



- Next homework is #7– due Friday at 11:50 am– last one before exam.
- Exam #2 is less than two weeks! Friday, November 14th!
- Don't forget the Icko Iben Lecture is tonight!

Want some extra credit?

- Download and print report form from course web site
- Attend the Iben Lecture on November 5th
- Obtain my signature *before* the lecture and answer the questions on form. Turn in by Nov. 14th
- Worth 12 points (1/2 a homework)



Nov 5, 2003


Icko Iben, Jr. Distinguished Lecture
Department of Astronomy at the University of Illinois

**Cosmic Collisions:
How Astronomers
are Saving the World**

David Morrison
Senior Scientist
NASA Astrobiology Institute

Foellinger Auditorium
Wednesday, November 5, 2003
4:00 pm (Doors open at 3:30 pm)



 UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

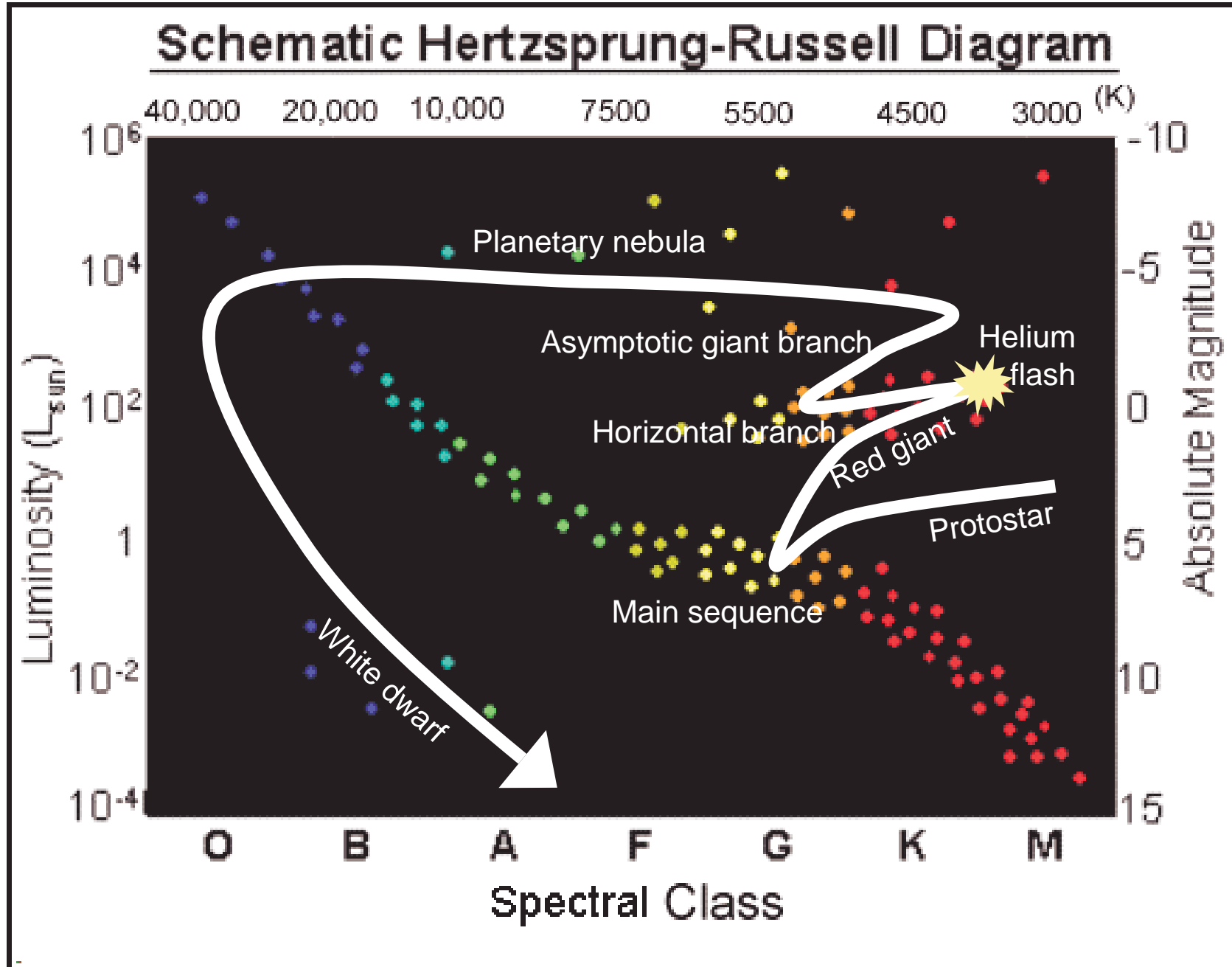
As

Outline



- The end of a low mass star (like our Sun)
 - Main sequence, red giant, helium flash, and planetary nebula and white dwarf
- End of an intermediate mass stars
 - Main sequence, red supergiant, helium flash, blue supergiant, red supergiant, and planetary nebula and white dwarf.
- The end of a massive star

Evolutionary Path of a Solar-Mass Star



The Life of a 1 Solar Mass Star:

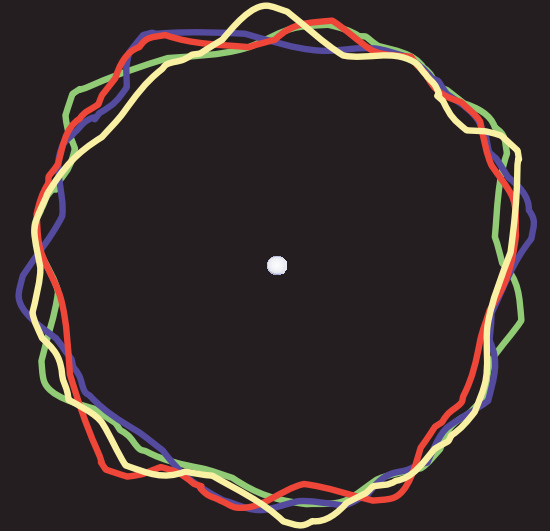
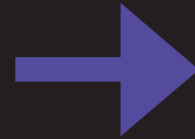
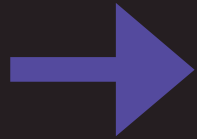
$$0.4 M_{\text{Sun}} < M < 4 M_{\text{Sun}}$$



Example of how low mass stars will evolve on the
HR Diagram–

<http://rainman.astro.uiuc.edu/ddr/stellar/archive/suntrackson.mpg>

A Low Mass Stellar Demise

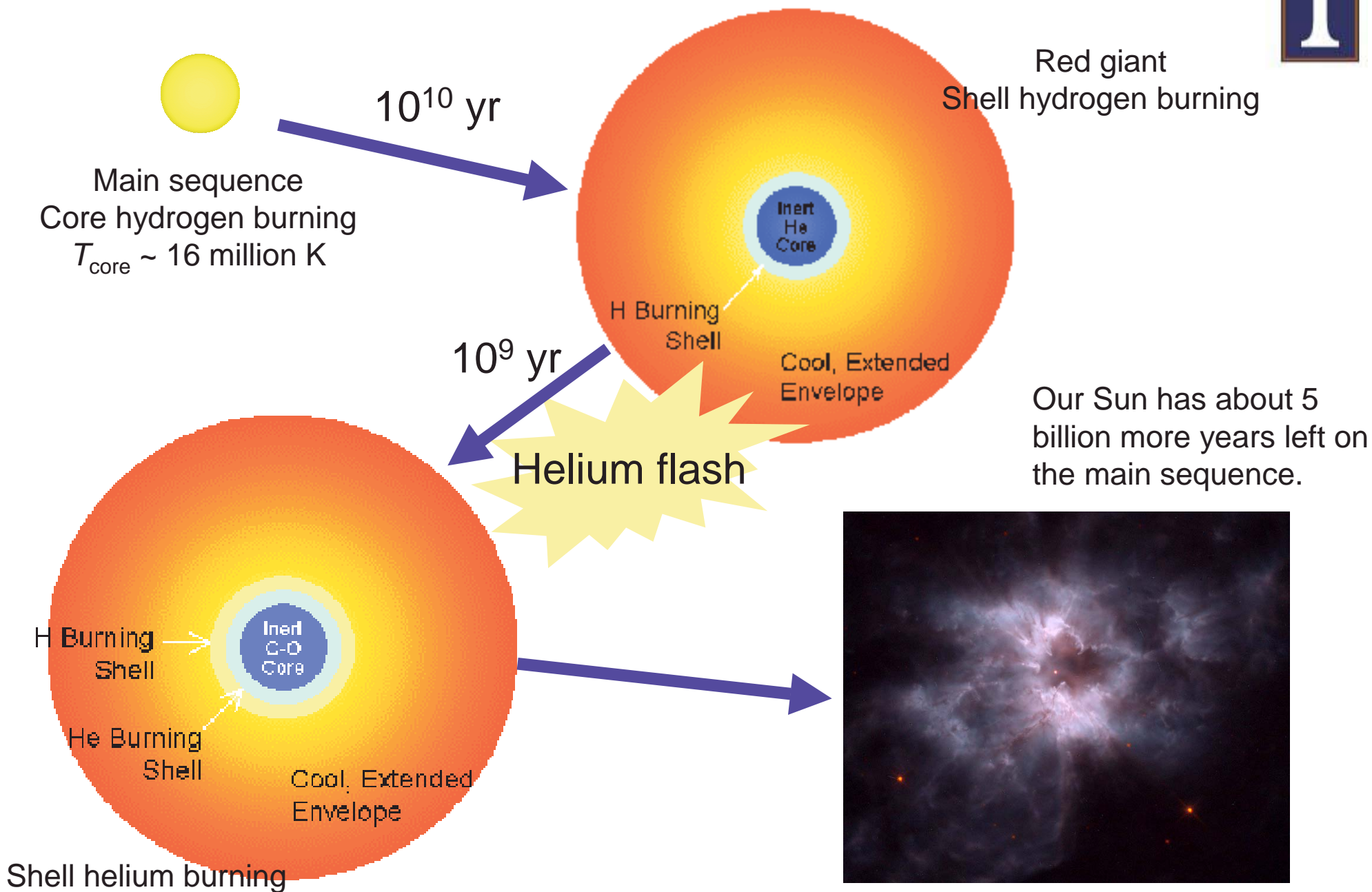


Solar-mass main-
sequence star

Helium-burning
red giant

White dwarf and
planetary nebula

Evolution of a Solar-Mass Star

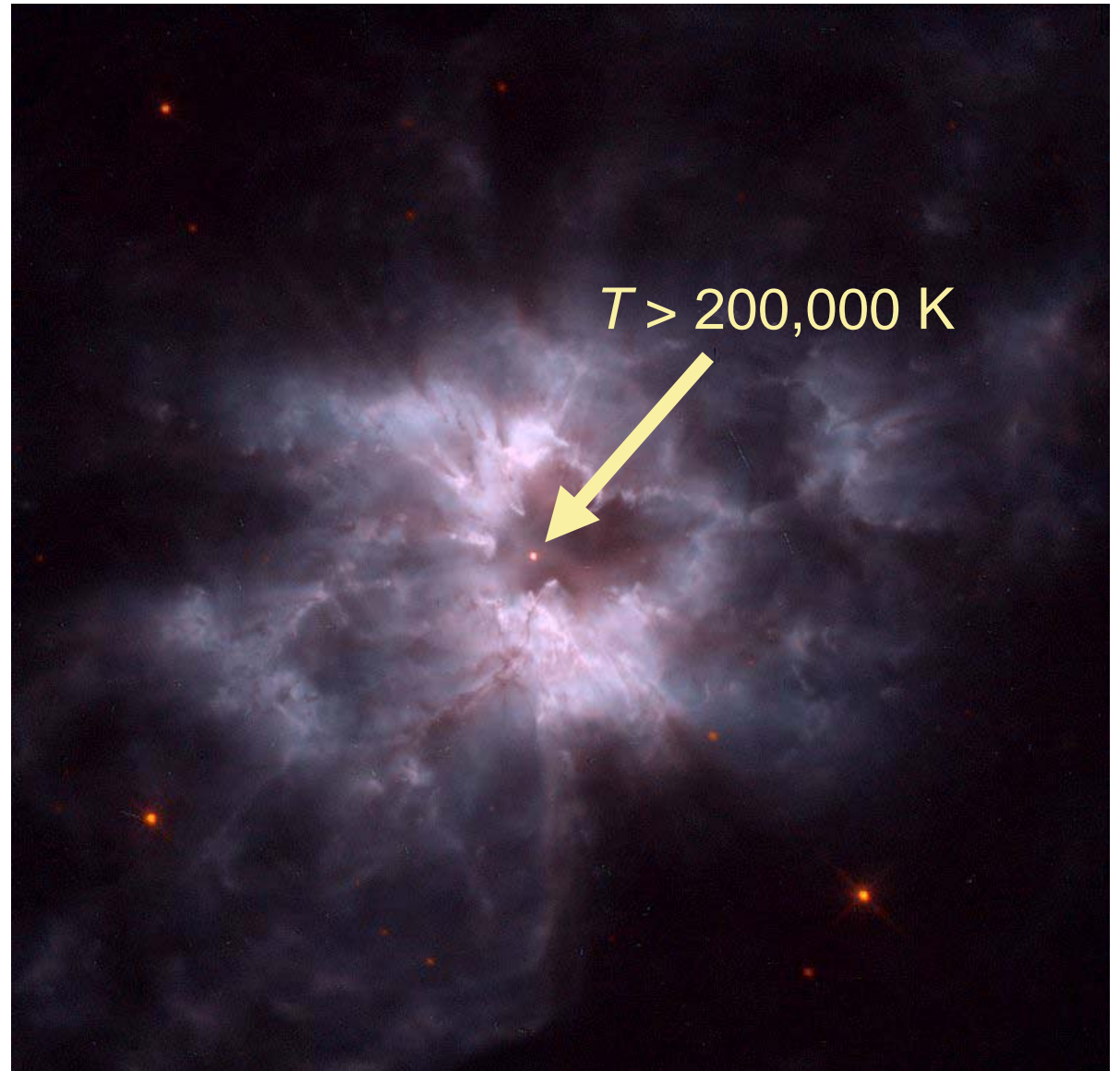


Our Sun has about 5 billion more years left on the main sequence.

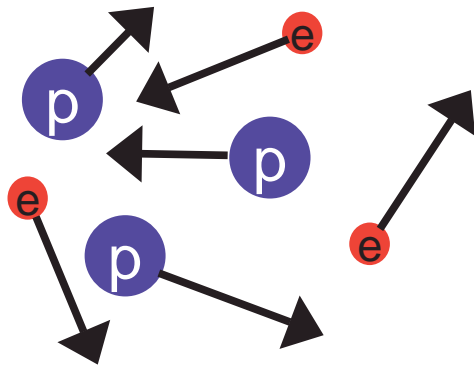
White Dwarfs and Planetary Nebulae



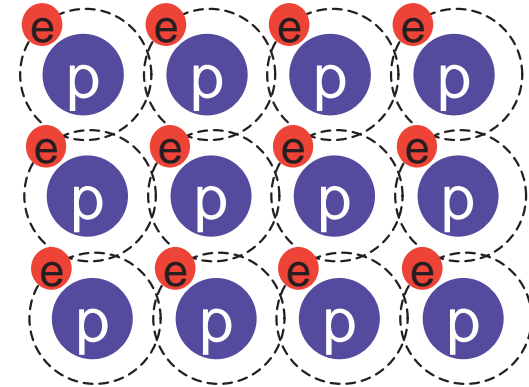
- Outer layers of the red giant star are blown away by radiation from the hot new white dwarf— loses from 20 to more than 50% of its mass
- As they expand, they are lit from within by the white dwarf



Electron Degeneracy



Matter in the core of
a normal star

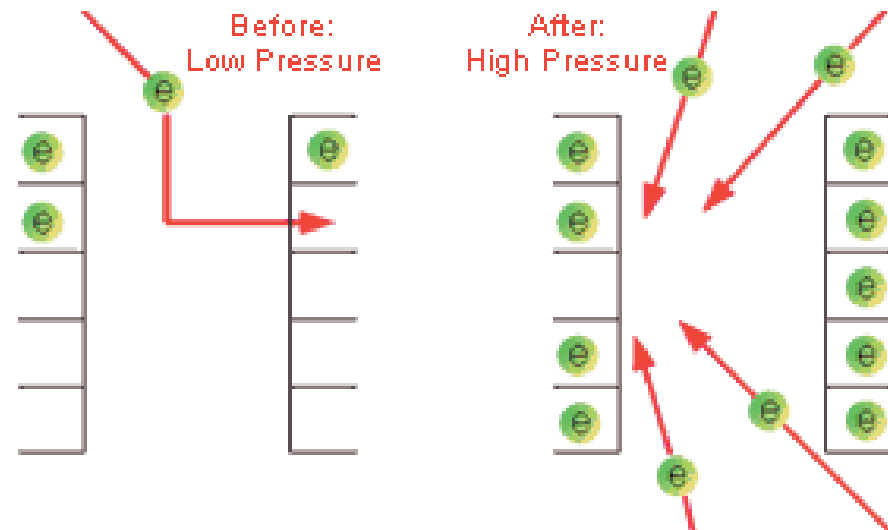
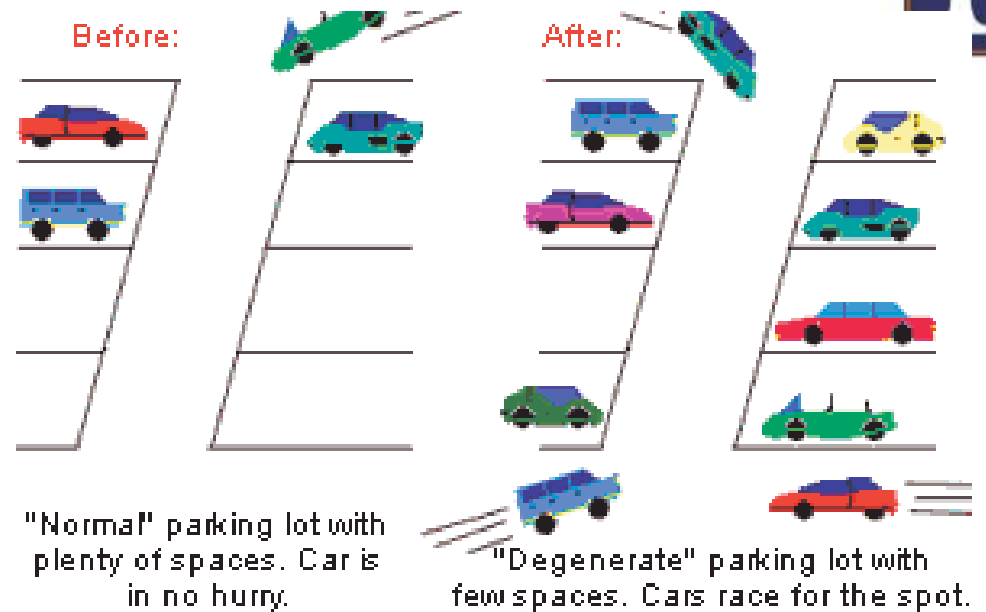


Electron-degenerate
matter in a white dwarf
1 ton per cubic cm

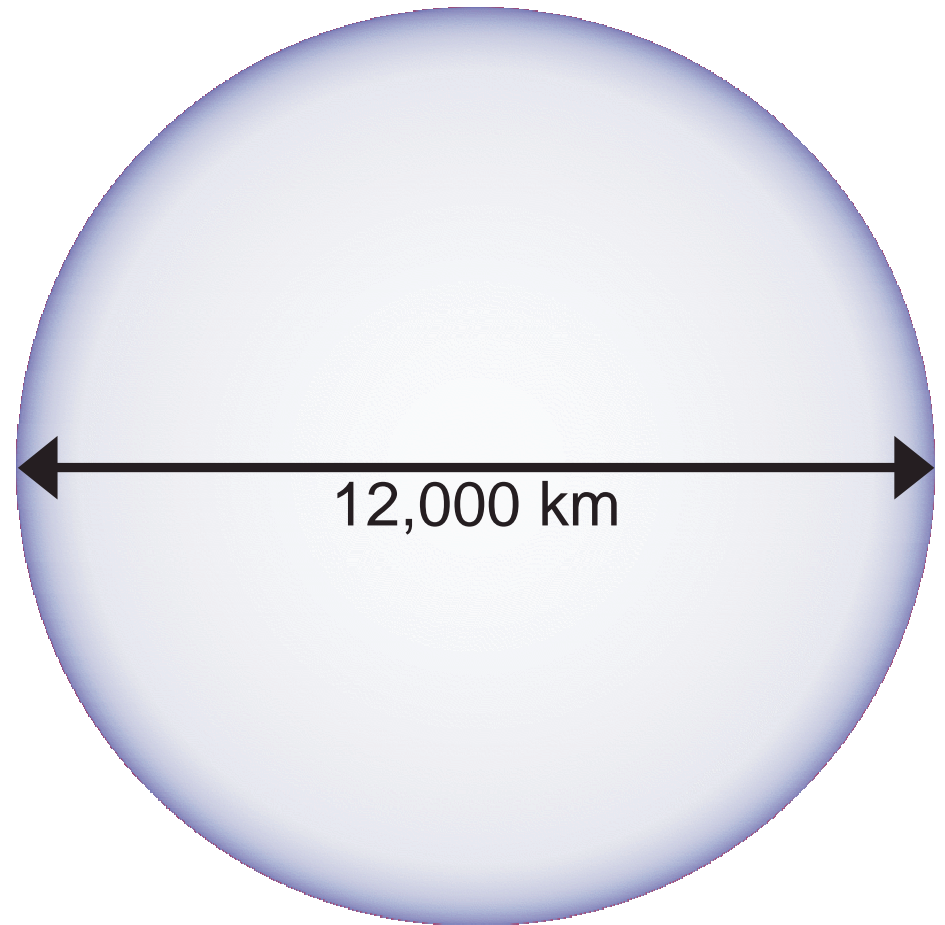
Degeneracy Pressure



- ▶ Electrons are forced into higher energy levels than normal – all of the lower levels are taken
- ▶ Effect manifests itself as pressure



Relative Size of White Dwarf



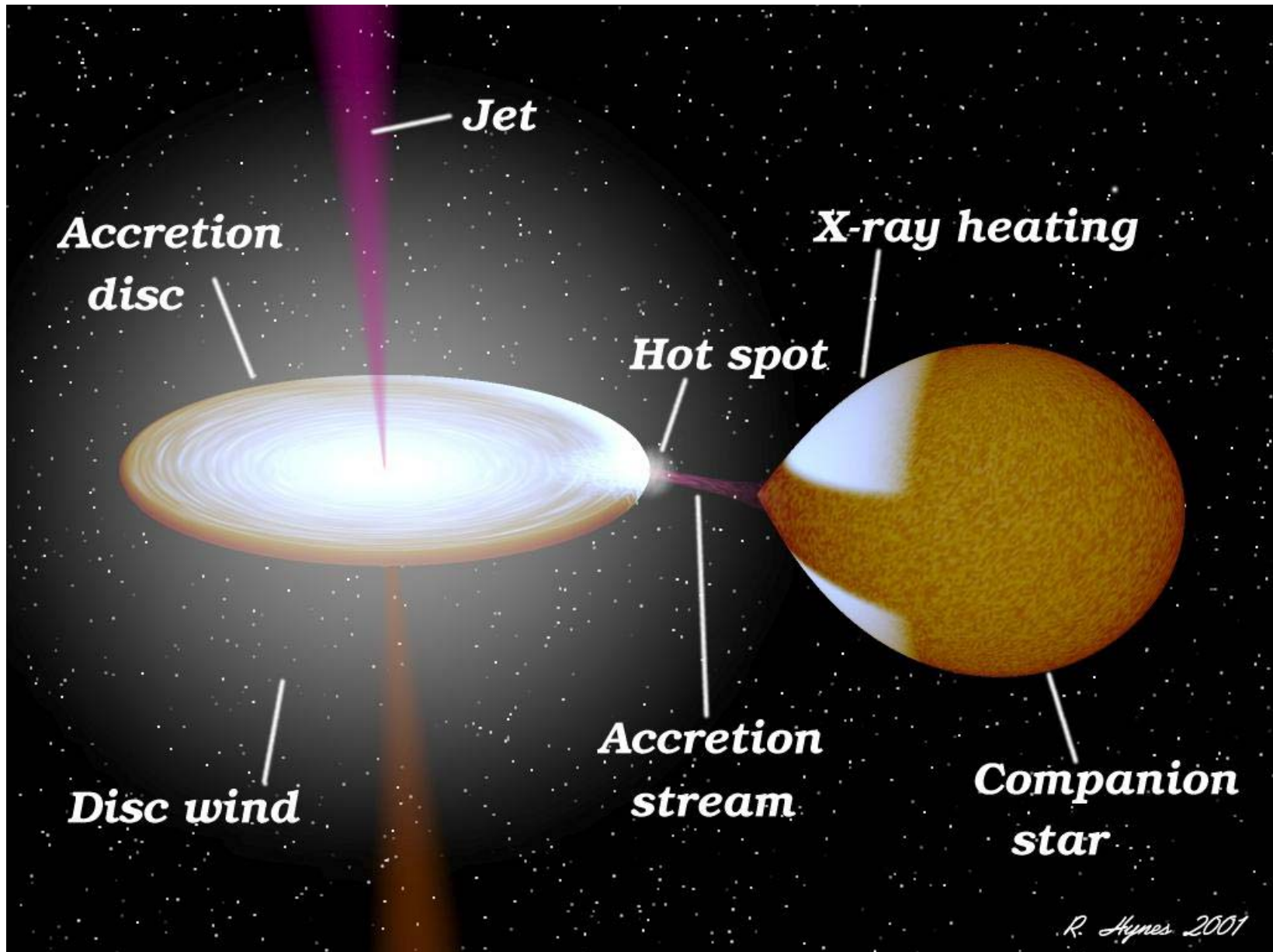
White dwarf– but will weigh
about 0.7 Solar Masses

Binary Systems?



- In a close binary pair of stars with slightly different mass, the first higher mass low-mass stars evolves into a white dwarf.
- Then later on the other stars evolves into a red giant.
- What happens?

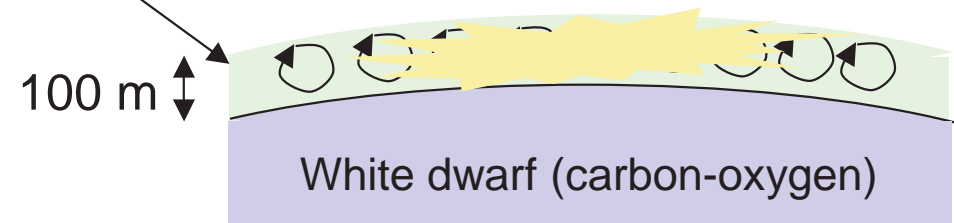
What Happens in Binary Systems?



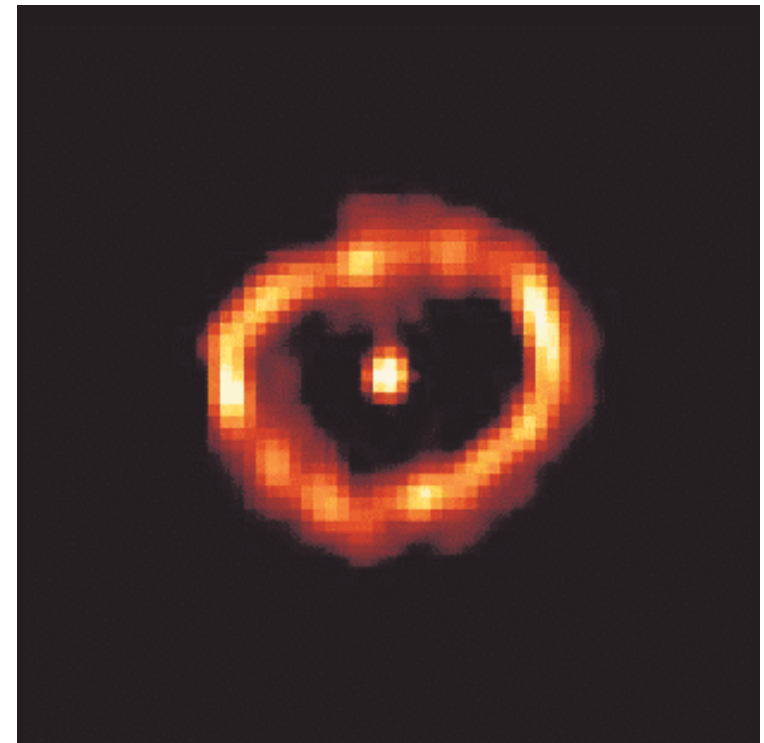
Novae



Accreted
hydrogen
envelope



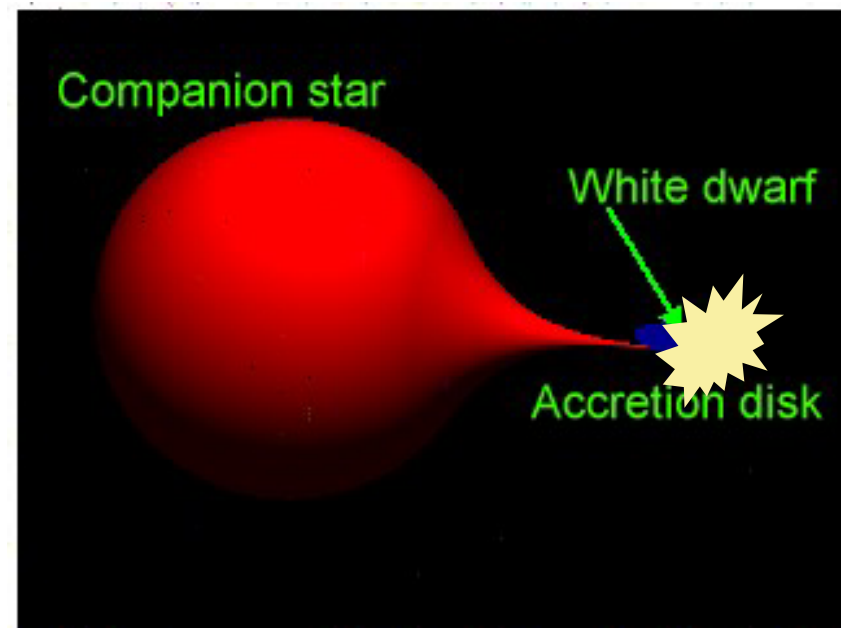
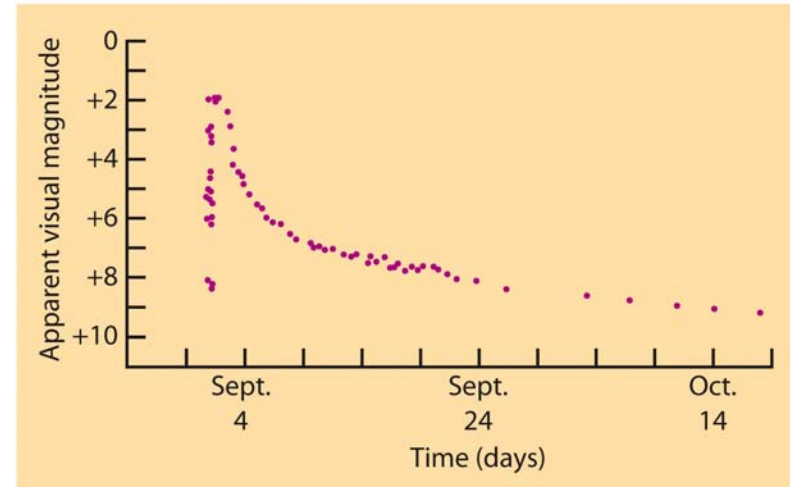
- ▶ If enough material piles up onto the surface of a white dwarf, can undergo explosive nuclear fusion
- ▶ White dwarf blows off this **envelope** and brightens by 100x – 1000x over a period of days – weeks



Novae



- ▶ Process often repeats
- ▶ Novae are very common, about 20 in our galaxy a year.
- ▶ BUT, it is possible that the whole star can explode—causing a Type Ia Supernova—too much material exceeds the electron degeneracy (1.4 solar masses)



Stellar Evolution for Intermediate Stars:

$$4 M_{\text{Sun}} < M < 8 M_{\text{Sun}}$$



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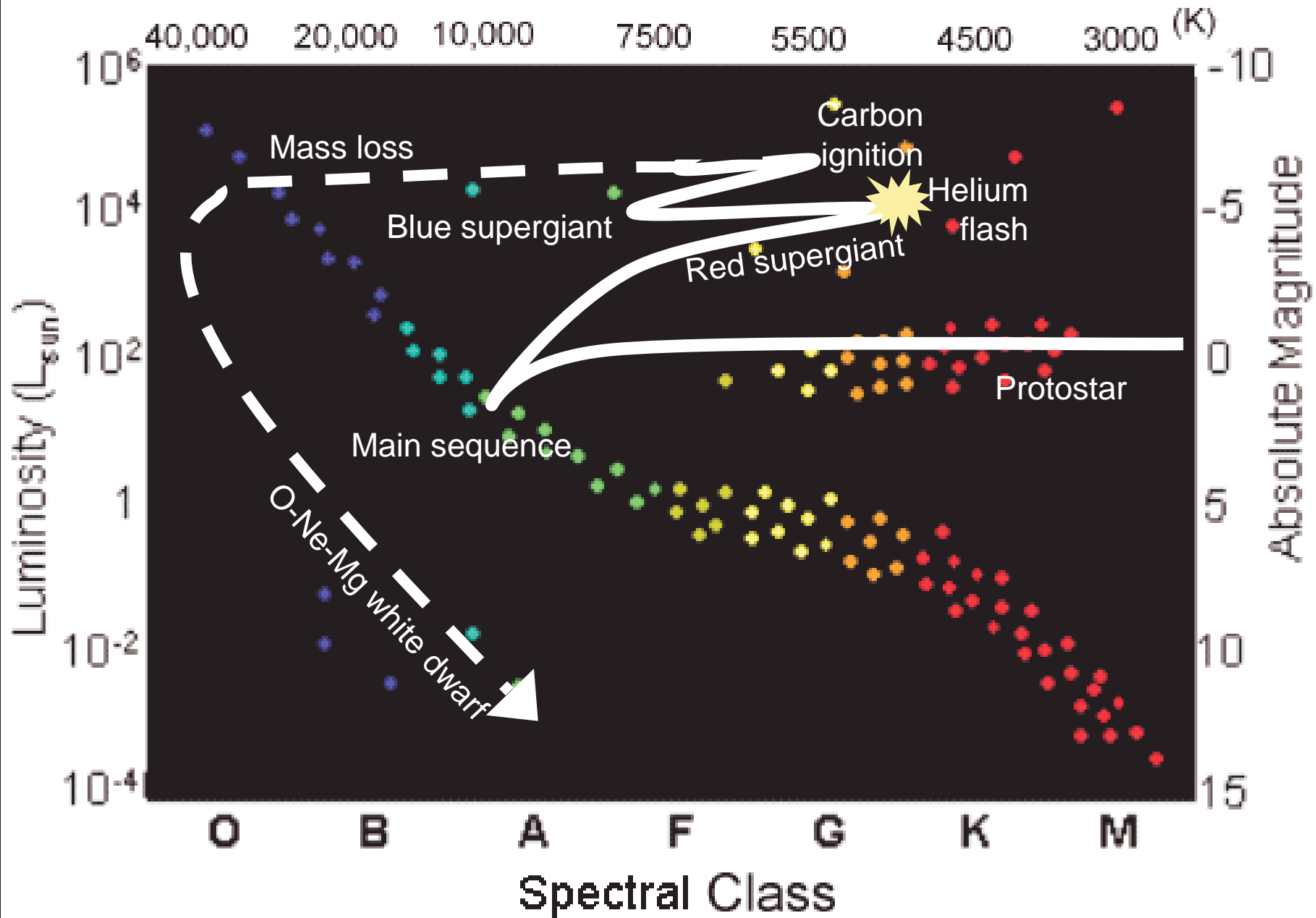
Example of how 8 stars 1 through 8 solar masses will evolve on the HR Diagram—

<http://rainman.astro.uiuc.edu/ddr/stellar/archive/onetoeighttrackson.mpg>

Evolutionary Path for Intermediate Stars



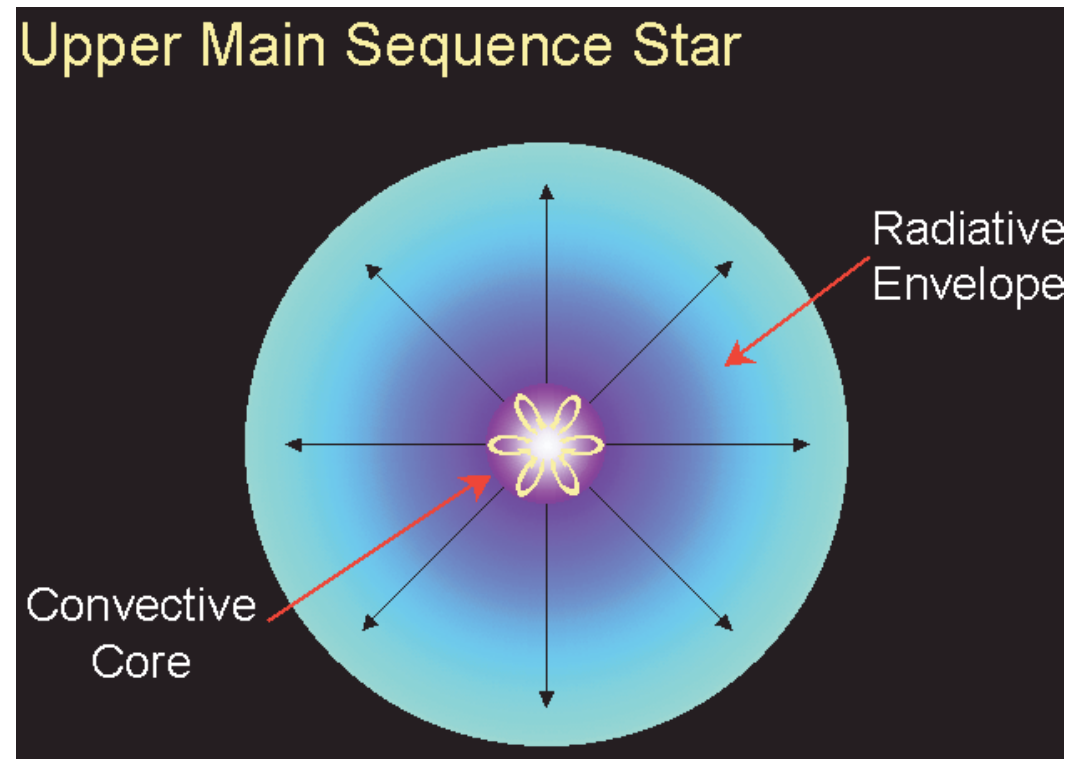
Schematic Hertzsprung-Russell Diagram



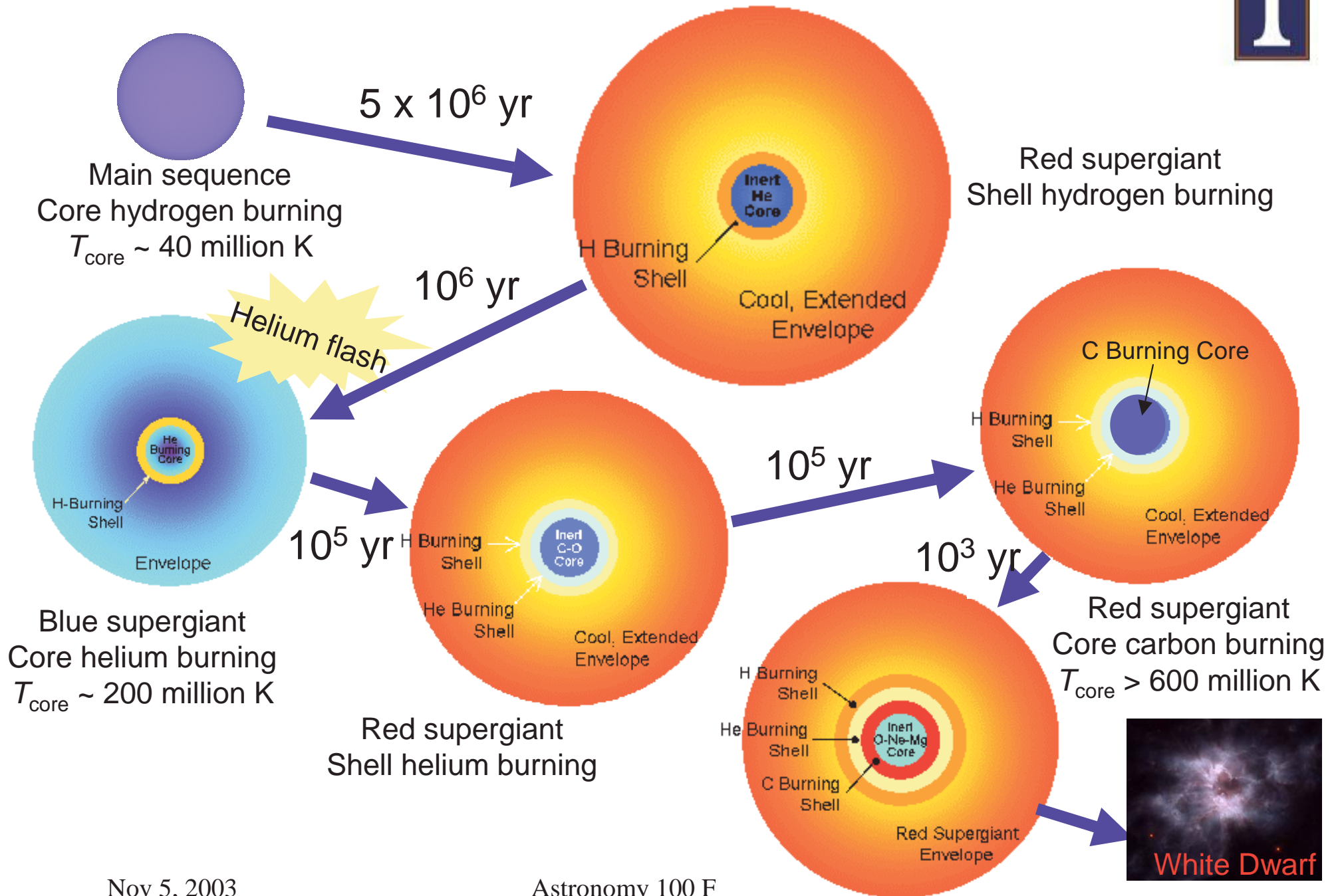
And when the Hydrogen Runs out?



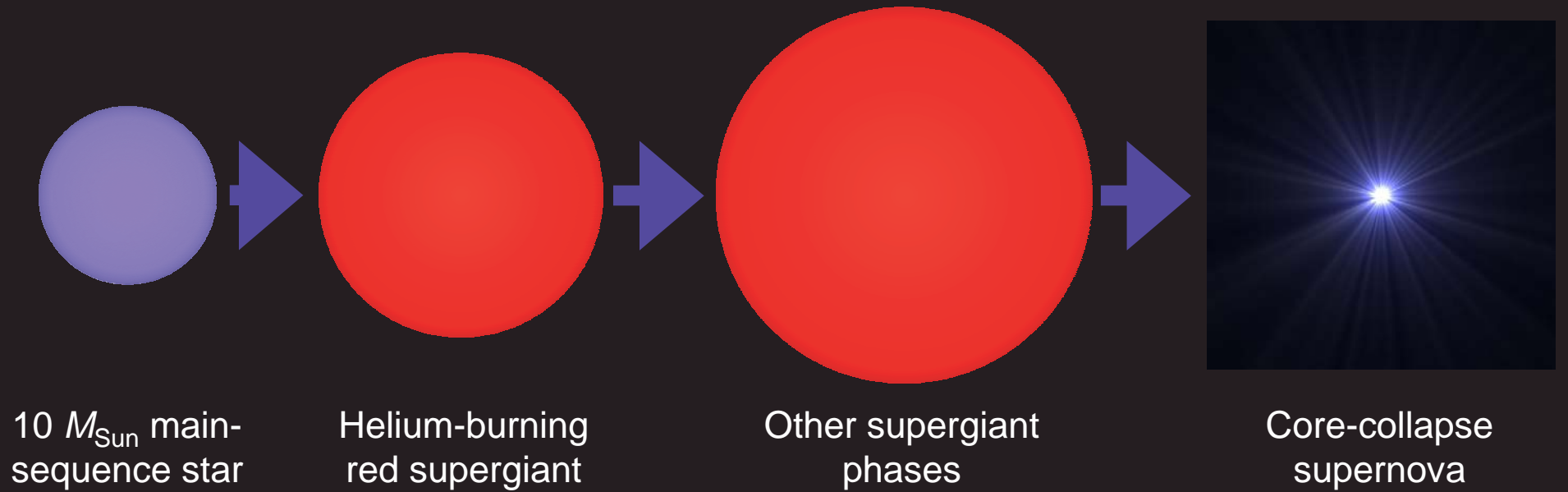
- The more massive stars have convective cores and radiative envelopes, but still very similar to low-mass in the first few stages.
- First the hydrogen is burned in the core— still not hot enough to burn helium
- Then the core starts to shrink a little— hydrogen shell burning (around the inert helium core) starts.
- This stops the collapse, and actually the outer envelope expands quickly becoming a Red Supergiant....but then...



Evolution of an Intermediate-Mass ($> 4 M_{\text{Sun}}$) Star



Stellar Demise of a Massive Star



Stellar Evolution for Massive Stars:

$$M > 8 M_{\text{Sun}}$$

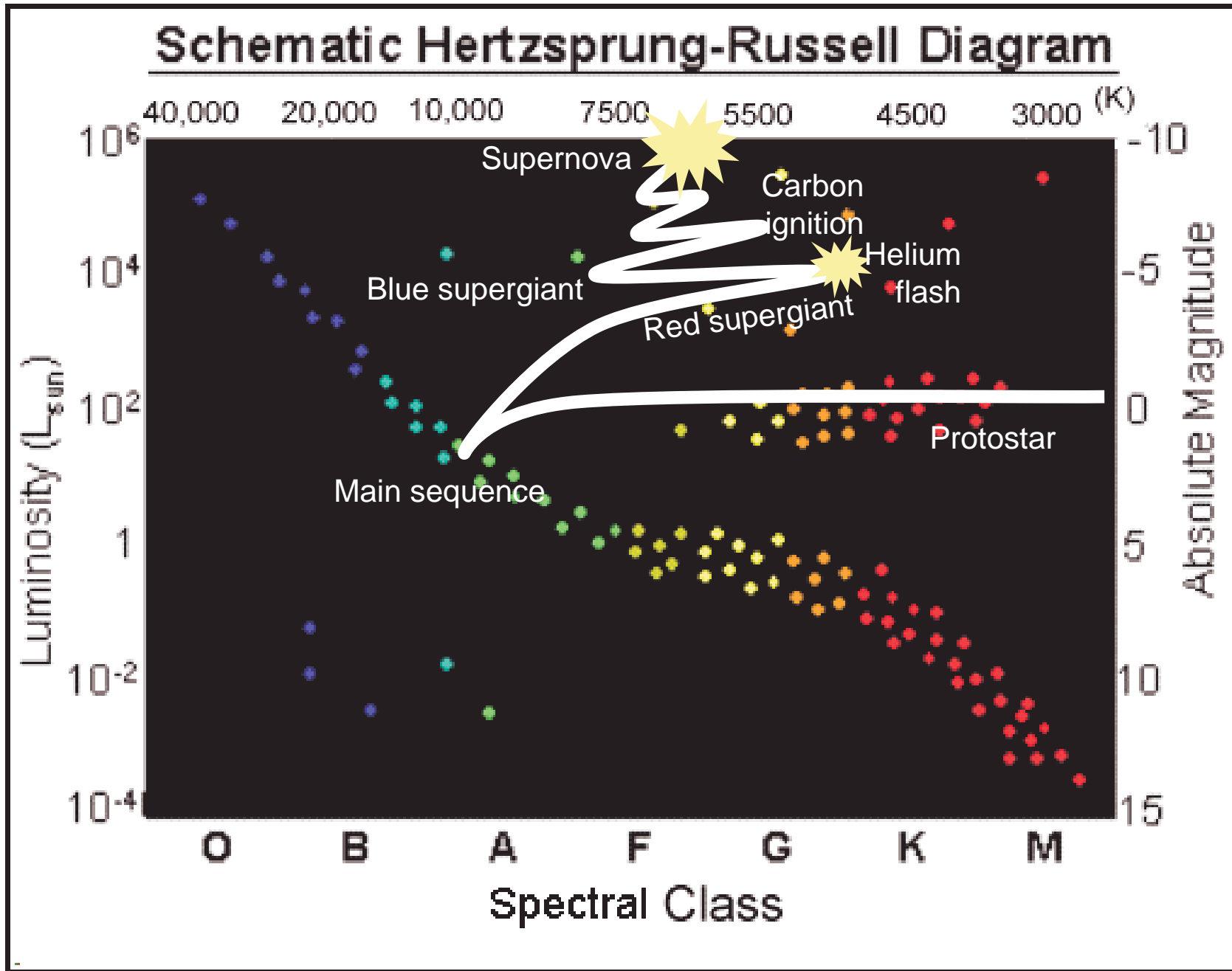


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Example of how a 15 solar mass star will evolve on the HR Diagram—

<http://rainman.astro.uiuc.edu/ddr/stellar/archive/highmassdeath.mpg>

Evolutionary Path of High-Mass Stars

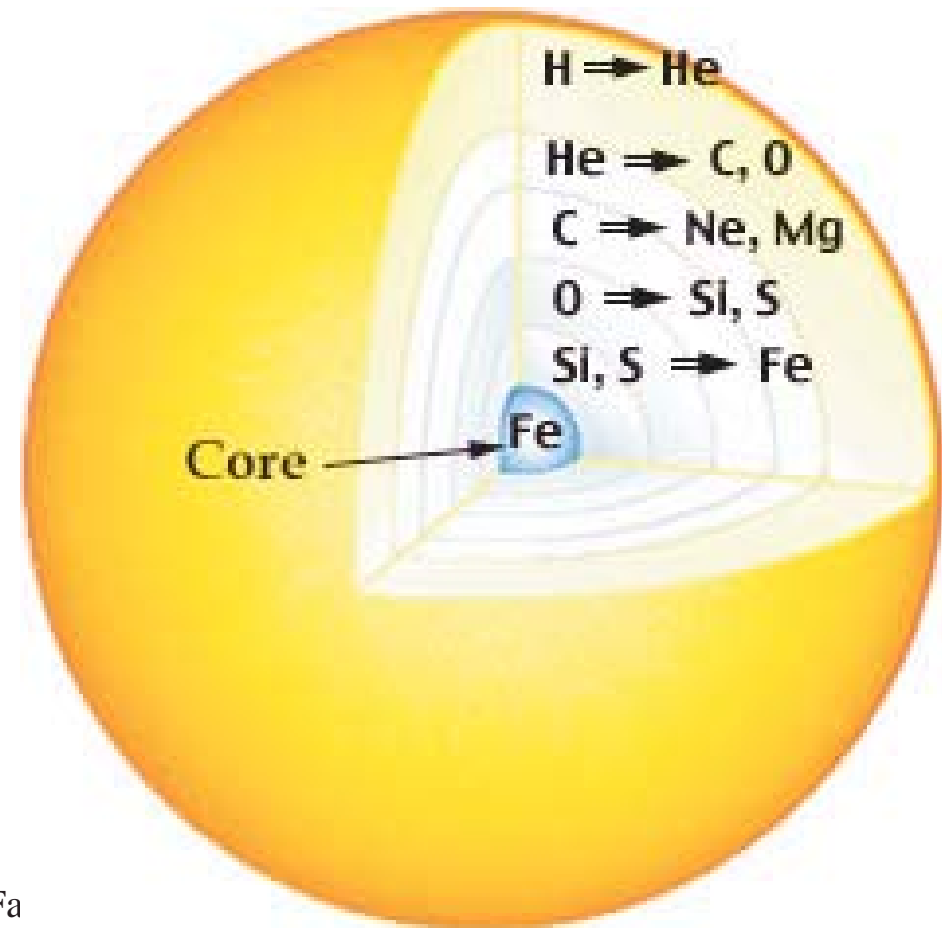


High Mass Stars



- These are very similar to the intermediate mass stars, but as they have more mass, they can “burn” heavier and heavier atoms in the fusion process.
- Until they create Iron– after that it takes energy to produce heavier atoms
- Nothing left!

Stage	Temperature (million K)	Duration
H fusion	40	7 million yr
He fusion	200	500,000 yr
C fusion	600	600 yr
Ne fusion	1,200	1 yr
O fusion	1,500	6 months
Si fusion	2,700	1 day



Game
Over!



Nov 5, 2003

Astronomy 100 Fall 2003

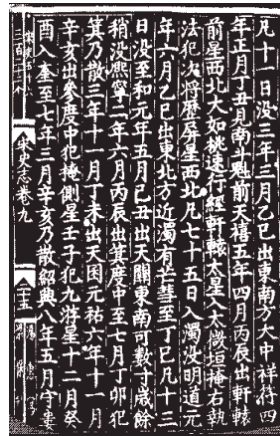
Supernova Explosions in Recorded History



1054 AD

- Europe: no record
- China: “guest star”
- Anasazi people

Chaco Canyon, NM:
painting



Modern view of this region
of the sky:

Crab Nebula—remains of
a supernova explosion



Supernova Explosions in Recorded History

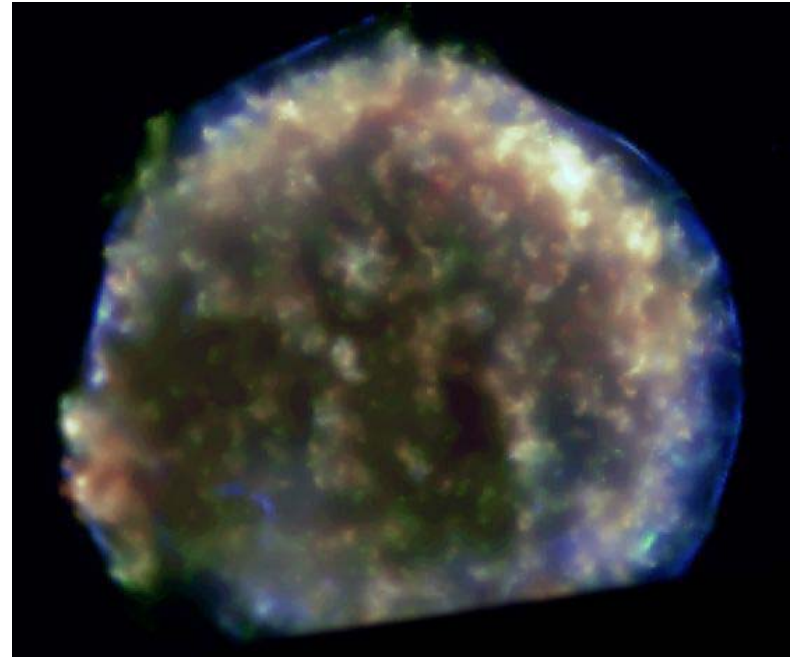


November 11, 1572

Tycho Brahe

A “new star”
 (“nova stella”)

Modern view (X-rays):
remains of a supernova
explosion





November 11, 1572
Tycho Brahe



On the 11th day of November in the evening after sunset ... I noticed that a new and unusual star, surpassing the other stars in brilliancy, was shining ... and since I had, from boyhood, known all the stars of the heavens perfectly, it was quite evident to me that there had never been any star in that place of the sky ...

I was so astonished of this sight ... A miracle indeed, one that has never been previously seen before our time, in any age since the beginning of the world.