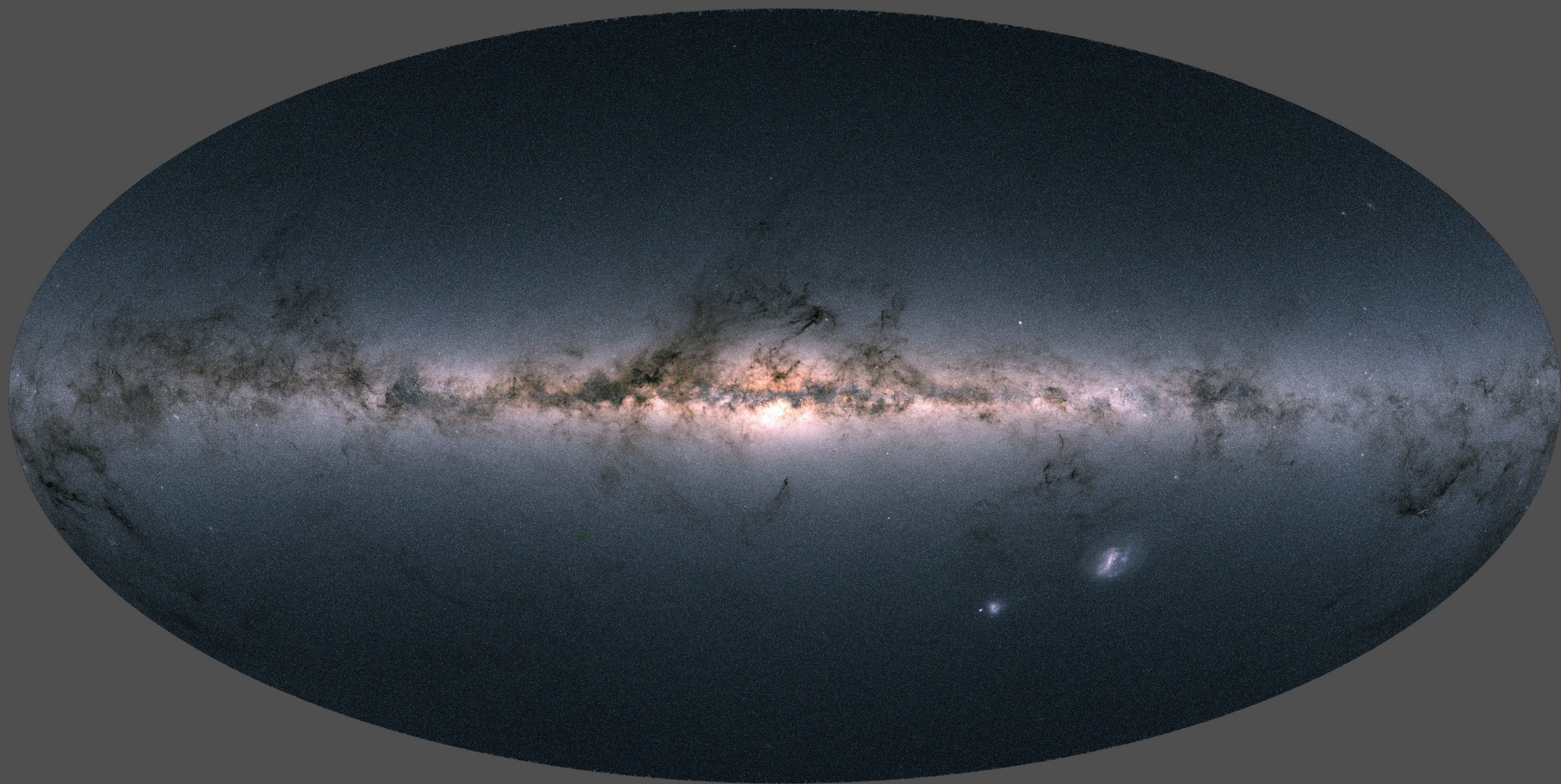
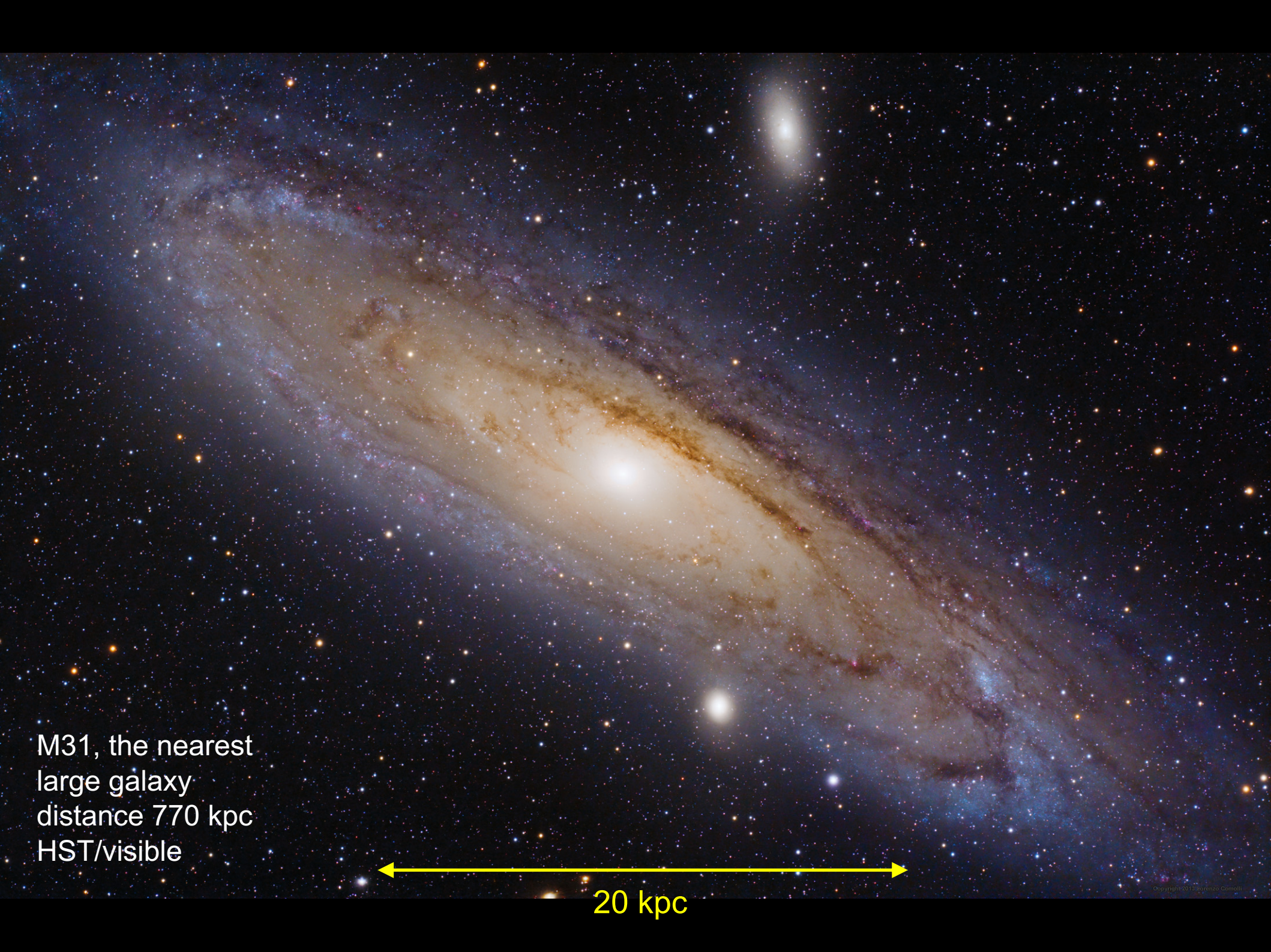




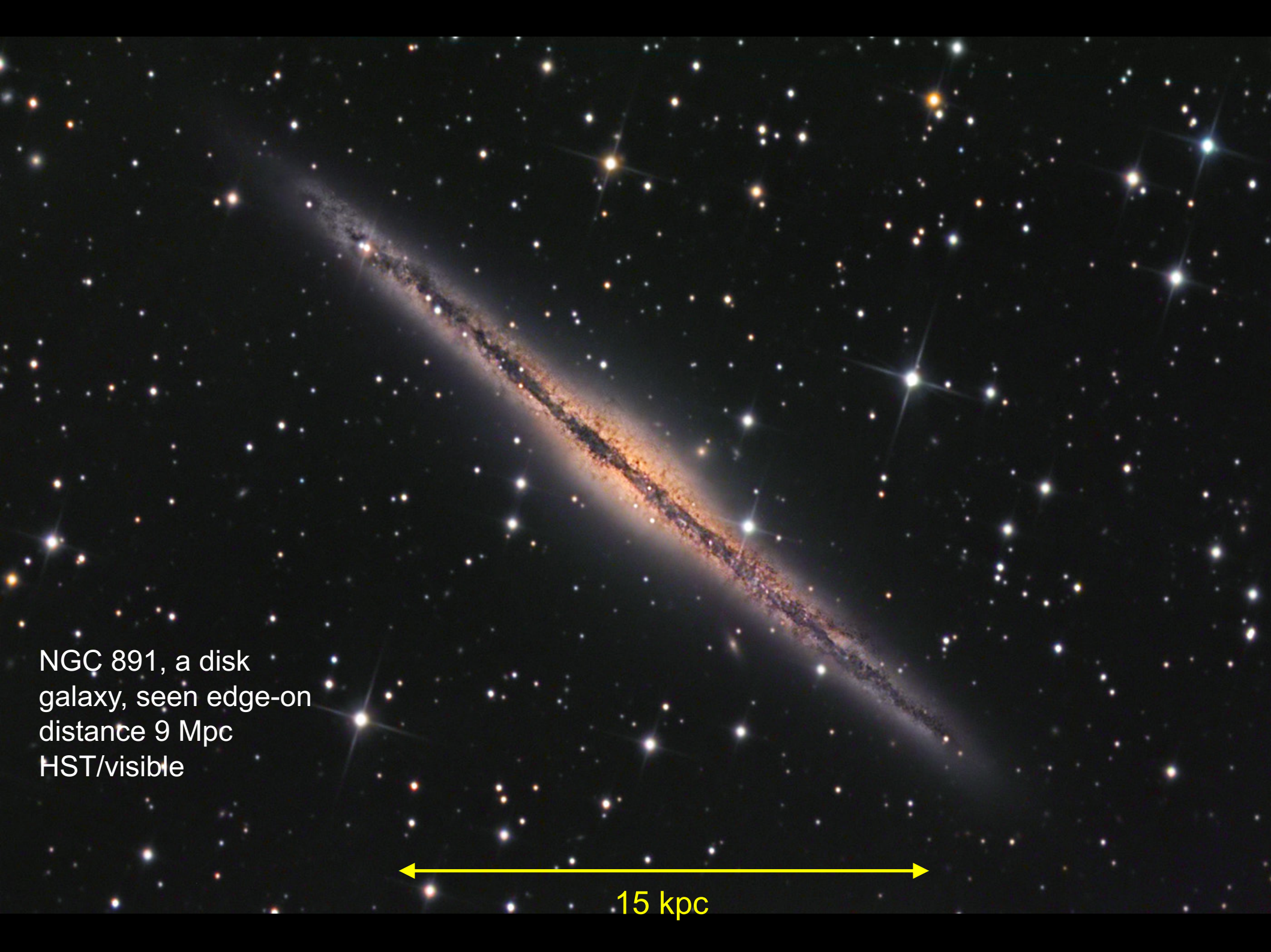


M31, the nearest
large galaxy
distance 770 kpc
HST/visible

20 kpc

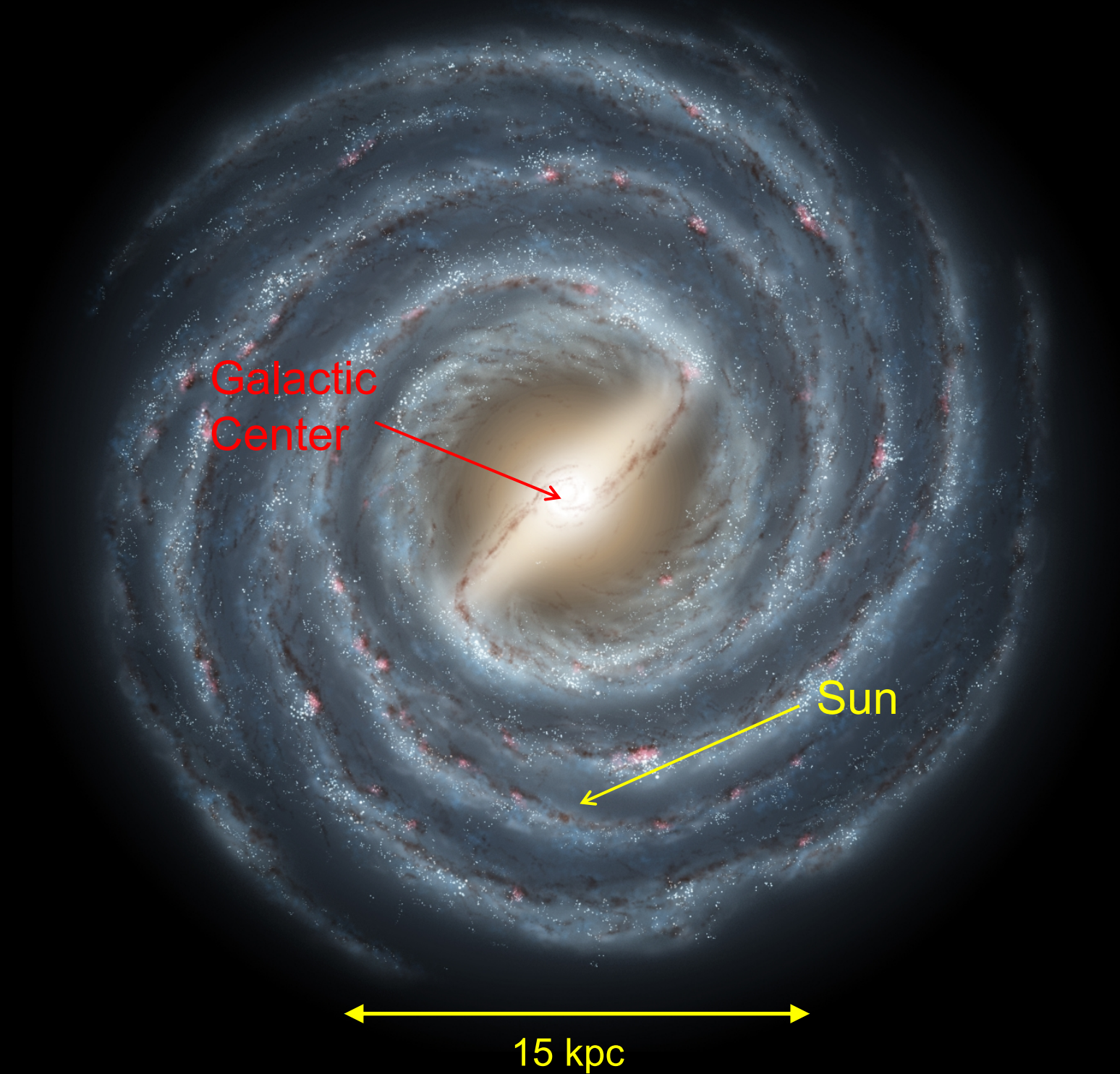


25 kpc

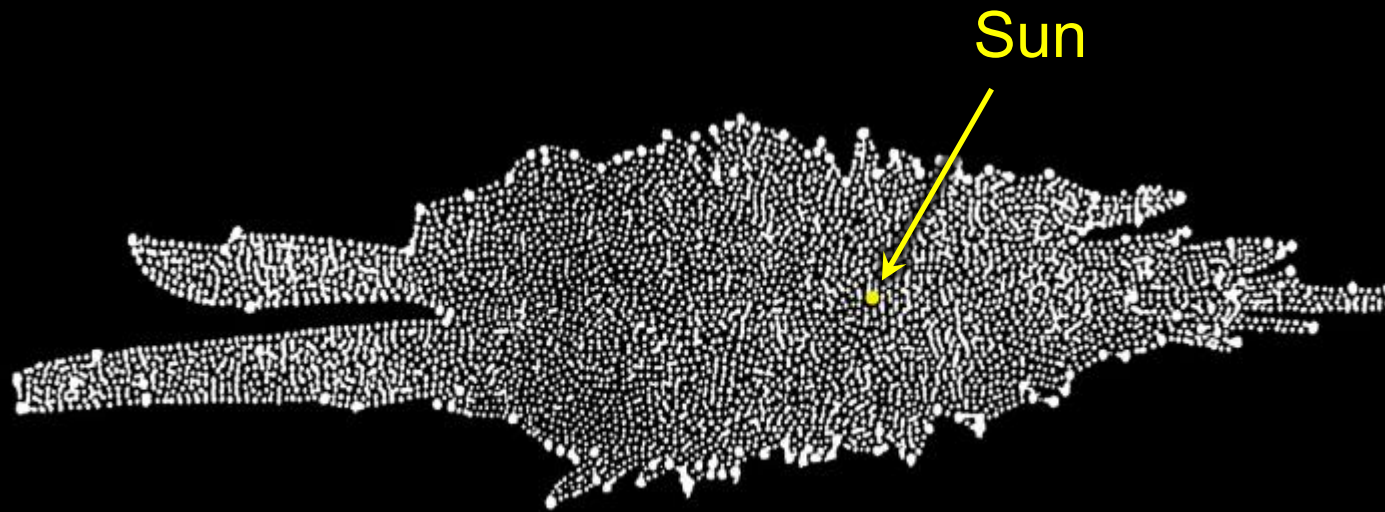
A deep-space photograph showing the edge-on view of the spiral galaxy NGC 891. The galaxy's disk is a bright, yellowish-white band stretching diagonally from the upper left towards the lower right. It is surrounded by a vast field of stars of various colors (white, yellow, orange) against a black background. The galaxy's structure shows a dense central region and a more diffuse outer disk.

NGC 891, a disk
galaxy, seen edge-on
distance 9 Mpc
HST/visible

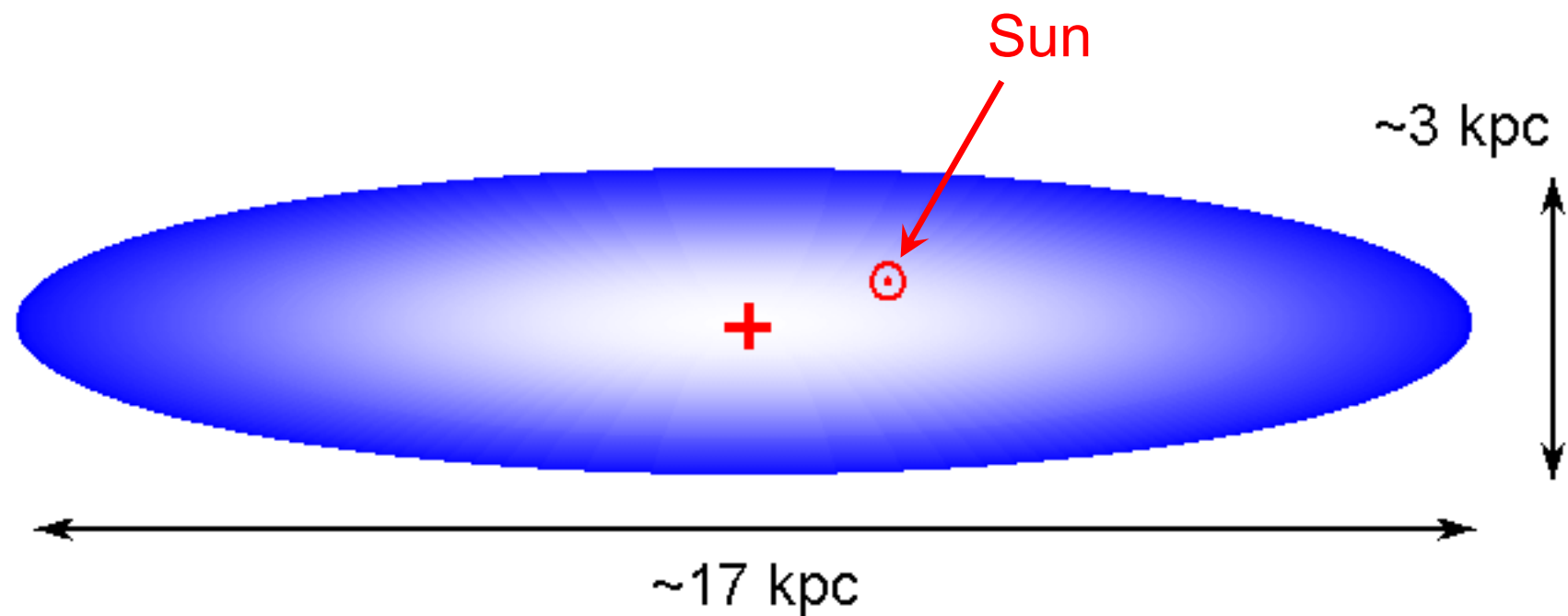
← 15 kpc →

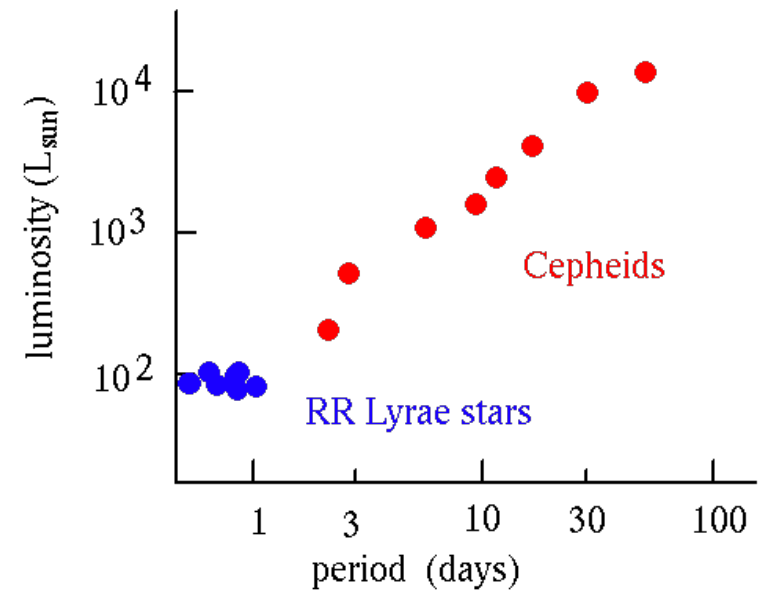
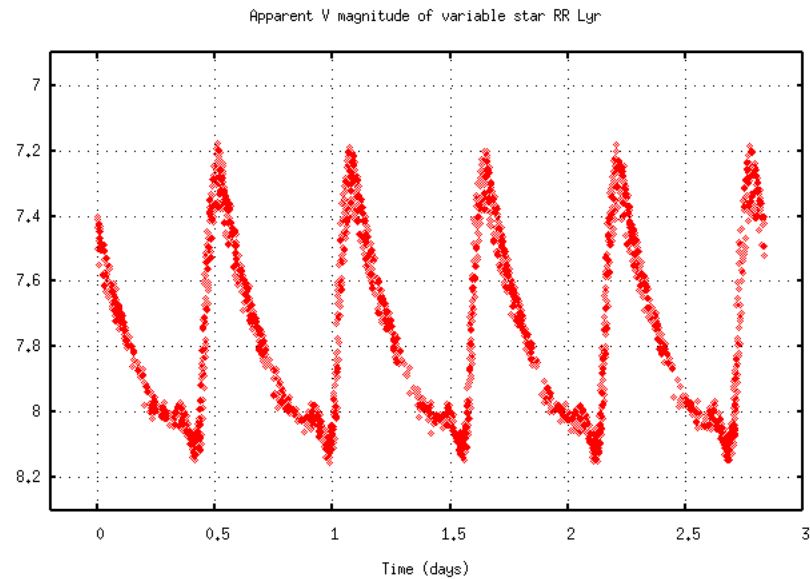
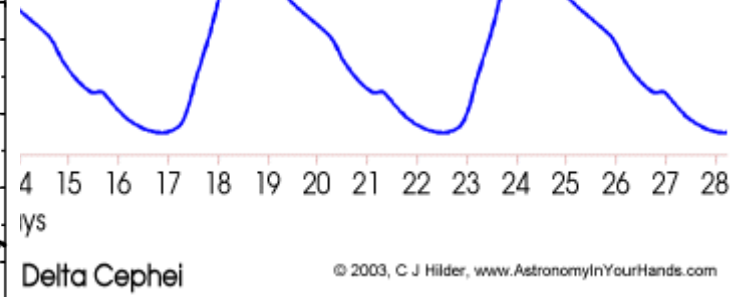
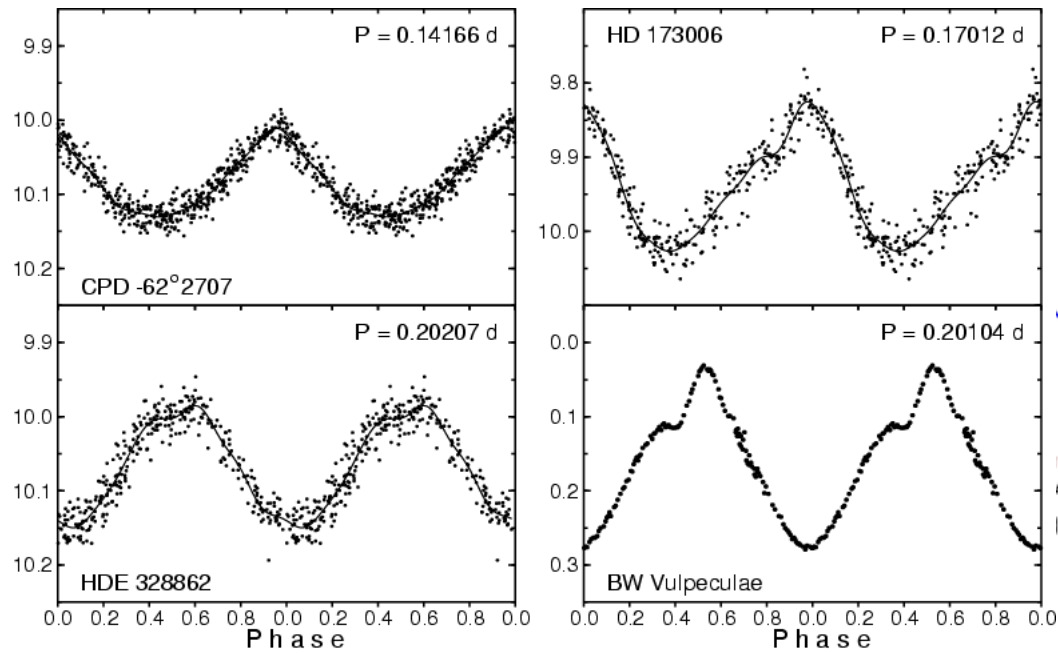


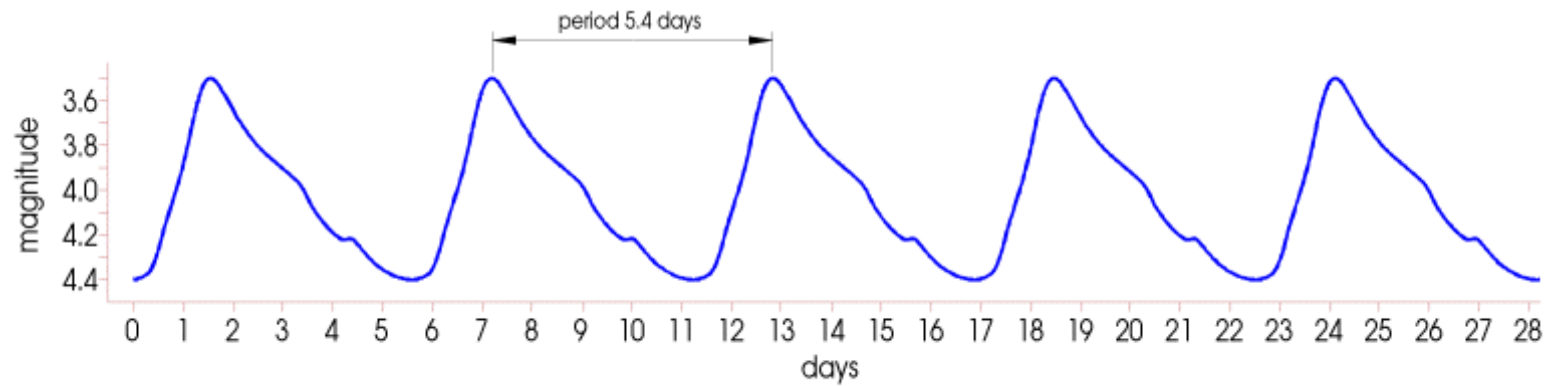
Herschel model (1785)



Kapteyn Model (1922)

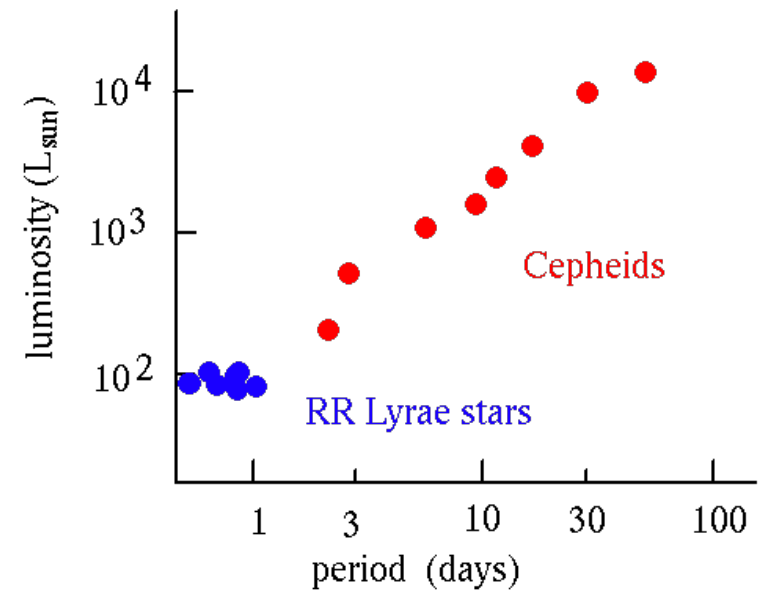
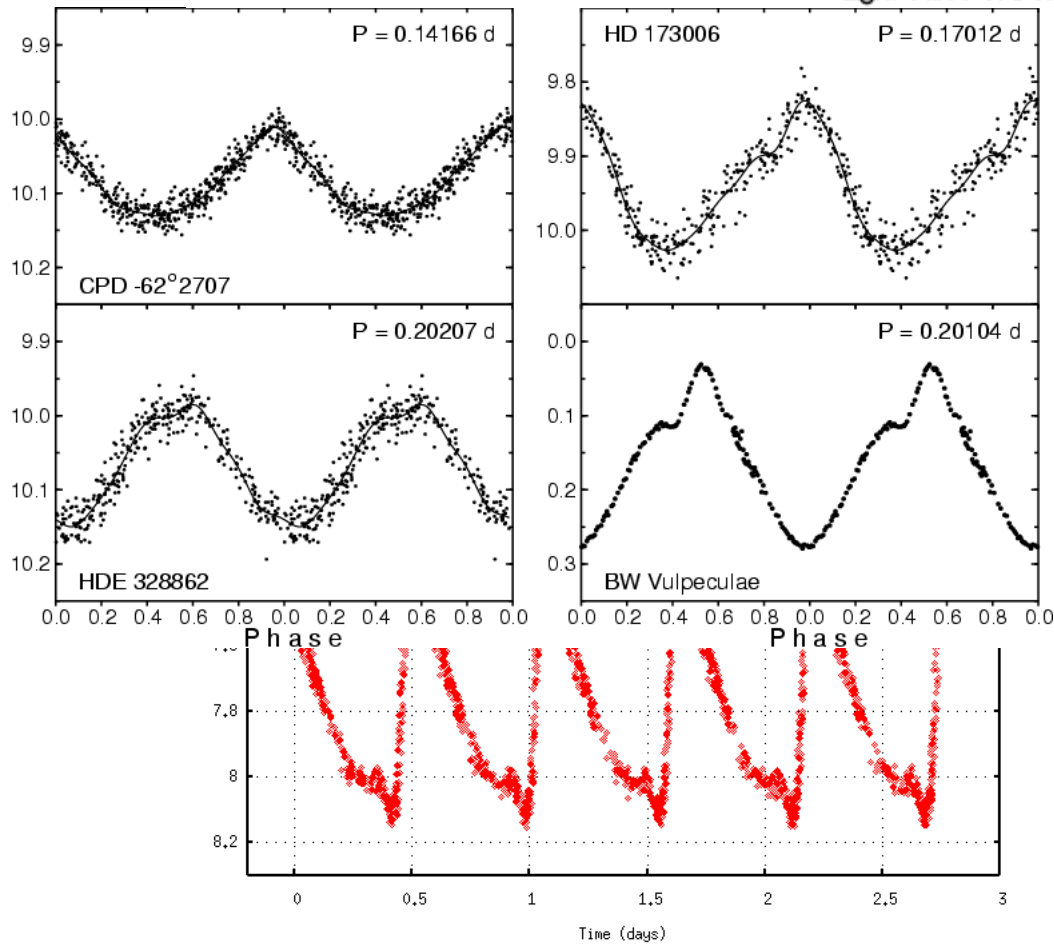


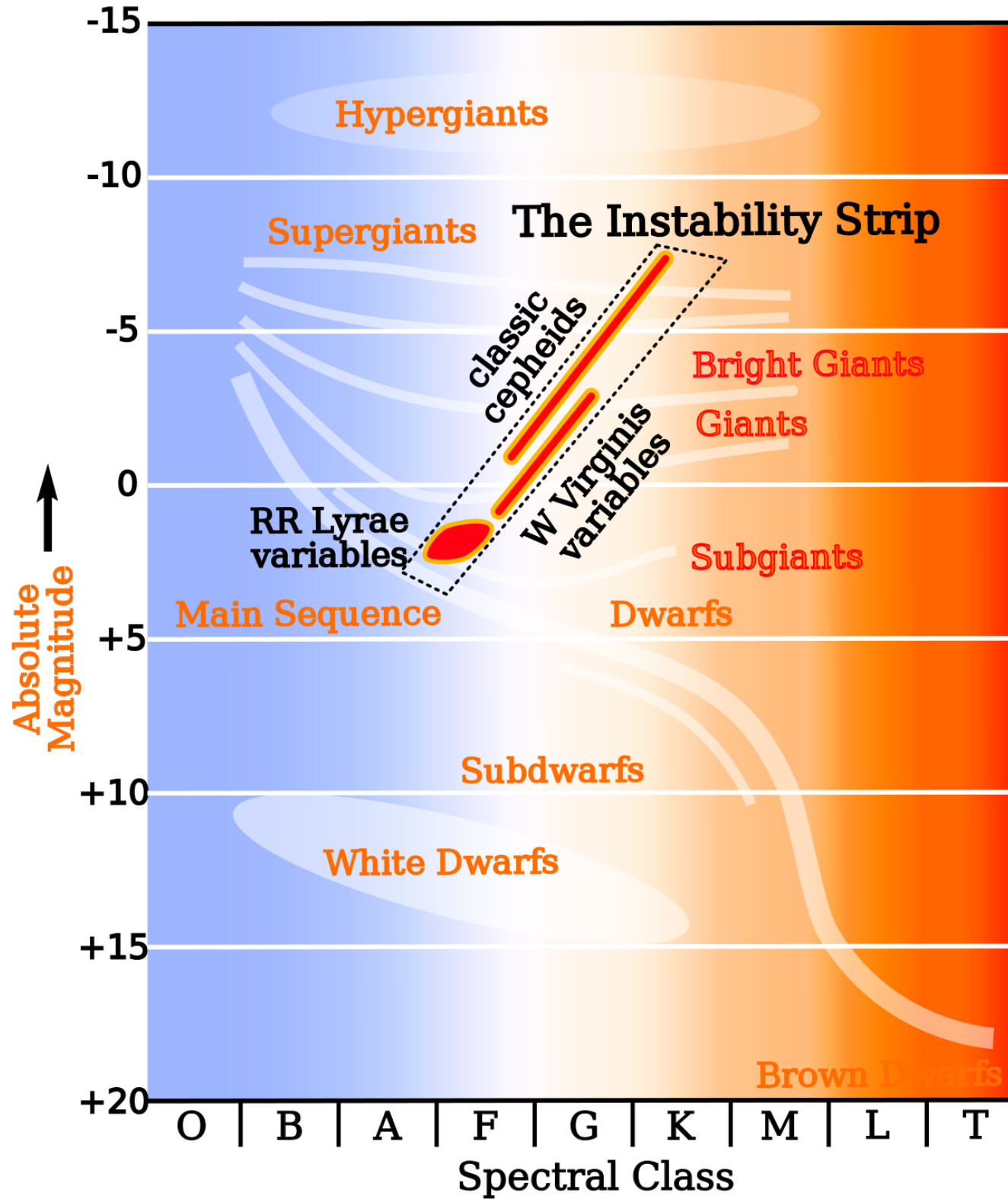




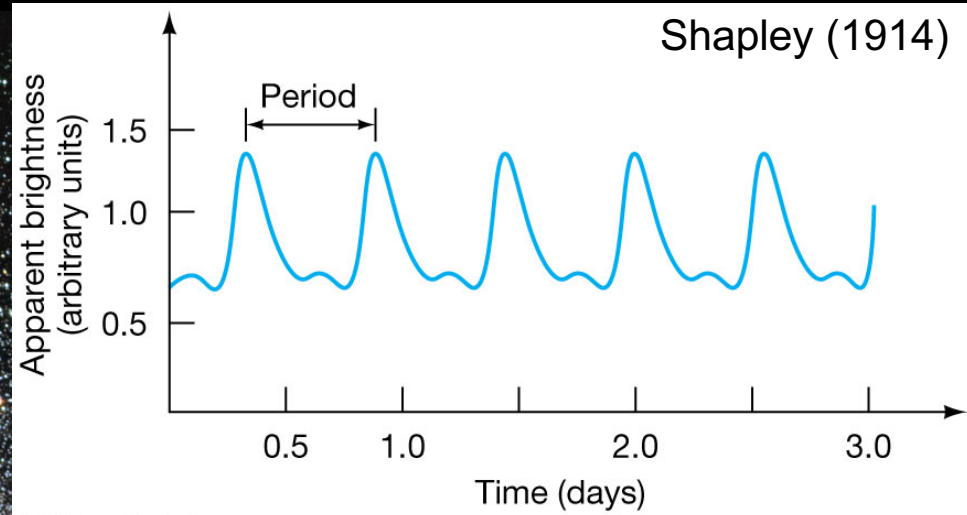
Light curve of Delta Cephei

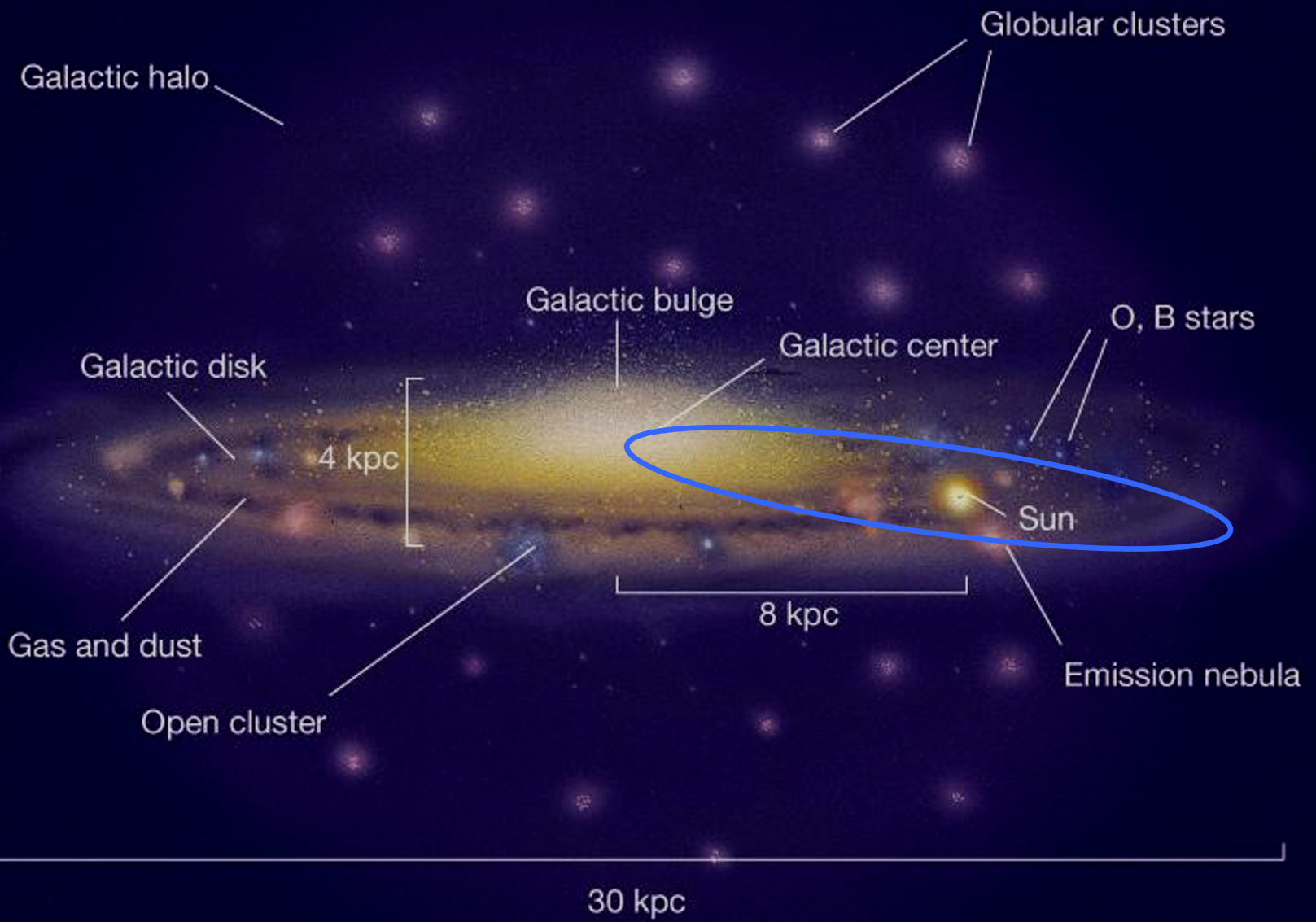
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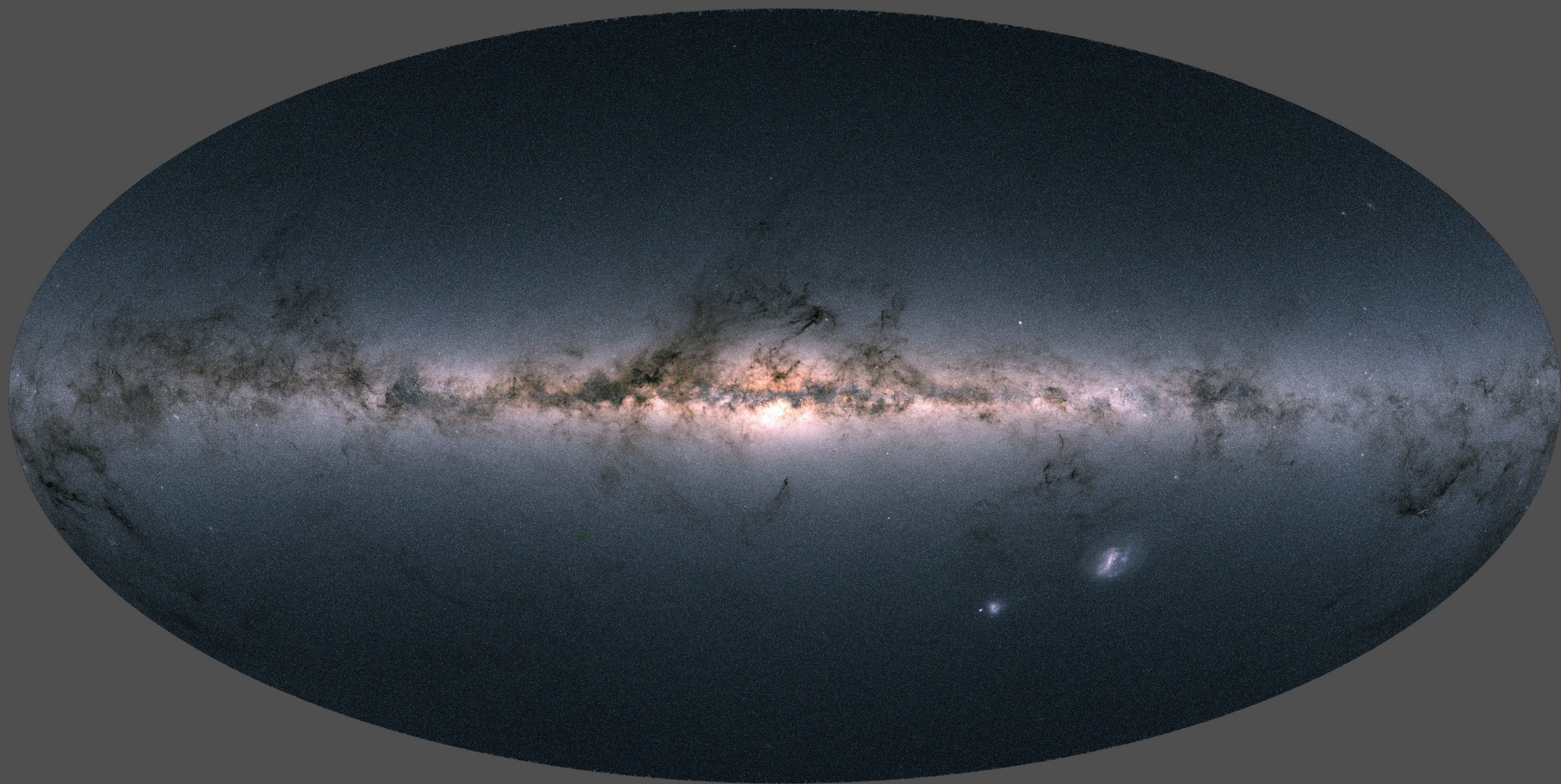


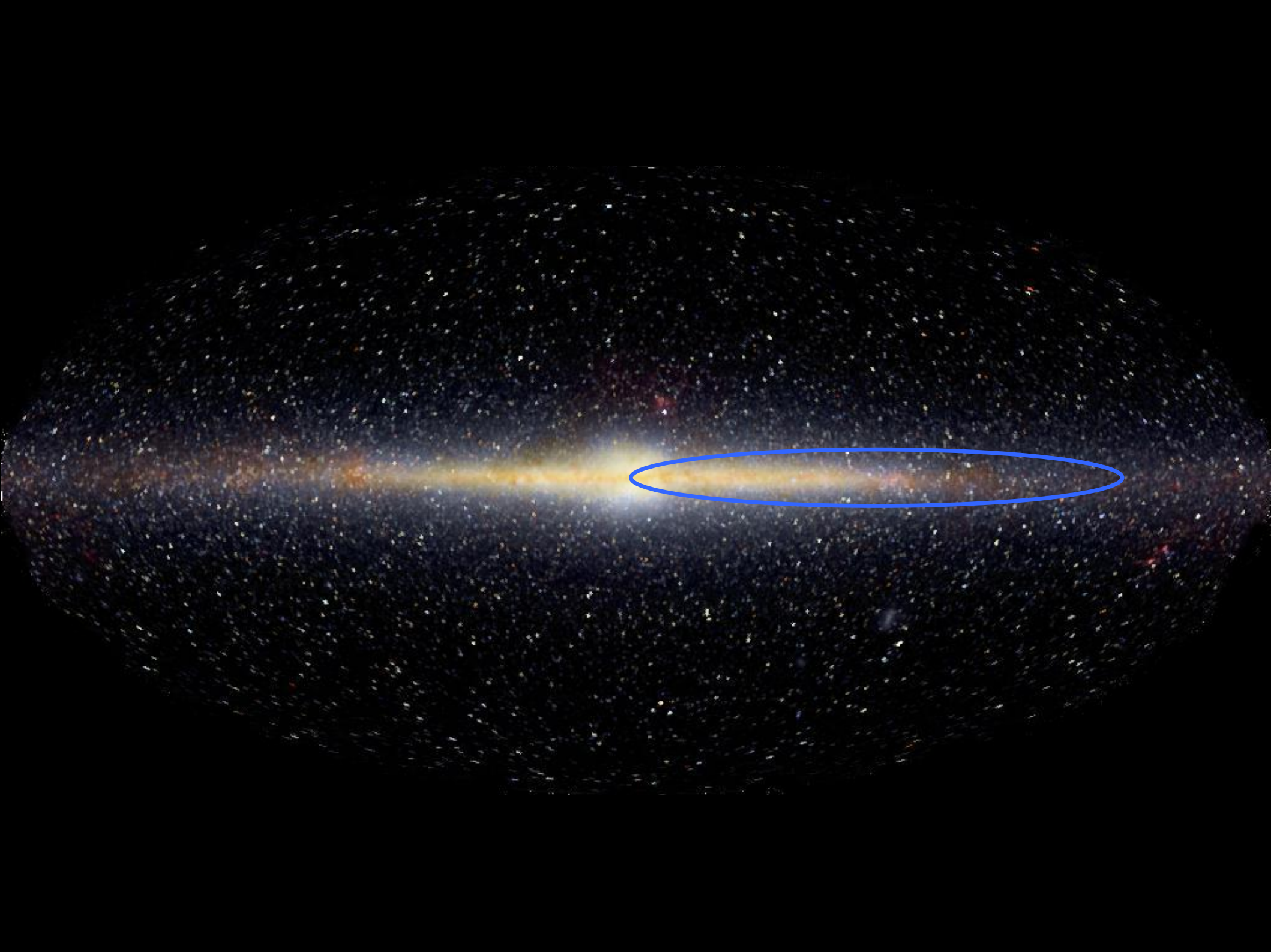


globular cluster
47 Tucanae







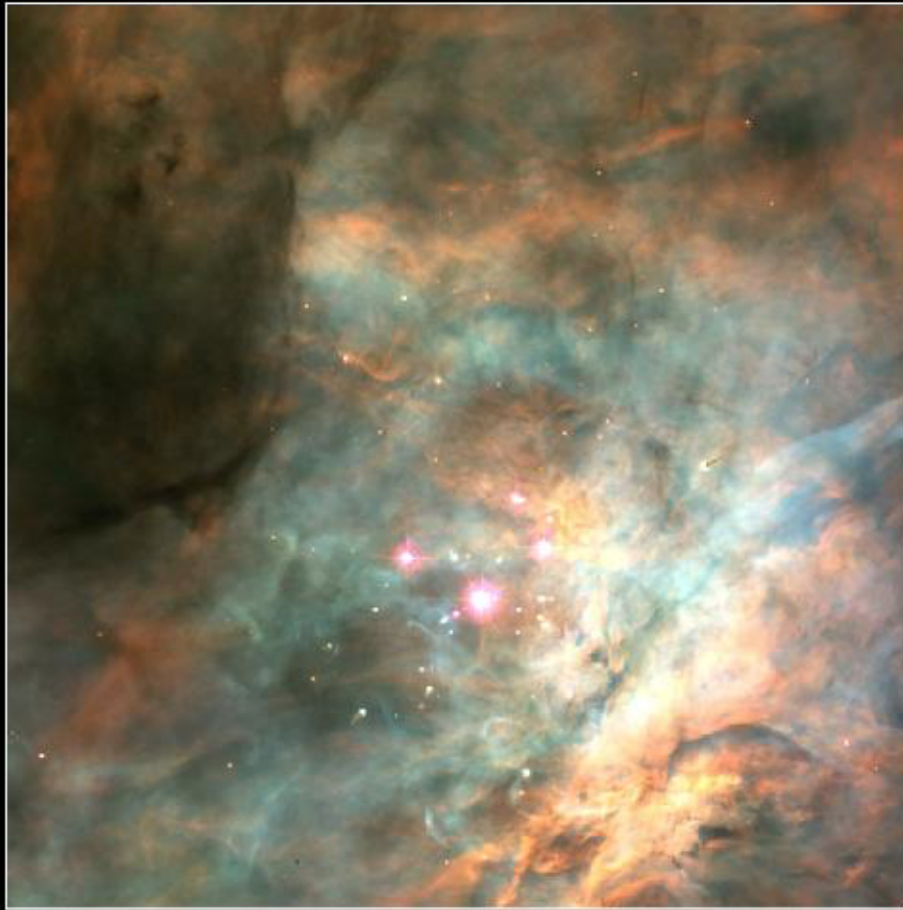








Visible • WFPC2

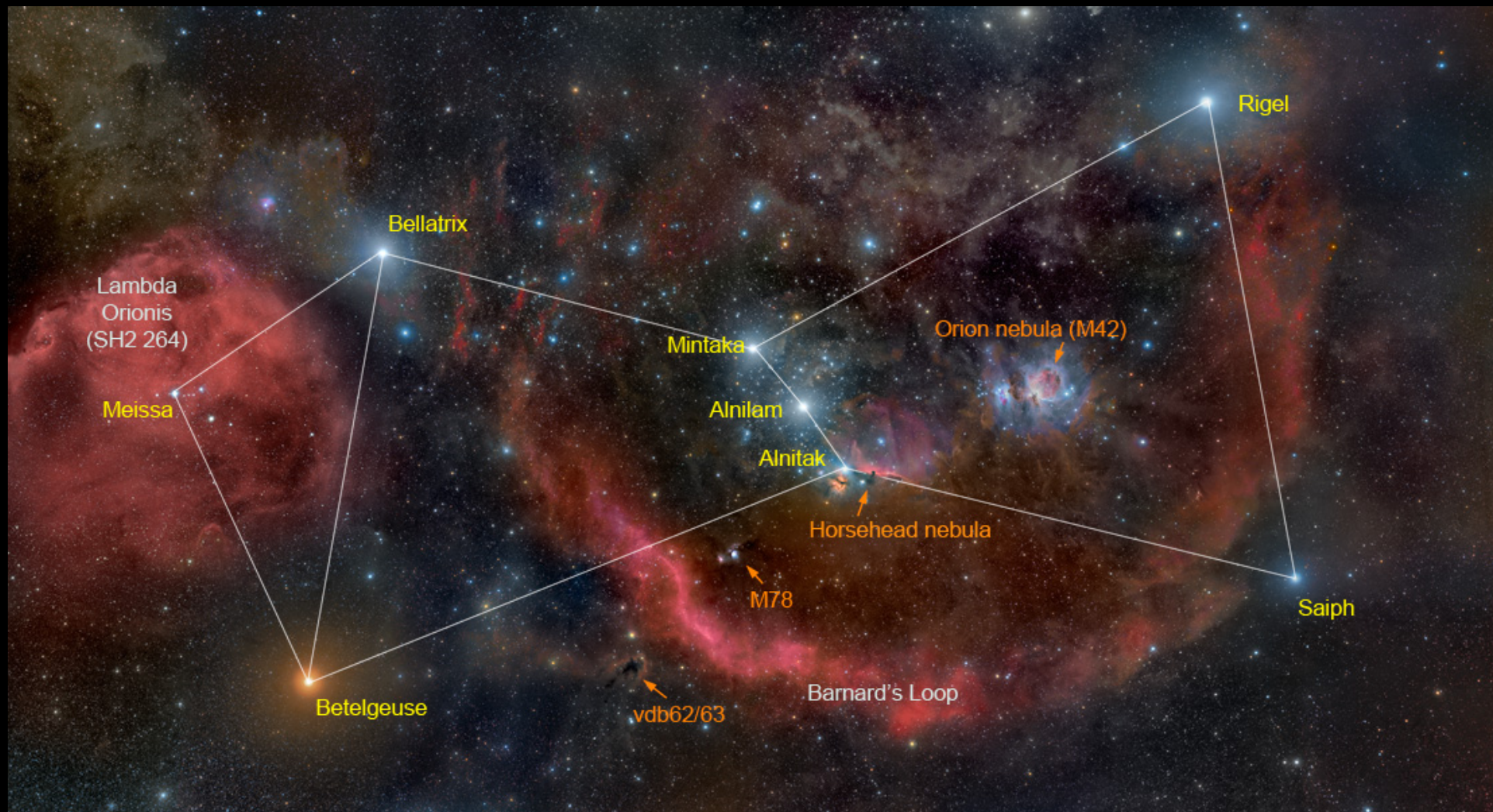


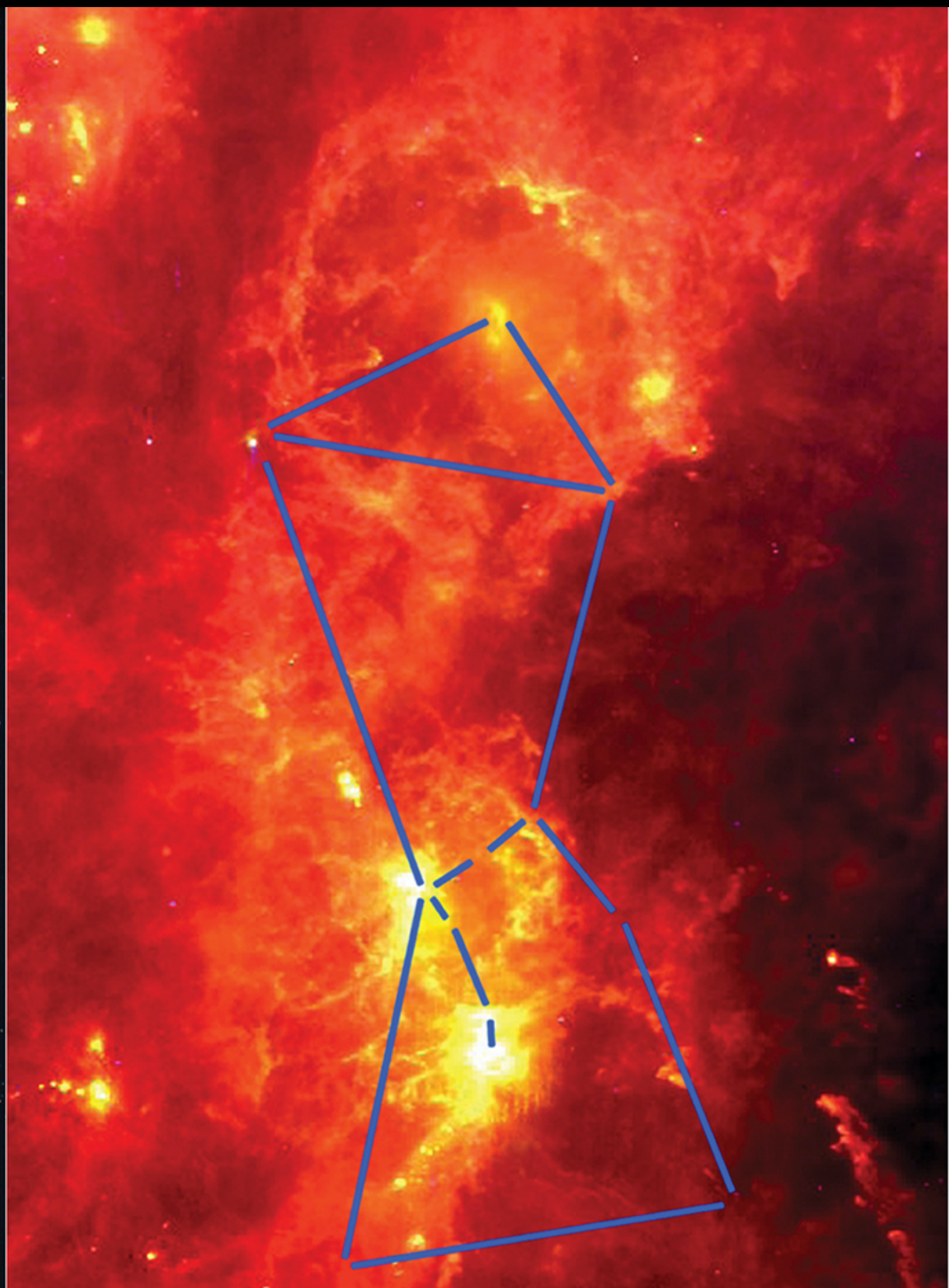
Infrared • NICMOS

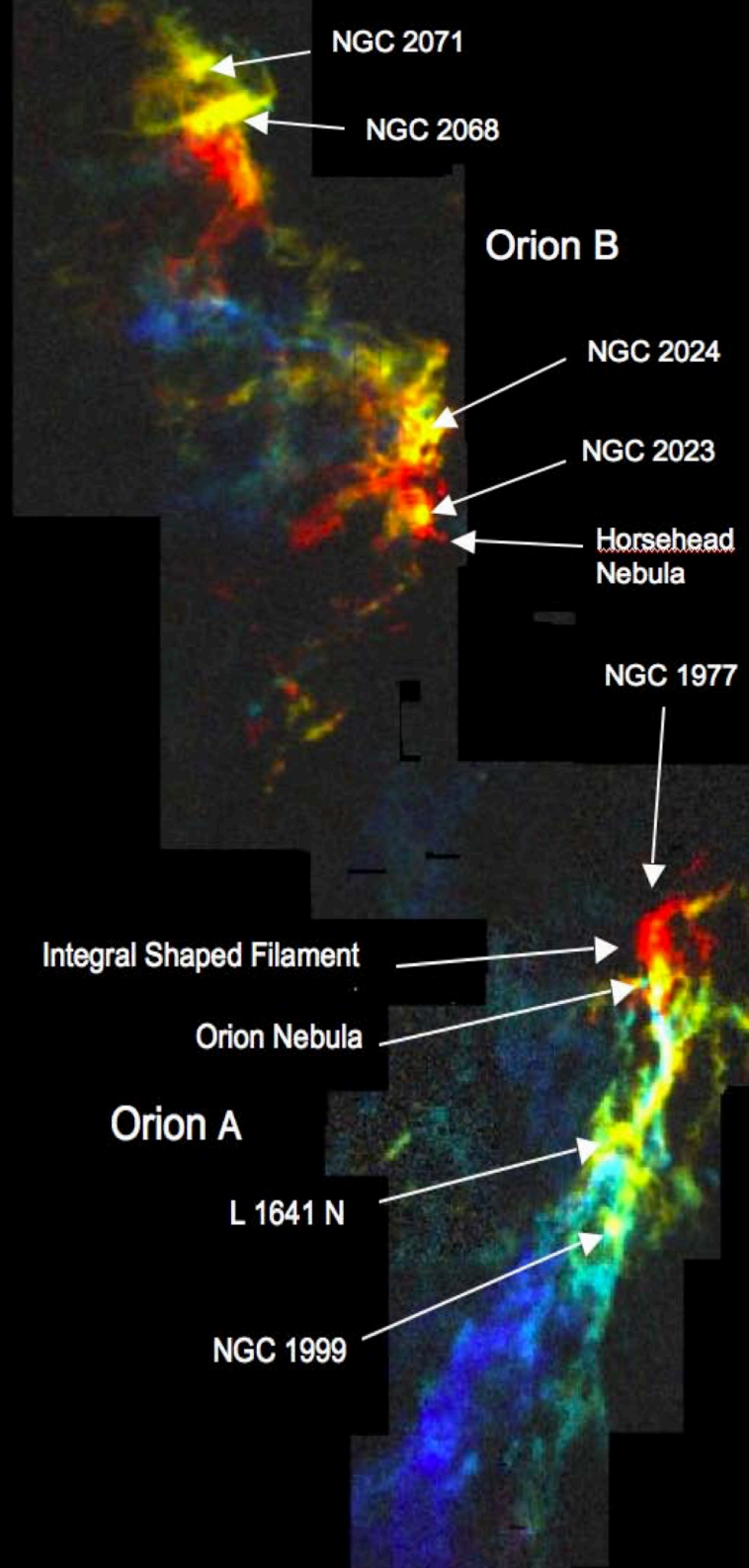


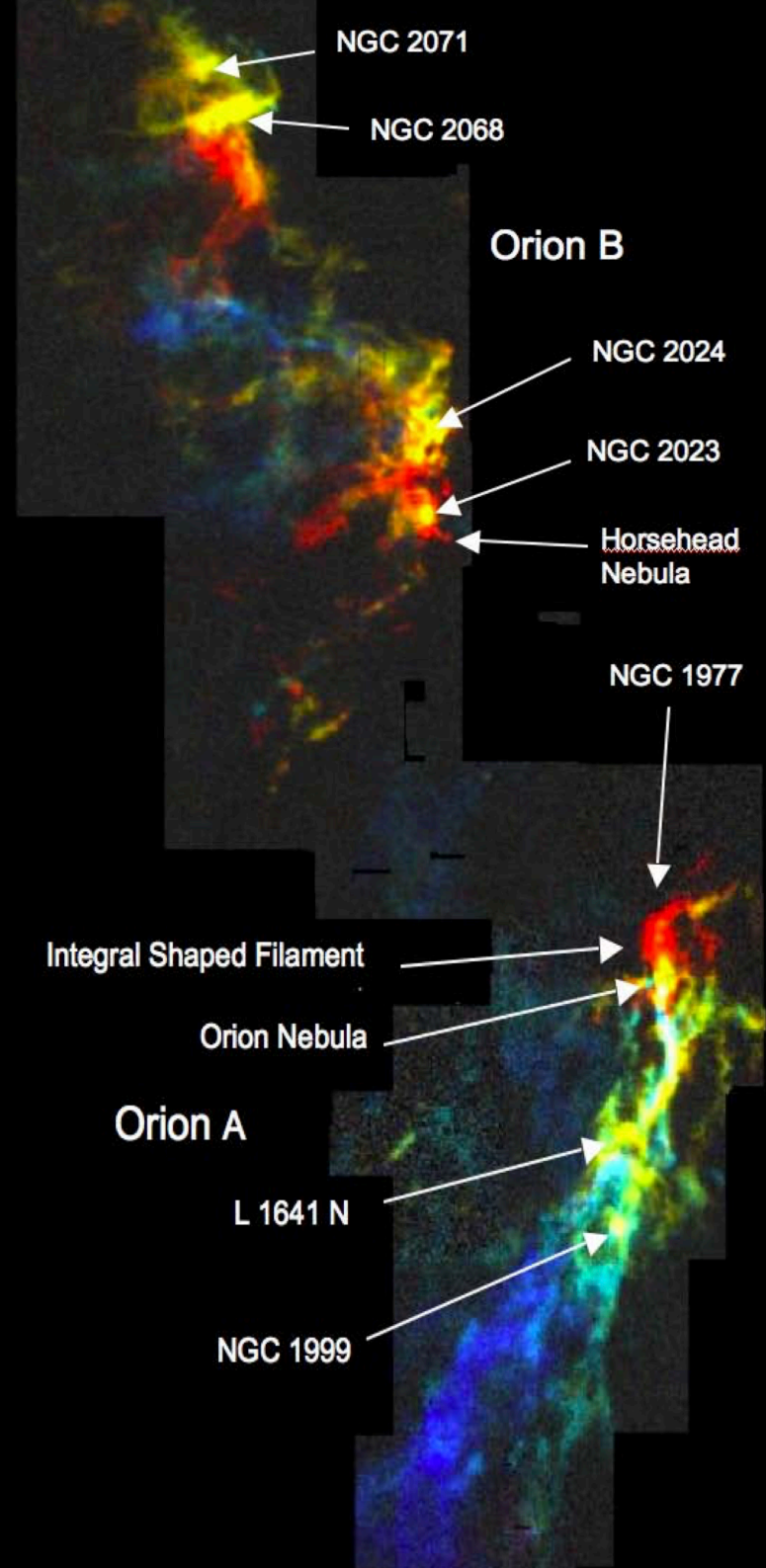
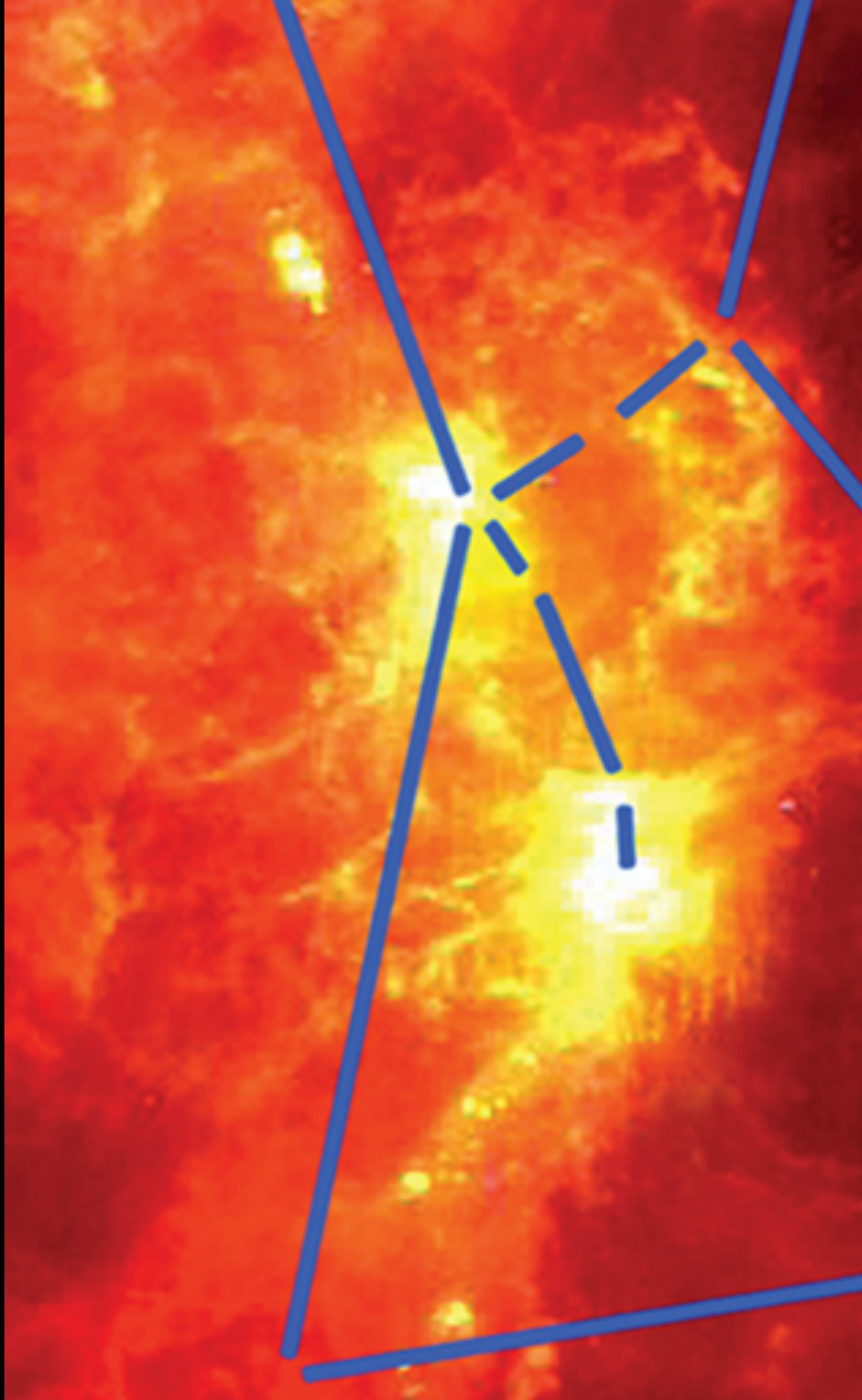
Trapezium Cluster • Orion Nebula
WFPC2 • Hubble Space Telescope • NICMOS

NASA and K. Luhman (Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics) • STScI-PRC00-19









Composition of the Interstellar Medium

- mirrors stellar composition
 - ~ 70 percent hydrogen
 - few percent “metals”
 - rest helium
- interstellar gas mass $\sim 5\%$ of the total mass in stars
- gas may be molecular, atomic, or ionized, depending on local heating and cooling processes
- most of the gas mass is in atomic form; most of the volume is hot ionized gas

Components of the Interstellar Medium

- molecular gas
 - molecular cloud complexes
 - mostly H_2 , but also CO , NH_3 , H_2CO , ...
 - also contains atomic gas and dust
 - cold and “dense”
 - $T \sim 20 - 50 \text{ K}$, $n > 10^3 \text{ cm}^{-3}$ ($= 10^9 \text{ m}^{-3}$)
 - turbulent gas flow
 - gravitational collapse

Components of the Interstellar Medium

- atomic gas
 - cold neutral medium
 - $T \sim 100\text{ K}, n \sim 1 - 10^3\text{ cm}^{-3}$
 - warm neutral medium
 - $T \sim 10^3 - 10^4\text{ K}, n \sim 0.1 - 1\text{ cm}^{-3}$

Components of the Interstellar Medium

- ionized gas
 - warm ionized medium
 - $T \sim 10^4 \text{ K}, n \sim 10^{-3} - 0.1 \text{ cm}^{-3}$
 - hot ionized medium (“corona”)
 - $T \sim 10^6 \text{ K}, n < 10^{-3} \text{ cm}^{-3}$

Heating and Cooling

- heating processes
 - cosmic rays
 - ultraviolet radiation background
 - winds and ionizing radiation from massive stars
 - photoelectric heating on dust
 - supernovae

Heating and Cooling

- cooling processes
 - molecular line emission
 - dust emission
 - fine structure line emission
 - atomic/ionic line emission
 - bremsstrahlung

