



# Introduction to Analytical Dynamics (Springer Undergraduate Mathematics Series)

By Nicholas Woodhouse



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First published in 1987, this text offers concise but clear explanations and derivations to give readers a confident grasp of the chain of argument that leads from Newton's laws through Lagrange's equations and Hamilton's principle, to Hamilton's equations and canonical transformations. This new edition has been extensively revised and updated to include: A chapter on symplectic geometry and the geometric interpretation of some of the coordinate calculations. A more systematic treatment of the connections with the phase-plane analysis of ODEs; and an improved treatment of Euler angles. A greater emphasis on the links to special relativity and quantum theory showing how ideas from this classical subject link into contemporary areas of mathematics and theoretical physics. A wealth of examples show the subject in action and a range of exercises – with solutions – are provided to help test understanding.

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**Introduction to Analytical Dynamics (Springer Undergraduate Mathematics Series) By Nicholas Woodhouse Bibliography**

- Sales Rank: #2114185 in eBooks
- Published on: 2013-04-11
- Released on: 2013-04-11
- Format: Kindle eBook

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### Editorial Review

#### Review

From the reviews of the second edition:

“It is designed to teach analytical mechanics to second and third year undergraduates in the UK, and probably to third or fourth year undergraduates in the US. ... This book offers a very attractive traditional introduction to the subject. ... the author is well tuned to the difficulties even strong students encounter. ... discusses the relevance of classical mechanics in modern physics, especially to relativity and quantum mechanics. This is a fine textbook. It would be a pleasure to teach or to learn from it.” (William J. Satzer, The Mathematical Association of America, March, 2010)

#### From the Back Cover

Analytical dynamics forms an important part of any undergraduate programme in applied mathematics and physics: it develops intuition about three-dimensional space and provides invaluable practice in problem solving.

First published in 1987, this text is an introduction to the core ideas. It offers concise but clear explanations and derivations to give readers a confident grasp of the chain of argument that leads from Newton’s laws through Lagrange’s equations and Hamilton’s principle, to Hamilton’s equations and canonical transformations.

This new edition has been extensively revised and updated to include:

- A chapter on symplectic geometry and the geometric interpretation of some of the coordinate calculations.
- A more systematic treatment of the connections with the phase-plane analysis of ODEs; and an improved treatment of Euler angles.
- A greater emphasis on the links to special relativity and quantum theory, e.g., linking Schrödinger’s equation to Hamilton-Jacobi theory, showing how ideas from this classical subject link into contemporary areas of mathematics and theoretical physics.

Aimed at second- and third-year undergraduates, the book assumes some familiarity with elementary linear algebra, the chain rule for partial derivatives, and vector mechanics in three dimensions, although the latter is not essential. A wealth of examples show the subject in action and a range of exercises – with solutions – are provided to help test understanding.

#### About the Author

Nick Woodhouse is an experienced researcher in GR with an international reputation.

### Users Review

#### From reader reviews:

**Tracey Egan:**

Do you have something that you like such as book? The book lovers usually prefer to decide on book like comic, brief story and the biggest the first is novel. Now, why not trying Introduction to Analytical Dynamics (Springer Undergraduate Mathematics Series) that give your enjoyment preference will be satisfied by reading this book. Reading addiction all over the world can be said as the way for people to know world considerably better then how they react toward the world. It can't be said constantly that reading habit only for the geeky individual but for all of you who wants to end up being success person. So , for all of you who want to start reading through as your good habit, it is possible to pick Introduction to Analytical Dynamics (Springer Undergraduate Mathematics Series) become your starter.

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