

Article

Not peer-reviewed version

---

# The Mass of the Center of the Milky Way Revalued from the Fastest Orbits around the Center and the Circular Velocity Curve of the Milky Way

---

[yin zhu](#) \*

Posted Date: 12 March 2024

doi: 10.20944/preprints202402.1765.v2

Keywords: Fastest star; circular velocity curve of the Milky Way; fast galaxy bar; mass of the center of galaxy; Newtonian theory of orbit perturbation



Preprints.org is a free multidiscipline platform providing preprint service that is dedicated to making early versions of research outputs permanently available and citable. Preprints posted at Preprints.org appear in Web of Science, Crossref, Google Scholar, Scilit, Europe PMC.

Copyright: This is an open access article distributed under the Creative Commons Attribution License which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited.

Disclaimer/Publisher's Note: The statements, opinions, and data contained in all publications are solely those of the individual author(s) and contributor(s) and not of MDPI and/or the editor(s). MDPI and/or the editor(s) disclaim responsibility for any injury to people or property resulting from any ideas, methods, instructions, or products referred to in the content.

Article

# The Mass of the Center of the Milky Way Revalued from the Fastest Orbits around the Center and the Circular Velocity Curve of the Milky Way

Yin Zhu \*

Agriculture and Rural Department of Hubei Province, Wuhan, China

\* Correspondence: waterzhu@163.com

**Abstract:** The new observations, including the fastest star, the circular velocity curve of the Milky Way and the fast galaxy bar, should imply that the mass of the center of the Milky Way is almost  $2 \times 10^{11} M_{\odot}$ .

**Keywords:** Fastest star; circular velocity curve of the Milky Way; fast galaxy bar; mass of the center of galaxy; Newtonian theory of orbit perturbation

The galactic rotation curve has been observed and studied for a long time.[1–3] Because of the advancement of the technology, now, the observation of the velocity of the orbit of the stars in our galaxy is more accurate and precision in a larger area.[4–15] First, in 2020, the fastest star in the Milky Way was observed.[4–6] The S62 has the shortest known stable orbit around the supermassive black hole in the center of our Galaxy to date. It is with  $t_{period} = 9.9 \text{ yr}$  and a periapse velocity of approximately 10% of the speed of light.[4] It is contradicted with the galactic rotation curve [1–3] in which the largest velocity is  $V_{max} < 300 \text{ km/s}$  at the distance of  $R \approx 6.5 \text{ kpc}$  from the center of the galaxy. Second, in recent, the circular velocity curve of the Milky Way from 4 to 30 kpc was measured.[7–11] It was observed that a significantly faster decline (Keplerian decline) in the circular velocity curve compared to the inner parts. It is contradicted with the previous observation for the galactic rotation curve in which the out parts could be larger or no decline. Third, in recent, it was observed that the fast galaxy bars continue to challenge standard cosmology [12–14] and the ultrafast bar cannot be ruled out.[15] Therefore, new understanding is needed for the new observations.

Here, we emphasize, the current theory for the orbit of the star/stellar around the center of the galaxy was misled by the Poincaré's equation for Three-body problem. For the convenience of the readers, we copy our previous sentence here:[16]

Newton established the theory of orbit in 1660s. But, Newton's theory has not been completely understood till now. As soon as comparing Poincaré's equation of Three-body problem with Newtonian orbital perturbation theory, we shall know what is the problem in current understanding about Newtonian theory of gravity. The Sun-Earth-Moon system is the oldest Three-Body problem. It is clear, the orbits about it was well resolved by Newton. But, there is a famous old problems: calculating with  $F = G \frac{Mm}{R^2}$ , the attractive force of the Sun on the Moon is almost 2.2 times that of the Earth, but the orbit of the Moon around the Earth cannot be broken off by the Sun. It is clear, as Poincaré's equation for Three-body problem is applied on the solar system, the orbits in it should be broken off in a short time. We think, this is the crucial evidence to show that the Poincaré's equation for Three-body problem is wrong. And, the triple star system and multiple star systems, including Six-star system,[17,18] were observed. The orbit in these systems are stable and certain.

The Poincaré's equation for Three-body problem is very strange. First, no orbit of the celestial body is chaotic. A broken orbit also is predictable. So, Poincaré's equation cannot be related with any real orbit. Second, the orbits of the typical Three-body system, such as the Sun-Earth-Moon system and Sun-Pluto-Charon system, are stable. Poincaré's equation is invalid to understand these orbits. Third, Poincaré's equation is invalid to design an artificial orbit. It is very clear, the Poincaré's

equation is nonsense in understanding any real orbit. Additionally, the relationship between the Poincaré's equation and other theory is very weak. If there was not Poincaré's equation, the celestial dynamics could not be affected. But, very unfortunately, Poincaré's equation is the mainstream understanding about Newtonian theory of gravity. It results in that, the current theory of orbit about the galaxy is questioned.

Applying the Poincaré's equation to the N-body problem, there is the Poisson equation:  $\nabla^2\varphi = 4\pi G\rho$ ,  $M = \iiint \rho dV$ ,  $\varphi = -G\frac{M}{r}$ . Therefore, the Poisson equation is also wrong in studying celestial orbit. Consequently, the formula,  $g = G\frac{M(R)}{R^2}$ , where  $M(R)$  is the sum of all the mass in the radius of  $R$ , is wrong.

In the Newtonian theory of gravity,[16] the radius and velocity of the orbit of all the stars/stellar in a galaxy is only determined with

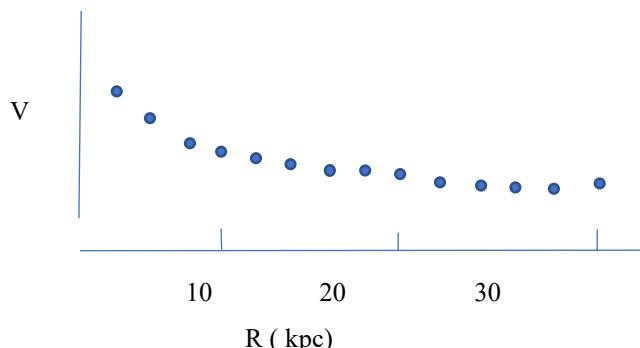
$$g = G\frac{M_{center}}{R^2} \quad (1)$$

where,  $M_{center}$  is only the mass of the center of the galaxy.

For the S62, as  $t_{period} = 9.9$  yr and a periapse velocity of approximately 10% of the speed of light,[4] approximately under the condition of that the orbit of S62 is a circle, it could be easily known that the radius of the orbit is almost  $R \sim 0.14$  ly. From  $V = \sqrt{GM/R}$ , we know, there should be  $M_{center} \sim 10^{10} M_{\odot}$ . From the velocity of the orbit of the Sun around the center of the Milky Way, it could be concluded that the mass of the center of the Milky Way need be  $M_{center} \sim 2 \times 10^{11} M_{\odot}$ . In consideration of the circular velocity curve of the Milky Way [7–11], we intend to believe that the mass of the center of the Milky Way should be  $M_{center} \sim 10^{11} M_{\odot}$ . Here, it is emphasized that the conclusions of current observations were misled by the wrong Poisson equation (or the Poincaré's equation). It is clear, the galactic rotation curve and that the center of the Milky Way is  $4 \times 10^6 M_{\odot}$  only is a conclusion of the Poisson equation and it is clearly contradicted with the new observations in [4–15]. Therefore, new understanding and more accurate and precision measurement are needed to have a more accurate mass for the center of the Milky Way.

We noted that,  $M_{center} \sim 10^{11} M_{\odot}$  is a very big mass. Currently, it is thought that the mass of the center of the Milky Way is  $4 \times 10^6 M_{\odot}$  [18,19] and the total mass of the Milky Way is  $M_{center} \sim 5.8 \times 10^{11} M_{\odot}$ . [20] But, the mass of  $4 \times 10^6 M_{\odot}$  is too little for the orbit of S62 with the periapse velocity of approximately 10% of the speed of light and  $t_{period} = 9.9$  y[4–6] as the Roche limit is considered. And, it is noted that, for S62[4–6], as  $M_{center} \sim 4 \times 10^6 M_{\odot}$  and the pericenter distance  $r_p = 10 \sim 16$  au, there only is  $V = \sqrt{GM/r_p} \approx 1.8 \sim 1.5 \times 10^4$  km/s.

From  $V = \sqrt{GM/R}$ , the complete figure for the circular velocity curve of the Milky Way for  $R = 0 \sim 30$  kpc could be shown with the Figure 1.



**Figure 1. The calculated circular velocity curve of the Milky Way.** The observed largest  $V$  is approximately 10% of the speed of light. At  $R \approx 8.5$  kpc, the velocity of the Sun is almost 220 km/s. In a rough standard, the Figure is approximately accordant with the observations of the fastest orbits [4–6] and the circular velocity curve of the Milky Way [7–11]. And, the ultrafast galaxy bar [12–15] could be the evidence for the velocities in  $R \leq 6.5$  kpc.

It is noted that, in the Newtonian theory of gravity, besides the center of the galaxy, other stars also has actions on the orbit. Because all stars are orbiting around the center of the galaxy,[16,22] just as the planets are orbiting around the Sun, and, only the Newtonian theory of orbit perturbation is valid to understand the celestial orbit,[16,23] the orbit of a star around the center in a galaxy only can be described with the Newtonian theory of orbit perturbation:

$$g_{total} = G \frac{M_{center}}{R_{cs}^2} + \sum g_i \quad (2)$$

where c and s denote the center of the galaxy and the stars,  $\sum g_i$  is the perturbation of other stars on this star,  $g_i = G \frac{M_{si}}{R_{ssi}^3} \mathbf{dr}$ , where  $\mathbf{dr}$  is a vector. From Eq.(2) we know, (for convenience, assuming that the orbit is a circle,) the radius and velocity of an orbit is determined with Eq.(1) while it is perturbed by other stars/stellar with  $\sum g_i$ . But, the perturbations are so little that the radius and velocity of the orbit can be determined with Eq.(1). And, as the perturbation is large, the orbit shall be broken of. So, to know the velocity of the orbit for our purpose, the perturbation need not be considered. Therefore, although the Figure 1 is only an approximation to the real orbit, it is useful to know the velocity and radius of an orbit.

**Conclusion and discussions:** The Figure 1 is a new predicted galactic circular velocity curve by returning to the Newtonian theory of gravity. The observations in [4–15] could be complete evidence for it. We emphasize, the observation of the fastest orbits [4–6] around the center of the Milky Way is very significant for understanding the mass of the center. It clearly showed that the current galactic rotation curve [1–3] is questioned. In theory, in the Figure 1, it is shown that, the velocity of any one single star in the radius of  $R \leq 6.5\text{kpc}$  is larger than the largest velocity  $V_{max}$  in the galactic rotation curve with  $V_{max} < 300\text{km/s}$  as  $R \approx 6.5\text{kpc}$ . In observations, the velocities of  $10^3 \sim 10^4 \text{km/s}$  of the orbit near the center of the galaxy were observed.[4–6] And, the ultrafast galaxy bar was observed.[12–15] Therefore, the mass of the center of the Milky Way could be accurately known from the circular velocity curve of the Milky Way [7–11].

The mass of the center of the Milky Way is one of the critical factors about the structure and origin of the galaxy. Therefore, new understanding is needed for the new predicted mass of the center. But, factually, new understanding is needed in more general area. As I know, first, the Poincaré's equation with the Poisson equation need be excluded from the theory of the orbit of the galaxy. We have had no evidence to show that the Poincaré's equation with the Poisson equation is valid to the orbit in the galaxy or any other orbit. It is only a misunderstanding about the Newtonian theory of gravity.[16] Therefore, we need return to the Newtonian theory. Second, the gravitational field is with a very tremendous energy and energy density. It is omitted in current theory of gravity while it should be very important to judge the dark energy.[24,25] Third, a galaxy is always moving. Then, how is this galaxy moving? Is it with an orbit around a larger object? These problems showed that our knowledge about the galaxy is poor. We need new knowledge about it from new observation.

## References

1. Y. Yoon, C. Park, H. Chung and K., Zhang, Rotation Curves of Galaxies and Their Dependence on Morphology and Stellar Mass, *ApJ*, **922**, 249 (2021)
2. S. S. McGaugh, F. Lelli and J.M.Schombert, Radial Acceleration Relation in Rotationally Supported Galaxies, *Physical Review Letters*, **117**, 201101 (2016) arxiv: 1609.05917
3. S. S. McGaugh, The Third Law of Galactic Rotation, *Galaxies* **2**, 601-622 (2014)
4. F. Peišker, A. Eckart and M. Parsa, S62 on a 9.9 yr Orbit around SgrA\*, *ApJ*, **889**, 61 (2020)
5. F. Peišker, A. Eckart, M. Zajaček and S. Britzen, Observation of S4716- A star with a 4 year orbit around Sgr A\*, *ApJ*, **933**, 49 (2022)
6. F. Peišker, A. Eckart, M. Zajaček, S. Britzen, B. Ali and M. Parsa, S62 and S4711: Indications of a Population of Faint Fast-moving Stars inside the S2 Orbit—S4711 on a 7.6yr Orbit around Sgr A\*, *ApJ*, **899**, 50 (2020)
7. A. Eilers, D. W. Hogg, H. Rix and M. K. Ness, The Circular Velocity Curve of the Milky Way from 5 to 25 kpc, *ApJ*, **871** 120 (2019)
8. P. Mróz, A. Udalski, D. M. Skowron, J. Skowron, *et al.*, Rotation Curve of the Milky Way from Classical Cepheids, *ApJL* **870**, L10 (2019)
9. H. Wang, Ž. Chrobáková, M. López-Corredoira and F. S. Labini, Mapping the Milky Way Disk with Gaia DR3: 3D Extended Kinematic Maps and Rotation Curve to  $\approx 30$  kpc, *ApJ*, **942**, 12 (2023)

10. Y. Jiao, F. Hammer, H. Wang, J. Wang, et al., Detection of the Keplerian decline in the Milky Way rotation curve, *A&A*678, A208 (2023)
11. X. Ou, A. Eilers, L. Necib and A. Frebel, The dark matter profile of the Milky Way inferred from its circular velocity curve, *MNRAS* 528, 693–710 (2024)
12. M. Roshan, N. Ghafourian, T. Kashfi, I. Banik, M. Haslbauer, et al., Fast galaxy bars continue to challenge standard cosmology, *Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society*, 508(1) 926–939 (2021)
13. F. Fragkoudi1, R. J. J. Grand, R. Pakmor, V. Springel, et al., Revisiting the tension between fast bars and the CDM paradigm, *A&A*650, L16 (2021)
14. E. M. Corsini, J. A. L. Aguerrri, Victor P. Debattista, A. Pizzella, F. D. Barazza, and H. Jerjen, The Bar Pattern Speed of Dwarf Galaxy NGC 4431, *ApJ*, 659, L121 (2007)
15. J. A. L. Aguerrri, J. Méndez-Abreu, J. Falcón-Barroso, A. Amorin, et al., Bar pattern speeds in CALIFA galaxies I. Fast bars across the Hubble sequence, *A&A*,576, A102(2015)
16. Y. Zhu, Interaction of Gravitational Field and Orbit in Sun-planet-moon system[v1] | Preprints doi: 10.20944/preprints202105.0203.v1
17. J. Kazmierczak, Discovery Alert: First Six-Star System Where All Six Stars Undergo Eclipses (2021)
18. L. Boyle and M. Cuntz, Orbital Stability of Planet-hosting Triple-star Systems according to Hill: Applications to Alpha Centauri and 16 Cygni, *Res. Notes AAS* 5, 285 (2021)
19. R. Genzel, F. Eisenhauer and S. Gillessen, The Galactic Center Massive Black Hole and Nuclear Star Cluster, *Reviews of Modern Physics*, 82.4, 3121-3195 (2010)
20. S. Issaoun, M. D. Johnson, L. Blackburn, C. D. Brinkerink, et al., The Size, Shape, and Scattering of Sagittarius A\* at 86 GHz: First VLBI with ALMA, *Astrophysical Journal*, 871, 1 (2019)
21. M.J. Reid, K.M. Menten, X.W. Zheng, A. Brunthaler, L. Moscadelli, Y. Xu, et al. Trigonometric Parallaxes of Massive Star-Forming Regions. VI. Galactic Structure, Fundamental Parameters, and Noncircular Motions. *The Astrophysical Journal*, 700, 137-148 (2009)
22. Y. Zhu,(PDF) The speed of gravity: An observation on galaxy motions (researchgate.net)
23. J. Bekenstein, Physics Crunch: Time to Discard Relativity? *NewScientist*, 217, 42(2013)
24. Y. Zhu, Gravitational Field and Mass[v2] | Preprints doi: 10.20944/preprints202109.0302.v2
25. Y. Zhu, Relativistic Mass of Gravitational Field[v1] | Preprints doi: 10.20944/preprints202112.0162.v1

**Disclaimer/Publisher's Note:** The statements, opinions and data contained in all publications are solely those of the individual author(s) and contributor(s) and not of MDPI and/or the editor(s). MDPI and/or the editor(s) disclaim responsibility for any injury to people or property resulting from any ideas, methods, instructions or products referred to in the content.