Physics H190
Spring 2013
Homework 2
Due Wednesday, February 13, 2013

Reading Assignment: The last lecture concerned variational principles and classical mechanics. Please read Sections 5, 6, 7, 12, 13 and 14 of the notes (Appendix B from my other course) on classical mechanics.

I have posted some reprints from the book by Mukhanov and Winitzki. I will not attempt to follow this book in detail, but will use as a suggestion of topics to lecture on. When I ask you to read this book, I don't expect you to follow it in detail, but you will probably learn some things all the same. With that in mind, please read Chapter 1 and sections 2.1 to 2.3.

I want you all to understand the concept of the functional derivative. I lectured on this in detail last Wednesday. I will post some lecture notes on this topic for you to read.

1. Please send me a question from the lectures, the readings above, or the book. I will try to address these questions at the beginning of lecture on Wednesday.