



Migration of propellers in Saturn's rings

Bonus: Symplectic Integrators

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Symplectic integrators

Observations

Possible explanations

Numerical Integrators

- We want to integrate the equations of motions of a particle

$$\dot{x} = v$$

$$\dot{v} = a(x, v)$$

- For example, gravitational potential

$$a(x) = -\nabla\Phi(x)$$

- In physics, these can usually be derived from a Hamiltonian

$$H = \frac{1}{2}p^2 + \Phi(x)$$

- Symmetries of the Hamiltonian correspond to conserved quantities

Numerical Integrators

- Discretization

$$\dot{x} = v$$

$$\dot{v} = a(x, v)$$



$$\Delta x = v \Delta t$$

$$\Delta v = a(x, v) \Delta t$$

- Hamiltonian

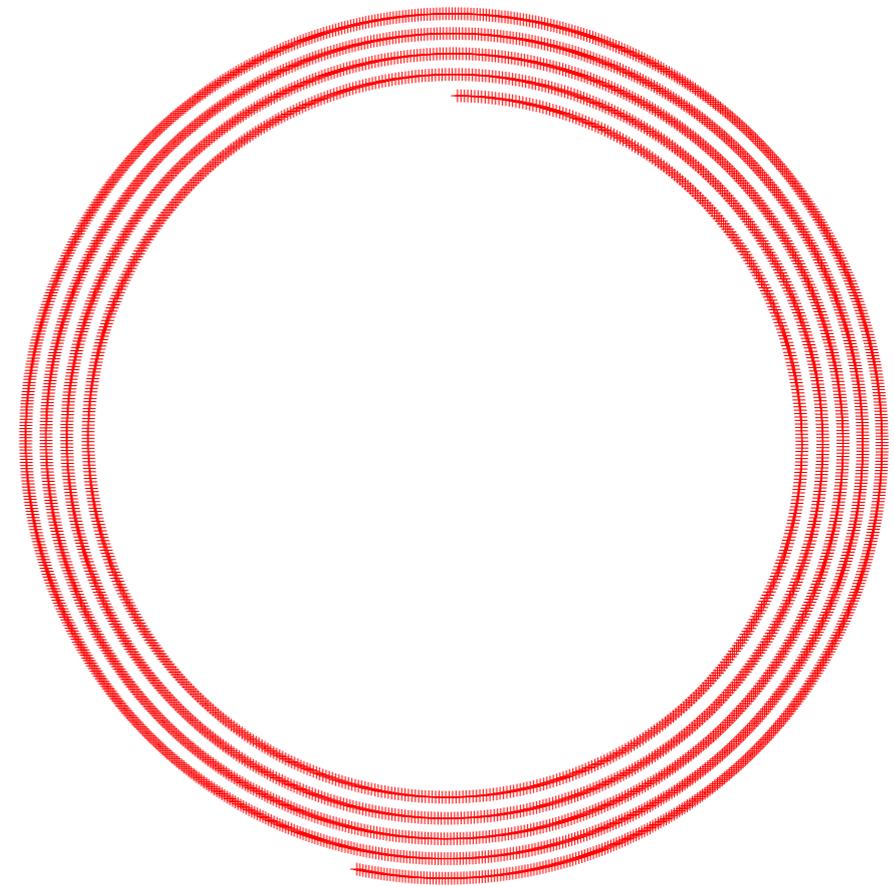
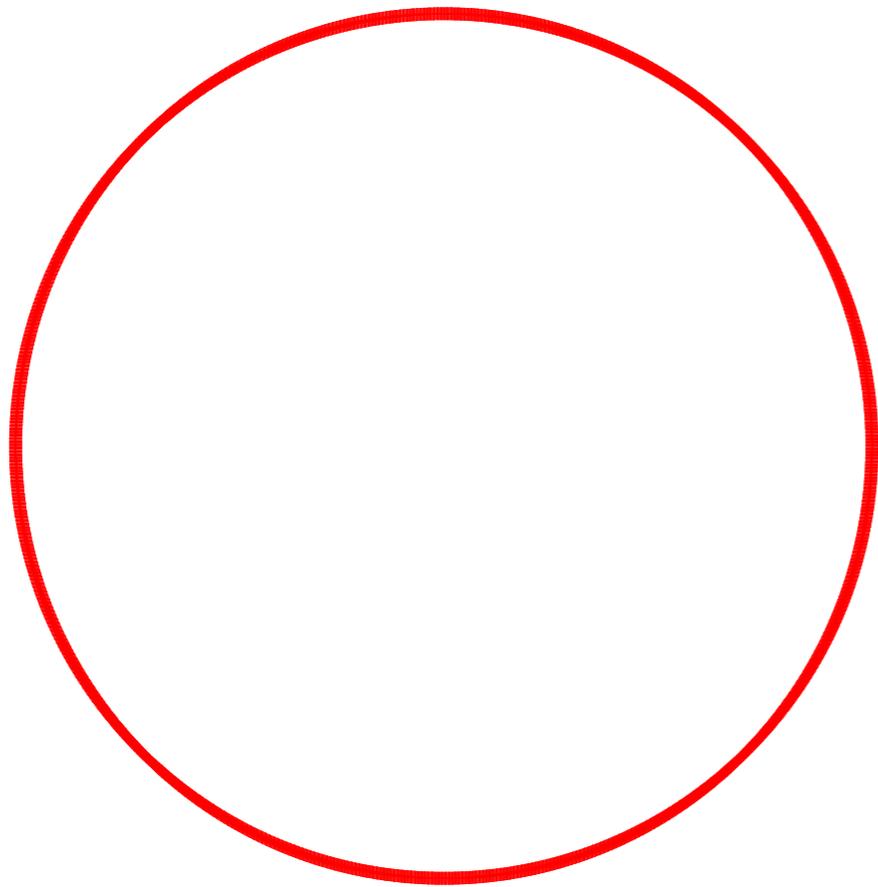
$$H = \frac{1}{2}p^2 + \Phi(x)$$



?

- The system is governed by a 'discretized Hamiltonian', if and only if the integration scheme is symplectic.
- Why does it matter?

Symplectic vs non symplectic integrators



Mixed variable integrators

- So far: symplectic integrators are great.
- How can it be even better?
- We can split the Hamiltonian:

$$H = H_0 + \epsilon H_{\text{pert}}$$

Integrate particle exactly
with dominant Hamiltonian

Integrate particle exactly
under perturbation
Hamiltonian

- Switch back and forth between different Hamiltonians
- Often uses different variables for different parts
- Then:

$$\text{Error} = \epsilon (\Delta t)^{p+1} [H_0, H_{\text{pert}}]$$

Example: Leap-Frog

$$H = \frac{1}{2}p^2 + \Phi(x)$$

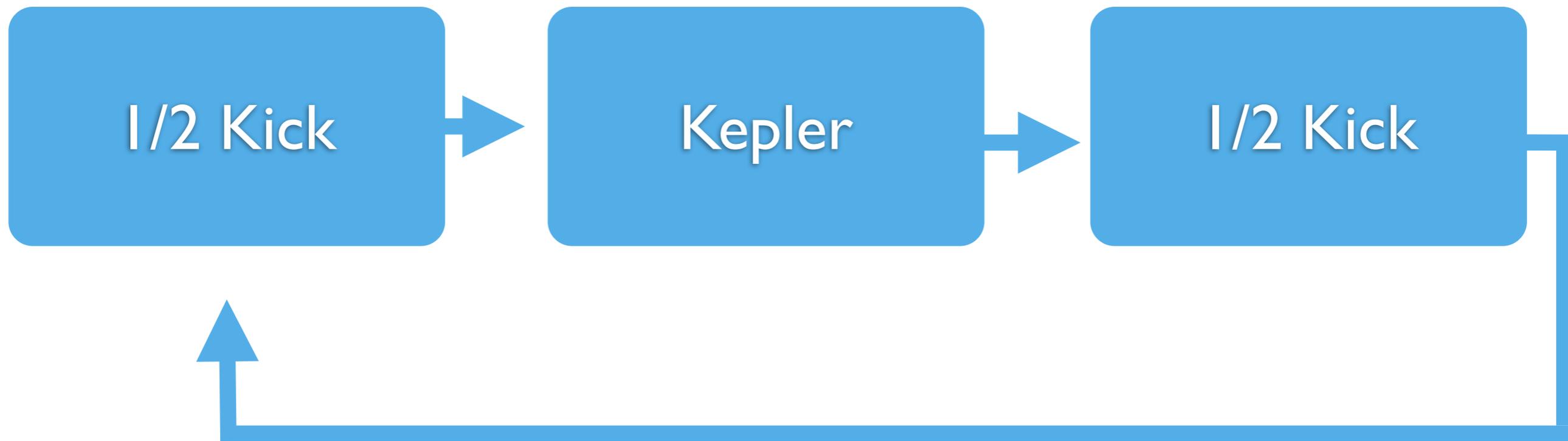
Drift Kick



Example: SWIFT/MERCURY

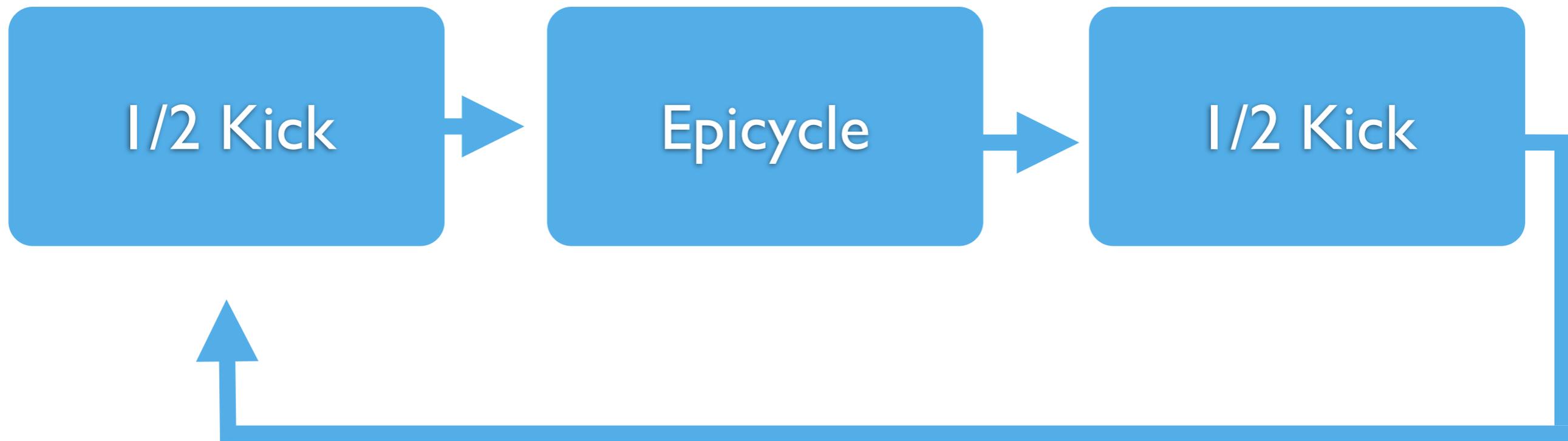
$$H = \frac{1}{2}p^2 + \Phi_{\text{Kepler}}(x) + \Phi_{\text{Other}}(x)$$

Kepler Kick



Example: Symplectic Epicycle Integrator

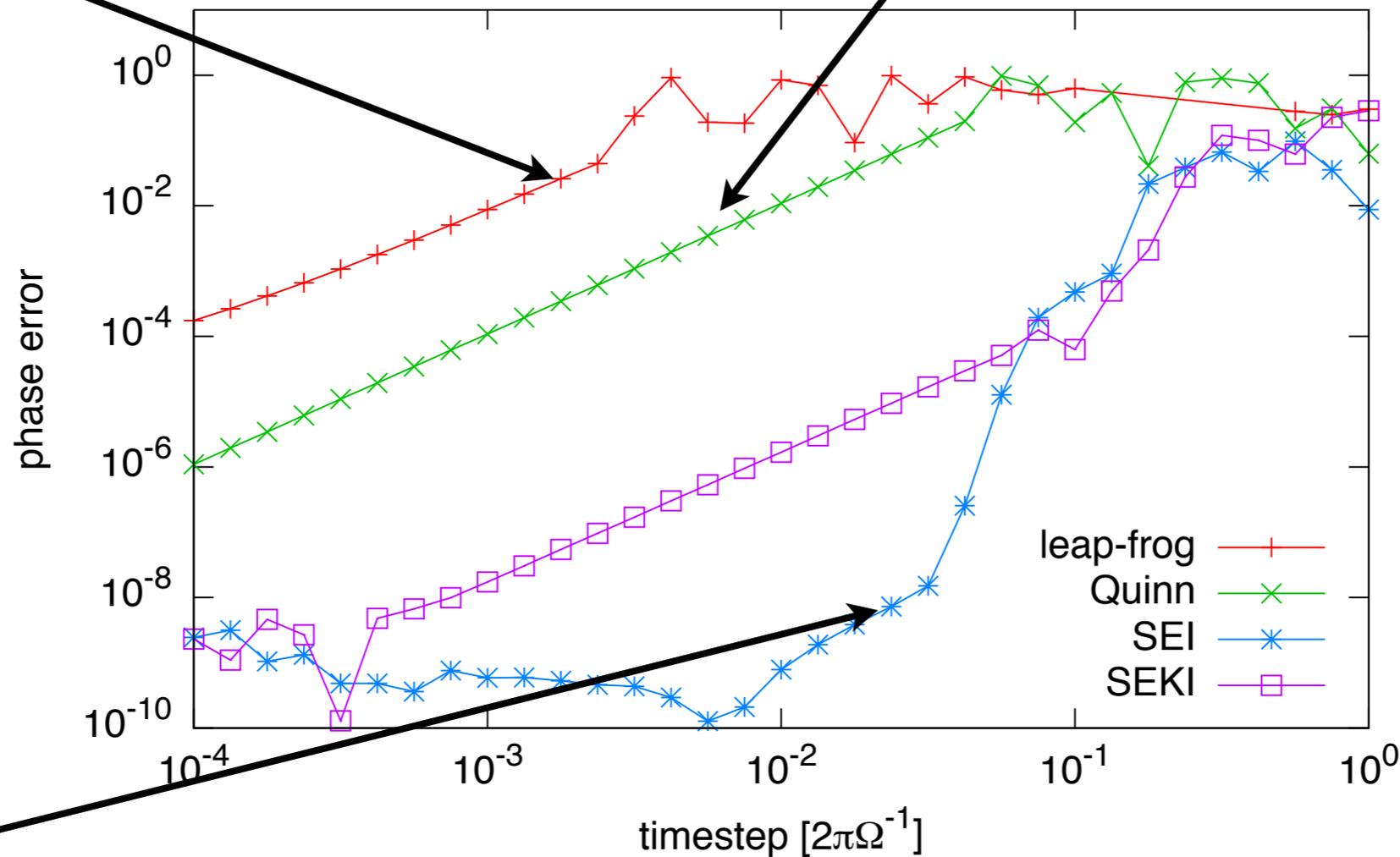
$$H = \underbrace{\frac{1}{2}p^2 + \Omega(p \times r)e_z + \frac{1}{2}\Omega^2 [r^2 - 3(r \cdot e_x)^2]}_{\text{Epicycle}} + \underbrace{\Phi(r)}_{\text{Kick}}$$



10 Orders of magnitude better!

non-symplectic

symplectic



mixed variable, symplectic

Conclusions

Part I

Conclusions

Symplectic integrators

Hamiltonian systems exhibit large number of symmetries

These are usually lost in standard integrators (RK)

Symplectic integrators keep symmetries (might be modify slightly)

No secular drift

Excellent performance

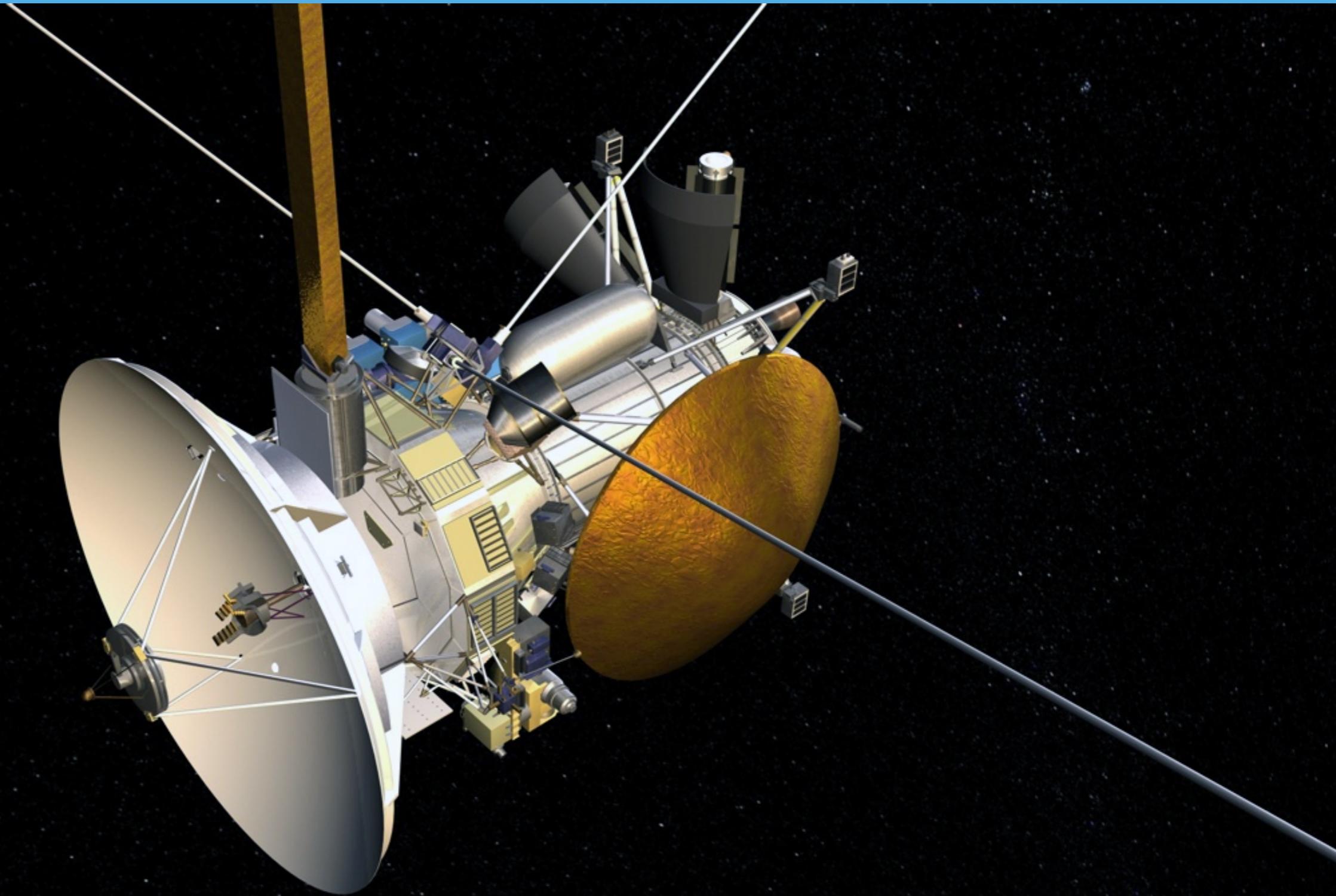
Worth thinking about!

Symplectic integrators

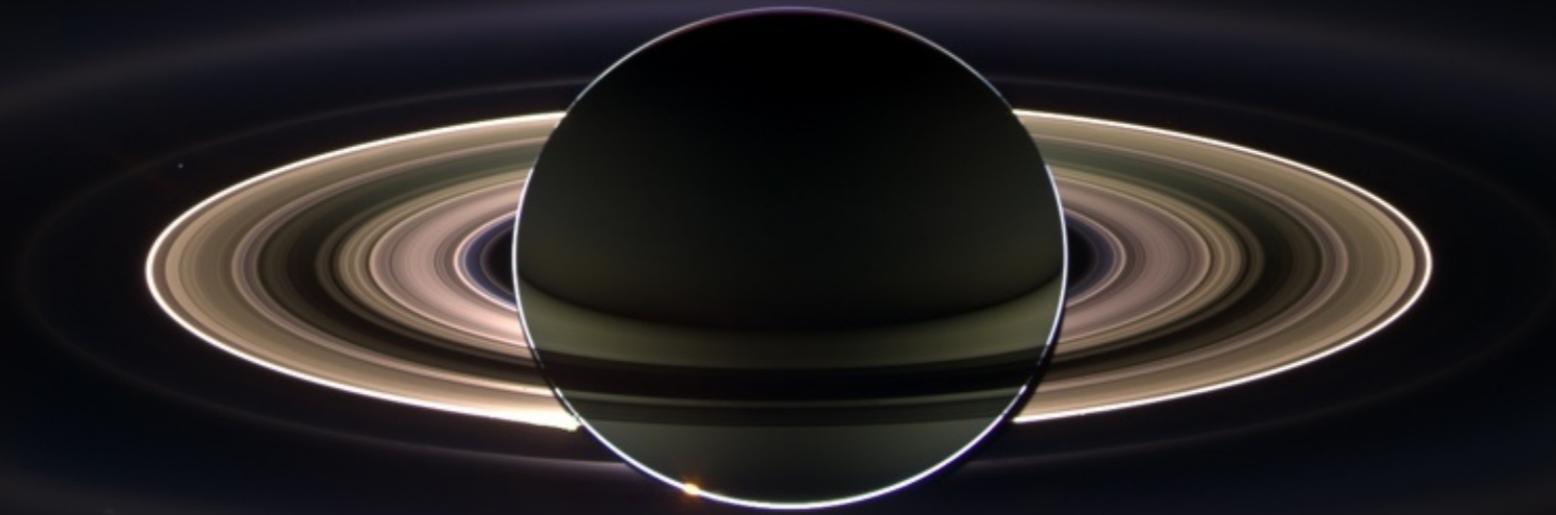
Observations

Possible explanations

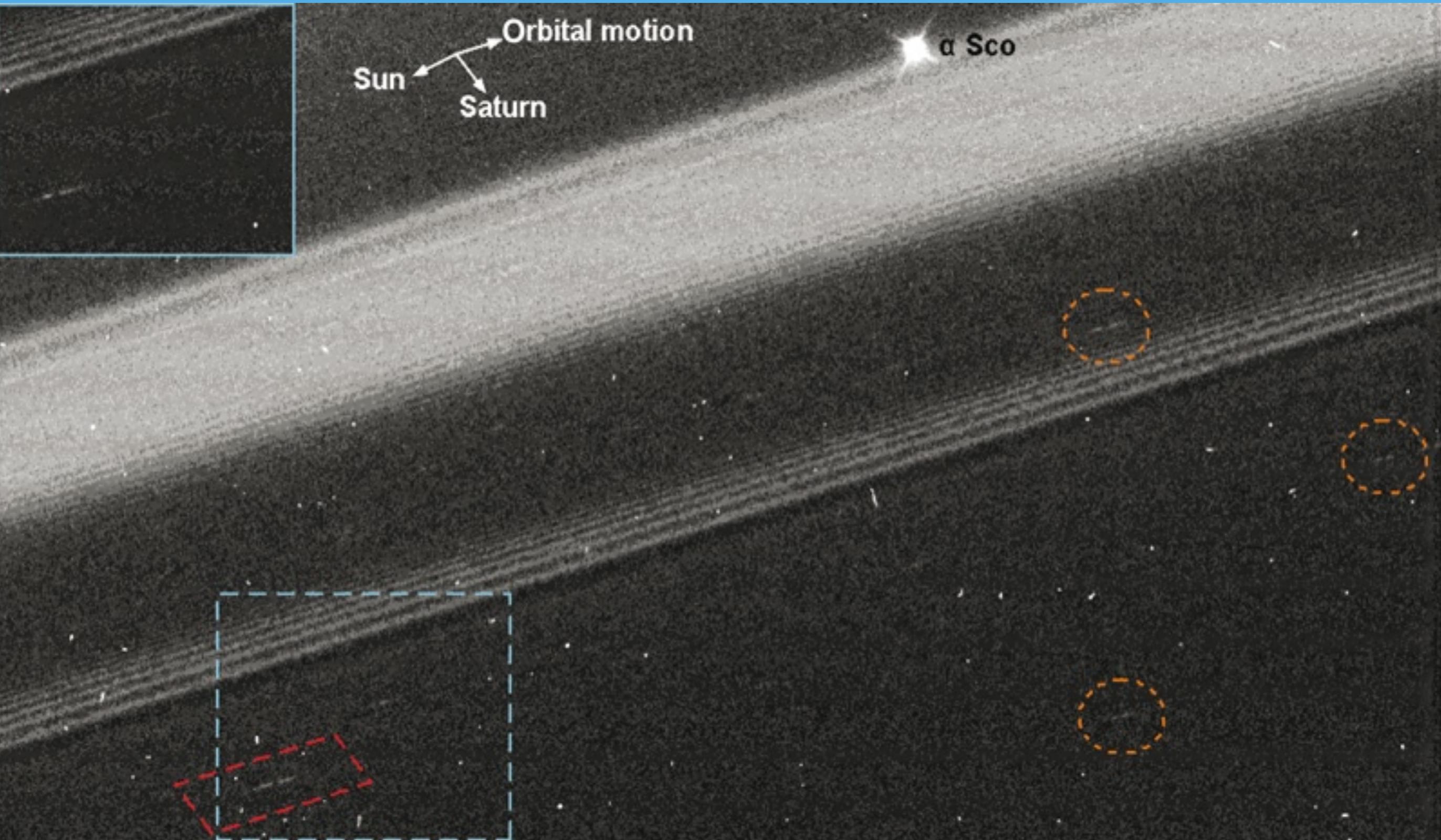
Cassini spacecraft



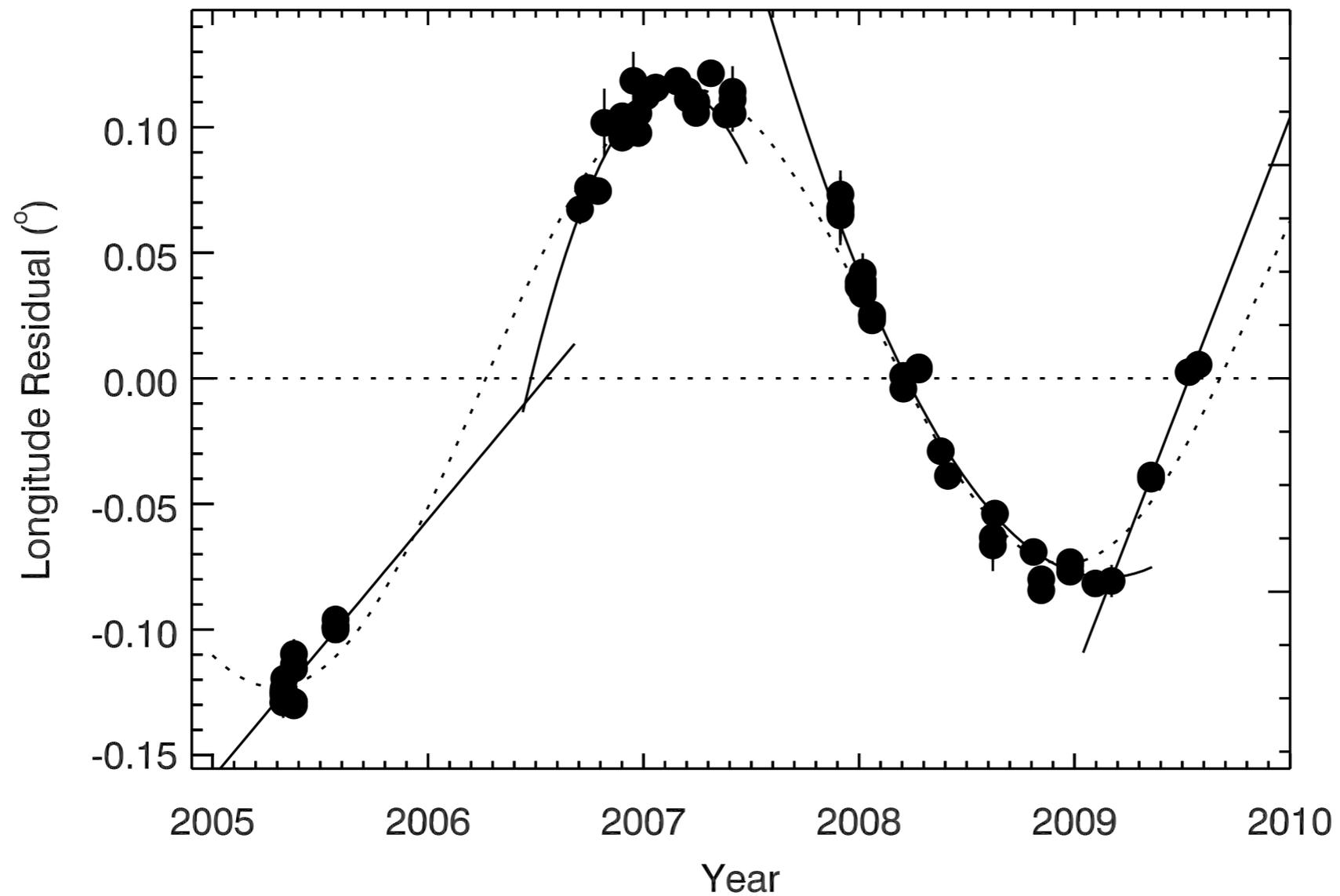
Cassini spacecraft



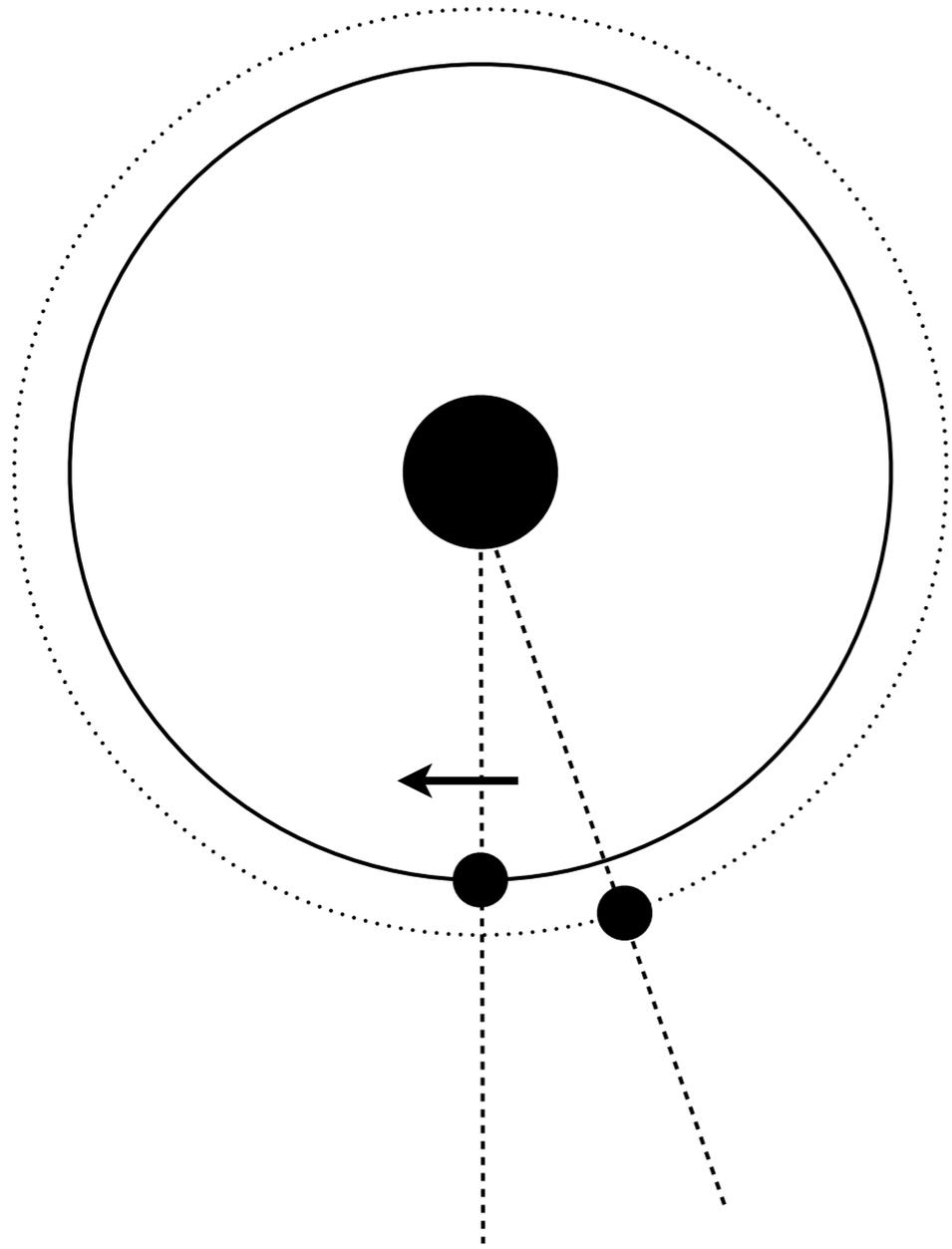
Propeller structures in A-ring



Observational evidence of non-Keplerian motion



Longitude residual



Mean motion [rad/s]

$$n = \sqrt{\frac{GM}{a^3}}$$

Mean longitude [rad]

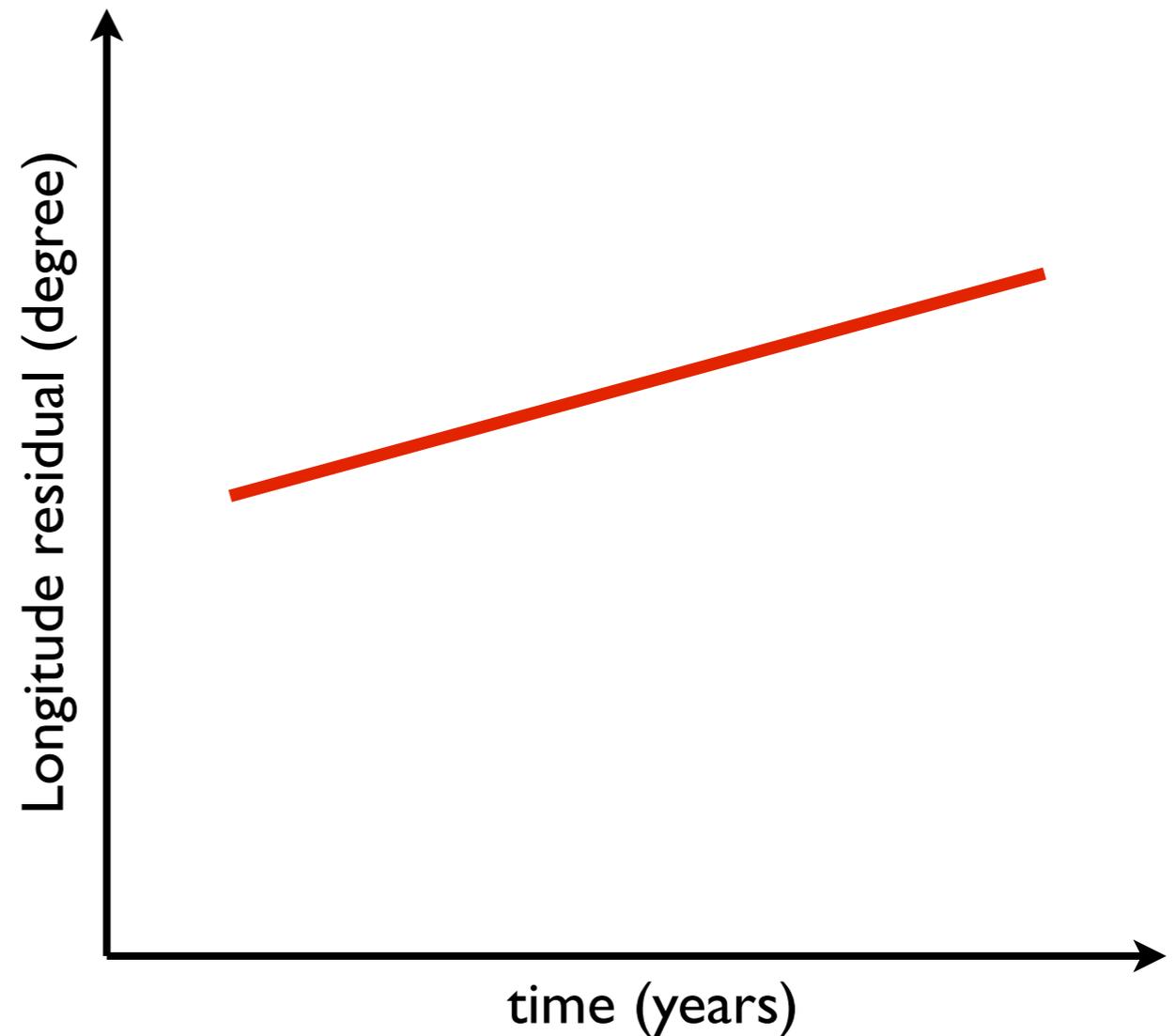
$$\lambda = n t$$

$$\lambda(t) - \lambda_0(t) = \int_0^t (n_0 + n'(t')) dt' - \underbrace{\int_0^t n_0 dt'}_{n_0 t}$$

Keplerian rotation: linear

$$n'(t) = \text{const}$$

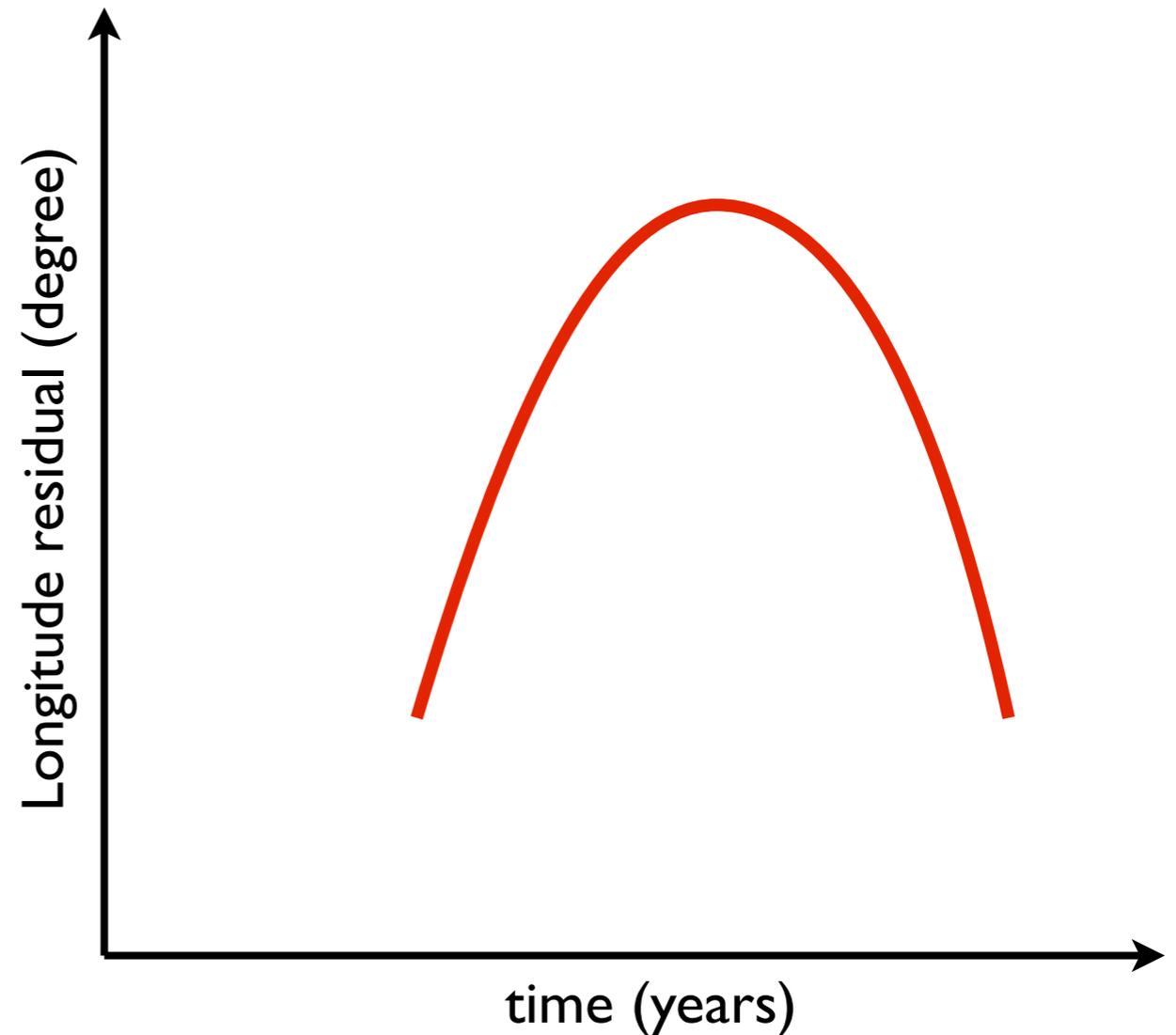
$$\begin{aligned}\lambda(t) - \lambda_0(t) &= \int_0^t (n_0 + n'(t')) dt' \\ &\quad - \int_0^t n_0 dt' \\ &= n_0 t + n' t - n_0 t = n' t\end{aligned}$$



Constant migration rate: quadratic

$$n'(t) = \text{const} \cdot t$$

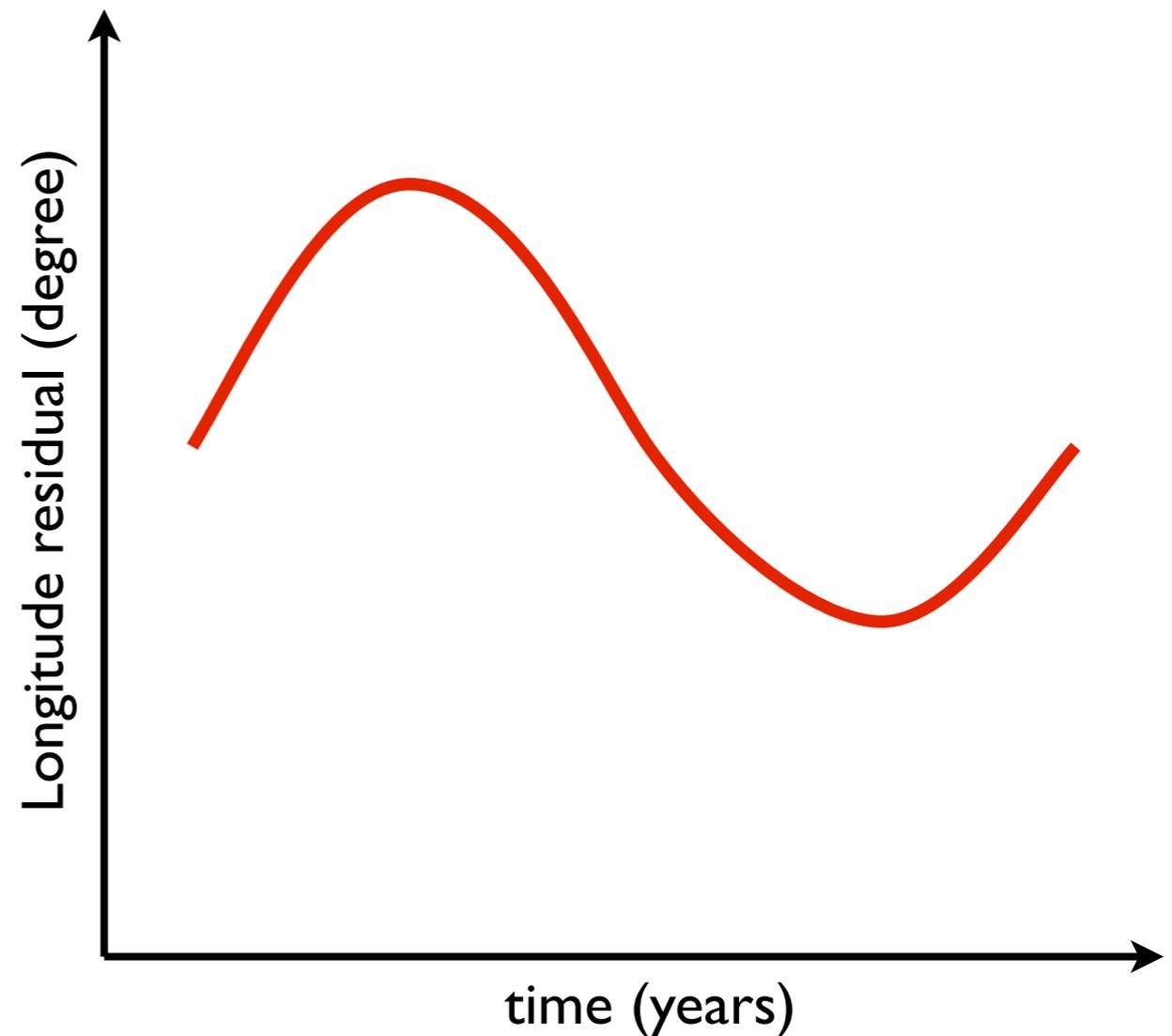
$$\begin{aligned} \lambda(t) - \lambda_0(t) &= \int_0^t (n_0 + n'(t')) dt' \\ &= \int_0^t n_0 dt' \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \text{const} \cdot t^2 \end{aligned}$$



Resonance: sine-curve

$$n'(t) = \cos(t)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda(t) - \lambda_0(t) &= \int_0^t (n_0 + n'(t')) dt' \\ &\quad - \int_0^t n_0 dt' \\ &= \sin(t) \end{aligned}$$



Random walk

$$n'(t) = \int_0^t F(t') dt' \quad \langle F(t) \rangle = 0$$

↑
stochastic force

$$\langle F(t)F(t + \Delta t) \rangle = \langle F^2 \rangle e^{-\Delta t/\tau_c}$$

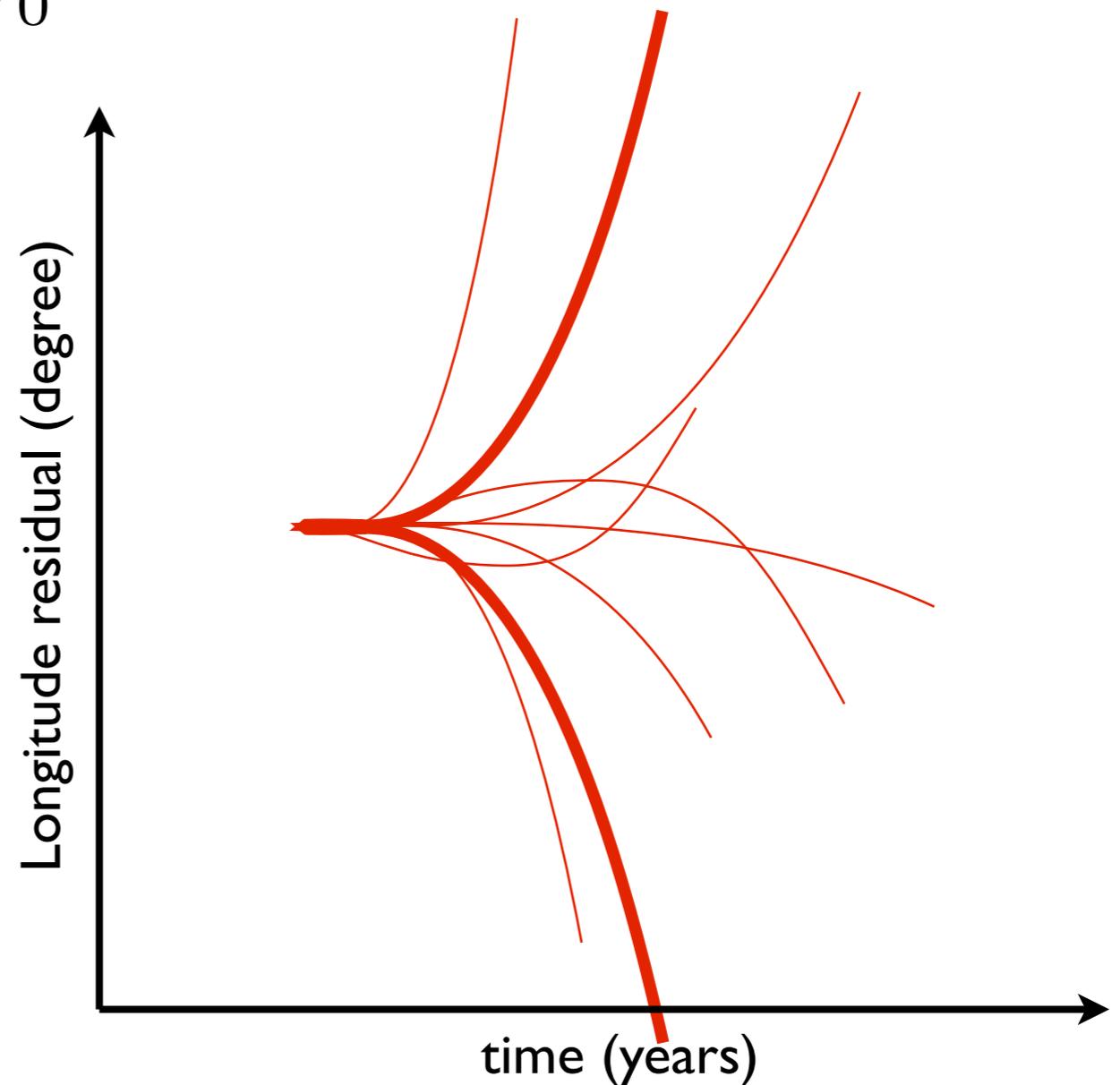
$$\begin{aligned} & \left\langle (\lambda(t) - \lambda_0(t))^2 \right\rangle \\ &= \iiint \int_0^{t,t',t,t'''} F(t'') F(t''''') dt''''' dt''' dt'' dt' \\ &= \langle F^2 \rangle \left(-2\tau^4 + (2\tau^3 t + 2\tau^4 + \tau^2 t^2) e^{-t/\tau} + \frac{1}{3} \tau t^3 \right) \end{aligned}$$

Random walk

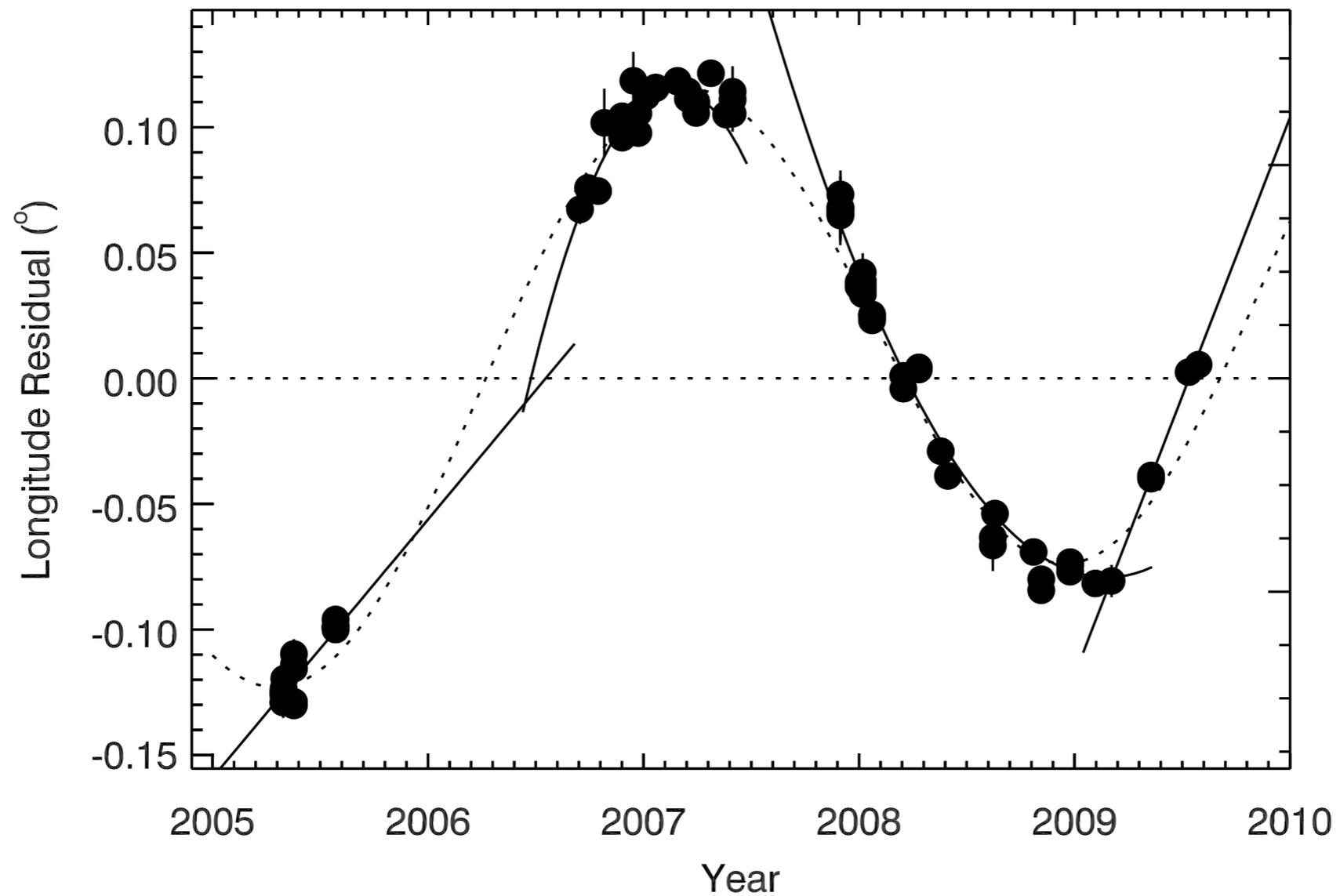
$$n'(t) = \int_0^t F(t') dt'$$

$$\begin{aligned} & |\lambda(t) - \lambda_0(t)| \\ &= \sqrt{\frac{\langle F^2 \rangle}{\tau}} t^{3/2} \end{aligned}$$

On average!



Observational evidence of non-Keplerian motion



Symplectic integrators

Observations

Possible explanations

Resonance with a moon

PRO

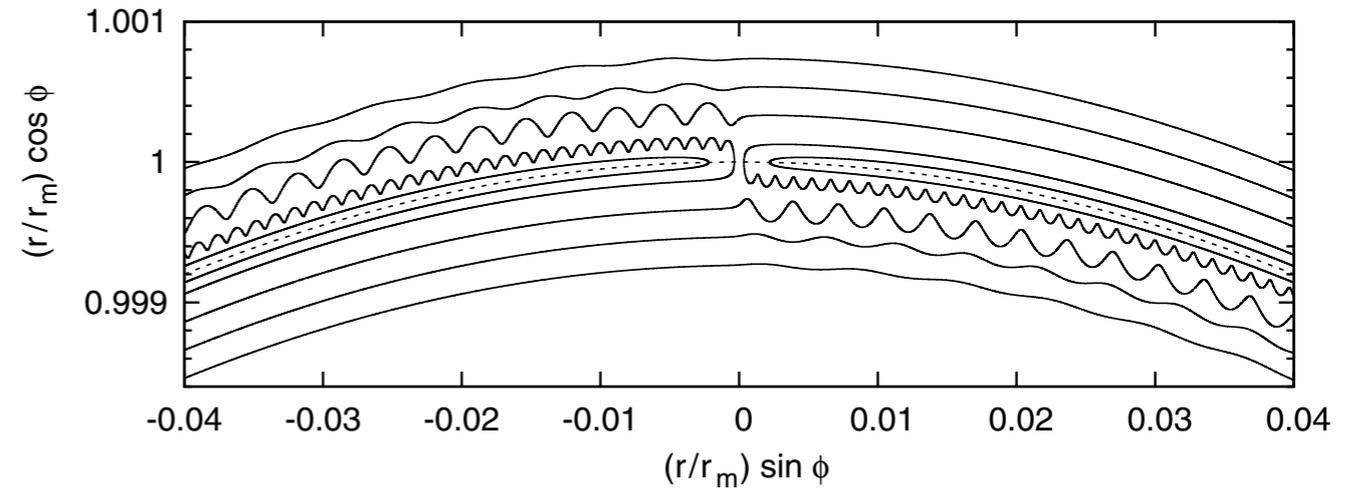
- Produces sine-shaped residual longitude
- Amplitude is a free parameter

CONTRA

- No resonance found
- Cannot fully explain shape of observations
- Other moonlets seem to migrate as well

Modified Type I Migration

- Due to curvature (would be zero in shearing sheet)
- Similar to planetary migration in a gas disk
- No gas pressure
- Migration rate can be calculated analytically



$$\frac{dr_m}{dt} = -35.6 \frac{\Sigma r_m^2}{M} \left(\frac{m}{M}\right)^{1/3} r_m \Omega.$$

Modified Type I Migration

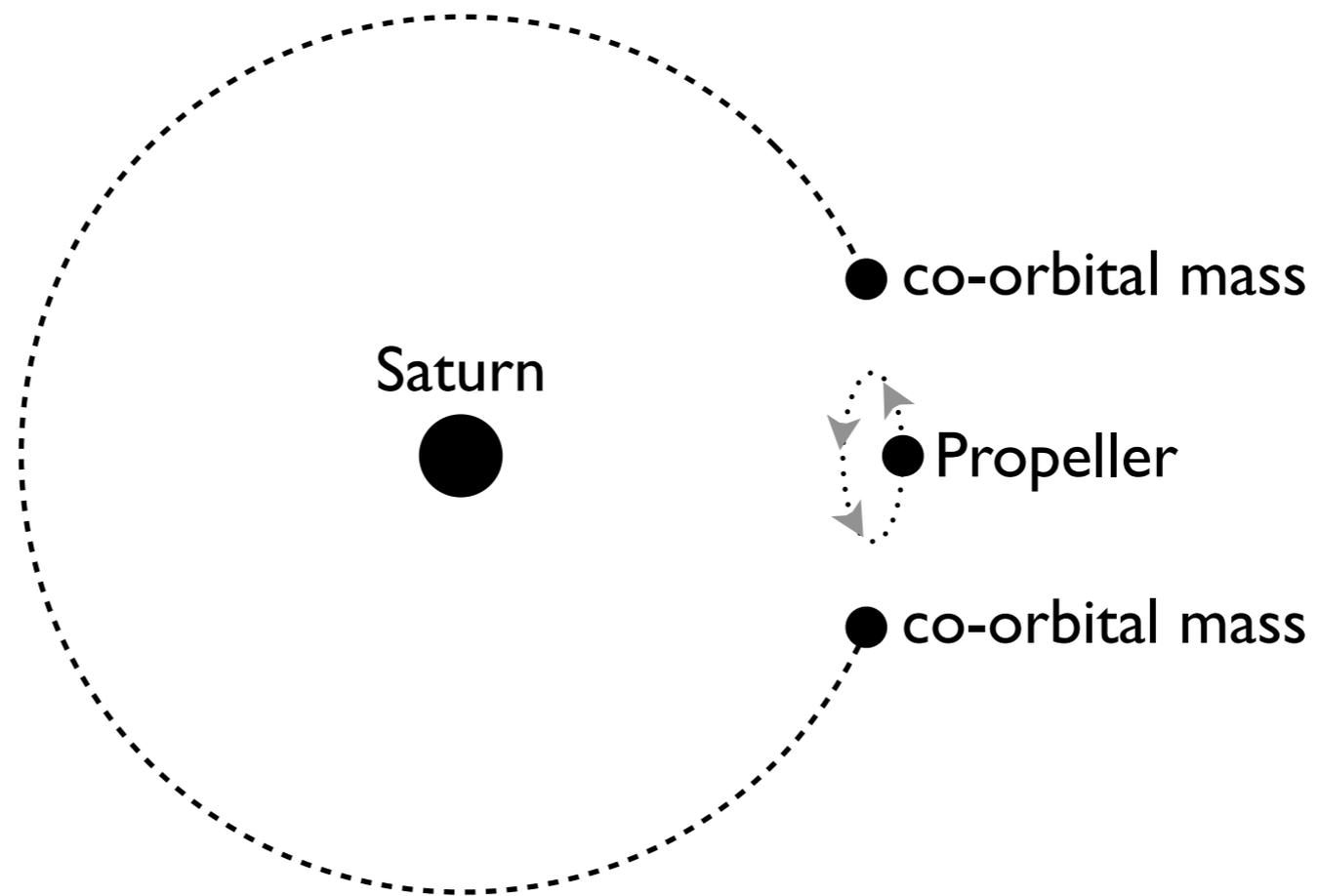
PRO

- Robust
- Would be a direct observation of type I migration

CONTRA

- Tiny migration rate
~20 cm/year
- Cannot explain shape of observations

Frog resonance



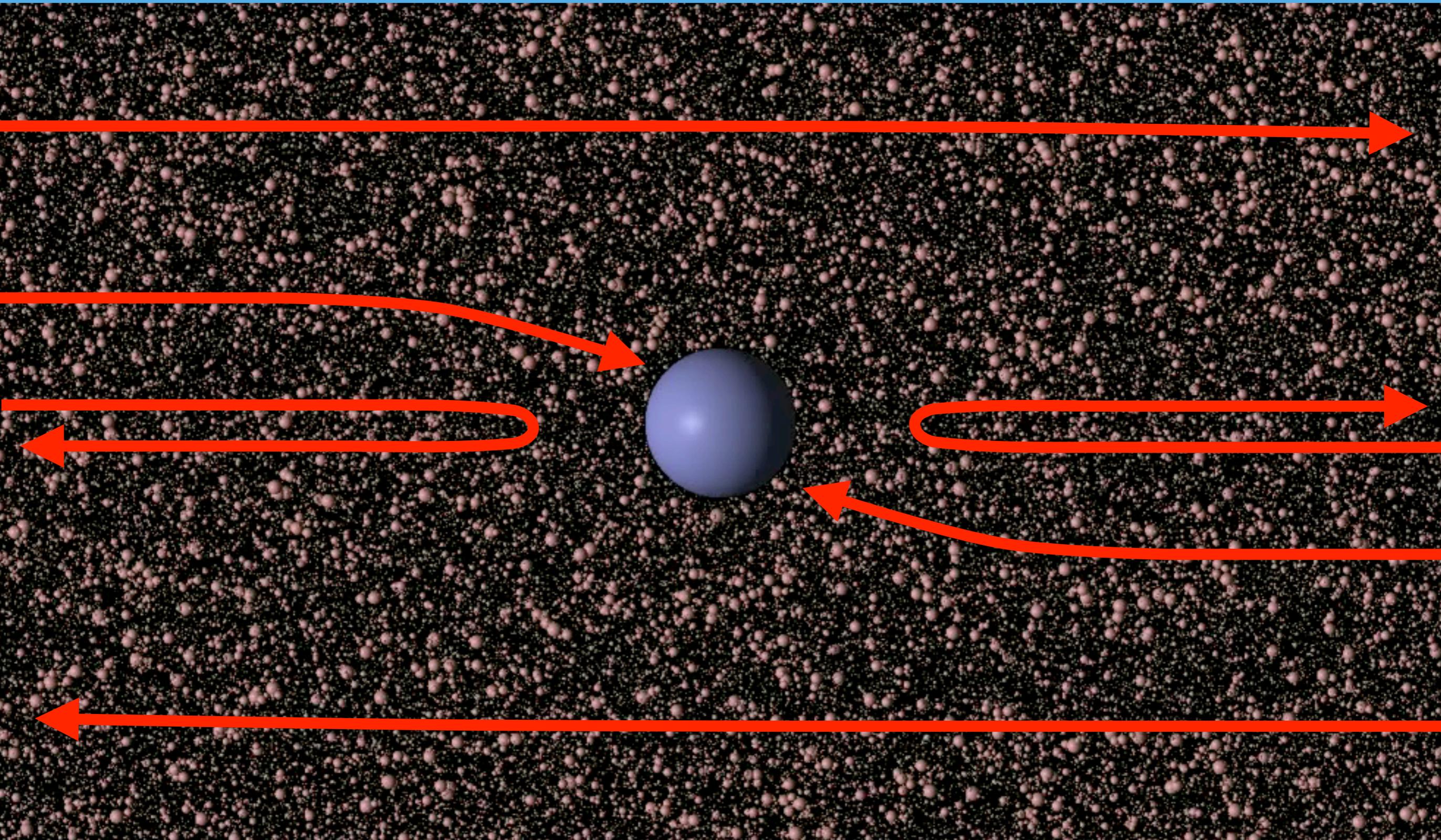
PRO

- Predicts largest period very well
- Amplitude is a free parameter

CONTRA

- Unclear if density distribution is like in the toy model (see Eugene's ISIMA project)
- Cannot fully explain shape of observations

Random Walk



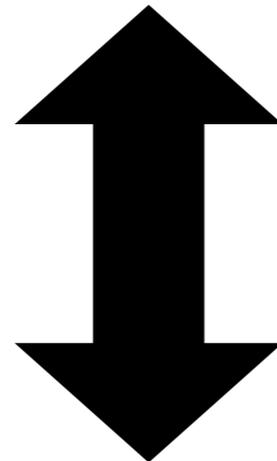
Two different approaches

Analytic model

Describing evolution in a statistical manner
Partly based on Rein & Papaloizou 2009

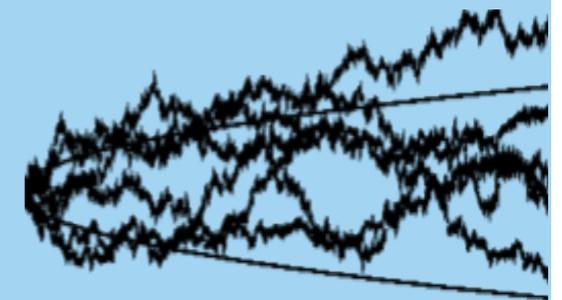
$$\Delta a = \sqrt{4 \frac{Dt}{n^2}}$$

$$\Delta e = \sqrt{2.5 \frac{\gamma Dt}{n^2 a^2}}$$



N-body simulations

Measuring random forces or integrating moonlet directly
Crida et al 2010, Rein & Papaloizou 2010



Effects contributing to the eccentricity evolution

Laminar collisions

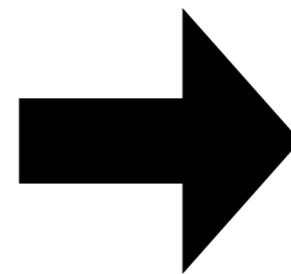
Particles colliding

Laminar horseshoe

Laminar circulating

Particles circulating

Clumps circulating



Equilibrium
eccentricity

Damping

Excitation

... semi-major axis evolution

Particles colliding

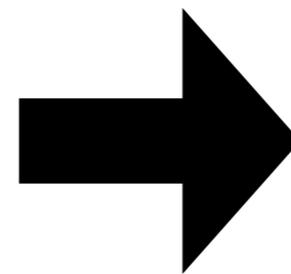
Particles horseshoe

Particles circulating

Clumps circulating

Damping

Excitation



Random walk
in semi-major
axis

+Net "Type I" migration

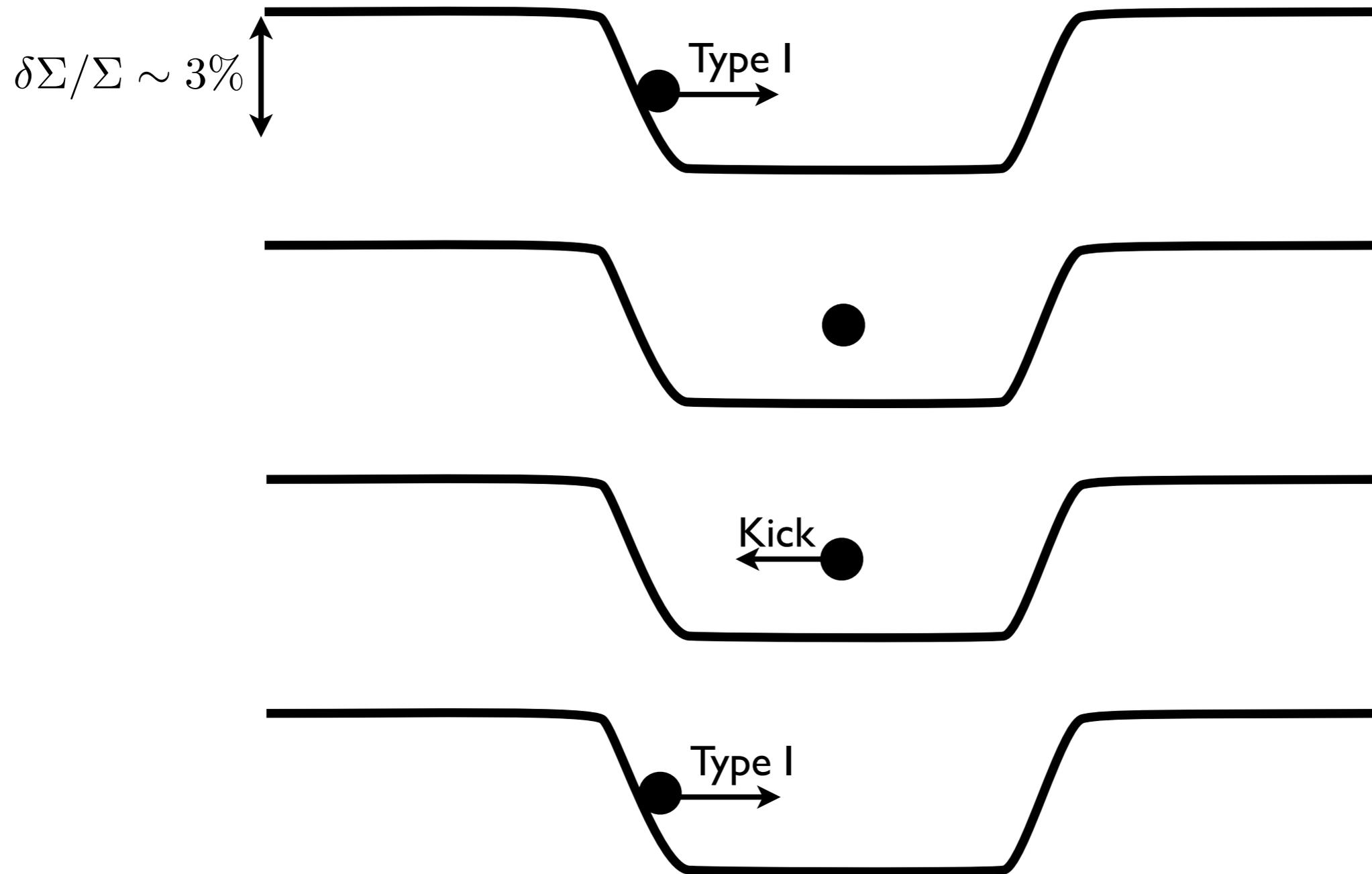
PRO

- Can explain the shape of the observations very well

CONTRA

- Has only been tested numerically for small moonlets (ISIMA project with Shangfei)
- No metric to test how good it matches the observations

Hybrid Type I Migration / Stochastic Kicks



Hybrid Type I Migration / Stochastic Kicks

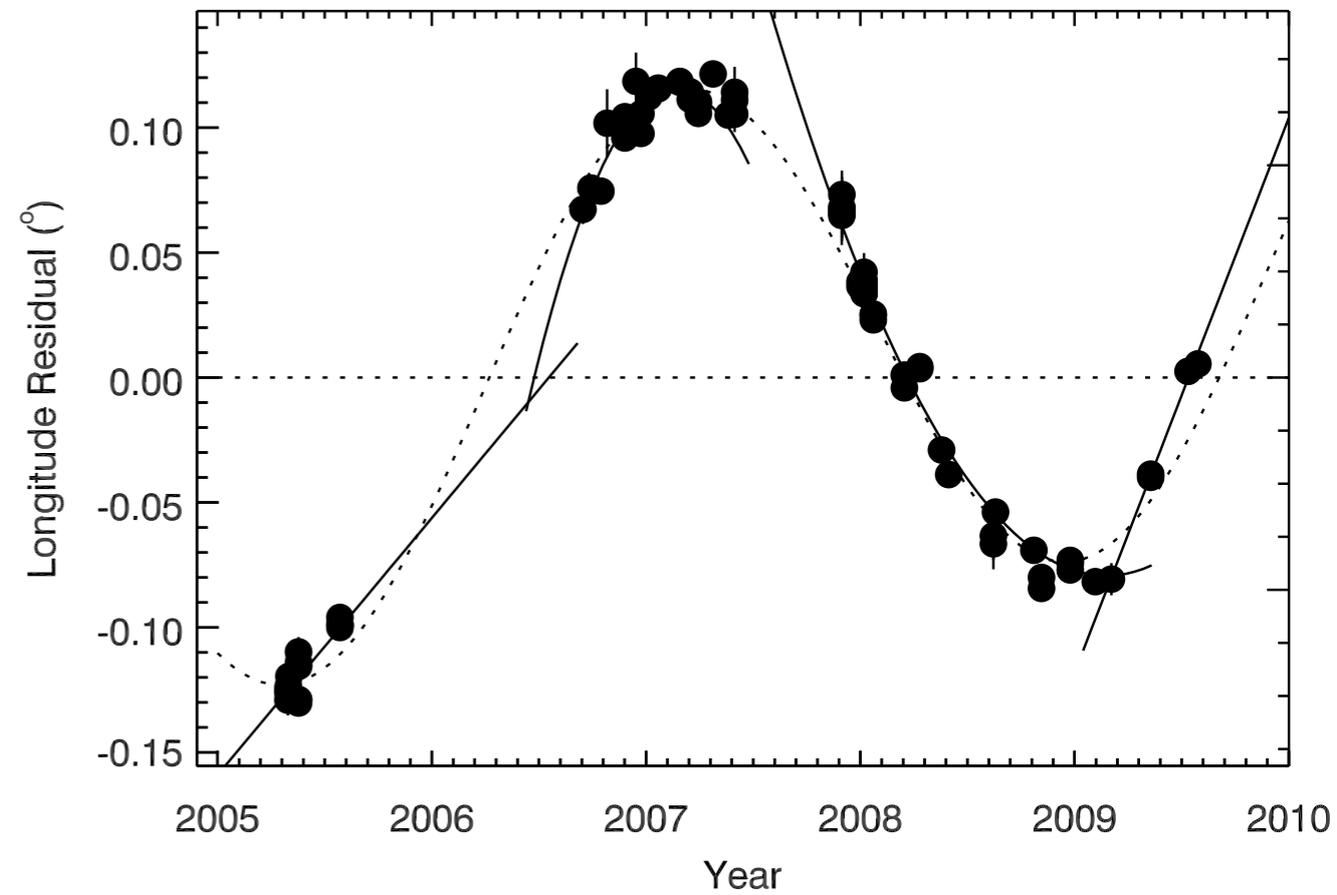
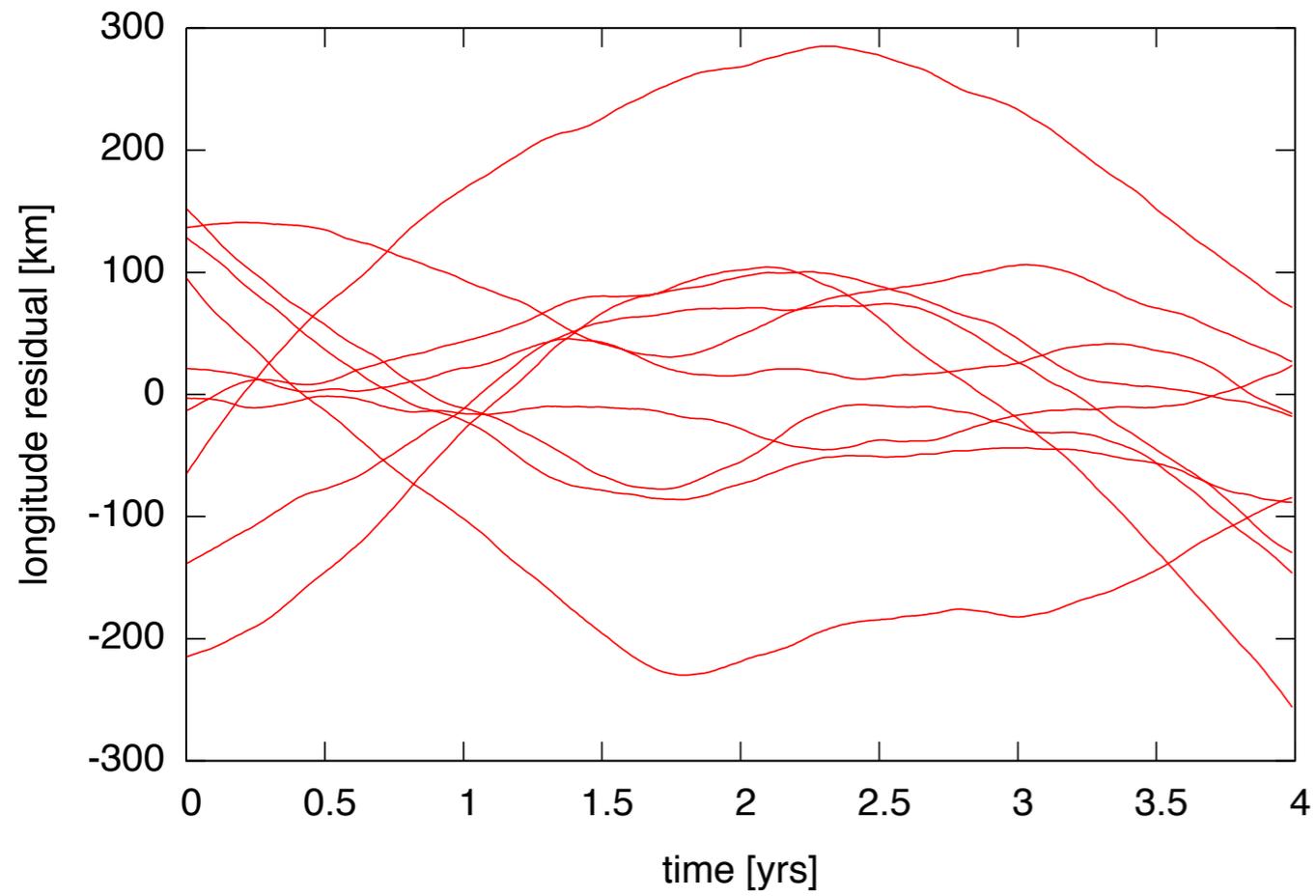
PRO

- Can explain all observations very well

CONTRA

- Many free parameters: surface density profile, kicks
- Needs large kicks (maybe not)

Need a metric



Conclusions

Part II

Conclusions

Moonlets in Saturn's rings

Small scale version of the proto-planetary disc

Dynamical evolution can be directly observed

5 different explanations

Might lead to independent age estimate of the ring system

Modified Type I
Migration

Random Walk

Frog Resonance

Hybrid Migration/
Random Walk

Resonance with
a moon

Thank you!