Southampton School of Physics and Astronomy

# Classical Mechanics PHYS 2006 Tim Freegarde



#### **Classical Mechanics**

| LINEAR MOTION OF<br>SYSTEMS OF PARTICLES | centre of mass<br>Newton's 2nd law for bodies (internal forces cancel) |
|--|--|
|  |  |
| ANGULAR MOTION                           | rotations and infinitessimal rotations                                 |
|  | angular velocity vector, angular momentum, torque                      |
|  | parallel and perpendicular axis theorems                               |
|  | rigid body rotation, moment of inertia, precession                     |
| GRAVITATION &<br>KEPLER'S LAVVS          | conservative forces, law of universal gravitation                      |
|  | 2-body problem, reduced mass   |
|  | planetary orbits, Kepler's laws  |
|  | energy, effective potential  |
| NON-INERTIAL<br>REFERENCE FRAMES         | centrifugal and Coriolis terms   |
|  | Foucault's pendulum, weather patterns                                  |
| NORMAL MODES                             | coupled oscillators, normal modes                                      |
|  | coupled oscillators, normal modes                                      |

### Fermat's principle of least time



• refraction at a plane surface



Pierre de Fermat (1601-1665)

### Fermat's principle of least time



• refraction at a plane surface

 light rays follow the path between two points



Pierre de Fermat (1601-1665)

### Snell's law of refraction



• refraction at a plane surface

- light rays follow the path of least time between two points
- $\eta_S \sin \vartheta_S = \eta_P \sin \vartheta_P$



Willebrord Snel van Royen (Leiden, 1580-1626)

## Feynman path integral



#### PRINCIPLE OF LEAST ACTION

• trajectory is that which minimizes  $\mathcal{S} = \int_{t_1}^{t_2} \mathcal{L} \, \mathrm{d}t$ ACTION





Richard P Feynman (1918-1988)

### Lagrangian Mechanics

#### CALCULUS OF VARIATIONS if $\mathcal{F}(a, a')$ has been chosen to minimize $\mathcal{S} = \int_{b_1}^{b_2} \mathcal{F}(a, a') \, \mathrm{d}b$ least (or stationary) action $\frac{\partial \mathcal{F}}{\partial a} - \frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}b} \left( \frac{\partial \mathcal{F}}{\partial a'} \right) = 0$ Euler-lagrange equation then

#### LAGRANGIAN MECHANICS

set

 $\mathcal{F} 
ightarrow \mathcal{L} = \mathcal{T} - \mathcal{V}$ a 
ightarrow x, y,  $\vartheta$  etc. (coordinate variables)  $b \rightarrow t$ 





### Diffracting atoms



 stimulated Raman transitions equivalent to Bragg scattering from moving standing wave

## Inertial sensing using light

- Mach-Zehnder interferometer
- quantum wavefunction split and recombined
- laser-cooled atoms sense inertial Coriolis acceleration
- phase depends upon rotation











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#### QUESTION TERMINOLOGY

- State, What, Identify, Express, Find
  - no derivation required
- Explain, Describe, How
  - in words...
- Deríve, Prove, Show that, Determine
  - state assumptions, proceed logically
- Evaluate, Indícate, Calculate, Estímate
  - numbers, with clear assumptions
- Sketch
  - as it says...

#### DEGREE CLASSIFICATIONS

- First class (70%)
  - Abílity to extend or adapt standard derívations ξ manipulations to unseen problems
  - Demonstrate good insight & knowledge beyond course material
- 2:1 (60%)
  - Recall of standard derivations, manipulations ξ examples
  - Ability to discuss critically ξ demonstrate some insight
- 2:2 (50%)
  - Recall of símple derívatíons, manipulations ξ examples
  - Some ability to discuss critically
- Third (40%)
  - Knowledge of basic definitions, formulae, phenomena ξ examples
  - Ability to apply formulae directly

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