

# Camera/Telescope Details

Aperture:  $D = 10 \text{ inches} = 254 \text{ mm}$

Wavelength:  $\lambda \approx 5080 \text{ Angstroms} = 508 \text{ nm} = 0.508 \text{ microns} = 0.000508 \text{ mm}$

FWHM  $= 1.22 \frac{\lambda}{D} = 1.22 \frac{0.000508}{254} = 0.00000244 \text{ radians} = 0.503 \text{ arcseconds}$

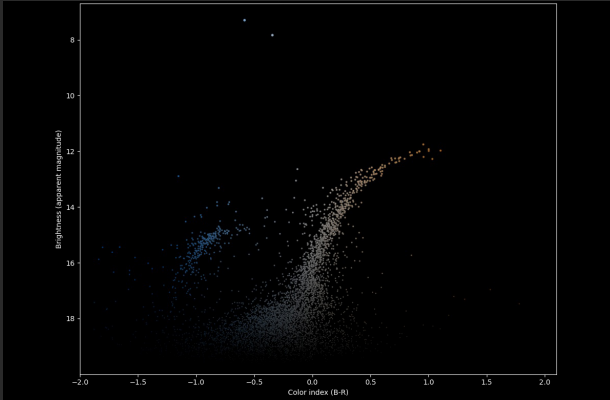
Focal Length:  $f = 90 \text{ inches} = 2286 \text{ mm}$

FWHM in microns  $= 0.00000244 \text{ radians} \times 2286 \text{ mm} \times 1000 \text{ microns/mm} = 5.58 \text{ microns}$

Pixel Size:  $6.4 \text{ microns/pixel}$

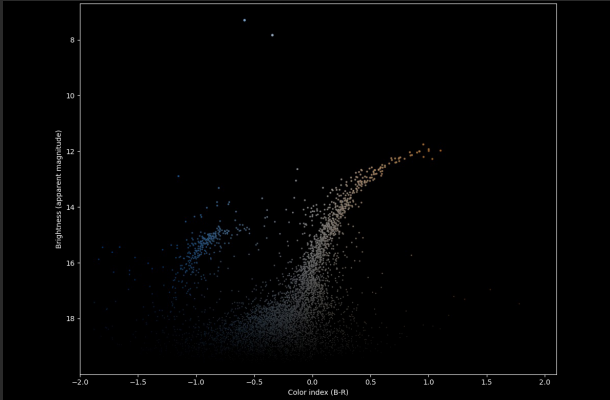
FWHM in pixels:  $5.58/6.4 = 0.87 \text{ pixels}$

# Measuring Distances: RR-Lyrae and M13



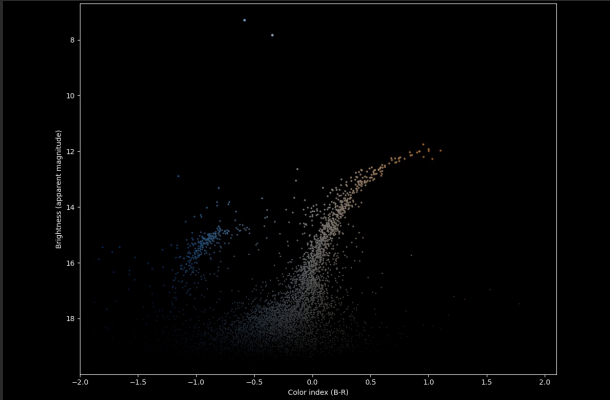
Assuming that the distance to RR-Lyrae is known, we can overlay an image of RR-Lyrae on an image of M13 to estimate the distance to the cluster.

# Measuring Distances: RR-Lyrae and M13



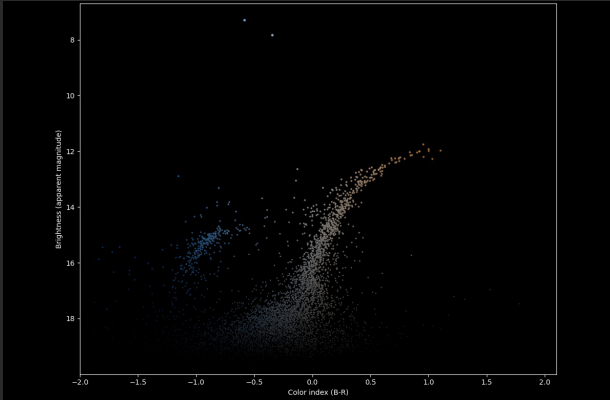
Assuming that the distance to RR-Lyrae is known, we can overlay an image of RR-Lyrae on an image of M13 to estimate the distance to the cluster. The two data points brighter than magnitude 8 are the two instances of RR-Lyrae.

# Measuring Distances: RR-Lyrae and M13



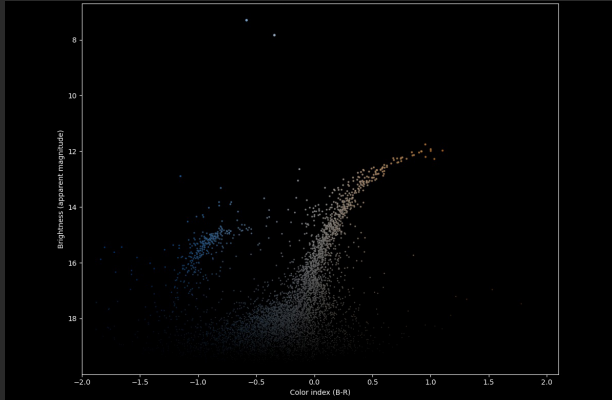
Assuming that the distance to RR-Lyrae is known, we can overlay an image of RR-Lyrae on an image of M13 to estimate the distance to the cluster. The two data points brighter than magnitude 8 are the two instances of RR-Lyrae. The RR Lyrae type variable stars in M13 sit on the so-called *horizontal branch* of the HR diagram.

# Measuring Distances: RR-Lyrae and M13



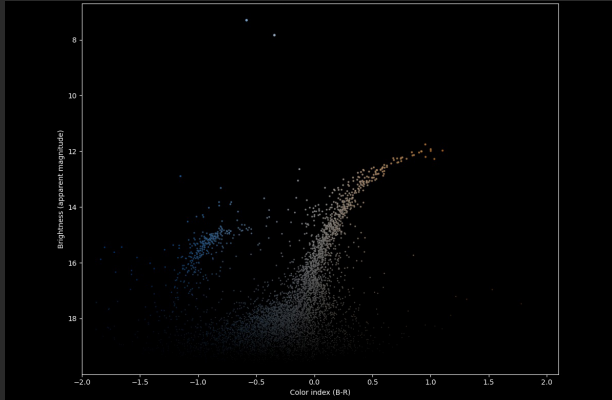
Assuming that the distance to RR-Lyrae is known, we can overlay an image of RR-Lyrae on an image of M13 to estimate the distance to the cluster. The two data points brighter than magnitude 8 are the two instances of RR-Lyrae. The RR Lyrae type variable stars in M13 sit on the so-called *horizontal branch* of the HR diagram. As we can see, the RR-Lyrae type variable stars in M13 are about 7 magnitudes fainter than RR-Lyrae itself.

# Measuring Distances: RR-Lyrae and M13



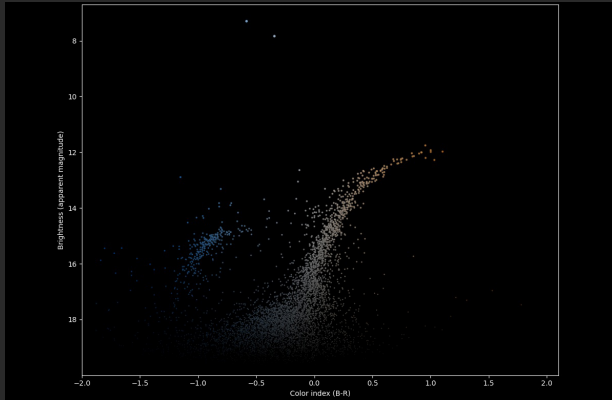
Assuming that the distance to RR-Lyrae is known, we can overlay an image of RR-Lyrae on an image of M13 to estimate the distance to the cluster. The two data points brighter than magnitude 8 are the two instances of RR-Lyrae. The RR Lyrae type variable stars in M13 sit on the so-called *horizontal branch* of the HR diagram. As we can see, the RR-Lyrae type variable stars in M13 are about 7 magnitudes fainter than RR-Lyrae itself. From this magnitude difference, we can estimate how much further away M13 is than RR-Lyrae:  $\sqrt{10^{7/2.5}} \approx 25$ .

# Measuring Distances: RR-Lyrae and M13



Assuming that the distance to RR-Lyrae is known, we can overlay an image of RR-Lyrae on an image of M13 to estimate the distance to the cluster. The two data points brighter than magnitude 8 are the two instances of RR-Lyrae. The RR Lyrae type variable stars in M13 sit on the so-called *horizontal branch* of the HR diagram. As we can see, the RR-Lyrae type variable stars in M13 are about 7 magnitudes fainter than RR-Lyrae itself. From this magnitude difference, we can estimate how much further away M13 is than RR-Lyrae:  $\sqrt{10^{7/2.5}} \approx 25$ . Finally, given that RR-Lyrae is 860 lightyears away, we get that M13 is about  $25 \times 860 \approx 21,500$  lightyears away.

# Measuring Distances: RR-Lyrae and M13



Assuming that the distance to RR-Lyrae is known, we can overlay an image of RR-Lyrae on an image of M13 to estimate the distance to the cluster. The two data points brighter than magnitude 8 are the two instances of RR-Lyrae. The RR Lyrae type variable stars in M13 sit on the so-called *horizontal branch* of the HR diagram. As we can see, the RR-Lyrae type variable stars in M13 are about 7 magnitudes fainter than RR-Lyrae itself. From this magnitude difference, we can estimate how much further away M13 is than RR-Lyrae:  $\sqrt{10^{7/2.5}} \approx 25$ . Finally, given that RR-Lyrae is 860 lightyears away, we get that M13 is about  $25 \times 860 \approx 21,500$  lightyears away. This is not far from the correct answer of 22,200 lightyears.



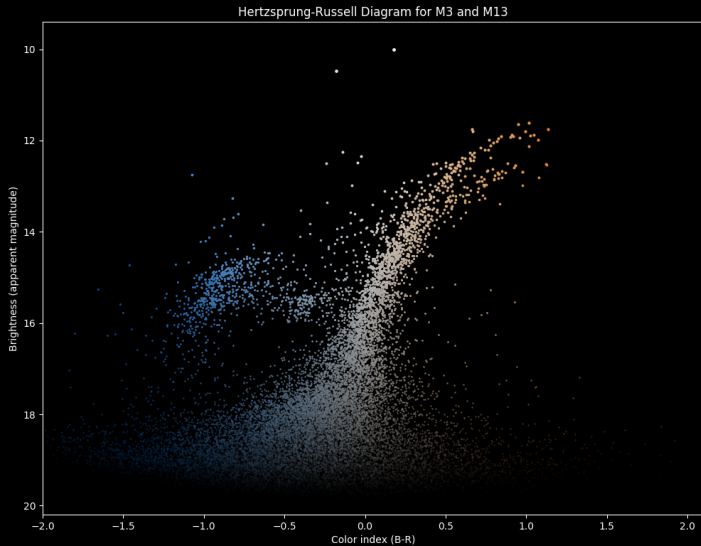
# M3/M13 Comparison: Here's M3



## M3/M13 Comparison: Here's M13



# M3/M13 Comparison



# M3/M13 Comparison

Click [here](#) to download the Python code.

The fits files can be accessed here:

[https://vanderbei.princeton.edu/FRS\\_131/python/fits\\_files/m3-RGB.fit](https://vanderbei.princeton.edu/FRS_131/python/fits_files/m3-RGB.fit)

[https://vanderbei.princeton.edu/FRS\\_131/python/fits\\_files/m13-RGB.fit](https://vanderbei.princeton.edu/FRS_131/python/fits_files/m13-RGB.fit)

Here's the output from Python:

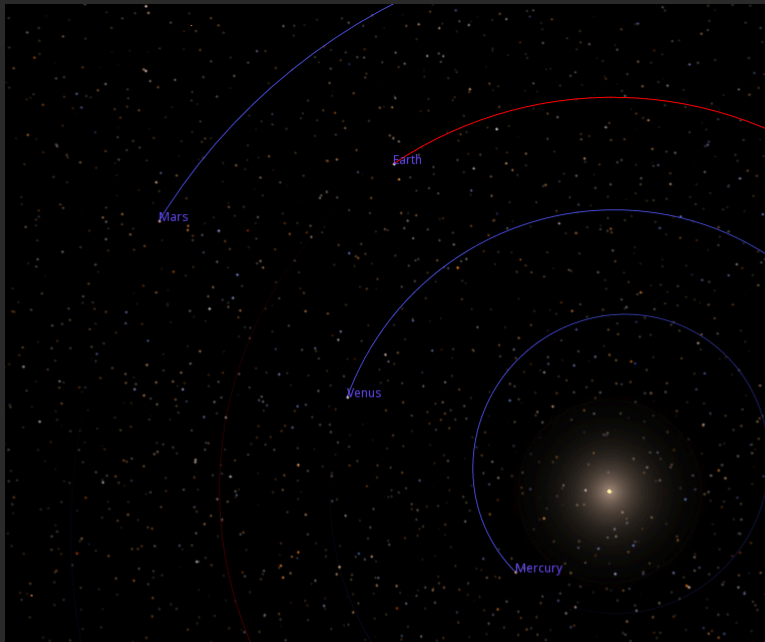
```
difference in brightness is about 0.7 magnitude
difference in flux = 10^(0.7/2.5) = 1.90546071796
relative distance factor = sqrt(flux) = 1.3803842646
```

From Wikipedia, we see that the true distances are:

```
M3 = 10.4 kpc and M13 = 6.8 kpc
true distance ratio = 10.4/6.8 = 1.52941176471
```

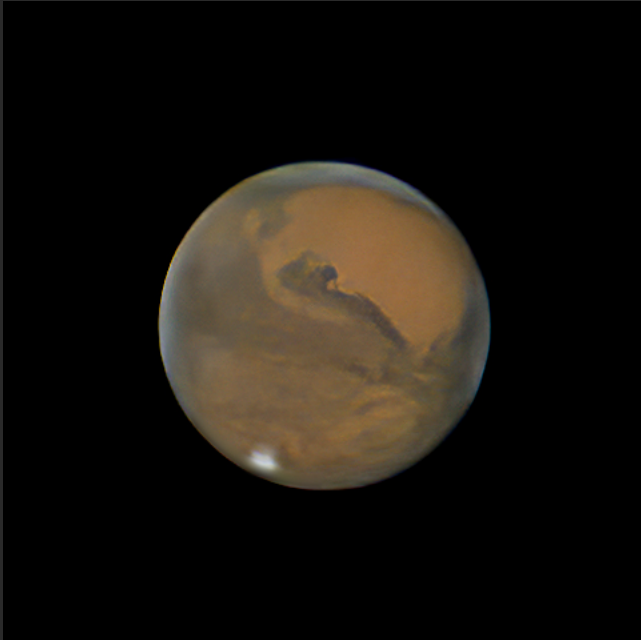
# A Brief Step Back Toward Home

# Earth "Passed" Mars in Oct. 2020



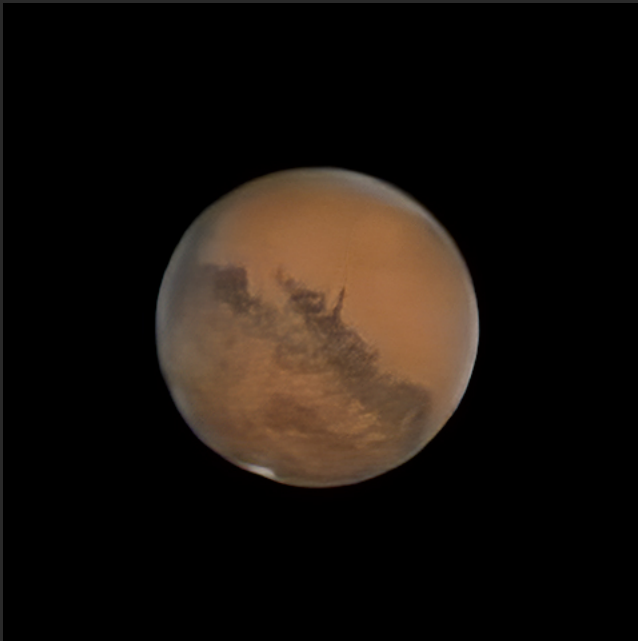
Mars

Oct. 6, 2020



Mars

Oct. 18, 2020





Questions?

# Moving Further Out

Robert J. Vanderbei

2023

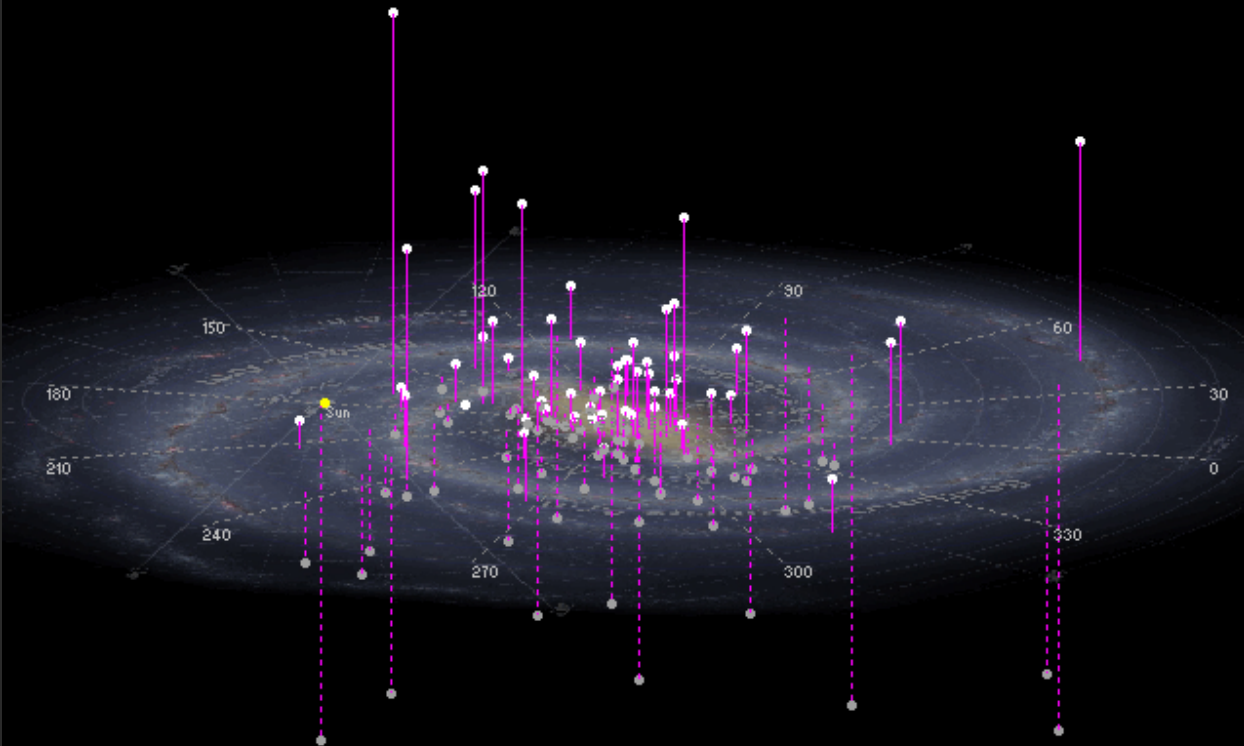
Freshman Seminar 131

<http://vanderbei.princeton.edu/>

# The 119 globular clusters within 50,000 LY of the galactic centre

5,000 LY

Galactic centric (galactic longitude and latitude)

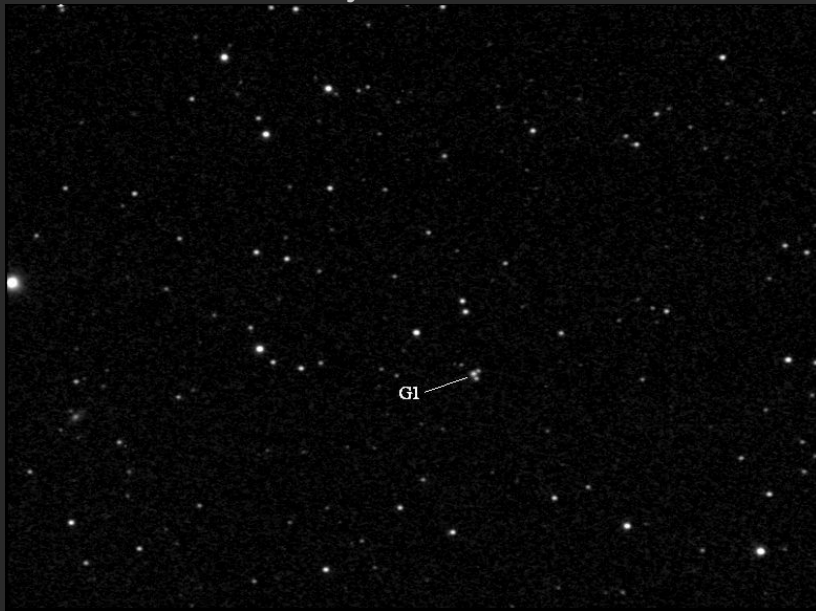


# M31 – A Nearby Galaxy



# Mayall-II – A Globular Cluster Near M31

My Questar



Hubble Space Telescope



Some More Slides...

# Stars Have Various Colors

Here's a pair of binary stars...

Albireo...



$\epsilon$ -Bootes...



The Coathanger asterism...





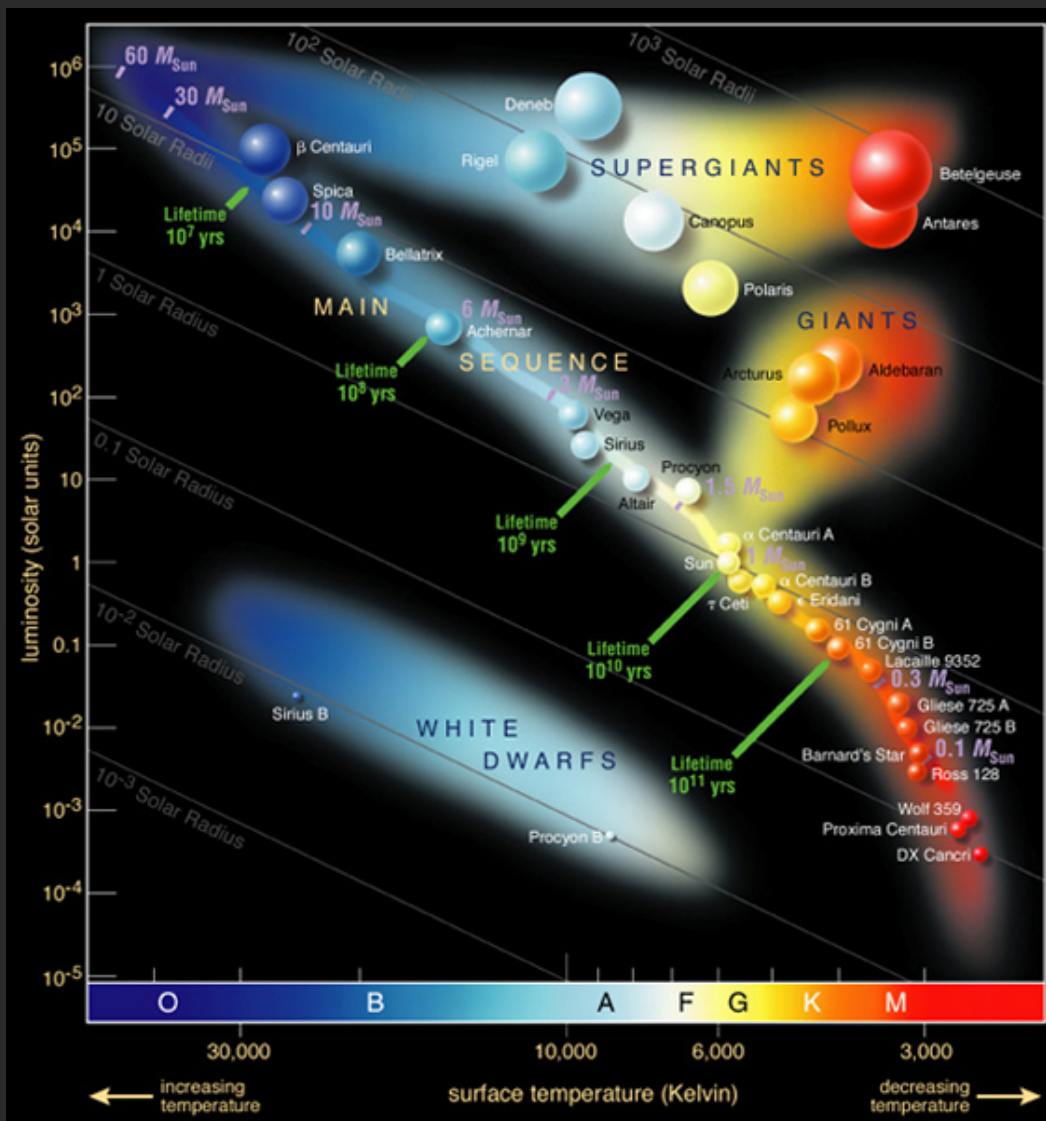
Open Cluster NGC 7789...



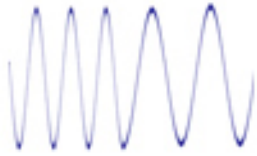
Globular Cluster M13...



# Hertzprung-Russell Diagrams



Red Orange Yellow Green Blue Indigo Violet



high frequency



low frequency

