Astro 8501 - 6944

Binary Stars

Thursdays 9am AlfA 0.008



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Kepler's Laws

- Bound Orbits are ellipses
- Equal areas swept in equal times

$P^2 \propto a^3$ $\mathbf{j} = \mathbf{0} \quad \dot{E} = \mathbf{0}$



Elliptical Motion









Tidal System



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Tides Overview

- Tides synchronise, then circularise
- Rate $\sim (R/a)^{6,8}$
- Close binaries should be sync. and circular
- Assuming $\Omega = \omega$ and e = 0

we continue our analysis by moving to

close, circular binaries and interaction by

exchange of angular momentum and mass

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Some assumptions problem is tractable

Darwin Instability Seen!









Potential due to two point masses



stron

Binary Stars 3

$\phi = -\frac{GM_1}{r_1} - \frac{GM_2}{r_2} - \frac{1}{2}\omega^2 s^2$

• Potential due to two point masses in *corotating frame*



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Maxima

Not stable



Binary Stellar Evolution



Radius increases with time

Star will eventually expand beyond *R*_L

... Then what?





Detached binary



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Evolved Detached binary



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Contact Binary



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Roche Lobe Overflow

• Primary expands



- $\sim R > R_L$
 - Mass "overflow"
 - Questions:
 - Conservative?
 - Non-Conservative?
 - Donor response
 - Accretor response
 - Final Fate...?

