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Título: Jacobis Lectures On Dynamics

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Precio: \$611.91

Editorial:

Año: 2009

Tema:

Edición: 2ª

Sinopsis

ISBN: 9788185931913

The name of C. G. J. Jacobi is familiar to every student of mathematics, thanks to the Jacobian determinant, the Hamilton-Jacobi equations in dynamics, and the Jacobi identity for vector fields. Best known for his contributions to the theory of elliptic and abelian functions, Jacobi is also known for his innovative teaching methods and for running the first research seminar in pure mathematics.

A record of his lectures on Dynamics given in 1842-43 at Königsberg, edited by A. Clebsch, has been available in the original German. This is an English translation. It is not just a historical document; the modern reader can learn much about the subject directly from one of its great masters.

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Table of Contents

Introduction

The differential equations of motion

Conservation of motion of centre of gravity

The principle of conservation of 'vis viva'

Conservation of surface area

The principle of least action

Further considerations on the principle of least action--The Lagrange multipliers

Hamilton's integral and Lagrange's second form of dynamical equations

Hamilton's form of the equation of motion

The principle of the last multiplier

Survey of those properties of determinants that are used in the theory of the last multiplier

The multiplier for systems of differential equations with an arbitrary number of variables

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Functional determinants. Their application in setting up the partial differential equation for the multiplier

The second form of the equation defining the multiplier. The multipliers of step wise reduced differential equations. The multiplier by the use of particular integrals

The multiplier for systems of differential equations with higher differential coefficients. Applications to a system of mass points without constraints

Examples of the search for multipliers. Attraction of a point by a fixed centre in a resisting medium and in empty space

The multiplier of the equations of motion of a system under constraint in the first Lagrange form

The multiplier for the equations of motion of a constrained system in Hamiltonian form

Hamilton's partial differential equation and its extension to the isoperimetric problem

Proof that the integral equations derived from a complete solution of Hamilton's partial differential equation actually satisfy the system of ordinary differential equations. Hamilton's equation for free motion

Investigation of the case in which t does not occur explicitly

Lagrange's method of integration of first order partial differential equations in two independent variables. Application to problems of mechanics which depend only on two defining parameters.

The free motion of a point on a plane and the shortest line on a surface

The reduction of the partial differential equation for those problems in which the principle of conservation of centre of gravity holds

Motion of a planet around the sun--Solution in polar coordinates

Solution of the same problem by introducing the distances of the planet from two fixed points

Elliptic coordinates

Geometric significance of elliptic coordinates on the plane and in space. Quadrature of the surface of an ellipsoid. Rectification of its lines of curvature

The shortest line on the tri-axial ellipsoid. The problem of map projection

Attraction of a point by two fixed centres

Abel's theorem

General investigations of the partial differential equations of the first order. Different forms of the integrability conditions

Direct proof of the most general form of the integrability condition. Introduction of the function H , which set equal to an arbitrary constant determines the p as functions of the q

On the simultaneous solutions of two linear partial differential equations

Application of the preceding investigation to the integration of partial differential equations of the first order, and in particular, to the case of mechanics. The theorem on the third integral derived from two given integrals of differential equations of dynamics

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desde 1950



The two classes of integrals which one obtains according to Hamilton's method for problems of mechanics. Determination of the value of (φ , ψ) for them
Perturbation theory. Supplement