Made-to-measure and dynamical modeling

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The goal of dynamical modeling is to determine the distribution of stellar orbits and the gravitational potential of a stellar system from observational data. The made-tomeasure (M2M) particle technique is a promising new method towards achieving these goals. In principle, it is not restricted by symmetry assumptions, and the gravitational potential from the stars can evolve together with their orbit distribution on the fly. In this talk I will review the current variants of the M2M technique, and show some recent M2M modeling results for elliptical galaxies and for disks containing rotating bars, such as the Milky Way bulge. These will illustrate both the promise of the M2M method and some of the problems that still need to be solved.