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16.346 Astrodynamics
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Linearization of the Equations of Motion

- Deviations from reference $\mathbf{r}(t) = \mathbf{r}_{ref}(t) + \boldsymbol{\delta}(t)$ $\mathbf{v}(t) = \mathbf{v}_{ref}(t) + \boldsymbol{\nu}(t)$
- Equations of motion

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\mathbf{r}}{dt} = \mathbf{v} & & \frac{d\mathbf{r}_{ref}}{dt} = \mathbf{v}_{ref} & & \frac{d\boldsymbol{\delta}}{dt} = \boldsymbol{\nu} \\ \frac{d\mathbf{v}}{dt} = \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{r}) & & \frac{d\mathbf{v}_{ref}}{dt} = \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{r}_{ref}) & \implies & \frac{d\boldsymbol{\nu}}{dt} = \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{r}) - \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{r}_{ref}) = \mathbf{G}(\mathbf{r}_{ref})\boldsymbol{\delta} = \mathbf{G}(t)\boldsymbol{\delta} \end{aligned}$$

since $\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{r}) = \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{r}_{ref}) + \left. \frac{\partial \mathbf{g}}{\partial \mathbf{r}} \right|_{\mathbf{r}=\mathbf{r}_{ref}} \boldsymbol{\delta} + \dots = \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{r}_{ref}) + \mathbf{G}(\mathbf{r}_{ref})\boldsymbol{\delta} + O(\delta^2)$

- State vector representation

$$\underbrace{\frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{\delta} \\ \boldsymbol{\nu} \end{bmatrix}}_{\mathbf{x}(t)} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{I} \\ \mathbf{G}(t) & \mathbf{O} \end{bmatrix}}_{\mathbf{F}(t)} \begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{\delta} \\ \boldsymbol{\nu} \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{or} \quad \boxed{\frac{d\mathbf{x}}{dt} = \mathbf{F}(t)\mathbf{x}}$$

The State Transition Matrix

- Define $\Phi(t, t_0) = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_1(t) & \mathbf{x}_2(t) & \dots & \mathbf{x}_6(t) \end{bmatrix}$
 $\Phi(t_0, t_0) = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_1(t_0) & \mathbf{x}_2(t_0) & \dots & \mathbf{x}_6(t_0) \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{I}$
- Matrix differential equation

$$\frac{d}{dt} \Phi(t, t_0) = \mathbf{F}(t)\Phi(t, t_0) \quad \text{with} \quad \Phi(t_0, t_0) = \mathbf{I}$$

- Fundamental property

$$\boxed{\mathbf{x}(t) = \Phi(t, t_0)\mathbf{x}(t_0)}$$

Symplectic Matrices

- Definition

An even-dimensional matrix \mathbf{A} is symplectic if

$$\boxed{\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{J} \mathbf{A} = \mathbf{J}} \quad \text{where} \quad \mathbf{J} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{I} \\ -\mathbf{I} & \mathbf{O} \end{bmatrix}$$

Note: Since $\mathbf{J}^2 = -\mathbf{I}$, the \mathbf{J} matrix is analogous to the imaginary $\sqrt{-1}$ in complex algebra.

- Inverse of a Symplectic Matrix

Postmultiply by \mathbf{A}^{-1} and premultiply by \mathbf{J} to obtain

$$\boxed{\mathbf{A}^{-1} = -\mathbf{J} \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{J}}$$

The State Transition Matrix is Symplectic

- Symplectic Property of $\Phi(t, t_0)$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{d}{dt} \Phi^T(t, t_0) \mathbf{J} \Phi(t, t_0) &= \frac{d\Phi^T}{dt} \mathbf{J} \Phi + \Phi^T \mathbf{J} \frac{d\Phi}{dt} \\
 &= \Phi^T \mathbf{F}^T \mathbf{J} \Phi + \Phi^T \mathbf{J} \mathbf{F} \Phi \\
 &= \Phi^T [\mathbf{F}^T \mathbf{J} + \mathbf{J} \mathbf{F}] \Phi \\
 &= \Phi^T \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{G}(t) - \mathbf{G}^T(t) & \mathbf{O} \\ \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{I} - \mathbf{I} \end{bmatrix} \Phi \\
 &= \mathbf{O}
 \end{aligned}$$

since the gravity-gradient matrix $\mathbf{G} = \mathbf{G}^T$ is symmetric. Therefore

$$\Phi^T(t, t_0) \mathbf{J} \Phi(t, t_0) = \text{constant} = \Phi^T(t_0, t_0) \mathbf{J} \Phi(t_0, t_0) = \mathbf{I}^T \mathbf{J} \mathbf{I} = \mathbf{J}$$

- Inverse of $\Phi(t, t_0)$

From the partitions

$$\Phi(t, t_0) = \begin{bmatrix} \Phi_1(t, t_0) & \Phi_2(t, t_0) \\ \Phi_3(t, t_0) & \Phi_4(t, t_0) \end{bmatrix}$$

the inverse is

$$\Phi^{-1}(t, t_0) = \Phi(t_0, t) = \begin{bmatrix} \Phi_4^T(t, t_0) & -\Phi_2^T(t, t_0) \\ -\Phi_3^T(t, t_0) & \Phi_1^T(t, t_0) \end{bmatrix}$$

Fundamental Perturbation Matrices

For the discussion of linear deviations from a reference orbit, define

$$\mathbf{x}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} \delta \mathbf{r}(t) \\ \delta \mathbf{v}(t) \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{x}_0 = \begin{bmatrix} \delta \mathbf{r}_0 \\ \delta \mathbf{v}_0 \end{bmatrix}$$

so that

$$\begin{bmatrix} \delta \mathbf{r}(t) \\ \delta \mathbf{v}(t) \end{bmatrix} = \Phi(t, t_0) \begin{bmatrix} \delta \mathbf{r}_0 \\ \delta \mathbf{v}_0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{where} \quad \Phi(t, t_0) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial \mathbf{r}}{\partial \mathbf{r}_0} & \frac{\partial \mathbf{r}}{\partial \mathbf{v}_0} \\ \frac{\partial \mathbf{v}}{\partial \mathbf{r}_0} & \frac{\partial \mathbf{v}}{\partial \mathbf{v}_0} \end{bmatrix}_{ref} = \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{\mathbf{R}}(t) & \mathbf{R}(t) \\ \tilde{\mathbf{V}}(t) & \mathbf{V}(t) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \delta \mathbf{r}_0 \\ \delta \mathbf{v}_0 \end{bmatrix} = \Phi(t_0, t) \begin{bmatrix} \delta \mathbf{r}(t) \\ \delta \mathbf{v}(t) \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{where} \quad \Phi(t_0, t) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial \mathbf{r}_0}{\partial \mathbf{r}} & \frac{\partial \mathbf{r}_0}{\partial \mathbf{v}} \\ \frac{\partial \mathbf{v}_0}{\partial \mathbf{r}} & \frac{\partial \mathbf{v}_0}{\partial \mathbf{v}} \end{bmatrix}_{ref} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{V}^T(t) & -\mathbf{R}^T(t) \\ -\tilde{\mathbf{V}}^T(t) & \tilde{\mathbf{R}}^T(t) \end{bmatrix}$$

since

$$\Phi(t, t_0) \Phi(t_0, t) = \mathbf{I} \quad \text{and} \quad \Phi(t_0, t) = \Phi^{-1}(t, t_0)$$

Navigation Matrix $\Phi(t, t_0)$ **Guidance Matrix** $\Phi(t, t_1)$

Let $t_0 \leq t \leq t_1$ and define

$$\Phi(t, t_0) = \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{\mathbf{R}}(t) & \mathbf{R}(t) \\ \tilde{\mathbf{V}}(t) & \mathbf{V}(t) \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \Phi(t, t_1) = \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{\mathbf{R}}^*(t) & \mathbf{R}^*(t) \\ \tilde{\mathbf{V}}^*(t) & \mathbf{V}^*(t) \end{bmatrix}$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\mathbf{R}(t)}{dt} &= \mathbf{V}(t) & \mathbf{R}(t_0) &= \mathbf{O} & \frac{d\mathbf{R}^*(t)}{dt} &= \mathbf{V}^*(t) & \mathbf{R}^*(t_1) &= \mathbf{O} \\ \frac{d\mathbf{V}(t)}{dt} &= \mathbf{G}(t)\mathbf{R}(t) & \mathbf{V}(t_0) &= \mathbf{I} & \frac{d\mathbf{V}^*(t)}{dt} &= \mathbf{G}(t)\mathbf{R}^*(t) & \mathbf{V}^*(t_1) &= \mathbf{I} \end{aligned}$$

The differential equations for the “tilde” matrices are the same but with initial conditions

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\mathbf{R}}(t_0) &= \mathbf{I} & \tilde{\mathbf{R}}^*(t_1) &= \mathbf{I} \\ \tilde{\mathbf{V}}(t_0) &= \mathbf{O} & \tilde{\mathbf{V}}^*(t_1) &= \mathbf{O} \end{aligned}$$

Furthermore,

$$\tilde{\mathbf{C}}^* = \tilde{\mathbf{V}}^* \tilde{\mathbf{R}}^{*-1} = \left. \frac{\partial \mathbf{v}}{\partial \mathbf{r}} \right|_{\mathbf{v}_1 = \text{constant}} \quad \mathbf{C}^* = \mathbf{V}^* \mathbf{R}^{*-1} = \left. \frac{\partial \mathbf{v}}{\partial \mathbf{r}} \right|_{\mathbf{r}_1 = \text{constant}}$$

Hence

$$\Phi(t, t_1) \Big|_{t=t_0} = \Phi^{-1}(t, t_0) \Big|_{t=t_1} \implies \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{\mathbf{R}}^*(t_0) & \mathbf{R}^*(t_0) \\ \tilde{\mathbf{V}}^*(t_0) & \mathbf{V}^*(t_0) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{V}^T(t_1) & -\mathbf{R}^T(t_1) \\ -\tilde{\mathbf{V}}^T(t_1) & \tilde{\mathbf{R}}^T(t_1) \end{bmatrix}$$

Differential Equation for the \mathbf{C}^* Matrix

$$\mathbf{C}^* \mathbf{R}^* = \mathbf{V}^* \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{C}^{*-1} = \mathbf{R}^* \mathbf{V}^{*-1} \quad \text{or} \quad \mathbf{C}^{*-1} \mathbf{V}^* = \mathbf{R}^*$$

Differentiate the first expression:

$$\frac{d\mathbf{C}^*}{dt} \mathbf{R}^* + \mathbf{C}^* \frac{d\mathbf{R}^*}{dt} = \frac{d\mathbf{V}^*}{dt} \implies \frac{d\mathbf{C}^*}{dt} \mathbf{R}^* + \mathbf{C}^* \mathbf{V}^* = \mathbf{G} \mathbf{R}^*$$

Finally, postmultiply by \mathbf{R}^{*-1} to obtain

$$\frac{d\mathbf{C}^*}{dt} + \mathbf{C}^{*2} = \mathbf{G}$$

Since \mathbf{G} is symmetric, then \mathbf{C}^* is symmetric. Because $\mathbf{C}^*(t_1)$ is infinite, it is better to use the equation for the inverse matrix.

$$\frac{d\mathbf{C}^{*-1}}{dt} \mathbf{V}^* + \mathbf{C}^{*-1} \frac{d\mathbf{V}^*}{dt} = \frac{d\mathbf{R}^*}{dt} \implies \frac{d\mathbf{C}^{*-1}}{dt} \mathbf{V}^* + \mathbf{C}^{*-1} \mathbf{G} \mathbf{R}^* = \mathbf{V}^*$$

Hence

$$\frac{d\mathbf{C}^{*-1}}{dt} + \mathbf{C}^{*-1} \mathbf{G} \mathbf{C}^{*-1} = \mathbf{I} \quad \text{with} \quad \mathbf{C}^{*-1}(t_1) = \mathbf{O}$$

Note: For the constant gravity case we have $\mathbf{G} = \mathbf{O}$ so that $\mathbf{C}^{*-1} = (t - t_1)\mathbf{I}$.

• Fixed-Time-of-Arrival Correction

$$\delta \mathbf{x}(t) = \Phi(t, t_1) \delta \mathbf{x}(t_1) \implies \begin{bmatrix} \delta \mathbf{r}(t) \\ \delta \mathbf{v}(t) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{\mathbf{R}}^*(t) & \mathbf{R}^*(t) \\ \tilde{\mathbf{V}}^*(t) & \mathbf{V}^*(t) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{0} \\ \delta \mathbf{v}(t_A) \end{bmatrix}$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} \delta \mathbf{r}(t) &= \mathbf{R}^*(t) \delta \mathbf{v}(t_A) \\ \delta \mathbf{v}(t) &= \mathbf{V}^*(t) \delta \mathbf{v}(t_A) \end{aligned}$$

Eliminate $\delta \mathbf{v}(t_A)$

$$\delta \mathbf{v}(t) = \mathbf{V}^*(t) \mathbf{R}^{*-1}(t) \delta \mathbf{r}(t) = \mathbf{C}^*(t) \delta \mathbf{r}(t)$$

Velocity correction $\Delta \mathbf{v}(t) = \delta \mathbf{v}(t^+) - \delta \mathbf{v}(t^-) = \mathbf{C}^*(t) \delta \mathbf{r}(t) - \delta \mathbf{v}(t^-)$

• Variable-Time-of-Arrival Correction

$$\begin{bmatrix} \delta \mathbf{r}(t) \\ \delta \mathbf{v}(t) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{\mathbf{R}}^*(t) & \mathbf{R}^*(t) \\ \tilde{\mathbf{V}}^*(t) & \mathbf{V}^*(t) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \delta \mathbf{r}(t_A) \\ \delta \mathbf{v}(t_A) \end{bmatrix}$$

Multiply through by $[-\mathbf{C}^*(t) \quad \mathbf{I}]$

$$[-\mathbf{C}^*(t) \quad \mathbf{I}] \begin{bmatrix} \delta \mathbf{r}(t) \\ \delta \mathbf{v}(t) \end{bmatrix} = [-\mathbf{C}^*(t) \quad \mathbf{I}] \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{\mathbf{R}}^*(t) & \mathbf{R}^*(t) \\ \tilde{\mathbf{V}}^*(t) & \mathbf{V}^*(t) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \delta \mathbf{r}(t_A) \\ \delta \mathbf{v}(t_A) \end{bmatrix}$$

Hence, [using the starred form of Eqs. (9.57)], we have

$$\begin{aligned} -\mathbf{C}^*(t) \delta \mathbf{r}(t) + \delta \mathbf{v}(t) &= \underbrace{[-\mathbf{C}^*(t) \tilde{\mathbf{R}}^*(t) + \tilde{\mathbf{V}}^*(t)]}_{= -\mathbf{R}^{*-T}(t)} \delta \mathbf{r}(t_A) \\ &= -\mathbf{R}^{*-T}(t) \delta \mathbf{r}(t_A) \end{aligned}$$

or

$$\delta \mathbf{v}(t) = \mathbf{C}^*(t) \delta \mathbf{r}(t) - \mathbf{R}^{*-T}(t) \delta \mathbf{r}(t_A)$$

1. Choosing $\delta \mathbf{r}(t_A)$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{r}_p(t_A + \delta t) &= \mathbf{r}_p(t_A) + \mathbf{v}_p(t_A) \delta t \\ \mathbf{r}(t_A + \delta t) &= \mathbf{r}(t_A) + \mathbf{v}(t_A) \delta t \end{aligned}$$

Then $\mathbf{r}(t_A + \delta t) = \mathbf{r}_p(t_A + \delta t) \implies \delta \mathbf{r}(t_A) = \mathbf{r}(t_A) - \mathbf{r}_p(t_A) = -\mathbf{v}_r(t_A) \delta t$

where $\mathbf{v}_r(t_A) = \mathbf{v}(t_A) - \mathbf{v}_p(t_A)$. Hence

$$\begin{aligned} \delta \mathbf{v}(t) &= \mathbf{C}^*(t) \delta \mathbf{r}(t) + \underbrace{\mathbf{R}^{*-T}(t) \mathbf{v}_r(t_A)}_{= \mathbf{w}(t)} \delta t \quad \text{or} \quad \Delta \mathbf{v}'(t) = \Delta \mathbf{v}(t) + \mathbf{w}(t) \delta t \\ &= \mathbf{w}(t) \end{aligned}$$

2. Choosing δt to minimize $|\Delta \mathbf{v}'(t)|$

$$\delta t_A = -\frac{\Delta \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{w}}{\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{w}} \quad \text{and} \quad \text{Min } \Delta \mathbf{v}' = \underbrace{\left(\mathbf{I} - \frac{\mathbf{w} \mathbf{w}^T}{\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{w}} \right)}_{\text{Projection operator } \mathbf{M}} \Delta \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{M} \Delta \mathbf{v}$$

Projection operator \mathbf{M}