

108(7): Limiting Form of the Potential Energy is the  
Relativistic Kepler Problem.

The potential energy is:

$$V = mc^2 \left( \frac{1}{2} - \frac{r_s}{r} \right) + \frac{mL^2}{2r^2} - mL^2 \frac{r_s}{r^3} \quad (1)$$

where:  $|r_s| = \frac{T}{R} \quad (2)$

In the standard model:

$$r_s = \frac{2mc^2}{L^2} \quad (3)$$

i) As  $r_s \rightarrow 0$ :

$$V \rightarrow \frac{1}{2} mc^2 + mL^2 \frac{2}{2r^2} \quad (4)$$

where:  $L = r^2 \frac{d\phi}{d\tau} \quad (5)$

This means that there is no force of attraction in the limit  $r_s \rightarrow 0$ . The two particles (a star) have collided.  $\quad (6)$

2) From eq. (1):

$$r_s = \left( \frac{1}{2} mc^2 - V + \frac{mL^2}{2r^2} \right) \left( \frac{mc^2}{r} + mL^2 \frac{2}{r^3} \right)^{-1}$$

and as  $r \rightarrow 0$ :

$$r_s \rightarrow \frac{r}{2} \quad (7)$$

3) As  $r_s \rightarrow 0$ ,  $V \rightarrow \frac{1}{2} mc^2 + \frac{mr^2}{2} \frac{d\phi}{d\tau} \quad (8)$

4) In the limit of circular orbits:

$$\frac{dV}{dr} \rightarrow 0 \quad - (9)$$

$$r \rightarrow \frac{1}{2c^2 r_s} \left( L^2 \pm L \sqrt{(L^2 - 12c^2 r_s^2)^{1/2}} \right) \quad - (10)$$

and the Newtonian limit is identified as:

$$r_s \rightarrow 0 \quad - (11)$$

i.e.

$$r \rightarrow \frac{L^2}{c^2 r_s} = \left( \frac{L^2}{c^2} \right) r_s \quad - (12)$$

5) From eq. (6), the limit  $r_s \rightarrow 0$  also implies:

$$\frac{mc^2}{r} + n \frac{L^2}{r^3} \rightarrow \infty \quad - (13)$$

and since  $L$  is a constant of motion:

$$r \rightarrow 0 \quad - (14)$$

Therefore, as  $\boxed{r_s \rightarrow 0, r \rightarrow 0}$   $- (15)$

6) From eq. (5), if  $L$  is a constant of motion and  $r \rightarrow 0$ , then as  $r \rightarrow 0$ ,  $d\phi/d\tau \rightarrow \infty$ . This again means that the two stars have collided.

7) Finally in the limit  $V \rightarrow 0$ ,

$$mc^2 \left( \frac{1}{2} - \frac{r_s}{r} \right) + n \frac{L^2}{2r^3} - nL^2 \frac{r_s}{r^3} \rightarrow 0$$

$$- (16)$$

3) In the standard model the loss of potential energy is interpreted as the emission of gravitational radiation, but in ECE theory it can be interpreted by calculating  $r$  from the cubic equation (16) and expressing  $r$  in terms of the constant  $L$  and  $r_s$ . Eq (16) is the cubic:

$$\frac{1}{2}c^2r^3 - c^2r^2r_s + \frac{L^2}{2}r - L^2r_s = 0 \quad (17)$$

so there are three roots. Thus as  $V \rightarrow 0$ ,  $r$  may be expressed in terms of  $r_s$  and  $L$ . If the angular momentum  $L$  is very small in eq (17) then:

$$r \rightarrow 2r_s \quad (18)$$

which is eq. (7). This is interpreted to mean that for a very small  $L$ ,  $r \rightarrow 2r_s \rightarrow 0$ . As  $r_s \rightarrow 0$  in eq. (17),

$$c^2r^2 + L^2 \rightarrow 0 \quad (19)$$

and this is interpreted again as  $r \rightarrow 0, L \rightarrow 0$ , as  $r_s \rightarrow 0$ . In other words the two stars have collided.

### Roots of the Cubic (17)

The general cubic equation:

$$a_0x^3 + a_1x^2 + a_2x + a_3 = 0 \quad (20)$$

may be transformed to:

$$4). \quad y^3 + Ay + B = 0 \quad (21)$$

$$\text{By using } x = y - \frac{1}{3} \frac{a_1}{a_0} \quad (22)$$

To solve eqn (21) we:

$$y = \lambda \cos \theta \quad (23)$$

$$\text{so: } \lambda^3 \cos^3 \theta + A\lambda \cos \theta + B = 0 \quad (24)$$

Compare eqn (24) with:

$$4 \cos^3 \theta - 3 \cos \theta - \cos 3\theta = 0 \quad (25)$$

i.e.

$$\frac{\lambda^3}{4} = -\frac{A\lambda}{3} = -\frac{B}{\cos 3\theta} \quad (26)$$

$$\text{Thus: } \cos 3\theta = \frac{3B}{A\lambda} \quad (27)$$

$$\lambda^2 = -\frac{4A}{3} \quad (28)$$

The roots of the cubic may be found this way or numerically, i.e. as  $T$  decreases,  $\lambda$  may be expressed in terms of  $r_s$  and  $L$ , and the decrease in  $T$  may be explained as a decrease in  $|r_s| = T/R$ , and not as a loss of gravitational radiation.