

LL BP

Thursday, November 12, 2020

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Transfer Orbits: Lambert Arcs

Transfer Orbit Design
(special class of boundary value problem)

1. Geometrical relationships

**Conic paths connecting two points that are fixed in space
with focus at the attracting center**

2. Analytical Relationships



3. Lambert's Theorem

Lambert's Theorem

{ simply a different way to write Kepler's Eqn.

Know a lot about possible orbits connecting two points

{ solution space

But analytical relationships rely on "a"

how to get it?

Must somehow select "a"

← an additional specification about the transfer path

What to specify?

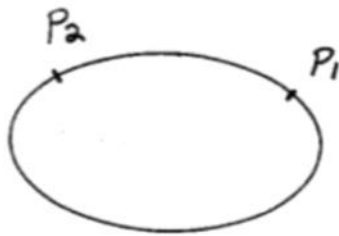
From a number of different options
→ choose TOF

Lambert: conjecture that given I.C.s (r_1, r_2, c)

TOF depends only on "a"

i.e., $t = t(a, r_1 + r_2, c)$

(Lagrange actually proved this later)



$$\begin{aligned} n(t_1 - t_p) &= E_1 - e \sin E_1 \\ n(t_2 - t_p) &= E_2 - e \sin E_2 \end{aligned}$$

subtract

$$(t_2 - t_1) = \text{TOF} = \frac{1}{n} [(E_2 - E_1) - e \sin E_2 + e \sin E_1]$$

func of "a"

relate E's, e to r_1, r_2, c ?

Given TOF, this relationship contains unknowns: E_1, E_2, e, a

Must be rewritten in terms of only one unknown $\rightarrow a$

HOW?

Define:

$$E_p = \frac{E_1 + E_2}{2}$$

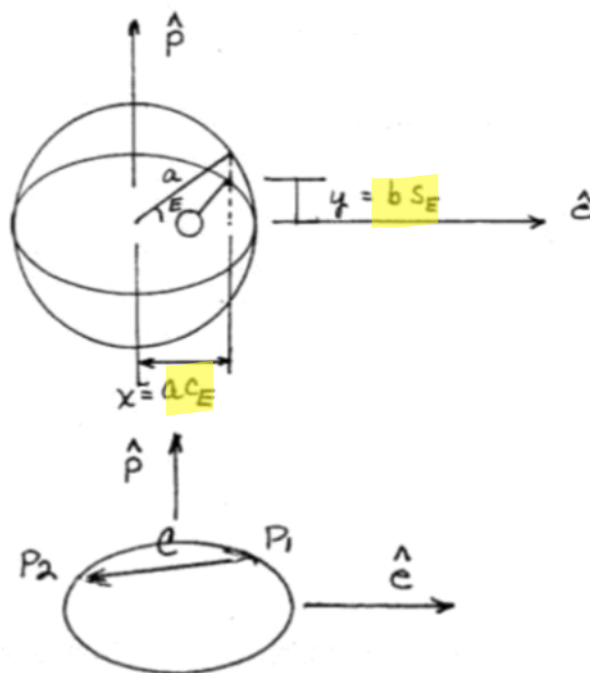
$$E_m = \frac{E_2 - E_1}{2}$$

$$r_1 = a(1 - e \cos E_1) \quad r_2 = a(1 - e \cos E_2)$$

$$r_1 + r_2 = a[2 - e(\cos E_1 + \cos E_2)]$$

$$= a \left[2 - e \left(2 \cos \left(\frac{E_1 + E_2}{2} \right) \cos \left(\frac{E_1 - E_2}{2} \right) \right) \right]$$

$$r_1 + r_2 = 2a[1 - e \cos E_p \cos E_m]$$



measured from center

$$\vec{r}_1 = x_1 \hat{c} + y_1 \hat{p}$$

$$\vec{r}_2 = x_2 \hat{c} + y_2 \hat{p}$$

$$\vec{c} = \vec{r}_2 - \vec{r}_1$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\bar{c} &= \bar{p}_2 - \bar{p}_1 \\
&= (x_2 - x_1)\hat{e} + (y_2 - y_1)\hat{p} \\
c^2 &= (a \cos E_2 - a \cos E_1)^2 + (b \sin E_2 - b \sin E_1)^2 \\
&= a^2 (\cos E_2 - \cos E_1)^2 + a^2 (1 - e^2)^2 (\sin E_2 - \sin E_1)^2 \\
\bar{c}^2 &= a^2 \left[(\cos E_2 - \cos E_1)^2 + (1 - e^2)^2 (\sin E_2 - \sin E_1)^2 \right]
\end{aligned}$$

trig identities

$$\cos A - \cos B = -2 \sin \left(\frac{A+B}{2} \right) \sin \left(\frac{A-B}{2} \right)$$

$$\longrightarrow \cos E_2 - \cos E_1 = -2 \sin E_p \sin E_M$$

$$\sin A - \sin B = 2 \cos \left(\frac{A+B}{2} \right) \sin \left(\frac{A-B}{2} \right)$$

$$\longrightarrow \sin E_2 - \sin E_1 = 2 \cos E_p \sin E_M$$

$$\begin{aligned}
c^2 &= a^2 \left[4 \sin^2 E_p \sin^2 E_M + (1 - e^2) 4 \cos^2 E_p \sin^2 E_M \right] \\
&= 4a^2 \sin^2 E_M \left(\sin^2 E_p + \cos^2 E_p - e^2 \cos^2 E_p \right)
\end{aligned}$$

$$c^2 = 4a^2 \sin^2 E_M (1 - e^2 \cos^2 E_p)$$

e is still there!

Define

$$\cos \eta = e \cos E_p$$

ok because $e < 1$ 

$$r_1 + r_2 = 2a[1 - \cos \eta \cos E_M]$$

$$c^2 = 4a^2 \sin^2 E_M (1 - \cos^2 \eta)$$

OR

$$c = 2a \sin E_M \sin \eta$$



$$\text{So } r_1 + r_2 + c = 2a - 2a \cos \eta \cos E_M + 2a \sin E_M \sin \eta$$

$$e, E_1, E_2$$

$$e, E_p, E_m$$

$$\eta, E_m$$

$$\left(\begin{array}{l} \text{Defined previously} \\ s = \frac{1}{2}(r_1 + r_2 + c) \quad \text{and} \quad \alpha = 2 \sin^{-1} \sqrt{\frac{s}{2a}} \\ \underbrace{\hspace{1.5cm}}_{\text{semi-perimeter}} \quad \underbrace{\hspace{1.5cm}}_{\sin^2 \frac{\alpha}{2} = \frac{s}{2a}} \\ \text{OR} \\ r_1 + r_2 + c = 4a \sin^2 \left(\frac{\alpha}{2} \right) \\ \underbrace{\hspace{1.5cm}}_{\left(\frac{1 - \cos \alpha}{2} \right)} \\ r_1 + r_2 + c = 2a(1 - \cos \alpha) \end{array} \right)$$

$$\alpha$$



$$r_1 + r_2 + c = 2a \underbrace{(1 - \cos \eta \cos E_M + \sin E_M \sin \eta)}_{1 - \cos(\eta + E_M)} = 2a(1 - \cos \alpha)$$

→ $\alpha = \eta + E_M$

Also $r_1 + r_2 - c = 2a(1 - \cos \eta \cos E_M - \sin E_M \sin \eta)$

$$\left(\begin{array}{l} \text{Defined previously } \beta = 2 \sin^{-1} \sqrt{\frac{s-c}{2a}} \\ \underbrace{\sin^2 \frac{\beta}{2} = \frac{s-c}{2a}} \\ \text{OR} \\ r_1 + r_2 - c = 4a \underbrace{\sin^2 \left(\frac{\beta}{2} \right)}_{\left(\frac{1 - \cos \beta}{2} \right)} \\ r_1 + r_2 - c = 2a(1 - \cos \beta) \end{array} \right)$$

$$r_1 + r_2 - c = 2a \underbrace{(1 - \cos \eta \cos E_M - \sin E_M \sin \eta)}_{1 - \cos(\eta - E_M)} = 2a(1 - \cos \beta)$$

→ $\beta = \eta - E_M$

Vander's Eqn.

$e, F_1, F_2 \rightarrow e, \eta, E_M$

Kepler's Eqn.

$e, E_1, E_2 \rightarrow e, \eta, E_p$
 \downarrow
 α, β

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$$n(t_2 - t_1) = \left[(E_2 - E_1) - e \underbrace{(\sin E_2 - \sin E_1)}_{2 \cos \left(\frac{E_2 + E_1}{2} \right) \sin \left(\frac{E_2 - E_1}{2} \right)} \right]$$

$$\sqrt{\mu}(t_2 - t_1) = a^{3/2} \left[(E_2 - E_1) - \underbrace{2e \cos E_p \sin E_M}_{\cos \eta} \right]$$

$$\sqrt{\mu}(t_2 - t_1) = a^{3/2} [2 E_M - 2 \cos \eta \sin E_M]$$

$$\underline{\sqrt{\mu}(t_2 - t_1) = 2 a^{3/2} [E_M - \cos \eta \sin E_M]}$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Note:} \\ \alpha - \beta = (\eta + E_M) - (\eta - E_M) = 2 E_M \\ \alpha + \beta = 2 \eta \end{array} \right\}$$

$$\sqrt{\mu}(t_2 - t_1) = a^{3/2} \left[(\alpha - \beta) - \underbrace{2 \cos \eta \sin E_M}_{2 \cos \left(\frac{\alpha + \beta}{2} \right) \sin \left(\frac{\alpha - \beta}{2} \right)} \right]$$

$$\underbrace{2 \cos \left(\frac{\alpha + \beta}{2} \right) \sin \left(\frac{\alpha - \beta}{2} \right)}_{\boxed{\sin \alpha - \sin \beta}}$$

$$\boxed{\sin \alpha - \sin \beta}$$



1. Kepler's Equation written in α, β

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Kepler's Equation written in α, β

$$\sqrt{\mu}(t_2 - t_1) = a^{3/2} [(\alpha - \beta) - (\sin \alpha - \sin \beta)]$$

$\underbrace{\quad}_{\text{TOF}}$

Lambert's Equation

quadrant ambiguities

$$\alpha = 2 \arcsin \sqrt{\frac{S}{2a}}$$

$$\beta = 2 \arcsin \sqrt{\frac{S-C}{2a}}$$

Conjecture by Lambert (1761): time to traverse arc depends only on a and two geometric properties of the space triangle ($c, r_1 + r_2$); Lagrange proves theorem in 1778.

transcendental equation

Johann Heinrich Lambert (1728 - 1777)

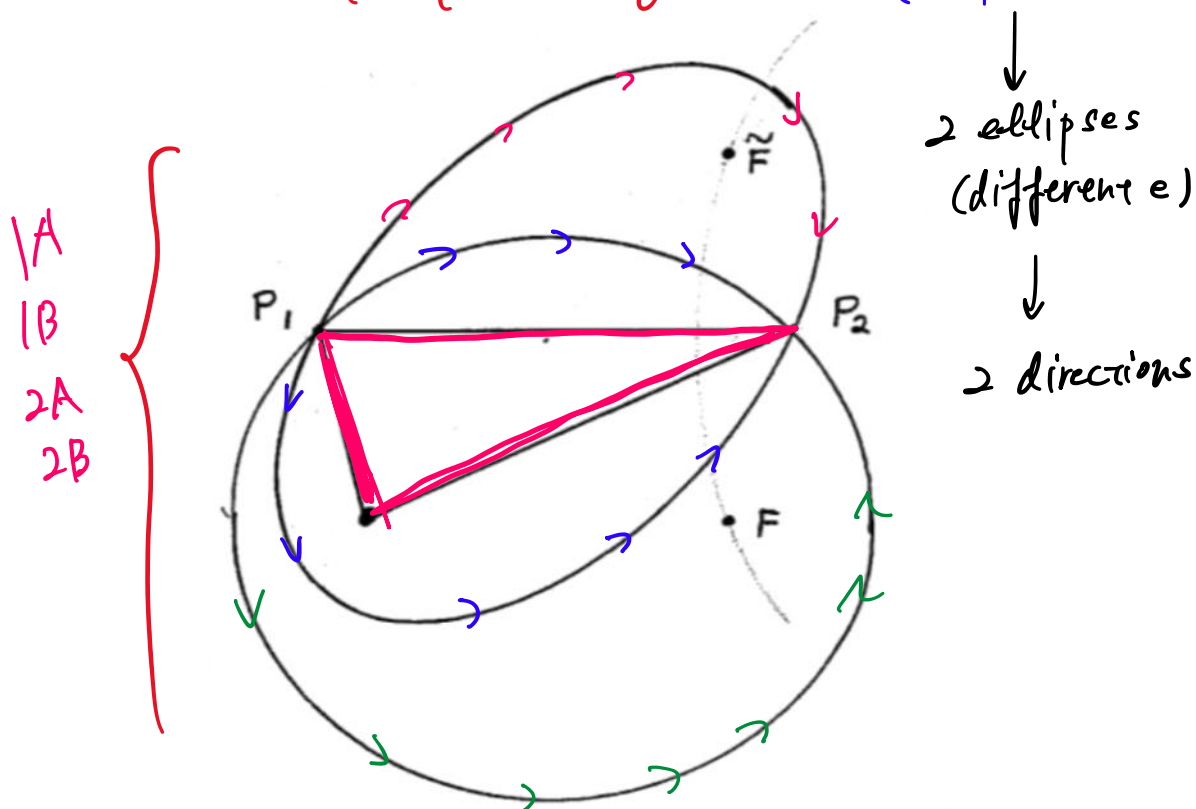


$$TOF = TOF(a \text{ \& \underbrace{space triangle stuff}_{known} } r_1, r_2, c)$$

α, β Quadrant Ambiguities: Elliptic Transfers

For a given space triangle and value “ a ”, there exist four arcs that could serve as the solution:

solve Lambert Eqn $\rightarrow a$ (4 options)



➡ 4 solutions correspond to quadrant ambiguities associated with angles α and β

Principal values α_o, β_o ➡ $0 \leq \beta_o \leq \alpha_o \leq \pi$

Recall derivation of Lambert's Equation

$$\sqrt{\mu}(t_2 - t_1) = a^{3/2} [(E_2 - E_1) - e(\sin E_2 - \sin E_1)]$$



$$\sqrt{\mu}(t_2 - t_1) = a^{3/2} [(\alpha - \beta) - (\sin \alpha - \sin \beta)]$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \alpha &= 2 \sin^{-1} \sqrt{\frac{s}{2a}} \\ \beta &= 2 \sin^{-1} \sqrt{\frac{s-c}{2a}} \end{aligned} \right\} \begin{array}{l} \text{quadrant} \\ \text{ambiguities} \\ \text{exist} \end{array}$$

Do α, β have any physical meaning that would help?

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \alpha &= \eta + E_M \\ \beta &= \eta - E_M \end{aligned} \right\} \quad \begin{aligned} \alpha - \beta &= 2E_M \\ &= 2 \left(\frac{E_2 - E_1}{2} \right) \end{aligned}$$



BUT, generally $\alpha \neq E_2$; $\beta \neq E_1$

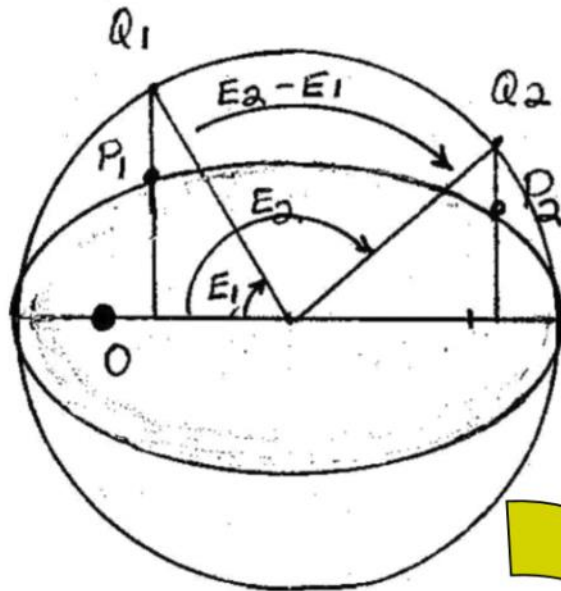
However, all ellipses with the same “ a ” have the same TOF
Useful to choose an equivalent ellipse with the same “ a ”?

Yes \rightarrow choose a rectilinear ellipse ($e = 1, p = 0$)

$$\text{Here } \left\{ \begin{aligned} \alpha &= E_2^R \\ \beta &= E_1^R \end{aligned} \right.$$

Use a rectilinear ellipse with the same “ a ” to resolve the quadrant ambiguity issue and provide a geometrical interpretation of α, β

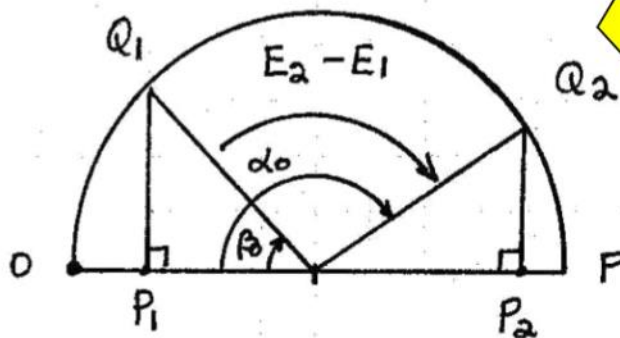
Actual ellipse



Note: Transfer corresponds to what arc on the auxiliary circle?

$$\alpha - \beta = E_2 - E_1$$

To create rectilinear ellipse P_1, P_2 remain in place on chord; O, F move along new ellipses to “shift” locations



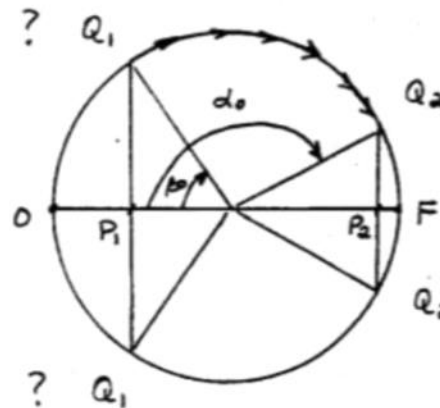
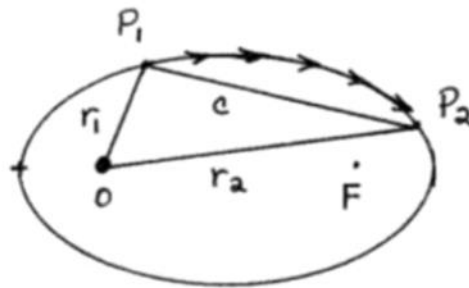
Define α_o, β_o consistent with principal value

$$\alpha - \beta = E_2 - E_1$$

Now consider path for 4 different types of arcs

1A

TA < 180°

F is NOT between
chord / arc

uses
rectilinear
ellipses
+
auxiliary circle

Transfer follows what arc of
the auxiliary circle?

Calculate α_o, β_o \longrightarrow which of 4 combinations yields correct
 Q_1, Q_2 ? **E_1 and E_2 ?**

Check orbit \longrightarrow in moving from P_1 to P_2 do you pass through
periapsis? apoapsis?

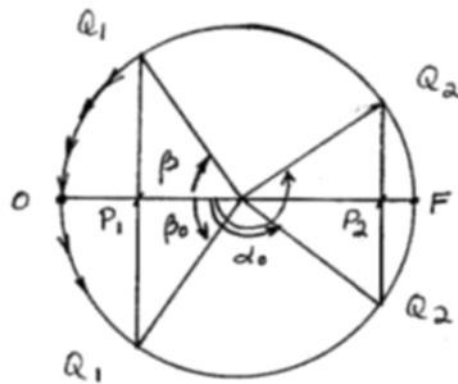
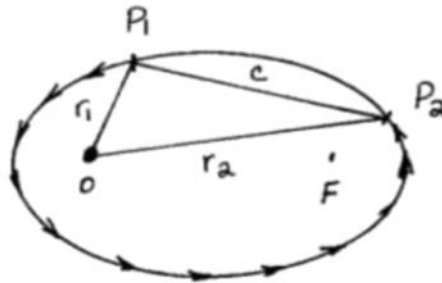
$$\begin{aligned} 1A \quad \alpha &= \alpha_o & \beta &= \beta_o & E_2 - E_1 &= \alpha_o - \beta_o \\ \sqrt{\mu}(t_2 - t_1) &= a^{3/2} [(\alpha_o - \sin \alpha_o) - (\beta_o - \sin \beta_o)] \end{aligned}$$

α_o, β_o
principle
values

2B

TA > 180°

F is between chord / arc



$$E_2 - E_1 = \alpha - \beta$$

$$= [\alpha_o + (\pi - \alpha_o) + (\pi - \alpha_o)] - (-\beta_o)$$

$$\mathbf{2B} \quad \alpha = 2\pi - \alpha_o \quad \beta = -\beta_o \quad E_2 - E_1 = 2\pi - \alpha_o + \beta_o$$

$$\sqrt{\mu}(t_2 - t_1) = a^{3/2} [(\alpha - \sin \alpha) - (\beta - \sin \beta)]$$

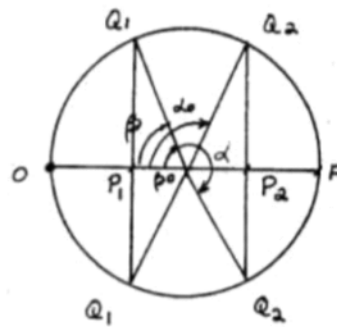
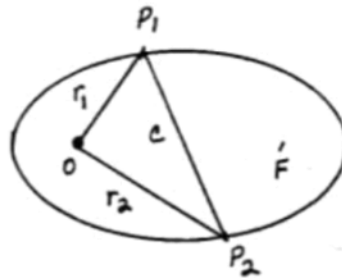
$$\sqrt{\mu}(t_2 - t_1) = a^{3/2} [(2\pi - \alpha_o - \sin(2\pi - \alpha_o)) - (-\beta_o - \sin(-\beta_o))]$$

$$\mathbf{2B} \quad \sqrt{\mu}(t_2 - t_1) = a^{3/2} [2\pi - (\alpha_o - \sin \alpha_o) + (\beta_o - \sin \beta_o)]$$

1B

TA < 180°

F is between chord / arc



$$E_2 - E_1 = \alpha - \beta$$

$$= [\alpha_o + (\pi - \alpha_o) + (\pi - \alpha_o)] - \beta_o$$

$$\mathbf{1B} \quad \alpha = 2\pi - \alpha_o \quad \beta = \beta_o \quad E_2 - E_1 = 2\pi - \alpha_o - \beta_o$$

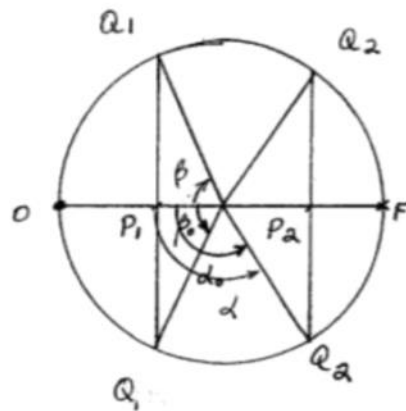
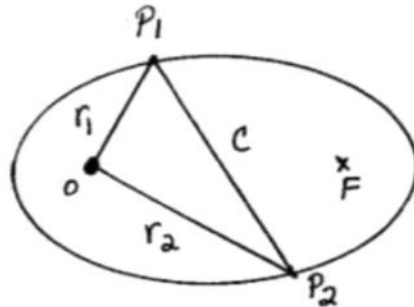
$$\sqrt{\mu}(t_2 - t_1) = a^{3/2} [(\alpha - \sin \alpha) - (\beta - \sin \beta)]$$

$$\sqrt{\mu}(t_2 - t_1) = a^{3/2} [(2\pi - \alpha_o - \sin(2\pi - \alpha_o)) - (\beta_o - \sin(\beta_o))]$$

$$\mathbf{1B} \quad \sqrt{\mu}(t_2 - t_1) = a^{3/2} [2\pi - (\alpha_o - \sin \alpha_o) - (\beta_o - \sin \beta_o)]$$

2A

TA > 180°

F is NOT between
chord / arc

$$E_2 - E_1 = \alpha - \beta$$

$$= (\alpha_o) - (-\beta_o)$$

$$\mathbf{2A} \quad \alpha = \alpha_o \quad \beta = -\beta_o \quad E_2 - E_1 = \alpha_o + \beta_o$$

$$\sqrt{\mu}(t_2 - t_1) = a^{3/2} [(\alpha - \sin \alpha) - (\beta - \sin \beta)]$$

$$\sqrt{\mu}(t_2 - t_1) = a^{3/2} [(\alpha_o - \sin(\alpha_o)) - (-\beta_o - \sin(-\beta_o))]$$

$$\mathbf{2A} \quad \sqrt{\mu}(t_2 - t_1) = a^{3/2} [(\alpha_o - \sin \alpha_o) + (\beta_o - \sin \beta_o)]$$

α', β' Quadrant Ambiguities: Hyperbolic Transfers

Without the luxury of a visual geometrical technique, straight integration is required for a result

$$\sqrt{\mu}(t_2 - t_1) = |a|^{3/2} [(\sinh \alpha' - \alpha') - (\sinh \beta' - \beta')]$$

$$H_2 - H_1 = \alpha' - \beta'$$

1H

$$\alpha' = \alpha'_o$$

$$\beta' = \beta'_o$$

$$\sqrt{\mu}(t_2 - t_1) = |a|^{3/2} [(\sinh \alpha'_o - \alpha'_o) - (\sinh \beta'_o - \beta'_o)]$$

2H

$$\alpha' = \alpha'_o$$

$$\beta' = -\beta'_o$$

$$\sqrt{\mu}(t_2 - t_1) = |a|^{3/2} [(\sinh \alpha'_o - \alpha'_o) + (\sinh \beta'_o - \beta'_o)]$$

Parabolic Transfers

Used Lambert's TOF theorem to write

$$TPF = TOF(a, r_1 + r_2, c)$$



Produced relationships for elliptic and hyperbolic transfers (1A, 1B, 2A, 2B, 1H, 2H)

TOF relationship for parabolic transfer ?

Recall: only TWO possible parabolas that connect points



TOF determined as limit of other elliptic cases as $a \rightarrow \infty$

Parabolic Transfer (Euler's Equation)

$$TOF_1 = \frac{1}{3} \sqrt{\frac{2}{\mu}} \left[s^{3/2} - (s-c)^{3/2} \right]$$

$$TOF_2 = \frac{1}{3} \sqrt{\frac{2}{\mu}} \left[s^{3/2} + (s-c)^{3/2} \right]$$

Lambert's Theorem

Time of Flight for Transfer Orbits Between Two Given Positions

ELLIPTIC ORBITS:

$$\sqrt{\frac{\mu}{a^3}} (t_2 - t_1) = 2m\pi + \begin{cases} (\alpha_o - \sin \alpha_o) - (\beta_o - \sin \beta_o) \\ 2\pi - (\alpha_o - \sin \alpha_o) - (\beta_o - \sin \beta_o) \\ (\alpha_o - \sin \alpha_o) + (\beta_o - \sin \beta_o) \\ 2\pi - (\alpha_o - \sin \alpha_o) + (\beta_o - \sin \beta_o) \end{cases}$$

↑
number of complete revolutions

where

$$c = \text{chord } P_1 P_2$$

$$s = \text{semi-perimeter } \frac{r_1 + r_2 + c}{2}$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \alpha &= 2 \sin^{-1} \sqrt{\frac{s}{2a}} \\ \beta &= 2 \sin^{-1} \sqrt{\frac{s-c}{2a}} \end{aligned} \right\} \alpha_o, \beta_o \text{ are principal values}$$

HYPERBOLIC ORBITS:

$$\sqrt{\frac{\mu}{|a|^3}} (t_2 - t_1) = \begin{cases} (\sinh \alpha'_o - \alpha'_o) - (\sinh \beta'_o - \beta'_o) \\ (\sinh \alpha'_o - \alpha'_o) + (\sinh \beta'_o - \beta'_o) \end{cases}$$

where

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \alpha' &= 2 \sinh^{-1} \sqrt{\frac{s}{2|a|}} \\ \beta' &= 2 \sinh^{-1} \sqrt{\frac{s-c}{2|a|}} \end{aligned} \right\} \alpha'_o, \beta'_o \text{ are principal values}$$