Orbits Exercise

Solutions





Euler scheme: trajectory and energy







Euler scheme: trajectory and energy







Leapfrog scheme: trajectory and energy







Summary

- Reducing truncation errors is very important
- Requires changing the algorithm
 - Euler: error is proportional to Δt
 - Leapfrog: error is proportional to Δt^2
- If $\Delta t = 0.01$ and error in energy is 10 with Euler algorithm, how much work to reduce error to 0.1?
 - same algorithm: $\Delta t = 0.0001$ and **100 times** the computational cost
 - Leapfrog algorithm: $\Delta t = 0.01$ and **roughly the same** computational cost



