

PERTURBATIONS OF CRITICAL MASS IN THE RESTRICTED THREE-BODY PROBLEM

R.K. Sharma and P.V. Subba Rao  
Vikram Sarabhai Space Center

ABSTRACT

Based upon the authors' result (Astron. Astrophys. 43, 381-3, 1975) that oblateness of the more massive primary decreases the value of the critical mass, this note is concerned primarily with a few observations on Szebehely's result (Astron. J. 72, 7-9, 1967) that the Coriolis force is a stabilizing force. It has been deduced that a small change  $\epsilon$  in the Coriolis force from unity results in a perturbation of the critical mass by a factor of  $-8\epsilon/81\sqrt{69}$ .