

WINDS OF HOT MASSIVE STARS

I Lecture: Hot massive stars and stellar winds

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Selected Topics in Astrophysics
Faculty of Mathematics and Physics
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Prague

- 1 Overview of the course
- 2 Basic properties of hot massive stars
- 3 Importance of hot massive star research
- 4 Signature of stellar mass loss
- 5 How to release the matter from the surface of the star?
- 6 Basic wind types and their driving mechanisms

Overview of the course

First block

Hot massive stars and stellar winds

- 1 Basic properties of hot massive stars
- 2 Importance of hot massive star research
- 3 Signature of stellar mass loss
- 4 How to release the matter from the surface of the star?
- 5 Basic wind types and their driving mechanisms

Second block

Basic wind theory of hot massive stars

- 1 Properties of winds of hot massive stars
- 2 Line-driven wind theory
- 3 The radiative force
- 4 Sobolev approximation
- 5 Wind hydrodynamics equations
- 6 Wind instabilities

Overview of the course

Third block

Quantitative spectroscopy of winds of hot massive stars

- 1 Spectral diagnostics of stellar winds
- 2 P Cygni line profile formation
- 3 Photospheric parameters determination
- 4 Terminal velocity determination
- 5 Mass-loss rates determination
- 6 The Wind-momentum Luminosity Relation (WLR)

Fourth block

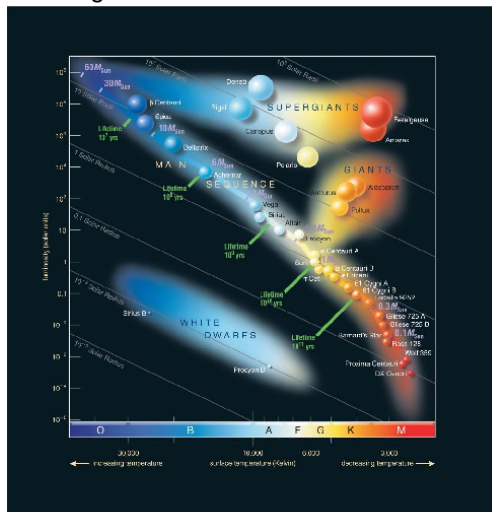
Wind inhomogeneities (clumping)

- 1 Small and large scale structure
- 2 Theoretical predictions
- 3 Observational evidence
- 4 Theoretical wind-models (parametric description of clumped medium)
- 5 Influence of clumping on empirical and predicted mass-loss rates
- 6 Open questions

Basic properties of hot massive stars

- **EXTREMELY LUMINOUS AND BRIGHT**
spectral types A, B, and O;
 $L \gtrsim 10^2 [L_{\odot}]$
W-R, LBV, B[e] stars
- **HOT** - $T_{\text{eff}} \gtrsim 8000 \text{ [K]}$
- **MASSIVE** - $M \gtrsim 2 [M_{\odot}]$

H-R diagram



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Typical parameters for O-type stars

Parameter	Sun	O-type stars
M [M_{\odot}]	1	$\gtrsim 8$
T_{eff} [K]	6000	$\gtrsim 30\,000$
L [L_{\odot}]	1	$\sim 10^6$
total life time [yr]	10^{10}	$\sim 10^7$
T_{wind} [K]	10^6	$\sim 10^4$
\dot{M} [$M_{\odot} \text{ yr}^{-1}$]	10^{-14}	$\sim 10^{-6}$
v_{∞} [km s^{-1}]	400 (700)	$\sim 10^2 - 10^3$

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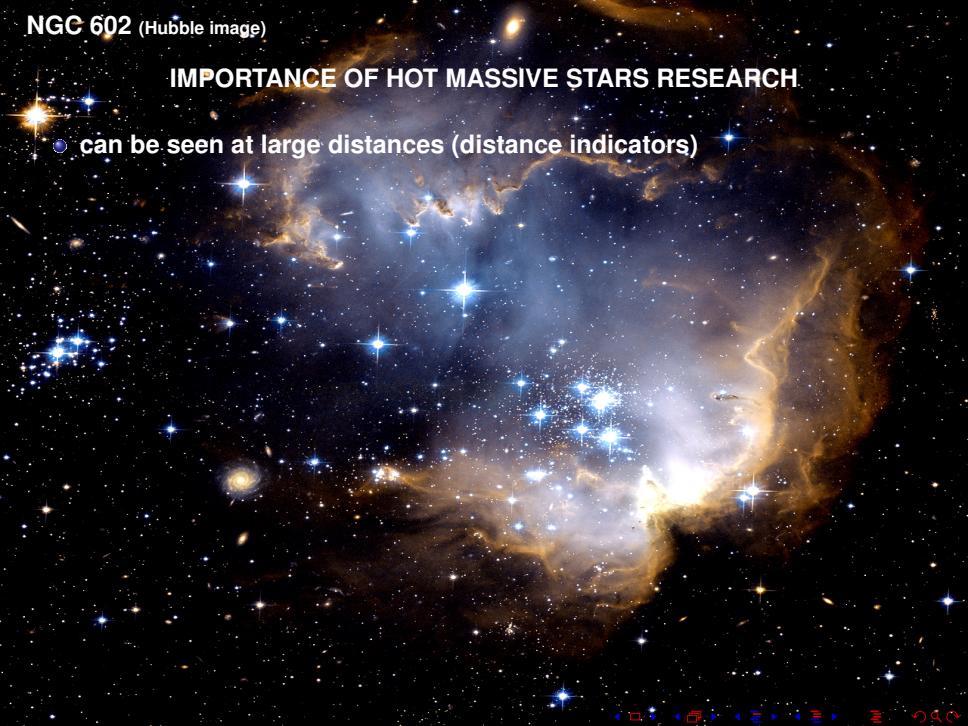
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ALL OF THEM LOSE THEIR MASS

NGC 602 (Hubble image)

IMPORTANCE OF HOT MASSIVE STARS RESEARCH

- can be seen at large distances (distance indicators)



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- trigger, regulate and terminate star formation in stellar clusters
- enrich ISM with heavier elements (metals)
- dominated early Universe
- stellar winds can be used as a physical laboratory

WHAT IS SIGNATURE OF STELLAR MASS LOSS?

- **Envelopes around stars (nebula)**

Abell 39 - planetary nebula in the constellation of Hercules

(created by WIYN/NOAO/NSF)

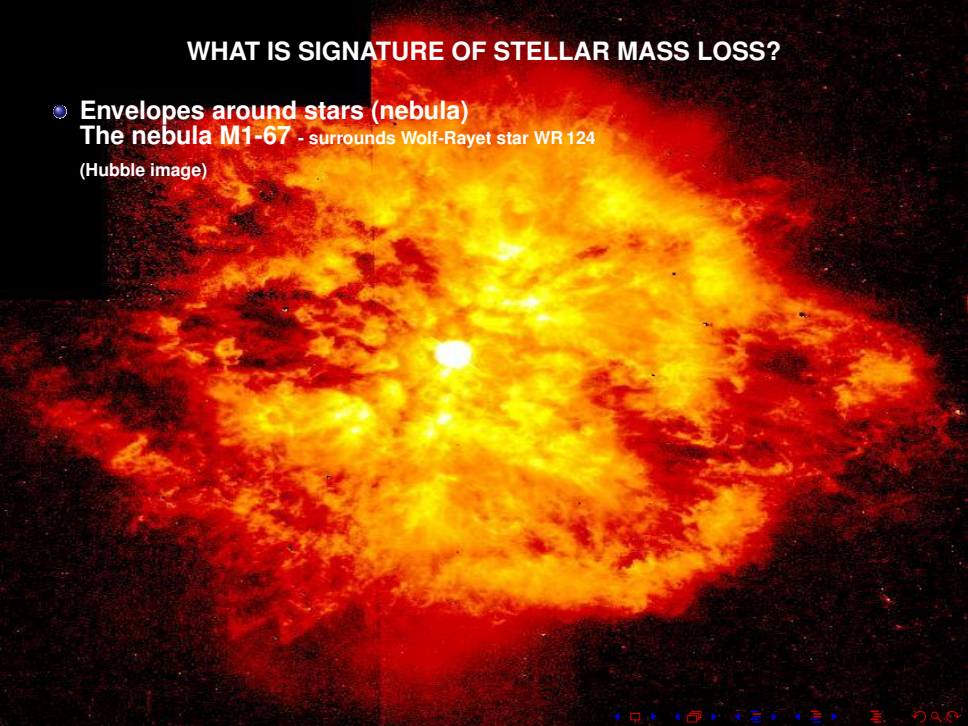


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The nebula M1-67 - surrounds Wolf-Rayet star WR 124

(Hubble image)



WHAT IS SIGNATURE OF STELLAR MASS LOSS?

- Envelopes around stars (nebula)
- Interstellar medium (star clusters)

PLEIADES - open star cluster containing middle-aged hot B-type stars located in the constellation of Taurus (color-composite image from the Digitized Sky Survey)

WHAT IS SIGNATURE OF STELLAR MASS LOSS?

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M 17 REGION - Omega or Swan Nebula, HII region-molecular cloud. The visible nebula is illuminated by the massive stellar cluster NGC 6618 (ISAAC, VLT ANTU)

WHAT IS SIGNATURE OF STELLAR MASS LOSS?

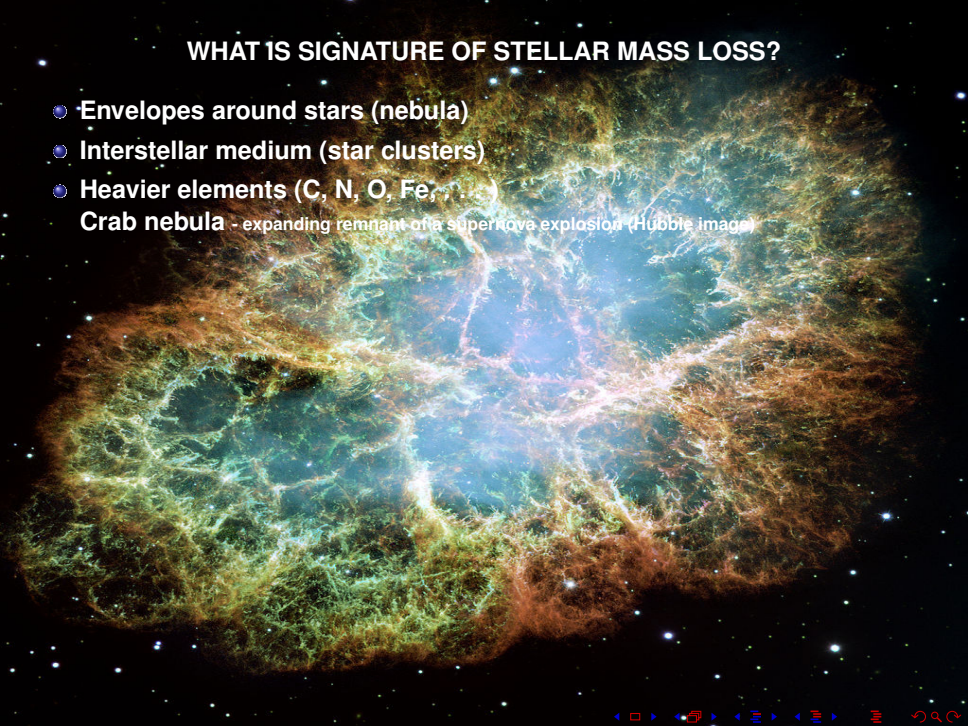
- Envelopes around stars (nebula)
- Interstellar medium (bubbles, super bubbles)
 - N 70 nebula (in LMC) (FARS2, ESO)



WHAT IS SIGNATURE OF STELLAR MASS LOSS?

- Envelopes around stars (nebula)
- Interstellar medium (star clusters)
- Heavier elements (C, N, O, Fe, ...)

Crab nebula - expanding remnant of a supernova explosion (Hubble image)



How to release the matter from the surface of the star?

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WHAT IS SIGNATURE OF STELLAR MASS LOSS?

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- interstellar medium (star clusters)
- heavier elements (C, N, O, Fe, . . .)

Where do heavier elements come from? \Rightarrow Fusion reactions in stars

How did heavier elements get into the interstellar medium? \Rightarrow Must be a way in which the stars loss their mass

How to release the matter from the surface of the star?

- spherically symmetric outflow
- equation of motion

$$\frac{\partial v}{\partial t} + v \frac{\partial v}{\partial r} = g_e - \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial p}{\partial r} - \frac{GM_*}{r^2}$$

- ρ - density
- v - radial velocity

$$\frac{dv(r, t)}{dt} = \frac{\partial v(r, t)}{\partial t} + \underbrace{\frac{dr(t)}{dt}}_v \frac{\partial v(r, t)}{\partial r}$$

- p - pressure
- g_e - external acceleration

How to release the matter from the surface of the star?

- spherically symmetric outflow
- equation of motion

$$\underbrace{\frac{\partial v}{\partial t} + v \frac{\partial v}{\partial r}}_{\text{total acceleration}} = \underbrace{g_e}_{\text{external acceleration}} - \underbrace{\frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial p}{\partial r}}_{\text{gas pressure gradient acceleration}} - \underbrace{\frac{GM_*}{r^2}}_{\text{gravitational acceleration}}$$

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How to release the matter from the surface of the star?

- spherically symmetric outflow
- equation of motion - stationary $\partial/\partial(t) = 0$, i.e time-independent

$$\underbrace{\frac{\partial v}{\partial t}}_{\text{can be neglected}} + v \frac{\partial v}{\partial r} = g_e - \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial p}{\partial r} - \frac{GM_*}{r^2}$$

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How to release the matter from the surface of the star?

- spherically symmetric outflow
- equation of motion - stationary $\partial/\partial(t) = 0$

$$v \frac{dv}{dr} = g_e - \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{dp}{dr} - \frac{GM_*}{r^2}$$

How to release the matter from the surface of the star?

- spherically symmetric outflow
- equation of motion - stationary $\partial/\partial(t) = 0$, isothermal $T(r)=T=\text{const.}$

$$v \frac{dv}{dr} = g_e - \frac{a^2}{\rho} \frac{d\rho}{dr} - \frac{GM_*}{r^2}$$

- ideal gas equation of state

$$p = \frac{k_B T \rho}{m_H \mu} = a^2 \rho$$

- k_B - Boltzmann const.
- m_H - mass of hydrogen
- μ - mean molecular weight per free gas particles
- isothermal speed of sound (const. for isothermal outflow)

$$a = \sqrt{\frac{k_B T}{m_H \mu}}$$

How to release the matter from the surface of the star?

- spherically symmetric outflow
- equation of motion - stationary, isothermal
- integration from R_* to ∞

$$\int_{R_*}^{\infty} v \frac{dv}{dr} dr = \int_{R_*}^{\infty} g_e dr - \int_{R_*}^{\infty} \frac{a^2}{\rho} \frac{d\rho}{dr} dr - \int_{R_*}^{\infty} \frac{GM_*}{r^2} dr$$

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$$\frac{1}{2}v_{\infty}^2 - \frac{1}{2}v_0^2 = \int_{R_*}^{\infty} g_e \, dr - a^2 \ln \frac{\rho_{\infty}}{\rho_0} - \frac{GM_*}{R_*}$$

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- Two cases:
 - if acting force is large enough

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- condition for energy: $E_k + E_p \geq 0$

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$$v_0 \geq v_{\text{esc}} = \sqrt{\frac{2GM_*}{R_*}}$$

- v_{esc} - escape velocity
- speed of the particles must be sufficiently large

$$v_{\text{esc}} = 620 \text{ km s}^{-1} \left(\frac{M_*}{M_\odot} \right)^{1/2} \left(\frac{R_*}{R_\odot} \right)^{-1/2}$$

How to release the matter from the surface of the star?

1. **STELLAR WINDS** - continuous outflow of particles (neutral or charged gas) ejected from the upper atmosphere of a star
 - **CORONAL STELLAR WINDS** - driven by gas pressure due to a high temperature of the gas (solar-type stars)
 - **DUST DRIVEN STELLAR WINDS** (continuum driven winds) - driven by absorption of photons by dust grains (cool luminous stars)
 - **LINE DRIVEN STELLAR WINDS** - driven by absorption in spectral lines (hot massive stars)

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 - **MASS-LOSS RATE** - \dot{M} [$M_{\odot} \text{ yr}^{-1}$]
 - Stationary spherically symmetric wind

$$\dot{M} \equiv \frac{dM_*}{dt} = 4\pi r^2 \rho(r) v(r)$$

- **TERMINAL VELOCITY** - v_{∞} [km s^{-1}] $v_{\infty} = v(r \rightarrow \infty)$

Basic wind types and their driving mechanisms

- **CORONAL WINDS** - the supersonic outflow of electrically charged particles (mainly electrons and protons) from the solar CORONA

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- **SIGNATURES**

Halley's Comet



L. Biermann, 1950 - the "corpuscular" radiation from the Sun may play an important role in forming the radially pointing comet tails

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Aurora Borealis



United States Air Force, photo by Senior Airman Joshua Strang

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- **EXPERIMENTAL VERIFICATION** - observations by LUNA-1, 2, 3 (1959), VENERA 1 (1961), MARINER II (1962), ULYSSES (1990), SOHO (1995)
 - varies in density, temperature, and speed over time and over longitude
 - two components: **the slow solar wind** ($v \sim 400 \text{ km s}^{-1}$); **the fast solar wind** ($v \sim 750 \text{ km s}^{-1}$)
 - concentration ($r = 1 \text{ AU}$) $\sim 10^{-7}$ particles m^{-3} ; $\dot{M} \approx 2 \times 10^{-14} M_{\odot} \text{ yr}^{-1}$

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WHAT DRIVES THE SOLAR WIND?

GAS PRESSURE DUE TO HIGH TEMPERATURE OF CORONA

Coronal wind

- Root mean square speed of particles of ideal gas

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- However, the typical temperature of surface layers of the Sun is 6000 K \Rightarrow
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Coronal wind

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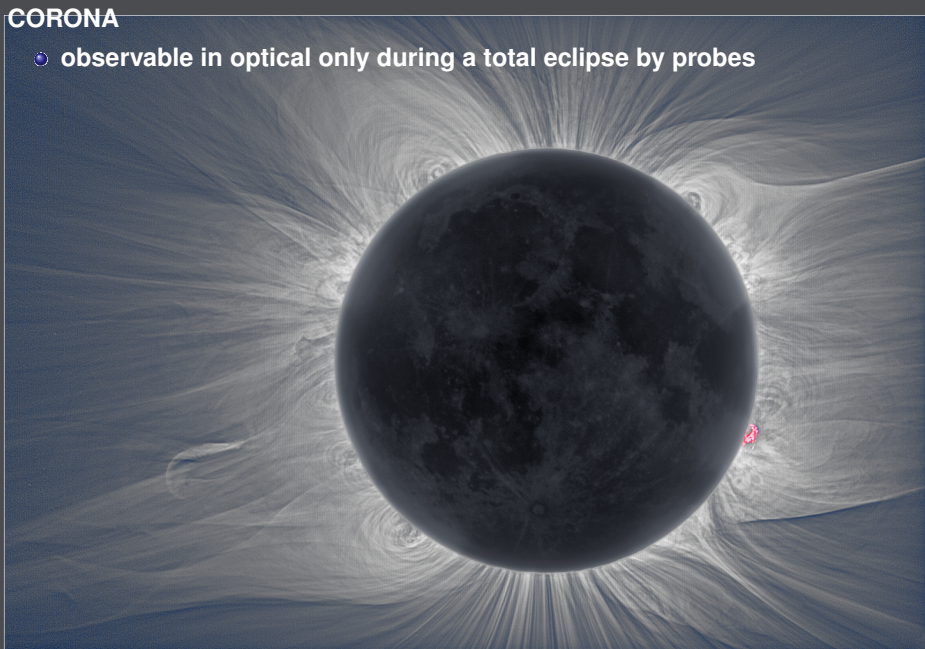
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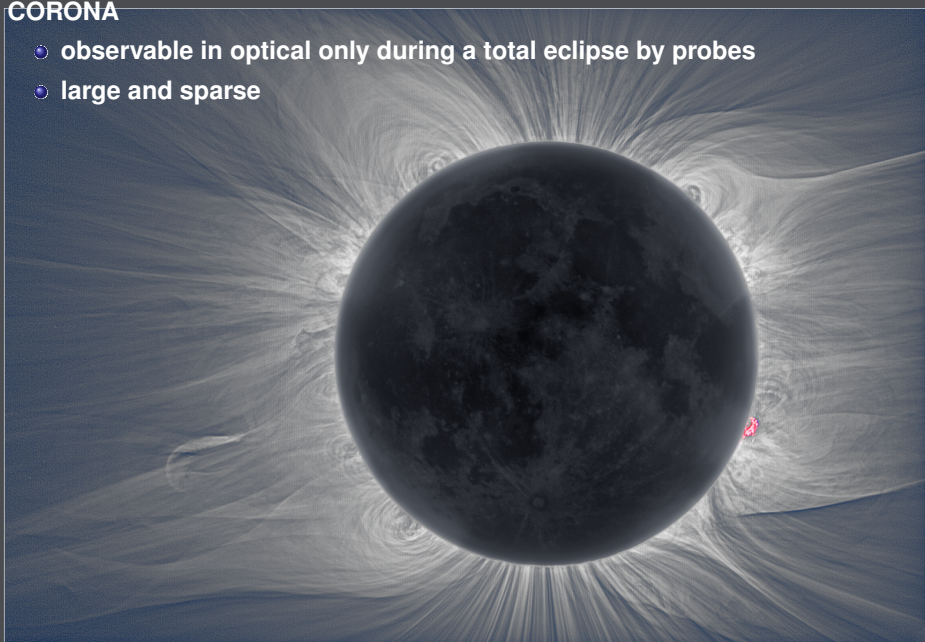
CORONA

- observable in optical only during a total eclipse by probes



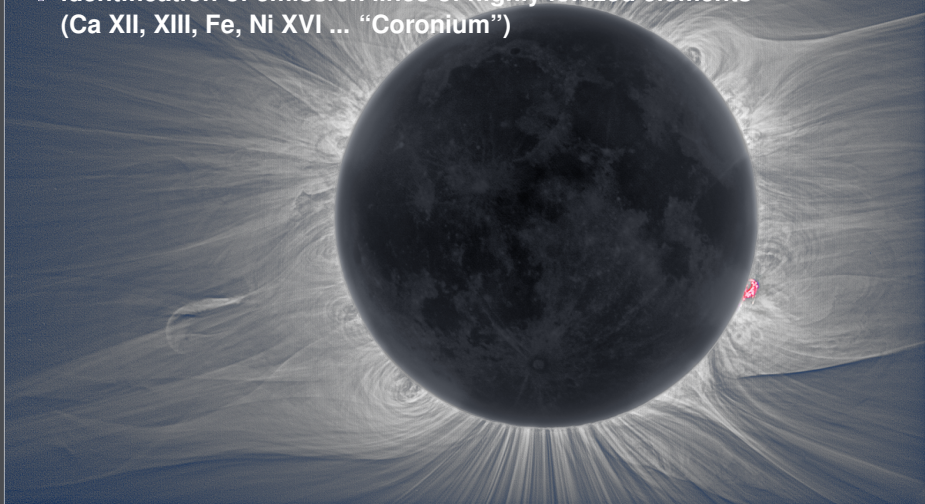
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- The hot corona provides enough gas pressure to counteract gravity and accelerate a “solar wind”
- Imbalance between the pressure in the outer corona and the local interstellar medium would lead to an expansion of the coronal gas into a supersonic solar wind
- Parker’s solar wind theory has formed the basis for our understanding of the different kinds of the outflows (expanding solar corona, the outflow of ionized gas from galaxies and stars)

Parker's solar wind theory

Assumption: isothermal spherically symmetric wind

- The continuity equation

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} (r^2 \rho v) = 0$$

- The equation of motion

$$\rho \frac{\partial v}{\partial t} + \rho v \frac{\partial v}{\partial r} = -a^2 \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial r} - \frac{\rho GM}{r^2}$$

- $\rho(r)$ - density
- $v(r, t)$ - radial velocity
- a - isothermal speed of sound

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Assumption: stationary, isothermal spherically symmetric wind

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$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} (r^2 \rho v) = 0 \Rightarrow \dot{M} \equiv 4\pi r^2 \rho v$$

Parker's solar wind theory

Assumption: stationary, isothermal spherically symmetric wind

- The equation of motion

$$v \frac{dv}{dr} = -\frac{a^2}{\rho} \frac{d\rho}{dr} - \frac{GM}{r^2}$$

- density gradient expressed by a velocity gradient (follows from equation of continuity)

$$\frac{1}{\rho} \frac{d\rho}{dr} = -\frac{1}{v} \frac{dv}{dr} - \frac{2}{r}$$

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$$\frac{1}{v} (v^2 - a^2) \frac{dv}{dr} = \frac{2a^2}{r} - \frac{GM}{r^2}$$

- critical point** $\Rightarrow v(r) = a$ or $dv/dr = 0$

$$r_c = \frac{GM}{2a^2}$$

- singularity at the point where $v(r) = a$ - **sonic point** $\Rightarrow dv/dr \rightarrow \infty$ or $r = r_c$
- for isothermal wind $r_c > r_0$ (r_0 - bottom of the isothermal region) and the critical point coincides with the sonic point
- The only solution which can have a positive velocity gradient at all distances is the one that goes through the critical point - **Critical solution**

Parker's solar wind theory

Assumption: stationary, isothermal spherically symmetric wind

- The equation of motion

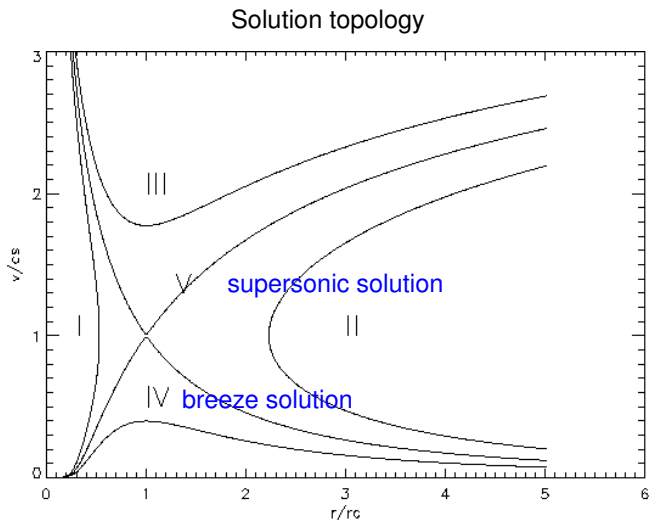
$$\frac{1}{v} (v^2 - a^2) \frac{dv}{dr} = \frac{2a^2}{r} - \frac{GM}{r^2}$$

- Direct integration yields the general solution

$$F(r, v) \equiv \frac{v^2}{a^2} - \ln \frac{v^2}{a^2} - 4 \ln \frac{r}{r_c} - \frac{4r}{r_c} = C$$

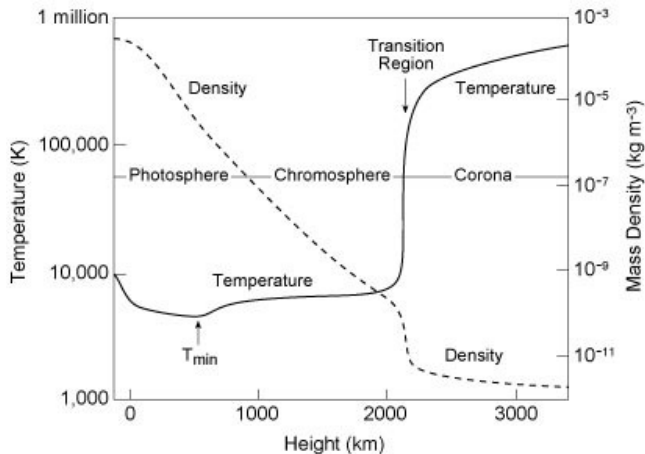
- C - integration constant

Parker's solar wind theory



Coronal Heating Problem

- Temperature stratification of solar atmosphere



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 - the temperature increases very steeply from chromosphere to the corona
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Coronal Heating Problem

- Temperature stratification of solar atmosphere
 - the temperature increases very steeply from chromosphere to the corona
 - corona has very low density \Rightarrow only a small fraction of the total solar radiation is required to power the corona
- How the energy is transported up to the corona, and what mechanism is responsible for the transport?
- several different mechanisms of powering the corona have been proposed:
 - acoustic waves
 - fast and slow magneto-acoustic waves
 - Alfvén waves
 - slow and fast magneto-acoustic surface waves
 - current (or magnetic field) dissipation
 - microflares/transients
 - mass/particle flows and magnetic flux emergence
 - “magnetic carpet”
- There is no definite answer to that question yet

Dust driven winds

- Luminous cool stars ($L = 10^4 - 10^6 L_{\odot}$) also have stellar winds. Important for:
 - stars with $0.4 M_{\odot} \lesssim M_0 \lesssim 8 M_{\odot}$ (AGB stars - $L \leq 10^4 L_{\odot}$ and giant)
 - stars with $M_0 \gtrsim 8 M_{\odot}$ (supergiant - $L \leq 10^5 L_{\odot}$)

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- $v \sim 10 - 30 \text{ km s}^{-1}$
- Doppler effect is not important

Dust driven winds

Assumption: isothermal spherically symmetric wind

- The continuity equation

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} (r^2 \rho v) = 0$$

- The equation of motion

$$\rho \frac{\partial v}{\partial t} + \rho v \frac{\partial v}{\partial r} = -a^2 \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial r} - \frac{\rho GM}{r^2} + \underbrace{\rho g_{\text{rad}}}_{\text{radiation force}}$$

- $\rho(r)$ - density
- $v(r, t)$ - radial velocity
- a - isothermal speed of sound
- g_{rad} - radiation acceleration

Dust driven winds

Assumption: isothermal spherically symmetric wind, stationary

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$$\frac{1}{r^2} \frac{d}{dr} (r^2 \rho v) = 0$$

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$$\rho v \frac{dv}{dr} = -a^2 \frac{d\rho}{dr} - \frac{\rho GM}{r^2} + \rho g_{\text{rad}}$$

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$$\frac{1}{r^2} \frac{d}{dr} (r^2 \rho v) = 0 \Rightarrow \dot{M} \equiv 4\pi r^2 \rho v = \text{const.}$$

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$$v \frac{dv}{dr} = -\frac{a^2}{\rho} \frac{d\rho}{dr} - \frac{GM}{r^2} + g_{\text{rad}}$$

- density gradient expressed by a velocity gradient (equation of continuity)

$$\frac{2}{r} + \frac{1}{v} \frac{dv}{dr} + \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{d\rho}{dr} = 0$$

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$$\frac{1}{v} (v^2 - a^2) \frac{dv}{dr} = \frac{\cancel{2a^2}}{\cancel{r}} - \frac{GM}{r^2} + g_{\text{rad}}$$

- wind is typically cold, $a^2 \ll GM/r \Rightarrow$ negligible

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$$\frac{1}{v} (v^2 - a^2) \frac{dv}{dr} = -\frac{GM}{r^2} + g_{\text{rad}}$$

- sound point: $v = a$

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- subsonic wind: $v < a$

$$g_{\text{rad}} < \frac{GM}{r^2}$$

- the radiation force is lower than the gravitational force (close to the star)

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- subsonic wind: $v < a$

$$g_{\text{rad}} < \frac{GM}{r^2}$$

- supersonic wind: $v > a$

$$g_{\text{rad}} > \frac{GM}{r^2}$$

- the radiation force is greater than the gravitational force (far from the star)

Radiation force in presence of dust

Spherically symmetric case

$$f_{\text{rad}} = \rho g_{\text{rad}} = \frac{1}{c} \int_0^{\infty} \chi(r, \nu) F(r, \nu) d\nu$$

- f_{rad} - radiation force
- g_{rad} - radiation acceleration
- $\chi(r, \nu)$ - opacity (absorption coefficient)
- $F(r, \nu)$ - radiation flux

Radiation force in presence of dust

Spherically symmetric case

$$g_{\text{rad}} = \frac{1}{c} \int_0^{\infty} \kappa(r, \nu) F(r, \nu) d\nu$$

- $\kappa = \chi(r, \nu)/\rho$ - changes depending on r only due to changes in the relative concentration of dust

Radiation force in presence of dust

Spherically symmetric case

$$g_{\text{rad}} = \frac{F(r)}{c} \int_0^{\infty} \kappa(r, \nu) \frac{F(r, \nu)}{F(r)} d\nu$$

- $F(r) = \int_0^{\infty} F(r, \nu) d\nu$ - total radiation flux
- $F(r, \nu)/F(r)$ - depends only on frequency

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- $L = 4\pi r^2 F(r)$

$$g_{\text{rad}} = \frac{\bar{\kappa}(r) L}{4\pi r^2 c}$$

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$$\frac{1}{v} (v^2 - a^2) \frac{dv}{dr} = -\frac{GM}{r^2} \left(1 - \frac{\bar{\kappa}(r) L}{4\pi cGM} \right)$$

$$\Gamma_d(r) = \frac{\bar{\kappa}(r) L}{4\pi cGM}$$

- $\Gamma_d(r)$ - ratio of radiative acceleration and gravity

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- subsonic wind: $\Gamma_d(r) < 1$
- sonic point: $\Gamma_d(r) = 1$
- supersonic wind: $\Gamma_d(r) > 1$

⇒ close to the star (in the atmosphere) there is a little dust, at larger distances leads to its condensation ⇒ $\Gamma_d(r)$ increases with radius

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The necessary conditions for driving winds with dust

- Transfer of momentum from photons to dust grains.

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- Transfer of momentum from photons to dust grains.
- The momentum coupling between the grains and the gas (drag force). The driving is produced by the drift of the grains through the gas.
 - sets a lower limit on the mass loss rate that can be driven ($10^{-7} M_{\odot} \text{ yr}^{-1}$)
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- Properties of dust opacity determine the transition to supersonic flow and radiative acceleration.