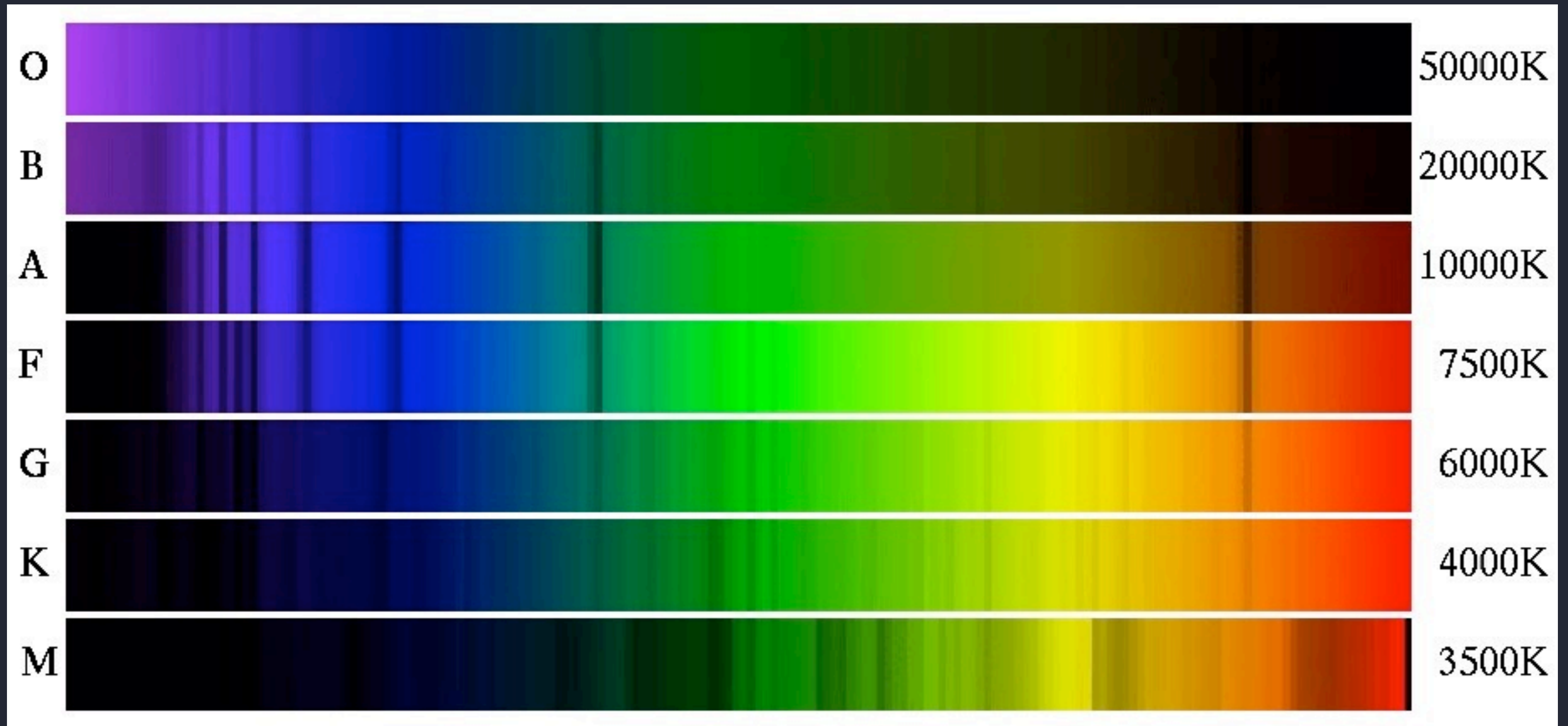


Astro I: Introductory Astronomy



Binary star system *Albireo*, in Cygnus



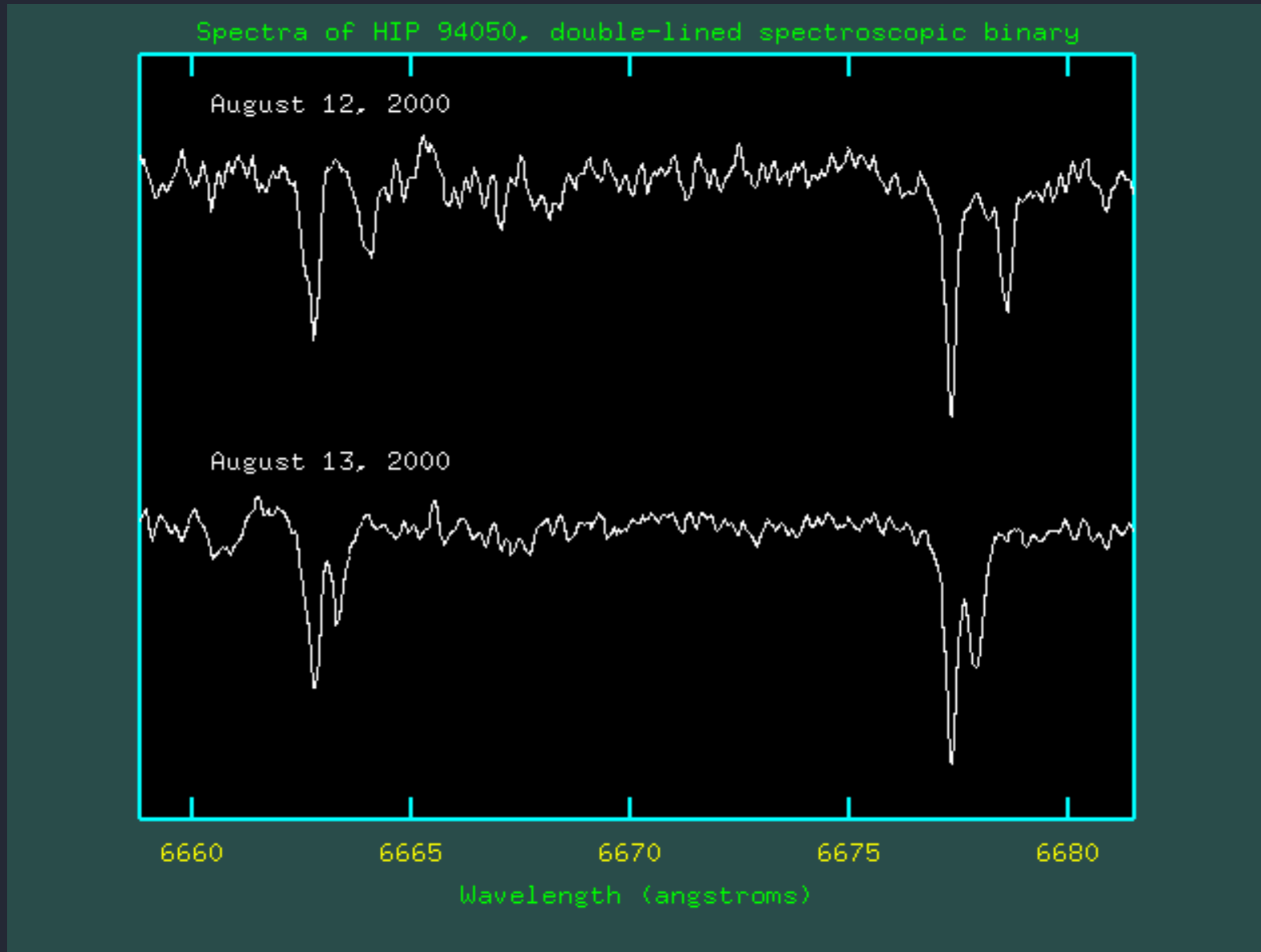
<http://apod.nasa.gov/apod/ap050830.html>

images of Sirius A+B, taken at ten year intervals



FIGURE 15.6 Each frame represents the relative positions of Sirius A and Sirius B at 10-year intervals from 1900 to 1970. The back-and-forth "wobble" of Sirius A allowed astronomers to infer the existence of Sirius B even before the two stars could be resolved in telescopic photos. The average orbital separation of the binary system is about 20 AU.

The same **spectroscopic binary**, on two successive nights



spectra of seven stars of different temperatures (right side of plot) corresponding to each spectral type (left side)

