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27 October 2022  
Dr. Moe  
ASTR5420

9.5%

Please show all work. If you collaborate with other students, write their names at the top of your homework. Please also write the total number of hours you spent on this. If you use any code or plotting routines, print those out and attach them to your hand-written solutions. This assignment took me approximately 6 hours to complete. I collaborated with Alex and Chase on this assignment.

### 1. (15%): Fusion Efficiencies and Stellar Lifetimes:

- (a) Show that the fractional mass change while fusing four protons into one He nucleus during the proton-proton chain is  $\Delta m/m \approx 0.7\%$ . Assuming the Sun fuses 10% of its hydrogen into helium, demonstrate that the solar main-sequence lifetime is 10 Gyr.

$$m_H = 1.007276466621 \text{ Da}$$

$$m_{He} = 4.002603254 \text{ Da}$$

$$1 \text{ Da} = 1.66053906660 \text{ kg}$$

$$\frac{\Delta m}{m} = \frac{m_f - m_i}{m_i}$$

$$\frac{\Delta m}{m} = \frac{4.002603254 (1.66053906660) - 4 (1.007276466621) (1.66053906660)}{4 (1.007276466621) (1.66053906660)}$$

$$\frac{\Delta m}{m} = -0.658\%$$

what is this?  
doesn't really matter since it cancels

Code:

```
In [19]: m_p = 1.007276466621 * (1.66053906660)
# NP Mass of proton in kg
m_he = 4.002603254 * (1.66053906660)
# NP Mass of 4He in kg
print('delta m/m: ' + format((m_he - 4 * m_p) \
    * 100 / (4 * m_p), '.2E') + ' % (proton-proton chain)')
# NP Printing change in mass percent
delta m/m: -6.58E-01 % (proton-proton chain)
```

- (b) Demonstrate that the triple alpha reaction (fusing three He nuclei into one C nucleus) releases only 10% the energy of the proton-proton chain, i.e.,  $\Delta m/m \approx 0.07\%$ . This should demonstrate why the horizontal branch (He core burning) lifetime is 1 Gyr for the Sun, or in general 10% of the MS lifetime relatively independent of stellar mass.

$$m_C = 12 \text{ Da}$$

$$\frac{\Delta m}{m} = \frac{m_f - m_i}{m_i}$$

$$\frac{\Delta m}{m} = \frac{12 (1.66053906660) - 3 (4.002603254) (1.66053906660)}{3 (4.002603254) (1.66053906660)}$$

$$\frac{\Delta m}{m} = -0.0650\%$$

Code:

```

In [4]: def f_V(m, T, V):
        '''Function to return the velocity distribution
        at a given temperature for a particle.
        Inputs:

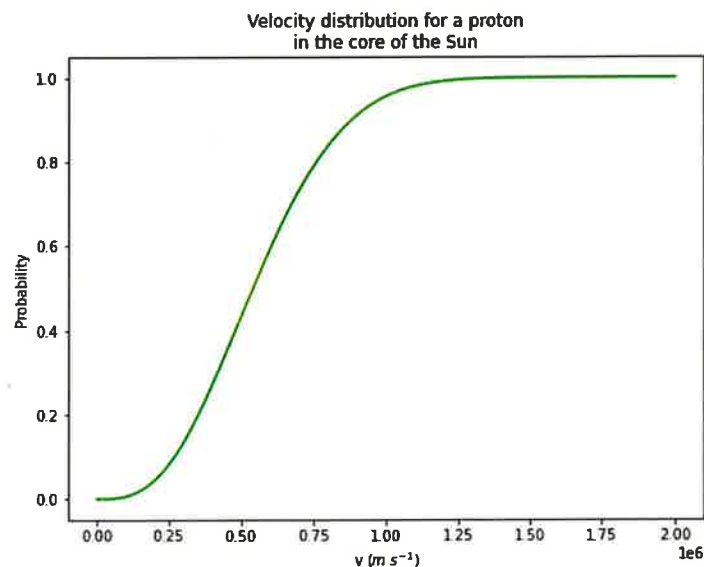
        m: Mass of the particle in kg. -float.
        T: Temperature in Kelvin. -float
        V: Velcoities to run distribution over. -np.array
        Returns:

        f_V: Velocity distribution for inputted parameters
        -np.array'''
        k = 1.38e-23
        # NP Boltzmann constant in kgs units
        f_V = V **2 *np.exp(-1 *(m *V **2) /(2 *k *T))\
            *4 *np.pi *((m) /(2 *np.pi *k *T)) **1.5
        return f_V

In [40]: V = np.linspace(1, 2000000, 10000)
        # NP Defining velocity grid to evaluate velocity distribution on
        T_c = 15e6
        # NP Central temperature of the Sun
        v_distrib = f_V(m_p, 15 *10 **6, V)
        # NP Calculating velocity distribution for the Sun
        integrate_dis = np.array([np.trapz(v_distrib[V < i], V[V < i])\
            for i in V])
        # NP Inegating distribution to find probability distribution
        f = plt.figure(figsize = [8, 6])
        # NP Making figure larger
        plt.plot(V, integrate_dis)
        # NP Plotting velocity distribution
        plt.xlabel(r'v ($m$ $s^{-1}$)')
        plt.ylabel(r'Probability')
        # NP Labeling axes
        plt.title('Velocity distribution for a proton\n'
            'in the core of the Sun')
        # NP Labeling plot
        plt.savefig('/d/www/nikhil/public_html/ASTR5420/images/'\
            'sunvdistrib.png')
        # NP Saving plot

```

Plot:



good idea!

To find speeds at the different percentiles, find the index of of the minimum value of the absolute difference between the integrated velocity distribution and the percentile. In other words, find the velocity when

```
In [35]: R_o = 6.957e8
# NP Radius of Sun
M_o = 2e30
# NP Mass of Sun
G = 6.67e-11
# NP Gravitational constant
k = 1.38e-23
# NP Boltzmann constant
T_ci = np.array([17e6, 11e6])
# NP Temperatures
M_cs = (k * R_o * T_ci / (0.65 * G * m_p * M_o))**5
# NP Calculating requires MS masses to achieve central temperatures
print('Required mass for CNO cycle: ' + format(M_cs[0],
'.2E') + ' Solar masses')
# NP Printing result

Required mass for CNO cycle: 1.80E+00 Solar masses
```

- (b) Estimate the minimum mass of a MS star (in  $M_\odot$ ) to fuse hydrogen via the proton-proton chain, which requires a central temperature above 11 million K.

$R = 0.1 R_\odot$  for  $M \leq 0.2 M_\odot$

$$M(M_\odot) = \left( \frac{k R_\odot T_c}{0.65 G m_H M_\odot} \right)^5$$

$$M(M_\odot) = 0.205 M_\odot$$

Code:

```
In [36]: print('Required mass for proton-proton chain: ' + format\
(M_cs[1], '.2E') + ' Solar masses')
# NP Printing result

Required mass for proton-proton chain: 2.05E-01 Solar masses
```

- (c) Estimate the minimum mass of a brown dwarf (in  $M_J$ ) to fuse deuterium, which requires a central temperature above 2 million K.

Main sequence mass-radius relation no longer valid. For brown dwarfs, radius nearly constant ( $\approx R_J$ ).

$$T_c = \frac{0.65 G M m_H}{k R_J}$$

$$M = \frac{k R_J T_c}{0.65 G m_H}$$

$$M(M_J) = \frac{k R_J T_c}{(0.65) G m_H M_J}$$

$$M(M_J) = 14.4 M_J$$

Code:

```
In [40]: R_J = 7.15e7
# NP Radius of Jupiter
T_d = 2e6
# NP Temperature for deuterium fusion
M_J = 1.90e27
# NP Mass of Jupiter
M_bd = (k * R_J * T_d) / (G * 0.65 * m_p * M_J)
# NP Calculating mass required for deuterium fusion
print('Brown dwarf minimum mass: ' + format(M_bd, '.2E') +
' Jupiter masses')
# NP Printing result

Brown dwarf minimum mass: 1.43E+01 Jupiter masses
```

opacities. Compute the mean molecular weight  $\mu$  for fully neutral atoms (Eqn. 5.127), which adequately describes most of the gas in our cool M-dwarf. Then use the ideal gas law (Eqn. 5.107) to compute the central pressure  $P_c$ . At the center of the star, the radius is  $r = 0$  and the enclosed masses  $M(r) = 0$  and luminosities  $L(r)$  are also zero.

$$\mu = 1.24$$

$$P_c = 1.83 \times 10^{15} \text{ N m}^{-2}$$

Code:

```
In [70]: X = 0.74
# NP Hydrogen fraction
Y = 0.26
# NP Helium fraction
mu = 1 / (X + Y / 4)
# Equation 5.127
print('mu: ' + format(mu, '.2E'))
# NP Printing result
P_c = rho_c * k * T_c / (mu * m_p)
print('P_c: ' + format(P_c, '.2E') + ' Nm^-2')

mu: 1.24E+00
P_c: 1.83E+15 Nm^-2
```

- iii. Take a small step  $\Delta r = 10^{-5} R_\odot$  outward. Make sure to keep track of  $T(r)$ ,  $\rho(r)$ ,  $P(r)$ ,  $M(r)$ , and  $L(r)$  at each step in radius. You will use this fixed step and Euler's method to numerically integrate the differential equations of stellar structure. In practice, astronomers typically use adaptive radial steps and a Runge-Kutta method, which requires numerical evaluations of the second derivatives of the stellar structure equations. But for sufficiently small  $\Delta r$ , Euler's linear method and the first derivatives are sufficient. If you want, you can test convergence of your solutions by adopting different step sizes.
- iv. Compute the mass  $\Delta M$  in that shell with radius  $r$  and width  $\Delta r$  using the equation of mass conservation (Eqn. 5.4) and your previously determined density  $\rho$ . Add this shell mass  $\Delta M$  to your previously determined enclosed mass  $M(r)$ , and update  $M(r)$  accordingly.
- v. Convert your previously determined temperature into units of  $T_9 = T/10^9$  K. Then compute the energy production rate per unit mass for the proton-proton chain according to Eqn. 6.25 (which is in units of  $\text{erg s}^{-1} \text{g}^{-1}$ ) and your previously evaluated  $T_9$  and  $\rho$ . Then compute the luminosity  $\Delta L$  in that shell with radius  $r$  and width  $\Delta r$  using the energy conservation equation (Eqn. 5.22). Add this shell luminosity  $\Delta L$  to your previously determined enclosed luminosity  $L(r)$ , and update  $L(r)$  accordingly.
- vi. Compute the temperature change  $\Delta T$  assuming energy transport is fully convective (Eqn. 5.81) and the equation of state is an ideal monatomic gas ( $\gamma = 5/3$ ). As before, use your previously determined  $\rho$ ,  $T$ ,  $P$  and  $g = GM(r)/r^2$ . Add this temperature change  $\Delta T$  to your previously determined temperature to update  $T(r)$ .
- vii. Compute the pressure change  $\Delta P$  according to the equation for hydrostatic equilibrium (Eq. 5.1), again assuming your previously determined values for  $\rho$  and  $M(r)$ . Add this pressure change  $\Delta P$  to your previously determined pressure to update  $P(r)$ .
- viii. Finally, update your density  $\rho(r)$  using the same ideal gas law and mean molecular weight as in part ii, now using your updated values for  $P(r)$  and  $T(r)$ .
- ix. Repeat steps iii – viii until the temperature falls below  $T < 3,000$  K (just above the photosphere of an M-dwarf).

Code:

```

In [52]: while(T[i] > 3000):
# NP Iterating until temperature drops below 3000 K
R.append(R[i]+dr)
# NP updating radius
M.append(M[i] +rho[i] *4 *np.pi *R[i+1]**2 *dr)
# NP Updating mass
T.append(T[i] -((2/5) *(rho[i] *G *M[i+1]\
*T[i] *dr)/(P[i] *R[i+1]**2)))
# NP Updating temperature
en = 2.4 *(rho[i] /1000) *X**2 /((T[i+1] /\
(10 **9)) **2/3) *np.exp(-3.38/\
(T[i+1]/(10**9)) **2/3))
# NP Calculating energy per unit mass for a shell
L.append(L[i] +4*np.pi*R[i+1]**2*dr *rho[i] *en)
# NP Updating Luminosity
g.append(G *M[i+1]/(R[i+1]**2))
# NP Updating surface gravity
P.append(P[i] -rho[i] *g[i+1]*dr)
# NP Updating pressure
rho.append(mu *m_p *P[i+1] /(k *T[i+1]))
# NP Updating density
i += 1
# NP Increasing step
R = np.array(R)
M = np.array(M)
T = np.array(T)
rho = np.array(rho)
P = np.array(P)
g = np.array(g)
L = np.array(L)
# NP Converting lists to arrays at the end

```

- (b) What are your final values for stellar radius  $R_*$ , mass  $M_*$ , and luminosity  $L_*$  (all in solar units). Given your computed  $M_*$ , what values for  $R_*$  and  $L_*$  would you have expected from the standard main-sequence relations? Are your solutions close?
- Code:

```

In [59]: print('Final radius: ' +format(R[len(R)-1] /R_o, '.2E') +' R_o')
print('Final mass: ' +format(M[len(M)-1] /M_o, '.2E') +' M_o')
print('Final luminosity: ' +format(L[len(L)-1] /L_o, '.2E') +' L_o')

Final radius: 4.90E-01 R_o
Final mass: 3.47E-01 M_o
Final luminosity: 3.31E-02 L_o

```

$$R_* = 0.490R_{\odot}$$

$$M_* = 0.347M_{\odot}$$

$$L_* = 0.0331L_{\odot}$$

From MS relations and calculated mass, compute expected radius and luminosity.

$$M_* = 0.347M_{\odot}$$

$$R_* \approx \left(\frac{M_*}{M_{\odot}}\right)^{0.8}$$

$$L_* \approx \left(\frac{M_*}{M_{\odot}}\right)^{3.5}$$

$$R_* \approx 0.429R_{\odot}$$

$$L_* \approx 0.0246L_{\odot}$$

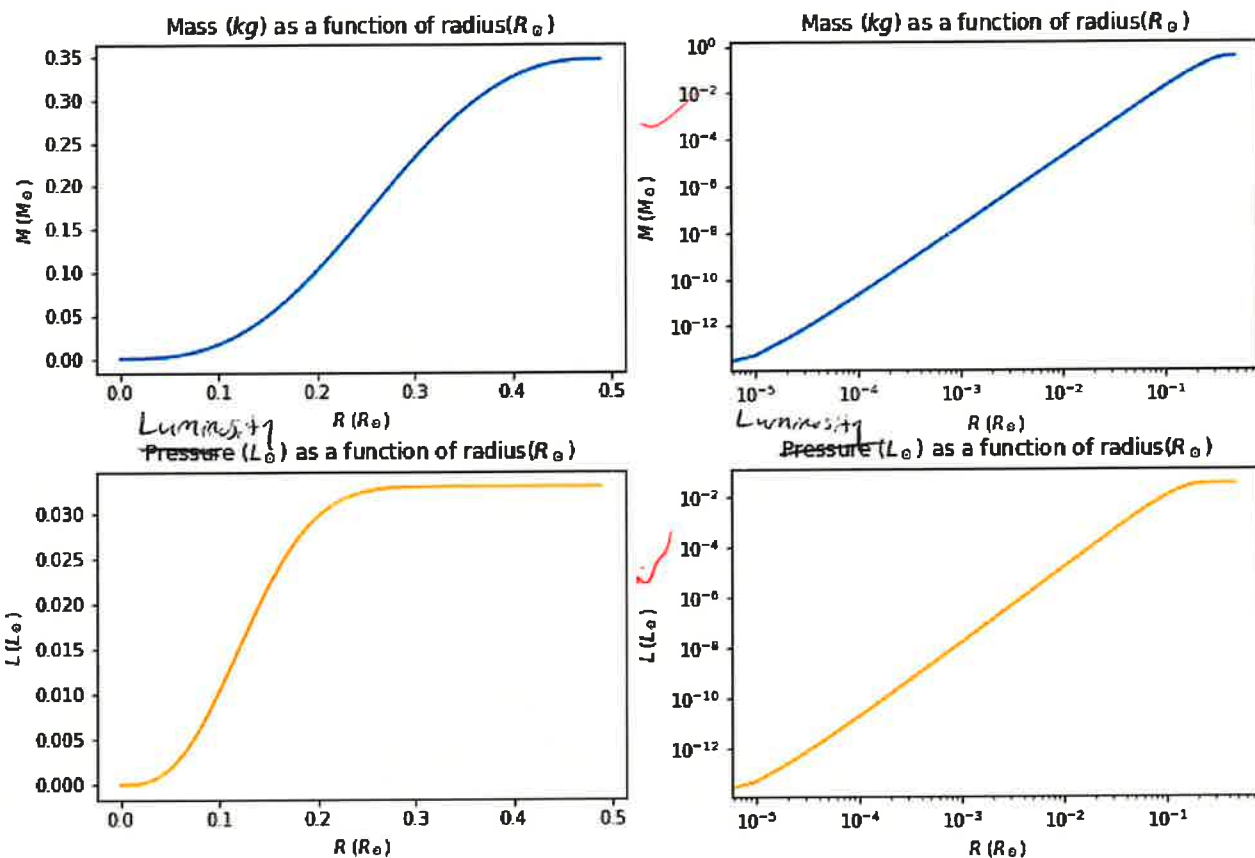
Code:



```

In [145]: plt.figure(figsize = [12, 8])
# NP Setting figure size
plt.subplots_adjust(hspace=.3)
# NP Adjusting figure spacing
plt.subplot(2, 2, 1)
# NP First plot
plt.title(r'Mass  $(\text{kg})$  as a function of radius'
          r' $(R \cdot)$ ')
plt.plot(R/R_o, M/M_o, 'b')
plt.xlabel(r' $R/R_o$  as a function of radius')
plt.ylabel(r' $M/M_o$  as a function of radius')
plt.subplot(2, 2, 2)
# NP Second plot
plt.title(r'Mass  $(\text{kg})$  as a function of radius'
          r' $(R \cdot)$ ')
plt.plot(R/R_o, M/M_o, 'b')
plt.xlabel(r' $R/R_o$  as a function of radius')
plt.ylabel(r' $M/M_o$  as a function of radius')
plt.yscale('log')
plt.xscale('log')
plt.subplot(2, 2, 3)
# NP Third plot
plt.title(r'Pressure  $(\text{L} \cdot)$  as a function of radius'
          r' $(R \cdot)$ ')
plt.plot(R/R_o, L/L_o, color = 'orange')
plt.xlabel(r' $R/R_o$  as a function of radius')
plt.ylabel(r' $L/L_o$  as a function of radius')
plt.subplot(2, 2, 4)
# NP Fourth plot
plt.title(r'Pressure  $(\text{L} \cdot)$  as a function of radius'
          r' $(R \cdot)$ ')
plt.plot(R/R_o, L/L_o, color = 'orange')
plt.xlabel(r' $R/R_o$  as a function of radius')
plt.ylabel(r' $L/L_o$  as a function of radius')
plt.xscale('log')
plt.yscale('log')
plt.savefig('/d:/www/nikhil/public_html/ASTR5428/images/'
            'tpPmlrelations2.png')
# NP Saving figure

```



- (d) Increase the initial central temperature  $T_c$  by 10% (while fixing  $\rho_c = 25 \text{ g cm}^{-3}$ ), and report your final  $R_*$ ,  $M_*$ , and  $L_*$  (all in solar units). Similarly, increase the central density by 10% (while fixing  $T_c = 11$  million K) and report  $R_*$ ,  $M_*$ , and  $L_*$ .

Code:

```

In [148]: T_c = 11e6
# NP Central temperature in K
rho_c = 25 * 1000 * 1.1
# NP Central density in kg m^-3
X = 0.74
# NP Hydrogen fraction
Y = 0.26
# NP Helium fraction
mu = 1 / (X + Y / 4)
# Equation 5.127
# NP Printing result
P_c = rho_c * k * T_c / (mu * m_p)
dr = 10 ** -5 * R_o
# NP Radius step
T = [T_c]
# NP Initial temperature array
M = [0]
# NP Initial mass array
rho = [rho_c]
# NP Initial density array
L = [0]
# NP Initial luminosity array
R = [0]
# NP Initial radius array
g = [0]
# NP Initial surface gravity array
P = [P_c]
# NP Initial pressure array
i = 0
# NP Iterator value
while(T[i] > 3000):
# NP Iterating until temperature drops below 3000 K
    R.append(R[i]+dr)
    # NP updating radius
    M.append(M[i] + rho[i] * 4 * np.pi * R[i]**2 * dr)
    # NP Updating mass
    T.append(T[i] - ((2/5) * (rho[i] * G * M[i+1] \
    * T[i] * dr) / (P[i] * R[i]**2)))
    # NP Updating temperature
    en = 2.4 * (rho[i] / 1000) * X**2 / ((T[i+1] /\
    (10 ** 9)) ** (2/3)) * np.exp(-3.38 /\
    (T[i+1] / (10 ** 9)) ** (1/3)))
    # NP Calculating energy per unit mass for a shell
    L.append(L[i] + 4 * np.pi * R[i]**2 * dr * rho[i] * en)
    # NP Updating Luminosity
    g.append(G * M[i+1] / (R[i+1]**2))
    # NP Updating surface gravity
    P.append(P[i] - rho[i] * g[i+1] * dr)
    # NP Updating pressure
    rho.append(mu * m_p * P[i+1] / (k * T[i+1]))
    # NP Updating density
    i += 1
# NP Increasing step
R = np.array(R)
M = np.array(M)
T = np.array(T)
rho = np.array(rho)
P = np.array(P)
g = np.array(g)
L = np.array(L)
# NP Converting lists to arrays at the end
print('Final radius: ' + format(R[len(R)-1] / R_o, '.2E') + ' R_o')
print('Final mass: ' + format(M[len(M)-1] / M_o, '.2E') + ' M_o')
print('Final luminosity: ' + format(L[len(L)-1] / L_o, '.2E') + ' L_o')

Final radius: 4.67E-01 R_o
Final mass: 3.31E-01 M_o
Final luminosity: 3.47E-02 L_o

```

$$R_* = 0.467 R_{\odot}$$

$$M_* = 0.331 M_{\odot}$$

$$L_* = 0.0347 L_{\odot}$$

