

*Quick notes on*  
**Blackbody Radiation**

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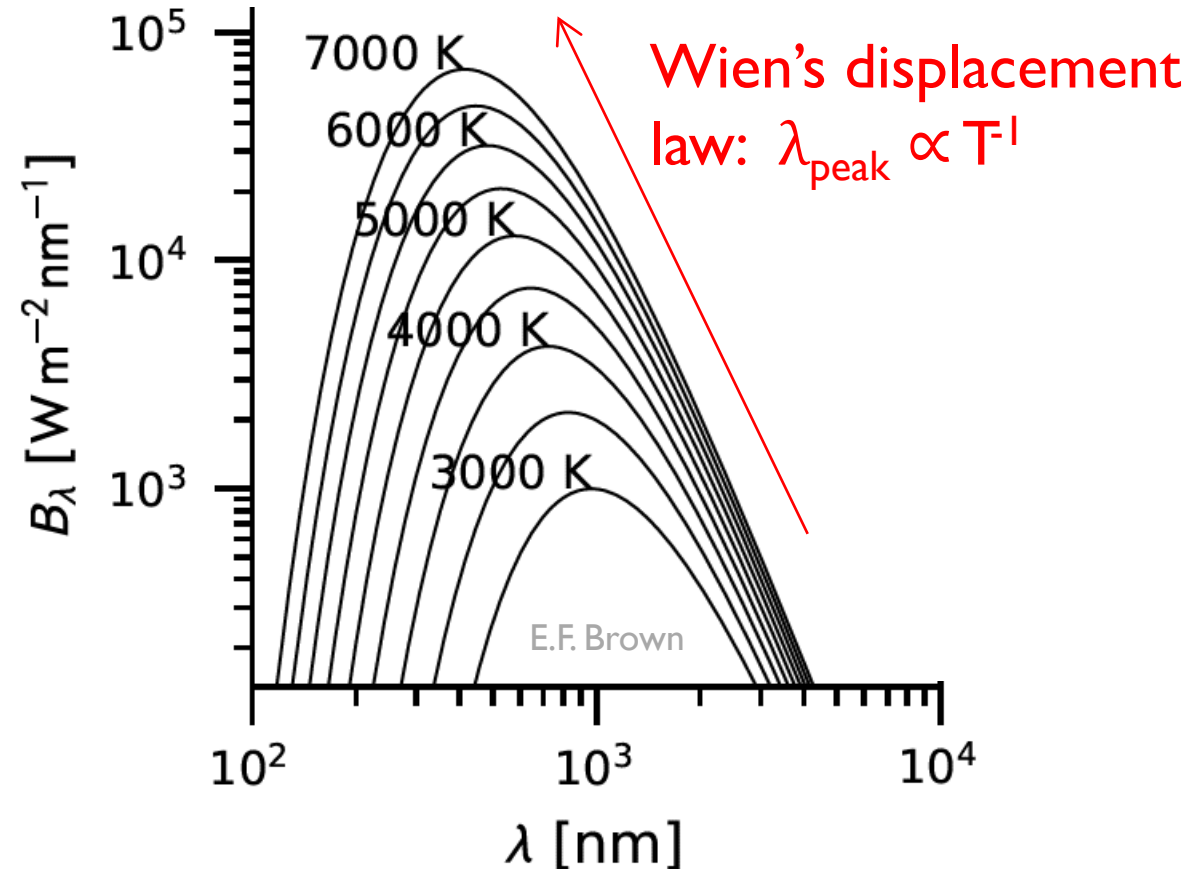
# Blackbody Spectrum

- The Planck spectrum (a.k.a. blackbody)

- Intensity =  $B(\lambda, T) = \frac{2hc^2}{\lambda^5} \frac{1}{\exp\left(\frac{hc}{\lambda k_B T}\right) - 1}$  [ $\text{Wsr}^{-1}\text{m}^{-2}\text{nm}^{-1}$ ]

- To express in frequency, perform substitution from  $c=\lambda\nu$
- By integrating over all  $\lambda$  and all outward angles (half of a sphere), the **outward flux** from a blackbody

$$\text{is } F_{bb} = \frac{2\pi^5 k_B^4}{15h^2 c} T^4 \equiv \sigma_{SB} T^4$$





# Effective Temperature

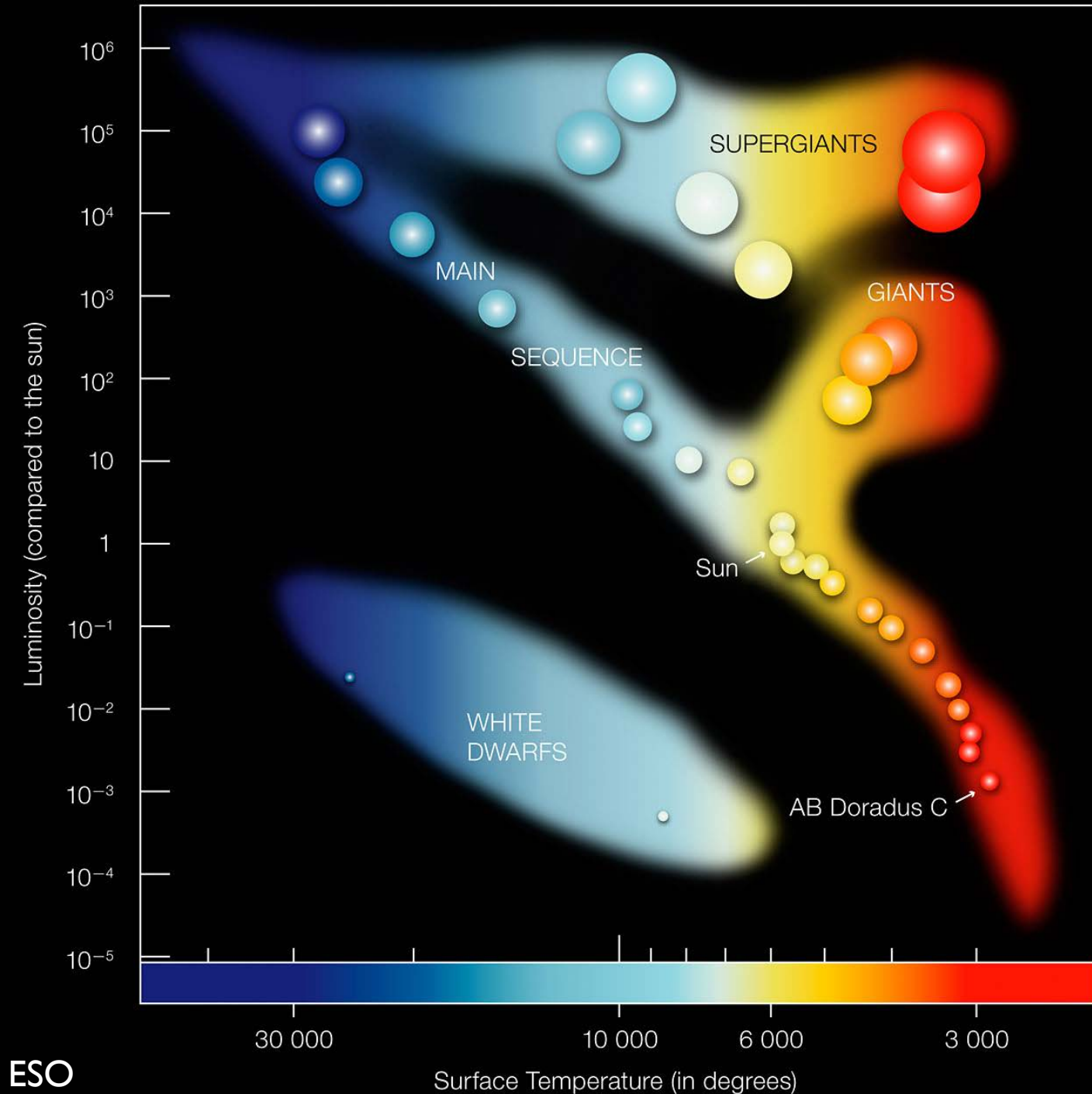
- By approximating a star as a blackbody, determine the **effective temperature**:

$$T_{\text{eff}} = \left( \frac{F}{\sigma_{SB}} \right)^{1/4}$$

- Meaning

$$L = 4\pi R^2 \sigma_{SB} T_{\text{eff}}^4$$

- A greater  $L$  for the same  $\lambda_{\text{peak}}$  means a larger  $R$



# Radiation Pressure

- Radiation pressure is one component of pressure propping a star up against gravitational collapse
- Pressure = Force/Area = (Rate of Change of Momentum)/Area
- For photons, momentum  $p = \frac{E}{c}$
- Intensity,  $I_\lambda = \frac{\Delta E}{\cos \theta dA d\Omega dt d\lambda}$ . ...integrate over all angles and  $\lambda$  results in F/A
- Pressure from one wavelength,  $P_\lambda = \frac{4\pi}{3c} B_\lambda$  *really strong temperature dependence!*
- Integrate over  $\lambda$  for **Total radiation pressure**,  $P_{\text{rad}} = \frac{4}{3c} \sigma_{SB} T^4 \equiv \frac{1}{3} a T^4$
- The **radiation energy density** per wavelength  $U_\lambda = \frac{dE}{dV d\lambda} = \frac{1}{c} \int I_\lambda d\Omega = \frac{4\pi}{c} B_\lambda$
- So, the total radiation energy density is  $U = 3P_{\text{rad}}$ .  
This is the photon equation of state.