MIGRATION OF TWO MASSIVE PLANETS INTO (AND OUT OF) FIRST ORDER MEAN MOTION RESONANCES

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ABSTRACT

We consider the dynamical evolution of two planets with nearly circular and nearly coplanar orbits undergoing eccentricity damping and convergent migration in the vicinity of a first order mean motion resonance. Following Goldreich & Schlichting, we include a coupling between the dissipative semimajor axis evolution and the damping of the eccentricities. In agreement with past studies, we find that this coupling can lead to instability of the resonance and that for a certain range of parameters capture into resonance is only temporary. Using a more general model, we show that whether escape from resonance can occur depends in a characteristic way on the mass ratio between the two planets as well as their relative eccentricity damping timescales. In particular, systems undergoing Type I migration with a more massive inner planet typically result in permanent capture. Additionally, we show that even when escape from resonance does occur, the timescale for escape is long enough such at any given time a pair of planets is more likely to be found in a low-order resonance rather than migrating between them. Thus, we argue that intrinsic instability of resonances cannot singlehandedly reconcile convergent migration with the observed lack of Kepler planet pairs found near resonances.

Key words: celestial mechanics – planets and satellites: dynamical evolution and stability

1. INTRODUCTION

Analyses of the Kepler data that take into account observational and instrumental biases indicate that Sun-like stars and stars less massive than the Sun commonly host planets (Dressing & Charbonneau 2013; Fressin et al. 2013; Morton & Swift 2014). The known planets tend to be smaller than Neptune, orbit with periods less than ~100 days, and a significant fraction of them reside in multi-planet systems (Batalha et al. 2013; Mullally et al. 2015; Rowe et al. 2015). Given that these planetary systems may represent the dominant outcome of planet formation, advancing our understanding of their formation and past dynamical evolution is a major goal of exoplanet science.

Although these planets typically have weakly constrained masses, densities, and orbital elements, there are several broad features of the population that can provide clues as to the formation of these systems. One interesting characteristic is that the period ratios of pairs of adjacent planets do not preferentially lie near mean motion resonances. Initially, this was taken as a clue that large-scale migration caused by dissipative interaction with a gaseous protoplanetary disk (e.g., Kley & Nelson 2012; Baruteau et al. 2014) did not act in a particularly important way, since rudimentary models of convergent migration between planets robustly predict capture into resonance assuming the migration rate is slow enough and the eccentricities are small enough. This apparent contradiction between migration models and the observed data led to the idea of in situ formation, where these systems ultimately assembled via the same mechanisms that created the terrestrial planets in our solar system, but acting at significantly smaller orbital distances (e.g., Hansen & Murray 2012, 2013; Chiang & Laughlin 2013).

A second feature of these planets complicates this narrative. By modeling the composition of the subset of planets with measured masses and radii, Rogers (2015) showed that the majority of planets with radii larger than ~1.6R_J require significant gaseous atmospheres. Processes which produce volatiles after the formation of a planet (such as out-gassing) are thought to proceed at a slower rate than processes which strip a planet of its volatiles (like photo-evaporation) (Lopez et al. 2012; Rogers 2015). This suggests that the fraction of volatile rich planets was larger in the past compared with the observed sample, and it also indicates that these planets formed while the gaseous protoplanetary disk was present.

Therefore, in situ formation no longer provides an immediate explanation for the observed lack of pairs near mean motion resonances by simply obviating the need for large-scale migration. That is, irrespective of where close-in small planets originated, they would have interacted with their gas-rich natal disks. It appears necessary to explain the lack of observed near commensurabilities in the context of planetary evolution within a gaseous disk, the presence of which seems required to explain the volatile rich nature of a subset of the planets observed.

Both turbulence in the disk and small residual eccentricities can prevent capture into resonance (Adams et al. 2008; Rein 2012; Paardekooper et al. 2013; Batygin 2015). A recent study of planet interactions with an irradiated disk shows that there are regions of both divergent and convergent migration (Migaszewski 2015), and this can lead to period ratios that are not preferentially near commensurabilities. It has also been suggested that a more complete treatment of convergent migration and eccentricity damping alone can account for the lack of pairs near resonance. Particularly, Goldreich & Schlichting (2014) show that in this more complete model, which takes into account how eccentricity damping affects the semimajor axis evolution, the long-term stability of resonances can be compromised (see also Meyer & Wisdom 2008). That is, capture into resonance occurs but it is only temporary, and escape from resonance occurs on timescales comparable to the...
performing the appropriate canonical transformations, the Hamiltonian (1), in the region of phase space close to the resonance, takes the following form:

\[ H' = -\frac{1}{2} (\Phi' - \Gamma')^2 - \sqrt{2}\Phi' \cos \phi, \]  

(2)

with

\[ \Phi' \approx \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{3.75k}{\epsilon_p} \right)^{2/3} \sigma^2 \]

\[ \sigma^2 \approx e_1^2 + e_2^2 - 2e_1e_2 \cos(\varpi_1 - \varpi_2) \]

\[ \phi = (k + 1)\lambda_2 - k\lambda_1 + \psi \]

\[ \Gamma' \approx \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{3.75k}{\epsilon_p} \right)^{2/3} \left( \sigma^2 + \frac{\Delta \alpha}{k} \right) \]

\[ \tan \psi = -\frac{e_1 \sin \varpi_1 - e_2 \sin \varpi_2}{e_1 \cos \varpi_1 - e_2 \cos \varpi_2} \]  

(3)

and \( \Delta \alpha = \alpha - \alpha_{\text{res}}, \epsilon_p = (m_1 + m_2)/M_s, \psi \) is a generalized longitude of pericenter, and \( \Gamma' \) is the “proximity parameter” which governs how close the system is to resonance. Note that \( \Phi', \Gamma' \), and the Hamiltonian \( H' \) are dimensionless. Additionally, the definitions in Equations (3) assume the orbits are compact; in this limit, \( \alpha \to 1, k \approx k + 1, \) and \( |f_{27}| \approx \frac{1}{3} \approx 0.8k \). Full expressions, without this “compact orbits” approximation, are given in Appendix A.

As has been pointed out before, the functional form of the Hamiltonian in Equation (2) is identical to that of the CR3BP near a first order mean motion resonance, though the parameters have a different meaning. This specific Hamiltonian function has been studied at length and operates as a common analytic model for resonances of various types (see e.g., Henrard & Lemaître 1983; Murray & Dermott 1999; Ferraz-Mello 2007). It is worth noting that in the “compact approximation” limit, the mass ratio between the planets \( \zeta = m_1/m_2 \) does not appear in the Hamiltonian.

Without dissipation, the proximity parameter is conserved. When eccentricities are zero (\( \sigma = 0 \)), and the orbits are wider than the commensurability (\( \alpha < \alpha_{\text{res}} \)), \( \Gamma' \) is negative, while if the orbits are narrow of the commensurability (\( \alpha > \alpha_{\text{res}} \)), \( \Gamma' \) is positive. When \( \Gamma' < 3/2 \), the conservative system has a single fixed point (\( x_1 \)), while for \( \Gamma' > 3/2 \) there are three fixed points and a separatrix is present. In this case, two of the fixed points are stable (\( x_1 \)) and (\( x_2 \)) and a third (\( x_3 \)) is unstable. To illustrate this, in Figure 1 we show the level curves of the Hamiltonian given in Equation (2) for two different values of the proximity parameter \( \Gamma' \). For larger values of \( \Gamma' \), the unstable fixed point and the fixed point at the center of resonance correspond to approximately equal values of \( \Phi' \) while the second stable fixed point is near zero eccentricity with \( \Phi' \approx 0 \). For the conservative system, a “resonant” trajectory corresponds to one that resides within the separatrix, exhibiting oscillations about the fixed point \( x_1 \) (Henrard & Lemaître 1983). Hence a system cannot be “in resonance” if \( \Gamma' < 3/2 \). However, as we will show, this definition must be modified once dissipation is included.

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5 These results were derived for the circular restricted three body problem (CR3BP) where the inner planet was treated as a test particle.
The extra terms in the equations of motion (4) are determined by taking the dissipative evolution of the semimajor axes and eccentricities of the planets and converting them into the evolution of $\Phi'$ and $\Gamma'$. Following Goldreich & Schlichting (2014), we parameterize the dissipation that acts on the orbit of each individual planet as

$$
\frac{1}{e_i} \frac{de_i}{dt} = -\frac{1}{\tau_{e,i}}
$$
$$
\frac{1}{a_i} \frac{da_i}{dt} = \left( -\frac{2pe_i^2}{\tau_{e,i}} - \frac{1}{\tau_{a,i}} \right)
$$

(5)

For eccentricity decay and migration toward the star, $\tau_{a,i}$ and $\tau_{e,i}$ are positive; to reverse the direction of either the sign of $\tau$ can be changed. These timescales can be estimated analytically (e.g., Goldreich & Tremaine 1980; Tanaka et al. 2002; Tanaka & Ward 2004), fit using numerical simulations (e.g., Kley & Nelson 2012), or taken to be free parameters. For Type I migration of small planets which do not open a gap in the disk, $\tau_e \sim \tau_a h^2 \ll \tau$, where $h$ is the scale height of the disk. In past studies, a simple exponential damping of the eccentricities and semimajor axes was assumed (e.g., Lee & Peale 2002), without any coupling ($p = 0$). As pointed out by Goldreich & Schlichting (2014) and derived in this work for the case of two massive planets, escape from resonance only occurs if $p > 0$.

The above expressions are intended as a simple, analytically tractable model of the effects of planet–disk interaction, and they will certainly fail to describe the exact evolution of $a_i$ and $e_i$ at some level. For example, hydrodynamical simulations (e.g., Papaloizou & Larwood 2000 and Cresswell & Nelson 2008) show deviations from Equation (5) for eccentricities larger than the scale height of the disk $h$. Our belief is that Equation (5) contains the most important features of the dissipative interaction at low eccentricity, such that our analytic results can be used to give intuitive understanding to the outcome of more exact but more complicated hydrodynamical simulations.

In general, two planets undergoing convergent migration will be caught in resonance if the time required to cross the resonance width due to migration is sufficiently long compared with the libration period of the resonance and if the initial eccentricities of the planets are sufficiently low (e.g., Henrand & Lemaitre 1983; Batygin 2015). Planets undergoing divergent migration cannot be captured into resonance, so throughout this work we focus exclusively on convergent migration ($\tau_{a,1} > \tau_{a,2}$). However, even if the inner planet originally migrates more quickly than the outer planet, convergent migration can arise after the inner planet reaches the inner disk edge, halts, and allows the outer planet to catch up.

### 2.1. Dissipative Dynamics without $a$–$e$ Coupling

If there is only migration but no eccentricity damping ($\tau_{e,i} \rightarrow \infty$), the dissipative terms are

$$
\frac{d\Gamma'}{dt}_{\text{dis}} = 0,
$$

$$
\frac{d\Phi'}{dt}_{\text{dis}} = \frac{a_0}{\tau_a}
$$

(6)

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Figure 1. Level curves of the conservative Hamiltonian for two different values of $\Gamma'$. Upper panel: three fixed points as $\Gamma' > 3/2$, lower panel: a single fixed point as $\Gamma' \leq 3/2$.

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\[3\] At the order of eccentricity we are working, the angle $\phi$, which depends on eccentricities through the generalized pericenter $\psi$, does not change due to non-conservative effects (see Appendix A for proof).
where \( a_0 \) is a positive constant derived in Appendix A (see Equations (48), (54)) and
\[
\frac{1}{\tau_a} = \frac{1}{\tau_{a,2}} - \frac{1}{\tau_{a,1}}. \tag{7}
\]

For convergent migration, \( \tau_a > 0 \) and therefore \( \Gamma' \) grows as \( \alpha \to \alpha_{\text{res}} \) (since \( \sigma \approx 0 \) initially to ensure capture, \( \Gamma' \) becomes less negative). Once the system is caught in resonance, \( \alpha \approx \alpha_{\text{res}} \) and the increase in \( \Gamma' \) must be compensated with an increase in the eccentricities through an increase in \( \sigma \) (Equation (3)). Without explicit eccentricity damping, the area enclosed by a contour of the Hamiltonian is an adiabatic invariant (Henrard 1982). As \( \Gamma' \) grows, the contour which matches the initial area of the trajectory corresponds to larger eccentricities and smaller libration amplitudes.

When eccentricity damping is included (but \( p = 0 \)), the slow evolution of \( \Gamma' \) includes an additional damping term, as does that of \( \Phi' \), that is,
\[
\frac{d\Gamma'}{dt} \rvert_{\text{dis}} \approx \frac{a_0}{\tau_a} + \frac{c_0}{\tau_e} \Phi', \tag{8}
\]
where \( c_0 \) is a negative constant derived in Appendix A (see Equations (45) and (54)) which denotes a decay due to eccentricity damping and
\[
\frac{1}{\tau_e} = \frac{1}{\tau_{e,1}} + \frac{\zeta}{\tau_{e,2}} \tag{9}
\]
where
\[
\zeta = m_1/m_2. \tag{10}
\]
Note first that now the mass ratio between the two planets enters the equations of motion explicitly, while it did not in the conservative case or in the conservative case with only migration. Furthermore, because of the eccentricity damping, there is now a value of \( \Phi' = -(a_0/c_0) (\tau_e/\tau_a) \) where the change in \( \Gamma' \) is zero. At a fixed migration rate, a shorter timescale for eccentricity damping coincides with a smaller equilibrium eccentricity since \( \Phi' \propto \sigma^2 \). This equilibrium in \( \sigma \) corresponds to an equilibrium of the proximity parameter \( \Gamma' \) and of \( \phi \), and hence the fixed point also corresponds to an equilibrium value of \( \alpha \). For weak dissipation, the equilibrium lies close to the stable fixed point in the conservative case (labeled \( \chi_1 \) in Figure 1), assuming a proximity parameter equal to the equilibrium value of \( \Gamma' \) (see Appendix A).

The equilibrium in \( \sigma \) can be turned into an equilibrium value for \( e_1 \) and \( e_2 \) individually by making use of a second conserved quantity \( \Psi_2 \), which is zero for circular orbits.\(^4\) The condition that \( \Psi_2 \) begins at zero (since the orbits begin circular due to damping) and remains zero implies that the pericenters are always anti-aligned, and that the relationship between the equilibrium eccentricities is
\[
e_2 = e_1 \sqrt{\alpha_{\text{res}}} / R. \tag{11}
\]

\(^4\) Like \( \Gamma' \), \( \Psi_2 \) is conjugate to an angle not appearing in the Hamiltonian, and it is therefore conserved. However, unlike \( \Gamma' \), \( \Psi_2 \) does not appear as a free parameter in the Hamiltonian. See, e.g., Deck et al. (2013) for details.

where
\[
R = \frac{\left[ f_{k+1,27} (\alpha_{\text{res}}) \right]}{\left[ f_{k+1,31} (\alpha_{\text{res}}) - 2\beta_{k,1} \alpha_{\text{res}} \right]} \tag{12}
\]

The stability of the fixed point for the dissipative problem can be determined using linear stability analysis. This yields three eigenvalues (as we have three dimensions, \( \Gamma' \), \( \Phi' \), and \( \phi \), one of which \( (\alpha_0) \) is always real and always negative, along with a complex conjugate pair of the form \( \alpha_{\pm} = \alpha_1 \pm i\alpha_2 \), \( \alpha_2 \) is well approximated as the libration frequency of the unperturbed problem evaluated at the new fixed point. One finds that \( \alpha_1 < 0 \) and so the fixed point is ultimately stable, as has been well established (e.g., Lee & Peale 2002). The action is no longer an adiabatic invariant, however, and the libration amplitude shrinks to zero because the fixed point is a stable attractor.

We now return to the definition of “in resonance” in the case when dissipation is included. For the dissipative prescription considered here, there is at most one fixed point, and the separatrix (which connects the unstable fixed point to itself) of the conservative problem never exists. Therefore, our definition of “in resonance” must change between the conservative and the dissipative case. We will use the phrase “capture into resonance” to imply that the period ratio of the planets is trapped near the commensurate value. The resonant angle will typically be oscillating in these configurations. When we discuss escape from resonance in Section 2.2.3, it will involve a growing libration amplitude about the fixed point, followed by eventual removal from the fixed point region (that is, the system will no longer oscillate about the fixed point), and damping to zero eccentricity. This corresponds to the period ratio deviating largely from the commensurability, inconsistent with our definition of “in resonance,” and also with the resonant angle switching to circulation. However, as explained by Delisle et al. (2012), once the eccentricities are damped sufficiently, “artificial” libration of the resonant angle can occur even far from resonance, and so our definition of in resonance does not rely on the resonant angle librating or circulating.

2.2. Dissipative Dynamics with \( a-e \) Coupling

Goldreich & Schlichting (2014) have shown that the stability of the fixed point is not guaranteed when the semimajor axis evolution is dependent on the eccentricity. The term appearing when \( p = 0 \) changes the dissipative contributions to the equations of motion in Equation (4) at lowest order in eccentricities as:
\[
\frac{d\Gamma'}{dt} \rvert_{\text{dis}} \approx \frac{a_0}{\tau_a} + \left[ \frac{c_0}{\tau_e} + \frac{p_1 a_1}{\tau_{a,e}} \right] \Phi', \tag{13}
\]
where \( a_1 \) is a negative constant derived in Appendix A (see Equations (48) and (54)), not to be confused with the semimajor axis of the inner planet, and \( \tau_{a,e} \) is defined as
\[
\frac{1}{\tau_{a,e}} = \frac{1}{\tau_{a,1}} - \frac{\zeta^2 \alpha_{\text{res}}}{R^2 \tau_{e,2}}, \tag{14}
\]
where \( R \) is defined in Equation (12) and \( \zeta \) in Equation (10).
2.2.1. Condition for Instability

Again there is a single fixed point of the dissipative system, as in the case where the coupling parameter \( p = 0 \). The equilibrium value for \( \sigma \) of the system, determined by the condition that \( \frac{d\sigma}{dt} \big|_{\text{lin}} = 0 \) and the relation between \( \Phi' \) and \( \sigma \), has a slight shift compared with the case where \( p = 0 \), corresponding to slightly larger or smaller eccentricities depending on if \( \tau_{a,e} \) is negative or positive, respectively. As before, there are three eigenvalues, which we denote as \( \alpha_0 \) and \( \alpha_{\pm} = \alpha_0 \pm i\delta_2 \). As in the case when \( p = 0 \), we find that \( \alpha_0 \) is real and always negative, so that any motion along the associated eigendirection is contracting.

However, the real part of the complex pair can now be negative or positive. When \( \alpha_1 > 0 \), the fixed point is associated with an unstable spiral on the surface spanned by two eigenvectors paired with \( \alpha_{\pm} \). In this case, the lifetime of the system in resonance can be finite. The criterion for \( \alpha_1 > 0 \) is given by

\[
\epsilon_p < \epsilon_{p,\text{crit}} \equiv \frac{3pk}{B^2} \frac{\tau_{e}}{\tau_{a,e}} \left( 1 + \zeta^2 \right) \left( k (\zeta + 1) + p \frac{\tau_e}{\tau_{a,e}} \right)^{3/2} \tag{15}
\]

where \( \epsilon_p = (m_1 + m_2)/M_* \), \( B \approx 0.8k \) and \( \tau_{e}, \tau_e, \) and \( \tau_{a,e} \) are as defined in Equations (7), (9), and (14). Please note that this expression employs the compact approximation except for in \( \tau_{a,e} \) where we have retained the factors of \( R \) and \( \alpha_{\text{res}} \) (in the compact approximation, both \( \alpha_{\text{res}} \) and \( R \) tend to unity).

It is interesting that even in the case where the fixed point is associated with an unstable spiral \( (\alpha_1 > 0, \epsilon_p < \epsilon_{p,\text{crit}}) \), the evolution still drives the system to the fixed point in resonance before the overall instability drives the oscillation amplitude to larger and larger values. Initial capture into resonance requires that the timescale associated with the contracting direction \( 1/|\alpha_0| \) is much smaller than that of \( 1/\alpha_1 \). The evolution of the system near the fixed point is made up of a linear combination of the eigenvectors associated with these eigenvalues, and as such, on shorter timescales the contracting evolution dominates. On longer timescales, the growing evolution takes over, and the system can escape from resonance. This separation of timescales is true, especially near the critical part of parameter space where the eigenvalue \( \alpha_1 \) is changing sign, i.e., where the timescale \( 1/|\alpha_0| \) diverges. We will discuss the timescales associated with the evolution further in Section 4.1.

Regardless of the ultimate stability of the fixed point, the equilibrium eccentricity in the resonance is given by

\[
\sigma_{a,0}^2 = \frac{(1 + \zeta^2)}{2k (\zeta + 1) + 2p \frac{\tau_e}{\tau_{a,e}}} \tau_e. \tag{16}
\]

As expected, if \( p = 0 \) and there is no coupling between eccentricity damping and semimajor axis evolution, the criterion given in Equation (15) can never be satisfied—the equilibrium in resonance is always stable. The equilibrium eccentricity is still given by Equation (16).

A sufficient criterion for stability is \( \epsilon_p > \epsilon_{p,\text{crit}} \). We assume that convergent migration leads to resonance capture and that eccentricity damping leads to an equilibrium in resonance. Therefore the parameters \( \tau_{e} \) and \( \tau_{a,e} \) are positive. Note that for the equilibrium eccentricity to be real—for the equilibrium to even exist—the denominator in Equation (16) must be positive, which implies that the factor \( (k (\zeta + 1) + p \tau_e/\tau_{a,e})^{3/2} \) appearing in the critical value \( \epsilon_{p,\text{crit}} \) for instability is also real and positive.

This implies that the criterion cannot be satisfied if \( \tau_{a,e} < 0 \), since in that case \( \epsilon_{p,\text{crit}} \) is negative. This occurs when

\[
\frac{\tau_{e,2}}{\tau_{e,1}} < \zeta^2 \frac{\alpha_{\text{res}}}{R^2}. \tag{17}
\]

In Figures 2 and 3, we show the critical curves governing the stability of the fixed point for the 3:2 and the 2:1 resonances, defined by Equation (15), on the parameter plane of \( \tau_{e,1}/\tau_{e,2} \) and \( \zeta = m_1/m_2 \). In these plots, we have chosen \( \tau_{a,e} \approx \tau_{a,2} \) \((\tau_{a,1} \rightarrow \infty)\) and \( \tau_{e,2} = \tau_{e,2}/100 \). There are no other free parameters.

Each plot shows the following. The red curve denotes \( \tau_{a,e} = 0 \), and the area above the red curve corresponds to a region of parameter space where the fixed point is stable since \( \tau_{a,e} < 0 \). Below the red curve, the fixed point may be unstable, but only if \( \epsilon_p < \epsilon_{p,\text{crit}} \). The green, black, blue, and purple curves correspond to \( \epsilon_p = \epsilon_{p,\text{crit}} \) for \( \epsilon_p = (10^{-3}, 10^{-4}, 10^{-5}, 10^{-6}) \), respectively, and the area to the lower right of these curves is where the instability occurs.

In order to simplify the expressions for the critical values of \( \alpha_{\text{res}} \), \( \epsilon_p \) to that given in Equation (15), we made the “compact approximation” that \( \alpha_1/\alpha_2 \rightarrow 1 \) as discussed above (note again that we do not make that approximation for \( \tau_{a,e} \)). This approximation is poorest for the 2:1 resonance, both because \( \alpha_{\text{res}} \) is further from unity but also because of the indirect
contribution to the coefficient of the $e_2$ term in the disturbing function, so that $R = 2.78$. However, for closer resonances the approximation is very good.

The difference between the dashed (approximate) and solid (exact) $\epsilon_p = \epsilon_{p,\text{cen}}$ curves in the figures demonstrates this. Note that the disagreement would be stronger for the 2:1 resonance if we had used the compact approximation for $\tau_{a,e}$, which is why we keep the full expression (it is easy to include it here and retain a simple expression for $\epsilon_{p,\text{cen}}$; the same is not true if we had never made the approximation at all). Regardless, the exact formulae is reasonably well approximated by the estimate given in Equation (15), and both show the basic result that systems with a more massive planet interior are more stable against oscillations of growing amplitude. This is especially striking when we consider the two cases of an inner and an outer test particle below.

### 2.2.2. Limiting Case of CR3BP

Given that these results were derived within the framework of the elliptic planetary three body problem, they should reduce to the results obtained previously in the limit of the CR3BP. We first consider the case of a test particle moving outwards toward a massive planet. In this case, $\zeta \to 0$, $\tau_{a,2} \to \infty$, $\tau_{e,2} \to \infty$, and $\tau_{a,1} \to -\tau_{a,1}$ (to account for outward migration). Then $\tau_e = \tau_{a,e} = \tau_{e,1}$ and $\tau_a = -\tau_{a,1}$. We also assume the outer planet has a circular orbit, so $\sigma = e_1$. In this case, when $p = 1$ the equilibrium eccentricity is given by

$$e_1^2 = \frac{1}{2(k+1)} \frac{\tau_{e,1}}{\tau_{a,1}} = \frac{1}{3(k+1)} \frac{\tau_{e,1}}{\tau_{a,1}}$$

where $\tau_{n,1} = 2/3 \tau_{a,1}$. This agrees with Equation (24) of Goldreich & Schlichting (2014). The criterion for instability is

$$e_2 < \frac{k}{B} \frac{1}{\sqrt[3]{(k+1)^2}} \left( \frac{\tau_{e,1}}{\tau_{a,1}} \right)^{3/2}$$

which agrees with Equation (30) of Goldreich & Schlichting (2014).

We now turn to the opposite case of a test particle moving inwards toward a massive planet. In this case, $\zeta \to \infty$, $\tau_{a,1} \to \infty$ and $\tau_{e,1} \to \infty$. Then $\tau_e = \tau_{e,2}/\zeta$, $\tau_a = \tau_{a,2}$, and $\tau_{a,e} = -\tau_{e,2}/\zeta^2$. The fact that $\tau_{a,e} < 0$ in this case immediately implies that the resonance is stable. Indeed, after carefully taking the limit as $\zeta \to \infty$, the criterion for instability of the fixed point is

$$e_1 < -\frac{3pk}{B^2} \frac{1}{(k-p)^{2/3}} \left( \frac{\tau_{e,2}}{\tau_{a,2}} \right)^{3/2}$$

which can never be satisfied. When $k < p$, this expression either diverges or becomes imaginary. However, in these cases, the equilibrium itself does not exist (see Appendix A). Note also that the divergence when $k = p = 1$ does not occur within the full expression (i.e., without taking the compact limit).

Why is there a difference between the two limiting cases? Since the Hamiltonian itself is approximately independent of the mass ratio between the two planets, any dependence on the mass ratio must come from the dissipative terms. In the case where the inner planet becomes a test particle, the eccentricity damping leads to an inward migration of the test particle proportional to $e_2^2$, in opposition to the overall outward migration toward the massive planet. When the outer planet is the test particle, the eccentricity dependent migration acts coherently with the direct semimajor axis damping to move the test particle toward the inner planet. The small contribution of $p$ in one case apparently compromises the stability of the resonance, while in the other it stabilizes it further. A better understanding may come from considering the difference in $da_1/dt$ across the resonance (A. Mustill 2015, private communication).

#### 2.2.3. Condition for Escape from Resonance

If the fixed point is an unstable spiral, the libration amplitude about the fixed point will grow in time. For a range of parameter values, these oscillations will saturate at a stable limit cycle enclosing the unstable fixed point. In this case, the system remains trapped in resonance but with a nonzero libration amplitude. A criterion for escape from the resonance would be such that the fixed point is unstable and there is no possibility of saturating at a stable limit cycle.

We can understand this qualitatively as follows. The true fixed point of the dissipative problem lies near the fixed point of the conservative problem at the center of the resonance region (labeled $x_1$ in Figure 1). There exists a limit cycle because the motion is being driven toward the fixed point in one eigendirection and away from the fixed point as an unstable spiral in the other two eigendirections, and there is a balance of

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5 In their formulation, they use $\tau_a$ rather than $\tau_n$. Additionally, though we have used the same symbol for the coupling parameter $p$, our case with $p = 1$ corresponds to their case with $p = 3$. Finally, we are using a capital $B$ to represent $0.8B$, which they use a lowercase $b$ for, because we use a lowercase $\beta$ for a different meaning in the derivation in Appendix A.
these opposing actions at some point. However, when there are three fixed points of the conservative problem ($\Gamma' > 3/2$), and the fixed point of the full dissipative problem is an unstable spiral, the libration amplitude will grow until the trajectory enters a region of attraction in the \((\sqrt{2} \dot{\phi} \cos \phi,\sqrt{2} \dot{\phi} \sin \phi)\) plane near the conservative fixed point \(x_2\) at \(\sigma \approx 0\), without reaching a stable limit cycle.

This region of attraction corresponds to what would have been the inner circulation region (corresponding to oscillations about \(x_2\)). The point \(x_2\) is not a fixed point of the full problem, but the motion in the \((\sqrt{2} \dot{\phi} \cos \phi,\sqrt{2} \dot{\phi} \sin \phi)\) plane near this region appears as a spiral toward \(x_2\), because the dissipative evolution approximately follows contours of the conservative problem on short timescales. For large values of \(\Gamma'\), the stable fixed point \(x_2\) of the conservative problem corresponds to nearly zero eccentricity \(\sigma\), so in this attractive region the eccentricities of the planets damp to nearly zero eccentricity. \(\Gamma'\) continues to grow, since this is not a fixed point of the dissipative problem, and this brings the eccentricities closer to zero and brings the pair narrow of the resonance (since for \(\sigma \approx 0\) a positive \(\Gamma'\) implies \(\alpha > \alpha_{\text{res}}\), see Equation (3)). This evolution is illustrated in Section 3.1 where we show the numerically determined evolution of \(\Phi'\) and \(\phi\) on the \((\sqrt{2} \dot{\phi} \cos \phi,\sqrt{2} \dot{\phi} \sin \phi)\) plane along with appropriate contours of the conservative Hamiltonian.

Applying this criterion, we find that the system avoids being trapped in a limit cycle if \(\epsilon_p < \epsilon_{p,\text{crit}}\) and \(\Gamma' > 3/2\) or

\[
\epsilon_p \lesssim \frac{3\epsilon^2}{16B\sqrt{2}} \left(1 + \zeta\right)^3 \left(\frac{\tau_e}{\tau_a}\right)^{3/2}
\]

\[
\equiv \epsilon_{\text{LC}} \left(\epsilon_{\text{LC}} = \frac{m \tau_{a,e}}{8 \tau_e} \frac{1 + \zeta}{p} \epsilon_{p,\text{crit}}\right). \tag{21}
\]

If (1) \(\epsilon_{p,\text{crit}} < \epsilon_p\) or (2) \(\epsilon_{\text{LC}} < \epsilon_p < \epsilon_{p,\text{crit}}\) the system is stuck in resonance, either at the (stable) fixed point in the former case or in a limit cycle about the (unstable) fixed point in the latter. Note that the critical value \(\epsilon_{\text{LC}}\) is nonzero even if the coupling parameter \(p = 0\). This does not mean that the system can escape from resonance if \(\epsilon_p < \epsilon_{\text{LC}}\) even if \(p = 0\), but that this limit cycle criterion is meaningless unless \(\epsilon_p < \epsilon_{p,\text{crit}}\) in the first place. Finally, as pointed out in Goldreich & Schlichting (2014), the limit cycle is only a factor for resonances satisfying \(\epsilon_{\text{LC}} < \epsilon_{p,\text{crit}}\). For an inner test particle with \(p = 1\), this corresponds to \(k < 8\). Because of this, we focus on Equation (15) as a criterion for instability, though formally one requires \(\epsilon_p < \epsilon_{\text{LC}}\) and \(\epsilon_p < \epsilon_{p,\text{crit}}\) for escape from resonance.

After this work was submitted, we became aware of a similar study by Delisle et al. (2015). They consider the case where the equilibrium eccentricity is large enough such that \(\Gamma' > 3/2\) and \(\epsilon_p < \epsilon_{\text{LC}}\). In this regime, the criterion \(\epsilon_p < \epsilon_{p,\text{crit}}\) is very well approximated by \(\tau_{a,e} > 0\) (this is where the different colored critical curves converge to the red curve of \(\tau_{a,e} = 0\) in Figures 2 and 3). Indeed, the criterion for instability of the resonance derived by Delisle et al. (2015) is equivalent to our \(\tau_{a,e} > 0\).

3. NUMERICAL RESULTS

Here we test how well our simple analytic criterion applies to a “real” system using direct numerical integration of the full gravitational equations of motion with the appropriate dissipative terms put in. We integrate the standard gravitational equations of motion using a Bulirsch–Stoer integration scheme. The migration terms are added directly to the equations of motion following the prescription in the appendix of Lee & Peale (2002). This requires applying the chain rule to determine how changes in \(a\) and \(e\), defined in Equation (5), translate into changes in the Cartesian positions and velocities. As the planets migrate toward the host star, their orbital periods decrease, and an adequate time step for the initial orbits may be too large for the orbits at a later time in the integration. To alleviate this issue and keep the (fixed) dissipation timescales slow compared to the orbital periods, we rescale the semimajor axes of the planets at each time step so that the semimajor axis of the inner planet is fixed. Then our default time step is always short compared to the orbital periods, and the fixed semimajor axis damping rates are typically long compared to the relevant libration timescales.

3.1. Illustration of Instability Effect

We begin by showing the explicit evolution of \(\Phi'\), \(\phi\), and \(\Gamma'\) in the three cases of permanent capture with no limit cycle, permanent capture with a limit cycle, and escape from resonance to better illustrate the above discussion of Section 2.2.3.

In Figures 4–6, we show the evolution of three different systems. We have set \(\tau_{e,1} = \tau_{e,2} = \zeta = 0.6\), \(\tau_{a,1} = 10^3 P_1\), and \(\tau_{a,2} \gg \tau_{a,2}\). In case 1 \(\epsilon_p = 8 \times 10^{-4}\) and \(\tau_{a,2} \sim 10^6 P_1\), in case 2 \(\epsilon_p = 8 \times 10^{-5}\) and \(\tau_{a,2} \sim 2 \times 10^5 P_1\), and in case 3 \(\epsilon_p = 8 \times 10^{-5}\) and \(\tau_{a,2} \sim 10^5 P_1\). In cases 1 and 3, \(\epsilon_{p,\text{crit}} = 3 \times 10^{-4}\) and \(\epsilon_{\text{LC}} = 10^{-4}\), while in case 2 \(\epsilon_{p,\text{crit}} = 10^{-4}\) and \(\epsilon_{\text{LC}} = 3.5 \times 10^{-5}\). To calculate these values, we used Equations (15) and (21). The ratio of \(\tau_{a,2}/\tau_{a,2} \approx 1/100\) is as expected for Type I migration in a thin disk (scale height \(h \approx 0.1\)).

In all cases, the planetary system is captured into the 2:1 mean motion resonance and initially driven to the fixed point, as discussed in Section 2.2.1. We show in the upper panel of each of these figures the contours of the conservative Hamiltonian on the \((\sqrt{2} \dot{\phi} \cos \phi,\sqrt{2} \dot{\phi} \sin \phi)\) plane (in red) corresponding to approximate equilibrium value of \(\Gamma'\). Over-plotted on these contours is the behavior of the system variables undergoing full dissipative evolution. In all three cases, the system begins at zero eccentricity (the origin). The planets are captured into the mean motion resonance and this initially leads to an increase in eccentricities (radial distance from the origin) until the equilibrium is reached (this stage of the evolution is shown with cyan points).

First, in Figure 4, we show case 1, where we have chosen \(\epsilon_p > \epsilon_{p,\text{crit}}\) so that the fixed point is stable (\(\alpha < 0\)). The system remains at the fixed point. (Note that this is a case of capture “into resonance” although the separatrix would not be present in the conservative problem, illustrating the difference between our definitions of “in resonance” for the two problems.) In the bottom plot, we show the evolution of \(\Gamma'\), \(\Phi'\), and the fractional deviation in the period ratio from the exact commensurability.
It is difficult to see by eye, but the amplitude of oscillation of \( \Phi' \) is decreasing as we would expect.

In Figure 5, we show case 2, where we have chosen \( \epsilon_{LC} \approx \epsilon_{P, crit} \). The limit cycle behavior is possible because the equilibrium \( \Gamma' \) is less than 3/2, and so there is only one fixed point of the conservative problem. In the upper panel we now show in dark blue the stage of the evolution where the amplitude of oscillations grows about the fixed point (instability). In gray the limit cycle is shown. Note that it encloses the origin, and therefore the resonant angles are circulating in this configuration. The amplitude of the limit cycle is changing because the proximity parameter \( \Gamma' \) is oscillating as well, which changes the level curves of the conservative Hamiltonian. It is unclear what exactly causes the behavior at a time of \( 0.4 \tau_a \), when the amplitude of oscillations suddenly decreases and then begins to increase again. We note that a precise analytic description of the limit cycle is quite complicated; the limit cycle criterion we use is a heuristic one.

Finally, in Figure 6, we show how a system can escape from resonance. In this case, \( \epsilon_P < \epsilon_{LC} < \epsilon_{P, crit} \) because \( \Gamma' \) is greater than 3/2 in the equilibrium configuration. The amplitude of oscillation grows about the fixed point (shown again in blue) until it crosses into the basin of attraction dominated by the second stable fixed point of the conservative problem. This stage of the evolution is shown in black. At this point, \( \Phi' \) begins to decrease while \( \Gamma' \) continues to increase (lower panel). As \( \Gamma' \) increases, the second stable fixed point of the conservative problem moves closer to the origin and the system eccentricity decreases to zero. This then causes the period ratio to shift to be narrow of the resonance since \( \Gamma' \) relates the eccentricity \( \sigma \) and the period ratio.

3.2. Long-term Evolution

In Figure 7, we show the evolution of the period ratio and eccentricity \( \sigma \) of two “restricted-like” systems. On the left side, the two plots show the results when the inner planet is effectively a test particle with a mass \( 10^{-8} \) the mass of the star,
while the outer planet is $10^{-5}$ the mass of the star. We choose the migration rate and eccentricity damping of the outer planet to be very long compared with all other physical timescales. The migration timescale of the inner “test particle” outward is approximately $10^6$ times the orbital period of the test particle and the eccentricity damping timescale is chosen to be $100 \times$ smaller (again corresponding to Type I migration in a thin disk with $h \approx 0.1$). Both bodies begin with circular orbits outside the 2:1 resonance. In this case, the criterion for whether or not the instability can set in at the 2:1 resonance is given by $m_2/M_1 \lesssim 5 \times 10^{-4}$, which is easily satisfied (regardless of whether we use the compact approximation or the exact form). Indeed, we see this single trajectory undergoing capture and then subsequent escape for many resonances. The dotted colored lines show the predictions for the equilibrium eccentricity of the test particle for each resonance (without making the approximation that $R \approx 1$ or $k \approx k + 1$).

In the right set of panels, we show the results of integrations of a series of systems where the outer planet is treated as a test particle. In this case, we reversed everything exactly compared with the left set of panels. The outer “test particle” has a mass of $10^{-3}$ the mass of the star, while the inner planet is $10^{-5}$ the mass of the star. The migration and damping rate for the inner planet is very long compared with all other physical timescales. The migration timescale of the outer test particle is again approximately $10^6$ times the orbital period of the test particle and the eccentricity damping timescale is chosen to be $100 \times$ smaller.

In the upper right plot, the red curve shows the result when both bodies begin with circular orbits outside the 2:1 resonance, the other colors show the evolution when began just outside of other first order mean motion resonances as labeled. For each, the system is captured into resonance and does not escape. That is, the libration amplitude does not grow with time, suggesting that these are in fact stable configurations. If we took the results for the inner test particle case and applied them here, we would expect these systems to easily be unstable as well since $m_1/M_* < 5 \times 10^{-4}$. Moreover, if the outer test particle case was analogous to the inner test particle case, the timescale for escape would be much shorter than our integration time, as it was in the case when the inner planet was a test particle. This increases our confidence that we have integrated these systems long enough to show that they are stable (i.e., that the instability time is not significantly longer than the integration time, giving the illusion of stability), and that there truly is a difference between whether the inner planet is a test particle or the outer planet is a test particle.

We now turn to some tests of the criterion for comparable mass planets. We set $\tau_{a,2}/P_1 \approx 10^6$, $\tau_{a,1} = 5\tau_{a,2}$, and $\tau_{a,2} = \tau_{a,2}/100$. We then varied $\tau_{a,1}$ and the ratio of $\zeta = m_1/m_2$. In Figure 8, we show on a panel of $\tau_{a,1}/\tau_{a,2}$ and $m_1/m_2$ where instability can occur for these parameters. The points on this plot correspond to systems we studied migrating convergently beginning from just outside the 3:2 resonance. We show the evolution of the three systems with a fixed mass ratio $\zeta = 10^{-0.5}$ (marked with filled circles in Figure 8) in
Figure 8. Critical curve (black; from Equation (15)) showing where growing amplitude librations of the 3:2 resonance can occur for a system of two planets of total mass $e_p = 1.31 \times 10^{-5}$. The evolution of the three systems shown with constant $\zeta$ (filled circles) is shown in Figure 9, while the evolution of the four systems shown with constant $\tau_{e1}/\tau_{e2}$ (open circles) is shown in Figure 10. The color of the points corresponds to the color of the trajectories in Figures 9 and 10.

Figure 9. Evolution of three systems with $e_p = 1.31 \times 10^{-5}$, $\zeta = 10^{-0.5}$, $\tau_{e2}/P_1 \sim 10^4$, $\tau_{e1} = 5\tau_{e2}$, and $\tau_{e2} = \tau_{e2}/100$. These trajectories, and their color, correspond to the three filled dots shown at constant $\zeta$ in Figure 8. At this mass ratio, as predicted, only systems with $\tau_{e1} \gtrsim 10^{-0.5}\tau_{e2} = 0.15\tau_{e2}$ undergo growing amplitude librations.

Figure 10. Evolution of four systems with $e_p = 1.31 \times 10^{-5}$, $\tau_{e2}/P_1 \sim 10^6$, $\tau_{e1} = 5\tau_{e2}$, $\tau_{e2} = \tau_{e2}/100$, and $\tau_{e1} = \tau_{e2}$. These trajectories, and their color, correspond to the four open circles shown at constant $\tau_{e1}/\tau_{e2}$ in Figure 8. At this ratio, as predicted, only systems with $m_1 \lesssim m_2$ undergo growing amplitude librations. (note that the red curve lies below the blue curve in terms of period ratio evolution in the upper panel; the two are distinct in the lower plot showing equilibrium eccentricity, however).

Figure 9. As predicted, the two systems with larger values of $\tau_{e1}/\tau_{e2}$ (those in red and blue) undergo instability and escape from resonance on a timescale short compared to the integration time, while the system with the smallest value of $\tau_{e1}/\tau_{e2}$ (in black) remains in resonance. Note that all of these systems have a value of $\tau_{ae} > 0$.

In Figure 10, we show the evolution of four systems marked in Figure 8 with open circles with $\tau_{e1} = \tau_{e2}$ but varying mass ratio. In this case, systems with $\zeta \gtrsim 1$ should be stable against librations of growing amplitude because the quantity $\tau_{ae}$ is negative. This is indeed what is observed. If $\zeta \lesssim 1$, the orbits may be unstable, but only if the total mass of the planets is low enough. For the orbits shown in purple and black, that requirement is satisfied, as shown in Figure 8 (the open circles in purple and black lie below the solid black curve), and these orbits do escape from resonance.

4. DISCUSSION

4.1. Timescales for Escape

The timescale on which the pair of planets escapes from resonance after reaching an equilibrium eccentricity larger than the critical value is an important quantity because when compared with the migration time $\tau_m$, it will determine what fraction of the time any given pair is found in a resonance vs. migrating between them. The evolution shown in Figures 7, 9, and 10 indicate that the systems which do escape from resonance typically spend the majority of their time trapped in resonances with slowly growing oscillation amplitudes rather than in between them. Similar behavior was also found in the numerical simulations of Xiang-Gruess & Papaloizou (2015) and of Delisle et al. (2015).

The real (positive) part of the eigenvalue $\alpha_1$ gives the rate at which orbits spiral away from the fixed point when the orbits are near the fixed point (as it is a local stability analysis). Since the real part of the eigenvalue $\alpha_1$ passes from negative to positive on the critical curve $e_c = e_{p,\text{crit}}$, the instability time, given by the inverse of the eigenvalue, is very long near the critical curve. The instability time is not the same order of magnitude as $\tau_e$ because the eigenvalue is proportional to $1/\tau_e$ and the difference of comparable quantities (unless the system satisfies $e_p \ll e_{p,\text{crit}}$ or vice versa). On the other hand, the timescale associated with the negative eigenvalue $\alpha_0$, which is also proportional to $1/\tau_e$, is much shorter than timescale associated with the positive eigenvalue $\alpha_1$ since it does not have this dependence on a difference between like quantities. In fact, temporary capture necessitates that the instability timescale be much longer than $1/|\alpha_0|$. If the two timescales
were comparable, the system would not even be captured into resonance in the first place. This implies that escape from resonance must occur on timescales significantly longer than \( \tau_e \) in general.

To illustrate these points, we show in Figure 11 the timescales \( \tau_e, \alpha_1^{-1} \), and \( |\alpha_0|^{-1} \), in units of \( \tau_e \), for the 3:2 resonance for a range of \( \tau_{e,1}/\tau_{e,2} \). The inner orbital period is \( \approx 10^3 \) days. All parameter values correspond to those of Figure 8 except \( \zeta \) is fixed at \( 10^{-0.5} \). One can see that \( \alpha_1^{-1} \) (shown only when positive) diverges when the critical curve is reached at \( \log(\tau_{e,1}/\tau_{e,2}) \approx -0.8 \) and at \( \log(\tau_{e,1}/\tau_{e,2}) \approx 0.9 \) as in Figure 8. Moreover, across the entire range, \( \tau_e \) is comparable to \( |\alpha_0|^{-1} \) and at least an order of magnitude smaller than \( \alpha_1^{-1} \). The numerical simulations show that the pairs spend most of their time in resonance, which suggests that approximately 5–10 instability times are required for escape (the former implies roughly \( \tau_{\text{escape}} \sim \tau_e \) and Figure 11 indicates that \( \tau_e \sim 10\alpha_1^{-1} \), and therefore \( \tau_{\text{escape}} \sim 10\alpha_1^{-1} \).

4.2. Planet Pairs Discovered with Kepler

According to Goldreich & Schlichting (2014), this instability of first order resonances could account for the observed period ratio distribution because (1) the typical masses of the Kepler planets are small enough, given the estimated ratio of migration and eccentricity damping rates expected from Type I migration, that the first order resonances are unstable and any capture was only temporary, and (2) the time spent in resonance was small compared to the time spent in between resonances, such that when planet–disk interactions stopped, most pairs were left in between resonances. At the same time, this theory is consistent with giant planets being found in resonance (Wright et al. 2011), since in that case the total mass of the planets is too large compared to the critical value for instability.

In the more general case of two massive planets, we have shown that the libration amplitude can grow only in specific cases. First, the resonance is stable if the quantity \( \tau_{a,e} \) is negative, regardless of the total mass of the planets or the ratio of eccentricity damping to semimajor axis damping, that is, the resonance is stable if

\[
\frac{\tau_{e,2}}{\tau_{e,1}} < \frac{m_1^2}{m_2^2} \epsilon_{\text{res}} / R^2,
\]

where \( R \) and \( \epsilon_{\text{res}} \) are of order unity. If we employ the “compact approximation” and the scaling that \( \tau_p \propto \frac{1}{a_p^2} \), where \( p \) stands for planet and \( \tau \) a damping timescale due to interaction with the disk (e.g., Goldreich & Tremaine 1980; Tanaka et al. 2002), we find that resonances are nominally stable—and capture permanent—if

\[
m_2 \lesssim m_1.
\]

Note that for the 2:1 resonance there is considerably more leeway in this mass criterion, since the compact approximation does not apply as well, so that the pre-factor on the right-hand side of Equation (22) evaluates to \( \approx 1/12 \). (For comparison, at the 3:2 resonance it is \( 1/0.85 \)). This implies that if \( \tau_p \propto \frac{1}{m_p} \), the 2:1 resonance is stable for

\[
m_2 \lesssim m_1/12,
\]

regardless of the total mass of the planets. The 2:1 resonance therefore is more susceptible to escape from resonance for comparable mass planets compared with the other first order resonances.

If the system does fail Equation (22), we find a similar result to that of Goldreich & Schlichting (2014). That is, the system can escape from resonance via this mechanism only if the total mass of the planets is small compared to a critical value. The critical value depends on the ratio of \( \tau_{e,1}/\tau_e, \zeta \) and the relative eccentricity damping times. For \( \tau_e/\tau_e \sim 1/100 \), as expected for Type I migration in a thin disk, low mass planet pairs like those found by Kepler will be liable to escape from resonance. In particular, the lack of pairs caught in the 2:1 mean motion resonance can be explained through this instability assuming the total mass of the planets is small enough and that \( m_2 \lesssim m_1/12 \). However, unless the inner planet is less massive than the outer planet, capture into all other first order resonances is predicted to be permanent.

More importantly, even for pairs with growing amplitude librations, the cumulative time that the pair spends in any resonance is much longer than that spent in between resonances. Therefore the average period ratio distribution of a population of pairs undergoing convergent migration will be peaked near resonances, since all pairs will either (1) be too massive to undergo instability or not satisfy the mass ratio \( \zeta \) requirement \( (m_1 \lesssim m_2) \), and therefore be captured permanently into resonance or (2) satisfy the total mass and mass ratio requirement for instability but spend most of their time in a resonance regardless. Temporary capture, induced by growing amplitude oscillations about the resonant fixed point, cannot explain the period ratio distribution singlehandedly.

One possible resolution to this issue could be large-scale orbital instability. If any pair in a system satisfies the

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**Figure 11.** Relevant timescales to the problem of dissipative evolution near the 3:2 mean motion resonance. Here we show \( \tau_e \) (Equation (9)) and the two timescales associated with the real eigenvalues (Equation (57)) determined by a linear stability analysis near the fixed point in units of \( \tau_e \) (Equation (7)). The eigen-timescale \( \alpha_1^{-1} \) is only shown when \( \alpha_1 > 0 \) and the fixed point is ultimately unstable. The relevant parameters used are given in the text.
requirements for linear instability of the fixed point (Equation (15)), that pair will undergo successive repetitions of the following sequence: capture into resonance, followed by the growth of libration amplitude and escape from resonance. This would lead a gradual compactification of the orbits—and could explain the presence of some very close pairs of planets, like Kepler-36 (Carter et al. 2012) (which indeed has a less massive inner planet). At some point, if this process continues, the pair will be close enough that when they escape the current resonance, at the equilibrium eccentricity of the resonance, they are in the chaotic region corresponding to overlap of resonances (e.g., Wisdom 1980; Deck et al. 2013). If the timescale to develop crossing orbits in this chaotic region is short enough, these planets will scatter or collide with each other. If they do not collide, and merely scatter, they will begin to undergo the entire process again, as long as the disk is present.

When the disk finally dissipates, the planetary system may be left in a precarious position, with compact pairs of planets in resonance with nonzero eccentricities of several percent (corresponding to the equilibria at the center of resonance). Pairs that were undergoing libration amplitude growth due to instability will have nonzero libration amplitudes. These configurations may have lifetimes short compared with the ages of the systems, in which case many of them will undergo orbital instability, leading to wider distribution of period ratios and pairs not near resonance, in correspondence with the period ratio distribution. This would also explain why there is a decrease in the number of very compact pairs as well, since those orbits would be most unstable (see also Pu & Wu 2015). Numerical integrations could test this instability hypothesis.

4.3. Effects of External Sources of Precession

The analysis we have undertaken applies when the motion of the planets is governed by the Hamiltonian given in Equation (1) and the dissipation prescription of Equations (5). This formulation neglects apsidal regression of the pericenters induced by the gravitational potential of the disk (Heppenheimer 1980; Tamayo et al. 2015) and precession of the pericenters directly caused by the density waves excited by the planet in the disk (Tanaka & Ward 2004). If these “forced” precession rates differ between the two planets, the conservative Hamiltonian is no longer integrable (El Moutamid et al. 2014). Instead, both resonant angles \( \theta_1 = \theta - \omega_1 \) and \( \theta_2 = \theta - \omega_2 \) are independent. The resonant centers, where \( \theta_1 \) and \( \theta_2 \) have zero time derivative, are separated by an amount of \( \omega_2 - \omega_1 \). This splitting changes the period ratio, which corresponds to the resonance as

\[
P_2/P_1 = (k + 1)/k - \omega_1 P_2/(2\pi k).
\]

Although a study of the effect of these external precession rates is beyond the scope of this paper, we can provide some general hypotheses as to how they might affect our results. First, in the limit of \( \alpha = a_1/a_2 \rightarrow 1 \), the precession rates caused by the gravitational potential of the disk—which are independent of the planet masses but depend on the semimajor axis of the planets—will be approximately equal. If these dominate the external precession rates, there will be no splitting between the resonant angles \( \theta_1 \) and \( \theta_2 \), and the integrable analysis should still apply.

Second, if the precession rates cause a large enough splitting between the two resonances and they do not perturb each other too strongly, they can be treated individually. In this case, the motion would still be integrable near each resonance. If, for example, the system was near the resonance associated with \( \theta_1 \), we could average the Hamiltonian over the angle \( \theta_2 \), and we would be left with something akin to the CR3BP for an inner test particle. In the opposite case, we would be left with a problem akin to the CR3BP for an outer test particle. As demonstrated by Goldreich & Schlichting (2014), the CR3BP with an inner test particle is susceptible to growing amplitude oscillations, and as shown here, the opposite is not.

As the system evolves, the period ratio will approach the value \((k + 1)/k\) from a larger value. The system will first encounter one of the resonances (which it encounters first depends on the precession rates). If the migration rate is slow enough and the eccentricities low enough, the system will be captured. If this first resonance is the \( \theta_2 \) one, the system will be trapped permanently. However, if the system first encounters the \( \theta_1 \) resonance, the capture may be temporary if the system satisfies the criterion on \( \epsilon_\pi \). The system could then escape the resonance—but it would then encounter the \( \theta_2 \) resonance. Any capture again would likely be permanent.

If the splitting between the two resonances is not large enough to treat them individually, the motion may be chaotic, due to overlap of resonances (El Moutamid et al. 2014). In this instance the probability of capture and of escape might be best assessed through numerical experiments.

5. CONCLUSION

In order to understand the observed sample of exoplanets, we need a better understanding of how various physical processes shape planetary systems after formation. We have built upon the work of Goldreich & Schlichting (2014) to account for the effects of eccentricity dependent semimajor axis evolution for a system of two massive planets with mildly eccentric orbits \((e \sim 0.1)\) undergoing convergent migration near a first order mean motion resonance.

We have shown that in the full problem resonances are in general more stable against escape from resonance compared with the restricted case considered by Goldreich & Schlichting (2014). In particular, for first order resonances other than the 2:1 resonance, if \( \tau_{\epsilon,2}/\tau_{\epsilon,1} \sim \tilde{m}_1^2/\tilde{m}_2^2 \), resonance capture is permanent (sans other disruptive effects like turbulence, which we did not model), regardless of the total mass of the planets. If the timescale for damping is inversely proportional to the mass of the planet, then this criterion states that the resonances are stable if \( \tilde{m}_2 \lesssim \tilde{m}_1 \). For the 2:1 resonance, however, the same is true only if the inner planet is significantly \((\sim 12 \times)\) more massive than the outer.

Now, if the relative eccentricity damping rates and the mass ratio between the planets do satisfy the criterion \( \tau_{\epsilon,2}/\tau_{\epsilon,1} \sim \tilde{m}_1^2/\tilde{m}_2^2 \), we find a result very similar to that found in the restricted case: resonances are unstable if the total mass of the planets is smaller than a critical value dependent on the generalized \( \tau_\epsilon \) and \( \tau_\epsilon \) defined above. This is generally consistent with the fact that pairs of more massive gas giants have been found in resonance (e.g., Wright et al. 2011).

We have also demonstrated that in the case where the resonances are unstable the timescale to escape from resonance is not simply proportional to \( \tau_\epsilon \). Instead, the instability timescale is much longer than \( \tau_\epsilon \), and furthermore \( \sim 5-10 \) instability times are required for escape. Because of this, a pair
of planets exhibiting unstable growth of libration amplitude spends the majority of time in a resonance rather than in migrating between them.

It is important to determine if the lack of period commensurabilities within the Kepler data is evidence that convergent migration did not occur. This paper has attempted to address whether the mechanism proposed by Goldreich & Schlichting (2014) can explain the lack of near resonant pairs within the context of orbital migration. Testing predictions about which Kepler pairs could have escaped from resonance based on their mass ratio is difficult since the Kepler planets do not typically have measured masses, and the radius ratio may not be a reliable proxy (Weiss & Marcy 2014). However, based on the timescale argument, even if the majority of pairs did satisfy the criterion for instability, the lack of near resonant pairs within the Kepler period ratio distribution is not due to pairs simply spending more time between resonances than trapped in them, so that when the gas disk dissipated more pairs were left between resonances than near them. From this we conclude that intrinsic instability of the resonance, which is important for some pairs, cannot single-handedly account for the lack of pairs near resonance.

We have argued that regardless of whether planets form in situ or at larger orbital distances, they likely interacted with a gaseous disk, the presence of which may be required to explain the volatile rich nature of the exoplanets larger than 1.6R⊕. In this case, then, a loss of orbital energy and some exchange of angular momentum with the disk is unavoidable, and therefore migration must be brought into agreement with the lack of near resonant pairs. An interesting idea left for further investigation is that the effects of higher multiplicity systems and of true resonant pairs. An interesting idea left for further investigation is that the effects of higher multiplicity systems and of true orbital instability could account for the period ratio distribution in combination with intrinsic instability of the resonant fixed point.

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APPENDIX A

A.1. Setup of the Integrable Problem

We consider a system of two planets of mass $m_1$ and $m_2$ orbiting a star of mass $M_*$ with periods near the $kk+1$ first order mean motion resonance. We assume the orbits are nearly circular and nearly coplanar, and at this stage we ignore external sources of pericenter precession which arise from the gravitational potential of the protoplanetary disk as well as from direct interactions with the disk. By nearly circular and nearly coplanar we mean that we neglect all terms quadratic in $e$ or $i$, and we also assume we can ignore terms of order $(m_1/M_*)^2$. In this configuration, the Hamiltonian can be reduced to a one-degree of freedom system with a single free parameter (Sessin & Ferraz-Mello 1984). This is because after expanding the Hamiltonian about the resonance center there is a series of canonical transformations which reduce the number of degrees of freedom from 4 to 1 (Henrard et al. 1986; Wisdom 1986).

Before presenting that simplified Hamiltonian, we motivate it as follows. As given in Equation (1), the Hamiltonian near the $kk+1$ resonance takes the following form:

$$H = -\frac{G M_* m_1}{2a_1} - \frac{G m_* m_2}{2a_2} - \frac{G m_2 m_2}{a_2} \times \left[ f_{k+1,27}(\alpha_{\text{res}}) e_1 \cos \theta - \varpi_1 \right] + \left[ f_{k+1,31}(\alpha_{\text{res}}) - \delta_{k,1} e_2 \cos \theta - \varpi_2 \right], \quad (25)$$

where $\theta = (k+1)\lambda - k\lambda_1$ and $a_i$, $e_i$, $\lambda_i$ and $\varpi_i$ are the semimajor axes, eccentricities, mean longitudes, and longitudes of periastron of the two planets, again derived from the Cartesian velocities and positions in Jacobi coordinates. The quantities $f_{j,27}$ and $f_{j,31}$ are (Murray & Dermott 1999)

$$f_{j,27}(\alpha) = \frac{1}{2} \left( -2 - j - \frac{\alpha d}{d\alpha} \right) A_j(\alpha)$$

$$f_{j,31}(\alpha) = \frac{1}{2} \left( -1 + 2j + \frac{\alpha d}{d\alpha} \right) A_{j-1}(\alpha)$$

$$A_j(\alpha) = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{\cos(j\phi)}{\sqrt{1 - 2\alpha \cos \phi + \alpha^2}} d\phi. \quad (26)$$

After expansion about the resonance center, these coefficients are evaluated at $\alpha = a_1/a_2 = \alpha_{\text{res}}$, where $\alpha_{\text{res}} = [k/(k+1)]^{2/3}$. Treated as functions of $k$, these coefficients are well approximated as

$$f_{k+1,27} \approx -0.8k$$

$$f_{k+1,31} \approx 0.8k, \quad (27)$$

as shown by Quillen (2011) (and easily confirmed numerically).

The osculating elements are not canonical. Instead we use the following as our variables:

$$\Lambda_i = m_1 \sqrt{Gm_* a_i}$$

$$\lambda_i = \Omega_i + \omega_i + M_i$$

$$P_i = m_1 \sqrt{Gm_* a_i} \left( 1 - \sqrt{1 - e_i^2} \right) \approx \frac{\Lambda_i e_i^2}{2}$$

$$p_i = -\varpi_i = -\Omega_i - \omega_i. \quad (28)$$

At first order in the inclinations $I_i$, the Hamiltonian is independent of $\Omega$, the longitude of ascending node, and $I$. This implies that the inclinations need to be large enough for $I^2$ terms to be important for non-coplanarity to have an effect on the orbits. Therefore, the nearly coplanar regime is also well described by our formulation even though inclinations do not appear in the Hamiltonian.
Instead of the polar set \((P, p)\), we use the Cartesian one defined as

\[
\begin{align*}
    x_i &= \sqrt{2P_i} \cos p_i, \\
    y_i &= \sqrt{2P_i} \sin p_i, \\
\end{align*}
\]  

(29)

which is more appropriate in the limit of low eccentricities. Then the perturbation Hamiltonian \(H_1\) can be written as

\[
H_1 \propto \frac{1}{\Lambda_2^2} \times \left[ \left( \frac{f_{k+1,27} (\alpha_{res}) x_1 + f'_{k+1,31} (\alpha_{res}) x_2}{\sqrt{\Lambda_1}} \right) \cos \theta \right. \\
&\quad \left. - \left( \frac{f_{k+1,27} (\alpha_{res}) y_1 + f'_{k+1,31} (\alpha_{res}) y_2}{\sqrt{\Lambda_2}} \right) \sin \theta \right],
\]

(30)

where for simplicity \(f'_{k+1,31} (\alpha_{res}) = [f_{k+1,31} (\alpha_{res}) - \delta_{k,1} 2\alpha_{res}]\). Moreover, after expanding about the resonance center, all \(\Lambda_i\) are held fixed at their resonant values \(\Lambda_i_{res}\). As messy as this looks, then, the coefficients of the \(\cos \theta\) and \(\sin \theta\) terms are simply linear combinations of \(x_i\) and \(y_i\). With an appropriate normalization, these combinations are a canonical rotation of the original Cartesian eccentricity variables. In fact, the coefficient of the \(\cos \theta\) term is a canonical momentum to a coordinate equal to the coefficient of the \(\sin \theta\) term. This is the key—this rotation takes the 2 degrees of freedom associated with the eccentricity of each planet and reduces it to one degree of freedom (the conserved quantity generated here is \(\psi_2\) and defined below).

Furthermore, since each \(\lambda_i\) only appears as the combination \(\lambda\), there is a further reduction in the number of degrees of freedom and an associated conserved quantity which we refer to as \(\Theta_1\). The action associated with \(\theta\) is denoted as \(\Theta\), and,

\[
\begin{align*}
    \Theta_1 &= \frac{k}{k + 1} \Lambda_2 + \Lambda_1, \\
    \Theta &= \Lambda_2 / (k + 1),
\end{align*}
\]

(31)

(see, e.g., Deck et al. 2013 for details of these canonical transformations). We then choose units, such that actions are measured in terms of \(\Theta_1\), the Hamiltonian in terms of \(\Theta_1/n_{\Theta_1}\), where

\[
n_{\Theta_1} = \frac{n_2}{(k + 1) + \zeta \sqrt{\alpha_{res}}}.
\]

(32)

and such that time is measured in units of \(1/n_{\Theta_1}\). That implies that derivatives of the Hamiltonian, which result in equations of motion for the variables, are time derivatives with respect to the unitless time \(\dot{t} = m_{\Theta_1}\). Hats will denote this set of variables.

We define

\[
\begin{align*}
    \dot{x}_i &= x_i / \sqrt{\Theta_1}, \\
    \dot{y}_i &= y_i / \sqrt{\Theta_1}, \\
    \dot{\theta}_1 &= \frac{1}{\Lambda_2 \omega_{res}} f_{k+1,27}, \\
    \dot{\theta}_2 &= \frac{1}{\Lambda_2 \omega_{res}} f'_{k+1,31}, \\
    \delta &= \delta_1 + \delta_2, \\
    r_1 &= \frac{\delta \dot{\theta}_1 + \delta_2 \dot{\theta}_2}{\delta}, \\
    s_1 &= \frac{\delta \dot{\theta}_1 + \delta_2 \dot{\theta}_2}{\delta}, \\
    \Phi &= \frac{1}{2} (r_1^2 + s_1^2), \\
\end{align*}
\]

(33)

where coefficients of the rotation alluded to above can be read off the Hamiltonian and are given by \(\dot{\theta}_1\) and \(\dot{\theta}_2\). The rotated combinations are \(r_1\) ("momentum") and \(s_1\) ("position"). The momentum \(\Phi\) and angle \(\psi\) reflect a polar canonical transformation of the Cartesian variables \(r_1\) and \(s_1\). \(\Phi\) is related to the eccentricity as

\[
\begin{align*}
    \Phi &= \frac{k + 1}{k} \alpha_{res} + \zeta \sqrt{\alpha_{res}} \sigma^2 + \frac{\zeta \sqrt{\alpha_{res}}}{2 \alpha_{res} + \sigma^2}, \\
    \sigma^2 &= \left( R^2 e_1^2 + e_2^2 - 2 Re_1 e_2 \cos \Delta \varphi \right), \\
    \zeta &= m_1 / m_2, \\
    R &= \left[ f_{k+1,27}(\alpha_{res}) \right] / f'_{k+1,31}(\alpha_{res}).
\end{align*}
\]

(34)

After the rotation and change to the polar variables \(\Phi\) and \(\psi\) has been performed, only a single combination of the remaining angles \(\psi\) and \(\theta\) appears in the Hamiltonian. A final canonical transformation to this angle and a its canonical action (equal to \(\Phi\)) is performed. The last canonical transformation yields a single degree of freedom Hamiltonian of the form

\[
\dot{H} = \frac{1}{2} \beta (\Phi - \Gamma)^2 - \epsilon_1 \delta \sqrt{2\Phi} \cos \phi,
\]

(35)

where

\[
\begin{align*}
    \phi &= \theta + \psi, \\
    \beta &= -3 \kappa (\alpha_{res} + \zeta)^6, \\
    \epsilon_1 &= \frac{m_1}{M}, \\
    \Gamma &= \Phi - \delta \Theta, \\
    \delta \Theta &= \dot{\Theta} - \dot{\Theta}, \\
    \dot{\Theta} &= \frac{\alpha_{res}}{k (\alpha_{res} + \zeta)}.
\end{align*}
\]

(36)
(Note that in the Deck et al. 2013 paper, the following Hamiltonian is defined as $K$ and given in Equation (26). The quantity $\Gamma$ is conserved (it is the conserved quantity found after realizing that only the combination $\theta + \psi$ appears, and not each individually; refer to, e.g., Deck et al. 2013). When $\delta \theta = 0$, or $\Theta = \Theta$, the system is at the exact period commensurability and $\alpha = \alpha_{\text{res}}$. Finally, we turn now to the conserved quantity denoted $\Psi_2$, found after performing the rotation. It can be written in terms of the Poincare variables as

$$\Psi_2 = \frac{1}{2} \left( r_2^2 + s_2^2 \right)$$

$$r_2 = \frac{\delta x_1 - \delta x_2}{\delta}$$

$$s_2 = \frac{\delta y_1 - \delta y_2}{\delta}$$

$$\tan \psi_2 = \frac{s_2}{r_2}.$$  

(37)

$\Psi_2$ is conserved because the angle $\psi_2$ does not appear in the original Hamiltonian. Note that if we wish to extend this analysis to second order in the eccentricities of the planets, the angle $\psi_2$ appears in the Hamiltonian and $\Psi_2$ is no longer conserved. These new “eccentricity” vector components $(r, s)$ are obtained from a linear transformation of the original $(x_1, y_1)$, and $\Phi + \Psi_2 = (P_1 + P_2)/\Theta$, since the transformation is a rotation that preserves length.

At this stage (Hamiltonian (35)), our variables are the momentum (action) $\Phi$ and the conjugate angle $\phi$. One final rescaling is performed to put the Hamiltonian into the form given in Equation (2). Primes will refer to scaled quantities. We divide actions by the unitless quantity $Q$. We rescale the Hamiltonian and time $t$ using a second parameter $a$, as $H' = \hat{H}/a$ and $t' = ta/Q$. Choosing $a = Q^2 |\beta|$, and $Q = (c_1 \delta / |\beta|) \beta^{3/2}$ leaves us with a single free parameter ($\Gamma'$). The parameter $Q$ is

$$Q = \epsilon_p^{2/3} \xi \left( \frac{f_{k=1,3}^2}{9(k+1)(1+\zeta)^2} \right)^{1/3} \frac{\alpha_{\text{res}}^{5/6}}{k} \left( \frac{\dot{R}^2 + \zeta \sqrt{\alpha_{\text{res}}}}{\alpha_{\text{res}} + \zeta} \right)^{1/3},$$  

(38)

where we have changed from $\epsilon_1$ to the total mass of the planets $\epsilon_p = \epsilon_1 + \epsilon_2$

The final Hamiltonian is

$$H' = \frac{1}{2} (\Phi' - \Gamma')^2 - \sqrt{2\Phi'} \cos \phi,$$  

(39)

where the “time” derivatives of the variables $\Phi'$ and $\phi$ are with respect to $t' = m_{\Theta_i} Q |\beta|$. The time derivative of the Hamiltonian is governed by the equations

$$\frac{d\Phi'}{dt'} = - \frac{\partial H'}{\partial \phi} = - \sqrt{2\Phi'} \sin \phi$$

$$\frac{d\phi}{dt'} = \frac{\partial H'}{\partial \Phi'} = - \left( \Phi' - \Gamma' \right) - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\Phi'}} \cos \phi$$

$$\frac{d\Gamma'}{dt'} = 0,$$  

(40)

where $\Gamma'$ indicates the conservative evolution.

A.2. Non-conservative Forces

We now add to the conservative system the effects of eccentricity damping and migration. We parameterize these effects as

$$\frac{1}{e_i} \frac{d e_i}{dt'} = - \frac{1}{Q |\beta| n_{\Theta_i}} \frac{1}{\tau_{e_i}}$$

$$\frac{1}{a_i} \frac{d a_i}{dt'} = - \frac{1}{Q |\beta| n_{\Theta_i}} \left( - \frac{2p e_i^2}{\tau_{e_i}} - \frac{1}{\tau_{a_i}} \right).$$  

(41)

We now convert these time variations in semimajor axis and eccentricity into time variations of $\Phi'$ and $\Gamma'$. First,

$$\frac{1}{\Lambda_i} \frac{d\Lambda_i}{dt'} = - \frac{1}{2a_i} \frac{da_i}{dt'} = - \frac{1}{Q |\beta| n_{\Theta_i}} \left( \frac{pe_i^2}{\tau_{e_i}} + \frac{1}{2\tau_{a_i}} \right)$$

$$\frac{1}{P_i} \frac{dP_i}{dt'} = \frac{1}{\Lambda_i} \frac{d\Lambda_i}{dt'} + 2 \frac{1}{e_i} \frac{d e_i}{dt'}$$

$$= - \frac{1}{Q |\beta| n_{\Theta_i}} \left( \frac{pe_i^2 + 2}{\tau_{e_i}} + \frac{1}{2\tau_{a_i}} \right).$$  

(42)

At this point, we make the assumption that $\Psi_2 = 0$ and remains zero during the evolution of the system around and in resonance. This greatly simplifies the equations for $\Phi'$ and $\phi$ as we will show immediately below. That $\Psi_2$ is small when the resonance is encountered is consistent with the fact that the orbits are undergoing eccentricity damping and therefore have nearly circular orbits prior to resonance encounter. As long as the eccentricities remain low, the motion is well described by the Hamiltonian at $O(e^2)$ used here, which is independent of $\psi_2$, and which therefore conserves $\Psi_2 = 0$. However, if the eccentricities grow too large as the system evolves in the resonance (since capture into resonance excites eccentricities), the $O(e^2)$ terms in the Hamiltonian will become important, and $\Psi_2$ will no longer be conserved at zero. We will discuss when our assumption of $\Psi_2 = 0 \forall t$ breaks down in Section A.6.. Now, $\Phi + \Psi_2 = (P_1 + P_2)/\Theta_1$, and (1) $\Psi_2 \approx 0$, and (2) it remains so (i.e., the time derivative is small). Therefore, we can write $\Phi = (P_1 + P_2)/\Theta_1$ such that

$$\frac{d\Phi'}{dt'} \bigg|_{\text{dis}} \approx \frac{1}{\Theta_1 Q} \left( \frac{dP_1 + dP_2}{dt'} - \Phi \frac{d\Theta_1}{dt'} \right)$$

$$+ \frac{1}{Q^2 |\beta| n_{\Theta_i}} \left( \frac{P_1}{\Theta_1} \left( - \frac{pe_i^2}{\tau_{e_i}} - \frac{2}{\tau_{a_i}} \right) 
+ \frac{P_2}{\Theta_1} \left( \frac{-2pe_i^2}{\tau_{e_i}} - \frac{1}{\tau_{a_i}} \right) 
+ \frac{\Phi}{\Theta_1} \left( \frac{-2pe_i^2}{\tau_{e_i}} - \frac{1}{\tau_{a_i}} \right) \right).$$  

(43)
Moreover, $\Psi_2 = 0$ implies that $\delta_2^2 P_1 = \delta_1^2 P_2$, and therefore from $P = (P_1 + P_2)/\Theta_1$ and $P_1 = \Lambda_1 e_{1}^2/2$ we can write

$$P_1 = \left(\frac{\delta_1}{\delta_2}\right)^2 \frac{\Phi}{1 + \left(\frac{\delta_1}{\delta_2}\right)^2} = \gamma_1 Q \Phi'$$

$$P_2 = \frac{\Phi}{1 + \left(\frac{\delta_1}{\delta_2}\right)^2} = \gamma_2 Q \Phi'$$

$$e_1^2 = 2\eta_1 Q \gamma_1 \Phi'$$

$$e_2^2 = 2\eta_2 \gamma_2 Q \Phi'$$

$$\eta_1 = \frac{\Theta_1}{\Lambda_1} = \left(\frac{k}{k + 1} + \zeta/\alpha_{\text{res}}\right) + 1$$

$$\eta_2 = \frac{\Theta_2}{\Lambda_2} = \left(\frac{k}{k + 1} + \zeta/\alpha_{\text{res}}\right)$$

(44)

so the equation for the slow evolution of $\Phi'$ reduces to:

$$\frac{d\Phi'}{dt'} = \frac{Q^2}{\beta \eta_{\Theta_1}} \left(C_0 + C_1 \Phi'\right)$$

$$C_0 = -\gamma_1 \left(2\tau_{a_1} + 2\tau_{\epsilon_1}\right) + \frac{1}{2\eta_1 \tau_{a_1}}$$

$$- \gamma_2 \left(2\tau_{a_2} + 2\tau_{\epsilon_2}\right) + \frac{k/(k + 1)}{2\eta_2 \tau_{a_2}}$$

$$C_1 = 2pQ \left(\frac{\gamma_1(1 - \gamma_1 \eta_1)}{\tau_{a_1}} + \frac{\gamma_2(k/(k + 1) - \gamma_2 \eta_2)}{\tau_{a_2}}\right).$$

(45)

Provided $\Psi_2 = 0$, the angle $\phi = (k + 1)\lambda_2 - k\lambda_1 + \psi$ has no time evolution due to non-conservative forces. The mean longitudes are independent variables that are unaffected by the slow evolution of $a$ and $e$. However, the angle $\psi$ does depend on $a_i$ and $e_i$ explicitly, through its dependence on $\delta_i$ and $\tilde{\delta}_i$. First, $\Psi_2 = 0$ implies that $p_1 - p_2 = \pi$, $\tan \psi = \tan p_1$ and $\tan \psi = \tan(p_2 + \pi) = \tan p_2$ (recall $\tilde{\delta}$ is negative while $\delta$ is positive). From the definition $\psi = \arctan s_1/r_1$, we can derive

$$d(\tan \psi) = \frac{d(s_1)}{r_1} - \tan \psi \frac{d(r_1)}{r_1}$$

$$= \frac{\delta_1 d(y_1) + \delta_2 d(y_2)}{r_1}$$

$$= \frac{\delta_1}{r_1} \left(1 + \left(\frac{\delta_2}{\delta_1}\right)^2\right) \left(d(y_1) - \tan \psi d(x_1)\right).$$

(46)

but $d(y_1)/y_1 = d(x_1)/x_1$, so the quantity in parentheses is zero. Therefore the derivative of $\psi$ is zero as well:

$$d(y_1) - \tan \psi d(x_1) = d(y_1) \left(1 - \frac{\tan \psi}{\tan p_1}\right)$$

$$= d(y_1)(1 - 1) = 0.$$

(47)

Lastly, we turn to the evolution of the single parameter $\Gamma'$ appearing in the conservative Hamiltonian

$$\frac{d\Gamma'_{\text{dis}}}{dt'} = \frac{d}{dt'} \left(\Phi' - \delta \Theta'\right) = \frac{d\Phi'}{dt'} - \frac{1}{Q} \frac{d}{dt'} \left(\frac{1}{k + 1} \Lambda_2 - \frac{\tilde{\Theta}}{\Theta_1}\right)$$

$$= \frac{d\Phi'}{dt'} - \frac{1}{Q(k + 1)} \frac{d}{dt'} \left(\frac{\Lambda_2}{\Theta_1}\right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{Q \beta \eta_{\Theta_1}} \left(A_0 + (A_1 + C_0) \Phi' + C_1 \Phi'^2\right)$$

$$A_0 = -\frac{1}{2Q(k + 1)\eta_2} \left(\frac{k}{\eta_2 (k + 1)} - 1\right)$$

$$+ \frac{1}{\eta_1 \tau_{\epsilon_1}}$$

$$A_1 = -\frac{2p}{k + 1} \left[\frac{\gamma_1}{\tau_{a_1}} \left(\frac{k}{\eta_2 (k + 1)} - 1\right) + \frac{\gamma_2}{\eta_2 \tau_{\epsilon_2}}\right].$$

(48)

A.3. Fixed Point of the Non-conservative System

In total, the full equations of motion are the sum of the conservative and non-conservative pieces:

$$\frac{d\Phi'}{dt'} = -\sqrt{2\beta} \sin \phi + \frac{\Phi'}{Q \beta \eta_{\Theta_1}} \left(C_0 + C_1 \Phi'\right)$$

(49a)

$$\frac{d\phi}{dt'} = -(\Phi' - \Gamma') - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\beta}} \cos \phi$$

(49b)

$$\frac{d\Gamma'}{dt'} = \frac{1}{Q \beta \eta_{\Theta_1}} \left(A_0 + (A_1 + C_0) \Phi' + C_1 \Phi'^2\right).$$

(49c)

We note that $Q \propto \epsilon^{2/3}$ and therefore $C_1 \Phi'^2 \propto \epsilon^2/(\epsilon^{2/3} \tau_{\epsilon_2})$, $(C_0 + A_1) \Phi' \propto \epsilon^2/(\epsilon^{2/3} \tau_\epsilon)$, and $A_0 \propto 1/(K \epsilon^{2/3} \tau_\epsilon)$, where $K = \tau_{a_1}/\tau_{\epsilon_1}$. Therefore, we can neglect the $C_1$ term in Equation (49a) above provided that $\epsilon^2 \ll 1$, and as long as $1/K \ll \epsilon^4$, the $C_1$ term in Equation (49c) is also much smaller than the $A_0$ term. From here on, then, we ignore the $C_1$ contribution.

Setting all of these equations equal to zero allows us to solve for the equilibrium of the system. Equation (49c) implies the fixed point is given by

$$\Phi'_{\text{eq}} \approx -\frac{A_0}{A_1 + C_0}.$$

(50)

Since $\Phi' = \Phi/Q$, $\Phi_{\text{eq}} = -QA_0/(C_0 + A_1)$ which is independent of $Q$ since $A_0 \propto 1/Q$. This implies that the equilibrium eccentricities are independent of $\epsilon_1$. The total mass of the planets relative to the star. Very roughly, $C_0 + A_1 \propto 1/\tau_{\epsilon_1}$, since $\tau_\epsilon \ll \tau_{a_1}$, while $Q A_0 \propto 1/\tau_\epsilon$. Therefore, $\Phi \propto \epsilon_1^2 \propto \tau_\epsilon/\tau_{a_1} = 1/K$. This is consistent with dropping the $C_1$ term in Equations (49a) and (49c), which required that $\epsilon^2 \ll 1$ and $1/K \ll \epsilon^4$. A faster rate of eccentricity damping, relative to the migration, results in a larger $K$, and a smaller equilibrium eccentricity.
From Equation (49a), we can solve for \( \sin \phi_{eq} \):

\[
\sin \phi_{eq} \approx \frac{\sqrt{2\Gamma_{eq} - \frac{C_0}{2\gamma}} C_0}{2Q|\beta| n_{\theta_1}} - \frac{\epsilon_{eq}}{n_{\theta_1}\tau_0} - \frac{1}{\epsilon_{eq}} \frac{C_0}{n_{\theta_1}\tau_0} \tag{51}
\]

(note \( C_0 < 0 \)). Lastly, we need the equilibrium value \( \Gamma'_{eq} \). It is a good approximation that \( \cos \phi_{eq} = -1 \) because the deviation of \( \phi_{eq} \) from \( \pi \) is small for slow dissipation \( n_{\theta_1}\tau_0 \gg 1 \) in Equation (51), and the difference between \( \cos \phi_{eq} \) and \( -1 \) is quadratic in this deviation. In that case, Equation (49b) of yields

\[
\Gamma'_{eq} \approx \Phi'_{eq} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\Phi'_{eq}}} \tag{52}
\]

In the conservative problem, \( \phi_{eq} = \pi \). Equation (49b) does not contain dissipative terms, and therefore the relationship between \( \Gamma_{eq} \) and \( \Phi'_{eq} \) is approximately unchanged by the dissipation since \( \cos \phi_{eq} \) is approximately unchanged as well. That implies that the fixed point of the dissipative problem \( (\Phi'_{eq}, \Gamma'_{eq}) \) lies very close to the fixed point of the conservative problem \( (\phi_{eq} = \pi, \Phi'_{eq}) \), with a proximity parameter of \( \Gamma' = \Gamma'_{eq} \). This is the fixed point labeled \( x_1 \) in Figure 1.

Lastly, so as not to introduce extra parameters in the main text, we wrote the dissipative terms appearing in the equations for \( \Phi' \) and \( \Gamma' \) as

\[
\frac{d\Phi'}{dt'} = \frac{c_0}{\tau_e} \Phi', \quad \frac{d\Gamma'}{dt'} = \frac{a_0}{\tau_a} + \left[ \frac{c_0}{\tau_e} + \frac{p a_1}{\tau_{a,e}} \right] \Phi', \tag{53}
\]

where the parameter \( a_1 \) here has nothing to do with the semimajor axes. By comparison with Equations (49) one finds that

\[
c_0 = \frac{C_0\tau_e}{Q|\beta| n_{\theta_1}}, \quad a_0 = \frac{A_0\tau_a}{Q|\beta| n_{\theta_1}}, \quad a_1 = \frac{A_1\tau_{a,e}/p}{Q|\beta| n_{\theta_1}}, \tag{54}
\]

where we had anticipated that the \( C_1 \) term is negligible.

### A.4. Linear Stability Analysis of the Fixed Point

The matrix whose eigenvalues we wish to determine is

\[
M = \begin{bmatrix}
\frac{\partial}{\partial \Phi'} \left( \frac{d\Phi'}{dt'} \right) & \frac{\partial}{\partial \Phi'} \left( \frac{d\Phi'}{dt'} \right) & \frac{\partial}{\partial \Phi'} \left( \frac{d\Phi'}{dt'} \right) \\
\frac{\partial}{\partial \Gamma'} \left( \frac{d\Phi'}{dt'} \right) & \frac{\partial}{\partial \Gamma'} \left( \frac{d\Phi'}{dt'} \right) & \frac{\partial}{\partial \Gamma'} \left( \frac{d\Phi'}{dt'} \right) \\
\frac{\partial}{\partial \Phi'} \left( \frac{d\Gamma'}{dt'} \right) & \frac{\partial}{\partial \Phi'} \left( \frac{d\Gamma'}{dt'} \right) & \frac{\partial}{\partial \Gamma'} \left( \frac{d\Gamma'}{dt'} \right)
\end{bmatrix}
\]

evaluated at the equilibrium. We write this symbolically as

\[
M = \begin{bmatrix}
\kappa A & \tilde{B} & 0 \\
\tilde{C} & \kappa D & 1 \\
\kappa E & 0 & 0
\end{bmatrix}
\]

where \( \kappa \) denotes a term proportional to \( 1/(n_{\theta_1}\tau_0) \) coming from the non-conservative addition to the equations of motion and

\[
\kappa A = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\Phi'_{eq}}} \sin \phi_{eq} + \frac{1}{Q|\beta| n_{\theta_1}} C_0 - \frac{C_0}{2Q|\beta| n_{\theta_1}} \\
\tilde{B} = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\Phi'_{eq}}} \cos \phi_{eq} \approx \frac{1}{2\Phi'_{eq}} + O(\kappa^2) \\
\tilde{C} = -1 + \frac{1}{(2\Phi'_{eq})^{3/2}} \cos \phi_{eq} \approx -1 + \frac{1}{(2\Phi'_{eq})^{3/2}} + O(\kappa^2) \\
\kappa D = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\Phi'_{eq}}} \sin \phi_{eq} = \frac{C_0}{2Q|\beta| n_{\theta_1}} \\
\kappa E = \frac{1}{Q|\beta| n_{\theta_1}} (A_1 + C_0).
\tag{55}
\]

We will solve for the eigenvalues perturbatively in \( \kappa \). At this stage, we have taken advantage of the fact that the correction to \( \cos \phi_{eq} = -1 \) is second order in \( \kappa \).

The equation for the eigenvalues is

\[
0 = (\kappa A - \lambda)(\kappa D - \lambda)(-\lambda) + \tilde{B}\kappa E + \lambda\tilde{C}. \tag{56}
\]

We seek solutions of the form \( \lambda = (\kappa\alpha_0, \kappa\alpha_1, \kappa\alpha_2) \pm i(\alpha_2 + \alpha_3) \). Plugging in the first root yields an equation for \( \alpha_0 \). Plugging in the second and third roots yield four equations, for the real part and imaginary part of each root. Only two of these are distinct. Truncating at the zeroth order in \( \kappa \) yields an equation for \( \alpha_2 \), while at first order we find two equations for \( \alpha_1 \) and \( \alpha_3 \). We find that

\[
\begin{align*}
\alpha_0 &= -\frac{\tilde{E}}{\tilde{C}} \\
\alpha_1 &= \frac{\tilde{A} + \tilde{D}}{2} + \frac{\tilde{E}}{2\tilde{C}} \\
\alpha_2 &= -\frac{\tilde{B}\tilde{C}}{4} > 0 \equiv \omega^2 \\
\alpha_3 &= 0,
\end{align*}
\tag{57}
\]

where \( \omega = \sqrt{|\tilde{B}\tilde{C}|} \) is the unperturbed frequency (of the conservative system) evaluated at the modified fixed point \( (\Phi' = \Phi'_{eq}, \phi_{eq} \approx \pi) \).

We assume for simplicity that \( k \approx (k + 1), R \approx 1 \) and \( \alpha_{res} \approx 1 \) (the compact approximation mentioned in the main
text). Then:

\[ \gamma_1 = \frac{1}{\zeta + 1} \]
\[ \eta_1 = \left( \frac{1}{\zeta + 1} \right) \]
\[ \gamma_2 = \frac{\zeta}{1 + \zeta} \]
\[ \eta_2 = 1 + \zeta \]
\[ Q = e_p^{2/3} \left( \frac{0.8^2}{9k^2} \right)^{1/3} \]
\[ \Phi = \frac{\zeta}{2(1 + \zeta)^2} \]
\[ \sigma^2 = e_1^2 + e_2^2 - 2e_1e_2 \cos \Delta \varpi \]

where we have used Equation (34), so that

\[ C_0 = \frac{2}{\zeta + 1 + \tau_e} + \frac{1}{2(1 + \zeta) \tau_a} \]
\[ A_0 = \left( \frac{9}{2e_p^{2/3}} \right) \frac{1}{\tau_a} \]
\[ A_1 = -\frac{2p}{k(1 + \zeta)^2 \tau_{a,e}} \]

(59)

where

\[ \frac{1}{\tau_a} = \frac{1}{\tau_{a,2}} - \frac{1}{\tau_{a,1}} \]
\[ \frac{1}{\tau_e} = \frac{1}{\tau_{e,1}} + \frac{\zeta}{\tau_{e,2}} \]
\[ \frac{1}{\tau_{a,e}} = \frac{1}{\tau_{a,1}} - \frac{\zeta^2 \alpha}{R^2 \tau_{e,2}}. \]

(60)

Anticipating the discussion regarding \( \tau_{a,e} \), we do not make the compact approximation only for this parameter.

The equilibrium value of \( \Phi_{eq} \) can then be evaluated and used to determine the equilibrium value of \( \sigma_{eq} \) by referring to Equation (58), as

\[ \Phi_{eq}' = \frac{A_0}{A_1 + C_0} \left( \frac{9k^2}{0.8^2 e_p^{2/3}} \right)^{1/3} \]
\[ \frac{1}{\zeta + 1 + \tau_e} + \frac{4p}{(1 + \zeta)^2 \tau_{a,e}} \]
\[ = \sigma_{eq}^2 \left( \frac{\sigma_{eq}}{Q} \right)^{1/3} \left( \frac{2}{2(1 + \zeta)^2} \right) \]

(61)

where we have assumed that \( \tau_a \gg \tau_e \) and hence ignored the second term in \( C_0 \). To obtain the equilibrium eccentricity without coupling between the semimajor axis and eccentricity evolution, set \( p = 0 \). Also notice that if \( \tau_{e,1} \to \infty \) (the limit of no eccentricity damping), both \( \tau_{a,e} \) and \( \tau_e \) diverge. In this case there is no equilibrium eccentricity.

The stability of the fixed point is determined by the sign of \( \alpha_1 \) and the sign of \( \alpha_0 \). First, the sign of \( \alpha_1 \), \( s[\alpha_1] \), is given by:

\[ s[\alpha_1] = s \left[ C_0 \left( 1 + \left( 2 \Phi_{eq}' \right)^{-3/2} \right) - (A_1 + C_0) \right] \]
\[ = s \left[ C_0 \left( 2 \Phi_{eq}' \right)^{-3/2} - A_1 \right] \]
\[ C_0 \approx -\frac{2}{\zeta + 1 + \tau_e} \]
\[ A_1 + C_0 \approx -\frac{2p}{k(1 + \zeta)^2 \tau_{a,e}} - \frac{2}{\zeta + 1 + \tau_e}, \]

(62)

where we have assumed \( \tau_e \ll \tau_a(K \gg 1) \). Then

\[ s[\alpha_1] = s \left[ -\frac{2}{\zeta + 1 + \tau_e} \left( \frac{2}{\zeta + 1 + \tau_e} + \frac{2p}{k(1 + \zeta)^2 \tau_{a,e}} \right)^{3/2} \right] \]
\[ \times \frac{0.8\sqrt{k} e_p}{3} + \frac{2p}{k(1 + \zeta)^2 \tau_{a,e}} \]
\[ = s \left[ -\left( \frac{2}{\zeta + 1 + \tau_e} + \frac{2p}{k(1 + \zeta)^2 \tau_{a,e}} \right)^{3/2} \right] \]
\[ \times \frac{0.8\sqrt{k} e_p}{3} + \frac{p}{k(1 + \zeta)^2 \tau_{a,e}}. \]

(63)

Rearranging, \( \alpha_1 > 0 \) when:

\[ e_p < \frac{3p k}{B^2} \left( \frac{1 + \zeta^2}{\tau_{a,e}} \right)^{3/2} \left( \frac{\tau_{e,2}}{\tau_{e,2}} \right)^{3/2} \left( \frac{\tau_{e,1}}{R^2 \tau_{e,1}} \right)^{3/2} \]

(64)

Here \( B = 0.8k \). We remind the reader that the criterion given here has employed the compact approximation. If more accuracy is needed (likely only for the 2:1 resonance, refer to Figure 3), return to the full expressions for \( \tilde{A}, \tilde{D}, \tilde{C}, \) and \( \tilde{E} \), employing the full expressions for \( \gamma_1, \gamma_2, \eta_1, \eta_2, \) and \( Q \), to evaluate \( \alpha_1 \) (or whatever else) directly.

Importantly, the criterion Equation (64) can never be satisfied if \( \tau_{a,e} < 0 \), or if

\[ \tau_{e,2} < \zeta^2 \alpha \tau_{e,1}/R^2 \]
\[ \tau_{e,2} < \zeta^2 \alpha \tau_{e,1}. \]

(65)

(Again, the factors of \( R \) and \( \alpha \) are only important for the 2:1 commensurability.)

In the case where \( p = 0 \),

\[ s[\alpha_1] = \left[ -\frac{2}{\zeta + 1 + \tau_e} \left( \frac{2}{\zeta + 1 + \tau_e} \right)^{3/2} \frac{0.8\sqrt{k} e_p}{3} \right] \]
\[ = s \left[ -\frac{1}{\tau_e} \left( \frac{\tau_{a}}{\tau_e} \right)^{3/2} \right]. \]

(66)

which is always negative for convergent migration \( \tau_a > 0 \) and eccentricity damping \( \tau_e > 0 \). This shows the stability of the fixed point when the eccentricity-semimajor axis coupling term is not present.
Next, we turn to the sign of $\alpha_0$. Since $\dot{C} < 0$, $s[\alpha_0]$ is determined by $s[\hat{E}]$:

$$s[\alpha_0] = s[\hat{E}] = s[A_1 + C_0] \approx s\left[-\frac{p}{k(1 + \zeta)\tau_{a,e}} - 1\right].$$

(67)

Note, however, that for $\Phi^\prime$ to be a positive quantity (for the fixed point to exist), its denominator must be positive. From the definition given in Equation (61), we see that this means that (canceling common positive factors between the two terms in the denominator) $1 + (p/k)(\tau_{e}/\tau_{a,e})(1 + \zeta)^{-1} > 0$. In that case, $s[\alpha_0] < 0$ always.

A.5. Limiting Case of a Test Particle

A.5.1 Inner Test Particle

We consider the case where the inner planet is a test particle, moving outwards, toward a massive planet on a fixed circular orbit. Then $\zeta \to 0$, $\tau_{a.e} \to -\tau_{a,1}$, $\tau_{e,2} \to \infty$, $\tau_{e,1} \to \infty$ and

$$\frac{1}{\tau_{a,e}} = \frac{1}{\tau_{a,1}},$$

$$\frac{1}{\tau_{e,2}} = \frac{1}{\tau_{e,1}}.$$

(68)

The criterion is

$$\epsilon_2 < \frac{3pk}{B^{2/3}} (k + p)^{5/2} \left(\frac{\tau_{e,1}}{\tau_{a,1}}\right)^{3/2}.$$

(69)

Plugging in $p = 1$ and converting from $\tau_{a,1}$ to $\tau_{e,1}$ yields:

$$\epsilon_2 < \left(\frac{k}{B^{2/3} (1 + k)^{5/2}}\right) \left(\frac{\tau_{e,1}}{\tau_{a,1}}\right)^{3/2}.$$

(70)

The equilibrium value for eccentricity is given by:

$$\epsilon_1^2 = \left.\frac{1}{2(p + k)} \left(\frac{\tau_{e,1}}{\tau_{a,1}}\right)\right|_{p = 1} = \frac{1}{3(p + k)} \left(\frac{\tau_{e,1}}{\tau_{a,1}}\right).$$

(71)

The equilibrium value of $\sin \phi$ is given as:

$$\sin \phi = \sqrt{\frac{2\Phi'}{2Q}} \frac{C_0}{n_{\theta_1}},$$

$$Q|\beta|n_{\theta_1} = n_2 c_2^2 p^3 (0.82^3 k^3)^{1/3},$$

$$\sin \phi = -\frac{e_1}{\dot{e}_1} \frac{1}{\dot{e}_2} \frac{1}{\tau_{e,1} n_{\theta_1} e_p B^2}.$$

(72)

which was found by Goldreich & Schlichting (2014).

A.5.2 Outer Test Particle

In this case, $\tau_{a,1} \to \infty$, $\tau_{e,1} \to \infty$, and $\zeta \to \infty$. The equilibrium eccentricity is given by

$$e_2^2 = \left.\frac{\tau_{e,2}}{\tau_{a,2}}\right|_{p = 1} = \frac{1}{2K (k + p)}.$$

(73)

We emphasize that this estimate of the equilibrium eccentricity is an approximation. It does appear that for some parameter choices ($k \geq p$), the equilibrium eccentricity does not exist. This means that there is no fixed point in resonance. According to Tanaka & Ward (2004), $p < 1$, so since $k \geq 1$ this issue may not arise in practice. However, in the case of $p = 1$, we have confirmed that the full expression for the equilibrium eccentricity does not yield a diverging equilibrium for $k = 1$ in the case of the outer test particle (see Figure 7).

The criterion for instability of the fixed point is

$$\epsilon_1 < -\frac{3pk}{B^{2/3}} (k - p)^{5/2} \left(\frac{\tau_{e,2}}{\tau_{a,2}}\right)^{3/2}. $$

(74)

This implies that $\alpha_1$ is never positive. Note that we assume $k > p$ to get the equilibrium, which also implies that $\alpha_0 < 0$, and that the criterion for instability $\epsilon_{1,\text{crit}}$ is a real number.

A.6. The Assumption that $\Psi_2 = 0$

Since we have prescribed eccentricity damping, the assumption that $\Psi_2$ is zero when the resonance is reached is a good one. However, if the system is captured into resonance, the eccentricities grow as $\Phi$ grows, and the condition that $\Psi_2 = 0$ requires that this growth preserves the orientation of the orbits and the ratio of the eccentricities. This is true because when $\Psi_2 = 0$, $r_2 = 0$ and $s_2 = 0$, which in turn imply that

$$\omega_1 - \omega_2 = \pi.$$

$$P_1 = \left(\frac{\delta_{1,0}}{\delta_{2,0}}\right)^2 P_2.$$  

$$e_2 = e_1 \sqrt{\frac{\tilde{Y}_{\text{res}}}{R}} \tan \psi = \tan P_1,$$

(75)

with $R = |f_{27}/f_{31} - 2\alpha_{\text{res}} \delta_{k,1}|$.

It cannot be true that $\Psi_2 = 0$ generically for large eccentricities. For example, it has been demonstrated numerically and analytically that for the 2:1 resonance the center of resonance changes as the eccentricities grow, from anti-alignment of the orbits ($\omega_1 = \omega_2 + \pi$) to exact alignment ($\omega_1 = \omega_2$) or asymmetric libration, depending on the mass ratio of the planets to each other (Lee & Peale 2002; Beaugé et al. 2003). This change implies $\Psi_2$ deviates from zero.

To test how large the eccentricities can be before the approximation breaks down, we performed numerical tests, driving systems with $\Psi_2(t = 0) = 0$ into resonance without eccentricity damping. This leads to an unchecked increase in $\Phi'$ and in $\sigma \approx \sqrt{e_1^2 + e_2^2 - 2e_1e_2 \cos \Delta \omega}$. If this growth preserves $\Psi_2 = 0$, the eccentricities will grow along a track of constant $e_1/e_2$. Eccentricity damping, if included, would halt the system at a particular value of $\sigma$ along this track.

In Figure 12, we show, as a function of $\zeta$, the comparison between the analytic prediction with $\Psi_2 = 0$ and the results of the numerical integrations for $e_1$ and $e_2$ as the system is driven into the 2:1 mean motion resonance. We show the same for the 3:2 resonance in Figure 13. How low eccentricities need to be (or equivalently, how effective the damping must be) for the assumption that $\Psi_2 \approx 0$ to be good is also a function of the resonance integer $k$. Especially for the 2:1 resonance, it is clear that the true evolution drives $\Psi_2$ away from zero as eccentricities grow, but for the 3:2 resonance the prediction based on $\Psi_2 = 0$ is very good across the entire range studied.
For the 2:1 resonance in particular, depending on the equilibrium eccentricities, the predictions of the theory may be only roughly correct, and they may be wrong entirely in the case where the resonance center corresponds to alignment or asymmetric alignment of the orbits.

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