

From the *Vis-Visa Integral*, an expression for the total energy of systems in celestial mechanics, it can be shown that, for a small object orbiting the Sun, the semi-major axis a of its orbital ellipse is given by

$$a = \frac{1}{\frac{2}{r} - \frac{v^2}{Gm_s}} \quad (1)$$

The variables can be expressed in any consistent system of units. Thus, if we choose the *mks* (meters-kilograms-seconds) system, we have for Mulge-Tab at the moment of "release":

$$\begin{aligned} r &= \text{distance from Sun to object} = 450 \times 10^9 \text{ m} \\ v_{M-T}^2 &= v_{M-T,x}^2 + v_{M-T,t}^2 \text{ referring to the velocity components as provided} \\ &\text{on the main page, but expressed in m sec}^{-1} \\ G &= \text{Gravitational Constant} \sim 6.67 \times 10^{-11} \text{ m}^3 \text{ kg}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-2} \\ m_s &= \text{mass of Sun} = 1.99 \times 10^{30} \text{ kg} \end{aligned}$$

From the *Law of Areas*, the *ellipticity* of the solar orbit of a small object is:

$$e = \sqrt{1 - \frac{r^2 v_t^2}{G m_s a}} \quad (2)$$

For Mulge-Tab at the moment of "release" we use

$$V_{M-T,t} = \text{tangential velocity of Mulge-Tab provided on main page}$$