

(a) In equation (5.56)  $N$  is the number of atoms and each atom contributes  $d$  electrons. In this problem  $N$  is the number of nucleons and  $d$  is the number of electrons per nucleon.

$$E_{\text{tot}} = \frac{\hbar^2 (3\pi^2 Nd)^{5/3}}{10\pi^2 m} V^{-2/3} \quad (5.56)$$

By  $V = 4\pi R^3/3$  we have

$$E_{\text{tot}} = \frac{\hbar^2 (3\pi^2 Nd)^{5/3}}{10\pi^2 m} \left( \frac{4\pi R^3}{3} \right)^{-2/3} = \frac{9}{20} \left( \frac{3\pi^2}{2} \right)^{1/3} \frac{\hbar^2 (Nd)^{5/3}}{mR^2}$$

(b)

$$U = -\frac{3G(NM)^2}{5R}$$

(c) We have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dE_{\text{tot}}}{dR} &= -\frac{9}{10} \left( \frac{3\pi^2}{2} \right)^{1/3} \frac{\hbar^2 (Nd)^{5/3}}{mR^3} \\ \frac{dU}{dR} &= \frac{3G(MN)^2}{5R^2} \end{aligned}$$

Find  $R$  such that

$$\frac{dE_{\text{tot}}}{dR} + \frac{dU}{dR} = 0$$

Substitute and multiply both sides by  $R^3$ .

$$-\frac{9}{10} \left( \frac{3\pi^2}{2} \right)^{1/3} \frac{\hbar^2 (Nd)^{5/3}}{m} + \frac{3G(MN)^2}{5} R = 0$$

Hence

$$R = \frac{9}{10} \left( \frac{3\pi^2}{2} \right)^{1/3} \frac{\hbar^2 (Nd)^{5/3}}{m} \frac{5}{3G(MN)^2} = \left( \frac{9\pi}{4} \right)^{2/3} \frac{\hbar^2 d^{5/3}}{GmM^2 N^{1/3}} \quad (1)$$

(d) For  $M_{\odot} = 1.98892 \times 10^{30} \text{ kg}$  and  $M = m_p = 1.67 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$  we have

$$N = \frac{M_{\odot}}{M} = 1.19 \times 10^{57}$$

Hence

$$R = 7160 \text{ km}$$

(e) The fermi energy is

$$E_F = \frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \left( \frac{3\pi^2 Nd}{V} \right)^{2/3} = 194 \text{ keV}$$

The rest energy of an electron is

$$m_e c^2 = 511 \text{ keV}$$