

Equations

Astronomy 160: Stellar Astrophysics

EQUATIONS

1 Basic Gravity

Gravitational Force: $F = GM_1M_2/r^2$

Grav. Potential Energy between point particles: $\Omega = -GM_1M_2/r$

Kepler's Third Law: $P^2 = \frac{4\pi^2}{G(M_1+M_2)}a^3$

Virial Theorem: $\langle U_{th} \rangle = -1/2\Omega_{grav}$

Free-fall time: $t_{ff} \approx \sqrt{3\pi/(32G\rho)}$

2 Magnitudes and Light

$$m_1 - m_2 = -2.5 \log_{10} \left(\frac{F_1}{F_2} \right)$$

Distance modulus: $m - M = 5 \log_{10} d - 5$

distance in pc: $d = 1/\pi''$

Wien's law: $\lambda_{max} T = 2.898 \times 10^{-3} \text{mK}$

Blackbody Radiation Flux: $F_{surf} = \sigma T^4$

Blackbody Energy Density: $U = aT^4$

Planck Fn.: $B_\lambda(T) = \frac{2hc^2/\lambda^5}{e^{hc/\lambda kT} - 1}$

$B_\nu(T) = \frac{2h\nu^3/c^2}{e^{h\nu/kT} - 1}$

Photons: $E = h\nu$ and $p = E/c$

Doppler Effect ($v \ll c$): $\frac{\lambda_{obs} - \lambda_{rest}}{\lambda_{rest}} = v_r/c$

Doppler Effect ($v \sim c$): $\nu_{obs} = \frac{\nu_{rest} \sqrt{1 - v^2/c^2}}{1 + v_r/c}$

Hydrogen energy levels: $E_n = -\frac{\mu e^4}{2\hbar^2 n^2}$ (cgs) = $-13.6 \text{ eV}/n^2$

$$g_n = 2n^2$$

(degeneracy of levels in H)

3 Hot Gas

Ideal gas law: $P_{\text{gas}} = nkT = \rho kT / (\mu m_H)$

Maxwell-Boltzmann Eqn: $n_v dv = n(m/2\pi kT)^{3/2} e^{-1/2mv^2/kT} 4\pi v^2 dv$

$3/2kT = 1/2mv_{\text{rms}}^2$

1-D Maxwell-Boltzmann: $n_{v_x} dv_x = n(m/2\pi kT)^{1/2} e^{-mv_x^2/2kT} dv_x$

Boltzmann Eqn: $N_j/N_i = \frac{g_j}{g_i} e^{-(E_j-E_i)/kT}$

Saha Equation: $\frac{n_{i+1}}{n_i} = \frac{2U_{i+1}}{n_e U_i} \left(\frac{2\pi m_e kT}{h^3} \right)^{3/2} e^{-E_i/kT}$

Partition Function: $U = \sum g_i e^{-E_i/kT}$

4 Radiation Transfer

$I = I_0 e^{-\tau}$

$\tau = \int \kappa \rho dx = \int n \sigma dx$

Equation of Transfer: $dI = j_\lambda \rho ds - \kappa_\lambda \rho I ds$

Solution to Equation of Transfer:

$$I_\nu(\theta) = I_{0,\nu}(\theta) e^{-\tau/\cos\theta} + \int S_\nu(t) e^{-t/\cos\theta} dt / \cos\theta$$

Hydrostatic Equilibrium: $dP/dr = -GM_r \rho / r^2$

Radiation Transport of energy: $dT/dr = -\frac{3}{16\sigma} \frac{\kappa \rho}{T^3} \frac{L_r}{4\pi r^2}$

5 Stellar Atmospheres and Spectra

Opacity of an atomic line: $k_\nu \rho = \frac{\pi e^2}{m_e c} f_{ij} \phi_\nu n_i (1 - e^{-\frac{h\nu}{kT}})$

Lorentz Profile: $\phi_\nu = \frac{\gamma/4\pi^2}{(\nu-\nu_0)^2 + (\gamma/4\pi)^2}$

Line Depth: $A_\lambda = 1 - \frac{F_\lambda}{F_c}$

6 Stellar Structure

Hydrostatic Equilibrium: $dP/dr = -GM_r\rho/r^2$

Mass Conservation: $dM_r/dr = 4\pi r^2\rho$

Energy Generation: $dL_r/dr = 4\pi r^2\rho\epsilon$

Radiation Transport of energy: $dT/dr = -\frac{3}{16\sigma} \frac{\kappa_R \rho}{T^3} \frac{L_r}{4\pi r^2}$

Adiabatic thermodynamics: $PV^\gamma = \text{const}$

Polytropes and Lane-Emden Eqn: Eqn. of State: $P = K\rho^{\frac{1+n}{n}}$

Lane-Emden Eqn:

$$\frac{1}{\xi^2} d/d\xi(\xi^2 d\theta/d\xi) = -\theta^n$$

where $\rho(r) = \rho_c \theta^n(r)$ and $\xi = r/a$

7 Nuclear Reactions

Collision (or reaction) rate between particles x and i: $r = n_x n_i \sigma v$

pp-chain first step: $H + H \rightarrow H + e^+ + \nu_e$

8 Constants

$c = 2.99792 \times 10^{10}$ m/s

$h = 6.623 \times 10^{-27}$ erg s

$\sigma = 5.67 \times 10^{-5}$ erg/cm²K⁻⁴

$a = 7.56 \times 10^{-16}$ Jm⁻³K⁻⁴

$L_\odot = 3.90 \times 10^{33}$ W

$M_\odot = 1.99 \times 10^{33}$ g

$G = 6.67 \times 10^{-11}$ Nm²/kg²

$k = 1.38 \times 10^{-23}$ J/K

1eV = 1.6×10^{-19} J

Units: 206265 AU = 1 parsec (pc)