

# Stellar orbits

**1<sup>st</sup> part**

# Outlines

## Idealized but useful models

- infinite slab with oscillatory surface density, tightly wound spiral

## Orbits

- some generalities

## Lagrangian and Hamiltonian mechanics

- Euler-Lagrange equations
- Hamilton's equations

## Orbits in spherical potentials

- angular momentum conservation
- equations of motion
- radial orbits
- non radial orbits

## Examples of orbits in spherical potentials

- Keplerian orbits
- orbits in an homogeneous sphere
- important remarks

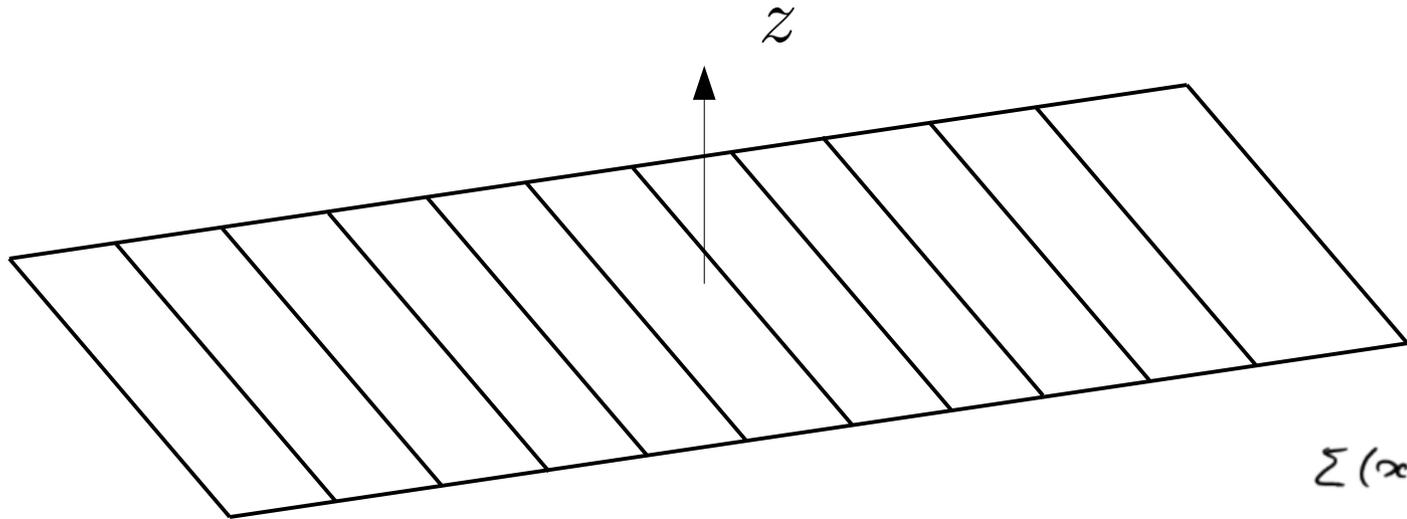
# Potential Theory

**Idealized but useful models**



NGC 1232

# Potential of an infinite slab with an oscillatory surface density



$$k = |\vec{k}| = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda}$$

$$\Sigma(x, y) = \Sigma_1 \operatorname{Re} \left( e^{i(\vec{k} \cdot \vec{x})} \right)$$

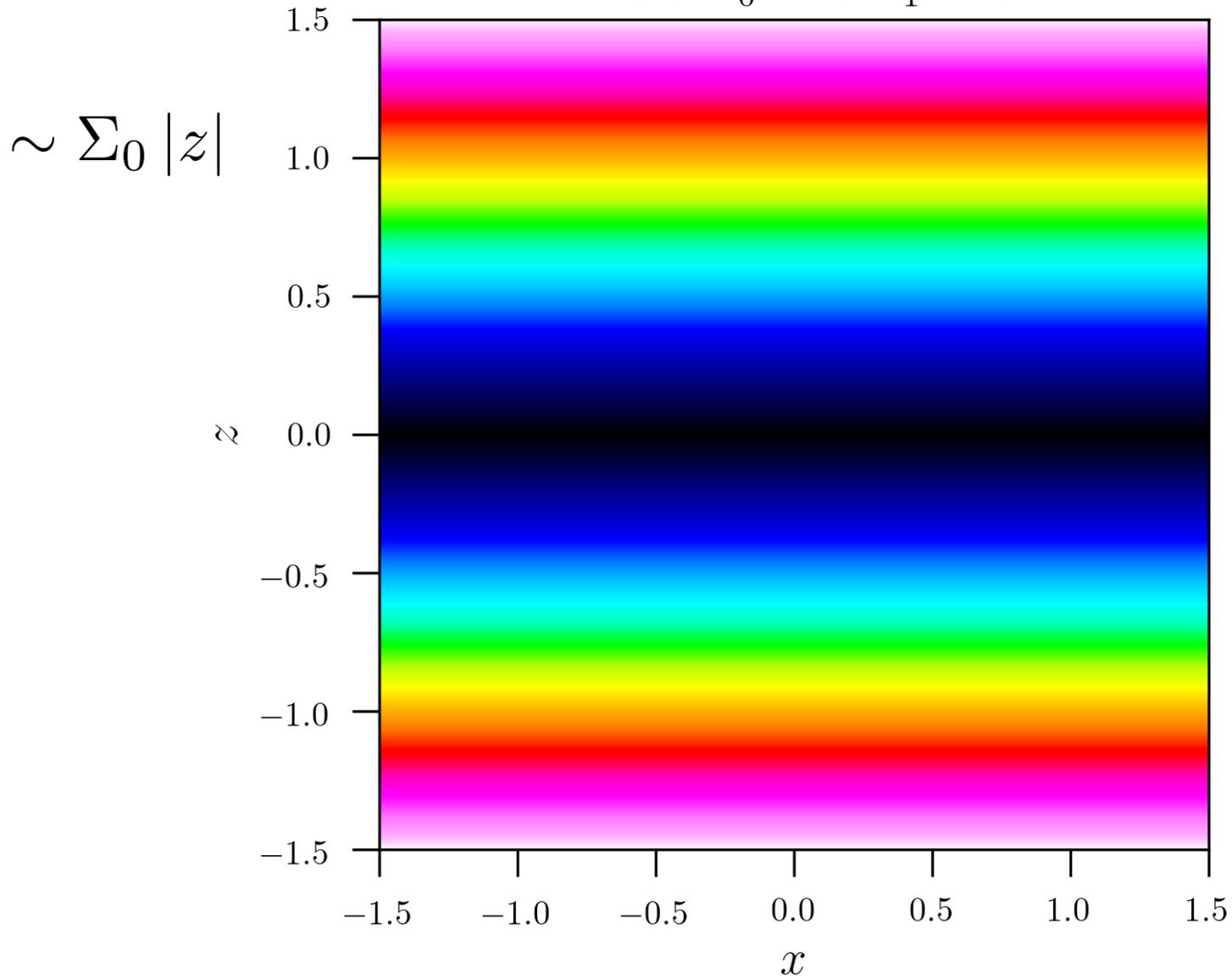
**! will be negative !**

$$\Phi(x, y, z) = -\frac{2\pi G \Sigma_1}{|\vec{k}|} \operatorname{Re} \left( e^{i(\vec{k} \cdot \vec{x})} \right) e^{-|\vec{k}| z}$$

# Potential of an Infinite slab

$$\Sigma(x) = \Sigma_0 + \Sigma_1 \operatorname{Re}(e^{ikx})$$

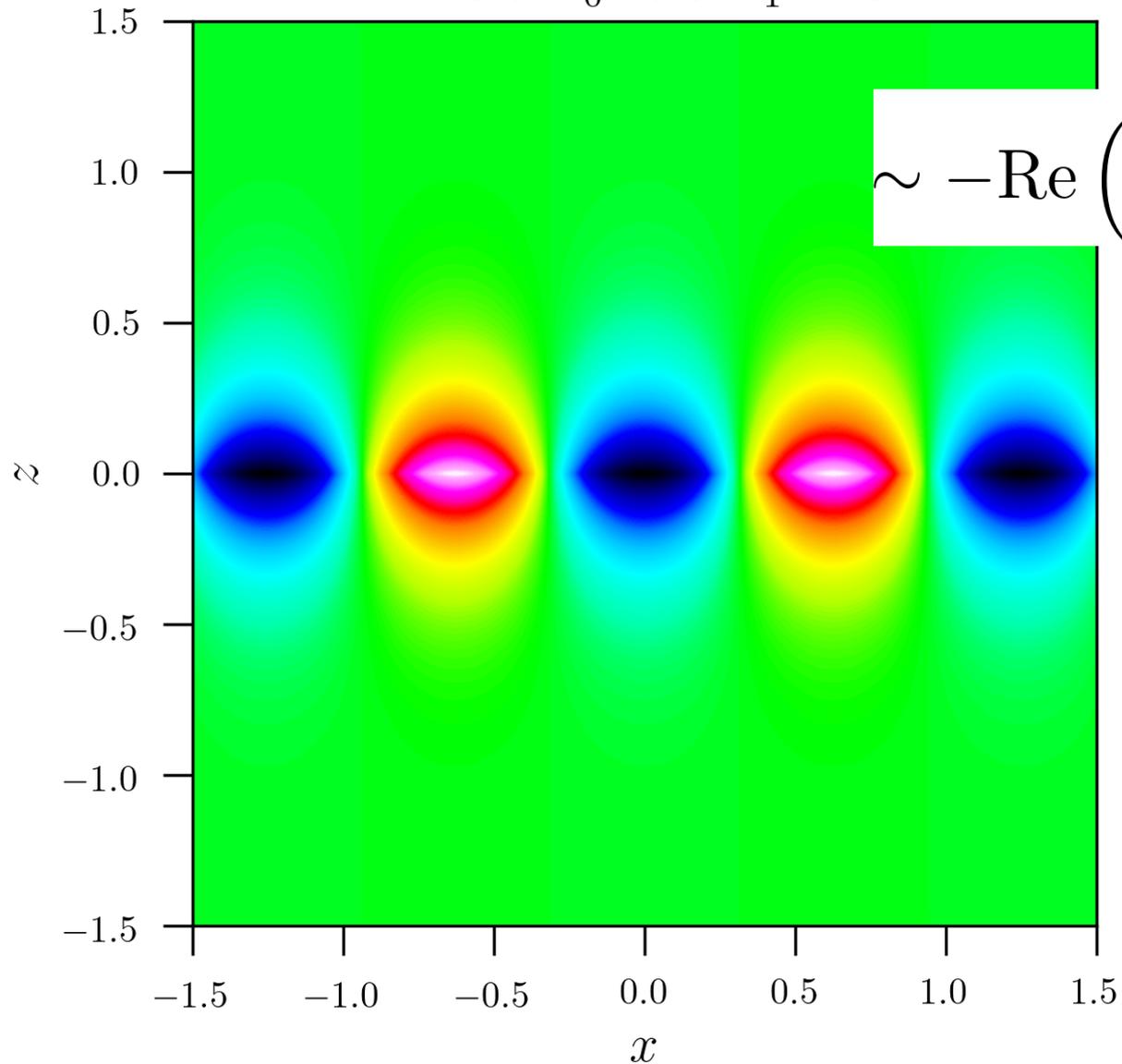
$$k=5.0 \quad \Sigma_0=1.0 \quad \Sigma_1=0.0$$



# Potential of an Infinite slab

$$\Sigma(x) = \Sigma_0 + \Sigma_1 \operatorname{Re} (e^{ikx})$$

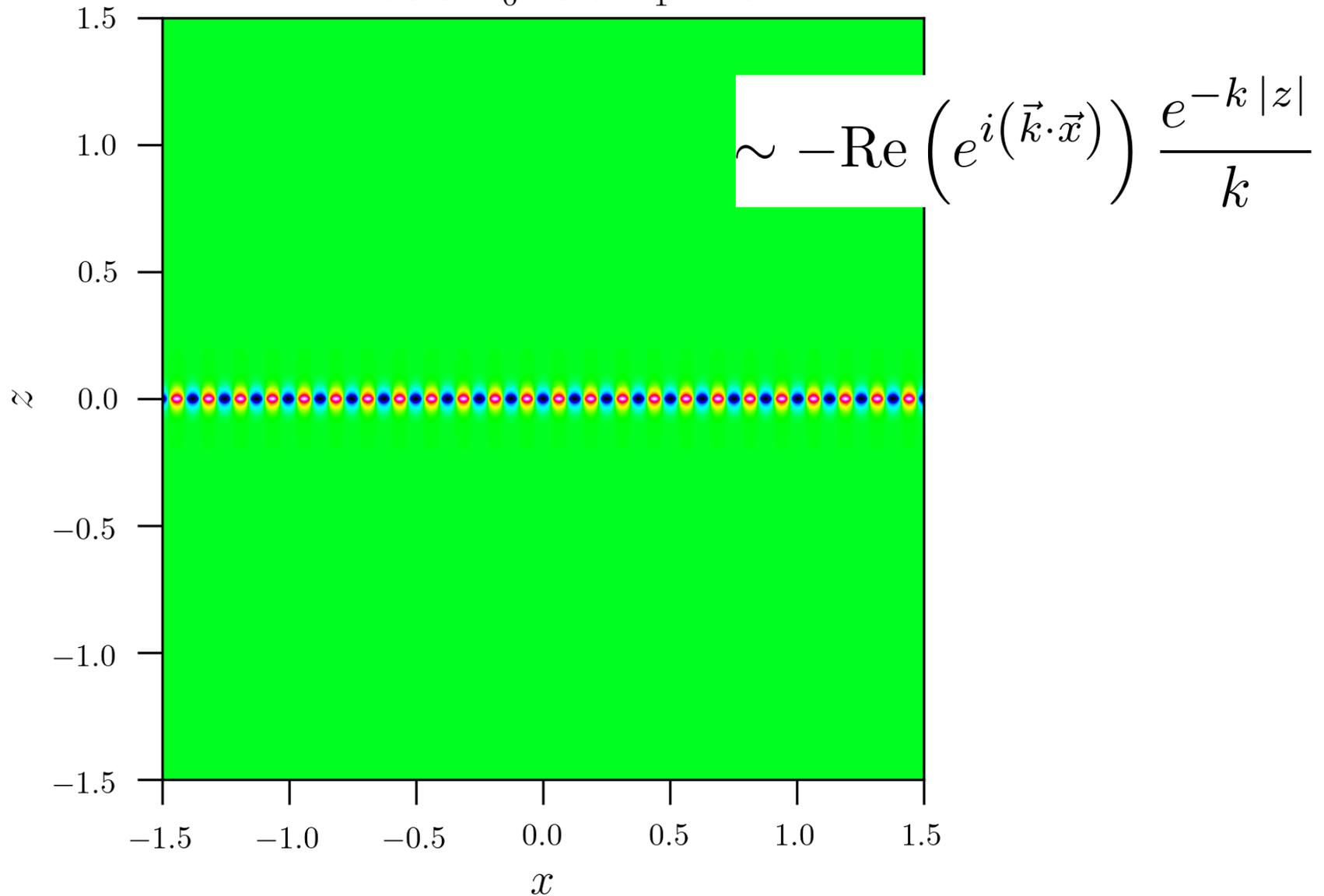
$$k=5.0 \quad \Sigma_0=0.0 \quad \Sigma_1=1.0$$



# Potential of an Infinite slab

$$\Sigma(x) = \Sigma_0 + \Sigma_1 \operatorname{Re} (e^{ikx})$$

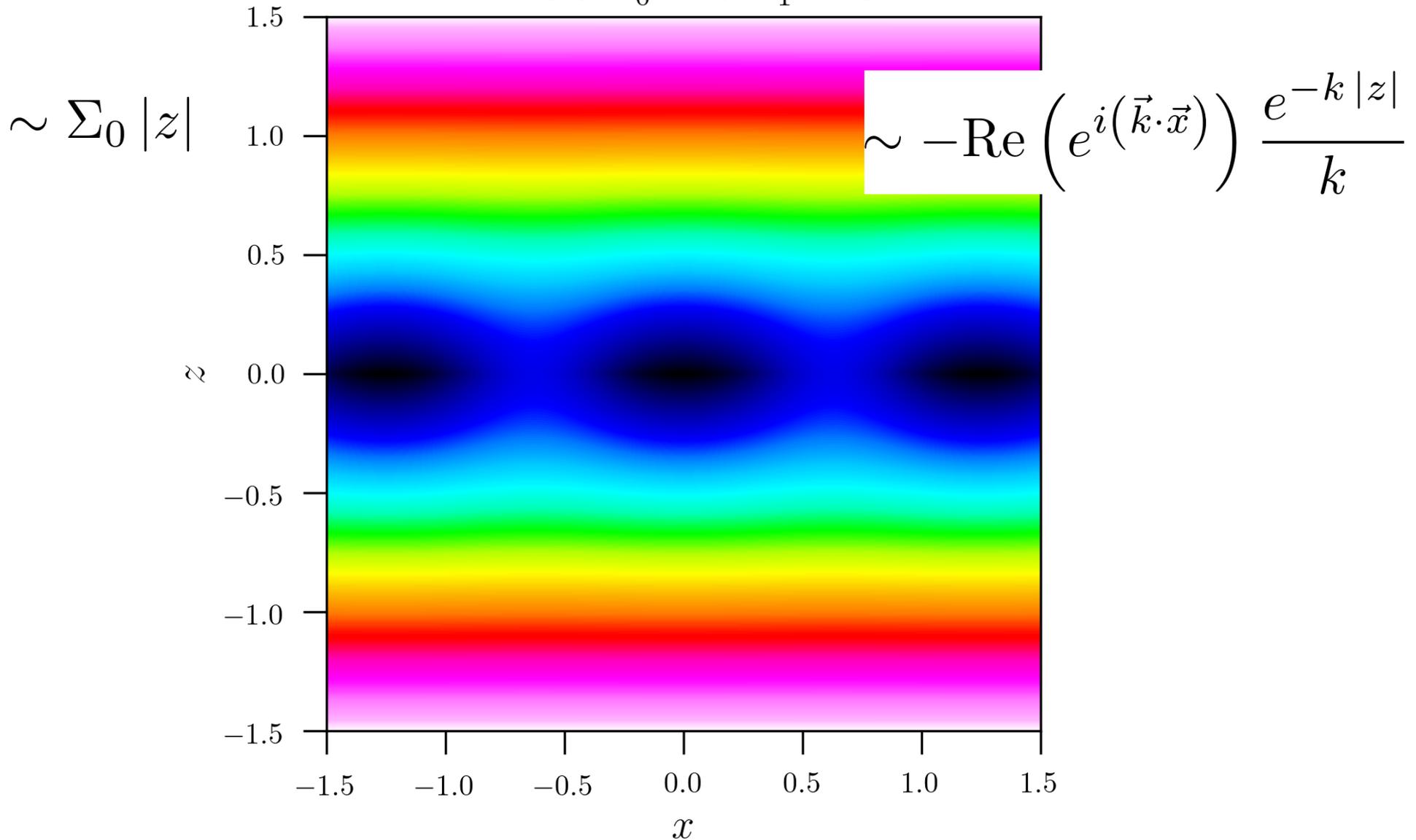
$$k=50.0 \quad \Sigma_0=0.0 \quad \Sigma_1=1.0$$



# Potential of an Infinite slab

$$\Sigma(x) = \Sigma_0 + \Sigma_1 \operatorname{Re} (e^{ikx})$$

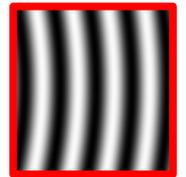
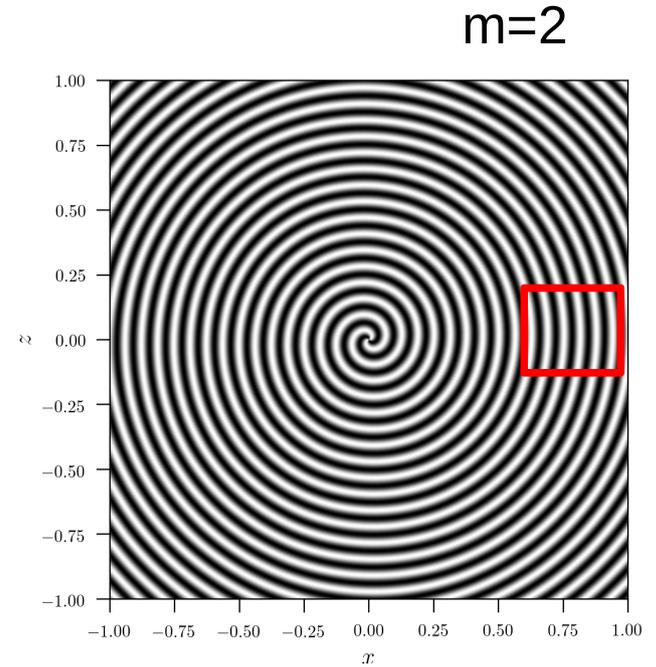
$$k=5.0 \quad \Sigma_0=1.0 \quad \Sigma_1=1.0$$



# Potential of an infinite slab with a tightly wound spiral pattern

$$\Sigma(R, \phi) = H(R) \operatorname{Re} \left( e^{i[m\phi + f(R)]} \right)$$

if  $\left| \frac{\partial f}{\partial R} \cdot R \right| \ll 1$       WKB approximation  
(Wentzel, Kramers, Brillouin)



$$\Phi(R, \phi) = -\frac{2\pi G \Sigma_0}{\left| \frac{\partial f}{\partial R} \right|} H(R) \operatorname{Re} \left( e^{if(R)} \right) e^{-\left| \frac{\partial f}{\partial R} \cdot z \right|}$$

# Potential of an infinite slab with a tightly wound spiral pattern

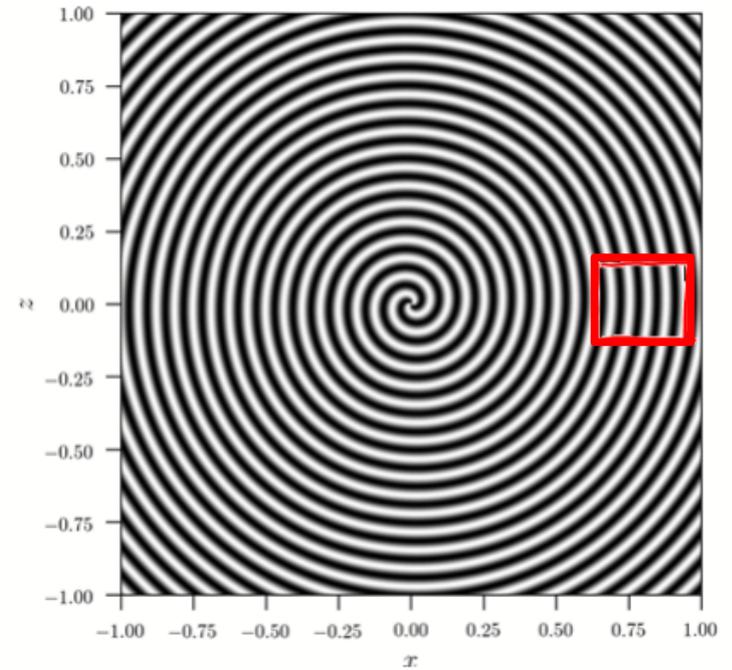
$m=2$

$$\Sigma(R, \phi) = \text{Re} \left( \underbrace{U(R)}_{\text{slow variation}} \underbrace{e^{i(m\theta + f(R))}}_{\text{rapid variation}} \right)$$

Note

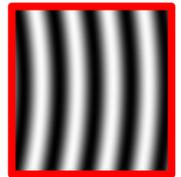
$$m\theta + f(R) = \text{cte}$$

describe a spiral  $f(R) = \text{shape function}$



Idea: WKB approximation

far from the center,  $\Sigma$  is nearly  $\sim e^{i(kx)}$



Indeed

Developing  $f(R)$  around  $R_0$  gives

$$f(R) \approx f(R_0) + \left. \frac{\partial f}{\partial R} \right|_{R_0} (R - R_0)$$

COMPLEMENT

For  $\theta = 0$

$$\Sigma(R, \theta) = \underbrace{U(R_0)}_{\text{no radial dependency}} e^{i\psi(R_0)} e^{i \left. \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial R} \right|_{R_0} (R - R_0)}$$

no radial  
dependency

$$e^{ikx} \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} k = \left. \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial R} \right|_{R_0} \\ x = R - R_0 \end{array} \right.$$

We directly have the solution from the infinite slab

---

$$\phi(R, \theta) = - \frac{2\pi G}{\left| \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial R} \right|} U(R_0) e^{i\psi(R_0)} e^{i \left. \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial R} \right|_{R_0} (R - R_0)} e^{-\left| \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial R} \right| z}$$

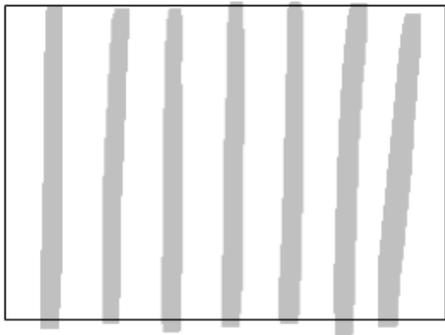
Choosing  $R_0 = R$

$$\phi(R, \theta) = - \frac{2\pi G}{\left| \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial R} \right|} U(R) e^{i\psi(R)} e^{-\left| \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial R} \right| z}$$

## Validity of the approximation

---

- we want a large number of "oscillations" over a small radius compared to  $R$



$\sim R$

$$\left| \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial R} \right| \cdot R \gg 1$$

**Orbits**

**Generalities**

# Stellar orbits

## Why studying stellar orbits ?

- understand the motion of stars in stellar systems and galaxies
  - understand the observed kinematics
  - constraints the mass model
- orbits are the backbone of galaxies !

## We will assume :

- a smoothed gravitational field

# Stellar orbits

## Definitions

- trajectory solution of the equation of motion

$$\ddot{\vec{x}} = -\vec{\nabla}\Phi(\vec{x})$$

defined on a finite interval:

$$\vec{x}(t), \vec{x}(t_0) = \vec{x}_0, \dot{\vec{x}}(t_0) = \dot{\vec{x}}_0, t \in [t_0, t_1]$$

- orbit a trajectory defined on an infinite time interval

$$\vec{x}(t), \vec{x}(t_0) = \vec{x}_0, \dot{\vec{x}}(t_0) = \dot{\vec{x}}_0, t \in [-\infty, \infty[$$

- periodic orbit a closed orbit

$$\forall t, \exists T, \vec{x}(t + T) = \vec{x}(t), \dot{\vec{x}}(t + T) = \dot{\vec{x}}(t)$$

- stationary point a point such that:

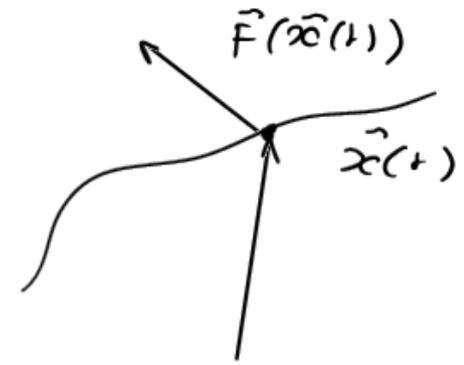
$$\ddot{\vec{x}} = \dot{\vec{x}} = 0$$

**Stellar orbits**

**Lagrangian and Hamiltonian  
mechanics**

## Lagrangian Mechanics

Assume a mass point moving in a force field  $\vec{F}(\vec{x})$



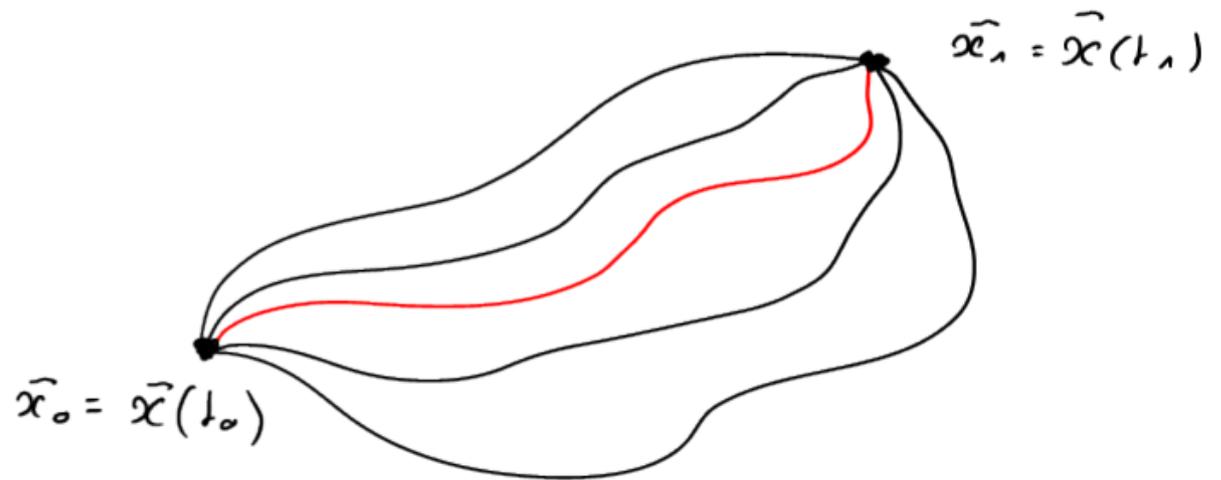
Definition Lagrangian, a scalar function of  $\vec{x}, \dot{\vec{x}}, t$

$$\mathcal{L}(\vec{x}, \dot{\vec{x}}, t) = K - V = \frac{1}{2} m \dot{\vec{x}}^2 - V(\vec{x}, t)$$

# Principle of least action or Hamiltonian principle

---

The motion of the particle from  $\vec{x}_0$  to  $\vec{x}_1$  is along a curve  $\vec{x}(t)$  such that  $\vec{x}(t_0) = \vec{x}_0$ ,  $\vec{x}(t_1) = \vec{x}_1$  that is an extremal of the action  $I$ .



$$I = \int_{t_0}^{t_1} L(\vec{x}, \dot{\vec{x}}, t) dt = \int_{t_0}^{t_1} K(t) - V(t) dt$$

## Euler - Lagrange equation

The trajectory is an extremal of  $I$  if and only if

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{\vec{x}}} \right) - \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \vec{x}} = 0$$

With cartesian coordinates, we get:

$$m \ddot{\vec{x}} = - \vec{\nabla} V(\vec{x})$$

which is nothing else than  
the second Newton law.

However:  $\mathcal{L}$  can be a function of arbitrary coordinates  
 $(\tilde{q}, \dot{\tilde{q}})$  "generalized" coordinates  $\mathcal{L}(\tilde{q}, \dot{\tilde{q}})$ .

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{\tilde{q}}} \right) - \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \tilde{q}} = 0$$

Lagrange's equations

We can easily write equations of motions in any coord. system.

## Hamiltonian mechanics

Note : Lagrangian mechanics generate 2<sup>nd</sup> order differential equations

$$m\ddot{\vec{x}} = -\vec{\nabla}V(\vec{x})$$

It is always possible to split a 2<sup>nd</sup> order differential equation into two first order differential equations.

This is what is done in Hamiltonian mechanics

## Definition

- ① For  $\vec{q}, \dot{\vec{q}}$ , a set of generalized coordinates, the generalized momentum are :

$$\vec{p} := \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{\vec{q}}}$$

Note : inverting  $\vec{p} = \vec{p}(\vec{q}, \dot{\vec{q}})$ , it is possible to write  $\dot{\vec{q}} = \dot{\vec{q}}(\vec{p}, \vec{q})$

- ② Hamiltonian      The scalar function

$$H(\vec{q}, \vec{p}, t) := \vec{p} \cdot \dot{\vec{q}} - \mathcal{L}(\vec{q}, \dot{\vec{q}}, t)$$

Note :  $\dot{\vec{q}}$  is replaced by  $\vec{q}, \vec{p}$  through the definition of  $\vec{p}$

# Hamilton Equations

$$H(\vec{q}, \vec{p}, t) = \vec{p} \cdot \dot{\vec{q}} - \mathcal{L}(\vec{q}, \dot{\vec{q}}, t)$$

$$\text{with } \dot{\vec{q}} = \dot{\vec{q}}(\vec{q}, \vec{p})$$

$$\textcircled{1} \quad \frac{\partial H}{\partial \vec{p}} = \dot{\vec{q}} + \vec{p} \cancel{\frac{\partial \dot{\vec{q}}}{\partial \vec{p}}} - \underbrace{\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{\vec{q}}}}_{:= \vec{p}} \frac{\partial \dot{\vec{q}}}{\partial \vec{p}}$$

$$\boxed{\frac{\partial H}{\partial \vec{p}} = \dot{\vec{q}}}$$

$$\textcircled{2} \quad \frac{\partial H}{\partial \vec{q}} = - \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \vec{q}}$$

$$\boxed{\frac{\partial H}{\partial \vec{q}} = - \dot{\vec{p}}}$$

$$\text{with EL : } \frac{d}{dt} \left( \underbrace{\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{\vec{q}}}}_{\vec{p}} \right) - \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \vec{q}} = 0$$

$$\textcircled{3} \quad \boxed{\frac{\partial H}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial t}}$$

In conclusion, we have transformed a set of 2<sup>nd</sup> order differential equations into 2x more 1<sup>st</sup> order differential equations:

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{q} &= \frac{\partial H}{\partial p} \\ \dot{p} &= -\frac{\partial H}{\partial q}\end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial t} = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial t}$$

Hamilton's equations

## Hamiltonian conservation

Lets compute the time derivative of  $H(\vec{q}, \vec{p}, t)$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} H(\vec{q}, \vec{p}, t) &= \frac{\partial H}{\partial \vec{q}} \frac{d\vec{q}}{dt} + \frac{\partial H}{\partial \vec{p}} \frac{d\vec{p}}{dt} + \frac{\partial H}{\partial t} \\ &= \dot{\vec{p}} \cdot \dot{\vec{q}} + \dot{\vec{q}} \cdot \dot{\vec{p}} = 0 \end{aligned}$$

If  $\mathcal{L}$  is time independant, i.e.  $\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}(\vec{q}, \dot{\vec{q}})$   
( $\equiv V(\vec{q})$  is time independant)

$\Rightarrow$

By construction,  $H(\vec{q}, \vec{p})$  is conserved along a trajectory

# Mauupertuis principle

The Hamilton principle

For a constant energy  $H$

first variation

$$\delta \int_{t_0}^{t_1} L(\vec{q}, \dot{\vec{q}}, t) dt = 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} \delta \int_{t_0}^{t_1} L(\vec{q}, \dot{\vec{q}}, t) dt &= \delta \int_{t_0}^{t_1} L(\vec{q}, \dot{\vec{q}}, t) + H(\vec{q}, \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{\vec{q}}}) dt \\ &= \delta \int_{t_0}^{t_1} L(\vec{q}, \dot{\vec{q}}, t) + \vec{p} \cdot \dot{\vec{q}} - L(\vec{q}, \dot{\vec{q}}, t) dt \\ &= \delta \int_{t_0}^{t_1} \vec{p} \cdot \dot{\vec{q}} dt = \delta \int_{\vec{q}_0}^{\vec{q}_1} \vec{p} \cdot d\vec{q} \end{aligned}$$

change of variable  $d\vec{q} = \dot{\vec{q}} \cdot dt$

Mauupertuis principle

So

$$\delta \int_{\vec{q}_0}^{\vec{q}_1} \vec{p} \cdot d\vec{q} = 0$$

## Definitions

for a system with  $n$ -dimensions

## Configuration space

$(q_1 \dots q_n)$

$n$ -dimensions

## Momentum space

$(p_1 \dots p_n)$

$n$ -dimensions

## Phase space

$(q_1 \dots q_n, p_1 \dots p_n)$

$2n$ -dimensions

$\equiv (w_1 \dots w_{2n})$

## Note

As Hamilton's equations are 1<sup>st</sup> order differential equations, a trajectory is uniquely defined by a point in the phase space



## Poisson brackets

two operators  $A, B$

$$[A, B] := \frac{\partial A}{\partial \vec{q}} \frac{\partial B}{\partial \vec{p}} - \frac{\partial A}{\partial \vec{p}} \frac{\partial B}{\partial \vec{q}} = \sum_i \frac{\partial A}{\partial q_i} \frac{\partial B}{\partial p_i} - \frac{\partial A}{\partial p_i} \frac{\partial B}{\partial q_i}$$

## Hamilton's equations

$$\dot{w}_\alpha = [w_\alpha, H]$$

$$= \frac{\partial w_\alpha}{\partial \vec{q}} \frac{\partial H}{\partial \vec{p}} - \frac{\partial w_\alpha}{\partial \vec{p}} \frac{\partial H}{\partial \vec{q}}$$

$$\equiv \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \dot{q}_\alpha = \frac{\partial H}{\partial p_\alpha} \\ \dot{p}_\alpha = - \frac{\partial H}{\partial q_\alpha} \end{array} \right.$$

# Gradient of the phase space velocity

$$\vec{\nabla}_w \dot{w} = 0$$

$$\dot{w} = \begin{pmatrix} \dot{q}_j \\ \dot{p}_j \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\vec{\nabla}_w = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial}{\partial q_j} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial p_j} \end{pmatrix}$$

## Demonstration

$$\vec{\nabla}_w \dot{w} = \frac{\partial}{\partial \vec{q}} \dot{q}_j + \frac{\partial}{\partial \vec{p}} \dot{p}_j$$

Hamilton  
equations



$$= \frac{\partial}{\partial \vec{q}} \frac{\partial}{\partial \vec{p}} H - \frac{\partial}{\partial \vec{p}} \frac{\partial}{\partial \vec{q}} H = 0$$

#

## Time evolution operator



It is possible to define a time

evolution operator  $H_t$  that will bring  $(\tilde{q}_0, \tilde{p}_0)$  to  $(\tilde{q}(t), \tilde{p}(t))$

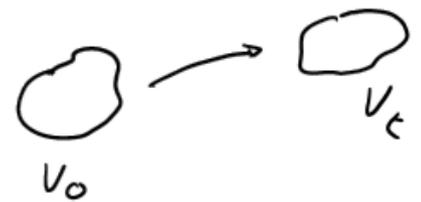
$$(\tilde{q}(t), \tilde{p}(t)) = H_t(\tilde{q}_0, \tilde{p}_0) \equiv \tilde{w}(t) = H_t(\tilde{w}_0)$$

$H_t$  will map :

- any 2D surface  $S_0$  in the phase space to an other 2D surface  $S_t$  in the phase space.



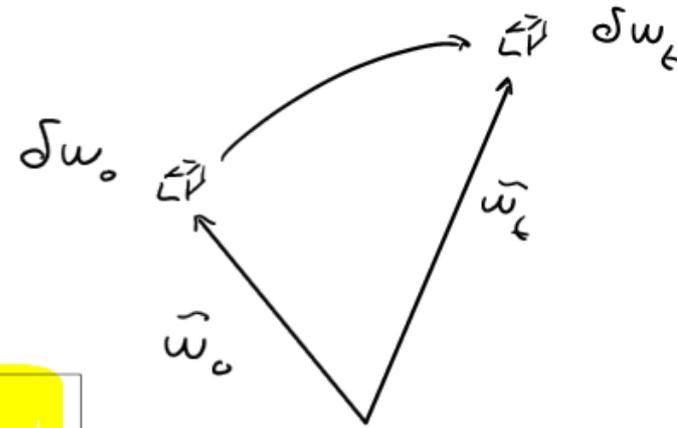
- any  $2N$ -D volume  $V_0$  in the phase space to an other  $2N$ -D volume  $V_t$  in the phase space.



## Phase space volume conservation

$$\delta w_0 = \delta w_t$$

The volume on any arbitrary region in phase space is conserved by a Hamiltonian flow.



## Poincaré invariant theorem

$$\iint_{S_0} d\tilde{q} \cdot d\tilde{p} = \iint_{S_t} d\tilde{q} \cdot d\tilde{p}$$

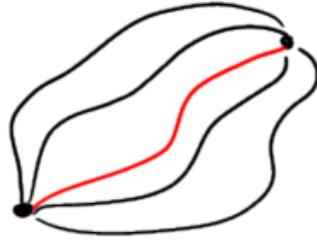


# Three visions of mechanics

① Newtonian

$$m \ddot{\tilde{x}} = \vec{F}(\tilde{x})$$

② Langrangian



③ Hamiltonian

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{\tilde{q}} &= \frac{\partial H}{\partial \tilde{p}} \\ \dot{\tilde{p}} &= -\frac{\partial H}{\partial \tilde{q}} \end{aligned}$$

Laplace paradigm  
specifying one point  
in the phase space  
at one moment in  
time  $(\tilde{x}(t_0), \tilde{v}(t_0))$   
is enough to determine  
the evolution of the  
system.

But  $\vec{v}$  is not local  
in time!

$\tilde{q}$  and  $\tilde{p}$  are!

## **Stellar orbits**

# **Orbits in Spherical Systems**

# Orbits in spherical potentials

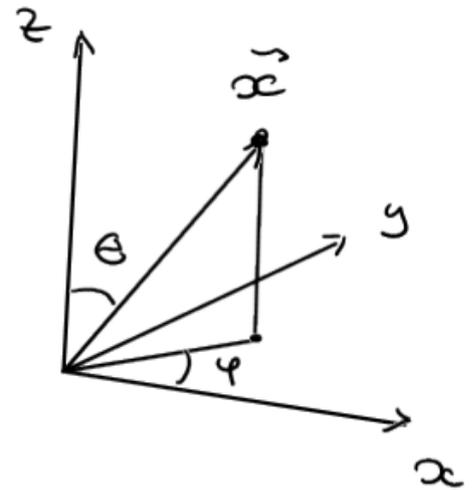
$$\phi(\vec{x}) = \phi(r)$$

## Spherical coordinates

$$\begin{cases} x = r \cos\varphi \sin\theta \\ y = r \sin\varphi \sin\theta \\ z = r \cos\theta \end{cases}$$

$$\vec{x} = r \vec{e}_r = \vec{r}$$

$$r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}$$



## Equation of motion (Newton law)

$$\frac{d^2}{dt^2}(\vec{x}) = \vec{g}(\vec{x}) \equiv g(r) \vec{e}_r$$

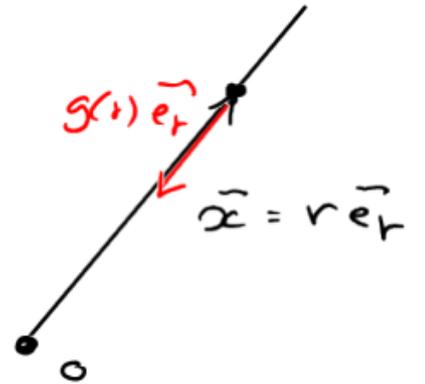
$$\begin{aligned} g(\vec{x}) &= -\vec{\nabla} \phi(\vec{x}) = -\frac{d}{dr} \phi(r) \vec{e}_r - \frac{1}{r} \frac{d}{d\theta} \phi(r) \vec{e}_\theta - \frac{1}{r \sin\theta} \frac{d}{d\varphi} \phi(r) \vec{e}_\varphi \\ &= g(r) \vec{e}_r \quad \text{with } g(r) = -\frac{d}{dr} \phi(r) \end{aligned}$$

The force generated by a spherical potential is central

## Angular momentum conservation

### Tork of the force

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{N} &::= \vec{x} \times \vec{F} = \vec{r} \times g(r) \vec{e}_r \\ &= r \vec{e}_r \times g(r) \vec{e}_r = 0\end{aligned}$$



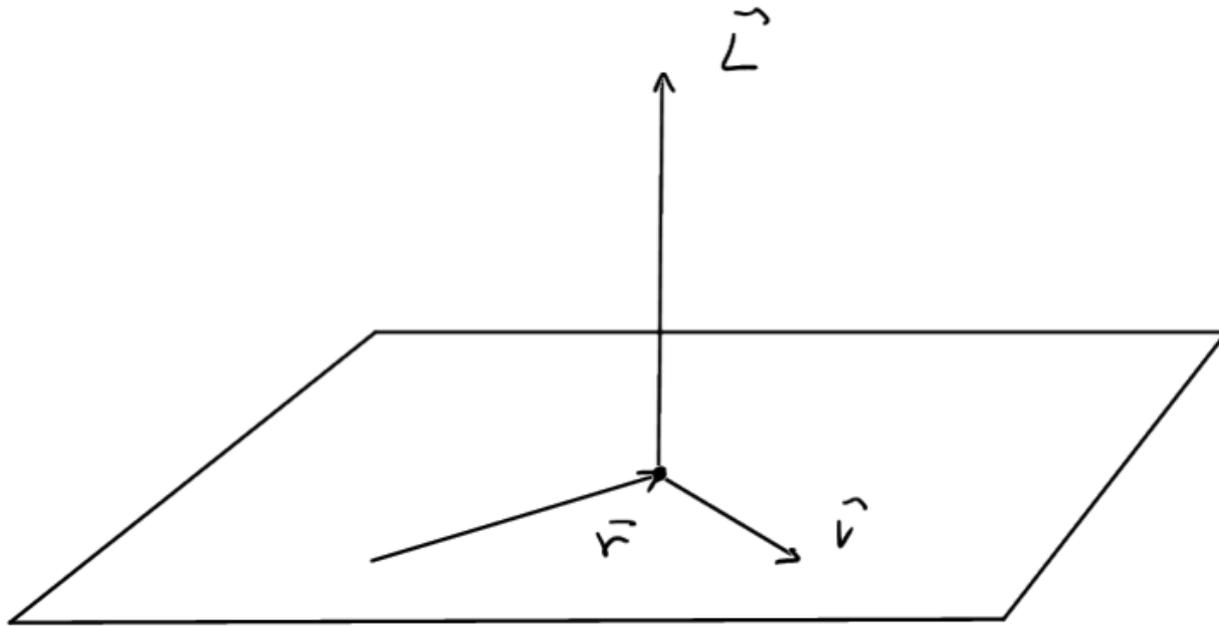
A spherical potential induces no tork

So, as  $\frac{d}{dt}(\vec{L}) = \vec{N} \quad \underline{\underline{\vec{L} = cte}}$

In a spherical system, the angular momentum of a particle is conserved!  $\vec{L} = cte$

## Corollary

As  $\vec{L}$  is conserved the orbit of a particle is limited to a plane (the orbital plane)

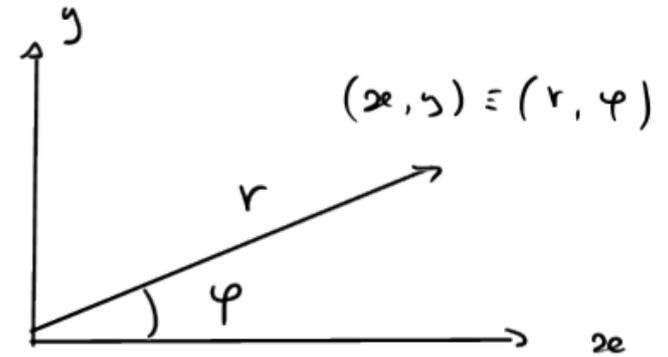


2D problem

## Equations of motion in the orbital plane

### Polar coordinates (in the orbital plane)

$$\begin{cases} x = r \cos \varphi \\ y = r \sin \varphi \end{cases} \quad \begin{cases} \dot{x} = \dot{r} \cos \varphi - r \sin \varphi \dot{\varphi} \\ \dot{y} = \dot{r} \sin \varphi + r \cos \varphi \dot{\varphi} \end{cases}$$



### Lagrangian (specific) in polar coordinates

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2} (\dot{x}^2 + \dot{y}^2) + \phi(\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}) = \frac{1}{2} (\dot{r}^2 + (r\dot{\varphi})^2) - \phi(r)$$

### Lagrange equations

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{\vec{q}}} \right) - \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \vec{q}} = 0$$

$$\begin{cases} \ddot{r} - r\dot{\varphi}^2 + \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial r} = 0 \\ \frac{d}{dt} (r^2 \dot{\varphi}) = 0 \end{cases}$$

## Angular momentum

$$r^2 \dot{\varphi} = |\vec{L}| = L$$

Indeed

in spherical coordinates

$$\vec{x} = r \vec{e}_r$$

$$\vec{v} = \dot{r} \vec{e}_r + r \dot{\varphi} \vec{e}_\varphi$$

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{L} &= \vec{x} \times \vec{v} = r \vec{e}_r \times (\dot{r} \vec{e}_r + r \dot{\varphi} \vec{e}_\varphi) \\ &= r^2 \dot{\varphi} \vec{e}_z \end{aligned}$$

## Hamiltonian/Energy

$$H(\vec{q}, \vec{p}, t) := \vec{p} \cdot \dot{\vec{q}} - L(\vec{q}, \dot{\vec{q}}, t)$$

$$\vec{q} = \begin{cases} r \\ \varphi \end{cases} \quad \dot{\vec{q}} = \begin{cases} \dot{r} \\ \dot{\varphi} \end{cases} \quad \vec{p} = \begin{cases} \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{r}} = \dot{r} = p_r \\ \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{\varphi}} = r^2 \dot{\varphi} = p_\varphi \end{cases}$$

$$H(r, \varphi, \dot{r}, r^2 \dot{\varphi}) = \dot{r}^2 + r^2 \dot{\varphi}^2 - \frac{1}{2} (\dot{r}^2 + (r \dot{\varphi})^2) + \phi(r)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} (\dot{r}^2 + (r \dot{\varphi})^2) + \phi(r) = E$$

or

$$H(r, \varphi, p_r, p_\varphi) = \frac{1}{2} p_r^2 + \frac{1}{2} \frac{p_\varphi^2}{r^2} + \phi(r) = E$$

**E (Energy) is conserved**

**as L is time independent**

# Radial orbits

$$\dot{\varphi} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow L = 0$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Equation of motion} : \ddot{r} = - \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial r} \\ \text{Energy} : E = \frac{1}{2} \dot{r}^2 + \phi(r) \end{array} \right.$$

## 3 cases

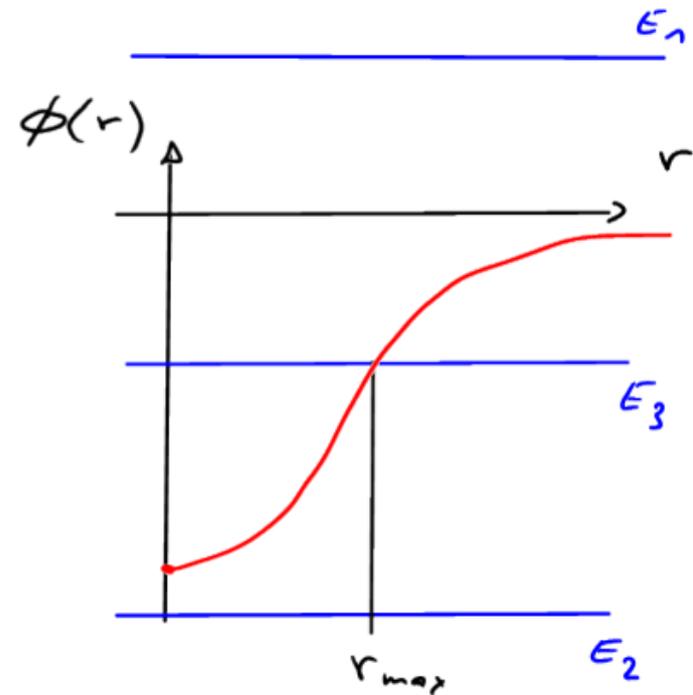
①  $E > \phi(\infty) \Rightarrow \forall t, \dot{r}^2 > 0$   
orbit not bounded

②  $E < \phi(0) \Rightarrow$  impossible

③  $\phi(0) < E < \phi(\infty)$

$$\exists r \text{ t.q. } \dot{r} = 0 \quad \text{i.e.} \quad E = \phi(r)$$

$$r = r_{\max}$$



Non radial orbits

$$r \neq 0 \quad \dot{\varphi} \neq 0 \quad L \neq 0$$

$$\text{EOM} \begin{cases} \ddot{r} - r\dot{\varphi}^2 + \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial r} = 0 & \textcircled{1} \\ \frac{d}{dt}(r^2\dot{\varphi}) = 0 \end{cases}$$

replace t by  $\varphi$

$$\frac{d}{dt} = \frac{d}{d\varphi} \dot{\varphi} = \frac{L}{r^2} \frac{d}{d\varphi}$$

$\textcircled{1}$  becomes

$$\frac{L^2}{r^2} \frac{d}{d\varphi} \left( \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{dr}{d\varphi} \right) - \frac{L^2}{r^3} = - \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial r}$$

use  $u = \frac{1}{r}$

$$\frac{d^2 u}{d\varphi^2} + u = \frac{1}{L^2 u^2} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial r} \left( \frac{1}{u} \right)$$

**No analytical general solution**

## Radial energy equation

From the energy

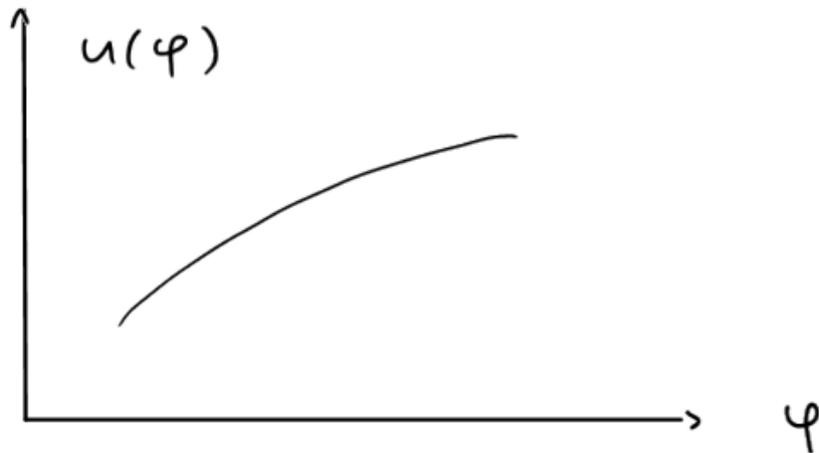
$$E = \frac{1}{2} (\dot{r}^2 + (r\dot{\varphi})^2) + \phi(r)$$

1) multiply by  $\frac{2}{L^2}$

2) use  $u = \frac{1}{r}$  and  $\frac{d}{dt} = \frac{L}{r^2} \frac{d}{d\varphi}$

we get

$$\left(\frac{du}{d\varphi}\right)^2 + u^2 + \frac{2\phi\left(\frac{1}{u}\right)}{L^2} = \frac{2E}{L^2}$$



# Orbit properties

## Minimal radius

As  $L \neq 0$ , the orbit cannot cross the center there must be a minimal radius

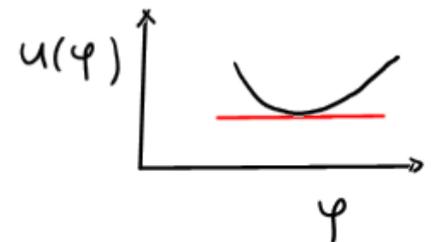
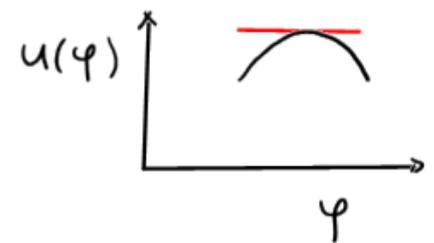
$$\forall \varphi \text{ such that } \frac{du}{d\varphi} = 0$$

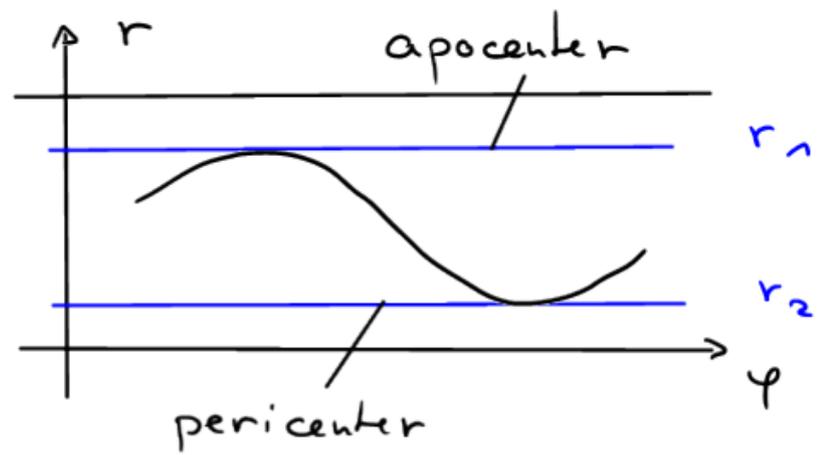
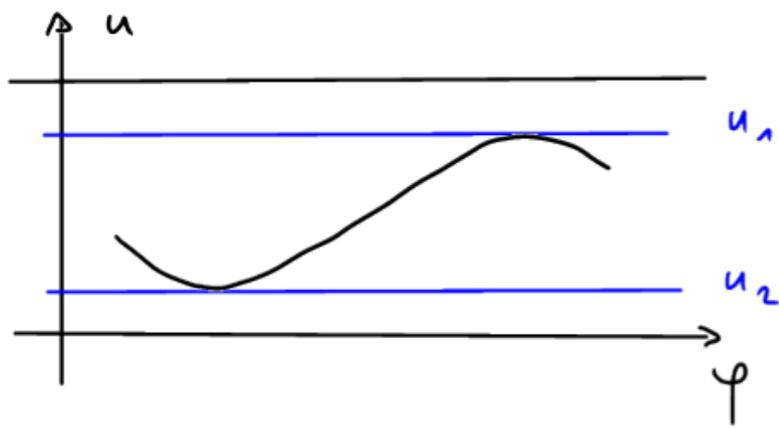
## Maximal radius

If the orbit is bounded there must be a maximal radius

$$\forall \varphi \text{ such that } \frac{du}{d\varphi} = 0$$

$$\text{For } \frac{du}{d\varphi} = 0 \quad u^2 = \frac{2[E - \phi(1/u)]}{L^2}$$





## Notes

• if  $u_1 = u_2$

: periodic orbit



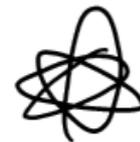
• if  $u_1 \approx u_2$

: orbit with a small eccentricity

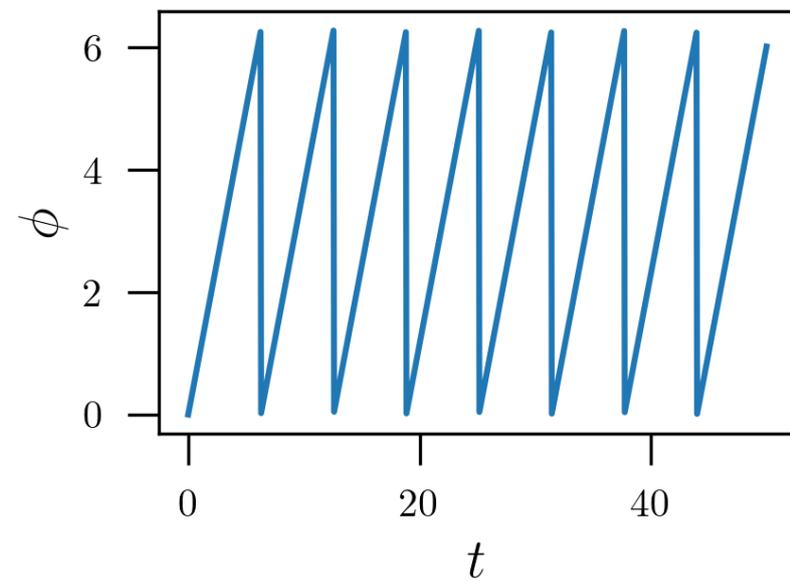
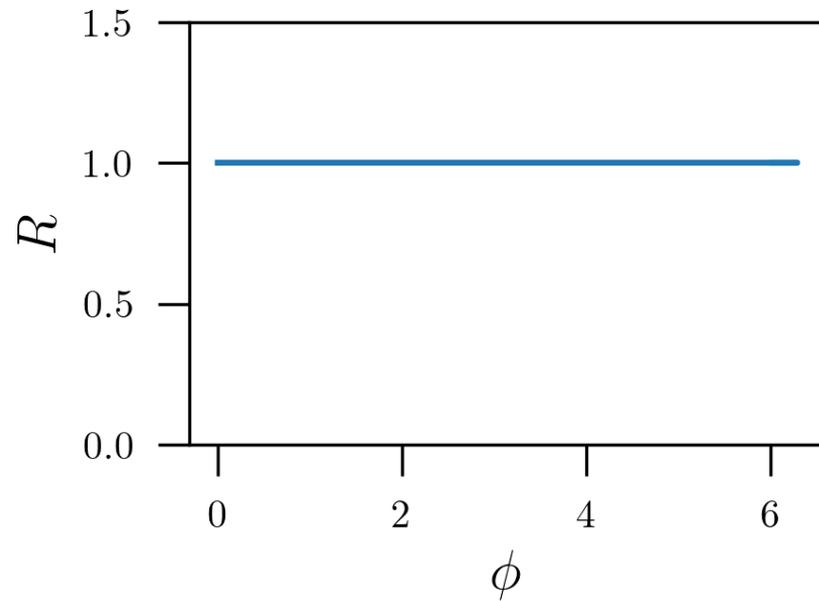
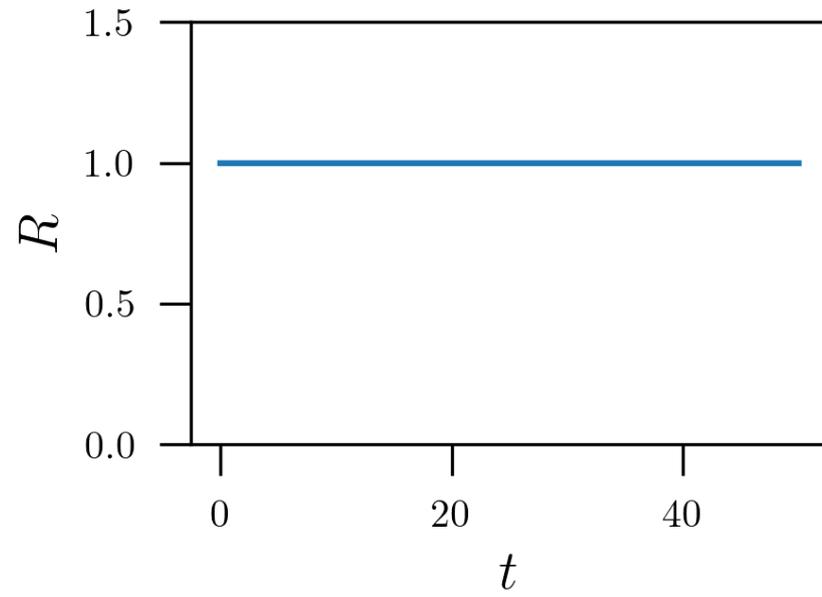
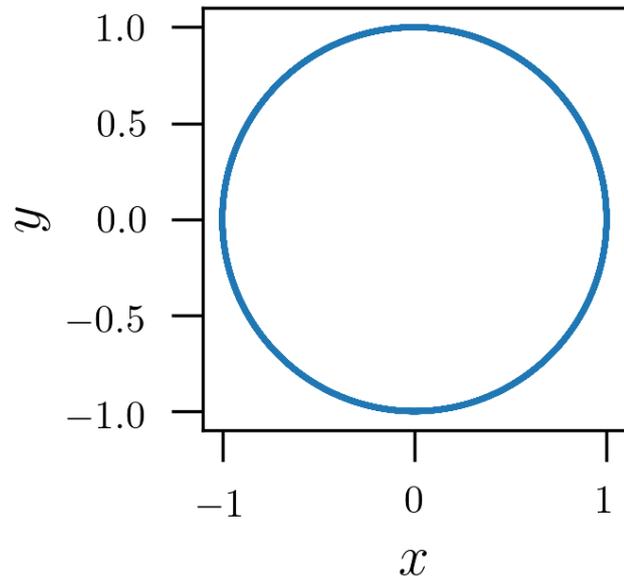


• if  $u_1 \gg u_2$

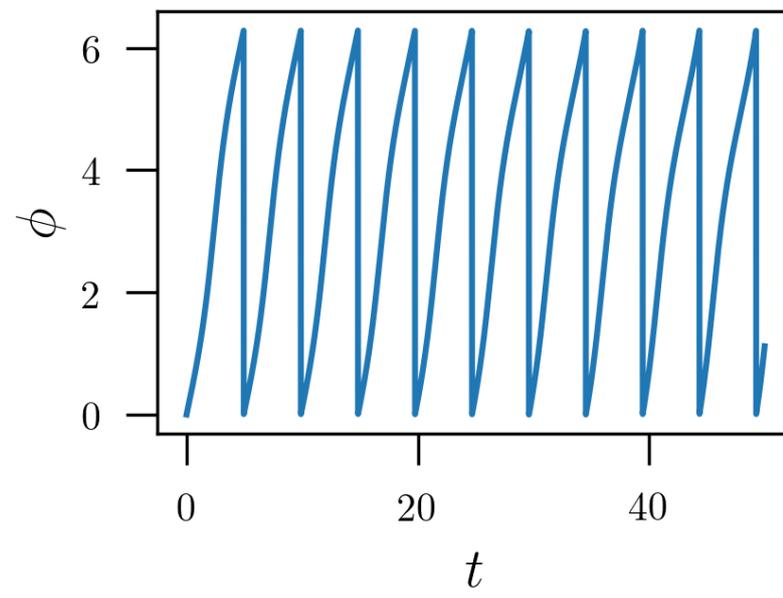
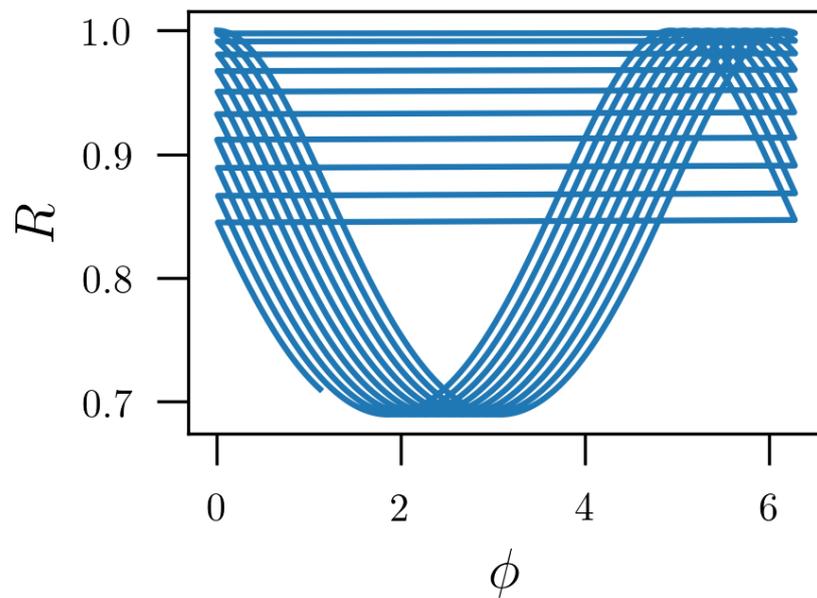
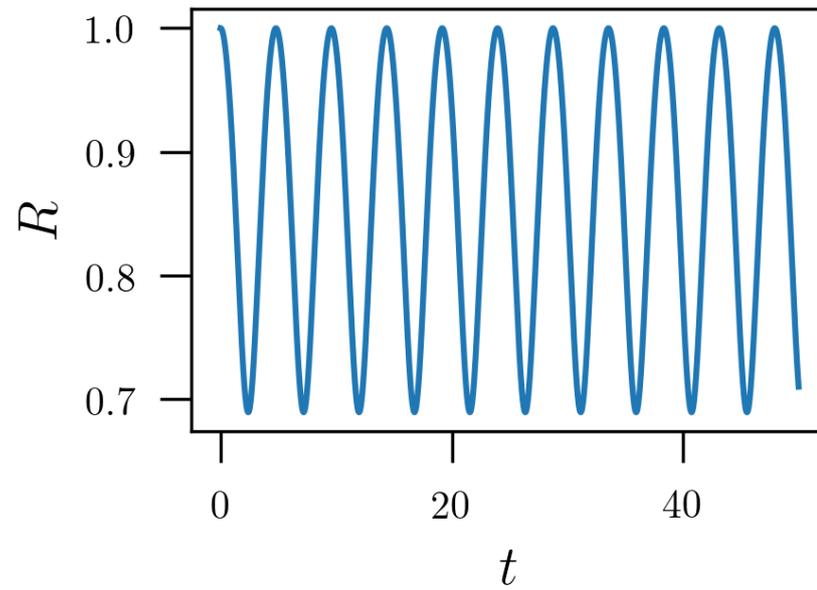
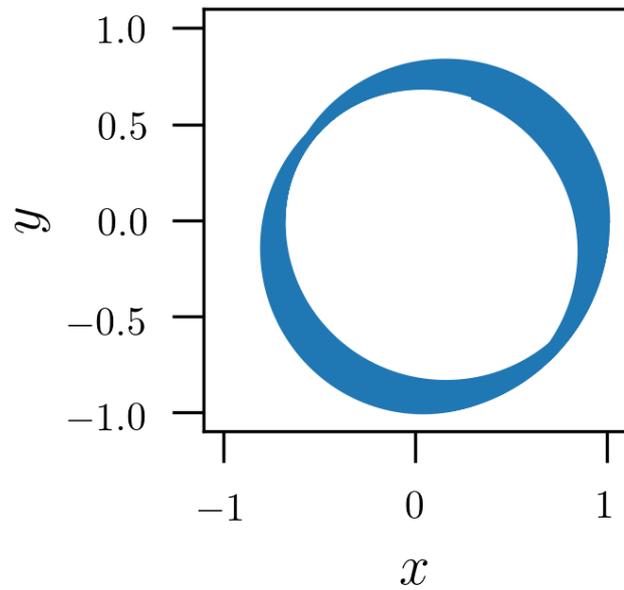
: orbit eccentricity is nearly 1



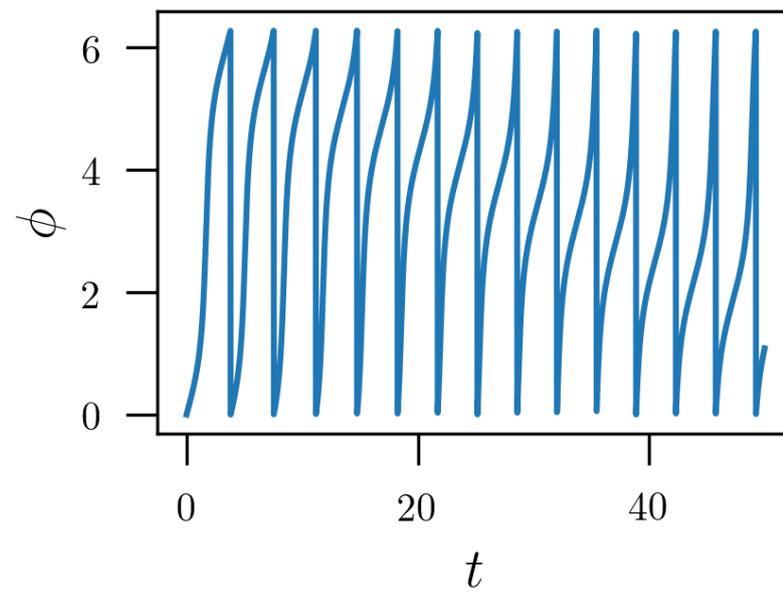
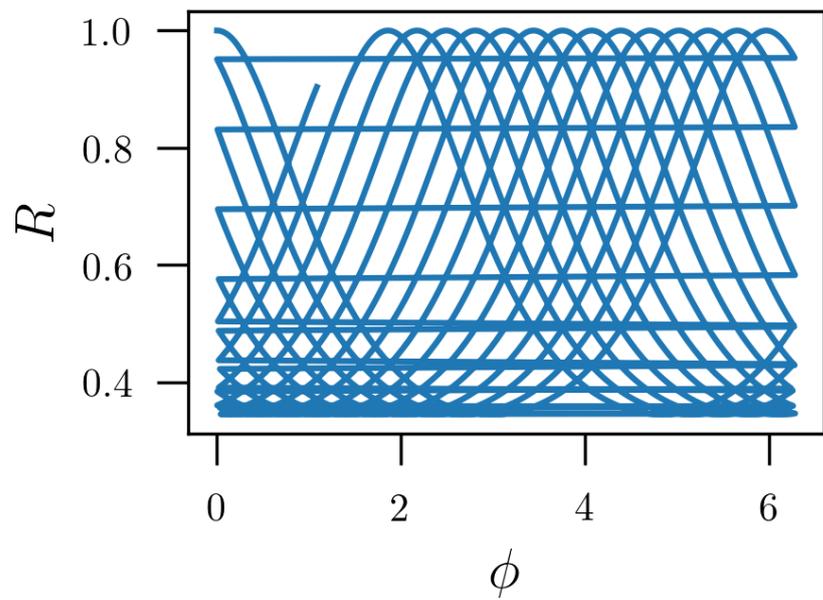
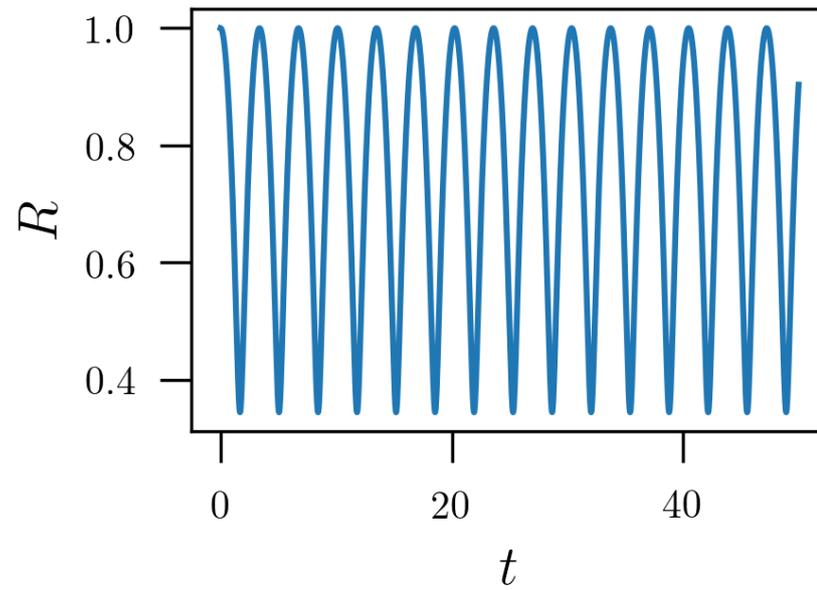
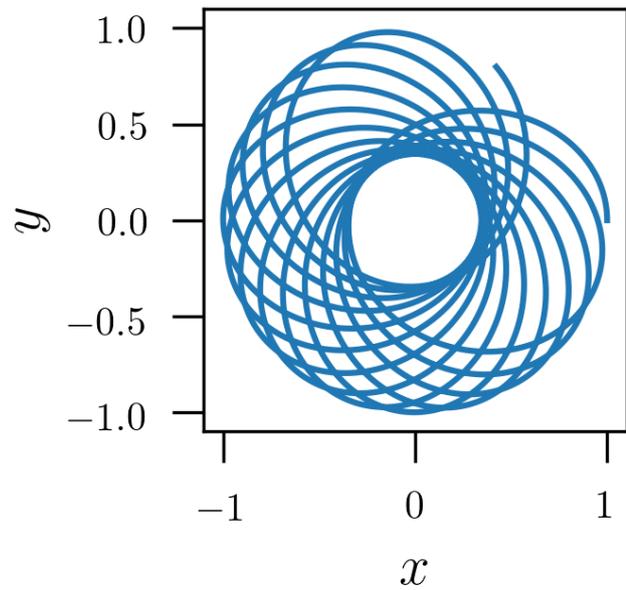
# Plummer



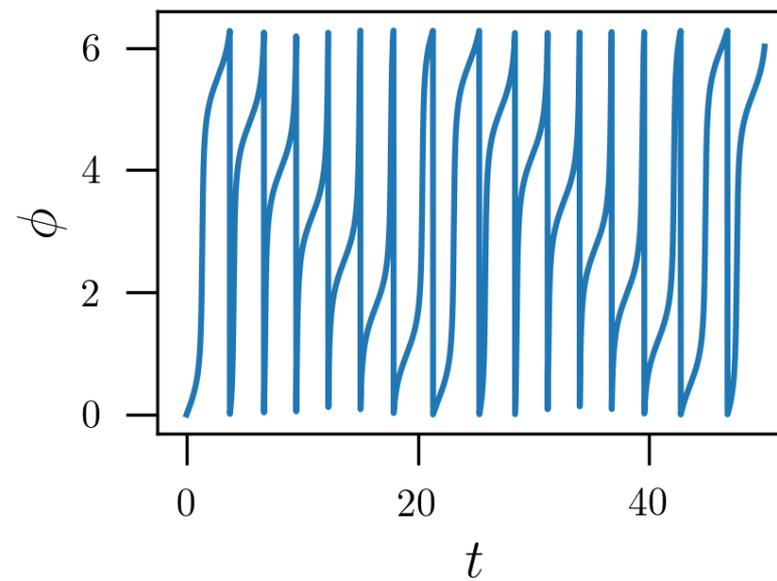
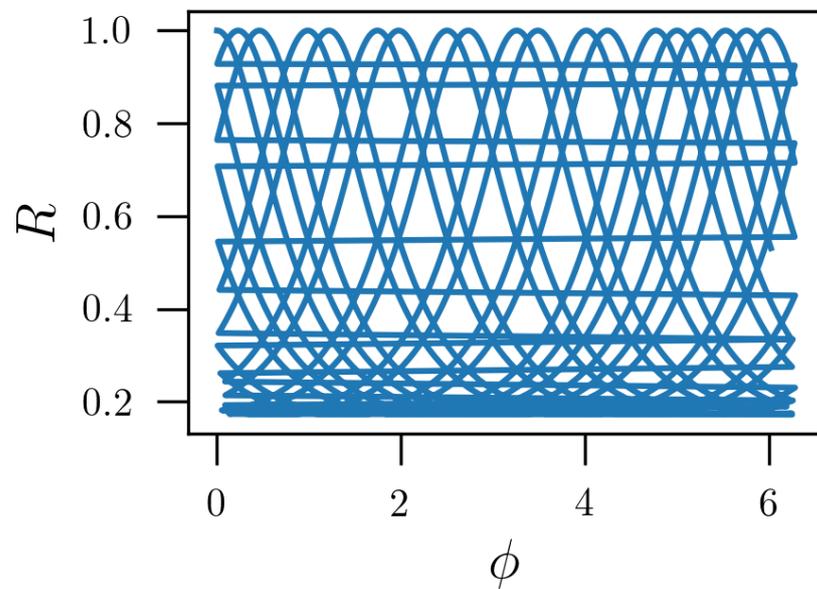
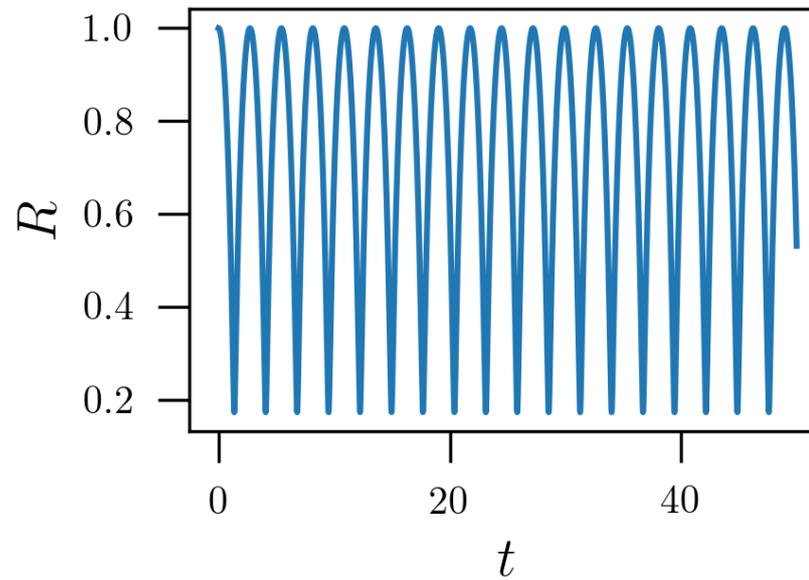
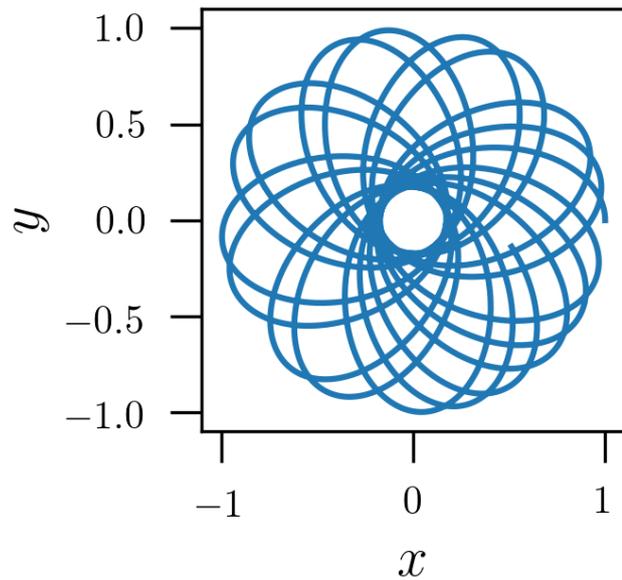
# Plummer



# Plummer



# Plummer



## Radial period

Time to travel from the apocenter to the pericenter

$$T_r = 2 \int_{t_1}^{t_2} dt = 2 \int_{r_1}^{r_2} \frac{1}{\dot{r}} dr \quad \begin{cases} r(t_1) = r_1 \\ r(t_2) = r_2 \end{cases}$$

$\dot{r} = \frac{dr}{dt}$

From  $E = \frac{1}{2} (\dot{r}^2 + (r\dot{\phi})^2) + \phi(r) = \frac{1}{2} \dot{r}^2 + \frac{L^2}{2r^2} + \phi(r)$

$$\dot{r}^2 = 2(E - \phi(r)) - \frac{L^2}{r^2}$$

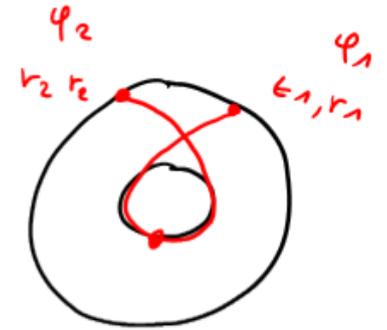
$$\frac{dr}{dt} = \sqrt{2(E - \phi(r)) - \frac{L^2}{r^2}}$$

$$\frac{dt}{dr} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2(E - \phi(r)) - \frac{L^2}{r^2}}}$$

$$T_r = 2 \int_{r_1}^{r_2} \frac{dr}{\sqrt{2(E - \phi(r)) - \frac{L^2}{r^2}}}$$

# Increase of azimuth in a radial period

---

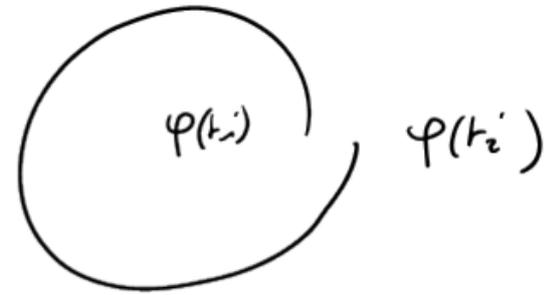


$$\begin{aligned}\Delta\varphi &= 2 \int_{\varphi_1}^{\varphi_2} d\varphi = 2 \int_{t_1}^{t_2} \frac{d\varphi}{dt} dt = 2 \int_{r_1}^{r_2} \frac{d\varphi}{dt} \frac{dt}{dr} dr \\ &= 2 \int_{r_1}^{r_2} \frac{L}{r^2} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2(E - \Phi(r)) - \frac{L^2}{r^2}}} dr\end{aligned}$$

## Azimuthal period

---

$$T_{\varphi} = \int_{t_1}^{t_2} dt \quad \begin{cases} \varphi(t_1) = 0 \\ \varphi(t_2) = 2\pi \end{cases}$$



Using the radial period  $T_r$  and the azimuthal increase :

$$T_{\varphi} = \frac{2\pi}{\Delta\varphi} T_r$$

As in general  $\frac{2\pi}{\Delta\varphi}$  is not a rational number

the orbit is not guaranteed to be closed

**Stellar orbits**

**Spherical Systems**

**Examples**

## Examples

① Kepler potential (potential of a mass point)

**EXERCISE**

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \phi(r) = -\frac{GM}{r} \\ \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial r}(r) = \frac{GM}{r^2} = GMu^2 \end{array} \right.$$

$$\frac{d^2 u}{d\varphi^2} + u = \frac{1}{L^2 u^2} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial r} \left( \frac{1}{u} \right)$$

$\Rightarrow$

$$\frac{d^2 u}{d\varphi^2} + u = \frac{GM}{L^2}$$

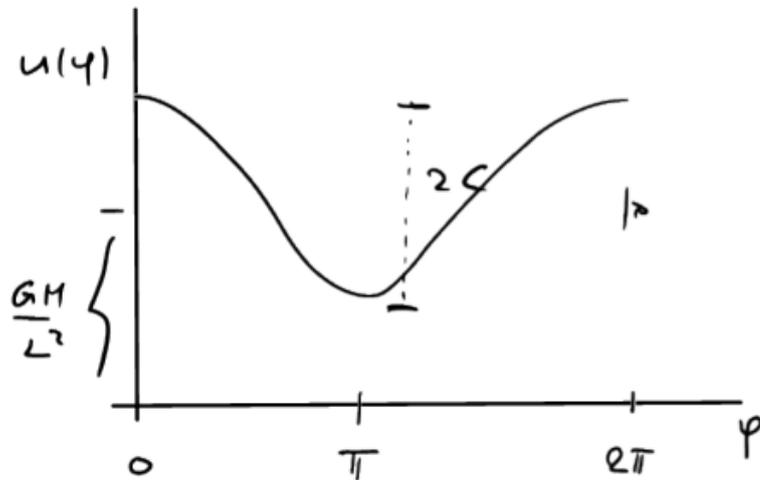
Harmonic equation,  
with frequency 1

## General solution

$$\frac{d^2 u}{d\varphi^2} + u = \frac{GM}{L^2}$$

$$u(\varphi) = C \cos(\varphi - \varphi_0) + \frac{GM}{L^2}$$

free parameter                  free parameter



$$\text{period} = 2\pi$$

In term of r

$$r(\varphi) = \frac{1}{C \cos(\varphi - \varphi_0) + \frac{GM}{L^2}}$$

Introducing

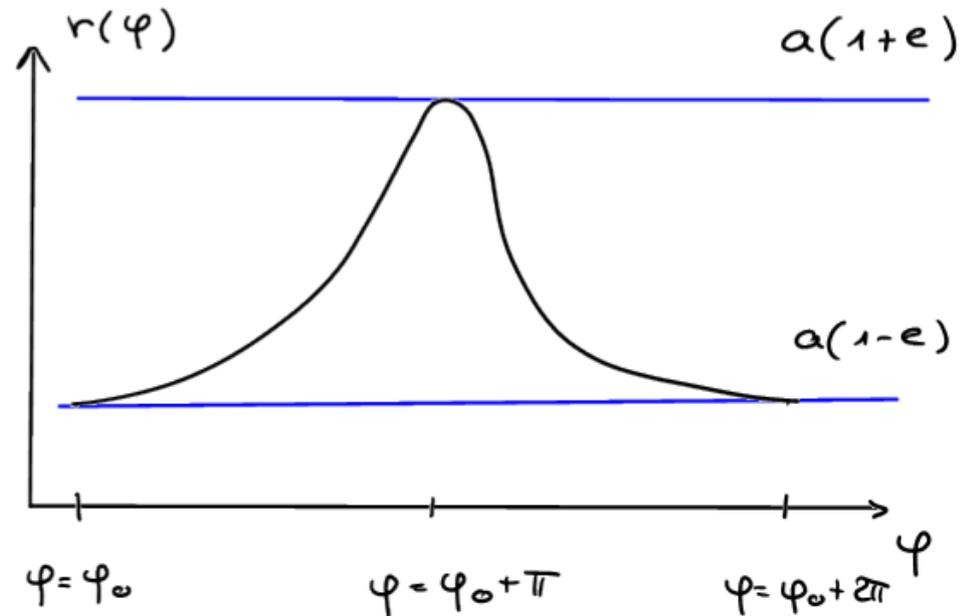
$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} e = \frac{CL^2}{GM} \quad \text{eccentricity} \\ a = \frac{L^2}{GM(1-e^2)} \quad \text{semi-major axis} \end{array} \right.$$

evaluate  $u$  and  $\frac{du}{dt}$  for  $\varphi = \varphi_0$   $\left( u(\varphi) = C + \frac{GM}{L^2} \quad \frac{du}{dt}(\varphi) = 0 \right)$

+ using  $\frac{d^2u}{d\varphi^2} + u = \frac{1}{L^2 u^2} \frac{d\phi}{dr} \left( \frac{1}{u} \right)$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} r(\varphi) = \frac{a(1-e^2)}{1+e \cos(\varphi-\varphi_0)} \\ \bar{E} = -\frac{GM}{2a} \end{array} \right.$$

↳ from the energy equation



## Cases

$$r(\varphi) = \frac{a(1 - e^2)}{1 + e \cos(\varphi - \varphi_0)}$$

### $e \gg 1$

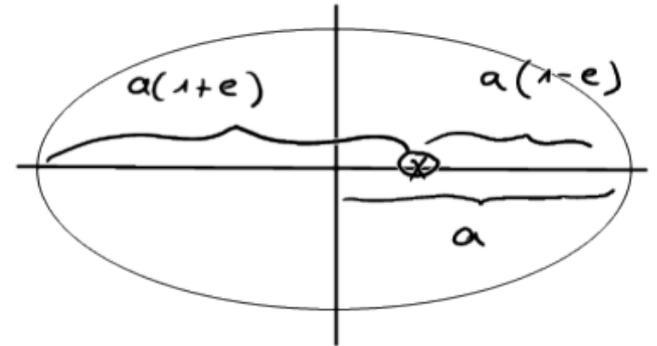
unbound orbit as  $1 + e \cos(\varphi - \varphi_0)$  can be  $= 0$   
 $\Rightarrow r \rightarrow \infty$

### $e < 1$

bound orbit (ellipse)

**EXERCICE**

pericenter / apocenter



$$r_{\min} = \frac{a(1 - e^2)}{1 + e} = a(1 - e)$$

$$r_{\max} = \frac{a(1 - e^2)}{1 - e} = a(1 + e)$$

### $e = 0$

$$r_{\min} = r_{\max} = a \quad (\text{circular orbit})$$

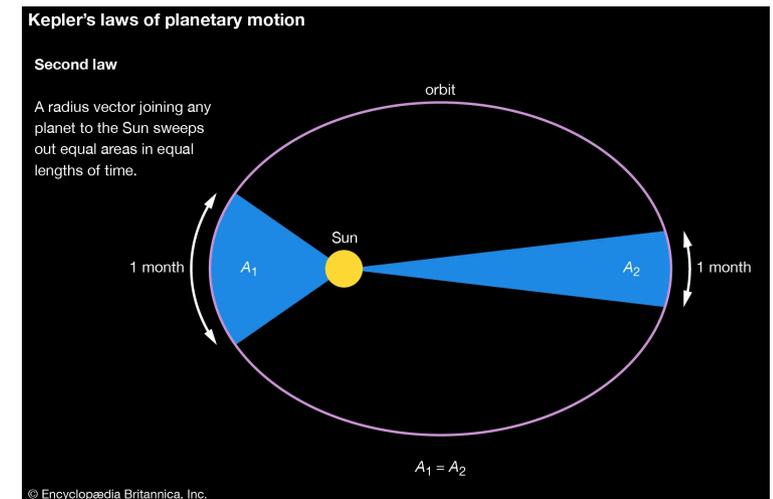
# Kepler laws (1609-1619) :

**EXERCICE**

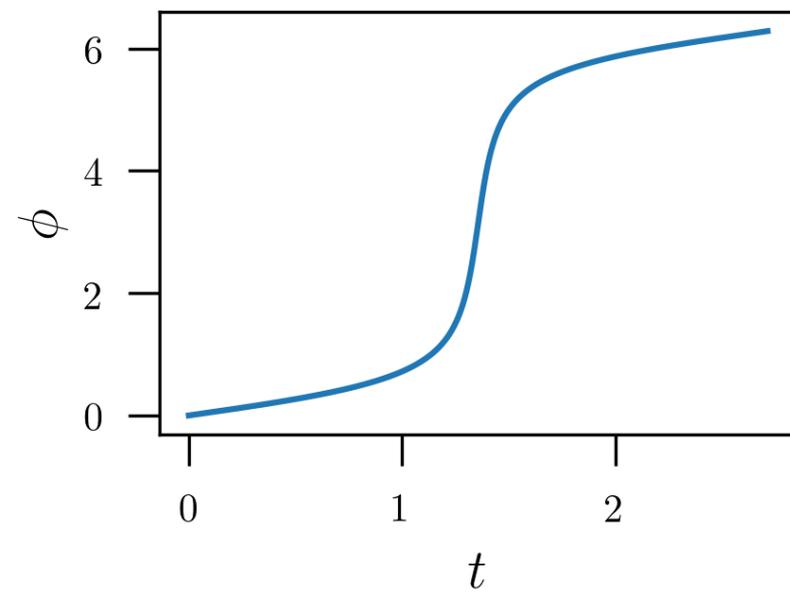
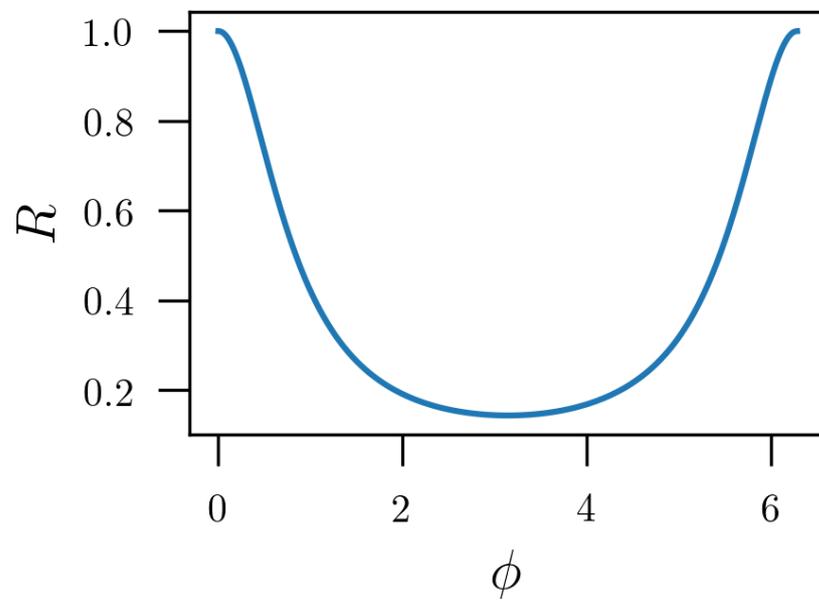
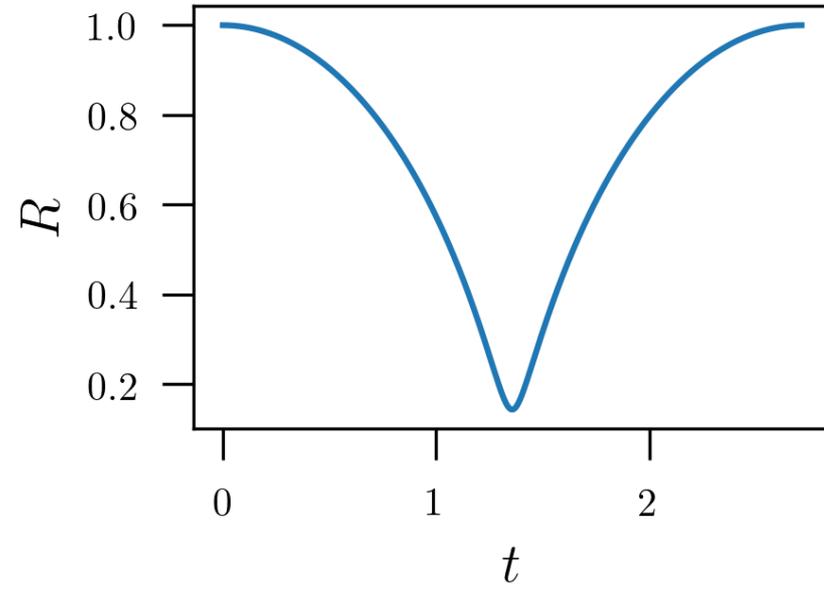
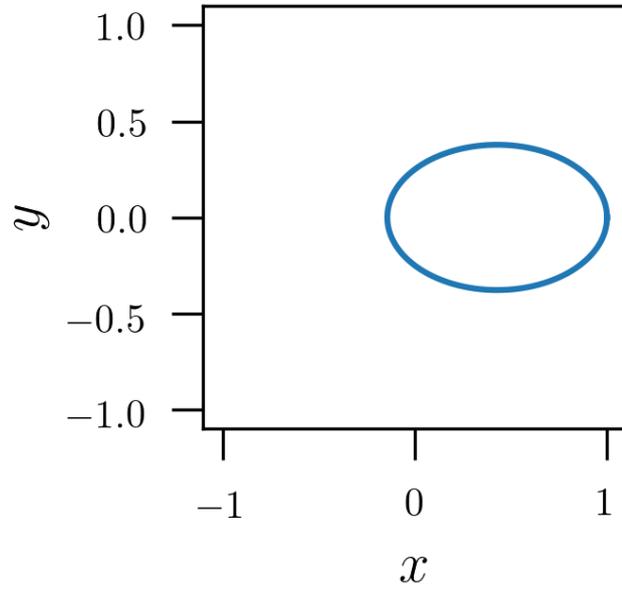
- The orbit of a planet is an ellipse with the Sun at one of the two foci.
- A line segment joining a planet and the Sun sweeps out equal areas during equal intervals of time.
- The square of a planet's orbital period is proportional to the cube of the length of the semi-major axis of its orbit.

Radial and azimuthal periods:

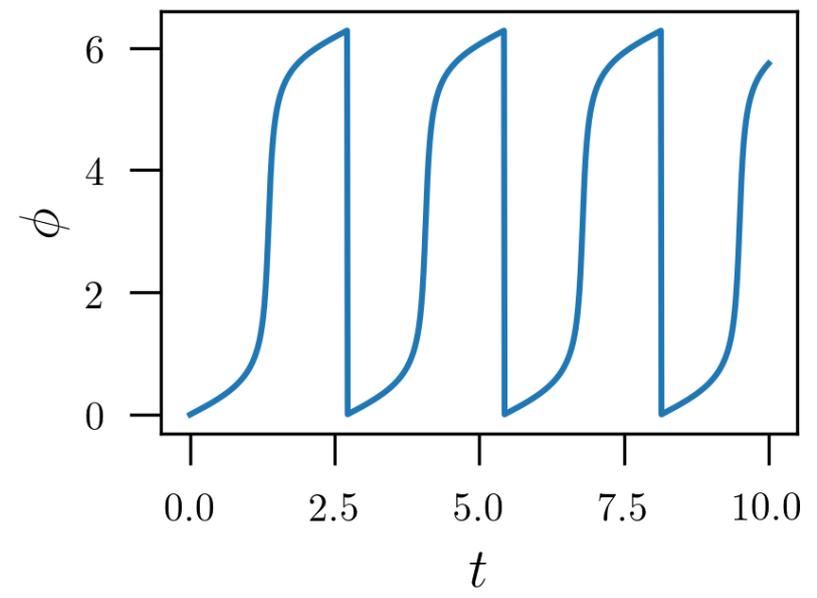
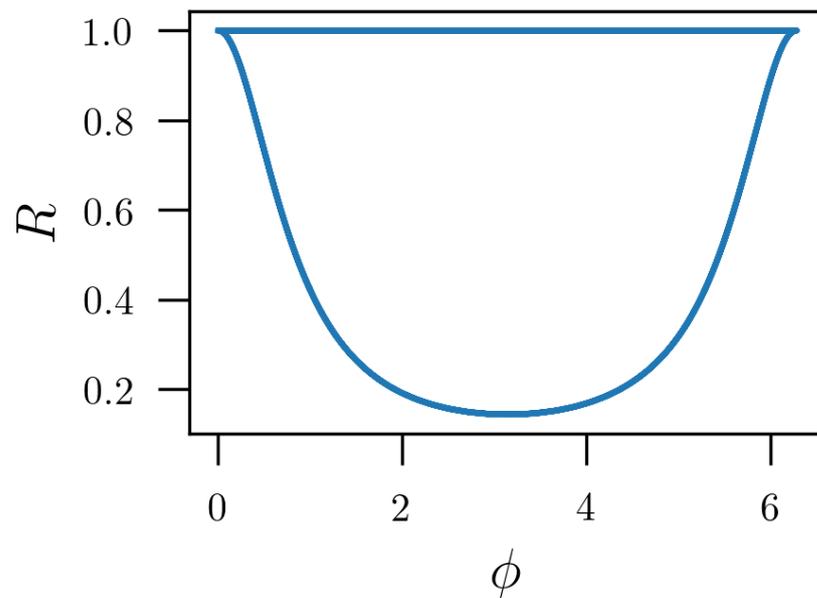
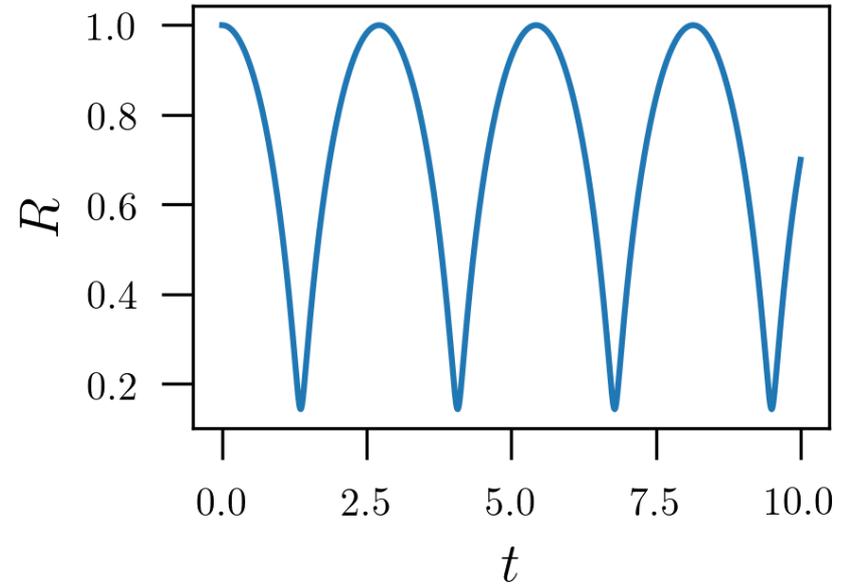
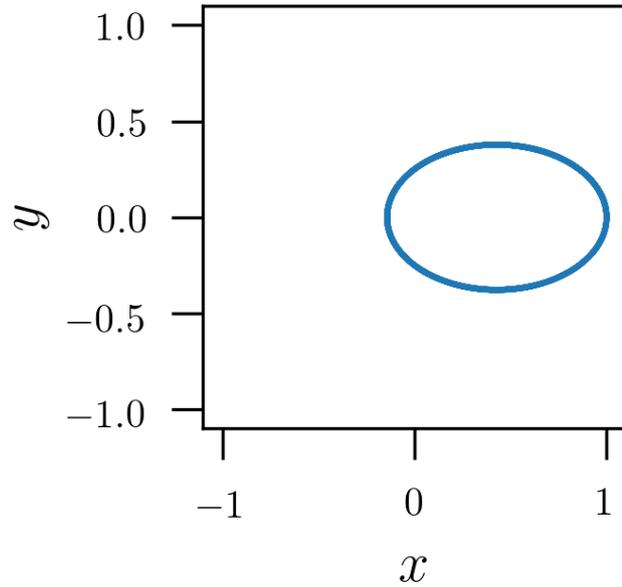
$$T_r = T_\phi$$



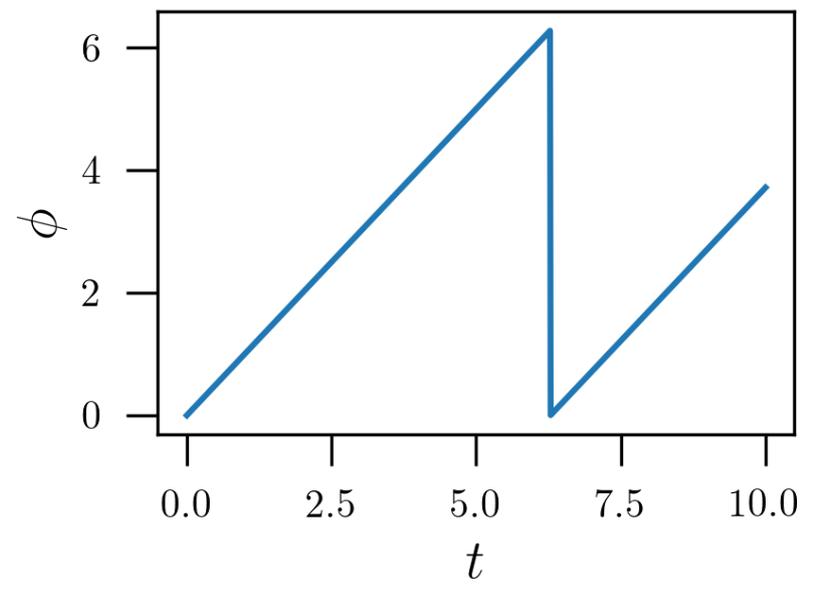
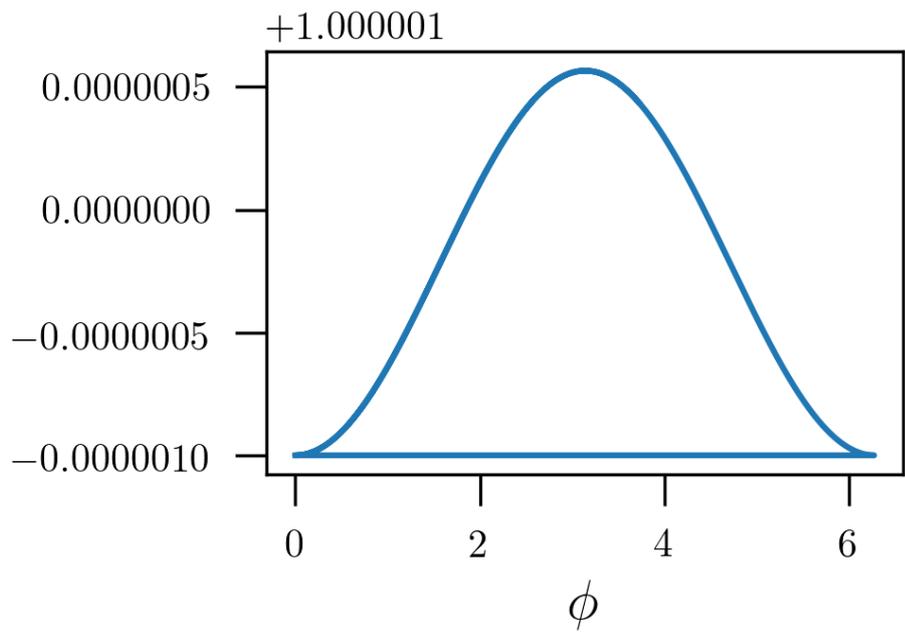
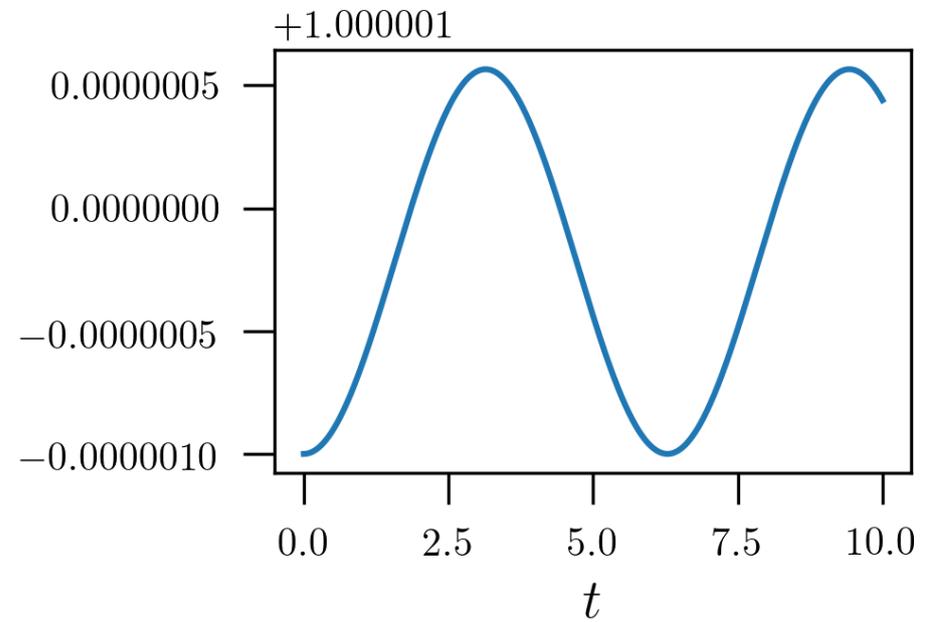
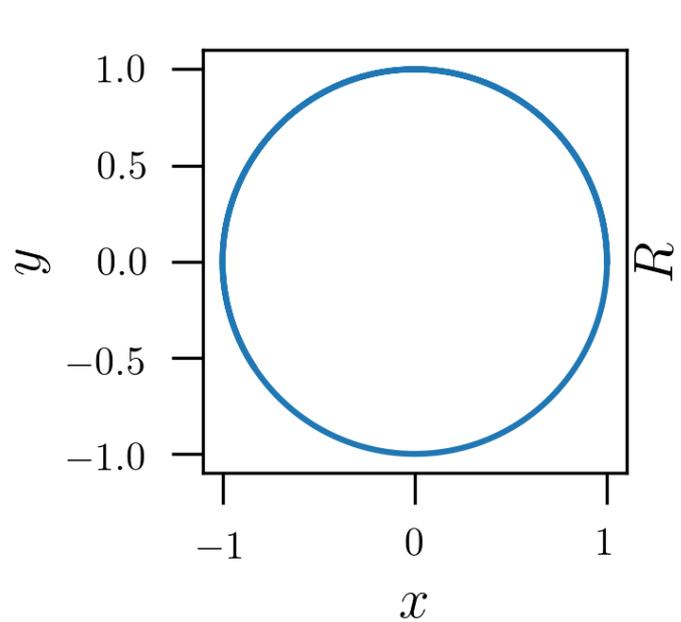
# Keplerian orbits (point mass)



# Keplerian orbits (point mass)



# Keplerian orbits (point mass)



② Homogeneous sphere  $\rho_0, R_0$  (Harmonic oscillations)

$$\phi(r) = \underbrace{-2\pi G \rho_0 R_0^2}_{\text{cte} \rightarrow 0} + \frac{2}{3} \pi G \rho_0 r^2$$

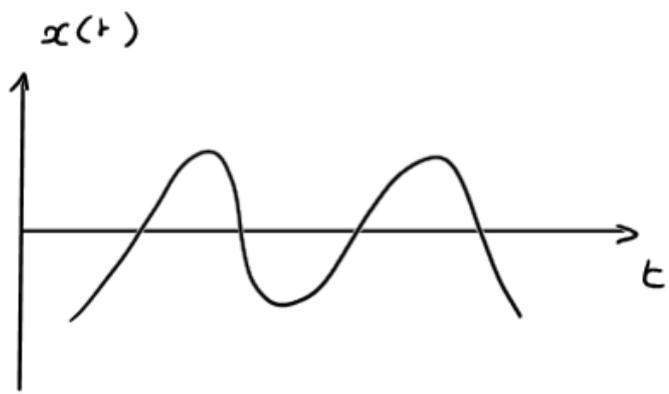
$$\underline{\phi(r) = \frac{1}{2} \Omega^2 r^2} \quad \text{with } \Omega = \sqrt{\frac{4}{3} \pi G \rho_0}$$

Equations of motion (in cartesian coordinates)

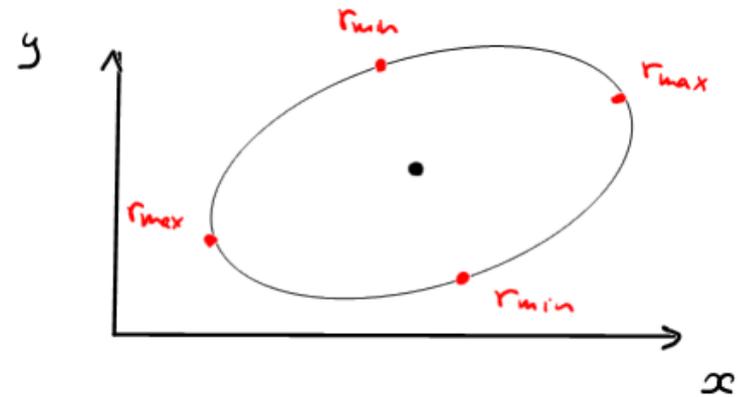
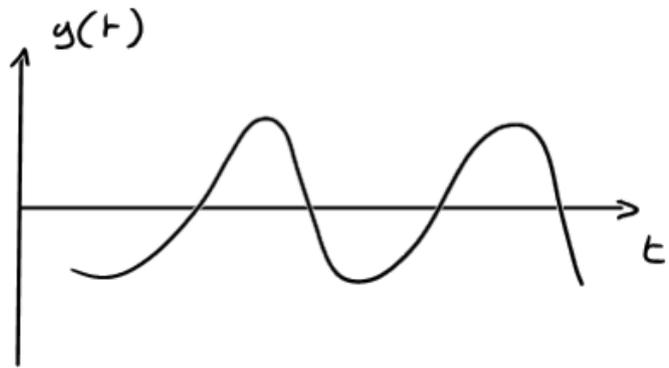
$$L(x, y, \dot{x}, \dot{y}) = \frac{1}{2} \dot{x}^2 + \frac{1}{2} \dot{y}^2 - \frac{1}{2} \Omega^2 (x^2 + y^2)$$

$$\begin{cases} \ddot{x} = -\Omega^2 x \\ \ddot{y} = -\Omega^2 y \end{cases} \quad \begin{cases} x(t) = X \cos(\Omega t + \varepsilon_x) \\ y(t) = Y \cos(\Omega t + \varepsilon_y) \end{cases}$$

$X, Y, \varepsilon_x, \varepsilon_y$  constants fixed by the initial conditions



same period  
 $\Rightarrow$  closed orbits (ellipse)

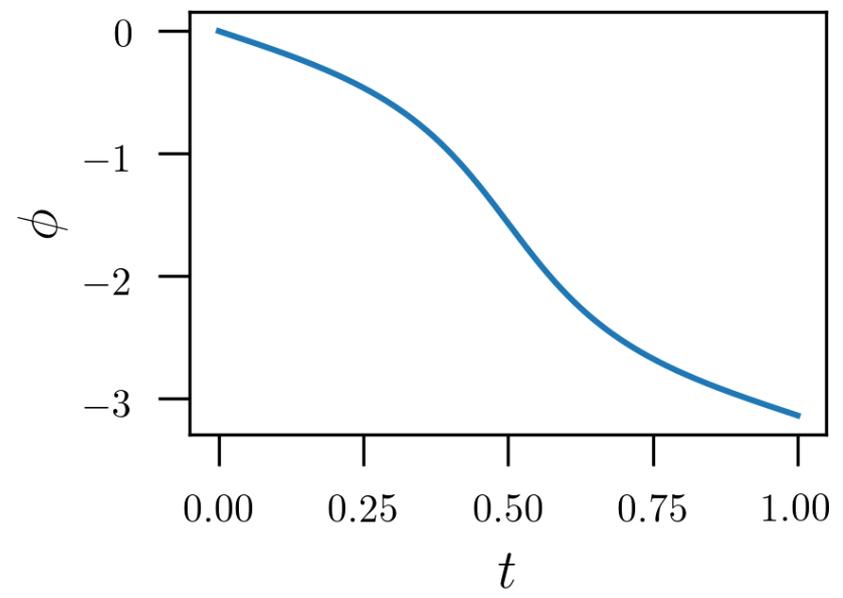
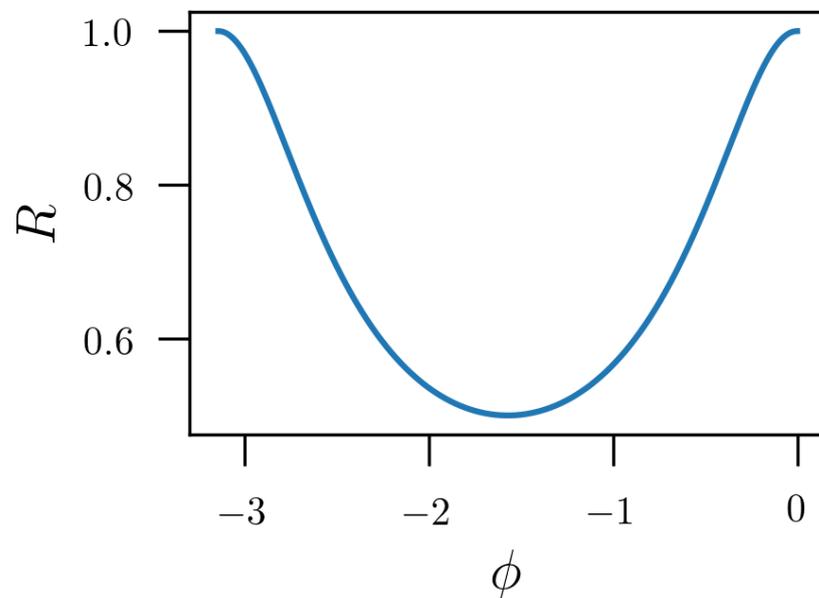
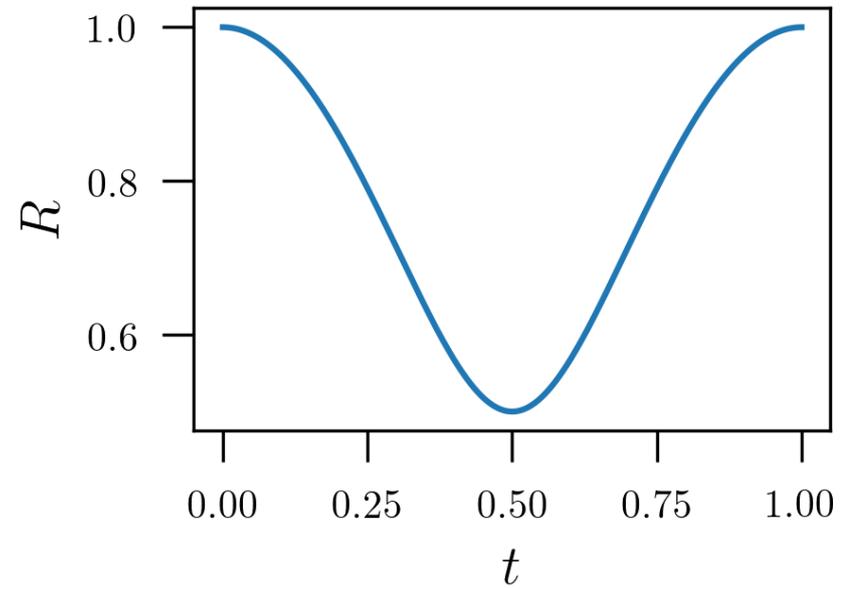
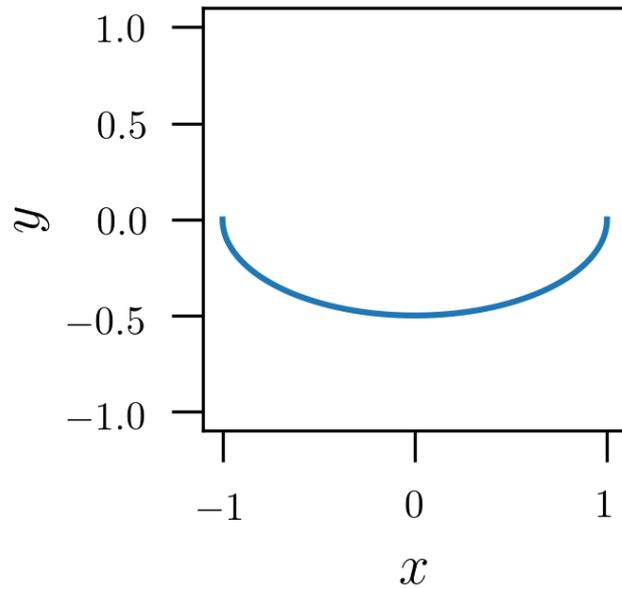


### Periods

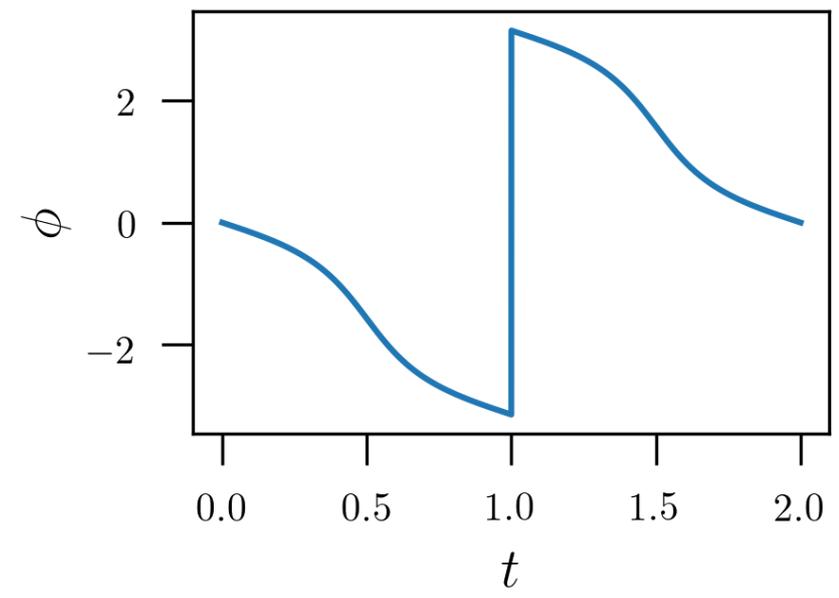
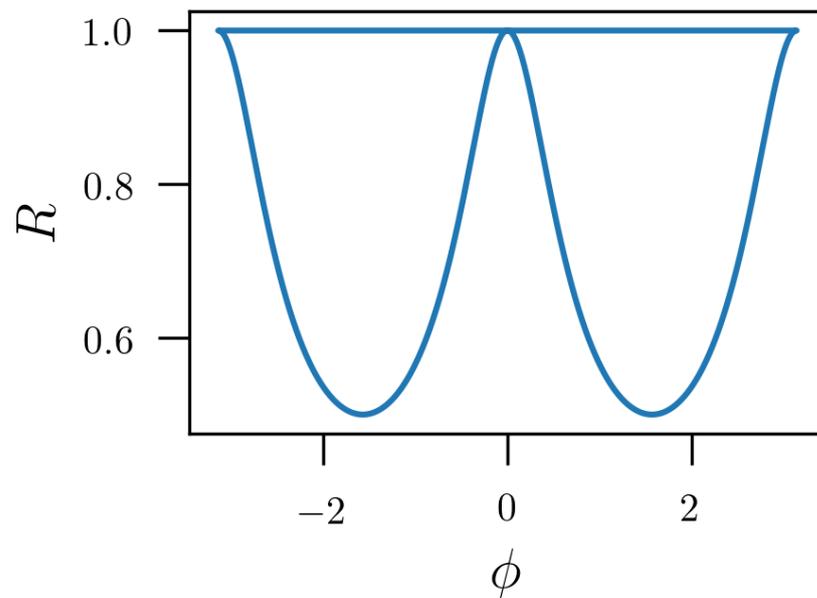
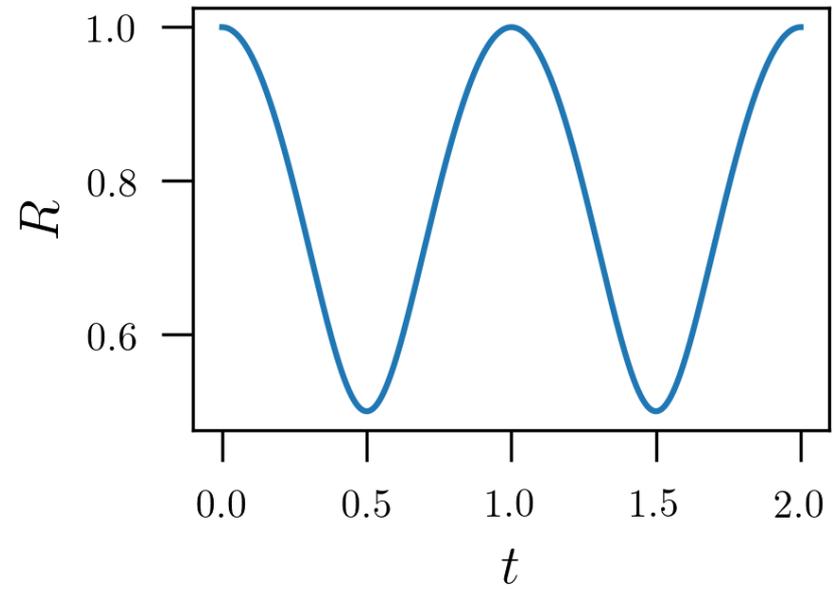
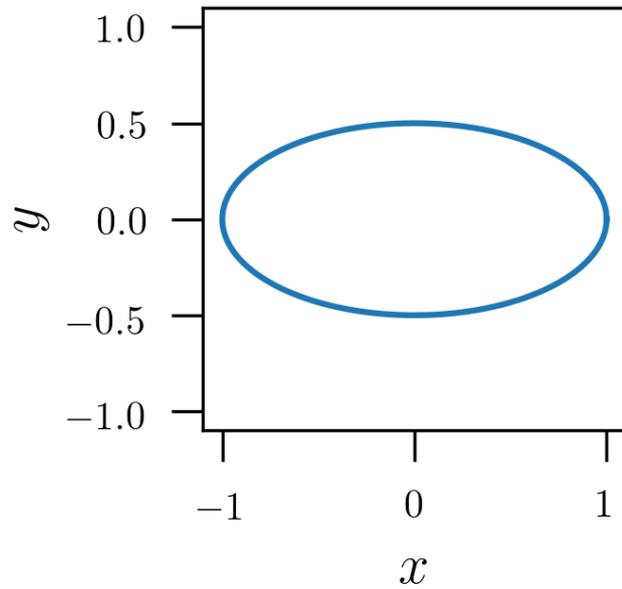
$$T_{\varphi} = \frac{2\pi}{\Omega}$$

$$T_r = \frac{1}{2} T_{\varphi} = \frac{\pi}{\Omega}$$

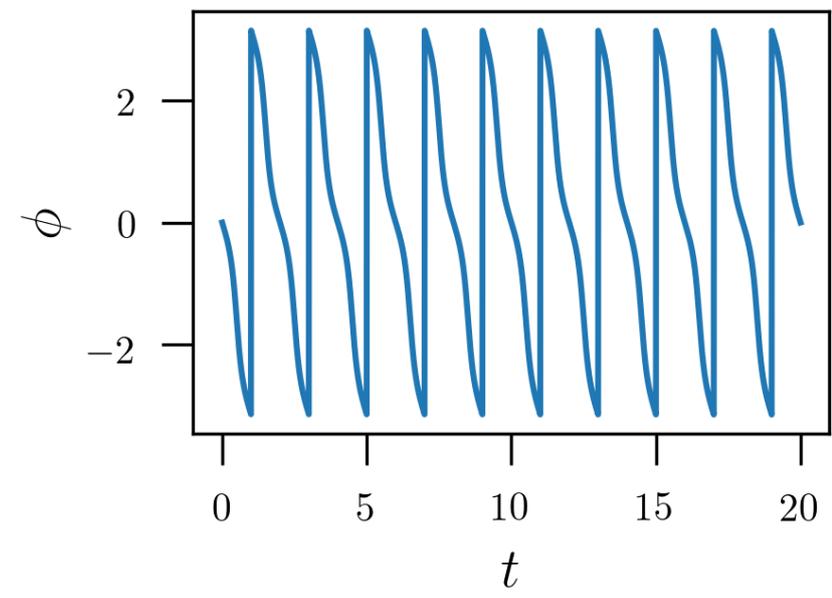
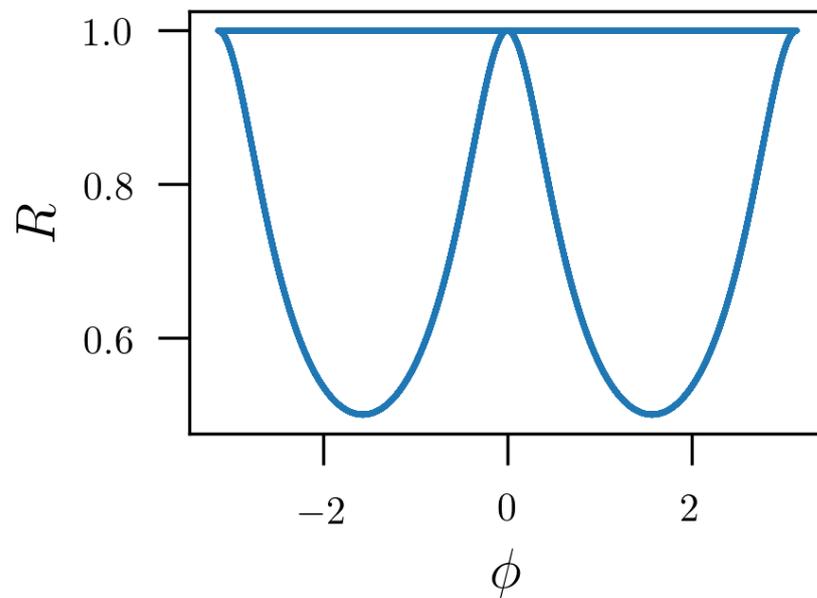
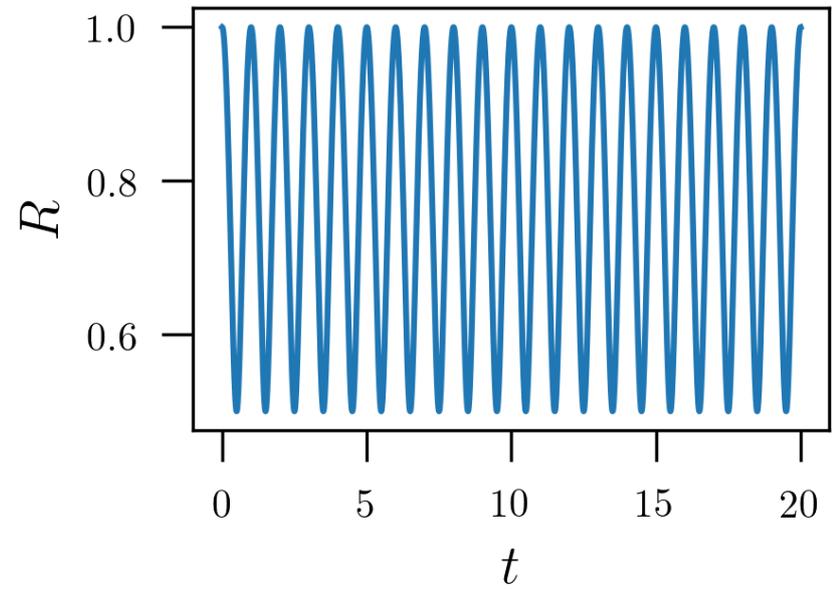
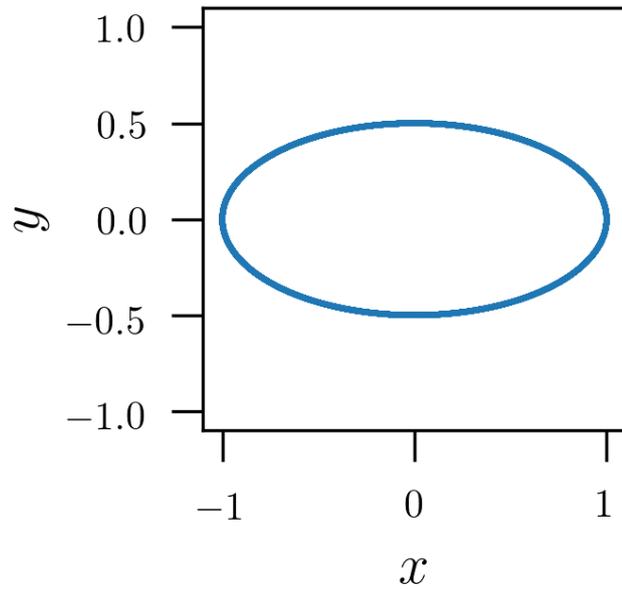
# Homogeneous sphere (harmonic)



# Homogeneous sphere (harmonic)



# Homogeneous sphere (harmonic)



## Isochrone potential

$$\phi(r) = - \frac{GM}{b + \sqrt{b^2 + r^2}}$$

New variable

$$s = - \frac{GM}{b \phi(r)} = \frac{b + \sqrt{b^2 + r^2}}{b} = 1 + \sqrt{1 + \frac{r^2}{b^2}}$$

Mewan 1955

solution of  $s^2 - 2s - \frac{r^2}{b^2} = 0$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{r^2}{b^2} = s^2 \left(1 - \frac{2}{s}\right)$$

We can write

$$\frac{ds}{dt} = \frac{ds}{dr} \frac{dr}{dt} \quad \Rightarrow$$

$$s(t) = \int_{t_0}^t \frac{ds}{dr} \frac{dr}{dt} dt$$

can be integrated

$$\frac{ds}{dt} = \frac{ds}{dr} \frac{dr}{dt} = \left(1 + \frac{r^2}{b^2}\right)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \frac{r}{b^2} \sqrt{2(E - \phi) - \frac{L^2}{r^2}}$$

Good galaxy model that leads to  
analytical orbits

## Radial and azimuthal periods

$$T_r = 2 \int_{r_1}^{r_2} \frac{dr}{\sqrt{2(E - \phi) - \frac{L^2}{r^2}}} \quad \text{and} \quad \Delta\varphi = 2L \int_{r_1}^{r_2} \frac{dr}{r^2 \sqrt{2(E - \phi) - \frac{L^2}{r^2}}}$$

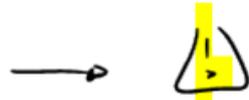
as  $\frac{dr}{dt} = \sqrt{2(E - \phi) - \frac{L^2}{r^2}}$   $\underbrace{2(E - \phi) - \frac{L^2}{r^2}}_{(r-r_1)(r-r_2)} = 0$  solutions  $r_1, r_2$

We can re-write  $\frac{dr}{\sqrt{2(E - \phi) - \frac{L^2}{r^2}}}$  in term of  $S$

$$T_r = \frac{2b}{\sqrt{-2E}} \int_{S_1}^{S_2} ds \frac{S-1}{\sqrt{(S_1-S)(S-S_2)}}$$

{

$$T_r = \frac{2\pi GM}{(-2E)^{3/2}}$$



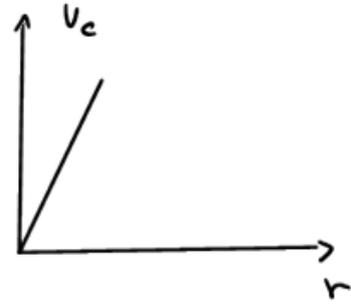
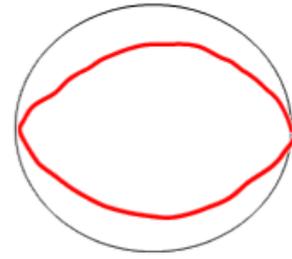
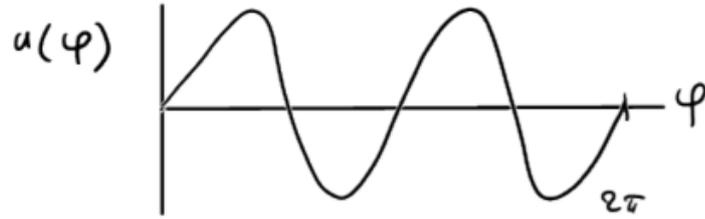
independent of  $L$   
(isochrone)

$$T_y = \frac{4\pi GM}{(-2E)^{3/2}} \frac{\sqrt{L^2 + 4GM^2}}{|L| + \sqrt{L^2 + 4GM^2}}$$

# Important Remarks

Homogeneous sphere

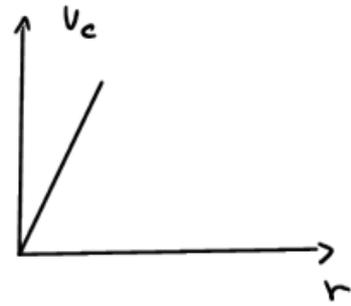
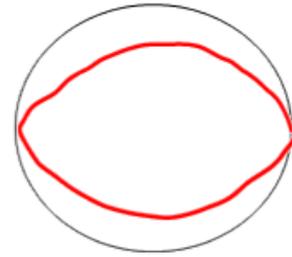
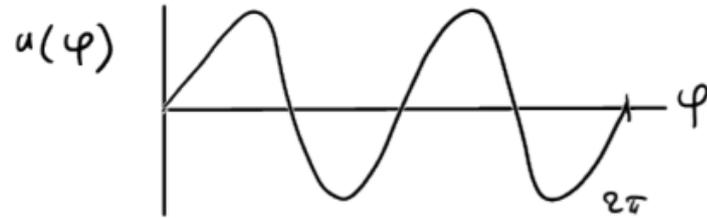
$$T_r = \frac{1}{2} T_\varphi$$



# Important Remarks

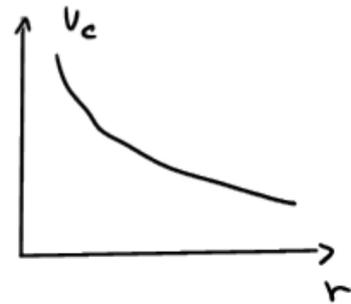
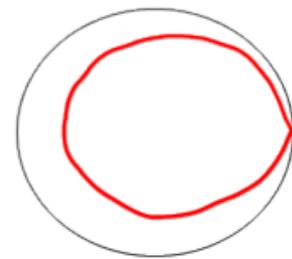
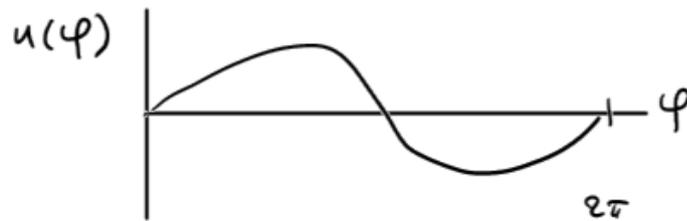
## Homogeneous sphere

$$T_r = \frac{1}{2} T_\varphi$$



## Keplerian potential

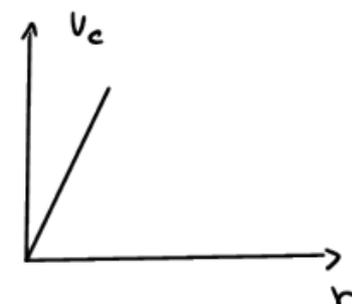
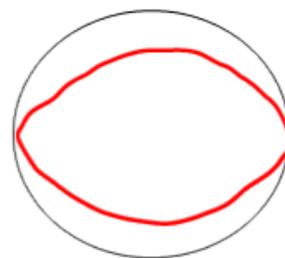
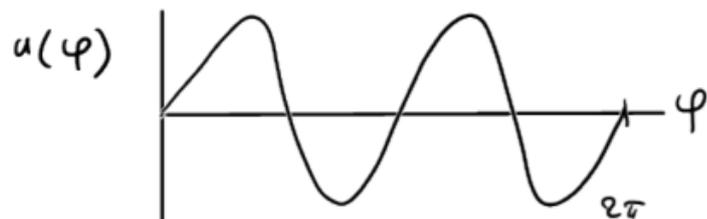
$$T_r = T_\varphi$$



# Important Remarks

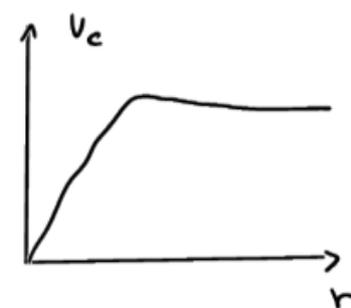
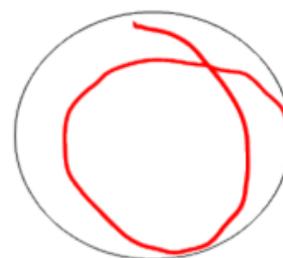
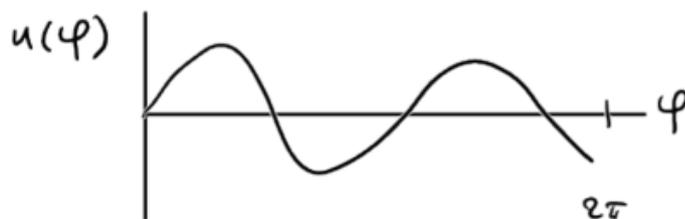
## Homogeneous sphere

$$T_r = \frac{1}{2} T_\varphi$$



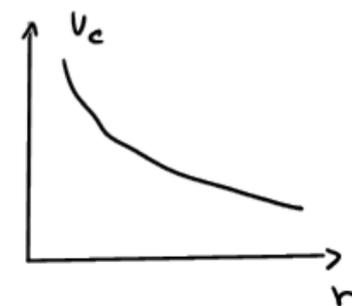
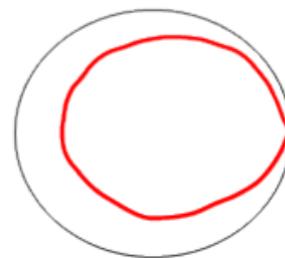
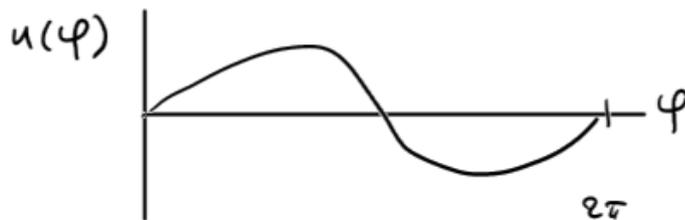
## Galaxy

$$\frac{1}{2} T_\varphi < T_r < T_\varphi$$



## Keplerian potential

$$T_r = T_\varphi$$



**The End**