

Assuming Newtonian gravity $G = 6.674 \times 10^{-11} \frac{\text{Nm}^2}{\text{kg}^2}$

position $\vec{r}_i(t)$
 velocity $\vec{v}_i(t) = \dot{\vec{r}}_i(t)$ $i = 1, 2, 3$ $r_{ij} = |\vec{r}_i - \vec{r}_j|$

1.

a) i) Newtonian potential energy

$$\sum U_g = \sum -\frac{G m_1 m_2}{r_{12}}$$

$$U_{12} + U_{13} + U_{23} + U_{21} + U_{31} + U_{32}$$

since $r_{ij} = |\vec{r}_i - \vec{r}_j| \equiv |\vec{r}_j - \vec{r}_i|$ then $U_{12} = U_{21}$

$$\sum U_g = 2(U_{12} + U_{13} + U_{23})$$

$$\sum U_g = 2 \left(-\frac{G m_1 m_2}{r_{12}} - \frac{G m_1 m_3}{r_{13}} - \frac{G m_2 m_3}{r_{23}} \right)$$

$$\sum U_g = 2 \sum_i \sum_{j>i} -\frac{G m_i m_j}{r_{ij}}$$

ii) Calc force & write eq of motion

$$\vec{F} = -\nabla U \quad \&\& \quad r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}$$

$$= \left\langle \frac{\partial}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial}{\partial y}, \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \right\rangle - 2 \left(\frac{G m_1 m_2}{r_{12}} + \frac{G m_1 m_3}{r_{13}} + \frac{G m_2 m_3}{r_{23}} \right)$$

$$\nabla \frac{1}{r} = \left\langle \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}}, \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}}, \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}} \right\rangle$$

$$\frac{-(x^2 + y^2 + z^2)^{-3/2}}{-1/2 \cdot 2x (x^2 + y^2 + z^2)^{-3/2}}$$

$$\nabla \frac{1}{r} = -\frac{\vec{r}}{r^3}$$

$$\left\langle \frac{-x}{r^3}, \frac{-y}{r^3}, \frac{-z}{r^3} \right\rangle = -\frac{1}{r^3} \vec{r}$$

$$\vec{F} = -\nabla U = 2 \left(\frac{G m_1 m_2}{r_{12}^3} \vec{r}_{12} + \frac{G m_1 m_3}{r_{13}^3} \vec{r}_{13} + \frac{G m_2 m_3}{r_{23}^3} \vec{r}_{23} \right)$$

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

$$\text{mass 1} \quad \sum \left(\frac{G m_1 m_2}{|\vec{r}_{12}|^3} \vec{r}_{12} + \frac{G m_1 m_3}{|\vec{r}_{13}|^3} \vec{r}_{13} \right) = m_1 \ddot{\vec{r}}_1$$

$$\text{mass 2} \quad \sum \left(\frac{G m_2 m_1}{|\vec{r}_{21}|^3} \vec{r}_{21} + \frac{G m_2 m_3}{|\vec{r}_{23}|^3} \vec{r}_{23} \right) = m_2 \ddot{\vec{r}}_2$$

$$\text{mass 3} \quad \sum \left(\frac{G m_3 m_2}{|\vec{r}_{32}|^3} \vec{r}_{32} + \frac{G m_3 m_1}{|\vec{r}_{31}|^3} \vec{r}_{31} \right) = m_3 \ddot{\vec{r}}_3$$

iii) total energy and energy conservation

$$E = T + U \quad T_i = \frac{1}{2} m_i v_i^2$$

$$E = \sum_i \frac{1}{2} m_i \dot{\vec{r}}_i^2 - 2G \sum_{i < j}^3 \frac{m_i m_j}{r_{ij}} \quad \text{if } \frac{dE}{dt} = 0 \text{ energy is conserved}$$

$$\frac{dE}{dt} = \sum_i \frac{1}{2} m_i \frac{d(\dot{\vec{r}}_i^2)}{dt} + \sum_{i < j} \frac{d}{dt} U(\vec{r})$$

$$= \sum_i \frac{1}{2} m_i \frac{d(\dot{\vec{r}}_i^2)}{dt} + \sum_{i < j} \frac{dU}{d\vec{r}} \frac{d\vec{r}}{dt}$$

$$= \sum_i \frac{1}{2} m_i \frac{d(\dot{\vec{r}}_i^2)}{dt} + \sum_{i < j} \frac{dU}{d\vec{r}} \dot{\vec{r}}$$

$$= \sum_i m_i \dot{\vec{r}}_i \ddot{\vec{r}}_i + \sum_{i < j} \frac{dU}{d\vec{r}} \dot{\vec{r}}$$

$$= \sum_i \dot{\vec{r}}_i \left(-\frac{dU}{d\vec{r}} \right) + \sum_{i < j} \frac{dU}{d\vec{r}} \dot{\vec{r}}$$

$$F = -\nabla U = -\frac{d}{d\vec{r}} U$$

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

$$m \ddot{\vec{r}} = -\frac{dU}{d\vec{r}}$$

$$\frac{dE}{dt} = 0 \quad \text{Conserved!}$$

$$B) \quad i) \quad P = \sum_i m_i v_i = m_1 \dot{\vec{r}}_1 + m_2 \dot{\vec{r}}_2 + m_3 \dot{\vec{r}}_3$$

$$\dot{P} = \frac{d}{dt} (m_1 \dot{\vec{r}}_1 + m_2 \dot{\vec{r}}_2 + m_3 \dot{\vec{r}}_3) = m_1 \ddot{\vec{r}}_1 + m_2 \ddot{\vec{r}}_2 + m_3 \ddot{\vec{r}}_3 \quad \text{Sub in } F = m_i \ddot{\vec{r}}_i$$

$$\dot{P} = \sum (\vec{F}_{g_{12}} + \vec{F}_{g_{13}}) + \sum (\vec{F}_{g_{21}} + \vec{F}_{g_{23}}) + \sum (\vec{F}_{g_{31}} + \vec{F}_{g_{32}})$$

$$\text{by N3L } F_{ij} = -F_{ji}$$

all cancel out

$$\dot{P} = 0$$

$$\text{if } \dot{P} = 0 \text{ when } \dot{P} = ma \text{ then } a = 0 \quad \ddot{\vec{r}} = 0$$

frames with no acceleration are inertial

$$R_{cm} = \frac{\sum_i m_i r_i}{\sum m_i} \quad \text{so} \quad R_{\text{center of mass}} = \sum_i r_i$$

$$P = \sum m_i \dot{r}_i = \dot{R}_{cm} \sum m_i$$

$$\dot{P} = \ddot{R}_{cm} \sum m_i \quad \ddot{R}_{cm} = 0 \quad \text{because} \quad \dot{P} = 0$$

accel in center of mass frame is zero \therefore inertial

$$\begin{aligned} \text{ii)} \quad L &= \sum_i (r_i \times m_i \dot{v}_i) \rightarrow L_{\text{tot}} = \sum_i m_i (r_i \times \dot{r}_i) \\ \dot{L}_{\text{tot}} &= \sum_i m_i \left(\frac{d}{dt} r_i \times \frac{d}{dt} \dot{r}_i \right) \\ &= \sum_i m_i (\dot{r}_i \times \ddot{r}_i) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{in Cent of Mass frame} \quad \sum_i r_i &= R_{cm} \\ \sum_i \dot{r}_i &= \dot{R}_{cm} \\ \sum_i \ddot{r}_i &= \ddot{R}_{cm} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{and} \quad \ddot{R}_{cm} = 0$$

$$\dot{L}_{\text{tot}} = \dot{R}_{cm} \times \ddot{R}_{cm} \left(\sum_i m_i \right)$$

$$\dot{L}_{\text{tot}} = \dot{R}_{cm} \times 0 \left(\sum_i m_i \right) = 0 \quad \text{angular momentum is conserved}$$

c) Planarity of motion

$$\text{i) if } L = 0 \text{ then } L \text{ is const. prove that } \sum_i \dot{r}_i \cdot \vec{L} = 0 \quad \text{where } \vec{L} = \sum_i m_i (r_i \times \dot{r}_i)$$

$$\sum_i \dot{r}_i \cdot \vec{L} = 0$$

$$\dot{r}_i \cdot \left(\sum m_i r_i \times \dot{r}_i \right)$$

$$\sum m_i \left(\dot{r}_i \cdot r_i \times \dot{r}_i \right)$$

know that for $\vec{a} \cdot \vec{a} \times \vec{b}$, $\vec{a} \times \vec{b}$ will produce a vector orthogonal to both \vec{a} and \vec{b} , thus dot prod. w/ \vec{a} orthogonal to \vec{a} and \vec{a} will yield 0. $\vec{a} \times \vec{b} = \vec{c}$ where \vec{c} orthog to \vec{a} thus $\vec{a} \cdot \vec{c} = 0$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \sum m_i (0) \\ 0 &= \sum m_i (\dot{r}_i \cdot r_i \times \dot{r}_i) = \dot{r}_i \cdot \vec{L} \end{aligned}$$

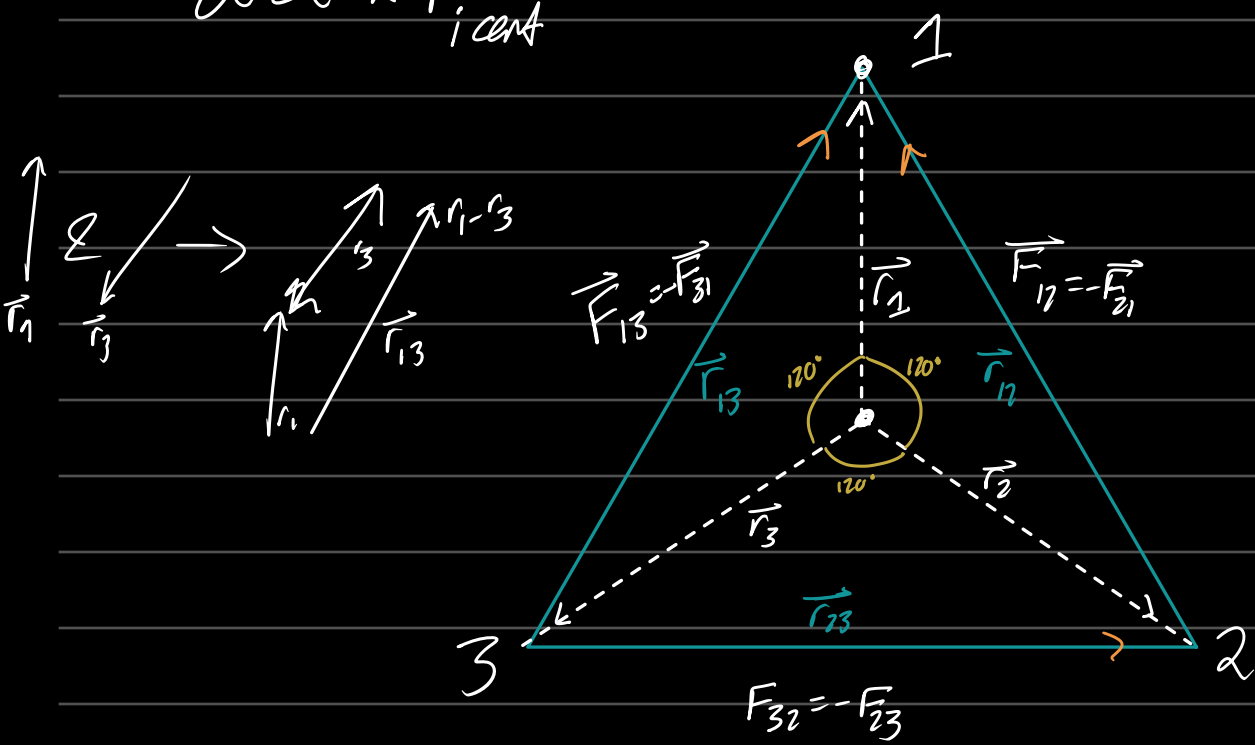
If all positions & velocities are coplanar, then all L where $L = m \vec{r} \times \dot{\vec{r}}$ would be orthogonal to that plane. Because $\dot{L} = 0$ L is constant, thus the plane in which all positions & velocities are in stays constant.

ii) $L = 0$

When $L = 0$ then $\sum m_i \vec{r}_i \times \dot{\vec{r}}_i = 0$ thus \vec{r}_i and $\dot{\vec{r}}_i$ are all parallel or antiparallel, which interestingly means they all exist in one plane or that for $\vec{r}_j \times \dot{\vec{r}}_i$ $i \neq j$ all the terms cancel out, which is also all coplanar.

D) Central Configurations & equilateral triangle

$$\vec{a} \propto k \vec{r}_{i \text{ cent}}$$



F_{ij} : force of i onto j

Know:

$$F_{12} = \frac{-Gm_1 m_2}{r_{12}}$$

$$F_{13} = \frac{Gm_1 m_3}{r_{13}}$$

$$F_{23} = \frac{Gm_1 m_2}{r_{23}}$$

$$F_{\text{net on } 1} = F_{31} + F_{21} = -\frac{Gm_1 m_3}{r_{13}} - \frac{Gm_1 m_2}{r_{12}} = -\left(\frac{Gm_1 m_3}{r_1} - \frac{Gm_1 m_3}{r_3}\right) - \left(\frac{Gm_1 m_2}{r_1} - \frac{Gm_1 m_2}{r_2}\right)$$

$$= -\frac{2Gm_1 m_3}{r_1} + \left(\frac{Gm_1 m_3}{r_3} + \frac{Gm_1 m_2}{r_2}\right)$$

$$\vec{r}_3 = (r_3 \cos 210, r_3 \sin 210)$$

$$\vec{r}_2 = (r_2 \cos 330, r_2 \sin 330)$$

where $|r_1| = |r_2| = |r_3|$

and $\cos 210 = -\cos 330$ & $\sin 210 = \sin 330$

$$\text{so } \vec{r}_2 + \vec{r}_3 = (\cos 210 + (-\cos 210), 2 \sin 210)$$

$$|r_2| \langle 0, 2(\frac{1}{2}) \rangle$$

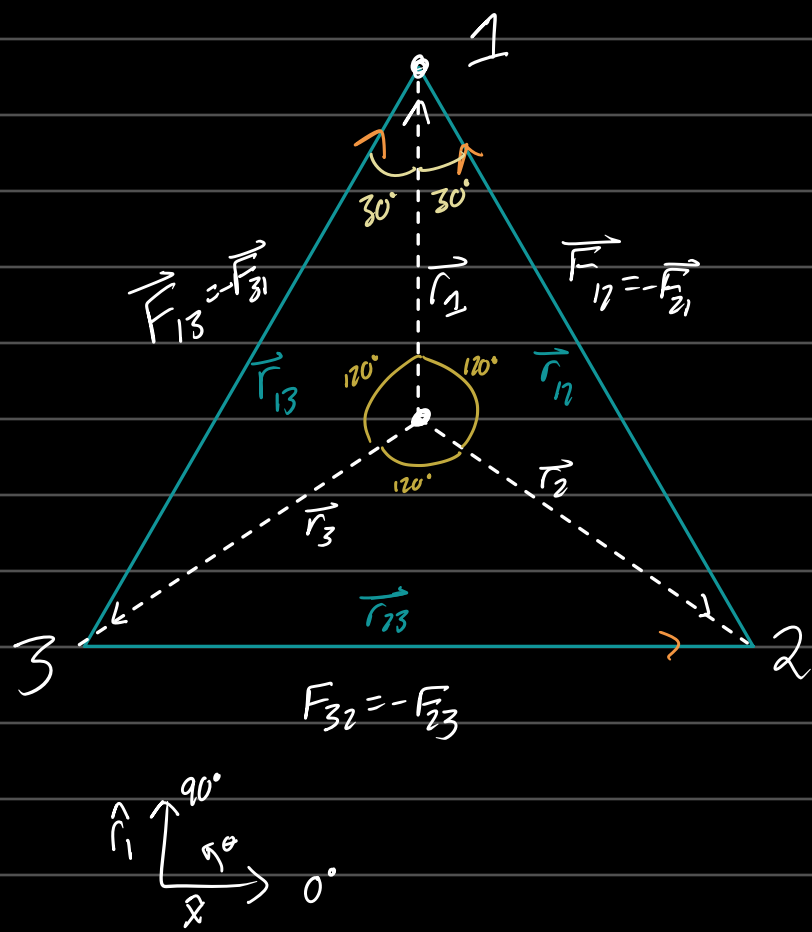
$$\vec{r}_2 + \vec{r}_3 = -\hat{r}_1$$

$$= -\frac{2Gm_1 m_3}{r_1} + \left(\frac{Gm_1 m_3}{r_3} + \frac{Gm_1 m_2}{r_2}\right)$$

$$= -\frac{2Gm_1 m_3}{r_1} + (Gm_1 m_3 + Gm_1 m_2) \frac{|r_1|}{r_1}$$

$$= \left(-2Gm_1 m_3 + |r_1| Gm_1 m_3 + |r_1| Gm_1 m_2 \right) \frac{1}{r_1}$$

$$m_1 \ddot{\vec{r}}_1 = - \left(2Gm_1 m_3 + |r_1| Gm_1 m_3 + |r_1| Gm_1 m_2 \right) \frac{1}{r_1} \Rightarrow \ddot{\vec{r}}_1 = \lambda \dot{\vec{r}}_1$$



1. Equilateral, so $r_1 = r_2 = r_3$ from COM and $|r_{13}| = |r_{23}| = |r_{12}| = |r|$

2. $F_g = \frac{G m_i m_j}{|r_{ij}|^2} \vec{r}_{ij} \Rightarrow F_g = \frac{G m_i m_j}{|r|^2} \vec{r}_{ij}$
 $F_g \propto \lambda \vec{r}_{ij}$

For mass 1, which experiences \vec{F}_{21g} & \vec{F}_{31g}

$$\vec{F}_{21g} = - \langle |F_{21g}| \cos 300, |F_{21g}| \sin 300 \rangle$$

$$\vec{F}_{31g} = - \langle |F_{31g}| \cos 240, |F_{31g}| \sin 240 \rangle$$

We know $\cos 300 = -\cos 240$
 $\sin 300 = \sin 240$

$$\sum F_{\text{mass } 1} = \vec{F}_{21g} + \vec{F}_{31g} = - \langle |F_{21g}| \cos 300, |F_{21g}| \sin 300 \rangle - \langle |F_{31g}| \cos 240, |F_{31g}| \sin 240 \rangle$$

$$\langle -|F_{21g}| \cos 300 - |F_{31g}| \cos 240, -|F_{21g}| \sin 300 - |F_{31g}| \sin 240 \rangle$$

$$\langle -|F_{21g}| \cos 300 + |F_{31g}| \cos 300, -|F_{21g}| \sin 300 - |F_{31g}| \sin 300 \rangle$$

$$\sum F_{\text{mass } 1} = \langle 0, -(|F_{21g}| + |F_{31g}|) \sin 300 \rangle$$

$$m_1 \ddot{\vec{r}}_1 = (|F_{21g}| + |F_{31g}|) \sin 300 \hat{r}_1$$

$$m_1 \ddot{\vec{r}}_1 = (|F_{21g}| + |F_{31g}|) \sin 300 \frac{\vec{r}_1}{|r_1|}$$

Remember $F_g = \lambda \vec{r}$

$$m \ddot{\vec{r}}_1 = \left(\frac{C_1}{r} + \frac{\text{const}_2}{r} \right) \sin 300 \frac{\vec{r}_1}{|r_1|} = \left(\text{const}_1 + \text{const}_2 \right) \sin 300 \frac{\vec{r}_1}{r} = m \ddot{\vec{r}}$$

$$\ddot{\vec{r}} = \frac{\sin 300 (\text{const}_1 + \text{const}_2)}{m} \frac{1}{r}$$

$\ddot{\vec{r}} \propto 1/r$ accel proportional to position!

works for both other points too

Geometrically:

$$\vec{r}_{13} + \vec{r}_{23} = \vec{r}_1 - \vec{r}_3 + \vec{r}_2 - \vec{r}_3$$

$$(\vec{r}_1 + \vec{r}_2) - 2\vec{r}_3$$

$$\vec{r}_1 + \vec{r}_2 :$$



anti parallel to \vec{r}_3

ii) would be homographic if $|\vec{r}_1| = |\vec{r}_2| = |\vec{r}_3|$

just proved $\ddot{\vec{r}}_i = \lambda \vec{r}_i$ where $|\vec{r}_1| = |\vec{r}_2| = |\vec{r}_3|$ because equilateral

so in $|\ddot{\vec{r}}_i| = \lambda |\vec{r}_i|$ for any i , $|\ddot{\vec{r}}_i| = \lambda |\vec{r}_i|$
 thus $|\ddot{\vec{r}}_i| = |\ddot{\vec{r}}_j|$ $j \neq i$

all accels are the same thus all points motion is the same

If $L=0$ there's no angular rotation, thus the triangle not only keeps its shape but doesn't spin, thus maintains similar placement

Computation

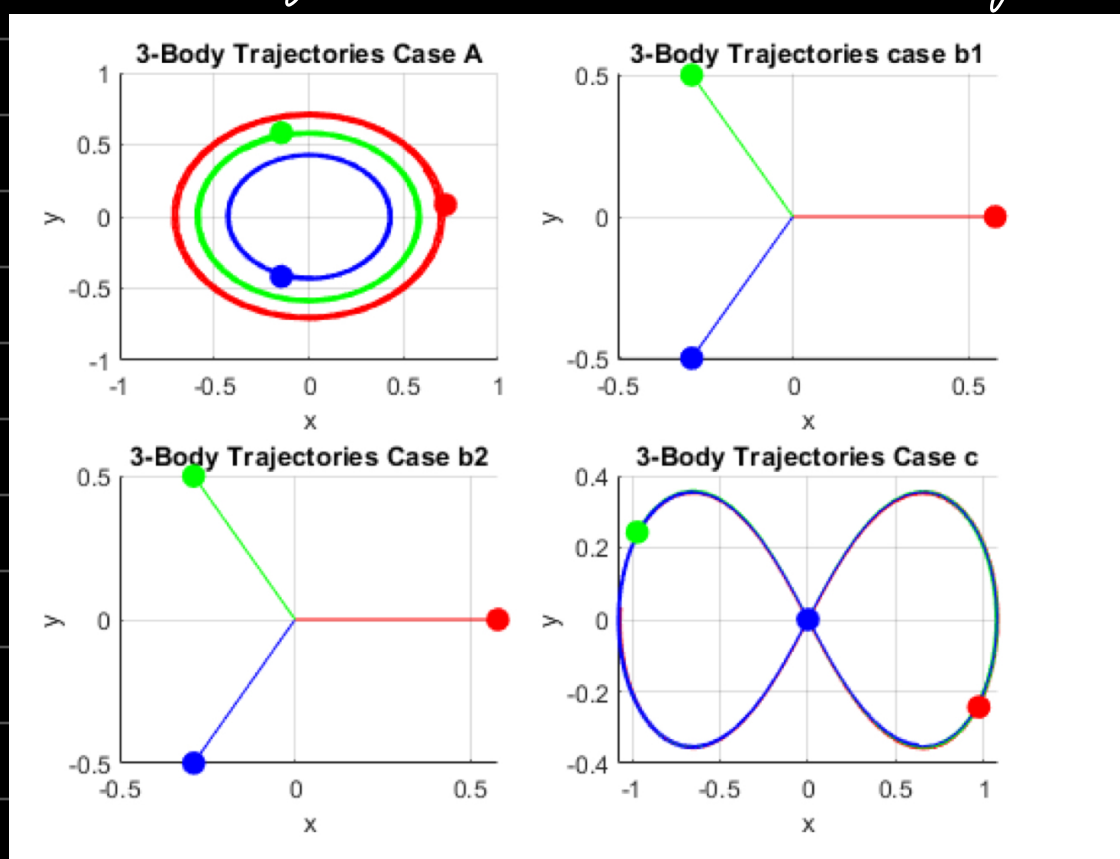
have an instantaneous pos, velocity, and accel

$$-\left(\frac{Gm_1m_2}{|\vec{r}_{12}|^3} \vec{r}_{12} + \frac{Gm_1m_3}{|\vec{r}_{13}|^3} \vec{r}_{13} \right) = m_1 \ddot{\vec{r}}_1$$

$$\ddot{\vec{r}}_i m_i = - \sum_{j \neq i} \frac{Gm_i m_j}{|\vec{r}_{ij}|^3} \vec{r}_{ij}$$

$$\ddot{\vec{r}}_i = - \sum_{j \neq i} \frac{Gm_j}{|\vec{r}_{ij}|^3} \vec{r}_{ij} \quad \text{turn into function}$$

solve the diff eq to find $\vec{r}_i(t)$ for any t !



Case A: three bodies orbit the COM very slowly expanding their orbits

Case B1: the objects approach each other fastly then slower and slower

Case B2: same as B1 but slower at start because less initial velocity, less KE_i

Case C: pretty tight consistent figure 8 orbit between 3 bodies