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16.346 Astrodynamics
Fall 2008

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Lecture 6 The Orbital Boundary-Value Problem

Using the Lagrange Coefficients for the Boundary-Value Problem

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{r} &= F \mathbf{r}_0 + G \mathbf{v}_0 & \iff & & \mathbf{r}_2 &= F \mathbf{r}_1 + G \mathbf{v}_1 \\ \mathbf{v} &= F_t \mathbf{r}_0 + G_t \mathbf{v}_0 & & & \mathbf{v}_2 &= F_t \mathbf{r}_1 + G_t \mathbf{v}_1 \end{aligned}$$

Terminal Velocity Components along Skewed Axes Thore Godal (1960) #6.1

From the terminal position vectors \mathbf{r}_1 and \mathbf{r}_2 , find the velocity vectors \mathbf{v}_1 and \mathbf{v}_2 :

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{r}_2 \\ \mathbf{v}_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} F & G \\ F_t & G_t \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{r}_1 \\ \mathbf{v}_1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{r}_1 \\ \mathbf{v}_1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} G_t & -G \\ -F_t & F \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{r}_2 \\ \mathbf{v}_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

where

$$F = 1 - \frac{r_2}{p}(1 - \cos \theta) \quad G = \frac{r_1 r_2}{\sqrt{\mu p}} \sin \theta \quad G_t = 1 - \frac{r_1}{p}(1 - \cos \theta)$$

Then

$$\mathbf{v}_1 = \frac{1}{G}(\mathbf{r}_2 - F\mathbf{r}_1) = \frac{\sqrt{\mu p}}{r_1 r_2 \sin \theta} \left[(\mathbf{r}_2 - \mathbf{r}_1) + \frac{r_2}{p}(1 - \cos \theta) \mathbf{r}_1 \right]$$

$$\mathbf{v}_2 = \frac{1}{G}(G_t \mathbf{r}_2 - \mathbf{r}_1) = \frac{\sqrt{\mu p}}{r_1 r_2 \sin \theta} \left[(\mathbf{r}_2 - \mathbf{r}_1) - \frac{r_1}{p}(1 - \cos \theta) \mathbf{r}_2 \right]$$

Next, define the unit vectors: $\mathbf{i}_{r_1} = \frac{\mathbf{r}_1}{r_1}$ $\mathbf{i}_{r_2} = \frac{\mathbf{r}_2}{r_2}$ $\mathbf{i}_c = \frac{\mathbf{r}_2 - \mathbf{r}_1}{c}$ so that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{v}_1 &= v_c \mathbf{i}_c + v_\rho \mathbf{i}_{r_1} \\ \mathbf{v}_2 &= v_c \mathbf{i}_c - v_\rho \mathbf{i}_{r_2} \end{aligned}$$

where $v_c = \frac{c\sqrt{\mu p}}{r_1 r_2 \sin \theta}$ and $v_\rho = \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{p}} \frac{1 - \cos \theta}{\sin \theta}$

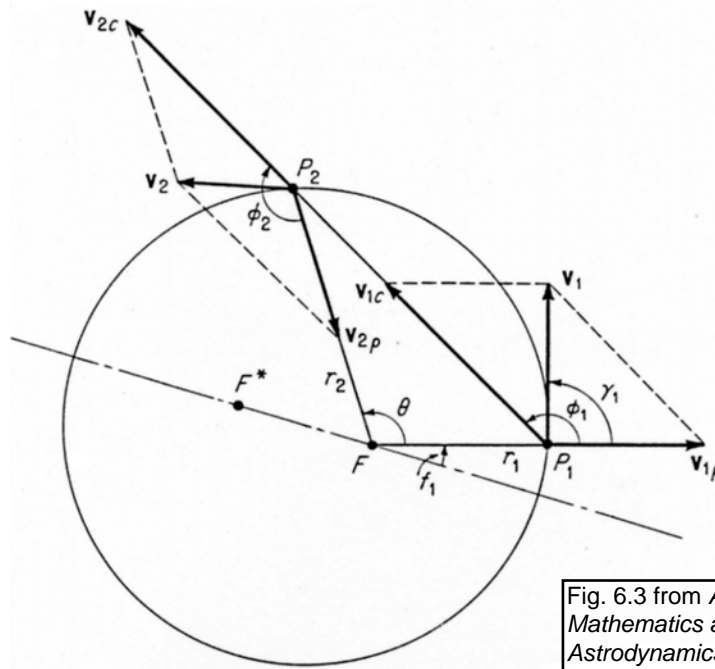


Fig. 6.3 from *An Introduction to the Mathematics and Methods of Astrodynamics*. Courtesy of AIAA. Used with permission.

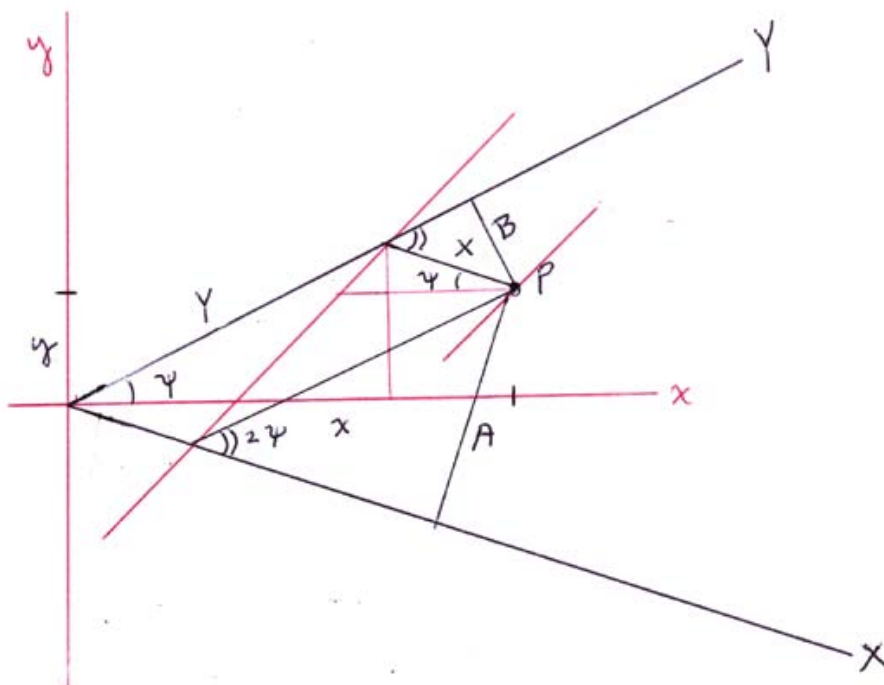
Properties of Skewed-Axes Velocity Components

Product: $v_c v_\rho = \frac{\mu c}{2r_1 r_2} \sec^2 \frac{1}{2} \theta = \frac{1}{4} v_m^2 \sec^2 \frac{1}{2} \phi = \text{constant}$ (independent of the orbit)

Ratio: $\frac{v_c}{v_\rho} = \frac{cp}{r_1 r_2 (1 - \cos \theta)}$ or $\frac{p}{p_m} = \frac{v_c}{v_\rho}$

Minimum-energy orbit parameter: $v_c = v_\rho \implies p_m = \frac{r_1 r_2}{c} (1 - \cos \theta)$

Euler's Equation of the Hyperbola in Asymptotic Coordinates 1748



- In Cartesian Coordinates x, y

$$\frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1 \quad \text{with} \quad e = \sec \psi (= \sec \frac{1}{2} \phi) \quad \implies \quad x^2 - y^2 \cot^2 \psi = a^2$$

- In Asymptotic Coordinates X, Y : $x = (Y + X) \cos \psi \quad y = (Y - X) \sin \psi$

$$(Y + X)^2 \cos^2 \psi - (Y - X)^2 \sin^2 \psi \cot^2 \psi = a^2$$

$$(Y + X)^2 - (Y - X)^2 = a^2 \sec^2 \psi = a^2 e^2$$

$$XY = \frac{1}{4} a^2 e^2 = \frac{1}{4} (a^2 + b^2)$$

- In Vertical Projection Coordinates A, B : $A = Y \sin 2\psi$ $B = X \sin 2\psi$

$$AB = 4XY \sin^2 \psi \cos^2 \psi = \frac{4}{e^2} XY \sin^2 \psi = a^2 \sin^2 \psi = \frac{a^2}{e^2} (e^2 - 1) = \frac{b^2}{e^2} \quad \boxed{AB = \frac{b^2}{e^2}}$$

Euler's Tangent to the Hyperbola

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Define α as the angle of intersection of the tangent at point P of the hyperbola with the x axis. Then the slope of the tangent is

$$\tan \alpha = \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{b^2}{a^2} \times \frac{x}{y} = \frac{x}{y} \tan^2 \psi = \frac{Y + X}{Y - X} \tan \psi$$

Now $\alpha + \psi$ is the angle between the tangent to the hyperbola and the asymptote. Then

$$\tan(\alpha + \psi) = \frac{\tan \alpha + \tan \psi}{1 - \tan \alpha \tan \psi} = \frac{Y \sin 2\psi}{Y \cos 2\psi - X} = \frac{A \sin 2\psi}{A \cos 2\psi - B}$$

which is the slope of the diagonal of the parallelogram whose sides are X and Y . (Also, Y and X can be replaced by A and B .)

Hyperbolic Locus of Velocity Vectors for the Boundary-Value Problem

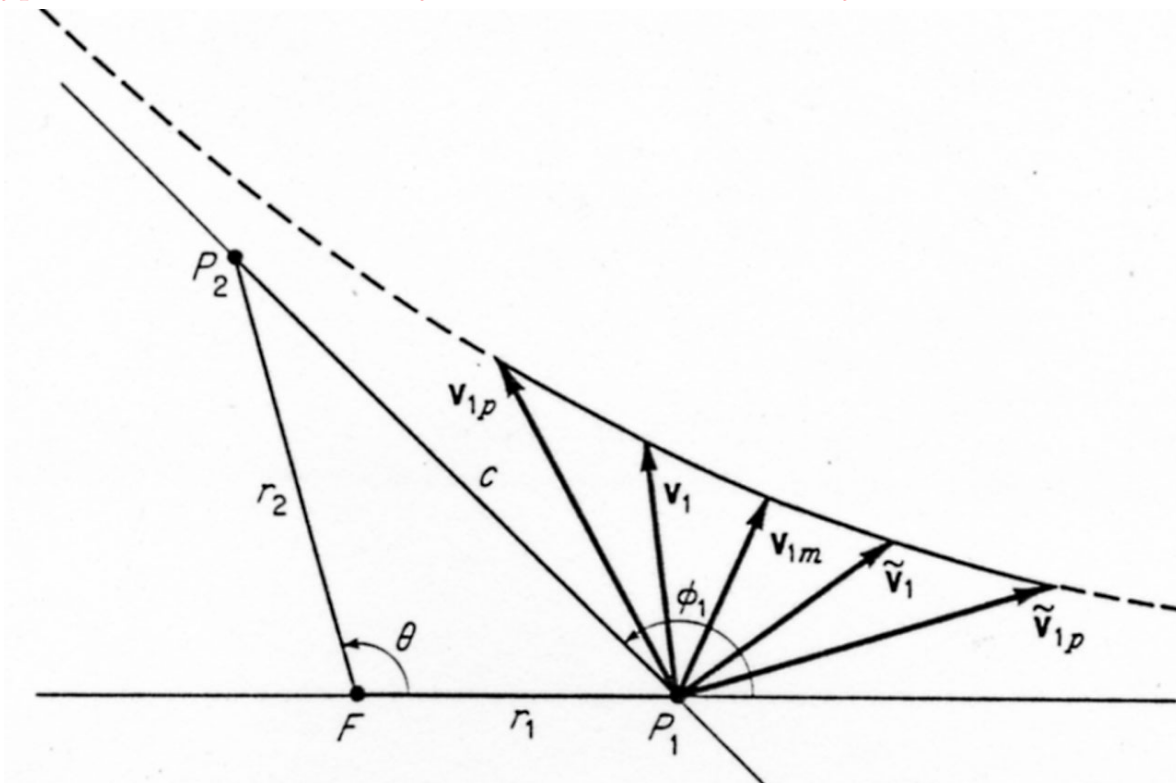


Fig. 6.4 from *An Introduction to the Mathematics and Methods of Astrodynamics*. Courtesy of AIAA. Used with permission.

At the terminal P_1 we have

$$\begin{aligned} A &= v_1 \sin \gamma_1 \\ B &= v_1 \sin(\phi_1 - \gamma_1) \end{aligned}$$

so that

$$\frac{v_c}{v_\rho} = \frac{A}{B} = \frac{\sin \gamma_1}{\sin(\phi_1 - \gamma_1)} = \frac{p}{p_m} = \frac{c \sin \gamma_1}{r_1 \sin \gamma_1 + r_2 \sin(\theta - \gamma_1)}$$

For the last step, replace ϕ_1 by θ using the law of sines for the triangle $\Delta P_1 F P_2$

Similarly, at the terminal P_2 ,

$$\begin{aligned} A &= v_2 \sin(\pi - \gamma_2) \\ B &= v_2 \sin(\phi_2 + \gamma_2 - \pi) \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{v_c}{v_\rho} = \frac{A}{B} = -\frac{\sin \gamma_2}{\sin(\phi_2 + \gamma_2)} = \boxed{\frac{p}{p_m} = \frac{c \sin \gamma_2}{r_2 \sin \gamma_2 - r_1 \sin(\theta + \gamma_2)}}$$