



Kinetics



Central Force Motion & Space Mechanics



Outline

- Central Force Motion
- Orbital Mechanics
- Examples

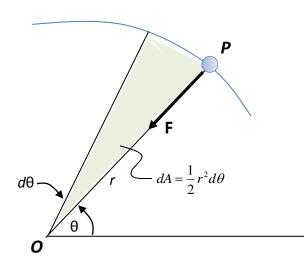






- If a particle travels under the influence of a force that has a line of action directed towards a fixed point, then the motion is called *central-force motion*
- Examples: planetary motion, electrostatic forces, centrifuge





θ

θ

Free body diagram

- Consider a particle of mass m acted on by a force F, with center O
- Using the Equations of Motion for Cylindrical Coordinates, it can be shown that (derivation omitted here, student please review):

$$\sum F_{r} = ma_{r} \Rightarrow -F_{r} = m \left[\frac{d^{2}r}{dt^{2}} - r \left(\frac{d\theta}{dt} \right)^{2} \right]$$
(13-11a)
$$\sum F_{\theta} = ma_{\theta} \Rightarrow 0 = m \left(r \frac{d^{2}\theta}{dt^{2}} - 2 \frac{dr}{dt} \frac{d\theta}{dt} \right)$$
(13-11b)

We may re-write Eqn 13-11b in the form

$$\frac{1}{r} \left[\frac{d}{dt} \left(r^2 \frac{d\theta}{dt} \right) \right] = 0$$

then by integration

$$r^2 \frac{d\theta}{dt} = h \tag{13-12}$$

where *h* is the constant of integration

 Since the particle sweeps through angle dθ in time interval dt

$$dA = \frac{1}{2}r^{2}d\theta$$
$$\frac{dA}{dt} = \frac{1}{2}r^{2}\frac{d\theta}{dt} = \frac{h}{2}$$

- *dA/dt* is called the *areal velocity*. It remains constant for a particle in central-force motion
- This means the particle sweeps through equal areas in equal time as it travels along the path

- Let us derive the *path of motion r* as a function of θ
- By the chain rule (Calculus 101 !)

$$\frac{dr}{dt} = \frac{dr}{d\theta}\frac{d\theta}{dt} = \frac{h}{r^2}\frac{dr}{d\theta}$$

$$\frac{d^2r}{dt^2} = \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{h}{r^2} \frac{dr}{d\theta} \right) = \frac{d}{d\theta} \left(\frac{h}{r^2} \frac{dr}{d\theta} \right) \frac{d\theta}{dt} = \left[\frac{d}{d\theta} \left(\frac{h}{r^2} \frac{dr}{d\theta} \right) \right] \frac{h}{r^2}$$

• Let us denote $\frac{1}{r} = \xi$

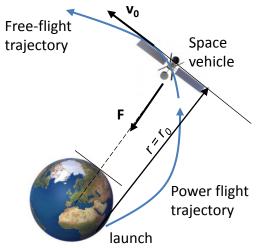
- So that we obtain $\frac{d^2r}{dt^2} = -h^2\xi^2 \frac{d^2\xi}{d\theta^2}$
- also the square of Eqn 13-12 becomes

$$\left(\frac{d\theta}{dt}\right)^2 = h^2 \xi^4$$

 Substituting the above in Eqn 13-11a we obtain a differential equation which can be solved to determine the *path of motion*

$$-h^{2}\xi^{2}\frac{d^{2}\xi}{d\theta^{2}} - h^{2}\xi^{3} = -\frac{F}{m} \quad OR \qquad \frac{d^{2}\xi}{d\theta^{2}} + \xi = \frac{F}{mh^{2}\xi^{2}}$$
(13-14)

- Consider a space vehicle of mass *m* launched into free-flight orbit with initial velocity v_o.
- Assume \mathbf{v}_{o} acts parallel to the tangent to the earth surface
- Neglect gravitational attractions of sun and moon



- At the instant just after release into free flight the only force acting on it is the gravitational attraction from the earth
- According to Newton's law of gravitation; $F = G \frac{M_e m}{r^2}$
- To obtain the orbital path, substitute into Eqn 13-14

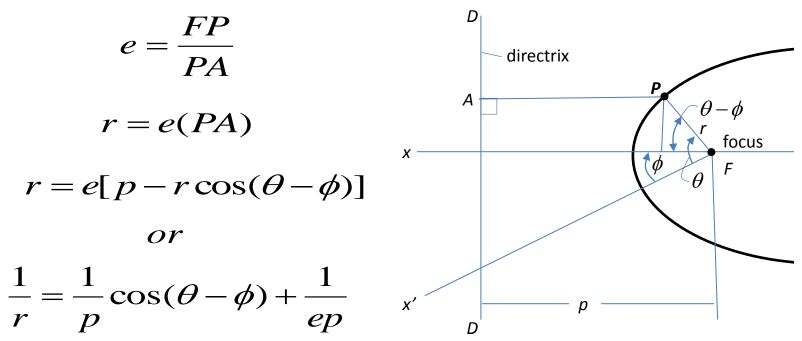
$$\frac{d^2\xi}{d\theta^2} + \xi = \frac{GM_e}{h^2}$$

- The above differential equation can be solved as the sum of the complementary and particular solutions (Review your Differential Equations)
- Solution is:

$$\xi = \frac{1}{r} = C\cos(\theta - \phi) + \frac{GM_e}{h^2} \qquad (13-16)$$



- Eqn 13-16 is the equation of a conic section [student, please review your Pre-Cal materials]
- By definition, Eccentricity



• Comparing with Eqn 13-16;

$$p = \frac{1}{C} \tag{13-17}$$

and

$$e = \frac{Ch^2}{GM_e} \tag{13-18}$$

• Provided θ is measured from the x-axis which is perpendicular to the directrix (and an axis of symmetry), then $\Phi = 0$, and Eqn 13-16 reduces to

$$\frac{1}{r} = C\cos(\theta) + \frac{GM_e}{h^2}$$
(13-19)

- The constants *C* and *h* are determined from the boundary conditions at the end of the *power*-flight trajectory
- At the beginning of free-flight $r = r_o$, $v = v_o$; if $\theta = \Phi = 0$, then from curvilinear motioncylindrical components

$$v_{o} = r_{0} \left(\frac{d\theta}{dt} \right)$$

$$h = r_{0}^{2} \frac{d\theta}{dt} \qquad or \quad h = r_{0} v_{0} \qquad (13-20)$$

• Substituting Eqn 13-20, $r = r_0$, $\theta = 0$, into Eqn 13-19

$$C = \frac{1}{r_0} \left(1 - \frac{GM_e}{r_0 v_0^2} \right)$$
(13-21)

• The equation for the free-flight trajectory therefore becomes

$$\frac{1}{r} = \frac{1}{r_0} \left(1 - \frac{GM_e}{r_0 v_0^2} \right) \cos \theta + \frac{GM_e}{r_0 v_0^2}$$
(13-22)

• The type of path traveled by the space vehicle depends on the value of the eccentricity

e=0	\Rightarrow	circle	
<i>e</i> = 1	\Rightarrow	parabola	(13-23)
<i>e</i> < 1	\Rightarrow	ellipse	
<i>e</i> > 1	\Rightarrow	hyperbola	

• [Students, plug in these values to the appropriate equations and verify these conclusions]

- Parabolic path: The spacecraft is on the borderline of never returning to its starting point.
- The initial velocity required for a parabolic path is called the escape velocity
- Plugging e = 1, Eqns 13-21 and 13-22 into Eqn 1318;

(13-24)

$$v_e = \sqrt{\frac{2GM_e}{r_0}}$$

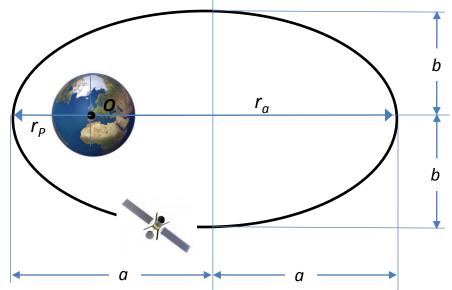
• Similarly, for Circular Motion

$$v_c = \sqrt{\frac{GM_e}{r_0}} \tag{13-25}$$

- Note that v_o ≥ v_e will result in vehicle escaping earth's gravitational pull
- On the other hand if $\mathbf{v}_o < v_c$ the vehicle will fail to reach orbit, renter earth atmosphere, and crash or burn up in the heat of reentry

Elliptical Orbit

- All planets and most artificial satellites orbit in an elliptical path.
- For the space craft the minimum distance to the center of the earth (with earth at a focus of the ellipse), r_p can be found by plugging $\theta = 0$ into Eqn 13.22
- Using $\theta = 180^{\circ}$ we get the max distance r_a



Elliptical Orbit

$$r_p = r_0$$
 (13-26)

• r_p is called the perigee (generally periapsis)

$$r_{a} = \frac{r_{0}}{(2GM_{e}/r_{0}v_{0}^{2}) - 1}$$
(13-27)

- r_a is called the apogee (generally apoapsis)
- Half the length of the major axis

$$a = \frac{r_p + r_a}{2} \tag{13-28}$$

Elliptical Orbit

• It can also be shown that

$$b = \sqrt{r_p r_a} \tag{13-29}$$

(Students, verify on your own)

• By integration, the area of the ellipse is

$$A = \pi a b = \frac{\pi}{2} (r_p + r_a) \sqrt{r_p r_a}$$
 (13-30)

Elliptical Motion

• The areal velocity was defined in Eqn 13-13 as

$$\frac{dA}{dt} = \frac{h}{2} \quad \text{or} \quad \int \frac{dA}{dt} = \int \frac{h}{2}$$
$$\implies A = \frac{hT}{2}$$

where *T* is the time to make one orbital revolution (aka orbital period).

• From 13-30:

$$T = \frac{\pi}{h} (r_p + r_a) \sqrt{r_p r_a}$$
(13-31)

Laws of Planetary Motion

- The theory developed in this chapter was first presented by Johannes Kepler in 1621, 6 clear decades before Newton's *Principia*
- Kepler developed the laws of planetary motion over 20 years by studying planetary data collected by his mentor Tycho Brahe





Laws of Planetary Motion

- Planets travel in elliptical orbits with the sun at a focus of the ellipse (Eqn 13-22)
- Planets travel in an orbit such that they sweep equal areas in equal time intervals (Eqn 13-13)
- The square of the period of any planet is directly proportional to the cube of the major axis of its orbit (Eqns 13-31, 13-19, 13-28, 13-29)



