The Chinese University of Hong Kong Faculty of Science Science Academy for Young Talent

Summer Courses 2022 Course Outline

CUSA1085 The Space Explorer's Survival Guide to the Universe 太空探索者的宇宙生存指南

Introduction:

The universe is a dangerous place for us space explorers. To give you a fighting chance to survive the journey, we will discuss some basic mechanics, the law of gravity, astronomy, and other necessary physics. More importantly, since the laws of the universe are written in the language of mathematics, we need to go through some basic calculus (don't be afraid, my friend) and elementary differential equations (now you can panic a little bit). We will also introduce you with the concept of scientific modelling, and learn to use computer to numerically solve problems (we will not use HAL 9000, for those of you who are worried). By the end of our course, you will be well equipped to apply the new tools to tackle a wide range of problems.

Some of you probably have never learned calculus before. While it could be intimidating at first, you can still do it if you put in effort. Some hands-on examples in our course should get you up to speed.

Now buckle up, and we will get started!

對我們這些太空探索者來說,宇宙是一個很危險的地方。為求讓你有能力完成旅程,我們會討論一些基本的力學、重力定律、天文學和其他必要的物理原理。更重要的是,宇宙的定律是用數學語言寫成的,因此我們需要進行學習一些基本的微積分(請不要太擔心……)和簡單的微分方程(你現可以有些少許恐慌了)。我們亦將會介紹科學建模的概念,並學習使用電腦來解決問題(放心,我們不會使用 HAL 9000)。在課程結束時,你將會有能力應用這些新的工具來處理各種問題。

你們當中有些人可能從未學過微積分。這課題在初學時可能真的的嚇人的,但只要你付出努力,仍然可以學到。而且在課程中的實際操作示例應該能使你快速上手。

好!現在就扣好安全帶,讓我們開始!

Medium of Instruction: Cantonese supplemented with English

Organising Unit:

Department of Physics, Faculty of Science, CUHK

Teacher:

Dr. LEUNG Po Kin

Department of Physics, CUHK

Rm. 220, Science Centre North Block, CUHK Tel: 3943 4078, E-mail: pkleung@cuhk.edu.hk

Demonstrators:

Students from Department of Physics, CUHK

Course Content:

Course Content:	
	Lecture 講課: (3 hrs)
15 August 2022	• Dimensional analysis 量綱分析
	• Newton's laws of motion 牛頓運動定律
(Monday)	• Linear momentum 動量
2:00 pm – 5:00 pm	Assessment 評核:
	Homework (short questions) 功課 (短題目)
	Lecture 講課: (3 hrs)
	• Basics of calculus 微積分入門
16 August 2022	Simple differential equations (i.e. rate equations)
(Tuesday)	
	簡單微分方程 (即改變率方程)
2:00 pm – 5:00 pm	A Service
2.00 pm 2.00 pm	Assessment 評核:
	Homework (short questions) 功課 (短題目)
	<u>Lecture 講課:</u> (3 hrs)
17 Assessed 2022	• Solving differential equations with computer 以電腦解微分方程
17 August 2022	• Basics of scientific modelling 科學建模入門
(Wednesday)	(e.g. radioactivity, examples in mechanics 例:放射性、力學的例子)
2:00 pm – 5:00 pm	Assessment 評核:
	• Homework (short questions) 功課 (短題目)
	Lecture 講課: (3 hrs)
10 4 4 2022	• Air drag force 空氣阻力
18 August 2022	• Force of spring 彈簧力
(Thursday)	• More examples of solving differential equations with computer
	更多以電腦解微分方程的例子
2:00 pm – 5:00 pm	
	Assessment 評核:
	• Homework (short questions) 功課 (短題目)
	<u>Lecture 講課: (3 hrs)</u>
	• Scientific modelling, revisited 科學建模, 再探
	(e.g. the interplay of prey and predator
	例:獵物和捕食者的互動)
	More examples of solving differential equations with computer
	更多以電腦解微分方程的例子
	Populations of rabbit (blue) and wolf (x100, orange)
	3500 -
19 August 2022	
(Friday)	3000 -
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2:00 pm – 5:00 pm	
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	time
	Assessment 評核:
	• Homework (short questions) 功課 (短題目)
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	Lecture 講課: (3 hrs)
22 August 2022	• Kepler's law of planetary motion 開普勒行星運動定律
(Monday)	• Newton's law of universal gravitation 牛頓萬有引力定律
(Wioliday)	6 1 MF474 31737C11
2:00 pm - 5:00 pm	Assessment <u>評核:</u>
	• Homework (short questions) 功課 (短題目)
	Lecture 講課: (2 hrs)
	• Calculating the trajectory of planets with computer 以電腦計算行星軌跡
	• If possible, will arrange a remote meeting of researchers from the HK Observatory, to
23 August 2022	learn about the application of computer simulations
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(Tuesday)	會嘗試安排和天文台的研究員遙距會面,了解電腦模擬的應用
	(Otherwise, more examples or other advanced topics 如果未能安排遙距會面,更多
2:00 pm - 5:00 pm	例子或進階題目)
	Assessment 評核 (1 hr):
	• Final test 測驗
	T History (Apply)
24 August 2022*	
(Wednesday)	Make-up class
2:00 pm 5:00 pm	HIND
2:00 pm – 5:00 pm	

Duration	7 half-day sessions (total 21 contact hours)
Date	15 – 19, 22 – 23 August 2022,
	24 August 2022* (make-up class)
Time	2:00 pm – 5:00 pm
Teaching Mode#	Face to Face (The Chinese University of Hong Kong)
Enrollment	20
Expected Applicants	Students who are promoting to or studying S4-S6
Tuition Fee	HKD 3,360.00
Credit	1.5 Academy Unit
	Certificates or letters of completion will be awarded to students who attain at least 75%
	attendance.

^{*} This date is reserved for make-up classes in case there is any cancellation of classes due to unexpected circumstances.

[#] This course will be offered on CUHK campus in face-to-face mode. It may switch to online teaching in accordance with the pandemic development and the policy of the university.