

1. Linear Secular Theory for Two Massive Planets

The secular interaction energy between two planets is

$$H = -G \frac{mm'}{a'} R, \quad (1)$$

where the outer planet's properties are primed, and the disturbing function is, to second order in e and $s \equiv \sin(i/2)$ (Murray & Dermott):

$$R = f_2(e^2 + e'^2) + f_3(s^2 + s'^2) + f_{10}ee' \cos(\varpi - \varpi') \quad (2)$$

$$+ f_{14}ss' \cos(\Omega - \Omega') \quad (3)$$

where

$$f_2 = \frac{1}{8}(2\alpha D + \alpha^2 D^2)b_{1/2}^0 = \frac{1}{8}\alpha b_{3/2}^1 \approx \frac{3}{8}\alpha^2 \quad (4)$$

$$f_3 = -\frac{1}{2}\alpha b_{3/2}^1 \approx -\frac{3}{2}\alpha^2 \quad (5)$$

$$f_{10} = \frac{1}{4}(2 - 2\alpha D - \alpha^2 D^2)b_{1/2}^1 = -\frac{1}{4}\alpha b_{3/2}^2 \approx -\frac{15}{16}\alpha^3 \quad (6)$$

$$f_{14} = \alpha b_{3/2}^1 \approx 3\alpha^2 \quad (7)$$

$$b_s^j = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{\cos j\psi}{(1 - 2\alpha \cos \psi + \alpha^2)^s} d\psi \quad (8)$$

For the approx, we use small α , where

$$b_{3/2}^1 \approx 3\alpha + O(\alpha^3) \quad (9)$$

$$b_{3/2}^2 \approx \frac{15}{4}\alpha^2 + O(\alpha^4) \quad (10)$$

The equations of motion are Hamilton's equations for the canonical variables

$$\Gamma = m\sqrt{GM_\odot a}(1 - \sqrt{1 - e^2}) \quad (11)$$

$$\gamma = -\varpi \quad (12)$$

$$\Delta = m\sqrt{GM_\odot a}(1 - e^2)2s^2 \quad (13)$$

$$\delta = -\Omega \quad (14)$$

Or, defining the complex variables

$$z_\gamma \equiv \sqrt{\Gamma}e^{-i\gamma} \quad (15)$$

$$z_\delta \equiv \sqrt{\Delta}e^{-i\delta}, \quad (16)$$

the equations of motion are

$$\frac{dz_\gamma}{dt} = -i \frac{\partial H}{\partial z_\gamma^*}, \quad (17)$$

and similarly for $z_\delta, z'_\gamma, z'_\delta$. To linear order,

$$z_\gamma = M_\odot^{1/2} (GM_\odot)^{1/4} \kappa e e^{i\varpi} \quad (18)$$

$$z_\delta = M_\odot^{1/2} (GM_\odot)^{1/4} \kappa i e^{i\Omega}, \quad (19)$$

where

$$\kappa \equiv \sqrt{\frac{\mu \sqrt{a}}{2}}, \quad (20)$$

where

$$\mu \equiv \frac{m}{M_\odot} \quad (21)$$

and hence

$$R \cdot M_\odot (GM_\odot)^{1/2} = f_2 \left(\frac{|z_\gamma|^2}{\kappa^2} + \frac{|z'_\gamma|^2}{\kappa'^2} \right) + \frac{f_3}{4} \left(\frac{|z_\delta|^2}{\kappa^2} + \frac{|z'_\delta|^2}{\kappa'^2} \right) \quad (22)$$

$$+ \frac{f_{10}}{2} \frac{1}{\kappa \kappa'} (z_\gamma z'_\gamma + c.c.) \quad (23)$$

$$+ \frac{f_{14}}{8} \frac{1}{\kappa \kappa'} (z_\delta z'_\delta + c.c.) \quad (24)$$

Therefore the equation of motion is

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{pmatrix} z_\gamma \\ z'_\gamma \end{pmatrix} = i \sqrt{GM_\odot} \frac{\mu \mu'}{a'} \begin{pmatrix} f_2/\kappa^2 & f_{10}/(2\kappa \kappa') \\ f_{10}/(2\kappa \kappa') & f_2/\kappa'^2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} z_\gamma \\ z'_\gamma \end{pmatrix} \quad (25)$$