

Introduction

“Physics is the universe’s operating system.”

-- Steven R. Garman

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 - Office Hours: Thursday 2PM,
Friday 10AM, or by appointment. Start
next week.
 - You have a “hunting license” for other
times.
 - Other things I do relating to first year
Physics:
 - Look after undergraduate Physics
computing.
 - In the Spring, the laboratory.
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Assumptions of Classical Physics

- The world is mechanistic.
- It is describable by *Laws*.
- The Laws are mathematical.

Is the universe *really* like this?

Perhaps not, but the assumptions
are remarkably effective!

Physics’ Description of the Universe

- Mathematics as a *language*.
- Everyday words with precise
definitions.

Energy Hippies: “Thought is a form
of energy.”

Chinese Medicine: *Chi* or *Qi*
Often translated as “internal
energy.”
