

# Stability of collisionless systems

3<sup>rd</sup> part

# Outlines

The stability of uniformly rotating systems

The stability of rotating disks : spiral structures

- Spirals properties
- The dispersion relation for a razor thin fluid disk

The origin of spiral structures: another view

Vertical instabilities : Nature is always more tricky...

**Stability of collisionless systems**

**The stability of uniformly  
rotating systems**

## The stability of uniformly rotating systems

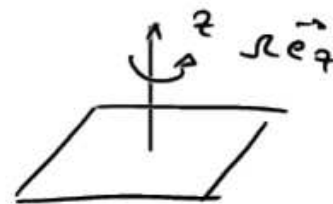


- Flattened systems : the geometry is more complex
- Reservoir of kinetic energy (rotation) to feed unstable modes

## The uniformly rotating sheet

- infinite disk of zero thickness with surface density  $\Sigma_0$

- plane  $z=0$
- rotation  $\vec{\Omega} = \Omega \vec{e}_z$



- 2D perturbation / evolution (no warp, no bending)



# Equations in the rotating frame

$$\Sigma_d(x, y), \phi_d(x, y), P(x, y), \vec{v}(x, y)$$

5 unknown  
5 equations

## ① Continuity equation

$$\frac{\partial \Sigma}{\partial t} + \vec{\nabla} \cdot (\Sigma \vec{v}) = 0$$

## ② Euler Equation

Coriolis force

Centrifugal force

$$\frac{\partial \vec{v}}{\partial t} + (\vec{v} \cdot \vec{\nabla}) \vec{v} = - \frac{\vec{\nabla} P}{\Sigma_d} - \vec{\nabla} \phi - 2\Omega(v_x \vec{e}_x + v_y \vec{e}_y) + \Omega^2(x \vec{e}_x + y \vec{e}_y)$$

## ③ Poisson equation

$$\nabla^2 \phi = 4\pi G \Sigma \delta(z)$$

## ④ Equation of state

(barotropic)

$$p(x, y) = p(\Sigma(x, y))$$

The response of the system to a weak perturbation

$-\varepsilon \vec{\nabla} \phi_e$

$$\Sigma_{d0} \rightarrow \Sigma_{d0} + \varepsilon \Sigma_{d1}(x, y, t)$$

$$\vec{V}_0 = 0 \rightarrow \varepsilon \vec{V}_1(x, y, t)$$

$$\Sigma_0 \rightarrow \Sigma_0 + \varepsilon \Sigma_1(x, y, t) \quad \text{total density}$$

$$\phi_0 \rightarrow \phi_0 + \varepsilon \phi_1(x, y, t) \quad \text{total potential}$$

$$= \varepsilon \phi_{d1}(x, y, t) + \varepsilon \phi_e(x, y, t)$$

A first order in  $\varepsilon$ , we get

① Continuity equation

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \Sigma_{d1} + \Sigma_0 \vec{\nabla} \vec{V}_1 = 0$$

② Euler Equation

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \vec{V}_1 = - \frac{v_s^2}{\Sigma_0} \vec{\nabla} \Sigma_{d1} - \vec{\nabla} \phi_1 - \underbrace{2 \vec{\Omega} \times \vec{V}_1}_{\text{contribution of the rotation}}$$

③ Poisson equation

$$\nabla^2 \phi_1 = 4\pi G \Sigma_1 \delta(z)$$

④ "Equation of state"

$$v_s^2 = \left. \frac{\partial p}{\partial \Sigma} \right|_{\Sigma_0}$$

the rest is similar to the homogeneous case

Solutions of the form

$$\Sigma_{11}(x, y, t) \sim e^{i(\vec{k}\vec{x} - \omega t)}$$

leads to : (without the perturbation)

$$\omega^2 = v_s^2 k^2 - 2\pi G |\Sigma_0| \pm 4\Omega^2$$

the rotation helps to stabilize

Dispersion relation for an homogeneous fluid

$$\omega^2 = v_s^2 k^2 - 4\pi G \rho_0$$

# Dispersion relation for a uniformly rotating stellar sheet

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- if the velocity DF is Maxwellian

$$\rho_0(\vec{v}) = \frac{\rho_0}{(2\pi\sigma^2)^{3/2}} e^{-\frac{v^2}{2\sigma^2}}$$

$\rho$   
in the  
plane

$$\omega^2 = \sigma^2 k^2 - 2\pi G |k| \Sigma_0 + 4\Omega^2$$

# **Stability of collisionless systems**

**The stability of rotating  
disks:**

**spiral structures**



# Spiral galaxies : disky structures



M83

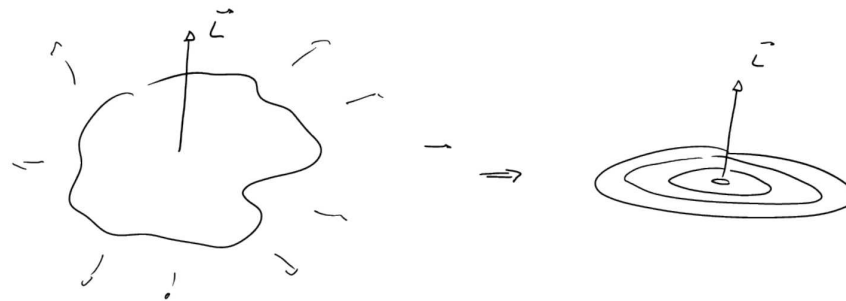


NGC4945

# Questions:

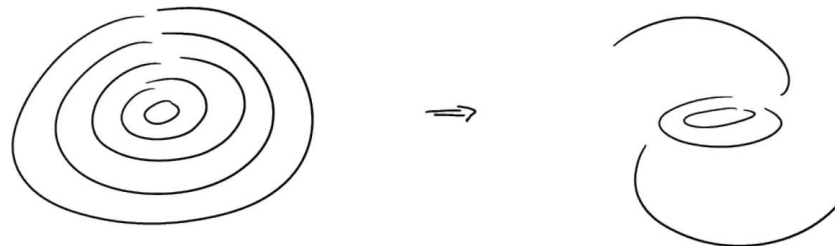
## Why galaxies are disks ?

- Gas radiates energy but not angular momentum.
- Circular orbits have a minimum energy for a given angular momentum.
- For a given angular momentum distribution, the state of the lowest energy is a flat disk.



## Why disk galaxies display complex structures : bars, spirals ?

- Dynamically cool systems (low velocity dispersion) are strongly unstable
- Further cooling requires to avoid the constraints provided by the angular momentum conservation : need to break the symmetry !



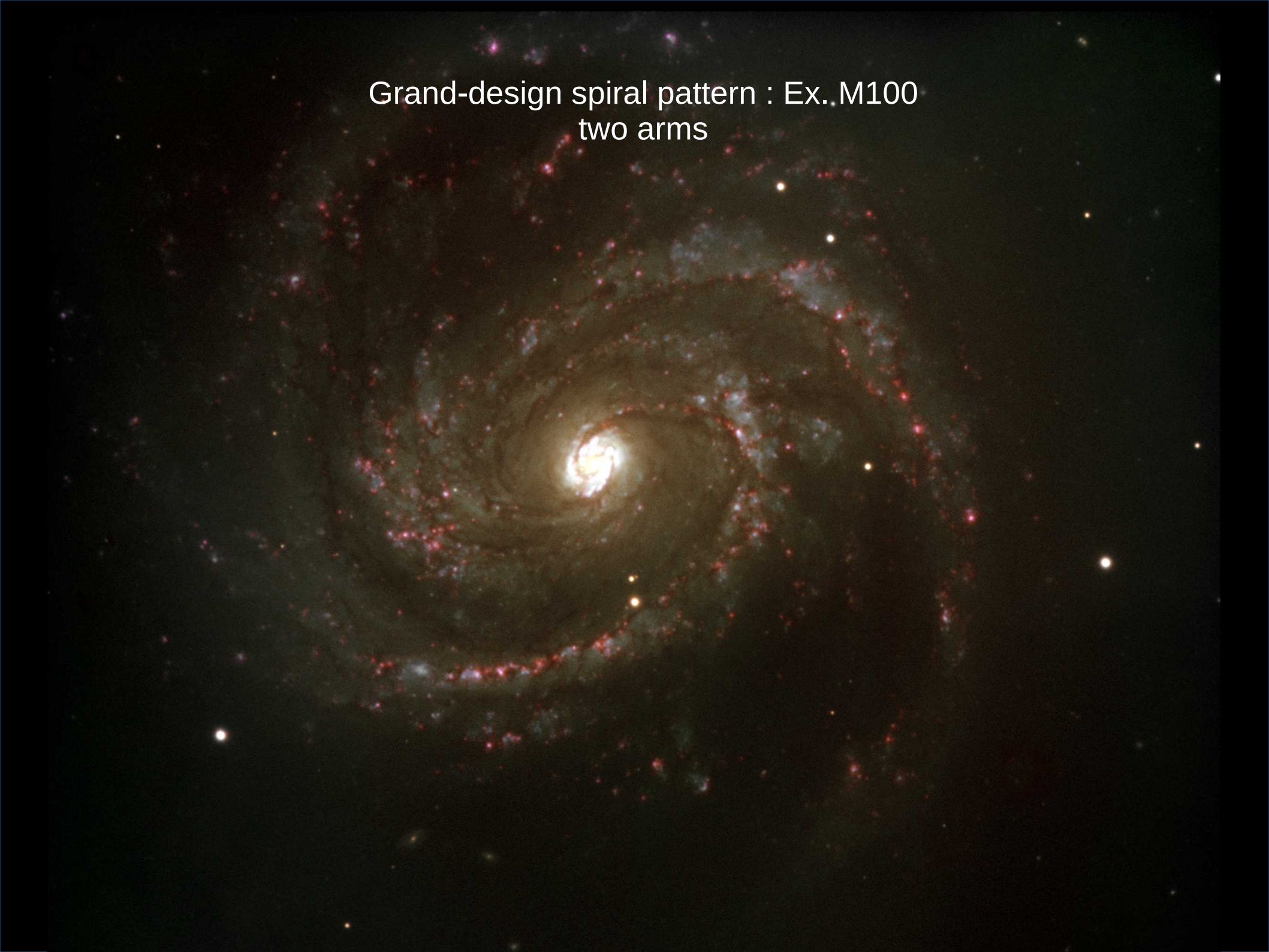
# Properties of spirals:

## Different spiral patterns:

- Grand-design
- Intermediate-scale
- Flocculent



Grand-design spiral pattern : Ex. M100  
two arms





Intermediate-scale spiral pattern : Ex. M101



Flocculent spirals : Ex. M63



# Properties of spirals:

## Different spiral patterns:

- Grand-design
- Intermediate-scale
- Flocculent

## The bulk of the matter participates to the spirals

- Coherence in different wavelengths tracing different components



# Grand-design spiral pattern



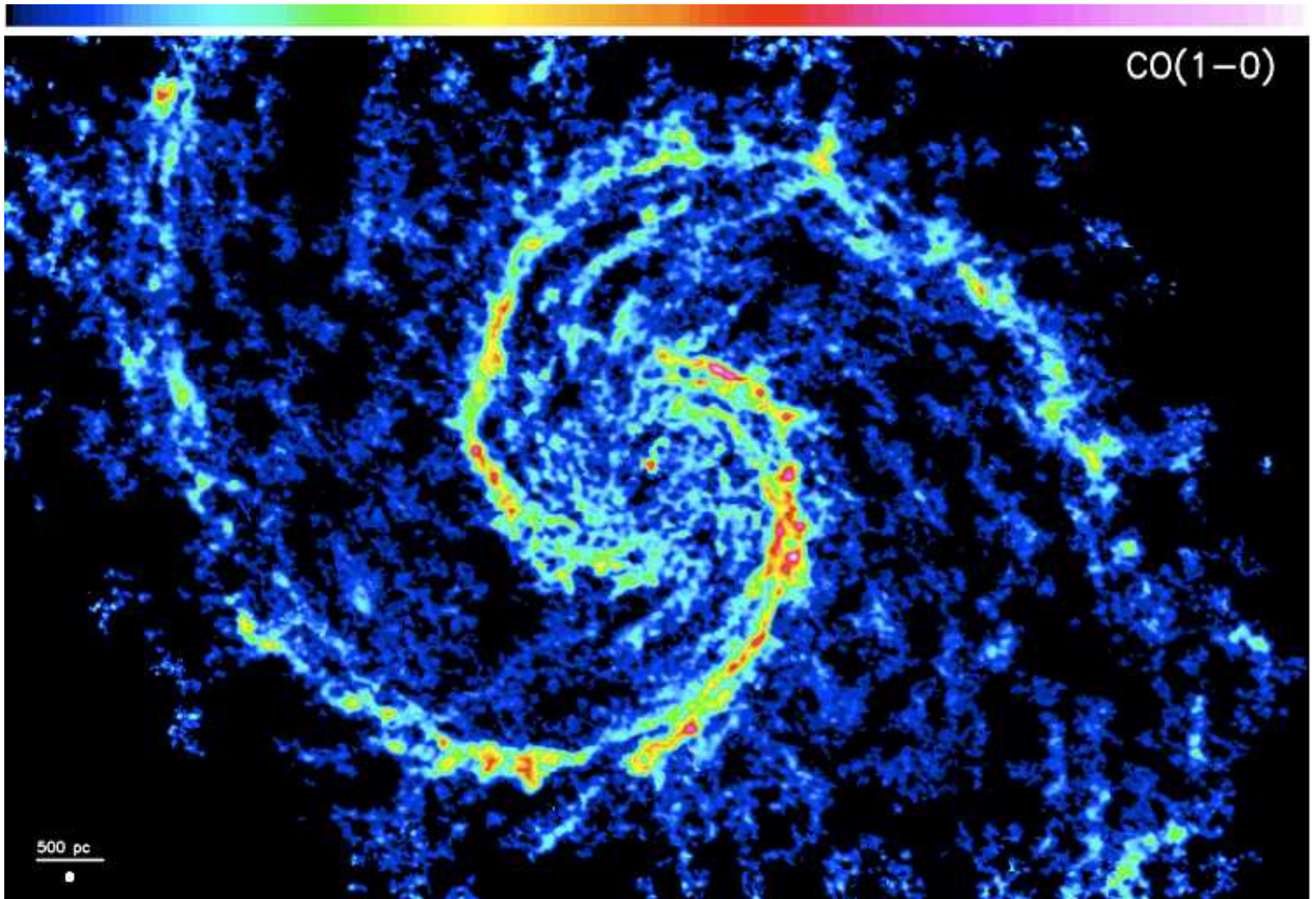
**Spiral Galaxy M51 (“Whirlpool Galaxy”)**

**Spitzer Space Telescope • IRAC**

NASA / JPL-Caltech / R. Kennicutt (Univ. of Arizona)

ssc2004-19a





# Model spiral arms

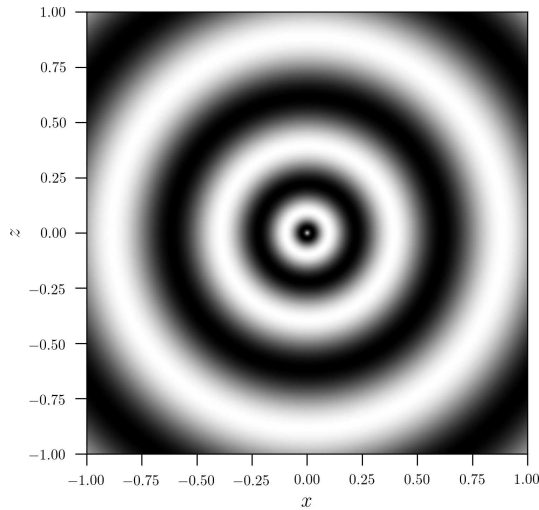
# Surface density of a spiral galaxy

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

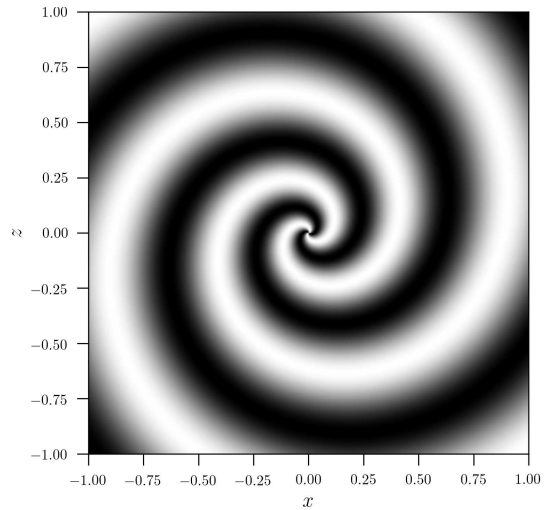
# arms

shape function

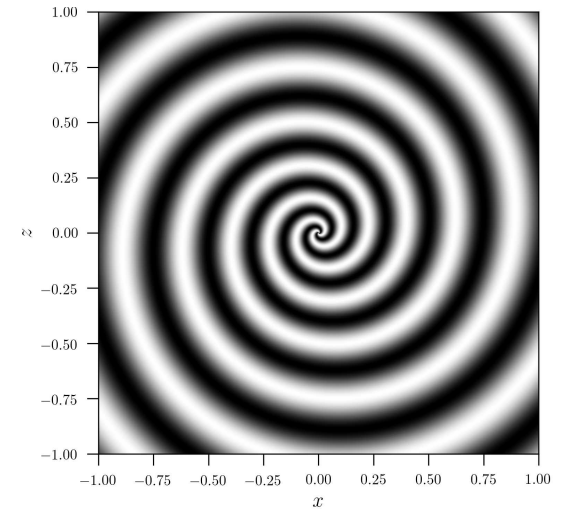
$$m = 0, f = 20R^{1/2}$$



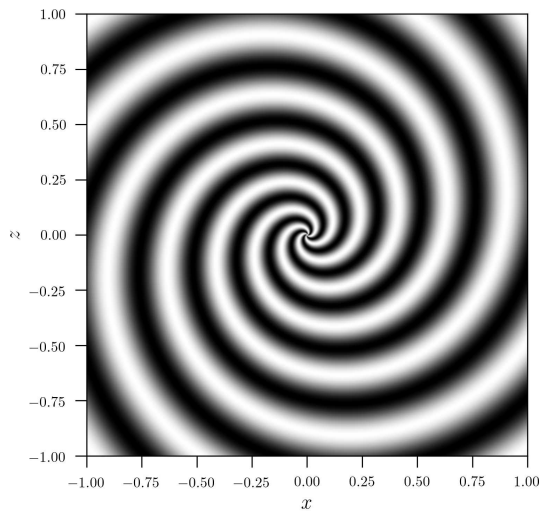
$$m = 2, f = 20R^{1/2}$$



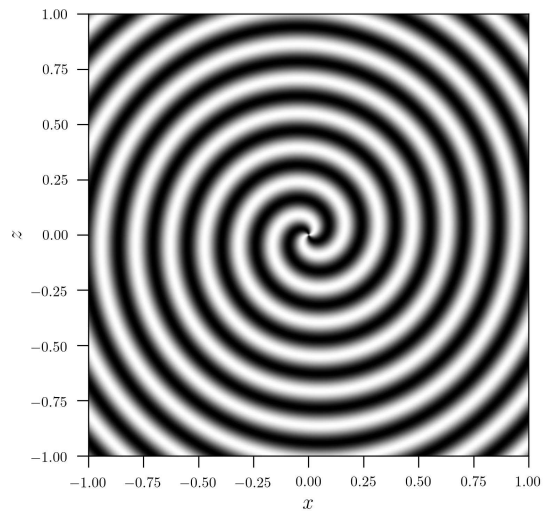
$$m = 2, f = 40R^{1/2}$$



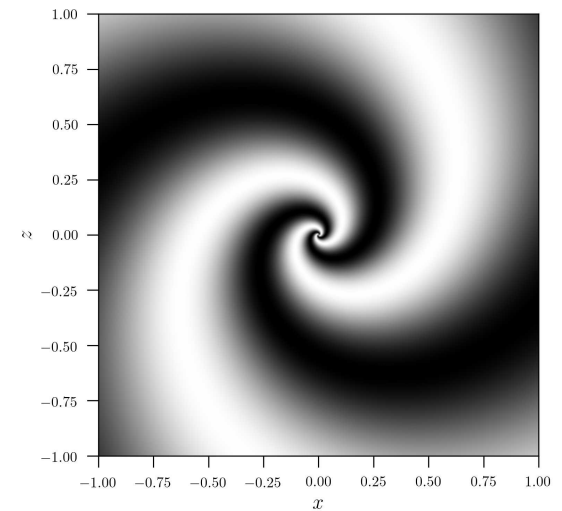
$$m = 4, f = 40R^{1/2}$$



$$m = 2, f = 40R$$

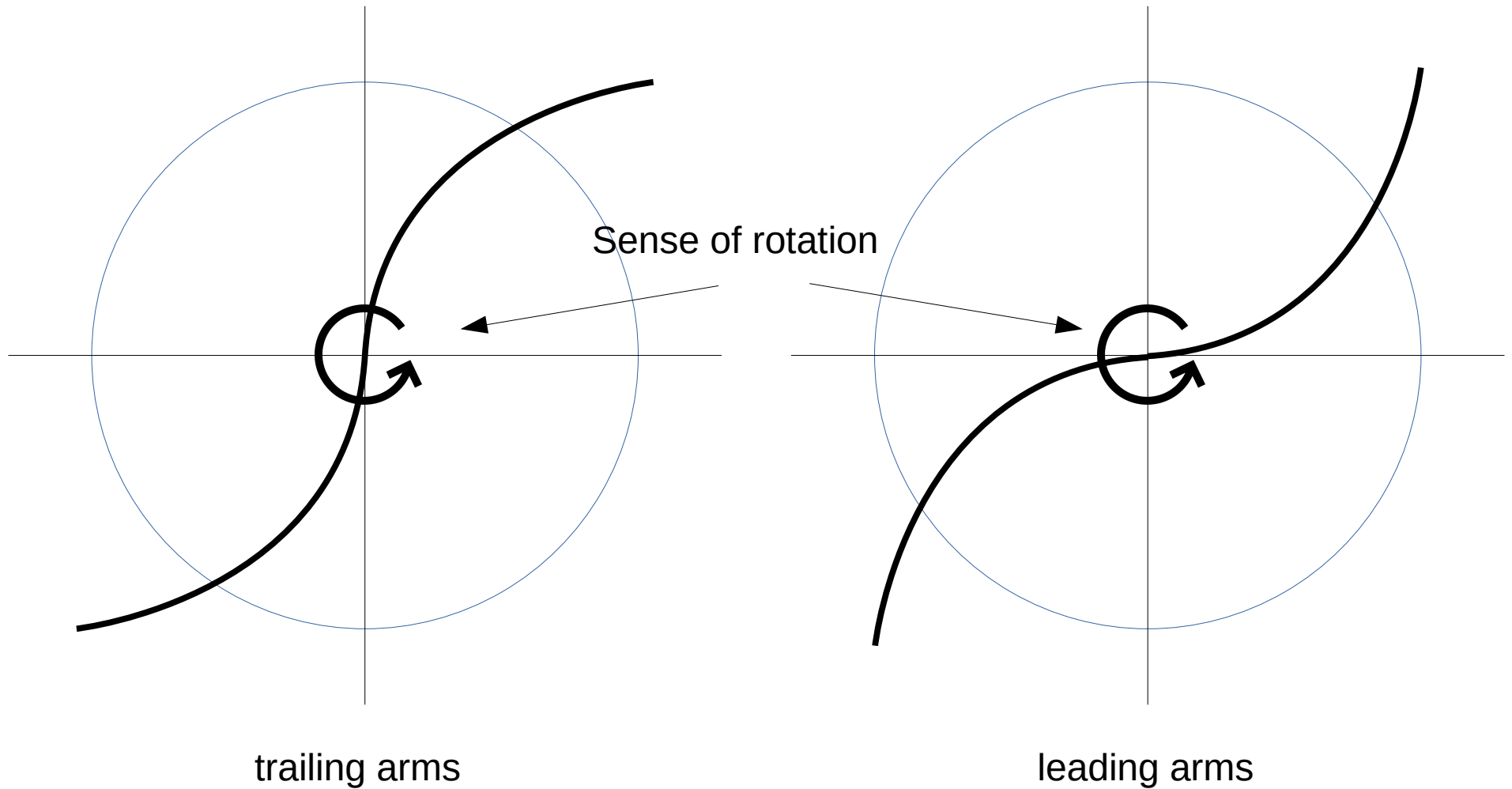


$$m = 2, f = 40R^{0.1}$$





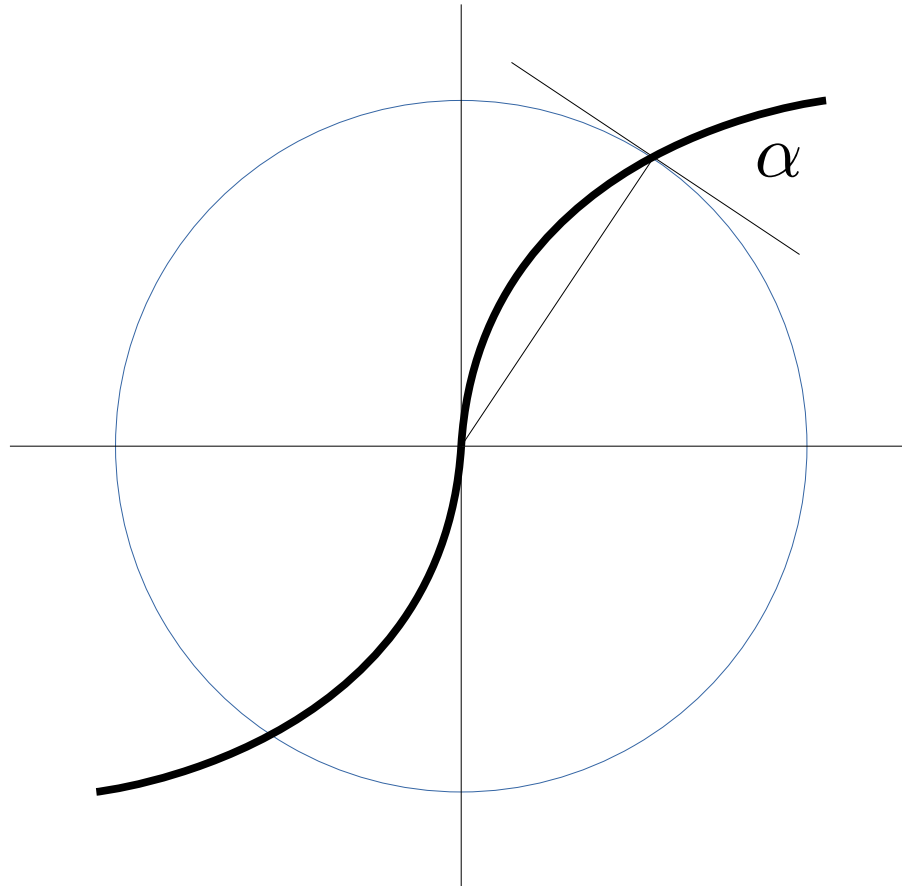
# Leading and trailing spirals:



The majority of spiral arms are trailing !

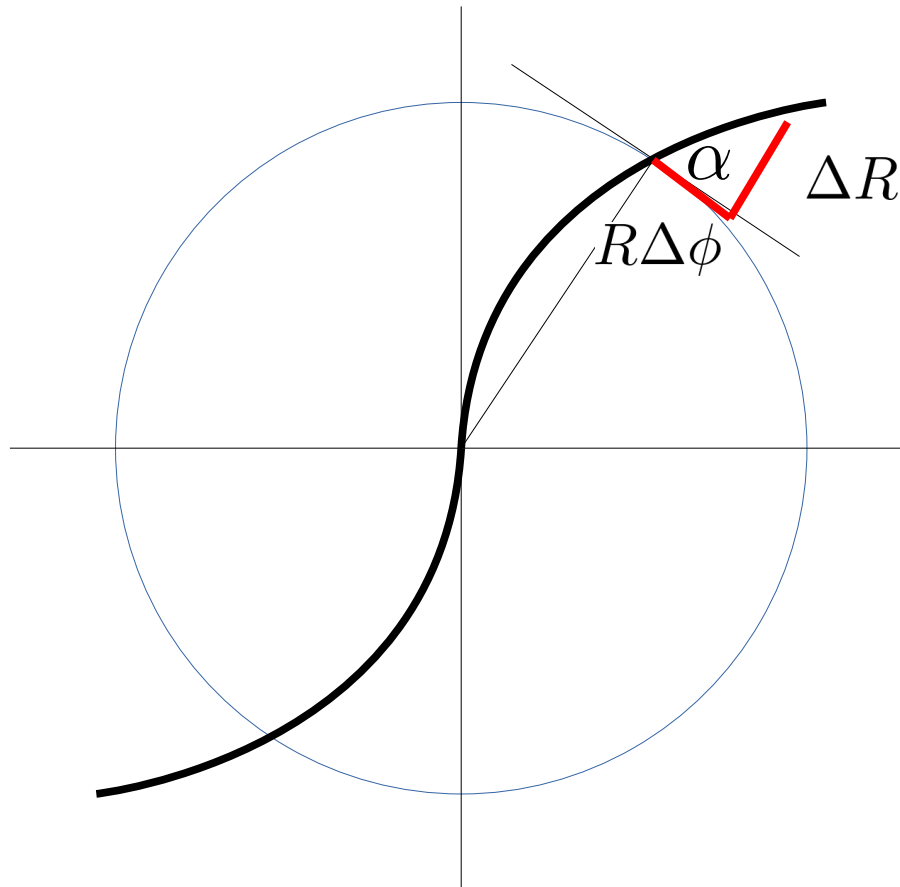
# Pitch angle

Definition: pitch angle : angle between the tangent of a circle and the spiral



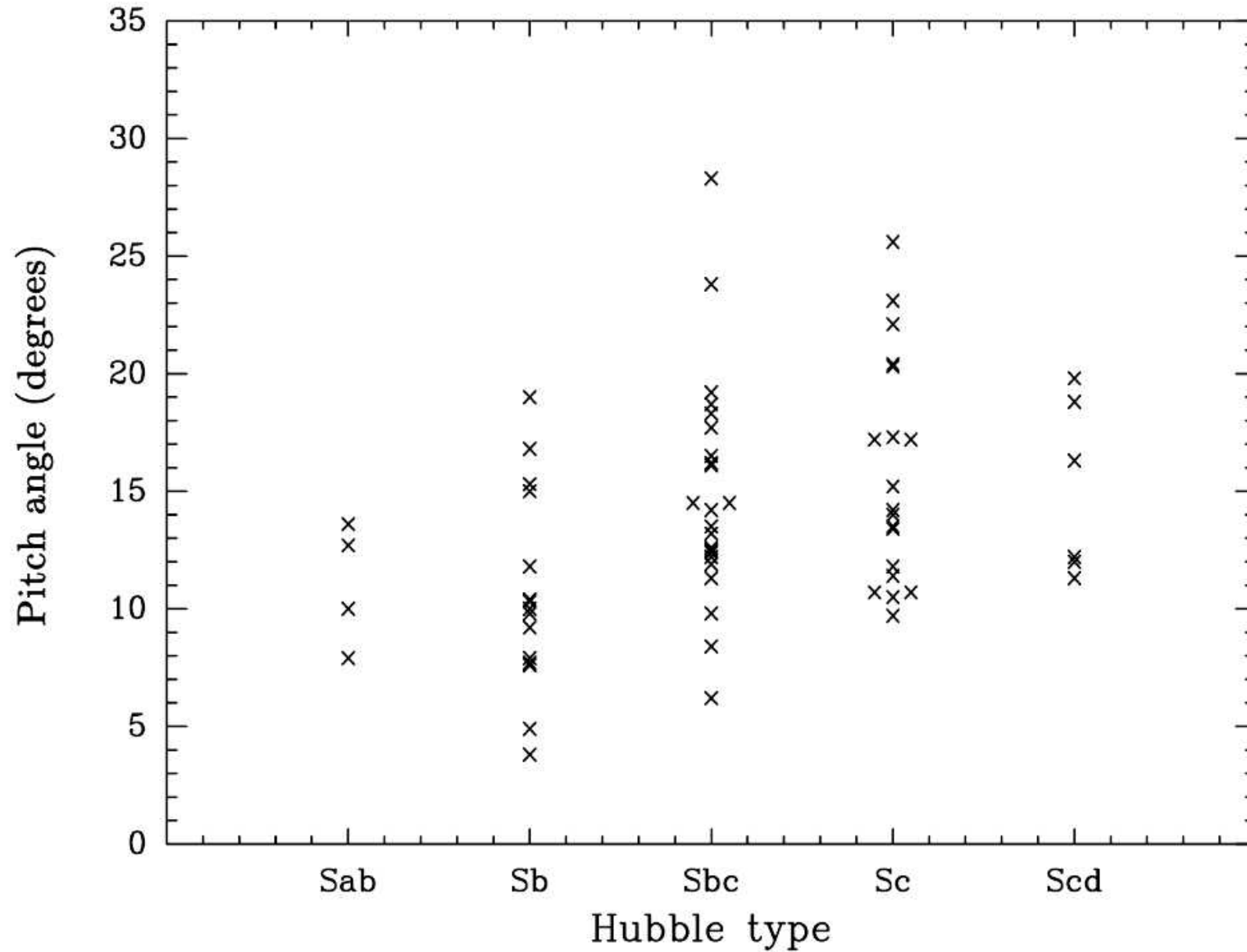
# Pitch angle

Definition: pitch angle : angle between the tangent of a circle and the spiral



$$\tan \alpha = \frac{\Delta R}{R\Delta\phi}$$

Pitch angle as a function of the Hubble type (Ma 2002)



# **Stability of collisionless systems**

**Origin of the spiral  
structure:**

**differential rotation ?**

## Winding problem

Are observed spirals the result of differential rotation ?

Assume a constant velocity curve

$$v(R) = R \Omega(R) \cong 200 \text{ km/s} = v_0$$

$$\Omega(R) = \frac{v_0}{R}$$

$$\phi(R, t) = \Omega(R) t + \phi_0 = \frac{v_0}{R} t + \phi_0$$

$$\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial R} = -\frac{v_0 t}{R^2} \Rightarrow \frac{\Delta R}{R \Delta \phi} = \frac{R}{t v_0} \Rightarrow \alpha = \arctan\left(\frac{R}{t v_0}\right)$$

for  $t = 10 \text{ Gyr}$ ,  $R = 5 \text{ kpc}$ ,  $v_0 = 200 \text{ km/s}$

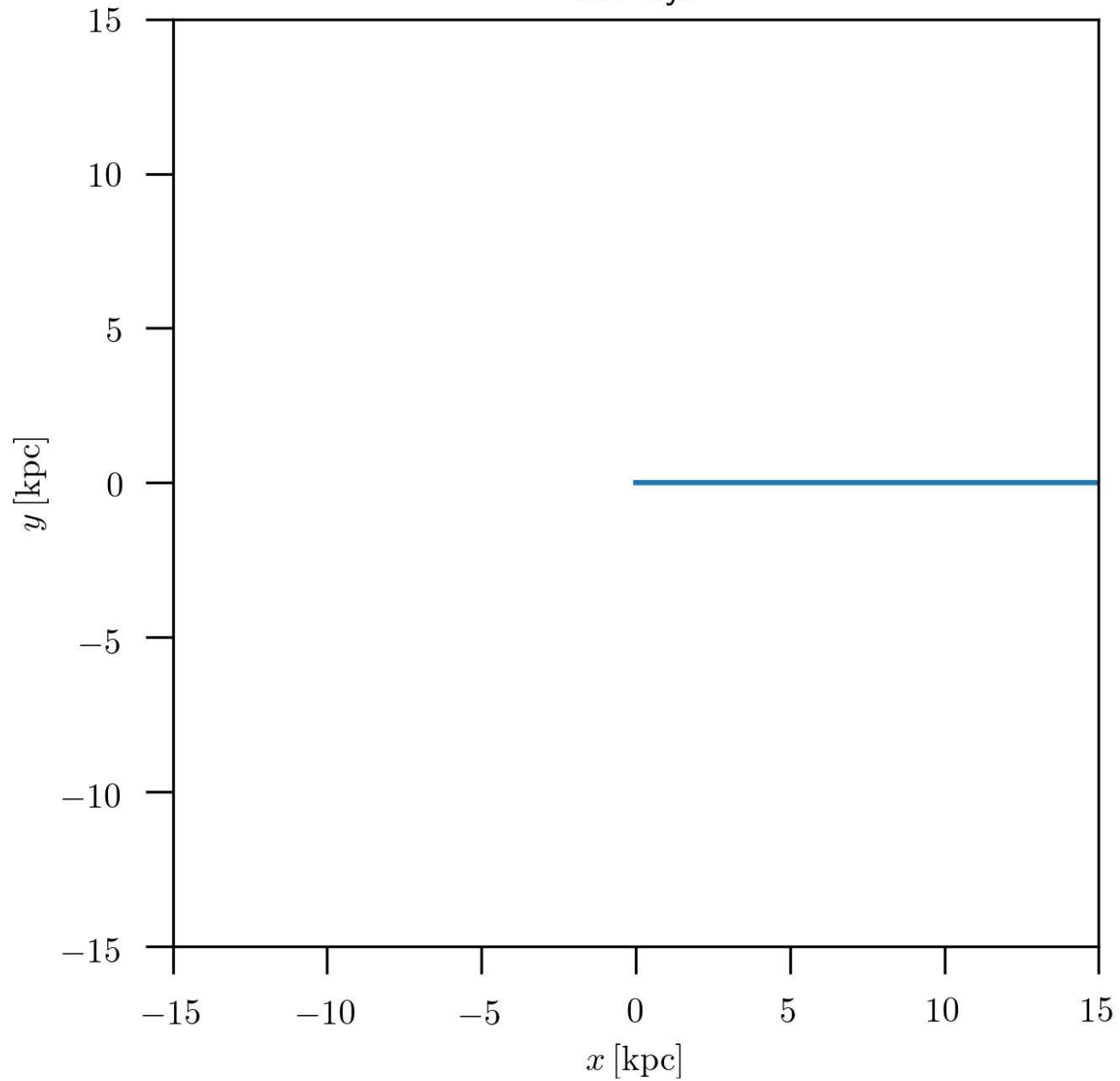
$$\alpha = 0.14^\circ$$

$\ll 10^\circ - 15^\circ$

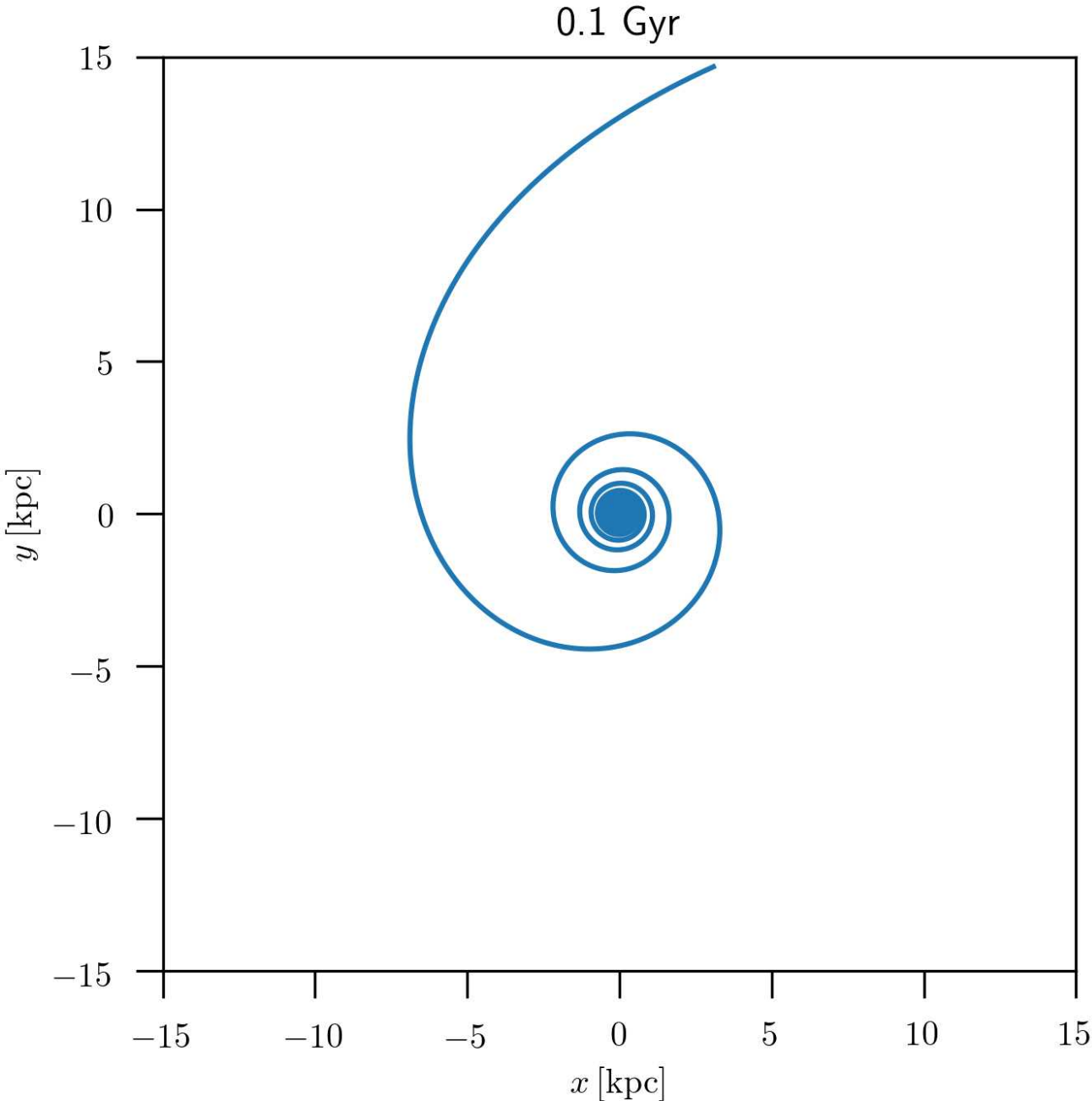


# Winding problem : $V=200$ km/s

0.0 Gyr



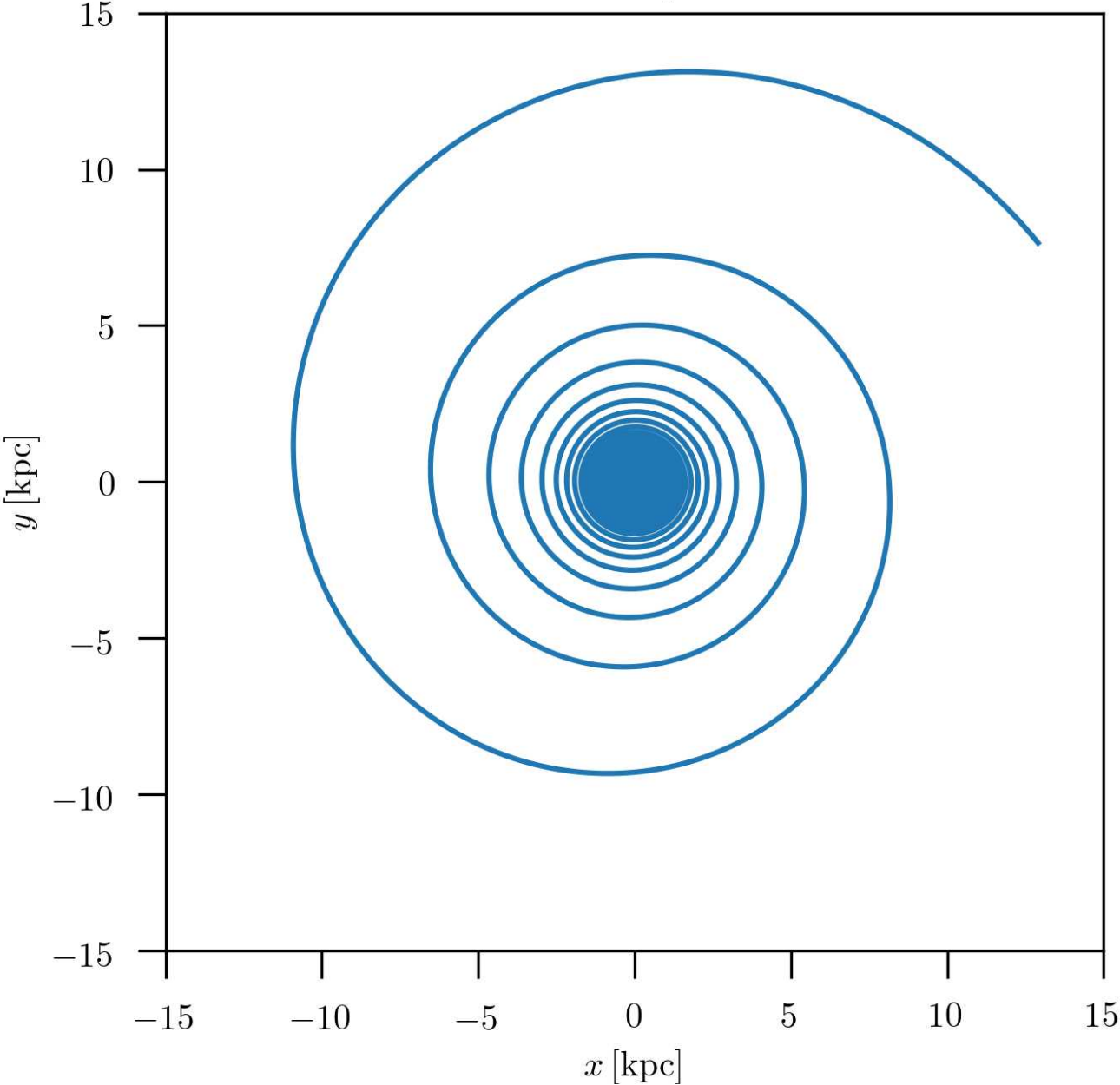
Winding problem :  $V=200$  km/s





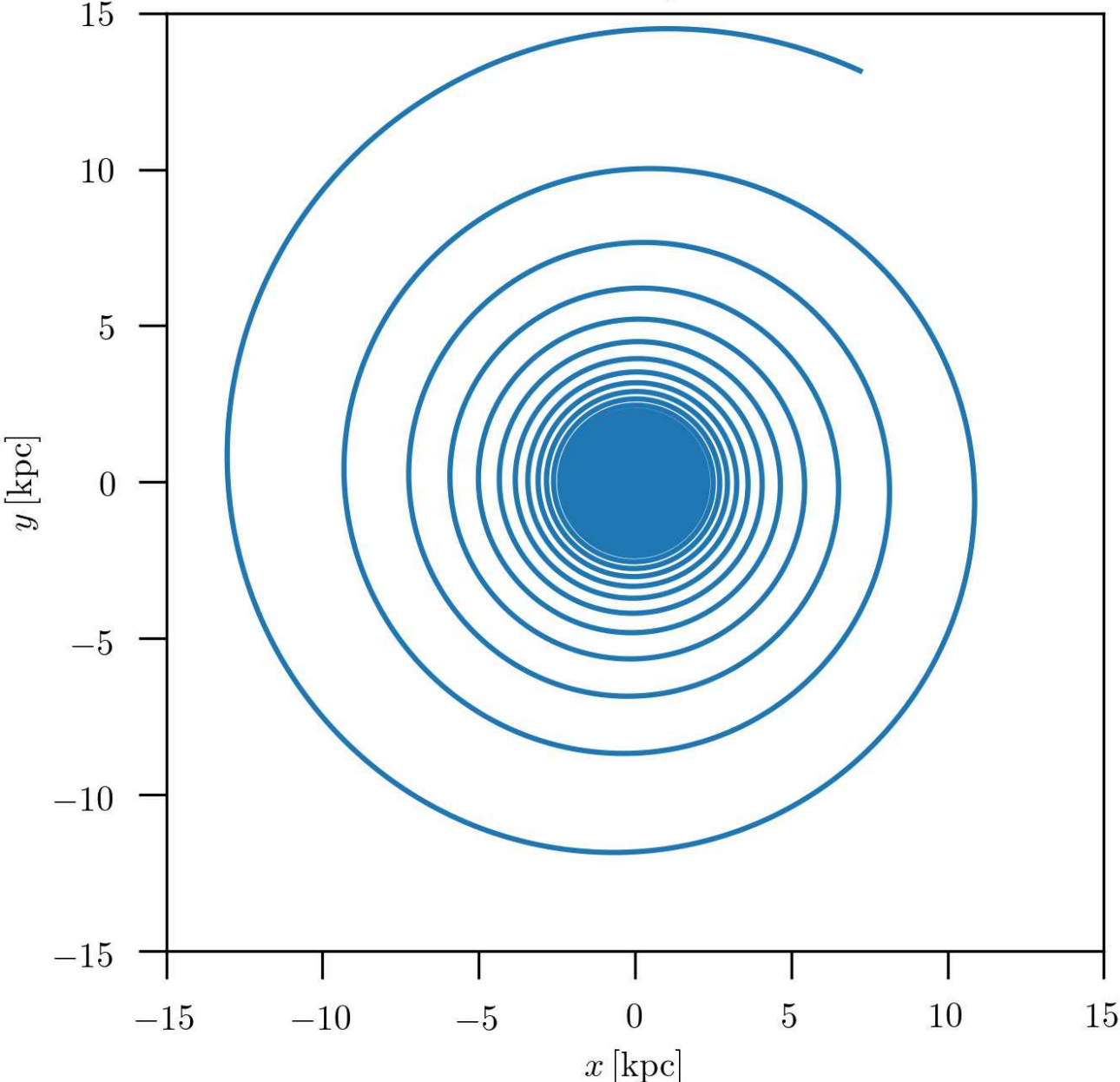
Winding problem :  $V=200$  km/s

0.5 Gyr



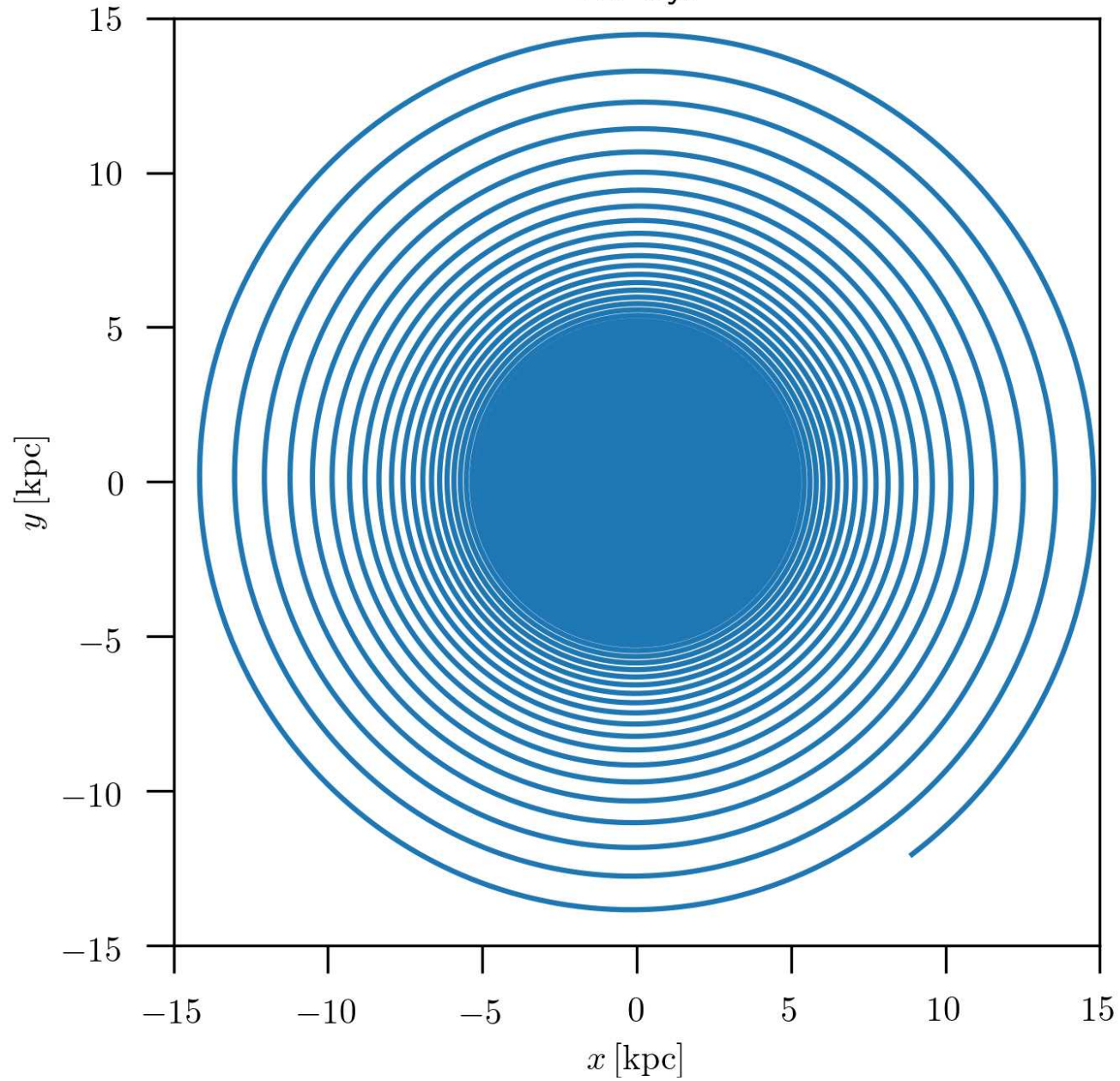
Winding problem :  $V=200$  km/s

1.0 Gyr



Winding problem :  $V=200$  km/s

5.0 Gyr



# Possible solutions to the winding problem

1. A spiral arm is a transient phenomena, but the spiral pattern is statistically in a steady state.

Example : a spiral arm traces young stars, until they die off  
→  $\alpha$  could be much bigger

Could explain flocculent galaxies, but not grand-design ones

# Possible solutions to the winding problem

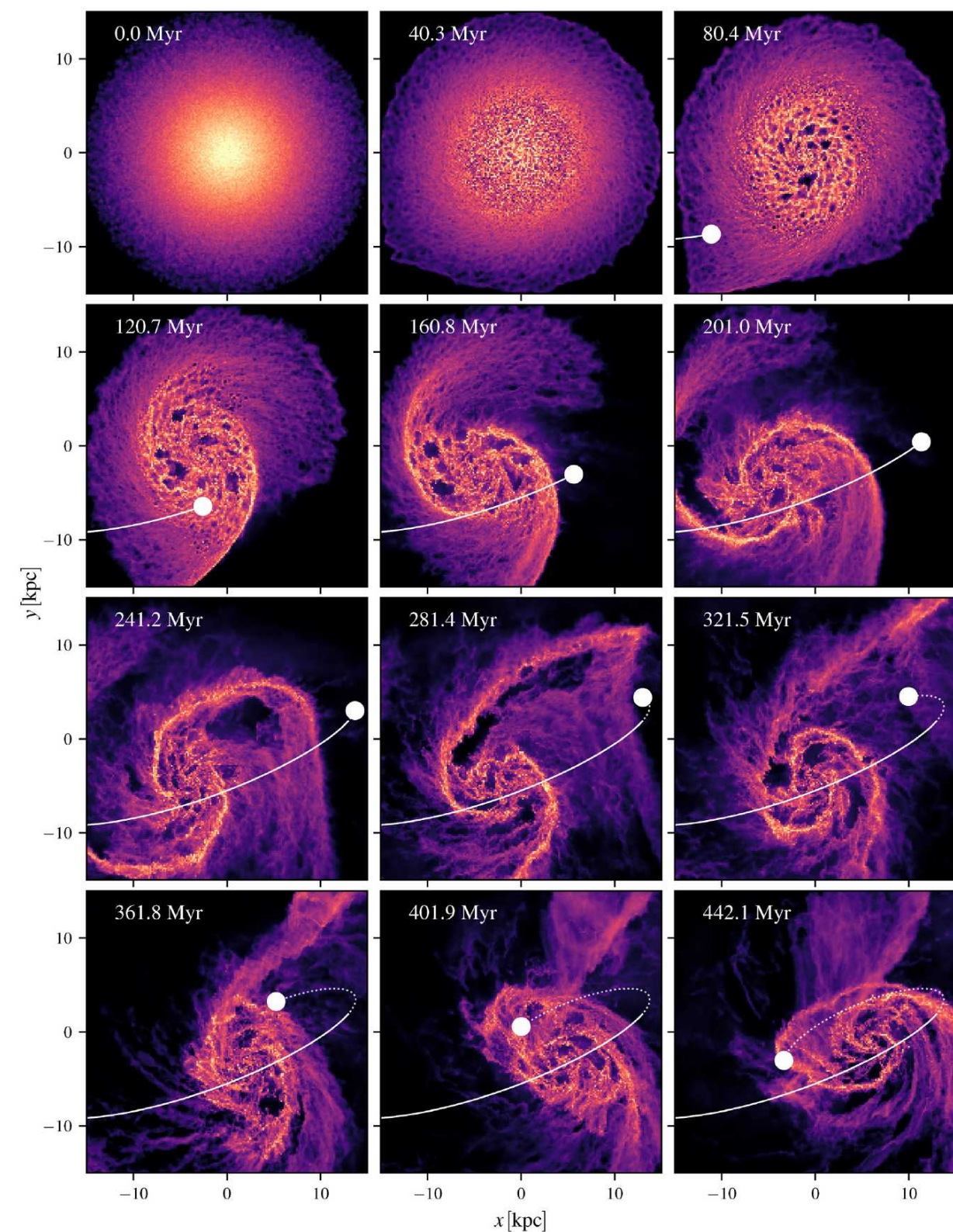
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2. The spiral pattern is a temporary phenomena, resulting for example from a recent event, like a merger or an interaction.





Tress 2020

# Possible solutions to the winding problem

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Could explain flocculent galaxies, but not grand-design ones

2. The spiral pattern is a temporary phenomena, resulting for example from a recent event, like a merger or an interaction.
3. The spiral structure is a stationary density wave that rotate rigidly in  $\rho$  and  $\phi$  and thus, not subject to the winding problem (Lin-Shu 1964).  
The spiral pattern is a kind a mode, like a drum that vibrate.

# **Stability of collisionless systems**

**The stability of rotating  
disks :**

**the dispersion relation  
(in a nutshell)**



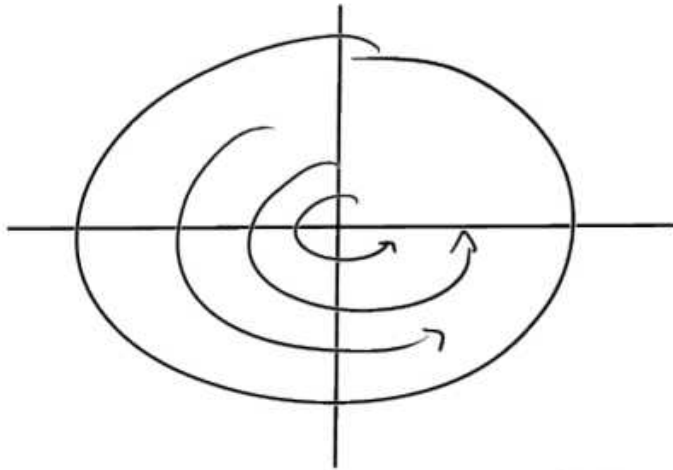
The dispersion relation for a razor thin rotating fluid disk

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Polar coordinates in the inertial rest frame

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$$\Sigma_d(R, \phi), \quad \phi_d(R, \phi), \quad p(R, \phi), \quad \vec{v}(R, \phi) = v_r(R, \phi) \vec{e}_r + v_\phi(R, \phi) \vec{e}_\phi$$



The disc can have  
a differential rotation

① Continuity equation  $\frac{\partial \Sigma_d}{\partial t} + \vec{\nabla}(\Sigma_d \vec{v}) = 0$

$$\frac{\partial \Sigma_d}{\partial t} + \frac{1}{R} \frac{\partial}{\partial R} (R \Sigma_d v_r) + \frac{1}{R} \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} (\Sigma_d v_\phi) = 0$$

② Euler equation  $\frac{\partial \vec{v}}{\partial t} + (\vec{v} \cdot \nabla) \vec{v} = - \frac{\nabla \rho}{\Sigma_d} - \nabla \phi$

$$\frac{\partial v_R}{\partial t} + v_R \frac{\partial v_R}{\partial R} + \frac{v_\phi}{R} \frac{\partial v_R}{\partial \phi} - \frac{v_\phi^2}{R} = - \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial R} - \frac{1}{\Sigma_d} \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial R}$$

$$\frac{\partial v_\phi}{\partial t} + v_R \frac{\partial v_\phi}{\partial R} + \frac{v_\phi}{R} \frac{\partial v_\phi}{\partial \phi} + \frac{v_R v_\phi}{R} = - \frac{1}{R} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \phi} - \frac{1}{\Sigma_d} \frac{1}{R} \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial \phi}$$

③ Poisson

$$\nabla^2 \phi = 4\pi G \Sigma \mathcal{D}(z)$$

④ Equation of state (polytropic)

$$\rho = \kappa \Sigma_d^\gamma$$

$$v_s^2 = \gamma \kappa \Sigma_0^{\gamma-1}$$

(unperturbed sound speed)

The response of the system to a weak perturbation  $-\epsilon \bar{\nabla} \phi_e$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \Sigma_{d0} &\rightarrow \Sigma_{d0} + \epsilon \Sigma_{d1} \\
 V_{R0} &\rightarrow \epsilon V_{R1} \\
 V_{\phi0} &\rightarrow V_{\phi0} + \epsilon V_{\phi1} \\
 h_0 &\rightarrow h_0 + \epsilon h_1 \\
 \phi_{d0} &\rightarrow \phi_{d0} + \epsilon \phi_{d1} \\
 \text{"} &\text{"} \\
 \phi_0 &\rightarrow \phi_{d0} + \underbrace{\epsilon \phi_{d1} + \epsilon \phi_e}
 \end{aligned}$$

disk only  
without the  
perturbation

total potential,  
includes the perturbation

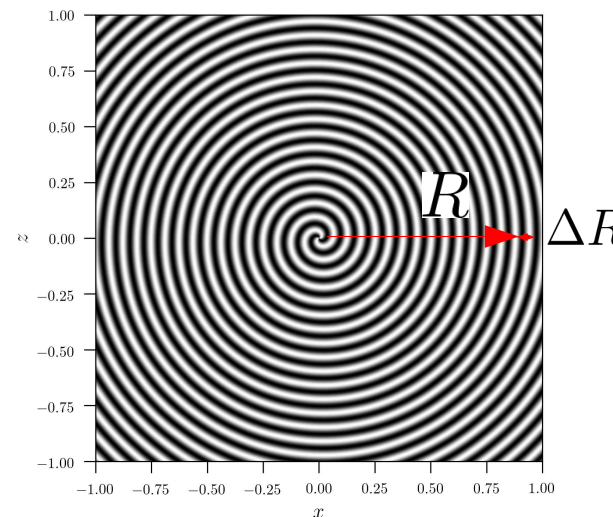
+ solutions of the form

$$\Sigma_{d1}(R, \phi, t) \sim e^{i(m\phi + \mathcal{S}(R,t) - \omega t)}$$

+ WKB approximation to solve the Poisson equation

$$\phi_{d1} = - \frac{2\pi G}{|k|} e^{i(m\phi + \mathcal{S}(R,t) - \omega t)}$$

$$k = \frac{\partial \mathcal{S}}{\partial R}$$



We obtain the dispersion relation: (for  $\Sigma_c = 0$ )

$$(\omega - m\Omega)^2 = \kappa^2 - 2\pi G \Sigma_0 |k| + v_s^2 k^2$$

$\kappa$ : epicycle radial frequency

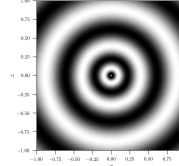
Note: if  $\Omega(R) = \text{cte}$   $\kappa = 2\Omega$  and  $m=0$  we recover the dispersion relation for uniformly rotating sheet

$$\omega^2 = 4\Omega^2 - 2\pi G \Sigma_0 |k| + v_s^2 k^2$$

## Interpretation

$$(\omega - m\Omega)^2 = \kappa^2 - 2\pi G \Sigma_0 |k| + v_s^2 k^2$$

## Axisymmetric perturbations $m = 0$



## "Cold disk"

$$v_s = 0$$

$$\omega^2 = \kappa^2 - 2\pi G \Sigma_0 |k|$$

$$k_{\text{crit}} := \frac{\kappa^2}{2\pi G \Sigma_0}$$

$$\lambda_{\text{crit}} := \frac{2\pi}{k_{\text{crit}}} = \frac{4\pi^2 G \Sigma_0}{\kappa^2}$$

$$\omega^2 = 2\pi G \Sigma_0 (k_{\text{crit}} - |k|)$$

$$|k| > k_{\text{crit}} \quad (\lambda < \lambda_{\text{crit}}) \quad \omega^2 < 0$$

UNSTABLE

$$|k| < k_{\text{crit}} \quad (\lambda > \lambda_{\text{crit}}) \quad \omega^2 > 0$$

STABLE

The differential rotation stabilizes the system at large scale

$$(\omega - m\Omega)^2 = \kappa^2 - 2\pi G \Sigma_0 |k| + v_s^2 k^2$$

"Non rotating fluid disk"

$$\kappa = 0$$

⚠ not realistic

$$\omega^2 = -2\pi G \Sigma_0 |k| + v_s^2 k^2$$

$$k_{\text{crit}} := \frac{2\pi G \Sigma_0}{v_s^2} \quad (\equiv k_{\text{Jeans}}) \quad \lambda_{\text{crit}} = \frac{2\pi}{k_{\text{crit}}} = \frac{v_s^2}{G \Sigma_0}$$

$$\omega^2 = v_s^2 |k| (|k| - k_{\text{crit}})$$

$$|k| > k_{\text{crit}} \quad (\lambda < \lambda_{\text{crit}}) \quad \omega^2 > 0$$

STABLE

$$|k| < k_{\text{crit}} \quad (\lambda > \lambda_{\text{crit}}) \quad \omega^2 < 0$$

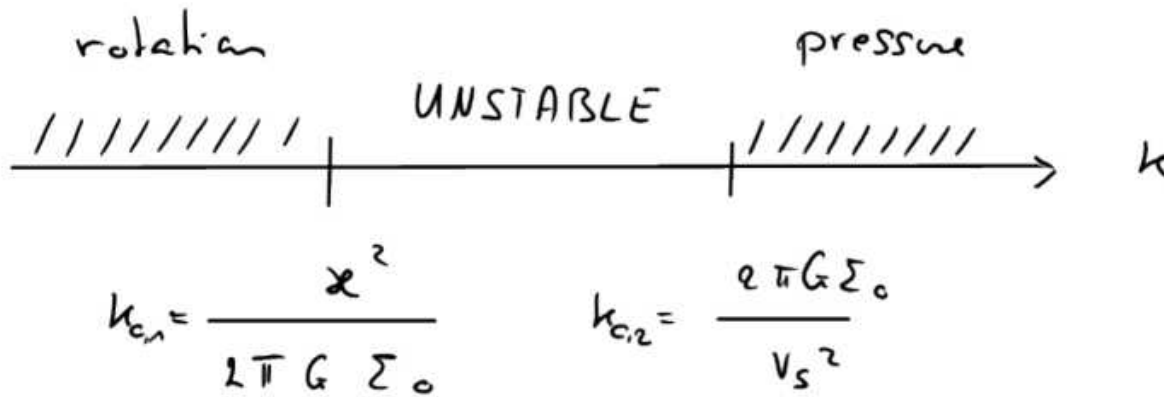
UNSTABLE

The pressure stabilizes the system at small scale

$$(\omega - m\Omega)^2 = \mathcal{L}^2 - 2\pi G \Sigma_0 |k| + v_s^2 k^2$$

Rotating fluid disk

$$\omega^2 = \mathcal{L}^2 - 2\pi G \Sigma_0 |k| + v_s^2 k^2$$



Complete stability

$$k_1 \gg k_2$$

$$Q := \frac{\mathcal{L} v_s}{\pi G \Sigma_0} > 1$$

# Stability of stellar disks

(using a Schwarzschild DF)

$$Q := \frac{\alpha v_c}{\pi G \Sigma_0} > 1$$

$$Q := \frac{\alpha \sigma_R}{3.36 G \Sigma_0} > 1$$

Schroeder - Toomre  
criterion

(1964)



## Non axisymmetric perturbations

$$\boxed{(\omega - m\Omega)^2 = \kappa^2 - 2\pi G \Sigma_0 |k| + v_s^2 k^2}$$

$$\omega = \sqrt{\kappa^2 - 2\pi G \Sigma_0 |k| + v_s^2 k^2} + m\Omega$$

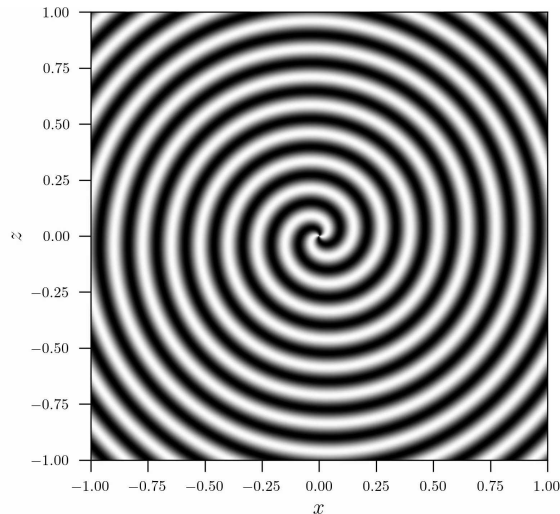
- the stability is determined for  $m = 0$  (value of  $\sqrt{\quad}$ )
- $m\Omega \in \text{Re}$   $\rightarrow$  add an oscillatory term  $e^{-i m \Omega t}$   
with a frequency that correspond to  
the passage of spiral arm

## Non axisymmetric perturbations

$$\left(\omega - m\Omega\right)^2 = \kappa^2 - 2\pi G \Sigma_0 |k| + v_s^2 k^2$$

$$\omega = \sqrt{\kappa^2 - 2\pi G \Sigma_0 |k| + v_s^2 k^2} + m\Omega$$

- the stability is determined for  $m = 0$  (value of  $\sqrt{\quad}$ )
- $m\Omega \in \text{Re}$  → add an oscillatory term  $e^{-i m \Omega t}$  with a frequency that correspond to the passage of spiral arm



# **Stability of collisionless systems**

**The stability of rotating  
disks :**

**the dispersion relation  
(details)**

The dispersion relation for a water thin fluid disk

polar coordinates

$$\Sigma_d(R, \phi), \phi_d(R, \phi), p(R, \phi), \vec{v}(R, \phi) = v_r(R, \phi) \vec{e}_r + v_\phi(R, \phi) \vec{e}_\phi$$

① Continuity equation  $\frac{\partial \Sigma_d}{\partial t} + \vec{\nabla}(\Sigma_d \vec{v}) = 0$

$$\frac{\partial \Sigma_d}{\partial t} + \frac{1}{R} \frac{\partial}{\partial R} (R \Sigma_d v_r) + \frac{1}{R} \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} (\Sigma_d v_\phi)$$

② Euler equation  $\frac{\partial \vec{v}}{\partial t} + (\vec{v} \cdot \vec{\nabla}) \vec{v} = - \frac{\vec{\nabla} p}{\Sigma_d} - \vec{\nabla} \phi$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial v_r}{\partial t} + v_r \frac{\partial v_r}{\partial R} + \frac{v_\phi}{R} \frac{\partial v_r}{\partial \phi} - \frac{v_\phi^2}{R} &= - \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial R} - \frac{1}{\Sigma_d} \frac{\partial p}{\partial R} \\ \frac{\partial v_\phi}{\partial t} + v_r \frac{\partial v_\phi}{\partial R} + \frac{v_\phi}{R} \frac{\partial v_\phi}{\partial \phi} + \frac{v_r v_\phi}{R} &= - \frac{1}{R} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \phi} - \frac{1}{\Sigma_d} \frac{1}{R} \frac{\partial p}{\partial \phi} \end{aligned}$$

③ Poisson  $\nabla^2 \phi = 4\pi G \Sigma \delta(z)$

④ Equation of state (polytropic)

$$\rho = k \Sigma_d^\gamma$$

$$v_s^2 = \gamma k \Sigma_0^{\gamma-2} \quad (\text{unperturbed sound speed})$$

$$h = \frac{\gamma}{\gamma-1} k \Sigma_d^{\gamma-2}$$

$$\frac{\partial h}{\partial R} = \gamma k \Sigma_d^{\gamma-2} \frac{\partial \Sigma}{\partial R}$$

(Specific enthalpy)

$$\frac{\partial h}{\partial \phi} = \gamma k \Sigma_d^{\gamma-2} \frac{\partial \Sigma}{\partial \phi}$$

The Euler Equation becomes

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{\partial v_R}{\partial t} + v_R \frac{\partial v_R}{\partial R} + \frac{v_\phi}{R} \frac{\partial v_R}{\partial \phi} - \frac{v_\phi^2}{R} = - \frac{\partial}{\partial R} (\phi + h) \\ \frac{\partial v_\phi}{\partial t} + v_R \frac{\partial v_\phi}{\partial R} + \frac{v_\phi}{R} \frac{\partial v_\phi}{\partial \phi} + \frac{v_\phi v_R}{R} = - \frac{1}{R} \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} (\phi + h) \end{array} \right.$$

# Isolated system at equilibrium

$$\Sigma_{d0}, \phi_0, \rho_0, \vec{v}_0 + \text{axisymmetric} \\ + v_r = 0 \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} = 0 \right)$$

① Continuity equation  $\rho = 0$

② Euler equation  $\phi: 0 = 0$

⊕

$$R: \frac{v_{\phi_0}^2}{R} = \frac{\partial}{\partial R} (\phi_0 + h_0) = \frac{\partial \phi_0}{\partial R} + v_s^2 \frac{d}{dR} \ln \Sigma_0$$

centrifugal  
acceleration

gravity  
force

pressure  
force

Notes ① ⊕  $v_s^2 \frac{d}{dR} \ln \Sigma_0 = \frac{\partial P}{\partial \Sigma} \Big|_{\Sigma_0} \frac{1}{\Sigma_0} \frac{\partial \Sigma_0}{\partial R} = \frac{1}{\Sigma_0} \frac{\partial P}{\partial R} = \frac{1}{\Sigma_0} \vec{\nabla} P$

②  $v_s \approx 10 \text{ km/s}$   
 $v_{\phi} \approx 100 \text{ km/s}$  }  $\Rightarrow$  we neglect the pressure

③  $v_{\phi_0} \approx \sqrt{R \frac{\partial \phi_0}{\partial R}} = R \Omega(R)$

The response of the system to a weak perturbation

-  $\varepsilon \vec{D} \phi_e$

$$\Sigma_{d0} \rightarrow \Sigma_{d0} + \varepsilon \Sigma_{d1}$$

$$V_{R0} = 0 \rightarrow \varepsilon V_{R1}$$

$$V_{\phi0} \rightarrow V_{\phi0} + \varepsilon V_{\phi1}$$

$$h_0 \rightarrow h_0 + \varepsilon h_1$$

$$\phi_{d0} \rightarrow \phi_{d0} + \varepsilon \phi_{d1}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{"} \\ \phi_0 \end{aligned} \rightarrow \phi_{d0} + \underbrace{\varepsilon \phi_2}_{\varepsilon \phi_{d1} + \varepsilon \phi_e}$$

disk only  
without the  
perturbation

total potential,  
includes the perturbation

## Linearized equations for a water thin fluid disk

### ① Continuity equation

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \Sigma_{d1} + \Omega \frac{\partial \Sigma_{d1}}{\partial \phi} + \frac{1}{R} \frac{\partial}{\partial R} (R V_{R1} \Sigma_0) + \frac{\Sigma_0}{R} \frac{\partial V_{\phi 1}}{\partial \phi} = 0$$

### ② Euler equation

$$\frac{\partial V_{R1}}{\partial t} + \Omega \frac{\partial V_{R1}}{\partial \phi} - 2\Omega V_{\phi 1} = - \frac{\partial}{\partial R} (\phi_1 + h_1)$$

$$\frac{\partial V_{\phi 1}}{\partial t} + \left[ \frac{d(\Omega R)}{dR} + \Omega \right] V_{R1} + \Omega \frac{\partial V_{\phi 1}}{\partial \phi} = - \frac{1}{R} \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} (\phi_1 + h_1)$$

$$-2B(R)$$

Oort constant

$$\alpha^2 = -4B\Omega$$



# Solutions

assume waves of the form

(can be a spiral)

5  
radial  
functions

$$\underline{\Sigma_{dr}} = \text{Re} \left[ \Sigma_{da}(R) e^{i(m\phi - \omega t)} \right]$$

$$\underline{v_{Rr}} = \text{Re} \left[ v_{Ra}(R) e^{i(m\phi - \omega t)} \right]$$

$$\underline{v_{\phi r}} = \text{Re} \left[ v_{\phi a}(R) e^{i(m\phi - \omega t)} \right]$$

$$\underline{h_r} = \text{Re} \left[ h_a(R) e^{i(m\phi - \omega t)} \right]$$

$$\underline{\Sigma_a} = \text{Re} \left[ \Sigma_a(R) e^{i(m\phi - \omega t)} \right]$$

$$\underline{\phi_a} = \text{Re} \left[ \phi_a(R) e^{i(m\phi - \omega t)} \right]$$

without  
perturbation

total:  
disk + perturbation

$$\Sigma_a = \Sigma_{da} + \Sigma_e$$

$$\phi_a = \phi_{da} + \phi_e$$

① The continuity equation gives

$$-i(\omega - m\Omega) \underline{\Sigma_{da}} + \frac{1}{R} \frac{d}{dR} (R \underline{v_{Ra}} \Sigma_0) + \frac{i m \Sigma_0}{R} \underline{v_{\phi a}} = 0$$

② The Euler equation gives

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \underline{v_{R_a}}(R) = \frac{i}{\Delta} \left[ (w - m\Omega) \frac{d}{dR} (\underline{\phi_a + h_a}) - \frac{2m\Omega}{R} (\underline{\phi_a + h_a}) \right] \\ \underline{v_{\phi_a}}(R) = - \frac{i}{\Delta} \left[ 2B \frac{d}{dR} (\underline{\phi_a + h_a}) + \frac{m(w - m\Omega)}{R} (\underline{\phi_a + h_a}) \right] \end{array} \right.$$

with  $\Delta \equiv \alpha^2 - (w - m\Omega)^2$

Notes ①  $v_{R_a}, v_{\phi_a}, \alpha, \Delta, \Omega$  are functions of  $R$  only

② if  $\Delta = 0 \Rightarrow$  divergence

$$\alpha^2 = (w - m\Omega)^2$$

$\Omega_p = \frac{w}{m}$  pattern speed

$$= m^2 \left( \frac{w}{m} - \Omega \right)^2 = m^2 (\Omega_p - \Omega)^2$$

$\Omega_p = \Omega \equiv \frac{w}{m}$

!!! problems at the  
Lindblad resonance

④ "Equation of state"  $h = \frac{\gamma}{\gamma-1} k \Sigma_d^{\gamma-2}$   $v_s^2 = \gamma k \Sigma_0^{\gamma-2}$

$$\underline{h_a} = \gamma k \Sigma_0^{\gamma-2} \underline{\Sigma_{da}} = v_s^2 \frac{\underline{\Sigma_{da}}}{\underline{\Sigma_0}}$$

$\Rightarrow$  we have 4 equations for 5 unknowns  $\Sigma_{da}, h_a, \phi_a, v_{Ra}, v_{\phi a}$

⑤ Poisson Equation use WKB approximation

$$\begin{aligned} \Sigma_n &= \text{Re} \left[ \Sigma_a(r) e^{i(m\phi - \omega t)} \right] \\ &= \text{Re} \left[ e^{-i\omega t} \Sigma_a(r) e^{im\phi} \right] \\ &= \text{Re} \left[ H(r,t) e^{iS(r,t)} e^{im\phi} \right] \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} k &= \frac{\partial S}{\partial R} \\ |kR| &\gg 1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\phi_n = - \frac{2\pi G}{k} \underbrace{H(r,t)}_{\text{slow variation}} \underbrace{e^{iS(r,t)}}_{\text{fast variation}} \underbrace{e^{im\phi}}_{\text{azimuthal symmetry}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \Sigma_{da} \sim \phi_a$$

In addition

$$\textcircled{4} \text{ " Eq. of state " } \Rightarrow h_e \sim \Sigma_{de} \sim \phi_1 \sim e^{i\beta(R,t)}$$

Thus a)  $\frac{d}{dR} (\phi_a + h_a) \sim (\phi_a + h_a) i \frac{d}{dR} \beta = (\phi_a + h_a) ik$

b)  $\frac{1}{R} (\phi_a + h_a) \cong \frac{1}{R} (\phi_a + h_a) ik \frac{1}{ik} = \frac{-i}{Rk} \frac{d}{dR} (\phi_a + h_a)$

as  $Rk \gg 1$   $\frac{1}{R} (\phi_a + h_a) \ll \frac{d}{dR} (\phi_a + h_a)$

① The continuity equation becomes

$$\frac{d}{dR} (R \Sigma_0 v_{Ra}) = ik R \Sigma_0 v_{Ra}$$

$$-(\omega - m\Omega) \underline{\Sigma_{da}} + k \Sigma_0 \underline{v_{Ra}} = 0$$

② The Euler equation becomes

+ EOS + poisson  
( $h_e \sim \Sigma_{de}$ ) ( $\Sigma_a \sim \phi_a$ )

$$\underline{v_{Ra}} = - \frac{\omega - m\Omega}{\Delta} k (\underline{\phi_a} + \underline{h_a})$$

$$\underline{v_{\phi a}} = - \frac{2i\beta}{\Delta} k (\underline{\phi_a} + \underline{h_a})$$

We can solve to get

$$\Sigma_{da} = \left( \frac{2\pi G \Sigma_0 |k|}{\mathcal{X}^2 - (\omega - m\Omega)^2 + v_s^2 k^2} \right) \Sigma_a$$

which gives the dispersion relation if  $\Sigma_e = 0$  ( $\Sigma_{da} = \Sigma_a$ )

$$(\omega - m\Omega)^2 = \mathcal{X}^2 - 2\pi G \Sigma_0 |k| + v_s^2 k^2$$

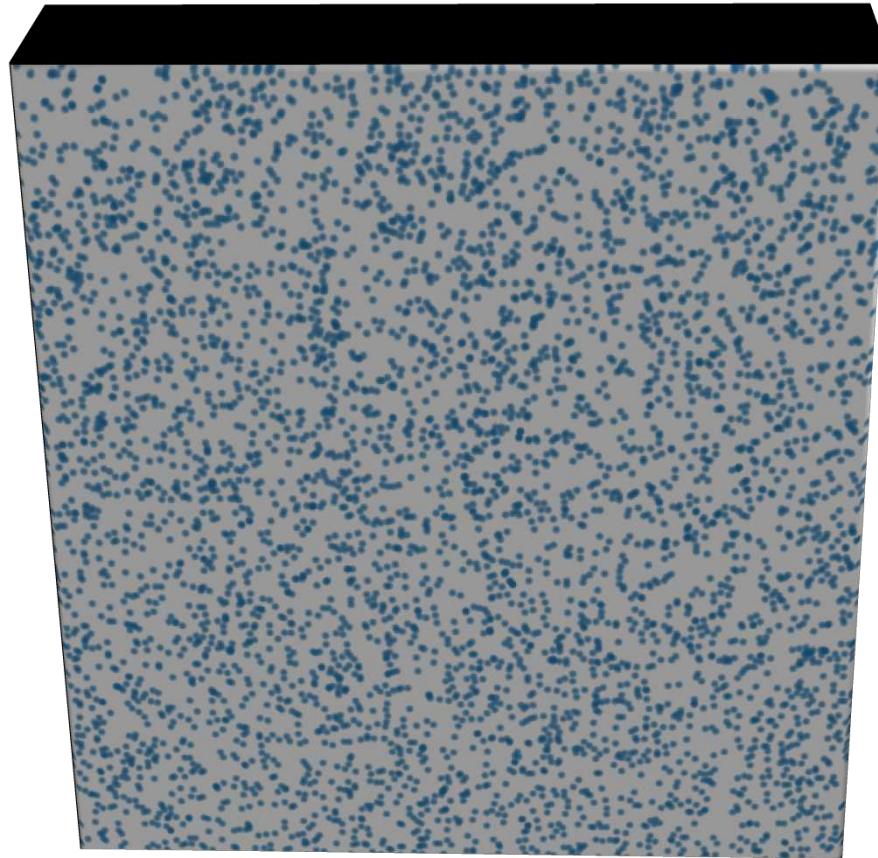
Note: if  $\Omega(R) = \Omega_e$   $\mathcal{X} = 2\Omega$  and we recover the dispersion relation for uniformly rotating sheet

$$\omega^2 = 4\Omega^2 - 2\pi G \Sigma_0 |k| + v_s^2 k^2$$

# **Stability of collisionless systems**

**The origin of spiral  
structures :**

**another view**



- Infinite slab of infinite thickness, homogeneous  $\Sigma$
- Particles with random velocities (constants vel. dispersion  $\sigma$ )
- Gravitational interactions only (collisionless system).



# The Jeans instability

(Jeans 1902)

- Infinite razor thin medium

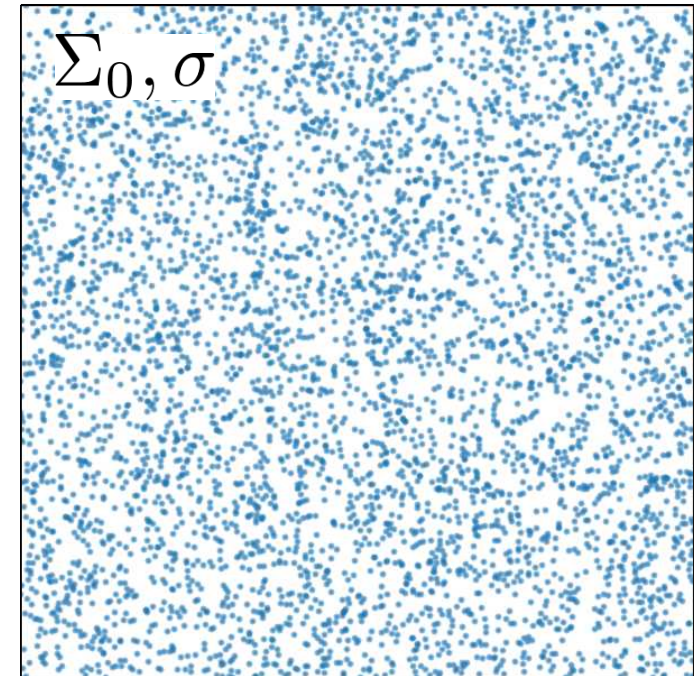
$$\lambda_J = 2 r_J = \frac{\sigma^2}{G \Sigma_0}$$

$$\lambda > \lambda_J$$

unstable

$$\lambda < \lambda_J$$

stable





# The Jeans instability

(Jeans 1902)

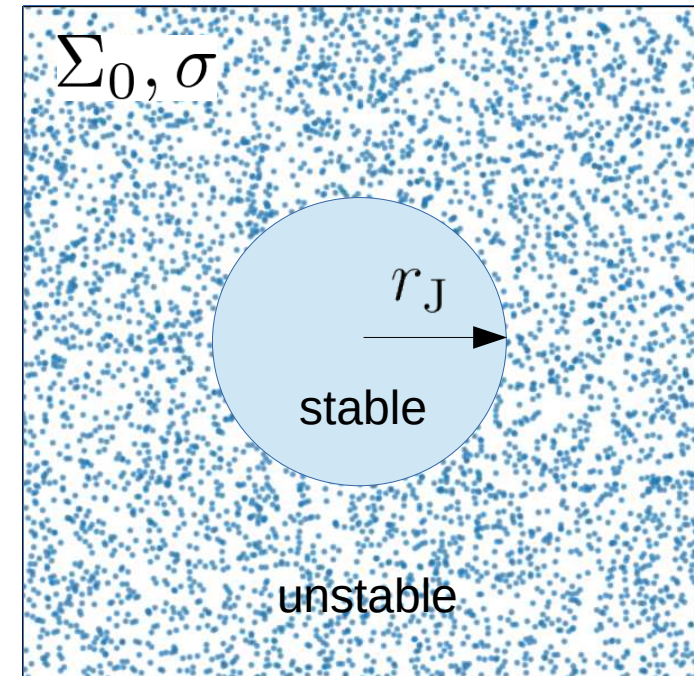
- Infinite razor thin medium

$$\lambda_J = 2 r_J = \frac{\sigma^2}{G \Sigma_0}$$

$$r > r_J \qquad r < r_J$$

unstable

stable



The link with the virial equilibrium

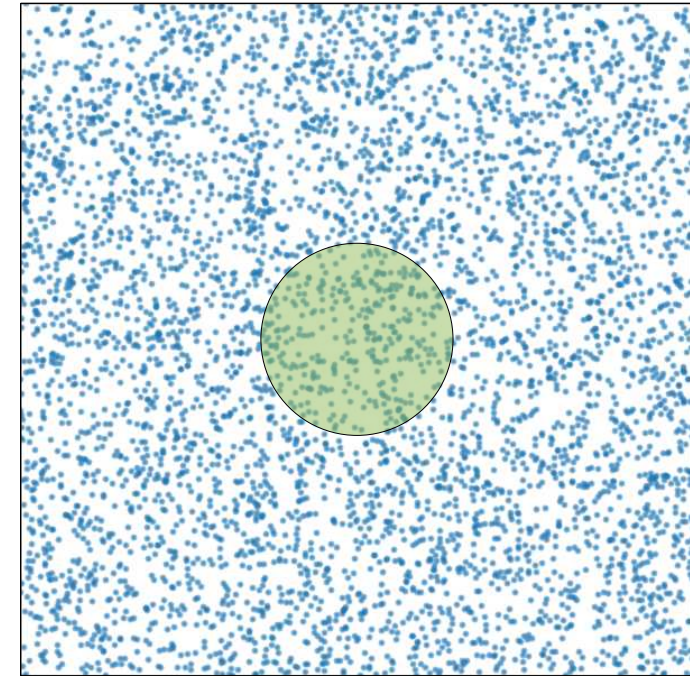
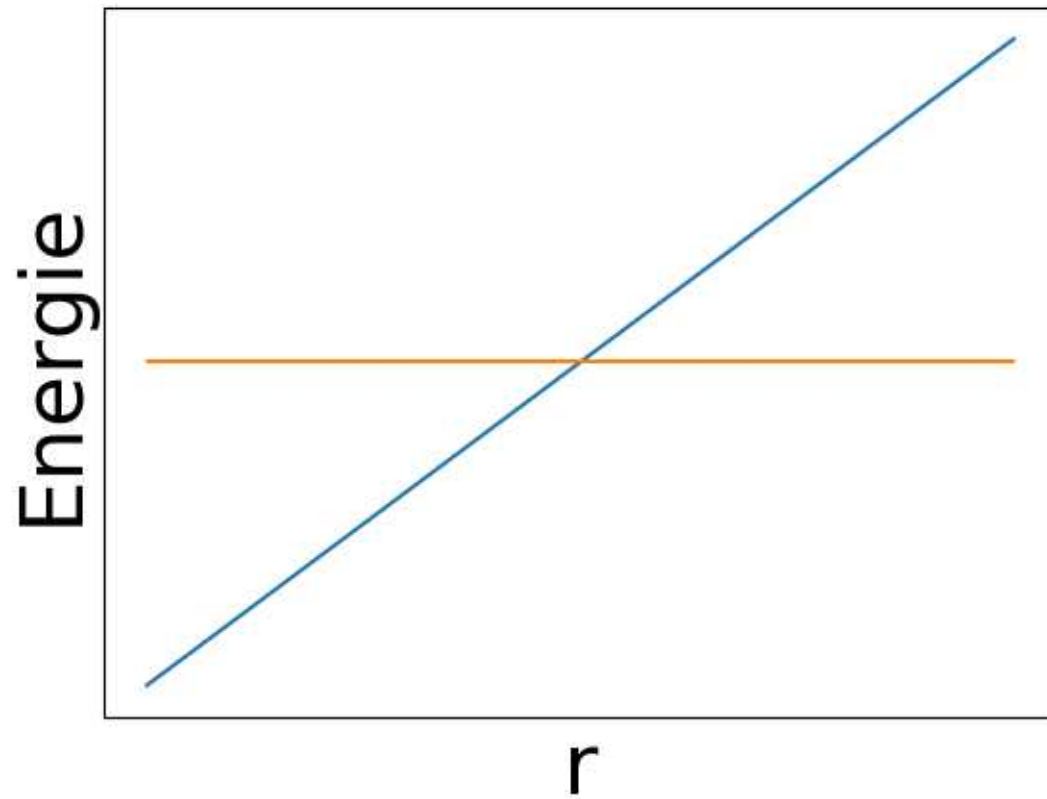
$$\sigma^2 = \frac{2 G M_J}{\pi r_J}$$

with

$$M_J = \pi r_J^2 \Sigma_0$$

# The Jeans instability

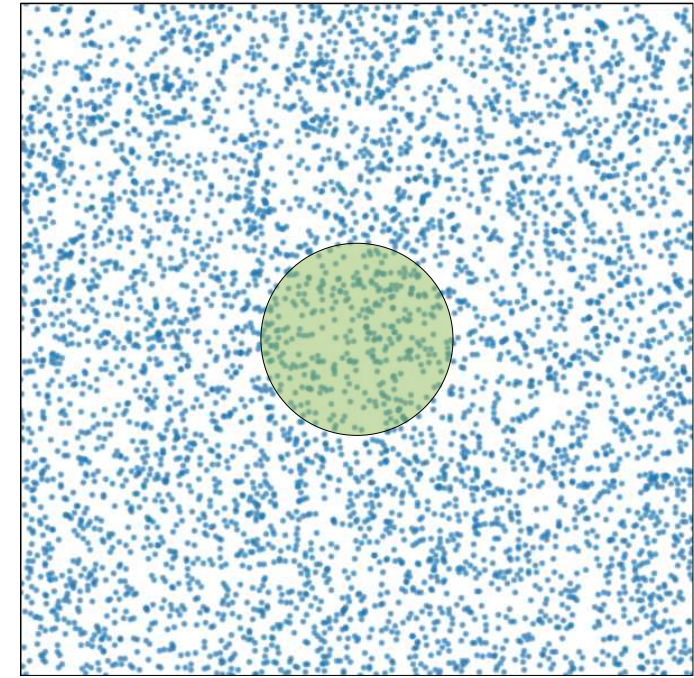
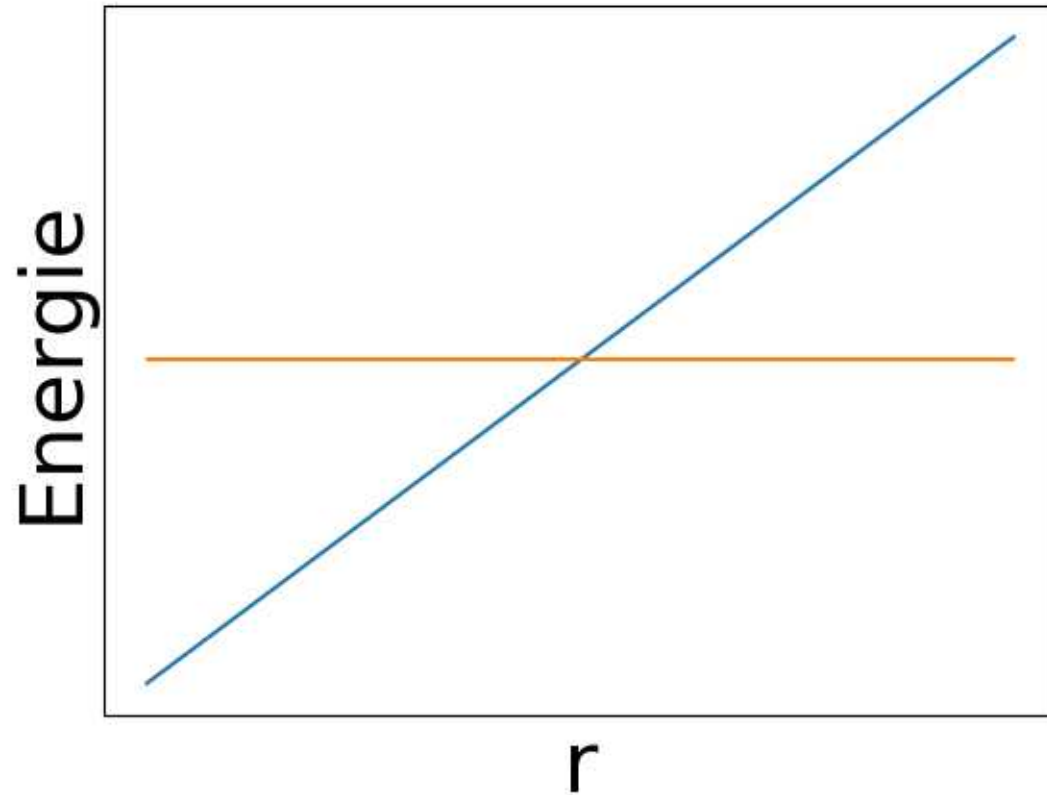
(Jeans 1902)



$$K \sim \sigma^2$$

# The Jeans instability

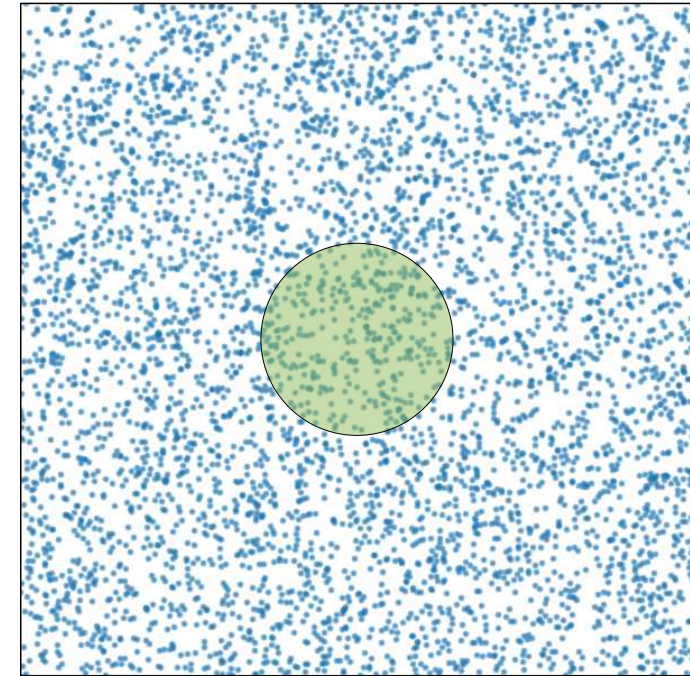
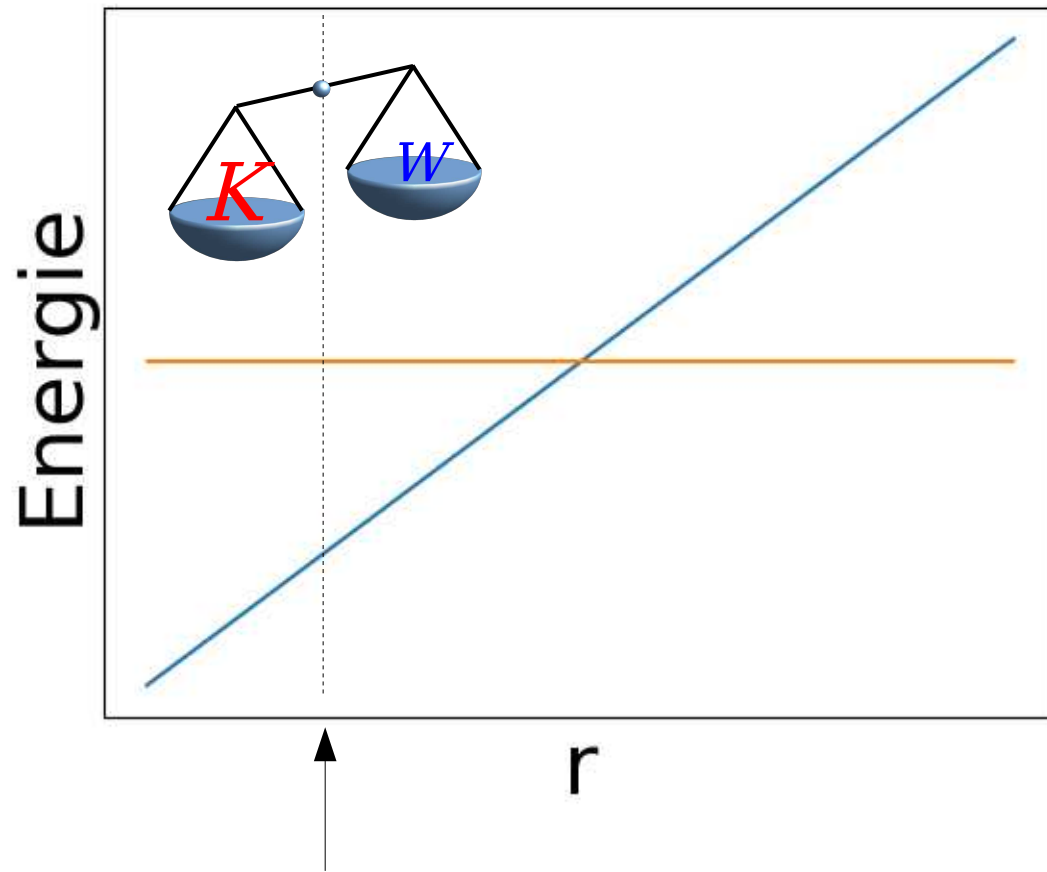
(Jeans 1902)



$$K \sim \sigma^2 \quad W \sim \frac{G M(r)}{r} = G \Sigma \pi r$$

# The Jeans instability

(Jeans 1902)

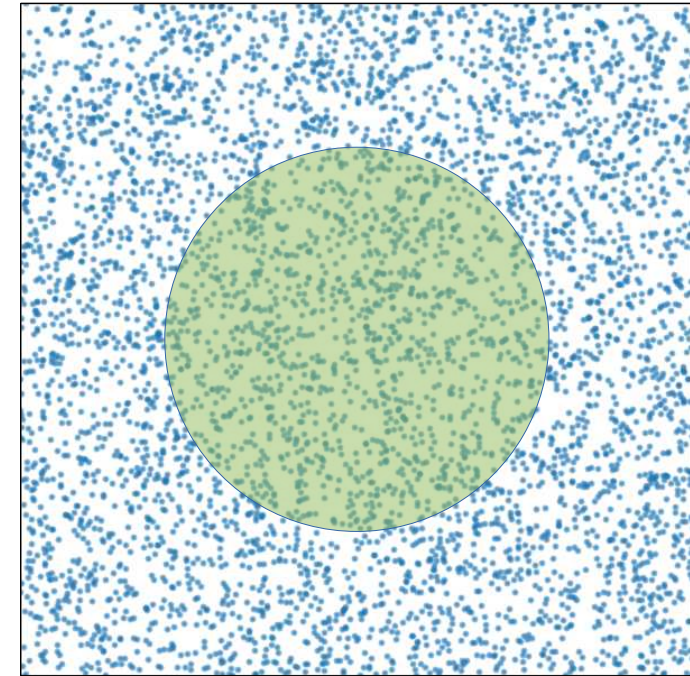
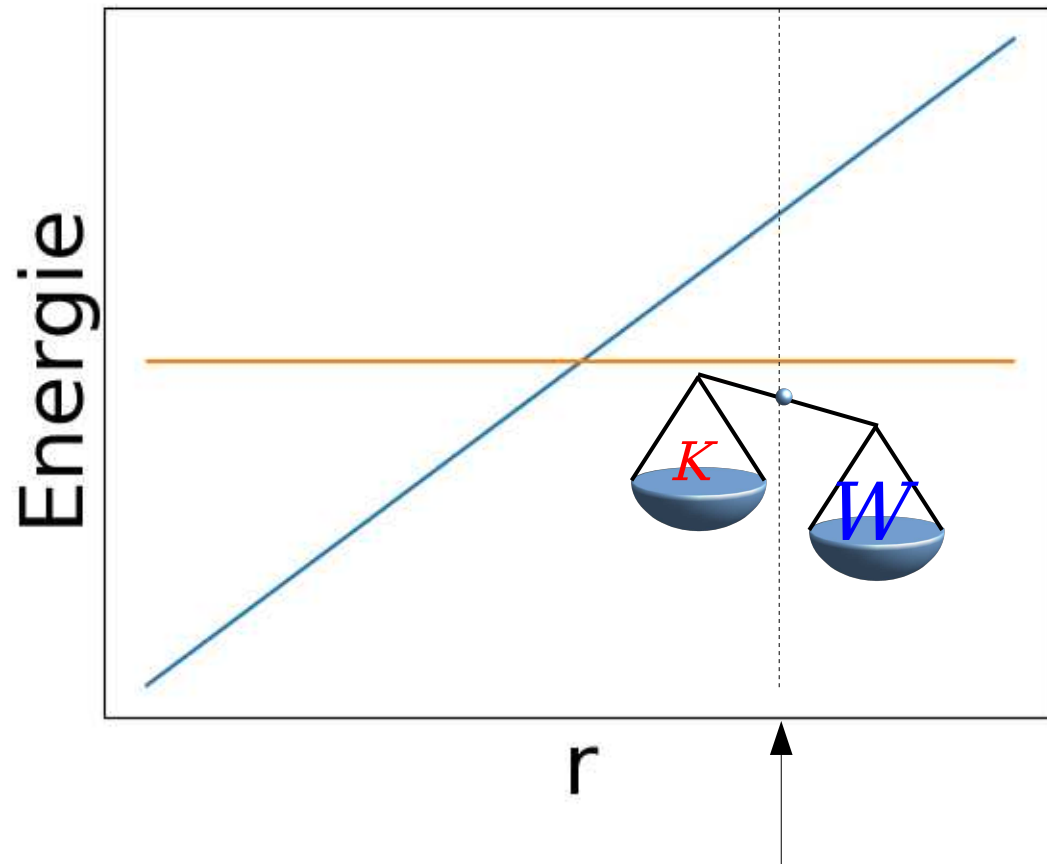


$$K \sim \sigma^2 \quad W \sim \frac{G M(r)}{r} = G \Sigma \pi r$$

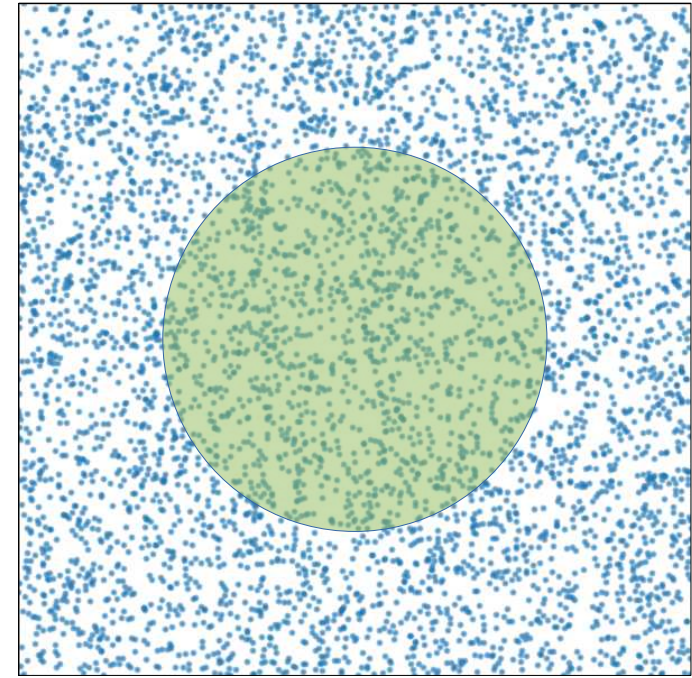
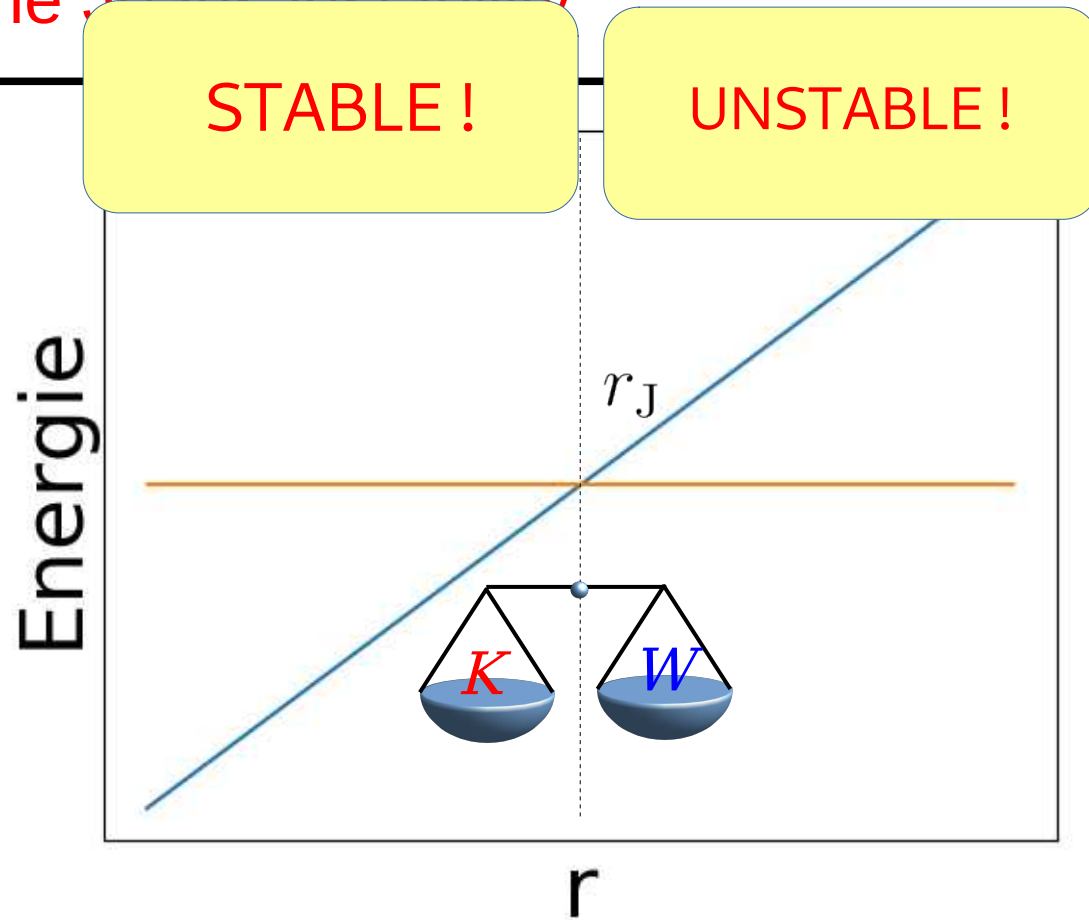


# The Jeans instability

(Jeans 1902)



$$K \sim \sigma^2 \quad W \sim \frac{G M(r)}{r} = G \Sigma \pi r$$



$$K \sim \sigma^2 \quad W \sim \frac{G M(r)}{r} = G \Sigma \pi r$$

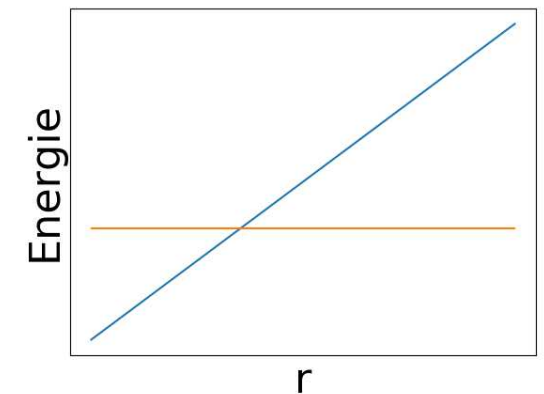
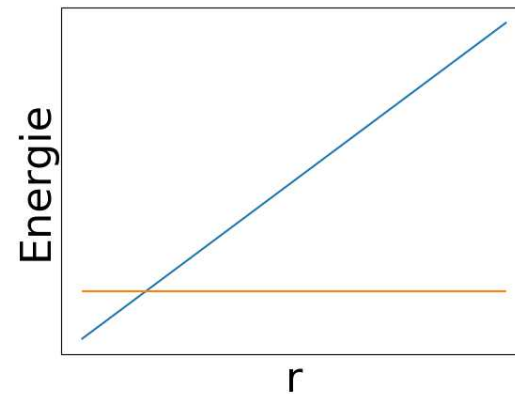
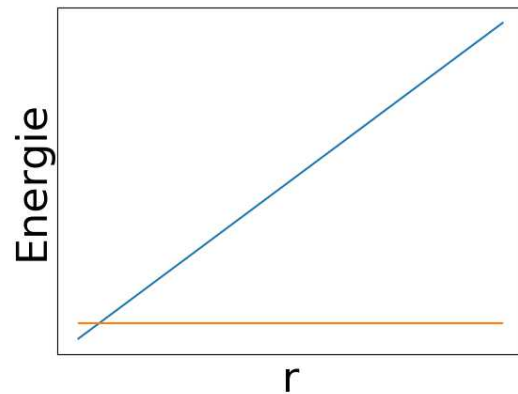


# The Jeans instability in an infinite razor-thin sheet

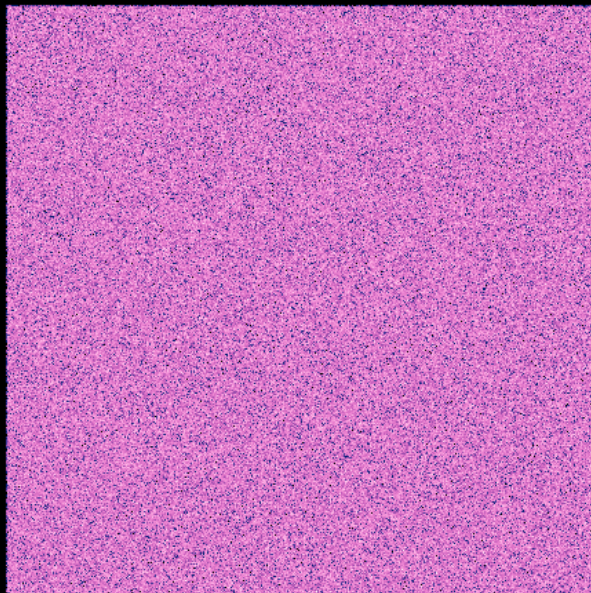
$$\sigma = 0.1, r_J = 0.005$$

$$\sigma = 0.3, r_J = 0.05$$

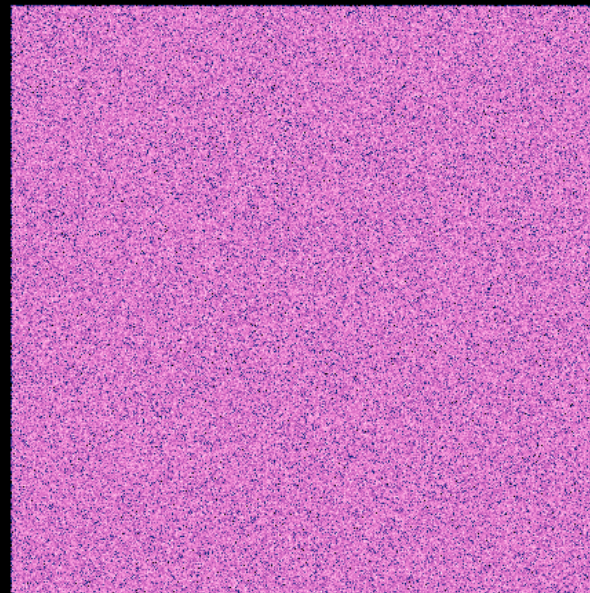
$$\sigma = 0.7, r_J = 0.25$$



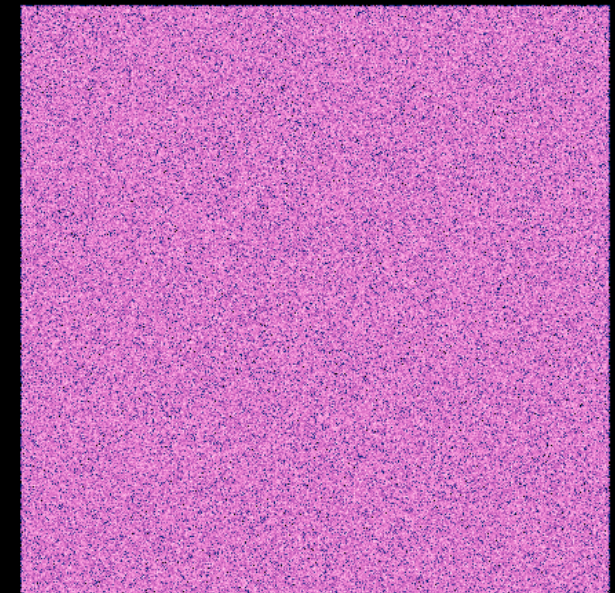
$t = 0.00$



$r_J = 0.005$



$r_J = 0.05$



$r_J = 0.25$

---

Can we stabilize a razor-thin sheet  
against gravitational instabilities  
using non-random motions ?

$$2T = K$$

# Stabilizing using shearing motions

$V(R)$  : a vertical velocity field (aligned with the y axis)

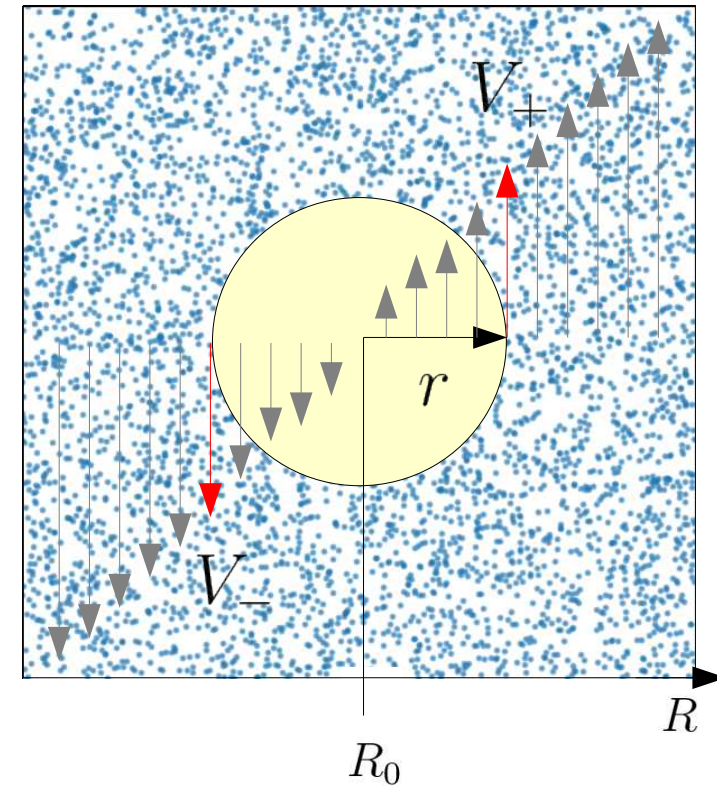
At the edges of a disk

$$V_+ = V(R_0) + \left( \frac{dV}{dR} \Big|_{R_0} \right) r$$

$$V_- = V(R_0) - \left( \frac{dV}{dR} \Big|_{R_0} \right) r$$

- Kinetic energy

$$2 E_{\text{kin}} \cong \Delta V^2 = (V_+ - V_-)^2 = 4 \left( \frac{dV}{dR} \Big|_{R_0} \right)^2 r^2$$







# Stabilizing using shearing motions

- Kinetic energy

$$2 E_{\text{kin}} = \frac{1}{\pi r^2} \int_S V(R)^2 ds$$

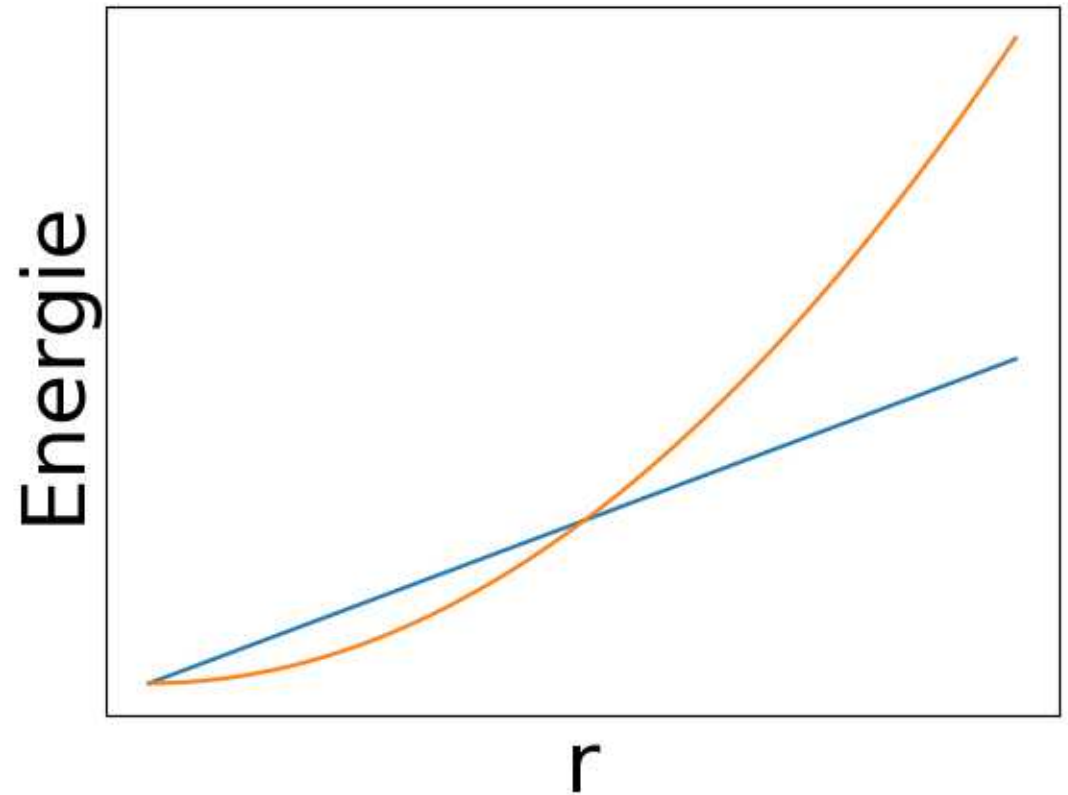
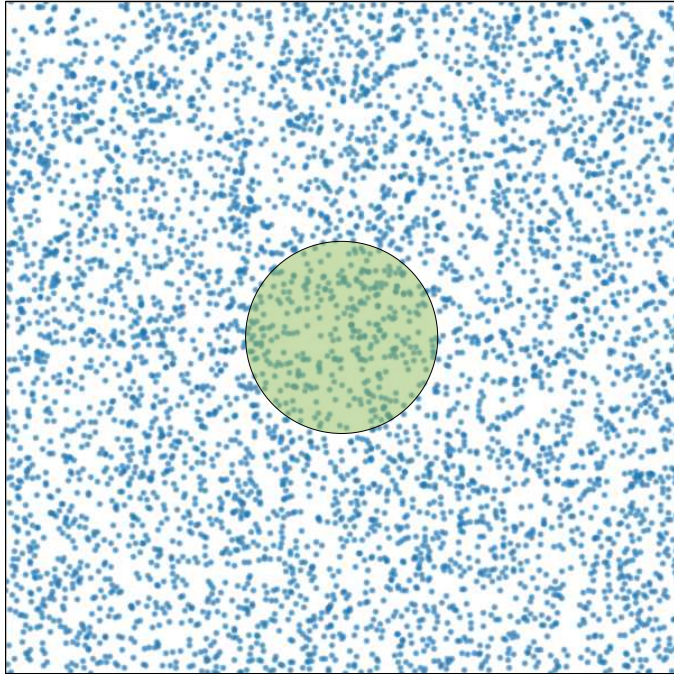
$$V(R)^2 \cong V^2(R_0) + \left( \left. \frac{dV}{dR} \right|_{R_0} \right)^2 (R - R_0)^2 + 2 V(R_0) \left. \frac{dV}{dR} \right|_{R_0} (R - R_0)$$

$$2 E_{\text{kin}} = V^2(R_0) + \frac{1}{2} \left( \left. \frac{dV}{dR} \right|_{R_0} \right)^2 r^2$$

- Potential energy

$$E_{\text{pot}} = \frac{G M_S}{r} = \frac{G \Sigma \pi r^2}{r}$$

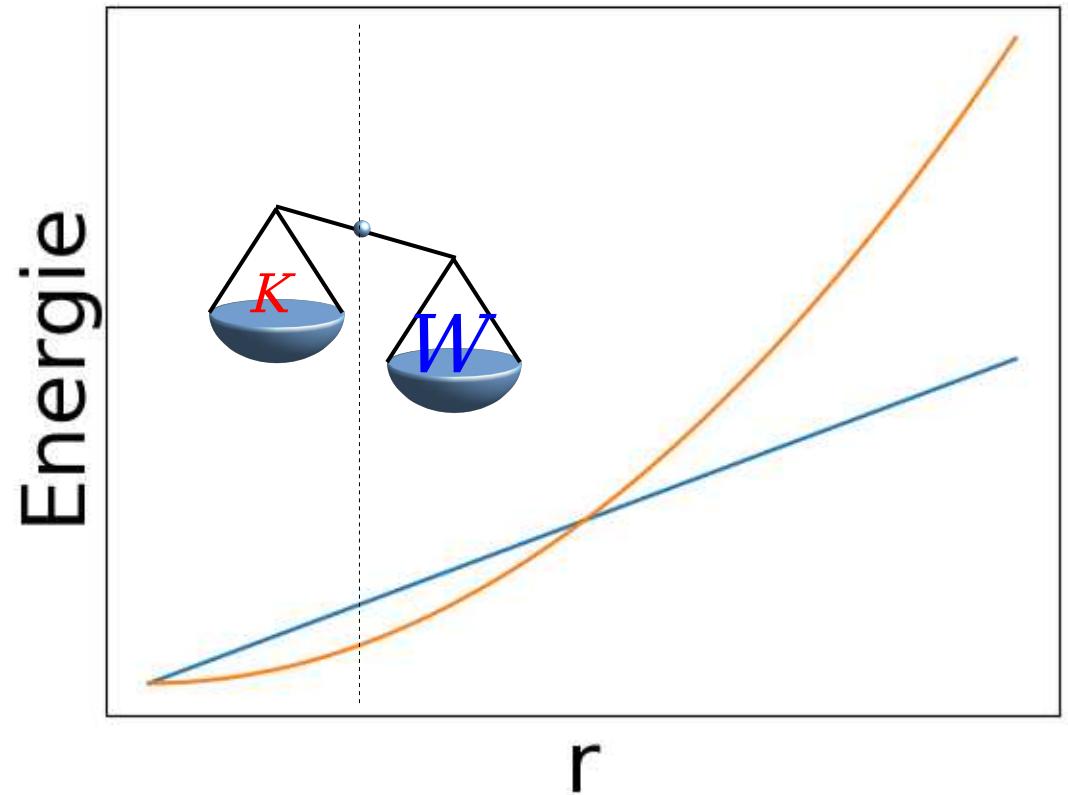
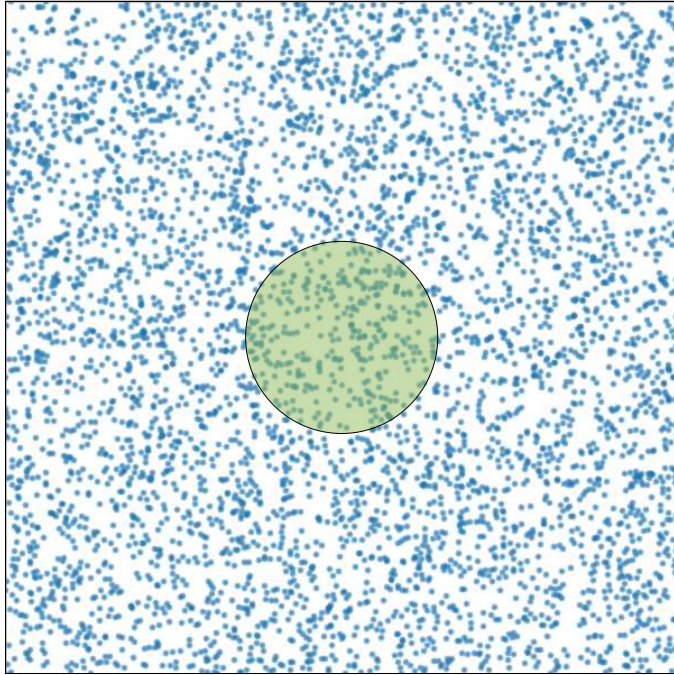
# Stabilizing using shearing motions



$$K \sim \left( \left. \frac{dV}{dR} \right|_{R_0} \right)^2 r^2$$

$$W \sim \frac{G M(r)}{r} = G \Sigma \pi r$$

# Stabilizing using shearing motions

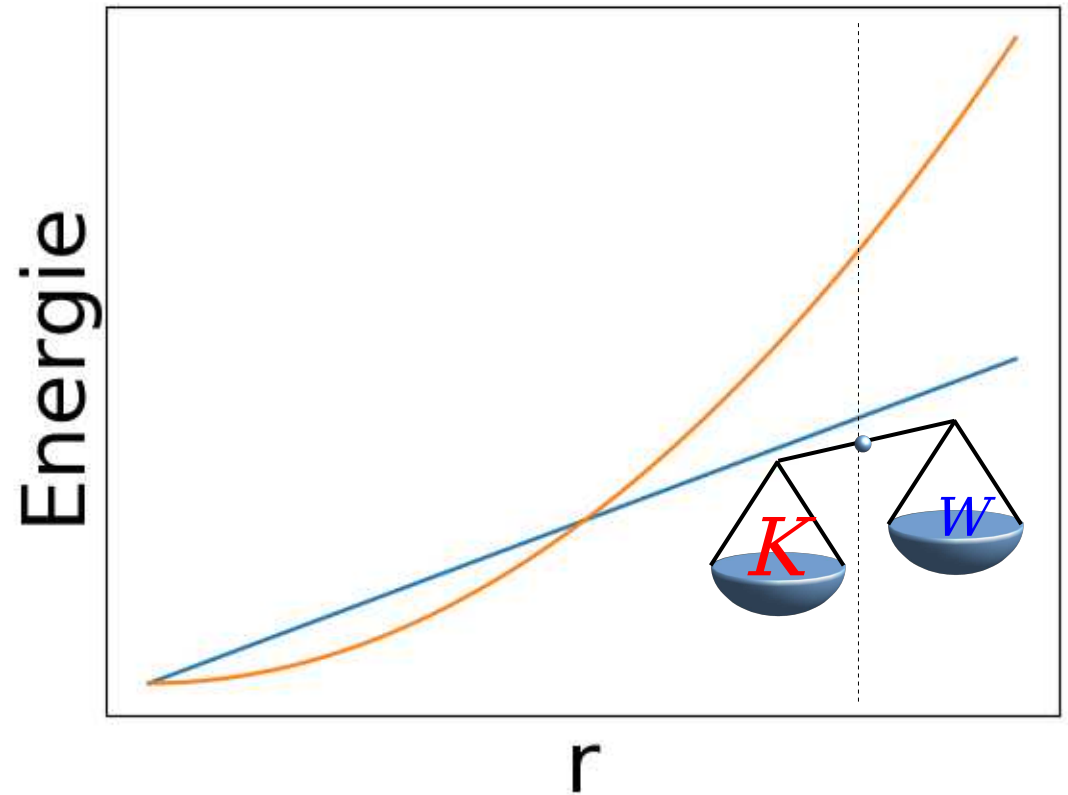
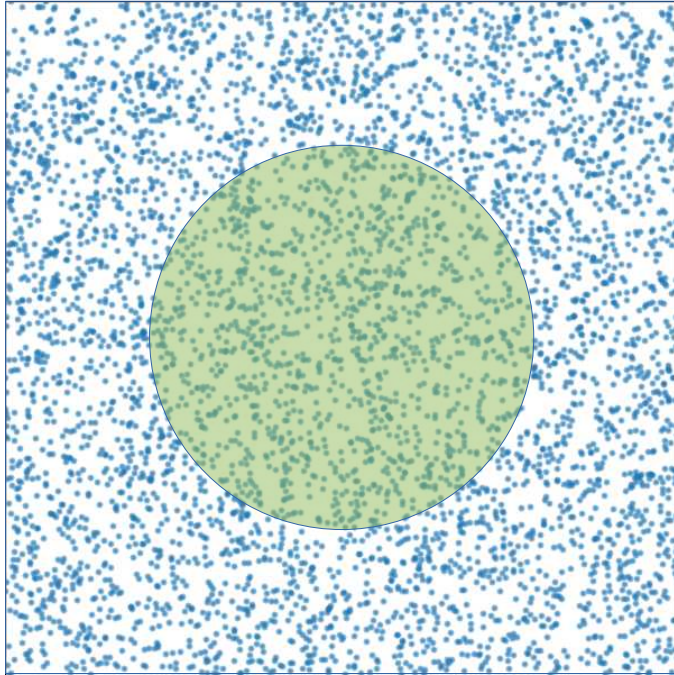


$$K \sim \left( \left. \frac{dV}{dR} \right|_{R_0} \right)^2 r^2$$

$$W \sim \frac{G M(r)}{r} = G \Sigma \pi r$$



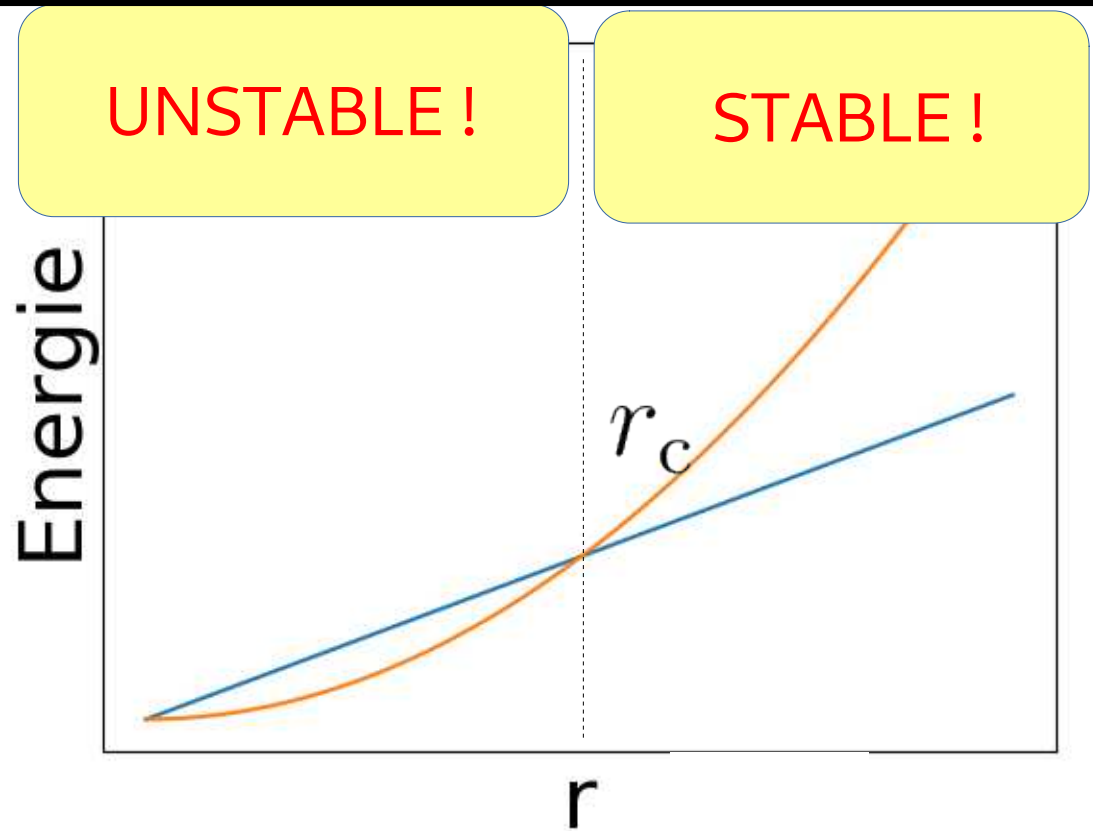
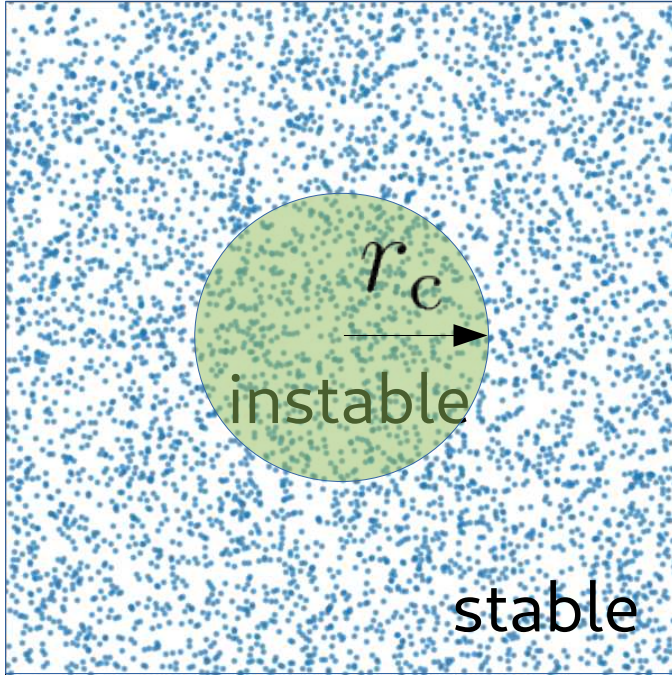
# Stabilizing using shearing motions



$$K \sim \left( \left. \frac{dV}{dR} \right|_{R_0} \right)^2 r^2$$

$$W \sim \frac{G M(r)}{r} = G \Sigma \pi r$$

# Stabilizing using shearing motions



$$\left( \frac{dV}{dR} \Big|_{R_0} \right)^2 = 2\pi \frac{G \Sigma}{r}$$

$$r_c = 2\pi \frac{G \Sigma}{\left( \frac{dV}{dR} \Big|_{R_0} \right)^2}$$

$r > r_c$  stable

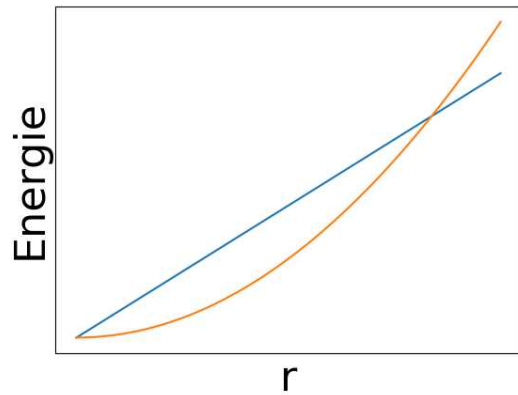
$r < r_c$  unstable

- $r_c$  critical radius
- Beyond this radius, its no longer possible for a perturbation to growth

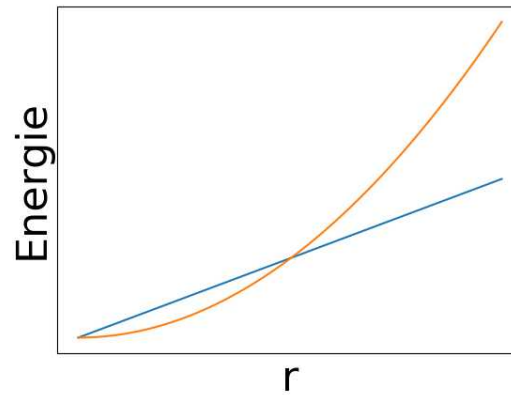
$$V_{\text{vert.}}(R) = \alpha R$$

$$\sigma = 0$$

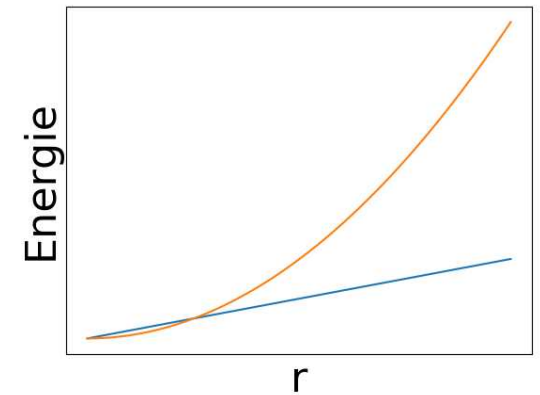
$$r_c = 0.25$$



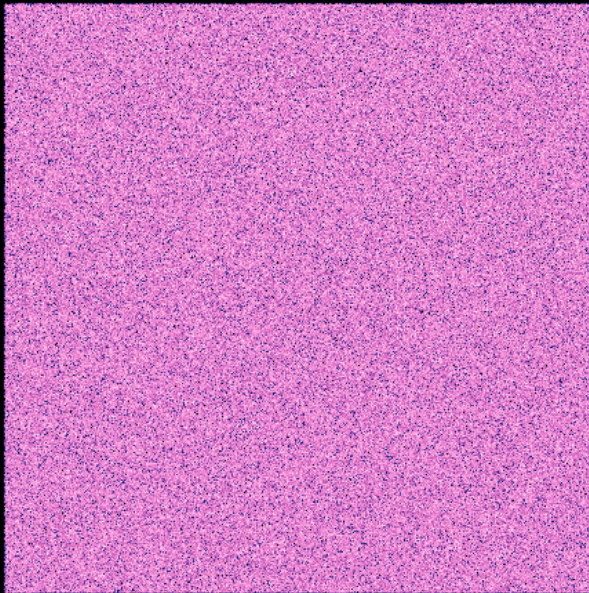
$$r_c = 0.025$$



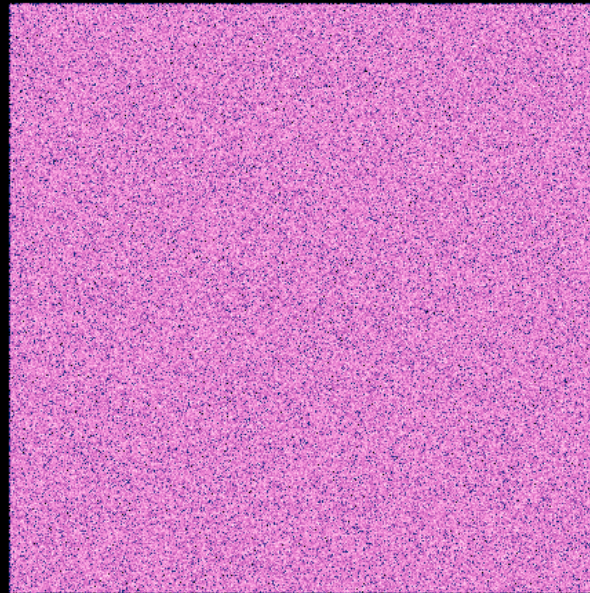
$$r_c = 0.005$$



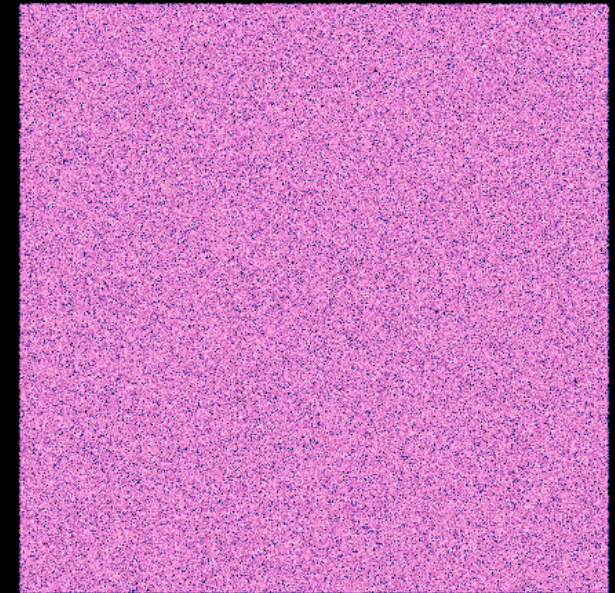
$t = 0.00$



$rc = 0.25$



$rc = 0.025$



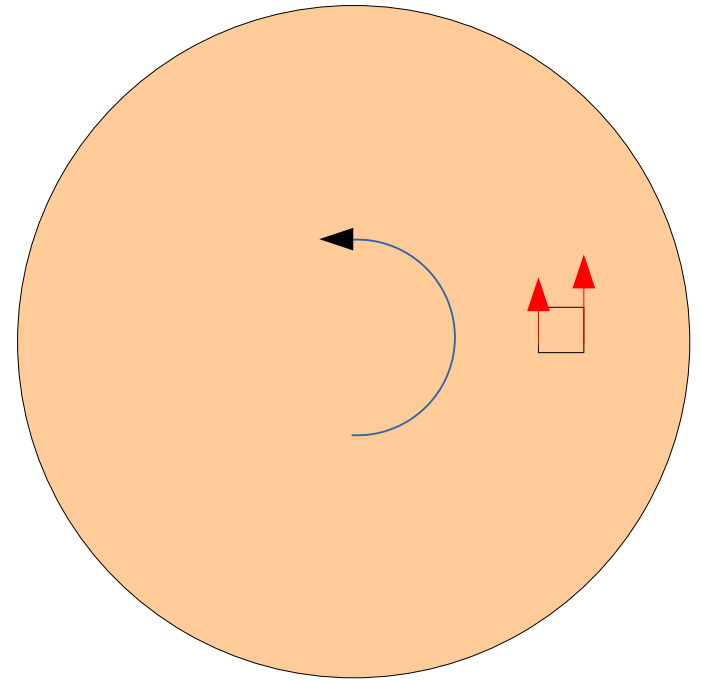
$rc = 0.005$

---

What is the link between slabs  
and rotating disks ?

## Rotating disks of infinite thickness : I - rigid rotation

$$\left( \frac{dV}{dR} \Big|_{R_0} \right)^2 = 2\pi \frac{G\Sigma}{r} \quad \frac{dV}{dR} \Big|_{R_0} = \Omega_0$$



$$V = \Omega \cdot r$$

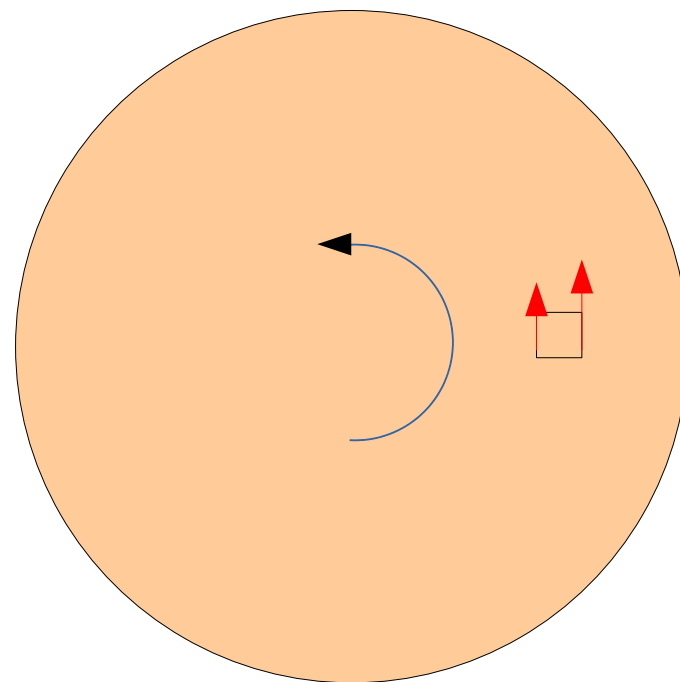
# Rotating disks of infinite thickness : I - rigid rotation

$$\left( \frac{dV}{dR} \Big|_{R_0} \right)^2 = 2\pi \frac{G \Sigma}{r}$$

$$\frac{dV}{dR} \Big|_{R_0} = \Omega_0$$

$$\Omega_0^2 = 2\pi \frac{G \Sigma}{r}$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \Omega_0^2 r^2 = \frac{G M}{r}$$



Critical radius

$$r_c = 2\pi \frac{G \Sigma}{\Omega_0^2}$$

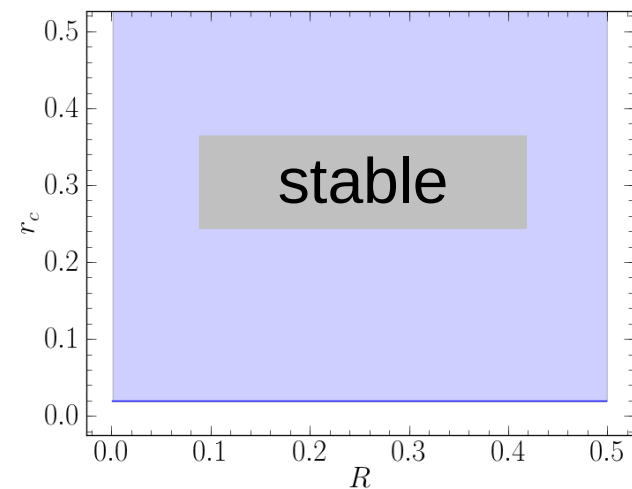
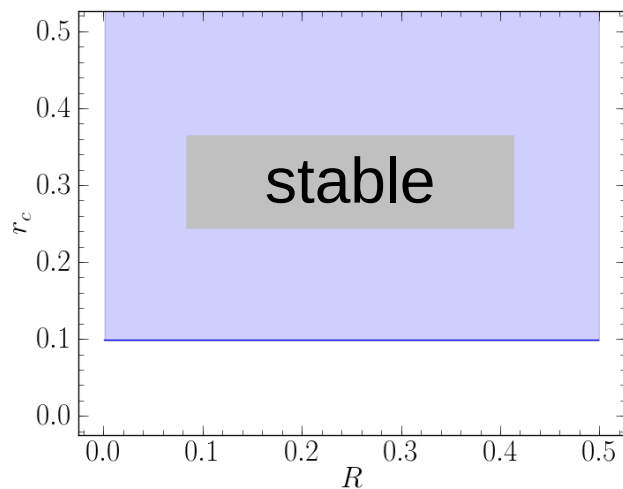
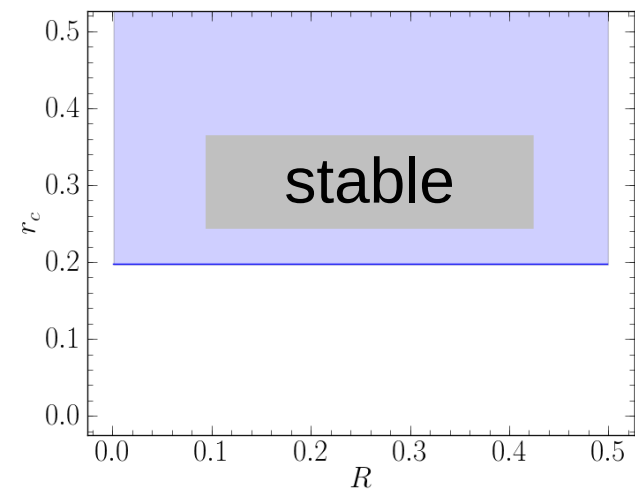


# Rotating disks of infinite thickness : I - rigid rotation

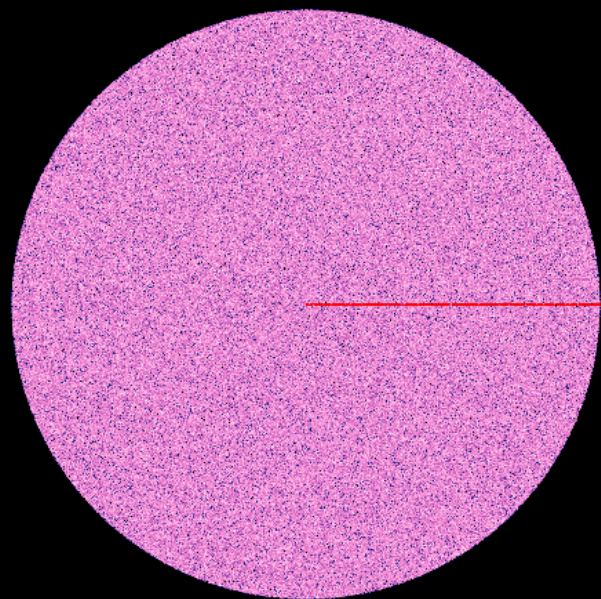
$$r_c = 0.25, \sigma = 0$$

$$r_c = 0.025, \sigma = 0$$

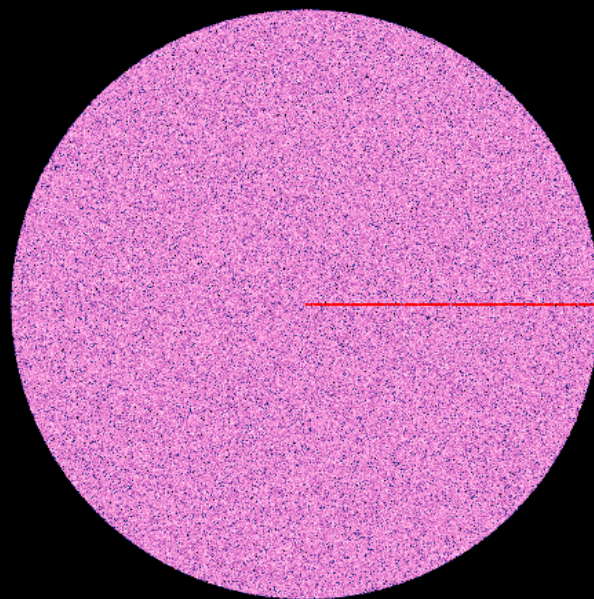
$$r_c = 0.005, \sigma = 0$$



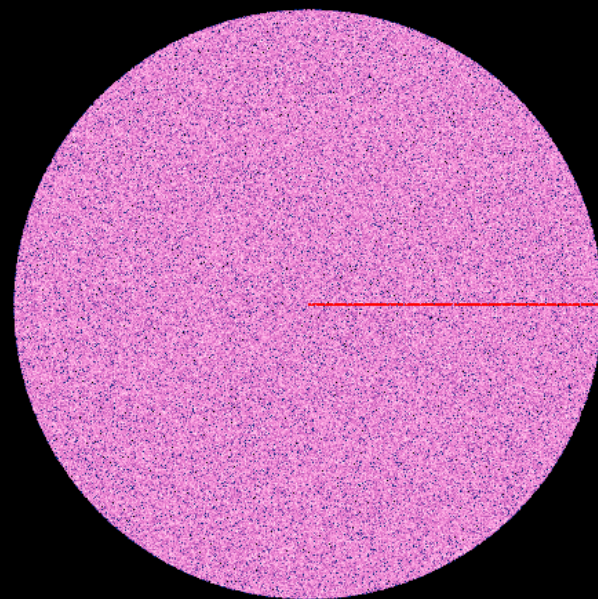
$t = 0.00$



$rc = 0.2$



$rc = 0.1$

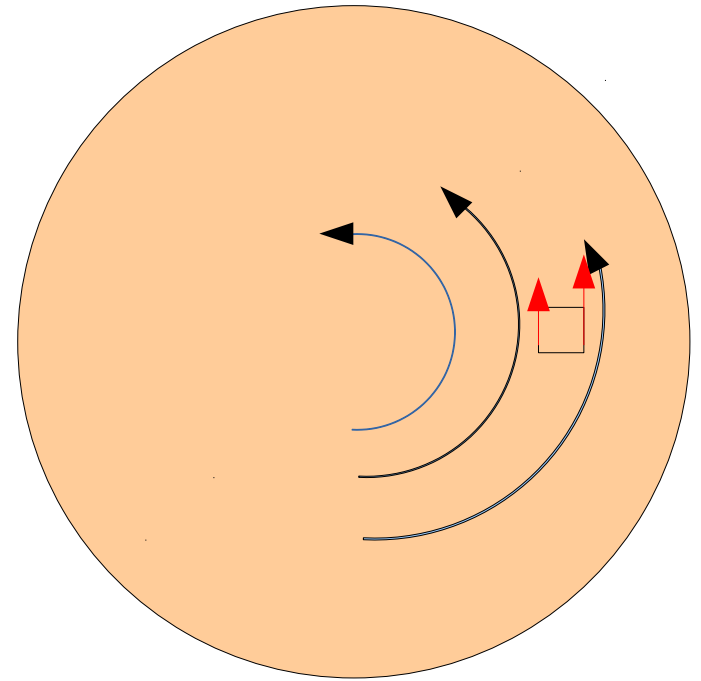


$rc = 0.002$



# Rotating disks of infinite thickness : II - differential rotation

Need to develop the velocity up to the second order



# Rotating disks of infinite thickness : II - differential rotation

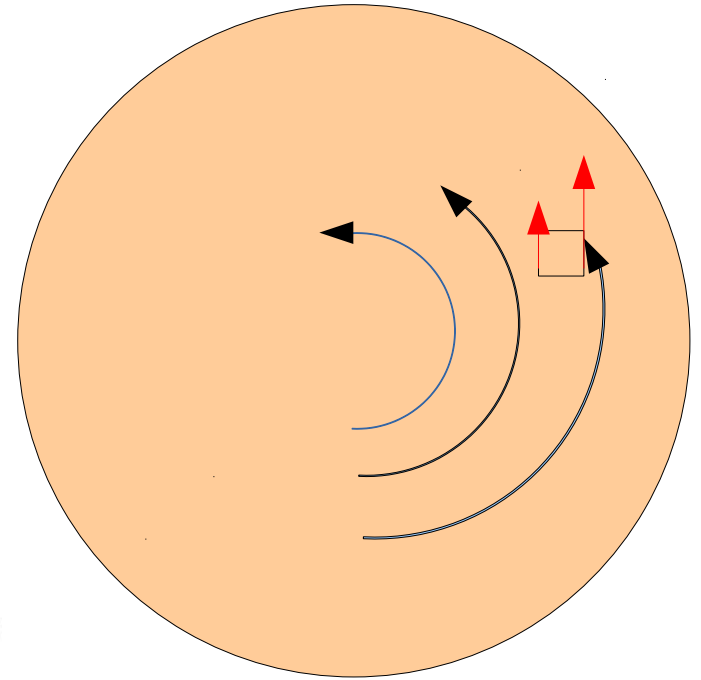
Need to develop the velocity up to the second order

$$\kappa^2 = 8\pi \frac{G\Sigma}{r}$$

$$\frac{1}{8}\kappa^2 r^2 = \frac{GM}{r}$$

Critical radius

$$r_c = 8\pi \frac{G\Sigma}{\kappa^2}$$



# Rotating disks of infinite thickness : II - differential rotation

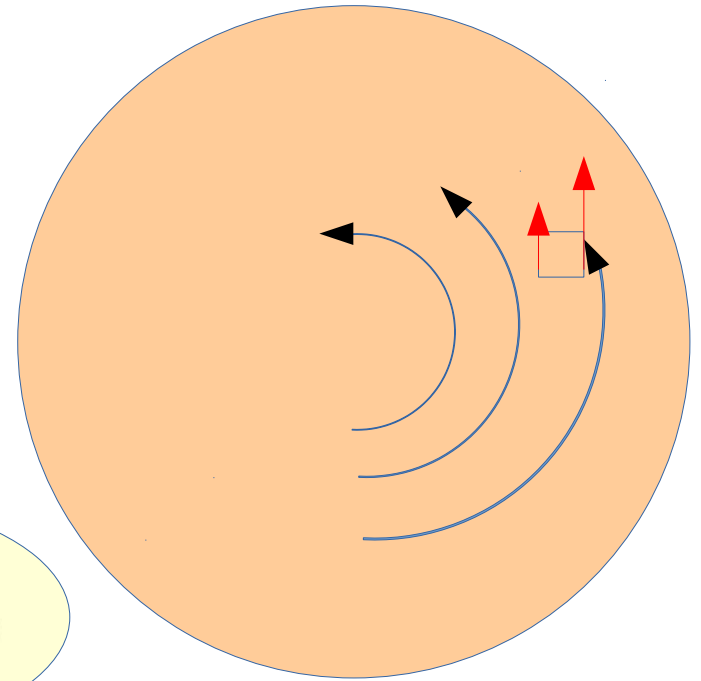
Need to develop the velocity up to the second order

$$\kappa^2 = 8\pi \frac{G\Sigma}{r}$$

$$\frac{1}{8}\kappa^2 r^2 = \frac{GM}{r}$$

Critical radius

$$r_c = 8\pi \frac{G\Sigma}{\kappa^2}$$



Classical derivation

$$\omega^2 = \kappa^2 - 2\pi G\Sigma |k|$$

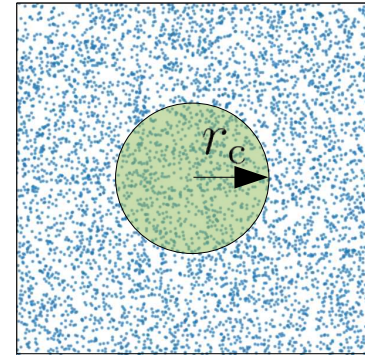
$$r_c = \frac{\lambda_c}{2} = 2\pi^2 \frac{G\Sigma}{\kappa^2}$$

# Predicting the number of spiral arms...



# Rotating disks of infinite thickness : the number of spiral arms

- For a rotating disk of a given surf. density  $\Sigma$   
the radial epicycle frequency  $\kappa$   
determines the maximal size  
of the clumps

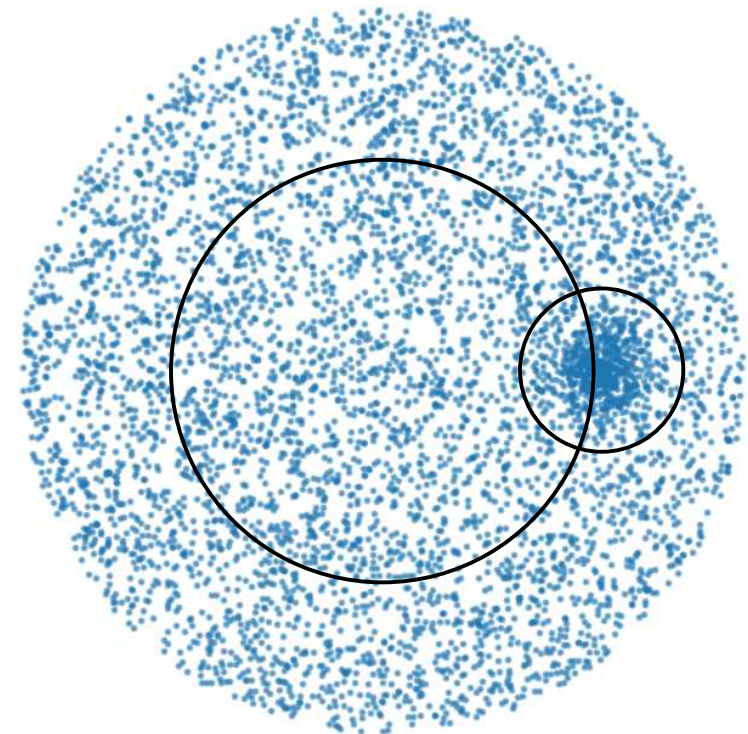


$$r_c = 8\pi \frac{G \Sigma}{\kappa^2}$$

- Number of clumps per radius

$$N_c = \frac{L}{2r_c} = \frac{\kappa^2 R}{8G\Sigma}$$

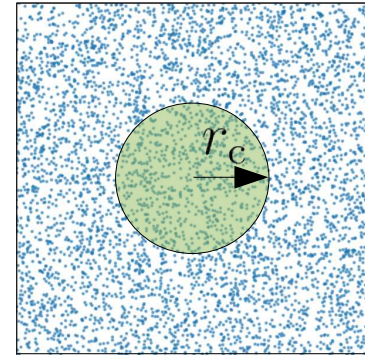
$$L = 2\pi R$$





# Rotating disks of infinite thickness : the number of spiral arms

- For a rotating disk of a given surf. density  $\Sigma$   
the radial epicycle frequency  $\kappa$   
determines the maximal size  
of the clumps

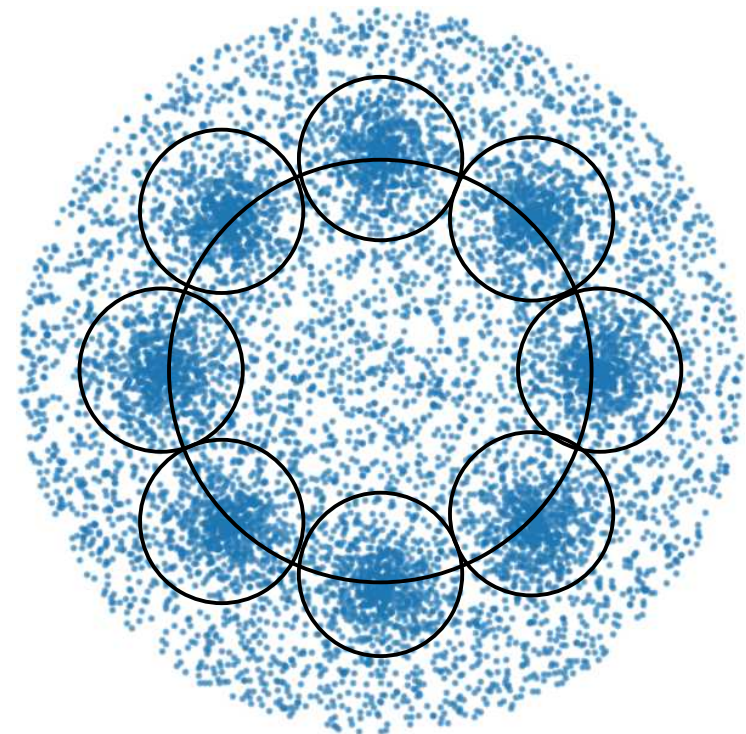


$$r_c = 8\pi \frac{G \Sigma}{\kappa^2}$$

- Number of clumps per radius

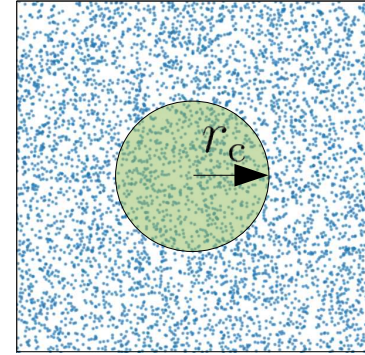
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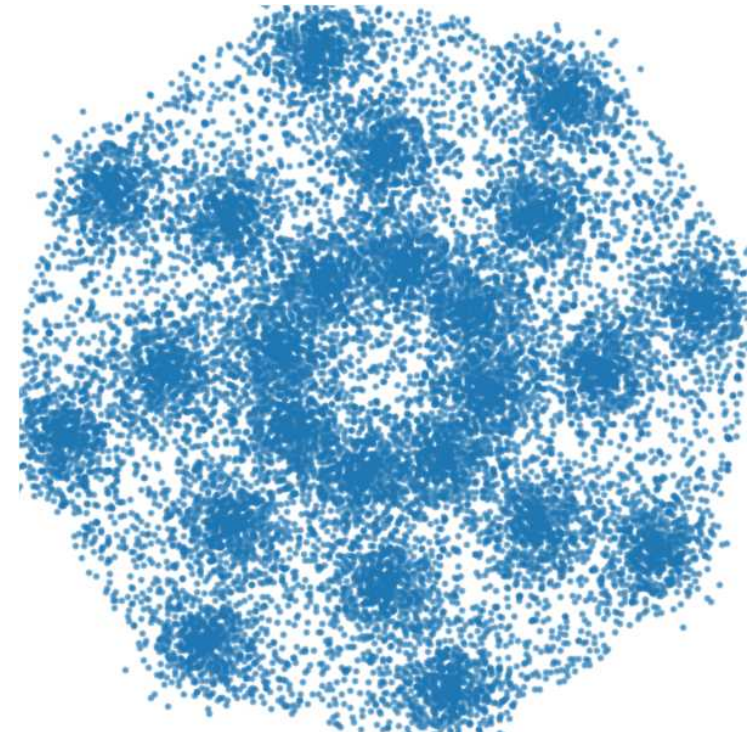


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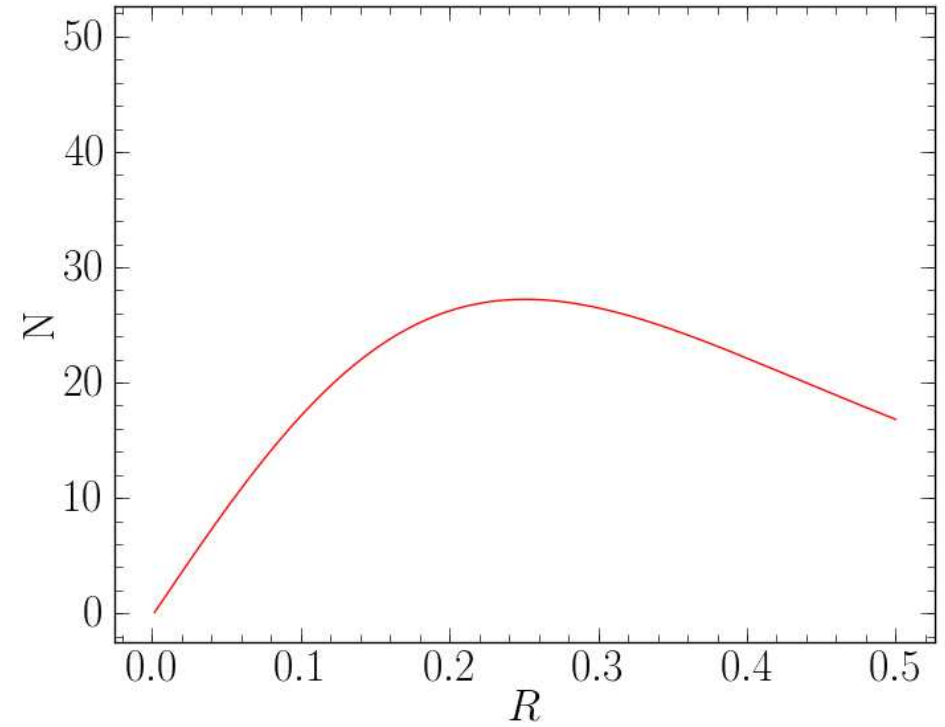
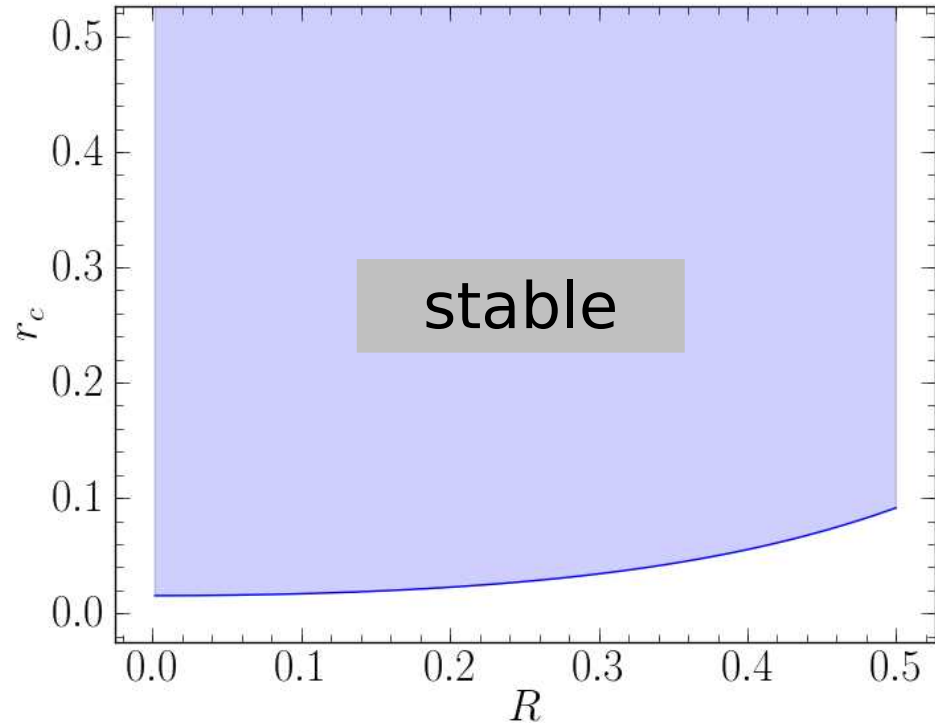
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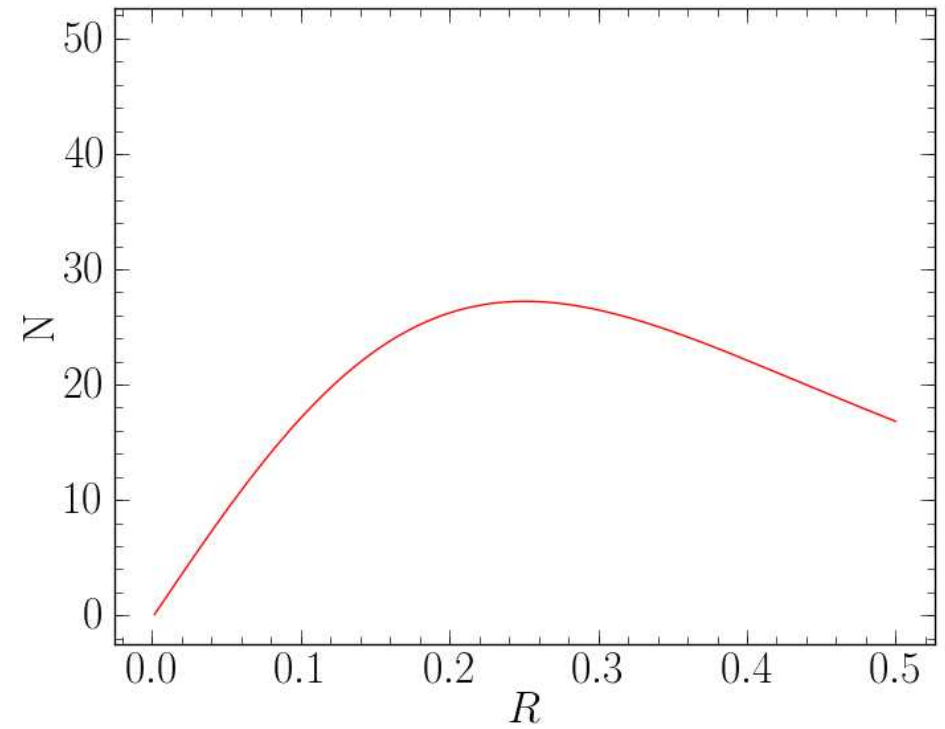
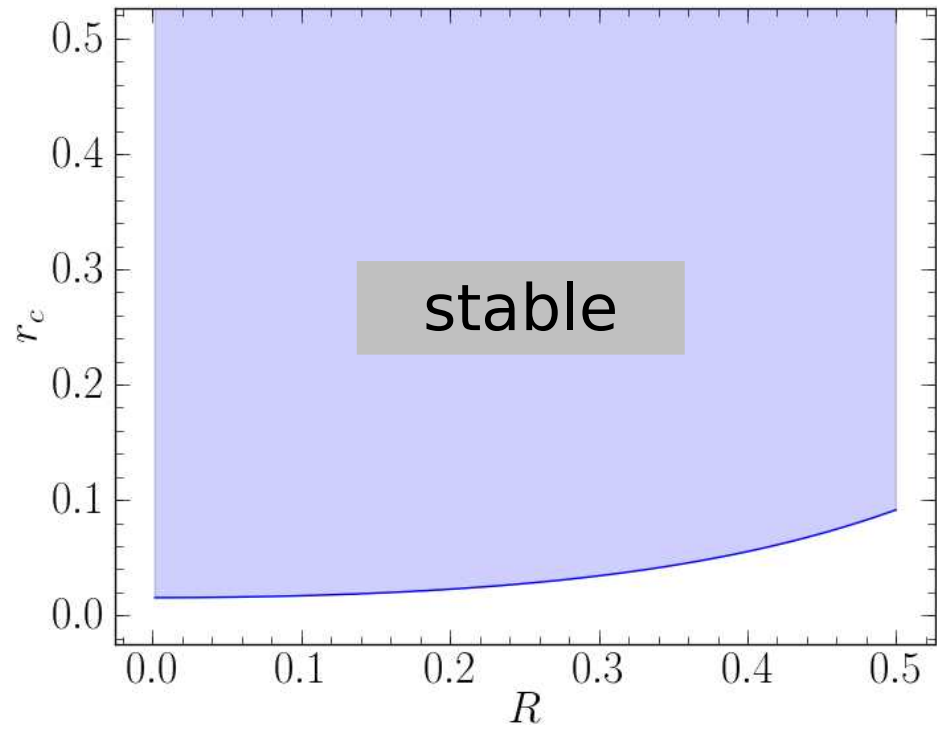




# Rotating disks of infinite thickness : the number of spiral arms



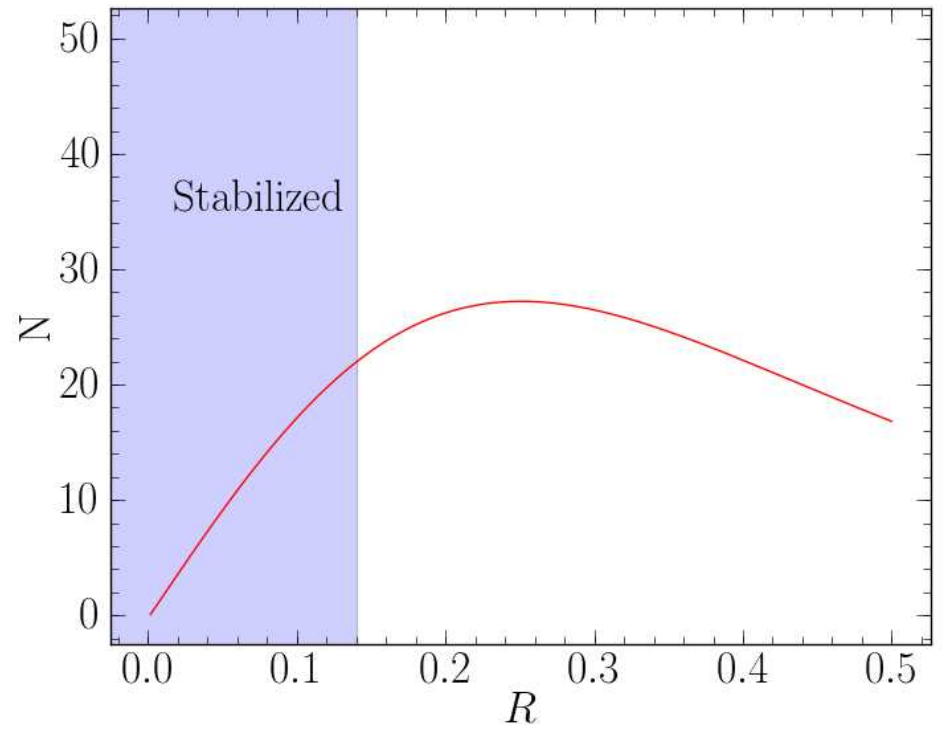
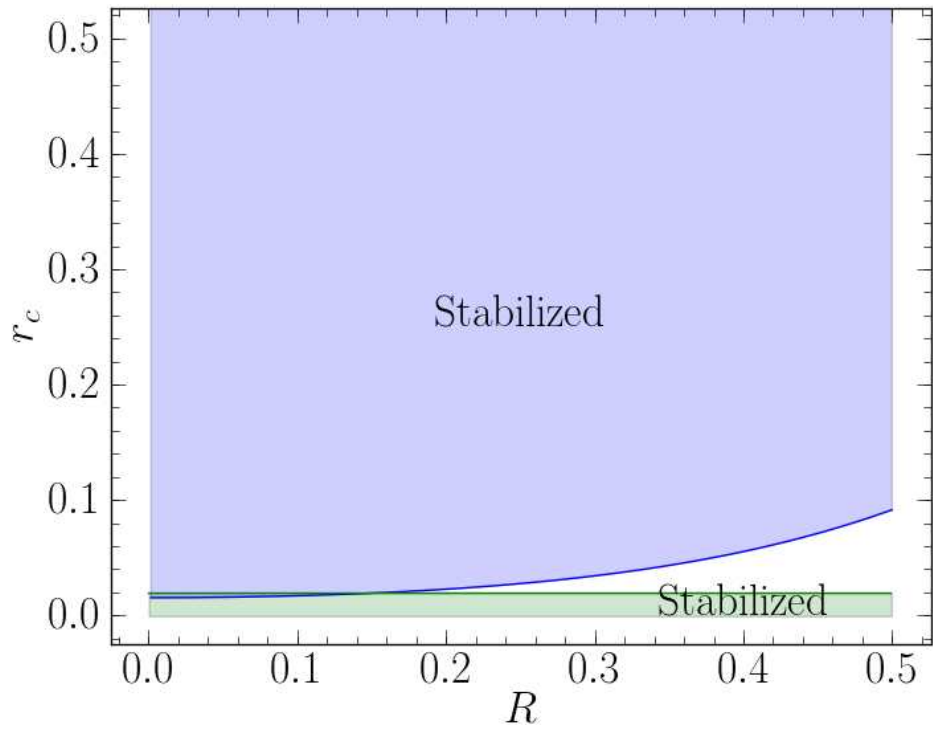
# Rotating disks of infinite thickness : the number of spiral arms



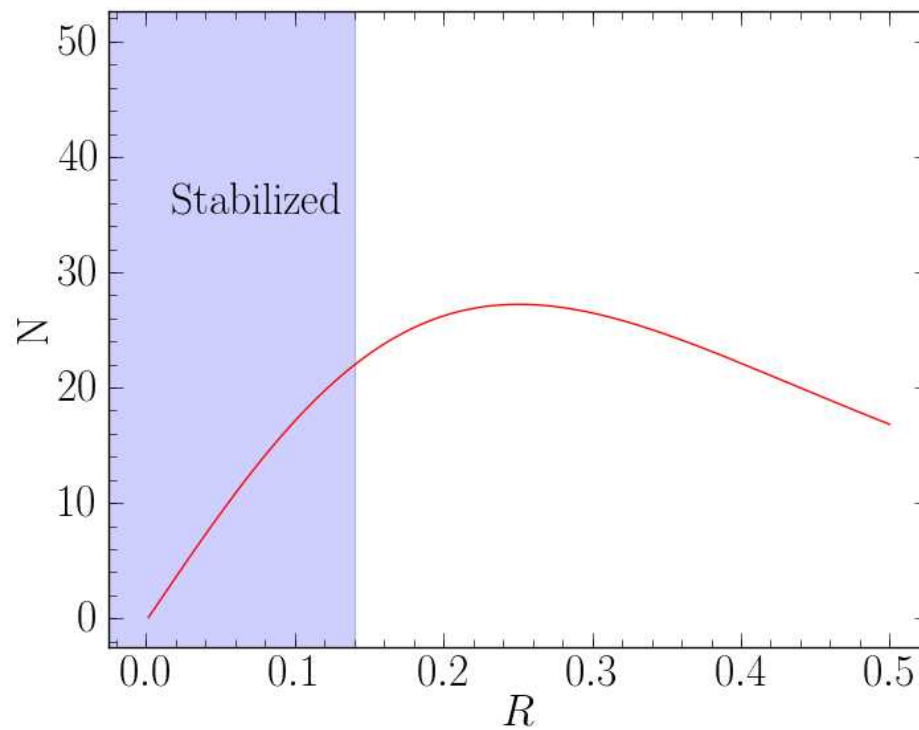
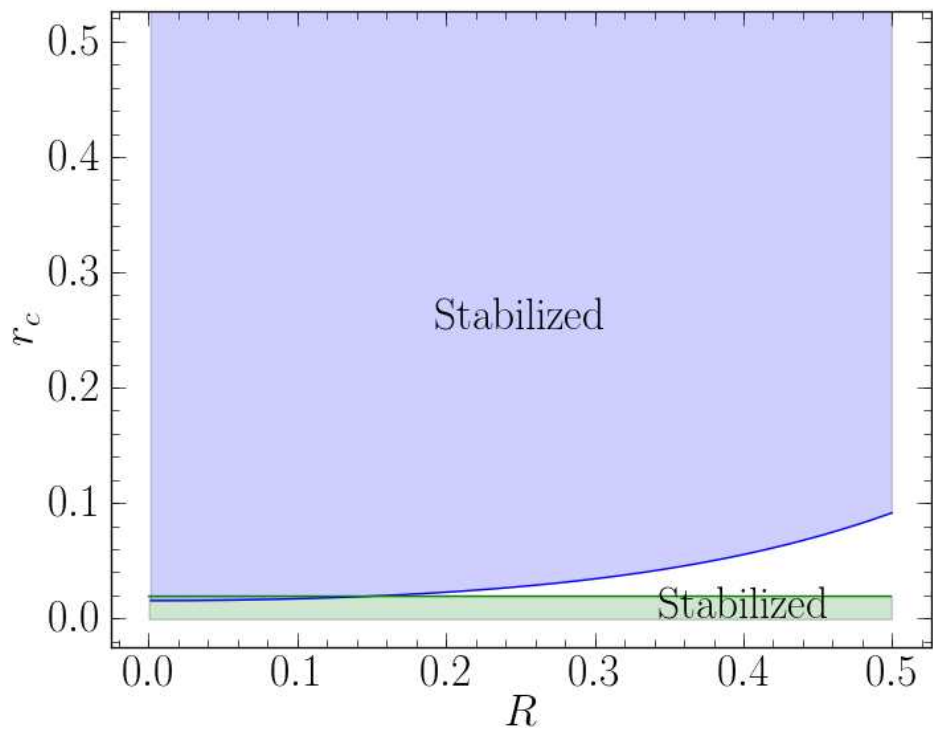
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Putting all together...

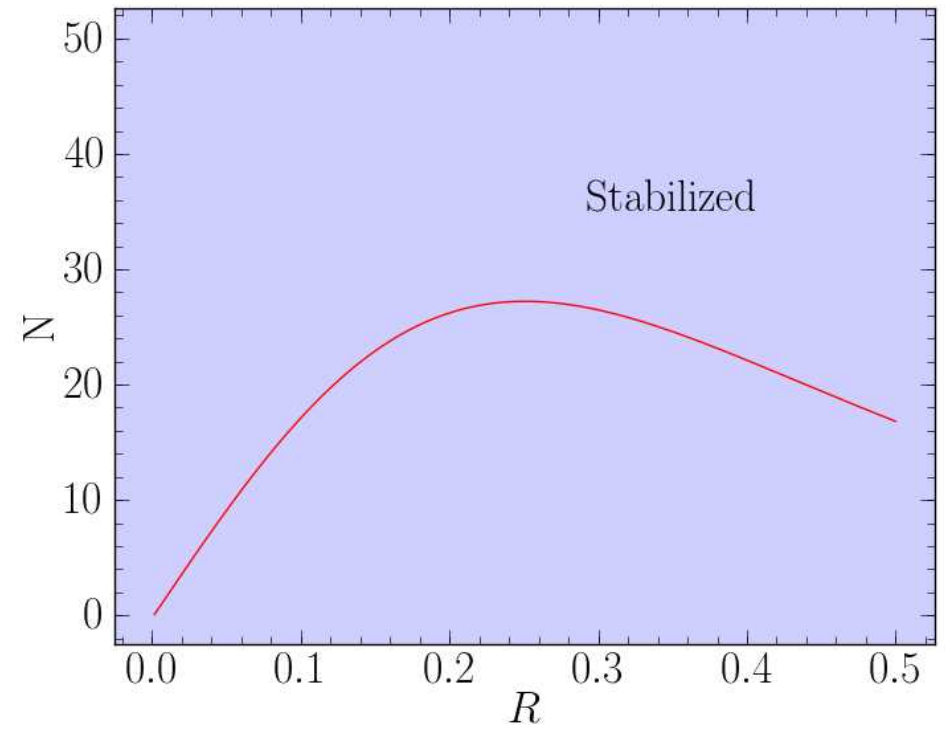
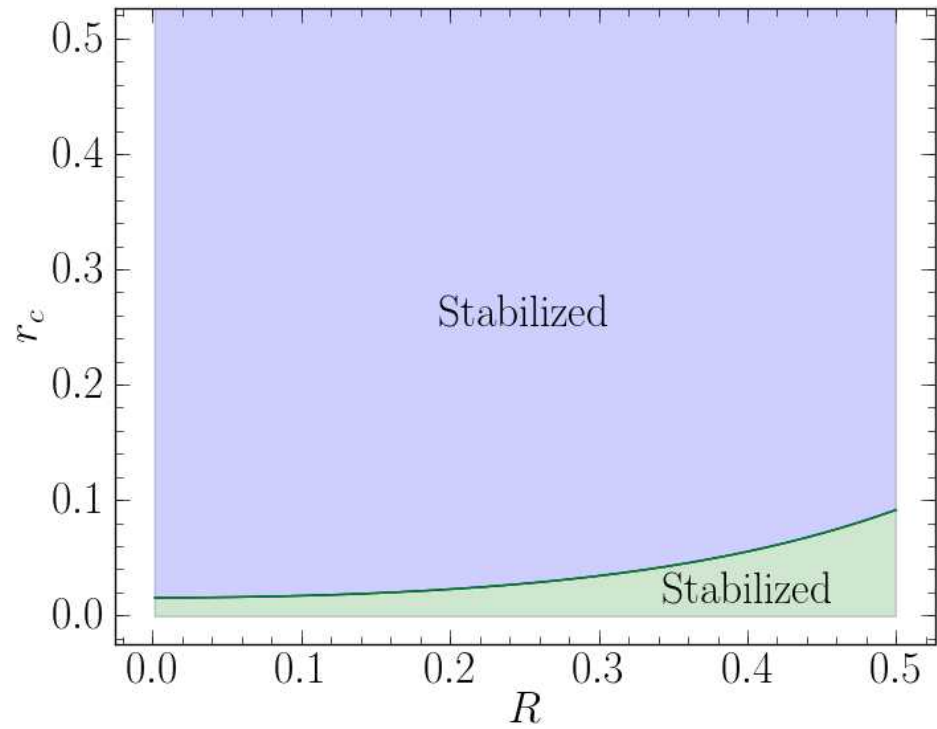
# Rotating disks of infinite thickness : adding velocity dispersion



# Rotating disks of infinite thickness : adding velocity dispersion

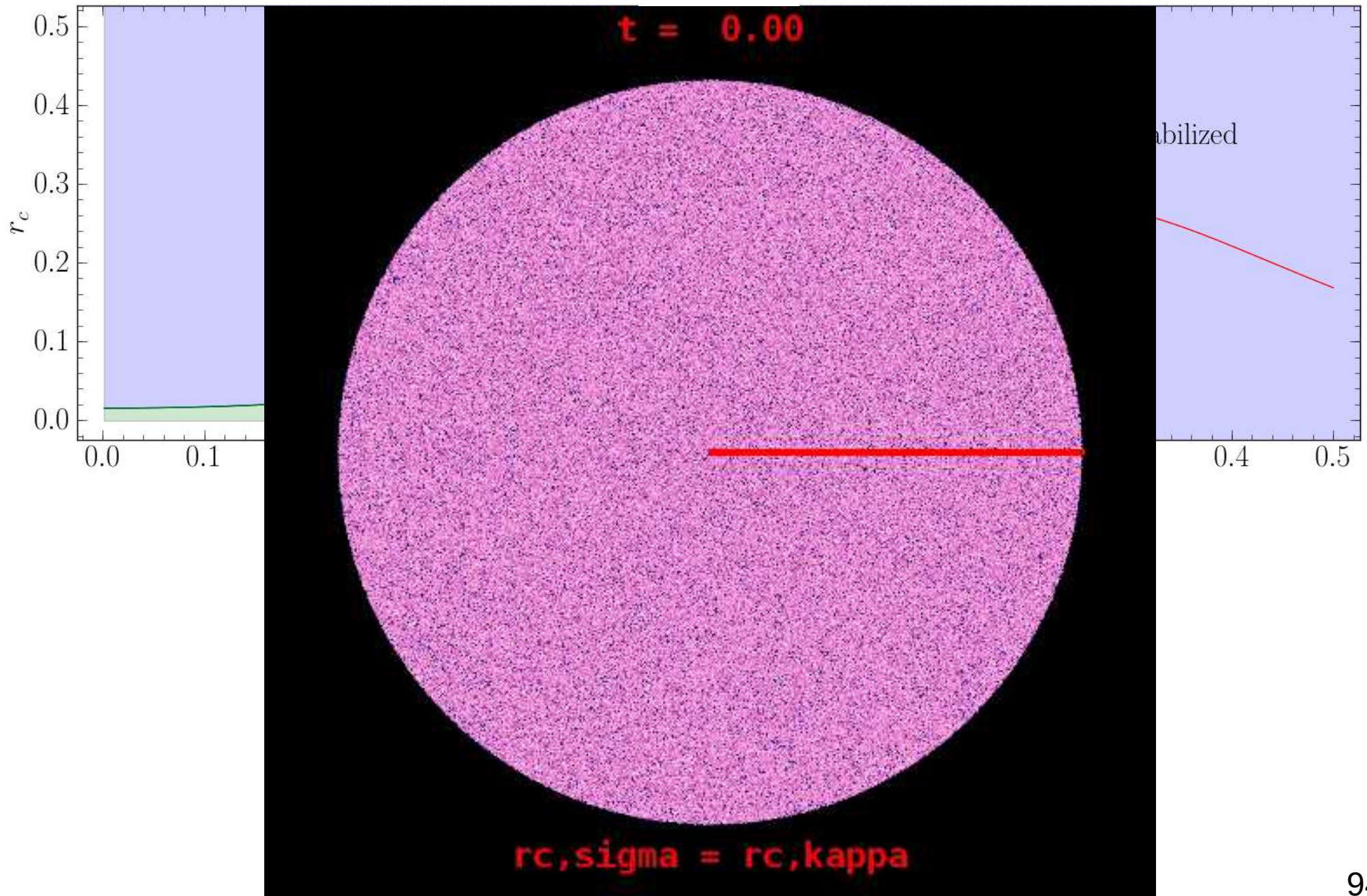


# Rotating disks of infinite thickness : Local stability

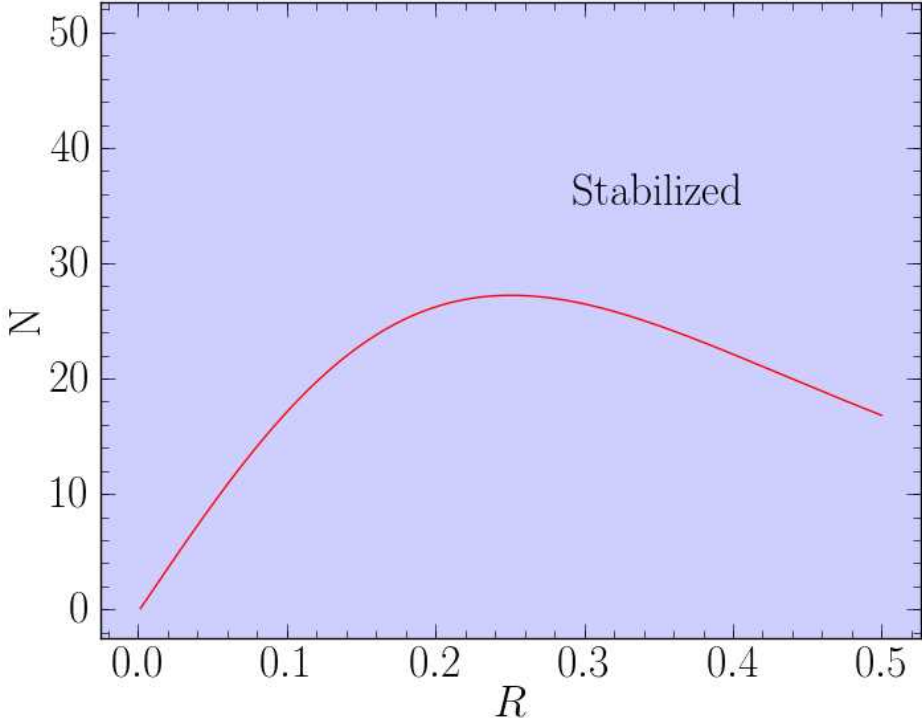
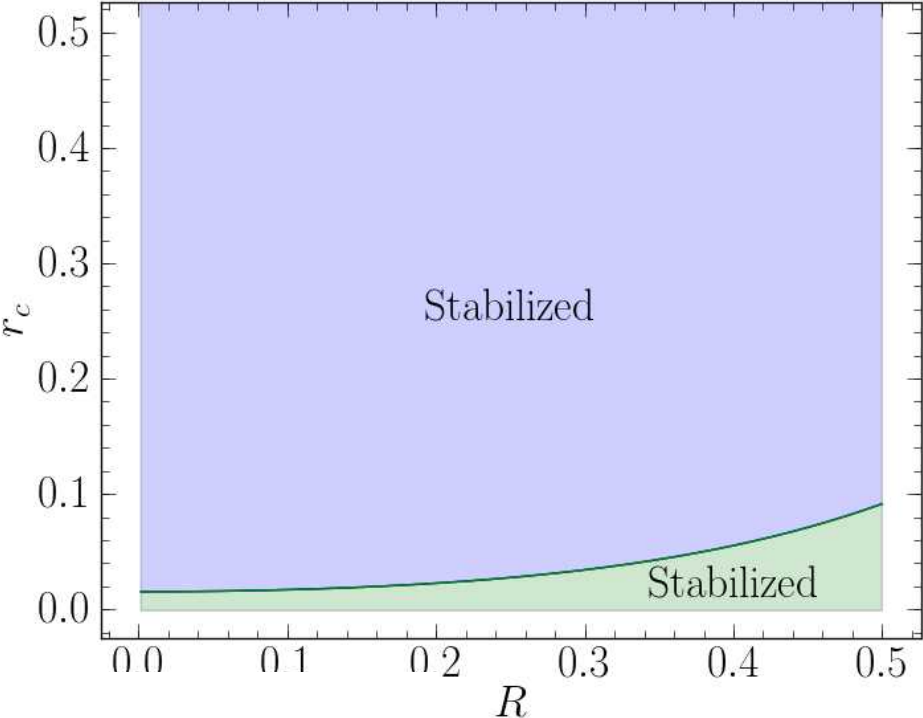




# Rotating disks of infinite thickness : Local stability



# Rotating disks of infinite thickness : Local stability



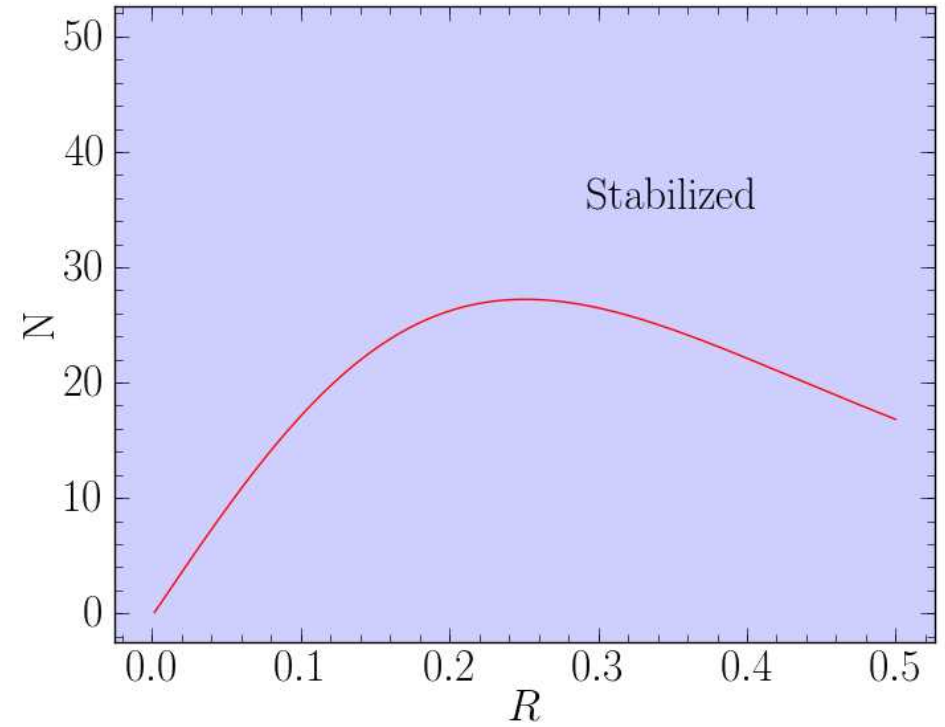
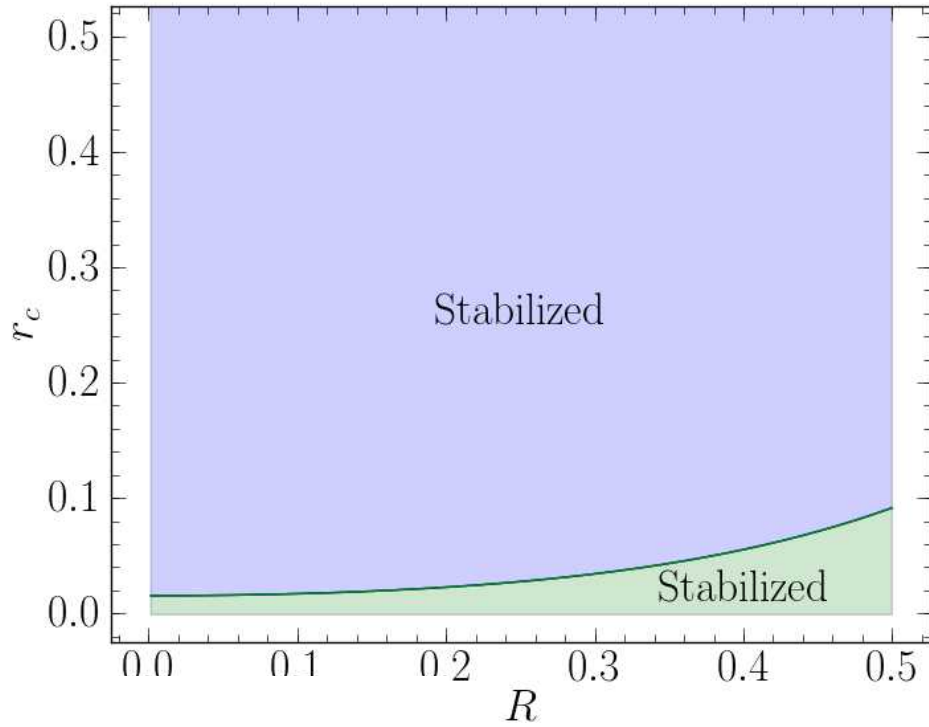
$$\sigma^2 > \frac{GM}{r}$$

$$\frac{1}{8}\kappa^2 r^2 > \frac{GM}{r}$$

$$\sigma \kappa r > \sqrt{8} \frac{GM}{r}$$

$$\frac{\sigma \kappa}{\pi G \Sigma} > \sqrt{8}$$

# Rotating disks of infinite thickness : Local stability



$$\sigma^2 > \frac{GM}{r}$$

$$\frac{1}{8} \kappa^2 r^2 > \frac{GM}{r}$$

$$\sigma \kappa r > \sqrt{8} \frac{GM}{r}$$

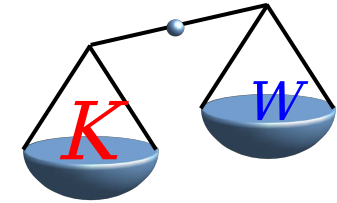
$$\frac{\sigma \kappa}{\pi G \Sigma} > \sqrt{8}$$

Safronov-Toomre criterion

(Safronov 1960, Toomre 1964)

$$Q = \frac{\sigma_R \kappa}{3.36 G \Sigma};$$

# Disk stability : summary



1. large random motions :

$\sigma$

→ stabilizes the small scales

$$\sigma^2 > G \Sigma \pi r$$

2. strong differential rotation :

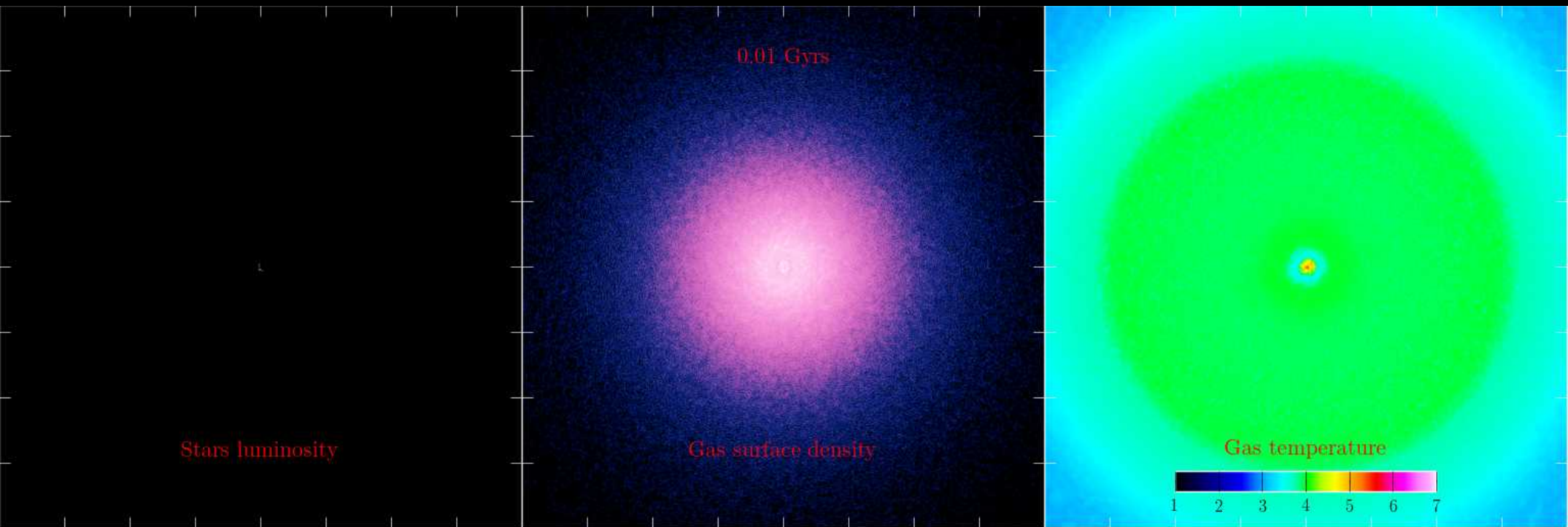
$\kappa$

→ stabilizes the large scales

$$\kappa^2 r^2 > G \Sigma \pi r$$



# Realistic Simulations of galactic disks





M74

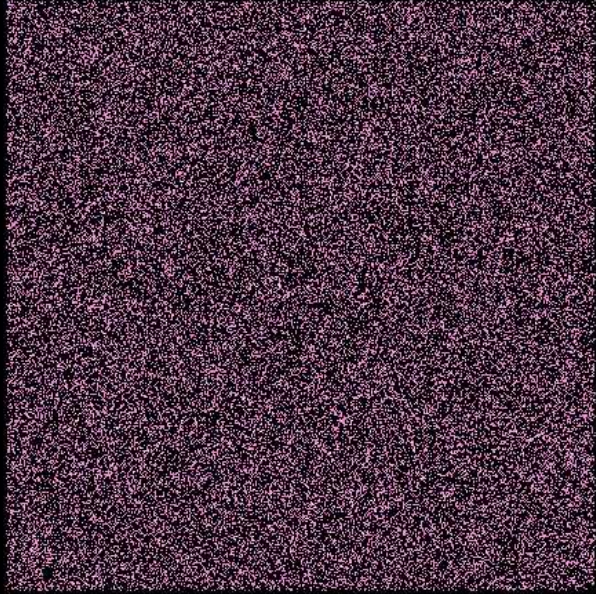


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Nature is always more tricky...

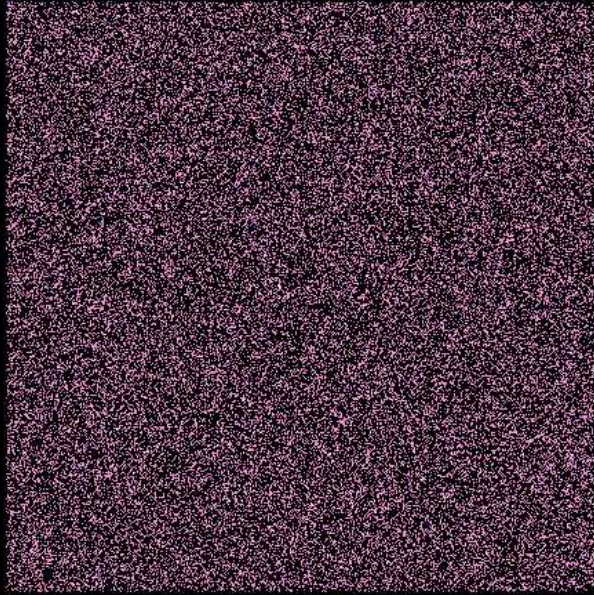
# The stability of infinite slab of finite thickness

- isothermal vertical profile



# The stability of infinite slab of finite thickness

- isothermal vertical profile



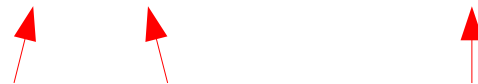
Dispersion relations

horizontal perturbation

$$\omega^2 = \kappa^2 - 2\pi G \Sigma k + c_s^2 k^2$$

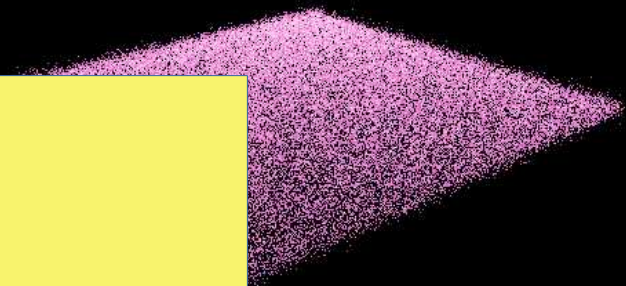
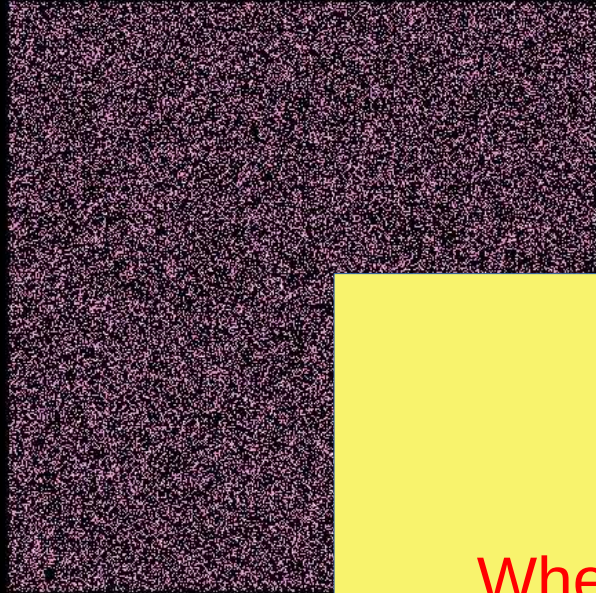
vertical perturbation

$$\omega^2 = \nu^2 + 2\pi G \Sigma k - \sigma^2 k^2$$



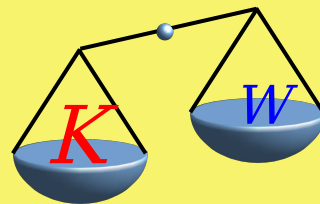
# The stability of infinite slab of finite thickness

- isothermal vertical profile



The instability is triggered  
When the kinetic energy dominates...

!



Dispersion re

horizontal per

vertical pertur



# Merry Christmas and happy new year 2022 !





**The End**

# **Stability of collisionless systems**

## **The stability of uniformly rotating systems**

**(additional material)**

## The stability of uniformly rotating systems

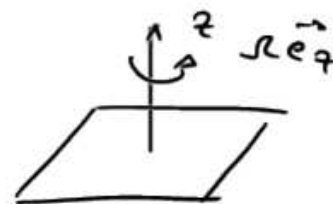


- Flattened systems : the geometry is more complex
- Reservoir of kinetic energy (rotation) to feed unstable modes

## The uniformly rotating sheet

- infinite disk of zero thickness with surface density  $\Sigma_0$

- plane  $z=0$
- rotation  $\vec{\Omega} = \Omega \vec{e}_z$



- 2D perturbation / undulation (no warp, no bending)

① Continuity equation (Fluid)  $\Sigma_d(x, y, t)$ ,  $\phi(x, y, t)$ ,  $v(x, y, t)$ ,  $p(x, y, t)$

6 ine  
6 Equ.

$$\frac{\partial \rho_s}{\partial t} + \vec{\nabla}(\rho_s \vec{v}) = 0$$

→

$$\frac{\partial \Sigma_d}{\partial t} + \vec{\nabla}(\Sigma_d \vec{v}) = 0$$

with  $\vec{v} = \vec{v}(x, y, t) = v_x(x, y, t) \vec{e}_x + v_y(x, y, t) \vec{e}_y$  (in the plane)

② Euler Equation

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \vec{v} + (\vec{v} \cdot \vec{\nabla}) \vec{v} = - \frac{\vec{\nabla} p}{\rho_s} - \vec{\nabla} \phi$$

$$\rightarrow \frac{\partial \vec{v}}{\partial t} + (\vec{v} \cdot \vec{\nabla}) \vec{v} = - \frac{\vec{\nabla} p}{\Sigma_d} - \vec{\nabla} \phi - \underbrace{2 \vec{\Omega} \times \vec{v}}_{\text{Coriolis force}} + \underbrace{- \vec{\Omega} \times (\vec{\Omega} \times \vec{x})}_{\text{centrifugal force}}$$

$$\frac{\partial \vec{v}}{\partial t} + (\vec{v} \cdot \vec{\nabla}) \vec{v} = - \frac{\vec{\nabla} p}{\Sigma_d} - \vec{\nabla} \phi - 2 \vec{\Omega} (v_x \vec{e}_x + v_y \vec{e}_y) + \Omega^2 (x \vec{e}_x + y \vec{e}_y)$$

### ③ Poisson equation

$$\nabla^2 \phi = 4\pi G \rho$$

→

$$\nabla^2 \phi = 4\pi G \Sigma \delta(z)$$

### ④ Equation of state (barotropic)

$$p(x, y, t) = p(\Sigma_d(x, y, t))$$

### Notes

- sound speed :  $v_s^2 = \left. \frac{\partial P(\Sigma)}{\partial \Sigma} \right|_{\Sigma_0}$
  - $P$  is the pressure in the plane only  $\left[ \frac{\text{force}}{\text{length}} \right]$
  - $\Sigma_d$  : surf density of the disk only
- $\Sigma$  = total surface density       $\Sigma_d = \underbrace{\Sigma_e}_{\text{External perturbation}}$



Isolated system at equilibrium  $\Sigma_{d0}, \phi_0, \rho_0, \vec{v}_0 = 0$

① Continuity equation  $\rightarrow 0 = 0$

② Euler Equation  $\vec{\nabla} \phi_0 = \underbrace{\Omega^2 (x \vec{e}_x + y \vec{e}_y)}_{F_{\text{cent.}}}$   
 $F_{\text{grav}}$

③ Poisson equation  $\nabla^2 \phi_0 = 4\pi G \Sigma_{d0} \delta(z)$  ( $\vec{\nabla} \rho_0 = 0$ )

Note by symmetry,  $\vec{\nabla} \phi_0 \parallel \vec{e}_z$

$$\Rightarrow \phi_0 = 2\pi G \Sigma_0 |z|$$

Poisson  $\Rightarrow \Sigma_{d0} = 0$

(need a Jeans swindle  
consider only Poisson  
for the perturbed part)

The response of the system to a weak perturbation

$-\varepsilon \vec{\nabla} \phi_e$

$$\Sigma_{d0} \rightarrow \Sigma_{d0} + \varepsilon \Sigma_{d1}(x, y, t)$$

$$\vec{V}_0 = 0 \rightarrow \varepsilon \vec{V}_1(x, y, t)$$

$$\Sigma_0 \rightarrow \Sigma_0 + \varepsilon \Sigma_1(x, y, t) \quad \text{total density}$$

$$\phi_0 \rightarrow \phi_0 + \varepsilon \phi_1(x, y, t) \quad \text{total potential}$$

$$= \varepsilon \phi_{d1}(x, y, t) + \varepsilon \phi_e(x, y, t)$$

A first order in  $\varepsilon$ , we get

① Continuity equation

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \Sigma_{d1} + \Sigma_0 \vec{\nabla} \vec{V}_1 = 0$$

② Euler Equation

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \vec{V}_1 = - \frac{v_s^2}{\Sigma_0} \vec{\nabla} \Sigma_{d1} - \vec{\nabla} \phi_1 - \underbrace{2 \vec{\Omega} \times \vec{V}_1}$$

③ Poisson equation

$$\nabla^2 \phi_1 = 4\pi G \Sigma_1 \delta(z)$$

④ "Equation of state"

$$v_s^2 = \left. \frac{\partial p}{\partial \Sigma} \right|_{\Sigma_0}$$

contribution of the rotation the rest is similar to the homogeneous case

# Solution

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \textcircled{1} : \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} \Sigma_{d1} + \Sigma_0 \vec{\nabla} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \vec{V}_1 = 0$$

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \textcircled{2} : \vec{\nabla} \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \vec{V}_1 = - \frac{v_s^2}{\Sigma_0} \nabla^2 \Sigma_{d1} - \nabla^2 \phi_1 + 2 \Sigma_0 \Omega \vec{\nabla} \vec{V}_1$$

we get

$$\frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} \Sigma_{d1} - \underbrace{v_s^2 \nabla^2 \Sigma_{d1}}_{\text{pressure}} - \underbrace{\Sigma_0 \nabla^2 \phi_1}_{\text{gravity}} + \underbrace{2 \Sigma_0 \Omega \vec{\nabla} \vec{V}_1}_{\text{cent. force}} = 0$$

Assume solutions of the form (waves)

with  $\vec{k} = k \vec{e}_x$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \Sigma_1(x, y, t) = \Sigma_a e^{i(\vec{k}\vec{x} - \omega t)} \\ \Sigma_{d1}(x, y, t) = \Sigma_{da} e^{i(\vec{k}\vec{x} - \omega t)} \\ \vec{V}_1(x, y, t) = (v_{ax} \vec{e}_x + v_{ay} \vec{e}_y) e^{i(\vec{k}\vec{x} - \omega t)} \\ \phi_1(x, y, z=0, t) = \phi_a e^{i(\vec{k}\vec{x} - \omega t)} \end{array} \right.$$

(no loss of generality  
isotropy)

(! here, in the plane,  $z=0$ )

③ Poisson equation

$$\nabla^2 \phi_1 = 4\pi G \Sigma_1 \delta(z)$$

We want  $\phi_1(x, y, z)$ , such that

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \bullet z = 0 : \phi_1(x, y, z=0, t) = \phi_a e^{i(\vec{k}\vec{x} - \omega t)} \\ \bullet z \neq 0 : \nabla^2 \phi_1 = 0 \end{array} \right\}$$

$$\Rightarrow \phi_1(x, y, z, t) = \phi_a e^{i(kx - \omega t) - |kz|}$$

Solving Poisson. like  $\Sigma_a$  with  $\phi_a = - \frac{2\pi G \Sigma_a}{|k|}$

$$\Rightarrow \phi_1(x, y, z, t) = - \frac{2\pi G \Sigma_a}{|k|} e^{i(kx - \omega t) - |kz|}$$

---

Introducing  $\Sigma_1(x, y, t)$ ,  $\Sigma_{d1}(x, y, t)$ ,  $\vec{v}_1(x, y, t)$ ,  $\phi_1(x, y, z=0, t)$   
 in the linearized equations, we get the dispersion relation

$$\omega^2 = v_s^2 k^2 - 2\pi G |k| \Sigma_0 \frac{\Sigma_a}{\Sigma_{da}} \pm 4\Omega^2 = 0$$

Note that  $\Sigma_a = \Sigma_{da} + \Sigma_e$

If we consider the evolution without the perturbation  $\Sigma_e = 0$

$$\omega^2 = v_s^2 k^2 - 2\pi G |k| \Sigma_0 \pm 4\Omega^2$$

# Interpretation

$$\omega^2 = v_s^2 k^2 - 2\pi G |\bar{k}| \Sigma_0 + 4\Omega^2$$

$$\omega^2 > 0 \quad \text{STABLE}$$

$$\omega^2 < 0 \quad \text{UNSTABLE}$$

$\Rightarrow$   $\Omega$  helps to stabilize the slab

①

$$\Omega^2 = 0$$

no rotation

$$\omega^2 = v_s^2 k^2 - 2\pi G |\bar{k}| \Sigma_0$$

$$= v_s^2 (k^2 - k_J |\bar{k}|)$$

$$k_J := \frac{2\pi G \Sigma_0}{v_s^2}$$

STABLE if  $|\bar{k}| > k_J$

UNSTABLE if  $|\bar{k}| < k_J$

homogeneous system

$$\omega^2 = v_s^2 k^2 - 4\pi G \rho_0$$

$$= v_s^2 (k^2 - k_J^2)$$

$$k_J^2 := \frac{4\pi G \rho_0}{v_s^2}$$



②

$$\Omega \neq 0, v_s = 0$$

no pressure

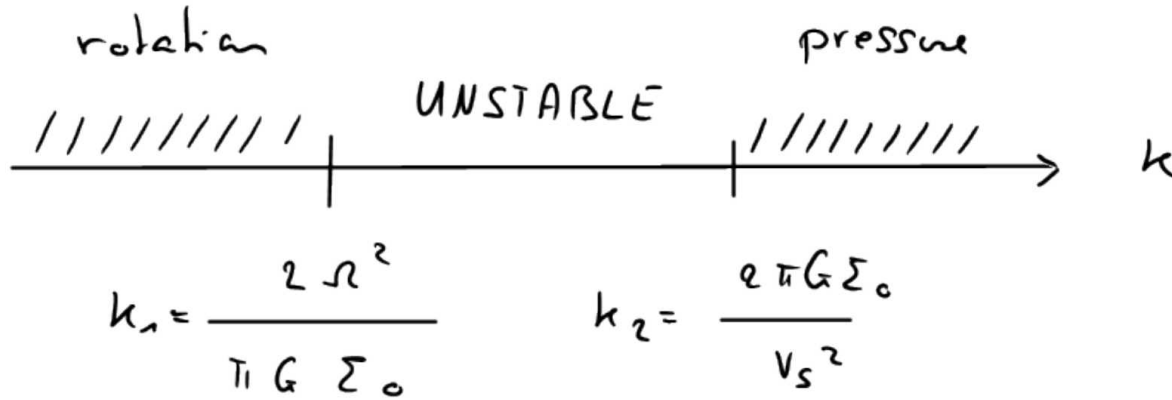
$$\omega^2 = 4\Omega^2 - 2\pi G |\vec{k}| \Sigma_0$$

$$\text{STABLE if } |\vec{k}| < \frac{2\Omega^2}{\pi G \Sigma_0} \quad (\text{at large scale})$$

$$\text{UNSTABLE if } |\vec{k}| > \frac{2\Omega^2}{\pi G \Sigma_0} \quad (\text{at small scale})$$

$\Rightarrow$  nothing can prevent the disk  
to be unstable at small scale

### ③ Complete stability

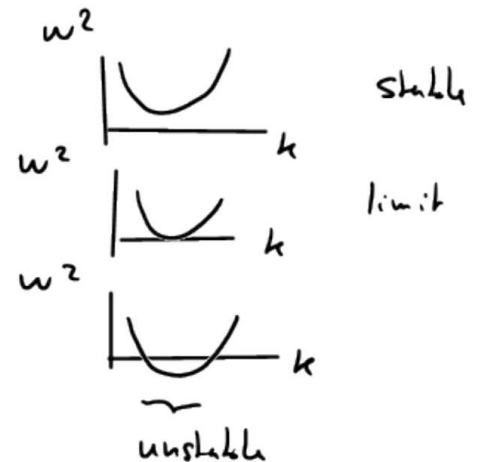


if  $k_1 \geq k_2 \Rightarrow$  complete stability :  $\frac{2\Omega v_s}{G \Sigma_0} \geq \pi$

More precisely

$$\omega^2 = v_s^2 k^2 - 2\pi G |\vec{k}| \Sigma_0 \pm 4\Omega^2 = 0$$

$$\frac{v_s \Omega}{G \Sigma_0} \geq \frac{1}{2} \pi \approx 1.57$$



# The uniformly rotating stellar sheet

---

- if the velocity DF is Maxwellian

$$\rho_0(\vec{v}) = \frac{\rho_0}{(2\pi\sigma^2)^{3/2}} e^{-\frac{v^2}{2\sigma^2}}$$

in the plane

- The stability criterion becomes

$$\frac{\sigma \Omega}{G \Sigma_0} \geq 1.68$$

$$\frac{v_s \Omega}{G \Sigma_0} \geq \frac{1}{2} \pi \approx 1.57$$

hydro

# **Stability of collisionless systems**

**The stability of rotating  
disks :**

**the dispersion relation**

**(additional material)**

The dispersion relation for a water thin fluid disk

polar coordinates

$$\Sigma_d(R, \phi), \quad \phi_d(R, \phi), \quad p(R, \phi), \quad \vec{v}(R, \phi) = v_r(R, \phi) \vec{e}_r + v_\phi(R, \phi) \vec{e}_\phi$$

① Continuity equation  $\frac{\partial \Sigma_d}{\partial t} + \vec{\nabla}(\Sigma_d \vec{v}) = 0$

$$\frac{\partial \Sigma_d}{\partial t} + \frac{1}{R} \frac{\partial}{\partial R} (R \Sigma_d v_r) + \frac{1}{R} \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} (\Sigma_d v_\phi)$$

② Euler equation  $\frac{\partial \vec{v}}{\partial t} + (\vec{v} \cdot \vec{\nabla}) \vec{v} = - \frac{\vec{\nabla} p}{\Sigma_d} - \vec{\nabla} \phi$

$$\frac{\partial v_r}{\partial t} + v_r \frac{\partial v_r}{\partial R} + \frac{v_\phi}{R} \frac{\partial v_r}{\partial \phi} - \frac{v_\phi^2}{R} = - \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial R} - \frac{1}{\Sigma_d} \frac{\partial p}{\partial R}$$

$$\frac{\partial v_\phi}{\partial t} + v_r \frac{\partial v_\phi}{\partial R} + \frac{v_\phi}{R} \frac{\partial v_\phi}{\partial \phi} + \frac{v_\phi v_r}{R} = - \frac{1}{R} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \phi} - \frac{1}{\Sigma_d} \frac{1}{R} \frac{\partial p}{\partial \phi}$$

③ Poisson  $\nabla^2 \phi = 4\pi G \Sigma \delta(z)$

④ Equation of state (polytropic)

$$\rho = \kappa \Sigma_d^\gamma \quad v_s^2 = \gamma \kappa \Sigma_0^{\gamma-2} \quad (\text{unperturbed sound speed})$$

$$h = \frac{\gamma}{\gamma-1} \kappa \Sigma_d^{\gamma-2} \quad \frac{\partial h}{\partial R} = \gamma \kappa \Sigma_d^{\gamma-2} \frac{\partial \Sigma}{\partial R}$$

(Specific enthalpy)  $\frac{\partial h}{\partial \phi} = \gamma \kappa \Sigma_d^{\gamma-2} \frac{\partial \Sigma}{\partial \phi}$

The Euler Equation becomes

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{\partial v_R}{\partial t} + v_R \frac{\partial v_R}{\partial R} + \frac{v_\phi}{R} \frac{\partial v_R}{\partial \phi} - \frac{v_\phi^2}{R} = - \frac{\partial}{\partial R} (\phi + h) \\ \frac{\partial v_\phi}{\partial t} + v_R \frac{\partial v_\phi}{\partial R} + \frac{v_\phi}{R} \frac{\partial v_\phi}{\partial \phi} + \frac{v_\phi v_R}{R} = - \frac{1}{R} \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} (\phi + h) \end{array} \right.$$



# Isolated system at equilibrium

$$\Sigma_{d0}, \phi_0, \rho_0, \vec{v}_0 + \text{axisymmetric} \\ + v_r = 0 \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} = 0 \right)$$

① Continuity equation  $\rho = 0$

② Euler equation  $\phi: 0 = 0$

⊕

$$R: \frac{v_{\phi 0}^2}{R} = \frac{\partial}{\partial R} (\phi_0 + h_0) = \frac{\partial \phi_0}{\partial R} + v_s^2 \frac{d}{dR} \ln \Sigma_0$$

centrifugal  
acceleration

gravity  
force

pressure  
force

Notes ① ⊕  $v_s^2 \frac{d}{dR} \ln \Sigma_0 = \frac{\partial P}{\partial \Sigma} \Big|_{\Sigma_0} \frac{1}{\Sigma_0} \frac{\partial \Sigma_0}{\partial R} = \frac{1}{\Sigma_0} \frac{\partial P}{\partial R} = \frac{1}{\Sigma_0} \vec{\nabla} P$

②  $v_s \approx 10 \text{ km/s}$   
 $v_{\phi} \approx 100 \text{ km/s}$  }  $\Rightarrow$  we neglect the pressure

③  $v_{\phi 0} \approx \sqrt{R \frac{\partial \phi_0}{\partial R}} = R \Omega(R)$

The response of the system to a weak perturbation  $-\epsilon \vec{\nabla} \phi_e$

---

$$\begin{array}{lcl} \Sigma_{d0} & \rightarrow & \Sigma_{d0} + \epsilon \Sigma_{d1} \\ V_{R_0} = 0 & \rightarrow & \epsilon V_{R1} \\ V_{\phi_0} & \rightarrow & V_{\phi_0} + \epsilon V_{\phi_1} \\ h_0 & \rightarrow & h_0 + \epsilon h_1 \\ \phi_{d0} & \rightarrow & \phi_{d0} + \epsilon \phi_{d1} \\ \text{"} & & \\ \phi_0 & \rightarrow & \phi_{d0} + \underbrace{\epsilon \phi_{d1} + \epsilon \phi_e} \end{array}$$

} disk only  
without the  
perturbation

} total potential,  
includes the perturbation

## Linearized equations for a water thin fluid disk

### ① Continuity equation

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \Sigma_{d1} + \Omega \frac{\partial \Sigma_{d1}}{\partial \phi} + \frac{1}{R} \frac{\partial}{\partial R} (R V_{R1} \Sigma_0) + \frac{\Sigma_0}{R} \frac{\partial V_{\phi 1}}{\partial \phi} = 0$$

### ② Euler equation

$$\frac{\partial V_{R1}}{\partial t} + \Omega \frac{\partial V_{R1}}{\partial \phi} - 2\Omega V_{\phi 1} = - \frac{\partial}{\partial R} (\phi_1 + h_1)$$

$$\frac{\partial V_{\phi 1}}{\partial t} + \underbrace{\left[ \frac{d}{dR} (\Omega R) + \Omega \right]}_{-2B(R)} V_{R1} + \Omega \frac{\partial V_{\phi 1}}{\partial \phi} = - \frac{1}{R} \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} (\phi_1 + h_1)$$

$$-2B(R)$$

Oort constant

$$\alpha^2 = -4B\Omega$$

# Solutions

assume waves of the form

(can be a spiral)

5  
radial  
functions

$$\begin{aligned}\underline{\Sigma_{dn}} &= \text{Re} \left[ \Sigma_{da}(R) e^{i(m\phi - \omega t)} \right] \\ \underline{v_{Rn}} &= \text{Re} \left[ v_{Ra}(R) e^{i(m\phi - \omega t)} \right] \\ \underline{v_{\phi n}} &= \text{Re} \left[ v_{\phi a}(R) e^{i(m\phi - \omega t)} \right] \\ \underline{h_n} &= \text{Re} \left[ h_a(R) e^{i(m\phi - \omega t)} \right] \\ \underline{\Sigma_n} &= \text{Re} \left[ \Sigma_a(R) e^{i(m\phi - \omega t)} \right] \\ \underline{\phi_n} &= \text{Re} \left[ \phi_a(R) e^{i(m\phi - \omega t)} \right]\end{aligned}$$

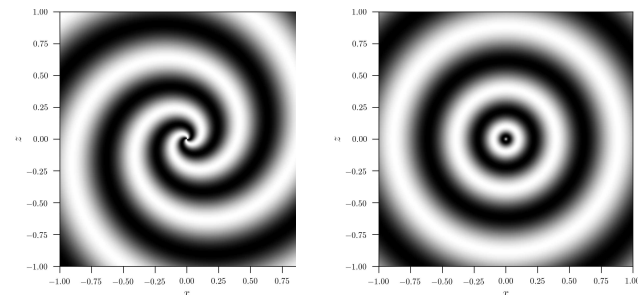
without  
perturbation

total:  
disk + perturbation

$$\Sigma_a = \Sigma_{da} + \Sigma_e$$

$$\phi_a = \phi_{da} + \phi_e$$

$$\Sigma_{d1}(R, \phi, t) = \text{Re} \left[ H_{da}(R, t) e^{i(m\phi + f(R, t) - \omega t)} \right]$$



① The continuity equation gives

$$-i(\omega - m\omega_c) \underline{\Sigma_{\alpha}} + \frac{1}{R} \frac{d}{dR} (R \underline{v_{R\alpha}} \Sigma_0) + \frac{i\omega \Sigma_0}{R} \underline{v_{\phi\alpha}} = 0$$

② The Euler equation gives

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \underline{v_{R_a}}(R) = \frac{i}{\Delta} \left[ (w - m\Omega) \frac{d}{dR} (\underline{\phi_a + h_a}) - \frac{2m\Omega}{R} (\underline{\phi_a + h_a}) \right] \\ \underline{v_{\phi_a}}(R) = - \frac{i}{\Delta} \left[ 2\beta \frac{d}{dR} (\underline{\phi_a + h_a}) + \frac{m(w - m\Omega)}{R} (\underline{\phi_a + h_a}) \right] \end{array} \right.$$

with  $\underline{\Delta = \alpha^2 - (w - m\Omega)^2}$

Notes ①  $v_{R_a}, v_{\phi_a}, \alpha, \Delta, \Omega$  are functions of  $R$  only

② if  $\Delta = 0 \Rightarrow$  divergence

$$\alpha^2 = (w - m\Omega)^2$$

$\Omega_p = \frac{w}{m}$  pattern speed

$$= m^2 \left( \frac{w}{m} - \Omega \right)^2 = m^2 (\Omega_p - \Omega)^2$$

$$\underline{\Omega_p = \Omega = \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial t}}$$

!!! problems at the  
Lindblad resonance



④ "Equation of state"

$$h = \frac{\gamma}{\gamma-1} K \Sigma_d^{\gamma-2}$$

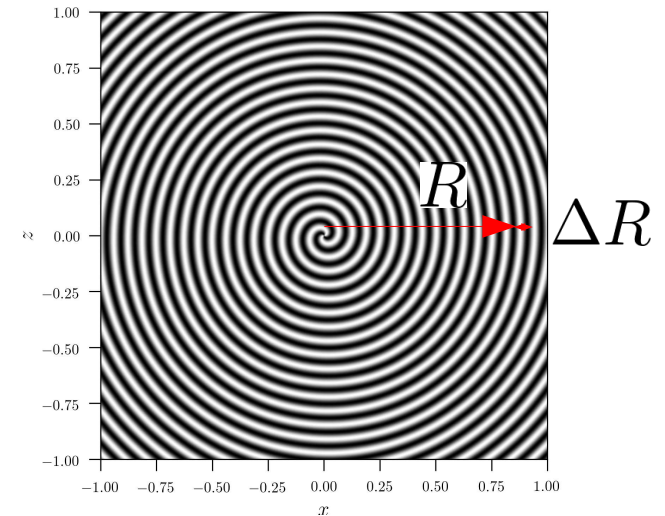
$$v_s^2 = \gamma K \Sigma_0^{\gamma-2}$$

$$\underline{h_a} = \gamma K \Sigma_0^{\gamma-2} \underline{\Sigma_{da}} = v_s^2 \frac{\underline{\Sigma_{da}}}{\underline{\Sigma_0}}$$

$\Rightarrow$  we have 4 equations for 5 unknowns

$\Sigma_{da}, h_a, \phi_a, v_{Ra}, v_{\phi a}$

⑤ Poisson Equation



**Stability of collisionless systems**

**The WKB approximation**

## Potential of tightly wound spiral pattern

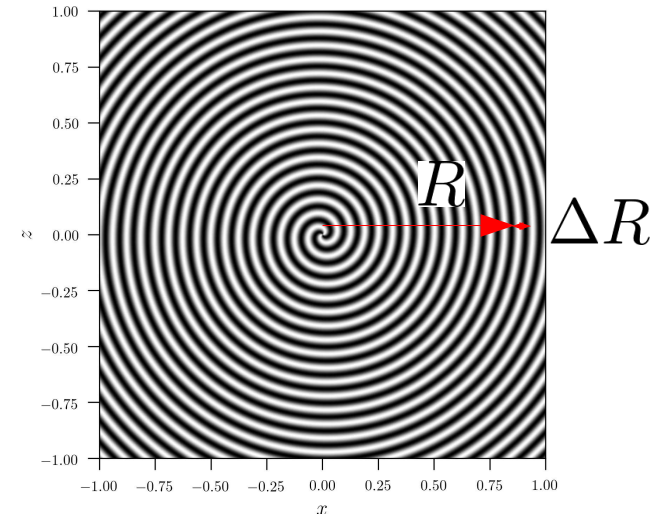
### Tightly wound spiral approximation

We assume that  $\underline{\Delta R \ll R}$

$$\text{but } \Delta R = \frac{2\pi}{m|k|} \sim \frac{1}{|k|}$$

Thus :

$$|kR| \gg 1$$



WKB approximation

(Wentzel - Kramers - Brillouin)

## Model of a spiral surface density

$$\Sigma_d(R, \phi, t) = \underbrace{\Sigma_{d_0}(R)}_{\text{at equilibrium}} + \varepsilon \underbrace{\Sigma_{d_1}(R, \phi, t)}_{\text{non anti-symmetric perturbation (spiral pattern)}}$$

Lets formulate  $\Sigma_1$  as

$$\Sigma_1(R, \phi, t) = \text{Re} \left( \underbrace{H(R, t)}_{\text{"slow" radial variation}} \underbrace{e^{i(m\phi + f(R, t))}}_{\text{"rapid" variation}} \right)$$

amplitude of the spiral arm

Shape function

What is the corresponding potential ?

"rapid" radial variation of  $\Sigma(R)$



$\Rightarrow$  the contribution of the distant parts cancels

$\Rightarrow$  the potential is determined from  $\Sigma_2(R, \phi, t)$  within a few  $k$

Method : expand the shape function around  $(R_0, \phi_0)$   
any "random point"

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \bullet \quad \mathcal{J}(R, t) \equiv \mathcal{J}(R_0, t) + \frac{\partial \mathcal{J}}{\partial R} (R - R_0) \\ \quad \quad \quad = \mathcal{J}(R_0, t) + k(R_0, t)(R - R_0) \quad k = |k| \\ \bullet \quad \mathcal{H}(R, t) \equiv \mathcal{H}(R_0, t) \end{array} \right.$$

We get :

$$k = k(R_0, t)$$

↓

$$i(m\phi_0 + g(R_0, t) + k(R - R_0))$$

$$\Sigma_n(R, \phi, t) \cong H(R_0, t) e$$

$$= H(R_0, t) e^{i(m\phi_0 + g(R_0, t))} e^{ik(R - R_0)}$$

$$= \underbrace{\Sigma_a}_{\text{no radial dependency}} e^{ik(R - R_0)}$$

this is a plane wave with

$$\vec{k} = k \vec{e}_R$$

(see the rotating sheet)

The corresponding potential is thus

$$\phi_n(R, \phi, z, t) \cong -\frac{2\pi G \Sigma_a}{k} e^{ik(R - R_0) - |kz|}$$

$$\cong -\frac{2\pi G}{k} \underbrace{H(R_0, t) e^{i(m\phi_0 + g(R_0, t))}}_{\Sigma_a} e^{ik(R - R_0) - |kz|}$$



We are free to set  $R = R_0$ ,  $\phi = \phi_0$ ,  $z = 0$  and thus, we get

$$\phi_1(R, \phi, z, t) = -\frac{e\pi G}{k} H(R, t) e^{i[m\phi + \delta(R, t)]}$$

**Stability of collisionless systems**

**Back to the dispersion  
relation**

④ "Equation of state"  $h = \frac{\gamma}{\gamma-1} k \Sigma_d^{\gamma-2}$   $v_s^2 = \gamma k \Sigma_0^{\gamma-2}$

$$\underline{h_a} = \gamma k \Sigma_0^{\gamma-2} \underline{\Sigma_{da}} = v_s^2 \frac{\underline{\Sigma_{da}}}{\underline{\Sigma_0}}$$

$\Rightarrow$  we have 4 equations for 5 unknowns  $\Sigma_{da}, h_a, \phi_a, U_{Ra}, v_{\phi a}$

⑤ Poisson Equation use WKB approximation

$$\begin{aligned} \Sigma_r &= \text{Re} \left[ \Sigma_a(r) e^{i(m\phi - \omega t)} \right] \\ &= \text{Re} \left[ e^{-i\omega t} \Sigma_a(r) e^{im\phi} \right] \\ &= \text{Re} \left[ H(r,t) e^{i\beta(r,t)} e^{im\phi} \right] \end{aligned}$$

$$k = \frac{\partial \beta}{\partial R}$$

$$|kR| \gg 1$$

$$\phi_r = - \frac{2\pi G}{k} \underbrace{H(r,t)}_{\text{slow variation}} \underbrace{e^{i\beta(r,t)}}_{\text{fast variation}} \underbrace{e^{im\phi}}_{\text{azimuthal symmetry}}$$

In addition

$$(4) \text{ "Eq. of state" } \Rightarrow h_e \sim \Sigma_{da} \sim \phi_1 \sim e^{i\beta(R,t)}$$

Thus a)  $\frac{d}{dR} (\phi_a + h_a) \sim (\phi_a + h_a) i \frac{d}{dR} \beta = (\phi_a + h_a) ik$

b)  $\frac{1}{R} (\phi_a + h_a) \cong \frac{1}{R} (\phi_a + h_a) ik \frac{1}{ik} = \frac{-i}{Rk} \frac{d}{dR} (\phi_a + h_a)$

as  $Rk \gg 1$   $\frac{1}{R} (\phi_a + h_a) \ll \frac{d}{dR} (\phi_a + h_a)$

① The continuity equation becomes

$$\frac{d}{dR} (R \Sigma_0 v_{Ra}) = ik R \Sigma_0 v_{Ra}$$

$$-(\omega - m\Omega) \Sigma_{da} + k \Sigma_0 v_{Ra} = 0$$

② The Euler equation becomes

$$v_{Ra} = - \frac{\omega - m\Omega}{\Delta} k (\phi_a + h_a)$$

$$v_{\phi a} = - \frac{2i\beta}{\Delta} k (\phi_a + h_a)$$

+ EOS + poisson  
( $h_e \sim \Sigma_{da}$ ) ( $\Sigma_a \sim \phi_a$ )

We can solve to get

$$\Sigma_{da} = \left( \frac{2\pi G \Sigma_0 |k|}{\mathcal{L}^2 - (\omega - m\Omega)^2 + v_s^2 k^2} \right) \Sigma_a$$

which gives the dispersion relation if  $\Sigma_e = 0$  ( $\Sigma_{da} = \Sigma_a$ )

$$(\omega - m\Omega)^2 = \mathcal{L}^2 - 2\pi G \Sigma_0 |k| + v_s^2 k^2$$

Note: if  $\Omega(R) = \Omega$   $\mathcal{L} = 2\Omega$  and we recover the dispersion relation for uniformly rotating sheet

$$\omega^2 = 4\Omega^2 - 2\pi G \Sigma_0 |k| + v_s^2 k^2$$

## Interpretation

$$(\omega - m\Omega)^2 = \kappa^2 - 2\pi G \Sigma_0 |k| + v_s^2 k^2$$

## Axially symmetric perturbations

$$m = 0$$

## "Cold disk"

$$v_s = 0$$

$$\omega^2 = \kappa^2 - 2\pi G \Sigma_0 |k|$$

$$k_{\text{crit}} := \frac{\kappa^2}{2\pi G \Sigma_0}$$

$$\lambda_{\text{crit}} := \frac{2\pi}{k_{\text{crit}}} = \frac{4\pi^2 G \Sigma_0}{\kappa^2}$$

$$|k| > k_{\text{crit}} \quad (\lambda < \lambda_{\text{crit}}) \quad \omega^2 < 0$$

UNSTABLE

$$|k| < k_{\text{crit}} \quad (\lambda > \lambda_{\text{crit}}) \quad \omega^2 > 0$$

STABLE

rotation stabilizes  
at large scale



$$(\omega - m\Omega)^2 = \kappa^2 - 2\pi G \Sigma_0 |k| + v_s^2 k^2$$

"Non rotating fluid disk"

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$$\kappa = 0$$

$$\omega^2 = -2\pi G \Sigma_0 |k| + v_s^2 k^2$$

⚠ not realistic

$$k_{\text{crit}} := \frac{2\pi G \Sigma_0}{v_s^2} \quad (\equiv k_{\text{Jeans}}) \quad \lambda_{\text{crit}} = \frac{2\pi}{k_{\text{crit}}} = \frac{v_s^2}{G \Sigma_0}$$

$$|k| > k_{\text{crit}} \quad (\lambda < \lambda_{\text{crit}}) \quad \omega^2 > 0$$

STABLE

$$|k| < k_{\text{crit}} \quad (\lambda > \lambda_{\text{crit}}) \quad \omega^2 < 0$$

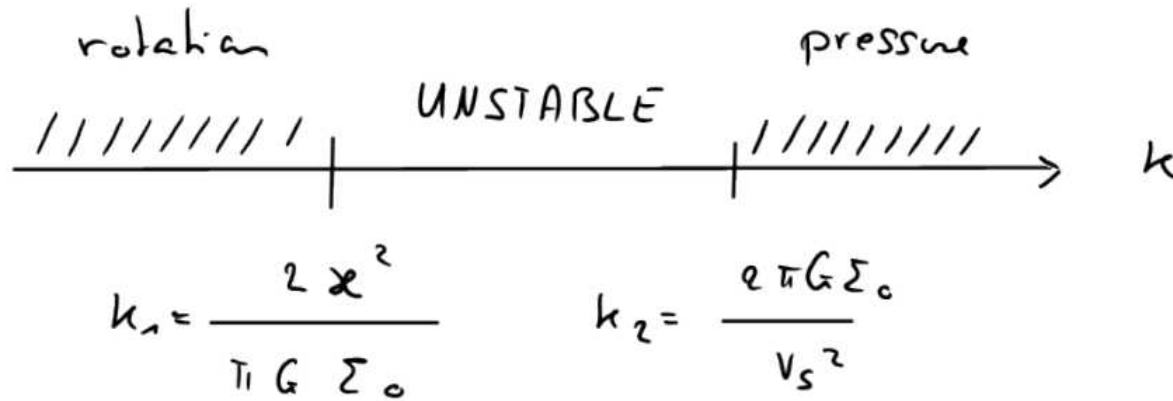
UNSTABLE

pressure  
stabilizes the disk

$$(\omega - m\Omega)^2 = \mathcal{L}^2 - 2\pi G \Sigma_0 |k| + v_s^2 k^2$$

Rotating fluid disk

$$\omega^2 = \mathcal{L}^2 - 2\pi G \Sigma_0 |k| + v_s^2 k^2$$



Complete stability

$$k_1 \geq k_2$$

$$Q := \frac{\mathcal{L} v_s}{\pi G \Sigma_0} > 1$$

## Stability of stellar disks

$$Q := \frac{\alpha v_c}{\pi G \Sigma_0} > 1$$

$$Q := \frac{\alpha \sigma_R}{3.36 G \Sigma_0} > 1$$

Schönauer - Toomre  
criterion

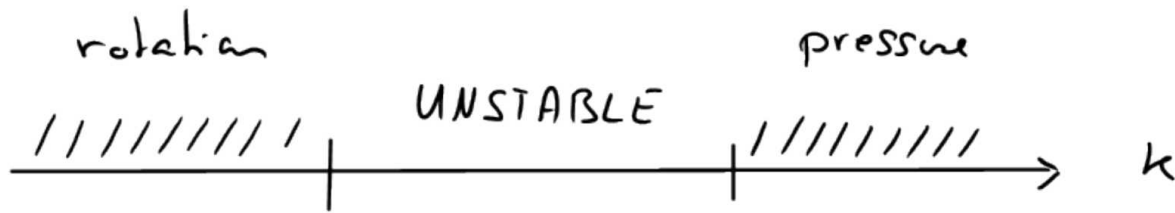
## Non axisymmetric perturbations ①

$$\left(\omega - m\Omega\right)^2 = \kappa^2 - 2\pi G \Sigma_0 |k| + v_s^2 k^2$$

$$\omega = \sqrt{\kappa^2 - 2\pi G \Sigma_0 |k| + v_s^2 k^2} + m\Omega$$

- the stability is determined for  $m = 0$  (value of  $\Gamma$ )
- $m\Omega \in \mathbb{R}_c \rightarrow$  add an oscillatory term  $e^{-i m \Omega t}$   
with a frequency that correspond to  
the passage of spiral arm  
(ex: if  $\Gamma = 0$ )

# Non axisymmetric perturbations (2)



$$k_1 = \frac{\alpha^2}{2\pi G \Sigma_0}$$

$$k_2 = \frac{2\pi G \Sigma_0}{v_s^2}$$

- $\lambda_1 = \frac{2\pi}{k_1} = 4\pi^2 \frac{G \Sigma_0}{\alpha^2}$

= "max size" of a "clump"

- number of "clumps"

$$\frac{2\pi R}{\lambda_1} = R \cdot k = \frac{\alpha^2 R}{2\pi G \Sigma_0} = m$$

→ number of spiral arms

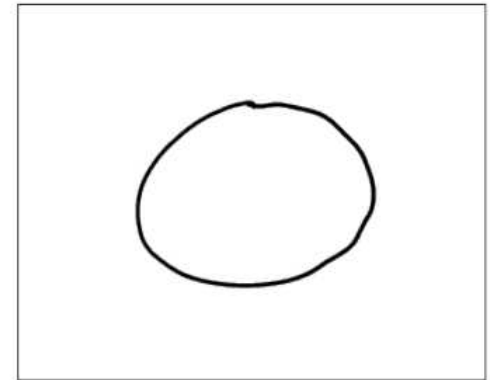
$$X = \frac{\alpha^2 R}{2\pi G \Sigma_0 m} \geq 3$$

↑  
ensure the stability of mode m

# Physical interpretation of the Jeans instability

Specific potential energy of an homogeneous sphere of radius  $r$

$$|W| \cong \frac{GM(r)}{r} \quad M(r) = \frac{4}{3} \pi r^3 \rho_0$$
$$\cong \frac{4}{3} \pi r^2 \rho_0 G$$



Specific kinetic energy of an homogeneous sphere of radius  $r$

$$K \cong \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2$$

Radius for which we have the virial equilibrium  $2T = |W|$

$$r = \sqrt{\frac{3 \sigma^2}{4 G \rho_0 \pi}} \quad \sim \quad \lambda_J = \sqrt{\frac{\pi v_s^2}{G \rho_0}}$$

$$r > r_J \quad |W| > 2T$$

UNSTABLE

$$r < r_J \quad |W| < 2T$$

STABLE