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Zanazzi, John Warped Protoplanetary Disks

The stability of a protoplanetary disk is essential for the formation of planetary and exoplanetary systems. Therefore, understanding what astrophysical situations support a stable protoplanetary disk is relevant to our understanding of how planetary systems form and evolve. In particular, the stability of a disk being warped by some external torque has been questioned for many situations involving protoplanetary disks. In my poster session, we will discuss the observed properties of a number of different astrophysical systems, then discuss the astrophysical system which is the focus of our work: a protoplanetary disc surrounding an oblate star with a distant binary companion.