

Physics 3221
Fall Term 2018
Homework Problem Set 8

Due Friday November 9, 12:50 pm.

Reading: Chapter 6 and Prof. Alan Dorsey's handout on dimensional analysis linked to the course webpage. This homework has a total of 11 ★s.

Problem 1. Geodesics on a sphere. Problem 6.1★ from the textbook.

Problem 2. Fermat's principle. Problem 6.5★★ from the textbook.

Problem 3. Shortest path between two points on a sphere. Problem 6.16★★ from the textbook.

Problem 4. Geodesics on a cone. Problem 6.17★★ from the textbook.

Problem 5. Isochronous oscillations on a cycloid. Problem 6.25★★★ from the textbook.

Problem 6. Dimensional analysis application. The speed of sound v in a gas might plausibly depend on the pressure P , the density ρ and the volume V of the gas. Use dimensional analysis to find v in terms of P , ρ and V .