

## **Dynamics of the Milky Way Bulge**

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Bulges are commonly believed to form in the dynamical violence of galaxy collisions and mergers. However, recent observations of stellar kinematics in the Galactic bulge indicate that the bulge appears to be a bar seen somewhat end-on. I review how simple but realistic N-body models of the Galaxy can self-consistently develop a bar. The bar immediately buckles and thickens in the vertical direction. As seen from the Sun, the result resembles the boxy bulge of our Galaxy. The model fits the recent stellar kinematic data covering the whole bulge strikingly well with no need for a merger-made classical bulge. Our model also reveals an intriguing vertical X-shaped structure that resembles the similar structure reported recently in the Galactic bulge. The existence of the vertical X-shaped structure also suggests that the formation of the Milky Way bulge is shaped mainly by internal disk dynamical instabilities.