

1. A meteor that falls to earth from a great distance has a speed of 11km/s. In class we found that the temperature of an iron meteor is 290,000K. We assumed all of the energy heats the meteor, and none of it is transferred to the surroundings.
 - a. (3 pts.) If the meteor is made of calcium, what is the speed of the meteor? Explain.
 - b. (3 pts.) If the meteor is made of calcium and the same assumptions hold, what is the temperature of the meteor? Explain.
 - c. (3 pts.) Does the composition of the meteor make a big difference? Explain.
2. This question addresses the issue of whether differentiation heats a planet. (Differentiation is the process where heavy stuff, iron for example, sinks to the center of a planet.) A blob of iron sinks from the surface of earth to the center. Assume the blob does not transfer any energy to its surroundings. Assume the density of earth is uniform.
 - a. (3 pts.) Find the temperature of the blob of iron after it has sunk to the center of earth.
 - b. (3 pts.) Is differentiation effective for melting rock? Explain.

The potential energy of mass m at radius r in the interior of a planet with constant mass density ρ is

$$PE(r) = -\frac{4\pi}{3}Gm\rho r^2$$