

Kepler's Laws

First Law: Shape of Orbits

P: perihelion, small radius of ellipse

A: aphelion, big radius of ellipse, semi-major axis

$$R = \frac{a + p}{2}$$

Second Law: Area & Time If $A_1 = A_2$,

$$t_1 = t_2$$

$$\vec{L}_0 = \vec{L}_f$$

$$v_1 > v_2$$

$$KE_1 > KE_2$$

$$U_2 > U_1$$

Third Law: Comparing Orbits

$$R_E = 1 \text{ AU}$$

$$T_E = 1 \text{ year}$$

$$R^3 = kT^2$$

$$\left(\frac{R_v}{R_E}\right)^3 = \frac{k}{k} \left(\frac{T_v}{T_E}\right)^2$$