PHYS 6124	Mathematical Methods of Physics I	Prof. P. Cvitanović
Handout 4	$\tt ChaosBook.org/{\sim} predrag/courses/PHYS-6124-11$	School of Physics
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This *Handout* is Paul Goldbart's list of reference books which you may find useful both for this course, and also beyond in your graduate careers.

[1] Conventional textbooks (with a level of rigour roughly comparable with this course):

- (r) K. F. Riley, S. J. Bence and M. P. Hobson, *Mathematical methods for physics and engineering*, published by *Cambridge University Press*.
- (r) H. W. Wyld, Mathematical Methods for Physics, published by Addison-Wesley.
- (r) C. Fox, An Introduction to the Calculus of Variations, published by Dover.
- (r) J. Mathews and R. L. Walker, *Mathematical Methods of Physics*; based on lectures by Richard Feynman at Cornell University.
- (r) G. Arfken, Mathematical Methods for Physicists; lengthy, but clear.
- (r) R. B. Guenther and J. W. Lee, *Partial Differential Equations of Mathematical Physics* and Integral Equations; clear and interesting, especially on boundary integral methods.

I. Sokolnikoff and R. Redheffer, Mathematics of Physics and Modern Engineering.

E. C. Zachmanoglou and D. W. Thoe, Introduction to Partial Differential Equations with Applications; published by Dover, and thus relatively cheap.

P. R. Wallace, Mathematical Analysis of Physical Problems; also published by Dover.G. Stephenson, Introduction to Partial Differential Equations for Science Students; a brief, to-the-point introduction.

(r) F. G. Tricomi, Integral Equations;

E. Butkov, Mathematical Physics.

A. Sommerfeld, Partial Differential Equations in Physics.

 (r) C. M. Bender and S. A. Orszag, Advanced Mathematical Methods for Scientists and Engineers; a beautiful, readable and somewhat more advanced book, emphasising approximate methods but, unfortunately, not covering partial differential equations.
N. Bleistein, Mathematical Methods for Wave Phenomena.

I. Stakgold, Boundary Value Problems of Mathematical Physics, and Green's Func-

tions and Boundary Value Problems.

- [2] More advanced texts (with more emphasis on theory and less on application):
- (r) P. Dennery and A. Krzywicki, *Mathematics for Physicists*; remarkably clear and wellorganised, but light on examples involving partial differential equations.
- (r) F. W. Byron and R. Fuller, *Mathematics of Classical and Quantum Physics*, now published by *Dover*.

E. DiBenedetto, Partial Differential Equations; rigorous yet readable.

H. Jeffreys and B. Jeffreys, Methods of Mathematical Physics; a readable classic.

[3] Scholarly treatises (at a level rather more rigorous than this course); particularly useful as reference books, but not so easy to learn from:

R. Courant and D. Hilbert, *Methods of Mathematical Physics*, 2 vols; standard reference, along with Morse-Feshbach.

P. M. Morse and H. Feshbach, Methods of Theoretical Physics, 2 vols.

H. Bateman, Partial Differential Equations of Mathematical Physics; venerable.

E. L. Ince, Ordinary Differential Equations; published by Dover.

W. Miller, Symmetry and Separation of Variables (Encyclopedia of Mathematics and its Applications, vol. 4); interesting perspective, showing how different special functions arise from separation of variables using complete sets of commuting operators.

H. S. Carslaw and J. C. Jaeger, Conduction of Heat in Solids.

[4] Handbooks of special functions and techniques; at least a passing acquaintance with these is books will be very useful as you embark on your research careers:

N. M. Temme, Special functions: An introduction to the classical functions of mathematical physics; a rich and stimulating account, despite the title.

M. Abramowitz and I. Stegun, Handbook of Mathematical Functions.

A. Erdélyi *et al.*, Bateman Manuscript Project: Higher Transcendental Functions, vols. 1-3.

W. Magnus *et al.*, Formulas and Theorems for the Special Functions of Mathematical Physics.

D. Zwillinger, Handbook of Differential Equations, and Handbook of Integration; modern, clear and altogether delightful books – my first stop when I encounter unfamiliar differential equations or integrals.

W. H. Press *et al.*, *Numerical Recipes*; my first stop for numerical techniques – very clear and stimulating, but we probably won't have much time for such methods.

[5] Miscellaneous books:

I have, from time to time, found the following three *Schaum Outline* books useful, especially for finding additional practice problems:

M. R. Spiegel, Vector Analysis;

F. Ayres, Differential Equations; and

P. Du Chateau and D. W. Zachmann, Partial Differential Equations.

H. A. Priestley, Introduction to Complex Analysis; and

S. D. Fisher, *Complex Variables*; those wishing to sharpen their skills with complex variables may wish to look at these excellent and compact presentations.

T. Needham, Visual Complex Analysis;

M. J. Ablowitz and A. S. Fokas, Complex Variables: Introduction and Applications;

G. F. Carrier, M. Krook and C. E. Pearson, Functions of a Complex Variable; and

L. V. Ahlfors, *Complex Analysis*; also provide excellent treatments of the subject of complex variables, and include more advanced topics.

J. D. Jackson, *Classical Electrodynamics*; clear and readable, both for issues of physics and for examples of special functions and boundary value problems.

N. Bleistein and R. A. Handelsman, Asymptotic Expansion of Integrals, published by Dover; an excellent guide through the subject.