

# MESA Summer School 2019

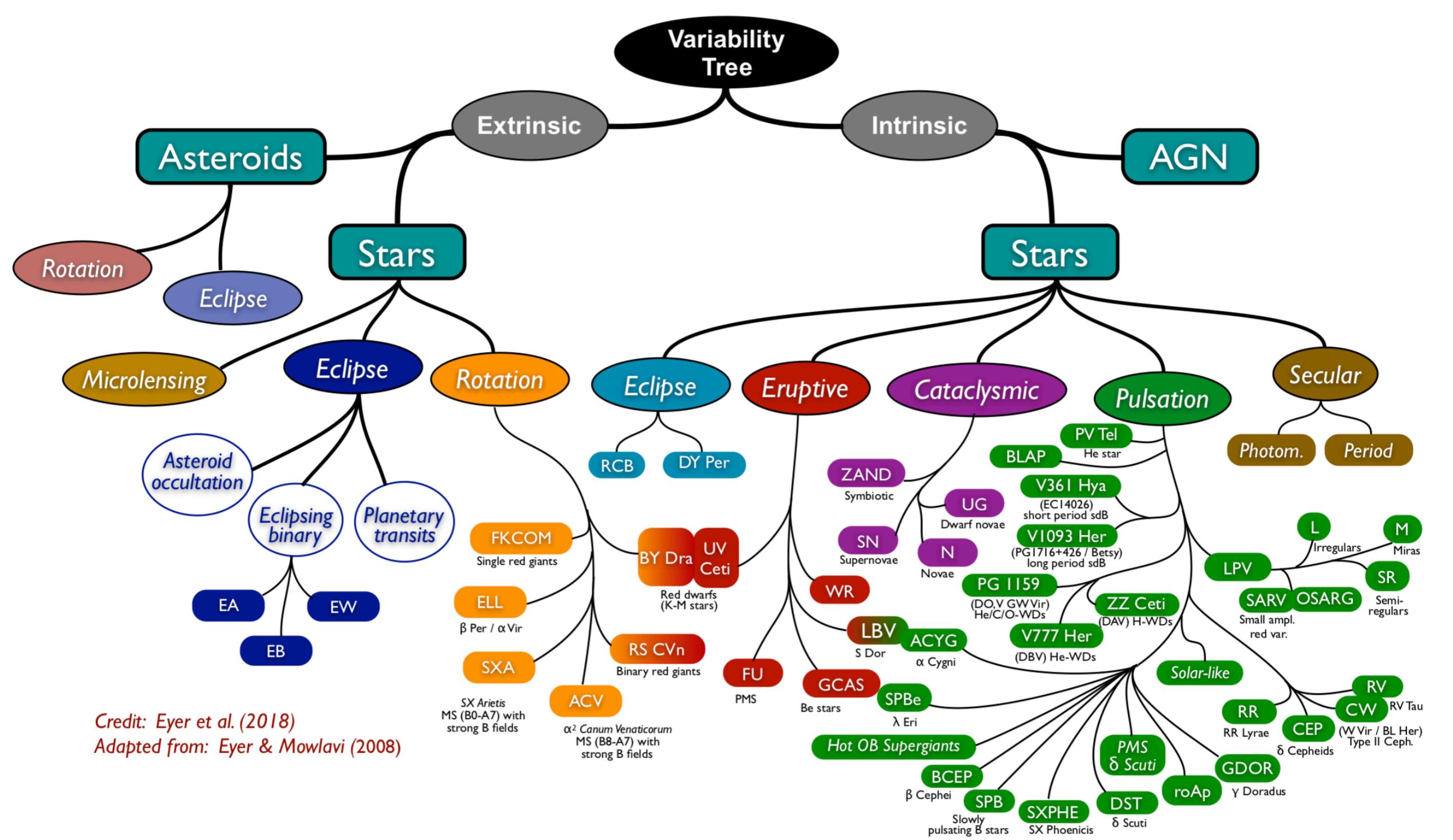
**GYRE** in **MESA**

*Rich Townsend*  
University of Wisconsin-Madison

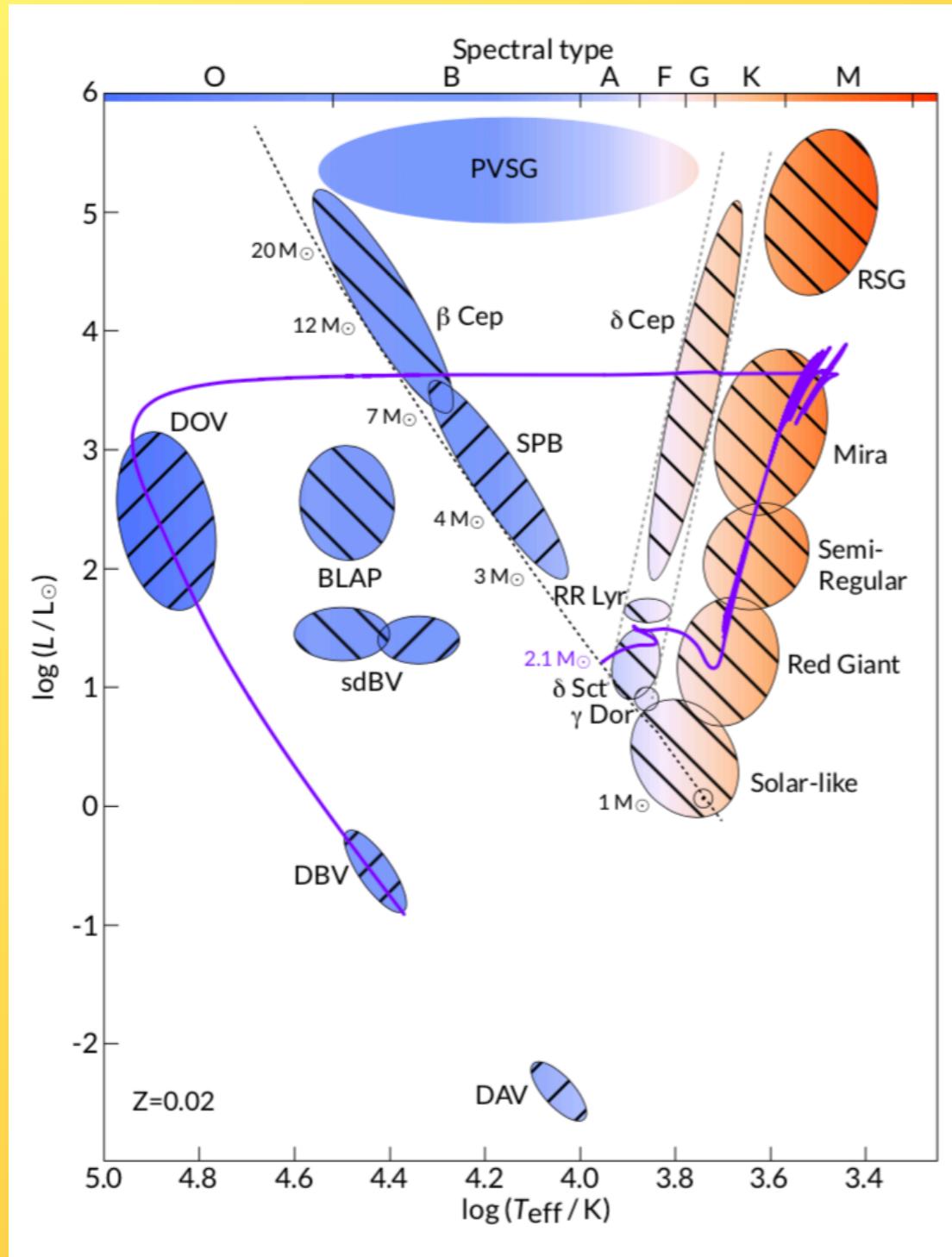
With Alina Istrate & Anne Thoul



# The Variable Sky



# Pulsations in the HR Diagram



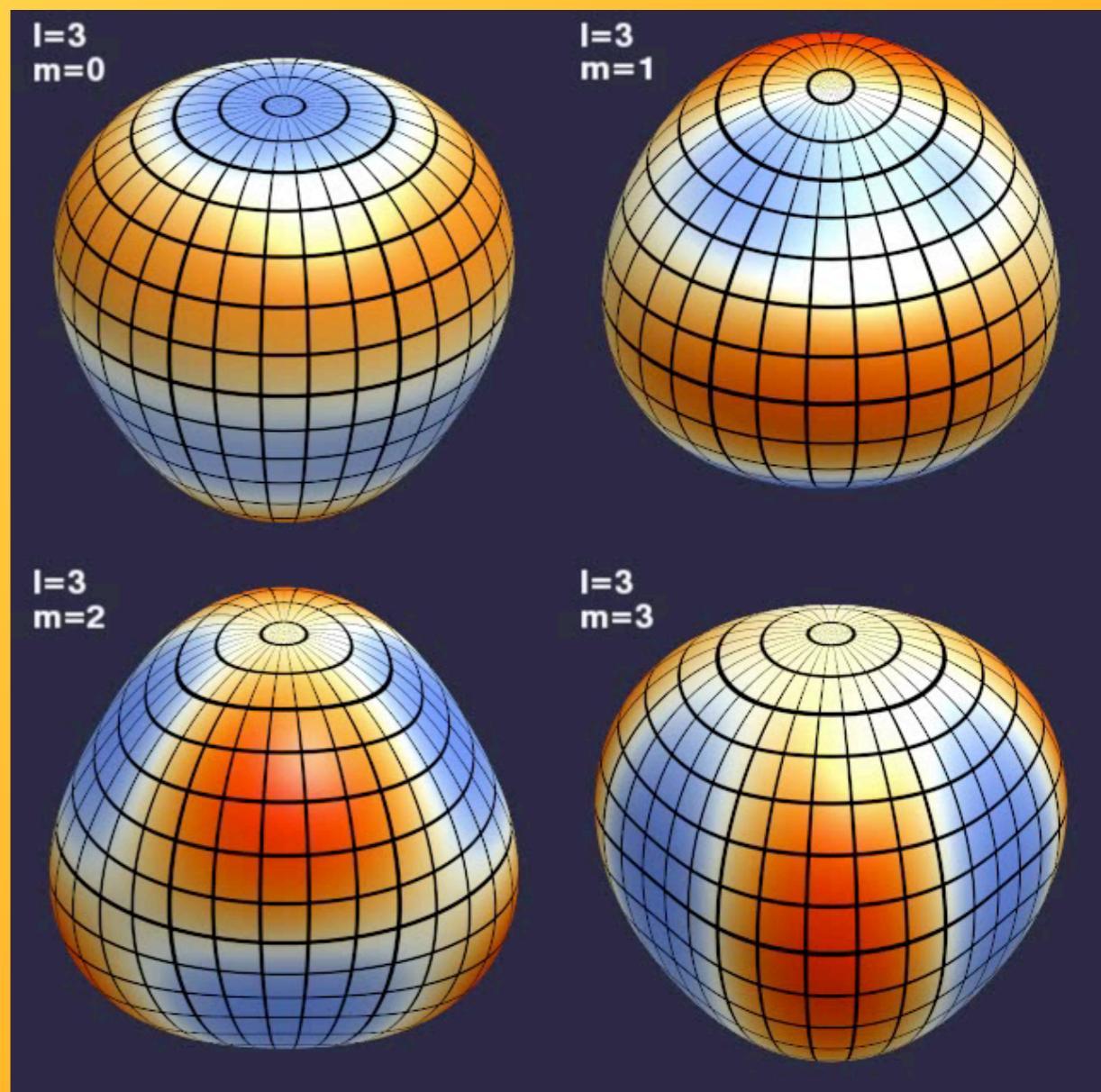
Paxton et al. (2019)

- Pulsation: (quasi-) periodic spectral/photometric variability intrinsic to the star
- Occurs in distinct regions of HR diagram (classes)
- Each class has unique variability characteristics (frequencies, amplitudes, light-curve shape, etc).



# What are Stellar Pulsations?

- Excitation of one or more of the star's normal modes of oscillation
- Resulting perturbations to surface temperature, color, shape, velocity etc. produce the observed variability



# BRACE YOURSELF



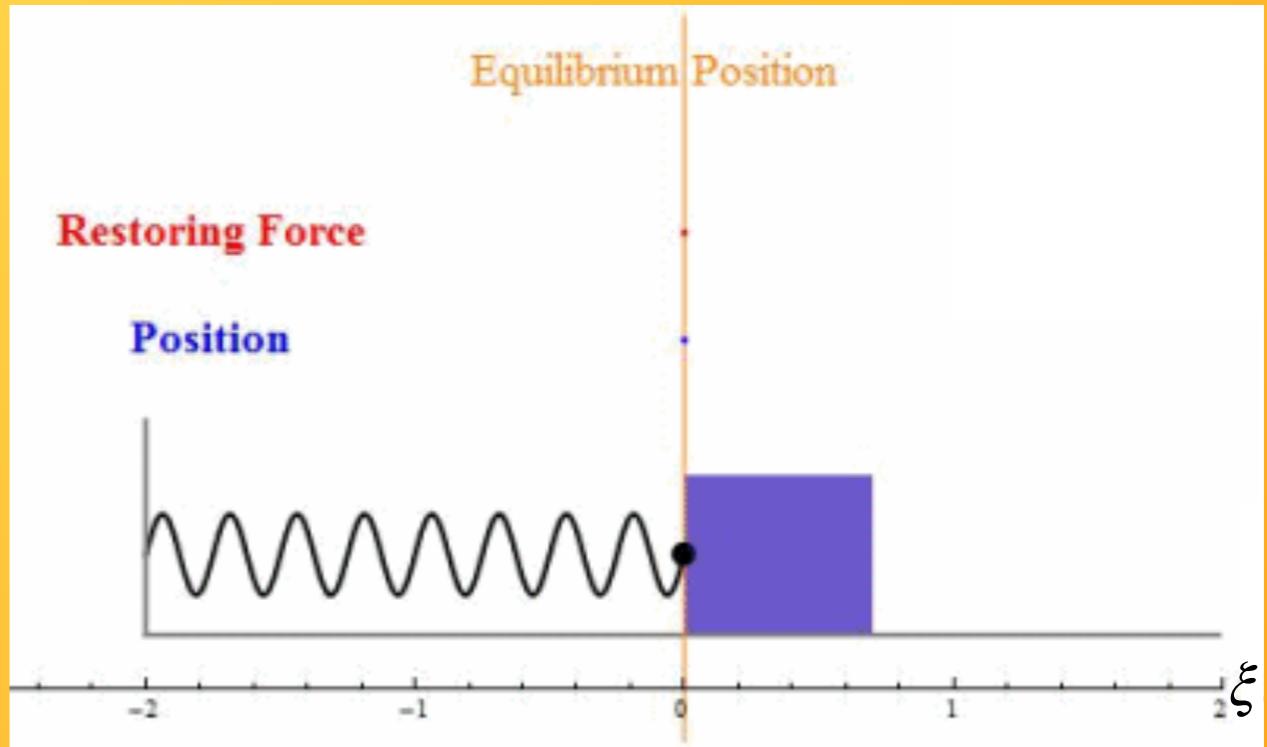
# SCIENCE IS COMING

imgflip.com



# The Prototype Oscillator

- Two ingredients
  - restoring force to bring displaced element back toward equilibrium position
  - inertia to make the element overshoot equilibrium position



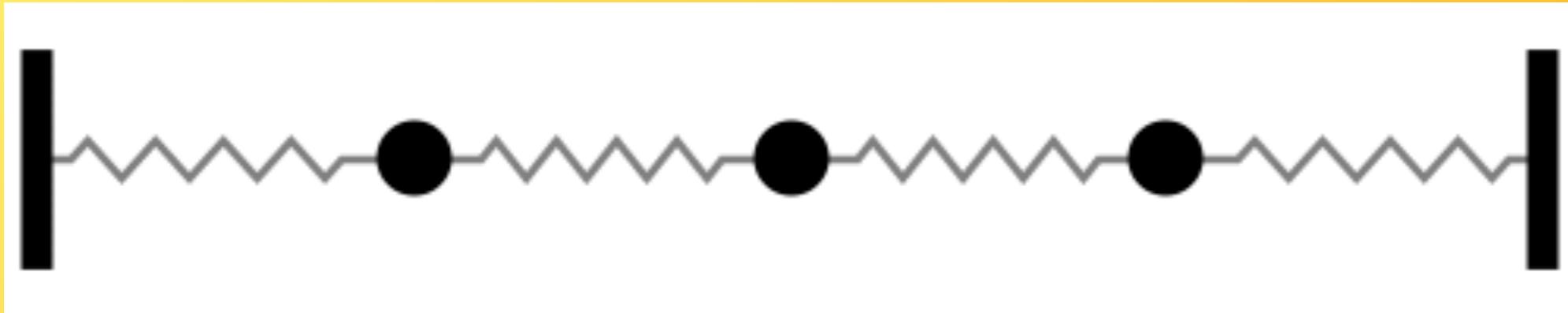
$$\xrightarrow{\text{mass}} m \frac{\partial^2 \xi}{\partial t^2} = -q \xi \quad \xrightarrow{\text{spring constant}}$$

$$\xi(t) = Ae^{-i\sigma t}$$

$$\sigma = \sqrt{\frac{q}{m}}$$

(NB Take real part of  $\xi$  to get physical displacement)

# Coupled Oscillators



$$m \frac{\partial^2 \xi_1}{\partial t^2} = -q(\xi_2 - 2\xi_1)$$

$$m \frac{\partial^2 \xi_2}{\partial t^2} = -q(\xi_3 - 2\xi_2 + \xi_1)$$

$$m \frac{\partial^2 \xi_3}{\partial t^2} = -q(-2\xi_3 + \xi_2)$$

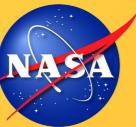


# Many Coupled Oscillators

$$m \frac{\partial^2 \xi_j}{\partial t^2} = -q \Delta x^2 \left( \frac{\xi_{j+1} - 2\xi_j + \xi_{j-1}}{\Delta x^2} \right)$$

$$\lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} \left( \frac{\xi_{j+1} - 2\xi_j + \xi_{j-1}}{\Delta x^2} \right) = \frac{\partial^2 \xi}{\partial x^2}$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 \xi}{\partial t^2} = -\frac{T}{\mu} \frac{\partial^2 \xi}{\partial x^2} \quad \begin{cases} T = \lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} q \Delta x \\ \mu = \lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} \frac{m}{\Delta x} \end{cases}$$



# The Stretched String Wave Equation

$$\frac{\partial^2 \xi}{\partial t^2} = - \frac{T}{\mu} \frac{\partial^2 \xi}{\partial x^2}$$

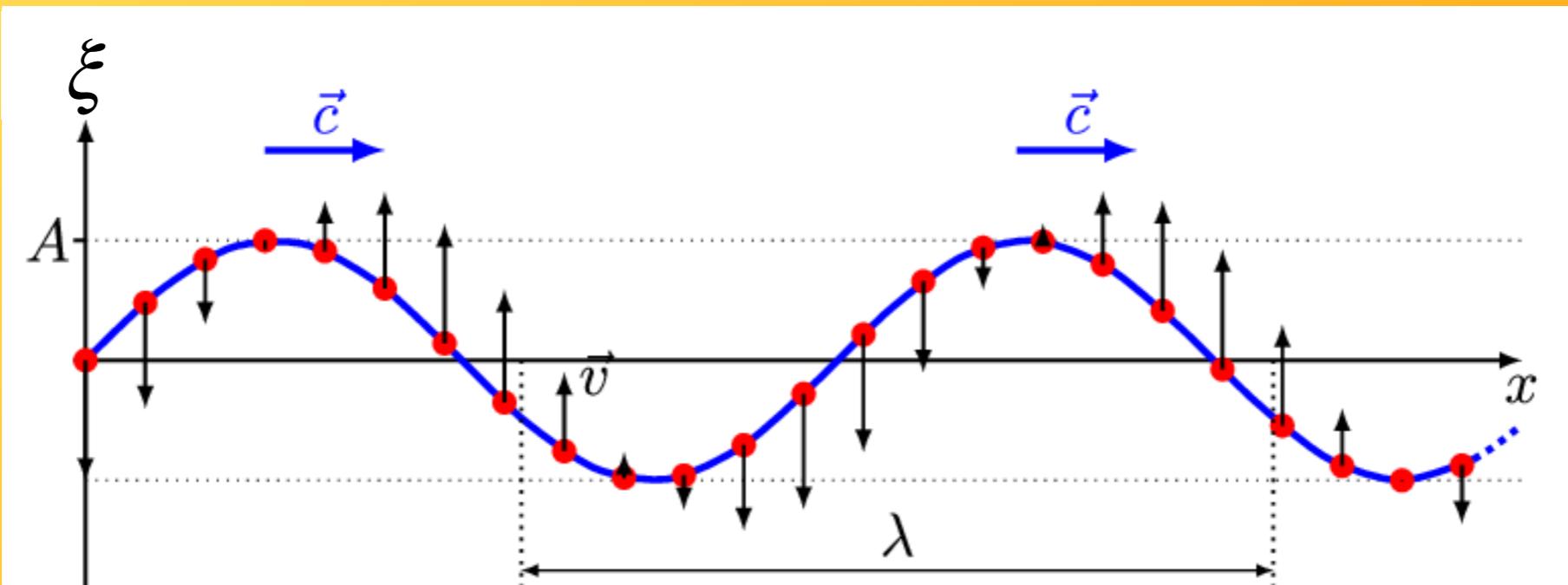
T: tension

$\mu$ : mass/unit length

$$\xi(x, t) = A e^{i(kx - \sigma t)}$$

$$\sigma = \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{T}} k$$

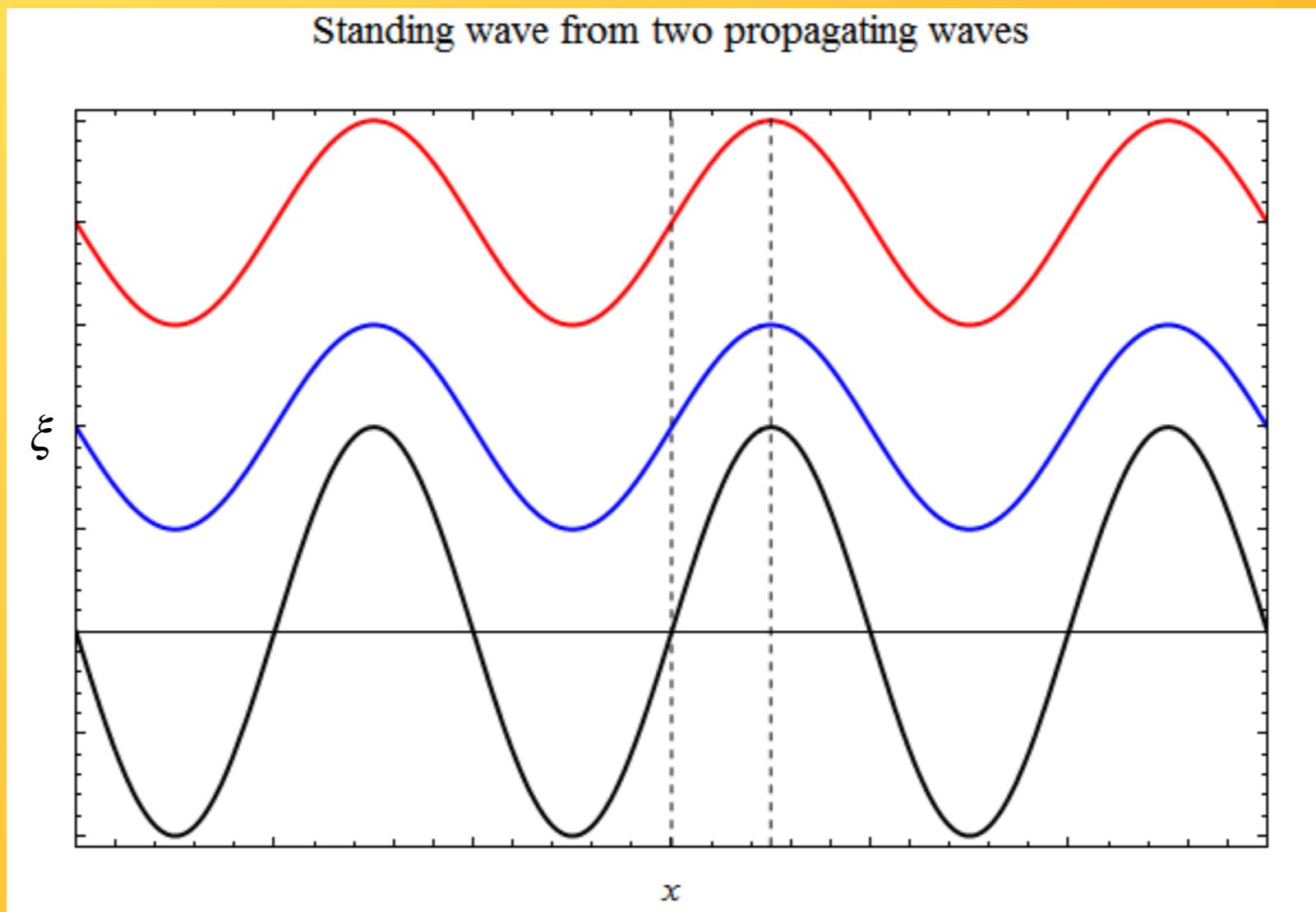
Propagating waves with wavelength  $\lambda = 2\pi/k$  and speed  $c = \sqrt{\mu/T}$



# Standing Waves

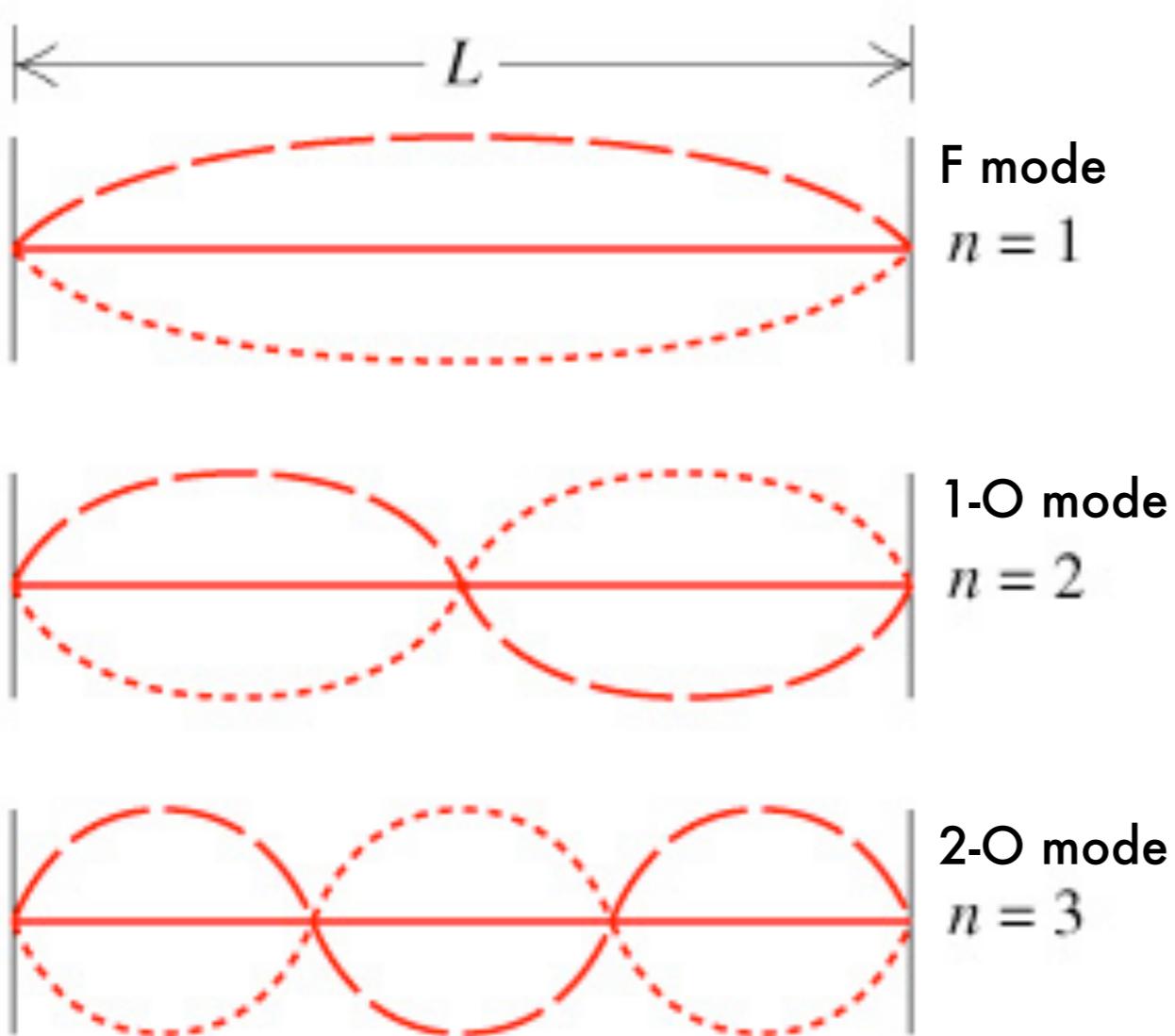
Two waves superposed with the same frequency, but opposite amplitudes & wavenumbers

$$\xi(x, t) = A \left[ e^{i(kx - \sigma t)} - e^{i(-kx - \sigma t)} \right] = A \sin(kx) e^{-i\sigma t}$$



# Standing Waves on Clamped String

The clamped endpoints must correspond to nodes of standing-wave solutions



$$\xi(x, t) = A \sin(kx) e^{-i\sigma t}$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \xi(0, t) = 0 \\ \xi(L, t) = 0 \end{array} \right\} \rightarrow \sin(kL) = 0$$

$$kL = n\pi \quad (n = 1, 2, \dots)$$

$$\sigma = ck = n \frac{c\pi}{L}$$

...a discrete set of normal modes, indexed by an integer order  $n$  and characterized by a distinct frequency and an associated wavefunction



# Waves in Stars

*Stars are gravitationally stratified → two types of waves*

## Acoustic (Pressure) Waves



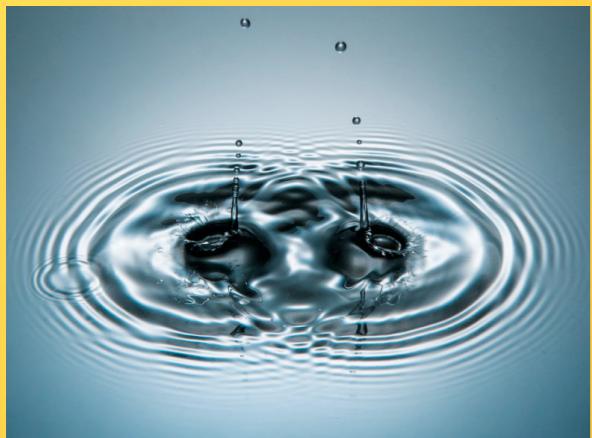
Local Dispersion Relation

$$\sigma = c \sqrt{k_r^2 + k_h^2}$$

Sound Speed

$$c = \sqrt{\frac{\gamma P}{\rho}}$$

## Gravity (Buoyancy) Waves



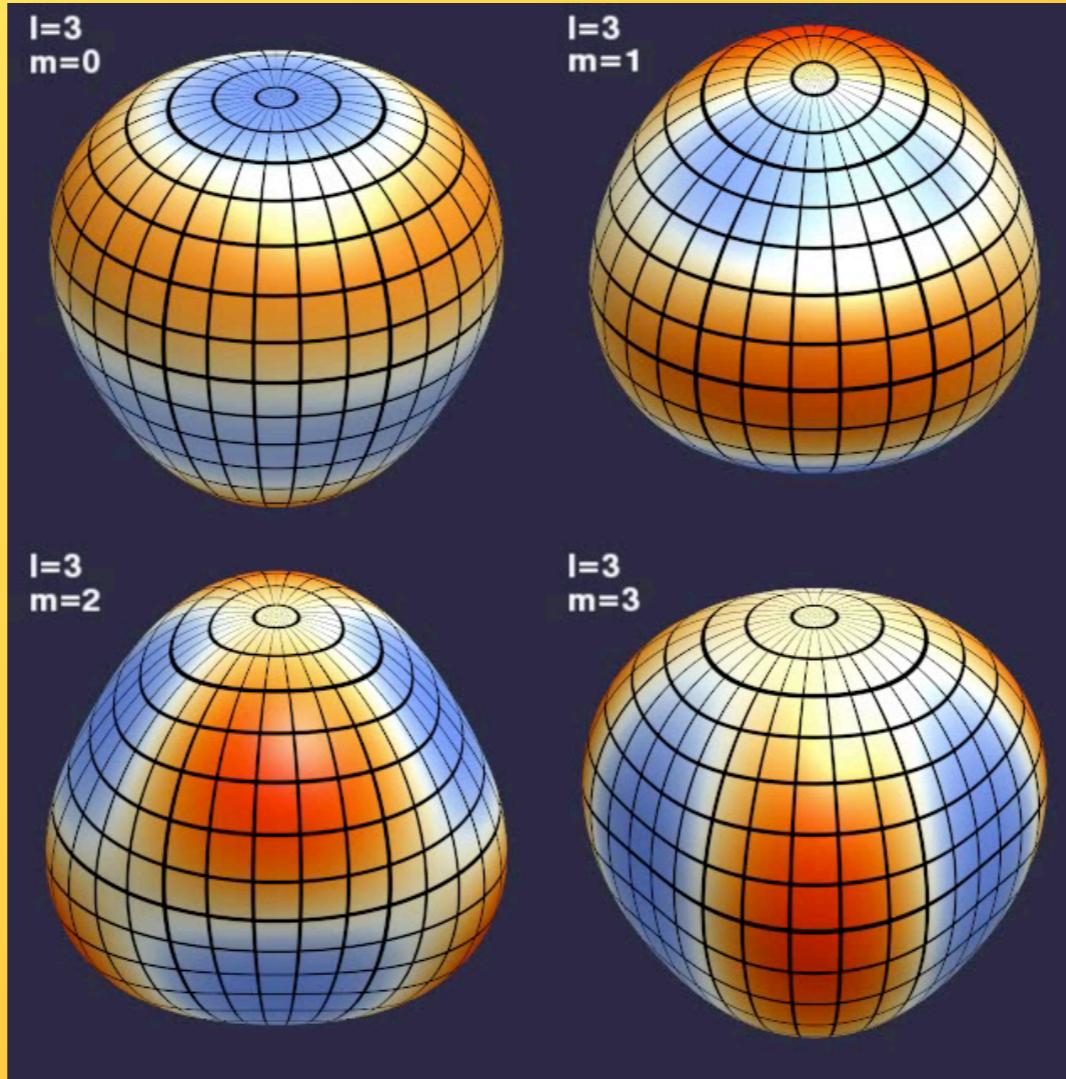
Local Dispersion Relation

$$\sigma = N \sqrt{\frac{k_h^2}{k_r^2 + k_h^2}}$$

Brunt-Väisälä Frequency

$$N = \sqrt{\frac{g}{r} \left( \frac{1}{\gamma} \frac{d \ln P}{d \ln r} - \frac{d \ln \rho}{d \ln r} \right)}$$

# Stellar Oscillation Modes



$$\xi_r(r, \theta, \phi, t) = \xi_r(r) Y_\ell^m(\theta, \phi) e^{-i\sigma t}$$

Radial wavefunction

Spherical harmonic  
(harmonic degree  $\ell$ , azimuthal order  $m$ )

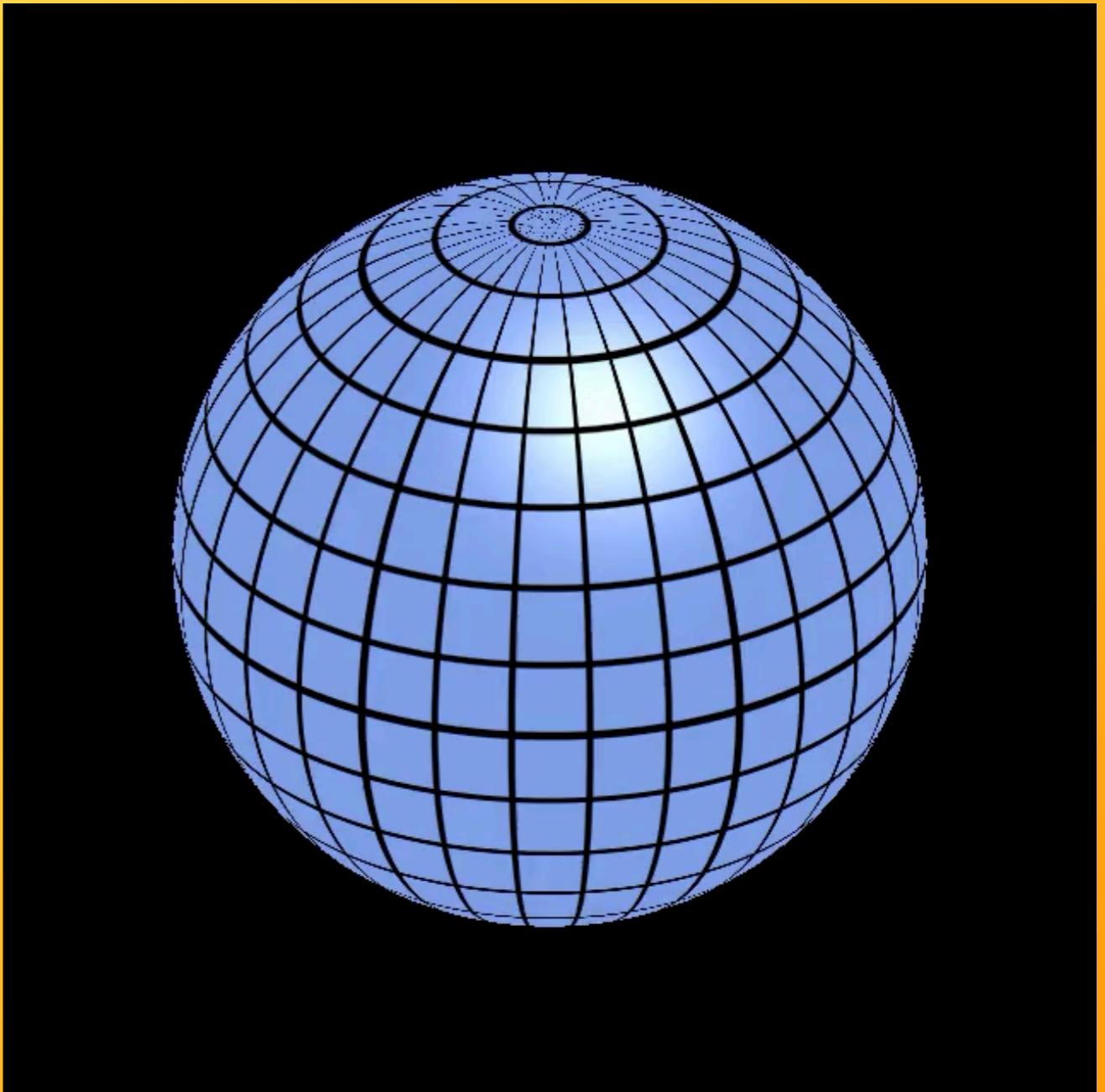
Frequency

# Simplest Case: Radial Modes

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \ell = 0 \\ m = 0 \end{array} \right\} \rightarrow Y_\ell^m = 1$$

$$\xi_r(r, \theta, \phi, t) = \xi_r(r) e^{-i\sigma t}$$

Motion is spherically symmetric



# Quantization Condition

On a stretched string...

$$kL = n\pi$$

In a star...

$$\int_0^R k_r dr \approx (n + \alpha)\pi$$

boundary  
phase term

# Radial Mode Frequencies

Dispersion Relation ( $k_h = 0$ )

Acoustic waves:  $\sigma^2 = c^2 k_r^2$

Gravity waves:  $\sigma^2 = 0$

Quantization Condition

$$\int_0^R k_r dr \approx (n + \alpha)\pi$$

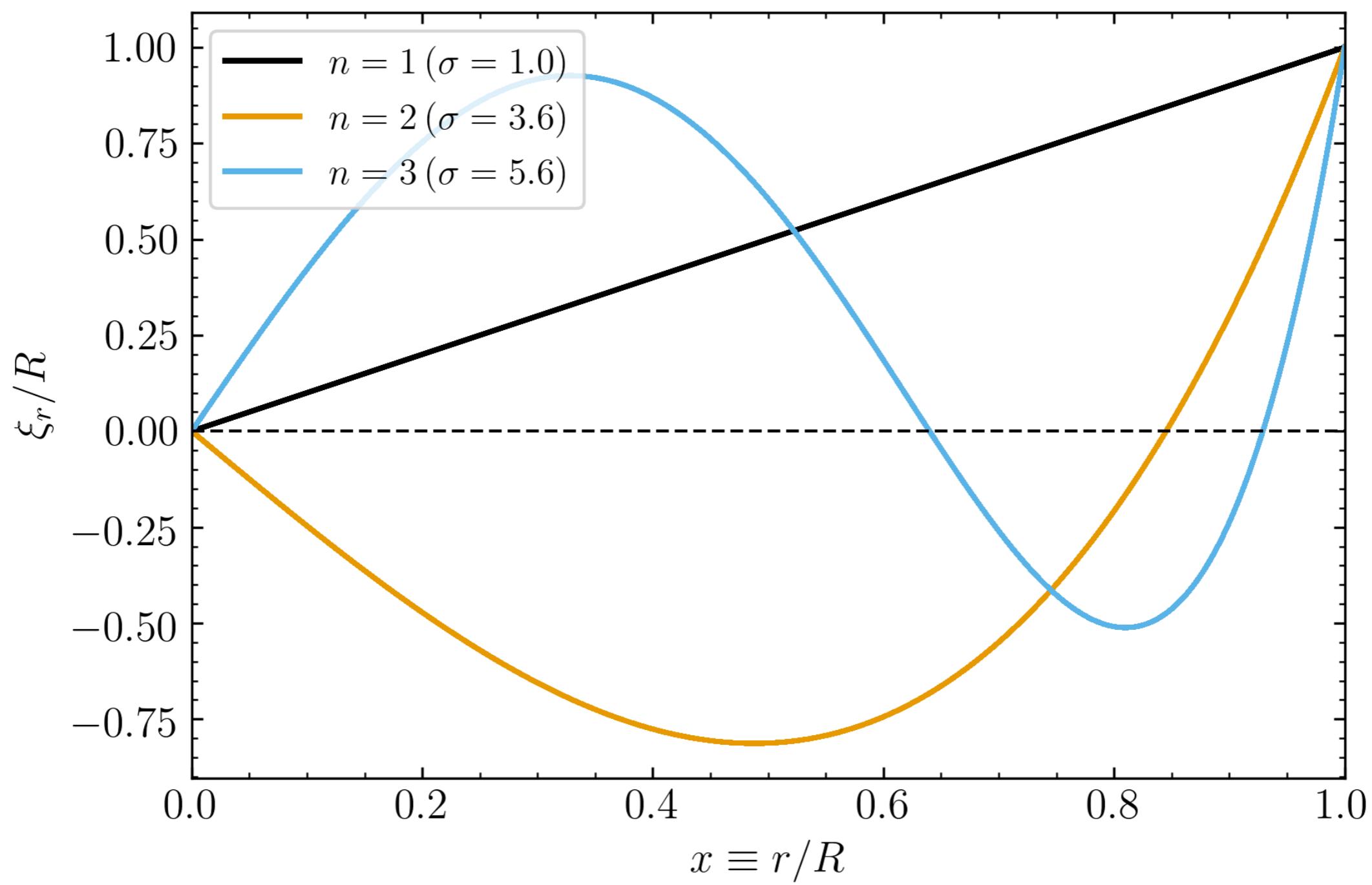
$$\sigma \int_0^R \frac{dr}{c} \approx (n + \alpha)\pi$$

$$\sigma \approx \pi(n + \alpha) \underbrace{\left[ \int_0^R \frac{dr}{c} \right]}^{-1}$$

$$\tau_{\text{dyn}} \approx \sqrt{\frac{R^3}{GM}}$$



# Radial Eigenfunctions



For a homogeneous compressible sphere ( $\gamma = 5/3$ )







- A companion software instrument to MESA
- Takes an input stellar model and calculates
  - mode frequencies  $\sigma$
  - radial displacement wavefunctions  $\xi_r$
  - plus lots more
- Bundled with MESA (see `$MESA_DIR/gyre`)
- For latest release, and full documentation, visit  
<https://bitbucket.org/rhdtownsend/gyre/wiki/>

# Three Ways to Run GYRE

- Stand-alone
  - Write stellar MESA models to disk (in special format)
  - Post-process these models using GYRE
- Within MESA's *astero* module
  - Runs GYRE after selected evolution timesteps
  - Compares frequencies vs observations
  - Repeats evolution with different parameter (e.g., mass, metallicity) until convergence
- Using the GYRE-in-MESA hooks



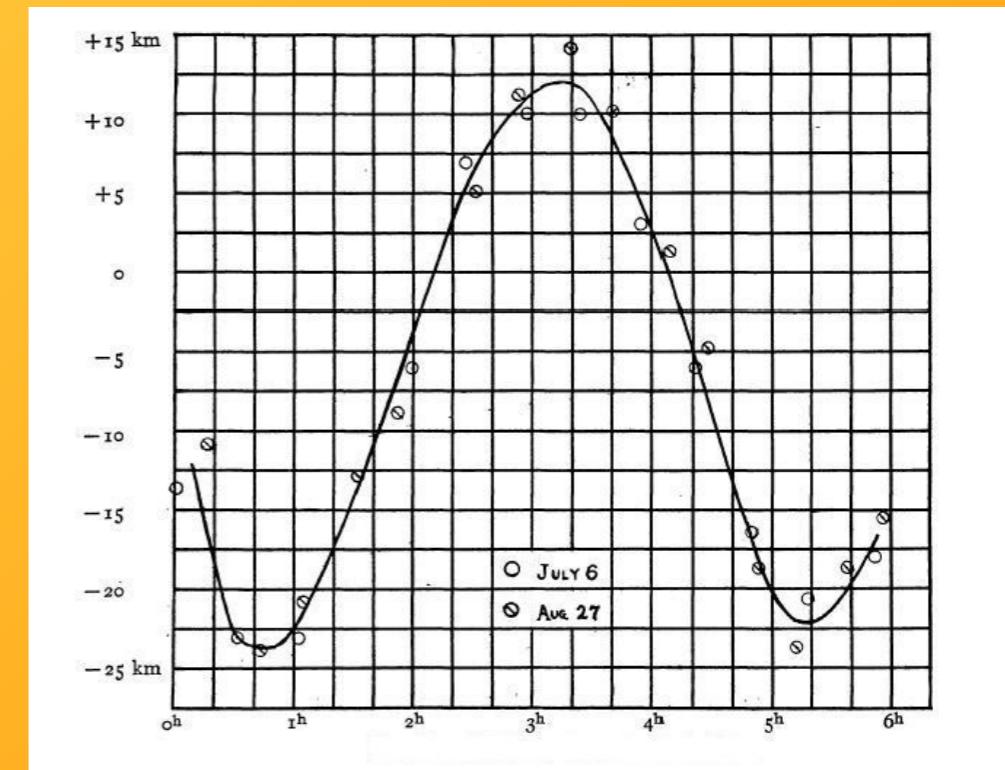
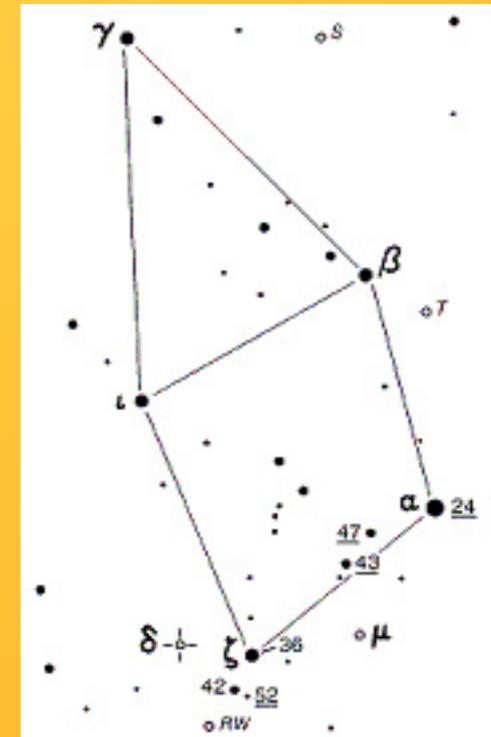
# GYRE-in-MESA

- Provides a set of routines to control GYRE within `run_star_extras.f90`
  - Initialize GYRE
  - Pass current MESA model to GYRE
  - Ask GYRE to find modes
- For each mode found, a user-defined callback routine performs on-the-fly analysis
- GYRE parameters are specified in `gyre.in` file



# Exploring $\beta$ Cephei Stars

- Spectral types B0-B3
- Masses  $\sim 8 M_{\odot}$  and up
- Photometric & spectral variations
- Periods 2-12 hours
- Low- $n$  acoustic modes  
(both radial and non-radial)



# Lab Overview

- MiniLab 1
  - evolve  $15 M_{\odot}$   $\beta$  Cephei model from pre-MS to TAMS
  - run GYRE-in-MESA during ZAMS-to-TAMS phase
- Minilab 2
  - plot frequencies of F and 1-O radial modes
- Minilab 3
  - plot radial displacement wavefunctions of modes
- Maxilab
  - explore process responsible for exciting the modes
  - create theoretical instability strip for modes



# Let's Get Going!

<https://rhdtownsend.github.io/mesa-summer-school-2019/>



# What Excites Pulsations?



All swings can swing; but only some swings do swing



# Four Excitation Mechanisms



Stochastic

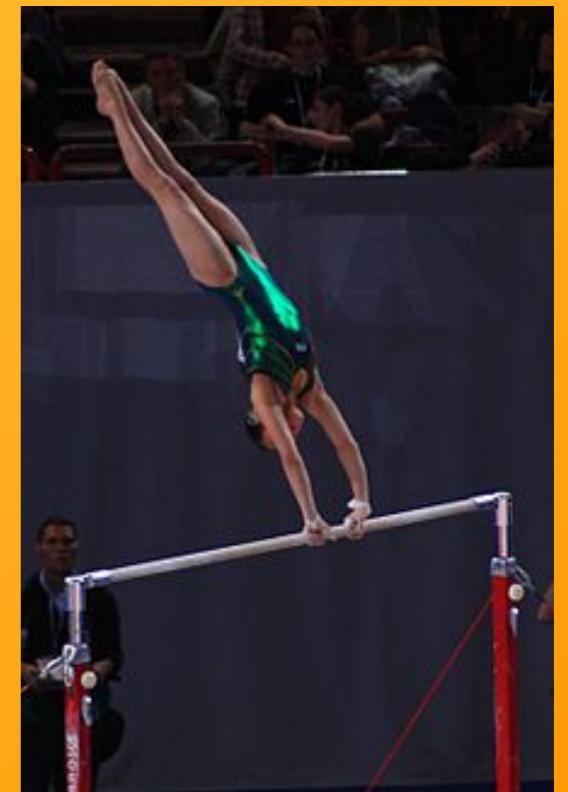


Parametric



Forced

Convection



# The Parametric Oscillator

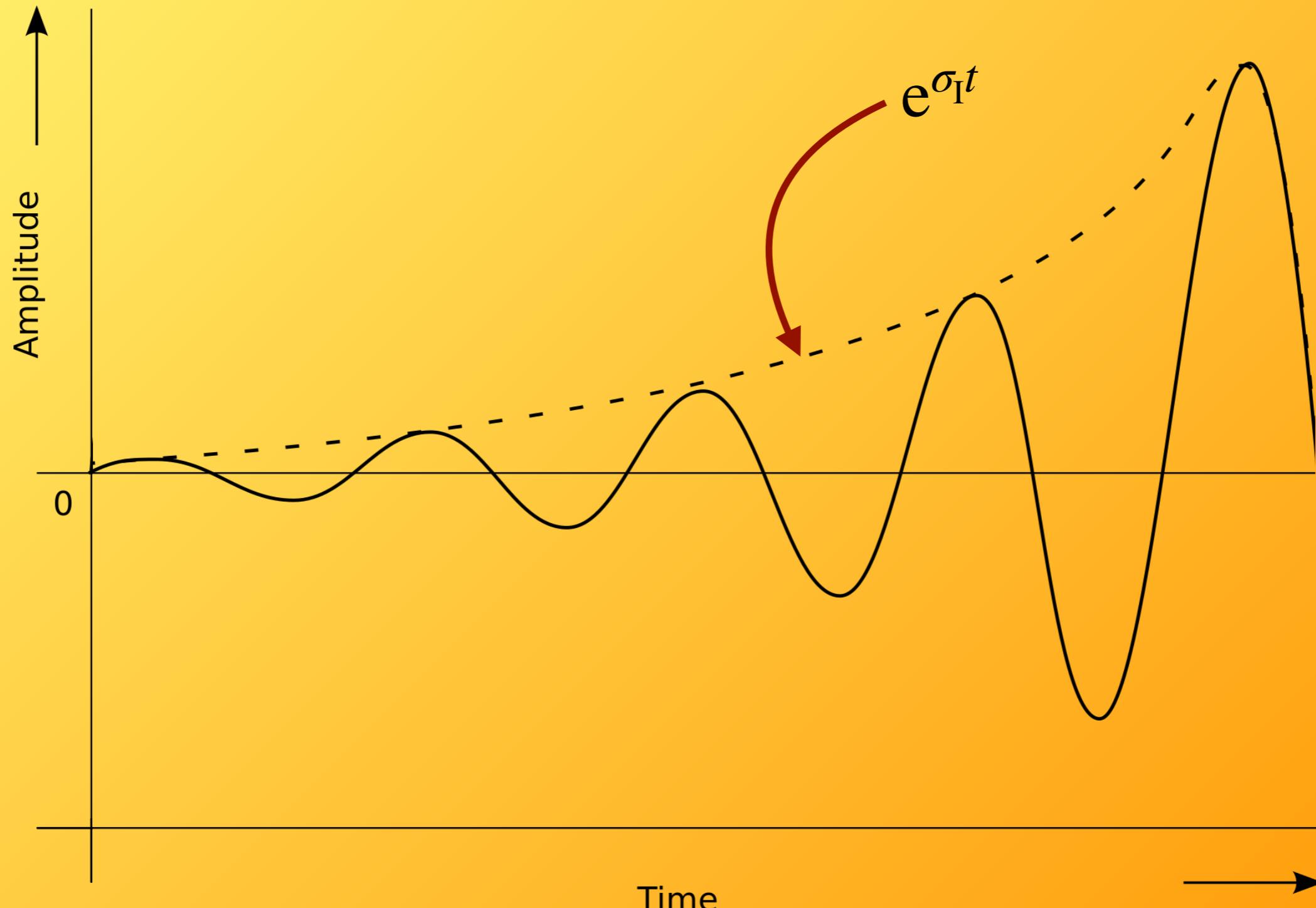
$$m \frac{\partial^2 \xi}{\partial t^2} = -q [1 + \epsilon \sin(2\sigma_p t)] \xi$$

If pumping frequency  $\sigma_p$  equals the natural frequency  $\sqrt{q/m}$  and  $\epsilon \ll 1$  then...

$$\xi(t) = A e^{-i\sigma t} = A e^{-i\sigma_R t} e^{\sigma_I t}$$

$$\sigma_R = \sqrt{\frac{q}{m}} \quad \sigma_I = \sqrt{\frac{q}{m}} \frac{\epsilon}{4}$$

# Instability of Parametric Oscillator



# Energetics of Parametric Oscillator

Over one cycle, the change in the system energy  $E$  is given by the “work”

$$W = 4\pi \frac{\sigma_I}{\sigma_R} E$$

The energy gain comes from whatever mechanism is doing the pumping

# Pumping Stellar Pulsations

To increase the restoring force at extrema, raise (lower) the pressure at maximum compression (expansion)

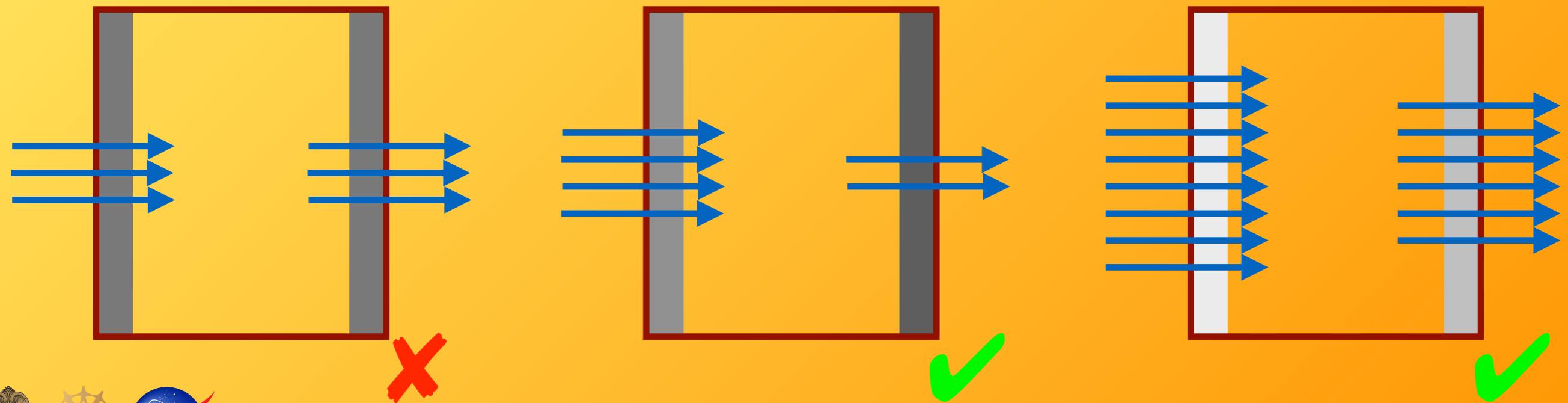
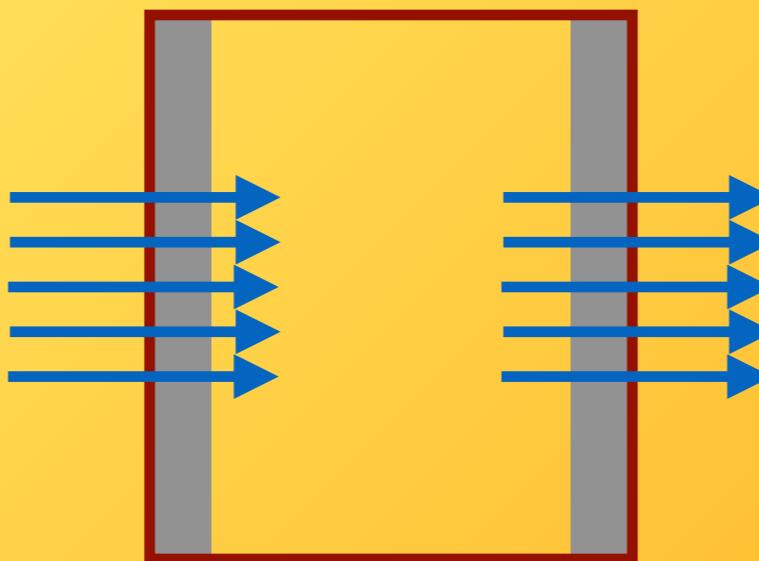
To raise (lower) the pressure, add (remove) heat

*"Excess heat must be added to matter when at a high temperature and withdrawn at a low temperature. We require, in fact, something corresponding to the valve-mechanism of a heat engine."*

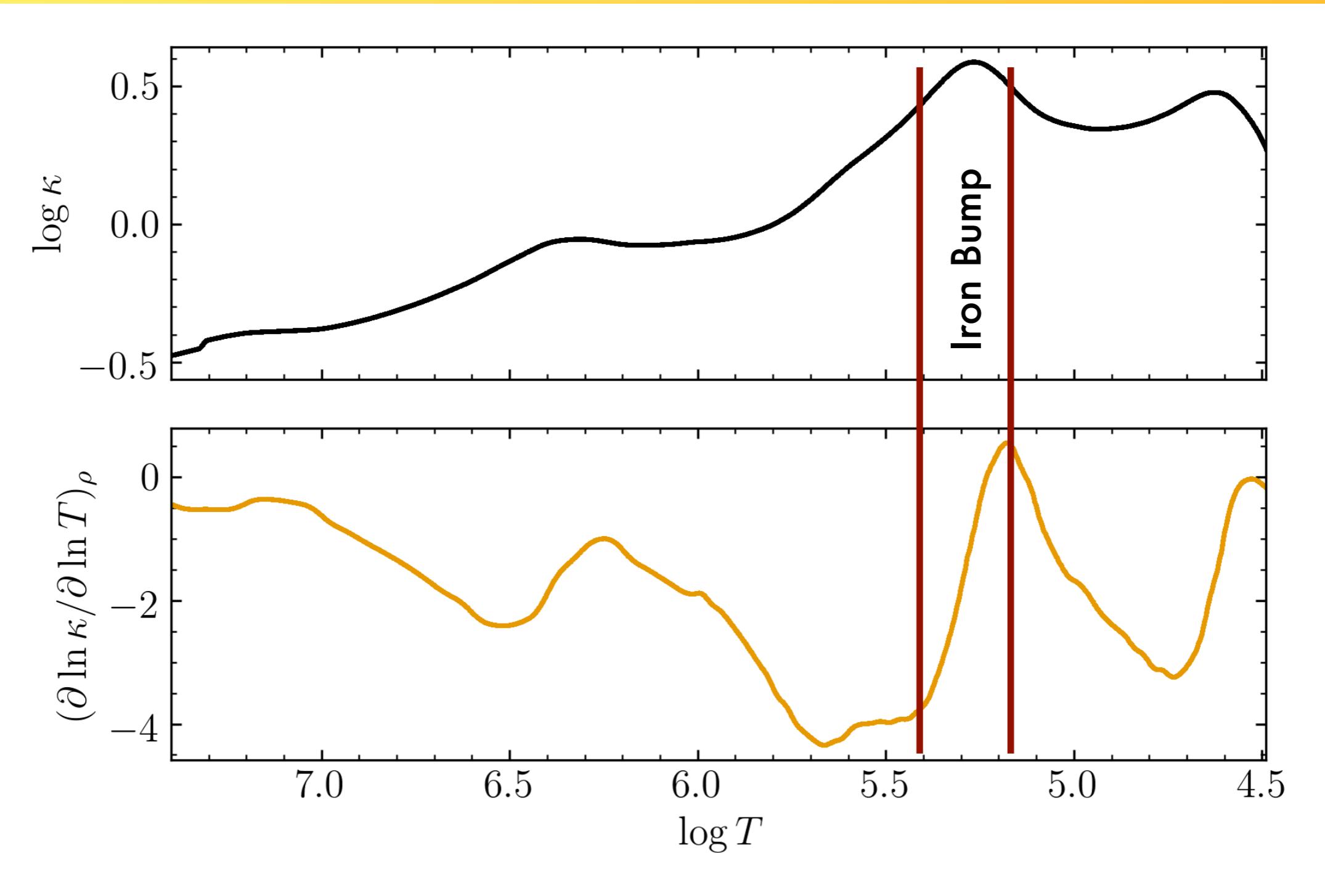
Eddington (1926)



# The Kappa Mechanism: An Opacity Valve



# Opacity in Massive Stars



$15 M_{\odot}$  model,  $X_c \approx 0.6$



# The Kappa Mechanism in GYRE

- Turn on non-adiabatic effects (to include the interaction between pulsation & heat flow)
- Resulting pulsation frequencies are complex
  - $\sigma_I > 0$  indicates instability (growth)
  - $\sigma_I < 0$  indicates decay (damping)
- The differential work  $dW/dx$  indicates which regions of the star contribute toward driving or damping

$$W = 4\pi \frac{\sigma_I}{\sigma_R} E = \int_0^1 \frac{dW}{dx} dx \quad (x \equiv r/R)$$

# MaxiLab

- Turn on non-adiabatic effects in GYRE
- Print out/plot growth rates  $\sigma_I$ , find where radial modes become unstable
- Plot differential work  $dW/dx$  to explore driving
- Crowd project
  - Repeat runs for other masses / metallicities
  - Store  $T_{\text{eff}}$ ,  $\log L$  boundaries of instability
  - Map out radial-mode instability strip for  $\beta$  Cephei stars

# Go for It!

<https://rhdtownsend.github.io/mesa-summer-school-2019/>

