
Newton

a New Solar System Dynamics Tool

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Overview

- Motivation
- Design consequences
- GUI features
- Research features
- Live demonstration

Motivation

- AA's Dynamical Astronomy Division: recent activity
 - Development of Newcomb
 - High-precision, high-accuracy solar system ephemeris program
 - USNO **replacement** for PEP and JPL's DE programs, both of which are products of the 1960s
 - Optimization of ephemeris storage
 - Determination of asteroid masses
 - Half of the world's existing mass determinations
 - Asteroid ephemerides
 - Astronomical Almanac
 - Research

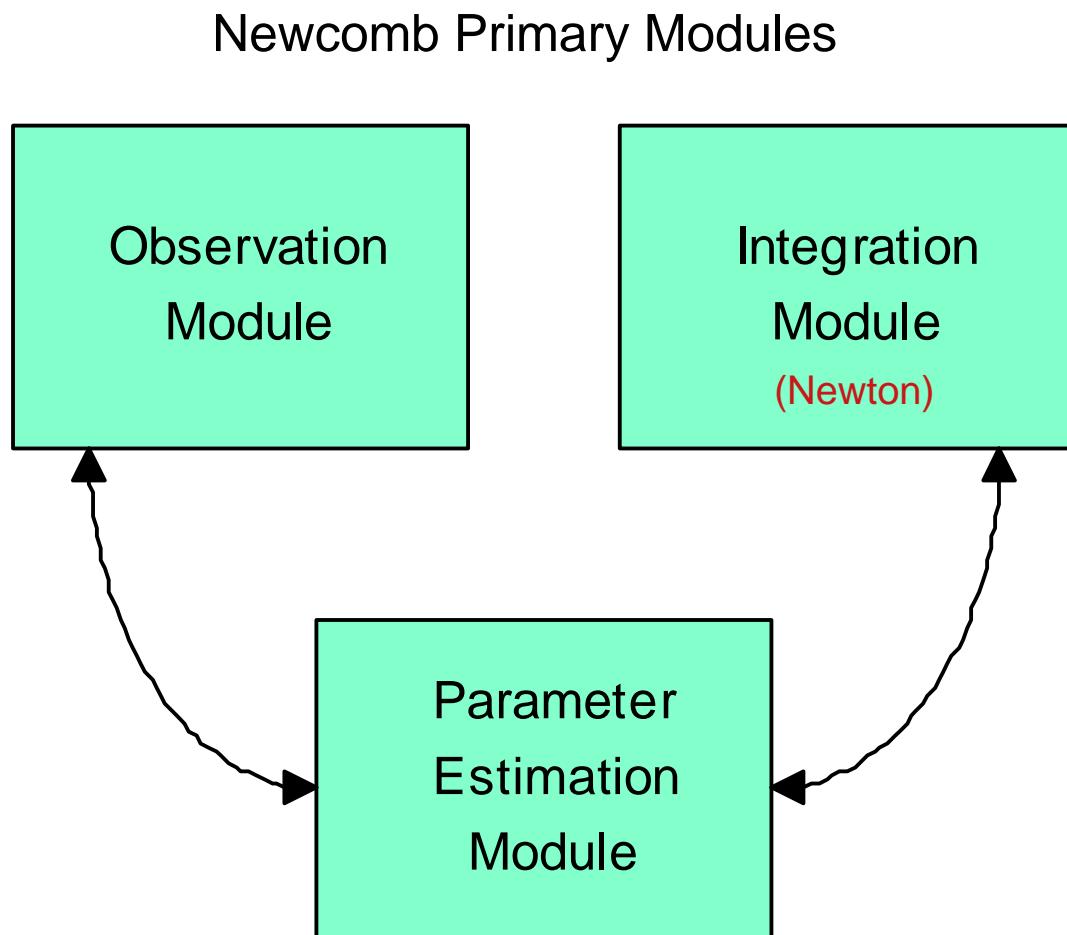
Motivation (continued)

- Chaotic dynamics of minor planets
 - Inner solar system asteroids
 - Outer asteroid belt
 - Trans-Neptunian objects
 - Resonances, resonances, everywhere resonances!
- Dynamics of FAME precession
- Upgrade of NOVAS astrometry package for ICRS compatibility
 - Radio and optical astrometric reduction and analysis algorithms give the same results to less than 1 microarcsecond
- Notice that all but two of these require a **solar system integrator**

Motivation (continued)

- Ephemeris program integration module

- High accuracy
- High reliability
- Fast



Motivation (continued)

- Solar system dynamics research tool
 - Testing and verification for ephemeris program usage
 - **Interactive** exploration of dynamical effects
 - **Flexible** — modify existing tools & features, with minimal impact
 - **Extensible** — add new tools & features without changing underlying program structure
 - Reuse of code

Design Consequences

- Object-oriented design

- Flexible
- Extensible
- Minimize maintenance burden
- Major advantage over existing programs
 - PEP and DE (ephemeris)
 - SWIFT, Mercury (solar system)

- C++ programming language

- Required technical complexity
- Likely to be around the next 10-20 years or more
- Excellent design/debug environments are available

Design Consequences (continued)

- **RAD (Rapid Application Development)**

- Want a sophisticated GUI but do **NOT** want to do GUI programming
 - 3rd party solutions found to be inadequate
- Component programming
 - drag 'n' drop interface elements
 - A component can be any self-contained entity, from a simple button or edit field to, for example, a text editor, an xy plot or a frequency analysis package
- RAD really shines when it comes to interface design
- No need to reinvent GUI wheels
- Extensible & flexible



GUI Features of Newton

- Full assortment of standard Windows 95/98 widgets
 - Menus, buttons, drop-down lists, spinners, toolbars, dialog pages, right-click "popup" menus, etc.
 - All are implemented as components
- HTML browser (a drop-in component) for online help
- Locally designed components
 - xy plots
 - Automatic rescaling
 - Popup coordinates
 - zoom
 - Auto-wrapping at 0/360 degrees
 - Frequency analysis
 - Orbital elements

GUI Features of Newton (continued)

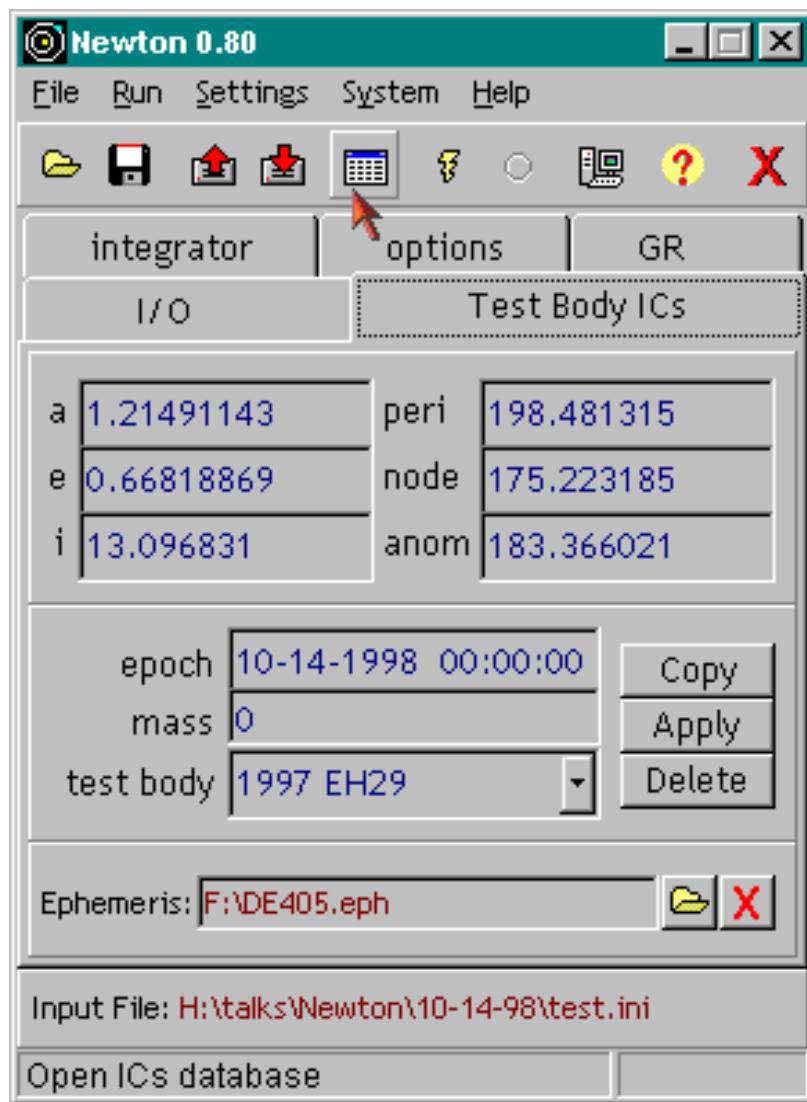
- **Plotting**

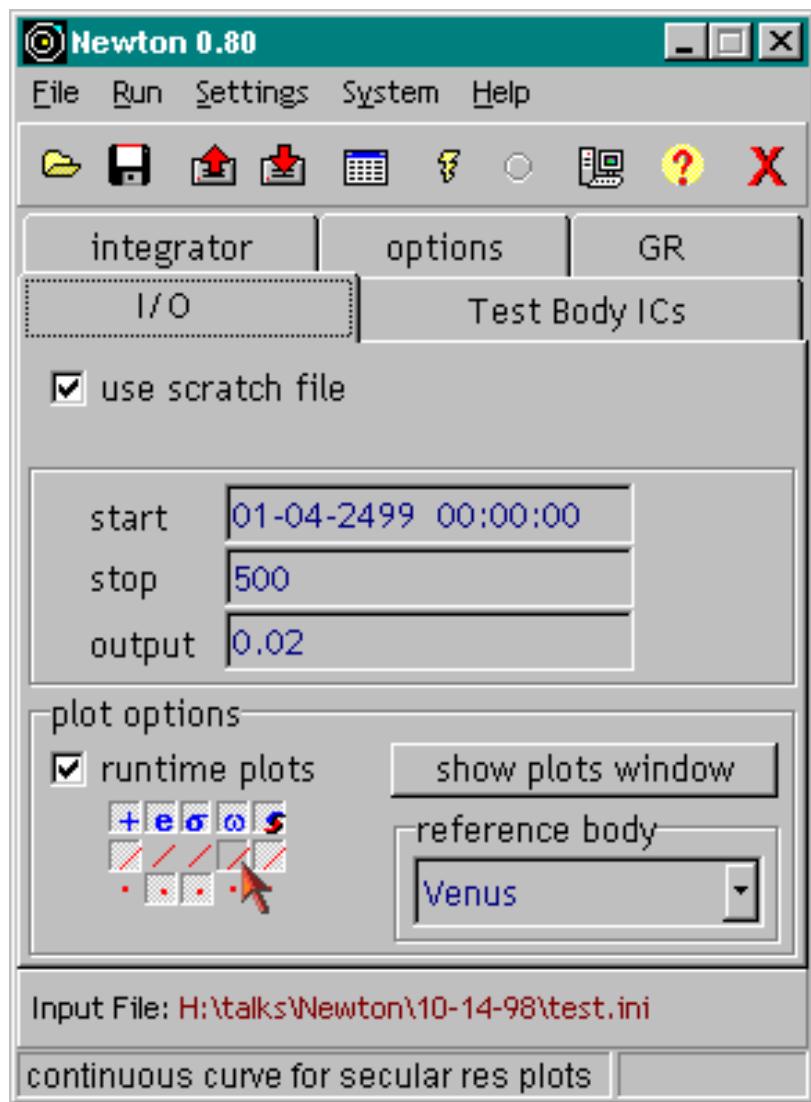
- Progresses during integrations
- Post integration (re)analysis
- On-the-fly switching of test bodies and reference bodies
- Individual plot type on/off switches
- Zoom in on interesting features

- **Data output**

- Entire integrations (all integrated bodies) to binary files
- Individual test body data to ASCII files (for reading by spreadsheets and graphics packages)

- **Test body list editing**

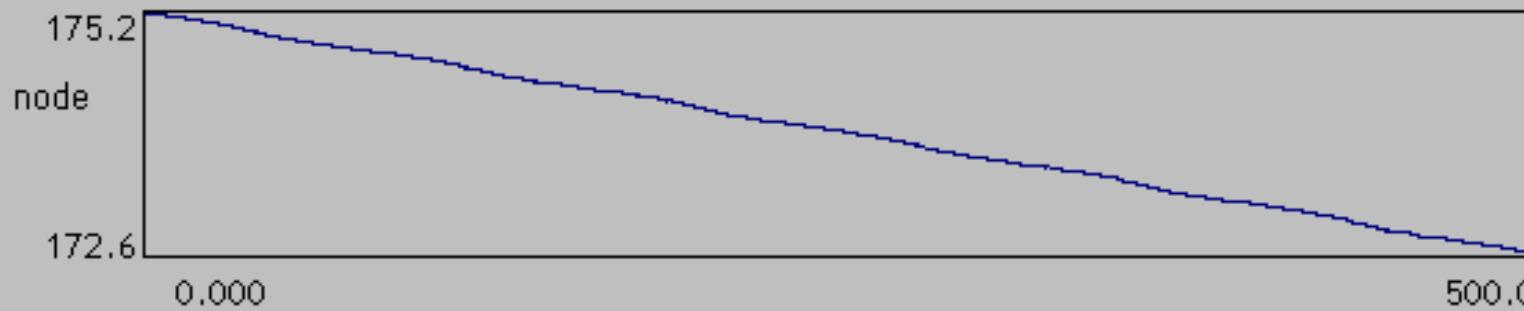
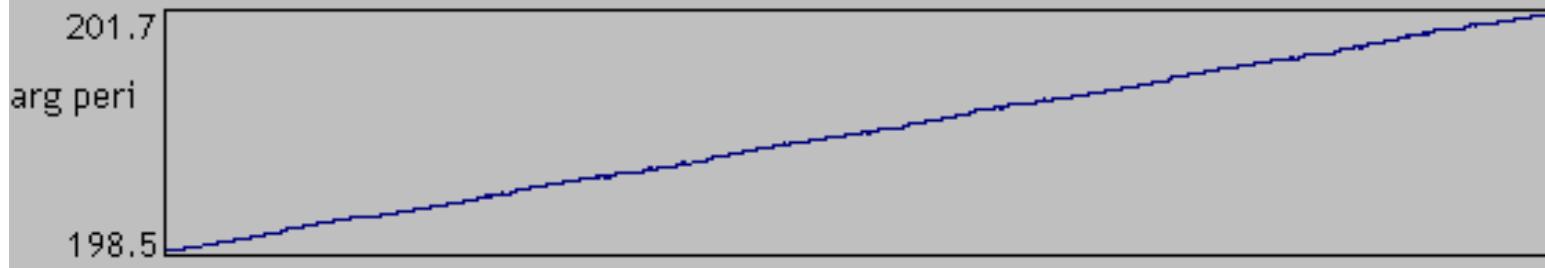
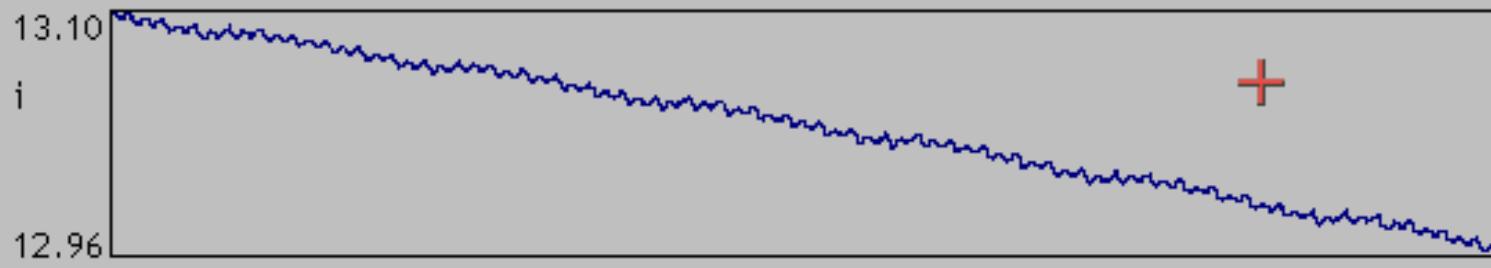
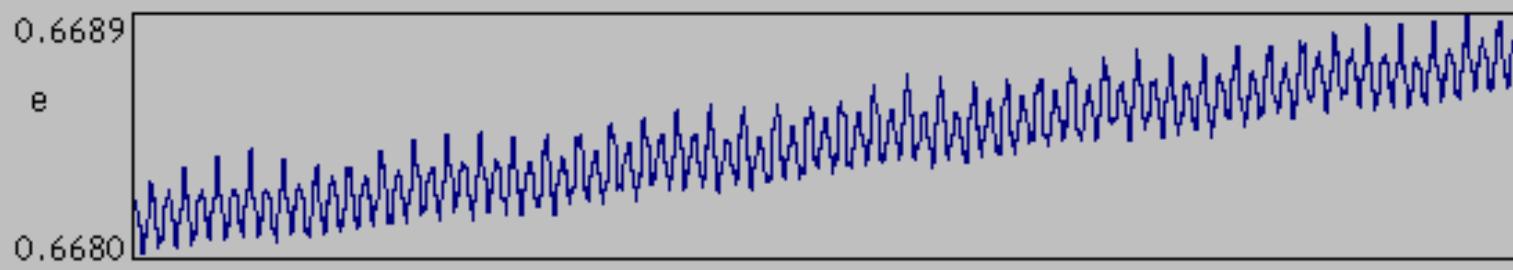
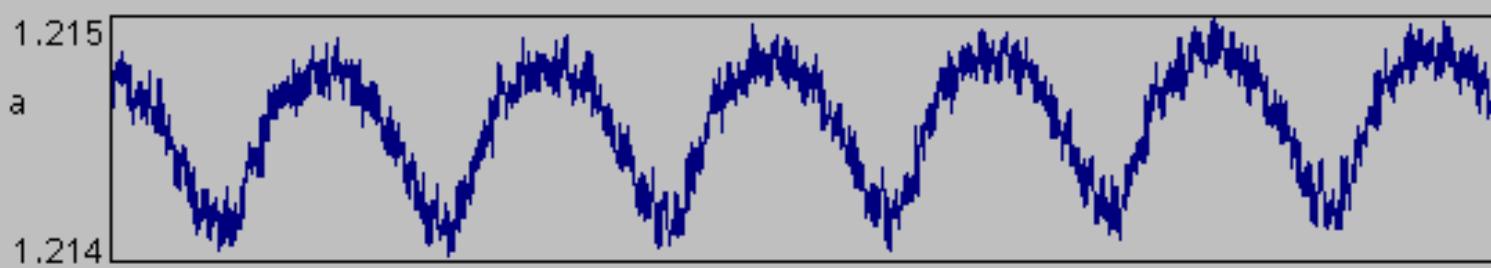




Newton Runtime Plots



e, i, peri, node | r, q, Q | [k,h] | XY plane | MMRs | secular resonances



reference body test body

Venus



1997 EH29



$\Delta t = 500$

Newton Runtime Plots



e, i, peri, node | r, q, Q | [k,h] | XY plane | MMRs | secular resonances

2.942

Y

-2.849

-2.894

X

3.000



reference body

test body

Venus



1997 EH29



$\Delta\tau = 500$

Research Features

- **Solar system model:**

- Newtonian gravity
- GR (coming soon)
 - Test bodies and/or planets
- All major planets
 - Any combination may be turned on or off
 - Earth/Moon treated as separate or combined
- Natural satellites (coming soon)
- Ephemeris file for planet ICs (e.g., DE405)
- Unlimited number of test bodies
- Test bodies can have mass and interact with planets
 - Asteroid belt is largest source of uncertainty in the ephemeris of Mars!
 - The "innie-outie" problem

Research Features (continued)

- Numerical integration methods
 - Bulirsch-Stoer
 - Optimized
 - Runga-Kutta
 - Everhart's RADAU (coming soon)
 - Symplectic (coming soon)
 - Anything else you care to add — a testbed for numerical methods

Research Features (continued)

- **Asteroids database**

- Initial conditions
- Any dbase IV (or paradox, or ...) file containing orbital elements for some epoch
 - e.g., Ted Bowell's list available on the web
- Searching
 - Number, name
- Filtering
 - Semimajor axis
 - Eccentricity
 - Inclination
 - Diameter
 - Color
 - Observing arc
 - Number of observations
 - H magnitude

Orbital Elements Database

NUMBER	NAME	A	E	I	CE
228	Agathe	2.20192989	0.24139287	2.53909	7.
229	Adelinda	3.412935	0.14907999	2.093366	1.
230	Athamantis	2.38278855	0.06075448	9.43551	2.
231	Vindobona	2.91677196	0.15812893	5.102933	1.
232	Russia	2.54951587	0.17849691	6.081612	1.
233	Asterope	2.65938066	0.10086406	7.665518	8.
234	Barbara	2.38555009	0.24379574	15.347082	1.
235	Carolina	2.88200004	0.06004763	9.045951	1.
236	Honoria	2.79901364	0.19183602	7.695644	2.
237	Coelestina	2.76265792	0.07192244	9.759263	1.
238	Hypatia	2.90894157	0.09163256	12.409282	2.
239	Adrastea			442	6.162022
240	Vanadis			567	2.104474

Navigate

First -100 PgUp ◀ ▶ PgDn +100 Last rec = 238

Select Asteroid
Load Selections Now
New Database
Cancel

Select All New Database Cancel

number	name	semimajor	eccentricity	inclination	peri
228	Agathe	2.20192989	0.24139287	2.53909	18.6140
231	Vindobona	2.91677196	0.15812893	5.102933	268.034

Load Selections Remove Remove All 2 selected

Search

Find Number Find Name

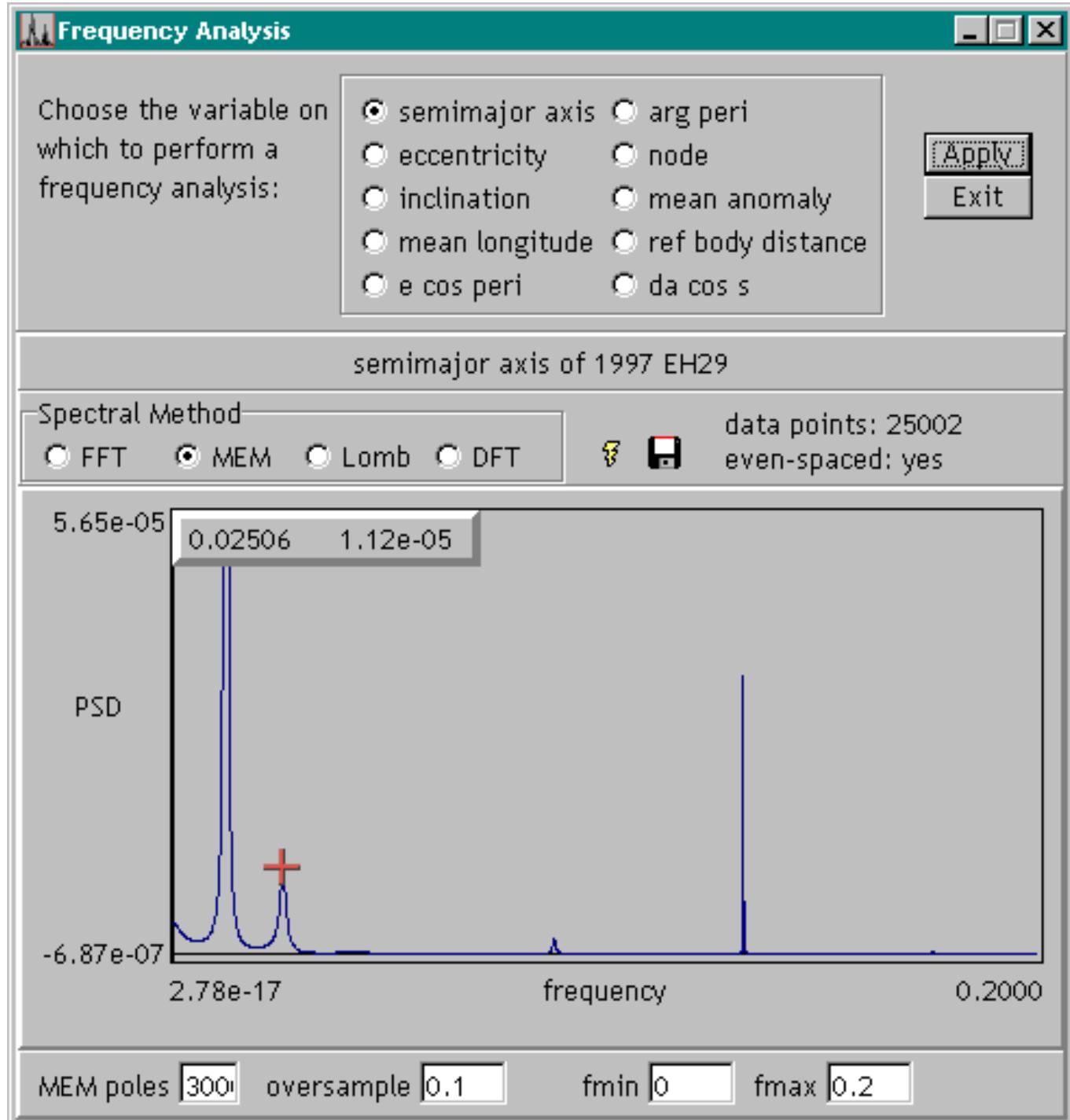
Filter

semimajor Apply Reset 9259 records found

Research Features (continued)

- **Diagnostics of chaotic motion:**
 - Frequency analysis
 - FFT
 - Maximum Entropy Method
 - Lomb periodogram
 - DFT
 - Maximum Lyapunov exponent calculation
(determined by integration of the trajectory phase space tangent vector) (coming soon)
 - Calculation of the trajectory curvature tensor
(coming soon)
 - Components of the Riemann curvature tensor
(see, e.g., Gurzadyan and Savvidy 1986 and Kandrup 1990)

— Gurzadyan, V.G., and Savvidy, G.K. (1986). "Collective Relaxation of Stellar Systems", *Astron. Astrophys.* **160**, 203.
— Kandrup, H.E. (1990). "Divergence of Nearby Trajectories for the Gravitational N-Body Problem", *Ap. J.* **364**, 420.



Research Features (continued)

- **Resonance diagnostics:**

- Mean-motion critical angle

$$\sigma = (p + q) \cdot L_{ref} - p \cdot L - q \cdot (\omega + \Omega)$$

- Automatic determination of mean-motion resonances!

- Uses new algorithm — complete and very fast
 - Subject of another talk...

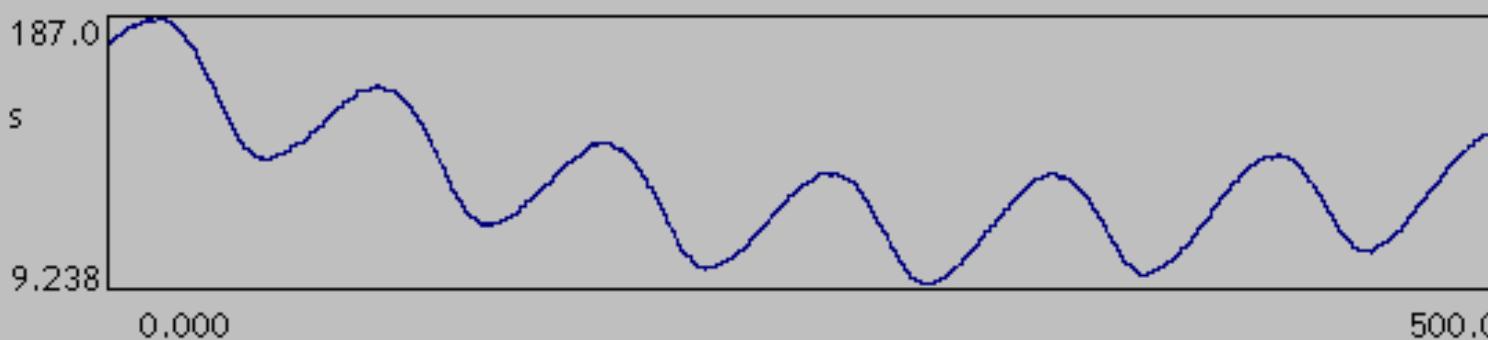
- Secular resonance critical angles ($\omega - \omega_{ref}$, $\Omega - \Omega_{ref}$, Kozai resonance)

- Until now, no tools existed for exploring secular resonances due to the inner planets
 - ▶ Theory much too complicated (large, multiple-source perturbations)
 - ▶ GUIs geared for interactive use not the norm in astronomy
 - Hence, nobody has looked for secular resonances in the inner solar system due to the inner planets

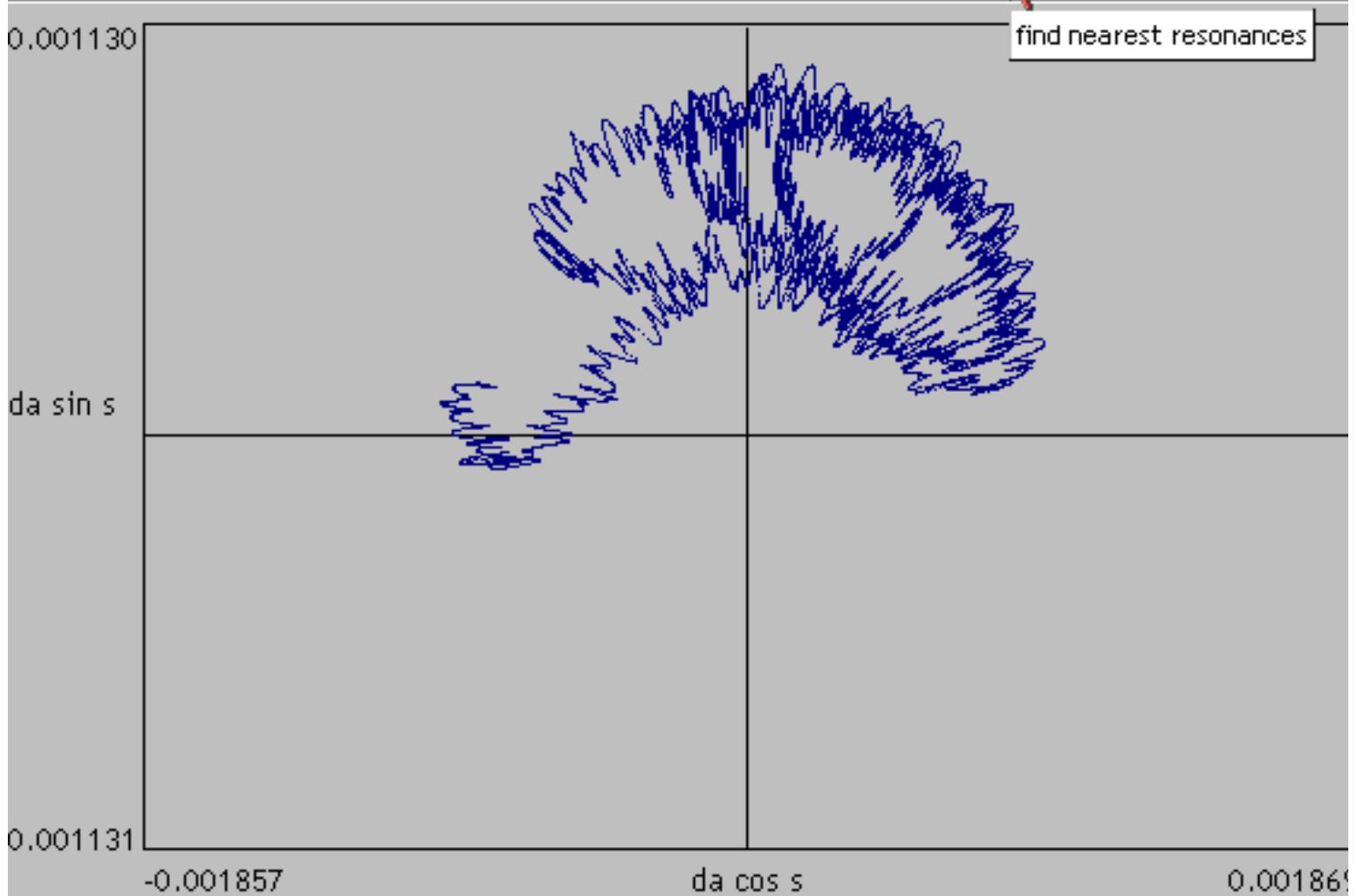
Newton Runtime Plots



e, i, peri, node | r, q, Q | [k,h] | XY plane | MMRs | secular resonances



q: -20 p: 37 (p+q):p = 17:37 0 500 100 16:25 0.97395



reference body test body

Venus

1997 EH29

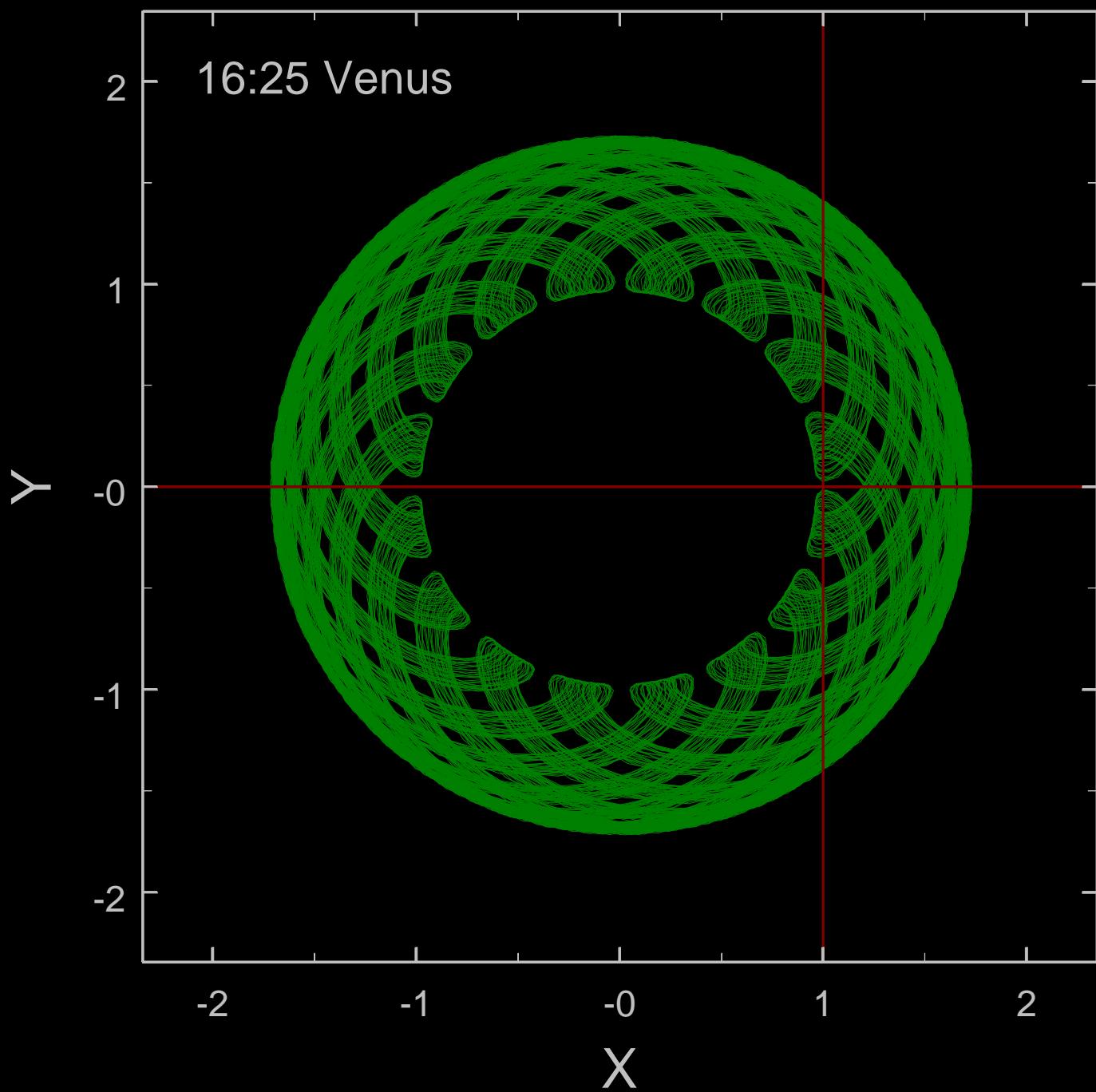


$\Delta t = 500$

Current Research Projects Using Newton

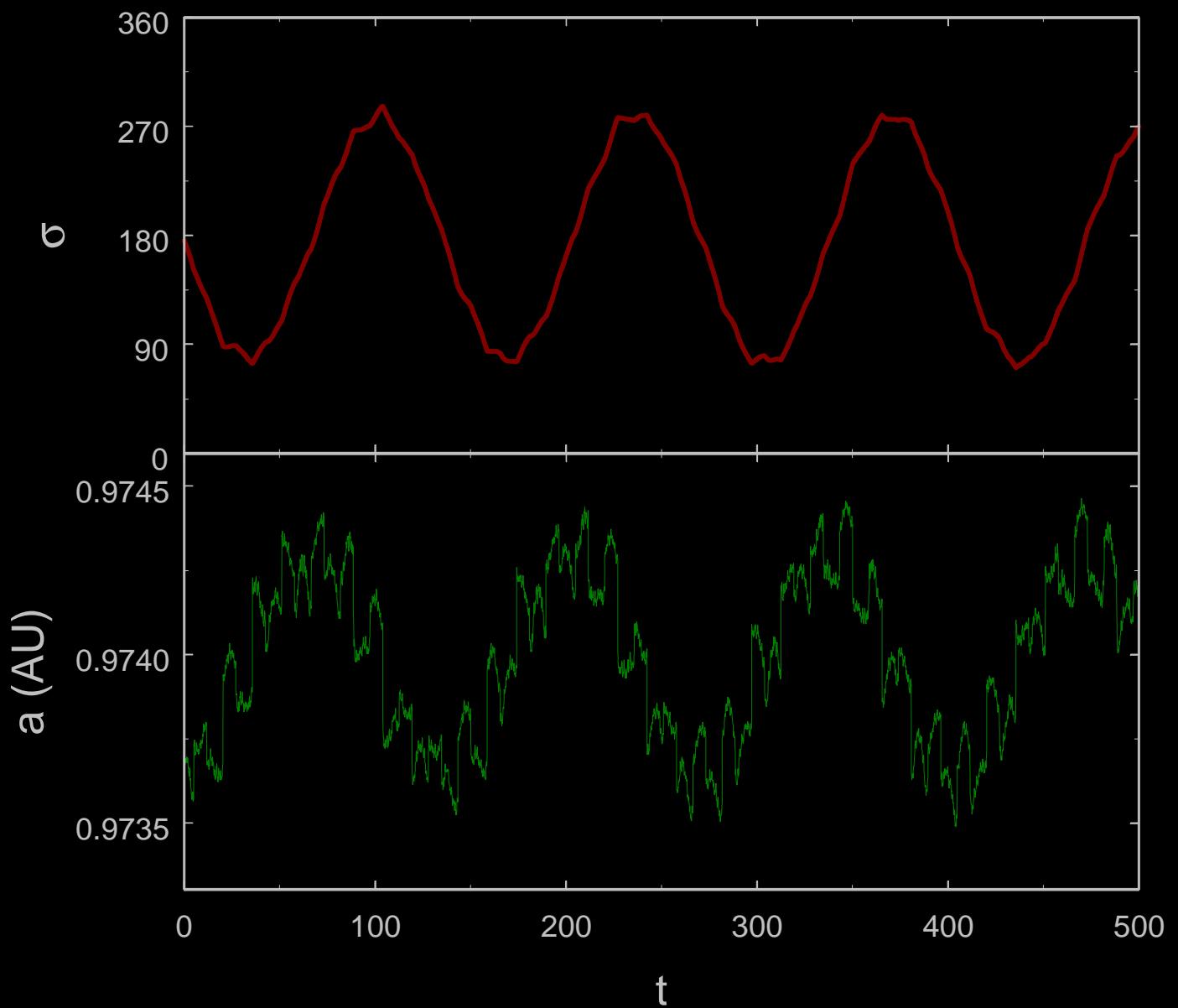
- These serve as an arduous testing ground for the ephemeris program integration module
- Dynamical survey of inner solar system asteroids
 - Identification of all mean-motion resonances
 - Some resonances are of very high order
 - Resonance statistics as a function of time
 - Double resonances
 - Secular resonances in the inner solar system
- Trans-Neptunian Objects
 - Pluto and company
 - Pile-ups at major MMRs

(3554) Amun

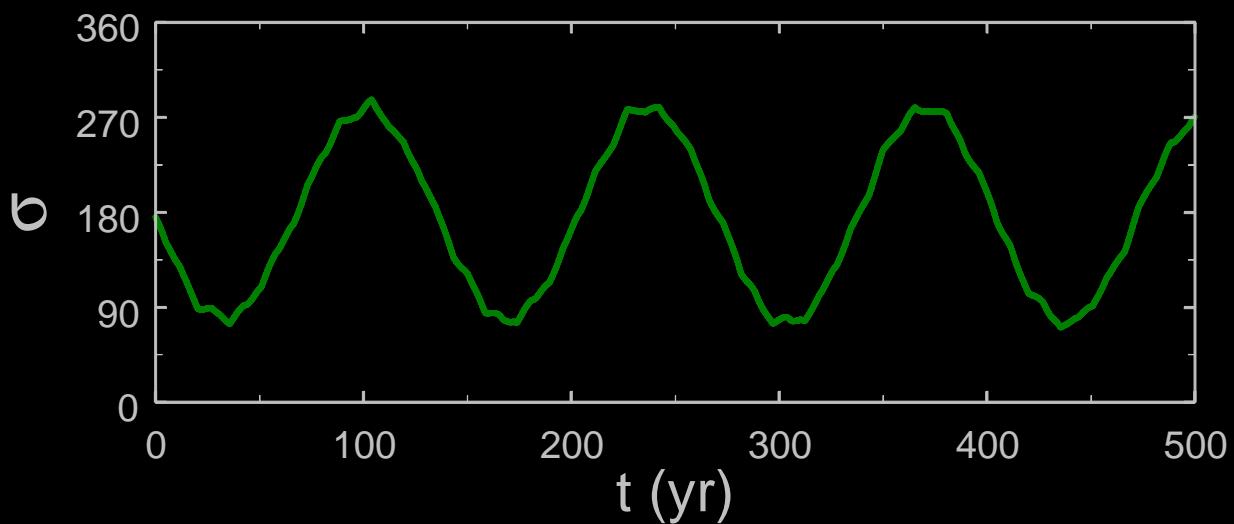
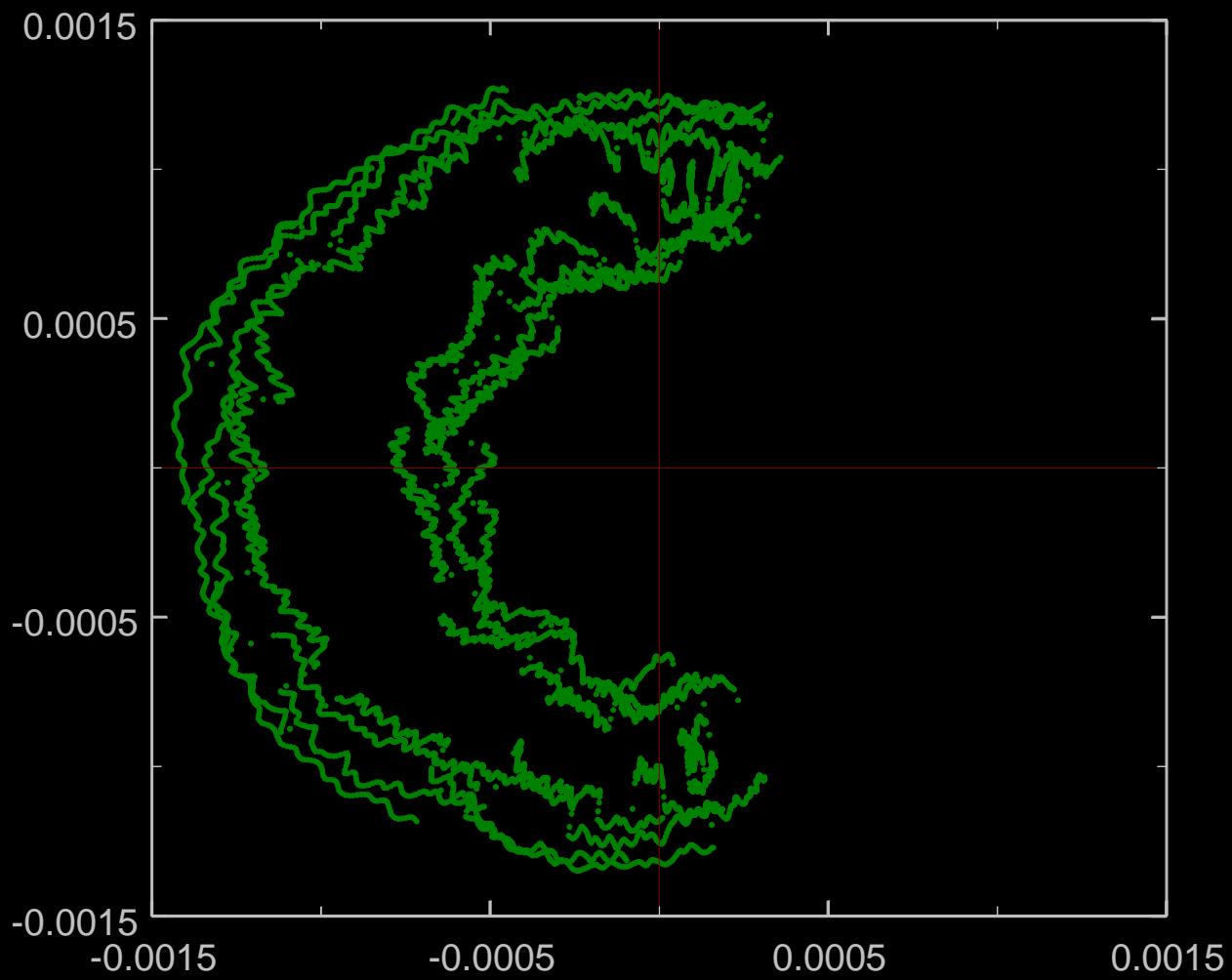


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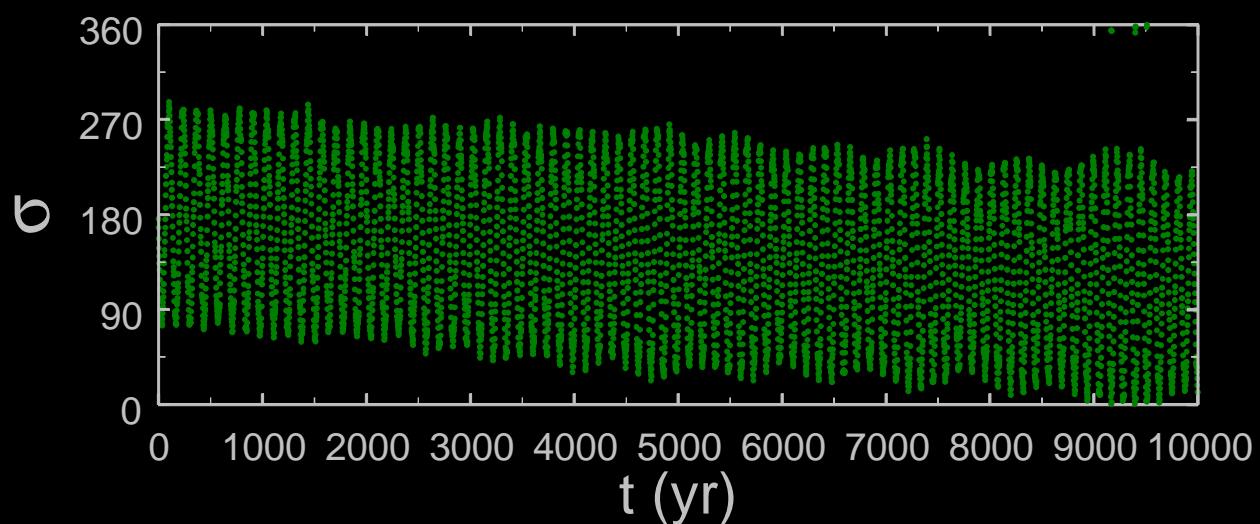
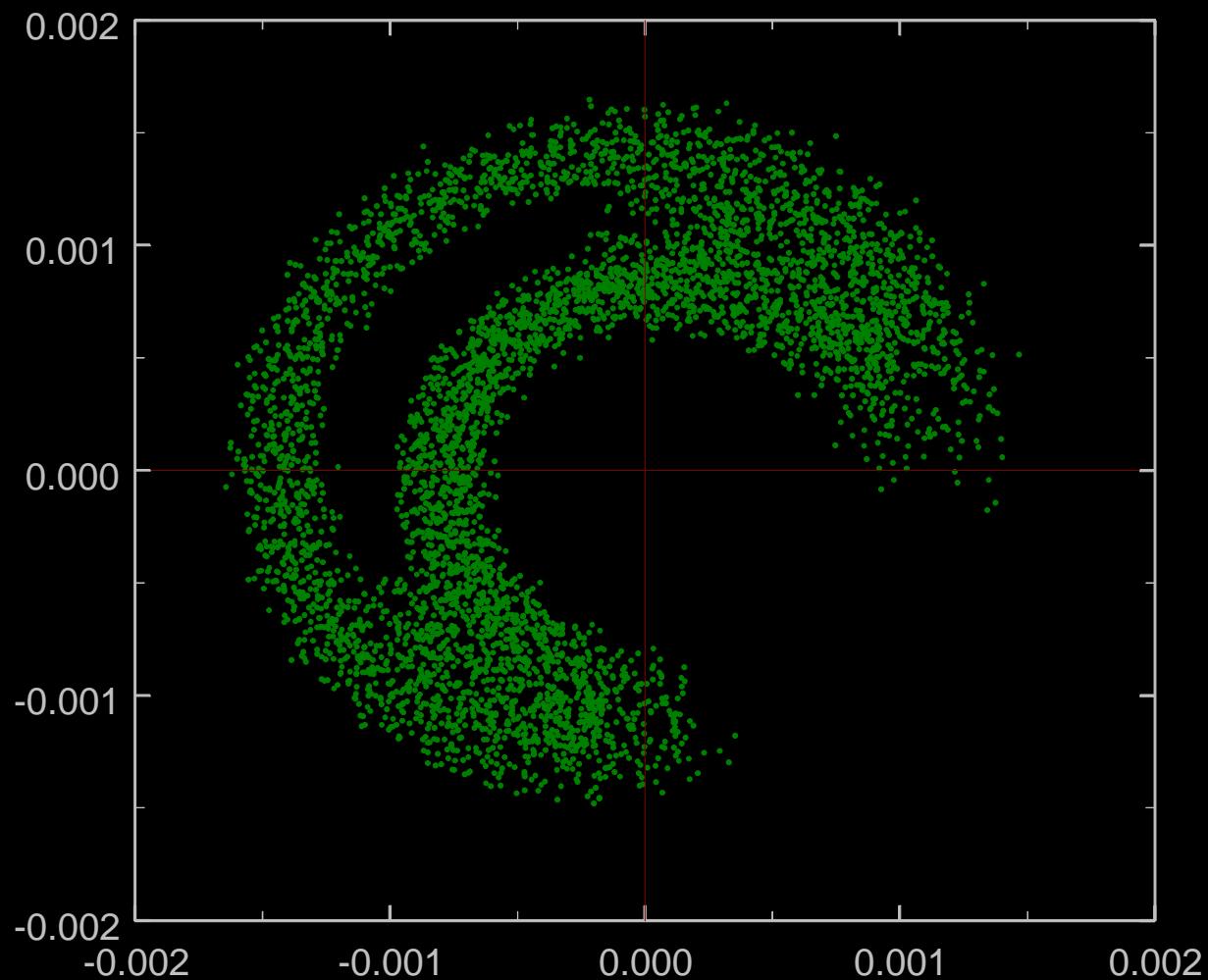
16:25 resonance with Venus



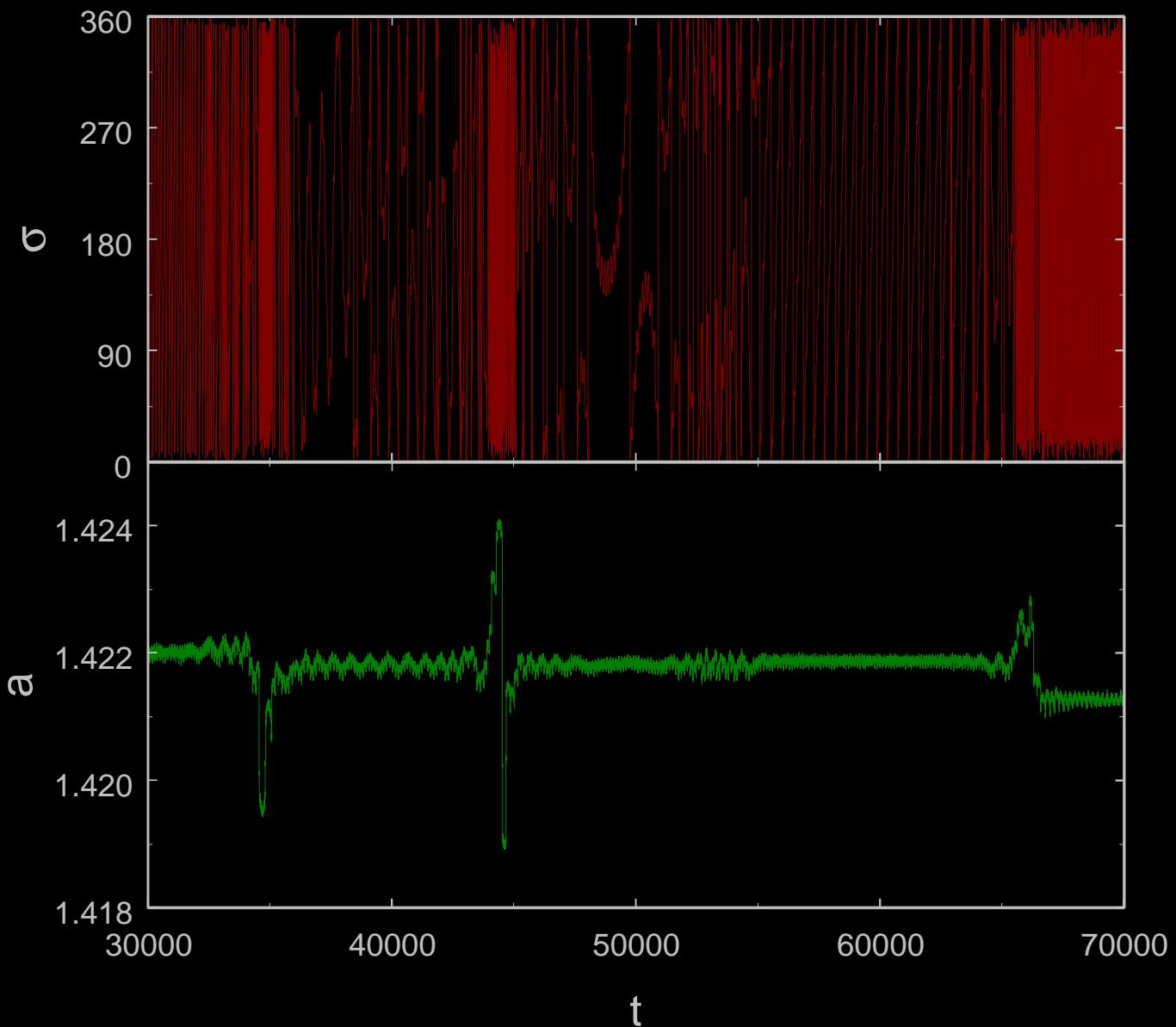
(3554) Amun



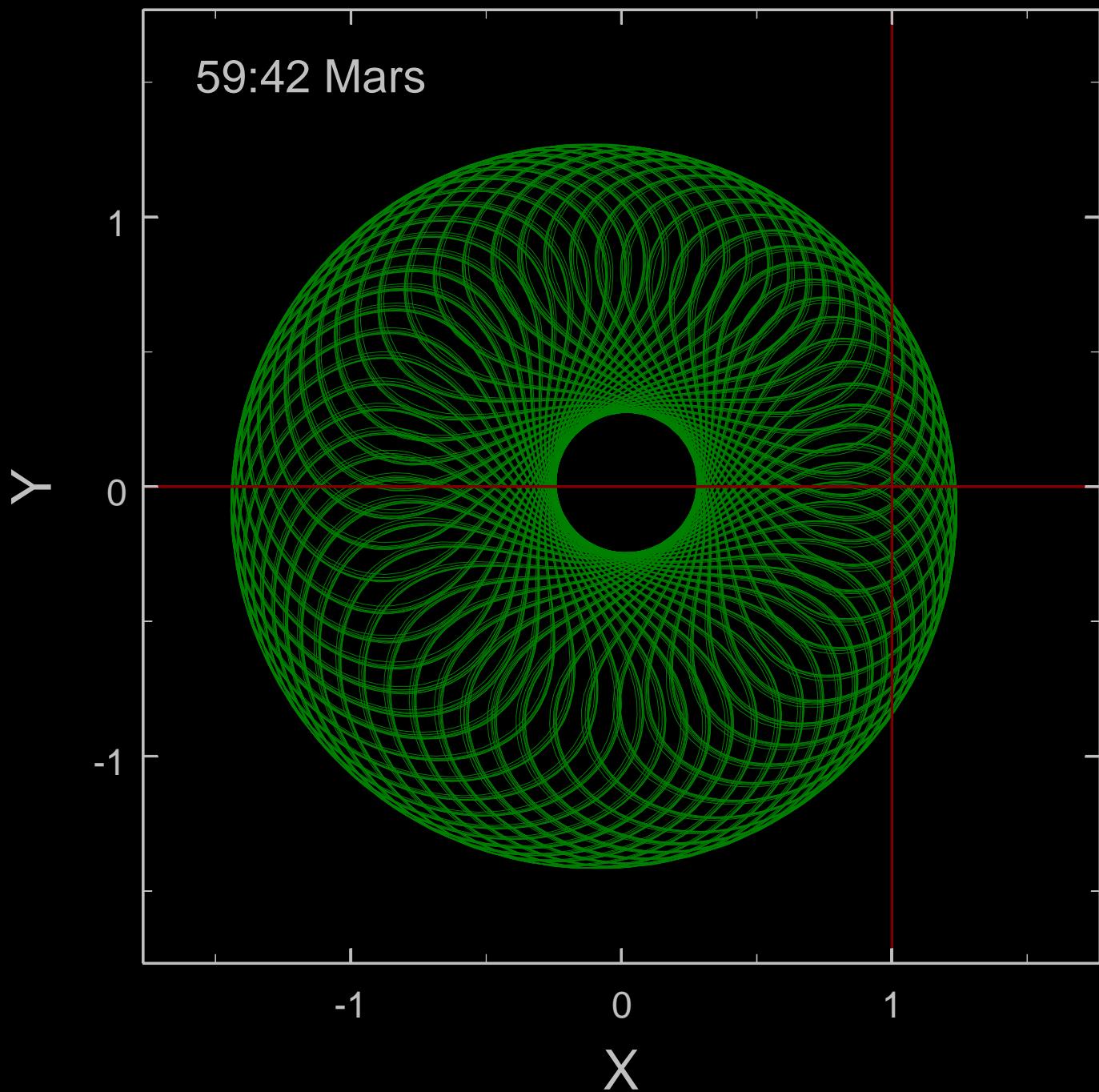
(3554) Amun



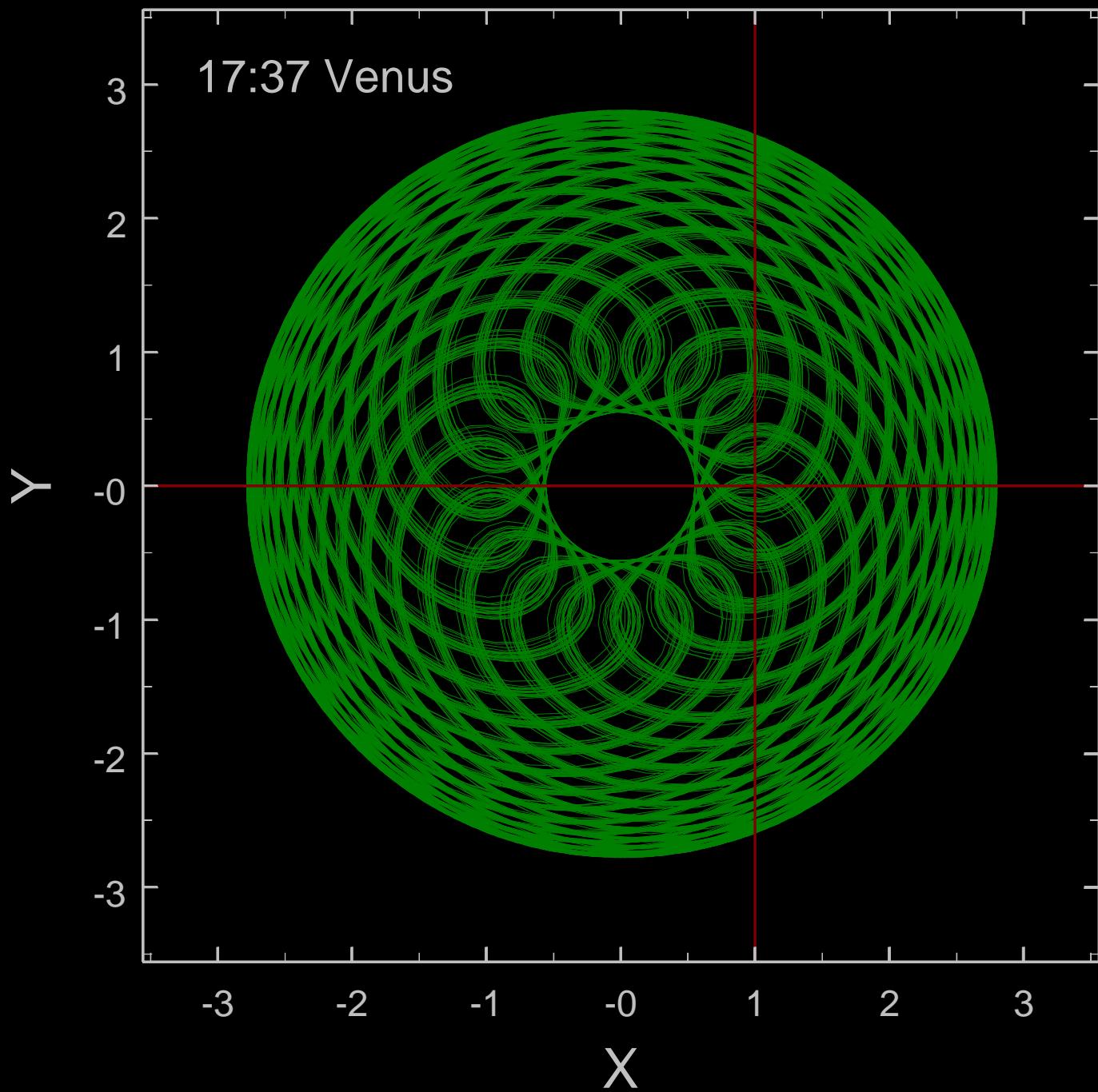
1997 GO₂₇
71:64 resonance with Mars



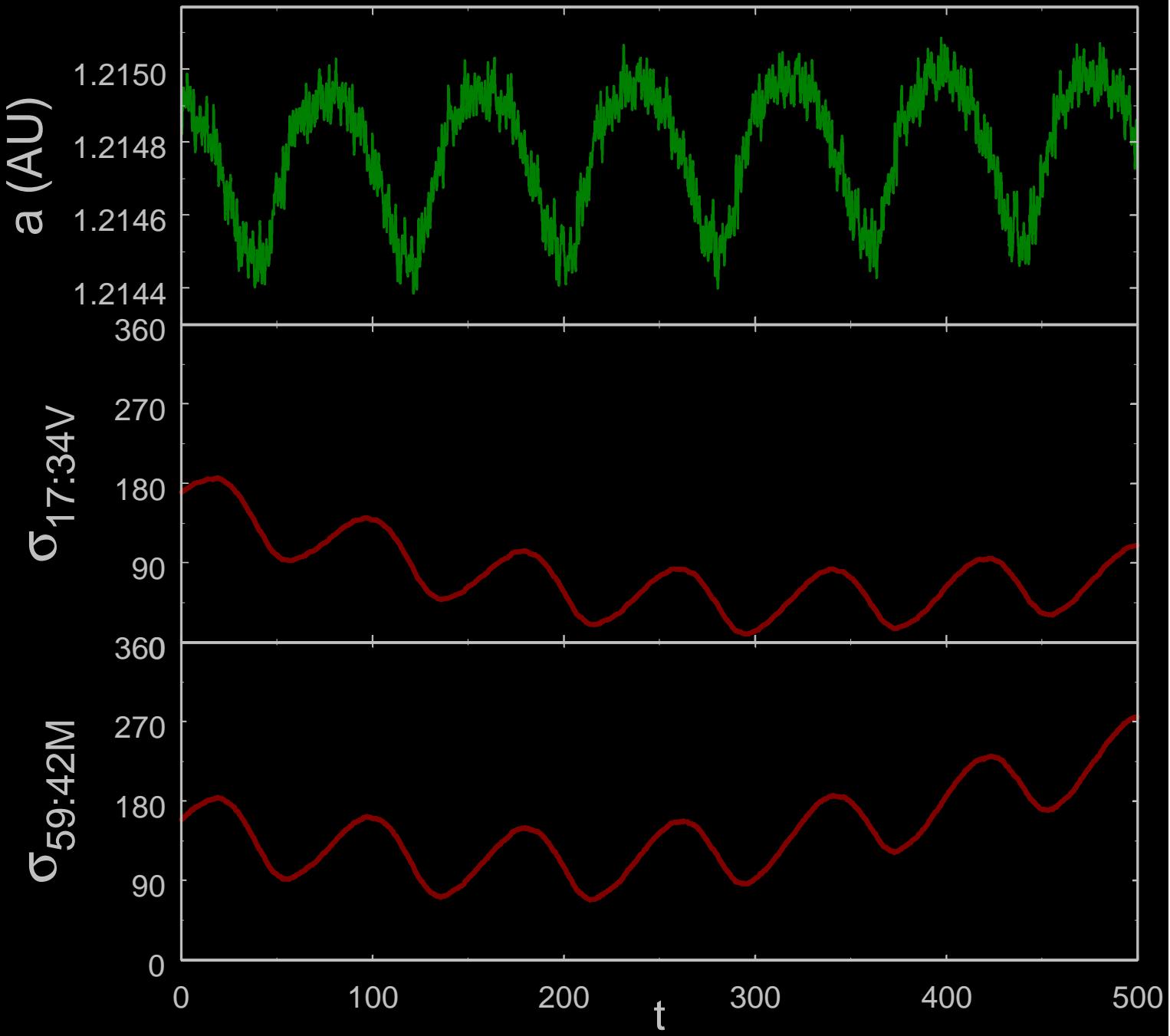
1997 EH₂₉



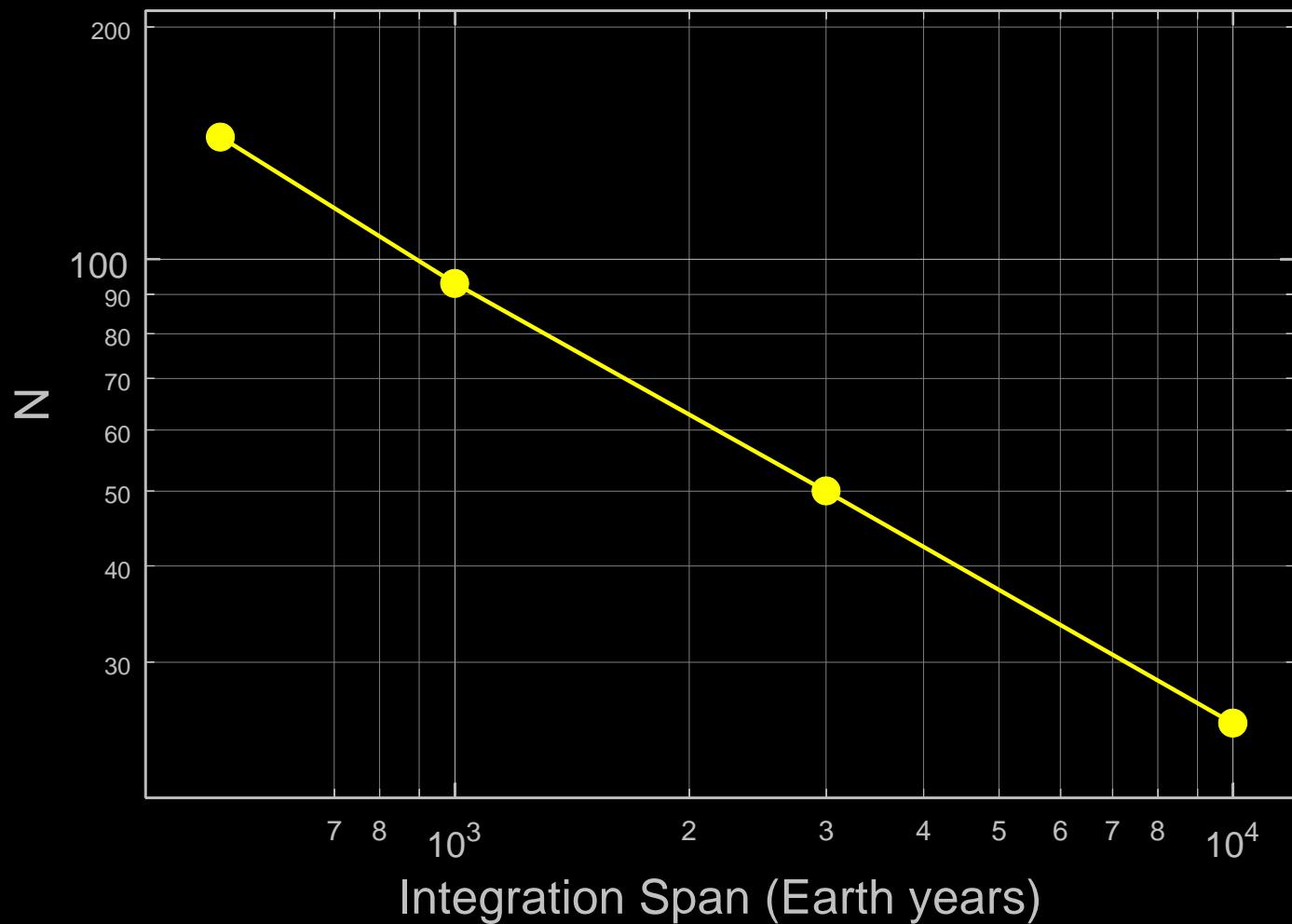
1997 EH₂₉



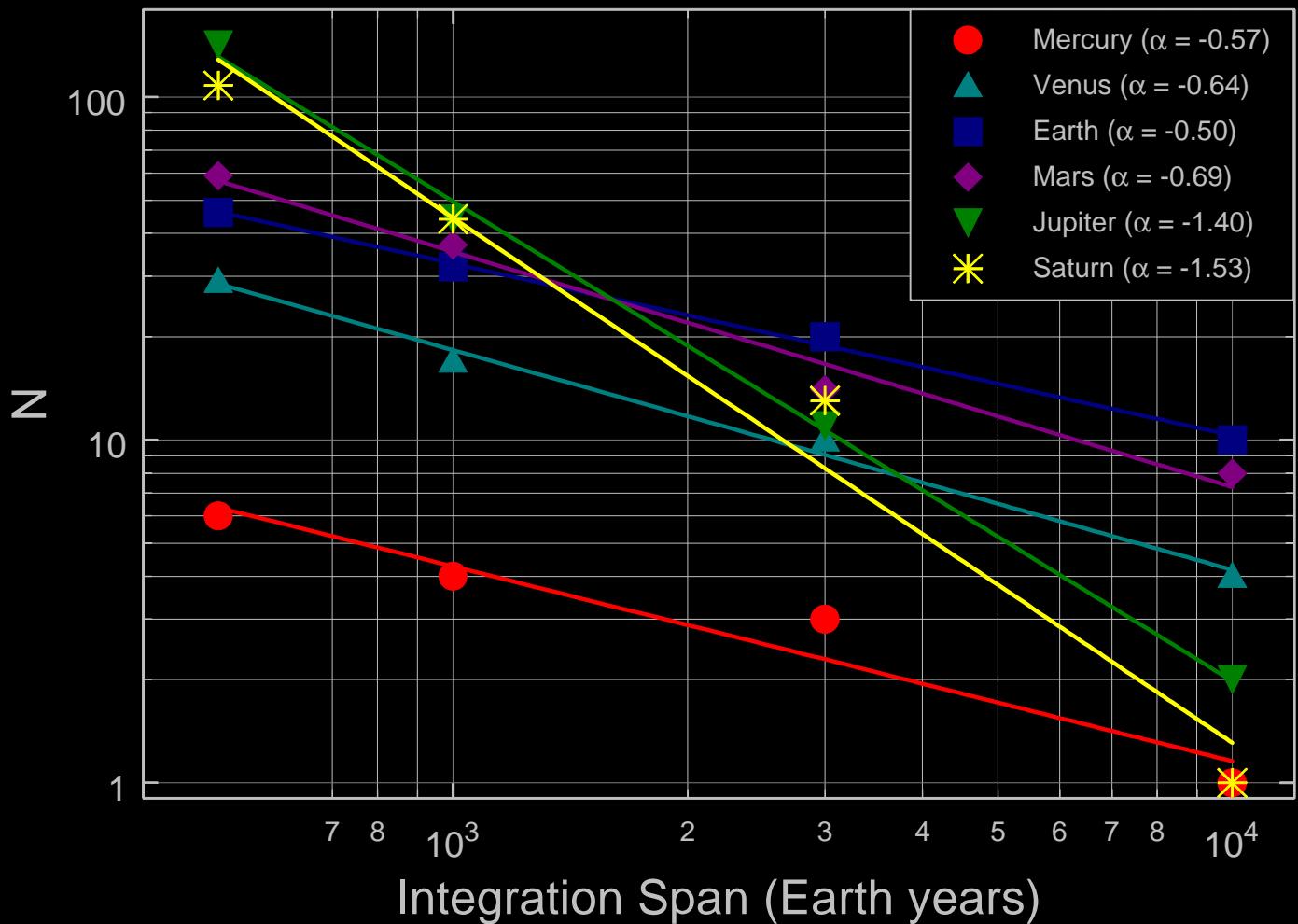
1997 EH₂₉



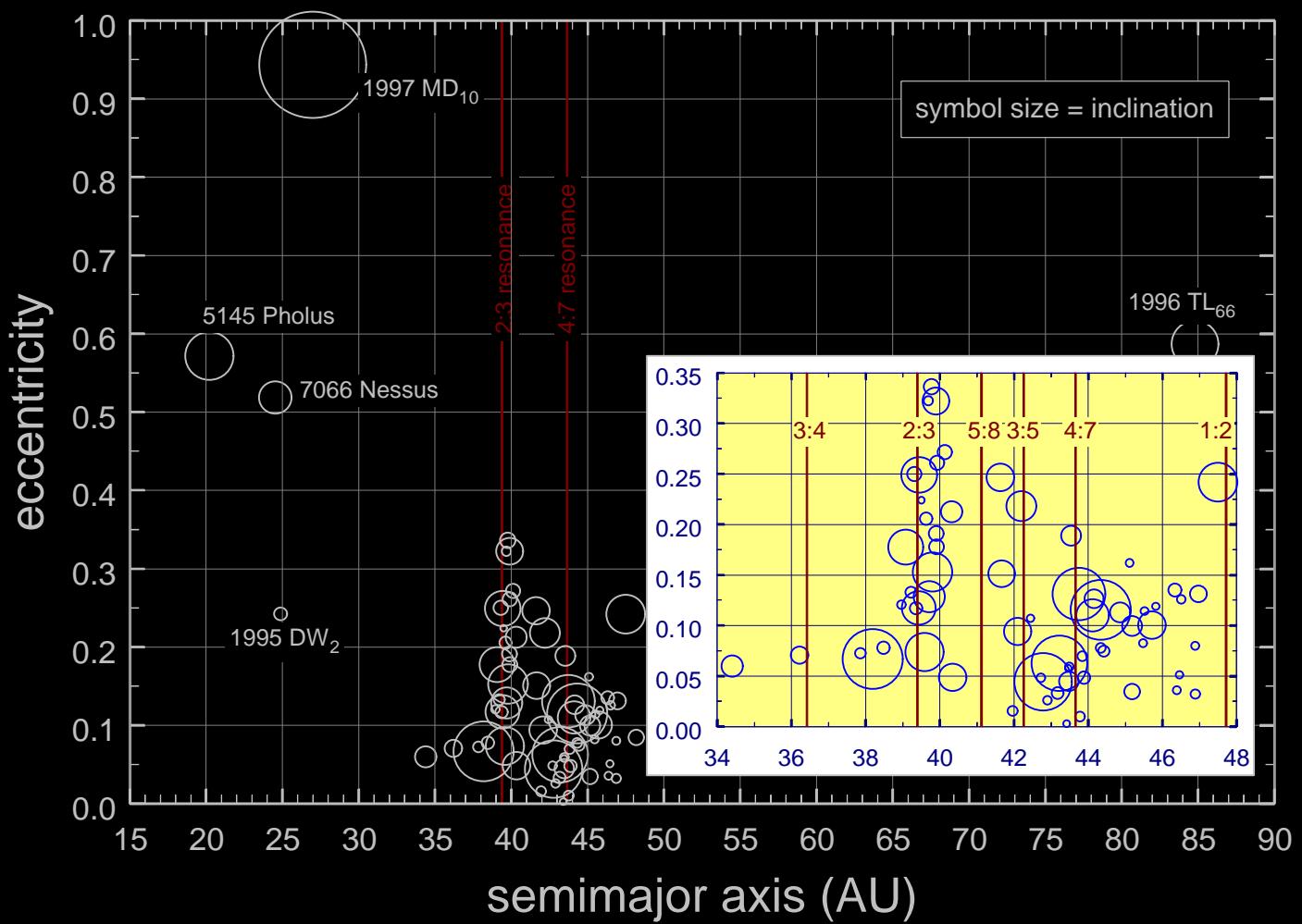
Asteroids in Resonance

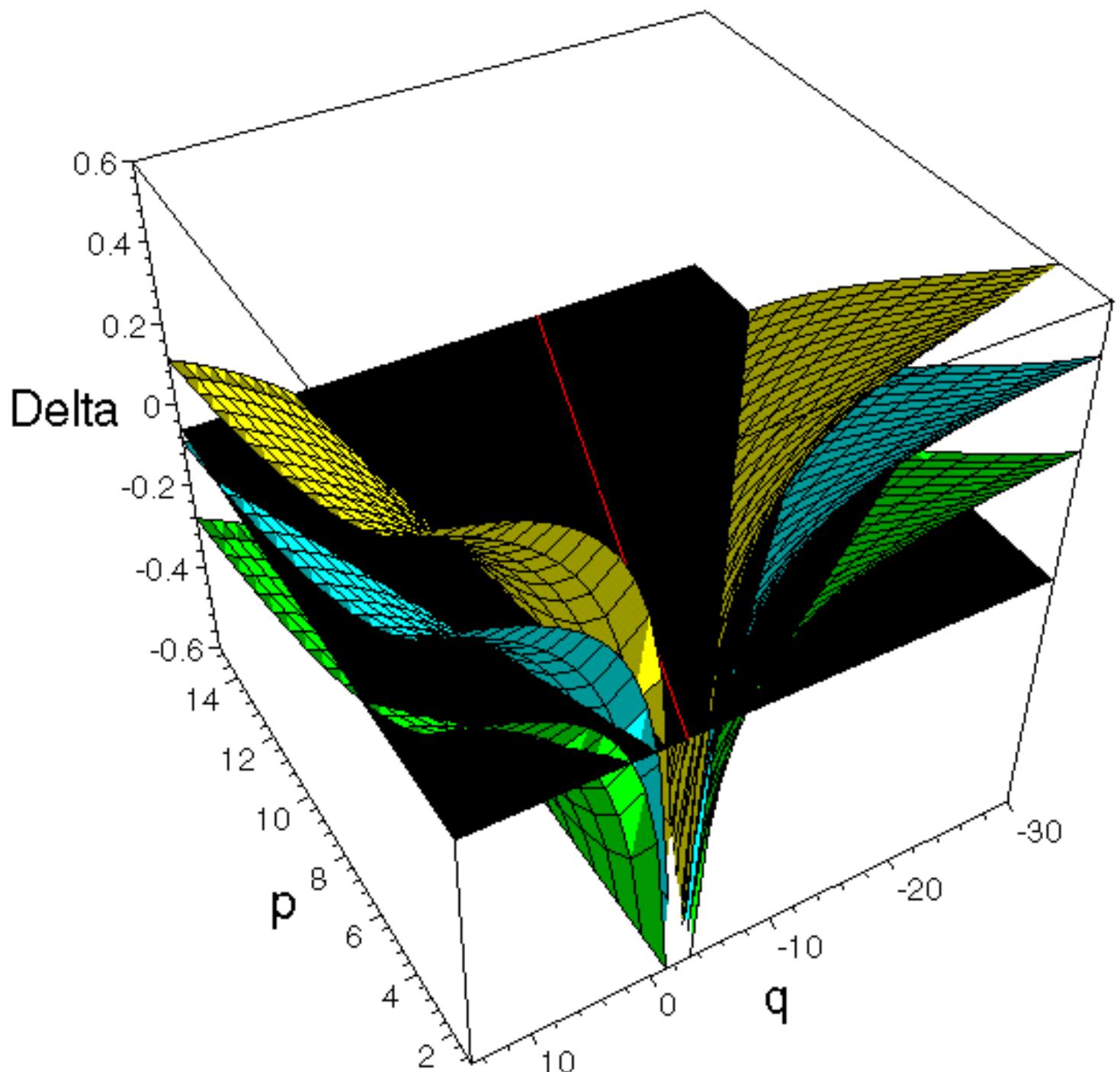


Resonance Counts by Planet



Trans-Neptunian Objects





Summary

- Newton is a new, multipurpose solar system dynamics exploration tool
- Integration Module of the new USNO ephemeris program currently in development
 - Complete gravitational model of the solar system
- Fully modern design and implementation
 - Object-oriented design
 - Extensible
 - Flexible
 - Low maintenance burden
 - RAD programming
 - Interactive, intuitive GUI
 - Easy to use
 - Easy to modify and add new capabilities
 - C++ for speed, longevity, high-level numerics
- Excellent resonance detection & diagnostic tool
- Already proving to be a useful solar system dynamics research tool