

Finally, the stars themselves

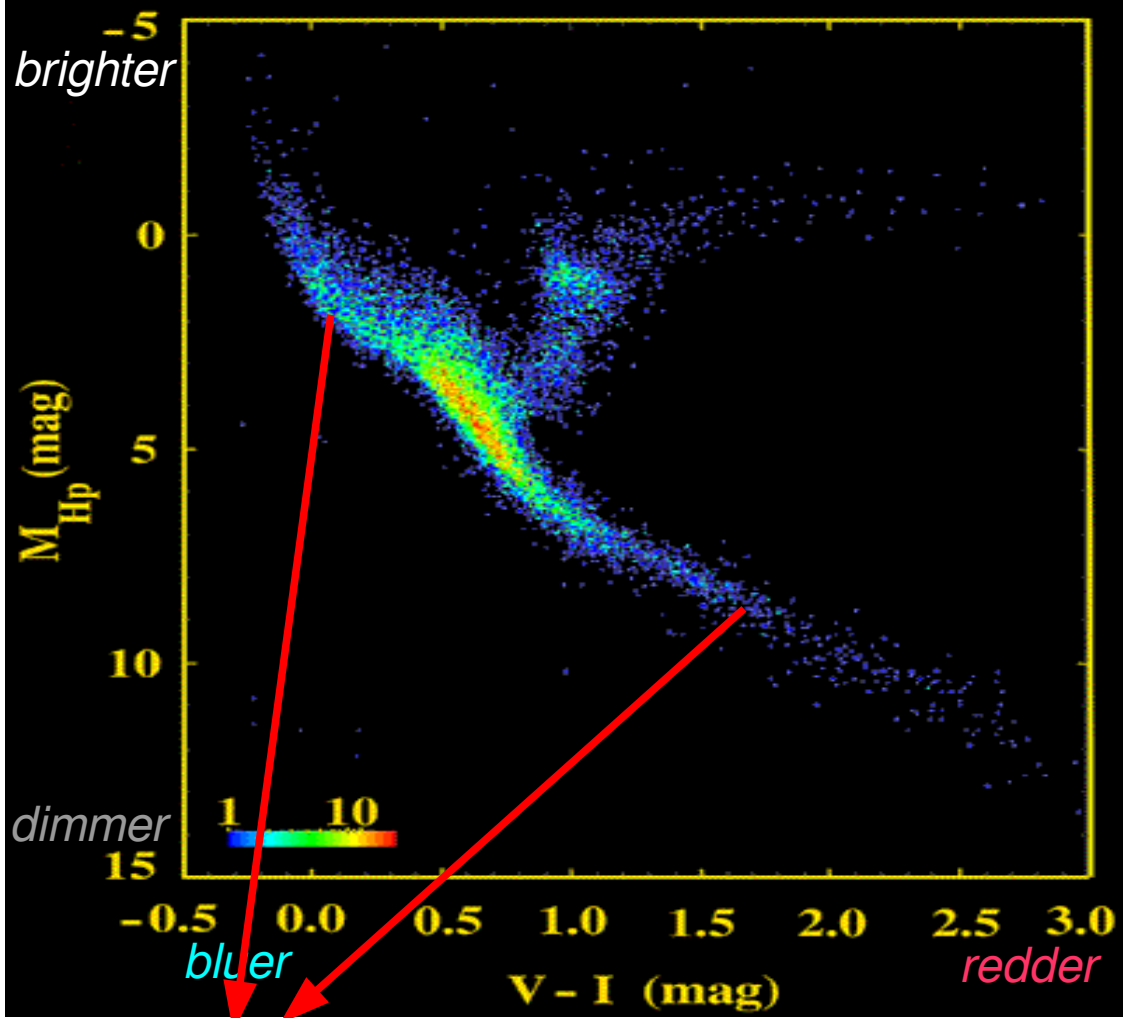
Pleiades

Hyades

Stars are divided according to their stage in life.

- Lecture 1: Main-sequence stars: $H \rightarrow He$ in core
What is the main sequence?
How do radius, luminosity & life-time depend
on stellar mass?
Hertzsprung-Russell Diagram
Stellar spectral types, UBV photometry
- Lecture 2: Giants: high-mass stars ($He \rightarrow C$ and on to Fe)
- Lecture 3: Giants: low-mass stars (H shell, He flash, ...)
- Lecture 4: Stellar corpses:
white dwarfs, neutron stars & black holes
- Lecture 5: Birth of stars, which also leads to
- Lectures 6....: planets...

Hertzsprung – Russell: ($\sigma_{\pi} / \pi < 0.1$)



Hipparcos catalogue of nearby stars (with parallax inaccuracy < 10% of parallax measurement) colours indicate density of stars

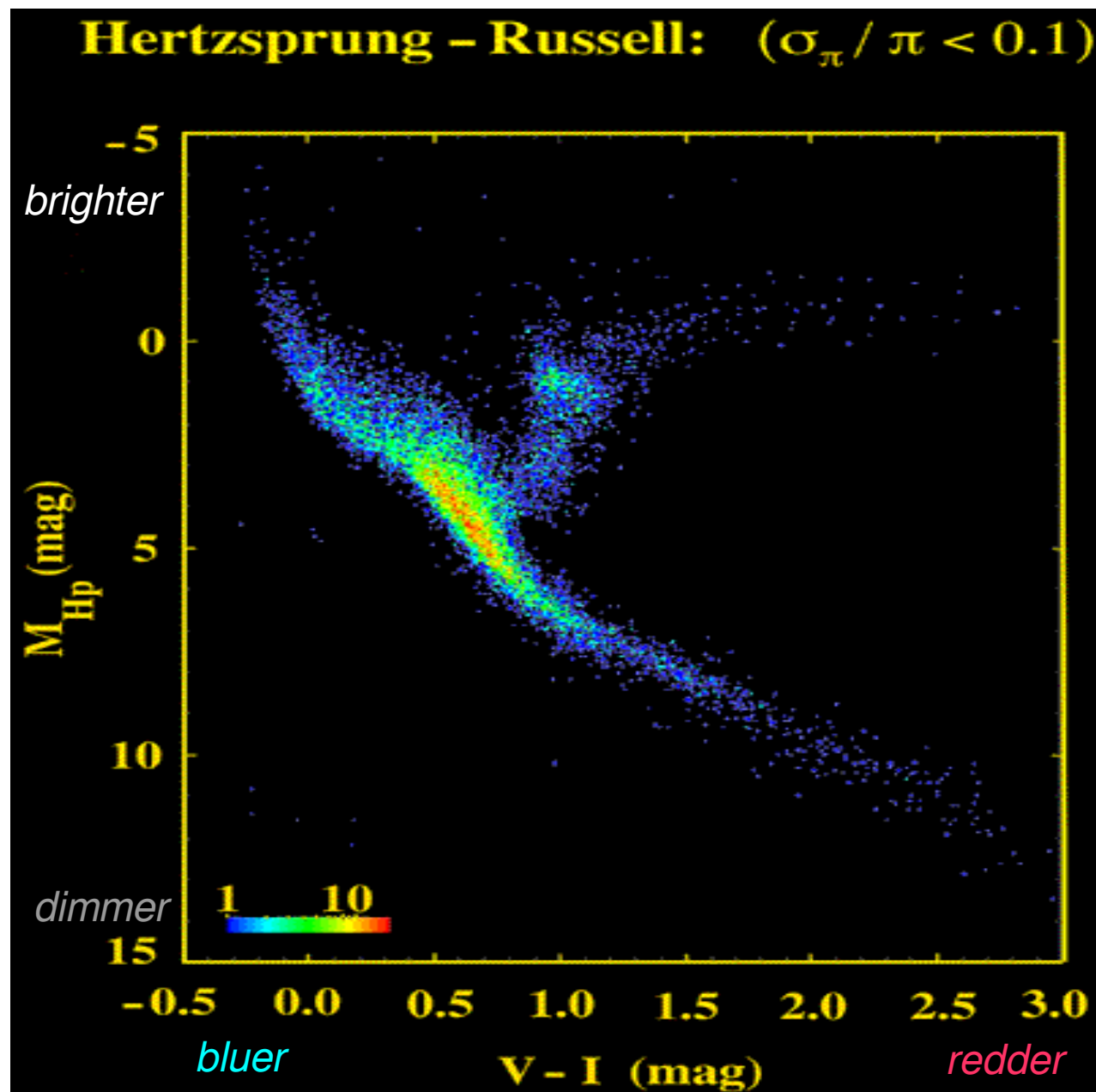
Main-sequence stars

- Most common
- Stars that are steadily burning H into He in center
- The longest stage in a star's life
- Only small changes in appearance
(most people are adults, fewer infants, adolescents & seniors)

The Color-Magnitude Diagram

(Hertzsprung-Russell Diagram)

Color is a
surrogate for
temperature



The Color Index

- easier to measure than the entire B.B. Curve
- a good surrogate for T

magnitudes defined in photometric bands:

U: ultraviolet

B: blue

V: visual

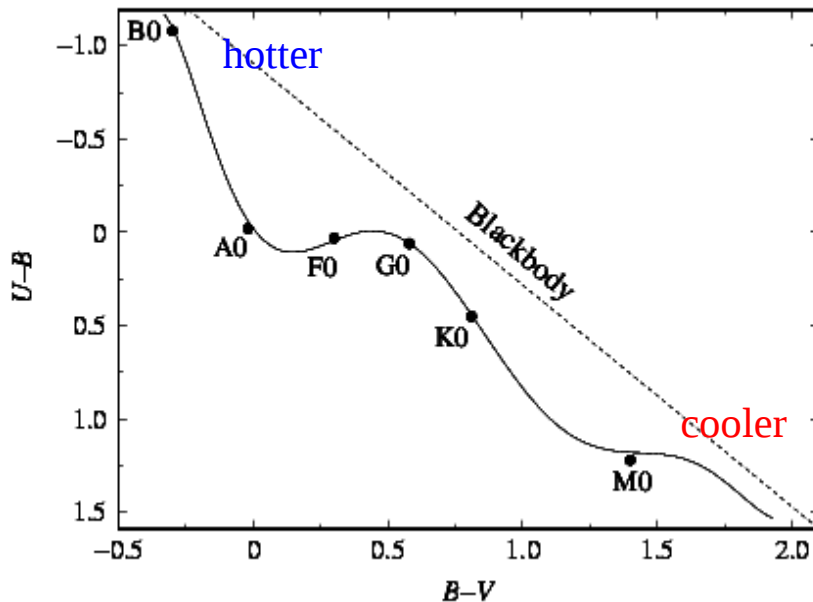
R: red

I: infrared

(continuing with J, H, K, L, M.....)

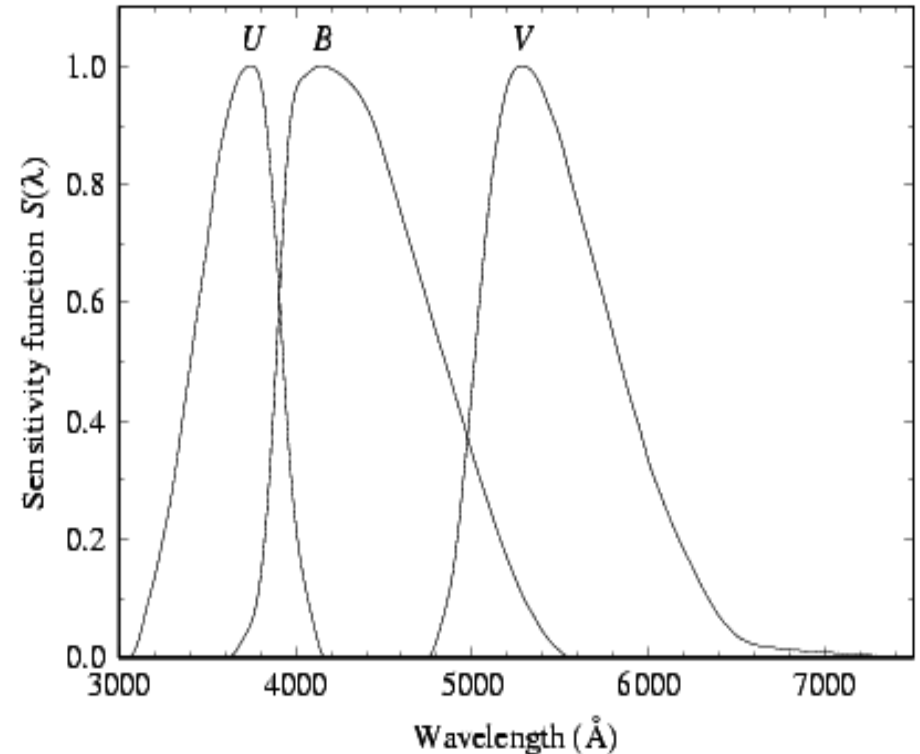
Many systems; e.g., in optical, also u,g,r,i,z

Color-Color plot

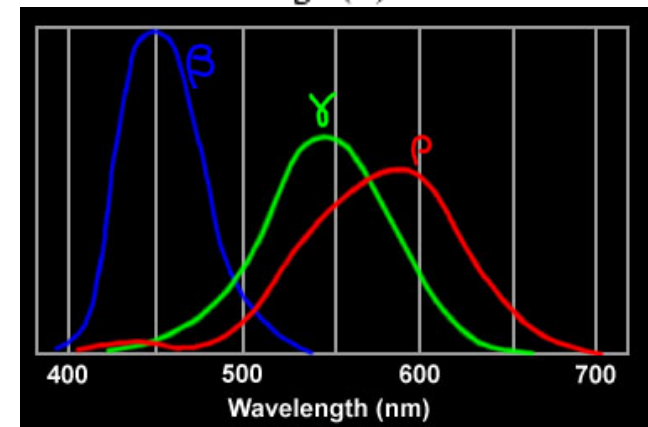


Vega ($\sim 10,000\text{K}$) defines $U-V = B-V = 0$
 Sun ($\sim 5770\text{K}$): $U-V = +0.16$, $B-V = +0.64$

Visible \longleftrightarrow



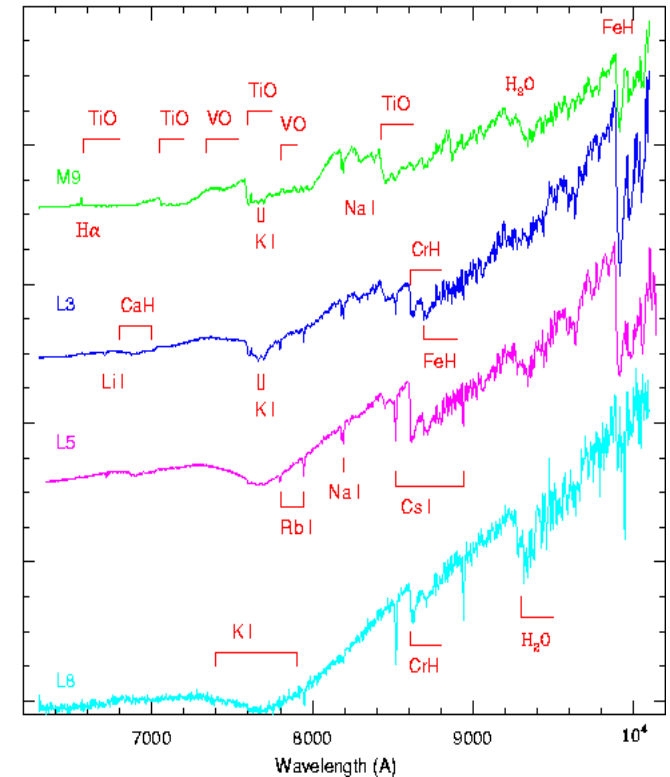
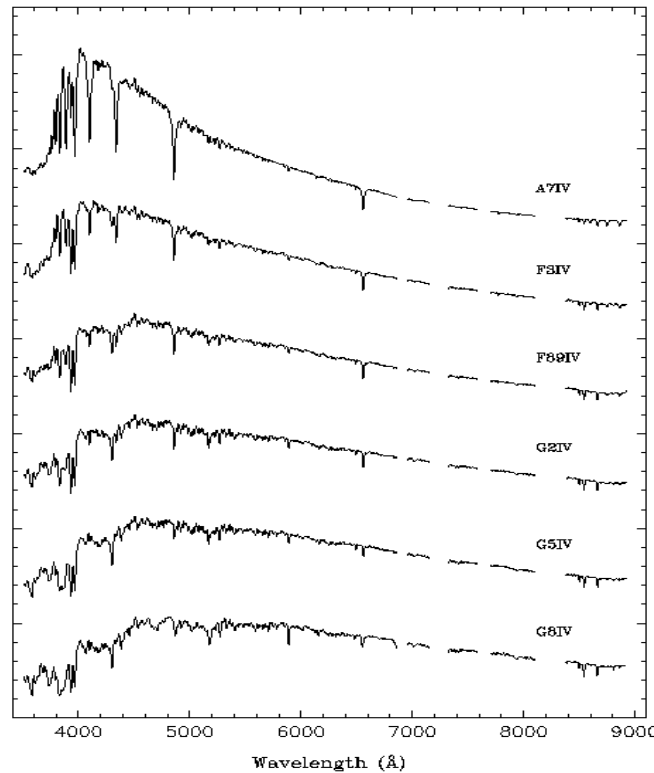
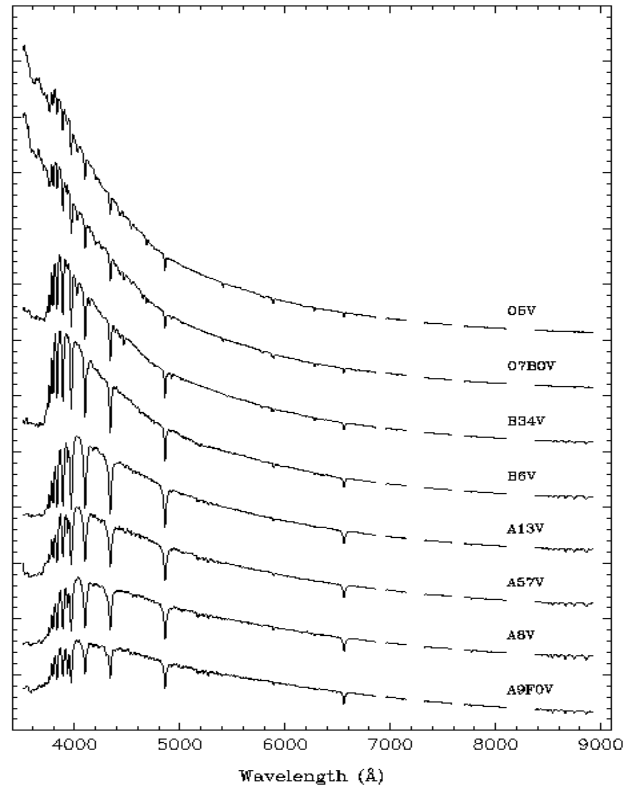
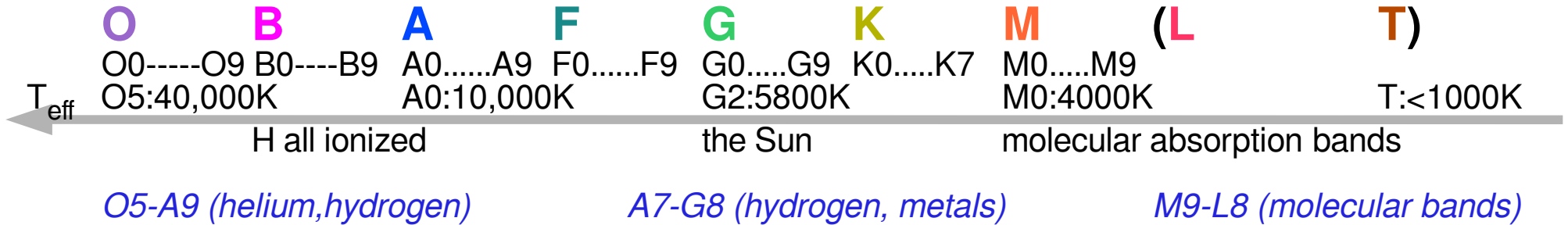
Sensitivity for...?



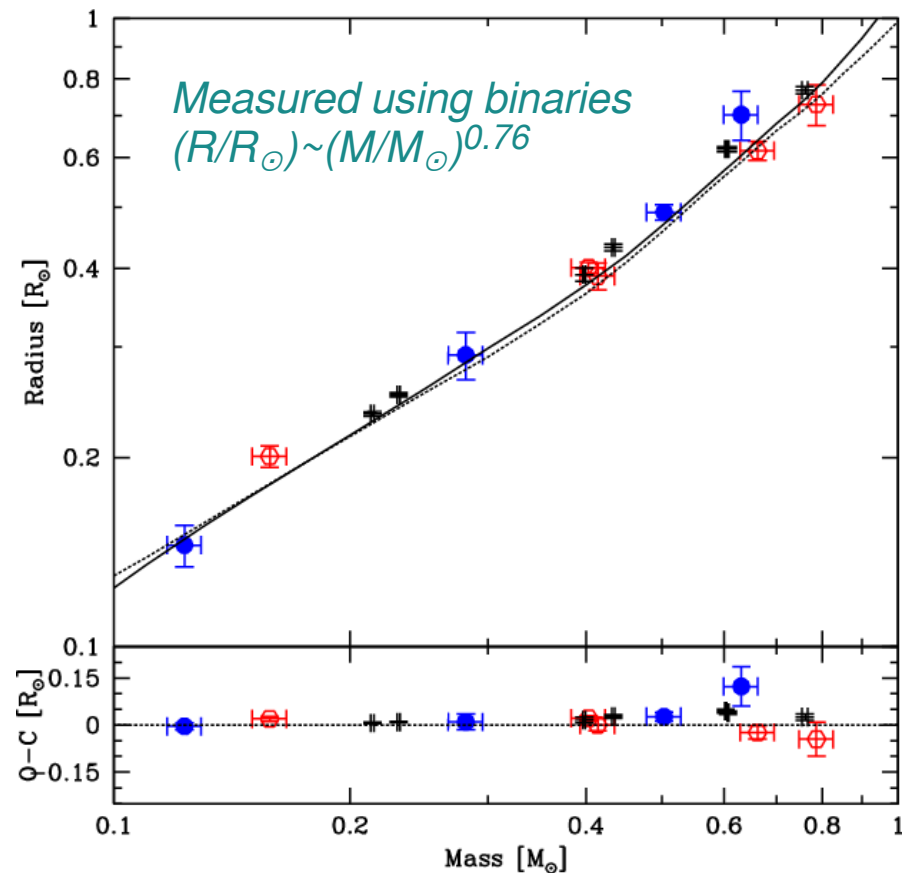
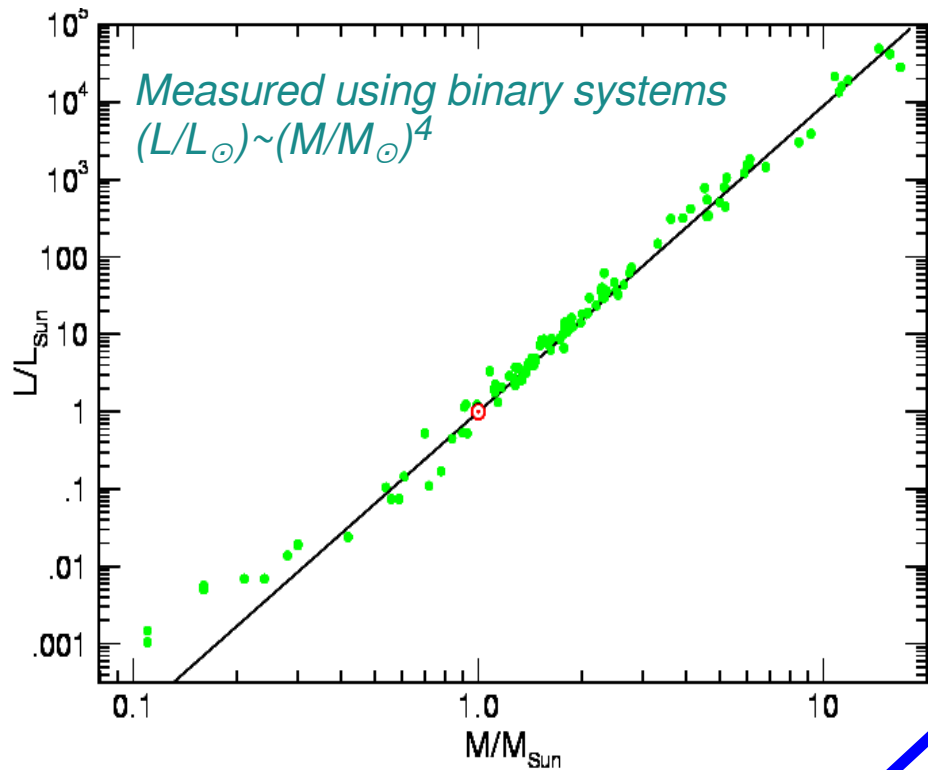
Spectral Types of Stars

One can also use spectral types as surrogates for stellar surface temperature

- 1) historically based on the presence/strength of certain spectral lines (H, He, Ca, Fe...)
- 2) later shown to be related to temperature



Quantifying a main-sequence star (surface quantities)



Absolute brightness
(Luminosity)

Mass

Radius

Observations tell us **more massive** stars are

Brighter: $(L/L_{\odot}) \sim (M/M_{\odot})^4$

Bigger: $(R/R_{\odot}) \sim (M/M_{\odot})^{0.76}$ $L = 4\pi R^2 \sigma T^4$

Hotter: $(T/T_{\odot}) \sim (M/M_{\odot})^{0.6}$

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Stars on Main Sequence follow a 1-parameter sequence

All described using

hydrostatic equilibrium

mass conservation

nuclear burning

photon propagation (opacity)

Stars are modeled numerically:

input parameters: M_* and chemical composition

equation of state: $\rho = \rho(P, T, \text{composition})$

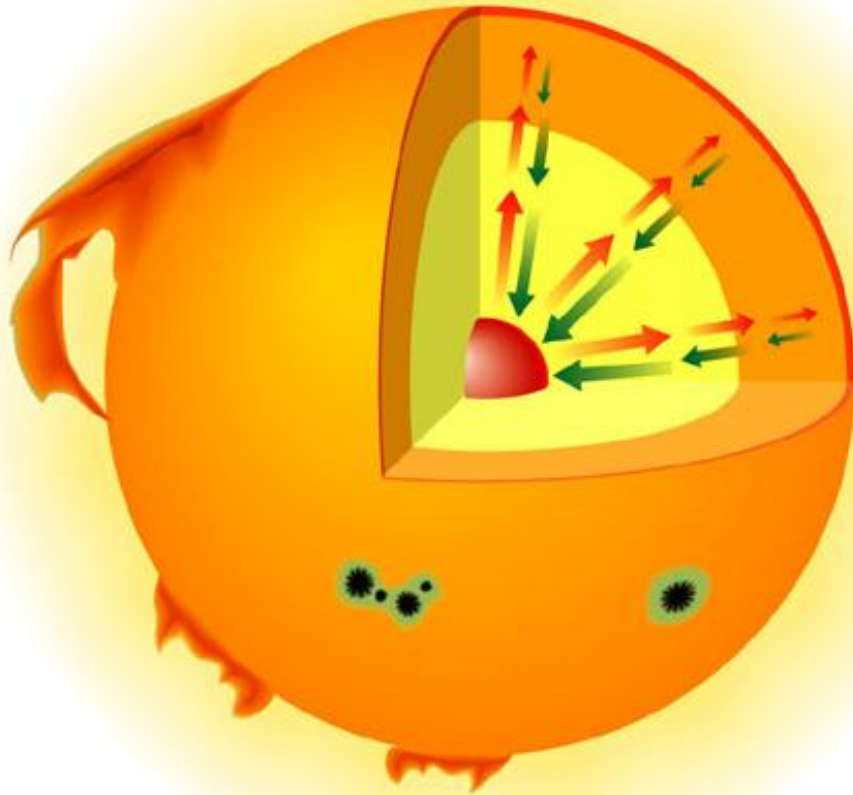
energy production: $\epsilon = \epsilon(\rho, T, \text{composition})$

opacity: $\kappa = \kappa(\rho, T, \text{composition})$

Solve for: $P = P(r), T = T(r), M = M(r), L = L(r)$

Star's life: Protracted battle with gravity

pressure →
gravity ←



ALWAYS

To support weight:

⇒ need high pressure

MOSTLY

⇒ need high temperature

⇒ will lose energy

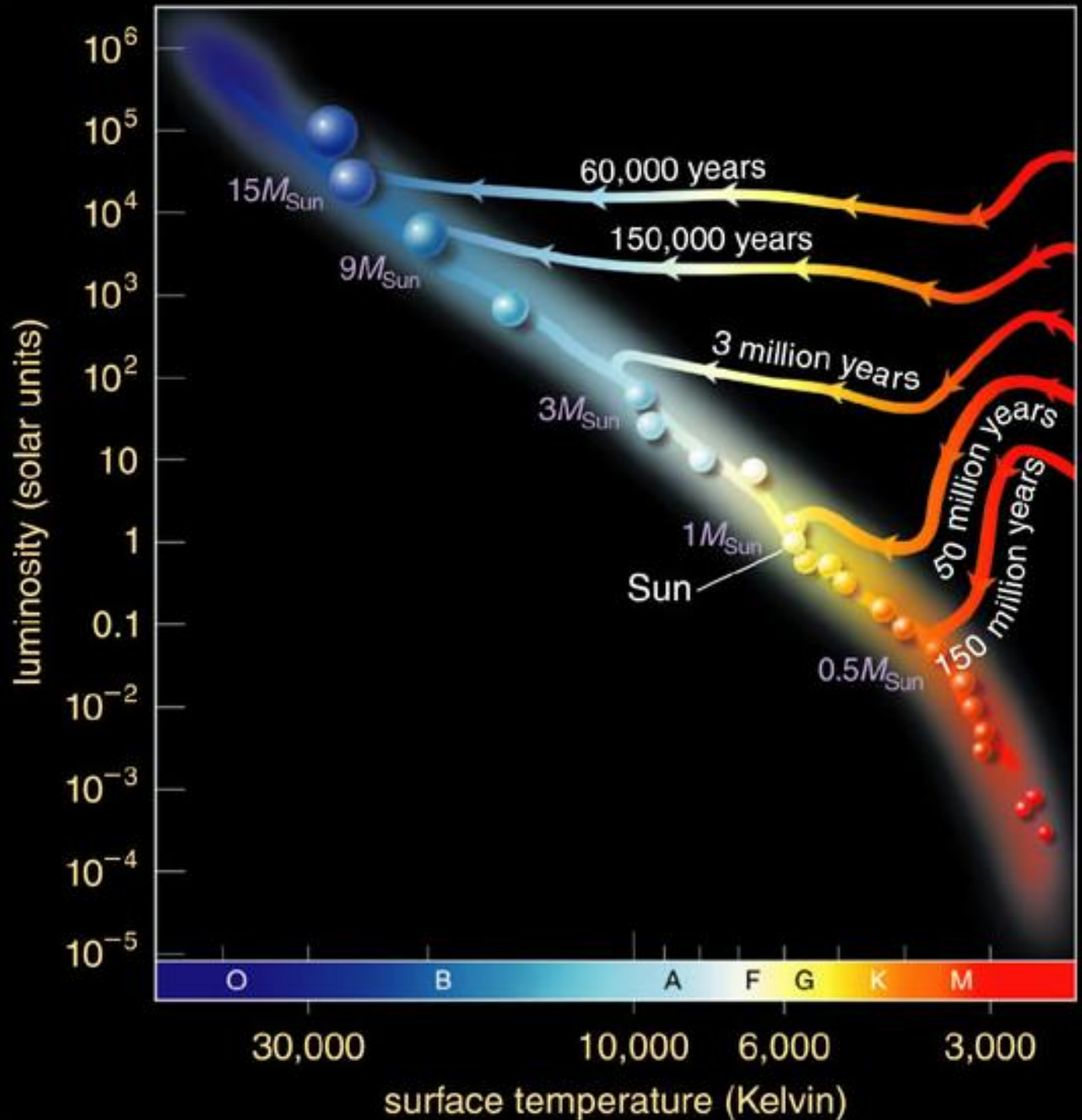
⇒ need energy source:

- Gravitational contraction
- Nuclear fusion

Ultimately,
*Can something else than
thermal pressure balance
gravity?*

Protostellar life tracks

Contraction
⇒ Heating
⇒ Ignition
Or: Ignominy



Why are more massive stars bigger?

$$(R/R_{\odot}) \sim (M/M_{\odot})^{0.76}$$

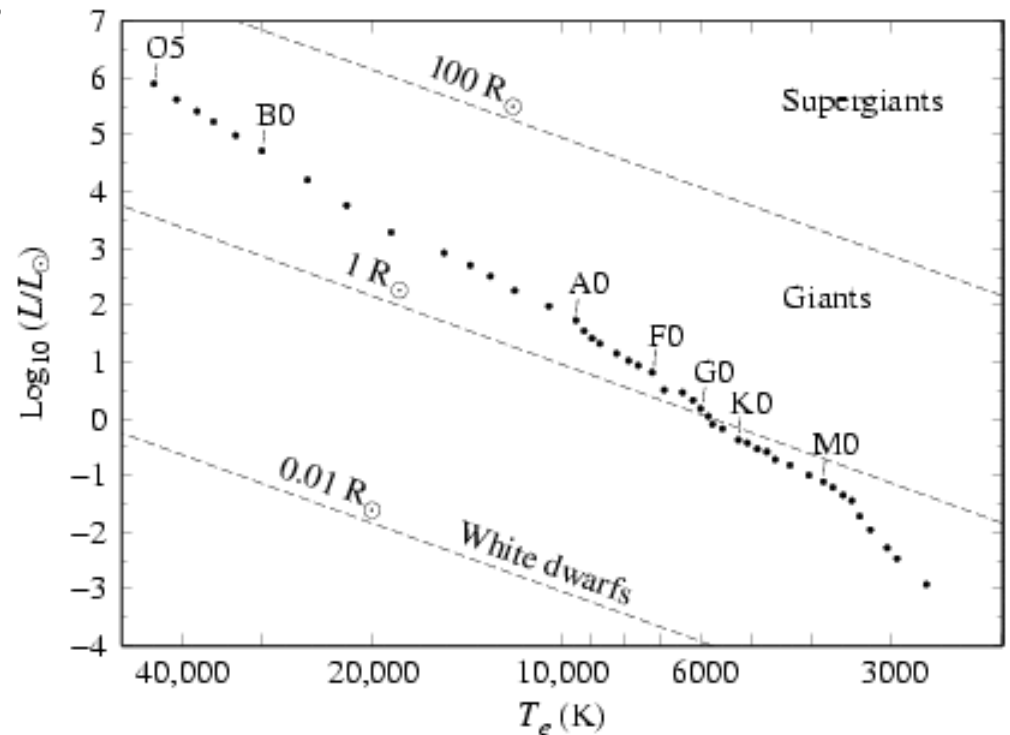
- 1) Assume all main-sequence stars have the same T_c

$$\text{Virial Theorem: } T_c \propto \frac{M}{R}$$

(massive star has slightly hotter T_c ...)

- 2) mean density of the star

$$\bar{\rho} \sim \frac{M}{R^3} \propto M^{-2}$$



Low mass limit

For sufficiently small stellar mass ($\sim 0.08 M_{\odot}$), electron degeneracy sets in, and the material is no longer as compressible (e.g., a piece of metal)

$$\text{Pressure } P \propto \rho^{5/3} \rightarrow R \propto M^{-1/3}$$

No hydrogen fusion possible ---> Brown Dwarfs

(at about $0.013 M_{\odot} \sim 13 M_J$, we encounter yet another division: planet/star)

Why are more massive stars brighter?

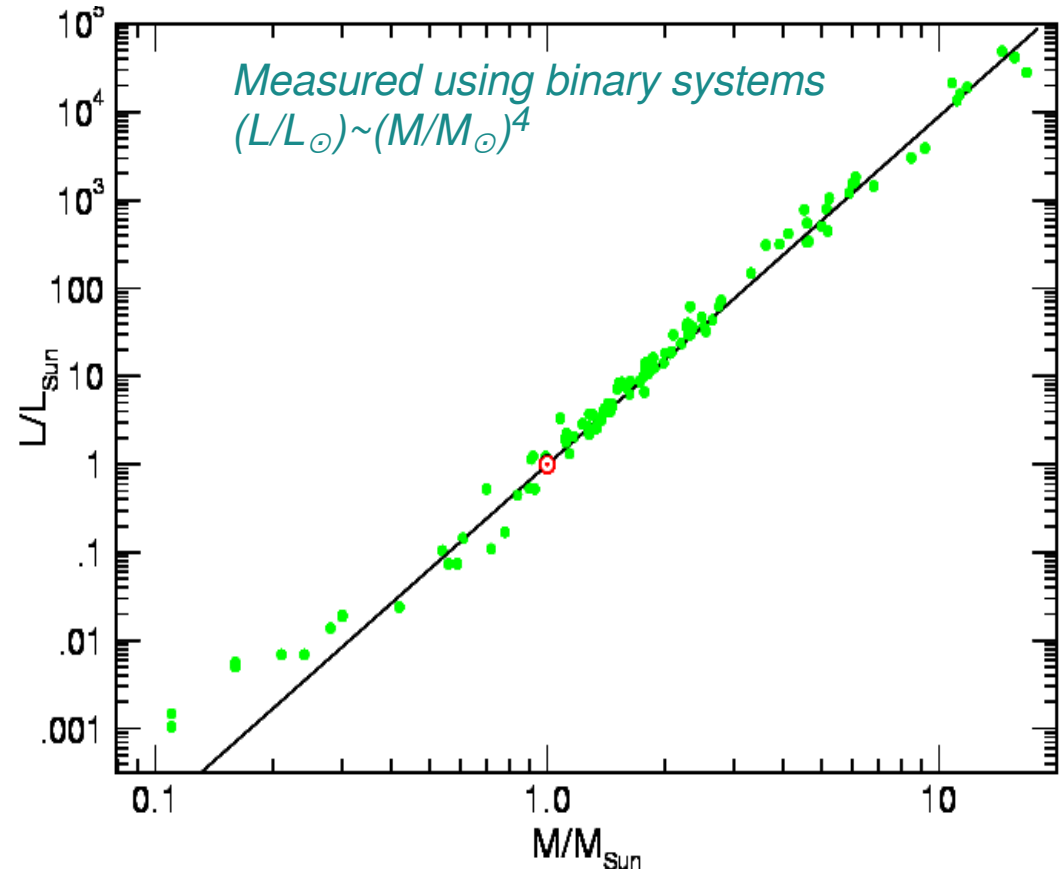
$$(L/L_{\odot}) \sim (M/M_{\odot})^4$$

Follows from

- hydrostatic equilibrium and ideal gas law (stars are hot)
- equation of radiative transfer (heat leaks out to space)

See PS III.1!

(use constant opacity, e.g., electron scattering, good for hot stars)



- More massive stars have shorter main-sequence life-time:

Available nuclear fuel $\sim M$

Efficiency of Hydrogen burning 0.7%

Life-time $\sim 0.007 * Mc^2/L$ scales as $1/M^3$

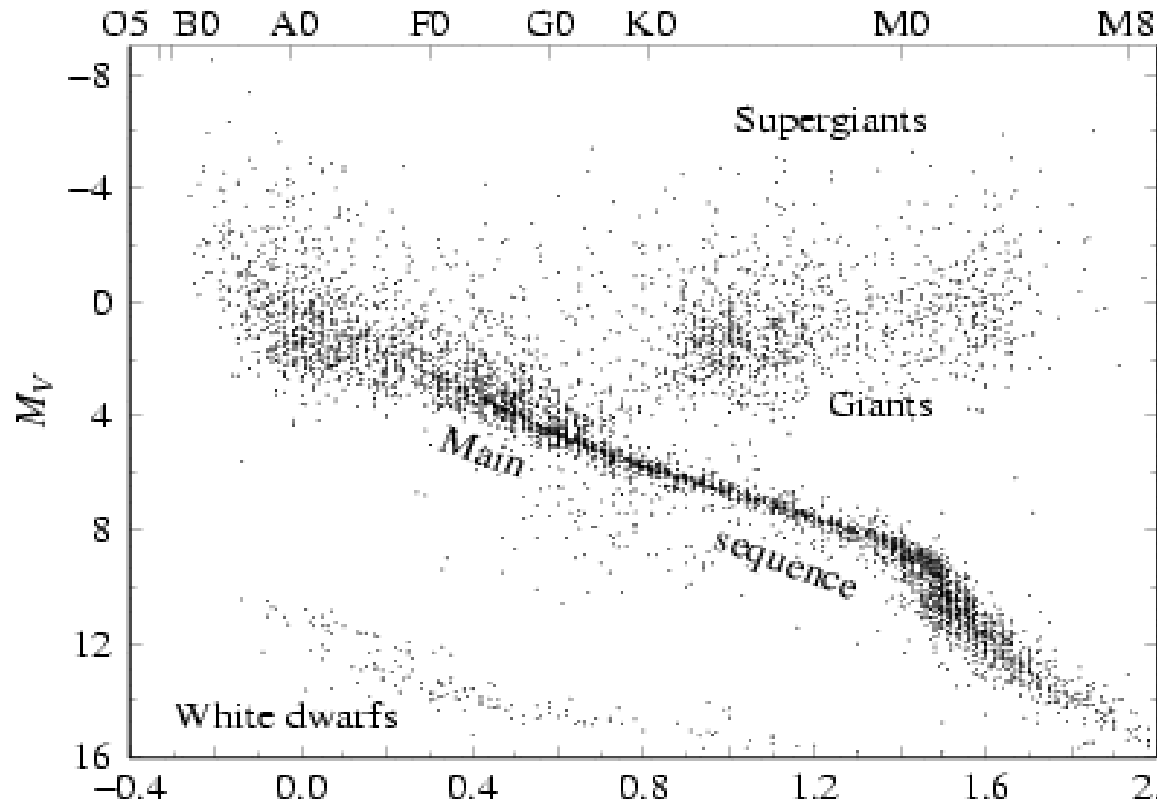
- Very low mass stars are fully 'convective'

Radiation (slow photon diffusion) replaced by (more efficient) turbulence;

→ luminosity higher than expected based on just photon diffusion

Summary

- 1) On MS, Mass (or T_{eff} or L) tells all (small variations due to metallicity, age)
- 2) Hertzsprung-Russell Diagram (HRD, or color-magnitude diagram, CMD)
- 3) Observational proxies for Luminosity and temperature: M_V , $B-V$ ($V-I, \dots$), spectral types



HRD for stars in the Solar neighbourhood



- 4) What are these other stars? How are they related to each other?

----- next lecture