SYLLABUS M E-452: Dynamics of Space Flight

Fall 2016

Text: Orbital Mechanics for Engineering Students, H. D. Curtis (Elsevier, 2010) 2nd Edition
References: Additional materials will be e-mailed through the Highlander Pipeline during the semester

Week	Topic	Reading	Problems
1	Introduction and Review: Kinematics, Newton's Laws, Time derivative of moving vectors, relative motion	Chapter 1	1.1 – 1.10 1.12, 1.13, 1.15
2	Two Body Problem: Motion equations in an Inertial Frame; Relative Motion	2.1 - 2.3	
3	Review of Conic sections; Angular Momentum Orbital Energy	Electronic notes; 2.4, 2.5	
4	Derivation of Equations for Orbital Trajectories: Circular, Parabolic, Elliptic	2.6 – 2.9	2.1-2.3, 2.6, 2.7, 2.8, 2.11, 2.13, 2.15-2.18, 2.21, 2.22, 2.24, 2.30, 2.32 2.37, 2.38
5	Hyperbolic Trajectories Exam 1	2.10	2.31, 2.30
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6	Perifocal Frame	2.10	2.26, 2.32, 2.35, 2.36
	Restricted Three-Body Problem	2.11	2.44, 2.45
7	Orbital Position as a Time Function: Time since Periapsis- Circular	3.1, 3.2	3.1, 3.4 - 3.10
	Elliptical Trajectories	3.5	3.14
8	Hyperbolic Trajectories	3.6	3.16
	Universal Variables	3.7	3.19
9	Exam 2		
10	Orbits in 3 Dimensions: State vector & Geocentric Frame	4.1 – 4.3	4.1, 4.2
	Orbital Elements and State Vector	4.4	4.4, 4.5
11	Coordinate Transformations	4.5	4.8 – 4.11
	Transformation: Geocentric Equatorial to Perifocal Frames	4.6	4.14 – 4.16, 4.19,
12	Effects of Earth's Oblateness	4.7	4.25, 4.26
13	Exam 3		
14	Preliminary Orbit Determination: Gibbs' Method	5.1, 5.2	5.1, 5.2
	Lambert's Problem	5.3	5.4, 5.5
	Review of Course Concepts		
15	Final Exam		

^{*} Homework Problems will be assigned in class.