REPORT 2

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1 Dataset Overview

The dataset comprises observations spanning from 1580 to 1604, with a 2-year interval and includes 15 features.

2 Mars Heliocentric Longitude Calculation

To compute the "Mars Heliocentric longitude" for each entry, we can use the following formula:

$$Longitude = ZodiacIndex \times 30 + Degree + \frac{Minute}{60} + \frac{Second}{3600}.$$
 (1)

3 Time Difference Calculation

Next, we will determine the difference in days between two entries in the dataset. We will create a matrix called "oppositions" that will store both the "Mars Heliocentric longitude" values and the "time difference" values. This matrix will be instrumental in analyzing Mars's positions in its orbit.

4 Spokes Derivation

Using the data from the oppositions, we can derive spokes relative to the sun-Aries axis and the equant 0.

5 Global Function Definition

We will define a global function named getIntersectionPoint(h, k, theta, r, c), where:

- h and k represent the coordinates of the intersection points;
- θ is the angle with the x-axis;
- r denotes the radius of the orbit;
- c indicates the angle at which the orbit's center is positioned concerning the sun.

6 Mars Equant Model

For Question 1, we will create a function called MarsEquantModel() with parameters:

- c: the orbit of the circle centered at angle c (in degrees);
- r: the radius of the orbit (measured in units of sun-center distance);
- e1 and e2: coordinates of the equant, where e1 is the distance from the sun and e2 is the angle in degrees relative to equant 0, which is defined by its angle concerning Aries;
- S represents Mars's angular velocity around the equant.

This function will return a list of errors for all 12 oppositions, along with the maximum error.

7 Parameter Optimization

7.1 Question 2

For Question 2, we will fix the values of r and s and perform a grid search over the parameters c, e1, e2, and z to minimize the angular error for a specific r and s. A function named bestOrbitInnerParams(r, s, oppositions) will be defined, which will output the parameters c, e1, e2, z, the error for 12 oppositions, and the minimum maximum error.

7.2 Question 3

For Question 3, we will fix the value of r and conduct a discretized search around 360 degrees over a period of 687 days. The function bestS(r, oppositions) will utilize bestOrbitInnerParams() for each value of s, providing the optimized value for s, the error for 12 oppositions, and the least maximum error.

7.3 Question 4

For Question 4, we will fix the value of s and perform a discretized search around the average distance of the black dots (the intersections of the dotted lines from the equant and the solid lines from the sun). A function called bestR(s, oppositions) will be defined, which will internally call bestOrbitInnerParams() for each value of r. This function will yield the optimized value for r, the error for 12 oppositions, and the least maximum error.

7.4 Question 5

For Question 5, we will define a function called bestMarsOrbitParams(), which will conduct a grid search in the vicinity of the best initial estimates for r and s. This function will internally call bestOrbitInnerParams() for each combination of r and s, ultimately providing the best parameter values for c, z, r, e1, e2, r, s, the error list for 12 oppositions, and the best maximum error.

8 Summary of Outputs

The following array contains the error values for the 12 spokes:

The maximum error among these values is:

Max Error = 0.06773239519242225

The best parameters obtained from the function bestMarsOrbitParams(oppositions) are:

- c = 149.0
- r = 8.59999999999998
- e1 = 1.6
- z = 55.80000000000001
- s = 0.5240937545494248

9 Plots

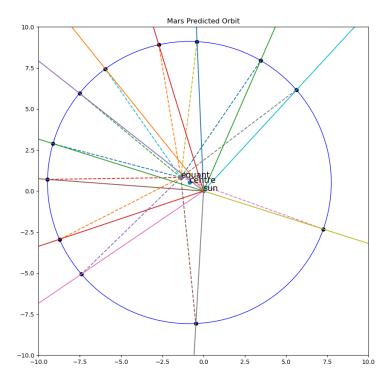


Figure 1: Plot 1: Predicted mars orbit