

Dynamical properties of the Molniya satellite constellation: long-term evolution of orbital eccentricity

Elisa Maria Alessi^{(1,2)*}, Alberto Buzzoni⁽³⁾, Jérôme Daquin⁽⁴⁾, Albino Carbognani⁽³⁾ & Giacomo Tommei^{(5)*}

⁽¹⁾*IMATI-CNR, Istituto di Matematica Applicata e Tecnologie Informatiche “E. Magenes”, Via Alfonso Corti 12, 20133 Milano, Italy*

⁽²⁾*IFAC-CNR, Istituto di Fisica Applicata “N. Carrara”, Via Madonna del Piano 10, 50019 Sesto Fiorentino (FI), Italy*

⁽³⁾*INAF-OAS, Osservatorio di Astrofisica e Scienza dello Spazio, Via P. Gobetti 93/3 40129 Bologna, Italy*

⁽⁴⁾*naXys, Department of Mathematics, University of Namur, 8 rempart de la Vierge, 5000 Namur, Belgium*

⁽⁵⁾*Università di Pisa, Dipartimento di Matematica, Largo B. Pontecorvo 5, 56127 Pisa, Italy*

SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL 2

In the following figures, we show the eccentricity evolution obtained by assuming different levels of approximation for the third-body perturbation in e, i, Ω, ω , compared against the TLE evolution.

The color code is the following:

- cyan: TLE evolution;
- green: evolution obtained by applying *model 1*;
- red: evolution obtained by applying *model 2*;
- black: evolution obtained by applying *model 3*;
- yellow: evolution obtained by applying *model 4*.

Each plot corresponds to a satellite of Tab. 1 of the main paper. The ordering is left to right, top to bottom.

In Fig. 1, orbits #1-15 are reported.

In Fig. 2, orbits #16-30 are reported.

In Fig. 3, orbits #31-42 are reported.

*Corresponding author

Email address: elisamaria.alessi@cnr.it (Elisa Maria Alessi^(1,2))

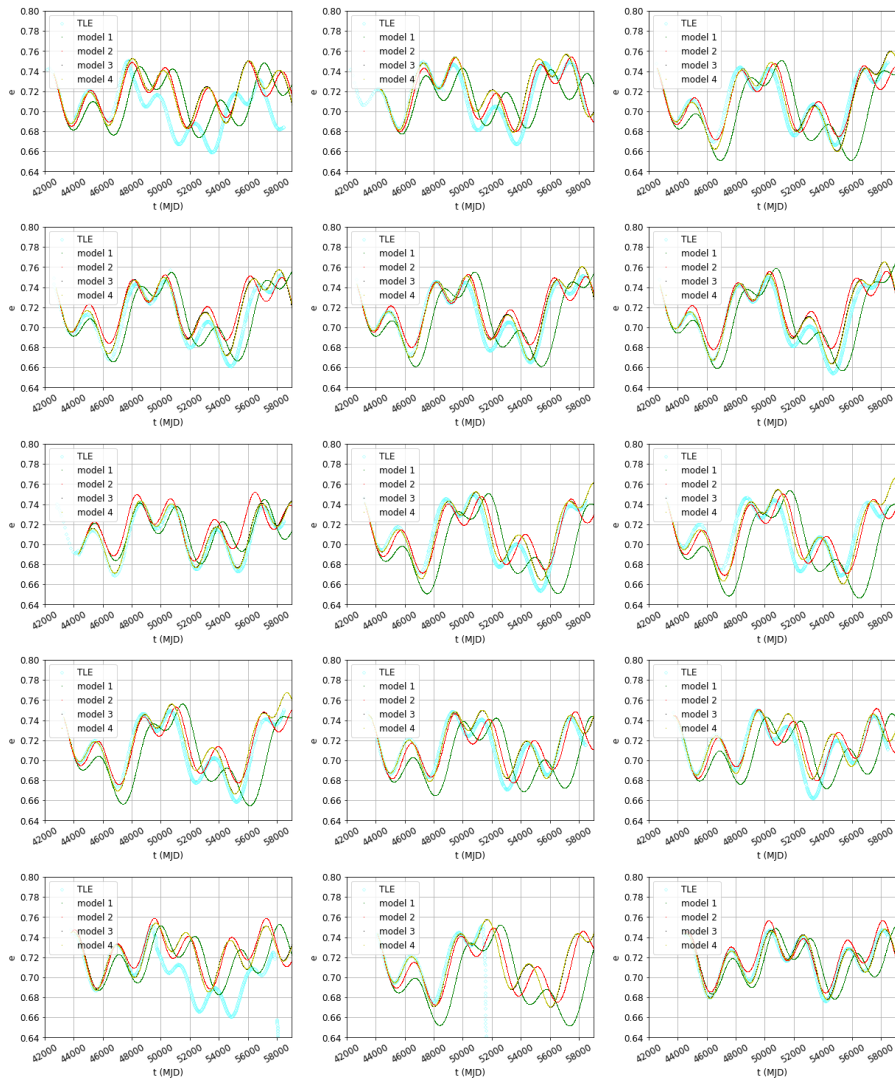


Figure 1

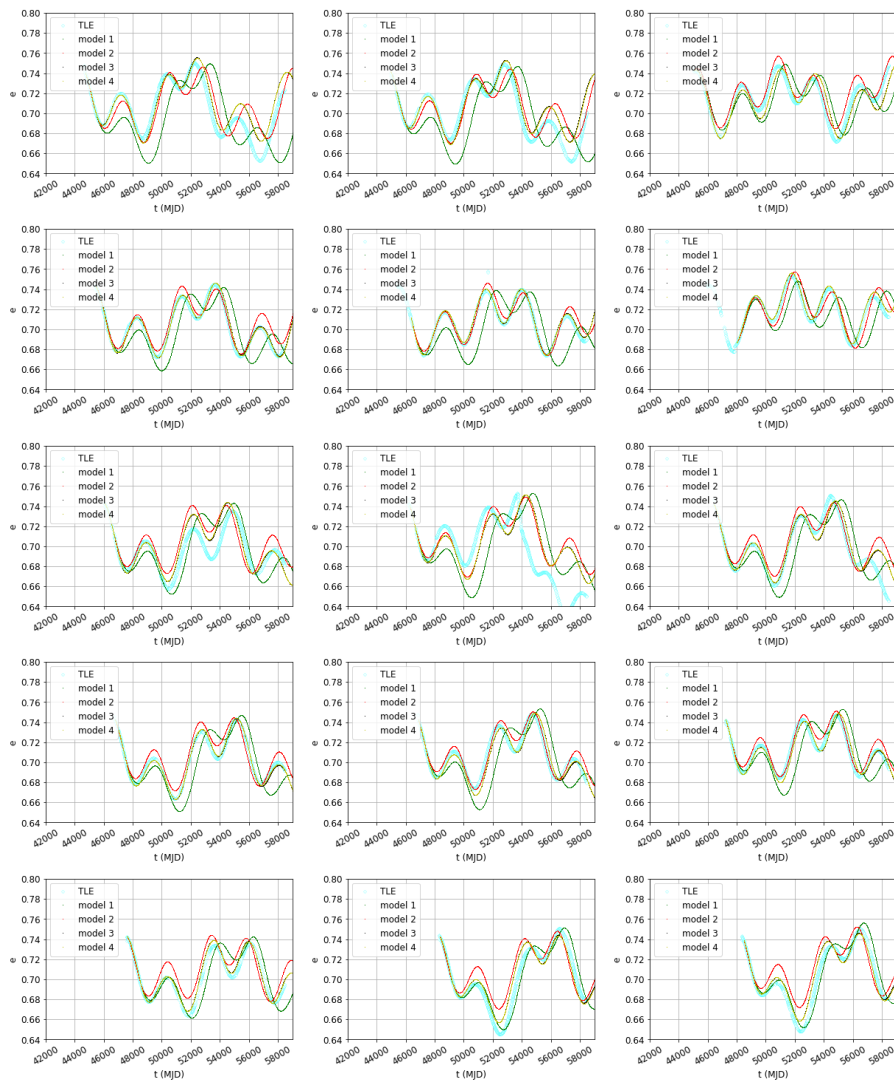


Figure 2



Figure 3