

Introduction to ASTR 565

Stellar Structure and Evolution

Jason Jackiewicz

Department of Astronomy
New Mexico State University

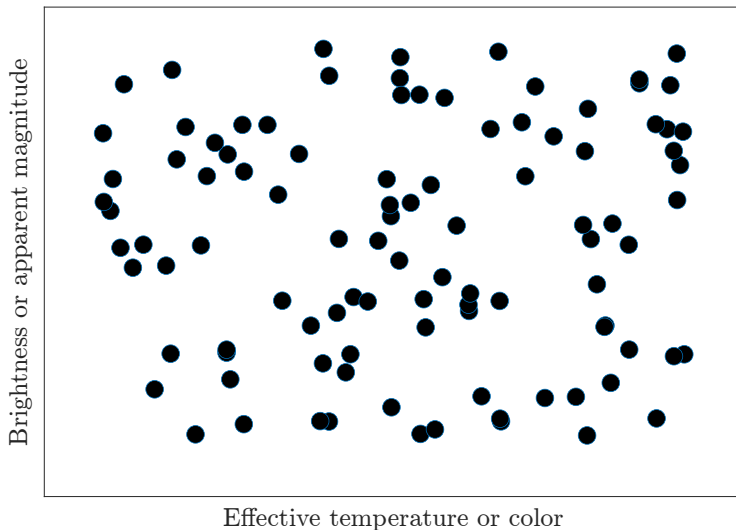
January 23, 2024

Outline

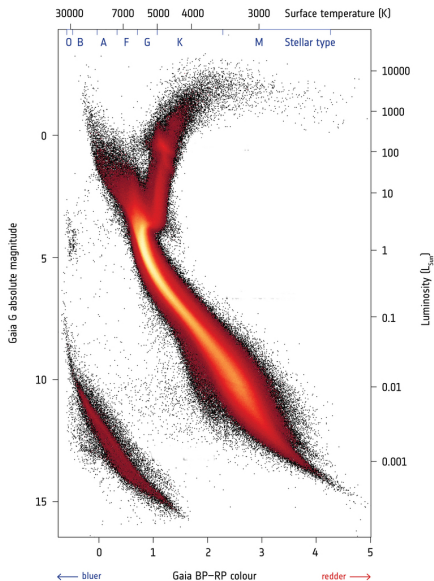
- 1 Main goal
- 2 Structure of stars
- 3 Evolution of stars
- 4 Applications to observations
- 5 Overview of course

- 1 Main goal
- 2 Structure of stars
- 3 Evolution of stars
- 4 Applications to observations
- 5 Overview of course

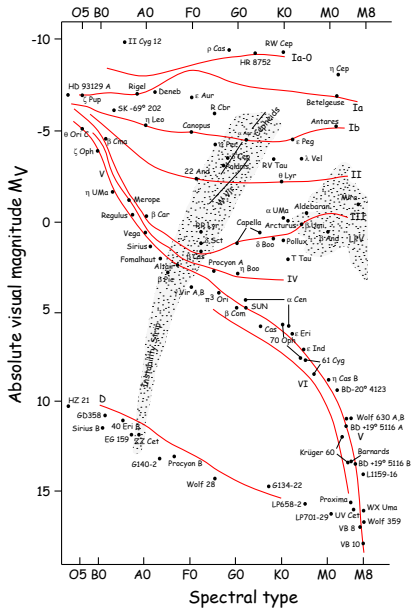
Order in the H-R Diagram!!



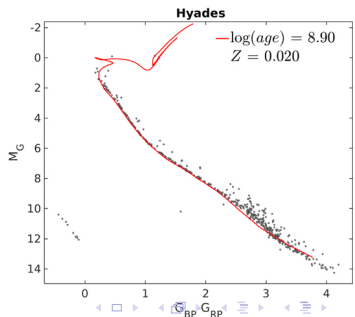
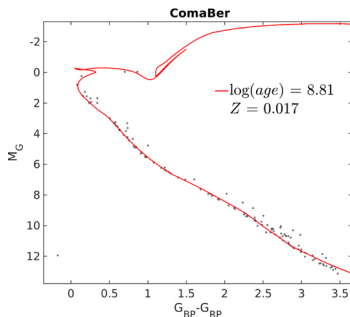
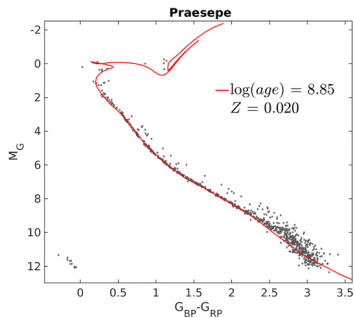
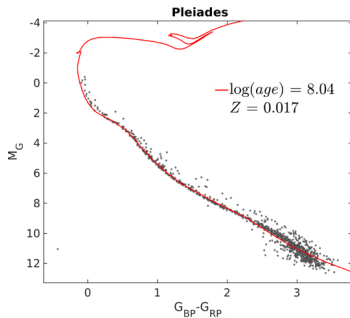
Motivation: Understanding the H-R Diagram



H-R Diagram (2)

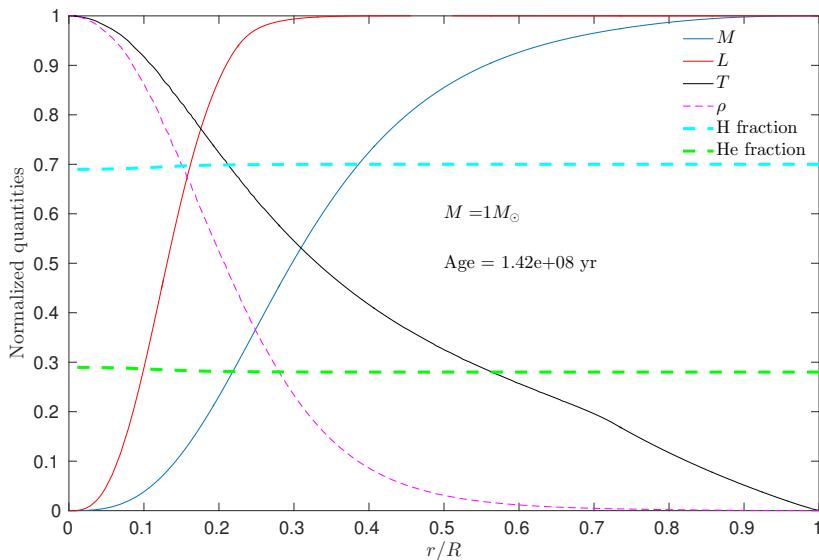


H-R Diagram (3)

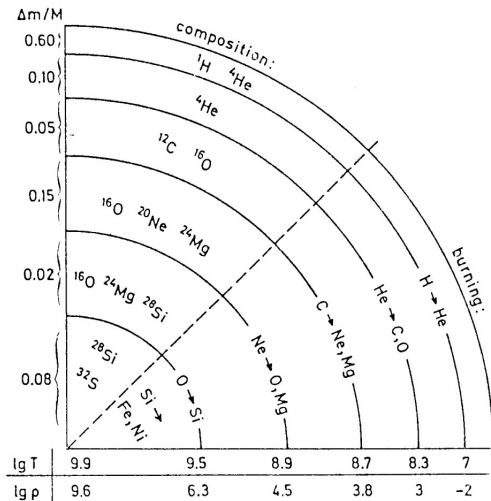


- 1 Main goal
- 2 Structure of stars
- 3 Evolution of stars
- 4 Applications to observations
- 5 Overview of course

Basic structure - highly non-linear solution



Massive-star nuclear burning



Topics: what does a star look like inside?

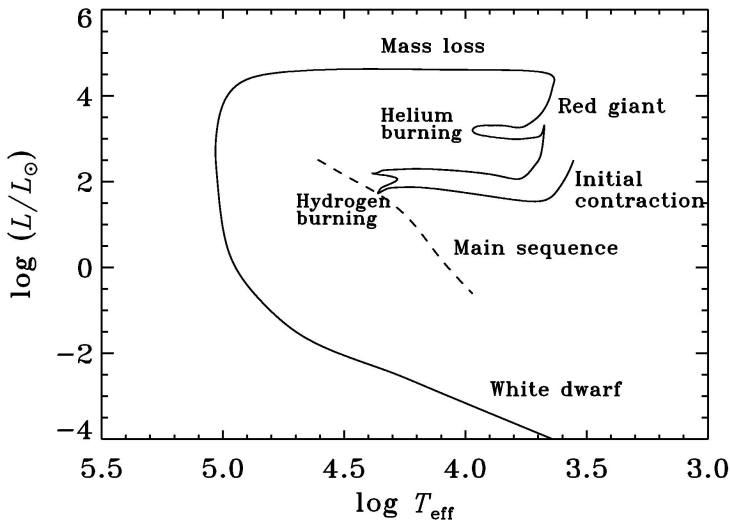
- Nuclear interactions
- Hydrogen burning, T dependence, neutrinos
- Equation of state (ideal gas, degenerate gas)
- Hydrostatic equilibrium
- Polytrope solutions to basic equations
- Transport: radiation, conduction, and convection
- Convectively stable and unstable regions
- Opacity
- MESA

What parameters are in play?

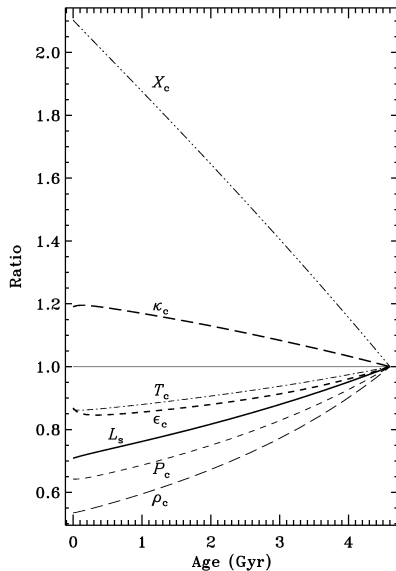
- Mass
- Composition (He + metals)
- Opacity calculations
- Mixing length of convection
- Overshoot of convection
- Chemical diffusion, radiative levitation
- Rotation (primordial, mixing, structure)
- Mass loss
- Magnetic fields (primordial vs. generated)

- 1 Main goal
- 2 Structure of stars
- 3 Evolution of stars
- 4 Applications to observations
- 5 Overview of course

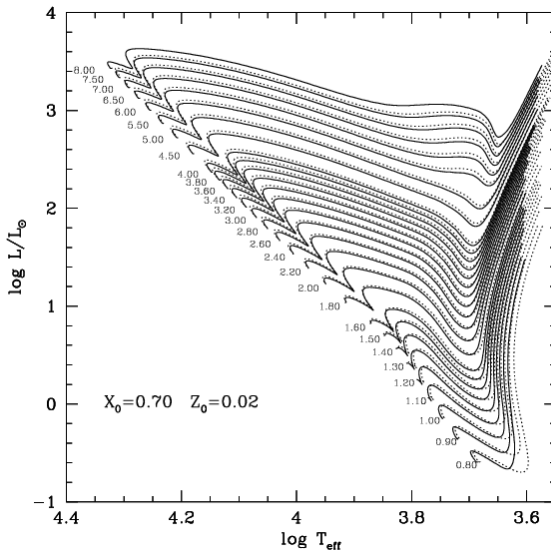
Evolution - surface and interior changes



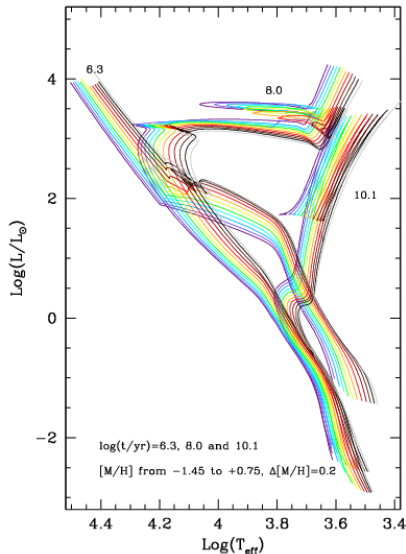
Solar properties over time



H-R diagram and mass



H-R diagram and isochrones

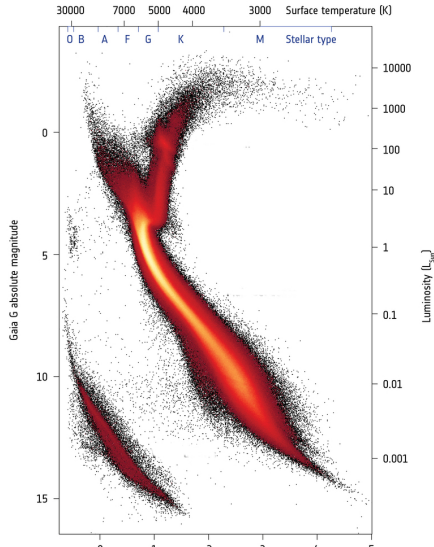


Topics: what changes take place in a star over time?

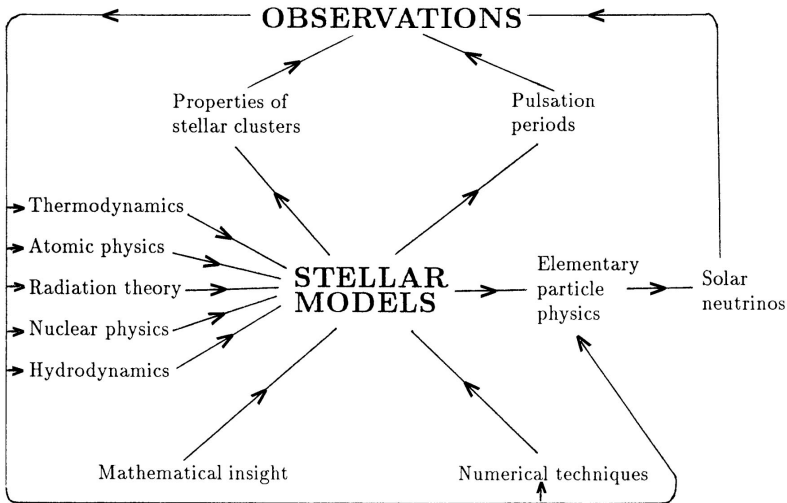
- Main sequence, homology relations
- Schönberg-Chandrasekhar limit, or core mass
- Subgiant and RGB properties
- Helium burning
- Horizontal branch, thermal pulses
- Nebulae, Supernovae
- Compact objects
- Instability strip
- MESA

- 1 Main goal
- 2 Structure of stars
- 3 Evolution of stars
- 4 Applications to observations**
- 5 Overview of course

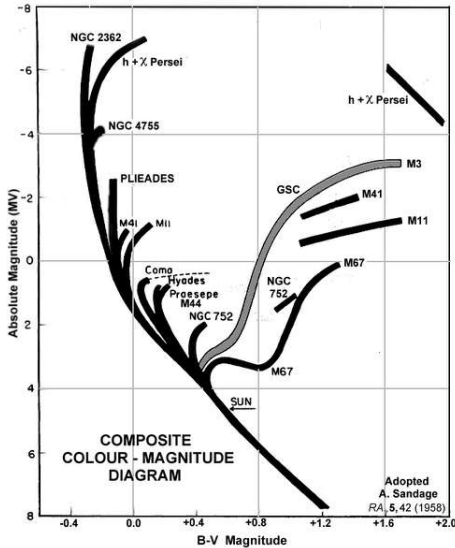
Motivation: Understanding the H-R Diagram



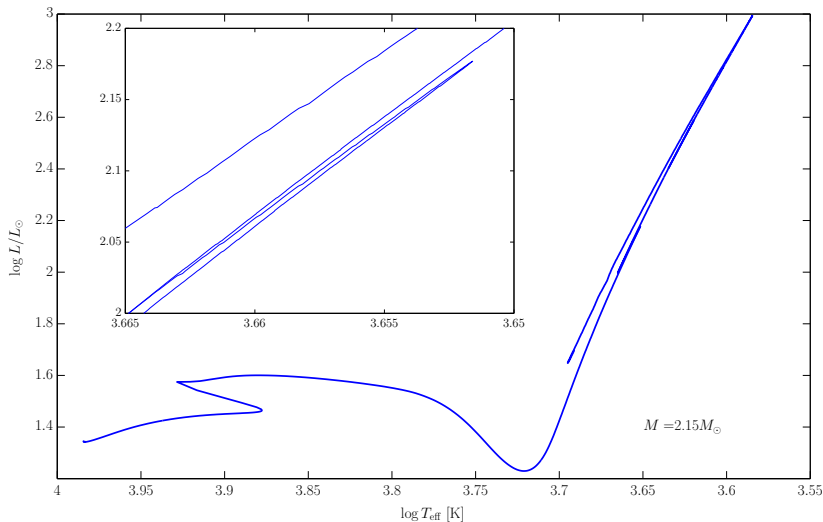
Connection to observables



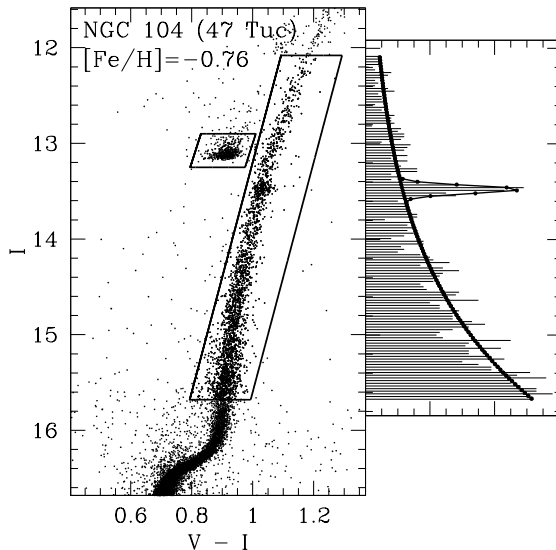
Populations: Open clusters → ages



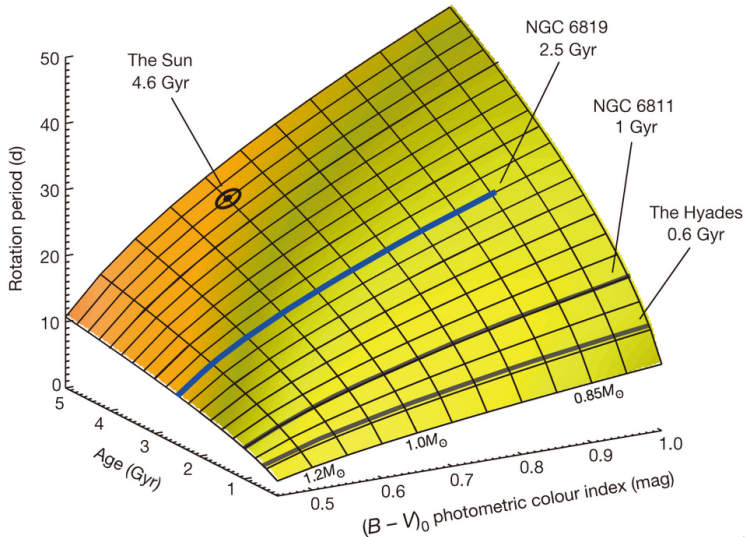
Populations: RGB luminosity bump modeled



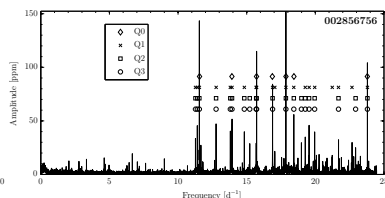
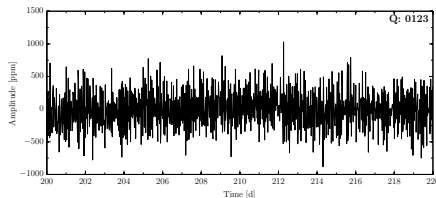
Populations: bump measured (GC He abundance, etc.)



Rotation: ages (gyrochronology)



Asteroseismology: mass and radius

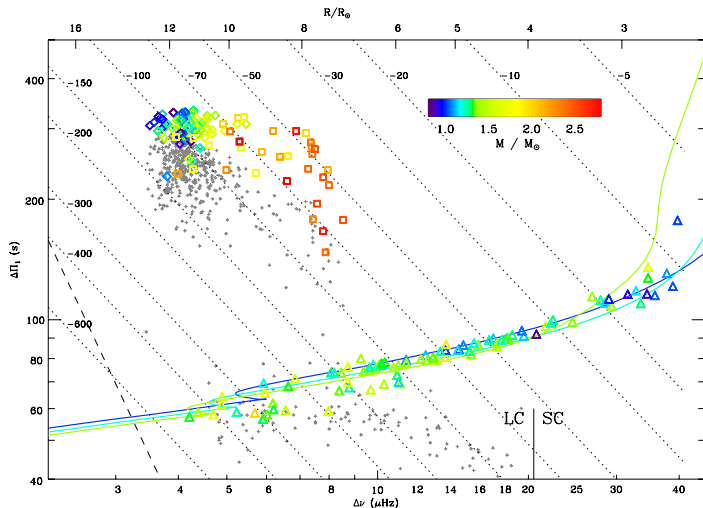


$$\frac{M}{M_{\odot}} = \left(\frac{\nu_{\max}}{\nu_{\max,\odot}} \right)^3 \left(\frac{\Delta\nu}{\Delta\nu_{\odot}} \right)^{-4} \left(\frac{T_{\text{eff}}}{T_{\text{eff},\odot}} \right)^{3/2}$$

$$\frac{R}{R_{\odot}} = \left(\frac{\nu_{\max}}{\nu_{\max,\odot}} \right) \left(\frac{\Delta\nu}{\Delta\nu_{\odot}} \right)^{-2} \left(\frac{T_{\text{eff}}}{T_{\text{eff},\odot}} \right)^{1/2}$$

- Consequence of our deep understanding of stellar structure

Asteroseismology: evolutionary state, age



Anomalies and other keys for astrophysics

- ZAHB/RGB luminosity at tip (cosmology)
- Cepheid pulsations (cosmology)
- Binaries (CMD, mass)
- Blue stragglers (cluster TO, mergers, mass transfer)
- Blue horizontal branch stars in GCs (mass loss, metallicity, binarity?)

- 1 Main goal
- 2 Structure of stars
- 3 Evolution of stars
- 4 Applications to observations
- 5 Overview of course

Things we probably won't cover

- Star formation
- Rotation (angular momentum transport)
- Magnetic fields (dynamo)
- Mixing and diffusion
- Mass loss, stellar winds
- Binarity, mass transfer
- Pulsation driving
- Numerical techniques

Details

- [Course homepage](#)
- Syllabus
- Canvas app (or using browser)
- MESA

Assignment

- Read the syllabus carefully
- Read the MESA overview, and see if you can get the code to run
- If you can't get things going by tonight, send me an email!
- Complete first assignment for next week, Computer Problem 0