

Dai? / Lerghly?

PROBLEM 4

- (1) Define the Eddington luminosity. (2pts)
- (2) Derive the Eddington luminosity by balancing the radiation force and gravity for an electron. (3pts) *gas?*
- (3) What is the Eddington luminosity for a $10^8 M_{\odot}$ AGN? (3pts)
- (4) An AGN is observed to emit at a super-Eddington rate. What are the possible explanations? (2pts)

Jan 2012

Astro #4

a) The Eddington Luminosity is the maximal luminosity an object can have while remaining in hydrostatic equilibrium.

b) * For an electron gas in HSE:

$$\left| \frac{dP_{\text{rad}}}{dr} \right| < \left| \frac{dP}{dr} \right|$$

$$P_{\text{rad}} = \frac{1}{3} a T^4 \quad \frac{dr}{dm} = \frac{1}{4\pi r^2 \rho}, \quad \frac{dP}{dm} = \frac{-GM}{4\pi r^4}, \quad \frac{dT}{dm} = \frac{-GMT}{4\pi r^4 \rho} \quad \nabla = \frac{-3k dP}{16\pi a c G M T^4}$$

$$\frac{dP_{\text{rad}}}{dr} = \frac{4}{3} a T^3 \frac{dT}{dr}$$

$$= \frac{4}{3} a T^3 \frac{dT}{dm} \cdot \frac{dm}{dr}$$

$$= \frac{4}{3} a T^3 \left(\frac{-GMT}{4\pi r^4 \rho} \cdot \frac{-3k dP}{16\pi a c G M T^4} \right) \cdot 4\pi r^2 \rho$$

$$= \frac{7k dP}{4\pi r^2 c}$$

$$\frac{dP}{dm} \cdot \frac{dm}{dr} = \frac{-GM}{4\pi r^4} \cdot 4\pi r^2 \rho = \frac{-GM\rho}{r^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{7k dP}{4\pi r^2 c} < \frac{+GM\rho}{r^2}$$

$$l < \frac{4\pi c G M}{7}$$

$$c) \quad l < \frac{4 \cdot \pi \cdot 3 \cdot 10^{10} \frac{\text{cm}}{\text{s}} \cdot 6.67 \cdot 10^{-8} \frac{\text{cm}^3}{\text{g s}^2} \cdot 2 \cdot 10^{41} \text{g}}{7}$$

$$l < \frac{5.03 \cdot 10^{45} \frac{\text{cm}^4}{\text{s}}}{7} \quad ?$$

d) ?