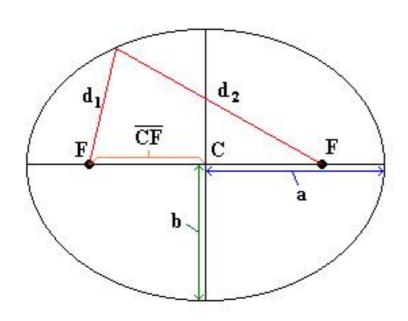
Properties of an Ellipse



a = semimajor axis

b = semiminor axis

e = eccentricity

$$\mathbf{e} = \overline{\mathbf{CF}}/\mathbf{a}$$

F = focal point

C = center

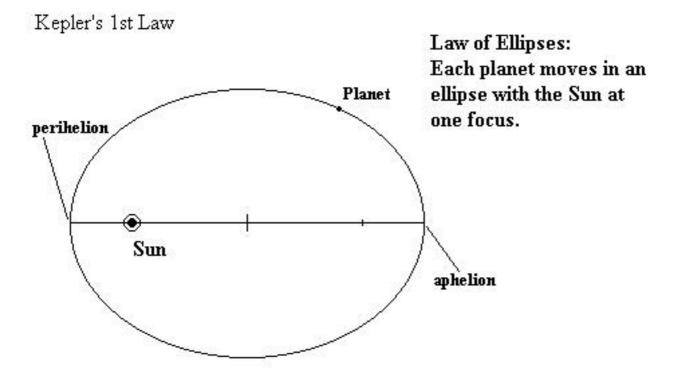
All points on the ellipse have the following property:

$$d_1 + d_2 = const.$$

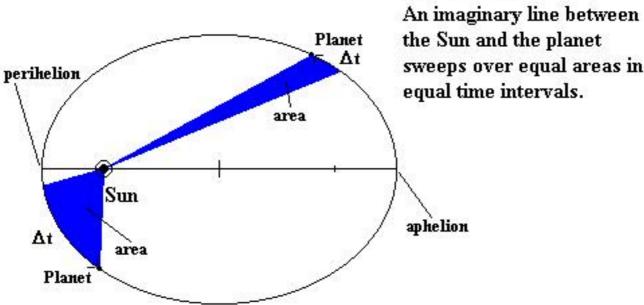
(const. = 2a)

For the specific ellipse in this diagram:

a = 132 pixels, b = 100 pixels, $\overline{CF} = 86$ pixels, e = 0.65, const. = 264 pixels



Kepler's 2nd Law



Law of Areas:

the Sun and the planet sweeps over equal areas in equal time intervals.

