**

This course is a one semester survey of Classical Mechanics and Mathematical Methods at the graduate level, using the textbook **Theoretical Mechanics of Particles and Continua** by Alexander L. Fetter and John Dirk Walecka (McGraw-Hill, 1980) (now published by [Dover](#)) – F&W

It is likely that your grade for the course will depend upon the following factors:

Problem sets*	40%
Computational project	20%
Exam	40%

\*In general, there will a new assignment after each lecture, so that for optimal learning, it would be best to complete each assignment before the next scheduled lecture. According to the honor system, all work submitted for grading purposes should represent the student's own best efforts.

Students should be confident that there is a contingency plan in place for continuing this class in the unlikely event of a major emergency. This plan includes the distribution of course materials by the web or mail and the appropriate rescheduling of exams.

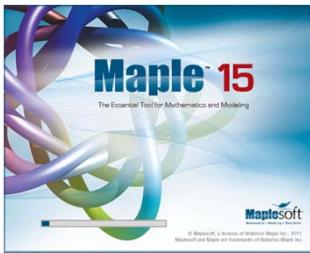
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Introduction to algebraic manipulation software



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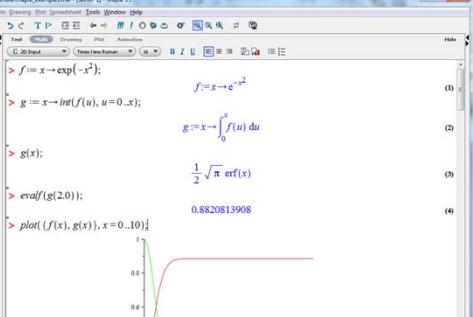


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[http://www.wfu.edu/~natalie/f12phy711/lecturenote/maple\\_example.mw](http://www.wfu.edu/~natalie/f12phy711/lecturenote/maple_example.mw)



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Scattering theory:

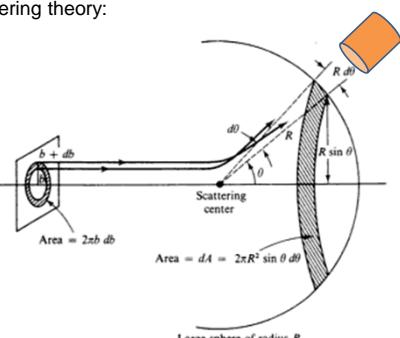


Figure 5.5 The scattering problem and relation of cross section to impact parameter.

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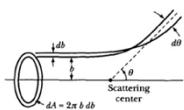


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Differential cross section

$$\left(\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}\right) = \frac{\text{Number of detected particles at } \theta \text{ per target particle}}{\text{Number of incident particles per unit area}}$$

= Area of incident beam that is scattered into detector  
at angle  $\theta$



$$\left(\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}\right) = \frac{2\pi b db}{2\pi \sin \theta d\theta} = \frac{b}{\sin \theta} \left| \frac{db}{d\theta} \right|$$

Figure from Marion & Thornton, Classical Dynamics

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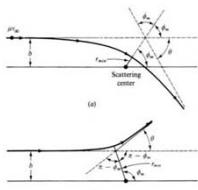
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Differential cross section

$$\left(\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}\right) = \frac{2\pi b db}{2\pi \sin \theta d\theta} = \frac{b}{\sin \theta} \left| \frac{db}{d\theta} \right|$$

How can we find  $b(\theta)$ ?



Note that :

$$\ell = \mu v_\infty b$$

$\mu$  = reduced mass

$v_\infty$  = velocity at large separation

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Conservation of energy in the center of mass frame:

$$E = \frac{1}{2} \mu \left( \frac{d\mathbf{r}}{dt} \right)^2 + V(r)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \mu \left( \frac{dr}{dt} \right)^2 + \frac{\ell^2}{2\mu r^2} + V(r)$$

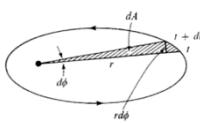


Figure 3.2 The areal velocity in a central field.

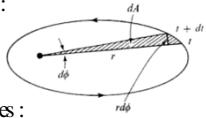
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## Conservation of angular momentum:

$$\ell = \mu r^2 \left( \frac{d\phi}{dt} \right)$$



Transformation of trajectory variables :

$$r(t) \Leftrightarrow r(\phi)$$

$$\frac{dr}{dt} = \frac{dr}{d\phi} \frac{d\phi}{dt} = \frac{dr}{d\phi} \frac{\ell}{\mu r^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow E = \frac{1}{2} \mu \left( \frac{dr}{dt} \right)^2 + \frac{\ell^2}{2\mu r^2} + V(r)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \mu \left( \frac{dr}{d\phi} \frac{\ell}{\mu r^2} \right)^2 + \frac{\ell^2}{2\mu r^2} + V(r)$$

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$$\Rightarrow E = \frac{1}{2} \mu \left( \frac{dr}{dt} \right)^2 + \frac{\ell^2}{2\mu r^2} + V(r)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \mu \left( \frac{dr}{d\phi} \frac{\ell}{\mu r^2} \right)^2 + \frac{\ell^2}{2\mu r^2} + V(r)$$

Solving for  $r(\phi) \Leftrightarrow \phi(r)$

$$\left(\frac{dr}{d\phi}\right)^2 = \left(\frac{2\mu r^4}{\ell^2}\right) \left(E - \frac{\ell^2}{2\mu r^2} - V(r)\right)$$

$$d\phi = dr \left( \frac{\ell / r^2}{\sqrt{2\mu \left( E - \frac{\ell^2}{2\mu r^2} - V(r) \right)}} \right)$$

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$$d\phi = dr \left( \frac{\ell / r^2}{\sqrt{2\mu \left( E - \frac{\ell^2}{2\mu r^2} - V(r) \right)}} \right)$$

Further simplification at large separation:

$$\ell = \mu v_\infty b$$

$$E = \frac{1}{2} \mu v_\infty^2$$

$$\Rightarrow \ell = \sqrt{2\mu E b}$$

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When the dust clears :

$$d\phi = dr \left( \frac{\ell / r^2}{\sqrt{2\mu \left( E - \frac{\ell^2}{2\mu r^2} - V(r) \right)}} \right)$$

$$d\phi = dr \left( \frac{b / r^2}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{b^2}{r^2} - \frac{V(r)}{E}}} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \phi(b, E)$$

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