

## FIGURES

- 1.1 A comparison between suborbital and orbital flight trajectories 18
- 2.1 Image of a star cluster with multiple satellite streaks passing through the field of view 47
- 2.2 Cumulative growth curves of artificial objects in orbit 53
- 2.3 Top: inclinations of active and defunct satellites as a function of orbital altitude; bottom: spatial density of objects in orbit as a function of altitude 56
- 2.4 Spatial density of objects in orbit as a function of altitude, including possible densities of several proposed satellite constellations 59
- 4.1 Apogee–perigee distribution of abandoned rocket bodies in orbit 116
- 4.2 Image streak due to a tumbling abandoned rocket body in orbit 117
- 4.3 Photograph of a piece of rocket that survived re-entry and landed on Earth’s surface 119
- 4.4 Casualty expectations based on abandoned rocket bodies in orbit, along with a breakdown of contributions by launching states or regions 123
- 4.5 Curves for two rocket body weighting functions, representing the fraction of time spent over each latitude 124
- 4.6 Population density curve and a total rocket body weighting function projected onto a world map 124
- 5.1 Map of the Moon’s south and north poles 133
- 5.2 Image of asteroid Benu taken by *OSIRIS-REx* spacecraft 134
- 5.3 Orbital diagram showing Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars and Benu 135
- 5.4 Photograph of NASA Administrator Jim Bridenstine, President Donald Trump, VP Mike Pence and Second Lady Karen Pence watching a rocket launch 158
- 6.1 Photograph of Lake Manicouagan, which was created by a five-kilometre-diameter asteroid 187
- 6.2 Fireball and bolide data projected onto a world map 188
- 6.3 Near-Earth asteroid discovery curves, cumulative with time 192
- 6.4 Visualisation of the minimum orbital intersection distance (MOID) between a Benu-like asteroid orbit and Earth 194
- 6.5 B-plane figure showing simulation results of different deflection scenarios for the hypothetical impactor 2019 PDC 198

- 6.6 Comet 67P/Churyumov–Gerasimenko, in a mosaic of four photographs from ESA’s *Rosetta* spacecraft 209
- 6.7 The expected damage due to an airburst from a 60-metre asteroid 217
- 6.8 Keyhole map for the 2029 flyby of Apophis 253
- 7.1 Gabbard plot showing the apogee–perigee distribution of tracked fragments resulting from India’s ASAT weapon test 268
- 7.2 Fraction of USA 193 and Microsat-R debris de-orbited by the number of months after the events 269
- 7.3 Orbital trajectories for 340 pieces of debris from the Russian ASAT weapon test 271
- 7.4 The increase in tracked debris across different altitudes due to the Russian ASAT weapon test 272
- 7.5 Ballistic trajectories for three different profiles, showing a depressed, an efficient and a high-altitude trajectory 284
- 7.6 Simplified example of ballistic missile flight times corresponding to depressed, efficient and high-altitude trajectories 284
- 7.7 Depiction of the FTG-15 ICBM interception test 286
- 7.8 Surviving debris resulting from the catastrophic break-up of a missile during an FTG-15-like ICBM interception test 287
- 7.9 A depiction of the Lagrange points for a simple dynamical model involving two massive bodies 291
- 7.10 Artist’s illustration of plans for a new DARPA program 293
- 8.1 Density of debris in orbit as of 27 January 2022 due to ASAT weapon tests 303
- 8.2 Photograph of Indian ballistic missile defence interceptor being launched for ASAT weapon test 304