

# Accreting White Dwarfs in Cataclysmic Binaries

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# OUTLINE OF TALK

- 1. Overview
- 2. Types of Cataclysmics
- 3. Space Observations
- 4. Model Photospheres & Accretion Disks
- 5. Spectra of Accreting White Dwarfs
- 6. Evolutionary Tools
- 7. Summary of WDs in Cataclysmics
- 8. Open Questions & New Frontiers

# Physical Processes in Isolated White Dwarfs

Thermal Cooling

Gravitational and Thermal Diffusion

Convection and Convective mixing

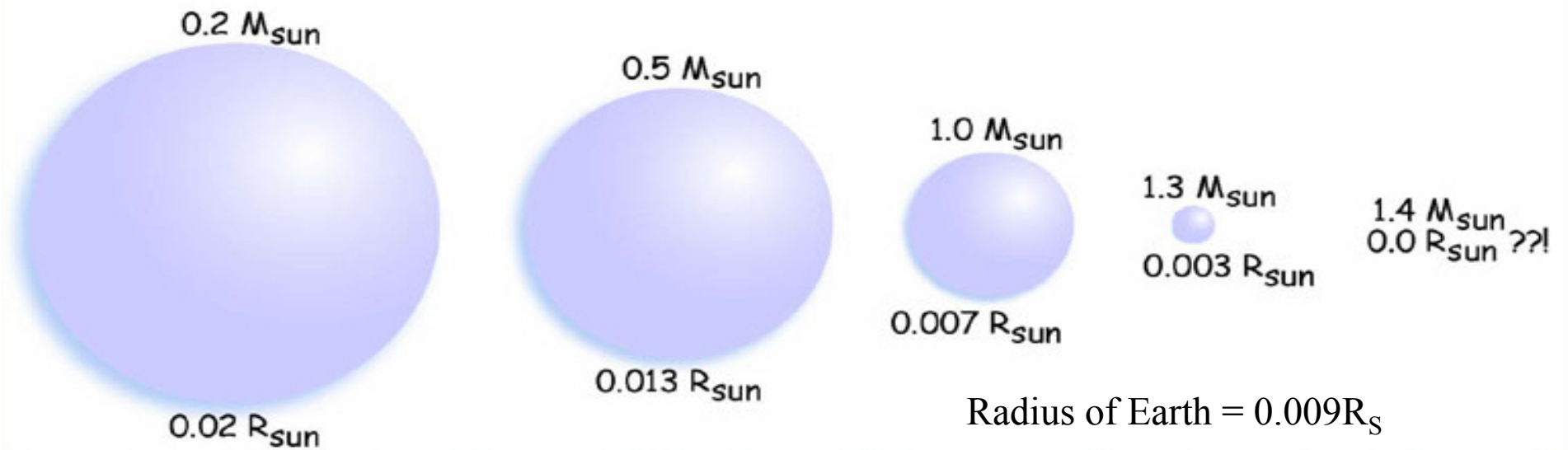
Radiative Levitation and Weak Winds

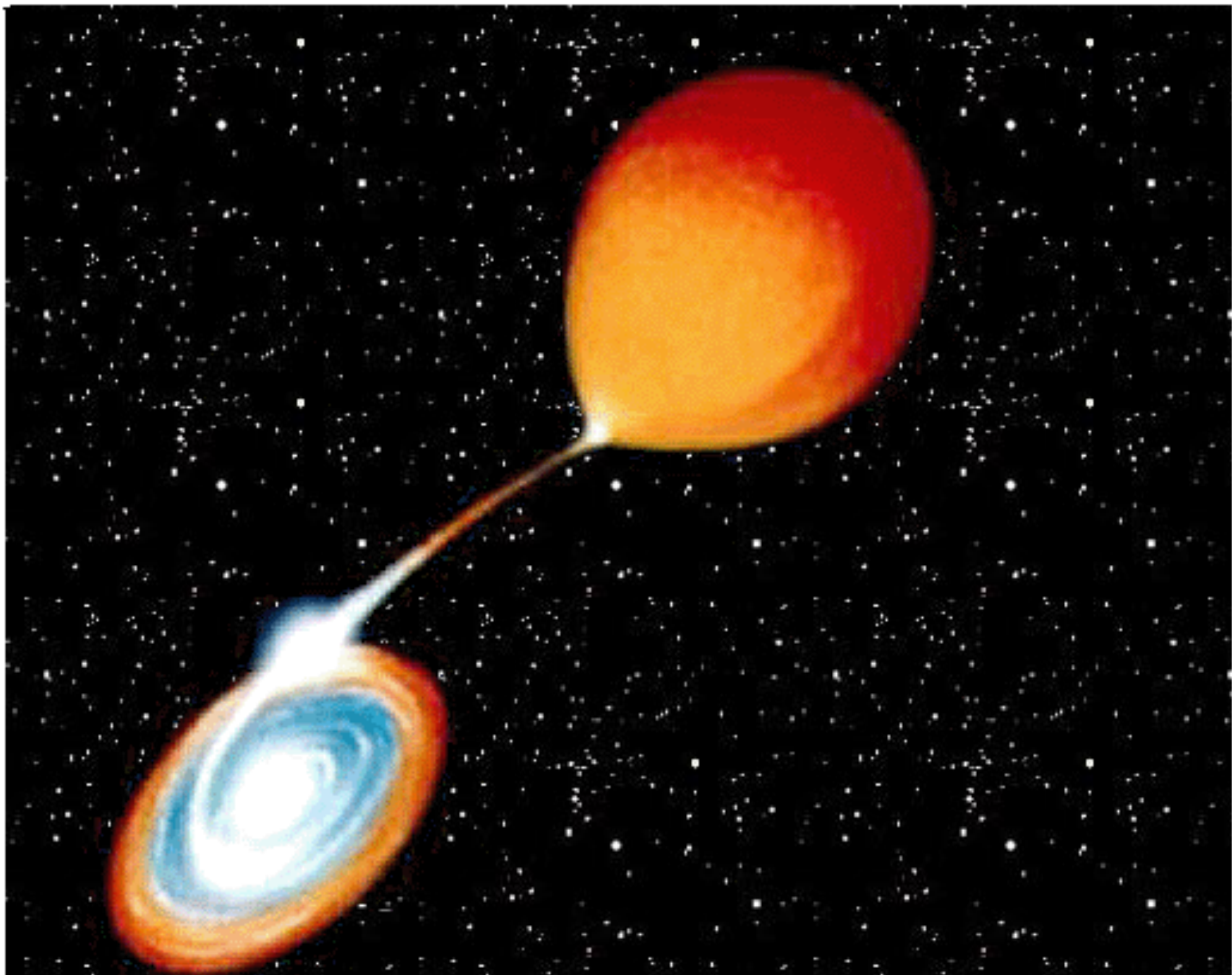
Accretion from Debris Disks and the Interstellar Medium

Core Crystallization

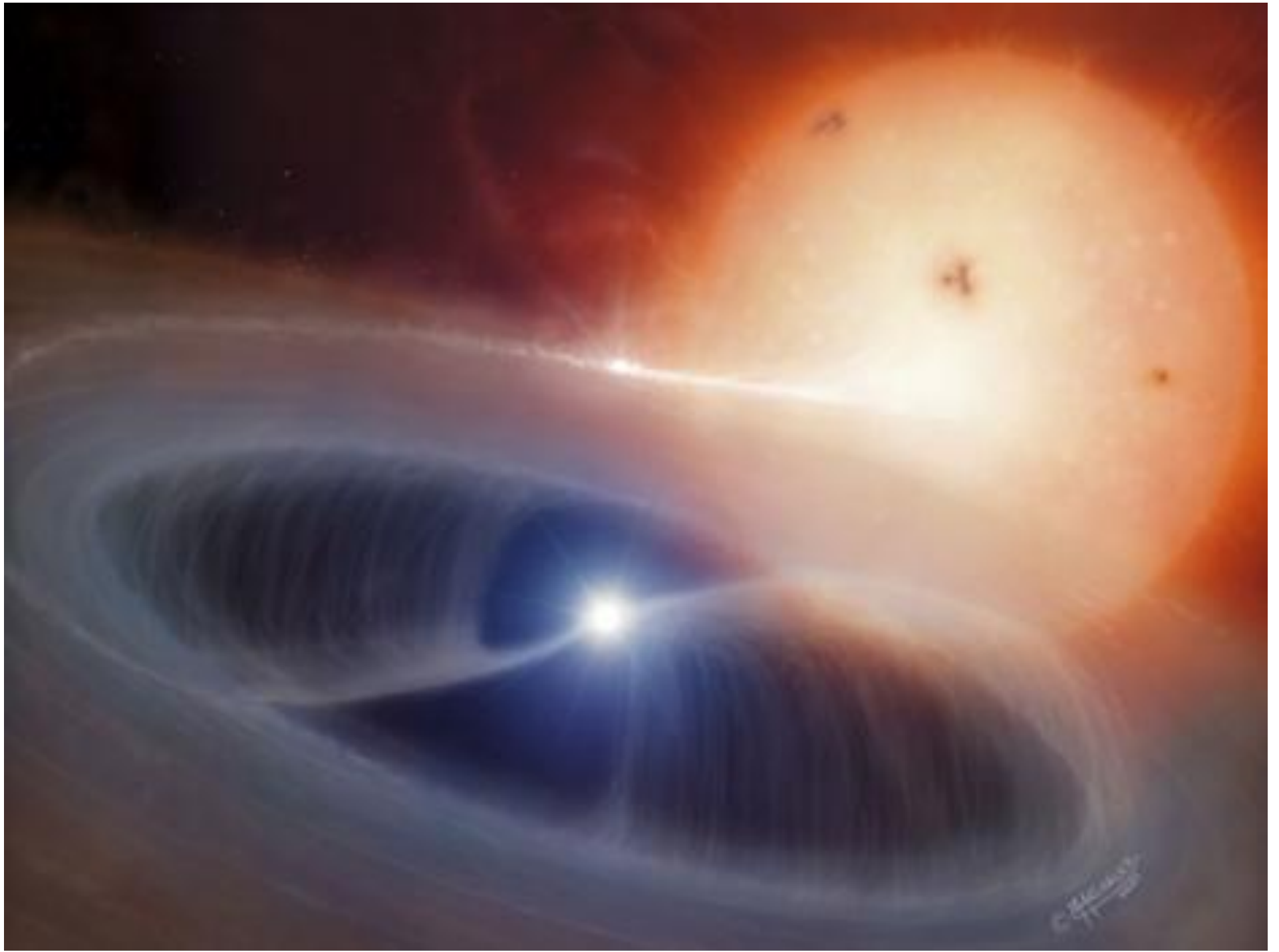
Residual Thermonuclear Burning

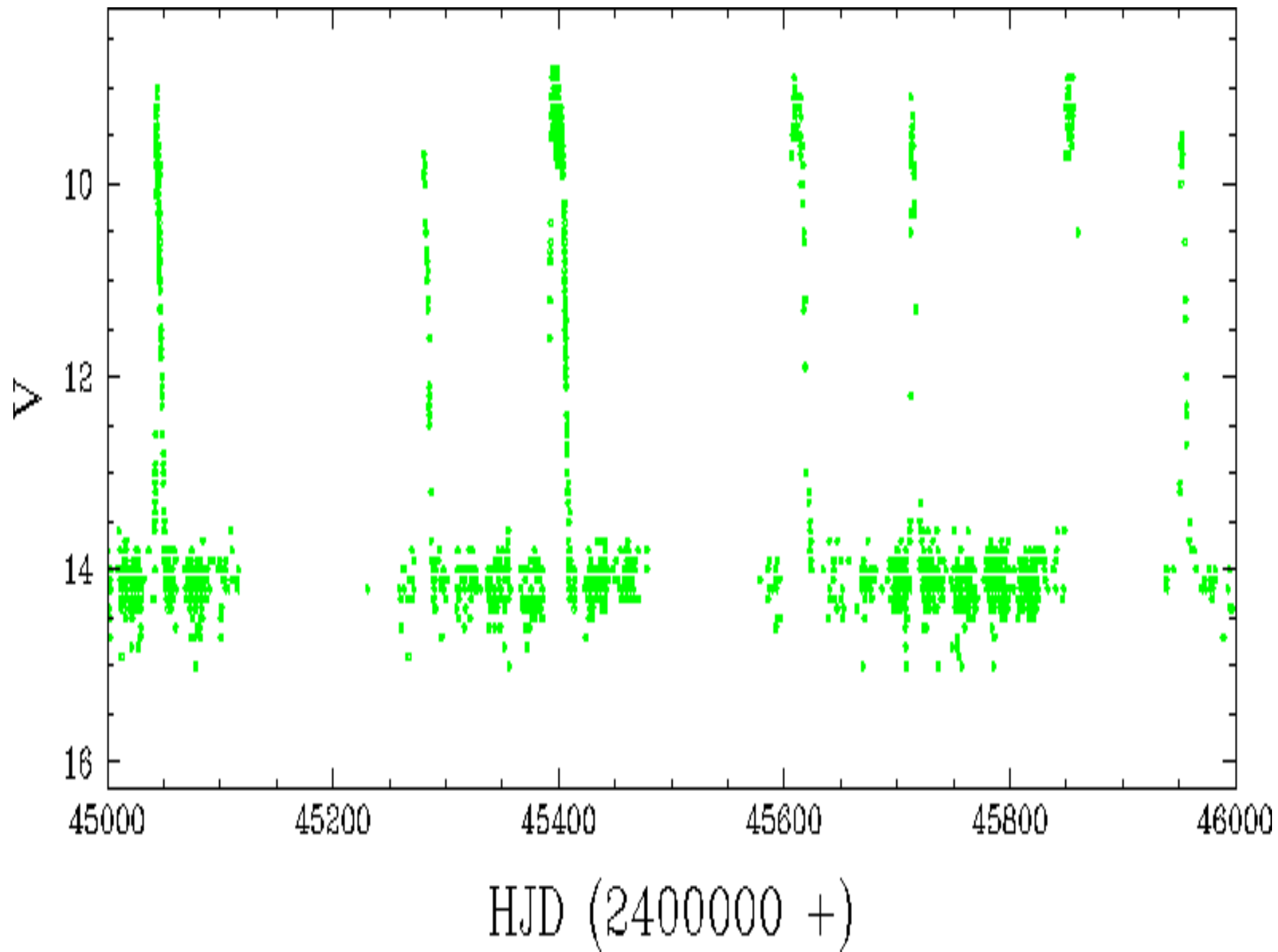
# White Dwarf Stars





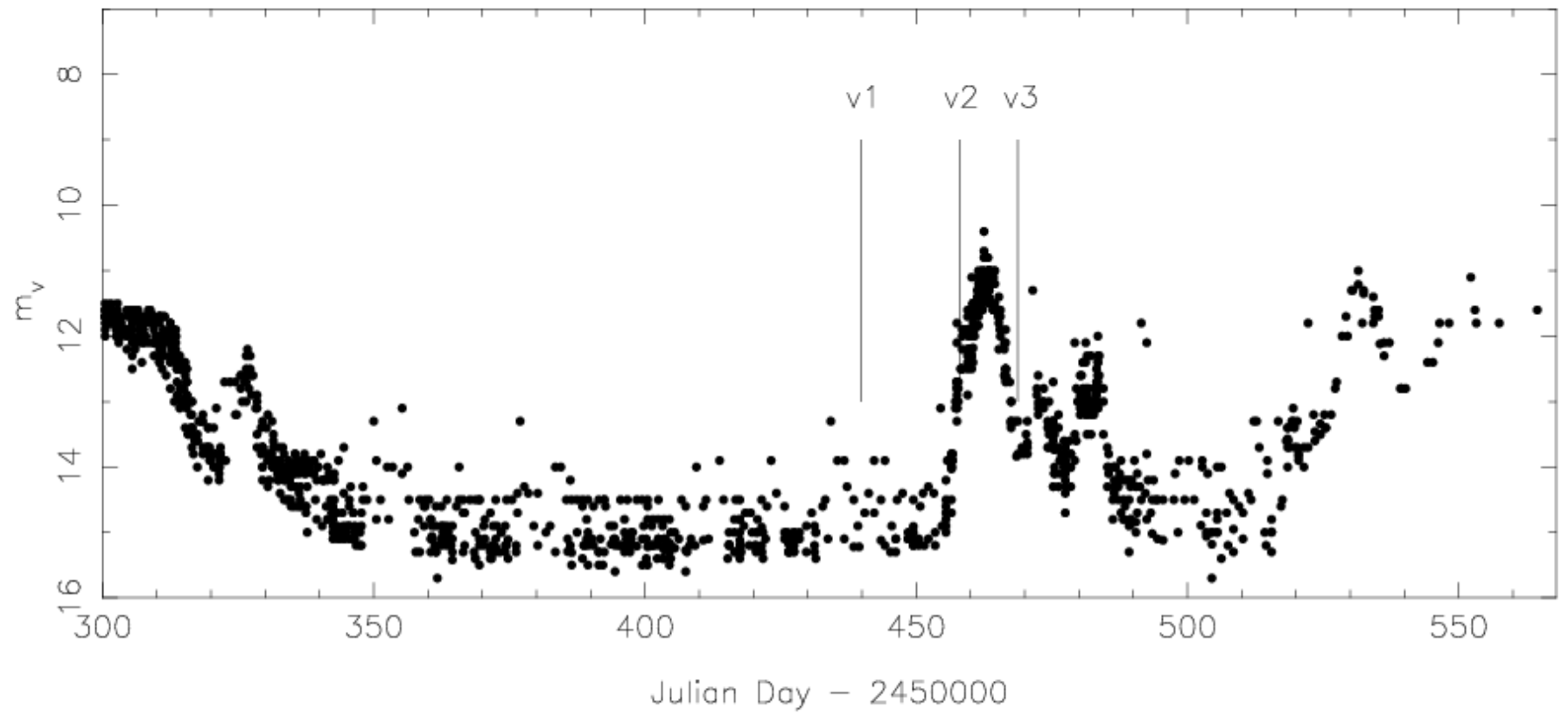




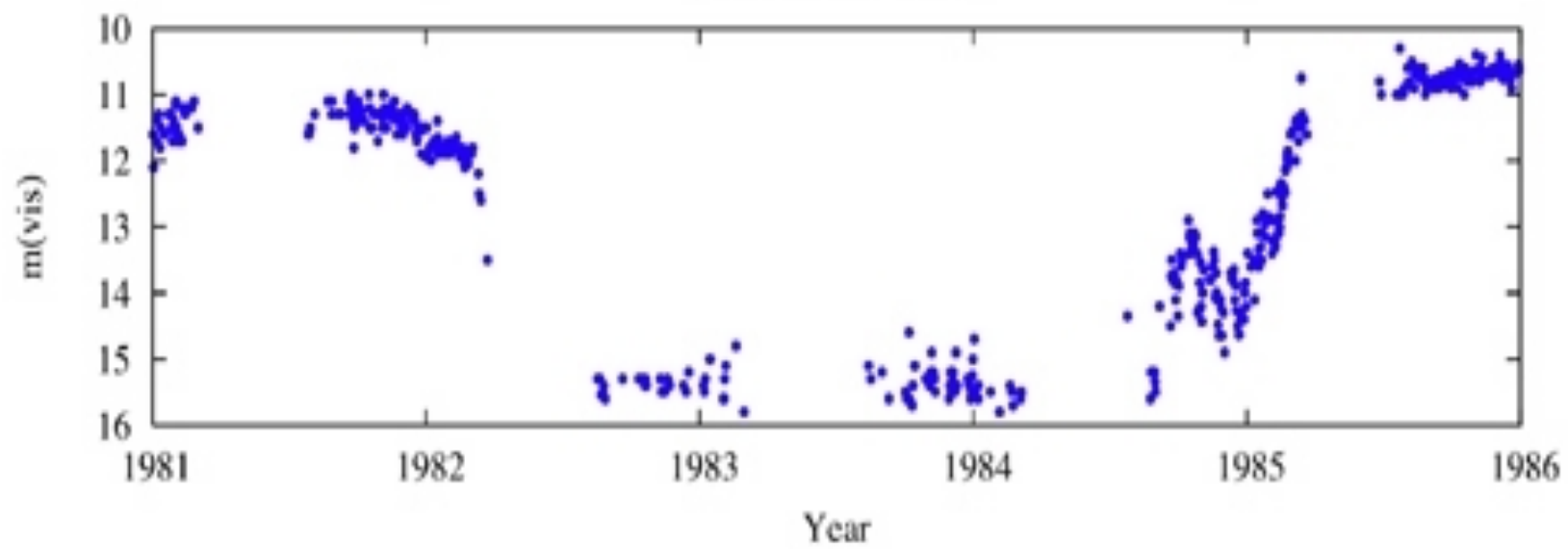


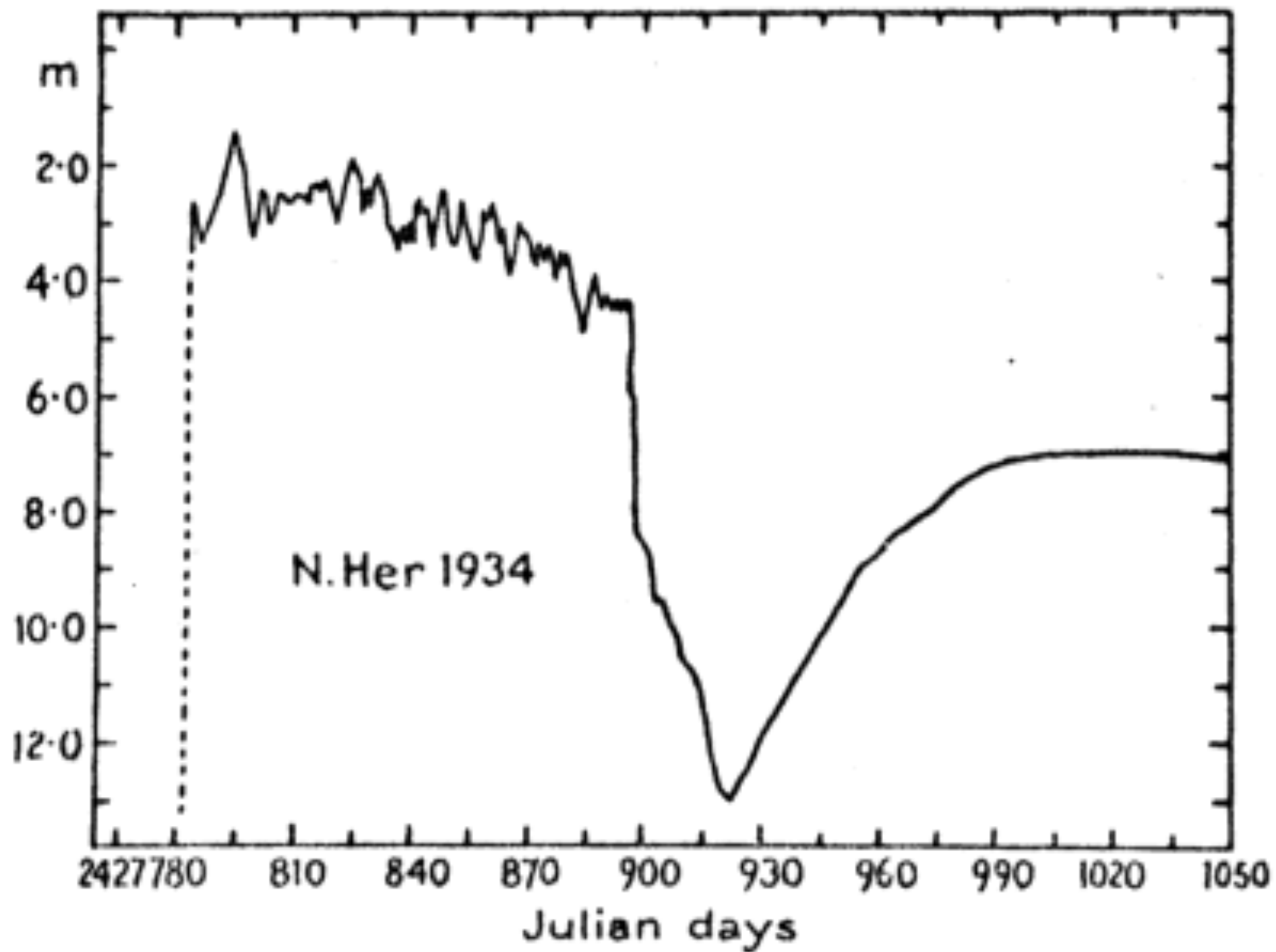


# RX And During Outburst



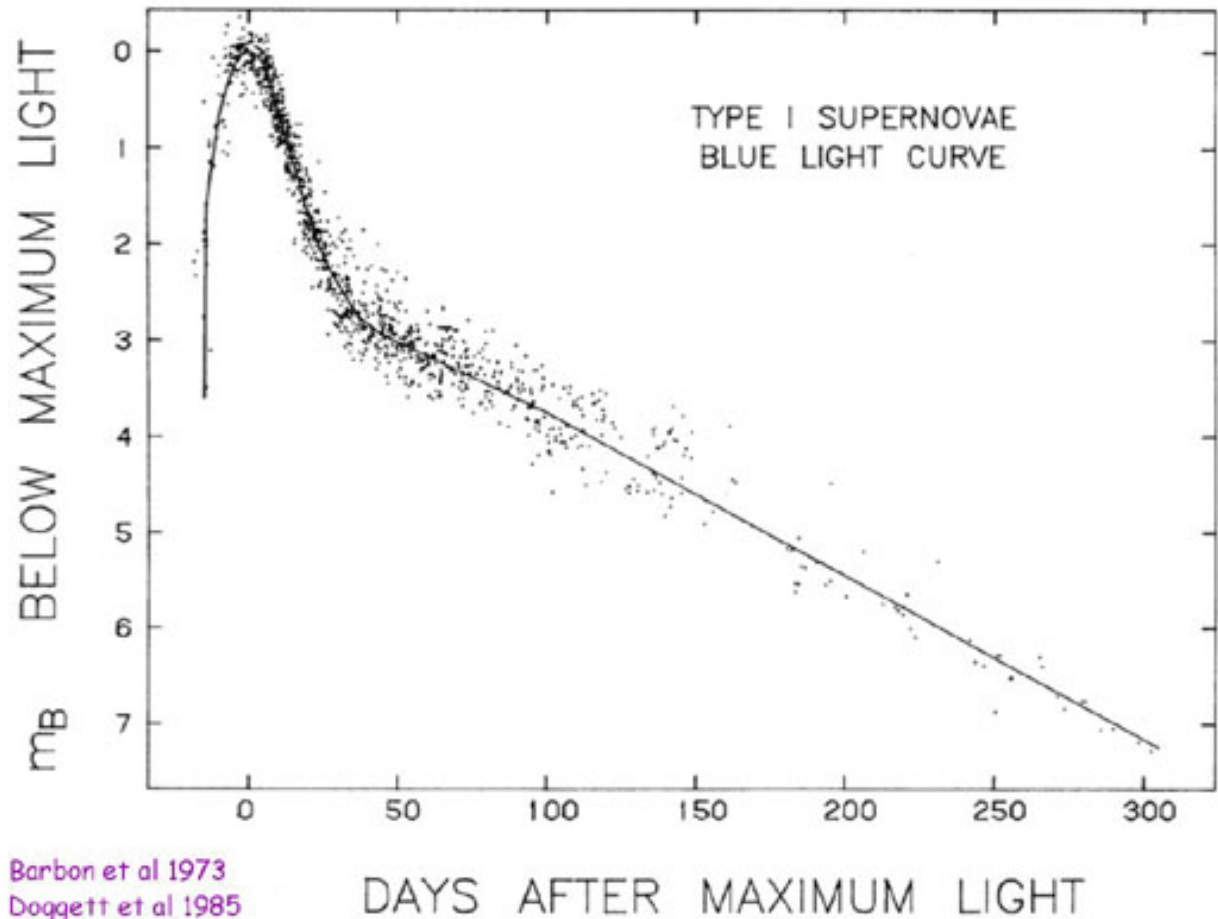
TT Ari (1981-1986)





## Similar light curves

- The light curves of Type Ia events are similar.
- The B-band (blue) light curves of 38 Type Ia supernovae.



# Far Ultraviolet Spectra

- IUE Archival
- HST FOS, GHRS, STIS, COS
- FUSE
- EUVE

# Synthetic Spectra

- High Gravity LTE and NLTE Model Atmospheres (TLUSTY200, SYNSPEC98)
- Optically Thick, Steady State, Accretion Disk Models (TLUSDISK200)
- Accretion Belt Models
- Accretion Rings
- Accretion Curtain Models

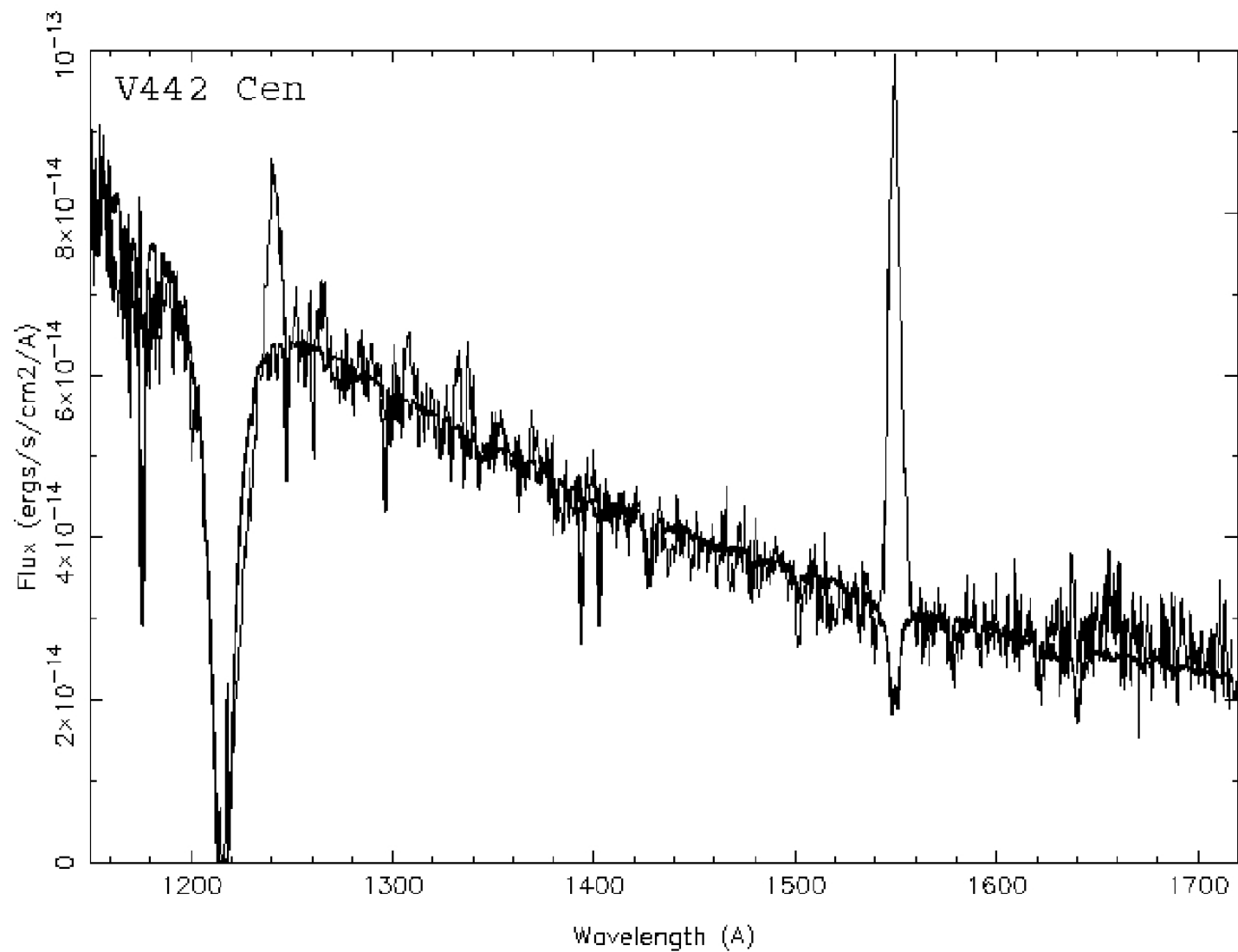
IP Peg	DN	$1.16 \pm 0.02$	E
GY Cnc	DN	$0.99 \pm 0.12$	E
U Gem	DN	$1.14 \pm 0.07$	S
AM Her	Polar	0.88	S
SDSS1035+05	DN	0.94	E
SDSS1006+23	DN	$0.78 \pm 0.12$	E
SDSS1702+32	DN	0.94	E
SDSS0926+36	AMCVn	0.84	E
MR Ser	Polar	0.71	S
QQ Vul	Polar	0.70	S
OY Car	DN	0.69	E
HT Cas	NL	0.61	E

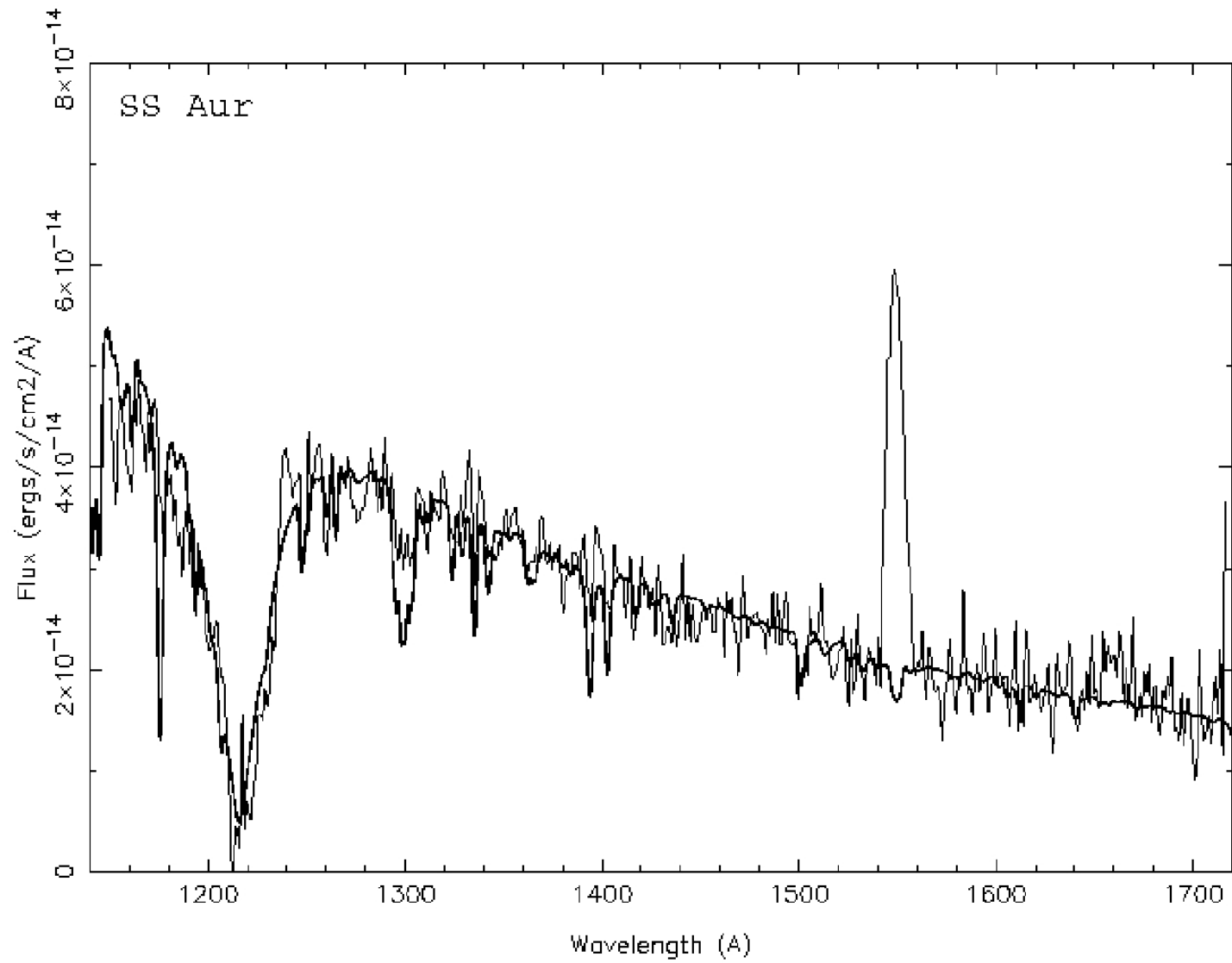
Z Cha	DN	0.54	E
OU Vir	DN	0.89	E
DQ Her	Nova	$0.60 \pm 0.07$	E
WZ Sge	DN	0.85	S
EX Dra	DN	$0.75 \pm 0.02$	E
V347 Pup	DN	$0.63 \pm 0.04$	E
EM Cyg	DN	$1.13 \pm 0.08$	E
AC Cnc	NL	$0.76 \pm 0.03$	E
V363 Aur	NL	$0.90 \pm 0.06$	E
QS Vir	DN	0.78	S
ST LMi	Polar	0.76	S

Southworth, J. et al.2009, A&A, ; Sion,E.,  
& Szkody, P.2011, White Dwarfs, in press



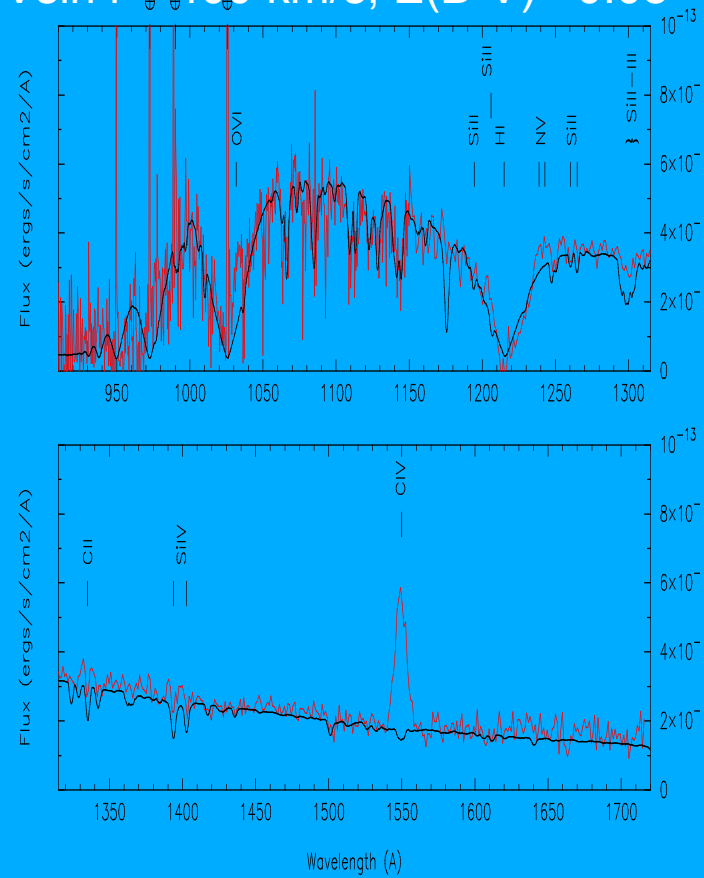
Sion, E. M. et al. (2008), ApJ, 681, 543



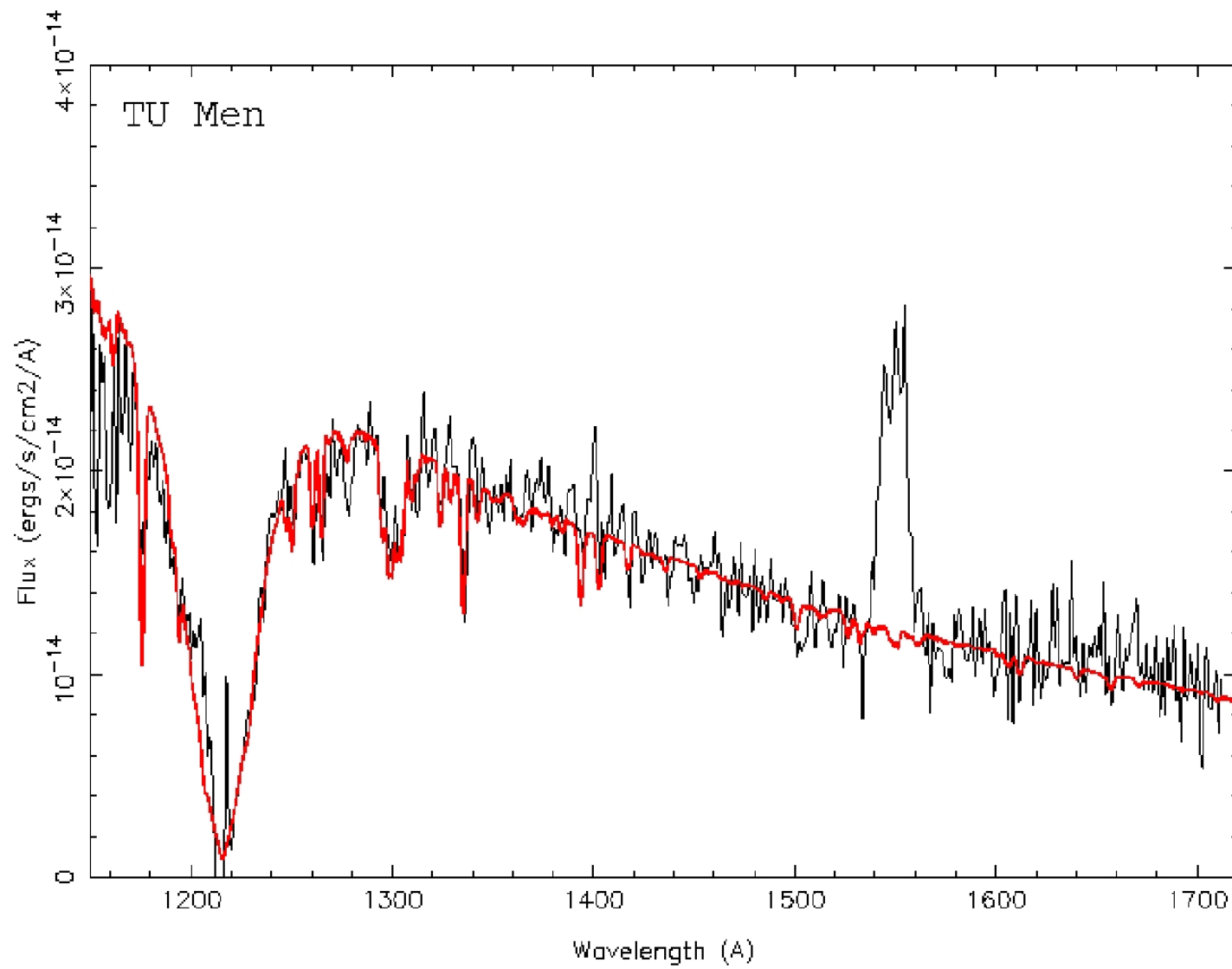


Godon, P. et al. (2008), ApJ, 679, 1447  
SS Aur

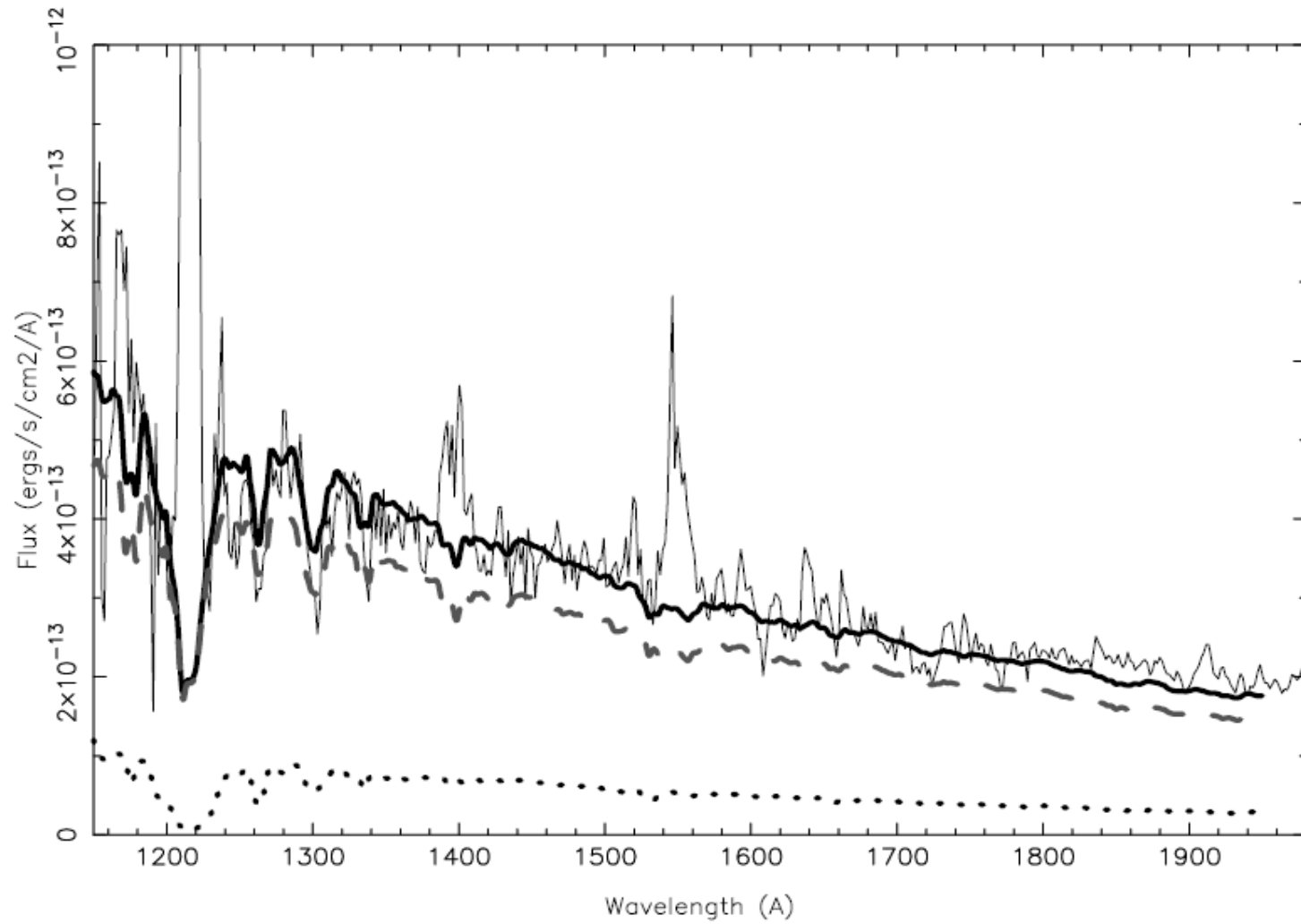
SS Aur,  $T_{\text{eff}} = 34,000\text{K}$ ,  $\text{Log } g = 9$ ,  $V \sin i = 400 \text{ km/s}$ ,  $E(B-V) = 0.08$



Sion, E.M. et al. (2008), ApJ, 681, 543

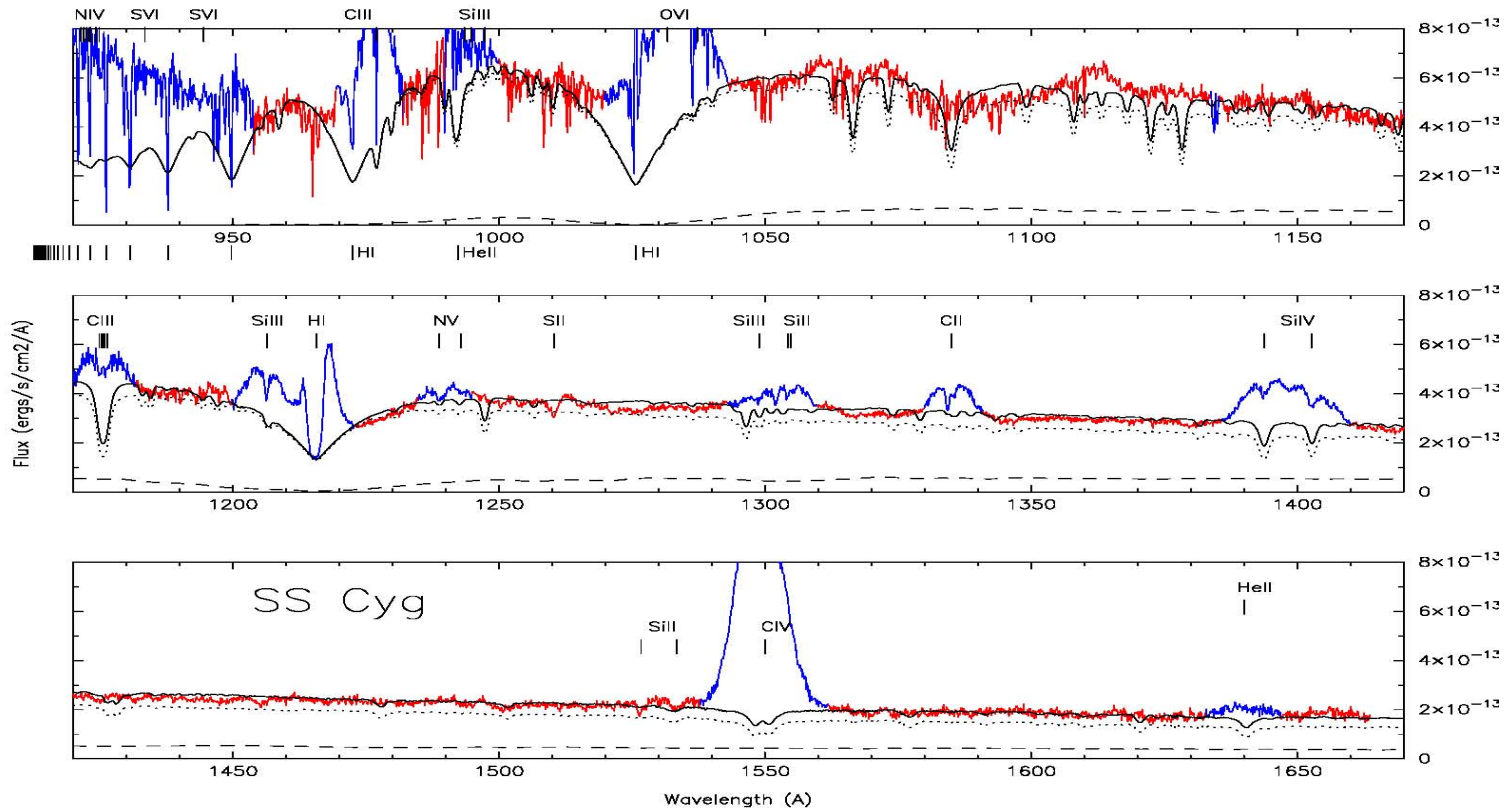


V442 Oph (Ballouz, R., & Sion, E. 2009, ApJ 697, 1717)

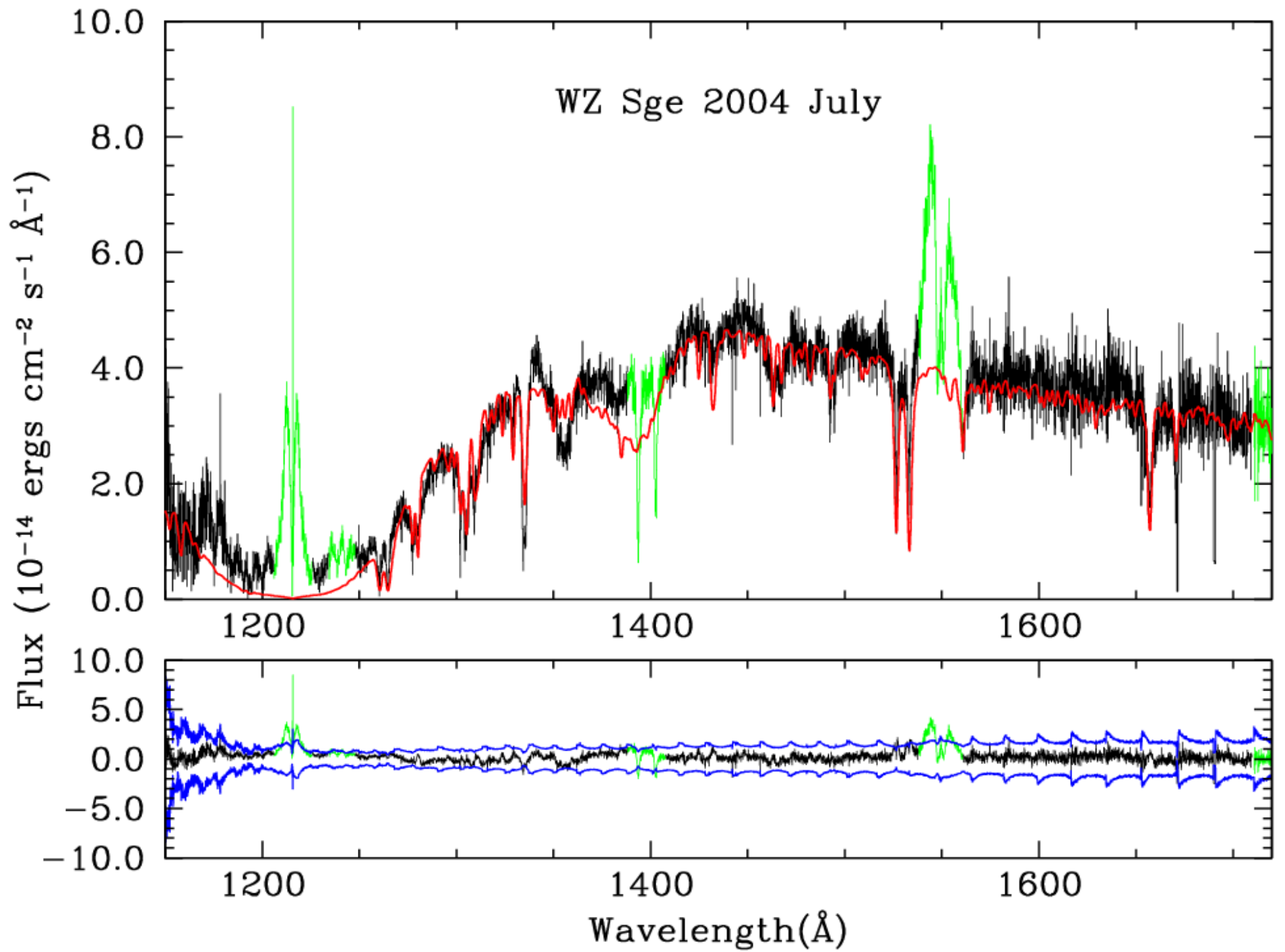


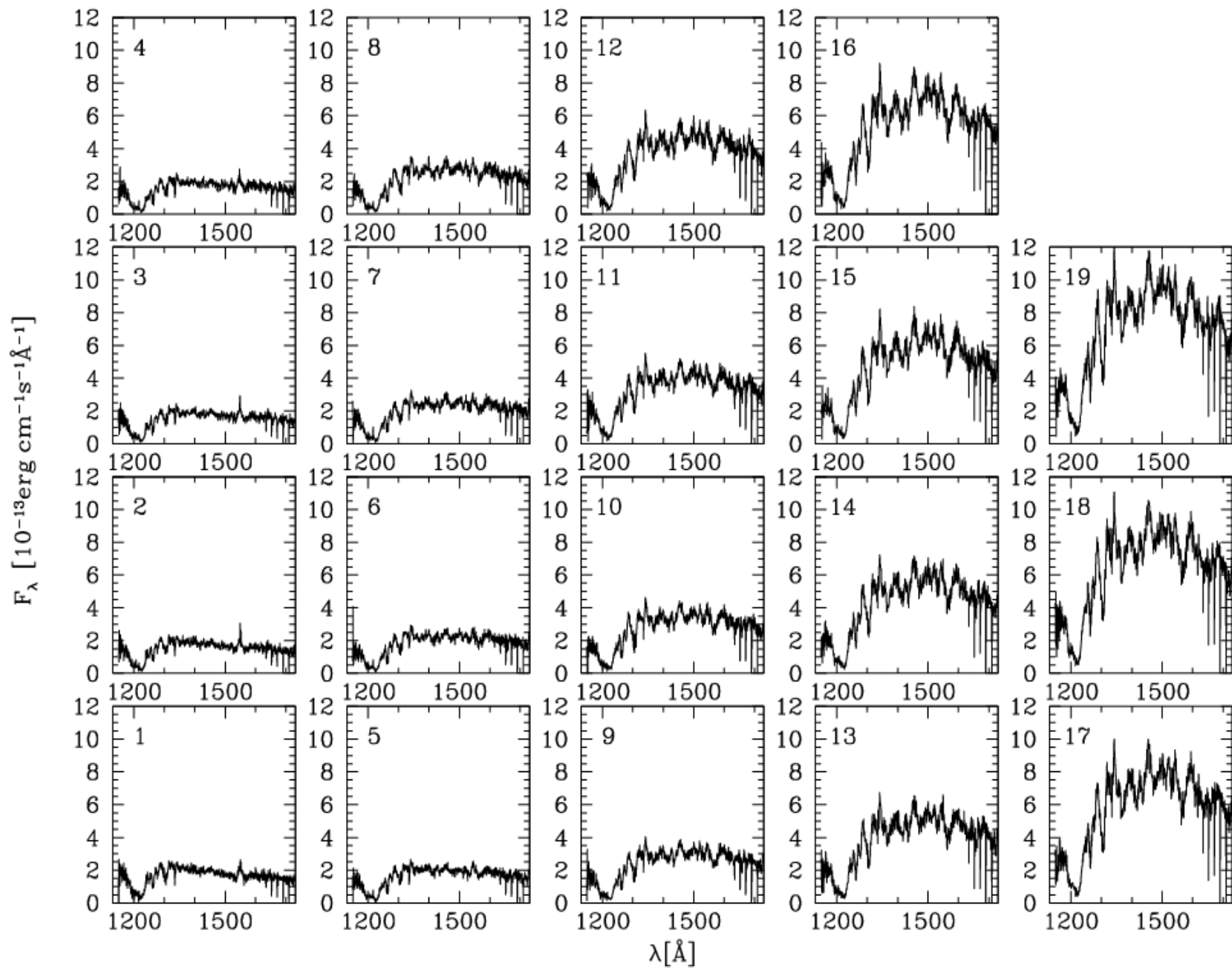
SS Cygni,  $d = 166$  pc,  $P_{\text{orb}} = 6.6$ h,  $M_{\text{wd}} = 0.81 \pm 0.18$   
 $E(B-V) = 0.04, 0.07$ ,  $i = 50$  deg;  $T_{\text{wd}} = 46,000$ K

Sion, E.M., et al. 2010, ApJ, 716, L157

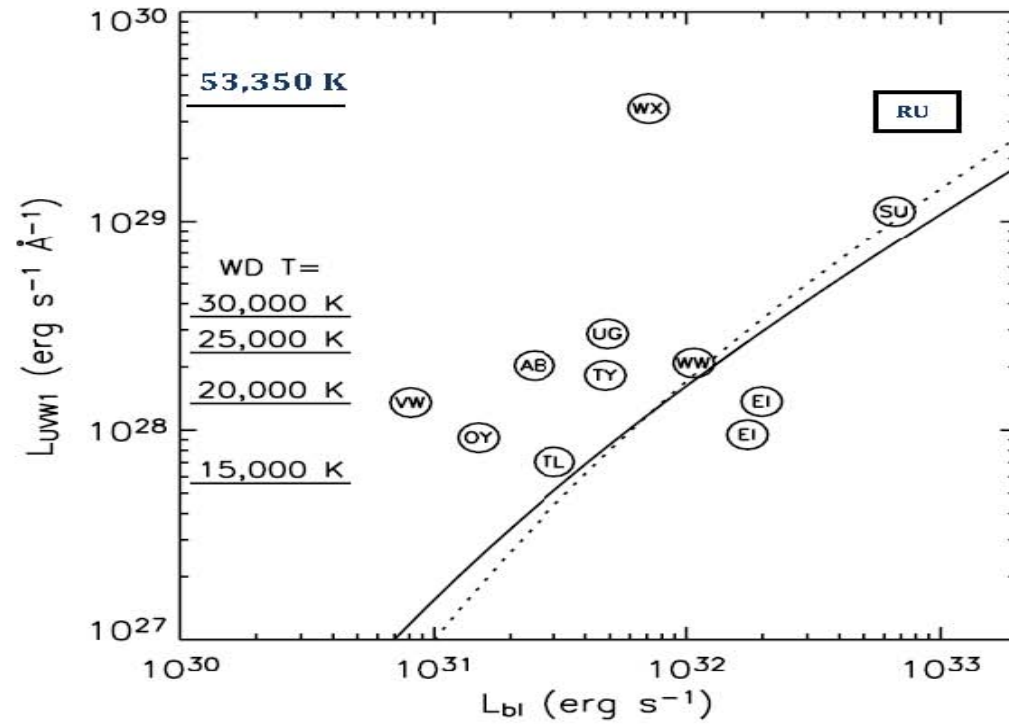


WZ Sge 2004 July







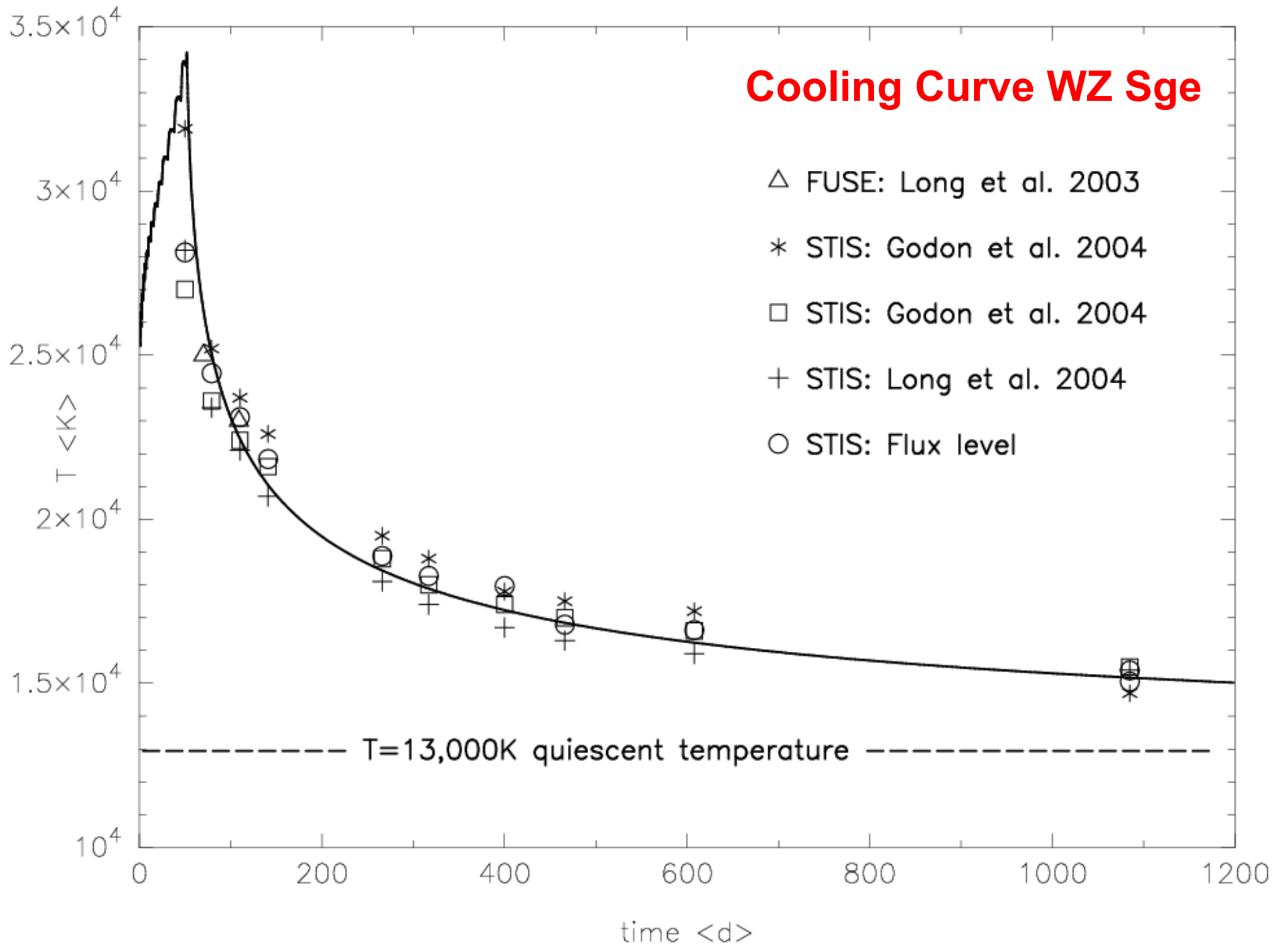


Balman, S. Godon, P, Sion, E.2011, ApJ, in press

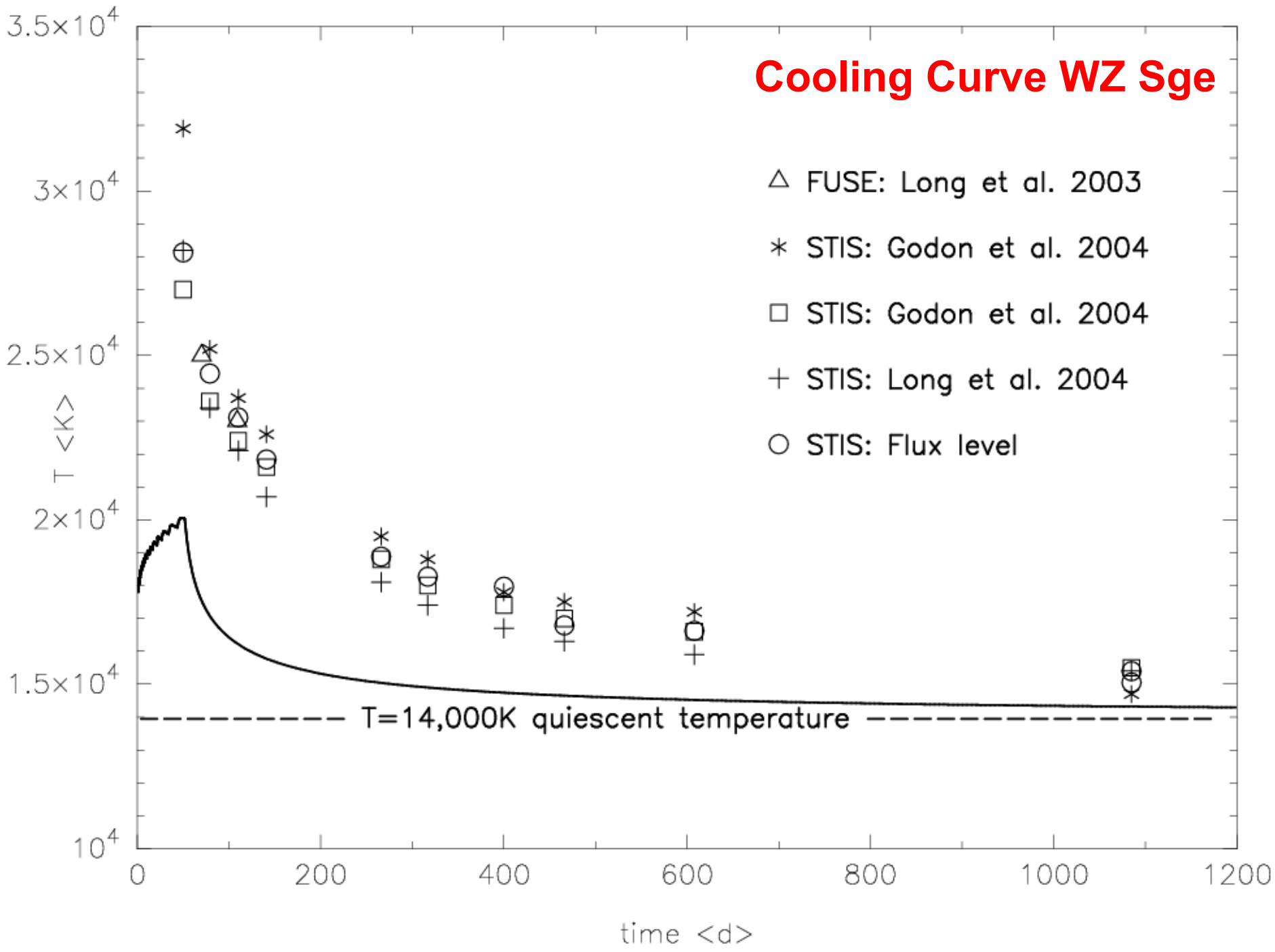
# Evolutionary Model Simulations of Accretion

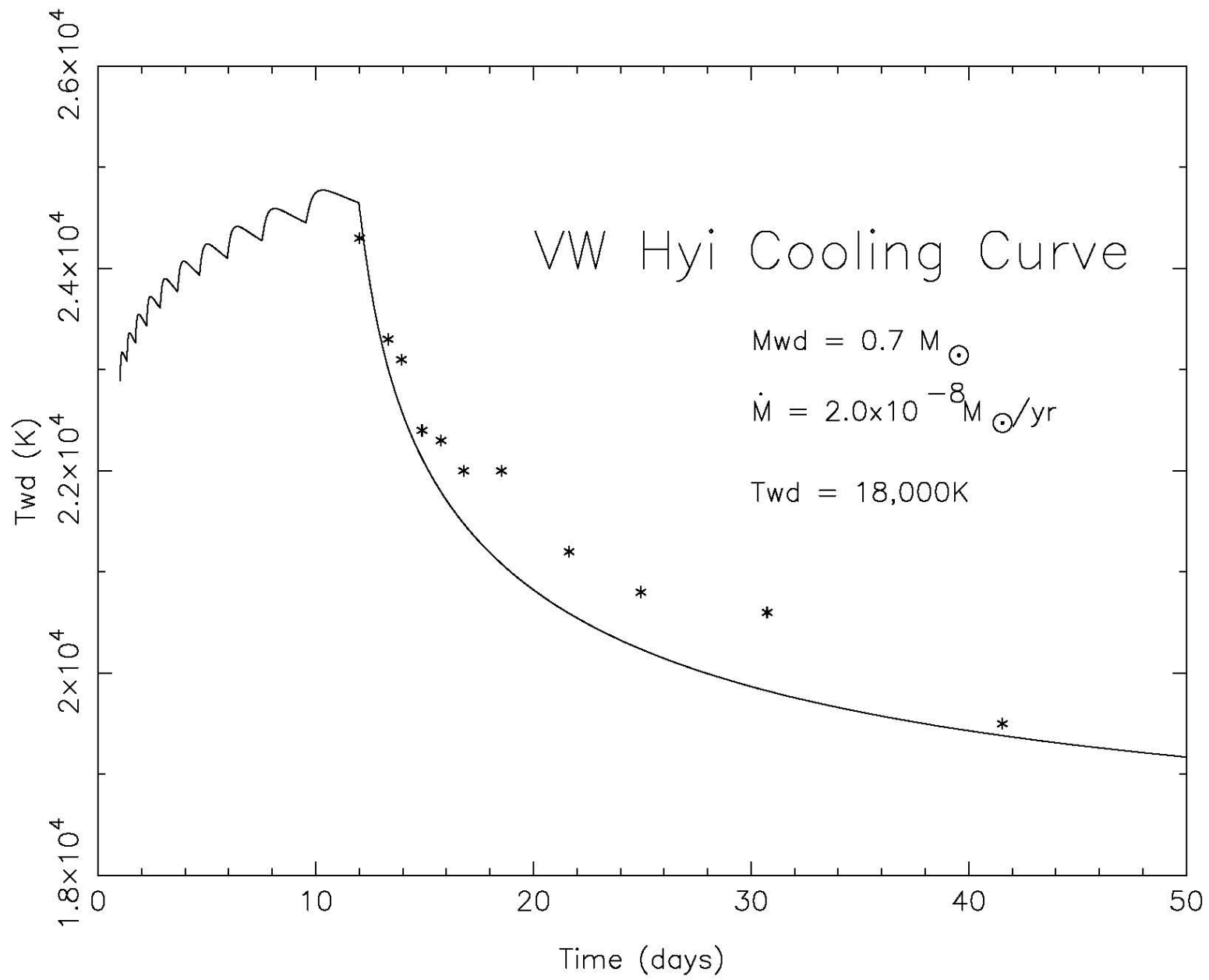
- 1D Quasi-Static Evolutionary Code,
- 2D Hydrodynamic Code
- OPAL Opacities
- Time-variable accretion with compressional heating and boundary layer irradiation with stellar rotation (Sion, E.1995, ApJ,438,876)
- Equations of State (ideal gas to relativistic degeneracy)

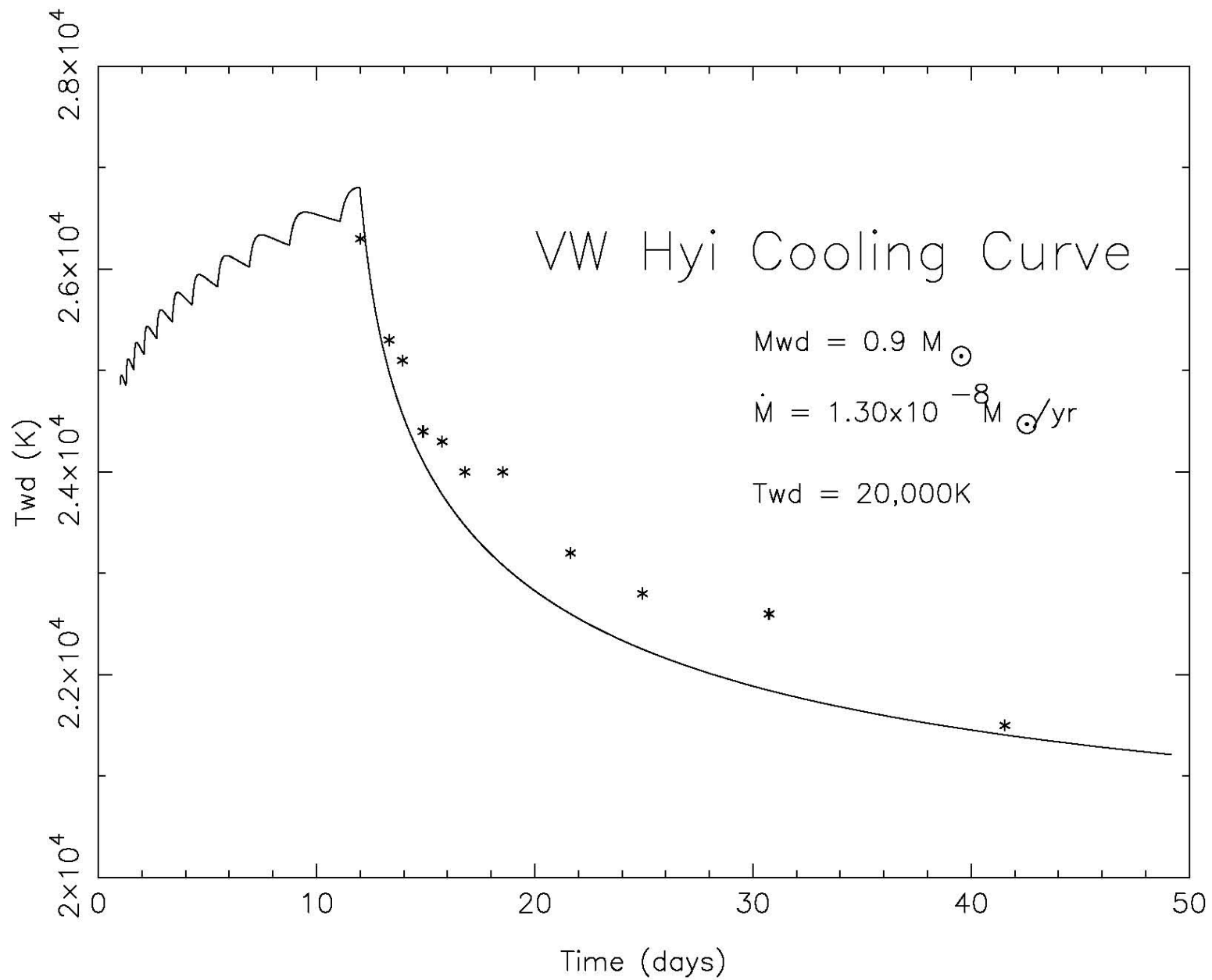
# Cooling Curve WZ Sge



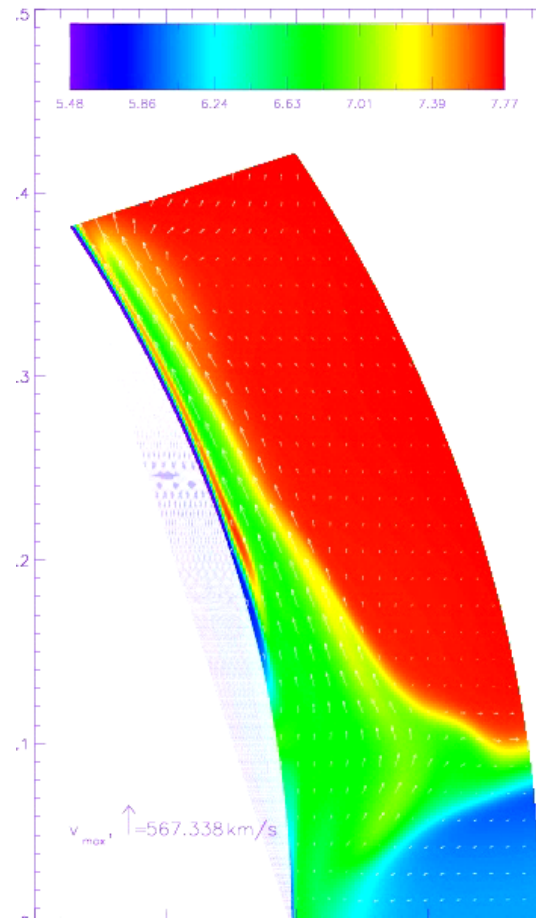
# Cooling Curve WZ Sge





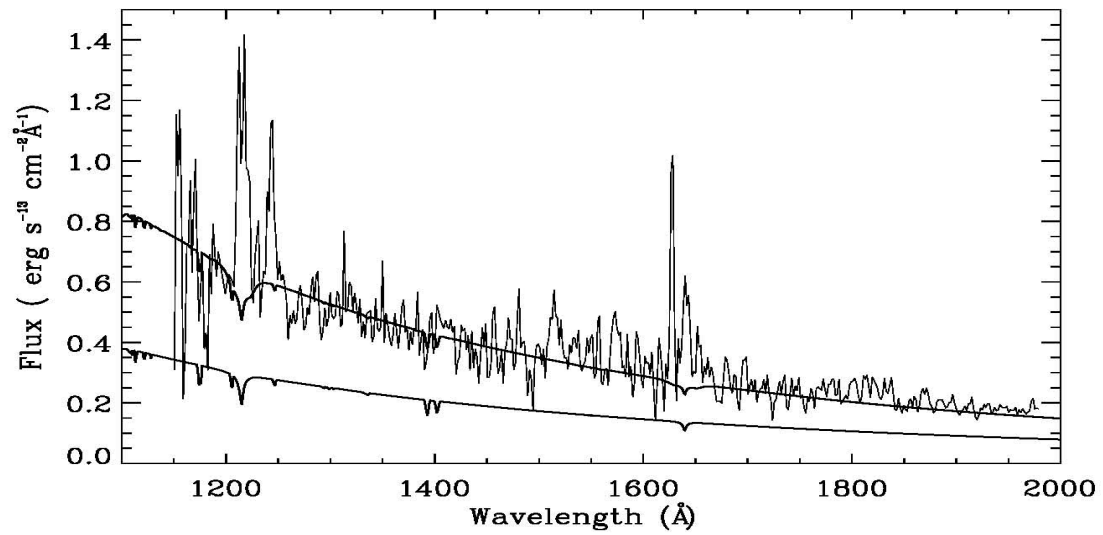


Balsara, D., Fisker, J., Godon, P.,  
Sion, E. 2009, ApJ, 702, 1536



ES Ceti

$P_{\text{orb}} = 621 \text{ s}$



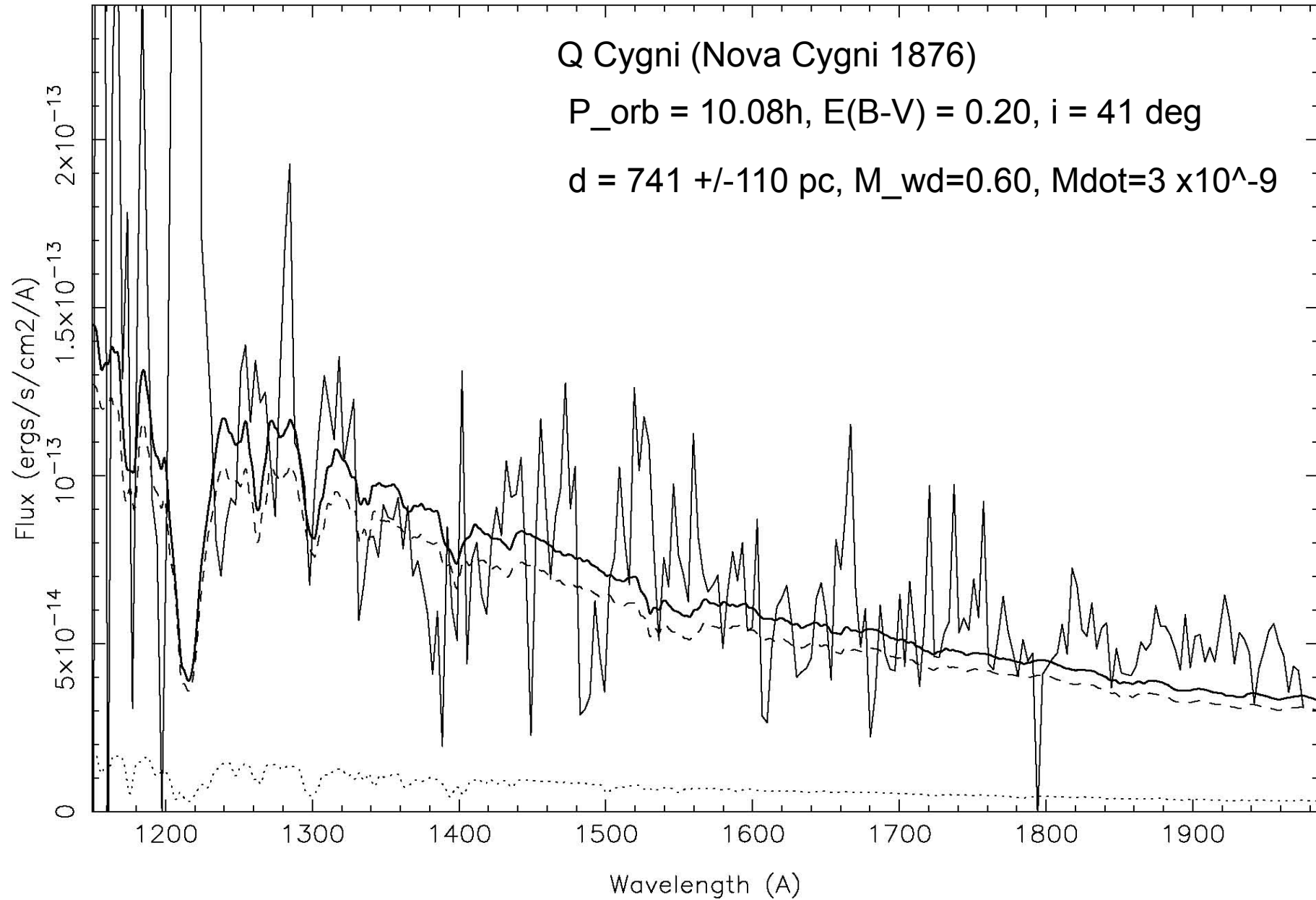
Sion, E., Linnell, A., Godon, P., Ballouz, R. 2011, ApJ, in press



Q Cygni (Nova Cygni 1876)

$P_{\text{orb}} = 10.08\text{h}$ ,  $E(B-V) = 0.20$ ,  $i = 41\text{ deg}$

$d = 741 \pm 110\text{ pc}$ ,  $M_{\text{wd}} = 0.60$ ,  $\dot{M} = 3 \times 10^{-9}$

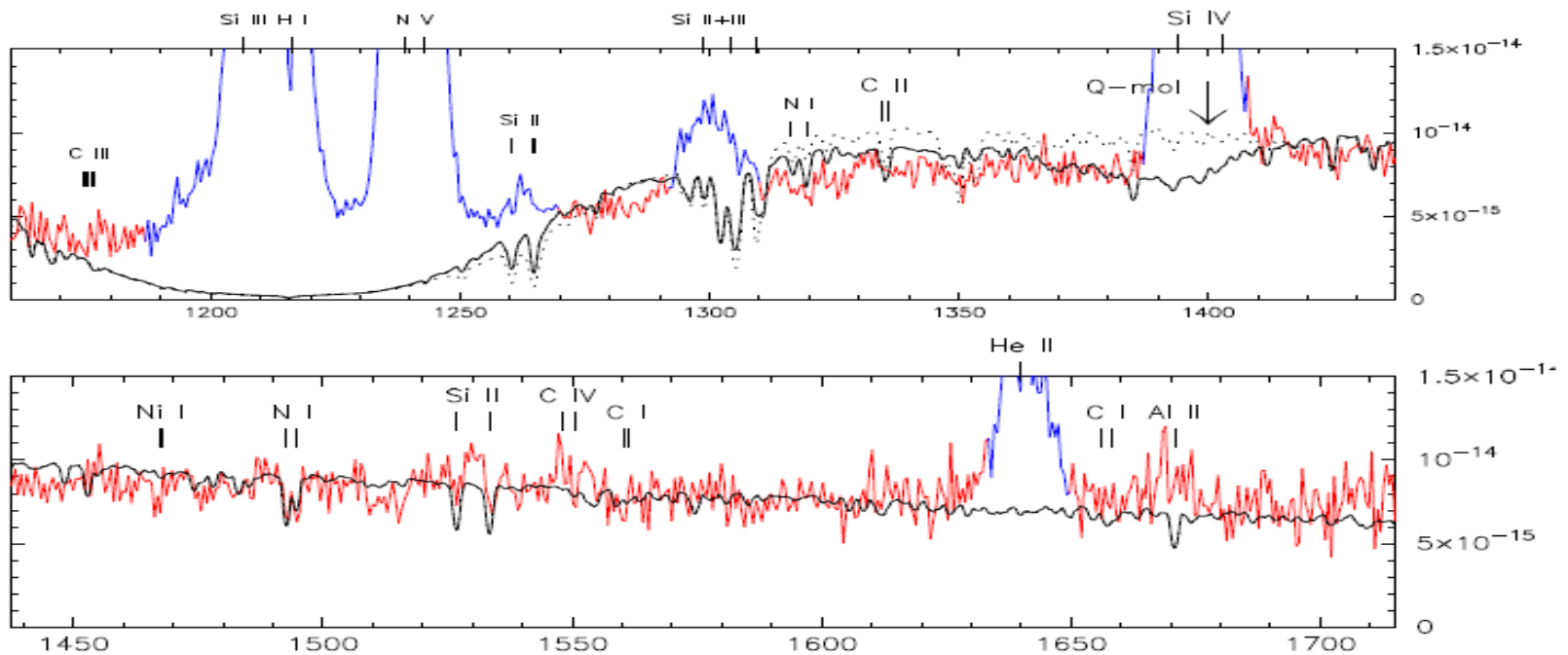


<b>Object</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>P<sub>orb</sub></b>	<b>Abundance</b>
GW Lib	DN	76.8	Z ~ 0.1
BW Scl	DN	78.2	Al 3.0±0.8, rest 0.5±0.2
LL And	DN	79.2	Z ≤ ~1
WZ Sge	DN	81.6	C 0.5, Fe 0.1, S 0.1, Si 0.005
AL Com	DN	81.6	Z ~ 0.3
SW UMa	DN	81.8	Al 1.7±0.5, rest 0.2±0.1
HV Vir	DN	83.5	Z ~ 0.3
WX Cet	DN	83.9	Z ~ 0.1
EG Cnc	DN	86.4	Z ~ 0.3
BC UMa	DN	90.2	Al 2.0±0.5, rest 0.3±0.1
VY Aqr	DN	90.8	Si 0.05, C 1.0
EK Tra	DN	91.6	Z < 1

<b>Object</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>P<sub>orb</sub></b>	<b>Abundance</b>
VW Hyi	DN	106.9	Si 0.3, C 0.3, N3, O 3, Al 2, P 20, Mn 50
EF Peg	DN	123	Z ~ 0.1-0.3
MV Lyr	NL	191.0	C0.5, N 0.5, Si 0.2
DW UMa	NL	198.0	Z ~ 0.47
WW Ceti	DN	253	C 0.1, N 2, Si 0.3
U Gem	DN	254.7	C 0.3 - 0.35, N 35 - 41, Si 1.4 - 4, 6.6 - 10
SS Aur	DN	263.2	C 0.1, Si 0.1, N 2.0
RX And	DN	302.2	C 0.05, Si 0.1
RU Peg	DN	539.4	C 0.1, Si 0.1, N ~ 8
BV Cen	DN	878.6	

Godon, P., Sion, E., Gaensicke, B., deMartino, D. 2011, PASP, in press

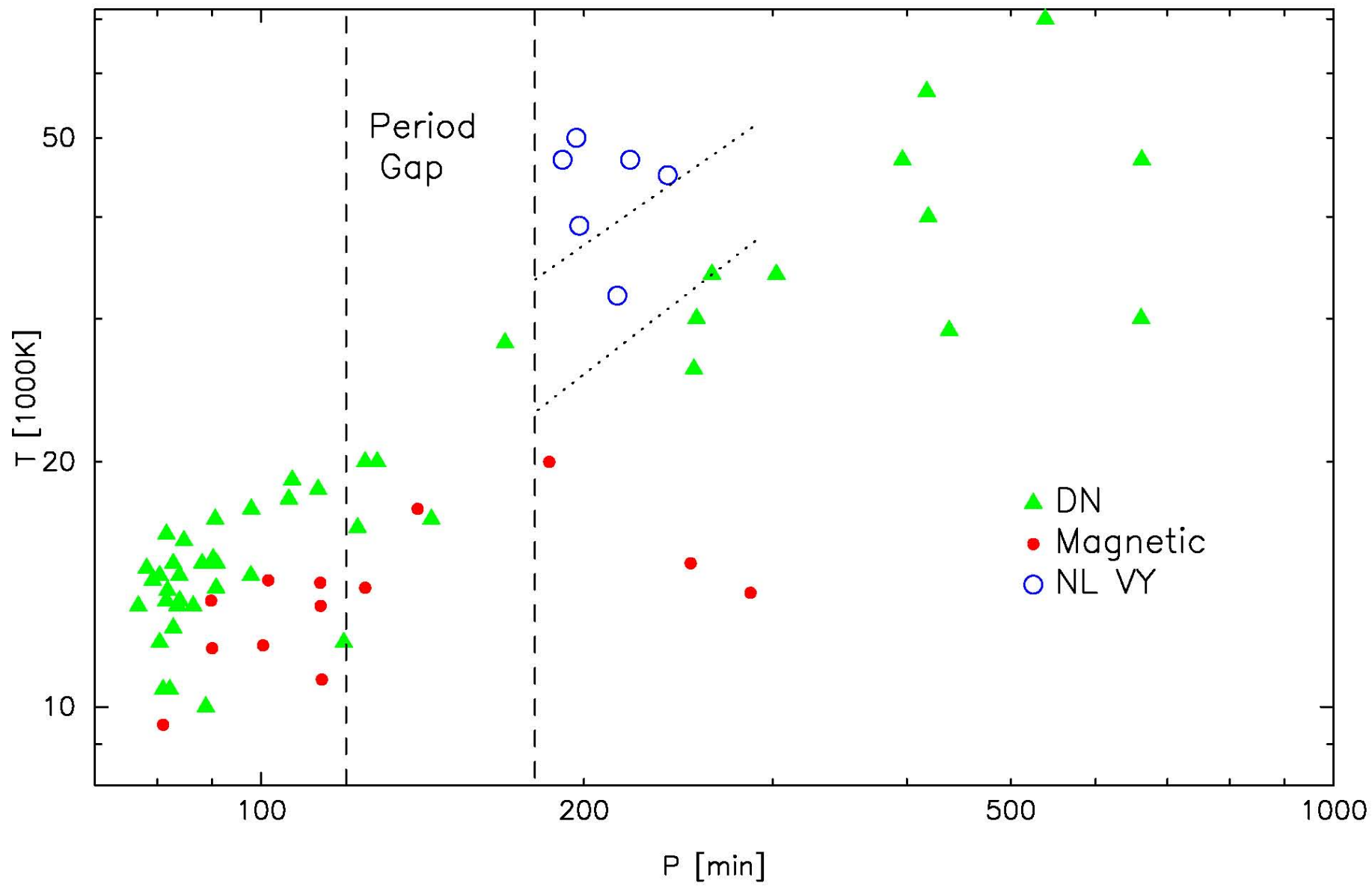
BZ UMa,  $T_{\text{eff}} = 17,500\text{K}$ ,  $\text{Log} = 8.5$ ,  $V_{\text{sin}i} = 200 \text{ km/s}$ ,  $d = 125 \text{ pc}$



<b>Object</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>P<sub>orb</sub></b>	<b>Vsini</b>
GW Lib	DN	76.8	< 300
BW Scl	DN	78.2	< 300
LL And	DN	79.2	< 500
WZ Sge	DN	81.6	400/1200
AL Com	DN	81.6	< 800
SW UMa	DN	81.8	200
HV Vir	DN	83.5	400
WX Cet	DN	83.9	400
BC UMa	DN	90.2	300
VY Aqr	DN	90.8	400
EK Tra	DN	91.6	200
VW Hyi	DN	106.9	400

<b>Object</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>P<sub>orb</sub></b>	<b>Vsini</b>
EF Peg	DN	123	< 300
MV Lyr	NL	191.0	200
DW UMa	NL	198.0	370
VW Ceti	DN	253	600
U Gem	DN	254.7	150
SS Aur	DN	263.2	400
RX And	DN	302.2	500
Z Cam	DN	417.4	330
RU Peg	DN	539.4	100

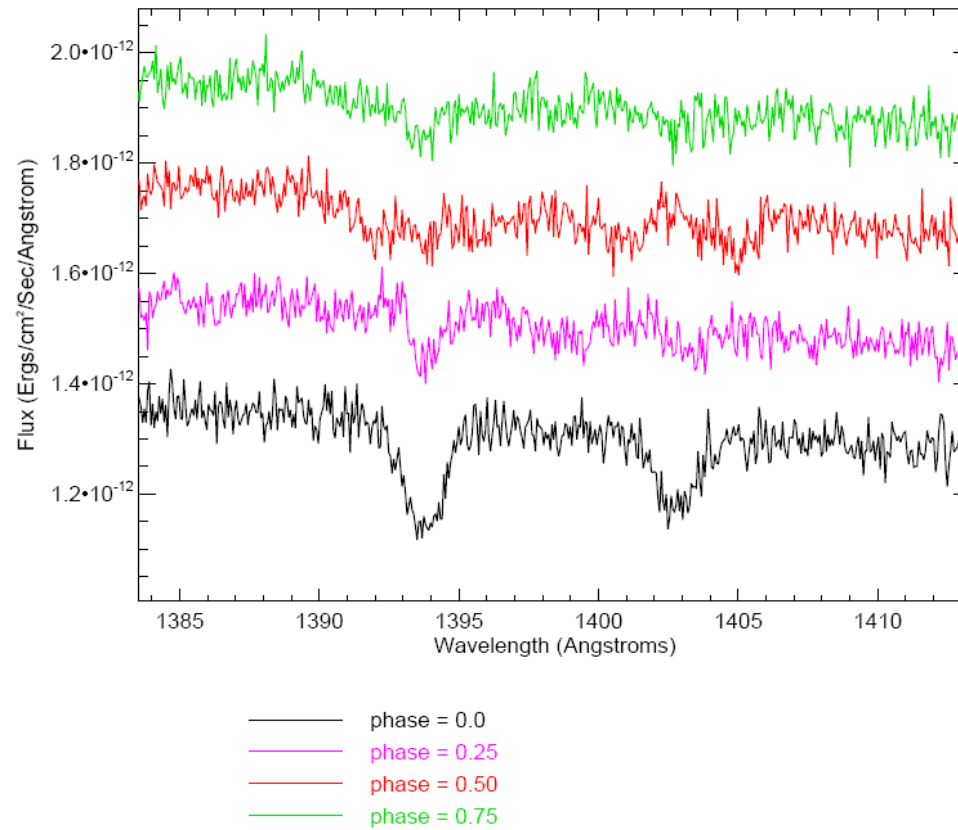
<b>Object</b>	<b>P<sub>orb</sub>(min)</b>	<b>Pulsation P (sec)</b>	<b>Outbursts</b>	<b>Temperature</b>
GW Lib	77	230, 370, 650	1983, 2007	14700 (HST)
PQ And	79-81	634, 1263	1938, 1967, 1988	12000 (opt)
SDSS1610-01	81	221, 304, 345 607	-	14500 (HST)
HS2331+39	81	310, 336, 419	-	11400 (HST)
SDSS1339+48	83	642	-	12500 (opt)
SDSS0919+08	91	260	-	13000 (opt)
SDSS0745+45	86	611, 1230	-	11000 (opt)
SDSS0131-09	98	260, 335, 595	-	14500 (HST)
REJ1255+26	119	668, 1236, 1344	1994	13000 (opt)
SDSS2205+11	-	330, 475, 575	-	15000 (HST)
SDSS1514+45	-	559	-	-

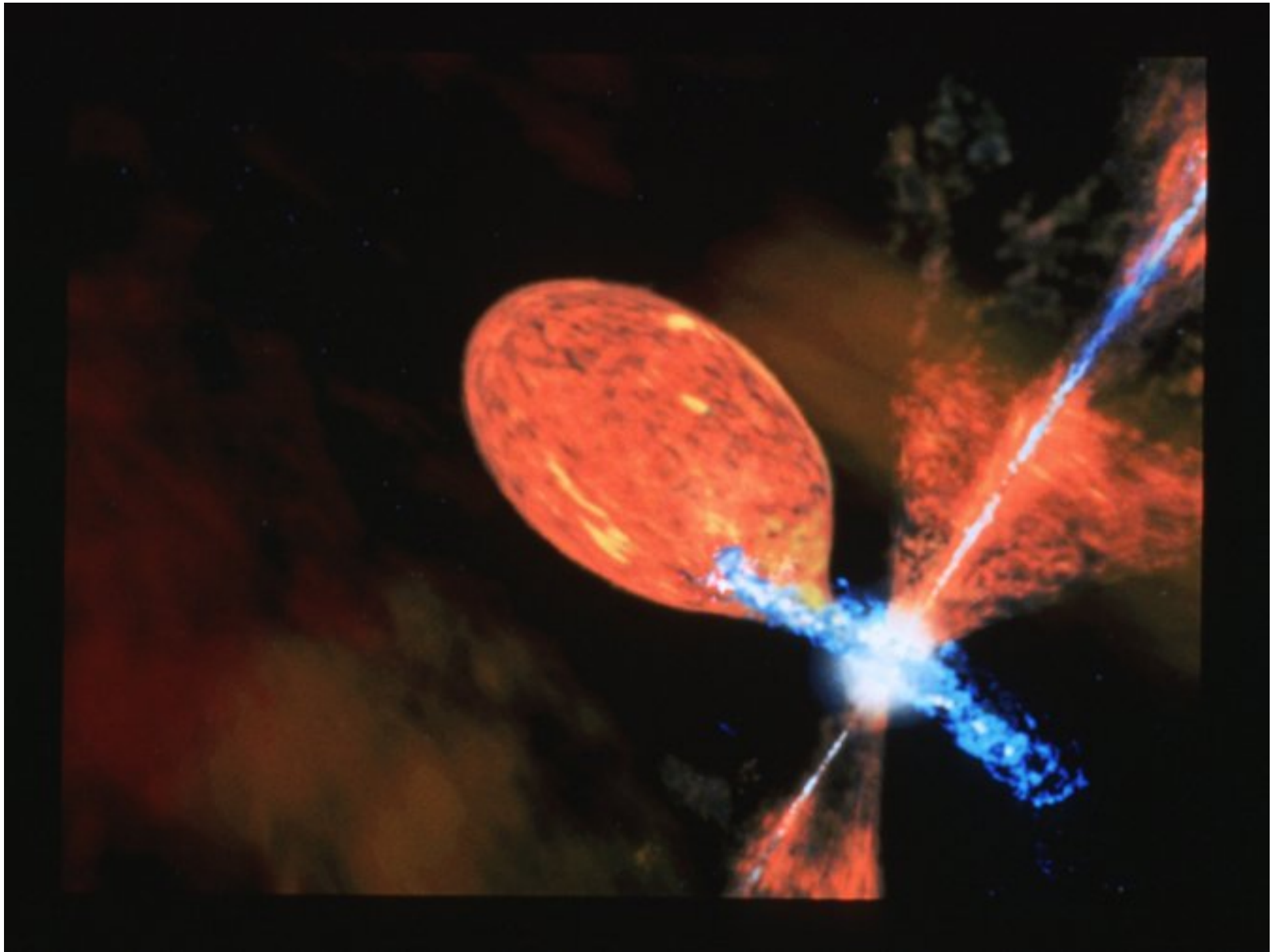




# Hyades post-common envelope, pre-cataclysmic, eclipsing binary

## V471 Tauri

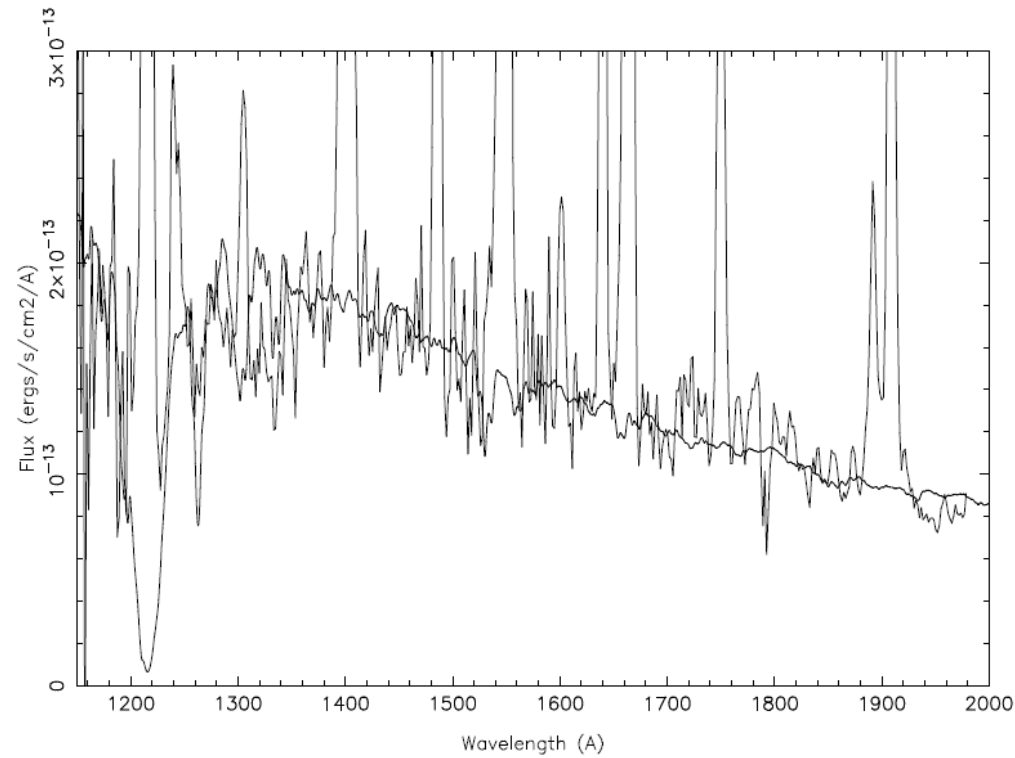




Villamil, C., Datin, K., Zimmerman, N., Sion, E., Mikolajewska, J.

2011, AJ, submitted

V443 Her, Symbiotic Variable,  $\dot{M} = 1 \times 10^{-9} \text{ Msun/yr}$ ,  $i = 75$



# SUMMARY OF CV WD PROPERTIES

- CV white dwarfs have temperatures  $8000\text{K} < T_{\text{eff}} < 70,000\text{K}$
- CV white dwarfs have rotation velocities  $150 < V_{\text{sin}i} < 1200 \text{ km/s}$
- CV white dwarf metal abundances tend to be subsolar. Several have  $\text{N/C} \sim 5$  to  $10$ , suprasolar P, Al
- $\langle T_{\text{eff}} \rangle = 15,000\text{K}$  below gap,  
 $\langle T_{\text{eff}} \rangle = 35,000\text{K}$  above gap

# OPEN QUESTIONS & NEW FRONTIERS

- Do CVs evolve across the period gap?
- Do CV white dwarf masses increase, stay the same, or decrease with time?
- Are H-rich CVs with near-Chandrasekhar mass WDs Type Ia progenitors?
- Are AM CVn helium transfer binaries Type Ia SN progenitors?
- What is the evolutionary status of the Nova-like Variables?
- What is the correct angular momentum braking law for CVs above the period gap?
- Are the CNO-processed abundances due to core material from the donor or contamination of the donor star due to TNR burning on the white dwarf?