INSTABILITY, CHAOS AND PREDICTABILITY IN CELESTIAL MECHANICS AND STELLAR DYNAMICS

Edited by K.B. Bhatnagar

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DEDICATIONS

It is with great reverence that we dedicate this volume to Lord Shiva—The Hindu God.

"In classical Hindu Mythology the Cosmos passes through three major phases—creation, maintenance, destruction—mirroring birth-life-death. Brahma is the god of creation, Vishnu the god of maintenance (order), and Shiva the god of destruction (disorder). But Shiva's personality is multifaceted. Shiva is who walks on the wild side, the lone hunter, the dancer, the Yogin who withdraws from human society, the ascetic covered in ash. The untamed. The distinction between the order of Vishnu and the disorder of Shiva is not that of good or evil. It represents instead two different ways in which divinity makes itself manifest; benevolence and wrath, harmony and dischord.

Similarly order and chaos in Mathematics are two distinct manifestation of an underlying determinism. And neither exists in isolation".

(Does God play dice?—Stewart, I.)

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Table of Contents

Preface xiii

PART I CHAOS 1

Chaos 3
K.B. Bhatnagar

On The Chaotic Nature of Solar Activity 13
J. Kurths, U. Feudel and W. Jansen

The Chaotic Motion of the Solar System 21
J. Laskar (abstract only)

Chaos and Order in the Rotational Motion 23
Andrzej J. Maciejewski

On the Role of Chaos and Instability in the Evolution of Nonlinear Nonstationary Stellar Systems 39
S.N. Nuritdinov

Algorithms for Controlling Chaos: Application to BVP Oscillator 45
S. Rajeskar (abstract only)

On Instability Leading to Chaos in Dynamical Systems 47
L.M. Saha

Vector Laypunov Functionals and Stabilities and Chaoticities of Functional Differential Equations Occurring in Celestial Mechanics and Stellar Dynamics 61
D.R.K. Sastry

Chaotic Stellar Dynamics During Collective Interactions 67
D. Subbarao and R. Uma

On the Measure-Preserving Mappings with Three-Dimensions 73
Yi-Sui Sun

https://doi.org/10.1017/S0252921100065830 Published online by Cambridge University Press

PART II ERGODIC AND STOCHASTIC MOTION 91

Ergodity of the Motions in the Dynamical Systems with Two Degrees of Freedom 93
T.A. Agekian, A.A. Mylläri, and V.V. Orlov

The Stochasticity of Motions in the Triplets of Stars and Galaxies 105
J.P. Anosova, L.G. Kiseleva, A.D. Chernin, A.V. Ivanov, and V.V. Orlov

Stochasticity of the Orbit of the Asteroid 1989 AC 113
D. Benest, C. Froeschlé, and R. Gonczi

Stochastic Trajectories of Space Vehicles with Gravitational Manoeuvres 123
A.V. Krivov, L.I. Sokolov, and V.B. Titov

Stochastic Instability in Gravitating Medium 131
Irina K. Rozgacheva

Stochastic Behaviour of Planetary Orbits During the Accumulation Process 137
I.N. Ziglina and O. Yu. Schmidt

PART III STELLAR SYSTEMS AND GALAXIES 149

Stability of Self-Gravitating Finite Disks 151
Ashok Ambastha

On Dynamical Non-Stationarity of the Galaxy Systems 161
J.P. Anosova, L.G. Kiseleva, and V.V. Orlov

Linear Polarization in Close Binaries 171
S.K. Parman and A. Peraiah

Dynamical Evolution of Stellar Clusters and Associations in the Field of Tidal Forces of the Galaxy 183
T.S. Kozhanov

Formation of Large Sacle Structures in the Universe by Inverse Cascade: Cosmosynergetics 193
V. Krishan and C. Sivaram

https://doi.org/10.1017/S0252921100065830 Published online by Cambridge University Press

Dynamical Instability of Trapezium Type Multiple Stars 199
L.V. Mirzoyan

Roche Instability in Binary Stellar Systems 205
P.M.S. Namboodiri and R.K. Kochhar

Roche Instability in Ejecting Stellar Systems 209
K.S.V.S. Narasimhan and S.M. Alladin

The Effect of Multiplicity of Stellar Encounters and the Convergence of Collision Integral in the Stellar System 217
Irina V. Petrovskaya

Statistical Studies of Orbits in Stellar Systems 223
B.S. Sagintaev and O.V. Chumak

A Lie Algebra of the Symmetries of Liouville's Equation 233
Y. Sobouti and M. H. Dehghani

On Gravothermal Instability of Anisotropic Self-Gravitating Gas Spheres: Singular Equilibrium Solution 241
R. Spurzem

Dynamics of the Antonov-Nuritdinov Planar Galaxy Model 255
S. Sridhar

PART IV TRIPLE AND MANY BODY PROBLEM 263

Dynamical Mechanisms for Transferring Comets In and Out of the Oort Cloud 265
M.J. Valtonen and J.Q. Zheng

Unstable Triple Systems – Escape From Initial Configurations 271
J.P. Anosova

The Libration Points and Hill Surfaces in the Restricted Problem of Three Variable-Mass Bodies 277
A.A. Bekov

Encounter in the Keplerian Field: Analytical Treatment 289
V.A. Brumberg and T.V. Ivanova (abstract only)

https://doi.org/10.1017/S0252921100065830 Published online by Cambridge University Press

Stability of the Triangular Lagrangian Solutions of the Photo Gravitational Restricted Three-Body Problem in the Three-Dimensional Case 291
Md. Ghulam Murtuza and Vijay Kumar and R.K. Choudhry

Quasi-Integrals of the Plane Restricted Three-Body Problem 309
E.M. Nezhinskij

PART V GENERAL CELESTIAL MECHANICS AND STELLAR DYNAMICS 321

Hierarchy of Periodic Solutions for Hamiltonian Systems and their Applications to Celestial Mechanics 323
Yu.V. Barkin

The In-Plane Motion of a Geosynchronous Satellite Under the Gravitational Attraction of the Sun, the Moon and the Oblate Earth 339
K.B. Bhatnagar and Manjeet Kaur (abstract only)

New Intermediaries for the Main Problem in Satellite Theory 341
José M. Ferrándiz and Luis Florí a

Long-Term Predictions for Highly Eccentric Orbits 353
José M. Ferrándiz, M. Eugenia Sansaturio and Jesús Vigo

A Method of Numerical Extending of Periodical Motions of Hamiltonian Systems with Respect to Parameters 365
S.R. Karimov and A.G. Sokolsky

Application of Szebehely's Inverse Problem to Non-Stationary Dynamical Systems 373
G.T. Omarova and T.S. Kozhanov

Application of Non-Standard Numerical Methods to Satellite Problems 379
M. Teresa Pérez

Planar Oscillation of the Satellite Near Parametric Resonance in the Elliptic Orbit 391
Ram Binoy Singh

Fragility in Cosmology and Astrophysics 399
R.K. Tavakol

https://doi.org/10.1017/S0252921100065830 Published online by Cambridge University Press

Tidal Force of Sun Due to Planetary Radial Alignment and Sun-Spot Cycle 407
S.D. Verma

Orbital Instability and Forming of Outer Part of Asteroidal Belt 415
Elena V. Alfimova

List of Participants 425

Author Index 437

Subject Index 445

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