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Galactic archaeology in action space ROBYN SANDERSON, MIT —

Working in action space offers an instructive alternative view of the process of hierarchical assembly in galaxies, but performing the necessary canonical transformation formally requires both complete phase space information of a stellar population and knowledge of the correct galactic potential, neither of which is generally available. I use the approximate-action method pioneered by MacMillan and Binney (2008) to examine the remnant of a late-time merger in M31, which was modeled by Fardal et al. (2007).

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