

## Adjusting apoapsis

Suppose we'd like to raise the apoapsis from  $R_a$  to  $\hat{R}_a$ . This corresponds to changing eccentricity from  $e$  to  $\hat{e}$ .

Recall the vis-viva equation

$$\frac{v_p^2}{\mu} = \frac{2}{R_p} - \frac{1}{a}$$

where the periapsis  $R_p = a(1 - e)$ . The speed at periapsis is

$$\begin{aligned} v_p^2 &= \mu \left( \frac{2}{a(1 - e)} - \frac{1}{a} \right) = \frac{\mu}{a} \left( \frac{2}{1 - e} - \frac{1 - e}{1 - e} \right) \\ &= \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{a(1 - e)}} \sqrt{1 + e} = \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{R_p}} \sqrt{1 + e}. \end{aligned}$$

In order to change the eccentricity to  $\hat{e}$ , the velocity at periapsis must be changed to

$$\hat{v}_p = \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{R_p}} \sqrt{1 + \hat{e}}.$$

In terms of  $R_a$  and  $\hat{R}_a$ , we have

$$v_p = \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{R_p}} \sqrt{\frac{2R_a}{R_a + R_p}}, \quad \hat{v}_p = \sqrt{\mu R_p} \sqrt{\frac{2\hat{R}_a}{\hat{R}_a + R_p}}.$$

## Adjusting periapsis

Suppose we'd like to change the apoapsis from  $R_p$  to  $\hat{R}_p$ . This would again correspond to changing eccentricity from  $e$  to  $\hat{e}$ .

We similarly have

$$v_a = \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{R_a}} \sqrt{1 - e}$$

After adjusting the periapsis, the velocity at apoapsis must be

$$\hat{v}_a = \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{R_a}} \sqrt{1 - \hat{e}}.$$

In terms of  $R_p$  and  $\hat{R}_p$ , we have

$$v_a = \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{R_a}} \sqrt{\frac{2R_p}{R_a + R_p}}, \quad \hat{v}_a = \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{R_a}} \sqrt{\frac{2R_p}{\hat{R}_a + R_p}}.$$

## Increasing energy

Suppose initially the orbital energy is

$$\mathcal{E} = \frac{|\vec{v}|^2}{2} - \frac{\mu}{R}.$$

After a (quick) burn, the orbital energy is

$$\mathcal{E} = \frac{|\hat{\vec{v}}|^2}{2} - \frac{\mu}{R}.$$

Writing  $\hat{\vec{v}} = \vec{v} + \Delta\vec{v}$ , we have

$$\Delta\mathcal{E} = \frac{|\hat{\vec{v}}|^2}{2} - \frac{|\vec{v}|^2}{2} = \frac{1}{2} (2\vec{v} \cdot \Delta\vec{v} + |\Delta\vec{v}|^2).$$

We see that the energy changes the most if  $\Delta\vec{v}$  is aligned with  $\vec{v}$ .

## Example: changing to parabolic orbit

Find  $\Delta v$  at periapsis to maneuver a parabolic orbit.

In current orbit, the velocity at periapsis is

$$v_{\text{peri}} = \sqrt{\frac{\mu(1+e)}{a(1-e)}}.$$

For parabolic trajectory, the velocity at periapsis is

$$0 = \frac{v_{\text{para}}^2}{2} - \frac{\mu}{R_{\text{peri}}} \quad \rightsquigarrow \quad v_{\text{para}} = \sqrt{\frac{2\mu}{R_{\text{peri}}}}.$$

$$\Delta v = v_{\text{para}} - v_{\text{peri}}.$$

# Phasing

Consider two spacecrafts are in the same orbit, with periapsis passage time  $\tau^1$  and  $\tau^2$ . Suppose we'd like one to catch the other. As an example, we assume the orbit has period  $T = 1.5$  hr, and the most recent periapsis passages were  $\tau_0^1 = 0$  min,  $\tau_0^2 = -10$  min. Then after  $k$  revolutions,  $\tau_k^1 = \tau_0^1 + kT$  and  $\tau_k^2 = \tau_0^2 + kT$ . By vis-viva equation,

$$\frac{v_p^2}{\mu} = \frac{2}{R_{\text{PERI}}} - \frac{1}{a}.$$

$$\frac{\hat{v}_p^2}{\mu} = \frac{2}{R_{\text{PERI}}} - \frac{1}{\hat{a}}.$$

where we'd like  $\hat{T} = T + \tau_k^1 - \tau_k^2$ .  
 $\Delta v \downarrow 0$  if one can wait.