



[Science_Olympiad_Div_C_2023_Rules_Manual_Web_.pdf \(soinc.org\)](#)

https://scioly.org/wiki/index.php/Astronomy/Stellar_Evolution

https://scioly.org/wiki/index.php/Astronomy/Variable_Stars
https://scioly.org/wiki/index.php/Astronomy/Variable_Stars

Parsec: 3.26 light years

Light year: 9.46×10^{15} meters

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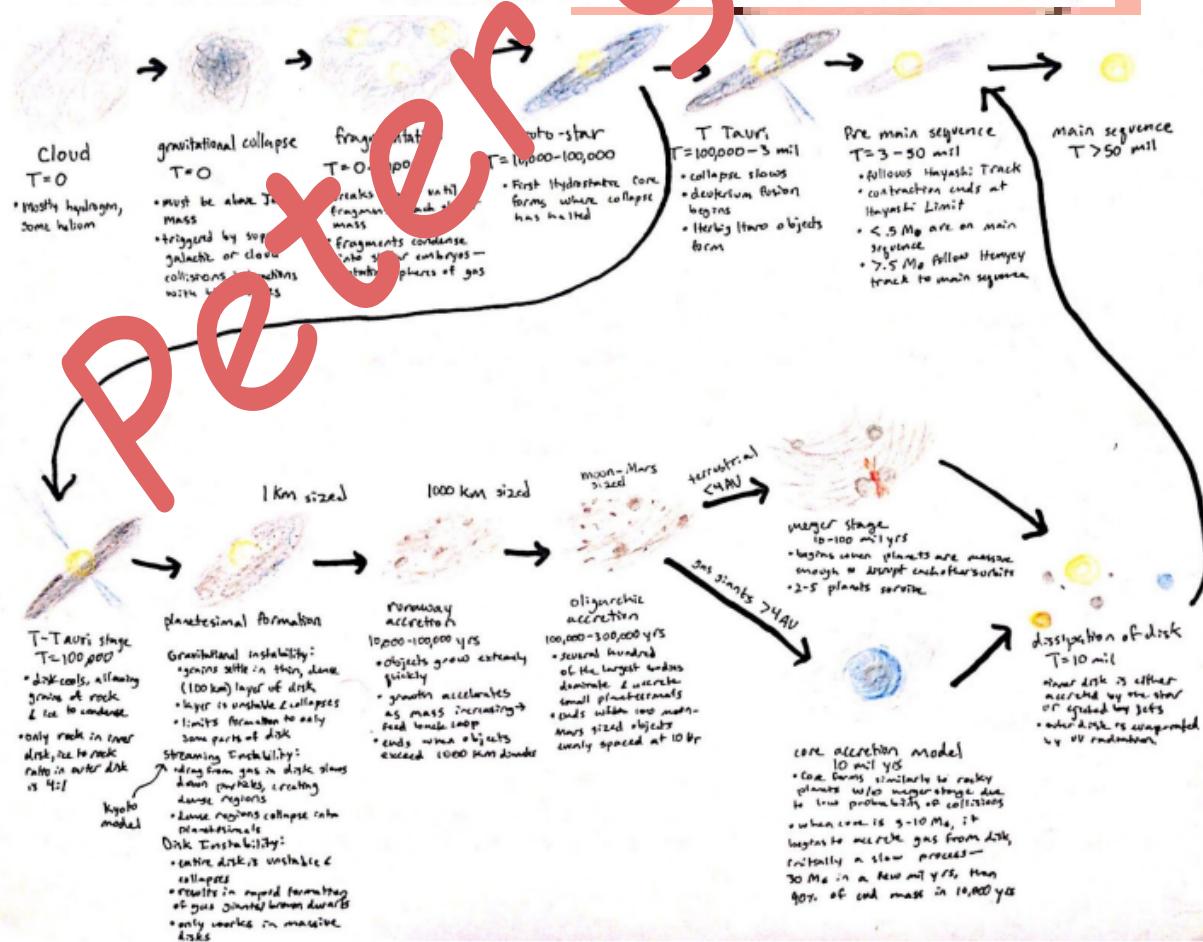
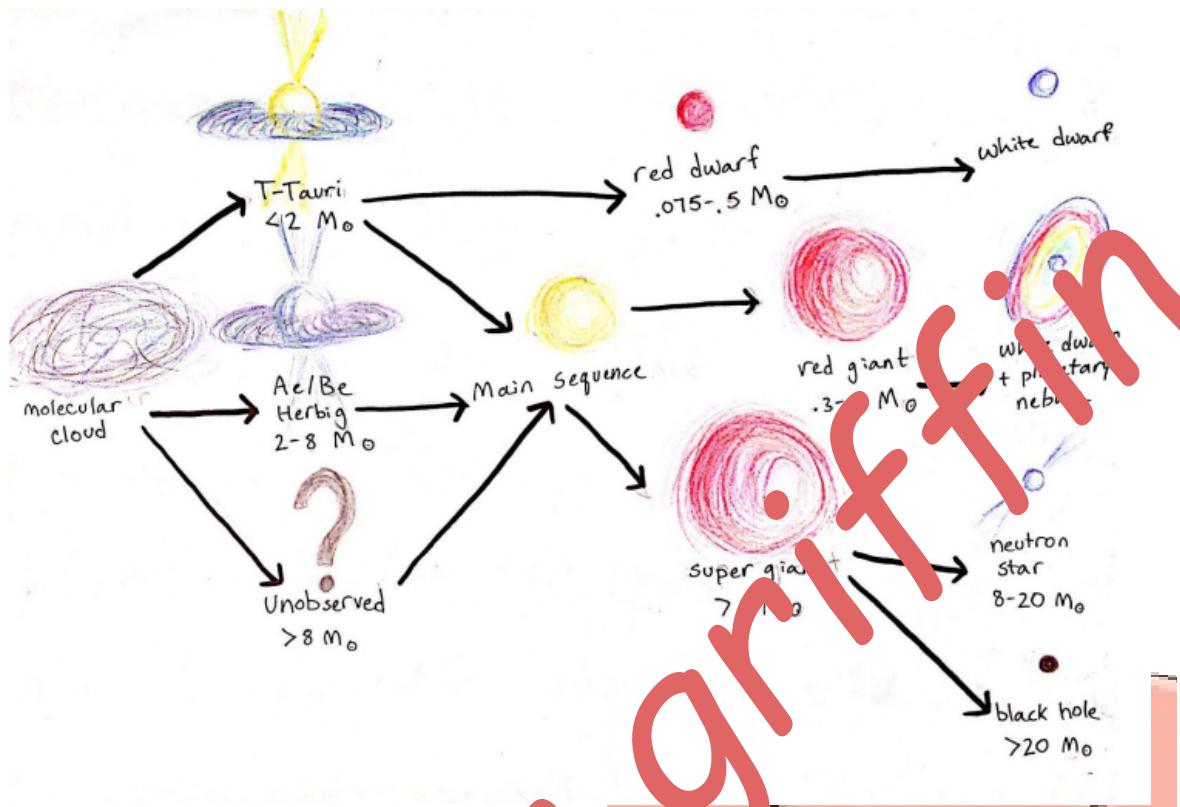
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Peter griffin

Stellar Evolution



Classification



Star classifications

Temperatures: in kelvin

O: 28,000-50,000

B: 10,000-28,000

A: 7,500-10,000

F: 6000-7500

G: 5000-6000

K: 3500-5000

M: 2500-3500

Further classification: lower number is hotter; so A0 is hotter than A7

Class*	Color Descr.	Actual Color	Mass (M_{\odot})	Radius (R_{\odot})	Lumin. (L_{\odot})
O	Blue	Blue	≥ 16	≥ 6.6	$\geq 30,000$
B	Blue-white	Deep B-W	2.1-16	1.8-6.6	25-30,000
A	White	Blue-white	1.4-1	1.4-1.8	5-25
F	Yellow-white	White	1.04-1	1.15-1.4	1.5-5
G	Yellow	Yellowish-W	0.8-1.4	0.96-1.15	0.6-1.5
K	Orange	Pale Y-O	0.45-0.8	0.7-0.96	0.08-0.6
M	Red	Lt. Orange Red	0.08-0.45	≤ 0.7	≤ 0.08

LUMINOSITY CLASSES (Also called "OBAFGKM")

O - hypergiants

I - supergiants

II - bright giants

III - normal giants

IV - subgiants

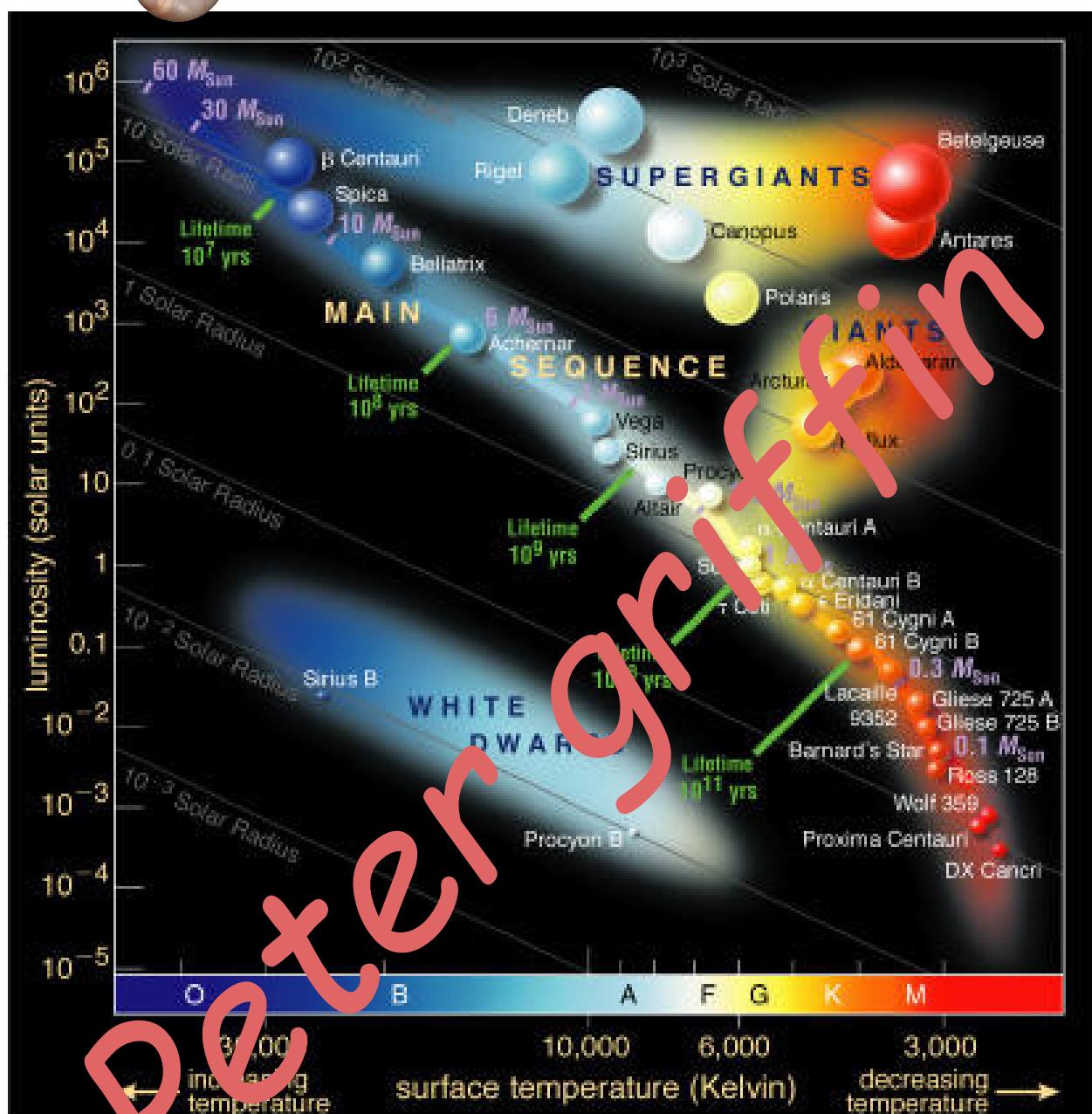
V - M.S. (dwarfs)

VI - subdwarfs

VII - white dwarfs



Hertzsp Russel diagram





Stellar Spectroscopy

Class Characteristics

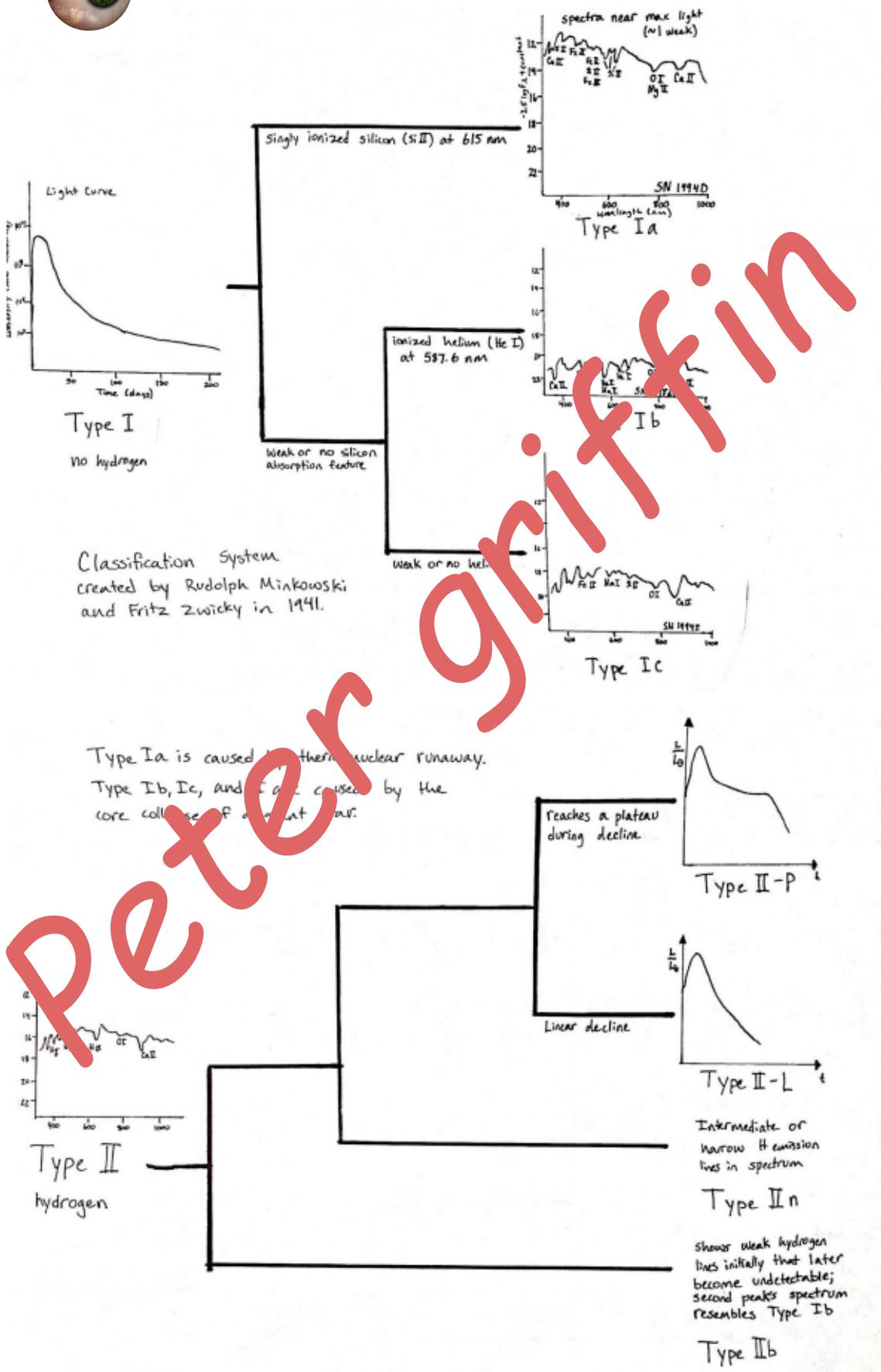
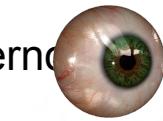
O	Dominant He II absorption (and sometimes emission) lines and prominent ionized (Si IV, O III, N III, C III) and neutral helium lines which strengthen from O5-O9 with prominent hydrogen Balmer lines
B	Neutral helium lines, most prominent at the B2 subclass, with moderate hydrogen lines. Balmer series hydrogen lines grow stronger through the B class. Ionized metals include Si II and Mg II
A	Balmer series lines peak, with strong hydrogen lines. Also present are lines of ionized metals, including Fe II, Mg II, and Si II, which are at a maximum at A. Ca II lines strengthen at this point.
F	Strengthening <i>H</i> and <i>K</i> lines of Ca II. Neutral metals Fe I and Ca I make gains on ionized metals by late F. Weaker hydrogen lines and ionized metals characterize the class.
G	Very prominent <i>H</i> and <i>K</i> lines of Ca II, peaking at G2. Weaker hydrogen lines than F. Along with ionized metals, neutral metals lines are present in the spectra.
K	Extremely weak, sometimes nonexistent, hydrogen lines. Mostly neutral metals (Mn I, Fe I, Si II)

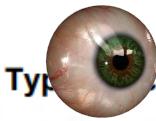
SPECTRA IN-DEPTH (MAIN SEQUENCE)

O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Main-sequence (hydrogen-burning core) star, spectral type O and luminosity class V - Very rare, very massive, with extremely short lifespans (first to leave main seq.) - <u>0.00003%</u> of local stars are of spectral type O - Most output is in the ultraviolet range
B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Main-sequence star, spectral class B, luminosity class V - Extremely luminous, short lifespans, rarely found far from area of formation - <u>~0.125%</u> of stars in solar neighborhood (M-S) are of spectral class B. - Natural helium spectra with moderate hydrogen lines
A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Main-sequence star, spectral type A, luminosity class V - More common naked-eye stars with higher tendency to have massive planets - <u>0.625%</u> of stars in solar neighborhood belong to class A. - Strong hydrogen lines with strengthening Ca II lines
F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Main-sequence star, spectral type F, luminosity class V - Technically a "dwarf star," so may be referred to as a yellow-white dwarf. - <u>3.03%</u> of stars in the solar neighborhood are class F stars. - Weaker hydrogen lines and strengthening lines of Ca II
G	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Main-sequence star of spectral type G, luminosity class V - Lifetime of ~10bn years until Hydrogen fusion ceases and transitions to a red giant - <u>~7.5%</u> of local stars are of class G, the most well-known being the Sun, of class G2V - Yellow supergiants are extremely rare; most supergiants are between O-B or K-M
K	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Main-sequence star of spectral type K, luminosity class V - Due to low mass and intermediate size, have longer lifespans (15-30bn years) - <u>~12%</u> of main-sequence stars in the solar neighborhood belong to class K - AKA "orange dwarves" with mostly neutral metals lines and weak hydrogen lines
M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Very low-mass, main-sequence stars of spectral type M, luminosity class V - Due to low mass and low surface temperature, red dwarves are very dim stars - <u>~76%</u> of local main-sequence stars are class M stars, making them very common - Have incredibly long lifespans due to lack of buildup at core, lifespans of 10tn+ years



Supernova classification





Type Ia Scenarios

Single Degenerate



Main Sequence Binary

- system with 2 MS stars
- one is more massive and cools quicker



Evolved Binary

- more massive star leaves main sequence first, and becomes white dwarf
- stars share a circumstellar envelope; mass loss decreases angular momentum and orbit shrinks
- 2nd star becomes red giant



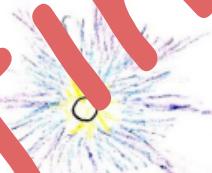
Accretion

- White dwarf accretes matter from red giant
- the mass of the white dwarf approaches the Chandrasekhar Limit



Carbon Ignition

- increase in mass raises temp. to 500 million K, but enough for carbon fusion
- because degeneracy pressure is independent of temp., the WD is unable to reach the fusion temperature
- MS star undergoes a Type Ia supernova



Double Degenerate



Main Sequence Binary

- system with 2 MS stars
- similar in mass and evolve at same rate



White Dwarf Binary

- stars evolve into white dwarfs



Orbit Decay

- orbit decays over time due to gravitational radiation (gravitational waves reduce angular momentum)
- orbit becomes extremely small



Merge

- stars merge with each other
- combined mass exceeds Chandrasekhar mass
- electron degeneracy is insufficient to support star

Type Ia Supernova

- $1-2 \times 10^{44} \text{ J}$ released, enough to unbind star
- matter ejected at 67% the speed of light
- absolute magnitude of -14.3



Variable Stars



Variable star periods:

- RR Lyrae (period of less than a day)
- Cepheid (period of one day to about a year)
- Mira (period of over a year)

Intrinsic vs Extrinsic: Intrinsic variable stars change in luminosity due to physical changes in the star, while extrinsic change in luminosity due to external changes (two main ones being rotating and eclipsing)

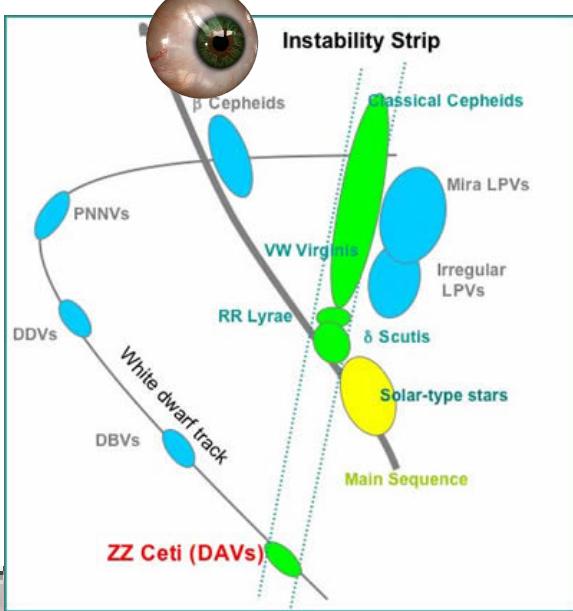
Intrinsic Variable Stars:

Three main types: pulsating, eruptive, and explosive

Pulsating Variable Stars: Stars that periodically swell and shrink.

- Pulsating stars that have short periods are called Cepheids, which tend to have more regular periods than long period variables.
- Important examples include the Delta Cephei variables, W Virginis variables, RR Lyrae variables, Mira A (Omicron Ceti A) variables, and Beta Cephei variables.
- Long period variables have longer periods than cepheids (>1 year) and are sometimes bigger and cooler than cepheids.
- Long period variables can be split into three subgroups
 - Irregular variables: They are usually red supergiants and have almost no regular period.
 - Semi-regular variables: They sometimes go through regular periods, then change and go on irregular periods.
 - Non-radial pulsators: Variables that change to shapes other than the sphere to change magnitude

The Instability Strip: A region on the H-R Diagram in which many variable stars can be found. This strip extends through the A, F, and occasionally G classes above and below the main sequence. In this strip, stars have a tendency to be unstable and pulsate, thus causing them to have some variability. Cepheids, RR Lyrae, W Virginis, and ZZ Ceti stars can all be found in this region, as well as other, less common variable stars.



Eruptive Variable Stars: Mostly pre-main sequence stars, but few main sequence stars are eruptive variables.

- Pre-main sequence (protostars) are stars that have not completed the process of becoming a main-sequence star from a gas nebula and are not yet condensed. While condensing they change in magnitude.
- Eruptive Main-sequence variables are usually extremely larger or extremely smaller than the average main sequence star.
- Some eruptive variables are red giants since they easily lose their gases.
- Binary eruptive stars: They flare up and can stay that way for 1-4 years.
- Important eruptive variable stars: Orion Variables, Wolf-Rayet variables, and RS Canum Venaticorum variables.

Explosive/Cataclysmic Variables: Show outbursts which are caused by thermonuclear burst processes at the surface (novae) or deep in the interior of the star (supernovae).

- Supernovae: The most dramatic of the explosive variables, they only occur in extremely massive and old stars, or in white dwarfs that gain enough mass to go supernova. The outer layers of the star are expelled at high speeds creating a supernova remnant or nebula. A white dwarf or pulsar is usually left behind.
- Novae: Dramatic explosions caused by a pair of close binaries (covered later) but don't cause the total destruction of the star.
- Dwarf Novae: Similar to novae, but are just two binary white dwarfs that regularly have outbursts.
- Z Andromedae variables: Less common type, caused by a double star system containing a red giant and a hot blue star enclosed in a cloud of dust and gas.

Extrinsic Variable Stars: Change in luminosity due to external changes



- Rotating variable stars change in luminosity due to rotation of the star
(Due to)

- Can occur because of things like sunspots on the surface as it rotates.
Can also occur when two close binary stars change shape due to mutual gravity. Fluctuations in magnetic fields can also cause magnitude changes.

- Eclipsing

Peter griffin



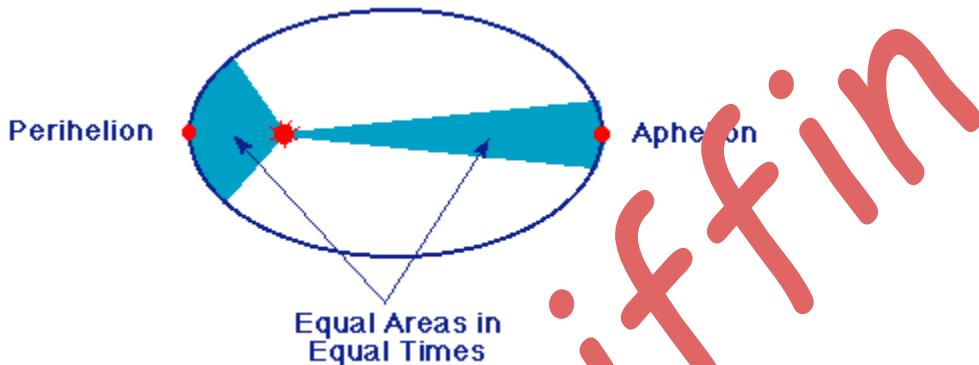


Mathematics portion



Orbital mechanics

- Kepler's laws:
 - 1: Orbits are elliptical
 - A planet traces out equal areas in equal times.



- Square of period is proportional to length of semi-major axis.
 - In particular,
 - $\left| p^2 = \frac{4\pi^2}{GM} a^3 \right|$
 - If p is solar years, M is solar mass, a in AU, we may assume $p^2 = a^3$ since things cancel out.

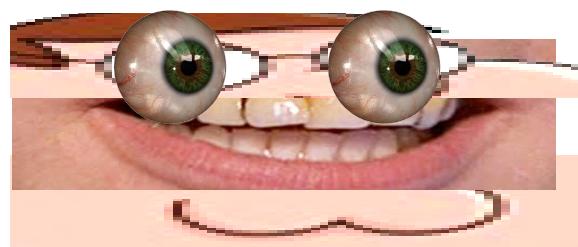
- **Binary systems**

 - Two bodies orbiting in common position; if the center of mass has distance r_B from the bigger body and r_L from the smaller body,
 - $\left[m_B/m_L = r_L/r_B \right]$
 - As center of mass would have you expect.

Formula sheet on next page



La sheet on next p.





Formularieet

Peter griffin





Parallax:	$d = \frac{1}{p}$	d = Distance (pc) p = Parallax Angle (arcseconds)
F Ratio:	$\frac{L_f}{D_O}$	L_f = Focal Length D_O = Objective Diameter
Distance Modulus:	$m - M = -5 + 5\log(d)$ $d = 10^{\frac{m-M+5}{5}}$	m = Apparent magnitude M = Absolute Magnitude d = Distance (pc)
Orbit Eccentricity:	$e = \frac{c}{a}$	e = Orbital Eccentricity c = Distance from focus to center a = semimajor axis
Aphelion/Perihelion:	$R_a = a(1 + e)$ $R_p = a(1 - e)$	R_a = Orbit Aphelion R_p = Orbit Perihelion a = Semimajor Axis e = Eccentricity
Kepler's 3rd Law:	$M_A + M_B = \frac{a^3}{p^2}$ $p^2 = \frac{a^3}{M_A + M_B}$	M = Mass (solar masses) a = Semimajor axis (AU) p = Orbital Period (years)
Mass-Luminosity Relation:	$L = M^{3.5}$	M = Mass (solar masses) L = Luminosity (Solar luminosity)
Stellar Lifetime:	$\tau = 10^{10} M^{-2.5}$	M = Mass (solar masses) τ = Stellar Lifetime (years)
Schwarzschild Radius:	$r_s = \frac{2Gr}{c^2}$	r_s = Schwarzschild Radius (meters) G = Gravitational Constant c = Speed of light r = radius (meters)
Universal Gravitation:	$F = G \frac{m_A m_B}{r^2}$	F = Gravitational Force (N) G = Gravitational Constant m = mass (kg) r = radius (meters)
Inverse-Squares Law:	$I = \frac{L}{4\pi d^2}$	I = Light Intensity (W/m^2) L = Luminosity (W) d = Distance (m)
Vacuum Frequency:	$f = \frac{c}{\lambda}$	f = Wave frequency (Hz) c = Speed of Light (m/s) λ = wavelength (m)
Hubble Time:	$T_U = \frac{9.778 \times 10^{11}}{H_0}$	T_U = Age of the Universe (years) H_0 = Hubble Constant (km/s/Mpc)



Astronomical Constants and Conversions

Constants

Speed of Light = $c = 3 \times 10^8$ m/s

Gravitational Constant = $G = 6.67 \times 10^{-11}$ N m²/kg²

Mass of Earth = $M_{\oplus} = 5.97 \times 10^{24}$ kg

Radius of Earth = $R_{\oplus} = 6378$ km

Mass of the sun = $M_{\odot} = 1.99 \times 10^{30}$ kg

Radius of the sun = $R_{\odot} = 6.96 \times 10^5$ km

Effective Temperature of the sun = $T_{\odot} = 5778$ K

Luminosity of the sun = $L_{\odot} = 3.9 \times 10^{26}$ W

Mass of the Moon = $M_{\mathbb{M}} = 7.346 \times 10^{22}$ kg

Radius of the Moon = $R_{\mathbb{M}} = 1738.1$ km

Mass of a proton = $m_p = 1.6726 \times 10^{-27}$ kg

Mass of an Electron = $m_{e^-} = 9.109 \times 10^{-31}$ kg

Hubble's Constant = $H_0 = 70$ km/s/Mpc (Note: There is going debate about the actual value)

Stefan-Boltzmann Constant = $\sigma = 5.67 \times 10^{-8}$ W/m²K⁴

Planck's Constant = $h = 6.626 \times 10^{-34}$ J s

Boltzmann Constant = $k_B = 1.380 \times 10^{-23}$ m² kg s⁻² K⁻¹

H α Spectral Line = 656.28 nm

Type Ia Supernova Absolute Magnitude = -19.3

Unit Conversions

1 Astronomical Unit = 1 AU = 1.496×10^{11} km

1 Parsec = 1 pc = 3.09×10^{16} km = 3.26 ly

1 Light Year = 1 ly = 9.46×10^{15} km

1 Arc Minute = $1' = (\frac{1}{60})^\circ = (1.667 \times 10^{-2})^\circ$

1 Arcsecond = $1'' = (\frac{1}{60})' = (1.667 \times 10^{-2})'$

1 year = 31,576,000 seconds

1 Megaton (energy) = 1,000,000 tons of TNT = 4.184×10^{15} J

Important Note:

If constants or unit conversions are provided on the exam, use those instead of these.