

Actions

Pre-Lecture Reading/Post-Lecture Summary

Our attention will turn to action principles with a refresher on how extremizing an action functional leads to the Euler-Lagrange equations of motion. Hell, we will also define most of the words in the preceding sentence along the way! We will start in a non-relativistic point particle setting with which many of you will be familiar. Then we will generalize the story to the situation more relevant for this course, i.e. relativistic fields. Then you will leave and be happy.