

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

Student ID \_\_\_\_\_

## Orbit Mechanics

10/23/20

### Exam 2

Please read the problems carefully.

Write clearly and use diagrams when necessary.

Use the following constant values when appropriate

Body	GM (km <sup>3</sup> /s <sup>2</sup> )	Radius (km)
Earth	$4.0000 \times 10^5$	6400.0
Moon	$5.000 \times 10^3$	1500.0
Earth-Moon Distance $4.0000 \times 10^5$ km		

**Purdue Honor Pledge** “As a Boilermaker pursuing academic excellence, I pledge to be honest and true in all that I do. Accountable together—We Are Purdue.”

For this exam, I understand it is a take-home exam with the following requirements:

1. I can use my own class notes and my own previously completed assignments.
2. I am not allowed to search for any resources online.
3. I can use my own calculator. I cannot use Matlab or other commercial software.
4. I am expected to work the exam on my own. I am not allowed to work with another person. I am not allowed to contact another person for help while completing the exam.
5. If I have any questions during the exam period, I will email Prof Howell ([howell@purdue.edu](mailto:howell@purdue.edu)) AND the TAs Beom Park ([park1103@purdue.edu](mailto:park1103@purdue.edu)) + Nadia Numa ([nnuma@purdue.edu](mailto:nnuma@purdue.edu)). Given this exam period is 24 hours, we will answer as soon as possible.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

(40 Points)

**Problem 1:** It is now 2050 and under the new Global Lunar Vision – an international commercial enterprise for development of lunar resources – facilities are based at various locations on the Moon’s surface. The Lunar Transport Service uses vehicles (LTVs) in various orbits to facilitate operations. Note  $\mu_{LTV} \ll \mu_{\zeta}$ .

- (a) Analysis for lunar activities requires a valid model. Assume that a vehicle is located  $50R_{\zeta}$  from the Moon. Complete a quick look by placing Earth—LTV—Moon along a line and in this order; assume that the LTV is at a radius distance  $50R_{\zeta}$ .

What equation might give you insight to decide if a relative two-body model is adequate at this distance?

Compare the various terms in an equation for motion of the LTV with respect to the Moon; is the relative two-body model reasonable at this distance? Why or why not?

- (b) Assume that a relative 2B model is adequate. A Lunar Transport Service vehicle (LTV) is currently in a lunar orbit with  $p = 4R_{\zeta}$  and  $e = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}$ . (See the figure on the next page.)

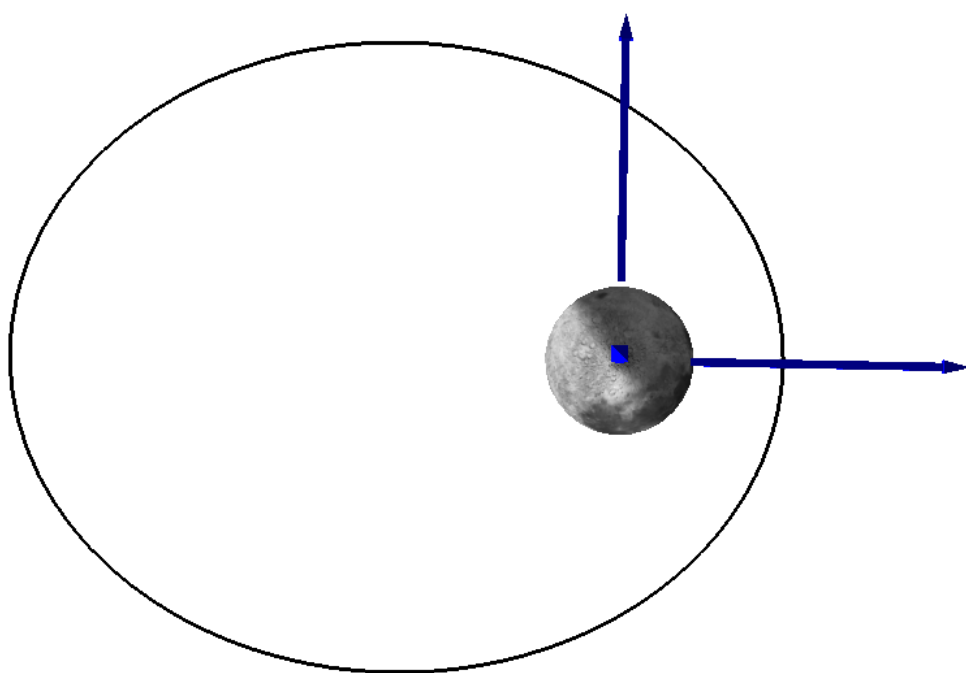
When the LTV is located at the end of the latus rectum and ascending, an in-plane maneuver will shift the vehicle into a new orbit for a run to Earth such that  $\mathcal{E}_N = +\frac{1}{6} \text{ km}^2 / \text{s}^2$  and

$$h_N = 8200 \text{ km}^2 / \text{s}.$$

- (i) What is the escape speed for this departure location?
- (ii) Check the vector diagram. Two reasonable options exist to accomplish this task. Describe these options; which one offers the smallest  $|\Delta \vec{v}|$ ? Why?
- (iii) Determine the  $\Delta \vec{v}$  (magnitude  $\Delta \bar{v}$  and angle  $\alpha$ ) to accomplish the adjustment. Also express it in terms of  $\hat{V} \hat{N} \hat{B}$  coordinates.
- (iv) For the new orbit, determine  $e_N, \theta_N^*, \Delta \omega$ .

Sketch the old and new orbits; mark the old and new line of apsides as well as  $\Delta \omega$ .

- (c) Discuss: How are the results from (a) and (b) related? What are your conclusions and/or observations?



(40 points)

**Problem 2:** A vehicle is currently in Earth orbit. Assume that it is reasonable to employ a relative two-body model. At time  $t_1$ , the vehicle is located at position  $\vec{r}_1$  and later, at  $t_2$ , it is observed at location  $\vec{r}_2$ . The orbit semi-major axis is given as  $a = a_n$ . In terms of inertial Earth equatorial coordinates, the locations are given as:

$$\vec{r}_1 = a_n (\cos 45^\circ \hat{x} + \sin 45^\circ \hat{z})$$

$$\vec{r}_2 = a_n (\cos 45^\circ \hat{y} + \sin 45^\circ \hat{z})$$

It is known that the spacecraft passes through apoapsis between  $t_1$  and  $t_2$ .

- (a) Make two sketches: (i) the general scenario in 3D; (ii) the scenario in the orbit plane. (Your sketches should be reasonably accurate!)
- (b) Determine the angle between the vectors.

Is the specific angular momentum vector above or below the fundamental plane? Why?

- (c) Determine the following orbital characteristics:  $\Omega, i, \omega, e, p$

- (d) Determine conditions at the given locations:  $\theta_1^*, \theta_2^*, \gamma_1, \gamma_2$

- (e) Velocity  $\vec{v}_1$  can be written  $\vec{v}_1 = k_1 v_c \hat{v}_1$  where  $v_c$  is the corresponding circular speed. Determine  $k_1$ .

Use the  $f$  and  $g$  functions to determine the velocity direction in terms of the inertial coordinates  $\hat{x} \hat{y} \hat{z}$ . Also express the velocity direction in terms of  $\hat{e} \hat{p} \hat{h}$  and  $\hat{r} \hat{\theta} \hat{h}$ .

- (f) Return to a sketch of the orbit plane. Mark  $\vec{r}_1, \vec{r}_2, \vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2$ , local horizons, flight path angles. Also identify the arc between  $t_1$  and  $t_2$ .

( 20 points)

**Problem 3:** Assume a relative two-body model is appropriate. In an elliptical Earth orbit, a spacecraft is located such that the true anomaly is  $\theta_1^* = 90^\circ$ ; at a later time  $\theta_2^* = 225^\circ$ . If  $r_p = 2R_\oplus$  and  $r_a = 10R_\oplus$ , determine the time  $(t_2 - t_1)$ .

Sketch the orbit and identify the arc of interest.