

Notes

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1 Plummer model

Consider a Plummer model (Dejonghe, H.1987, MNRAS 224, 13) with potential with units r_s the Plummer scale radius (which sets the size of the cluster core), M the total mass of the cluster and $\bar{\tau}$ some unit time. Let ψ_s be defined by

$$\psi_s = \frac{GM}{r_s}, \quad (1)$$

for the central potential

$$\psi(r) = \frac{\psi_s}{\sqrt{1 + r^2}}. \quad (2)$$

Let use fix $G = 1 r_s^3 \cdot M^{-1} \cdot \bar{\tau}^{-2}$ in the new units so that $\psi_s = 1 r_s^2 \cdot \bar{\tau}^{-2}$. This fixes the time unit $\bar{\tau}$, as we have the relation. Therefore, in those units the potential (per unit mass) is given by

$$\psi(r) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + r^2}}. \quad (3)$$

Define, given a radius r , the angular momentum $L(r, v_r, v_t)$ and binding energy per unit mass $E(r, v_r, v_t)$, functions of the radial velocity v_r and the tangential velocity $v_t \geq 0$ (defined as $\mathbf{v} = v_r \hat{\mathbf{r}} + \mathbf{v}_t$), as

$$\begin{aligned} E(r, v_r, v_t) &= \psi(r) - \frac{1}{2}v_r^2 - \frac{1}{2}v_t^2, \\ L(r, v_r, v_t) &= r \cdot v_t, \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

whose Jacobian is

$$\text{Jac}_{(r, v_r, v_t) \rightarrow (r, E, L)} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial E}{\partial v_r} & \frac{\partial E}{\partial v_t} \\ \frac{\partial L}{\partial v_r} & \frac{\partial L}{\partial v_t} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -v_r & -v_t \\ 0 & r \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow |\text{Jac}| = r|v_r|. \quad (5)$$

To obtain a bijective transformation, we must chose whether to chose $v_r \geq 0$ or $v_r \leq 0$. A priori, this choice might have an impact on the result, but we will show that the local and orbit-averaged diffusion coefficients are not that. The coordinate system is spherical, its origin being at the center of the globular cluster. Finally, we consider the corresponding anisotropic distribution functions of the field stars $F_q(r, E, L) = F_q(E, L)$ in (E, L) -space. Since (E, L) and (v_r, v_t) are linked, we can make use of the following equalities (for the moment, v_r is defined modulo the sign)

$$\begin{aligned} F_q(E, L) &= f_q(r, v_r(r, E, L), v_t(r, E, L)), \\ f_q(r, v_r, v_t) &= F_q(E(r, v_r, v_t), L(r, v_r, v_t)), \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

where f_q is the distribution function (DF) in the (v_r, v_t) space and where q is an anisotropy parameter:

- $q \in]0, 2]$: radially anisotropic
- $q = 0$: isotropic
- $q \in]-\infty, 0]$: tangentially anisotropic.

Note that the DF has spherical symmetry in position. Its expression for $E \geq 0, L \geq 0$ is (for $q \neq 0$):

$$F_q(E, L) = \frac{3\Gamma(6-q)}{2(2\pi)^{5/2}\Gamma(q/2)} E^{7/2-q} \mathbb{H}(0, \frac{q}{2}, \frac{9}{2} - q, 1; \frac{L^2}{2E}) \quad (7)$$

where

$$\mathbb{H}(a, b, c, d; x) = \begin{cases} \frac{\Gamma(a+b)}{\Gamma(c-a)\Gamma(a+d)} x^a {}_2F_1(a+b, 1+a-c, a+d; x) & \text{if } x \leq 1, \\ \frac{\Gamma(a+b)}{\Gamma(d-b)\Gamma(b+c)} x^{-b} {}_2F_1(a+b, 1+b-d, b+c; \frac{1}{x}) & \text{if } x \geq 1, \end{cases} \quad (8)$$

which reduces in the isotropic case ($q = 0$) to

$$F_0(E) = \frac{3}{7\pi^3} (2E)^{7/2}, \quad (9)$$

and in the extreme radially anisotropic ($q = 2$) to

$$F_2(E) = \begin{cases} \frac{6}{(2\pi)^3} (2E - L)^{3/2} & \text{if } 2E \leq L^2, \\ 0 & \text{if } 2E \geq L^2. \end{cases} \quad (10)$$

When $E \leq 0$ or $L \leq 0$ then $F_q(E, L) = 0$.

2 Determination of the local diffusion coefficients

The local diffusion coefficients are the average velocity changes per unit time. We are interested in computing

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \Delta v_{||} \rangle(r, v_r, v_t) &= \frac{\langle \Delta v_{||} \rangle_{\delta t}(r, v_r, v_t)}{\delta t}, \\ \langle (\Delta v_{||})^2 \rangle(r, v_r, v_t) &= \frac{\langle (\Delta v_{||})^2 \rangle_{\delta t}(r, v_r, v_t)}{\delta t}, \\ \langle (\Delta v_{\perp})^2 \rangle(r, v_r, v_t) &= \frac{\langle (\Delta v_{\perp})^2 \rangle_{\delta t}(r, v_r, v_t)}{\delta t}, \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

where the subscript are relative to the relative velocity of test star (in the referential where the deflecting field star is still). Consider a test star at position r , mass m and initial velocity \mathbf{v} which interacts with a field star with impact parameter b , mass m_a and velocity \mathbf{v}_a , Binney et Tremaine (2008, eq. (L.7) page 834) gives , with the convention (here, parallel and perpendicular to relative velocity)

$$\Delta \mathbf{v} = -\Delta v_{||} \mathbf{e}'_1 + \Delta v_{\perp} (-\mathbf{e}'_2 \cos \phi + \mathbf{e}'_3 \sin \phi), \quad (12)$$

where $\mathbf{e}'_1 \parallel \mathbf{V}_0$ and ϕ is the angle between the plane of the relative orbit and \mathbf{e}'_2 ,

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta v_{\perp} &= \frac{2m_a V_0}{m+m_a} \frac{b/b_{90}}{1+b^2/b_{90}^2}, \\ \Delta v_{||} &= \frac{2m_a V_0}{m+m_a} \frac{1}{1+b^2/b_{90}^2}, \end{aligned} \quad (13)$$

where $\mathbf{V}_0 = \mathbf{v} - \mathbf{v}_a$ and b_{90} is the 90° deflection radius, given by eq (L.8)

$$b_{90} = \frac{G(m+m_a)}{V_0^2}. \quad (14)$$

Furthermore, after averaging over the equiprobable angles ϕ (test star can be on either “side” of the field star), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \Delta v_i \rangle_{\phi} &= -\Delta v_{||} \langle \mathbf{e}_i, \mathbf{e}'_1 \rangle, \\ \langle \Delta v_i \Delta v_j \rangle_{\phi} &= (\Delta v_{||})^2 \langle \mathbf{e}_i, \mathbf{e}'_1 \rangle \langle \mathbf{e}_j, \mathbf{e}'_1 \rangle \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2} (\Delta v_{\perp})^2 [\langle \mathbf{e}_i, \mathbf{e}'_2 \rangle \langle \mathbf{e}_j, \mathbf{e}'_2 \rangle + \langle \mathbf{e}_i, \mathbf{e}'_3 \rangle \langle \mathbf{e}_j, \mathbf{e}'_3 \rangle] \end{aligned} \quad (15)$$

where (e_1, e_2, e_3) is an fixed, arbitrary coordonnate system. Here, note that when considering a test star with energy and angular momentum (per unit mass) (E, L) , using the choise $v_r \geq 0$ or the choice $v_r \leq 0$ has an impact on the local change of velocity through V_0 .

We sum the effects of all the encounter up. Number density of field stars (at position r) within velocity space volume $d^3\mathbf{v}_a$ is $f_q(r, \mathbf{v}_a)d^3\mathbf{v}_a$ (remember that $f_q(r, \mathbf{v}_a) = f_q(r, v_{ar}, v_{at})$). The number of encounters in a time δt with impact parameters between b and $b + db$ is just this density times the volume of an annulus with inner radius b , outer radius $b + db$, and length $V_0\delta t$, that is (eq. L9) $2\pi b db V_0 \delta t f_a(r, \mathbf{v}_a) d^3\mathbf{v}_a$.

We sum up over the velocities and the impact parameters. For the latter, we consider impact parameters between 0 and a cut-off b_{\max} , traditionally given approximately by the radius of the subject star orbit.

Recall that $V_0 = \mathbf{v} - \mathbf{v}_a$. Since we assume that Λ is large, we do not make any significant additional error by replacing the factor V_0 in Λ by some typical stellar speed v_{typ} , that is,

$$\Lambda = \frac{b_{\max} v_{\text{typ}}^2}{G(m + m_a)}. \quad (16)$$

This yields (Binney & Tremaine, eq. L14)

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \Delta v_i \rangle &= -4\pi \frac{m_a}{m + m_a} \int d^3\mathbf{v}_a V_0^2 b_{90}^2 f_q(r, \mathbf{v}_a) \ln \Lambda \langle \mathbf{e}_i, \mathbf{e}'_1 \rangle, \\ \langle \Delta v_i \Delta v_j \rangle &= 4\pi \left(\frac{m_a}{m + m_a} \right)^2 \int d^3\mathbf{v}_a V_0^3 b_{90}^2 f_a(r, \mathbf{v}_a) \ln \Lambda [\langle \mathbf{e}_i, \mathbf{e}'_2 \rangle \langle \mathbf{e}_j, \mathbf{e}'_2 \rangle + \langle \mathbf{e}_i, \mathbf{e}'_3 \rangle \langle \mathbf{e}_j, \mathbf{e}'_3 \rangle] \end{aligned} \quad (17)$$

where we defined the Coulomb parameter $\Lambda = b_{\max}/b_{90}$. Remark that the scalar products depend on \mathbf{v}_a . Take $\Lambda = \lambda N$ (Binney et Tremaine, page 581) with $N \sim 10^5$ and $\lambda = 0.059$ (Hamilton et al. (2018), eq. (B37)) for a globular cluster.

Using (Binney & Tremaine, eq. L17 and L18), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \Delta v_i \rangle(r, \mathbf{v}) &= 4\pi G^2 m_a (m + m_a) \ln \Lambda \frac{\partial h}{\partial v_i}(r, \mathbf{v}), \\ \langle \Delta v_i \Delta v_j \rangle(r, \mathbf{v}) &= 4\pi G^2 m_a^2 \ln \Lambda \frac{\partial^2 g}{\partial v_i \partial v_j}(r, \mathbf{v}) \end{aligned} \quad (18)$$

where the Rosenbluth potentials are defined as (Binney & Tremaine, eq. L19)

$$\begin{aligned} h(r, \mathbf{v}) &= \int d^3\mathbf{v}_a \frac{f_q(r, \mathbf{v}_a)}{|\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{v}_a|}, \\ g(r, \mathbf{v}) &= \int d^3\mathbf{v}_a f_q(r, \mathbf{v}_a) |\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{v}_a| \end{aligned} \quad (19)$$

2.1 Anisotropic case

Since this result is valid for any arbitrary coordinate system, we can fix it to the one where $\mathbf{e}_1 = \hat{\mathbf{v}}$ and \mathbf{e}_2 is the projection of $\hat{\mathbf{r}}$ onto the equatorial plane orthogonal to \mathbf{e}_1 . Then we'll have the relations

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \Delta v_{||} \rangle(r, \mathbf{v}) &= \langle \Delta v_1 \rangle(r, \mathbf{v}), \\ \langle (\Delta v_{||})^2 \rangle(r, \mathbf{v}) &= \langle (\Delta v_1)^2 \rangle(r, \mathbf{v}) \\ \langle (\Delta v_{\perp})^2 \rangle(r, \mathbf{v}) &= \langle (\Delta v_2)^2 \rangle(r, \mathbf{v}) + \langle (\Delta v_3)^2 \rangle(r, \mathbf{v}) \end{aligned} \quad (20)$$

where the subscripts are relative of the velocity of the test star.

and a tedious but straightforward computation (see appendix) yields

$$\begin{aligned}
\langle \Delta v_{||} \rangle(r, \mathbf{v}) &= 4\pi G^2 m_a (m + m_a) \ln \Lambda \left(\frac{v_r}{v} \frac{\partial h}{\partial v_r} + \frac{v_t}{v} \frac{\partial h}{\partial v_t} \right), \\
\langle (\Delta v_{||})^2 \rangle(r, \mathbf{v}) &= 4\pi G^2 m_a^2 \ln \Lambda \left(\frac{v_r^2}{v^2} \frac{\partial^2 g}{\partial v_r^2} + \frac{2v_r v_t}{v^2} \frac{\partial^2 g}{\partial v_t \partial v_r} + \left(\frac{v_t}{v} \right)^2 \frac{\partial^2 g}{\partial v_t^2} \right) \\
\langle (\Delta v_{\perp})^2 \rangle(r, \mathbf{v}) &= 4\pi G^2 m_a^2 \ln \Lambda \left(\left(\frac{v_t}{v} \right)^2 \frac{\partial^2 g}{\partial v_r^2} - \frac{2v_r v_t}{v^2} \frac{\partial^2 g}{\partial v_t \partial v_r} + \left(\frac{v_r}{v} \right)^2 \frac{\partial^2 g}{\partial v_t^2} + \frac{1}{v_t} \frac{\partial g}{\partial v_t} \right)
\end{aligned} \tag{21}$$

where $h(r, \mathbf{v}_a) = h(r, v_r, v_t)$ and $g(r, \mathbf{v}) = g(r, v_r, v_t)$.

Applying the change of variable $\mathbf{V}_0 = \mathbf{v} - \mathbf{v}_a$ and using spherical coordinates with axis $(Oz) = \hat{\mathbf{r}}$ the unit radius vector (parallel or antiparallel to the radial component of \mathbf{v} by definition) yields

$$\begin{aligned}
h(r, v_r, v_t) &= \int d^3 \mathbf{V}_0 \frac{f_q(r, \mathbf{v} - \mathbf{V}_0)}{V_0} = \int_0^\infty dV_0 V_0 \int_0^\pi d\theta \sin \theta \int_0^{2\pi} d\phi f_q(r, \mathbf{v} - \mathbf{V}_0), \\
g(r, v_r, v_t) &= \int d^3 \mathbf{V}_0 f_q(r, \mathbf{v} - \mathbf{V}_0) V_0 = \int_0^\infty dV_0 V_0^3 \int_0^\pi d\theta \sin \theta \int_0^{2\pi} d\phi f_a(r, \mathbf{v} - \mathbf{V}_0)
\end{aligned} \tag{22}$$

where

$$f_q(r, \mathbf{v} - \mathbf{V}_0) = f_q(r, v_{ar}, v_{at}) = F_q(E(r, v_{ar}, v_{at}), L(r, v_{ar}, v_{at})) \tag{23}$$

with E, L given by eq (4).

For a given convention $+$ or $-$ of the choice of v_r , and given (E, L) the parameters of the test star, obtain the vectors $\mathbf{v}_+ = (|v_r|, \mathbf{v}_t)$ and $\mathbf{v}_- = (-|v_r|, \mathbf{v}_t)$, which are symmetric with respect to the tangent plane where \mathbf{v}_t lives. In terms of spherical coordinates, we have that $\mathbf{v}_+ = (v, \theta_0, 0)$ and $\mathbf{v}_- = (v, \pi - \theta_0, 0)$. Remember that the integration over the velocities $\mathbf{V}_0 = \mathbf{v} - \mathbf{v}_a$ of the field stars cover the whole \mathbf{V}_0 -space. Given a velocity \mathbf{V}_0 corresponds bijectively a field star velocity \mathbf{v}_a . The overall integration will in fact not depend on the convention we used. The $E(r, v_{ar}, v_{at})$ component depends on the sign of v_r since

$$E_a(r, V_0, \theta, \phi) = \psi(r) - \frac{1}{2} \left[v^2 + V_0^2 - 2V_0(v_r \cos \theta + v_t \sin \theta \cos \phi) \right] \tag{24}$$

but $L(r, v_{ar}, v_{at})$ does not. When doing the integration, we will evaluate the integrand at both arguments (V_0, θ, ϕ) and $(V_0, \pi - \theta, \phi)$, and their summed contribution doesn't depend on the convention choice. In the following, we decide to use $v_r \geq 0$.