

8.1 Orbits and stellar evolution

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

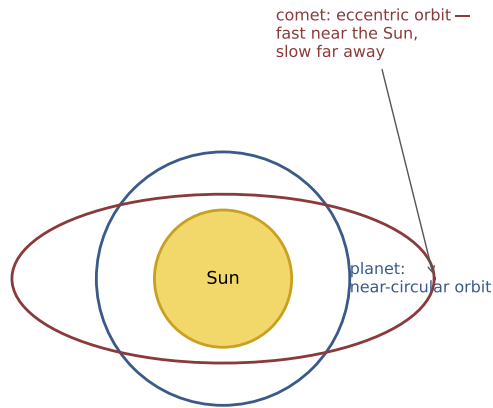
Total: 20 marks

Objective

Cover motion in the universe and stellar evolution (8.2–8.12P): the structure of the universe, gravity and orbits, orbital-speed calculations, star classification and life cycles, (P) absolute magnitude and the HR diagram. Original IGCSE-level practice.

1 Key knowledge and worked examples

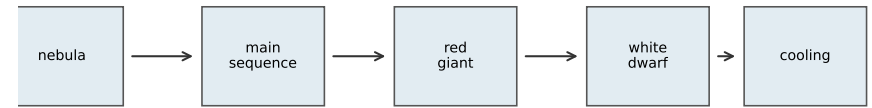
■ Gravity draws every orbit



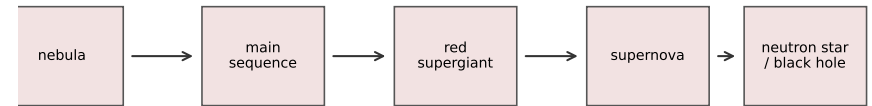
$$v = \frac{2\pi r}{T}$$

■ Two life cycles

Sun-like star



star with mass larger than the Sun



Colour ⇒ surface temperature: blue hottest, red coolest.

2 Practice

2.1 Name the galaxy that contains our solar system. [1]

2.2 State the orbit shapes of planets and comets. [2]

2.3 Which force keeps satellites in orbit? [1]

2.4 A satellite orbits at $r = 10\,000$ km with $T = 5600$ s. Calculate v . [3]

2.5 List the four stages of a Sun-like star's life after the nebula. [4]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 Explain why a comet travels fastest near the Sun. [2]

3.2 Compare the final stages of a Sun-like star and a star more massive than the Sun. [4]

3.3 (P) Describe the main components of the HR diagram. [3]
