

# Asteroseismology of OB stars

from birth to adulthood

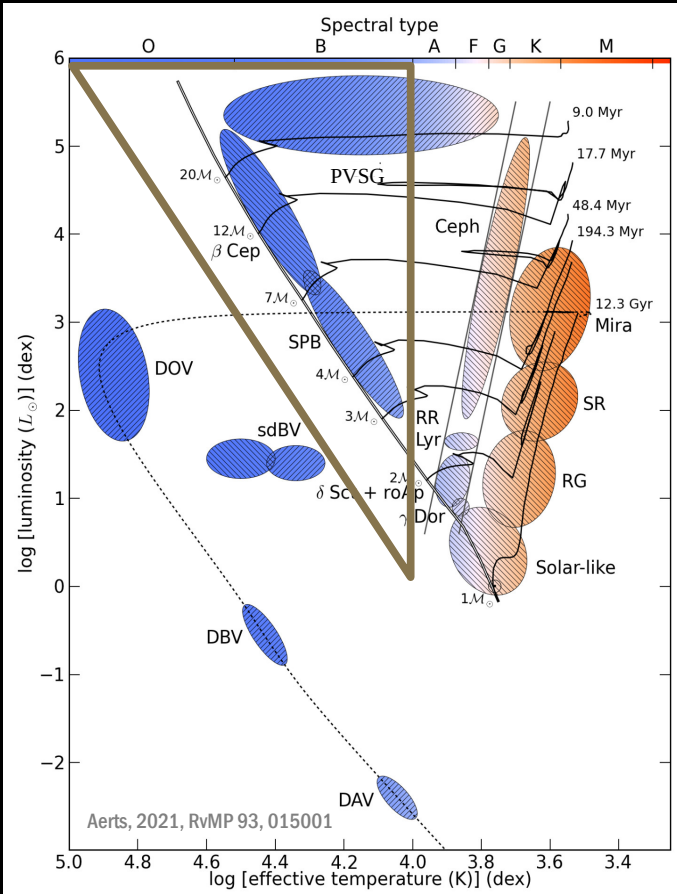
**Peter De Cat**

Royal Observatory of Belgium, Ringlaan 3, B-1180 Brussels, Belgium

... a very incomplete point of view

# OB-type stars

Convective core  
Radiative envelope



- $\beta$  Cephei stars ( $\beta$ Cep)
  - Low order p and g modes with periods of few hours
- Slowly Pulsating B stars (SPB)
  - High order g modes with periods of several hours to few days
- Periodic Variable Supergiants (PVSG)
  - g modes with periods of order of 10 to 100 days
- Be stars (Be)
  - Rotational modulation and/or Pulsations?
- Maia variables
  - Talk Handler: "Maia variables - fact or fiction?"

} Hybrids?

## Excitation mechanisms at play

- Opacity mechanism operating in Z bump

Peter De Cat (Royal Observatory of Belgium, Ringlaan 3, B-1180 Brussels, Belgium)

TASC7/KASC14 workshop (17-21/07/2023, University of Hawai'i, Honolulu, Hawai'i)

# Asteroseismic requirements and tools

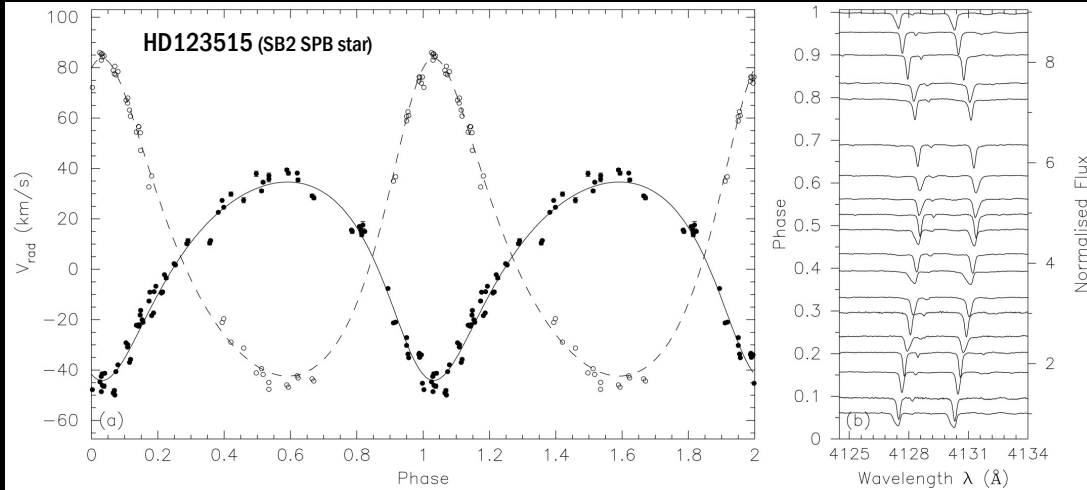
→ Time series

→ Observed pulsation modes

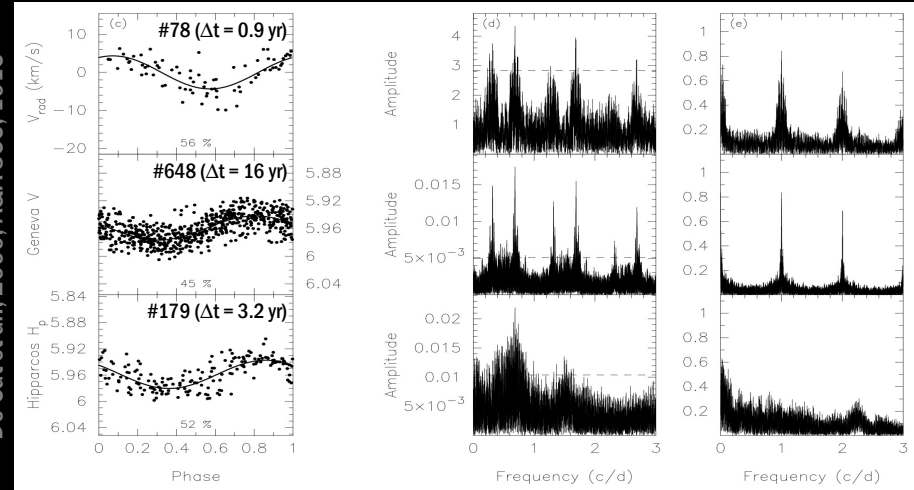
➤ Frequency  $f$  → Frequency analysis

➤ Degree  $l$   
 ➤ Azimuthal number  $m$  } → Mode identification

\* Multicolour photometry: method of photometric amplitude ratios and frequency shifts (Dupret et al., 2003, A&A 398, 677)  
 \* High-resolution spectroscopy: moment method (Aerts, 1992, A&A 266, 294; Briquet & Aerts, 2003, A&A 398, 687)  
 fourier parameter fit method (Zima, 2006, A&A 455, 227)



De Cat et al., 2000, A&A 355, 1015



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→ Observed pulsation modes

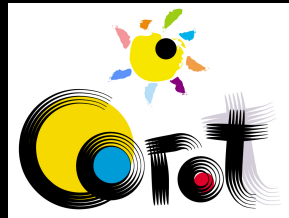
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*Kepler*  
and K2



*Gaia*

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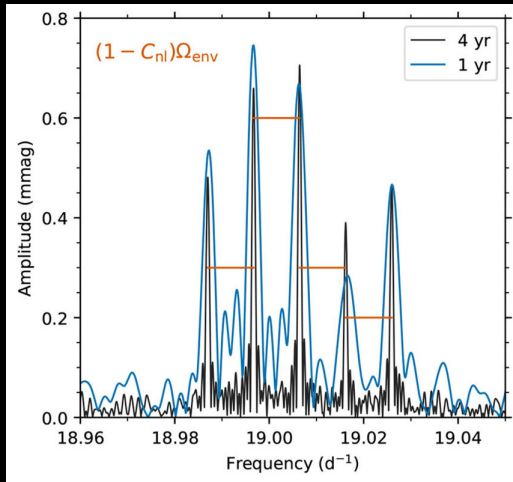
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→ Present day asteroseismic diagnostics

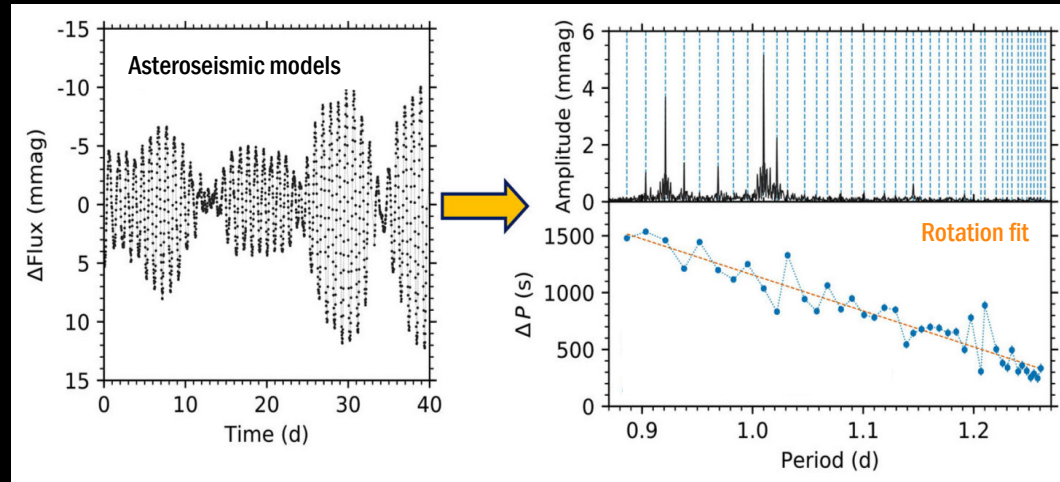
➤ Rotational multiplets

➤ g mode period spacing patterns (asymptotic regime)

Bowman, 2020, FrASS 7, 70



Bowman, 2020, FrASS 7, 70



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Poster 16 Shitrit: "Asteroseismology of Massive Stars - A Path to Population Samples"

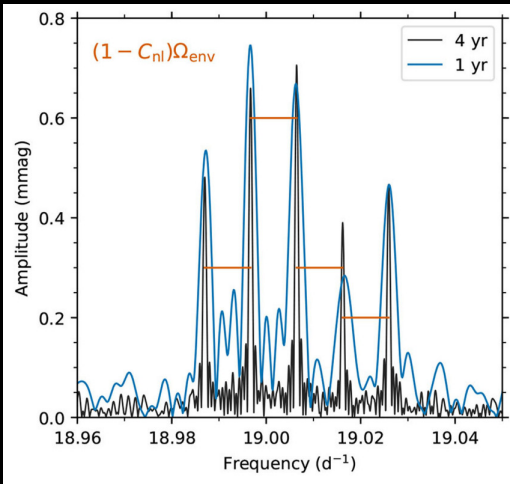
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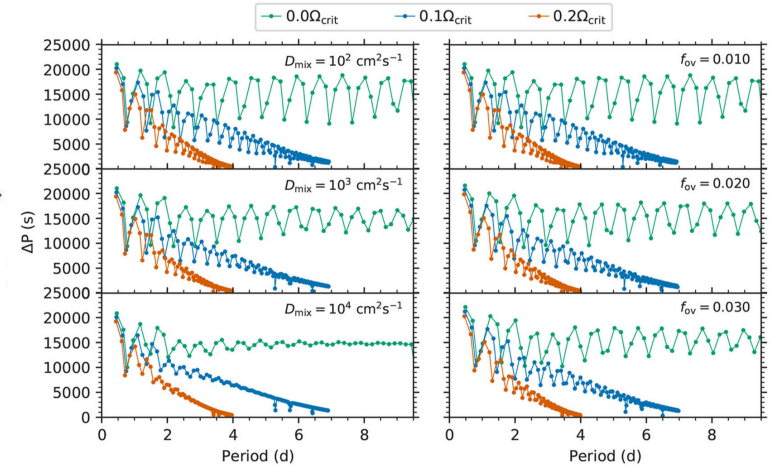
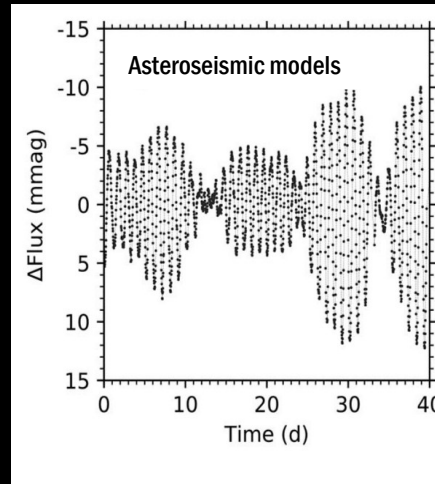
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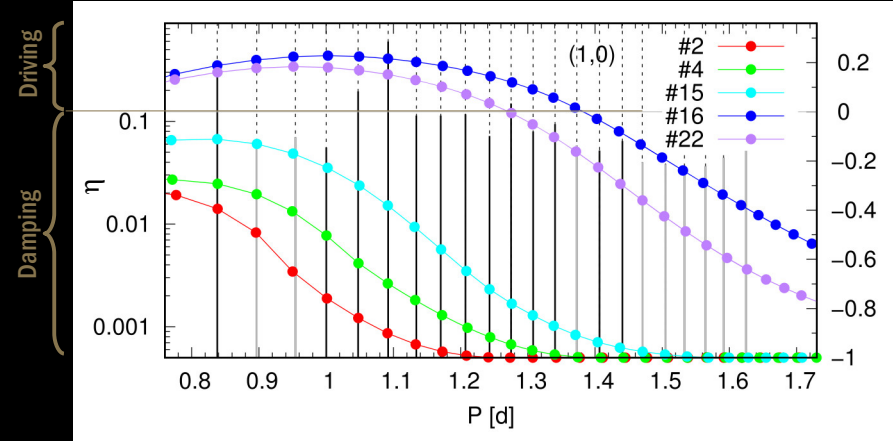
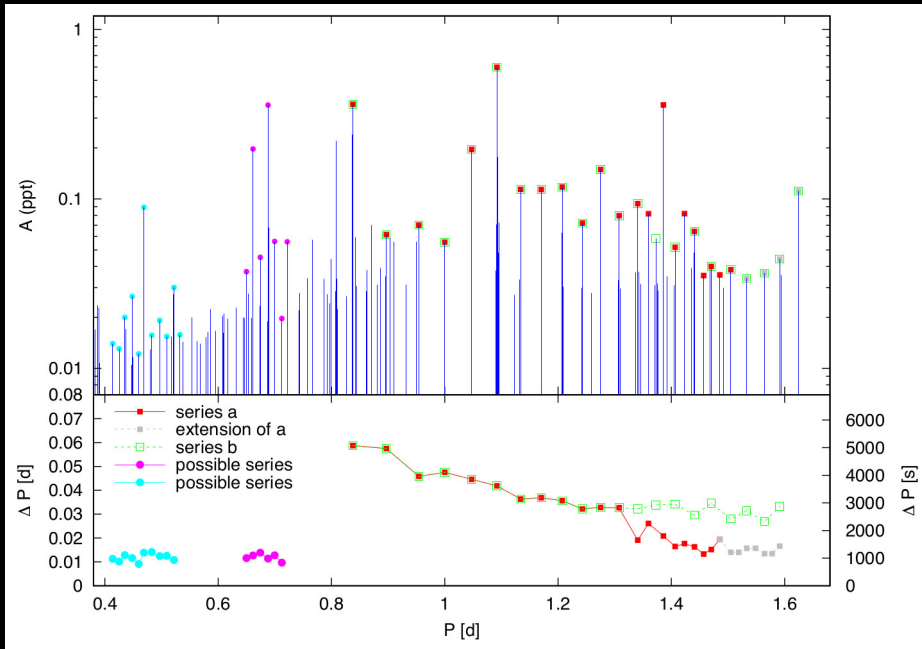
Bowman, 2020, FrASS 7, 70



# Opacities

→ KIC3240411 (Szewczuk & Daszyńska-Daszkiewicz, 2018, MNRAS 478)

- Hot hybrid B-type pulsator
- Different period spacings observed in asymptotic g-mode regime
- Seismic modelling and mode identification for series b ⇒  $(l, m) = (1, 0)$ 
  - ✓ Effects of rotation included via the traditional approximation



## Standard opacity models

- ✓ #2: hydrogen abundance and metallicity as measured in photosphere ( $\chi = 0.67$  and  $Z = 0.006$ )
- ✓ #4: solar abundances cf. Asplund et al. (2009) ( $\chi = 0.738$  and  $Z = 0.013$ )

## Modified opacity models

- ✓ #15: increased opacity by 100% at  $\log T = 5.06, 5.30$  and  $5.46$
- ✓ #16: substantially increased opacities at  $\log T = 5.46$
- ✓ #22: substantially increased opacities at  $\log T = 5.46$  + minor modification at  $\log T = 5.06$  and  $5.22$

# Opacity increase needed to excite g-modes

Talk Walczak: "KIC 8264293 - detailed study of the differential rotation"

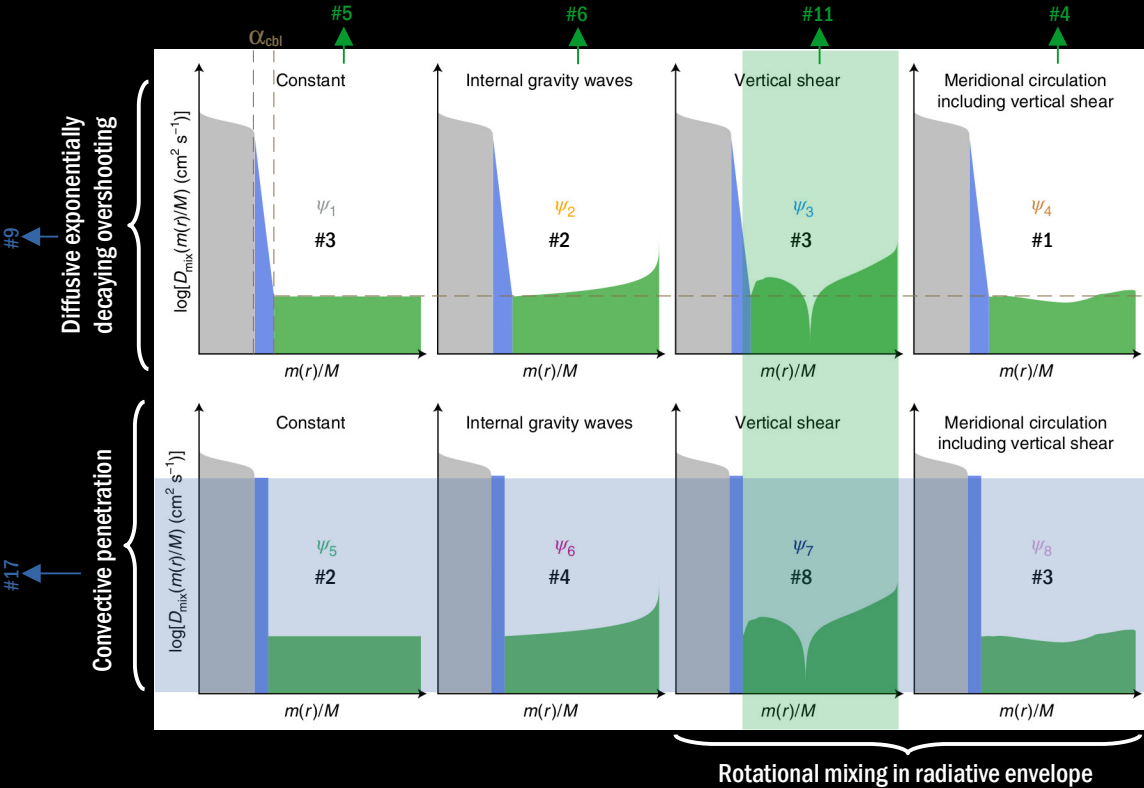
Peter De Cat (Royal Observatory of Belgium, Ringlaan 3, B-1180 Brussels, Belgium)

TASC7/KASC14 workshop (17-21/07/2023, University of Hawai'i, Honolulu, Hawai'i)

# Interior mixing profile

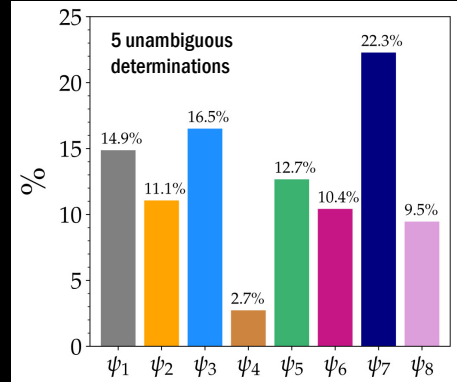
→ Pedersen et al., 2021, NatAs 5, 715

- Sample of 26 SPB stars showing period spacings patterns from dipole g-modes (~4% of all B stars in the nominal Kepler field of view)
- Asteroseismic modelling with eight different interior mixing profiles  $D_{\text{mix}}(r)$  each having three regions (convective core  $D_{\text{conv}}(r)$ , core boundary layer  $D_{\text{cbl}}(r)$ , radiative envelope  $D_{\text{env}}(r)$ )



- $M_{\text{ini}}$  initial mass
- $Z$  metal mass fraction
- $X_C/X_{\text{ini}}$  hydrogen mass fraction in fully mixed convective core/initial hydrogen mass fraction
- $\Omega_{\text{rot}}$  interior rotation frequency
- $\alpha_{\text{cbl}}$  length scale connected with the size of the core boundary layer
- $D_{\text{env},0}$  level of mixing at bottom of radiative envelope

Majority for convective penetration (55%)  
vertical shear (39%)



Pedersen, 2022, AJ 930, 94

- Expected helium core masses at end of main-sequence evolution:
  - \* underestimated without mixing
  - \* increase with initial stellar mass
  - \* heavily influenced by amount of envelope mixing

cf. Kaiser et al, 2020, MNRAS 496, 1967  
Johnston, 2021, A&A 655, A29



# Interior mixing profile

## Mass discrepancy for eclipsing binaries with convective core

### ➤ Dynamical mass → model-independent

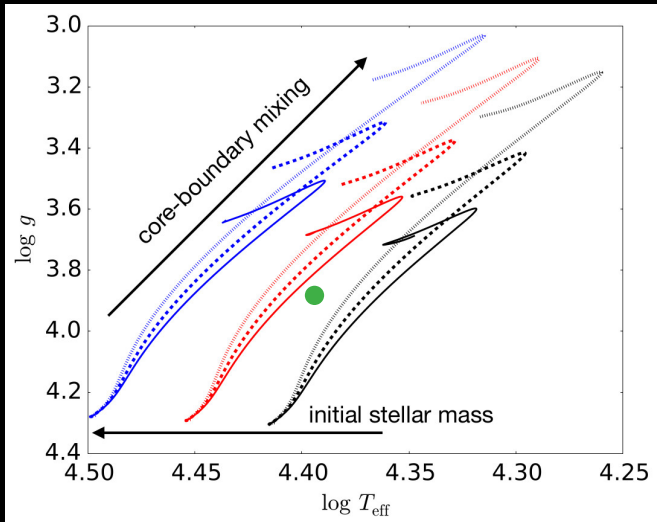
- ✓ Accurate masses
- ✓ Accurate radii from orbital motion

### ➤ Evolutionary mass → model-dependent

- ✓ Same age
  - ✓ Same initial composition
- in stellar interior structure and evolution (SSE) model  
from isochrone fitting of both components in Kiel diagram ( $T_{\text{eff}}$  vs.  $\log g$ )

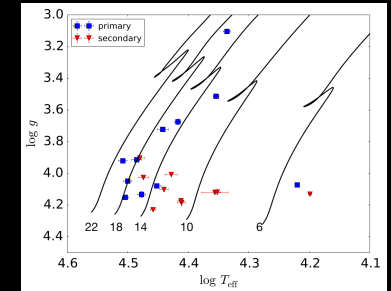
→ Tkachenko et al., 2020, A&A 637, A60

### ➤ Sample of 11 eclipsing SB2 systems (fundamental and atmospheric parameters determined with same methodology)



### ➤ (1) Single evolution – (2) Binary evolution (forced to have same age)

- ✓ Reference model solution: dynamical mass,  $f_{\text{ov}} = 0.005$
- ✓ Initial mass solution: free mass,  $f_{\text{ov}} = 0.005$
- ✓ Core boundary solution: dynamical mass,  $f_{\text{ov}}$  free (max. 0.040)
- ✓ Initial mass-core boundary solution: free mass,  $f_{\text{ov}}$  free (max. 0.040)



# Interior mixing profile

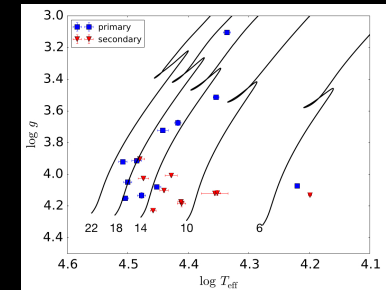
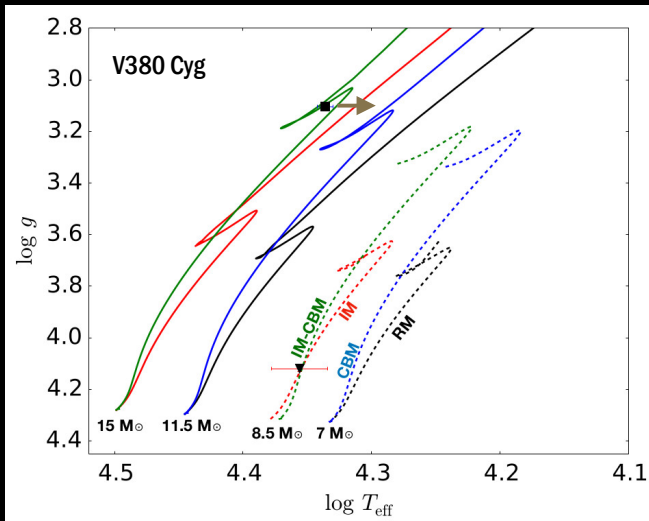
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## Mass discrepancy anti-correlated with surface gravity

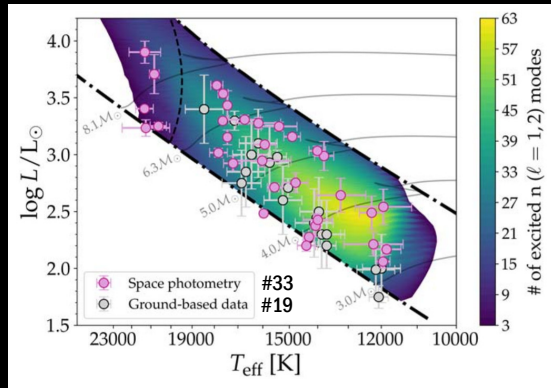
- (1) Convective core mass-stellar age correlation in SSE models
- (2) Neglect of high microturbulent velocities and turbulent pressure in stellar atmosphere models

Ijspeert et al., 2021, A&A 652, A120: An all-sky sample of OBA-type eclipsing binaries observed by TESS  
 Southworth & Bowman, 2022, MNRAS 513, 3191: High-mass pulsars in eclipsing binaries observed using TESS

# Interior rotation profile

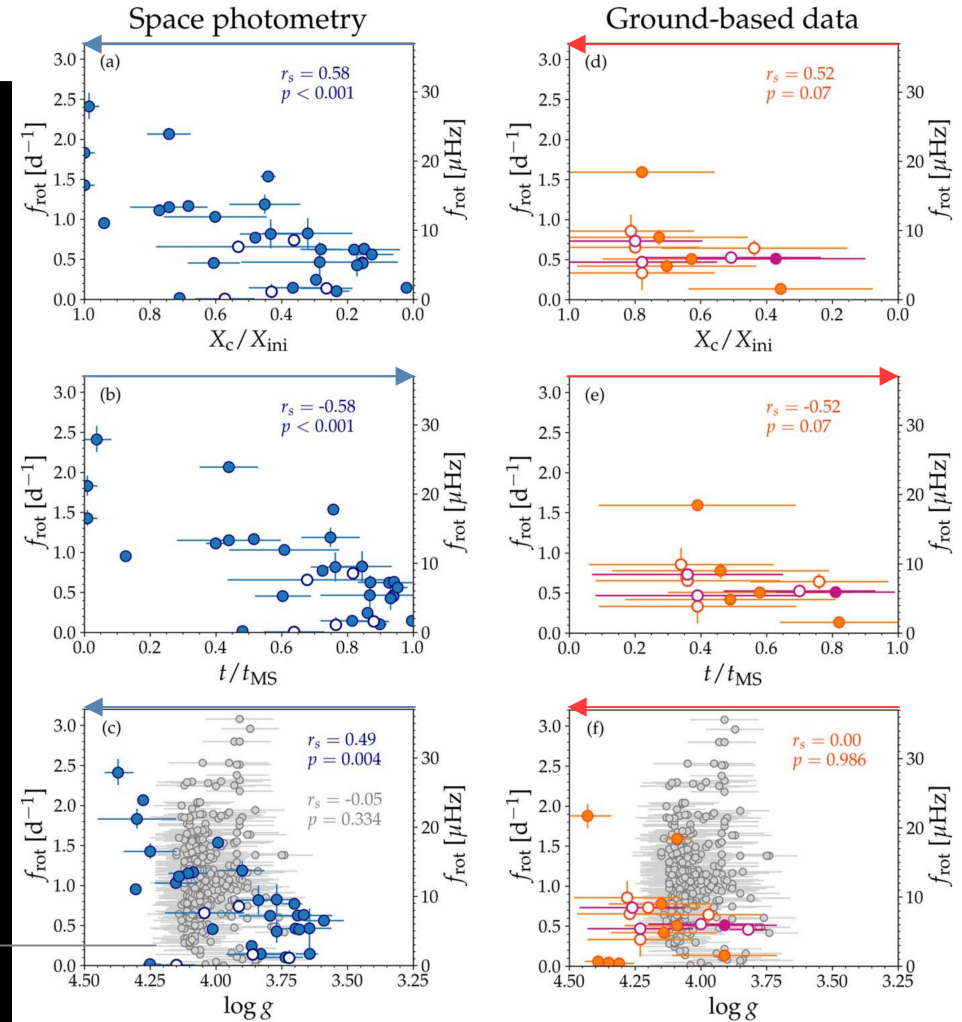
→ Pedersen, 2022, ApJ 940, 49

- 52 SPB stars for which
  - ✓ Internal rotation frequencies derived using g-mode oscillations
  - ✓ Unambiguous mode identification for at least one g-mode
  - ✓ Ages from  $X_c/X_{ini}$ ,  $t/t_{MS}$  and/or  $\log g$



➤ Core rotation decreases with age

300  $\gamma$ Dor stars  
(Li et al., 2020, MNRAS 491, 3586)

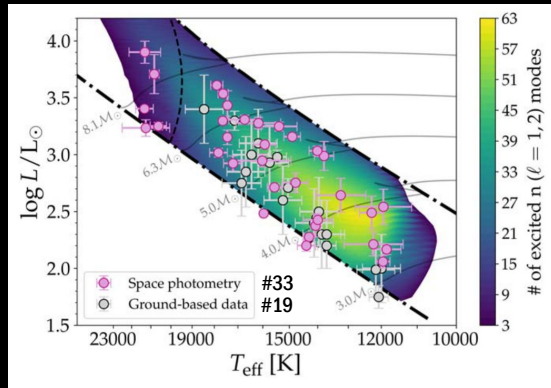


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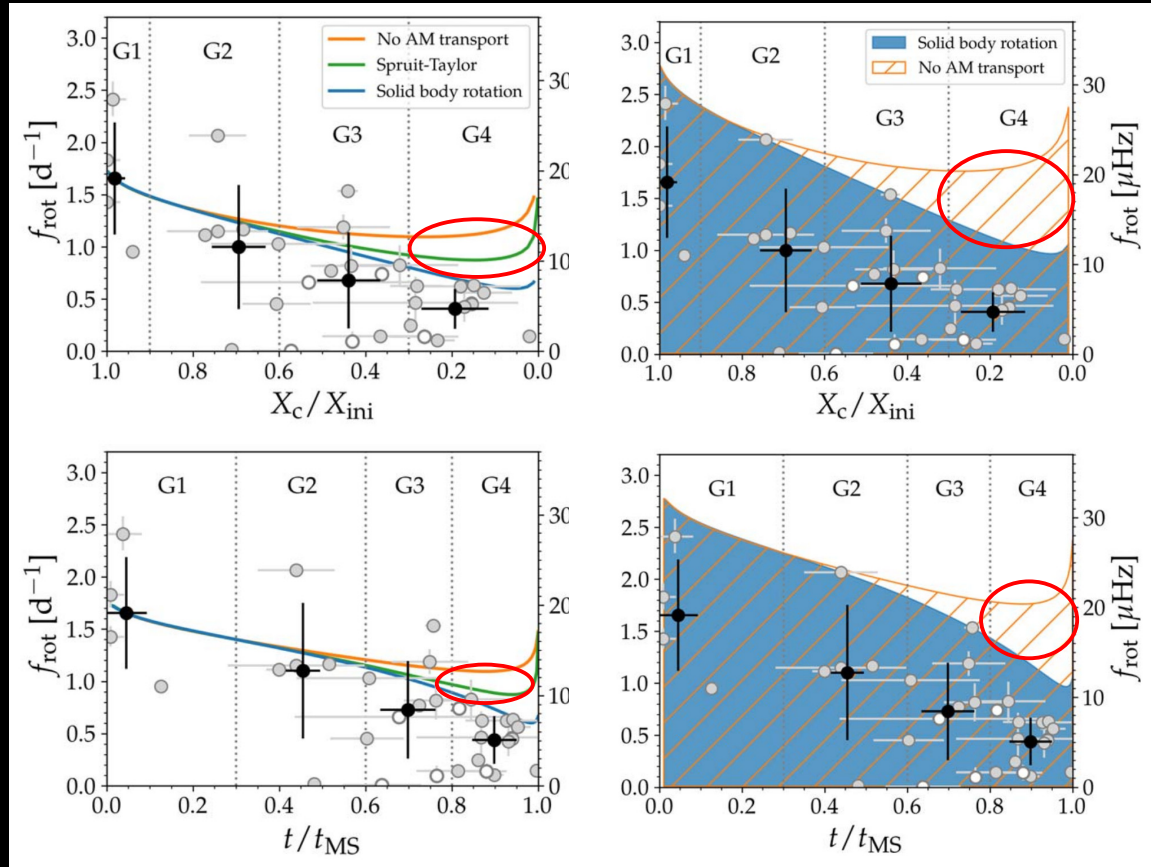
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- Core rotation decreases with age
- Evidence for angular momentum transport
  - ✓ No angular momentum transport (no AM transport)
  - ✓ Most efficient angular momentum transport (solid body rotation)



Scaled to average of G1

Scaled to individual stars

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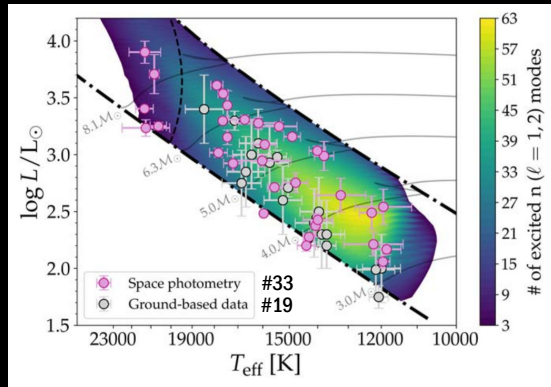
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Talk Bowman: “Asteroseismology reveals a unique anchor point for calibrating interior rotation, mixing and angular momentum transport in massive stars”

Talk Mombarg: “Testing the theory of angular momentum transport on the main sequence”



- Core rotation decreases with age
- Evidence for angular momentum transport
  - ✓ Rotationally split p-modes
  - ✓ Detection of more than one spacing pattern
  - ✓ Rotational spot modulation

Search for differential rotation

HD129929 (Aerts et al., 2003, Science 300, 1926)  
 $\nu$  Eri (Dziembowski & Pamyatnykh, 2008, MNRAS, 385, 2061)  
 12 Lac (Dziembowski & Pamyatnykh, 2008, MNRAS, 385, 2061)  
 HD192575 (BursSENS et al., 2021, Posters from TSC2, 75)  
  
 KIC10526294 (Triana et al., 2015, ApJ 810, 16)  
 HD201433 (Kallinger et al., 2017, A&A 603, A13)

$\beta$ Cep stars

SPB stars

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# Interior temperature profile

→ Michielsen et al., 2021, A&A 650, A175

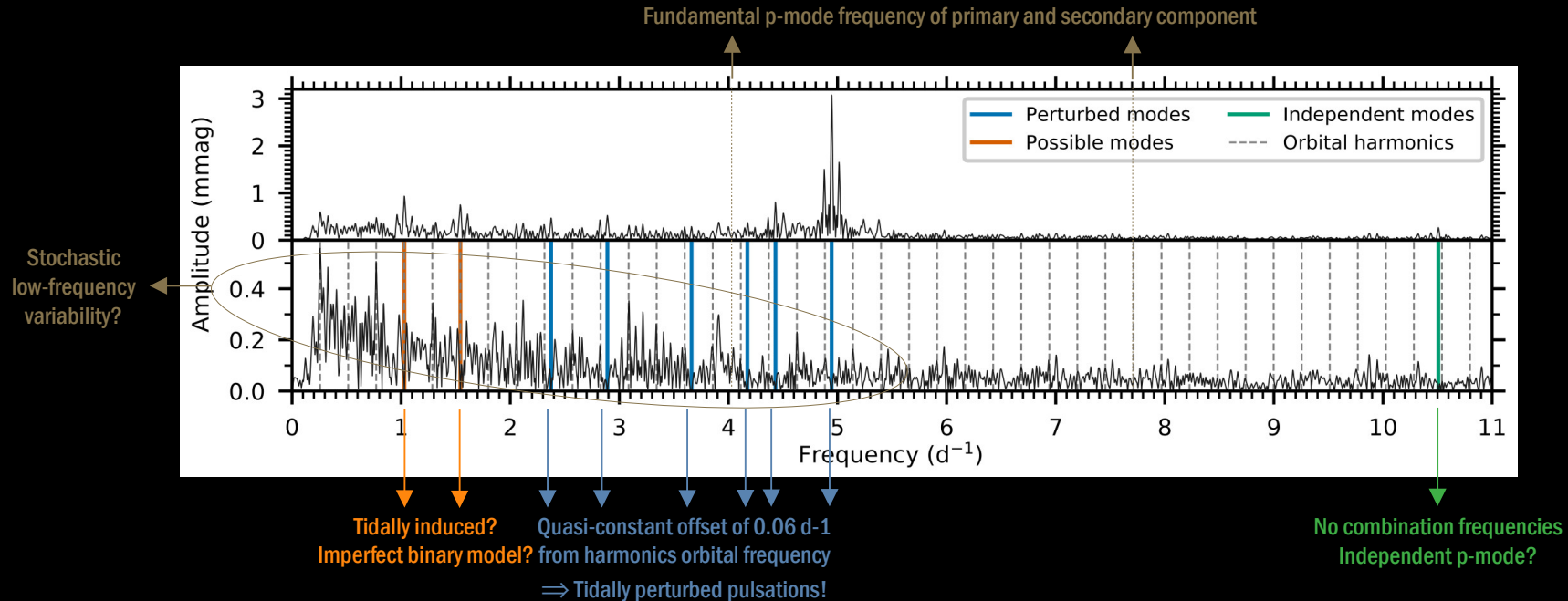
➤ Investigated the thermal and chemical structure in the near-core region of stars with a convective core by means of gravito-inertial modes

→ Talk Michielsen: “Observational probing of core masses and thermal structures with gravity modes”

# Tidal forces

→ V453 Cygni (Southworth et al., 2020, MNRAS 497, L19)

- Eclipsing binary consisting of B0.4IV and B0.7IV components (orbital period 3.89 days, slightly eccentric  $\sim 0.025$ , apsidal motion with period of 72 years)
- TESS (two sectors; 2-min cadence): 9 significant frequencies  $\Rightarrow$  at least one component with  $\beta$ Cep pulsations

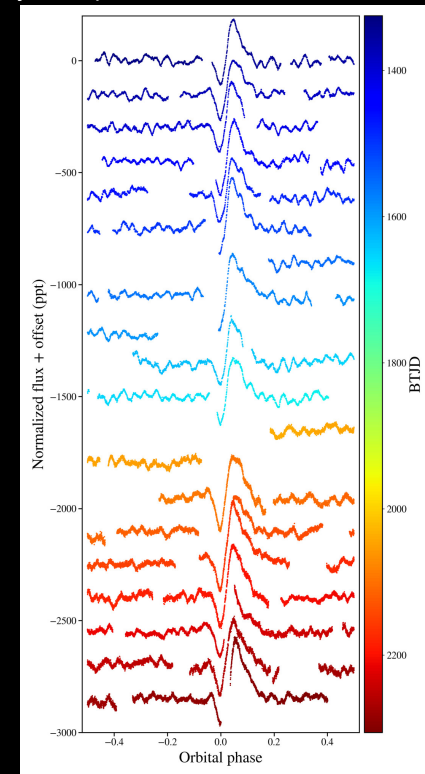
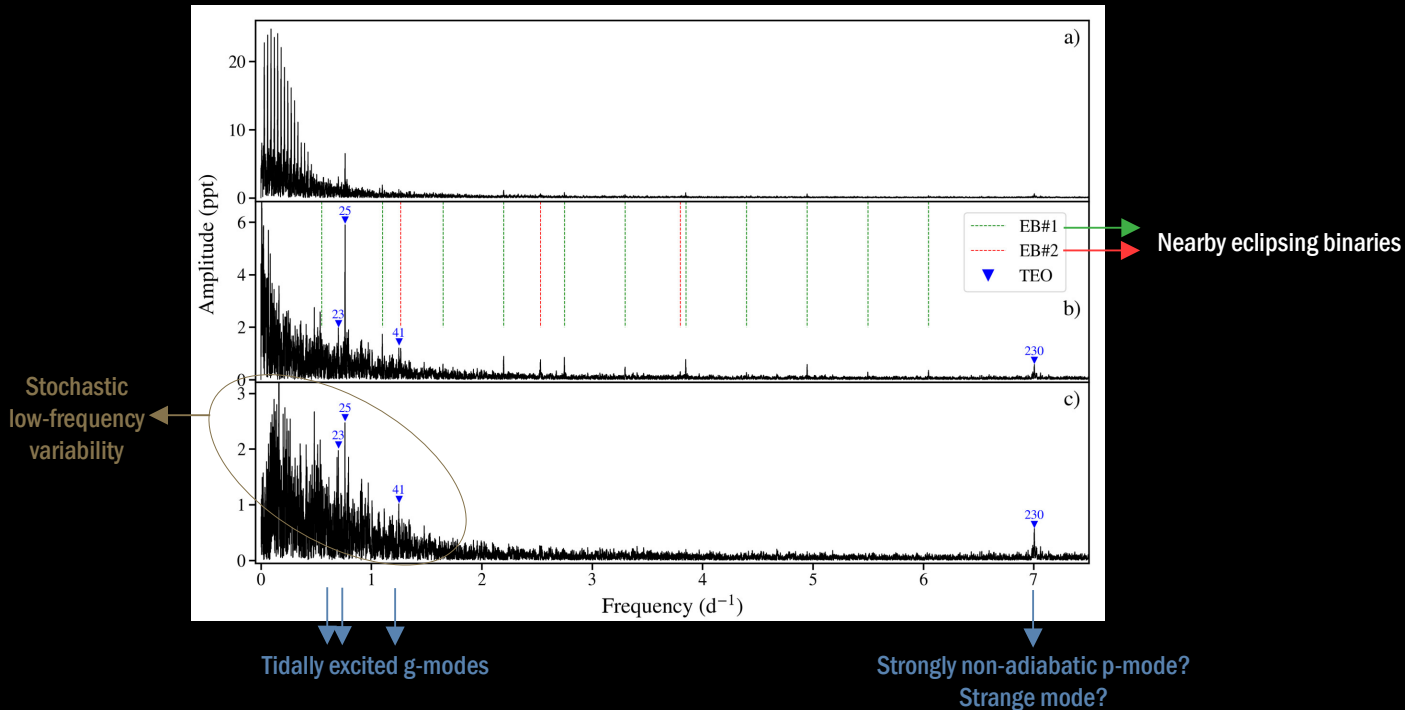


# Tidal forces

→ V453 Cygni (Southworth et al., 2020, MNRAS 497, L19)

→ MACHO 80.7443.1718 (Kołaczek-Szymański et al., 2022, A&A 659, A47)

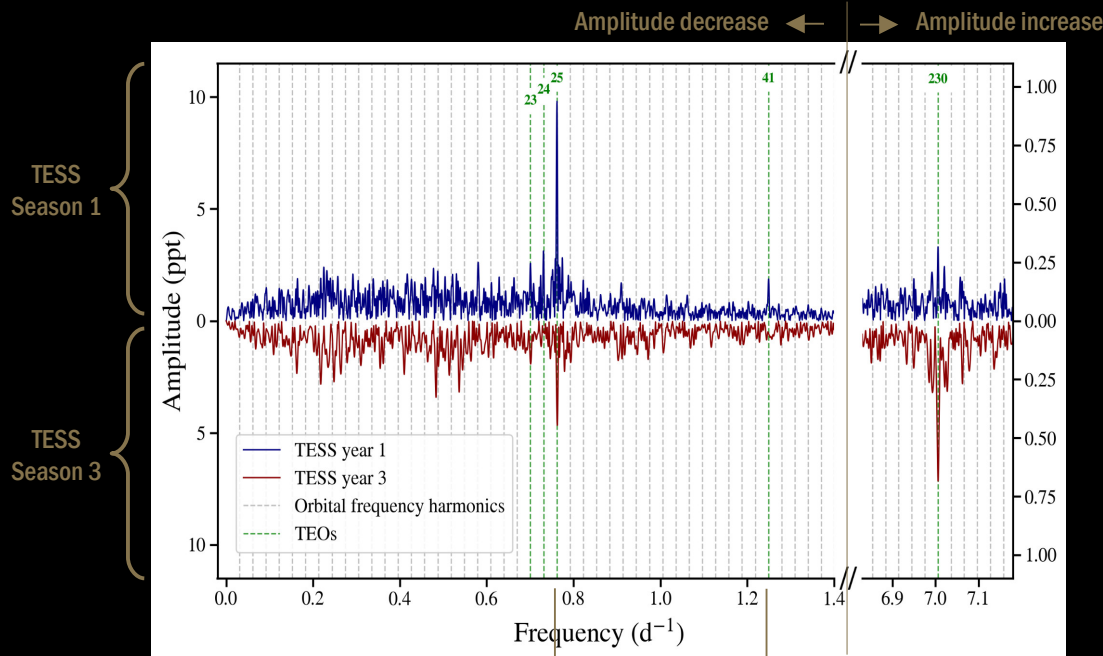
- Eccentric ellipsoidal variable (heartbeat star) consisting of blue supergiant and late O-type dwarf (orbital period 32.83 days, large eccentricity  $\sim 0.51$ ) in LMC
- TESS (two seasons; 30-min cadence) + ground-based photometry (time base of 30 years): five tidally excited oscillations (TEO)





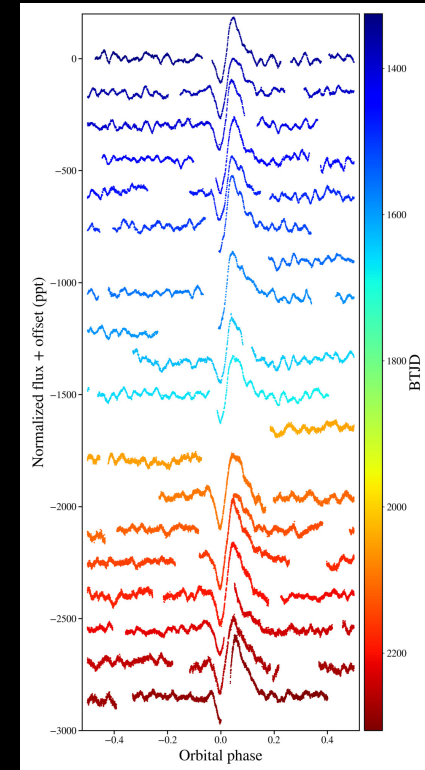
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Significant frequency changes detected in O-C diagrams

Amplitude and frequency changes for tidally excited oscillations



# Tidal forces

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Poster 24 Szewczuk: “CW Cephei - the binary B-type pulsator”

Poster 41 Handler: “Tidally tilted pulsators: newsflash”

Poster 44 Eze: “Photometric sample of early B-type pulsators in eclipsing binaries observed with TESS”

Poster e2 Rocha: “Study of Be Stars in Binary Systems Observed with TESS”

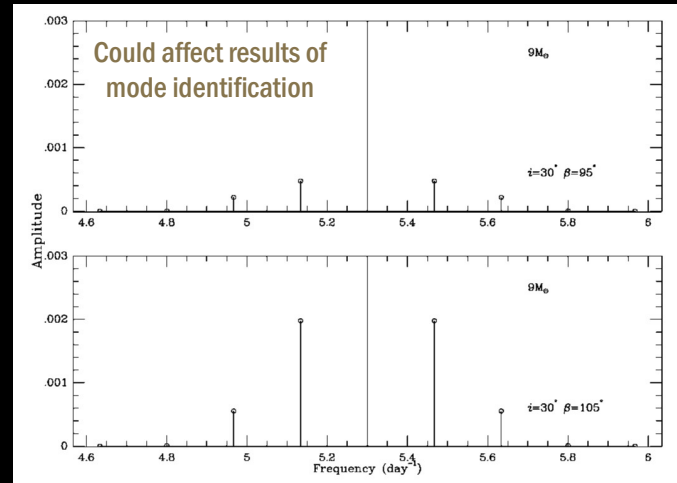
# Magnetic fields

Fossil field

→ Effects of magnetic field on asteroseismic diagnostics of pulsating stars

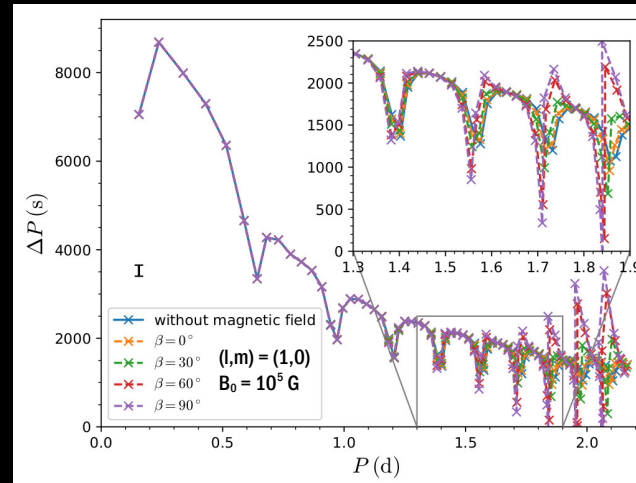
➤ Magnetic multiplets

(Shibahashi & Aerts, 2000, ApJ 531, L143)



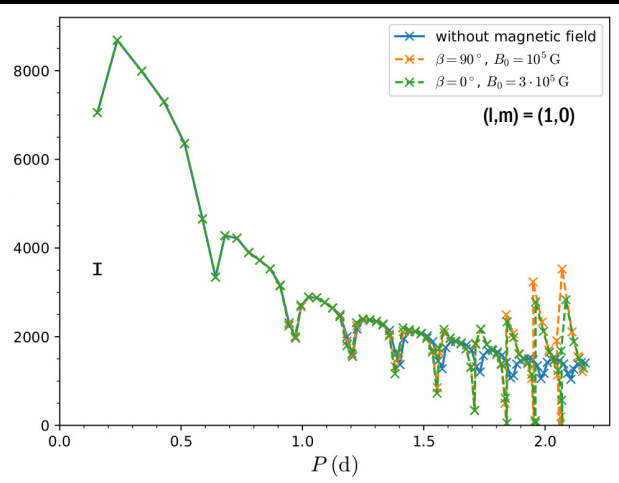
➤ Period spacings

(Prat et al., 2020, A&A 636, A100)



➤ Inhibition of mixing ⇒ no overshooting

(Briquet et al., 2016, A&A 587, A126)



## Magneto-asteroseismology

- ✓ Ground-based  $\beta$  Cep (Shibahashi & Aerts, 2000, ApJ 531, L143)
- $\zeta$  Cas (Briquet et al., 2016, A&A 587, A126)
- V2052 Oph (Briquet et al., 2012, MNRAS 427, 483)
- ✓ CoRoT HD43317 (Buysschaert et al., 2018, A&A 616, A148)
- ✓ K2  $\iota$  Lib (Buysschaert et al., 2018, SF2A Conf., 369)

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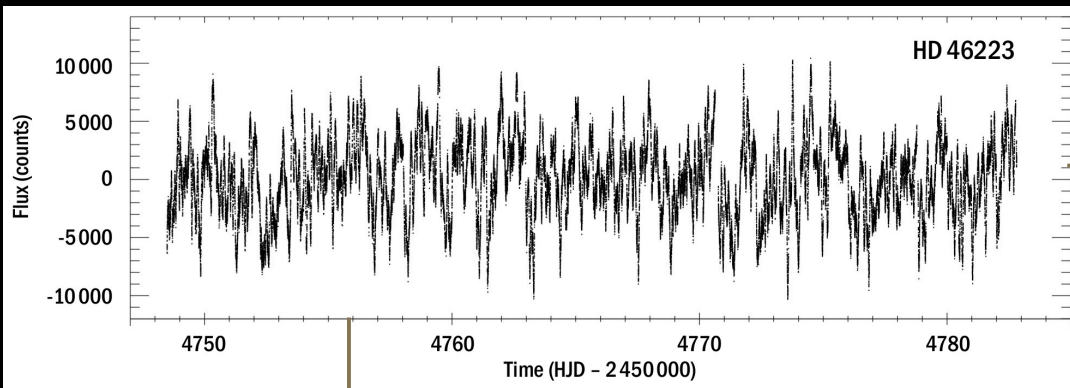
# Stochastic Low-Frequency Variability (SLFV)

→ Observations of SLFV (red noise excess at low frequencies)

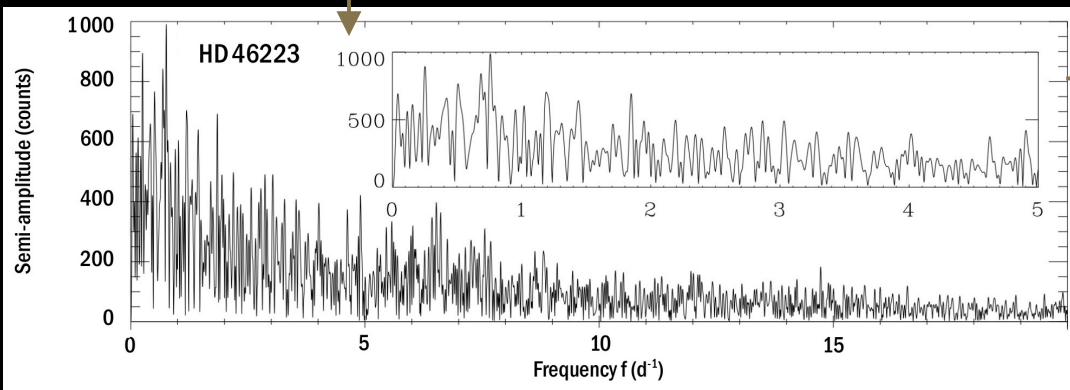
✓ Blomme et al., 2011, A&A 533, A4

→ HD46223, HD46150 & HD4696 (O stars)

CoRoT



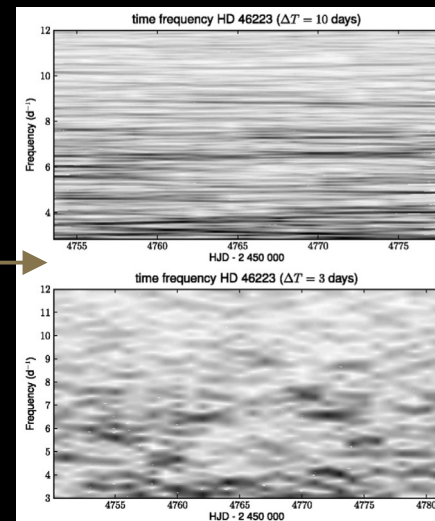
Lomb-Scargle periodogram



Time-dependent frequency analysis (sliding window)

Short-lived variability

Stochastic excitation

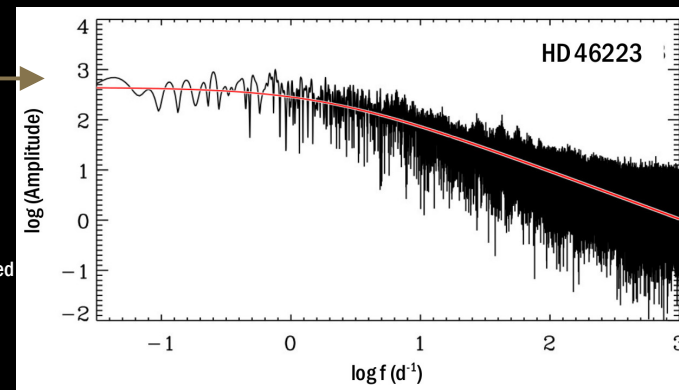


Semi-Lorentzian function

$$\alpha(f) = \frac{\alpha_0}{1 + (2\pi\tau_{\text{char}}f)^\gamma}$$

with

- $\alpha_0$  amplitude as  $f \rightarrow 0$
- $\tau_{\text{char}}$  characteristic timescale on which red noise is correlated
- $\gamma$  steepness of amplitude spectrum



# Stochastic Low-Frequency Variability (SLFV)

## → Observations of SLFV (red noise excess at low frequencies)

✓ Blomme et al., 2011, A&A 533, A4	→ HD46223, HD46150 & HD4696 (O stars)	CoRoT
✓ Tkachenko et al., 2014, MNRAS 438, 3093	→ primary of massive binary V380 Cyg (B star)	Kepler + spectra
✓ Aerts et al., 2017, A&A 602, A32	→ HD188209 (O9.5 lab blue supergiant)	Kepler + spectra
✓ Simón-Díaz et al., 2018, A&A 612, A40	→ HD2905 (early-B supergiant)	spectra
✓ Bowman et al., 2019, A&A 621, A135	→ 35 OBAF stars	CoRoT
✓ Bowman et al., 2019, NatAs 3, 760	→ 114 ecliptic OB stars & 53 LMC OB stars	K2 + TESS
✓ Dorn-Wallenstein et al., 2019, AJ 878, 155	→ 6 LMC yellow supergiants & 2 LMC luminous blue variables	TESS
✓ Bowman et al., 2020, A&A 640, A36	→ 70 OB stars	TESS + spectra
✓ Dorn-Wallenstein et al., 2020, AJ 902, 24	→ 28 LMC yellow supergiants & 48 Galactic red supergiants	TESS
✓ Rauw et al., 2019, A&A 621, A15	→ HD149404 (massive post-Roche Lobe overflow system)	BRITE
✓ Nasé et al., 2021, MNRAS 502, 5038	→ 26 Wolf-Rayet stars & 8 luminous blue variables	TESS
✓ Lenoir-Craig et al., 2022, AJ 925, 79	→ 50 Galactic Wolf-Rayet stars	BRITE
✓ Elliot et al., 2022, MNRAS 509, 4246	→ P Cygni (luminous blue variable)	BRITE
✓ Bowman et al., 2022, A&A 668, A134	→ 30 OB stars	CoRoT
✓ Kołaczek-Szymański et al., A&A 659, A47	→ MACHO 80.7443.1718 (blue supergiant + late O-type dwarf)	TESS
✓ Dorn-Wallenstein et al., 2022, AJ 940, 27	→ 101 LMC and 25 SMC cool supergiants	TESS

Feature observed for many different types of massive stars!

# Stochastic Low-Frequency Variability (SLFV)

→ Characterisation of SLFV (red noise excess at low frequencies)

➤ Amplitude spectrum fitting (frequency domain)

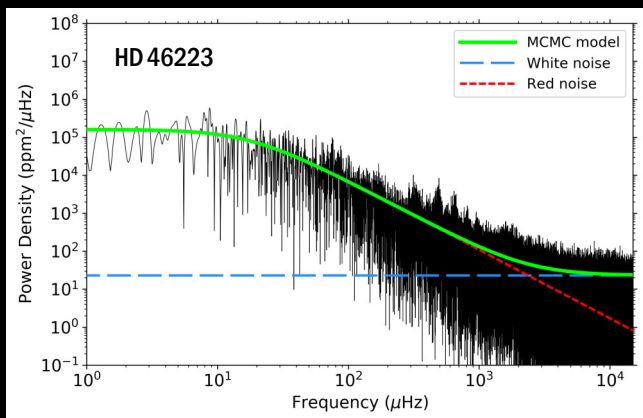
✓ Semi-Lorentzian function

- $\alpha_0$  characteristic amplitude as frequency  $\rightarrow 0$
- $\tau_{\text{char}} = 1/\nu_{\text{char}}$  characteristic timescale on which red noise is correlated
- $\gamma$  steepness of amplitude spectrum
- $\alpha_w$  frequency independent noise term (white noise)

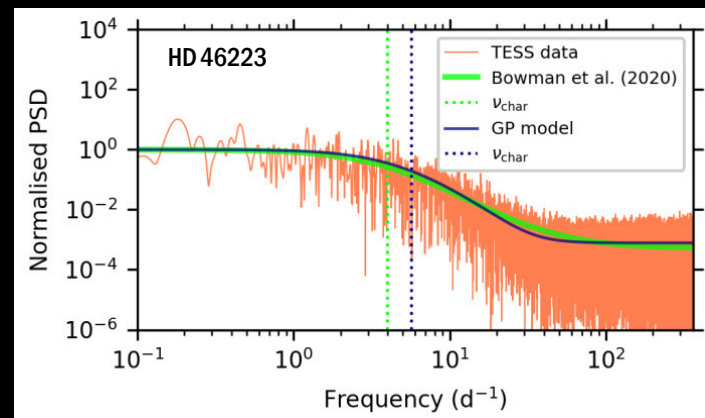
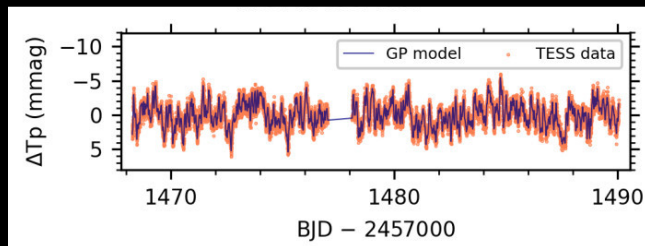
➤ Gaussian process regression (time domain)

✓ Damped simple harmonic oscillator

- $\sigma_A$  characteristic amplitude
- $\rho_{\text{char}} = 2\pi/\omega_0$  characteristic variability timescale
- $\tau_{\text{damp}}$  characteristic damping timescale
- $C_{\text{jitter}}$  jitter term to emulate uncorrelated noise in the observations
- $Q$  quality factor (more damping if low value)



Bowman et al., 2019, A&A 621, A135



Bowman et al., 2022, A&A 668, A134

# Stochastic Low-Frequency Variability (SLFV)

→ Characterisation of SLFV (red noise excess at low frequencies)

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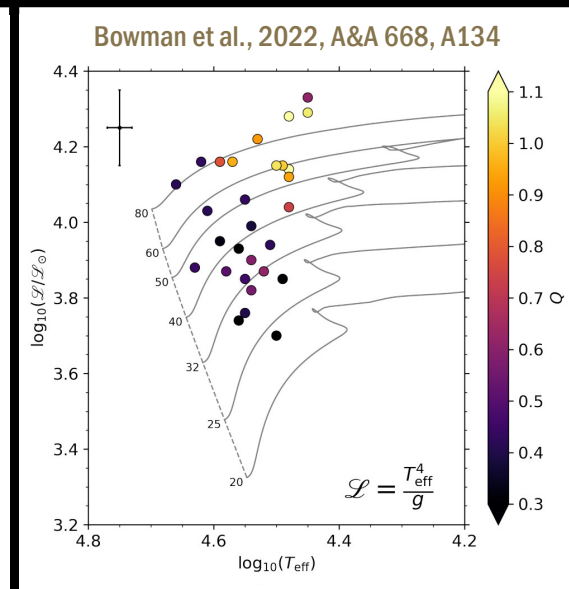
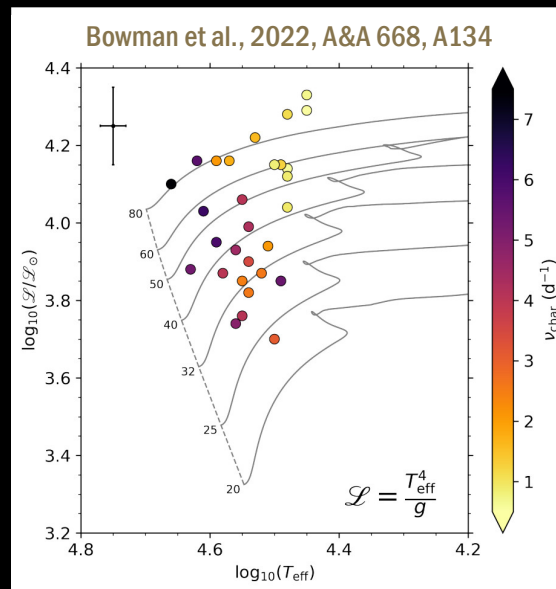
“yellow subgroup”:

- Low  $\nu_{\text{char}}$  + high  $\alpha_0/\sigma_A$  + low  $\nu_{\text{damp}}$
- Higher mass
- More evolved (closer to TAMS)
- Less stochastic (high  $Q$  value)

“blue subgroup”:

- High  $\nu_{\text{char}}$  + low  $\alpha_0/\sigma_A$  + high  $\nu_{\text{damp}}$
- Less evolved (closer to ZAMS)
- More stochastic (low  $Q$  values)

$\nu_{\text{char}}$  probes mass, age and degree of coherency





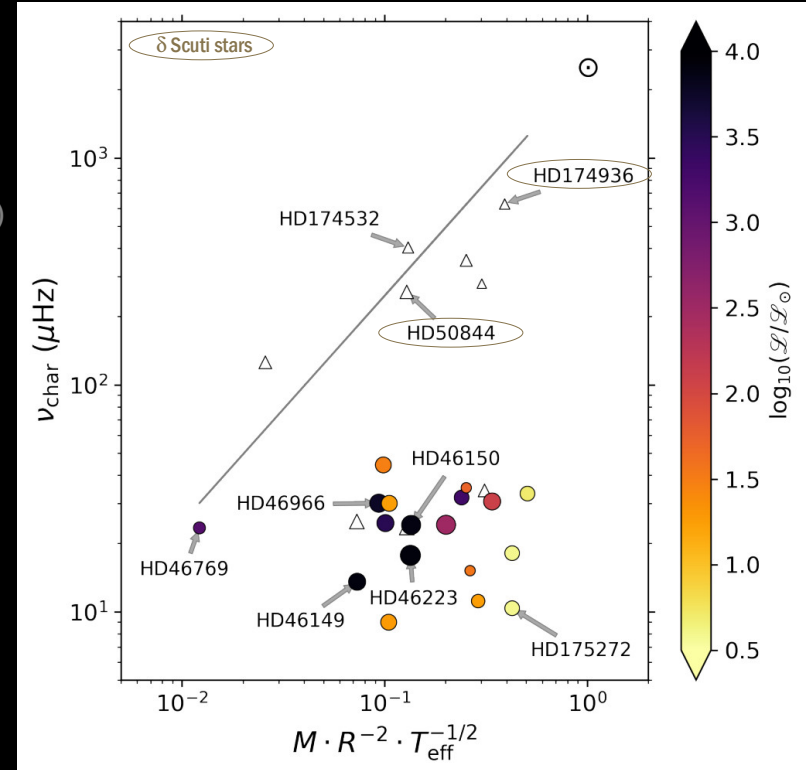
# Stochastic Low-Frequency Variability (SLFV)

## → Interpretation of SLFV

### ➤ Surface granulations

- ✓ Photometric amplitude is expected to scale inversely with number of convective granules on surface
- ✓ Timescale is expected to scale with the ratio of the size and the sound speed of a granule
- ✓ Tight correlation between  $v_{\text{gran}}$  and stellar parameters for pulsating solar-type and red giant stars  
(Kallinger et al., 2014, A&A 570, A41)

$v_{\text{char}}$  order of magnitude smaller than predicted  $v_{\text{gran}}$   
for majority of stars



Bowman et al., 2019, A&A 621, A135

# Stochastic Low-Frequency Variability (SLFV)

## → Interpretation of SLFV

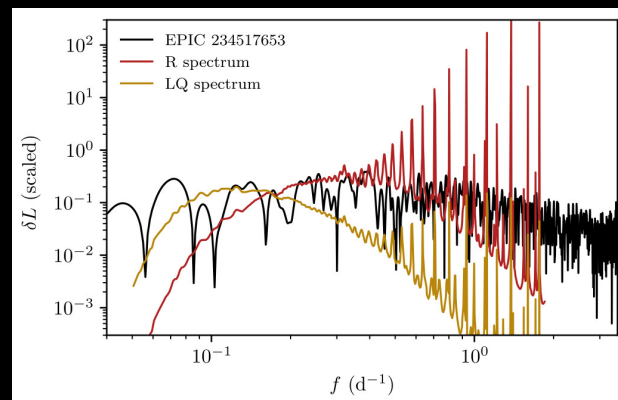
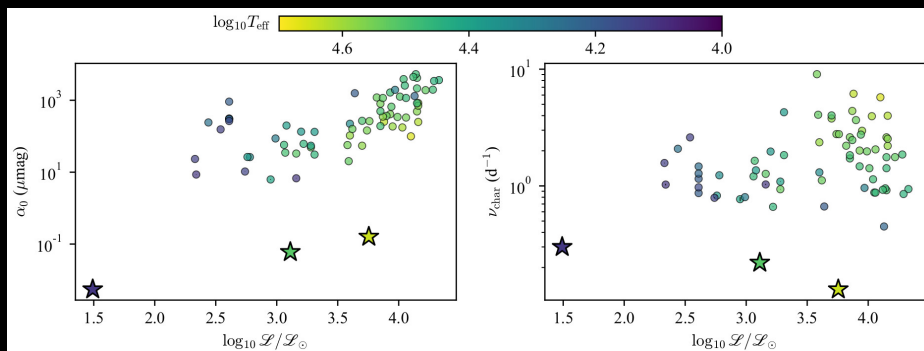
➤ Surface granulations

➤ Internal Gravity Waves (IGWs)

- ✓ Travelling waves that are stochastically excited at the interface of a convective region and a stably stratified zone
  - ➔ turbulent core convection
  - ➔ turbulent pressure fluctuations in subsurface convective zones in outer envelope (Fe-opacity peak convection zone)
- ✓ Propagate and dissipate within radiative regions

Core  
excitation  
cons

- ✓ Natural explanation for macroturbulent broadening (g-modes have high amplitude in wings) (e.g. Aerts et al., 2017, A&A 602, A32; Simón-Díaz et al., 2018, A&A 612, A40)
- ✓ Natural explanation for angular momentum transport (e.g. Rogers et al., 2013, AJ 772, 21)
- ✓ Most observations compatible with  $0.8 \lesssim \gamma \lesssim 3.5$  predicted from simulations (e.g. Edelman et al., 2019, ApJ 876, 4; Ratnasigam et al., 2023, A&A 674, A134)
- ✓ Dominant broad peaks compatible with standing g-modes (stochastically excited through resonance) (Lecoanet et al., 2019, AJ 886, L15; Lecoanet et al., 2021, MNRAS 508, 132)
- ✓ Photometric variability is orders of magnitude lower than observed red noise (Anders et al., 2023, NatAs, accepted)



# Stochastic Low-Frequency Variability (SLFV)

## → Interpretation of SLFV

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### ➤ Internal Gravity Waves (IGWs)

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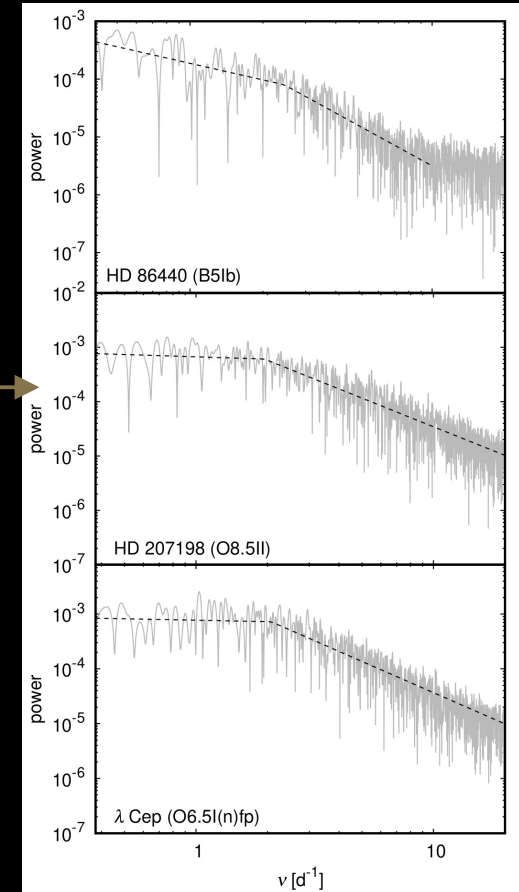
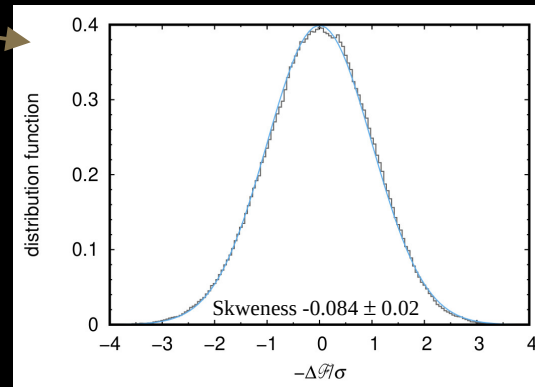
Subsurface  
excitation  
pros

- ✓ Calculation wave transfer function (Lecoanet et al., 2019, AJ 886, L15; Lecoanet et al., 2021, MNRAS 508, 132)
- ✓ 1D nonrotating stellar evolution calculations (Cantiello et al., 2021, AJ 915, 112)
- ✓ 3D radiation hydrodynamical simulations of two  $35 M_{\odot}$  star envelopes (Schultz et al., 2022, AJ 924, L11)

# Stochastic Low-Frequency Variability (SLFV)

## → Interpretation of SLFV

- Surface granulations
- Internal Gravity Waves (IGWs)
- Wind-driven processes
  - ✓ Clumpy, aspherical, and inhomogeneous stellar wind  
Krtićka & Feldmeier, 2021, A&A 648, A79
  - ✓ TESS data of 116 O-type stars and 18 B-type supergiants with purely stochastic variability
  - ✓ Signatures of line-driven wind instability in photometric data
    - a knee in the power spectrum of magnitude fluctuations, which appears due to engulfment of small-scale structure by larger structures
    - a negative skewness of the distribution of fluctuations, which is the result of spatial dominance of rarefied regions



Observations: e.g. Aerts et al., 2018, MNRAS 476, 1234; Ramiamananantsoa et al., 2018, MNRAS 473, 5532  
Modeling: e.g. Krtićka & Feldmeier, 2018, A&A 617, A121; Krtićka & Feldmeier, 2021, A&A 648, A79

Peter De Cat (Royal Observatory of Belgium, Ringlaan 3, B-1180 Brussels, Belgium)  
TASC7/KASC14 workshop (17-21/07/2023, University of Hawai'i, Honolulu, Hawai'i)

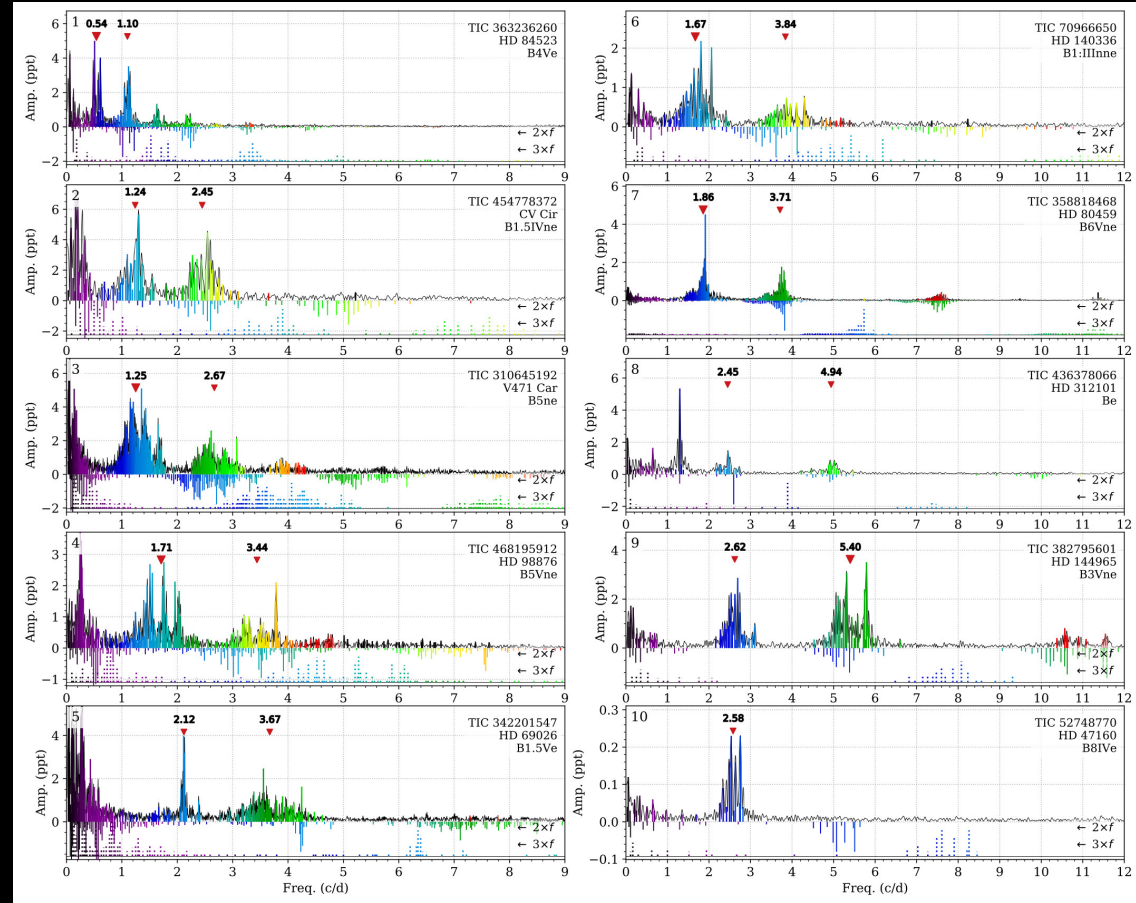
# Be stars

- Balmer lines in emission (circumstellar accretion disk)
- Rapid rotators

→ Structure of frequency spectra

~20% of non-supergiant B stars

Labadie-Bartz et al., 2022, AJ 163, 226

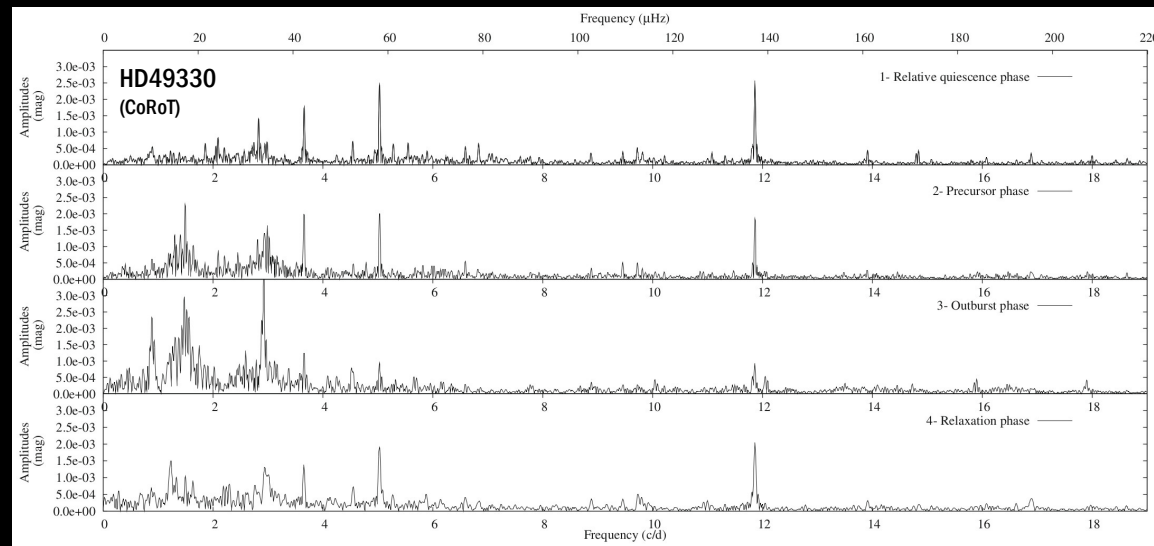
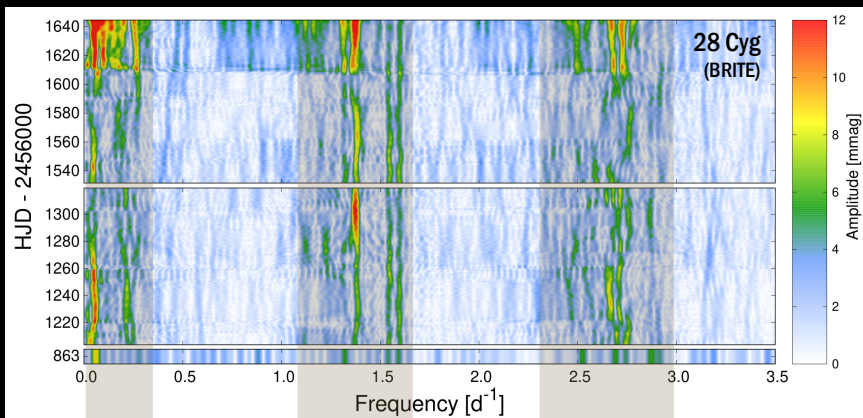


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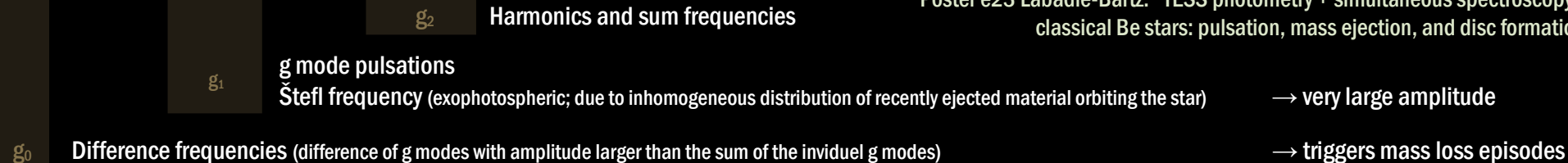
- Balmer lines in emission (circumstellar accretion disk)
- Rapid rotators
- ➔ Structure of frequency spectra
- ➔ Variable frequencies and amplitudes

Baade et al., 2018, A&A 610, A70



Huat et al., 2009, A&A 506, 95

Poster e2 Rocha: "Study of Be Stars in Binary Systems Observed with TESS"  
 Poster e23 Labadie-Bartz: "TESS photometry + simultaneous spectroscopy of classical Be stars: pulsation, mass ejection, and disc formation"

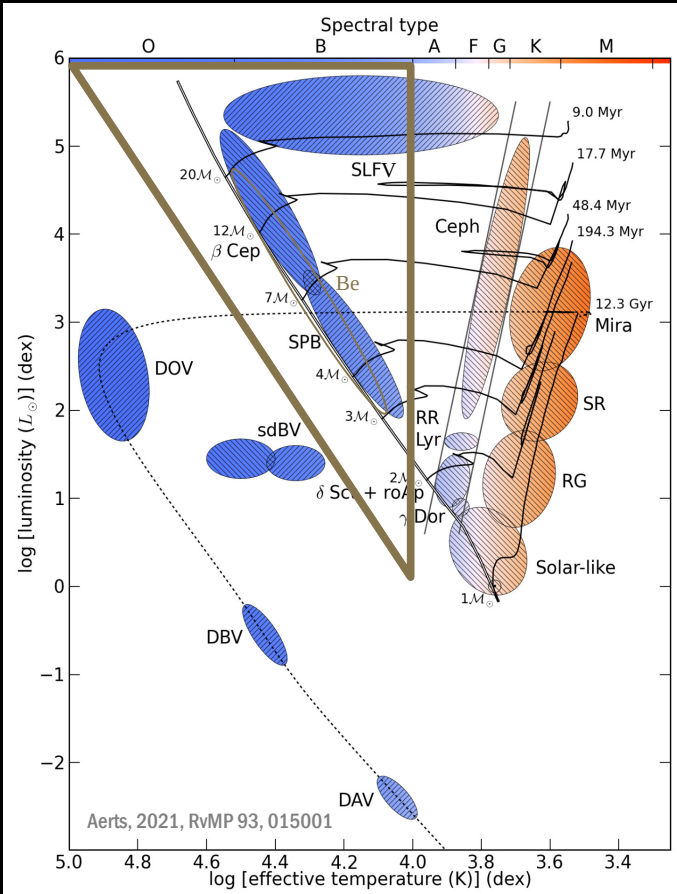


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# OB-type stars

Convective core  
Radiative envelope



- $\beta$  Cephei stars ( $\beta$ Cep)
  - Low order p and g modes with periods of few hours
- Slowly Pulsating B stars (SPB)
  - High order g modes with periods of several hours to few days
- Stochastic low-frequency variability (SLFV)
  - $\alpha$  Cygni stars
  - Fast Yellow Pulsating Supergiants (?) → Talk Pederson: “Identifying contaminating sources in TESS light curves”
- Be stars (Be)
  - Pulsations
- Maia variables (?)
  - Talk Handler: “Maia variables - fact or fiction?”

Hybrids!

## Excitation mechanisms at play

- Opacity mechanism operating in Z bump
- Stochastic excitation
- Non-linear mode excitation
- Rotation
- Tidal excitation

## Influencing factors

- Opacities
- Interior mixing profile
- Interior rotation profile
- Interior temperature profile
- Tidal forces
- Magnetic fields
- Mass loss
- Stellar wind

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**Thank you!**

Announcement

**The third LAMOST-Kepler/TESS workshop**  
**Synergies between ground-based spectroscopic surveys and**  
**space-based photometric missions**

*Date:* May 28-31, 2024

*City:* Beijing of China

*Host:* Institute For Frontiers in Astronomy and Astrophysics (IFAA)  
of Beijing Normal University (BNU)