

# STELLAR STRUCTURE AND EVOLUTION

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TAs: Ann-Sofie Bak Nielsen & Luis Henry Quiroga Nuñez



# TO GET TO KNOW YOU

PLEASE, WRITE THIS PERSONAL INDEX CARD:

- 1) Your name (or how you preferred to be addressed)
- 2) What is your greatest strength as a student and/or as a person overall?
- 3) Is there anything that you would like to share with me, that I need to know about you that I would otherwise not know?
- 4) What do you most want to learn from this class? or what topic are you most curious to know from this course?
- 5) Please, send me a selfie or pic of yourself by email [emr@strw.leidenuniv.nl](mailto:emr@strw.leidenuniv.nl) (with Luis and Ann-Sofie in cc) with your name on the email subject



# STELLAR STRUCTURE AND EVOLUTION



**TO GET TO KNOW MY COURSE**





# LOGISTICS

## ROOMS, ETC..

- HL 414 BUT for Feb. 6 ==> de Sitter Zaal
- My Office 539 (please, on appointment after being to TA)
- Ann-Sofie's office 451. **Office hour: Thursdays 15-17)**
- Luis's office 551. **Office hour: Monday 10:00-12:00)**
- *Computer Lab* for assignment

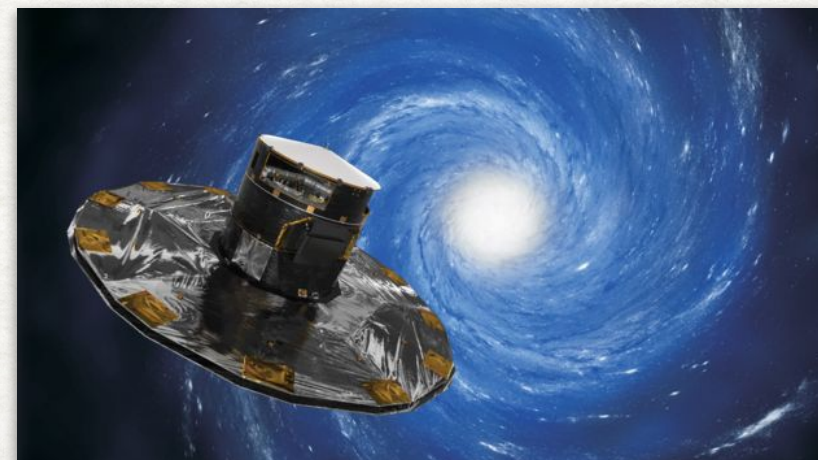


# MOTIVATIONS

## Stars are fundamental bricks of Astronomy:

1. Building blocks of galaxies => **Cosmology**
2. Site for planet formation => **Extra-solar planet, Solar physics**
3. They produce the “metals” life is made of (e.g. 99% human body made of oxygen, carbon, hydrogen, nitrogen, calcium, and phosphorus) => **Astro-chemistry/Astro-biology**
4. Path to (stellar and super massive) black hole formation
5. Path to compact objects 4+5 => **High energy astrophysics + GW**

In addition, golden time for stellar astronomy with ESA mission *Gaia*





# COURSE DESCRIPTION

12 LECTURES, FIRST HALF

- 30/1: Introduction: basics concepts and motivations
- 6/2: (in De Sitter!) Fundamental stellar structure equations: a matter of equilibrium!
- 13/2: Equations of state (esp. *Polytropic stars*)
- 20/2: Energy transport through the star
- 27/2: Nuclear processes as source of a star's energy
- 6/3: Stellar models: we now have all the bricks to build a star!

MID TERM GOAL: TO KNOW STELLAR STRUCTURE



# COURSE DESCRIPTION

12 LECTURES, SECOND HALF

- 13/3: Stellar evolution: basics and overall pictures

THIS IS THE RIGHT TIME FOR THE ASSIGNMENT

- 20/3: Formation, Pre-Main and Main sequence phase (very brief on the complex phenomenon of star formation)
- 27/3: Post-Main Sequence evolution to helium burning (HB) phase
- 3/4: Late (after HB) evolution of low and intermediate mass stars ( $< 8 M_{\text{sun}}$ )
- 10/4: Late evolution of massive mass stars ( $> 8 M_{\text{sun}}$ , further burning cycles)
- 24/4: Stellar explosions and remnants of massive stars

WRITTEN EXAMINATION ON THE 8 MAY 2017



# ASSIGNMENT

COMPULSORY FOR FINAL EXAM,  
WEIGH 20% OF FINAL GRADE

- **2 tasks:**

1. numerically simulate and study the entire evolution of a star of a given mass using the code MESA

2. Write a comprehensive but concise report

- Anne-Sofie and Luis will be helping you to understand the code and code set-up in a Computer Lab class around the 20 of March
- Around two weeks to perform the tasks
- If failing, you will get a second chance

All the details will be given in March



# FINAL EXAMINATION

8 MAY

- admission upon successful assignment
- written exam
- type questions: mix of definitions + conceptual questions (reasoning)
- no “no” or “yes” answers but arguments and formulae should be given in support of a statement
- a sheet of relevant formulae will be given
- result weigh 80% of the final grade

An example will be given in March



# STUDY MATERIAL

- Mainly following Prof. Polls' notes:  
[http://www.astro.ru.nl/~onnop/education/stev\\_utrecht\\_notes/](http://www.astro.ru.nl/~onnop/education/stev_utrecht_notes/)
- Further reading:
- “Theory of Stellar Structure and Evolution” by Dina Prialnik
- “Stellar Interiors” by Hansen, Kawaler & Trimble
- <http://home.strw.leidenuniv.nl/~nielsen/SSE17/SSE17.html>



# NOTES+CH 1 IN PRIALNIK BASICS

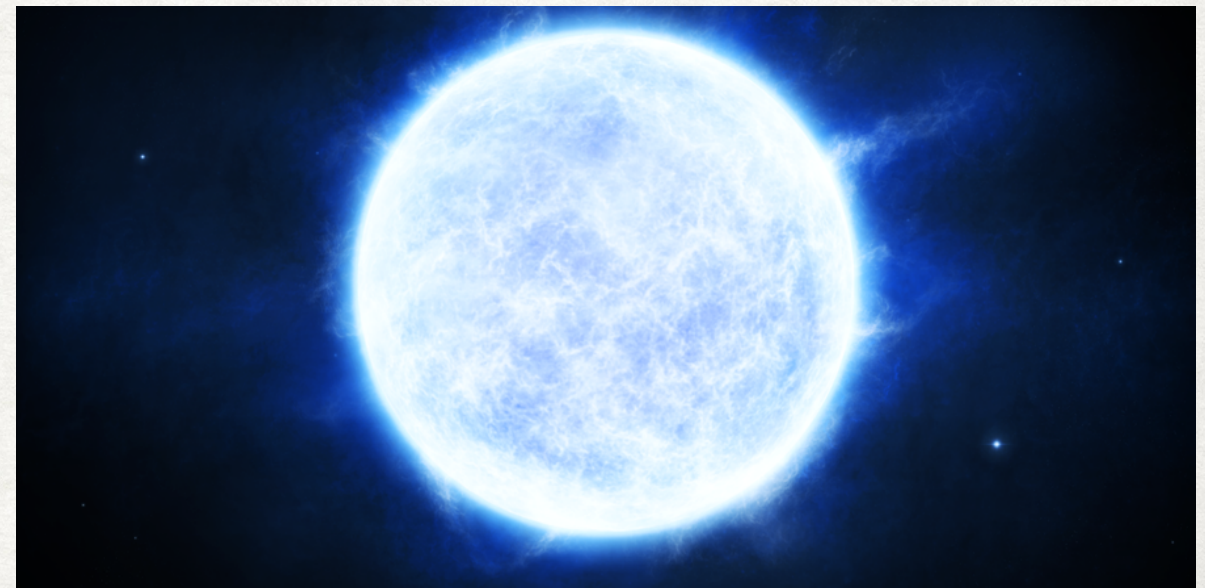
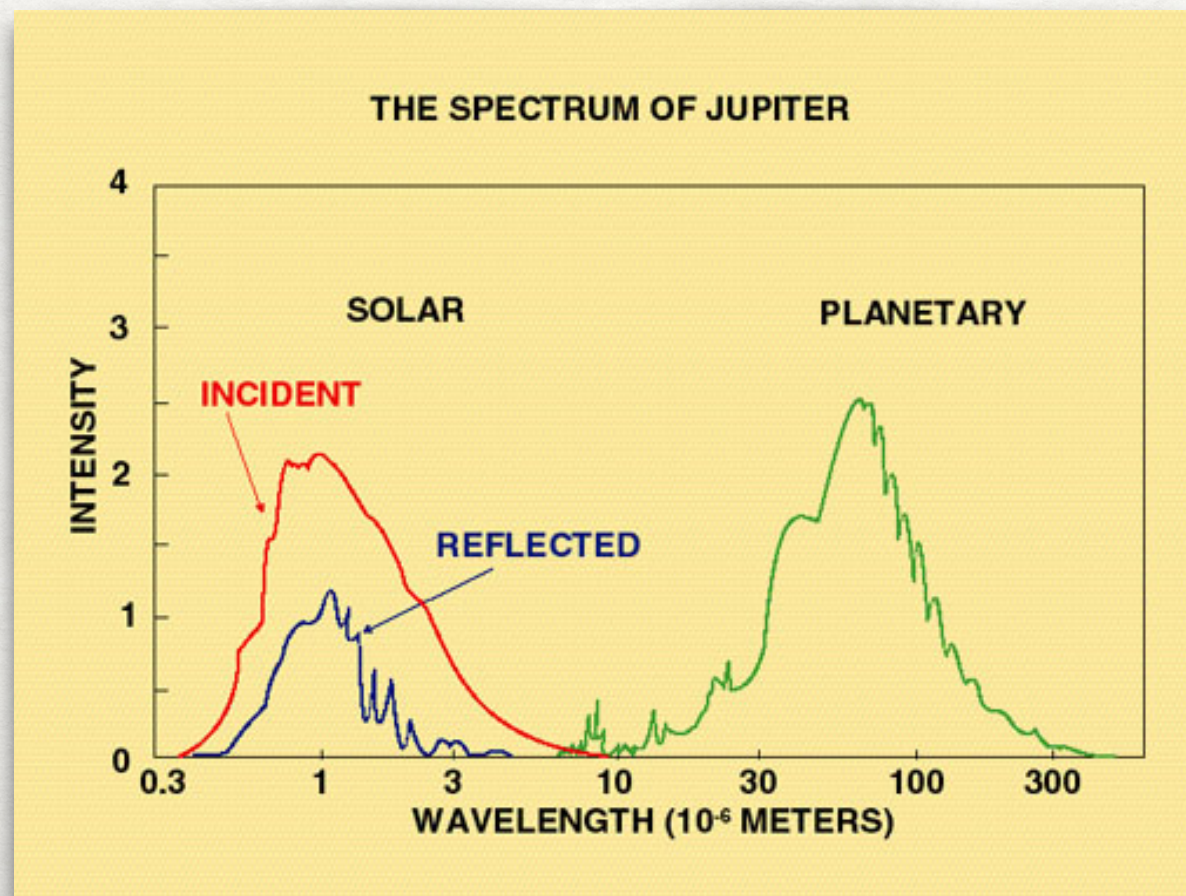
On slides you will find mainly figures...



# A STAR

A (CELESTIAL) BODY THAT SATISFIES TWO CONDITIONS:

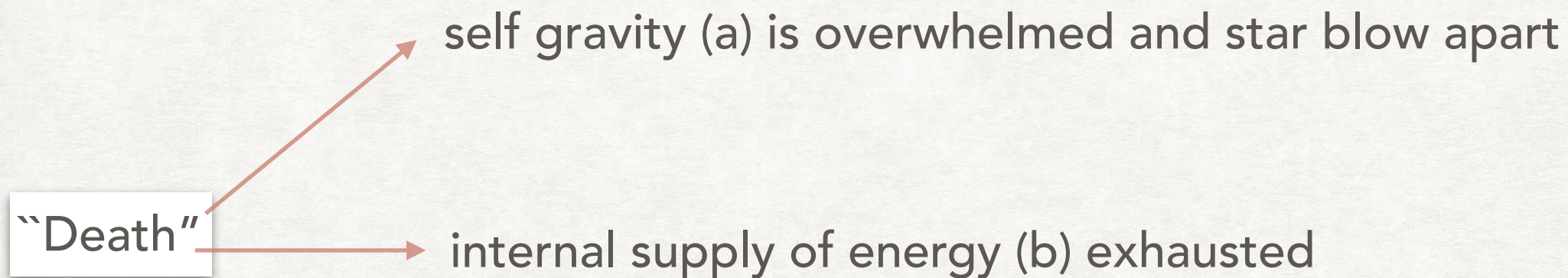
- ★ (a) it is bound by self-gravity  $\Rightarrow$  (quasi) spherical because gravity is a spherically symmetric force field
- ★ (b) it radiates energy supplied by an internal source  $\Rightarrow$  planet, comets, moon shine by reflected light so they are not “stars”





# EVOLUTION

- As a star nuclear burns inside or releases gravitational energy ==> Star evolves in structure and composition



Most stars end their lives by a combination of shedding of mass and exhaustion

“Birth” ? we will touch upon briefly, the course will some that a) and b) are already in place



# ON BLACKBOARD

## THE FOLLOWINGS

- Fundamental properties
- Stellar surface observations
- a few stellar interior messengers
- Stellar evolution observations



# THE HERTZSPRUNG-RUSSEL DIAGRAM

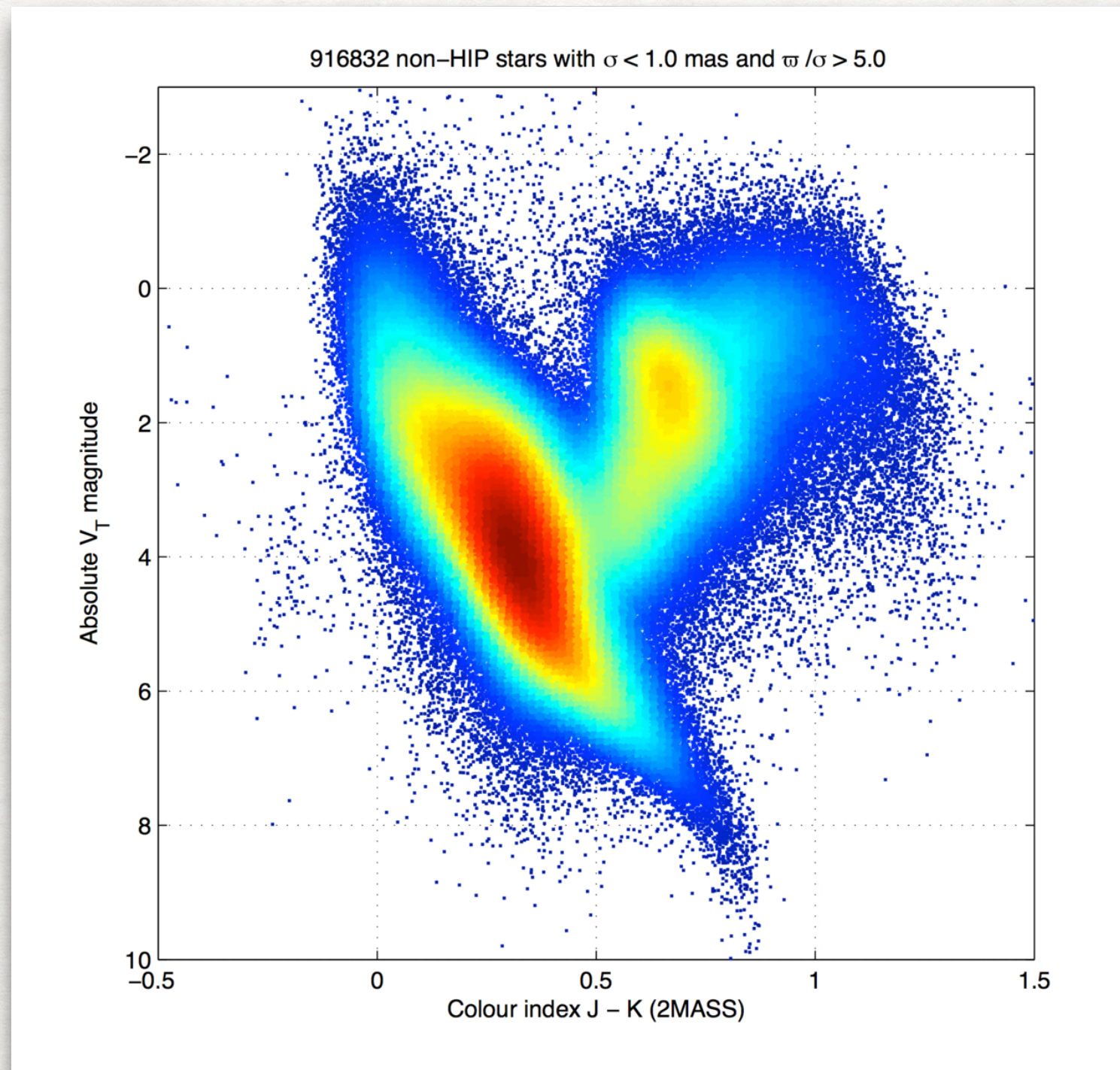
H-R in short...

- INVENTED SIMULTANEOUSLY BY EJNAR HERTZSPRUNG (1911) AND HENRY NORRIS RUSSEL 1913
- FUNDAMENTAL TOOL FOR UNDERSTANDING STELLA EVOLUTION
- X-AXIS: DECREASING SURFACE TEMPERATURE (OR RELATED QUANTITIES)
- Y-AXIS: LUMINOSITY (OR RELATED QUANTITIES)
- EACH POINT = A STAR
- IMPORTANT TO SELECT THE SAMPLE:
  - VOLUME LIMITED SAMPLE
  - MAGNITUDE LIMITED SAMPLE
  - CLUSTERS



# OBSERVERS TYPICALLY: MAGNITUDE VERSUS COLOUR

## FIRST GAIA H-R DIAGRAM

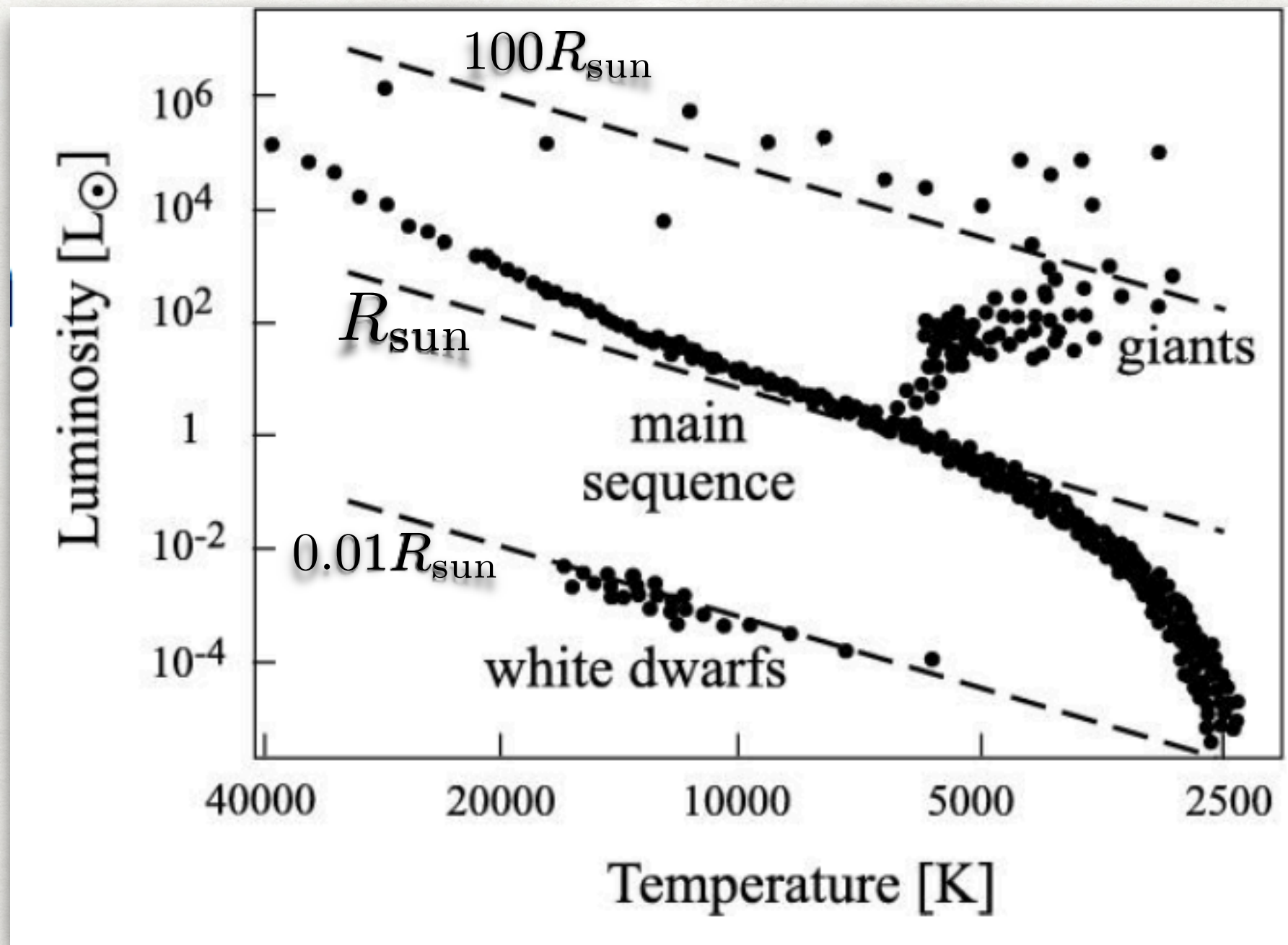


NOTE: only some combinations of  $L$  and  $T_{\text{eff}}$  are possible



# A THEORETICIAN'S VIEW: $L$ VS $T_{\text{EFF}}$

STARS AT DIFFERENT LIFE STAGES CLUSTER

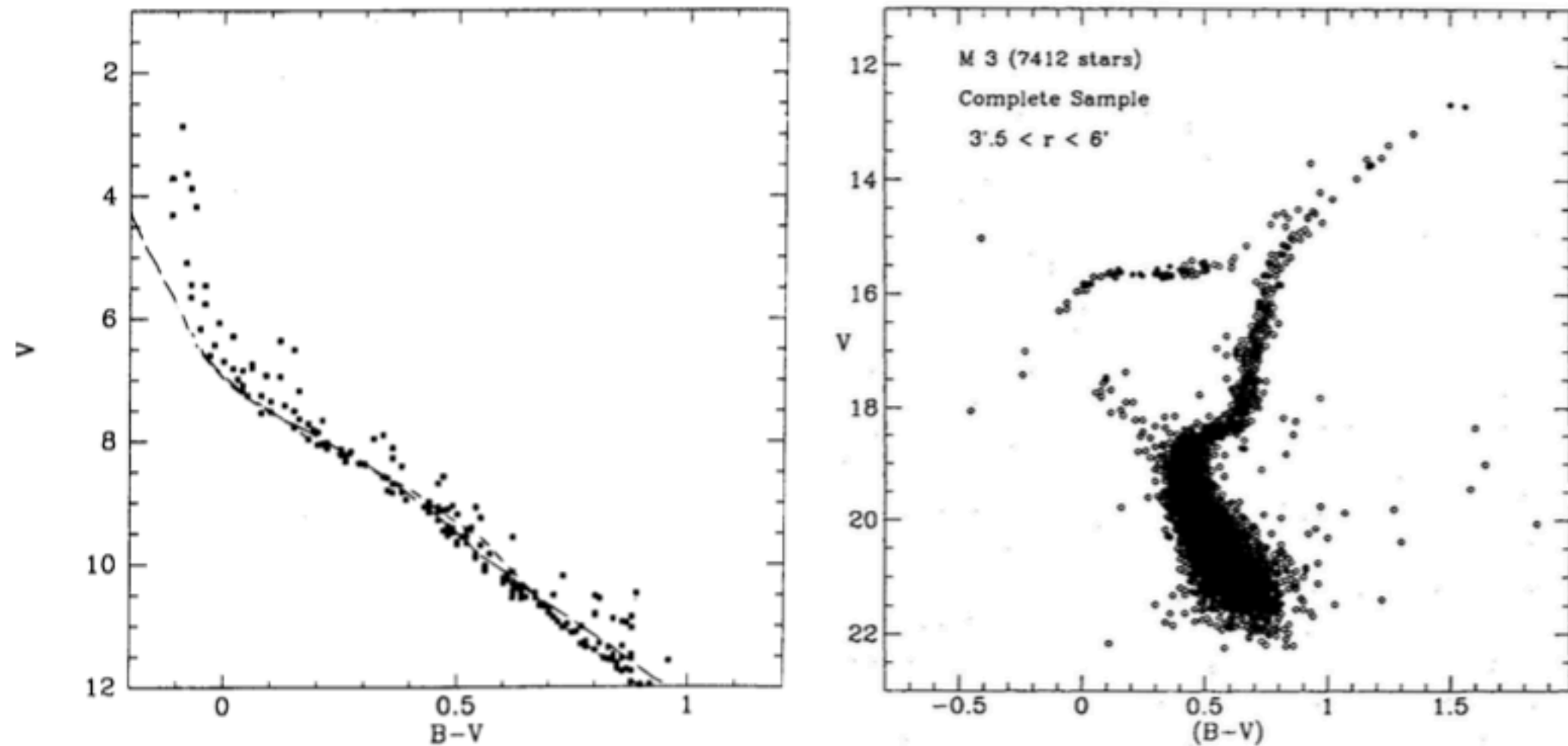


$$\log(L) = 4 \times \log(T_{\text{eff}}) + 2 \times \log(R) + A$$



# STELLAR CLUSTERS ARE CLEANER (?)

“SIMPLE POPULATION” SCENARIO: SAME DISTANCE,  
METALLICITY, AGE

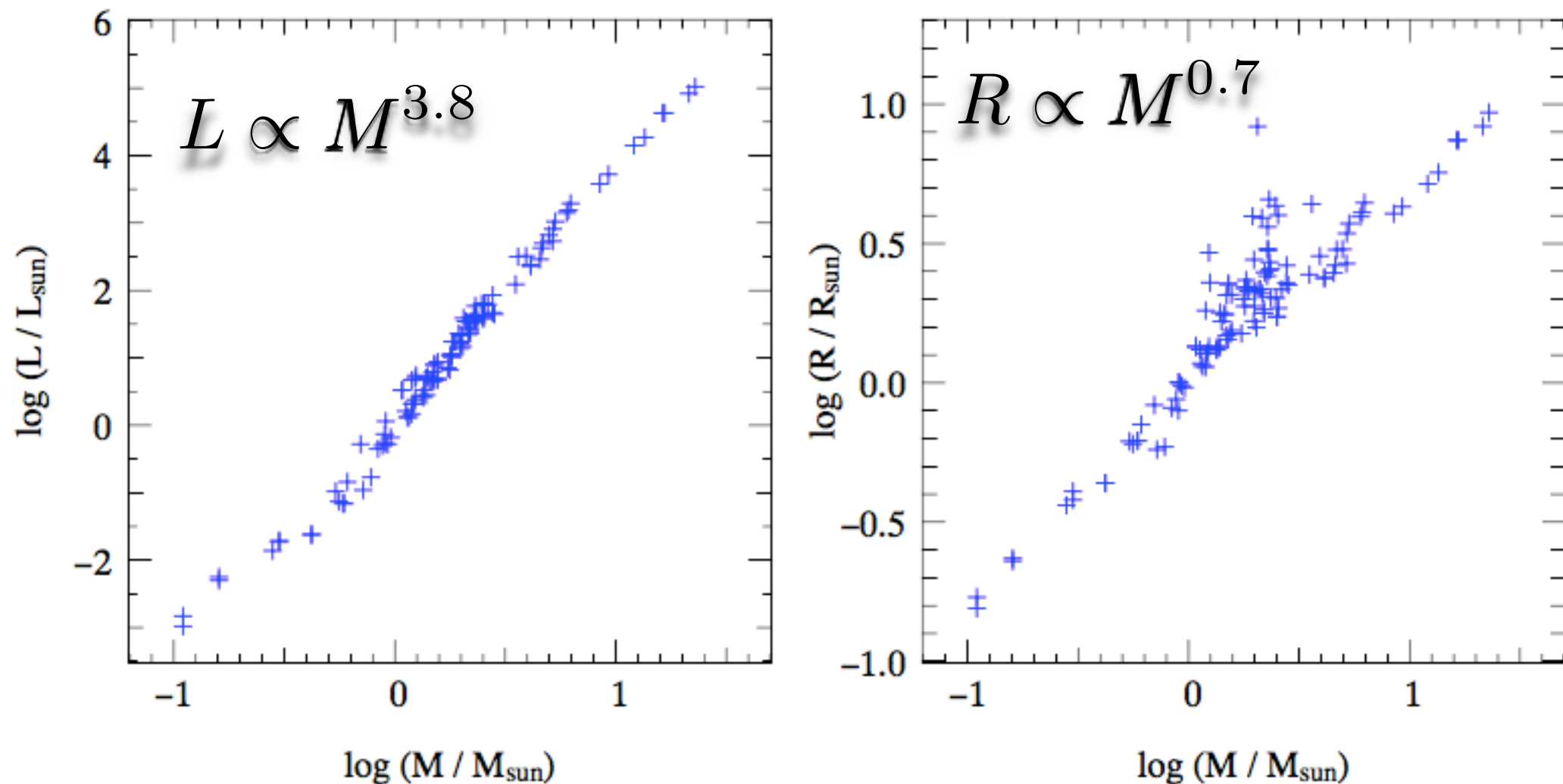


**Figure 1.2.** Colour-magnitude diagrams of a young open cluster, M45 (the Pleiades, left panel), and a globular cluster, M3 (right panel).

Hotter more luminous stars evolve faster off the main sequence



# CORRELATIONS TO BE EXPLAINED BY THEORY



**Figure 1.3.** Mass-luminosity (left) and mass-radius (right) relations for components of double-lined eclipsing binaries with accurately measured  $M$ ,  $R$  and  $L$ .

For main sequence stars with  $\sim 1$  Solar mass



# STELLAR POPULATIONS

- PoP III: first generation of stars from primordial gas. IMF debated but generally thought that may be quite massive  $\sim 100 M_{\text{sun}}$
- PoP II: Second generation  $Z \ll Z_{\text{sun}}$ : those of low mass ( $10^{10}$  yr old) have survived and can be observed in our Galactic Halo: fossils for "Galactic Archeology".
- PoP I:  $Z \sim Z_{\text{sun}}$ , lifetime  $< 10^9$  yr