

Study: Interplanetary Superhighways

 *Going to Jupiter with Julia, Halo orbits, and invariant manifolds.*

May 2021

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[Toggle Presentation](#)



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Study Overview

Mission Constraints

Travel as cheap as possible.

- Travel from Earth, to Jupiter
- Requires a periodic, or semi-periodic destination orbit
- Mission is robotic – duration has **no upper bound**
- We want to use as **little fuel as possible**
- **Transfers along invariant manifolds within CR3BP are great options for these constraints!**
- An artist's interpretation of invariant manifolds in space is featured on [**NASA's website**](#), and is shown below



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Recall Lagrange Points

The equilibrium points of CR3BP dynamics.

- Like any equilibrium points, they can be **stable** or **unstable**
- We can verify the stability by looking at the **eigenvalues** of the linearized CR3BP dynamics at each Lagrange point

System: Earth-Moon

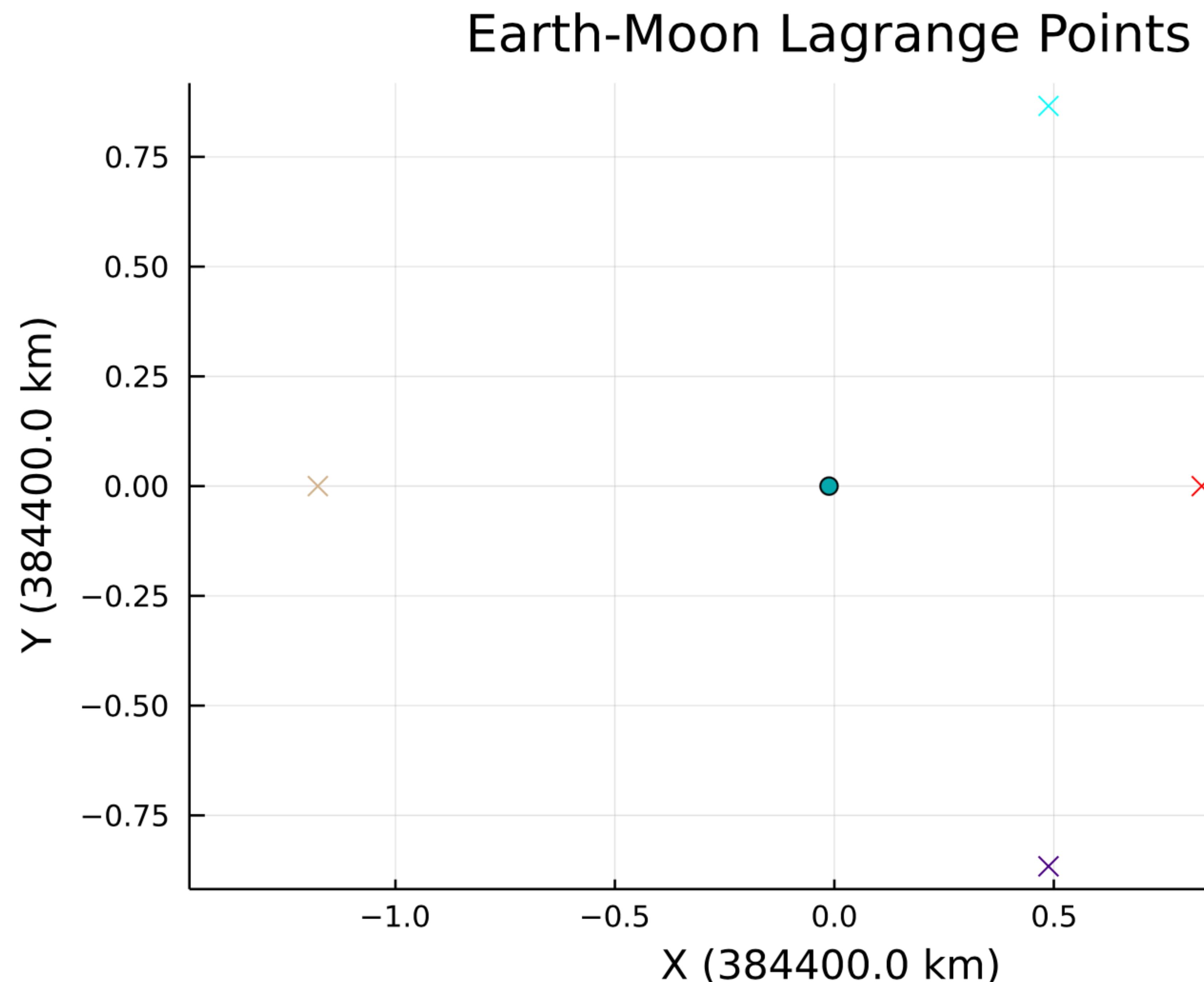


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Periodic Orbits within CR3BP

Classifications don't really matter for this study!

Classifications

- **Lyapunov Orbits** are periodic with $z \equiv 0$
- **Halo Orbits** are periodic with $z \neq 0$

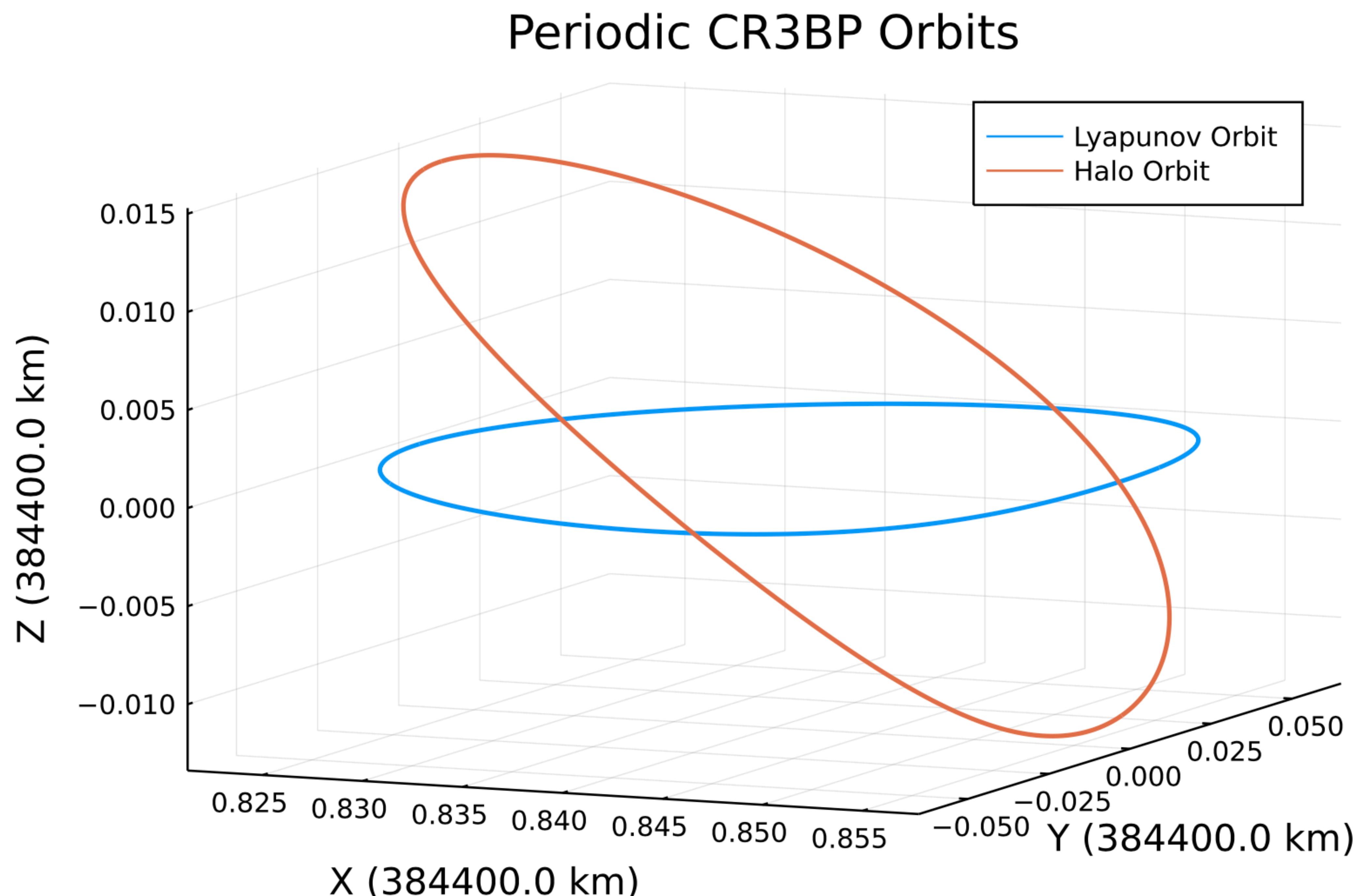


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Analytical Halo Approximation

As described in detail by Koon et al.

Richardson approximated CR3BP dynamics with a **third-order expansion**:

$$\ddot{x} - 2\dot{y} - (1 + 2c_2)x = \frac{3}{2}c_3(2x^2 - y^2 - z^2) + 2c_4x(2x^2 - 3y^2 - 3z^2) + O(4)$$

$$\ddot{y} + 2\dot{x} + (c_2 - 1)y = -3c_3xy - \frac{3}{2}c_4y(4x^2 - y^2 - z^2) + O(4)$$

$$\ddot{z} + c_2z = -3c_3xz - \frac{3}{2}c_4z(4x^2 - y^2 - z^2) + O(4)$$

We can use the following facts to find a unique, periodic solution to this third-order expansion:

1. Nonlinearities affect the **frequency** of the linearization (Lindstedt-Poincaré Method)
2. The amplitudes of the linearization solution produce **equal** eigen-frequencies
3. The X , Y , and Z amplitudes are **related** and **unique**

The analytical algorithm can return the orbital period, positions, and velocities.

```
julia> μ = 0.012150584269940356
julia> analyticalhalo(μ; Az = 0.03, L = 1, steps = 1)

r = [0.8231434287553542 0.0 0.03372857723603456]
v = [0.0 0.14183210515633737 0.0]
T = 2.9019861371476376
```

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Propagating Analytical Solutions

It doesn't work!

Note

Remember, we used a **third-order expansion** of the CR3BP dynamics. As a result, our analytical halo solutions are **approximations**!

Include Propagation:

Halo Orbits about Earth-Moon L1

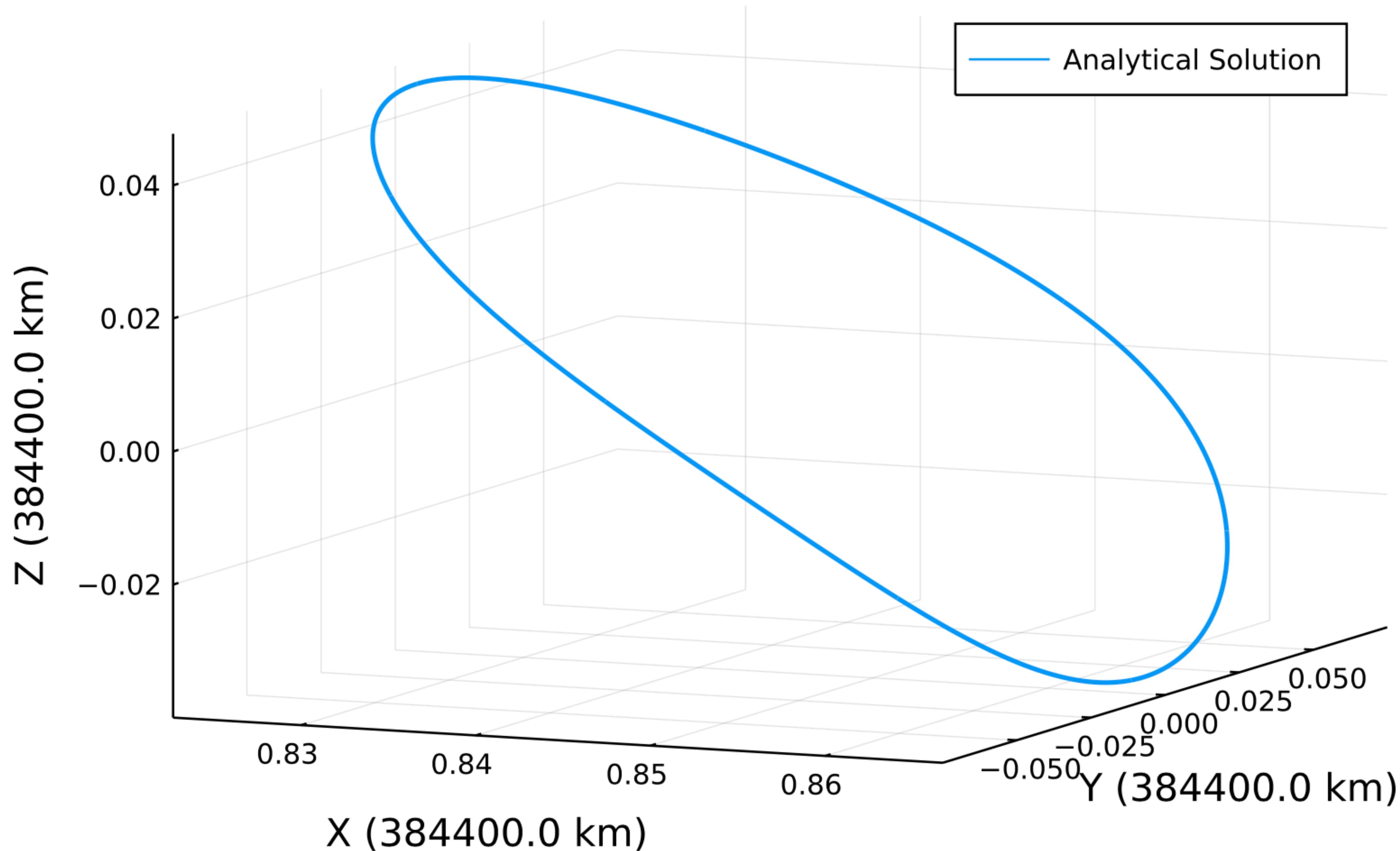


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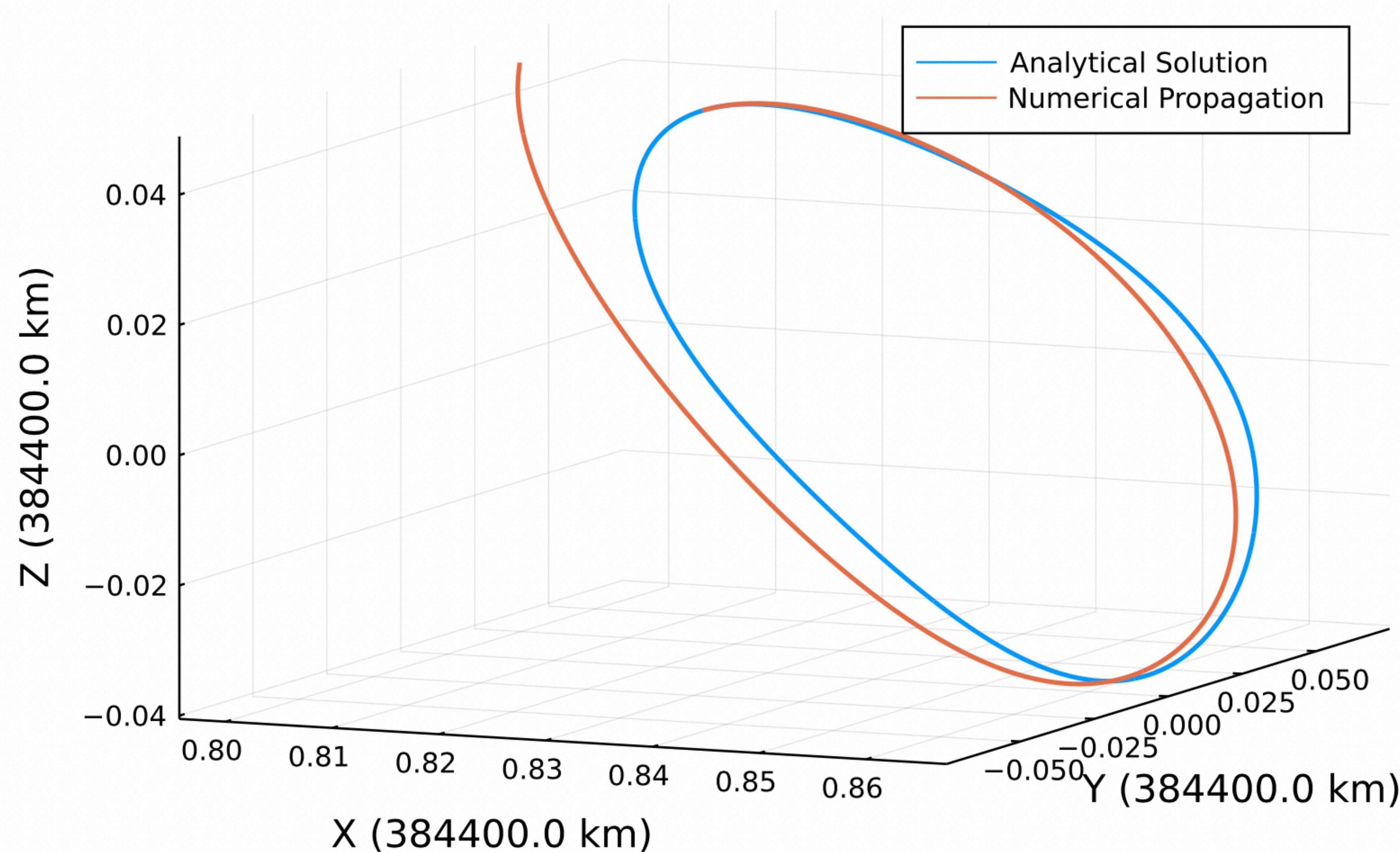


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Numerical Halo Solver

AKA a differential corrector!

Recall the **differential correction algorithm** introduced in ENAE601.

1. Start with a Halo guess of the form $r_0 = [x_0 \ 0 \ z_0]$, $v_0 = [0 \ \dot{y}_0 \ 0]$, T_0
2. Propagate the solution for **half a period** (until y crosses the $x - z$ plane again)
3. Use a **differential correction*** to form a new Halo guess
4. Repeat until your half-period \dot{x}_0 and \dot{z}_0 values are within some acceptable tolerance of 0

Literature shows **two*** acceptable differential correction calculations, with Φ representing the Jacobian of the Cartesian state at the half-period.

$$\begin{bmatrix} z_0 \\ \dot{y}_0 \\ \frac{T_0}{2} \end{bmatrix} \Leftarrow \begin{bmatrix} x_0 \\ \dot{y}_0 \\ \frac{T_0}{2} \end{bmatrix} - \text{inv} \left(\begin{bmatrix} \Phi_{1,4} & \Phi_{5,4} & \ddot{x} \\ \Phi_{1,6} & \Phi_{5,6} & \ddot{z} \\ \Phi_{1,2} & \Phi_{5,2} & \dot{y} \end{bmatrix} \right) \begin{bmatrix} \dot{x} \\ \dot{y} \\ y \end{bmatrix} \quad (1)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_0 \\ \dot{y}_0 \\ \frac{T_0}{2} \end{bmatrix} \Leftarrow \begin{bmatrix} z_0 \\ \dot{y}_0 \\ \frac{T_0}{2} \end{bmatrix} - \text{inv} \left(\begin{bmatrix} \Phi_{3,4} & \Phi_{5,4} & \ddot{x} \\ \Phi_{3,6} & \Phi_{5,6} & \ddot{z} \\ \Phi_{3,2} & \Phi_{5,2} & \dot{y} \end{bmatrix} \right) \begin{bmatrix} \dot{x} \\ \dot{y} \\ y \end{bmatrix} \quad (2)$$

Tip

You can't just *choose* whatever corrector you want! If you're solving for a Lyapunov orbit ($z \equiv 0$) then the 3×3 matrix will be singular (second row) if you choose equation (1). In practice, I've learned to use a switch statement – if your desired z -axis amplitude is 0, then use (2), and otherwise use (1).



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Propagating Numerical Solutions

This ~does~ work!

We can **combine** the working analytical and numerical solvers to form one ergonomic halo solver!

Desired Attributes → **Analytical** → **Numerical** → Halo Orbit

Halo Orbit Attributes

System: **Earth-Moon** ▾ Lagrange Point: **2** ▾ Z-axis Amplitude: **0.005** ▾

Halo Orbit about Earth-Moon L2

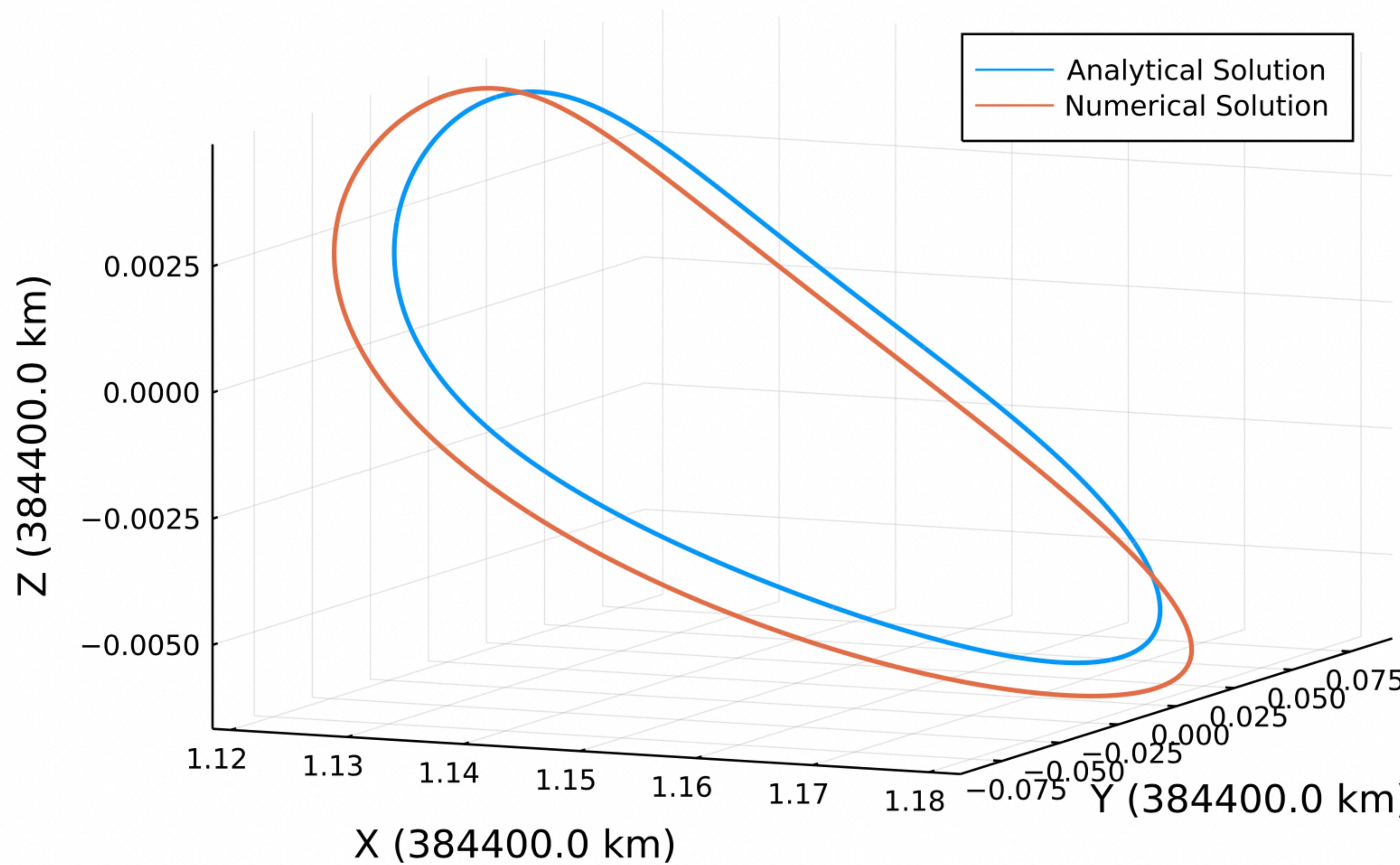


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Halo Orbit Families

Variations in Z-axis amplitude.

- A Halo orbit *family* is a collection of Halos with varying Z-axis amplitudes
- A collection of over 130, 000 Halo orbits in our solar system is available on GitHub [here!](#)

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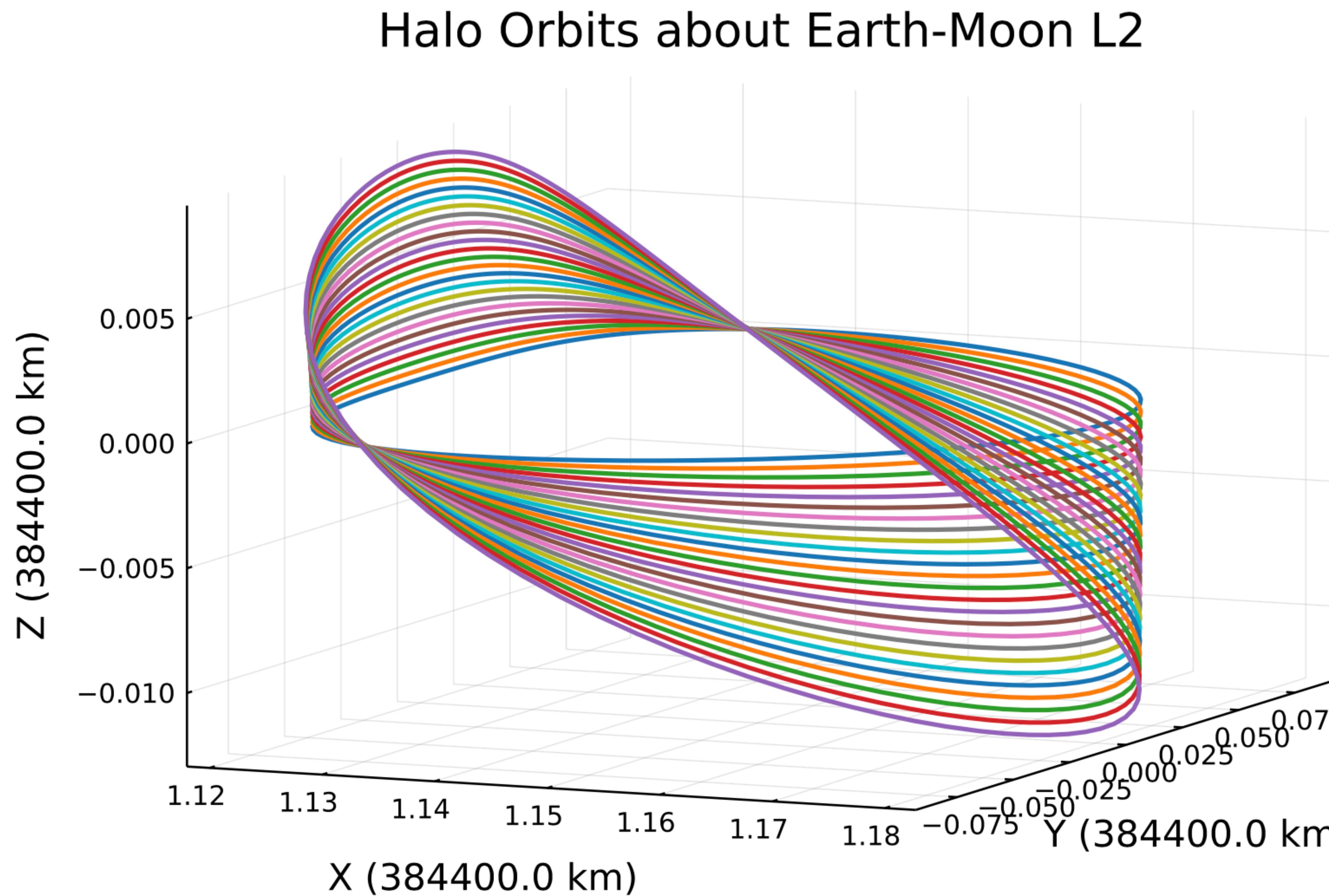
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Halo Family Attributes

System: Earth-Moon Lagrange Point: 2



Manifolds Overview

Superhighways in ~space~.

- Manifolds are **collections of trajectories** that **converge to or diverge from** a periodic orbit or Lagrange point
- They are visualized by plotting trajectories *near* a Lagrange point, or a periodic CR3BP orbit

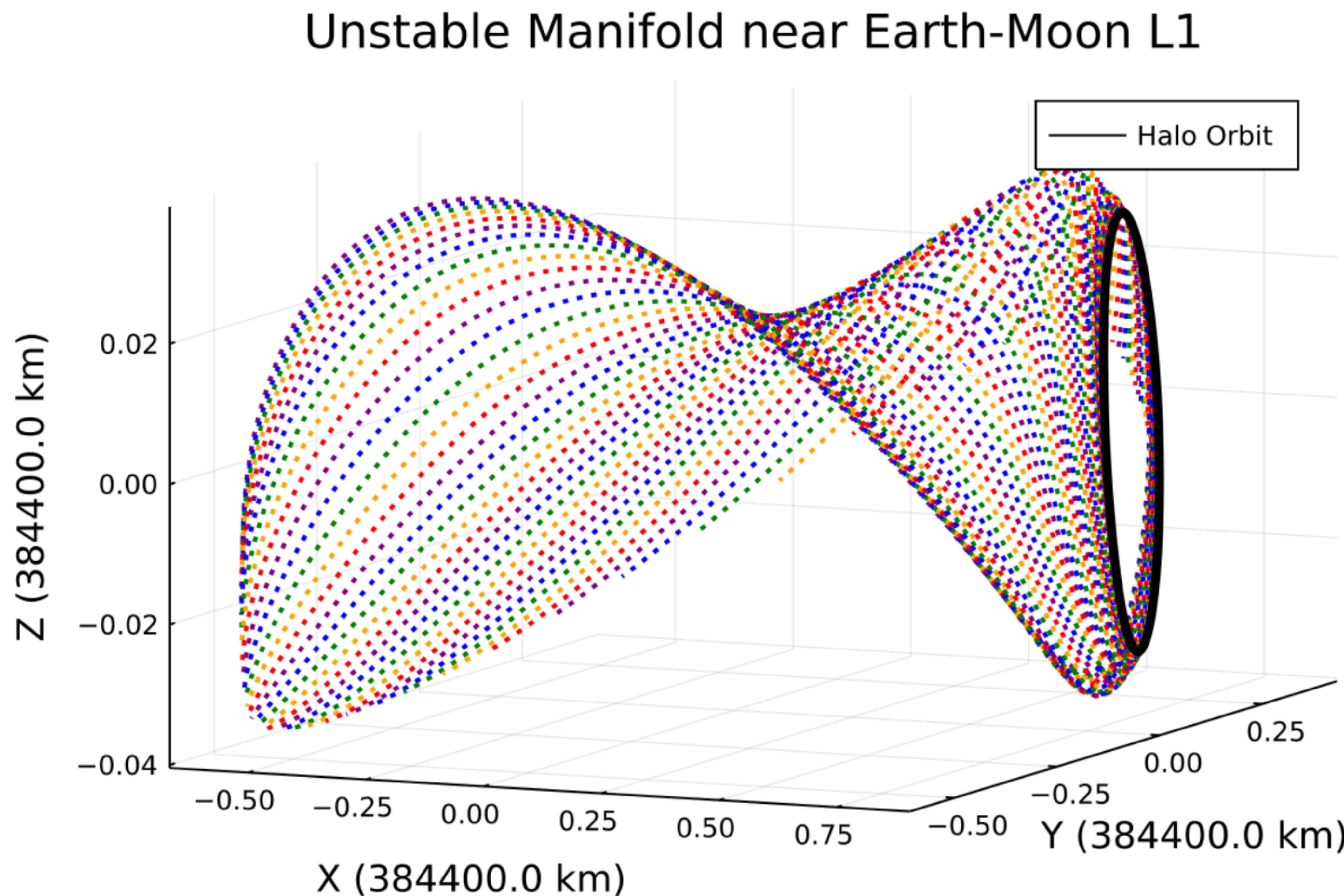


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Mission Phases

Manifold-based interplanetary missions are a 3 step process.

1. Launch from Earth into a **stable manifold** within the Sun-Earth system
2. Perturb from the Sun-Earth Halo onto an **unstable manifold**
3. Transfer onto a **stable manifold** of the desired destination Halo orbit

Mission Phase: Phase One

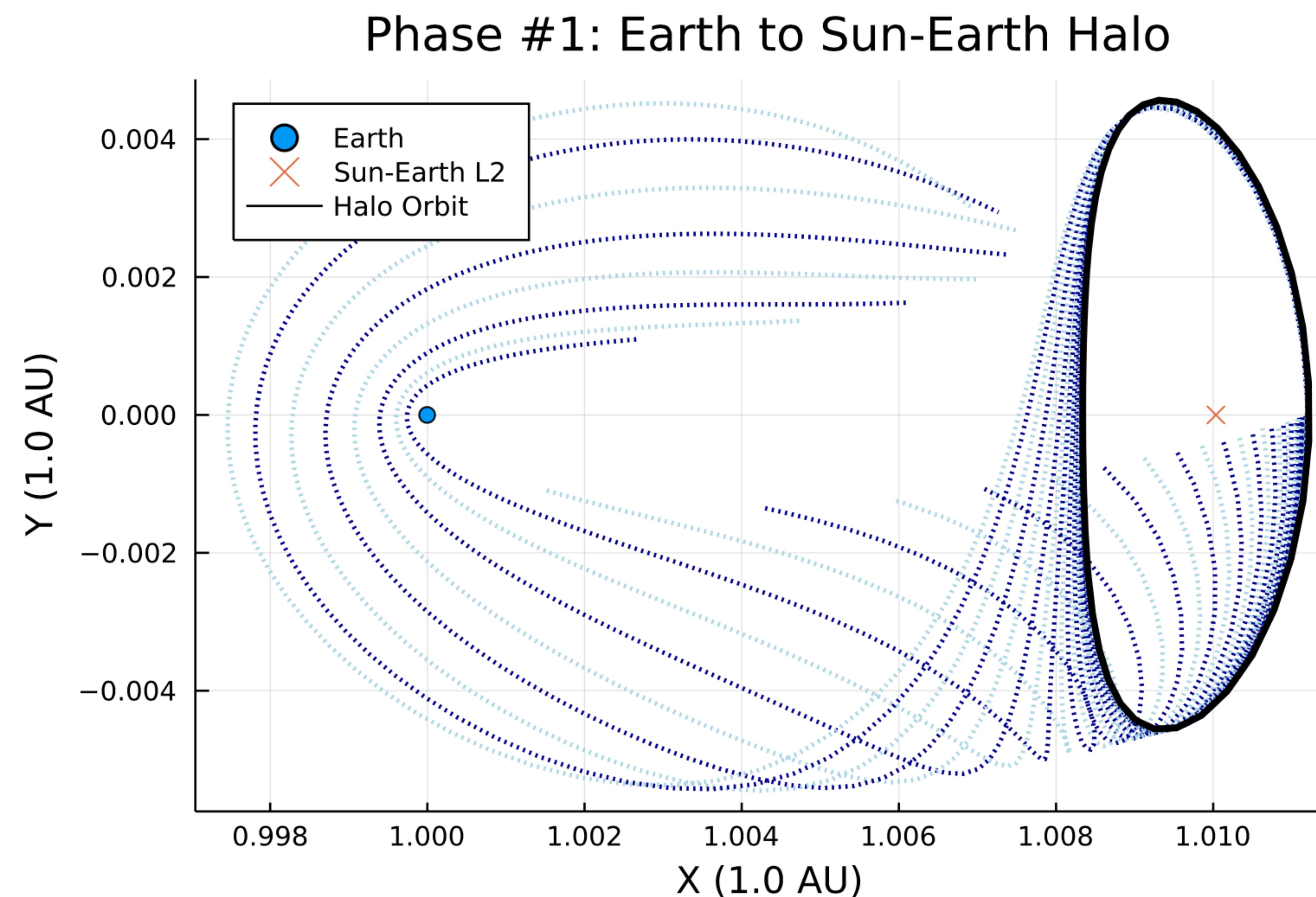


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Mission Phase: [Phase Two](#) ▾

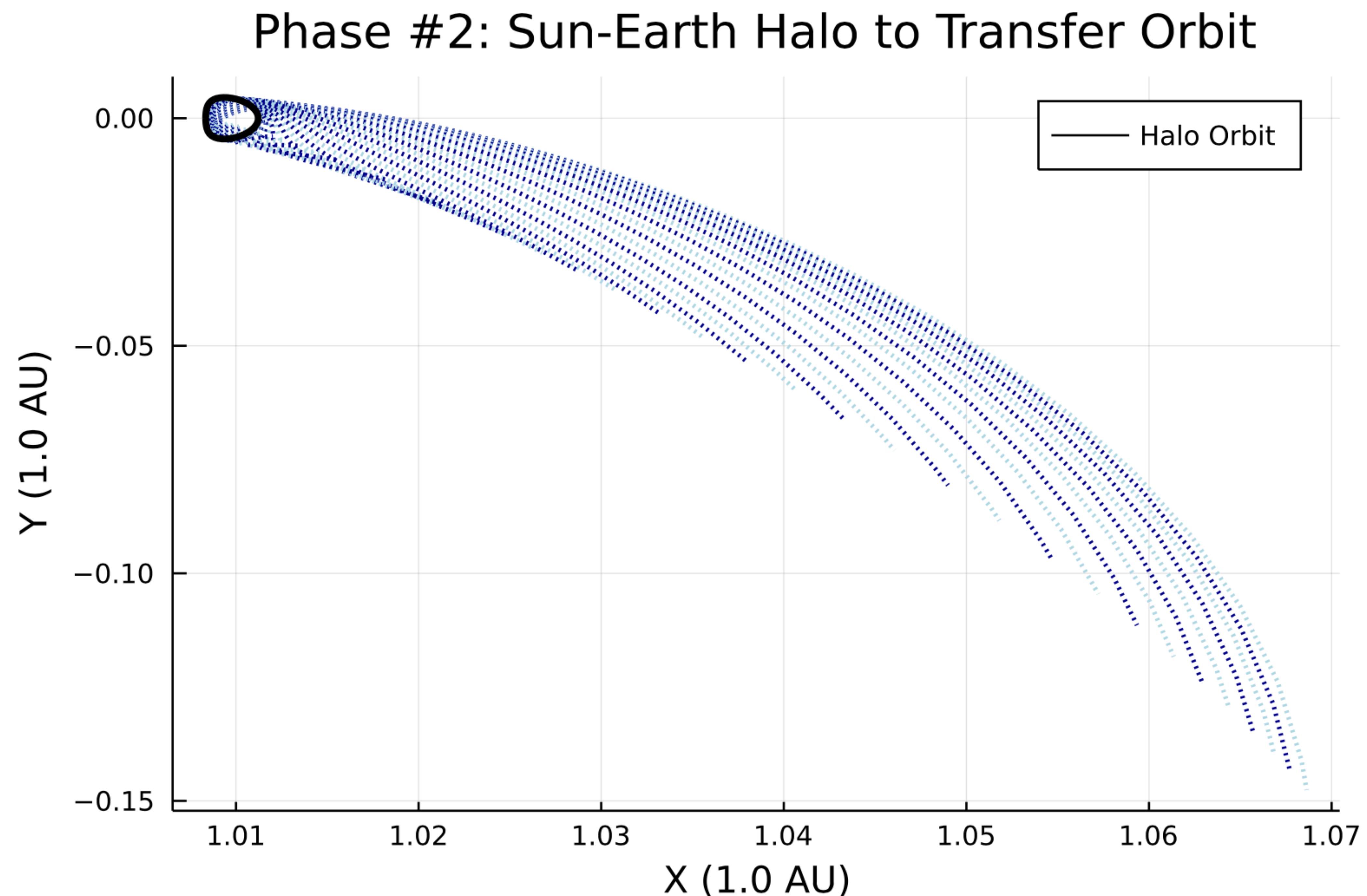


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Mission Phase: [Phase Three](#)

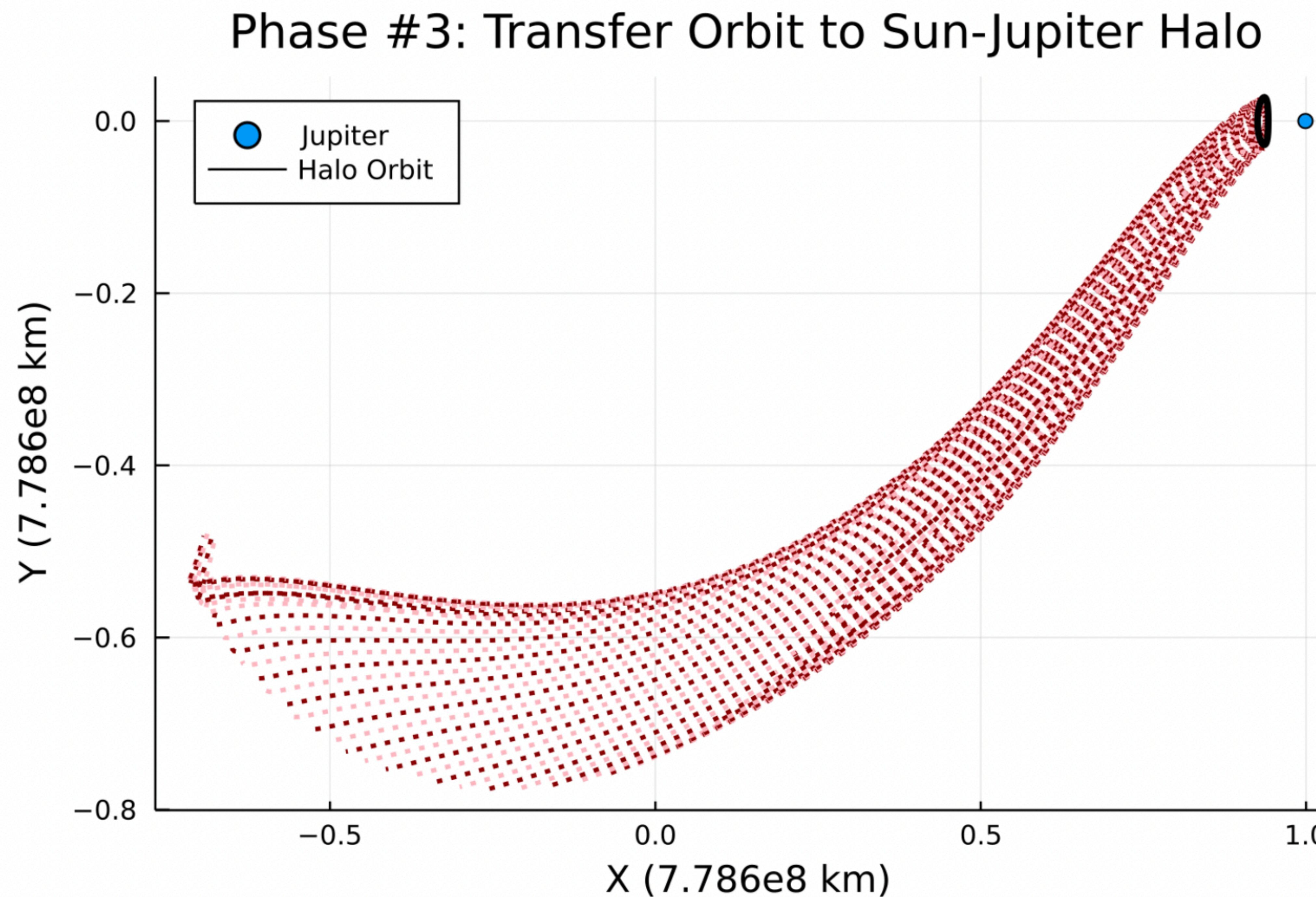


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Phase #1 Design

Where should we point our launch vehicle?

- Let's assume a Halo orbit with a 200, 000 km Z-axis amplitude about Sun-Earth L_2
- We need to find a state within the Halo's **stable manifold** that is **easy** to get to from Earth
- The cost function used to evaluate each orbital state, and the resulting **optimal** Earth-departure orbit are shown below
- **Let's only include orbital states within 1% of Earth's SOI in our search!**

$$\text{COST}({}^{\text{ECI}}r_{\text{sc}}, {}^{\text{ECI}}v_{\text{sc}}, t_{(\text{to halo})}) = {}^{\text{ECI}}r_{\text{sc}}^2 + {}^{\text{ECI}}v_{\text{sc}}^2 + 10t_{(\text{to halo})}^2$$

Optimal Earth-Departure Orbit

Time to Halo: 3.7992 years

Elliptical Restricted Two-body Orbit (Float64):

ECI Cartesian State:

```
t = -1.19892297638199e8 s
r = [-827383.871059 394727.776642 -99291.628123] km
v = [-0.056047 -0.027744 0.012576] km s-1
```

Restricted Two-body System (Earth):

```
μ = 398600.4354360959 km3 s-2
```

Orbit Properties:

```
e = 0.9937738640475346
C3 = -0.8604980835118132 km2 s-2
```



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Phase #2 Design

Where can the Sun-Earth manifold take us?

- Compute the **unstable manifold** near your Sun-Earth Halo orbit
- The **unstable manifold** shows trajectories up to 4529.2794 days, with a 94.8078 m/s perturbation cost

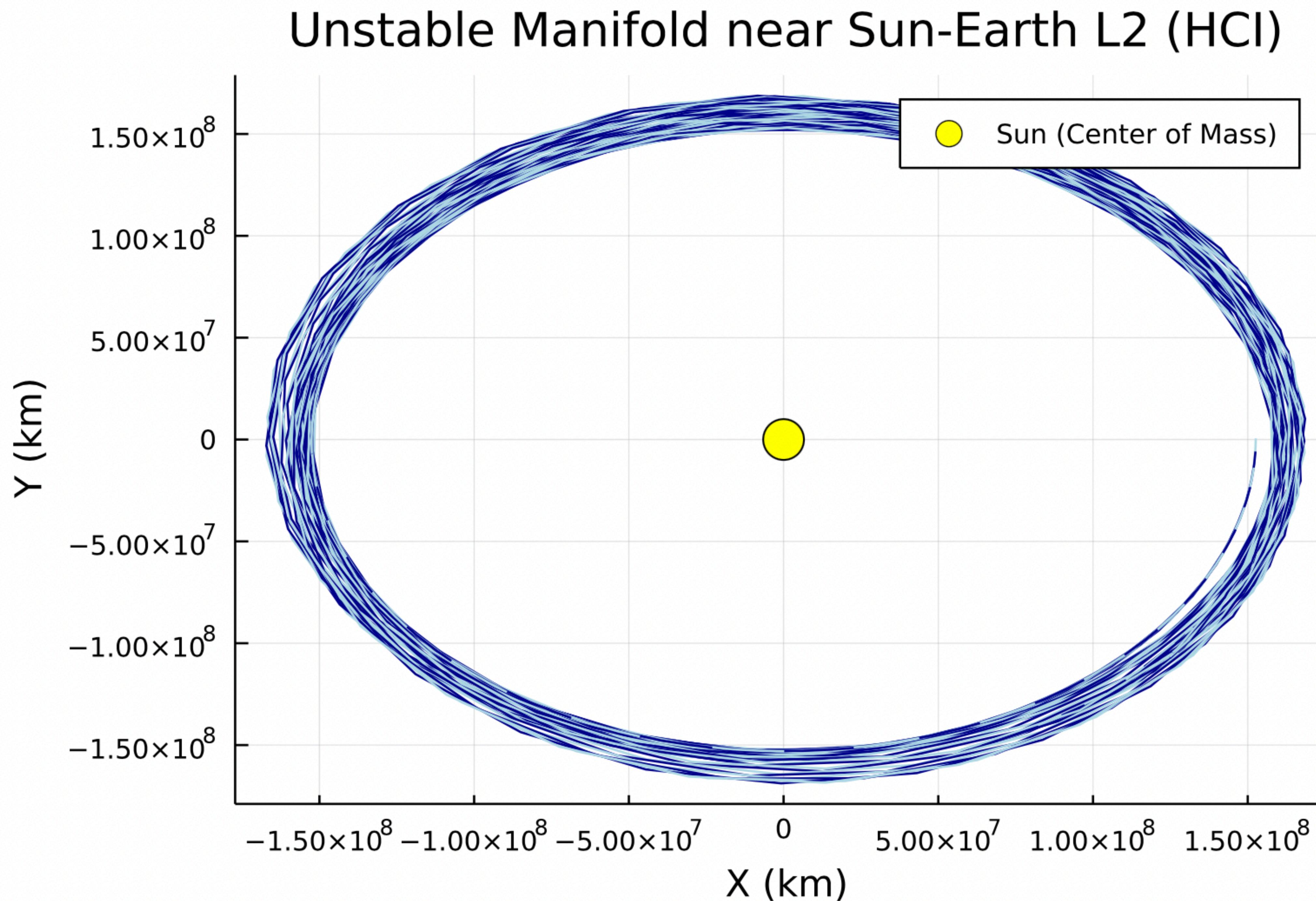


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Phase #3 Design

How can we get to the Sun-Jupiter manifold?

- Compute the **stable manifold** near your Sun-Earth Halo orbit
- The **stable manifold** shows trajectories up to 50899.4193 days, with a 415.7727 m/s perturbation cost
- **Lambert-scan result:** 6.0 years, 37.5473 km/s Δv

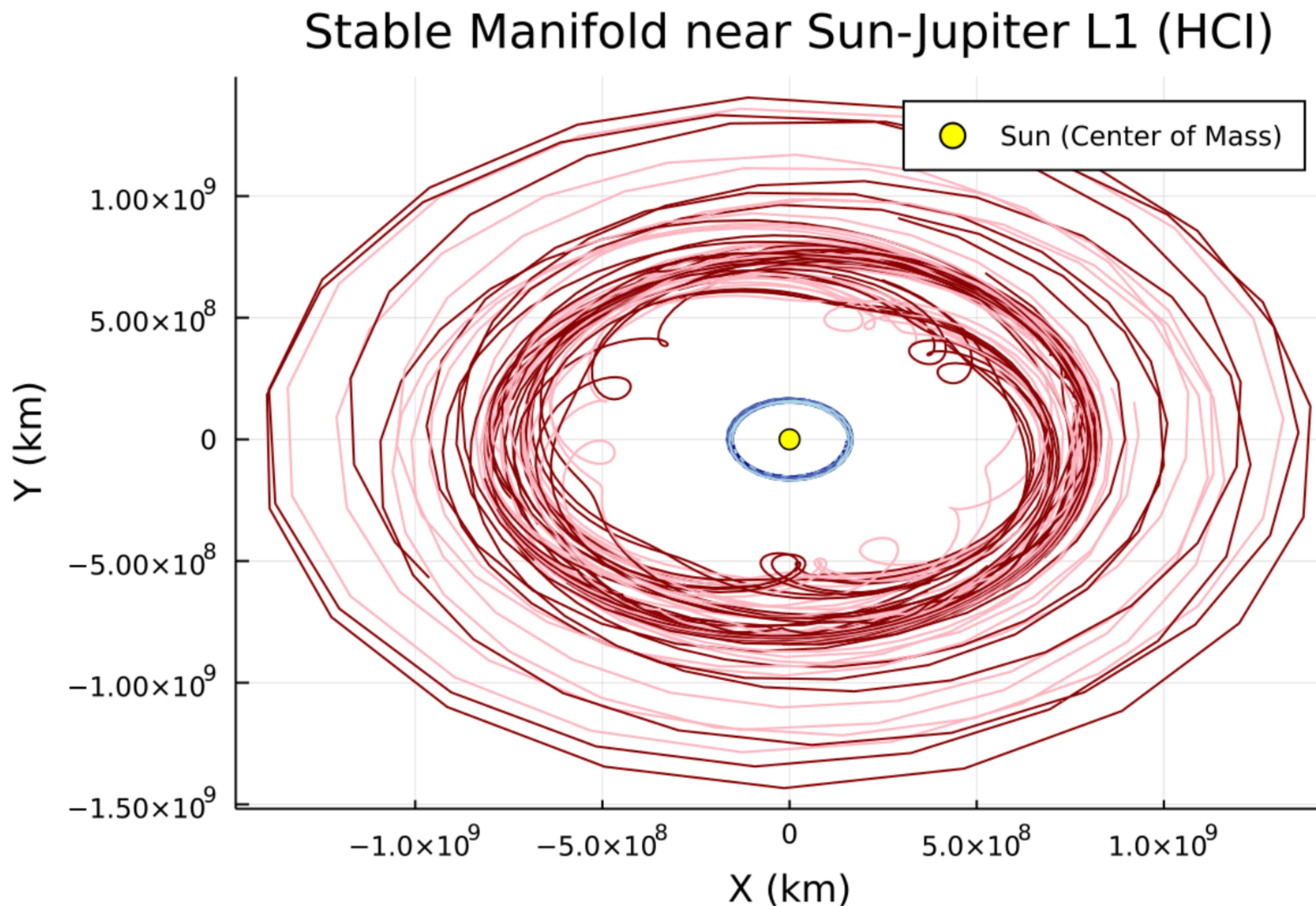


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Lessons Learned

Mission Results

- Total Duration: 105.6238 years
- Total Δv : 37.2263 $\frac{\text{km}}{\text{s}}$

Issues

- These results are likely incorrect due to book-keeping, including...
 - CR3BP to HCl
 - Lambert scanner issues

Forward Work

- Fix Lambert issues, confirm CR3BP to HCl calculations
- Compare correct manifold-transfer mission results to Hohmann, Lambert (without manifold)
- Use nonlinear optimizer to find optimal departure and arrival Halo orbit amplitudes
- Use ephemeris data for realistic mission planning

Package Announcement

- New Julia package: [GeneralAstrodynamics](#)
- Features include:
 - R2BP, CR3BP, and NBP definitions
 - Position, velocity, zero-velocity-curve, Lagrange point plotting
 - Ephemeris interpolation
 - Orbit propagation
 - Kepler, Lambert, and Halo solvers
 - More to come!



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Dependencies

```
• begin
•
•     using DrWatson
•
•     using CSV
•     using Plots
•     using Revise
•     using PlutoUI
•     using Crayons
•     using Latexify
•     using DataFrames
•     using LaTeXStrings
•     using LinearAlgebra
•     using ConcreteStructs
•     using GeneralAstrodynamics
•     using Unitful, UnitfulAngles, UnitfulAstro
•
•     macro terminal(expr)
•         quote
•             with_terminal() do
•                 $(esc(expr))
•             end
•         end
•     end
•
• end;
```



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Support Types

Halos

```
• begin
•   struct Halo{O<:CR3BPOrbit, T<:Real}
•     orbit::O
•     period::T
•   end
•
•   function Halo(param)::P; kwargs...) where P<:Union{Real, CR3BPSystem}
•     orbit, T = halo(param; kwargs...)
•     return Halo(orbit, T)
•   end
• end;
```

Transfers

```
• @concrete terse mutable struct Transfer
•   departure
•   arrival
•   Δv₁
•   Δv₂
•   Δv
•   TOF
•   m
• end;
```

Ephemeris

```
• earth, moon, jupiter = let
•   path = joinpath(datadir(), "exp_pro", "ephemeris", "wrt_sun")
•
•   earth = interpolator(joinpath(path, "Earth.txt"))
•   moon = interpolator(joinpath(path, "Moon.txt"))
•   jupiter = interpolator(joinpath(path, "Jupiter.txt"))
•
•   earth, moon, jupiter
• end;
```



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Support Functions

CR3BP to R2BP

```
• function R2BP(orbit::CR3BPOrbit, body_index::Int, body::R2BPSystem;
•   frame = Inertial)
•
•   # Position of celestial body
•   rβ, vβ = let
•
•     normalized_orbit = normalize(orbit)
•
•     if body_index == 1
•       synodic_body_position = primary_synodic_position(normalized_orbit)
•     elseif body_index == 2
•       synodic_body_position = secondary_synodic_position(normalized_orbit)
•     else
•       throw(ArgumentError("Second argument `body_index` must be 1 or 2."))
•     end
•
•     inertial_body_position = inertial(synodic_body_position,
•                                      epoch(normalized_orbit))
•     inertial_body_velocity = (
•       (normalize(inertial_body_position) × [0, 0, -1]) .*
•       scalar_velocity(normalized_length_unit(orbit.system) *
•                        normalized_mass_parameter(orbit.system),
•                        normalized_length_unit(orbit.system) *
•                        normalized_mass_parameter(orbit.system),
•                        primary_mass_parameter(orbit.system)))
•
•     redimensionalize_length.(inertial_body_position,
•                             normalized_length_unit(orbit.system)),
•     inertial_body_velocity
•   end
•
•   pos = (position_vector ∘ redimensionalize ∘ inertial)(orbit)
•   vel = (velocity_vector ∘ redimensionalize ∘ inertial)(orbit)
•   tp = epoch(redimensionalize(orbit))
•
•   pos = uconvert(u"km", pos .- rβ)
•   vel = uconvert(u"km/s", vel)
•   tp = uconvert(u"s", tp)
•
•   state = CartesianState(pos, vel, tp, frame)
```



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```

pos = (position_vector ∘ redimensionalize ∘ inertial)(orbit)
vel = (velocity_vector ∘ redimensionalize ∘ inertial)(orbit)
tp = epoch(redimensionalize(orbit))

pos = uconvert(u"km", pos .- rβ)
vel = uconvert(u"km/s", vel)
tp = uconvert(u"s", tp)

state = CartesianState(pos, vel, tp, frame)

return R2BPOrbit(state, body)

end;

```

Cost Function

```

function cost(orbit; P = 1, D = 1, T = 10)
    r = position_vector(orbit) - secondary_synodic_position(orbit)
    r = redimensionalize_length.(r, normalized_length_unit(orbit.system))
    r = r |> norm |> upreferred |> ustrip

    v = velocity_vector(orbit) - secondary_synodic_position(orbit)
    v = v |> norm |> upreferred |> ustrip

    t = (ustrip ∘ upreferred ∘ epoch ∘ redimensionalize)(orbit)

    return (P * r^2) + (D * v^2) + (T * t^2)
end;

```



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Julia vs. MATLAB

What's the difference?

- MATLAB is commercial software, while Julia is free and open-source
- Julia has a robust package manager, and can run faster than MATLAB **during execution**
- Julia is *just-ahead-of-time* compiled, so you pay by **waiting for your code to compile** the first time you execute it (microseconds to seconds)

Task	MATLAB	Julia
Print to the console	<code>disp('Hello, world!')</code>	<code>print("Hello, world!")</code>
Make a random 3×3 matrix	<code>M = rand(3,3)</code>	<code>M = randn(3,3)</code>
Take the determinant	<code>det(M)</code>	<code>det(M)</code>
Matrix multiplication	<code>M * M</code>	<code>M * M</code>
Element-wise multiplication	<code>M .* M</code>	<code>M .* M</code>
Two-norm of a vector	<code>norm(vec)</code>	<code>norm(vec)</code>
Vectorize function (1/2)	<code>for i = vec, f(i), end</code>	<code>for i = vec; f(i); end</code>
Vectorize function (2/2)	<code>n/a</code>	<code>f.(vec) or map(f, vec)</code>
Numerical integration	<code>ode45(f, x0, p t)</code>	<code>solve(ODEProblem(f, x₀, p, t))</code>
Symbolic math	<code>syms x y z</code>	<code>@variables x y z</code>
Manual	<code>help f</code>	<code>@doc f</code>



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