

PRD 28: Nekhoroshev Stability and Exponential Timescales

Pure Thought AI Challenge 28

Pure Thought AI Challenges Project

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Abstract

This document presents a comprehensive Product Requirement Document (PRD) for implementing a pure-thought computational challenge. The problem can be tackled using only symbolic mathematics, exact arithmetic, and fresh code—no experimental data or materials databases required until final verification. All results must be accompanied by machine-checkable certificates.

Contents

Domain: Celestial Mechanics Hamiltonian Dynamics

Timeline: 6-9 months

Difficulty: High

Prerequisites: Hamiltonian mechanics, perturbation theory, Fourier analysis, symplectic geometry

0.1 1. Problem Statement

0.1.1 Scientific Context

Nekhoroshev stability theory (1977) provides a fundamental complement to KAM theory for understanding long-term stability in nearly-integrable Hamiltonian systems. While KAM theory guarantees eternal stability on measure-large invariant tori, it fails near resonances where tori break down. Nekhoroshev theory fills this gap by proving that even in resonant regions, the system exhibits **super-exponentially slow diffusion** over timescales that grow exponentially with the inverse perturbation strength.

For a near-integrable Hamiltonian $H = H(I) + H(I, \theta)$, Nekhoroshev's theorem states:

Main Result: If H satisfies a *steepness* (quasi-convexity) condition, then for all initial conditions and times $|t| < T_{exp} \exp(-a)$, the action variables remain close to their initial values :

$$|I(t) - I(0)| < b$$

where $a, b > 0$ depend on dimension and the steepness properties of H .

This result has profound implications for **solar system stability**: with $\sim 10^{-3}$ (ratio of planetary to solar masses)

0.1.2 Core Question

Can we rigorously verify Nekhoroshev stability conditions for realistic Hamiltonian systems and compute explicit exponential stability timescales?

Key challenges:

- **Steepness verification:** Checking H is steep (quasi-convex) requires proving $\det(^2H/I^2) > C > 0$ globally
- **Optimal exponents:** Constants a, b depend on dimension and steepness in complex ways
- **Resonance structure:** Exponential time depends on Fourier spectrum of H
- **N-planet problem:** Solar system requires handling multiple gravitational perturbations
- **Certificate generation:** Stability bounds must be machine-checkable with interval arithmetic

0.1.3 Why This Matters

- **Celestial mechanics:** Explains stability of solar system over Gyr timescales
- **Accelerator physics:** Particle beam stability in synchrotrons, colliders
- **Plasma confinement:** Charged particle motion in tokamaks
- **Astrodynamics:** Long-term satellite orbit prediction
- **Mathematical physics:** Universal mechanism for slow chaos in Hamiltonian systems

0.1.4 Pure Thought Advantages

Nekhoroshev theory is **ideal for pure thought investigation**:

- Based on **symbolic perturbation theory** (no numerical integration needed)
- Steepness conditions verifiable via **computer algebra** (exact Hessian computation)
- Exponential estimates computed from **Fourier coefficients** (symbolic)
- All bounds **certified via interval arithmetic** (rigorous error control)
- NO numerical simulations until final verification phase
- NO empirical fitting of stability times

0.2 2. Mathematical Formulation

0.2.1 Hamiltonian Setup

Consider a nearly-integrable Hamiltonian on the phase space $(I, \theta) \in \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{T}^n$:

$$H(I, \theta) = H(I) + \epsilon H_1(I, \theta)$$

where:

- $H(I)$: integrable part (e.g., Kepler Hamiltonian for planets)
- $H_1(I, \theta)$: perturbation (e.g., planet-planet gravitational interactions)
- $\epsilon > 0$: small parameter (typically 10^{-3} for solar system)

Hamilton's equations:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dI}{dt} &= -\frac{\partial H_1}{\partial \theta} = -\frac{\partial H_1}{\partial \theta} \\ \frac{d\theta}{dt} &= \frac{\partial H}{\partial I} = \frac{\partial H(I)}{\partial I} + \frac{\partial H_1}{\partial I} \end{aligned}$$

where $\omega(I) = \partial H(I) / \partial I$ are the unperturbed frequencies.

0.2.2 Steepness Conditions

Definition (Steepness): H is **steep** (or quasi-convex) if there exists a convex function $S(I)$ such that:

$$|S(I)|^C$$

for all multi-indices $|\alpha| \geq 3$, and the Hessian satisfies:

$$\det(\partial^2 S / \partial I^2) \geq m > 0$$

uniformly on a domain $D \subset \mathbb{R}^n$.

Key Examples:

- **Strictly convex:** $H(I) = \frac{1}{2} \langle I, A I \rangle$ with A positive definite (harmonic oscillators)
- **Kepler problem:** $H = -1/(2I)$ (steep in $I > 0$)
- **Non-convex but steep:** Many physical Hamiltonians satisfy weaker quasi-convexity

Verification Strategy: Use symbolic differentiation to compute $\partial^2 H / \partial I^2$ exactly, then prove positivity via:

- Interval arithmetic bounds on eigenvalues
- SOS (sum-of-squares) decomposition
- Gröbner basis elimination

0.2.3 Nekhoroshev Theorem

Theorem (Nekhoroshev 1977): Let $H = H(I) + H(I, \theta)$ with H steep and H real-analytic. Then there exist constants $a, b, C, > 0$ such that for all $\epsilon < 1$ and all initial conditions $(I, \theta) \in D \times \mathbb{T}^n$:

$$|I(t) - I| < \epsilon^b \text{ for all } |t| < T_{\epsilon} \exp := C \exp(-\epsilon^a)$$

Exponents:

- **Steep case** (convex): $a = 1/(2n), b = 1/(2n)$
- **Super-steep case** (exponentially convex): $a = 1/2, b \rightarrow 1/2$
- **General quasi-convex:** $a = 1/(2n \log(1/\epsilon)), b = 1/(2n \log(1/\epsilon))$

Interpretation: Actions diffuse at most ϵ^b over exponentially long times. For $\epsilon = 10^{-3}, n = 5, T_{\epsilon} \exp(10^{3/10}) \approx 10^{13}$ years age of universe.

0.2.4 Resonance Width Formula

Near a resonance $k \cdot (I) = 0$ (k integer vector), the perturbation H has significant Fourier component:

$$H_k(I) = \frac{1}{2} \dots \frac{1}{2} H(I, \theta) e^{-ik \cdot \theta} d\theta \dots d\theta$$

Resonance width (in action space):

$$\Delta I_k \approx (|H_k|)^{1/2}$$

Diffusion mechanism: Actions can drift by ΔI_k when trajectory spends time $1/|k \cdot \dot{I}|$ near the resonance.

Nekhoroshev's key insight: Exponential growth $\exp(-\epsilon^a)$ arises from the number of resonances the system encounters.

0.2.5 Certificates

All results must come with **machine-checkable certificates**:

- **Steepness certificate:** Interval arithmetic proof that $\min \text{eigenvalue}(\partial^2 H / \partial I^2) > m > 0$ on domain
- **Fourier bound certificate:** Rigorous bounds on $|H_k|$ for all $|k| \leq K_{\max}$
- **Exponential time certificate:** Lower bound $T_{\epsilon} \exp \geq T_{\min}$ from certified constants a, b, C
- **Diffusion bound certificate:** Upper bound $\sup_{t \in T} |I(t) - I(0)| < \epsilon^b$ with error margins

Export format: JSON with rational/interval arithmetic entries:

```

1 {
2   "steepness_constant": {"lower": "0.95", "upper": "1.05"},
3   "exponent_a": {"value": "0.1", "precision": "1e-3"},
4   "exponential_time_years": {"lower": "1e15", "infinite": false},
5   "diffusion_bound_AU": {"value": "1e-8", "certified": true}
6 }
```

0.3 3. Implementation Approach

0.3.1 Phase 1 (Months 1-2): Steepness Verification

Goal: Symbolically compute Hessian of H and prove steepness.

```

1  import sympy as sp
2  import numpy as np
3  from mpmath import mp
4  mp.dps = 100 # 100-digit precision
5
6  def compute_steepness_certificate(H0_symbolic: sp.Expr,
7                                   action_vars: list,
8                                   domain: dict) -> dict:
9
10     """
11     Verify  $H$  is steep by proving  $H / I$  is positive
12     definite.
13
14     Args:
15         H0_symbolic: Symbolic expression for  $H$  ( $I$ )
16         action_vars: List of action variables [ $I_1, I_2, \dots, I_n$ ]
17         domain: Dictionary { $I_1$ : (min, max),  $I_2$ : (min, max), ...}
18
19     Returns:
20         Certificate with minimum eigenvalue bounds
21     """
22     n = len(action_vars)
23
24     # Compute Hessian symbolically
25     hessian = sp.Matrix(n, n, lambda i, j:
26                           sp.diff(H0_symbolic, action_vars[i],
27                                   action_vars[j]))
28
29     print(f"Symbolic Hessian computed: {hessian}")
30
31     # Eigenvalue bounds via interval arithmetic
32     from mpmath import iv
33
34     min_eigenvalue = float('-inf')
35     max_eigenvalue = float('-inf')
36
37     # Sample domain with interval arithmetic grid
38     n_samples = 20
39     for I_point in generate_interval_grid(domain, n_samples):
40         # Substitute interval values
41         hessian_interval = evaluate_matrix_interval(hessian,
42                                                       action_vars, I_point)
43
44         # Compute eigenvalue bounds
45         eigvals_interval =
46             compute_eigenvalue_bounds_interval(hessian_interval)
47
48         min_eigenvalue = min(min_eigenvalue, eigvals_interval['min'])
49         max_eigenvalue = max(max_eigenvalue, eigvals_interval['max'])
50
51     is_steep = min_eigenvalue > 0

```

```

48     return {
49         'is_steep': is_steep,
50         'min_eigenvalue': min_eigenvalue,
51         'max_eigenvalue': max_eigenvalue,
52         'steepness_constant': min_eigenvalue if is_steep else None,
53         'certificate_type': 'interval_arithmetic',
54         'precision_digits': mp.dps
55     }
56
57
58 def kepler_hamiltonian_steepness(n_planets: int) -> dict:
59     """
60     Verify steepness for n-planet Kepler Hamiltonian.
61
62      $H = - \sum \frac{1}{2 I_i}$  (Kepler terms for each planet)
63
64     Hessian:  $\frac{\partial^2 H}{\partial I_i^2} = \frac{1}{I_i^3}$ 
65               (diagonal, positive definite)
66     """
67     # Symbolic variables
68     I_vars = sp.symbols(f'I1:{n_planets+1}', positive=True, real=True)
69     mu_vars = sp.symbols(f'mu1:{n_planets+1}', positive=True, real=True)
70
71     # Kepler Hamiltonian
72     H0 = sum(-mu_vars[i] / (2*I_vars[i]) for i in range(n_planets))
73
74     # Compute steepness
75     domain = {I_vars[i]: (0.1, 10.0) for i in range(n_planets)} # AU-scale actions
76
77     cert = compute_steepness_certificate(H0, I_vars, domain)
78
79     return cert
80
81 def interval_eigenvalue_bound_symmetric(A_intervals: np.ndarray) -> dict:
82     """
83     Compute rigorous eigenvalue bounds for symmetric interval matrix.
84
85     Uses Gershgorin circle theorem with interval arithmetic.
86     """
87     n = A_intervals.shape[0]
88
89     lambda_min = float('-inf')
90     lambda_max = float('inf')
91
92     for i in range(n):
93         # Gershgorin disk center: diagonal entry
94         center = A_intervals[i, i]
95
96         # Radius: sum of off-diagonal absolute values
97         radius = sum(abs(A_intervals[i, j]) for j in range(n) if j != i)
98
99         lambda_min = min(lambda_min, center.a - radius.b) # Lower bound
100        lambda_max = max(lambda_max, center.b + radius.b) # Upper bound

```

```
return {'min': lambda_min, 'max': lambda_max}
```

Validation: Test on harmonic oscillator $H = \frac{1}{2}I^2$ (should give min eigenvalue = min I^2).

0.3.2 Phase 2 (Months 2-3): Resonance Analysis

Goal: Compute Fourier spectrum of perturbation H and estimate resonance widths.

```
def compute_fourier_coefficients_perturbation(H1_symbolic: sp.Expr,
                                              angle_vars: list,
                                              k_max: int = 10) -> dict:
    """
    Compute Fourier coefficients H(I) for |k| <= k_max.

    H(I, ) = H(I) e^{ik}
    """
    n = len(angle_vars)

    fourier_coeffs = {}

    for k in generate_integer_vectors(n, k_max):
        # Integrate H(I, ) * e^{-ik} over angle_vars
        integrand = H1_symbolic * sp.exp(-sp.I * sum(k[i]*angle_vars[i]
                                                    for i in range(n)))

        # Symbolic integration (may be expensive)
        H1_k = (1/(2*sp.pi)**n) * sp.integrate(integrand,
                                                *[(theta, 0, 2*sp.pi)
                                                  for theta in
                                                    angle_vars])

        fourier_coeffs[tuple(k)] = H1_k

    return fourier_coeffs

def planetary_perturbation_hamiltonian(planets: list) -> sp.Expr:
    """
    Construct H for planet-planet gravitational perturbations.

    H = -G * m1 * m2 / |r1 - r2|

    Expand in Legendre polynomials.
    """
    n = len(planets)

    # Action-angle coordinates
    I_vars = sp.symbols(f'I1:{n+1}', positive=True)
    theta_vars = sp.symbols(f'theta1:{n+1}', real=True)

    # Convert to Cartesian (via Delaunay elements)
    positions = [action_angle_to_cartesian(I_vars[i], theta_vars[i])
                  for i in range(n)]

    H1 = 0
```



```

47     for i in range(n):
48         for j in range(i+1, n):
49             r_ij = positions[i] - positions[j]
50             r_ij_norm = sp.sqrt(r_ij.dot(r_ij))
51
52             H1 += -planets[i]['G'] * planets[i]['mass'] *
53                  planets[j]['mass'] / r_ij_norm
54
55     # Expand to desired order in
56     H1_expanded = sp.series(H1, planets[0]['mass']/planets[0]['M_sun'],
57                             0, n=3).removeO()
58
59     return H1_expanded
60
61 def resonance_width_estimate(k: np.ndarray,
62                             epsilon: float,
63                             H1_k: float) -> float:
64     """
65     Width of k-resonance in action space.
66
67     ~ ( | H | ) / |k|
68
69     width = np.sqrt(epsilon * abs(H1_k)) / np.linalg.norm(k)
70
71     return width
72
73 def resonance_overlap_criterion(resonance_widths: dict,
74                                 frequency_map: callable) -> bool:
75     """
76     Check if resonances overlap (Chirikov criterion).
77
78     Overlap + > |I_{k} - I_{k}|
79
80     where I_k is center of k-resonance.
81     """
82     k_vectors = list(resonance_widths.keys())
83
84     for i, k1 in enumerate(k_vectors):
85         for k2 in k_vectors[i+1:]:
86             # Resonance centers (solve k (I) = 0)
87             I_k1 = find_resonance_center(k1, frequency_map)
88             I_k2 = find_resonance_center(k2, frequency_map)
89
90             if I_k1 is None or I_k2 is None:
91                 continue
92
93             # Check overlap
94             separation = np.linalg.norm(I_k1 - I_k2)
95             combined_width = resonance_widths[k1] + resonance_widths[k2]
96
97             if combined_width > separation:
98                 return True # Resonances overlap no Nekhoroshev
99                             stability

```

```
return False # Well-separated resonances
```

Validation: Compute Fourier spectrum for Jupiter-Saturn perturbation, verify dominant $k = (5, -2)$ Great Inequality resonance.

0.3.3 Phase 3 (Months 3-4): Exponential Time Estimates

Goal: Compute optimal exponents a , b and stability time T_{exp} .

```
1 def nekhoroshev_exponents_optimal(dimension: int,
2                                   steepness_type: str,
3                                   epsilon: float) -> dict:
4
5     """
6     Compute optimal Nekhoroshev exponents a, b.
7
8     Args:
9         dimension: Number of degrees of freedom n
10        steepness_type: 'convex', 'steep', 'quasi_convex'
11        epsilon: Perturbation parameter
12
13    Returns:
14        Exponents a, b and constants C
15    """
16    if steepness_type == 'convex':
17        # Best case: strictly convex H
18        a = 1 / (2 * dimension)
19        b = 1 / (2 * dimension)
20        C = 1.0
21
22    elif steepness_type == 'steep':
23        # Quasi-convex (most physical systems)
24        a = 1 / (2 * dimension)
25        b = 1 / (4 * dimension) # Worse diffusion bound
26        C = 0.5
27
28    elif steepness_type == 'super_steep':
29        # Exponentially convex (rare)
30        a = 1 / 2
31        b = 1 / 2
32        C = 2.0
33
34    else:
35        # Generic quasi-convex with logarithmic corrections
36        log_factor = np.log(1/epsilon) if epsilon > 0 else 1
37        a = 1 / (2 * dimension * log_factor)
38        b = 1 / (4 * dimension)
39        C = 0.1
40
41    return {'a': a, 'b': b, 'C': C, 'type': steepness_type}
42
43 def compute_exponential_stability_time(epsilon: float,
44                                       exponents: dict,
45                                       time_unit: str = 'years') ->
46                                     dict:
```

```

47     Compute  $T_{\text{exp}} = C \exp((\text{epsilon} / \text{epsilon}_0)^a)$ .
48     """
49     a = exponents['a']
50     C = exponents['C']
51
52     # Characteristic scale (depends on system)
53     epsilon_0 = 1.0 # Normalized units
54
55     # Exponential time
56     if epsilon > 0:
57         T_exp_normalized = C * np.exp((epsilon_0 / epsilon)**a)
58     else:
59         T_exp_normalized = float('inf')
60
61     # Convert to physical units
62     if time_unit == 'years':
63         orbital_period = 1.0 # Normalize to 1 year for outer planets
64         T_exp_years = T_exp_normalized * orbital_period
65     else:
66         T_exp_years = T_exp_normalized
67
68     return {
69         'T_exp_normalized': T_exp_normalized,
70         'T_exp_years': T_exp_years,
71         'exponent_a': a,
72         'log_T_exp': a * np.log(1/epsilon) if epsilon > 0 else
73         float('inf')
74     }
75
76 def solar_system_nekhoroshev_stability() -> dict:
77     """
78     Apply Nekhoroshev theory to the solar system.
79
80     Key parameters:
81     - n = 8 planets (neglect Mercury as interior planet)
82     -  $\sim m_{\text{Jupiter}} / m_{\text{Sun}} \sim 10^{-3}$ 
83     - H : sum of Kepler Hamiltonians (steep)
84     - H : planetary perturbations (real-analytic)
85     """
86     # System parameters
87     n_planets = 8
88     epsilon = 1e-3 # Jupiter mass / Sun mass
89
90     # Nekhoroshev exponents for 8-planet system
91     exponents = nekhoroshev_exponents_optimal(
92         dimension=n_planets,
93         steepness_type='steep', # Kepler H is steep
94         epsilon=epsilon
95     )
96
97     # Compute exponential time
98     stability = compute_exponential_stability_time(epsilon, exponents)
99
100    # Compare to solar system age
101    age_solar_system_years = 4.5e9

```

```

102     age_universe_years = 13.8e9
103
104     stability_margin = stability['T_exp_years'] / age_solar_system_years
105
106     return {
107         'dimension': n_planets,
108         'perturbation_parameter': epsilon,
109         'exponent_a': exponents['a'],
110         'exponent_b': exponents['b'],
111         'T_exp_years': stability['T_exp_years'],
112         'age_solar_system_years': age_solar_system_years,
113         'stability_margin': stability_margin,
114         'verdict': 'STABLE' if stability_margin > 10 else 'UNSTABLE'
115     }

```

Validation: Reproduce $T_{exp} \exp(10^{3/10}) 10^{13}$ years for solar system (matches literature estimates).

0.3.4 Phase 4 (Months 4-6): Action Diffusion Bounds

Goal: Prove rigorous upper bounds $|I(t) - I(0)| < \epsilon$ for $t < T_{exp}$.

```

1  def action_diffusion_bound_certificate(H0: callable,
2                                     H1: callable,
3                                     epsilon: float,
4                                     time_horizon: float,
5                                     initial_action: np.ndarray) ->
6                                     dict:
7
8     """
9     Generate certificate for action diffusion bound.
10
11     Proves:  $|I(t) - I| < \epsilon$  for all  $t < T_{horizon}$ 
12     """
13     # Compute Nekhoroshev constants
14     dimension = len(initial_action)
15     exponents = nekhoroshev_exponents_optimal(dimension, 'steep',
16                                               epsilon)
17
18     a, b = exponents['a'], exponents['b']
19
20     # Check time is within exponential bound
21     T_exp = compute_exponential_stability_time(epsilon,
22                                               exponents)['T_exp_normalized']
23
24     if time_horizon > T_exp:
25         return {
26             'certified': False,
27             'reason': f'Time horizon {time_horizon} exceeds T_exp = {T_exp}'
28         }
29
30     # Diffusion bound:  $|I(t) - I| < \epsilon$ 
31     diffusion_bound = epsilon**b
32
33     # Certificate using interval arithmetic propagation
34     I_interval = propagate_actions_interval_arithmetic(
35         H0, H1, epsilon, initial_action, time_horizon

```

```

32 )
33
34 max_deviation = max(abs(I_interval[i].b - initial_action[i])
35                      for i in range(dimension))
36
37 certified = max_deviation < diffusion_bound
38
39 return {
40     'certified': certified,
41     'diffusion_bound': diffusion_bound,
42     'max_deviation_computed': max_deviation,
43     'time_horizon': time_horizon,
44     'T_exp': T_exp,
45     'safety_margin': diffusion_bound / max_deviation if certified
46     else 0
47 }
48
49 def propagate_actions_interval_arithmetic(H0: callable,
50                                           H1: callable,
51                                           epsilon: float,
52                                           IO: np.ndarray,
53                                           T: float,
54                                           n_steps: int = 1000) -> list:
55     """
56     Propagate actions using interval arithmetic to get rigorous bounds.
57
58      $dI/dt = - \quad H \quad /$ 
59
60     Returns: List of interval boxes [I_min, I_max] at time T
61     """
62     from mpmath import iv
63
64     dt = T / n_steps
65     dimension = len(IO)
66
67     # Initialize interval boxes
68     I_intervals = [iv.mpf([IO[i], IO[i]]) for i in range(dimension)]
69
70     for step in range(n_steps):
71         # Compute RHS of dI/dt using interval arithmetic
72         # (requires interval evaluation of  $H /$  )
73         dI_dt_intervals = compute_action_derivative_interval(
74             H1, I_intervals, epsilon
75         )
76
77         # Euler step with interval arithmetic
78         for i in range(dimension):
79             I_intervals[i] += dt * dI_dt_intervals[i]
80
81     return I_intervals

```

Validation: Verify bounds for 2-planet system (Jupiter-Saturn) over 1 Gyr, compare to numerical integration.

0.3.5 Phase 5 (Months 6-8): Optimal Constants and Sharpness

Goal: Determine optimal (smallest) exponents a achieving given stability time.

```

1  def optimize_nekhoroshev_constants(H0: callable,
2      H1: callable,
3      epsilon: float,
4      desired_time: float) -> dict:
5      """
6      Find optimal constants  $a, b, C$  in Nekhoroshev estimate.
7
8      Goal: Maximize  $a$  (sharper result) subject to  $T_{\text{exp}}$  desired_time.
9      """
10     from scipy.optimize import minimize_scalar
11
12     dimension = estimate_dimension(H0)
13
14     def objective(a_trial):
15         # For given  $a$ , compute achievable  $T_{\text{exp}}$ 
16         C = 1.0 # Fix normalization
17         T_exp = C * np.exp((1/epsilon)**a_trial)
18
19         # Penalty if  $T_{\text{exp}} < \text{desired\_time}$ 
20         if T_exp < desired_time:
21             return 1e10 # Infeasible
22         else:
23             return -a_trial # Maximize  $a$ 
24
25     # Optimize over reasonable range
26     result = minimize_scalar(objective, bounds=(0.01, 1.0),
27                             method='bounded')
28
29     a_optimal = result.x
30     b_optimal = a_optimal # Typically  $b \sim a$  for optimal results
31
32     return {
33         'a_optimal': a_optimal,
34         'b_optimal': b_optimal,
35         'T_exp_achieved': np.exp((1/epsilon)**a_optimal),
36         'desired_time': desired_time,
37         'optimality': 'sharp' if result.fun < -0.1 else 'conservative'
38     }
39
40 def compare_to_numerical_integration(H_total: callable,
41     initial_conditions: np.ndarray,
42     T_max: float,
43     nekhoroshev_bound: float) -> dict:
44     """
45     Validate Nekhoroshev bound against numerical integration.
46
47     Integrate Hamilton's equations and check  $|I(t) - I(0)| < \text{bound}$ .
48     """
49     from scipy.integrate import solve_ivp
50
51     def hamiltonian_flow(t, y):
52         #  $y = [I, \quad ]$ 

```

```

53     dimension = len(y) // 2
54     I, theta = y[:dimension], y[dimension:]
55
56     dI_dt = -compute_dH_dtheta(H_total, I, theta)
57     dtheta_dt = compute_dH_dI(H_total, I, theta)
58
59     return np.concatenate([dI_dt, dtheta_dt])
60
61     # Integrate
62     sol = solve_ivp(hamiltonian_flow,
63                     (0, T_max),
64                     initial_conditions,
65                     method='DOP853', # High-accuracy
66                     rtol=1e-12, atol=1e-14)
67
68     # Extract action variables
69     dimension = len(initial_conditions) // 2
70     I_trajectory = sol.y[:dimension, :]
71     I_initial = initial_conditions[:dimension]
72
73     # Compute maximum deviation
74     max_deviation = np.max(np.linalg.norm(I_trajectory - I_initial[:,
75                                         np.newaxis], axis=0))
76
77     # Compare to Nekhoroshev bound
78     bound_satisfied = max_deviation < nekhoroshev_bound
79
80     return {
81         'max_deviation': max_deviation,
82         'nekhoroshev_bound': nekhoroshev_bound,
83         'bound_satisfied': bound_satisfied,
84         'safety_factor': nekhoroshev_bound / max_deviation if
85                         max_deviation > 0 else float('inf'),
86         'integration_time': T_max,
87         'n_timesteps': len(sol.t)
88     }

```

0.3.6 Phase 6 (Months 8-9): Certificate Generation and Export

Goal: Generate machine-checkable certificates for all stability results.

```

1  import json
2  from dataclasses import dataclass, asdict
3
4  @dataclass
5  class NekhoroshevCertificate:
6      """Complete Nekhoroshev stability certificate."""
7
8      # System identification
9      hamiltonian_name: str
10     dimension: int
11     perturbation_parameter: float
12
13     # Steepness certificate
14     is_steep: bool
15     steepness_constant: float

```

```

16     steepness_proof_method: str # 'interval_arithmetic', 'SOS',
    'symbolic'
17
18     # Nekhoroshev constants
19     exponent_a: float
20     exponent_b: float
21     constant_C: float
22
23     # Stability estimates
24     exponential_time_normalized: float
25     exponential_time_years: float
26     diffusion_bound: float
27
28     # Verification
29     numerical_validation: bool
30     max_deviation_observed: float
31     integration_time_years: float
32
33     # Metadata
34     computation_date: str
35     precision_digits: int
36     certificate_version: str
37
38     def export_json(self, filename: str):
39         """Export certificate to JSON."""
40         with open(filename, 'w') as f:
41             json.dump(asdict(self), f, indent=2)
42
43     def verify(self) -> bool:
44         """Self-check certificate validity."""
45         checks = [
46             self.is_steep,
47             self.steepness_constant > 0,
48             self.exponent_a > 0,
49             self.exponent_b > 0,
50             self.exponential_time_normalized > 0,
51             self.diffusion_bound > 0
52         ]
53
54         if self.numerical_validation:
55             checks.append(self.max_deviation_observed <
56                           self.diffusion_bound)
57
58         return all(checks)
59
60     def generate_solar_system_certificate() -> NekhoroshevCertificate:
61         """
62         Generate complete Nekhoroshev certificate for solar system.
63         """
64         # Run all computations
65         steepness = kepler_hamiltonian_steepness(n_planets=8)
66         stability = solar_system_nekhoroshev_stability()
67
68         # Numerical validation (expensive use reduced time)
69         validation_time = 1e6 # 1 Myr (much less than T_exp but feasible)

```



```

70  # validation = compare_to_numerical_integration(...) # Commented
    for speed
71
72  cert = NekhoroshevCertificate(
73      hamiltonian_name='Solar System (8 planets)',
74      dimension=8,
75      perturbation_parameter=1e-3,
76
77      is_steep=steepness['is_steep'],
78      steepness_constant=steepness['steepness_constant'],
79      steepness_proof_method='interval_arithmetic',
80
81      exponent_a=stability['exponent_a'],
82      exponent_b=stability['exponent_b'],
83      constant_C=1.0,
84
85      exponential_time_normalized=stability['T_exp_years'] / 1e9, #
        In Gyr
86      exponential_time_years=stability['T_exp_years'],
87      diffusion_bound=1e-3**stability['exponent_b'], # AU
88
89      numerical_validation=False, # Set to True after running
        validation
90      max_deviation_observed=0.0,
91      integration_time_years=validation_time,
92
93      computation_date='2026-01-17',
94      precision_digits=100,
95      certificate_version='1.0'
96  )
97
98  return cert

```

Validation: Export certificate, verify all fields satisfy logical constraints.

0.4 4. Example Starting Prompt

Prompt for AI System:

You are tasked with applying Nekhoroshev stability theory to verify exponential-time stability of the solar system. Your goal is to:

- **Verify Steepness** (Months 1-2):
- Construct the integrable Hamiltonian $H = -GMm/(2I)$ for 8 planets
- Compute the Hessian $^2H/I^2$ symbolically using SymPy
- Prove steepness by showing all eigenvalues are positive using interval arithmetic
- Generate a steepness certificate with rigorous bounds: $\min \text{eigenvalue} > C > 0$
- **Analyze Perturbations** (Months 2-3):
- Construct the perturbation Hamiltonian H representing planet-planet gravitational interactions

- Expand H in action-angle coordinates using Delaunay elements
- Compute Fourier coefficients H for $|k| \leq 10$ using symbolic integration
- Identify dominant resonances (e.g., Jupiter-Saturn 5:2 Great Inequality)
- Estimate resonance widths: $\propto (|H|)$
- **Compute Exponential Times** (Months 3-4):
- Determine optimal Nekhoroshev exponents for $n=8$ dimensions: $a = 1/(2n) = 1/16$
- Calculate exponential stability time: $T_{exp} = \exp((1/a)^a)$ with $a = 10^{-3}$
- Convert to physical units: $T_{exp} 10^{13}$ years
- Compare to solar system age (4.5 Gyr) and verify stability margin $> 10^3$
- **Prove Diffusion Bounds** (Months 4-6):
- Use interval arithmetic to propagate action variables forward in time
- Prove $|I(t) - I(0)| < b = (10^{-3})^{1/16} 0.7 \text{ AU}$ for $t < T_{exp}$
- Generate certificate with rigorous error bounds using mpmath (100-digit precision)
- Validate against numerical integration of Hamilton's equations over 1 Myr
- **Optimize Constants** (Months 6-8):
- Search for optimal (largest) exponent a achieving desired stability time
- Compare to best-known theoretical results (Niederman 2004, Guzzo et al. 2011)
- Identify sharpness: is $a = 1/(2n)$ optimal or can it be improved?
- **Certificate Generation** (Months 8-9):
- Create NekhoroshevCertificate object containing all results
- Export to JSON with interval arithmetic bounds and metadata
- Self-verify certificate: check all constraints satisfied
- Compare to literature: reproduce Guzzo et al. (2005) T_{exp} estimates for Jupiter – Saturn

Success Criteria:

- **Minimum Viable Result** (2-4 months): Steepness verified for Kepler Hamiltonian, basic exponential time estimate
- **Strong Result** (6-8 months): Full solar system analysis with rigorous diffusion bounds and numerical validation
- **Publication-Quality Result** (9 months): Optimal exponents, comparison to literature, machine-checkable certificates

Key Constraints:

- Use *ONLY* symbolic mathematics and interval arithmetic (no floating-point until final validation)
- All bounds must be certified with explicit error margins
- Compare to at least 3 literature sources (Nekhoroshev 1977, Niederman 2004, Guzzo+ 2011)
- Generate JSON export for certificate database

References:

- Nekhoroshev (1977): Original theorem and proof outline
- Niederman (2004): Optimal exponents and steepness conditions
- Guzzo, Lega, Froeschlé (2005): Solar system application and numerical validation
- Morbidelli (2002): Modern Celestial Mechanics textbook treatment

Begin by symbolically computing the Hessian of the Kepler Hamiltonian and proving steepness using interval arithmetic.

0.5 5. Success Criteria

0.5.1 Minimum Viable Result (Months 1-4)

Core Achievements:

- Symbolic Hessian computation for n -planet Kepler Hamiltonian
- Steepness verification: $\min \text{eigenvalue} > 0$ certified via interval arithmetic
- Basic exponential time estimate: $T_{exp} = \exp((1/)^{1/(2n)})$ for solar system
- Comparison to solar system age: verify $T_{exp} < 4.5 \text{ Gyr}$

Validation:

- Reproduce steepness for 2-planet system (Jupiter-Saturn)
- Match literature value $T_{exp} \approx 10^{13} \text{ years}$ for 8-planet system

Deliverables:

- Python module `nekhoroshev.py` with steepness checker and exponential time calculator
- Jupyter notebook demonstrating solar system application
- JSON certificate for Jupiter-Saturn system

0.5.2 Strong Result (Months 4-8)

Extended Capabilities:

- *Fourier analysis of planetary perturbation Hamiltonian H*
- *Resonance width calculations for all $|k| \leq 10$*
- *Rigorous action diffusion bounds: $|I(t) - I(0)| < \epsilon$ certified via interval propagation*
- *Numerical validation: integrate Hamilton's equations over 1 Myr, verify bound satisfied*
- *Comparison to 3+ literature sources (Nekhoroshev 1977, Niederman 2004, Guzzo+ 2005)*

Publications Benchmark:

- *Reproduce Figures 2-4 from Guzzo et al. (2005) showing action diffusion vs time*
- *Match resonance widths to within 10*

Deliverables:

- *Full Nekhoroshev Certificate for 8-planet solar system*
- *Validation report comparing analytical bounds to numerical integration*
- *Database of resonance widths for 100+ resonances*

0.5.3 Publication-Quality Result (Months 8-9)

Novel Contributions:

- *Optimal exponent determination: maximize a subject to $T_{\epsilon} \geq 10 \text{ Gyr}$ constraint*
- *Sharpness analysis: compare a_{opt} to theoretical lower bounds*
- *Extension to other planetary systems: apply to extrasolar systems (e.g., Kepler-90, TRAPPIST-1)*
- *Formal verification: translate steepness proofs to Lean or Isabelle*
- *Public database: 50+ Nekhoroshev certificates for diverse Hamiltonian systems*

Beyond Literature:

- *Improve exponents beyond Niederman (2004) for specific system classes*
- *Discover new resonances affecting long-term stability*
- *Develop automated pipeline: Hamiltonian \rightarrow certificate (no human intervention)*

Deliverables:

- *Arxiv preprint: "Rigorous Nekhoroshev Stability Certificates for Planetary Systems"*
 - *GitHub repository with 500+ test cases*
 - *Interactive web tool: input planetary masses/orbits \rightarrow get T_{ϵ} estimate*
-

0.6 6. Verification Protocol

```

1  def verify_nekhoroshev_results(certificate:
2      NekhoroshevCertificate) -> dict:
3      """
4          Automated verification of Nekhoroshev certificate.
5
6          Checks:
7          1. Steepness constraint satisfied
8          2. Exponents in valid range
9          3. Exponential time formula correct
10         4. Diffusion bound formula correct
11         5. Numerical validation matches bound
12         """
13         results = {}
14
15         # Check 1: Steepness
16         results['steepness_valid'] = (
17             certificate.is_steep and
18             certificate.steepness_constant > 0
19         )
20
21         # Check 2: Exponents
22         n = certificate.dimension
23         a_expected = 1 / (2 * n)
24         results['exponent_a_reasonable'] = (
25             0.01 < certificate.exponent_a <= a_expected
26         )
27
28         results['exponent_b_reasonable'] = (
29             0 < certificate.exponent_b <= certificate.exponent_a
30         )
31
32         # Check 3: Exponential time formula
33         epsilon = certificate.perturbation_parameter
34         a = certificate.exponent_a
35         T_exp_recomputed = certificate.constant_C *
36             np.exp((1/epsilon)**a)
37
38         results['exponential_time_correct'] = (
39             abs(T_exp_recomputed -
40                 certificate.exponential_time_normalized) /
41                 certificate.exponential_time_normalized < 0.01
42         )
43
44         # Check 4: Diffusion bound formula
45         b = certificate.exponent_b
46         diffusion_bound_recomputed = epsilon**b
47
48         results['diffusion_bound_correct'] = (
49             abs(diffusion_bound_recomputed -
50                 certificate.diffusion_bound) /
51                 certificate.diffusion_bound < 0.01
52         )
53
54         # Check 5: Numerical validation

```

```

51     if certificate.numerical_validation:
52         results['numerical_bound_satisfied'] = (
53             certificate.max_deviation_observed <
54             certificate.diffusion_bound
55         )
56     else:
57         results['numerical_bound_satisfied'] = None # Not tested
58
59     # Overall verdict
60     results['all_checks_passed'] = all(
61         v for v in results.values() if v is not None
62     )
63
64     return results
65
66 def compare_to_literature_benchmarks(our_results: dict,
67                                     source: str = 'Guzzo2005') ->
68     dict:
69     """
70     Compare our Nekhoroshev results to published benchmarks.
71     """
72     benchmarks = {
73         'Guzzo2005': {
74             'system': 'Jupiter-Saturn',
75             'T_exp_years': 1e13,
76             'exponent_a': 0.1,
77             'diffusion_bound_AU': 1e-2
78         },
79         'Niederman2004': {
80             'exponent_a_theoretical': lambda n: 1/(2*n),
81             'exponent_b_theoretical': lambda n: 1/(2*n)
82         }
83     }
84
85     if source not in benchmarks:
86         return {'error': f'Unknown source {source}'}
87
88     benchmark = benchmarks[source]
89
90     comparison = {}
91     for key, value in benchmark.items():
92         if key in our_results:
93             our_value = our_results[key]
94             relative_error = abs(our_value - value) / value
95             comparison[key] = {
96                 'ours': our_value,
97                 'literature': value,
98                 'relative_error': relative_error,
99                 'match': relative_error < 0.1 # 10% tolerance
100             }
101
102     return comparison

```

Validation Procedure:

- Run `verifynekhoroshevresults()` on generated certificate
 - Compare to Guzzo et al. (2005) benchmark values
 - Numerical integration: evolve 2-planet system for 1 Myr, check diffusion $<^b$
 - Cross-check exponents with Niederman (2004) theoretical bounds
-

0.7 7. Resources and Milestones

0.7.1 Essential References

- **Original Papers:**
- Nekhoroshev (1977): "An exponential estimate of the time of stability of nearly-integrable Hamiltonian systems"
- Niederman (2004): "Stability over exponentially long times in the planetary problem"
- Guzzo, Lega, Froeschlé (2005): "First numerical evidence of global Arnold diffusion in quasi-integrable systems"
- **Textbooks:**
- Morbidelli (2002): *Modern Celestial Mechanics*
- Arnold, Kozlov, Neishtadt (2006): *Mathematical Aspects of Classical and Celestial Mechanics*
- Giorgilli (2003): "Exponential stability of Hamiltonian systems"
- **Solar System Applications:**
- Laskar (1989): "A numerical experiment on the chaotic behaviour of the Solar System"
- Murray Dermott (1999): *Solar System Dynamics*

0.7.2 Common Pitfalls

- **Steepness too restrictive:** Not all physical Hamiltonians are convex; use quasi-convex definition
- **Exponent optimality:** $a = 1/(2n)$ is not always optimal; dimension-dependent improvements possible
- **Resonance overlap:** If resonances overlap (Chirikov criterion), Nekhoroshev theory fails
- **Numerical validation expensive:** Integrating N -body systems for Myr timescales requires high-precision symplectic integrators
- **Certificate validity:** Interval arithmetic bounds can become loose after many propagation steps

0.7.3 Milestone Checklist

Month 1: Symbolic Hessian computed for Kepler Hamiltonian

Month 2: Steepness certified via interval arithmetic for 2-planet system

Month 3: Fourier coefficients H computed for planetary perturbations

Month 3: Resonance widths estimated for $|k| \leq 10$

Month 4: Exponential time T_{exp} computed for 8-planet solar system

Month 5: Action diffusion bounds $|I(t) - I(0)| < \epsilon$ proven rigorously

Month 6: Numerical validation: integrate Hamilton's equations for 1 Myr

Month 7: Comparison to 3+ literature sources (errors $< 10^{-6}$)

Month 8: Optimal exponents a, b determined via optimization

Month 9: Complete certificate exported to JSON, self-verification passed

Month 9: Public database: 10+ planetary systems analyzed

0.7.4 Extensions

Immediate Extensions (post-MVR):

- *Non-convex Hamiltonians: develop quasi-convexity checkers for general systems*
- *Symplectic integrators: implement high-order methods for long-time validation*
- *Multi-scale perturbations: handle systems with disparate timescales (e.g., inner+outer planets)*

Research Frontiers:

- *Improve exponents: can $a > 1/(2n)$ be achieved for special classes?*
 - *Formal verification: translate steepness proofs to Lean/Isabelle*
 - *Machine learning: train models to predict T_{exp} from Hamiltonian structure*
 - *Quantum systems: extend Nekhoroshev theory to quantum Hamiltonians (FKPP theorem)*
-

0.8 8. Implementation Notes

0.8.1 Computational Requirements

- **Symbolic computation:** *SymPy for Hessians, Fourier integrals (may be slow for $n > 3$)*
- **Interval arithmetic:** *mpmath with 100-digit precision for certified bounds*
- **Numerical integration:** *SciPy's `solve_ivp` with DOP853 for validation ($rtol = 1e-12$)*
- **Optimization:** *SciPy's `minimize_scalar` for optimal exponent search*

Estimated Runtimes:

- *Steepness verification: 1 minute (symbolic), 10 minutes (interval arithmetic)*
- *Fourier coefficients: 1 hour per resonance (symbolic integration expensive)*
- *Exponential time: instant (formula evaluation)*
- *Numerical validation (1 Myr): 1 hour on single core (can parallelize)*

0.8.2 Software Dependencies

```
1 # requirements.txt
2 sympy >=1.12
3 numpy >=1.24
4 scipy >=1.11
5 mpmath >=1.3
6 matplotlib >=3.7
7 cvxpy >=1.4 # For SDP optimization (future extension)
```

0.8.3 Testing Strategy

- *Unit tests: Each function validated on toy Hamiltonians (harmonic oscillator, pendulum)*
- *Integration tests: Full pipeline tested on 2-planet system (Jupiter-Saturn)*
- *Regression tests: Compare to cached results from literature*
- *Property tests: Verify mathematical identities (e.g., symplectic flow preserves H)*

End of PRD 28