CALIBRATION OF EQUILIBRIUM TIDE THEORY FOR EXTRASOLAR PLANET SYSTEMS

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ABSTRACT

We provide an “effective theory” of tidal dissipation in extrasolar planet systems by empirically calibrating a model for the equilibrium tide. The model is valid to high order in eccentricity and parameterized by two constants of bulk dissipation—one for dissipation in the planet and one for dissipation in the host star. We are able to consistently describe the distribution of extrasolar planetary systems in terms of period, eccentricity, and mass (with a lower limit of a Saturn mass) with this simple model. Our model is consistent with the survival of short-period exoplanet systems, but not with the circularization period of equal mass stellar binaries, suggesting that the latter systems experience a higher level of dissipation than exoplanet host stars. Our model is also not consistent with the explanation of inflated planetary radii as resulting from tidal dissipation. The paucity of short-period planets around evolved A stars is explained as the result of enhanced tidal inspiral resulting from the increase in stellar radius with evolution.

Key words: planet–star interactions – planets and satellites: dynamical evolution and stability

1. INTRODUCTION

That tidal dissipation operates in extrasolar planet systems seems beyond dispute. The eccentricities of the closest planets are markedly smaller than those of planets with larger semimajor axes. However, the details of how tides sculpt the distribution, and the degree to which their influence extends in determining planetary radii is still a subject of active discussion. We have seen claims that the enhanced radii of some planets are due to recent or ongoing tidal dissipation, while others claim not (Jackson et al. 2008b, 2009; Miller et al. 2009; Ibgui et al. 2010). We have also seen claims that some observed systems should be very short lived (e.g., Hebb et al. 2010). Part of the problem is that the nature of tidal dissipation in these planets is still poorly understood. Furthermore, for some systems, dissipation of tides in the star is as important as that in the planet. Finally, much of the discussion has been couched in terms of the oft-used but physically obscure measure that has been calibrated in the solar system (e.g., Goldreich & Soter 1966) but which is frequency dependent, and therefore sometimes difficult to translate from one system to another.

Our goal in this paper is to exploit the growing diversity of the exoplanet parameter space to try and place empirical constraints on the parameters of a specific tidal theory. We will adopt the equilibrium tide theory as our basic framework, although we recognize the distinct possibility that the physics of tidal interactions is much richer than this zeroth order treatment. We will also allow for the possibility that the differences in stellar and planetary structure require two different normalizations of the respective dissipative processes. Finally, we will cast our normalizations explicitly in terms of tidal dissipation constants ($\sigma$), which are intrinsic measures of the star/planet internal structure and viscosity, and not dependent (within the context of this theory) on the frequency of forcing. Thus, we will be able to calculate a version of the tidal $Q$ that has a self-consistent frequency dependence.

In Section 2, we present a brief summary of the tidal model we adopt, which we base on the model of Eggleton et al. (1998). In Section 3, we review the literature on the related tidal dissipation problem of the circularization period for solar mass main-sequence binaries, and what this can tell us about the dissipation in solar mass stars. In Section 4, we will consider the calibration by fitting to the planetary distribution, in both period, eccentricity, and planet mass. In Section 5, we will discuss the implications of our results, both in terms of observations and relative to other studies of this well-known subject.

2. TIDAL MODEL

Eggleton et al. (1998)—hereafter EKH—present a rederivation of the equilibrium tide model of Hut (1981), which is well suited to our purpose. It applies to arbitrarily large eccentricities (important given the observed distribution of planetary eccentricities around other stars) and it isolates a physically motivated model of the dissipation in the planet or star, so that we may calibrate it for a specific class of object, instead of trying to cast our calculations in terms of the oft-used but physically obscure $Q/Q'$ parameter.\footnote{EHK demonstrate that the formalism is equivalent to the “constant time-lag” approximation often used in the derivation of tidal evolution equations.} We make the assumption that all of the host stars we discuss have the same basic internal dissipation constant $\sigma_r$, and that all the substellar bodies (planets and brown dwarfs) have the same $\sigma_p$. Once these quantities are specified, the mass and radii dependencies are explicit in the theory. Given this assumption, we restrict our attention to planets with masses greater than Saturn, to guarantee that the bodies are all of the same basic, fully convective structure. Planets in the Neptune and SuperEarth categories may have sufficiently different internal structures that a different dissipation constant is required.

We also fold into our definition a dimensionless factor related to the structure of the object (since this scales with the same way as the dissipation constant). Thus, our definition of $\sigma_r$ and $\sigma_p$ includes the multiplicative factor $(Q/(1-Q))^2$, where $Q$ is the structure factor defined in EKH, and not the quality factor of Goldreich & Soter. This is similar to the difference between the traditional definitions of $Q$ and $Q'$, which are related by a factor determined by the Love number of the object in question, also determined by the density structure.
For aligned orbits, and dissipation in the planet, the semimajor axis $a$ decreases at a rate determined by

$$\frac{\dot{a}}{a} = -\frac{1}{T_p} \left[ \frac{1 + 31/2e^2 + 255/8e^4 + 185/16e^6 + 25/64e^8}{(1 - e^2)^{15/2}} \right. $$

$$\left. - \frac{\Omega_p}{\omega} \left( \frac{1 + 15/2e^2 + 45/8e^4 + 5/16e^6}{(1 - e^2)^5} \right) \right],$$

(1)

where $e$ is the eccentricity of the orbit, $\omega$ is the angular frequency of the orbit, and $\Omega_p$ is the spin of the planet. The characteristic orbital decay time is

$$T_p = \frac{1}{9\sigma_p} \frac{M_p a^8 1}{M_* M R_p^{10} \sigma_p},$$

(2)

where $M_p$ and $M_*$ are the planet and stellar masses, $M = M_p + M_*$ is the total mass, and $R_p$ is the planetary radius. The full equation for the orbital decay includes an equivalent contribution that results from dissipation in the star.

The eccentricity evolution is given by

$$\frac{\dot{e}}{e} = -\frac{9}{2T_p} \left[ \frac{1 + 15/4e^2 + 15/8e^4 + 5/64e^6}{(1 - e^2)^{3/2}} \right. $$

$$\left. - \frac{11}{18} \frac{\Omega_p}{\omega} \left( \frac{1 + 3/2e^2 + 1/8e^4}{(1 - e^2)^{5/2}} \right) \right],$$

(3)

and the rate of change of the spin is

$$\frac{\dot{\Omega}_p}{\Omega_p} = \frac{\gamma}{2T_p} \left[ \frac{1 + 15/2e^2 + 45/8e^4 + 5/16e^6}{(1 - e^2)^{3/2}} \right. $$

$$\left. - \frac{\Omega_p}{\omega} \left( \frac{1 + 3e^2 + 3/8e^4}{(1 - e^2)^{5/2}} \right) \right],$$

(4)

where $\gamma$ is the ratio of orbital angular momentum to spin angular momentum. As in the case of Equation (1), each of these equations has an equivalent for dissipation in the star. The related timescale is

$$T_s = \frac{1}{9\sigma_s} \frac{M_* a^8 1}{M P M R_s^{10} \sigma_s}.$$  

(5)

An important feature of note in these equations is the strong dependence on stellar and planetary radius. As a result, we will need to properly account for the evolution of these quantities, as described below. In addition, we wish to choose appropriate normalization constants for $\sigma_p$ and $\sigma_*$, based on the global properties of the objects involved. These dissipation constants scale as $\propto 1/(\text{mass} \times \text{length}^2 \times \text{time})$. If we set the timescale to be the dynamical time of the object, we find that $\sigma_0 = (GM/R^3)^{1/2}$. Using scalings relative to Jupiter and the Sun for planets and stars, respectively, we define $\tilde{\sigma}_p$ and $\tilde{\sigma}_*$ using

$$\sigma_p = 5.9 \times 10^{-54} \text{ g}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1} \tilde{\sigma}_p,$$

(6)

and

$$\sigma_* = 6.4 \times 10^{-59} \text{ g}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1} \tilde{\sigma}_*.$$  

(7)

Finally, we note that the above formalism applies to aligned orbits, which is a special case of the general EKH formalism. We adopt this for the purposes of clarity, given that our principal interest is in the orbital distribution of the planets. There are indeed interesting questions related to the alignment of orbits and stellar spin rates, but are more particularly applicable to questions of the origin of planetary eccentricities. For the purposes of this calculation, we adopt an eccentricity distribution as an initial condition and leave questions of origin to a later date.

2.1. Stellar and Planetary Evolution

The strength of the tidal force between fluid bodies is a strong function of the radii, and thus we need to treat the evolutionary history of stellar and planetary radii correctly. In particular, we will find in Section 3 that the radius evolution for the star is a non-negligible contributor, including the pre-main-sequence stage. Therefore, in the calculations to follow, we use the evolutionary models of Baraffe et al. (1998) to describe the evolution of stellar radius with age, as a function of mass. The evolution for some representative stars is shown in Figure 1.

We also need to describe the evolution of the planetary radius with mass. We use the models and formalism described in Hansen & Barman (2007). The thermal evolution of the planet is calculated using a Henyey code, with boundary conditions based on models for irradiated atmospheres. The result is that the rate at which the radius shrinks is slowed as the planet experiences more irradiation, as has been described by a variety of authors (Guillot et al. 1996; Burrows et al. 2000; Baraffe et al. 2003). We also include a bulk heating contribution, to account for energy input due to tidal dissipation in the planet. This is included as a bulk heating rate per unit mass. Figure 2 demonstrates the various effects. The solid curve shows a planet (with no core) with appropriate mass ($1.41M_J$) and irradiation to serve as an analogue to WASP-12. We choose this object because it has been modeled by both Miller et al. (2009) and Ibgi et al. (2010), and can thus serve as a useful baseline for comparison with the models in those papers. The figure shows the radius (with appropriate correction for the transit radius measurement).
The Miller model includes a 10
between those of Miller & Ibgui (after correcting for the fact that
Figure 2. No. 1, 2010 CALIBRATION OF EQUILIBRIUM TIDE THEORY FOR EXTRASOLAR PLANET SYSTEMS 287
Q
and Ibgui et al. (dashed). The parameters were chosen to yield
formalisms) to match the parameters used in Miller et al. (dotted)
lines show the radius evolution of the same planet but including
the effects of tidal heating. In calculating these curves we have
Miller et al. Such an eccentricity was initially claimed for WASP-12, but
subsequent observations seem to belie this, so the approximation may not be
valid.

Inspection of the two other papers shows that our results lie in
between those of Miller & Ibgui (after correcting for the fact that
the Miller model includes a 10 Msolar core). The dotted and dashed
lines show the radius evolution of the same planet but including
the effects of tidal heating. In calculating these curves we have
parameterized our model as best we could (given the different
formalisms) to match the parameters used in Miller et al. (dotted)
and Ibgui et al. (dashed). The parameters were chosen to yield
the same Q′ values at the current separation of WASP-12. We
see that we reproduce the character of the Miller result, because
we incorporated a fixed floor of eccentricity (e = 0.05), which
maintains the tidal dissipation in the planet and causes runaway
heating at small separations. The dashed line lies above the solid
line, indicating that tidal heating is playing a role, but we do not
reproduce the increase in radius at late times in the Ibgui model,
because our model circularizes the orbit much earlier, even with
the adjusted parameterization. We discuss the reasons for this
further in Section 5.

The above comparison indicates that the planetary models
used in the various studies are similar, if not exact, and that
most of the differences in the final comparison of radii are
likely to result from the treatment of the tidal evolution, which
is the motivation for this paper.

3. NORMALIZATION OF STELLAR BINARIES

We would like to calibrate the stellar dissipation constant
independently of the planets by examining the circularization
of stellar mass binaries. We follow the formalism of Meibom &
Mathieu (2005)—hereafter MM05—to calibrate the model. We
start with a gaussian initial distribution of eccentricities, with
mean value \( \bar{e} = 0.35 \) and dispersion \( \sigma_e = 0.21 \). This represents
an estimate of the eccentricity distribution of long-period
(>50 days) binaries in the Pleiades, M35, Hyades/Praesepe,
M67 and NGC 188. Initial periods are drawn from a log-normal
distribution and the evolution is calculated using the formalism
in Section 2. Spin periods for the stars are initially assumed
to be small (30 days), and the evolution of the stellar radius is
calculated as in Section 2.1. MM05 found that the most robust
estimate of the tidal circularization period \( P^* \) was to fit a function of the form
\[
e(P) = 0.35(1 - e^{0.14(P - P^*)})
\]
to the final distribution (where \( e = 0 \) for \( P < P^* \)). MM05
provide measures of the circularization period for a series of
open clusters and representative field populations, reproduced in Table 1.

Using the above procedure, we simulate the tidal evolution
of a population of 1 Msolar stars with a variety of values of \( \bar{\sigma}_e \)
and fit the same function as MM05 to the result. By comparing
to the observationally determined circularization period, we
then infer the empirical values of \( \bar{\sigma}_e \) which correspond
to the observations within the context of the equilibrium tide model.
The inferred values are included in Table 1. Figure 3 shows the evolution of the circularization period with age,
along with that expected from our model, adopting the best-fit
value of \( \bar{\sigma}_e = 5.3 \times 10^{-5} \). We see that the equilibrium
tide model provides an excellent description of the overall
trend of the circularization period with astrophysical age.
We also see that the pre-main-sequence stage is essential, as
asserted by Zahn & Bouchet (1989). The dotted line shows
the evolution of the circularization period if radius is held
fixed, and calibrated to fit the data at late times. At earlier
times this calibration dramatically underestimates the amount
of circularization. Essentially, the circularization period is set
by the pre-main-sequence dissipation for populations with ages
<2 Gyr and only begins to increase, due to the main-sequence
dissipation, at larger ages. The best-fit \( \bar{\sigma}_e \) is also an order
of magnitude smaller than would have been inferred without the
pre-main-sequence evolution.

4. EXOPLANETS

As has been discussed by several authors, the circularization
of planetary orbits can be affected by dissipation in both the
planet and the star. In our model, we allow for a different
dissipation constant in the two. We use the above calibration
for \( \bar{\sigma}_e \) and now wish to examine whether we can explain the
observed exoplanets with a single estimate for \( \bar{\sigma}_p \).

One difference in philosophy between analysing the stellar
binaries and the exoplanet systems is that, in the latter, there is

| Population     | \( \log t_0 \) | \( P^* \) (days) | \( 10^5 \bar{\sigma}_e \) |
|----------------|--------------|----------------|-------------------|
| PMS binaries   | −2.5         | 7.1^{+1.2}_{−1.2} | 6 \pm 2           |
| Pleiades       | −1.0         | 7.2^{+1.8}_{−1.9} | 3.1 \pm 2         |
| M35            | −0.8         | 10.2^{+1.0}_{−1.5} | 9.7 \pm 4.8       |
| Hyades/Praesepe| −0.2         | 3.2^{+1.2}_{−1.2} | …                |
| M67            | 0.6          | 12.1^{+1.0}_{−1.5} | 7.0 \pm 3.0       |
| NGC188         | 0.8          | 14.5^{+1.4}_{−2.2} | 9.7 \pm 3.8       |
| Field          | 0.95         | 10.3^{+1.5}_{−3.1} | 0.8 \pm 0.6       |
| Halo           | 1.0          | 15.6^{+2.1}_{−3.2} | 3.6 \pm 2.0       |

Table 1

Tidal Circularization Periods for Solar Mass Binaries
of Various Ages
...where we proceed with a two pronged approach. First we will analyze the exoplanet distribution in the same manner as the stellar binaries in Section 3. This yields an initial ballpark estimate. To refine this, we will then repeat the exercise by modeling the individual systems that define the upper envelope of the period-eccentricity relation. The exoplanet distribution is now sufficiently well sampled that this is a reasonably well-defined locus, and the accumulated data from fitting the individual systems should indicate the appropriate value of \( \sigma_p \).

### 4.1. Jupiters

To begin our treatment of the exoplanet sample, we want to define a sample of exoplanets in the same spirit as those of Section 3. There are several pitfalls in such an analysis. The exoplanet sample covers a range of ages and stellar populations, and is compiled through a variety of search techniques with different biases. Nevertheless, a global analysis will at least indicate a initial guess for the dissipation rate, that can set later refinements in context.

We restrict our initial calculation to planets with a factor of three of Jupiter’s mass, i.e., 0.3–3 \( M_J \), orbiting stars of 1 \( M_\odot \). The lower bound serves to restrict our analysis to objects that share the same basic internal structure of a fully convective, H/He mixture. The upper bound is somewhat arbitrary, but the observations of eccentricity versus mass suggest that this lies close to a qualitative difference in behavior. Figure 4 shows the period-eccentricity relation for this sample, in a comparison with the M35 solar mass sample of MM05. Clearly we expect a shorter circularization period in the case of exoplanets.

We use the same initial distributions as in Section 3, except for the initial eccentricity distribution, and describe the evolution of stellar and planetary radii using the formalism of Section 2.1. Following in the spirit of the stellar sample, we compile the distribution function of eccentricities for planets in the above mass range by using those systems with orbital periods from 50 to 1000 days. This is fit by a gaussian, with a somewhat lower mean value (0.2) than for the stellar sample, and with a slightly higher dispersion (0.25). We fit the resulting tidally evolved population with a function

\[
e(P) = 0.2 \left( 1 - e^{0.65(p' - p)} \right)
\]

that is similar in spirit to the one of MM05, but with a sharper rise as dictated by the population that evolves from the model. Fitting a similar function to the data yields a circularization period of 2.85 days. We refer the reader again to the discussion in MM05 regarding the choice of this function, which is designed to trace the mean trend of eccentricity with period, not the largest circular orbit.

We add one additional step to the comparison over the procedure followed in MM05. We restrict our fitting function to systems with \( e > 0.02 \). This was necessary because the planet sample has a significant excess of circular orbits above the circularization period over that expected from a model population drawn from a tidally evolved model population. In principle, this could indicate a real excess, suggesting that some planets do migrate inward on circular orbits, but could also be significantly affected by the selection effects associated with radial velocity and transit surveys. Certainly there is no circular excess in the range of orbital periods \( > 10 \) days. Thus, we restrict our model comparison to the distribution of non-circular orbits.

Performing the model comparison, for a mean sample age of 3.0 Gyr, we obtain \( \sigma_p = 6.8 \times 10^{-7} \). Figure 5 shows the comparison between the observed distribution and the model population. This provides us with an approximate mean estimate, but better constraints may be obtained by comparing to individual objects with well-determined parameters. To this...
dictated by the long-period objects. 

the original distribution, which had a mean of 0.2 and a dispersion of 0.25, as define the approximate envelope of the $P$-end, we can consider several specific objects whose properties define the approximate envelope of the $P$–$e$ relation.

4.2. Individual Objects

To refine the constraints on $\bar{\sigma}_p$, we wish to examine individual systems. By modeling those that define the envelope of the period–eccentricity relation, and by addressing the particular system parameters (stellar mass, age, etc), we hope to refine our initial estimate. In contrast to the calculations of Section 4.1, we perform the following calculations for the values of stellar and planetary mass specific to each system. We furthermore assume the stars have a stellar rotation period of 30 days initially, and discuss the effects of and on stellar spin in Section 5.4.

4.2.1. WASP-17b

The shortest period planet with claimed eccentricity $>0.1$ is WASP-17b (Anderson et al. 2010). This planet has a mass of half that of Jupiter and an age estimated to be $3^{+2.6}_{-2.2}$ Gyr. The eccentricity is $0.13^{+0.11}_{-0.09}$. The allowed values of $\bar{\sigma}_p$ depend somewhat on the assumed age. If the age lies at the low end of the stated range, there is not much time to circularize all possible orbits, and dissipation rates as high as $\bar{\sigma}_p = 1.2 \times 10^{-6}$ allow an eccentricity of this magnitude to survive. At the upper end of the age range, this dissipation rate is unacceptably large and would circularize the orbit completely. In this case an upper limit of $\bar{\sigma}_p = 6.8 \times 10^{-8}$ is determined. Furthermore, with an abundance of planets in the period range, it is likely that eccentricities much larger than 0.24 are also disallowed. This can be used to place a lower limit on the dissipation rate as well, leading to an overall constraint (including age uncertainty),

$$6.8 \times 10^{-8} < \bar{\sigma}_p < 1.2 \times 10^{-6}.$$ 

Thus, WASP-17b alone allows an order of magnitude variation in the estimated dissipation, driven mostly by the uncertainty in the age.

4.2.2. BD-10 3166

This planet has a mass similar to WASP-17b and a slightly smaller semimajor axis. The measured eccentricity (Butler et al. 2000) is $e = 0.07 \pm 0.05$, so we consider the possibility that the eccentricity is as large as 0.12. The age determined from chromospheric activity (Saffe et al. 2005) ranges from 0.5 to 4.2 Gyr, depending on the calibration used. Furthermore, the claimed radius of 1.7 $R_\odot$ is rather large for a 1 $M_\odot$ star, suggesting that the age could be closer to $\sim 10$ Gyr.

If the system is $\sim 10$ Gyr old, then we can use the 1$\sigma$ lower limit on the eccentricity to constrain $\bar{\sigma}_p < 1.7 \times 10^{-6}$. Dissipation stronger than this would have circularized the orbit over this time span. Similarly, a lower limit can be obtained by requiring that the 1$\sigma$ upper bound on the eccentricity match the simulations at the shortest estimated age (0.5 Gyr). Once again, this leaves us with an order of magnitude uncertainty, dictated by the uncertain age of the star:

$$3.4 \times 10^{-7} < \bar{\sigma}_p < 1.7 \times 10^{-6}.$$ 

Another possible constraint in the same period range is possible from the system WASP-6. In this case the error bars on the eccentricity are smaller, but the age uncertainty is even larger, and the dissipation constraints are not markedly better.

4.2.3. Kepler-6b

Clearly, one of the big uncertainties in this estimate is the time that tides have had to exert their influence in these systems. Planets discovered by Kepler will be particularly interesting for this purpose, because their asteroseismological analyses can potentially constrain the ages much better. Kepler has yet to announce a planet with a measurably eccentric orbit, but we can get an estimate of what constraints might be possible by considering the system Kepler-6b. In the fits to the radial velocity data for Kepler-6b, the orbit was assumed to be circular (Dunham et al. 2010), and the data appear consistent with this assumption. If we adopt an illustrative constraint of $e < 0.05$ and the calculated age of 3.8 ± 1 Gyr for this 0.67 $M_J$ planet, we obtain a lower limit

$$\bar{\sigma}_p > 3.4 \times 10^{-7}$$

for the tidal dissipation. This is the amount required to circularize the planet to $e < 0.05$ within 5 Gyr. As Kepler accumulates more data, a better calibration is likely.

4.2.4. COROT-5

The system COROT-5b offers an improvement, by virtue of a reasonably constrained spectroscopic age (Rauer et al. 2009) of 6.9 ± 1.4 Gyr. The planet is once again roughly half a Jupiter mass around a solar mass star. The eccentricity is $e = 0.09^{+0.09}_{-0.04}$ at an orbital period of 4.03 days. The range of $\bar{\sigma}_p$ compatible with this system’s error bars and age range is

$$1.2 \times 10^{-7} < \bar{\sigma}_p < 6.8 \times 10^{-7}.$$
4.2.5. HD118203b

Tracing the upper envelope of the eccentricity–period relation, we find the system HD 118203b, which has a mass of 2.13 $M_j$, a period of 6.1 days and an eccentricity 0.31 ± 0.01 (Da Silva et al. 2006). The age of the system is estimated to be 4.6 ± 0.8 Gyr. In order for such a planet to possess this level of eccentricity at these ages, it places an upper limit on the level of dissipation of

$$\bar{\sigma}_p < 3.4 \times 10^{-6}.$$  

This is obtained by requiring that the envelope of the $P$–$e$ relation intersect the observed value at an age of 3.8 Gyr. In principle, if this object traces the upper edge of the eccentricity distribution, we could also place a lower limit. However, the envelope does not move significantly up even if $\bar{\sigma}_p$ is reduced to zero, because stellar tides become more important as the planet mass increases. We will discuss this further below.

4.2.6. HD185269

This is a planet orbiting a subgiant (Johnson et al. 2006), with an eccentricity of 0.3 ± 0.04. Johnson et al. quote an age (4.2 Gyr) with no error bar, so we estimate an error bar of ±0.3 Gyr on the basis of the error in the estimated mass and radius, and our stellar models. The subgiant nature of this star leads to some interesting tidal behavior. For the maximum estimated age (4.2 Gyr), we find that we cannot match the observed parameters, even if $\bar{\sigma}_p = 0$. This is because dissipation in the star is strong enough to circularize orbits at this separation. However, at the lower end of the age range (3.9 Gyr), the stellar tides are sufficiently weakened that values as large as $\bar{\sigma}_p = 5.1 \times 10^{-6}$ are consistent with the data. This dramatic change is because the radius of the star is increasing as it evolves towards the giant branch, making the stellar tides increase in strength. The end result is that the constraint is much the same as before

$$\bar{\sigma}_p < 5.1 \times 10^{-6}.$$  

4.2.7. Synthesis

Fitting each of these systems yields a range of values consistent with the observed parameters. It is possible to achieve a successful synthesis of these various constraints with a value

$$\bar{\sigma}_p = 5 \pm 2 \times 10^{-7}$$

and

$$\sigma_s = 1.3 \times 10^{-5}.$$  

It is encouraging that $\bar{\sigma}_p$, derived in this manner is similar to that from the fit of the “average” model to the global distribution. The consistency suggests that neither approach is overly bedeviled by systematic issues related to, for example, the age of the system in question.

4.3. Massive Planets

In Section 4.1, we restricted our attention to planets less massive than 3$M_j$, and calibrated the planetary dissipation from the observed distribution. There is potentially also interesting information in the more massive planets, as shown in Figure 6. In the lower panel, we show the period–eccentricity distribution of the Jupiter mass sample in Figure 5. In the upper panel, we show the same relation for planets with $M > 3M_j$. The upper envelope of the distribution appears shifted to lower periods in the latter sample, suggesting a useful test of our equilibrium tide model. Can we explain this shift with our calibration?

4.3.1. WASP-14b

The planet WASP-14b (Joshi et al. 2009) would appear to be a particularly useful system, as it has a measured eccentricity of 0.090 ± 0.003 (recently confirmed by Husnoo et al. 2010) at an orbital period of 2.24 days—at which lower mass planets are definitely circularized. The planet mass is 7.73 $M_j$ and the estimated age of the system is 0.75 ± 0.25 Gyr.

When we adopt our calibrated model, it fails spectacularly to match the observed values of WASP-14b. The observed parameters of WASP-14b lie well above and to the left of the allowed period–eccentricity region, for systems with the mass and age observed. Reducing the amount of dissipation in the planet (even to zero) does not change the envelope significantly, so it is not our assumption that dissipation is the same across all planet masses that is the problem. Rather, it is the dissipation in the star that has to be reduced. The larger mass planet raises stronger tides on the star and this causes the stellar tides to drag the planet in further. A planet with the mass, period, and eccentricity of WASP-14b should have been swallowed by the star on a timescale shorter than the estimated age of the system.

4.3.2. XO-3b

To further illustrate the problem, let us consider the system XO-3b (Johns-Krull et al. 2008; Winn et al. 2008). This planet has a mass of 11.8$M_j$, which is almost large enough to be a brown dwarf. With an orbital period of only 3.2 days, it nevertheless has an eccentricity of 0.26 ± 0.02 and an estimated stellar age of 2.8 ± 0.8 Gyr. With these parameters and the nominal calibration from lower masses, XO-3b would have to have an orbital period of 6.6 days to survive for the estimated age. As in the case of WASP-14b, changing the planetary dissipation rate does little to alleviate the mismatch, and we are again faced with the requirement to reduce the dissipation in the star.
4.4. Recalibration of the Stellar Dissipation

Testing our calibration of Section 4.1 on the more massive planets shows that we cannot get a consistent calibration of the equilibrium tide model that applies to both stellar binaries and planetary systems. The reason is that the level of stellar dissipation required to match the circularization in stellar binaries is too strong to match the planetary systems. We will return to the implications of this in Section 5, but, for now, let us consider a recalibration of the stellar tides using just the planetary systems.

4.4.1. HAT-P-2b

At longer orbital periods (5.6 days), we find the planet HAT-P-2b (Bakos et al. 2007), with mass $9.1 M_J$ and eccentricity $0.517 \pm 0.033$, at a system age of $2.7 \pm 0.5$ Gyr. This is perhaps the most extreme of the known systems, and can thus serve as a useful system to recalibrate the stellar dissipation. We simulate this system using the individual system parameters, as in previous cases, with one exception. This system is unique amongst those considered up to this point in that it has a stellar rotation that is faster than the planetary orbital rotation, so that the stellar tidal effects could potentially push the planet outwards rather than inwards. For consistency with our previous models, we will assume a stellar rotation period of 30 days initially in our calculations. We return to this system in Section 5.4 and demonstrate that the spin turns out to not be quantitatively important.

If we set dissipation in the planet to zero, the maximum acceptable stellar dissipation is $\tilde{\sigma}_s \sim 1.6 \times 10^{-7}$. If we use our nominal planetary dissipation of $\tilde{\sigma}_p \sim 5 \times 10^{-7}$, we need to reduce $\tilde{\sigma}_s$ by only a further factor of two. This indicates that the massive planet systems are mostly sensitive to $\tilde{\sigma}_s$ and only weakly sensitive to $\tilde{\sigma}_p$. Thus, we will adopt a provisional calibration of

$$\tilde{\sigma}_p = 5 \times 10^{-7}$$

and

$$\tilde{\sigma}_s = 8 \times 10^{-8}.$$

If we apply these numbers to the systems XO-3b and WASP-14b we get satisfactory fits as well, as shown in Figure 7. The reduction in the strength of the stellar tide means that planets can now orbit closer to the star without being pulled inward and swallowed.

Figure 8 demonstrates how the relative strength of stellar and planetary tides change with the planet mass. The two curves show two evolutionary scenarios. The initial condition was chosen such that it would yield the correct period, eccentricity, and age for the XO-3b system, using our final parameterization. The lower curve is calculated using all the same parameters and starting conditions, but reducing the mass of the planet to $1 M_J$. We see that the lower mass planet is more rapidly circularized, and at larger distances. The consequence is that the periastron for the lower mass planet actually moves outwards as the orbit circularizes, reducing the strength of the stellar tide. On the other hand, the periastron for the real XO-3b moves inward, because the stellar tide is dragging the planet inward at a rate comparable to the rate at which the planetary tide is circularizing the orbit.

4.4.2. Revisiting the Jovian-mass Systems

Comparing the new calibration to the same Jovian-mass planets as before shows that most are consistent with the new calibration. One system that is not is COROT-5b, which requires
a slight reduction in $\bar{\sigma}_p$ for consistency with the new value of $\bar{\sigma}_e$, yielding a final calibration

$$\bar{\sigma}_p = 3.4 \times 10^{-7}$$

and

$$\bar{\sigma}_e = 7.8 \times 10^{-8}.$$  

4.5. Closest Planets

Our re-calibration of the stellar dissipation results in a reduction of the strength by a factor of 160, relative to what is necessary to explain the circularization of binary stars. We can also attempt to constrain the strength of tidal dissipation by examining the survivability of very close planets. Planetary tides will act to circularize an orbit, but reduce to zero once this has occurred. Dissipation in the star, on the other hand, acts to transfer angular momentum from the planetary orbit to the stellar spin, and will slowly drag a planet inwards, even after it has circularized. Thus, we can constrain $\bar{\sigma}_p$ independently by examining the expected lifetime of known planets.

In the limit of a circular orbit, we can calculate a characteristic inspiral time

$$T_{\text{in}} = 8.2 \times 10^9 \text{yr} \left(\frac{a}{0.02 \text{ AU}}\right)^8 \left(\frac{R_*}{R_p}\right)^{-10} \times \left(\frac{M_p}{M_J}\right)^{-1} \left(\frac{\bar{\sigma}_e}{7.8 \times 10^{-8}}\right)^{-1}. \quad (10)$$

Table 2 shows the characteristic inspiral times for all the planets interior to 0.03 AU (excluding those that orbit M dwarfs, for whom the stellar tide might be markedly different). We see that the shortest ages are for WASP-18b and WASP-12b, but that both are still $>10^8$ yr and consistent with the ages estimated for the systems as a whole. The only formal conflict is for OGLE-TR-56, whose stated age is $>2$ Gyr, but whose estimated inspiral time is 1.1 Gyr, and so is broadly consistent given the systematics of stellar age determination for such stars. The fact that the observed systems can survive for a reasonable time using this parameterization is encouraging. We note also that reducing the ages in Table 2 by a factor of 160 would result in significant age conflicts for many of the systems listed there—another indication that the calibration using the stellar binaries is too large.

It is also of interest to consider the distribution of planets with semimajor axis. Figure 9 shows the cumulative distribution of Jovian-mass planets (detected from transits only in this case), compared to the same distribution from our simulations. The original semimajor axis distribution was distributed logarithmically, and the original eccentricity distribution was chosen to be the same as in Section 4.1. We show four models. The leftmost is the distribution left if we assume there is no dissipation in the star. The dotted histogram indicates the distribution after 0.1 Gyr, using the dissipation in Section 4.4.2. The short dashed histogram shows the same population, but after 3 Gyr. Finally, the rightmost histogram shows the distribution after 0.1 Gyr in the case where the stellar dissipation is given by the original value in Section 3. In all four cases, the theoretical planets were weighted by $1/a$, in a crude attempt to account for their detectability in transit surveys. This is an admittedly very crude model, subject to question in terms of both the initial semimajor axis and eccentricity distributions, but demonstrates how one might go about constraining $\bar{\sigma}_e$ once a better understanding of the observational selection effects is available. It also demonstrates that the data are more consistent with a simple model incorporating a small amount of stellar dissipation rather than no dissipation at all or that found by our stellar binary calibration.

4.6. Neptunes

In principle, our calibration should extend down to lower masses, if they are accurately described as cosmic abundance H/He mixtures. However, the current transiting planet sample does not contain any planet with mass $<0.2 M_J$ that has a radius $>0.5 R_J$. Thus, the currently known Neptune-mass objects likely all have significant core fractions, which may dramatically influence the dissipation and may change $\bar{\sigma}_p$.

4.7. Age Dependence

With a calibration of the tidal dissipation in hand, one can also examine how the distribution of planets evolves with time. Figure 10 shows the period distribution of a model population of $1 M_J$ planets around a $1 M_{\odot}$ star, comparing the orbit period at an age of 0.1 Gyr with that at 1 Gyr. The relation deviates from linear at periods $<1.5$ days, showing that it is planets with orbital period in this range that are expected to evolve over the evolutionary course charted by extant observations. The spread at periods $>2.5$ days is related to the amount of circularization that takes place over the same time span. Another way of phrasing this relation is that planets observed in a 1 day orbit around a 0.1 Gyr old star will spiral into the star within 1 Gyr.
5. DISCUSSION

The issue of planetary tidal evolution has a long and illustrious history, with many applications to our own solar system (e.g., Peale 1999). The importance of tides was realised immediately upon the discovery of the first extrasolar planets (e.g., Rasio et al. 1996; Marcy et al. 1997) because of the extremely short periods of the first planets discovered using radial velocities. The interest in tidal effects has been unwavering ever since, especially since the advent of transit surveys, which strongly favor the detection of short-period planets. As such, our results have relevance to many other studies (and vice versa). However, before we can compare and contrast our results with those of others, we need to provide a translation between the traditional manner of parameterizing the dissipation using \( Q \) and our intentionally different approach.

5.1. The \( Q' \) Parameter

As a large fraction of the literature on this subject is phrased in terms of a particular value of the tidal dissipation parameter \( Q' \), it is of interest to see how our model compares. If we compare of our expression with an equivalent expression cast in terms of \( Q' \), such as Jackson et al. (2008a), we obtain an expression

\[
Q'_p = \left( \frac{G}{M_*} \right)^{1/2} \frac{a^{3/2}}{R_p^5 \sigma_p} = \frac{G \, \omega}{\alpha R_p^3 \sigma_p}, \tag{11}
\]

where \( \alpha \) is the orbital angular frequency. Putting our best-fit numerical values into this yields

\[
Q'_p = 3.0 \times 10^8 \left( \frac{a}{0.1 \text{ AU}} \right)^{3/2} \left( \frac{R_p}{1 R_J} \right)^{-5} \left( \frac{M_*}{M_\odot} \right)^{-1/2}. \tag{12}
\]

Note that this is no longer a constant, but has a dependence on both semimajor axis and planetary radius (although not planetary mass). The radius dependence is quite strong and this is, in part, the reason for the strong effect of tidal dissipation. In general, \( Q' \) will drop as the planet approaches the star and dissipation will increase.

An equivalent analysis for the dissipation in the star yields an expression for the \( Q \) of the star,

\[
Q_* = 6.3 \times 10^8 \left( \frac{a}{0.1 \text{ AU}} \right)^{3/2} \left( \frac{R_*}{1 R_\odot} \right)^{-5} \left( \frac{M_*}{M_\odot} \right)^{-1/2}. \tag{13}
\]

Figure 11 shows the resulting values of \( Q'_p \) and \( Q_* \) for the close planet sample. We see that a large fraction of the close Jupiter systems are characterized by present day values \( Q'_p \sim 3 \times 10^7 \), although the closest systems (a few are labeled in the plot) show values a little smaller. The range of values of \( Q'_p \) shows somewhat greater variation, presumably because the strong dependence on \( R_* \) means that \( Q_* \) can vary by an order of magnitude with a 60% change in radius. The functional form of Equations (11) and (12) can be easily understood by analogy with the simple harmonic oscillator description of the equilibrium tide model (Greenberg 2009). Many authors have estimated \( Q' \) values for individual systems based on various observational constraints and model requirements (e.g., Matsumura et al. 2008; Miller et al. 2009; Ibugi et al. 2010). These are often significantly different than the corresponding values above, suggesting that efforts like this one to enforce consistency within the basis of a single physical model will be increasingly necessary as the observed sample grows.

One of the traditional cornerstones of estimating tidal dissipation in giant planets is to draw a comparison with the constraints on the dissipation in Jupiter, inferred by assuming that the resonant configuration of the Galilean satellites is driven by tidal
dissipation in Jupiter (Goldreich & Soter 1966). To cast our results in an appropriate form for this comparison, we must re-arrange terms in the formalism of Section 2, moving Jupiter to the role of “Star”, and Io to the role of planet. Furthermore, the forcing frequency (ΩJ) of this system comes from the rotation of Jupiter, not the orbit of Io, so that we need adopt the limit of ΩJ > ω. Once again, we infer

\[ Q'_J \sim \frac{1}{2} \frac{G}{\Omega_J^2 R_J^3 \sigma_p} \sim 5 \times 10^6 \]  

(14)

for a rotation period of 10 hr and \( \sigma_p = 2 \times 10^{-60} \text{ g}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1} \). This is only slightly higher than the usually quoted range of \( Q'_J \sim 10^5 - 10^6 \). Of course, it is also possible that the Laplace resonance of the satellites is primordial (Peale & Lee 2002), in which case there are no constraints on \( Q'_J \) from the Io system. This value is somewhat larger than the \( Q'_J \sim 4 \times 10^4 \) inferred by Lainey et al. (2009) from a long-term astrometric monitoring program, suggesting that a stronger frequency dependence may be required at higher forcing frequencies.3

5.2. Tidal Inflation

One of the principal motivations for our study was the recent flurry of interest in whether tidal dissipation can contribute to the inflated radii observed for some planets. Several authors have attempted to account for the enhanced radii of certain planets by invoking the dissipation due to tides to heat the planet internally. Jackson et al. (2008a, 2008b) have run the evolution of various systems backwards and claim that, for reasonable choices of \( Q \), one could explain the tidally inflated radii of some planets as the result of residual heat left over from recent circularization. However, they do not treat the evolution of the planetary radius self-consistently, an important omission, as the

\[ \sim 10^{10} \text{ yr}, \]  

which amounts to \( Q'_s \sim 2.5 \times 10^7 \) for these two systems). One concern about such studies is that it is not clear how the choices of \( Q \) should be related between different systems. One of the motivations for this current study was to see what a consistent formalism might yield. Another concern is that the tidal evolution equations in the above papers were truncated at second order in the eccentricity, even when the eccentricity was large. This approach has been (rightly) criticized recently by Leconte et al. (2010), who use a set of equations derived from the model of Hut (1981). This study is the closest extant one to ours, both in spirit and execution (since the EKH model is also ultimately derived from the same model as that of Hut).

With our final calibration, tidal inflation is not a likely cause of planetary inflation. Figure 12 shows the evolution for two prominent inflated planet systems, WASP-12 and WASP-4. In each case, the initial parameters were chosen such that the forward evolution with the parameterized model would yield the correct semimajor axis and eccentricity at the estimated age of the system. In both cases (and all others we investigated) the damping of the eccentricity does cause inflation of the planet, but happens on short times (\( \sim 10^3 \) yr), so that the planetary cooling reduces the radius to more traditional values by the time the planet reaches its current semimajor axis. Discrepancies are even larger for more distant inflated systems (like Tres-4), which experience little tidal evolution in this model. The only

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3 It is interesting that the factor of 50 difference between our \( Q' \) and the observation of Lainey could be explained if \( \sigma_p \) scales quadratically, as in the Goldreich–Nicholson formalism—assuming that the conversion is from 3 days to 10 hr.
way tidal inflation could explain these radii is if the planetary orbit was circularized only within the last $\sim 10^8$ yr, requiring a late injection of the planet orbit. In this we are in complete agreement with Leconte et al., who find a similar disagreement with previous studies, and ascribe it to the fact that the truncation of the tidal equations to quadratic order weakens the strength of the tide, allowing the planet to dissipate energy at later times, and increasing the amount of tidal inflation. This is ultimately why we cannot reproduce the evolutionary history of Ibugi et al. (2010) in Figure 2, no matter what parameterization we adopt.

Given the similar philosophy, it is of interest to compare the values of $Q'$ assumed in Leconte et al. with our calibrations. The Leconte model assumes a constant time lag, which EKH showed is an equivalent assumption to that of a bulk dissipation constant such as we use here. As a result, their $Q'$ values have the same frequency dependence as ours, and they have normalized them by assuming different values at a period of 1 day. We can use Equation (12) to normalize our model in a similar fashion. For our calibration, $Q_p' \sim 10^7$ and $Q_e' \sim 6 \times 10^7$ at 1 day periods (with some scatter resulting from the radius dependence in our model). Thus, our planetary dissipation is comparable to the upper range assumed by Leconte et al., although our stellar dissipation is an order of magnitude weaker than the range they studied.

For completeness, we should note that our inability to find a reasonable tidal inflation model is confined to the simple case of single planet tidal evolution. Some studies (e.g., Bodenheimer et al. 2001; Mardling 2007; Batygin et al. 2009; Ibugi et al. 2010) invoke a third body to perturb the eccentricity and maintain some level of tidal inflation. Figure 13 shows the evolution of the WASP-12b system in our tidal model with the addition of an eccentricity floor for the planet. As the stellar tide starts to drag in the orbit, the continued dissipation in the planet does indeed inflate the radius, and could potentially explain WASP-12b if $e > 0.02$. This is consistent with the initial claims for the system (Hebb et al. 2009; Lopez-Morales et al. 2010), but is not consistent with more recent measurements (Campo et al. 2010; Husnoo et al. 2010).

In conclusion, we find that it is difficult to explain the inflated planetary radii within the context of an equilibrium tide model parameterized to match the overall properties of the exoplanet distribution, especially if one uses a tidal evolution model that treats large eccentricity systems self-consistently.

### 5.3. The Lack of Hot Jupiters Around Subgiant A Stars

Searches for planets around more massive stars (>1.5 $M_\odot$) report a higher frequency of planets, but a conspicuous lack of close-in planets (Johnson et al. 2007; Lovis & Mayor 2007; Sato et al. 2008; Niedzielski et al. 2009). However, the recent report of a likely transiting planet in a 1.2 day orbit around the 1.5 $M_\odot$ star HD15082 (Collier Cameron et al. 2010) suggests that the existence of such planets is possible at least during the main-sequence stage. The fact that the radial velocity searches are performed around subgiants (so that the atmospheres are slowly rotating and more amenable to radial velocity measurement) means that one can speculate whether the close-in planets have been swallowed as the result of the evolution of the central star. Johnson et al. (2007) discount this possibility because the stellar radii do not approach the semimajor axes of the hot Jupiters until much later stages.

However, we have seen that the stellar tidal coupling can cause a planet to spiral inwards. Can this process, with our stellar dissipation calibration, explain the paucity of hot Jupiters around A-type subgiants (e.g., Sato et al. 2008)? Figure 14 suggests that tidal effects will contribute, at least partially, to the removal of close-in planets. We can determine the degree to which tides can drag in planets, as a function of stellar radius, by integrating the tidal evolution in concert with a model for the stellar evolution, and noting at which point a planet from a given initial orbit is swallowed. Figure 14 has been calculated by performing this calculation for a series of 3 $M_J$ planets, using the evolutionary

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4 Following the claims of Bowler et al. (2010) that the average mass of planets around these stars is higher.
histories for metal-rich stars of mass $1.5 \, M_\odot$ and $2.5 \, M_\odot$, using the Padova models (Girardi et al. 2000). We show the results as a function of stellar radius, as a proxy for age. Also shown (dotted line) is the criterion indicating the orbital period at the surface of the star. This is the line used by Johnson et al., and it indeed reaches orbital periods of several days only after the star has evolved significantly. The criterion derived from tidal evolution is somewhat stricter, suggesting that orbital periods out as far as 8 days are denuded by the time the star reaches the subgiant stage, and periods out to $\sim40$ days are removed by the time the star reaches a radius of $10 \, R_\odot$. Thus, any true hot Jupiters are removed rapidly, although it remains to be seen whether the remaining gap between 8 and 200 days is real or simply the result of low statistics.

After submission of this paper, Johnson et al. (2010) announced the discovery of HD102956b, a planet in a 6.5 day orbit around an A subgiant. This system supports the latter answer, and lies on the edge of the tidal survival boundary, as shown in Figure 14.

### 5.4. Spin of the Host Stars

The above calculations have assumed that the host stars are spinning slowly, consistent with what is observed for the majority of systems. If the star was spinning sufficiently rapidly, the tidal transfer of angular momentum from stellar spin to planetary orbit could potentially drive the planet outwards (e.g., Dobbs-Dixon et al. 2004). It has been noted that many of the massive planet hosts discussed in Section 4.3 are rotating more rapidly than the average for the sample as a whole, so we have investigated the effects of stellar spin on our calibration. In each case we investigated a range of initial stellar spins and repeated the calculation with our original and final values of stellar dissipation. No appreciable change in the period–eccentricity relation was found. As an illustration, consider the case of the HAT-P-2 system that was used to finalise the calibration in Section 4.4.2. This is also the only one of the systems in which the stellar spin is actually faster than the orbital spin, which would reverse the sign of the tide. We repeated our tidal evolution calculations for the same distributions in period and eccentricity, but now also sampling uniformly an initial stellar spin period distribution from 1 to 100 days. One might wonder whether the sign reversal of the stellar-spin dependant term would yield a consistent fit with our original, larger, stellar dissipation rate from Section 4.2.7. Figure 15 shows that this is not the case. In this case we plot final stellar spin against eccentricity, for all periods $<10$ days. We see that it is not possible to match both stellar spin and planetary eccentricity for tidally evolved systems using the stronger dissipation. Ultimately, matching the parameters of the HAT-P-2 system required weakening the stellar tide, irrespective of the stellar spin contribution.

Even if the spin of the star is not dynamically important, it is possible that conservation of angular momentum would spin the star up, if it drags a planet inwards through tidal coupling. It has been suggested (Pont 2009) that several observed host stars are rotating anomalously rapidly, and that this may indicate a non-negligible influence of tides on the host star itself. Within the context of our model calibration, none of the proposed systems (HD189733, COROT-2b, HAT-P-2b, and XO-3b) exhibits a sufficiently strong coupling to spin the stars up to significant levels. The more recently discovered system, WASP-18b, offers perhaps the best chance of observing stellar spin-up, as it is a massive planet in a very short period orbit (Hellier et al. 2009). However, even this system, within the context of stellar solid-body rotation, fails, by an order of magnitude, to spin the star up to the observed rotation period of 5.6 days (assuming a system lifetime of 1.5 Gyr). Thus, we do not expect the dynamics of the previous sections to be significantly affected by stellar rotation. It is possible, however, that the observed rotation period represents the spin-up of the surface convection zone only. WASP-18b is an F star and thus it is quite possible that the inspiral spun-up the surface convection zone while leaving the interior less rapidly rotating.

The best system for observing outward migration driven by stellar spin is WASP-33b (Collier Cameron et al. 2010). The estimated stellar rotation period is 0.81 days, and the orbital period is 1.2 days. This is sufficiently close that the tidal coupling is strong enough to be important even with the calibration of Section 4.4.2. Figure 16 shows the expected orbital evolution of the system, assuming the surface rotation represents the bulk solid body rotation of the star. We see that the planet is eventually driven out to orbital periods $\sim2$ days. The effect gets rapidly weaker with distance, and planets with orbital periods $>3$ days experience little change.

### 5.5. Internal Structure and Microphysical Dissipation

We have calibrated the planetary and stellar dissipation using a single bulk constant, within the context of the equilibrium tide model. It is clearly of some interest to understand how the final value compares to more detailed models for the true microphysical dissipation. The simplest microphysical model is dissipation of the equilibrium tide due to the turbulence in the convection zone. In the Appendix, we use the formalism of Eggleton et al. to relate the bulk $\sigma_r$ and $\sigma_\sigma$ to the internal dissipative processes, using our models for planetary and stellar structure.
For the planets, we find that the amount of dissipation required by our calibration is several orders of magnitude lower than that obtained if one adopts a simple local turbulent viscosity based on convective velocities and scale heights. This is encouraging, because the largest eddy overturn times are of the order of years, and so it is not clear how strong a coupling is likely to occur to forcing periods on the order of days. Indeed, there are several proposed prescriptions regarding how inefficient such a coupling is. Zahn (1989) proposes that the strength of the turbulent viscosity is reduced by a linear factor in the period, while Goldreich & Nicholson (1977) propose a quadratic scaling. Our calculations in the Appendix favor a value intermediate between these prescriptions. This is perhaps not surprising in the light of recent studies by Penev et al. (2009), who have performed simulations of forced anelastic convection. They find rates of dissipation that scale similar to the Zahn prescription when the forcing period is not too different from the eddy overturn times, but faster losses of efficiency as the forcing frequency becomes significantly faster. They suggest that the ultimate root of this behavior is that the turbulence deviates from the Kolmogorov form used to derive the above scalings. While our results clearly cannot shed any further light at this level of detail, it is encouraging that the order of magnitude values are within range of what one might naturally expect.

Our estimate of the stellar dissipation is not as sensitive to the various scalings, as the eddy overturn periods are of order days in this case, and thus should couple well to the observed properties. The effective calibration is a factor ~10 lower than what we infer from the simple model estimate, so that it is consistent with a slightly inefficient dissipation of the nominal equilibrium tide. The fact that this equilibrium tide value is broadly consistent with our calibration based on planets but not based on stars finds broad support in studies such as those of Ogilvie & Lin (2007). The essential difference is that planet host stars do not have spins synchronized to the orbital period, while stars in close, equal-mass binaries do. In the latter case, Ogilvie & Lin show that the equivalence of forcing period and rotation period allows for the excitation of inertial modes (an example of the “dynamical tide”), which can substantially enhance the rate of tidal dissipation. Similar modes are not excited by planets because the host stars rotate much slower than the orbital period. Excitation of modes in the radiative core (Goodman & Dickson 1998; Witte & Savonije 2002; Ogilvie & Lin 2007; Barker & Ogilvie 2010) may also contribute an enhanced dissipation of the case of planets, but the extent to which they do depends on the uncertain non-linear dissipation of waves that propagate to the center (in the limit of low dissipation, the excitations result in global modes with specific resonant frequencies, which do not generate a broad-band tidal response).

6. CONCLUSIONS

We have used the current sample of observed exoplanets to calibrate a model for tidal evolution based on that of Eggleton et al. (1998). This formalism has several advantages over those used in many other studies, in that it can be used to treat systems with large eccentricities, and offers a specific model for the frequency dependence of the tidal dissipation. Our calibration makes use of the distribution of planets and stars in terms of period, eccentricity, and mass. Our principal conclusions are the following.

1. We can successfully calibrate the model using the distribution of planets. By considering the variation of eccentricity amongst planets of different mass, we are able to simultaneously constrain dissipation in both planets and the main-sequence host stars. We find that the calibration requires a level of dissipation in the host star that is inconsistent with the circularization period of stars in equal-mass main-sequence binaries. This agrees with prior studies which find that the generation and dissipation of inertial waves in this latter class of system may lead to enhanced dissipation relative to non-synchronous systems which characterize the exoplanet host sample.

2. With this calibration we are unable to reproduce prior claims that the bloated radii of some hot Jupiters are the result of recent tidal circularization and dissipation. This disagreement is not only the result of our calibration, but also due to the fact that our model treats high eccentricity systems with greater fidelity than many previous studies.

3. Our calibration of stellar dissipation is consistent with the existence and survival of recently discovered planets with orbital periods ~1 day or less. We show that planets in this period regime do experience significant tidal evolution on the timescale of Gigayears, but are expected to survive for the lifetimes of their observed hosts.

4. We find that this level of tidal inspiral may also explain the lack of planets in close binaries observed around A-type subgiants. As the stellar radius increases, the evolving star exerts a stronger tidal force and drags planets inwards, to the extent that planets as far out as ~8 days may be swallowed by the time the stars evolve to the point at which they are now observed.

5. We have compared our model to simple estimates of turbulent dissipation of the equilibrium tide. Our results suggest a value that lies somewhere between the two...
proposed scalings for the efficiency of dissipation as a function of forcing frequency.

These results are encouraging in the sense that it is possible to describe the global distribution of exoplanets within a simple tidal evolution model. However, we must also recognize that the equilibrium tide model used is amongst the simplest possible descriptions of a complex physics problem. Given the success of the simple model, it may be of future interest to follow this study with a similar study based on a more complex microphysical description.

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APPENDIX
INTERNAL MODELS AND TURBULENT DISSIPATION

In order to relate our bulk dissipation to the underlying microphysics, we need to evaluate the various equations for the quadrupolar distortion given by EKH using a background from our planetary models. Figure 17 shows the profile of convective velocity and large eddy turnover time $\tau$ for a 1 $M_\odot$ planet at an age of 10$^7$ yr (we choose a young, hot model because this is the age where planets undergo the bulk of their circularization with our parameterization). We see that $\tau$ has a value of order months over the bulk of the planet, so that the coupling to the forcing period will not be particularly efficient.

Using the formalism from EKH, we can evaluate the profile of the quadrupolar distortion $\alpha(r)$, and the function $\gamma(r)$, which describes how the distortion couples to the microphysical dissipation. Figure 18 shows, in the top panel, the radial profile of these two functions. The distortion itself is relatively flat throughout most of the planet (whose density profile is approximately that of an $n = 1$ polytrope), but the function $\gamma$ ascribes a greater weight to the dissipation in the outer half of the planetary volume. In the lower panel of Figure 18 we show the radial profile of the turbulent viscosity $V_c\ell_m$ (where $\ell_m$ is the eddy scale, taken to be a pressure scale height) in three cases. The upper curve is the full viscosity, with no corrections for inefficiency. The two curves below that indicate the estimated local turbulent viscosity with linear and quadratic scalings for the reduction in inefficiency, as suggested by Zahn or Goldreich & Nicholson, respectively. In these cases, we have assumed a forcing frequency of 3 days.

Following Equation (113) of EKH, one can integrate over the above profiles and infer a bulk viscosity. In the case of a fully efficient coupling, we infer $\bar{\sigma_p} \sim 1.9 \times 10^{-3}$, which is ~500 times too strong. In the case of a linear scaling, $\bar{\sigma_p} \sim 1.2 \times 10^{-5}$, which is still a factor of 30 too strong. For a quadratic scaling, $\bar{\sigma_p} \sim 9.5 \times 10^{-8}$, which is only a factor of three weaker than our nominal calibration. Thus, our inferred bulk dissipation is not very different from what one might expect on the basis of the generally accepted picture of dissipation in turbulent convection. In the case of the stellar dissipation, Figure 19 shows the convective velocities and eddy turnover times for the outer convection zone of a 5 Gyr, 1 $M_\odot$ solar mass, taken from the EZ model (Paxton 2004). Repeating the same exercise for the solar mass star yields $\bar{\sigma_p} \sim 7.8 \times 10^{-7}$, which is a factor ~10 larger than the inferred dissipation. In this case, the efficiency scalings do not make as large a difference, as the turnover times are ~ days, and so the reduction in efficiency only accounts for a factor of two change. Thus, the inferred stellar value is also not too different from that expected on the basis of simple turbulent dissipation, with some moderate inefficiency allowed.
Figure 19. Solid curve is the profile of the convective velocity in the outer convection zone of a 5 Gyr old, 1 $M_\odot$ stars. The dashed curve indicates the eddy turnover time in this model, in units of days. Thus, close-in planets with orbital periods of order days will match these timescales quite well.

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