PHYS 1410 (Winter 2013) - Tutorial (01.08.13)

- A calculator is not needed.
- 1. (10 points) You are a burglar. You want to break into a certain house, but it is unfortunately surrounded by a fence that you can not climb directly (see figure). So you are going to need a ladder. But ladders are expensive! So you need to figure out what is the shortest ladder (of length L) you would need to get over the fence to the house. Your answer should depend upon d and h. Make sure to clearly explain your thinking/methodology!

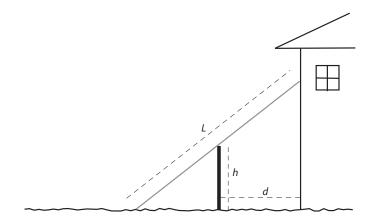


Figure 1: Schematic showing nature of problem. Note that fence is of height h and is at a distance d from the house. The ladder only need touch the house (i.e., the height of the window is irrelevant).