

Math 303, Fall 2006

Assignment for Dec. 07-11

- Read pages 775-782, 788-789 and 824-827 of the textbook (Riley-Hobson-Bence, 3rd Edition)
- Solve the following problems.

1. Find the stationary points of the following functionals.

$$\mathcal{F}[y(x)] = \int_a^b \sqrt{1 + \frac{y'^2}{y^2}} dx,$$
$$\mathcal{G}[y(x)] = \int_a^b \frac{\sqrt{1 + y'^2}}{1 + y} dx,$$

2. Let S be the surface of revolution of the curve $z = x^2$ about z -axis. Find the differential equation determining the geodesics on S and obtain its solution.

Hint: Use cylindrical coordinates.