

The Milky Way

No, I don't mean the candy bar.

Our galaxy.

What's it like?

How big is it?

What is its shape?

Where are we located in it?

How did it get to be the way it is?

How many calories are in it? - Oops, wrong milky way.





Supergiants and Red Giants In the _____

What does this mean?
They are unstable -
They _____
Two main types

The diagram is a plot of Luminosity (L in units of L_sun) on the y-axis versus Temperature (T in K) on the x-axis. The y-axis is logarithmic, ranging from 10^-4 to 10^6. The x-axis is linear, ranging from 40,000 K to 2,500 K. A blue curve represents the main sequence, sloping downwards from top-left to bottom-right. A red box highlights a region of high luminosity (between 10^4 and 10^6 L_sun) and low temperature (between 5,000 and 10,000 K), labeled as the area for supergiants and red giants. A blue dot on the main sequence is labeled 'main sequence'.

Cepheids

_____ Mass
_____ periods
Very Luminous (bright giants - supergiants)

The three light curves show a characteristic periodic variation in brightness, with a sharp rise to a peak followed by a gradual decline and a small secondary peak. The x-axis represents time and the y-axis represents brightness.

Cepheids are among the MOST important stars - Why?

1. Very bright
2. _____ - Luminosity Relation - _____ Law
_____ related to actual brightness (Luminosity or Absolute Magnitude)

The graph shows a positive linear relationship on a log-log scale between the period of a Cepheid (in days) on the x-axis and its luminosity (in units of L_sun) on the y-axis. The x-axis ranges from 0.5 to 100 days, and the y-axis ranges from 10^1 to 10^5 L_sun. A series of data points are plotted, showing a clear upward trend. The label 'Cepheids' is placed near the data points.

You can use Cepheids to get _____ to other galaxies!

RR Lyrae Stars

Similar to Cepheids, but...

Masses _____

Periods _____

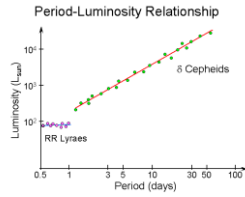
Luminosities _____

Limited to nearby distances

Original question – what is the Milky

Way like?

I'll get to that....



Clusters

Two main types - Open Clusters and Globular Clusters

Open Clusters

_____ stars

30 pc wide

_____ stars

Composition – _____

_____ galactic plane

Can have _____

Globular Cluster

_____ stars

25 pc wide - densely packed!

_____ stars

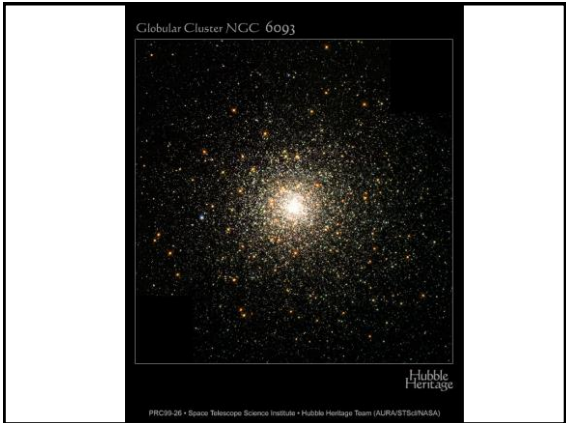
Composition – _____

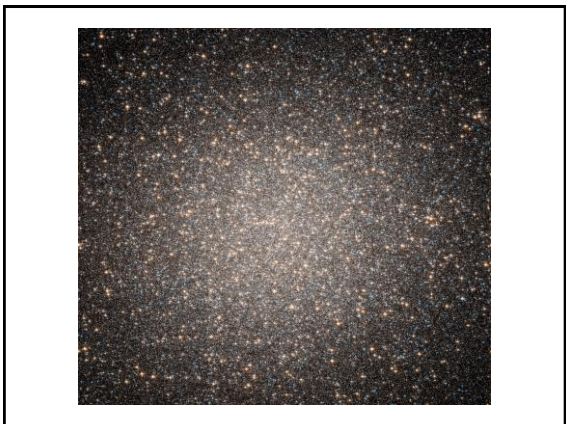
_____ galactic plane

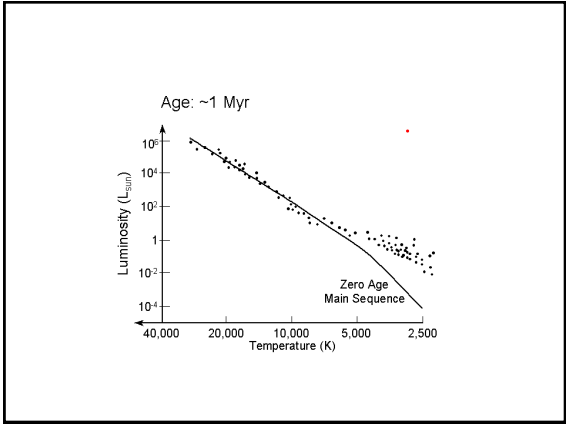
Can have _____

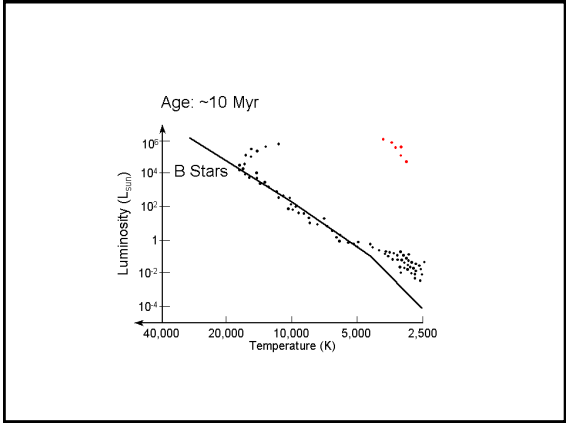


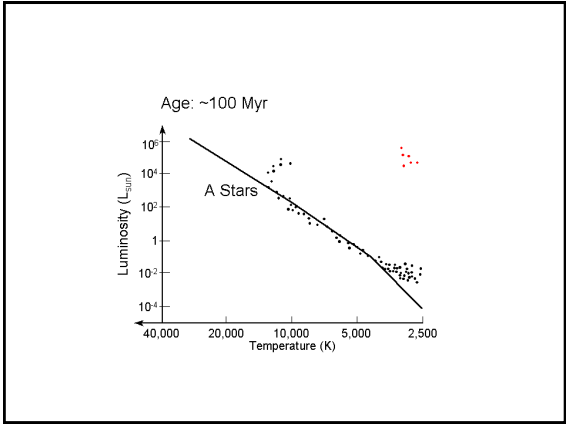


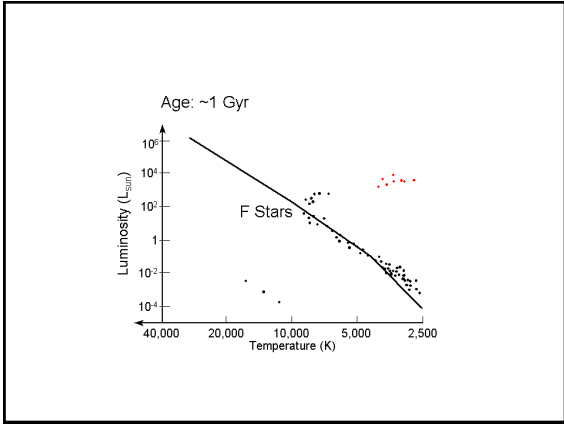


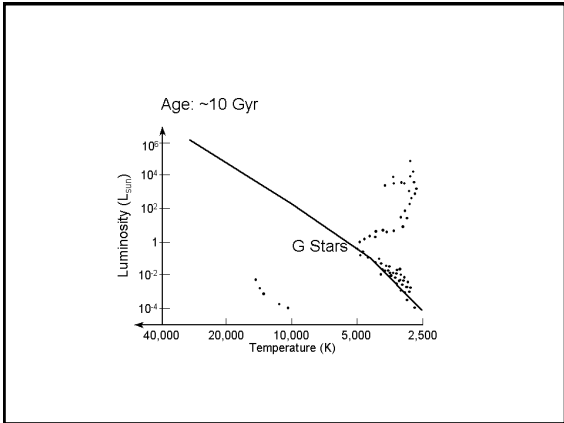











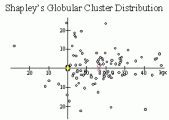


Back to the original question -
 What the Milky Way is like?
 Harlow Shapley

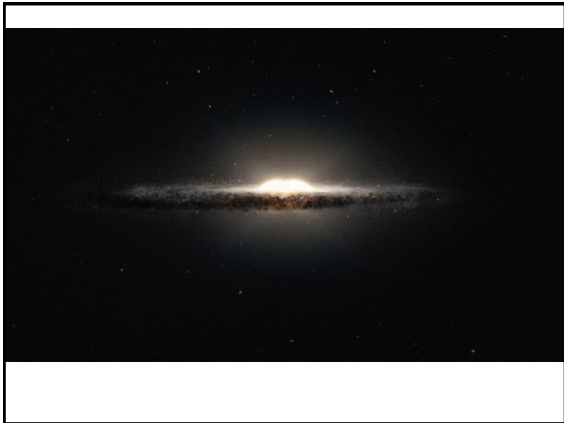


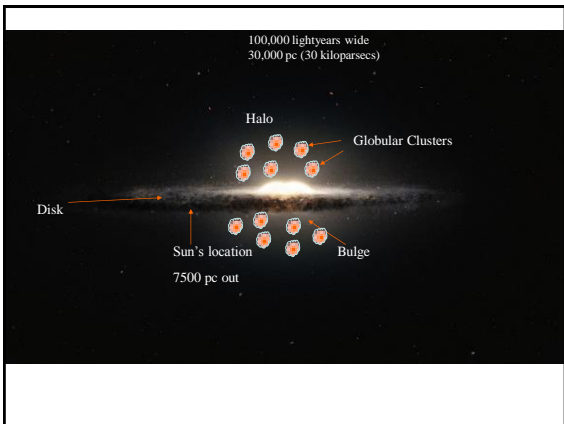
Look away from the disk - _____
 _____ contain _____ stars
 Distances!

Sun – not in the center!
 Confirmed by modern observations.







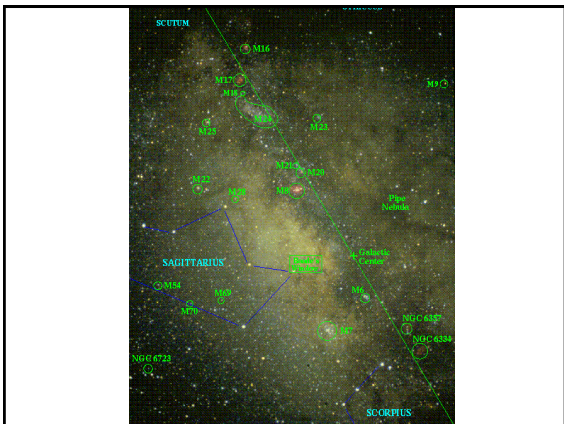


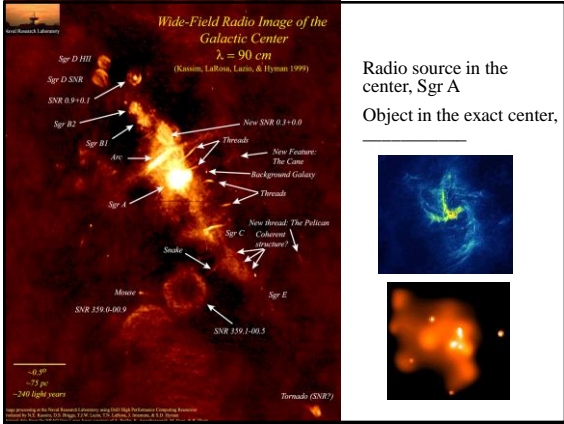


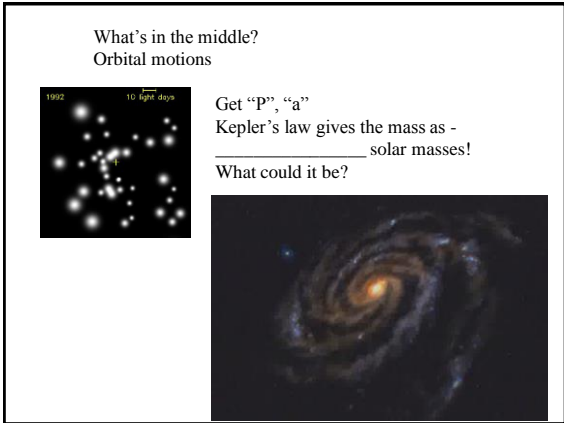
The Bulge

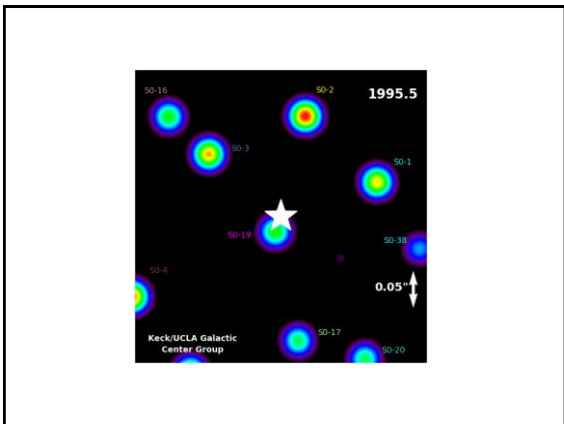
The center of the galaxy
 Contains the core
 Sagittarius/Scorpius

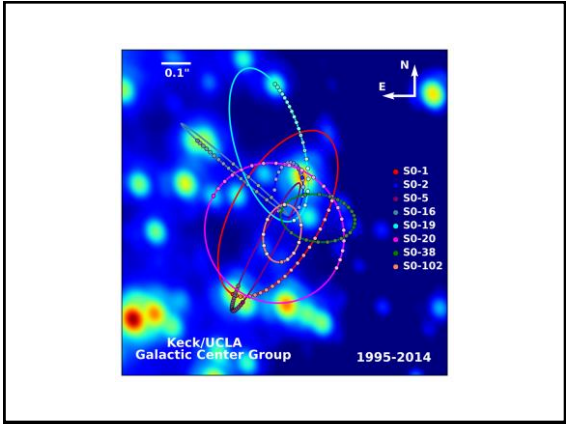












The Disk

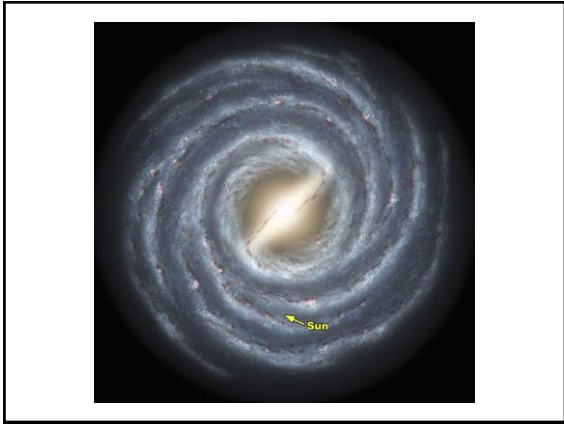
Many stars
Gas and Dust
Difficult to see through
Spiral arms, how many?

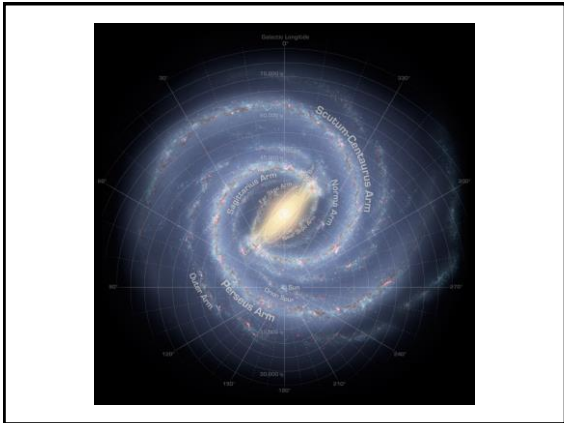
Find the spiral arms, by looking for regions of star formation

_____ - Things associated with large scale star formation

And the answer is.....

_____!

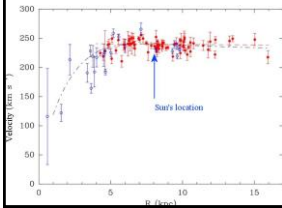




Disk Rotation

Disk is mainly _____
H I - neutral hydrogen

What do we see?



Sun's velocity = _____ km/s
 _____ years for 1 orbit
 Orbit?
 Can we use Kepler's laws?
 _____!

Kepler's Third law -
 $M_{\text{galaxy}} = a^3/p^2$ (M_{galaxy} is actually mass within your orbit)
 Sun's orbit = _____ M_{\odot}
 Total mass ~ _____ M_{\odot}
 Problem - velocity not decreasing

_____ !
 Another problem - wind-up

The Nude Jogger

Traffic moves to the right, jogger moving to left

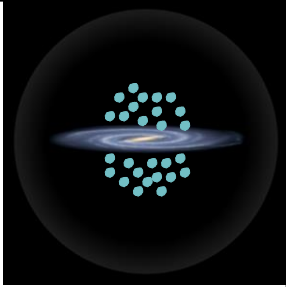
Compression near jogger, but traffic keeps moving

Compression area moves along with jogger

What does this have to do with spiral arms?

Cars - material in galaxy
 Jogger - density wave
 Region of compression - Spiral Arm
 Remember - Spiral Pattern
 Moves Independently

Halo



Area away from the disk
Globular clusters
A lot of dark matter
That's about all you can say about the halo...

Stellar populations

Stars fuse _____ elements into _____ elements
Stars die and disperse elements out into space
Material in space can get incorporated into new stars

End result - _____
Metal = anything other than Hydrogen and Helium

Population I stars

Stars chemically like the Sun

_____ stars

_____ metal content

Associated with active star formation

Population II stars

Not like the Sun

_____ stars

_____ metal content

No active star formation
