Dynamical formation of detached trans-Neptunian objects close to the 2:5 and 1:3 mean motion resonances with Neptune

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ABSTRACT

Aims. It is widely accepted that the past dynamical history of the solar system included a scattering of planetesimals from a primordial disk by the major planets. The primordial scattered population is likely the origin of the current scattering disk and possibly the detached objects. In particular, an important argument has been presented for the case of 2004XR₁⁰, as having an origin in the primordial scattered disk through a mechanism including the 3:8 mean motion resonance (MMR) with Neptune. Here we aim at developing a similar study for the cases of the 1:3 and 2:5 resonances that are stronger than the 3:8 resonance.

Methods. Through a semi-analytic approach of the Kozai resonance inside an MMR, we show phase diagrams $(e, \omega)$ that suggest the possibility of a scattered particle, after being captured in an MMR with Neptune, to become a detached object. We ran several numerical integrations with thousands of particles perturbed by the four major planets, and there are cases with and without Neptune’s residual migration. These were developed to check the semi-analytic approach and to better understand the dynamical mechanisms that produce the detached objects close to an MMR.

Results. The numerical simulations with and without a residual migration for Neptune stress the importance of a particular resonance mode, which we name the hibernating mode, on the formation of fossilized detached objects close to MMRs. When considering Neptune’s residual migration we are able to show the formation of detached orbits. These objects are fossilized and cannot be trapped in the MMRs again. We find a ratio of the number of fossilized objects with moderate perihelion distance ($35 < q < 40 \text{ au}$) to the number of objects with high perihelion distance ($q > 40 \text{ au}$) as $3.0/1$ for objects close to the 2:5, and $1.7/1$ for objects close to the 1:3 resonance. We estimate that the two fossilized population have a total mass between 0.1 and 0.3 Pluto’s mass.

Key words. Kuiper belt: general – minor planets, asteroids: general

1. Introduction

Since the mid-twentieth century, scientists have speculated about the existence of small bodies beyond the orbit of Neptune (Edgeworth 1949; Kuiper 1951, 1974). These objects would form a disk and their orbits would have low eccentricities and inclinations. More than four decades later Jewitt & Luu (1993) found the first object, 1992QB₁, (except for Pluto and Charon) belonging to the Kuiper belt. This object’s orbital characteristics were consistent with those proposed by the first idealizers, with fairly low eccentricity and inclination. However, over the years, hundreds of new discoveries have revealed a much more complex scenario. One of the important unexplained features was the unexpectedly large number of objects with high inclinations. The first dynamical formation models (Malhotra 1993, 1995) were very successful at explaining several features of the Kuiper belt orbits, including the Plutinos and other resonant orbits, but in the end they failed to explain the high inclination of the Kuiper belt objects satisfactorily. Although up to now no theoretical model explain all the features of the trans-Neptunian region, the fact that there are many objects with high inclination orbits is something that differs a lot from what was initially expected. Gomes (2003a,b, 2011) have introduced, through a disk scattering mechanism, a new approach in producing high-inclination objects for the the hot population of the classical Kuiper belt and detached trans-Neptunian objects (TNOs).

The detached objects are roughly defined as having $a > 50 \text{ au}$, $q > 36 \text{ au}$, and usually high inclination ($i > 10^\circ$). These characteristics provide much more stable dynamics without close encounters with Neptune, as is the case of the scattering disk objects whose perihelia, $q$, of the orbits approach Neptune ($30 < q < 35 \text{ au}$) and have semimajor axis $a > 50 \text{ au}$. The detached population currently has the lowest number of discovered members, owing to the difficulty observing and tracking objects with large perihelia and high inclinations. But, detecting, tracking, and understanding how these objects could have formed may, nevertheless, reveal important dynamical processes that occurred in the primordial solar system (Gladman et al. 2002; Gomes et al. 2005b, 2008; Allen et al. 2006).

There have been several hypotheses for the dynamical formation of detached objects belonging to the detached group, since they started to be discovered. The object 2000CR₁⁰₅ ($a = 228.8 \text{ au}$, $q = 44.13 \text{ au}$, $i = 22.77^\circ$) is one of the first discoveries belonging to the detached objects group, called “extended scattered disk” (ESD) at that time. Gladman et al. (2002) show that a process like long-term diffusive chaos is not good enough to reproduce such orbit. Then they propose other alternatives, such as perturbations by distant rogue planets or by primordial stellar passages as possible candidates to explain 2000CR₁⁰₅ dynamical formation. Gomes et al. (2006) show a mechanism for producing distant high-$q$ detached objects, invoking the possibility that these bodies had interacted with a planetary-mass solar
companion. Brasser et al. (2006, 2012), in turn, propose that the inner Oort cloud objects (actually, it is difficult to say when the detached population ends and the inner Oort cloud begins) would be formed by the perihelion-raising effect of a promordial cluster that was supposed to be the Sun’s birth environment. The authors consider close stellar encounters and the gas potential in the cluster as a scenario that produces such orbits with $a > 200$ au.

Gomes (2003a, b) and Gomes et al. (2005b) present a scenario where detached objects are generated exclusively through gravitational interaction with the Jovian planets. The authors propose that objects scattered during planetary migration can be captured in a mean motion resonance (MMR) with Neptune. Once in MMR, some particles could enter the Kozai resonance and present large variations in the eccentricities and inclinations. When the particle is in a low-eccentricity mode (and high inclination), the MMR critical angle may present a very large libration amplitude. Therefore, the object can escape both resonances while Neptune is still migrating, becoming a fossilized object with a high perihelion distance. Thus it is possible to produce detached orbits belonging to the ESD by just considering the perturbation of the giant planets, at least for $a \leq 100$ au. To fossilize the orbits it is only necessary that Neptune experiences a residual migration. This mechanism could thus be valid in principle for both smooth migration (Hahn & Malhotra 1999, 2005) as well as for “direct emplacement” migration models (Tsiganis et al. 2005; Gomes et al. 2005a; Nesvorný 2011; Nesvorný & Morbidelli 2012).

Gomes (2011) uses this mechanism to explain the dynamical formation of 2004XR$_{190}$ which is a fossilized object with high perihelion distance ($q \approx 51.6$ au) and that is close to but not in the 3:8 MMR with Neptune (Allen et al. 2006). In his work the author highlights an interesting resonant mode in which the particle spends a long time with low eccentricity and high inclination (hibernating mode) and suggests that similar behavior should also occur for other MMRs. Although other models propose the formation of detached objects (Hahn & Malhotra 2005), we understand that the results in Gomes (2011) are compelling enough that we should reconsider the same mechanism applied to other important exterior MMRs with Neptune.

We thus intend to carry out a comprehensive study in this paper of the dynamical formation of detached objects near the 2:5 and 1:3 MMRs with Neptune, which are the strongest ones beyond the 1:2 MMR, since they have the smaller combination of order and degree. We performed several numerical integrations of the four giant planets and two disks of scattered particles surrounding the resonances of interest. We considered scenarios with the actual solar system and another one where Neptune is a little before its current position, so that one can impose a final phase of residual migration on Neptune. Therefore we intend to increase our understanding of the dynamical formation mechanism of detached objects near these MMRs.

The paper is divided as follows. In Sect. 2, we present the results of a many-particles numerical integration of the equations of motion of the major planets and a disk of planetesimals following the Nice model. This integration is used to determine the migration speed used in the following sections and also to present an example of the mechanism of creating fossilized detached objects that will motivate the rest of the work. In Sect. 3 we present a semi-analytic study of the Kozai mechanism inside the 2:5 and 1:3 MMRs. Section 4 shows the main results of our numerical experiments without Neptune’s residual migration. We devised a pathway for the formation of detached objects from primarily scattered particles, and relate it to the semi-analytic study developed in Sect. 3. Section 5 shows the main results of our numerical experiments with Neptune’s residual migration. We present a calculation of the ratio between detached objects with high and moderate perihelia and an estimate of the mass deposited near those resonances. Finally, we summarize our main results and give the conclusions in Sect. 6.

2. Results from a numerical integration with the Nice model

In this section we consider a numerical integration of the equations of motion of the planets and massive particles according to the Nice model (Tsiganis et al. 2005). The initial orbital semimajor axes for the planets are 5.45 au, 8.18 au, 11.5 au and 14.2 au for Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune, respectively. Their eccentricities are initially zero, and their inclinations are either 0° or 0.5°. The disk is initially composed of 10$^5$ planetesimals with a total mass of 35 Earth masses, and with a surface density scaling as $r^{-1}$ and situated between 16.0 and 40.0 au. They have zero eccentricities and inclinations. When the planets had stopped their mutual encounters, we cloned each planetesimal 30 times. Figure 1 shows the evolution of the semimajor axes of the planets just before and after the instability phase triggered by the close encounters between the planets. We focus particularly on Neptune’s migration. Figure 2 shows the evolution of Neptune’s migration speed. This is done by averaging Neptune’s semimajor axes at every My, then averaging the migration speed taken...
from the previous averaged semimajor axes for every 100 My. We notice that from $t = 0.75$ Gy to $t = 1.5$ Gy, Neptune’s migration speed varies roughly from 5 au/Gy to 0.1 au/Gy. This is the range of speeds used in the simulations in Sect. 5, which corresponds to Neptune’s migration speed during a time span of roughly 0.85 Gy. It must also be noticed that although after around 1.5 Gy in the integration shown in Fig. 2, Neptune has an average migration speed below 0.1 au/Gy if we do not perform an average of these speeds. We notice the absolute value of Neptune’s migration speed above 0.1 au/Gy during most of the time (78%). We might thus argue that in a sense Neptune has experienced a residual migration until today.

This simulation also showed one instance of a trapping and later escape with respect to both the 2:5 and 1:3 resonances. Figure 3 shows such a case for the 2:5 resonance. We notice that a little after 0.8 Gy to a little before 0.9 Gy, the particle experiences the 2:5 MMR coupled with Kozai resonance. Somewhere before 0.9 Gy, the particle escapes both resonances and gets apparently fossilized with fairly low eccentricity and high inclination. It is also instructive to follow the evolution of the resonant angle with more detail at two specific times of the particle’s evolution. This is shown in Fig. 4 where in the lefthand panel the resonant angle is librating with $\sim 90^\circ$ amplitude around $180^\circ$. At around 0.884 Gy (right panel), the particle’s resonant angle libration amplitude is very large and eventually turns to circulation, defining a escape from the resonance.

Figure 5 shows the distribution of the particle’s inclination around the 2:5 and 1:3 MMRs, including a range of semimajor axes plus or minus 1 au around the resonance’s nominal semimajor axis. The perihelion distances are from Neptune’s semimajor axis up to 5 au beyond. These distributions will be useful for comparing with the simulations undertaken in the following sections. The data are from a time range between 0.7 and 1 Gy.

3. A semi-analytic approach of the Kozai mechanism inside 2:5 and 1:3 MMRs

Based on the work of Thomas & Morbidelli (1996), Gomes et al. (2005b), Gomes (2011), and Gallardo et al. (2012), we developed our study for particles trapped in the 2:5 and 1:3 MMRs with Neptune. We consider the four major planets in planar and circular orbits. Our aim in this section is to find an average perturbation of the planets on the particle. This amounts to computing an average of the Hamiltonian in the mean longitudes of the planets and particle. When the particle experiences an MMR, the problem can be reduced to the calculation of a single integral, since we have a fixed relation between the mean longitudes of the planet and the particle given by the resonant angle (when its libration amplitude is zero). The general resonant angle is defined by

$$\phi = (p + q)\lambda_N - p\lambda - k_1\sigma - k_2\Omega$$

where $\lambda_N$ and $\lambda$ are the mean longitudes of Neptune and the particle, the integers $p$ and $q$ are the degree and order of the
resonance, $k_1, k_2$ are integers satisfying $k_1 + k_2 = q$, $\sigma$ is the particle’s longitude of perihelion and $\Omega$ its longitude of the ascending node. In the rest of the paper, we always consider $\phi_{2:5}$ and $\phi_{1:3}$ as the eccentricity-type ones, those that do not include the longitude of the node, defined by $\phi_{2:5} = 5\lambda - 2\lambda_D - 3\sigma$ and $\phi_{1:3} = 3\lambda - \lambda_D - 2\sigma$.

In real $N$-body dynamics the particle always presents a finite libration amplitude of the resonant angle. Thus we turn back again to a double integral where the mean longitudes are still related through the resonant angle, which is made to vary according to a sinusoid of the given amplitude. Owing to the averaging in the particle’s mean longitude, its canonical conjugate $L = \sqrt{\mu a}$ is constant. In Eq. (2), $a$ is the semimajor axis of the TNO and $\mu$ the gravitational constant times the Sun’s mass. Due to rotational invariance in the longitude of the node, its conjugate (divided by $L$)

$$H = \sqrt{1 - e^2} \cos(i)$$

will also be a constant, where $i$ is the particle’s orbital inclination and $e$ its eccentricity. In the end, the averaged Hamiltonian will be in the form $E = E(G, g)$ where the canonical conjugated pair represents $g \equiv \omega$ (argument of perihelion), and $G = \sqrt{\mu a(1 - e^2)}$. Therefore, one has two constants of motion: the Hamiltonian ($E$), which is related to the energy, and $H$, which stands for the particle’s angular momentum projected on the reference (planets’ orbital) plane. Since our Hamiltonian is one degree of freedom, it is possible to draw level curves for fixed values of $E$ and $H$.

As pointed out by Kozai (1962), when the orbital inclination of the asteroid is high enough (39° $\leq i \leq 141^\circ$ for asteroids in the main belt), its argument of perihelion starts to librate around fixed values ($\omega = k.90^\circ$, with $k$ an integer), and the pair ($e, i$) will be related by the constant of motion $H$. This kind of behavior has been known as Kozai resonance ever since then. Other authors have shown that if a TNO is trapped in an MMR with Neptune, it can present the Kozai dynamics for inclinations lower than 39° (Gomes 2003a,b, 2011; Gomes et al. 2005b; Gallardo et al. 2012). Moreover, if the resonance is of type 1:1, the classical Kozai centers vanish and new asymmetric centers ($\omega \neq k.90^\circ$) take their place (Kozai 1985; Gallardo et al. 2012). This is because the centers of $\phi_{1:1}$ are different from 0° and 180°, and new terms in the mean resonant disturbing function arise (Gallardo et al. 2012).

From the semi-analytical approach described above we can build Fig. 6, which shows two examples of diagrams $e$ vs. $\omega$ for particles trapped in the 2:5 MMR. In Fig. 6a the particle has $H = 0.851$, $a = 55.47$ au, $\phi_{2:5} = 180^\circ$, and 70° of libration amplitude. Each level curve stands for a specific energy level and presents the classical Kozai dynamics where $\omega$ librates around the centers $\omega = k.90^\circ$. Therefore it is expected that a particle with these characteristics presents anti-phase large variations in the pair ($e, i$) due to the conservation of $H$ and libration of $\omega$ around the classical centers. If the libration amplitude of $\phi_{2:5}$ increases, the relation between the mean longitudes is almost lost, and the motion will be similar to non-MMR Kozai dynamics. Figure 6b shows almost the same case as Fig. 6a, except that we now take 120° for the libration amplitude of the resonant angle ($\phi_{2:5}$). Since $H$ is still a constant of motion, the lower curves represent orbits that have low eccentricities and high inclinations, while the higher ones have lower inclinations and higher eccentricities.

In Fig. 7 we present a narrow window in time of one of our numerical simulations in which the process described above appears for a particle whose $H = 0.851$. It experiences the 2:5 MMR coupled with the Kozai resonance for $-100$ My ($\sim 3.27$ Gy) to $\sim 3.37$ Gy). Then it accesses a dynamical mode with low eccentricity or high perihelion distance (and high inclination) and high libration amplitude of the MMR angle for the rest of the simulation. We call this last dynamical mode of hibernating mode because the particle may “awake” at any time and return to the MMR+Kozai dynamics. In Fig. 8 we show a zoom in time of Fig. 7, for the unaveraged resonant angle. Although this behavior might be mistaken for a circulation, Fig. 8 shows that the resonant angle is really librating when the libration period timescale is considered. On the other hand, the libration center is not constant but circulates. This is why it is more instructive to show the variation in the resonant angle in Fig. 7 as averages in libration amplitude and libration center. It is important to note that in these exterior MMRs coupled with Kozai resonance, the variation of the libration center is the rule and not the exception.

Figure 9 presents the energy level curves associated with each square in Fig. 7. The process of entering a hibernating mode seems quite subtle. In panel (c), the particle had a high libration amplitude, and the energy level curves were flat like in a non-MMR mode. In panel (d), the libration amplitude had already decreased enough to lead to the appearance of closed curves ($\omega$-librating) with large variations in the eccentricity. The particle thus manages to escape the hibernating mode along one of these Kozai curves. A similar process is observed from panels (g) to (h), but in this case the decrease of the libration amplitude was not large enough to create an ascending path for the particle, and as shown in panel (i), it enters the hibernating mode. The exact circumstances that enable a particle to enter or not the hibernating mode seems quite complicated and is most likely suitable to being studied as a probabilistic event, although that is beyond the scope of this paper. Owing the chaotic behavior of this dynamics, a particle once in hibernating mode can again be trapped in the MMR coupled with Kozai. To place the particle in a fossilized orbit, without the risk of being trapped again in the MMR, a complementar mechanism is needed. This will be discussed in the next sections.

For the 1:3 MMR, the same main features may occur, except that in this case when the inclination is high enough the asymmetric centers of the Kozai resonance appear.
and 3. This behavior appears as, for instance, during the time between 3 Gyr and 3.32 Gyr as shown in Fig. 7. The behavior is common to exterior MMRs with Neptune coupled with Kozai resonance. Even when the particle is not in the hibernating mode, this behavior appears as, for instance, during the time between 3.3 Gyr and 3.32 Gyr as shown in Fig. 7.

Fig. 7. Results of a numerical simulation in which the particle experiences the 2:5 MMR+Kozai, and the disappearance of both due to a large libration amplitude of $\phi_{2:5}$. The final orbit has low eccentricity, hence high inclination (not shown), because it is in a state called hibernating mode, since it can turn out to experience the MMR+Kozai due the chaotic behavior presented. The four panels show the time evolution of the eccentricity, argument of perihelion, mean resonant angle ($\phi_{2:5}$), and its amplitude, respectively. Angles are in degrees. The plotted squares stand for specific times for which energy level curves are plotted in Fig. 9.

Fig. 8. Variation in the same resonant angle as in Fig. 7 not averaged and zoomed in time so as to make the libration period timescale apparent. This behavior is common to exterior MMRs with Neptune coupled with Kozai resonance. Even when the particle is not in the hibernating mode, this behavior appears as, for instance, during the time between 3.3 Gyr and 3.32 Gyr as shown in Fig. 7.

Figures presents these asymmetric centers for different values of the libration center $\phi_{1:3}$ and libration amplitudes. In all cases the particle preserves $a = 62.63$ au and $H = 0.82$. Again, if the amplitude of $\phi$ is large, the flattened curves appear, indicating that the hibernating mode is also possible for this resonance.

4. Numerical simulations without migration

We present the results of seven numerical simulations of the equations of motion of the four giant planets in their current orbits referred to the ecliptic plane at Julian date 2,454,200.5 and a total of 22,500 massless scattered particles. The integrations were performed for 4.5 Gyr in steps of 0.5 years, which is approximately equal to 1/20 of the smallest orbital period (Jupiter). We used the hybrid integrator of the Mercury package (Chambers 1999) for these numerical simulations. The particles were divided into two groups around the MMRs 2:5 ($a_{2:5} = 55.5164$ au) and 1:3 ($a_{1:3} = 62.6912$ au) with Neptune. Initial conditions were assigned randomly, respecting the following limits: $54.5161 \leq a \leq 56.5161$ au or $61.6912 \leq a \leq 63.6912$ au for semimajor axis, $30 < q \leq 35$ au for perihelion distance, $0 \leq i \leq 50^\circ$ for inclination, $[0, 360^\circ]$ for the angles argument of perihelion $\omega$, longitude of the ascending node $\Omega$, and mean anomaly $\nu$. The planets interact among themselves and disturb the massless particles, which are discarded from the simulations when $a < 52.50$ au or $a > 65.75$ au, decreasing the large CPU time spent to complete this kind of simulation. Since the particles are considered to be massless, there is no exchange of energy and angular momentum between the disks and the planets, and therefore there is no planetary migration.

We now present two representative figures that show the most interesting dynamic modes found. Figure 11 shows the case of a particle initially in the region of the 2:5 MMR, and in Fig. 12 the particle was initially near the 1:3 MMR. The particle in Fig. 11 starts in Kozai resonance and MMR, as seen in the middle and bottom plots and the coupled oscillation between the perihelion distance and inclination in the top plot. This Kozai mode, whose centers are 0 and 180$^\circ$, lasts about 700 My. After that, the argument of perihelion starts to circulate with a long period, and the particle remains in a high-eccentricity orbit, whose perihelion is close to Neptune’s orbit, basically following similar dynamics to one of the top flattened curves of Fig. 6b, for $400$ My. Close encounters with Neptune do not occur because it remains in MMR, as seen by the libration of $\phi_{2:5}$. Between 1.2 Gyr $t < 3.4$ Gyr, the particle experiences a new type of Kozai mode, where the oscillations of eccentricity and inclination have greater amplitude and the libration centers of $\omega$ are most of the time at 90$^\circ$ and 270$^\circ$, but it circulates during some time around 2 Gyr. This behavior is also consistent with that shown in Fig. 6a. Although it appears that the angle $\phi_{2:5}$ does not librate in this interval, with a zoomed plot similar to Fig. 8, one notices that the center mostly librates around 180$^\circ$ and undergoes some rapid changes, which on a scale like the one presented in Fig. 8 leads to a misinterpretation of circulation. For $t > 3$ Gyr, the argument of the perihelion starts to circulate again.
This sequence of shots is associated to the sequence of points in Fig. 7 represented as squares. We plot \( e \) vs. \( \omega \) of the particle also as squares. At each point, the amplitude and libration center of the resonant angle enable us to plot the energy level curves associated with each square, so the squares follow equipotential curves in time-varying energy level diagrams. The main point is to show the random character of the entrance into the hibernating mode. Panels c) and g) are very similar and correspond to peaks in libration amplitude as shown in Fig. 7. The transition to panels d) and h) shows the subtle difference between entering and not entering the hibernating mode.

Energy level curves \( e \) vs. \( \omega \) for the 1:3 MMR. In a) \( \bar{\phi}_{1:3} = 70^\circ \) with 30\(^\circ\) of amplitude, in b) \( \bar{\phi}_{1:3} = 285^\circ \) with 5\(^\circ\) of amplitude, in c) \( \bar{\phi}_{1:3} = 70^\circ \) with 60\(^\circ\) of amplitude, and in d) \( \bar{\phi}_{1:3} = 285^\circ \) with 30\(^\circ\) of amplitude. The asymmetric centers of the Kozai resonance are clear in b), and the flattened curves in c) indicate that the hibernating mode can also be reached. All cases have \( a = 62.63 \) au and \( H = 0.82 \).

Before the particle reaches a mode with low eccentricity (high perihelion distance) and high inclination to the end of the numerical simulation (hibernating mode).

A similar analysis can be made of Fig. 12; however, it is important to note that the rise of the asymmetric centers of the Kozai resonance, as noted between 900 My and 1.4 Gy and in the energy level curves presented in Fig. 10b. Another noteworthy aspect is that despite spending a long period in hibernating mode, the resonances may return to be active and bring the particle back to the resonant dynamics where large perihelion variations are possible. This is noticed in the last 500 My of the simulation in Fig. 12.

Up to now, we have shown that detached objects can be formed in a solar system without planetary migration. But it is not guaranteed that they will remain as detached or return to the resonant dynamics. However, no matter how slowly, the planets are always migrating, since they interact with the TNOs and with the comets from the Oort cloud. In this sense, it is possible currently to form detached objects and fossilize their orbits. This subject is addressed in the next section.

5. Imposing a residual migration on Neptune

We now proceed to a new set of numerical integrations with no migration. This time Jupiter, Saturn, and Uranus are at their current positions, as in the last section, while the mean semimajor axis of Neptune was decreased to \( \bar{a}_N = 29.8 \) au. A total
of 16000 particles were initially considered. The limits on the particles’ initial conditions and other integration parameters are equivalent to those in Sect. 4, except that the semimajor axes of the particles are distributed around $a = 54.8911 \pm 1$ au and $a = 61.9854 \pm 1$ au. This new set of integrations was done to check whether the main characteristics of the first set of integrations were maintained and to introduce the possibility of including a residual migration on Neptune for further analysis with migration. One finds that the global features are the same for the two sets of numerical simulations. Similar results are also possible in the case, as shown by Figs. 11 and 12, where Neptune is placed before its actual position. One also finds that 12% of the particles attain $q > 40$ au regardless of whether they survive or not for the age of the solar system, but only one fourth of them reach hibernating mode. In these integrations, we identify the hibernating mode whenever $q > 40$ au for $\Delta t \geq 100$ My. With this condition, one can identify, in a general way, the hibernating cases inside the large data set generated by the simulations without looking one by one. Since in the hibernating mode the resonant angle circulates or librates with very large amplitude, these particles become potential candidates to fossilization while Neptune migrates.

With these simulations we want to understand the behavior of the particles when Neptune is still migrating to its current position.
position. To accomplish this task we artificially added a force that depends on the velocity components into Neptune's equations of motion in order to linearly increase its semimajor axis. Our idea was to study the final phase of a planetary migration. We considered that Neptune’s migration speed comes from the Nice model integration described in Sect. 2. We also note that for a smooth migration, roughly the same migration speeds are obtained. This result argues for the robustness of the mechanism presented here. We only consider Neptune’s migration since the farther planet migrates much faster than the others, and dynamical processes experienced by TNOs (like MMRs) are almost solely related to Neptune.

The first experiment consisted of choosing two different points in the orbital evolution of a particle. For one of these points, the particle is experiencing the Kozai dynamics with strong variations in the eccentricity and the inclination, and the particle is in the hibernating mode for the other point. In this experiment we only considered that particle and the planets at those two chosen times. For either point (particle and time), new integrations were started as many times as the chosen migration speeds for Neptune in the intervals $[0.1, 5.0]$ au/Gy, with steps of 0.01 au/Gy. Therefore, the resonant semimajor axis also migrates. The simulations were stopped whenever Neptune reaches its current average semimajor axis of 30.11 au.

By this experiment it is possible to check the particle’s ability to escape from each dynamical mode and get fossilized in a smaller semimajor axis than the resonant ones. It is also possible to verify whether such escapes are related to the migration speed of Neptune. Figures 13 and 14 show the results of Neptune’s migration rates as a function of the averaged semimajor axis over the final 5% of each integration for particles that were initially placed so as to experience a smooth migration and a disk of massive planetesimals with the same total mass as in the Nice model simulation described above, and we noticed Neptune’s migration speed above 0.1 au/Gy during most of the time up to 4.5 Gy.

1 We performed a basic numerical integration with the four giant planets initially placed so as to experience a smooth migration and a disk of massive planetesimals with the same total mass as in the Nice model simulation described above, and we noticed Neptune’s migration speed above 0.1 au/Gy during most of the time up to 4.5 Gy.

2 It is interesting to note that particles that escape the MMR immediately after the beginning of the migration are located at an average semimajor axis below the resonant one. This is because there is a discontinuity between average resonant semimajor axis and average non-resonant semimajor axis at the border of the resonance.

Fig. 13. Diagram $V_{\text{mig}}$ vs. averaged semimajor axis for particles that were initially in 2:5 MMR with Neptune. The average is calculated over the past 5% of each simulation. The black filled circles represent particles that started the new simulations in the hibernating mode, while the open circles represent those that started in the Kozai mode. The vertical lines are the approximate resonant semimajor axis before (at left) and after (at right) the residual migration of Neptune. It is clear that particles initially in the hibernating mode tend to escape the MMR, becoming fossilized objects, while the ones started in the Kozai mode, in the opposite way, tend to stay trapped in the MMR and follow the migration.

Fig. 14. Analogous to the Fig. 13 for particles that were initially close to the 1:3 MMR with Neptune.
integration that yielded Fig. 2. We thus computed Neptune’s migration speed through the differences in the average Neptune’s semimajor axis in successive 5 My time ranges. Then we applied these successive migration speeds, which was changed at every 5 My, to Neptune coming from the static integrations. We only used the initial conditions at hibernating mode for both the 2:5 and 1:3 resonances as those used in the experiments that yielded Figs. 13 and 14, in the beginning of this section. For either resonance we did 25 numerical integrations imposing Neptune’s migration speed as those from the great integration as if Neptune started at 1.6 Gyr until 4.0 Gyr with steps of 0.1 Gyr. All integrations extend to 4.5 Gyr. Figure 15 shows the results of this experiment, where we show Neptune’s average semimajor axis orbital evolution, and for each integration started at the time shown in the figure, we plot “E” for an escape event and “R” for a still in resonance event. We find that there are still escapes from the hibernating mode during the last 3 Gy of Neptune’s mild migration for a fraction between one half and one third of the cases.

To find the most probable values of the eccentricities for fossilized particles, after they escape the MMR, we did a complementary experiment. This time we fixed the residual migration rate of Neptune in \( V_{\text{res}} = 0.5 \) au/Gy, a reasonable value for the final migration phase in simulations that take massive particles into account (e.g., Nice model). We chose nine particles that were initially in the 2:5 MMR region and seven other from the 1:3 MMR region. These particles show the most interesting dynamical modes, especially long periods in the hibernating mode, like those in Figs. 11 and 12. Then, we took 123 points for each particle, along their original simulations and restarted them by considering a migrating Neptune. Therefore, 1107 (9 × 123) runs were made for 2:5 MMR particles and 861 (7 × 123) runs for 1:3 MMR particles. In the end, 240 particles escaped the 2:5 MMR and 168 particles escaped the 1:3 MMR. Figures 16 and 17 exhibit histograms for the original eccentricities distribution and for the averaged eccentricities after the MMR escapes, for particles that became fossilized for the 2:5 and 1:3 MMRs, respectively. It is noteworthy that particles that escaped the MMRs mostly have low eccentricities. It is found that the most probable values for the eccentricities are 0.12 and 0.18 (44 \( e \) \( \lesssim \) 0.3) for the 2:5 MMR case, and 0.21 (48 \( e \) \( \lesssim \) 0.49) for the 1:3 MMR case. These results confirm what is proposed by Gomes (2011) that orbits similar to 2004XR\(_{190}\)-like orbits might be formed close to 2.5 MMR with Neptune.

The previous experiments show that it is possible to form detached objects fossilized close to the 2:5 and 1:3 MMRs. However, these experiments do not allow calculating the fraction of objects that become fossilized from the initial population, since they were chosen on purpose based on specific particles evolution in which the hibernating mode appeared. To make a more unbiased analysis that takes the total time which the particles spend in the hibernating mode into account, we performed
not including the unstable particles should be 2.95

another experiment. It consists of taking the simulations with Neptune at 29.8 au and restart them from different times, considering that Neptune migrates with $V_{\text{ini}} = 0.5 \text{ au/Gy}$. All bodies present at the selected times are considered. Thus it is possible to verify the formation of fossilized objects in a scenario in which several types of scattered particles are perturbed by a migrating Neptune. We consider that an object is fossilized if its average semimajor axis, after Neptune reaches its current position, is in the region $54.6 < a < 55.4$ au for bodies close to the 2:5 MMR or $61.8 < a < 62.4$ au for bodies close to the 1:3 MMR. A total of 15 simulations were performed. In all of them at least one fossilized object with $q > 40$ au was formed in both regions, as shown by Table 1. However, we note that these simulations are also able to produce fossilized objects with moderate perihelion distance ($35 < q < 40$ au). This result is qualitatively in accordance with Figs. 16 and 17, which show two peaks in the distributions of detached objects, one for moderate perihelion distance and another one for high perihelion distance. Of course those figures do not show quantitative coherence since the initial conditions were chosen on purpose from orbital evolutions exhibiting the hibernating mode. Approximately 70% of fossilized objects with moderate perihelion distance turned out to be stable for periods of billions of years on later simulations, while 100% of fossilized objects with high perihelion distance ($35 < q < 40$ au) were stable. The simulations in this new experiment generated, on average, 4.22 fossilized particles with moderate perihelion distance for each fossilized object with high perihelion distance for the 2:5 MMR case, while this ratio is 2.43 to 1 for the 1:3 MMR. We continued the integration of some of the particles for an extra Gy and found out that on average 30% of the moderate perihelion distance ones did not keep stable. Thus the corrected rates including the unstable particles should be 2.95/1 (2:5 MMR) and 1.70/1 (1:3 MMR).

Table 1. Particles fossilized with moderate and high $q$ when Neptune achieves its current position.

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<th>$N_2$</th>
<th>Run</th>
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<td>67</td>
<td>283</td>
<td>Tot.</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>141</td>
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</table>

Notes. Left side stands for the results of the 2:5 MMR runs, while the right side for the 1:3 MMR. The columns represent the run ID, the number of objects fossilized with $q > 40$ au ($N_1$), and the number of objects with $35 < q < 40$ au ($N_2$).

One comment is in order with respect to the particles that remain trapped in the MMRs with Neptune in this last experiment. Since these particles amount to many more that escape, one could try to estimate the ratio of current trapped particles to escaped ones. But we do not think this experiment is suitable for that calculation. In fact, the integration with migration lasts just 600 My in view of the initial position of Neptune and the migration speed. This is justifiable since the migration is in fact exponentially damping and we are taking it as linear, and most of the migration will take place in these first 600 My. There will be some 3.5 Gy left for evolution time, during which we expect that most of the resonant particles will be scattered out of the resonance.

Fig. 18. Results in the region of the 2:5 MMR for one original simulation restarted from $\sim 3.5 \text{ Gy}$. Neptune was initially at $a_N = 29.8$ au and was made to migrate with $V_{\text{ini}} = 0.5 \text{ au/Gy}$. The vertical lines account for the initial (at left) and final (at right) resonant semimajor axis $a_{2.5}$. All particles that were present in the original integration at that time were considered.

Fig. 19 presents the 1:3 MMR region for the same original simulation restarted from approximately 1 Gy. Most bodies tend to remain trapped to the MMRs and follow the migration of Neptune. Nevertheless, some particles escape the resonance becoming scattered objects (below the lower horizontal line), fossilized with moderate perihelion distances (between horizontal lines and $54.6 < a < 55.4$ au or $61.8 < a < 62.4$ au) or fossilized with high perihelion distance (above the upper horizontal line and $54.6 < a < 55.4$ au or $61.8 < a < 62.4$ au).

The scattered objects are very mobile in the semimajor axis. They are strongly perturbed by Neptune and usually end up being ejected from the solar system on hyperbolic orbits. The fossilized objects with moderate perihelion distances have less mobility in semimajor axis than the scattered ones, and most of them are stable after Neptune arrives at its current position. The fossilized objects with high perihelion distance, on the other hand, have almost no mobility in semimajor axis and are very stable, surviving by the age of the solar system after Neptune reaches its current position. Through an experiment using a more generic approach, we thus show that detached objects close to the 2:5 and 1:3 MMRs with Neptune can be generated through gravitational interactions among scattered particles and giant planets without the need of an external agent (e.g., stellar passages or planetary companion with planetary mass). We just need a scattered particle to be captured in an MMR with Neptune, to experience the Kozai resonance, and to access the hibernating mode while Neptune is still migrating to its current position.
Since we considered an initial uniform distribution of inclinations between 0° and 50°, a natural question is how the formation of fossilized detached objects depends on the initial inclination. For this we considered all integrations without migration and plot histograms of the initial inclination of all particles that experienced at least one instance of a hibernating mode. Figure 20 shows these histograms for the 2:5 and 1:3 resonances. It is interesting to compare this with Fig. 5, which gives the distribution of inclinations near these resonances for the numerical integration presented in Sect. 2. The comparison of these two distributions will be used to better estimate the mass likely deposited near the resonances in the next section. It is interesting to note that the histogram for the 1:3 resonance is much more skewed to the left than the one for the 2:5 resonance. Although we do not attempt to explain this feature, we can confirm that it is real in the sense that a particle trapped in the 1:3 MMR with a low inclination can eventually get into Kozai resonance and experience a large amplitude couple variation of the eccentricity and inclination that brings the eccentricity to near 0.1 and the inclination to near 30°. Figure 21 shows an example of such behavior.

5.1. Estimation of the mass of detached fossilized objects

Although the simulations performed here were not particularly aimed at computing the total number of detached objects that would come from a past hibernating episode, we do think that we can roughly estimate the total mass that would be deposited near the 2:5 and 1:3 resonances as fossilized objects with high perihelion distance. We consider the integrations without migration and assume that every instance of a hibernating mode creates a fossilized object with high perihelion distance, which is reasonable in view of the examples shown in Figs. 13 and 14. For the 2:5 resonance we find that 0.38% of the particles show at least one instance of a hibernating mode for the first 0.85 Gy, whereas for the 1:3 resonance this fraction is 0.55%. Now we compare this fraction with the total mass available in the neighborhood of each resonance taken from the Nice model simulation described in Sect. 2. This mass at 0.75 Gy, after which Neptune experiences an effective residual migration for 0.85 Gy is 0.041 and 0.036 Earth masses for the 2:5 and 1:3 resonances, respectively. This yields final total masses for fossilized objects with high perihelion near those resonances as 0.07 and 0.09 in Pluto’s mass.

If we consider the last 3 Gy of planetary migration, the fractions of particles that show at least one instance of a hibernating mode is 1.8% and 2.1% for the 2:5 and 1:3 MMR, respectively. Considering the probability of escaping from the hibernating mode during the last 3 Gy is around 40% as suggested by Fig. 15, we estimate a total mass in the neighborhood of the 2:5 and 1:3 MMR’s. The larger multiplying factor obtained for the 1:3 MMR reflects that the distribution of
inclinations that yielded hibernating modes in Fig. 20 is quite similar to the distribution of inclinations that particles should have near the 1:3 resonance according to Fig. 5.

It is also helpful to consider the great simulation presented in Sect. 2. As noted earlier, there are one case for the 2:5 resonance and another one for the 1:3 resonance where a particle is trapped into MMR and Kozai resonance and eventually escape those resonances. Each of these particles carries roughly 0.32 Pluto’s mass, which could be considered as another mass estimate at low eccentricities in the neighborhood of these resonances. Since in the simulations undertaken in Sects. 4 and 5 we impose artificial limits for discarding the particles the number of particles in the neighborhood of the resonances decrease much faster than reality (for instance, considering the numerical integration of Sect. 2) which also entails a fewer particles available to experience all the mechanism that produces the fossilized detached particles thus underestimating the total mass near those resonances. Considering all these factors, we can roughly estimate the amount of mass with low eccentricity near each of those resonances as 0.1 to 0.3 Pluto’s mass.

6. Conclusions

We addressed the main aspects of the dynamical formation of detached objects close to the 2:5 and 1:3 MMRs with Neptune from primordial scattered disk particles. Our simulations show that a considerable fraction of the scattered disk particles at the neighborhood of those resonances reach $q > 40$ au at some point in their orbital evolution. For such an increase in perihelion, considering only the gravitational perturbation of the giant planets, it is necessary that the particle get captured in exterior MMR with Neptune and thereafter experience the Kozai resonance, which produces large variations in the inclination and perihelion. Thus it is possible that several TNOs are currently undergoing this resonance coupling, showing characteristics of detached objects. But sooner or later, the perihelion will decrease and the object may, again, be severely perturbed by Neptune.

As in Gomes (2011), we also identified the emergence of the hibernating mode on particles that suffer the coupling between MMR + KR. This mode is characterized by long periods ($t > 100$ My) of low eccentricity ($q > 40$ au) and high inclination that can be accessed when the amplitude of oscillation of the resonant angle, $\phi$, becomes very high (>100°). Through the semi-analytical approach, for the cases of 2:5 and 1:3, we have shown the topological changes in the energy level curves associated with the hibernating mode. However, if there is no dissipative mechanism, the particle can return to experience the large amplitude anti-phase variation of the eccentricity and inclination characteristic of MMR+KR.

Through experiments considering the residual migration of Neptune, we show that the hibernating mode is a preponderant factor in the formation of fossilized objects with high perihelion, outside the resonant semimajor axis and without the possibility of suffering the Kozai mechanism again. Besides these high perihelion fossilized particles we also found objects with moderate perihelion distance ($35 < q < 40$ au) through numerical experiments. They are not associated with the hibernating mode. We estimate that the ratio of the number of moderate-to-high perihelion objects fossilized near the 2:5 and 1:3 resonances are 2.95:1 and 1.70:1, respectively. It is important to note however that these ratios must not represent real observations since observational bias makes it easier to observe objects with smaller perihelia. We also roughly estimated the amount of mass with low eccentricity near either of those resonances as 0.1 to 0.3 Pluto’s mass.

As shown here for the resonances 2:5 and 1:3, and 3:8 by Gomes (2011), the same mechanism could act in other MMRs in the trans-Neptunian region, forming other groups of detached objects, mostly for MMRs with $a < 100$ au. In principle, since there are some MMR with Neptune in the classical Kuiper belt (e.g., 4:7, 3:5, 5:8), it is possible that the same process could also be effective near those resonances and contribute to the formation of part of hot classical Kuiper belt objects (HCKBOs). We can anticipate that in preliminary tests, the hibernating mode showed up for some of the resonances in the classical belt. However, determining the efficiency of the process, as well as its relative contribution to the HCKBOs group, deserves further investigation that is going to be the subject of future works.


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