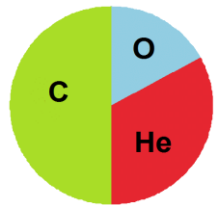


Recent Progress on our Understanding of He-Dominated Stellar Evolution



H-deficient stars



C-rich

He ~ 30-50%

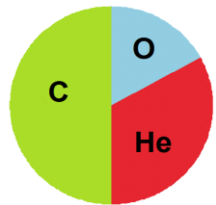
C ~ 30-60%

O ~ 2-20%

VLTP evolution in the HRD.



H-deficient stars



C-rich

He ~ 30-50%
C ~ 30-60%
O ~ 2-20%

Surface abundances can be explained by (very) late thermal pulse ((V)LTP) scenarios

RCB → [WC] → PG 1159 → DO → DB → DQ

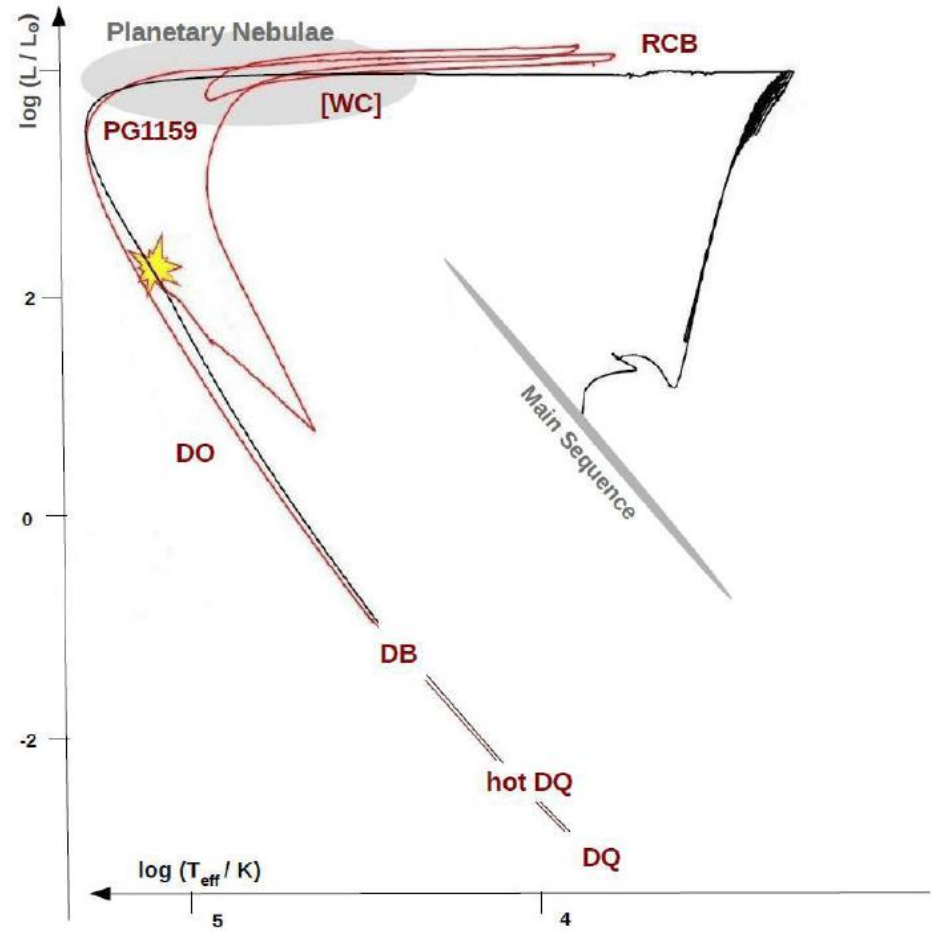
Partly observed in real time

Sakurai's Object: VLTP → RCB

V605 Aquilae: VLTP → RCB → [WC]

FG Sge: LTP → RCB

Lo 4 : PG 1159 ↔ [WC]

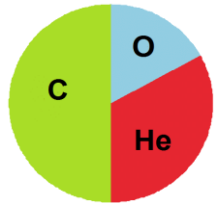


VLTP evolution in the HRD.



H-deficient stars

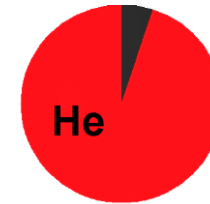
C-rich



He ~ 30-50%
C ~ 30-60%
O ~ 2-20%

RCB → [WC] → PG 1159 → DO → DB → DQ

He-dominated



He ≥ 90%

RCB stars

EHe stars

He-sdO stars

[WN]-type central stars

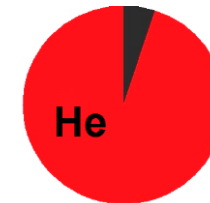
O(He) stars



H-deficient stars

- H-poor supergiants, $T_{\text{eff}} = 4000 - 8000 \text{ K}$,
 $\log g = 0.5 - 1.5$, $\log(L/L_{\odot}) = 3.2 - 4.0$
- ≈ 68 in the Galaxy,
 ≈ 25 in the Magellanic Clouds
 ≈ 4 in M31

He-dominated



He $\geq 95\%$

RCB stars

EHe stars

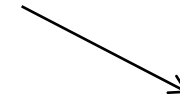
He-sdO stars

[WN]-type central stars

O(He) stars



H-deficient stars



He-dominated



He \geq 95%

RCB stars

EHe stars

He-sdO stars

[WN]-type central stars

O(He) stars

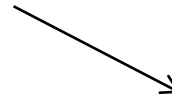
Early type supergiants of spectral type A and B

\approx 17 objects known





H-deficient stars



He-dominated



He \geq 95%

- Very similar element abundances
He-dominated, C \approx 1%, N \approx 1% (by mass)



RCB stars

EHe stars

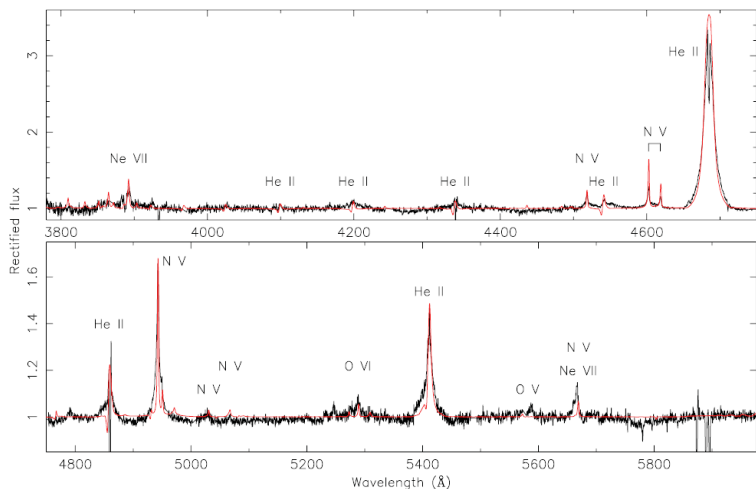
He-sdO stars

[WN]-type central stars

O(He) stars

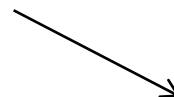


H-deficient stars

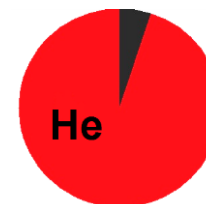


Optical spectrum of the CS of IC 4663: observation (black) versus synthetic CMFGEN NLTE spectrum (red, Miszalski et al., 2012).

- He-dominated central stars of planetary nebulae (CSPNe)
- Enriched in N (1-5% by mass)
- Strong stellar wind
- Only two objects known so far: **IC 4463** (Miszalski et al., 2012) and **Abell 48** (Todt et al., 2013; Frew et al., 2014).



He-dominated



He ≥ 95%

RCB stars

EHe stars

He-sdO stars

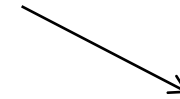
[WN]-type central stars

O(He) stars





H-deficient stars



He-dominated



He \geq 95%

RCB stars

EHe stars

He-sdO stars

[WN]-type central stars

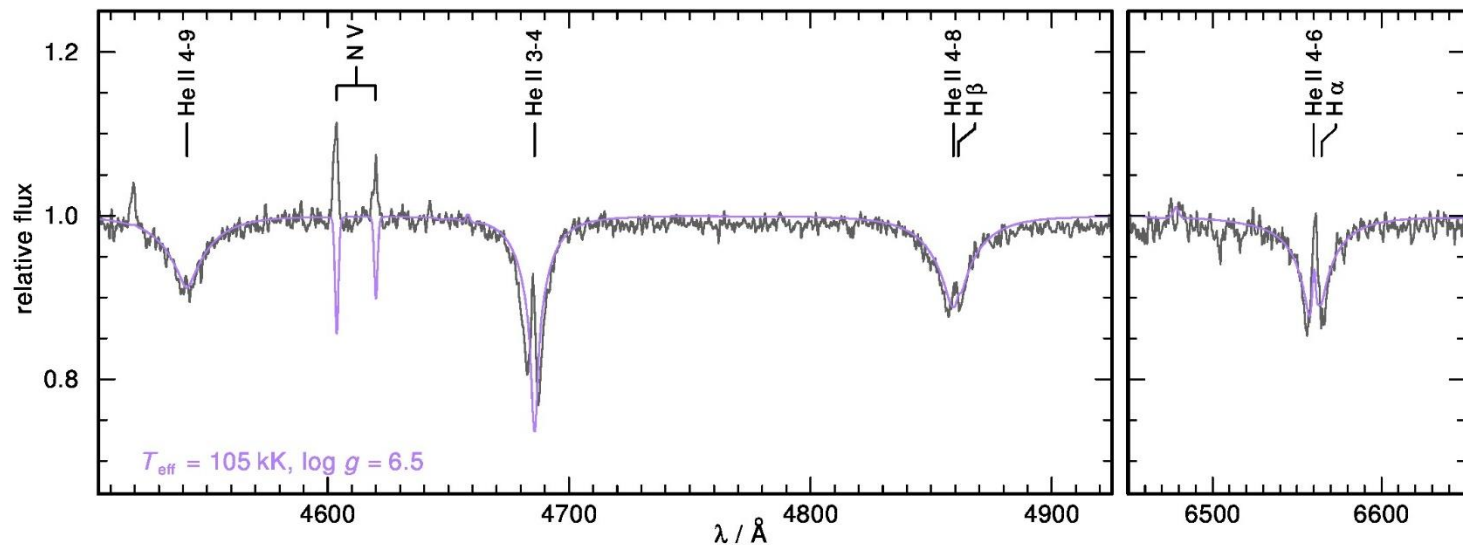
O(He) stars



- Extremely hot ($T_{\text{eff}} \geq 80$ kK) pre-white dwarfs
- Found in the post-AGB region in the $T_{\text{eff}} - \log g$ diagram, just amongst the luminous PG 1159 stars and H-rich CSPNe

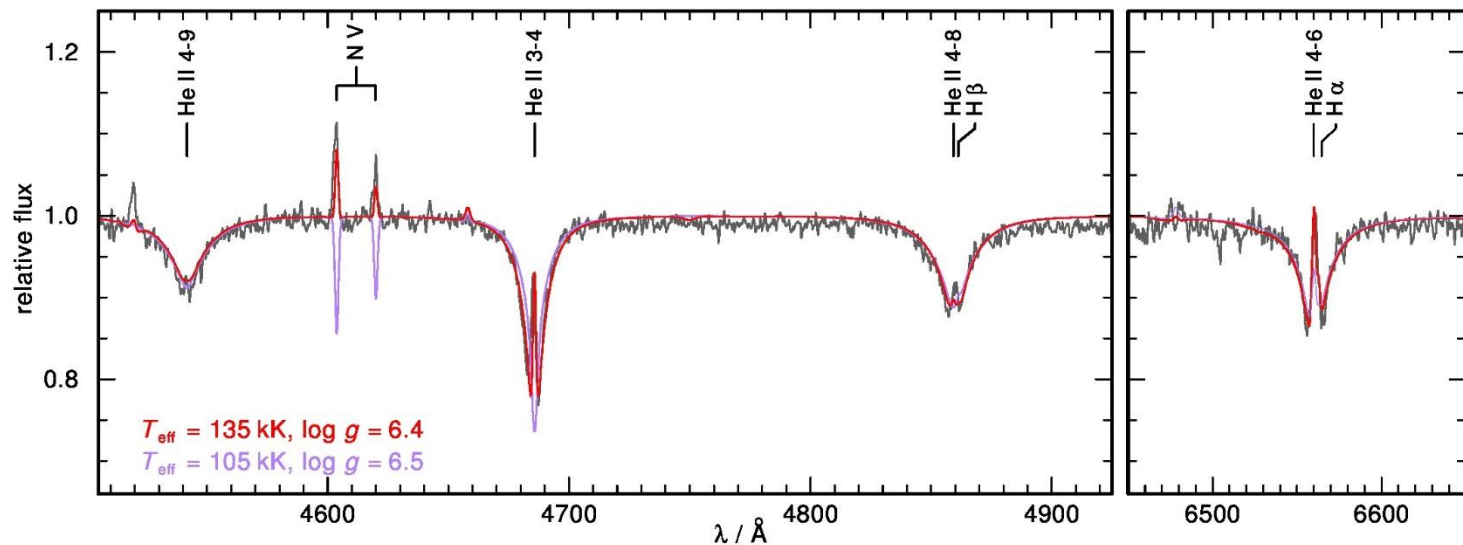


- First known O(He) stars: CSPNe **K1-27** and **LoTr4**, and **HS 1522+6615** and **HS 2209+8229**
- Rauch et al. (1994, 1996, 1998): First non-LTE-analysis with HHe (+CNO) models based on optical spectra (resolution $\approx 3 \text{ \AA}$)
- Reindl et al. (2014): Reanalysis with HHeCNOHe (+FSiPSFe) models based on new optical spectra (resolution $\approx 1.5 \text{ \AA}$) for K1-27 and LoTr4, FUSE, and HST/COS spectra (all stars, resolution ≈ 0.1 and 0.9 \AA)
- **K1-27**: Problem with He II $\lambda 4686 \text{ \AA}$ and N V lines solved

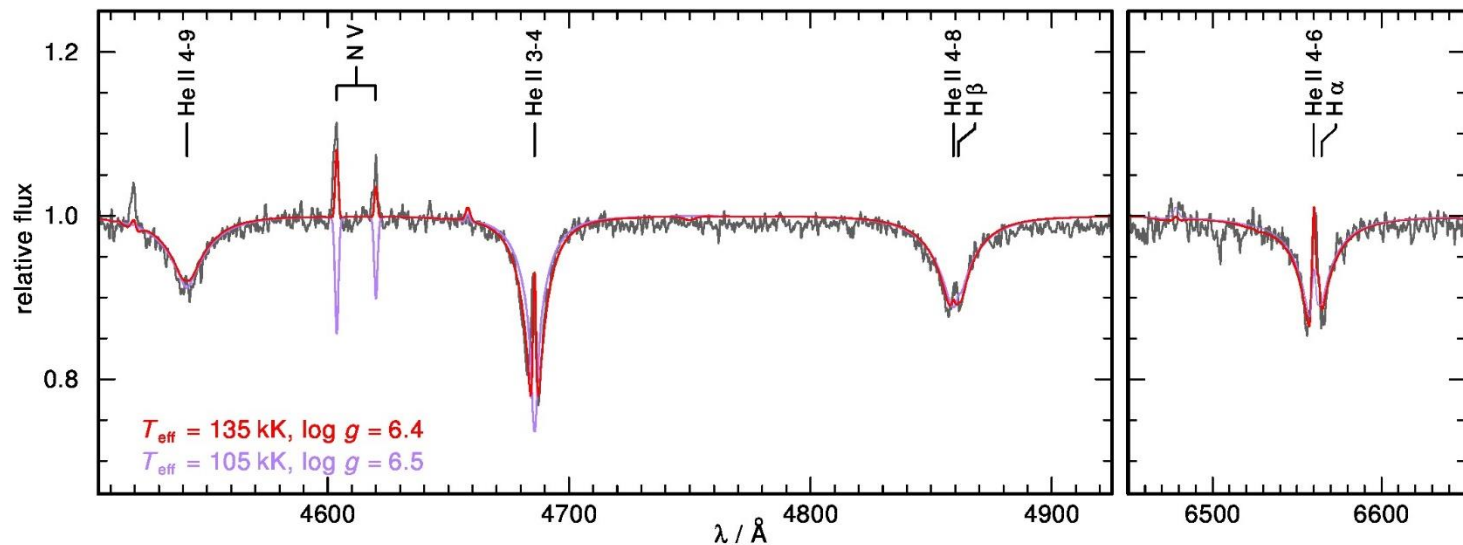




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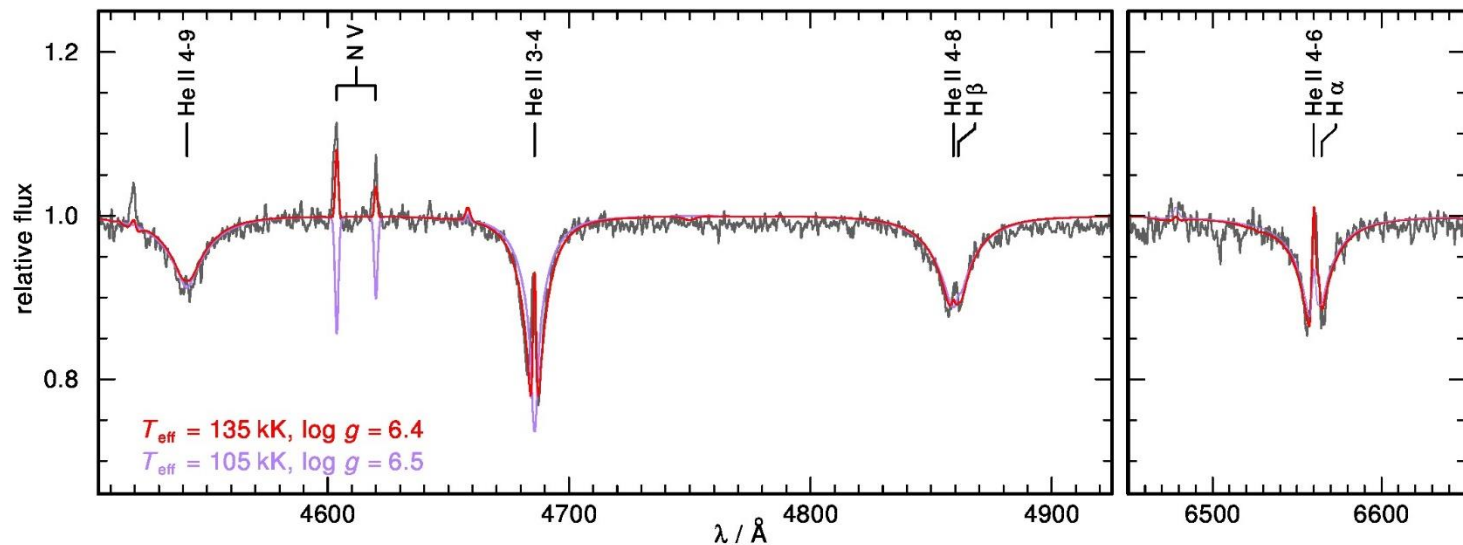
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➔ Systematical error of 30 kK



- First known O(He) stars: CSPNe **K1-27** and **LoTr4**, and **HS 1522+6615** and **HS 2209+8229**
- Rauch et al. (1994, 1996, 1998): First non-LTE-analysis with HHe (+CNO) models based on optical spectra (resolution $\approx 3 \text{ \AA}$)
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- **K1-27**: Problem with He II $\lambda 4686 \text{ \AA}$ and N V lines solved



- For more than 15 years no other O(He)-star was discovered...



- KPD0005+5106: first classified as a DO white dwarf
 - Wassermann et al. (2010): $T_{\text{eff}} = 200 \text{ kK}$, $\log g = 6.7$
→ pre-white dwarf
 - 98% He (by mass) → O(He) star

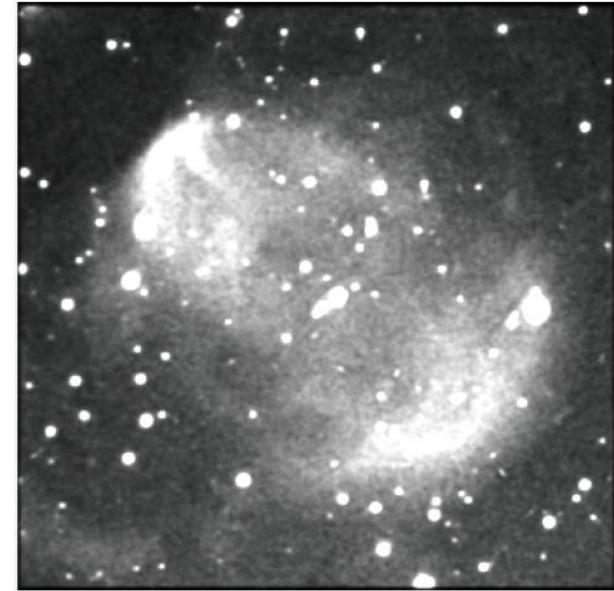


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 - NLTE analysis with HHe (+CNOSi) models based on SDSS spectra (resolution $\approx 2.5 \text{ \AA}$)



O(He) stars

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- De Marco et al. (2015): Discovery of the new O(He)-type central star Pa 5

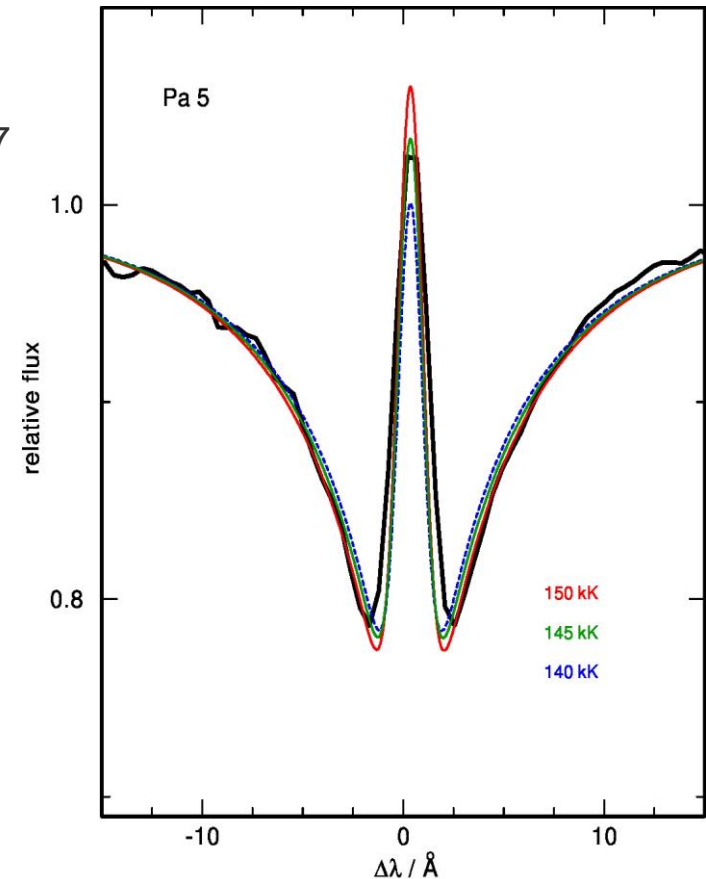


H α image of the newly discovered O(He)-type CSPN Pa 5 (De Marco et al. 2015)



O(He) stars

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 - NLTE analysis with HHeCNOHe models
 - $T_{\text{eff}} = 145 \text{ kK}$, $\log g = 6.7$



Observed He II $\lambda 4686 \text{ \AA}$ line compared to synthetic spectra with different T_{eff} .



A trichotomy exists amongst He-dominated stars

(not only a dichotomy)

N-rich ($N \approx 1\%$)

- N-rich O(He) stars
K1-27, LoTr4, Pa 5, and
HS 2209+8229
- N-rich He-sdO stars
e.g., LSE 236,
HE 1258+0113
- N-rich DO WDs
e.g., PG 0038+199,
PG 1034+001
- [WN]-type CSPNe
IC 4463, Abell 48

C-rich ($C \approx 1\%$)

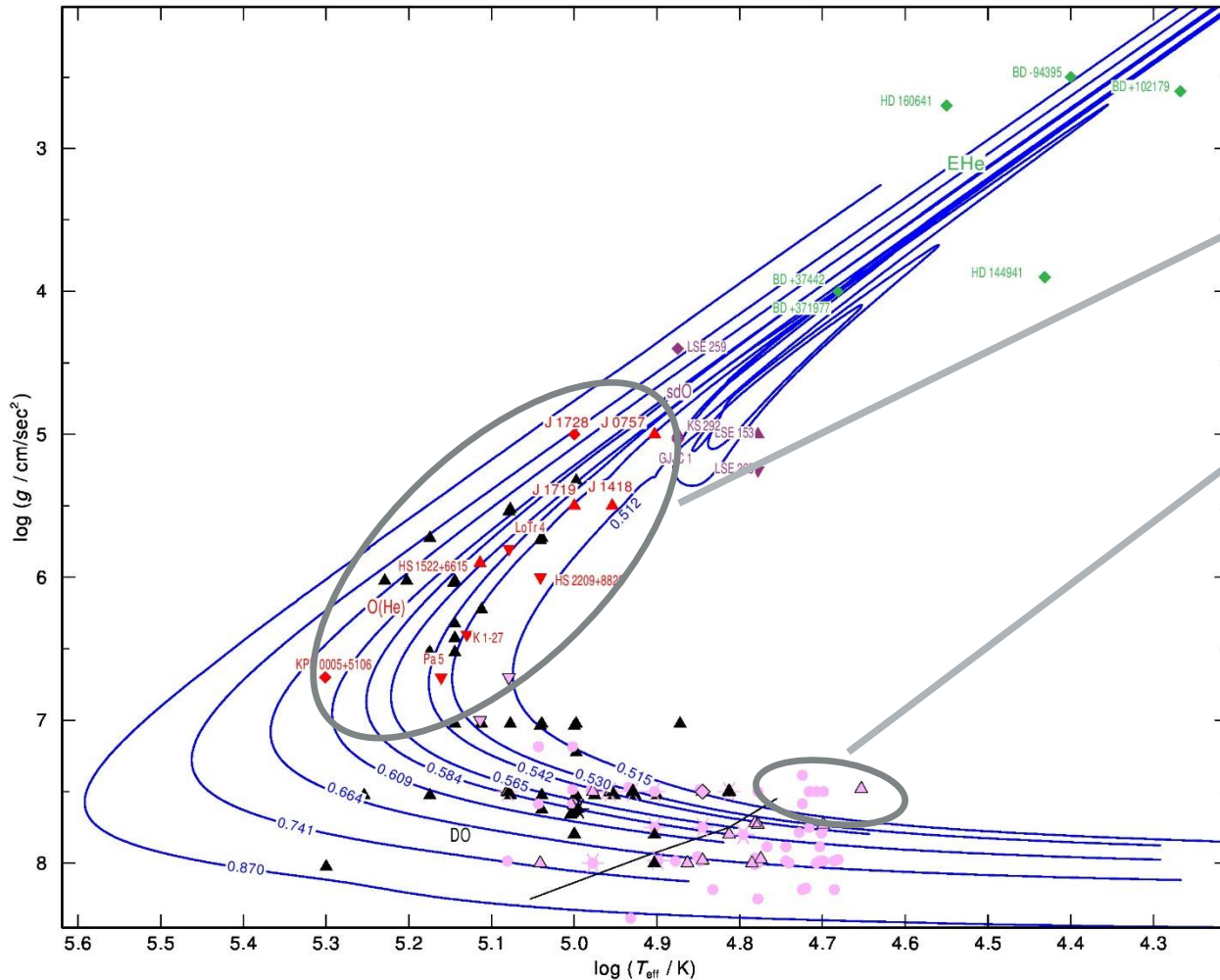
- C-rich O(He) stars
HS 1522+6615, J1719, J1418,
J0757
- C-rich He-sdO stars
e.g., LSE 153,
HE 1203-1024
- C-rich DO WDs
e.g., PG 0108+101,
HS 0111+0012

C- and N-rich ($C \approx 1\%$, $N \approx 1\%$)

- C&N-rich O(He) stars
KPD 0005+5106, J1728
- C&N-rich He-sdO stars
e.g., LSE 256,
HE 0111-1526
- C&N-rich DO WD
RE 0503-289
- RCB stars
- EHe stars



Evolutionary status



40 % O(He) stars
60 % PG1159 stars

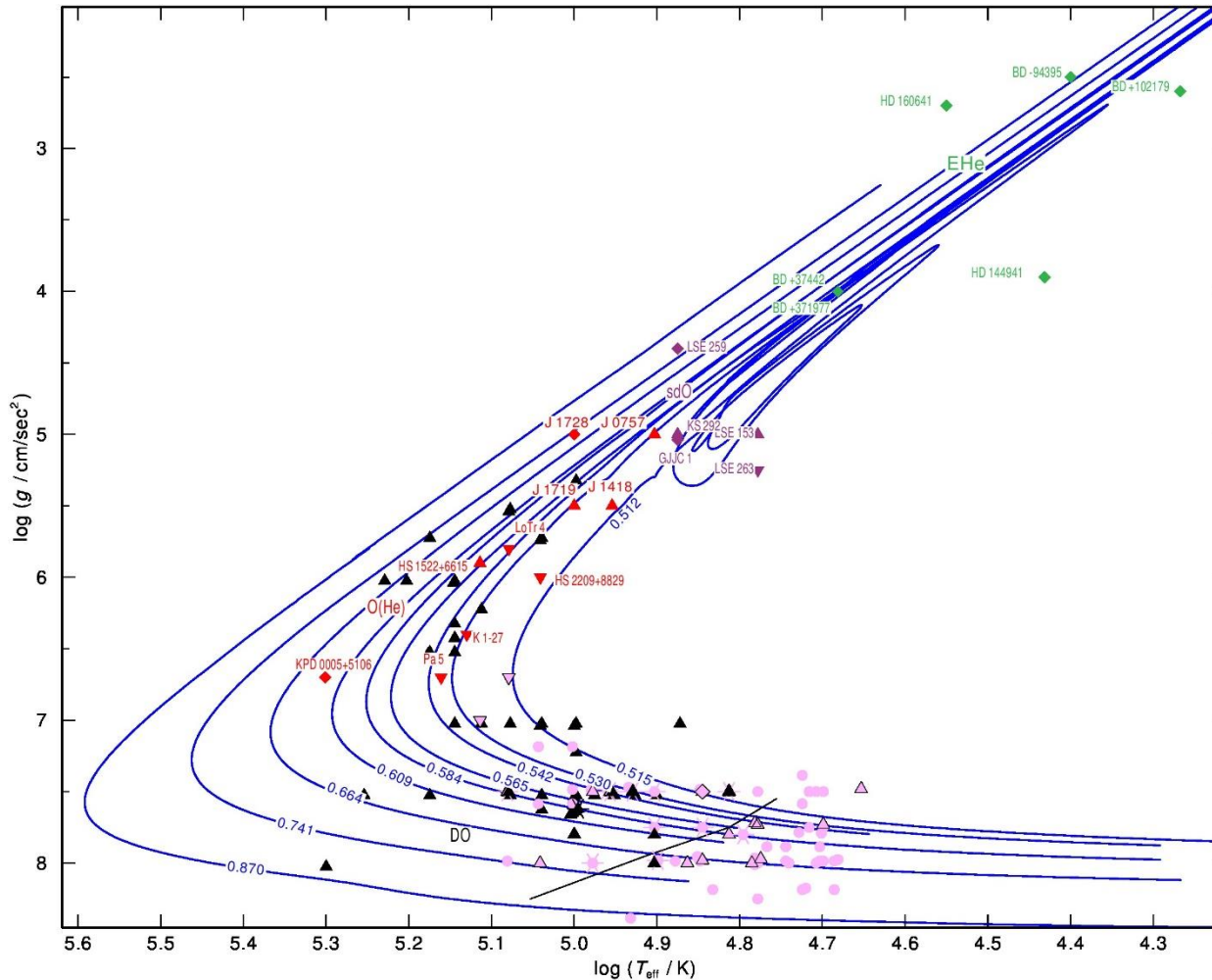
≈ 13 % of the cool DO
white dwarfs have
 $M < 0.5 M_{\odot}$

→ not post-AGB stars!

Locations of EHe stars, luminous He-sdO-stars, O(He) stars, PG 1159 stars and DO WDs in the $\log T_{\text{eff}} - \log g$ plane compared with VLTP evolutionary tracks of Miller Bertolami & Althaus (2006).



Evolutionary status



He-dominated stars **cannot** be explained by (V)LTP scenarios

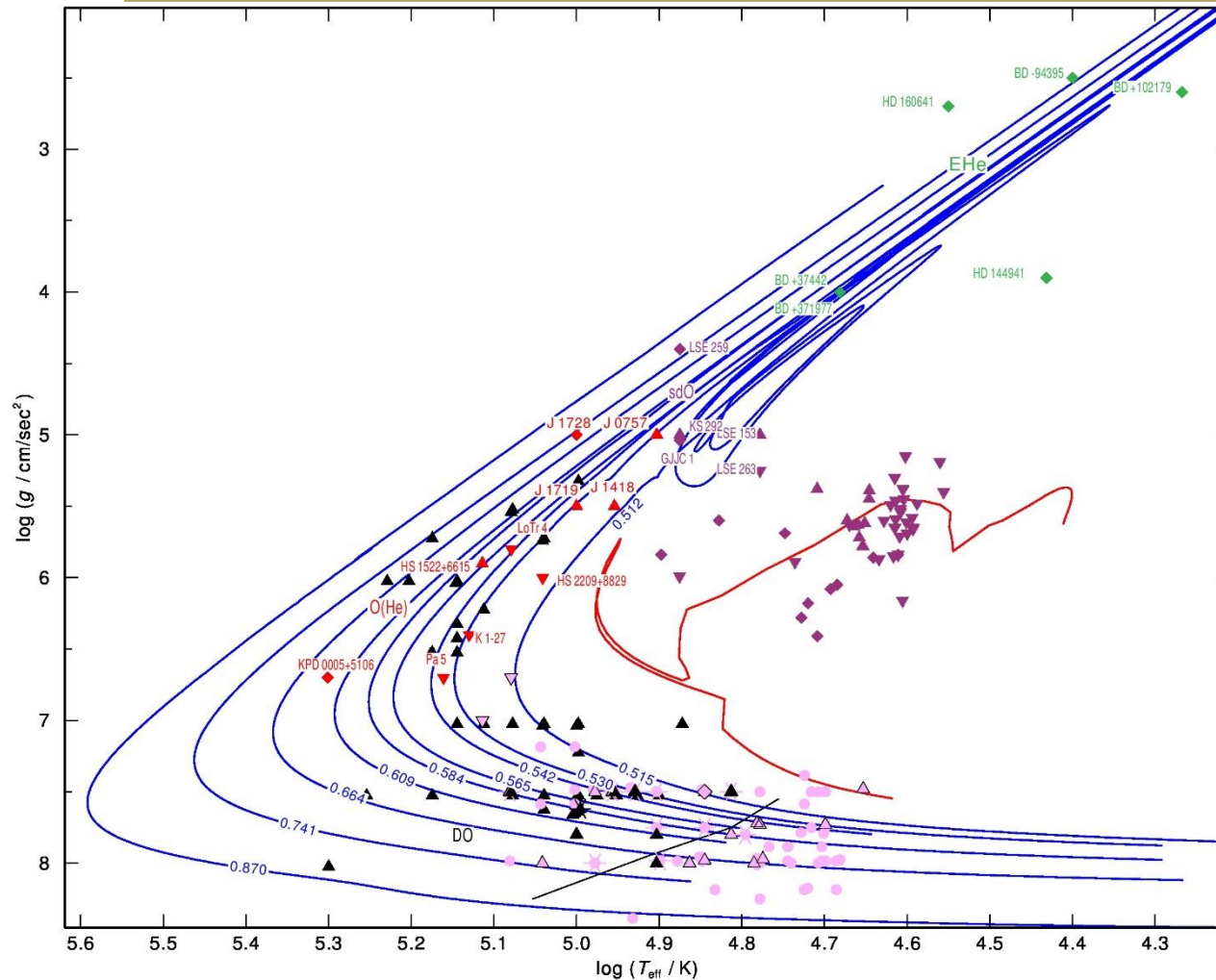
→ predict very high C abundances (> 20% C, by mass)

⚡ He-dominated stars show < 3% C

Locations of EHe stars, luminous He-sdO-stars, O(He) stars, PG 1159 stars and DO WDs in the $\log T_{\text{eff}} - \log g$ plane compared with VLTP evolutionary tracks of Miller Bertolami & Althaus (2006).



Evolutionary status



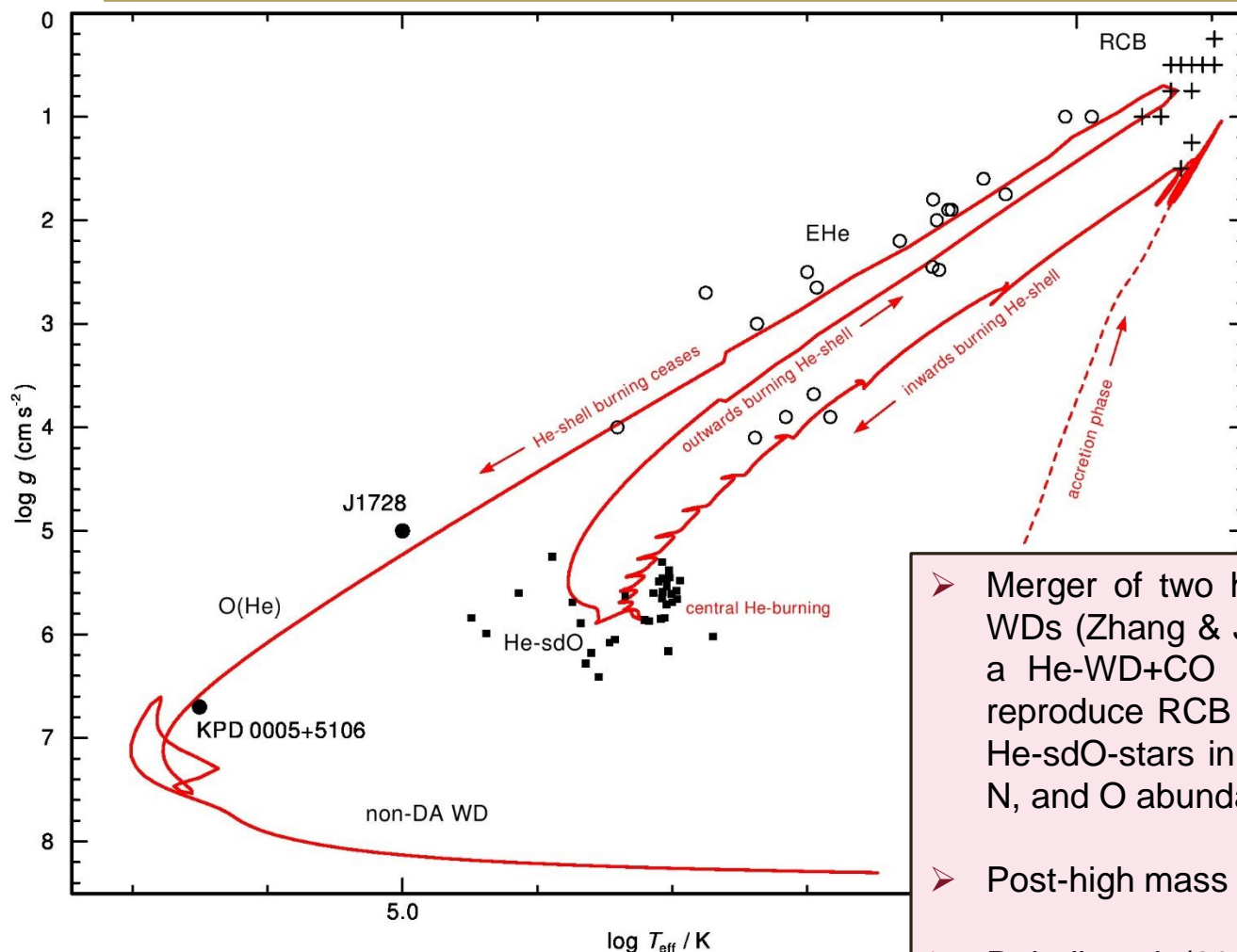
- Considering post-AGB and post-EHB evolution (late hot flasher scenarios) only: No possible connection between compact He-sdO stars and O(He) stars
- However, their surface abundances are extremely similar

By chance ?

Locations of EHe stars, luminous and compact He-sdO-stars, O(He) stars, PG 1159 stars and DO WDs in the $\log T_{\text{eff}} - \log g$ plane compared with VLTP evolutionary tracks of Miller Bertolami & Althaus (2006) and a post-EHB track of Dorman et al. (1993).



Evolutionary status

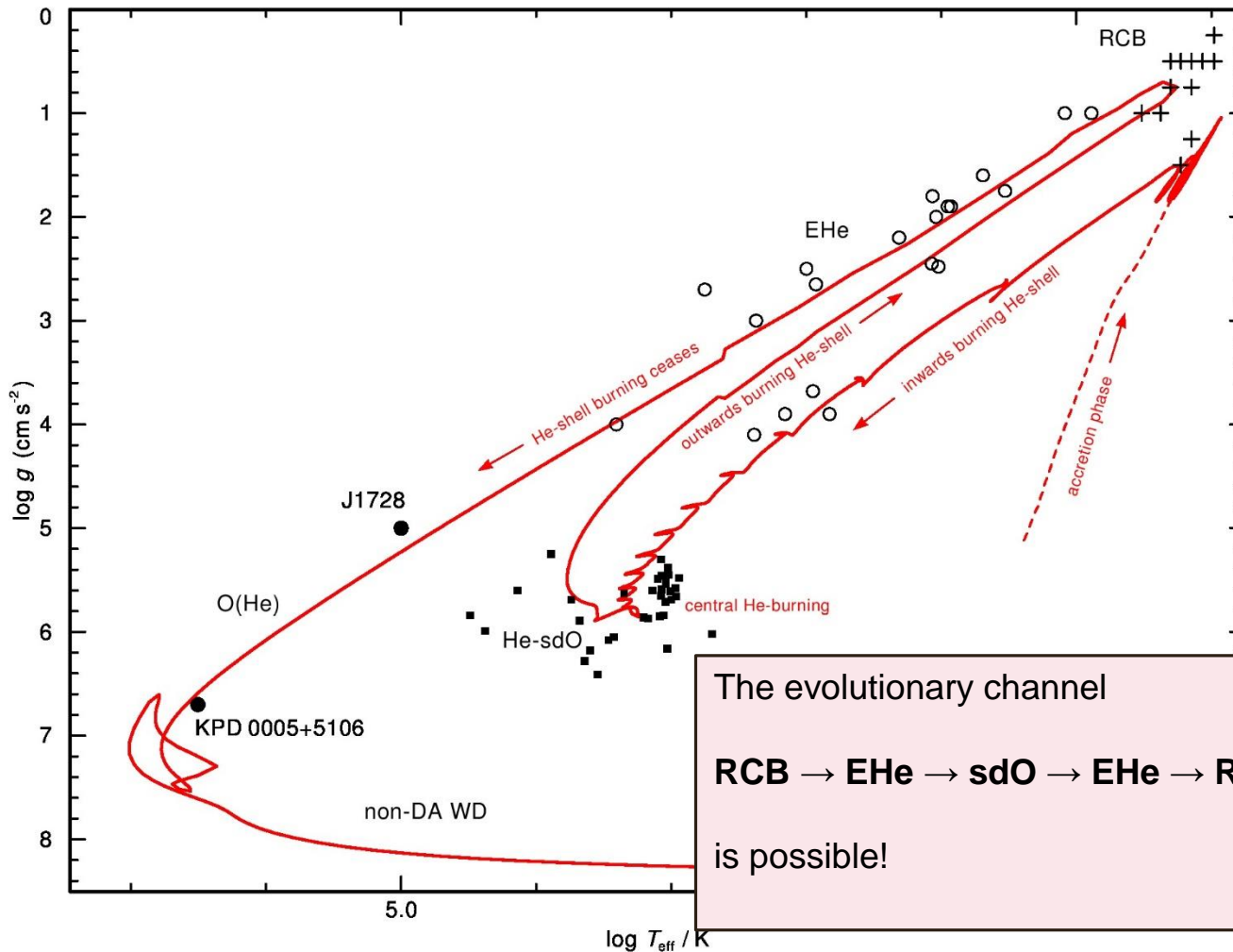


Locations of RCB stars, EHe stars, He-sdO stars, and the two C&N rich O(He) stars compared with an evolutionary track of a 0.8 M He-WD+He-WD merger (Zhang & Jeffery 2012a).

- Merger of two higher mass ($0.4+0.4 M_{\odot}$) He-WDs (Zhang & Jeffery 2012a) or the merger of a He-WD+CO WD (Zhang et al. 2014) can reproduce RCB stars, EHe stars, and compact He-sdO-stars in terms of T_{eff} , $\log g$ and He, C, N, and O abundances.
- Post-high mass merger produce C&N-rich stars
- Reindl et al. (2014): C&N rich O(He) stars (= high mass O(He) stars!) can also be reproduced in this way



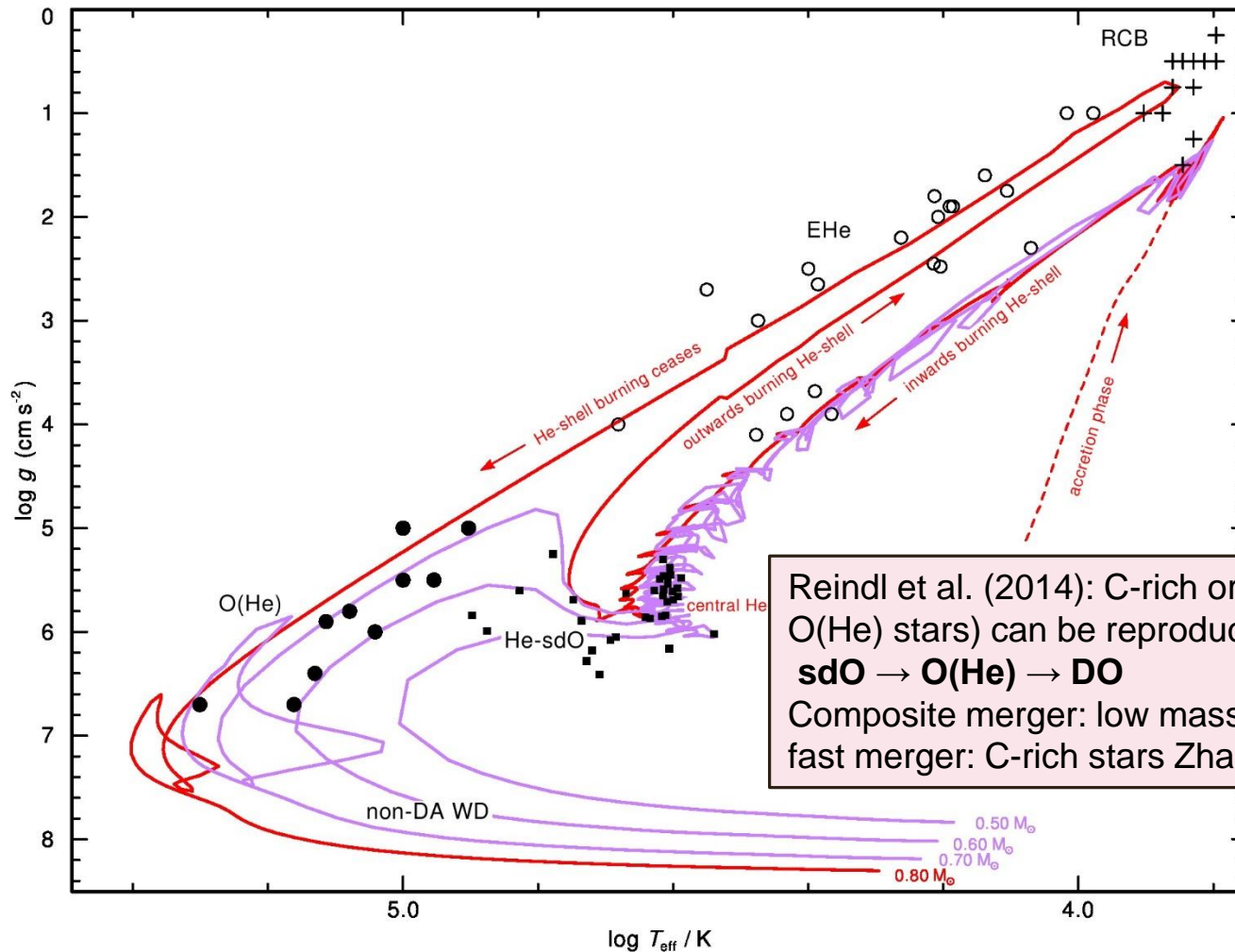
Evolutionary status



Locations of RCB stars, EHe stars, He-sdO stars, and the two C&N rich O(He) stars compared with an evolutionary track of a 0.8 M He-WD+He-WD merger (Zhang & Jeffery 2012a).



Evolutionary status

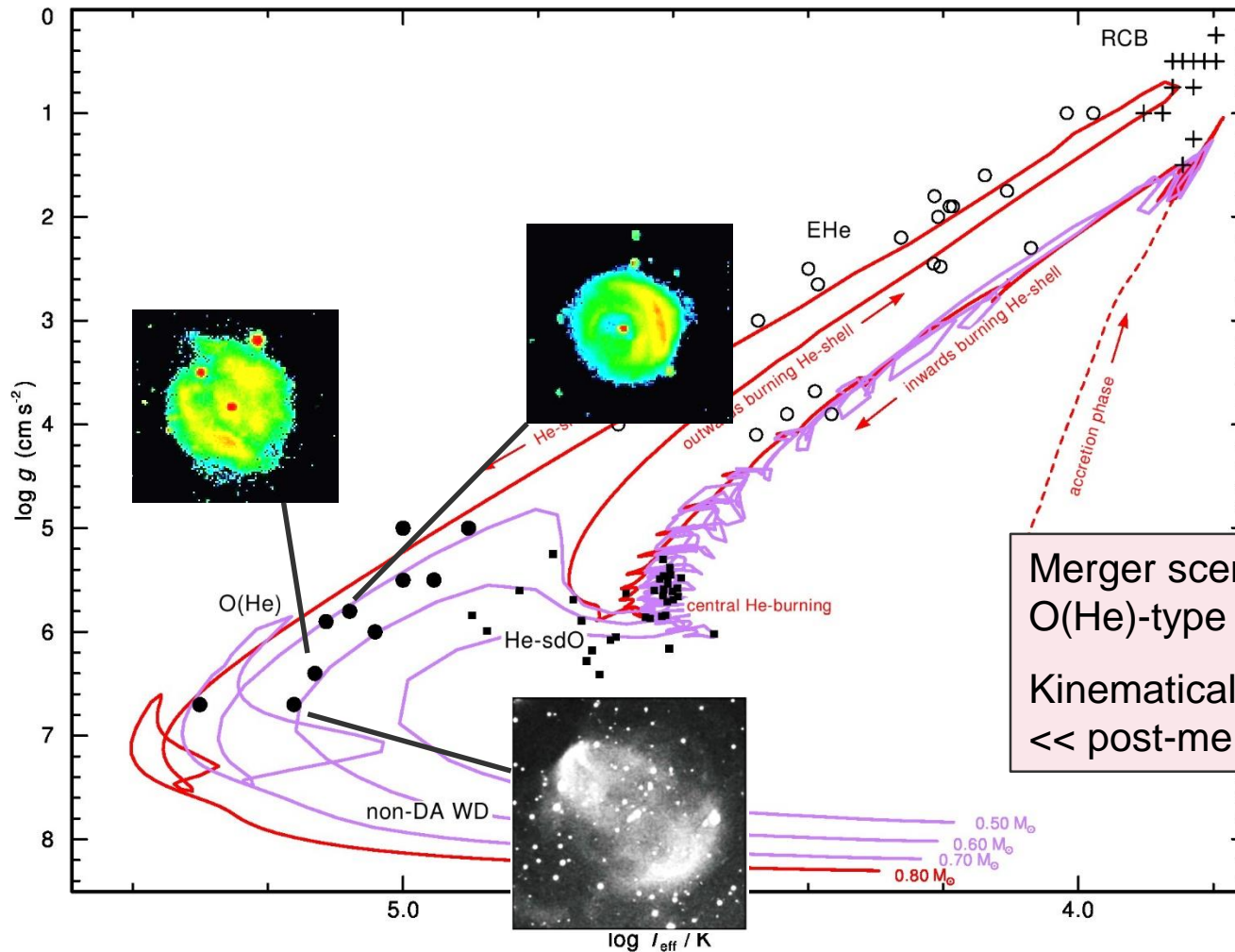


Reindl et al. (2014): C-rich or N-rich O(He) stars (= low mass O(He) stars) can be reproduced via **sdO → O(He) → DO**
 Composite merger: low mass mergers result in N-rich stars,
 fast merger: C-rich stars Zhang & Jeffery (2012)

Locations of RCB stars, EHe stars, He-sdO stars, and all O(He) stars compared with He-WD+He-WD merger evolutionary tracks (Zhang & Jeffery 2012a, b).



Evolutionary status



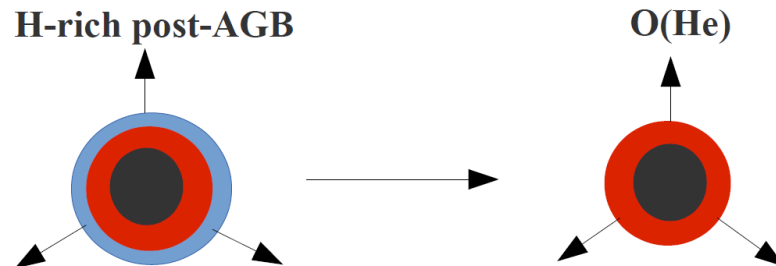
Merger scenario not possible for O(He)-type CSPNe!
Kinematical age of the PNe (10⁴ yrs) << post-merger times (10⁷ yrs)

Locations of RCB stars, EHe stars, He-sdO stars, and all O(He) stars compared with He-WD+He-WD merger evolutionary tracks (Zhang & Jeffery 2012a, b).



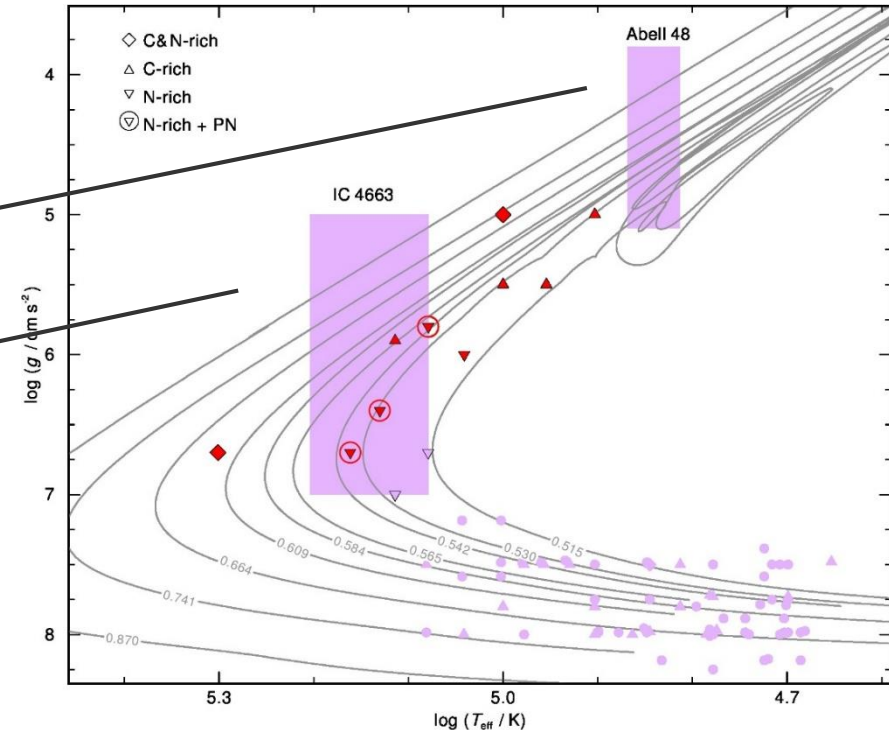
Different evolutionary channel for (N-rich) O(He) type CSPNe?

Enhanced mass-loss removed the H-envelope of the O(He) stars (Rauch et al. 1998)
 → Artificially increased mass-loss rate is needed (numerical experiment of Miller Bertolami & Althaus 2006)



Are O(He) stars really the successors of [WN] type central stars?

- ✓ Very similar elemental abundances
- ✓ In earlier evolutionary stage than the O(He) stage
- ☹ Similar or even later evolutionary stage than the O(He) stars
- ? Why do [WN] show so much higher mass loss-rates compared to the O(He) stars?



Locations of O(He) stars and [WN] central stars in the $\log T_{\text{eff}} - \log g$ plane compared with VLTP evolutionary tracks of Miller Bertolami & Althaus (2006).

Possible solution:

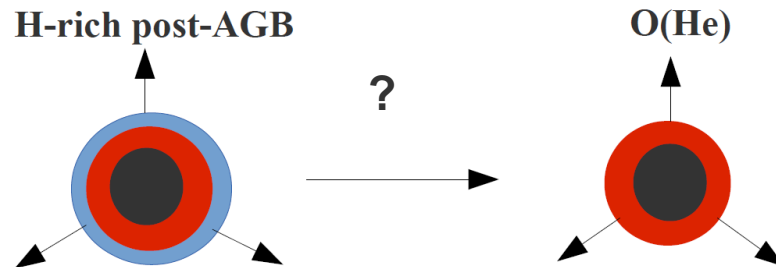
[WN] stars have **higher masses** than O(He) stars

→ According to Pauldrach et al. (1988): high mass-loss rate of IC 4663 and Abell 48 would correspond to $M \approx 0.7 M_{\odot}$ and $M > 1.0 M_{\odot}$, respectively.



Different evolutionary channels for (N-rich) O(He) type CSPNe?

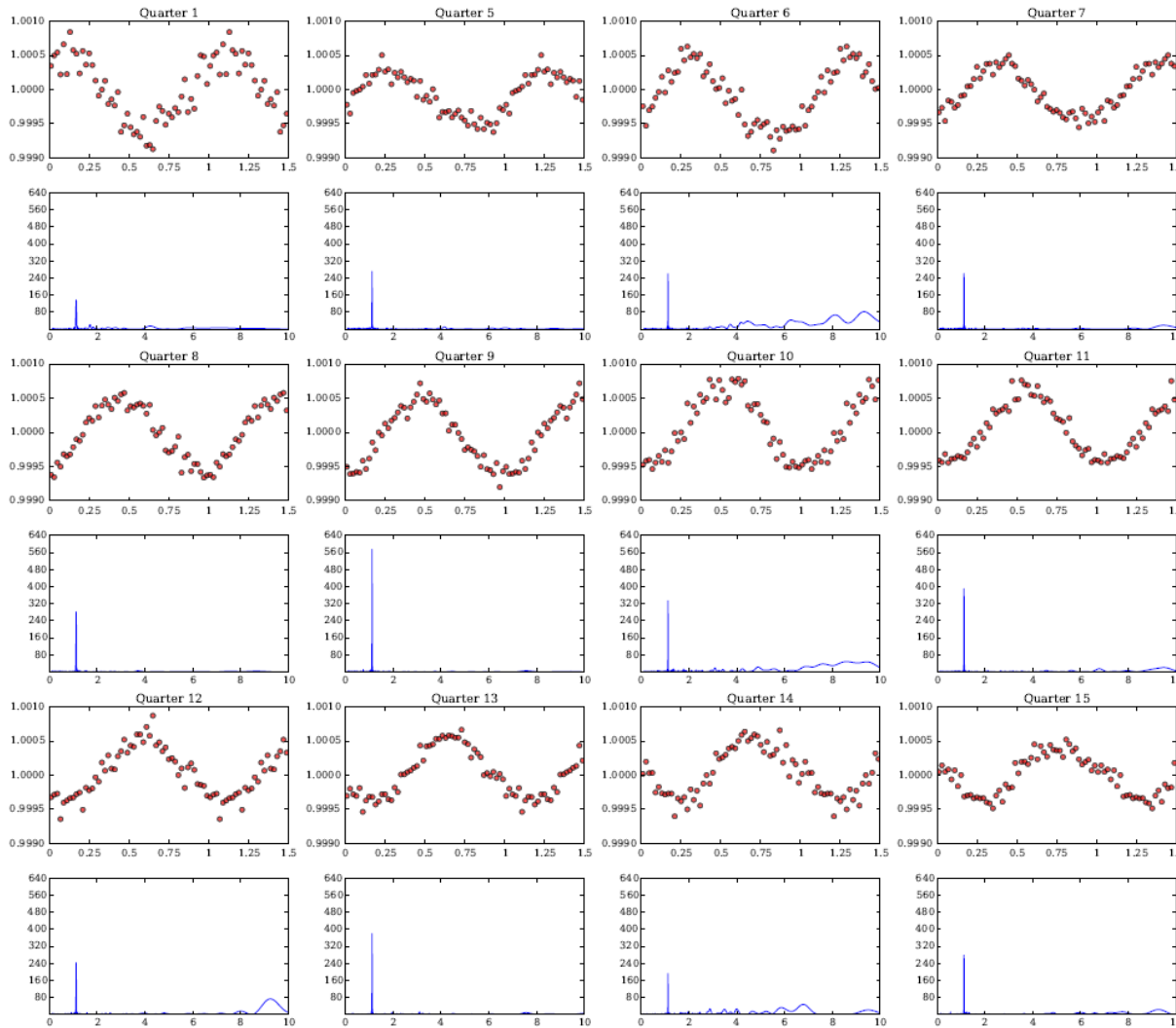
Enhanced mass-loss removed the H-envelope of the O(He) stars (Rauch et al. 1998)
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Ejection of a common envelope in a previous evolutionary stage triggered enhanced mass-loss?



Evolutionary status



→ The light curve of Pa 5 gives a consistent period of 1.12 d with an amplitude of 0.5mmag (De Marco et al. 2015)

Folded Kepler light curves (upper rows) and periodograms (lower rows) of Pa 5 (De Marco et al. 2015).



- However, no radial velocity variability detected larger than 5 km/s
- Planetary mass companion?
 - Have been announced around post-giant stars (e.g., Silvotti et al. 2014)
 - Doubtful that a planet can survive common envelope evolution
- Variability caused by a spot of constant size, temperature, and location on the surface of the star?
 - Relatively narrow spectral lines do not show evidence of a strong magnetic field and the effective temperature is much too high to expect a convective atmosphere which may help produce spots
- Most plausible hypothesis: Pa 5 has an evolved companion in a nearly pole-on orbit ($i < 2.5^\circ$)



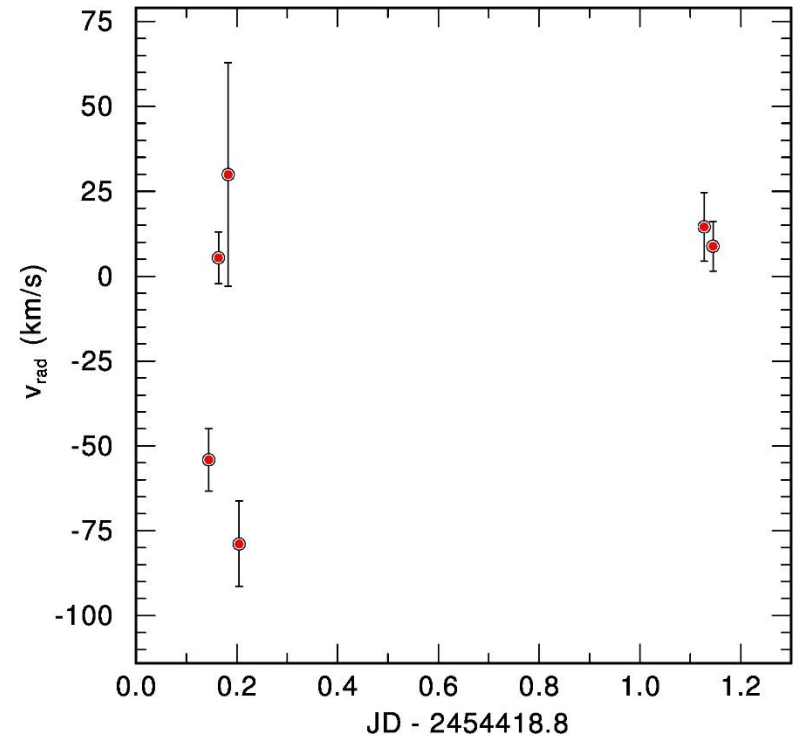
Evolutionary status

- Another candidate for a post-common envelope binary: J0757
- Discovered by Werner et al. (2014)
- MUCHFUSS project:

$$\Delta RV_{\max} = 107 \pm 22 \text{ km/s}$$

within only 31min!

- First radial velocity variable O(He) star
- Have O(He) stars lost their H-rich envelope via common-envelope evolution?



Radial velocities of J0757 measured from six SDSS spectra.



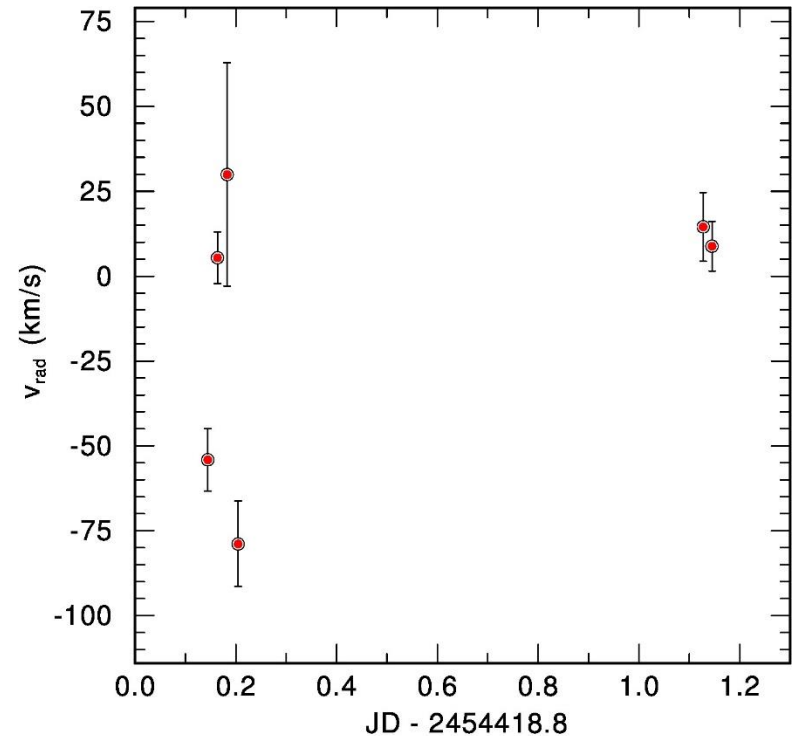
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- First radial velocity variable O(He) star
- Have O(He) stars lost their H-rich envelope via common-envelope evolution?
- Currently ≈ 50 H-rich central stars, one PG 1159 star and one [WC] type CSPN known which have short orbital periods
- What was the difference in their evolution?



Radial velocities of J0757 measured from six SDSS spectra.

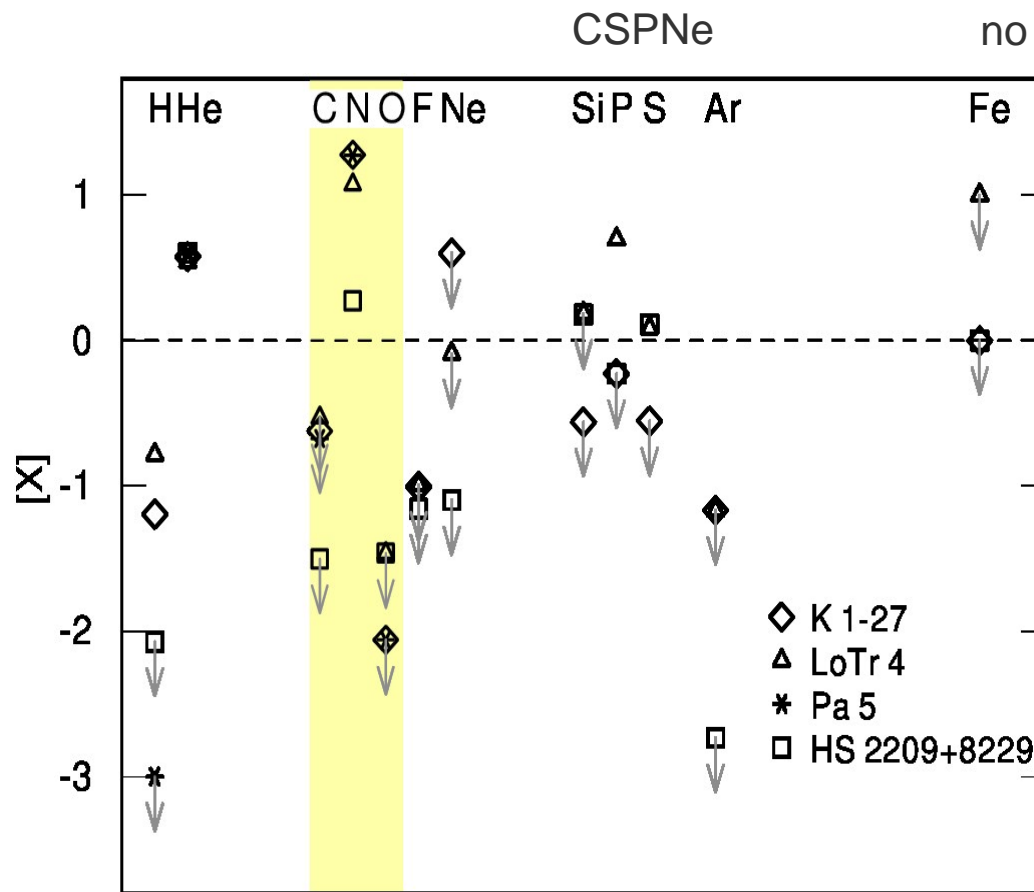


- Number of known O(He) stars has doubled since last year
- First hints for close binary systems found in two of the 10 known O(He) stars
- Trichotomy exists amongst He-dominated stars: C-rich / N-rich / C&N-rich
- Evolutionary status still unclear, but most likely various formation scenarios produce He-dominated stars
 - Late hot flasher scenario can only be valid only for He-sdO and low mass He-WDs
 - Stars enriched in C-rich or N-rich without PN: He-WD+He-WD merger, close binary evolution?
 - For stars enriched in C&N: high mass He-WD+He-WD or He-WD+CO-WD merger
 - (N-rich) CSPNe: Enhanced mass-loss, possible triggered by a close companion



O(He) stars – Spectral Analysis

N-rich O(He) stars: K1-27, LoTr4, Pa5, and HS2209+8229

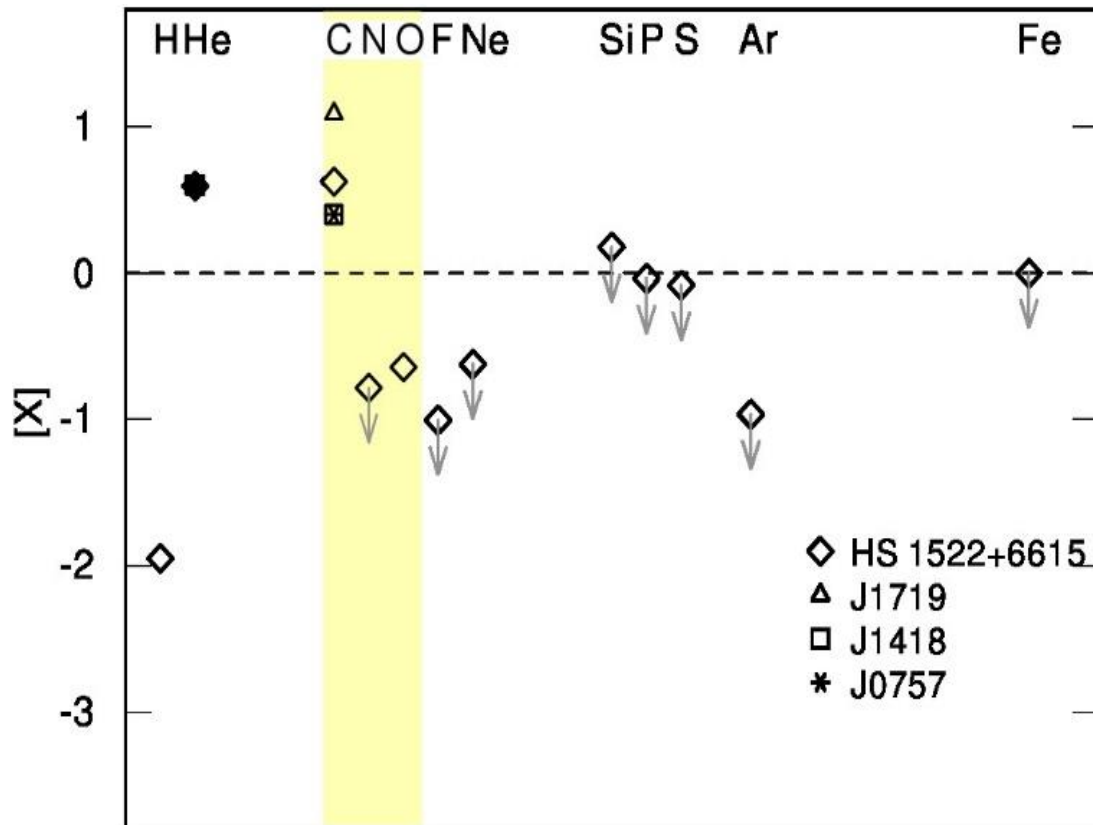


Elemental abundances of the O(He) stars, given in logarithmic mass fractions relative to the solar value.



O(He) stars – Spectral Analysis

C-rich O(He) stars: HS1522+6615, J1719, J1418, J0757

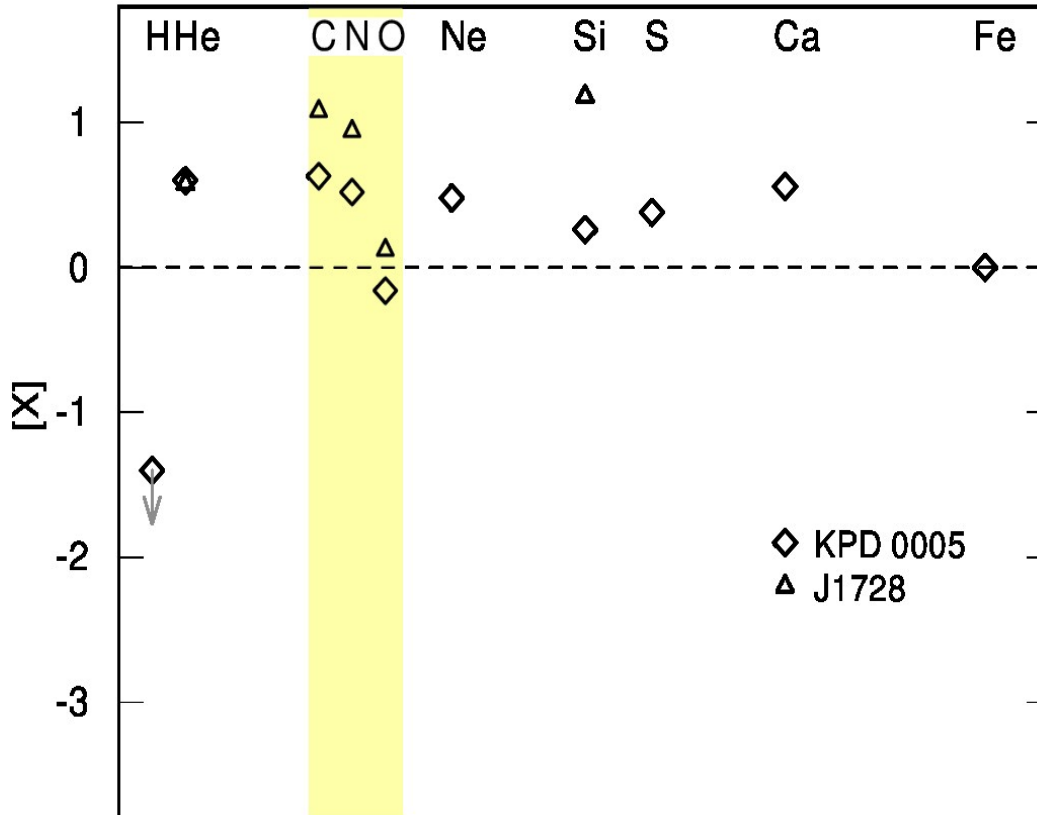


Elemental abundances of the O(He) stars, given in logarithmic mass fractions relative to the solar value.



O(He) stars – Spectral Analysis

C&N-rich O(He) stars: KPD 0005 and J1728



Elemental abundances of the O(He) stars, given in logarithmic mass fractions relative to the solar value.