

A vibrant astronomical image showing a nebula with swirling red and orange filaments against a dark green background. A bright blue star is visible in the center-right. The overall scene is filled with numerous small blue and white stars.

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PhD in Amsterdam

# The impact of mass loss on the final structure and fate of massive stars

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Y. Götberg

# Why are massive stars important?

Nucleosynthesis &  
Chemical Evolution

Star Formation

Ionizing Radiation

Supernovae

GW Astronomy



# Why is their mass loss important?

Nucleosynthesis & Chemical Evolution

Star Formation

Ionizing Radiation

Supernovae

GW Astronomy

## Mass loss for the environment:

- Pollution of ISM
- Tailoring of CSM
- Trigger for Star Formation

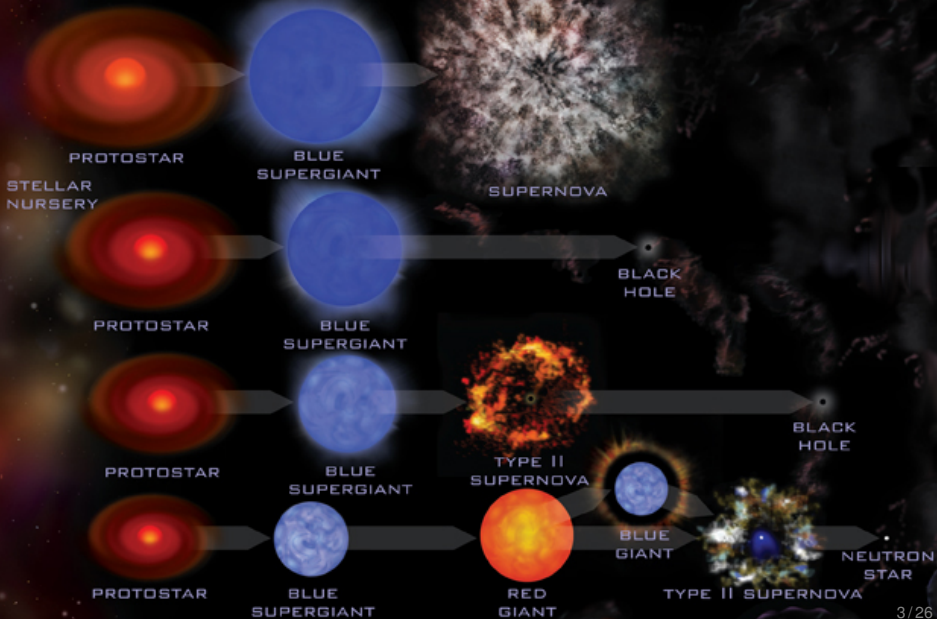
## Mass loss for the star

- Evolutionary Timescales
- Appearance & Classification (e.g. WR)
- Light Curve and Explosion Spectrum
- Final Fate: BH, NS or WD?



# The "classical" picture

adapted from M. Weiss/NASA/CXC



## How do massive stars lose mass?

### Stellar winds

- Line driving mechanism
- Algorithmic treatment

### Impact on:

- Final mass
- Core structure

### Conclusions

- Take home points

Radiative Driving



Stellar Winds

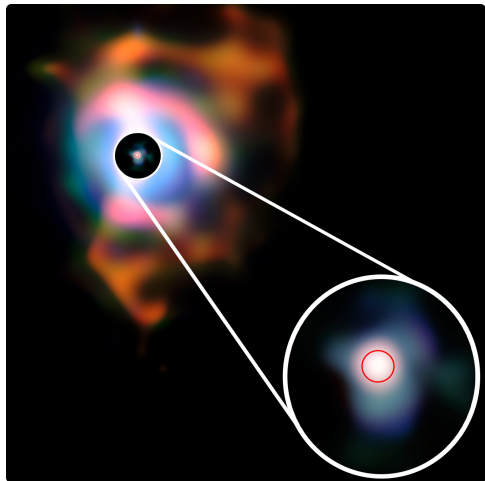


Figure: Betelgeuse

## Dynamical Instabilities



LBVs, Impulsive Mass Loss,  
Pulsations,  
Super-Eddington Winds

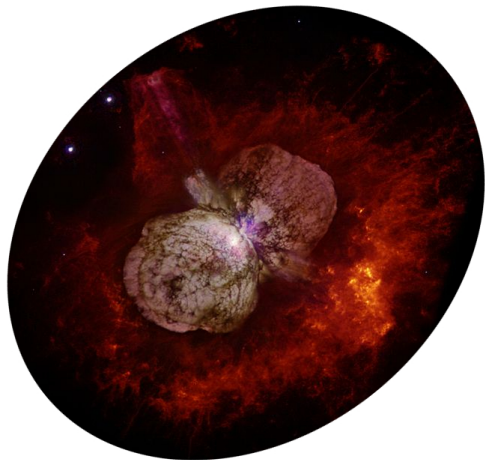


Figure:  $\eta$  Carinae.

## Binary interactions



Roche Lobe Overflow,  
Common Envelope,  
Fast rotation, Mergers

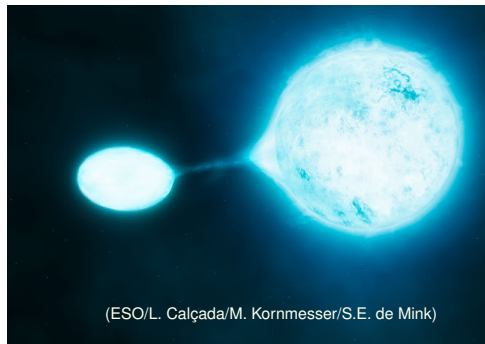


Figure: Artist Impression



## Binary interactions



Roche Lobe Overflow,  
Common Envelope,  
Fast rotation, Mergers

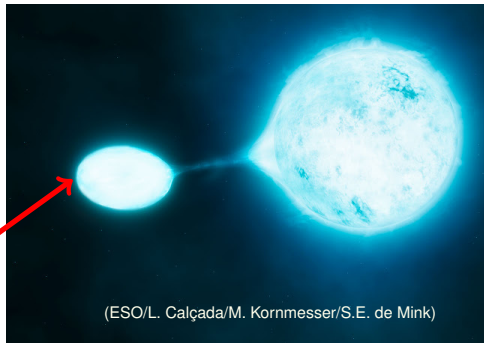
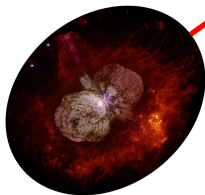
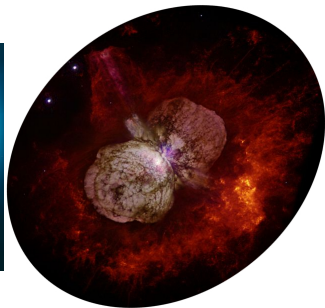
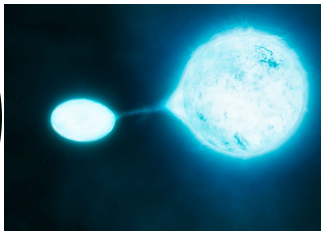


Figure: Artist Impression



... but stellar evolution codes assume hydro**static** equilibrium:

$$\frac{dP}{dr} = - \frac{Gm(r)\rho}{r^2}$$

Open question: **Which dominates in term of total mass lost?**

## How do massive stars lose mass?

### Stellar winds

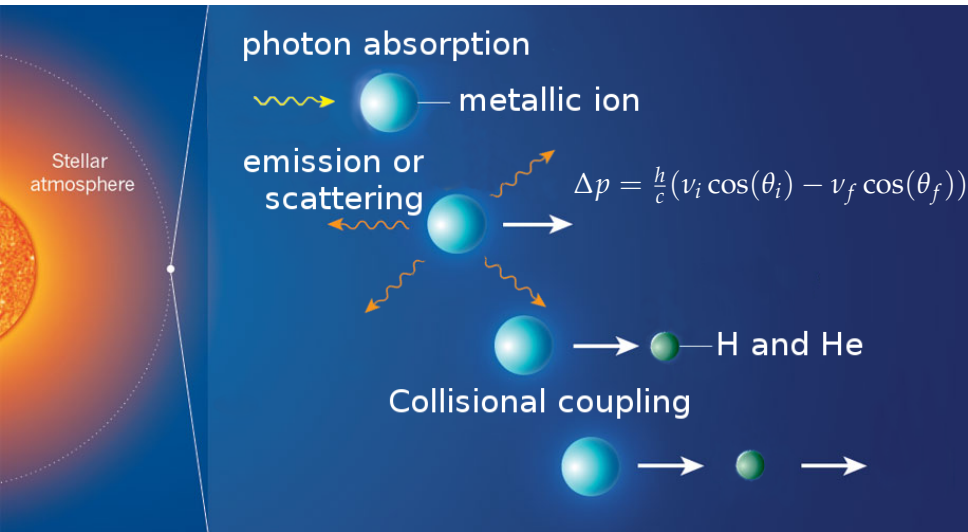
- Line driving mechanism
  - Algorithmic treatment

### Impact on:

- Final mass
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Problems: High Non-Linearity and Clumpiness

## Inhomogeneities:

$$f_{\text{cl}} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \frac{\langle \rho^2 \rangle}{\langle \rho \rangle^2} \neq 1 \Rightarrow \dot{M} \neq 4\pi r^2 \rho v(r)$$

## Risk:

Possible overestimation of the  
wind mass loss rate

## Inhomogeneities:

$$f_{\text{cl}} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \frac{\langle \rho^2 \rangle}{\langle \rho \rangle^2} \neq 1 \Rightarrow \dot{M} \neq 4\pi r^2 \rho v(r)$$

## How do massive stars lose mass?

### Stellar winds

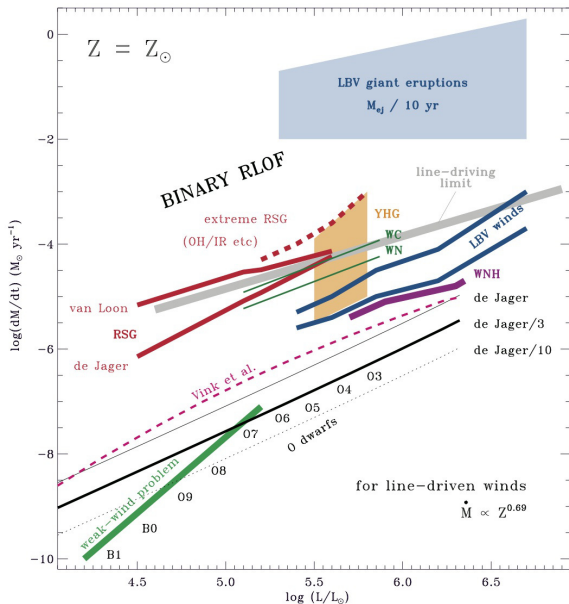
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(Semi-)Empirical  
parametric models.

Efficiency factor:

$$\dot{M}(L, T_{\text{eff}}, Z, R, M, \dots)$$



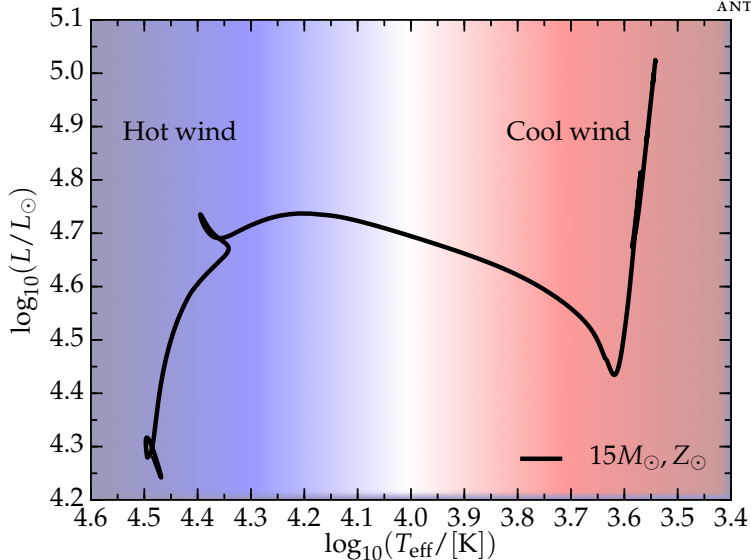
$$\eta \dot{M}(L, T_{\text{eff}}, Z, R, M, \dots)$$

$\eta$  is a **free** parameter:

$$\eta \in [0, +\infty)$$

Figure: from N. Smith 2014, ARA&A, 52, 487





WR wind  $\Leftrightarrow X_s < 0.4$

Grid of  $Z_{\odot} \simeq 0.019$ , non-rotating stellar models:

- Initial mass:

$$M_{\text{ZAMS}} = \{15, 20, 25, 30, 35\} M_{\odot};$$

- Efficiency:

$$\eta = \left\{1, \frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{10}\right\};$$

- Combinations of wind mass loss rates for “hot” ( $T_{\text{eff}} \geq 15$  [kK]), “cool” ( $T_{\text{eff}} < 15$  [kK]) and WR:

Kudritzki *et al.* '89; Vink *et al.* '00, '01;  
 Van Loon *et al.* '05; Nieuwenhuijzen *et al.* '90;  
 De Jager *et al.* '88;  
 Nugis & Lamers '00; Hamann *et al.* '98.

## How do massive stars lose mass?

### Stellar winds

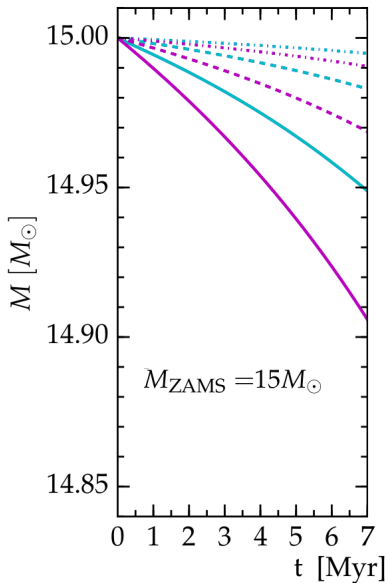
- Line driving mechanism
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### Impact on:

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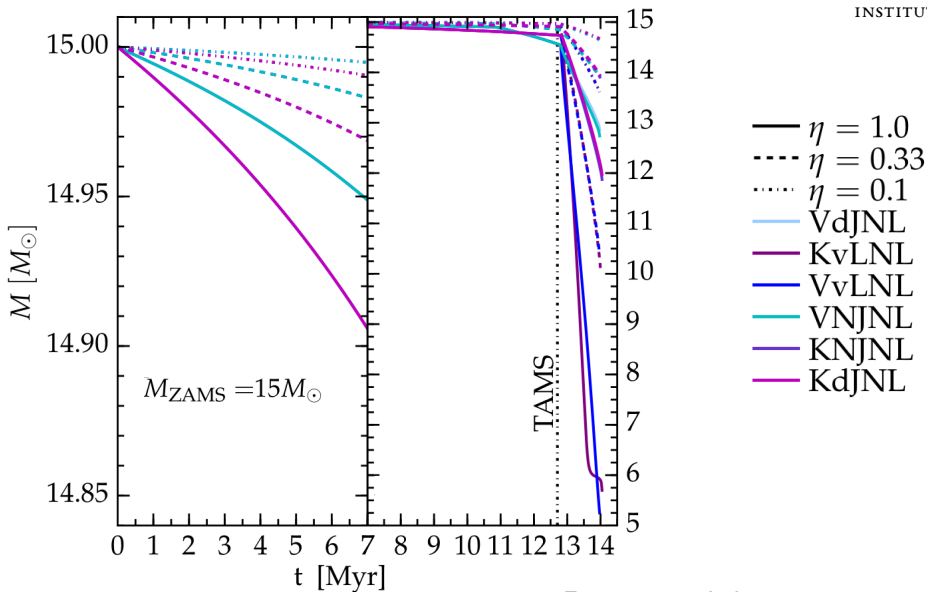
### Conclusions

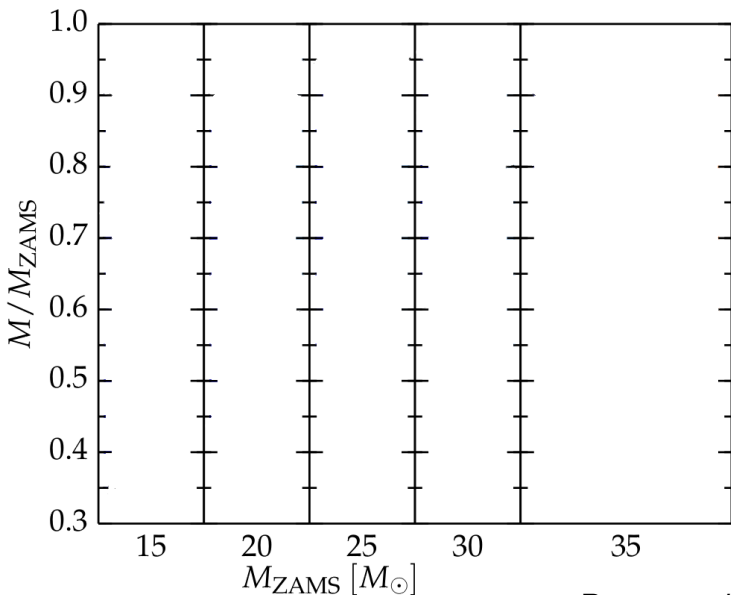
- Take home points



- $\eta = 1.0$
- - -  $\eta = 0.33$
- ⋯⋯  $\eta = 0.1$
- VdJNL
- KvLNL
- VvLNL
- VNJNL
- KNJNL
- KdJNL

Renzo *et al.*, in prep.

Renzo *et al.*, in prep.

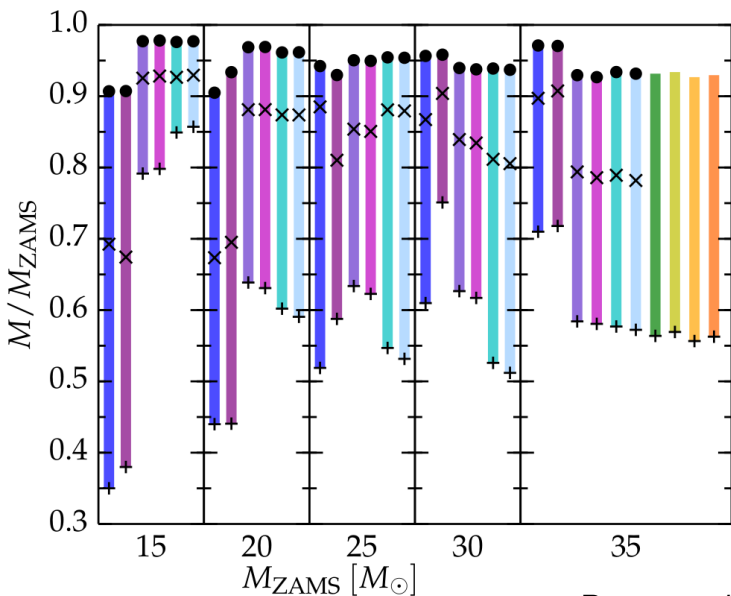


MESA

Legend:

- $\eta = 0.1$
- ×  $\eta = 0.33$
- +  $\eta = 1.0$

Renzo *et al.*, in prep.



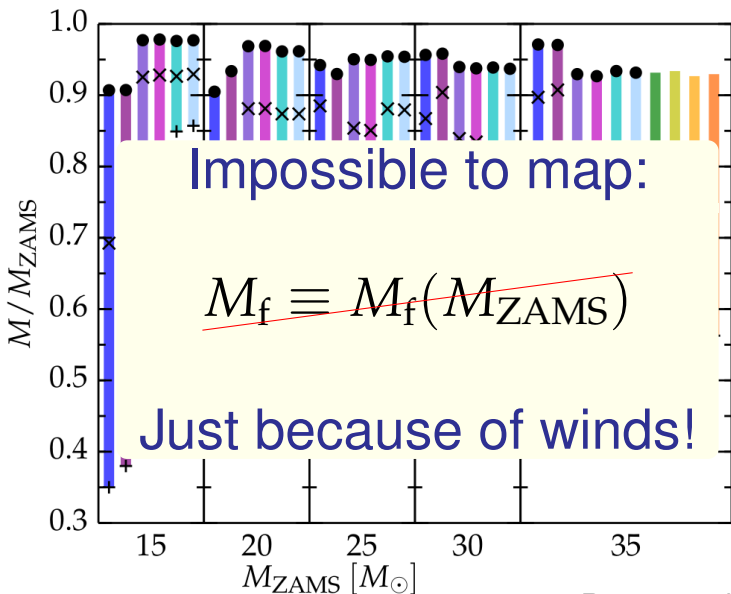
MESA

**Legend:**

- $\eta = 0.1$
- ✕  $\eta = 0.33$
- +  $\eta = 1.0$

$\eta \rightarrow$  largest  
uncertainty

Renzo *et al.*, in prep.



MESA

Legend:

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# “Explodability” & Compactness



$$\tilde{\zeta}_{\mathcal{M}}(t) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \frac{\mathcal{M}/M_{\odot}}{R(\mathcal{M})/1000 \text{ km}}$$

- “Large”  $\tilde{\zeta}_{2.5} \Rightarrow$  harder to explode  $\Rightarrow$  BH formation
- “Small”  $\tilde{\zeta}_{2.5} \Rightarrow$  easier to explode  $\Rightarrow$  NS formation

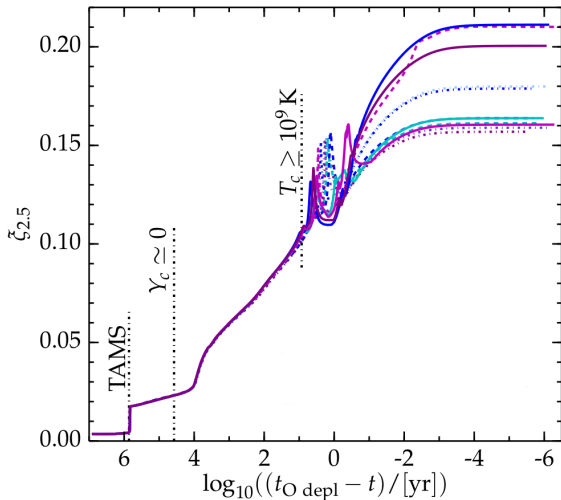
(e.g. O’Connor & Ott 2011,  
Ugliano *et al.* 2012,  
Sukhbold & Woosley 2014)

$$\mathcal{M} = 2.5 M_{\odot}$$

not to scale!

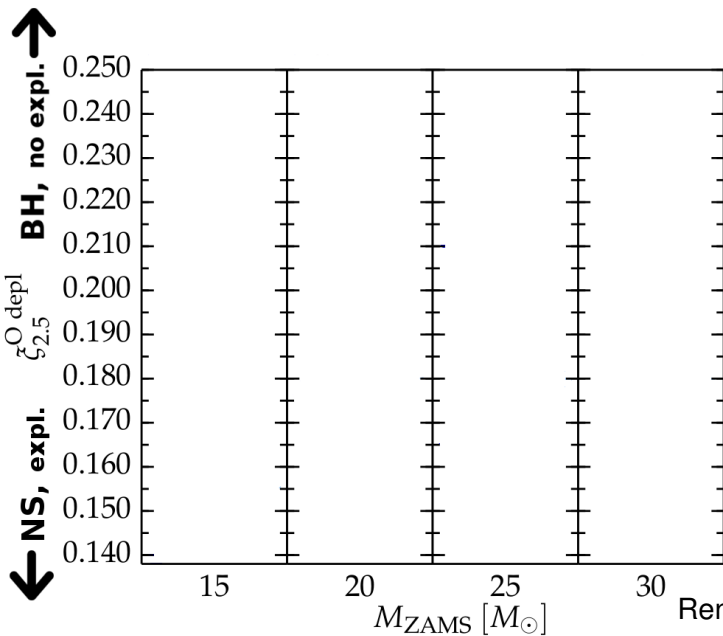
$R(\mathcal{M})$

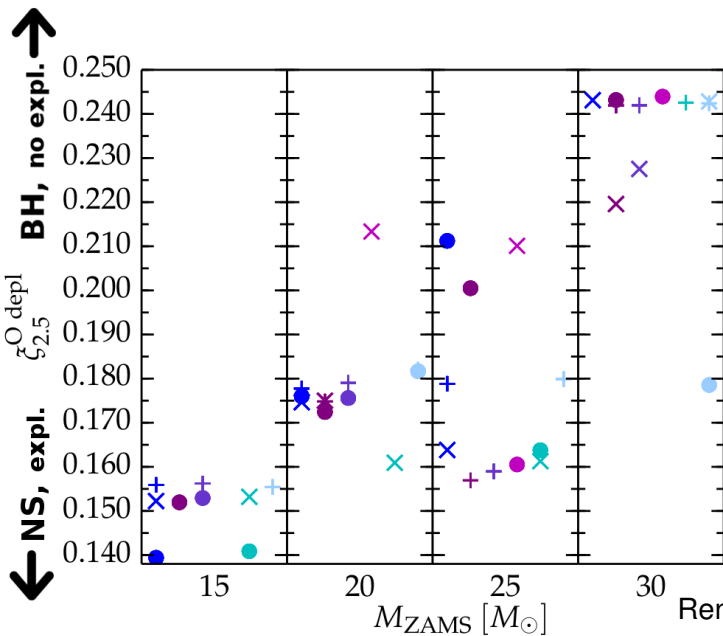
$M_{ZAMS} = 25 M_{\odot}$  MESA models



Renzo et al., in prep.

Critical point: Ne core burning/C shell burning

Renzo *et al.*, in prep.



### Legend:

- $\eta = 0.1$
- ✕  $\eta = 0.33$
- +  $\eta = 1.0$

Post O burning  
evolution



Core contraction



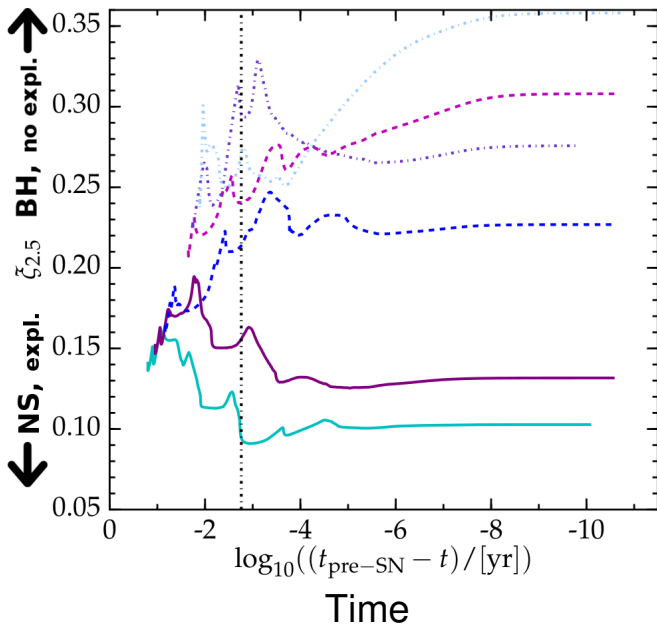
Amplification of  
the differences.

- Initially small effect  $\Rightarrow N_{\text{zones}} \gtrsim 20\,000$ ;
- Complex nuclear burning  $\Rightarrow N_{\text{iso}} \gtrsim 200$ ;

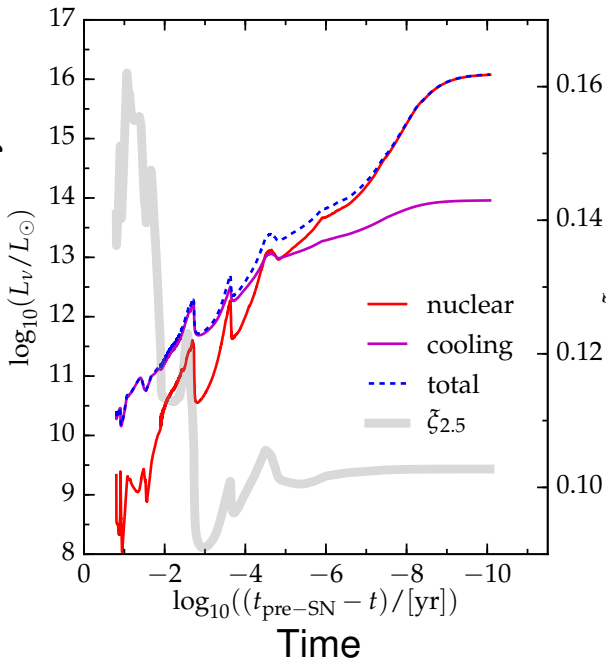


SurfSara's **Cartesius** Computer.

Si shell burning →

Renzo *et al.*, in prep.

Neutrino Luminosity



Fuel ignition in  
(partially)  
degenerate  
environment



Flash

Renzo *et al.*, in prep.



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### Impact on:

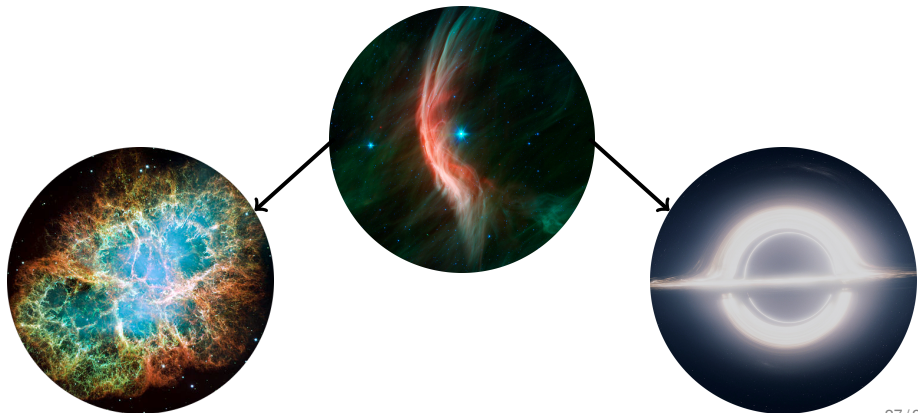
- Final mass
- Core structure

### Conclusions

- Take home points

## Uncertainties in stellar winds:

- pre-SN mass  $\Rightarrow$  no  $M_f \equiv M_f(M_{ZAMS})$  map;
- core structure  $\Rightarrow$  “explodability” & remnant.
- stellar evolution is not done yet!



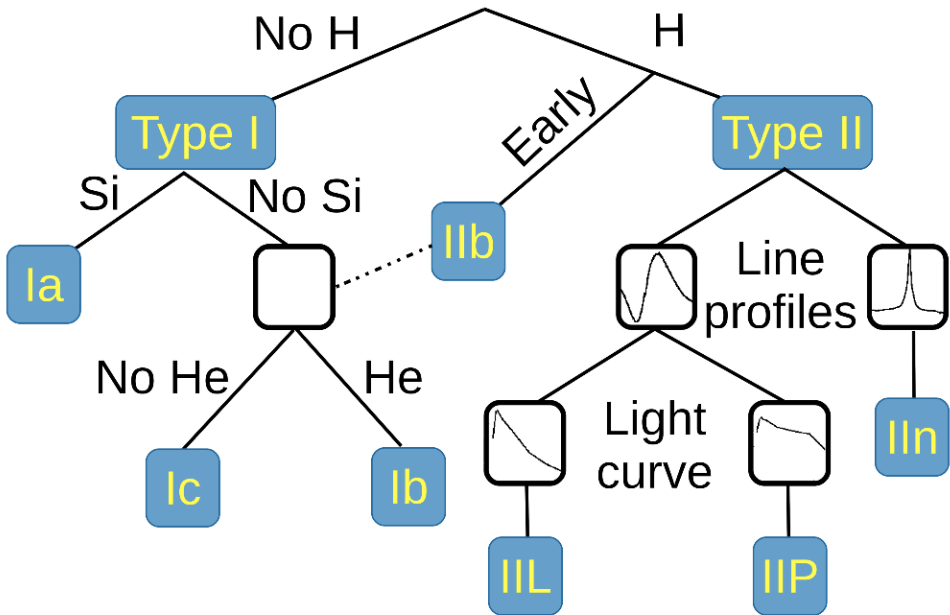
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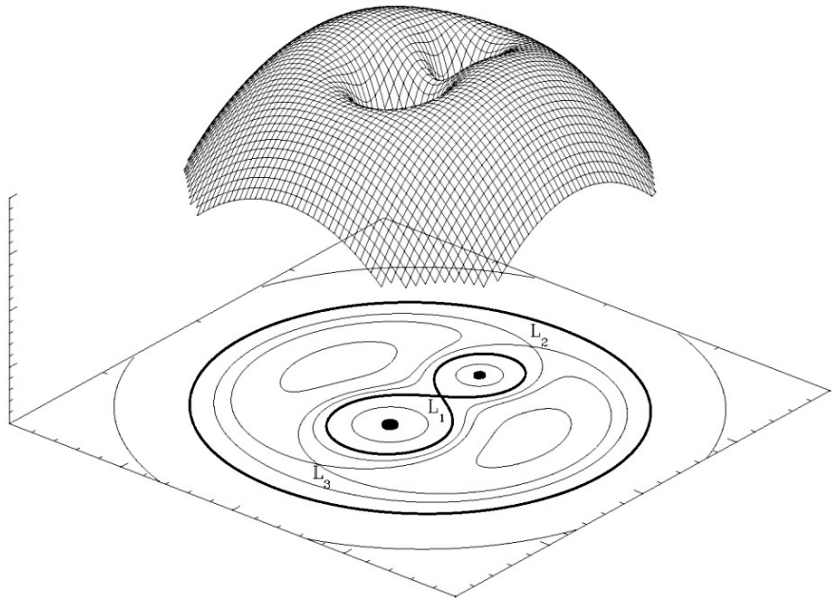


## Backup slides

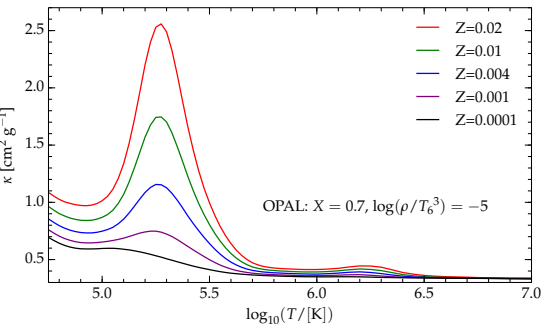
# Supernova Taxonomy



## Mass Transfer in Binaries



$$L_{\text{Edd}} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \frac{4\pi GM(R)c}{\kappa(r)}, \quad \frac{dP_{\text{gas}}}{dr} = \frac{dP_{\text{rad}}}{dr} \left[ \frac{L_{\text{Edd}}}{L_{\text{rad}}} - 1 \right]$$

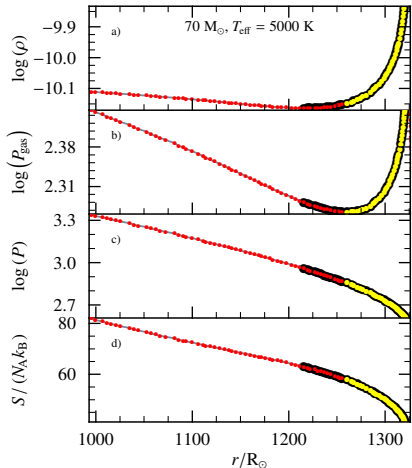


$M_{\text{ZAMS}} \gtrsim 20M_{\odot} \Rightarrow$  insufficient  $F_{\text{conv}}^{\text{MLT}}$

**MLT++:**

$$\nabla_T - \nabla_{\text{ad}} \rightarrow \alpha_{\nabla} f_{\nabla} (\nabla_T - \nabla_{\text{ad}})$$

$$\alpha_{\nabla} \equiv \alpha_{\nabla}(\beta, \Gamma_{\text{Edd}}), \quad f_{\nabla} \ll 1$$



- P Cygni line profiles
- Optical and near UV lines (e.g.  $H\alpha$ )
- Radio and IR continuum excess
- IR spectrum of molecules (e.g. CO)
- Maser lines (for low density winds)

[Back](#)

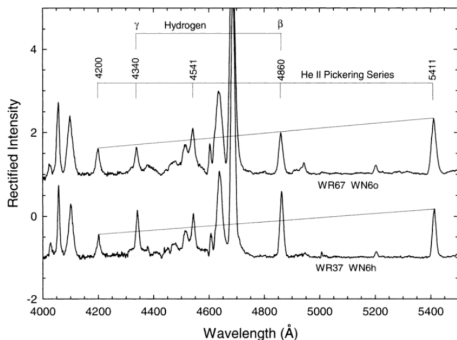
Assumptions commonly needed:

- Velocity structure:  $v(r) \simeq \left(1 - \frac{r}{R_*}\right)^\beta$  with  $\beta \simeq 1$
- Chemical composition and ionization fraction
- Spherical symmetry:  $\dot{M} = 4\pi r^2 \rho v(r)$
- Steadiness and (often) homogeneity

$\dot{M}$  derived from fit of (a few) spectral lines.

No theoretical guarantees coefficients are constant.





Observational Definition:

**Based on spectral features** indicating a **Strong Wind**:

- Hydrogen Depletion ( $\neq$  Lack of Hydrogen)
- Broad Emission Lines
- Steep Velocity Gradients

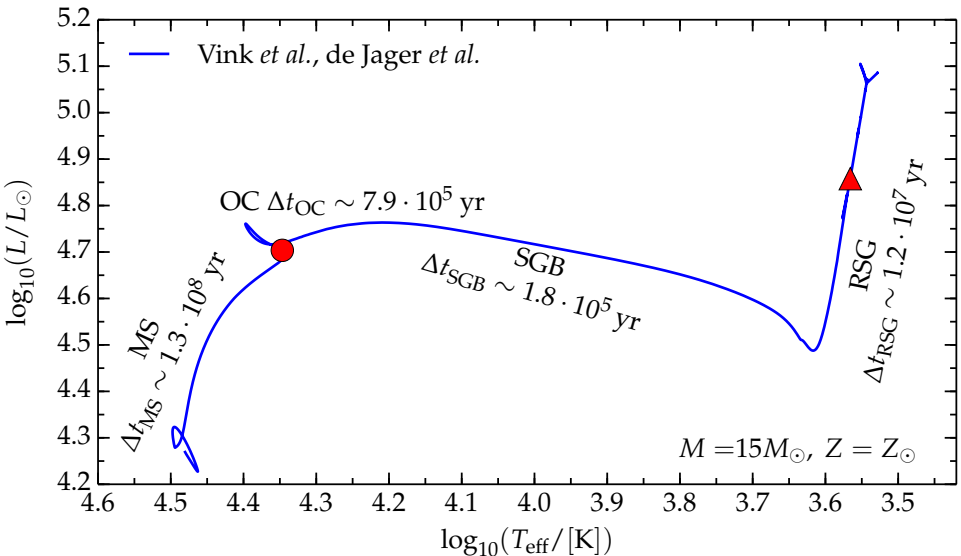
Sub-categories: WN, WC, WO, WNL, etc.

Computational Definition (*MESA*):

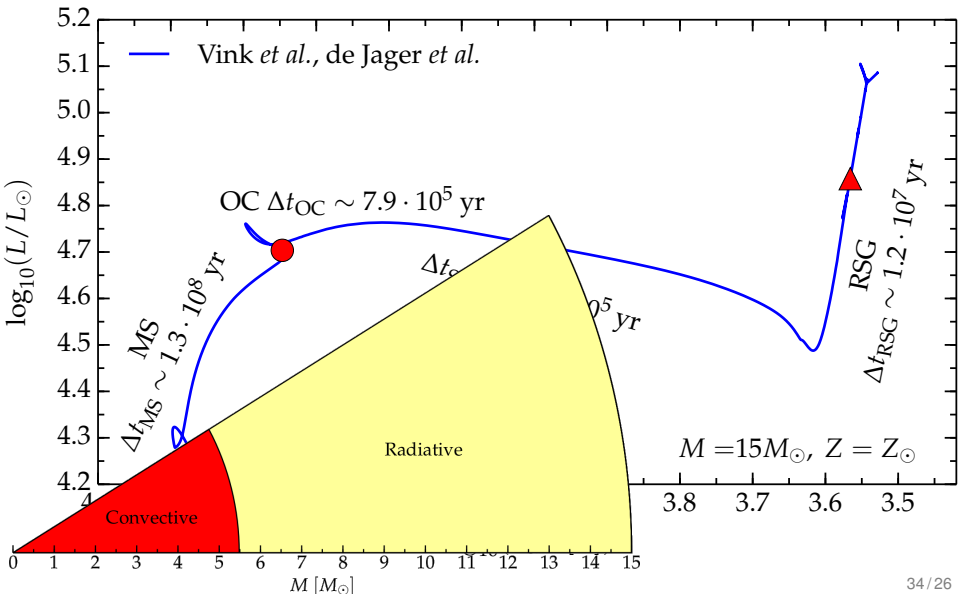
- $X_s < 0.4$

Impossible to distinguish sub-categories without spectra!

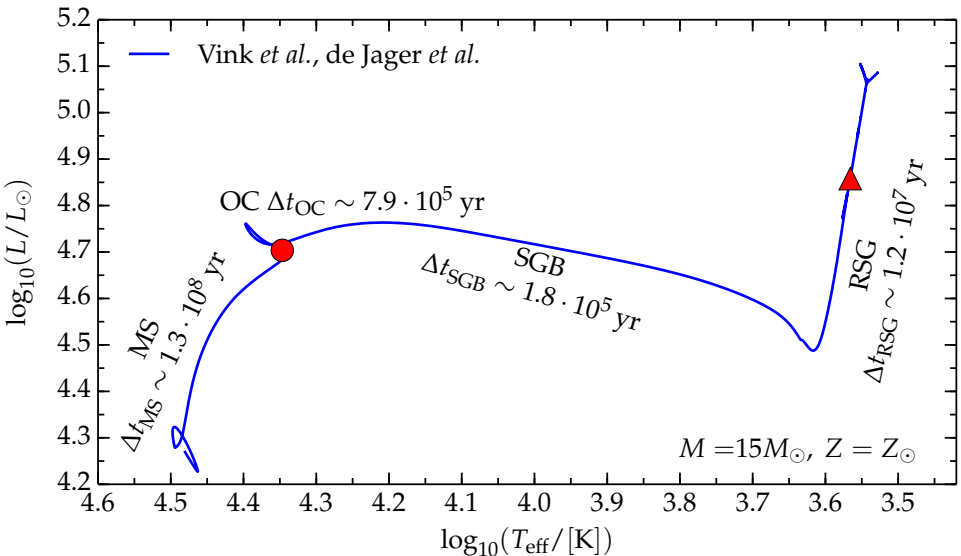
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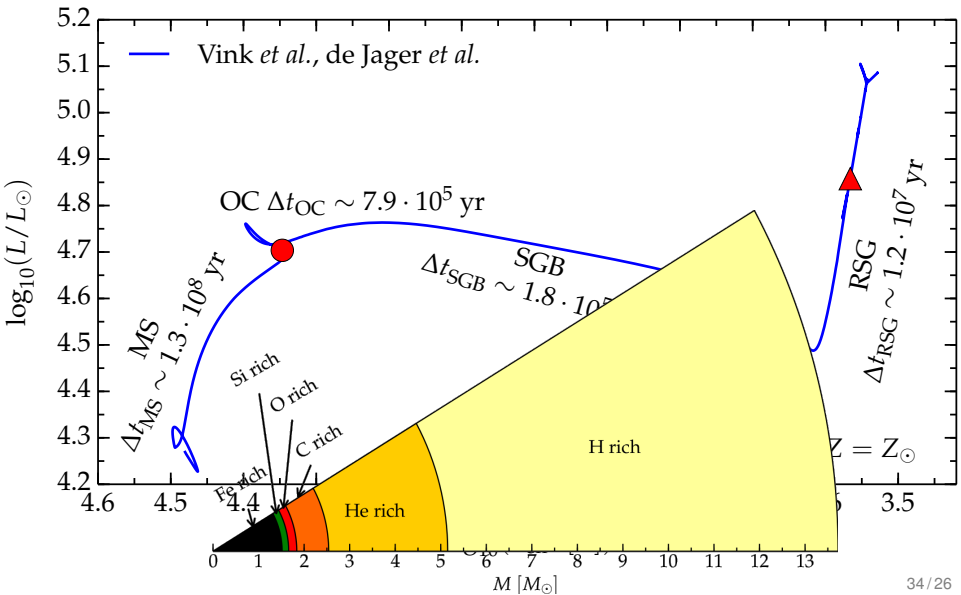
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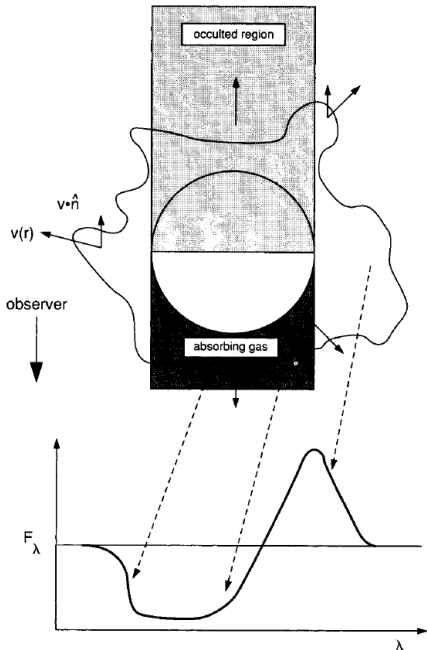


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- Blue shifted Absorption Component
- Red shifted Emission Component
- Broadening from scattering into the line of sight

$$\dot{M} = 4\pi\rho v(r)$$

Assuming:

Chemical composition

Velocity Structure

the fit of the line profile gives  $\rho$



Figure: 34 Cyg or P Cygni, first star to show the eponymous profile.