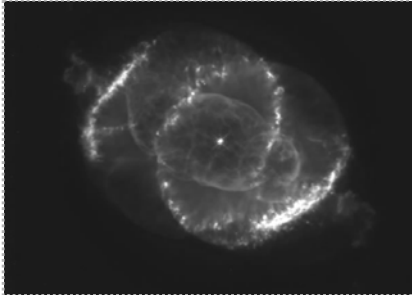


**ASTR 1120: Stars & Galaxies**



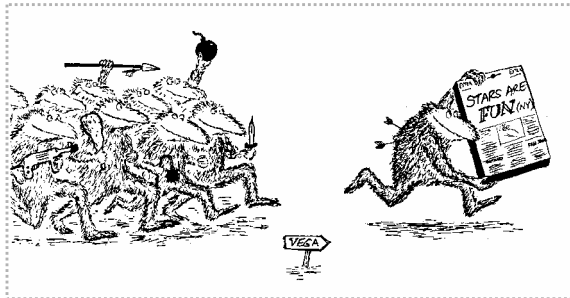
Cat's Eye Planetary Nebula

Prof. Juri Toomre TA: Ben Brown  
Lecture 16 Wed 16 Feb 05  
zeus.colorado.edu/astr1120-toomre

**Topics for Today**

- How do we measure *brightness* of stars: and why *apparent vs absolute magnitudes*?
- We shall use *binary stars* to determine *stellar masses*
- Detail read 16.5 *H-R Diagram* + 16.6 *Star Clusters* -- overview read *Chap 17 Star Stuff*
- *Mid-Term Exam 1* (graded) returned today – plus answer sheets
- *Homework Set 4* due in class this Friday
- *Solar Observing Day 2* – tomorrow (*bright*)
- *Review (Crib) Sheet # 1* competition today

So did we really love this exam?



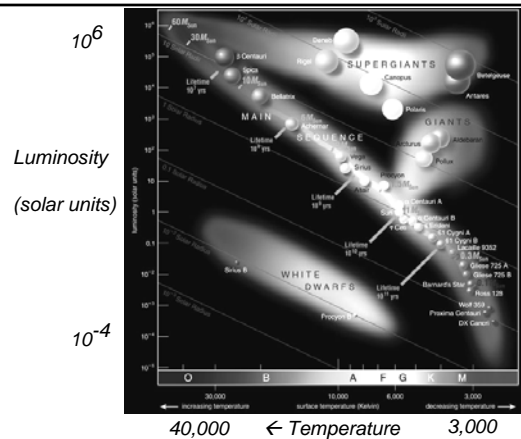
RESULTS FROM FIRST MID-TERM EXAM

**FIRST MID-TERM EXAM**

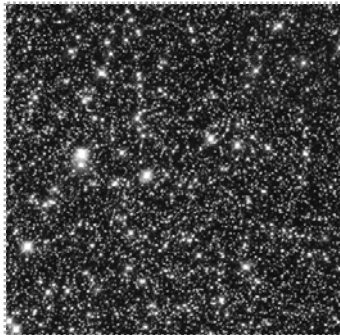
- Grade boundaries, based on 145 points:
  - If 123/145 (85%) or over, A's [24%]
  - 112/145 (77%) or over, B's [28%]
  - 84/145 (58%) or over, C's [36%]
  - 70/145 (48%) or over, D's [ 7%]
- Also +, plain, and – within these ranges  
Median grade 78%; highest 98% (1), 97% (1)  
Go through answer sheet – and talk to us if do not understand our choices. Keep exam + answers for future review (comp final)

Oh to describe a star ! **B.**

- Which is a red supergiant ?
- A. Spectral type G2, luminosity class V
- B. Spectral type M2, luminosity class I
- C. Spectral type O9, luminosity class I
- D. Spectral type M1, luminosity class V



# Magnitudes: Apparent vs Absolute



- Giving measures to stellar luminosities
- Built on choices made by Greeks!

## Stellar MAGNITUDES

Weird system: brighter is smaller magnitude, even negative!

Of cultural importance, even if a bit confusing (secret society!)

MAGNITUDES: BLAME WEIRD SCALE ON GREEKS ... AND REPAIR BY HERSCHEL

1. GREEKS ASSIGNED  
 BRIGHTEST STAR MAGNITUDE 1  
 FAINTEST STAR VISIBLE TO EYE MAG 6 } DIFFERENCE OF 5 MAGNITUDES
2. HERSCHEL CONCLUDED THIS WAS ABOUT 100:1 IN BRIGHTNESS  
 ASSIGNED APPARENT MAGNITUDE  $m_v = 0$  TO BRIGHT STARS VEGA AND RIGEL KENT

3. NOW THE PRESENT SYSTEM:  
 BRIGHTNESS UP  $\uparrow$  BY FACTOR 2.512  
 MAGNITUDE DOWN  $\downarrow$  BY 1 UNIT

MAGNITUDE	RELATIVE BRIGHTNESS
5	1.0
4	2.512
3	6.310 = $(2.512)^2$
2	15.849 = $(2.512)^3$
1	39.811 = $(2.512)^4$
0	100.000 = $(2.512)^5$

## Measuring BRIGHTNESS

### magnitudes

**m**

apparent mag:  
what looks like in sky

**M**

absolute mag:  
what would look like if at 10pc distance (LUMINOSITY)

MEASURES OF BRIGHTNESS FIRST STARS, NOW GALAXIES...

### 1. APPARENT MAGNITUDE $m$

ACTUALLY MEASURE HOW BRIGHT AN OBJECT APPEARS IN SKY

DEPENDS ON SPECTRAL REGION (COLOR) WHERE MEASURED

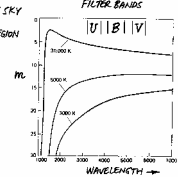
USE FILTERS:

U ULTRAVIOLET  $m_U$

B BLUE  $m_B$

V VISUAL  $m_V$

etc...



### 2. BOLOMETRIC MAGNITUDE

ADD UP BRIGHTNESS AT ALL WAVELENGTHS ... BUT DIFFICULT TO MEASURE

### 3. ABSOLUTE MAGNITUDE $M$

MAGNITUDE STARS WOULD HAVE IF AT DISTANCE OF 10 PARSECS (32.6 LY)  
 NEED  $m$  AND DISTANCE!

(Slightly) screwy world of MAGNITUDES

IF can estimate distance, then can determine  $M$  given  $m$

$M = m$  if at distance 10pc

MAGNITUDES: HANDY RESULTS TO RECALL

5 MAGNITUDES = FACTOR OF 100 IN BRIGHTNESS

MAGS CAN BE NEGATIVE

BOL. MAG. < APPARENT MAG.

ABSOLUTE MAGNITUDE  $M <$  APPARENT MAG  $m$   
 IF DISTANCE  $>$  10 PC  
 $M >$   $m$  IF DISTANCE  $<$  10 PC

VISUAL MAGNITUDES OF "NEARBY" STARS

Object	Apparent Magnitude ( $m_V$ )	Distance (pc)	Absolute Magnitude ( $M_V$ )
Sun	-26.7	$1.5 \times 10^{-8}$	-4.8
Moon (Full)	-12.5	$4.0 \times 10^4$	-12.1
Venus (at brightest)	-4.4	$4.1 \times 10^7$	-28.0
Sirius	-1.7	9.8	-1.4
Polaris (Alpha Centauri)	0.0	4.3	-4.6
Vega	0.0	25.0	+0.3
Deneb (Alpha Cygni)	+1.3	$1.6 \times 10^3$	-7.2
Sirius (secondary star)	+14.8	11.0	+1.0
Andromeda Galaxy	-3.5	$2.5 \times 10^6$	-21.2

## Color Index: $B - V$

magnitudes assigned using photometric FILTERS

(quicker than taking spectra to classify stars)

COLOR INDEX: QUICK MEASURE OF SPECTRAL CLASS OF STAR

$$B - V = m_B - m_V$$

FORMS: (BLUE) (VISUAL) DIFFERENCE OF TWO APPARENT MAGNITUDES

- FOR BLUER (OR HOTTER) STAR  
 $m_B$  SMALLER (BRIGHTER)  
 $m_V$  LARGER (FAINTER)  
 $\rightarrow B - V$  SMALLER (OR MORE NEUTRAL)
- OPPOSITE FOR REDDER (OR COOLER) STAR



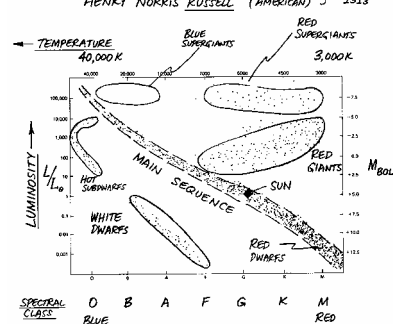
SPECTRAL CLASS	INTRINSIC COLOR	B-V COLOR INDEX	SURFACE TEMPERATURE
O	BLUE	-0.32	41,000 K
B	BLUE	-0.22	30,000
A	BLUE-WHITE	-0.10	9,000
F	WHITE	+0.35	7,000
G	YELLOW-WHITE	+0.60	6,000
K	ORANGE	+0.81	5,000
M	RED	+1.41	3,000

## Hertzsprung-Russell (H-R) Diagram

Luminosity (magnitude) vs Spectral class (temperature)

### H-R DIAGRAM

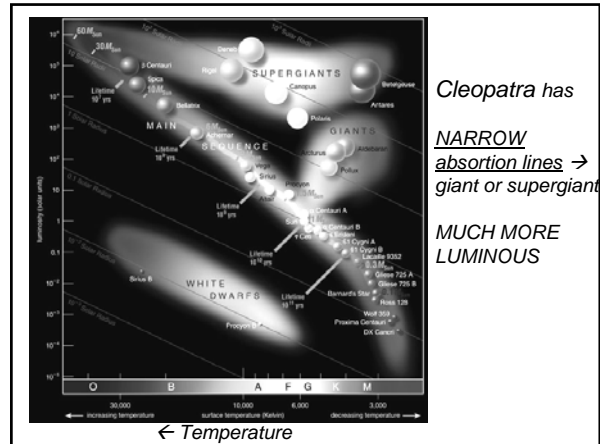
EJNAR HERTZSPRUNG (DANISH) } 1911  
 HENRY NORRIS RUSSELL (AMERICAN) } 1913



## Stellar puzzle **B.**

- Two stars, Antony and Cleopatra, are both of spectral class M3, and of the same apparent brightness (magnitude) in the sky. Cleopatra shows narrow absorption lines in her spectrum, Antony broad ones. Which star must be far more distant?

- A. Antony
- B. Cleopatra



Estimating the size of a star -- its **RADIUS**

### MEASUREMENTS OF STARS:

TEMPERATURE (FROM SPECTRAL LINES)  
BRIGHTNESS  
DISTANCE  
⇒ LUMINOSITY

RECALL STEFAN-BOLTZMANN LAW:

$$L = 4\pi R^2 \sigma T^4$$

$L$ : LUMINOSITY (MEASURED)  
 $R$ : STAR'S RADIUS (UNKNOWN)  
 $\sigma$ : CONSTANT  
 $T$ : TEMPERATURE (MEASURED)  
 ⇒ LUMINOSITY & TEMP ⇒ RADIUS

Stefan-Boltzmann

BUT HOW TO GET THE MASS?  
(TRICKIER: USE BINARIES)

### STELLAR MOTIONS IN SKY... WITH RESPECT TO "FIXED STARS"

"Proper motions"

wiggly motions (parallax)

and binaries ...

PROPER MOTION CAUSED BY:

- ACTUAL MOTION OF STARS RELATIVE TO SUN
- MOTION OF SUN AROUND OUR GALAXY

BIG DIPPER IS CHANGING

10<sup>5</sup> YRS AGO

WIGGLY LOOPS IN PATHS OF NEARBY STARS = PARALLAX:

- DUE TO EARTH MOTION AROUND SUN
- ONE LOOP PER YEAR
- SIZE OF LOOP ~ 1/DISTANCE

TODAY

10<sup>5</sup> YRS IN FUTURE

## BINARY STARS

4 varieties:

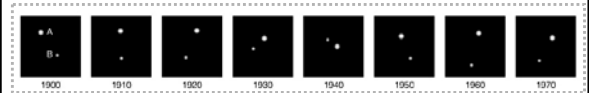
Visual  
Astrometric  
Spectroscopic  
Eclipsing

BINARY STARS MORE THAN 1/2 OF ALL STARS!

EVIDENCE OF ORBITAL MOTION (... HOW WE DETECT THEM):

- VISUAL BINARY** TRACK PROPER MOTIONS OF BOTH STARS
- ASTROMETRIC BINARY** WIGGLY MOTION OF ONE STAR REVEALS UNSEEN COMPANION
- SPECTROSCOPIC BINARY** ABSORPTION LINES OF ONE OR BOTH STARS SHOW PERIODIC DOPPLER SHIFTS
- ECLIPSING BINARY**
  - ONE STAR BLOCKS OR ENHANCES LIGHT FROM OTHER
  - DEDUCE PROPERTIES FROM PERIODIC LIGHT CURVE

## Visual binary: Sirius A and Sirius B



Rare: need to be very near, widely spaced

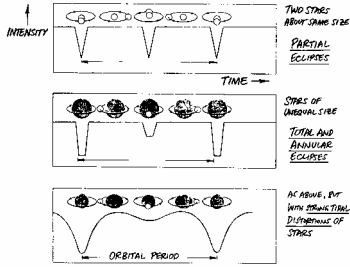
## Eclipsing binaries

one star gets in front or behind other

### ECLIPSING BINARY STAR SYSTEMS

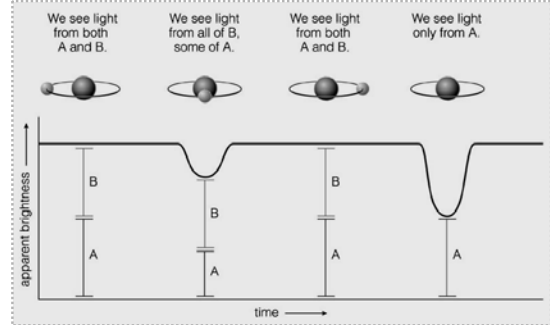
STARS IN CLOSE ORBITS CAN BLOCK OR ENHANCE LIGHT

SHAPE OF PERIODIC LIGHT CURVE CAN BE USED TO DEDUCE ORBIT AND NATURE OF COMPANIONS



WHAT YOU SEE AS OBSERVER IS SENSITIVE TO TILT OF ORBIT PLANE RELATIVE TO YOU!

### Eclipsing: Variations in brightness with time



Very useful (can even infer stellar radii), but RARE ... viewing angle has to be right on edge!