Principles of Asteroseismology

MWGaiaDN School Frontiers of Stellar Evolution

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Resources



lecture notes by Christensen-Dalsgaard http://users-phys.au.dk/jcd/oscilnotes/

What is this?





Birmingham Solar Oscillation Network

A wide-world network of 6 telescopes for observe oscillation in the Sun.



Helioseismology

Time Series



Davies et al. 2014

Helioseismology

Time Series Power spectrum 0.12 Las Campanas Izana Sutherland 0.1 Carnarvon Fourier Narrabri Transform Residual velocity (m $\rm s^{-1}$) 0.08 m² s⁻²μHz⁻¹ 90'0 0.04 0.02 v [µHz] Time (hours)

Davies et al. 2014

Why Do Stars Pulsate?

Self-exited oscillations

unstable oscillations, e.g. κ -mechanism. They are typical in stars like Cepheids, RR Lyrae, Mira, δ Scuti, β Cephei, and other classical pulsators.



Aerts ,2021RvMP...93a5001A

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Stochastic oscillations

Stable dumped oscillations, excited by external convective layers. Present in stars with T_{eff} low enough to have a superficial convective region, typical, e.g. low main sequence, sub-giant and red-giant.



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Little bit of theory... **Standing Waves in a String**



Solution in the form of monocromatic wave: $\Psi(x,t) = e^{i2\pi\nu t}\psi(x)$

Wave equation:

$$\frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x^2} + \frac{2\pi\nu^2}{c^2}\psi = 0 \text{ with boundaries: } \psi(0) = \phi(L) = 0$$

$$\psi_n = A\sin(k_n x) \text{ Where: } \nu_n = k_n c/2\pi, k_n = \frac{n\pi}{L}, n = 1, 2, \dots$$



Little bit of theory... Acoustic Standing Waves in an Organ Pipe

Acoustic wave equation:

 $\frac{\partial^2 P}{\partial r^2} + \frac{2\pi\nu^2}{c^2}P = 0$



Solution in the form of monocromatic wave: $P(x,t) = A\cos(kx/c)e^{i2\pi\nu t}$

with boundaries:
$$P(0) = \frac{dP}{dx}(L) = 0$$
 and: $c^2 = \gamma_1 \frac{P}{\rho}$
 $k_n = \frac{n\pi}{L}, \nu_n = (n - 1/2)\frac{c}{2L}, n = 1, 2, ...$



Applying the theory...



Ulrich 1986

Again a little bit of theory... 2D and 3D





Again a little bit of theory... Spherical harmonics



 $\xi_{r}\left(r,\theta,\phi,t\right)=a\left(r\right)Y_{l}^{m}\left(\theta,\phi\right)\exp\left(-\mathrm{i}\,2\pi\nu t\right),\label{eq:eq:expansion}$

$$\xi_{\theta}\left(r,\theta,\phi,t\right) = b\left(r\right) \frac{\partial Y_{l}^{m}\left(\theta,\phi\right)}{\partial \theta} \exp\left(-\mathrm{i}\,2\pi\nu t\right),$$

$$\xi_{\phi}\left(r,\theta,\phi,t\right) = \frac{b\left(r\right)}{\sin\theta} \frac{\partial Y_{l}^{m}\left(\theta,\phi\right)}{\partial\phi} \exp\left(-\mathrm{i}\,2\pi\nu t\right),$$

Solutions we search are $\varphi(\mathbf{r}, t) = R(r)a(\theta, \phi)\tau(t)$.

Radial functions (n)

+

Spherical harmonics $Y_l^m(\theta, \phi) \equiv (-1)^m c_{lm} P_l^m(\cos \theta) \exp(im\phi)$



Again a little bit of theory... System of Equations for Adiabatic Oscillations

In most of the star, oscillations are adiabatic

Equation of continuity

Poisson's equation



Oscillations typically have small amplitudes compared with the characteristic scales of the star, and so they can be treated as small perturbations around a static equilibrium state

Again a little bit of theory... A lot of maths later....



Solving the system of equations is the primary aim of oscillation codes (like e.g. GYRE, Townsend & Teitler, 2013 or LOSC, Scuflaire et al., 2008).

The solutions consist in a set of discrete eigenfunctions which describe the properties of oscillation modes. Each solution/mode can be identified by three integers numbers defining the spherical harmonics (n, l, m)

Modes Properties



The radial order n. The radial order corresponds to the numbers of nodes of the mode between the centre and the surface.

The angular order I (or degree). The angular order represents the total number of nodal lines on the stellar surface

The azimuthal order m. The azimuthal order indicates how many of these surface nodal lines cross the equator.

In absence of rotation or other features that break the spherical symmetry of the star, m does not affect the frequencies.



















Helioseismology

Constraints on the solar structure by model – data comparison

e.g. depth of convective envelope: 0.713 ± 0.003 R Christensen-Dalsgaard, et al 1991 ApJ 378



Christensen-Dalsgaard, 2002 Rev. Mod. Phy. 74

From Solar to Stellar Oscillations



From Solar to Stellar Oscillations



Asteroseismology in Kepler





Chaplin & Miglio 2013

Scaling Relations



Solar-like oscillations

Pressure Modes

- acoustic waves
- high frequencies
- Equally spaced in frequency (Δv)
- Fundamental mode with the lowest frequency
- Can be radial



Gravity modes

- restoring force: buoyancy
- low frequencies
- Equally spaced in period ($\Delta \Pi$)
- Fundamental mode with the highest frequency
- Cannot be radial



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b)

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Solar-like oscillations in evolved stars



Solar-like oscillations in evolved stars



Solar-like oscillations Across the HR

MAIN SEQUENCE



Solar-like oscillations Across the HR

SUB GIANT BRANCH



Solar-like oscillations Across the HR

POST RGB BUMP



Period Spacing in Kepler



Period Spacing in Kepler



Period Spacing in Kepler



Period Spacing in Red Clump

Period Spacing is sensible to the inner layers of the stars. It can be used to test e.g. Core-convection.

To extend the fully mixed region overshoot is usually used. Let consider a **step function overshooting:** the overall radius of the mixed core is given by $r_{\text{mixed core}} = r_{\text{classical border}} + \alpha_{\text{ovhe}} H_P$



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Period Spacing in Red Clump

Overshooting changes the maximum period spacing



Thermal stratification changes the minimum period spacing





Field red giant stars Vrard et al. 2016 catalogue + APOGEE metallicity





Field red giant stars Vrard et al. 2016 catalogue + APOGEE metallicity



Montalbán et al. (2013) used the observed $\Delta \Pi g$ provided by Mosser et al. (2012) as diagnostic for studying the central properties of secondary clump stars. They showed that at the same mass M_{tr} , the predicted average RC period spacing presents a minimum as well.

They pointing out that in stellar models increasing MS-overshooting modifies M_{tr}, shifting the expected minimum to lower mass values.