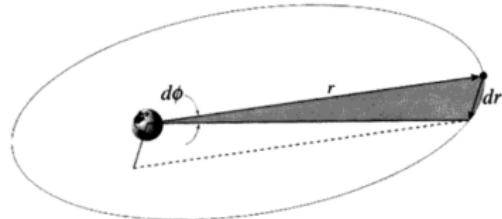


# PH111: Introduction to Classical Mechanics

## Chapter 5: Motion Under the Influence of a Central Force

- Question: What is a central force?
- Answer: Any force which is directed towards a center, and depends only on the distance between the center and the particle in question.
- Question: Any examples of central forces in nature?
- Answer: Two fundamental forces of nature, gravitation, and Coulomb forces are central forces
- Question: But gravitation and Coulomb forces are two body forces, how could they be central?
- Answer: Correct, these two forces are indeed two-body forces, but they can be reduced to central forces by a mathematical trick.



Astronomical data of Tycho Brahe, and

by clever mathematical fitting

FIGURE 4.9

Note that  $dr = r\phi dt$ . Area of shaded region,  $A = \frac{1}{2}$  (area of parallelogram) =  $\frac{1}{2}r^2\phi dt$ .

- Law 1: Every planet moves in an elliptical orbit, with sun on one of its foci.
- Law 2: Position vector of the planet with respect to the sun, sweeps equal areas in equal times
- Law 3: If  $T$  is the time for completing one revolution around sun, and  $A$  is the length of major axis of the ellipse, then  
$$T^2 \propto A^3$$
- We will be able to derive all these three laws based upon the mathematical theory we develop for central force motion

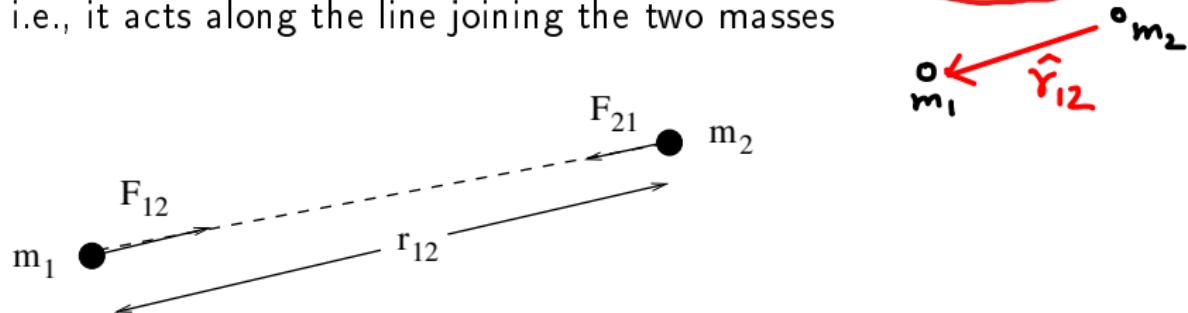
# Reduction of a two-body central force problem to a one-body problem

- Gravitational force acting on mass  $m_1$  due to mass  $m_2$  is

$$\bar{F}_{12} = -\frac{Gm_1m_2}{r_{12}^2} \hat{r}_{12},$$

$$\hat{r}_{12} = \frac{\bar{r}_1 - \bar{r}_2}{|\bar{r}_1 - \bar{r}_2|}$$

i.e., it acts along the line joining the two masses



- Similarly, the Coulomb force between two charges  $q_1$  and  $q_2$  is given by

$$\bar{F}_{12} = \frac{q_1 q_2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r_{12}^2} \hat{r}_{12}.$$

## Reduction of two-body problem....

- An ideal central force is of the form

$$\mathbf{F}(r) = f(r)\hat{\mathbf{r}},$$

i.e., it is a one-body force depending on the coordinates of only the particle on which it acts

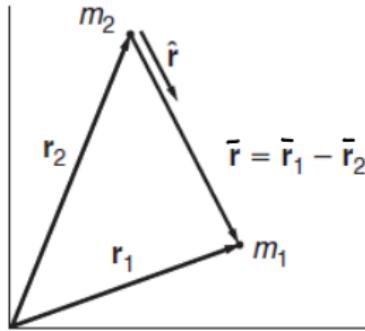
- But gravity and Coulomb forces are two-body forces, of the form

$$\mathbf{F}(r_{12}) = f(r_{12})\hat{\mathbf{r}}_{12}$$

- Can they be reduced to a pure one-body form?
- Yes, and this is what we do next

## Reduction of two-body problem...

- Relevant coordinates are shown in the figure



- We define

$$\begin{aligned}\bar{\mathbf{r}} &= \mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2 \\ \implies r &= |\bar{\mathbf{r}}| = |\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2|\end{aligned}$$

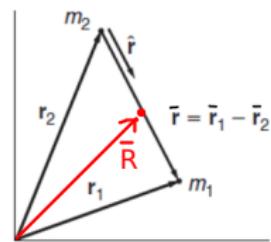
- Given  $\mathbf{F}_{12} = f(r)\hat{\mathbf{r}}$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}m_1 \ddot{\mathbf{r}}_1 &= f(r) \hat{\mathbf{r}} &\Rightarrow m_1 \ddot{\mathbf{r}}_1 &= f(|\bar{\mathbf{r}}_1 - \bar{\mathbf{r}}_2|) \hat{\mathbf{r}}_{12} \\ m_2 \ddot{\mathbf{r}}_2 &= -f(r) \hat{\mathbf{r}} &\Rightarrow m_2 \ddot{\mathbf{r}}_2 &= -f(|\bar{\mathbf{r}}_1 - \bar{\mathbf{r}}_2|) \hat{\mathbf{r}}_{12}\end{aligned}$$

# Decoupling equations of motion

- Both the equations above are coupled, because both depend upon  $\vec{r}_1$  and  $\vec{r}_2$ .
- In order to decouple them, we replace  $\vec{r}_1$  and  $\vec{r}_2$  by  $\vec{r} = \vec{r}_1 - \vec{r}_2$  (called relative coordinate), and center of mass coordinate  $R$

$$\bar{R} = \frac{m_1 \bar{r}_1 + m_2 \bar{r}_2}{m_1 + m_2}$$



- Now

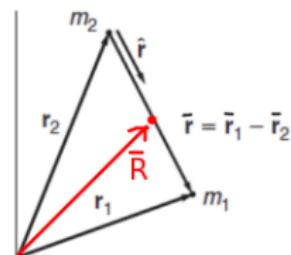
$$\begin{aligned}\ddot{\bar{R}} &= \frac{m_1 \ddot{r}_1 + m_2 \ddot{r}_2}{m_1 + m_2} = \frac{f\hat{r} - f\hat{r}}{m_1 + m_2} = 0 \\ \Rightarrow \bar{R} &= \bar{R}_0 + \bar{V}t,\end{aligned}$$

above  $R_0$  is the initial location of center of mass, and  $V$  is the center of mass velocity.

## Decoupling equations of motion...

- This equation physically means that the center of mass of this two-body system is moving with constant velocity, because there are no external forces on it.
- We also obtain

$$\begin{aligned}\ddot{\mathbf{r}}_1 - \ddot{\mathbf{r}}_2 &= f(r) \left( \frac{1}{m_1} + \frac{1}{m_2} \right) \hat{\mathbf{r}} \\ \Rightarrow \ddot{\mathbf{r}} &= \left( \frac{m_1 + m_2}{m_1 m_2} \right) f(r) \hat{\mathbf{r}} \\ \mu \ddot{\mathbf{r}} &= f(r) \hat{\mathbf{r}},\end{aligned}$$



where  $\mu = \frac{m_1 m_2}{m_1 + m_2}$ , is called reduced mass.

We keep track of only one variable  $\bar{\mathbf{r}}$ , instead of  $\bar{\mathbf{r}}_1$  and  $\bar{\mathbf{r}}_2$ , separately.

## Reduction of two-body problem to one body problem

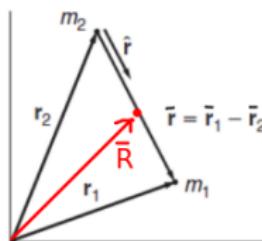
- Note that this final equation is entirely in terms of relative coordinate  $r$
- It is an **effective equation** of motion for a single particle of mass  $\mu$ , moving under the influence of force  $f(r)\hat{r}$ .
- There is just one coordinate ( $r$ ) involved in this equation of motion
- Thus the two body problem has been effectively reduced to a one-body problem
- This separation was possible only because the two-body force is central, i.e., along the line joining the two particles
- In order to solve this equation, we need to know the nature of the force, i.e.,  $f(r)$ .

# Two-body central force problem continued

- We have already solved the equation of motion for the center-of-mass coordinate  $\mathbf{R}$
- Therefore, once we solve the “reduced equation”, we can obtain the complete solution by solving the two equations

$$\mathbf{R} = \frac{m_1 \mathbf{r}_1 + m_2 \mathbf{r}_2}{m_1 + m_2}$$
$$\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2$$

- Leading to



In rest frame

$$\bar{\mathbf{r}}_1 = \bar{\mathbf{R}} + \left( \frac{m_2}{m_1 + m_2} \right) \bar{\mathbf{r}}$$
$$\bar{\mathbf{r}}_2 = \bar{\mathbf{R}} - \left( \frac{m_1}{m_1 + m_2} \right) \bar{\mathbf{r}}$$

In the center of mass frame

$$\bar{\mathbf{r}}'_j = \frac{m_j}{m_1 + m_2} \bar{\mathbf{r}}$$

$$\bar{\mathbf{r}}'_1 = \frac{m_2}{m_1 + m_2} \bar{\mathbf{r}}$$
$$\bar{\mathbf{r}}'_2 = -\frac{m_1}{m_1 + m_2} \bar{\mathbf{r}}$$

- Next, we discuss how to approach the solution of the reduced equation

# General Features of Central Force Motion

- Before attempting to solve  $\mu\ddot{r} = f(r)\hat{r}$ , we explore some general properties of central force motion
- Let  $\bar{L} = \bar{r} \times \bar{p}$  be angular momentum corresponding to the relative motion
- Then clearly

$$\frac{d\bar{L}}{dt} = \frac{d\bar{r}}{dt} \times \bar{p} + \bar{r} \times \frac{d\bar{p}}{dt} = \bar{v} \times \bar{p} + \bar{r} \times \bar{F}$$

- But  $v$  and  $p = \mu v$  and parallel, so that  $v \times p = 0$
- And for the central force case,  $r \times F = f(r)r \times \hat{r} = 0$ , so that

$$(\because \bar{F} = f(r)\hat{r})$$

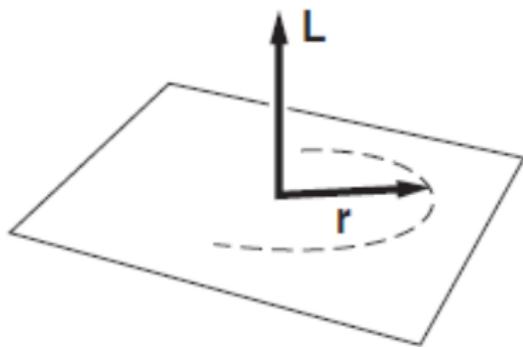
$$\frac{d\bar{L}}{dt} = 0$$

$$\implies \bar{L} = \text{constant}$$

- Thus, in case of central force motion, the angular momentum is conserved, both in direction, and magnitude

# Conservation of angular momentum

- Conservation of angular momentum implies that the relative motion occurs in a plane



Motion with const.  $\bar{L}$

$$\bar{L} = \bar{r} \times \bar{p} = \mu \bar{r} \times \bar{v}$$

$\bar{r}$  &  $\bar{v}$  must remain in  
the same plane

- Direction of  $L$  is fixed, and because  $r \perp L$ , so  $r$  must be in the same plane
- So, we can use plane polar coordinates  $(r, \theta)$  to describe the motion

# Equations of motion in plane-polar coordinates

- We know that in plane polar coordinates

$$\mathbf{a} = \ddot{\mathbf{r}} = (\ddot{r} - r\dot{\theta}^2)\hat{\mathbf{r}} + (2\dot{r}\dot{\theta} + r\ddot{\theta})\hat{\theta}$$

- Therefore, the equation of motion  $\mu\ddot{\mathbf{r}} = f(r)\hat{\mathbf{r}}$ , becomes

$$\mu(\ddot{r} - r\dot{\theta}^2)\hat{\mathbf{r}} + \mu(2\dot{r}\dot{\theta} + r\ddot{\theta})\hat{\theta} = f(r)\hat{\mathbf{r}}$$

- On comparing both sides, we obtain following two equations

$$\mu(\ddot{r} - r\dot{\theta}^2) = f(r)$$

$$\mu(2\dot{r}\dot{\theta} + r\ddot{\theta}) = 0$$

- By multiplying second equation on both sides by  $r^2$  we obtain

$$\frac{d}{dt}(\mu r^2 \dot{\theta}) = 0 \quad \Leftrightarrow \mu(2r\dot{r}\dot{\theta} + r^2\ddot{\theta}) = 0$$

$r \neq 0$ , so cancels

# Equations of motion

- This equation yields

Recall

$$\bar{v} = \dot{r}\hat{r} + r\dot{\theta}\hat{\theta}$$
$$L = \bar{r} \times \bar{p} = \mu r \hat{r} \times (\dot{r}\hat{r} + r\dot{\theta}\hat{\theta})$$
$$= \cancel{\dot{\phi}} + \mu r^2 \dot{\theta} \hat{r} \times \hat{\theta} = \mu r^2 \dot{\theta} \hat{\theta}$$
$$\mu r^2 \dot{\theta} = L \text{ (constant),}$$

we called this constant  $L$  because it is nothing but the angular momentum of the particle about the origin. Note that  $L = I\omega$ , with  $I = \mu r^2$ .

- As the particle moves along the trajectory so that the angle  $\theta$  changes by an infinitesimal amount  $d\theta$ , the area swept with respect to the origin is

$$dA = \frac{1}{2} \bar{r} \times \bar{r}' = \frac{1}{2} r r' \sin d\theta$$
$$\approx \frac{1}{2} r r d\theta$$

$$dA = \frac{1}{2} r^2 d\theta$$
$$\Rightarrow \frac{dA}{dt} = \frac{1}{2} r^2 \dot{\theta} = \frac{L}{2\mu} = \text{constant.}$$

Note  $r' = |\bar{r} + d\bar{r}|$   
 $= \sqrt{r^2 + dr^2 + 2\bar{r} \cdot d\bar{r}}$   
 $\approx r [1 + \frac{1}{2} 2r dr \cos \theta + \frac{1}{2} (dr)^2]$   
 $\approx r [1 + \theta(dr)]$

if we included  
the  $dr$  term then we get  
a term  $d\theta dr$  which we  
ignore.

because  $L$  is constant.

- Thus constancy of areal velocity is a property of all central forces, not just the gravitational forces.
- And it holds due to conservation of angular momentum

# Conservation of Energy

- Kinetic energy in plane polar coordinates can be written as

$$\begin{aligned} K &= \frac{1}{2}\mu\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{v} \\ &= \frac{1}{2}\mu(\dot{r}\hat{\mathbf{r}} + r\dot{\theta}\hat{\theta}) \cdot (\dot{r}\hat{\mathbf{r}} + r\dot{\theta}\hat{\theta}) \\ &= \frac{1}{2}\mu\dot{r}^2 + \frac{1}{2}\mu r^2\dot{\theta}^2 \end{aligned}$$

- Potential energy  $V(r)$  can be obtained by the basic formula

$$f(r) = -\frac{dV(r)}{dr} \Rightarrow V(r) - V(r_0) = - \int_{r_0}^r f(r) dr,$$

where  $r_0$  denotes the location of a reference point.

# Conservation of Energy...

- Total energy  $E$  from work-energy theorem

$$E = \frac{1}{2}\mu\dot{r}^2 + \frac{1}{2}\mu r^2\dot{\theta}^2 + V(r) = \text{constant}$$

↓  
Substitute this

- We have

using,  $L = \mu r^2\dot{\theta}$

$$\implies \frac{1}{2}\mu r^2\dot{\theta}^2 = \frac{L^2}{2\mu r^2}$$

- So that

$$E = \frac{1}{2}\mu\dot{r}^2 + \frac{L^2}{2\mu r^2} + V(r)$$

- We can write

$$E = \frac{1}{2}\mu\dot{r}^2 + V_{\text{eff}}(r)$$

with  $V_{\text{eff}}(r) = \frac{L^2}{2\mu r^2} + V(r)$

## Conservation of energy contd.

- This energy is similar to that of a 1D system, with an effective potential energy  $V_{\text{eff}}(r) = \frac{L^2}{2\mu r^2} + V(r)$
- In reality  $\frac{L^2}{2\mu r^2}$  is kinetic energy of the particle due to angular motion
- But, because of its dependence on position, it can be treated as an effective potential energy

# Integrating the equations of motion

- Energy conservation equation yields

$$\frac{dr}{dt} = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\mu} (E - V_{\text{eff}}(r))}$$

- Leading to the solution

$$\int_{r_0}^r \frac{dr}{\sqrt{\frac{2}{\mu} (E - V_{\text{eff}}(r))}} = t - t_0, \quad (1)$$

which will yield  $r$  as a function of  $t$ , once  $f(r)$  is known, and the integral is performed

# Integration of equations of motion...

- Once  $r(t)$  is known, to obtain  $\theta(t)$ , we use conservation of angular momentum

$$\frac{d\theta}{dt} = \frac{L}{\mu r^2}$$

$$\theta - \theta_0 = \frac{L}{\mu} \int_{t_0}^t \frac{dt}{r^2}$$

- We can obtain the shape of the trajectory  $r(\theta)$ , by combining these two equations

$$\frac{d\theta}{dr} = \left( \frac{\frac{d\theta}{dt}}{\frac{dr}{dt}} \right) = \frac{\frac{L}{\mu r^2}}{\sqrt{\frac{2}{\mu}(E - V_{\text{eff}}(r))}}$$

- Leading to

$$\theta - \theta_0 = L \int_{r_0}^r \frac{dr}{r^2 \sqrt{2\mu(E - V_{\text{eff}}(r))}} \quad (2)$$

- Thus, by integrating these equations, we can obtain  $r(t)$ ,  $\theta(t)$ , and  $r(\theta)$
- This will complete the solution of the problem
- But, to make further progress, we need to know what is  $f(r)$
- Next, we will discuss the case of gravitational problem such as planetary orbits

## Case of Planetary Motion: Keplerian Orbits

- We want to use the theory developed to calculate the orbits of different planets around sun
- Planets are bound to sun because of gravitational force
- Therefore

$$f(r) = -\frac{GMm}{r^2}$$

- So that

$$V(r) = -\frac{GMm}{r} = -\frac{C}{r}, \quad (3)$$

above,  $C = GMm$ , where  $G$  is gravitational constant,  $M$  is mass of the Sun, and  $m$  is mass of the planet in question.

# Derivation of Keplerian orbits

- On substituting  $V(r)$  from Eq. 3 into Eq. 2, we have

$$\begin{aligned}\theta - \theta_0 &= L \int_{r_0}^r \frac{dr}{r^2 \sqrt{2\mu(E - \frac{L^2}{2\mu r^2} + \frac{C}{r})}} \\ &= L \int \frac{dr}{r \sqrt{2\mu Er^2 + 2\mu Cr - L^2}}\end{aligned}\quad (4)$$

- We converted the definite integral on the RHS to an indefinite one, because  $\theta_0$  is a constant of integration in which the constant contribution of the lower limit  $r = r_0$  can be absorbed. This orbital integral can be done by the following substitution

$$r = \frac{1}{s - \alpha} \quad (5)$$

$$\implies dr = -\frac{ds}{(s - \alpha)^2}$$

$$\implies \frac{dr}{r} = -\frac{ds}{(s - \alpha)} \quad (6)$$

## Orbital integral....

- Substituting Eqs. 5 and 6, in Eq. 4, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}\theta - \theta_0 &= -L \int \frac{ds}{(s-\alpha) \sqrt{\frac{2\mu E}{(s-\alpha)^2} + \frac{2\mu C}{s-\alpha} - L^2}} \\ &= -L \int \frac{ds}{\sqrt{2\mu E + 2\mu C(s-\alpha) - L^2(s-\alpha)^2}} \\ &= -L \int \frac{ds}{\sqrt{2\mu E + 2\mu C s - 2\mu C \alpha - L^2 s^2 + 2L^2 \alpha s - L^2 \alpha^2}}\end{aligned}$$

- The integrand is simplified if we choose  $\alpha = -\frac{\mu C}{L^2}$ , leading to

$$\begin{aligned}\theta - \theta_0 &= -L \int \frac{ds}{\sqrt{2\mu E + 2\frac{(\mu C)^2}{L^2} - L^2 s^2 - \frac{(\mu C)^2}{L^2}}} \\ &= -L \int \frac{ds}{\sqrt{2\mu E + \frac{(\mu C)^2}{L^2} - L^2 s^2}}\end{aligned}$$

## Orbital integral contd.

- Finally, the integral is

$$\begin{aligned}\theta - \theta_0 &= -L^2 \int \frac{ds}{\sqrt{2\mu EL^2 + (\mu C)^2 - L^4 s^2}} \\ &= - \int \frac{ds}{\sqrt{\frac{2\mu EL^2 + (\mu C)^2}{L^4} - s^2}}\end{aligned}$$

- On substituting  $s = a \sin \phi$ , where  $a = \sqrt{\frac{2\mu EL^2 + (\mu C)^2}{L^4}}$ , the integral transforms to

$$\theta - \theta_0 = -\phi = -\sin^{-1} \left( \frac{s}{a} \right)$$

$$s = -a \sin(\theta - \theta_0)$$

$$\implies \frac{1}{r} + \alpha = -a \sin(\theta - \theta_0)$$

$$\implies r = \frac{1}{-\alpha - a \sin(\theta - \theta_0)}$$

# Keplerian Orbit

- We define  $r_0 = -\frac{1}{\alpha} = \frac{L^2}{\mu C}$ , to obtain

$$r = \frac{r_0}{1 - \sqrt{1 + \frac{2EL^2}{\mu C^2}} \sin(\theta - \theta_0)}$$

- Conventionally, one takes  $\theta_0 = -\pi/2$ , and we define

$$\varepsilon = \sqrt{1 + \frac{2EL^2}{\mu C^2}}$$

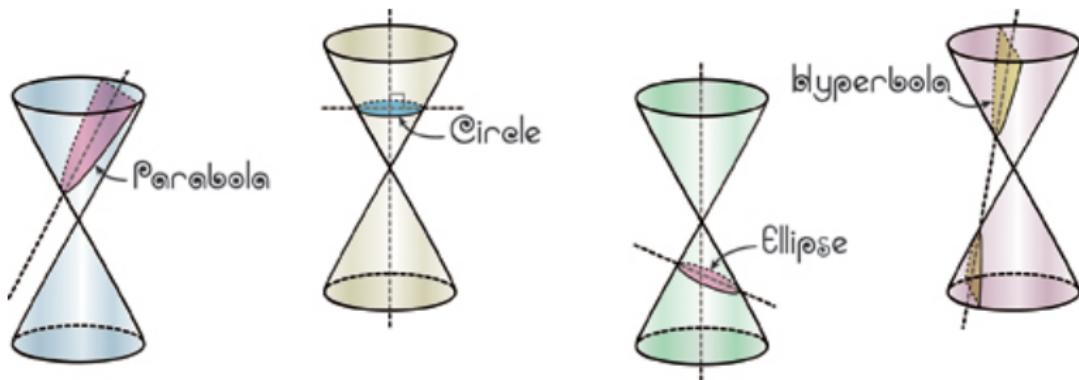
- To obtain the final result

$$r = \frac{r_0}{1 - \varepsilon \cos \theta}$$

- We need to probe this expression further to find which curve it represents.

# A Brief Review of Conic Sections

- Curves such as circle, parabola, ellipse, and hyperbola are called conic sections



- We will show that the curve  $r = \frac{r_0}{1-\varepsilon \cos \theta}$  in plane polar coordinates, denotes different conic sections for various values of  $\varepsilon$ , which is nothing but the eccentricity

## Nature of orbits: parabolic orbit

- Using the fact that  $r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$ , and  $\cos \theta = \frac{x}{r} = \frac{x}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}}$ , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}\sqrt{x^2 + y^2} &= \frac{r_0}{1 - \frac{\varepsilon x}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}}} \\ \Rightarrow \sqrt{x^2 + y^2} &= r_0 + \varepsilon x \\ \Rightarrow x^2(1 - \varepsilon^2) - 2r_0\varepsilon x + y^2 &= r_0^2\end{aligned}$$

- Case I:  $\varepsilon = 1$ , which means  $E = 0$ , we obtain

$$y^2 = 2r_0x + r_0^2$$

which is nothing but a parabola. This is clearly an open or unbound orbit. This is typically the case with comets.

## Nature of orbits: hyperbolic and circular orbits

- Case II:  $\epsilon > 1 \implies E > 0$ , let us define  $A = \epsilon^2 - 1 >$ . With this, the equation of the orbit is

$$y^2 - Ax^2 - 2r_0\sqrt{1+A}x = r_0^2$$

Here, the coefficients of  $x^2$  and  $y^2$  are opposite in sign, therefore, the curve is unbounded, i.e., open. It is actually the equation of a hyperbola. Therefore, whenever  $E > 0$ , the particles execute unbound motion, and some comets and asteroids belong to this class.

- Case III:  $\epsilon = 0$ , we have

$$x^2 + y^2 = r_0^2$$

which denotes a circle of radius  $r_0$ , with center at the origin.

This is clearly a closed orbit, for which the system is bound.

$\epsilon = \sqrt{1 + \frac{2EL^2}{\mu C^2}} = 0 \implies E = -\frac{\mu C^2}{2L^2} < 0$ . Satellites launched by humans are put in circular orbits many times, particularly the geosynchronous ones.

## Nature of orbits: elliptical orbits

- Case IV:  $0 < \varepsilon < 1 \implies E < 0$ , here we define  $A = (1 - \varepsilon^2) > 0$ , to obtain

$$Ax^2 - 2r_0\sqrt{1-A}x + y^2 = r_0^2$$

Because coefficients of  $x^2$  and  $y^2$  are both positive, orbit will be closed (i.e. bound), and will be an ellipse.

- To summarize, when  $E \geq 0$ , orbits are unbound, i.e., hyperbola or parabola
- When  $E < 0$ , orbits are bound, i.e., circle or ellipse.

## Time Period of Elliptical orbit

- There are two ways to compute the time needed to go around its elliptical orbit once
- First approach involves integration of the equation

$$\begin{aligned} t_b - t_a &= \int_{r_a}^{r_b} \frac{dr}{\sqrt{\frac{2}{\mu} \left( E - \frac{L^2}{2\mu r^2} + \frac{C}{r} \right)}} \\ &= \mu \int_{r_a}^{r_b} \frac{r dr}{\sqrt{(2\mu Er^2 + 2\mu Cr - L^2)}} \end{aligned}$$

- When this is integrated with the limit  $r_b = r_a$ , one obtains that time period  $T$  satisfies

$$T^2 = \frac{\pi^2 \mu}{2C} A^3,$$

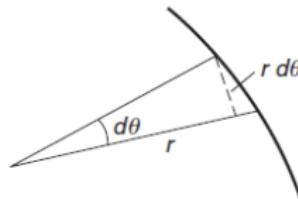
where  $A$  is semi-major axis of the elliptical orbit. This result is nothing but Kepler's third law.

## Time period of the elliptical orbit...

- Now we use an easier approach to calculate the time period
- We use the constancy of angular momentum

$$L = \mu r^2 \frac{d\theta}{dt}$$
$$\Rightarrow \frac{L}{2\mu} dt = \frac{1}{2} r^2 d\theta$$

- R.H.S. of the previous equation is nothing but the area element swept as the particle changes its position by  $d\theta$

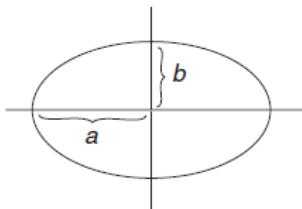


- Now, the integrals on both sides can be carried out to yield

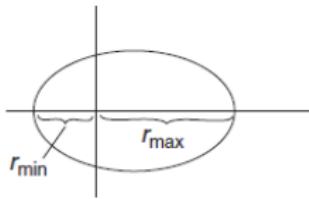
$$\frac{LT}{2\mu} = \text{area of ellipse} = \pi ab.$$

## Time period of the orbit contd.

- $a$  and  $b$  in the equation are semi-major and semi-minor axes of the ellipse as shown



- Now, we have



- Therefore

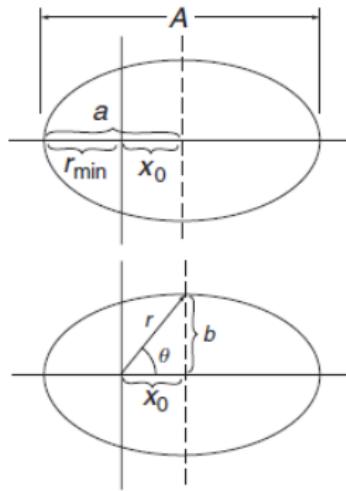
$$a = \frac{A}{2} = \frac{(r_{\min} + r_{\max})}{2}$$

## Time period of the orbit....

- Using the orbital equation  $r = \frac{r_0}{1-\varepsilon \cos \theta}$ , we have

$$a = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{r_0}{1 - \varepsilon \cos \pi} + \frac{r_0}{1 - \varepsilon \cos 0} \right) = \frac{r_0}{2} \left( \frac{1}{1 + \varepsilon} + \frac{1}{1 - \varepsilon} \right) = \frac{r_0}{1 - \varepsilon^2}$$

- Calculation of  $b$  is slightly involved. Following diagram is helpful



## Calculation of time period...

- $x_0$  is the distance between the focus and the center of the ellipse, thus

$$x_0 = a - r_{min} = \frac{r_0}{1 - \varepsilon^2} - \frac{r_0}{1 + \varepsilon} = \frac{r_0 \varepsilon}{1 - \varepsilon^2}$$

- In the diagram  $b = \sqrt{r^2 - x_0^2}$ , and for  $\theta$ , we have  $\cos \theta = \frac{x_0}{r}$ , which on substitution in orbital equation yields

$$\begin{aligned} r &= \frac{r_0}{1 - \varepsilon \cos \theta} = \frac{r_0}{1 - \frac{\varepsilon x_0}{r}} \\ \implies r &= r_0 + \varepsilon x_0 = r_0 + \frac{r_0 \varepsilon^2}{1 - \varepsilon^2} = \frac{r_0}{1 - \varepsilon^2} \end{aligned}$$

- So that

$$b = \sqrt{r^2 - x_0^2} = \sqrt{\frac{r_0^2}{(1 - \varepsilon^2)^2} - \frac{r_0^2 \varepsilon^2}{(1 - \varepsilon^2)^2}} = \frac{r_0}{\sqrt{1 - \varepsilon^2}}$$

## Time period....

- Now

$$1 - \varepsilon^2 = 1 - \left(1 + \frac{2EL^2}{\mu C^2}\right) = -\frac{2EL^2}{\mu C^2}$$

- Using  $r_0 = \frac{L^2}{\mu C}$ , we have

$$A = 2a = \frac{2r_0}{1 - \varepsilon^2} = \frac{2L^2}{\mu C} \times \left(-\frac{\mu C^2}{2EL^2}\right) = -\frac{C}{E}$$

$$b = \frac{r_0}{\sqrt{1 - \varepsilon^2}} = \frac{L^2}{\mu C} \times \sqrt{-\frac{\mu C^2}{2EL^2}} = L \sqrt{-\frac{1}{2\mu E}}$$

- Using this, we have

$$T = \frac{2\pi\mu}{L} ab = \frac{2\pi\mu}{L} \times \left(-\frac{C}{2E}\right) \times L \sqrt{-\frac{1}{2\mu E}} = \pi \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{2C}} \left(-\frac{C}{E}\right)^{3/2}$$

# Kepler's Third Law

- Which can be written as

$$\begin{aligned} T &= \pi \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{2C}} A^{3/2} \\ \implies T^2 &= \frac{\pi^2 \mu}{2C} A^3, \end{aligned}$$

which is nothing but Kepler's third law.