

Application of  
**Dorottya Szécsi**

for admission to the PhD honors program (H2) of the  
**Bonn-Cologne Graduate School of  
Physics and Astronomy**

**Prof Dr Norbert Langer** supervisor  
**Prof Dr Robert Izzard** co-advisor  
**Prof Dr Claus Kiefer** co-advisor



7 th October 2013, Cologne

# Summary

## Undergraduate research

- since 2008 (Eötvös University, Budapest) – Prof. Dr. Zsolt Bagoly
- background fitting of *Fermi* GRB observations
- results published: *Astronomy & Astrophysics* 557, A8 (2013)

## First year of PhD

- massive stellar evolution at low metallicity
- computed >300 stellar tracks (behaviour, final fates)
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- solve open questions, match observations, update theory
- publication (in progress)
- teaching assistant for 'Stars and Stellar Evolution'

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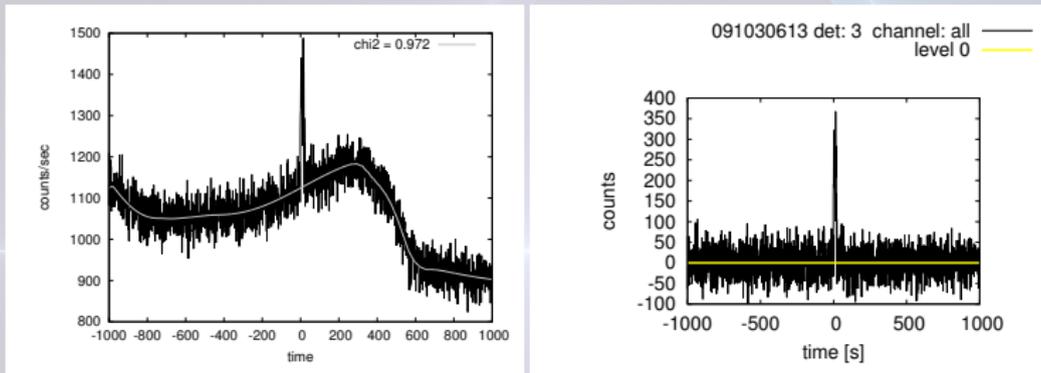
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# Direction dependent background fitting



- The new model takes into account:
  - angle between detector and burst
  - angle between Sun and detector
  - Earth uncovering
- Numerical fitting
- Lightcurve without background → further analyses

## Direction dependent background fitting for the *Fermi* GBM data

D. Szécsi<sup>1,2,3</sup>, Z. Bagoly<sup>1,4</sup>, J. Kóbori<sup>1</sup>, I. Horváth<sup>4</sup>, and L. G. Balázs<sup>1,2</sup>

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e-mail: zsol.t.bagoly@elte.hu

<sup>2</sup> MTA CSFK Konkoly Observatory, 1121 Budapest, Hungary.

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<sup>4</sup> Bolyai Military University, 1581 Budapest, Hungary

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### ABSTRACT

**Context.** We present a method for determining the background of the gamma-ray bursts (GRBs) of the *Fermi* Gamma-ray Burst Monitor (GBM) using the satellite positional information and a physical model. Since the polynomial fitting method typically used for GRBs is generally only indicative of the background over relatively short timescales, this method is particularly useful in the cases of long GRBs or those that have autonomous repoint request (ARR) and a background with much variability on short timescales.

**Aims.** Modern space instruments, like *Fermi*, have some specific motion to survey the sky and catch gamma-ray bursts in the most effective way. However, GBM bursts sometimes have highly varying backgrounds (with or without ARR), and modelling them with a polynomial function of time is not efficient – one needs more complex, *Fermi*-specific methods. This article presents a new direction dependent background fitting method and shows how it can be used for filtering the lightcurves.

**Methods.** First, we investigate how the celestial position of the satellite may have influence on the background and define three underlying variables with physical meaning: celestial distance of the burst and the detector's orientation, the contribution of the Sun and the contribution of the Earth. Then, we use multi-dimensional general least square fitting and Akaike model selection criterion for the background fitting of the GBM lightcurves. Eight bursts are presented as examples, of which we computed the duration using background fitted cumulative lightcurves.

**Results.** We give a direction dependent background fitting (DDBF) method for separating the motion effects from the real data and calculate the duration ( $T_{90}$ ,  $T_{50}$ , and confidence intervals) of the nine example bursts, from which two resulted an ARR. We also summarize the features of our method and compare it qualitatively with the official GBM Catalogue.

**Conclusions.** Our background filtering method uses a model based on the physical information of the satellite position. Therefore,

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# Motivations of PhD topic

- **Massive Stars**

- mixing & mass loss = ?
- Milky Way, LMC, SMC [Brott et al. 2011]

- **Low metallicity**

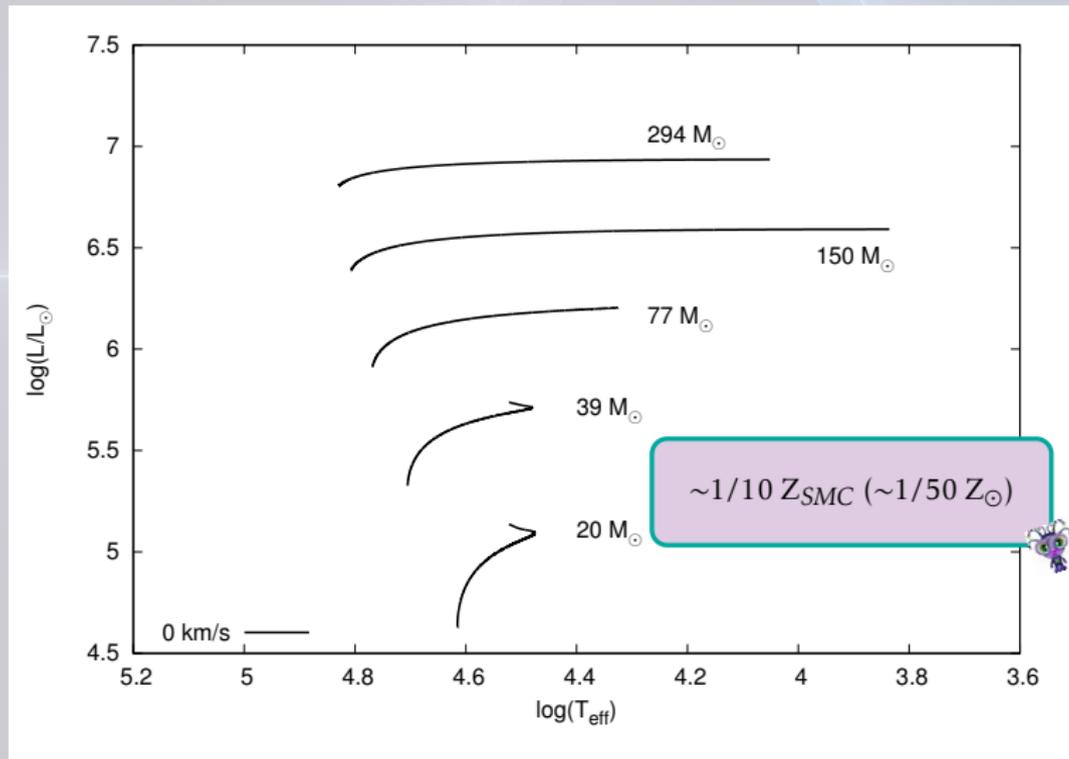
- massive stars evolve differently [Yoon et al. 2006]
- → IGRBs, Pair Instability SNe

- **$Z = 0.1 \times Z_{\text{SMC}}$**

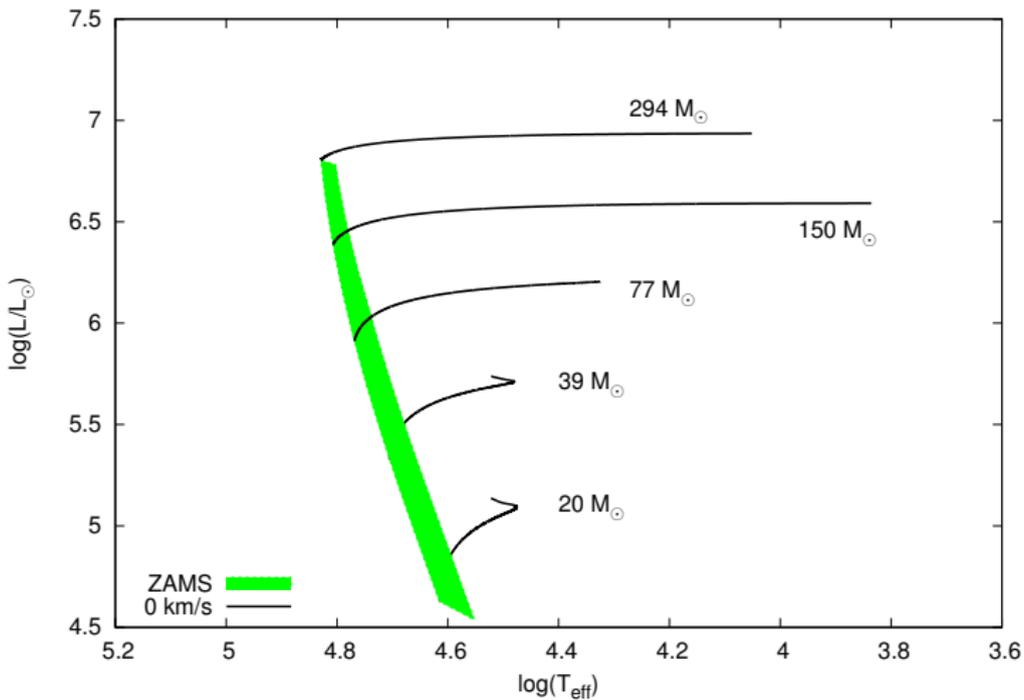
- lowest  $Z$  to observe stars: **Blue Compact Dwarf galaxies**
- $\approx Z_{\text{GC}}$  & high- $z$  galaxies



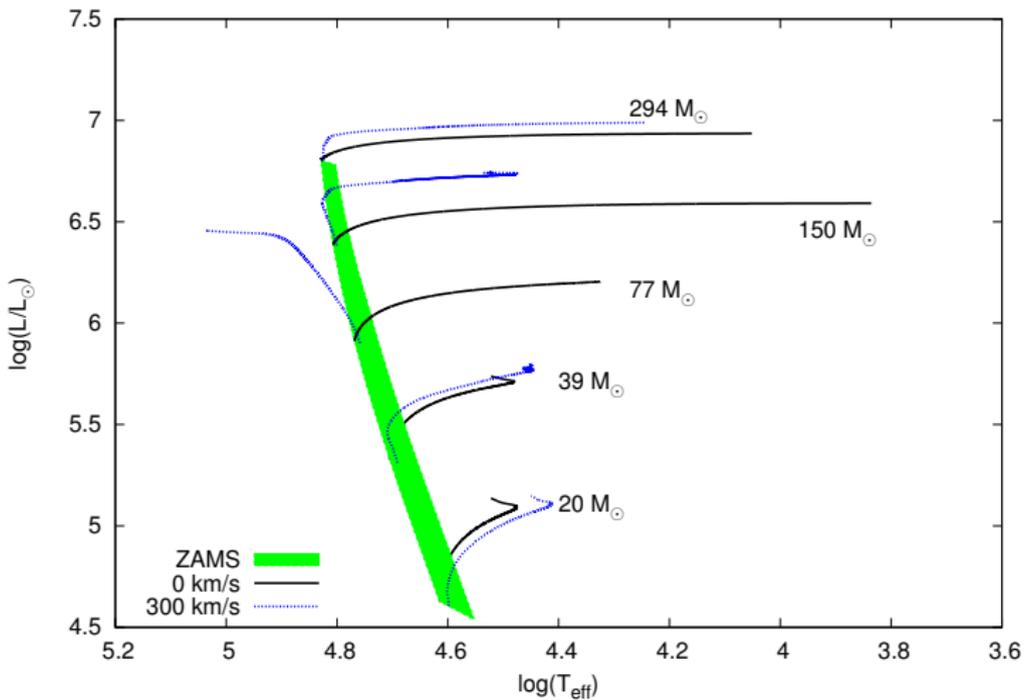
# Hertzprung–Russell diagram



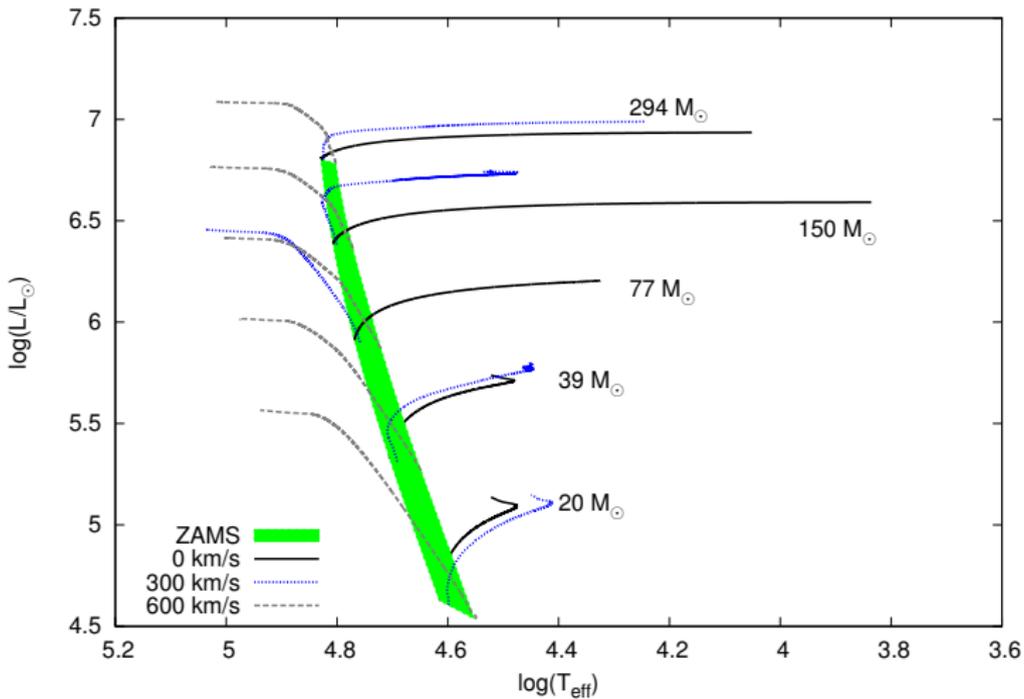
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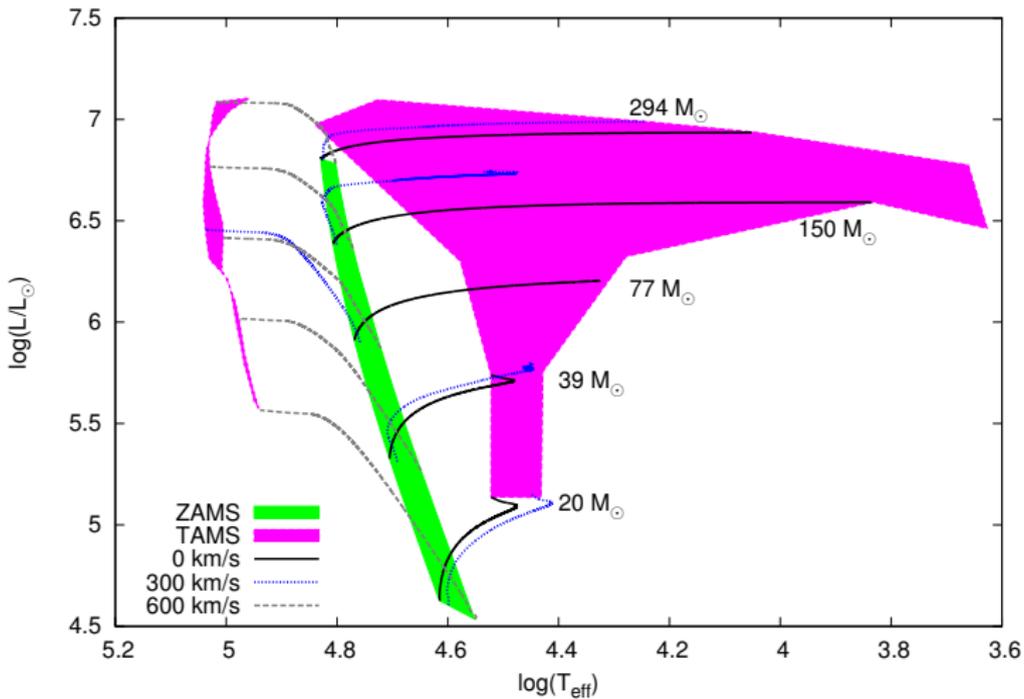
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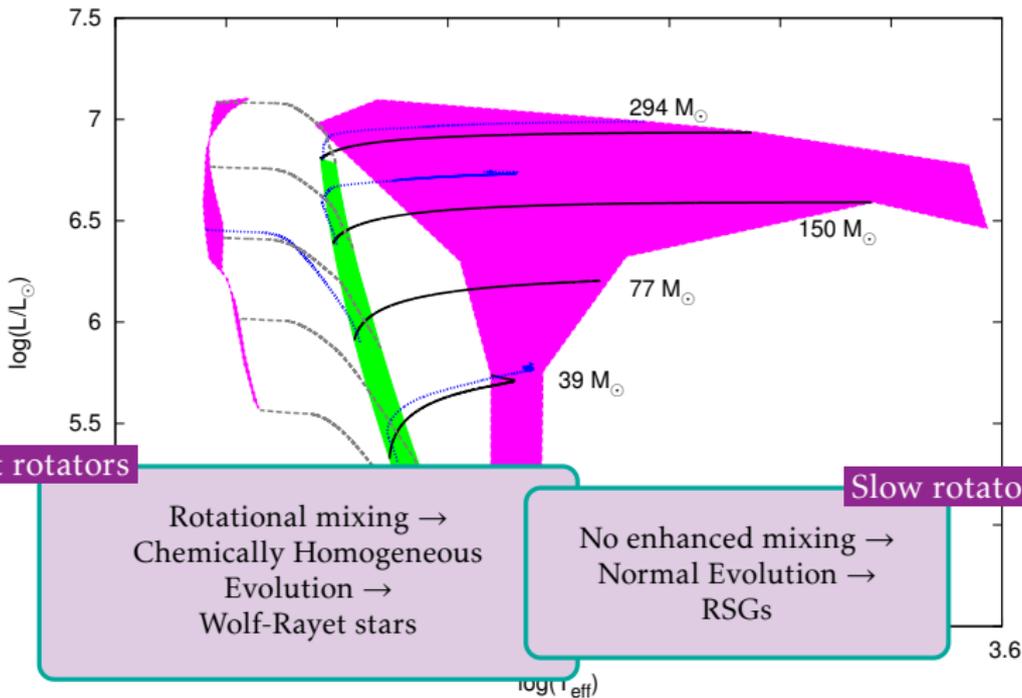
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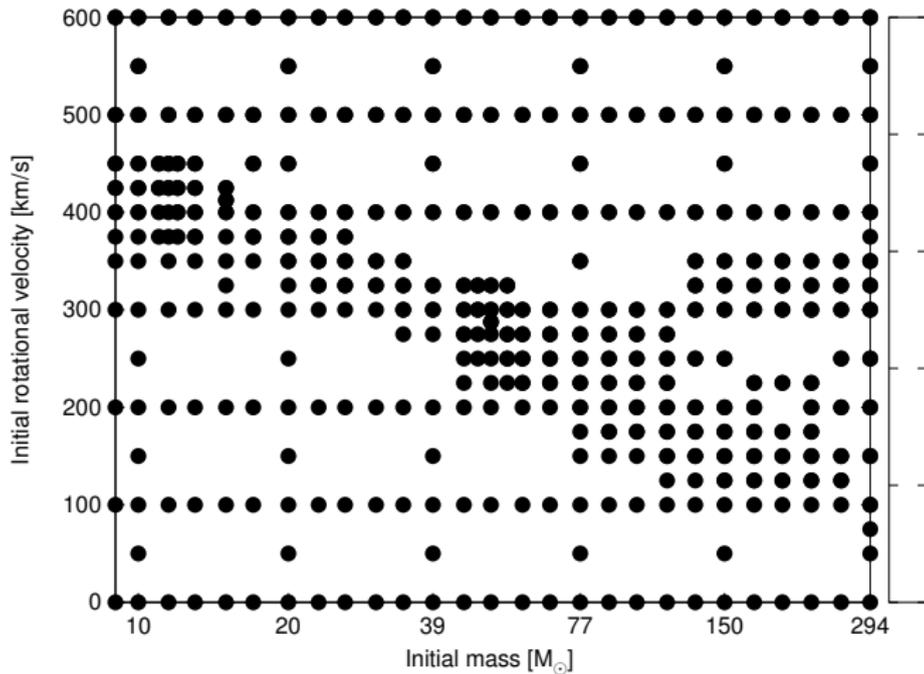
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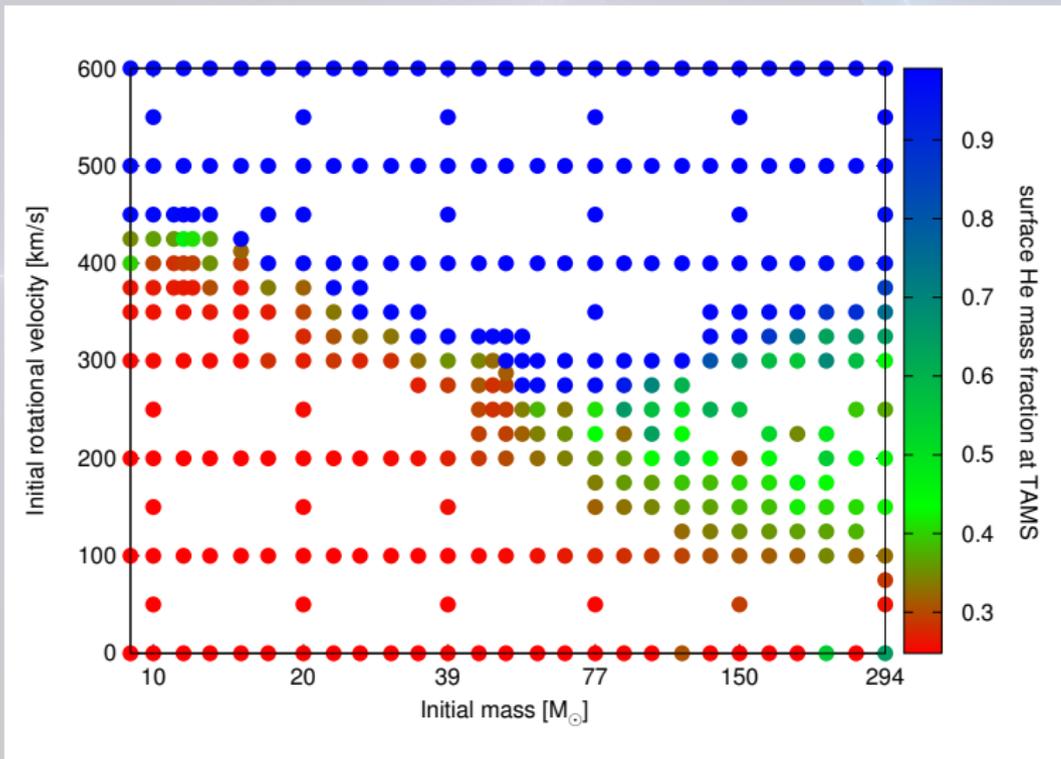
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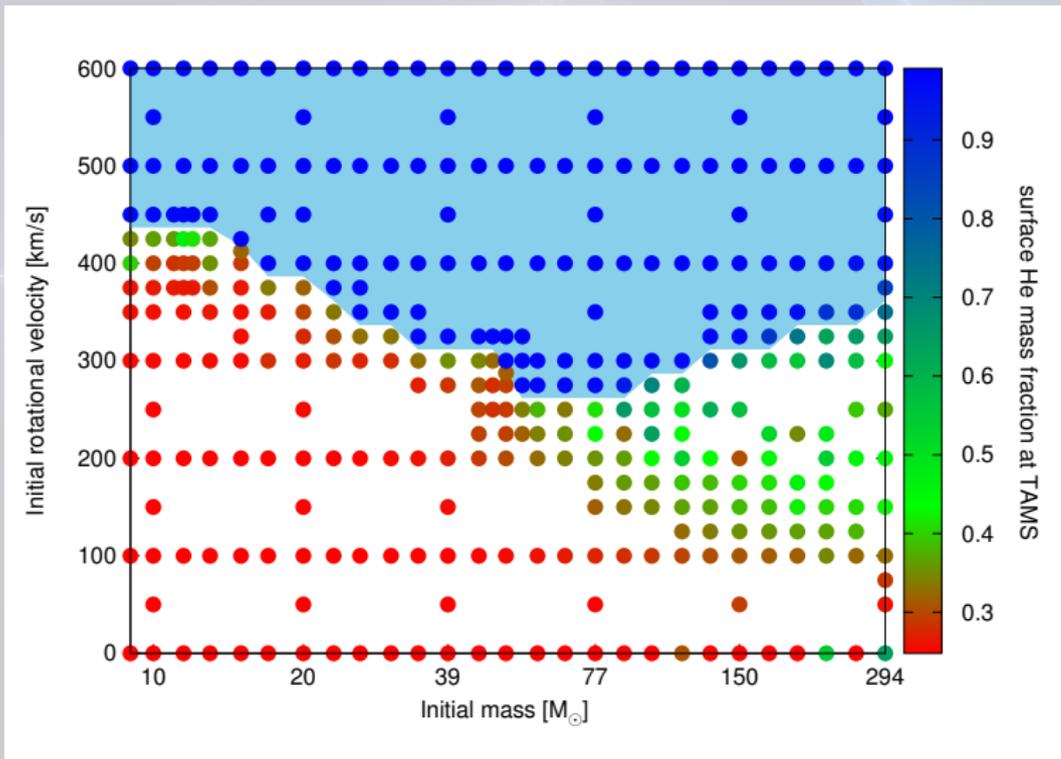
# The grid of stellar models



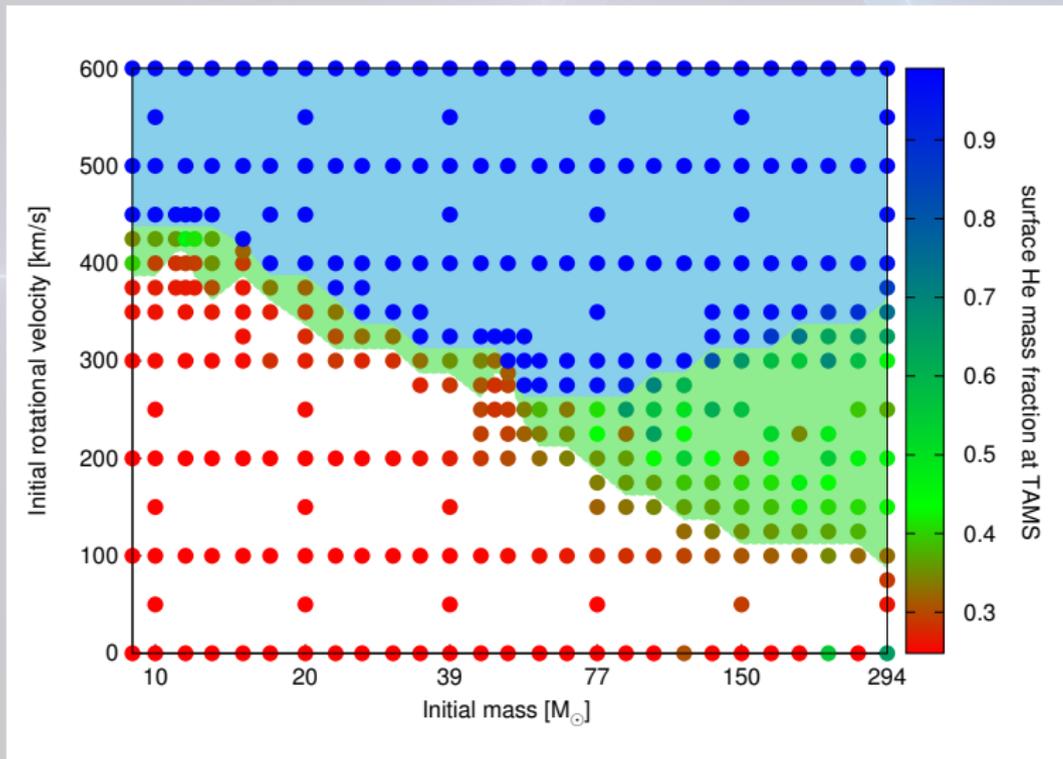
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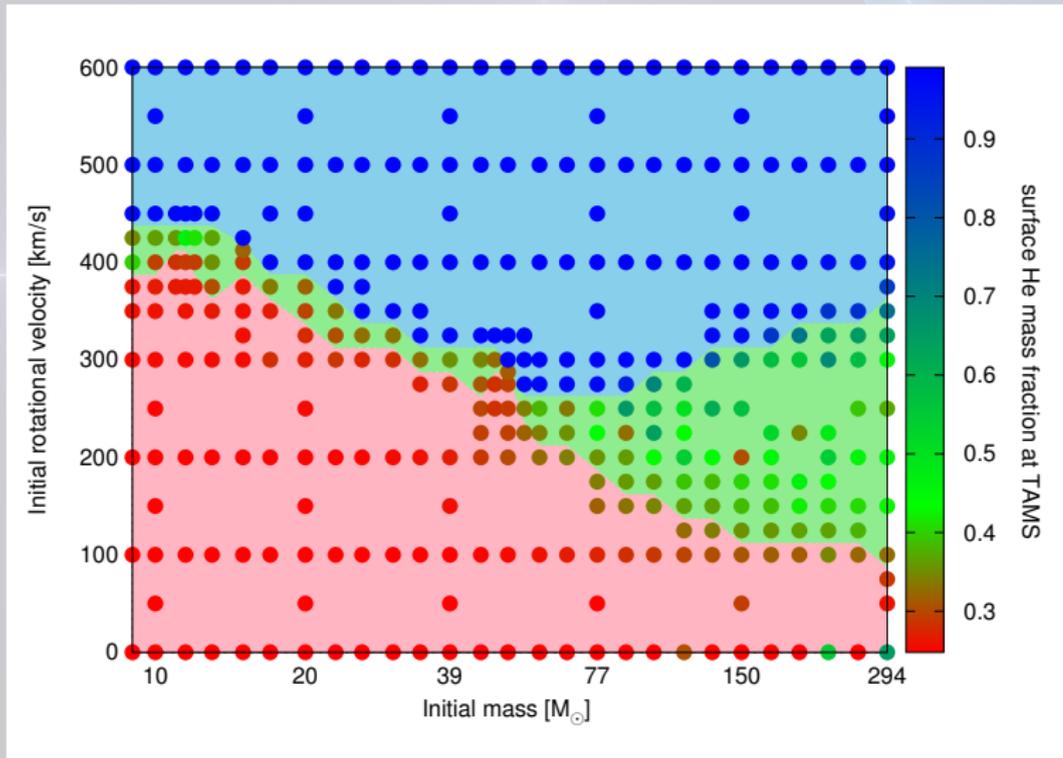
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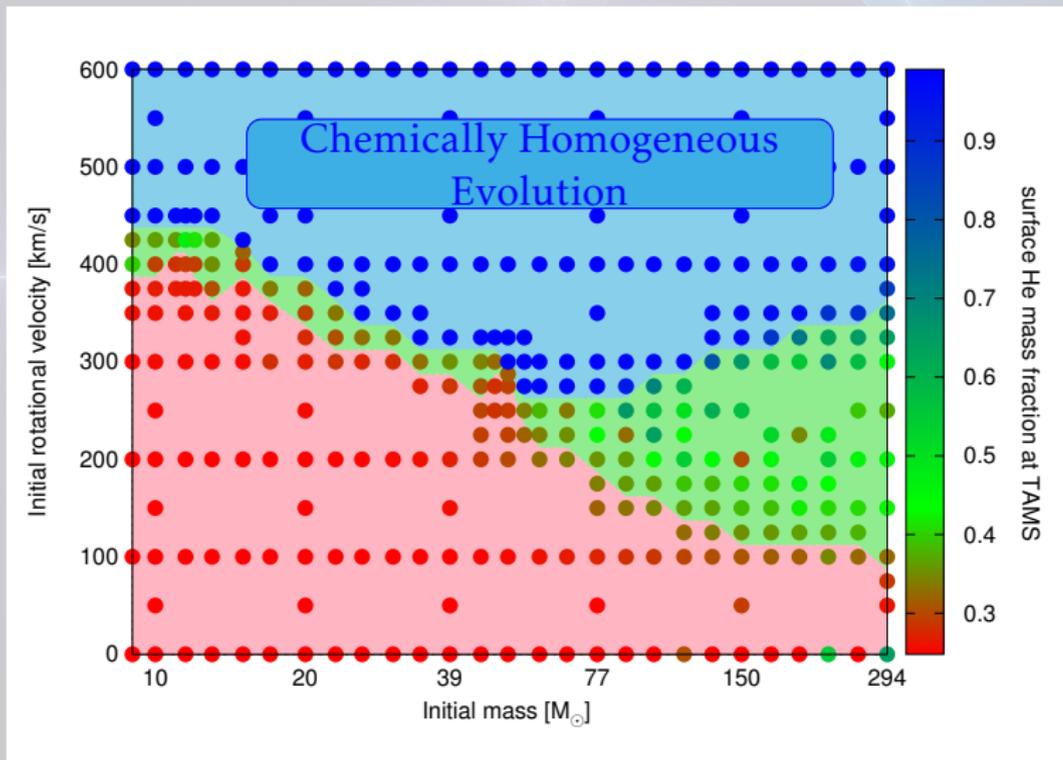
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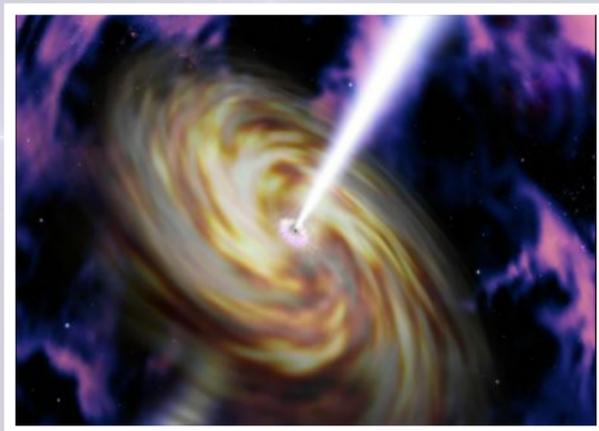
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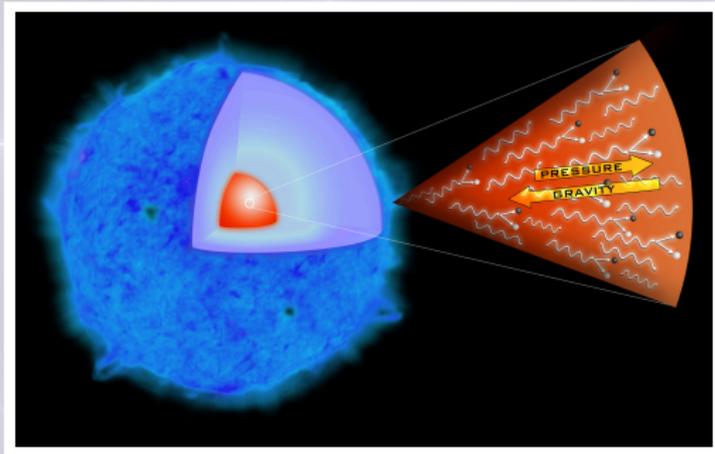
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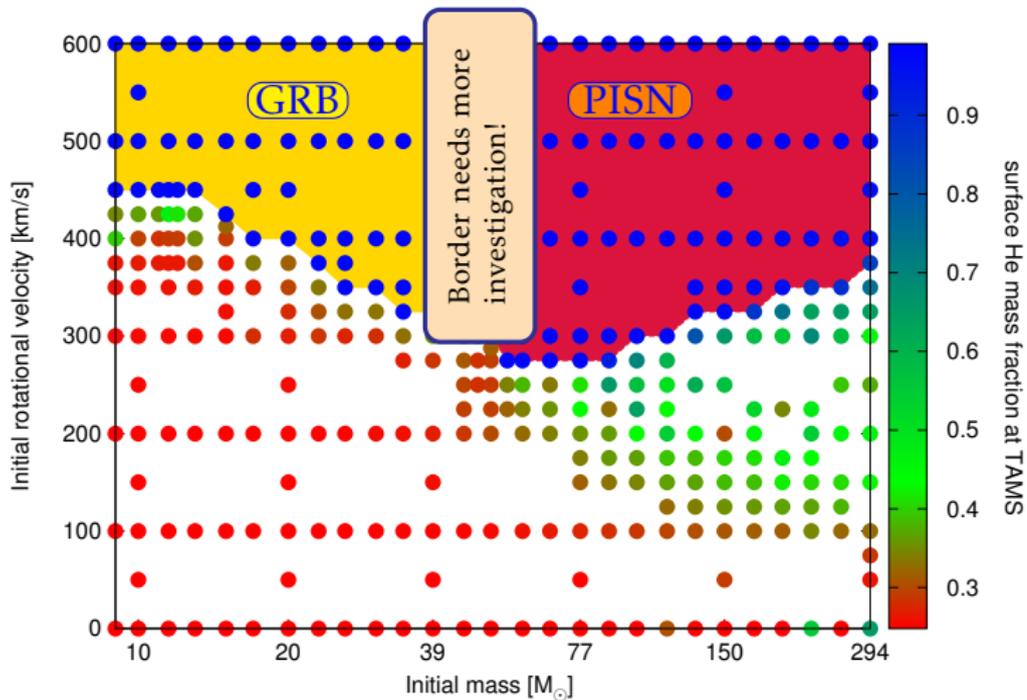
# Angular momentum – long duration GRB



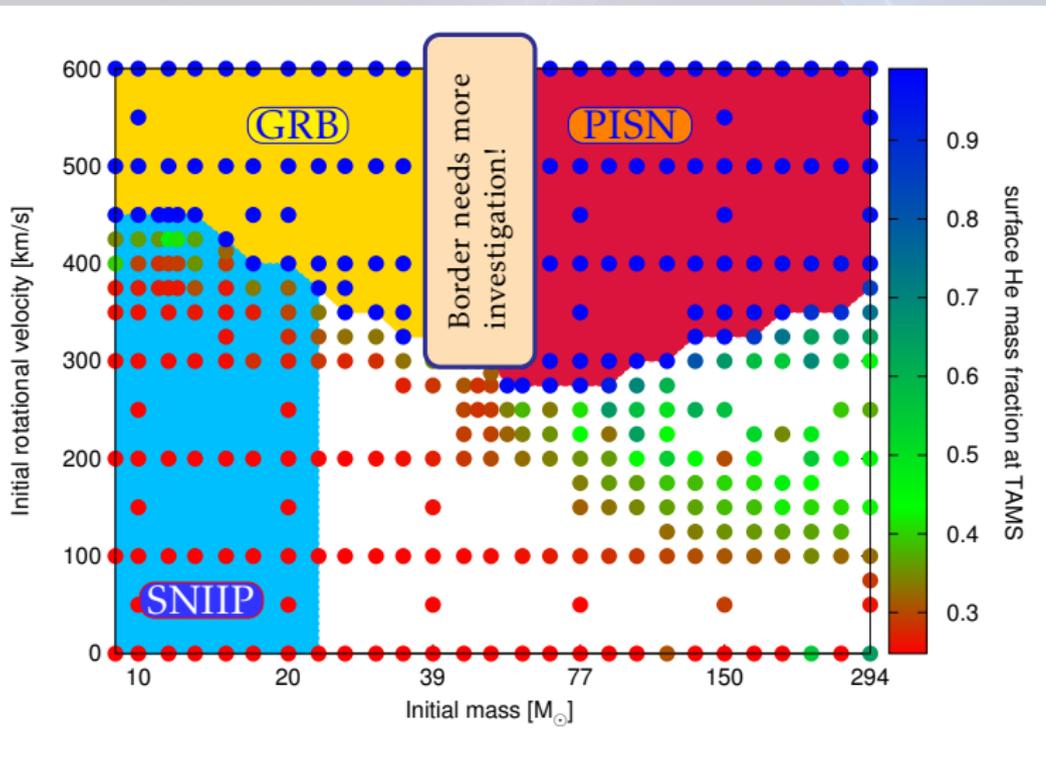
# Pair instability supernova



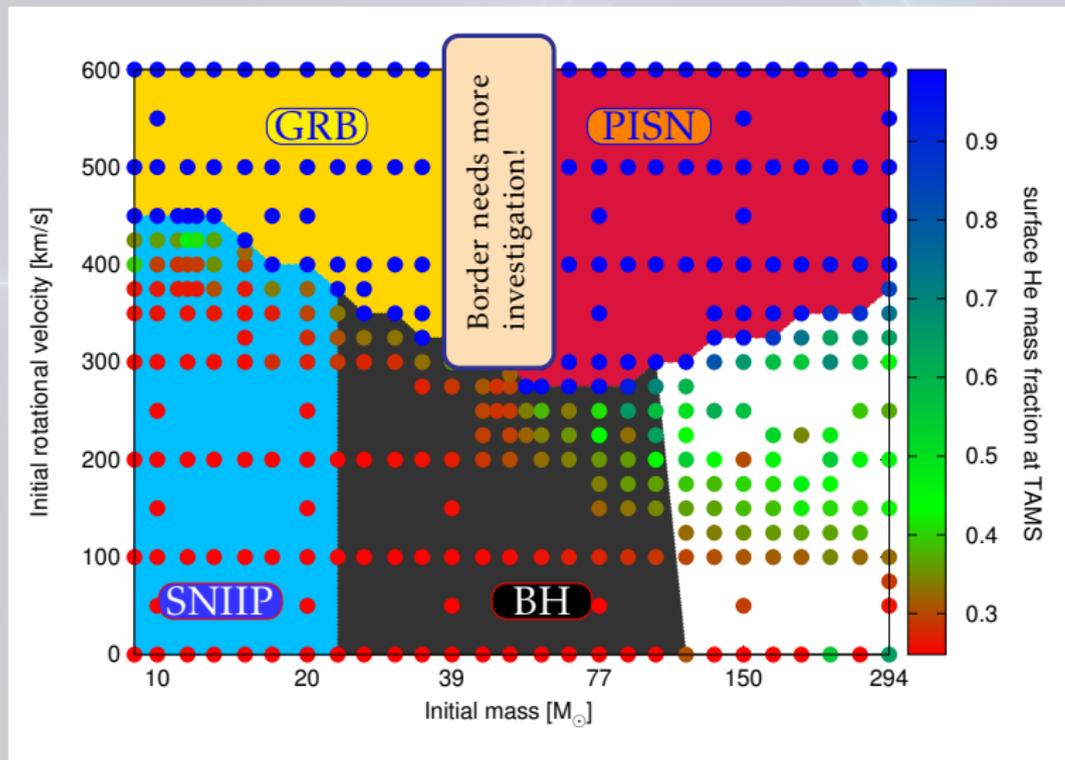
# Final fates



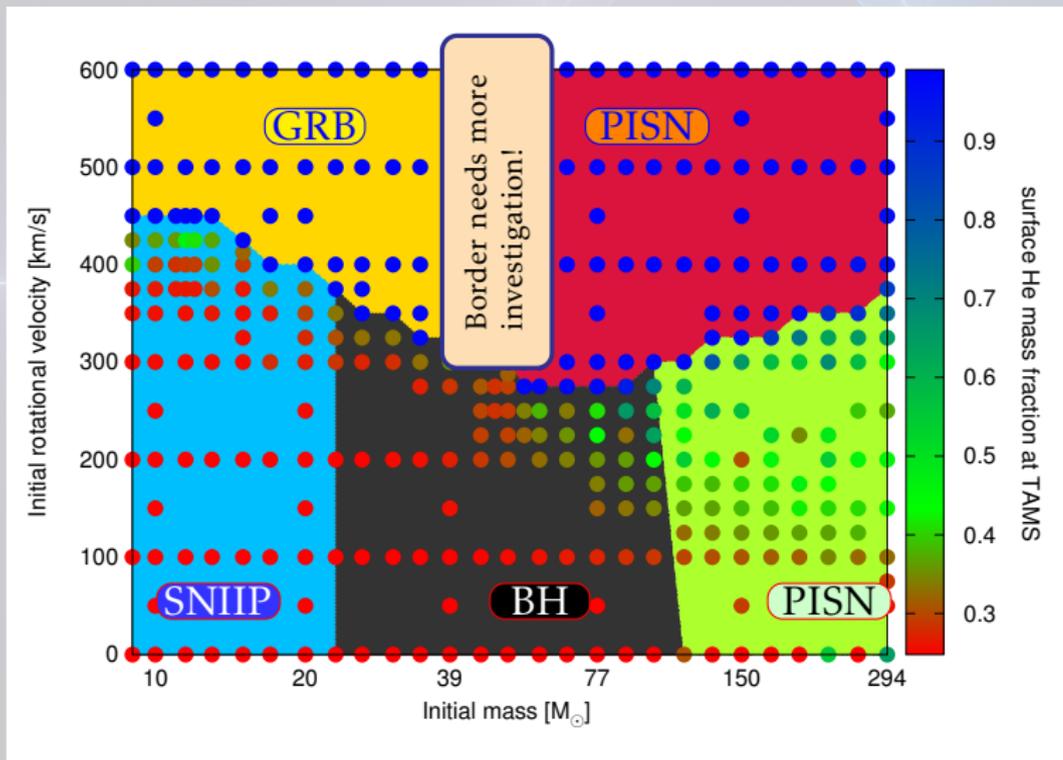
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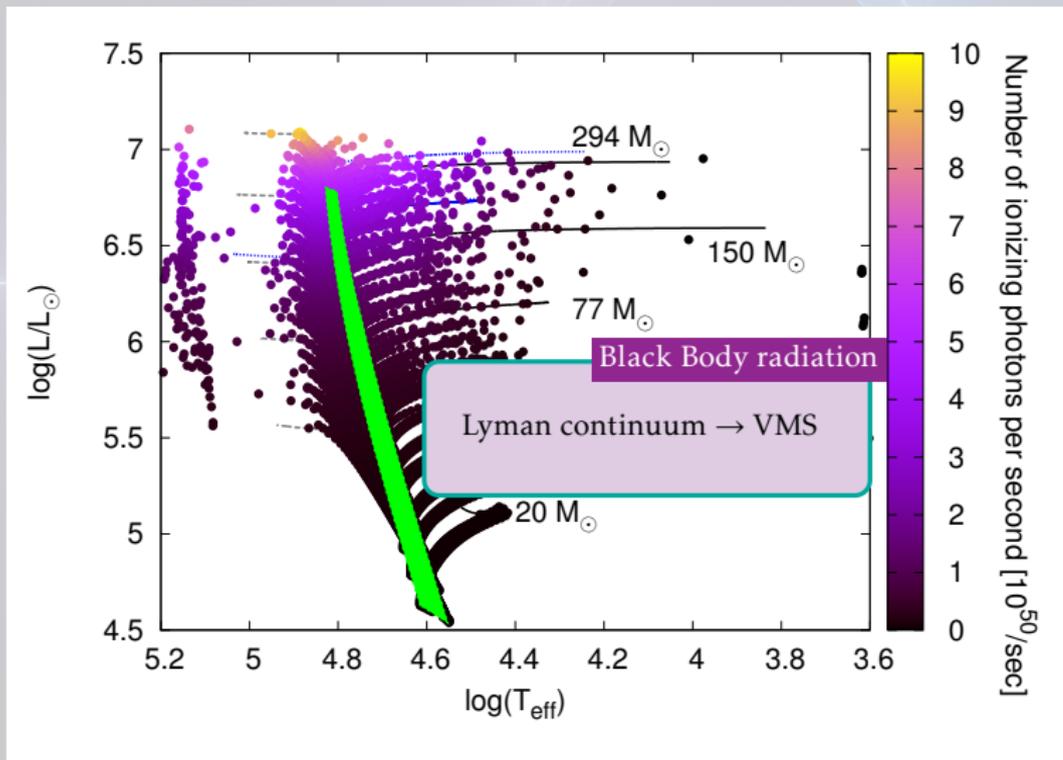
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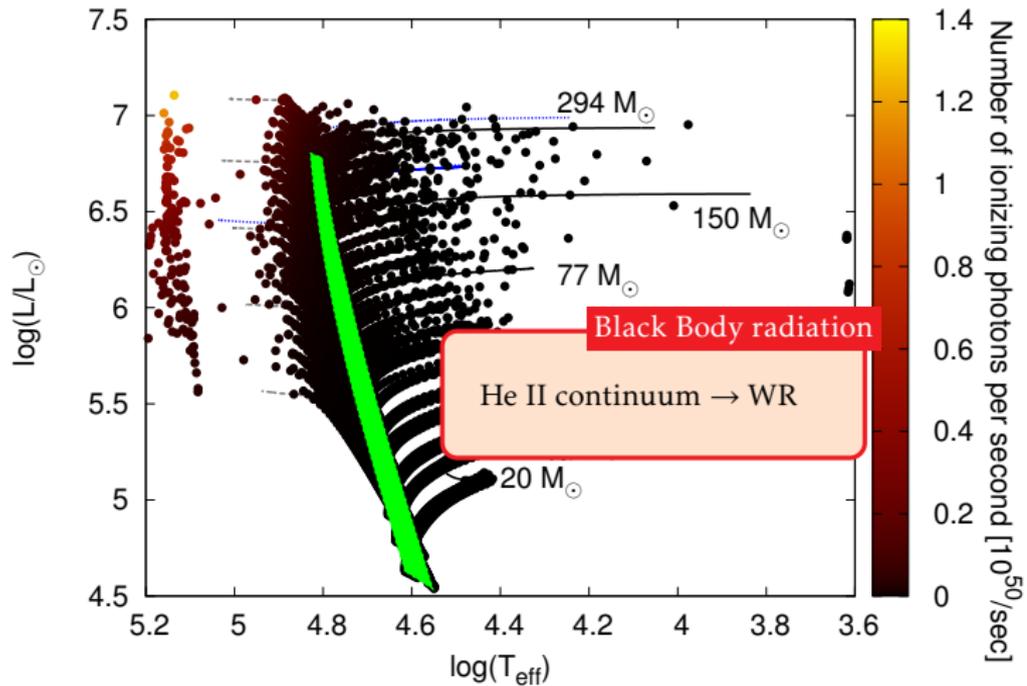
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# Photoionization fluxes



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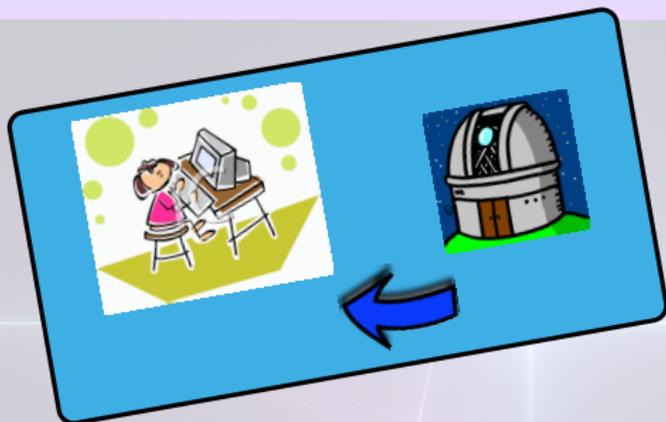
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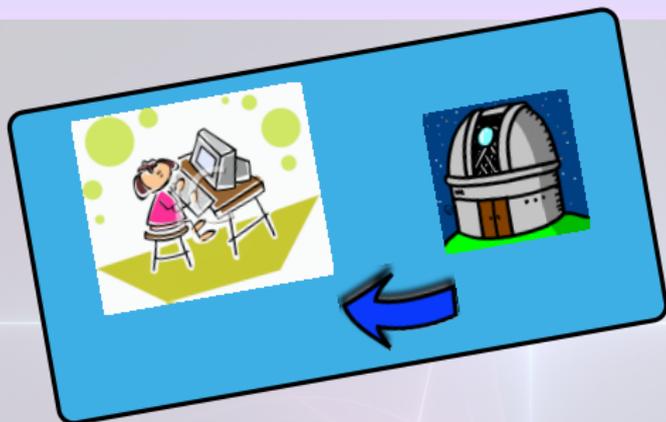
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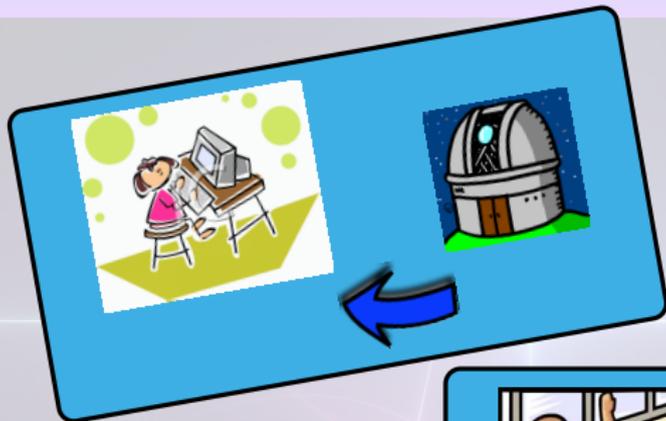
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