

## Kepler's Laws of Planetary Motion

- 1/ Planets move in elliptical orbits,  
which have the Sun at one focus.
- 2/ The radial vector from the Sun to  
a planet, sweeps out equal areas  
in equal times.
- 3/ The square of the period of  
revolution of a planet is proportional  
to the cube of the semi-major  
axis of the elliptical orbit.

### Consequence of Kepler's Laws:

The three laws lead to the law of  
gravitation between the Sun and  
the planets, discovered by Isaac Newton.

### Newton's Law of Universal Gravitation

$\vec{F} = -G \frac{m_1 m_2}{r^2} \hat{r}$   $\Rightarrow$  Any two objects of mass  
 $m_1$  and  $m_2$ , separated by  
a distance  $r$ , are attracted  
towards each other by a force,  $\vec{F} = F(r)\hat{r}$ .



# Kepler's Laws and Newton's Dynamics

## 1. Planetary Orbits from Gravity and vice-versa

For a particle moving on a plane,

$$\boxed{\vec{a} = \frac{d\vec{v}}{dt} = (\ddot{r} - r\dot{\theta}^2)\hat{r} + (2\dot{r}\dot{\theta} + r\ddot{\theta})\hat{\theta}}$$

If the motion is under a central force,  $\boxed{\vec{F} = F(r)\hat{r}}$ , we write  $\boxed{m\vec{a} = F(r)\hat{r}}$ .

Hence,  $\boxed{m(\ddot{r} - r\dot{\theta}^2)\hat{r} + (2\dot{r}\dot{\theta} + r\ddot{\theta})\hat{\theta} = F(r)\hat{r}}$

Balancing components on both sides  
we write  $\boxed{m(\ddot{r} - r\dot{\theta}^2) = F(r)}$

and  $\boxed{2\dot{r}\dot{\theta} + r\ddot{\theta} = 0}$ . Consider

the second equation, <sup>above</sup> first. We get

$$2\dot{r}\dot{\theta} + r\ddot{\theta} = \frac{1}{r} (2r\dot{r}\dot{\theta} + r^2\ddot{\theta}) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\frac{1}{r} \frac{d}{dt} (r^2 \dot{\theta}) = 0} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \boxed{r^2 \dot{\theta} = h \text{ (constant)}}$$

$$\therefore \boxed{\dot{\theta} = h/r^2} \text{ since } \boxed{u = \frac{1}{r}}, \Rightarrow \boxed{\dot{\theta} = hu^2}.$$

(A.T.O.)



Now we write  $\boxed{\dot{r} = \frac{dr}{dt} = \frac{dr}{d\theta} \frac{d\theta}{dt}}$

Also,  $\boxed{r = u^{-1}} \Rightarrow \boxed{dr = -1 u^{-2} du}$ .

$$\therefore \boxed{\dot{r} = \frac{-1}{u^2} \frac{du}{d\theta} \cdot hu^2 = -h \frac{du}{d\theta}} \quad \left( \text{Since } \underline{\dot{\theta} = hu^2} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \ddot{r} = -h \frac{d}{d\theta} \left( \frac{du}{d\theta} \right) \frac{d\theta}{dt} = -h \frac{d^2 u}{d\theta^2} \cdot hu^2$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\ddot{r} = -h^2 u^2 \frac{d^2 u}{d\theta^2}} \quad \text{Using these results in the}$$

r component,  $\boxed{m(\ddot{r} - r\dot{\theta}^2) = F(r)}$ .

We get,  $m \left( -h^2 u^2 \frac{d^2 u}{d\theta^2} - \frac{1}{u} h^2 u^4 \right) = F(1/u)$

$$\Rightarrow -mh^2 u^2 \left( \frac{d^2 u}{d\theta^2} + u \right) = F(1/u)$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\frac{d^2 u}{d\theta^2} + u = -\frac{F(1/u)}{mh^2 u^2}} \quad \text{Transform of the radial equation.}$$

As per Kepler's First Law, planets move in elliptical orbits. The

orbit equation is  $\boxed{r = \frac{l}{1 + e \cos \theta} = \frac{1}{u}}$

If  $0 < e < 1$ , then ellipse. (P.T.O.)



$$\therefore \boxed{u = \frac{1 + \epsilon \cos \theta}{l}} \Rightarrow \boxed{\frac{du}{d\theta} = -\frac{\epsilon}{l} \sin \theta}$$

$$\text{and } \boxed{\frac{d^2u}{d\theta^2} = -\frac{\epsilon}{l} \cos \theta = \frac{1}{l} - u}$$

$$\text{Hence, } \frac{d^2u}{d\theta^2} + u = \frac{1}{l} - \cancel{u} + \cancel{u} = -\frac{F(1/u)}{mh^2u^2}$$

$$\therefore \boxed{F(1/u) = -\frac{mh^2}{l} u^2} \quad \text{Since, } \boxed{u = 1/r}$$

$$\boxed{F(1/u) = F(r) = -\frac{mh^2}{l} \cdot \frac{1}{r^2}} \quad \cdot \quad \underline{\underline{m, h \text{ and } l \text{ are constants}}}$$

$$\text{We write } \boxed{K = \frac{mh^2}{l}} \therefore \boxed{F(r) = -\frac{K}{r^2}}$$

$F(r)$  is an inverse-square law force!

If a planetary orbit is a conic section, specifically an ellipse (Kepler), then the force driving the planet around the Sun, is an inverse-square law force (Newton).

Newton's gravity follows from Kepler's  
First Law.



# Orbits of Planets from Gravity

If  $\boxed{F(r) = -\frac{k}{r^2}}$   $\rightarrow$  Newton's inverse square law force.

We write  $\boxed{F(1/u) = -ku^2}$ . Hence

$$\frac{d^2u}{d\theta^2} + u = \frac{-F(1/u)}{mh^2u^2} = \frac{-(-ku^2)}{mh^2u^2}$$

$$\therefore \boxed{\frac{d^2u}{d\theta^2} + u = \frac{k}{mh^2}}$$

Define

$$\boxed{\xi = u - \frac{k}{mh^2}}$$

$$\therefore \boxed{\frac{d\xi}{d\theta} = \frac{du}{d\theta}}$$

$$\text{and } \boxed{\frac{d^2\xi}{d\theta^2} = \frac{d^2u}{d\theta^2}}$$

Hence we ~~can transform~~ <sup>transform</sup>

$$\boxed{\frac{d^2u}{d\theta^2} + u - \frac{k}{mh^2} = 0}$$

$$\text{as } \boxed{\frac{d^2\xi}{d\theta^2} + \xi = 0}$$

$\rightarrow$  The simple harmonic oscillator equation.

The solution of the simple harmonic oscillator equation is  $\boxed{\xi = C \cos(\theta - \theta_0)}$

in which C and  $\theta_0$  are constants of the integration. We can verify the solution. (P.T.O.)



Check:  $\boxed{\ell_g = C \cos(\theta - \theta_0)}$ . Hence,

$$\boxed{\frac{d\ell_g}{d\theta} = -C \sin(\theta - \theta_0)} \quad \& \quad \boxed{\frac{d^2\ell_g}{d\theta^2} = -C \cos(\theta - \theta_0)}$$

$$\therefore \frac{d^2\ell_g}{d\theta^2} = -\ell_g \Rightarrow \boxed{\frac{d^2\ell_g}{d\theta^2} + \ell_g = 0} \quad \therefore \text{The solution is } \underline{\text{valid}}$$

Hence,  $\boxed{\ell_g = u - \frac{k}{mh^2} = C \cos(\theta - \theta_0)}$ .

$$\Rightarrow u = \frac{k}{mh^2} + C \cos(\theta - \theta_0) = \frac{1}{r}$$

$$\Rightarrow r = \frac{1}{(k/mh^2) + C \cos(\theta - \theta_0)}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{r = \frac{(mh^2/k)}{1 + (Cmh^2/k) \cos(\theta - \theta_0)}}$$

Polar Equation of a Conic Section  
←

Compare with the polar equation of a

Conic section,  $\boxed{r = \frac{l}{1 + E \cos \theta}}$ .

We can choose an axis where  $\boxed{\theta_0 = 0}$ .

$$\therefore \boxed{l = \frac{mh^2}{k}} \quad \text{and} \quad \boxed{E = \frac{Cmh^2}{k}} \quad \therefore \underline{\text{Driven}}$$

by an inverse-square law force, a planet moves along a conic section (ellipse).



# The Energy Conservation Equation

Energy Conservation:  $\boxed{\frac{1}{2}mv^2 + U(r) = E}$

Now  $\boxed{v^2 = \dot{r}^2 + r^2 \dot{\theta}^2}$  and  $\boxed{r = -\hbar \frac{du}{d\theta}}$

$\Rightarrow \boxed{\frac{1}{2}m(\dot{r}^2 + r^2 \dot{\theta}^2) + U(r) = E}$  and  $\boxed{\dot{\theta} = hu^2}$   
 $\boxed{u = 1/r}$

$\frac{1}{2}m \left[ h^2 \left( \frac{du}{d\theta} \right)^2 + \frac{1}{u^2} h^2 u^4 \right] + U(r) = E$   
 $\boxed{r = 1/u}$

$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{2}mh^2 \left[ \left( \frac{du}{d\theta} \right)^2 + u^2 \right] + U\left(\frac{1}{u}\right) = E$

$\Rightarrow \boxed{\left( \frac{du}{d\theta} \right)^2 + u^2 = \frac{2[E - U(1/u)]}{mh^2}}$   $\left( \frac{du}{d\theta} \right)$   
 and  $\theta$   
 (coordinates)

Also  $\boxed{\dot{r} = \frac{dr}{dt} = \frac{dr}{d\theta} \frac{d\theta}{dt} = \frac{dr}{d\theta} \dot{\theta} = \frac{dr}{d\theta} \frac{h}{r^2}}$

$\Rightarrow \boxed{\dot{r}^2 = \left( \frac{dr}{d\theta} \right)^2 \frac{h^2}{r^4}}$  and  $\boxed{\dot{\theta}^2 = h^2/r^4}$

$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{2}m \left[ \left( \frac{dr}{d\theta} \right)^2 \frac{h^2}{r^4} + r^2 \frac{h^2}{r^4} \right] + U(r) = E$

$\Rightarrow \boxed{\frac{mh^2}{2r^4} \left[ \left( \frac{dr}{d\theta} \right)^2 + r^2 \right] + U(r) = E}$   $\left( \frac{dr}{d\theta} \right)$   
 and  $\theta$   
 (coordinates)



# Characterising the Orbit by E

For a central inverse-square law force,  $\boxed{F(r) = -k/r}$  or  $\boxed{F(1/u) = -ku}$ ,

the orbit is a conic section,

$$\boxed{u = \frac{k}{mh^2} + C \cos(\theta - \theta_0)}$$

$C, \theta_0$  are unknown constants.

With a suitable choice of an axis, we can set  $\boxed{\theta_0 = 0}$ . Hence, we have

$$\boxed{u = \frac{k}{mh^2} + C \cos \theta} \Rightarrow \boxed{\frac{du}{d\theta} = -C \sin \theta}$$

Consider  $\boxed{\left(\frac{du}{d\theta}\right)^2 + u^2 = \frac{2[E - U(1/u)]}{mh^2}}$

The left hand side (L.H.S.) is

$$\left(\frac{du}{d\theta}\right)^2 + u^2 = C^2 \sin^2 \theta + \left(\frac{k}{mh^2} + C \cos \theta\right)^2$$

$$= C^2 \sin^2 \theta + \frac{k^2}{m^2 h^4} + C^2 \cos^2 \theta + \frac{2ck \cos \theta}{mh^2}$$

$$= C^2 + \frac{k^2}{m^2 h^4} + \frac{2ck \cos \theta}{mh^2} \quad \left( \text{since } \sin^2 \theta + \cos^2 \theta = 1 \right)$$

(P.T.O.)



The right hand side (R.H.S.) is

$$\frac{2 [\mathcal{E} - U(1/a)]}{mh^2} = \frac{2\mathcal{E}}{mh^2} - \frac{2U(1/a)}{mh^2}$$

POTENTIAL ENERGY

Now  $\boxed{\vec{F} = -\vec{\nabla}U} \therefore \boxed{F(r)\hat{r} = -\frac{dU}{dr}\hat{r}}$

Since,  $\boxed{F(r) = -\frac{k}{r^2}} \Rightarrow \boxed{-\frac{dU}{dr} = -\frac{k}{r^2}}$

$\Rightarrow \boxed{U = \int k r^{-2} dr = -\frac{k}{r}} \Rightarrow \boxed{U = -ku}$   
Potential

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore \frac{2\mathcal{E}}{mh^2} - \frac{2U}{mh^2} &= \frac{2\mathcal{E}}{mh^2} + \frac{2ku}{mh^2} \\ &= \frac{2\mathcal{E}}{mh^2} + \frac{2k}{mh^2} \left( \frac{k}{mh^2} + C \cos \theta \right) \\ &= \frac{2\mathcal{E}}{mh^2} + \frac{2k^2}{m^2 h^4} + \frac{2kC \cos \theta}{mh^2} \end{aligned}$$

Balancing L.H.S. and R.H.S.

$$C^2 + \frac{k^2}{m^2 h^4} + \frac{2ck \cos \theta}{mh^2} = \frac{2\mathcal{E}}{mh^2} + \frac{2k^2}{m^2 h^4} + \frac{2kC \cos \theta}{mh^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{C^2 = \frac{2\mathcal{E}}{mh^2} + \frac{k^2}{m^2 h^4}} \quad (\text{P.T.O.})$$



The eccentricity,  $\boxed{E = \frac{Cmh^2}{k}}$

$$\therefore \frac{C^2 m^2 h^4}{k^2} = 1 + \frac{2E}{mh^2} \cdot \frac{m^2 h^4}{k^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\frac{C^2 m^2 h^4}{k^2} = 1 + \frac{2Emh^2}{k^2} = E^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{E = \sqrt{1 + \frac{2Emh^2}{k^2}}}$$

$E \rightarrow$  Total Energy  
 $h \rightarrow$  Angular momentum  
 $m \rightarrow$  mass of planet

Now  $\boxed{F(r) = -\frac{k}{r^2} = -\frac{GMm}{r^2}}$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{K = GMm}$$

$M \rightarrow$  Mass of Sun

$$\therefore \frac{2Emh^2}{k^2} = \frac{2Emh^2}{G^2 M^2 m} = \frac{2Eh^2}{G^2 M^2 m} \quad \boxed{\begin{matrix} M, m, \\ h > 0 \end{matrix}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{E = \sqrt{1 + \frac{2Eh^2}{G^2 M^2 m}}}$$

i)  $\boxed{\text{If } E > 0, \text{ then } E > 1}$

$\Rightarrow$  Hyperbolic orbit.

ii)  $\boxed{\text{If } E = 0, \text{ then } E = 1} \Rightarrow$  Parabolic Orbit

iii)  $\boxed{\text{If } -\frac{G^2 M^2 m}{2h^2} < E < 0, \text{ then } 0 < E < 1.}$

$\Rightarrow$  Elliptical Orbit (as planets have).



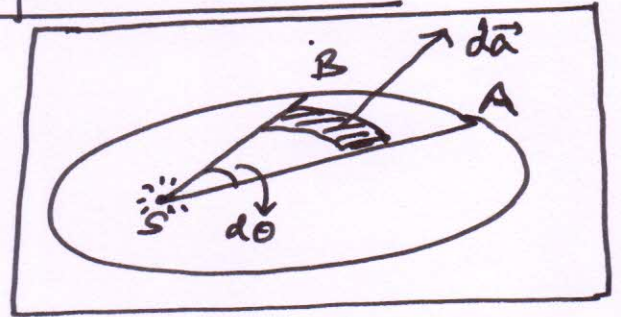
## 2. Areal Velocity of Planets

In  $(r, \theta)$  coordinates

$$d\vec{r} = dr \hat{r} + r d\theta \hat{\theta}$$

↳ line element

∴ area element,  $d\vec{a} = r dr d\theta (\hat{r} \times \hat{\theta})$



In the figure the shaded area element is  $r' dr' d\theta$  (magnitude) in which  $r'$  is a dummy variable. The

full area of the sector ABS is to be found by integrating  $r'$  from  $r'=0$  (at S, the position of the Sun), to  $r'=r$  (at A or B, the position of the planet on its elliptical orbit, with S at one focus).

$$\therefore d\vec{A} = \left( \int_0^r r' dr' \right) d\theta (\hat{r} \times \hat{\theta})$$

$\vec{A}$  is the area vector traced out by the orbital radius ( $\vec{SA}$  or  $\vec{SB}$ ), (G.T.O.)



(continued) -65-

As the planet moves from A to B.

$$\therefore d\vec{A} = \left( \frac{r^2}{2} \middle| \begin{matrix} r \\ 0 \end{matrix} \right) d\theta \hat{z} \quad \left( \text{Since } \hat{r} \times \hat{\theta} = \hat{z} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{d\vec{A} = \frac{r^2}{2} d\theta \hat{z}} \quad \text{If this area is swept out}$$

in a time  $dt$ , then the areal

velocity is  $\boxed{\frac{d\vec{A}}{dt} = \frac{r^2}{2} \frac{d\theta}{dt} \hat{z}}$

Now,  $\boxed{r^2 \frac{d\theta}{dt} = r^2 \dot{\theta} = h}$  (a constant)

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\frac{d\vec{A}}{dt} = \dot{\vec{A}} = \frac{h}{2} \hat{z}} \Rightarrow \text{Areal velocity is a constant vector}$$

( $\hat{z}$  points perpendicular to the orbital plane)

Hence, equal areas are swept out by the orbital radius, in equal time intervals (Kepler's second law)

2. Closer to the Sun, a planet moves faster along the orbit, than when the planet is further <sup>away</sup> from the Sun.



### 3/. Orbital Time Period

Area of an ellipse is  $\boxed{\pi ab}$ ,

$a \rightarrow$  Semi-major axis,  $b \rightarrow$  Semi-minor <sup>axis</sup>.

Areal velocity  $\boxed{\dot{A} = h/2}$  (magnitude).

Time taken to sweep out the full orbital area,  $\boxed{T = \frac{\pi ab}{h/2}}$   $\rightarrow$  Orbital Time Period.

Now,  $\boxed{b = a\sqrt{1-\epsilon^2}}$   $\rightarrow$  ~~the~~ (from the theory of the ellipse)

$\Rightarrow \boxed{T = \frac{2\pi a^2 \sqrt{1-\epsilon^2}}{h}}$ . Further, the semi-latus rectum,

$\boxed{l = a(1-\epsilon^2)}$  and  $\boxed{l = \frac{mh^2}{K}}$ .

$$\Rightarrow \sqrt{1-\epsilon^2} = \sqrt{\frac{mh^2}{K}} \Rightarrow T = \frac{2\pi a^2}{h} \sqrt{\frac{mh^2}{Ka}}$$

$$\therefore \boxed{T = 2\pi \sqrt{\frac{m}{K}} a^3} \Rightarrow \boxed{T^2 = 4\pi^2 \frac{m}{K} a^3}$$

Since,  $\boxed{K = GMm} \Rightarrow \boxed{T^2 = \frac{4\pi^2}{GM} a^3}$ , which proves Kepler's Third Law  $\rightarrow \boxed{T^2 \propto a^3}$