

The evolution of low-metallicity massive stars

Dorottya Szécsi

Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Norbert Langer

PhD defence

Bonn, 4th July 2016

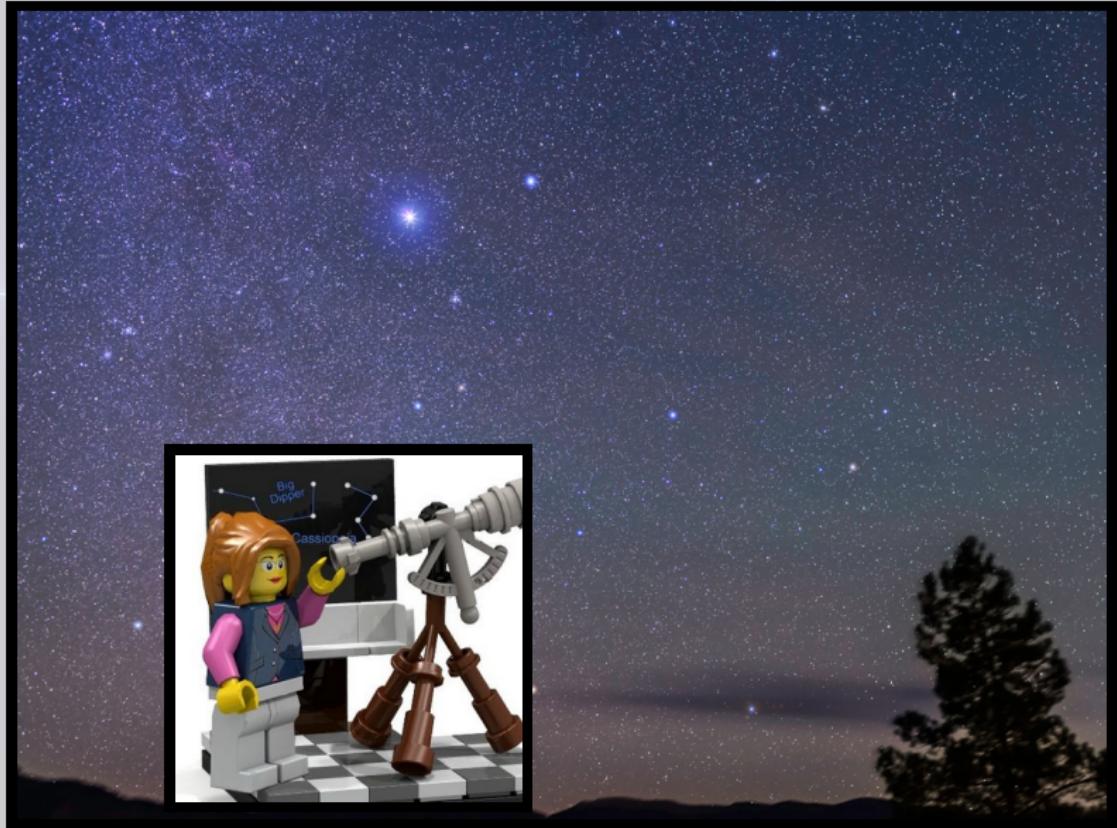


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Institut
für
Astronomie

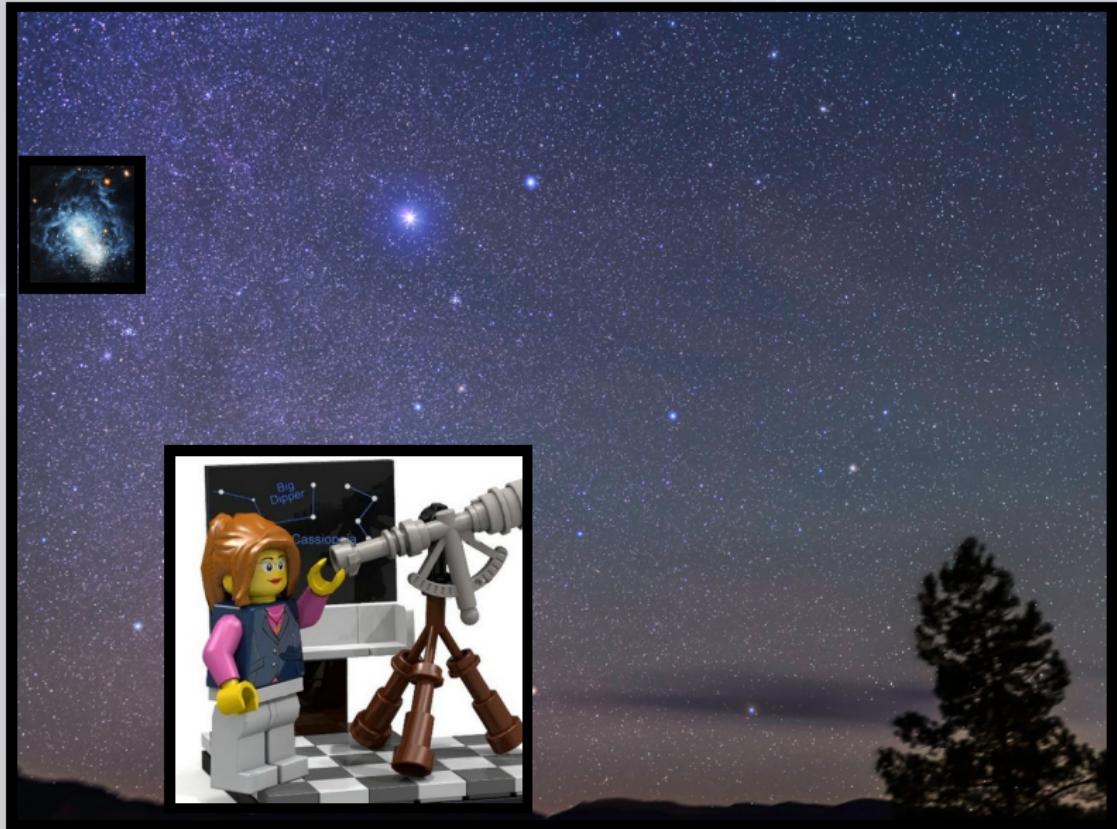
The night-sky and beyond



The night-sky and beyond



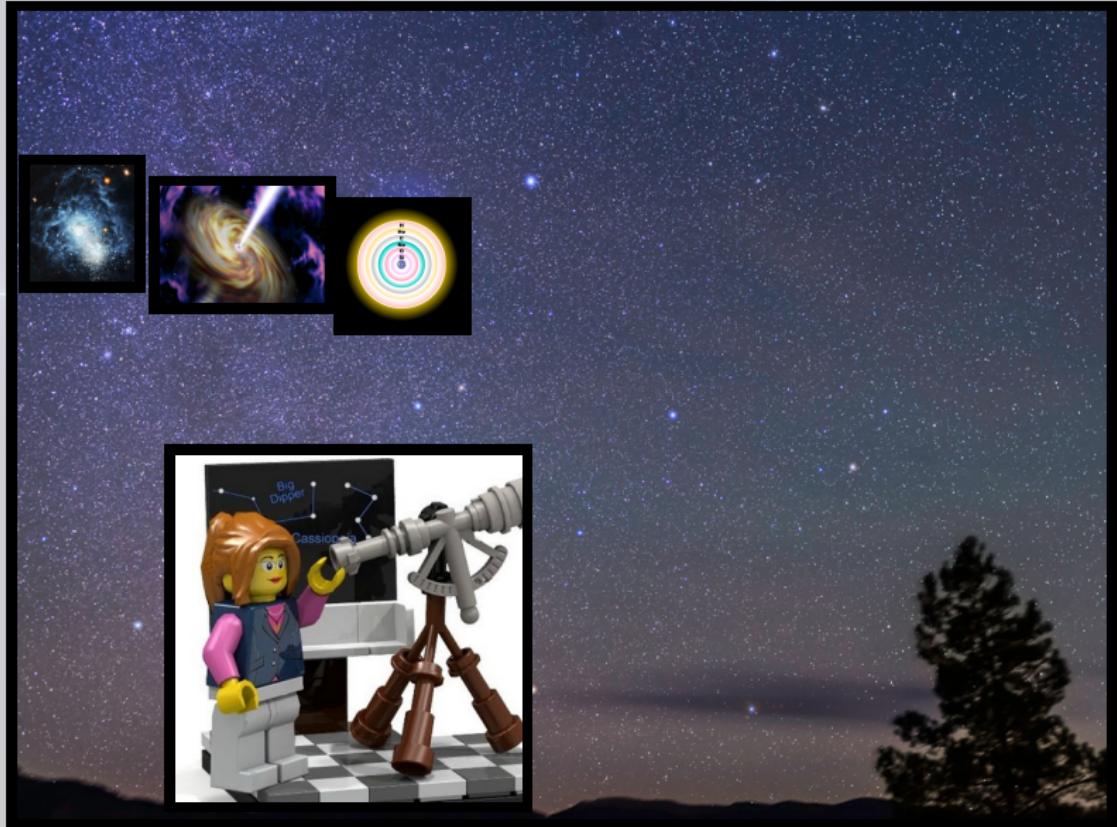
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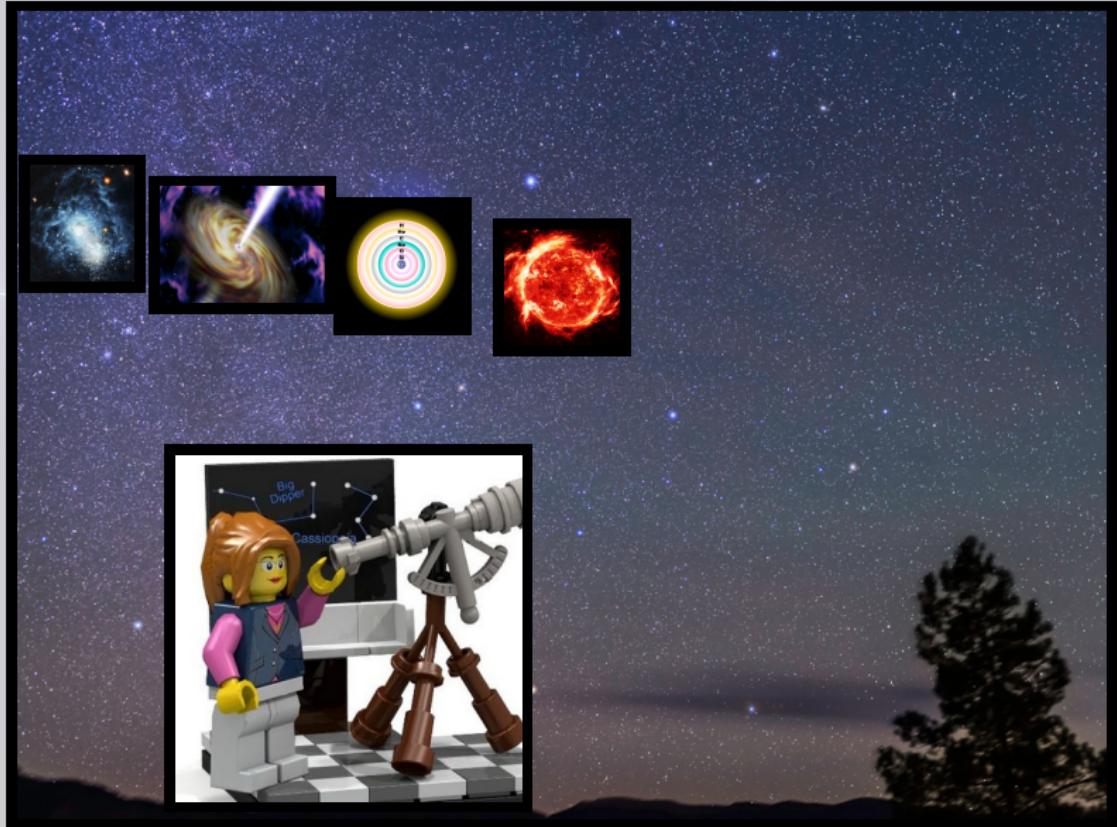
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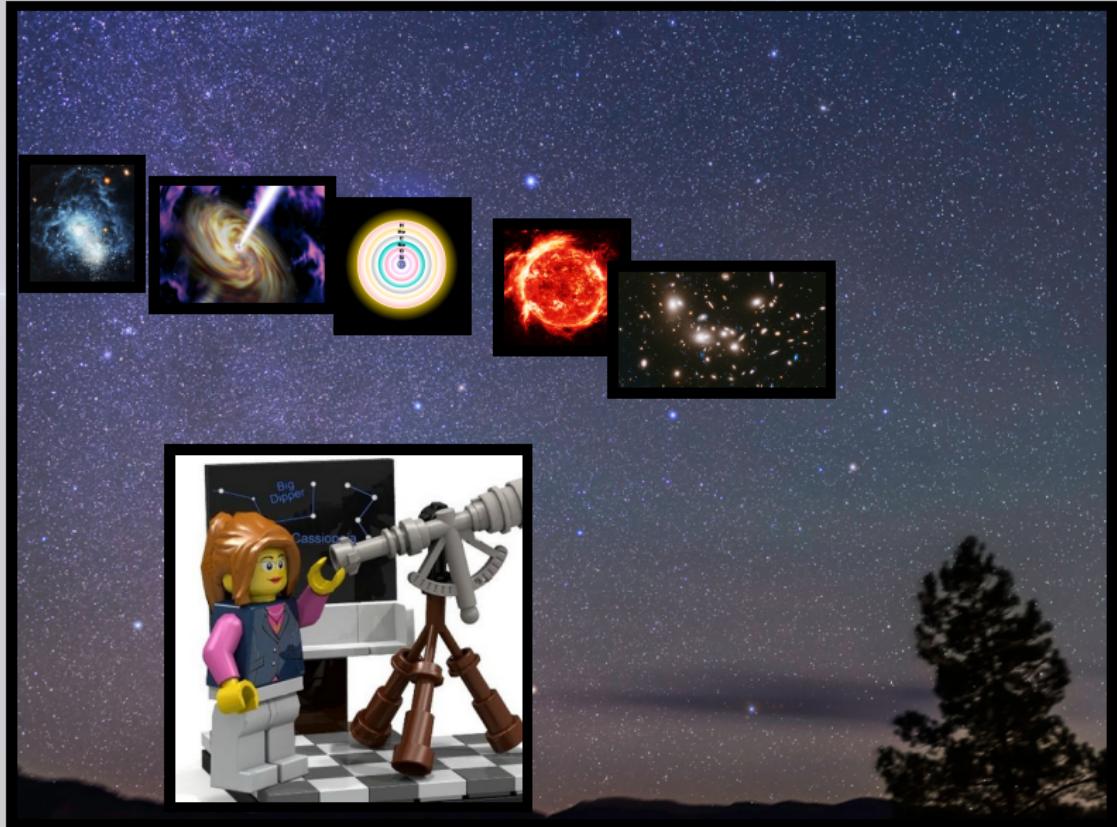
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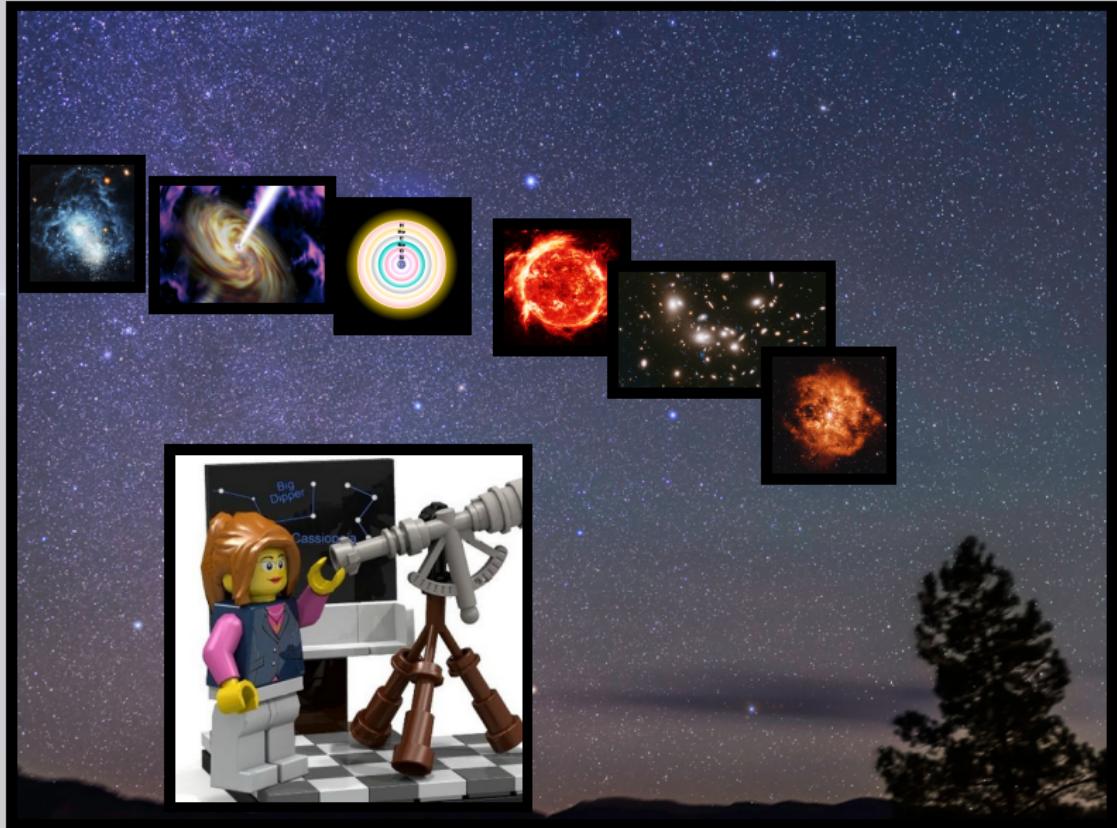
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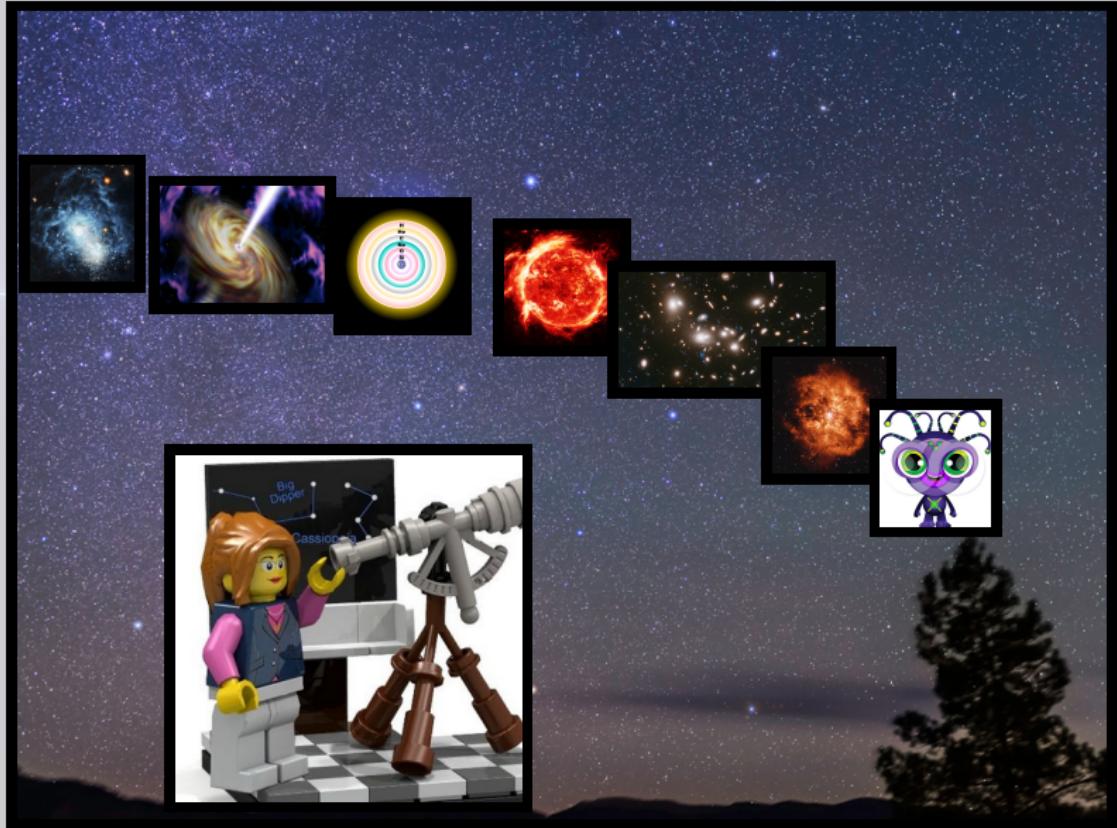
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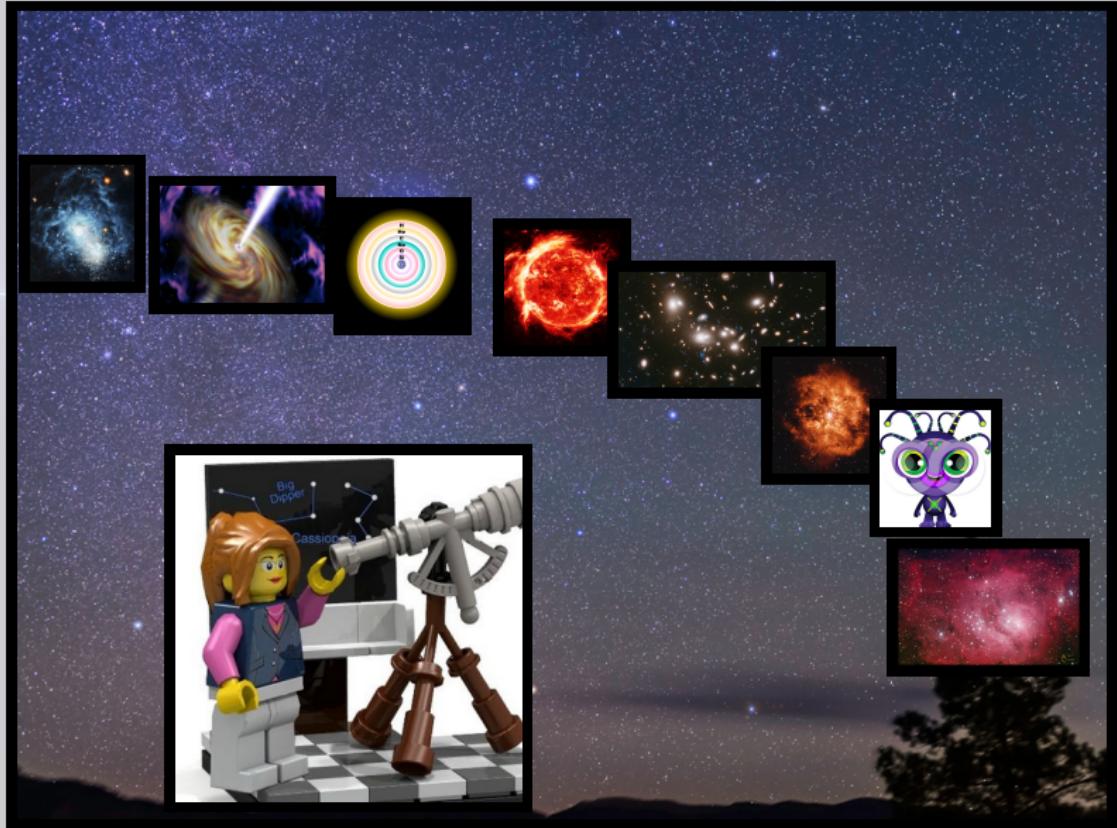
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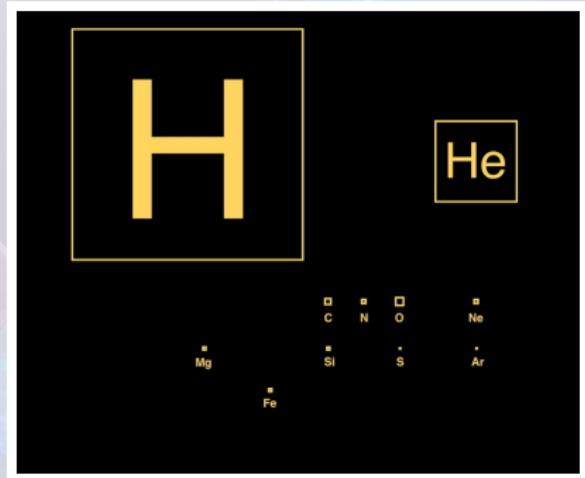
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Astronomers and metal

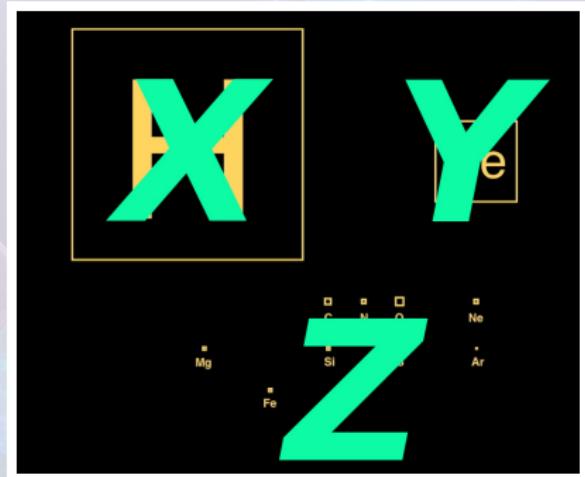
Astronomers and metal

LEGEND																	
		Non-Metal															
		Metal															
H																	He
Li	Be																
Na	Mg																
K	Ca	Se	Ti	V	Cr	Mn	Fe	Co	Ni	Cu	Zn	Ga	Ge	As	Se	Br	Kr
Rb	Sr	Y	Zr	Nb	Mo	Tc	Ru	Rh	Pd	Ag	Cd	In	Sn	Sb	Te	I	Xe
Cs	Ba	La	Hf	Ta	W	Re	Os	Ir	Pt	Au	Hg	Tl	Pb	Bi	Po	At	Rn
Fr	Ra	Ac	Unq	Unp	Unh												



Astronomers and metal

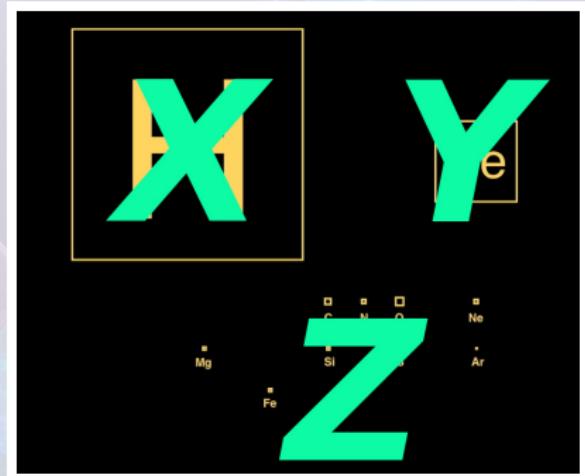
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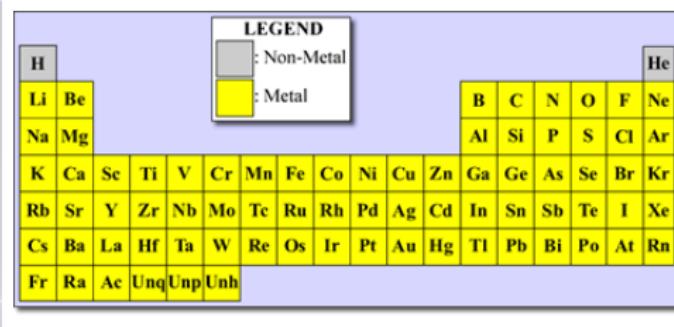
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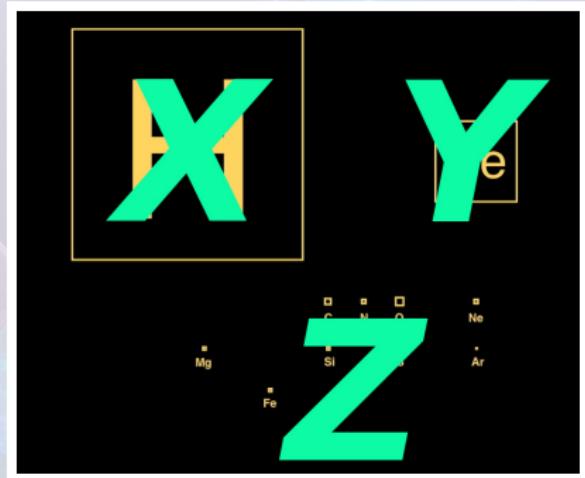
"Z: metallicity"



Astronomers and metal



"Z: metallicity"



The early Universe ($Z \approx 0$)



Credit: hubblesite.org

Compact Dwarf Galaxies



Legrand+07, Aloisi+09, Annibali+13, Kehrig+13, Lebouteiller+13

Compact Dwarf Galaxies

I Zwicky 18

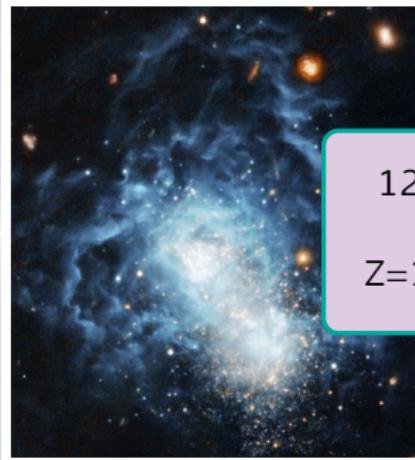
- Blue Compact Dwarf Galaxy
- 60 million lightyears → local
- star formation rate: $0.1 M_{\odot}/\text{yr}$
- ionized gas
- low metallicity!



Compact Dwarf Galaxies

I Zwicky 18

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$$12 + \log(\text{O/H}) = 7.17$$

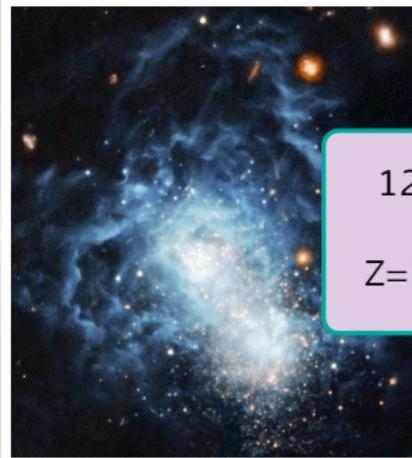


$$Z = 1/50 Z_{\odot} \approx 0.0002$$

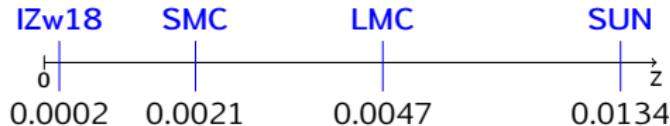
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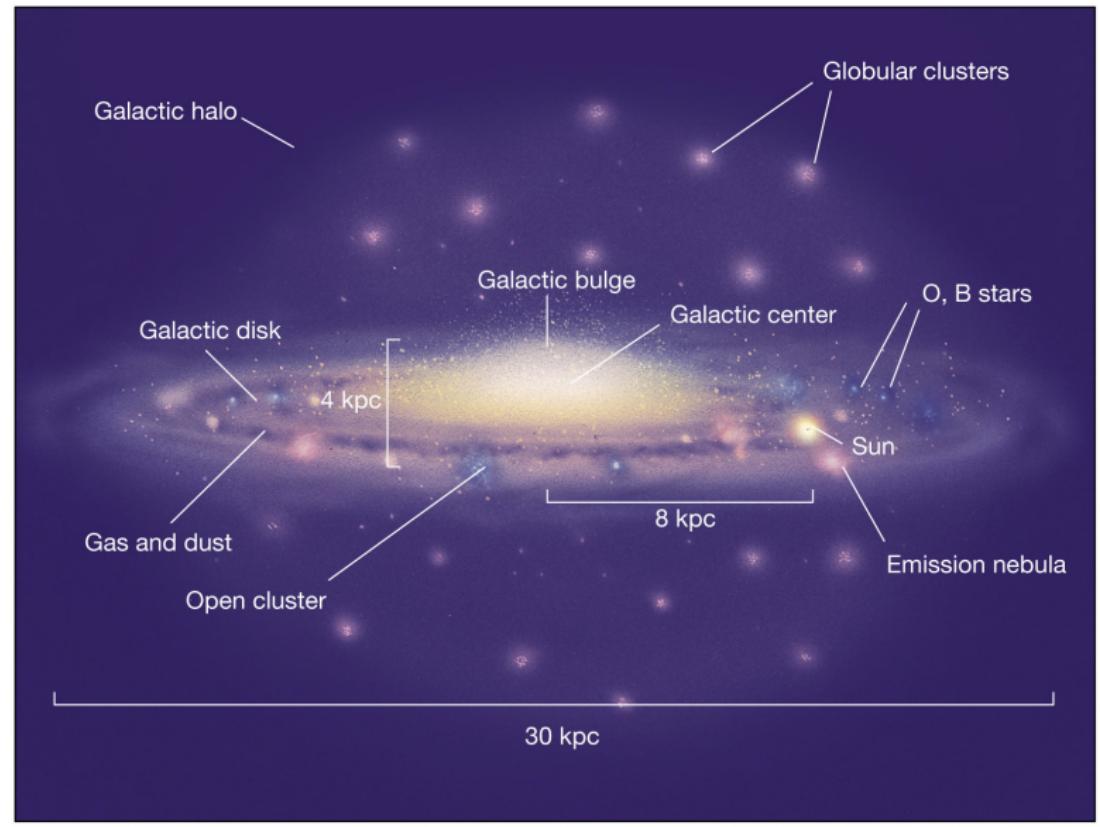
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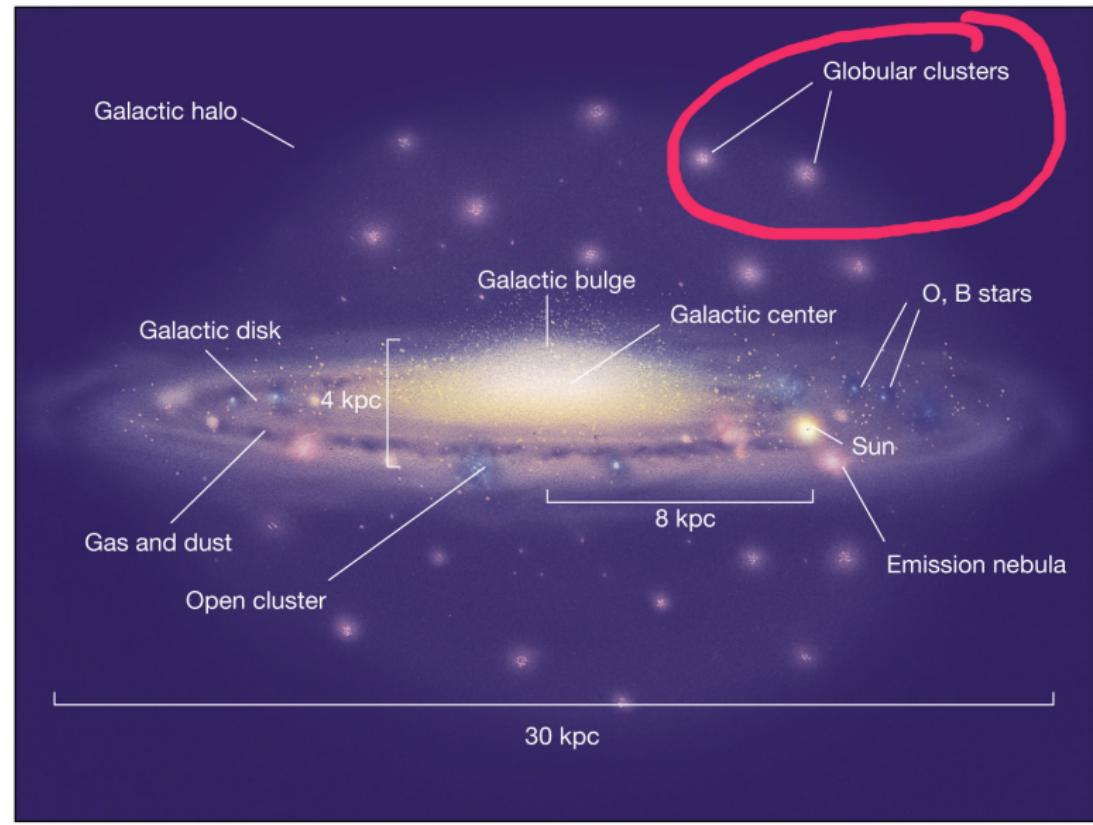
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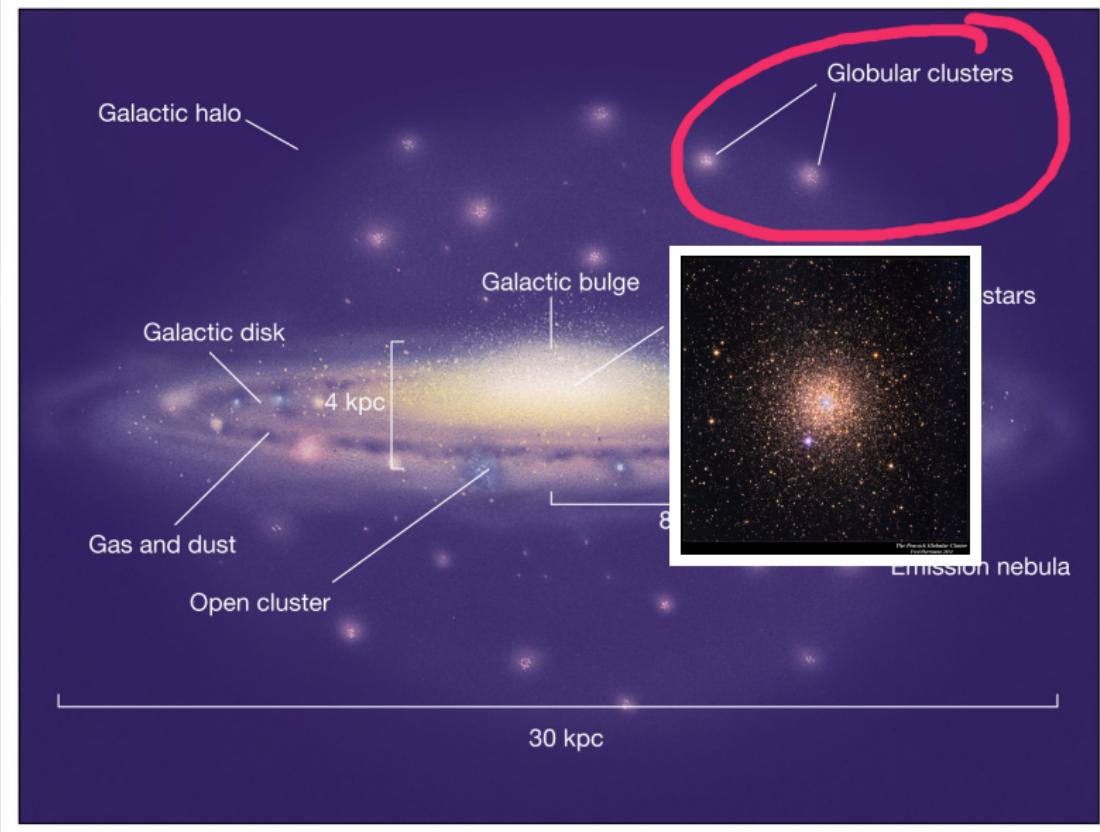
Globular Clusters



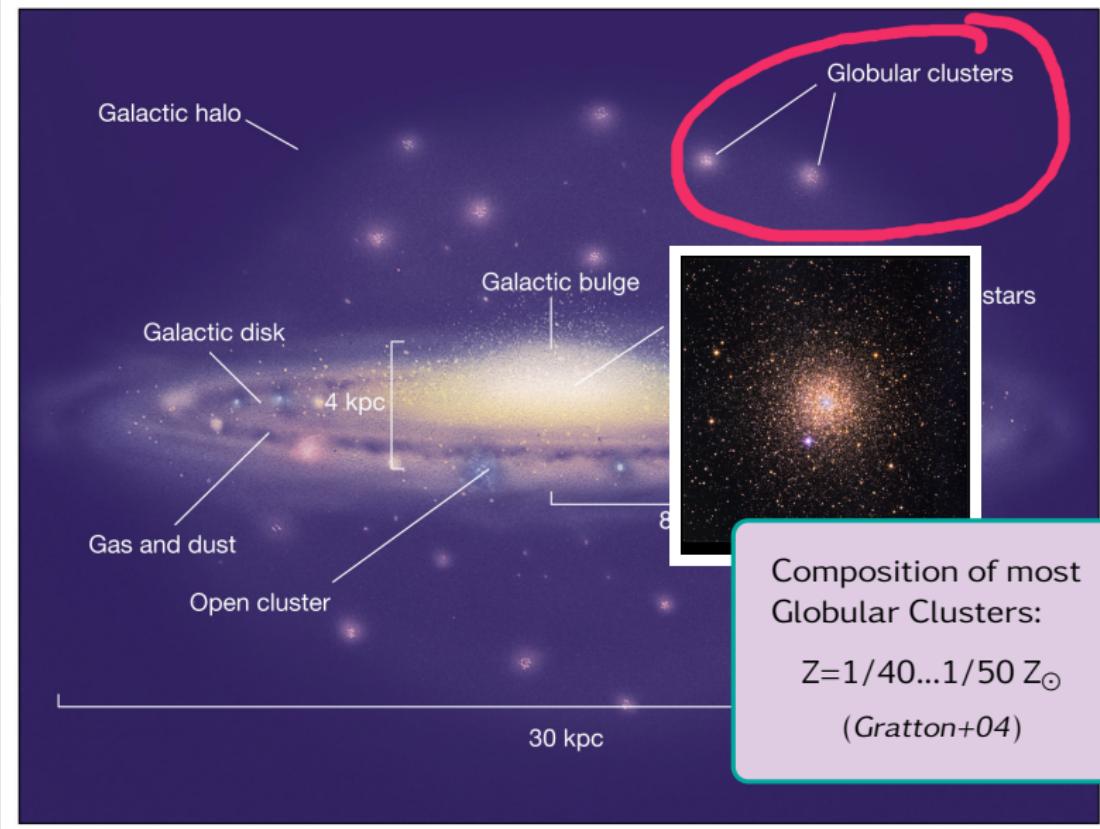
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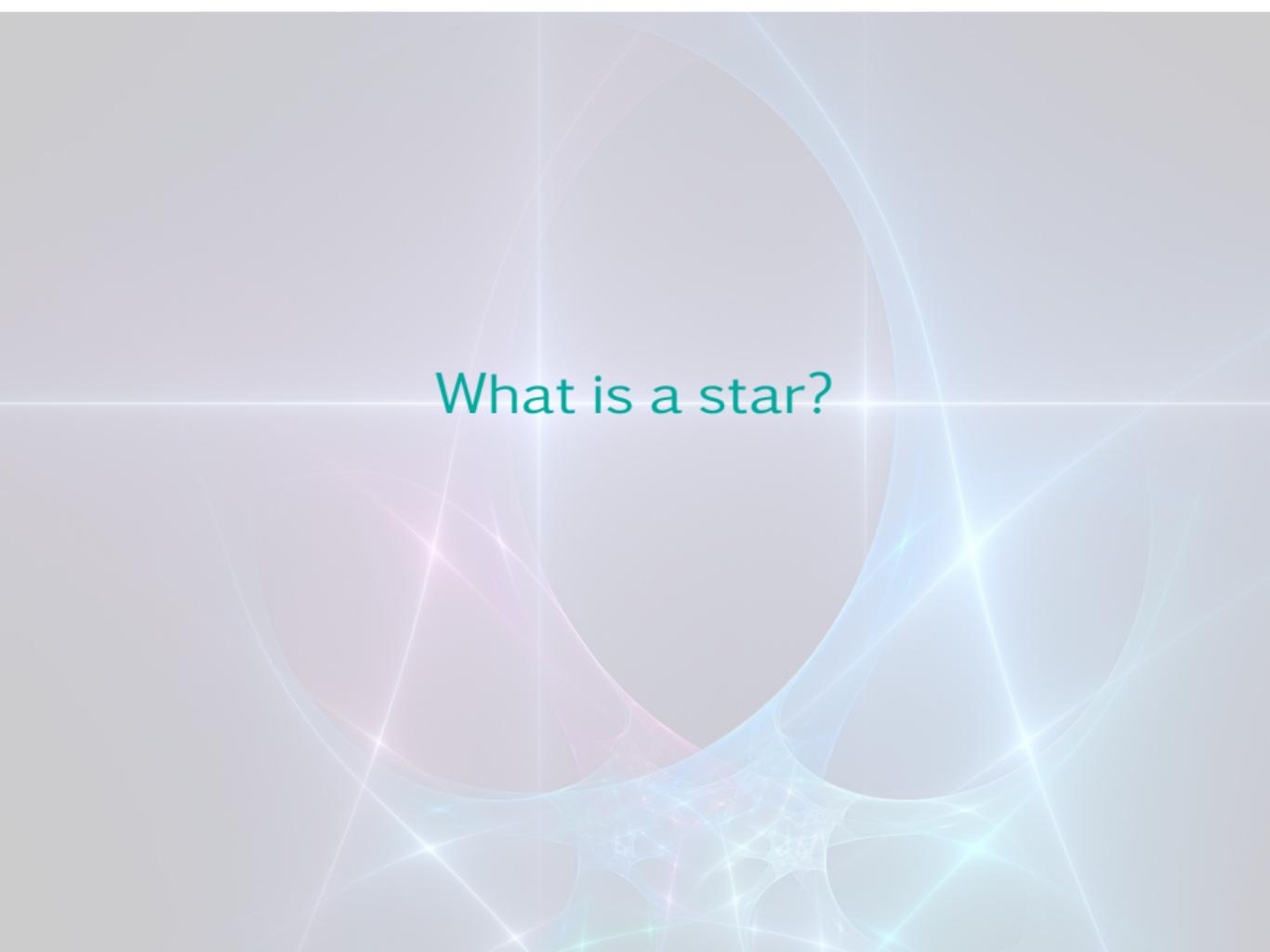


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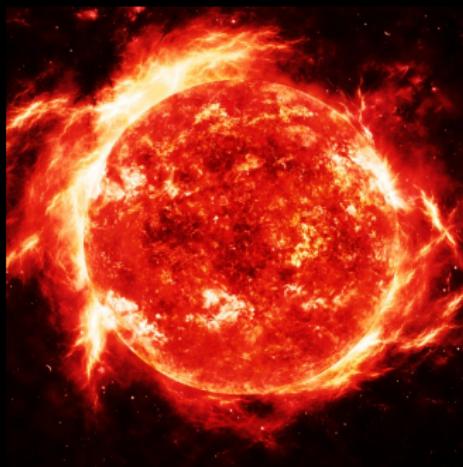
Globular Clusters





What is a star?

What is a star?

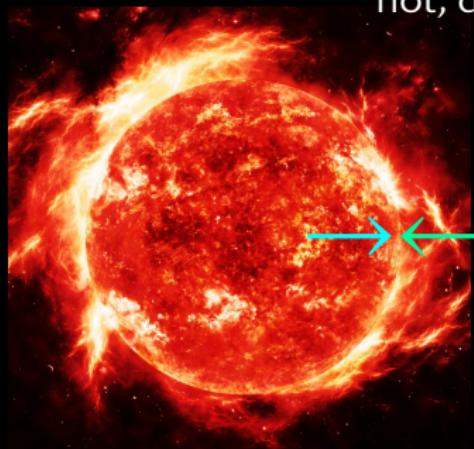


What is a star?



hot, dense plasma

What is a star?



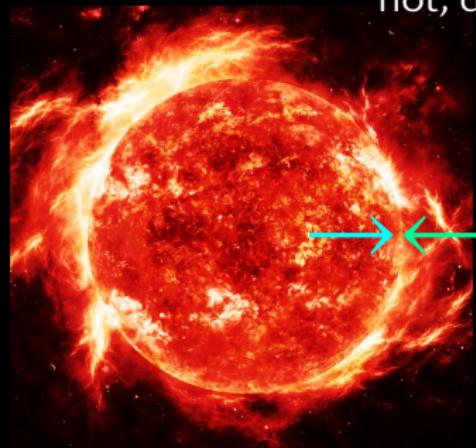
hot, dense plasma

equilibrium:

pressure gradient gravity

What is a star?

surface?



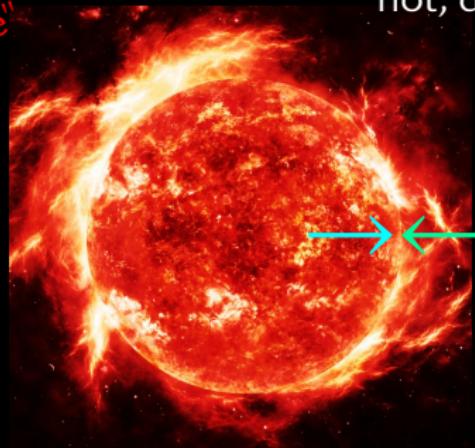
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What is a star?

Surface?
→ photons escape
"photosphere"



hot, dense plasma



equilibrium:

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What is a star?

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→ photons escape
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hot, dense plasma

What is inside?



pressure gradient gravity



What is a star?

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What is inside?

pressure gradient

theoretical
modelling
of the stellar
structure

gravity



Theoretical modelling of the stellar structure

$$\frac{\partial r}{\partial m_r} = \frac{1}{4\pi r^2 \rho} \quad \text{equation of definition of mass} \quad (9)$$

$$\frac{\partial P}{\partial m_r} = -\frac{Gm_r}{4\pi r^4} \quad \text{equation of hydrostatic equilibrium} \quad (10)$$

$$\frac{\partial L_r}{\partial m_r} = \epsilon_{\text{pl}} - T \frac{\partial S}{\partial t} \quad \text{equation of energetic balance} \quad (11)$$

$$\frac{\partial T}{\partial m_r} = -\frac{Gm_r T}{4\pi r^4 P} \nabla \quad \text{equation of energy transport,} \quad (12)$$

Guilera et al. 2011

Theoretical modelling of the stellar structure

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composition change due to nuclear burning ?!

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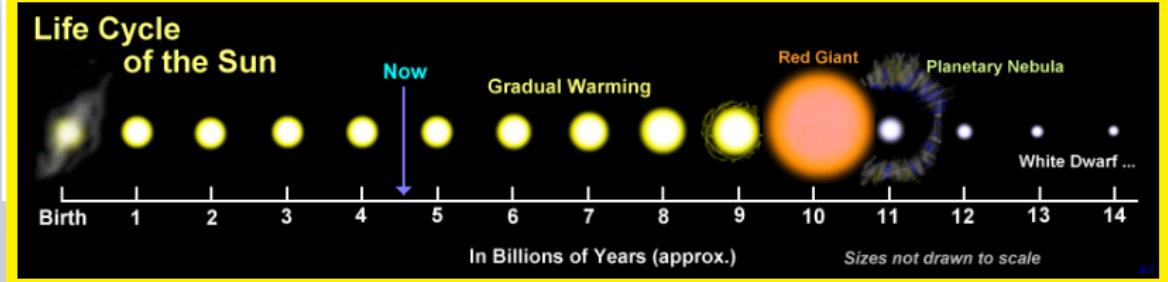
+ Rotation.

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$\partial L / \partial S$



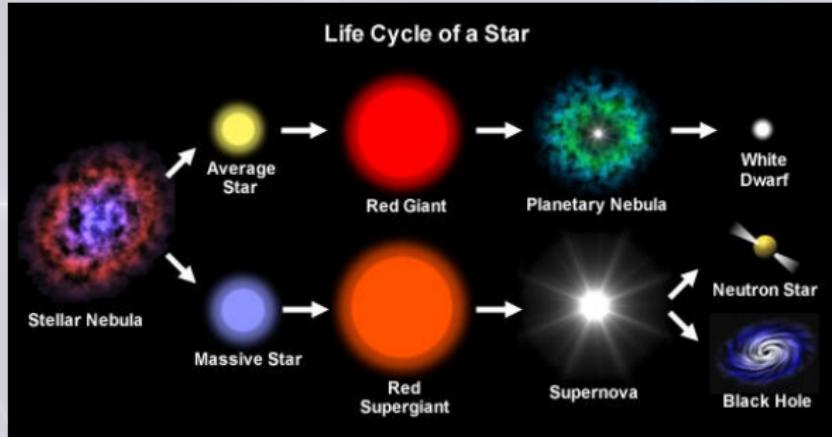
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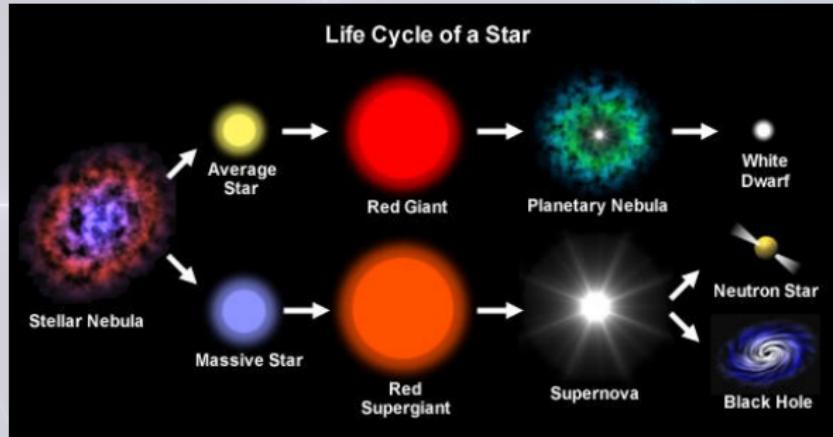
Massive vs. low-mass stars

Massive stars: \gtrsim 9 times the Sun ($\gtrsim 9 M_{\odot}$)



Massive vs. low-mass stars

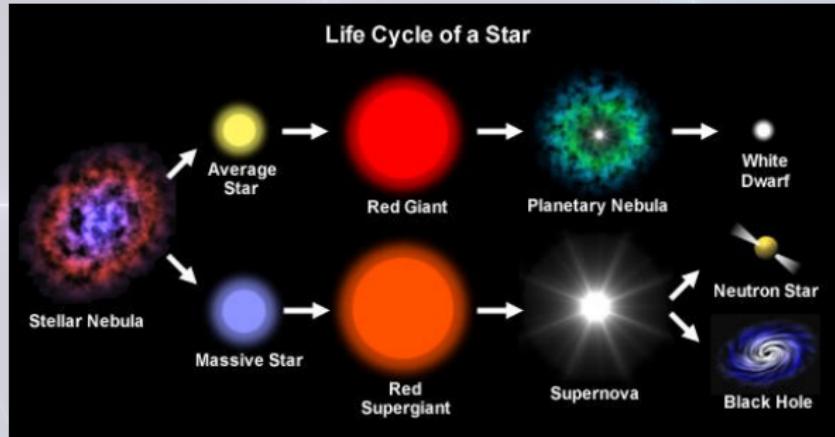
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- nuclear reactions, final composition

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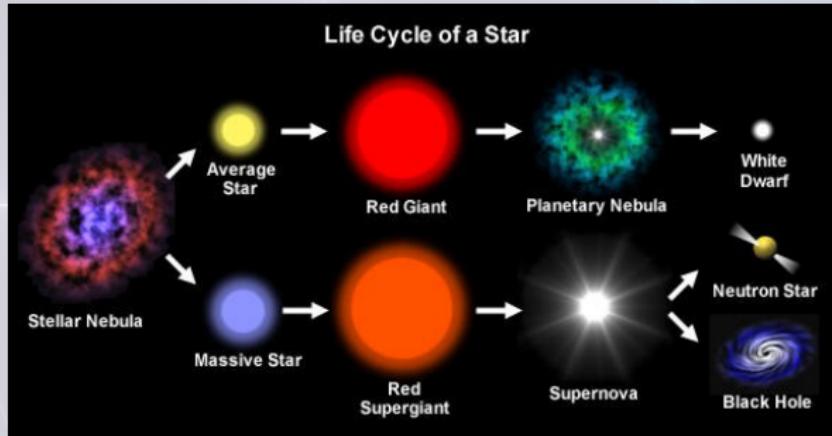
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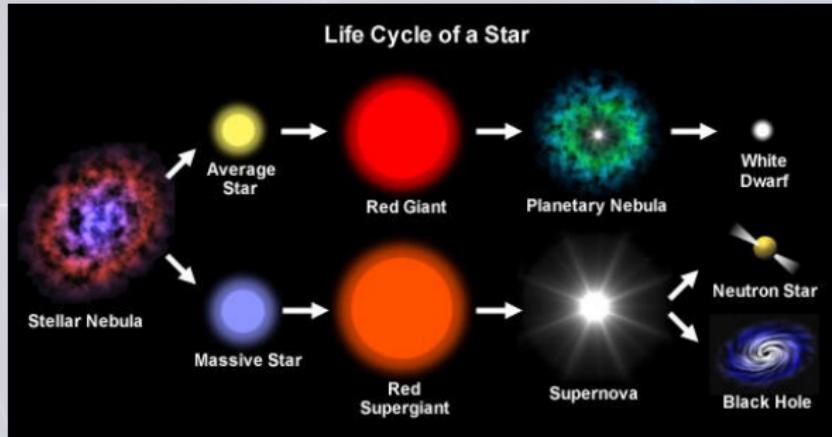
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- number of stars: massive stars are rare
- lifetime: massive stars have shorter lives
- final fate

Matching theory to observations

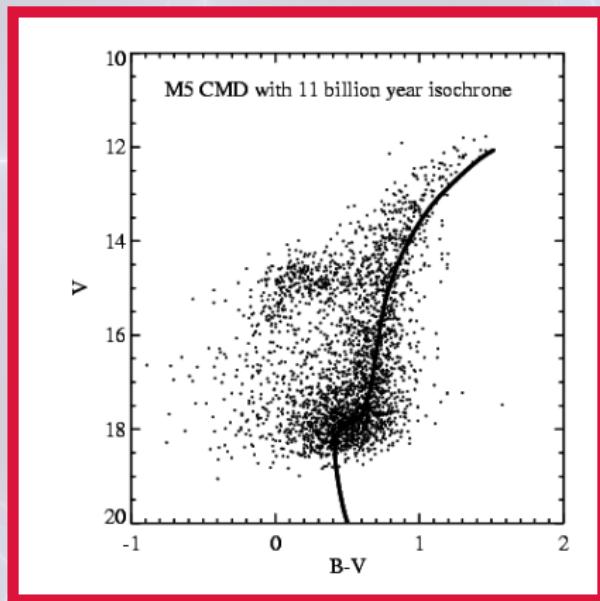
Surface properties!

Matching theory to observations

Surface properties! → temperature (i.e. colour) X axis
→ luminosity (i.e. brightness) Y axis

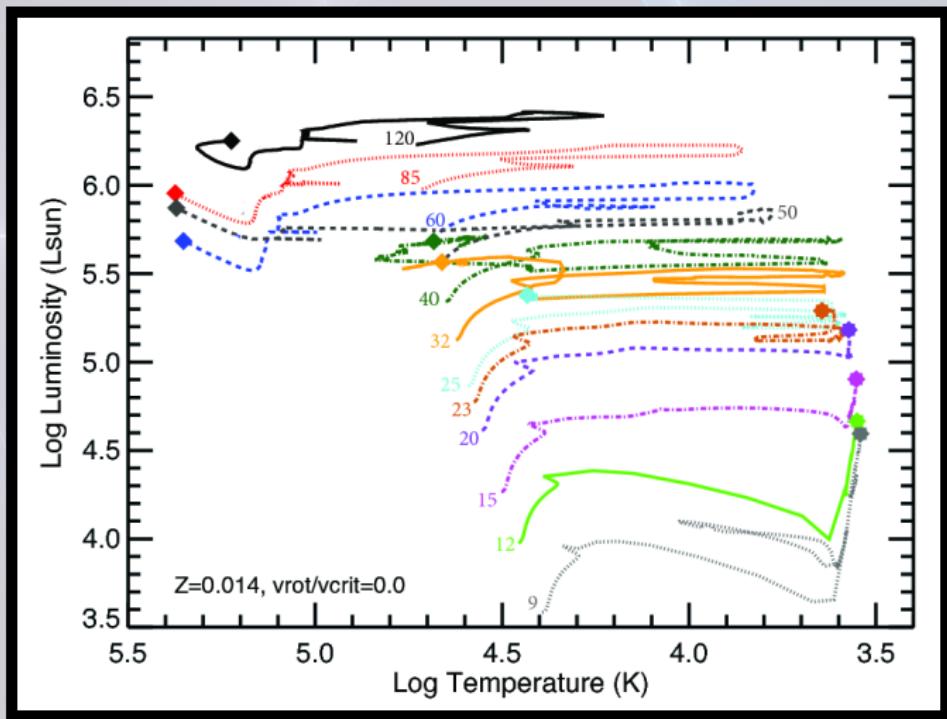
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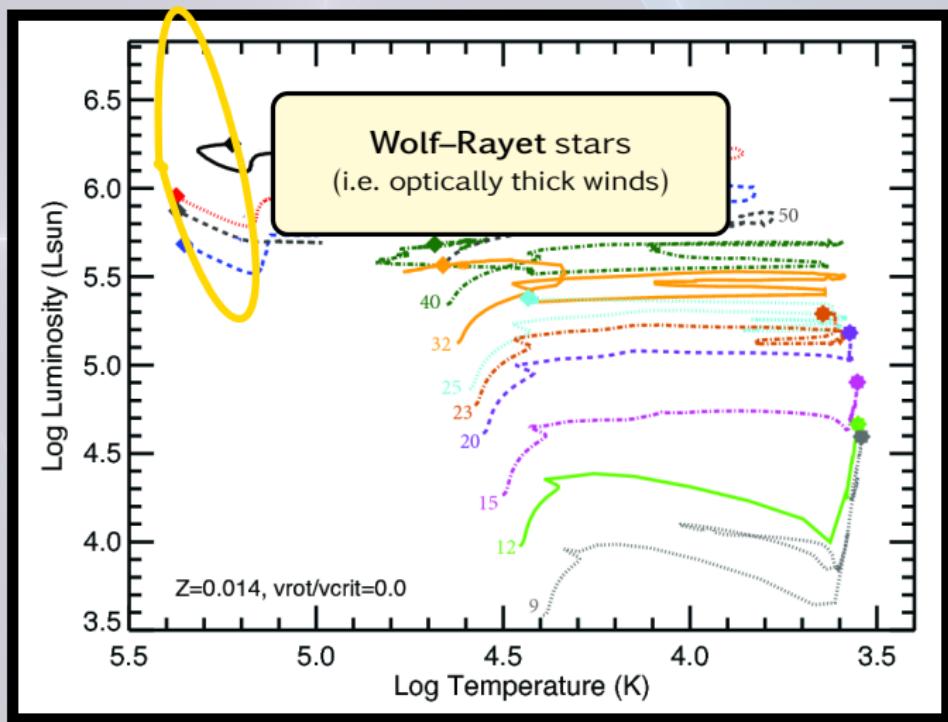


Hertzsprung–Russell diagram (HR diagram)

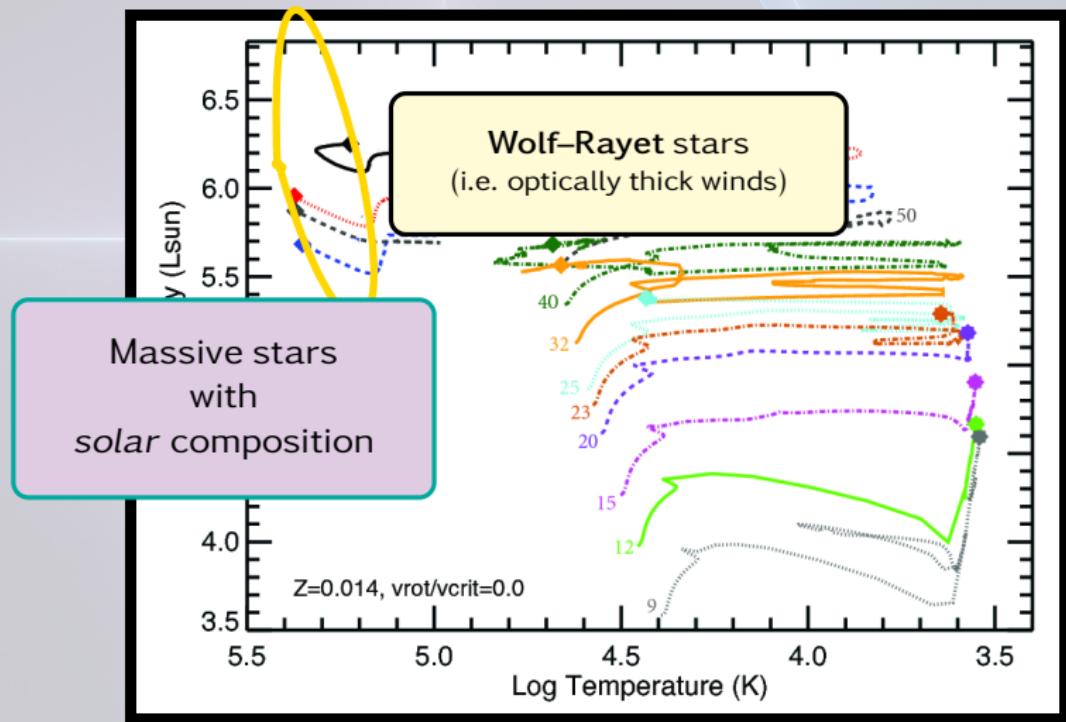
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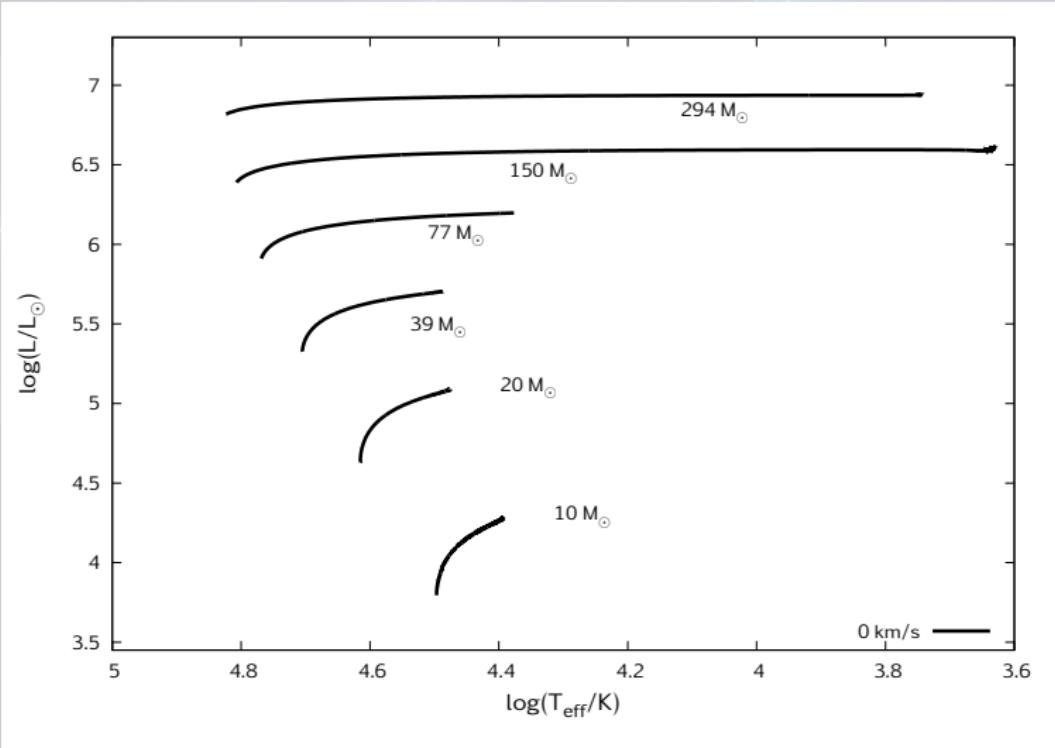
Low Metallicity Massive Stars

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– my thesis ☺

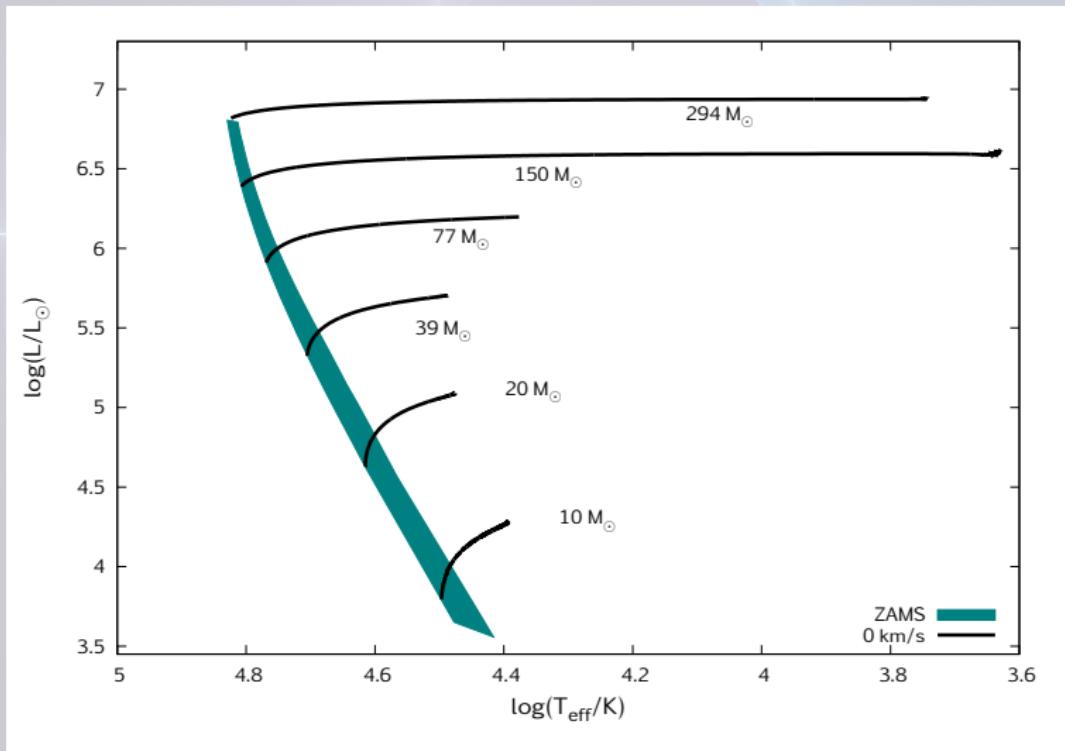
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Szécsi et al. 2015 (Astronomy & Astrophysics, v.581, A15)



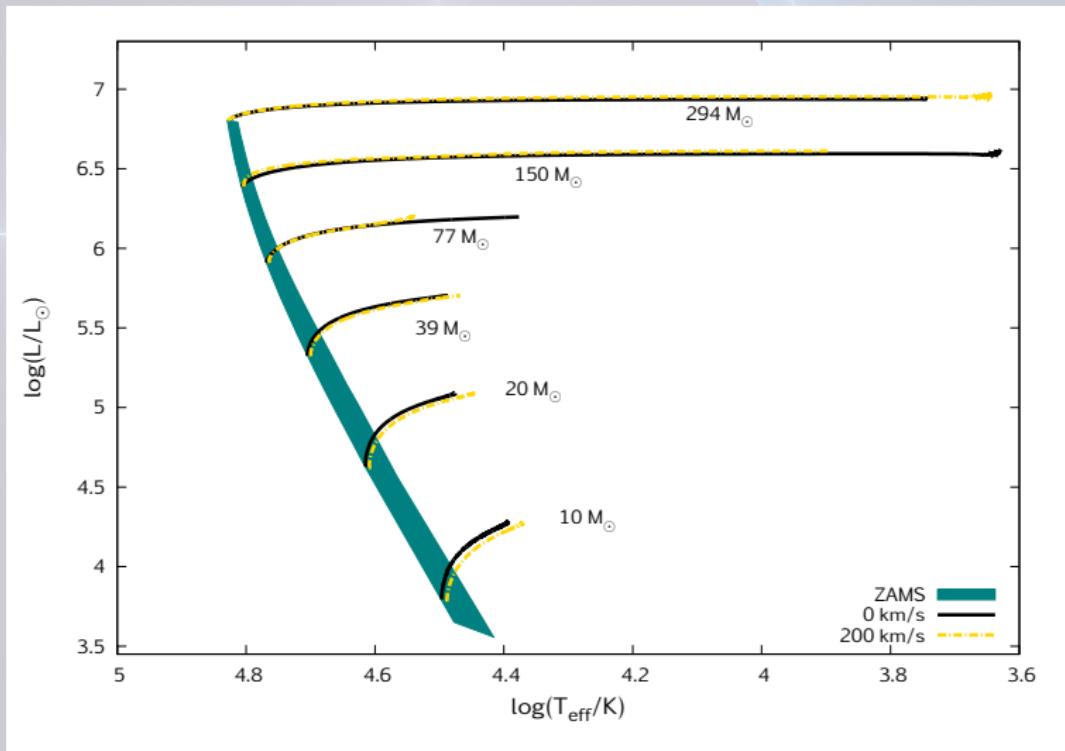
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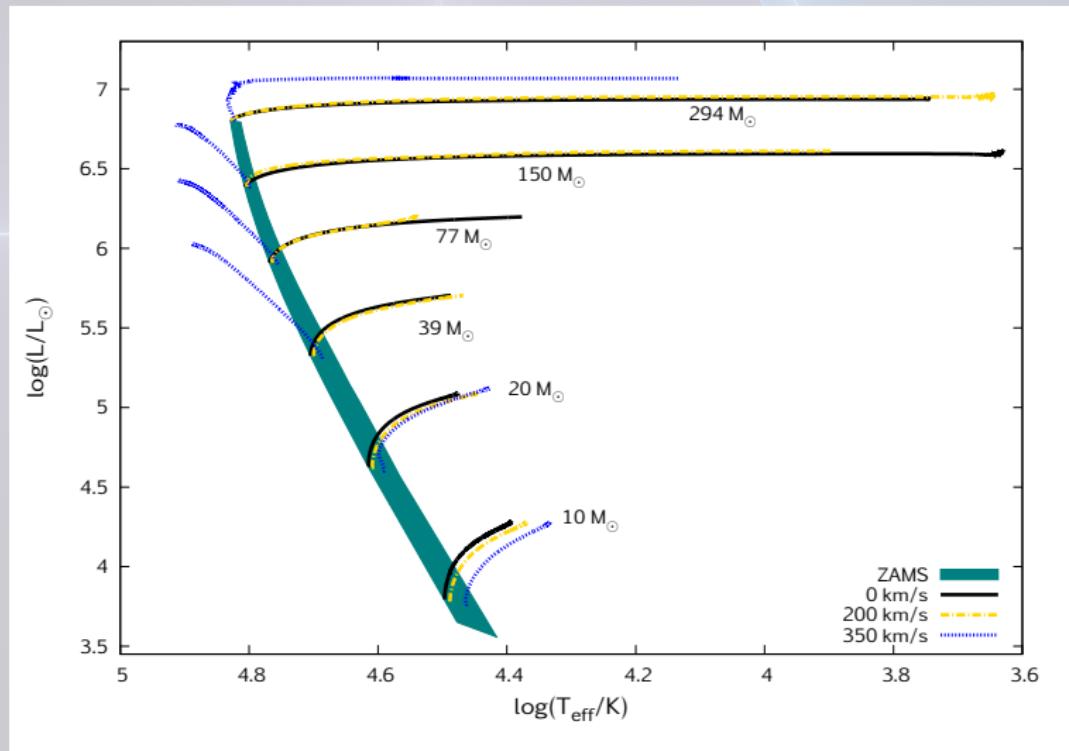
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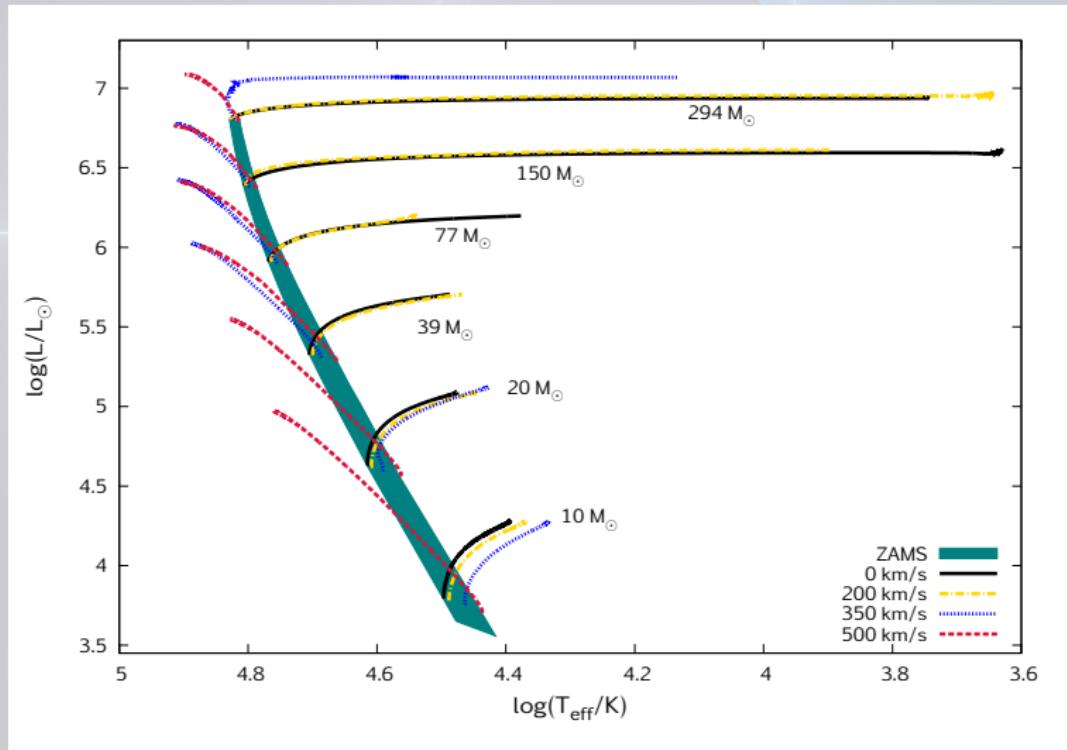
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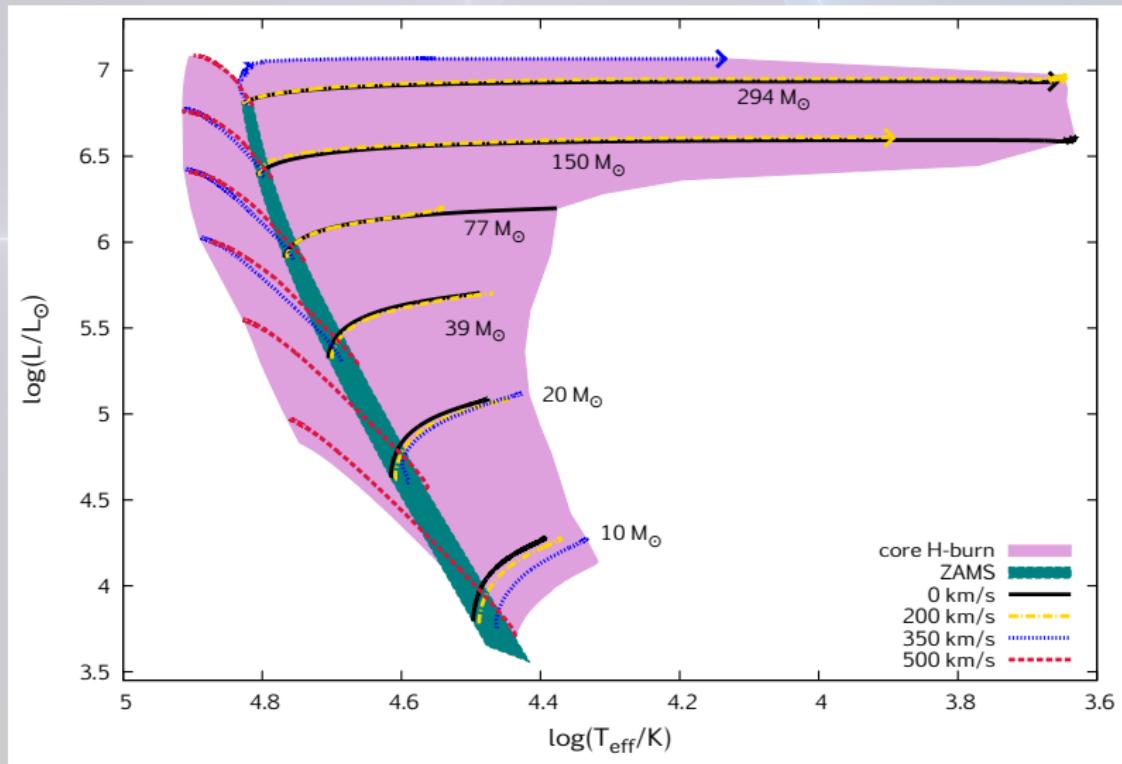
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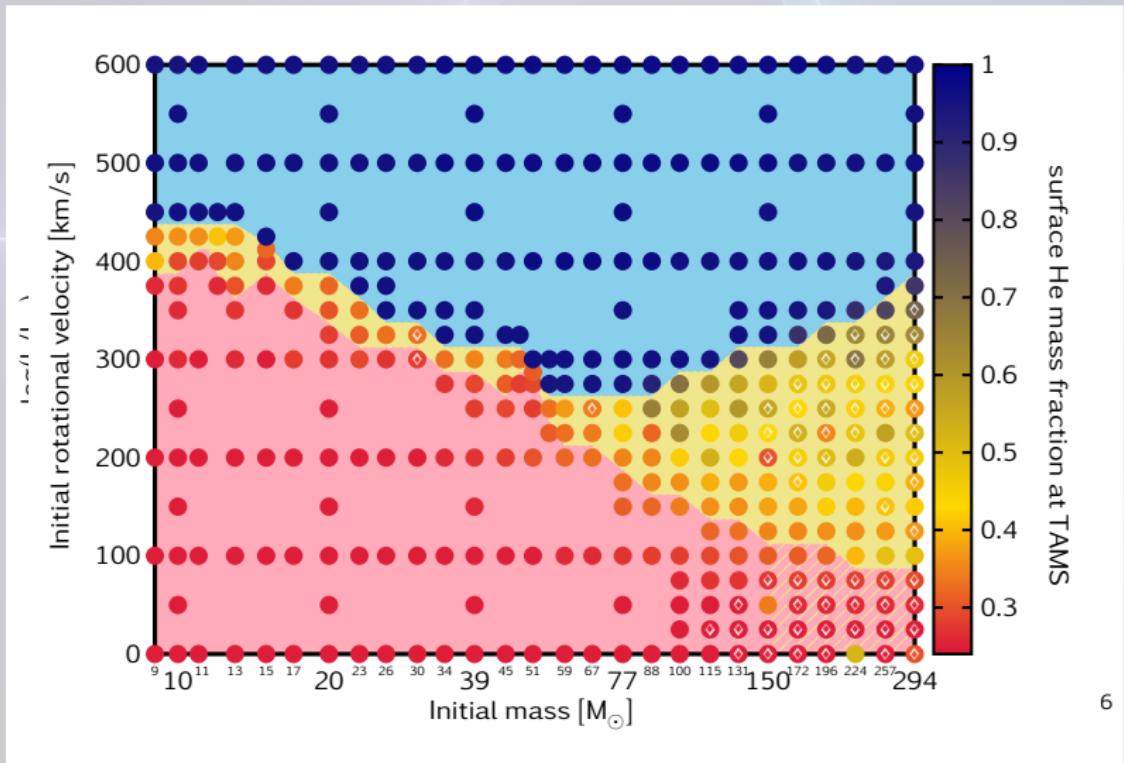
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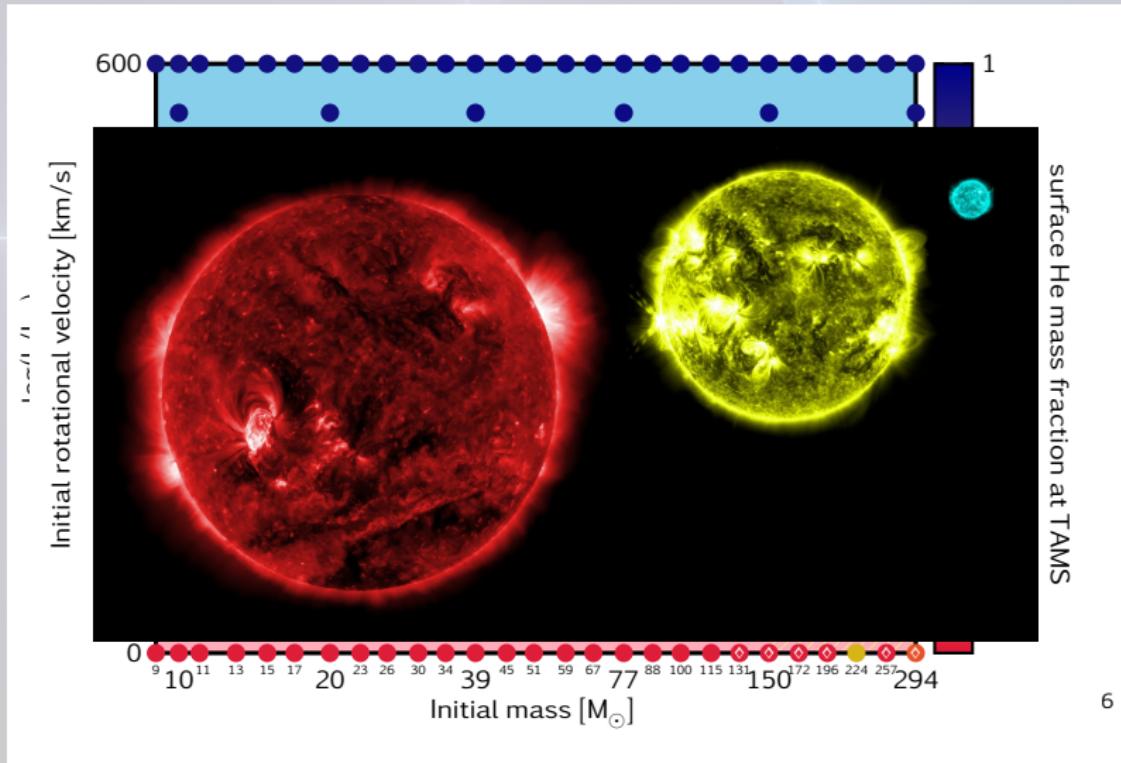
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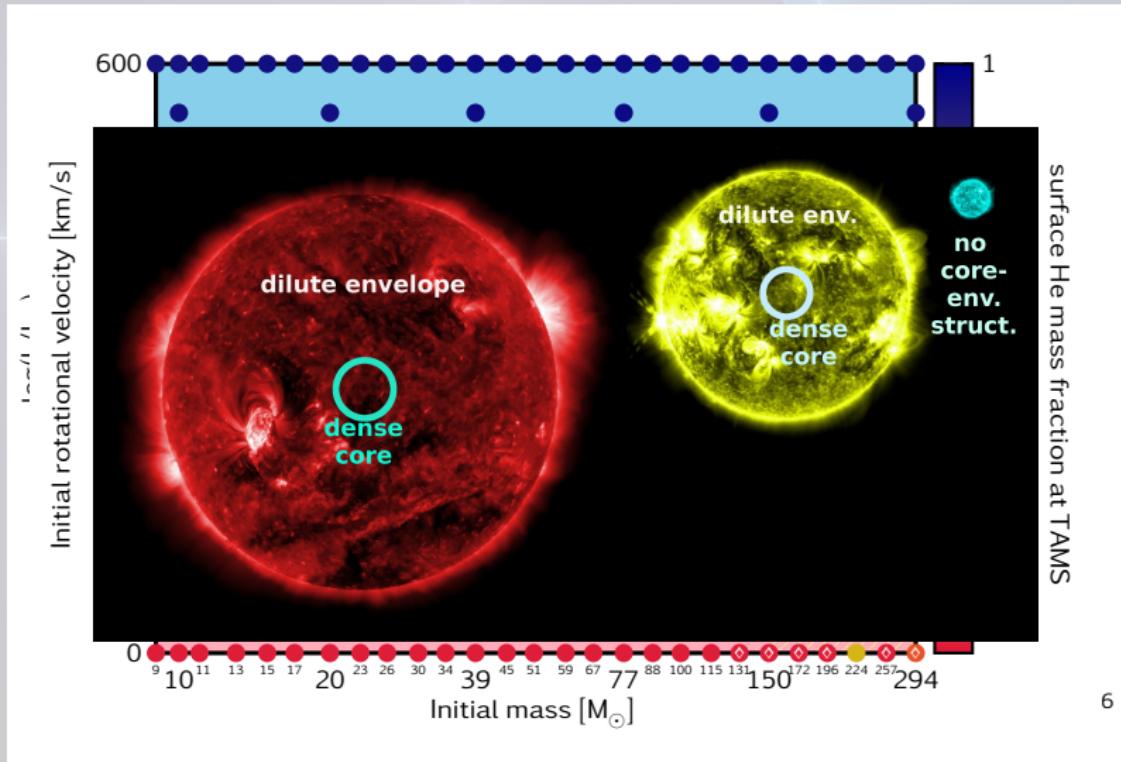
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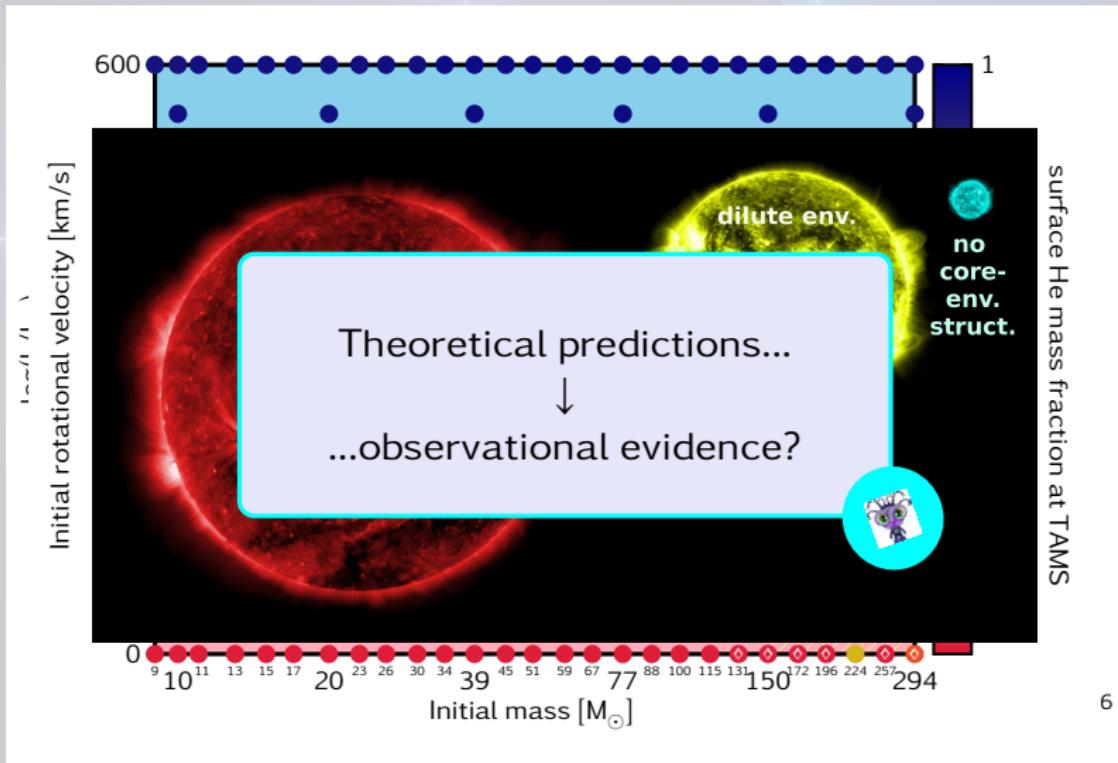
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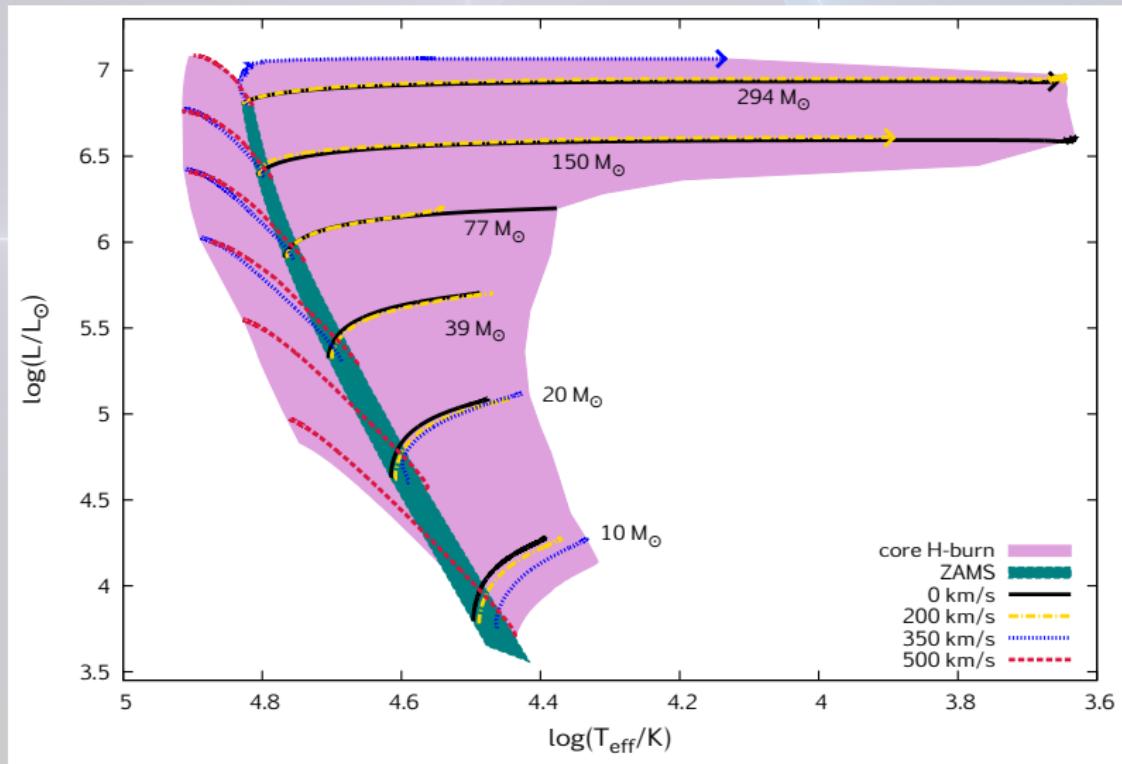
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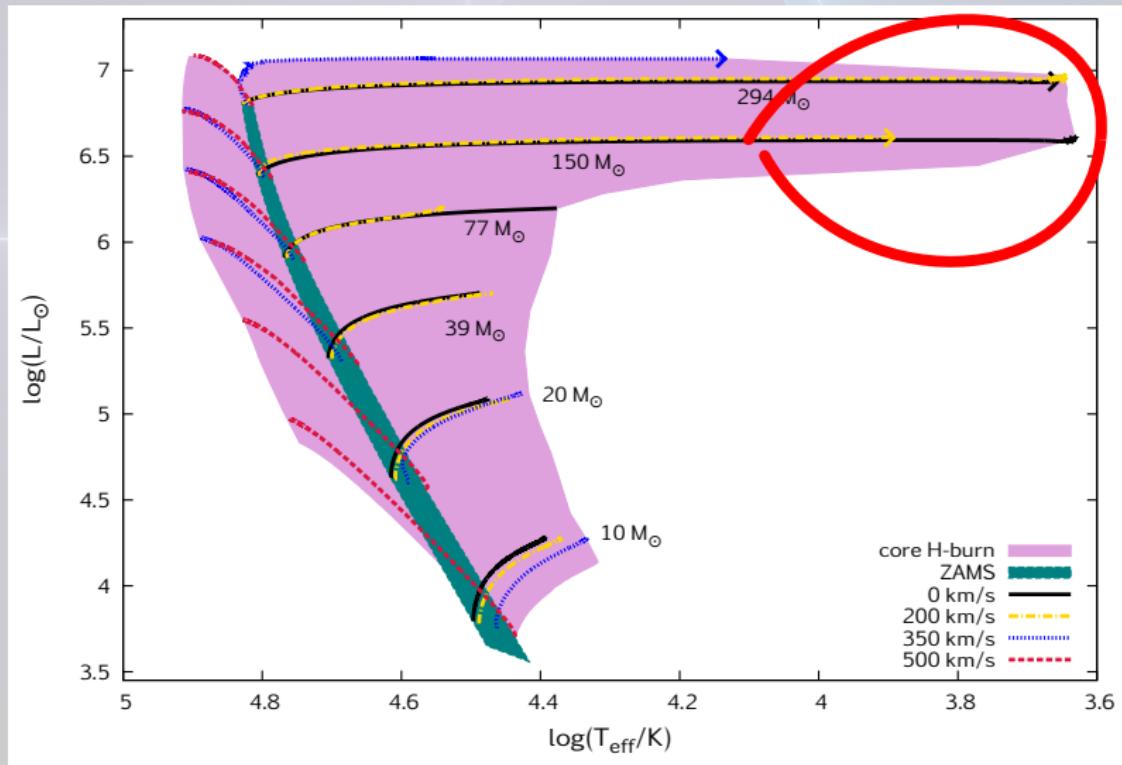
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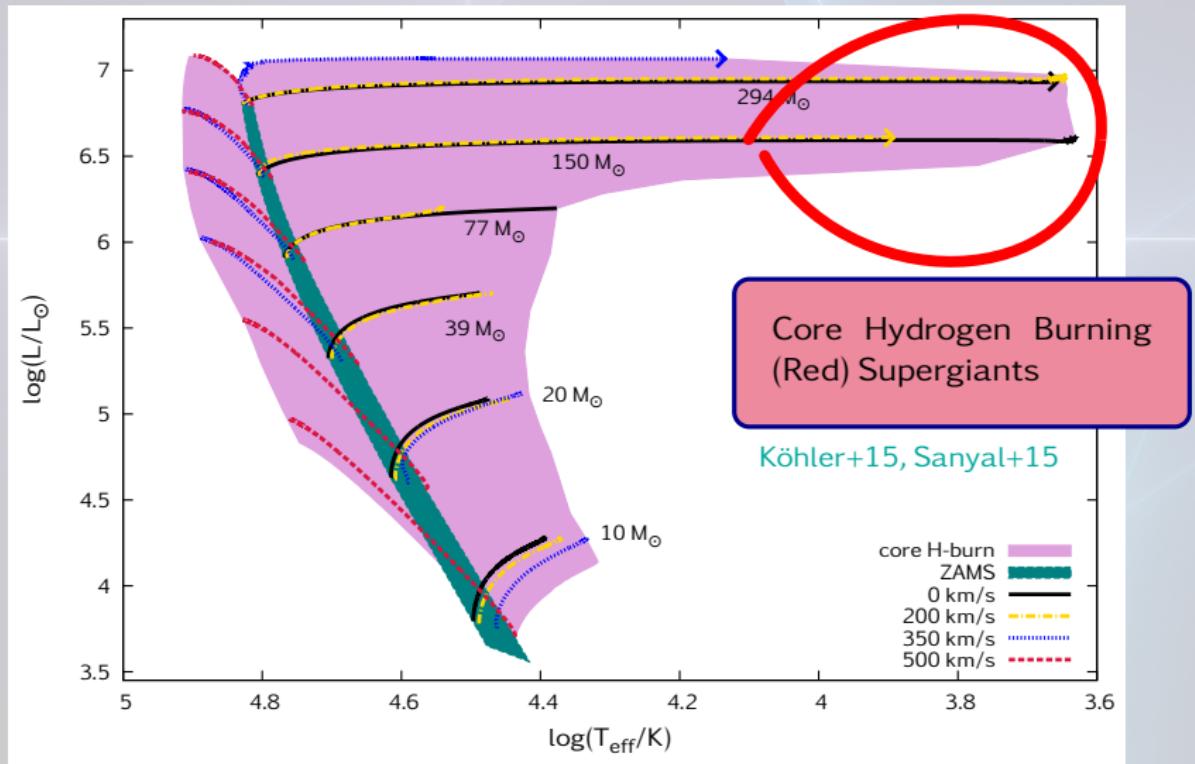
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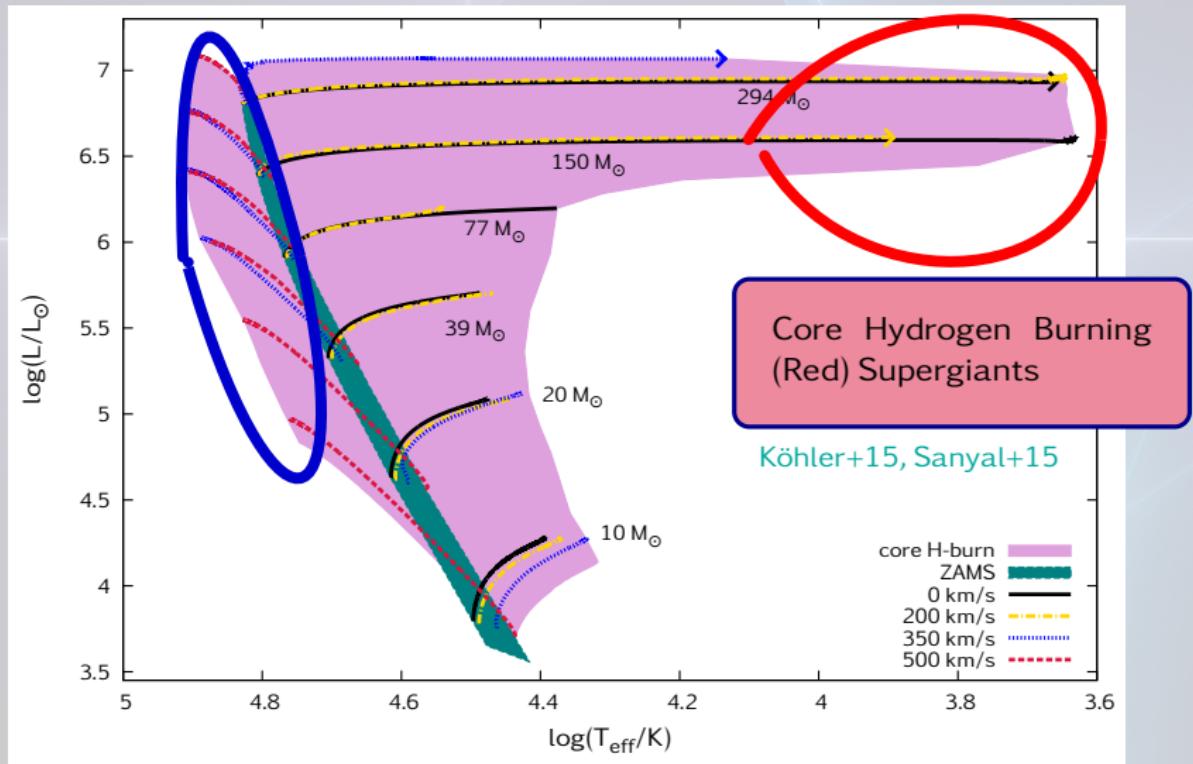
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Szécsi et al. 2015 (Astronomy & Astrophysics, v.581, A15)



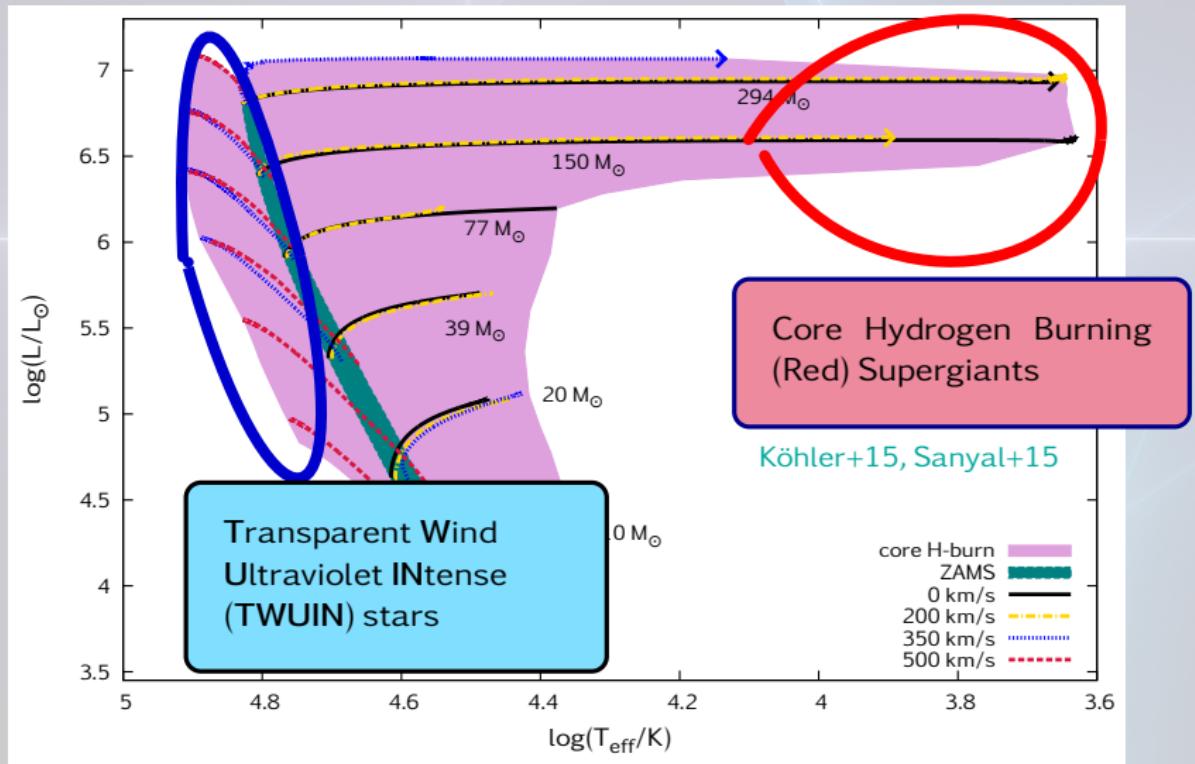
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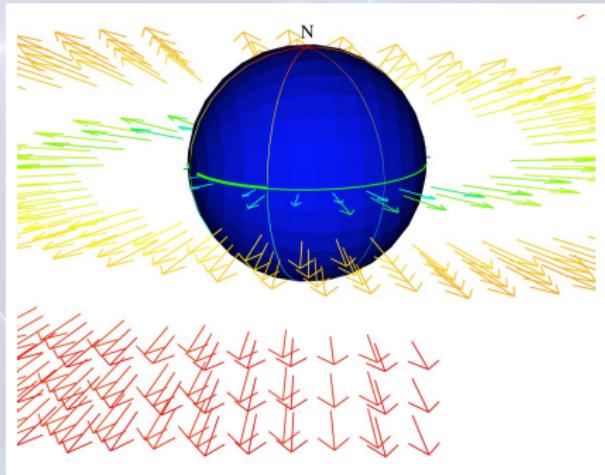
Transparent Wind
Ultraviolet INtense stars
(TWUIN stars)

– in the

starburst galaxy I Zwicky 18

Stellar winds

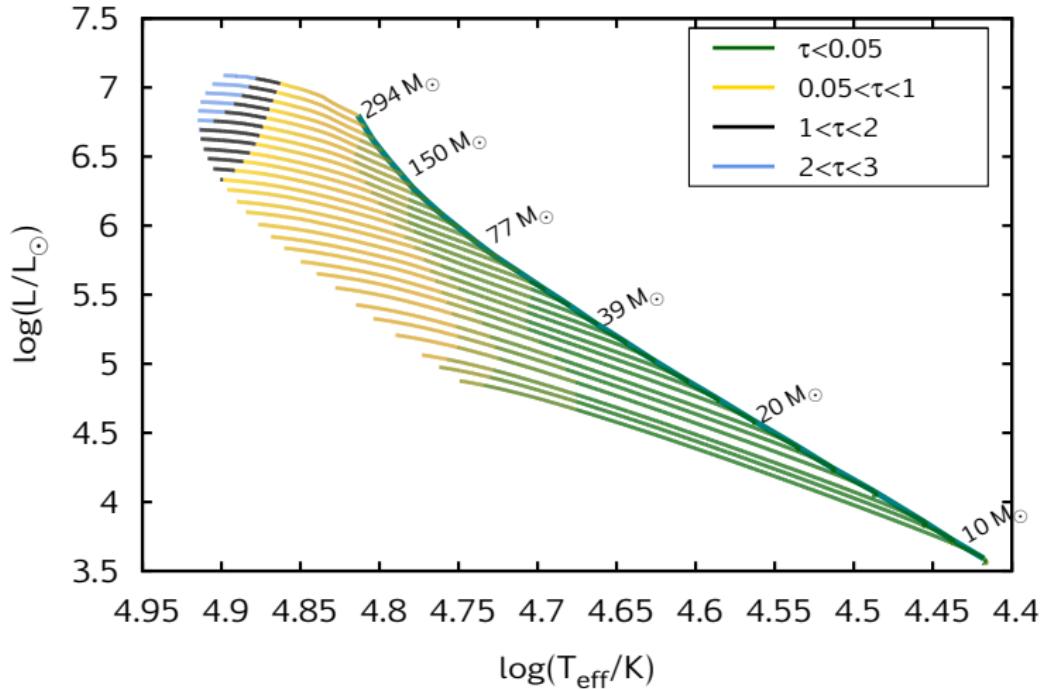
- stellar 'wind': accelerated particle flow
- hot stars at **solar Z**: Wolf–Rayet (WR) stars
 - opaque wind → strong emission lines
- hot stars at **low Z**?



Hot stars at low Z: transparent wind!

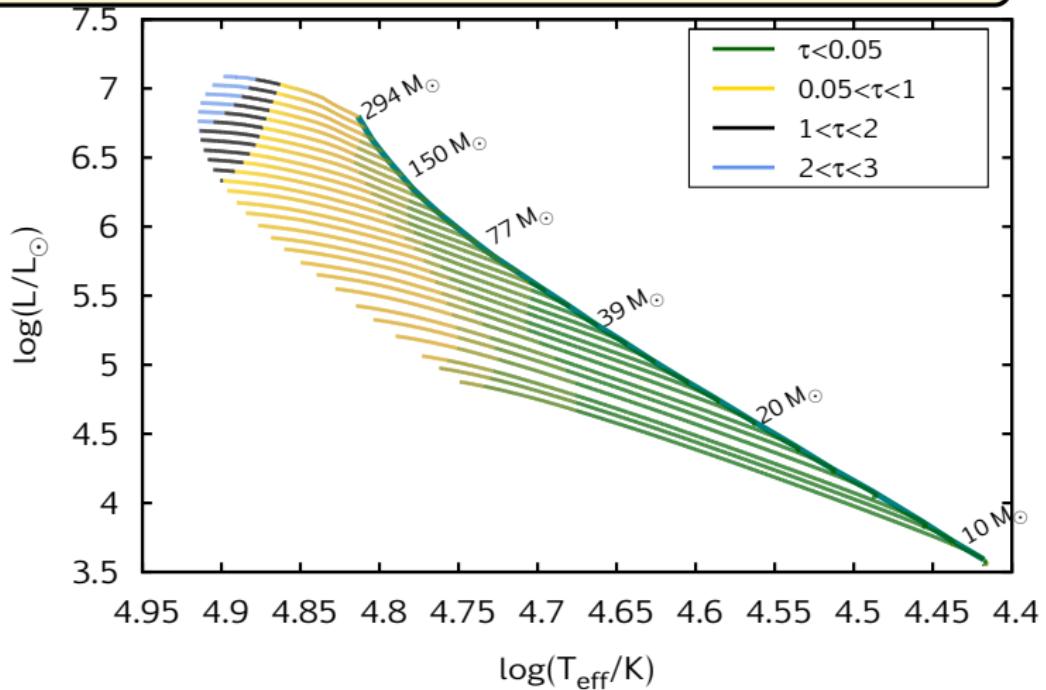


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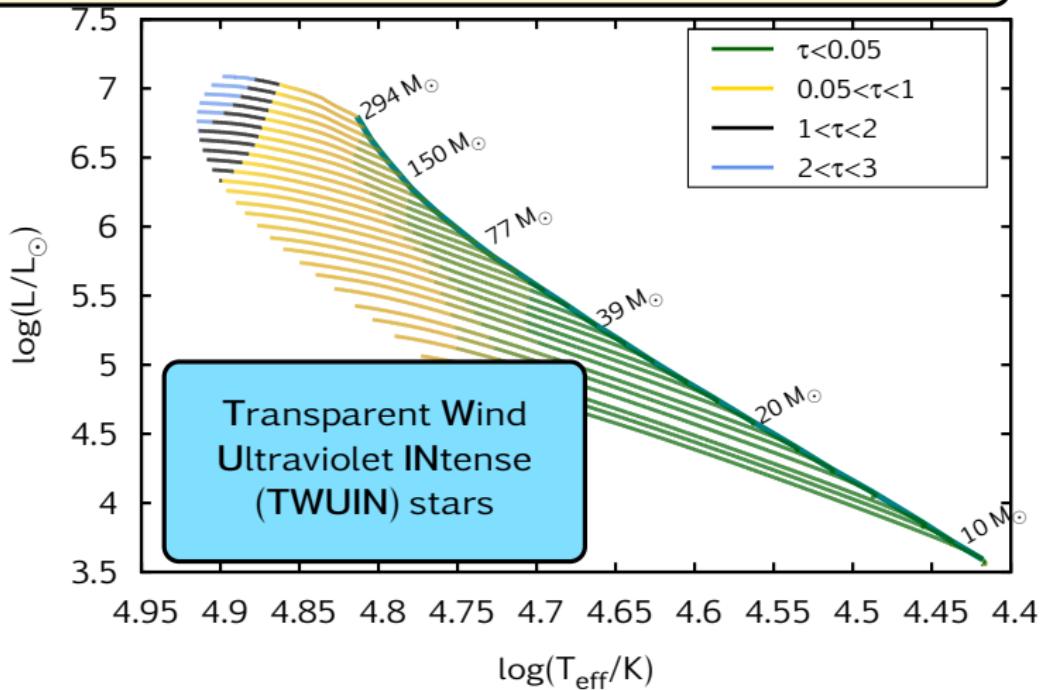
Hot stars at low Z: transparent wind!

Core-H-burning lifetime: wind optical depth is $\tau \lesssim 1$



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Back to I Zw 18

I Zwicky 18

- Blue Compact Dwarf Galaxy
- 60 million lightyears → local
- star formation rate: $0.1 M_{\odot}/\text{yr}$
- ionized gas
- low metallicity: $Z=1/50 Z_{\odot}$

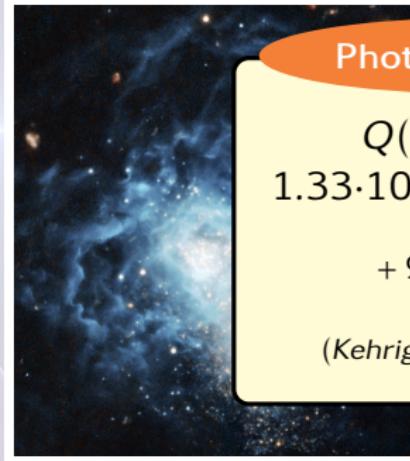


Legrand+07, Aloisi+09, Annibali+13, Kehrig+13, Lebouteiller+13

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Photoionization

$$Q(\text{H}\alpha)^{\text{obs}} = 1.33 \cdot 10^{50} \text{ photons s}^{-1}$$

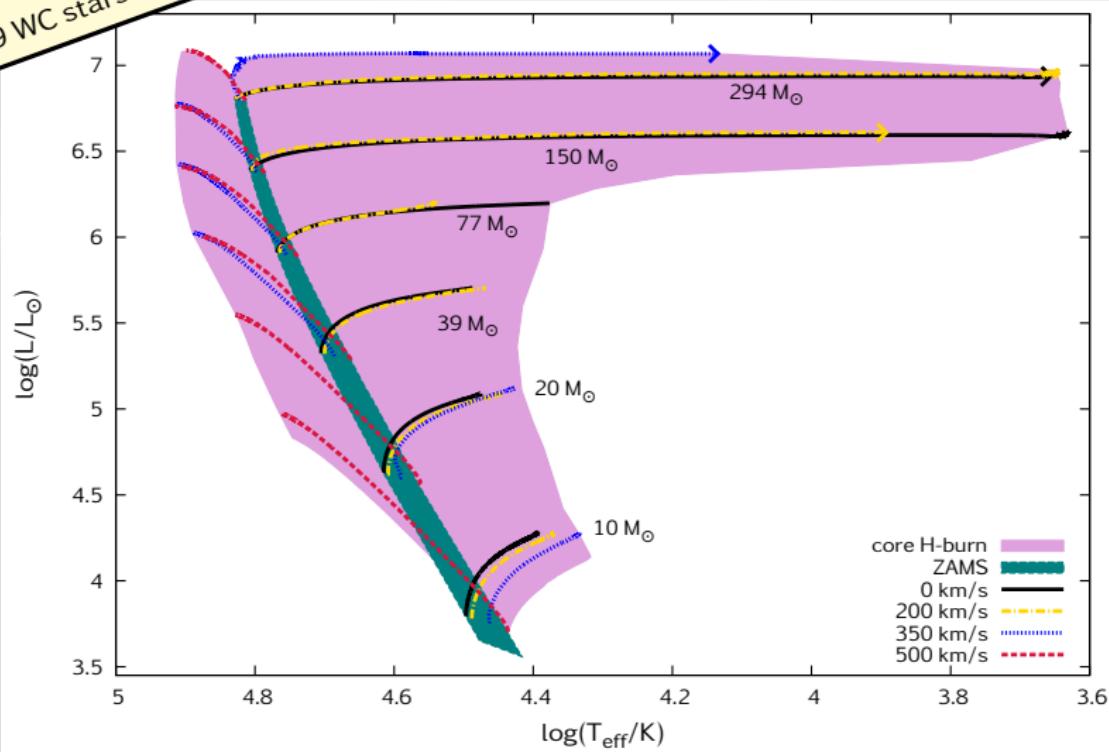
+ 9 WC stars

(Kehrig+15, Crowther+06)

Legrand+07, Aloisi+09, Annibali+13, Kehrig+13, Lebouteiller+13

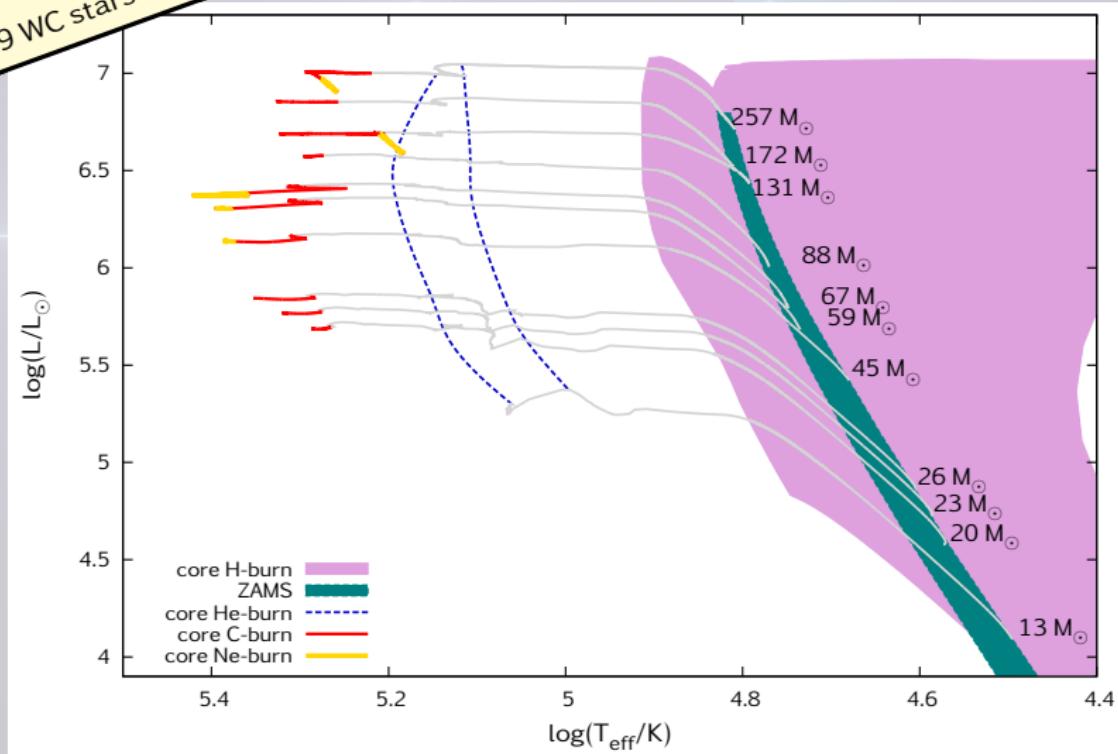
Photoionization in I Zw 18

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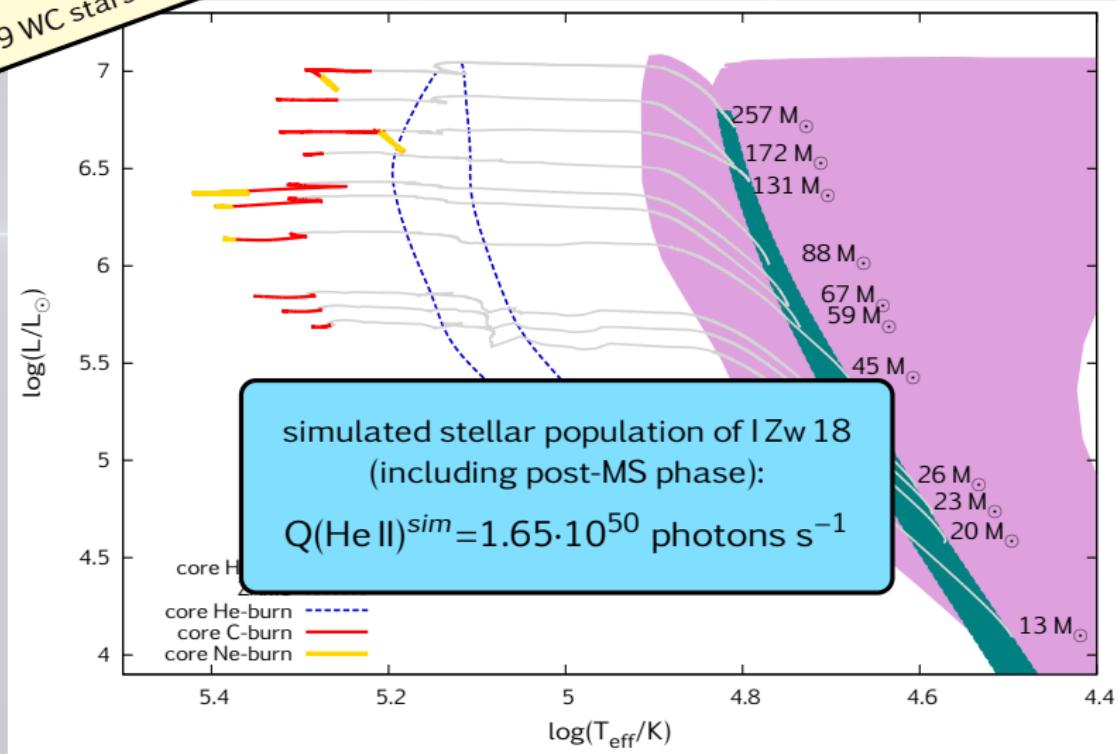
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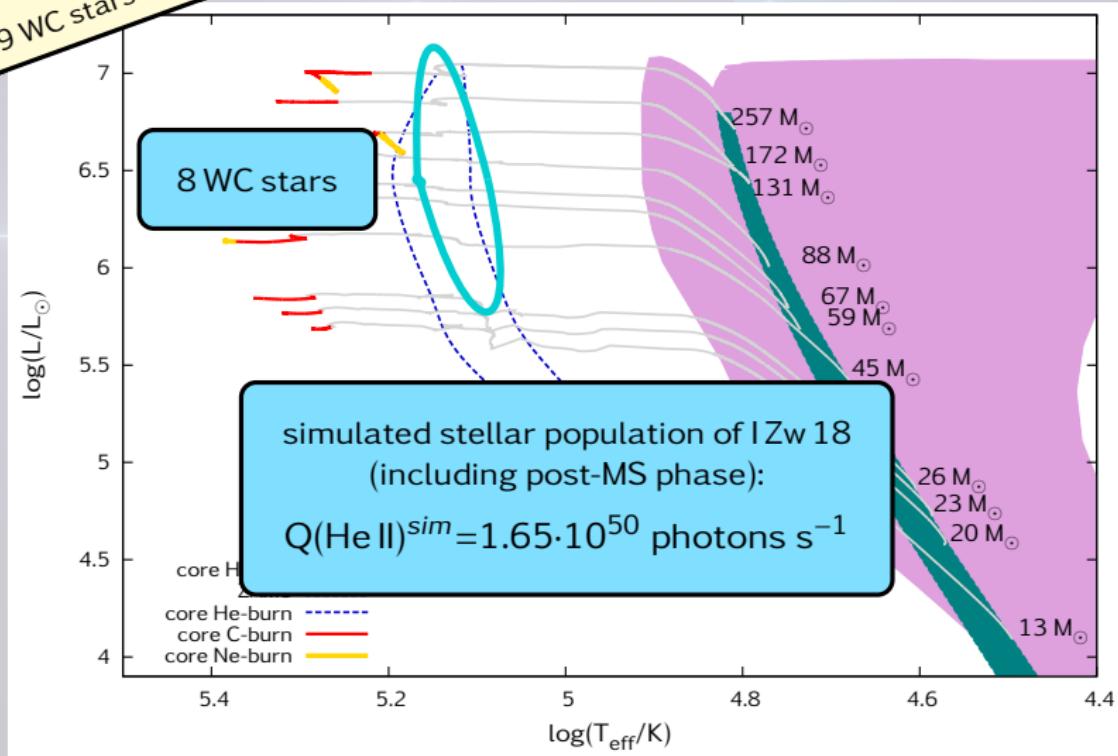
Photoionization in I Zw 18

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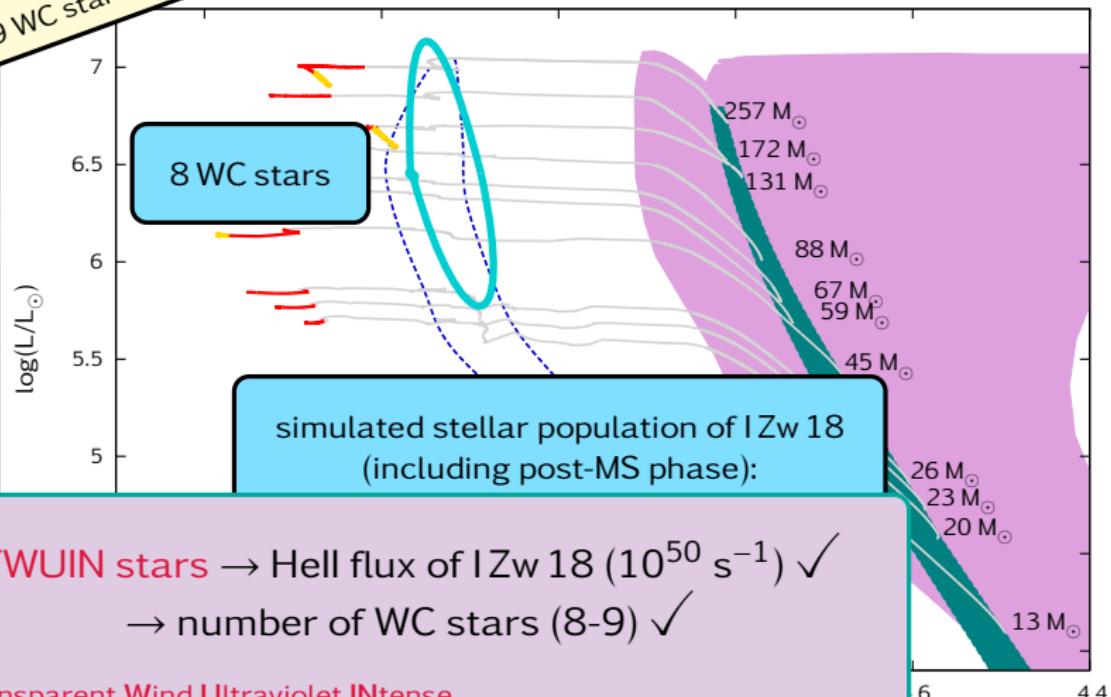
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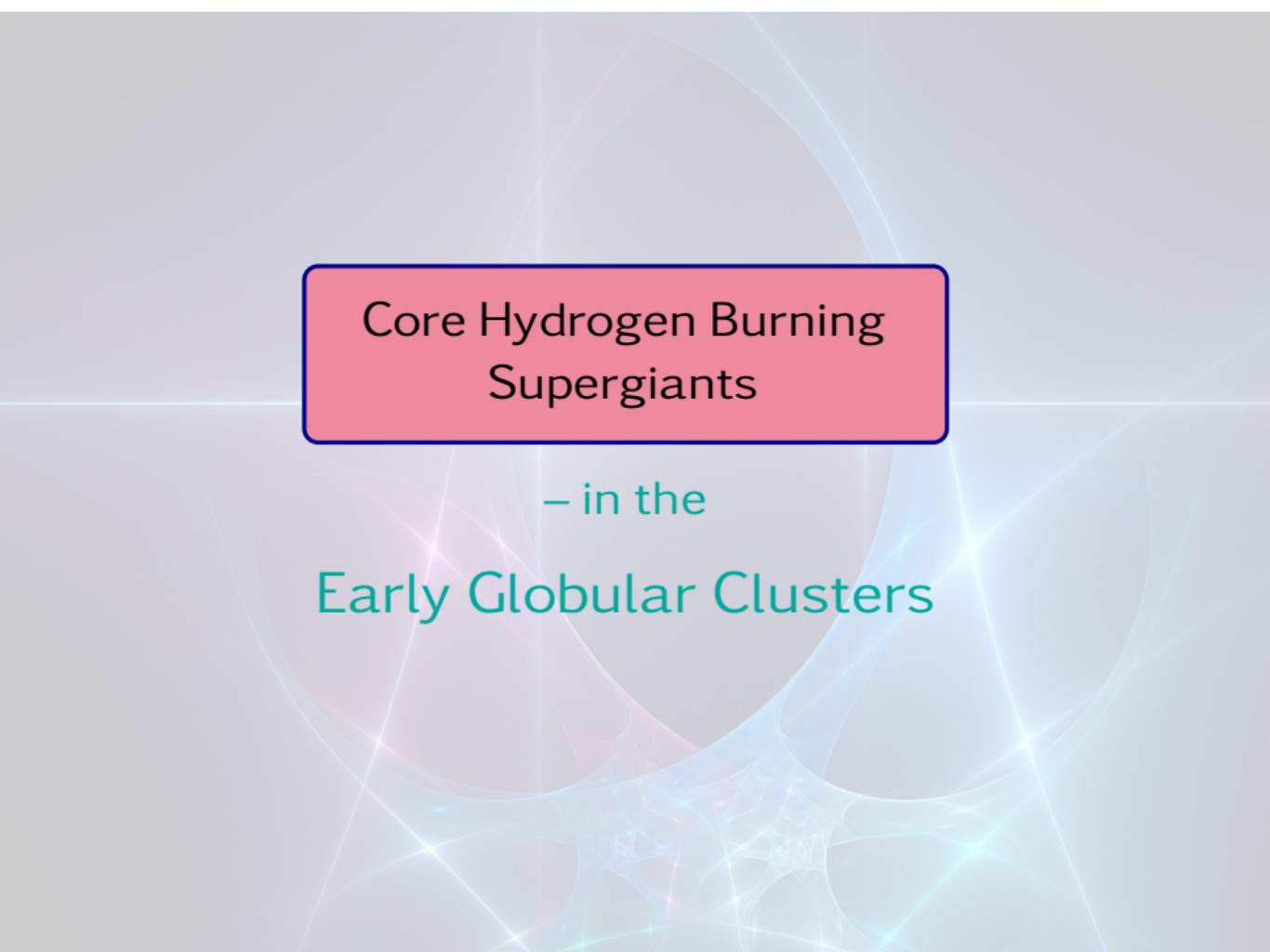
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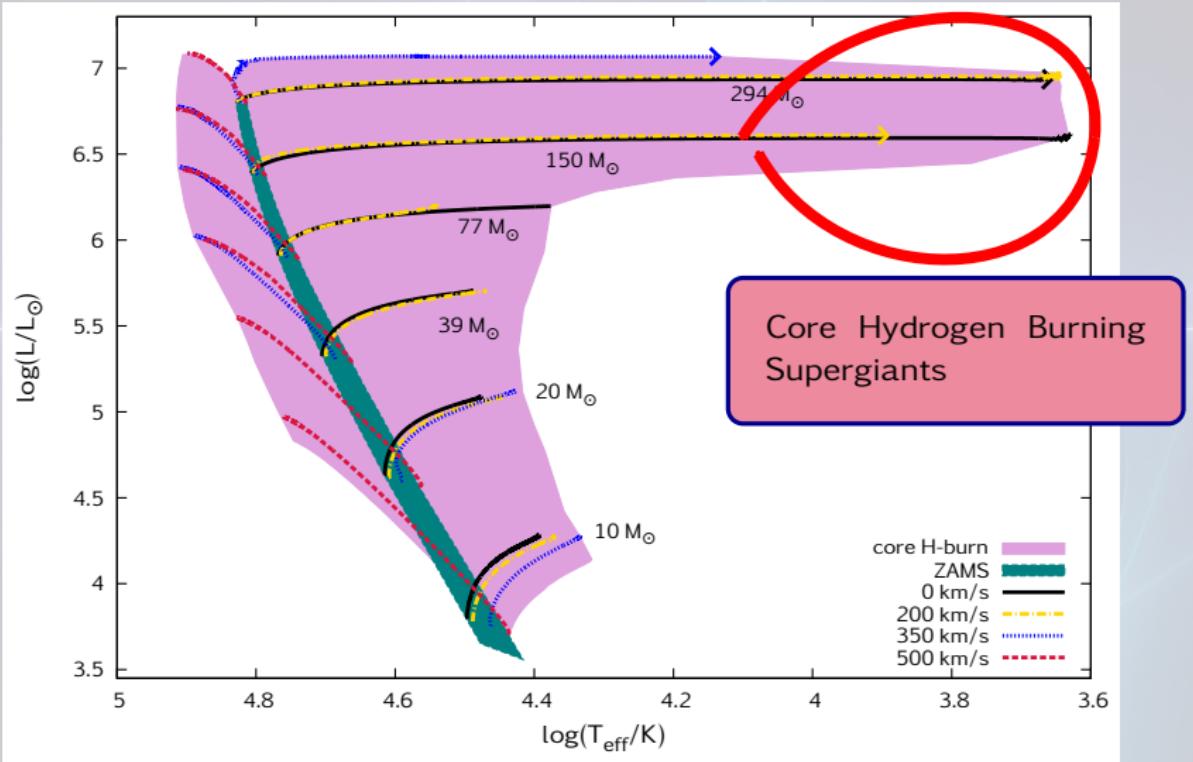
TWUIN stars → Hell flux of I Zw 18 (10^{50} s^{-1}) ✓
→ number of WC stars (8-9) ✓

Transparent Wind Ultraviolet INTense

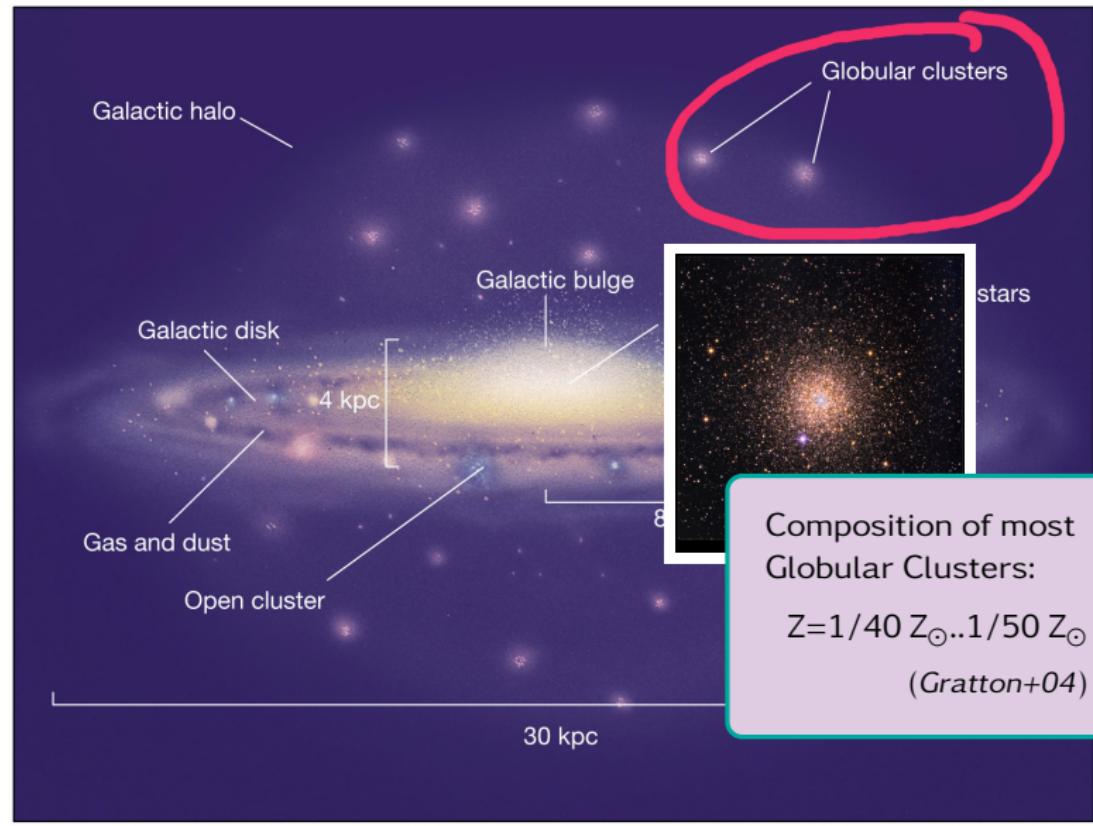


Core Hydrogen Burning Supergiants

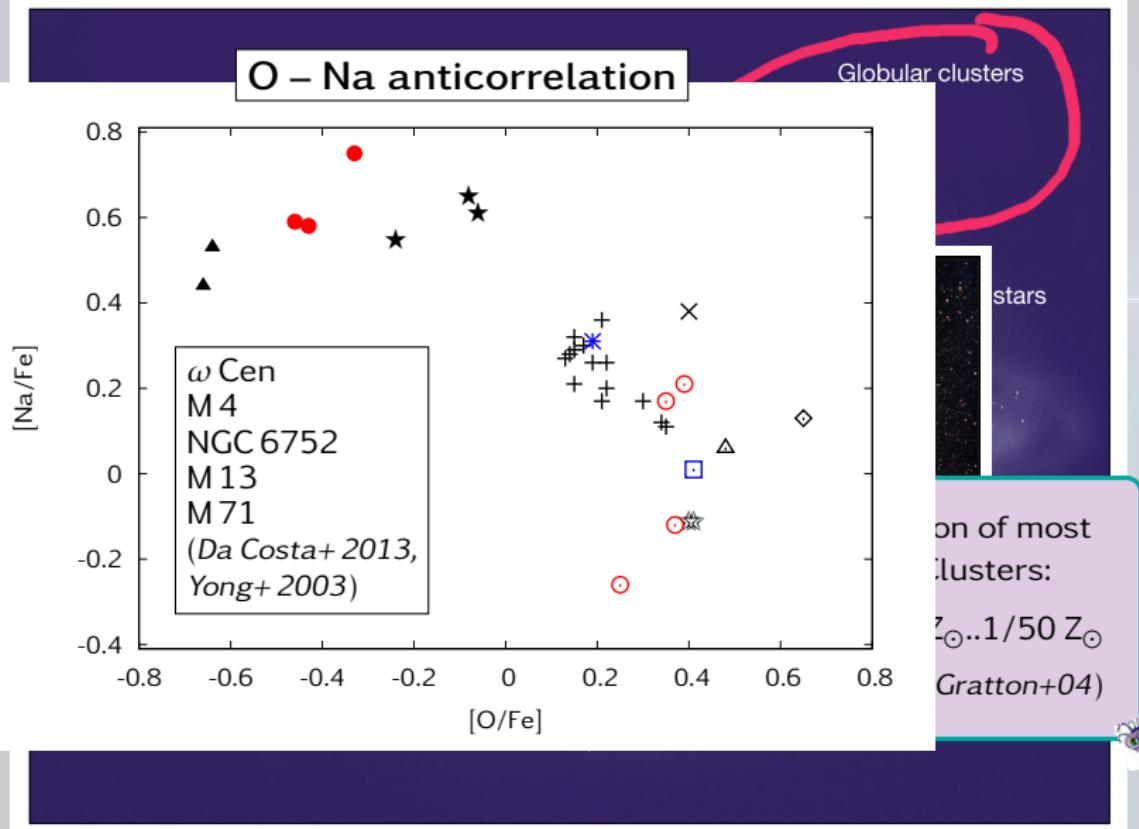
– in the
Early Globular Clusters



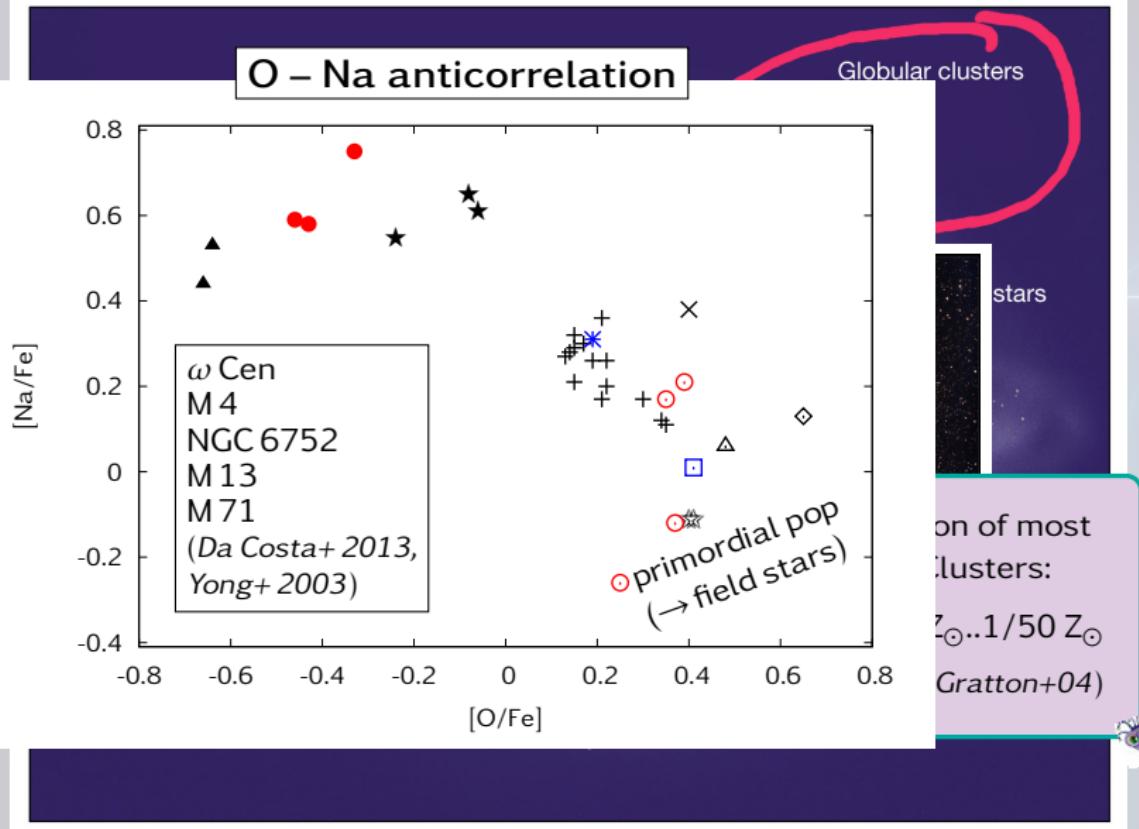
Globular Clusters & Abundance Anomalies



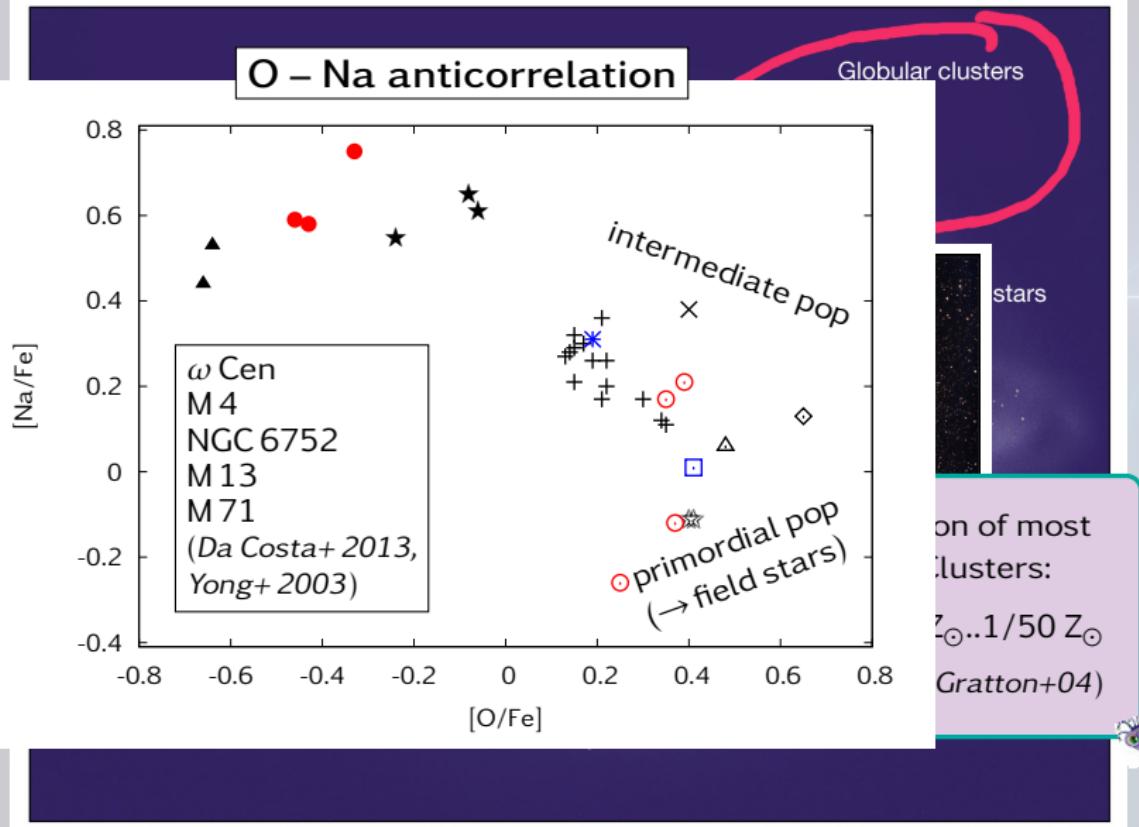
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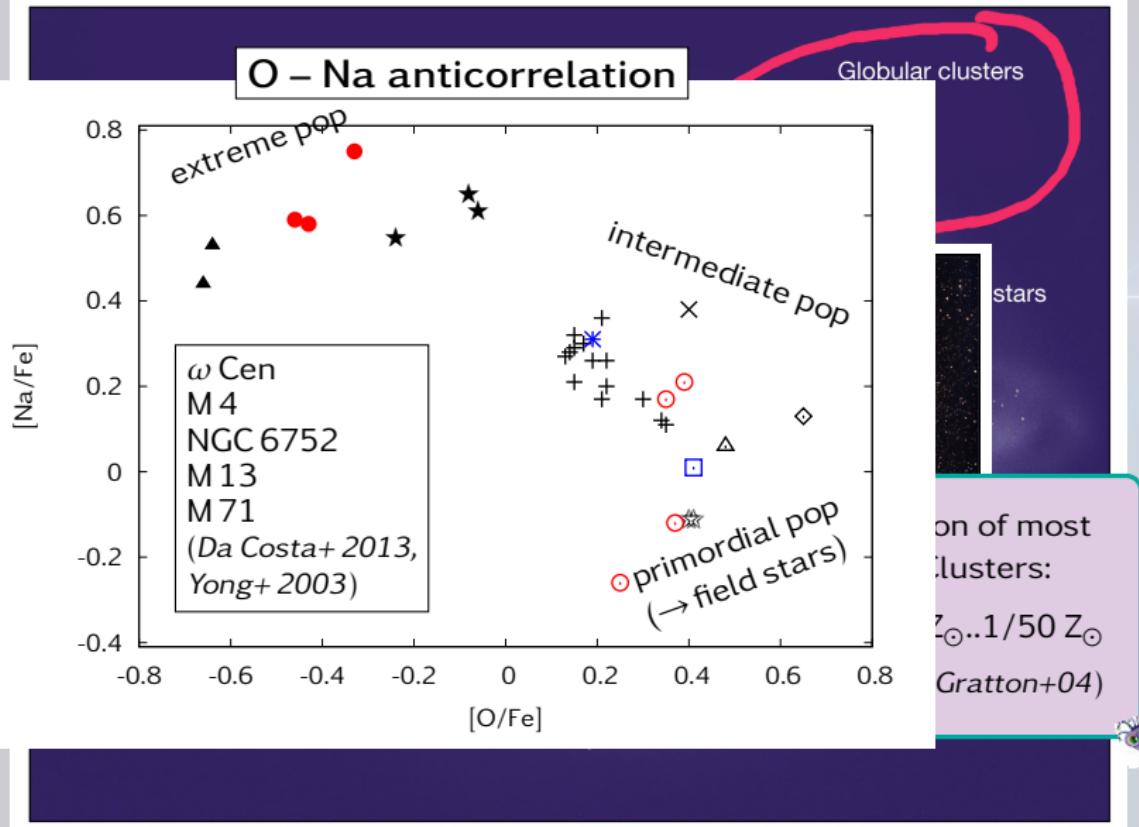
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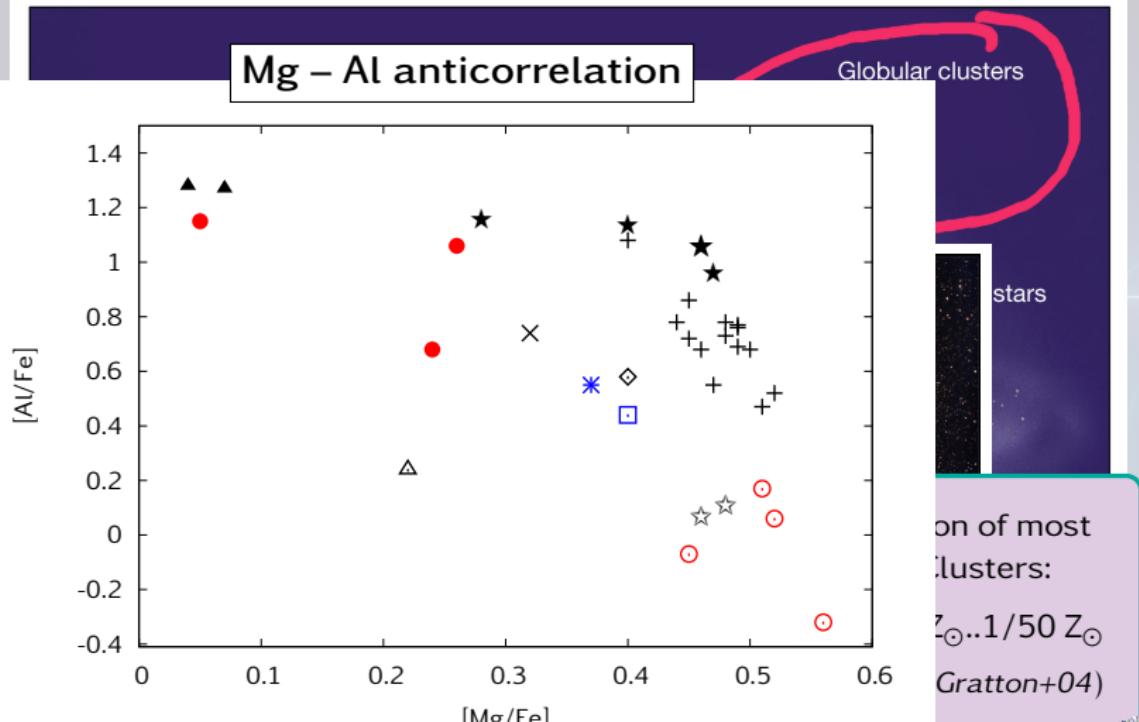
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Globular Clusters & Abundance Anomalies

Mg – Al anticorrelation

Globular clusters

- extreme & intermediate pop: **polluted** by hot hydrogen burning
 - CNO-cycle, Ne-Na and Mg-Al chains

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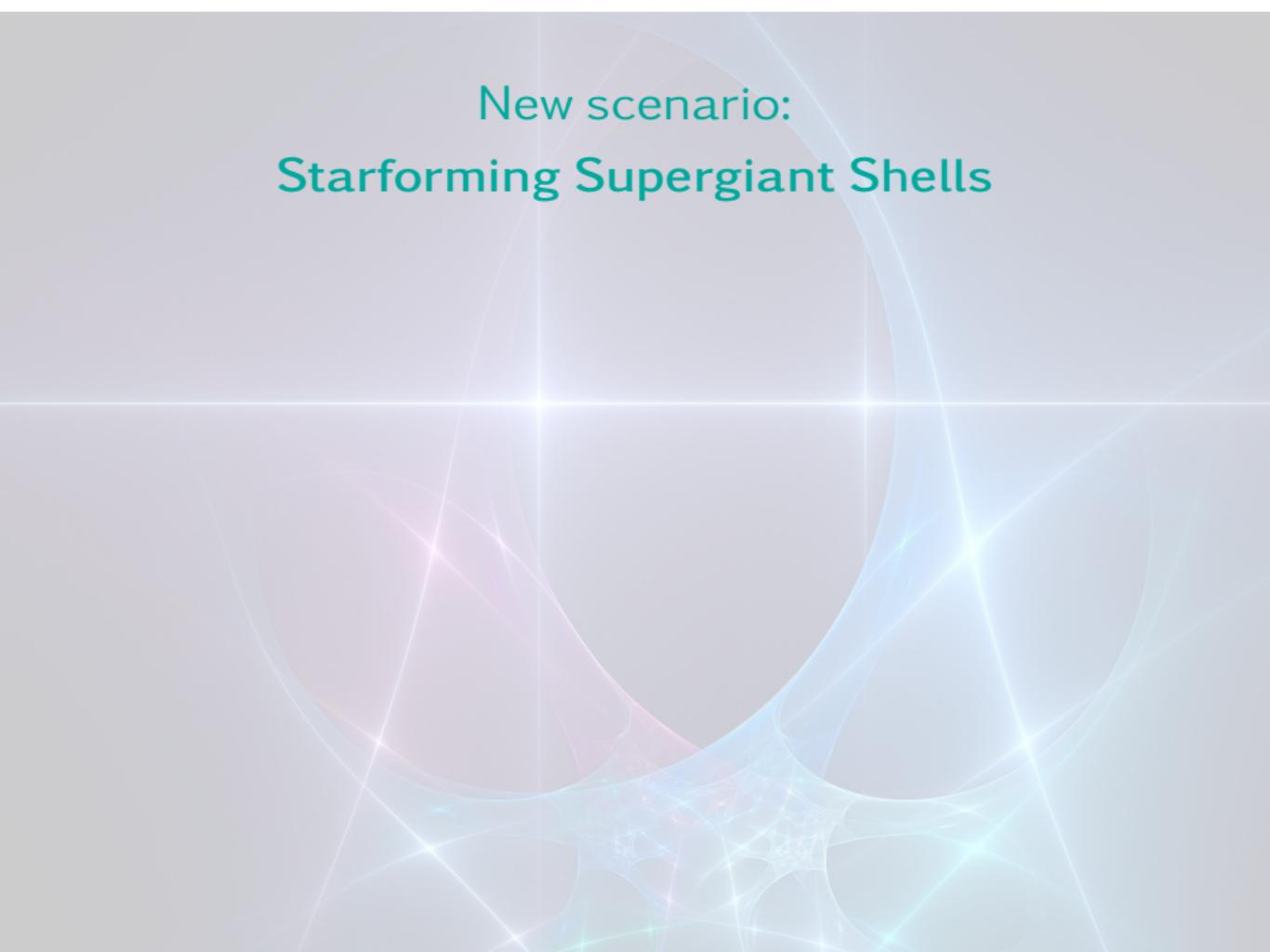
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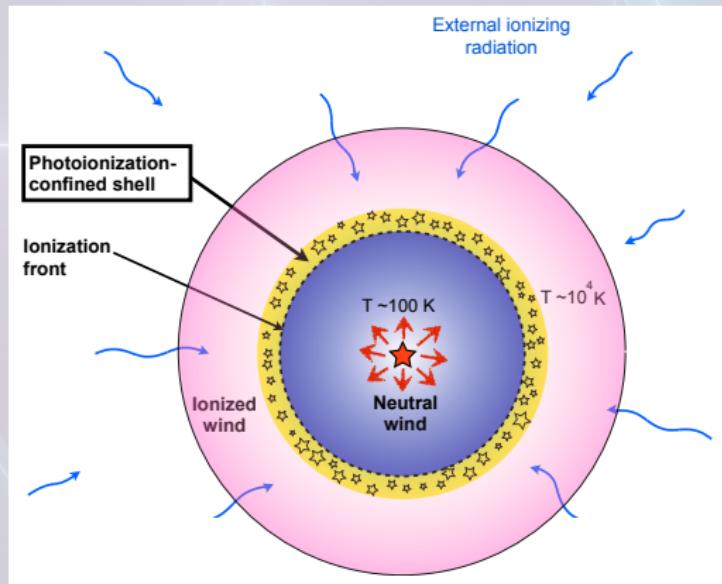
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→ New scenario...

New scenario:
Starforming Supergiant Shells

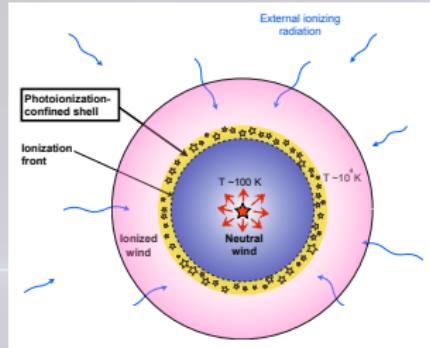
The background of the slide features a subtle, abstract design. It consists of several overlapping circles in a light color palette. One circle is a soft pink, another is a pale blue, and a third is a very light teal. These circles overlap in various ways, creating a sense of depth and movement against a light gray background that has a slight radial gradient.

New scenario: Starforming Supergiant Shells

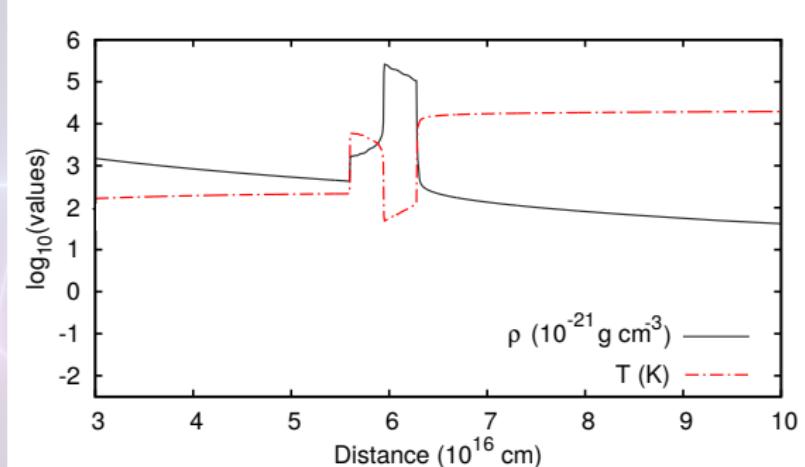
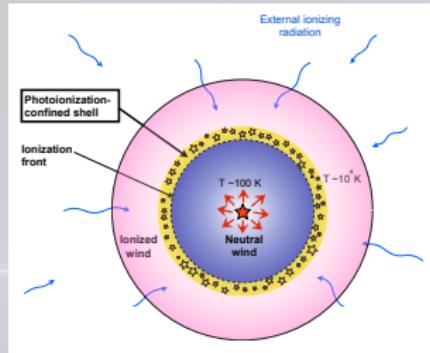


PICO shell: Mackey+ 2014 (*Nature*)

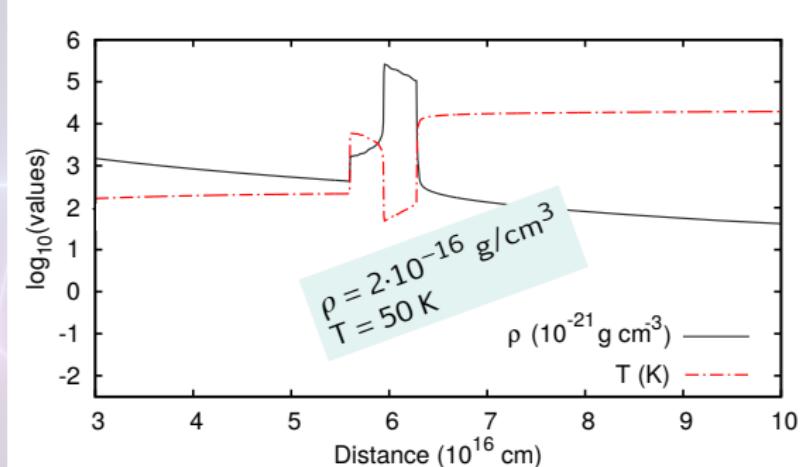
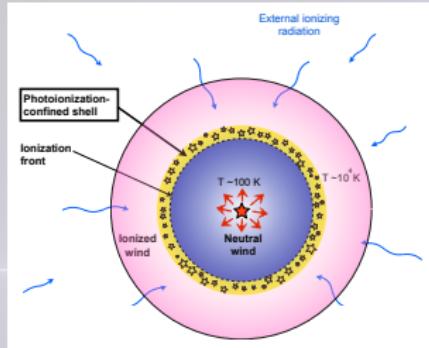
Simulating the PICO shell



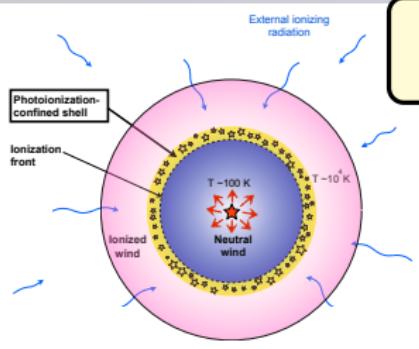
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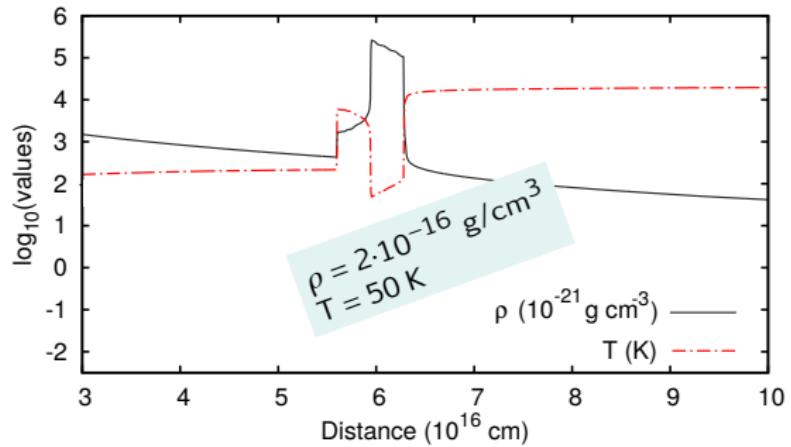
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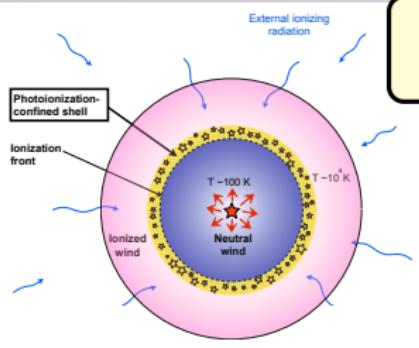
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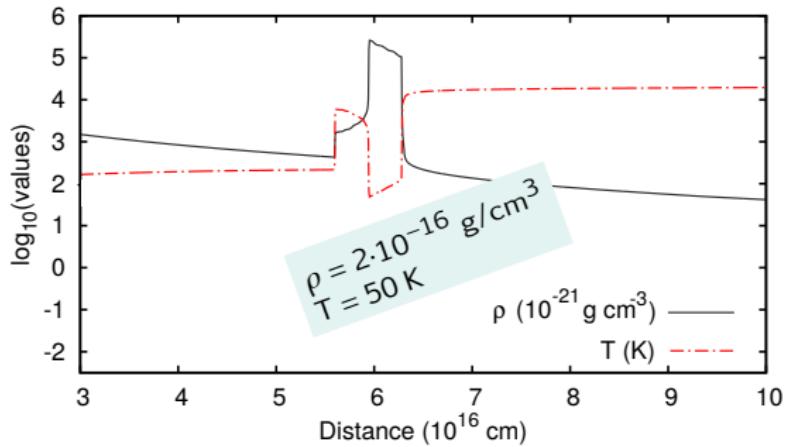
Mass of the photoionization-confined (PICO) shell: $\sim 14 M_{\odot}$



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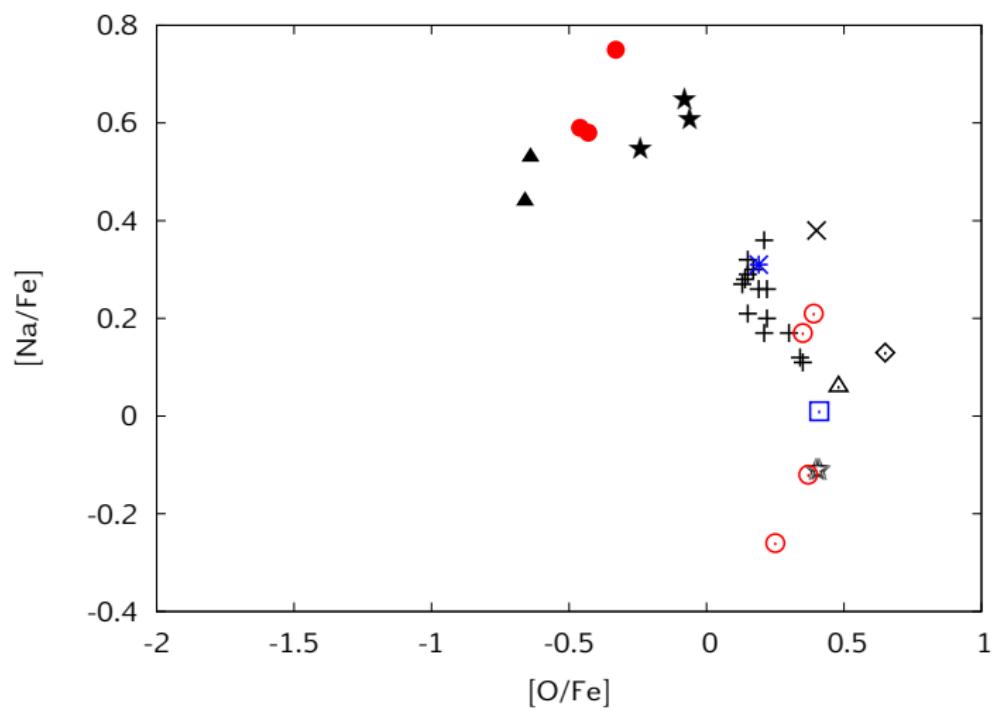


Lifetime of the shell: $\sim 10^5 \text{ yr}$

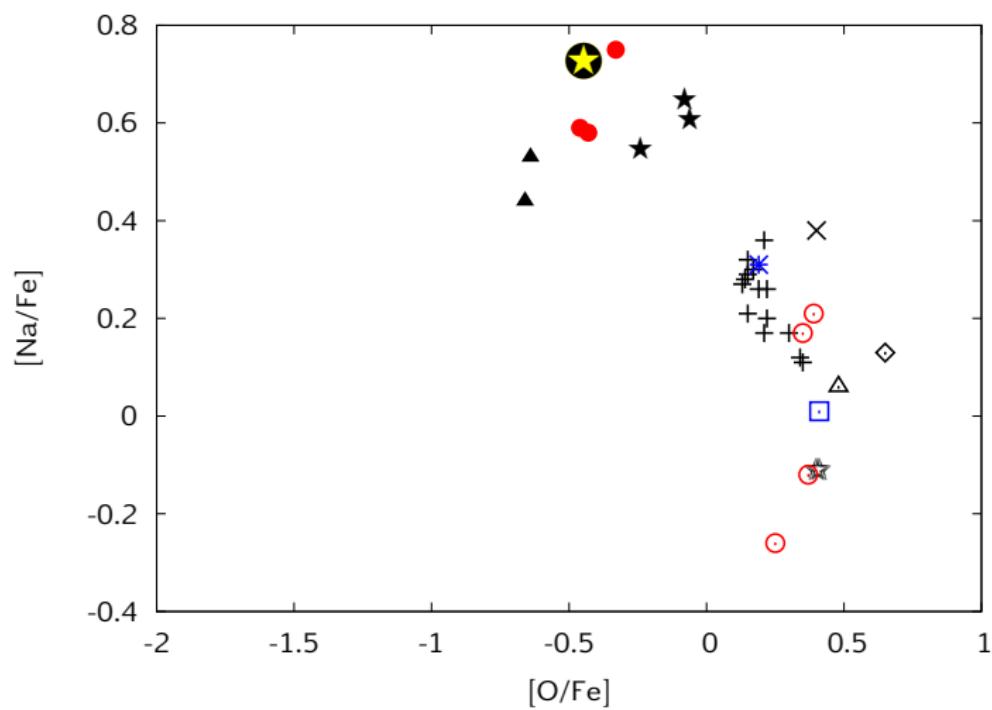
>>

Growth timescale of grav. unstable
perturbations: $\sim 10^4 \text{ yr}$

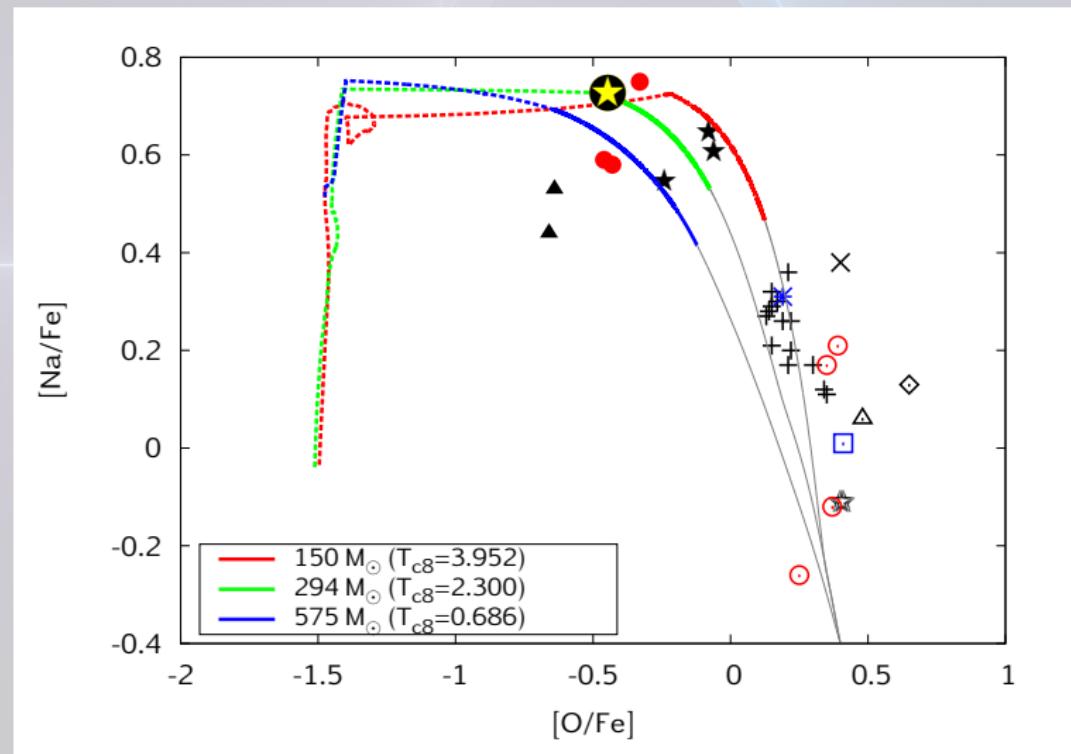
Compared to observations: O – Na anticorr.



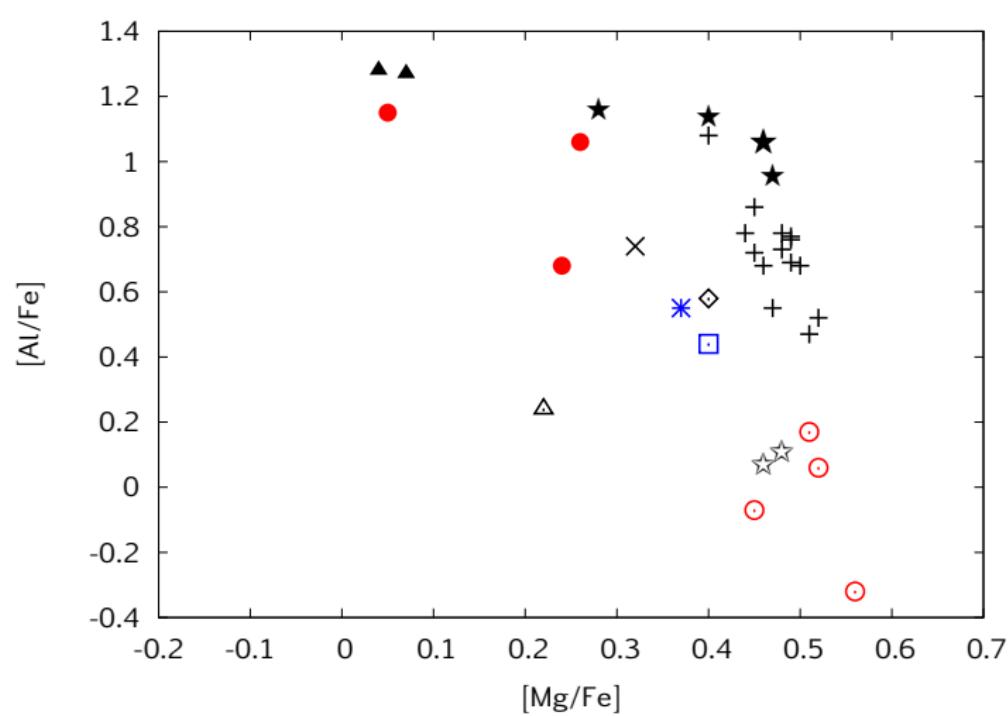
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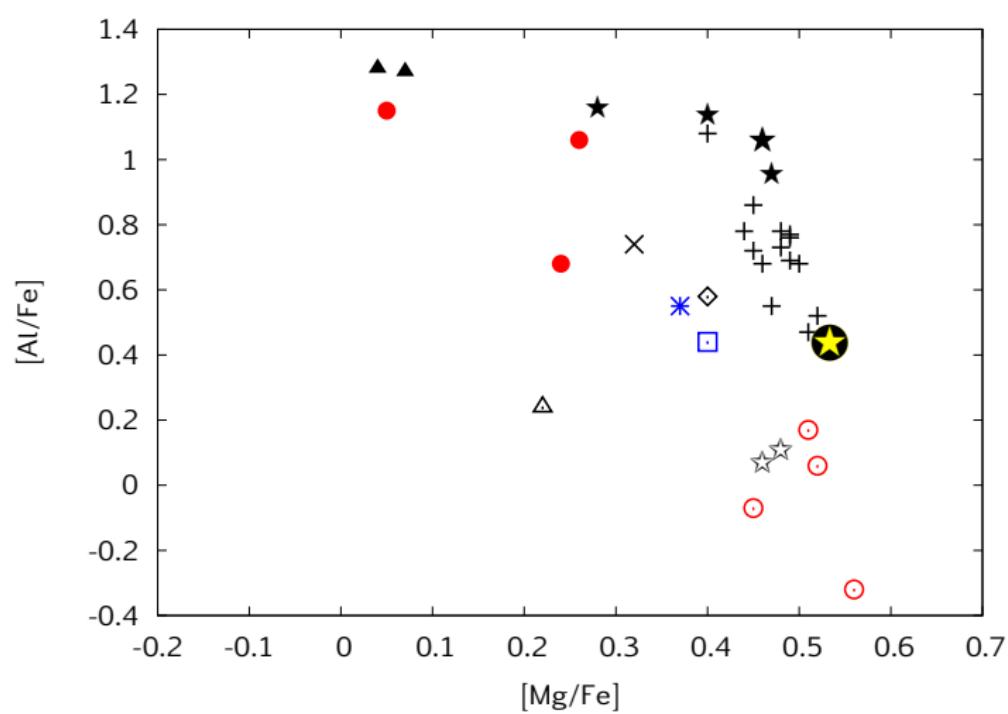
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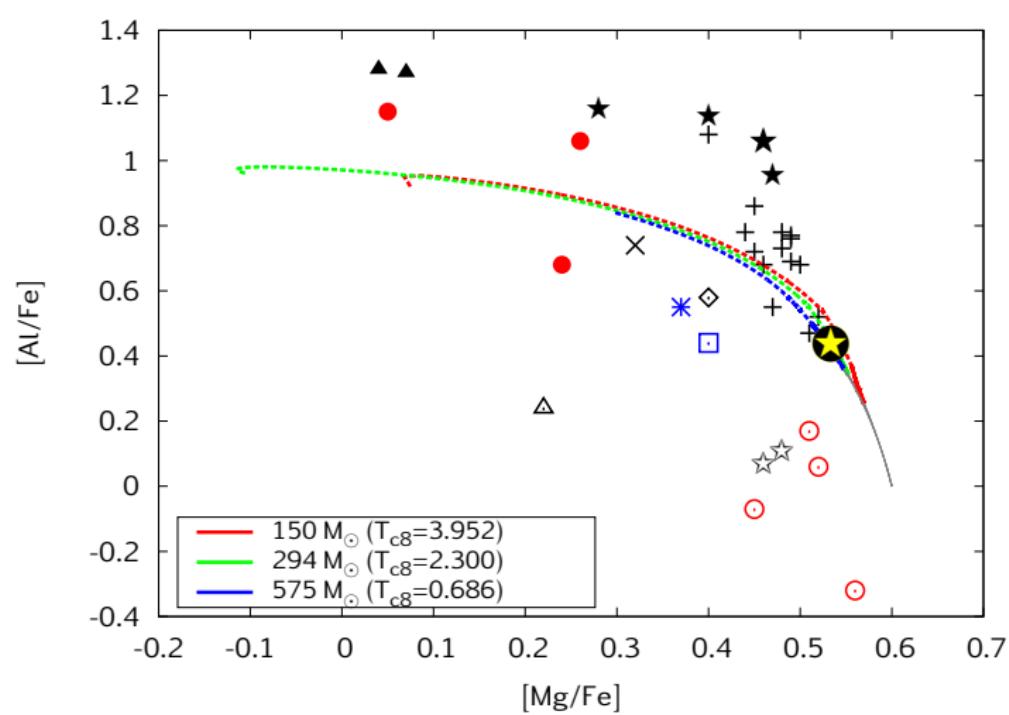
Compared to observations: Mg – Al anticorr.



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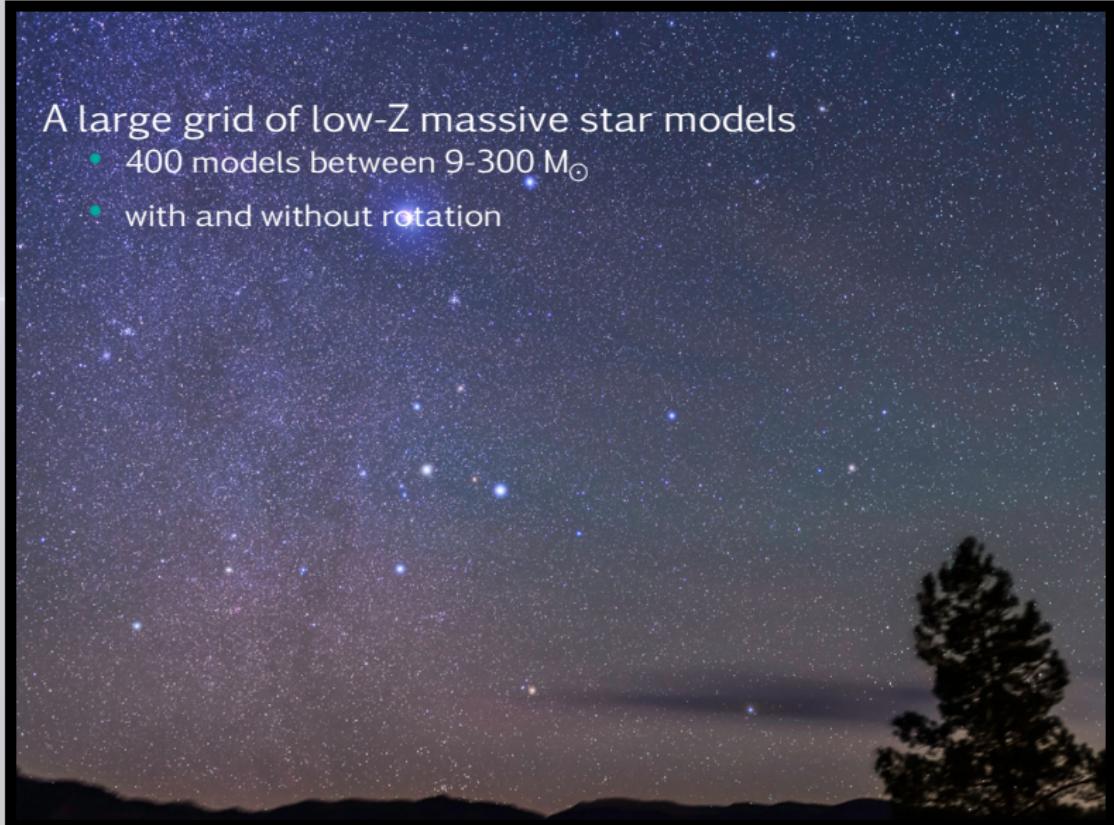
Conclusions



Conclusions

A large grid of low-Z massive star models

- 400 models between $9\text{-}300 M_{\odot}$
- with and without rotation



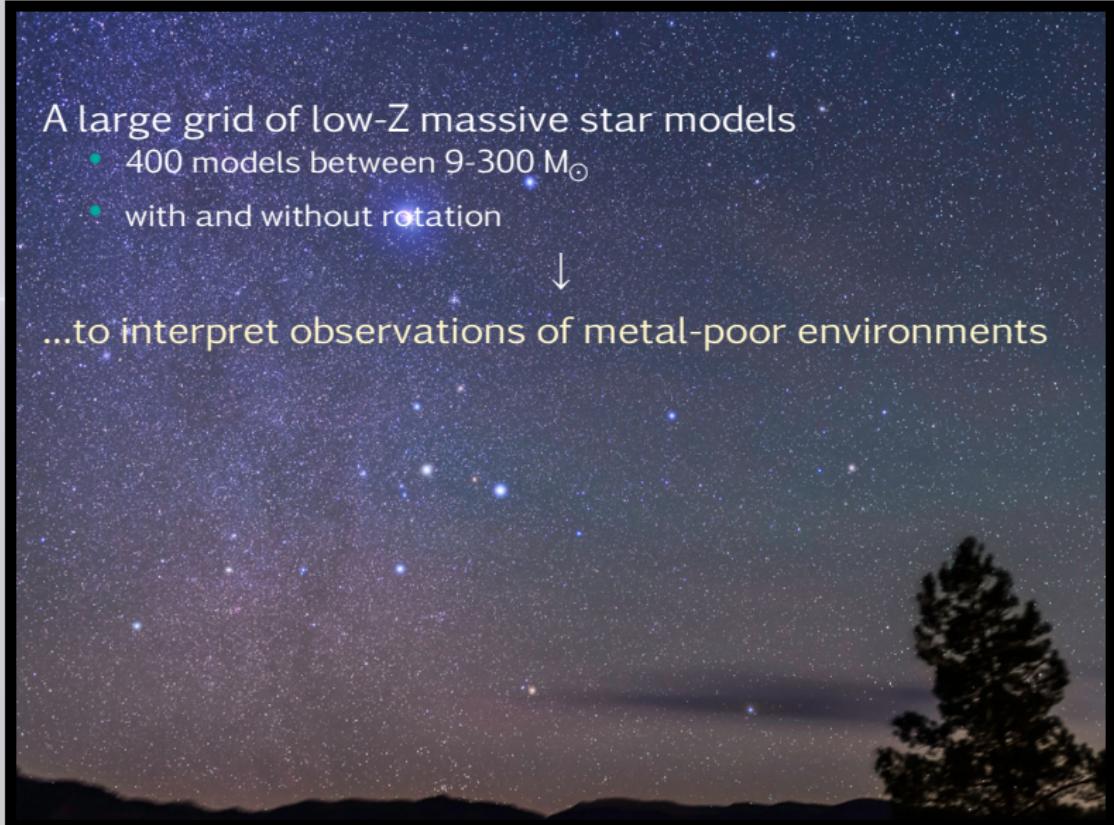
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...to interpret observations of metal-poor environments



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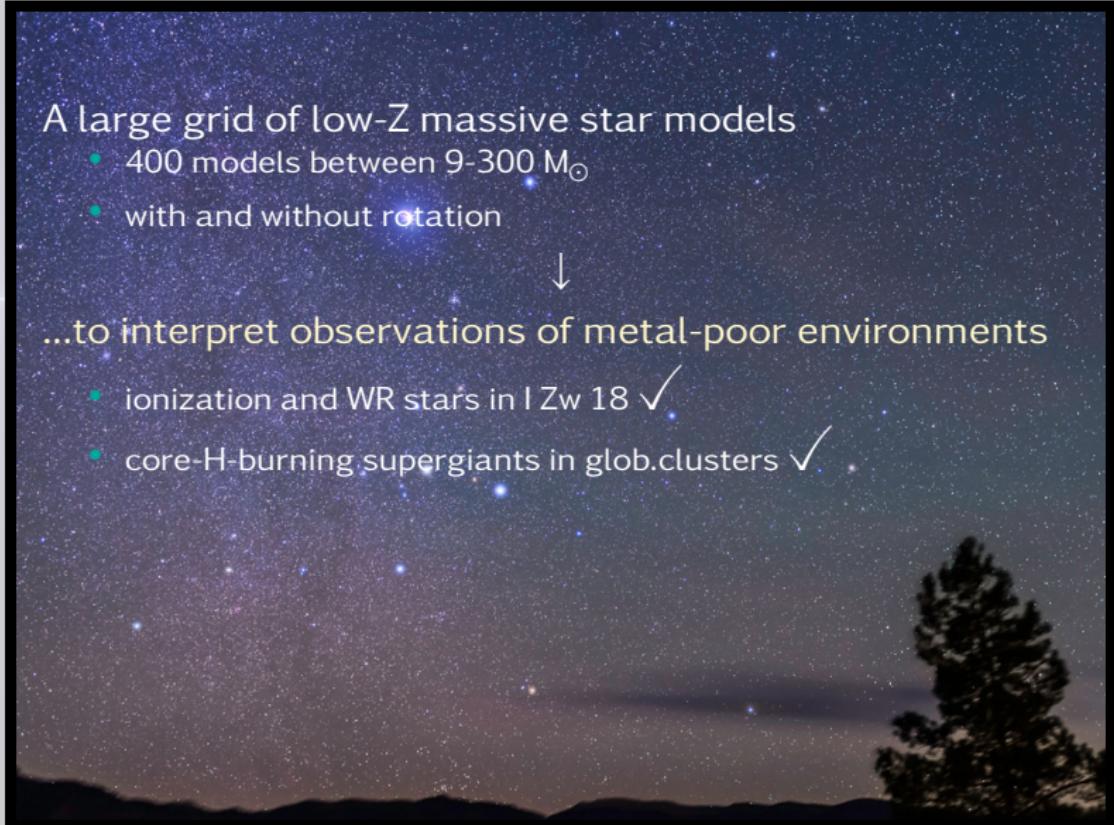
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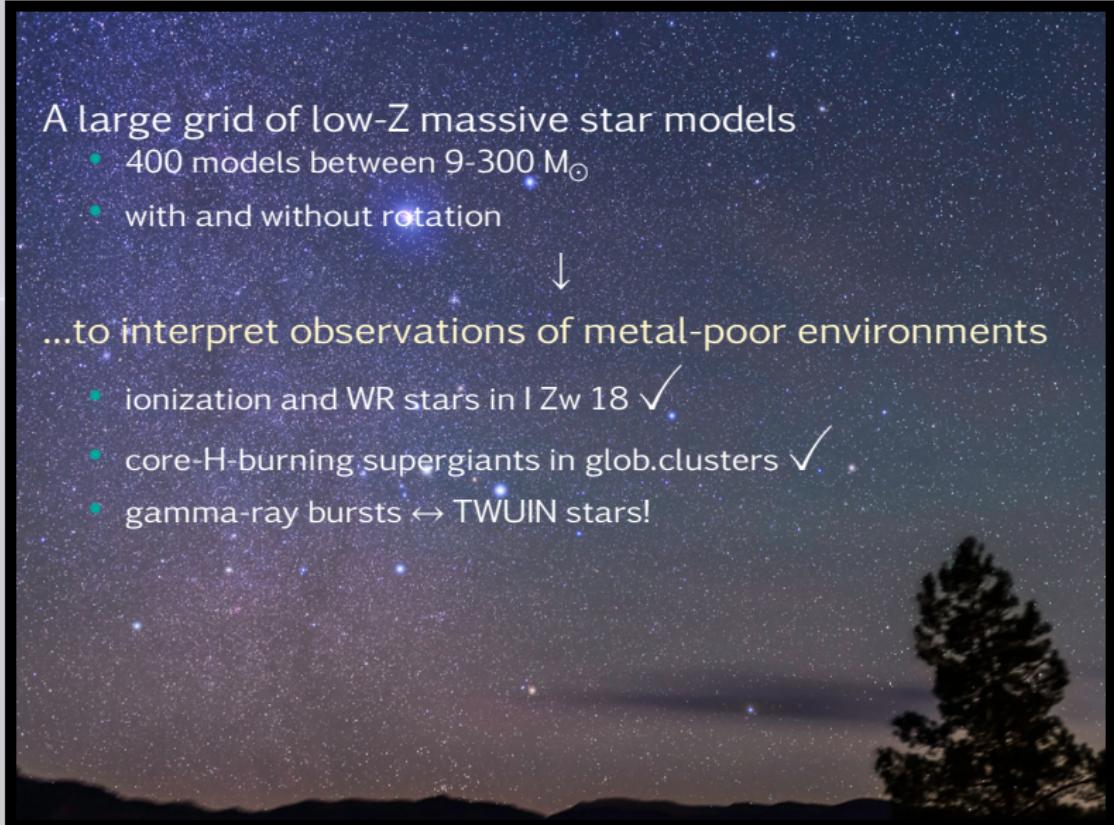
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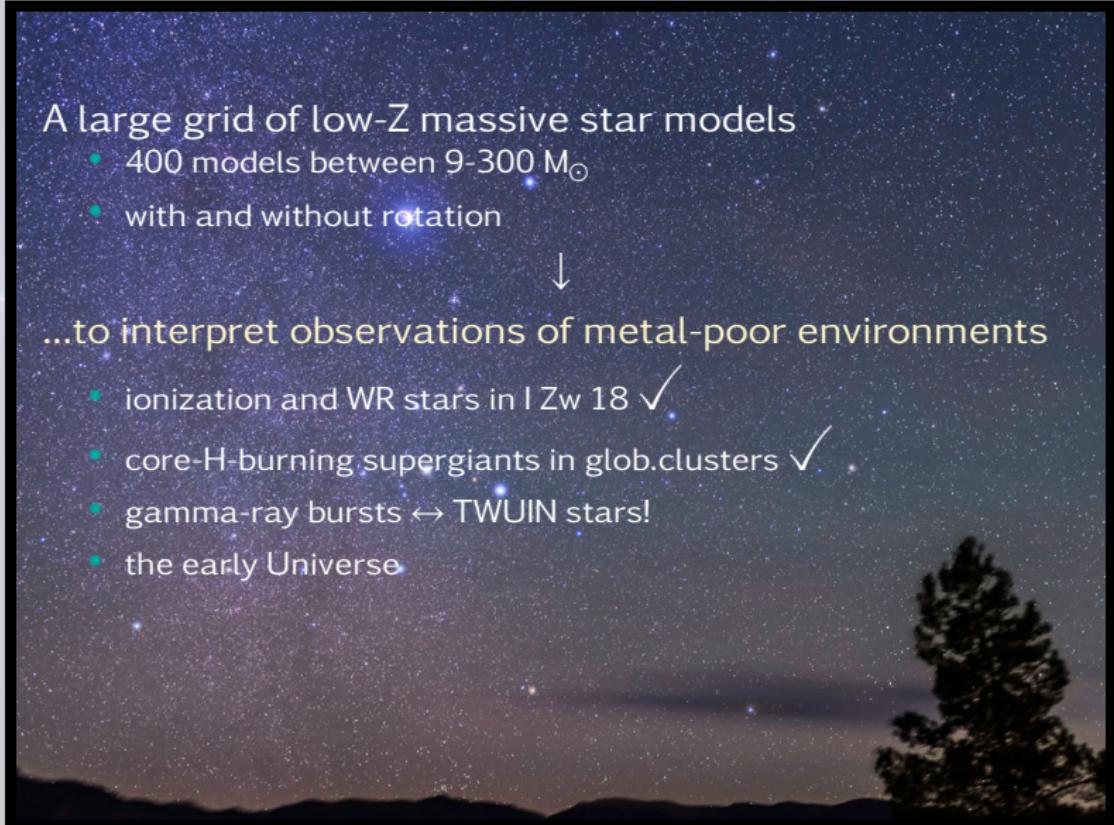
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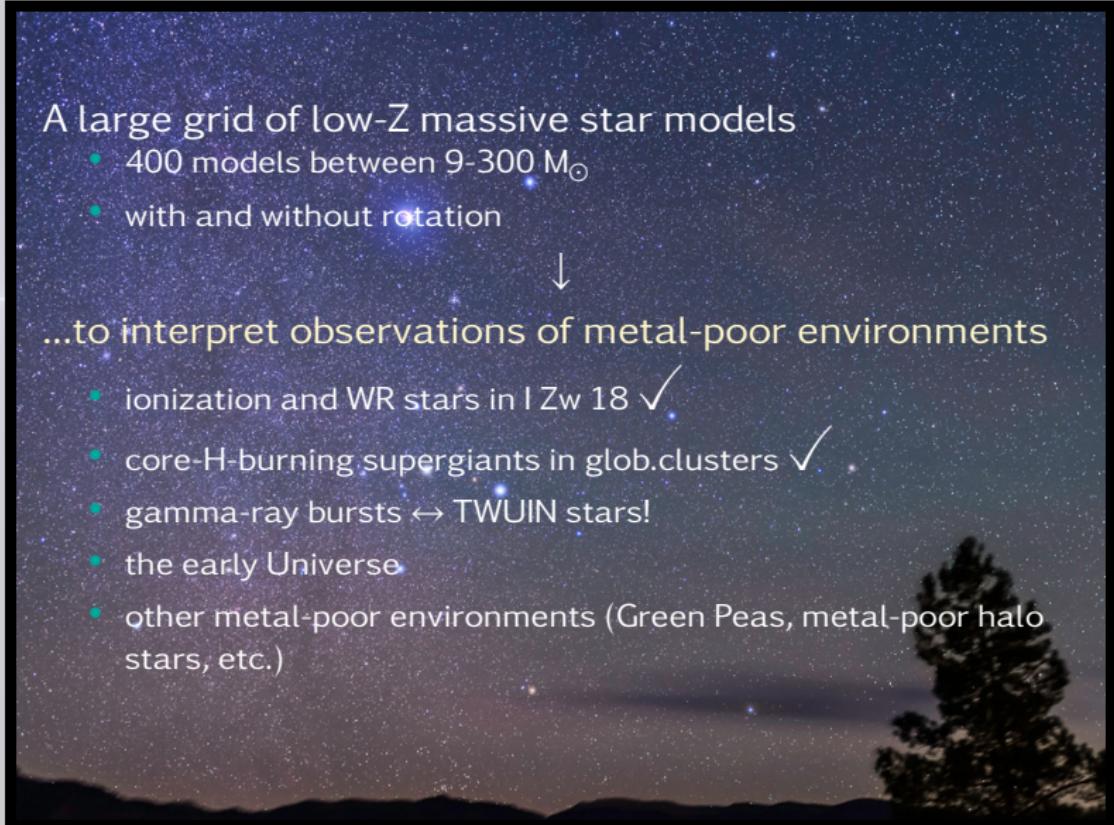
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*Thank you
for your
attention!*