

9/1/2020

Quick review of  
introductions post short intro  
Teams? Bb?

(13)

Quick review:

• The only force we have explicitly considered is gravity. In order for a sphere to be in hydrostatic equilibrium with gravitational attraction,

$$\frac{dp(r)}{dr} = - \frac{GM(r)\rho(r)}{r^2}$$

Fundamental equation  
of hydrostatic  
equilibrium

- A pressure gradient is needed, but it can be provided by any force.

- From boundary conditions,

$$p(0) \geq \frac{GM^2}{8\pi R^4}$$

Humble but powerful equation

★ What happens if the pressure drops, or suddenly drops? For example, because the nuclear fuel was exhausted in a star? Explosion?

• The pressure can be thought of as being produced by collisions of particles against a wall, they bounce off and so there's a change in momentum  $\rightarrow$  force. Temperature is the average energy of the particles. The higher the temperature, the higher the pressure (larger change of momentum and collisions more often). So thermal energy <sup>density</sup>  $\mathcal{E}$  and pressure  $p$  are proportional. Let  $\frac{1}{\Gamma-1}$  be the proportionality constant.  $\Gamma = 5/3$  for an ideal gas and  $\Gamma = 4/3$  for pure radiation.

• Let  $E = \Omega + \mathcal{K}$  be the total energy,

$\Omega$  be the gravitational potential energy and  $\mathcal{K}$  be the kinetic (thermal) energy. Then

$$\mathcal{K} = - \frac{E}{3\Gamma - 4} \quad ; \quad \Omega = \frac{E(\Gamma - 1)}{\Gamma - 4/3}$$

which blows up for pure radiation and gives you the virial theorem for the ideal gas  $2\mathcal{K} = -\Omega$

— The system will be gravitationally bound when  $E < 0$ . A cloud of gas/dust radiates if it is at finite temperature, so it is "bound" to collapse.

When  $E < 0$ ,  $\mathcal{K}$  is positive, so the thermal energy increases

— Losing energy heats up the system, so negative heat capacity

★ What happens with the most energetic stars/particles?

They evaporate.

• All this physics is valid for stars, clusters of stars, galaxies. ★ Universe?

Hydrostatic equilibrium depends on the pressure, which is a function of energy / temperature. How the temperature varies depends on how energy is transported.

Three mechanisms:

- Radiation
- Convection
- Conduction

★ What is each one?

← negligible in stars due to short mean free path

We will study radiative energy transport. Consider

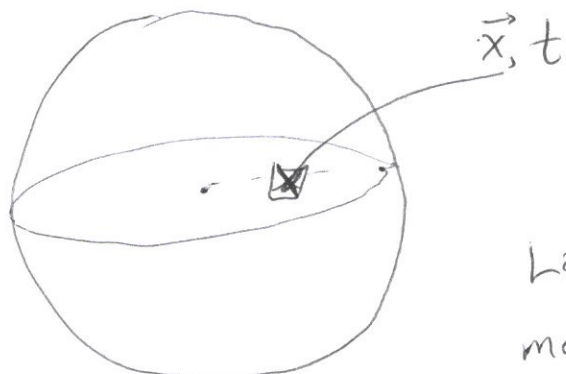
$$l(\hat{n}, \vec{x}, \nu, t) d^2\hat{n} d\nu$$

Energy per volume (energy density)

at position  $\vec{x}$  and time  $t$

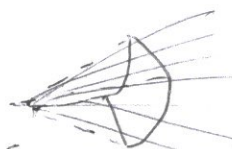
of photons with directions within solid angle  $d^2\hat{n}$  around unit vector  $\hat{n}$

and frequencies between  $\nu$  and  $\nu + d\nu$



Since it is at a given  $\vec{x}$ , the energy density depends on how many photons there are in the volume

Large solid angle



means that photons can be traveling in many directions, but as  $d^2\hat{n}$  becomes infinitesimally small, only photons that are traveling "straight" are considered

In the same volume you can have photons of different energies

*depends on the physics*

Looks intimidating, but is not so bad. We will look at the contributions and use  $d\ell = 0$  to rewrite the hydrostatic equation in terms of luminosity, opacity, etc. that we can actually measure for stars.

- Transport (nothing happens to photons)
- Absorption (uncorrelated photon motion)
- Scattering (correlated) ★ What is each one?
- Emission (thermal & nuclear)

### Transport

← every thing that goes in
← comes out

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} l(\hat{n}, \vec{x}, \nu, t) + \nabla \cdot (c \hat{n} \cdot l(\hat{n}, \vec{x}, \nu, t)) = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \int l d^3r = - \oint l c \cdot d\mathbf{n}$$

volume density
volume

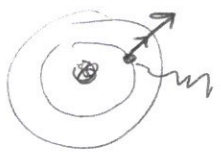
continuity equation

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot \rho \vec{v} = 0$$

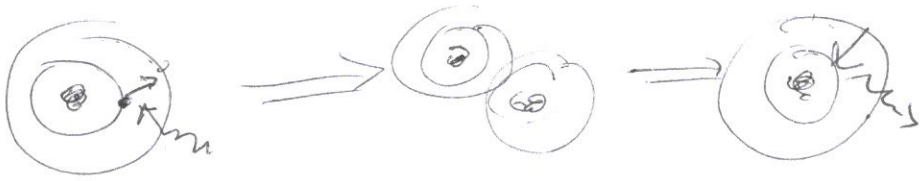
$$\frac{M}{V} + \frac{M}{V} \frac{\partial V}{\partial t} = \frac{M}{V A}$$

### Absorption

bound-free



bound-bound



free-free





$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\rho \vec{v}) = \text{constant something}$$

0  
goes to zero

(since it is being accumulated)

the fraction of radiation absorbed should be <sup>in a given time</sup> ~~per unit time~~ proportional to the number of absorbers and how efficient the absorbers are for radiation of a particular frequency.

$$\# \text{ absorbers} \sim \rho(\vec{x}, t)$$

$$\text{efficiency} \sim K_{\text{abs}}(\vec{x}, \nu, t) \sim c K_{\text{abs}}(\vec{x}, \nu, t)$$

$$\text{fraction in unit time} \quad c K_{\text{abs}}(\vec{x}, \nu, t) \rho(\vec{x}, t) dt$$

$$\text{so } \frac{d \ell(\hat{n}, \vec{x}, \nu, t)}{dt} = -c K_{\text{abs}}(\vec{x}, \nu, t) \rho(\vec{x}, t) \ell(\hat{n}, \vec{x}, \nu, t)$$

fraction should be unitless, so

$$\frac{m}{s} K_{\text{abs}} \frac{\text{kg}}{m^3 s} = 1 \Rightarrow K_{\text{abs}} = \frac{m^2}{\text{kg}}$$

★  
what is this?  
cross-section!  
is it fundamental or phenomenological?

Since  $K_{\text{abs}}$  is a proportionality constant, it does not matter if we add the speed of light  $c$ , but it has advantages.

$$\text{Also, } \frac{1}{K_{\text{abs}} \rho} = \frac{1}{\frac{m^2}{\text{kg}} \frac{\text{kg}}{m^3}} = m \quad \text{what is this?}$$