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Fig. 2.4. The intersections of planes at different angles with the surface of a cone form the family of curves known as the conic sections.
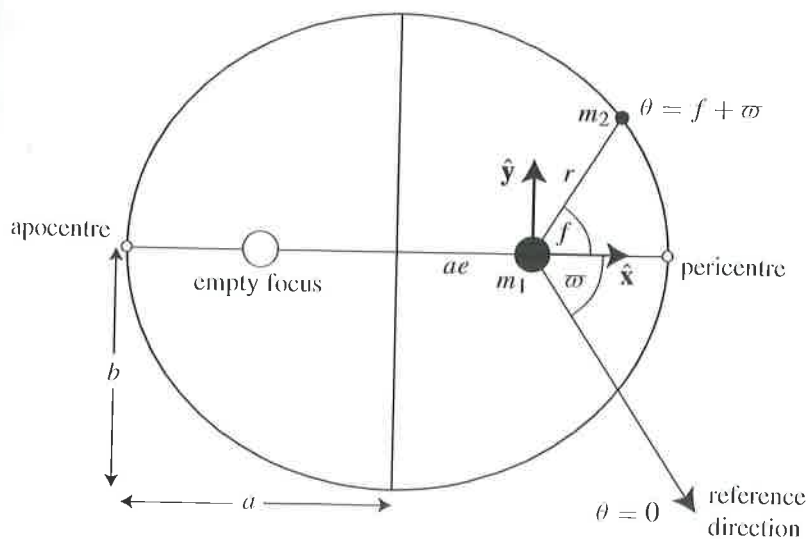

Fig. 2.5. The geometry of the ellipse of semi-major axis a, semi-minor axis b, eccentricity e, and longitude of pericentre ϖ.