

# Mira: A distance indicator

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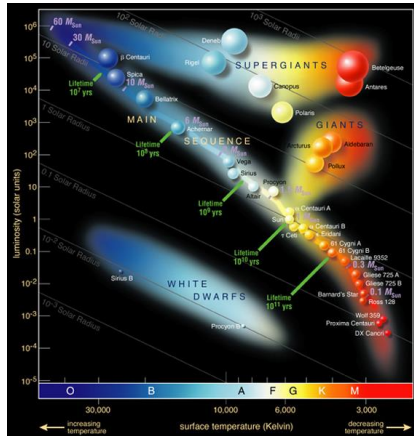
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# Omicron Ceti: How far is it?



# HR diagram



# Introduction

- ▶ Mira: Red giant
- ▶ Constellation = Cetus
- ▶ RA 02h19m20.8s / DEC -02d58m37s
- ▶ It is discovered by David Fabricius in 1596.
- ▶ Mira means wonderful star
- ▶ Radius= $>400 \times$  Radius of Sun
- ▶ Mass = $0.6$  to  $4 \times$  Mass of Sun
- ▶ Period= 80-1000 days
- ▶ Omicron Ceti -Oldest known Mira star

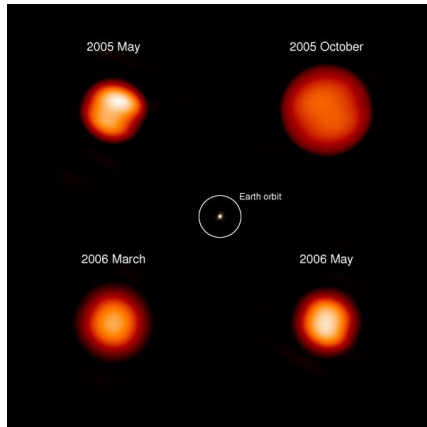
# Variable stars

- ▶ Apparent magnitude(brightness) changes periodically

# Classification



# Pulsation in Mira (Fig-chandra.harvard.edu)





# Pulsation: $K$ mechanism/exchange between two state of He

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- ▶ The  $\kappa$  relation is using for the ionized envelope proves the sustainability of the pulsation. Here the extra heat is being used to ionize the helium ion. So temperature dependence being less significant compared to  $\rho$  in the  $\kappa$  relation.  $\kappa$  is significantly determined by  $\rho$ .

# Continue.

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- ▶ When He layer is cooled,  $\text{He}^+$  increases which is less opaque(so do not absorb light) that makes decrease in radius and luminosity with compressing its size.



## Pulsation: Acoustic mode

- ▶ Let us write a brief equation[Astro-dynamics Text-Book]

▶

$$\frac{d^2(\delta r)}{dr_0^2} + \left(\frac{4}{r_0} - \frac{\rho_0 g_0}{P_0}\right) \frac{d(\delta r)}{dr_0} + \frac{\rho_0}{\Gamma P_0} (\omega^2 + (4 - 3\Gamma) \frac{g_0}{r_0}) \delta r = 0$$

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$$P(m, t) = P_0(m)(1 + \delta P(m)) \exp(i\omega t)$$

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- ▶ Fundamental mode is expected to the Mira star.

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- ▶ Whole process continues to pulsate the star.

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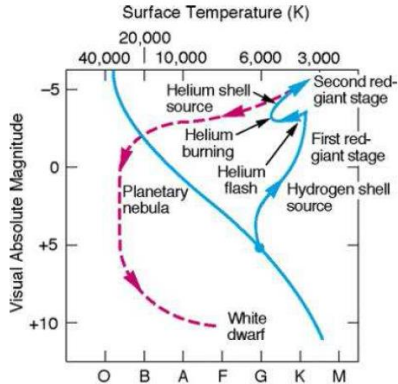
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- ▶ Mass and Age are fundamental parameters to describe to stars, variable stars provide a way of calculation of these two parameters.

# Process of steller evolution

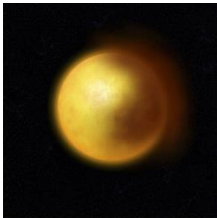






# R Coronae Borealis(RCB)-eruptive variable star

- ▶ Very good source for study of the dust formation
- ▶ Carbon rich red super giant
- ▶ Fig :Mike Goldsmith

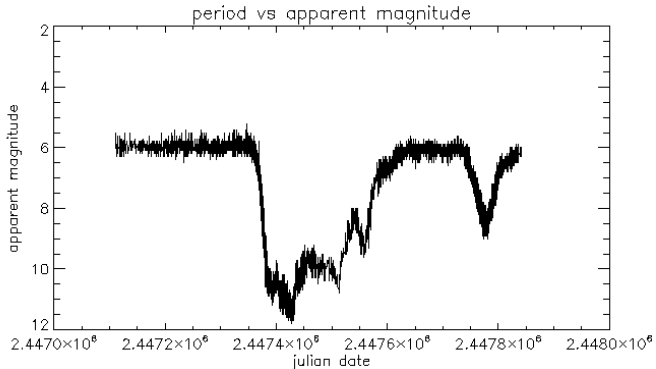


Dust Cloud around a R CrB Star  
(Artist's Impression)

ESO Press Photo 2007-12 August 2007



# R Coronae Borealis(RCB)



# Goal

- ▶ The distance to star based on period luminosity relation

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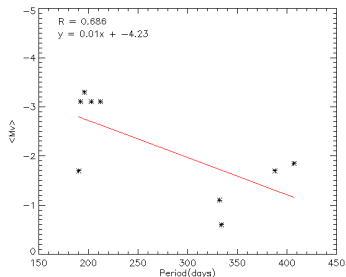
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- ▶ The distance to star based on period luminosity relation
- ▶ The relation was first observed by Henrietta Swan Leavitt for Cepheid star.
- ▶ Then, what will be the distance to Mira (Omicron Ceti)?

## Plot: Period vs absolute magnitude

- ▶  $\langle M_v \rangle = 0.01 \times T(\text{days}) - 4.32$
- ▶ This equation could not give best fit line for period-absolute magnitude.



# Calculation

- ▶ More precise relationship between absolute magnitude and period (Bergh) in V-band

$$\langle M_V \rangle = -14.39 + 5.9 \times \log(T(\text{days}))$$

where,

$M_V$  is absolute magnitude

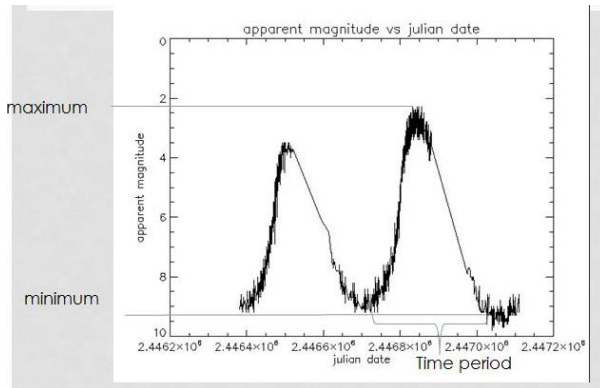
T is time-period

# Observation

- ▶ Data: American Association of Variable Stars Observation(AAVSO)
- ▶ Band: Visual



# Plot: Period vs apparent magnitude



# Calculation: apparent magnitude, absolute magnitude, time period

- ▶ Apparent magnitude:  $m=5.85$
- ▶ Absolute magnitude:  $M_v= 0.47$
- ▶ Time Period:  $T=330$

## Calculation: distance

- ▶  $d = 10^{\left(\frac{m-M_V+5}{5}\right)}$
- ▶  $d = 10^{2.1} = 126 \text{ parsec} = 411 \text{ light years}$
- ▶ This is the distance to the Omicron Ceti.

# Results

- ▶  $d=(126 \pm 6)$  pc
- ▶ Distance to Omicron Ceti is 128 pc ( Ryde et al)

## Future work

1. More precise Period-Luminosity relation in infrared band.
2. Attenuation in the visual band occurs strongly compared to infrared band in Mira star type variable stars .
3. Developing the Period-Luminosity relation based on the infrared observation
4. Calculating the distance to Omicron ceti based on the infrared band observation.
5. Working in the infrared band, we can get tremendous amount of information like mass loss rate,description of dust around the star.

# References

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# Mira: Shooting star

Fig- Nasa/JPL Caltech/C Martin/M. Seibert



Mira is Mira  
Thank You