

# THE TWO-BODY PROBLEM IN THE (TRUNCATED) PPN – THEORY \*

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**Abstract.** The solution of the two-body problem in the (truncated) PPN theory is presented. It is given in two different analytical forms (the Wagoner-Will and Brumberg representation) and by the method of osculating elements.

## 1. Introduction

Analyzing gravitational experiments in the solar system is usually done in the so-called PPN - framework (e.g. *Will 1981*), where a number of PPN - parameters designate the corresponding post - Newtonian limit of a certain metric theory of gravity. Now, the discovery of the binary pulsar PSR1913+16 (e.g. *Taylor & Weisberg 1982*) and subsequent extremely precise tracking of its orbital motion by analyzing pulse arrival times lead to the necessity to solve for the full two - body problem at least at the post - Newtonian level. For the Einstein post - Newtonian theory one solution to the two - body problem has been presented by *Wagoner & Will (1976)*, *Epstein (1977)* and *Haugan (1985)*; a solution with osculating elements for this case was presented by *Damour & Deruelle (1985)*. In a series of papers *Barker & O'Connell (1975, 1976, 1981)* and *Barker et al. (1982, 1986)* dealt with the full post - Newtonian two - body problem even including spin and quadrupole moment effects. However, their main interest was lying in the precession and nutations of the spins and the *secular* motions of the classical angular momentum vector, the Runge - Lenz vector and the mean anomaly rather than solving for the detailed motions of the bodies.

This paper presents solutions to the full two - body problem in the (truncated) PPN - framework with parameters  $\beta$  and  $\gamma$ . Solutions are given in two different analytical forms (the Wagoner-Will and Brumberg representation) and by the method of osculating elements.

The Lagrangian for the two - body problem in the PPN - formalism truncated to the Eddington - Robertson parameters  $\beta$  and  $\gamma$  in standard post - Newtonian coordinates  $(t, \mathbf{x})$  reads (e.g. *Will 1981*):

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L} &= -(m_1 + m_2)c^2 + \mathcal{L}_N + \mathcal{L}_{PN}/c^2 & (1) \\ \mathcal{L}_N &= \frac{m_1}{2} \mathbf{v}_1^2 + \frac{m_2}{2} \mathbf{v}_2^2 + \frac{Gm_1m_2}{r} \\ \mathcal{L}_{PN} &= \frac{1}{8} m_1 \mathbf{v}_1^4 + \frac{1}{8} m_2 \mathbf{v}_2^4 + \frac{Gm_1m_2}{2r} [(2\gamma + 1)(\mathbf{v}_1^2 + \mathbf{v}_2^2) \\ &\quad - (4\gamma + 3)\mathbf{v}_1 \cdot \mathbf{v}_2 - (\mathbf{v}_1 \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}})(\mathbf{v}_2 \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}}) - (2\beta - 1)\frac{G(m_1 + m_2)}{r}] \end{aligned}$$

with

$$\hat{\mathbf{n}} = \frac{\mathbf{x}_1 - \mathbf{x}_2}{r} \quad ; \quad r = |\mathbf{x}_1 - \mathbf{x}_2|$$

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One finds that the total momentum  $\mathbf{P}$  of the system can be obtained in the usual way from  $\partial\mathcal{L}/\partial\mathbf{v}_1 + \partial\mathcal{L}/\partial\mathbf{v}_2$  and is given by:

$$\mathbf{P} = m_1\mathbf{v}_1 + m_2\mathbf{v}_2 + \frac{1}{2}m_1\mathbf{v}_1v_1^2/c^2 + \frac{1}{2}m_2\mathbf{v}_2v_2^2/c^2 + \frac{Gm_1m_2}{2c^2r} [2(2\gamma + 1)(\mathbf{v}_1 + \mathbf{v}_2) - (4\gamma + 3)(\mathbf{v}_1 + \mathbf{v}_2) - \hat{\mathbf{n}}[\hat{\mathbf{n}} \cdot (\mathbf{v}_1 + \mathbf{v}_2)]] \quad (2)$$

The center of mass  $\mathbf{X}$

$$\mathbf{X} = (m_1^*\mathbf{x}_1 + m_2^*\mathbf{x}_2)/(m_1^* + m_2^*) \quad (3)$$

with

$$m_a^* \equiv m_a + \frac{1}{2}m_a v_a^2/c^2 - \frac{1}{2}Gm_1m_2/r \quad (4)$$

then is not accelerated according to the equations of motion and the center of mass velocity is proportional to  $\mathbf{P}$ . We can then go to a post - Newtonian center of mass frame where  $\mathbf{P} = \mathbf{X} = 0$  and

$$\mathbf{x}_1 = \left[ \frac{m_2}{m} + \frac{\mu \delta m}{2m^2} (\mathbf{v}^2 - \frac{Gm}{r}) \right] \mathbf{x} \quad (5a)$$

$$\mathbf{x}_2 = \left[ -\frac{m_1}{m} + \frac{\mu \delta m}{2m^2} (\mathbf{v}^2 - \frac{Gm}{r}) \right] \mathbf{x} \quad (5b)$$

with

$$\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x}_1 - \mathbf{x}_2 \quad ; \quad \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{v}_1 - \mathbf{v}_2 \quad ; \quad m = m_1 + m_2$$

$$\delta m = m_1 - m_2 \quad ; \quad \mu = m_1m_2/m$$

For the relative motion one finds ( *e.g.* *Barker et al. 1986*):

$$\frac{d\mathbf{v}}{dt} = -\frac{Gm\hat{\mathbf{n}}}{r^2} + \frac{Gm\hat{\mathbf{n}}}{c^2r^2} \left\{ \frac{Gm}{r} (2(\beta + \gamma) + 2\nu) - \mathbf{v}^2(\gamma + 3\nu) + \frac{3}{2}\nu(\hat{\mathbf{n}} \cdot \mathbf{v})^2 \right\} + \frac{Gm}{c^2r^2} \mathbf{v}(\hat{\mathbf{n}} \cdot \mathbf{v})(2\gamma + 2 - 2\nu) \quad (6)$$

$$\nu \equiv \frac{m_1m_2}{m^2} = \frac{\mu}{m}$$

and the corresponding Lagrangian takes the form:

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{v}^2 + \frac{Gm}{r} + \frac{1}{8}(1 - 3\nu)\frac{\mathbf{v}^4}{c^2} + \frac{Gm}{2c^2r} [(2\gamma + 1 + \nu)\mathbf{v}^2 + \nu(\hat{\mathbf{n}} \cdot \mathbf{v})^2 - (2\beta - 1)\frac{Gm}{r}] \quad (7)$$

This Lagrangian is particularly useful in deriving first integrals of motion. For the (specific) post - Newtonian energy  $\mathcal{E}$  and angular momentum  $\mathcal{J}$  one finds:

$$\mathcal{E} = \mathbf{v} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \mathbf{v}} - \mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{v}^2 - \frac{m}{r} + \frac{3}{8}(1 - 3\nu)\mathbf{v}^4 + \frac{m}{2r} [(2\gamma + 1 + \nu)\mathbf{v}^2 + \nu(\hat{\mathbf{n}} \cdot \mathbf{v})^2 + (2\beta - 1)\frac{m}{r}] \quad (8)$$

and

$$\mathcal{J} = |\mathbf{x} \wedge \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \mathbf{v}}| = |\mathbf{x} \wedge \mathbf{v}| \left[ 1 + \frac{1}{2}(1 - 3\nu)\mathbf{v}^2 + (2\gamma + 1 + \nu)\frac{m}{r} \right] \quad (9)$$

## 2. The Wagoner - Will representation

In the first approach we will follow the route as taken by *Wagoner & Will (1976)* to derive an expression for the form of the post - Newtonian orbit. The time dependence is then obtained in analogy to the treatments by *Epstein (1977)* and *Haugan (1985)*.

In the *Newtonian limit* the solution of (6) is given by †

$$\mathbf{x} = r(\cos \phi, \sin \phi, 0)$$

$$r = \frac{p}{1 + e \cos(\phi - \omega_0)} \quad (10)$$

$$r^2 \frac{d\phi}{dt} = \sqrt{mp} \quad (11)$$

The post - Newtonian solution can then be obtained with the ansatz:

$$r^2 \frac{d\phi}{dt} = |\mathbf{x} \wedge \mathbf{v}| = \sqrt{mp} (1 + \delta h) \quad (12)$$

$$\mathbf{v} = \frac{d\mathbf{x}}{dt} = \left(\frac{m}{p}\right)^{1/2} (-\sin \phi, e + \cos \phi, 0) + \mathbf{v}_{PN} = \mathbf{v}_N + \mathbf{v}_{PN} \quad (13)$$

We obtain ( $\phi' = \phi - \omega_0$ ):

$$r^2 \frac{d\phi}{dt} = \sqrt{mp} \left[1 - \frac{me}{p} (2\gamma + 2 - 2\nu) \cos \phi'\right] \quad (14)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} v_{PN}^x = & \sqrt{\frac{m^3}{p^3}} \left[ -(2\gamma + 2 - \beta)e\phi' + (2\beta + \gamma - \nu) \sin \phi' - \left(\gamma + \frac{21}{8}\nu\right)e^2 \sin \phi' \right. \\ & \left. + \frac{1}{2}(\beta - 2\nu)e \sin 2\phi' - \frac{\nu}{8}e^2 \sin 3\phi' \right] \end{aligned} \quad (15a)$$

$$\begin{aligned} v_{PN}^y = & \sqrt{\frac{m^3}{p^3}} \left[ -(2\beta + \gamma - \nu) \cos \phi' - \left(\gamma + 2 - \frac{31}{8}\nu\right)e^2 \cos \phi' \right. \\ & \left. - \frac{1}{2}(\beta - 2\nu)e \cos 2\phi' + \frac{\nu}{8}e^2 \cos 3\phi' \right] \end{aligned} \quad (15b)$$

$$v_{PN}^z = 0 \quad (15c)$$

An expression for  $r(\phi)$  is obtained if the last two relations are substituted into the identity:

$$\frac{d}{d\phi} \frac{1}{r} \equiv -\frac{1}{r^2 \dot{\phi}} (\mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{v}/r) \quad (16)$$

and one integrates w.r.t.  $\phi$ . The integration constant is fixed by the requirement that the resulting formula for  $\mathbf{x}$  yields expression (15) for the post - Newtonian velocity. One finds:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{p}{r} = & 1 + e \cos \phi' + \left(\frac{m}{p}\right) \left[ -(2\beta + \gamma - \nu) + \left(\gamma + \frac{9}{4}\nu\right)e^2 + \frac{1}{2}(4\gamma + 4 - \beta - 2\nu)e \cos \phi' \right. \\ & \left. + (2\gamma + 2 - \beta)e\phi' \sin \phi' - \frac{\nu}{4}e^2 \cos 2\phi' \right] \end{aligned} \quad (17)$$

From this we see that the *secular* drift in the periastron motion is given by

† We usually set  $G = c = 1$  in the following

$$\Delta\phi = 2\pi(2\gamma + 2 - \beta)\frac{m}{p} \quad (18)$$

suggesting that we introduce as new angular variable the "true anomaly"  $\eta$  (Epstein (1977), Haugan (1985) with

$$\eta \equiv (1 - (2\gamma + 2 - \beta)\frac{m}{p})\phi - \omega_0 \quad (19)$$

With this eqs. (14) and (17) take the form:

$$r^2 \frac{d\phi}{dt} = \sqrt{mp} \left[ 1 - \frac{me}{p}(2\gamma + 2 - 2\nu) \cos \eta \right] \quad (20)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{p}{r} = 1 + e \cos \eta + \left(\frac{m}{p}\right) & \left[ -(2\beta + \gamma - \nu) + \left(\gamma + \frac{9}{4}\nu\right)e^2 \right. \\ & \left. + \frac{1}{2}(4\gamma + 4 - \beta - 2\nu)e \cos \eta - \frac{\nu}{4}e^2 \cos 2\eta \right] \end{aligned} \quad (21)$$

Introducing the eccentric anomaly  $E'$  instead of the "true anomaly  $\eta$ " in the usual way by

$$\sin \eta = \frac{(1 - e^2)^{1/2} \sin E'}{1 - e \cos E'} \quad ; \quad \cos \eta = \frac{\cos E' - e}{1 - e \cos E'} \quad (22)$$

we can rewrite the last expression in the form ( $p = a(1 - e^2)$ ):

$$\begin{aligned} r = a(1 - e \cos E') & \\ & - \frac{m}{c^2(1 - e^2)^2} \left\{ -(2\beta + \gamma) + \frac{(10\gamma + \beta + 12)}{4}e^2 + \frac{1}{2}\gamma e^4 + \left(1 + \frac{17}{4}e^2 + \frac{3}{4}e^4\right)\nu \right. \\ & + e \cos E' \left[ \left(\frac{8\gamma + 7\beta + 4}{2} + \frac{4 - \beta}{2}e^2\right) - (3 + 5e^2)\nu \right] \\ & \left. + e^2 \cos 2E' \left[ \left(-\frac{6\gamma + 3\beta + 4}{4} + \frac{1}{2}\gamma e^2\right) + \left(\frac{3}{4} + \frac{5}{4}e^2\right)\nu \right] \right\} \end{aligned} \quad (23)$$

The time dependence of the post - Newtonian relative two - body orbit can then be put into a generalized Kepler equation. Using (20) and the relations:

$$\dot{\phi} = (1 + (2\gamma + 2 - \beta)\frac{m}{p})\dot{\eta} \quad ; \quad \dot{\eta} = \frac{(1 - e^2)^{1/2}}{1 - e \cos E'} \dot{E}' \quad (24)$$

one finds that

$$(1 - (2\gamma + 2 - \beta)\frac{m}{p})\sqrt{mp} = \left[ 1 + \frac{me}{p}(2\gamma + 2 - 2\nu) \left(\frac{\cos E' - e}{1 - e \cos E'}\right) \right] r^2(E')\dot{\eta} \quad (25)$$

where  $r(E')$  is given by (23). Integrating this expression w.r.t. the time coordinate  $t$  finally gives the desired Kepler equation in the form:

$$t \left(\frac{2\pi}{T_{E'}}\right) + \sigma = E' - ge \sin E' - h \sin 2E' \quad (26)$$

where the  $E'$  period  $T_{E'}$  is given by:

$$\begin{aligned} T_{E'} = 2\pi \left(\frac{a^3}{m}\right)^{1/2} & \left[ 1 + (2\gamma + 2 - \beta)\frac{m}{p} + \frac{m}{2a(1 - e^2)^2} \left\{ (8\beta + 4\gamma) \right. \right. \\ & \left. \left. + (6\gamma + \beta + 8)e^2 + (2\gamma + 4)e^4 - (4 + 13e^2 + 7e^4)\nu \right\} \right] \end{aligned} \quad (27)$$

and

$$g = 1 + \frac{m}{2a(1-e^2)^2} [8\gamma + 6\beta + 4 - (2\gamma + 3\beta - 4)e^2 - (2\gamma + 4)e^4 - (4 + 11e^2 - 7e^4)\nu] \quad (28)$$

$$h = \frac{e^2 m}{4a(1-e^2)^2} [-(6\gamma + 3\beta + 4) + 2\gamma e^2 + (3 + 5e^2)\nu] \quad (29)$$

We finally note that in this representation  $e$  and  $p$  are related to  $\mathcal{E}$  and  $\mathcal{J}$  by

$$\mathcal{E} = -\left(\frac{m}{2p}\right) \left\{ (1-e^2) - \left(\frac{m}{4p}\right) [(8\gamma + 8\beta + 3) - 5\nu + 2((4\gamma + 2\beta + 5) - 9\nu)e^2 + 3(1 - 3\nu)e^4] \right\} \quad (30)$$

$$\mathcal{J} = \sqrt{mp} \left\{ 1 + \left(\frac{m}{2p}\right) [(4\gamma + 3 - \nu) + (1 - 3\nu)e^2] \right\} \quad (31)$$

### 3. The Brumberg representation

The expressions for the post - Newtonian specific energy  $\mathcal{E}$  (8) and absolute value of the angular momentum  $\mathcal{J}$  (9) can be written as:

$$\mathcal{E} = \frac{1}{2}(\dot{r}^2 + r^2\dot{\phi}^2) - \frac{m}{r} + \frac{3}{8}(1 - 3\nu)(\dot{r}^2 + r^2\dot{\phi}^2)^2 + \frac{m}{2r} [(2\gamma + 1 + 2\nu)\dot{r}^2 + (2\gamma + 1 + \nu)r^2\dot{\phi}^2 + (2\beta - 1)\frac{m}{r}] \quad (32)$$

$$\mathcal{J} = r^2\dot{\phi} \left[ 1 + \frac{1}{2}(1 - 3\nu)(\dot{r}^2 + r^2\dot{\phi}^2) + (2\gamma + 1 + \nu)\frac{m}{r} \right] \quad (33)$$

leading to first order eqs. of motion in the form:

$$r^2\dot{\phi} = \mathcal{J} \left[ 1 + (3\nu - 1)\mathcal{E} + \frac{m}{r}(2\nu - 2\gamma - 2) \right] \quad (34)$$

and

$$\dot{r}^2 = -r^2\dot{\phi}^2 + \frac{2m}{r} + 2\mathcal{E} + \frac{2}{c^2} \left\{ -\frac{3}{2}(1 - 3\nu)\mathcal{E}^2 + \frac{\nu}{2} \frac{\mathcal{J}^2}{r^2} \frac{m}{r} - \frac{\mathcal{E}m}{r}(2\gamma + 4 - 7\nu) - \frac{m^2}{r^2} (2\gamma + \beta + 2 - \frac{5}{2}\nu) \right\} \quad (35)$$

Eliminating the  $\dot{\phi}^2$  term the last equation can also be written as

$$\dot{r}^2 = A + \frac{B}{r} + \frac{C}{r^2} + \frac{D}{r^3} \quad (36)$$

with

$$\begin{aligned} A &= 2\mathcal{E} \left( 1 + \frac{3}{2}(3\nu - 1)\mathcal{E} \right) \\ B &= 2m \left( 1 + (7\nu - 2\gamma - 4)\mathcal{E} \right) \\ C &= -\mathcal{J}^2 \left( 1 + 2(3\nu - 1)\mathcal{E} \right) + (5\nu - 4\gamma - 2\beta - 4) \frac{m^2}{r^2} \\ D &= (4\gamma + 4 - 3\nu) \mathcal{J}^2 m \end{aligned}$$

Using

$$\dot{r}^2 = \left(\frac{dr(\phi(t))}{dt}\right)^2 = \mathcal{J}^2 \left(\frac{d(1/r)}{d\phi}\right)^2 (1 - 2[(2\gamma + 2 - 2\nu)\frac{m}{r} + (1 - 3\nu)\mathcal{E}]) \quad (37)$$

the radial equation can be written in the form:

$$\left(\frac{d(1/r)}{d\phi}\right)^2 = A' + \frac{B'}{r} + \frac{C'}{r^2} + \frac{D'}{r^3} \quad (38)$$

with

$$\begin{aligned} A' &= \frac{2\mathcal{E}}{\mathcal{J}^2} \left(1 + \frac{1}{2}(1 - 3\nu)\mathcal{E}\right) \\ B' &= \frac{2m}{\mathcal{J}^2} (1 + (2\gamma + 2 - 3\nu)\mathcal{E}) \\ C' &= -1 + (4\gamma + 4 - 2\beta - 3\nu)\frac{m^2}{\mathcal{J}^2} \\ D' &= \nu m \end{aligned}$$

Notice that the right hand side of (38) is a third order polynomial in  $r^{-1}$ . This suggests to write (38) in the form:

$$\left(\frac{d(1/r)}{d\phi}\right)^2 = \left(\frac{1}{r} - \frac{1}{a(1+e)}\right) \left(\frac{1}{a(1-e)} - \frac{1}{r}\right) \left(C_1 + \frac{C_2}{r}\right) \quad (39)$$

where a comparison of coefficients yields:

$$\begin{aligned} C_1 &= 1 - (4\gamma + 4 - 2\beta - \nu)\frac{m}{a(1-e^2)} \\ C_2 &= -\nu m \end{aligned}$$

From the form of (39) we see that  $r_{\pm} = a(1 \pm e)$  represent the minimal and maximal value for  $r$  and hence  $a$  and  $e$  play the role as semimajor axis and eccentricity of the post - Newtonian orbit.  $a$  and  $e$  can be considered as integration constants alternatively to  $\mathcal{E}$  and  $\mathcal{J}$ . Solving for  $\mathcal{E}$  and  $\mathcal{J}$  in terms of  $a$  and  $e$  one finds:

$$\mathcal{E} = -\frac{m}{2a} \left[1 - \left(\frac{4\gamma + 3}{4} - \frac{\nu}{4}\right)\frac{m}{a}\right] \quad (40)$$

$$\mathcal{J}^2 = ma(1-e^2) \left[1 + (-\gamma - 1 + \nu + \frac{4\gamma + 4 - 2\beta - \nu}{1-e^2})\frac{m}{a}\right] \quad (41)$$

The solution of (39) can then be written as:

$$r = \frac{a(1-e^2)}{1+e\cos f} \quad (42)$$

with the true anomaly  $f$  obeying

$$\left(\frac{df}{d\phi}\right)^2 = C_1 + \frac{C_2}{r} \quad (43)$$

or

$$\frac{df}{d\phi} = F \cdot \left[1 - \frac{\nu}{2} \frac{m}{a(1-e^2)} e \cos f\right] \quad (44)$$

$$F = 1 - (2\gamma + 2 - \beta)\frac{m}{a(1-e^2)}$$

Hence

$$f = F \cdot (\phi - \omega_0) - \frac{\nu}{2} \frac{m}{a(1 - e^2)} e \sin[F \cdot (\phi - \omega_0)] \quad (45)$$

leading again to expression (18) for the secular drift in the perihelion motion. Eliminating  $\mathcal{E}$  and  $\mathcal{J}$  from (34) we get

$$r^2 \dot{\phi} = \sqrt{ma(1 - e^2)} \left\{ 1 + \left[ -\frac{1}{2}(\gamma + 2\nu) + \frac{(2\gamma + 2 - \beta - \nu/2)}{(1 - e^2)} - 2(\gamma + 1 - \nu) \frac{a}{r} \right] \frac{m}{a} \right\}$$

or using (44)

$$\sqrt{ma(1 - e^2)} dt = r^2 df \left[ 1 + (2\gamma + 2 - \frac{3}{2}\nu) \frac{m}{r} + \frac{1}{2}(\gamma + 2\nu) \frac{m}{a} \right] \quad (46)$$

Now, for a circular orbit  $r = a$ ,  $e = 0$  and

$$\dot{\phi}^2 \equiv n^2 = \frac{m}{a^3} \left[ 1 - (2\beta + \gamma - \nu) \frac{m}{a} \right] \quad (47)$$

defines the mean motion of the post - Newtonian orbit. Defining the mean anomaly  $M$  and eccentric anomaly  $E$  by relations (22) and

$$M = nt + M_0 \quad (48)$$

an integration of (46) leads to the corresponding Kepler equation in the form:

$$M = \left[ 1 + (2\gamma + 2 - \beta) \frac{m}{a} \right] E - \left( 1 + \left( \frac{3}{2}\nu - \beta \right) \frac{m}{a} \right) e \sin E \quad (49)$$

The *sidereal period*  $T_\phi$  of the orbit ( $\phi$  changes by  $2\pi$ ) is finally found to be

$$\begin{aligned} T_\phi &= 2\pi \sqrt{\frac{a^3}{m}} \left[ 1 + \frac{m}{a} \left\{ \frac{1}{2}(5\gamma + 4 - \nu) - \frac{(2\gamma + 2 - \beta)\sqrt{1 - e^2}}{(1 + e \cos f_0)^2} \right\} \right] \\ &= T_f - 2 \frac{(2\gamma + 2 - \beta)\sqrt{1 - e^2}}{(1 + e \cos f_0)^2} \sqrt{\frac{a^3}{m}} \end{aligned} \quad (50)$$

where the *anomalous period*

$$T_f = 2\pi \sqrt{\frac{a^3}{m}} \left[ 1 + \frac{1}{2}(5\gamma + 4 - \nu) \frac{m}{a} \right] \quad (51)$$

denotes the orbital period w.r.t. axes that precess with the secular perihelion motion.

#### 4. The solution with osculating elements

*Brumberg (1972)* in his monography treats the restricted post - Newtonian ( $\nu = 0$ ) two - body problem for a broad class of metric theories of gravity using parameters  $\sigma', \beta', \alpha'$  and  $\lambda' \dagger$ . It now turns out that his perturbing function is general enough to cover our case of the PPN two body problem. A comparison of his perturbing function with eq. (6) shows that for

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† We added the primes to distinguish them from the usual PPN - parameters.

$$\begin{aligned}
\sigma' &= \beta + \gamma + \nu & (52) \\
\beta' &= \frac{1}{2}(\gamma + 3\nu) \\
\alpha' &= \frac{1}{2}\nu \\
\lambda' &= \gamma + 1 - \nu
\end{aligned}$$

Brumberg's results for the osculating elements apply for our PPN two body problem. Hence, the post Newtonian acceleration  $\mathbf{a}_{PN}$  can be written as:

$$\mathbf{a}_{PN} = S \mathbf{n} + T (\mathbf{k} \wedge \mathbf{n}) + W \mathbf{k}$$

$$\mathbf{k} = \begin{pmatrix} \sin I \sin \Omega \\ -\sin I \cos \Omega \\ \cos I \end{pmatrix}$$

with

$$S = \frac{m}{r^2} \left[ 2(\beta + \gamma + \nu) \frac{m}{r} - (\gamma + 3\nu) \mathbf{v}^2 + (2\gamma + 2 - \frac{1}{2}\nu) \dot{r}^2 \right] \quad (53a)$$

$$T = \frac{m}{r^2} (2\gamma + 2 - 2\nu) \frac{n^2 a^3}{r} e \sin f \quad (53b)$$

$$W = 0 \quad (53c)$$

The solution of Lagrange's planetary equations is then given by:

$$I = \text{const.} \quad ; \quad \Omega = \text{const.} \quad (54a)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\Delta a &= \frac{me}{c^2(1-e^2)^2} \left\{ [(6\nu - (6\gamma + 4\beta + 4)) + e^2(\frac{31}{4}\nu - (4 + 2\gamma))] \cos f \right. \\
&\quad \left. + (4\nu - (2\gamma + 2 + \beta)) e \cos 2f + \frac{\nu}{4} e^2 \cos 3f \right\} \Big|_{t_0}^t \quad (54b)
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\Delta e &= \frac{m}{c^2 a (1-e^2)} \left\{ [(\nu - 2\beta - \gamma) + e^2(\frac{47}{8}\nu - 4 - 3\gamma)] \cos f \right. \\
&\quad \left. + (2\nu - \gamma - 1 - \frac{1}{2}\beta) e \cos 2f + \frac{\nu}{8} e^2 \cos 3f \right\} \Big|_{t_0}^t \quad (54c)
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\Delta \omega &= \frac{m}{c^2 a (1-e^2)} \left\{ (2\gamma + 2 - \beta) f + \left[ \frac{\nu - \gamma - 2\beta}{e} + (\gamma + \frac{21}{8}\nu) e \right] \sin f \right. \\
&\quad \left. + (2\nu - \gamma - 1 - \frac{1}{2}\beta) \sin 2f + \frac{\nu}{8} e \sin 3f \right\} \Big|_{t_0}^t \quad (54d)
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\Delta \epsilon &= (1 - \sqrt{1-e^2}) \Delta \omega + \frac{m}{c^2 a \sqrt{1-e^2}} \left[ (2\gamma + 4 - 7\nu) \sqrt{1-e^2} E \right. \\
&\quad \left. + (-4\gamma - 4\beta - 4 + 9\nu) f + (4\gamma + 4 - \nu) e \sin f \right] \Big|_{t_0}^t \quad (54e)
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\int_{t_0}^t \Delta n dt &= \frac{3m}{c^2 a} \left\{ -(\gamma + 2 - \frac{7}{2}\nu) E + \frac{(2\gamma + \beta + 2 - 3\nu)}{\sqrt{1-e^2}} f - \frac{\nu}{2} \frac{e \sin f}{\sqrt{1-e^2}} \right. \\
&\quad \left. + \left[ \frac{\nu}{2} (1-e^2) \left(\frac{a}{r_0}\right)^3 + (-2\gamma - \beta + 2 + \frac{5}{2}\nu) \left(\frac{a}{r_0}\right)^2 + (\gamma + 2 - \frac{7}{2}\nu) \frac{a}{r_0} \right] M \right\} \Big|_{t_0}^t \quad (55)
\end{aligned}$$

$$\Delta M = \Delta \epsilon - \Delta \omega + \int_{t_0}^t \Delta n dt$$



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