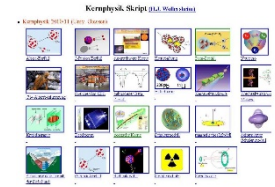


# Outline: The Sun

Lecturer: Hans-Jürgen Wollersheim

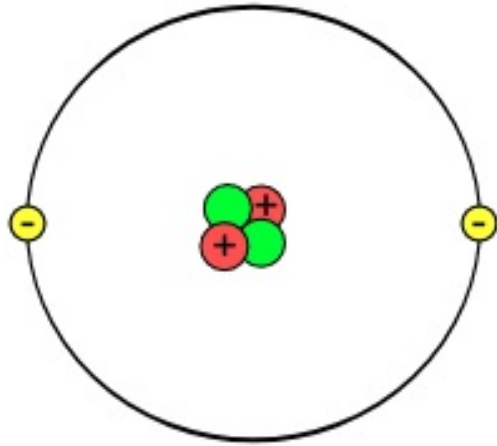
e-mail: [h.j.wollersheim@gsi.de](mailto:h.j.wollersheim@gsi.de)

web-page: <https://web-docs.gsi.de/~wolle/> and click on

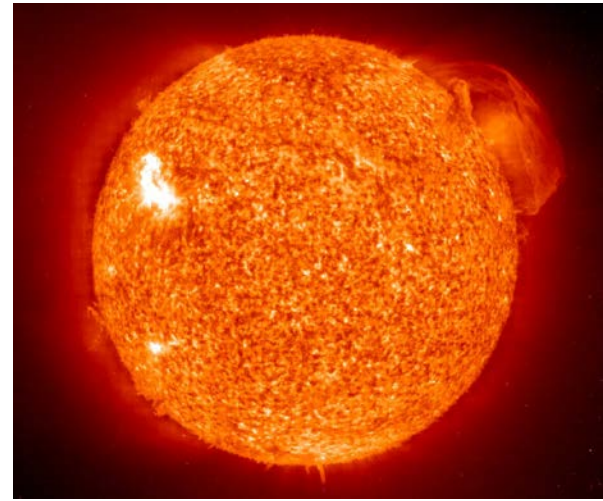


1. black body radiation
2. Hertzsprung-Russel diagram
3. evolution of the sun
4. heavier stars

# Nuclear Astrophysics



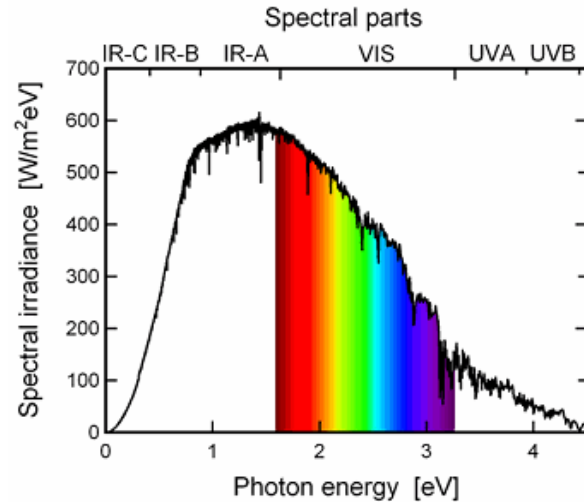
atomic nucleus  $1 \cdot 10^{-15}$  m



The every day star  $\sim 1 \cdot 10^9$  m

# What is the Sun?

The sun can be thought of as simply a source of **blackbody radiation**



Planck's law:

$$I_E dE = \frac{2\pi\nu^3}{c^2} \frac{1}{(e^{h\nu/kT} - 1)} dE$$

or equivalently:

$$I_\lambda d\lambda = \frac{2\pi hc^2}{\lambda^5} \frac{1}{(e^{hc/\lambda kT} - 1)} d\lambda$$

using the speed of light equation:  $c = \lambda \cdot \nu$

and Planck relation:  $E = h \cdot \nu$

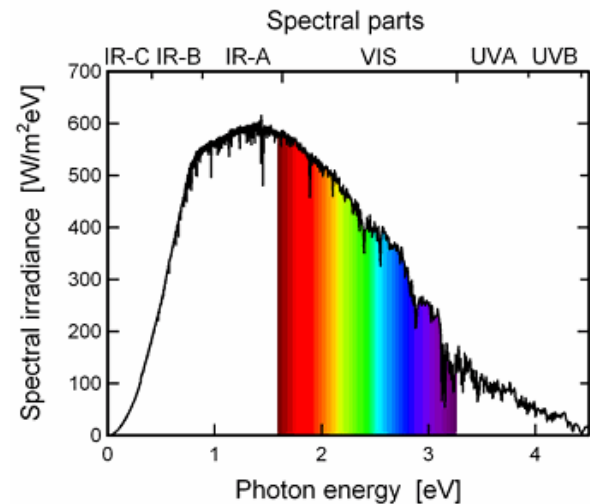
we can convert from energy to wavelength:  $E(\text{eV}) = \frac{h \cdot c}{\lambda} = \frac{1240}{\lambda(\text{nm})}$

# Total energy from the Sun

- The total energy coming from the sun can be found by integrating the solar spectrum or, in effect, Planck's law:

$$I_E dE = \frac{2\pi\nu^3}{c^2} \frac{1}{(e^{h\nu/kT} - 1)} dE$$

- Fortunately this yields a simple analytical solution
- The Stefan-Boltzmann law:  $I = \sigma \cdot T^4$
- Where  $\sigma$  is the Stefan Boltzmann constant ( $5.67 \cdot 10^{-8} \text{ W m}^{-2} \text{ K}^{-4}$ )



# Solar irradiation

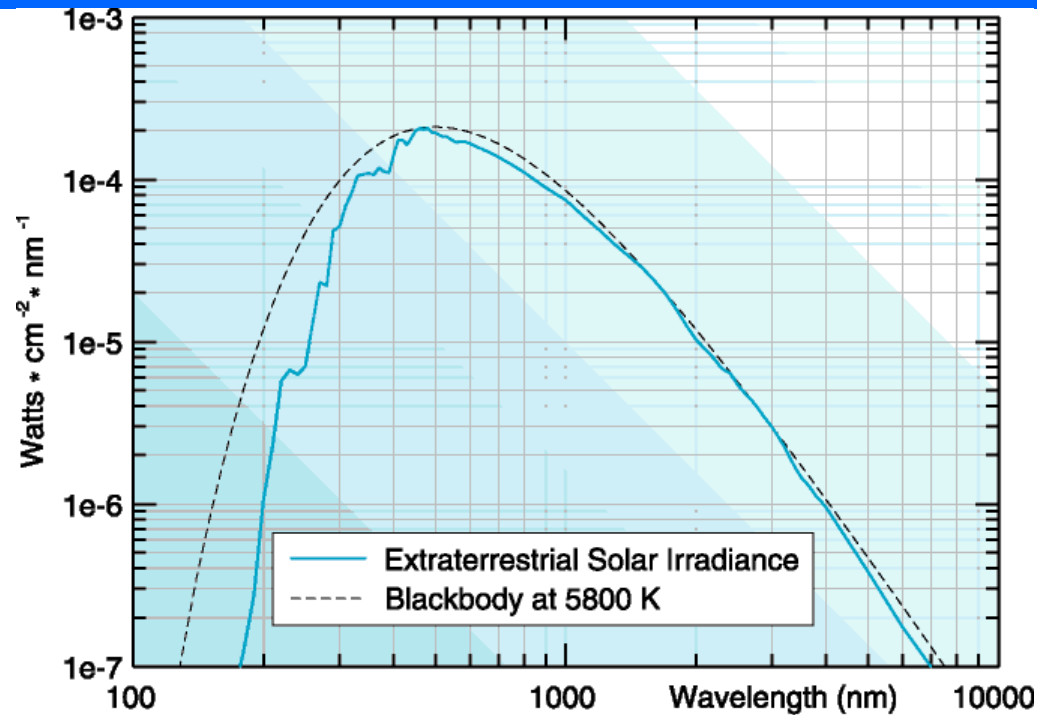


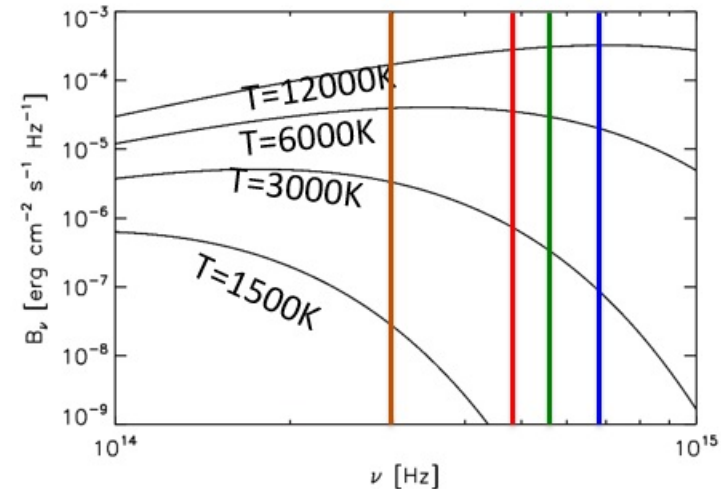
Fig. 5.7 Extraterrestrial solar irradiance compared to a blackbody.

spectrum of a black-body:

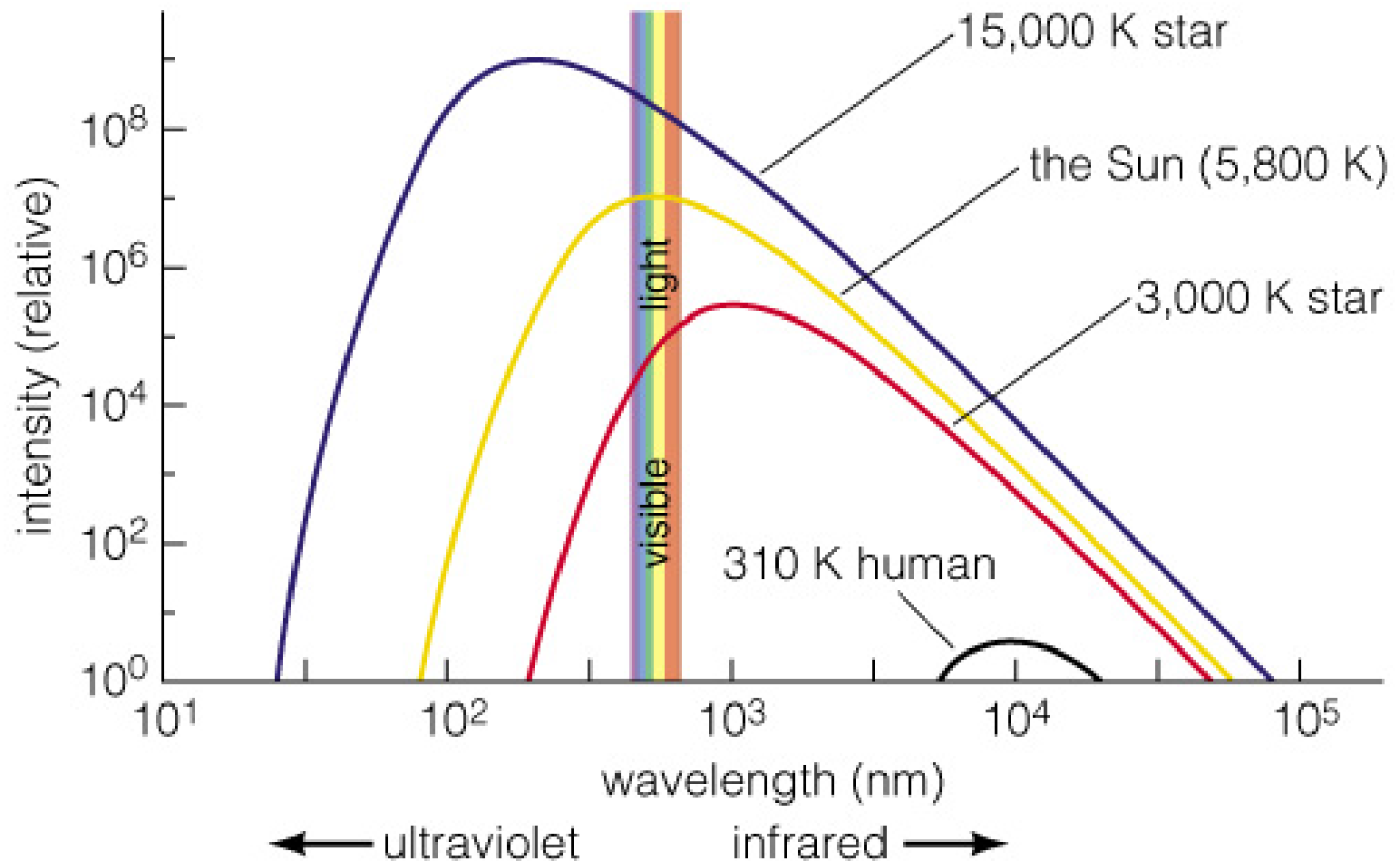
$$F_v = \pi \cdot B_v$$

$$B_v = 2 \cdot \frac{\nu^2}{c^2} \cdot h\nu \cdot \frac{1}{\exp(h\nu/k_B T) - 1}$$

Hotter blackbodies are brighter and “bluer”



# Wien's displacement law

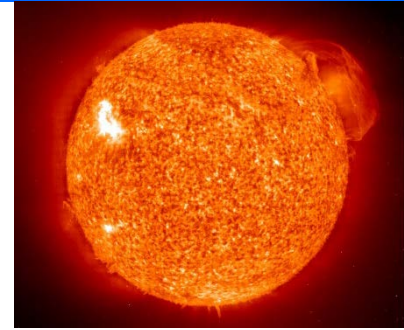


❖ „Hotter bodies radiate more strongly at shorter wavelengths (i.e. they are bluer)“

$$\lambda_{max} = \frac{0.29 \text{ cm}}{T(K)}$$

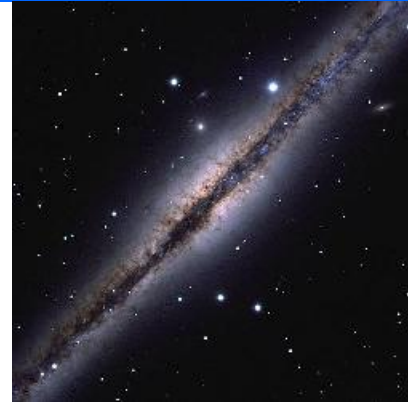
# From the Sun we have learned:

- stars are far away
- stars are bright
- stars are hot
- stars are massive



- How FAR AWAY? (DISTANCE)
- How BRIGHT? (LUMINOSITY)
- How HOT? (SPECTRAL TYPE)
- How MASSIVE? (MASS)

- Distance to stars
  - parallax method for determining distance
  - definition of the “parsec”
- Flux, luminosity and stellar magnitude
- Hertzsprung-Russell diagram

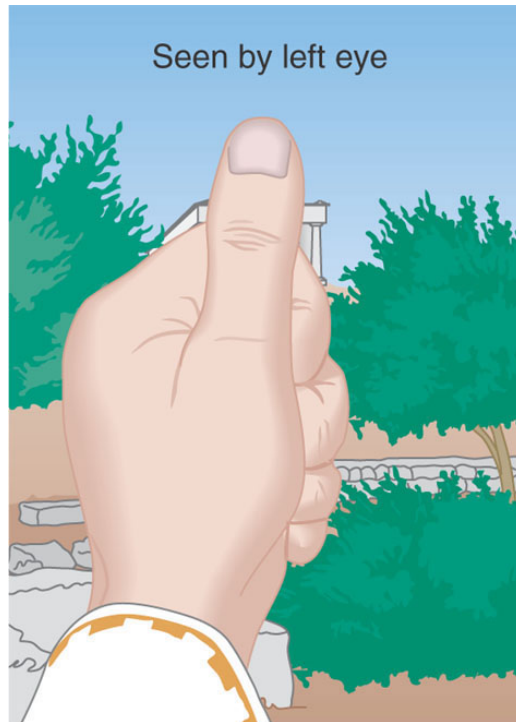




# The distance to the stars

- The **distance** to any astronomical object is the most basic parameter
  - require knowledge of distance in order to calculate just about any other property of the object
- Most direct method to measure distances to “nearby” stars uses trigonometric **parallax**
  - as Earth orbits Sun, we view a star along a slightly different line of sight
  - this causes the star to **appear** to move slightly with respect to much more distant stars
  - we can currently use this technique to measure stellar distances out to ~3000 light years from Earth

# Determination of distances - parallax

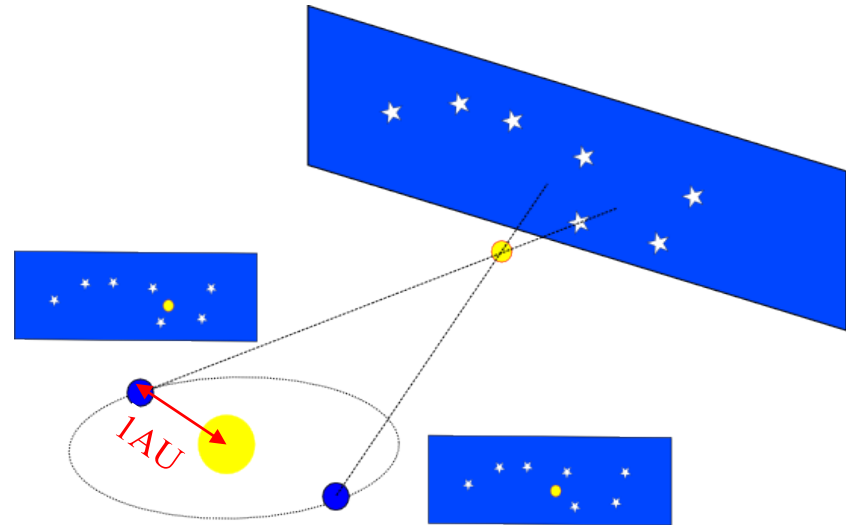


# Determination of distances - parallax

## Trigonometry:

$$1'' \triangleq 3,26Ly = 1pc$$

- Limited to stars no more than 100pc distance



$$1 \text{ arc sec} = \frac{1^0}{3600} = \frac{1^0}{3600} \cdot \frac{\pi}{180^0} = 4.85 \cdot 10^{-6} \text{ rad}$$

$$1 Ly = 2.998 \cdot 10^8 \left( \frac{m}{s} \right) \cdot 86400 \left( \frac{s}{d} \right) \cdot 365 \left( \frac{d}{y} \right) = 9.46 \cdot 10^{15} m$$

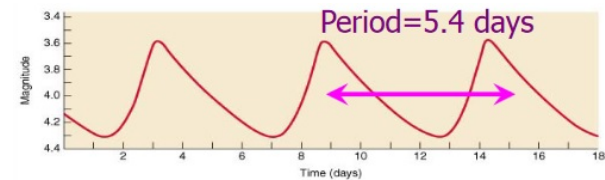
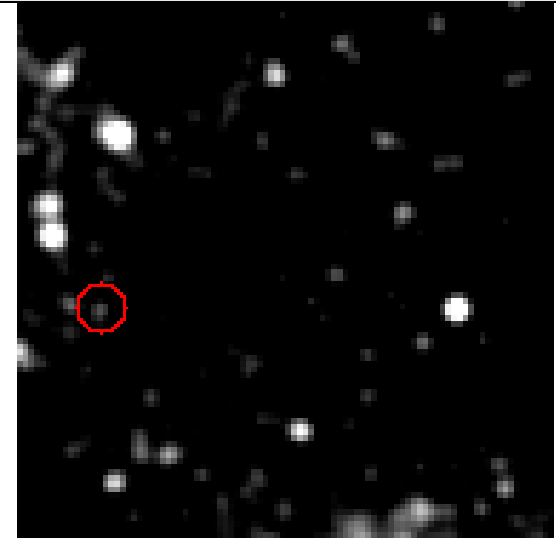
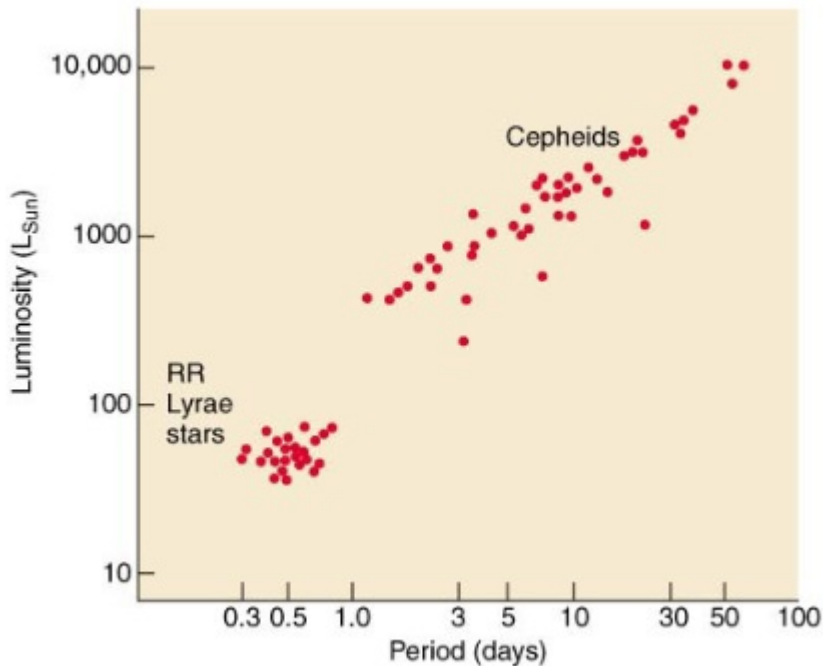
$$1 pc = \frac{1.5 \cdot 10^{11} m}{4.85 \cdot 10^{-6}} = 3.086 \cdot 10^{16} m = 3.26 Ly$$

1parsec (pc) = unit of length, measures the distance of a star with a parallax of 1 arc-second

mean Earth – Sun distance = *astronomical unit* 149 597 870 km

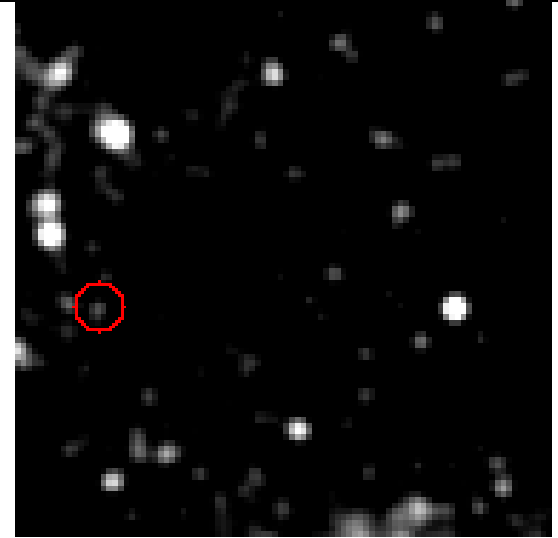
# Cepheid – intrinsic stellar pulsation

- Cepheids are stars, that undergo pulsations.
- (imbalance between ionization and gravitation)
- 1912: H. Leavitt, H. Shapley:
  - There is a linear relationship between luminosity and pulsation period.



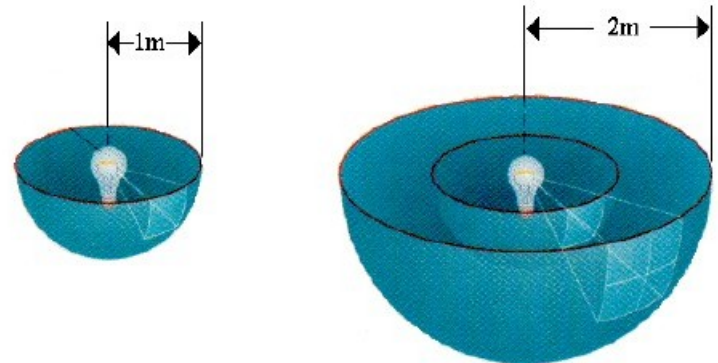
# Cepheid – intrinsic stellar pulsation

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- (imbalance between ionization and gravitation)
- 1912: H. Leavitt, H. Shapley:
  - There is a linear relationship between luminosity and pulsation period.
  - This method allows distance measurements up to 50 Mpc.

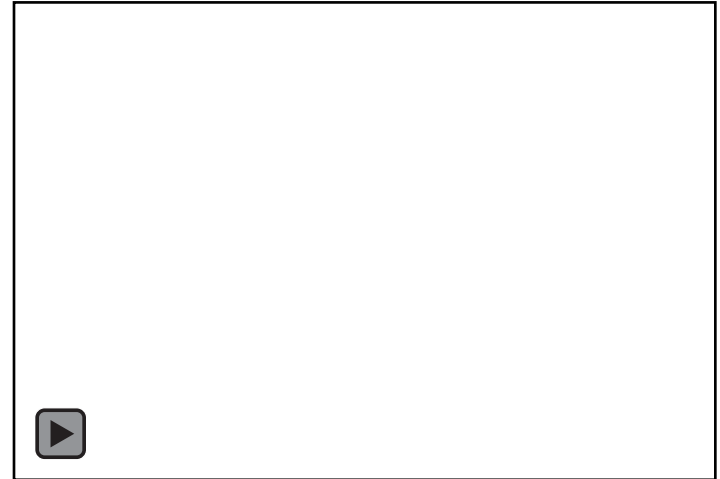
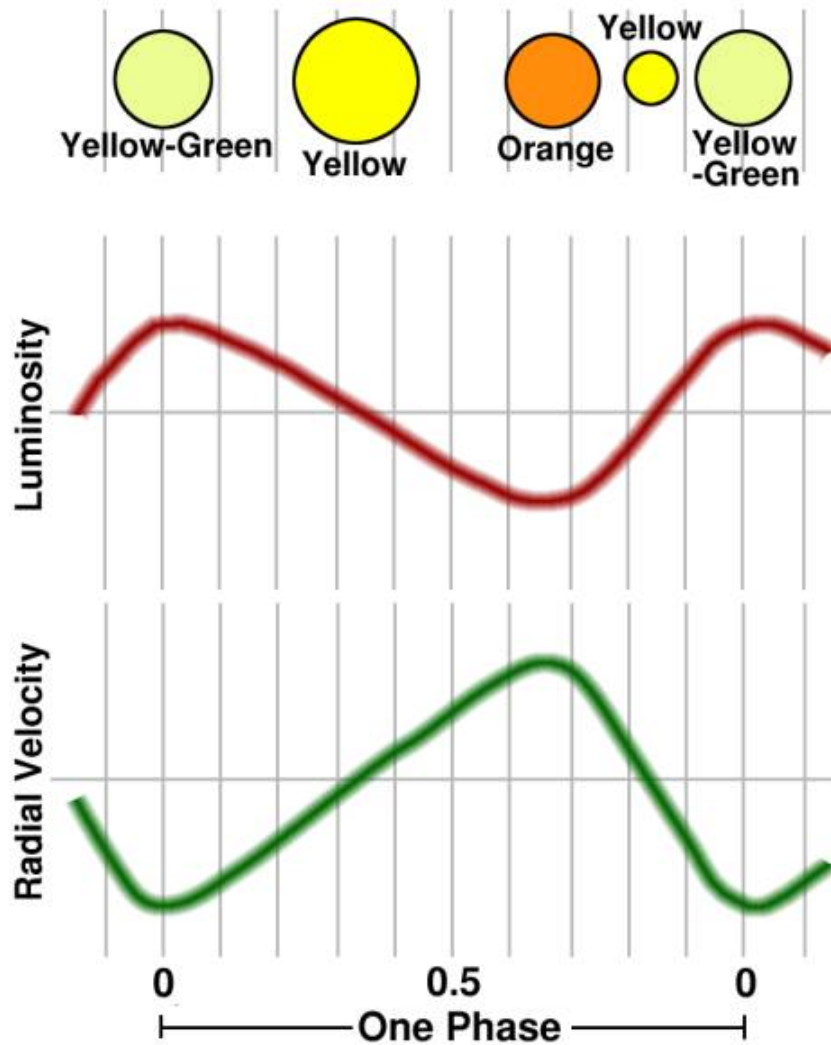


- If one measures the pulsation period of a Cepheid, one knows its true luminosity.
- One compares this with the observed brightness on Earth and obtains the cosmic distance to the star.

$$L_d = \frac{L_0}{4 \cdot \pi \cdot d^2}$$



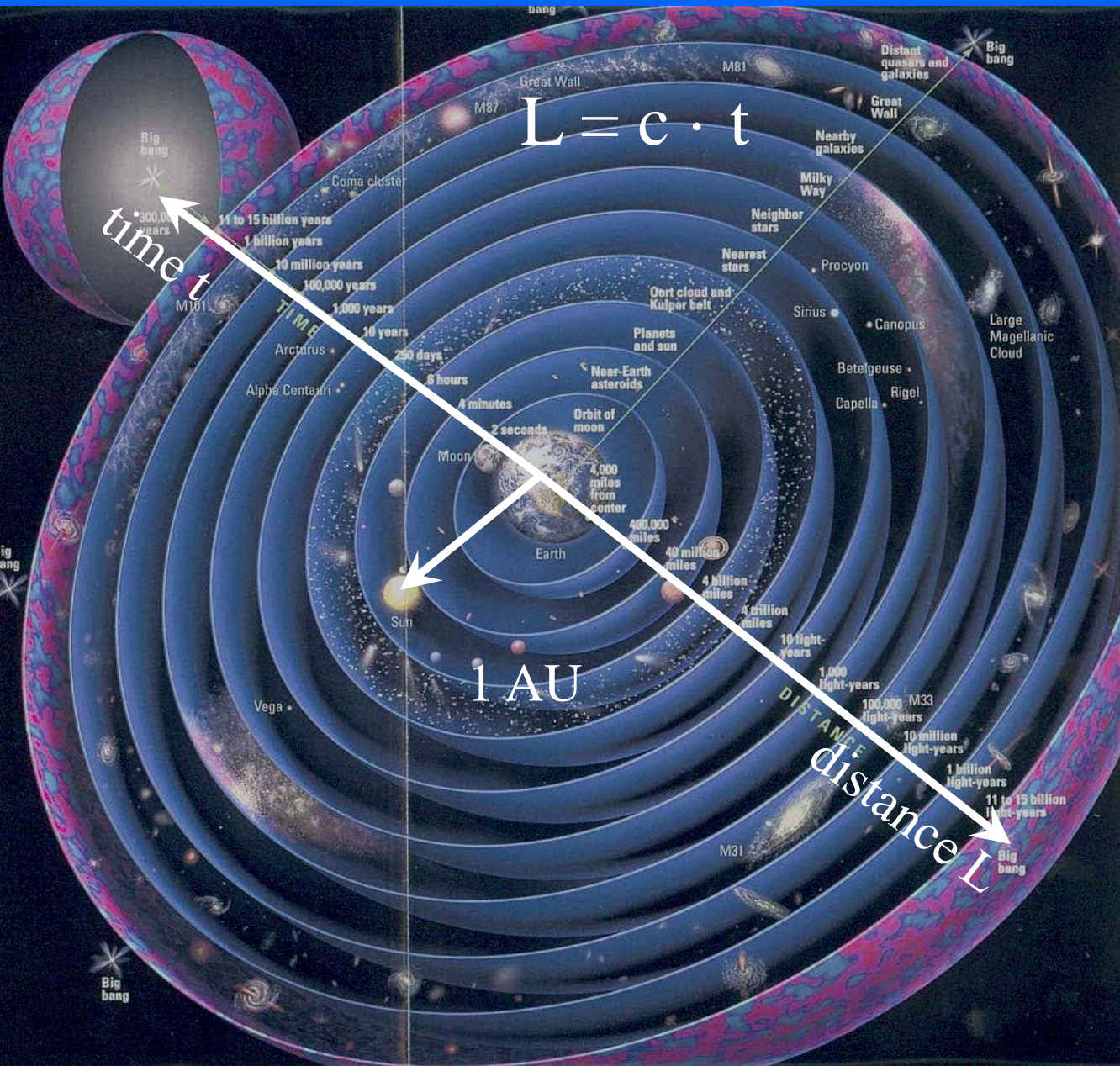
# Cepheids – intrinsic stellar pulsation



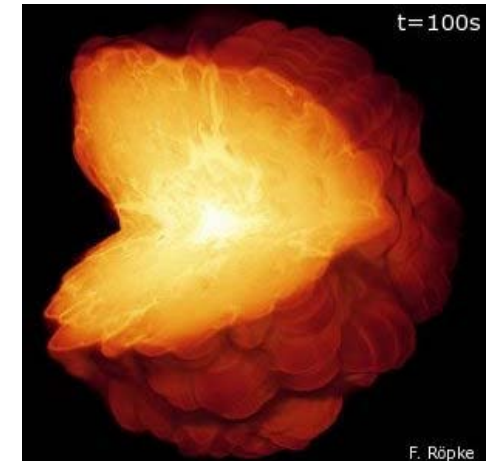
Luminosity:  
*small but hot bright*  
*big but cool dim*



# Cepheids – intrinsic stellar pulsation



50 Mpc – 3 Gpc



Supernovae Ia

1 astronomical unit (AU)

$$= 1.496 \cdot 10^{11} \text{ m}$$

1 light year (ly)

$$= 9.461 \cdot 10^{15} \text{ m}$$

$$= 63.240 \text{ AU}$$

$$= 0.3066 \text{ pc}$$

1 Parsec (pc)

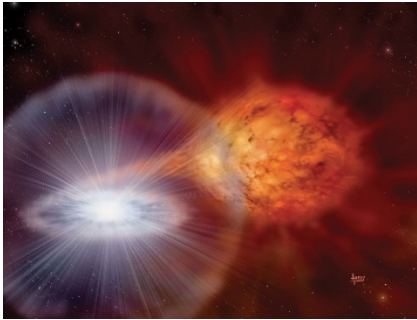
$$= 3.086 \cdot 10^{16} \text{ m}$$

$$= 2.06 \cdot 10^5 \text{ AU}$$

$$= 3.262 \text{ ly}$$

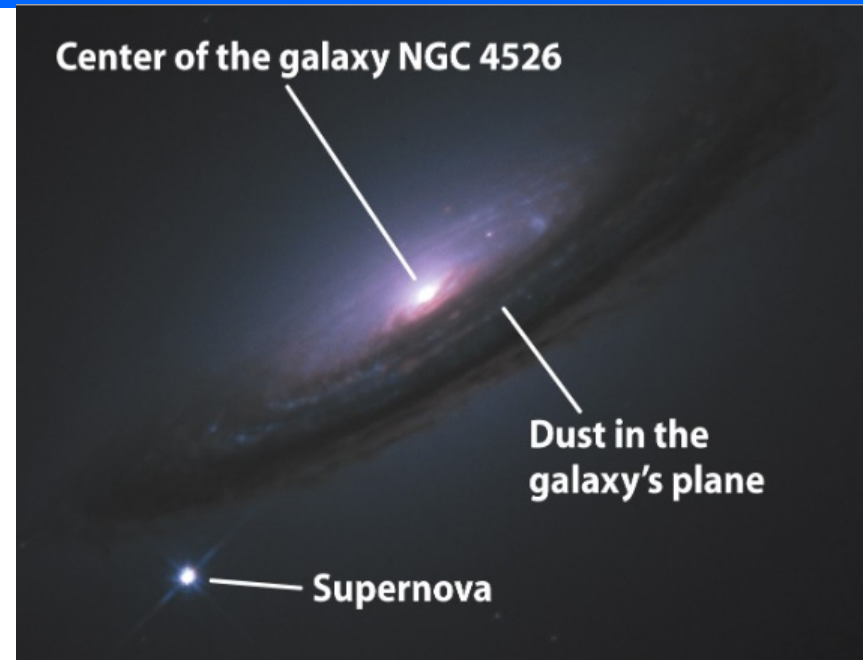
# Supernova 1A

Type Ia supernova (no H, strong Si, thermonuclear reaction)  
provide the brightest standard candle known.  
classification from their spectral observation



white dwarf in binary system

The threshold for the explosion (**Chandrasekhar mass ~ 1.38 solar mass**) is fixed and all system participate to the explosion, therefore the light emitted do not vary much between two type Ia supernovae.



$$M = 5 + 5 \cdot m \cdot \log(d)$$

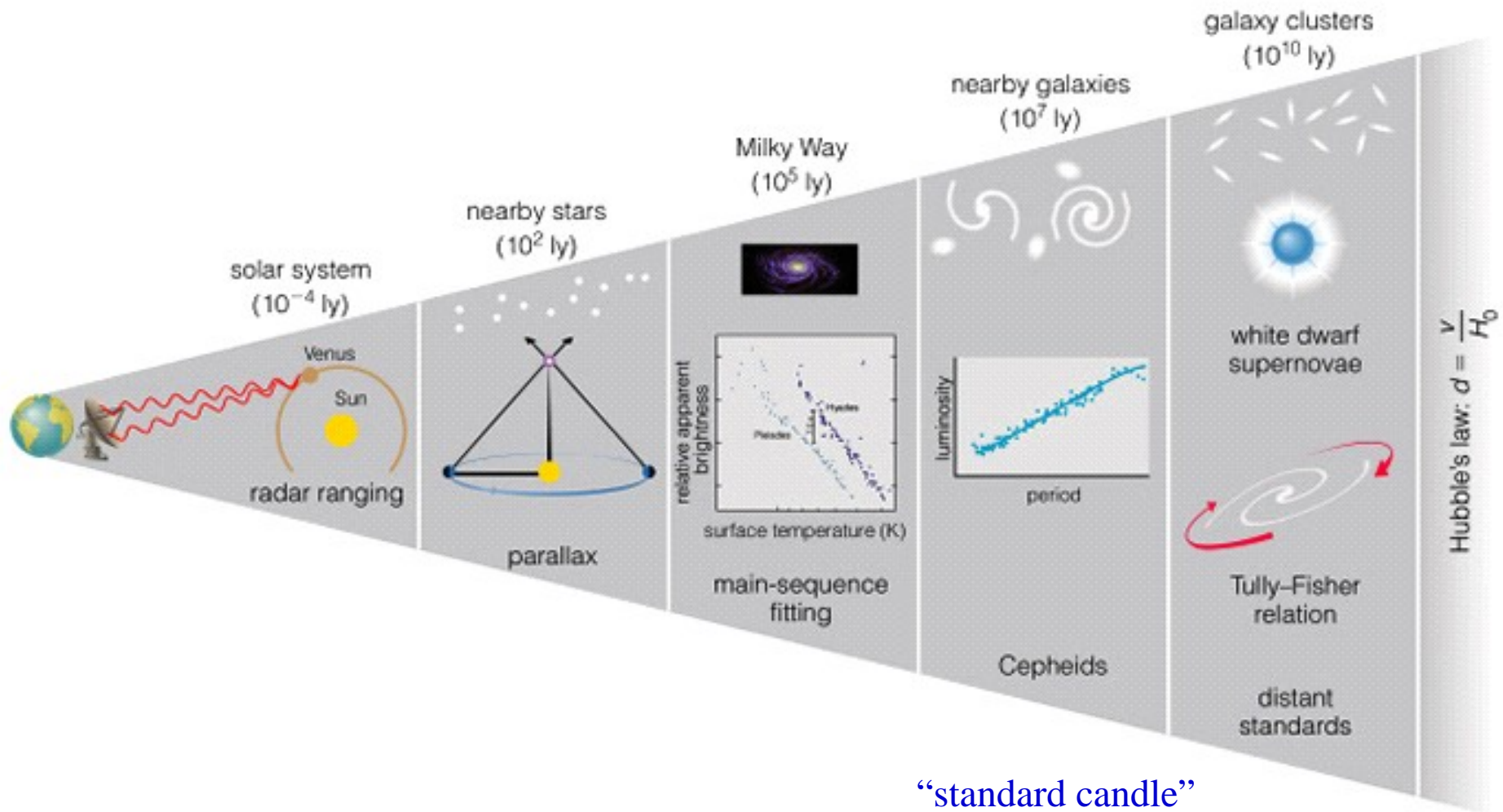
M = absolute magnitude (flux: -19.3)

m = apparent magnitude (brightness as observed from Earth)

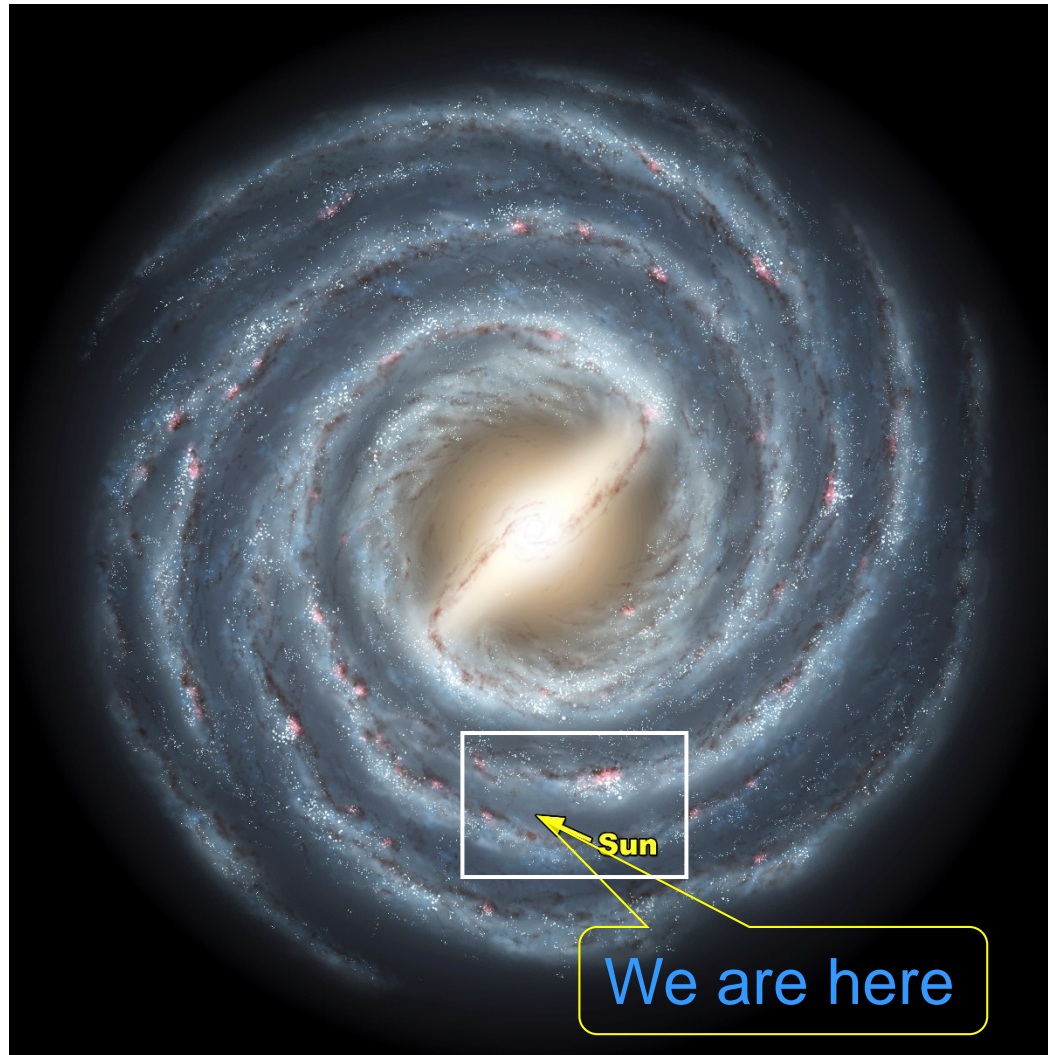
D = distance in parsecs (1 Parsec = 3.26 light years)



# cosmic distance ladder



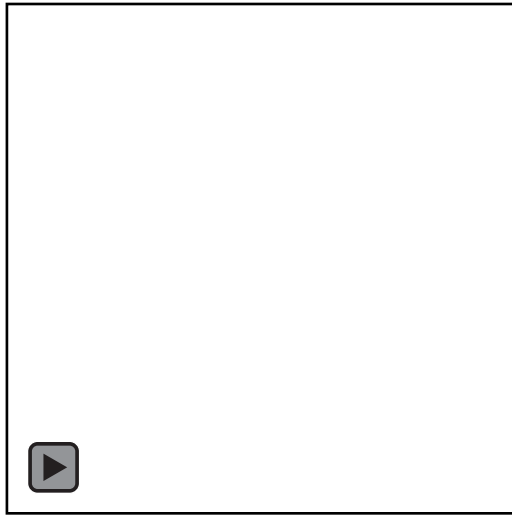
# 50 000 light years (Milky Way)



[http://www.news.wisc.edu/newsphotos/images/Milky\\_Way\\_galaxy\\_sun05.jpg](http://www.news.wisc.edu/newsphotos/images/Milky_Way_galaxy_sun05.jpg)

# Milky Way Galaxy

- The radio source Sagittarius A\* (+) is the supermassive black hole at the Galactic Center of the Milky Way

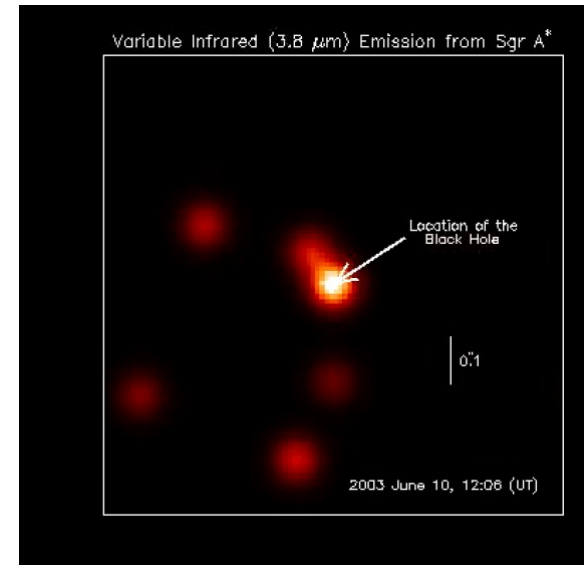


Intrinsic motion of the stars near Sgr A\*

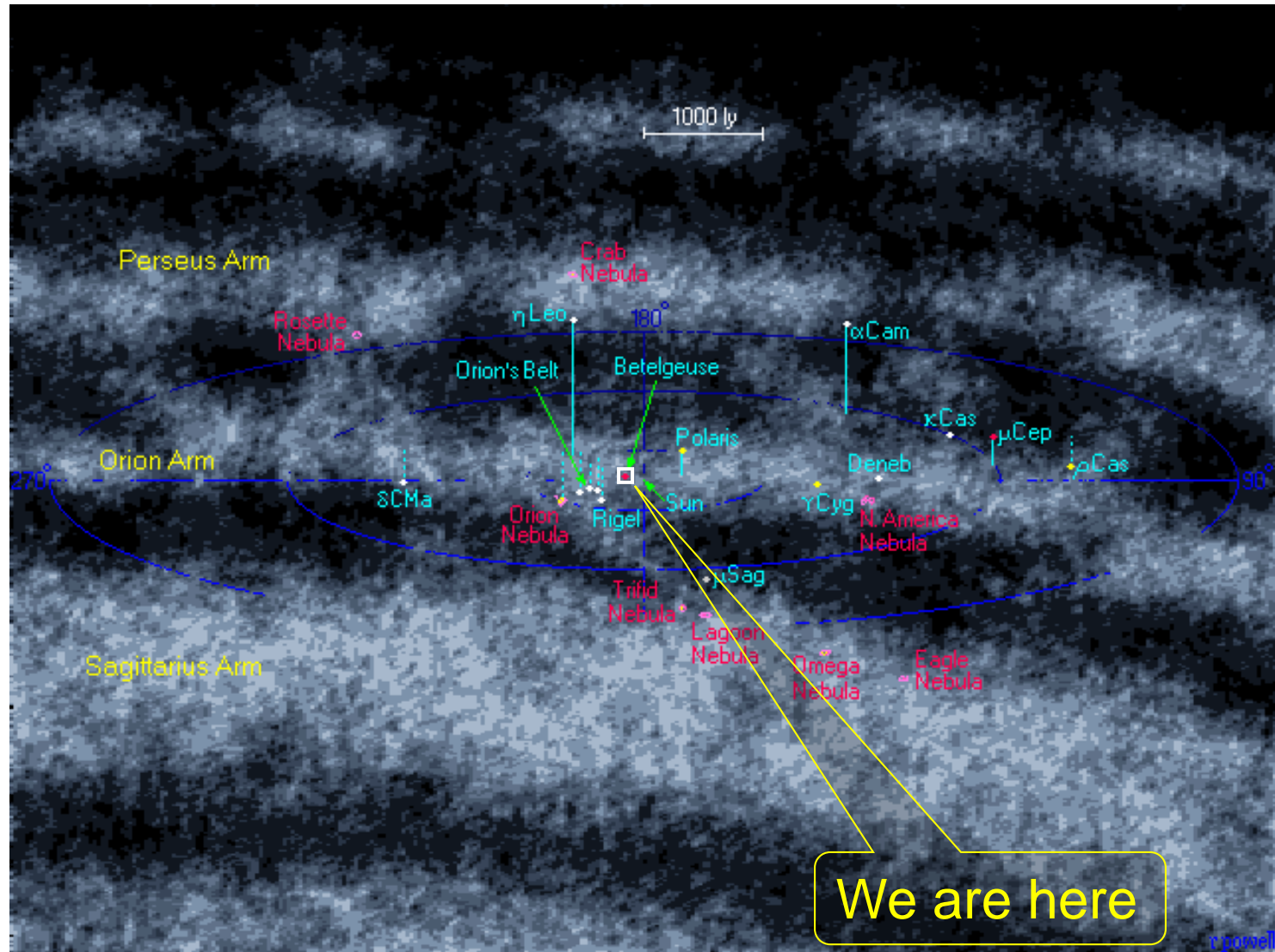
→ Mass  $(4,154 \pm 0,014) \cdot 10^6 M_{\odot}$

minimal distance of a star 17 light hours

*Genzel et al. (2003)*

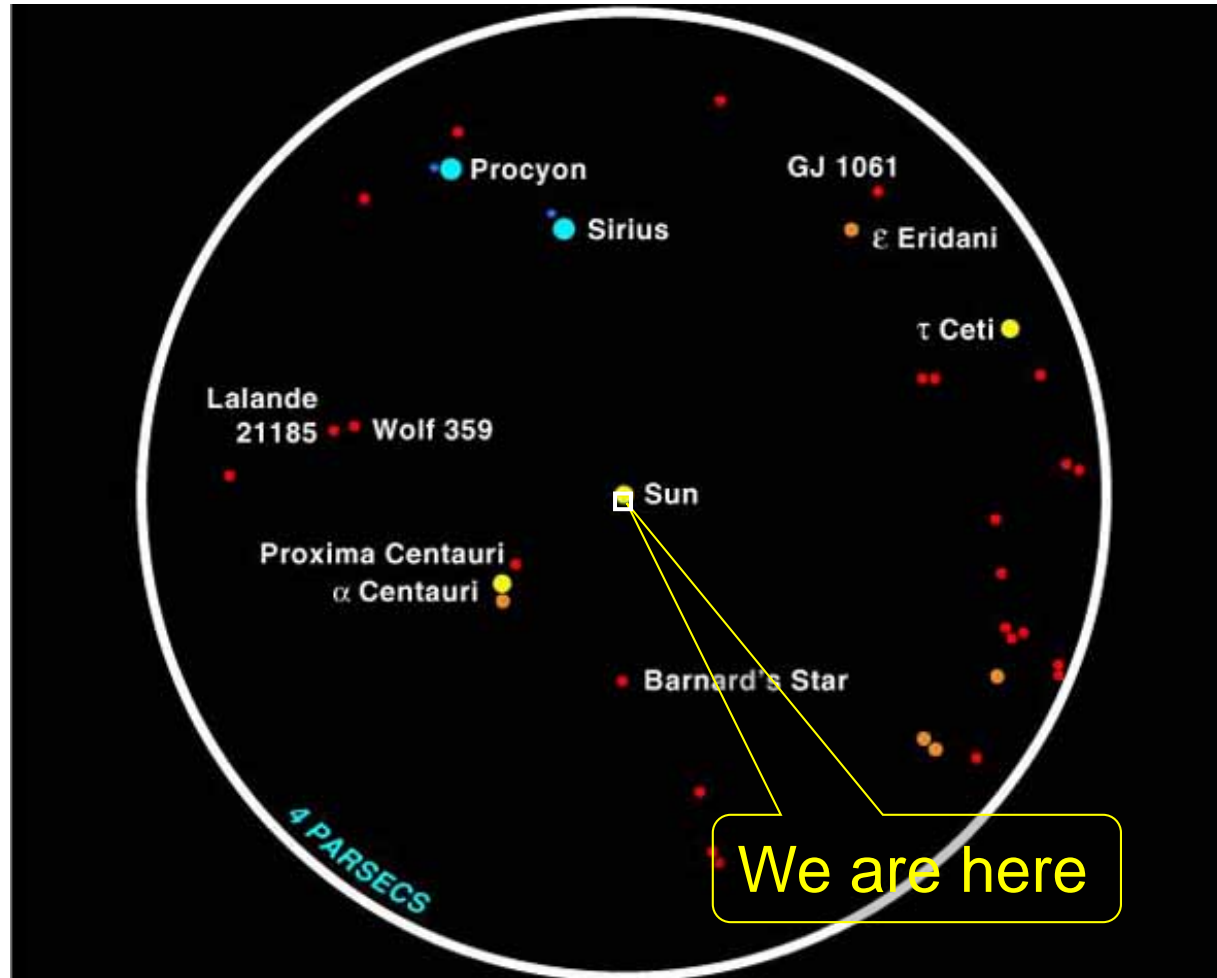


# The universe within 5000 Ly – the Orion arm



<http://www.atlasoftheuniverse.com>

# The universe within 5000 Ly – the Orion arm



All stars within 13 light years (4 parsecs) around the Sun. There are 25 other stars, many are weak shining red dwarves, which can be seen from Earth with the naked eye.

<http://stardate.org/>



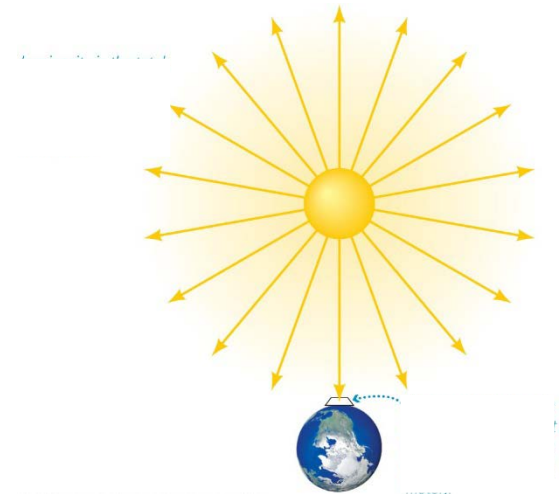
# Stellar brightness



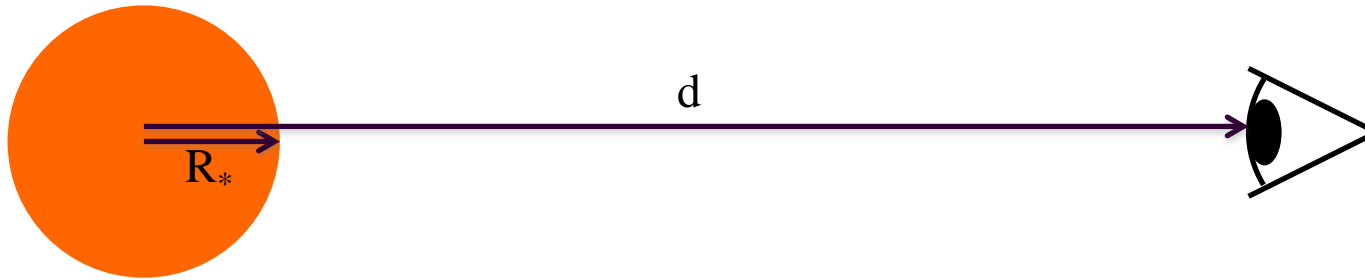
The magnitude or brightness of an object depends on both **distance** and **energy output**.

Amount of energy output a star radiates is called the **Luminosity  $L$** : *the energy per second*

Amount of starlight that reaches Earth is called the **apparent magnitude ( $m$ )**



# Stars show spectra very close to black-body radiation



J. Stefan & L. Boltzmann

flux at the surface:

$$F = \sigma_{SB} \cdot T_*^4 \quad \text{with } \sigma_{SB} = 5.67 \cdot 10^{-8} \text{ W m}^{-2} \text{ K}^{-4}$$

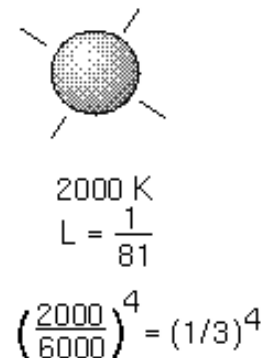
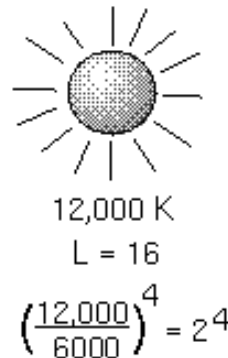
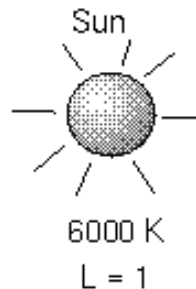
measured flux:

$$F = \left( \frac{R_*}{d} \right)^2 \cdot \sigma_{SB} \cdot T_*^4$$

luminosity (Stefan-Boltzmann law) is the flux multiplied by entire spherical surface:

$$L = 4\pi \cdot R_*^2 \cdot \sigma_{SB} \cdot T_*^4$$

Luminosity is proportional to *fourth* power of temperature.



# Stellar apparent magnitudes

2<sup>nd</sup> century BC, Hipparchus

*ranked all visible stars*

brightest = magnitude 1

faintest = magnitude 6.

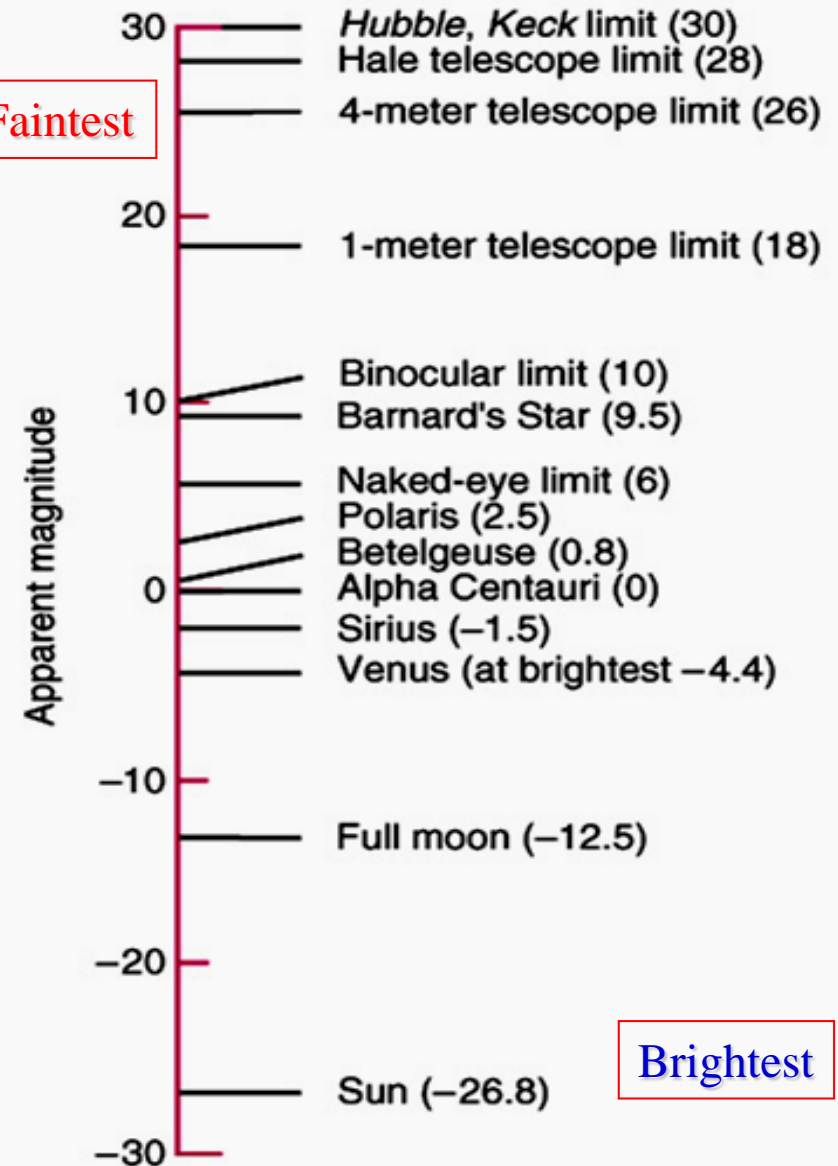
To our eyes, a change of one magnitude  
= a factor of 2.5 in *flux*.

**Hence**

The magnitudes scale is logarithmic.

A change of 5 magnitudes means the flux  
100 x greater!

Faintest





# Luminosity and apparent magnitude

- Modern definition: If two stars have *fluxes*  $F_1$  and  $F_2$ , then their **apparent magnitudes**  $m_1$  and  $m_2$  are given by

$$m_2 - m_1 = 2.5 \log_{10} \frac{F_1}{F_2}$$

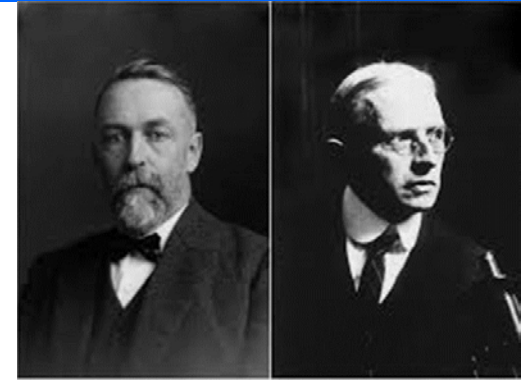
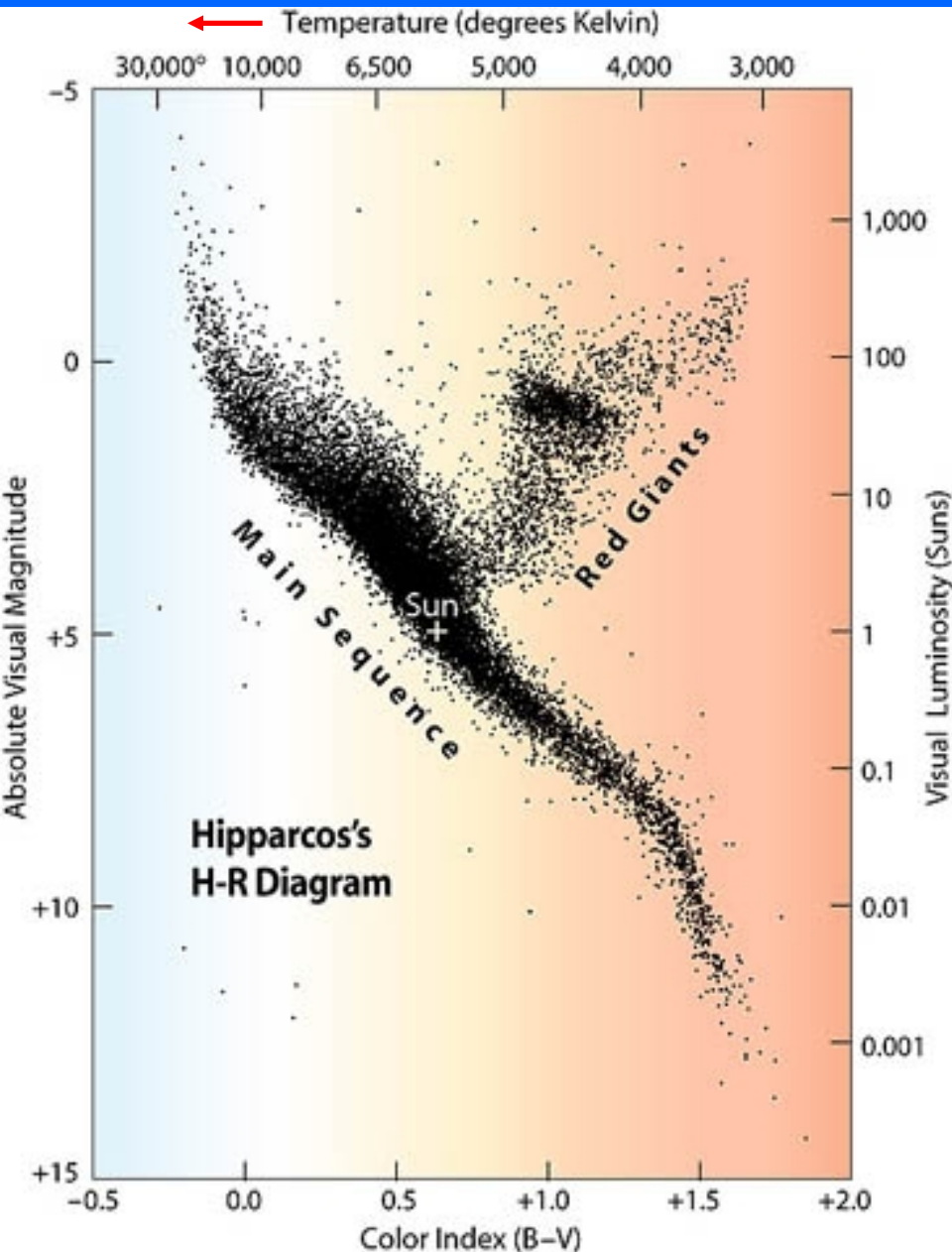
- Notes
  - The star **Vega** is defined to have an apparent magnitude of **zero**!  
This allows one to talk about the apparent magnitude of a given star rather than just differences in apparent magnitudes

$$m = k - 2.5 \log_{10} F$$

# Luminosity and apparent magnitude

- Higher apparent magnitudes, are fainter stars!
- A difference of 5 magnitudes corresponds to a factor of 100 in flux
- Brightest star (Sirius) has  $m=-1.44$
- Faintest stars visible to human eye have  $m=6.5$
- Sun has  $m=-26.7$
- Full Moon has  $m=-12.6$
- Venus at its brightest  $m=-4.7$
- Pluto has  $m=13.65$
- Faintest object visible by Hubble Space Telescope is  $m=30$

# Hertzprung-Russell (HR) diagram of all stars at a range of 300 light years



Ejnar Hertzsprung, Henry Norris Russell

absolute luminosity  
versus  
temperature

The stars are stationary on the  
'main sequence',  
as long as the fusion of protons  
to helium persists

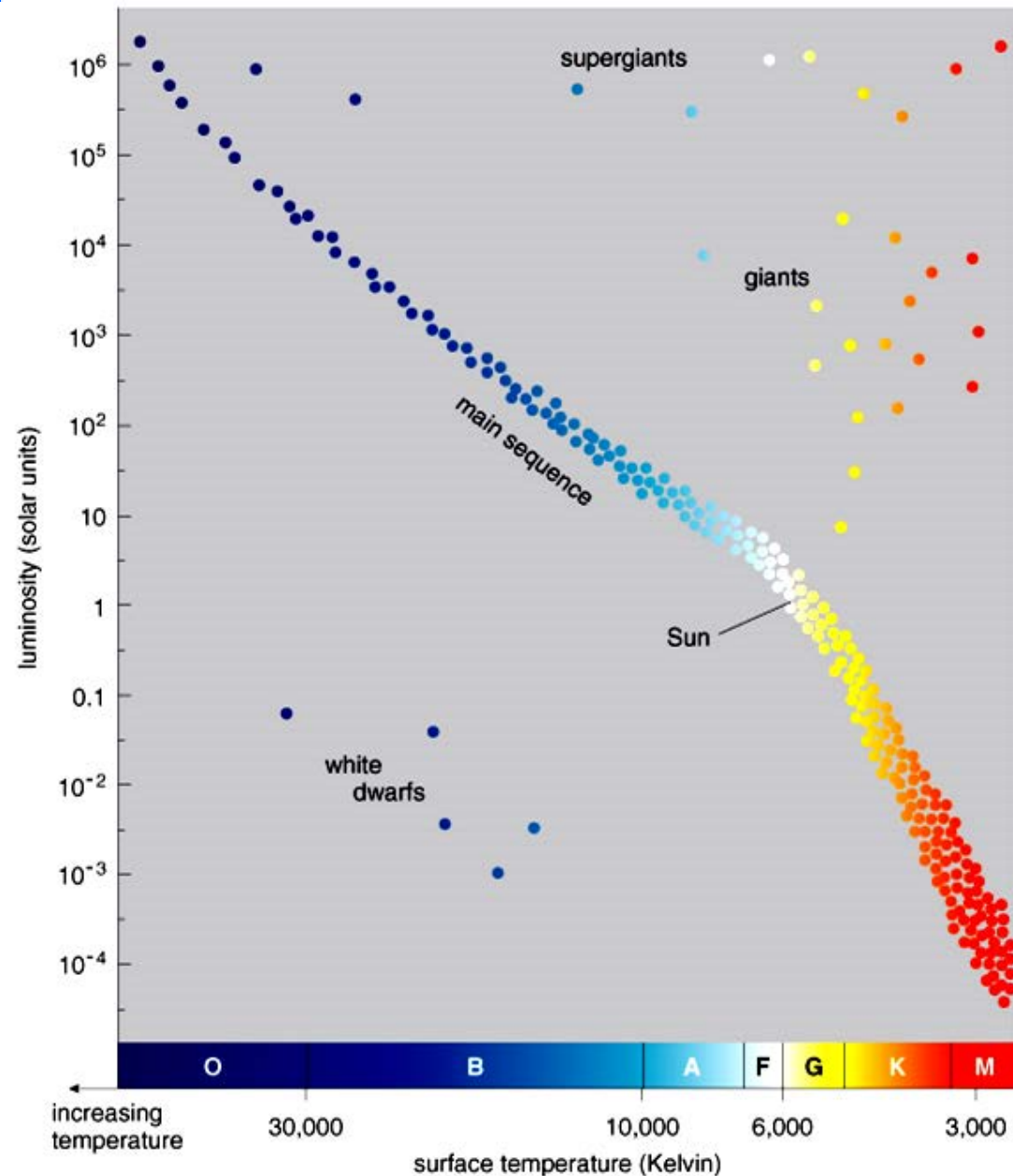
This time depends very sensitively  
on the mass of the individual star

$$L = 4\pi \cdot R_*^2 \cdot \sigma_{SB} \cdot T_*^4$$

# Hertzprung-Russell (HR) diagram

About 90% of all stars (including the Sun) lie on the Main Sequence.

...where stars reside during their core Hydrogen-burning phase.



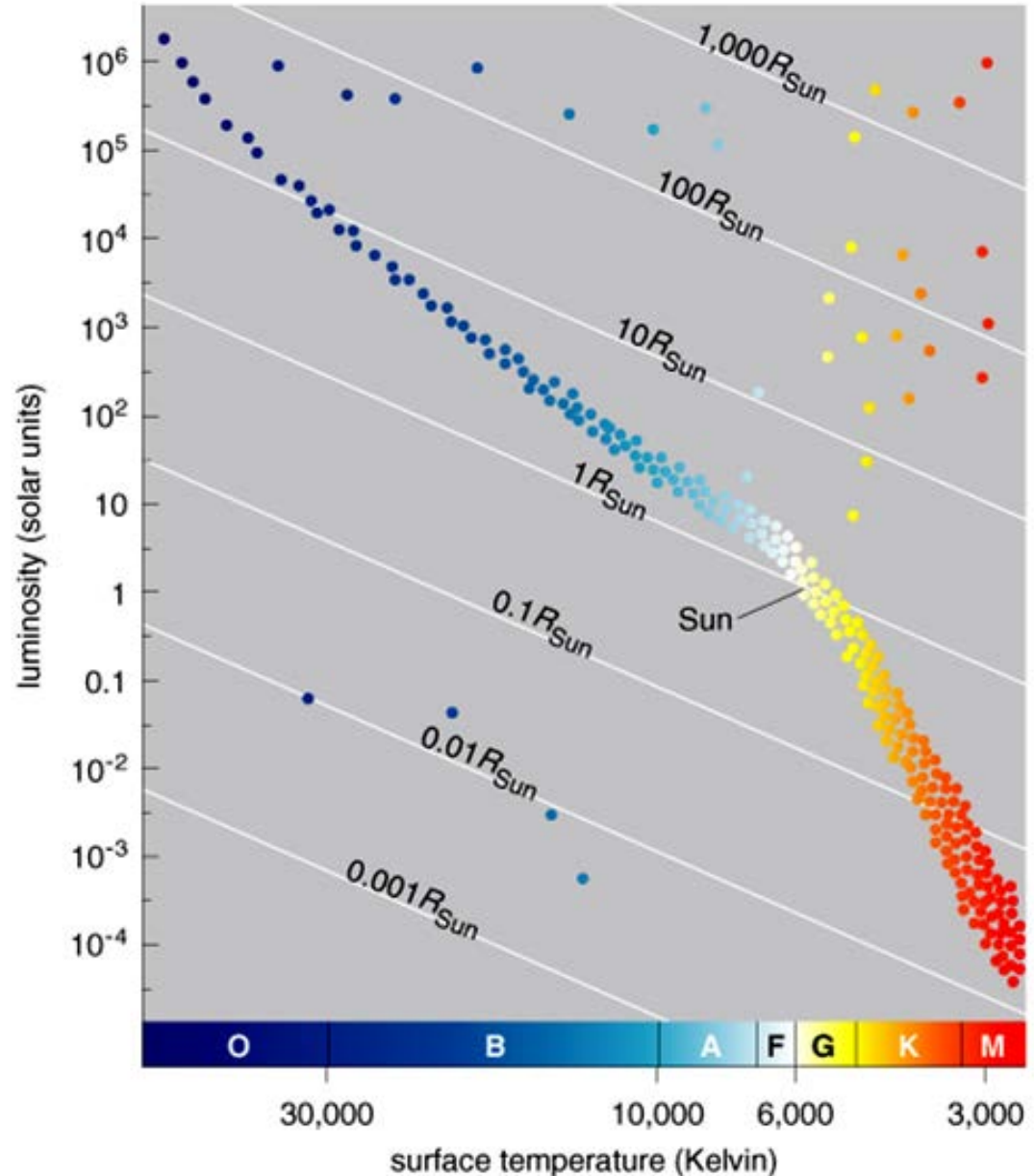
# Hertzprung-Russell (HR) diagram

From Stefan's  
law.....

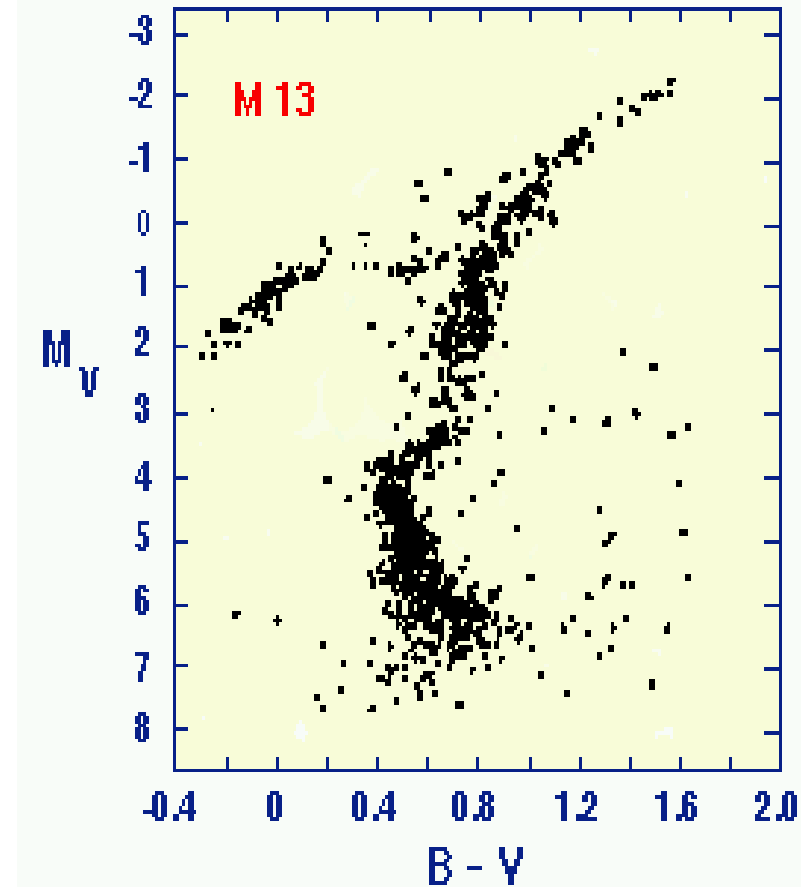
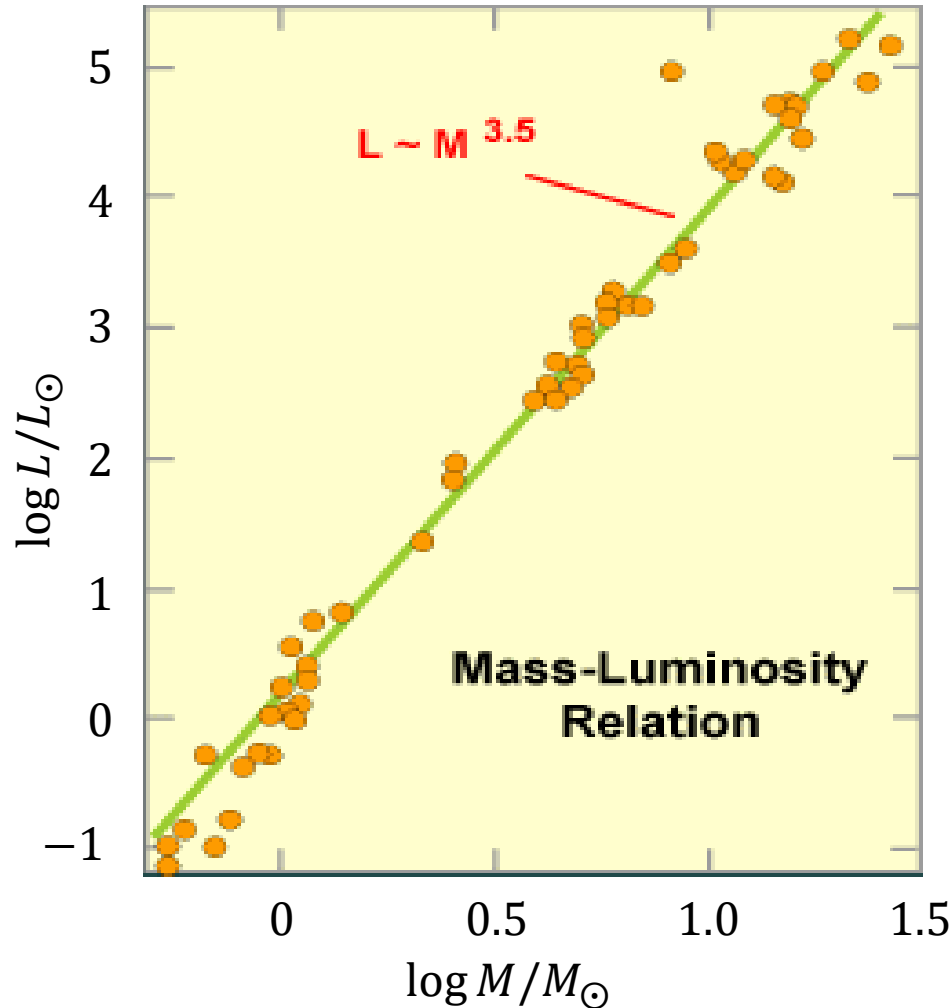
$$L = 4\pi R^2 \sigma T^4$$

➤ More luminous  
stars at the same T  
must be bigger!

➤ Cooler stars at  
the same L must  
be bigger!



# Age of Global Cluster from 'kink' at main sequence



$$T_{MS} = M/L \propto M^{-2.5}$$

*mass* ( $M_{sun}$ )    *lifetime* (years)

1	$\sim 10^{10}$
5	$\sim 10^8$
10	$\sim 10^7$

$$T_{GC}/T_{\odot} = [M_{\odot}/M_{GC}]^{2.5}$$

# How does mass effect how long a star will live

$$\text{Lifetime} \propto \text{Fuel available} / \text{How fast fuel is burned}$$

So for a star

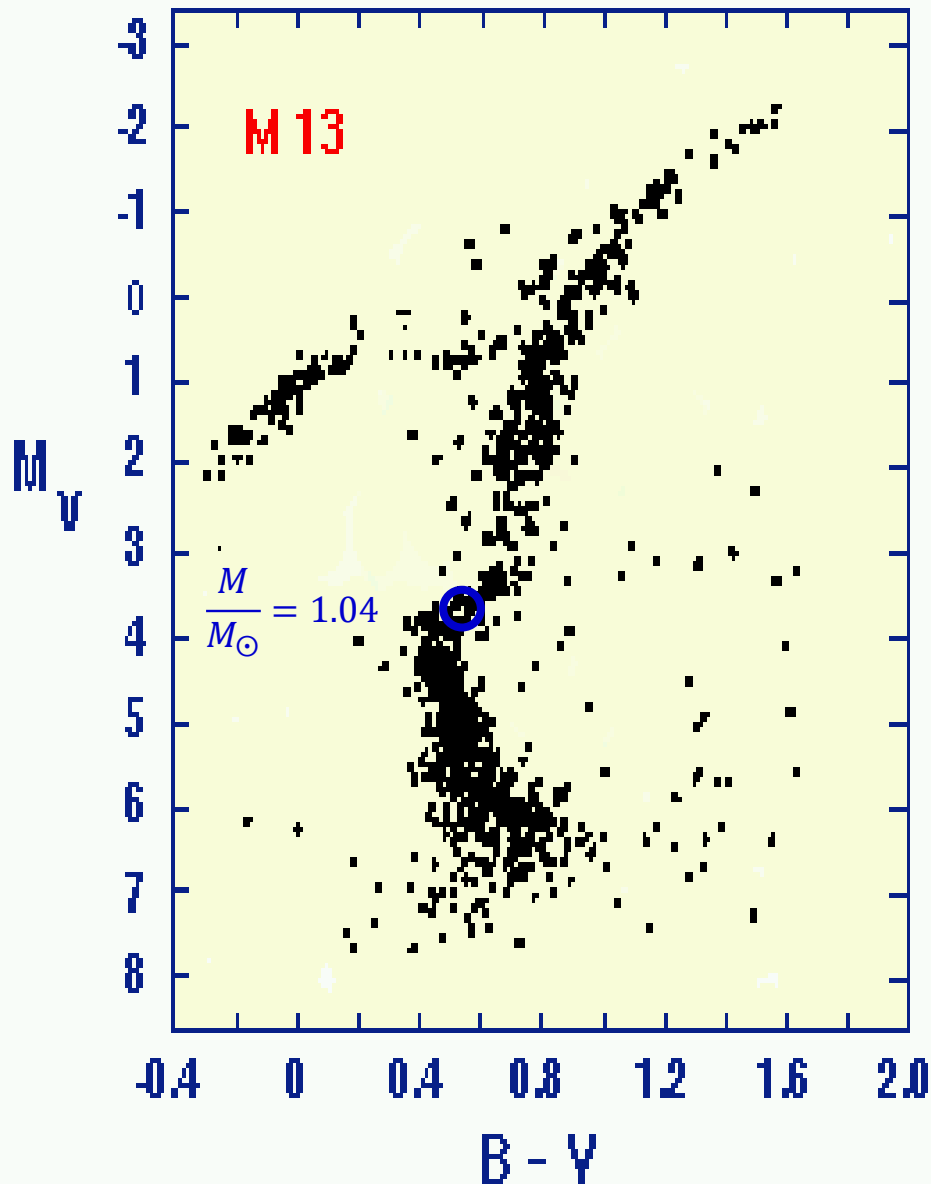
$$\text{Lifetime} \propto \text{Mass} / \text{Luminosity}$$

Or, since  $\text{Luminosity} \propto \text{Mass}^{3,5}$

For main sequence stars

$$\text{Lifetime} \propto \text{Mass} / \text{Mass}^{3,5} = 1 / \text{Mass}^{2,5}$$

*Big stars live shorter lives, burn their fuel faster ...*



For our Sun this time  
is about 9 billion years (Gyr)  
for lighter stars longer,  
for heavier ones shorter

$$T_{\text{main sequence}} = 9 \text{ Ga} \cdot [M_{\odot}/M]^{2.5}$$

when observing at which mass  $M$   
the stars of M13 are leaving the  
main sequence

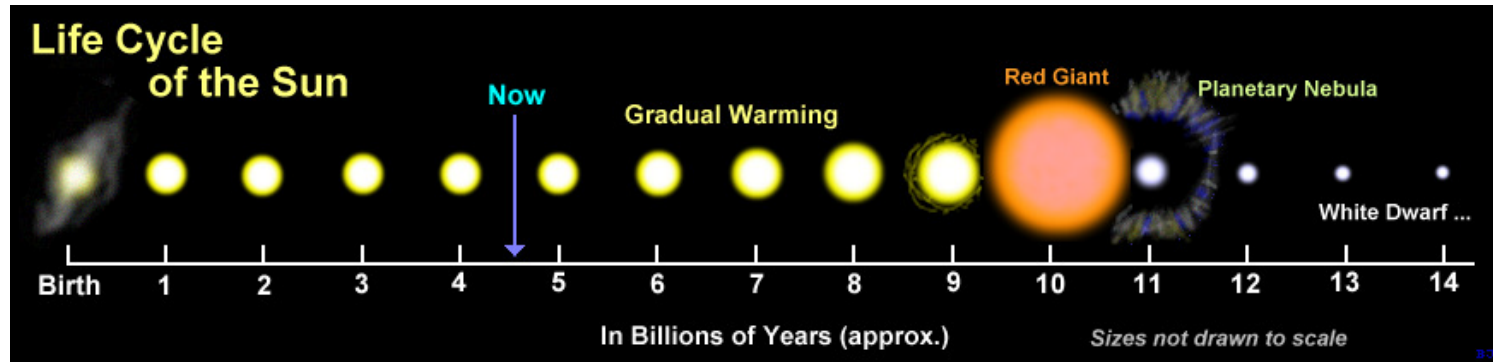
one can determine the age of M13  
- and therewith the  
minimum age  $T_G$  of our galaxy

$$\text{from } M = 1.04 \cdot M_{\odot}$$

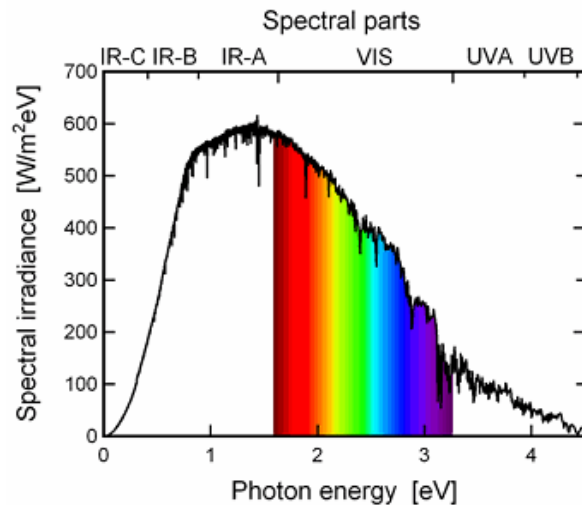
$$\rightarrow T_G > 8 \text{ Ga}$$



# Life cycle of the Sun low-mass stars



The sun can be thought of as simply a source of **blackbody radiation**

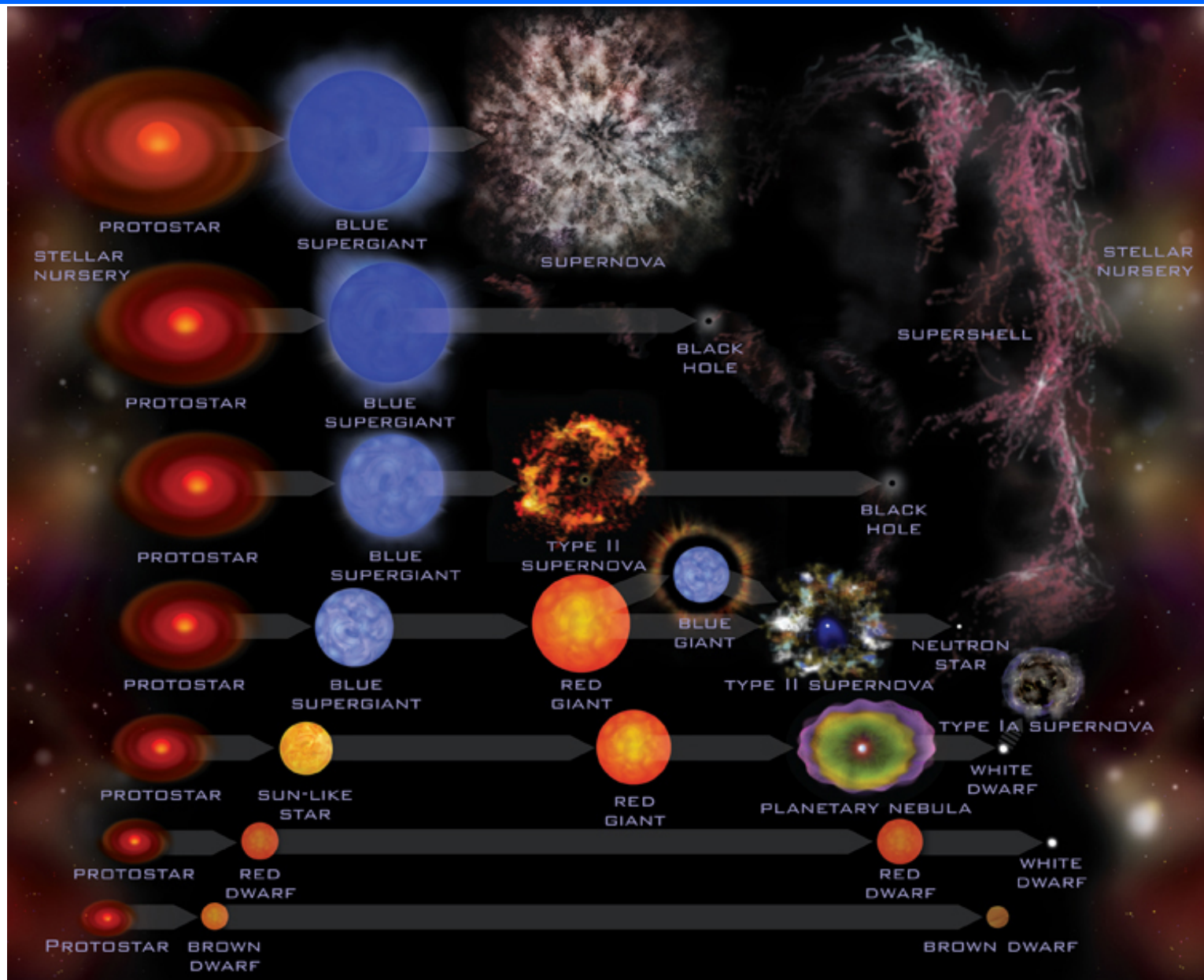


Planck's law:

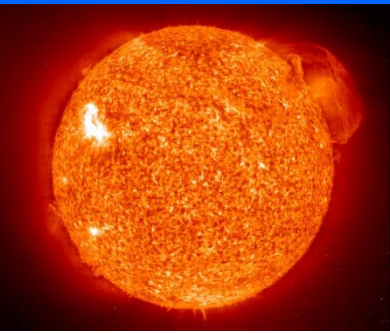
$$I_{\lambda}d\lambda = \frac{2\pi hc^2}{\lambda^5} \frac{1}{(e^{hc/\lambda kT} - 1)} d\lambda$$

$$I_E dE = \frac{2\pi \nu^3}{c^2} \frac{1}{(e^{h\nu/kT} - 1)} dE$$

# Stellar evolution



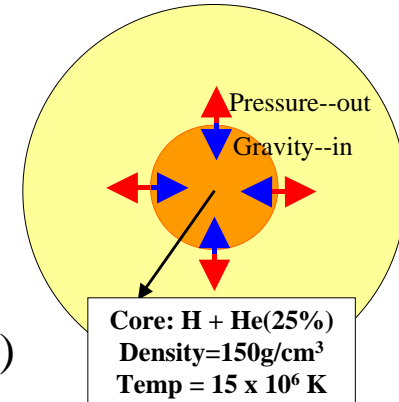
# Nature of stellar evolution



Stellar structure and evolution controlled by:

- 1) gravity → collapse
- 2) internal pressure → expansion

Star composed of many particles ( $\sim 10^{57}$  in the sun)



Total energy:

- a) mutual gravitational energy of particles ( $\Omega$ )
- b) internal (kinetic) energy of particles (including photons) ( $U$ )

For an ideal gas in hydrostatic equilibrium:  $2U + \Omega = 0$  (virial theorem)

*Assume pressure imbalance*

→ gravitational contraction sets in

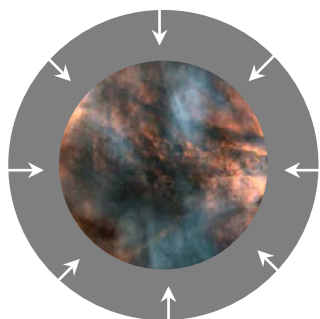
→ amount of energy released  $-\Delta\Omega$

→ internal energy change to restore equilibrium  $\Delta U = -\frac{1}{2}\Delta\Omega$

→ gas temperature increases

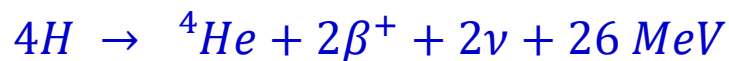
→ energy excess  $-\frac{1}{2}\Delta\Omega$  lost from star in form of radiation

# Principle of stellar structure and evolution



gravitational contraction of gas (mainly H) → increase of central temperature T  
T high enough → “nuclear burning” takes place

Hydrogen burning (1<sup>st</sup> equilibrium)



↑  
ash

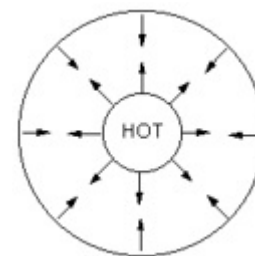
↑  
energy source

of nuclear burning

gravitational collapse is halted → star undergoes phase of hydrostatic equilibrium

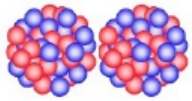
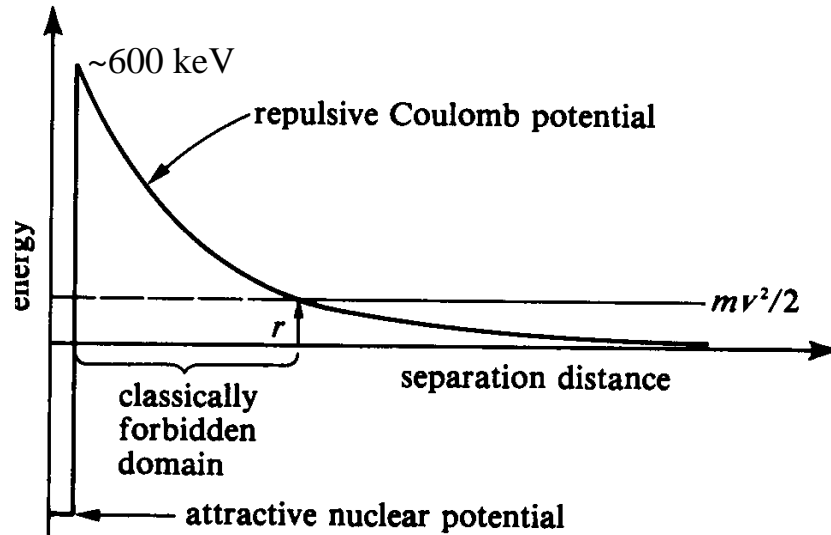


main sequence stars



Here:  $T \sim (10-15) \cdot 10^6 \text{ K}$  and  $\rho \sim 10^2 \text{ g/cm}^3$  are required →  $M > 0.1 M_{\odot}$  (Jupiter ( $10^{-3} M_{\odot}$ ) = failed star)

# Fusion reaction in a gas



R

difficultly arises from the **Coulomb repulsion** between positively charged nuclei.

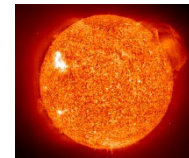
$$U = \frac{q_1 \cdot q_2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 \cdot r}$$

We can classically calculate the point of closest approach if the initial velocity of approach is  $v$

$$r_{close} = \frac{2q_1q_2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 \cdot mv^2}$$

Naively setting  $r \sim 10^{-15} \text{ m}$  and  $mv^2 = 3kT$  would require  $T \sim 10^{10} \text{ K}$  to get the nuclei close enough to fuse.

What is wrong?



$T \sim 15 \cdot 10^6 \text{ K}$

$$kT \sim 8.6 \times 10^{-8} T[\text{K}] \text{ keV} \Rightarrow k \cdot T \sim 1 \text{ keV}$$

# We have forgotten two crucial effects

## 1. The broad velocity distribution of the nuclei at a given T

The velocities in the center of mass frame of two particles with reduced  $m = m_1 \cdot m_2 / (m_1 + m_2)$  will be given by Maxwell distribution:

$$f(v)dv \propto \left(\frac{m}{2\pi kT}\right)^{3/2} 4\pi v^2 \cdot \exp\left(-\frac{mv^2}{2kT}\right) dv$$

Note that, at a given T, the number of particles at high velocity  $v$  *drops exponentially with  $v^2$*

## 2. Quantum tunneling through a potential barrier

The probability of quantum tunneling through a distance  $r$  is given in terms of the de Broglie wavelength  $\lambda$ :

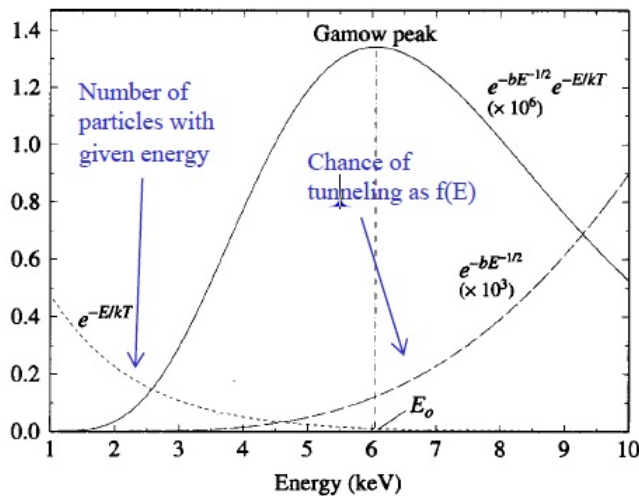
$$P \propto \exp\left(-\frac{2\pi^2 r_{close}}{\lambda}\right) \propto \exp\left(-\frac{4\pi^2 q_1 q_2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 h v}\right)$$

Note that the probability of quantum tunneling therefore *increases exponentially with  $v$  as  $e^{-1/v}$*

# Gamow peak

The probability of a fusion reaction happening to a given pair of particles with a certain  $v$  will therefore be proportional to the product of these two competing terms

$$dN \propto n_1 n_2 \cdot \sigma \cdot v \cdot \exp\left(-\frac{mv^2}{2kT} - \frac{\pi q_1 q_2}{\varepsilon_0 h v}\right) dv dt \propto \exp(-\alpha E - \beta E^{-1/2}) dE dt$$



This is a **highly peaked function** with a maximum  $(dN/dE) = 0$  when the two terms are equal (plus a factor of 2 from differentiating)

$$v_{max} = \left( \frac{\pi q_1 q_2 kT}{\varepsilon_0 h m} \right)^{1/3}$$

- most of the reactions will occur with kinetic energies close to the **Gamow peak**
- the overall rate reactions strongly *increases with temperature*

$$E_0 \cong 0.12204(Z_1^2 Z_2^2 \cdot A)^{1/3} T_9^{2/3} \text{ MeV}$$

$$\Delta E \cong 0.23682(Z_1^2 Z_2^2 \cdot A)^{1/6} T_9^{5/6} \text{ MeV}$$

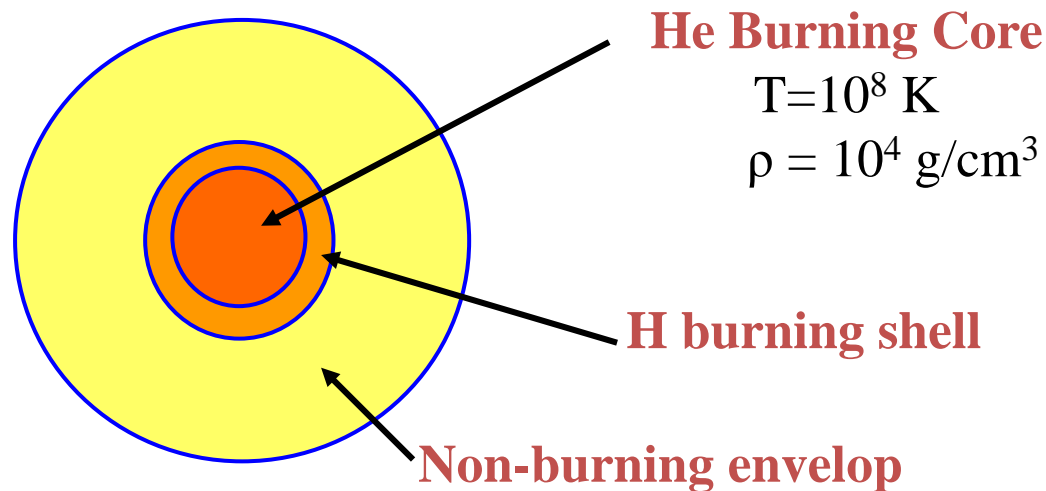
# How the sun evolves

## Core hydrogen burning ends

- Consumed central 10% of sun
- No heat source, pressure decreases, gravity wins
- Core collapses, releases gravitational energy which heats the core

## Core helium burning starts

- Core hot-allows fusion of two He's ( $Z=2$ )
- Helium fuses to  $^{12}\text{C}$ ,  $^{16}\text{O}$
- Hydrogen burns in shell





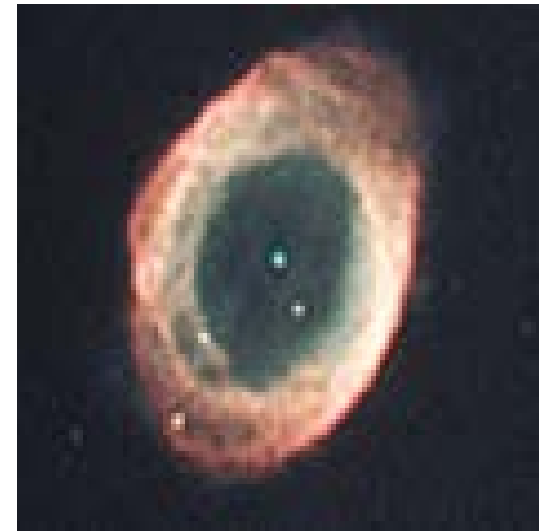
# What's next for the sun?

## It's the end of the line

- Helium burning ends after  $10^8$  years, C and O core
- Gravitational collapse, BUT, never reach sufficient T to fuse C + C.
- Collapse continues to  $10^7$  g/cm<sup>3</sup>-- **electron pressure** stops collapse
- Shells still burning, unstable, blow off planetary nebula

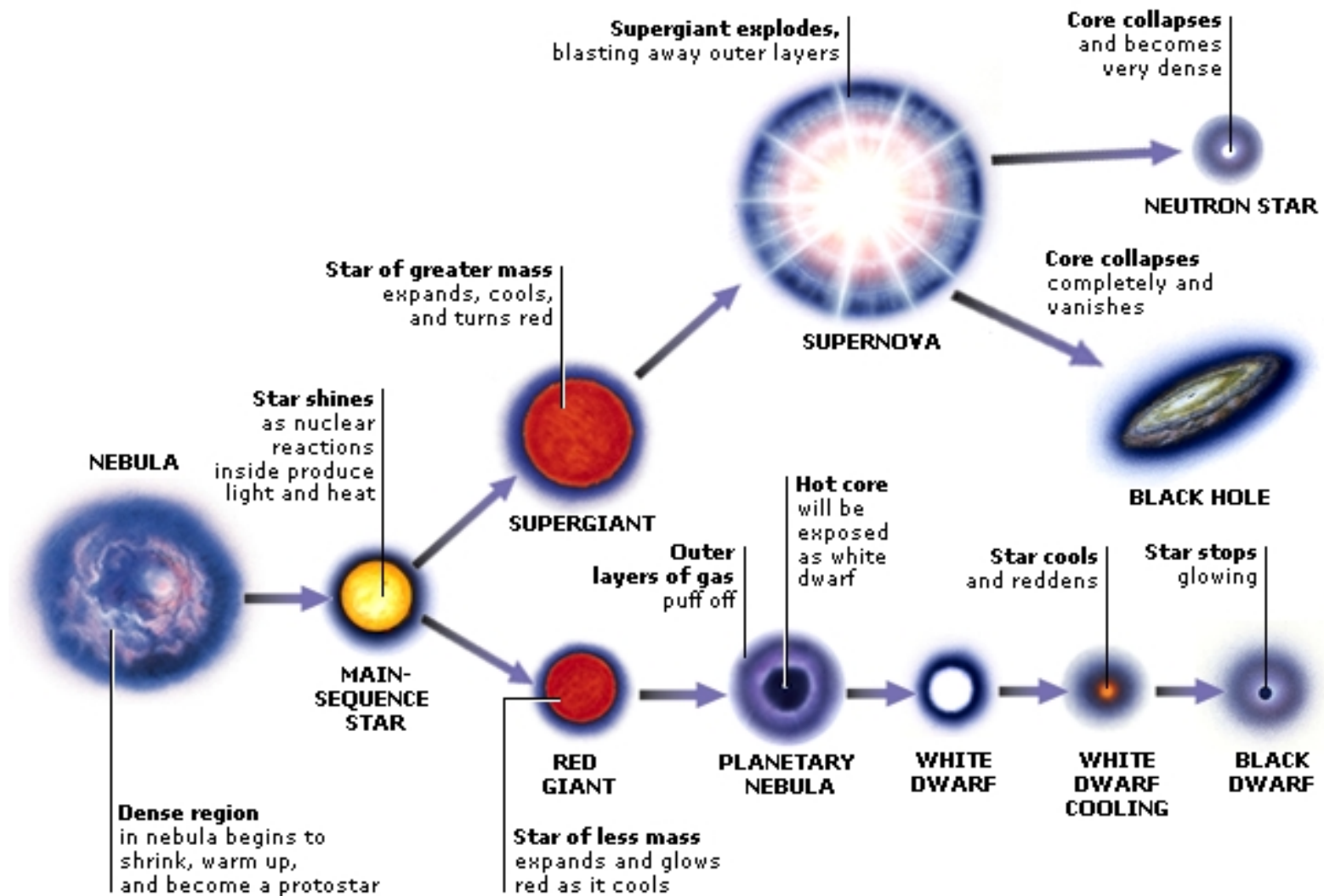
**Star becomes a white dwarf (e.g. Sirius B).**

<b>Property</b>	<b>Earth</b>	<b>Sirius B</b>	<b>Sun</b>
Mass ( $M_{\text{sun}}$ )	$3 \times 10^{-6}$	0.94	1.00
Radius ( $R_{\text{sun}}$ )	0.009	0.008	1.00
Luminosity ( $L_{\text{sun}}$ )	0.0	0.0028	1.00
Surface T (K)	287	27,000	5770
Mean $\rho$ (g/cm <sup>3</sup> )	5.5	$2.8 \times 10^6$	1.41
Central T (K)	4200	$2.2 \times 10^7$	$1.6 \times 10^7$
Central $\rho$ (g/cm <sup>3</sup> )	9.6	$3.3 \times 10^7$	160

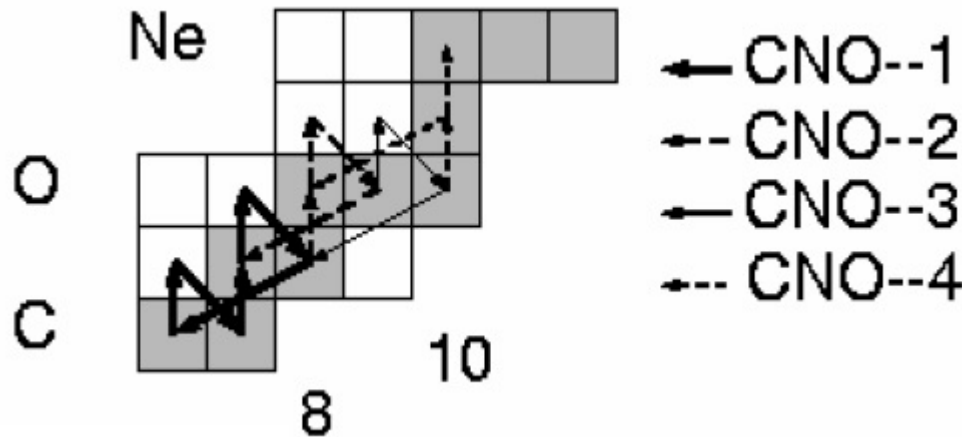


**Ring nebula in Lyra-  
NGC 6720—a  
planetary nebula**

# Stellar evolution

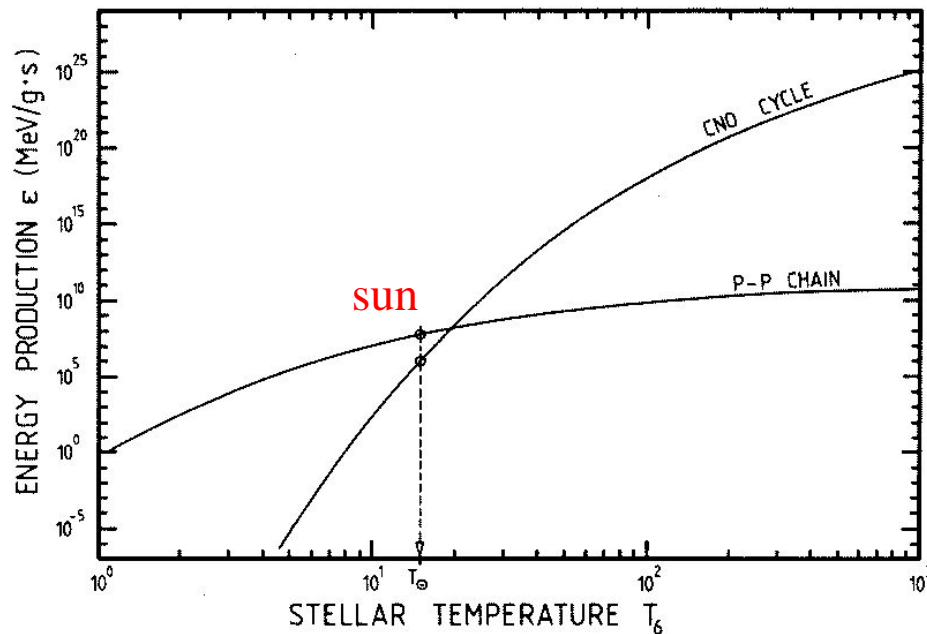


# Hydrogen burning in massive stars



Requires existing CNO abundances as catalyzing isotopes for He production through consecutive four proton capture and two beta-decay processes

energy production rate:



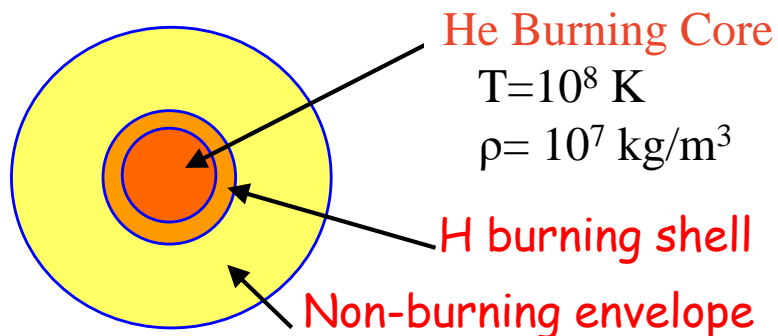
Competition between the pp chain and the CNO cycle

$$M \geq 1.5 M_{\odot} \Rightarrow T_6 > 30$$

CNO burning is necessary for massive star evolution to stabilize stellar core against gravitational contraction!

# Heavy-mass stars – the stellar onion

Starts like the sun:

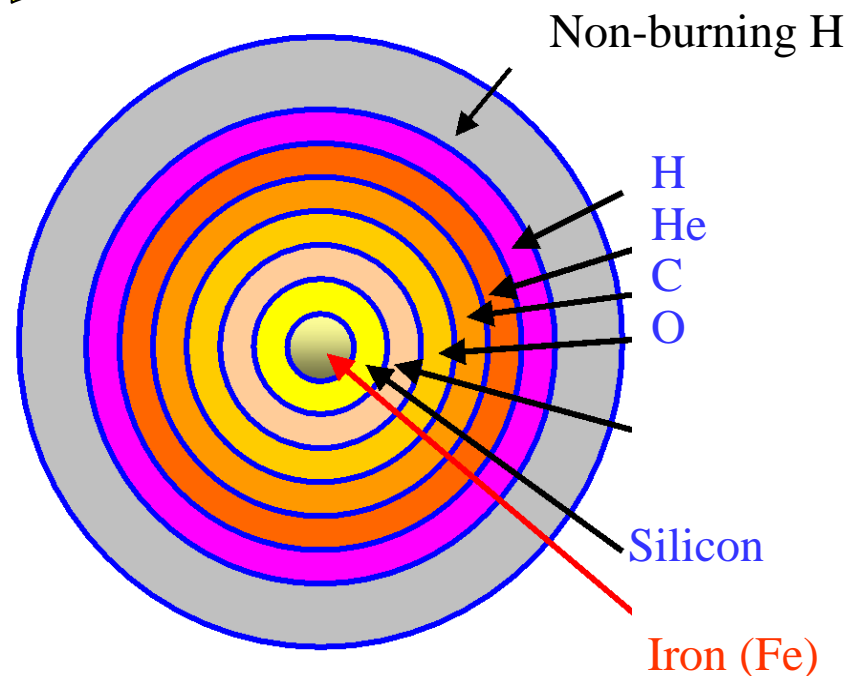


But now, when He is exhausted in the core and the core collapses, it does get hot enough to burn carbon and oxygen.

The successive stages in the core are  
 $\text{H} \rightarrow \text{He}$ , gravity,  $\text{He} \rightarrow \text{C, O}$ , gravity,  
 $\rightarrow \text{C, O} \rightarrow \text{Mg, Si}$ , gravity,  $\text{Si} \rightarrow \text{Fe}$ .

The Result

## The Stellar Onion



Attention!!!



# Fusion of more massive nuclei

Fusion of more massive nuclei will require higher temperatures because of larger  $Z \cdot e$  nuclear charges produce **higher Coulomb barrier**

H to He	$1 \cdot 10^7 \text{ K}$
He to C,O	$1 \cdot 10^8 \text{ K}$
C to O, Ne, Na, Mg	$5 \cdot 10^8 \text{ K}$
Ne to O, Mg	$1 \cdot 10^8 \text{ K}$
O to Mg – S	$2 \cdot 10^8 \text{ K}$
Si to around Fe	$3 \cdot 10^9 \text{ K}$

Also, the flattening of the binding energy curve *per nucleon means* that less energy is released per reaction at higher nuclear masses as we approach  $^{56}\text{Fe}$

Burning Stage	Time Scale	T(K) x $10^9$	$\rho$ (g/cm <sup>3</sup> )
H	$7 \times 10^6$ y	0.006	5
He	$5 \times 10^5$ y	0.23	700
C	600 y	0.93	$2 \times 10^5$
Ne	1 y	1.7	$4 \times 10^6$
O	0.5 y	2.3	$1 \times 10^7$
Si	1 d	4.1	$3 \times 10^7$
Core collapse	Seconds	8.1	$3 \times 10^9$
Core Bounce	Millisec	34.8	$3 \times 10^{14}$
Explosive	0-1-10 sec	1.2-7.0	

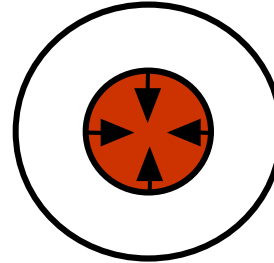
# Supernovae core collapse

Fe (Iron) is special core of our stellar onion is “Fe”, most tightly bound nucleus. Result of fusing two “Fe's” is heavier than two “Fe's”; costs energy to fuse them. No more fusion energy is available.

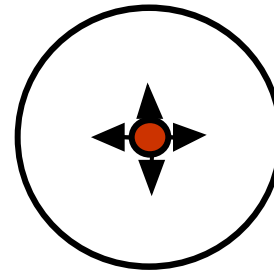
Core collapses, keeps on collapsing, until reach nuclear density. Then nuclei repel, outer core bounces.

Outgoing shock wave forms

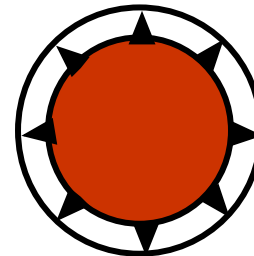
Time



"Fe" core collapse



bounce-form  
shock wave



shock moves out,  
Fe  $\rightarrow$  p's , n's in  
outer part of Fe  
core



# What next?

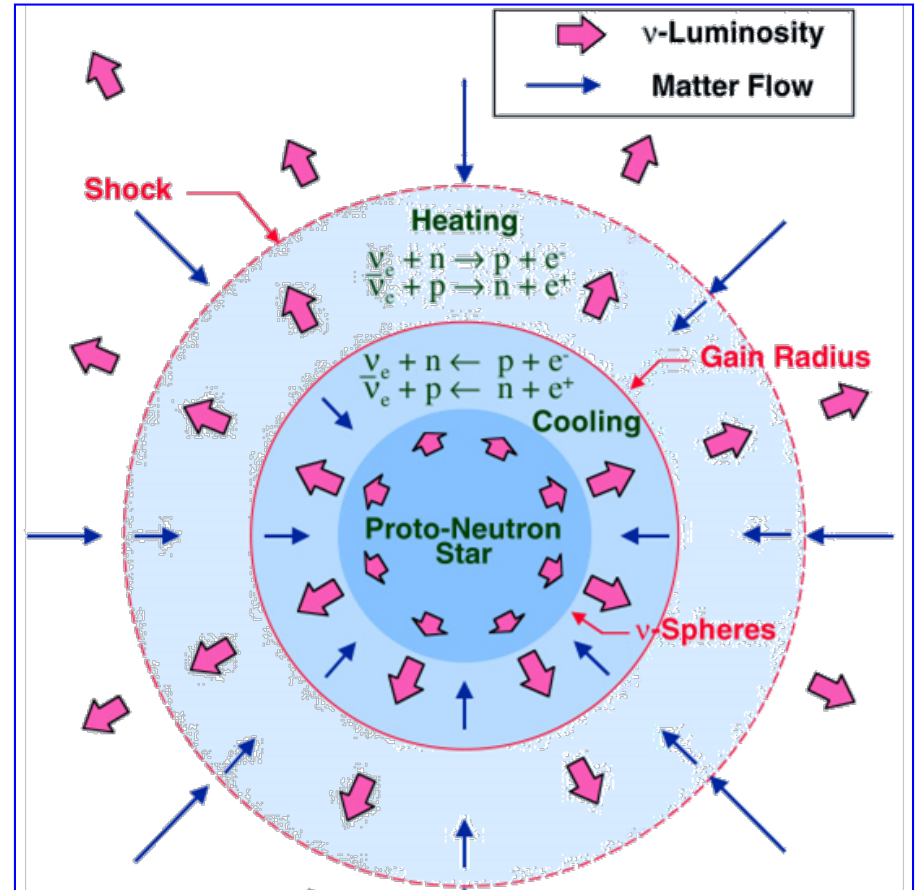
## We know that

- Shock blows off outer layers of star, a supernova
- $10^{51}$  ergs (1foe) visible energy released (total gravitational energy of  $10^{53}$  ergs mostly emitted as neutrinos).

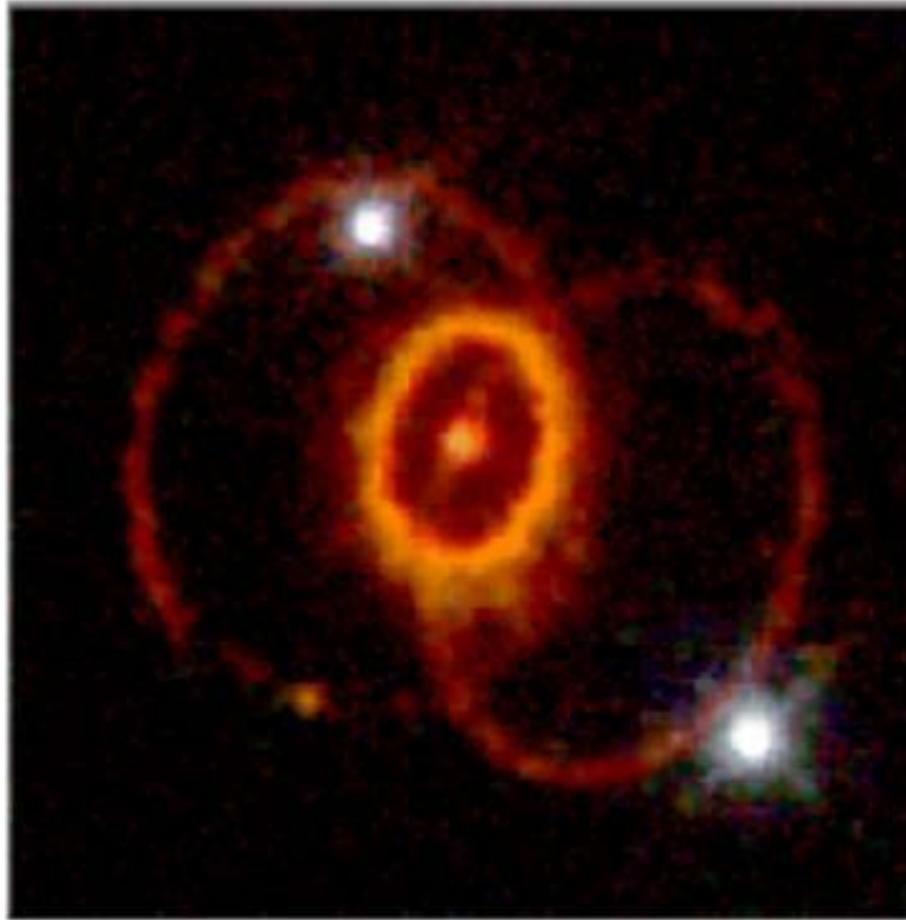
## Theoretically

- Spherical SN don't explode
- Shock uses its energy dissociating "Fe", stalls
- Later,  $\nu$ 's from proto-neutron star deposit energy, restart the shock. Still no explosion.

## 1-D model (T. Mezzacappa)



# The question – how do we get from her to an explosion?



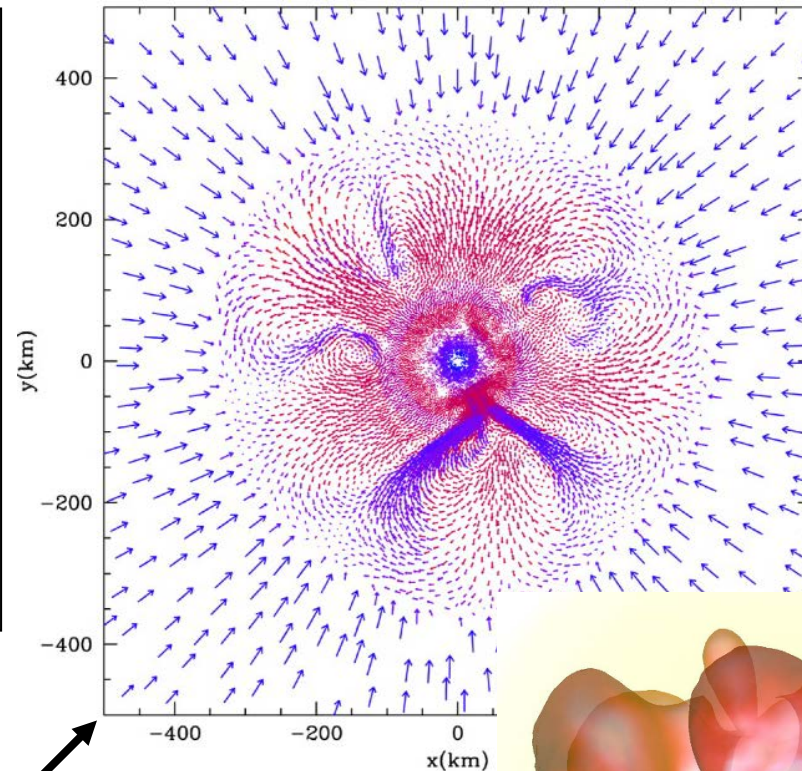
SN 1987a in Large Magallanic Cloud

# Non-spherical calculations

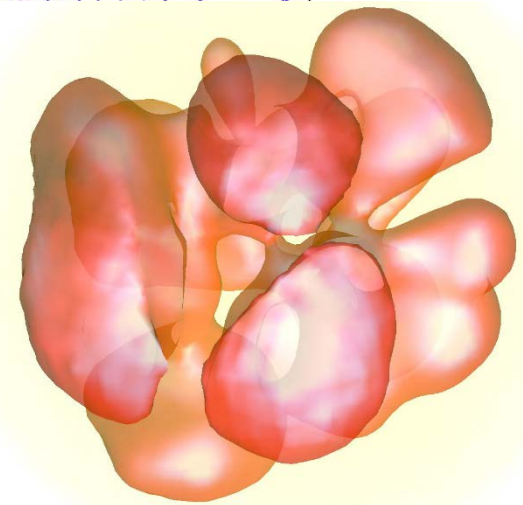
## Is sphericity the problem?

- Now have 3-D calculations which explode, but have only a part of the detailed microphysics. Their stability against such changes is not known-we return to this later.
- See, e.g. C. Fryer and M. Warren, Astrophysical Journal, 574:L65-L68
- Find 2-D, 3-D similar

Two views



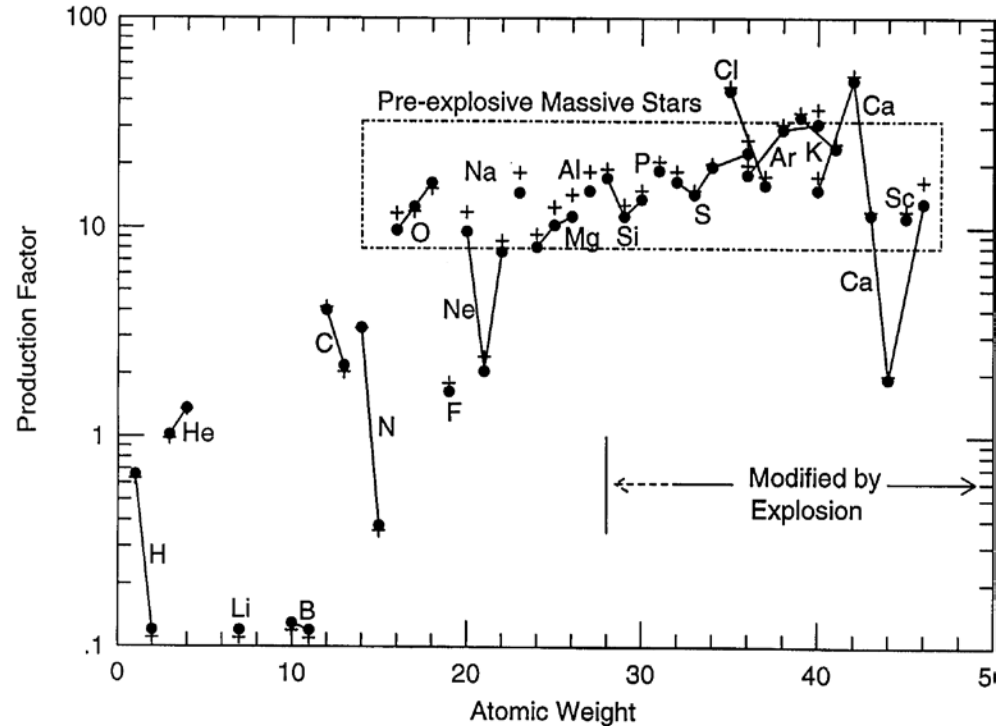
Red upwelling  
Blue sinking



# What is produced in a supernova?

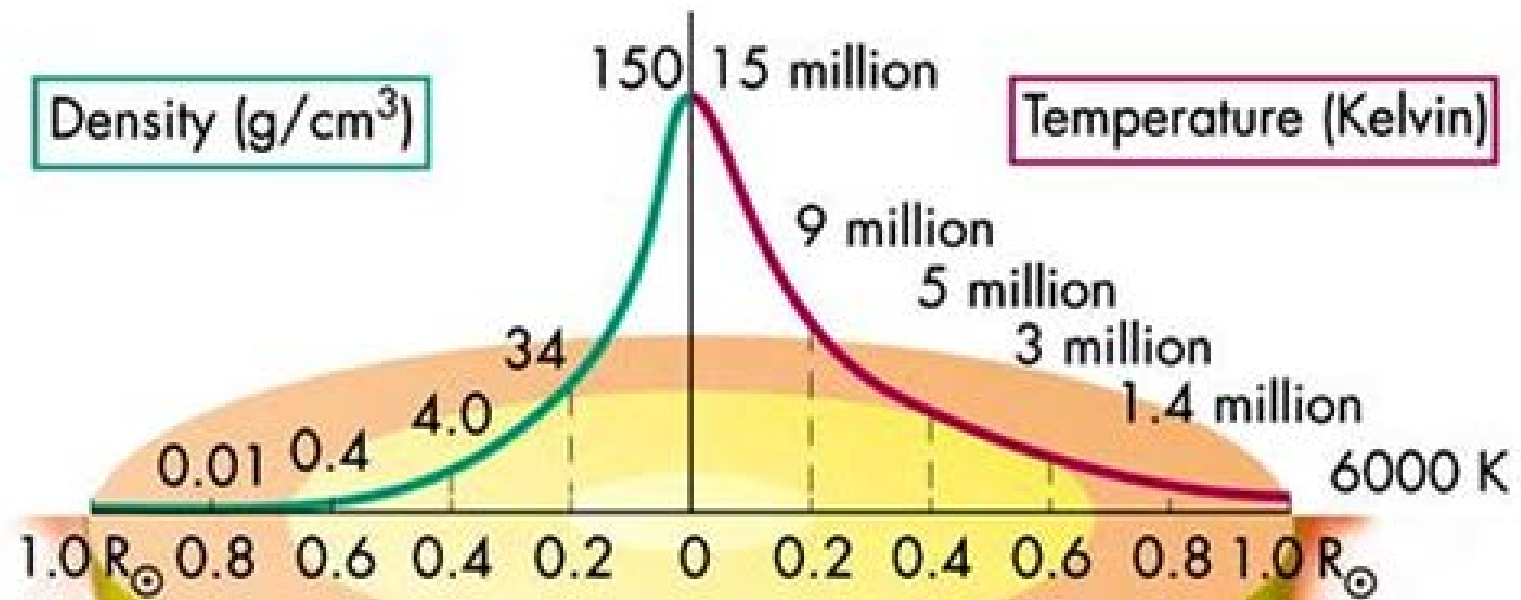
## Model

- Evolve the Pre-SN star
- Put in a piston that gives the right energy to the ejecta (Don't know how explosion really works).
- Calculate what is ejected
- Calculate explosive processes as hot shock passes.
- Example: Wallace and Weaver, Phys. Rep. 227,65(93)

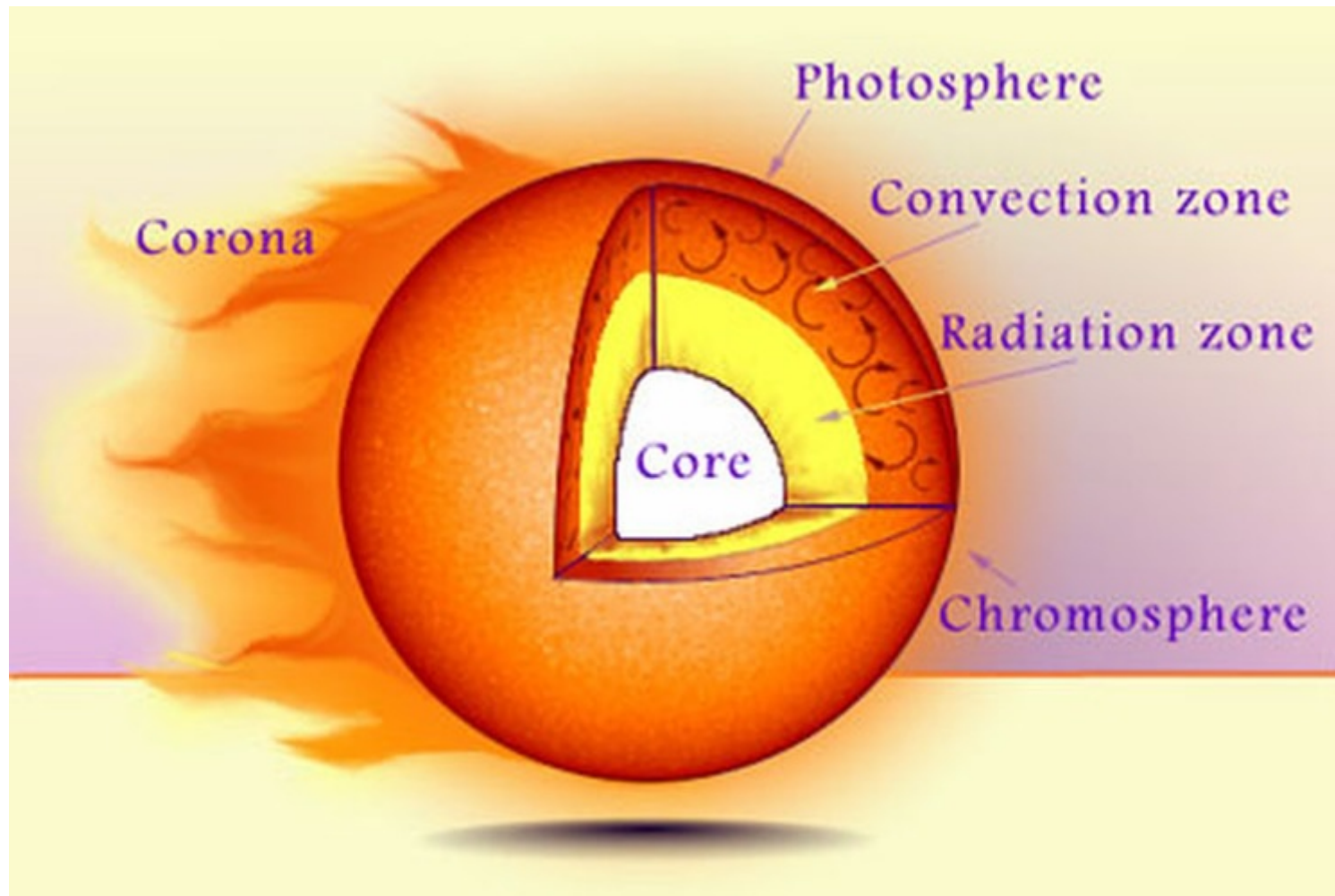


## Find

- Elements, mass 20-50, generally reproduced at same ratio to solar.
- Modifications by explosive processes are small

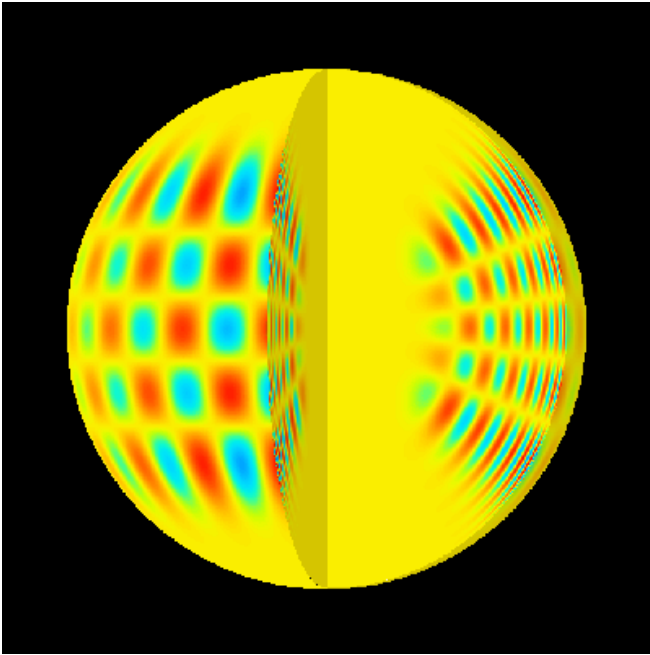


# The Sun

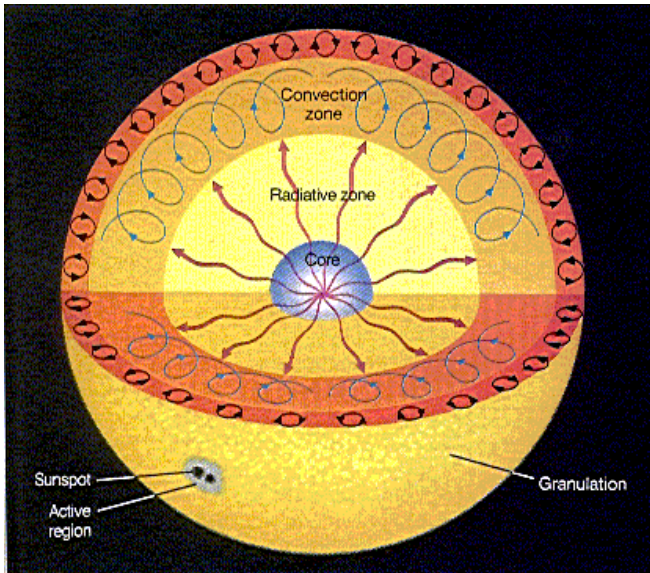




# Helioseismology



surface oscillations with periods of 1-20 minutes  
max. 0.1 m/s



Stellar convective zone decoupled from core by  
radiative heat transport



# The Sun: a few numbers

- ❖ mass =  $1.99 \cdot 10^{30}$  kg
- ❖ average density =  $1.4 \text{ g/cm}^3$
- ❖ luminosity =  $3.84 \cdot 10^{26}$  W
- ❖ effective temperature = 5777 K
- ❖ core temperature =  $15 \cdot 10^6$  K
- ❖ surface gravitational acceleration  $g = 274 \text{ m/s}^2$
- ❖ age =  $4.55 \cdot 10^9$  years
- ❖ radius =  $6.96 \cdot 10^5$  km
- ❖ distance = 1 AU =  $1.496 (\pm 0.025) \cdot 10^8$  km
- ❖ 1 arc sec =  $722 \pm 12$  km on solar surface
- ❖ rotation period = 27 days at equator