

1. Calculate the mean molecular weight for a pure hydrogen/helium mixture with $X = 0.4$, assuming the hydrogen and helium are both 50% ionized (i.e., $\mathcal{N}_j = 0.5 \times \mathcal{Z}_j$, where \mathcal{N}_j and \mathcal{Z}_j are defined in *Handout 15*). 4 points
2. By combining equations [6.4] and [6.8], derive the dependence of temperature T on pressure P for an ideal gas undergoing an adiabatic change. Use this expression to prove equation [13.7]. 4 points
3. Consider a location within a star where the interior mass and luminosity are given by $m = 0.3 M_\odot$ and $\ell = 5 L_\odot$, respectively; the pressure and temperature are $P = 10^{17}$ Ba and $T = 10^7$ K, respectively; and the opacity is $\kappa = 1 \text{ cm}^2 \text{ g}^{-1}$.
 - Evaluate the radiative temperature gradient ∇_{rad} .
 - Assuming the stellar material behaves as an ideal gas with $\gamma = 1.4$, evaluate the adiabatic temperature gradient ∇_{ad} .
 - By applying the algorithm given in *Handout 13*, explain why convection will occur at this location.
 - Assuming a convective efficiency $\phi_{\text{conv}} = 0.5$, evaluate the dimensionless temperature gradient ∇_T at the location.
 - Evaluate the convective (ℓ_{conv}) and radiative (ℓ_{rad}) interior luminosities, in L_\odot .7 points
4. The central temperature and density of ZAMS stars can be approximated over the stellar mass interval $0.1 M_\odot \lesssim M \lesssim 30 M_\odot$ by the fits

$$\log(T_c/\text{K}) \approx 7.10 + 0.38 (M/M_\odot),$$

$$\log(\rho_c/\text{g cm}^{-3}) \approx 1.77 - 0.77 (M/M_\odot).$$

Derive corresponding expressions for the gas pressure $P_{\text{gas}} \equiv P_{\text{ion}} + P_{\text{e}}$ (assuming an ideal gas with $\mu \approx 0.62$) and the radiation pressure P_{rad} at the center. At what stellar mass does radiation pressure begin to exceed gas pressure?

5 points

5. For a free electron gas in the completely degenerate limit, use your knowledge of the momentum distribution function $f_e(p)$ to determine what fraction of the electrons have momenta less than half of the Fermi momentum p_F , and what fraction have momenta more than double the Fermi momentum. 5 points