

Transfer Orbits: Lambert Arcs

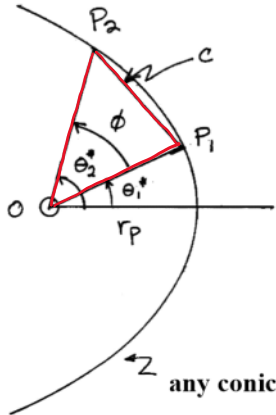
Two approaches to mission planning:

- (a) Given the transfer orbit \rightarrow initial and final positions are specified; relate to the time of flight
- (b) Given the initial (departure) and final (target) points \rightarrow determine the orbit that passes through the points

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**

Analytical RelationshipsObjective: expression for p ; e 

$$r = \frac{p}{1 + e \cos \theta^*}$$

$$e \cos \theta_1^* = \frac{p}{r_1} - 1$$

$$e \cos \theta_2^* = e \cos(\theta_1^* + \varphi) = \frac{p}{r_2} - 1$$

Also known:

$$a e^2 = a - p \quad \text{cosine law}$$

$$c^2 = r_1^2 + r_2^2 - 2r_1 r_2 \cos \phi$$

Given the following trig identity

$$\cos^2(\theta_1^* + \varphi) - 2 \cos(\theta_1^* + \varphi) \cos \theta_1^* \cos \varphi + \cos^2 \theta_1^* - \sin^2 \varphi = 0$$

Sub above 5 expressions into trig identity and produce a quadratic in p *only unknown: a, p*

$$a c^2 p^2 + r_1 r_2 (1 - \cos \phi) \left[-2a(r_1 + r_2) + r_1 r_2 (1 + \cos \phi) \right] p + a r_1^2 r_2^2 (-1 + \cos \phi)^2 = 0$$

modify to more convenient form

Use $2s = r_1 + r_2 + c$ to rewrite term in brackets *definition of semi-perimeters of space triangle*

$$\left[-2a(r_1 + r_2) + r_1 r_2 (1 + \cos \phi) \right] = 2s(s - c - 2a) + 2ac$$

A

Also the last term

$$r_1 r_2 (1 - \cos \phi) = 2(s - r_1)(s - r_2)$$

B

AND add some new definitions:

IF transfer is elliptic arc

$$q = 2a \operatorname{arcsin} \sqrt{\frac{s}{2a}}$$

$$\beta = 2a \operatorname{arcsin} \sqrt{\frac{s-c}{2a}}$$



$$s - c - 2a = -2a \cos^2 \left(\frac{\beta}{2} \right)$$

$$s = 2a \sin^2 \left(\frac{\alpha}{2} \right)$$

$$c = 2a \left[\sin^2 \left(\frac{\alpha}{2} \right) - \sin^2 \left(\frac{\beta}{2} \right) \right]$$

C

Sub A, B, C into I

Quadratic for p

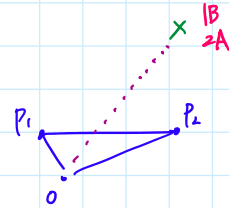
$$c^4 p^2 - 4a(s-r_1)(s-r_2) \left[\sin^2\left(\frac{\alpha+\beta}{2}\right) + \sin^2\left(\frac{\alpha-\beta}{2}\right) \right] c^2 p + 4a^2(s-r_1)^2(s-r_2)^2 \sin^2\left(\frac{\alpha+\beta}{2}\right) \sin^2\left(\frac{\alpha-\beta}{2}\right) = 0$$



Roots

$$p = \frac{4a(s-r_1)(s-r_2)}{c^2} \sin^2\left(\frac{\alpha \pm \beta}{2}\right)$$

larger a \rightarrow larger e
 \downarrow
 smaller p



If know a , produces two possible paths;
 Each path possesses different values of p and e

@ $a = a_{\min}$

$$2a_{\min} = s \Rightarrow \alpha = \pi$$

$$p = \frac{4a(s-r_1)(s-r_2)}{c^2} \sin^2\left(\frac{\pi \pm \beta}{2}\right) \Rightarrow \text{one } p$$

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If transfer is hyperbolic arc

$$\alpha' = 2 \operatorname{arcsinh} \sqrt{\frac{s}{2|a|}}$$

$$\beta' = 2 \operatorname{arcsinh} \sqrt{\frac{s-c}{2|a|}}$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} s-c-2a &= 2|a| \cosh^2\left(\frac{\beta'}{2}\right) \\ s &= 2|a| \sinh^2\left(\frac{\alpha'}{2}\right) \end{aligned} \right\} c$$

$$-2a|a| [\sinh^2(\alpha') - \sinh^2(\beta')] = 0$$



Given r_1, r_2, ℓ, c

know 'a' or select 'a' how to select "a"?

\downarrow
 α, β

\downarrow
 p quad eqn \rightarrow roots
 choose p by geometry

1. pick some 'a' \rightarrow try it
2. select another quantity

$$\left. \begin{aligned} s &= 2|a| \sinh^2\left(\frac{\alpha}{2}\right) \\ c &= 2|a| \left[\sinh^2\left(\frac{\alpha'}{2}\right) - \sinh^2\left(\frac{\beta'}{2}\right) \right] \end{aligned} \right\} \text{C}$$

Using this C in I

Roots

$$p = \frac{4|a|(s-r_1)(s-r_2)}{c^2} \sinh^2\left(\frac{\alpha+\beta}{2}\right)$$

If known $|a|$, produces two possible hyperbolic paths

2. select another quantity

TOF \rightarrow related to α
 $\epsilon = -\frac{\mu}{2a}$
 Lambert