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Lecture 26  
The Hertzsprung-  
Russell Diagram  
January 13b, 2014

SIXTH EDITION

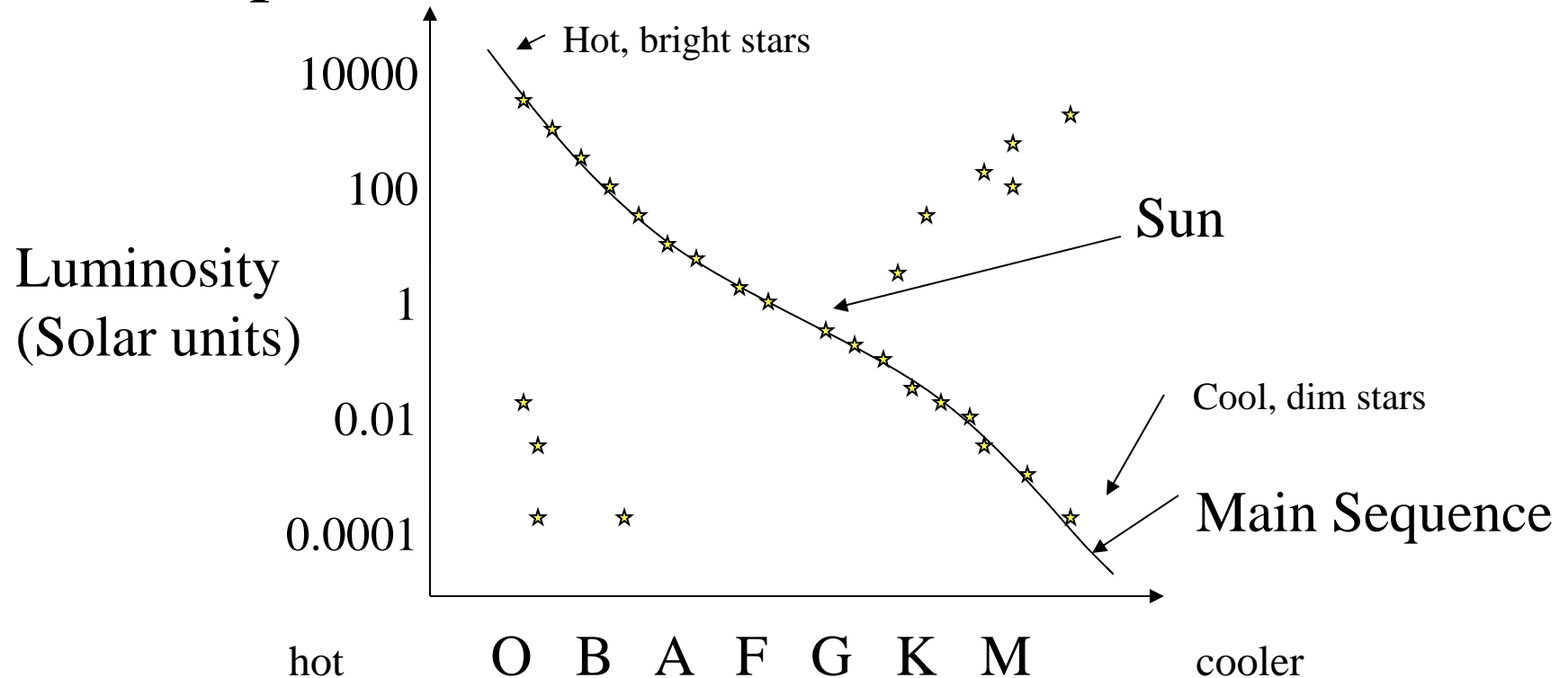
● **EXPLORATIONS**

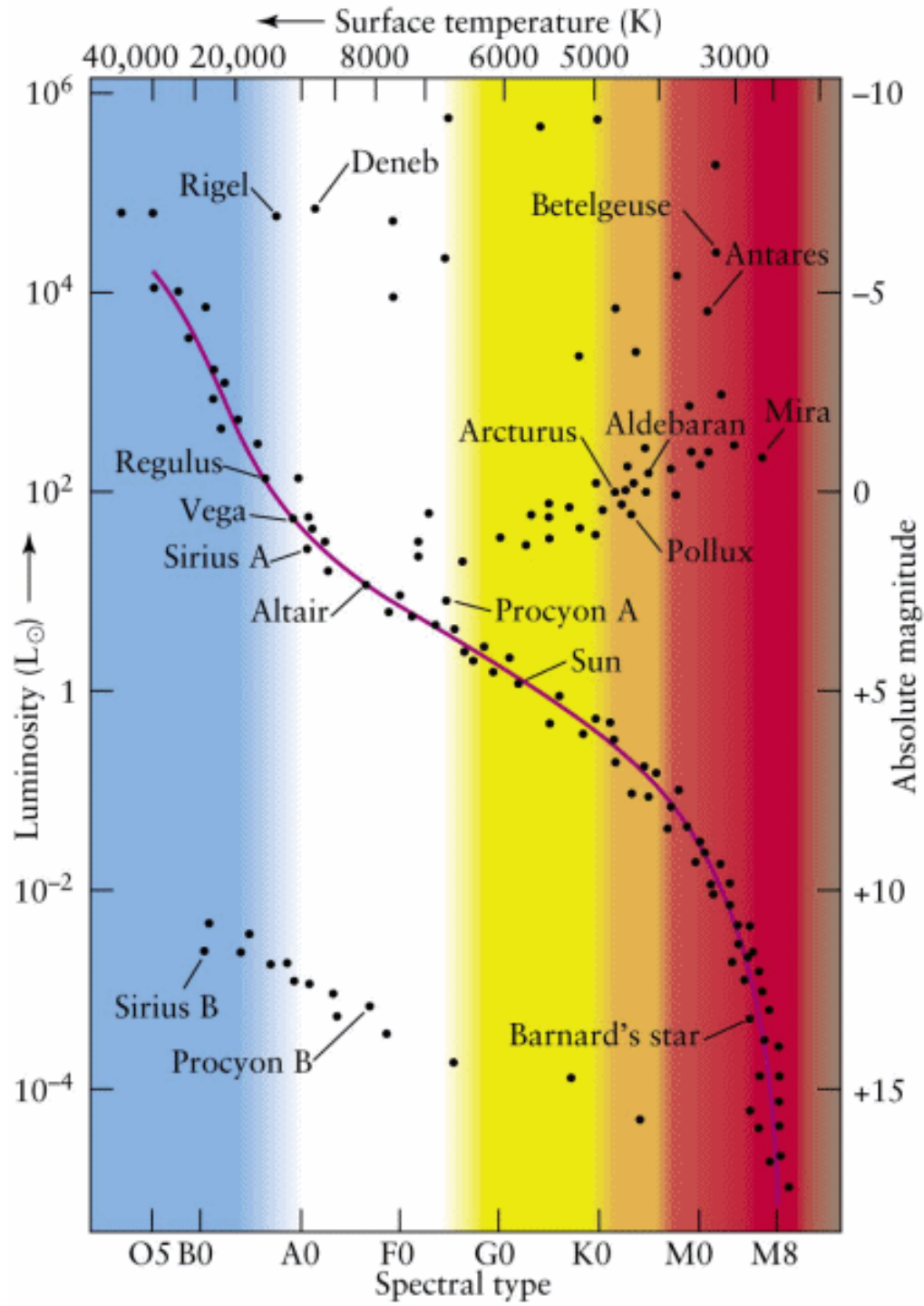
**An Introduction to Astronomy**

THOMAS T. ARNY  
STEPHEN E. SCHNEIDER

# Hertzsprung-Russell Diagram

- Hertzsprung and Russell found a correlation between luminosity and spectral type (temperature)





- Most stars (~90%) are on the **main sequence**
  - The greater the temperature, the more luminous the star
  - M type stars are the most common.
  - O type stars are the least common.

# Sizes of Stars

- Size of star is related to the temperature and the luminosity by:

$$\text{Luminosity} \propto \text{Temperature}^4 \times \text{Radius}^2$$

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

- If you know the position on HR diagram you know the size of the star.

A star is twice as luminous as the Sun and has twice the surface temperature. What is its radius relative to the Sun's radius?

A.  $R_{\text{star}}/R_{\text{Sun}} = 4.0$

B.  $R_{\text{star}}/R_{\text{Sun}} = 2.8$

C.  $R_{\text{star}}/R_{\text{Sun}} = 0.5$

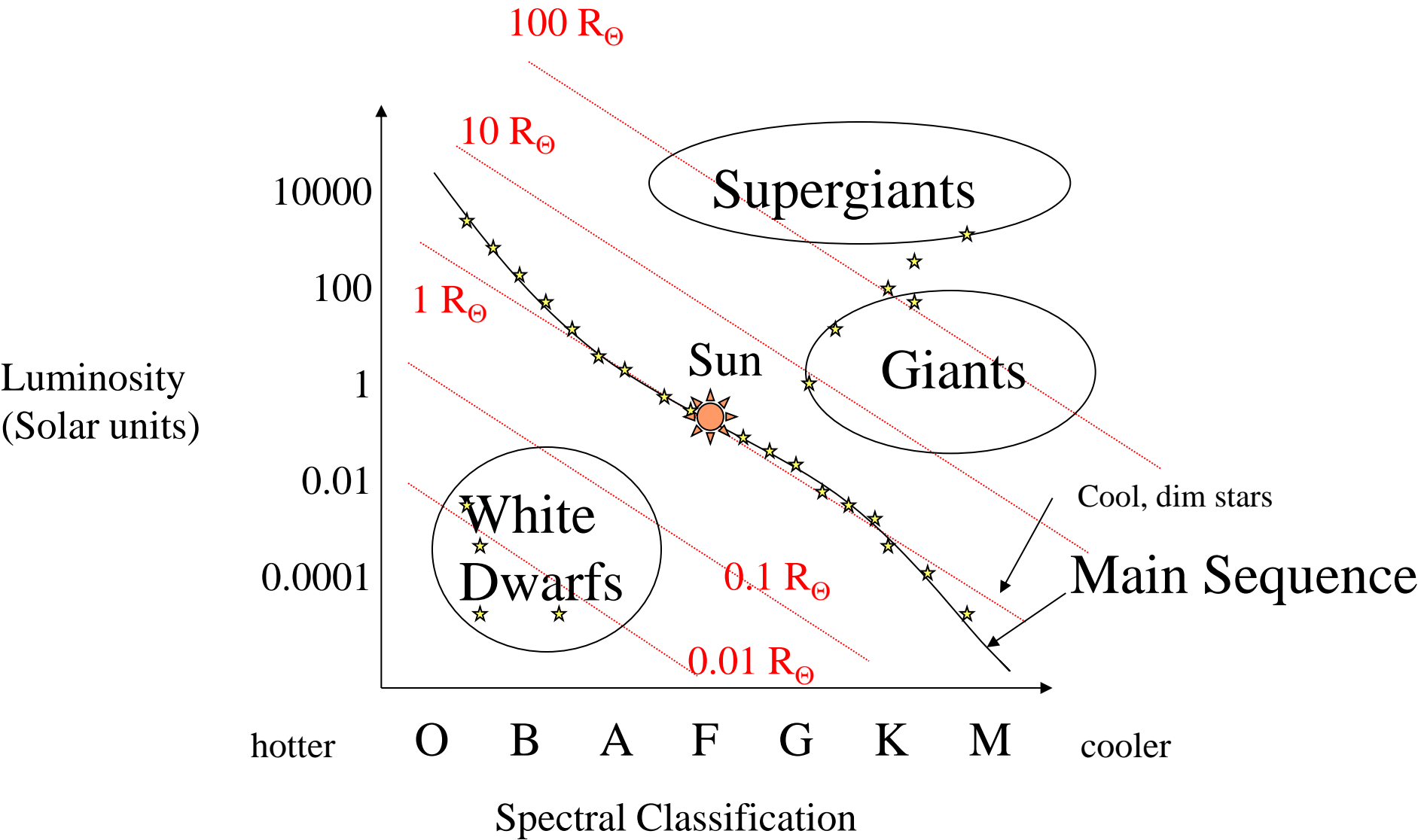
D.  $R_{\text{star}}/R_{\text{Sun}} = 0.35$

7  
A star is twice as luminous as the Sun and has twice the surface temperature. What is its radius relative to the Sun's radius?

$$L = \sigma T^4 4\pi R^2 \Rightarrow R = \sqrt{L/4\pi\sigma T^4}$$

$$\frac{R_{\text{star}}}{R_{\text{Sun}}} = \frac{\sqrt{L_{\text{star}}/4\pi\sigma T_{\text{star}}^4}}{\sqrt{L_{\text{Sun}}/4\pi\sigma T_{\text{Sun}}^4}} = \sqrt{\frac{L_{\text{star}}}{L_{\text{Sun}}} \left(\frac{T_{\text{Sun}}}{T_{\text{star}}}\right)^4}$$

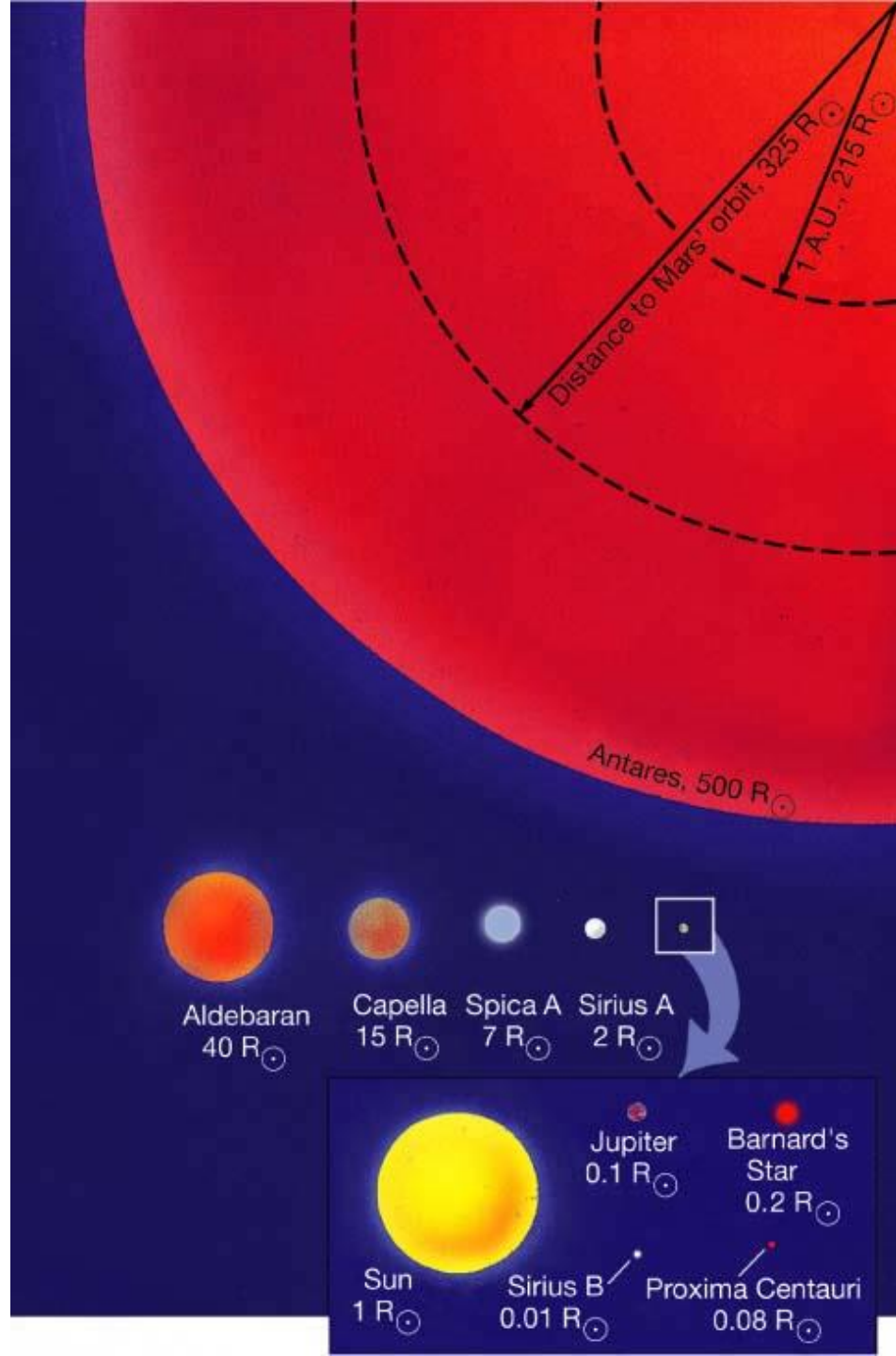
$$= \sqrt{\frac{2}{1} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^4} = \boxed{0.35}$$



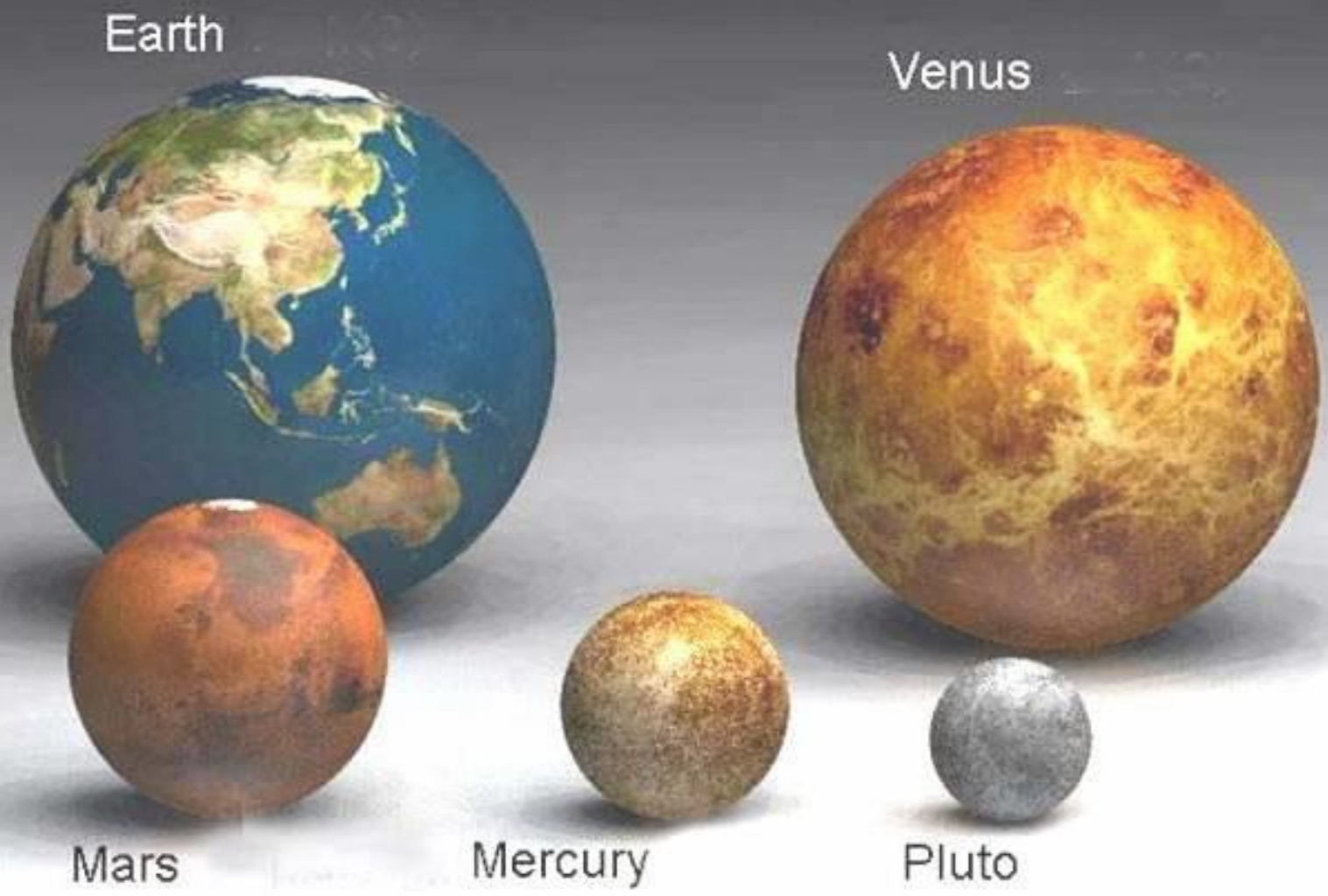


- **Supergiants** -- cool, bright, red, large stars
- **Giants** -- cool, bright red, less large stars
- **Main Sequence** -- spans range from hot, bright stars to cool, dim stars.
- **White dwarfs** -- hot, small, dim stars.
  
- These classifications will give clues to stages in the evolution of stars.

# Stars come in many sizes!



# Sizes of Objects in our Universe



Images from [webisto.com/space](http://webisto.com/space)

# Sizes of Objects in our Universe

Jupiter

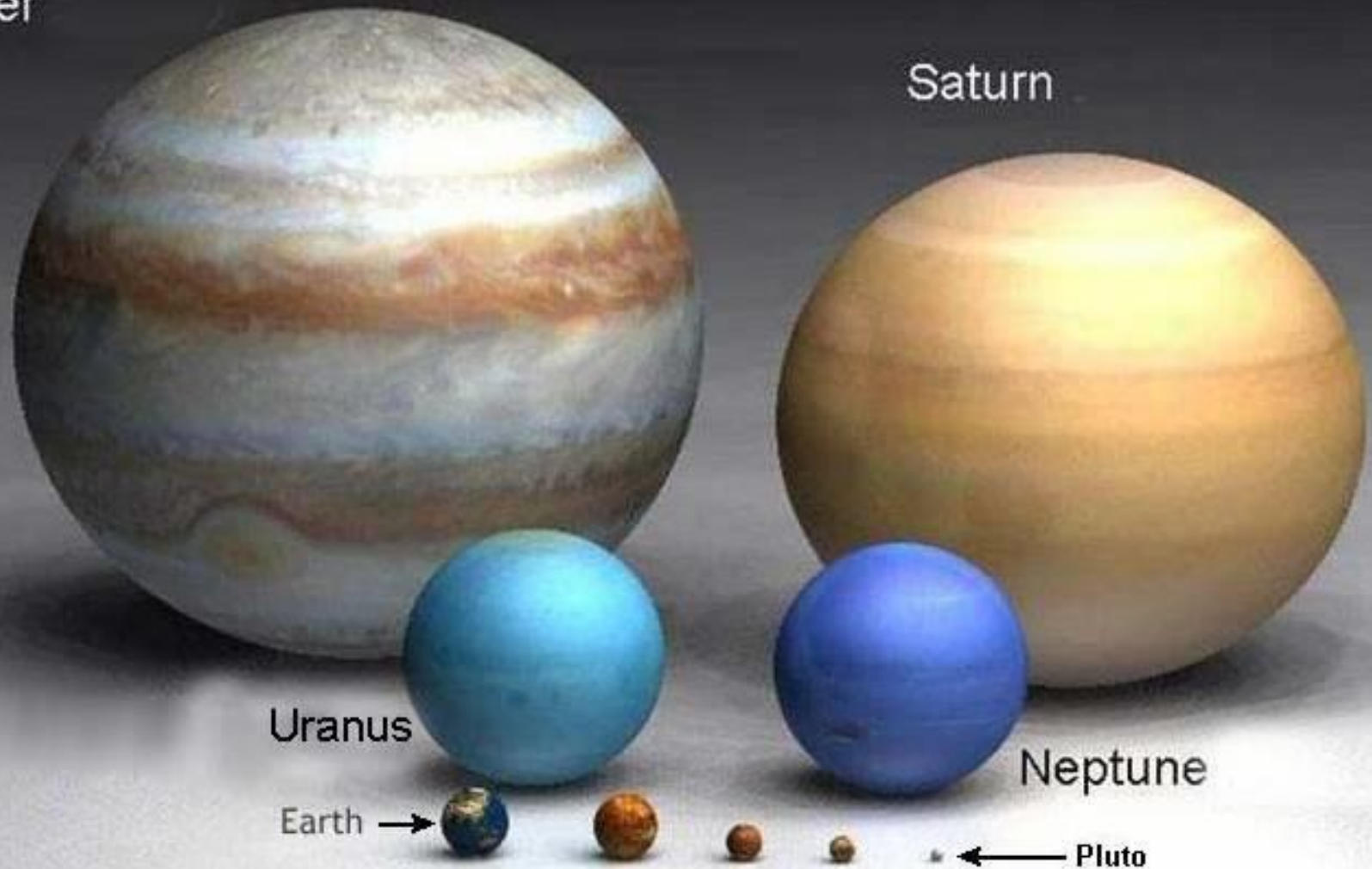
Saturn

Uranus

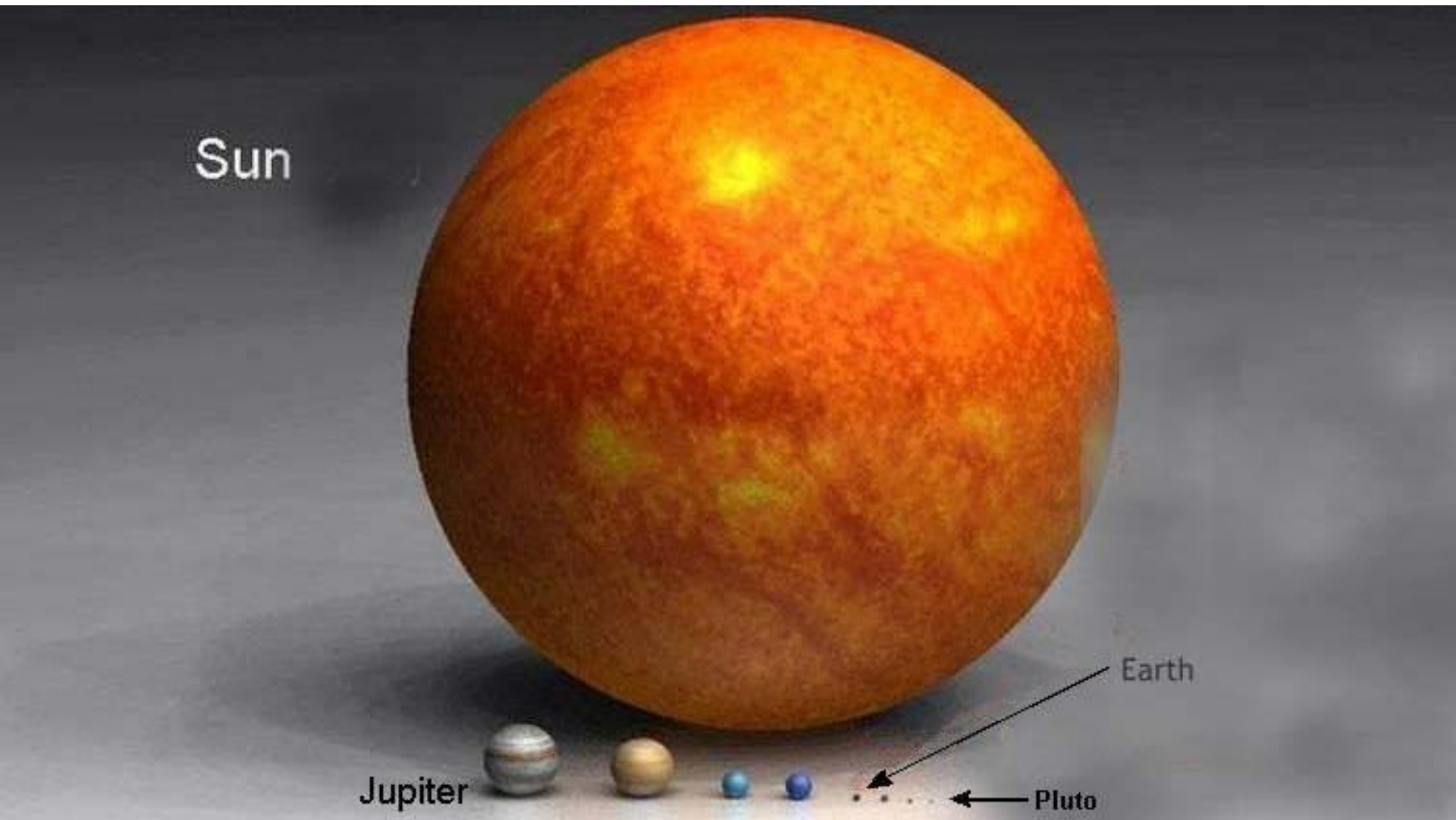
Neptune

Earth →

← Pluto

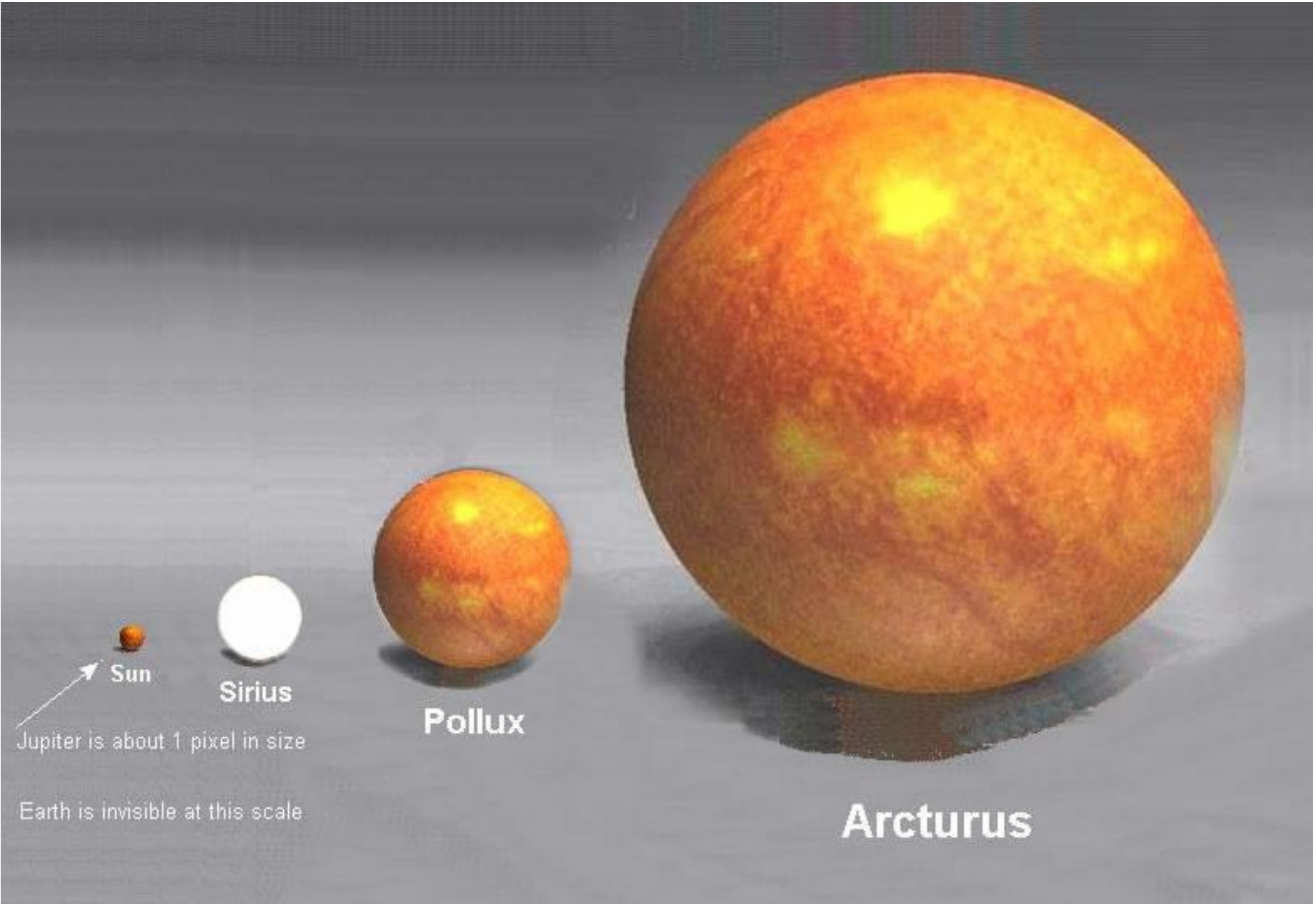


# Sizes of Objects in our Universe





# Sizes of Objects in our Universe



→ Sun

Sirius

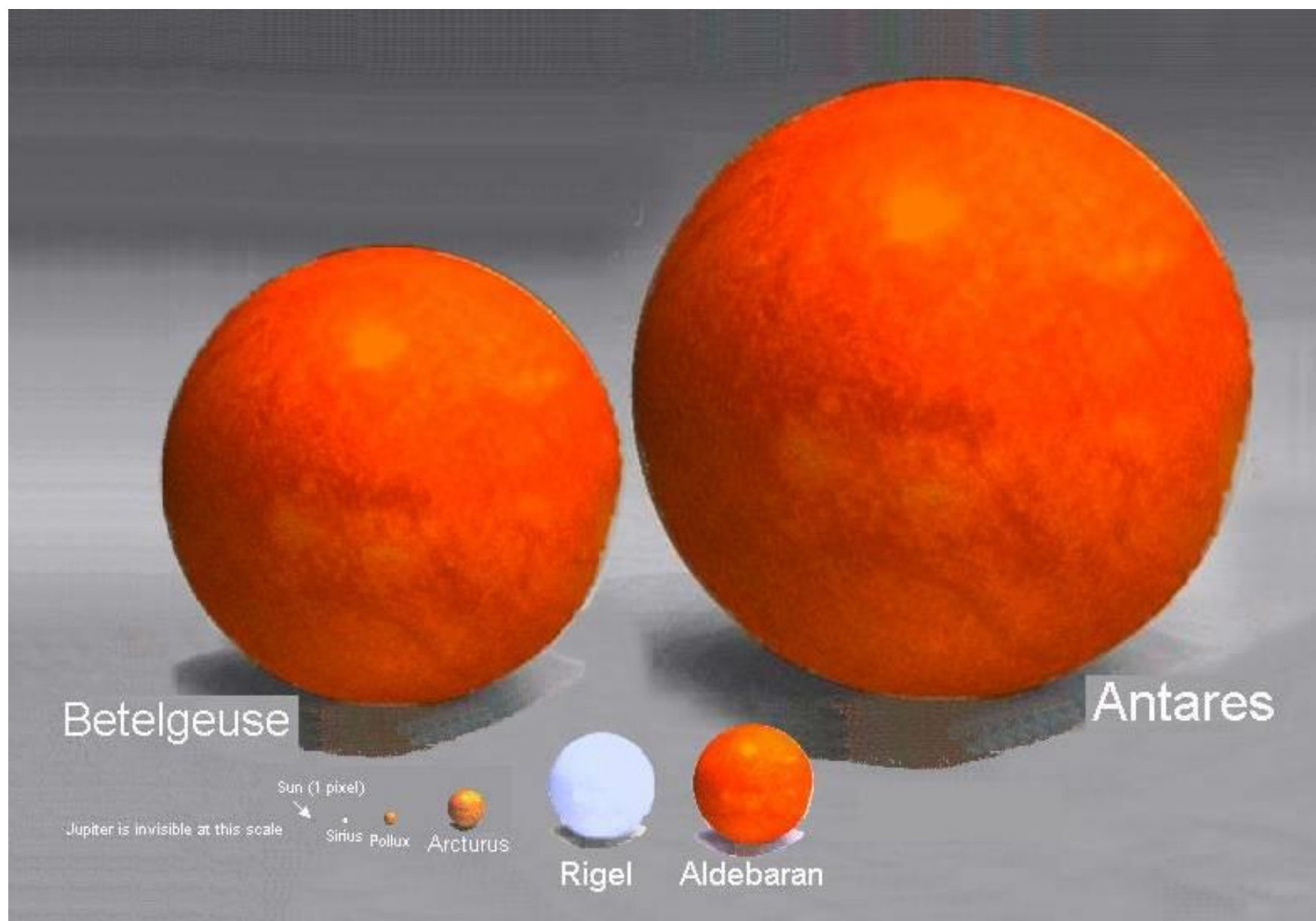
Pollux

Arcturus

Jupiter is about 1 pixel in size

Earth is invisible at this scale

# Sizes of Objects in our Universe



# Masses of Stars

- We cannot directly measure the mass of an isolated star.
- If something is orbiting the star, can use the general form of Kepler's Third Law

$$(M_1 + M_2)P^2 = a^3$$

- Luckily, 2/3 of all stars are **binary stars**, two stars that orbit one another



A binary star system consists of one star that is twice as massive as the other. They are 2.0 AU apart and have an orbit period of 0.50 y. What is the mass of the smaller star in terms of solar masses?

A.  $11 M_{\text{Sun}}$

B.  $4 M_{\text{Sun}}$

C.  $0.50 M_{\text{Sun}}$

D.  $0.125 M_{\text{Sun}}$

A binary star system consists of one star that is twice as massive as the other. They are 2.0 AU apart and have an orbit period of 0.50 y. What is the mass of the smaller star in terms of solar masses?

**A.  $11 M_{\text{Sun}}$**   $(m + 2m)P^2 = a^3$

B.  $4 M_{\text{Sun}}$

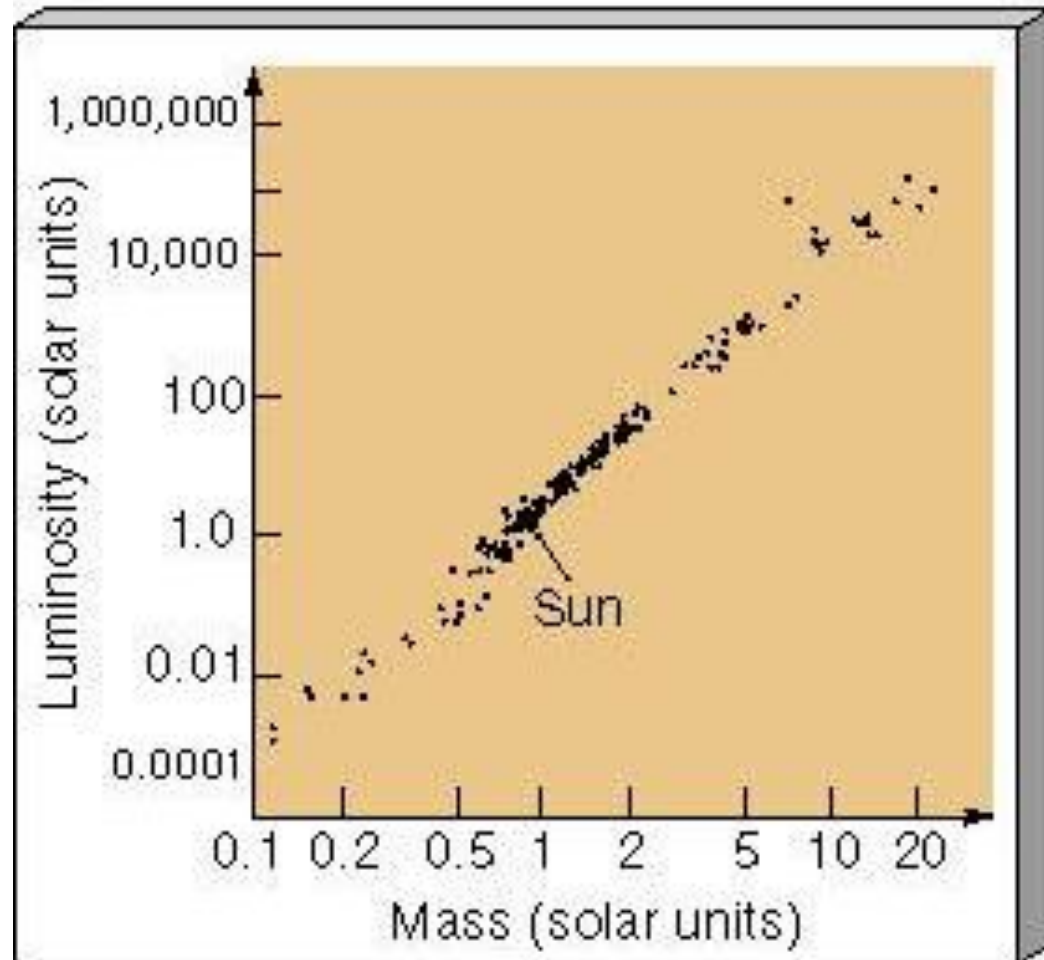
C.  $0.50 M_{\text{Sun}}$   $m = \frac{a^3}{3P^2} = \frac{(2.0 \text{ AU})^3}{3(0.50 \text{ y})^2} = \boxed{11 M_{\odot}}$

D.  $0.125 M_{\text{Sun}}$

# Mass-Luminosity Relation

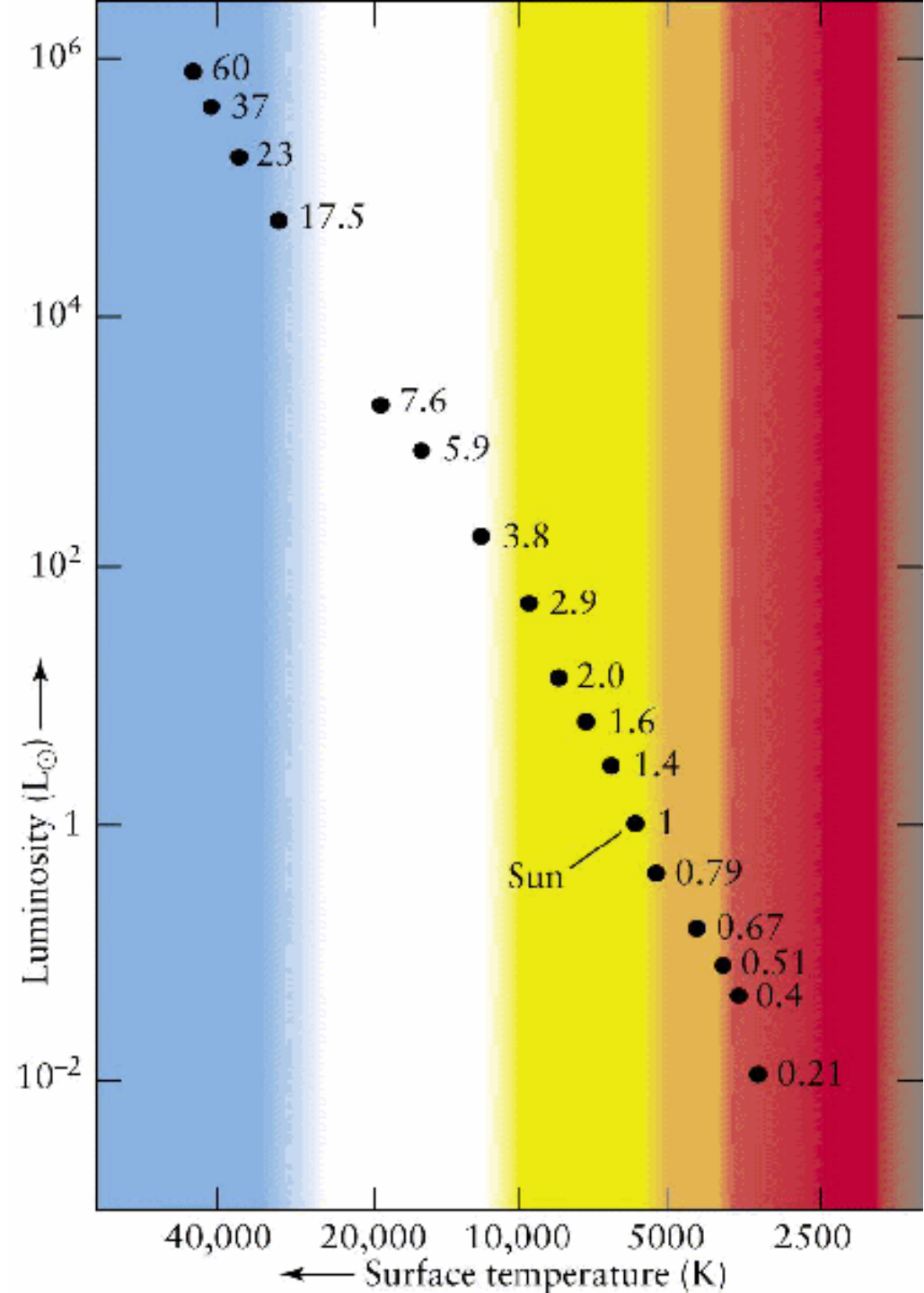
- True ONLY for Main Sequence stars
- As the mass increases, the luminosity increases rapidly

$$\text{Luminosity} \propto \text{Mass}^3$$



(b)

HR Diagram:  
Main sequence  
stars labeled by  
mass in units of  
solar masses.



# Question

How do the following properties differ with respect to the Sun for the listed main sequence types? What properties would not change for *non*-main sequence stars?

	O	G	M
Temperature			
Mass			
Size			
Color			
Luminosity			

# Question

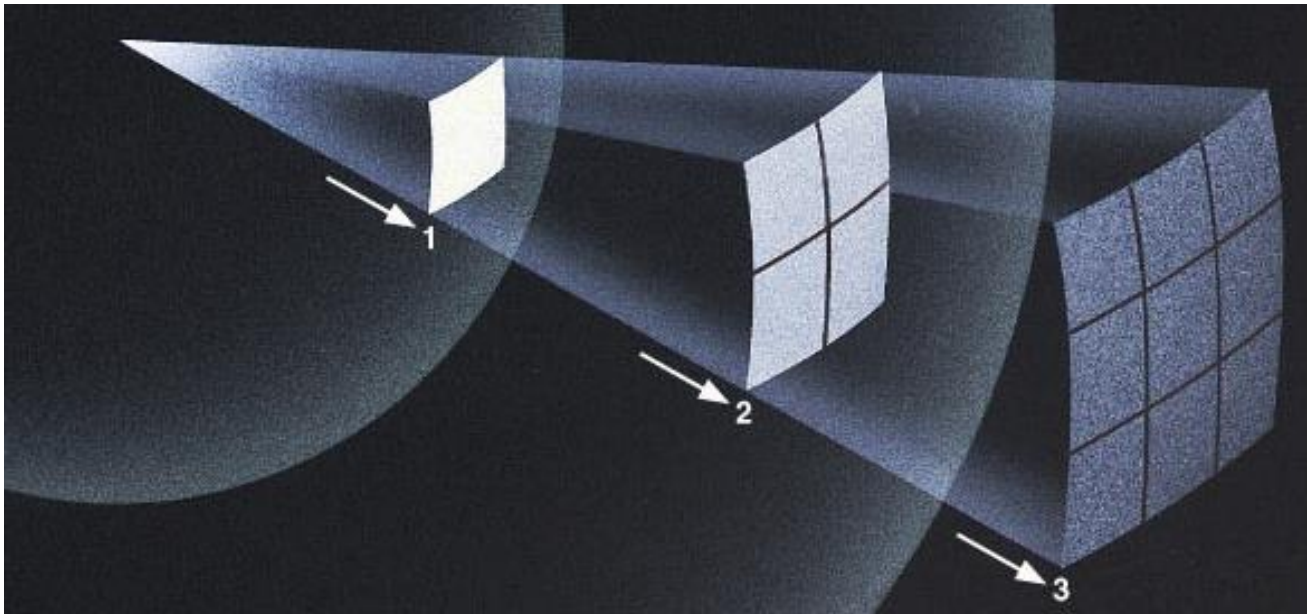
How do the following properties differ with respect to the Sun for the listed main sequence types? What properties would not change for *non-main* sequence stars?

	O	G	M
Temperature*	Higher	Same	Lower
Mass	Higher	Same	Lower
Size	Larger	Same	Smaller
Color*	Blue	White	Red
Luminosity	Higher	Same	Red

# Apparent Brightness

- The brightness an object appears to have.
- The further away the object, the dimmer it looks

$$\text{Apparent Brightness} = \frac{\text{Luminosity}}{4\pi d^2} \quad d = \text{distance}$$



Star A has a brightness of  $1.0 \mu\text{W}/\text{m}^2$  and is known to be 4.0 ly away. Star B is 9.0 ly away and has a brightness of  $3.0 \mu\text{W}/\text{m}^2$ . How much more luminous is star B than star A?

A.  $240\times$

B.  $15\times$

C.  $6.8\times$

D.  $3.0\times$



Star A has a brightness of  $1.0 \mu\text{W}/\text{m}^2$  and is known to be 4.0 ly away. Star B is 9.0 ly away and has a brightness of  $3.0 \mu\text{W}/\text{m}^2$ . How much more luminous is star B than star A?

A.  $240\times$

**B.  $15\times$**

C.  $6.8\times$

D.  $3.0\times$

$$B = \frac{L}{4\pi d^2} \Rightarrow \frac{L_B}{L_A} = \frac{4\pi d_B^2 B_B}{4\pi d_A^2 B_A}$$
$$\frac{L_B}{L_A} = \frac{(9.0 \text{ ly})^2 (3.0 \mu\text{W}/\text{m}^2)}{(4.0 \text{ ly})^2 (1.0 \mu\text{W}/\text{m}^2)} = \boxed{15}$$

# Spectroscopic Parallax

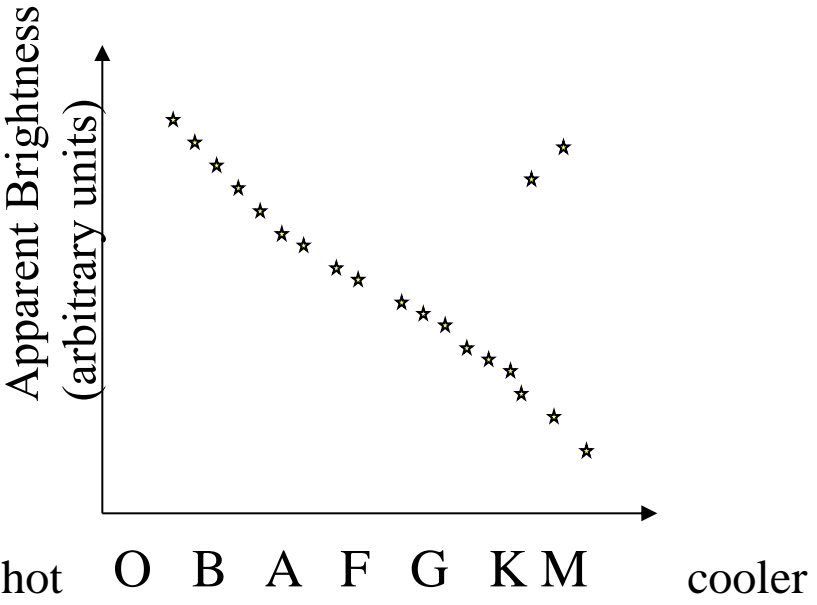
- If luminosity and apparent brightness are known, distance can be determined.

$$m - M = 5 \log d - 5$$

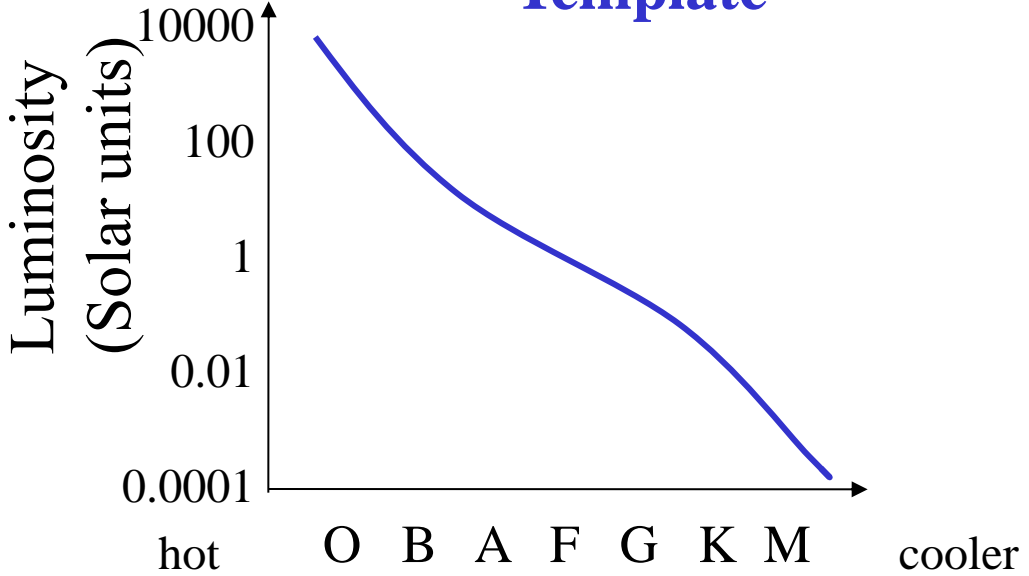
- It can be difficult to accurately measure luminosity for one star
  - Use spectra to get spectral type and class
- But, you can use a *cluster* of stars
- Distance to the cluster can be determined by comparing the HR diagram of the cluster with a template HR diagram

# Spectroscopic Parallax

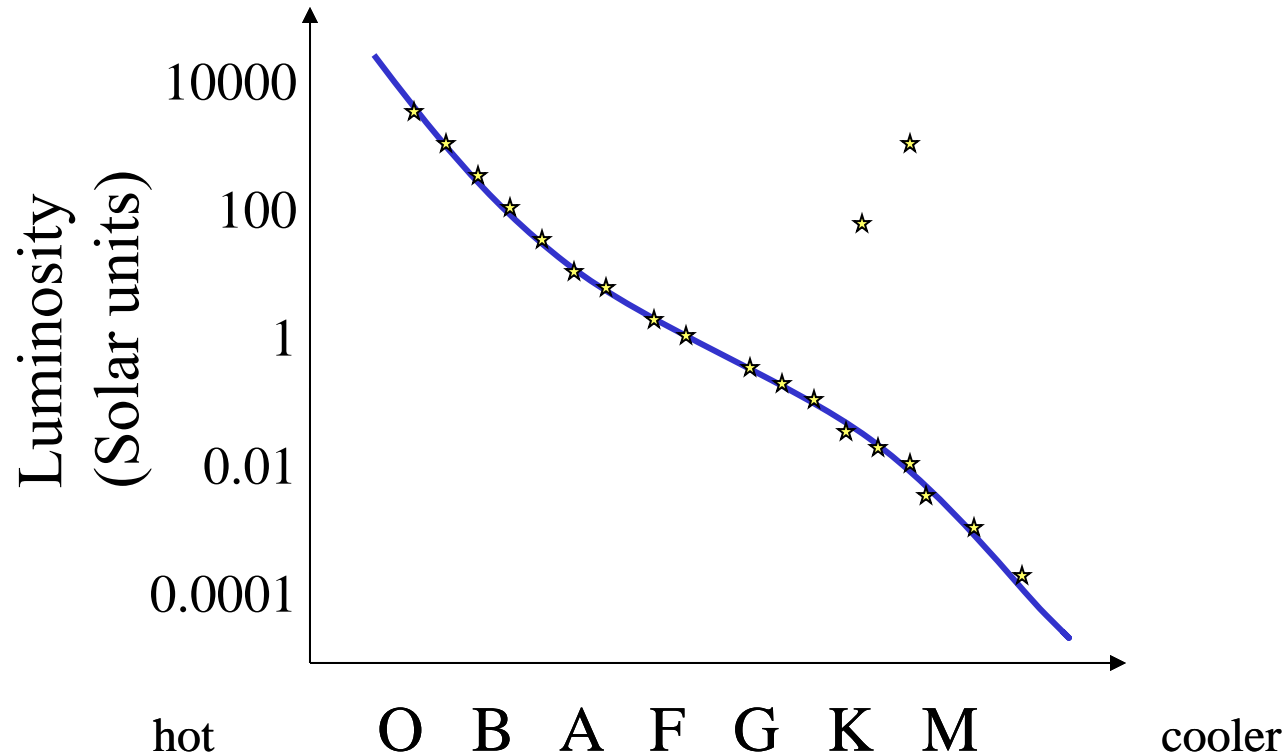
**Observations**



**Template**



# Spectroscopic Parallax

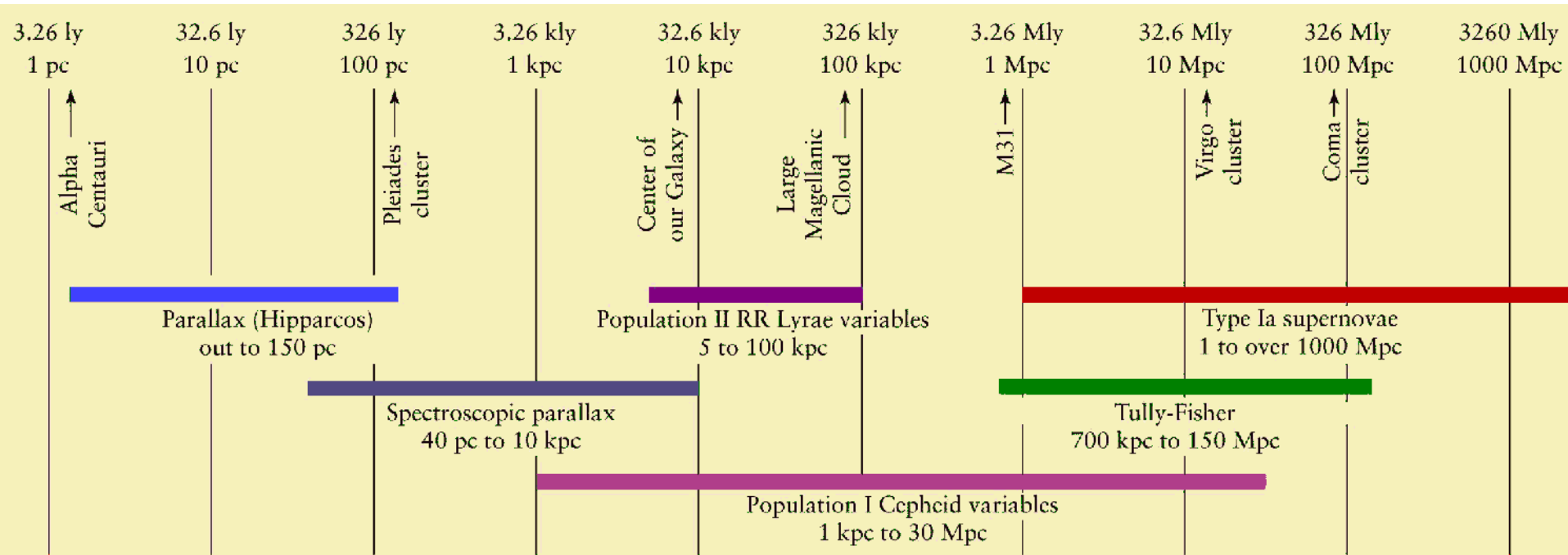


Now the vertical axis is on an absolute scale. We can read off the luminosities of the stars, and from that, together with the apparent brightness, we can determine the distance to the stars.

# The Distance Ladder

- See Extending Our Reach on p. 484
- First rung: parallax
- Second rung: spectroscopic parallax
- Third rung: standard candles/inverse square law

# The Distance Ladder



We will be discussing the longer distance “rungs” of the ladder in subsequent lectures.