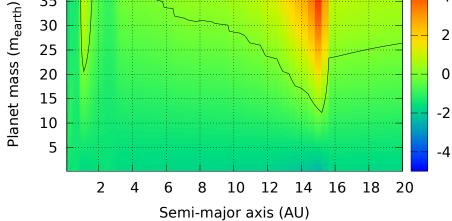Evolution of the total torque Γ_{tot}/Γ_0