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AST 10: Homework 4b

1. Look through your notes and fill in columns B and C in the table below with the densities and the units we used (kg/m^3 , g/cm^3 , etc.) for each object. In each case, use powers of 10, not "billions," etc.

Densities

Column A Object	Column B Density	Column C Units	Column D Densities in gm/cm^3
Water			
The Earth			
Lead			
A white dwarf			
A neutron star			

2. 1 kg/m^3 converts to 10^{-3} gm/cm^3 . Why?

3. Whether or not you can explain the previous conversion, use it to fill in Column D in the table above. You'll now have all the densities in the same units, and you can see how they compare.

4. Remember that density = $\frac{M}{V}$ where M is the mass and V the volume. What is volume in terms of M and density?

5. Using $M_{\odot} \approx 2 \times 10^{33} \text{ gm}$ and the previous result, what are the volumes of a one solar-mass (a) white dwarf, and (b) neutron star?

6. As you may remember, the formula for volume is $V = \frac{4}{3}\pi r^3$. What is r in terms of V ?

7. Use the answers of the previous two questions to get the radii of a one solar mass (a) white dwarf, and (b) neutron star. The answer will be in cm. Convert it to km (one km is 100,000 cm).

8. Here are the dimensions of some common things:

Diameter of Earth: $1.3 \times 10^4 \text{ km}$. Length of Manhattan: 21.6 km.

Which of these is closest to the *diameter* of a white dwarf radius? Which to a neutron star?