

Prob. 8G

Interplanetary Navigation.

- a) Earth to Mars: You must increase the speed of the rocket in the direction of the earth's motion.
- Mars to Earth: You must decrease the speed of the rocket w.r.t. the direction of Mars' motion.

b.) $T = \frac{2\pi}{\sqrt{GM_{\text{Sun}}}} a^{3/2}$ is the period of the full elliptical orbit where $\frac{1}{2}$ of the orbit is shown in Fig. 12.37

$$\text{So, } \frac{T}{2} = \frac{\pi}{\sqrt{GM_{\text{Sun}}}} a^{3/2} \quad \text{where } a = (d_{\text{earth}} + d_{\text{mars}}) \div 2 \\ = \frac{1.50 \times 10'' + 2.28 \times 10''}{2} = 1.89 \times 10'' \text{ m}$$

$$\frac{T}{2} = \frac{\pi}{\sqrt{6.67 \times 10^{-11} (1.99 \times 10^{30})}} (1.89 \times 10^9)^{3/2} \quad \frac{T}{2} = 2.24 \times 10^7 \text{ s} = 259 \text{ days}$$

- c.) What angle does Mars subtend during 259 days.
The period of Mars $\rightarrow T = \frac{2\pi}{\sqrt{GM}} a^{3/2} = \frac{2\pi}{\sqrt{6.67 \times 10^{-11} (1.99 \times 10^{30})}} (2.28 \times 10^9)^{3/2} = 5.94 \times 10^7$

$$T_{\text{Mars}} = 5.94 \times 10^7 \text{ sec}$$

$$\text{fraction} = \frac{T/2}{T_{\text{Mars}}} = 0.377 \quad 0.377 \times 360^\circ = 136^\circ \text{ in 259 days}$$

$$\theta = 180^\circ - 136^\circ = \underline{\underline{44^\circ}}$$

