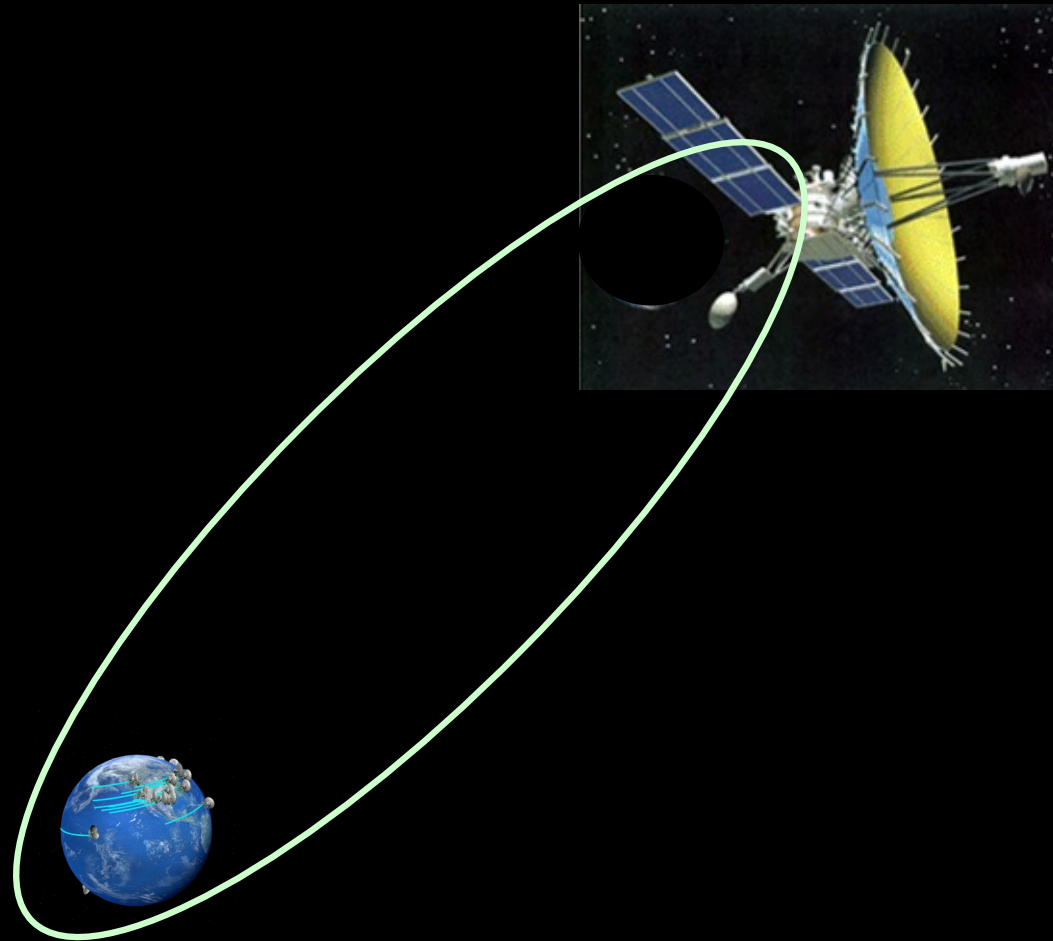
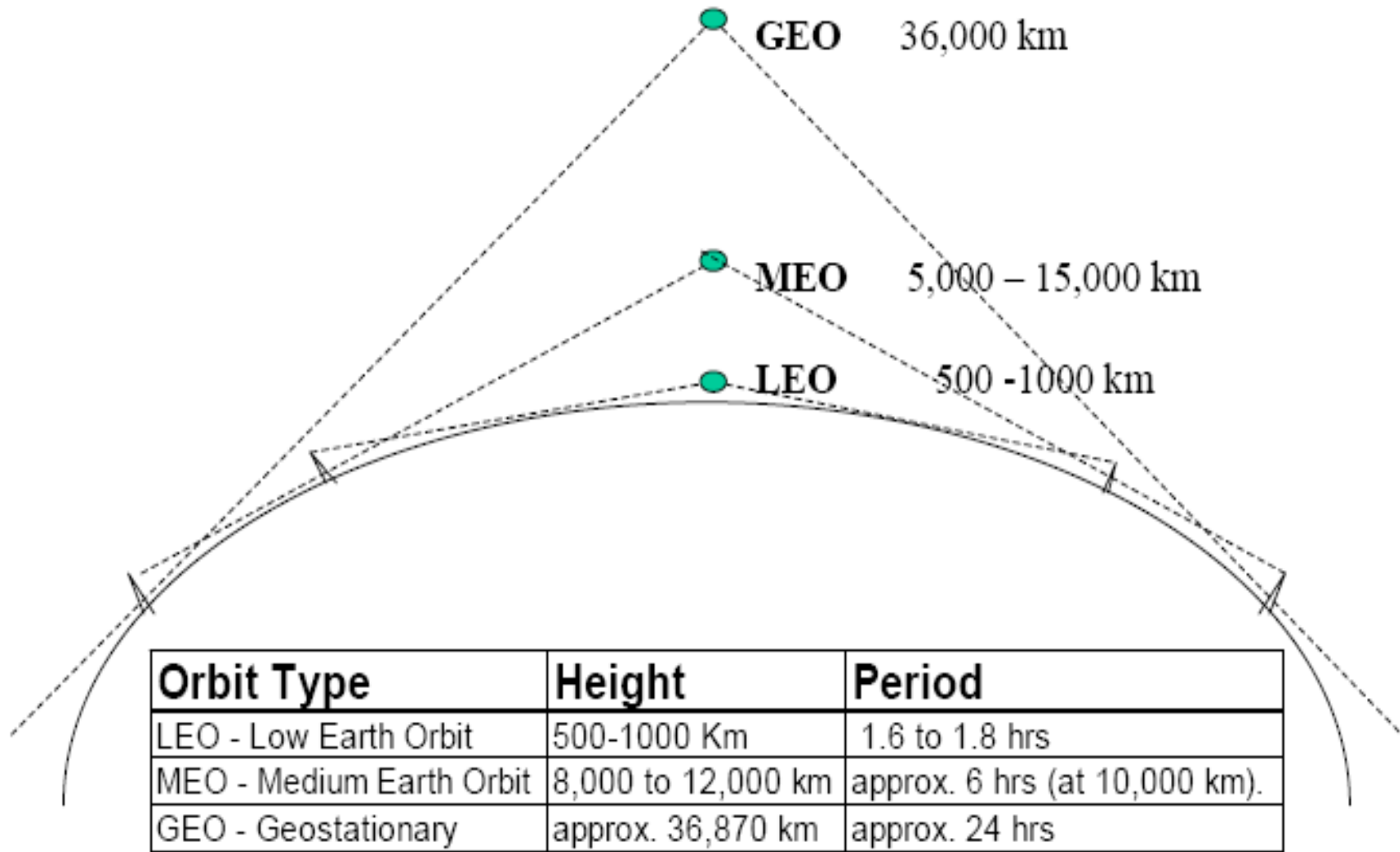


# 2.Orbital aspects of Satellite Communications

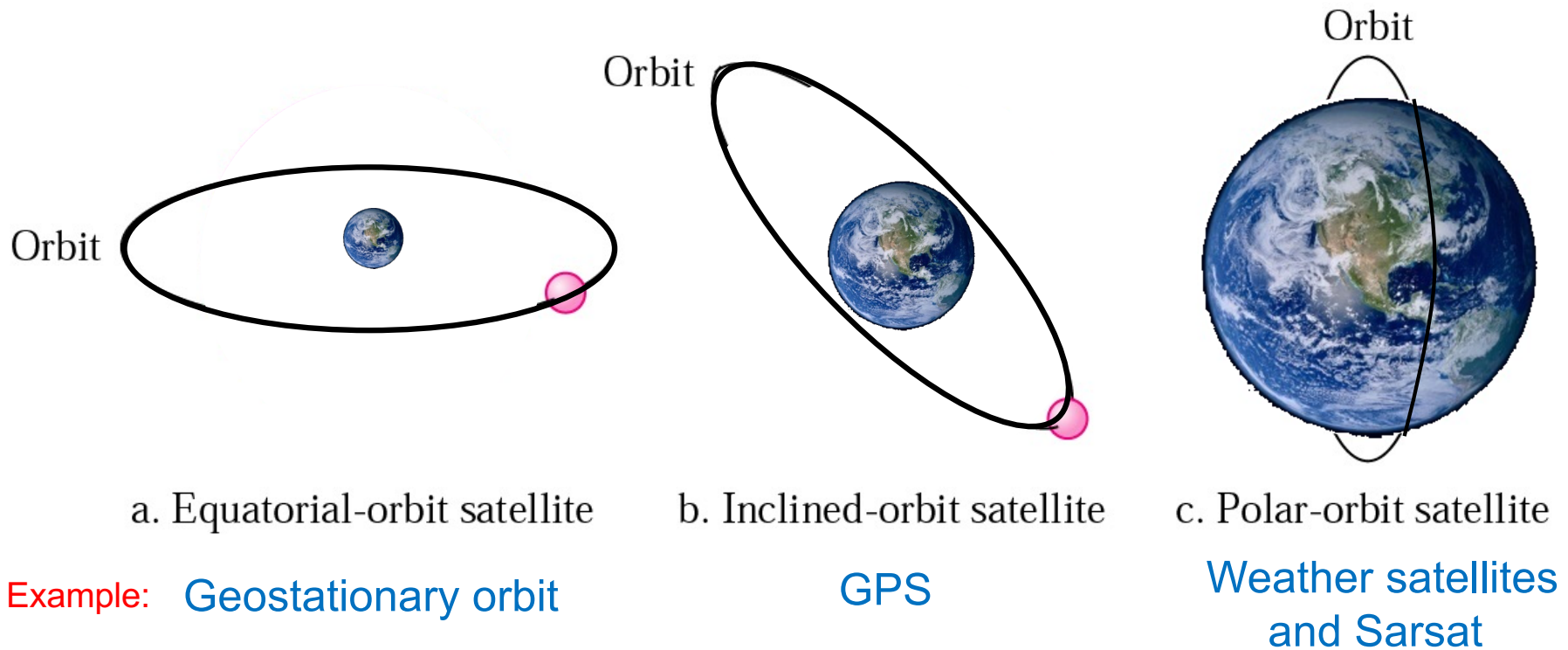
## 2.1 Orbits



# Satellite Orbits overview



# Three basic satellite orbits



# Advantages and disadvantages

- Satellites in geostationary orbit:

- 

- *Advantages:*

- Satellite remains stationary, no tracking equipment for earth station necessary
- Satellite is visible 24h per day
- Large coverage area: large number of earth stations can communicate
- Almost no Doppler shift – keeps electronics simple

- 

- *Disadvantages:*

- Latitudes north of 81.5 deg are not covered
- Great distance – received signal is weak
- Launch cost higher than for low altitude orbits
- Only one geostationary orbit is possible

- 

- 

- Satellites in inclined orbits:

- 

- Molniya series  $i=65$  deg,  $P=12$ h - provides communication services to the northern regions of Russia
- Military satellites
- Global Navigation Satellite Systems, e.g. GPS satellites,  $i=63$  deg,  $P=12$ h, 3 orbital planes oriented at 120 deg angles w.r.t. each other, 3 x 8 satellites, at least 6 satellites are visible from any point on earth at any given time.

- 

- 

- Satellites in polar orbits:

- 

- Tiros – N series (historical: 1960 – 1966)
- NOAA,  $P=102$  min, altitude about 800 km. Also provides SARSAT service

- 

- SARSAT service

- Based on utilization of Doppler shift and known satellite orbit

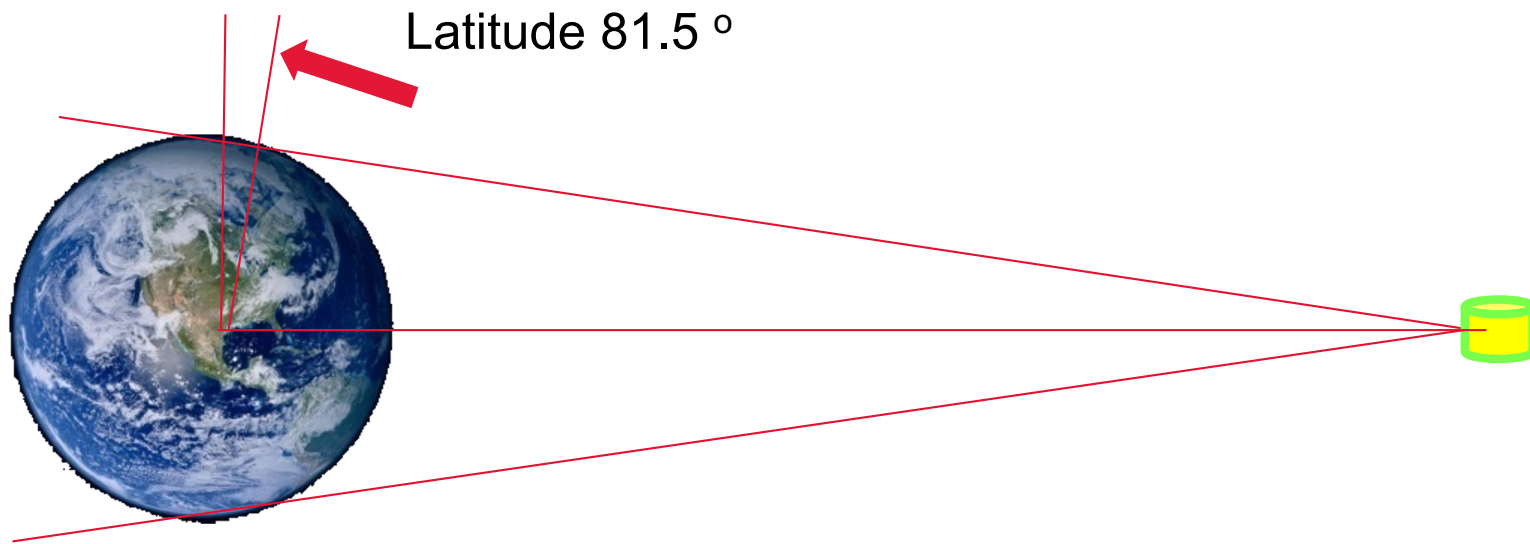
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- 

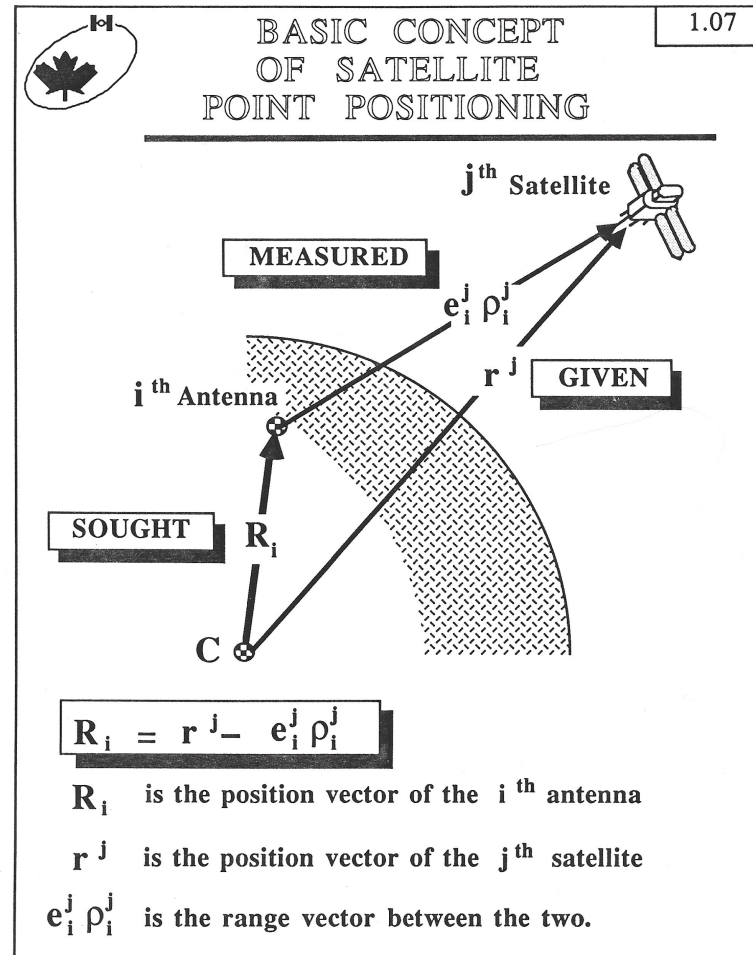
-

# Geostationary satellite

- .

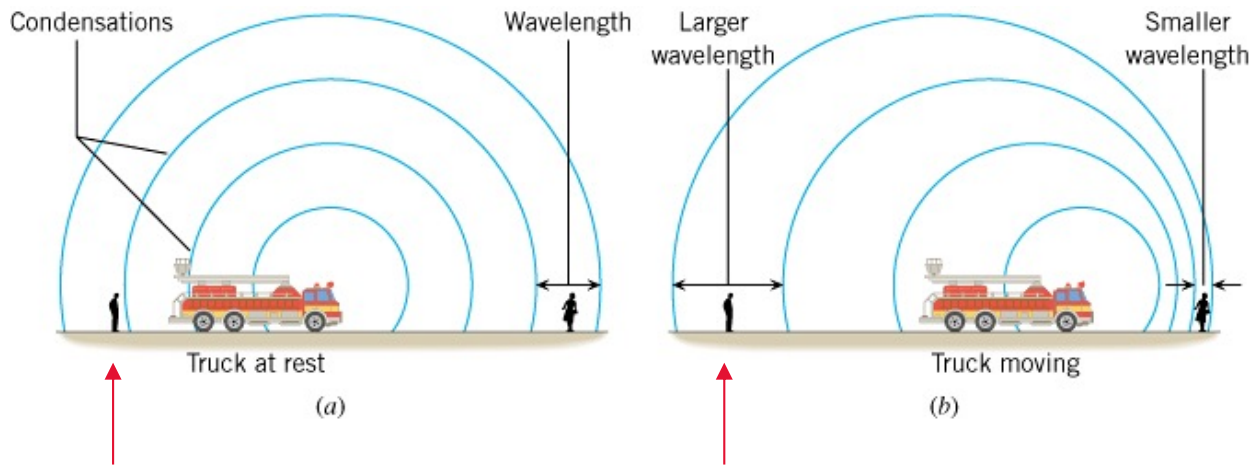


# Global Navigation Satellite Systems



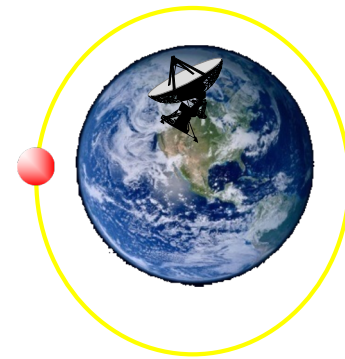
© Canadian GPS Associates, May 1987

# The Doppler Effect



$f_0$

$$f = f_0 \left( 1 - \frac{v}{c} \right)$$



$f, f_0$  : frequency  
 $v$  : velocity  
 $c$  : speed of light

Increasing frequency: **blueshift**  
 Decreasing frequency: **redshift**

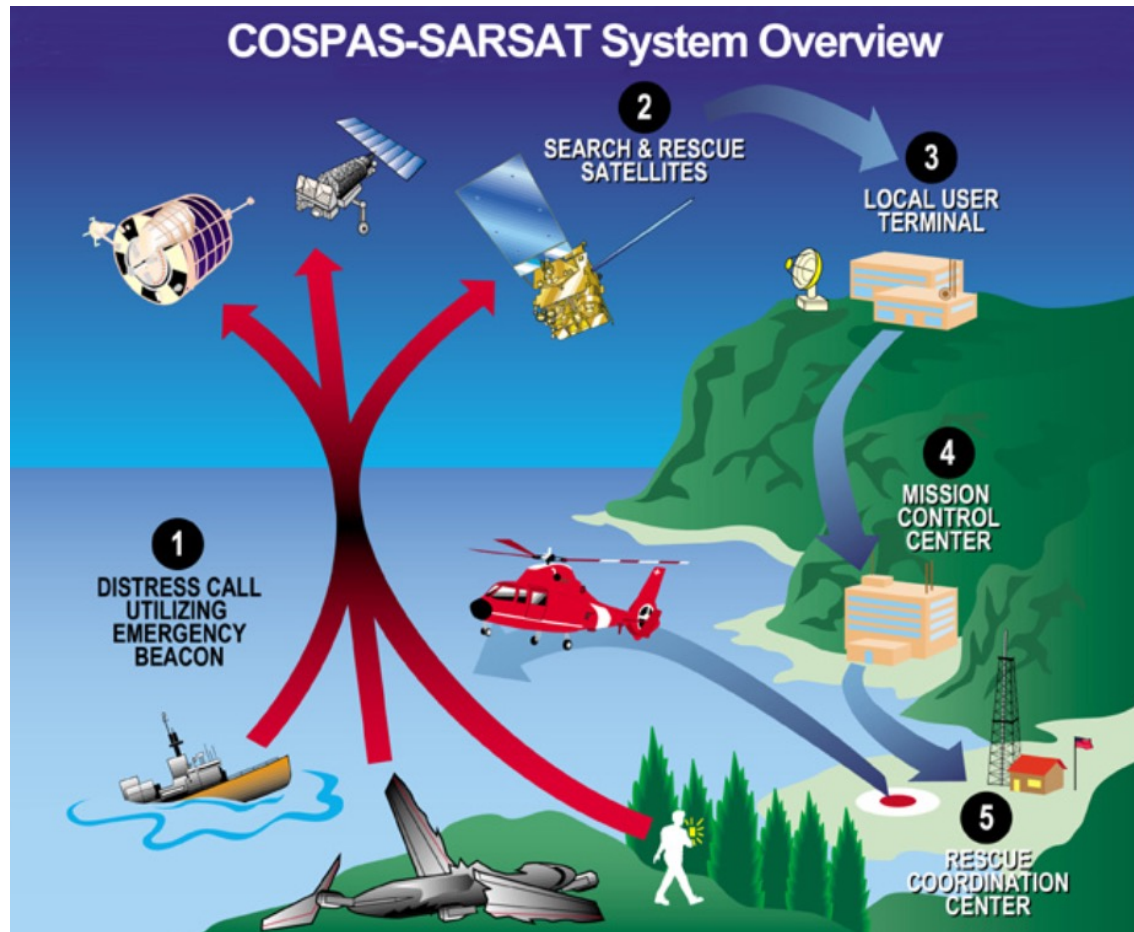
$$\Delta f = |f - f_0| = \frac{v}{c} f_0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{\Delta f}{f_0} = \frac{v}{c} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \Delta f = v / \lambda$$



# COSPAS-SARSAT

Search and Rescue satellite

Sponsored by Canada, France, Russia and US

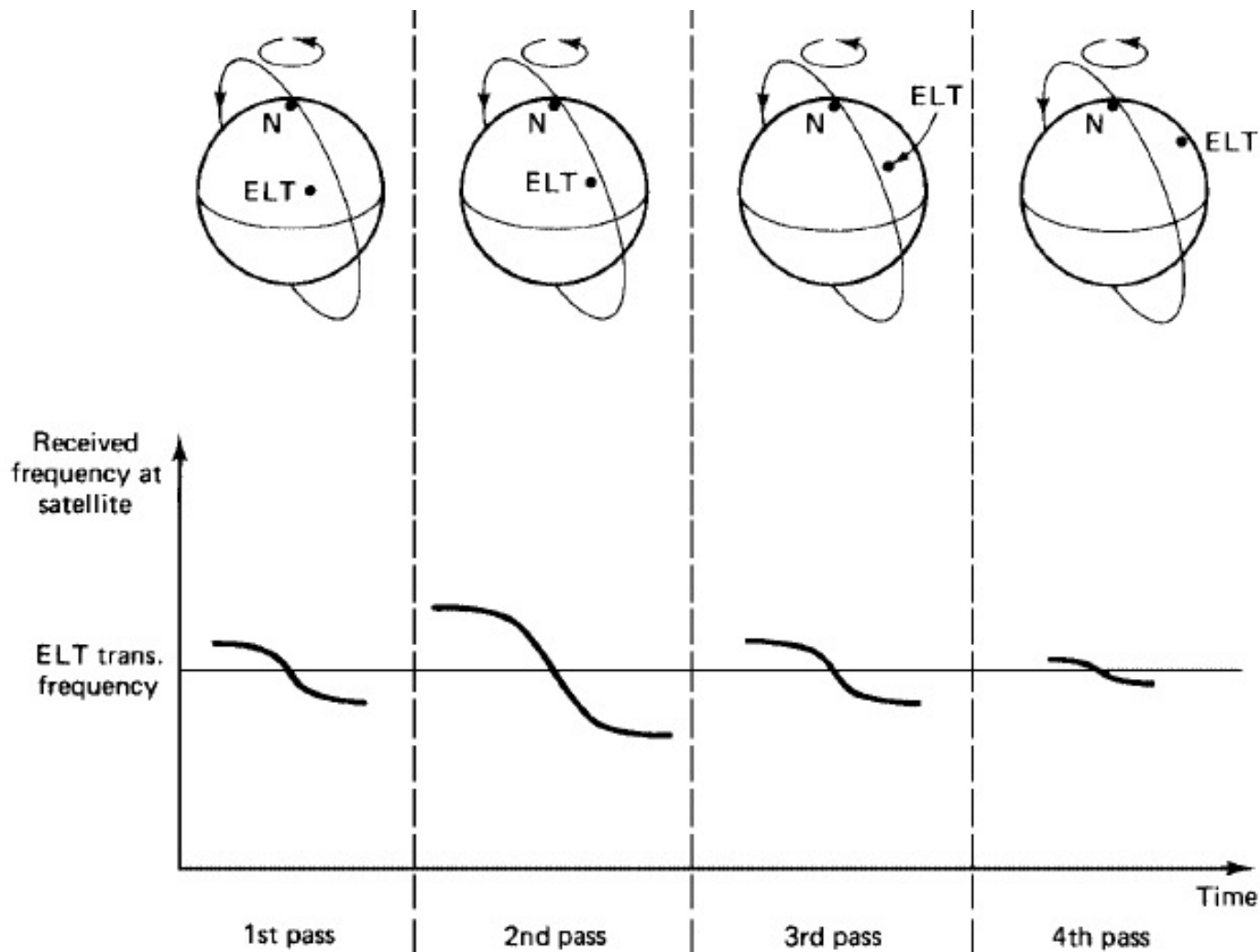


Emergency Locator Radio Beams

[http://www.equipped.com/cospas-sarsat\\_overview.htm](http://www.equipped.com/cospas-sarsat_overview.htm),

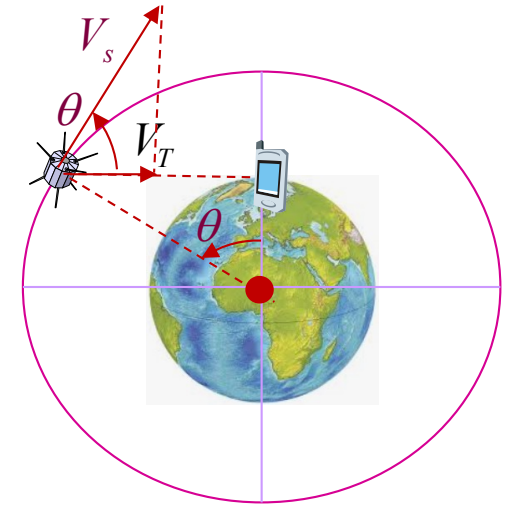
<https://www.sarsat.noaa.gov/>

# Location determination using Doppler processing



## Example 2-1

Q: A SARSAT satellite is in a LEO at height 1450 km and has an orbital velocity of  $v_s = 7.1358 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ . Below the orbit is an emergency locator from a person in distress transmitting at  $f_0 = 406 \text{ MHz}$ . The projected velocity is  $v_T$ . What is the frequency the satellite receives at the time corresponding to the sketch in the Figure. The radius of Earth = 6378.137 km.



A:

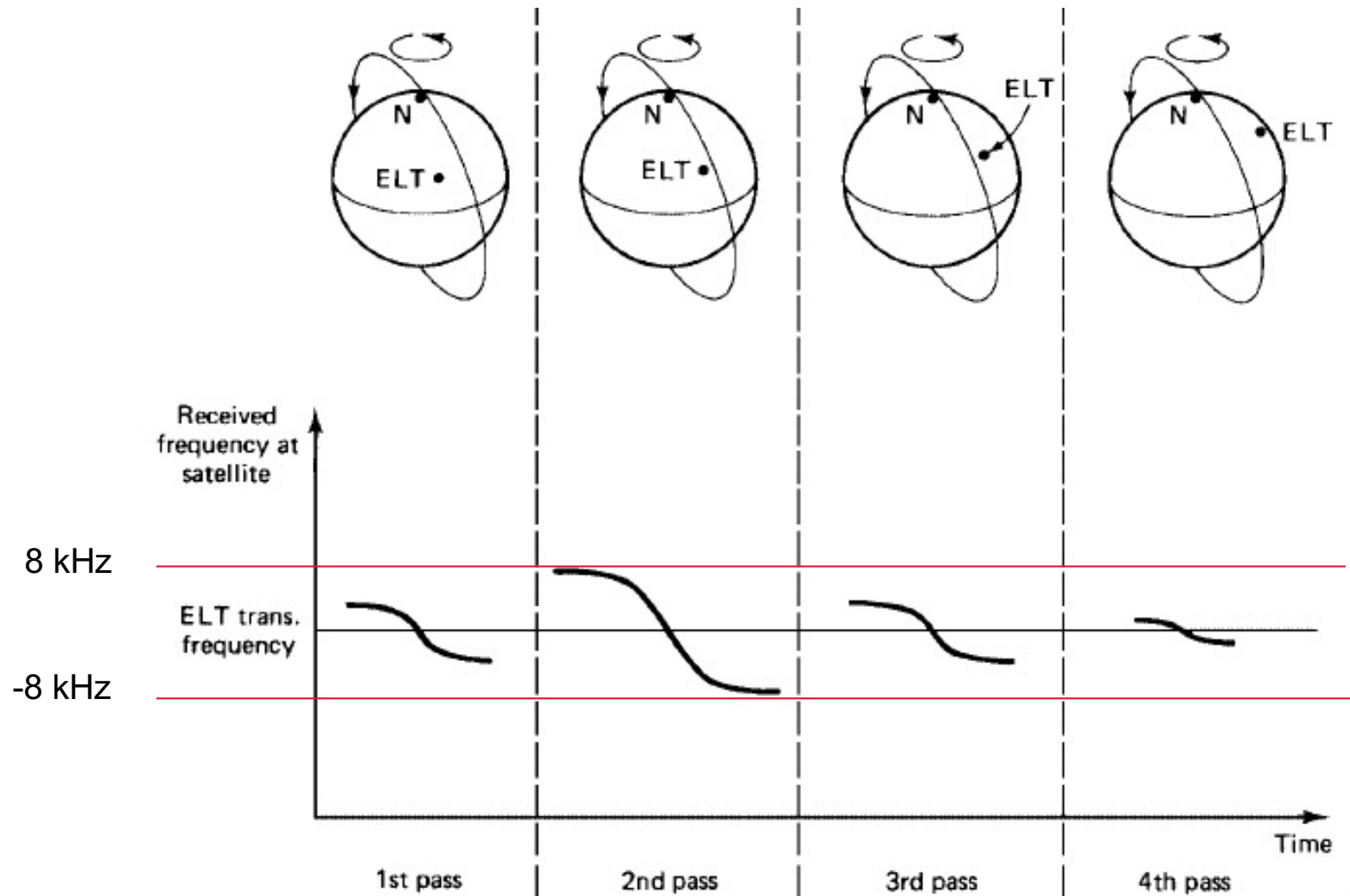
$$\begin{aligned} V_T &= V_s \cos \theta \\ &= 7.1358 \times \frac{6378.137}{6378.137 + 1450} \\ &= 5.8140 \text{ km s}^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\Delta f}{f_0} &= \frac{v}{c} = 5.8140 / (3.0 \times 10^5) \\ &= 0.00001938 \end{aligned}$$

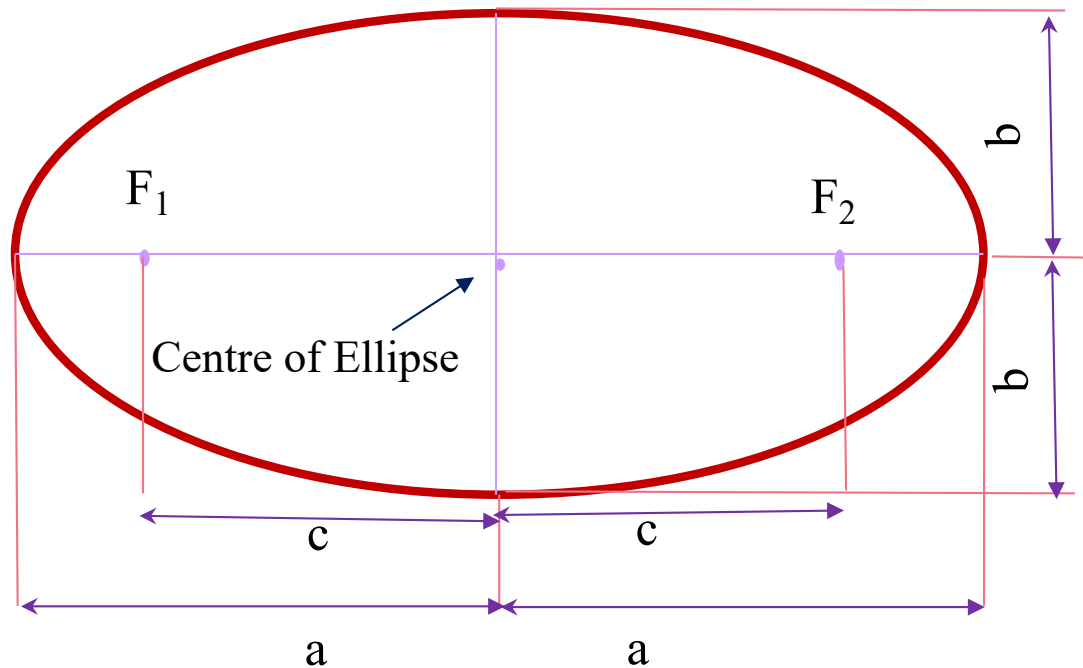


$$\Delta f = 7.868 \text{ kHz}$$

# Location determination using Doppler processing



# Ellipse



a: semimajor axis  
b: semiminor axis  
e: eccentricity

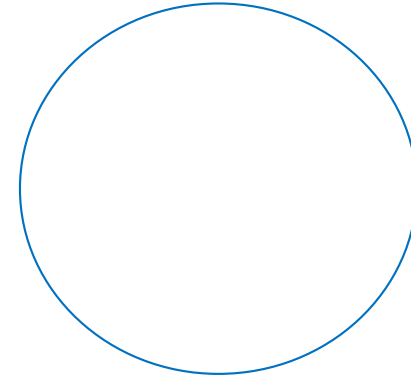
$$c^2 = a^2 - b^2$$

$$e = \frac{c}{a} = \frac{\sqrt{a^2 - b^2}}{a} = \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{b}{a}\right)^2}$$

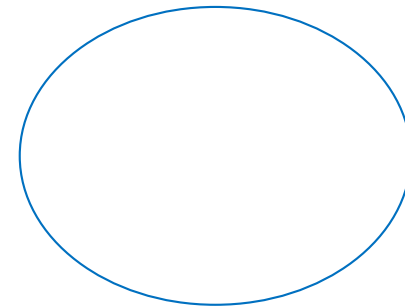
## Ellipses with different eccentricities

$$e = \frac{c}{a} = \frac{\sqrt{a^2 - b^2}}{a} = \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{b}{a}\right)^2}$$

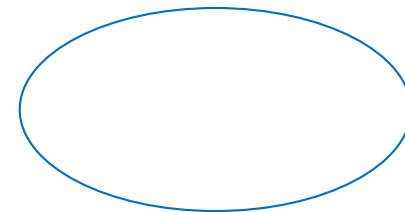
$$e = 0, \quad a = b$$



$$e = 0.5, \quad \left(\frac{b}{a}\right)^2 = 1 - 0.25 = 0.75, \quad \frac{b}{a} \approx 0.85$$



$$e = 0.8, \quad \left(\frac{b}{a}\right)^2 = 1 - 0.64 = 0.36, \quad \frac{b}{a} \approx 0.6$$



$$e = 1, \quad b = 0$$



# Johannes Kepler (1571-1630)

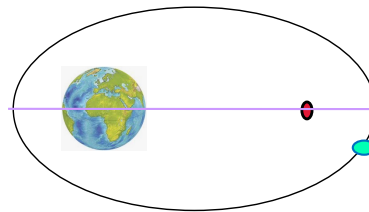


Wikipedia

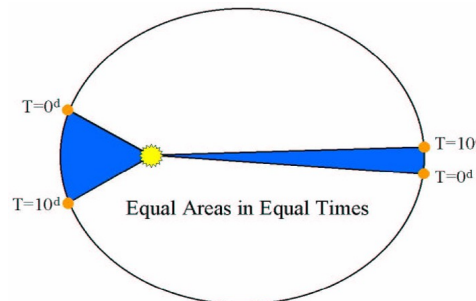
# Kepler's Laws

as applied to satellites

- **First Law:** The orbit of each satellite is an ellipse with the Earth at one focus.



- **Second Law:** A satellite moves in such a way that a line drawn from the Earth to the satellite sweeps out equal areas in equal intervals of time.



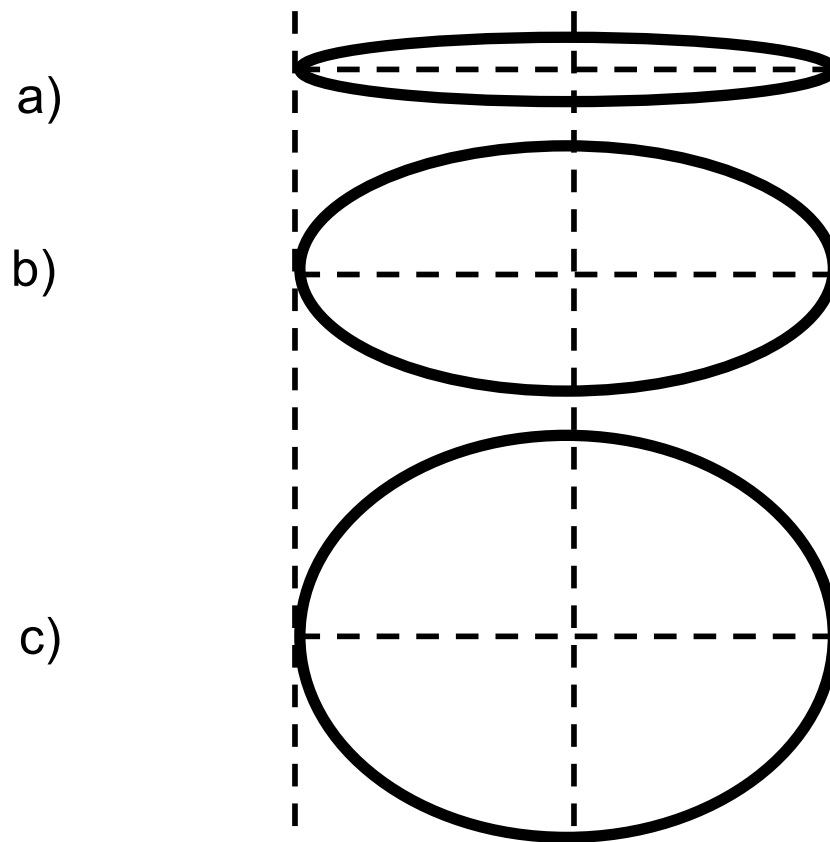
- **Third Law:** The square of the orbital period,  $P$ , of a satellite is directly proportional to the cube of the semimajor axis of the orbit

$$P^2 = ka^3 \quad k = \text{const}$$



## Example 2-2

- Q: The satellite on which orbit has the longest orbital period?



# Isaac Newton (1642-1727)



During the Great Plague of London, That began in 1665, Newton started his groundbreaking discoveries.

Wikipedia

# Newton's Universal Law of Gravitation

$$\vec{F} = G \frac{Mm}{r^2} \frac{\vec{r}}{r}$$

Gravitational constant  
 $G = 6.6726 \times 10^{-11} \text{ N m}^2 \text{ kg}^{-1}$

# Newton's 2<sup>nd</sup> Law of Motion

$$\vec{F} = m\ddot{\vec{r}}$$

# Weight and escape velocities

$$\vec{F} = G \frac{Mm}{r^2} \frac{\vec{r}}{r} \quad \rightarrow$$

Weight:  $W=mg$ ,  $g = G \frac{M}{r^2}$

$$M = 5.98 \cdot 10^{24} \text{ kg}$$

$$GM = 3.986005 \cdot 10^{14} \text{ m}^3 \text{ s}^{-2}$$

$$= 3.986005 \cdot 10^5 \text{ km}^3 \text{ s}^{-2}$$

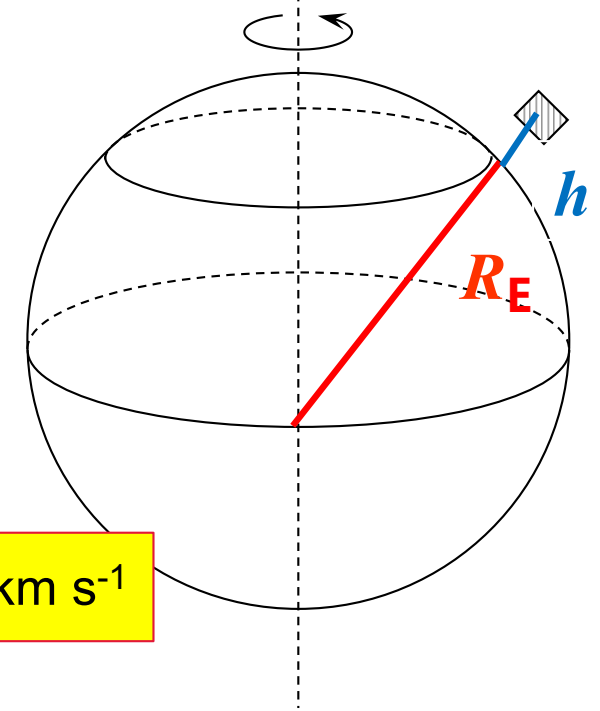
$$R_e = 6.37814 \cdot 10^3 \text{ km (at equator)}$$

$$g = 9.81 \text{ m s}^{-2} \text{ for Earth surface}$$

$$F_c = \frac{mv^2}{r} \text{ (centrifugal force)}$$

$$F_g = \frac{GMm}{r^2} \text{ (gravitational force)}$$

$$F_c = F_g \quad \rightarrow \text{orbital velocity} \quad v^2 = \frac{GM}{r}$$



Orbital velocity around Earth at  $r=R_E$ :  $v_{\text{orb}} = \left(\frac{GM}{R_e}\right)^{1/2} = 7.905 \text{ km s}^{-1}$

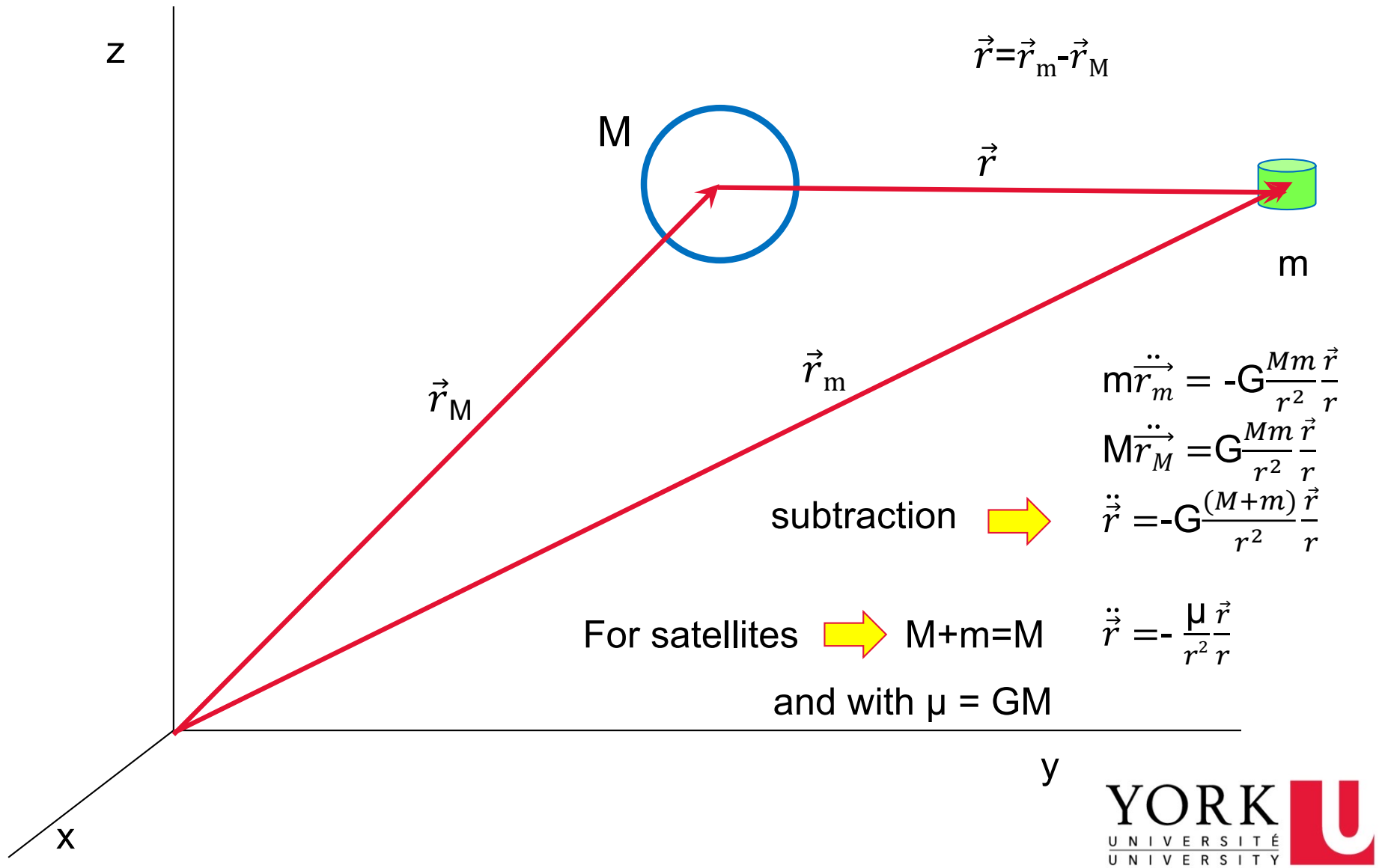
$$(E_{\text{kin}} + E_{\text{pot}})_{\text{init}} = (E_{\text{kin}} + E_{\text{pot}})_{\text{fin}}$$

$$\frac{mv^2}{2} - \frac{GMm}{r} = 0 + 0$$

Escape velocity from Earth:

$$v_{\text{esc}} = \left(\frac{2GM}{R_e}\right)^{1/2} = 11.180 \text{ km s}^{-1}$$

# Two-body problem



This is a fundamental differential equation used in the study of artificial satellites.

- It is a 2<sup>nd</sup> order vector linear differential equation.
- The solution will involve 6 constants, 2 for each coordinate
- The constants are called ***orbital elements of Keplerian elements or Keplerian orbital elements***

# Characteristics of the solution

$$\vec{r} \times \dot{\vec{v}} = -\frac{\mu}{r^3}(\vec{r} \times \vec{r}) \quad \Rightarrow = 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt}(\vec{r} \times \dot{\vec{v}}) &= \dot{\vec{r}} \times \dot{\vec{v}} + \vec{r} \times \ddot{\vec{v}} \\ &= \dot{\vec{r}} \times \dot{\vec{v}} + \vec{r} \times \dot{\vec{r}} \quad \Rightarrow = 0 + 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\vec{r} \times \dot{\vec{v}} = \vec{h} = \text{constant vector} \quad \Rightarrow \vec{h} \perp \text{ to } \vec{r} \text{ and } \dot{\vec{v}}$$

Taking the scalar product of both sides with  $\vec{r}$ , we get:

$$(\vec{r} \times \dot{\vec{v}}) \cdot \vec{r} \quad \Rightarrow = 0$$

since  $\vec{r} \times \dot{\vec{v}}$  is perpendicular to  $\vec{r}$  and since the scalar product of two perpendicular vectors = 0

$$\Rightarrow \vec{h} \cdot \vec{r} = 0$$

# Conclusion

All the motion takes place:

- In a plane that is swept out by  $\vec{r}$
- Through the origin
- Perpendicular to  $\vec{h}$



Problem of motion in 3 dimensions reduces to a 2-dimensional problem of motion (motion in a plane) and to the problem of orienting the plane in space.



# Keplerian elements

The position of a satellite in space is given at any time by a set of six Keplerian elements:

## Shape of the ellipse

**a:** semimajor axis

**e:** eccentricity

## Timetable with which the satellite orbits Earth

**$\nu$**  : true anomaly at epoch, defines where the satellite is within the orbit with respect to the perigee. There are two other anomalies,  $M$ , mean anomaly and  $E$ , eccentric anomaly. For circular orbit  $\Rightarrow M=\nu$ .

## Orientation of the ellipse in the orbital plane

**$\omega$** : argument of perigee, i.e., the geocentric angle measured from the ascending node to the perigee in the orbital plane in the direction of the satellite's motion.

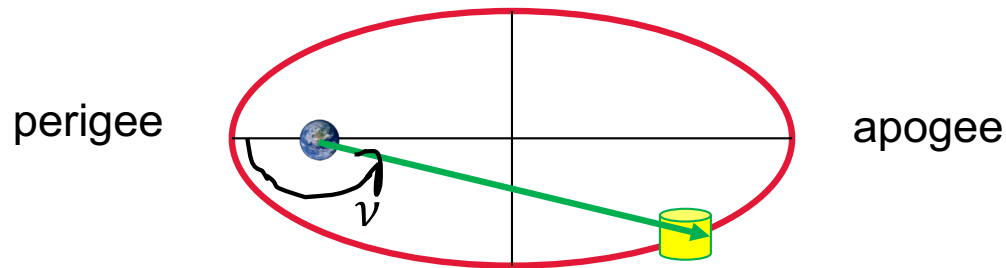
## Orientation of the orbital plane in space

**$i$** : inclination of the orbital ellipse. It is the angle measured from the equatorial plane to the orbital plane at the ascending node going from east to north.

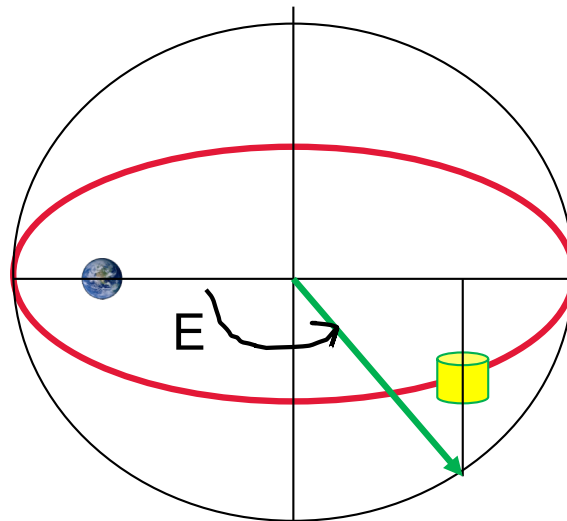
**$\Omega$** : right ascension (RA) of the ascending node, i.e., the geocentric angle measured from the vernal equinox to the ascending node in the equatorial plane eastward.

# Three anomalies

- **$\nu$** : true anomaly: geocentric angle measured from perigee to the satellite in the orbital plane in the direction of the satellite's motion.

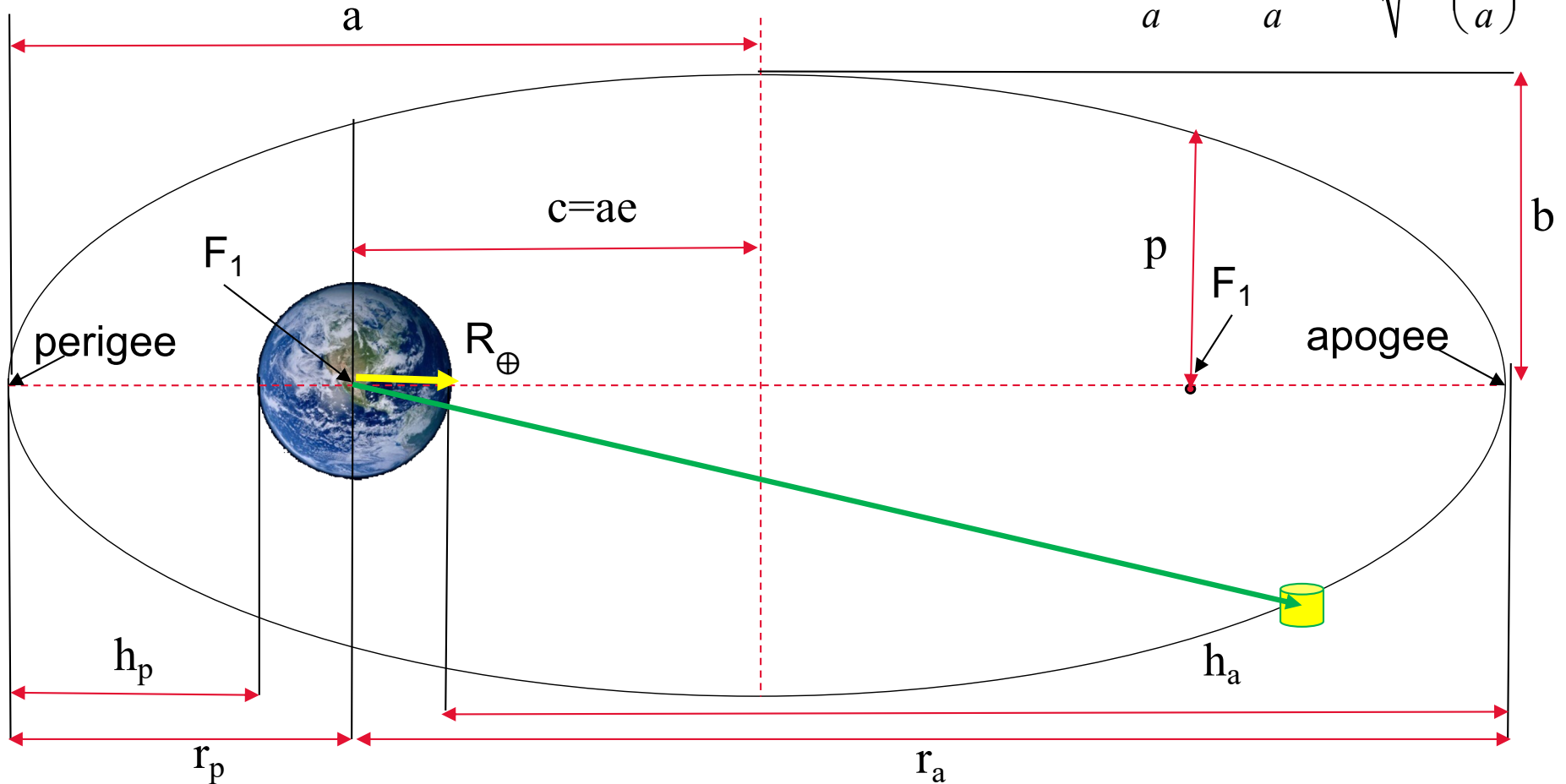


- **$M$** : mean anomaly:  $M = n(t - t_p)$ ;  $n$ : mean motion,  $t_p$ : time of perigee crossing
- **$E$** : Eccentric anomaly: angle measured at the orbit center from perigee to the satellite's projection on a circle with radius  $a$



# Graphical description of the ellipse

$$e = \frac{c}{a} = \frac{\sqrt{a^2 - b^2}}{a} = \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{b}{a}\right)^2}$$



$$h_a = r_a - R_{\oplus} \quad \text{apogee height}$$

$$h_p = r_p - R_{\oplus} \quad \text{perigee height}$$

$$r_a = a(1+e) \quad \text{length of radius vector to apogee}$$

$$r_p = a(1-e) \quad \text{length of radius vector to perigee}$$

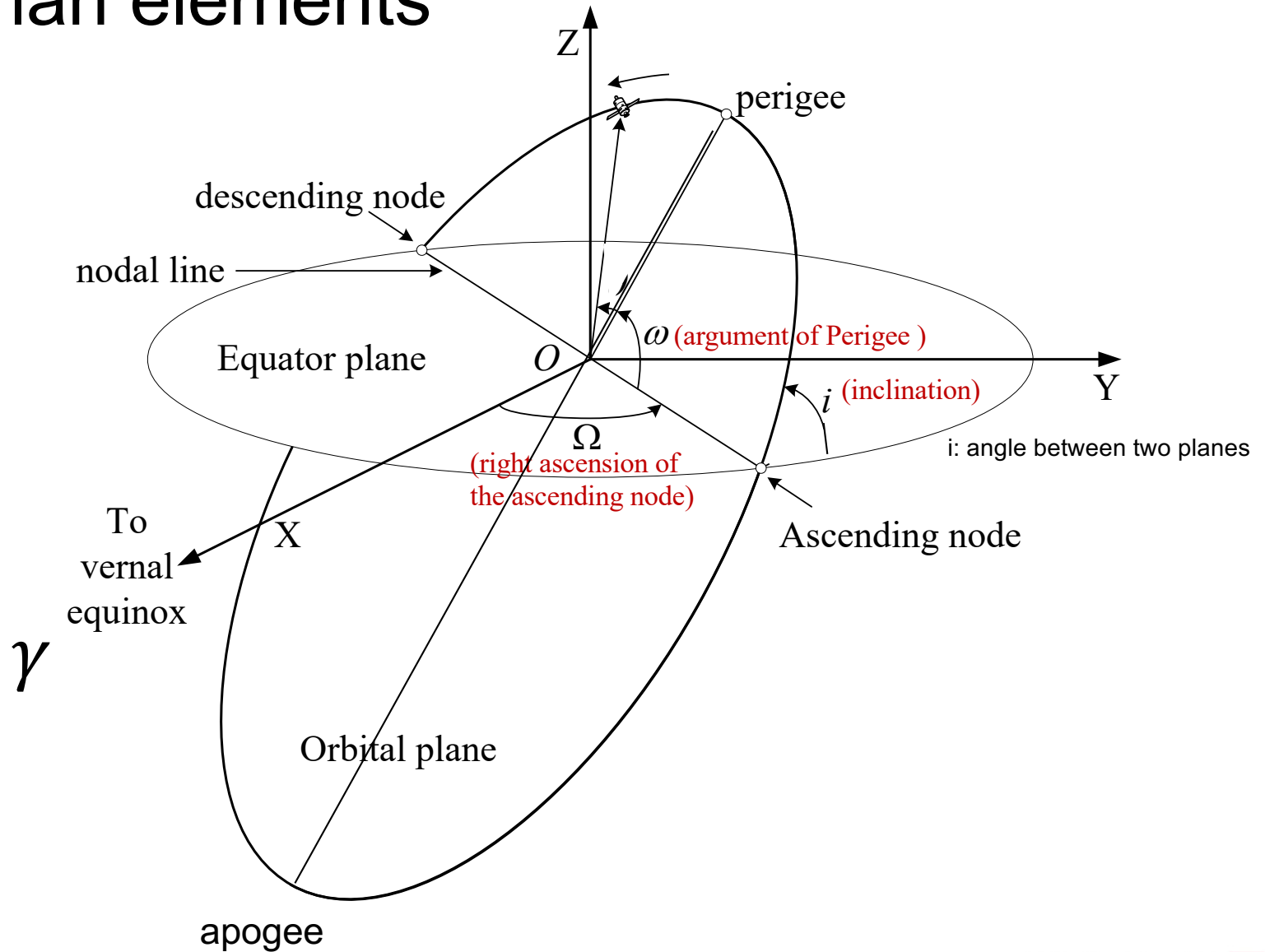
$$r = \frac{a(1-e^2)}{1+e \cos \nu}$$

polar equation of the ellipse

$$p = a(1 - e^2)$$

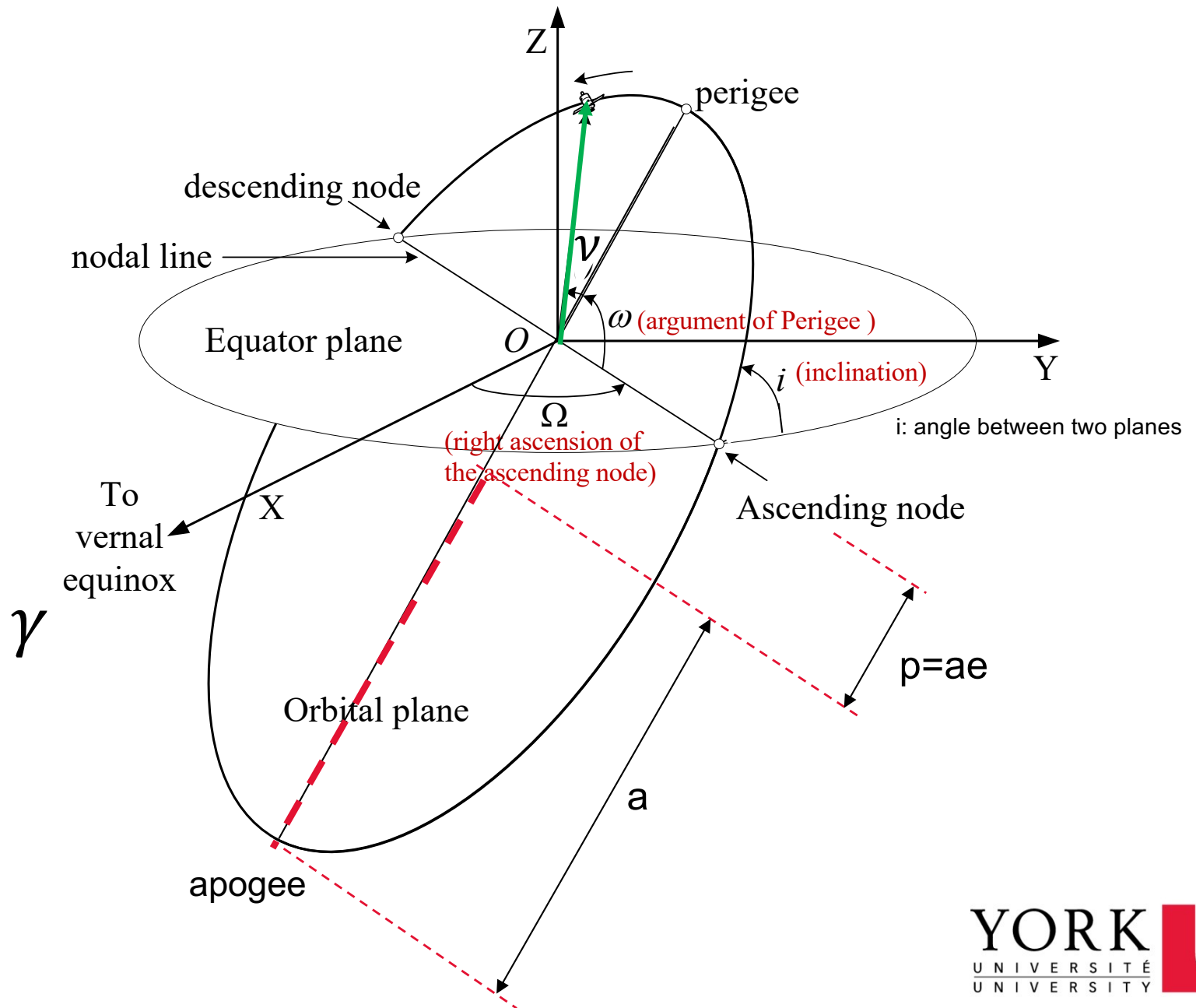
semilatus rectum

# Keplerian elements



# Keplerian elements

$a, e, \nu, i, \Omega, \omega$



# Other parameters used instead of “a”

- **P**: orbital period

$$v^2 = r^2 \omega^2$$

$$G \frac{Mm}{r^2} = ma_c = m \left( \frac{v^2}{r} \right) = mr\omega^2$$

$a_c$  : acceleration in this case

$$G \frac{M}{r^3} = \omega^2 = \left( \frac{2\pi}{P} \right)^2 \quad \frac{P^2}{r^3} = \frac{4\pi^2}{GM}$$

$$P^2 = \frac{4\pi^2}{GM} a^3$$

$r=a$  (semimajor axis length)

- **n**: mean motion

$$n = \frac{2\pi}{P} = \sqrt{\frac{GM}{a^3}} = \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{a^3}}$$

## Example 2-2

Q: What is the period,  $P$ , velocity,  $v$ , and mean motion,  $n$ , of a geostationary satellite with a distance from the center of Earth of  $r=42164.17$  km?

$$r=a$$

$$P^2 = \frac{4\pi^2}{GM} a^3 \quad P = \left( \frac{4\pi^2}{3.986005 \cdot 10^{14}} 4.216417 \cdot 10^7 \right)^{1/2} = 86164.01 \text{ s}$$

$$P = 23\text{h } 56\text{m } 04.0\text{s}$$

$$v^2 = \frac{GM}{a} \quad v = \left( \frac{3.986005 \cdot 10^{14}}{4.216417 \cdot 10^7} \right)^{1/2} = 3.07466 \text{ km s}^{-1}$$

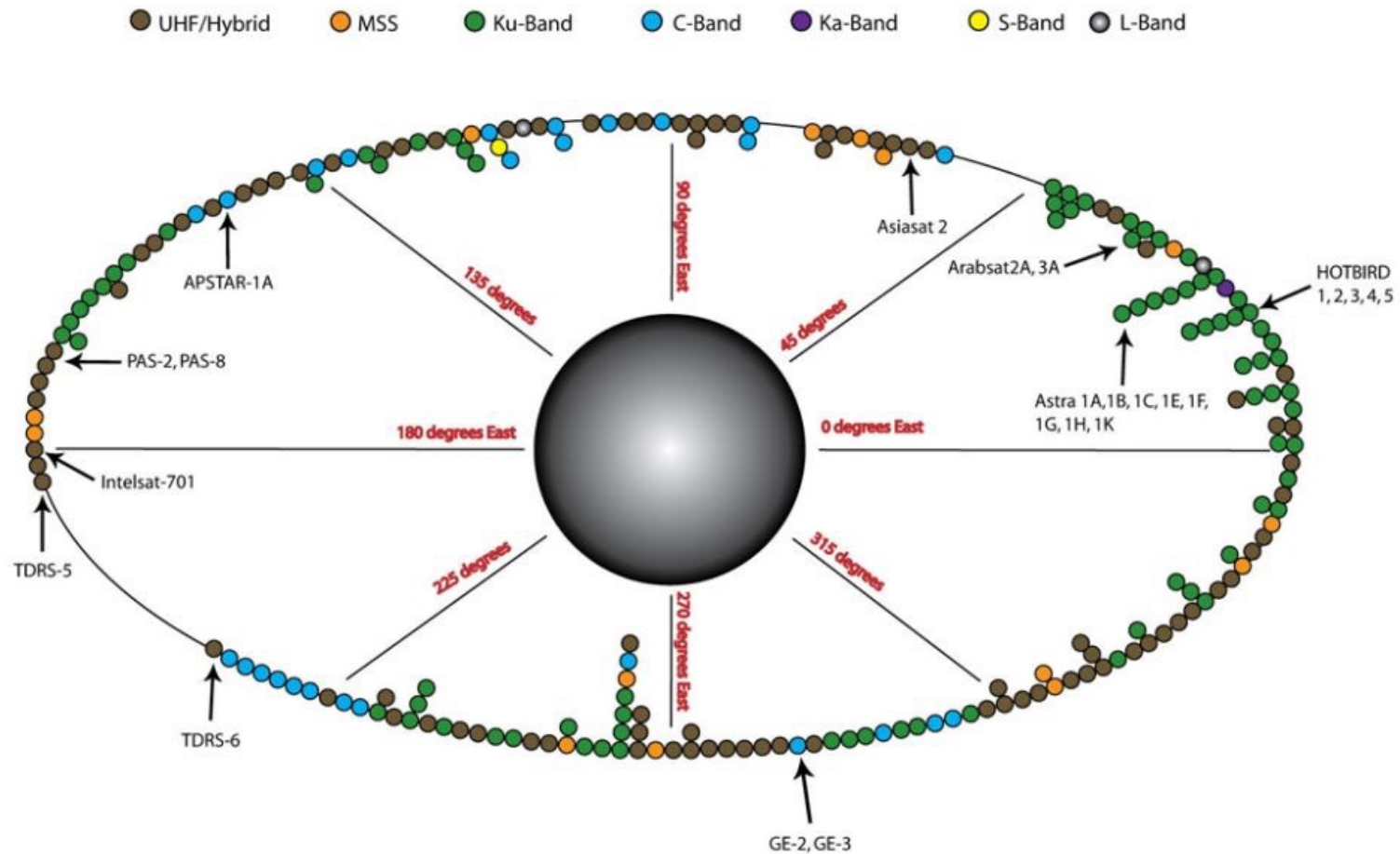
$$n = \frac{2\pi}{P} \quad n = \frac{2\pi}{86164.01} = 7.9212245 \cdot 10^{-5} \text{ rad s}^{-1}$$

$$n = \frac{1}{P} \quad n = \frac{1}{86164.01} = 1.1605773 \cdot 10^{-5} \text{ revolutions s}^{-1}$$

$$= 1.0027388 \text{ revolutions d}^{-1}$$

# Geostationary satellites on their orbit

present number ~400

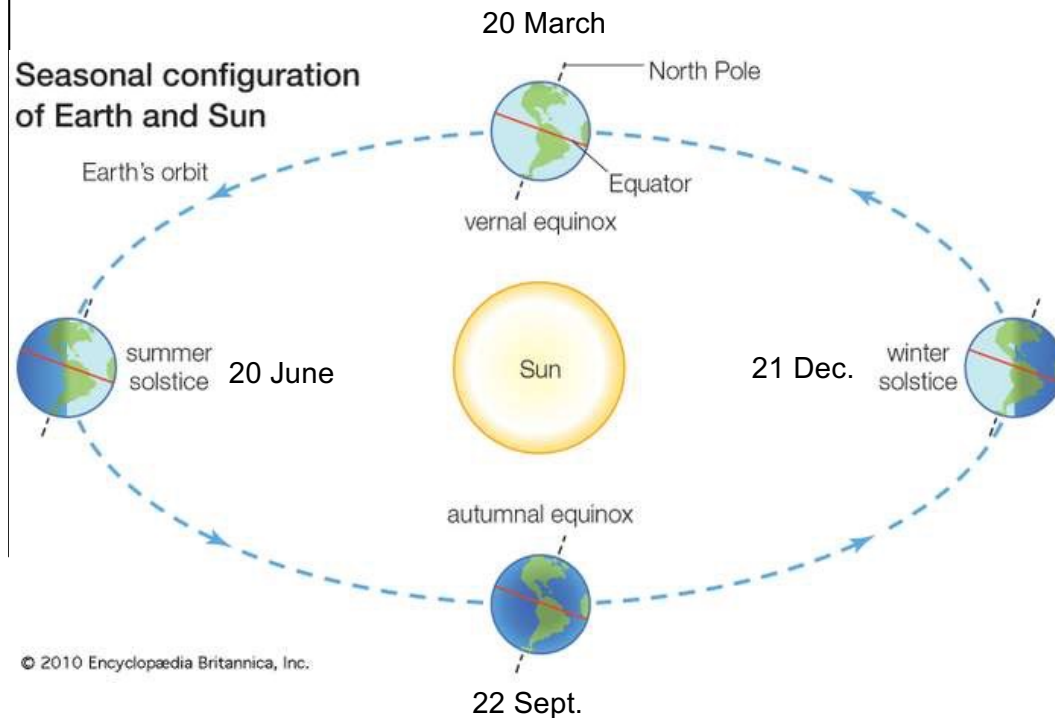


Space.com



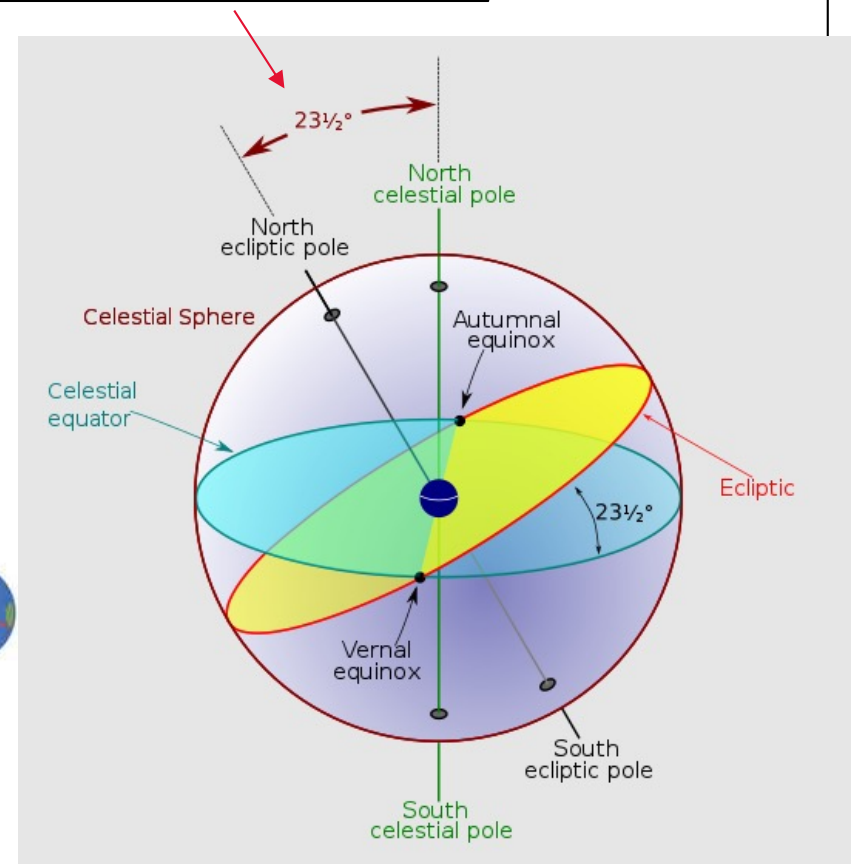
# Vernal equinox or First point of aries ( $\gamma$ )

Position on the sky where the Sun crosses the celestial equator to higher declinations

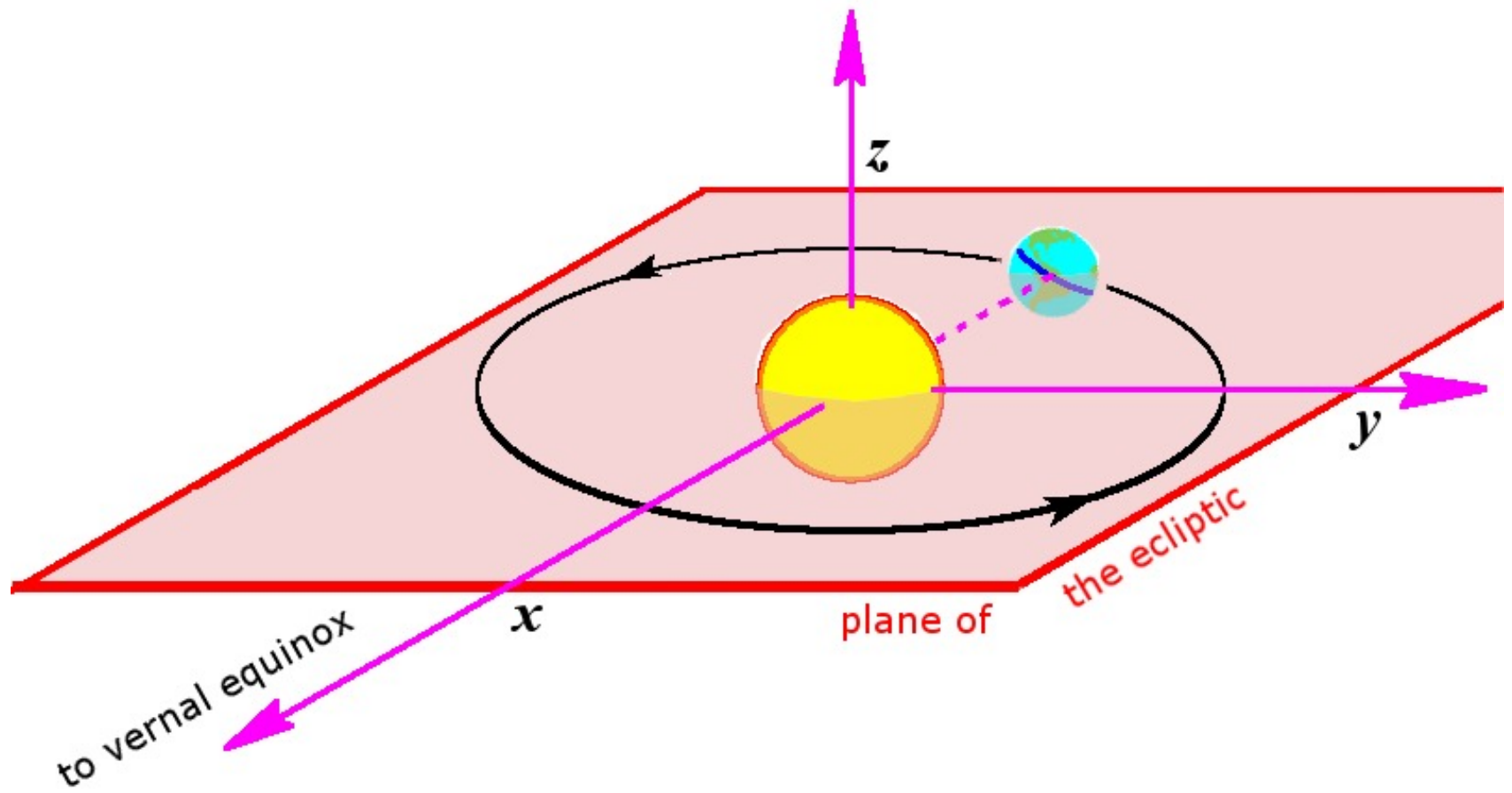


Seen from outside Sun and Earth

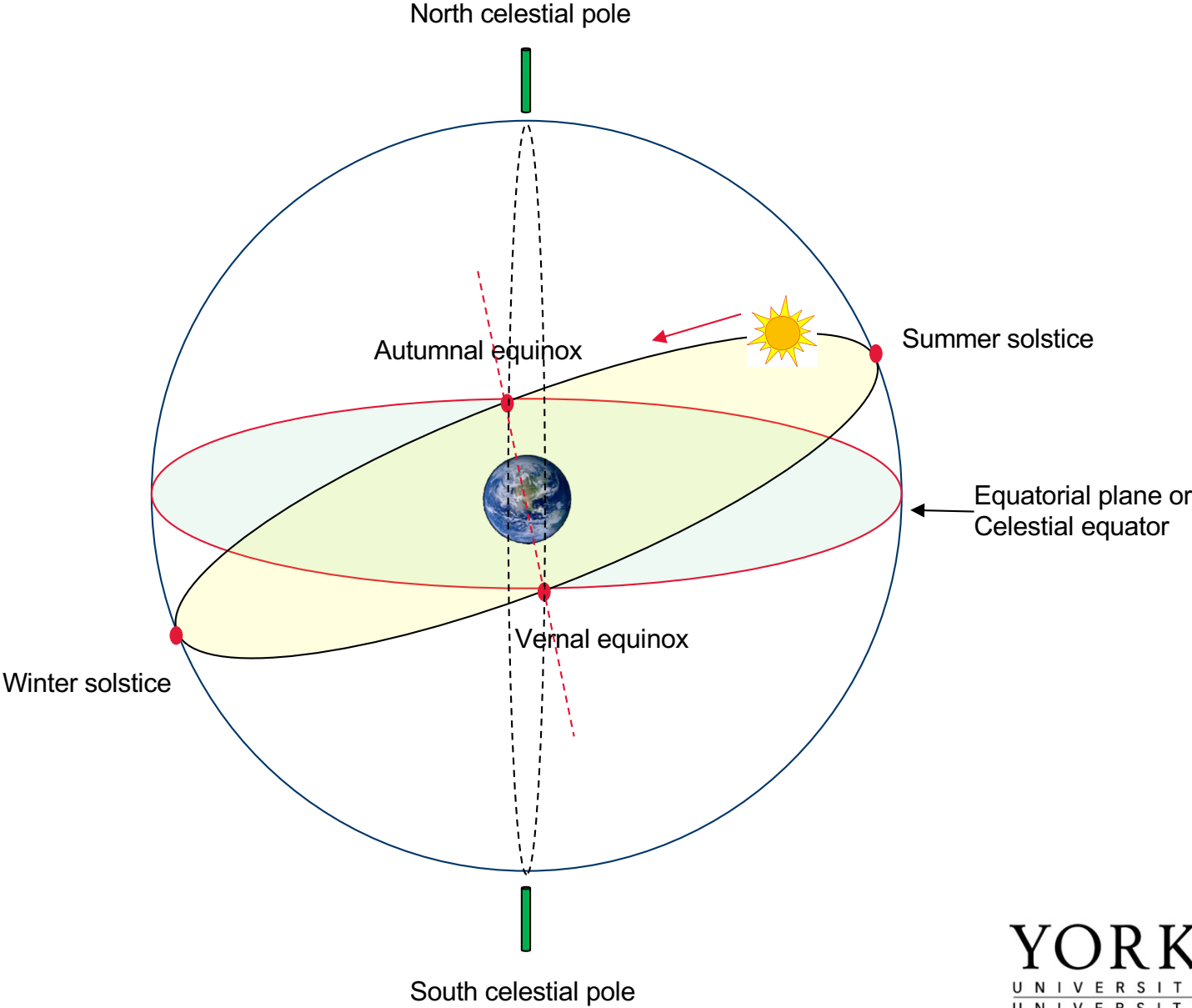
Obliquity of the ecliptic:  $23.5^\circ$



Seen from Earth

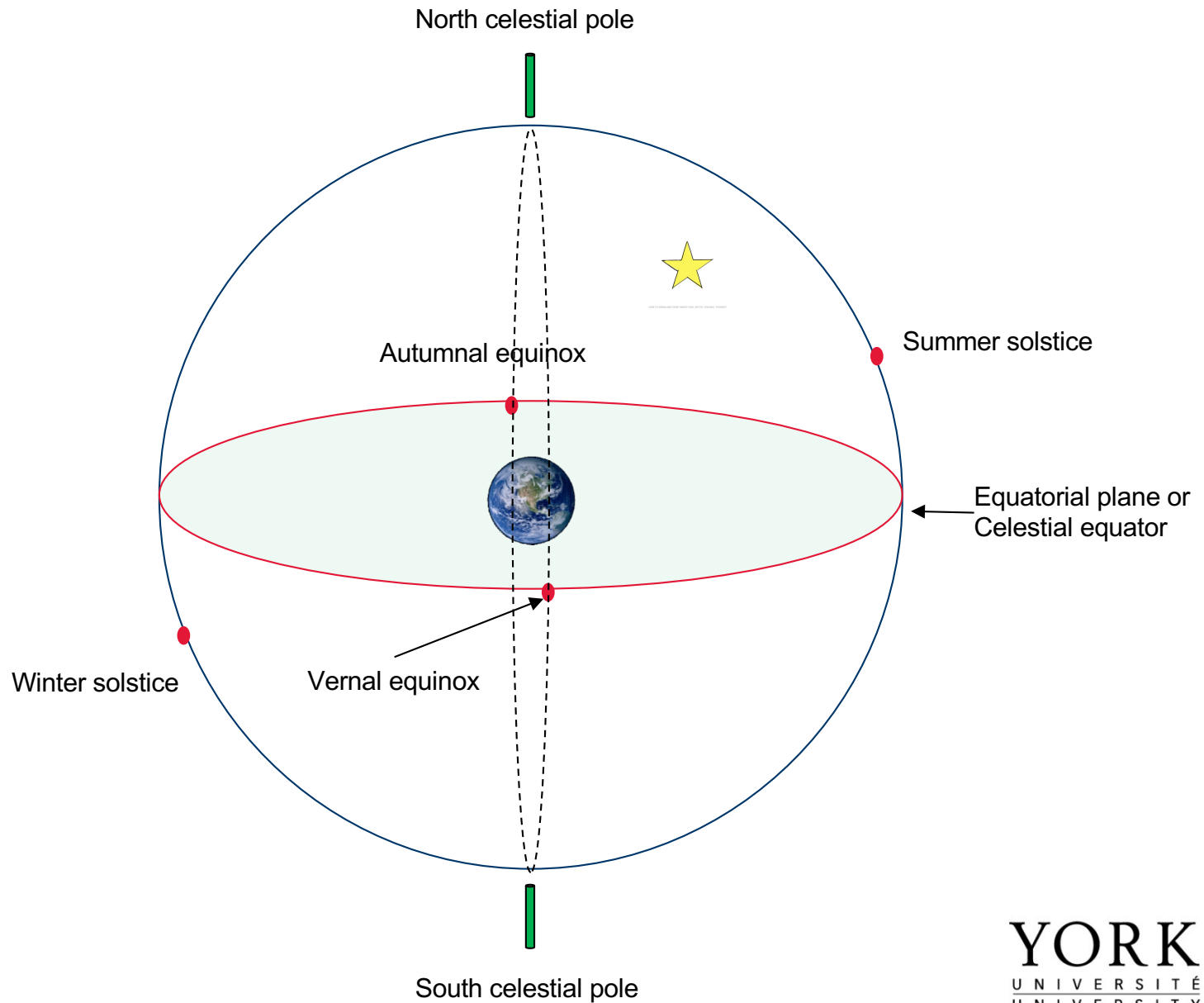


# Celestial sphere



# Geocentric equatorial coordinate system

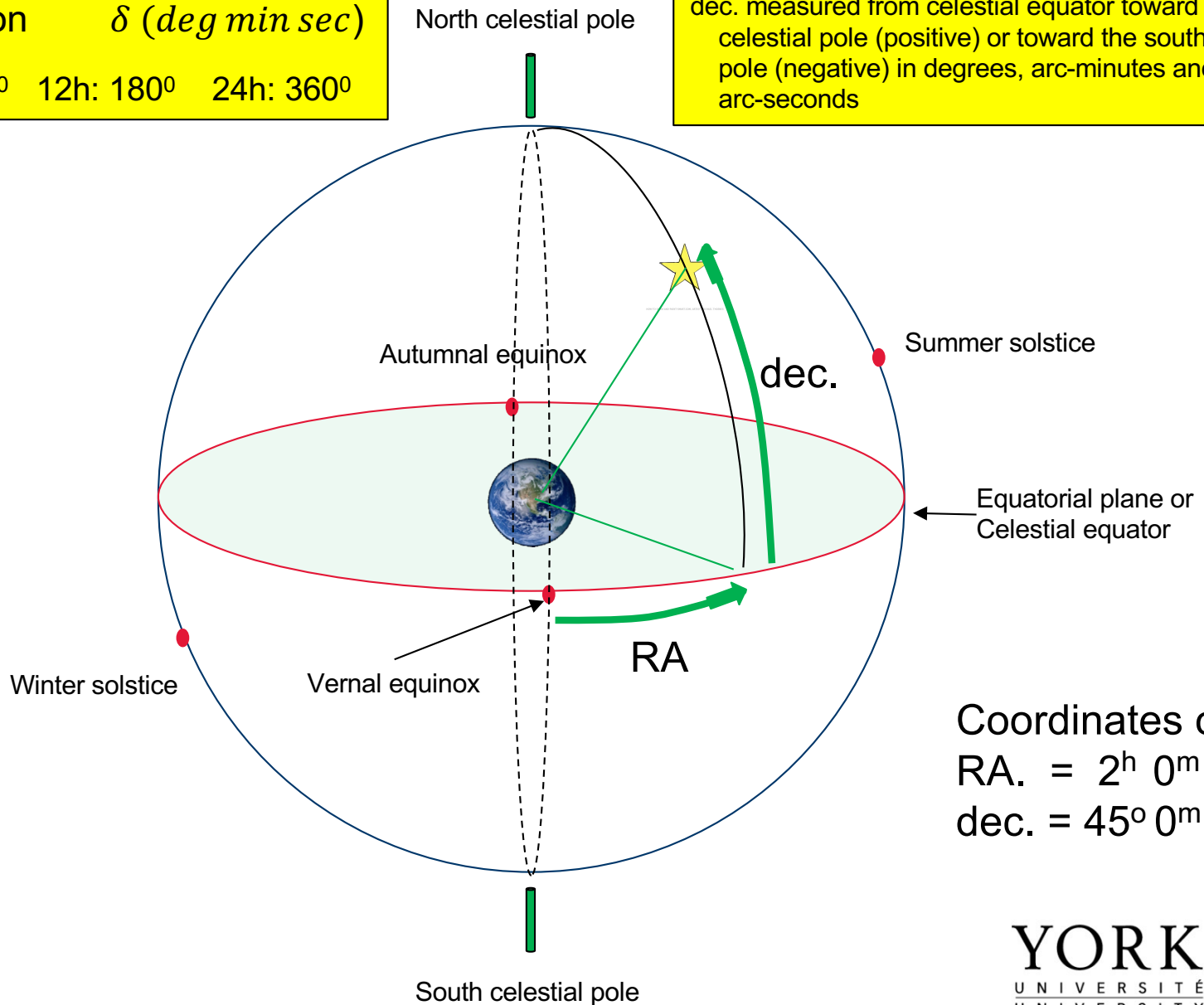
what are the coordinates of the star?



# Geocentric equatorial coordinate system

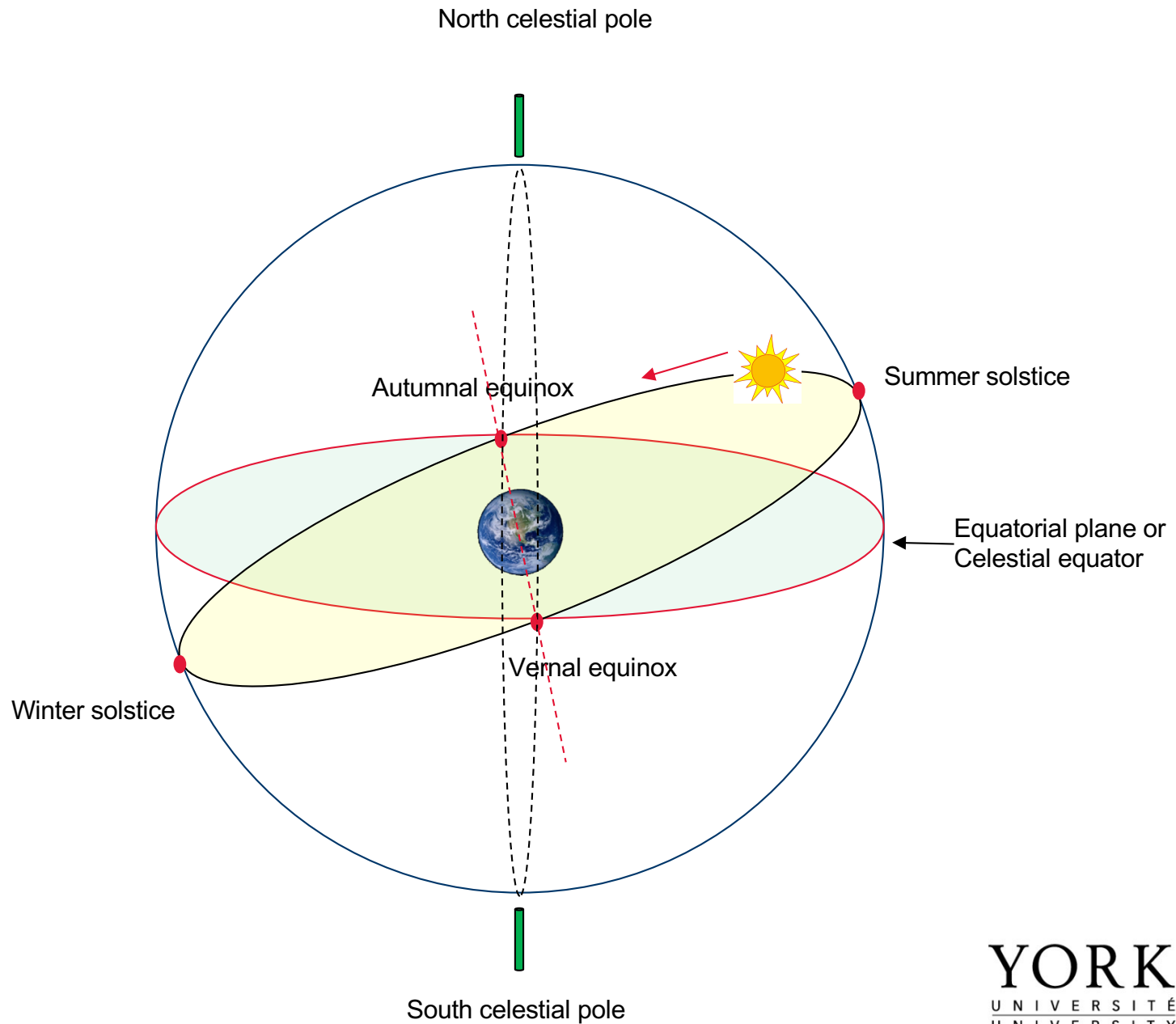
RA: right ascension  $\alpha$  (*hh mm ss.s*)  
 dec.: declination  $\delta$  (*deg min sec*)  
 1h : 15<sup>0</sup>   6h: 90<sup>0</sup>   12h: 180<sup>0</sup>   24h: 360<sup>0</sup>

RA: measured eastward along the celestial equator  
 in hours , minute, seconds  
 dec. measured from celestial equator toward the north  
 celestial pole (positive) or toward the south  
 celestial pole (negative) in degrees, arc-minutes and  
 arc-seconds

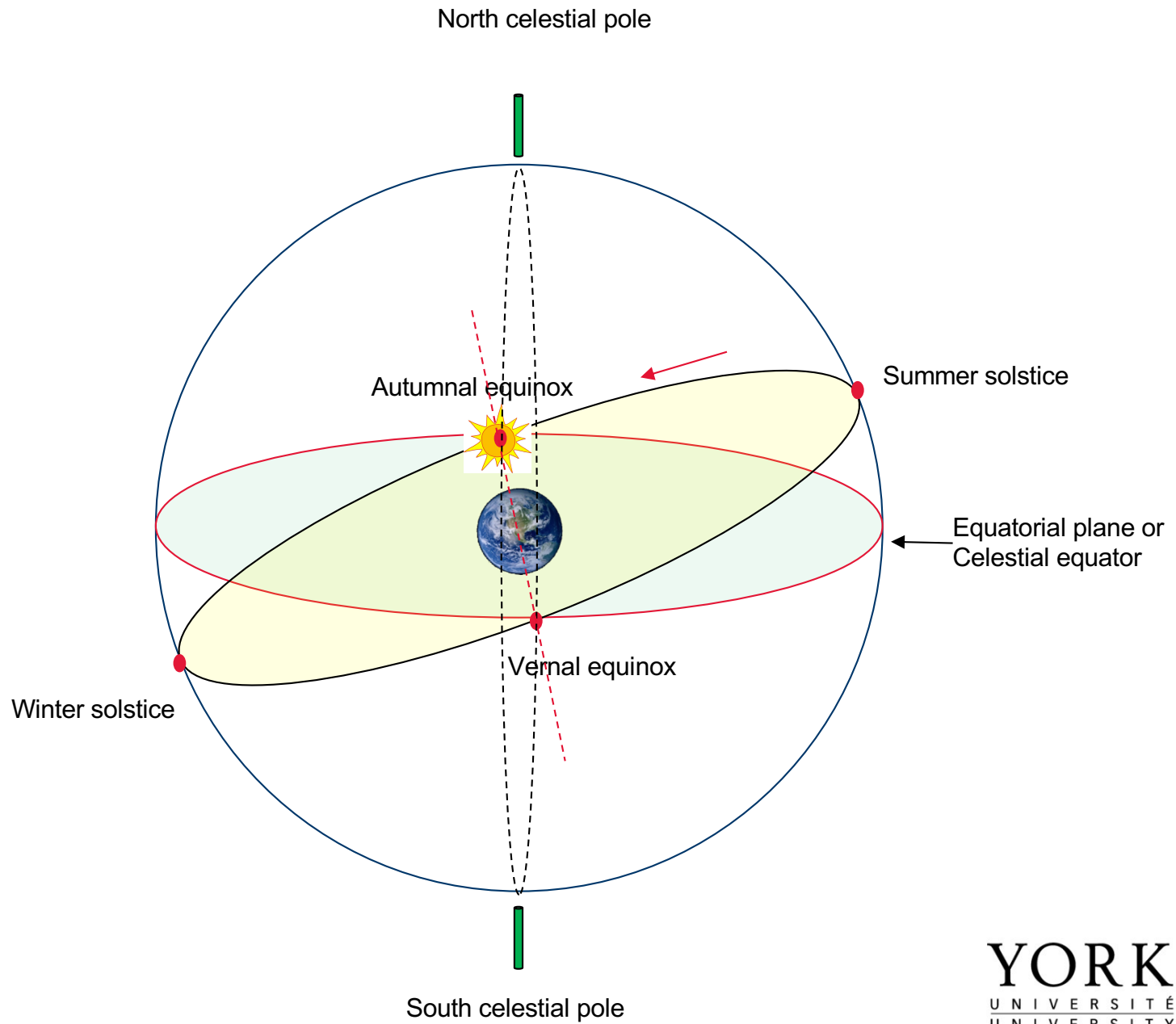


Coordinates of star:  
 RA. = 2<sup>h</sup> 0<sup>m</sup> 0<sup>s</sup>.000  
 dec. = 45<sup>o</sup> 0<sup>m</sup> 0<sup>s</sup>.000

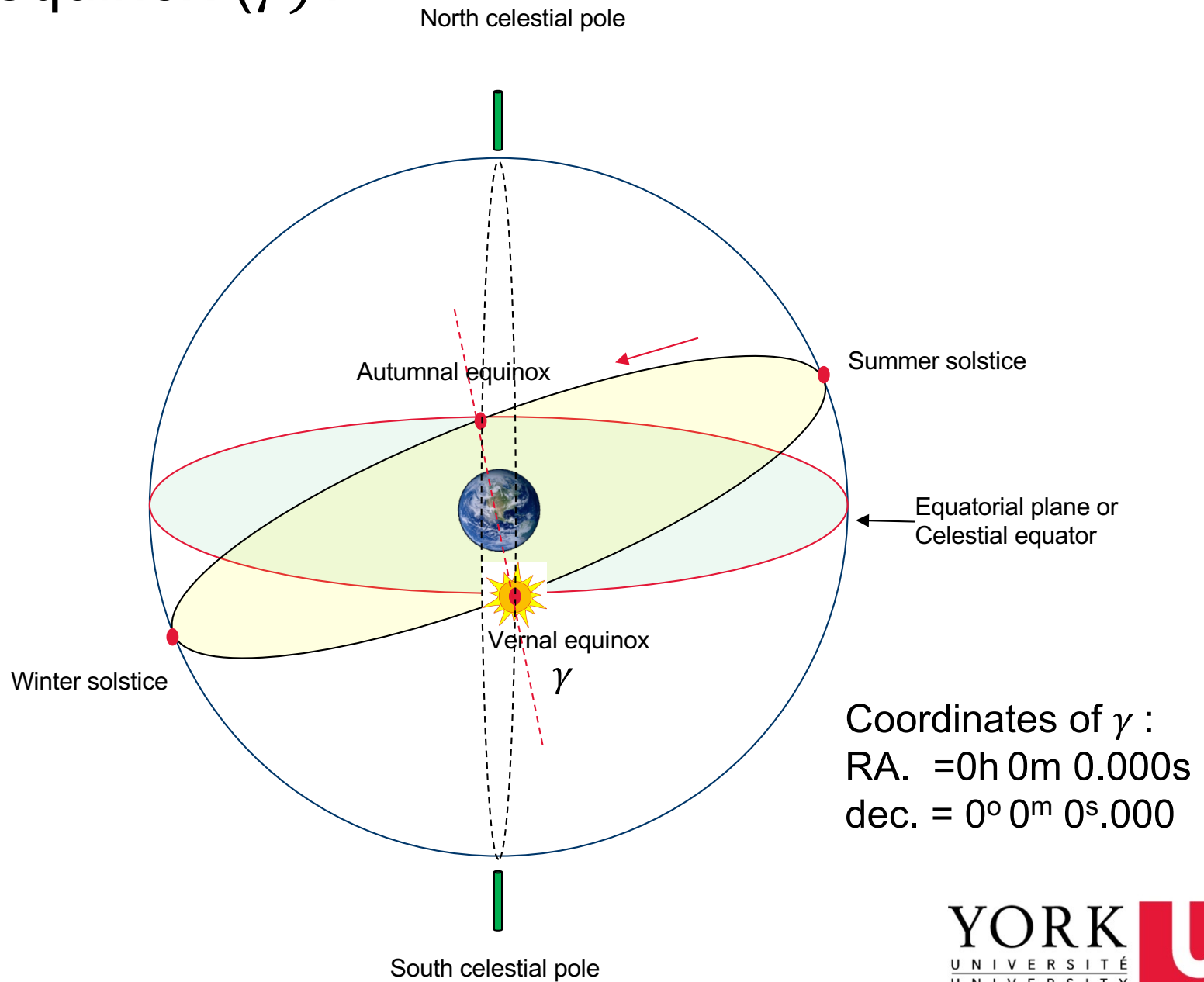
# What are RA and dec. of Sun in sketch?



# Where is the Sun today?



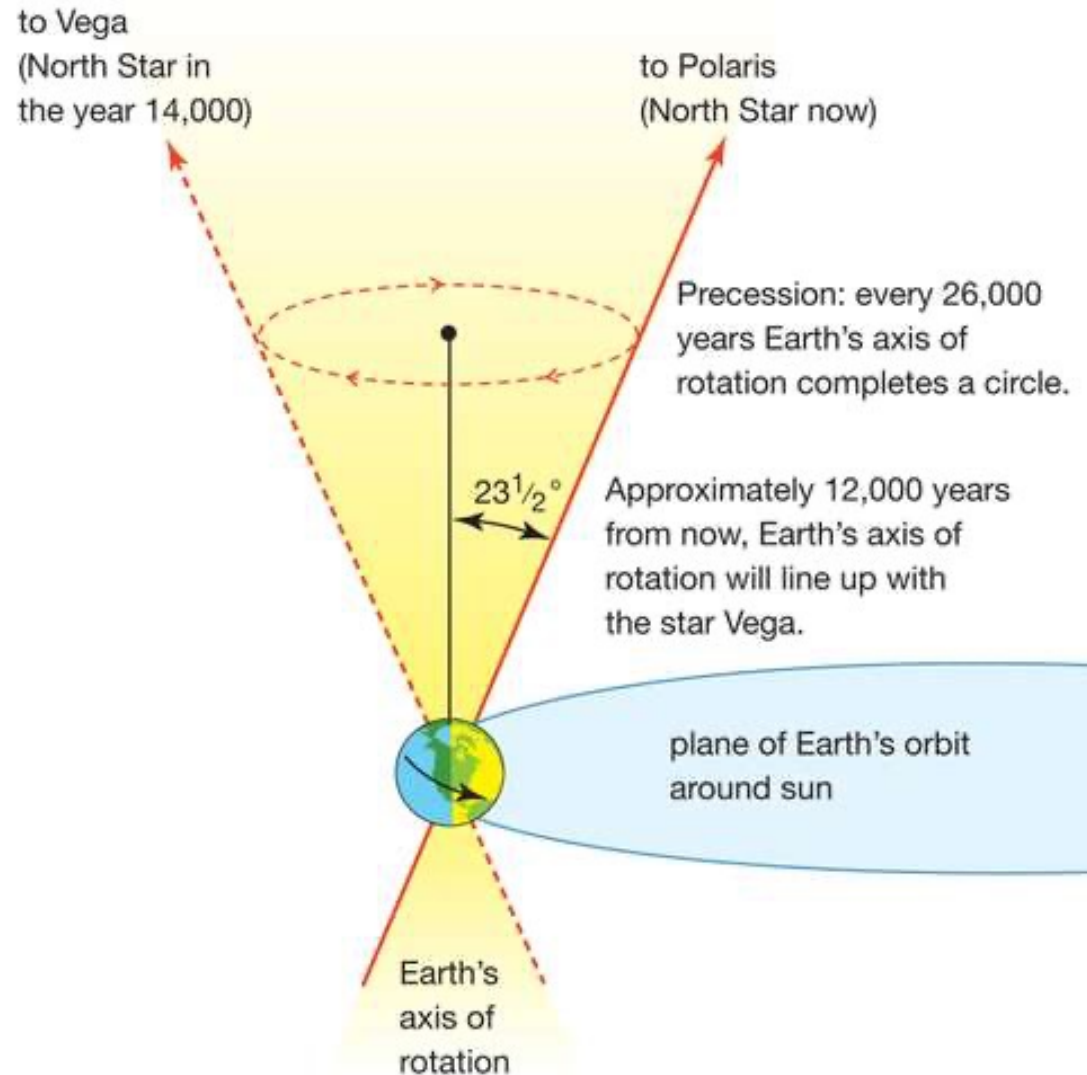
# What are the RA and dec. coordinates of the vernal equinox ( $\gamma$ )?



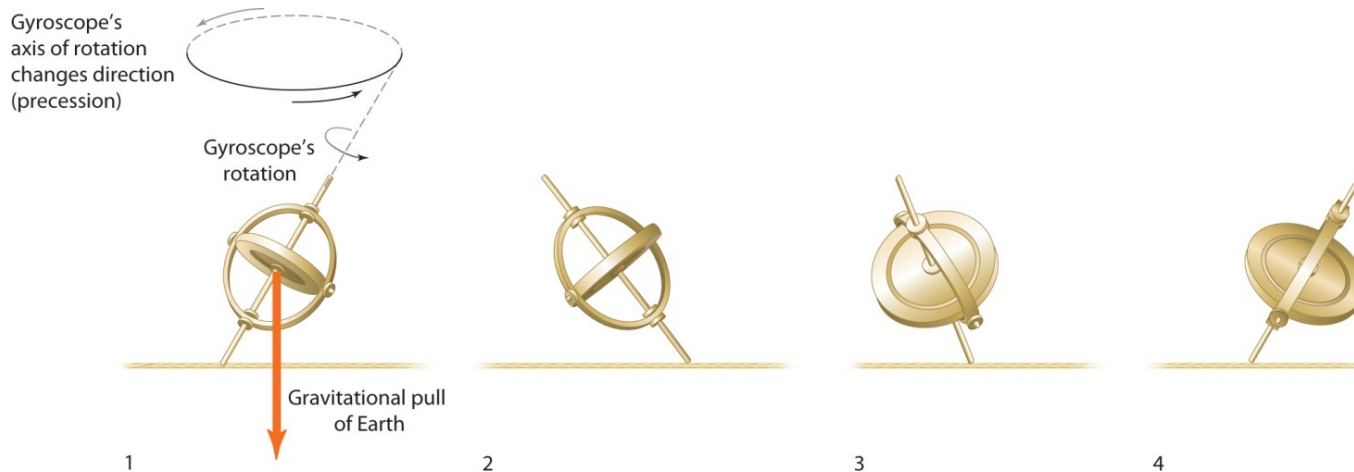
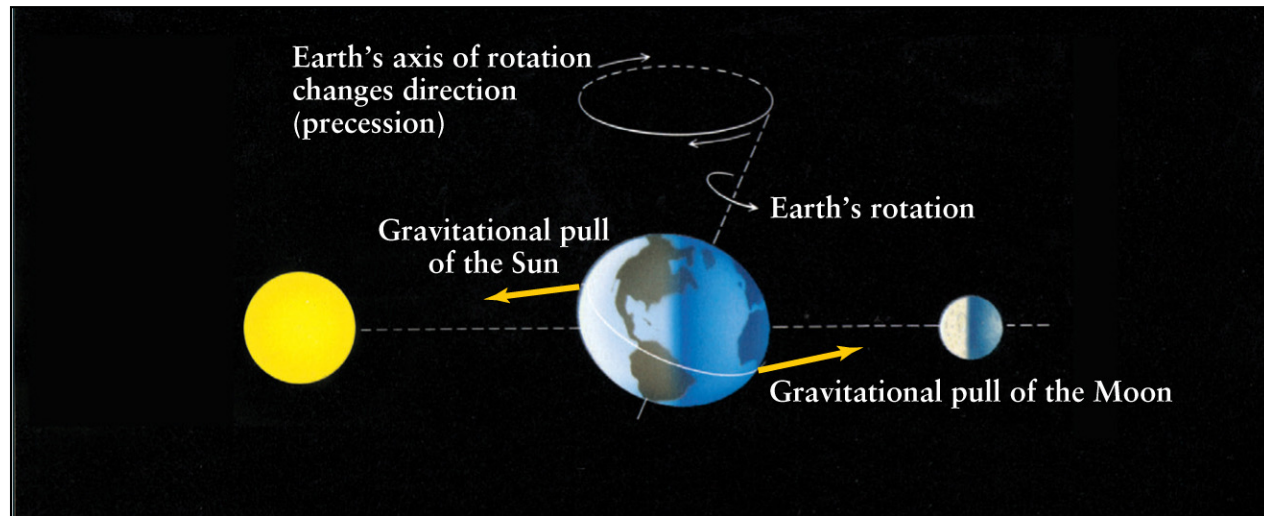


# Precession of the equinoxes

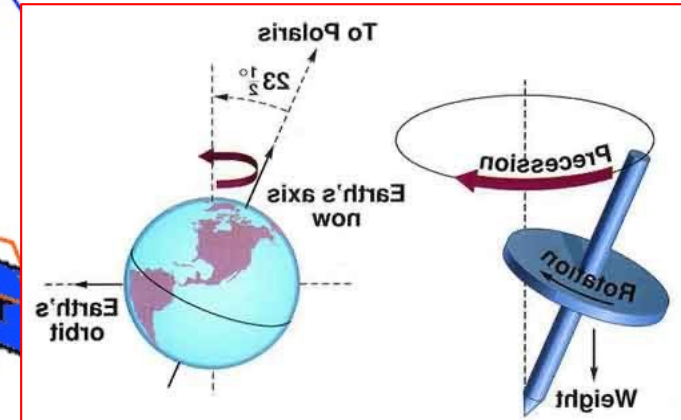
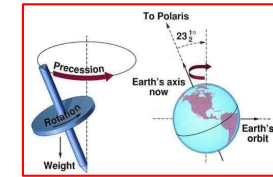
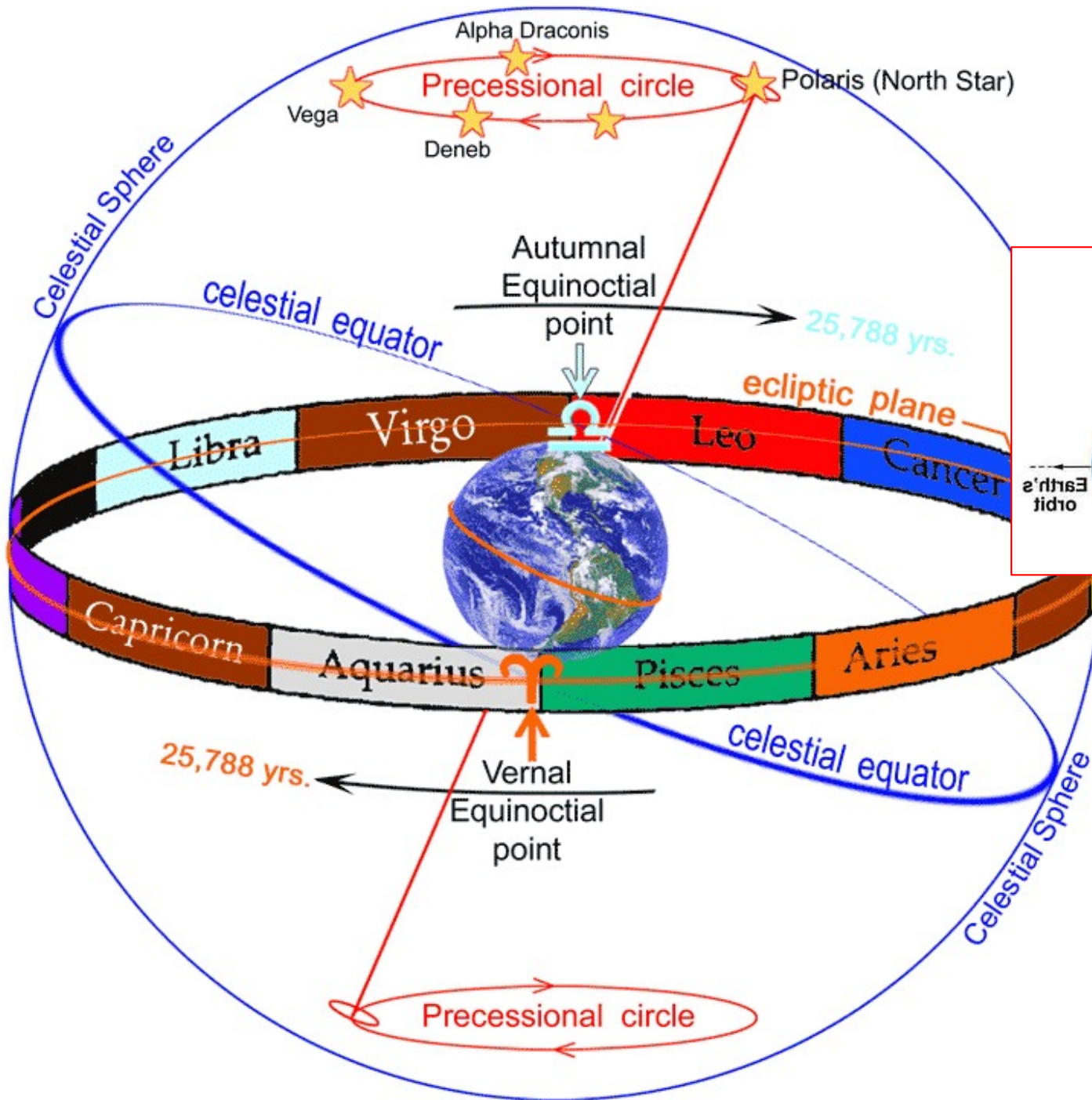
motion of the equinoxes along the ecliptic (plane of the orbit of Earth)



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**Gravitational forces of the Sun and the Moon pulling on Earth as it rotates cause Earth to undergo a top-like motion called precession. Over a period of 26,000 years, Earth's rotation axis slowly moves in a circular motion.**

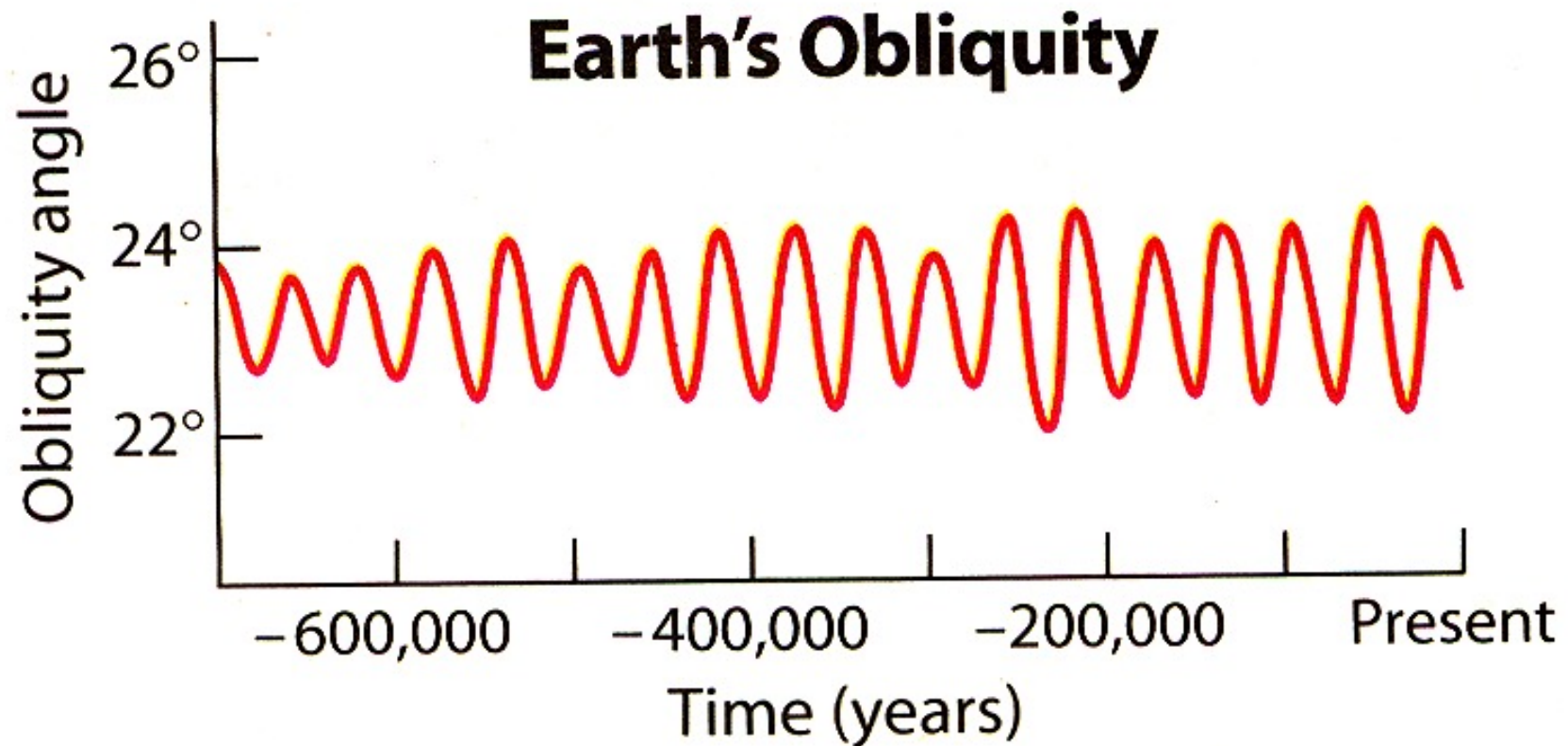


This precession causes the position of the North Celestial Pole to slowly change over time. Today, the North Celestial Pole is near the star Polaris, which we call the “North Star.” However, in 3000 BC, Thuban was close to the North Celestial Pole and in 14,000 AD, Vega will be in this location.

Precession also causes the vernal equinox to move along the celestial equator by  $360^\circ$  in 26,000 years. That means that the RA and dec changes slowly due to precession. In astronomy we therefore need to refer to a date for RA and dec. That date is the start of the year 2000. The coordinates are then in J2000.



# Changes of the obliquity of the ecliptic



## 2.2 Orbit perturbations

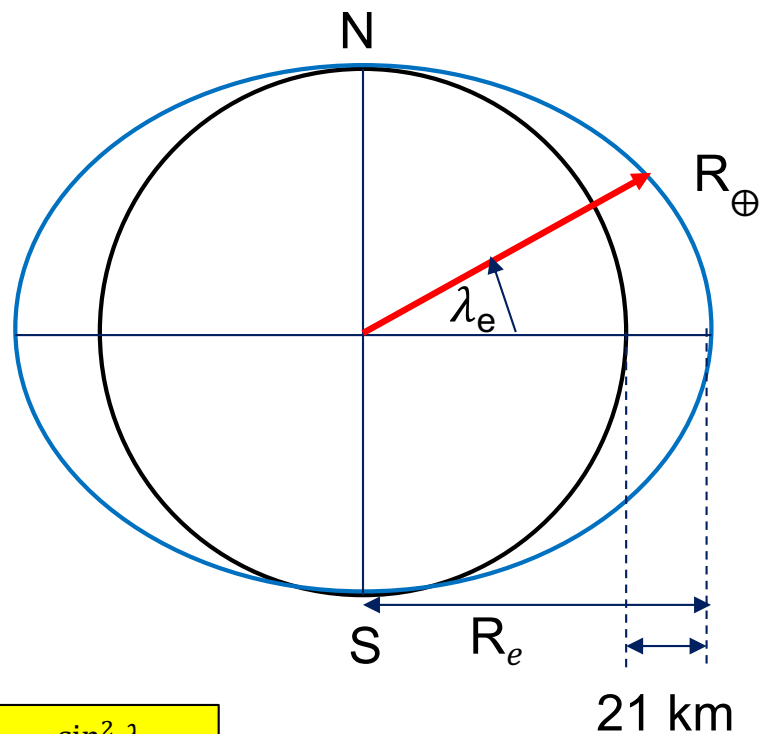
The Keplerian orbit is ideal. It is assumed that:

- The Earth is a spherically symmetric body with a uniformly distributed mass.
- Only forces present are:
  - The gravitational forces of the Earth with a  $1/r^2$  dependence.
  - The centrifugal force from the satellite motion.
- The satellite is a point-like body with zero cross-section.

However, there are several effects that cause perturbations of the ideal orbit.

# 1. Effects of the non-spherical Earth

## a) Effects of the equatorial bulge (effect on: $n$ , $\Omega$ , $\omega$ )



### i) Mean motion ( $n$ )

$$n = n_0 \left[ 1 + \frac{K_1(1 - 1.5 \sin^2 i)}{a^2 (1 - e^2)^{1.5}} \right] \quad \text{rad s}^{-1}$$

$$n_0 = \frac{2\pi}{P_0} = \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{a^3}} \quad \text{rad s}^{-1}$$

$$K_1 = 66,063.1704 \text{ km}^2 \quad a \text{ in km, } P_0 \text{ in s}$$

### Example 2-3

$$i=0, a=42,164 \text{ km, } e=0$$

$$\begin{aligned} n &= n_0 \left[ 1 + \frac{K_1}{a^2} \right] = n_0 \cdot [1 + 3.708 \cdot 10^{-5}] \text{ rad s}^{-1} \\ &= n_0 \cdot [1 + 0.002124] \text{ deg d}^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

$$P - P_0 = \frac{2\pi}{n} - \frac{2\pi}{n_0} = -3.2 \text{ s}$$

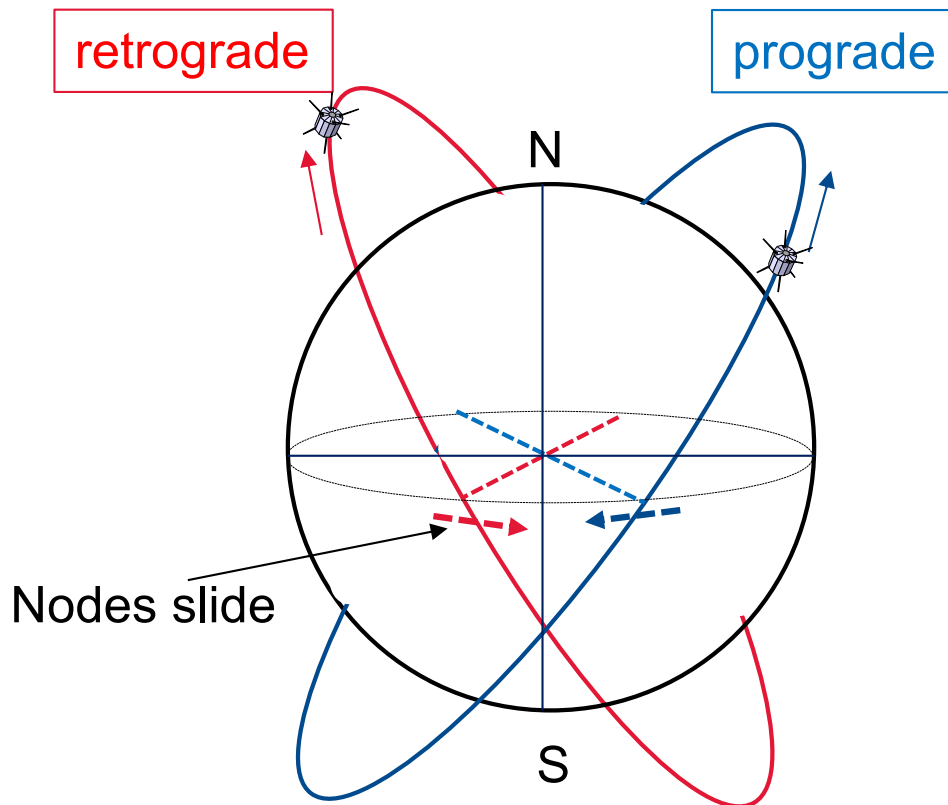
$$R_{\oplus} = R_e \left( 1 - \frac{\sin^2 \lambda_e}{298.257} \right)$$

$$R_e = 6378.14 \text{ km} \quad \text{Radius of Earth at } \lambda_e = 0^\circ$$

$\lambda_e$  : latitude

## ii) Regression of nodes – effect on $\Omega$

Nodes slide along the equator in a direction opposite to the satellite motion



$$\frac{d\Omega}{dt} = -K \cos i$$

$$K = \frac{nK_1}{a^2(1-e^2)^2}$$

K has the same units as n,  
for instance, rad d<sup>-1</sup> or deg d<sup>-1</sup>

### Example 2-4

$i=30^\circ$ ,  $a=7,500$  km,  $e=0$

$$n \approx n_0 = 86400 \cdot \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{a^3}} = 86400 \cdot \sqrt{\frac{398600.5}{7500^3}} \text{ rad d}^{-1} = 83.982 \text{ rad d}^{-1}$$

$$K = 0.0984 \text{ rad d}^{-1}$$

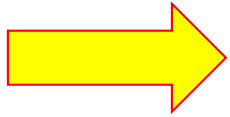
$$\frac{d\Omega}{dt} = -0.0852 \text{ rad d}^{-1}$$

$$\frac{d\Omega}{dt} = -4.8832 \text{ deg d}^{-1}$$

For prograde orbit:  $\frac{d\Omega}{dt} = <0$ , westward slide of nodes

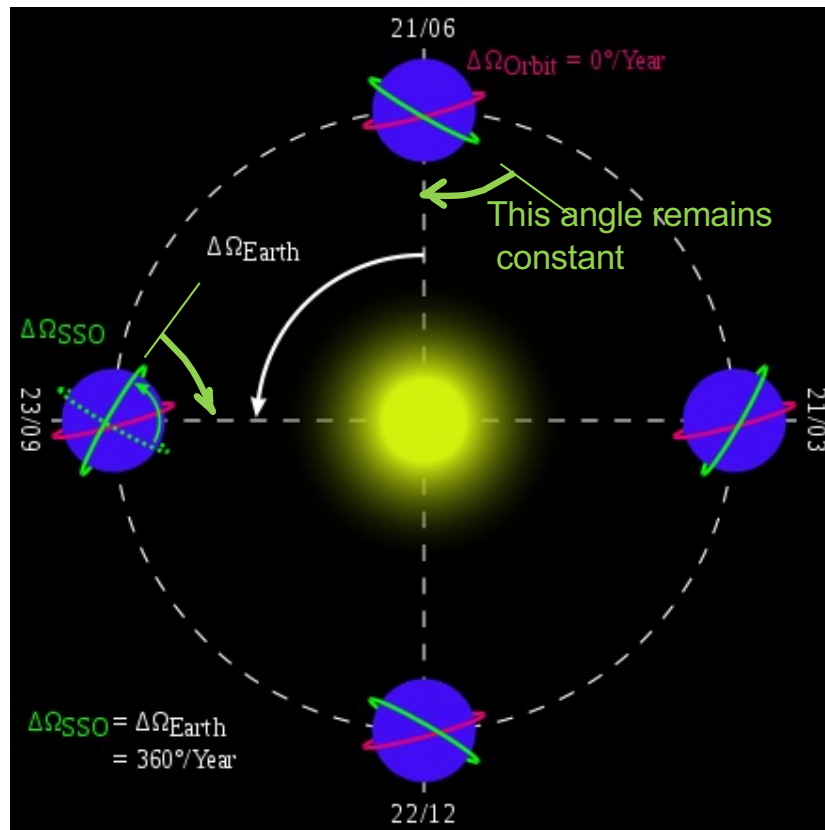
For retrograde orbit:  $\frac{d\Omega}{dt} = >0$ , eastward slide of nodes



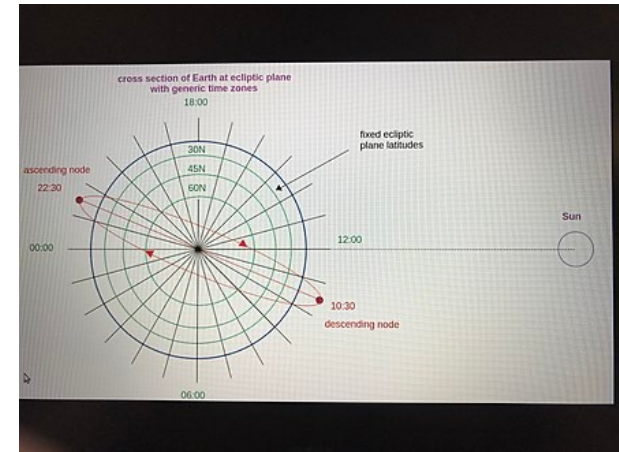


For a particular inclination,  $i$ , we get a sun synchronous orbit where the nodes slide eastward by exactly  $2\pi$  rad or  $360^\circ$  in one year.

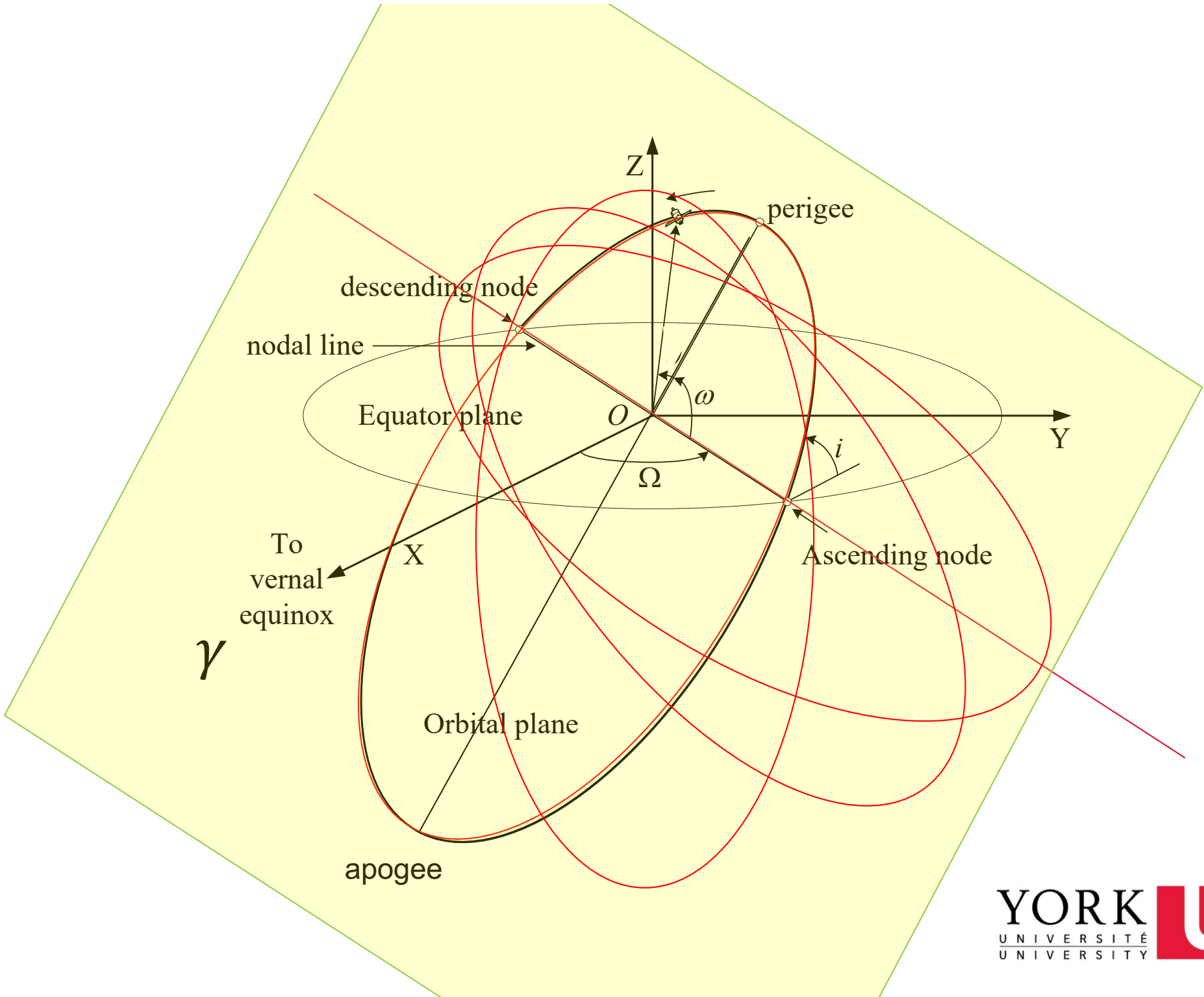
$$\frac{d\Omega}{dt} = \frac{2\pi}{365.24} \text{ rad d}^{-1} \text{ (for sun synchronous orbit)}$$



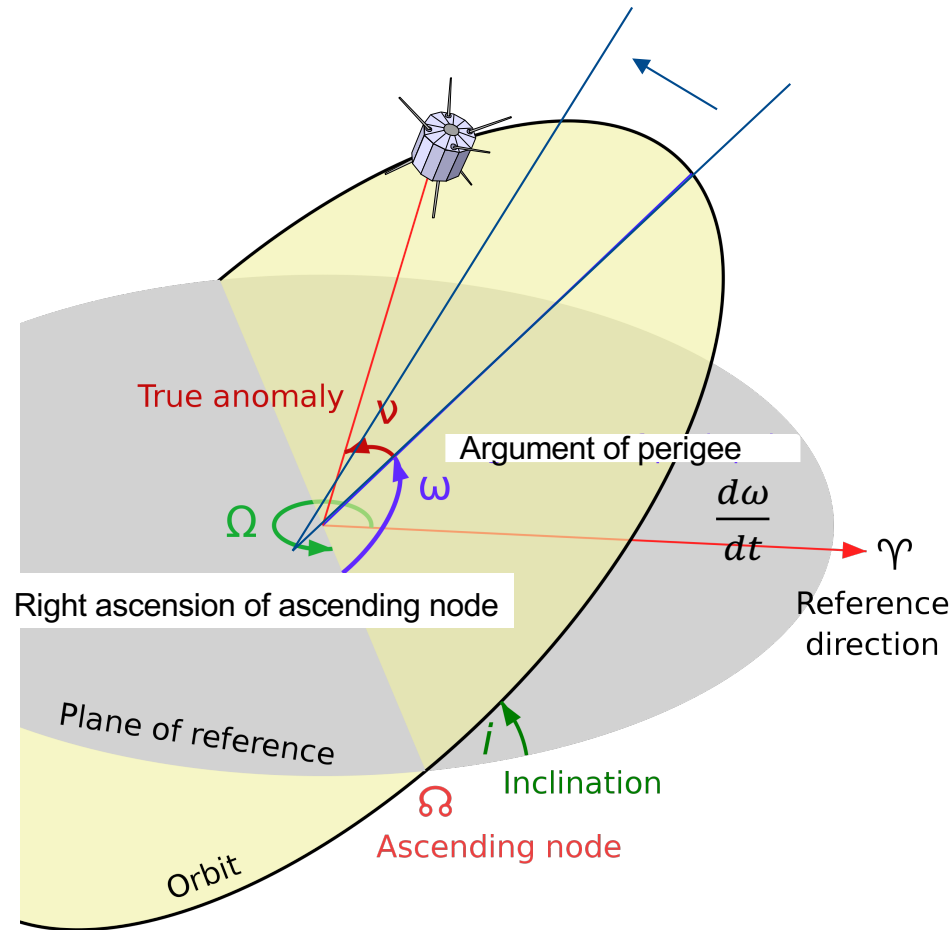
Wikipedia



Wikipedia



iii) *Rotation of line of apsides – effect on  $\omega$*   
 Orbital ellipse rotates in orbital plane around focus



$$\frac{d\omega}{dt} = K(2 - 2.5 \sin^2 i)$$

$\frac{d\omega}{dt}$  has units as K and K has units as n

**Example 2-5**

$i=30^\circ$ ,  $a=7,500$  km,  $e=0$

$K= 0.0984$  rad d<sup>-1</sup> from previous example

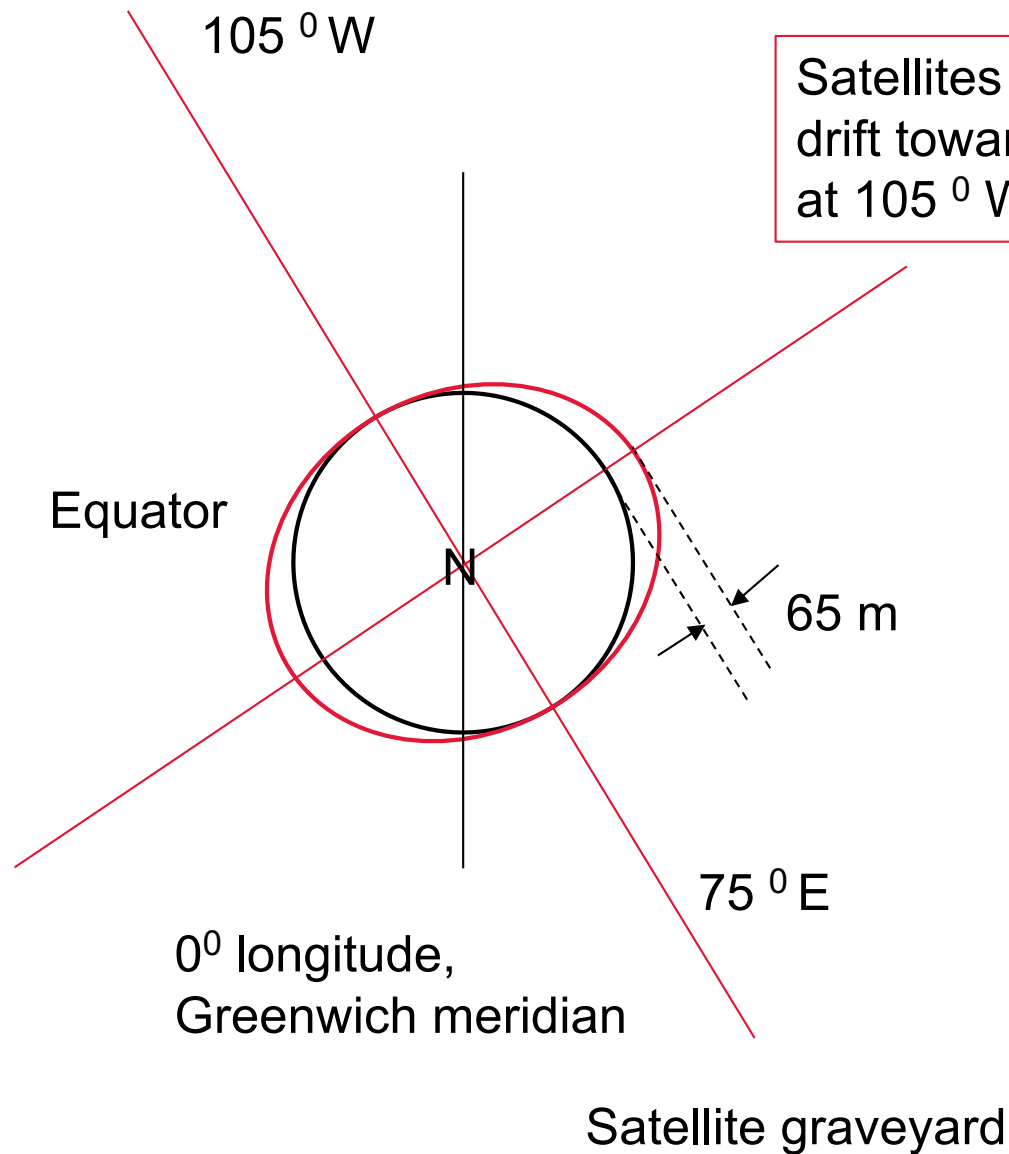
$$\frac{d\omega}{dt} = 0.0984 \cdot (1.375) \text{ rad d}^{-1}$$

$$\frac{d\omega}{dt} = 0.1353 \text{ rad d}^{-1}$$

$$\frac{d\omega}{dt} = 7.752 \text{ deg d}^{-1}$$

There is an inclination,  $i$ , for which  $\frac{d\omega}{dt} = 0$   
 Best example: Molniya communications satellites

## b) Effects of equatorial ellipticity



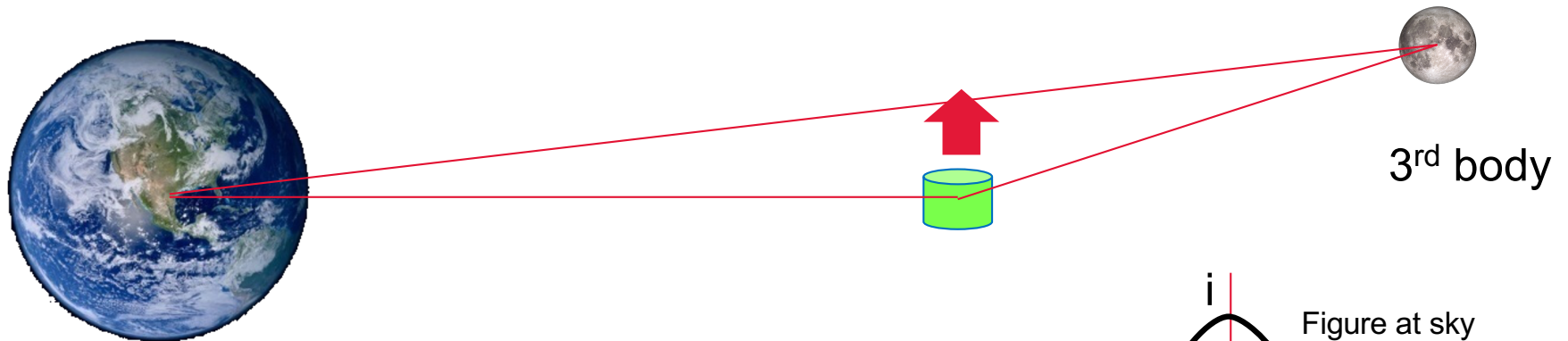
Satellites in geostationary orbit drift toward satellite graveyards at 105° W and 75° E

### c) Effects of tides

Tides change the mass distribution of the Earth  
→ Very small effect and only on LEO satellites

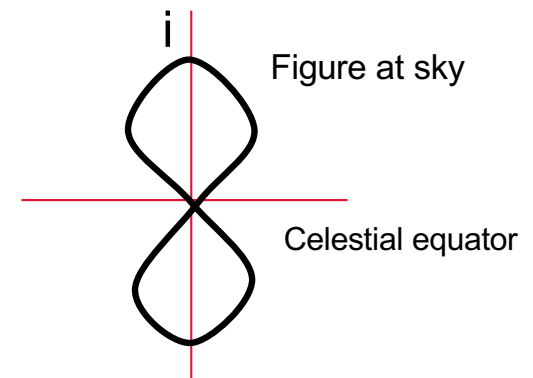
## 2. Direct third-body effects. (effect mostly on $i$ )

Direct attractions of the Moon and the Sun are significant



For satellite in geostationary orbit:

$$\frac{di}{dt} = 0.8. \text{ deg yr}^{-1}$$



$i$  increases to a maximum of  $15^\circ$  in 27 years and then decreases to  $i=0^\circ$  again. For a geosynchronous orbit ( $i \neq 0^\circ$ ) the satellite appears to move along a figure "8" seen from the ground stations.

### 3. Atmospheric drag (effects mostly on a and e)

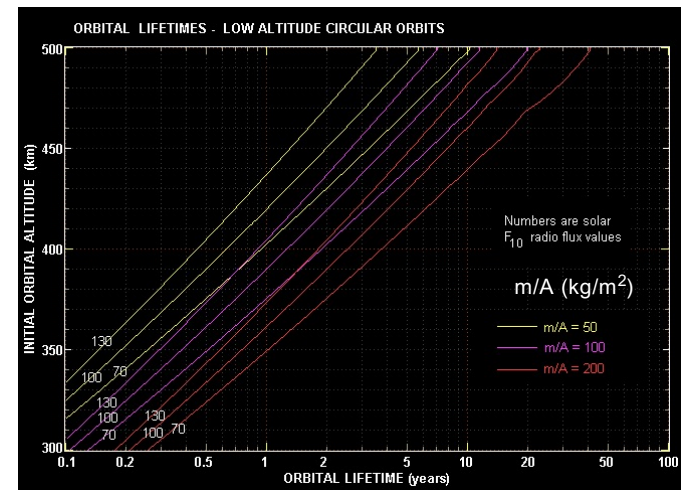
Important for satellites with perigee height < 1000 km.

Perturbation of orbit depends on:

- Atmospheric density
- Satellite cross section ( $m^2$ )
- Satellite mass (kg)
- Satellite speed

#### Satellite Altitude Lifetime

200 km	1 day
300 km	1 month
400 km	1 year
500 km	10 years
700 km	100 years
900 km	1000 years



Spaceacademy.net.au

## 4. Solar radiation pressure

Acceleration on satellite depends on:

- Solar radiation at satellite
- Satellite mass
- Satellite surface area exposed to Sun
- Albedo of satellite depending on material



## 2.3 Visibility

There are three different planes and coordinate systems:

- Orbital plane -- perifocal coordinate system
- Equatorial plane -- geocentric equatorial coordinate system
- Plane tangential to surface of earth -- topocentric horizon coordinate system

→ coordinate transformations necessary (definitions of time necessary)

Problem:

How to determine from the Keplerian elements the

**look angles (azimuth and elevation)** of a satellite and  
**the range to the satellite** for any point on earth.

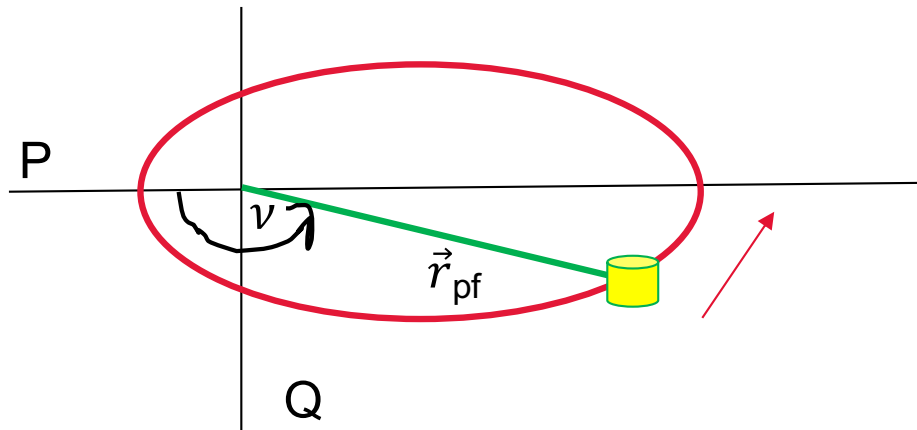
Solution path:

- 1) Describe locations of satellite and earth station in same non-rotating coordinate system that travels with Earth through space (geocentric equatorial coordinate system).
- 2) Then determine range vector and express it in topocentric horizon coordinate system.

Steps to solve the problem:

1. Locate satellite in perifocal coordinate system

$$\vec{r}_{pf} = \begin{bmatrix} r \cos \nu \\ r \sin \nu \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} r_p \\ r_q \end{bmatrix}$$



## 2. Locate satellite in geocentric equatorial coordinate system

$$\vec{r}_{g, eq} = \tilde{R} \begin{bmatrix} r_p \\ r_q \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} r_x \\ r_y \\ r_z \end{bmatrix}$$

$\tilde{R}$  matrix elements are functions of  $\Omega, i, \omega$

$$R_{11} = \cos\Omega \cos\omega - \sin\Omega \sin\omega \cos i$$

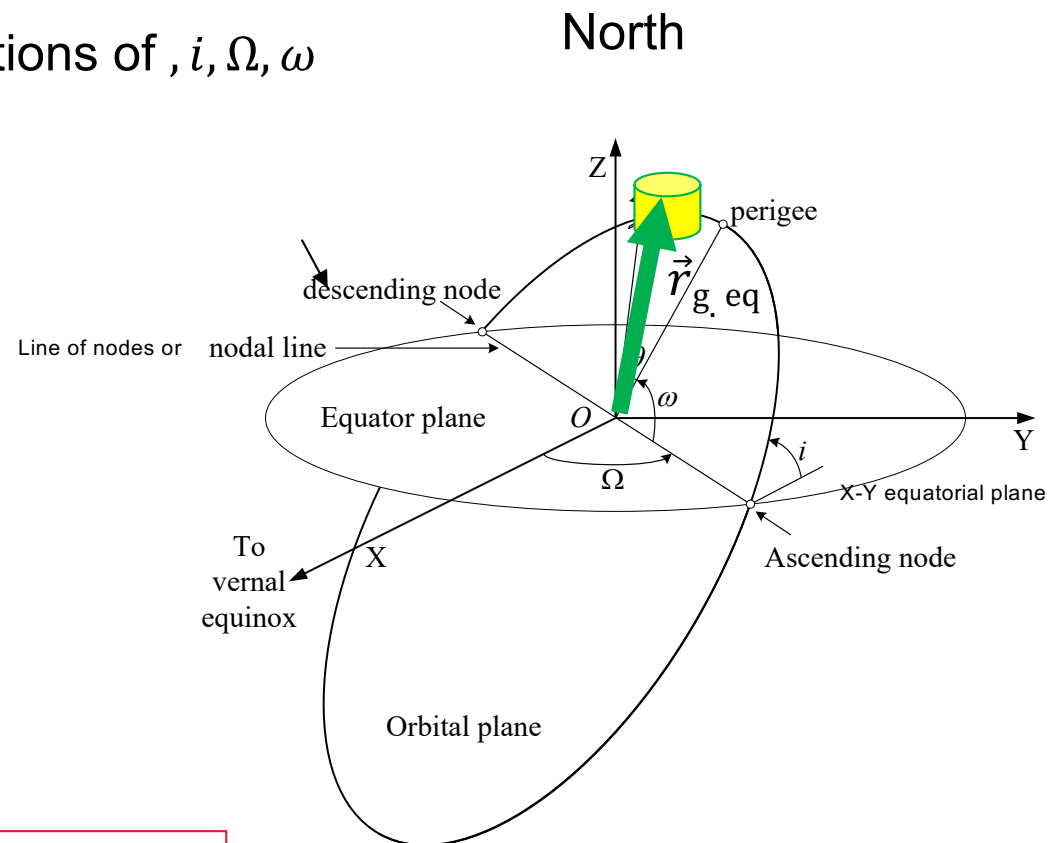
$$R_{12} = \cos\Omega \sin\omega - \sin\Omega \cos\omega \cos i$$

$$R_{21} = \sin\Omega \cos\omega + \cos\Omega \sin\omega \cos i$$

$$R_{22} = \dots\dots$$

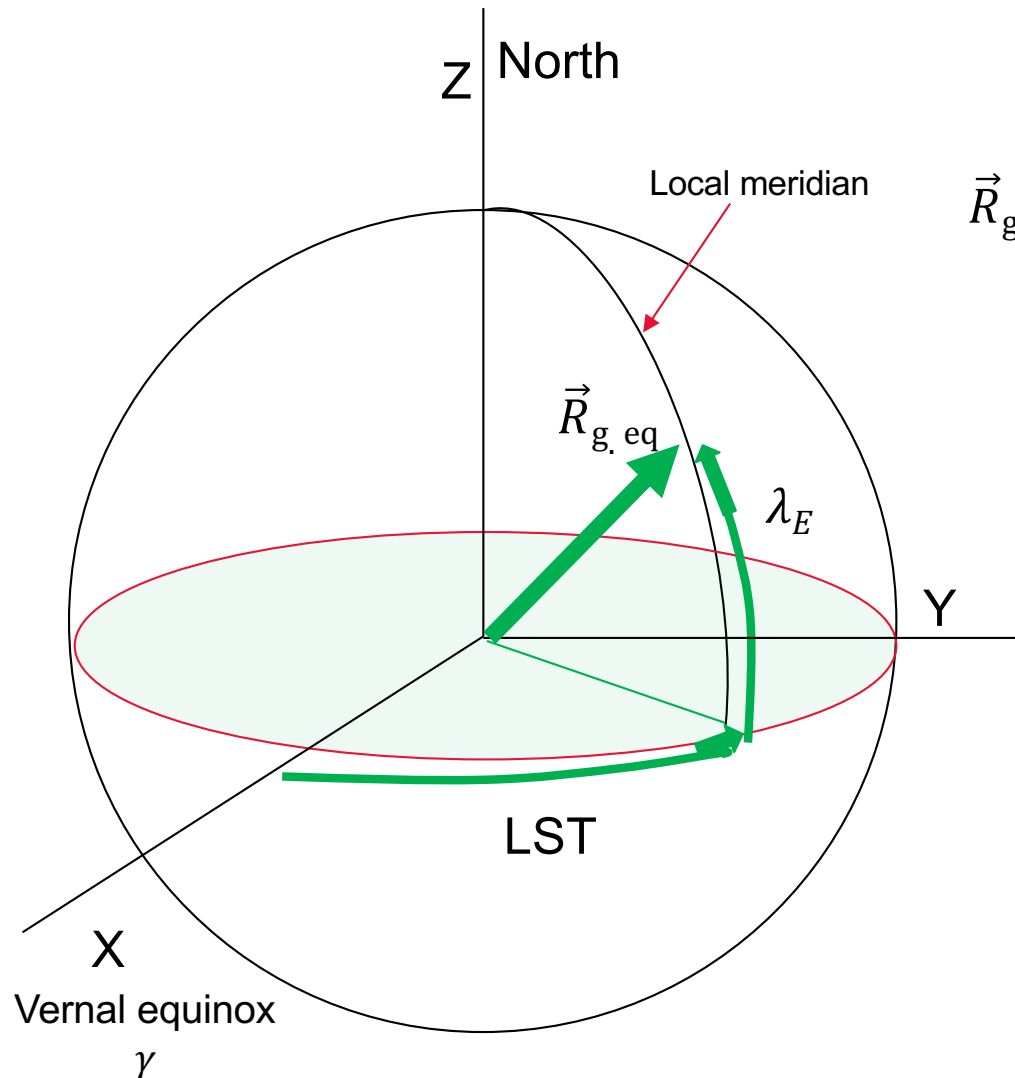
$$R_{31} = \dots\dots$$

$$R_{32} = \dots\dots$$



This is a non-rotating coordinate system which travels with Earth through space.

### 3. Locate Earth station in geocentric equatorial coordinate system



$$\vec{R}_{g,eq} = \begin{bmatrix} |R_{\oplus} + H| \cos \lambda_E \cos(LST) \\ |R_{\oplus} + H| \cos \lambda_E \sin(LST) \\ |R_{\oplus} + H| \sin \lambda_E \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} R_x \\ R_y \\ R_z \end{bmatrix}$$

$R_{\oplus}$ : Earth radius at  $\lambda_E$

H: height above mean sea level

$\lambda_E$ : Latitude of Earth station

LST Local sidereal time. (24h 360°)

#### LST of Earth station:

RA of a celestial object that is currently crossing the local meridian of the Earth station.

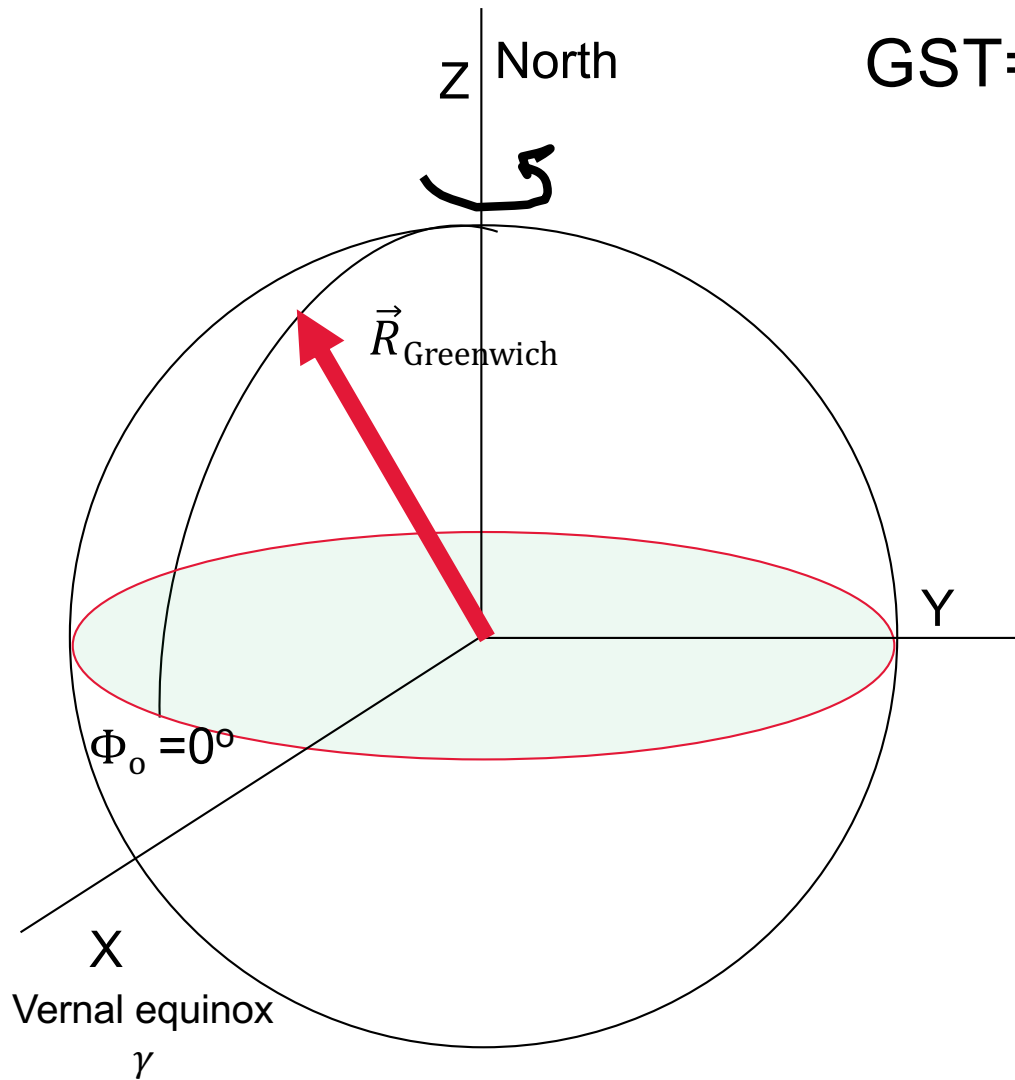
#### Local meridian:

Imaginary great circle on the celestial sphere from north through the zenith to south.

How is LST related to standard time?

LST ↔ GST ↔ UT ↔ standard time

# GST and LST



## LST of Earth station:

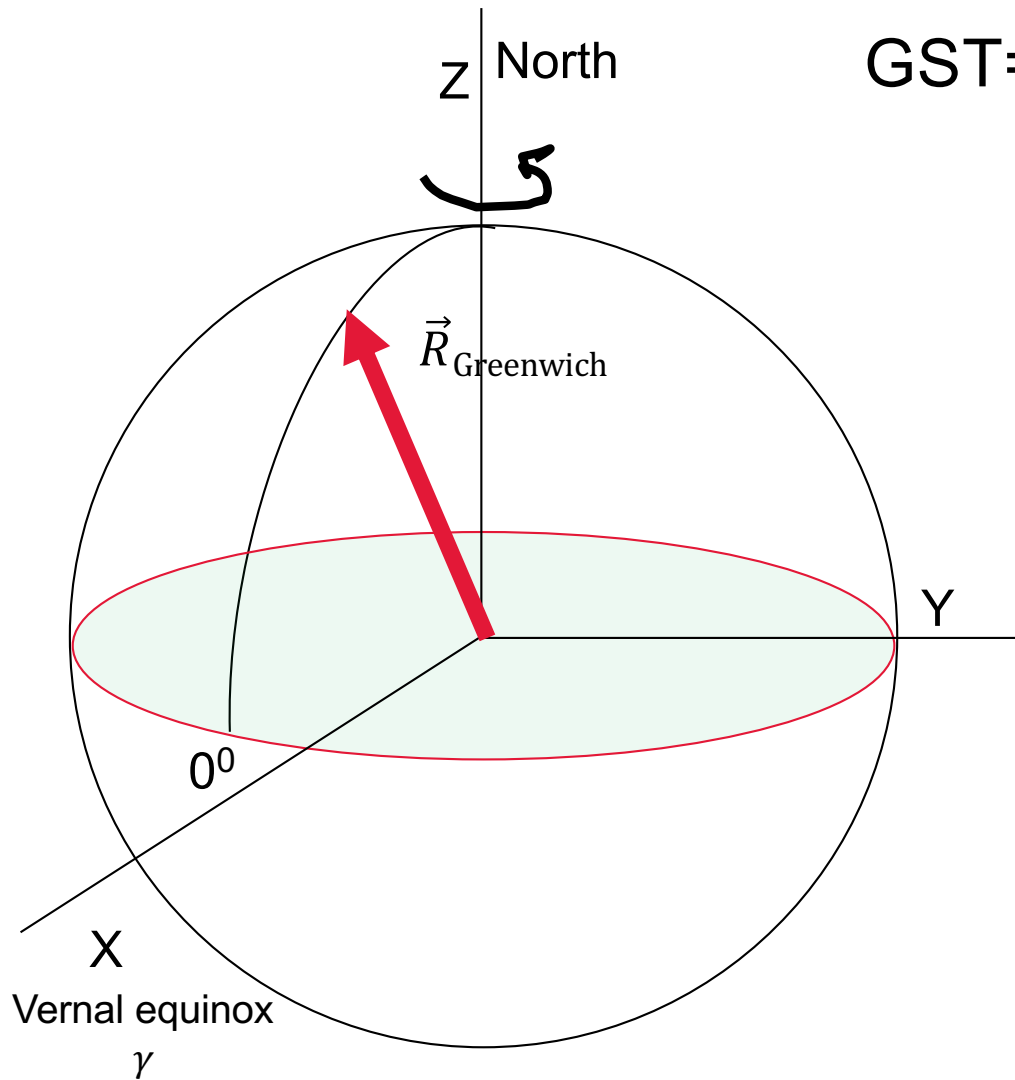
RA of a celestial object that is currently crossing the local meridian of the Earth station.

## Local meridian:

Imaginary great circle on the celestial sphere from north through the zenith to south.

$\Phi_0 = 0^\circ$  Longitude of Greenwich

# GST and LST



## LST of Earth station:

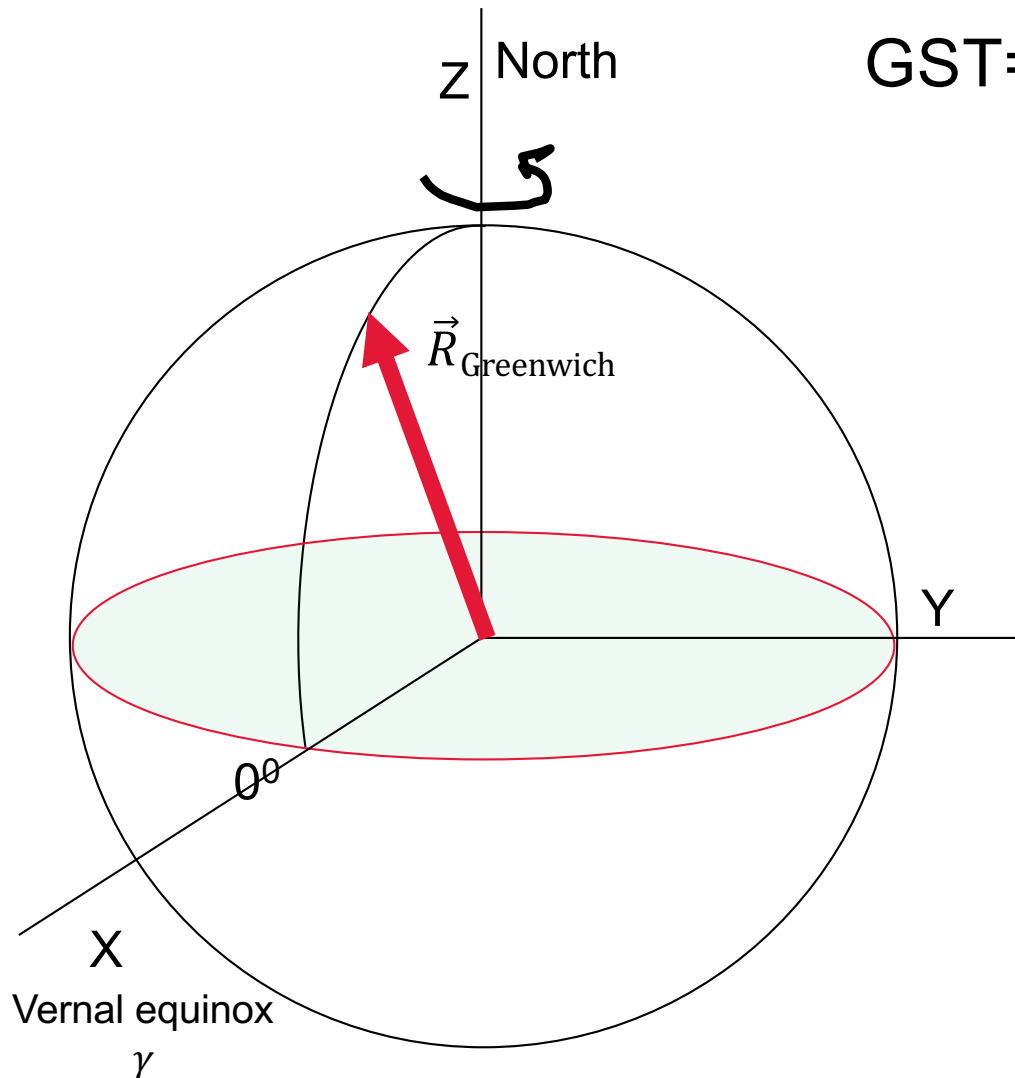
RA of a celestial object that is currently crossing the local meridian of the Earth station.

## Local meridian:

Imaginary great circle on the celestial sphere from north through the zenith to south.

$\Phi_0 = 0^\circ$  Longitude of Greenwich

# GST and LST



## LST of Earth station:

RA of a celestial object that is currently crossing the local meridian of the Earth station.

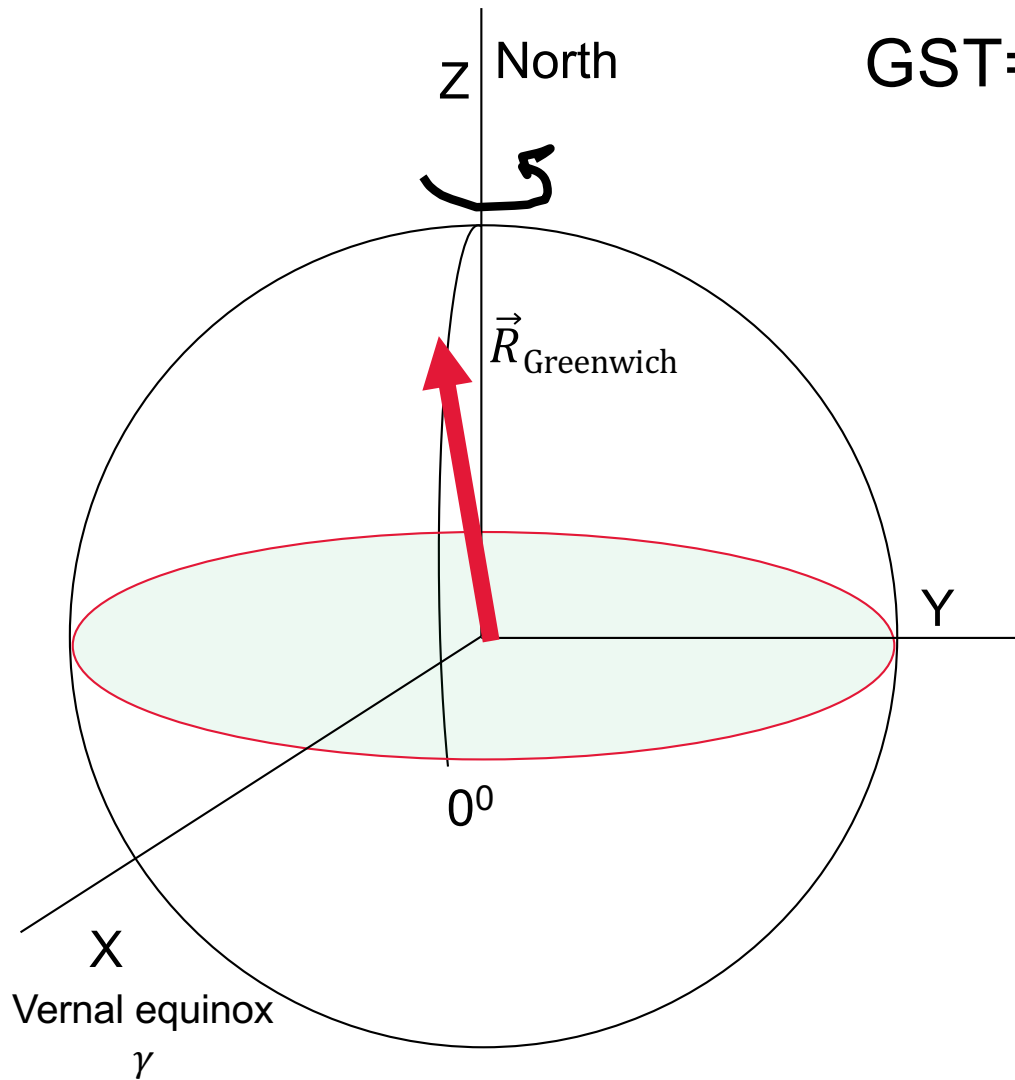
## Local meridian:

Imaginary great circle on the celestial sphere from north through the zenith to south.

$\Phi_0 = 0^\circ$  Longitude of Greenwich



# GST and LST



## LST of Earth station:

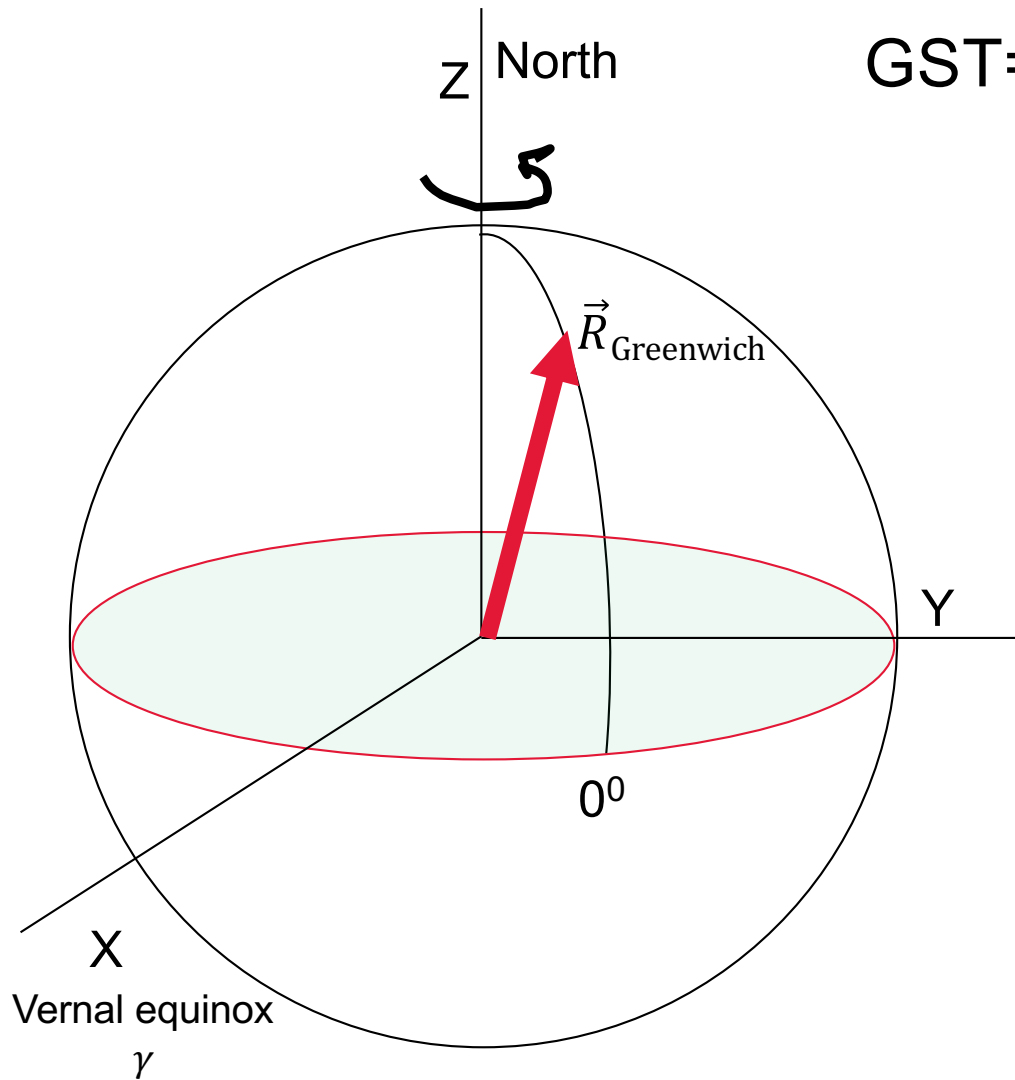
RA of a celestial object that is currently crossing the local meridian of the Earth station.

## Local meridian:

Imaginary great circle on the celestial sphere from north through the zenith to south.

$\Phi_0 = 0^\circ$  Longitude of Greenwich

# GST and LST



## LST of Earth station:

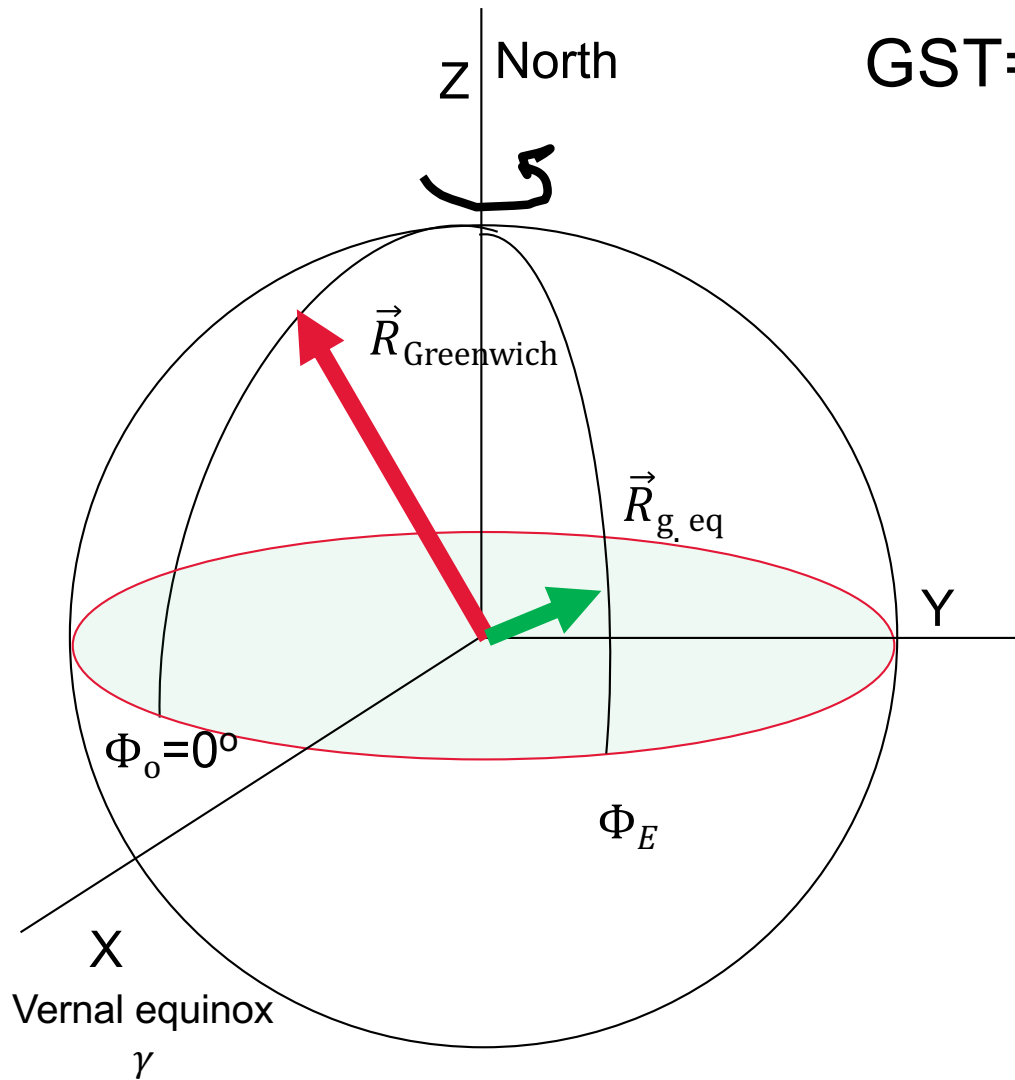
RA of a celestial object that is currently crossing the local meridian of the Earth station.

## Local meridian:

Imaginary great circle on the celestial sphere from north through the zenith to south.

$\Phi_0 = 0^\circ$  Longitude of Greenwich

# GST and LST



GST=22h

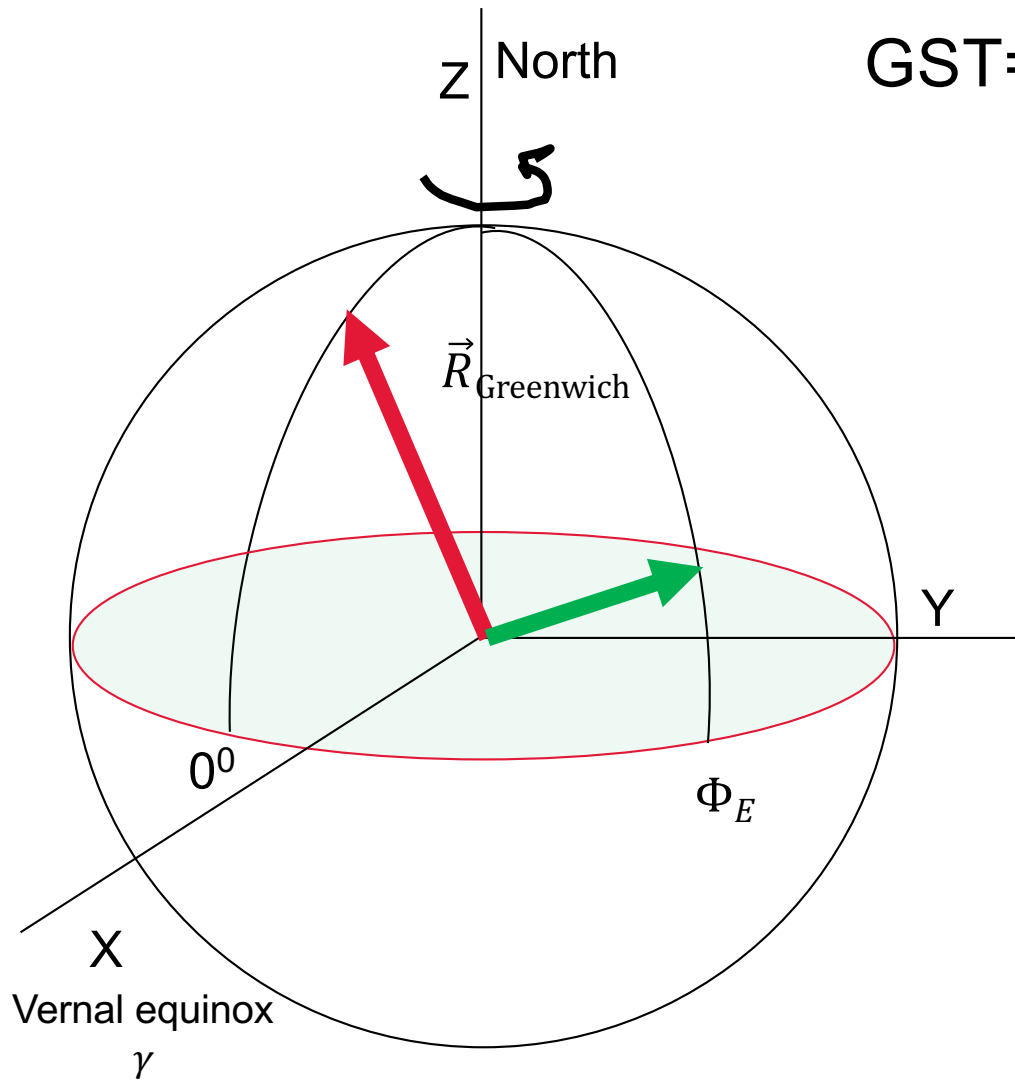
**LST of Earth station:**  
RA of a celestial object that is currently crossing the local meridian of the Earth station.

**Local meridian:**  
Imaginary great circle on the celestial sphere from north through the zenith to south.

$\Phi_0 = 0^\circ$  Longitude of Greenwich

$\Phi_E$  Longitude of Earth station

# GST and LST



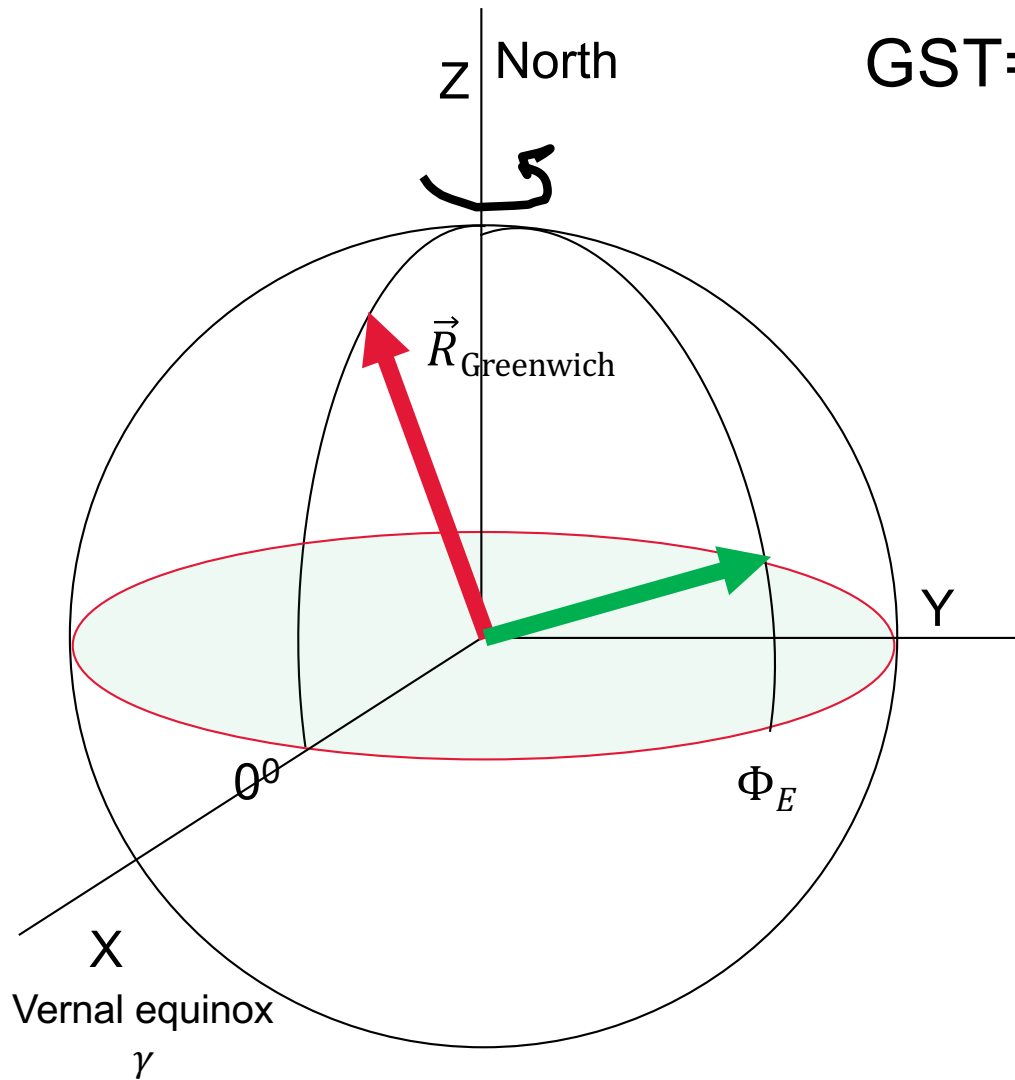
GST=23h

**LST of Earth station:**  
RA of a celestial object that is currently crossing the local meridian of the Earth station.

**Local meridian:**  
Imaginary great circle on the celestial sphere from north through the zenith to south.

$\Phi_0 = 0^\circ$  Longitude of Greenwich

# GST and LST



GST = 0h

**LST of Earth station:**  
RA of a celestial object that is currently crossing the local meridian of the Earth station.

**Local meridian:**  
Imaginary great circle on the celestial sphere from north through the zenith to south.

$\Phi_0 = 0^\circ$  Longitude of Greenwich

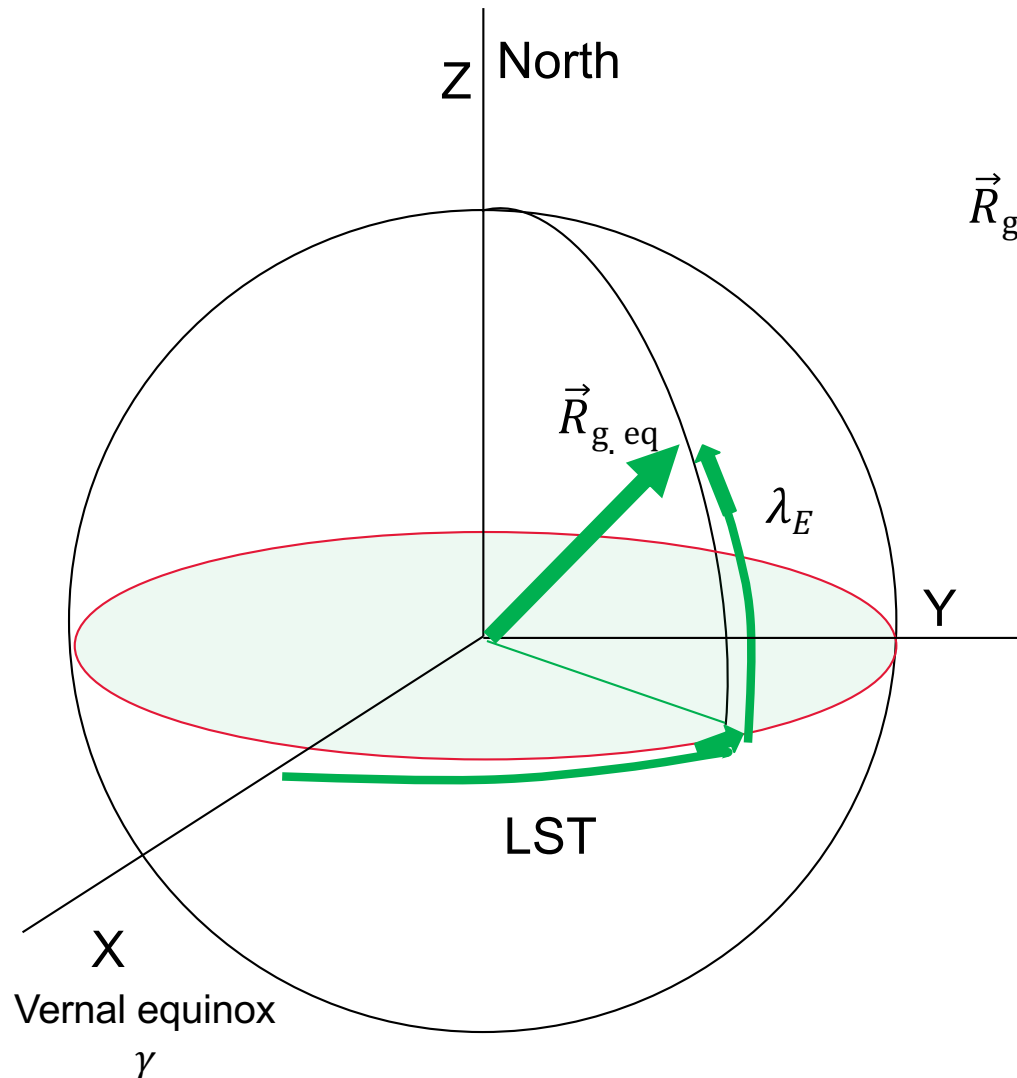


US Dept of State Geographer  
© 2020 Google  
© 2020 ORION-ME  
Image Landsat / Copernicus

Google Earth

24°27'02.01" N 60°01'04.01" E eye alt 11119.97 km

### 3. Locate Earth station in geocentric equatorial coordinate system



$$\vec{R}_{g,eq} = \begin{bmatrix} |R_{\oplus} + H| \cos \lambda_E \cos(LST) \\ |R_{\oplus} + H| \cos \lambda_E \sin(LST) \\ |R_{\oplus} + H| \sin \lambda_E \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} R_x \\ R_y \\ R_z \end{bmatrix}$$

$R_{\oplus}$  : Earth radius at  $\lambda_E$

$H$  : height above mean sea level

$\lambda_E$  : Latitude of Earth station

LST Local sidereal time. (24h 360°)

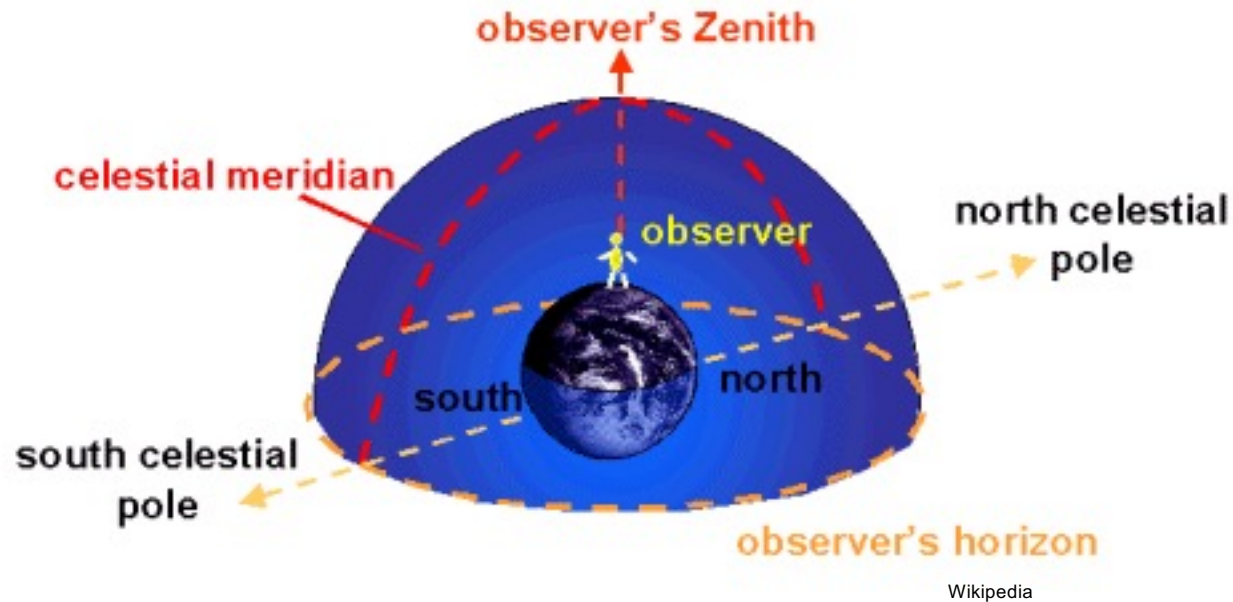
#### LST of Earth station:

RA of a celestial object that is currently crossing the local meridian of the Earth station.

#### Local meridian:

Imaginary great circle on the celestial sphere from north through the zenith to south.

# LST, RA and HA



LST 0h when local meridian of Earth station cuts through the direction to the vernal equinox (RA= 0h) during the course of the day

HA: Hour angle

$$HA = LST - RA$$

Seen from Earth station, a celestial object  
rises (HA < 0h)  
culminate (HA = 0h)  
sets (HA > 0h)



How is LST related to standard time?

LST  $\longleftrightarrow$  GST  $\longleftrightarrow$  UT  $\longleftrightarrow$  standard time

a)  $LST = GST + \Phi_E$        $\Phi_E$  : Longitude of location

### Example 2-6

York: longitude =  $79^{\circ} 35'$  W

$\rightarrow \Phi_E = -79^{\circ} 35'$

if GST =  $120^{\circ}$   
=  $8^h$

$\rightarrow LST = 40^{\circ} 25'$   
=  $2^h 41^m 40^s$

Both LST and GST are measured relative to fixed stars

Unit: sidereal day which is  $<$  mean solar day.

# James Cook 1728 - 1779

His goal was to find the Great South Land



Royal Museums Greenwich

He charted the east coast of Australia with a clock without a pendulum and claimed the land for Great Britain



US Dept of State Geographer  
© 2020 Google  
© 2020 ORION-ME  
Image Landsat / Copernicus

Google Earth

24°27'02.01" N 60°01'04.01" E eye alt 11119.97 km

## Mean sidereal day and mean solar day

$$\begin{aligned} P_{\oplus, \text{orbit.}} &= 366.2422 \text{ mean sidereal days} \\ &= 365.2422 \text{ mean solar days} \end{aligned}$$

**Leap year:** if year is divisible by 4, except if it is a centennial year. However, if the centennial year is divisible by 400, then it is also a leap year.

**JD:** Julian date: continuous count of days since the beginning of the Julian period on 1 January 4713 BC

**GST:** Greenwich sidereal time = hour angle (HA) of the (average position of the vernal equinox

$$\text{GST}[\text{deg}] = 99.6909833 + 36000.7689 T_c + 0.00038708 T_c^2 + \text{UT}[\text{deg}]$$

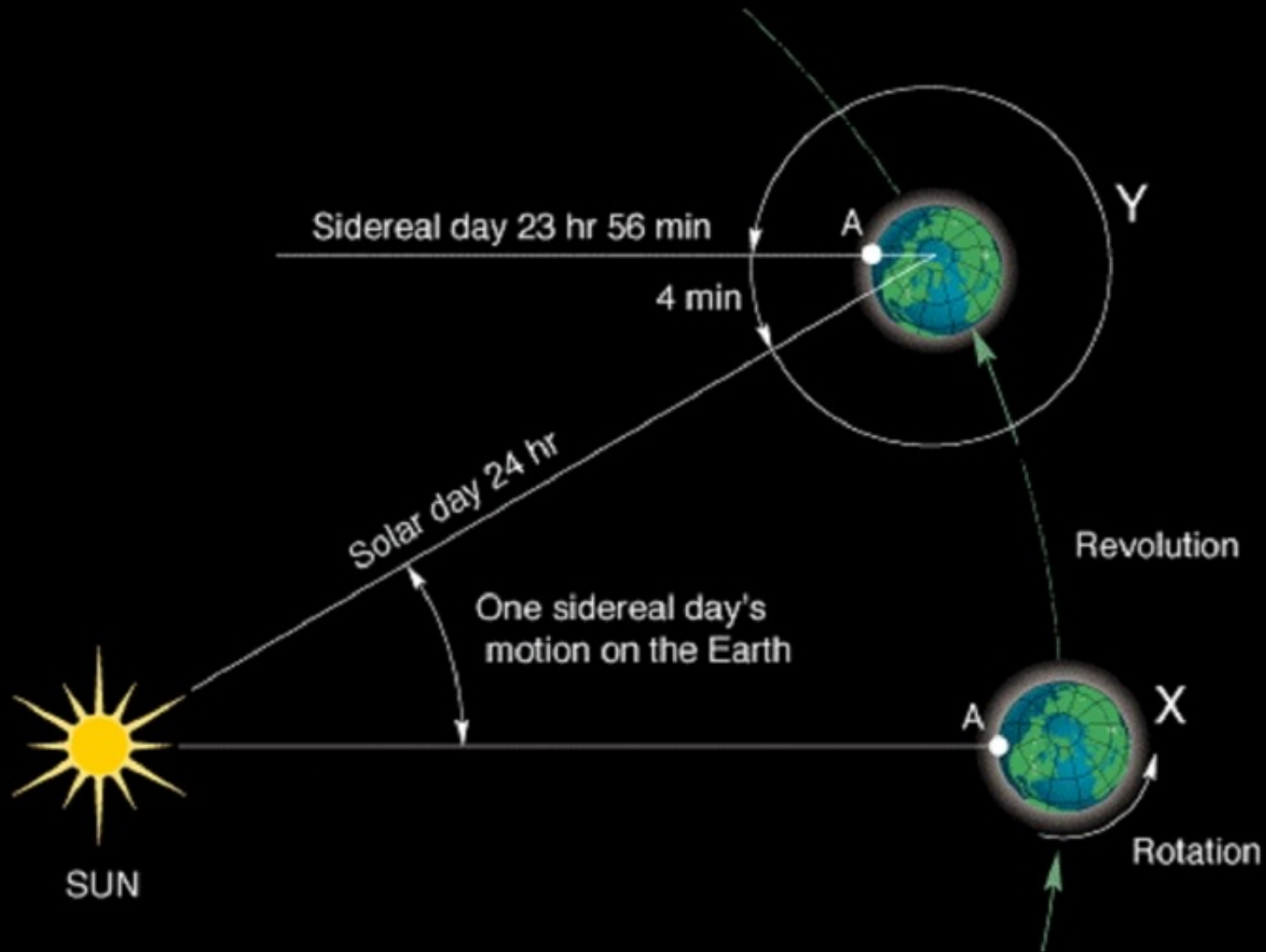
$$T_c = (\text{JD} - 2415020) / 36525 \text{ Julian centuries}$$

= elapsed time in Julian centuries between Julian day JD and noon UT on Jan 0, 1900 (Jan 0.5, 1900).

**UT or UTC:** Universal time coordinated (based on atomic time given by Cesium clocks; the atomic time is broadcasted).

$$\text{UT}[\text{deg}] = 360 [1/24(\text{h} + \text{min}/60 + \text{sec}/60)] \quad [\text{deg}]$$

# Sidereal Day vs. Solar Day



Sidereal Day versus Solar Day

Sidereal day:

1 Earth rotation relative to the stars

Earth Rotation  
 $0^\circ$

Solar day:

1 Earth rotation relative to the Sun

0hrs 0min

0hrs 0min



Sidereal Day = 23hr 56min 4sec

Solar Day = 24hrs

0:03 / 0:33

James O'Donoghue (@physics1)

Earth Rotation  
**180°**

11hrs 58min

11hrs 58min



Sidereal Day = 23hr 56min 4sec

Solar Day = 24hrs

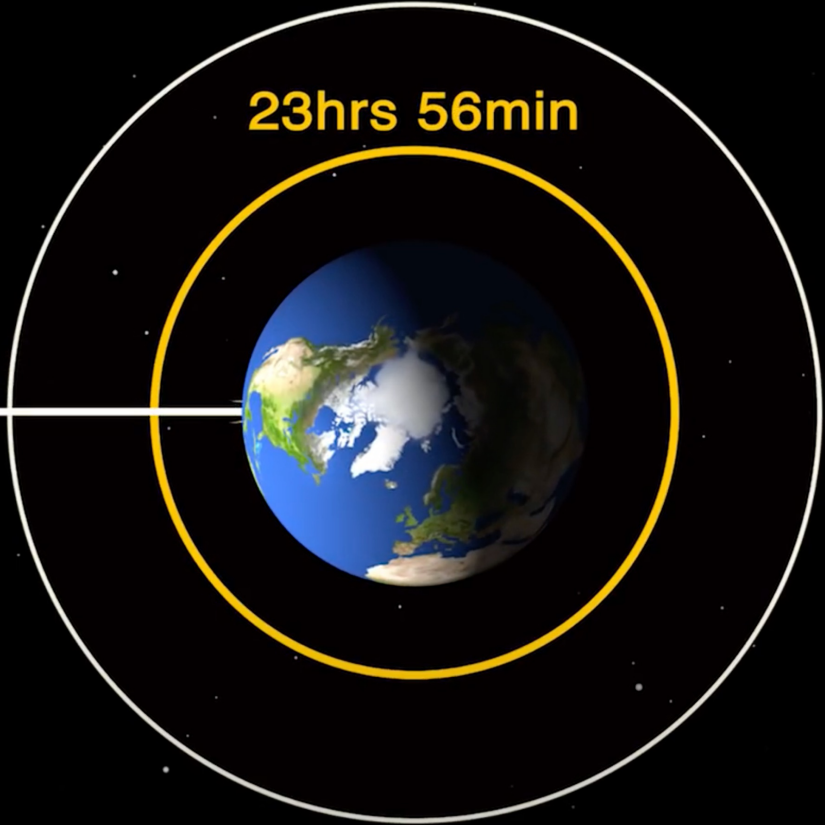
23hrs 56min (360°)

23hrs 56min

Sidereal Day



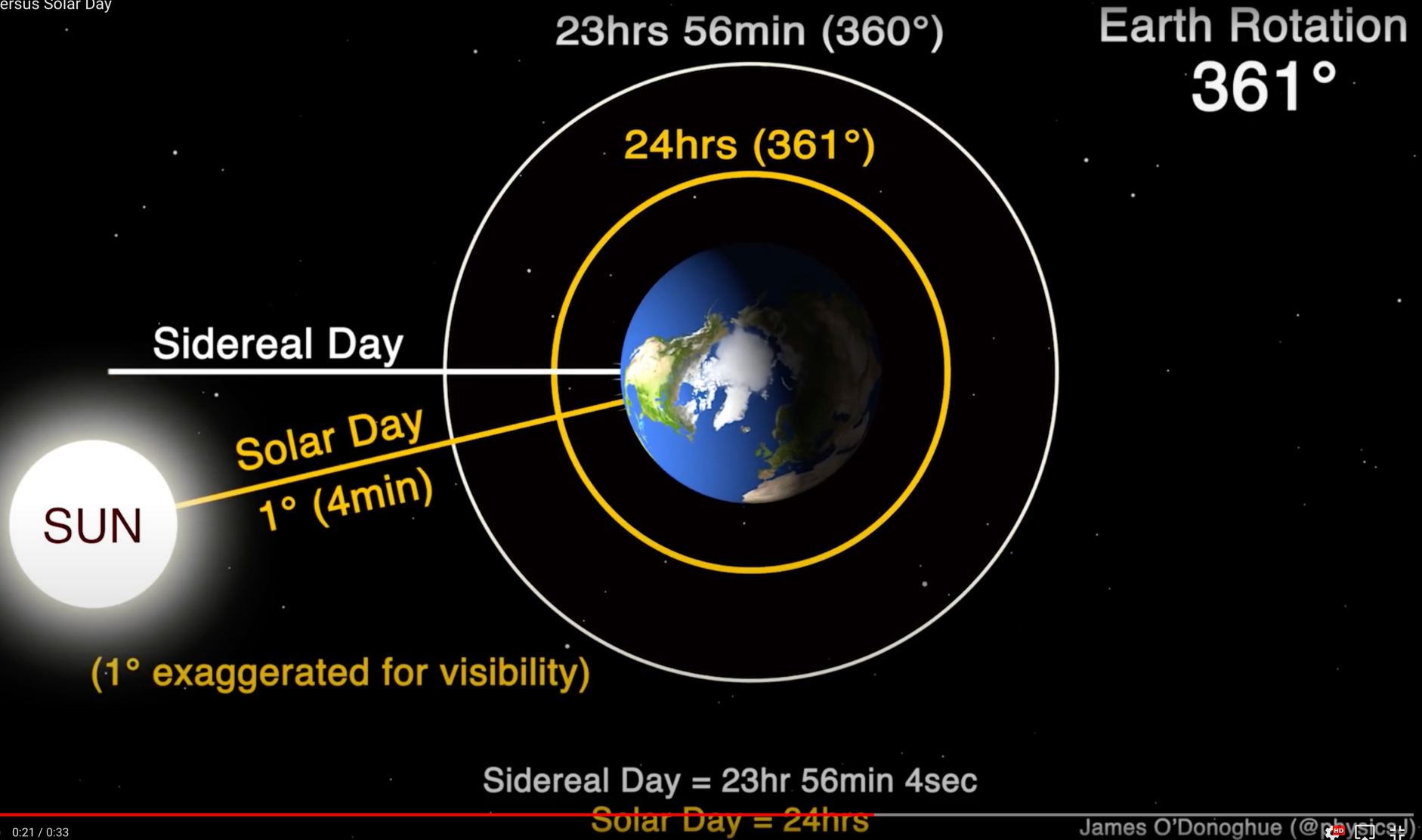
SUN



Sidereal Day = 23hr 56min 4sec

Solar Day = 24hrs





## Example 2-7

What is GST on 28 January 1994 at 12:00 UT?

$$0.0 \text{ Jan 1994: JD} = 2449352.5$$

$$28.5 \text{ Jan 1994: } + \quad 28.5$$

---

$$2449381.0$$

$$T_c = (2449381.0 - 2415020.0) / 36525$$

$$= 0.9407529$$

$$\text{UT} = 180 \text{ deg}$$

$$\text{GST} = 34,147.51907 \text{ [deg]}$$

$$= 307.51907 \text{ [deg]} \quad (94 \bullet 360 \text{ deg subtracted})$$

$$= 307^{\circ} 31' 8.652''$$

$$= 20^{\text{h}} 30^{\text{m}} 4.5768^{\text{s}}$$

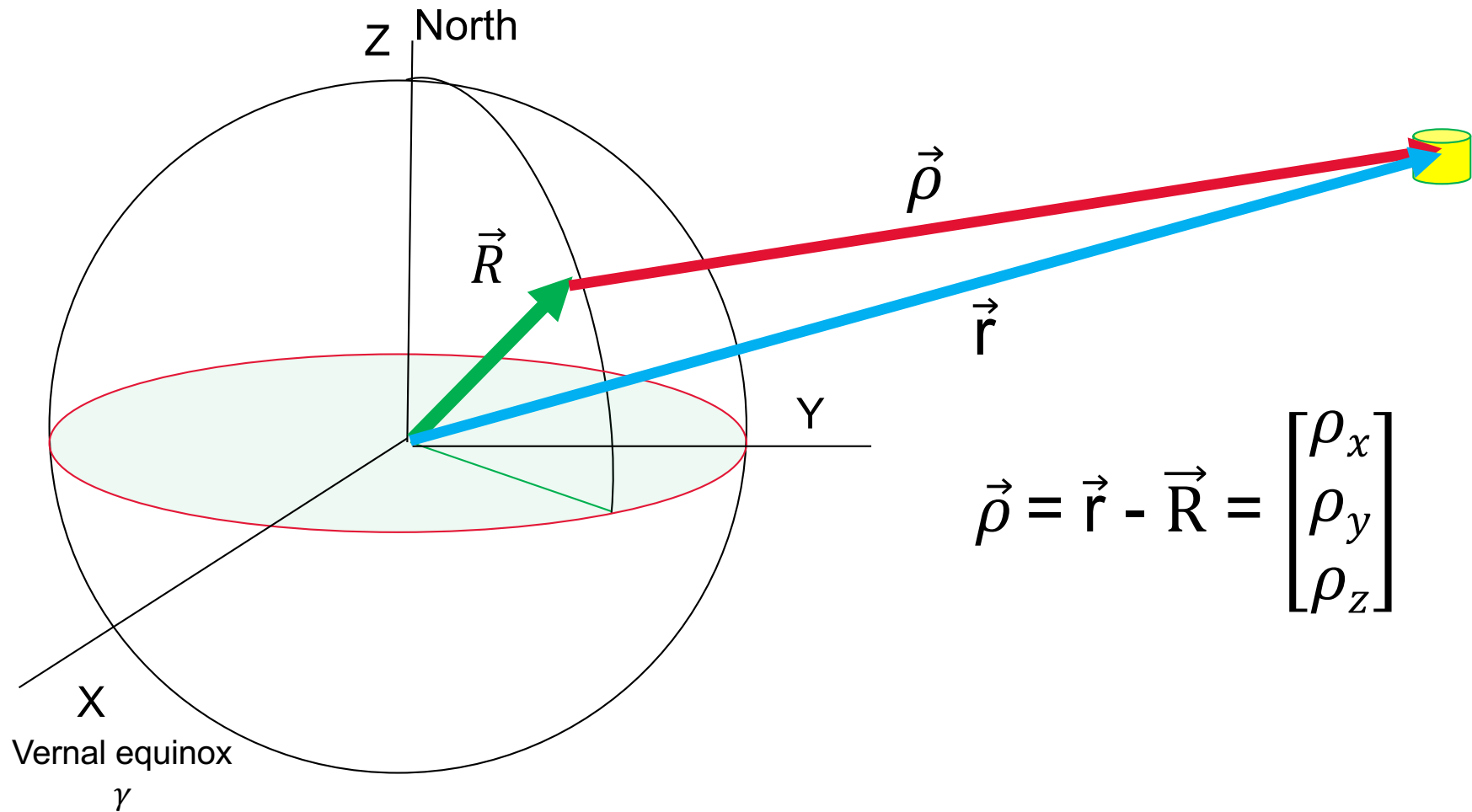


On 28 January 1994 at 12:00 UT, GST = 20<sup>h</sup> 30<sup>m</sup> 4.5768<sup>s</sup>

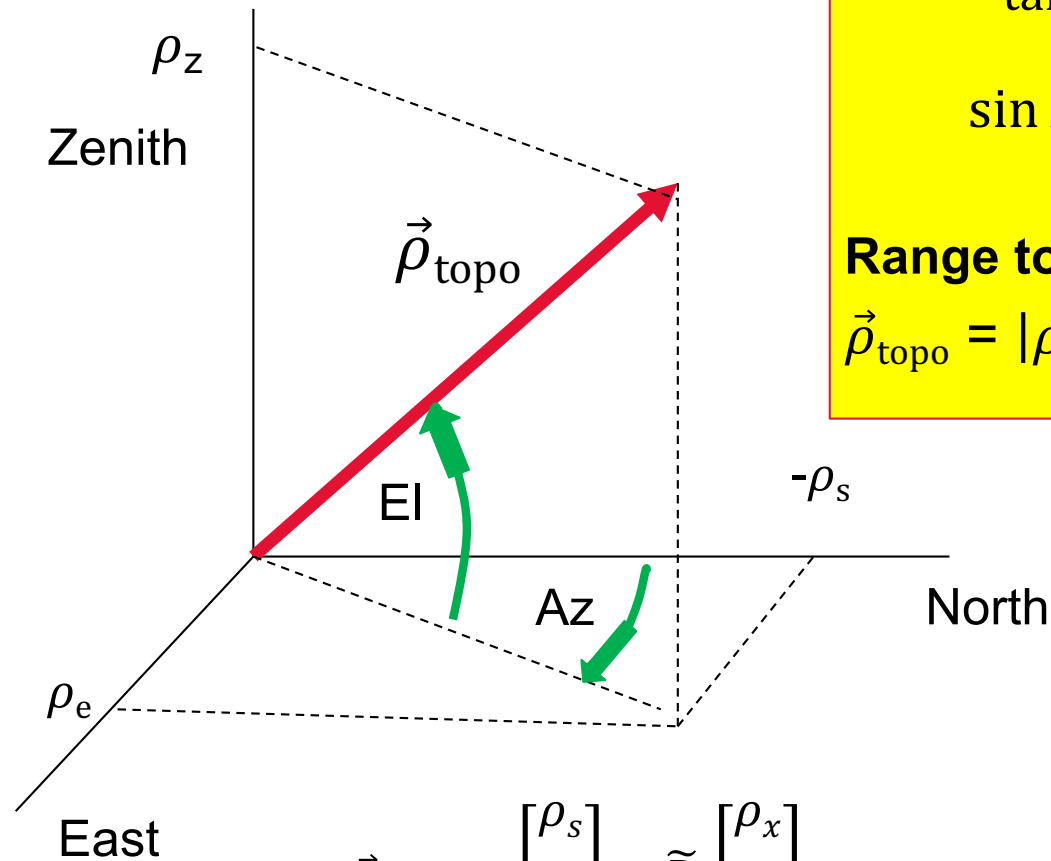
On 28 September 2020 at 09:00 UT, GST = 13<sup>h</sup> 31<sup>m</sup> 3.9<sup>s</sup>

## 4. Locate satellite in topocentric-horizon coordinate system

a) Calculate range vector in geocentric equatorial coordinate system



b) Make coordinate transformation to the topocentric horizon coordinate system



**Antenna look angles: Az, El**

$$\tan Az = \frac{\rho_E}{\rho_s}$$

$$\sin El = -\frac{\rho_z}{|\rho|}$$

**Range to the satellite**

$$\vec{\rho}_{\text{topo}} = |\rho| = \sqrt{\rho_s^2 + \rho_E^2 + \rho_z^2}$$

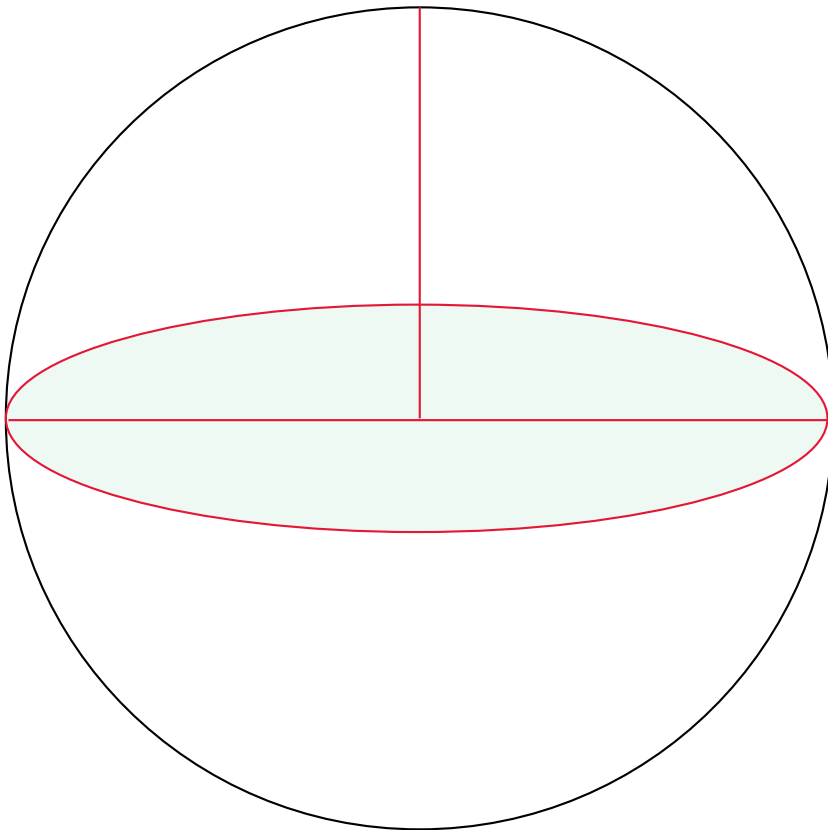
$$\vec{\rho}_{\text{topo}} = \begin{bmatrix} \rho_s \\ \rho_e \\ \rho_z \end{bmatrix} = \tilde{D} \begin{bmatrix} \rho_x \\ \rho_y \\ \rho_z \end{bmatrix}$$

$\tilde{D}$  Matrix elements are functions of LST and  $\lambda_e$

## Special case:

Antenna look angles (Az, El) and range ( $|\rho|$ ) for a geostationary satellite

N



Given:  $\Phi_E$  : longitude of Earth station

$\lambda_E$  : latitude of earth station

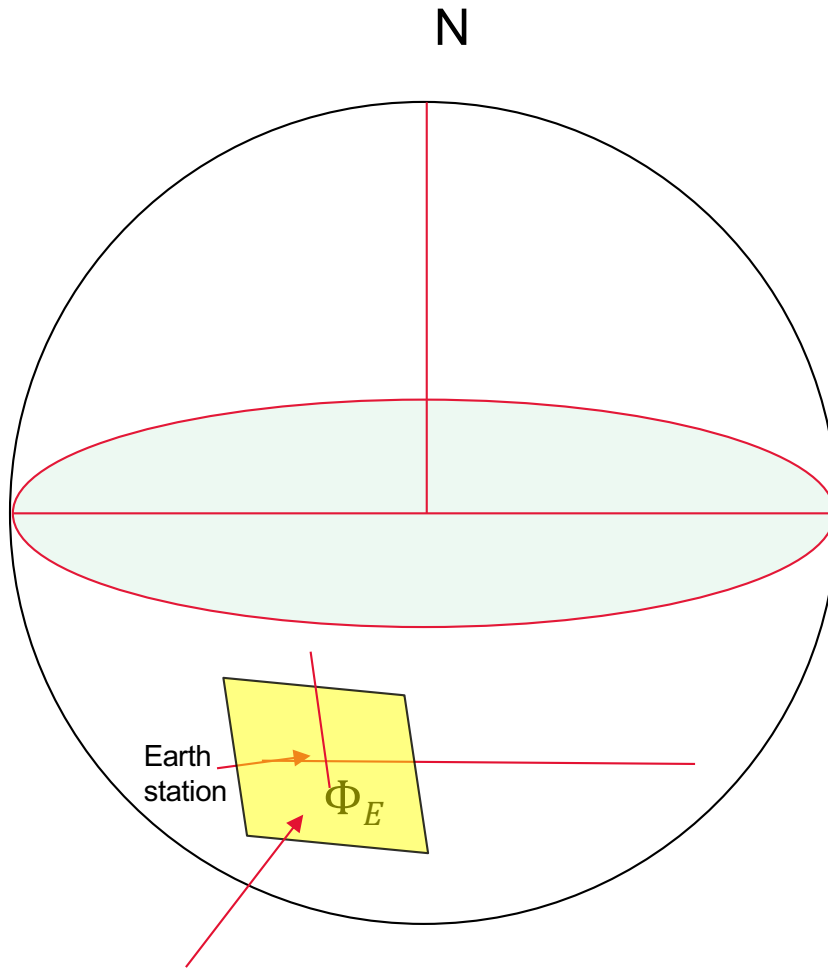
$\Phi_S$  : longitude of sub-satellite point

What are Az, El,  $|\rho|$ ,  $|\Phi_E - \Phi_S|_{lim}$  (visibility limits)?



## Special case:

Antenna look angles (Az, El) and range ( $|\rho|$ ) for a geostationary satellite



Topocentric-horizon coordinate system

Given:  $\Phi_E$  : longitude of Earth station

$\lambda_E$  : latitude of earth station

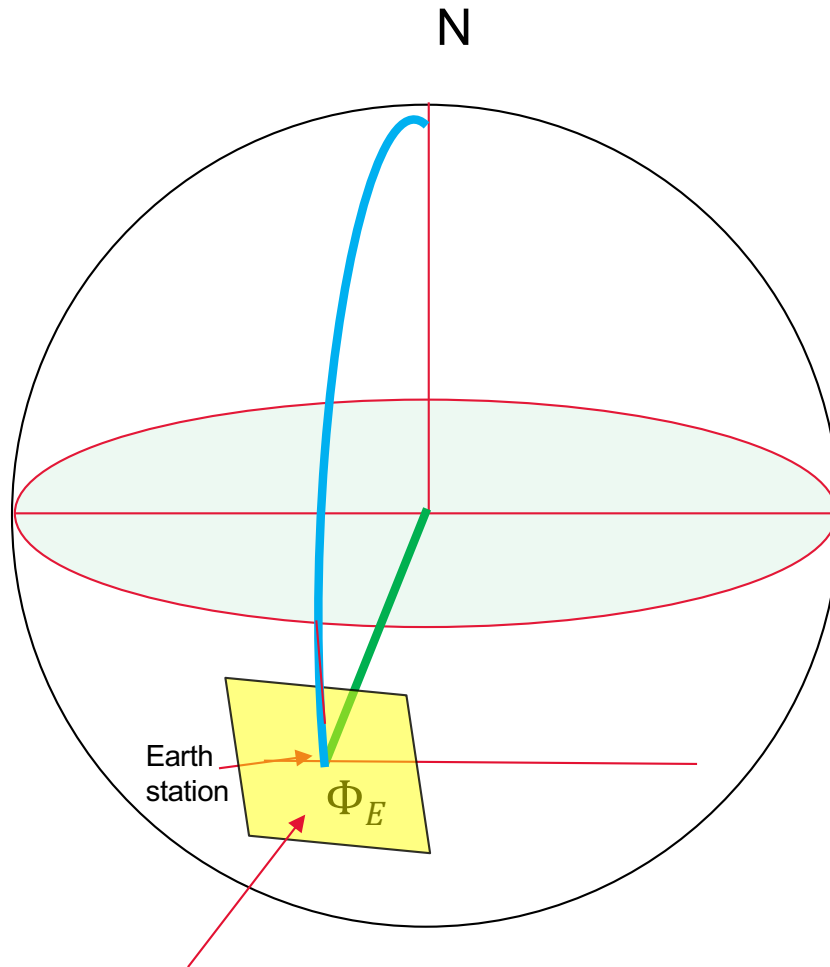
$\Phi_S$  : longitude of sub-satellite point

What are Az, El,  $|\rho|$ ,  $|\Phi_E - \Phi_S|_{lim}$  (visibility limits)?



## Special case:

Antenna look angles (Az, El) and range ( $|\rho|$ ) for a geostationary satellite



Topocentric-horizon coordinate system

Given:  $\Phi_E$  : longitude of Earth station

$\lambda_E$  : latitude of earth station

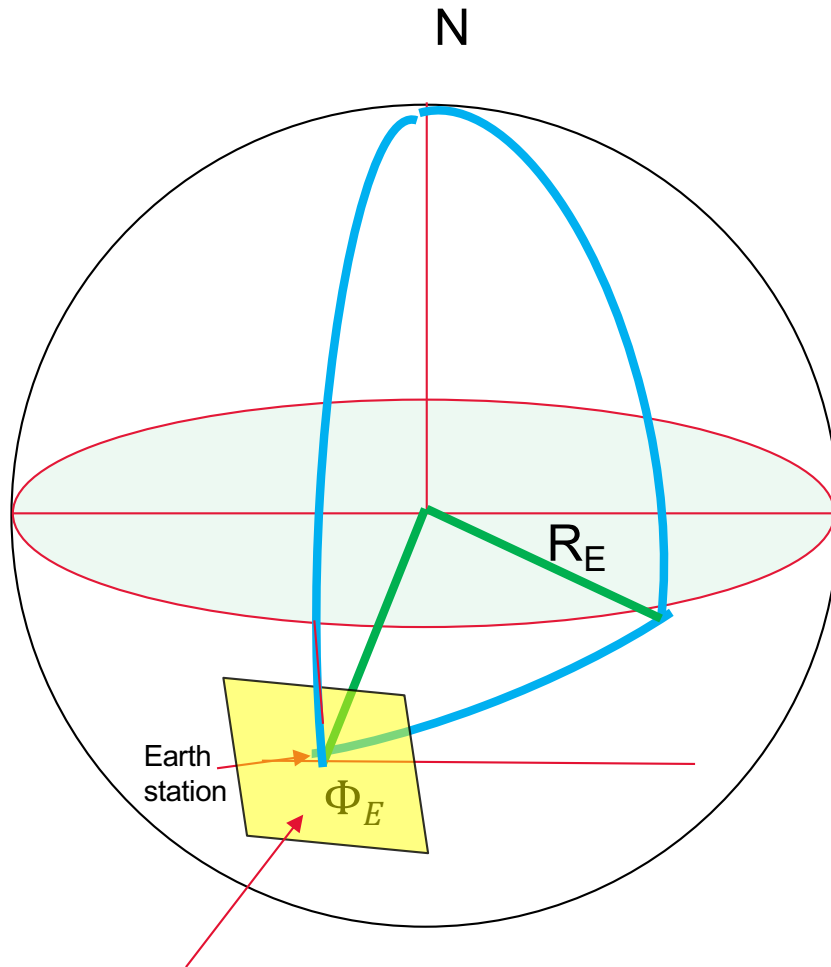
$\Phi_S$  : longitude of sub-satellite point

What are Az, El,  $|\rho|$ ,  $|\Phi_E - \Phi_S|_{lim}$  (visibility limits)?



## Special case:

Antenna look angles (Az, El) and range ( $|\rho|$ ) for a geostationary satellite



Topocentric-horizon coordinate system

Given:  $\Phi_E$  : longitude of Earth station

$\lambda_E$  : latitude of earth station

$\Phi_S$  : longitude of sub-satellite point

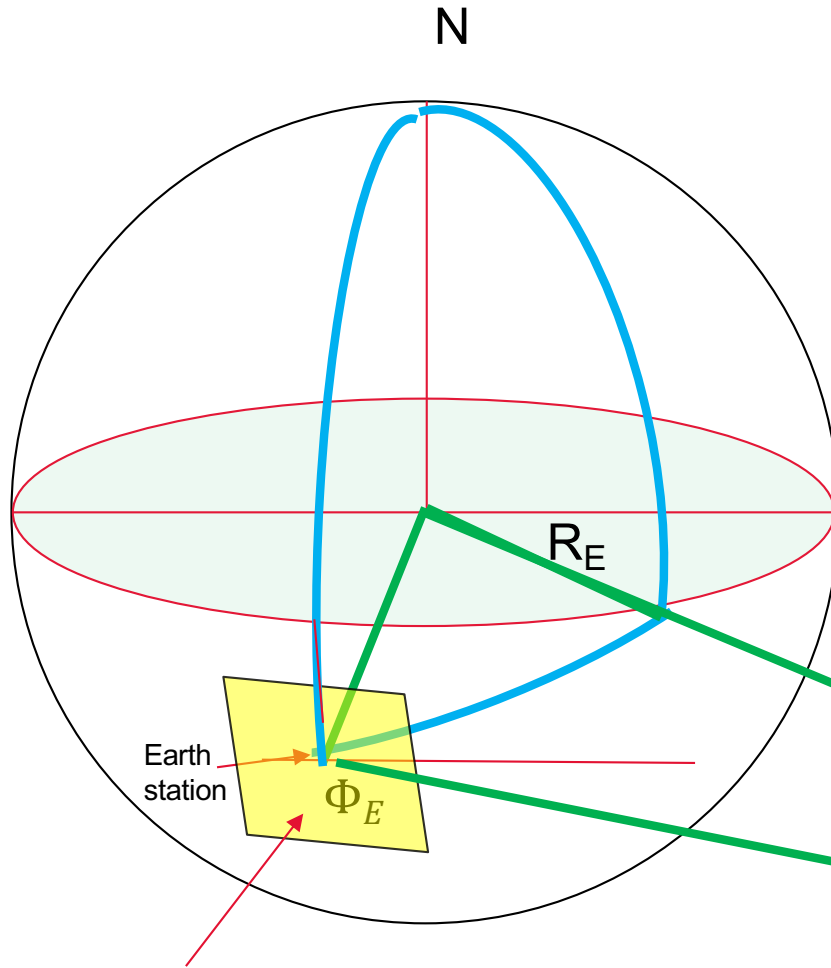
What are Az, El,  $|\rho|$ ,  $|\Phi_E - \Phi_S|_{lim}$  (visibility limits)?





## Special case:

Antenna look angles (Az, El) and range ( $|\rho|$ ) for a geostationary satellite



Topocentric-horizon coordinate system

Given:  $\Phi_E$  : longitude of Earth station

$\lambda_E$  : latitude of earth station

$\Phi_S$  : longitude of sub-satellite point

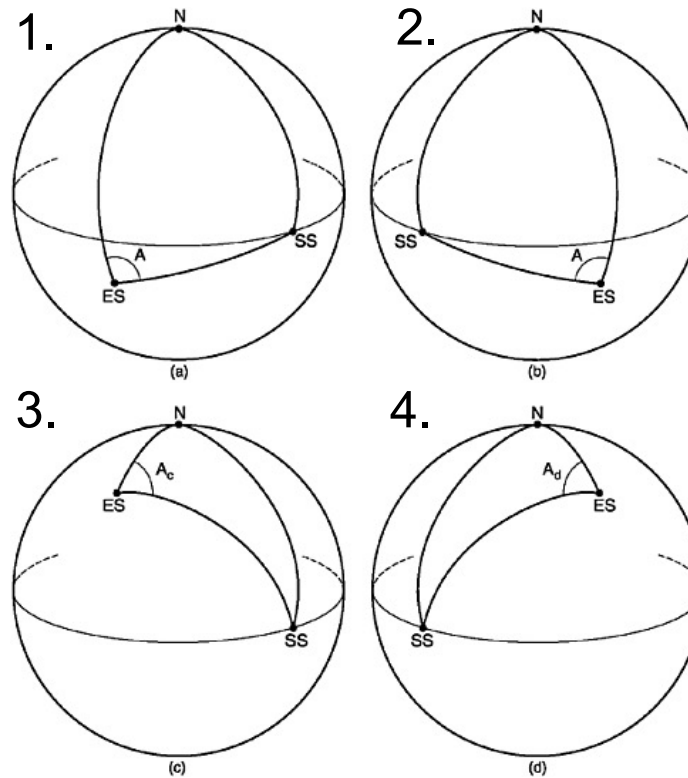
What are Az, El,  $|\rho|$ ,  $|\Phi_E - \Phi_S|_{\text{lim}}$  (visibility limits)?



## Az (Azimuth)

$$\tan A = \frac{-\tan(|\Phi_E - \Phi_S|)}{\sin \lambda_E}$$

1. With station in southern hemisphere ( $\lambda_E < 0$ ):  $\Phi_E - \Phi_S < 0$  :  $Az = A$
2. With station in southern hemisphere ( $\lambda_E < 0$ ):  $\Phi_E - \Phi_S > 0$  :  $Az = 360^\circ - A$
  
3. With station in northern hemisphere ( $\lambda_E > 0$ ):  $\Phi_E - \Phi_S < 0$  :  $Az = 180^\circ + A$
4. With station in northern hemisphere ( $\lambda_E > 0$ ):  $\Phi_E - \Phi_S > 0$  :  $Az = 180^\circ - A$



## Az (Azimuth)

$$\tan A = \frac{-\tan(|\Phi_E - \Phi_S|)}{\sin \lambda_E}$$

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3. With station in northern hemisphere ( $\lambda_E > 0$ ):  $\Phi_E - \Phi_S < 0$  :  $Az = 180^\circ + A$
4. With station in northern hemisphere ( $\lambda_E > 0$ ):  $\Phi_E - \Phi_S > 0$  :  $Az = 180^\circ - A$

### Example 2-8

1.  $|\Phi_E - \Phi_S| = 60^\circ$      $\lambda_E = -15^\circ$

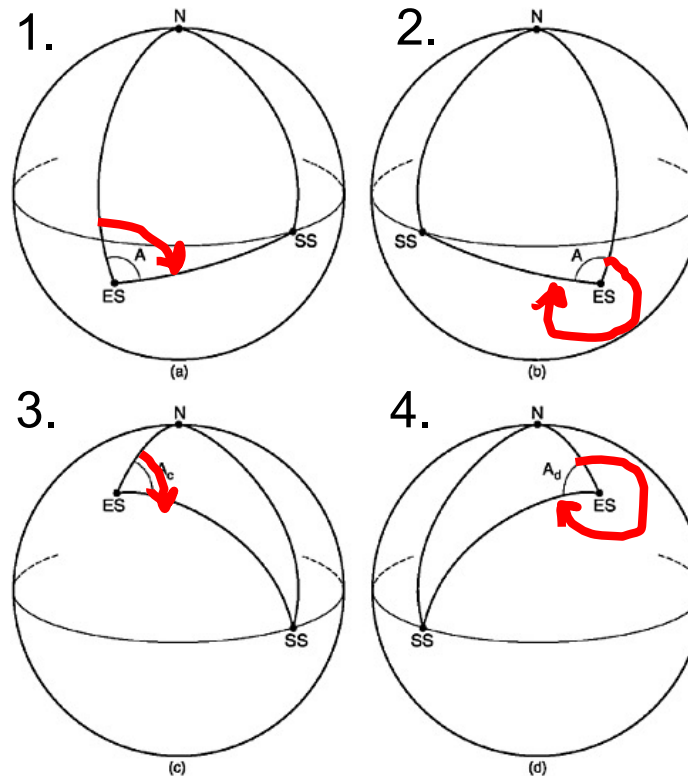
$$\tan A = \frac{-\tan(60)}{\sin(-15)} = \frac{-1.732}{-0.259} = 6.687$$

$A = 81.5^\circ$   
 $Az = 81.5^\circ$

4.  $|\Phi_E - \Phi_S| = 60^\circ$      $\lambda_E = 50^\circ$

$$\tan A = \frac{-\tan(60)}{\sin(50)} = \frac{-1.732}{0.766} = -2.261$$

$A = -66.1^\circ$   
 $Az = 246.1^\circ$



## EI (Elevation)

$$\cos El = \frac{R_E + h}{\rho} \sin c \quad \text{with} \quad \cos c = \cos \lambda_E \cos(\Phi_E - \Phi_S)$$

## $|\rho|$ (Range)

$$|\rho| = \left[ R_\oplus^2 + (R_E + h)^2 - 2R_\oplus(R_E + h) \cos c \right]^{1/2}$$

Note:

$$R_\oplus = R_e \left( 1 - \frac{\sin^2 \lambda_e}{298.257} \right)$$

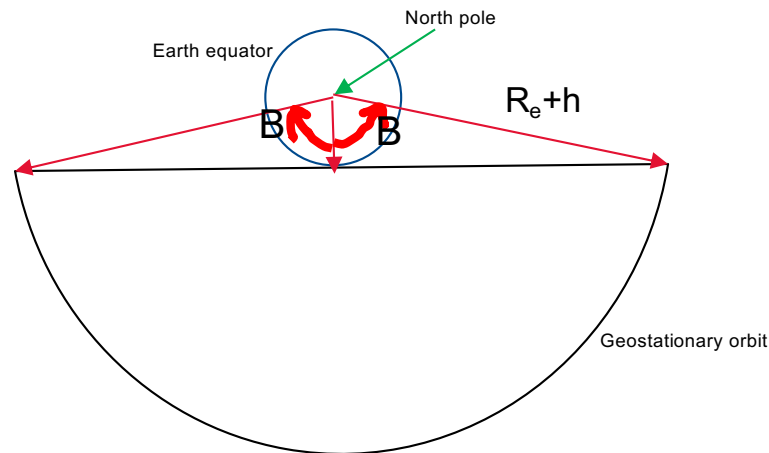
## B (Limits of visibility)

$$B = \cos^{-1} \left\{ \frac{\sin \left[ El_{min} + \sin^{-1} \left( \frac{R_\oplus \cos El_{min}}{R_E + h} \right) \right]}{\cos \lambda_E} \right\}$$

$El_{min}$  = minimum pointing elevation for antenna

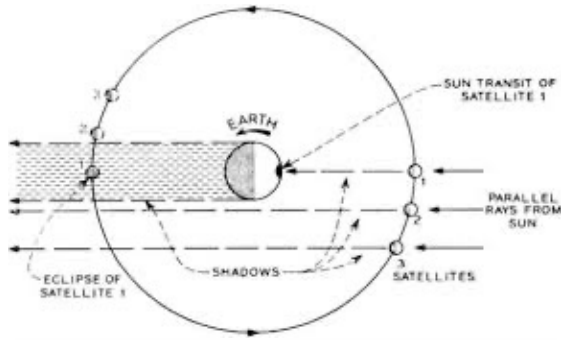
Satellites can be seen with sub-satellite longitudes  $+B$  and  $-B$  from the earth station longitude.

For earth station on equator and  $El_{min} = 0^\circ$   $B = \cos^{-1} \left( \frac{6378.14}{42164.17} \right) = 81.3^\circ$

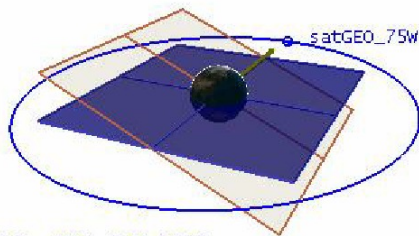


$R_e + h$ : Geostationary orbit radius  $\rightarrow a$

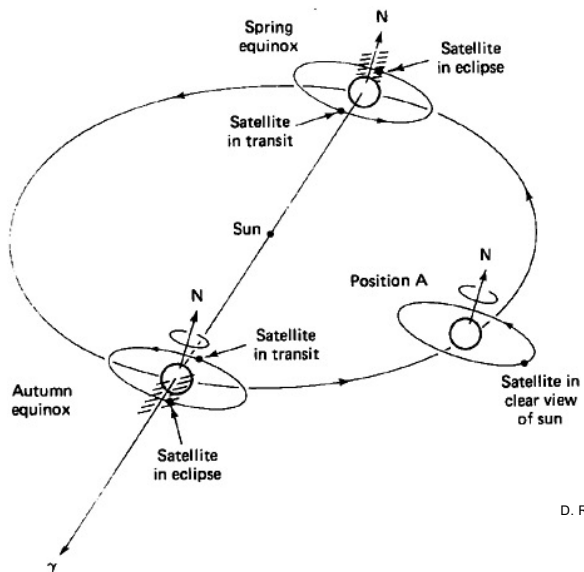
# Earth eclipse of satellite



<https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/stamp/stamp.jsp?arnumber=6769530>



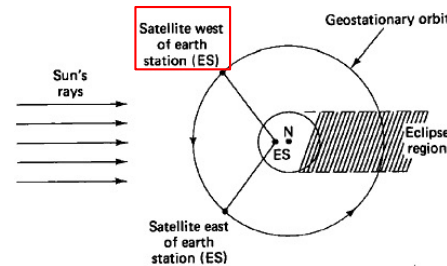
20 Mar 2004 17:00:00.00



D. Roddy (2006)

**Earth eclipse of satellite:** Satellite gets into the shadow of Earth. That happens for LEO satellites frequently and would happen once each day also for geostationary satellites if the Earth equator were not tilted with respect to the Earth orbit.

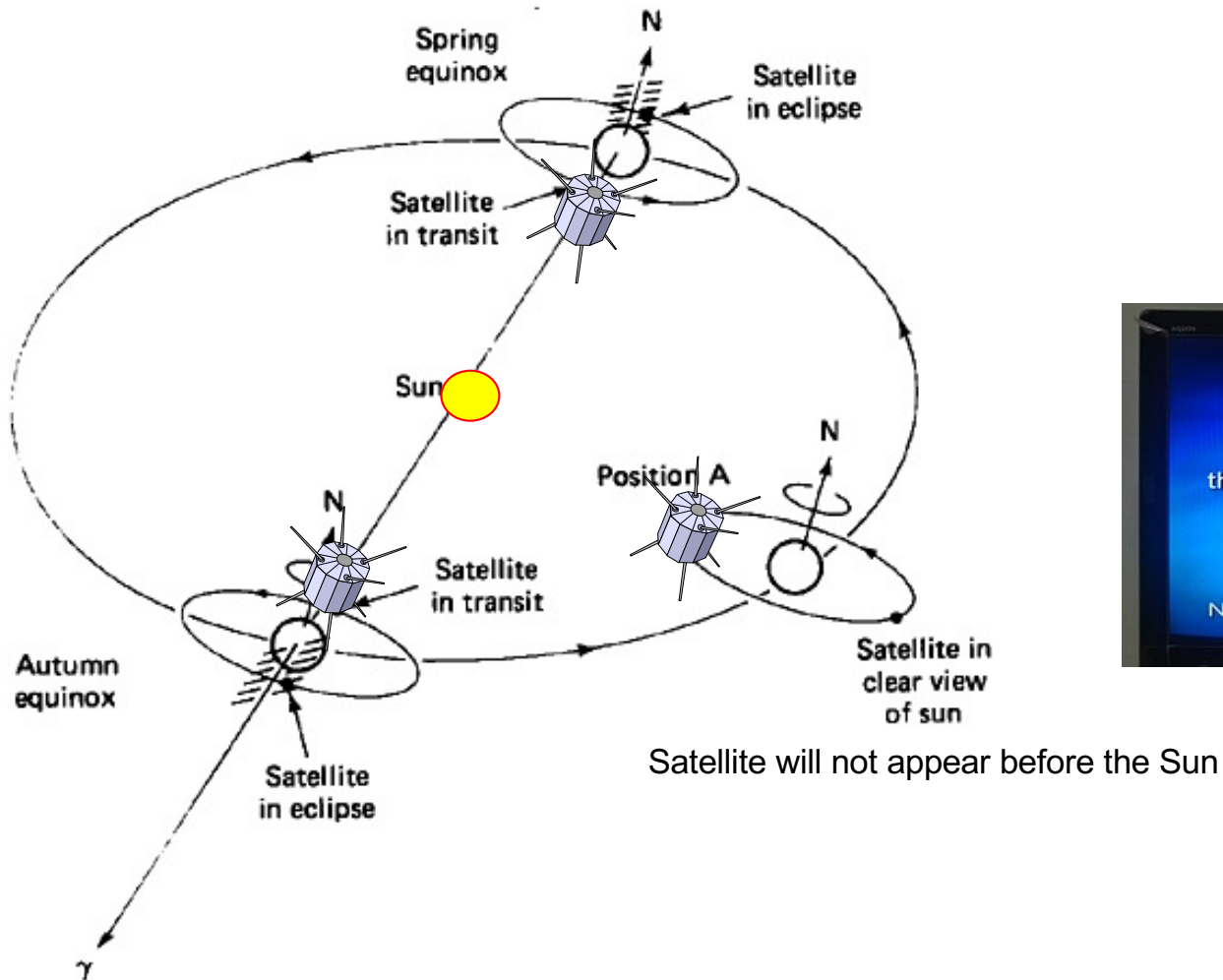
Because of the obliquity of  $23.4^\circ$  geostationary satellites are in full view of the Sun throughout the year except around the equinoxes. **For  $\pm 23$  days around the equinoxes a geostationary satellite is in the Earth shadow for 10 to 72 min/day.** During these times batteries need to be used on the satellite.

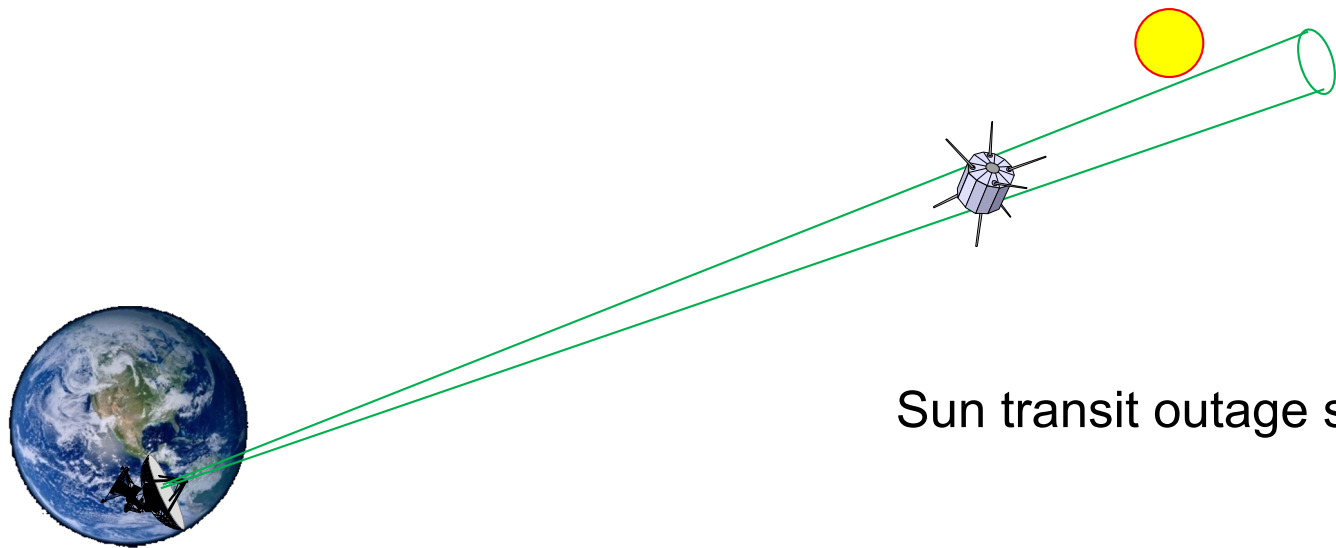


**Preferred positions for geostationary satellites:** Satellites east of ES enter shadow early in the evening during busy times. A satellite west of ES enters shadow in the early morning hours when usage is low.

# Sun transit outage

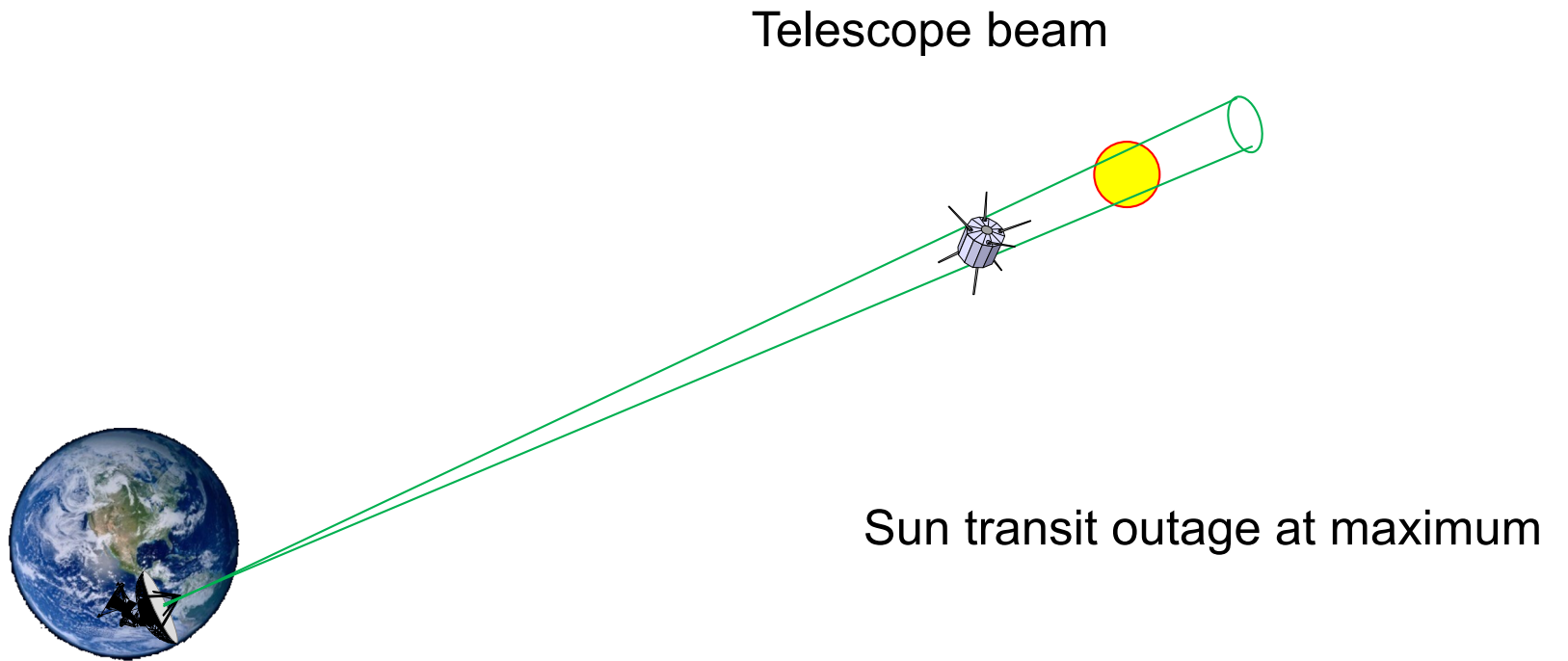
Sun transit outage: When a satellite comes close to the line of sight to the Sun, the earth station picks up a lot of noise from the Sun that blanks out the signal from the satellite. For geostationary satellites that happens for  $\pm 6$  days around the equinoxes for 10 min/day.

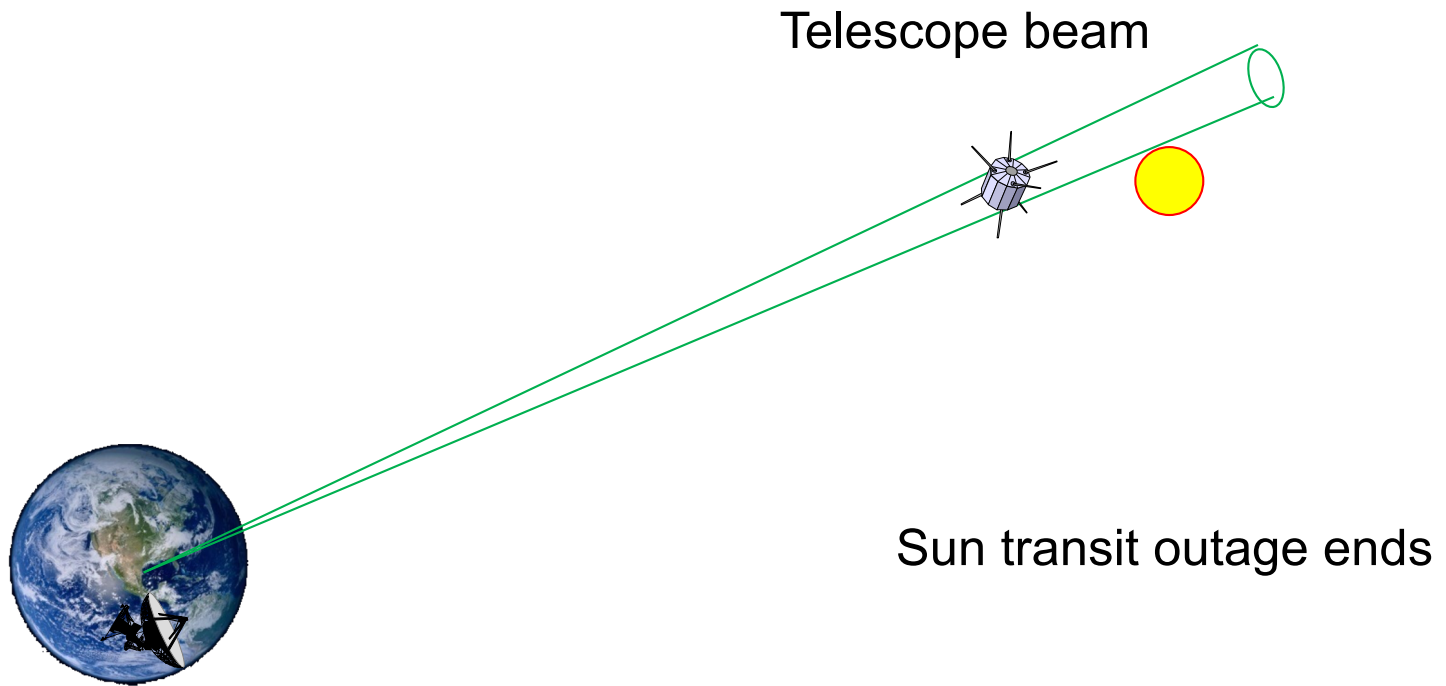




Sun transit outage starts

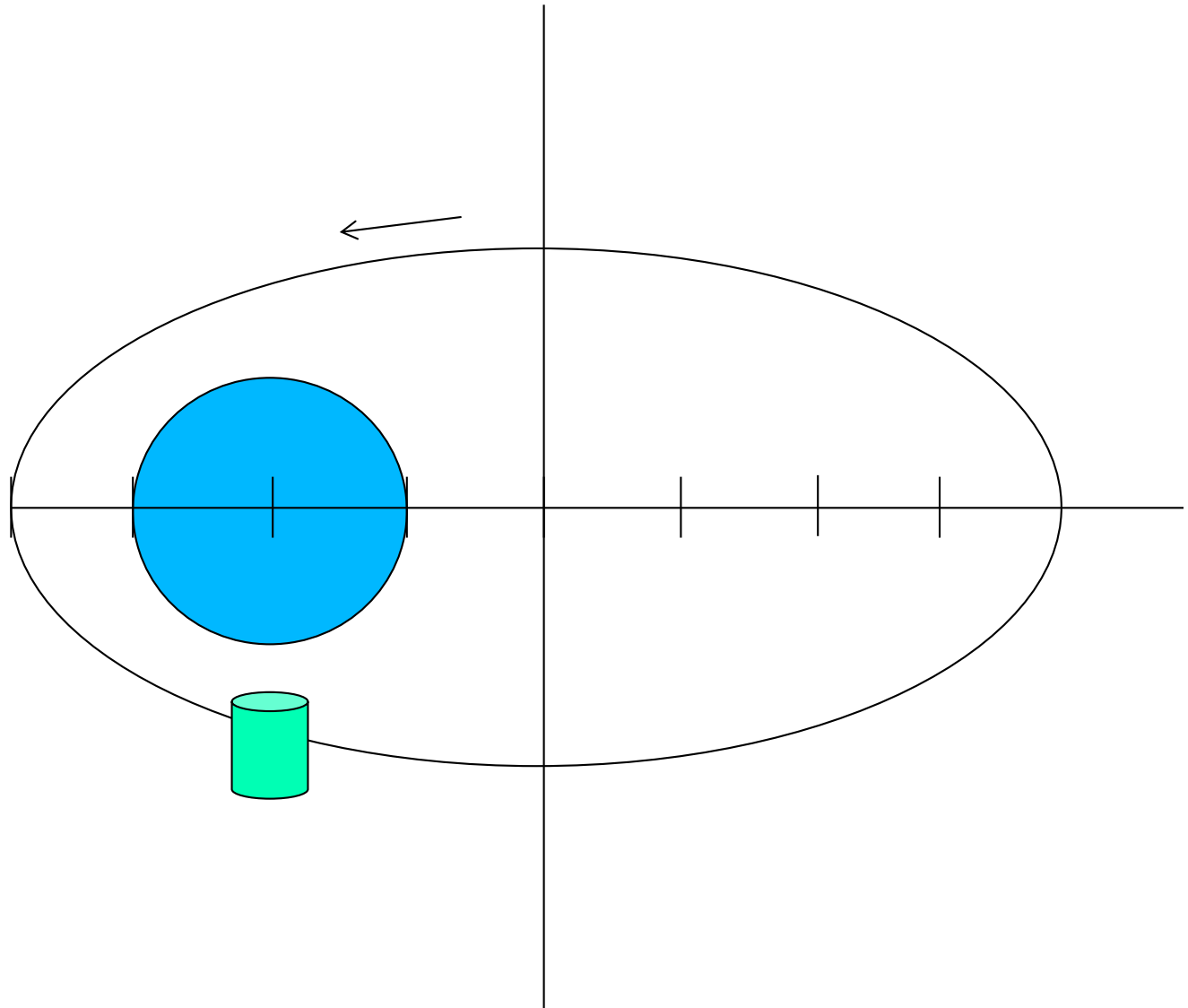




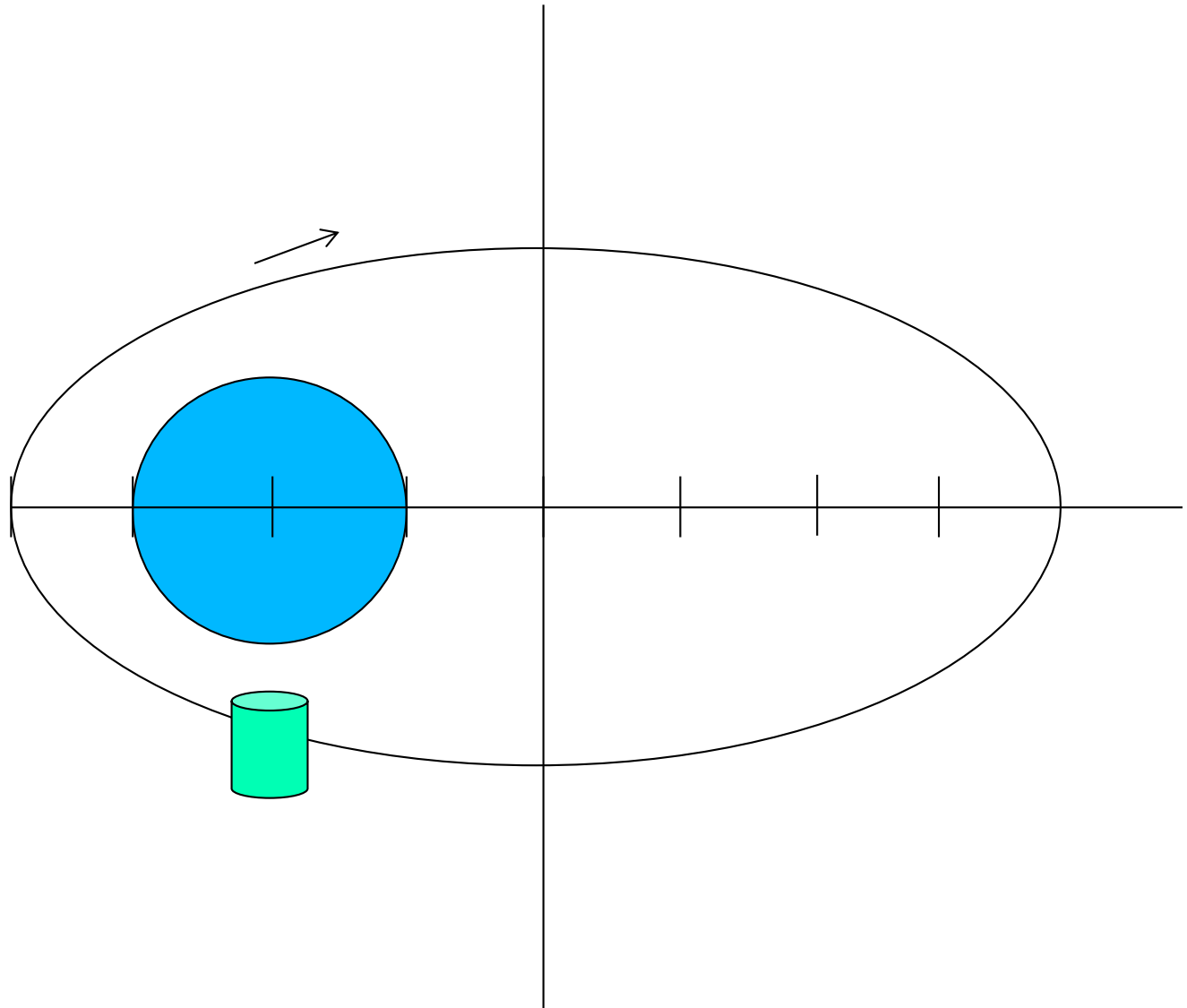


# Practice questions

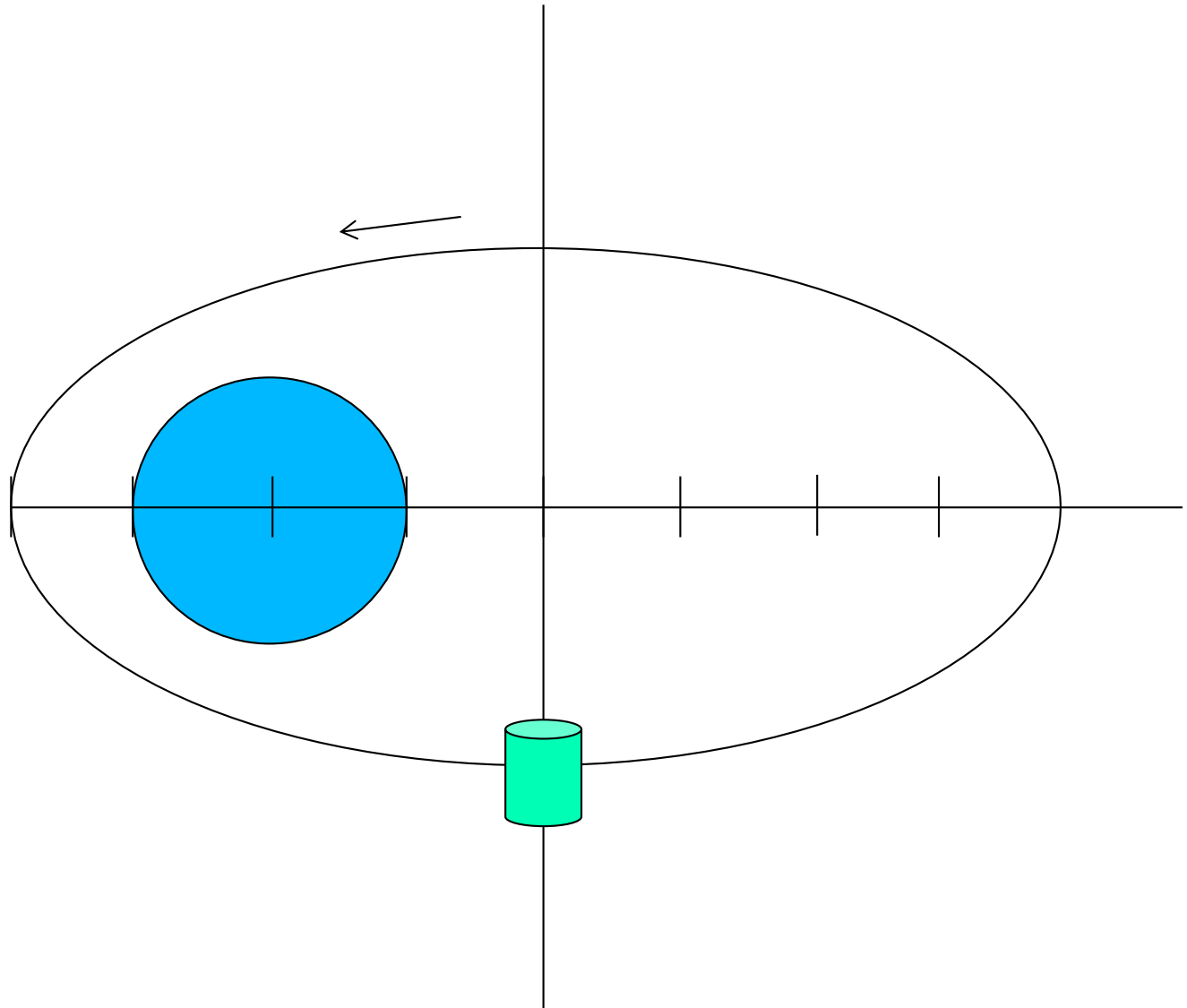
1) Give the values of the orbital parameters and show how they are defined



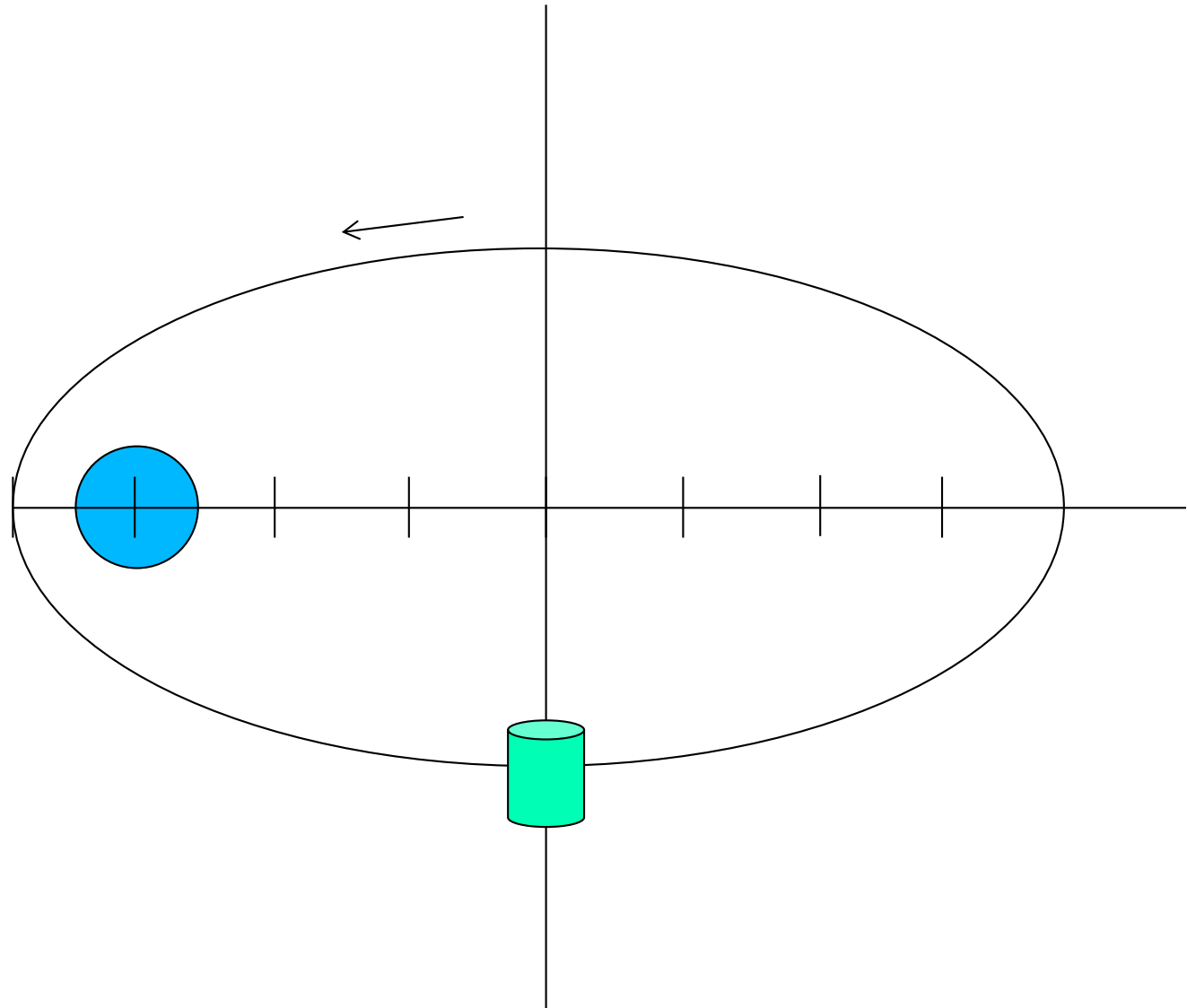
1) Give the values of the orbital parameters and show how they are defined



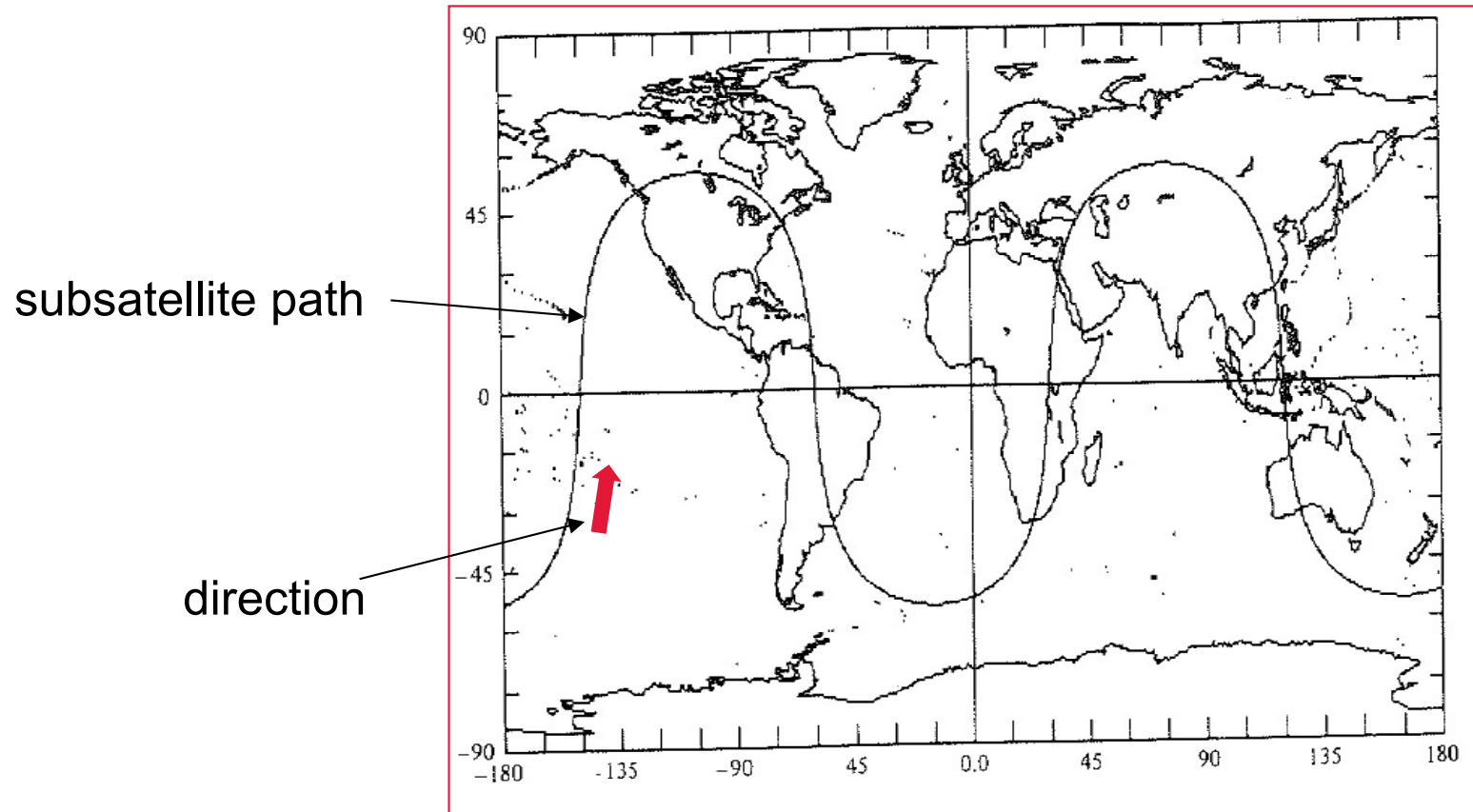
1) Give the values of the orbital parameters and show how they are defined



1) Give the values of the orbital parameters and show how they are defined



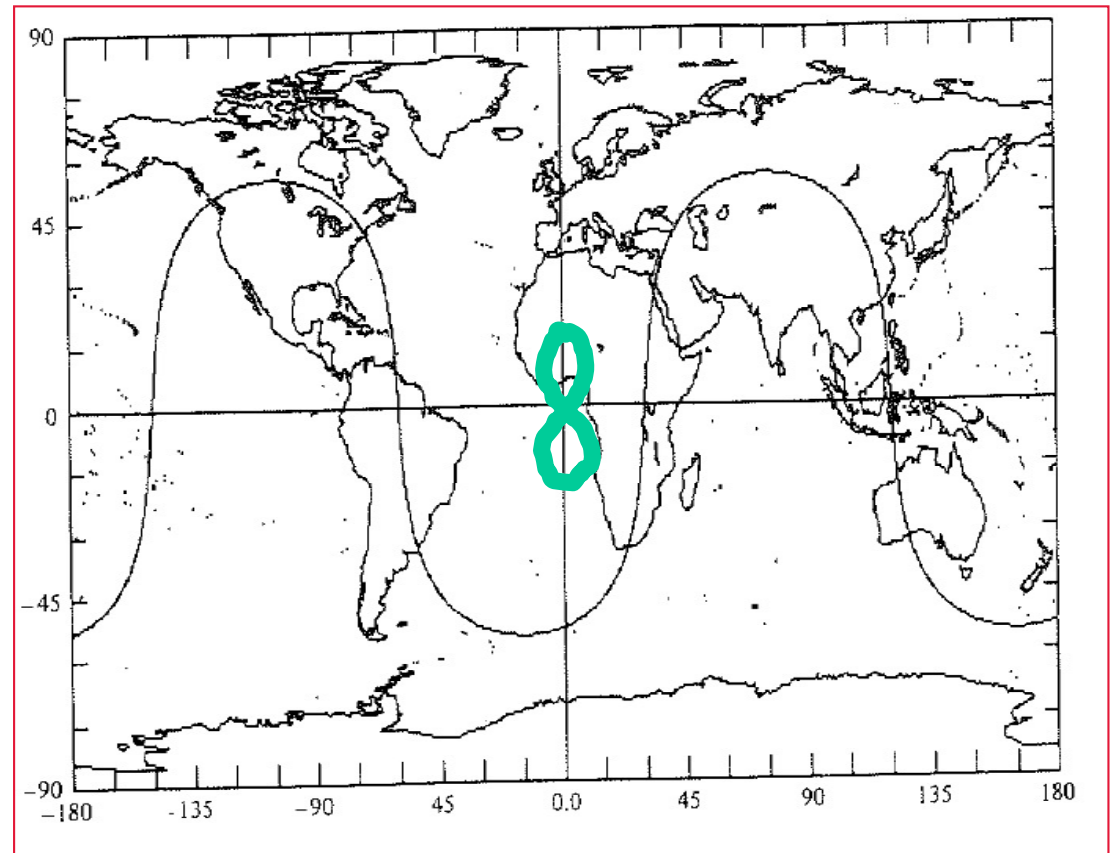
3) Which Keplerian elements can be inferred from the subsatellite path on the figure below?





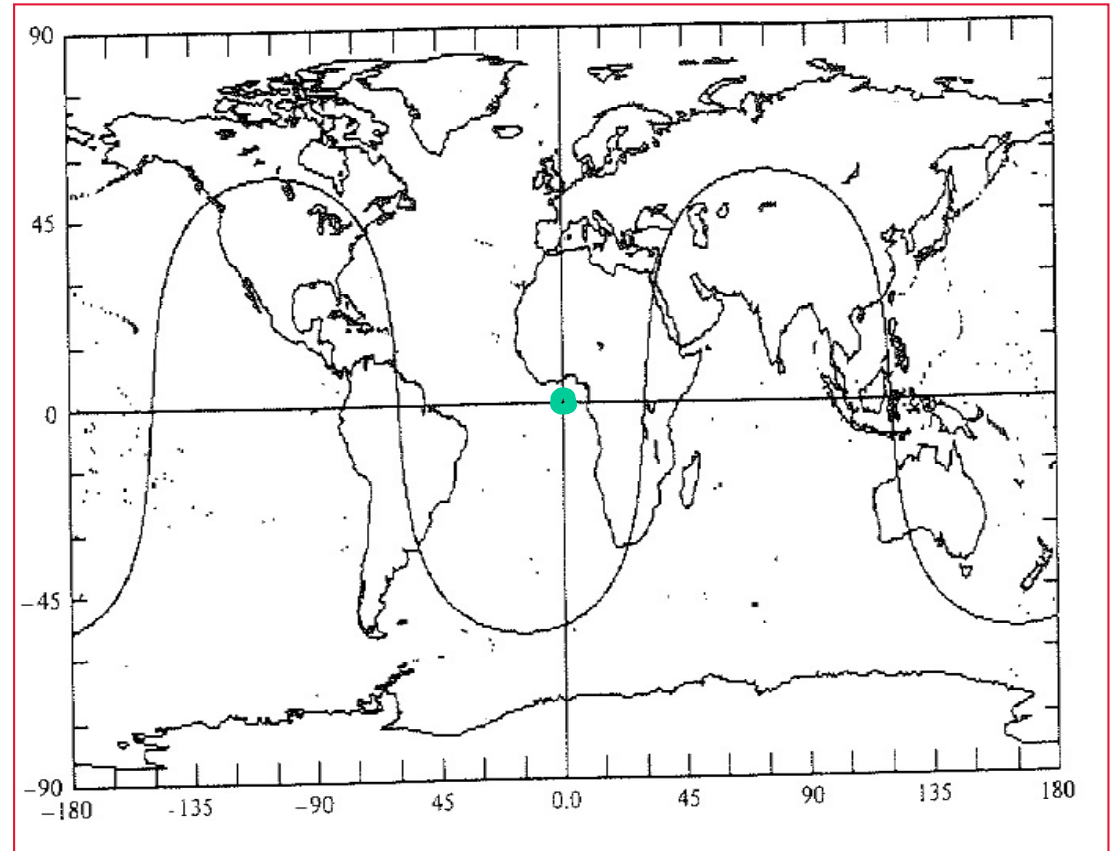
3) Which of the Keplerian elements of the satellite with the green path on the figure below is correct?

- A.  $a = 21,164$  km,
- B.  $a = 42,164$  km
- C.  $e = 0.2$
- D.  $e = -0.2$
- E.  $i = 40^\circ$

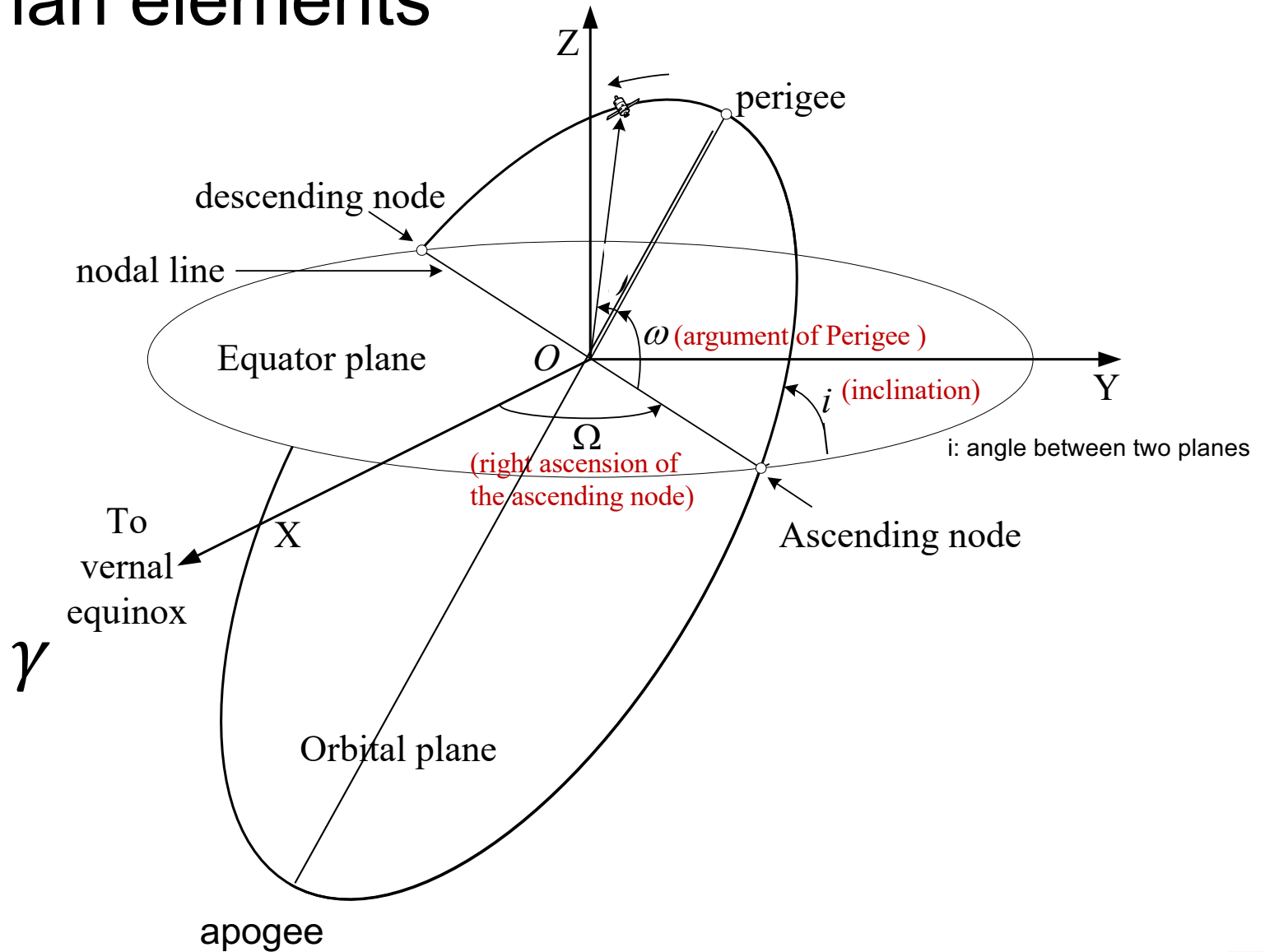


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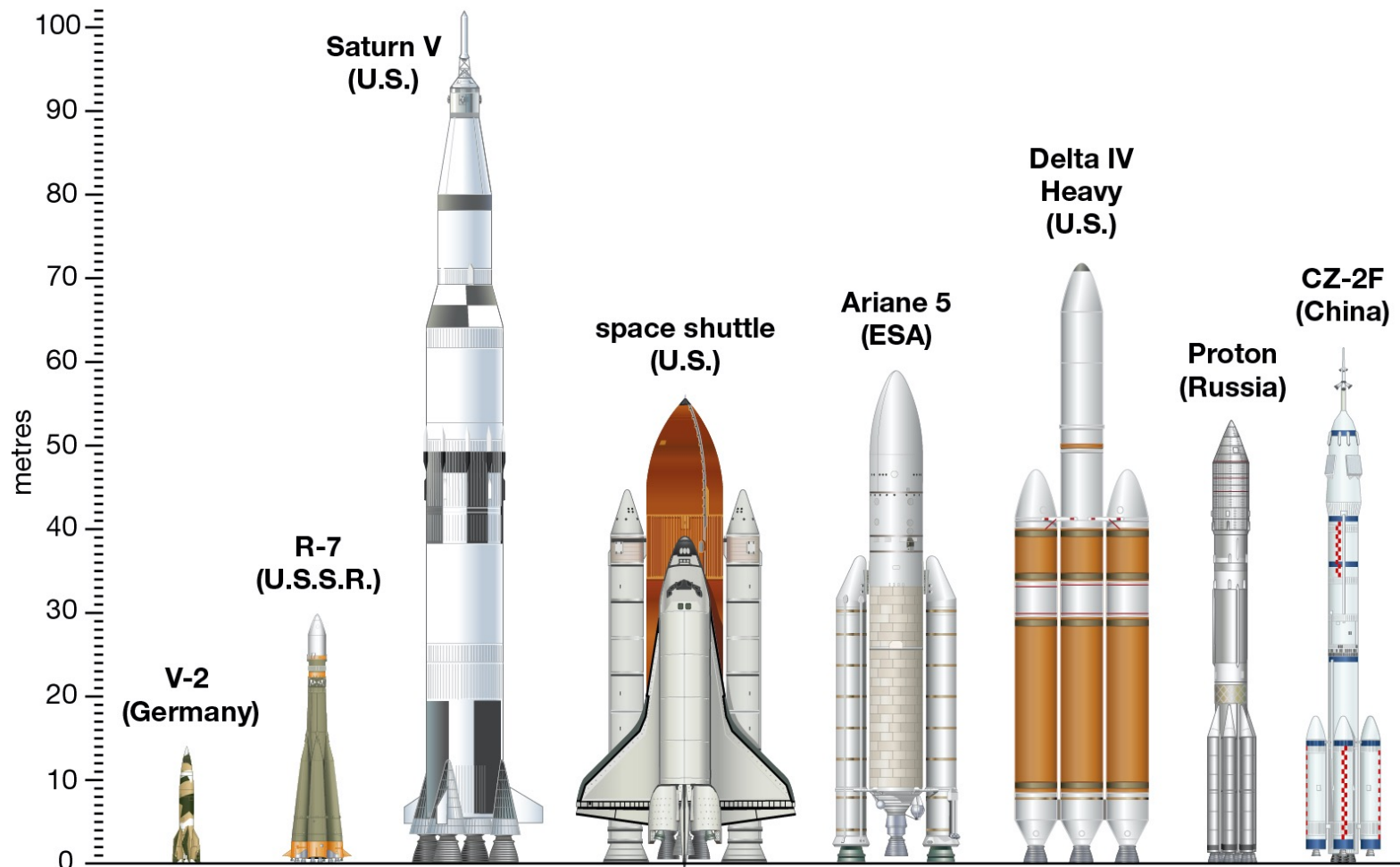


# Keplerian elements

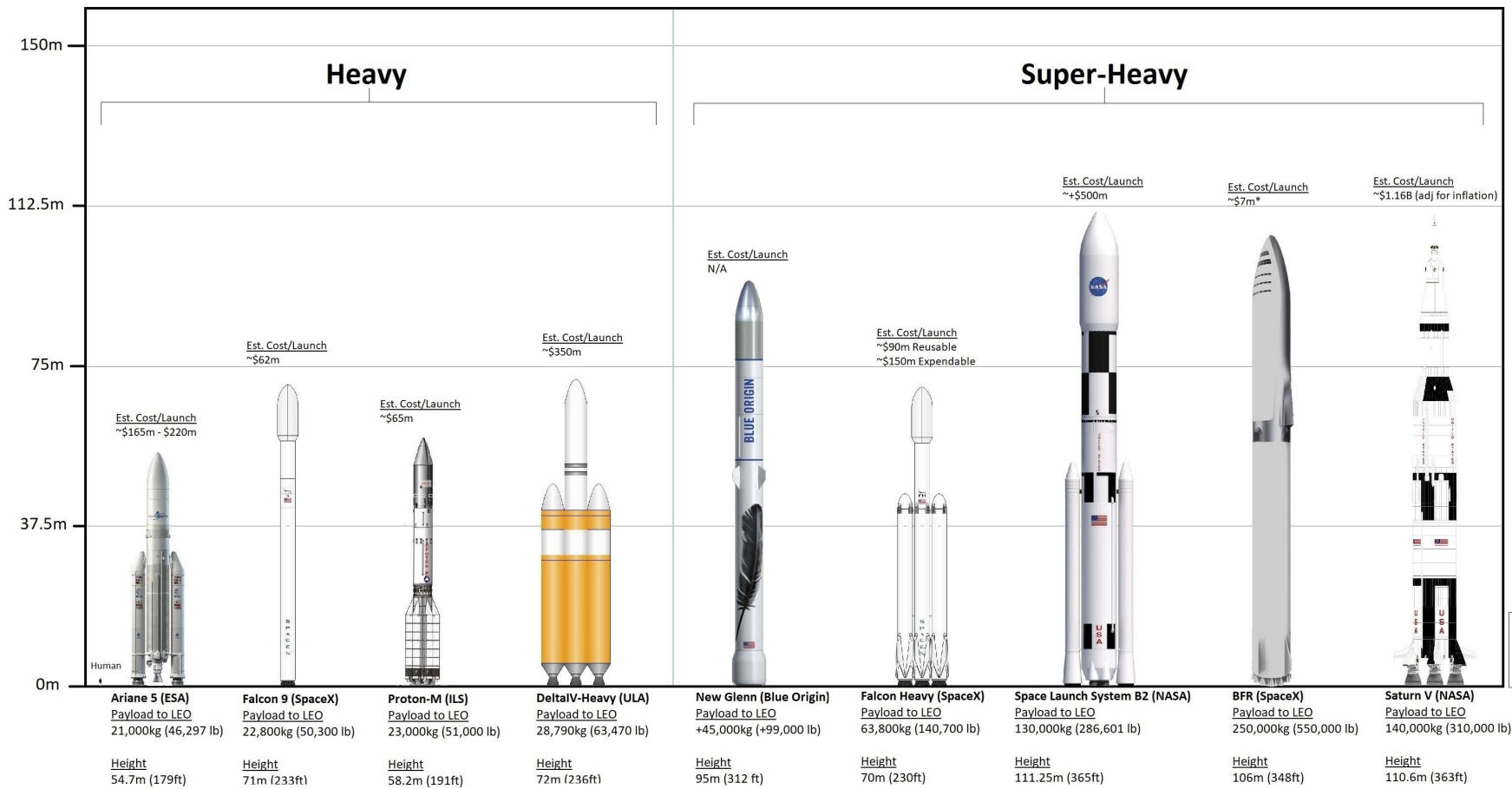




# 2.4 Launch



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Starship

+ Be aware that launch costs for vehicles in development are HIGHLY speculative



Launch of Haruka on board of a M-V rocket  
VLBI space observatory program



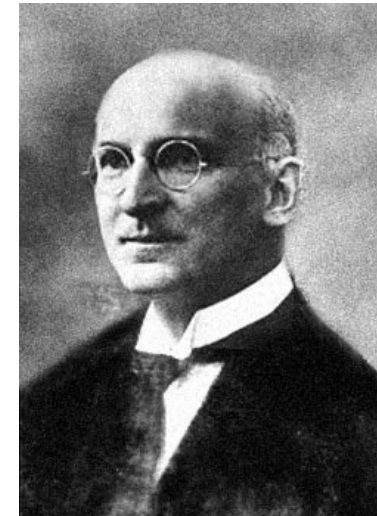
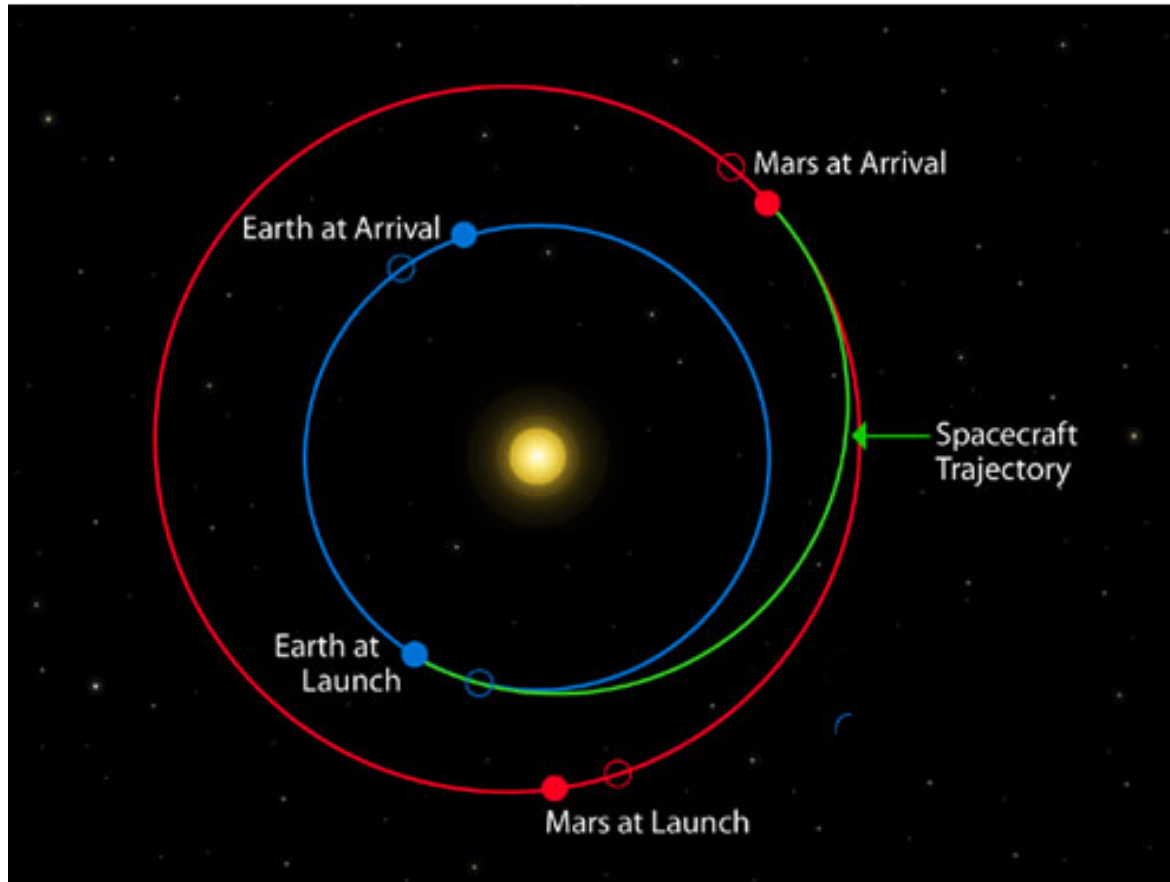
Launch of Gravity Probe B



Launch of RadioAstron



# Hohmann transfer orbit



Walter Hohmann  
1880-1945

Image credit: Smithsonian Institution

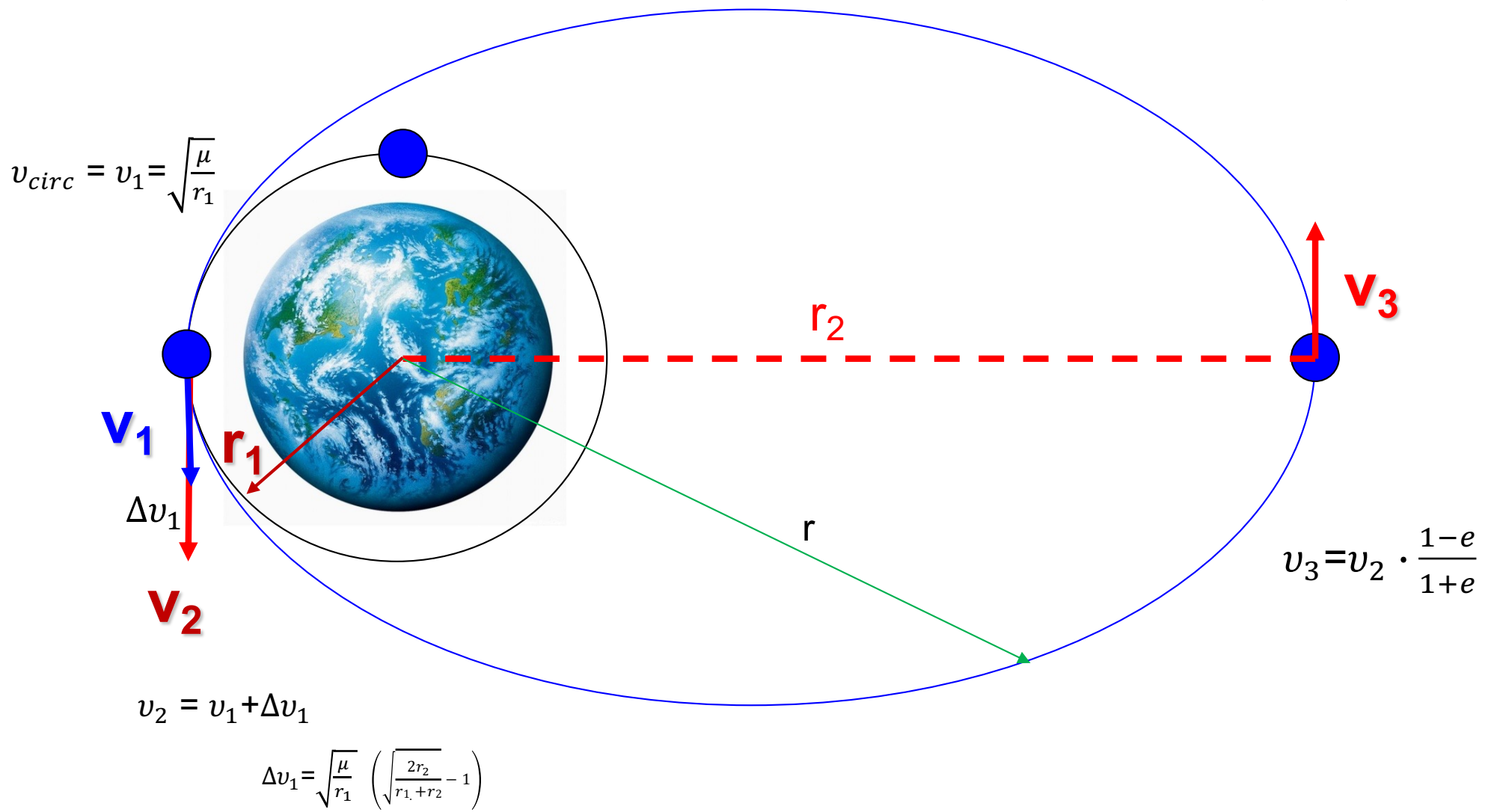
Hohmann transfer orbit is an elliptical orbit between two circular orbits in the same plane around the same central body using considered to be the lowest possible amount of propellant.

# Stages of placing a satellite into geostationary orbit

$$E_{\text{tot}} = \frac{mv^2}{2} - \frac{GMm}{r}$$



$$v^2 = \mu \left( \frac{2}{r} - \frac{1}{a} \right)$$



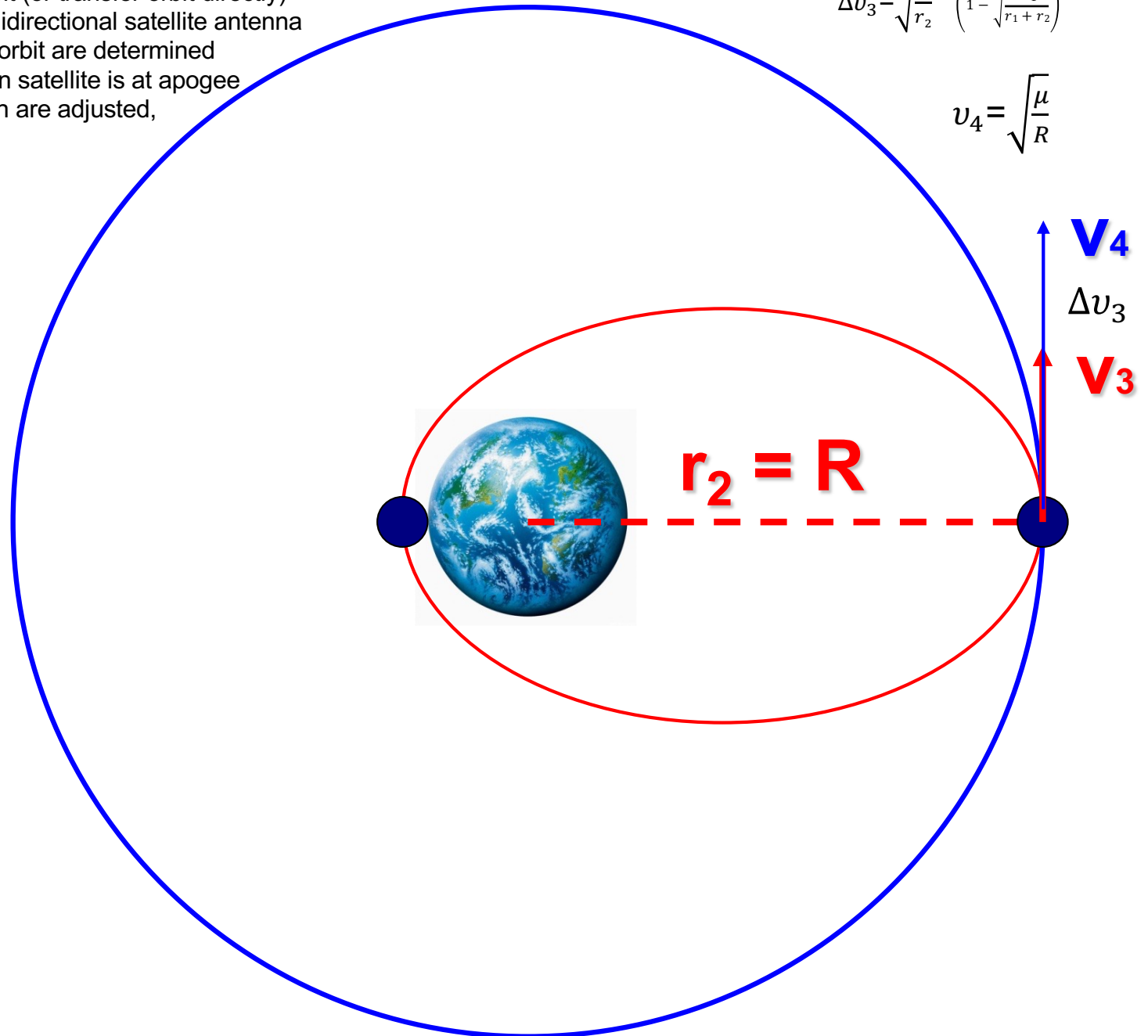
## Stages of placing a satellite into geostationary orbit

1. Satellite is sent into circular orbit (or transfer orbit directly)
2. Acquisition is obtained via omnidirectional satellite antenna
3. Keplerian elements of transfer orbit are determined
4. Apogee kick motor is fired when satellite is at apogee
5. Satellite velocity and orientation are adjusted, system is checked out

$$v_4 = v_3 + \Delta v_3$$

$$\Delta v_3 = \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{r_2}} \left( 1 - \sqrt{\frac{2r_1}{r_1 + r_2}} \right)$$

$$v_4 = \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{R}}$$



## Derivation for pundits

Conservation of momentum:

$$mv_p r_1 = mv_a r_2$$



$$v_a = \frac{r_1}{r_2} v_p$$

Conservation of energy:

$$\frac{1}{2} m v_p^2 - \frac{\mu m}{r_1} = \frac{1}{2} m v_a^2 - \frac{\mu m}{r_2}$$

$$\frac{1}{2} v_p^2 - \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{r_1}{r_2} v_p \right)^2 = \frac{\mu}{r_1} - \frac{\mu}{r_2}$$

$$v_p^2 \left( 1 - \left( \frac{r_1}{r_2} \right)^2 \right) = 2 \mu \left( \frac{1}{r_1} - \frac{1}{r_2} \right)$$

$$v_p^2 \left( \frac{r_2^2 - r_1^2}{r_2^2} \right) = 2 \mu \left( \frac{r_2 - r_1}{r_1 r_2} \right)$$

with  $v_2 = v_p$

$$v_2^2 = 2 \mu \frac{r_2}{r_1(r_1+r_2)}$$

with

$$v_2 = v_1 + \Delta v_1 \quad \rightarrow \quad \Delta v_1 = v_2 - v_1$$

$$\Delta v_1 = \sqrt{2 \mu \frac{r_2}{r_1(r_1+r_2)}} - \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{r_1}}$$

$$\Delta v_1 = \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{r_1}} \left( \sqrt{\frac{2r_2}{r_1+r_2}} - 1 \right)$$

Similarly, with :  $v_4 = v_3 + \Delta v_3$



$$\Delta v_3 = v_4 - v_3$$

$$\Delta v_3 = \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{r_2}} \left( 1 - \sqrt{\frac{2r_1}{r_1+r_2}} \right)$$