## Assignment 4 — due Friday October 30<sup>th</sup> [Revision : 1.1]

This assignment comprises questions 9.7, 9.10, 9.18, 9.19, 9.21 and 9.22 from Chapter 9 of Ostlie & Carroll, plus the following *EZ-Web* calculation tasks:

- 1. Use *EZ-Web* to calculate a structure model for a  $20 M_{\odot}$  star that is 1 million years old.
  - For this structure model, plot the Rosseland mean opacity  $\bar{\kappa}$  as a function of log T.
  - On your diagram, clearly mark the opacity peak around  $T \approx 200,000$  K. This peak, the so-called 'iron bump', is caused by millions of bound-bound transitions of iron and nickel, and is responsible for driving pulsations (periodic variations in size, shape and brightness) of massive stars.
  - On the same diagram, plot the Thomson scattering opacity for a fully-ionized gas,

$$\kappa_{\rm es} = 0.02(1+X)\,{\rm m}^2{\rm kg}^{-1}$$

where X is the hydrogen mass fraction.

- Your plot should indicate that  $\bar{\kappa}$  is smaller than  $\kappa_{\rm es}$  in the very innermost parts of the star. This is due to relativistic departures from the Thomson-scattering formula above, which arise when photon energies become non-negligible ( $\geq 2\%$ ) compared to the electron rest-mass energy  $m_{\rm e}c^2$ . To confirm this explanation, make a separate plot of  $\epsilon_{\rm ph}/m_{\rm e}c^2$  as a function of log T, where  $\epsilon_{\rm ph}$  is the energy of photons having wavelengths at the Wien peak of the Planck function  $B_{\lambda}(T)$ .
- 2. Use EZ-Web to calculate zero-age main sequence (ZAMS) models having the following masses: M = 0.2, 0.5, 1, 2, 5, 10, 20 and  $50 M_{\odot}$ . This will involve multiple submissions to the EZ-Web server, each with 'Maximum Age' set to zero but 'Maximum Number of Steps' set to one. Do not check 'Create Detailed Structure Files', since you will only need to use the summary files produced by EZ-Web. These files will each contain a single line of data, giving the general properties of the ZAMS model (see the EZ-Web page for a description of the summary-file format).
  - Using these ZAMS models, create a theoretical Hertzsprung-Russell diagram.
  - Also create the following two plots:
    - $-\log L/L_{\odot}$  as a function of  $\log M/M_{\odot}$
    - $-\log R/R_{\odot}$  as a function of  $\log M/M_{\odot}$

For each plot, fit a straight line through the data, and from the slope of the line detemine the exponents  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  in the mass-luminosity relation  $L/L_{\odot} = (M/M_{\odot})^{\alpha}$  and the massradius relation  $R/R_{\odot} = (M/M_{\odot})^{\beta}$ .

- Assume that over their lifetimes all stars convert 0.1% of their rest mass into energy. Use your fitted mass-luminosity relation to derive an expression for the lifetime  $\tau$  of a stars as a function of their mass (you should assume the luminosity remains constant throughout stars' lives). Use your expression to estimate how much shorter the lifetime of a 50  $M_{\odot}$  star is, compared to the Sun.
- Use your fitted mass-radius and mass-luminosity relations to derive a mass-effective temperature relation. Based on this relation, estimate the masses of the following main-sequence stars:
  - (a)  $\sigma$  Ori A ( $T_{\rm eff} = 32,000 \,{\rm K}$ )
  - (b) Regulus  $(T_{\rm eff}=10,300\,{\rm K})$
  - (c) Procyon  $(T_{\rm eff} = 6, 650 \,\mathrm{K})$
  - (d)  $\epsilon$  Indii ( $T_{\rm eff} = 4,280 \,\rm K$ )