

# Accepted Manuscript

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PII: S0094-5765(17)30739-7

DOI: [10.1016/j.actaastro.2017.11.002](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.actaastro.2017.11.002)

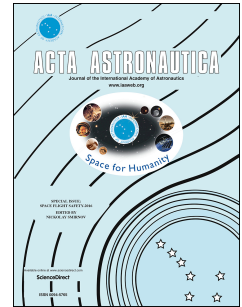
Reference: AA 6532

To appear in: *Acta Astronautica*

Received Date: 16 June 2017

Revised Date: 25 August 2017

Accepted Date: 4 November 2017



Please cite this article as: T. Yamasaki, M. Bando, S. Hokamoto, Tether cutting maneuver in swing-by trajectory, *Acta Astronautica* (2017), doi: 10.1016/j.actaastro.2017.11.002.

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# Tether Cutting Maneuver in Swing-by Trajectory

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## Abstract

The swing-by maneuver is known as a method to change the velocity of a spacecraft by using the gravity force of the celestial body. The powered swing-by has been studied to enhance the velocity change during the swing-by maneuver. This paper studies another way of the powered swing-by using tether cutting, which does not require additional propellant consumption, and shows that the proposed powered swing-by can increase the effect of the swing-by as same as using impulsive thrust. Moreover, it is discussed whether the system has possibility to realize both the powered swing-by of a mother satellite and the planetary capture of a subsatellite simultaneously.

**Keywords:** Tethered-satellite, Tether control, Powered swing-by, Planetary capture

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## 1. Introduction

Swing-by is an acceleration method of spacecraft utilizing the gravity of a celestial body [1]. By utilizing the gravitational force of a celestial body, spacecraft can accelerate/decelerate without requiring fuel, and thus it is an essential technique for deep space exploration. Launched in 1997, Voyager 2 gradually expanded its orbit by performing swing-by maneuvers in stages in the

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<sup>☆</sup>Fully documented templates are available in the elsarticle package on CTAN.

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