The isochrone model : a fundamental state for self-gravitating systems

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Collisionless Boltzmann (Vlasov) Equation and Modeling of Self-Gravitating Systems and Plasmas – CIRM Luminy – October 29th to November 3rd 2017

Outline

1) Astrophysical systems in the context of the Vlasov-Poisson system

2) Isochrony & Self-gravitating systems (details & proofs in SPD 2017 Com. Math. Phys.)

3) The fundamental isochrone state



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Globular clusters

Spherical systems with $N=10^{4-5}$ particles

~ isolated systems in the galactic potential

« Standard model » King = truncated isothermal sphere

 $f(E) \propto e^{-\beta E} \times 1_{E < E_{\ell}}$

Evolution effect due to dissipation other long time scales : $N T_{\rm d} / \ln(N)$

Low Surface Brightness(LSB): 90% of all galaxies Core Halo structure Isolated systems

Theorized 1972 – 1st obs. 1986 – Large catalogue for 10 years

CDM Simulations & High Surface Brightness (HSB)

Spherical systems including the dark matter halo ? $N = 10^{\;9\mbox{--}12} \; {\rm particles}$

Galaxies

(@ z=0)

Triple power law structure

with cusp

Non isolated system

Hierachical formation

process

Theory not so restrictive !

Equilibrium

f(E) or $f(E, L^2)$: spherical in the position space by Gidas, Ni, Niremberg 1984 Theorem (e.g. P&Aly, 1996)

f(E, I) : it depends on I

Violent relaxation : not clear yet...

A clever remark by Michel Hénon in 1958 ...

Stability analysis

Jeans' instability for homogeneous too dense systems

Decreasing spherical systems generally stable if not too radial (See Binney&Tremaine)

Gravothermal catastrophe to understand long time evolution (ask P.H. Chavanis)

2) Isochrony & Self-gravitating systems (details & proofs in SPD 2017 Com. Math. Phys.)

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A few words about isochrony (Hénon, 1958; SPD 2017 Com. Math. Phys.)

Spherical system : $\psi = \psi(|\vec{r}|)$ Each test particle with $E = m\xi$ and $\vec{L} = m\vec{\Lambda}$ moves in a plane.

Orbital equation

$$\frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{dr}{dt}\right)^2 = \xi - \psi(r) - \frac{\Lambda^2}{2r^2}$$

r(t) is periodic for bounded & non radial orbits

$$\forall t, \quad r(t) = r(t + \tau_r)$$
$$\tau_r = 2 \int_{r_a}^{r_p} \frac{dr}{\sqrt{2[\xi - \psi(r)] - \frac{\Lambda^2}{r^2}}}$$

generally depends on ξ and Λ

Def. An orbit is isochrone if $\tau_r = \tau_r(\xi)$ A potential is isochrone if all bounded & non radial orbits are isochrone. Orbital plane for a given star

ISOCHRONE CLASSIFICATION : there are 4 classes of isochrone potentials ...

$$\frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{dr}{dt}\right)^2 = \xi - \psi(r) - \frac{\Lambda^2}{2r^2} \qquad \begin{array}{c} \text{Hénon variables} \\ x = 2r^2, y(x) = x\psi(x) \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{c} \frac{1}{16}\left(\frac{dx}{dt}\right)^2 = \xi x - y(x) - \Lambda^2 \end{array}$$

Thm. A potential is **isochrone** iff the graph of y(x) is a **parabola**.

2 parameters for the orbital equation, i.e. ξ and Λ : $\begin{bmatrix} \text{If } \xi \to \xi + \epsilon \text{ then } (x, y) \to (x, y + \epsilon x) & (\text{Transvection}) \\ \text{If } \Lambda^2 \to \Lambda^2 + \lambda^2 \text{ then } (x, y) \to (x, y + \lambda^2) & (y-\text{Translation}) \end{bmatrix}$

Fundamental isochrone group : $\mathbb{A} = \left\{ (\epsilon, \lambda) \in \mathbb{R}^2, \ (x, y) \to (x, y + \epsilon x + \lambda^2) \right\} \simeq (\mathbb{R}^2, +)$

... because there are 4 group orbits under A-action on parabolas !

A reference frame for each isochrone parabola

Def. $\mathscr{R} = \left(O, \vec{i}, \vec{j}\right)$ is the reference frame of the parabola \mathcal{P}

Using the affine coordinate system $\vec{w} = [\xi x, y]$ the orbital equation writes

$$\frac{1}{16} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{d}{d\tau} \left(\vec{w} | \vec{i} \right) \end{bmatrix}^2 = \left(\vec{w} | \vec{i} - \vec{j} \right) + \left(\vec{w}_{\Lambda} | \vec{j} \right)$$

$$\frac{d\tau = \xi dt}{\text{Proper time}} \qquad \frac{1}{16} \left(\frac{dx}{dt} \right)^2 = \xi x - y(x) - \Lambda^2$$

Look for the more general *linear* transformation *B* such that (D. Lynden-Bell idea)

if
$$\vec{w}' = B(\vec{w})$$
 then $\xi' x' - y'(x') = \xi x - y(x)$

B generalizes the Bohlin-Levi-Civita Transformation to all isochrones : if \vec{w} is an isochrone orbit in the isochrone ψ then $\vec{w'}$ is an isochrone orbit in the isochrone ψ'

if $\mathcal P$ is the keplerian parabola, ψ is the keplerian potential ψ' is generally not keplerian in $\mathscr R$ but it is always keplerian in $\mathscr R'$

$$\frac{1}{16} \left[\frac{a}{d\tau'} \left(\vec{w'} | \vec{u} \right) \right] = \left(\vec{w'} | \vec{u} - \vec{v} \right) + \left(\vec{w'}_{\Lambda} | \vec{v} \right)$$

The isochrony property is relative to a frame Isochrone theory of relativity

Consequence of the isochrone relativity

3 other fundamental isochrones

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Hénon's proposition 1958

The isochrone model (Hénon) is the fundamental state in which an isolated self-gravitating system settles down after a violent relaxation (which was not yet described in 1958...).

Mechanism invoked : resonance (Physical proof needed...)

Forgotten because ...

- This proposition was published at the very end of the paper in french...
- Because globular clusters evolve and donnot stay in this initial fundamental state;
- The mechanism of this evolution was poorly known at this epoch;
- The « hand-made » King(1966) model (with 3 free parameters !) fits very well the data (mass density profile);
- LSB galaxies were theorized to exist in 1976 and studied in detail since 2000 ...
- This proposition doesn't apply to HSB galaxies, which are the most studied and simulated : non isolated systems

Mass density analysis

Isochrony analysis

(n = 200 orbits analyzed)

Isochrony analysis

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Isochrony appears to be fundamental for dynamics in self-gravitating systems (For physicists as well as for mathematicians)

Understand the resonance Hénon mecanism seems crucial !

Pay more attention to LSB galaxies to understand HSB ones...

Thank you for your attention