NONLINEAR TIDES IN CLOSE BINARY SYSTEMS

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ABSTRACT

We study the excitation and damping of tides in close binary systems, accounting for the leading-order nonlinear corrections to linear tidal theory. These nonlinear corrections include two distinct physical effects: three-mode nonlinear interactions, i.e., the redistribution of energy among stellar modes of oscillation, and nonlinear excitation of stellar normal modes by the time-varying gravitational potential of the companion. This paper, the first in a series, presents the formalism for studying nonlinear tides and studies the nonlinear stability of the linear tidal flow. Although the formalism we present is applicable to binaries containing stars, planets, and/or compact objects, we focus on non-rotating solar-type stars with stellar or planetary companions. Our primary results include the following: (1) The linear tidal solution almost universally used in studies of binary evolution is unstable over much of the parameter space in which it is employed. More specifically, resonantly excited internal gravity waves in solar-type stars are nonlinearly unstable to parametric resonance for companion masses $M' \gtrsim 10-100 M_\odot$ at orbital periods $P \approx 1-10$ days. The nearly static “equilibrium” tidal distortion is, however, stable to parametric resonance except for solar binaries with $P \lesssim 2-5$ days. (2) For companion masses larger than a few Jupiter masses, the dynamical tide causes short length scale waves to grow so rapidly that they must be treated as traveling waves, rather than standing waves. (3) We show that the global three-wave treatment of parametric instability typically used in the astrophysics literature does not yield the fastest-growing daughter modes or instability threshold in many cases. We find a form of parametric instability in which a single parent wave excites a very large number of daughter waves ($N \approx 10^3 [P/10$ days$]$ for a solar-type star) and drives them as a single coherent unit with growth rates that are a factor of $\approx N$ faster than the standard three-wave parametric instability. These are local instabilities viewed through the lens of global analysis; the coherent global growth rate follows local rates in the regions where the shear is strongest. In solar-type stars, the dynamical tide is unstable to this collective version of the parametric instability for even sub-Jupiter companion masses with $P \lesssim 1$ month. (4) Independent of the parametric instability, the dynamical and equilibrium tides excite a wide range of stellar $p$-modes and $g$-modes by nonlinear inhomogeneous forcing; this coupling appears particularly efficient at draining energy out of the dynamical tide and may be more important than either wave breaking or parametric resonance at determining the nonlinear dissipation of the dynamical tide.

Key words: binaries: close – hydrodynamics – planetary systems – stars: interiors – stars: oscillations – waves

1. INTRODUCTION

In binary systems at small separation, the differential gravity from one body can induce a significant tide in the other. As long as the tidal potential is time varying, the tide and orbit exchange energy and angular momentum. Dissipation damps away the variable component of the tide, leading to an evolution of both the orbit and the spins of the bodies. The final state of such dissipation, if it is allowed to continue, is a circular orbit, with the spin and orbital angular momentum aligned, and the bodies synchronized with the same side always facing each other.

The rate at which the orbit and spins evolve depends on two quantities: the amplitude of the tide and how rapidly the energy in the tide is dissipated (“tidal friction”). By analogy with a damped, driven oscillator, energy dissipation at a rate $\dot{E}$ acting on a tide with frequency $\omega$ and energy $E$ induces a phase lag $\delta \sim \dot{E}/(\omega E)$ between the time of maximum tidal acceleration and high tide. This phase lag is often written in terms of the tidal quality factor $Q \approx 1/\delta$, where large $Q$ implies little dissipation and vice versa. First modeled in the classic treatment of Darwin (1879; see Goldreich & Soter 1966 for applications in the solar system), tidal friction is fundamental to our understanding of the origin, evolution, and fate of a wide variety of binary systems, including planets and moons in the solar system, extrasolar planets, solar-type binaries, and compact object binaries.

What is the physical origin of the “friction” that circularizes the orbits and synchronizes the spins of completely fluid bodies in binary systems? Most investigations treat the fluid motion as a linear perturbation of the background state and focus on linear damping mechanisms such as radiative diffusion or viscosity from eddies in convection zones. However, these applications of linear theory fail to explain many of the observed properties of binary systems, as we describe below.

This paper goes beyond the standard linear theory treatment in order to understand the effects of nonlinear interactions on tides in binary systems. Although aspects of this problem have been studied previously (e.g., Press et al. 1975; Kumar & Goodman 1996; Goodman & Dickson 1998; Barker & Ogilvie 2010), we present a comprehensive formalism for understanding nonlinear tides in stars, planets, and even compact objects. The ideas and formalism we present are general, but for concreteness all of our examples focus on tides in slowly rotating solar-type stars with either stellar or planetary companions; in such stars internal gravity waves ($g$-modes) can be nearly resonant with the tide. Our goal is ultimately to quantify the orbital and spin evolution of binaries accounting for nonlinear damping and excitation of...
tides. In this first paper, however, we focus on determining the conditions under which standard linear theory is invalid because nonlinear instabilities drain energy out of the linear tide—we leave calculations of the resulting $Q$ values and orbital evolution to future work.

Our study of tides is motivated by a number of observational puzzles, including the following:

1. **Orbital circularization of solar binaries.** Binaries containing two solar-type stars, or a solar-type star and a gas giant exoplanet, are observed to circularize much more rapidly than expected from even the most detailed theoretical studies (e.g., Ogilvie & Lin 2004; Meibom & Mathieu 2005). The observed circularization rates imply $Q \sim 10^3$–$10^4$, a factor of 100–1000 times smaller than theoretical predictions. These observations test theories of tides in solar-type stars and gas giant planets over a range of orbital periods and amplitude of the tide.

2. **Orbital decay of hot Jupiters.** The tidal $Q$ inferred from observations of the circularization of solar-type binaries makes dire predictions for the orbital decay of hot Jupiters (Jupiter-size extrasolar planets with orbital periods $\leq$ 1 week). Tides raised in the star by the planet attempt to spin up the star, decreasing the orbital semimajor axis to conserve total angular momentum. If the tidal $Q$ for solar-type stars is really $10^5$–$10^6$, Darwin’s theory predicts that all 5 Gyr old hot Jupiters inside 4 day orbits should have spiraled into their host star (e.g., Ogilvie & Lin 2007); by contrast, there are $\sim$ 100 such planets observed. The observed population of hot Jupiters could represent the tail end of a much larger parent population, most of which have decayed into their host stars (Jackson et al. 2009). Alternatively, the (near universal) practice of calibrating $Q$ from one observation and applying it to another may be incorrect (e.g., Ogilvie & Lin 2007); it is certainly suspect without a deeper understanding of the underlying physics. For example, such a calibration would be invalid if tidal excitation and dissipation depend on orbital frequency and/or the amplitude of the tide (i.e., the mass of the secondary).

In this paper, we show that this is indeed the case.

3. **Radii of hot Jupiters.** Tidal heating has been invoked to explain the large observed radii of transiting hot Jupiters compared to evolutionary models (Gu et al. 2003; Arras & Bildsten 2006; Arras & Socrates 2010). Primordial eccentricity and asynchronous rotation will give rise to tidal heating, the duration of which is set by the value of $Q$. Steady-state mechanisms, such as thermal tides (Arras & Socrates 2010), may also be at work, for which the tidal heating rate is also dependent on $Q$. A question that has received less attention is the depth dependence of tidal heating. In order for tidal heating to effectively bloat radii, the heat must be deposited in deep regions with long thermal times. Understanding the depth dependence requires detailed calculations of wave excitation and damping.

The observational puzzles above, and the physical motivation that nonlinear effects can be important, led us to the present investigation. At first glance, it may be surprising that nonlinear effects are important, when basic estimates such as the height of the tide relative to the stellar radius are small. However, the importance of nonlinear effects is more subtle since wave amplitudes can become large in highly localized regions. Consider, e.g., surface waves on the ocean that can travel great distances relatively undamped but are susceptible to wave breaking as the depth decreases near shore.

In the next subsection we review the results from linear tidal theory in more detail; we also relate our nonlinear calculations to these standard linear theory results. In Section 1.2 we summarize the structure of the remainder of this paper. Throughout we assume a basic understanding of the physics of stellar g-modes and p-modes (see, e.g., Unno et al. 1989; Christensen-Dalsgaard 2003).

1.1. Linear Theory Predictions for Solar-type Stars

The tidal response of a fluid is typically decomposed into “equilibrium” and “dynamical” components. The simplest approximation for the tidal flow, the “equilibrium tide,” ignores fluid inertia, allowing the fluid to follow gravitational equipotentials. The equilibrium tide has large length scales and hence is weakly damped by diffusive effects (such as turbulent viscosity due to convection), leading to circularization times much longer than are observed (e.g., Goodman & Oh 1997). The “dynamical tide” refers to the resonant excitation of waves by the tidal acceleration. This, together with linear mechanisms of dissipation, is the key physics in most linear predictions of tidal dissipation. In this paper, we calculate the nonlinear stability of both the equilibrium and dynamical tides. The stability of the equilibrium tide in particular has rarely been considered in the literature (although see, e.g., Press et al. 1975, Papaloizou & Pringle 1981, and Kumar & Quataert 1998 for some discussion along these lines). It is, however, an a priori promising source of enhanced orbital evolution given that the equilibrium tide contains most of the energy in linear theory.

Solar-type stars are composed of a stably stratified core and a neutrally stratified convective envelope. Ignoring stellar rotation, tides in the convective envelope resemble the equilibrium tide. However, buoyancy in the core gives rise to short-wavelength internal gravity waves that can have periods comparable to the orbital period of the binary; these waves have large amplitudes at the stellar center but small amplitudes in the convection zone. Lastly, including both stellar rotation and fluid inertia, the core gravity waves are altered, and inertial waves restored by the Coriolis force are possible in both the radiative and convective zones.

The main linear dissipation mechanisms for solar-type stars are radiative diffusion in the core and turbulent viscosity due to convection in the envelope. Terquem et al. (1998) and Goodman & Dickson (1998) carried out detailed calculations for non-rotating stars. Both studies show that resonant gravity waves in the core are only weakly damped by radiative diffusion, giving $Q$ values far too large to be of interest. Goodman & Dickson sharpened the question. They showed that even if the train of gravity waves traveling inward from the core-envelope boundary—where they are excited by the tidal potential—were completely absorbed at the center the resulting dissipation would be $Q \sim 10^9 \left( P/(10 \text{ days}) \right)^{1/3}$ (based on their Equation (13)), too large by three orders of magnitude. Goodman & Dickson did not present detailed calculations of the damping of the gravity waves at the center, but they argued that the waves would “break,” i.e., become highly nonlinear, based on an estimate of the gravity wave amplitude required for the waves to invert the stratification of the star. This argument is supported by the numerical simulations of Barker & Ogilvie (2010) and Barker (2011).

Drawing on Goodman & Dickson’s argument, Ogilvie & Lin (2007) suggested that the dissipation of gravity waves may be much less efficient for planetary companions because the amplitude of the gravity waves is much smaller when they are
excited by a planet rather than a star (given the factor of \( \sim 1000 \) mass difference between the two); in particular, they argued that the gravity waves would not overturn the stratification in the core and the efficient dissipation invoked by Goodman & Dickson (1998) would not apply in the case of hot Jupiter systems (see also Barker & Ogilvie 2010). In this paper, we show that nonlinear damping of the dynamical tide can be important even when the stratification of the star is not overturned. Linear theory thus does not apply even for solar-type stars with planetary companions.

Searching for a more efficient source of damping for tides in solar-type stars, Witte & Savonije (2002) and Ogilvie & Lin (2007) realized that far shorter length scales, and hence enhanced damping, could be achieved by including the Coriolis force. Ogilvie & Lin showed that \( Q \sim 10^3 \) can be achieved for solar-type stars based on the excitation and damping of short-wavelength inertial waves in the convective envelope. This is, however, still not sufficient to explain the observed circularization of solar binaries.

1.2. Structure of This Paper

The remainder of this paper is organized as follows. In Section 2 we use perturbation theory to derive the nonlinear equations of motion and the key dimensionless coupling coefficients required to quantify the nonlinear couplings among stellar modes. Many of the details of these calculations are given in Appendix A. The results in Section 2 include two different ways of approaching the nonlinear problem. In the first (Section 2.1.1), we expand quantities relative to the unperturbed background state of the star. In the second (Section 2.1.2 and Appendix A.6), we expand quantities relative to the linear tidal solution. These two approaches are formally equivalent, but we will show that having both at our disposal is useful for understanding certain aspects of nonlinear tides in stars. In Appendix B we specialize to solar-type stars and describe some of the key properties of the nonlinear coupling coefficients derived in Section 2 and Appendix A.

Having derived the underlying equations of motion, we then review the results of linear theory (Section 3) and summarize the key physical processes present in nonlinear tidal theory (Section 4). In Section 5 we present the nonlinear stability analysis that is at the heart of this paper: this allows us to determine the conditions under which the linear tidal flow is nonlinearly unstable to the parametric instability. We also find a “collective” parametric instability involving many modes that grows significantly faster than the standard three-mode parametric instability. Section 6 presents examples of the types of nonlinear instabilities that afflict stellar tides, including both resonant nonlinear coupling (parametric instability) and nonlinear inhomogeneous driving. In Sections 7 and 8 we apply the results of Section 5 to solar-type stars and assess the parametric stability of the dynamical and equilibrium tides, respectively. In Section 9 we study off-resonant nonlinear excitation of both stellar g-modes and \( p \)-modes by the equilibrium and dynamical tides. In Section 10 we assess when the nonlinear interactions are sufficiently strong to invalidate the assumption that tides excite global normal modes. Finally, in Section 11 we summarize our results, discuss their implications for solar binaries and solar-type stars with hot Jupiter companions, and discuss key directions for future research.

The rigorous study of the synchronization and circularization of binary systems requires that one include the rotation of the star being tidally forced. However, including even the simplest case of rigid rotation greatly complicates the analysis. While the centrifugal force may be ignored to a good approximation, inclusion of the Coriolis force changes the properties of waves with mode frequency smaller than rotation frequency, and new wave families appear. Specifically, eigenfunctions must be expanded in a sum over spherical harmonics, instead of a single harmonic for non-rotating stars. This greatly complicates the calculations, and for simplicity we neglect Coriolis forces in this paper.

2. STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

We consider a primary star of mass \( M \) and radius \( R \) subject to a tidal acceleration from the secondary of mass \( M' \). In a spherical coordinate system \((r, \theta, \phi)\) centered on the primary, we take the orbit of the secondary to be \((D(t), \pi/2, \Phi(t))\), where \( D(t) \) is the separation (neglecting back-reaction on the orbit) and \( \Phi(t) \) is the true anomaly corresponding to a Keplerian orbit with the semimajor axis \( a \), eccentricity \( e \), and orbital period \( P_{\text{orb}} = 2\pi \left[ a^3 / G(M + M') \right]^{1/2} \). Defining the dynamical time of the primary \( P_0 = 2\pi / \omega_0 = 2\pi (R^3 / GM)^{1/2} \), the dimensionless strength of the tidal acceleration relative to internal gravity can be parameterized by

\[
\varepsilon = \frac{M'}{M} \left( \frac{R}{a} \right)^3 \\
\simeq 10^{-4} \left( \frac{M'}{M + M'} \right) \left( \frac{P_0}{2.8 \text{ hr}} \right)^2 \left( \frac{P_{\text{orb}}}{10 \text{ days}} \right)^{-2}.
\]

We treat the tidal acceleration \( \nabla U \propto \varepsilon (GM/R^2) \) as a small quantity compared to the internal gravity \( GM/R^2 \) due to either the small mass or long orbital period of the secondary. Linear theory computes the response of the star to the external tidal forcing to \( \mathcal{O}(\varepsilon) \). In this work, we include the lowest-order nonlinear terms and hence consider effects at both \( \mathcal{O}(\varepsilon) \) and \( \mathcal{O}(\varepsilon^2) \). As we will describe, the latter includes nonlinear driving of high-order modes by the dynamical tide and the equilibrium tide.

2.1. Second-order Equations of Motion

To derive the second-order equations of motion, let \( \mathbf{x}' \) be the position of a fluid element in the perturbed star, \( \mathbf{x} \) the position of the same fluid element in the background state, and \( \xi \) the Lagrangian displacement vector. They are related by \( \mathbf{x}' = \mathbf{x} + \xi(\mathbf{x}, t) \). Likewise, \( \rho' \) is the true density and \( \rho \) is the background density. We write the internal forces due to pressure, buoyancy, and perturbed gravity that are linear in \( \xi \) as \( f_1(\xi) \) and those due to leading-order nonlinear interactions as \( f_2(\xi, \xi) \). Explicit expressions for \( f_1 \) and \( f_2 \) are given in Schenck et al. (2002, see their Equation (I37)).

The external forces due to the companion can be derived from the interaction term of the fluid Hamiltonian (Newcomb 1962). To the second order, the fluid interaction Hamiltonian is

\[
H_{\text{int}} = \int d^3x' \rho'(\mathbf{x}') U(\mathbf{x}') = \int d^3x \rho(x) U(\mathbf{x} + \xi) \\
\simeq \int d^3x \rho(x) \left[ U(\mathbf{x}) + \xi \cdot \nabla U + \frac{1}{2} \xi^2 \xi \cdot \nabla \xi \nabla U \right],
\]

where \( d^3x' \rho'(\mathbf{x}') = d^3x \rho(x) \) since mass is conserved. The first term in Equation (2) can be ignored since it contains no
dependence on $\xi$. Taking a functional derivative $\delta H_{\text{int}}/\delta \xi$ of this expression with respect to $\xi$ leads to the tidal acceleration:

$$a_{\text{tide}} = -\frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\delta H_{\text{int}}}{\delta \xi} = -\nabla U - (\xi \cdot \nabla) \nabla U.$$  

(3)

The first term in Equation (3) is the standard linear, time-dependent, inhomogeneous tidal forcing that acts to excite oscillation modes. The second term is the nonlinear tidal forcing. Since it is linear in mode amplitude, it may lead to an exponential growth or damping of waves, as in the Mathieu equation (see also Papaloizou & Pringle 1981).

Gathering terms, the second-order equation of motion including linear forces, tidal forcing, and three-wave nonlinear interactions is then

$$\rho \ddot{\xi} = f_1[\xi] + f_2[\xi, \xi] + \rho a_{\text{tide}}.$$  

(4)

We consider two approaches to solving Equation (4). Both approaches involve expanding the spatial dependence of all quantities in terms of the linear adiabatic eigenmodes of the star. In the first method, we expand quantities relative to the star’s unperturbed background state. In the second method, we expand quantities relative to the star’s linearly perturbed state. As we will describe, each approach has its own conceptual and practical advantages, and we will make use of both throughout the paper.

2.1.1. Method 1

Following Schenk et al. (2002), expand the six-dimensional phase space vector as

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{\xi}(x, t) \\
\dot{\xi}(x, t) \end{bmatrix} = \sum_a q_a(t) \begin{bmatrix} \xi_a(x) \\
-\iota \omega_a \xi_a(x) \end{bmatrix}.$$  

(5)

The eigenmode labeled “a” is specified by its frequency $\omega_a$, eigenfunction $\xi_a(x)$, and total amplitude $q_a$. The sum over $a$ runs over all mode quantum numbers, mode families, and frequency signs to allow both a mode and its complex conjugate. Plugging this expansion into Equation (4) and using the orthonormality of eigenmodes leads to a set of coupled oscillator equations for each mode (see Appendix A):

$$q_a + \iota \omega_a q_a = -\gamma_a q_a + \iota \omega_a U_a(t) + \iota \omega_a \sum_b U_{ab}(t) q_b^* + \iota \omega_a \sum_{bc} \kappa_{abc} q_b^* q_c^*.$$  

(6)

The left-hand side of Equation (6) describes an uncoupled oscillator. The terms on the right-hand side represent linear damping ($\gamma_a$), the linear ($U_a$) and nonlinear ($U_{ab}$) tidal force, and three-wave coupling ($\kappa_{abc}$). The latter two represent effects that come in at $O(e^2)$. We choose a normalization in which, at unit amplitude, each mode has energy (see Equation (A2))

$$E_0 = 2\omega_a^2 \int d^3 x \rho \xi_a^* \cdot \xi_a = \frac{GM^2}{R}.$$  

(7)

In terms of this normalization, the coefficients in Equation (6) become (Schenk et al. 2002)

$$U_a(t) = -\frac{1}{E_0} \int d^3 x \rho \xi_a^* \cdot \nabla U,$$  

(8)

$$U_{ab}(t) = -\frac{1}{E_0} \int d^3 x \rho \xi_a^* \cdot (\xi_b \cdot \nabla) \nabla U.$$  

(9)

$$\kappa_{abc} = \frac{1}{E_0} \int d^3 x \xi_a \cdot f_{b}[\xi_b, \xi_c].$$  

(10)

The tidal potential $U$ is expressed in terms of spherical harmonics as

$$U(x, t) = -\sum_{\ell \geq 2, m} \frac{GM W_{\ell m}}{R^{\ell+1}} \int Y_{\ell m}(\theta, \phi) e^{-\iota m \Phi(t)},$$  

(11)

where $W_{\ell m} = 4\pi (2\ell + 1)^{-1} Y_{\ell m}(\pi/2, 0)$. The $W_{\ell m}$ are nonzero only if $\ell - m$ is even; for $\ell = 2$ harmonic, which dominates for small $R/D$, $W_{20} = -\sqrt{3}/5$ and $W_{2 \pm 2} = \sqrt{3}/5$. Corrections to the tidal potential due to the extended mass distribution of the secondary occur at quadrupole–quadrupole order ($O(e^4)$ for a twin binary) and can therefore be neglected at $O(e^2)$.

Plugging Equation (11) into Equations (8) and (9) leads to the following dimensionless overlap integrals:

$$I_{\ell m} = \frac{1}{M R^\ell} \int d^3 x \xi_a^* \cdot \nabla (r^\ell Y_{\ell m})$$  

(12)

and

$$J_{abc} = \frac{1}{M R^\ell} \int d^3 x \rho \xi_a^* \cdot (\xi_b \cdot \nabla) \nabla (r^\ell Y_{\ell m}).$$  

(13)

In terms of these overlap integrals, the time-dependent coefficients in Equation (6) can be written solely as functions of the orbit:

$$U_a(t) = \frac{M'}{M} \sum_{\ell m} W_{\ell m} I_{\ell m} \left( \frac{R}{D(t)} \right)^{\ell+1} e^{-\iota m \Phi(t)},$$  

(14)

$$U_{ab}(t) = \frac{M'}{M} \sum_{\ell m} W_{\ell m} J_{ab} \left( \frac{R}{D(t)} \right)^{\ell+1} e^{-\iota m \Phi(t)}.$$  

(15)

For analytic work we find it convenient to expand the time dependence of the Keplerian orbit as a sum of harmonic terms using the Hansen coefficients:

$$\left( \frac{a}{D} \right)^{\ell+1} e^{-\iota m \Phi} = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} X_k^{\ell m}(e) e^{-\iota k \Omega t},$$  

(16)

where

$$X_k^{\ell m}(e) = \frac{\Omega}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi/\Omega} dt e^{i k \Omega t - \iota m \Phi} \left( \frac{a}{D} \right)^{\ell+1}$$  

$$= \delta_{k, m} + \frac{e}{2} \left[ (\ell + 1 - 2m) \delta_{k,m-1} \\
+ (\ell + 1 + 2m) \delta_{k,m+1} \right] + O(e^2).$$  

(17)

The linear tidal potential can be written in terms of the Hansen coefficients as $U_a(t) = \sum_k U_a^{(k)} e^{-i k \Omega t}$, where

$$U_a^{(k)} = \frac{M'}{M} \sum_{\ell m} W_{\ell m} I_{\ell m} X_k^{\ell m} \left( \frac{R}{a} \right)^{\ell+1},$$  

(18)

and similarly for the nonlinear tidal coefficient $U_{ab}$.

The coupled mode amplitude equations can be integrated once the values of $\omega_a, \gamma_a, I_{\ell m}, J_{ab}$, and $\kappa_{abc}$ are known. In Appendix A we describe our calculation of each of these coefficients.
2.1.2. Method 2

In method 1 we expressed the amplitude equation (Equation (6)) satisfied by each mode $a$ in terms of the mode's total amplitude $qa$, i.e., the amplitude relative to the background state of an unperturbed star. In method 2 we instead express the amplitude equation in terms of the nonlinear amplitude $ra ≡ qa − qa,\text{lin}$, where $qa,\text{lin}$ is the linear amplitude found by ignoring nonlinear coupling and the nonlinear tide (i.e., setting $κ_{abc} = U_{ab} = 0$ in Equation (6); see Section 3 and Equation (25)). Although the form of the amplitude equation for $ra$ is somewhat less compact than that for $qa$, we find that this approach offers some advantages, particularly when studying the stability of the linear solution (see Section 5.2).

Starting from the second-order equation of motion (Equation (4)), write the total displacement as a sum of the linear and nonlinear displacement $ξ = ξ_{\text{lin}} + ξ_{\text{nl}}$. The linear displacement $ξ_{\text{lin}}$ is found by solving the linear inhomogeneous equations, as described in Appendix A.1. Noting that $ρ\dot{ξ}_{\text{lin}} = f_1[ξ_{\text{lin}}] − ρ∇U$, we then have

\[ \rho\ddot{ξ}_{\text{nl}} = f_1[ξ_{\text{nl}}] + f_2[ξ_{\text{lin}}, ξ_{\text{nl}}] + 2f_3[ξ_{\text{lin}}, ξ_{\text{nl}}] \]

Expanding $ξ_{\text{nl}}$ using Equation (5) with $(ξ, ξ, qa) → (ξ_{\text{nl}}, ξ_{\text{nl}}, ra)$ leads to an equation for each mode's nonlinear amplitude:

\[ \dot{ra} + (iωa + γa)ra = iωa(Va^* + K^*_a) + iωa \sum_b (U_{ab}^* + 2K_{ab}^*)ra_b + iωa \sum_{bc} κ_{abc}ra_r^*ra_c^*, \]

where

\[ V_a(t) = −\frac{1}{E_0} \int d^3x \, ρξ_a \cdot (∇ξ_{\text{lin}} \cdot ∇U), \]

\[ K_a(t) = \frac{1}{E_0} \int d^3x \, ξ_a \cdot f_2[ξ_{\text{lin}}, ξ_{\text{lin}}], \]

\[ K_{ab}(t) = \frac{1}{E_0} \int d^3x \, ξ_a \cdot f_2[ξ_{\text{lin}}, ξ_{b}], \]

and $U_{ab}(t)$ and $κ_{abc}$ are given by Equations (9) and (10). We describe our calculation of the coefficients $V_a, K_a,$ and $K_{ab}$ in Appendix A.6.

2.2. Additional Points

Given the amplitude $qa$ of each mode, we can calculate the orbital evolution of the system (e.g., $a$ and $e$). In Appendix C we derive the expressions describing the orbital evolution assuming that the excited modes are all standing waves.

So far we have assumed that the tidally forced body is non-rotating. This may be a good approximation for tidal forcing of slowly rotating solar-type stars by close-in planets; however, it is inadequate when studying circularization, where the body is pseudo-synchronized with the orbit. Within the approximations in this paper, where the Coriolis force is ignored, we can still use the correct rotating frame forcing frequencies by replacing the stellar azimuth $Φ$ in the inertial frame with the rotating frame value $Φ_{\text{rot}} = Φ − mΩ$, where $Ω$ is the rotation rate. This would alter the phase of the tidal potential to be $\exp[−i(kΩ − mΩ)t]$, where $kΩ − mΩ$ is the corotating frame frequency. Note too that Equation (7) is the mode energy for a non-rotating star, and it assumes that the potential and kinetic energies are equal. In a rotating star, Equation (7) can still be used for normalization purposes, but to calculate the true energy, the full kinetic and potential terms must be summed. Furthermore, one must choose a frame (corotating or inertial) to evaluate the wave amplitude $q$, orbital phase $(Φ)$, eigenfunctions $(ξ)$, frequency $(ω)$, and energy. Our treatment to this point has been for orbits with arbitrary eccentricity. Since the binary systems that are the focus of this paper typically have $e ≪ 1$ and $R ≪ a$, for analytic work we use the dominant $ℓ = 2$ component of the potential and harmonics up to linear order in $e$. For circularization the four harmonics are $(m = 0, k = ±1), (m = ±2, k = m), (m = ±2, k = m − 1)$, and $(m = ±2, k = m + 1)$. For synchronous rotation $Ω_s = \Omega$, the forcing frequency in the rotating frame is $(k − m)Ω$ and the $k = m$ term can be ignored since it has zero frequency.

3. LINEAR TIDE

The linear response of the star can be found by ignoring the nonlinear coupling ($κ_{abc} = 0$) and the nonlinear tide ($U_{ab} = 0$) in Equation (6). Each mode then rings as an independent oscillator according to the equation

\[ \dot{q}_a + iωaq_a = −γaqa + iωaU_a(t), \]

whose steady-state solution is

\[ q_{a,\text{lin}}(t) = \sum_{k = −\infty}^{∞} \frac{ω_aU_a^{(k)}}{ω_a − kΩ − iγa}e^{−ikΩt}. \]

The linear response can be broken up into a zero frequency equilibrium tide and a dynamical tide, $q_{a,\text{lin}}(t) = q_{a,\text{eq}}(t) + q_{a,\text{dyn}}(t)$, where

\[ q_{a,\text{eq}}(t) = \sum_{k = −\infty}^{∞} U_a^{(k)}e^{−ikΩt} \]

and

\[ q_{a,\text{dyn}}(t) ≡ q_{a,\text{lin}}(t) − q_{a,\text{eq}}(t) \]

\[ = \sum_{k = −\infty}^{∞} \left( \frac{kΩ + iγa}{ω_a − kΩ − iγa} \right) U_a^{(k)}e^{−ikΩt}. \]

The linear energy $E_{a,\text{lin}} = |q_{a,\text{lin}}|^2$ in an $ℓ_a = 2$ mode for the $ℓ = k = m = 2$ harmonic of the tide in a non-rotating solar-type star is

\[ E_{a,\text{lin}} = U_a^2 \left[ \frac{(Δ_a)}{ω_a} \right]^2 + \left( \frac{γa}{ω_a} \right)^2 ]^{-1} \]

\[ \approx 10^{−16} \left( \frac{M}{M^*} \right)^2 \left( \frac{P_{\text{orb}}}{10 \text{ days}} \right)^{−4} \left( \frac{P_a}{1 \text{ day}} \right)^{−11/3} × \left[ \frac{(Δ_a)}{ω_a} \right]^2 + \left( \frac{γa}{ω_a} \right)^2 ]^{-1} E_0. \]
energy of the low-order modes with frequency $\approx \omega_0$. However, despite their smaller energy, the dynamical tide in solar binaries is more dissipative than the equilibrium tide for two reasons: (1) the resonant modes have a higher radiative damping rate owing to their short wavelengths and, more importantly, (2) the resonant modes appear to undergo such strong nonlinear damping in the core that within one travel time across the core they deposit nearly all their energy (Goodman & Dickson 1998; see also Section 10). Nonetheless, the combined dissipation from the linear dynamical and equilibrium tides is $\sim 3$ orders of magnitude too small to explain the observed circularization times of solar binaries.

4. NONLINEAR TIDE

In linear tidal theory, the dynamics are dominated by $\ell = 2$ modes since, by angular momentum conservation, only they can couple to the dominant $\ell = 2$ harmonic of the tide. In nonlinear theory, by contrast, modes with $\ell \neq 2$ can couple to the $\ell = 2$ harmonic of the tide. Angular momentum conservation requires that only the coupling coefficient $\kappa_{abc}$ satisfy the selection rules $|\ell_a - \ell_b| \leq \ell_c \leq \ell_a + \ell_b + \ell_c$ with $\ell_a + \ell_b + \ell_c$ even and $m_a + m_b + m_c = 0$. The nonlinear overlap integral $J_{a\ell m}$ is subject to the same selection rules but with $\ell_a$ and $m_a$ replaced by the $\ell$ and $m$ of the tidal potential. This freedom in the $\ell$ of the modes opens up a large region of the $(\ell, n)$ parameter space that is inaccessible in linear theory. In particular, since the $g$-mode dispersion relation is $\omega \propto \ell/n$ at the frequencies of interest, high $\ell$ and $n$ modes can be resonant with the tide and thus dynamically important.

Nonlinear theory not only opens up the parameter space of modes accessible to the tide but also modifies how modes interact with the orbit. This is because in nonlinear theory, the orbital evolution depends not only on the linear overlap $I_{a\ell m}$ but also on the nonlinear overlap $J_{a\ell m}$ (see Appendix C). For two modes $a$ and $b$ of similar (short) wavelength, $J_{a\ell m} \gg I_{a\ell m}$ so that nonlinear effects can be particularly important. Physically, this is because the coupled modes have an effective wavelength that is long and thus they induce a large density perturbation per unit mode energy. In this paper we focus on determining the stability of the linear solution and do not attempt to calculate the rate of orbital evolution. Determining the full implications of the above effect is therefore deferred to a future paper.

There are three types of nonlinear terms at $O(\varepsilon^2)$, each the result of different forms of three-wave coupling. This is most easily seen in the amplitude equation for the nonlinear amplitude $r_a$ (Equation (20)); the three terms on the right-hand side each represent a different form of three-wave coupling.\footnote{These three terms can also be seen in the $q_a$ amplitude equation (Equation (6)) by substituting $q_a = q_{a\ell m} + r_b$ and $q_c = q_{c\ell m} + r_c$ into the nonlinear terms $\sum_b (U_{a\ell m} + \sum_{abc} \kappa_{abc} q_b) q_b$.}

In order of their appearance in Equation (20), the three types of three-wave coupling are (1) “linear–linear coupling” (LLC), the coupling of a nonlinear wave (or more precisely, the nonlinear correction to a wave) to a pair of linear waves (equilibrium tide plus dynamical tide); (2) “linear–nonlinear coupling” (LNC), the coupling of a nonlinear wave to a linear wave and another nonlinear wave; and (3) “nonlinear–nonlinear coupling” (NNC), the coupling of a nonlinear wave to a pair of nonlinear waves. Conceptually, the terminology LLC and LNC is most useful when the nonlinearly excited modes are near their linear energy. If nonlinear interactions drive these modes far from their linear energy, it no longer makes sense to call them linear waves and

\[ E_{\text{dyn}} \approx 2 \times 10^{-13} \left( \frac{M'}{M + M'} \right)^2 \left( \frac{P_{\text{orb}}}{10 \text{ days}} \right)^{-17/3} E_0 \quad (30) \]

(roughly the lower envelope of $E_{a,\text{lin}}$ in Figure 6). For the periods of interest, this is $\sim 100$ times smaller than the linear...
there is no longer a clear dichotomy between LLC, LNC, and NNC. We discuss this issue further in Sections 6.4 and 9.

Like the linear inhomogeneous driving term \( U_{ab} \), the LNC term \( V_a + K_a \) in Equation (20) acts as a (nonlinear) inhomogeneous driving term. Thus, just as all modes that satisfy momentum conservation in linear theory have some linear amplitude \( q_{a,\text{lin}} \) due to the driving term \( U_a \), all modes that satisfy momentum conservation in nonlinear theory have some nonlinear amplitude \( r_a \) due to the driving term \( V_a + K_a \). Insofar as the \( k = 2 \) tide dominates, momentum conservation implies that only modes with \( r_a = 0, 2, \) or 4 are driven significantly by LNC.

The LNC term \( (U_{ab} + 2K_{ab})r_b \) has the form of a network of coupled Mathieu equations; it can thus lead to parametric driving. As with all parametrically driven systems, only modes that are sufficiently resonant with the driving frequency and have sufficiently small linear damping are unstable to LNC (see Equation (35)). This is in contrast to LLC, where all modes with sufficiently large nonlinear amplitudes are affected by NNC. NNC describes how the energy in nonlinear waves gets conserved in nonlinear waves; it can thus lead to parametric driving of “daughter” waves by the “parent” linear tide. In the next section, we carry out a stability analysis of LNC. Since our present focus is the stability of the linear state and not the saturation of possible nonlinear instabilities, we do not study NNC in this paper.

5. PARAMETRIC STABILITY ANALYSIS

In this section we derive the stability condition for parametric driving by the linear tide (the LNC term \( U_{ab} + 2K_{ab}r_b \) of Equation (20)). The stability can be determined in the usual manner: perturb the linear solution and see if the perturbations grow exponentially due to nonlinear forces faster than they damp. If they do, then the linear state is unstable to parametric driving. In Section 5.1 we derive the criterion that determines the stability of the linear solution, and in Section 5.2 we determine the parametric driving rate \( \Gamma_{bc} \) on which the stability depends. We show that \( \Gamma_{bc} \) can be decomposed into two distinct types of driving: driving by the equilibrium tide and driving by the dynamical tide (Sections 5.3 and 5.4, respectively; the stability of the dynamical tide and equilibrium tide is discussed in more detail in Sections 7 and 8). We also describe a collective form of parametric instability; in Section 7.2 we show that as a result of this instability, the dynamical tide may drive a very large number of modes to large amplitude in a very short time (\( \sim \bar{P}_{\text{orb}} \)).

5.1. Instability Criteria

Consider the parametric (LNC) driving of a set of daughter modes \( \{b, c\} \) with \( \omega_{b,c} \approx \omega/2 \approx kQ/2 \), where \( \omega \) is the tidal driving frequency. For such daughters, parametric driving will typically dominate over inhomogeneous (LLC) driving, especially if \( \ell_{b,c} \neq 0, 2, \) or 4. To a good approximation we can therefore neglect the daughters’ inhomogeneous driving term \( V_b + K_b \) and, by Equation (20), the amplitude equation for each daughter is

\[
\dot{r}_b + (i\omega_b + \gamma_b) r_b = i\omega_b \sum_c \left( U_{bc}^* + 2K_{bc}^* \right) r_c^*.
\]

Consider a particular harmonic \( \omega \) of the tide such that \( U_{bc}(t) = U_{bc} e^{-i\omega t} \) and similarly for \( K_{bc}(t) \). If we plug in \( r_b(t) = Q_b(t) e^{i\omega t} \) and similarly for \( r_c \), then the harmonic time dependences cancel, yielding

\[
\dot{Q}_b + (i\Delta_b + \gamma_b) Q_b = i \sum_c \left( \frac{\omega_b}{\omega_c} \right)^{1/2} \Gamma_{bc} Q_c^*.
\]

where we defined the daughter pair “driving rate”

\[
\Gamma_{bc} \equiv \sqrt{\omega_b \omega_c} (U_{bc} + 2K_{bc}).
\]

Writing these equations as \( \mathbf{Q} = \mathbf{H} \mathbf{Q} \), the solutions are \( \mathbf{Q} \propto \exp(s t) \), where the eigenvalues \( s \) are the solutions of the characteristic equation \( \det(\mathbf{H} - s \mathbf{I}) = 0 \). The system is unstable if there is an \( s \) such that \( \text{Re}(s) > 0 \). For \( N \) coupled daughter modes, \( \mathbf{H} \) is a non-symmetric \( 2N \times 2N \) matrix with 2 \times 2 block components \( H_{jk} = (\omega_j/\omega_k)^{1/2} A_{jk} + \delta_{jk} B_k \), where the indices \( j, k \) run over the daughter modes, and

\[
A_{jk} = \begin{bmatrix} \text{Im}(\Gamma_{jk}) & \text{Re}(\Gamma_{jk}) \\ \text{Re}(\Gamma_{jk}) & -\text{Im}(\Gamma_{jk}) \end{bmatrix}, \quad B_k = \begin{bmatrix} -\gamma_k & \Delta_k \\ -\Delta_k & -\gamma_k \end{bmatrix}.
\]

Here \( \Delta_k = \omega_k + \omega/2 \) is the daughter detuning rather than the previously defined parent detuning \( \Delta_p = \omega_p - \omega \).

While in general the eigenvalues of the characteristic equation must be solved for numerically, we give examples below where the eigenvalue expressions are simple and offer insight into how the stability depends on \( N, \omega_b, \gamma_b, \Delta_b, \) and \( \Gamma_{bc} \). From these examples and numerical experiments we deduce an approximate stability criterion: a set of \( N \) daughters with \( \omega_b \omega_c > 0 \) is unstable if each pair \( (b, c) \) in the set satisfies

\[
N |\Gamma_{bc}| \gtrsim \sqrt{\gamma_b \gamma_c + \Delta_b^2},
\]

where \( \Delta_{bc} = \Delta_b + \Delta_c = \omega + \omega_b + \omega_c \). When sufficiently far from the stability boundary, the growth rate of an unstable collection of modes is \( \sim N |\Gamma_{bc}| \). If \( \omega_b \omega_c < 0 \), the system can only be unstable if \( \Gamma_{bc} \) is asymmetric in \( b \leftrightarrow c \). However, since \( U_{bc} \) and \( K_{bc} \) are symmetric in \( b \leftrightarrow c \), so is \( \Gamma_{bc} \). High-frequency modes with \( \omega_b \omega_c < 0 \) and small \( \Delta_{bc} \) (i.e., a pair with a beat frequency \( |\omega_b - \omega_c| \approx |\omega| \) are therefore stable.

We emphasize that to be collectively unstable, and thus have a growth rate \( \sim N |\Gamma_{bc}| \), each pair in the set of \( N \) daughters must satisfy the inequality (35). The inequality’s dependence on \( N \) shows that the daughters can be collectively unstable even if each daughter pair would be stable on its own (i.e., even if \( |\Gamma_{bc}| < \sqrt{\gamma_b \gamma_c} \) for every pair). Conversely, a subset of pairs in the set can be unstable even if the set as a whole is collectively stable. This implies that even if the tide excites \( N \gg 1 \) daughters, these daughters are not necessarily undergoing a collective instability. Rather, they may each be undergoing the standard parametric instability with a growth
rate \ll N|\Gamma_{bc}|$ (if the daughters are coupled to each other in a chain, they may all grow at a single, coherent rate \ll N|\Gamma_{bc}| corresponding to one of the eigenvalues $Re(s)$).

The case $N = 2$ is the one most often found in the literature (“three-wave coupling”). As we show in Sections 6 and 7, the collectively unstable case with $N \gg 2$ results in mode dynamics that are very different from the $N = 2$ case; in particular, the driving rate of the $N$ daughters is much more rapid (by a factor of \approx N/2). In Section 5.4 we show that due to collective driving, the global growth rate of daughter modes approaches their maximum local growth (in the case of dynamical tide driving, the latter is the local growth rate within the small driving region near the center of the star).

Physically, collective driving occurs because the $N$ unstable daughters each have comparable group velocities and thus their superposition within the growth region remains coherent over a growth time. They therefore act as a single “mode” that is not individually close to $-\omega/2$ and the pair can have a low parametric threshold.

5.2. Parametric Driving Rate

We now discuss the parametric driving rate of a daughter pair ($b, c$). In this case $N = 2$ and the driving rate $N|\Gamma_{bc}| \approx |\Gamma_{bc}|$ (Equation (33)). Expanding the coefficients in terms of the tidal harmonics, the driving by the $4$th harmonic is given by

$$\Gamma_{bc}^{(k)} = \frac{M'}{M} \sum_{m} W_{m k} X_{m}^2 \left\{ R - \frac{1}{\alpha} \right\} \Gamma_{bc}^{(eq)} + \Gamma_{bc}^{(dyn)},$$

where we define the equilibrium tide and dynamical tide driving rates

$$\Gamma_{bc}^{(eq)} = \kappa_{bc}^{(eq)} \sqrt{\omega_{bc} \Omega}, \quad \Gamma_{bc}^{(dyn)} = \kappa_{bc}^{(dyn)} \sqrt{\omega_{bc} \Omega},$$

and their dimensionless coupling coefficients

$$\kappa_{bc}^{(eq)} = J_{bc} + 2\kappa_{bc}^{(I)} + 2\kappa_{bc}^{(H, eq)},$$

$$\kappa_{bc}^{(dyn)} = 2\kappa_{bc}^{(H, dyn)}.$$
δφ → δφ + U); substituting the equations of motion that include the inhomogeneous term U introduces additional terms that we call \( \kappa_{bc}^{(l)} \). Because \( \kappa_{bc}^{(l)} \) does not contain an explicit dependence on \( \xi_{\text{lin}} \), it does not separate into an equilibrium tide piece and a dynamical tide piece.

We find that for a solar-type star \( |\Gamma_{bc}^{(\text{eq})}| \ll |\Gamma_{bc}^{(\text{dyn})}| \). However, the driving rates are not the only diagnostic of an instability’s importance. In particular, since the majority of the linear tidal (interaction) energy is stored in the equilibrium tide (Section 3), an instability of the equilibrium tide could in principle lead to faster orbital evolution than an instability of the dynamical tide. Equilibrium tide driving thus offers a potentially important source of energy loss that is distinct from the dynamical tide driving considered by Goodman & Dickson (1998).

5.2.1. Relation between Global and Local Driving Rates

While the exact expressions for the coupling coefficients are complicated, intuitively one expects the local driving rate of short-wavelength daughter waves to approximately equal the driving frequency \( \omega \) times the local “shear” of the parent wave \( \sim d\xi_{r,a}/dr \). Indeed, in Appendix A.4.1 we show that the dominant terms in the full expressions for \( \kappa_{ab} \) are approximately equal to

\[
\frac{dk_{ab}}{dr} \approx T \frac{dE_b}{dr} \frac{d\xi_{r,a}}{dr},
\]

(42)

where \( T \) is an angular integral \( |T| \sim 1 \) and \( dE_b/dr \simeq \rho r^2 \xi_{rb}^2 \) is the radial energy density of the daughter waves. Assuming high-order daughters (Equations (A3)–(A5)), this implies that the global driving rate of a self-coupled daughter \( b \) by a parent \( a \) is approximately given by

\[
\Gamma_{bb} \equiv \omega \kappa_{ab} \approx \int \frac{dN(r)}{r} \frac{d\xi_{r,a}}{dr} \approx \int \frac{N \Gamma_{bb}^{(\text{local})}}{N} \frac{d\ln r}{dr},
\]

(43)

where \( \Gamma_{bb}^{(\text{local})} (r) = \omega T d\xi_{r,a} / dr \) is the local daughter driving rate, \( v_{r,b} \simeq \omega_{b} / k_{rb} \) is the daughter group velocity, and the limits of integration are the inner \( (r_i) \) and outer \( (r_o) \) turning points of the daughter (note that \( N \) here is the Brunt–Väisälä frequency, not the number of modes). The global driving rate is therefore the average of the local driving rate weighted by the time the daughters spend at each radius (or, equivalently, weighted by \( N(r) \)).

5.3. Equilibrium Tide Driving Rate

Naively, the nonlinear tide \( U_{bc} \) and the equilibrium tide part of the three-wave coupling \( \sum_{a} \kappa_{abc} q_{a,\text{eq}} \) have a completely different origin. However, in Appendix A.5 we show that the leading-order terms cancel in the integrand of \( J_{bc}^{(\text{cm})} + 2\kappa_{bc}^{(l)} \) (in Equation (40) for \( \kappa_{bc}^{(\text{eq})} \)). Specifically, the fractional difference between \( J_{bc}^{(\text{cm})} + 2\kappa_{bc}^{(l)} \) is \( \sim (\omega/N)^2 \sim 10^{-5} P_{10}^{-2} \) and there is thus a large cancellation between these terms in the growth rate of daughter pairs due to the equilibrium tide, \( \Gamma_{bc}^{(\text{eq})} \). Physically, this is because nonlinear tidal driving (\( U_{bc} \)) and internal nonlinear driving by the equilibrium tide \( (\sum_{a} \kappa_{abc} q_{a,\text{eq}}) \) are fundamentally part of the same process; together they describe the nonlinear driving of daughter modes by the nearly hydrostatic response of the star to its companion. In their paper on the parametric excitation of modes in close binary systems, Papaloizou & Pringle (1981) considered driving by the nonlinear tide \( U_{bc} \). However, they neglected three-wave coupling \( \sum_{a} \kappa_{abc} q_{a} \). Their analysis therefore overestimates the equilibrium tide driving rate by a factor of \( \sim 10^5 \) for solar-type stars.

In Appendix A.4.2 we show that \( d\xi_{r,a} / dr \) is approximately given by Equation (42), where now mode \( a \) represents the equilibrium tide and \( d\xi_{r,a} / dr \) is approximately shown to be of the same order (see Equation (A71)). Thus, the local daughter driving rate by the equilibrium tide is \( \Gamma_{bc}^{(\text{eq})}(\text{local}) \sim \omega r(R)^{4+1} \). Although the local driving rate is \( \sim \omega r \sim R \), the global driving rate \( \Gamma_{bb}^{(\text{eq})} \) (Equation (43)) is considerably smaller than this local value. This is because the global driving rate is weighted by the time the daughters spend at each radius and the daughters propagate more slowly at small radii \( (v_r,b \propto r/N) \), where the shear is small (equivalently, the energy in the daughter modes peaks at small radii, where the shear is small). For a solar binary, the local driving rate by the equilibrium tide is everywhere much smaller than the inverse of the daughters’ group travel time (see the next paragraph). It is therefore appropriate to treat the daughter excitation using global normal modes, and their growth rate is given by the global driving rate.

We can obtain an approximate expression for \( \Gamma_{bb}^{(\text{eq})} \) by noting that for a solar model \( N \approx 100 \rho_{b}(r/R) \) for \( r \lesssim 0.05 R \) and \( N \approx 3 \rho_{b}(r) \) (to within a factor of two) between \( r \approx 0.05 R \) and the convection zone \( r_c \approx 0.7 R \). With these approximations we find \( \Gamma_{bb}^{(\text{eq})} \approx 0.2 T(\ell + 1) (r_c/R)^4 \approx 0.01 \omega \) in good agreement with the full integration of \( \kappa_{bb}^{(\text{eq})} \) given in Appendix B.2.5. The global driving rate by the equilibrium tide is therefore a factor of \( \sim 100 \) slower than the local driving rate at \( r \sim R \). For the dominant harmonic of a synchronized binary (see Equation (38)),

\[
\Gamma_{bb}^{(\text{eq})} \sim \varepsilon \Gamma_{bb}^{(\text{eq})} \sim 10^{-4} \left( \frac{e M'}{M + M'} \right) P_{10}^{-3} \, \text{yr}^{-1},
\]

(44)

where \( \varepsilon = (M'/M)(R/a)^{4+1} \) (Equation (1)).

We can use this estimate of \( \Gamma_{bb}^{(\text{eq})} \) to evaluate the stability of the equilibrium tide. The linear damping rate of a high-order daughter is \( \gamma_b \sim n_b^{2/3} / \kappa_{3h} \), where for a solar model \( \kappa_{3h} \approx 3 \times 10^7 \text{yr} \) and \( n_b \approx 500 \ell P_{10} \). If we ignore the daughter detuning, we find that the equilibrium tide is unstable \( (\Gamma_{bb}^{(\text{eq})} > \gamma_b) \) for orbital periods:

\[
P \lesssim 4 \ell_b^{-2/5} \left( \frac{e M'}{M + M'} \right)^{1/5} \, \text{days}.
\]

While there may be brief intervals during which the detuning \( \Delta \gamma_b \approx \gamma_b \) and the above limit applies, the detuning, on average, sets a more stringent constraint. This is because the equilibrium tide driving rate peaks strongly for self-coupled pairs \( (\Gamma_{bc}^{(\text{eq})} \ll \Gamma_{bb}^{(\text{eq})} \text{ for } |n_b - n_c| \gtrsim 1; \text{see Appendix B.2}) \); thus, although there may exist daughter pairs with very small detuning \( \Delta \gamma_b \), in general such pairs have \( |n_b - n_c| > 1 \) and they couple very weakly to the equilibrium tide. Using the relation for \( \gamma_b \) and self-coupled detuning \( \Delta \gamma_b \approx \Delta \gamma_b / \gamma_b \approx 0.2 \ell_b^{-1} P_{10}^{-2} \, \text{yr}^{-1} \) and minimizing the right-hand side of Equation (35) with respect to \( n_b \), we find that,

\[\footnote{The integral in the numerator of Equation (43) is dominated by the contribution at \( r \sim R \), where to a good approximation \( g \propto r^{-2} \) and thus \( \xi_{\text{lin}} \approx -U/g \propto r^{4+2} \) (see Equation (A12)). The core, where \( g \propto r \) and \( \xi_{\text{lin}} \propto r^{4+1} \), contributes only a few percent to the integral.}

\[\frac{4 \ell_b^{-2/5} \left( \frac{e M'}{M + M'} \right)^{1/5}}{\text{days}} \]

\[\frac{\ell_b^{-2/5} \left( \frac{e M'}{M + M'} \right)^{1/5}}{\text{days}} \]

\[\frac{\ell_b^{-2/5} \left( \frac{e M'}{M + M'} \right)^{1/5}}{\text{days}} \]
on average, the equilibrium tide is only unstable to parametric resonance for

\[ P \lesssim 0.5 \left( \frac{e^M}{M + M'} \right)^{3/7} \text{ days.} \]  

(46)

These estimates agree well with the more exact treatment given in Section 8.

Although we defined the parametric growth rate \( \Gamma_{bc} \) in terms of the method 2 coupling coefficient \( K_{bc} \) (Section 2.1.2), we could have equivalently defined it in terms of the method 1 coefficient \( k_{abc} \) (Section 2.1.1). To do so, write the coupling coefficient in the functional form \( k_{abc} = \kappa [\xi_a, \xi_b, \xi_c] \). Then

\[ K_{bc} = \kappa [\xi_{\text{lin}}, \xi_b, \xi_c] = \kappa \left( \sum_a q_{a,\text{lin}} \xi_a, \xi_b, \xi_c \right) \]

\[ = \sum_a \kappa [\xi_a, \xi_b, \xi_c] q_{a,\text{lin}} = \sum_a \kappa_{abc} q_{a,\text{lin}}. \]

(47)

Our definition of \( \Gamma_{bc} \) (Equation (33)) would thus involve a sum over all parents, including the low-order modes that constitute the equilibrium tide and the high-order modes that constitute the dynamical tide (see Section 3). In principle, we could calculate \( \Gamma_{bc} \) by numerically summing the product of each parent’s \( k_{abc} \) and \( q_{a,\text{lin}} \) (Equations (10) and (25)). However, in practice our calculations of individual \( k_{abc} \) are only accurate to a part in \( \sim 10^3 \) (even after considerable effort to minimize the numerical error; see Appendix A.4). Since \( U_{bc} \) and the equilibrium tide part of \( 2K_{bc} = \sum_a k_{abc} q_{a,\text{eq}} \) (see Equation (26)) cancel to a part \( \sim 10^5 \), we cannot accurately calculate the equilibrium tide part of \( \Gamma_{bc} \) by a term-by-term sum over modes.\(^6\) We find that the only way to accurately calculate this part of \( \Gamma_{bc} \) is to use our method 2 formulation, in which we use the full solution to the inhomogeneous linear equations \( \xi_{\text{lin}} \) rather than its mode decomposition \( \xi_{\text{lin}} = \sum q_{a,\text{lin}} \xi_a \).

5.4. Dynamical Tide Driving Rate

Unlike the shear of the equilibrium tide, which peaks at \( r \sim R \), the shear of dynamical tide peaks in the core (since \( d\xi_a/dr \approx k, \xi_a \propto r^{-2} \)). The driving of daughters by the dynamical tide therefore occurs primarily near the dynamical tide’s inner turning point \( r_1 \). If we define the nonlinearity parameter of the dynamical tide \( A \equiv \max (k, \xi_a) \propto r_1^{-2} \) (see Goodman & Dickson 1998; Ogilvie & Lin 2007), then by Equation (43) the global driving rate of daughters is

\[ \Gamma_{bb}^{\text{dyn}} \approx \omega T A r_1/r_2, \]

where \( r_2 \approx r_c \approx 0.7 R \). The inner turning point is located where \( \omega \approx N \sim 100 \omega_{\text{yr}}/R \) and thus \( r_1/r_2 \approx 0.2 \), \( n \approx 2 \times 10^{-4} P_{10}^{-1} \), where \( n \) is the radial order of the dynamical tide (this implies \( \Gamma_{bb}^{\text{dyn}} \propto \omega A/n \), a scaling also noted by Barker & Ogilvie 2011). The global driving rate of the dynamical tide is therefore

\[ \Gamma_{bb}^{\text{dyn}} \approx 0.01 \left( \frac{M'/M}{10^{-3}} \right) P_{10}^{-11/6} \text{ yr}^{-1}. \]

(48)

where we took \( A \approx 470(M'/M)P_{10}^{1/6} \) corresponding to a tide raised in a slowly rotating solar-type star by a planet of mass \( M' \) (Ogilvie & Lin 2007). The ratio \( r_1/r_2 \) is approximately the ratio of the global driving rate to the maximum local driving rate (for comparison, the global driving rate by the equilibrium tide is \( \sim 1\% \) of the maximum local driving rate). The above estimate of \( \Gamma_{bb}^{\text{dyn}} \) agrees well with the more exact value found by multiplying our numerical integration of \( k_{abc} \) with \( E_{\text{dyn}}^{1/2} \) (see also Equations (30) and (A67)); it also agrees with the rate found by Barker & Ogilvie (2011). At \( P = 10 \text{ days} \), the driving rate by the dynamical tide is \( \sim 10^5 \) times faster than the driving rate by the equilibrium tide (Equation (44)).

The above estimate assumes that only a single daughter pair is excited and thus ignores the possibility of collective driving. The collective driving rate due to the dynamical tide is \( \approx N \Gamma_{bb}^{\text{dyn}} \).

In Appendix B.1 we show that \( N \approx n \) (see also Section 7.2). Thus, \( N \Gamma_{bb}^{\text{dyn}} \approx 0.2 \omega T A \), i.e., the collective global driving rate is approximately equal to the maximum local driving rate of individual daughter pairs \( \Gamma_{bb}^{\text{local,max}} = \omega T A \).

6. ILLUSTRATION OF NONLINEAR INSTABILITIES

In this section we consider simple coupled networks in order to illustrate how nonlinear interactions can redistribute the energy of excited modes. In the first three subsections we give examples of parametrically unstable systems (i.e., LNC; see Section 4), and in the last subsection we give an example of inhomogeneous driving (LLC). More specifically, in Section 6.1 we consider a parametrically unstable three-wave system consisting of a linearly resonant parent \( a \) coupled to a pair of daughter modes \( b, c \) with frequency \( \approx \omega_{0a}/2 \). We assume that this is the only source of daughter driving (i.e., we set \( U_{bc} = 0 \)). Because the dynamical tide is composed of linearly resonant parents (Section 3), this example helps illustrate the parametric instability of the dynamical tide discussed in Section 7. In Section 6.2 we consider the same three-wave system as in Section 6.1 but include nonlinear tidal driving of the daughters \( (U_{bc} \neq 0) \). Because the equilibrium tide drives daughters at a rate that depends on an effective \( U_{bc} \) (Section 5.2), this example helps illustrate the parametric instability of the equilibrium tide discussed in Section 8. In Section 6.3 we show an example of a collectively unstable system in which a single linearly resonant parent is coupled to \( N \) daughters all with frequency \( \approx \omega_{0a}/2 \). We show that the collective instability can lead to the very rapid growth of a large number of daughters and thereby dominate the mode dynamics. Finally, in Section 6.4, we consider a linearly resonant parent \( a \) coupled to itself and a pair of daughter waves with frequency \( \gg \omega_{0a} \). This example helps illustrate nonlinear inhomogeneous driving by the tide discussed in Sections 4 and 9.

6.1. Three-wave Parametric Instability

The three-wave coupling considered here involves a linearly resonant parent mode \( a \) coupled to two linearly driven daughter modes \( b, c \) of approximately half the parent’s frequency (this is sometimes referred to as the parametric subharmonic instability; see Müller et al. 1986). We artificially set the nonlinear tide coefficient to zero for all three modes (\( U_{ij} = 0 \) for \( \{i, j\} = \{a, b, c\} \)). The amplitude equation for the parent is thus

\[ \dot{q}_a + (i \omega_a + \gamma_a) q_a = i \omega_a [U_a(t) + 2k_{abc} q_b^* q_c^*] \]

and similarly for the daughters. We see by Equations (33) and (37) that the daughters are unstable if the parent’s linear

\(^6\) We have verified that they cancel to the precision of our sum over modes.
energy $E_{a,\text{lin}} = |Q_{a,\text{lin}}|^2$ is above the parametric threshold:

$$E_{\text{th}} \approx \frac{\gamma_b \gamma_c}{4 \kappa_{abc}^2 \omega_b \omega_c} \left[ 1 + \frac{\Delta_{bc}^2}{(\gamma_b + \gamma_c)^2} \right] \left[ 1 + \frac{\Delta_{bc}^2}{(\gamma_b + \gamma_c)^2} \right] E_0,$$

where in the second line we assumed $P_b \approx P_c \approx P_{\text{orb}}$ and plugged in the analytic expressions (A14) and (A67) for $\gamma_b, \gamma_c$ and $\kappa_{abc}$.

In Figure 2 we show the evolution of such a parametrically unstable three-mode system. The modes are initialized at their linear energy (Equation (29)). The linear solution is unstable, and the daughters initially grow on a timescale of $\sim 1/\Omega_{bc} \sim 100$ orbits. After $\sim 10^4$ orbits the system reaches a new steady-state nonlinear equilibrium (dotted lines; see Appendix D).

### 6.2. Nonlinear Tidal Driving

Just as modes with frequencies $\simeq \omega$ are linearly resonant with the tide through the $U_{ab}$ term in Equation (6), modes with frequencies $\simeq \omega/2$ are nonlinearly resonant with the tide through the $U_{ab}$ term. The daughters in the previous subsection are therefore subject to nonlinear tidal driving in addition to three-wave coupling with the linearly resonant parents.

In Figure 3 we show the evolution of the same three-mode system as in Figure 2 but now including nonlinear tidal driving of the daughters. Same three-mode system as in Figure 2 but now including self-coupled nonlinear tidal driving of the daughters. We use $U_{bb} = U_{cc} = \kappa_{abc} E_{a,\text{lin}}^{1/2} / 4 = 2.5 \times 10^{-3}$, an artificially large value for a solar binary. For comparison, the thin dotted lines show the parent and daughter of Figure 2 in which $U_{bb} = U_{cc} = U_{bc} = 0$. The system is unstable, and parametric coupling to the parent cannot saturate the exponential growth. In reality, the equilibrium tide is only unstable to parametric resonance in solar binaries with $P_{\text{orb}} \lesssim 2-5$ days (Section 8).

### 6.3. Collective Instability

In Figure 4 we show a system of $N = 100$ daughters that are each coupled to each other and the same linearly driven parent as in Figure 2 (a total of $10^4$ couplings). The magnitude of the daughter damping rates and detunings are $\gamma, \Delta_{bc} \simeq 0.1 \Omega_b$ corresponding to high $\ell$, somewhat resonant daughters. We find that the stability of the daughters is not sensitive to their initial conditions. In order to illustrate this, we assign each daughter a random initial phase and amplitude such that their initial energies vary over 10 orders of magnitude.

Since $U_{bc} \approx \kappa_{abc} E_{a,\text{lin}}^{1/2}$, the daughters’ driving is initially dominated by three-wave coupling to the parent. There occurs a short-lived nonlinear equilibrium with energies similar to the equilibrium of Figure 2. However, this equilibrium is destabilized by $U_{bc}$, and after $\approx 300$ orbits the nonlinear driving by $U_{bc}$ begins to take over and the daughters grow exponentially at a rate $\Gamma_{bc} \simeq U_{bc} \Omega_b$. Three-wave coupling to the parent does not saturate the daughters; instead, the daughters drag the parent with them and the parent also grows exponentially.
The parent is the same as in Figure 2 with daughter’s damping rate and detuning are increased by a factor of \( V_b \) nonlinear inhomogeneous driving of a mode.

Figure 4. Collective parametric driving of a set of \( N = 100 \) coupled daughters. The parent is the same as in Figure 2 with \( \Gamma_{bc} = 0.01 \Omega \), while each daughter’s damping rate and detuning are increased by a factor of \( \approx 10^3 \) to \( \gamma_b \approx \gamma_c \approx \Delta \omega \approx 0.1 \Omega \). The system is collectively unstable even though each daughter pair is stable according to the three-wave instability criterion (Equation (37)).

Growing coherently at a rate \( N|\Gamma_{bc}| \approx \Omega \). This is a factor of \( \approx N \) times faster than that of the standard three-wave parametric system considered in Section 6.1. Once coherent, the daughters oscillate in unison at a frequency \( \omega/2 \) and eventually settle into a stable equilibrium with energies that are all equal to within \( \approx 30\% \).

The rapid daughter growth rate implies that the linearly driven parent loses energy at a much faster rate than the parent in the three-wave system of Section 6.1. This, in turn, implies that a collectively unstable system can potentially drain energy out of the orbit much faster. As we discuss in Section 10, this may imply that the driving is in the traveling wave (rather than standing wave) limit for much lower mass companions than indicated by ordinary three-wave coupling. In Section 7.2 we show that the dynamical tide due to Jupiter mass planets in few-day orbits is collectively unstable, driving \( N \approx 10^3 P_{10} \) daughters with \( t \approx 30 P_{10}^{-1} \) to significant amplitudes within a few orbits.

6.4. Three-wave Inhomogeneous Driving

The examples in the last three subsections all illustrate the excitation of modes through the parametric instability (LNC). As described in Section 4, the linear tide can also excite modes through nonlinear inhomogeneous driving (LLC). In terms of the \( r_b \) version of the amplitude equation (Equation (20)), nonlinear inhomogeneous driving of a mode \( b \) arises from the coupling coefficient \( V_b + K_b \). This coefficient accounts for the full linear tide and thus inherently includes a sum over all linear parent modes. Following the simple examples of the previous subsections, here we instead consider inhomogeneous driving by just a single linearly resonant parent mode \( a \). We couple this parent to itself and two high-frequency, non-resonant, daughter modes \( b, c \). In terms of the \( q_a \) version of the amplitude equation (Equation (6)), we have

\[
\begin{align*}
\dot{q}_a + (i\omega_a + \gamma_a)q_a &= i\omega_a[U_a(t) + 2(\kappa_{aac}q_b + \kappa_{abb}q_c^*)q_a^*] \\
\dot{q}_b + (i\omega_b + \gamma_b)q_b &= i\omega_b[U_b(t) + \kappa_{abb}(q_a^*)^2] \\
\dot{q}_c + (i\omega_c + \gamma_c)q_c &= i\omega_c[U_c(t) + \kappa_{aac}(q_b^*)^2].
\end{align*}
\]

We show an example of such a system in Figure 5. Unlike the parametric instability considered in Section 6.1, which is only unstable if \( E_{a,\text{lin}} > E_{\text{lin}} \) (Equation (50)), the linear solution of this system is always invalid because the parent appears as an inhomogeneous driving term in the daughter amplitude equations. Thus, just as the steady-state solution to the linear equation for high-frequency modes driven at a frequency \( \omega \ll \omega_a \) is \( q_a,\text{lin} \approx \overline{U_a(t)} \) (Equation (25)) assuming \( \gamma_b \ll \omega_b \), the daughter steady-state solution here is \( q_b \approx \kappa_{abb}E_a\epsilon^{2\text{lin}} \) (assuming \( \kappa_{aac} \gg \omega_c^2 \)). For Figure 5 we chose coupling coefficients \( \kappa_{abb} = \kappa_{aac} \ll E_{a,\text{lin}}^{-1/2} \); the parent’s steady-state energy is therefore only slightly smaller than \( E_{a,\text{lin}} \). Depending on the tidal factor \( \epsilon \), the actual inhomogeneous driving coefficient \( V_b + K_b \) can be so large that the parent’s steady-state energy is very different from \( E_{a,\text{lin}} \) (see Section 9).

In that case, the simple view of “linear-like” driving no longer holds and the other forms of three-wave coupling (LNC and NNC) can become important.

7. PARAMETRIC INSTABILITY OF THE DYNAMICAL TIDE

As discussed in Section 3, the linear tide can be decomposed into a dynamical tide (high-order modes resonant with the tide) and an equilibrium tide (low-order, off-resonant modes with large overlap integrals \( I_{a\ell m} \)). In this section we show that for the
close binary systems discussed in Section 1, the dynamical tide is parametrically unstable to nonlinear three-wave interactions. We first (Section 7.1) assume that each daughter is coupled to the dynamical tide and only one other daughter ($N \leq 2$) and determine the parameter space over which the daughters are unstable. We then (Section 7.2) allow each daughter to couple to the dynamical tide and many other daughters ($N \gg 2$). We show that these collections of modes are collectively unstable and have growth rates that can be orders of magnitude larger than the $N \leq 2$ systems.

Since the dynamical tide is composed of several parents on either side of the linear resonance, in principle, one should allow each daughter pair to couple to more than one parent. However, we find that the most linearly resonant parent dominates the dynamics, and for simplicity we only show results for driving by this single parent. Furthermore, although we present results for standing waves, we will show in Section 10 that the local nonlinear interaction rates are so fast in both solar-type binaries and hot Jupiter systems that the global standing wave assumption may not be valid; one may then have to work instead in the traveling wave limit.

7.1. Dynamical Tide Instability for $N \leq 2$ Daughters

For a three-mode system, the dynamical tide is unstable if the linear energy of the resonant modes $E_{\text{lin}}$ (Equation (29) for modes with small $\Delta_\ell$) exceeds the parametric threshold $E_{\text{th}}$ (Equation (50)) for three-mode coupling to a daughter pair. In Figure 6 we show $E_{\text{lin}}$ and the minimum $E_{\text{th}}$ as a function of $P_{\text{orb}}$ for $M' = M = M_\odot$. To find the minimum $E_{\text{th}}$, we use the analytical expressions for $\kappa$, $\gamma$, etc., derived in Appendix A and at each $P_{\text{orb}}$ search the $(\ell, n)$ parameter space of daughter pairs that satisfy momentum conservation and the angular selection rules described in Appendix B. We find that the dynamical tide in solar binaries is unstable for $P_{\text{orb}} \lesssim 40$ days and that $E_{\text{lin}} \gg E_{\text{th}}$ over much of that range.

The linear energy scales with the mass of the companion $M'$ as $E_{\text{lin}} \propto U_0^2 \propto [M'/(M + M')]^2$, while $E_{\text{th}}$ is independent of $M'$. The ratio $E_{\text{lin}}/E_{\text{th}}$ calculated for solar binaries in Figure 6 can therefore be used to solve for the minimum $M'$ for which the dynamical tide is unstable in solar-type stars. We show this minimum companion mass $M'$ as a function of orbital period in Figure 7. We find that for $N \leq 2$ the dynamical tide is unstable for Jupiter mass planets $M' = M_J$ out to $P_{\text{orb}} \approx 10$ days and for ~10 Earth mass planets out to $P_{\text{orb}} \approx 2$ days.

The analytic scalings shown as dotted lines in Figure 6 can be derived using the analytic approximations to $\gamma$, $\Delta$, $U_0$, and $\kappa$ given in Appendix A. The rapid variation in $E_{\text{th}}$ and the minimum $M'$ for $P_{\text{orb}} \lesssim 10$ days are due to particular modes coming in and out of resonance. This is especially pronounced at short orbital periods since the frequency spacing of resonant modes is larger at smaller $P_{\text{orb}}$.

We note that to calculate the minimum $M'$ we used the value of $E_{\text{lin}}$ given by the lower envelope in Figure 6 (Equation (30)). Since this ignores the coincidental possibility of strong resonances, the minimum $M'$ shown is somewhat conservative. Furthermore, by approximating the dynamical tide with just the most resonant parent, we have ignored the driving of daughters by the slightly less resonant neighboring parents; we find that including these parents decreases the minimum $M'$ by a factor of order unity.

7.2. Dynamical Tide Instability for $N \gg 2$ Daughters

In the previous section we assumed that each daughter couples to only one other daughter, in addition to the parent (either $N = 1$ daughters for a self-coupled daughter pair or $N = 2$). However, since $|\kappa_{\text{anch}}|$ is nearly constant for all daughter pairs with $|n_h - n_e| \lesssim n_a$ (see Appendix B), each daughter in fact...
couples to $N \approx n_a \approx 1000(\ell_a/2)P_{a,10}$ daughters. All the modes are unstable if each daughter pair $(b, c) \in N$ satisfies (Equation (35))

$$2N_{cri}E_a^{1/2} \gtrsim \sqrt{\frac{\gamma b \gamma c + \Delta_{bc}^2}{\omega_b \omega_c} t_r^{1/2}}.$$  \hspace{1cm} (52)

In order to derive the threshold energy $E_{th}$ of the system, let the radial order $n_0$ characterize the most nonlinearly resonant daughter at a given $\ell$ and consider the $N \approx n_a$ daughters on either side of $n_0$ that couple equally well to the parent. Of these $N$ modes, the daughter pair that maximizes the right-hand side of Equation (52), and thereby determines the stability of the system, will be the pair that has the largest detuning and damping rate. This is the self-coupled pair $b = c$ with $n_b \approx n_0 + n_a/2$; it has a detuning $|\Delta_{bb}/\omega_b| \approx 2n_a/n_0$ and a damping rate $|\gamma_b/\omega_b| \approx B(n_0 + n_a)^2/n_0^2$, where $B \approx 4 \times 10^{-12}P_{a,10}$ (see Equation (A14)) and the second equality is appropriate if $\ell_0 \gg \ell_a = 2$. Solving for $n_0$ that minimizes the right-hand side of Equation (52), we find

$$n_{0,*} \approx \left(\frac{n_a}{B^{1/2}}\right)^{1/3} \approx 1.6 \times 10^4 \left(\frac{\ell_a}{2}\right)^{1/3},$$  \hspace{1cm} (53)

independent of period. This corresponds to a daughter with $\ell = \ell_{0,*} \approx (n_{0,0}/500)P_{a,10}^{-1} \approx 32P_{a,10}^{-1}$. Since $\ell_{0,*} \gg \ell_a = 2$, daughters with $(\ell, n) = (\ell_{0,*} \pm 2, n_{0,*} \pm n_a)$ have nearly the same detuning and $\kappa_{abc}$ as those with $(\ell, n) = (\ell_{0,*}, n_{0,*} \pm n_a)$. Thus, a more accurate estimate is $N \approx 3n_a$ rather than $N \approx n_a$. The minimum threshold energy is then $E_{th} = (\kappa_{abc}n_{0,0}^2)^2/24$. For a resonant parent at the linear energy $E_{a,lin}$ of the $k = m = 2$ harmonic of the tide, this corresponds to a threshold mass ratio:

$$\frac{M'}{M} \gtrsim 9 \times 10^{-5} \left(\frac{P_{orb}}{1 \text{ day}}\right)^{5/6},$$  \hspace{1cm} (54)

where we used Equation (A67) and assumed that the primary spins slowly relative to the orbit. This minimum mass ratio for collective parametric driving of daughters is shown in Figure 7. Note that this threshold is somewhat conservative in that we again used Equation (30) for the linear energy and thus ignore the coincidental possibility of strong resonances.

At mass ratios just slightly above threshold (by a factor of two, say), collectively unstable systems have growth rates $\approx 2N_{cri}E_a^{1/2}/\Omega$. Their growth rates are therefore $N \approx 10^3P_{10}$ times larger than $N \approx 2$ systems. Thus, even though collective systems have a somewhat higher threshold (see Figure 7), they probably dominate the mode dynamics whenever they are unstable.

In Figure 8 we show the growth times $t_{growth}$ of the fastest-growing collectively unstable systems for two companion masses; for systems just slightly above threshold, the daughters all grow on timescales of $\lesssim 10$ orbits. We determine $t_{growth}$ by numerically solving for the eigenvalues of large networks of daughters (the eigenvalues of matrix $H$ in Section 5) and using our analytic expressions for $\gamma_a, t_{atm}$, and $\kappa_{abc}$ given in Appendix A. To find the daughter set with the smallest $t_{growth}$, we search over daughter $\ell$ and vary $N$. For a given $\ell$, we couple the $N$ consecutive daughters on either side of the most resonant daughter to each other and the most resonant parent. We include daughters with $\ell \pm 2$ in the set since their coupling also satisfies momentum conservation for $\ell_a = \ell_{tide} = 2$. We find that $t_{growth}$ decreases with increasing $N$ until $N \approx 2n_a \approx 2 \times 10^3(\ell_a/2)P_{a,10}$. For $N \gtrsim 2n_a$ a large fraction of the least resonant daughters do not couple to each other since they have $|\Delta n| > n_a$ and thus $\kappa_{abc} \approx 0$. We find that these additional daughters are stable.

Estimating $t_{growth}$ using Equations (30) and (A67), we find $t_{growth}/P_{orb} \approx 3 \times 10^{-3}(M'/M')P_{10}^{1/6}$. This is in good agreement with the numerical results for mass ratios sufficiently above threshold.

8. PARAMETRIC INSTABILITY OF THE EQUILIBRIUM TIDE

In this section we consider the stability of the equilibrium tide to parametric driving. Like the dynamical tide, the equilibrium tide oscillates at the driving frequency $\omega$ and is thus nonlinearly resonant with short-wavelength daughters with natural frequencies near $\omega/2$. Unlike the dynamical tide, however, the amplitude of the equilibrium tide is smallest in the core; at small radii $\xi_{r,\text{eq}} \propto r^{-2}$ whereas $\xi_{r,\text{eq}} \propto r^{-1}$. Since the daughters’ eigenfunctions peak in the core ($\xi_r \propto r^{-2}$), they couple much more weakly to the equilibrium tide than the dynamical tide. We will show that the coupling is in fact so weak that the equilibrium tide is only unstable to parametric resonance in solar binaries with $P_{orb} \lesssim 5$ days.

A resonant daughter pair $(b, c)$ is unstable to driving by the $k$th harmonic of the equilibrium tide if (Equation (35))

$$\mathcal{W}_{bc}^{eq, k} \geq \sqrt{\gamma_b \gamma_c + \Delta_{bc}^2},$$  \hspace{1cm} (55)

where (Section 5.2)

$$\Gamma_{bc}^{eq, k} = \sqrt{\omega_b \omega_c \frac{M'}{M} \sum_{\ell m} W_{\ell m} X_{\ell m} \left(\frac{R}{a}\right)^{\ell+1} \kappa_{bc}^{eq, k}}.$$  \hspace{1cm} (56)

In Appendix B we show that the equilibrium tide coupling coefficient $\kappa_{bc}^{eq, k}$ (1) is a weak function of daughter $\ell$ and period, (2) has a magnitude of $\approx 0.01-0.05$ for self-coupled modes $b = c$, and (3) decreases rapidly with increasing $|\Delta n| = |n_b - n_c|$. 

![Figure 8. Growth time $t_{growth}$, in units of orbital period, of daughters coupled to the linearly resonant parent. The solid lines show $t_{growth}$ for collectively unstable systems $N \approx 2$ with $M'/M = 2 \times 10^{-4}$ and $10^{-3}$. The dashed line shows the maximum $t_{growth}$ (multiplied by 0.01) for an $N \lesssim 2$ system with $M'/M = 10^{-3}$.](image-url)
We now estimate the period out to which the equilibrium tide is unstable to parametric resonance. Since the coupling coefficient peaks strongly for self-coupled modes $b = c$, the daughters are not collectively driven and $N = 1$. For self-coupled pairs the detuning is $|\Delta_{bc}/\omega_b| \approx A^{-1}$ and the damping rate is $\gamma_b/\omega_b \approx B n^2_b$, where numerically we find an average detuning $A \approx 0.5$ and $B \approx 4 \times 10^{-11} P_{b,0}$ (Equation (A14)). Since the coupling coefficient is a weak function of $\ell_b$ and $P_b$, we can solve for the stability threshold by minimizing the right-hand side of Equation (55) with respect to $n_b$. For the representative case of the $\ell = m = k = 1$ harmonic in a synchronized solar binary ($\Omega \approx 2 \omega_b$), we find that the equilibrium tide is unstable for orbital periods:

$$P \lesssim 1.2 \left( \frac{e\kappa_{\text{eq}}}{0.01} \right) ^{3/7} \text{days.} \quad (57)$$

There can be brief epochs during which the detuning happens to be much smaller than average, i.e., $A \ll 0.5$. In the zero detuning limit, the stability criterion is determined by the damping rate of the most resonant $\ell_b = 1$ daughter and we find

$$P(\Delta_{bb} = 0) \lesssim 5.1 \left( \frac{e\kappa_{\text{eq}}}{0.01} \right) ^{1/5} \text{days.} \quad (58)$$

We have assumed in these estimates that the condition $|\Delta| = 0$ implies self-coupling and thus $\ell_b = \ell_c$. In fact, pairs with $\ell_b = \ell_c \pm 2$ and $|\Delta| = 0$ also have $\kappa_{bc}^{\text{eq}} \approx 0.01-0.05$ for the $\ell = 2$ harmonic of the tide. In a numerical search over potential daughter pairs, we find that relaxing this assumption increases the period out to which the equilibrium tide is unstable by $\lesssim 30\%$.

9. NONLINEAR INHOMOGENEOUS DRIVING

There are two mechanisms by which the linear tide can drive other modes (see Section 4): parametric driving, which we considered in the previous two sections, and nonlinear inhomogeneous driving, which we consider here. Both forms of driving drain energy from the linear tide and can thus act as sources of enhanced dissipation relative to linear theory. In order to determine the extent to which they influence the orbital and rotational evolution, we need to solve for the nonlinear equilibrium (i.e., saturation). In general, the nonlinear equilibrium depends on a balance between all three forms of three-wave interactions (LLC, LNC, and NNC in Section 4). While we defer such a calculation to a future paper, in this section we solve for the nonlinear equilibrium in the absence of parametric driving and NNC. Such a simplification is justified only if the linearly excited modes remain near their linear energies despite their nonlinear coupling to other modes. Although we show that this is not always the case, this calculation nevertheless demonstrates that inhomogeneous driving may be a significant source of nonlinear dissipation.

The steady-state solution to the nonlinear amplitude equation in the absence of parametric driving and NNC (Equation (20)) but ignoring the last two terms on the right-hand side is that of a driven oscillator:

$$r_a(t) = \sum_{kk'} \omega_a \left[ V_a + K_a \right]^{k+k'} \omega_a - (k+k')\Omega - 1 \gamma_a e^{-i(k+k')\Omega t} \right], \quad (59)$$

\[ \text{Figure 9. Orbit-averaged nonlinear energy } E_{a,\text{nl}} \text{ as a function of mode period } P \text{, accounting only for the inhomogeneous driving terms in the nonlinear amplitude equation (20). The parameters are } \ell = \ell' = m = m' = k - 1 = k' - 1 = 2, M' = M = M_1, \varepsilon = 0.1, \text{ and } P_{a,0} = 10 \text{ days. The three contributions to } E_{a,\text{nl}} \text{— } E_{a,\text{eq}}^{\text{lin}} \text{, } E_{a,\text{eq}}^{\text{dyn}} \text{, and } E_{a,\text{eq}}^{\text{lin} \rightarrow \text{dyn}} \text{— are each shown as separate curves. For comparison, the linear energy } E_{a,\text{eq}}^{\text{lin}} \text{ is also shown (Equation (29); cf. Figure 1).} \]

\[ \text{where} \]

$$[V_a + K_a]^{k+k'} = \left( \frac{M'}{M} \right)^2 \sum_{\ell m} \sum_{\ell' m'} W_{\ell m} W_{\ell' m'} X_{\ell m} X_{\ell' m'}' \times \left[ k_a^{\text{eq} \rightarrow \text{eq}} + k_a^{\text{eq} \rightarrow \text{dyn}} + k_a^{\text{eq} \rightarrow \text{lin} \rightarrow \text{dyn}} \right]. \quad (60)$$

The coefficients $k_a^{\text{eq} \rightarrow \text{eq}}$, $k_a^{\text{eq} \rightarrow \text{dyn}}$, and $k_a^{\text{eq} \rightarrow \text{lin} \rightarrow \text{dyn}}$ are defined in Appendix A 6 and their properties described in Appendix B. This solution (Equation (59)), which is analogous to that of the linear amplitude equation (Equation (24)), has contributions from the three distinct forms of driving: equilibrium tide–equilibrium tide coupling $k_a^{\text{eq} \rightarrow \text{eq}}$, dynamical tide–dynamical tide coupling $k_a^{\text{eq} \rightarrow \text{dyn}}$, and equilibrium tide–dynamical tide coupling $k_a^{\text{lin} \rightarrow \text{dyn}}$. We first consider the properties of the solution for modes with frequency $\omega_a \gg \omega_0$ (high-order $g$-modes to low-order $p$-modes) and then for modes with frequency $\omega_a \ll \omega_0$ (high-order $p$-modes).

9.1. $\omega_a \lesssim \omega_0$

Figure 9 shows the orbit-averaged nonlinear energy $E_{a,\text{nl}} \equiv |q_{a,0}|^2$ as a function of mode period $P$ for each form of inhomogeneous driving, as compared to the linear solution $E_{a,\text{lin}}$ (Equation (29) and Figure 1). We see that for $k_a^{\text{eq} \rightarrow \text{eq}}$ coupling and $k_a^{\text{eq} \rightarrow \text{dyn}}$ coupling, $E_{a,\text{nl}} \ll E_{a,\text{lin}}$ over nearly the

7 The total energy $E_a = |q_{a,0}|^2 = |q_{a,\text{lin}} + r_a|^2$ contains a cross term involving the product of $q_{a,\text{lin}}$ and $r_a$. However, since we assume in Figure 9 that $r_a$ and $q_{a,\text{lin}}$ oscillate at different harmonics of the orbit, the orbit-averaged cross term is zero. In cases where $q_{a,\text{lin}}$ and $r_a$ oscillate at the same frequency (i.e., for particular values of $k$, $m$, etc.), the cross term is constant and the time-averaged total energy is not simply $|q_{a,\text{lin}}|^2 + |r_a|^2$ but can be larger or smaller depending on the magnitude and phase of $q_{a,\text{lin}}$ and $r_a$.\]
entire range of modes shown (low-order $p$-modes to $n \approx 10^3$ \textit{g}-modes). This suggests that for these modes, the energy dissipation from $k_a^{(eq-dyn)}$ coupling and $k_a^{(eq-dyn)}$ coupling is insignificant compared to that due to the linear tide. The only exception is the nonlinear resonance at $P_a \approx P_{orb}/(k + k')$ due to $k_a^{(eq-dyn)}$ coupling. However, since the energy in this resonance is below that of the dynamical tide (the linear resonance at $P_a \approx P_{orb}/k$), it cannot be a significant additional source of dissipation.

For $k_a^{(dyn-dyn)}$ coupling, by contrast, Figure 9 shows that in the case of solar binaries there are many modes for which $E_{a,nl} \gg E_{a,lin}$. Furthermore, the energy in the nonlinear resonance is \sim 100 times larger than the energy in the linear resonance.\footnote{Resonances that are coincidentally better than average will shift the relative magnitude of the $E_{a,nl}$ and $E_{a,lin}$ peaks. In Figure 9 the linearly and nonlinearly resonant modes both have resonances that are typical.} This suggests that $k_a^{(dyn-dyn)}$ coupling may be an important source of nonlinear dissipation for the dynamical tide, possibly even more important than parametric coupling to daughter pairs.

It is important to note that $k_a^{(dyn-dyn)}$ coupling cannot lead to enhanced dissipation relative to the mechanical power carried by the dynamical tide (i.e., relative to the upper bound calculated by Goodman & Dickson 1998). This is because $k_a^{(dyn-dyn)}$ coupling always occurs below the radiative-convective interface (Appendix B) and thus below the region where the dynamical tide is launched. This also implies that if the dynamical tide breaks in the core, then the nonlinearly resonant modes cannot actually reach the large energies shown in Figure 9; the other forms of three-wave interactions (LNC and NNC) must become important well before the modes reach these energies.

Since $E_{a,nl} \propto \varepsilon^4$ while $E_{a,lin} \propto \varepsilon^2$, we find that in the case of hot Jupiter systems, $E_{a,nl} \ll E_{a,lin}$ for all modes. We therefore do not expect inhomogeneous driving to be an important source of dissipation in planetary systems. This difference between planetary and stellar companions highlights why it is probably very misleading to extrapolate tidal dissipation parameters inferred from observations of one set of systems to a very different set of systems.

9.2. $\omega_a \gg \omega_b$

In Appendix B.3 we found that $k_a^{(eq-dyn)}$ and $k_a^{(dyn-dyn)}$ can be significant for high-order $p$-modes (see the right panel of Figure 15). Since the frequency of these modes is above the acoustic cutoff of the solar atmosphere ($\approx 60\omega_0$), they do not reflect at the solar surface and cannot therefore form standing waves. Equation (59), which assumes that the driven modes are standing waves, does not therefore describe the driving of these high-order $p$-modes. Instead, one must treat the driving in the local limit; presumably the $p$-modes cannot reach amplitudes anywhere near those of Equation (59) since their group travel time across the driving region is much smaller than the driving period. We defer the calculation of $p$-mode driving to future work.

10. LOCAL NONLINEAR INTERACTIONS

To this point we have assumed that the perturbations are all global standing waves. However, a perturbation can only be treated as a global standing wave if its growth and damping times are longer than its group travel time across the star. In this section we show that in nonlinear theory this is not necessarily the case. The nonlinear growth rate of daughters in the core of the star due to driving by the dynamical tide can be faster than the rate at which the daughters cross the interaction region. We specialize to the case of dynamical tide driving since equilibrium tide driving, when present, is in the standing wave limit (at least for solar-type stars).

The stability calculations, which are the focus of this paper, are independent of the uncertainty of traveling versus standing waves that is present in full nonlinear theory. This is because the daughter growth rates are infinitesimal at threshold, and thus the growth times are always longer than the group travel time very near threshold. However, the breakdown of the standing wave approximation does have implications for the saturation of the nonlinear perturbations since it implies that the excited waves can grow and damp locally. This, in turn, can affect the rate at which energy and angular momentum are taken out of the orbit.

Consider an inward-propagating traveling wave $a$ launched at the radiative-convective boundary $r$, by the linear tide. As it approaches the core, this parent wave excites daughter waves through three-wave interactions. Due to the sharp increase in $dk/d\ln r$ in the core (see Figures 12 and 10), the local nonlinear growth rate $\Gamma_{bb}(r)$ of a self-coupled daughter wave $b$ increases rapidly as the parent approaches $r \approx 0$. If $\Gamma_{bb}(r) r_{tr,b}(r) \gg 1$, where

$$t_{r,b}(r) \approx \frac{r}{v_{r,b}(r)} \approx \frac{\Lambda_b N(r)}{\omega_b^2} \tag{61}$$

is the time it takes a daughter with group velocity $v_{r,b} \approx \omega_b/k_{r,b}$ to traverse a region of size $r$ and $\Lambda_b^2 = \ell_b(\ell_b + 1)$, then the standing wave approximation breaks down and the daughter must be treated as a traveling wave. In Appendix E we show that the local nonlinear growth rate of a self-coupled daughter $b$ due to three-wave interactions with a parent $a$ is

$$\Gamma_{bb}(r) \approx 2\omega_b T|q k_b \xi_{r,b}| \tag{62}$$

where $\omega_a$ is the parent amplitude, $T$ is the angular integral given by Equation (A20), and the expression in the second line is appropriate for $r \leq 0.05 R$ (see Equation (A3)). The nonlinear interactions are strongest near the parent’s inner turning point $r_{min}$ where $N(r) = \omega_a \approx 2\omega_0$; the radial group travel time of the daughter across this region is $t_{r,b}(r_{min}) \approx 2\Lambda_b/\omega_b$ and therefore at $r_{min}$

$$\Gamma_{bb}(r_{tr,b}) \approx 4\Lambda_b T|q k_b \xi_{r,b}|. \tag{63}$$

In a solar model $dN/dr \approx 98\omega_0$ at $r \leq 0.05 R$ and thus $r_{min}/R \approx 1.3 \times 10^{-4} P_{a,10}^{-1}$. For the $\ell_a = 2$ parent most resonant with the linear tide ($q_a = q_{a,dy}$, Equation (27)), we find that for a synchronous solar binary

$$\Gamma_{bb}(r_{tr,b}) \approx 2 \times 10^3 \Lambda_b e P_{10}^{1/6} \tag{64}$$

and the standing wave approximation is invalid unless $\Lambda_b e \lesssim 10^{-3}$. For a slowly rotating star orbited by a planet, we find that

$$\Gamma_{bb}(r_{tr,b}) \approx 0.3 \Lambda_b \left(\frac{M/M_{10}}{10^{-3}}\right) P_{10}^{1/6} \tag{65}$$

and the standing wave approximation is valid for $M/M_{10} \lesssim 10^{-3}/\Lambda_b$. The dashed line in Figure 7 shows this condition for the case $\ell_b = 2$.  


Goodman & Dickson (1998) computed \(|q_k| |\xi_r|_a\) as a local measure of the nonlinearity of waves excited by the linear tide (see also Ogilvie & Lin 2007). When \(|q_k| |\xi_r|_a \gg 1\), the parent wave overturns the stratification during part of its cycle. Barker & Ogilvie (2010) (see also Barker 2011) carried out numerical simulations of gravity waves approaching the core of a solar-type star. They found that when the overturn criterion of Goodman & Dickson (1998) is satisfied, the incoming parent wave is fully absorbed in the core and therefore deposits all of its energy there; if it is not satisfied, the parent reflects at its inner turning point and travels back out to the stellar surface virtually undamped. Goodman & Dickson’s overturn criterion is therefore equivalent to a traveling wave condition for the parent.

Here we have shown that when the parent’s amplitude is a factor of 4Λⁿ / ℓb ≳ 1, i.e., \(\ell_b \ll 2\), our daughter traveling wave condition is very similar to Goodman & Dickson’s parent traveling wave condition. For \(\ell_b \gg 1\), Equation (63) suggests that the daughter standing wave approximation may fail even when \(|q_k| |\xi_r|_a \ll 1\), i.e., even when the parent is far from overturning the stratification. We also showed in Section 7.2 that there are collectively unstable daughters at mass ratios well below the overturn criterion (Figure 7) with growth rates that are \(\approx N/2 \gg 1\) times larger than that of three-wave systems (that of Equation (62)). The cases \(\Lambda_b \gg 1\) and \(N \gg 2\) both therefore suggest that the daughter traveling wave limit may extend to significantly lower planetary masses than indicated by the dashed line in Figure 7. However, it is not clear whether this means that the parent is also in the traveling wave limit, and thus fully absorbed, for these lower masses. Assessing whether this is the case will require a better understanding of the daughter driving and saturation in the core of solar-type stars.

We note that both cases (\(\Lambda_b \gg 1\) and \(N \gg 2\)) involve the excitation of a potentially large number of high \(\ell\) resonant daughters (and since \(\omega \propto \ell/n\), very high \(n\) daughters). Capturing these interactions numerically therefore requires very high spatial resolution. This may explain why Barker & Ogilvie (2010) do not seem to observe either of these effects in their numerical simulations.

11. SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

This paper is an initial investigation into the importance of nonlinear fluid dynamics for the tidal evolution of close binary systems. We derive a formalism for including nonlinear interactions in tidal theory and describe the physical effects that arise from these nonlinearities. While the ultimate goal is to understand how nonlinear effects may alter the rate of circularization and synchronization in binaries, such calculations are deferred to a future paper. In this paper, we instead focus on determining the conditions under which the standard linear theory approximation is (in)valid. We present detailed results for the tidal forcing of a Sun-like star by a stellar or planetary companion, but the formalism we derive is more general and is applicable to nonlinear tides in stars, planets, or compact objects.

Most previous studies of tides have made the linear approximation, accounting for only linear-order perturbations to the background state. Our formalism includes the leading-order nonlinear corrections. These corrections have two seemingly different physical origins: (1) **Internal nonlinear interactions**, which couple three waves to each other. These interactions enable waves that are linearly excited by the tide to transfer energy to waves that are not linearly excited. This nonlinear coupling includes both resonant and non-resonant nonlinear interactions (Sections 4, 5, and 9). If the linearly excited waves systematically lose energy to other waves via nonlinear coupling, then the nonlinear interactions can substantially modify the orbital/rotational evolution relative to that predicted by linear...
theory. (2) **External nonlinear interactions**, which resonantly couple two internal waves directly to the tide through their gravitational multipole moments (Section 6.2). These interactions allow waves that are not linearly resonant with the tide to be directly driven by the tidal potential. The damping of these nonlinearly driven waves can also act as a source of enhanced dissipation relative to linear theory.

We have presented two related approaches to solving for the nonlinear tidal response of a star. In the first, we take the background state of the star to be spherical and unperturbed by the companion, and we expand the Lagrangian displacement and velocity associated with the tide (both linear and nonlinear) as a sum over eigenmodes, with each mode weighed by its amplitudes \( q_\alpha \) (Section 2.1.1). This extends one of the standard methods for studying linear tides to include nonlinear interactions. In the second method, we instead take the background state of the star to include the linear tidal solution, and we expand the nonlinear correction to the tidal solution as a sum over eigenmodes, with each mode weighed by a different mode amplitude \( r_\alpha \) (Section 2.1.2). These two methods are formally equivalent, but we find that each is useful for understanding different aspects of tides in stars. The second method of solving explicitly for the nonlinear correction to the tidal response of a star is particularly useful for understanding the nonlinear stability of standard linear tidal theory (Section 5).

Since we focus on slowly rotating stars, the stellar modes included in our treatment are \( p \)-modes and \( g \)-modes; the latter are particularly important because they can have periods comparable to that of the binary system. The orthogonality and completeness of the stellar eigenmodes enable us to convert the nonlinear partial differential fluid equations into a coupled network of ordinary differential equations describing the evolution of each mode amplitude. We now summarize the physics contained in these equations, focusing for concreteness on the method of expanding the full tidal solution (linear and nonlinear) as a sum over eigenmodes. In this case, the resulting amplitude equations have linear terms and nonlinear terms. The linear terms are standard (e.g., Press & Teukolsky 1977) and include driving by the tidal force and damping by radiative diffusion.\(^9\) This is the basic physics included in most previous studies of tides, with one addition: by solving the mode amplitude equations, our formalism allows the modes to be dynamic in their interaction with the orbit, rather than assuming harmonic response at the forcing frequency.

The nonlinear terms in the equations of motion are parameterized by the coefficients \( \kappa_{abc} \) and \( U_{ab} \) (see Equations (9) and (10) in Section 2); these describe the internal (three wave) and external (nonlinear tidal driving) nonlinear interactions, respectively. Accurately calculating these coupling coefficients is nontrivial—these technical details are described in Appendix A, where we pay considerable effort to ensuring that the coupling coefficients can be accurately calculated numerically.

Three-wave coupling has been considered extensively in the literature, both in stellar seismology (e.g., Dziembowski 1982; Wu & Goldreich 2001) and more specifically in the context of tidally excited oscillations in binary systems (e.g., Kumar & Goodman 1996). Nonlinear tidal driving has not, to our knowledge, been studied in any detail before (Papaloizou & Pringle 1981) considered nonlinear tidal driving but neglected three-wave coupling, which we found cancels strongly with nonlinear tidal driving). Both types of interactions can lead to a variety of physical effects, including the non-resonant excitation of higher frequency modes and the resonant excitation of lower frequency modes (parametric instability). We have focused our analysis on determining (1) the conditions under which the linear tidal flow is unstable to the parametric instability (Sections 7 and 8) and (2) the efficiency of non-resonant excitation of \( g \)-modes and \( p \)-modes by nonlinear coupling to the linear tidal flow (Section 9).

In the course of computing nonlinear coupling coefficients and growth rates for solar-type stars, we found the a priori surprising result that the external nonlinear driving of \( g \)-modes \((U_{ab})\) is almost completely canceled by a portion of the three-wave coupling to the linear tide \((\kappa_{abc})\). The implication is that these two effects are intimately related. The nature of this relationship can be most easily appreciated if we explicitly solve for the nonlinear correction to the linear tidal solution (method 2 in Section 2.1) and consider the linear flow as a superposition of an “equilibrium tide” and a “dynamical tide”; the former is the nearly hydrostatic part of the linear tidal response, and the latter is the wave-like, resonant part of the response. The three-wave coupling coefficient that describes the nonlinear driving of a pair of “daughter” waves then has a contribution from the equilibrium tide \( \kappa_{ab}^{\text{eq}} \) (Equation (40)) and the dynamical tide \( \kappa_{ab}^{\text{dyn}} \) (Equation (41)). Since the equilibrium tide contains the vast majority of the tidal energy, one might expect it to be more prone to nonlinear instability than the dynamical tide (e.g., Press et al. 1975; Kumar & Quataert 1998). In fact, we find the opposite: the daughters’ internal driving via three-wave coupling to the equilibrium tide nearly cancels with their external nonlinear driving by the tidal potential \((\propto U_{ab})\). As a result, the effective coupling of daughters to the equilibrium tide is much weaker than their coupling to the dynamical tide, i.e., \( |\kappa_{ab}^{\text{eq}}| \ll |\kappa_{ab}^{\text{dyn}}| \) (see Section 5.2 and Appendices A.6 and B).

Physically, this is because internal nonlinear driving by the equilibrium tide and nonlinear tidal driving are fundamentally part of the same process; together they describe the nonlinear excitation of daughter modes by the nearly hydrostatic response of the star to its companion. Another reason for the weak nonlinear driving by the equilibrium tide in solar-type stars is that very little of the energy of the equilibrium tide resides in the core of the star where the low-frequency \( g \)-modes that the equilibrium tide attempts to drive have most of their energy. At a technical level, the subtlety of calculating the equilibrium tide driving correctly highlights the importance of the detailed calculation presented in this paper. For example, an order-of-magnitude estimate of the nonlinear driving by the shear of the equilibrium tide \((\kappa_{ab}^{\text{eq}} \sim 1)\) overestimates the true driving by almost two orders of magnitude (Section 5.3 and Appendix B.2; Figures 13 and 14).

The equilibrium tide driving of daughter modes, when present, is relatively evenly spread throughout the radiative zone (left panel of Figure 14); by contrast, the driving by the dynamical tide is highly concentrated in the core of the star (Figure 12). Hence, the two mechanisms for seeding fluid instability are physically quite different. Quantitatively, we find that the equilibrium tide is only unstable to nonlinear driving of resonant \( g \)-modes in solar binaries if the orbital period is \( < 5 \) days (Section 8). This implies that instability of the equilibrium tide in slowly rotating solar-type stars cannot help explain the observed circularization of solar binaries out to orbital periods of

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\(^9\) While dissipation due to eddy viscosity in convection zones is important for the long-wavelength equilibrium tide, we ignore it in this paper, focusing instead on thermal diffusion damping in the radiative zone, which is more important for short-wavelength, low-frequency \( g \)-modes in the radiative core.
solar-type stars have most of their energy in the outer convec-
tion zone, where much of the energy in the equilibrium tide also
resides.

Recently, the elliptical instability has been invoked as a
source of nonlinear driving in close binary systems (Le Bars
et al. 2010; Cébron et al. 2011; see also Press et al. 1975;
Seguin 1976). The elliptical instability is clearly related to the
equilibrium tide instability considered here; both instabilities
involve the destabilization of internal modes of oscillation by the
long-wavelength, hydrostatic, tidal perturbation. They are not
equivalent, however, as the elliptical instability drives inertial
modes whereas we focus on g-modes.

For solar-type stars, we find that the dynamical tide driving
rates of short-wavelength g-modes (∝ κ′ \( \propto M \)) are orders of
magnitude larger than the equilibrium tide driving rates. In
order to determine when linear theory is valid, we computed
the parametric instability growth rates over a range of orbital
periods and companion masses (Section 7). We find that for
orbital periods from days to weeks, the dynamical tide part of
the linear tidal flow is unstable, even for companion masses
much smaller than a Jupiter mass (see Figure 7). The linear tidal
solution in the star is invalid even for a 10 Earth mass planet
if the orbital period is ≲ 5 days. The degree to which the true
tidal flow differs from the linear one depends on the saturation
of these nonlinear instabilities, which will be investigated in a
future paper. This question is of particular current interest given
the large number of low-mass planets orbiting solar-type stars
being discovered by transit surveys such as the Kepler
telescope (Borucki et al. 2011). The orbital properties of these systems
are likely shaped in part by the nonlinear instabilities discussed
in this paper.

In our study of the parametric instability of the dynamical
tide we found that it is subject to a “collective” version of the
parametric instability. In the literature, parametric growth rates
have traditionally been derived by considering how a single
pair (\( N \lesssim 2 \)) of coupled short-wavelength daughters interact
with the time-dependent background of a parent mode (e.g.,
Dziembowski 1982). We have extended this analysis to allow for
\( N \gg 2 \) daughters, each of which is coupled to the par-
et and the other daughters. We find that for solar-type stars,
large sets of daughters are coherently driven by the dynamical
tide (\( N \approx 10^2 \sim 10^3 \) for periods \( P \lesssim 10 \text{ days and companions } M'/M \gtrsim 10^{-3} \)). When collectively unstable, the

daughters all grow as a single coherent unit, i.e., maintaining
phase coherence. This coherence is self-consistently generated by
the nonlinear interactions even if it is not present in the
initial amplitudes/phases of the modes (Figure 4). In the collec-
tive parametric instability, the growth rates of the daughters are
significantly larger than in standard three-wave coupling, by a
factor of \( \approx N/2 \) (Figure 8). As a result, the collective instability
may have important implications for the nonlinear damping of
the dynamical tide. More generally, it will also be important to
revisit previous astrophysical applications of parametric insta-
bility to understand the consequences of the restrictive focus on
three-mode coupling, which does not necessarily capture the
parametric instability threshold or fastest growth rate.

In their study of the dynamical tide in solar-type binaries,
Goodman & Dickson (1998) noted that short-wavelength gravity
waves traveling inward from the radiative-convective bound-
ary (where they are excited) reach sufficiently large amplitudes
that the waves “break” at the center of the star. Barker & Ogilvie
(2010) and Barker (2011) confirmed this result numerically. For
hot Jupiter companions with masses \( \lesssim 2 M_{\text{Jupiter}} \), however, they
found that the incoming gravity waves do not break in the core
of the star (see also Ogilvie & Lin 2007).

In an effort to understand what happens in the regime where
the incoming wave does not break in the core, Barker & Ogilvie
(2011) performed a stability analysis of a nonlinear standing
internal gravity wave in the central regions of a cylindrical
“star.” Although their methods differ from ours, they obtain
(non-collective) daughter driving rates similar to ours (see
Section 5.4). Like us, Barker & Ogilvie (2011) do not attempt
to solve for the saturation of the unstable daughters and thus
do not explicitly solve for the tidal \( Q \) of the star. However, they
argue that the driving rate of the fastest-growing daughter mode
places a lower bound of \( Q \gtrsim 10^7 \). We are not convinced that
this result is correct for two reasons. First, both our study and
theirs find that the parent excites many daughter pairs, many
of which have (non-collective) growth rates just slightly below
that of the fastest-growing mode. These excited daughters will
each drain energy from the parent. Since there are so many such
rapidly growing daughters, it seems possible that the parent
will lose more energy to all of these modes than it does to the
single fastest-growing mode. Second, Barker & Ogilvie (2011)
do not seem to observe the collective instability and thus might
be underestimating the rate at which daughters drain energy
from the parent. One possible explanation for why Barker &
Ogilvie (2011) do not see the collective instability is that their
diffusivity is set too high compared to the true diffusivity, which
they chose in order to obtain numerically converged solutions, is
set so high that it artificially suppresses collective driving.
In Section 7 we show that the companion (planet) mass above
which the collective instability sets in lies well below the
threshold for the standard three-mode instability (but still well
below the wave breaking threshold; see Figure 7). Thus, if their
diffusivity is set too high compared to the true value in a solar-type star, they might be in the regime where
standard driving is unstable but collective driving is artificially
stabilized.

In addition to the driving of resonant high \( \ell \) daughter
waves, there is efficient non-resonant three-mode coupling
(nonlinear inhomogeneous driving) between the dynamical tide,
the equilibrium tide, and a wide range of stellar \( p \)-modes and
g-modes (Section 9 and Figures 10 and 15). How this coupling
saturates is, however, unclear. Even if these alternative nonlinear
couplings turn out to be more important than wave breaking in
damping the dynamical tide, they are unlikely to modify the
orbital evolution due to the dynamical tide calculated by
Goodman & Dickson (1998); this is because the linear energy
input rate into the dynamical tide is independent of its damping
rate in the limit of efficient damping. Nonetheless, identifying
the correct damping mechanism for the dynamical tide in solar
binaries is important because it determines where in the star
the tidal energy is dissipated.

In some cases, we find that the parametric growth times due
to driving by the dynamical tide can be so short that the excited
daughter waves do not have time to travel through the core of the
star (at the group velocity) before their amplitudes are expected
to become highly nonlinear (Section 10). This is particularly
true for the “collective” parametric instability (Figure 10). In this case, the standing wave approximation employed here may become inaccurate and a traveling wave point of view may be more appropriate. While this does not alter our conclusions about the stability of the linear solution, it will likely affect how the nonlinearities saturate and thus the rate of tidal dissipation.

To conclude, we note that the general formalism developed in this paper can be extended to the tidal forcing of other types of stars. For solar-type stars, the resonant g-mode amplitudes are large at the center of the star, where the equilibrium tide amplitude is small. In other stars, resonant wave amplitudes may be large at the stellar surface, where the equilibrium tide is also large. Equilibrium tide driving may thus play a more prominent role in those stars.

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APPENDIX A

COEFFICIENTS IN THE AMPLITUDE EQUATION

In this Appendix we derive expressions for the coefficients of the two forms of amplitude equation (Equations (6) and (20)). In Appendix A.1 we describe our calculation of the linear tidal displacement $\xi_{\text{lin}}$ needed to calculate some of the coefficients. Expressions for the linear-order coefficients $\gamma_a$ and $U_a$ are given in Appendix A.2, for the nonlinear tide $U_{ab}$ in Appendix A.3, and for the three-mode coupling coefficient $\kappa_{abc}$ in Appendix A.4. Analytic approximations to $\kappa_{abc}$ are given in Appendix A.4.1, and the correction to $\kappa_{abc}$ when one of the modes is $\xi_{\text{lin}}$ rather than an eigenmode is given in Appendix A.5.

Following Schenk et al. (2002), these coefficients are found by expanding the displacement $\xi$ as a sum of linear, adiabatic eigenmodes (Equation (5)) and contracting each mode $\xi_a$ with the linear and nonlinear internal (pressure, buoyancy, perturbed gravity) forces $f_1$ and $f_2$ and external (tidal) forces $a_{\text{ade}}$ (Equation (3)) according to

$$\langle \xi_a, F \rangle \equiv \frac{1}{E_0} \int d^3 x \rho \xi_a^* \cdot F,$$

(A1)

where $F$ is one of the forces $f_1$, $f_2$, or $\rho a_{\text{ade}}$ and we choose a normalization in which each mode has the same energy $E_0 = GM^2/R$. The normalization integral for mode $a$ is then (Equation (7))

$$E_0 = 2 \times \int d^3 x \left( \frac{1}{2} \omega_a^2 \rho |\xi_a|^2 + \text{potential energy} \right)$$

(A2)

$$= 2 \times 2 \times \frac{1}{2} \omega_a^2 \int d^3 x \rho |\xi_a|^2$$

$$\simeq 2\omega_a^2 A_a^2 \int dr r^2 \rho(r) \xi_a^2(r),$$

where one factor of two arises since both a mode and its physically indistinct complex conjugate mode are included in the energy (see Equation (5)) and a second factor of two arises from the fact that the potential energy equals the kinetic energy. In the last equality we specialized to the case of low-frequency g-modes for which the horizontal displacement $\xi_h$ is much larger than the vertical displacement $\xi_r$. This approach to solving the nonlinear partial differential Equation (4) is sometimes referred to as the Galerkin method, a particular implementation of the method of weighted residuals in which the weighting functions are chosen to be the eigenfunctions of the linear system (see, e.g., Finlayson 1972). The expression for the linear force $f_1[\xi]$ is standard (see, e.g., Lynden-Bell & Ostriker 1967; Schenk et al. 2002). The linear eigenfunctions $\xi_a$ and frequencies $\omega_a$ are found by solving the eigenvalue problem $f_1[\xi_a] = -\rho \omega_a^2 \xi_a$ using the Aarhus adiabatic oscillation package (Christensen-Dalsgaard 2008). We use a 5 Gyr old solar model taken from the EZ code (Paxton 2004). The expression for the leading-order nonlinear interaction forces $f_2[\xi, \xi]$ and the nonlinear tide is derived in Schenk et al. (2002) and given by the nonlinear terms in their Equations (4.8) and (4.9).

In Figure 10 we show the radial profile of the g-mode eigenfunction that is linearly resonant with the tide for $P_{\text{orb}} = 10$ days for a solar model. Also shown is the high-order approximation to this high-order mode (see, e.g., Unno et al. 1989),

$$\xi_r(r) = A(r) \sin \phi(r),$$

(A3)

$$\xi_h(r) = A(r) \frac{k_r}{\Lambda^2} \cos \phi(r),$$

(A4)

where $\Lambda \equiv (\ell + 1)$, $k_r = \Lambda N/\omega r$ is the radial wavenumber of the mode, $\phi(r) \simeq \int_0^r k_r dr + \pi/4$ is its phase,

$$A^2(r) = \left( \frac{E_0 \Delta P}{2\pi^2} \right) \frac{1}{\rho r^3 N},$$

(A5)
and $\Delta P = 2\pi^2 \int_0^r \! N \, d \ln r \approx 1.27/\omega_0$. For $r \lesssim 0.05 R$, $N/r \approx 98 \omega_0/R$ and $\rho \approx 150 \text{ g cm}^{-3} \approx 26 \text{ M/R}^3$, and to a good approximation $A(r) \approx 3.5 \times 10^8 \text{ cm}(r/R)^{-2} \approx (R/200)(r/R)^{-2}$. This high-order expression is valid in the propagating region (i.e., where $\omega < N$) and, as we show below, is useful for estimating the magnitude of some of the coefficients in the amplitude equation.

A.1. Linear Tidal Displacement $\xi_{\text{lin}}$

In order to calculate some of the coupling coefficients (e.g., $\kappa^{(\text{eq})}_{bc}$ and $\kappa^{(\text{dyn})}_{bc}$ defined in Equations (40) and (41)), we must calculate the equilibrium tide and dynamical tide displacements $\xi_{\text{eq}}$ and $\xi_{\text{dyn}}$. We do so by numerically solving the linearized momentum, mass, and energy equations governing the adiabatic response to a perturbing potential $U$:

$$\rho \ddot{\xi}_{\text{lin}} = -\nabla \delta p + g \delta \rho - \rho \nabla (\delta \phi + U) \quad (A6)$$

$$\delta \rho = -\nabla \cdot (\rho \dot{\xi}_{\text{lin}}) \quad (A7)$$

$$\delta \rho = \frac{\delta p}{c^2} + \frac{\rho N^2}{g} \xi_{r,\text{lin}}. \quad (A8)$$

Here $\xi_{\text{lin}} = \xi_{\text{eq}} + \xi_{\text{dyn}}$ is the Lagrangian displacement vector of the linear tide, $\delta$ indicates an Eulerian perturbation, and the other symbols have their usual meaning. We can separate the radial, angular, and time dependence of the fluid variables in the usual way. Defining the potential $\psi = \delta p/\rho + \delta \phi + U$, the radial momentum, continuity, and Poisson equation give

$$\frac{d \psi}{dr} = \frac{N^2}{g} (\psi - \delta \phi - U) - (N^2 - \omega^2) \xi_{r,\text{lin}} \quad (A9)$$

$$\frac{d \xi_{r,\text{lin}}}{dr} = \left( \frac{g}{c^2} - \frac{2}{r} \right) \xi_{r,\text{lin}} + \frac{N^2 \psi}{\omega^2 r^2} - \frac{\psi - \delta \phi - U}{c^2} \xi_{r,\text{lin}} \quad (A10)$$

$$\frac{d \delta g}{dr} = -\frac{2}{r} \frac{\delta g}{\psi - \delta \phi - U} + \frac{N^2}{g} \xi_{r,\text{lin}} \quad (A11)$$

where $\delta g = d \delta \phi/dr$. Given $\psi$, the horizontal displacement is $\xi_{h,\text{lin}} = \psi/r \omega^2$. At the center we impose the regularity conditions $\xi_{r,\text{lin}} = \ell \xi_{h,\text{lin}}$ and $\delta \phi \propto r^\ell$. At the surface, the condition $d \delta \phi/dr = -(\ell + 1) \delta \phi/r$ picks out the solution that decreases outward and we require the fluid to be hydrostatic by imposing $\delta p = \rho g \xi_{r,\text{lin}}$.

We define the equilibrium tide displacement $\xi_{\text{eq}}$ as the solution to Equations (A6)–(A8) in the limit $\omega \to 0$. We find

$$\xi_{r,\text{eq}} = -\frac{\delta \phi_{\text{eq}} + U}{g}, \quad (A12)$$

$$\xi_{h,\text{eq}} = \frac{1}{r \Lambda^2} \frac{d}{dr} (r^2 \xi_{r,\text{eq}}), \quad (A13)$$

$\delta p_{\text{eq}} = \rho g \xi_{r,\text{eq}}$, and $\delta p_{\text{eq}} = -\xi_{r,\text{eq}} d\rho/dr$; we compute $\delta \phi_{\text{eq}}$ by numerically solving Poisson’s Equation (A11). Upon solving for $\xi_{\text{lin}}$ and $\xi_{\text{eq}}$, we find $\xi_{\text{dyn}} = \xi_{\text{lin}} - \xi_{\text{eq}}$.

A.2. Linear Damping Rate $\gamma_a$ and Linear Tide Coefficient $U_a$

The temperature fluctuations that accompany the density perturbations of the excited g-modes are smoothed out by radiative diffusion. This is the dominant linear damping mechanism for high-order g-modes. We calculate its rate $\gamma_a$ by computing the quasi-adiabatic work integral (see, e.g., Unno et al. 1989; Terquem et al. 1998; Goodman & Dickson 1998). The results, shown in the bottom left panel of Figure 11, are well fit by the formula

$$\gamma_a(\ell, \omega) \approx 2 \times 10^{-11} \Lambda_a^2 \left( \omega_a/\omega_0 \right)^2 \omega_0 \propto k_{r,a}^2. \quad (A14)$$

Since the radiative diffusion is proportional to the second derivative of the temperature fluctuation, the damping rate of short-wavelength perturbations scales as $k_{r,a}^2$.

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11 These expressions are valid as long as $N^2 \neq 0$; they therefore apply in radiative regions ($N^2 > 0$) and convective regions ($N^2 < 0$). Given our definition of $\xi_{\text{eq}}$, we have $\xi_{\text{dyn}} \neq 0$ in a convective region (see Goodman & Dickson 1998; Terquem et al. 1998).
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Figure 11. Left panel: the top plot shows the $\ell = 2$ linear overlap integral $I_{2m}$ as a function of mode frequency in units of $\omega_0 \equiv (GM/R^3)^{1/2}$ for a solar model. The solid line is the numerical result, while the dashed line is the analytic approximation (Equation (A16)). The bottom plot shows the damping rate due to radiative diffusion. Lines representing $\ell = 2$–8 modes are shown; they very nearly lie on top of each other after the $\Lambda$ scaling has been removed (see Equation (A14)). Right panel: radial profile of $I_{2m}$ for a solar model. The parameters are $\ell = 2$ and $(l_a, n_a) = (2, 485)$, which corresponds to a mode period of $P_a \approx 5$ days.

The overlap integral

$$I_{a\ell m} \equiv \frac{1}{MR} \int d^3x \rho \xi_a^* \cdot \nabla (r^\ell Y_{\ell m}) = \frac{1}{MR^\ell} \int dr r^{\ell+2} \delta \rho_a = -\frac{2\ell + 1}{4\pi} \frac{\delta \phi(R)}{GM/R},$$

(A15)

upon which the linear tide coefficient $U_a$ depends, is shown in the top left panel of Figure 11 for $\ell = 2$. The second and third expressions in Equation (A15) can be derived by integrating by parts (see Zahn 1970). The radial profile of $I_{a\ell m}$ for a high-order mode is shown in the right panel of Figure 11. Because the linear overlap $I_{a\ell m}$ involves an integral over a single high-order mode, it is highly oscillatory from $r = 0$ out to the radiative-convective interface at $r \approx 0.7 R_\odot$; the oscillations cancel almost perfectly throughout this region. The main contribution to $I_{a\ell m}$ comes from a region near the radiative-convective interface; since the mode becomes evanescent in this region, its wavelength becomes very long, allowing it to finally couple well with the large-scale tidal potential (Zahn 1975).

For mode periods $P_a \gtrsim 1$ day,

$$I_{2m} \approx 2.5 \times 10^{-3} \left( \frac{\omega_a}{\omega_0} \right)^{11/6}.$$

(A16)

Goodman & Dickson (1998) also found an $\omega^{11/6}$ scaling by matching approximate solutions of the inhomogeneous linear fluid equation across the radiative-convective boundary. As a check of the numerical accuracy of our calculation, we verified that our overlap integrals satisfy the sum rule:

$$\sum_a \omega_a^2 I_{a2m}^2 = 5G \int dx x^4,$$

(A17)

to high accuracy, where $x = r/R$ (see Reisenegger 1994; note that he uses a different eigenfunction normalization).

A.3. Nonlinear Tide Coefficient $U_{ab}$

We now calculate the nonlinear overlap integral $J_{ab\ell m}$ (Equation (13)), upon which the nonlinear tide coefficient $U_{ab}$ depends. Using the covariant basis with vectors $\xi_i = h_i e_i$, where $h_r = 1$, $h_\theta = r$, $h_\phi = r \sin \theta$, the components of the Lagrangian displacement vector are

$$\xi_a = [\xi_r^a, \xi_\theta^a, \xi_\phi^a] = \left[ a_r Y_a, \frac{a_h}{r} \frac{\partial Y_a}{\partial \theta}, \frac{a_h}{r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial Y_a}{\partial \phi} \right],$$

(A18)

where $a_r = a_r(r)$ and $a_h = a_h(r)$, and $Y_a \equiv Y_{l_a,m_a}(\theta, \phi)$ is the spherical harmonic function. The integrand of $J_{ab\ell m}$ then consists of the following terms:
\[ \xi^\ell_a \xi^\ell_b (r^\ell Y_i)_{,\theta \phi} = (\ell - 1)r^{\ell-2}a_i b_i Y_{\ell a} Y_{\ell b} \]
\[ \xi^\ell_a \xi^\ell_b (r^\ell Y_i)_{,r \phi} = (\ell - 1)r^{\ell-2}a_i b_i Y^a \frac{\partial Y_b}{\partial \theta} \frac{\partial Y_i}{\partial \phi} \]
\[ \xi^\ell_a \xi^\ell_b (r^\ell Y_i)_{,r \theta} = (\ell - 1)r^{\ell-2}a_i b_i \frac{1}{\sin^2 \theta} Y_a \frac{\partial Y_b}{\partial \phi} \frac{\partial Y_i}{\partial \phi} \]
\[ \xi^\ell_a \xi^\ell_b (r^\ell Y_i)_{,\theta \theta} = r^{-2}a_i b_i \frac{\partial Y_a}{\partial \theta} \frac{\partial Y_b}{\partial \theta} \left[ \frac{\partial^2 Y_i}{\partial \theta^2} + \ell Y_i \right] \]
\[ \xi^\ell_a \xi^\ell_b (r^\ell Y_i)_{,\phi \phi} = r^{-2}a_i b_i \frac{1}{\sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial Y_a}{\partial \phi} \frac{\partial Y_b}{\partial \phi} \left[ \frac{\partial^2 Y_i}{\partial \phi^2} + \sin \theta \cos \theta \frac{\partial Y_i}{\partial \theta} + \ell \sin^2 \theta Y_i \right] , \quad \text{(A19)} \]

where \( \ell \) and \( Y_i \) refer to the harmonic of the tidal potential and the \( \theta, \phi, \) and \( \theta \phi \) terms not shown are analogous to their symmetric counterpart. The angular integrations can be done analytically. Following the notation of Wu & Goldreich (2001; see also Kumar & Goodman 1996), we define

\[ T \equiv \int d\Omega Y_a Y_b Y_c \]
\[ F_a \equiv \int d\Omega Y_a \left[ \frac{\partial Y_b}{\partial \theta} \frac{\partial Y_c}{\partial \theta} + \frac{1}{\sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial Y_b}{\partial \phi} \frac{\partial Y_c}{\partial \phi} \right] = \frac{T}{2} \left( \Lambda^2_a - \Lambda^2_c \right) , \quad \text{(A21)} \]
\[ G_a \equiv \int d\Omega \left[ \frac{g^m}{g^n} g^{n} (\nabla_i \nabla_j Y_a) (\nabla_m Y_b) (\nabla_n Y_c) \right] = \frac{T}{4} \left[ \Lambda^4_a - (\Lambda^2_a - \Lambda^2_c)^2 \right] , \quad \text{(A22)} \]

where \( g^{ij} \) is the metric tensor on the unit sphere, the matrices on the right-hand side of Equation (A20) are Wigner 3-j symbols, and other terms (e.g., \( F_a, F_c \)) are found by permuting indices; note that these expressions apply to any three spherical harmonics denoted by \( a, b, \) and \( c \). For the particular case of calculating \( I_{ab cm} \), “c” here stands for the tidal potential labeled by \( \ell \) and \( m \). With these definitions we find

\[ J_{ab cm} = \frac{1}{MR^2} \int d^3 x \rho \xi^\ell_a \xi^\ell_b (r^\ell Y_{\ell c})_{,ij} \]
\[ = \frac{1}{MR^2} \int dr \rho r^\ell [ (\ell - 1) a_i b_i T + (\ell - 1) a_i b_i F_a + (\ell - 1) a_i b_i (G_i + \ell F_i) ] . \quad \text{(A23)} \]

The angular integral \( T \) is subject to the selection rules \( |\ell_a - \ell_c| \leq \ell_a \leq \ell_b + \ell_c \) with \( \ell_a + \ell_b + \ell_c \) even and \( m_a + m_b + m_c = 0 \). These rules, which ensure conservation of angular momentum during the nonlinear interactions, allow modes with \( \ell_a, \ell_b \neq 0 \) to couple to the \( \ell = 2 \) component of the tide. The linear overlap integral \( I_{ab cm} \), by contrast, involves a product of two spherical harmonics and thus vanishes unless the angular degree of the mode equals that of the tide.

In the propagating zone of low-frequency \( g \)-modes, \( \Lambda \xi^\ell \gg \xi_i \) and the last term in Equation (A23) is dominant. However, as we explain in Section 5.2, this term cancels with the inhomogeneous piece of the three-wave coupling coefficient \( \kappa_{be cm}^{(i)} \).

A.4. Nonlinear Coupling Coefficient \( \kappa_{abc} \)

In this Appendix we derive the form of the three-wave coupling coefficient. We follow the treatment of Wu & Goldreich (2001, hereafter WG01; see also Wu 1998), who found that significant cancellations between large terms in the coupling coefficient can lead to decreased numerical accuracy. They showed that many of the cancellations can be removed analytically using integration by parts, resulting in a mathematically equivalent expression that can be integrated with much higher numerical accuracy.

The final result we derive below differs in four respects from WG01. First, their Equation (A15) should be multiplied by \(-3/E_0 \) to obtain our normalization. Second, their Equation (A1) neglects a term involving the gravitational potential of the unperturbed background (this term is not the perturbed gravitational potential that one can justifiably ignore when the Cowling approximation is valid). We find that this term is large and leads to some cancellation in their Equation (A15). Third, we believe there are errors in terms 5, 7, and 9 of their Equation (A15), as discussed below. These errors are also contained in their Equation (A14). Fourth, we include the perturbed gravitational potential, both in the original form of the three-wave Lagrangian and when using the linear equations of motion to simplify the expressions. Lastly, for clarity, we write out all permutations of mode indices explicitly.

Our final expression for \( \kappa_{abc} \) is given by lines (A55)–(A62). While quite complicated in general, we show in Appendices A.4.1 and A.4.2 that the expressions simplify greatly when the daughters are short-wavelength modes. In particular, we show that
$d\kappa_{abc}/d\ln r$ approximately equals the energy density of the daughters $dE/dr$ times the shear of the parent $k_i\xi_r$. This is true regardless of whether the parent is a short- or long-wavelength wave (e.g., dynamical tide or equilibrium tide).

For brevity, in this subsection we use the notation that the displacement vector for a mode $a$ is $\mathbf{a}$, with radial and horizontal components $a_r$ and $a_h$, and similarly for modes $b$ and $c$. The three-wave coupling coefficient is given by Equation (4.20) of Schenk et al. (2002):

$$
\kappa_{abc} = \frac{1}{2E_0} \int d^3x \rho \left[ \frac{(\Gamma_1 - 1)^2 + \Gamma_1}{\partial \ln \rho} \right] \nabla \cdot \mathbf{a} \nabla \cdot \mathbf{b} \nabla \cdot \mathbf{c} 
$$

+ $(\Gamma_1 - 1) \left( a_{ij}^r b_{ij}^t \nabla \cdot \mathbf{c} + b_{ij}^r c_{ij}^t \nabla \cdot \mathbf{a} + a_{ij}^r c_{ij}^t \nabla \cdot \mathbf{b} \right) + a_{ij}^r b_{ij}^r c_{ij}^t + a_{ij}^r c_{ij}^r b_{ij}^t$

$$
- \frac{1}{2E_0} \int d^3x \rho \left[ a^t b^r \delta \phi_{c;ij} + b^t c^r \delta \phi_{a;ij} + c^t a^r \delta \phi_{b;ij} + a^t b^r c^k \phi_{ijk} \right].
$$

(A24)

This expression is symmetric with respect to the three modes. The semicolon denotes a covariant derivative.

To evaluate this expression, WG01 first performed the angular integrations. Using WG01’s notation, these integrations can be expressed in terms of the angular integrals $T, F_a, G_a$ (Equations (A20)–(A22)), and

$$
S \equiv \frac{1}{2} \left( \Lambda_a^2 F_a + \Lambda_b^2 F_b + \Lambda_c^2 F_c \right) \quad (A25)
$$

$$
V_a \equiv \Lambda_a^2 \Lambda_c^2 T - F_a - S. \quad (A26)
$$

The selection rules on the angular integral $T$ (Appendix A.3) enforce angular momentum conservation during the three-wave interactions.

After performing the angular integrals, WG01 showed that many terms cancel, and several terms could be integrated by parts. Our expression for the remaining terms, using WG01 Equations (A5)–(A8), is

$$
\kappa_{abc} = \frac{1}{2E_0} \int dr \left[ r^2 \rho \left\{ \Gamma_1(\Gamma_1 - 2) + \frac{\partial \Gamma_1}{\partial \ln \rho} \right\} \nabla \cdot \mathbf{a} \nabla \cdot \mathbf{b} \nabla \cdot \mathbf{c} T 
$$

$$
+ 2T \rho g a_b c_r + (F_a + S) g a_b c_r + (F_b + S) \rho g b_a c_r + (F_c + S) \rho g c_a b_r 
$$

$$
- \Lambda_a^2 T \rho g a_b c_r - \Lambda_b^2 T \rho g b_a c_r - \Lambda_c^2 T \rho g c_a b_r - 2S \rho g a_b c_r 
$$

$$
+ \left( \frac{d a_r}{d r} + \frac{2}{r} a_r b_r \right) r^2 \Gamma_1 p \nabla \cdot \mathbf{c} T + \left( \frac{d b_r}{d r} + b_r \frac{d a_r}{d r} - \frac{d}{d r} (a_r b_h) \right) r \Gamma_1 p \nabla \cdot \mathbf{c} F_c 
$$

$$
- \left( \Lambda_a^2 a_b + \Lambda_b^2 a_b \right) \Gamma_1 p \nabla \cdot \mathbf{c} T + a_h b_r \Gamma_1 p \nabla \cdot \mathbf{c} V_c 
$$

$$
+ \left( \frac{d b_r}{d r} + \frac{2}{r} b_r c_r \right) r^2 \Gamma_1 p \nabla \cdot \mathbf{a} T + \left( \frac{d c_r}{d r} + c_r \frac{d b_r}{d r} - \frac{d}{d r} (b_r c_h) \right) r \Gamma_1 p \nabla \cdot \mathbf{a} F_a 
$$

$$
- \left( \Lambda_a^2 b_c + \Lambda_b^2 b_c \right) \Gamma_1 p \nabla \cdot \mathbf{a} T + b_h c_r \Gamma_1 p \nabla \cdot \mathbf{a} V_a 
$$

$$
+ \left( \frac{d c_r}{d r} + \frac{2}{r} c_r a_r \right) r^2 \Gamma_1 p \nabla \cdot \mathbf{b} T + \left( \frac{d a_r}{d r} + a_r \frac{d c_r}{d r} - \frac{d}{d r} (c_r a_h) \right) r \Gamma_1 p \nabla \cdot \mathbf{b} F_b 
$$

$$
- \left( \Lambda_a^2 c_h + \Lambda_b^2 c_h \right) \Gamma_1 p \nabla \cdot \mathbf{b} T + c_h a_r \Gamma_1 p \nabla \cdot \mathbf{b} V_b 
$$

$$
- r^2 \rho a_r b_c \delta \phi_r + r^2 \rho \frac{d}{d r} \left( \frac{g}{r} \right) (F_a a_h b_h c_h + F_b a_h b_c c_h + F_c a_h b_h c_r) 
$$

$$
- r^2 \rho \left( a_r b_r \frac{d^2 \delta \phi_r}{d r^2} + b_r c_r \frac{d^2 \delta \phi_a}{d r^2} + c_r a_r \frac{d^2 \delta \phi_b}{d r^2} \right) T 
$$

$$
- r^2 \rho \left( a_r b_r F_a + b_r a_h F_b \right) \frac{d}{d r} \left( \frac{\delta \phi_r}{r} \right) - r^2 \rho \left( b_r c_r F_b + c_r b_h F_c \right) \frac{d}{d r} \left( \frac{\delta \phi_b}{r} \right) 
$$

$$
- r^2 \rho \left( c_r a_h F_c + a_h c_h F_d \right) \frac{d}{d r} \left( \frac{\delta \phi_a}{r} \right) 
$$

$$
- r^2 \rho a_h b_h \left( \frac{1}{r} \frac{d \delta \phi_a}{d r} F_c + \frac{\delta \phi_b}{r^2} G_c \right) - r^2 \rho b_h c_h \left( \frac{1}{r} \frac{d \delta \phi_b}{d r} F_a + \frac{\delta \phi_c}{r^2} G_a \right) 
$$

$$
- r^2 \rho a_h b_h \left( \frac{1}{r} \frac{d \delta \phi_a}{d r} F_b + \frac{\delta \phi_b}{r^2} G_b \right). 
$$

(A31)
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The additional terms not included in WG01 are the \( "a' b' c' \phi_{ij} " \) terms in line (A30) arising from the background gravity and the \( "a' b' \delta \phi_{cij} " \) terms in line (A31) arising from perturbed gravity.

To this point, the linear equations of motion have not been used. We now follow WG01 and integrate by parts, simplifying the resulting expressions using the equations of motion. While WG01's Equation (A9) still holds, we must include the perturbed gravity as follows:

\[
\frac{d \xi_r}{dr} = \frac{2}{r} \xi_r + \frac{\Lambda^2}{r} \xi_h + \nabla \cdot \xi
\]  
(A32)

\[
\Gamma_1 p \nabla \cdot \xi = \rho g \xi_r - \omega^2 \rho r \xi_h + \rho \delta \phi
\]  
(A33)

\[
\frac{d}{dr} (\Gamma_1 p \nabla \cdot \xi) = -\frac{\Lambda^2}{r} \rho g \xi_h - \left( \omega^2 + \frac{2g}{r} \frac{dg}{dr} \right) \rho \xi_r + \rho \frac{d \delta \phi}{dr}.
\]  
(A34)

Note that Equations (A33) and (A34) are the homogeneous equations of motion (i.e., they do not include inhomogeneous terms involving the tidal potential \( U \)) and are therefore only appropriate if all three modes are solutions of the homogeneous equations. As we show in Appendix A.5, when one of the modes is replaced by a solution of the inhomogeneous equations of motion (i.e., the linear tidal displacement \( \xi_{inh} \)), there are additional terms in the final expression for the coupling coefficient.

The largest terms in line (A29) have the form \( "d/dr(\rho a_b b_c c_h) " \). Integrating these three terms by parts, plugging in Equation (A34), and canceling terms against the last term \( "-2\rho g a_b b_c c_h " \) in line (A28), we find

\[
\int dr \left[ -2\rho g a_b b_c c_h \frac{d}{dr} (a_b b_c) \Gamma_1 p \nabla \cdot a F_a - \frac{d}{dr} (b_h c_h) \Gamma_1 p \nabla \cdot b F_b \right]
\]

\[
= \int dr \left[ -2\rho g a_b b_c c_h \frac{d}{dr} (r \Gamma_1 p \nabla \cdot c) F_c + b_h c_h \frac{d}{dr} (r \Gamma_1 p \nabla \cdot a) F_a + c_h a_h \frac{d}{dr} (r \Gamma_1 p \nabla \cdot b) F_b \right]
\]

\[
= \int dr \left[ a_b b_h c_h \left( \Gamma_1 p \nabla \cdot c - \left( \omega^2 + \frac{2g}{r} \frac{dg}{dr} \right) r \rho c_r + r \rho \frac{d \delta \phi}{dr} \right) F_c
\]

\[
+ b_h c_h \left( \Gamma_1 p \nabla \cdot a - \left( \omega^2 + \frac{2g}{r} \frac{dg}{dr} \right) r \rho a_r + r \rho \frac{d \delta \phi}{dr} \right) F_a
\]

\[
+ c_h a_h \left( \Gamma_1 p \nabla \cdot b - \left( \omega^2 + \frac{2g}{r} \frac{dg}{dr} \right) r \rho b_r + r \rho \frac{d \delta \phi}{dr} \right) F_b \right],
\]  
(A35)

where we have used Equation (A25) in the cancellation.

Next, line (A29) contains terms involving \( d \xi_r / dr \). These terms can be integrated by parts and then simplified using Equation (A34). The derivatives of the form \( d \xi_r / dr \) can then be eliminated from line (A29) using Equation (A32). The resulting expressions contain derivatives only in the divergences \( \nabla \cdot \xi \). For terms containing just one factor of \( \nabla \cdot \xi \), we use Equation (A33). After significant cancellation of terms, and collection of like terms, we find

\[
\kappa_{abc} = \frac{1}{2E_0} \int dr \left[ \frac{d}{dt} \left( \Gamma_1 (\Gamma_1 + 1) + \frac{\partial \Gamma_1}{\partial \ln \rho} \right) \frac{\nabla \cdot a \nabla \cdot b \nabla \cdot c}{T} \right]
\]

\[
- r \rho a_h b_h c_h \left( \omega^2 G_a + \omega^2 G_b + \omega^2 G_c \right)
\]

\[
+ r \rho \left( \frac{d g}{dr} - g \right) \{ a_b b_h c_h F_a + b_h c_h a_h F_b + c_h a_h b_h F_c \}
\]

\[
+ r \rho \Gamma_1 \nabla \cdot a \nabla \cdot c \{ -4 b_r + b_h \Lambda_{h}^2 \} T + r \rho \Gamma_1 \nabla \cdot b \nabla \cdot a \{ -4 c_r + c_h \Lambda_{h}^2 \} T
\]

\[
+ r \rho \Gamma_1 \nabla \cdot b \nabla \cdot b \{ -4 a_r + a_h \Lambda_{h}^2 \} T
\]

\[
+ 6 \rho \Gamma_1 \{ a_b b_r \nabla \cdot c + b_r c_r \nabla \cdot a + c_r a_r \nabla \cdot b \} T
\]

\[
+ 2 \rho g a_b b_c c_r T
\]

\[
- r \rho a_h b_h c_h \left( \omega^2 - 3 \omega^2 - 3 \omega^2 \right) F_a - 2 \left( \omega^2 F_b + \omega^2 F_c \right)
\]

\[
- r \rho b_h c_h a_h \left( \omega^2 - 3 \omega^2 - 3 \omega^2 \right) F_b - 2 \left( \omega^2 F_c + \omega^2 F_a \right)
\]

\[
- r \rho c_h a_h b_h \left( \omega^2 - 3 \omega^2 - 3 \omega^2 \right) F_c - 2 \left( \omega^2 F_a + \omega^2 F_b \right)
\]

\[
\rho \left( 4 g + r \frac{d g}{dr} \right) \left[ \Lambda_{h}^2 a_b b_r c_r \right. + \Lambda_{h}^2 b_h c_r a_r + \Lambda_{h}^2 c_r a_h b_r \} T
\]

\[
+ r \rho a_h b_h c_r \left[ \omega^2 F_c + \omega^2 F_a \right] + r \rho b_h c_r a_h \left[ \omega^2 F_c + \omega^2 F_a \right] + r \rho c_h a_r b_r \left[ \omega^2 F_a + \omega^2 F_b \right]
\]

\[
- r^2 \rho a_h b_h c_r \frac{d g}{dr} \left( \frac{8}{r} \right) \left( F_a a_h b_r c_r + F_b a_h b_r c_r + F_c a_h b_r c_r \right)
\]  
(A44)
\[ \begin{align*}
&+ \rho_{a,b} \left[ r \frac{d \delta \phi_c}{dr} F_c + \delta \phi_c G_c \right] + \rho_{b,a} \left[ r \frac{d \delta \phi_a}{dr} F_a + \delta \phi_a G_a \right] + \rho_{c,a} \left[ r \frac{d \delta \phi_b}{dr} F_b + \delta \phi_b G_b \right] \\
&- r^2 \rho \left( a_b \frac{d^2 \delta \phi_c}{dr^2} + b_c \frac{d^2 \delta \phi_a}{dr^2} + c_a \frac{d^2 \delta \phi_b}{dr^2} \right) T \\
&- r^2 \rho \left( a_r b_r F_a + b_r a_r F_b \right) \frac{d}{dr} \left( \frac{\delta \phi_a}{r} \right) - r^2 \rho \left( b_r c_r F_r + c_r b_r F_c \right) \frac{d}{dr} \left( \frac{\delta \phi_b}{r} \right) \\
&+ r^2 \left( r \frac{1}{r} \frac{d \delta \phi_c}{dr} F_c + \frac{3}{2} \frac{d^2 \delta \phi_c}{r^2} G_c \right) - r^2 \rho b_c \left( r \frac{1}{r} \frac{d \delta \phi_a}{dr} F_a + \frac{3}{2} \frac{d^2 \delta \phi_a}{r^2} G_a \right) \\
&- r^2 \rho c_a \left( r \frac{1}{r} \frac{d \delta \phi_b}{dr} F_b + \frac{3}{2} \frac{d^2 \delta \phi_b}{r^2} G_b \right). \end{align*} \]

We find three differences between our expression and WG01’s Equation (A15). First, we find that their term 5 should be \(-3 \Gamma_{1} p \nabla \cdot ab, c, T\), instead of \(-3 \Gamma_{1} + 1) p \nabla \cdot ab, c, T\). Next, their term 7 should be \(-\rho a, b, c, T/3\) instead of \(2 \rho / r \) in place of \(4 \rho a / r \). Lastly, inclusion of the background gravity terms found in line (A44), which are not contained in WG01’s Equation (A1), cancel line (A38). Hence, neglect of the background gravity terms is not justified.

Partial cancellation occurs between the \(\delta \phi\) terms arising from integration by parts (line (A45)) and the terms found in our Equation (A24) contained in line (A46). In particular, the large terms of the form \(\rho_{a,b} \delta \phi_c G_c\) cancel out.

The coupling coefficient as written in lines (A36)-(A46) significantly reduces the cancellation error compared to the original form (our Equation (A24)). Yet near the center of solar-type stars we find that there is still considerable cancellation between the terms of type \(a_r b_r \nabla \cdot c, a_r b_r c, a_r b_r c, c_r b_r c\). These terms rise the fastest toward the center and come to dominate there. However, after integration they cancel against each other. For high radial order \(g\)-modes, these individual terms can be orders of magnitude larger than their sum. We transform these terms as follows:

\[ \int dr \left[ 6 \rho a, b, c, \nabla \cdot a + c, c_r \nabla \cdot a + c, c_r \nabla \cdot b + \rho a, b, c, \left( 2 g - \frac{d^2 g}{dr^2} \right) \right] \]

\[ \rho \left[ 4 g + r \frac{d g}{dr} \right] \left\{ a_r^2 b_r c_r + a_r b_r c_r, a_r + a_r^2 c_r, a_r \right\} \]

\[ \int dr \left[ 18 \rho a, b, c, r \right. - 6 \rho \left( a_r^2 b_r c_r + o_r^2 b_r c_r, a_r + o_r^2 c_r, a_r \right) + \rho a, b, c, \left( 2 g - \frac{d^2 g}{dr^2} \right) \]

\[ \rho \left[ 4 g + r \frac{d g}{dr} \right] \left\{ \left( r \frac{d a_r}{dr} + 2 a_r - r \nabla \cdot a \right) b_r c_r + \left( r \frac{d b_r}{dr} + 2 b_r - r \nabla \cdot b \right) c_r a_r \right. \\
\left. + \left( r \frac{d c_r}{dr} + 2 c_r - r \nabla \cdot c \right) a_r b_r \right\} + 6 \rho a, b, c, a_r, c_r, \delta \phi_a + c_r, a_r, \delta \phi_b \right) T \]

\[ \int dr \rho a, b, c, \left[ 20 g - r^2 \frac{d^2 g}{dr^2} - 24 g - 6 r \frac{d g}{dr} \right. - 6 \rho \left( a_r^2 b_r c_r + o_r^2 b_r c_r, a_r + o_r^2 c_r, a_r \right) \]

\[ \left. - \rho \left[ 4 g + r \frac{d g}{dr} \right] r \frac{d}{dr} (a_r b_r c_r) + \rho \left( 4 g + r \frac{d g}{dr} \right) r \left( \nabla \cdot a b_r c_r + \nabla \cdot b c_r a_r + \nabla \cdot c a_r b_r \right) \right. \\
\left. + 6 \rho a, b, c, a_r, c_r, \delta \phi_a + c_r, a_r, \delta \phi_b \right) T \]

\[ \int dr \rho a, b, c, r \left[ 4 g + r \frac{d g}{dr} \right] \left[ 4 g + r \frac{d g}{dr} \right] - 6 \rho \left( a_r^2 b_r c_r + o_r^2 b_r c_r, a_r + o_r^2 c_r, a_r \right) \]

\[ + \rho \left( 4 g + r \frac{d g}{dr} \right) r \left( \nabla \cdot a b_r c_r + \nabla \cdot b c_r a_r + \nabla \cdot c a_r b_r \right) \\
\left. + 6 \rho a, b, c, a_r, c_r, \delta \phi_a + c_r, a_r, \delta \phi_b \right) T \right]. \]
Going from line (A47) to line (A48), we plugged Equation (A34) into the first three terms and Equation (A32) into the last three terms. This expression was simplified in line (A49). Going from line (A49) to line (A50), we integrated the term \(d/dr(a_r b_r c_r)\) by parts and simplified. The integrand is now not so steeply peaked toward \(r = 0\). Further, the last terms of the form \(a_r b_r c_r\) are now proportional to \(\omega^2\), not the large frequency \(g/r\).

The terms involving \(\delta \phi\) can also be further simplified in order to remove terms that cancel against each other near the center. The \(\delta \phi_c\) terms can be transformed as follows:

\[
\int dr \rho \left[ a_r b_r \left( 6 \delta \phi_c - r^2 \frac{d^2 \delta \phi_c}{dr^2} \right) - a_r b_r \left( r \frac{d \delta \phi_c}{dr} F_c + \delta \phi_c \left( 3 \Lambda_0^2 T - F_c \right) + r^2 F_n \frac{d}{dr} \left( \frac{\delta \phi_c}{r} \right) \right) \right] \]

\[= \int dr \rho \left[ a_r b_r \left( 6 \delta \phi_c - r^2 \frac{d^2 \delta \phi_c}{dr^2} \right) \right] \]

\[= \int dr \rho \left[ a_r b_r \left( 2 \delta \phi_c + 4 r \frac{d \delta \phi_c}{dr} + r^2 \frac{d^2 \delta \phi_c}{dr^2} \right) + r \left( \frac{d (a_r b_r)}{dr} - a_r \nabla \cdot b - b_r \nabla \cdot a \right) \right] \frac{d \delta \phi_c}{dr} + 2 \delta \phi_c \right] T \]

To get the first equality we used Equation (A21), to get the second we used Equation (A32), and to get the last we integrated by parts. The \(\delta \phi_a\) and \(\delta \phi_b\) terms yield analogous expressions.

We thus obtain our final result:

\[
\kappa_{abc} = \frac{1}{2E_0} \int dr \left[ T r^2 \rho \left( \Gamma_1 (\Gamma_1 + 1) + \frac{d \Gamma_1}{d \ln \rho} \right) \nabla \cdot a \nabla \cdot b \nabla \cdot c \right. \]

\[+ T r \rho \Gamma_1 \left( \nabla \cdot a \nabla \cdot c \left\{ b_b \Lambda_0^2 - 4 b_r \right\} + \nabla \cdot a \nabla \cdot b \left\{ c_h \Lambda_0^2 - 4 c_r \right\} \right) \]

\[+ \nabla \cdot b \nabla \cdot c \left\{ a_b \Lambda_0^2 - 4 a_r \right\} \]

\[+ T \frac{d \rho}{d \ln r} \left( 4 r + \frac{d g}{dr} \right) a_r b_r c_r \]

\[+ T r \rho \left( 4 r + \frac{d g}{dr} \right) \nabla \cdot a_r b_r c_r + \nabla \cdot b_r c_r + \nabla \cdot c_r b_r \]

\[+ \rho \left( \frac{d \ln \rho}{d \ln r} a_r b_r + r \left( a_r \nabla \cdot b + b_r \nabla \cdot a \right) \right) \left( \frac{d \delta \phi_a}{dr} + 2 \delta \phi_a \right) \]

\[+ \rho \left( \frac{d \ln \rho}{d \ln r} a_r c_r + r \left( a_r \nabla \cdot c + c_r \nabla \cdot a \right) \right) \left( \frac{d \delta \phi_b}{dr} + 2 \delta \phi_b \right) \]

\[+ \rho \left( \frac{d \ln \rho}{d \ln r} b_r c_r + r \left( b_r \nabla \cdot c + c_r \nabla \cdot b \right) \right) \left( \frac{d \delta \phi_b}{dr} + 2 \delta \phi_b \right) \]

Since \(d \rho/dr\) can be written in terms of \(N\), no numerical derivatives are needed in this expression.

In the right panel of Figure 10 (see also Figure 12) we plot \(d \kappa_{abc}/d \ln r\) as a function of radius for a parent \(a\) resonant with the linear tide and a self-coupled daughter \(b = c\) with period \(P_b \approx 2 P_n = 10\) days.

### A.4.1. Analytic Estimate of \(\kappa_{abc}\) for Three High-order g-modes in Solar-type Stars

We now derive an analytic estimate of \(\kappa_{abc}\) for the coupling of three high-order \(g\)-modes (see also Dziembowski 1982). Over such a mode’s propagation region (i.e., where \(\omega < N\)), the high-order approximation (Equations (A3) and (A4)) is very accurate (see the left panel of Figure 10). Over most of this region \(\omega \ll N/\Lambda\) and thus \(\xi_b \gg \xi_r\). Below the inner turning point in the core (\(\omega > N\),
the mode can be approximated with Bessel functions. The gravitational perturbation \( \delta \phi \) due to the mode is negligible throughout the star (i.e., the Cowling approximation is appropriate). An inspection of our final \( \kappa_{abc} \) expression (lines (A55)–(A62)) reveals that as a result of these properties, the second group of terms (line (A56)) is the largest of the eight groups of terms by at least a factor of a few throughout all but the innermost part of the star (see gray points in the right panel of Figure 10).

First consider the region where \( \omega \ll N/H \) for all three modes. Using the high-order approximation (Equations (A3) and (A4)), we find

\[
\frac{d\kappa_{abc}}{d \ln r} \approx \frac{d\kappa_{abc}}{d \ln r}_{\text{term-2}} \approx \frac{Tr^2 p}{2E_0 \Gamma H^2} \Lambda_2 a_b b_c c_r
\]

\[
\approx 6 \left( \frac{\Lambda_a}{\sqrt{6}} \right) \left( \frac{P_a}{\text{5 days}} \right) \left( \frac{T}{0.2} \right) \left( \frac{g}{\Gamma_1 H N^2} \right) \left( \frac{N \Delta P}{5} \right)^{3/2} \left( \frac{\rho}{1 \text{ g cm}^{-3}} \right)^{-1/2} \left( \frac{r}{R} \right)^{-5/2}. \tag{A64}
\]

Here \( H \) is the pressure scale height and we used Equation (A33). The \( b_r c_b \) and \( b_b c_r \) terms in Equation (A56) are negligible since they involve products like \( \sin x \phi \cos \phi_c \approx \sin(x \phi_b - \phi_c)/2 \) and thus very nearly vanish (the daughters must be similar by momentum conservation and thus \( \phi_b \approx \phi_c \)). The \( b_c r_c \) term, by contrast, involves the product \( \sin \phi_b \sin \phi_c \approx \cos(\phi_b - \phi_c)/2 \). The factor \( g/\Gamma_1 H N^2 \) varies from \( \approx 1-4 \) between the center and convective zone of a solar-type star. The expression on the second line gives only the component that varies slowly with background quantities and not the high-frequency oscillatory component \( \cos \phi_a \sin \phi_b \sin \phi_c \). As shown by the dashed line in the right panel of Figure 10, Equation (A64) is a very good approximation to the amplitude of \( \kappa_{abc} \) throughout all but the innermost part of the star (see gray points in the right panel of Figure 10).

Using the high-order approximation (Equations (A3) and (A4)), we find

\[
\frac{d\kappa_{abc}}{d \ln r} \approx \frac{d\kappa_{abc}}{d \ln r}_{\text{term-2}} \approx \frac{Tr^2 p}{E_0 \Gamma_1 H^2} a_r b_c c_r \approx 9 \times 10^4 \left( \frac{P_a}{\text{5 days}} \right) \left( \frac{T}{0.2} \right) \left( \frac{r}{r_a} \right) \tag{A65}
\]

i.e., \( d\kappa/d \ln r \) is proportional to the parent’s local shear \( da_r/dr \); we will use this expression to evaluate the local three-wave coupling in Appendix E.

Now consider the region in the core between the parent’s inner turning point \( r_a \approx \omega_a (dN/dr)^{-1} \) and the daughters’ at \( r_{b,c} \approx r_a/2 \). The daughters are again given by the high-order approximation, while the parent is evanescent and given by Bessel functions \( a_r \approx \alpha_0 j_{\ell a}(x) \) and \( a_b \approx (\Lambda_2 \ell a)^{-1} r^{\ell a} a_r \), where \( \alpha_0 \) is given by Equation (A5) and \( x = \kappa_{a_r} r \). For \( x \ll 1 \) and \( \ell a = 2, j_2 \approx x^2/8 \). Plugging in values corresponding to the core of a solar model \( (dN/dr) \approx 98 \text{ km/s} / R, r_a \approx 1.3 \times 10^7 \text{ cm}, \rho \approx 150 \text{ g cm}^{-3} \), we find

\[
\frac{d\kappa_{abc}}{d \ln r} \approx \frac{d\kappa_{abc}}{d \ln r}_{\text{term-2}} \approx \frac{Tr^2 p}{E_0 \Gamma_1 H^2} a_r b_c c_r \approx 9 \times 10^4 \left( \frac{P_a}{\text{5 days}} \right) \left( \frac{T}{0.2} \right) \left( \frac{r}{r_a} \right). \tag{A66}
\]

In the standing wave limit (see Section 10), the global coupling is dominated by the region \( r_a/2 \lesssim r \lesssim r_a \) and for resonant coupling \( P_a \approx P_{ab}/2 \) we find

\[
\kappa_{abc} \approx 5 \times 10^4 \left( \frac{T}{0.2} \right) \left( \frac{P_{ab}}{\text{10 days}} \right)^2, \tag{A67}
\]

in good agreement with the full numerical calculation.

A.4.2. Analytic Estimate of \( \kappa_{abc} \) for the Equilibrium Tide Coupled to Two High-order g-modes in Solar-type Stars

We now consider the case where the parent \( a \) is the equilibrium tide, which corresponds to the case \( \kappa_{abc} = \kappa_{bc}^{(H,\text{eq})} \) (see Section 5.2 and Appendix A.5). We then have \( a_r \approx (r/R)^{\ell a} r \) and \( \Lambda^2 a_b \approx (\ell + 4)a_r \) at \( r \sim R \) and one can show that six of the eight terms in \( \kappa_{abc} \) are of similar magnitude (the exceptions are terms 1 and 7 [lines (A55) and (A61)], which are much smaller and can be ignored). For example, since \( \nabla \cdot a = 0 \) and \( \nabla \cdot b \approx b_r / \Gamma H \) for short-wavelength daughter g-modes, term 2 (A56) is approximately

\[
\frac{d\kappa_{abc}}{d \ln r}_{\text{term-2}} \approx \frac{T g}{2 \Gamma_1 H^2} \rho \Omega^2 N^2 b_r c_r \left( \frac{c_r}{b_r} \right) \Lambda a_r. \tag{A68}
\]

The ratio \( c_r/b_r \) implies that \( \kappa_{bc}^{(H,\text{eq})} \) is small unless \( b_r \approx c_r \) (i.e., \( |n_b - n_c| \lesssim 1 \)), since otherwise the integrand oscillates rapidly about zero on the scale of the long-wavelength parent. The other five terms are of similar magnitude (although their signs can vary). Since \( g\ell/2 \Gamma_1 H N^2 \approx 1 \) throughout the radiative zone where the daughters propagate, we find

\[
\frac{d\kappa_{bc}^{(H,\text{eq})}}{d \ln r} \approx T \frac{d(E_b/E_0)}{d r} \Lambda a_r \approx T \frac{d(E_b/E_0)}{d \ln r} \Lambda \left( \frac{r}{R} \right)^{\ell a + 1}, \tag{A69}
\]

where the second equality applies at \( r \sim R \). Therefore, as we found in the case of a high-order parent (Equation (A65)), the local coupling of daughters to the equilibrium tide is proportional to the local shear, \( d\xi_{\text{eq}}/dr \), of the equilibrium tide. Furthermore, because the daughter energy density is nearly independent of daughter frequency and angular degree, \( \kappa_{bc}^{(H,\text{eq})} \) is a weak function of both.
A.5. Linear Tide Coupling Coefficient

In deriving our expression for \( \kappa_{abc} \), we used the linear homogeneous equations of motion (Equations (A33) and (A34)) to simplify the divergence terms in line (A29). Our final expression (lines (A55)–(A62)) is therefore only appropriate when all three waves are solutions of the homogeneous equations. In order to determine the nonlinear coupling between the linear tide \( \xi_{\text{lin}} \) and a pair of daughters \( (b, c) \), we must instead simplify the corresponding divergence terms in line (A29) using the inhomogeneous equations of motion; i.e., replace \( \delta \phi \rightarrow \delta \phi + \bar{U} \) in Equations (A33) and (A34), where the normalized tidal potential \( \bar{U}(x, t) = -(GM/R)(r/R')Y_{\ell m}(\theta, \phi) \exp(-i\omega t) \). This results in a modified coupling coefficient \( \kappa^{(I)}_{bc} = \kappa_{bc}^{(I)} + \kappa_{bc}^{(H)} \); the homogeneous part, \( \kappa_{bc}^{(H)} \), is given by lines (A55)–(A62) with \( a \) replaced by \( \xi_{\text{lin}} \), where \( \xi_{\text{lin}} \) is the solution to Equations (A6)–(A8) with \( U \rightarrow \bar{U} \); the inhomogeneous part

\[
\kappa^{(I)}_{bc} = \frac{-1}{2MR^2} \int dr p_r \left[ 6Tb_c - b_c \left( 3\Lambda^2 + (\ell - 1)F \right) b_c - b_c \left( 3\Lambda^2 + (\ell - 1)F \right) b_c + b_c (G + \ell F) \right],
\]

where \( F \) and \( G \) are \( F_a \) and \( G_a \) with \( (\ell_a, m_a) \rightarrow (\ell, m) \).

Comparing \( \kappa^{(I)}_{bc} \) and \( J_{bc\ell m} \) (Equation (A23)), we see that the leading-order terms \( b_c b_c \) for \( g \)-modes cancel in the \( J_{bc\ell m} + 2\kappa^{(I)}_{bc} \) portion of the equilibrium tide coupling coefficient \( \kappa_{bc}^{(eq)} \) (Equation (40)). Using Equation (A32), we find

\[
J_{bc\ell m} + 2\kappa^{(I)}_{bc} = -\frac{T(\ell + 2)}{MR^2} \int dr p_r \left[ - (\ell + 1)b_c - r \frac{\partial}{\partial r} (b_c, r) + rb_c \nabla \cdot e + rc_r \nabla \cdot b \right] = -\frac{T(\ell + 2)}{MR^2} \int dr p_r \left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial \ln r} b_c, r + 2 \nabla \cdot e + 2c_r \nabla \cdot b \right],
\]

where in the second line we used the integration by parts and in the third line we made the high-order approximation \( \nabla \cdot \xi \approx \xi_i / \Gamma_i H \) (this approximation is well satisfied throughout the star, including the convective zone). Within the radiative zone, the fractional difference between \( J_{bc\ell m} \) and \( 2\kappa^{(I)}_{bc} \) is therefore \( \sim \sim b_c b_c / b_c c_c \sim (\omega / N)^2 \sim 10^{-5} P^{10/2}_a \) and we see that there is a large cancellation between these terms. Furthermore, because the \( b_c, r \) terms dominate the integrand and the radial displacement \( \xi_i \) is a weak function of period and \( \ell \) (see Equation (A3)), \( J_{bc\ell m} + 2\kappa^{(I)}_{bc} \) is a weak function of period and \( \ell \). Finally, using \( N^2 = -g[d \ln \rho / dr + 1 / \Gamma_i H] \), one can show that the integrand of \( J_{bc\ell m} + 2\kappa^{(I)}_{bc} \) is similar in magnitude to \( \kappa_{bc}^{(eq)} \) (see Equation (A69)).

A.6. Coefficients of the “Method 2” Amplitude Equation

Here we derive expressions for the coefficients in the method 2 form of the amplitude equation (Section 2.1.2, Equation (20)). We first expand the coefficients in the tide harmonics:

\[
V_a(t) = \left( \frac{M'}{M} \right)^2 \sum_{k \ell m} \sum_{k' \ell' m'} W_{\ell m} W_{\ell' m'} \left[ (J_{a}^{(eq)} + J_{a}^{(dyn)}) X_k^\ell X_{k'}^\ell' \left( \frac{R}{a} \right)^{\ell + \ell' + 2} \right] e^{-i(k+k')\Omega t},
\]

\[
K_a(t) = \left( \frac{M'}{M} \right)^2 \sum_{k \ell m} \sum_{k' \ell' m'} W_{\ell m} W_{\ell' m'} \left[ (\tilde{K}_a^{(eq)-eq} + \tilde{K}_a^{(dyn-dyn)} + 2\tilde{K}_a^{(eq-dyn)}) X_k^\ell X_{k'}^\ell' \left( \frac{R}{a} \right)^{\ell + \ell' + 2} \right] e^{-i(k+k')\Omega t},
\]

\[
K_{ab}(t) = \frac{M'}{M} \sum_{k \ell m} \sum_{k' \ell' m'} W_{\ell m} \left[ \kappa_{ab}^{(I)} + \kappa_{ab}^{(H, eq)} + \kappa_{ab}^{(H, dyn)} \right] X_k^\ell X_{k'}^\ell' \left( \frac{R}{a} \right)^{\ell + 1} e^{-i(k+k')\Omega t}.
\]

The two other method 2 coefficients, \( U_{ab}(t) \) and \( \kappa_{abc} \), are described in Appendices A.3 and A.4, respectively. By writing the linear displacement as a sum of the equilibrium tide and dynamical tide displacements \( \tilde{\xi}_{\text{lin}} = \tilde{\xi}_{\text{eq}} + \tilde{\xi}_{\text{dyn}} \), we have separated coefficients into corresponding components, as indicated by the superscripts “eq” and “dyn.”

The various coupling coefficients in the definition of \( K_{ab} \) are defined in Appendix A.5. They describe the parametric driving of daughter pairs \( (a, b) \) considered in Section 5; we showed there that the equilibrium tide part of \( 2K_{ab} \) cancels strongly with \( U_{ab} \) and therefore the equilibrium tide part of the sum \( U_{ab} + 2K_{ab} \) is much smaller than its individual terms.

The coefficients \( V_a \) and \( K_a \) describe the nonlinear inhomogeneous driving of a mode \( a \). The term \( V_a \) corresponds to nonlinear tidal driving by the force \( \xi_{\text{lin}} \cdot \nabla V \); one of its components is given by \( J_{a}^{(dyn)} = J_{a}^{(dyn)} \) and the arrow indicates that the corresponding eigenmode in the expression should be replaced by \( \tilde{\xi}_{\text{dyn}} \), the dynamical tide part of the solution of Equations (A6)–(A8) with \( U \) replaced by the normalized tidal potential \( \bar{U}(x, t) = -(GM/R)(r/R')Y_{\ell m}(\theta, \phi) \exp(-i\omega t) \). The other component \( J_{a}^{(eq)} \) is defined similarly but with \( \tilde{\xi}_{\text{eq}} \) instead of \( \tilde{\xi}_{\text{dyn}} \). The term \( K_a \) describes three-“mode” coupling between mode \( a \) and the linear tide and is directly analogous to \( \kappa_{abc} \) but with modes \( b \) and \( c \) at the linear tide values. The components of \( K_a \) are given by

\[
\kappa_{a}^{(eq)} = 2\kappa_{ab}^{(I)} (b \rightarrow \tilde{\xi}_{\text{eq}}) + \kappa_{abc} (b, c \rightarrow \tilde{\xi}_{\text{eq}})
\]

(A76)
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**APPENDIX B**

**PROPERTIES OF THE NONLINEAR COUPLING COEFFICIENTS**

In this Appendix we describe the properties of the nonlinear coupling coefficients for a solar model. For reference, we list the various coupling coefficients in Table 1. We first discuss the two coupling coefficients corresponding to parametric driving: the dynamical tide coefficient $\kappa_{abc}^{(dyn)}$ (Appendix B.1) and the equilibrium tide coefficient $\kappa_{abc}^{(eq)}$ (Appendix B.2). We show that nonlinear driving by the dynamical tide $\Gamma_{bc}^{(dyn)} \propto \kappa_{bc}^{(dyn)}$ and equilibrium tide $\Gamma_{bc}^{(eq)} \propto \kappa_{bc}^{(eq)}$ is, in general, highly localized, with most of the coupling occurring at a specific location in the star: near the core in the case of $\Gamma_{bc}^{(dyn)}$ and at the radiative-convective interface in the case of $\Gamma_{bc}^{(eq)}$. The only exception is equilibrium tide driving of self-coupled daughters, which tends to be more global and, as a result, can potentially lead to driving throughout the star.

In Appendix B.3 we describe the coupling coefficients corresponding to nonlinear inhomogeneous driving $V_a$ and $K_a$. Just as the linear inhomogeneous term $U_a$ can be expressed in terms of a dimensionless coefficient $I_{alm}$ times a tidal factor $\sim \varepsilon$ (see Equation (14)), the nonlinear inhomogeneous term $V_a + K_a$ can be expressed in terms of a dimensionless coupling coefficient times a tidal factor $\sim \varepsilon^2$.

### Table 1: Coupling Coefficients

| Symbol       | Coupling of                                      |
|--------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| $\kappa_{abc}$ | Three eigenmodes (10)                           |
| $\kappa_{abc}^{(eq)}$ | Equilibrium tide and two eigenmodes (40)       |
| $\kappa_{abc}^{(dyn)}$ | Dynamical tide and two eigenmodes (41)         |
| $\kappa_{abc}^{(eq-dyn)}$ | Equilibrium tide to itself and an eigenmode (A81) |
| $\kappa_{abc}^{(dyn-dyn)}$ | Dynamical tide to itself and an eigenmode (A82) |
| $\kappa_{abc}^{(eq-dyn)}$ | Equil. tide, dyn. tide, and an eigenmode (A83)  |

Notes. Numbers in parentheses refer to the equation where the coefficient is defined. All $\kappa$’s not equal to $\kappa_{abc}$ are simply versions of $\kappa_{abc}$ with $c$ and/or $b$ equal to components of the linear tide.

\[
\tilde{\kappa}_a^{(dyn-dyn)} = 2\kappa_{ab}^{(f)}(b \to \tilde{\kappa}_b) + \kappa_{abc}(b, c \to \tilde{\kappa}_b). 
\]

\[
\tilde{\kappa}_a^{(eq-dyn)} = \kappa_{abc}(b \to \tilde{\kappa}_c, c \to \tilde{\kappa}_b). 
\]

The terms $\kappa_{abc}^{(eq-dyn)}$ and $\kappa_{abc}^{(dyn-dyn)}$ describe driving of mode $a$ by equilibrium tide–equilibrium tide and dynamical tide–dynamical tide coupling, respectively, while the term $\kappa_{abc}^{(eq-eq)}$ describes driving by the cross interaction between the equilibrium tide and dynamical tide.

By the same arguments used to derive Equation (A71) we have

\[
J_{a}^{(dyn)} + 2\kappa_{ab}^{(f)}(b \to \tilde{\kappa}_a) = -\frac{T(\ell + 2)}{MR^c} \int d\rho \rho r^\ell \left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial \ln r} a \xi_{r, a, \ell} + r a_r \nabla \cdot \tilde{\xi}_a + r \tilde{\xi}_{r, a, \ell} \nabla \cdot a \right].
\]

The equivalent term involving the equilibrium tide can be simplified further because $\nabla \cdot \tilde{\kappa}_a = 0$:

\[
J_{a}^{(eq)} + 2\kappa_{ab}^{(f)}(b \to \tilde{\kappa}_a) = -\frac{T(\ell + 2)}{MR^c} \int d\rho \rho r^\ell \left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial \ln r} a \xi_{r, eq, \ell} + r a_r \nabla \cdot \tilde{\xi}_a + r \tilde{\xi}_{r, eq, \ell} \nabla \cdot a \right] = \frac{T(\ell + 2)}{MR^c} \int d\rho \rho r^{\ell+1} \delta \rho a \tilde{\xi}_{r, eq, \ell}.
\]

As in Equation (A71), we find that there is significant cancellation between $J_{a}^{(dyn)}$ and $2\kappa_{ab}^{(f)}(b \to \tilde{\kappa}_a)$ and likewise for the equivalent equilibrium tide expression. It is therefore convenient to define the three types of nonlinear inhomogeneous driving coefficients as follows:

\[
\kappa_{a}^{(eq-eq)} = J_{a}^{(eq)} + \kappa_{a}^{(eq-eq)} 
\]

\[
\kappa_{a}^{(dyn-dyn)} = J_{a}^{(dyn)} + \kappa_{a}^{(dyn-dyn)} 
\]

\[
\kappa_{a}^{(eq-dyn)} = 2\kappa_{a}^{(eq-dyn)} 
\]

The properties of these three coefficients are described in Appendix B.3.
By expressing the linear tide as the sum of the $\omega = 0$ equilibrium tide and the dynamical tide, $\xi_{\text{lin}} = \xi_{\text{eq}} + \xi_{\text{dyn}}$, these coefficients can be broken into three types of interactions: equilibrium tide–equilibrium tide coupling $\kappa_{a}^{(\text{eq-eq})}$, dynamical tide–dynamical tide coupling $\kappa_{a}^{(\text{dyn-dyn})}$, and the cross coupling between the equilibrium tide and dynamical tide $\kappa_{a}^{(\text{eq-dyn})}$. We define these coefficients in Appendix A.6 (Equations (A81)–(A83)). In general, we find that for a solar binary $\varepsilon\kappa_{a}^{(\text{eq-eq})}$ is much smaller than $I_{a\ell m}$. However, both $\varepsilon\kappa_{a}^{(\text{dyn-dyn})}$ and $\varepsilon\kappa_{a}^{(\text{eq-dyn})}$ can be much larger than $I_{a\ell m}$ for certain modes (including $p$-modes). As we discuss in Section 9, this implies that these modes are nonlinearly driven to energies that are much larger than their linear values.

In order to calculate these various coefficients, we need to know the linear tidal response, as described by the equilibrium and dynamical tides $\xi_{\text{eq}}$ and $\xi_{\text{dyn}}$. We describe how we calculate these in Appendix A.1.

### B.1. Dynamical Tide Coupling Coefficient $\kappa_{bc}^{(\text{dyn})}$

The spatial structure of the dynamical tide coupling coefficient $\kappa_{bc}^{(\text{dyn})}$ is approximately equal to that of the three-mode coupling coefficient $\kappa_{abc}$ when mode $a$ is the parent eigenmode most linearly resonant with the tide. This is because the dynamical tide is typically dominated by this single mode (e.g., the mode with $n = 486$ in Figure 1). The approximate magnitude of $\kappa_{bc}^{(\text{dyn})}$ can be found by multiplying $\kappa_{abc}$ by $\omega_{a}I_{a\ell m}/(\Delta_{a} - i\gamma_{a})$ (see Equation (25)). Since it is more common to express three-wave coupling coefficients in terms of three eigenmodes, we show results for $\kappa_{abc}$ rather than $\kappa_{bc}^{(\text{dyn})}$.

In the left panel of Figure 12 we show the integrand of $\kappa_{abc}$ for a linearly resonant parent coupled to a self-coupled daughter $b = c$. The coupling coefficient $\kappa_{abc}$ involves an integral over an odd number (three) of high-order modes. The integrand peaks in the core since the radial and horizontal displacements ($\xi_{r}, \xi_{h}$) of high-order modes increase with decreasing $r$. For a standing wave, nearly all the contribution to $\kappa_{abc}$ comes from a small region between the daughter’s inner turning point where $\omega_{b} \simeq N$ and the parent’s inner turning point where $\omega_{a} \simeq N$; since $\omega_{b} < \omega_{a}$ and $dN/dr > 0$, the parent’s turning point lies above the daughter’s. In this region, the parent is evanescent and the displacements $\xi_{a,r}, \xi_{a,h} \propto r^{\ell-3}$ do not oscillate. As long as the factor $\cos[(k_{b} - k_{c})r]$ is roughly constant in this region, the modes add coherently and can exchange energy through nonlinear interactions.

In the right panel of Figure 12 we show $|\kappa_{abc}|$ as a function of $\Delta n = n_{b} - n_{a}$ for $\ell = 2$ modes. The radial order of the parent mode $a$ is $n_{a} = 486$. For $|\Delta n| \lesssim n_{a}$, we find that $|\kappa_{abc}|$ is approximately constant and close to its maximum value (to within a factor of a few); otherwise, it is much smaller than the maximum value. This is because in the propagation zone for each wave, the integrand is proportional to a factor $\cos(k_{a}r)\cos(k_{b}r)\cos(k_{c}r)$, where $k_{a}$ is the radial wavenumber of mode $a$, etc. This product of three cosines can be combined into a sum of terms of the form $\cos[(k_{a} \pm k_{b} \pm k_{c})r]$. The coupling coefficient is thus maximized when $k_{a} \pm k_{b} \pm k_{c} \simeq 0$, the usual condition for momentum conservation. For high-order modes this is roughly equivalent to $|n_{b} - n_{c}| \lesssim n_{a}$ (see also Wu & Goldreich 2001). Hence, although there is no rigorous selection rule for the radial direction, as there is for $\ell$ and $m$, there is an approximate selection rule. When momentum conservation is satisfied in the appropriate region, the magnitude of $\kappa_{abc}$ is near its maximum value. When it is not satisfied, the coupling coefficient is much smaller than this maximum possible value.

The approximate selection rule $|n_{b} - n_{c}| \lesssim n_{a}$ implies that there can be a very large number of daughter pairs with similar values of $\kappa_{abc}$. As a result, each daughter couples well to not only one other daughter but to $N \approx n_{a}$ other daughters. As we show in Section 7.2, this implies that collective driving can be very important for the dynamical tide.
B.2. Equilibrium Tide Coupling Coefficient $\kappa^{(eq)}_{bc}$

We show the radial dependence of $\kappa^{(eq)}_{bc}$ for the equilibrium tide coupled to a self-coupled daughter mode $b = c$ in Figure 13 and for daughter modes $b \neq c$ in Figure 14. Unlike $\kappa_{abc}$, the integrand of the equilibrium tide coupling coefficient $\kappa^{(eq)}_{bc}$ contains a product of an even number of modes. More precisely, since the displacement due to the equilibrium tide increases monotonically with increasing radius and there is a factor of $\cos [(k_b \pm k_c)r]$ in the integrand, momentum conservation requires that locally $|k_b| \approx |k_c|$. The coupling is therefore maximized for self-coupled modes $b = c$; as the number of nodes differs by $|\Delta n| = |n_b - n_c| = 0, 1, 2, \ldots$, the equilibrium tide coupling decreases rapidly due to cancellation between the modes. As a result, unlike with the dynamical tide, collective driving does not appear to be important for the equilibrium tide.

We also find that for self-coupling, $\kappa^{(eq)}_{bc}$ is not strongly concentrated in radius. However, as $|\Delta n|$ increases, the coupling becomes increasingly concentrated in the region just below the radiative-convective interface. As shown in the right panel of Figure 13, $\kappa^{(eq)}_{bc}$ is also a weak function of daughter period and $\ell$.

B.3. Inhomogeneous Coupling Coefficients

In Section 9 we briefly discuss whether these $\kappa^{(eq)}_{bc}$ could be important for the equilibrium tide coupled to a self-coupled daughter mode $b = c$ in Figure 13 and for daughter modes $b \neq c$ in Figure 14. Unlike $\kappa_{abc}$, the integrand of the equilibrium tide coupling coefficient $\kappa^{(eq)}_{bc}$ contains a product of an even number of modes. More precisely, since the displacement due to the equilibrium tide increases monotonically with increasing radius and there is a factor of $\cos [(k_b \pm k_c)r]$ in the integrand, momentum conservation requires that locally $|k_b| \approx |k_c|$. The coupling is therefore maximized for self-coupled modes $b = c$; as the number of nodes differs by $|\Delta n| = |n_b - n_c| = 0, 1, 2, \ldots$, the equilibrium tide coupling decreases rapidly due to cancellation between the modes. As a result, unlike with the dynamical tide, collective driving does not appear to be important for the equilibrium tide.

We also find that for self-coupling, $\kappa^{(eq)}_{bc}$ is not strongly concentrated in radius. However, as $|\Delta n|$ increases, the coupling becomes increasingly concentrated in the region just below the radiative-convective interface. As shown in the right panel of Figure 13, $\kappa^{(eq)}_{bc}$ is also a weak function of daughter period and $\ell$.

\[
\kappa^{(eq)}_{bc} \approx \frac{1}{\Delta n} \int \frac{d\rho}{\rho} \int \frac{d\rho'}{\rho'} \frac{\sin (k_b r_1 - k_c r_2)}{k_b r_1 \pm k_c r_2} \exp \left( - \frac{m_1 k_b r_1 + m_2 k_c r_2}{\rho} \right)
\]

where $\rho$ and $\rho'$ are the radial positions of the two modes, and $m_1$ and $m_2$ are integers. The coupling coefficient $\kappa^{(eq)}_{bc}$ is by far the largest of the three coefficients, typically by at least 2–3 orders of magnitude. From scaling arguments we see that its magnitude is roughly equal to $\kappa^{(eq)}_{bc}(\omega_b, \Delta \omega_b)^2$, where mode $b$ here refers to the dynamical tide mode and $\kappa^{(eq)}_{bc} \approx 5 \times 10^4 P_{10}^2$ (Equation (A67)). We find that $\kappa^{(eq)}_{bc}$ is larger as long as the frequency of mode $a$ (the mode being driven) is larger than the frequency of the dynamical tide. This is because there is then a region below mode $a$’s inner turning point where $a$ is evanescent and the integrand does not oscillate about zero. This behavior is identical to that of $\kappa^{(eq)}_{bc}$ (Appendix B.1) except that there the dynamical tide coupling occurs in the high-frequency mode in the triplet whereas here mode $a$ serves as the high-frequency mode. For the case of a solar binary, $\kappa^{(eq)}_{bc}$ is larger than $\kappa^{(eq)}_{a\ell m}$ for $g$-modes with periods $P_a > 1$ day. This suggests that inhomogeneous driving by the dynamical tide may be important for these modes. We discuss this possibility in Section 9.

We find that $\kappa^{(eq)}_{bc}$ is especially large for high-order $p$-modes and increases with increasing $\omega_a$ (right panel of Figure 15). Physically, this is because high-order $p$-modes penetrate deeply into the solar core, where the amplitude of the dynamical tide peaks. The p-modes’ turning point occurs where $\omega_0$ equals the Lamb frequency $\omega_l = \omega_0 / R$. The sound speed is nearly constant in the core ($c_s \approx 5 \times 10^3$ cm s$^{-1}$), and high-order $p$-modes do not reflect until they reach a depth $r/R \approx 0.003 \omega_0 / \Lambda_{\omega_0}^{-1}$. In Section 9 we briefly discuss whether these $p$-modes, which cannot form standing waves since they are above the acoustic cutoff, can be driven to significant amplitudes.

The coupling coefficient $\kappa^{(eq)}_{bc}$ is significantly larger than $\kappa^{(eq)}_{a\ell m}$ for high-order $g$- and $p$-modes. For high-order $g$-modes, both coefficients are dominated by coupling within the convection zone as all three waves in the triplet are long wavelength in the convection zone and can thus couple well there. However, unlike $\kappa^{(eq)}_{a\ell m}$, we find that $\kappa^{(eq)}_{bc}$ is weakly dependent on $\omega_0$ for $g$-modes. This is because the integrand of the latter depends on $\ell$, both of which vary weakly with $\omega_0$ within the convection zone, where the mode is evanescent. By contrast, $\kappa^{(eq)}_{bc}$ depends on $\delta \rho_0$ (see Equation (A80)), which is a strong function of $\omega_0$ within the convection zone.

For high-order $p$-modes, the coupling $\kappa^{(eq)}_{bc}$ does not occur within the convection zone since the $p$-modes are oscillatory there. Instead, the coupling occurs in the radiative interior where the $p$-mode wavelength $\lambda_p \approx 2\pi c_s / \omega_0$ is comparable to the dynamical tide wavelength $\lambda^{(eq)} \approx 2\pi \omega r / \Lambda$. Since $\lambda_p$ decreases monotonically with $r$ and $\lambda^{(eq)}$ increases monotonically with $r$, there is a region where the two wavelengths cross for $p$-modes with $\omega_0$ in a certain range. In Figure 16 we show the radial profile of $\kappa^{(eq)}_{bc}$ (Eq. 11.0) over such a region for an $n_a = 1200$ $p$-mode. The integrand of $\kappa^{(eq)}_{bc}$ oscillates symmetrically about zero in regions where the wavelengths are very different. However, at $r \approx 0.37 R_N$ the two wavelengths cross (dashed lines) and the two modes couple coherently over a region of size $\approx 0.05 R_N$. We find that over the frequency range $10^2 P_3 \lesssim \omega_0 / \omega_0 \lesssim 10^3 P_3$ there is a radius in the radiative interior of a solar-type star where $\lambda^{(eq)} = \lambda_p$; a small fraction of this frequency range is shown in the right panel of Figure 15.

APPENDIX C

INTERACTION ENERGY AND ORBITAL EVOLUTION

Here we derive the acceleration of the secondary due to the oscillation modes excited in the primary assuming that the modes are all standing waves. This is mostly accomplished by plugging the tidal potential (Equation (11.0)) into the interaction Hamiltonian.
Figure 13. Left panel: radial profile of the equilibrium tide coupling coefficient $\kappa_{bc}^{(eq)}$ for a solar model. The parameters of the equilibrium tide are $(\ell, m) = (2, 0)$, and the daughter is a self-coupled mode ($b = c$) with $(\ell_b, m_b, n_b) = (2, 0, 971)$, which corresponds to a period of $P_b \simeq 10$ days. The individual oscillations in the integrand $dI/d\ln r$ are too closely spaced to be seen well at the resolution of the figure. Right panel: $\kappa_{bc}^{(eq)}$ as a function of period $P_b$ for self-coupled daughters $b = c$ with $m = m_b = 0$ and $\ell_b = 1, 2, 3$.

Figure 14. Left panel: radial profile of the equilibrium tide coupling coefficient $\kappa_{bc}^{(eq)}$ for the $(\ell, m) = (2, 0)$ equilibrium tide coupled to different daughter pairs $(b, c)$. The four curves are for $(\ell, m, n_b) = (2, 0, 971)$ and $(\ell, m, n_c) = (2, 0, [971, 972, 973, 975])$. Right panel: $\kappa_{bc}^{(eq)}$ as a function of $\Delta n = n_b - n_c$ for $\ell_b = \ell_c = 2$, $m = m_b = m_c = 0$, and $P_b, P_c \simeq 10$ days.

(Equation (2)) and using the integrals defined in Equations (12) and (13). We find

$$H_{int} = - \sum_{\ell m} GMM' W_{\ell m} R^\ell \frac{1}{D^{\ell+1}} \left[ I_{\ell m q_a} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_b J_{\ell b m q_a q_b} \right] e^{-im\Phi}. \tag{C1}$$

In the center-of-mass frame, this interaction energy gives the following radial and angular accelerations:

$$a_D = - \frac{1}{\mu} \frac{\partial H_{int}}{\partial D} = - \frac{G(M + M')}{R^2} \sum_{\ell m} (\ell + 1) W_{\ell m} \left( \frac{R}{D} \right)^{\ell+2} \left( I_{\ell m q_a} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_b J_{\ell b m q_a q_b} \right) e^{-im\Phi}. \tag{C2}$$
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Figure 15. Nonlinear inhomogeneous coupling coefficients $\kappa^{(eq-eq)}_a$, $\kappa^{(dyn-dyn)}_a$, and $\kappa^{(eq-dyn)}_a$ as a function of mode frequency $\omega_a$ in units of $\omega_0 = (GM/R^3)^{1/2}$ for a solar model. The daughters are all $(\ell_a, m_a) = (2, 0)$ modes coupled to the $(\ell, m) = (2, 0)$ dynamical tide at a $P = 10$ day driving period. Those in the left panel range from high-order $g$-modes to low-order $p$-modes, while those in the right panel are high-order $p$-modes $(700 \lesssim n_a \lesssim 1400)$. In the right panel we divide $\kappa^{(dyn-dyn)}_a$ by $10^4$ in order to show it on the same scale as $\kappa^{(eq-dyn)}_a$.

Figure 16. Radial profile of $\kappa^{(eq-dyn)}_a$ for the high-order $p$-mode $(\ell_a = 2, n_a = 1200, m_a = 0)$ coupled to the $(\ell, m) = (2, 0)$ equilibrium tide and the $(\ell, m) = (2, 0)$ dynamical tide at a $P = 10$ day driving period. The dashed lines show the variation of the radial wavelength of the $p$-mode $\lambda_p$ and the dynamical tide $\lambda_{dyn}$ in units of $R$.

\[ \Phi = - \frac{1}{\mu D} \frac{\partial H_{int}}{\partial \Phi} = - \frac{G(M + M')}{R^2} \sum_{a\ell m} i m W_{\ell m} \left( \frac{R}{D} \right)^{\ell+2} \left( l_{a\ell m} q_{a}^\ast + \frac{1}{2} \sum_b J_{ab\ell m} q_{ab} \right) e^{-im\Phi}, \] (C3)

where $\mu = MM'/(M + M')$. The expressions in Equations (C2) and (C3) may also be derived from the perturbed potential of the primary evaluated at the position of the secondary. In doing so, the nonlinear expression for $\delta \rho$ from Schenk et al. (2002) must be used to compute the quadrupole moment.

For orbital frequency $\Omega = [G(M + M')/a^3]^{1/2}$, the radial and angular accelerations due to the tide imply the following changes in the orbit (Murray & Dermott 2000):

\[ \dot{a} = \frac{2}{\Omega \sqrt{1 - e^2}} \left[ a_D e \sin \Phi + a_p (1 + e \cos \Phi) \right] \] (C4)
\[
\dot{e} = \frac{\sqrt{1 - e^2}}{\Omega a} \left[ a_D \sin \Phi + a_\Phi \left( \cos \Phi + \cos E \right) \right],
\]

where \( \cos E = (e + \cos \Phi)/(1 + e \cos \Phi) \). Writing the mode amplitude in amplitude-phase form \( q_a = A_a e^{-i\phi_a} \), where \( A_a \) and \( \phi_a \) are real, the decay and circularization rates (Equations (C4) and (C5)) can be written
\[
\left( \frac{\dot{a}}{a} \right) = \Omega \sum_{\ell m k} W_{\ell m k} A_k^{\ell m} \left( \frac{R}{a} \right)^\ell \left( \frac{f_1}{f_2} \right) \left[ I_{\ell m k} A_k^{\ell m} \sin (\phi_a - k \Omega t) - \frac{1}{2} \sum_b J_{\alpha \beta \gamma} A_\alpha A_\beta \sin (\phi_a + \phi_b + k \Omega t) \right],
\]

where \( f_1 = 2k \) and \( f_2 = (e^{-2} - 1) [k - m/\sqrt{1 - e^2}] \). At resonances the arguments in the sines can be time independent with a constant lag angle that depends on the damping rates and detunings (see, e.g., Equation (25) and Appendix D).

**APPENDIX D**

**NONLINEAR EQUILIBRIUM FOR A SIMPLE THREE-MODE SYSTEM**

In this Appendix we solve for the nonlinear equilibrium (i.e., saturation) of a simple three-mode network in which a single parent \( a \), driven by the linear tide, is coupled to a pair of daughters \((b, c)\). We assume that the daughters are distinct, not self-coupled, and not driven by the linear or nonlinear tide. The amplitude equations for this system are thus
\[
\dot{q}_a + (i \omega_a + \gamma_a) q_a = i \omega_a [U_a(t) + 2k q_b^* q_c^*],
\]
\[
\dot{q}_b + (i \omega_b + \gamma_b) q_b = 2i \omega_b \kappa q_c^* q_b^*,
\]
\[
\dot{q}_c + (i \omega_c + \gamma_c) q_c = 2i \omega_c \kappa q_b^* q_c^*,
\]

where \( \kappa = \kappa_{abc} \) and the factors of two come from assuming that the modes are distinct from one another. Focusing on a particular harmonic \( \omega \) such that \( U_a(t) = U_a e^{-i\omega t} \), let \( q_a = Q_a e^{-i(\omega_a - \Delta_a) t} \), where \( \omega = \{a, b, c\} \) and \( Q_a \) is a constant complex amplitude. If \( \Delta_a = \omega_a - \omega \) and \( \Delta_b + \Delta_c = \omega + \omega_b + \omega_c \), the time dependences drop out, yielding the equilibrium solution:
\[
A_a e^{i\delta_a} (i \Delta_a + \gamma_a) = i \omega_a [U_a + 2k A_b A_c e^{-i(\delta_c + \delta_b)}],
\]
\[
A_b e^{i\delta_b} (i \Delta_b + \gamma_b) = 2i \omega_b \kappa A_a A_c e^{-i(\delta_c + \delta_b)},
\]
\[
A_c e^{i\delta_c} (i \Delta_c + \gamma_c) = 2i \omega_c \kappa A_a A_b e^{-i(\delta_b + \delta_a)},
\]

where we have written \( Q_a = A_a e^{i\delta_a} \) with \( A_a \) and \( \delta_a \) real.\(^{12}\)

To solve for the parent’s nonlinear equilibrium energy, divide the two daughter equations (D5) and (D6) to get
\[
\frac{A_b^2}{A_c^2} = \frac{\omega_b}{\omega_c} \left( \frac{\Delta_b \gamma_c - i(\Delta_b \gamma_c - \Delta_c \gamma_b)}{\Delta_b^2 + \gamma_b^2} \right).
\]

Since the left-hand side is real, the imaginary part on the right-hand side must vanish, \( \Delta_b / \Delta_c = \gamma_b / \gamma_c \), and we find
\[
\frac{A_b^2}{A_c^2} = \frac{\omega_b \gamma_c}{\omega_c \gamma_b}.
\]

Multiplying the two daughter equations, we obtain
\[
A_a^2 = -\frac{\gamma_b \gamma_c}{4k^2 \omega_b \omega_c} [(1 - \mu^2) \cos 2\delta - 2\mu \sin 2\delta + i(2\mu \cos 2\delta + (1 - \mu^2) \sin 2\delta)],
\]

where \( \mu = (\Delta_b + \Delta_c) / (\gamma_b + \gamma_c) \) and \( \delta = \delta_a + \delta_b + \delta_c \). Since the left-hand side is real, the imaginary part must vanish so that
\[
\tan 2\delta = -\frac{2\mu}{1 - \mu^2}.
\]

\(^{12}\) In Section 5 we derived the stability criterion for this type of system (Equation (37)). Here \( |\Gamma| = 2 \pi A_a \sqrt{\omega_b \omega_c} \) and the linear tidal flow is unstable if the parent’s linear energy \( E_{\text{lin}} > E_{\text{th}} \), where \( E_{\text{th}} \) is given by Equation (50).
There is a sign ambiguity that is resolved by noting that \( A^2_a > 0 \); if, for example, \( 0 < \mu < 1 \), choose the quadrant such that \( \sin 2\delta = 2\mu/(1 + \mu^2) > 0 \) and \( \cos 2\delta = -(1 - \mu^2)/(1 + \mu^2) < 0 \). We thus find the parent’s equilibrium energy

\[
E_{a,eq} = A^2_a = \frac{\gamma_b \gamma_c}{4\kappa^2 \omega_b \omega_c}(1 + \mu^2),
\]

which we see equals its threshold energy \( E_b \) (Equation (50)).

To solve for the daughters’ nonlinear equilibrium energy, rearrange the parent’s Equation (D4) and use Equations (D8) and (D11) to get

\[
A^2_b = \frac{\gamma_c \sqrt{1 + \mu^2}}{4\kappa^2 \omega_b \omega_c} \left[ \Delta_a \cos \delta + \gamma_a \sin \delta - \frac{\omega_a}{\Delta_a} \cos(\delta - \delta_a) + i \left( \Delta_a \sin \delta - \gamma_a \cos \delta - \frac{\omega_a}{\Delta_a} \sin(\delta - \delta_a) \right) \right].
\]

(D12)

Since \( A^2_b \) is real, the imaginary part on the right-hand side must vanish

\[
\omega_a U_a \frac{\Delta_a}{\Delta_a} \sin(\delta - \delta_a) = \Delta_a \sin \delta - \gamma_a \cos \delta,
\]

(D13)

which, with Equations (D10) and (D11) and the definition of \( \delta \), determines \( \delta_a, \delta_b, \) and \( \delta_c \). The daughters’ equilibrium solution is thus given by

\[
E_{b,eq} = A^2_b = \left[ \frac{\gamma_c \omega_b}{\gamma_b \omega_c} \right] \left\{ \left[ \kappa \frac{\omega_a}{\Delta_a} \sin \delta \right] - \left[ \kappa \frac{\omega_a}{\Delta_a} \cos \delta \right] \right\} E_0.
\]

(D14)

and \( E_{c,eq} = E_{b,eq} \omega_b / \omega_b \gamma_c \). In the limit \( E_{a,lin} \gg E_{a,eq} \), as is appropriate for solar binaries and hot Jupiter systems (see Section 7),

\[
E_{b,eq} = \frac{\sqrt{\gamma_c \omega_b}}{\gamma_b \omega_c} \left\{ \left[ \kappa \frac{\omega_a}{\Delta_a} \sin \delta \right] - \left[ \kappa \frac{\omega_a}{\Delta_a} \cos \delta \right] \right\} E_0.
\]

(D15)

In the limit \( E_{a,lin} \rightarrow E_{th} = E_{a,eq} \) the term in brackets in Equation (D14) vanishes and \( A_b, A_c \rightarrow 0 \).

APPENDIX E

LOCAL NONLINEAR GROWTH RATE

In this Appendix we calculate the local nonlinear growth rate due to three-mode coupling and nonlinear tidal driving. The local rate per unit volume at which the nonlinear interactions do work is given by the fluid velocity dotted into the nonlinear force: \( \dot{\varepsilon}(x) = 2\xi \cdot (q_{f2} \xi - \rho \dot{\xi} \cdot \nabla U) \). For a self-coupled daughter wave \( b \)

\[
\dot{\varepsilon}_b(x) = 2|q_b|\xi_b \cdot (q_b f_{f2} \xi_a - \rho \dot{\xi}_b \cdot \nabla U)
\]

\[
= \frac{\omega |q_b|^2}{r^2} \left\{ |q_a| \kappa_{abb} \frac{d^3 E}{dr d\Omega} + \frac{d^3 U_{bb}}{dr d\Omega} \right\} E_0,
\]

(E1)

where we assume that the interactions drive the daughter at half the tidal frequency \( \omega/2 \). In the high-order approximation, the local energy density of an internal gravity wave is

\[
e(r) = \frac{|q|^2}{r^2} \int \frac{d^3 E}{dr d\Omega} d\Omega \sim \rho N^2 \xi^2 E_0.
\]

(E2)

The local nonlinear growth rate of the daughter over a region \( \Delta r \) much smaller than \( r \) (and the scale over which the background quantities vary) but much larger than its radial wavelength \( 2\pi/k_{r,b} \) is therefore

\[
\Gamma_b(r) \approx \frac{1}{\Delta r} \int_{r}^{r+\Delta r} \frac{\dot{\varepsilon}_b(r)}{\varepsilon_b(r)} dr
\]

\[
= \frac{\omega}{\Delta r} \int_{r}^{r+\Delta r} E_0 \frac{d^3 E}{dr d\Omega} \left\{ |q_a| \frac{d^3 \kappa_{abb}}{dr d\Omega} + \frac{d^3 U_{bb}}{dr d\Omega} \right\} dr.
\]

(E3)

The product of the phases of the traveling waves (e.g., \( \exp[i(\phi_b - 2\phi_b)] \)) is constant by momentum conservation, and we have integrated over angles since the horizontal group velocity is faster than the vertical group velocity by a factor of \( k_r/k_h = N/\omega \gg 1 \).

By Equation (A65), the local growth rate of daughters due to three-wave coupling with a parent \( a \) is thus

\[
\Gamma_{b,a} = \frac{\omega |q_a|}{\Delta r} \int_{r}^{r+\Delta r} E_0 \frac{d^3 \kappa_{abb}}{dr d\Omega} dr \approx \omega T |q_k| \xi_{ia} \approx \omega T |q_k| \xi_{ia}.
\]

(E4)

We thus see that for the coupling of high-order \( g \)-modes, three-wave interactions act as a Kelvin–Helmholtz–like shear instability that is driven by the parent’s horizontal motion \( \xi_{ia} \); the growth rate is given by the oscillation frequency times the strength of the horizontal shear \( qA k_h \xi_{ia} \). Whereas overturning of the vertical stratification requires \( |q|k_r \xi_r \gtrsim 1 \), a \( g \)-mode is unstable to three-wave coupling even for \( |q|k_r \xi_r \ll 1 \), although at small enough amplitude the growth rate of the daughters becomes smaller than their linear damping rate \( \gamma_b \) (see, e.g., Drazin 1977; Sonnbor & Klaassen 1997).
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