### Lecture 4

# The Two-Body Problem

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This PowerPoint Notes Is Based on the Textbook 'An Introduction to Computer Simulation Methods: Applications to Physical Systems', 2nd Edition, Harvey Gould and Jan Tobochnik, Addison-Wesley(1996);

"A First Course in Computational Physics"; "Numerical Recipes";

"Elementary Numerical Analysis"; "Computational Methods in Physics and Engineering".

# Required for Lecture 4

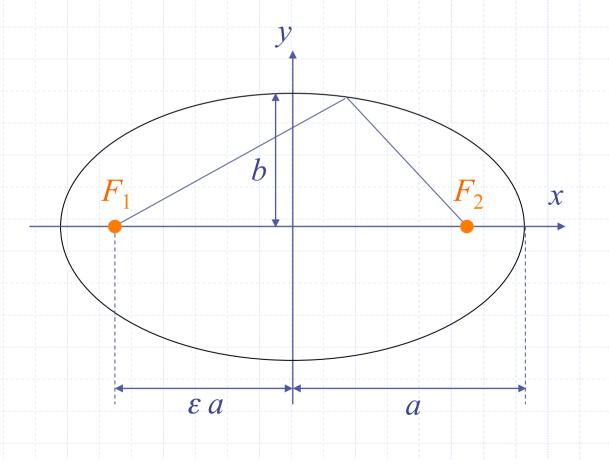
- Simulating solar system (and alike) according to Newton's universal law of gravitation.
- Centre of mass, conservation laws, etc.
- Physical units and computer simulations.
- Dog-log plots and data analysis.
- Programs: planet and planet2.
- Use functions (e.g., force).

# **Questions and Objective**

- One of Newton's great discoveries is the **gravitation law**. How will it be used for simulating planet motion?
- Kepler made great discovery on planets motion, could we repeat his observations by computer simulation?
- Scattering plays an important role in our understanding of matter structures. Can we simulate it?
- We will learn how to simulate solar system, helium atom, and scattering process. At the same time, we will review physical units and its usage.

# Kepler's 1st Law of Planets

Each planet moves in an elliptical orbit with the sun located at one of the foci of the ellipse.



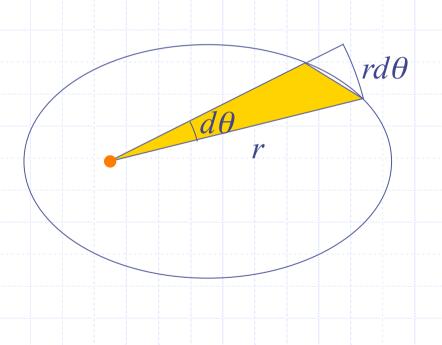
# Kepler's 2nd Law of Planets

The speed of a planet increase as its distance from the sun decrease such that the line from the sun to the planet sweeps out equal areas in equal times.

$$dS = \frac{1}{2}r^2d\theta$$

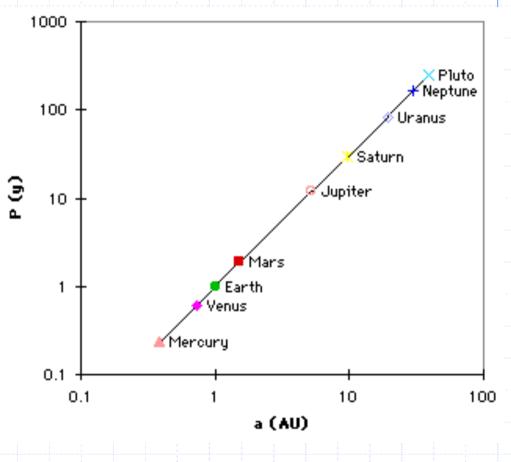
The rate at which area is swept out by the radius is

$$\frac{dS}{dt} = \frac{1}{2}r^2\dot{\theta} = \frac{L}{2m}$$



# Kepler's 3rd Law of Planets

The ratio  $T^2/a^3$  is the same for all planets that orbit the sun, where T is the period  $\frac{3}{2}$ of the planet and a is the semi-major axis of the ellipse.



log-log plot

# **Log-log and Semi-log Plots**

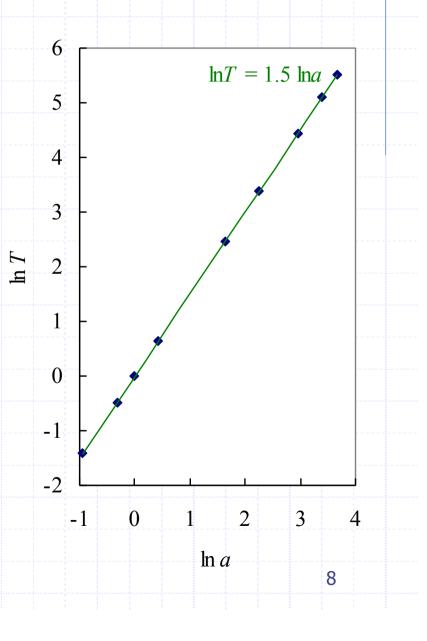
Ways of using graph to analyse data:

- y = ax + bPlot y versus x.
- $y = Ce^{rx}$ ,  $\ln y = \ln C + rx$ Plot  $\ln y$  versus x (semi-log plots).
- $y = Cx^n$ ,  $\ln y = \ln C + n \ln x$ Plot  $\ln y$  versus  $\ln x$  (log-log plots).

Example: Plots of Table 4.1.

## Plot of lnT vs lna

| T (earth years) | a (AU)   |
|-----------------|--|
| 0.241           | 0.387  |
| 0.615           | 0.723  |
| 1.00            | 1.00   |
| 1.88            | 1.523  |
| 11.86           | 5.202  |
| 29.5            | 9.539  |
| 84              | 19.18  |
| 165             | 30.06  |
| 248             | 39.44  |
|                 | 0.241<br>0.615<br>1.00<br>1.88<br>11.86<br>29.5<br>84<br>165 |

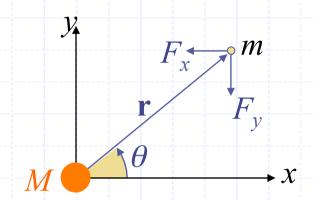


# The Equation of Motion

• Reduce two-body problem to one-body problem:

Centre of mass co-ordinates

Reduced mass, 
$$\mu = \frac{Mm}{M+m}$$
.



• Newton's universal law of gravitation (1666,1687):

$$\vec{F} = -\frac{GMm}{r^2}\hat{r} = -\frac{GMm}{r^3}\vec{r},$$

where  $\mathbf{r}$  is directed from M to m

$$G = 6.67 \times 10^{-11} \text{ m}^3/\text{ kg} \cdot \text{s}^2$$
 (too small?)

### **Central Force**

- The force is independent of the direction and only dependent on the separation between M and m:  $\vec{F}(\vec{r}) = F(r)\hat{r}$
- Angular momentum L, L =  $\mathbf{r} \times \mathbf{p}$ In component form  $L_z = m (x v_y - y v_x)$
- Total energy E,  $E = \frac{1}{2}mv^2 \frac{GMm}{r}$

Angular momentum and total energy are conserved.

# The Equation of Motion

 $= \underbrace{\text{Equation of motion}}_{\text{equation of motion}} m \frac{d^2 \vec{r}}{dt^2} = -\frac{GMm}{r^3} \vec{r}$ 

In component form

$$\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} = -\frac{GM}{r^3}x,$$

$$\frac{d^2y}{dt^2} = -\frac{GM}{r^3}y$$
, where  $r^2 = x^2 + y^2$ 

Two coupled second-order differential equations.

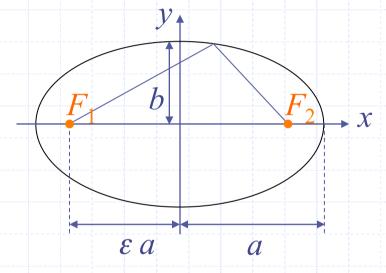
# Circular and Elliptical Orbits

$$a = \frac{v^2}{r}$$

$$v = \sqrt{\frac{GM}{r}}$$

$$T^2 = \frac{4\pi^2}{GM}r^3$$

### Circular Motion An Elliptic Orbit



**Eccentricity** 

$$\varepsilon = \sqrt{1 - \frac{b^2}{a^2}}. \ (0 < \varepsilon < 1)$$

### Remarks

- Principle of Superposition, linear physics.
- Coulomb's law in E&M.
- Gauss' theorem, power 2.
- $\bullet$  Potential function U(r):
  - > Difference in stating and ending positions
  - F = W U(r)

### **Circular Orbits**

### **Circular Motion**

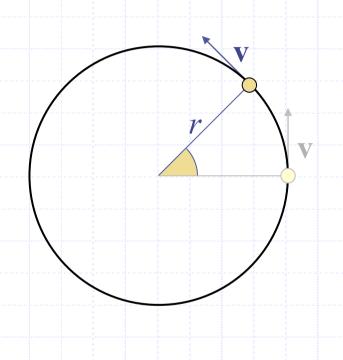
$$r^2 = R^2$$

$$\mathbf{r}^2 = R^2$$

$$\mathbf{r} \cdot \frac{d\mathbf{r}}{dt} = \mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{v} = 0$$

$$\mathbf{r} \cdot \frac{d\mathbf{v}}{dt} + v^2 = 0$$

$$a = \frac{v^2}{r}$$



### SI Base Units

- **Length:** *meter*, m, "... the length equal to 1,650,763.73 wavelengths in vacuum of the radiation corresponding to the transition between the level and of the krypton-86-atom." (1960)
- Mass: *kilogram*, kg, "... this prototype [a certain platinum-iridium cylinder] shall henceforth be considered to be the unit of mass." (1889)
- **Time:** *second*, s, "... the duration of 9,192,631,770 periods of the radiation corresponding to the transition between the two hyperfine levels of the ground state of the cesium-133 atom." (1967)
- **Thermodynamic Temperature:** *Kelvin*, K, "... the fraction 1/273.16 of the thermodynamic temperature of triple point of water." (1967)

### SI Base Units

- Electric Current: ampere, A, "... that constant current which, if maintained in two straight parallel conductors of infinite length, of negligible circular cross section, and placed 1 meter apart in vacuum, would produce between these conductors a force equal to Newton per meter of length." (1946)
- **Amount of Substance:** *mole*, mol, "... the amount of substance of a system which contains as many elementary entities as there are atoms in 0.012 kilograms of carbon-12." (1971)
- **Luminous Intensity:** candela, cd, "... the luminous intensity, in the perpendicular direction, of a surface of 1/600,000 square meter of a black-body at the temperature of freezing platinum under a pressure of 101,325 Newton per square meter." (1967)

|                                 |           | SI Units |                     |                              |
|---------------------------------|-----------|----------|---------------------|------------------------------|
| Quantity                        | Name      | Symbol   | Expression in terms | Expression in terms          |
|                                 |           |          | of other units      | of SI base units             |
| Frequency                       | Hertz     | Hz       |                     | $s^{-1}$                     |
| Force                           | Newton    | N        |                     | m·kg/s <sup>2</sup>          |
| Pressure                        | Pascal    | Pa       | $N/m^2$             | kg/m ·s²                     |
| Energy, work, quantity of heat  | Joule     | J        | N·m                 | $kg \cdot m^2/s^2$           |
| Power radiant flux              | Watt      | W        | J/s                 | $kg \cdot m^2/s^3$           |
| Quantity of electricity,        | Coulomb   | С        |                     | A·s                          |
| electric charge                 | Couloillo | C        |                     | A 'S                         |
| Electric potential, potential   | Volt      | V        | W/A                 | $kg \cdot m^2/A \cdot s^2$   |
| difference, electromotive force | VOIL      |          |                     | kg III /A 'S                 |
| Capacitance                     | Farad     | F        | C/V                 | $A^2 \cdot s^4/kg \cdot m^2$ |
| Electric resistance             | Ohm       | Ω        | V/A                 | $kg \cdot m^2/A \cdot s^3$   |
| Conductance                     | Siemens   | S        | A/V                 | $A^2 \cdot s^3/kg \cdot m^2$ |
| Magnetic flux                   | Weber     | Wb       | V ·s                | $kg \cdot m^2/A \cdot s^2$   |
| Magnetic flux                   | Tesla     | T        | Wb/m <sup>2</sup>   | kg/A ·s²                     |
| Inductance                      | Henry     | Н        | Wb/A                | $kg \cdot m^2/A^2 \cdot s^2$ |

#### Comparison of the 1998 and 1986 CODATA recommended values of various constants

| Quantity                         | 1998 rel. std. uncert. $u_r$ | 1986 rel. std. Uncert. $u_r$ | 1986 $u_r$ : 1998 $u_r$ | $D_r$ |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|-------|
| $\alpha$                         | $3.7 \times 10^{-9}$         | $4.5 \times 10^{-8}$         | 12.2                    | - 1.7 |
| $\lambda_{_{_{\scriptstyle c}}}$ | $7.3 \times 10^{-9}$         | $8.9 \times 10^{-8}$         | 12.2                    | - 1.7 |
| h                                | $7.8 \times 10^{-8}$         | $6.0 \times 10^{-7}$         | 7.7                     | -1.7  |
| $N_A$                            | $7.9 \times 10^{-8}$         | $5.9 \times 10^{-7}$         | 7.5                     | 1.5   |
| e                                | $3.9 \times 10^{-8}$         | $3.0 \times 10^{-7}$         | 7.8                     | - 1.8 |
| R                                | $1.7 \times 10^{-6}$         | $8.4 \times 10^{-6}$         | 4.8                     | -0.5  |
| k                                | $1.7 \times 10^{-6}$         | $8.5 \times 10^{-6}$         | 4.8                     | -0.6  |
| $\sigma$                         | $7.0 \times 10^{-6}$         | $3.4 \times 10^{-5}$         | 4.8                     | -0.6  |
| <b>G</b>                         | $1.5 \times 10^{-3}$         | $1.3 \times 10^{-4}$         | 0.1                     | 0.0   |
| $R^{\infty}$                     | $7.6 \times 10^{-12}$        | $1.2 \times 10^{-9}$         | 157.1                   | 2.7   |
| $m_e/m_p$                        | $2.1 \times 10^{-9}$         | $2.0 \times 10^{-8}$         | 9.5                     | 0.9   |
| $A_r(e)$                         | $2.1 \times 10^{-9}$         | $2.3 \times 10^{-8}$         | 11.1                    | 0.7   |

**Note**: The relative standard uncertainty of a quantity y is defined as  $u_r(y) = u(y)/|y|$ , if  $y \ne 0$ , where u(y) is the standard uncertainty of y.  $D_r$  is the 1998 value minus the 1986 value divided by the standard uncertainty of the 1986 value. **Aug 2000 Physics Today** ©

| Quantity                                     | Symbol          | Value                             | Unit                    | Rel. std. uncert. $u_r$ |
|--|-----------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Speed of light in vacuum                     | $c, c_0$        | 299792458                         | $\mathrm{m\ s}^{-1}$    | Exact                   |
| Magnetic constant                            | $\mu_0$         | $4\pi \times 10^{-7}$             | $NA^{-2}$               | Exact                   |
|  |                 | $=12.566370614\times10^{-7}$      |                         |                         |
| Electric constant $1/\mu_0 c^2$              | $\mathcal{E}_0$ | $8.854187817 \times 10^{-12}$     | $F m^{-1}$              | Exact                   |
| Characteristic impedance                     | $Z_0$           | 376.730313461                     | $\Omega$                | Exact                   |
| of vacuum $\mu_0 c$                          |                 |                                   |                         |                         |
| Newtonian constant                           | G               | $6.673(10) \times 10^{-11}$       | $m^3 kg^{-1}s^{-2}$     | $1.5 \times 10^{-3}$    |
| of gravitation                               | G/hc            | $6.707(10) \times 10^{-39}$       | $(\text{GeV}/c^2)^{-2}$ | $1.5 \times 10^{-3}$    |
| Planck constant                              | h               | $6.62606876(52) \times 10^{-34}$  | Js                      | $7.8 \times 10^{-8}$    |
| in eV s                                      |                 | $4.13566727(16) \times 10^{-15}$  | eV s                    | $3.9 \times 10^{-8}$    |
| $h/2\pi$                                     | h               | $1.054571596(82) \times 10^{-34}$ | Js                      | $7.8 \times 10^{-8}$    |
| in eV s                                      |                 | $6.58211889(26) \times 10^{-16}$  | eV s                    | $3.9 \times 10^{-8}$    |
| Planck mass $(hc/G)^{1/2}$                   | $m_{ m p}$      | $2.1767(16) \times 10^{-8}$       | kg                      | $7.5 \times 10^{-4}$    |
| Planck length $h/m_p c = (hG/c^3)^{1/2}$     | $l_{ m p}$      | $1.6160(12) \times 10^{-35}$      | m                       | $7.5 \times 10^{-4}$    |
| Planck time $l_{\rm p}/c = (hG/c^{5})^{1/2}$ | $t_{ m p}$      | $5.3906(40) \times 10^{-44}$      | S                       | $7.5 \times 10^{-4}$    |

# **Fundamental Physical Constant**

- We keep determining precise values of those fundamental physical constants. Examples
  - Gravitation Constant G

$$G = 6.673 \text{ } \text{xx}(\text{xx}) \text{ } \text{ } \text{ } \text{ } 10^{-11}, 1.3 \text{ } \text{ } \text{ } \text{ } \text{ } 10^{-4}; (1986)$$

> Planck Constant h

$$h = 6.626\ 068\ 96(33)$$
 W  $10^{-34}$ ,  $5.0$  W  $10^{-8}$ ; (2006)

$$h = 6.626\ 068\ 76(52)$$
 W  $10^{-34}$ ,  $7.8$  W  $10^{-8}$ ; (1998)

### **Astronomical Units**

• Unit Length:

$$1AU = 1.496 \times 10^{11} \,\mathrm{m}$$

Unit Time:

$$1yr = 3.15 \times 10^7 \text{ s}$$

• Why do we want to use astronomical units?

$$GM = 4\pi^2$$

$$G = (6.6726 \pm 0.0005) \times 10^{-11} \,\mathrm{m}^3/\,\mathrm{kg}\cdot\mathrm{s}^2$$

### **Earth Units**

- # How to simulate motion of satellite in orbit about the earth?
- \* Same, but chose different unit, the Earth Units (EU).
- Unit Length:  $1EU = 6.37 \times 10^6 \,\mathrm{m}$
- Unit Time: 1 hour = 3600 s
- $Gm = 20.0 \text{ EU}^3 / \text{h}^2$

# **Array Variables**

Array Variables:

Data structure that consist of more than one variables and is an ordered set of elements that are of the same type, x(i), y(i).

 Useful for multi-dimension and/or manyparticle system.

# **Common Properties of Arrays:**

- $\bullet$  Arrays are defined by a <u>Dimension(in F90)</u> or <u>DIM(in BASIC)</u>, or *similar* statements (in other language). Total number of elements of an array is given by its lower and upper limit (*they must be integers*), e.g., a(30), b(0:3,1:30).
- $\bullet$  An element of an array is referenced by its subscript, e.g., a(3).
- \* Array can be passed to a subroutine or function. The entire array is not actually passed, *only the address of the first element*. Pay attention to the ordering of array elements.

For example a two dimension array defined as a(3,5)

$$a(1,1)$$
  $a(1,2)$   $a(1,3)$   $a(1,4)$   $a(1,5)$ 

$$a(2,1)$$
  $a(2,2)$   $a(2,3)$   $a(2,4)$   $a(2,5)$ 

$$a(3,1)$$
  $a(3,2)$   $a(3,3)$   $a(3,4)$   $a(3,5)$ 

Column

### ! illustrate the use of arrays program vector use common real, dimension (3) :: a,b real :: dot call initial(a,b) dot = dot product(a,b)print \*, "dot product = ", dot call cross(a,b) end program vector module common public :: initial, cross contains !all subroutines here end module common

#### **subroutine initial(a,b)**

```
real, dimension (:), intent(out) :: a,b a(1:3) = (/2.0, -3.0, -4.0 /) b(1:3) = (/6.0, 5.0, 1.0 /) end subroutine initial
```

```
subroutine cross(r,s)
   real, dimension (:), intent(in) :: r,s
   real, dimension (3) :: cross product
   ! note use of dummy variables
   integer :: component,i,j
   do component = 1,3
     i = modulo(component, 3) + 1
                                        ! Cyclic
    j = modulo(i,3) + 1
     cross product(component) = r(i)*s(j) - s(i)*r(j)
   end do
   print *, ""
   print *, "three components of the vector product:"
   print "(a,t10,a,t16,a)", "x","y","z"
   print *, cross product
```

end subroutine cross

### Simulation of the Orbit

Differential equations to solve:

$$\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} = -\frac{GM}{r^3}x$$

$$\frac{d^2y}{dt^2} = -\frac{GM}{r^3}y$$
, where  $r^2 = x^2 + y^2$ 

- Units: Astronomical Units
- Initial conditions:

$$x_1 = (\text{read in}), x_2 = 0; v_1 = 0, v_2 = (\text{read in})$$

```
! planetary motion
program planet
 use common
 integer :: nshow,counter
 call initial(nshow)
! call energy(eoverm0)
                                ! conservation quantities
 call output()
 counter = 0
 do
 if (t > 2) then
   exit
 end if
   call euler()
                                ! or Euler-Richardson
   counter = counter + 1
   if (modulo(counter,nshow) == 0) then
                                ! coordinates of "earth"
     call output()
     call energy(eoverm)
                                ! Note: define quantities
   end if
 end do
end program planet
```

#### module common

public :: initial, euler, output

```
real (selected_real_kind(15,307)), public :: t,dt
real (selected_real_kind(15,307)), public, dimension (2) ::
pos,vel
```

```
real (selected_real_kind(15,307)), public, parameter :: pi = 3.141569265358979323846 ! or pi =
```

```
real (selected_real_kind(15,307)), public, parameter ::
gm = 4.0*pi*pi ! astronomical units
```

contains

!all subroutines here

end module common

```
subroutine initial(nshow)
integer intent (out) :: nsh
```

```
integer, intent (out) :: nshow
t = 0.0
print *, "time step = "
read *, dt
print *, "number of time steps between output = "
read *, nshow
print *, "initial x position = "
read *, pos(1)
pos(2) = 0
                                 ! initial y-position (read in)
vel(1) = 0
                                 ! initial x-velocity
print *, "initial y-velocity = "
read *, vel(2)
```

#### end subroutine initial

```
subroutine euler() ! Euler-Cromer algorithm
 real (selected real kind(15,307)), dimension (2) :: accel
  real (selected real kind(15,307)):: r2,r3
 integer :: i
 r2 = pos(1)*pos(1) + pos(2)*pos(2)
 r3 = r2*sqrt(r2)
 do i = 1.2
   accel(i) = -gm*pos(i)/r3
   vel(i) = vel(i) + accel(i)*dt
   pos(i) = pos(i) + vel(i)*dt
 end do
 t = t + dt
end subroutine euler
subroutine output()
 print *, pos(1),pos(2), vel(1), vel(2)
end subroutine output
```

### **Conservation Laws**

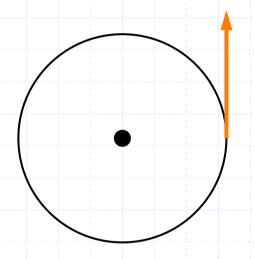
You can also write sub programs to check
 conserved quantities like

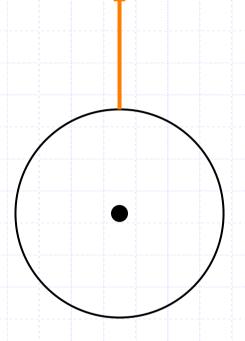
$$\frac{E}{m}, \frac{L}{m}, \frac{T^2}{a^3}, \dots$$

### subroutine conserve(eoverm)

real,intent(in,out) :: eoverm r2=pos(1)\*pos(1)+pos(2)\*pos(2) v2=vel(1)\*vel(1)+vel(2)\*vel(2) eoverm=v2/2.0-GM/sqrt(r2) end subroutine conserve

### Perturbation





An impulse applied in the *tangential* direction.

An impulse applied in the *radial* direction.

# **Perturbation (Read Textbook)**

### subroutine EulerRichardson(...)

```
use common
define quantities
if (s.eq. 2) then
 pos save = pos
 kick flag = "on"
end if
do while (kick flag = "on")
 diff=abs(pos-pos save)
 if( diff(1) < 0.02) and ( diff(2) < 0.02 ) then
   v2 = vel(1)*vel(1)+vel(2)*vel(2)
   vel(2) = vel(2) + 0.1*sqrt(v2)
   kick flag = "off"
 end if
end do
```

### call acceleration(pos(),vel(),accel(),GM)

call acceleration(posmid(),velmid(),accel(),GM)

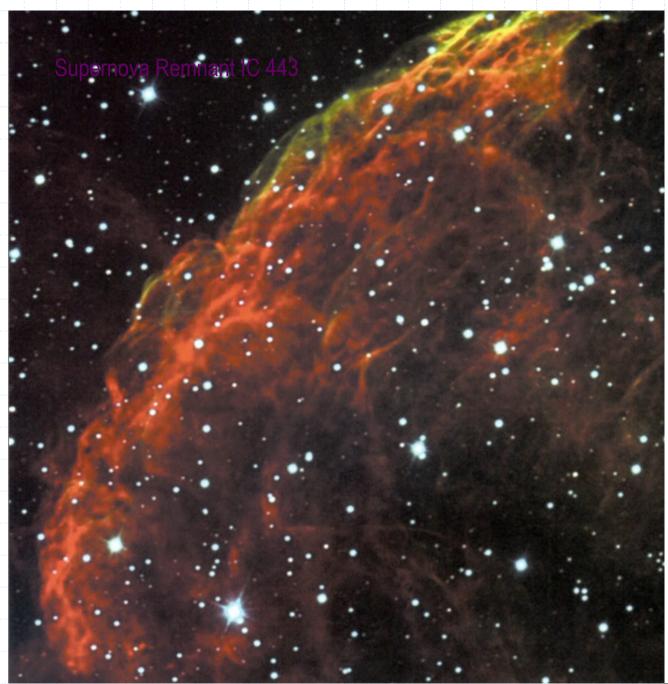
#### -end subroutine EulerRichardson

Check Problems 4.6 and 4.7 for more examples.

### **Drag Force?**

# **Velocity Space**

- Forces act on the path of particle by changing its velocity, NOT position.
- Plot  $(v_x, v_y)$  instead of (x, y), what is its shape?
- \* Consider both velocity and position of particle on an equal basis.
- Phase space graphAdvanced MechanicsQuantum Mechanics



#### **Supernova Remnant IC 443**

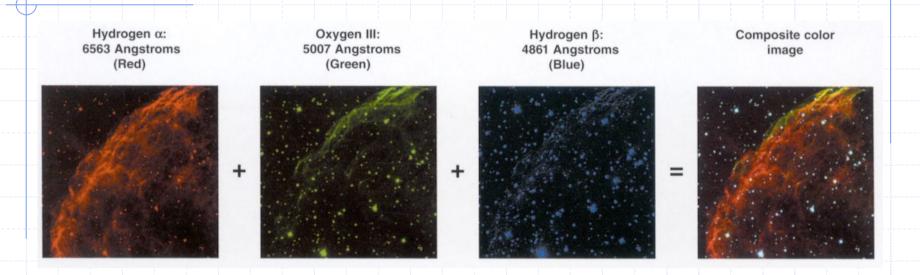
The filamentary nebula IC 443 lies in the constellation Gemini. It is the remnant of a supernova that exploded thousands of years ago; it lies about 5000 light-years form the Earth. The arches of gas in this image are part of a much larger bubble of gas that is still expanding outward into interstellar space. As it does so, it sweeps up interstellar gas and dust, churning it up, mixing in the heavy elements produced in the explosion, and producing the filamentary structure.

The supernova that produced this nebula was very close to a molecular cloud complex – a region of interstellar space thick with dust and gas, much of which is cool enough for molecules to form. Molecular clouds are the sites of current star formation. The death of this nearby star, and the resulting compression of the surrounding material form the blast wave, may contribute to formation of new stars in the future.

#### **IOWA STAT UNIVERSITY**

Department of Physics and Astronomy

# The Color-imaging Process



http://www.phy.cuhk.edu.hk/astroworld

http://www.nasa.gov/vision/starsgalaxies/index.html

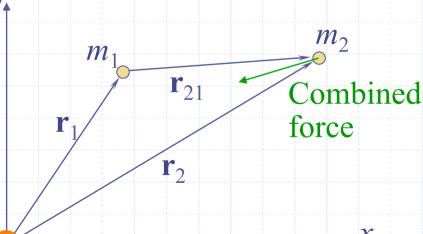
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# A Mini-Solar System

The existence of other planets in the solar system means:

- Kepler's three laws are no longer true.
- The total force on a given planet is not a central force.  $y_{\uparrow}$
- The motion is mostly 3D.

Simulating Atomic Structure



### Examples: (2D, 3 bodies on the same plane)

### **Equation of motion:**

$$m_1 \frac{d^2 \mathbf{r}_1}{dt^2} = -\frac{GMm_1}{r_1^3} \mathbf{r}_1 + \frac{Gm_1 m_2}{r_{21}^3} \mathbf{r}_{21}$$

$$m_2 \frac{d^2 \mathbf{r}_2}{dt^2} = -\frac{GMm_2}{r_2^3} \mathbf{r}_2 + \frac{Gm_1 m_2}{r_{21}^3} \mathbf{r}_{21}$$

$$m_1/M = 10^{-3}$$
,  $m_2/M = 4 \times 10^{-3}$ ,  
ratio(1) =  $(m_2/M)$   $GM = 0.004 \times GM$ ,  
ratio(2) =  $-(m_1/M)$   $GM = -0.001 \times GM$ .

### Examples: (2D, 3 bodies on the same plane)

```
PROGRAM planet2
! D = 2 solar system with major and minor planet
DIM x(2),y(2),vx(2),vy(2),ratio(2)
LIBRARY "csgraphics"
CALL initial (x(),y(),vx(),vy(),t,GM,ratio(),dt, nshow)
CALL output(x(),y(),t)
LET counter = 0
DO
   CALL Euler(x(),y(),vx(),vy(),t,GM,ratio(),dt)
      LET counter = counter + 1
   IF mod(counter,nshow) = 0 then
      CALL output(x(),y(),t)
   END IF
LOP until key input
END
```

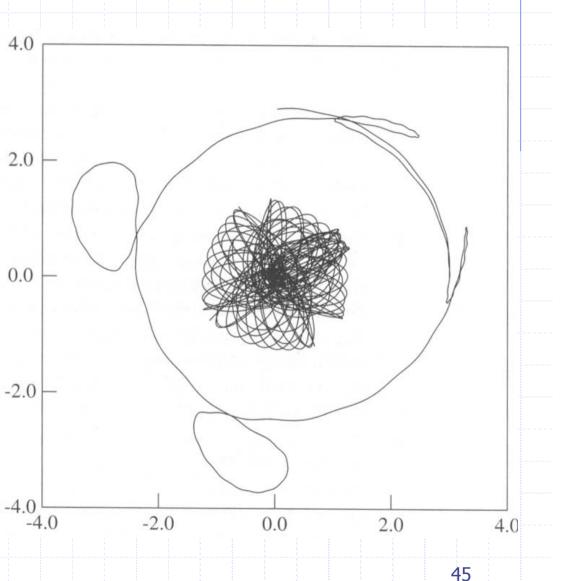
Orbits of the two e-s using the initial condition

$$\mathbf{r}_1 = (3,0), \, \mathbf{r}_2 = (1,0),$$

$$\mathbf{v}_1 = (0, 0.4)$$
, and

$$\mathbf{v}_2 = (0, -1)$$

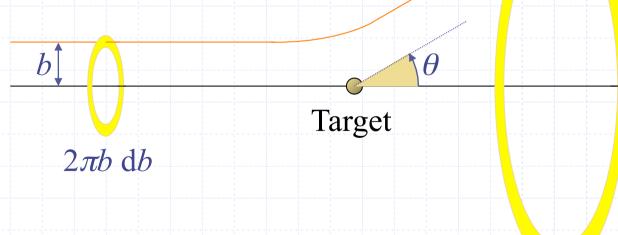
Program details omitted.



# **Two-Body Scattering**

A tool for understanding the structure of matter

Differential cross section: (classical)



 $\propto 2\pi \sin\theta |d\theta|$ 

# **Two-Body Scattering**

$$\frac{dN}{N} = n\sigma(\theta)d\Omega$$

N: total no. of particles in the beam, dN: the no. of particles scattered into  $d\Omega$ , n: target density (number of targets per unit area).

$$\sigma(\theta) = \frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \frac{b}{\sin\theta} \left| \frac{db}{d\theta} \right|$$

In real experiments, we only know dN/N as function of  $\theta$ .

# Lecture 4 Review and Required

- Simulating solar system (and alike) according to Newton's universal law of gravitation.
- Physical units and computer simulations.
- Centre of mass, conservation laws, etc.
- Log-log plots and data analysis.
- Two-body scattering, differential cross section.
- Programs: planet, planet2, etc.
- Use arrays and functions (e.g., force).

# Non-inverse Square Forces

Einstein's theory of gravitation predicts corrections to Newton's law:

$$m\frac{d^2r}{dt^2} = -\frac{GMm}{r^3} \left[ 1 - \frac{\alpha GM}{c^2r} \right] r$$

- The constant α is dimensionless. In AU units,  $α/c^2$  is a maximum for the planet Mercury, smaller than  $10^{-3}$
- What would the orbit look?