

Orbital Elements

Reference planes: e.g.,

Ecliptic = Earth's orbital plane (specify epoch)

Invariable Plane = perpendicular to total angular momentum

a: semimajor axis

e: eccentricity

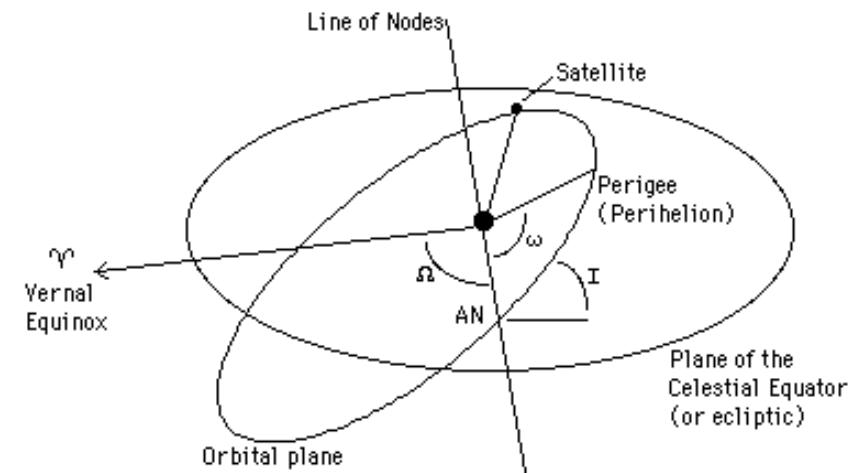
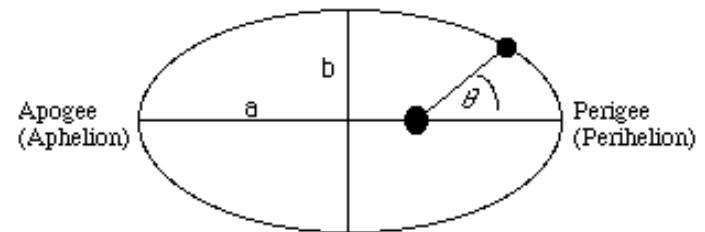
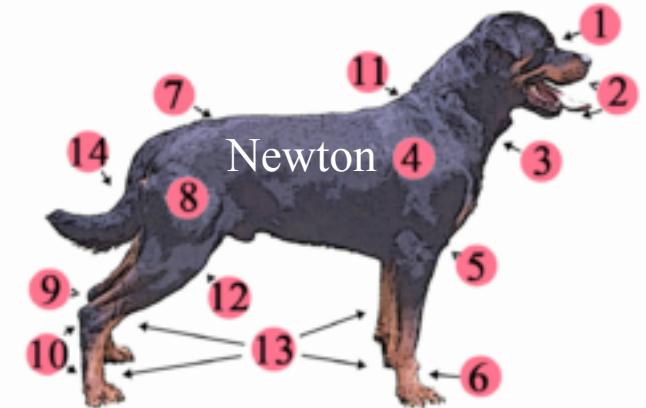
f: true anomaly (from periapse)

i: orbital inclination (0-90 prograde, 90-180 retrograde)

Ω : longitude of ascending node

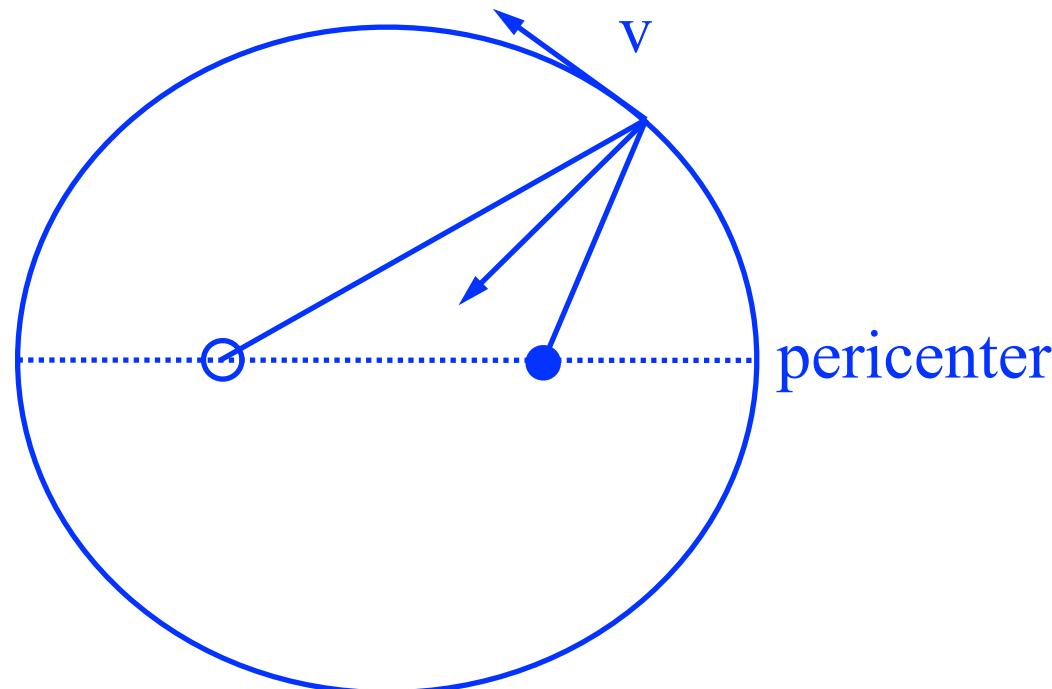
ω : argument of periapse

$\tilde{\Omega} = \omega + \Omega$: longitude of periapse,
broken (dog-leg) angle



All you need to know...

- sum of distances to two foci = $2a$
- eccentricity $e = \text{center-to-focus} / a$
- angle bisector is perpendicular to tangent
- E is proportional to $-1/a$
- Filled focus is fixed, empty focus is free



V_{\parallel} kick, at pericenter

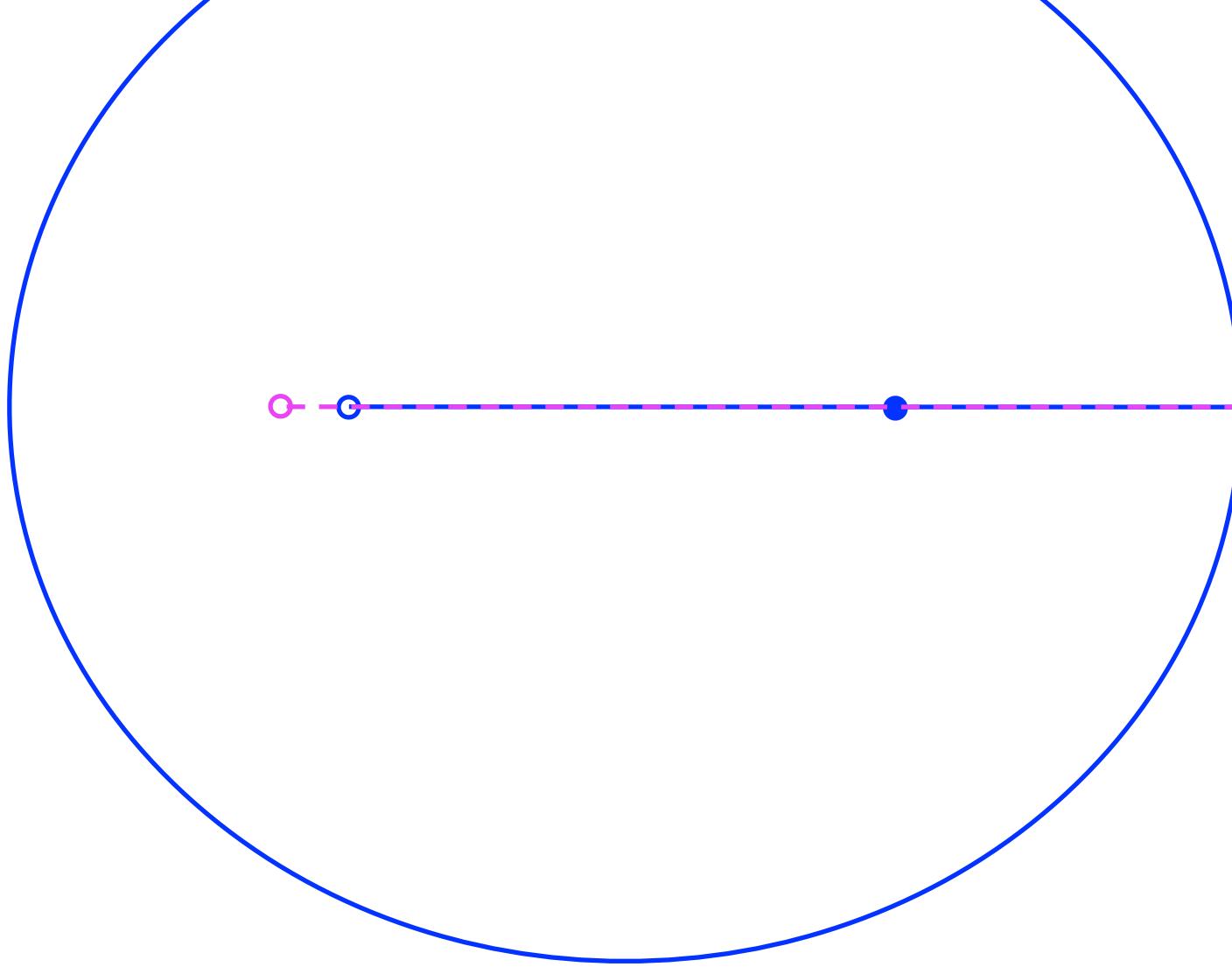
$$|v'| > |v|$$

$$E' > E$$

$$a' > a$$

$$e' > e$$

$$\omega' = \omega$$



V_{\perp} kick, after pericenter

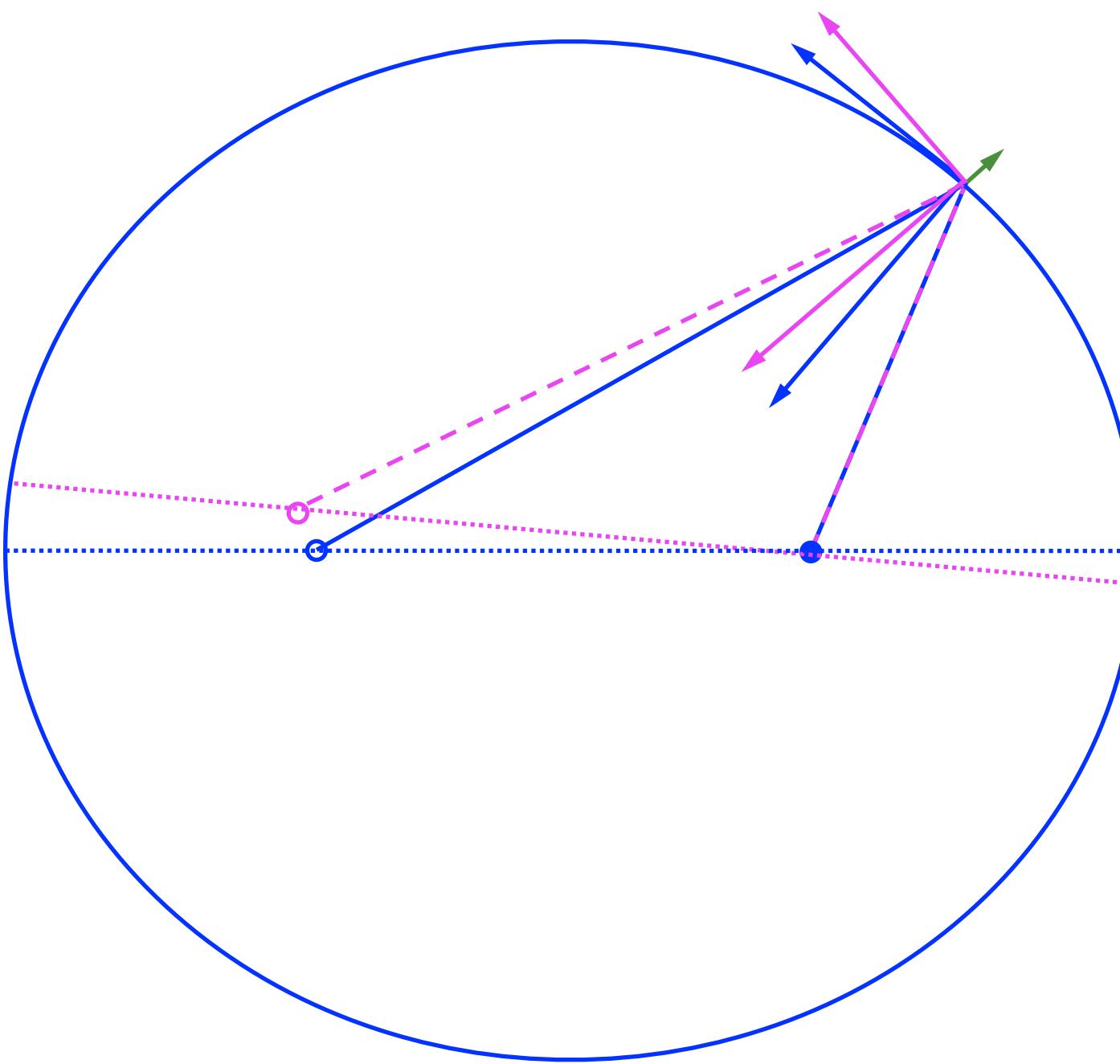
$$|v'| = |v|$$

$$E' = E$$

$$a' = a$$

$$e' > e$$

$$\omega' < \omega$$



V_{\parallel} kick, after pericenter

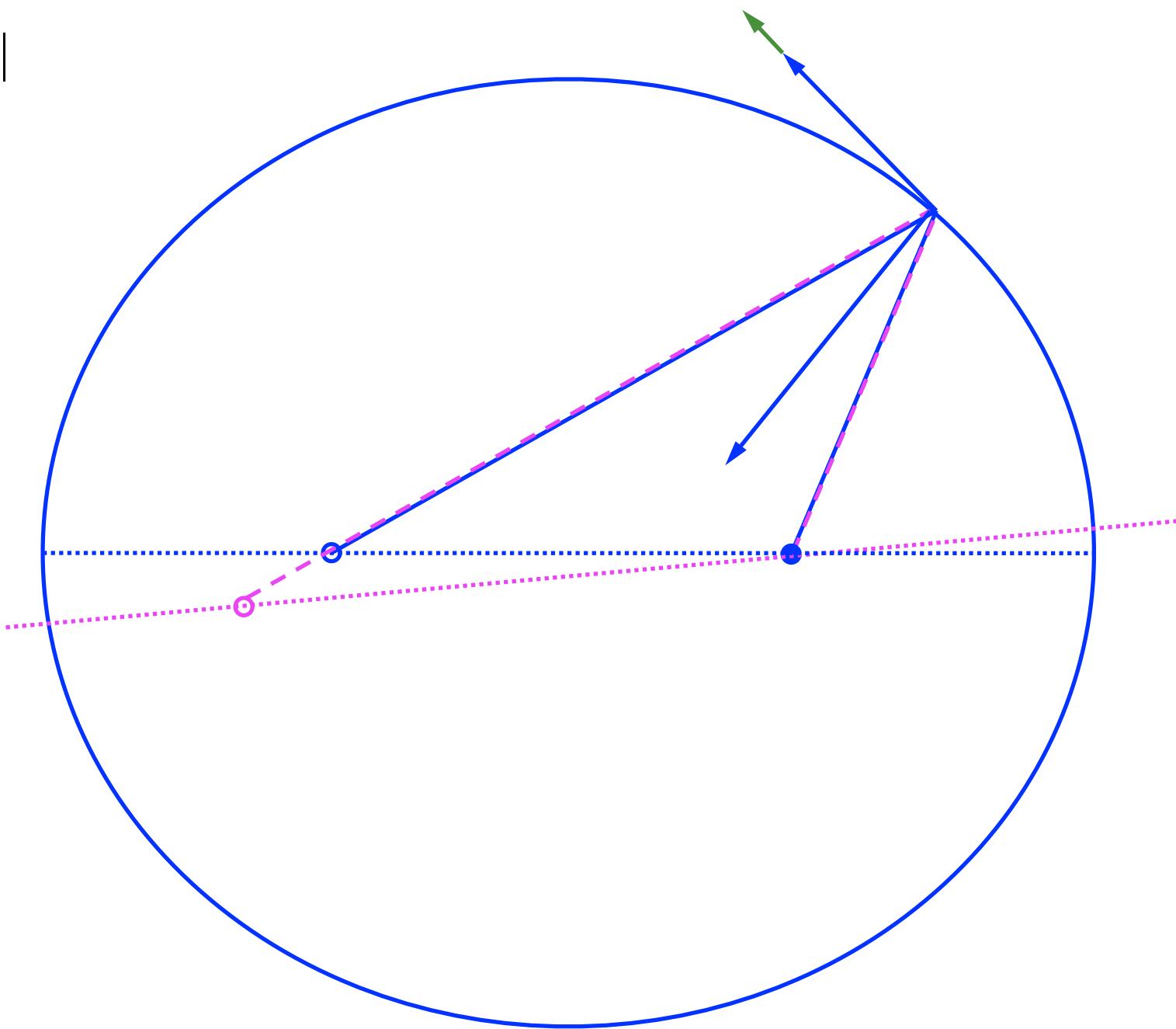
$$|v'| > |v|$$

$$E' > E$$

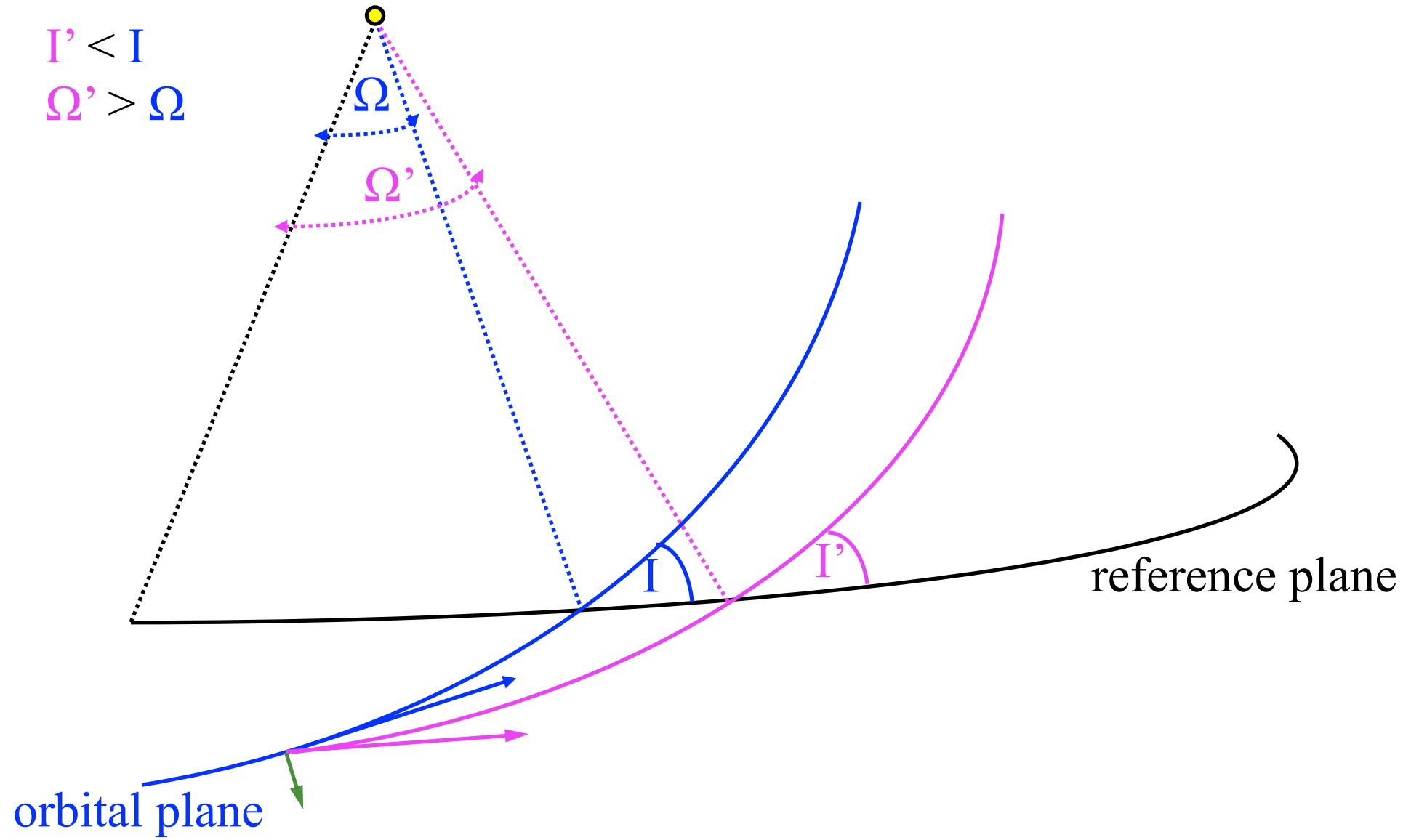
$$a' > a$$

$$\omega' > \omega$$

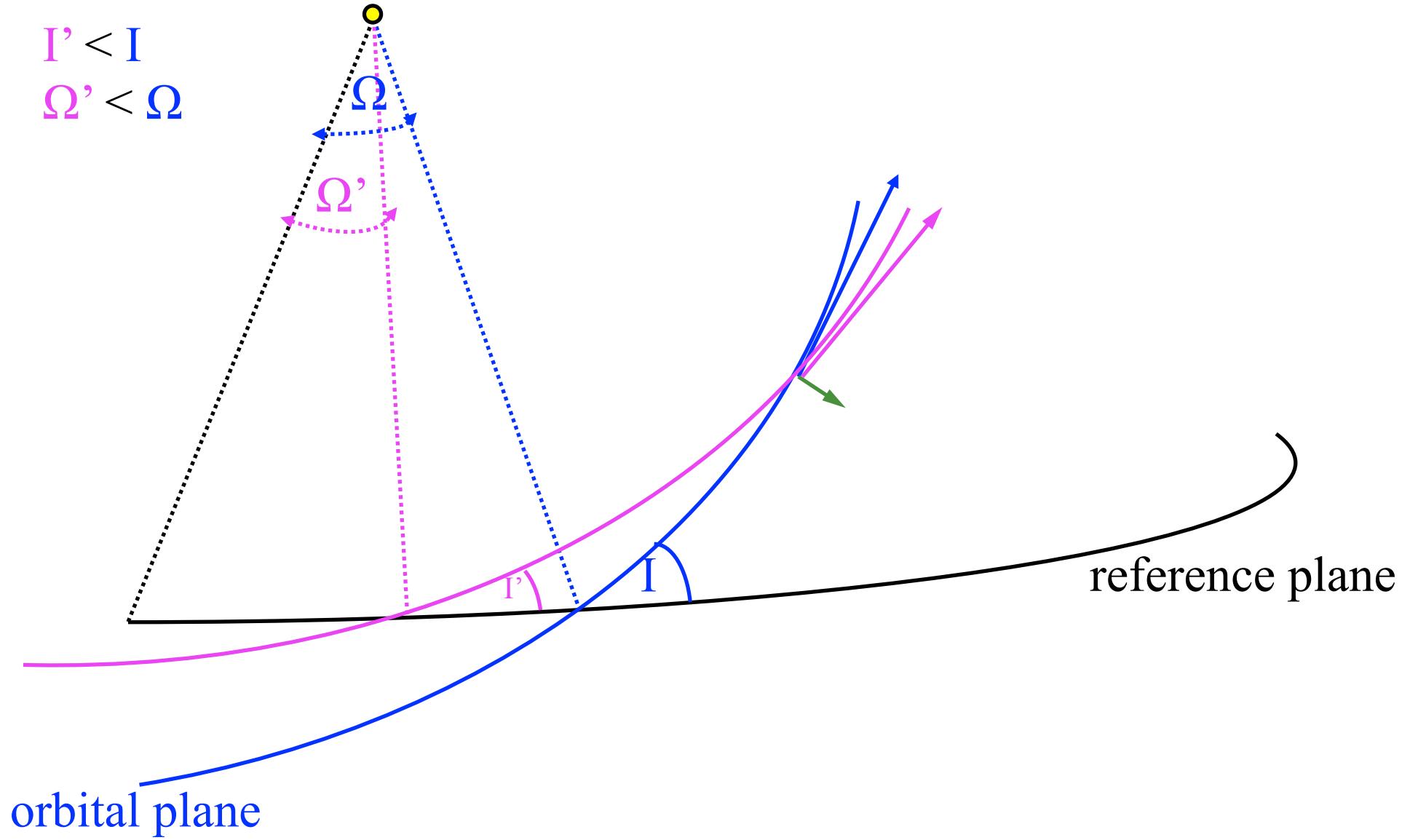
$$e' > e$$



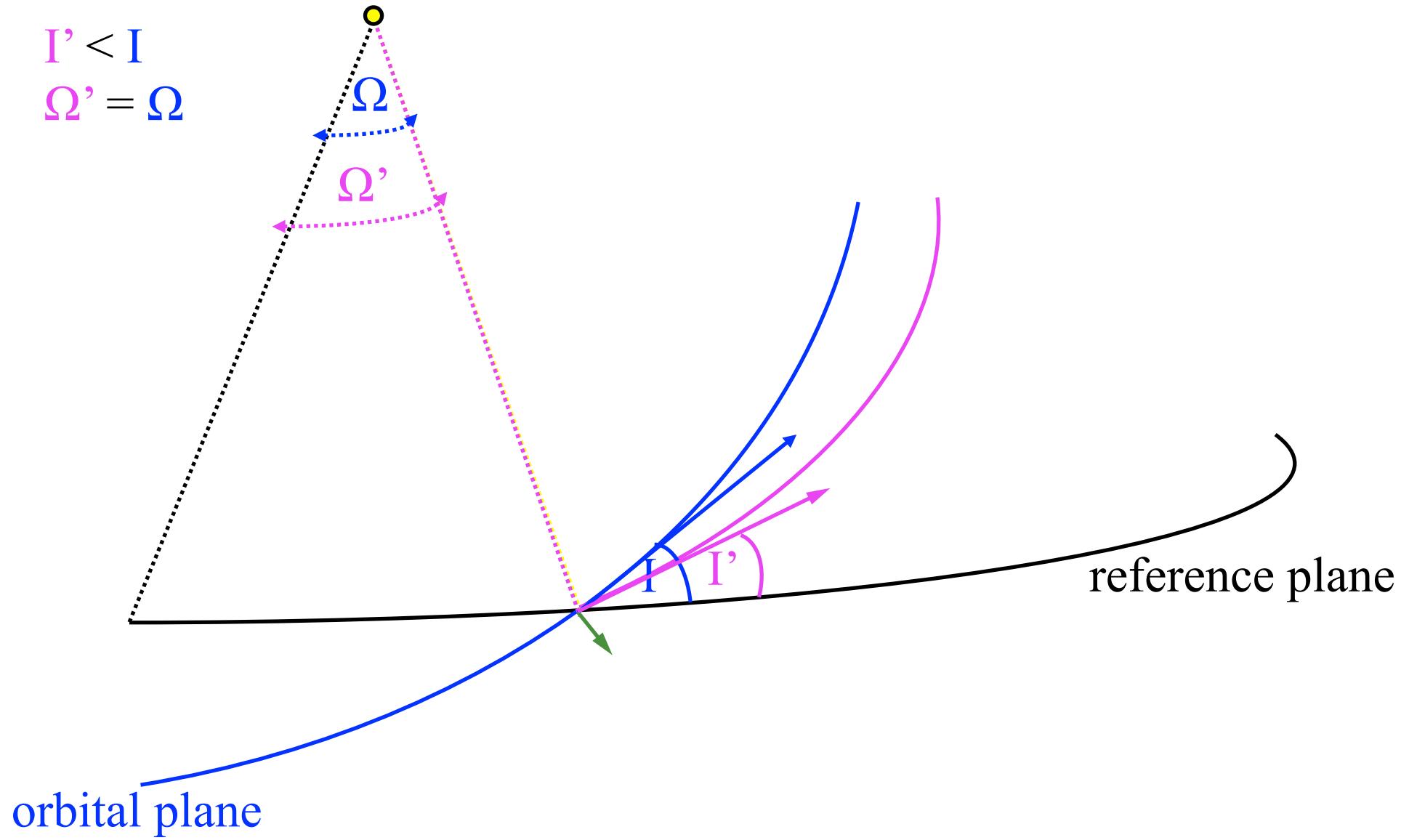
V_{\perp} kick, before ascending node



V_{\perp} kick, after ascending node



V_{\perp} kick, at ascending node



V_{\parallel} kick, before ascending node

