

In the rotating frame, the gravity must provide the centripetal force:

$$F_c = mr\omega^2$$

The force of gravity is:

$$F_g = \frac{GM_s m}{r^2} + \frac{GM_e m}{(r - R)^2}$$

For equilibrium:

$$mr\omega^2 = \frac{GM_s m}{r^2} + \frac{GM_e m}{(r - R)^2}$$

The left hand side of this equation is monotonically increasing, while for  $r > R$ , the RHS is monotonically decreasing from  $\infty$  to 0. Therefore, there is one solution to this equation for  $r > R$ .

We can rearrange the equation:

$$r^3\omega^2 = GM_s \left( 1 + \beta \frac{r^2}{(r - R)^2} \right)$$

Taking the cube root of both sides, and expanding the cube root of what is in parenthesis in terms of small parameter  $\beta$ :

$$r = \left( \frac{GM_s}{\omega^2} \right)^{1/3} \left( 1 + \frac{\beta}{3} \frac{r^2}{(r - R)^2} \right)$$

We can make the replacement  $x = r - R$ , and abbreviate  $k = \left( GM_s / \omega^2 \right)^{1/3}$  to find the distance:

$$x + R = \left( \frac{GM_s}{\omega^2} \right)^{1/3} \left( 1 + \frac{\beta (x + R)^2}{3 x^2} \right)$$

Putting this in order, the distance  $x$  from the earth solves:

$$x^3 + \left( R + \frac{\beta k}{3} - k \right) x^2 + \frac{2\beta k}{3} R x + \frac{\beta k}{3} R^2 = 0$$

The force equation is:

$$m\ddot{r} = mr\omega^2 - \frac{GM_s m}{r^2} - \frac{GM_e m}{(r - R)^2}$$

Perturbing around a solution  $r_{L2}$ , so that  $r = r_{L2} + \delta r$ :

$$m\ddot{\delta r} = m\omega^2 \delta r + \frac{GM_s m}{r_{L2}^2} \delta r + \frac{GM_e m}{r_{L2} - R} \delta r = \left( m\omega^2 + \frac{GM_s m}{r_{L2}^2} + \frac{GM_e m}{r_{L2} - R} \right) \delta r$$

$$\ddot{\delta r} = \left( \omega^2 + \frac{GM_s}{r_{L2}^2} + \frac{GM_e}{r_{L2} - R} \right) \delta r$$

This coefficient is always positive (since  $r_{L2}$  is defined to be outside earth's orbit), so the solution is unstable.