In-plane Motion: 2D oscillations

Now let's look at the 2D motion in the plane. We have $\ddot{x} = -\kappa^2 x$ which has some solution

Look at azimuthal motion. Let ψ be the angular coordinate along the orbit, so $\dot{\psi}$ is the angular velocity:

$$\dot{\psi} = \frac{L_z}{R^2} = \frac{L_z}{R_g^2} \left(1 + \frac{x}{R_g}\right)^2$$

-2

Remember, R_g is the radius of the circular orbit we are tweaking!

where I've simply substituted in $R = R_g + x$ and then done some algebra.

If $x/R_g \ll 1$, I can do another expansion to get

$$\dot{\psi} \cong \Omega_g \left(1 - \frac{2x}{R_g} \right)$$

Now substitute x and be explicit about the derivative



And now integrate

 ξ is just phase term, setting the starting point of the oscillation.

Finally: Epicycles

Let's put an (x,y) cartesian coordinate system centered on $(R_g, \Omega_g t + \psi_0)$.

Since
$$\psi(t) = \Omega_g t - \frac{2\Omega_g X}{\kappa R_g} \sin(\kappa t + \xi) + \psi_0$$
 we have
 $x(t) = X \cos(\kappa t + \xi)$
 $y(t) = -Y \sin(\kappa t + \xi)$, where $Y \equiv \frac{2\Omega_g X}{\kappa R_g}$ This is simply the equation of an ellipse!

The star moves on an ellipse around R_g , as R_g moves around the galaxy on a circular orbit. The motion is described as an **epicycle** with a **guiding center** R_g ! The frequency κ is called the **epicyclic frequency**.

Notes:

- The ellipse has an axis ratio of $X/Y = \kappa/(2\Omega_g)$
- For typical galactic potentials Y > X, so the ellipse is elongated tangentially
- Epicycles are retrograde. Why?
 - Conservation of angular momentum.
 - When the star is further out from the guiding center it moves more slowly and lags the guiding center.
 - When the star is closer in, it moves more quickly and leads the guiding center.

Epicycles around a point source

Think of Keplerian motion: $V_C \sim R^{-0.5}$, $\Omega = V_c/R \sim R^{-1.5}$,

Epicyclic frequency: $\kappa^2 = R \frac{\partial \Omega^2}{\partial R} + 4\Omega^2 = R \frac{\partial (R^{-3})}{\partial R} + 4\Omega^2 = R(-3R^{-4}) + 4R^{-3} = R^{-3}$

So: $\kappa \sim R^{-1.5} \sim \Omega$, and the ratio of the ellipse is $\frac{X}{Y} = \frac{\kappa}{2\Omega_g} = \frac{1}{2}$



Figure 3.7 An elliptical Kepler orbit (dashed curve) is well approximated by the superposition of motion at angular frequency κ around a small ellipse with axis ratio $\frac{1}{2}$, and motion of the ellipse's center in the opposite sense at angular frequency Ω around a circle (dotted curve).

What did Ptolemy get wrong?



Clarification on the epicyclic approximation:

The epicycle:

- It is an epicyclic loop only in the rotating frame of reference.
- In any reasonable potential, the epicyclic frequency (κ) is comparable to the orbital frequency (Ω) to within a factor of a few.
- So orbits do not gyrate wildly, they just deviate slightly from circular.

Why is the epicycle retrograde compared to the guiding center mortion?

- Momentum ($L = rv_{\theta}$) is conserved on the orbit.
- When the star is inside R_q it has a higher angular velocity, so it moves ahead of the guiding center.
- As it moves ahead, it is moving faster than circular, so it also drifts outwards.
- As it drifts outwards it also slows down in v_{θ} to keep angular momentum conserved.
- As it moves beyond R_g and slows down in v_{θ} it lags the guiding center.
- Since it now is moving slower than circular, it starts to drift back inwards.
- and the cycle repeats, with the epicycle being retrograde compare to the guiding center motion.

Spiral Galaxies

From our study of the Milky Way:

- Rotating disk
- Exponential in R an z
- Thick and thin disks
- Spiral arms and bar
- Stellar populations:
 - Star Formation
 - Chemical Evolution
- Stellar halo

What about other spiral galaxies? How can lessons learned in the Milky Way be generalized to spiral galaxies as a whole?



Spiral Galaxies: Structure

Spiral galaxy luminosity profiles are reasonably well described by a varying combination of disk and bulge profiles.

Disk: linear surface brightness profile (mag arcsec⁻²), so exponential fall-off with radius. Characterized by:

3

arcsec

mag

こ

I(R)

- central surface brightness: μ₀
- radial scale length: h_R

Central bulge: profile varied

- classical r^{-1/4} profile (early mergers?)
- exponential profile ("pseudo-bulges", maybe from scattering of disk stars?)

Disks also typically have **stellar halos**, but these are too diffuse to be observed in integrated light.



Spiral Galaxies: Structure

But spiral galaxies are not perfectly symmetric. Fit ellipses to isophotes. If the disk is axisymmetric (but inclined), ellipses should be constant with radius.

Changing isophotes \Rightarrow asymmetry: best fit ellipse as a function of radius can change orientation ("position angle" or PA), ellipticity, and deviation from ellipse (A4).

"Fourier modes" (m): At some radius, think of galaxy surface brightness as a function of angle. If the disk is axisymmetric, this would be a constant.

m=0: constant, axisymmetric
m=1: one hump, lopsided
m=2: two humps, bar or grand design spiral arms
m=3+: multi-armed spirals, other weirdness

Many different metrics exist to quantify asymmetry.





Raw image

After axisymmetric model subtraction



Morphology depends on wavelength!

UV/blue: see young stars, spiral arms enhanced.

red/near-IR: dominated by light from old stars. Smoother, emphasizes central bulge

mid-IR: see emission from dust heated by young stars, traces spiral arms.



Spiral Galaxies: Vertical Structure

Many disk galaxies observed to have a thick disk, but not all.

Disks also are seen to flare or warp in the outskirts.



Why might this be?

- Interactions?
- Low density in outskirts: no restoring force for vertical oscillations

$$\sigma_z^2 \approx 2\pi G \Sigma h_z$$



from Freeman 02 ARAA

Spiral Galaxies: Color Profiles



Disks typically show color gradients:

- Galaxy colors become bluer in the outskirts
- Fitted scale lengths (h_R) are shorter in the red.



Mihos+13





Spiral Galaxies: Color Profiles

But sometimes color gradients reverse in the extreme outskirts.

M106





Spiral Galaxies: Metallicity Gradients



Spiral galaxies typically also show metallicity gradients: outskirts are more metal poor than inner regions.



Spiral Galaxies: Metallicity

Low mass galaxies are typically also metal-poor.

"Mass-metallicity relationship", also seen in elliptical galaxies.



Spirals are rich in cold atomic and molecular gas – fuel for star formation

- Atomic: probe via 21cm neutral hydrogen line
- Molecular: no H₂ emission, so trace via other molecules (CO, etc)

 $M_{gas} = M_{HI} + X \times I_{CO}$

where

M_{HI} = HI mass I_{CO} = CO line flux X = scale factor (uncertainty!)



Late type spirals are HI-rich but H₂-deficient



HI is also typically much more radially extended than the molecular gas





Figure 6

Kennicutt & Evans ARAA 2012

High-resolution maps of star-formation tracers and cold-gas components in NGC 6946. (*Top left*) *Spitzer* 24- μ m dust emission from the SINGS/KINGFISH Project (Kennicutt et al. 2011), (*top right*) H α emission from Knapen et al. (2004), (*bottom left*) HI emission from the VLA THINGS Survey (Walter et al. 2008), and (*bottom right*) CO $J = 2 \rightarrow 1$ emission from the HERACLES Survey (Walter et al. 2008). Note that the HI map extends over a much wider area than the CO, H α , and 24- μ m observations.

Molecular Gas

Atomic Hydrogen



Hitschfeld+09 Fig. 1. *Left*: map of integrated CO 2–1 intensities on the antenna temperature scale in K km s⁻¹ at 11" resolution (cf. Paper I). A logarithmic spiral is shown in all figures of M 51 to guide the eye. *Right*: map of H I column densities (Walter et al. 2008) in units of 10^{20} cm⁻² at a resolution of ~6".

Recapping...

Disk galaxies show trends

Low luminosity / low surface brightness galaxies: lower in metallicity, bluer, more gas-rich, and their gas is mostly atomic.

High luminosity / high surface brightness galaxies: higher in metallicity, redder, lower gas fractions, more of their gas is in molecular phase.

Disk galaxies show gradients

Outer regions are lower in metallicity, bluer, more gas-rich, and atomic gas dominated.

Inner parts are higher in metallicty, redder, less gas-rich, and more molecular gas.

Note: many exceptions exist, enough so that there are whole classes of galaxies that defy these relationships. But as a general thumbnail sketch of galaxies, this is reasonable.