

Spacecraft Mission

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This report will cover all parts of assignment one in the Aerospace 720 course

1 Orbital Propagation

1.1 Solving Kepler's Equation

I) We need to solve Kepler's Equation using numerical methods. Using the Newton-Raphson Method we can take the eccentricity and mean anomaly as inputs and numerically solve for the eccentric anomaly.

```
def Kepler(e, M, tol = 1e-12, max_i = 1000):
    E = M                                # Guess solution
    for i in range(max_i):
        f_E = E - e * np.sin(E) - M     # Define the function in terms of f(E) = 0
        f_prime = 1 - e * np.cos(E)     # Derive the function in terms of E
        del_E = f_E / f_prime
        E_new = E - del_E                # Calculate the new eccentric anomaly
        if np.abs(del_E) < tol:           # If the value is within the set tolerance
            theta = 2*np.arctan(np.tan(E_new/2) * ((1+e)/(1-e))**(0.5))
            return theta                  # Return true anomaly
    E = E_new
```

II) If we set the tolerance to $1e - 12$, we can compute the true anomaly of the asteroid at t_0 and $t_0 + 100$ days. A_ae0 is the OBJ data of the asteroid, it is an array.

```
trueAnomaly_asteroidt_0 = Kepler(A_ae0[2], A_ae0[6])
meanAnomalyt_100 = get_mean_anomaly(100*(3600*24), A_ae0[6], A_ae0[1])
trueAnomaly_asteroidt_100 = Kepler(A_ae0[2], meanAnomalyt_100)
```

Printing these values gives that the true anomaly $\theta_{t_0} = 1.4246$ and $\theta_{t_0+100} = 2.1369$. Where these answers are in radians.

III) Now I have created a function that takes in a state of orbital elements and returns the position and velocity vectors at that point. It uses a rotation matrix to convert from the perifocal frame to the ECI frame. This is defined via i, ω , and Ω terms and is calculated using the defined matrices in the appendix.

```
def COE2RV(arr, mu):
    a, e, i, Omega, omega, theta_var = arr[0:6]
```

```

h = np.sqrt(mu * a * (1 - e**2))
r = a*(1-(e**2))/(1 + e*np.cos(theta_var))

arr_r = np.array([r*np.cos(theta_var), r*np.sin(theta_var), 0])
arr_v = (mu/h)* np.array([-np.sin(theta_var), e + np.cos(theta_var), 0])

# Rotate position and velocity from perifocal to inertial frame using the
# transformation matrix
R_matrix = rotation_matrix(i, Omega, omega)

r_ijk = R_matrix @ arr_r
v_ijk = R_matrix @ arr_v
return r_ijk, v_ijk

```

Using this code we can output the state vector at some time t . The first three values are the x, y, z positions in **km**. The last three are the velocity values in the x, y, z direction in **km/s**.

$$\begin{array}{cc}
\text{At } t_0: & \text{At } t_0 + 100: \\
\bar{\mathbf{X}} = \begin{bmatrix} x = -1.1694365\text{e}+08 \\ y = 1.53462780\text{e}+08 \\ z = -6.7446087\text{e}+06 \\ v_x = -3.1710203\text{e}+01 \\ v_y = -3.6285380\text{e}+00 \\ v_z = -1.8931546\text{e}+00 \end{bmatrix} & \bar{\mathbf{X}} = \begin{bmatrix} x = -3.2057997\text{e}+08 \\ y = 6.72659396\text{e}+07 \\ z = -1.8991445\text{e}+07 \\ v_x = -1.6964807\text{e}+01 \\ v_y = -1.2943780\text{e}+01 \\ v_z = -1.0284663\text{e}+00 \end{bmatrix}
\end{array}$$

IV) Next, I have written a function called "Ephemeris". It returns the position and velocity at some time t .

```

def Ephemeris(t, OBJdata, mu):

    time, a, e, i, Omega, omega, mean_anamoly = OBJdata[0:7]
    nu_t = (mu / (a**3))*0.5
    mean_anamoly_t = mean_anamoly + nu_t * (t)
    h = np.sqrt(mu * a * (1 - e**2))
    theta_var = Kepler(e, mean_anamoly_t)
    r = a*(1-(e**2))/(1 + e*np.cos(theta_var))

    arr_r = np.array([r*np.cos(theta_var), r*np.sin(theta_var), 0])
    arr_v = (mu/h)* np.array([-np.sin(theta_var), e + np.cos(theta_var), 0])

    R_matrix = rotation_matrix(i, Omega, omega)
    r_ijk = R_matrix @ arr_r
    v_ijk = R_matrix @ arr_v
    return r_ijk, v_ijk

```

1.2 Numerical Integration

To derive the necessary state function we have:

$$\ddot{\mathbf{r}} = -\frac{\mu}{r^3}\mathbf{r} \quad (1)$$

From here we know that $\frac{dv}{dt} = \dot{r}$ giving:

$$\frac{d\mathbf{v}}{dt} = -\frac{\mu}{r^3}\mathbf{r} \quad (2)$$

Expanding each vector as three-dimensional components in x, y, z :

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = v_x, \frac{dy}{dt} = v_y, \frac{dz}{dt} = v_z \quad (3)$$

$$\frac{dv_x}{dt} = -\frac{\mu}{r^3}x, \frac{dv_y}{dt} = -\frac{\mu}{r^3}y, \frac{dv_z}{dt} = -\frac{\mu}{r^3}z \quad (4)$$

Where $r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}$

We can now define a state vector $\bar{\mathbf{X}}$

$$\bar{\mathbf{X}} = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ v_x \\ v_y \\ v_z \end{bmatrix} \quad (5)$$

Finally, deriving this state vector gives the following:

$$\dot{\bar{\mathbf{X}}} = \begin{bmatrix} v_x \\ v_y \\ v_z \\ -\frac{\mu}{r^3}x \\ -\frac{\mu}{r^3}y \\ -\frac{\mu}{r^3}z \end{bmatrix} \quad (6)$$

2 Figures

Figure example:

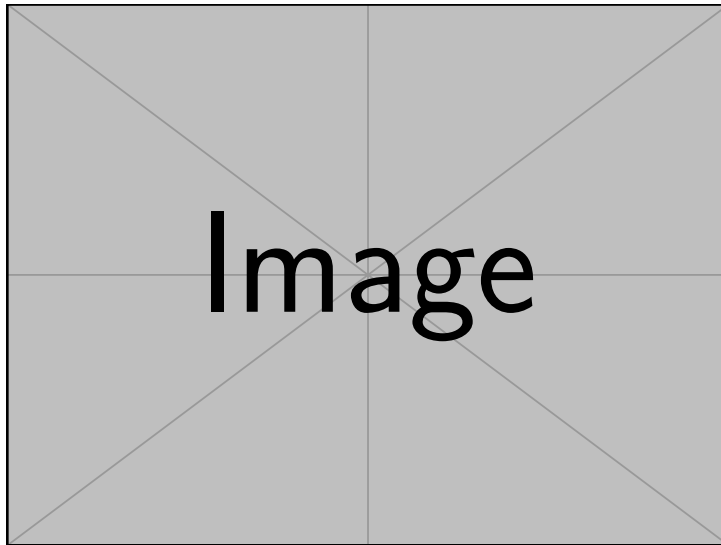


Figure 1: Example figure caption.

3 Tables

Left	Center	Right
A	B	C
1	2	3

Table 1: Example table.