



The  
University  
Of  
Sheffield.

**MAS 441**

**SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS AND STATISTICS**

**Spring Semester 2014–2015**

**Optics and Symplectic Geometry**

**2 hours 30 minutes**

*Answer **four** questions. You are advised **not** to answer more than four questions: if you do, only your best four will be counted.*

*Throughout the paper  $I$  denotes an identity matrix and  $J$  denotes a matrix of the form  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & I \\ -I & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ . All matrices have real entries. The standard symplectic form  $\Omega$  on  $\mathbb{R}^{2n}$  is defined by  $\Omega(Z, Z') = Q \cdot P' - P \cdot Q'$ , where  $Z = (Q, P)$  and  $Z' = (Q', P')$  are elements of  $\mathbb{R}^{2n}$ .*

- 1 Figure 1 shows the refraction of a light ray across a parabolic boundary. The light ray enters from the left, making an angle  $\varphi$  with the positive  $z$ -direction, and makes an angle of  $\theta$  with the normal to the boundary at the point where it crosses. The refracted ray makes an angle  $\varphi'$  (not shown) with the positive  $z$ -direction, and an angle  $\theta'$  with the normal.

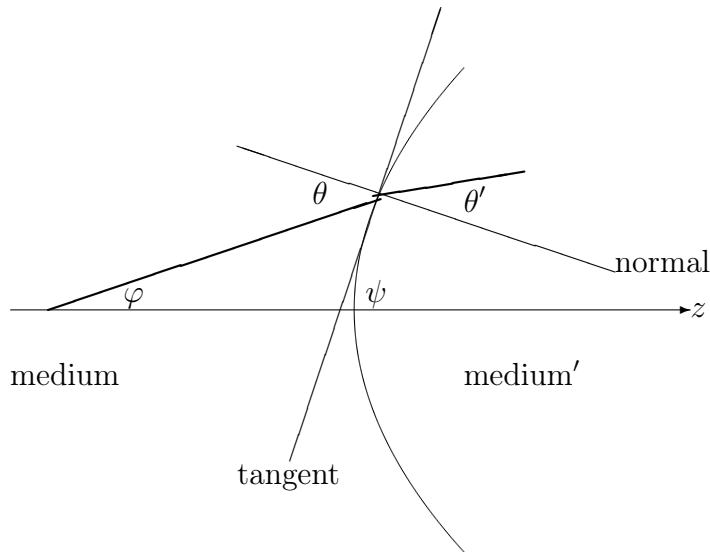


Figure 1: The angles are larger than in the assumptions for Gaussian optics, so that the diagram is clear. Here  $\psi$  is the angle between the tangent and the positive  $z$  direction. The equation of the parabolic boundary is  $z = \frac{1}{2}kq^2 + z_0$  where  $k, z_0 \in \mathbb{R}$  are constants, and  $q$  is measured upwards at right-angles to the  $z$ -axis. The index of refraction for the medium on the left is  $n$  and for the medium on the right is  $n'$ .

- (a) List three of the assumptions made in Gaussian optics. **(3 marks)**
- (b) Show, referring to Figure 1 and using additional diagrams if you wish, that

$$\varphi = \psi + \theta - \frac{\pi}{2} \quad \text{and} \quad \varphi' = \psi + \theta' - \frac{\pi}{2}.$$

**(8 marks)**

- (c) Define  $p$  and  $p'$  as in the course and, using the assumptions of Gaussian optics, find the matrix  $S = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$  such that the incoming and outgoing rays are given by

$$\begin{bmatrix} q' \\ p' \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} q \\ p \end{bmatrix}.$$

Your answer should be in terms of  $n, n', k$ .

State clearly any assumption or Law that you use which you did not give in answer to (a). You do not need to repeat the proof in (b). **(14 marks)**

2 Let  $\widetilde{\mathcal{L}}_3$  denote the set of all oriented straight lines in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

(a) Define, using sketch diagrams if you wish, a bijective map from  $\widetilde{\mathcal{L}}_3$  to  $M$  where

$$M := \{(X, Y) \in \mathbb{R}^3 \times \mathbb{R}^3 \mid |X|^2 = 1, X \cdot Y = 0\}.$$

Describe carefully the map  $M \rightarrow \widetilde{\mathcal{L}}_3$  which is inverse to your map.

(9 marks)

(b) Fix a point  $(X, Y) \in M$  and consider a smooth curve in  $M$  given by  $(X(t), Y(t))$  for  $t \in \mathbb{R}$  with  $X(0) = X$ ,  $Y(0) = Y$ .

Writing  $Q = \dot{X}(0)$ ,  $P = \dot{Y}(0)$ , show that

$$Q \cdot X = 0, \quad Q \cdot Y + X \cdot P = 0. \quad (*)$$

(2 marks)

(c) Writing

$$T_{(X,Y)} = \{(Q, P) \mid Q \cdot X = 0, Q \cdot Y + X \cdot P = 0\},$$

show that  $T_{(X,Y)}$  is a symplectic subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^6$  with respect to  $\Omega$ .

(14 marks)

3 (a) Let  $S = \begin{bmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{bmatrix}$  be a  $2n \times 2n$  matrix in block form, where  $A, B, C$  and  $D$  denote  $n \times n$  matrices.

Prove that  $S$  is symplectic if and only if the three equations

$$A^\top C = C^\top A, \quad B^\top D = D^\top B, \quad A^\top D - C^\top B = I,$$

hold.

(3 marks)

(b) Now consider another  $2n \times 2n$  matrix  $H = \begin{bmatrix} \alpha & \beta \\ \gamma & \delta \end{bmatrix}$  in block form, where  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma$  and  $\delta$  denote  $n \times n$  matrices.

The matrix  $H$  is a *Hamiltonian matrix* if  $H^\top J + JH = 0$ .

Prove that  $H$  is a Hamiltonian matrix if and only if

$$\beta^\top = \beta, \quad \gamma^\top = \gamma, \quad \alpha^\top + \delta = 0.$$

(4 marks)

(c) Let  $H$  be a Hamiltonian  $2n \times 2n$  matrix such that  $I - H$  is invertible. Show that

$$S = (I + H)(I - H)^{-1}$$

is a symplectic matrix. (It is not necessary to use (a) or (b), though you may do so if you wish.)

(12 marks)

(d) Show that a  $2n \times 2n$  matrix  $S = \begin{bmatrix} A & B \\ -B & A \end{bmatrix}$  is both symplectic and orthogonal if and only if  $A^\top A + B^\top B = I_n$  and  $A^\top B = B^\top A$ . (Here  $I_n$  is the  $n \times n$  identity matrix.)

(6 marks)

4 In this question you may use the equations stated in Q3(a) without proof.

- (i) Let  $S = \begin{bmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{bmatrix}$  be a  $2n \times 2n$  symplectic matrix in block form, where  $A, B, C$  and  $D$  denote  $n \times n$  matrices.
- (a) Determine, in terms of  $A, B, C, D$ , when  $S$  maps the subspace  $\mathbb{R}^n \times 0$  to itself.
  - (b) Determine, in terms of  $A, B, C, D$ , when  $S$  maps the subspace  $\mathbb{R}^n \times 0$  to itself *and* the subspace  $0 \times \mathbb{R}^n$  to itself.
  - (c) Of the symplectic matrices found in (b), determine those which also map the subspace  $\{(Q, Q) \mid Q \in \mathbb{R}^n\}$  to itself, expressing your answer in terms of conditions on  $A$ .

**(6 marks)**

- (ii) Let  $\{G_1, \dots, G_n\}$  be a basis for an  $n$ -dimensional subspace  $L$  of  $\mathbb{R}^{2n}$ . Write the  $G_i$  as the columns of a matrix and write the matrix in block form as

$$\begin{bmatrix} M \\ N \end{bmatrix}$$

where  $M$  and  $N$  are  $n \times n$  matrices.

- (a) Prove that  $L$  is Lagrangian if and only if  $M^T N$  is symmetric. Determine when  $L$  is transverse to  $\mathbb{R}^n \times 0$ . **(8 marks)**
- (b) Let  $L$  be a Lagrangian subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^{2n}$  transverse to  $\mathbb{R}^n \times 0$  and corresponding to  $M$  and  $N$  as above.

Find  $A, B, C, D$  so that the symplectic matrix  $S = \begin{bmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{bmatrix}$  maps  $\mathbb{R}^n \times 0$  to itself and  $0 \times \mathbb{R}^n$  to  $L$ .

Determine all the symplectic matrices  $S$  which map  $\mathbb{R}^n \times 0$  to itself and  $0 \times \mathbb{R}^n$  to  $L$ . **(11 marks)**

5 Let  $\Gamma: \mathbb{R}^4 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a smooth map and write  $\Gamma = \Gamma(Q, Q')$  where  $Q, Q' \in \mathbb{R}^2$ .

(a) Explain what is meant by  $\frac{\partial \Gamma}{\partial Q}$  and  $\frac{\partial \Gamma}{\partial Q'}$ , and give their expressions in components. (3 marks)

(b) Write  $H = \frac{\partial \Gamma}{\partial Q}$ ,  $K = \frac{\partial \Gamma}{\partial Q'}$ . Show that

$$\frac{\partial H}{\partial Q'} = \left( \frac{\partial K}{\partial Q} \right)^\top.$$

and that  $\frac{\partial H}{\partial Q}$  and  $\frac{\partial K}{\partial Q'}$  are symmetric. (5 marks)

(c) Now assume that

$$\det \frac{\partial H}{\partial Q'} = \det \frac{\partial K}{\partial Q} \neq 0, \tag{*}$$

and write  $P = H(Q, Q')$ . Condition (\*) ensures that  $P = H(Q, Q')$  can be solved for  $Q'$  in terms of  $P$  and  $Q$ . That is, there exists  $F: \mathbb{R}^4 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ , defined on an open set in  $\mathbb{R}^4$ , such that  $Q' = F(Q, P)$  if and only if  $P = H(Q, Q')$ .

Show that

$$\frac{\partial H}{\partial Q'} \frac{\partial F}{\partial P} = I. \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\partial H}{\partial Q} + \frac{\partial H}{\partial Q'} \frac{\partial F}{\partial Q} = 0.$$

(8 marks)

(d) Now define  $G(Q, P) = -K(Q, F(Q, P))$ . You may assume that

$$\frac{\partial G}{\partial Q} = -\frac{\partial K}{\partial Q} - \frac{\partial K}{\partial Q'} \frac{\partial F}{\partial Q} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\partial G}{\partial P} = -\frac{\partial K}{\partial Q'} \frac{\partial F}{\partial P}.$$

Prove that  $\left( \frac{\partial F}{\partial Q} \right)^\top \frac{\partial G}{\partial Q}$  is a symmetric matrix. (9 marks)

**End of Question Paper**