

*An improved algorithm of second order to construct  
consistent theories of equilibrium figures of rotating  
celestial bodies*

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## Abstract

One of the main problems in celestial mechanics is the study of the figure adopted by large deformable bodies in slow rotation around an axis with a constant angular velocity  $\bar{\omega}$  when they reach their equilibrium configuration. This figure corresponds to the lowest equipotential surface containing the entire mass and, in order to determine it, to calculate its potential at an arbitrary point is required.

Classical methods address this problem generally by performing a series development of the inverse-distance by using Clairaut's coordinates. These methods show convergence problems, already in first order in  $\omega^2$ , so that to avoid them they must assume no demonstrated hypotheses.

The authors of this paper warned and proved this fact in a previous work, for which they used two methods:

1. Taking into account the asymptotic properties of numeric quadrature formulas.
2. By a process similar to that used by Laplace to develop the inverse of the distance between two planets.

Thus, the authors demonstrated that, although the intermediate formulas obtained by the classical methods are wrong, the self-gravitational potential, up to first order in  $\omega^2$ , obtained with them, were coincident with the obtained by other methods.

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Now, in this paper an extension up to second order in  $\omega^2$  of the first method mentioned above is proposed. It shows rigorously that up to second order in  $\omega^2$ , the intermediate formulas obtained by the classical methods are erroneous. In addition, the correct developments, up to second order in  $\omega^2$ , of those intermediate formulas are obtained.

In spite of these discrepancies, the auto-gravitational potential, up to second order in  $\omega^2$ , obtained by the classical methods and the one obtained in this work are coincident, consequently it is proved that the classical theory is correct until second order in  $\omega^2$ .

*Keywords:* Computational Algebra. Perturbation Theory. Close binary systems. Potential theory. Spherical harmonics.  
*2000 MSC:* 70E50, 70F15, 70M20, 70G10.

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## 1. Introduction

In the following paper the study of the equilibrium configurations of a celestial body formed by a fluid mass endowed with a constant angular velocity  $\vec{\omega}$  around a fixed axis is discussed. That axis, which passes through the celestial body centre of masses  $O$  is noted as  $OZ$ .

As it is well known [4], [7], [8] the stable equilibrium configuration coincides with the minimum potential, which is equivalent to a hydrostatic equilibrium state and this implies a rigid rotation. Consequently, the equipotential, isobaric and isopycnic surfaces coincide.

Let  $OX$ ,  $OY$  be two perpendicular axes connected to the body in rotation and forming a direct trihedral  $OXYZ$ .

Let  $\Psi$ ,  $P$  and  $\rho$  be the total potential at one point, the pressure and the density at one point in the body, respectively. Then, the problem can be modeled by the Poisson equation and the hydrostatic equilibrium equation given by:

$$\Delta\Psi = 4\pi G\rho + 2\omega^2, \quad d\Psi = \rho dP. \quad (1)$$

The integration of these equations requires a state equation  $P = P(\rho)$ .

To solve the problem, either direct integration methods or the Clairaut method [6] can be used. The last method uses either the potential or other biunivocally variable determined by it as an independent variable.

In this work as Clairaut coordinates of one point of the body will be used those determined by  $(a, \theta, \lambda)$ . Variable  $a$  is defined as the radius of the  $O$  centered sphere containing the same mass as the equipotential surface containing the point and the variables  $\theta$  and  $\lambda$  are those corresponding to the spherical coordinates of the point.

The theories of deformable equilibrium figures in uniform rotation developed by Finlay [4] and Kopal [7], [8] were based on the use of Clairaut coordinates. However, these theories, as demonstrated in López [10], require for their validity the unproven Laplace desideratum [13].

To solve this problem, two algorithms were developed in [10] to approximate the problem solution to the first order in  $\omega^2$ . There it was proved that several of the expressions obtained in the works of Finlay [4] and Kopal [7], [8] are not true yet in the first order in  $\omega^2$ . In the same work it was also shown that, in spite of this detected incorrectness, the value of the obtained potential in the mentioned works is correct until first order in  $\omega^2$ . López [11] extends this technique to the case of binary closed systems obtaining correct results until first order in  $\omega^2$ .

In this work we will try to extend up to second order in  $\omega^2$  the first algorithm previously mentioned [10]. This obviously entails much more complex and extensive developments than those of first order theory.

The present section offers the general problem and the research objectives. In section 2 the classical theory corresponding to the equilibrium figures of celestial bodies in uniform rotation is presented. In Section 3, the numerical quadrature algorithm previously developed by the authors in first order [10] are extended to second order in  $\omega^2$ .

In section 4 a numerical example is presented. Although it is not directly related to the main object of this work, it can be of use to show the efficiency of the Clairaut method to deal with this type of problems.

Section 5, finally, explains the main results and conclusions of this work.

## 2. Classical Theory

Let  $M$  be a deformable isolated mass with uniform rotation around its mass center, endowed with angular velocity  $\vec{\omega}$  and whose mass distribution is given by  $\rho(x, y, z)$ . Let assume that the mass distribution function is differentiable inside of the mass.

Let  $OXYZ$  be the coordinate system associated with the body, defined as follows:

- $O$  is the mass center of the rotating body.
- $OZ$  is the axis determined by the straight line passing through  $O$  and parallel to the angular velocity vector ( $\vec{\omega}$ ) of the rotating body.
- $OX$  is a line passing through  $O$  and contained in the  $OXY$  plane so that the trihedron  $OXYZ$  is direct.

Then, the potential at an inner point whose radius vector has  $\vec{r} = (x, y, z)$  as components will be determined by the following expression:

$$\Psi = \Omega + V_c = G \int_M \frac{dm'}{\Delta} + \frac{\omega^2}{2} (x^2 + y^2) \quad (2)$$

Where  $\Omega$  is the self-gravitational potential,  $V_c$  is the centrifugal potential,  $G$  is the universal gravitational constant,  $dm'$  is the mass element of an arbitrary inner coordinate point  $(x', y', z')$  and  $\Delta$  is the distance between the coordinate points  $(x, y, z)$  and  $(x', y', z')$ .

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An inner point of the body in coordinate rotation  $(x, y, z)$  is expressed in spherical coordinates as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} x &= r \cos \theta \cos \lambda, & y &= r \cos \theta \sin \lambda, & z &= r \sin \theta. \\ r &\geq 0, & -\frac{\pi}{2} &\leq \theta \leq \frac{\pi}{2}, & 0 &\leq \lambda \leq 2\pi. \end{aligned}$$

The self-gravitational potential ( $\Omega$ ) is expressed, according to [4], [6], [7], [8], [13], through

$$\Omega = G \int_0^r \int_{-\frac{\pi}{2}}^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{\rho}{\Delta} r'^2 \cos \theta' d\lambda' d\theta' dr' + G \int_r^{r_1} \int_{-\frac{\pi}{2}}^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{\rho}{\Delta} r'^2 \cos \theta' d\lambda' d\theta' dr' \quad (3)$$

where  $r_1$  is the radius of the smallest  $O$  centered sphere containing the rotating body.

The inverse of the distance is developed as follows

$$\frac{1}{\Delta} = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{r} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{r'}{r}\right)^n P_n(\cos \gamma) & \text{if } r' < r \\ \frac{1}{r'} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{r}{r'}\right)^n P_n(\cos \gamma) & \text{if } r < r' \end{cases} \quad (4)$$

where  $\gamma$  is the angle between the radii vectors of  $\vec{r} = (r, \theta, \lambda)$  and  $\vec{r}' = (r', \theta', \lambda')$  of the points  $(x, y, z)$  and  $(x', y', z')$ , respectively, expressed in spherical coordinates and  $P_n$  are the Legendre polynomials.

Then, the self-gravitational potential can be expressed as

$$\Omega = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \{U_n r^n + V_n r^{-n-1}\} \quad (5)$$

where

$$U_n = G \int_r^{r_1} \int_0^{2\pi} \int_{-\frac{\pi}{2}}^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \rho r'^{1-n} P_n(\cos \gamma) \cos \theta' d\theta' d\lambda' dr', \quad (6)$$

$$V_n = G \int_0^r \int_0^{2\pi} \int_{-\frac{\pi}{2}}^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \rho r'^{2+n} P_n(\cos \gamma) \cos \theta' d\theta' d\lambda' dr'. \quad (7)$$

In the Clairaut coordinate system  $(a, \theta, \lambda)$   $a$  parameter is constant on each equipotential surface. In this work we have chosen the parameter  $a$  so that it is the radius of the sphere centered in  $O$  such that it has the same mass than the equipotential surface (Figure 1). The Clairaut coordinate system is related to the spherical coordinate system by the relation  $r = r(a, \theta, \lambda)$ . In consequence,

$$\begin{aligned} x &= r(a, \theta, \lambda) \cos \theta \cos \lambda \\ y &= r(a, \theta, \lambda) \cos \theta \sin \lambda \\ z &= r(a, \theta, \lambda) \sin \theta. \end{aligned} \quad (8)$$

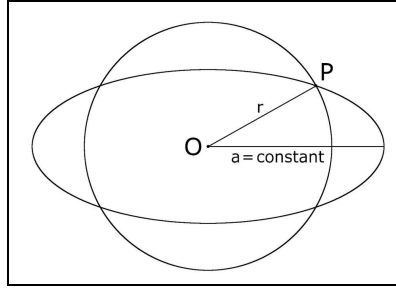


Figure 1: Sphere and equipotential surface

In the Clairaut coordinate system the radius vector  $r$  of an equipotential surface is developed ([4], [6], [7], [8]) as follows:

$$r = a \left\{ 1 + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-n}^n f_{n,m}(a) Y_{n,m}(\theta, \lambda) \right\} \quad (9)$$

where  $f_{n,m}(a)$  are the functions of amplitude and  $Y_{n,m}(\theta, \lambda)$  the spherical functions in real form [12].

For symmetry reasons, the radius vector  $r$  can be developed as follows:

$$r = a \left\{ 1 + \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} f_{2m}(a) P_{2m}(\sin \theta) \right\} \quad (10)$$

where  $P_n$  are the Legendre polynomials.

When  $\vec{\omega}$  is small (in a slow rotation case), the amplitudes  $f_{2m}(a)$  are small quantities with respect to the unit.

In order to calculate integrals (6) and (7), Finlay [4] and Kopal [8] assume that

$$U_n = \frac{G}{n-2} \int_a^{a_1} \rho \frac{\partial}{\partial a'} \int_0^{2\pi} \int_{-\frac{\pi}{2}}^{\frac{\pi}{2}} r'^{2-n} P_n(\cos \gamma) \cos \theta' d\theta' d\lambda' da', \quad n \neq 2 \quad (11)$$

$$U_2 = G \int_a^{a_1} \rho \frac{\partial}{\partial a'} \int_0^{2\pi} \int_{-\frac{\pi}{2}}^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \log r' P_2(\cos \gamma) \cos \theta' d\theta' d\lambda' da' \quad (12)$$

and

$$V_n = \frac{G}{n+3} \int_0^a \rho \frac{\partial}{\partial a'} \int_0^{2\pi} \int_{-\frac{\pi}{2}}^{\frac{\pi}{2}} r'^{n+3} P_n(\cos \gamma) \cos \theta' d\theta' d\lambda' da' \quad (13)$$

where  $a_1$  is the first root of the equation  $\rho(a) = 0$ .

To evaluate these integrals up to second order in amplitudes, the following approximations are used:

$$r^k = a^k \left[ 1 + k\Sigma + \frac{k(k-1)}{2} \Sigma^2 \right] \quad (14)$$

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$$\log r = \log a + \Sigma - \frac{1}{2}\Sigma^2 \quad (15)$$

where  $\Sigma = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} f_{2n}(a)P_{2n}$ .

To develop as a linear combination of Legendre polynomials the powers and cross products of Legendre polynomials that are obtained from the different powers of  $\Sigma$  in (14) and (15) the Adams-Newman formula [1] is used

$$P_n(x)P_m(x) = \sum_{j=0}^m \frac{A_{m-j}A_jA_{n-j}}{A_{n+m-j}} \left\{ \frac{2n+2m+1-4j}{2n+2m+1-2j} \right\} P_{n+m-2j}(x) \quad (16)$$

where  $A_j = \frac{(2j-1)!!}{j!}$ ,  $m \leq n$ .

On the other hand, taking into account the spherical harmonics addition theorem in real form

$$P_n(\cos \gamma) = \frac{4\pi}{2n+1} \sum_{m=-n}^n Y_{n,m}(\theta, \lambda) Y_{n,m}(\theta', \lambda'), \quad (17)$$

from its orthonormality and from the fact that

$$P_s(\sin \theta) = \sqrt{\frac{4\pi}{2s+1}} Y_{s,0}(\theta, \lambda) \quad (18)$$

it is obtained

$$\int_0^{2\pi} \int_{-\frac{\pi}{2}}^{\frac{\pi}{2}} P_n(\cos \gamma) P_s(\sin \theta') \cos \theta' d\theta' d\lambda' = \frac{4\pi}{2n+1} P_n(\sin \theta) \delta_{n,s} \quad (19)$$

where  $\delta_{n,s}$  is Kronecker's delta.

Consequently, from (5)-(19) and after various algebraic manipulations the self-gravitational potential can be expressed as follows:

$$\Omega = 4\pi G \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{E_n(a)r^n + F_n(a)r^{-n-1}}{2n+1} P_n(\sin \theta). \quad (20)$$

Approaching up to first order in the amplitudes we have

$$f_0(a) = 0, \quad E_0(a) = \int_a^{a_1} \rho(a)a da, \quad F_0(a) = \int_0^a \rho(a)a^2 da. \quad (21)$$

$$E_n(a) = \int_a^{a_1} \rho(a) \frac{\partial}{\partial a} [a^{2-n} f_n(a)] da \quad (22)$$

$$F_n(a) = \int_0^a \rho(a) \frac{\partial}{\partial a} [a^{n+3} f_n(a)] da.$$

In addition, the centrifugal potential  $V_c$  approximated to the first order in amplitudes is

$$V_c = \frac{1}{3}\omega^2 a^2 (1 - P_2(\cos\theta)) \quad (23)$$

resulting that total potential (2) depends only on parameter  $a$

$$\Psi(a) = \Psi_0(a), \quad \Psi_n(a) = 0 \quad ; \quad n = 1, 2, \dots \quad (24)$$

Then, from (2), (20) and (23) it is obtained

$$\Psi(a) = 4\pi G E_0(a) + 4\pi G \frac{F_0(a)}{a} + \frac{1}{3}\omega^2 a^2. \quad (25)$$

$$\frac{a^2 E_2(a)}{5} + \frac{F_2(a)}{5a^3} - \frac{F_0(a)f_2(a)}{a} = \frac{a^2}{3} \left( \frac{\omega^2}{4\pi G} \right). \quad (26)$$

$$\frac{a^n E_n(a)}{2n+1} + \frac{F_n(a)}{(2n+1)a^{2n+1}} - \frac{F_0(a)f_n(a)}{a} = 0, \quad n = 4, 6, \dots \quad (27)$$

It should be noted that in equations (25), (26) and (27) only  $f_2(a)$  is of the first order with respect to the amplitudes.

Approaching now up to second order in the amplitudes and taking into account that  $f_0(a) = -\frac{1}{5}f_2^2(a)$  [8]

$$\Psi(a) = 4\pi G \left\{ E_0(a) + \frac{F_0(a)}{a} + \frac{1}{3}\omega^2 a^2 + \frac{2}{25}a^2 f_2(a)E_2(a) - \frac{3}{25} \frac{f_2(a)F_2(a)}{a^3} \right\}. \quad (28)$$

and for  $n = 2, 4$

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{a^2 E_2(a)}{5} \left( 1 + \frac{4}{7}f_2(a) \right) + \frac{F_2(a)}{5a^3} \left( 1 - \frac{6}{7}f_2(a) \right) - \\ & - \frac{F_0(a)}{a} \left( f_2(a) - \frac{2}{7}f_2^2(a) \right) = \frac{a^2}{3} \left( \frac{\omega^2}{4\pi G} \right) \left( 1 - \frac{10}{7}f_2(a) \right). \end{aligned} \quad (29)$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{36}{35} \frac{a^2 E_2(a)}{5} f_2(a) + \frac{a^4 E_4(a)}{9} - \\ & - \frac{F_0(a)}{a} \left( f_4(a) - \frac{18}{35}f_2^2(a) \right) - \frac{54}{35} \frac{F_2(a)}{5a^2} f_2(a) + \frac{F_4(a)}{9a^5} = \frac{18}{35} \frac{\omega^2 a^2}{6\pi G} f_2(a). \end{aligned} \quad (30)$$

where

$$E_0(a) = \int_a^{a_1} \rho \frac{\partial}{\partial a} \left[ a^2 \left( \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{10}f_2^2(a) \right) \right] da. \quad (31)$$

$$E_2(a) = \int_a^{a_1} \rho \frac{\partial}{\partial a} \left[ f_2(a) - \frac{1}{7}f_2^2(a) \right] da. \quad (32)$$

$$E_4(a) = \int_a^{a_1} \rho \frac{\partial}{\partial a} \left[ \frac{1}{a^2} \left( f_4(a) - \frac{27}{35}f_2^2(a) \right) \right] da. \quad (33)$$

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$$F_0(a) = \int_0^a a^2 \rho da. \quad (34)$$

$$F_2(a) = \int_0^a \rho \frac{\partial}{\partial a} \left[ a^5 f_2(a) + \frac{4}{7} f_2^2(a) \right] da. \quad (35)$$

$$F_4(a) = \int_0^a \rho \frac{\partial}{\partial a} \left[ a^7 \left( f_4(a) + \frac{54}{35} f_2^2(a) \right) \right] da. \quad (36)$$

On the one hand, it should be noted that the assumption made by Finlay [4] and Kopal [8] about the fact that (6) and (7) are equivalent to (11), (12) and (13) respectively, is based on The Laplace desideratum which, as indicated in [13], is not a proven fact but a conjecture.

On the other hand, in [10], without making use of the Laplace desideratum, the correct development up to first order in amplitudes of  $U_n$  (6) and  $V_n$  (7) is obtained. It is worth noting that, in first order in amplitudes (6) and (7) are not equivalent to (11), (12) and (13), respectively. However, the self-gravitational potential ( $\Omega$ ), developed up to first order in amplitudes by Kopal [8] and by López [10] coincides. Then, although developments up to first order in amplitudes, of the external ( $U_n$ ) and inner potentials  $V_n$  carried out by Kopal [8] are incorrect, [10] demonstrates that the development, up to first order in amplitudes, of the self-gravitational potential ( $\Omega$ ) obtained by Kopal [8] and by López [10], is identical.

Kopal, in [8] pp 28-36, explicitly obtains the developments of  $f_2(a)$ ,  $f_4(a)$  and  $f_6(a)$ . One of the consequences derived from these developments is the proof that  $f_2(a)$  is of first order in  $\omega^2$ .

Consequently, in accordance with the above considerations, the results obtained by Kopal [8] involving the self-gravitational potential ( $\Omega$ ) and, particularly, the fact that the amplitude  $f_2(a)$  is of first order in  $\omega^2$ , are corroborated up to first order.

### 3. A consistent second order theory

Since López's [10] first-order theory in amplitudes coincides with the classical Kopal's theory [8], we can assume that the  $f_2(a)$  amplitude and its derivative  $\frac{df_2(a)}{da}$  are of first order in  $\omega^2$  and the rest of the amplitudes  $f_{2k}(a)$  and its derivatives are of orders higher than the first.

As a consequence of López's work [10] and in order to prevent confusions, the expressions (11), (12) and (13) will be denote by  $K_n$ ,  $K_2$  and  $W_n$ , respectively. That is to say,

$$K_n = \frac{G}{n-2} \int_a^{a_1} \rho \frac{\partial}{\partial a'} \int_0^{2\pi} \int_{-\frac{\pi}{2}}^{\frac{\pi}{2}} r'^{2-n} P_n(\cos \gamma) \cos \theta' d\theta' d\lambda' da', \quad n \neq 2 \quad (37)$$

$$K_2 = G \int_a^{a_1} \rho \frac{\partial}{\partial a'} \int_0^{2\pi} \int_{-\frac{\pi}{2}}^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \log r' P_n(\cos \gamma) \cos \theta' d\theta' d\lambda' da' \quad (38)$$



and

$$W_n = \frac{G}{n+3} \int_0^a \rho \frac{\partial}{\partial a'} \int_0^{2\pi} \int_{-\frac{\pi}{2}}^{\frac{\pi}{2}} r'^{n+3} P_n(\cos \gamma) \cos \theta' d\theta' d\lambda' da' \quad (39)$$

where  $a_1$  is the first root of the equation  $\rho(a) = 0$ .

To deal with the development of the self-gravitational potential  $\Omega$  up to second order in the amplitudes, we will proceed to extend up to the second order the algorithm based on the numerical quadrature in [10].

The expressions for the radii vectors  $r$  and  $r'$  of the equipotential surface containing  $dm$  and  $dm'$  are given by  $r = a(1+\Sigma)$  and  $r' = a'(1+\Sigma')$ , respectively. Let be  $(a, \theta, \lambda)$  the Clairaut coordinates of this equipotential surface in the direction  $(\theta', \lambda')$  given by  $(a(1+\Sigma)(1+\Sigma')^{-1}, \theta', \lambda')$ .

Expressing  $U_n$  (6) and  $V_n$  (7) in Clairaut's coordinates are obtained

$$U_n = \frac{G}{2-n} \int_0^{2\pi} \int_{-\frac{\pi}{2}}^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \int_{a(1+\Sigma)(1+\Sigma')^{-1}}^{a_1} \frac{\partial r'^{2-n}}{\partial a'} P_n(\cos \gamma) \rho(a') \cos \theta' da' d\theta' d\lambda', \quad (40)$$

for  $n \neq 2$

$$U_2 = G \int_0^{2\pi} \int_{-\frac{\pi}{2}}^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \int_{a(1+\Sigma)(1+\Sigma')^{-1}}^{a_1} \frac{\partial \ln r'}{\partial a'} P_2(\cos \gamma) \rho(a') \cos \theta' da' d\theta' d\lambda', \quad (41)$$

$$V_n = \frac{G}{n+3} \int_0^{2\pi} \int_{-\frac{\pi}{2}}^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \int_0^{a(1+\Sigma)(1+\Sigma')^{-1}} \frac{\partial r'^{n+3}}{\partial a'} P_n(\cos \gamma) \rho(a') \cos \theta' da' d\theta' d\lambda'. \quad (42)$$

To evaluate the integrals of the second member of 40, 41 and 42, we will proceed as follows:

Equipotential surface  $S$  containing  $P$  is defined. Let be  $(a', \theta', \lambda')$  the Clairaut coordinates of a point  $P'$  of the sphere containing  $P$ .

Then, in second order in amplitudes, we have

$$a' = a(1+\Sigma)(1+\Sigma')^{-1} \approx a + a(\Sigma - \Sigma') + a(\Sigma'^2 - \Sigma\Sigma'). \quad (43)$$

On the other hand, approaching up to second order in amplitudes, it is obtained

$$\Sigma^2 = f_2^2(a) \left( \frac{1}{5} + \frac{2}{7} P_2(\sin \theta) + \frac{18}{35} P_4(\sin \theta) \right). \quad (44)$$

$$r^j = a^j \left[ 1 + j f_0(a) + \frac{j(j-1)}{10} f_2^2(a) + \left( j f_2(a) + \frac{j(j-1)}{7} f_2^2(a) \right) P_2(\sin \theta) + \left( \frac{9j(j-1)}{35} f_2^2(a) + j f_4(a) \right) P_4(\sin \theta) + j \sum_{m=3}^{\infty} f_{2m}(a)(\sin \theta) \right]. \quad (45)$$

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$$\begin{aligned} \log r = \log a + f_0(a) - \frac{1}{10}f_2^2(a) + \left( f_2(a) - \frac{1}{7}f_2^2(a) \right) P_2(\sin \theta) + \\ + \left( f_4(a) - \frac{9}{35}f_2^2(a) \right) P_4(\sin \theta) + \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} f_{2m}(a)P_{2m}(\sin \theta). \end{aligned} \quad (46)$$

$$f_n(a') = f_n(a + a(\Sigma - \Sigma') + a(\Sigma'^2 - \Sigma\Sigma')) = f_n(a) + \frac{df_n(a)}{da} a(\Sigma - \Sigma'). \quad (47)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Sigma' = f_0(a) - \frac{1}{5}f_2(a)f_2'(a) + \left[ f_2(a) + af_2(a)f_2'(a) \left( P_2(\sin \theta) - \frac{2}{7} \right) \right] P_2(\sin \theta') + \\ + \left( f_4(a) - \frac{18}{35}af_2(a)f_2'(a) \right) P_4(\sin \theta') + \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} f_{2m}(a)P_{2m}(\sin \theta'). \end{aligned} \quad (48)$$

$$\Sigma'^2 = \frac{1}{5}f_2^2(a) + \frac{2}{7}f_2^2(a)P_2(\sin \theta') + \frac{18}{35}f_2^2(a)P_4(\sin \theta'). \quad (49)$$

$$\Sigma\Sigma' = f_2^2(a)P_2(\sin \theta)P_2(\sin \theta'). \quad (50)$$

We define  $S_1 = \Sigma - \Sigma'$  y  $S_2 = \Sigma'^2 - \Sigma\Sigma'$ . Operating up to second order in the amplitudes, it is obtained

$$S_1 = f_2(a) (P_2(\sin \theta) - P_2(\sin \theta')). \quad (51)$$

$$\begin{aligned} S_2 = \frac{1}{5} \left( f_2^2(a) + af_2(a)f_2'(a) \right) + f_4(a)P_4(\sin \theta) + \left( \frac{2}{7}f_2^2(a) - f_2^2(a)P_2(\sin \theta) + \right. \\ \left. + \frac{2}{7}af_2(a)f_2'(a) - af_2(a)f_2'(a)P_2(\sin \theta) \right) P_2(\sin \theta') + \left( \frac{18}{35}f_2^2(a) - f_4(a) + \right. \\ \left. + \frac{18}{35}af_2(a)f_2'(a) \right) P_4(\sin \theta') + \sum_{m=3}^{\infty} f_{2m}(a) (P_{2m}(\sin \theta) - P_{2m}(\sin \theta')). \end{aligned} \quad (52)$$

To evaluate (40) we will proceed as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{a(1+\Sigma)(1+\Sigma')^{-1}}^{a_1} \rho(a') \frac{\partial r'^{2-n}}{\partial a'} da' = \int_{a+aS_1+aS_2}^{a_1} \rho(a') \frac{\partial r'^{2-n}}{\partial a'} da' = \\ = \int_a^{a_1} \rho(a') \frac{\partial r'^{2-n}}{\partial a'} da' + \int_{a+aS_1}^a \rho(a') \frac{\partial r'^{2-n}}{\partial a'} da' + \int_{a+aS_1+aS_2}^{a+aS_1} \rho(a') \frac{\partial r'^{2-n}}{\partial a'} da'. \end{aligned} \quad (53)$$

Approximating up to second order in amplitudes the second integral of the second member of (53), by means of the numerical integration method of by means of the numerical integration of the trapezoid first order method, we obtain

$$\int_{a+aS_1}^a \rho(a') \frac{\partial r'^{2-n}}{\partial a'} da' = \frac{aS_1}{2} \left( \rho(a) \frac{\partial r'^{2-n}}{\partial a'} \Big|_{a'=a} + \rho(a+aS_1) \frac{\partial r'^{2-n}}{\partial a'} \Big|_{a'=a+aS_1} \right). \quad (54)$$

Since  $S_1$  is of the first order in amplitudes, it is developed  $\frac{\partial r'^{2-n}}{\partial a'}$  and  $\rho(a + aS_1)$  up to first order, taking into account that, in first order,  $f_2(a') = f_2(a)$  and  $f_2'(a') = f_2'(a)$ .

$$\left. \frac{\partial r'^{2-n}}{\partial a'} \right|_{a'=a} = (2-n)a^{1-n} [1 + ((2-n)f_2(a) + af_2'(a)) P_2(\sin \theta')] \quad (55)$$

$$\rho(a + aS_1) = \rho(a) + aS_1\rho'(a) \quad (56)$$

then

$$\begin{aligned} \rho(a) \left. \frac{\partial r'^{2-n}}{\partial a'} \right|_{a'=a} &= (2-n)a^{1-n} \rho(a) [1 + ((2-n)f_2(a) + af_2'(a)) P_2(\sin \theta')]. \\ \rho(a + aS_1) \left. \frac{\partial r'^{2-n}}{\partial a'} \right|_{a'=a+aS_1} &= (2-n)a^{1-n} \rho(a) [1 + (1-n)S_1 + \\ &+ ((2-n)f_2(a) + af_2'(a)) P_2(\sin \theta')] + (2-n)a^{2-n} S_1\rho'(a). \end{aligned} \quad (57)$$

Substituting 57 in 54 and operating

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{a+aS_1}^a \rho(a') \frac{\partial r'^{2-n}}{\partial a'} da' &= -(2-n)a^{2-n} \rho(a) \left[ -\frac{1}{5} f_2^2(a) - \frac{1}{5} a f_2(a) f_2'(a) + \right. \\ &+ \left( f_2(a) + \frac{1-n}{7} f_2^2(a) \right) P_2(\sin \theta) + \frac{9(n-1)}{35} f_2^2(a) P_4(\sin \theta) + \\ &+ \left( -f_2(a) - \frac{3}{7} f_2^2(a) + \frac{n}{7} f_2^2(a) + f_2^2(a) P_2(\sin \theta) - \frac{2}{7} a f_2(a) f_2'(a) + a f_2(a) f_2'(a) P_2(\sin \theta) \right) \\ &\cdot P_2(\sin \theta') + \left( \frac{-27}{35} f_2^2(a) + \frac{9n}{35} f_2^2(a) - \frac{18}{35} a f_2(a) f_2'(a) \right) P_4(\sin \theta') - \\ &- (2-n)a^{1-n} \rho'(a) f_2^2(a) \left[ \frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{7} P_2(\sin \theta) + \frac{9}{35} P_4(\sin \theta) + \left( \frac{1}{7} - P_2(\sin \theta) \right) P_2(\sin \theta') + \right. \\ &\left. + \frac{9}{35} P_4(\sin \theta') \right], \quad \text{for } n \neq 2. \end{aligned} \quad (58)$$

To evaluate the third integral of (53) to second order in the amplitudes we will use the rectangle method

$$\int_{a+aS_1+aS_2}^{a+aS_1} \rho(a') \frac{\partial r'^{2-n}}{\partial a'} da' = -aS_2\rho(a) \left. \frac{\partial r'^{2-n}}{\partial a'} \right|_{a'=\xi} \quad (59)$$

where  $\xi \in [a + aS_1, a + aS_1 + aS_2]$ .

Thus, approaching up to second order, we obtain

$$\int_{a+aS_1+aS_2}^{a+aS_1} \rho(a') \frac{\partial r'^{2-n}}{\partial a'} da' = -(2-n)a^{2-n} \rho(a) S_2, \quad \text{for } n \neq 2. \quad (60)$$

Consequently, from (37), (40), (52), (53) and (58), it is obtained

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$$\begin{aligned}
U_0 = K_0 - 4\pi G a^2 \left\{ \rho(a) \left[ \left( f_2(a) + \frac{1}{7} f_2^2(a) \right) P_2(\sin \theta) + \right. \right. \\
\left. \left. + \left( \frac{9}{35} f_2^2(a) + f_4(a) \right) P_4(\sin \theta) \right] + \right. \\
\left. + \rho'(a) a f_2^2(a) \left[ \frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{7} P_2(\sin \theta) + \frac{9}{35} P_4(\sin \theta) \right] \right\}. \quad (61)
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
U_2 = K_2 - \frac{4\pi G}{5} \left\{ \rho(a) \left( \frac{1}{7} f_2^2(a) - f_2(a) \right) P_2(\sin \theta) - \right. \\
\left. - \rho'(a) a f_2^2(a) \left( \frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{7} P_2(\sin \theta) + \frac{18}{35} P_4(\sin \theta) \right) \right\}. \quad (62)
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
U_4 = K_4 - \frac{4\pi G}{9} a^{-2} \left\{ \rho(a) \left( \frac{27}{35} f_2^2(a) - f_4(a) \right) P_4(\sin \theta) + \right. \\
\left. + \rho'(a) \frac{9}{35} a f_2^2(a) P_4(\sin \theta) \right\}. \quad (63)
\end{aligned}$$

$$U_{2n} = K_{2n}, \quad n \geq 3. \quad (64)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
V_0 = W_0 + 4\pi G a^3 \left\{ \rho(a) \left[ \left( f_2(a) + \frac{2}{7} f_2^2(a) \right) P_2(\sin \theta) + \right. \right. \\
\left. \left. + \left( f_4(a) + \frac{18}{35} f_2^2(a) \right) P_4(\sin \theta) \right] + \right. \\
\left. + \rho'(a) a f_2^2(a) \left( \frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{7} P_2(\sin \theta) + \frac{9}{35} P_4(\sin \theta) \right) \right\}. \quad (65)
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
V_2 = W_2 + \frac{4\pi G}{5} a^5 f_2(a) \left\{ \rho(a) \left( -1 - \frac{4}{7} f_2(a) \right) - \right. \\
\left. - \rho'(a) a f_2(a) \left( \frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{7} P_2(\sin \theta) + \frac{18}{35} P_4(\sin \theta) \right) \right\}. \quad (66)
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
V_4 = W_4 + \frac{4\pi G}{9} a^7 \left\{ \rho(a) \left( -f_4(a) - \frac{54}{35} f_2^2(a) \right) P_4(\sin \theta) + \right. \\
\left. + \frac{9}{35} \rho'(a) a f_2^2(a) P_4(\sin \theta) \right\}. \quad (67)
\end{aligned}$$

$$V_{2n} = W_{2n}, \quad n \geq 3. \quad (68)$$

Taking into account (45) y (61)-(68); and then approaching up to second order in amplitudes the terms of  $\Omega$  (5), it is obtained:

$$U_0 + V_0 r^{-1} = K_0 + W_0 r^{-1} - 4\pi G a^2 \rho(a) f_2^2(a) \left( \frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{7} P_2(\sin \theta) + \frac{9}{35} P_4(\sin \theta) \right). \quad (69)$$

$$U_2 r^2 + V_2 r^{-3} = K_2 r^2 + W_2 r^{-3} + \frac{4\pi G}{5} a^2 \rho(a) f_2^2(a) \left( 1 + \frac{5}{7} P_2(\sin \theta) + \frac{18}{7} P_4(\sin \theta) \right). \quad (70)$$

$$U_4 r^4 + V_4 r^{-5} = K_4 r^4 + W_4 r^{-5} - \frac{36\pi G}{35} a^2 \rho(a) f_2^2(a) P_4(\sin \theta). \quad (71)$$

$$U_n r^n + V_n r^{-1-n} = K_n r^n + W_n r^{-1-n} \quad \text{for } n > 4. \quad (72)$$

Consequently, from (5) and (69)-(72)

$$\Omega = K_0 + W_0 r^{-1} + K_2 r^2 + W_2 r^{-3} + K_4 r^4 + W_4 r^{-5} + \sum_{m=3}^{\infty} \left( K_{2m} r^{2m} + W_{2m} r^{-(2m+1)} \right). \quad (73)$$

That is, even if  $U_n \neq K_n$ ,  $U_2 \neq K_2$  and  $V_n \neq W_n$ , as was just verified in (64), (62) and (68), it is proved that, up to second order in the amplitudes, the development of the self-gravitational potential ( $\Omega$ ) obtained by classical methods [8], coincides with the development calculated in this work (73).

Therefore, the method used in this section has permitted us to prove that the classical self-gravitational potential theory is correct up to second order.

#### 4. Numerical example

In order to illustrate the efficiency of the Clairaut method, our proposal is to study, from a numerical point of view, the behavior of a radiative Sun-type star in slow rotation. To do this, we have first chosen as a state equation the polytrope model of order  $n = 3$ , a very appropriate model in this case [2], [3], [9]. A very wide-ranging modern study of polytropic models can be found in [5].

A polytrope of order  $n$  is characterized by the equation of state

$$P = K \rho^{1+\frac{1}{n}}, \quad (74)$$

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where  $P$  represents the pressure in an inner point,  $\rho$  is the density and  $K$  is a constant depending on the polytrope mass. If central density is represented by  $\rho_c$ , total potential by  $\Psi$ , total central potential  $\Psi_c$  and the next variable changes are done, then

$$\Theta = \frac{\Psi}{\Psi_c}, \quad \rho = \rho_c \Theta^n, \quad (75)$$

and

$$r = \left[ \frac{(n+1)K}{4\pi G} \rho_c^{\frac{1}{n}-1} \right]^{1/2} \xi \quad (76)$$

For a Sun-type star with  $\nu = 5.0 \cdot 10^{-3}$  we have  $K = 3.84116 \cdot 10^{14}$ ,  $\rho_c = 7.6309278 \cdot 10^4 \text{Kg/m}^3$ .

For the specific case of an isolated mass at rest and therefore with spherical symmetry, the classic Lane-Emden equation is satisfied.

$$\frac{1}{\xi^2} \frac{d}{d\xi} \left( \xi^2 \frac{d\Theta}{d\xi} \right) + \Theta^n = 0, \quad (77)$$

with the initial conditions  $\Theta(0) = 1$  y  $\left. \frac{d\Theta}{d\xi} \right|_{\xi=0} = 0$ .

In the case of equilibrium configurations of polytropic mass in uniform slow rotation with small angular velocity  $\vec{\omega}$ , Kopal [9] demonstrates that by using the previously defined Clairaut coordinates and defining  $a$  as

$$a = \left[ \frac{(n+1)K}{4\pi G} \rho_c^{\frac{1}{n}-1} \right]^{1/2} \xi, \quad (78)$$

the disturbed Lane-Emden equation is verified. It is expressed as:

$$\frac{1}{\xi^2} \frac{d}{d\xi} \left( \xi^2 \frac{d\Theta}{d\xi} \right) + \Theta^n = \nu, \quad (79)$$

where  $\nu$  is a little parameter given by

$$\nu = \frac{\omega^2}{2\pi G \rho_c}. \quad (80)$$

A method proposed by Kopal to solve this problem consist of approximating  $\Theta(\xi) = \Theta_0(\xi) + \nu \varphi(\xi)$  so that substituting in (79) is obtained

$$\frac{1}{\xi^2} \frac{d}{d\xi} \left( \xi^2 \frac{d\Theta_0}{d\xi} \right) + \Theta_0 = 0, \quad (81)$$

$$\frac{1}{\xi^2} \frac{d}{d\xi} \left( \xi^2 \frac{d\varphi}{d\xi} \right) + n\Theta_0^{n-1}\varphi = 1, \quad (82)$$

with the initial conditions  $\Theta_0(0) = 1$ ,  $\Theta_0'(0) = 0$ ,  $\varphi(0) = 0$ ,  $\varphi'(0) = 0$ .

To obtain the functions of amplitude  $f_0(a)$ ,  $f_2(a)$  and  $f_4(a)$  or their equivalents in the variable  $\xi$ , it is only needed to take into account [9] that up to the second order of disturbance equation (83) is fulfilled

$$\begin{aligned} \xi^2 f_2'' + 6D(\xi f_2') - 6f_2 = & \frac{2}{7} [2(\xi f_2')^2 + 9\xi f_2' f_2 - 9D((\xi f_2')^2 + 18\xi f_2' f_2)] + \\ & + 6\nu \frac{\rho_c}{\bar{\rho}} (1 - D)(\xi f_2' + f_2), \end{aligned} \quad (83)$$

where  $D = \frac{\bar{p}}{\rho}$

$$\xi^2 f_4'' + 6D(\xi f_4') - 20f_4 = \frac{18}{35} [1(\xi f_4')^2 + 4f_4' f_4 - 3D(3(\xi f_4')^2 + 6\xi f_4' f_4 + 7f_4^2)], \quad (84)$$

functions  $f_2$ ,  $f_4$  satisfy at the origin  $f_2'(0) = f_4'(0) = 0$ . To complete the system it is required that the boundary conditions are satisfied on the surface given by  $\xi = \xi_1$

$$2f_2 + \xi_1 f_2' + \frac{5}{2} \frac{\rho_c}{\rho_m} \nu = (\xi_1 f_2' + 5f_2) \frac{\rho_c}{\rho_m} \nu + \frac{2}{7} ((\xi_1 f_2')^2 + 3\xi_1 f_2' f_2 + 6f_2^2), \quad (85)$$

$$4f_4 + \xi_1 f_4' = \frac{18}{35} ((\xi_1 f_2')^2 + 5\xi_1 f_2' f_2 + 6f_2^2), \quad (86)$$

where  $\rho_m = \bar{\rho}(\xi_1)$ . For a  $n = 3$  polytrope is verified

$$\frac{\rho_c}{\bar{\rho}} = -\frac{\xi}{3\Theta'(\xi)}, \quad D = -\frac{\xi\Theta^3(\xi)}{3\Theta'(\xi)}. \quad (87)$$

The above equations have been integrated by a fourth-order classical Runge-Kutta method. Note first that equations (81), (82) can be integrated separately; secondly, equations (81), (82), (83) must be integrated by transforming the last one in a system and applying then the shooting method starting from  $f_2(0) = k_2$  with the aim of determine  $k_2$ , taking into account the contour condition. Note that all the appearing equations have singularities in the origin, so the first step is solved by an analytical approach by using a series development of order greater than four, with which

$$\Theta_0(\xi) = 1 - \frac{1}{6}\xi^2 + \frac{1}{40}\xi^4 - \frac{57}{15120}\xi^6, \quad (88)$$

$$\varphi(\xi) = \frac{1}{6}\xi^2 - \frac{1}{40}\xi^4 + \frac{29}{5040}\xi^6, \quad (89)$$

$$D(\xi) = 1 - \frac{1}{5}\xi^2 + \frac{16}{525}\xi^4 - \frac{6889}{378000}\xi^6, \quad (90)$$

this last expression can be improved by including the effect of  $\nu$  although the differences are small.

$$f_2(\xi) = k_2 \left( 1 + \frac{3}{35}\xi^2 + \frac{11}{3150}\xi^4 + \frac{36277}{29106000}\xi^6 \right), \quad (91)$$

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Once the contour problem for  $f_2$  has been solved by the shooting method it results that  $k_2 = -0.0108448202$ . Finally, for  $f_4$ , taking into account that the roots of the indicial equation corresponding to the homogeneous case are 2 and  $-7$  and that the last solution must be discarded for continuity reasons, we have that in the solution in the origin neighborhood a constant  $k_4$  appears that multiplies the solution of the homogeneous equation and a particular solution in which  $\xi^2$  does not appear. The value of  $k_4$  must be determined by a shooting method from the boundary condition (86). So for  $f_4$ , around the origin,

$$f_4(\xi) = k_4 \xi^2 \left( 1 + \frac{9}{55} \xi^2 + \frac{417}{50050} \xi^4 \right) + k_2^2 \left( \frac{27}{35} - \frac{764}{67375} \xi^4 + \frac{3337}{1715000} \xi^6 \right). \quad (92)$$

Consequently, the constant  $k_4 = 0.0000171755493$ .

The  $f_0(\xi)$  value is given by  $f_0(a) = -\frac{1}{5} f_2^2(a)$ . The values corresponding to the system complete integration are shown in table 1.

Table 1: Lane-Emden and amplitude functions

$\xi$	$\Theta(\xi)$	$f_0(\xi)$	$f_2(\xi)$	$f_4(\xi)$
0.00000000	0.00000000	-0.00002352	-0.01084482	0.00009073
0.50000000	0.96003962	-0.00002454	-0.01107794	0.00009632
1.00000000	0.85578950	-0.00002790	-0.01181207	0.00011336
1.50000000	0.72096963	-0.00003448	-0.01313013	0.00014837
2.00000000	0.58520132	-0.00004609	-0.01518116	0.00021261
2.50000000	0.46453422	-0.00006608	-0.01817675	0.00032823
3.00000000	0.36393176	-0.00010028	-0.02239208	0.00053589
3.50000000	0.28257843	-0.00015861	-0.02816132	0.00090752
4.00000000	0.21758425	-0.00025728	-0.03586674	0.00156510
4.50000000	0.16578685	-0.00042176	-0.04592144	0.00270525
5.00000000	0.12442065	-0.00069025	-0.05874724	0.00462793
5.50000000	0.09126848	-0.00111756	-0.07475143	0.00776564
6.00000000	0.06461915	-0.00177878	-0.09430760	0.01270961
6.50000000	0.04317173	-0.00277283	-0.11774612	0.02023172
7.00000000	0.02593953	-0.00422587	-0.14535938	0.03130743
7.50000000	0.01216984	-0.00629589	-0.17742447	0.04715251
8.00000000	0.00128132	-0.00918015	-0.21424465	0.06929642
8.06782269	0.00000000	-0.00964704	-0.21962518	0.07288721

## 5. Concluding Remarks

The study of equilibrium configurations of celestial bodies in uniform rotation by using the classical methods of Finlay and Kopal requires admitting the equality of expressions  $U_n$ ,  $U_2$ ,  $V_n$  (11), (12), (13) with their homologs  $K_n$ ,  $K_2$ ,  $W_n$  (37), (38), (39), respectively.



In this work, the study of the equilibrium configurations of celestial bodies in uniform rotation is discussed, regardless of the two previous considerations. The method followed in this study consists of extending up to second order in  $\omega^2$  the algorithm of numerical quadrature referenced in [10].

This algorithm is based on the second-order approximation in  $\omega^2$  of the expressions  $U_n$  and  $K_n$  for  $n = 0, 2, 4$  by an appropriate numerical quadrature technique.

With the application of this algorithm it is shown that, up to second order in  $\omega^2$ ,  $V_0 \neq W_0$ ,  $V_2 \neq W_2$ ,  $U_0 \neq K_0$ ,  $U_2 \neq K_2$ ,  $V_4 \neq W_4$ ,  $U_4 \neq K_4$ .

In spite of the previous inequalities, by means of this algorithm has been proved that the development of the self-gravitational potential obtained in the classical theory up to second order in  $\omega^2$ , coincides with the one obtained in this work.

This is so because the terms of the inner potential  $V_n$  developments and those of the outer potential  $U_n$  that differ from those of  $W_n$  and  $K_n$ , respectively, cancel one another when they are added to obtain the self-gravitational potential.

As has been shown in this work, as in [10] and [11], moving from a first order theory to a second order theory supposes a considerable increase in algorithmic complexity. Consequently, the number of calculations required to evaluate potentials beyond the second order is so large that it is extremely difficult to address them. All this reasons lead us to conjecture that the method exposed in this work are extendable to orders above the second.

Finally, to show the efficiency of Clairaut's method, we have proceeded to implement a numerical example using for that a radiative star of one solar mass with slow rotation. As is common in these cases, an index 3 polytrope has been used to model the problem.

The integration of the model has shown two difficulties being the first one due to the existence of a singular point at the origin and the second one caused the boundary conditions are canceled at the origin.

The first difficulty has been overcome by using analytical series developments, of greater degree than the numerical method used, around the origin.

The second difficulty has been solved by applying the shooting method.

In short, results shown in table 1 are consistent with the example used in this work.

## Acknowledges

This work has been partially supported by grant 16I358.01/1 of University Jaume I of Castellón.

**Conflict of interest** The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest with regard to this work.

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