

I. Simple Lunar Trajectories: Kepler's Elliptical Model (Planar Point Mass)

This Section on Kepler is shown for historical interest. Newton's Dynamics is used in all the following Sections

Kepler's E Model (Planar Point Mass 2 Body): See the **Glossary** and **Figures** in last two pages of this Study

Convert Cartesian Ellipse Eq. in (x,y) to polar (r,v) coordinates $\left(\frac{x}{a}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{y}{b}\right)^2 = 1$ $r(v, e) := \frac{a \cdot (1 - e^2)}{1 + e \cdot \cos\left(v - \frac{\pi}{2}\right)}$
 Ellipse is relative to the **focus**
 $x(a, \theta) := a \cdot \cos(\theta)$ and $y(b, \theta) := b \cdot \sin(\theta)$
 $0 \leq t < 2\pi$ $e = \frac{c}{a}$ $r(x, y) := \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$ and $\theta(x, y) := \text{atan}\left(\frac{y}{x}\right)$

For the moon

$e_m := .0549$ $d_m := 384400\text{km}$ $d_{ap} := 406603\text{km}$ $m_m := 7.347 \cdot 10^{22}\text{kg}$ $a_m := \frac{d_{ap}}{1 + e}$ $\mu := 3.986 \cdot 10^5 \frac{\text{km}^3}{\text{sec}^2}$

For the Earth: Mass $m_e := 5.972 \cdot 10^{24}\text{kg}$ Note: a and b are distances from the center, c

The parameter e is known as the eccentricity. The value of this parameter defines the shape of our orbit. Depending on the value of e there are four kinds of shapes (conic sections), which means there are four kinds of orbits: circle, ellipse, parabola, and hyperbola, for $e = 0$, < 1 , $= 1$, and > 1 , respectively.

$H \equiv 1$ $e_e := .6$ $e_c := 0$ $e_h := 2$ $e_p := 1.000$ $\omega := 0, 0.01 \dots 2\pi$ $G \cdot m_e = 3.985 \times 10^{14} \frac{\text{m}^3}{\text{s}^2}$

Basics from Newton's Laws: Energy, Momentum, Parameters of Ellipse

Energy(v, r) := $\frac{v^2}{2} - \frac{\mu}{r}$ $h(v_o, r_o, \phi_o) := r_o \cdot v_o \cdot \cos(\phi_o)$ $h = r^2 \cdot v$ $h_u(p) := \sqrt{\mu \cdot p}$

$p(v_o) := \frac{h(v_o, r_o, \phi_o)^2}{\mu}$ $a(v_o) := \frac{-\mu}{\text{Energy}(v_o, r_o)}$ $e_{\text{traj}}(v, a) := \sqrt{1 - \frac{p(v)}{a}}$ **Period of Moon Sat Orbit**
 $T_{\omega} := 2 \cdot \pi \cdot \sqrt{\frac{a_m^3}{G \cdot m_e}} = 99.98 \text{ hr}$

$r_h(\theta, e) := \frac{H}{1 + e \cdot \cos\left(\theta + \frac{\pi}{2}\right)}$

If we can Solve for Eccentric Anomaly, E, we get Time of Flight, TOF, t - T

$\cos(v) = \frac{p - r}{e \cdot r}$ $v(p, r, e) := \text{acos}\left(\frac{p - r}{e \cdot r}\right)$

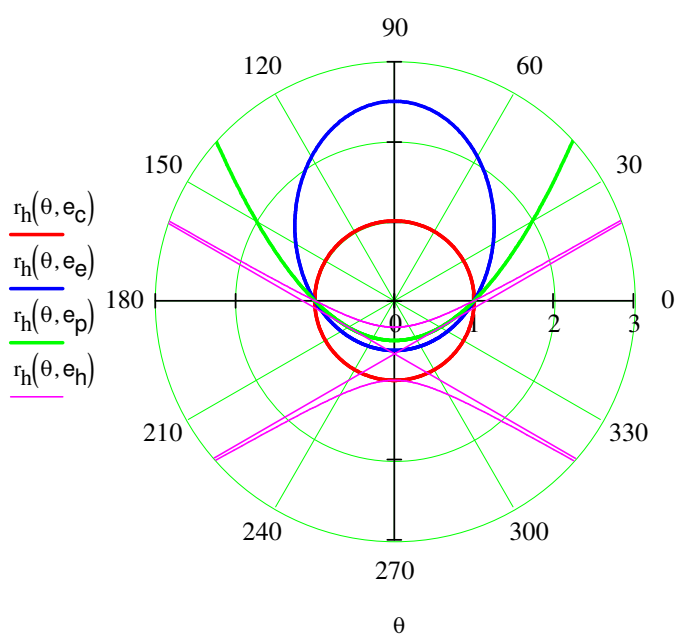
Recursion for Eccentric Anomaly, M & E (Deg)

mean anomaly M (in deg ($0 \leq M < 360$))

$MA(M_o, t, t_o) := M_o + \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{a_m^3}} \cdot (t - t_o)$

```
EcA(e, M, dp) :=
  mx_it ← 30
  i ← 0
  K ← π / 180
  del ← 10-dp
  m ← M / 360
  m ← 2 · π · (m - floor(m))
  E ← m if e < 0.8
  E ← π otherwise
  F ← E - e · sin(m) - m
  while |F| > del ∧ i < mx_it
    E ← E - F / (1 - e · cos(E))
    F ← E - e · sin(E) - m
    i ← i + 1
  E ← E / K
```

Plot of Conic Orbits: c, e, p, h



$t/T := \frac{27}{360} = 0.075$

Find E and φ In Degrees

$EcA(e_m, 27, 5) = 28.501$ $\phi(e, EcA) := 90 - \frac{180 \cdot \text{atan2}\left(\sqrt{1 - e^2} \cdot \sin(EcA), \cos(EcA) - e\right)}{\pi}$
 $\phi(0.977, 48.43418 \text{ deg}) = 153.029$

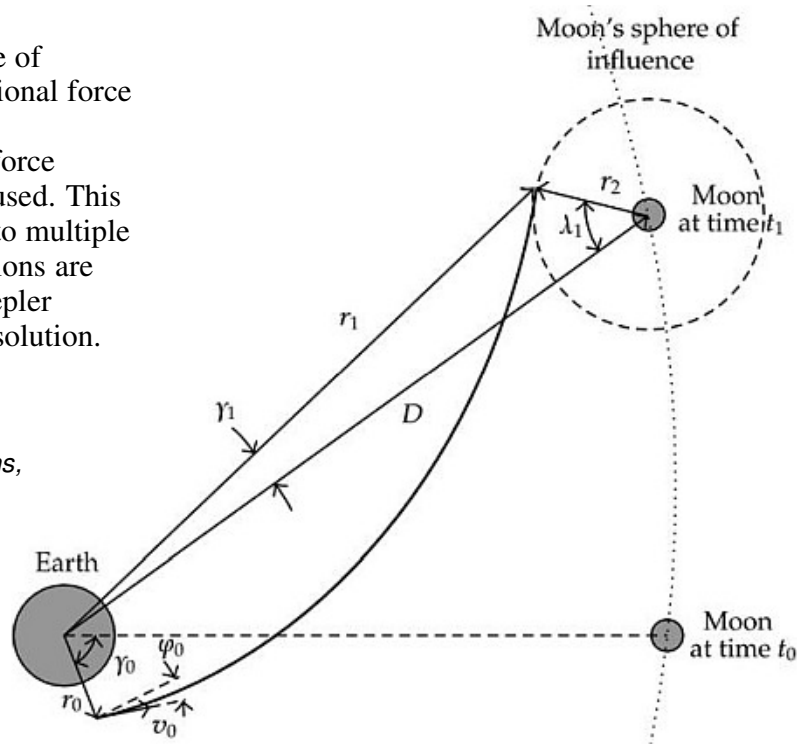
The Patched Conic Section Approximation for Finding a Lunar Trajectory

The Patched Conic Method is an Approximation for finding a trajectory by dividing space between the sphere of influence (SOI) of the earth, Lunar Earth Orbit (LEO) and the SOI region of the moon.

When the spacecraft is within the sphere of influence of the moon, only the gravitational force between the spacecraft and the moon is considered, otherwise the gravitational force between the spacecraft and the earth is used. This reduces a complicated n-body problem to multiple two-body problems, for which the solutions are the well-known conic sections of the Kepler orbits. Below is an example composite solution.

See for Example:
Optimal Two-Impulse Trajectories with Moderate Flight Time for Earth-Moon Missions,
 Sandro da Silva Fernandes
 Mathematical Problems in Engineering
 Vol. 2012, Article ID 971983,

or
 Bate, R. R., D. D. Mueller, and J. E. White,
Fundamentals of Astrodynamics



Rather than dealing with large powers of 10, we can use **Astronomical Units**, for distance, velocity, time: AU, VU, TU. Where AU is the mean distance of the earth to the sun and DU is the radius of the earth. TU is the time unit. Then the velocity unit, (VU) is equal to DU/TU.

$$DU := 6378.145\text{km} \quad AU := 1.496 \cdot 10^8\text{km} \quad \text{kmps} := \frac{\text{km}}{\text{s}} \quad VU := 7.905368\text{kmps} \quad TU := 806.8\text{s} \quad D := d_m$$

Laplace's Equation for Moon's Sphere of Influence:
 this is about 1/6 of the distance, D, to the moon

$$R_{sif} := D \cdot \left(\frac{m_m}{m_e} \right)^{0.4} \quad R_s := 66300\text{km} \quad R_s = 10.395 \cdot DU$$

The conic patched problem for finding a trajectory can be stated as follows:

Given: Initial rocket launch conditions in the earth's sphere of Influence, that is, initial position, velocity, flight path angle, and phase angle: r_0, v_0, ϕ_0 , and γ_0 ,

The three quantities r_0, v_0, ϕ_0 will give us initial energy and angular momentum.

Find: Arrival conditions at moon's Sphere of Influence: $r_1, v_1, \phi_1, \lambda_1$.

r_0, v_0, ϕ_0 , and λ_1

The problem with assigning these initial points is that they may not give a satisfactory solution to match the arrival conditions. Our strategy is to use the arrival angle λ_1 to the moon's SOI as one of the independent condition

Given the 3 initial conditions and one arrival condition as our **independent variables:**

These will move us into the radius of the moon's sphere of influence. Some trial and error may still be required.

EXAMPLE: See Bate, R. R., D. D. Mueller, and J. E. White, *Fundamentals of Astrodynamics*

Solution: Select the Apollo 11 Flight Conditions for initial conditions: \mathbf{r}_0 , \mathbf{v}_0 , ϕ_0 and λ_1 .

Given: $r_0 := DU + 334\text{km}$ $v_0 := 10.6\text{kmps}$ $\phi_0 := 0\text{deg}$ A reasonable angle to arrive at moon $\lambda_1 := 30\text{deg}$

Find: r_1 , v_1 , ϕ_1 , γ_1 (the last symbol, γ , is the Greek letter gamma, the Arrival Phase Angle at the Moon)

Initial Energy and Angular Momentum are $\text{Energy}(v_0, r_0) = -0.011 \cdot VU^2$ $h_0 := h(v_0, r_0, \phi_0) = 1.441 \cdot \frac{DU^2}{TU}$

$D = 60.268 \cdot DU$ By the Law of Cosines: $r_1(\lambda_1) := \sqrt{D^2 + R_s^2 - 2D \cdot R_s \cdot \cos(\lambda_1)}$ $r_1 := r_1(\lambda_1) = 51.529 \cdot DU$

From Law of Conservation of Energy and Momentum: $E_0 := \text{Energy}(v_0, r_0)$ $E_0 = -0.011 \cdot \frac{DU^2}{TU^2}$ $h_1 := h_0$

$v_1(r_1) := \sqrt{2 \cdot \left(E_0 + \frac{\mu}{r_1} \right)}$ $v_1 := v_1(r_1) = 0.128 \cdot VU$ $v_{1m} := 0.1296VU$ $\phi_1 := \text{acos}\left(\frac{h_1}{r_1 \cdot v_1}\right)$ $\phi_1 = 77.542 \cdot \text{deg}$

In order to calculate the **Time of Flight**, TOF, to the moon's SOI, we need to Find:

\mathbf{p} , \mathbf{a} , \mathbf{e} , \mathbf{E}_0 and \mathbf{E}_1 for the Geocentric Trajectory.

$p := \frac{h_0^2}{\mu} = 2.075 \cdot DU$ $a := \frac{-\mu}{2 \text{Energy}(v_0, r_0)}$ $e := \sqrt{1 - \frac{p}{a}}$ $e = 0.977$ $\nu_1 := \nu(p, r_1, e)$ $\nu_1 = 2.956$

$\gamma_1 := \text{asin}\left(\frac{R_s}{r_1} \sin(\lambda_1)\right) = 5.789 \cdot \text{deg}$ $a = 44.698 \cdot DU$ since: $\nu_0 := 0$ $\text{EcA}_0 := 0$ $\text{EcA}_1 := \text{acos}\left(\frac{e + \cos(\nu_1)}{1 + e \cdot \cos(\nu_1)}\right)$

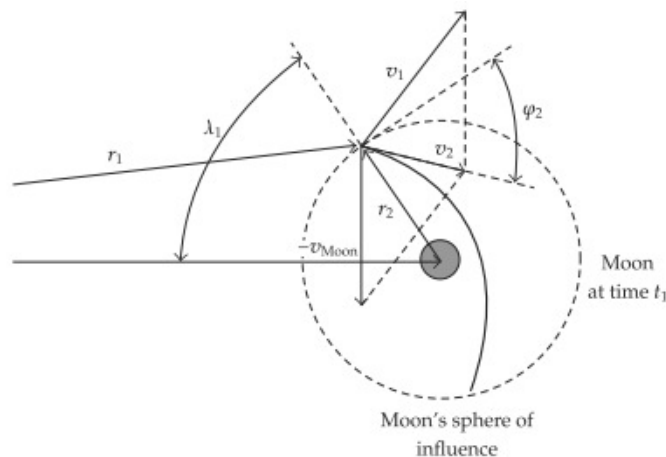
$\text{EcA}_1 = 1.728$ $\text{TOF} := \sqrt{\frac{a^3}{\mu}} \cdot [(\text{EcA}_1 - e \cdot \sin(\text{EcA}_1)) - (\text{EcA}_0 - e \cdot \sin(\text{EcA}_0))]$ $\text{TOF} = 51.132 \cdot \text{hr}$

We can use the same procedure at the moon (Selenocentric).

See Section XVI for the Newtonian Gravitational Solution for the Lunar Trajectory.

We need to determine the values of v_1 and R_s in units based on the moon's gravitational attraction parameters.

The Angular Velocity of the Moon (ω_m) in its orbit is



$\omega_m := 2.649 \cdot 10^{-6} \frac{\text{rad}}{\text{s}}$ $\omega_{mm} := 2.137 \cdot 10^{-3} \frac{1}{TU}$ $\gamma_0 := \nu_1 - \nu_0 - \gamma_1 - \omega_m \cdot \text{TOF}$ $\gamma_0 = 135.637 \cdot \text{deg}$

$v_{1m} := 1.024\text{kmps}$ $\mu_m := 4093 \frac{\text{km}^3}{\text{s}^2}$ $v_m := 1.018\text{kmps}$ Then $v_{2m} := 1.198\text{kmps}$
 $\epsilon_2 := 5.68\text{deg}$ $e_{mm} := 2.078$ $r_p := 4105\text{km}$ $h_p := 2367\text{km}$ $R_s = 10.395 \cdot DU$

$\mu_{mm} := 4.903 \cdot 10^3 \cdot \frac{\text{km}^3}{\text{s}^2}$

Time of Flight

Develop an algorithm to Calculate Time of Flight

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{TOF}_{\text{alg}}(v_0, r_0, \phi_0, \lambda_1) := & \begin{cases} h_0 \leftarrow r_0 \cdot v_0 \cdot \cos(\phi_0) \\ p \leftarrow \frac{h_0^2}{\mu} \\ E_0 \leftarrow \text{Energy}(v_0, r_0) \\ \text{EcA}_0 \leftarrow 0 \\ a \leftarrow \frac{-\mu}{2E_0} \\ e \leftarrow \sqrt{1 - \frac{p}{a}} \\ r_1 \leftarrow \sqrt{D^2 + R_s^2 - 2D \cdot R_s \cdot \cos(\lambda_1)} \\ \nu_1 \leftarrow \nu(p, r_1, e) & \text{This gives a different value} \\ \text{EcA}_1 \leftarrow \arccos\left(\frac{e + \cos(\nu_1)}{1 + e \cdot \cos(\nu_1)}\right) \\ \text{TOF} \leftarrow \frac{\sqrt{\frac{a^3}{\mu}} \cdot [(\text{EcA}_1 - e \cdot \sin(\text{EcA}_1)) - (\text{EcA}_0 - e \cdot \sin(\text{EcA}_0))]}{\text{hr}} \\ A \leftarrow (\text{TOF} \ e)^T \end{cases}
 \end{aligned}$$

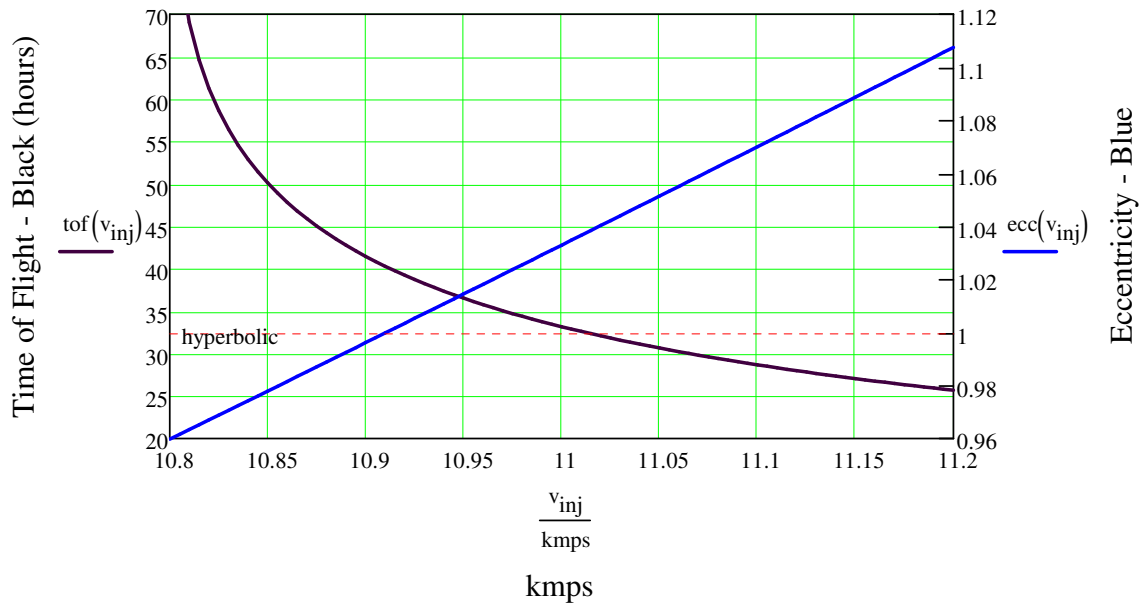
$$v_0 = 10.846 \text{ kmps} \quad \text{TOF}_{\text{alg}}(v_0, r_0, \phi_0, \lambda_1) = \begin{pmatrix} 51.132 \\ 0.977 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{tof}(v_0) := \text{TOF}_{\text{alg}}(v_0, r_0, \phi_0, \lambda_1)_0 \quad \text{ecc}(v_0) := \text{TOF}_{\text{alg}}(v_0, r_0, \phi_0, \lambda_1)_1$$

Initial Conditions: $r_0 = 1.05 \cdot \text{DU}$ Altitude := $r_0 - 1\text{DU} = 318.907 \cdot \text{km}$ $\phi_0 = 0$
 hyperbolic := 1 $v_{\text{inj}} := 10.8 \text{ kmps}, 10.805 \text{ kmps} \dots 11.2 \text{ kmps}$

Note: As the velocity increases above the minimum 10.8 kmps, the Time of Flight decreases and the trajectory shape changes from Elliptical to Hyperbolic.

Flight Time & Eccentricity vs. Injection Velocity



Polar Plot of the Solution for the Patched Conic Lunar Approximation

$$\nu_{\text{MW}} := -90.002\text{deg}, -90.001\text{deg}.. 41\text{deg} \quad \chi := 39.5\text{deg}, 39.501\text{deg}.. 360\text{deg} \quad r_{\text{M}}(\nu) := \frac{a \cdot (1 - e^2)}{1 + e \cdot \cos(\nu + \gamma_0)}$$

Note: λ_1 is not = 30 deg $\varphi := 33\text{deg}$ Earth(θ) := 1.5 sin($\theta + \varphi$) $\theta_{\text{MW}} := 0, 0.001.. 2\pi$

$$r_m := 82 \quad a_{\text{moon}} := 1.5 \quad r_{\text{moon}}(\theta, \varphi) := r_m \cdot \cos(\theta - \varphi) + \sqrt{a_m^2 - r_m^2 \sin^2(\theta - \varphi)^2}$$

Radius of Moon Sphere of Influence $r_{\text{msi}}(\theta, \varphi) := r_m \cdot \cos(\theta - \varphi) + \sqrt{10.4^2 - r_m^2 \sin^2(\theta - \varphi)^2}$

$$\xi := 0.05, 0.051.. \varphi - 0.05 \quad r_{\text{m_path}}(\xi) := r_m \quad \text{Point of Conic Patch}$$

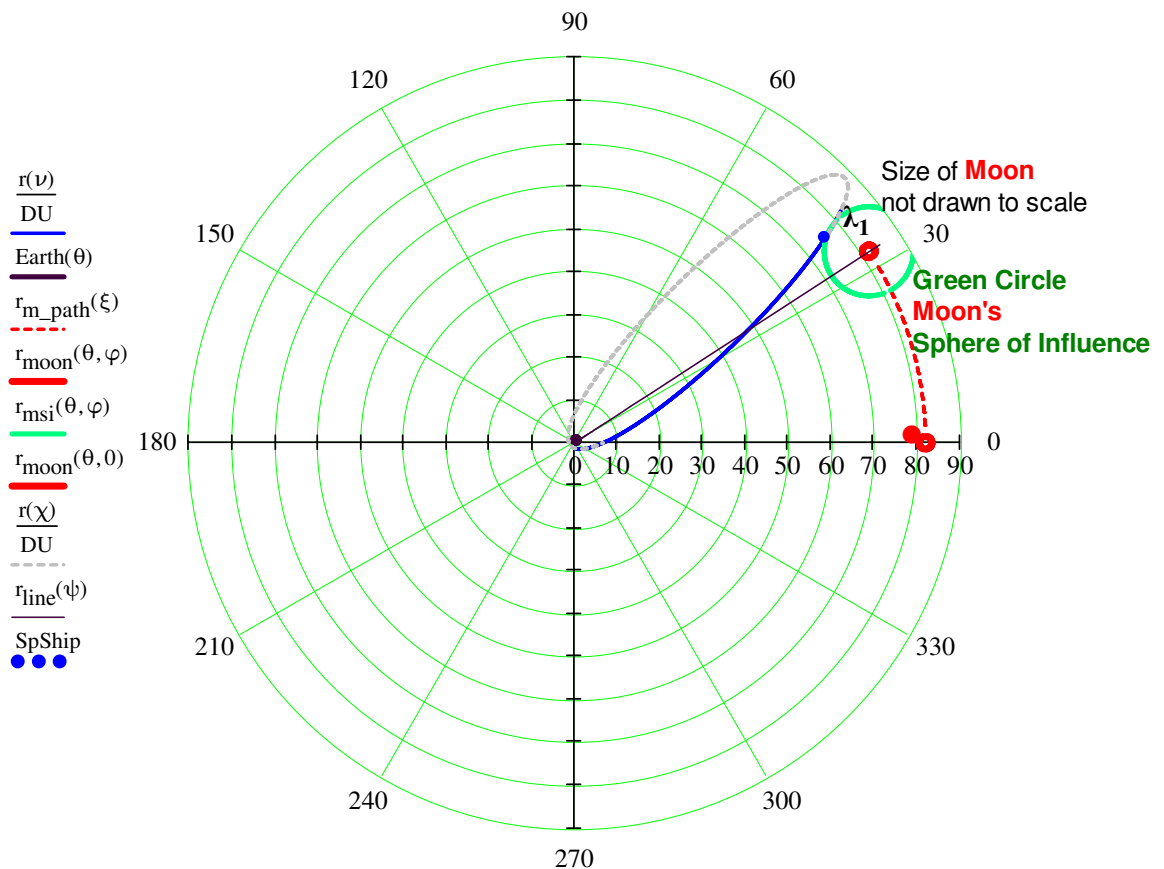
$$\psi := 0, 0.0017365.. \varphi \quad r_{\text{line}}(\theta) := \frac{0.1}{\sqrt{1 - (1 \cdot \cos(\theta - \varphi))^2}} \quad \text{SpShip} := 75.5 \quad v := 39.5\text{deg}$$

Polar Plot: Geocentric Frame - Earth at the Center

From the list of functions shown on the left of the plot below:

$r(\nu)$ shows the Trajectory Ellipse Conic Ptach in blue, Earth(θ) is at the center in black, $r_{\text{moon}}(\theta, \varphi)$ in red is the location of the moon at intercept $\varphi = 33^\circ$, $r_{\text{msi}}(\theta)$ is the circle in green of the moon's of sphere of influence, $r_{\text{moon}}(\theta, 0)$ in red is the initial location of the moon at 0° , $r_{\text{m_path}}(\xi)$ is the dotted line path of moon from 0 to φ . $r(\chi)$ is the dotted line that shows the elliptical path back to the earth, and r_{line} is the red straight line from earth at center to the moon to show angle λ_1 . SpCraft is where SpaceCraft enters the Moon's Sphere of Influence. Point of Conic Patch. Blue dot.

Patched Conic Approx. Trajectory to Moon (Red)



$$e_{\text{MW}} := 2.718281828459045$$

$$\nu, \theta, \xi, \theta, \theta, \theta, \chi, \psi, v$$

IA. Apollo Free Return Trajectory: Simulation for CSM to Moon & Back

Trajectory Model: 3-Body (Earth, Moon, Spacecraft) 2D Planar Point Mass with **Earth at Center**

This 3 body gravitational solution for the FRT uses the Mathcad Differential Equation Solving Methodology discussed:
arXiv:1504.07964

"*Motion of the planets: the calculation and visualization in Mathcad*", Valery Ochkov, Katarina Pisa

The aborted Apollo 13 mission was the only mission to actually turn around the Moon in a free-return trajectory.

Solve the Gravitational and Dynamics Equations for Earth, Moon, & CSM Trajectory

kg := 1	m := 1	s := 1	N := 1	s := 1	min := 60s	hr := 3600s	kgf := 9.80665N	
km := 1000m	kmps := km	kph := $\frac{\text{km}}{\text{hr}}$	mph := $0.447 \cdot 10^{-3} \text{kmps}$					$G := 6.67384 \cdot 10^{-11} \frac{\text{N} \cdot \text{m}^2}{\text{kg}}$
Run Simulation for 160 hrs Apollo 11 Orbit 77 hrs								
FRAME := 999	n _{ode} := 20000	n := 999	n _{plot} := 10000	t _{end} := $\frac{160\text{hr}}{n+1} \cdot (\text{FRAME} + 1)$	t _{orb} = 81.44 hr			
Trajectory to Moon's Sphere of Influence								Time of Flight (TOF) = t _{orb}
			Initial x,y Velocity CSM	Radius of Earth	Apogee to Moon			
v _{0x} := 6.811kmps	v _{0y} := 6.356kmps	v _{CSM} := 9.317kmps	R _e := 6370km	d _{m_ap} := 405500km				

Define Gravitational and Dynamics Equations for Earth, Moon, and CSM

	Mass	Start position	Start Velocity					
Earth, e	m _e	x _{e0} y _{e0}	v _x e0 v _y e0	5.972 · 10 ²⁴ kg	0 m	0 m	0 kph	0 kph
Moon, m	m _m	x _{m0} y _{m0}	v _x m0 v _y m0	7.347 · 10 ²² kg	d _{m_ap}	0 km	0 kmps	0.97 kmps
CSM, s	m _s	x _{s0} y _{s0}	v _x s0 v _y s0	13600 kg	R _e + 100 km	R _e - 100 km	v _{0x}	v _{0y}

Given **Solve Set of Differential Guidance Equations for 3 Body Problem of Earth, Moon, and CSM**

$$x_e(0) = x_{e0} \quad x_e'(0) = v_{xe0} \quad y_e(0) = y_{e0} \quad y_e'(0) = v_{ye0}$$

$$m_e \cdot x_e''(t) = \frac{G \cdot m_e \cdot m_m \cdot (x_m(t) - x_e(t))}{\left[\sqrt{(x_e(t) - x_m(t))^2 + (y_e(t) - y_m(t))^2} \right]^3} + \frac{G \cdot m_e \cdot m_s \cdot (x_s(t) - x_e(t))}{\left[\sqrt{(x_e(t) - x_s(t))^2 + (y_e(t) - y_s(t))^2} \right]^3}$$

$$m_e \cdot y_e''(t) = \frac{G \cdot m_e \cdot m_m \cdot (y_m(t) - y_e(t))}{\left[\sqrt{(x_e(t) - x_m(t))^2 + (y_e(t) - y_m(t))^2} \right]^3} + \frac{G \cdot m_e \cdot m_s \cdot (y_s(t) - y_e(t))}{\left[\sqrt{(x_e(t) - x_s(t))^2 + (y_e(t) - y_s(t))^2} \right]^3}$$

$$x_m(0) = x_{m0} \quad x_m'(0) = v_{xm0} \quad y_m(0) = y_{m0} \quad y_m'(0) = v_{ym0}$$

$$m_m \cdot x_m''(t) = \frac{G \cdot m_m \cdot m_e \cdot (x_e(t) - x_m(t))}{\left[\sqrt{(x_m(t) - x_e(t))^2 + (y_m(t) - y_e(t))^2} \right]^3} + \frac{G \cdot m_m \cdot m_s \cdot (x_s(t) - x_m(t))}{\left[\sqrt{(x_m(t) - x_s(t))^2 + (y_m(t) - y_s(t))^2} \right]^3}$$

$$m_m \cdot y_m''(t) = \frac{G \cdot m_m \cdot m_e \cdot (y_e(t) - y_m(t))}{\left[\sqrt{(x_m(t) - x_e(t))^2 + (y_m(t) - y_e(t))^2} \right]^3} + \frac{G \cdot m_m \cdot m_s \cdot (y_s(t) - y_m(t))}{\left[\sqrt{(x_m(t) - x_s(t))^2 + (y_m(t) - y_s(t))^2} \right]^3}$$

$$x_s(0) = x_{s0} \quad x_s'(0) = v_{xs0} \quad y_s(0) = y_{s0} \quad y_s'(0) = v_{ys0}$$

$$m_s \cdot x_s''(t) = \frac{G \cdot m_s \cdot m_e \cdot (x_e(t) - x_s(t))}{\left[\sqrt{(x_s(t) - x_e(t))^2 + (y_s(t) - y_e(t))^2} \right]^3} + \frac{G \cdot m_s \cdot m_m \cdot (x_m(t) - x_s(t))}{\left[\sqrt{(x_s(t) - x_m(t))^2 + (y_s(t) - y_m(t))^2} \right]^3}$$

$$m_s \cdot y_s''(t) = \frac{G \cdot m_s \cdot m_e \cdot (y_e(t) - y_s(t))}{\left[\sqrt{(x_s(t) - x_e(t))^2 + (y_s(t) - y_e(t))^2} \right]^3} + \frac{G \cdot m_s \cdot m_m \cdot (y_m(t) - y_s(t))}{\left[\sqrt{(x_s(t) - x_m(t))^2 + (y_s(t) - y_m(t))^2} \right]^3}$$

IA. Free Return Trajectory: 3 Body Sim for CSM to the Moon & Back

Trajectory Model: 3-Body (Earth, Moon, Spacecraft) 2D Planar Point Mass with Earth at Center

Differential Equation Solver

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_e \\ y_e \\ x_m \\ y_m \\ x_s \\ y_s \end{pmatrix} := \text{Odesolve} \left[\begin{pmatrix} x_e \\ y_e \\ x_m \\ y_m \\ x_s \\ y_s \end{pmatrix}, t, t_{\text{end}}, n_{\text{cde}} \right]$$

Initial Velocity (km/s) of CSM at an Altitude of 141 km:

$$\sqrt{v_{0x}^2 + v_{0y}^2} = 9.316 \text{ km/s}$$

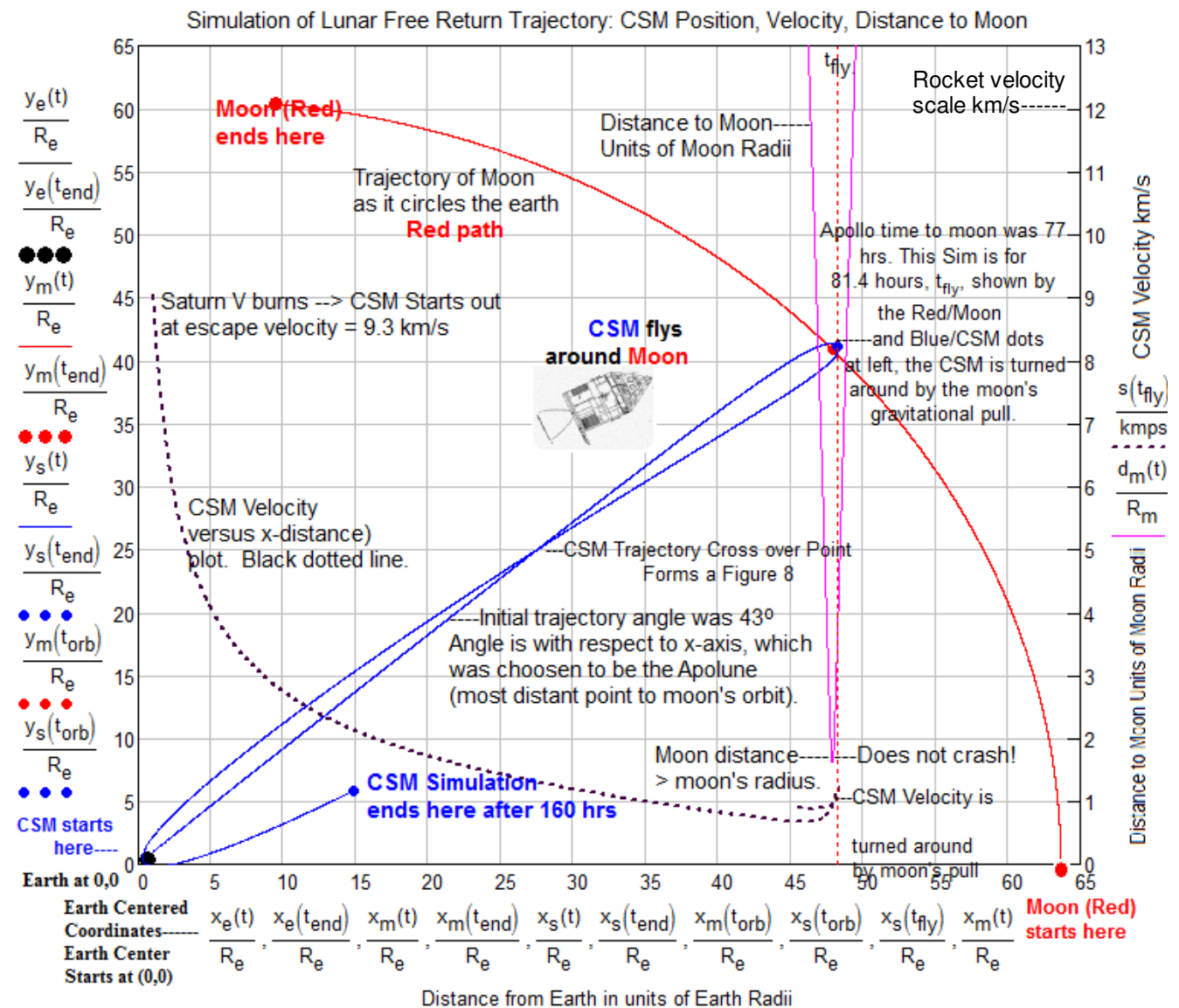
$$d_m(t) := \sqrt{(x_m(t) - x_s(t))^2 + (y_m(t) - y_s(t))^2} \quad \frac{d_m(t_{\text{orb}})}{R_m} = 1.619$$

$$t := 0, \frac{t_{\text{end}}}{n_{\text{plot}}} \dots t_{\text{end}} \quad t_{\text{fly}} := 0, \frac{t_{\text{end}}}{n_{\text{plot}}} \dots 90 \text{ hr} \quad t_{\text{fly}} := \frac{x_s(t_{\text{orb}})}{R_e}$$

$$v_{x_s}(t) := \frac{d}{dt} x_s(t) \quad v_{y_s}(t) := \frac{d}{dt} y_s(t) \quad s_s(t) := \sqrt{v_{x_s}(t)^2 + v_{y_s}(t)^2}$$

Finding a Free Return Trajectory (FRT) is a little tricky. First, the trajectory must catch the moon at the exact place and time as travels around the earth and then after being swing around by the moon's gravity it must swing back and catch the earth in such a way as to go into earth orbit. This can present a problem for the Differential Equation Solver. This is a three body problem. A change in the CSM's trajectory is influenced by the pull the moon, which in turn is affected by the pull of the earth. The solver can easily fail to converge on a solution. A change in angle by 10 degrees can result in a large change in orbit time of 4.5 days. We also must check that CSM does not crash into moon.

Below is a plot of our FRT solution for the Apollo Trajectory. It shows the CSM's x,y position and velocity from earth to moon and back. Note the figure 8 orbit of this Free Return. The Apollo 11 flight time to the moon was 77 hours. Our simulation is for 81.4 hours. Because of instabilities, convergence problems, etc. some trial and error was required.



IB. 4-Body Sim of Apollo Free Return Trajectory: CSM to Moon & Back

Trajectory Model: 4-Body (Earth, Moon, Sun, Spacecraft) 2D Planar Point Mass w Earth at Center

This Simulation Uses the Mathcad Differential Equation Solving Methodology discussed in: arXiv:1504.07964

"Motion of the planets: the calculation and visualization in Mathcad", Valery Ochkov, Katarina Pisačić

4-Body Reference Frame: Earth and moon are initially at 0,0 and the earth and sun are initially not moving.

kg := 1 m := 1 s := 1 N := 1 s_{min} := 1 min := 60s hr := 3600s kgf := 9.80665N
 km := 1000m kmph := km/hr mph := 0.447·10⁻³ kmph n_{plot} := 10000

Run Simulation for 115 hrs Apollo 11 Orbit 77 hr

FRAME := 999 n_{ode} := 20000 n := 999

t_{end} := $\frac{114.5 \text{ hr}}{n+1} \cdot (\text{FRAME} + 1)$ t_{orb} := 58.5hr

Time of Flight (TOF) = t_{orb}

$$G := 6.67384 \cdot 10^{-11} \frac{\text{N} \cdot \text{m}^2}{\text{kg}}$$

Trajectory to Moon's Sphere of Influence Apolune

v_{0x} := 7.58 kmphs

v_{0y} := 5.5 kmphs

R_m := 1737.4 km

R_e := 6370 km

d_{m_ap} := 405500 km

t_{end} = 114.5 hr

$$v_{\text{CSM}} := \sqrt{v_{0x}^2 + v_{0y}^2}$$

v_{CSM} = 9.365 kmphs

$$d_{e_ap} := 152 \cdot 10^6 \text{ km}$$

Define Gravitational and Dynamics Equations for Earth, Moon, and CSM

e is Earth	$\begin{pmatrix} m_e & x_{e0} & y_{e0} & v_{x_{e0}} & v_{y_{e0}} \end{pmatrix}$	=	$\begin{pmatrix} 5.972 \cdot 10^{24} \text{ kg} & 0 \text{ m} & 0 \text{ m} & 0 \text{ kph} & 0 \text{ kmphs} \end{pmatrix}$
a is Sun	$\begin{pmatrix} m_a & x_{a0} & y_{a0} & v_{x_{a0}} & v_{y_{a0}} \end{pmatrix}$		$\begin{pmatrix} 1.989 \cdot 10^{30} \text{ kg} & -130 \cdot 10^6 \text{ km} & -80 \cdot 10^6 \text{ km} & 0 \text{ kmphs} & 0 \text{ kmphs} \end{pmatrix}$
m is Moon	$\begin{pmatrix} m_m & x_{m0} & y_{m0} & v_{x_{m0}} & v_{y_{m0}} \end{pmatrix}$		$\begin{pmatrix} 7.347 \cdot 10^{22} \text{ kg} & d_{m_ap} & 0 \text{ km} & 0 \text{ kmphs} & 0.97 \text{ kmphs} \end{pmatrix}$
s is CSM	$\begin{pmatrix} m_s & x_{s0} & y_{s0} & v_{x_{s0}} & v_{y_{s0}} \end{pmatrix}$		$\begin{pmatrix} 13600 \text{ kg} & R_e + 110 \text{ km} & R_e - 96 \text{ km} & v_{0x} & v_{0y} \end{pmatrix}$

Given Set of Differential Guidance Equations for 4 Body Problem of Earth, Moon, and CSM

$$x_e(0) = x_{e0} \quad x_e'(0) = v_{x_{e0}} \quad y_e(0) = y_{e0} \quad y_e'(0) = v_{y_{e0}} \quad x_m(0) = x_{m0} \quad x_m'(0) = v_{x_{m0}} \quad y_m(0) = y_{m0} \quad y_m'(0) = v_{y_{m0}}$$

$$m_e \cdot x_e''(t) = \frac{G \cdot m_e \cdot m_m \cdot (x_m(t) - x_e(t))}{\left[\sqrt{(x_e(t) - x_m(t))^2 + (y_e(t) - y_m(t))^2} \right]^3} + \frac{G \cdot m_e \cdot m_s \cdot (x_s(t) - x_e(t))}{\left[\sqrt{(x_e(t) - x_s(t))^2 + (y_e(t) - y_s(t))^2} \right]^3} + \frac{G \cdot m_e \cdot m_s \cdot (x_s(t) - x_e(t))}{\left[\sqrt{(x_e(t) - x_s(t))^2 + (y_e(t) - y_s(t))^2} \right]^3}$$

$$m_e \cdot y_e''(t) = \frac{G \cdot m_e \cdot m_m \cdot (y_m(t) - y_e(t))}{\left[\sqrt{(x_e(t) - x_m(t))^2 + (y_e(t) - y_m(t))^2} \right]^3} + \frac{G \cdot m_e \cdot m_s \cdot (y_s(t) - y_e(t))}{\left[\sqrt{(x_e(t) - x_s(t))^2 + (y_e(t) - y_s(t))^2} \right]^3} + \frac{G \cdot m_e \cdot m_s \cdot (y_s(t) - y_e(t))}{\left[\sqrt{(x_e(t) - x_s(t))^2 + (y_e(t) - y_s(t))^2} \right]^3}$$

$$m_m \cdot x_m''(t) = \frac{G \cdot m_m \cdot m_e \cdot (x_e(t) - x_m(t))}{\left[\sqrt{(x_m(t) - x_e(t))^2 + (y_m(t) - y_e(t))^2} \right]^3} + \frac{G \cdot m_m \cdot m_s \cdot (x_s(t) - x_m(t))}{\left[\sqrt{(x_m(t) - x_s(t))^2 + (y_m(t) - y_s(t))^2} \right]^3} + \frac{G \cdot m_m \cdot m_s \cdot (x_s(t) - x_m(t))}{\left[\sqrt{(x_m(t) - x_s(t))^2 + (y_m(t) - y_s(t))^2} \right]^3}$$

$$m_m \cdot y_m''(t) = \frac{G \cdot m_m \cdot m_e \cdot (y_e(t) - y_m(t))}{\left[\sqrt{(x_m(t) - x_e(t))^2 + (y_m(t) - y_e(t))^2} \right]^3} + \frac{G \cdot m_m \cdot m_s \cdot (y_s(t) - y_m(t))}{\left[\sqrt{(x_m(t) - x_s(t))^2 + (y_m(t) - y_s(t))^2} \right]^3} + \frac{G \cdot m_m \cdot m_s \cdot (y_s(t) - y_m(t))}{\left[\sqrt{(x_m(t) - x_s(t))^2 + (y_m(t) - y_s(t))^2} \right]^3}$$

$$x_s(0) = x_{s0} \quad x_s'(0) = v_{x_{s0}} \quad y_s(0) = y_{s0} \quad y_s'(0) = v_{y_{s0}} \quad x_s(0) = x_{s0} \quad x_s'(0) = v_{x_{s0}} \quad y_s(0) = y_{s0} \quad y_s'(0) = v_{y_{s0}}$$

$$m_s \cdot x_s''(t) = \frac{G \cdot m_s \cdot m_e \cdot (x_e(t) - x_s(t))}{\left[\sqrt{(x_s(t) - x_e(t))^2 + (y_s(t) - y_e(t))^2} \right]^3} + \frac{G \cdot m_s \cdot m_m \cdot (x_m(t) - x_s(t))}{\left[\sqrt{(x_s(t) - x_m(t))^2 + (y_s(t) - y_m(t))^2} \right]^3} + \frac{G \cdot m_s \cdot m_s \cdot (x_s(t) - x_s(t))}{\left[\sqrt{(x_s(t) - x_s(t))^2 + (y_s(t) - y_s(t))^2} \right]^3}$$

$$m_s \cdot y_s''(t) = \frac{G \cdot m_s \cdot m_e \cdot (y_e(t) - y_s(t))}{\left[\sqrt{(x_s(t) - x_e(t))^2 + (y_s(t) - y_e(t))^2} \right]^3} + \frac{G \cdot m_s \cdot m_m \cdot (y_m(t) - y_s(t))}{\left[\sqrt{(x_s(t) - x_m(t))^2 + (y_s(t) - y_m(t))^2} \right]^3} + \frac{G \cdot m_s \cdot m_s \cdot (y_s(t) - y_s(t))}{\left[\sqrt{(x_s(t) - x_s(t))^2 + (y_s(t) - y_s(t))^2} \right]^3}$$

$$m_s \cdot x_s''(t) = \frac{G \cdot m_s \cdot m_e \cdot (x_e(t) - x_s(t))}{\left[\sqrt{(x_e(t) - x_s(t))^2 + (y_e(t) - y_s(t))^2} \right]^3} + \frac{G \cdot m_s \cdot m_m \cdot (x_m(t) - x_s(t))}{\left[\sqrt{(x_m(t) - x_s(t))^2 + (y_m(t) - y_s(t))^2} \right]^3} + \frac{G \cdot m_s \cdot m_s \cdot (x_s(t) - x_s(t))}{\left[\sqrt{(x_s(t) - x_s(t))^2 + (y_s(t) - y_s(t))^2} \right]^3}$$

$$m_s \cdot y_s''(t) = \frac{G \cdot m_s \cdot m_e \cdot (y_e(t) - y_s(t))}{\left[\sqrt{(x_e(t) - x_s(t))^2 + (y_e(t) - y_s(t))^2} \right]^3} + \frac{G \cdot m_s \cdot m_m \cdot (y_m(t) - y_s(t))}{\left[\sqrt{(x_m(t) - x_s(t))^2 + (y_m(t) - y_s(t))^2} \right]^3} + \frac{G \cdot m_s \cdot m_s \cdot (y_s(t) - y_s(t))}{\left[\sqrt{(x_s(t) - x_s(t))^2 + (y_s(t) - y_s(t))^2} \right]^3}$$

IB. 4-Body Sim of Apollo Free Return Trajectory: CSM to Moon and Back

Trajectory Model: 4-Body (Earth, Moon, Sun, Spacecraft) 2D Planar Point Mass w Earth at Center Plot for Sim of 4-Body Free Return Traj: CSM to Moon and Back

Differential Equation Solver

Earth $\begin{pmatrix} x_e \\ y_e \end{pmatrix}$
 Moon $\begin{pmatrix} x_m \\ y_m \end{pmatrix}$
 Space Craft $\begin{pmatrix} x_s \\ y_s \end{pmatrix}$
 Sun $\begin{pmatrix} x_a \\ y_a \end{pmatrix}$

$\text{:= Odesolve} \begin{pmatrix} x_e \\ y_e \\ x_m \\ y_m \\ x_s \\ y_s \\ x_a \\ y_a \end{pmatrix}, t, t_{\text{end}}, n_{\text{ode}}$

Initial Velocity (km/s) of CSM at an Altitude of 141 km:
 $\sqrt{v_{0x}^2 + v_{0y}^2} = 9.365 \text{ km/s}$

time t_{fly} , just beyond lunar fly by time $t_{\text{flyby dot}}$
 $t := 0, \frac{t_{\text{end}}}{n_{\text{plot}}} .. t_{\text{end}}$ $t_{\text{fly}} := 0, \frac{t_{\text{end}}}{n_{\text{plot}}} .. 160\text{hr}$ $t_{\text{fly}} := \frac{x_s(t_{\text{orb}})}{R_e}$

$v_{x_s}(t) := \frac{d}{dt} x_s(t)$ $v_{y_s}(t) := \frac{d}{dt} y_s(t)$ $s_{xx}(t) := \sqrt{v_{x_s}(t)^2 + v_{y_s}(t)^2}$

Distance from Earth to Moon

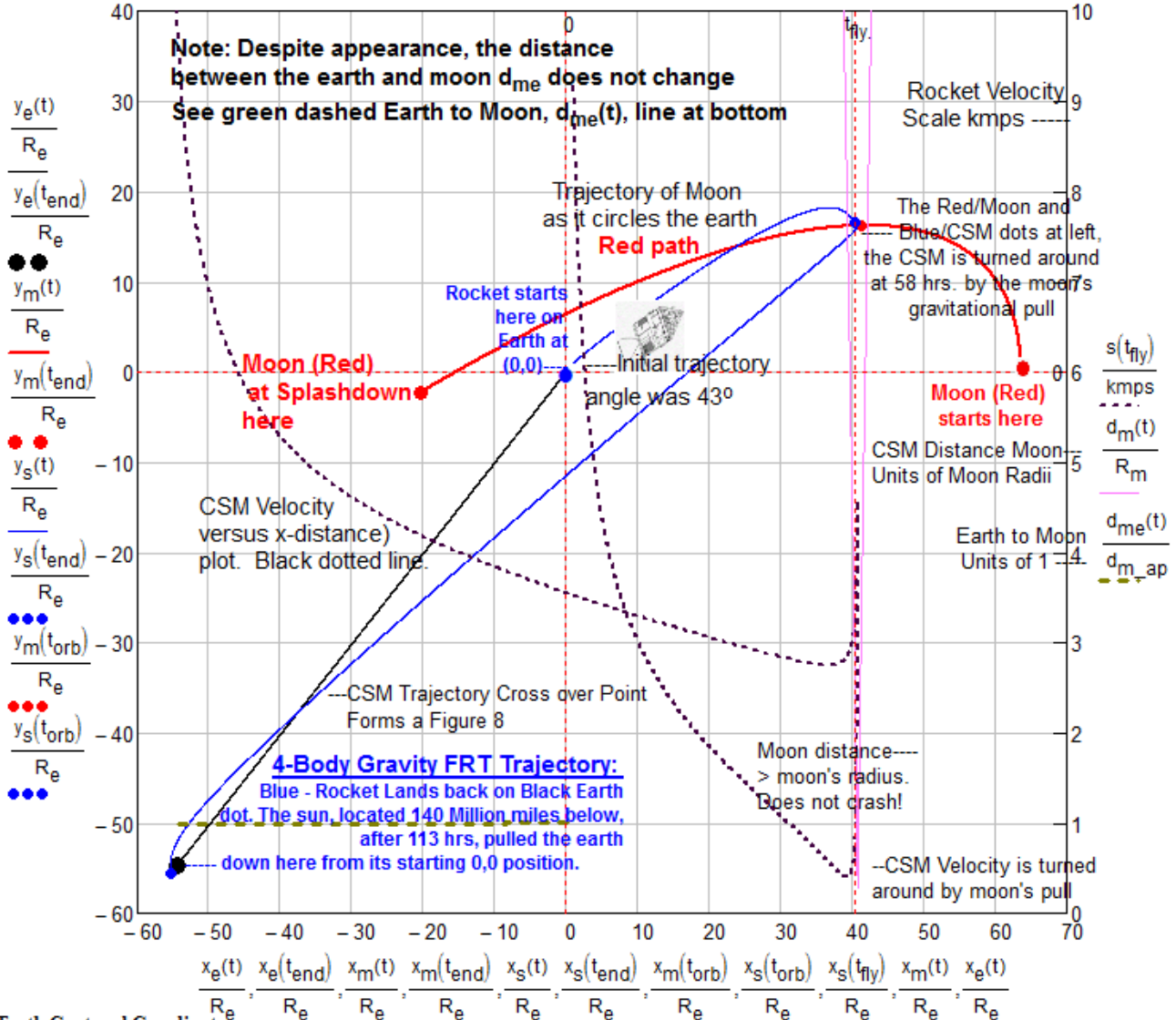
$$d_{me}(t) := \sqrt{(x_m(t) - x_e(t))^2 + (y_m(t) - y_e(t))^2}$$

Distance to the Center of the Moon

$$d_m(t) := \sqrt{(x_m(t) - x_s(t))^2 + (y_m(t) - y_s(t))^2}$$

$$\frac{d_m(t_{\text{orb}})}{R_m} = 3.242$$

4-Body Sim of Lunar Free Return Trajectory for CSM Distance, Velocity, Distance



Note: The radial velocity of the earth around the sun is 1° every 365 days or $1/365^\circ$ per day. Our sim runs 114 hrs or $114/24$ days. This results in $(1/365^\circ) \times 114/24$ or 7.5° . For the purpose of our illustration, we will ignore this added complexity. Think of this as a rotating reference frame, such as our experience of us living on a rotating earth