



Basic Orbital Manoeuvre Problems



Problem No. 01

A satellite is put in a **circular** orbit at 400 km altitude. Determine ' Δv ' **needed** to raise apogee altitude to **36000 km**, keeping perigee same.

$$R_E = 6378km; \quad \mu = 3.986 \times 10^{14} m^3 / s^2$$



Solution No. 01

The **solution** for velocity impulse is as **given** below.

$$\begin{aligned} r_0 &= 6778km; \quad r_1 = 42378km; \quad a_{elp} = \frac{6778 + 42378}{2} = 24578km \\ v_0 &= \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{r_0}} = 7,668.63m/s; \quad e = \frac{r_1 - r_0}{r_1 + r_0} = 0.724 \\ v_{dp} &= \sqrt{\frac{2\mu r_1}{r_0(r_1 + r_0)}} = 10069.7m/s; \quad \Delta v = 2401.0m/s \end{aligned}$$



Problem No. 02

A satellite is in an **elliptic** orbit with perigee altitude of **200 km** & apogee altitude of **20000 km**. Determine ' Δv ' to **raise** the apogee altitude to **286,000 km**. ($R_E = 6378$ km, $\mu = 3.986 \times 10^{14} \text{ m}^3/\text{s}^2$).



Solution No. 02

Apogee altitude raising solution is as follows.

$$a_{elp1} = 16478km; \quad a_{elp2} = 149478km$$

$$v_{p1} = \sqrt{\left(\frac{3.986 \times 10^{14} \times 26378}{16478 \times 6.578 \times 10^6} \right)} = 9849m/s$$

$$\Delta v = \sqrt{\frac{3.986 \times 10^{14}}{6.578 \times 10^6}} \times \left[\sqrt{\frac{292378}{149478}} - \sqrt{\frac{26378}{16478}} \right] = 1038m/s$$



Problem No. 03

A satellite is in an **elliptical orbit** with perigee radius of 6930 km & apogee radius of 8586 km. Determine ' Δv ' at **apogee** to circularize the orbit. ($\mu = 3.986 \times 10^{14} \text{ m}^3/\text{s}^2$).



Solution No. 03

Circularization solution is as given **below**.

$$a_{elp} = \frac{6930 + 8568}{2} = 7,760 km$$

$$v_{elp-a} = \sqrt{\frac{3.986 \times 10^{14} \times 6.93}{8.568 \times 7.76 \times 10^6}} = 6,445 m / s$$

$$v_{cir} = \sqrt{\frac{3.986 \times 10^{14}}{8.568 \times 10^6}} = 6,820 m / s; \quad \Delta v = 374 m / s$$