



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**AUCKLAND**  
Te Whare Wānanga o Tāmaki Makaurau  
NEW ZEALAND

ASTRONOMY &  
ASTROPHYSICS

# A double take on stellar population & spectral synthesis

JJ Eldridge

with Elizabeth Stanway & BPASS team



# Motivation

- Why are low mass galaxies interesting for stellar evolution ?
- Low metallicity – weaker winds, effects of rotation and binaries will become more important.
- Interest stellar objects found in low mass galaxies: long-GRBs, SLSNe, GW sources?, He(II) nebulae....
- What I hope to do today is highlight what binary stars do different to single stars, especially at lower metallicities.
- Questions: try [socrative.com](https://www.socrative.com)  
“student login”: ELDRIDGE8057

# Outline

- BPASS team introductions.
- Reminder of stellar evolution and what is so different about binary evolution with supernova progenitors and resolved stellar populations.
- Implications of binary populations for ionizing radiation and BPT diagrams.
- **Required reading:** de Marco & Izzard (2017)

# binary population & spectral synthesis



**JJ Eldridge**

Stellar models, population and spectral synthesis



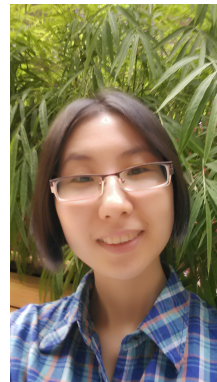
**Elizabeth Stanway**

High-z, dust, IR, radio and unresolved population SED fitting  
(University of Warwick)



**Liam McClelland**

Helium & Wolf-Rayet stars



**Lin Xiao**

Spectral synthesis & supernovae



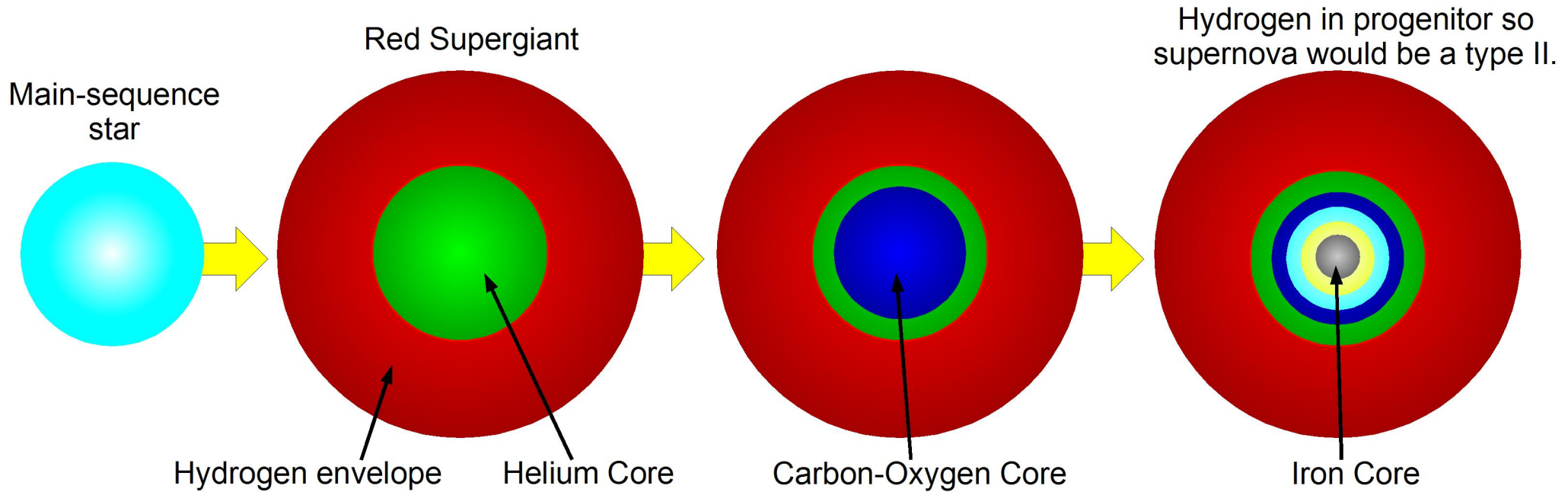
**John Bray**

Supernova kicks & binary population synthesis

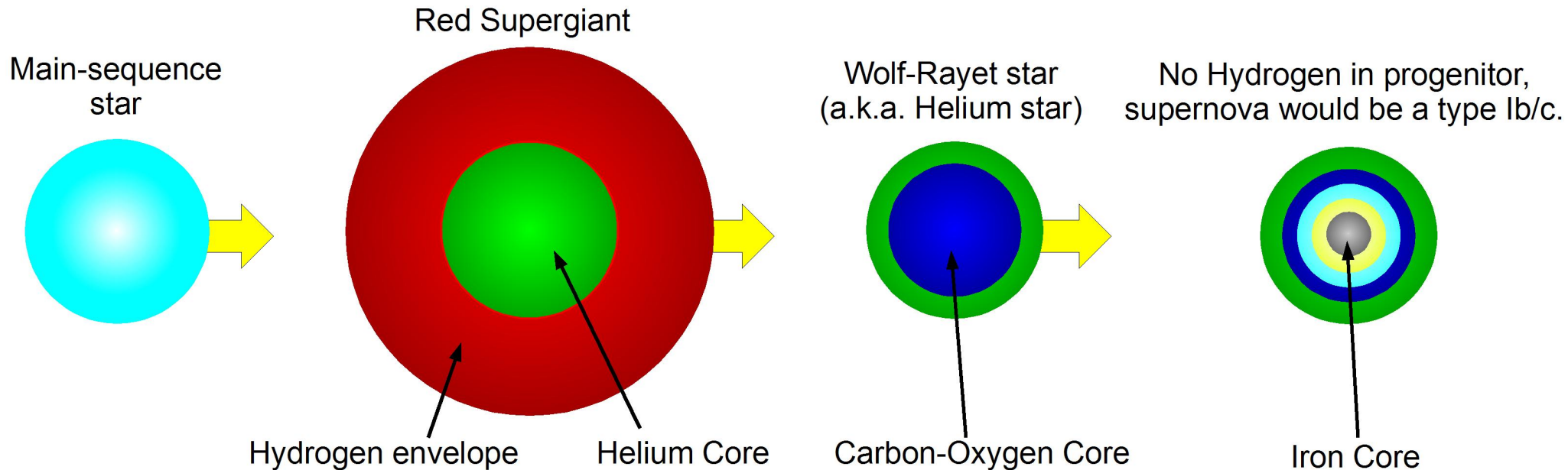
**Undergrad Students: Georgie Taylor & Mason Ng**

There are many past contributors to the physics and development of BPASS:  
Aida Wofford, Monica Relano, Justyn Maund, Morgan Fraser,  
Chris Tout, Stephen Smartt, Norbert Langer, Robert Izzard

# The Stellar Lifecycle



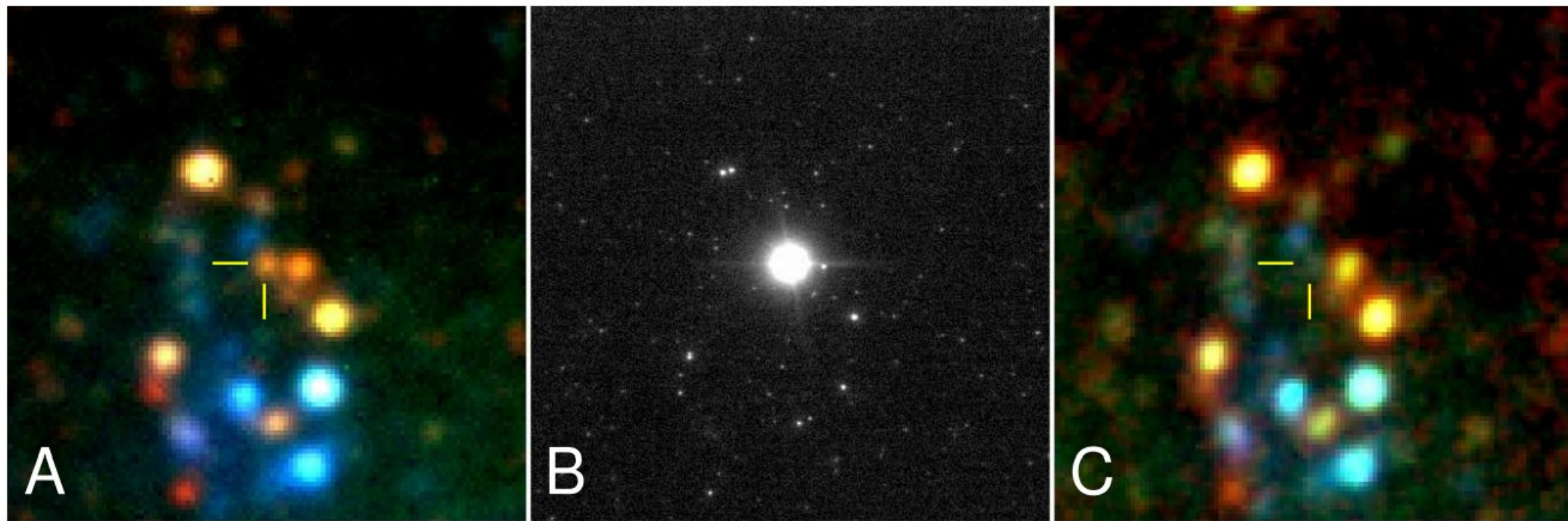
# An Alternative Stellar Lifecycle



For stars more massive than 20 times the mass of the Sun  
(Image not to scale).

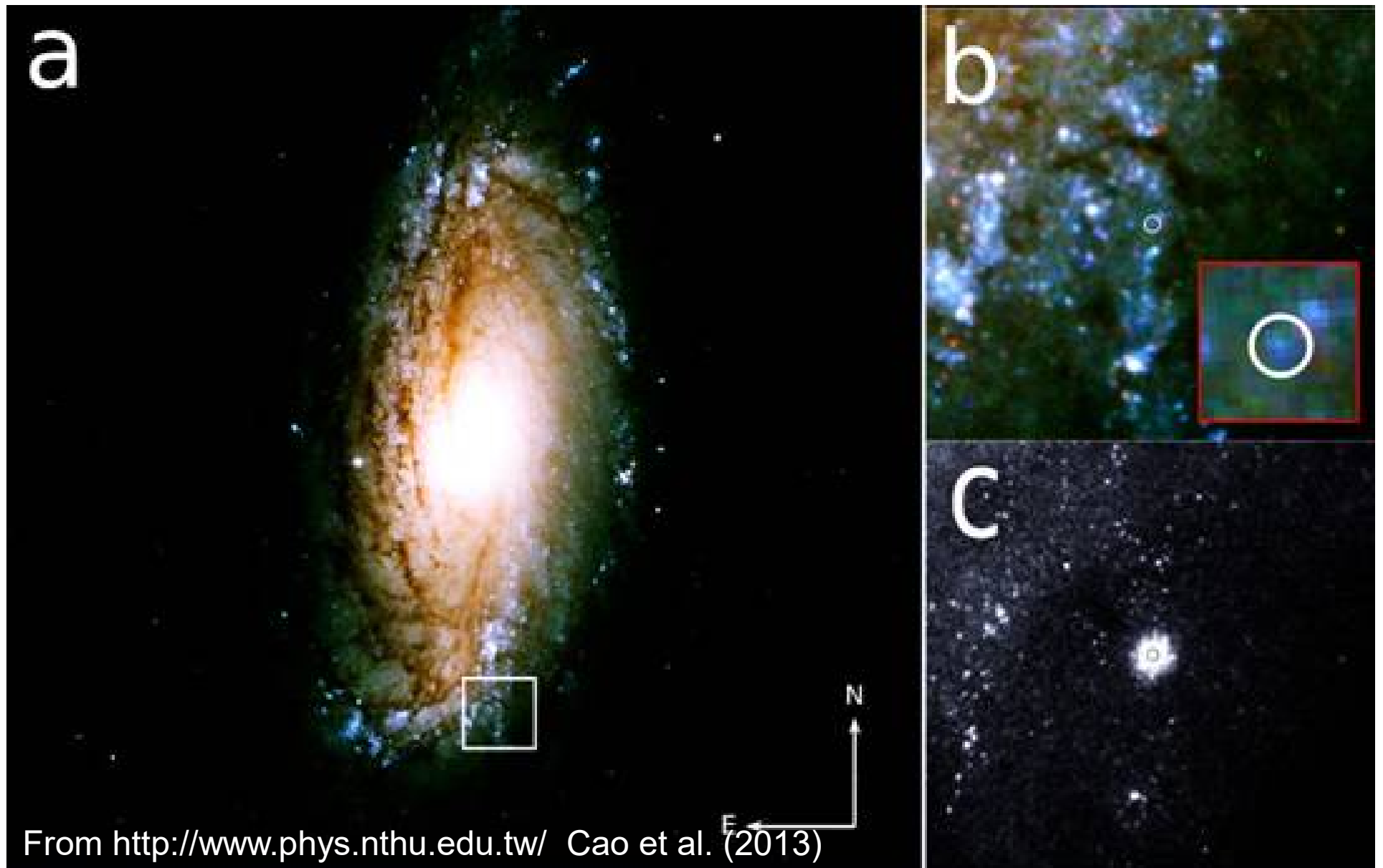


# Type IIP SN 2008bk



See Smartt (2015) for review.  
Image from: Mattila et al. (2008)

# Type Ib SN iPTF13bvn

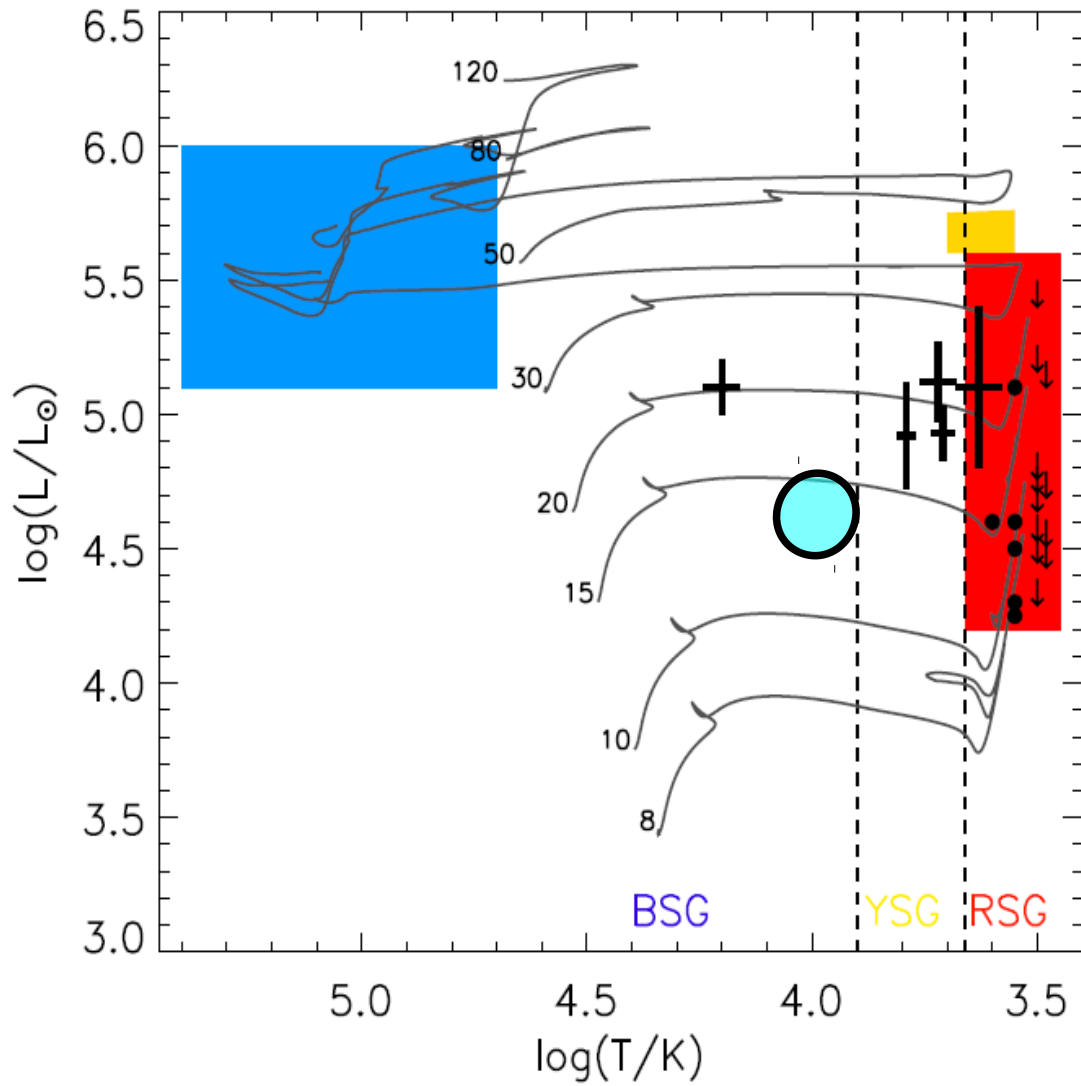


Bernsten et al. (2013); Eldridge et al. (2013, 2015, 2016)

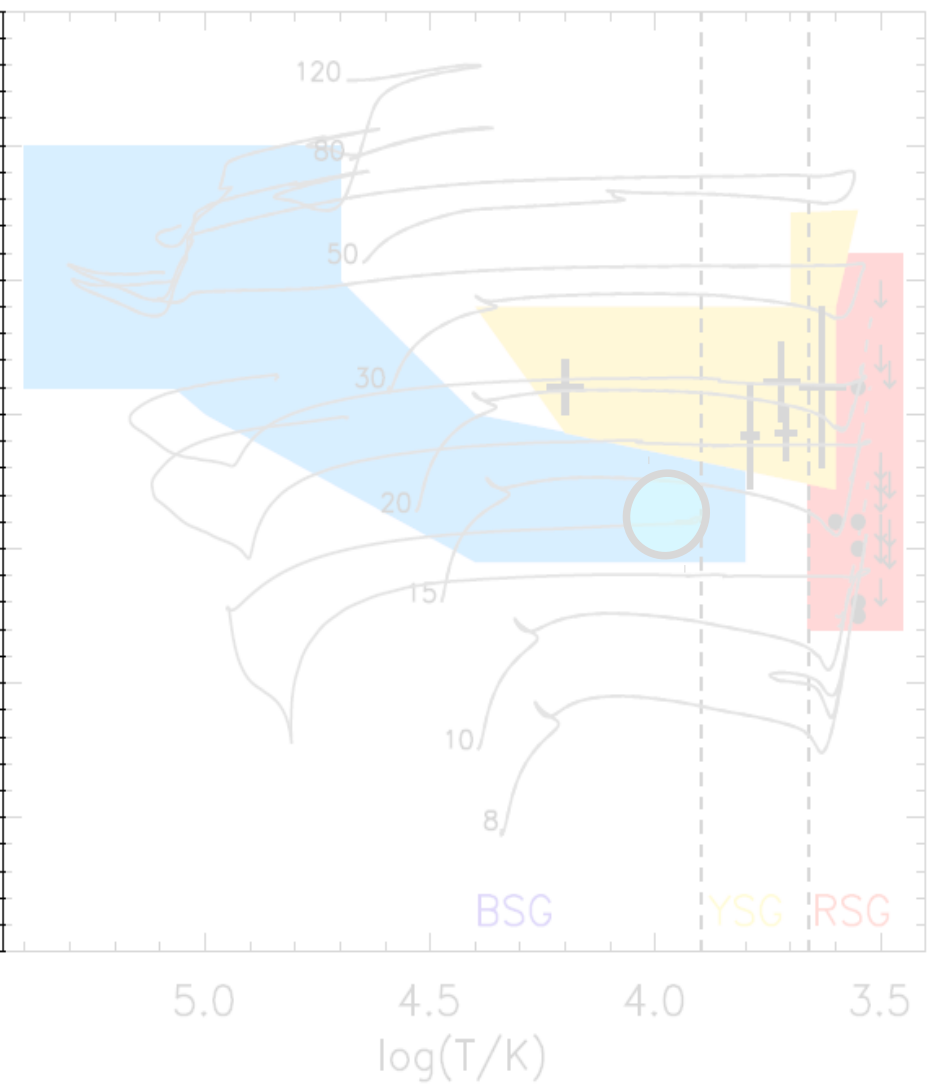


What happens when we compare observed  
SN progenitors to model predictions?

# Single stars

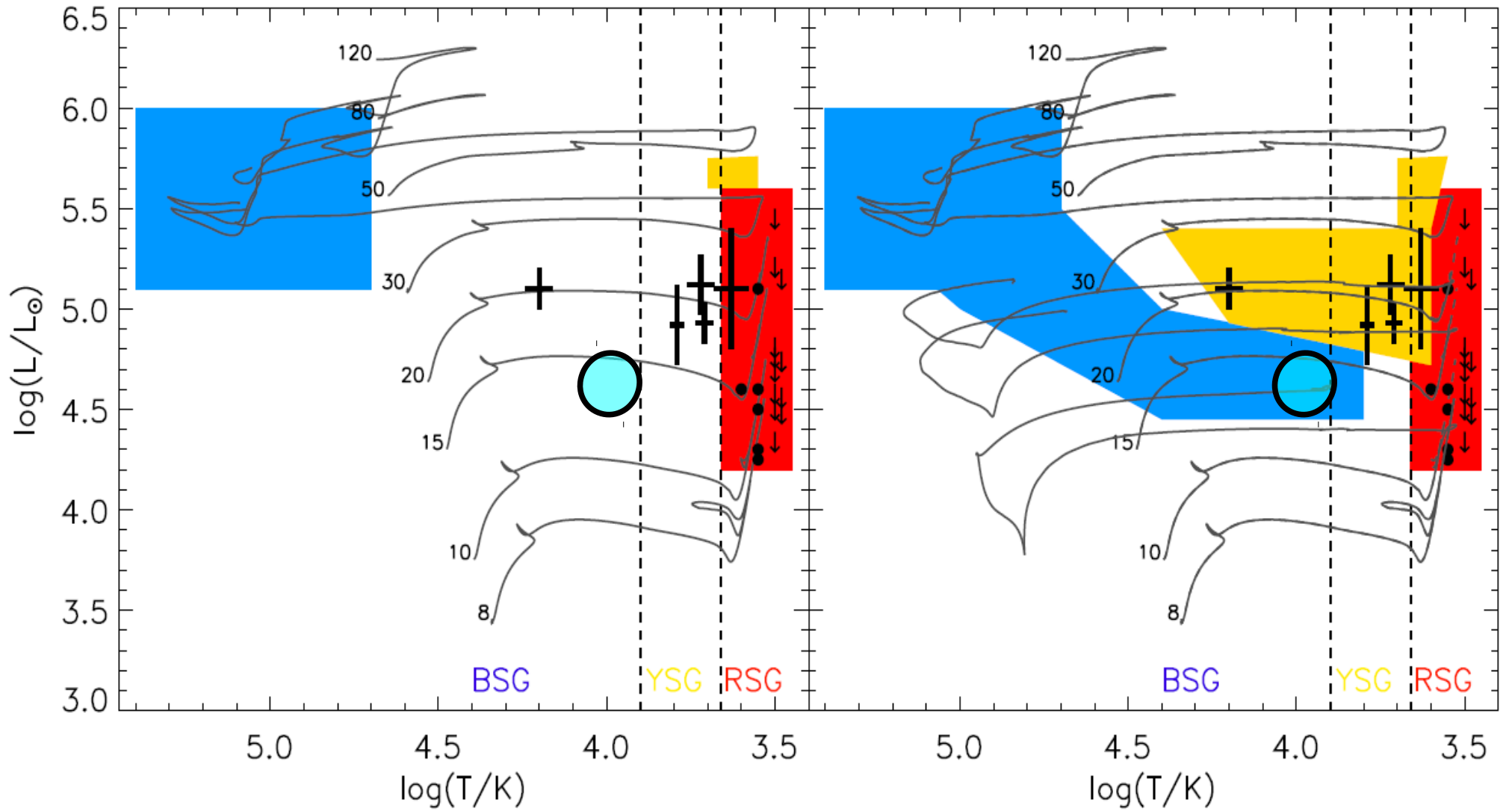


# Binaries



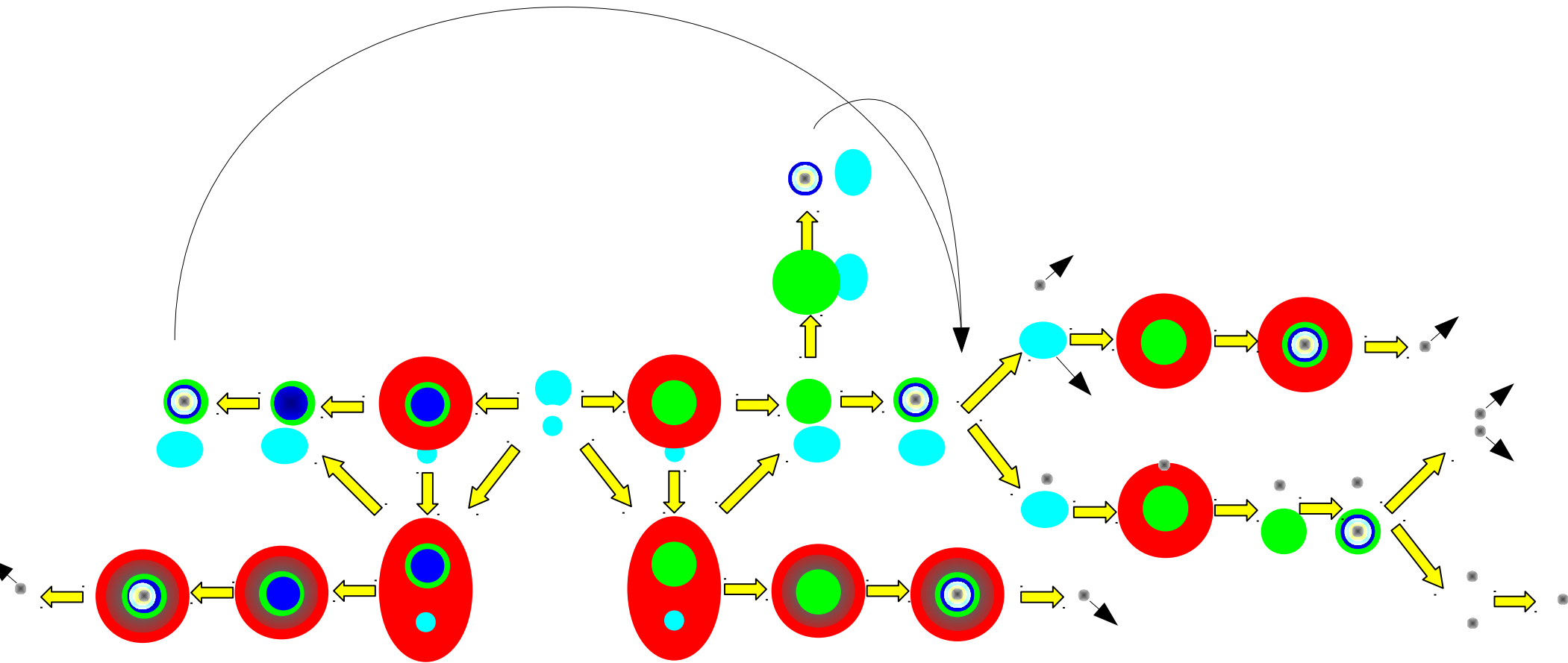
# Single stars

# Binaries



What's the main thing that happens in binaries to create this difference?

# A few of the evolutionary pathways that must be included



## Binary Population And Spectral Synthesis

Developed to study a broad range of astrophysical systems:  
**stars, supernovae, clusters, galaxies, compact remnant mergers**

**Ethos:** “Yes there are uncertainties but let's take our best guess and see if we can be less wrong than single star populations”.

**[BPASS.AUCKLAND.AC.NZ](http://BPASS.AUCKLAND.AC.NZ)**

**Version 1.1** based on 15,000 detailed stellar models.

Eldridge et al. (2008, 2011), Eldridge & Stanway (2009, 2012)

**Version 2** based on **250,000 models detailed stellar models**,  
 $Z=0.00001$  to  $0.040$ , binaries from  $0.1$  to  $300M_{\odot}$

Instrument paper on the way: Eldridge, Stanway, Xiao, Taylor, Ng, McClelland & Bray

Papers by team already available using v2.0:

Stanway et al, Eldridge & Stanway, Bray & Eldridge, Eldridge & Maund

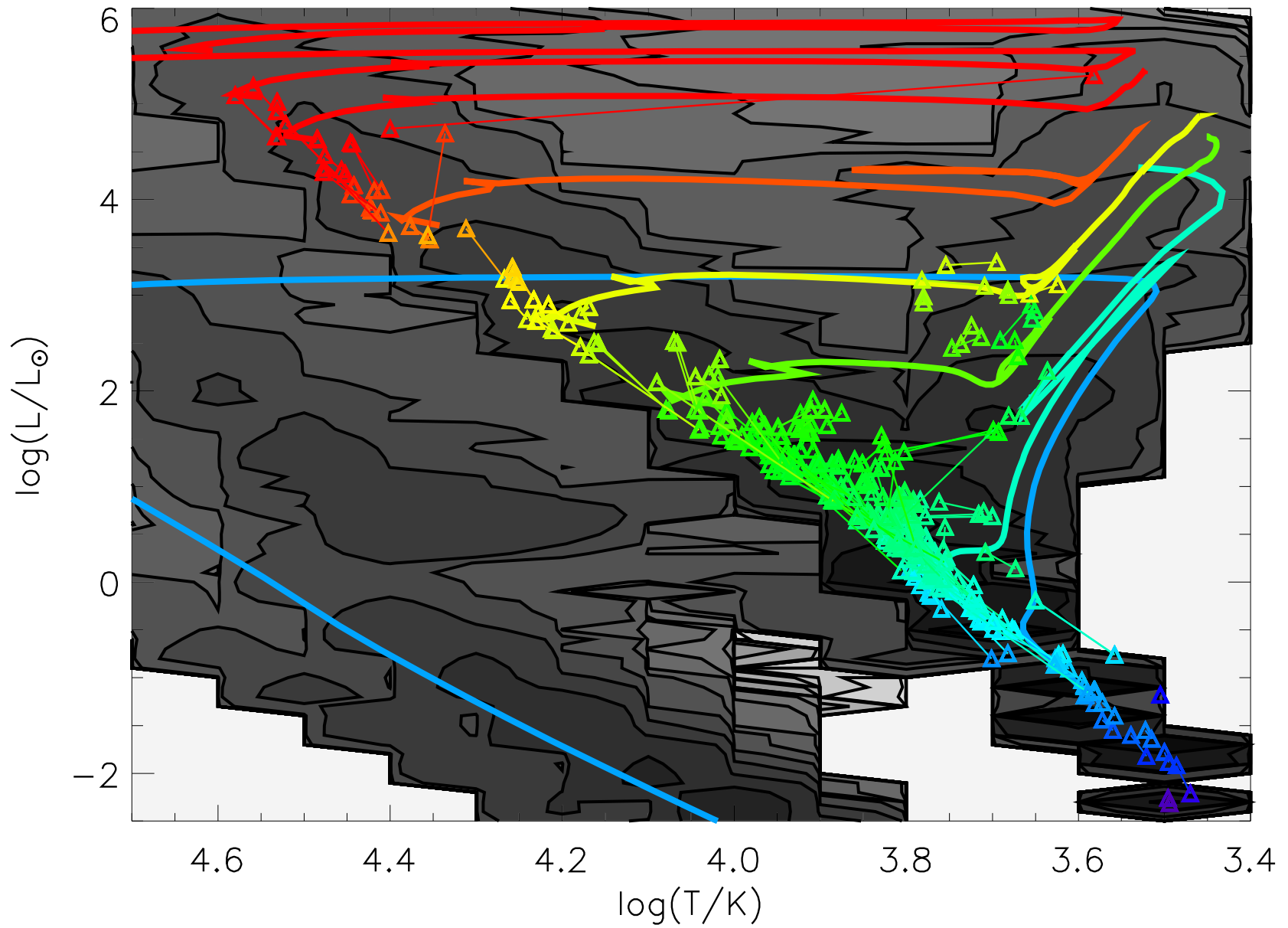


But don't take our word for it:

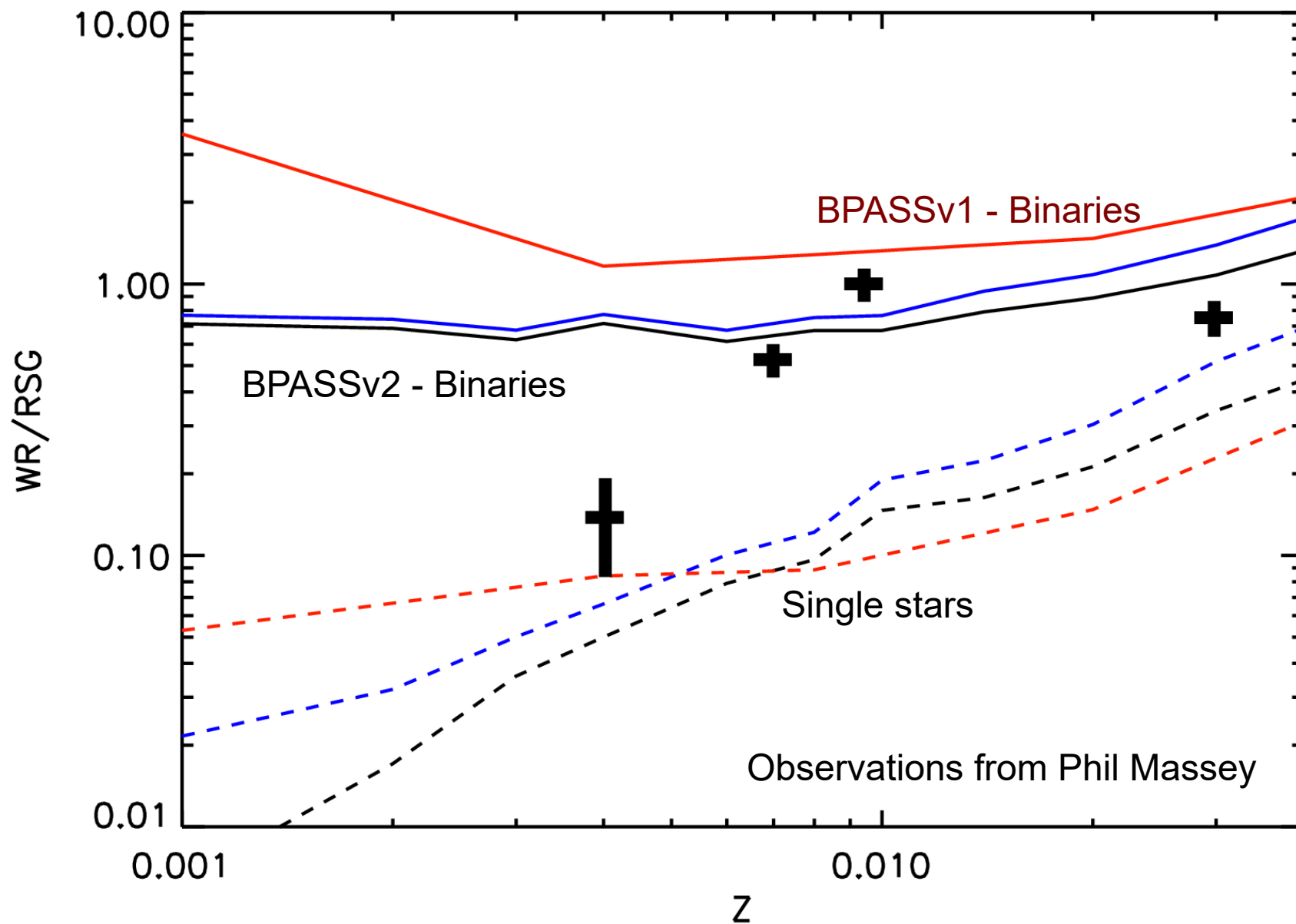
- Wofford et al., 2016 – Young massive LEGUS clusters
- Shenar et al., 2016 – Wolf-Rayet stars in the SMC
- Heikkila et al., 2016 – X-ray binaries as SN progenitors.
- Takashi & Eldridge, 2016 – ECSNe fast transients
- Steidel et al., 2016 – High-z galaxies rest frame UV and optical emission lines
- Wilkins et al. 2016 – Binaries key for reionization
- Ma et al., 2016 - Binaries key for reionization
- Graur et al., 2017 – SN rates versus metallicity

Note: I'm not the only person working on massive binaries, an incomplete list: de Mink, Yoon, Nomoto, Vanbeveren, Han, Belczynski, Langer, Podsiadlowski, Lipunov, Izzard, Hurley, Tout, Siess, Paczyński, Ivanova, Kalogera, de Marco, Gotberg...

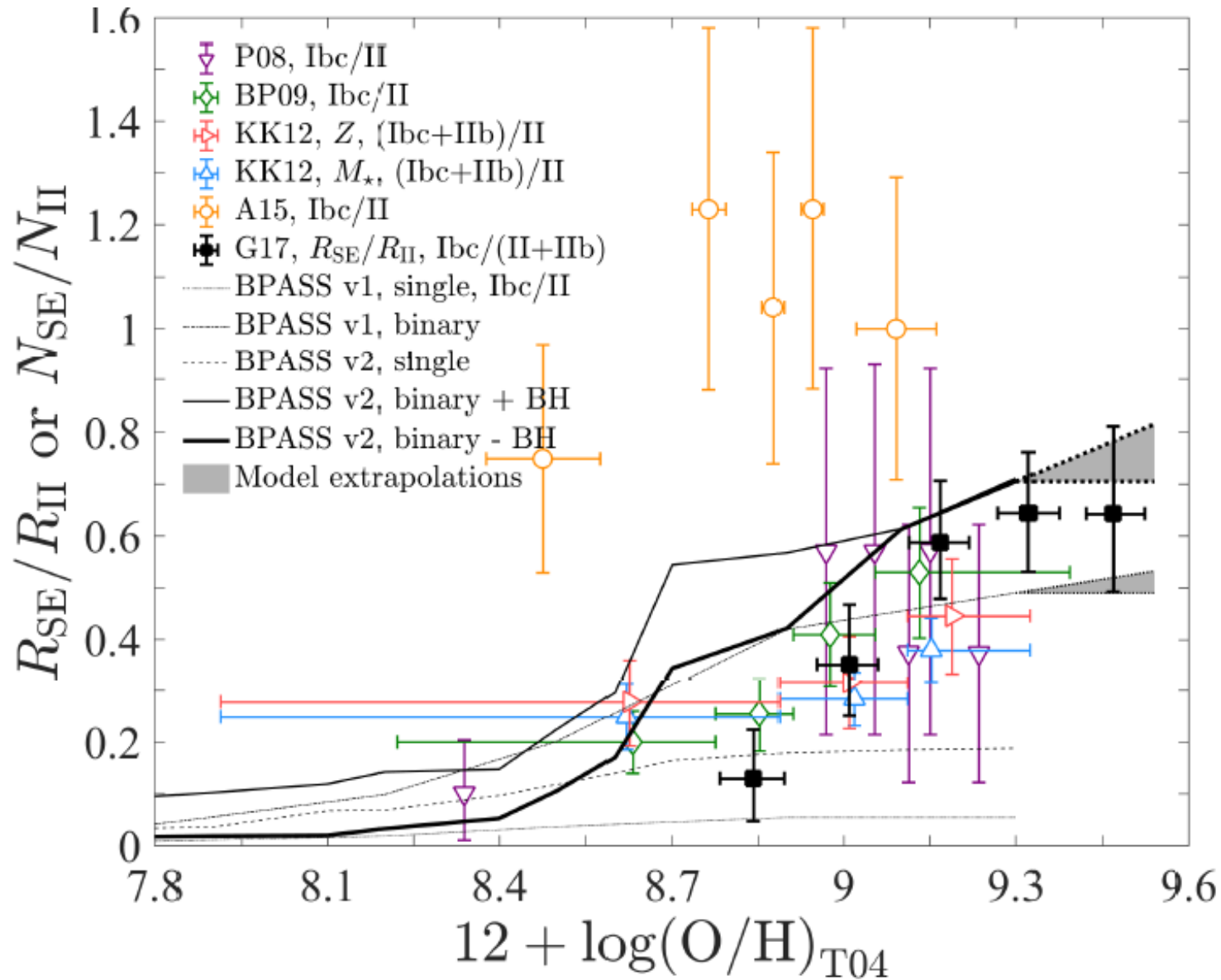
# How accurate are the stellar models?



# Predict RSG and WR population as well?



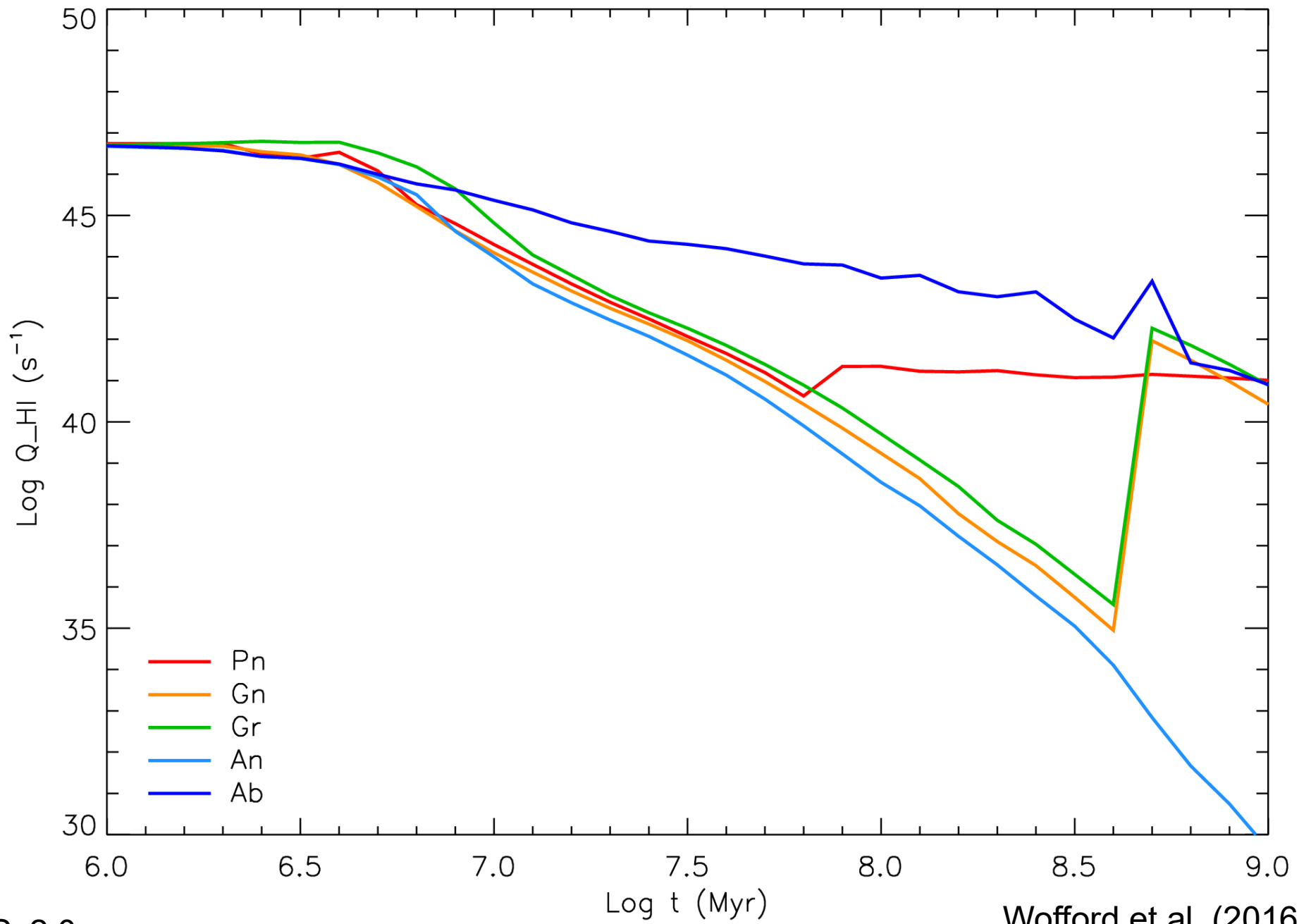
# But what does the SN rates look like with metallicity?



So what is the main important effect of binaries  
for low mass galaxies?

And which stars cause it?

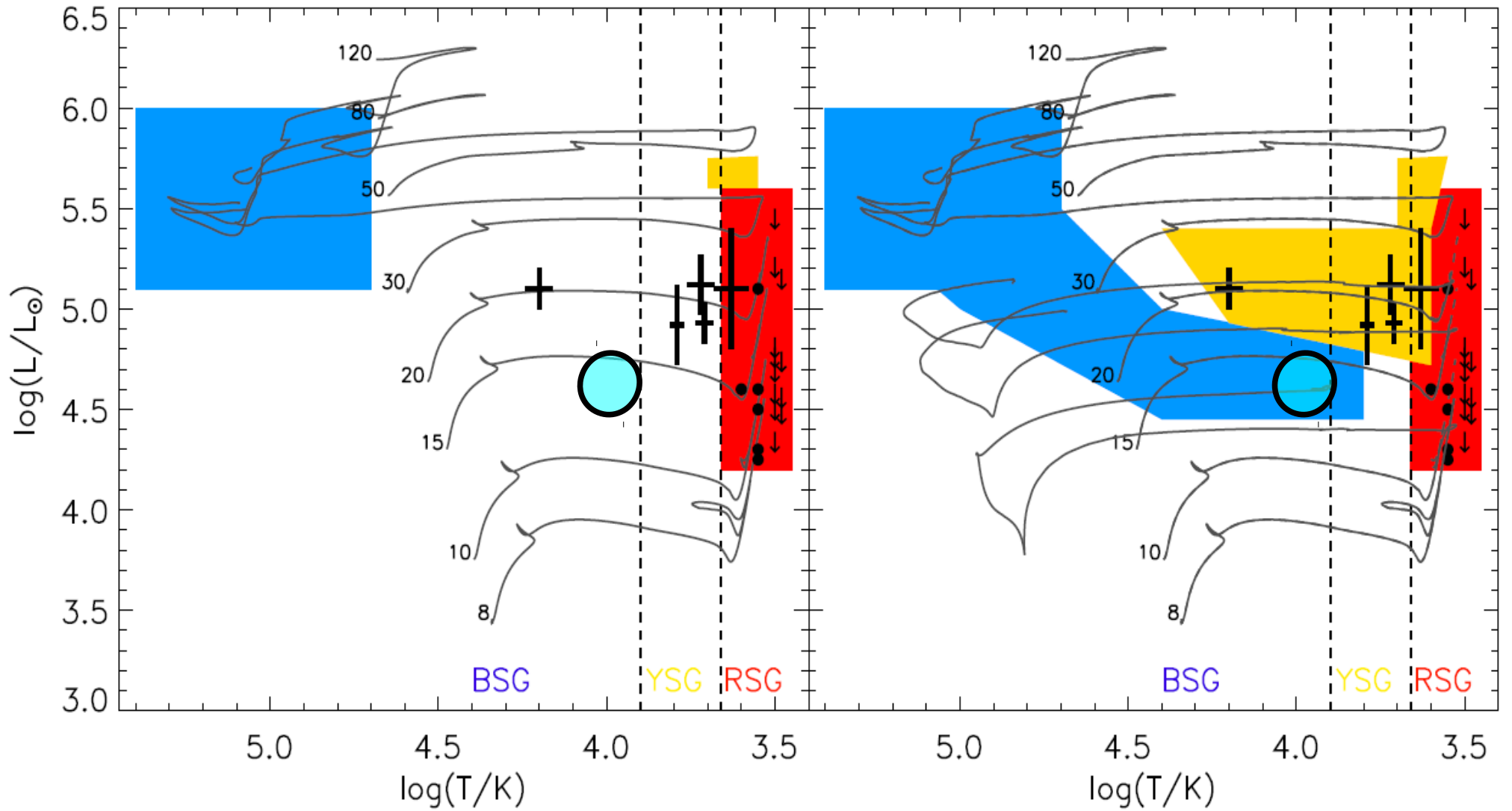
# Number of ionizing photons?





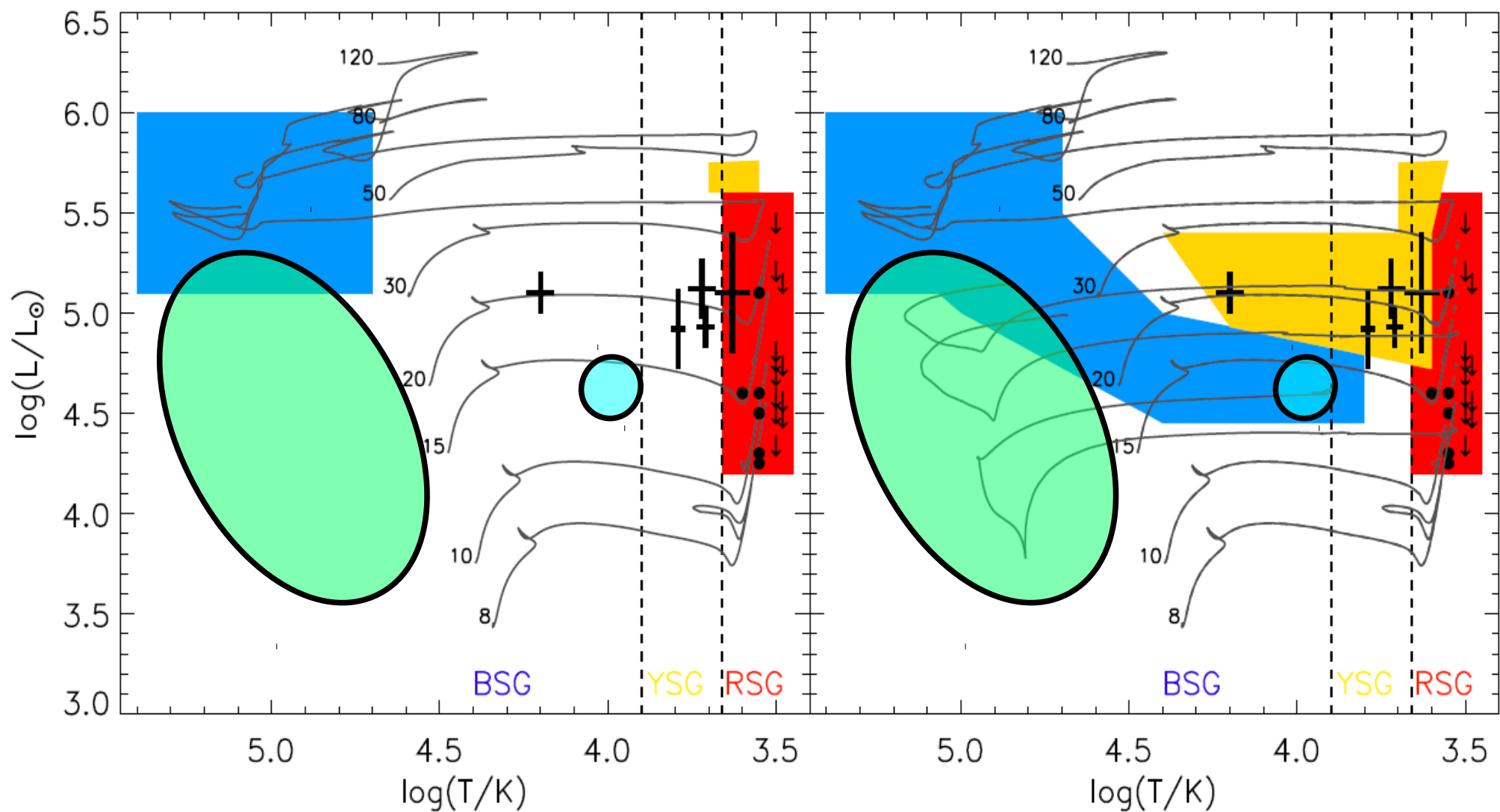
# Single stars

# Binaries



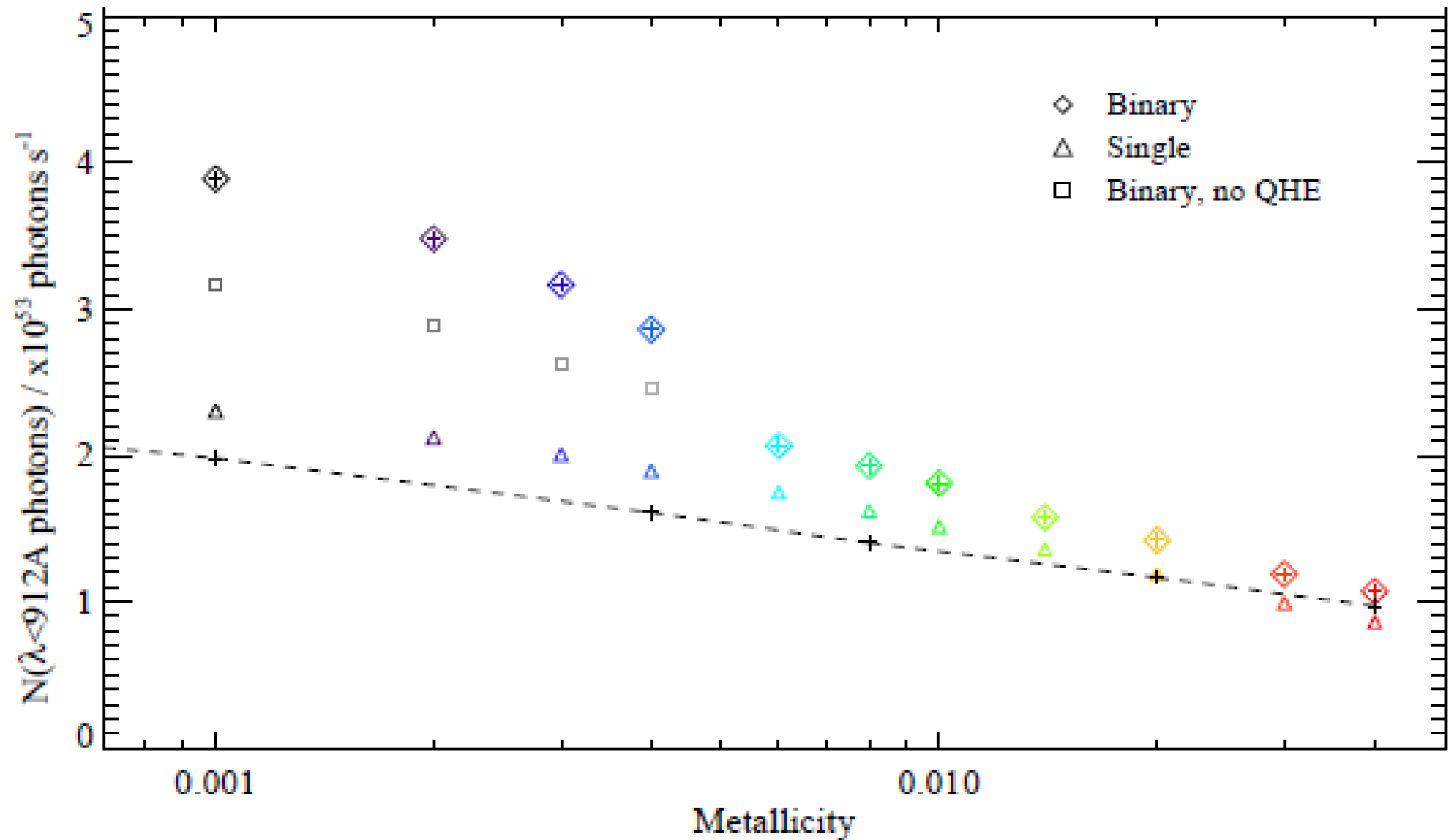
# Single stars

# Binaries

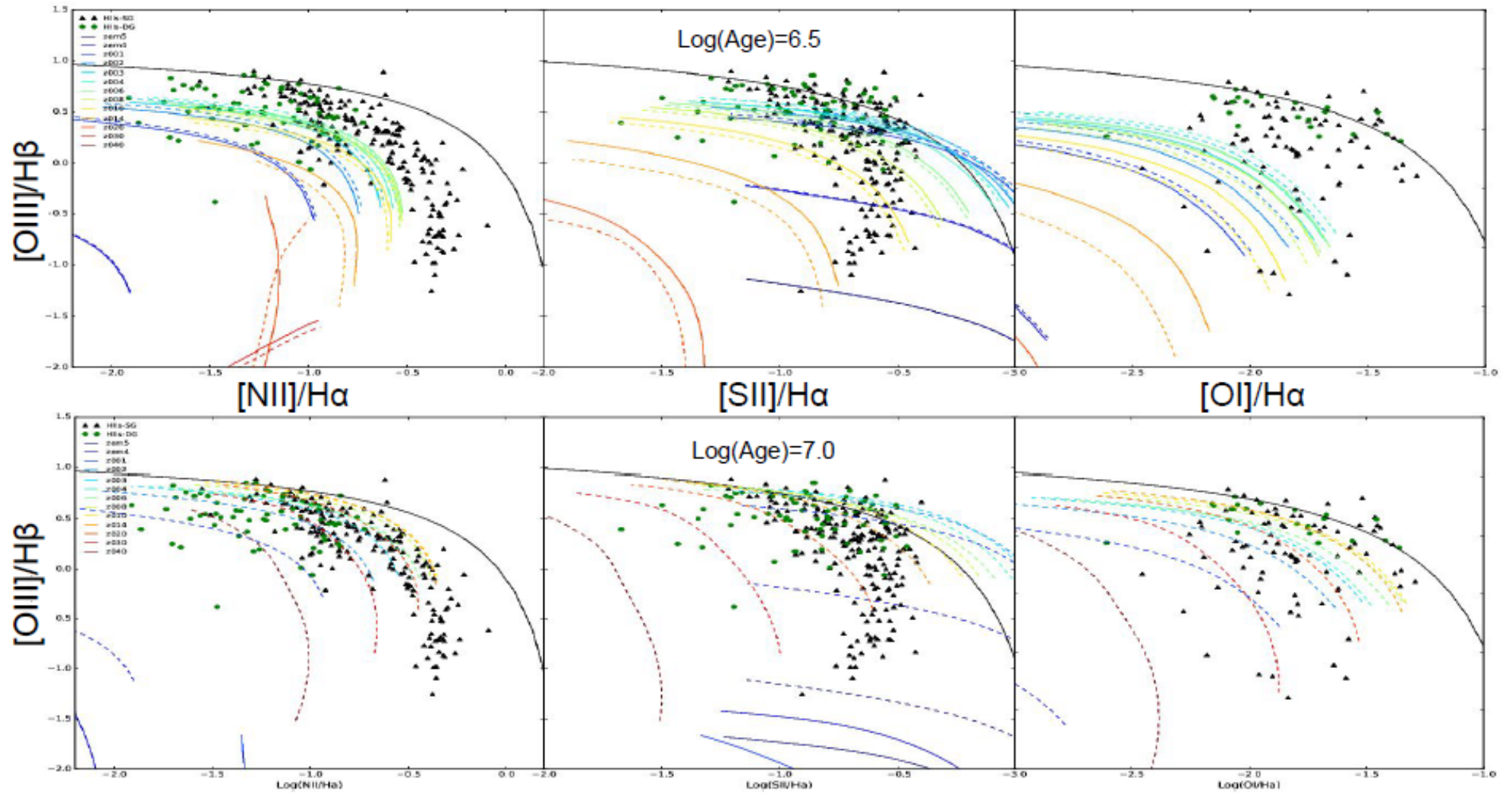


What about when we go to low metallicity?

# Number of ionizing photons during reionization?

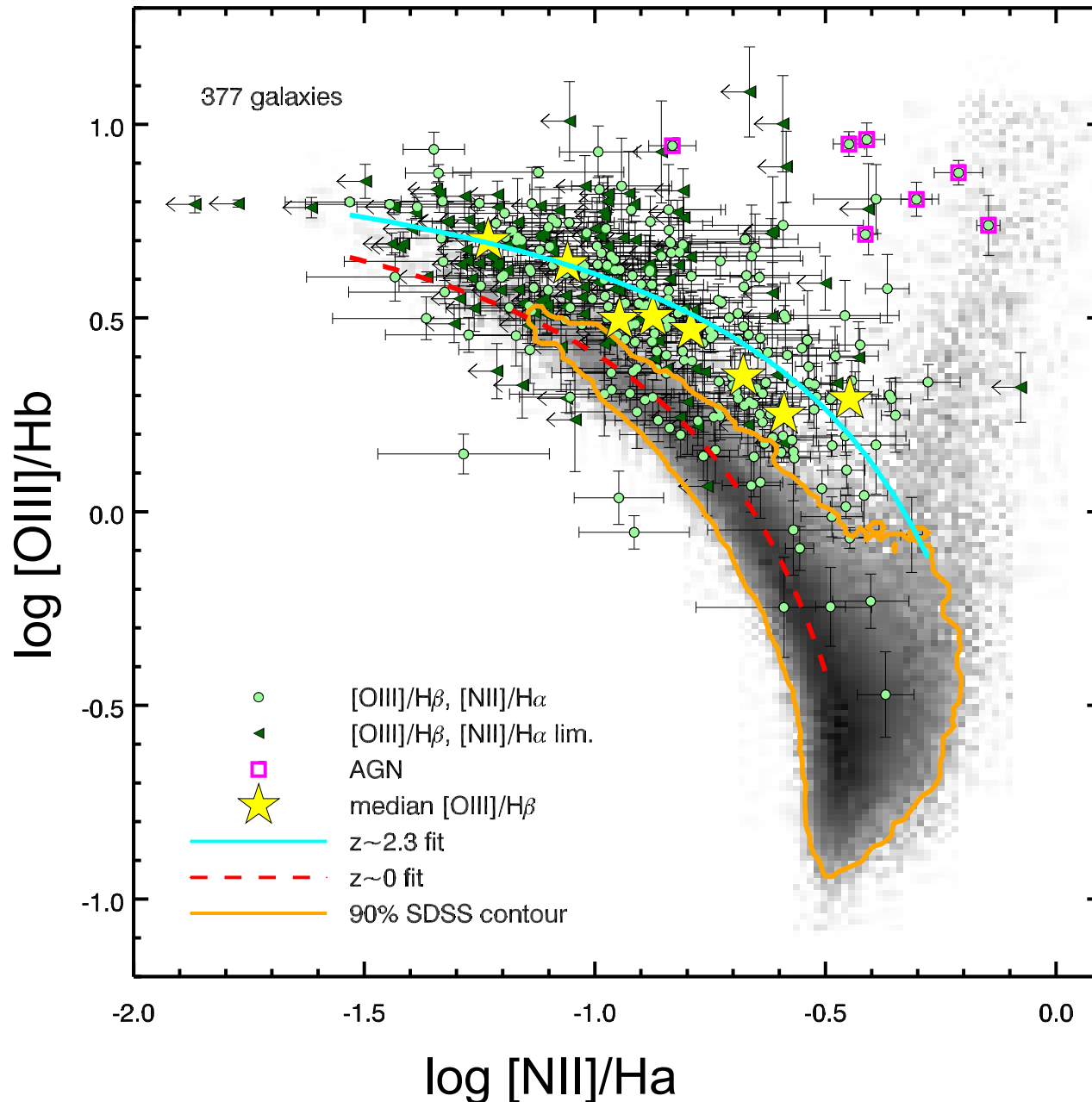


Finally the BPT diagram...



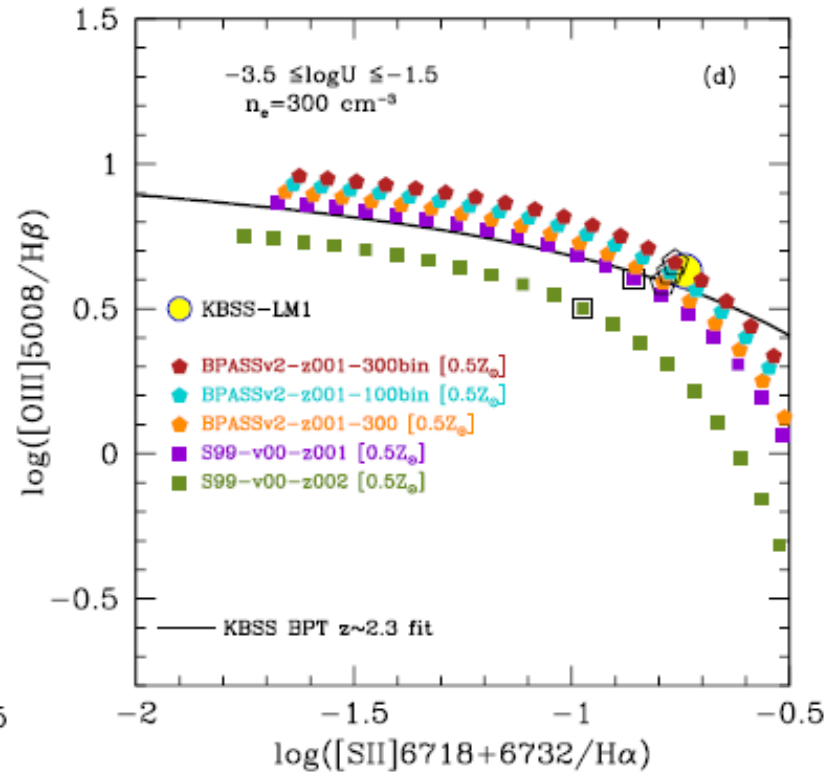
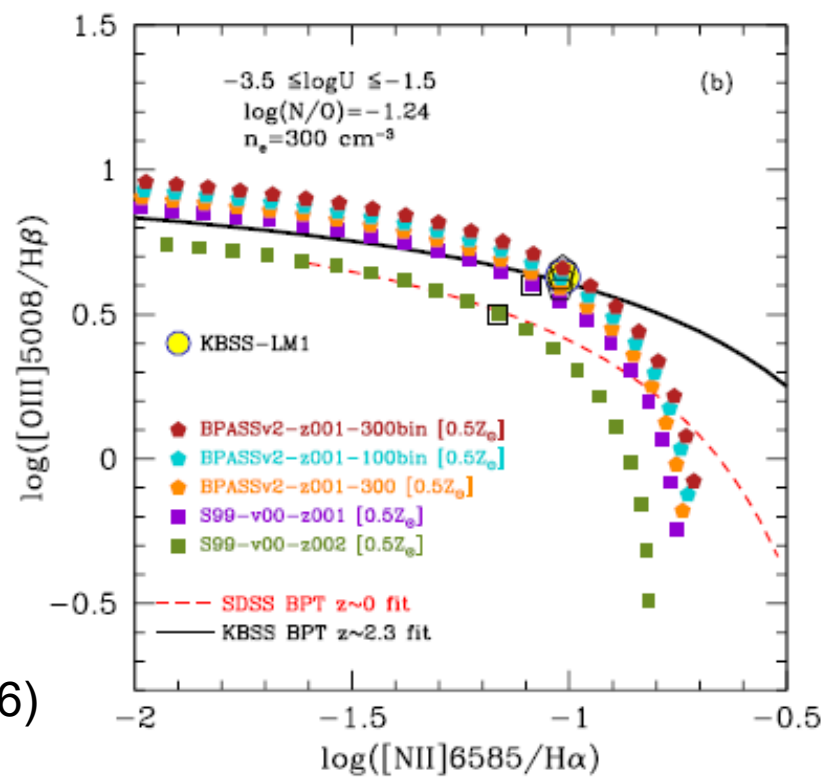
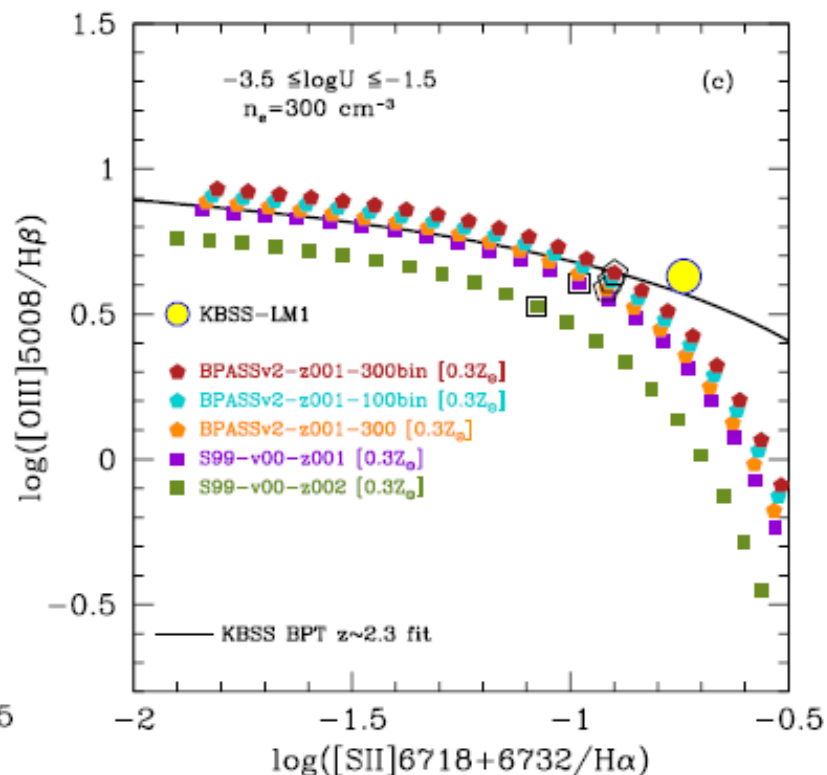
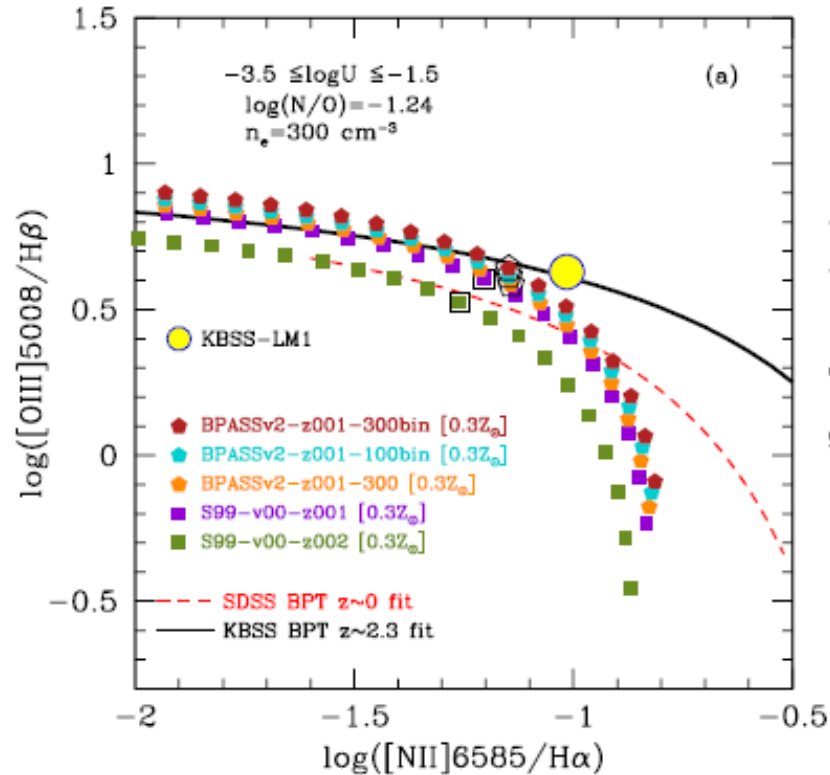


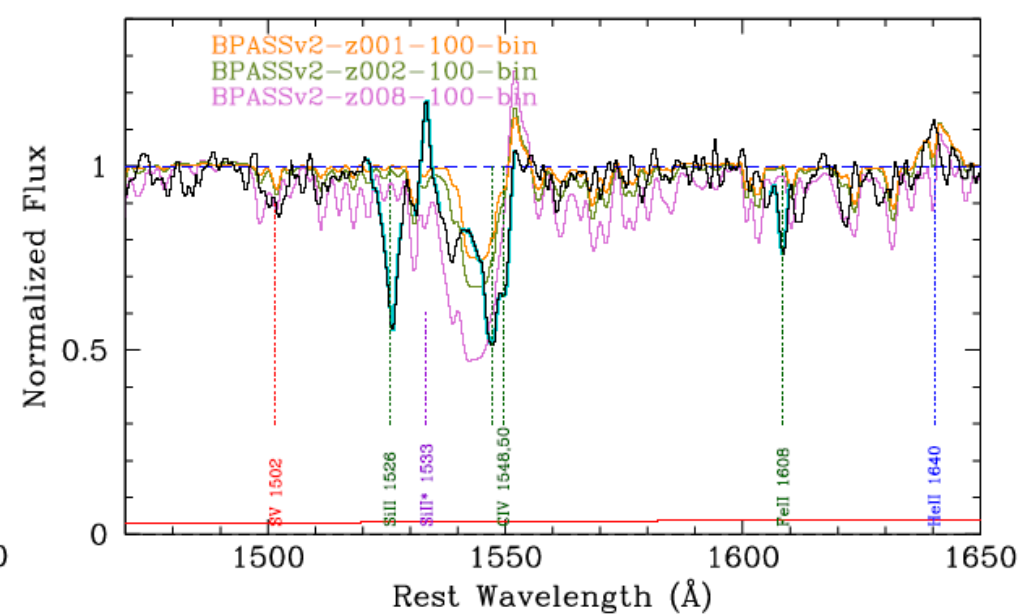
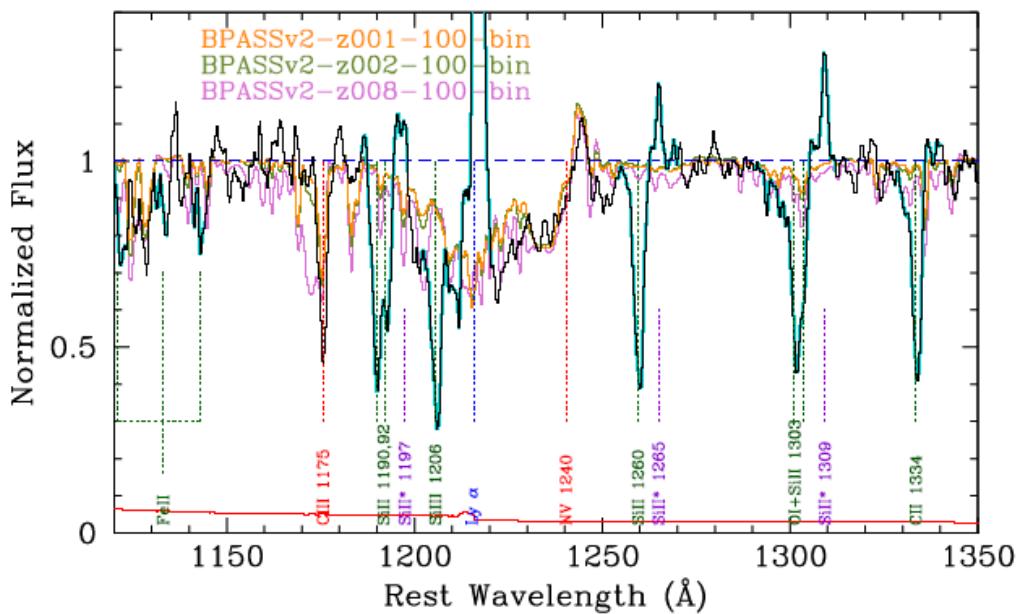
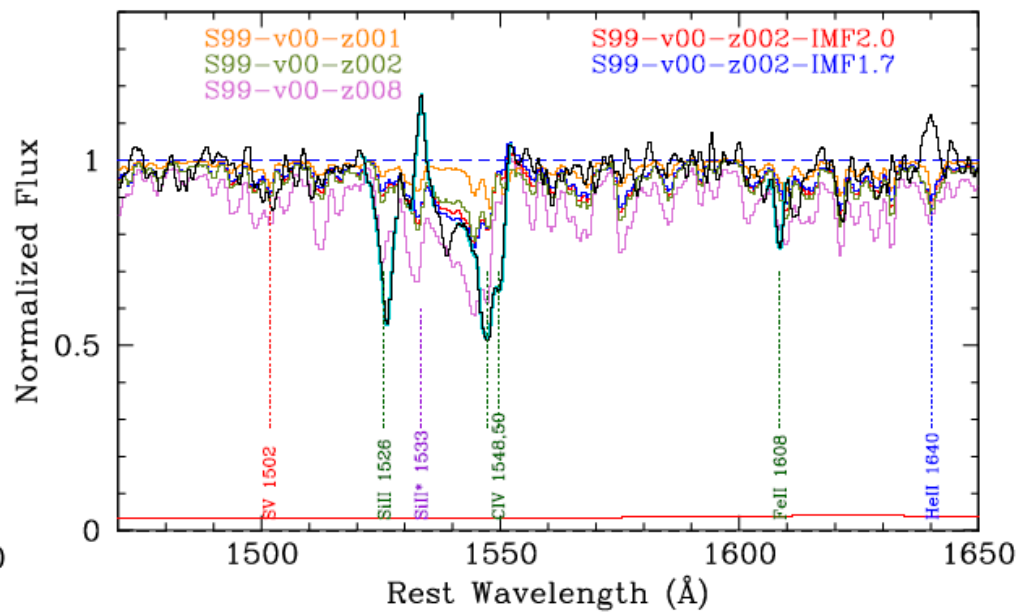
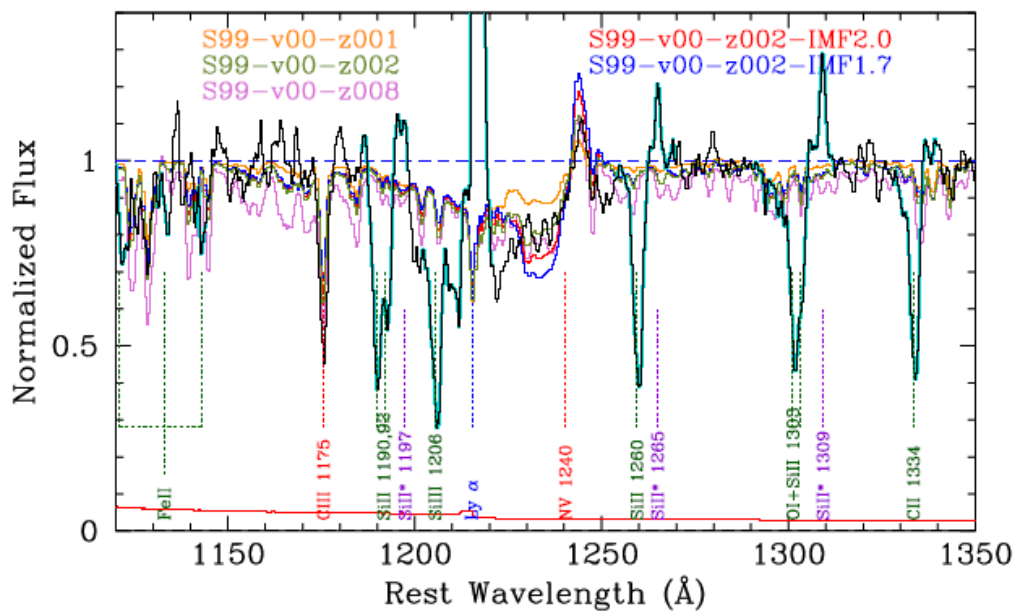
# The Ionizing Spectrum at $z \sim 3$



Multi-object near-IR spectrographs on 8-10m class telescopes (notably MOSFIRE on Keck) are making the high  $z$  rest-optical accessible for the first time.

(Strom et al 2016, see also Steidel et al 2016, Kriek et al 2016, Reddy et al 2016)





BPASSv2.0

Steidel et al. (2016)  
See also Eldridge & Stanway (2012)

# Summary

There is growing evidence we need reconstruct how we think about stellar populations, most massive stars have their lives dominated by binary interactions.

Key features for stellar populations is they provide source of hard ionizing photons at and age where single star models predict none. Should be “observable” in IFU surveys.

We haven't discussed: CR7, stochasticity, X-ray binaries, gravitational wave sources, very massive stars, superluminous supernovae and GRBs will all link in with understanding low mass/metallicity galaxies.