Ch 30.2: Properties of Stars Notes

1. Distance
   1. Describe how astronomers use parallax to find distance.
   2. What are common units of distance in astronomy?
2. Mass
   1. Describe how astronomers determine the mass of stars using binary stars.
   2. How common are binary stars in the Milky Way galaxy?
3. Temperature/Color
   1. Describe two ways a flame is similar to stars.
   2. What color star has more energy? Less energy?
4. Brightness
   1. Apparent Magnitude –
   2. Absolute Magnitude –
   3. Compare and contrast apparent and absolute magnitude.
   4. What is a limiting factor of absolute magnitude?
   5. Luminosity –
   6. Draw a Hertzprung-Russell Diagram and label the axes.
   7. Variable Stars –
      1. Cepheid Variables –
      2. Nova –

Follow up questions:

* 1. What are some properties of stars we discussed? Explain each.
* 2. Why do astronomers use parallax? Describe the process.
* 3. Compare and contrast apparent and absolute magnitude.
* 4. What does an HR Diagram tell astronomers? What are the axes labeled?