Lady Eleanor Holles School



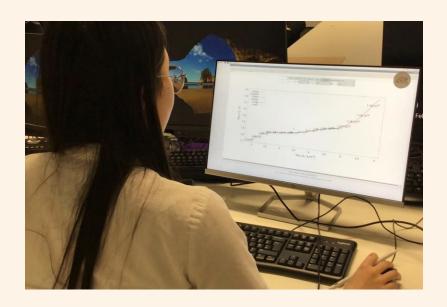




Which properties of stars affect the habitability of planets?

The question of whether we are alone in the Universe has been deliberated for centuries. Having the ability to evolve a single mass star (like our Sun) allows us to calculate the planet in our Solar System at which the Sun could sustain life at a given time. Known stellar data will enable us to model stars other than our Sun, and could help us isolate the areas surrounding these stars that could support life as we know it on Earth.





We learned a lot about how nuclear fusion affects stellar properties throughout its lifetime; whilst looking solely at our own Solar System, we discovered that far in the future, even the Asteroid Belt could receive the same luminosity as Earth does now, and hence could be habitable! Currently we are experimenting with energy generation output and rates of nuclear fusion, which would mirror alternate universes.

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