

325(8): Expression for α from the Relativistic Lagrangian of ECE2.

The relativistic Lagrangian is :

$$L = -mc^2 \gamma^{1/2} + \frac{mMGr}{r} \quad - (1)$$

where $\frac{1}{\gamma} = \gamma = 1 - \frac{1}{c^2} (\dot{r}^2 + \dot{\theta}^2 r^2)$ - (2)

and the relativistic Hamiltonian is :

$$H = \gamma mc^2 - \frac{mMGr}{r} \quad - (3)$$

The Sommerfeld Hamiltonian is :

$$H_1 = H - mc^2 = (\gamma - 1) mc^2 - \frac{mMGr}{r} \quad - (4)$$

The Euler Lagrange equations are :

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \theta} = \frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{\theta}} \quad - (5)$$

and $\frac{\partial L}{\partial r} = \frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{r}} \quad - (6)$

From eq. (5) :

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{\theta}} = \frac{\partial L}{\partial \gamma} \frac{\partial \gamma}{\partial \dot{\theta}} = \frac{mc^2}{2} \gamma^{-1/2} \frac{2r^2 \dot{\theta}}{c^2}$$

$$= \gamma m r^2 \dot{\theta} \quad - (7)$$

$$:= L$$

and $\frac{dL}{dt} = 0 \quad - (8)$

2) Similarly:

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial r} = \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial f} \frac{\partial f}{\partial r}, \quad \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{r}} = \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{f}} \frac{\partial \dot{f}}{\partial \dot{r}} \quad - (9)$$

From eq. (2):

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial r} = -\frac{2r\dot{\theta}^2}{c^2}, \quad \frac{\partial \dot{f}}{\partial \dot{r}} = -\frac{2\dot{r}}{c^2} \quad - (10)$$

and

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial f} = -\frac{mc^2}{2} f^{-1/2} \quad - (11)$$

Therefore:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial r} &= \frac{mc^2}{2} f^{-1/2} \cdot \frac{2r\dot{\theta}^2}{c^2} = \frac{\partial U}{\partial r} \\ &= \gamma m r \dot{\theta}^2 = \frac{\partial U}{\partial r} \quad - (11) \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{r}} = \frac{mc^2}{2} f^{-1/2} \frac{2\dot{r}}{c^2} = \gamma m \dot{r} \quad - (12)$$

so

$$\gamma m r \dot{\theta}^2 - \frac{\partial U}{\partial r} = \frac{d}{dt} (\gamma m \dot{r}) \quad - (13)$$

i.e.

$$\boxed{\frac{d}{dt} (\gamma m \dot{r}) - \gamma m r \dot{\theta}^2 = -\frac{\partial U}{\partial r} = F(r)} \quad - (14)$$

and

$$\boxed{L = \gamma m r^2 \dot{\theta}} \quad - (15)$$

3) In the non-relativistic limit:

and eq. (14) becomes the Leibnitz equation of orbits: $V \rightarrow 1$ - (16)

$$m \frac{d^2 r}{dt^2} = m r \omega^2 - \frac{m M G}{r^2} \quad - (17)$$

with conserved angular momentum:

$$L = m r^2 \omega \quad - (18)$$

where

$$\omega = \dot{\theta} = \frac{d\theta}{dt} \quad - (19)$$

Eq. (14) is therefore the Leibnitz equation in special relativity.

Using the change of variable:

$$\dot{r} = \frac{dr}{dt} = -r^2 \frac{d\theta}{dt} \frac{d}{d\theta} \left(\frac{1}{r} \right) \quad - (20)$$

it is found that:

$$\dot{r} = -\frac{L}{\gamma m} \frac{d}{d\theta} \left(\frac{1}{r} \right) \quad - (21)$$

and

$$\dot{\theta} = \frac{L}{\gamma m r^2} \quad - (22)$$

As in the previous note it follows that the orbital velocity in special relativity is

4)

$$v^2 = \frac{v_N^2}{1 + \left(\frac{v_N}{c}\right)^2} \quad - (23)$$

where the Newtonian velocity v_N is given by:

$$v_N^2 = \frac{L^2}{m^2} \left(\left(\frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{1}{r} \right) \right)^2 + \frac{1}{r^2} \right) = \frac{MG}{r} \left(2 - \frac{1}{a} \right) \quad - (24)$$

where the major semi axis a is defined by:

$$\frac{1}{a} = \frac{1 - \epsilon^2}{d}, \quad - (25)$$

where, is the Newtonian orbit:

$$d = r(1 + \epsilon \cos \theta). \quad - (26)$$

$$\text{So: } v_N^2 = \frac{MG}{r} \left(2 - \frac{(1 - \epsilon^2)}{1 + \epsilon \cos \theta} \right) \quad - (27)$$

$$\xrightarrow[r \rightarrow \infty]{} 0$$

The relativistic velocity v is that of a non-Newtonian orbit. The velocity v_N is that of the Newtonian orbit (26). If it is assumed that the non-Newtonian orbit is:

5)

$$r = \frac{\alpha}{1 + \epsilon \cos(2\theta)} \quad - (28)$$

then its velocity in the classical limit is

$$v_c^2 = \left(\frac{L}{md}\right)^2 \left((x^2 + 1) \frac{\alpha}{r} + x^2 (\epsilon^2 - 1) \right) \quad - (29)$$

$$\xrightarrow{x \rightarrow 1} mG \left(\frac{2}{r} - \frac{1}{a} \right)$$

using

$$L^2 = m^2 mG \alpha \quad - (30)$$

Its relativistic velocity is therefore: $- (31)$

$$v^2 = \frac{v_c^2}{1 + \left(\frac{v_c}{c}\right)^2} \xrightarrow{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{v_N^2}{1 + \left(\frac{v_N}{c}\right)^2}$$

If

$$v_c \ll c \quad - (32)$$

then

$$v_c^2 \sim \frac{v_N^2}{1 + \left(\frac{v_N}{c}\right)^2} \quad - (33)$$

i.e.

$$\left(\frac{L}{md}\right)^2 \left((1+x^2) \frac{\alpha}{r} + x^2 (\epsilon^2 - 1) \right) \sim \frac{mG \left(\frac{2}{r} - \frac{1}{a} \right)}{1 + \frac{mG}{c^2} \left(\frac{2}{r} - \frac{1}{a} \right)} \quad - (34)$$

b) Eq. (34) can be evaluated at the perihelion,
 where

$$r = \frac{d}{1 + e} \quad - (35)$$

This gives an expression for L in terms
 of the observables d , e and x .

At the perihelion: - (36)

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\frac{L}{md} \right)^2 &= \left((1+x^2)(1+e) + x^2(e^2-1) \right) \\ &= MG \left(\frac{2(1+e)}{d} - \frac{(1-e^2)}{d} \right) \\ &= \frac{MG \left(\frac{2(1+e)}{d} - \frac{(1-e^2)}{d} \right)}{1 + \frac{MG}{c^2} \left(\frac{2(1+e)}{d} - \frac{(1-e^2)}{d} \right)} \\ &= \frac{\frac{MG}{d} (1+e)^2}{1 + \frac{MG}{c^2 d} (1+e)^2} \end{aligned}$$

In the limit:

$$x \rightarrow 1 \quad - (37)$$

eq. (36) reduces to:

$$7) \left(\frac{L}{md} \right)^2 (1+\epsilon)^2 = \frac{mG}{d} (1+\epsilon)^2 - (38)$$

$$i.e. \quad L^2 = m^2 m G d - (39)$$

Q.E.D. This is a self consistent result.

In general:

$$L_1^2 = m^2 m G d y - (40)$$

where:

$$y = \frac{m G (1+\epsilon)^2}{\left(1 + \frac{m G}{c^2 d} (1+\epsilon)^2 \right) \left(1 + x^2 (1+\epsilon + \epsilon^2) \right)} - (41)$$

at the perihelion.

It is seen that L_1^2 is a constant of motion and that this is a self consistent theory.

The observed change in angle at the perihelion is

$$\Delta \theta = 2\pi(x-1) - (42)$$

and is explained by a change from L^2 to L_1^2