On the Dynamics of Planetary Systems in Embedded Cluster Environments

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ABSTRACT

Using numerical simulations of s-type gas giants orbiting within a binary stellar pair that is integrated simultaneously with an embedded stellar cluster environment, we find that the orbital evolution of the binary companion, when perturbed by the cluster, can affect the stability of the planets within its orbit. We present several initial findings that characterize both the behavior of the binary companion during a planetary disruption event as well as the markers that such an event leaves behind on surviving planets. We note the importance of the inclusion of the cluster environment in these simulations as interactions between the binary and cluster stars are the main driver in planetary instability. Destabilized planetary systems ultimately end with significantly different orbital parameters for the surviving planets as compared to systems the retain all 4 of the original gas giants. The altered orbital configuration of surviving planets in a destabilized system point to a dynamical source of exoplanets that have a spin-orbit misalignment with their host star.

1. BACKGROUND & MOTIVATION

The dynamics of planetary systems serve as signposts of their formation and subsequent evolution. Thus the study of dynamical modeling of exoplanets can be thought of as a form of archaeology: using both observations and simulations of existing stable planets, we can walk back in time to discover which physical processes govern the behavior of extrasolar worlds. Dynamics offers a strong union of computational and observational astronomy, where an influx of exoplanet observational data has dovetailed nicely with a surge in advancements in numerical algorithms over the last two decades.

It has been long thought that most stars spend some of their early lives in a cluster environement, a large scale body of gas that acts as a stellar nursery that condense into pre-stellar cores in the gas and dust (Lada & Lada 2003). Recent work (Sadavoy & Stahler 2017) has also bolstered the theory (Kroupa 1995) that the majority of stars are born in a stellar multiple, with their dense pre-stellar cores mutually bound together in a dusty envelope. These multiple bound cores, likely formed via fragmentation (Bonnell & Bate 1994; Bate et al. 2003; Turk et al. 2009), either stay together in a binary as interactions with their gaseous disk decrease the separation between the pair (Bate 2000; Bate et al. 2003), or are pulled apart by a cluster environment(Kroupa 2001). While clusters can unbind so-called 'soft binaries'(Kroupa 2001), dynamical interactions with a cluster are not sufficient to explain the observed period distribution of binary stars. Thus, their nascent orbital architecture results from the fragmentation process and interactions with a circumstellar disk early on in their lives (Kroupa & Burkert 2001), and should be considered when we discuss the formation and the dynamics of planets in a holistic manner.

While planets in a binary system have been previously studied in depth with N-Body integration, the binary that interacts with the planets is for the most part unperturbed by outside forces (i.e. Holman & Wiegert (1999),Haghighipour & Raymond (2007)), or, if the binary is modeled in a cluster, planets are not included (i.e. Kroupa & Burkert (2001)). Similarly, planetary systems as they might interact with a cluster environment have been modeled, but often with mock fly-bys of a star rather than a fully evolved cluster (i.e., Reche et al. (2009); Cattolico & Capuzzo-Dolcetta (2020)). A union of these two simultaneous phenomena, a binary's effect on planets and a cluster's effect on a binary, are necesscitated by the ubiquitous nature of these interactions in young systems. With N-Body simulations produced by hybrid symplectic integration scheme, we offer a new perspective at this complex problem.

1.1. *Previous Work*

The presence of a binary companion has been considered in studies of planetary formation since the 1960's. Early treatments of planetary stability in a binary system worked within the framework of the restricted 3-body problem

(Huang 1960) and numerical estimates based on analytic models (Heppenheimer 1978). Early work established that both the formation and the stability of planets in a binary system was possible.

Later on, numerical integration to evolve these systems began in earnest, owing largely to developments in symplectic integration methods (such as the work described by Wisdom & Holman (1991)) that allowed for efficient integrations of entire planetary systems in the presence of a binary. The main question that arises in such a system is in what cases does a binary companion preclude the existence of stable planets. An early work that used the Wisdom-Holman scheme is the exploration of the Alpha Centauri system in Wiegert & Holman (1997), in which the authors use N-Body integrations in the Wisdom & Holman (1991) scheme to assess the stability of test particles in and around the Alpha Centauri triplet.

The seminal works in the field of planetary stability in a binary system are Dvorak (1986) and Holman & Wiegert (1999). Dvorak (1986) looked at integrating systems of test particles in the the restricted 3-body problem with the Lie series method (Delva 1985) and established an upper and lower critical orbit that began mapping a region of stability for a planet based on the eccentricity of the binary system. Dvorak (1986) looked at various eccentricities of the binary companion, but in all cases the mass of the binary and the central star were the same. Holman & Wiegert further built upon this stability analysis via symplectically integrating binary systems with both p-type (where the planet orbits around a binary star pair) and s-type planets (where planets are bound to a single star with a binary companion exterior to their orbit). Their integration work, based on the Wisdom-Holman method, produced an analytic form of a planet's critical orbit based on both the eccentricity of the binary and the mass ratio $\mu = \frac{M_{bin}}{M_{primary}}$. Also drawing on Wisdom & Holman (1991) is the work described in Innanen et al. (1997), in which the solar system is integrated in the presence of a binary. The authors exemplify the Kozai effect (Kozai 1962) in which an inclined binary exchanges angular momentum with the planets, and also show that the planets evolve in concert as a rigid disk. This work revealed that the Kozai effect is a pathway that can lead to increased eccentricity of planets. Another analysis of the Kozai effect on planetary stability that takes a different, secular approach is Fabrycky & Tremaine (2007), in which the authors integrate the motion of planets in the presence of a binary to show that tidal friction can circularize an orbit made eccentric by an inclined binary companion.

The stability analysis of Holman & Wiegert remains of interest to this day, with recent work such as Lam & Kipping (2018) further refining their original critical orbit with a neural network and integrations performed in the publically available REBOUND integrator. Analysis of planets in binaries continue with work in Chambers et al. (2002) in which the authors use a mixed variable symplectic method to analyze planetary accretion both in a system where the test planet orbits a primary and is perturbed by a distant binary and one in which the planet orbits around the binary system in its entirety. While Chambers et al. (2002) utilizes an integrator that allows for the presence of a binary, further work by Beust (2003) introduces a symplectic scheme based on the Wisdom & Holman (1991) method, called Hierarchical Jacobian Symplectic, that allows for the integration of a multiple system of any size (i.e., numbering more massive bodies than just a binary) as long as there is a retained hierarchy among the masses.

The presence of a distant companion has also been considered in numerical integrations of protoplanetary (debris) disks. Reche et al. (2009) use the HJS scheme (Beust (2003)) to integrate the HD141596 triple star system and debris disk in the presence of stellar flybys. Beust et al. (2014) used symplectic integration to model the Fomalhaut triplet in addition to its dust belt.

On the larger scale, N-body simulations of stellar clusters have been used to study how stellar binaries interact with a cluster environment. Bate et al. (2003) use high resolution simulations of a collapsing gas cloud to to study the fragmentation of gas into dense cores, and the subsequent evolution of these young stars into binaries. They find that very tight binaries are formed by the hardening of wider binaries via dynamical interactions. Adams et al. (2006) and Proszkow & Adams (2009) used N-Body simulations of moderately sized stellar clusters (100-10,000 members) or embedded clusters to study the impact of a cluster environment on planet formation, particularly in how protoplanetary disks may be affected by stellar radiation. They find that disruption of model solar systems in an evolved cluster environment (Adams et al. 2006) should be relatively rare due to the paucity of encounters between a 'solar system' in question and a passing star, but in younger, denser clusters the photoevaporation of disks by a cluster environment can be appreciable (Proszkow & Adams 2009)

Also addressing the evolution of a stellar cluster is work by Parker & Goodwin (2009) and Parker et al. (2009) in which N-Body simulations are used to analyze the prevalence of planets susceptible to the Kozai effect from a binary companion, and the stability of binaries in a dense cluster environment respectively. Parker & Goodwin (2009) finds

that around 10% of all exoplanets should at one point in their lives be in the presence of a binary companion that has been sufficiently inclined by its cluster environment such that Kozai cycles can occur. They particularly focus on very dense clusters similar to Orion, with a half-mass radius of only 0.1 pc. This is not typical for embedded clusters, which have typical half mass radii of $\approx 0.8pc$ Lada & Lada (2003), and therefore would have less frequent interactions between cluster stars and a particular binary. Nevertheless, they show that a dense cluster environment can significantly alter the architecture of a stellar binary which in turn can effect a protoplanetary disk or mature planet system. Parker et al. (2009) focuses on similarly dense cluster environments, but instead explores the longeivity of moderately wide ($\approx 10^3 au$) to ultrawide ($> 10^4 au$) binaries. They find that cluster environments strip away all ultra-wide binary companions, and that the denser clusters, with half mass radii of $0.1 - 0.2pc$ do not retain any binaries with separations $> 10^3 au$. The less dense clusters, with half mass radii $0.4 - 0.8pc$, do retain some of these moderately wide binaries. The authors note that as ultrawide binaries are often stripped in only a few cluster crossing times, these very separated binaries must form in isolation.

Hao et al. (2013) takes a monte carlo approach to simulating planetary systems in an open cluster to explore planet-planet scattering. The authors model a stellar flyby and find that multi-planet systems are more sensitive to an open cluster environment that single planet system. In the realm of exploring planetary orbits in clusters via a model stellar fly-by is work by Malmberg et al. (2011) and Breslau & Pfalzner (2019). Malmberg et al. (2011) shows that fly-bys increase the chance of planetary ejection, while Breslau & Pfalzner (2019) shows that a cluster star can create a retrograde planetary orbit.

In summary, while there is an extensive body of work on the integration of planets in a binary system and the evolution of planets in a cluster environment, previous work largely assumes that the binary is in isolation and does not evolve due to external forces; work concerning cluster environments either model interactions as a flyby or do not include a simultaneous binary system. The work we present here is novel in its approach in that it allows the binary companion to be altered by a cluster environment, and that we fully model the cluster rather than taking a fly by apporach.

1.2. *Numerical Integration*

To achieve such a broad assortment of work on the dynamics of stars and planets, astronomers have turned to both N-Body and hydrodynamic simulations as the workhorses of their experiments. In particular, symplectic integration schemes have been popular as they have largely reduced error in energy over time and are faster than other N-body algorithms (Chambers 1999; Saha & Tremaine 1992). This is due to the formulation of advancing the positions and momenta of bodies via Hamilton's equations, which place a bound on the energy in the system, rather than allowing energy error to grow with subsequent timesteps. In using a symplectic scheme, the hamiltonian can be split into Keplerian and non-Keplerian parts, where the Keplerian parts can be solved exactly, allowing for very fast integrations. The non-keplerian motions of the bodies must be solved numerically, as well as additional perturbations that may occur during a close encounter with another body. Therein we run into our first problem with early symplectic schemes: to investigate the dynamics of celestial bodies, we need to allow for close approaches that could kick bodies off their Keplerian paths. An additional problem that must be considered is that, unlike traditional integration methods, the preservation of phase space in symplectic schemes is dependent on a permanent choice of time step (Lee et al. (1997)).

Wisdom & Holman (1991) is the seminal work in introducing a scheme known as a *mixed variable symplectic* (MVS) integrator. Such a scheme can quickly integrate a system with a hierarchical composition (i.e., the Keplerian motion of the planets is a much larger part of the Hamiltonian that perturbations from a distant star). In MVS schemes like *Mercury* and other integrators (Duncan et al. 1998; Richardson et al. 2000), the Hamiltonian that describes can be split and integrated separately (Yoshida 1990; Saha & Tremaine 1992). It is split into a Keplerian portion, which for most of the integration is the largest portion, and an interaction part that dominates when two bodies approach one another. As the interaction part is normally small except when two bodies are close, the Keplerian part of the Hamiltonian is comparably large and can be solved analytically, greatly increasing the speed of the integrator. Saha & Tremaine (1994) showed that the limitation of a fixed timestep could be partially overcome by assigning a different timestep to different bodies in an integration. This can lead to an increase in efficiency for systems in which bodies have different orbital periods and therefore require different timescales.

Applications of these MVS integrators used in modern dynamical astronomy include *SyMBA* described in Duncan et al. (1998) and the *Mercury* integrator by Chambers (1999). SyMBA addresses the inability of symplectic integrations

to change the value of timesteps via judicious splitting of the Hamiltonian, in which strong perturbative terms have comparatively smaller timesteps (Duncan et al. 1998). Chambers (1999) cites this choice as cumbersome to implement, and instead took a hybrid approach in the creation of *Mercury*.

Mercury is a Wisdom & Holman (1991) integrator that retains the advantages of a symplectic scheme (i.e., no build up of error in energy except due to numerical round off) but allowed for close encounters between bodies. *Mercury* utilizes a single timestep for its integrations, in opposition to work like Saha & Tremaine (1994) that uses a disparate timestep for each body and *SyMBA* that uses adaptive timestepping. The advantage that *Mercury* gives due to its hybrid nature is the inclusion of an interaction term in the Keplerian portion of the Hamiltonian that can be 'turned on' with an adjustable prefactor (that takes on values between 0 and 1) when massive bodies approach one another. As these interactions become dominant (i.e., when planets are near each other), the close-encounters are integrated with a Bulirsch-Stoer scheme, retaining the same time step and solving for the motion of the bodies to machine precision.

A change came to the *Mercury* code as authors (Chambers et al. 2002) then turned to the next problem: the inclusion of additional stellar-mass bodies, such as a binary companion, that interact with the planetary system. Chambers et al. (2002) explains the inclusion of a hierarchical coordinate system to allow for an additional massive body in the Hamiltonian. This choice of coordinate system is advantageous over the use of Jacobi coordinates, also used in MVS schemes(see Beust (2003)), as Jacobi coordinates require plantary bodies to be ordered, making close encounters where planets may cross each other's orbits difficult to integrate. The numerical integrator we use for this work is built on the foundation of the original *Mercury* package but with changes to allow the inclusion of multiple bound massive bodies (i.e., a binary or triplet star system) and unbound massive bodies (i.e. stars in a cluster environment). The details of the changes to the integrator are explained in Kaib et al. (2018). We still use the democratic heliocentric coordinates for the planetary system, but the binary is defined relative to the center of mass of the planetary system, and the cluster stars are defined simply with their inertial coordinates. By letting the different bodies be treated with different coordinate system, this version of *Mercury* retains the advantages of a pure symplectic integrator while still being able to evolve the unbound cluster stars. That is, there is not a build up of energy error, the pseudo-Keplerian nature of the planetary system is retained, and simultaneously the cluster stars and their close approaches can be integrated efficiently in a leapfrog-like scheme.

These changes to *Mercury* are crucial to realistic modeling of binary-planet systems in a stellar cluster. In this work we are largely concerned with the overall fate of binary systems and their planets during interactions with the cluster. Moreover, our work has also revealed some intriguing changes in orbital architecture of planetary systems that have a close encounter with an excited binary companion.

2. METHODS

2.1. *Simulation Coordinates*

This work is produced by a hybrid symplectic integrator that modifies the public version of *Mercury* such that we can simultaneously evolve a system of planets in the presence of a bound binary companion that is in turn interacting with a large scale embedded stellar cluster. In this scheme, we define 3 distinct types of bodies: planets bound to the primary, the binary companion, and cluster stars. The cluster star positions are treated with their inertial coordinates, measured only with respect to the cluster's center of mass. The binary's position is integrated with respect to the center of mass of the primary star system. The planets are integrated in democratic heliocentric coordinates with respect to the primary star. The choice of these coordinates means that the cluster stars are integrated with a purely symplectic $T + V$ leapfrog scheme. This conserves energy and angular momentum, and is quite accurate as the timescale of cluster stars orbiting in the cluster is much larger than the characteristic timescale set by the orbits of the planetary bodies. The binary and the planets are also integrated symplectically, although with a mixed variable symplectic Wisdom-Holman scheme (Wisdom & Holman 1991). Finally, when interacting bodies near each other and as such non-Keplerian terms in the Hamiltonian become comparatively large, the bodies are integrated directly with a Bulirsch-Stoer scheme. For the planets, this occurs when passing within a hill radii of one another. For cluster stars with much larger hill radii, the changeover to a direct integration occurs when the time-scale of the close encounter is less than $500\times$ the simulation time-step of 100 days. Thus, this scheme largely preserves the angular momentum and energy conservation of a symplectic scheme while allowing for close encounters. Equation 1 shows how we define the position of each type of object, where $\vec{X}_A$ represents the position of the primary star, $\vec{X}_B$ the position of the binary,

X_i for $1 \leq i \leq N_P$ is the position of a planet, and $\vec{X}_i$ for $N_P < i \leq N_P + N_S$ is the position of a cluster star. The lowercase $\vec{x}$ represents each type of body's inertial coordinates relative to the origin/center of mass of the cluster.

$$
\begin{aligned}
\vec{X}_A &= \frac{m_a \vec{x}_A + m_B \vec{x}_B + \sum_{j=1}^{N_P} m_j \vec{x}_j}{m_A + m_B + \sum_{j=1}^{N_P} m_j} \\
\vec{X}_i &= \vec{x}_i - \vec{x}_A \text{ for } 1 \leq i \leq N_P \\
\vec{X}_B &= \vec{x}_B - \frac{m_A \vec{x}_A + \sum_{j=1}^{N_P} m_j \vec{x}_j}{m_A + \sum_{j=1}^{N_P} m_j} \\
\vec{X}_i &= \vec{x}_i \text{ for } N_P < i \leq N_P + N_S
\end{aligned}
\tag{1}
$$

As such, we define some useful position vectors for changing between reference frames.

$$
\begin{aligned}
\vec{s} &= \frac{\sum_{i-1}^{N_P} m_i \vec{X}_i}{m_A + \sum_{i-1}^{N_P} m_i} \\
\vec{\Delta} &= \vec{X}_A - \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{N_P} m_i \vec{X}_i + m_B (\vec{X}_B) + \vec{s})}{m_A + m_B + \sum_{i=1}^{N_P} m_i}
\end{aligned}
\tag{2}
$$

The corresponding conjugate momenta for the bodies is as follows, again where the lowercase terms are for the inertial case and the uppercase terms are the momenta for the new coordinates:

$$
\begin{aligned}
\vec{P}_A &= \vec{p}_A + \vec{p}_B + \sum_{j=1}^{N_P} \vec{p}_j \\
\vec{P}_i &= \vec{p}_i - m_i \frac{\vec{p}_A + \sum_{j=1}^{N_P} \vec{p}_j}{m_A + \sum_{j=1}^{N_P} m_j} \text{ for } 1 \leq i \leq N_P \\
\vec{P}_B &= \vec{p}_B - m_B \frac{\vec{p}_A + \vec{p}_B + \sum_{j=1}^{N_P} \vec{p}_j}{m_A + m_B + \sum_{j=1}^{N_P} m_j} \\
\vec{P}_i &= \vec{p}_i \text{ for } N_P < i \leq N_P + N_S
\end{aligned}
\tag{3}
$$

In this symplectic scheme, we must consider how Hamilton's equations evolve for all members of the system. We consider mutual gravitation between the primary star, binary star, planets and cluster stars. We also consider the gravitational tide from the gas of the Plummer potential (Plummer 1911) that we assume to be binding the cluster stars together. I will include the derivation for the Plummer potential here. This force from the Plummer potential is dependent on the inertial position of each massive body within the cluster, which can make the calculation in our chosen coordinates fairly complicated. The expression for the force from the sphere of gas is different for each type of body, namely the planets, the binary, and the cluster star. We begin with the expression for the mass distribution of a Plummer sphere in inertial coordinates, where $\vec{x}$ is defined relative to the clusters's center-of-mass.

$$
\rho(\vec{x}) = \frac{3M_0}{4\pi a_0} \times \left(1 + \frac{|\vec{x}|^2}{a_0^2}\right)^{-5/2}
\tag{4}
$$

This mass distribution, where M_0 is the total mass in gas of the Plummer sphere and a_0 is a scale parameter that sets the size of the flat core region results in a gravitational potential of:

$$
\Phi(\vec{x}) = \frac{GM_0}{(|\vec{x}|^2 + a_0^2)^{1/2}}
\tag{5}
$$

The potential energy of our system can then be written as:

$$V_{Plum} = \sum_{i=N_p+1}^{N_p+N_s} \frac{GM_{gas}m_i}{(X_i^2 + a_0^2)^{1/2}} + \sum_{i=1}^{N_p} \frac{GM_{gas}m_i}{(|(\vec{\Delta} + \vec{X}_i)|^2 + a_0^2)^{1/2}}$$
$$+ \frac{GM_{gas}m_B}{(|(\vec{\Delta} + \vec{s} + \vec{X}_B)|^2 + a_0^2)^{1/2}} + \frac{GM_{gas}m_A}{(|\vec{\Delta}|^2 + a_0^2)^{1/2}} \tag{6}$$

For clarification, the inertial position with which the strength of the Plummer potential is measured in simulation coordinates is $\vec{X}_i$ for the cluster stars, $\vec{\Delta} + \vec{X}_i$ for the planets, $\vec{\Delta} + \vec{s} + \vec{X}_B$ for the binary, and $\vec{\Delta}$ for the primary. We can then calculate the acceleration due to the Plummer sphere on each body(indexed with i) for each cartesian coordinate (indexed with u) via:

$$m_i \frac{dv_{i,u}}{dt} = \frac{\partial V_{plum}}{\partial x_{i,u}} \tag{7}$$

2.1.1. Cluster Stars

The positions of the clusters stars in the integration coordinates are exactly their inertial coordinates in this integration scheme (i.e., they are measured relative to the origin). This makes finding the acceleration due to the Plummer tide much more straightforward than for the planets and the binary star pair.

$$\vec{X}_i = \vec{x}_i \text{ for } i > N_p + 1 \tag{8}$$

$$m_i \frac{dv_{i,u}}{dt} = -\frac{\partial V_{Plum}}{\partial X_{i,u}} \tag{9}$$

$$\frac{dv_{i,u}}{dt} = \frac{-1}{m_i} \sum_{k=N_p+1}^{N_p+N_s} \frac{GM_{gas}m_k X_{k,u} delta_{ik}}{(|\vec{X}_k|^2 + a_0^2)^{3/2}} = \frac{-GM_{gas}X_{i,u}}{(|\vec{X}_i|^2 + a_0^2)^{3/2}} \tag{10}$$

We can see that the acceleration due to the Plummer sphere on the cluster stars is simply a direct term based on the mass of the gas enclosed by the cluster star's current position.

2.1.2. Planets

$$m_p \frac{dv_{i,u}}{dt} = -\frac{\partial V_{Plum}}{\partial X_{i,u}} \tag{11}$$

Recall that Δ is a function of the position of the planets. The relevant partial here is:

$$\frac{\partial \Delta}{\partial X_i} = \frac{\partial X_A}{\partial X_i} - \frac{\sum_{k=1}^{N_P} m_k \frac{\partial X_k}{\partial X_i} + m_B \frac{\partial}{\partial X_i}(X_b + s)}{m_A + m_B + \sum_{k=1}^{N_p} m_k} \tag{12}$$

$$\frac{\partial \Delta}{\partial X_i} = -\frac{\sum_{k=1}^{N_p} m_i \delta_{ik} + m_b \frac{\delta s}{\delta X_i}}{m_A + m_B + \sum_{k=1}^{N_p} m_k} \tag{13}$$

$$\frac{\partial \Delta}{\partial X_i} = \frac{-m_i - m_b \frac{m_i}{m_A + \sum_{k=1}^{N_P} m_k}}{m_A + m_B + \sum_{k=1}^{N_P} m_k} \tag{14}$$

$$\frac{\partial \Delta}{\partial X_i} = -m_i \frac{1}{m_A + \sum_{k=1}^{N_P} m_k} \tag{15}$$

$$\frac{dv_{i,u}}{dt} = \frac{-GM_{gas}}{m_i} \frac{\partial}{\partial X_{i,u}} \left(\sum_{k=1}^{N_P} \frac{m_k}{\sqrt{|\vec{\Delta} + \vec{X}_i|^2 + a_0^2}} \right.$$
$$\left. + \frac{m_A}{\sqrt{|\vec{\Delta}|^2 + a_0^2}} + \frac{m_B}{\sqrt{|\vec{\Delta} + \vec{s} + \vec{X}_B|^2 + a_0^2}} \right) \tag{16}$$

$$\frac{dv_{i,u}}{dt} = \frac{-GM_{gas}}{m_i}\left(\sum_{k=1}^{N_P}\frac{-m_k(\Delta_u + X_{k,u})}{(|\vec{\Delta} + \vec{X}_k|^2 + a_0^2)^{3/2}}\left(\frac{\partial\Delta}{\partial X_i} + \frac{\partial X_k}{\partial X_i}\right)\right.$$
$$\left. + \frac{m_A\Delta_u}{(|\vec{\Delta}|^2 + a_0^2)^{3/2}}\frac{m_i}{m_A + \sum_{k=1}^{N_p}m_k}\right) \tag{17}$$

$$\frac{dv_{i,u}}{dt} = \frac{GM_{gas}}{m_A + \sum_{j=1}^{N_P}m_j}\left(\sum_{k\neq i}^{N_P}\frac{m_k(\Delta_u + X_{k,u})}{(|\vec{\Delta} + \vec{X}_k|^2 + a_0^2)^{3/2}} + \frac{m_A\Delta_u}{(|\vec{\Delta}|^2 + a_0^2)^{3/2}}\right)$$
$$+ \frac{GM_{gas}(\Delta_u + X_i)}{(|\vec{\Delta} + \vec{X}_i|^2 + a_0^2)^{3/2}}\left(\frac{-m_i}{m_A + \sum_{j=1}^{N_P}m_j} + 1\right) \tag{18}$$

$$\frac{dv_{i,u}}{dt} = \frac{GM_{gas}}{m_A + \sum_{j=1}^{N_P}m_j}\left(\sum_{k=1}^{N_P}\frac{m_k(\Delta_u + X_{k,u})}{(|\vec{\Delta} + \vec{X}_k|^2 + a_0^2)^{3/2}} + \frac{m_A\Delta_u}{(|\vec{\Delta}|^2 + a_0^2)^{3/2}}\right)$$
$$- \frac{GM_{gas}(\Delta_u + X_i)}{(|\vec{\Delta} + \vec{X}_i|^2 + a_0^2)^{3/2}} \tag{19}$$

2.1.3. Binary Companion

The coordinate Δ is also a function of the position of the binary. Here the useful partial to calculate is:

$$\frac{\partial\Delta}{\partial X_B} = \frac{-m_B}{m_A + m_B + \sum_{i=1}^{N_P}m_i} \tag{20}$$

$$\frac{dv_{B,u}}{dt} = \frac{1}{m_B}\frac{\partial V_{Plum}}{\partial X_B} \tag{21}$$

$$\frac{dv_{B,u}}{dt} = \frac{-GM_{gas}}{m_B}\left(\sum_{k=1}^{N_P}\frac{\partial}{\partial X_B}\frac{m_k}{(|\vec{\Delta} + \vec{X}_k|^2 + a_0^2)^{1/2}}\right.$$
$$+ \frac{\partial}{\partial X_B}\frac{m_B}{(|\vec{\Delta} + \vec{s} + \vec{X}_B|^2 + a_0^2)^{1/2}} + \left.\frac{\partial}{\partial X_B}\frac{m_A}{(|\vec{\Delta}|^2 + a_0^2)^{1/2}}\right) \tag{22}$$

$$\frac{dv_{B,u}}{dt} = \frac{-GM_{gas}}{m_B}\left(\sum_{k=1}^{N_P}\frac{m_k(\Delta + X_k)\frac{\partial}{\partial X_B}(\Delta + X_i)}{(|\vec{\Delta} + \vec{X}_k|^2 + a_0^2)^{3/2}}\right.$$
$$+ \frac{m_B(\Delta + s + x_B)\frac{\partial}{\partial X_B}(\Delta + s + X_B)}{(|\vec{\Delta} + \vec{s} + \vec{X}_B|^2 + a_0^2)^{3/2}} + \left.\frac{m_A\Delta\frac{\partial\Delta}{\partial X_B}}{(|\vec{\Delta}|^2 + a_0^2)^{3/2}}\right) \tag{23}$$

$$\frac{dv_{B,u}}{dt} = -GM_{gas}\left(\sum_{k=1}^{N_P}\frac{-m_k(\Delta_u + X_{k,u})}{(|\vec{\Delta} + \vec{X}_k|^2 + a_0^2)^{3/2}}\frac{1}{m_A + m_B + \sum_{k=1}^{N_P}m_k}\right.$$
$$+ \frac{(\Delta_u + s_u + X_{B,u})}{(|\vec{\Delta} + \vec{s} + \vec{X}_B|^2 + a_0^2)^{3/2}}\left(1 - \frac{m_B}{m_A + m_B + \sum_{k=1}^{N_P}m_k}\right)$$
$$+ \left.\frac{-m_A\Delta}{(\vec{\Delta}|^2 + a_0^2)^{3/2}(m_A + m_B + \sum_{k=1}^{N_P}m_k)}\right) \tag{24}$$

$$\frac{dv_{B,u}}{dt} = \frac{GM_{gas}}{m_A + m_B + \sum_{j=1}^{N_P}m_j}\left(\sum_{k=1}^{N_P}\frac{m_k(\Delta_u + X_{k,u})}{(|\vec{\Delta} + \vec{X}_k)|^2 + a_0^2)^{3/2}}\right.$$
$$+ \frac{X_{B,u} + s_u + \Delta_u}{(|\vec{\Delta} + \vec{X}_B + \vec{s}|^2 + a_0^2)^{3/2}} + \left.\frac{m_A\Delta_u}{(|\vec{\Delta}|^2 + a_0^2)^{3/2}}\right) - \frac{GM_{gas}(X_{B,u} + s_u + \Delta_u)}{(|\vec{\Delta} + \vec{X}_B + \vec{s}|^2 + a_0^2)^{3/2}} \tag{25}$$

2.2. *Experimental Design*

First, we must decide how to build our stellar clusters. The masses of the stars are sampled from the Chabrier (2003) piecewise IMF where we set an upper mass limit of $150M_\odot$ (Weidner & Kroupa 2004). The positions of the stars are sampled via weights assigned from a Plummer distribution of gas (Plummer 1911). We are therefore assuming that the stars condense out of mass in a spherical Plummer potential. The mass of the Plummer sphere that acts as the gaseous environment for the embedded stars is chosen assuming a 10% star formation efficiency. Then, the virial speeds of each star are calculated based on their position and we assign them a random initial velocity vector at $8\%v_{virial}$Levison et al. (2010). Once the cluster is constructed, we generate 100 simulations where for each simulation a random cluster star is assigned the role of the primary, such that the starting position of the planetary/binary system within the cluster is randomized. A set of 4 gas giants, analogous to the orbits and masses of Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune, are set around the primary, and a coplanar binary companion with eccentricity of 0.5 is added. The eccentricity was chosen to match observations of relatively wide (greater than 50au separation) binaries (Tokovinin & Kiyaeva 2016), although the eccentricities of these systems are not well constrained. Future work will include analysis of other initial binary eccentricity choices, ensuring that the choices are stable in isolation. The binary takes on a range of semi-major axis values between 300au and 800au. We intially tested a range of 100 to 1×10^4au, but found that approximately closer than 300 au and the planets are unstable, and outside 800au the binary is very quickly stripped away by the cluster and therefore no longer interacts meaningfully with the planets. All of these systems in the final range of binary semi-major axis were verified via numerical integration to be inherently stable for $10Myr$ when *not* in the presence of a stellar cluster.

To design the parameters of the stellar cluster, we look to the catalog compiled by Lada & Lada (2003). The majority of clusters in the catalog have a mass less than $200M_\odot$ and a number of stars less than 250. To model these most common clusters, we created two suites of simulations, one with a total mass of $80M_\odot$ and one with a mass of $160M_\odot$. The smaller $80M_\odot$ cluster had 122 stars and the larger $160M_\odot$ has 221. For good measure, we created a third larger cluster that mimics the observed characteristics of the embedded Monoceros R2 cluster, with a mass of $341M_\odot$ and 509 stellar cluster members (Carpenter et al. 1997). The time step of our simulations is set to 100 days, sufficiently small for the orbital periods of the gas giants.

3. THE FATE OF BINARY SYSTEMS

3.1. *Characteristics of Destabilization*

First, we will take a holistic look at all simulations that undergo planet loss. In total, we see than 6% of our simulations have a planetary instability occur. Characteristics of the systems themselves such as initial binary semi-major axis within our chosen range$(300-800au)$, total cluster mass, and integration time do not have an appreciable effect on the bulk number of planetary disruptions. This scarcity of planetary destabilization and lack of dependence on cluster size is in agreement with previous work by de la Fuente Marcos & de la Fuente Marcos (1999), and indicates that free-floating planets that have been dynamically ejected from a host system should be relatively rare. This indicates to us that future work should focus more on the initial conditions of the binary-planet system in establishing the parameter space for destabilization, rather than initial conditions of the cluster environment. The frequency of destabilizations do not depend on initial binary semi-major axis, which is to be expected as all of the systems are inherently stable in isolation(i.e., one choice of binary separation is not inherently 'more unstable' than another). Therefore we expect that it is dynamical evolution of the system, binary included, due to the cluster environment that would produce an instability. This is what we see in the vast majority of cases: chaotics interactions with passing cluster stars drive the binary companion to a very eccentric orbit, allowing for close pericenter passages with the primary and its planets. Kaib et al. (2013) found a similar result in an exploration of wider binaries with separations between 1×10^3 and 3×10^4, wherein even distant binary companions can be perturbed to eccentric orbits with close pericenter approaches to an inner planet system. These pericenter approaches destabilize at least one of the gas giants, and most often the Neptune and Uranus analogs ejected planets, leaving the inner giants behind. This is good news for the observational signals of these disruptions: in 77% of cases, at least one planet is left behind in unstable systems, meaning that we can make inferences about orbital changes due to these binary destabilization processes in surviving exoplanets. The frequency of close stellar encounters seems to be the ruling factor in whether a system is destabilized, where the unstable systems have a clear preference for multiple interactions with cluster stars. This is shown in the histogram in Fig.2 A clear takeaway from this is that when the cluster is still bound and contains gas in the form of the Plummer potential (the first 5Myr, Allen et al. (2007)) and therefore more dense with stars, destabilizations
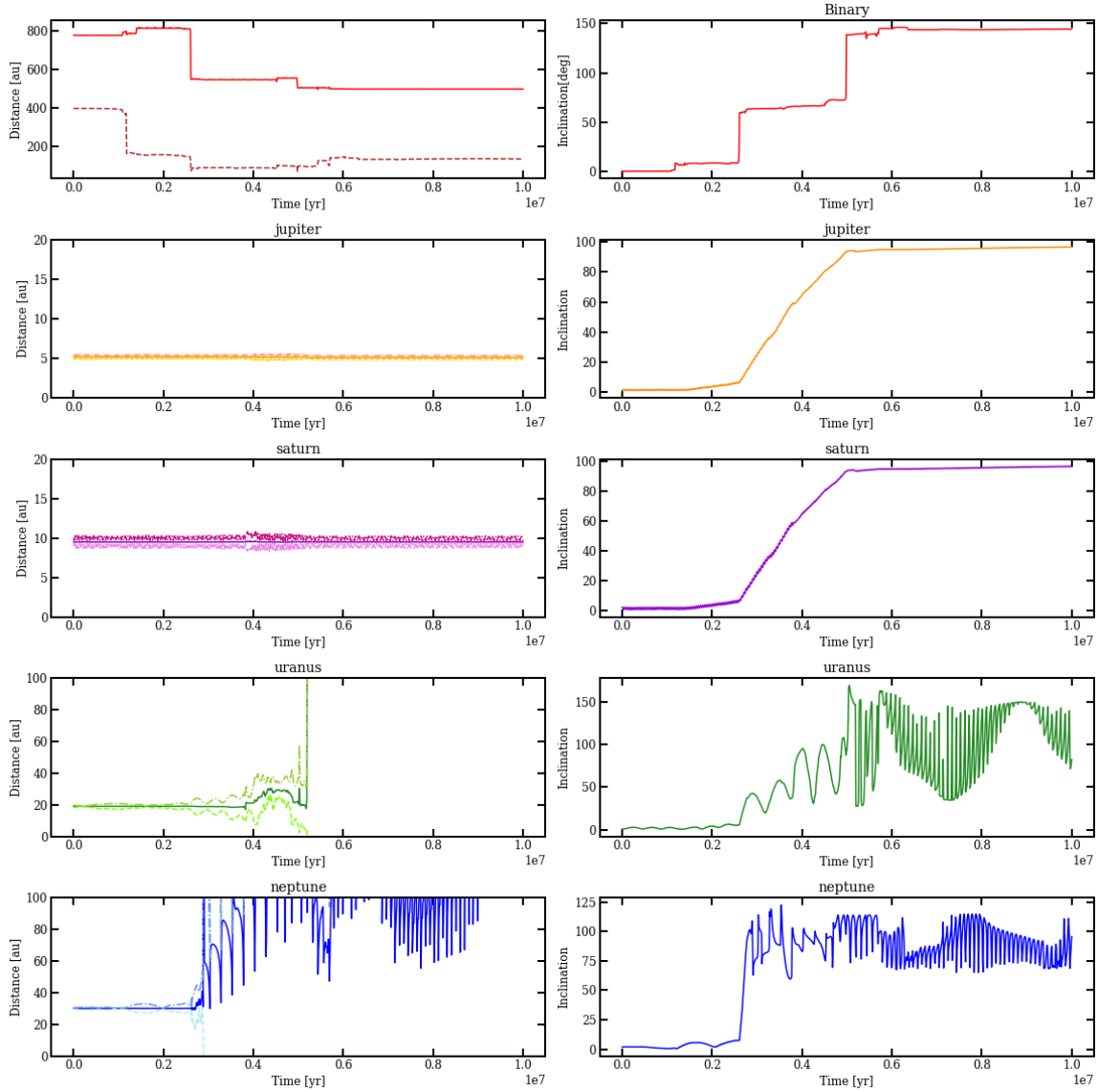
Figure 1. The orbital evolution of the 4 giant planets and binary companion. The left panels are the distance of the object from the primary, where the solid line is the semi-major axis and the dashed lines are the pericenter/apocenter of the body. This particular system results in a very high predicted spin-orbital angle for the jupiter and saturn mass bodies. Note the multiple 'jumps' as the binary companion enters a close pericenter approach. These jumps are from encounters with cluster stars in which angular momentum is exchanged. In this simulation both the Uranus and Neptune mass planets become unbound and the binary companion remains bound.

are more likely to occur. A similar lack of stellar encounters when the stars are unbound from the gas was seen in Adams et al. (2006). Seemingly, the architecture of planet systems is 'frozen in' once the cluster becomes unbound. The pericenter approaches that spell bad fortune for the stability of planets are driven by cluster star interactions.

We finally note that the unstable systems with the highest final inclination (greater than $20°$) of the surviving planets all have greater than 10 instances of separate cluster members approaching within 1×10^4au of the primary. An example system with an extremely inclined inner gas giant pair and a binary companion that undergoes several perturbations is shown in Fig 1. This example system retains its binary companion that migrates from an initial semi-major axis of $a = 800$ to $a \approx 500$. During this migration, Jupiter and Saturn are pulled to $\approx 100°$ inclination, while Uranus and Neptune are ejected from the system.
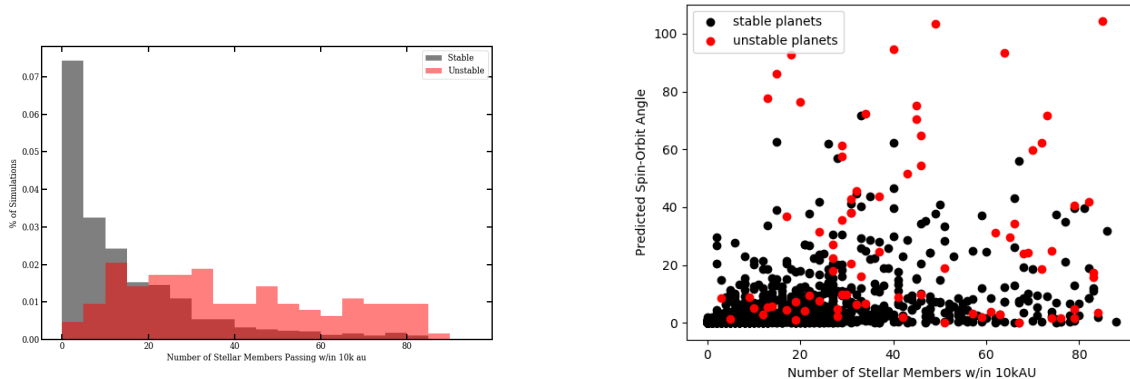
Figure 2. *Left:* A normalized histogram containing results from all 3 suites of simulation depicting the distribution of number of 'close' (within 10k au) encounters the planetary system has with cluster stars. *Right:* A scatterplot of the inner planet inclination versus the number of stellar encounters.

We must also look to the fate of the binary companion. In general, the orbit of a surviving binary companion is not closely tied to the orbits of the planets. While unstable systems have a preference for a high inclination, this is not necessarily coupled with a high inclination of the binary companion. Additionally, we can look to whether or not the binary becomes unbound during a simulation.The vast majority of stable systems retain their binary companion. In 93% of systems that keep all 4 planets, the binary remains bound as well. Out of all 1800 simulations, there are only 179 occurences of the loss of a binary companion, and in 100 of these 179 cases, the binary is stripped by the cluster with no effect on the stability of the 4 giants. For unstable systems, 44% retained their binary companion after planet loss, and 55% lost their binary companion. This presents an intriguing case that for the plurality of unstable systems, the binary that perturbed the planets has been lost to the cluster. It would therefore not be immediately observationally clear that a once-bound binary was the driver of past planetary dynamics. Additionally, if a system *has* undergone a perturbation that strips it of a binary companion, it is far more likely to additionally lose 1 or more planets. That is, only 6% of our total simulations have unstable planets, but 44% (79 out of the 179 cases) of the subset of simulations with a lost binary have undergone planet loss.

It is also worth observing that the binary is very likely to survive the cluster overall, so this architecture of s-type planets with a relatively close binary is quite dynamically stable in the presence of a fully embedded cluster.

3.2. *Orbital Architecture Changes*

The main takeaway from this project is that the orbital architectures of surviving planets in unstable (lose at least one planet) versus stable (retain all four planets) have several noticeable, observable signposts. Primarily, the distributions of eccentricity and the predicted spin-orbit angle of the inner gas giants in unstable systems are statistically distinct from their stable counterparts. High eccentricity planets, like the ones we see in our unstable systems, are thought to have a dynamical source. First posited in Rasio & Ford (1996), planet-planet scattering interactions can lead to ejections of some planets and a higher eccentricity for planets that remain. In our systems, often these surviving planets are the two inner gas giants. The Jupiter and Saturn mass planets thus act as good markers of a past instability, and our analysis will focus on their final orbits in each simulation. The distributions of the final eccentricity and inclination of the inner giants are shown in Figure 3, and a two-sample Kolmogorov-Smirnov test with an extremely small p-value ($p_{KS} = 1.32 \times 10^{-38}$ for the eccentricity distributions and $p_{KS} = 1.5 \times 10^{-26}$ for the inclinations distributions) shows that we can reasonably reject the null hypothesis that these two sets are drawn from the same parent distribution. Interactions with the binary companion, whether it remains bound to the primary or not, destabilize the planets via an exchange of orbital momentum. If the planets stay bound, this interaction can heat up their orbits to higher eccentricities and inclinations. Oftenthe two inner planets will undergo a coupled evolution as if in a rigid disk (shown in work by Innanen et al. (1997)), reaching similar inclinations after the instability. Additionally, we note that unstable systems are more likely to reach planetary orbits that have *both* high inclination and high eccentricity. This sort of pairing of high λ and high eccentricity has been seen with Rossiter-McLaughlin observations (Schlaufman (2010)) and
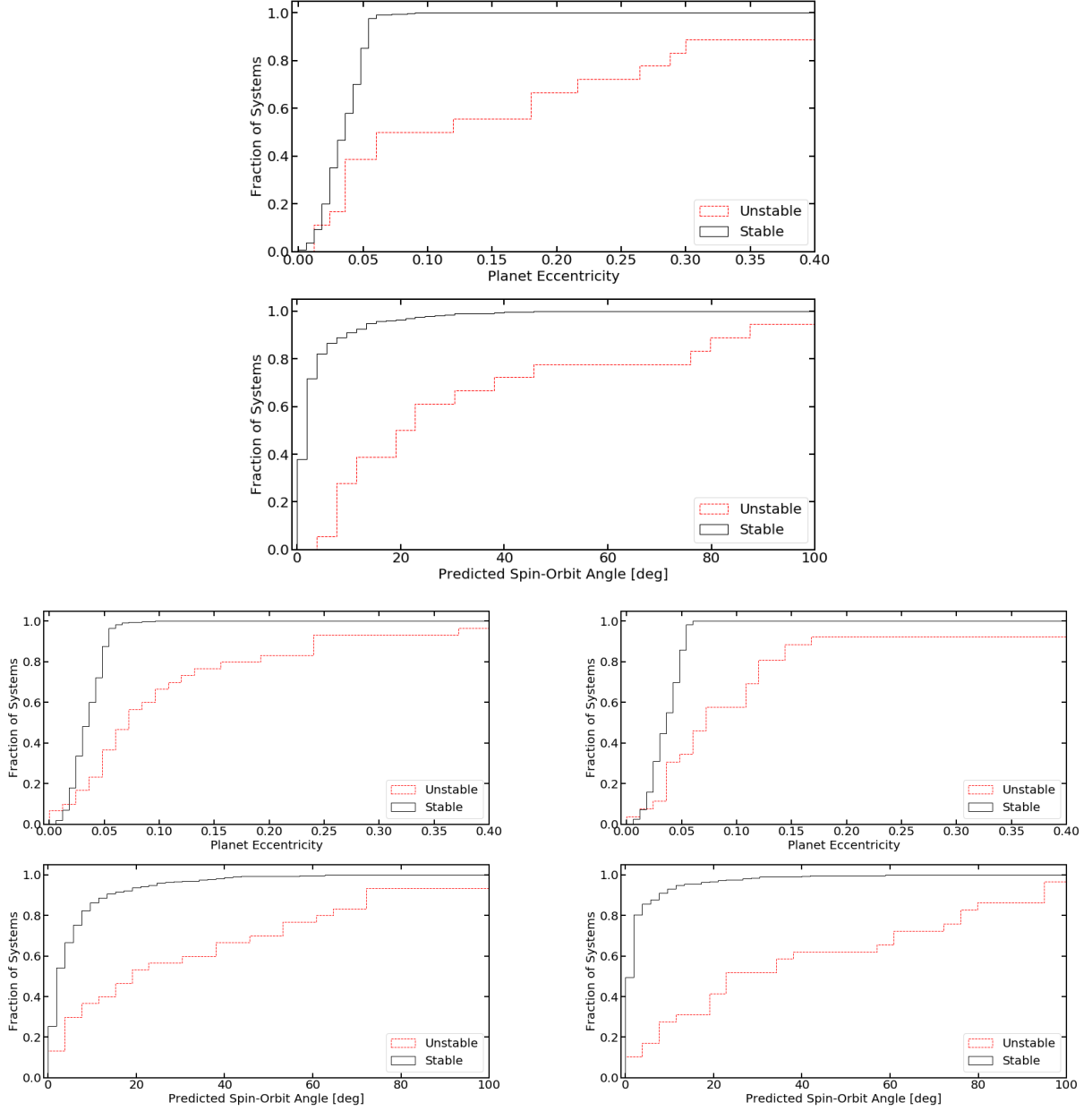
Figure 3. A cumulative distribution depicting the end orbital architectures of planetary systems evolved in a $80 M_\odot$(top panel), $160 M_\odot$(bottom left), and $341 M_\odot$(bottom right) cluster.

points to two separate populations with disparate dynamical histories: misaligned and aligned with the spin of the parent star.

3.3. *Spin Orbit Misalignment & the birth of Hot Jupiters*

The accepted theory of planet formation is that planets form in a dusty, coplanar circumstellar disk (also called a protoplanetary disk). A subset of exoplanets that has challenged existing theories of giant planet formation in the field of planetary astrophysics is the existence of hot jupiters. Their mode of formation, while debated, is likely very closely tied to their dynamics, as their characteristically close position to host stars is not a viable location for in-situ formation. Locations in the disk close to the star where hot jupiters orbit are likely too hot for gas clouds to collapse due to gravitational instability (Rafikov 2005). As for core accretion in the inner disk, Lee & Chiang (2016) argues that it is unlikely that surface densities are appropriate for in-situ formation of Jupiter mass planets

(although they and Chiang & Laughlin (2013) note that in-situ super Earth formation. by core accretion is possible without the need for fine tuning). Therefore, the gas giants likely form farther out in the protoplanetary disk and somehow migrate inwards (Lee & Chiang 2016). This migration can occur in several ways. One is smooth migration due to angular momentum exchange with a viscous gaseous disk (Goldreich & Tremaine 1980). Lin et al. (1996) suggest this mechanism for the orbit of famed hot Jupiter 51 Peg b, the first exoplanet discovered orbiting a main sequence star Mayor & Queloz (1995). Smooth disk migration for the case of a single planet is not likely to produce a very eccentric gas giant, as the gas disk can dampen high eccentricities (Duffell & Chiang 2015). The presence of *inclined* hot Jupiters (Albrecht et al. 2012), with their misalignment relative to the spin of their host star measure via the Rossiter-McLaughlin effect (Rossiter 1924) further complicates this picture, but also provides more evidence for a dynamical pathway of hot jupiter production. Other dynamical pathways to produce hot Jupiters include planet-planet scattering, or gravitational interactions with a stellar companion. These mechanisms have the added effect of forcing gas giants to high eccentricities and/or inclinations. They are of interest to this work due to the preponderance of excited planetary orbits among our unstable simulations.

Dynamical instabilities caused by planet-planet scattering can lead to both high eccentricities and high inclinations (Beaugé & Nesvorný 2012). Following these scattering events, the high eccentricities of the gas giants can be damped out by tidal effects (Nagasawa et al. 2008), shrinking the orbit and creating a hot Jupiter. Beaugé & Nesvorný (2012) utilized N-Body simulations that include tidal forces. They triggered instabilities by breaking the planets out of an initial resonant configuration. Their work argues that planet-planet encounters and secular effects are the ruling modes of hot Jupiter formation, as opposed to a Kozai resonance. That is, the dominant way the hot Jupiters are formed are planets are forced to a low pericenter, high eccentricity orbit by a scattering event, and then are circularized by tidal effects. Secular planet-planet interactions can also create a high eccentricity gas giant orbit that can then be circularized. Petrovich (2015) show that this is an efficient process for hot Jupiter formation, but that it does not produce the observed high obliquity sample of misaligned hot Jupiters, as opposed to planet-planet scattering that can produce misaligned hot Jupiters.

Finally, there can be interactions between a planet system and a binary companion. The binary can exert a torque on either the disk (Batygin 2012) or a mature planet system (Fabrycky & Tremaine (2007),Kaib et al. (2011),De Rosa et al. (2020)), creating an orbital arrangements of a star's planets with high obliquities. Previous work (Wu & Murray 2003; Wu et al. 2007; Fabrycky & Tremaine 2007) on this topic often points to Kozai-Lidov cycles as the driver of this evolution, in which a sufficiently inclined binary cyclically exchanges angular momentum with a planet and causes it to evolve in eccentricity and inclination.

The presence of highly inclined gas giants in our unstable systems points to a similar pathway to produce these high λ exoplanets. Excitement of the binary companion from a stellar cluster can cause impulsive perturbations (as opposed to longer cyclic Kozai resonances) of planetary systems that result in bound planets with high predicted spin-orbit angles. Noting also that the unstable systems are also likely to be very eccentric, their orbits could become circularized by tidal forces, leading to a more closely orbiting hot Jupiter with a misaligned spin-orbit angle. As our simulations do not include tidal forces, however, the further evolution of these unstable systems remains a mystery.

4. CONCLUSIONS AND FUTURE WORK

Our initial work has shown that the presence of cluster stars can have the effect of destabilizing a significant fraction of binary systems by perturbing the binary onto a close pericenter approach to the orbiting gas giants. In particular, we have found that these unstable systems have a significantly different orbital architecture than their stable counterparts. Future work with this integrator includes continuing this experiment with different initial planetary configurations and binary configurations to see how the cluster could perturb or destabilize these systems. For instance, we will look into varying the eccentricity distribution of the binary companion to pinpoint in parameter space if there are particular initial conditions more succeptible to destabilization via the cluster environment. We also have found that in some of our simulations, there seem to be a sprinkling of new binaries and triplet groups of bound stars that form as the cluster evolves. Most discussion of stellar multiple formation focuses on fragmentation of dense cores that examines the binary population at a very early stage(for example Bonnell & Bate (1994)) and utilize largely smooth particle hydrodynamics, so these simulations could form an interesting dynamical approach to stellar multiple formation for more mature stellar systems, similar to integrations done in Kroupa (2001) and Moeckel & Bate (2010). While it is thought that interactions with the primordial gas disk is the ruling determinant in the orbital architecture of binaries(Kroupa (2001); Kroupa & Burkert (2001); Bate (2000)), it would be interesting to see where the small fraction of dynamical multiples fit

in the parameter space of binary separation and eccentricity. Their survival rates in the presence of their cluster environment will also be of interest; that is, we would investiage the question of is the formation of multiples in this fashion a stable pathway.Moeckel & Bate (2010) examined this question with a hydrodynamic simulation of an expanding stellar cluster, so the first course of action would be to investigate how the multiples we see fit with prior observations.

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