

Project ideas

Saturday, 14 January 2023

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- Compare the effect of different initial metallicity and helium content on the evolution of a star.
- Compare nuclear reaction rates between PP and CNO, as well as between stars with different initial conditions (e.g. mass, metallicity)
- Have a star be on the MS as short as possible. Have a star skip the RGB and Asymptotic RGB altogether or make it be on them as short as possible.
- Create a blue dwarf
- Verify the constancy of a Cepheid star.
- Create a binary star system in which one of the stars each the other.
- Investigate many binary star systems in general.
- Create a triple star system. Create an N -stars system.
- Compare (i.e. confirm) the properties of Type II and Type I supernovae.
- Create a black dwarf.
- Create a nova (and not a supernova).
- Have a star accrete mass
- Make a sunlike star become massive enough so that it can fuse.
- Investigate (or confirm) the types of heat transfer between different stellar objects. E.g. a **red dwarf** should be fully convective.

Try various interesting limits:

- Create a star that is just not dense enough to become a black hole instantly, and such that it still has sun-like evolution.
- Test the Chandrasekhar limit
- Test the minimum mass and other parameters required for a protostar to become a star instead of a brown dwarf (failed star)
- Test the maximum mass for sun-like behavior.

Further,

- Create a star with vastly different properties from the sun but which could still be used as a substitute for the sun.
- Simulate objects that aren't stars, see [e.g.](#).
- Investigate mass loss through evolution. How much mass can a star lose? What configurations make a star lose as much mass as possible?

Further,

- *Why is the Sun's corona (atmosphere layer) so much hotter than the Sun's surface?*
- *How do other solar-like stars generate their magnetic fields, and what are the similarities and differences between stellar activity cycles and that of the Sun?*
- *What is the origin of the stellar mass spectrum? That is, why do astronomers observe the same distribution of stellar masses – the initial mass function – apparently regardless of the initial conditions?*
- *Supernova: What is the **exact mechanism** by which an implosion of a dying star becomes an explosion?*