

Solution: HW 1

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Problem 1:

1a.

The star has density profile $\rho(r) = \rho_c(1 - r/R)$. The total mass (M) must be

$$M = m(R) = \int_0^R 4\pi R^2 \rho(r) dr \quad (1)$$

$$= \int_0^R 4\pi R^2 \rho_c (1 - r/R) dr \quad (2)$$

$$= 4\pi R^3 \rho_c \int_0^1 x^2 (1 - x) dx \quad (3)$$

$$= 4\pi R^3 \rho_c (1/3 - 1/4) \quad (4)$$

$$= \frac{\pi}{3} R^3 \rho_c \quad (5)$$

Therefore,

$$\boxed{\rho_c = \frac{3M}{\pi R^3}} \quad (6)$$

1b.

From the hydrostatic equilibrium equation, $\frac{dP}{dr} = \frac{-Gm(r)\rho(r)}{r^2}$, we can determine the pressure profile, $p(r)$. First we need the mass enclosed within

radius r .

$$m(r) = 4\pi \int_0^r \rho(r)r^2 dr = 4\pi\rho_c \left(\frac{r^3}{3} - \frac{r^4}{4R} \right) \quad (7)$$

Thus, we get for the pressure (integrating from $r = r$ to $r = R$, where $p(R) = 0$),

$$p(r) = \int_r^R \frac{4\pi G \rho_c^2}{r^2} \left(\frac{r^3}{3} - \frac{r^4}{4R} \right) \left(1 - \frac{r}{R} \right) dr \quad (8)$$

$$= \frac{36GM^2}{\pi R^4} \int_{r/R}^1 \left(\frac{x}{3} - \frac{x^2}{4} - \frac{x^2}{3} + \frac{x^3}{4} \right) dx \quad (9)$$

$$= \frac{36GM^2}{\pi R^4} \left[\frac{x^2}{6} - \frac{7x^3}{36} + \frac{x^4}{16} \right]_{x=r/R}^{x=1} \quad (10)$$

$$= \frac{5GM^2}{4\pi R^4} \left[1 - \frac{4}{5} \left(6x^2 - 7x^3 + \frac{9x^4}{4} \right) \right] \quad (11)$$

therefore, $p(r) = p_c f(x)$ where $p_c = \frac{5GM^2}{4\pi R^4} = 4.4 \times 10^{15} \frac{(M/M_\odot)^2}{(R/R_\odot)^4}$ dyne cm^{-2} and $f(x) = 1 - \frac{4}{5} \left(6x^2 - 7x^3 + \frac{9x^4}{4} \right)$. Note that this value of p_c is much smaller than the Sun's central pressure, 2.4×10^{17} dyne cm^{-2} , since the Sun is much more centrally concentrated.

1c.

From the ideal gas EOS,

$$p = nkT = \frac{\rho}{m_p \mu} kT \quad (12)$$

where n is the particle number density, m_p is the proton mass, and $\mu \approx 0.6$ is the mean molecular weight (HK 1.52). Thus, evaluating the temperature at the center of the star, T_c ,

$$T_c = \frac{m_p \mu p_c}{k \rho_c} \quad (13)$$

$$= \frac{m_p \mu 5GM^2 \pi R^3}{k 4\pi R^4 3M} \quad (14)$$

$$= \frac{5m_p \mu GM}{12kR} \quad (15)$$

$$\boxed{T_c = 5 \times 10^6 \frac{(M/M_\odot)}{(R/R_\odot)} \text{K}} \quad (16)$$

which is about a third of the actual solar value.

1d.

The radiation pressure at the center is $p_\gamma = \frac{1}{3}aT_c^4$. Plugging in T_c from 1c yields $p_\gamma = 2.8 \times 10^{12} \frac{(M/M_\odot)^4}{(R/R_\odot)^4}$ dyne cm^{-2} . Therefore,

$$\frac{p_\gamma}{p_{gas}} = 6.3 \times 10^{-4} \left(\frac{M}{M_\odot} \right)^2 \quad (17)$$

So the gas pressure dominates as long as $M < 40M_\odot$. Heavier stars with this density profile will be radiation pressure dominated in their cores.

1e.

The gravitational binding energy is (HK 1.6)

$$\Omega = - \int_0^M \frac{Gm(r)}{r} dm \quad (18)$$

$$= - \int_0^R \frac{Gm(r)}{r} 4\pi\rho_c \left(1 - \frac{r}{R}\right) r^2 dr \quad (19)$$

$$= - (4\pi\rho_c)^2 G \int_0^R \left(\frac{r^3}{3} - \frac{r^4}{4R} \right) \left(1 - \frac{r}{R}\right) r dr \quad (20)$$

$$= - \frac{144GM^2}{R} \int_0^1 \left(\frac{x^4}{3} - \frac{x^5}{3} - \frac{x^5}{4} + \frac{x^6}{4} \right) dx \quad (21)$$

$$= - \frac{144GM^2}{R} \left[\frac{1}{15} - \frac{1}{18} - \frac{1}{24} + \frac{1}{28} \right] \quad (22)$$

$$\boxed{\Omega = - \frac{26GM^2}{35R}} \quad (23)$$

The stellar kinetic energy is (HK 1.20)

$$K = \frac{3}{2} \int \frac{p(r)}{\rho(r)} dm \quad (24)$$

$$= \frac{3}{2} \int_0^R p(r) 4\pi r^2 dr \quad (25)$$

$$= \frac{6GM^2}{R} \int_0^1 \left(\frac{5x^2}{4} - 6x^4 + 7x^5 - \frac{9x^6}{4} \right) dx \quad (26)$$

So, $K = \frac{13GM^2}{35R}$, as is expected from the virial theorem, $K = -\frac{1}{2}\Omega$. Note that this result is fully general and independent of the EOS.

Problem 2:

The radiant flux received from the Sun is the Solar luminosity divided by the surface area over which it is spread:

$$F = \frac{L_{\odot}}{4\pi a_{\oplus}^2} \quad (27)$$

where the Solar luminosity is calculated from

$$L_{\odot} = 4\pi R_{\odot}^2 \sigma T_{\text{eff}}^4 \quad (28)$$

Combining the two expressions gives

$$F = \sigma T_{\text{eff}}^4 \left(\frac{R_{\odot}}{a_{\oplus}} \right)^2 \quad (29)$$

We note that R_{\odot}/a_{\oplus} is the angular radius of the Sun, so the above gives the effective temperature in terms of given quantities:

$$T_{\text{eff}} = \left(\frac{F}{\sigma \theta_{\odot}^2} \right)^{1/4} \quad (30)$$

Plugging in the given values reveals

$$\boxed{T_{\text{eff}} = 5800 \text{ K}} \quad (31)$$

Problem 3:

The total energy of a star of mass M and radius R with the density profile in problem 1 is $E_{tot} = \Omega + K = -1.41 \times 10^{48} \frac{(M/M_\odot)^2}{(R/R_\odot)} \text{erg}$. Now, if the star has a surface temperature T_{eff} , it radiates energy at a rate of $L = 4\pi R^2 \sigma T_{eff}^4 = 1.35 \times 10^{32} \left(\frac{R}{R_\odot}\right)^2 \text{erg/s}$.

Now, suppose the star begins with a very large radius and then contracts at a constant mass while radiating energy. We then have,

$$L = -\frac{dE_{tot}}{dt} = \frac{E_{tot}dR}{Rdt} \quad (32)$$

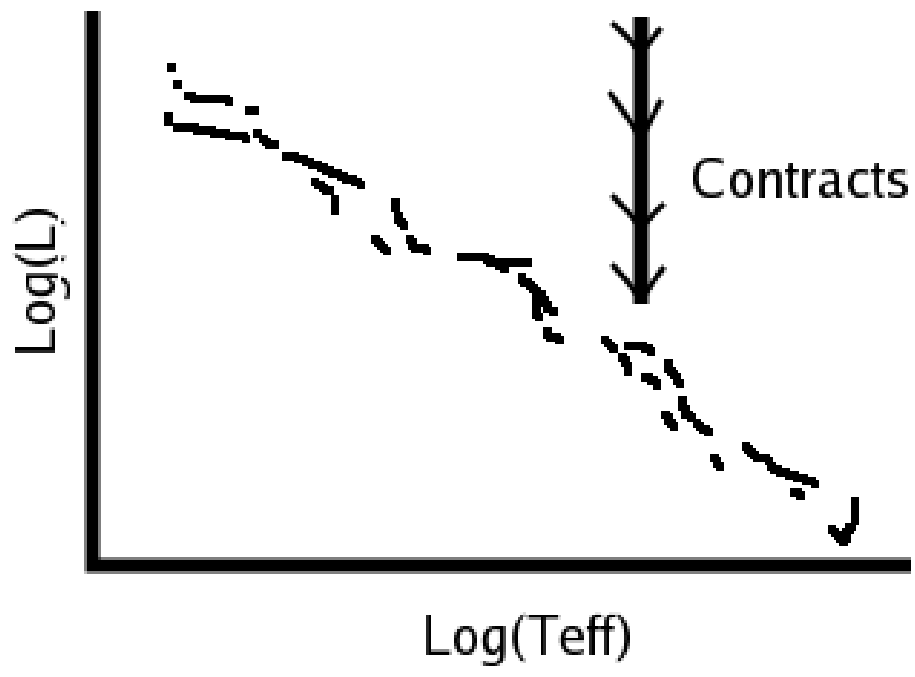
Plugging in, and letting $x = \frac{R}{R_\odot}$

$$dt = \frac{3.8 \times 10^{48} dx}{1.35 \times 10^{32} x^4} \quad (33)$$

$$t = 2.81 \times 10^{16} \int_1^\infty \frac{dx}{x^4} \text{ sec} \quad (34)$$

$$\boxed{t = 3.0 \times 10^8 \text{ years}} \quad (35)$$

Therefore, if the star contracts at constant T_{eff} with $L \propto T_{eff}^4 R^2$, then it begins very luminous and then becomes fainter as it contracts. We thus have the following HR diagram:



Problem 4:

The period P is defined as $P = 2R/v_s$ where the sounds speed v_s is given by $v_s^2 = \Gamma_1 \frac{p}{\rho}$ and $\Gamma_1 = \left(\frac{d \ln p}{d \ln \rho} \right)_{ad}$.

From the virial theorem we know $\Omega \approx GM^2/R$, so

$$\Omega = 3 \int \frac{p}{\rho} dm = 3 \int \frac{v_s^2}{\Gamma_1} dm \quad (36)$$

$$\approx 3 \frac{v_s^2}{\Gamma_1} M \quad (37)$$

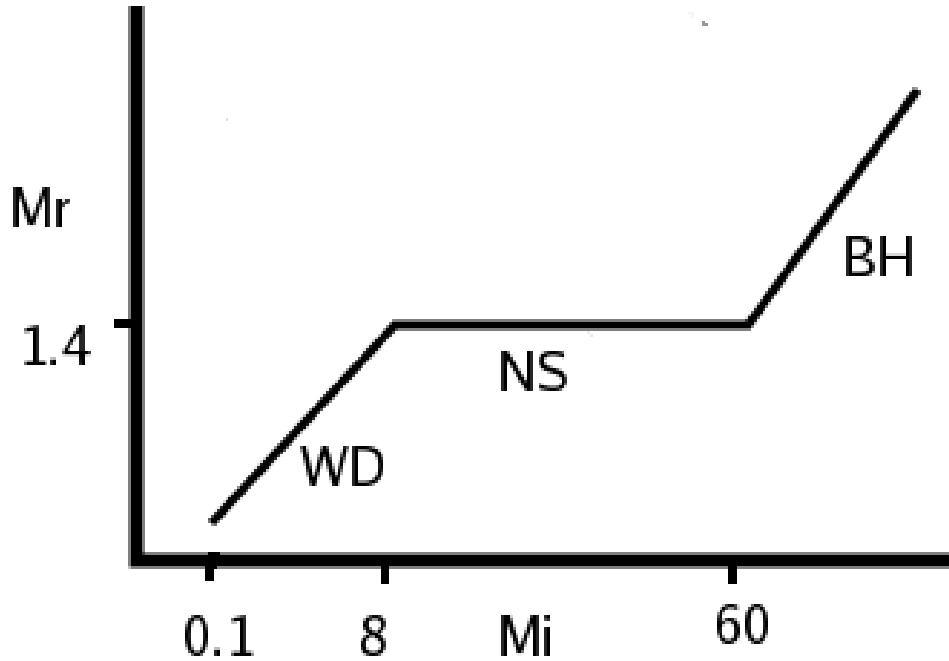
$$\text{so we know } 3 \frac{v_s^2}{\Gamma_1} M \approx \frac{GM^2}{R} \quad (38)$$

Thus we plug in the expression for v_s and solve for P and find $P \sim \left(\frac{GM}{R^3} \right)^{-1/2} \sim (G\bar{\rho})^{-1/2} \sim \boxed{0.02 (\bar{\rho}/\bar{\rho}_\odot)^{-1/2} \text{ days}}$. It is useful to remember that this is about an hour for the sun.

Now, $P \propto \bar{\rho}^{-1/2} \propto \left(\frac{M}{R^3} \right)^2$ and using fixed T_{eff} , $L \propto R^2 T_{eff}^4$ and $L \propto M^3$, we see that $P \propto L^{7/12}$

Problem 5:

There are very detailed models for finding the remnant mass given an initial mass, but I will use rough numbers to keep it simple. The stellar remnant (M_r) versus initial mass (M_i) relation is such that $M_r \approx \left(\frac{M_i}{5}\right)$ for $0.1 \leq M_i \leq 8M_\odot$, $M_r \approx 1.4M_\odot$ for $8 \leq M_i \leq 60M_\odot$. For $M_i > 60M_\odot$, the relationship isn't as well known, but can be ignored because there is very little initial mass at these values for a Salpeter IMF.



Now, let's find the total initial stellar mass for the population given some proportionality constant a for the Salpeter IMF.

$$M_{tot,i} = \int M_i dN = \int_{0.1}^{60} M_i \frac{dN}{dM_i} dM_i \quad (39)$$

$$= a \int_{0.1}^{60} M_i M_i^{-2.35} dM_i \quad (40)$$

$$= \frac{a}{0.35} \times (0.1^{-0.35} - 60^{-0.35}) \approx \boxed{5.71a} \quad (41)$$

After 10 Gyr, stars with masses larger than a solar mass will have evolved off the main sequence. The total mass left in the remaining stars and stellar remnants is

$$M_{tot,f} = a \int_{0.1}^1 M_i M_i^{-2.35} dM_i + a \int_1^8 \frac{M_i}{5} M_i^{-2.35} dM_i + a \int_8^{60} 1.4 M_i^{-2.35} dM_i \quad (42)$$

$$= 3.54a + 0.3a + 0.06a = 3.9a \quad (43)$$

Thus, $1 - \frac{M_{tot,f}}{M_{tot,i}} = 40\%$ is returned to the ism.

Problem 6:

This problem is easiest to calculate from the point-of-view of the binary system. Centre a celestial sphere on the binary system, oriented such that the system's angular momentum vector points North. The Solar system's location on the sphere is described by two angles θ and ϕ as in spherical coordinates. Note that the inclination angle i is equal to θ .

Assuming a random orientation, the probability of falling at a given θ and ϕ is $1/4\pi$. The probability of falling at a given i is

$$p(i) = \frac{1}{4\pi} 2\pi \sin i = \frac{1}{2} \sin i \quad (44)$$

The average value of $\sin^3 i$ is then

$$\langle \sin^3 i \rangle = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^\pi \sin^3 i \sin i \, di \quad (45)$$

which reveals

$$\boxed{\langle \sin^3 i \rangle = 0.589} \quad (46)$$

If the inclination is not known, then Kepler's 3rd Law for binary stars takes the form

$$(M_1 + M_2) \sin^3 i = \frac{(2\pi)^2 a^3}{G P^2} \quad (47)$$

Given luminosities measured through other means and a large enough sample, this allows one to find the average mass for a star of a given luminosity. The mass-luminosity relation follows.

Problem 7:

NOTE: In preparing the solution to this problem, I assumed the parallax had the same uncertainty as other angular measurements. It is okay if you assumed the measurement to be exact, as stated in the problem.

Recall: Uncertainties are added in quadrature. To find the error of some function $f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$:

$$\Delta f = \sqrt{\left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_1}\right)^2 \Delta x_1^2 + \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_2}\right)^2 \Delta x_2^2 + \dots + \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_n}\right)^2 \Delta x_n^2} \quad (48)$$

Which, for a function $f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = \text{const} \times x_1^a \times x_2^b \times \dots \times x_n^z$ reduces to

$$\frac{\Delta f}{f} = \sqrt{\left(\frac{a\Delta x_1}{x_1}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{b\Delta x_2}{x_2}\right)^2 + \dots + \left(\frac{z\Delta x_n}{x_n}\right)^2} \quad (49)$$

7a.

From the parallax we know $d = 1\text{pc}/\text{arcsec}$, so $d = 3 \times 10^{19}\text{cm}$

The angular size of the radius is $\theta = 2R_\odot/d = 4.7 \times 10^{-4}\text{arcsec}$

The angular semi-major axis is given by $\theta_a = 500R_\odot/d = 0.24\text{arcsec}$

Now we need to find the error in $r = \theta_r/\Pi$, where Π is the parallax, which is $\frac{\Delta r}{r} = \sqrt{\left(\frac{\Delta \theta_r}{\theta_r}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\Delta \Pi}{\Pi}\right)^2}$. Using $\Delta \theta_r = 0.01$ and $\Delta \Pi = 0.01$ yields:

$$\boxed{\frac{\Delta R}{R} = 2130\% \text{ and } \frac{\Delta a}{a} = 10.9\%} \quad (50)$$

7b.

These curves are roughly the BB curves at various temperatures. Unfortunately, for $T = 5800\text{K}$ we are not safely in the RJ portion of the spectrum at $\nu = 10^{14}\text{Hz}$, but we are in the Wein part of the spectrum at $\nu = 10^{15}\text{Hz}$.

Thus, letting $x = \frac{(\nu F_\nu)_{14}}{(\nu F_\nu)_{15}}$,

$$x = \frac{\nu_{14} (2h\nu_{14}^3/c^2) [e^{h\nu_{14}/kT} - 1]^{-1}}{\nu_{15} (2h\nu_{15}^3/c^2) e^{-h\nu_{15}/kT}} \quad (51)$$

$$= \left(\frac{\nu_{14}}{\nu_{15}}\right)^4 \frac{e^{h\nu_{15}/kT}}{e^{h\nu_{14}/kT} - 1} \quad (52)$$

$$\frac{dx}{dT} \approx x \left(h\nu_{15}/kT^2 + \dots (\text{higher order terms}) \right) \quad (53)$$

Therefore, $\frac{\Delta x}{x} \approx \frac{h\nu_{15}}{kT} \frac{\Delta T}{T}$. So, $\boxed{\frac{\Delta T}{T} \approx 1\%}$.

7c.

From Kepler's Law:

$$GM_{tot} \left(\frac{P}{2\pi} \right)^2 = a^3 \quad (54)$$

$$\Delta M = \frac{4\pi^2}{GP^2} (3a^2 \Delta a) \quad (55)$$

$$\frac{\Delta M}{M} = 3 \frac{\Delta a}{a} = \boxed{33\%} \quad (56)$$

7d.

Finding the Luminosity is straightforward:

$$L = 4\pi R^2 \sigma T_{eff}^4 = 3.9 \times 10^{33} \text{erg/s} = L_{\odot} \text{ as assumed} \quad (57)$$

Now we calculate the uncertainty:

$$\frac{\Delta L}{L} = \left[\left(\frac{2\Delta R}{R} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{4\Delta T}{T} \right)^2 \right]^{1/2} \quad (58)$$

$$\boxed{\frac{\Delta L}{L} \approx 4300\%} \quad (59)$$

7e.

The apparent flux at earth is $F = L/4\pi d^2$. Now, converting to the observed variable Π , we find

$$\frac{\Delta L}{L} = \left[\left(\frac{2\Delta \Pi}{\Pi} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{\Delta F}{F} \right)^2 \right]^{1/2} \approx \boxed{21\%} \quad (60)$$

This is a great improvement. Now we do the same, but for $F = R^2 \sigma T_{eff}^4 / d^2$ to find

$$\frac{\Delta R}{R} = \left[\left(\frac{2\Delta T}{T} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{\Delta \Pi}{\Pi} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{0.5\Delta F}{F} \right)^2 \right]^{1/2} \approx \boxed{10.3\%} \quad (61)$$