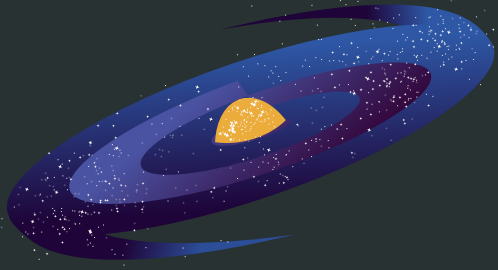
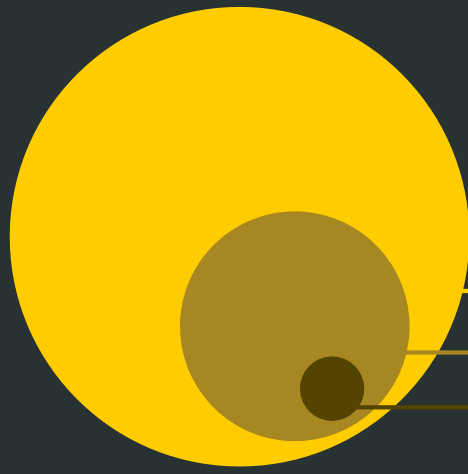


# WHAT'S A... STAR?

A ball of fire supported by the **balance** between gravity and fusion



There are between 100 and 400 billion stars in our galaxy.



~71% Hydrogen  
~27% Helium  
~2% other

THE SUN > 100 x Earth Radius

~1 million x Earth mass

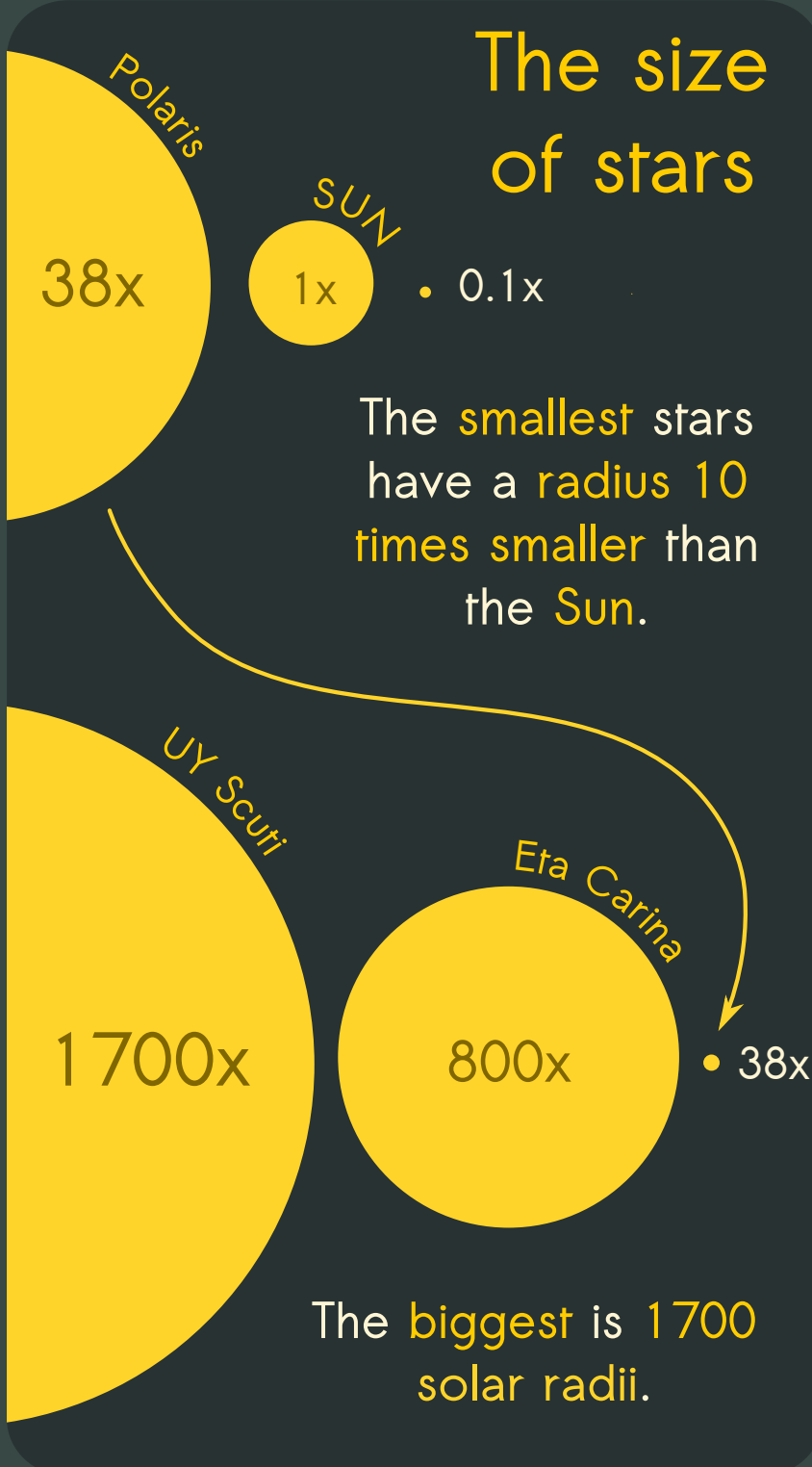
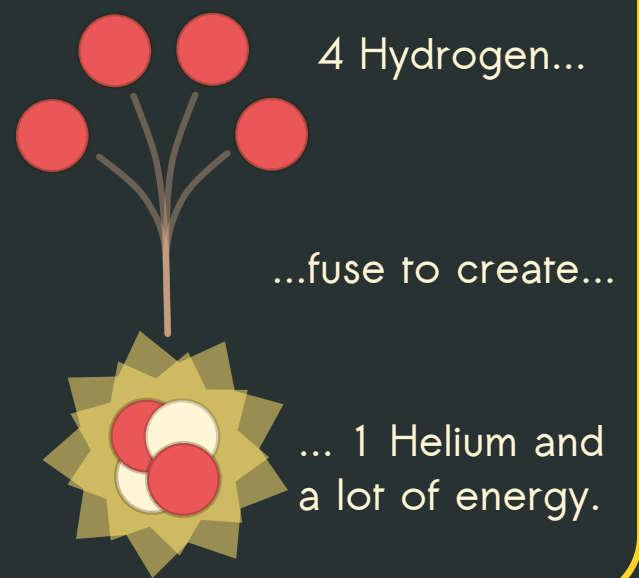
## Stars are powered by nuclear fusion

It makes them **shine** and **stops** them from **collapsing** under their own weight.

It **creates new elements** that were not made during the Big Bang and releases **energy**.

Stars are the factories of the

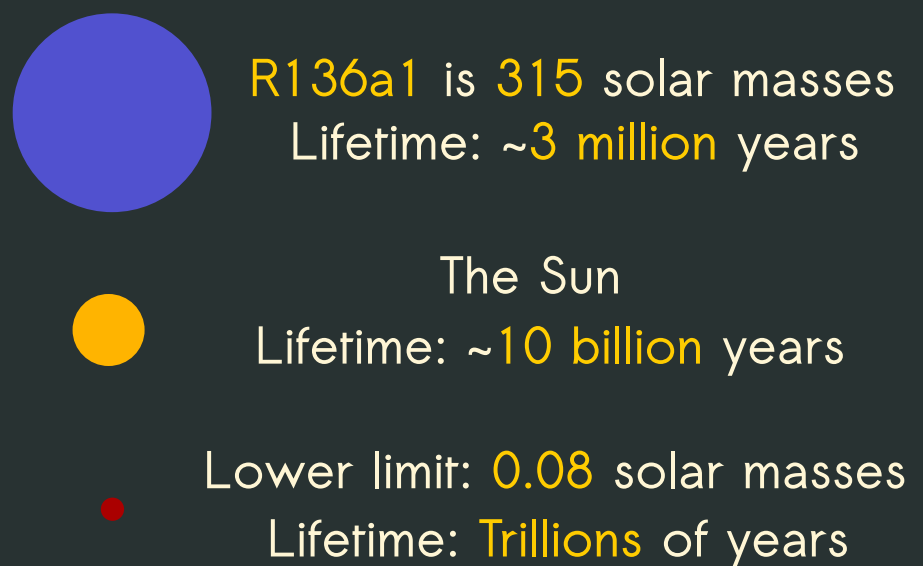
Most common nuclear reaction in stars



## The Stellar Thermometer



The **heavier** the **star** the **shorter** the **life**.



## Stars die when nuclear fusion stops for good

