uc3m Universidad Carlos III de Madrid

Space Vehicles and Orbital Dynamics

Review date: 24-06-2020 Academic Year: (2020 / 2021)

Department assigned to the subject: Bioengineering and Aeroespace Engineering Department

Coordinating teacher: MERINO MARTINEZ, MARIO

Type: Compulsory ECTS Credits: 6.0

Year: 4 Semester: 2

REQUIREMENTS (SUBJECTS THAT ARE ASSUMED TO BE KNOWN)

Calculus I, Linear Algebra, Physics I, Programming, Calculus II, Mechanics Applied to Aerospace Engineering, Advanced Mathematics, Modeling in Aerospace Engineering, Mechanics of Flight I.

OBJECTIVES

Formulate and solve orbital mechanics problems, use that knowledge to perform preliminary designs of space missions, and evaluate the capabilities of different spacecraft and space systems.

Competences: CG9, CG10, CB2, CB5, CECRA13.

DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS: PROGRAMME

1. Two body problem

Conservation laws

Conics and orbital elements

2. Kepler's equation

Formulation for the elliptic, parabolic, hyperbolic cases

Numerical solution

3. Orbital maneuvers

Fundamentals of spherical trigonometry

Hohmann, bielliptic transfers; plane change; phasing maneuvers, electric orbit raising

4. Preliminary orbit determination

Gibbs problem, Gauss problem

Lambert's problem

Porkchop diagrams

5. Perturbations

Special perturbation methods

General perturbation methods

Drag, solar radiation, third body

Geopotential and spherical harmonics

6. Interplanetary trajectories

Patched-conics method

Launch and B-Plane targeting

7. Relative motion and rendezvous

Clohessy-Wiltshire equations

8. Circular restricted three body problem

Derivation and normalization. Jacobi's energy integral

Lagrange libration points

Stability and trajectories near Lagrange points

9. Space vehicles: attitude dynamics

Quaternions. Free body attitude dynamics

Gravity gradient

10. Introduction to space missions and space systems

Application orbits, types of missions

Spacecraft subsystems

LEARNING ACTIVITIES AND METHODOLOGY

Theory sessions in master classes

Problem sessions in reduced groups

Computer sessions with mathematical software

Personal and group work

ASSESSMENT SYSTEM

End-of-term exam (60%) Continuous evaluation (40%)

In order to pass the subject, two requirements need to be met:

- 1) to have a MINIMUM mark of 4.0/10 in the end-of-term exam;
- 2) to have a minimum overall mark of 5.0/10 (weighing 60% the end-of-term exam mark and 40% the mark of the continuous evaluation).

% end-of-term-examination: 60 % of continuous assessment (assignments, laboratory, practicals...): 40

BASIC BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Hanspeter Schaub and John L. Junkins Analytical mechanics of space systems, AIAA, 2003
- Howard D. Curtis Orbital Mechanics for Engineering Students, Elsevier, 2010

ADDITIONAL BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Peter Fortescue, Graham Swinerd, John Stark Spacecraft systems engineering, John Wiley and Sons, 2011