

Astronomy 400B Lab 1

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1 Part A: Local Standard of Rest

The Proper motion of Sgr A* from Reid & Brunthaler 2004 $\mu = 6.379$ mas/yr

Peculiar motion of the sun, $v_{\odot} = 12.24$ km/s (Schonrich 2010)

$$v_{tan} = 4.74 \frac{\mu}{\text{mas/yr}} \frac{R_o}{\text{kpc}} = V_{LSR} + v_{\odot} \quad (1)$$

1.1

Create a function called VLSR to compute the local standard of res (V_{LSR}).

The function should take as input: the solar radius (R_o), the proper motion (μ) and the peculiar motion of the sun in the v_{\odot} direction.

Compute V_{LSR} using three different values R_o :

1. Water Maser Distance for the Sun : $R_o = 8.34$ kpc (Reid 2014 ApJ 783)
2. GRAVITY Collaboration Distance for the Sun: $R_o = 8.178$ kpc (Abuter+2019 A&A 625)
3. Value for Distance to Sun listed in Sparke & Gallagher : $R_o = 7.9$ kpc

1.2

Compute the orbital period of the sun using R_o from the GRAVITY Collaboration (assume circular orbit)

Note that $1 \text{ km/s} \sim 1 \text{ kpc/Gyr}$

1.3

Compute the number of rotations about the GC over the age of the universe (13.8 Gyr)

2 Dark Matter Profiles

2.1

Try out Fitting Rotation Curves:

<http://wittman.physics.ucdavis.edu/Animations/RotationCurve/GalacticRotation.html>

2.2

In the Isothermal Sphere model, what is the mass enclosed within the solar radius in units of $10^{10} M_{\odot}$?

Where $G = 4.4988 \times 10^{-6} \text{ kpc}^3/\text{Gyr}^2/M_{\odot}$

What about at 260 kpc (in units of $10^{12} M_{\odot}$) ?

2.3

The Leo I satellite is one of the fastest moving Milky Way satellite galaxies we know.

$V_{\text{tot}} = 196 \text{ km/s}$ at a distance of 260 kpc (Sohn 2013 ApJ 768)

If we assume that Leo I is moving at the escape speed:

$$v_{\text{esc}}^2 = 2|\Phi| = 2 \int G \frac{\rho(r)}{r} dV \quad (2)$$

and assuming the Milky Way is well modeled by a Hernquist Sphere with a scale radius of 30 kpc, what is the minimum mass of the Milky Way (in units of $10^{12} M_{\odot}$) ?

How does this compare to estimates of the mass assuming the Isothermal Sphere model at 260 kpc (from your answer above)?