

# Asteroseismology of $\beta$ Cephei stars

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- This is an informal talk!
- Only  $\beta$  Cephei stars today
- Not an exhaustive review
  - Not a “theory” talk

O stars: very massive; winds (mass loss)  
a few pulsators known  
asteroseismology in its infancy



See talk at the conference

B stars:

- Be stars: fast rotators, emission lines, pulsators - complicated

- SPB stars: B2 - B9

$M \sim 4 - 7 M_{\odot}$

multiperiodic pulsators

$P = 0.5 - 5$  days

High-order g modes in asymptotic regime

-  $\beta$  Cephei stars:

**B0 - B3**

**$M \sim 8 - 18 M_{\odot}$**

**multiperiodic pulsators; slow rotators**

**$P = 2 - 8$  hours**

**Sparse spectrum of low-order p and/or g modes**

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-  $\beta$  Cephei stars:

**B0 - B3**

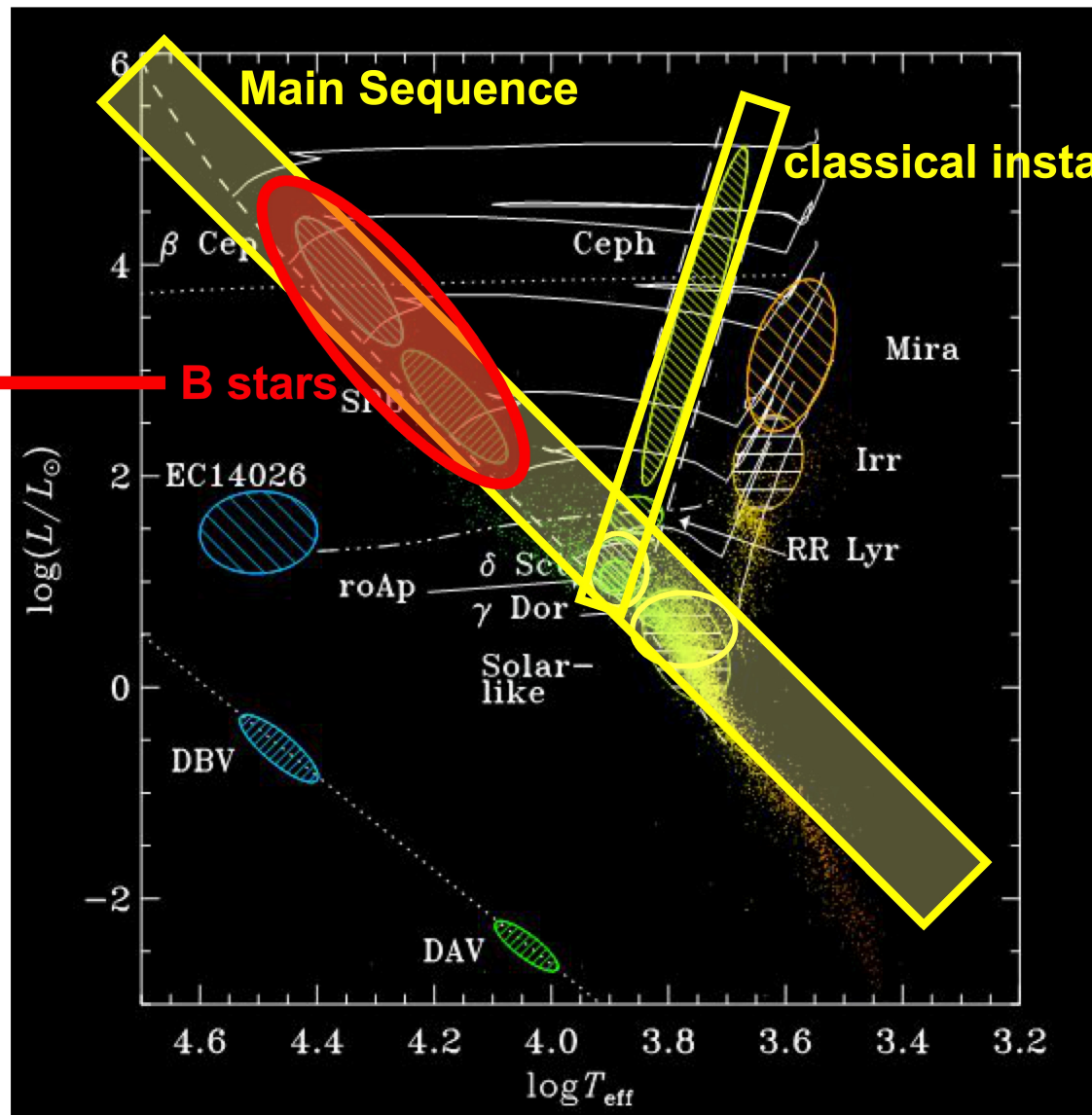
**$M \sim 8 - 18 M_{\odot}$**

**multi-periodic pulsators; slow rotators**

**$P = 2 - 8$  hours**

**Sparse spectrum of low-order p and/or g modes**

$\log T_{\text{eff}} \sim 4.2 - 4.4$   
 $\log L \sim 2 - 4$



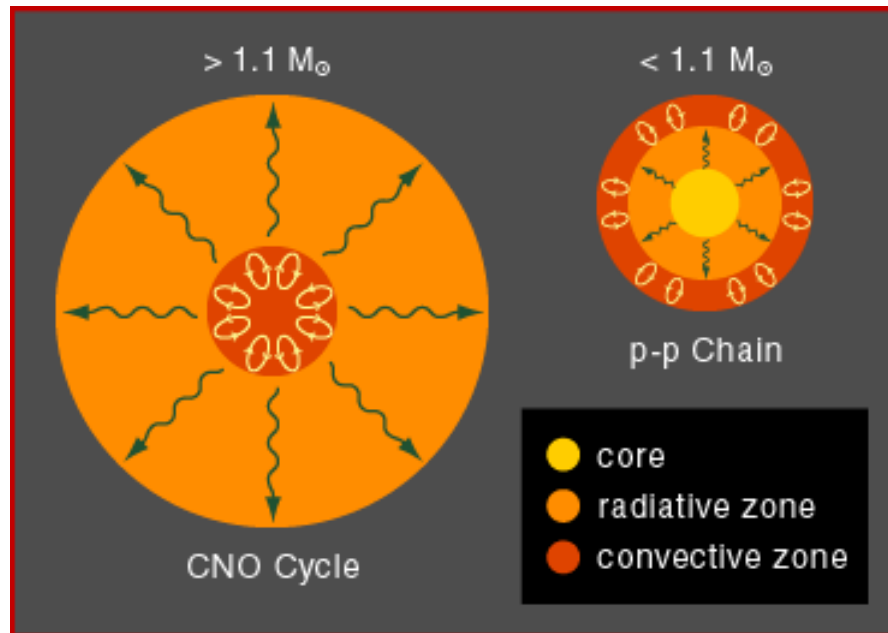
## Main sequence B stars



CNO burning

massive  
convective core

radiative outer  
zone



## Solar-type stars



Convective or  
radiative core

Radiative zone

Convective  
envelope

different structures → very different pulsation spectra

**Why are seismic studies of massive main sequence stars interesting?**

**Because their spectra include modes that probe their deep structure,  
in particular the boundary of the convective core**

- info on the overshooting/mixing at the core boundary**
- info on the internal rotation profile**

**solar-type stars → superficial convective layer → stochastically excited modes**

**$\delta$  Scuti stars →  $\alpha$ -mechanism in the He ionization zone**

**massive stars →  $\alpha$ -mechanism in the Fe partial ionization zone (opacity bump)**

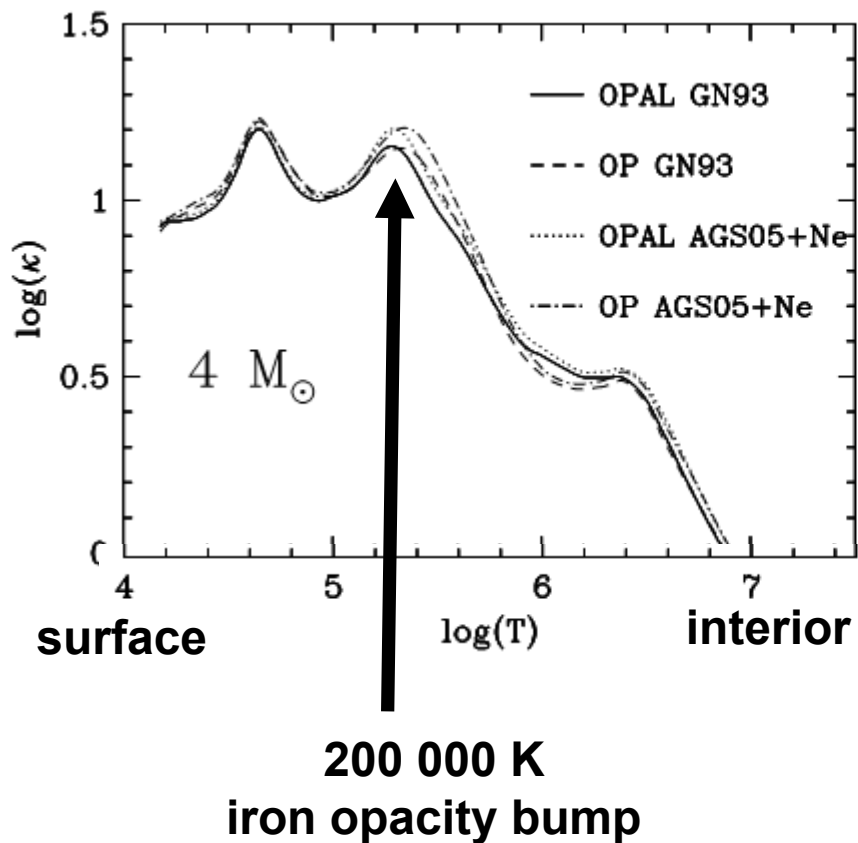


$\kappa$  mechanism:

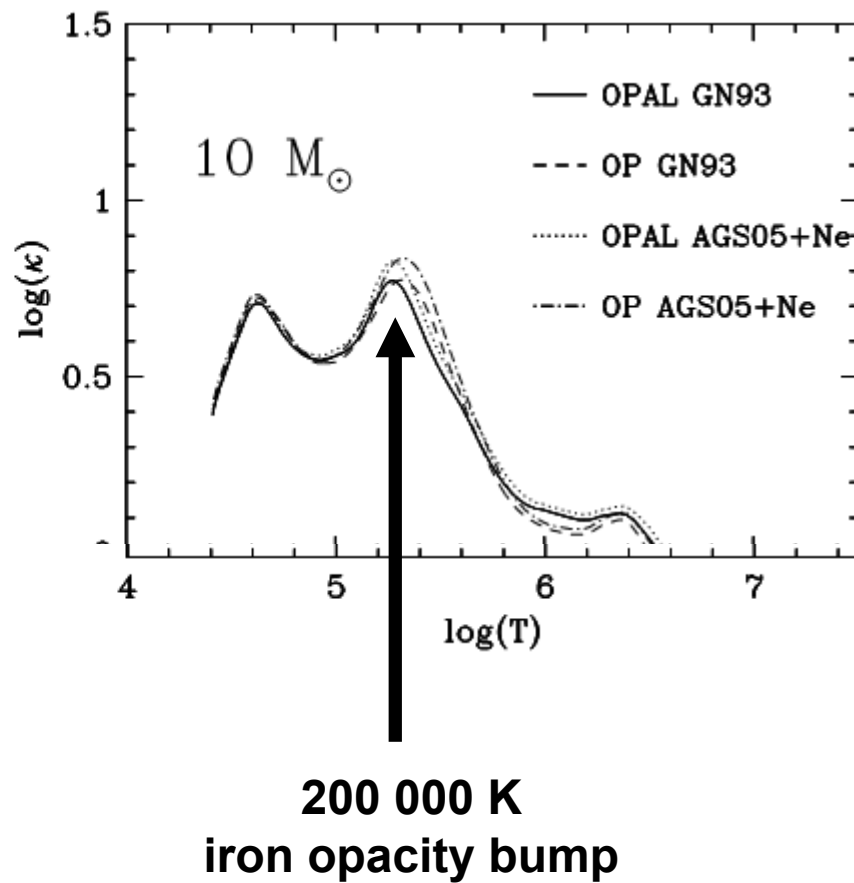
occurs **IF opacity bump** (due to Helium or iron-group elements partial ionization) **COINCIDES** with the **transition zone** (between adiabatic and non-adiabatic regions)

# opacities

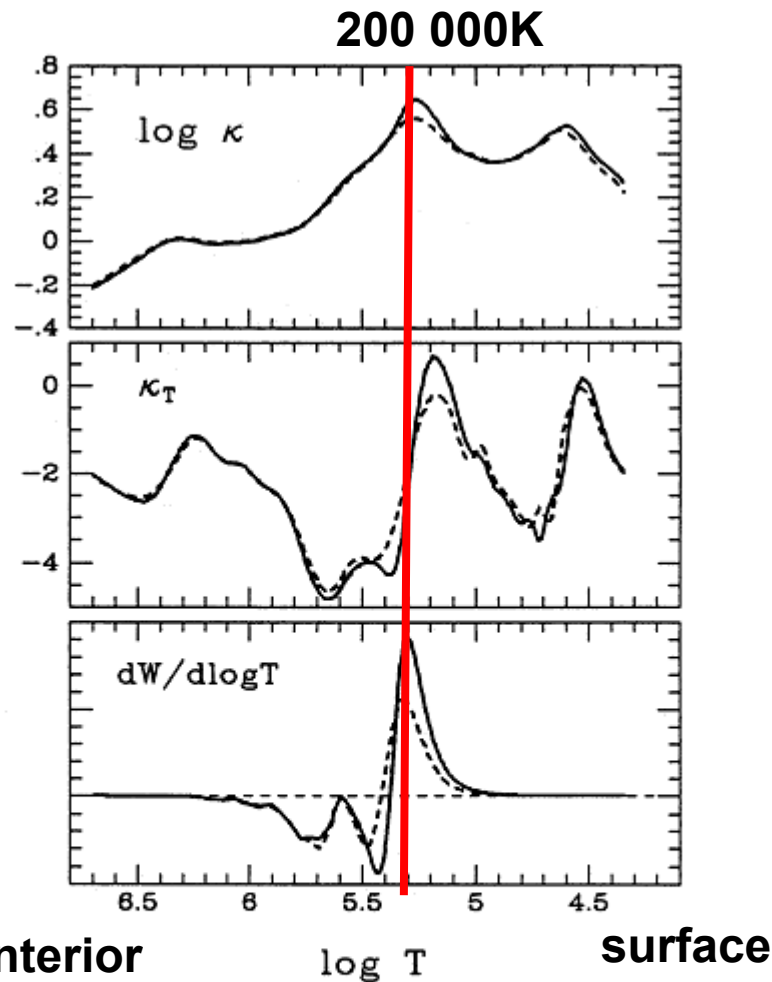
## SPB



## $\beta$ cephei

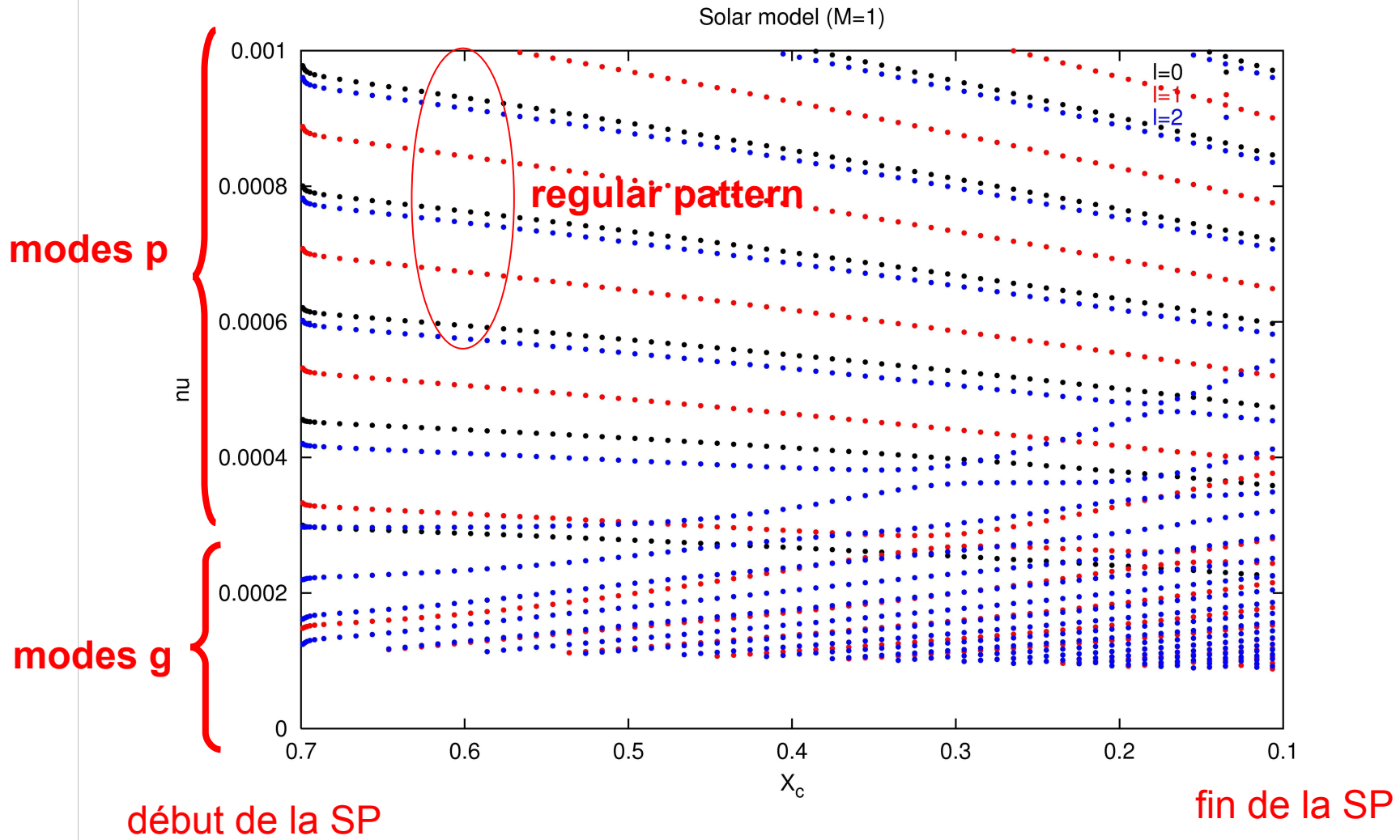


M=12

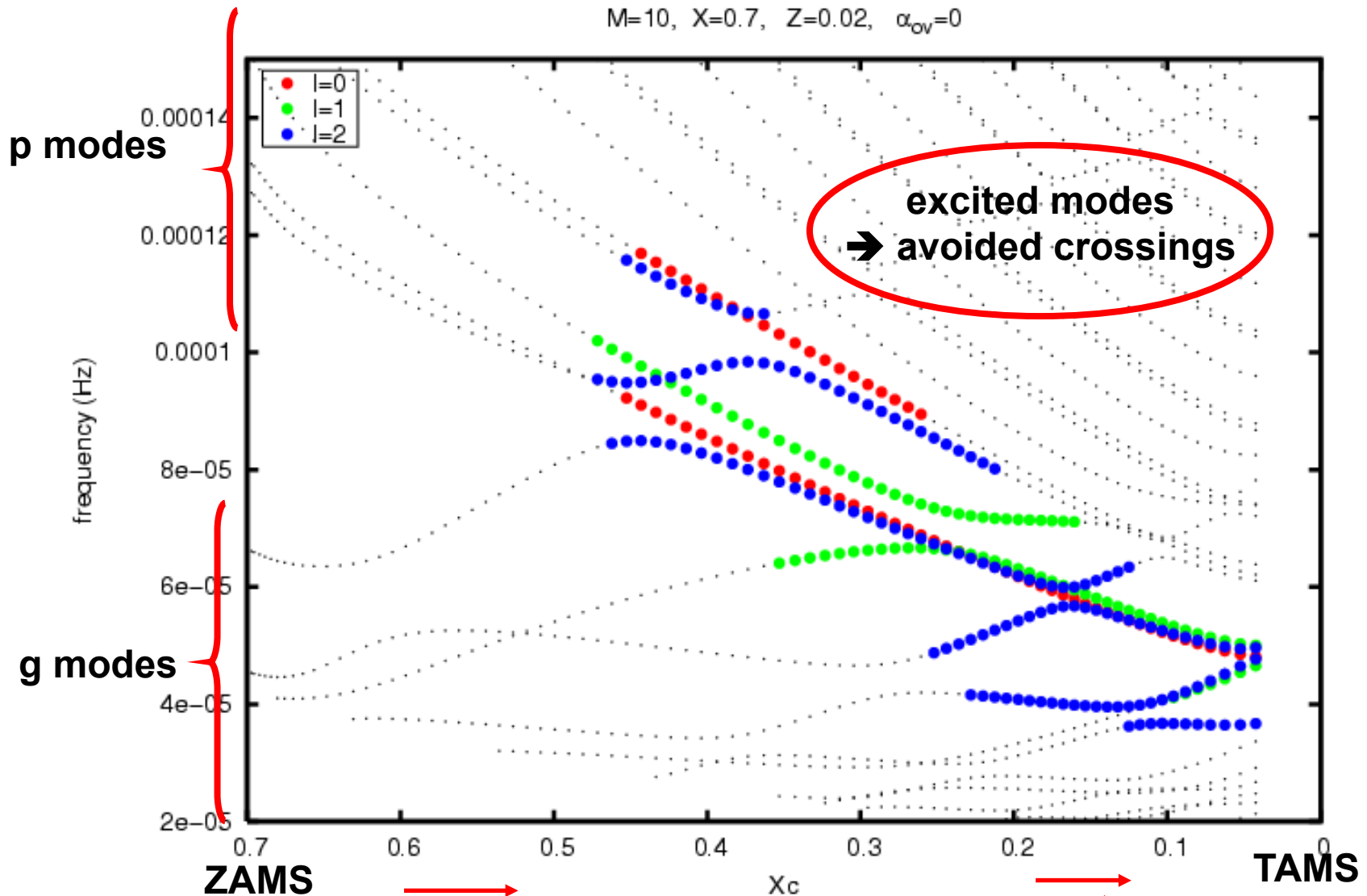


**Figure 1.** Opacity,  $\kappa$ , opacity derivative,  $\kappa_T = (\partial \ln \kappa / \partial \ln T)_{\rho}$ , and the differential work integral for the fundamental mode of radial pulsation,  $dW/d \log T$  (in arbitrary units), plotted against temperature in a model of a  $\beta$  Cep star. The model parameters are:  $M = 12 M_{\odot}$ ,  $\log L/L_{\odot} = 4.22$ ,  $\log T_{\text{eff}}/K = 4.368$ ,  $X = 0.7$ ,  $Z = 0.03$ . Driving occurs in zones where  $dW/d \log T > 0$ . Continuous and dashed lines correspond to the newer and older OPAL opacity tables, respectively.

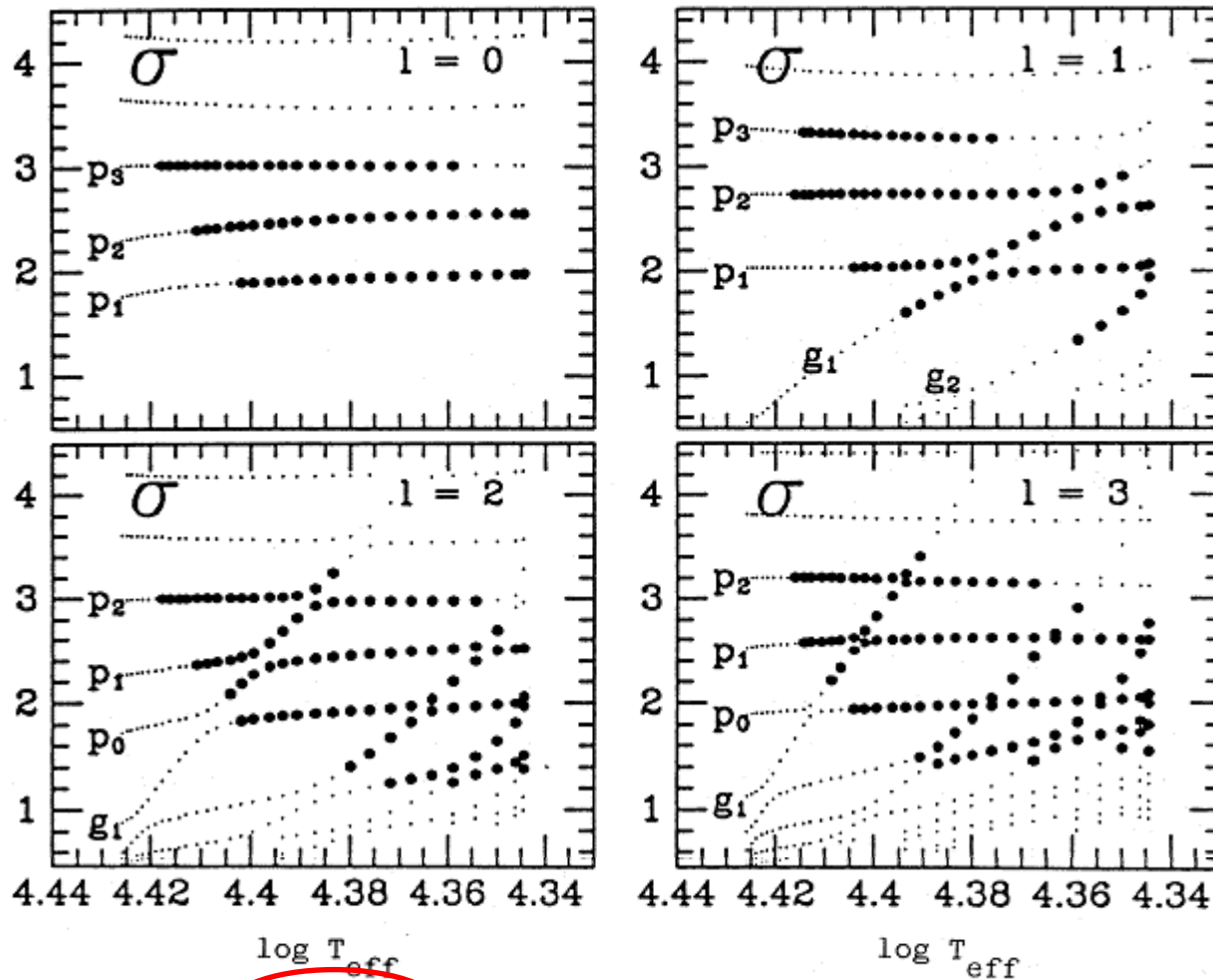
# frequencies of solar-type stars: many high-order p modes



# radial and non radial modes in $\beta$ Cephei models

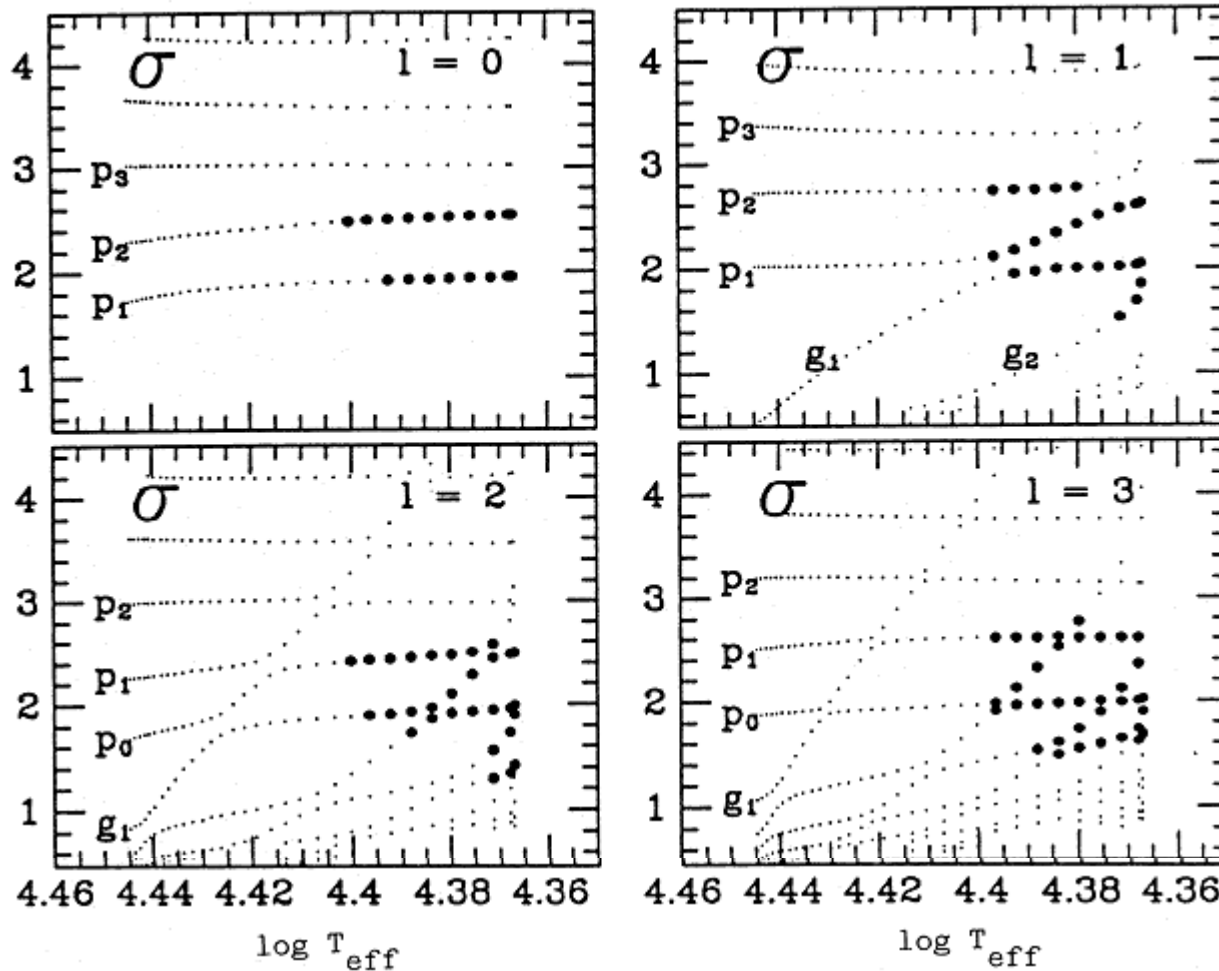


excited modes: in a given range of dimensionless frequencies



**Figure 5.** Dimensionless frequencies,  $\sigma = \omega / \sqrt{4\pi G \langle \rho \rangle}$ , of low-order and low-degree ( $l$ ) modes for models of a  $12-M_{\odot}$ ,  $Z = 0.03$  star in its MS evolutionary phase. The small and the large dots correspond to stable and unstable modes, respectively.

Lower  $Z \rightarrow$  fewer excited modes

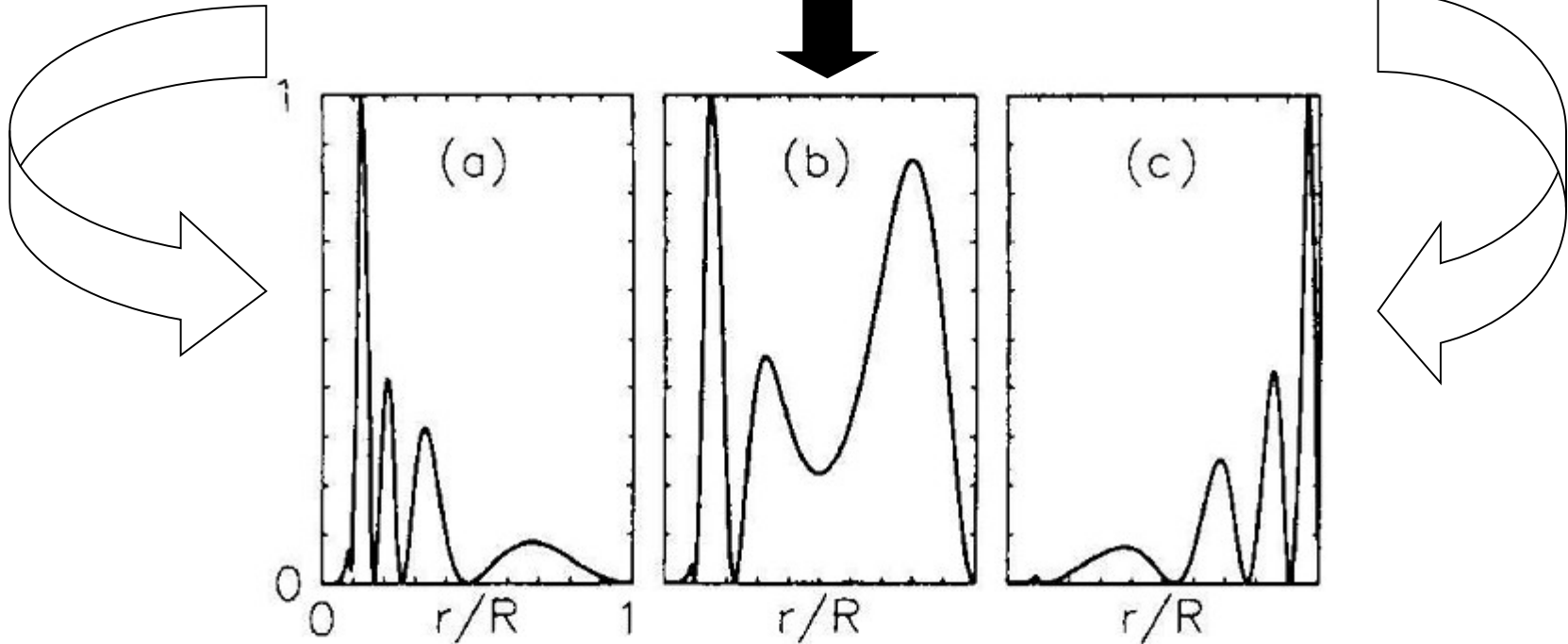


**Figure 6.** Dimensionless frequencies,  $\sigma = \omega / \sqrt{4\pi G \langle \rho \rangle}$ , of low-order and low-degree ( $l$ ) modes for models of a  $12-M_{\odot}$ ,  $Z=0.02$  star in its MS evolutionary phase. The small and the large dots correspond to stable and unstable modes, respectively.

**g modes have a large amplitude near the core of the star**

**mixed mode**

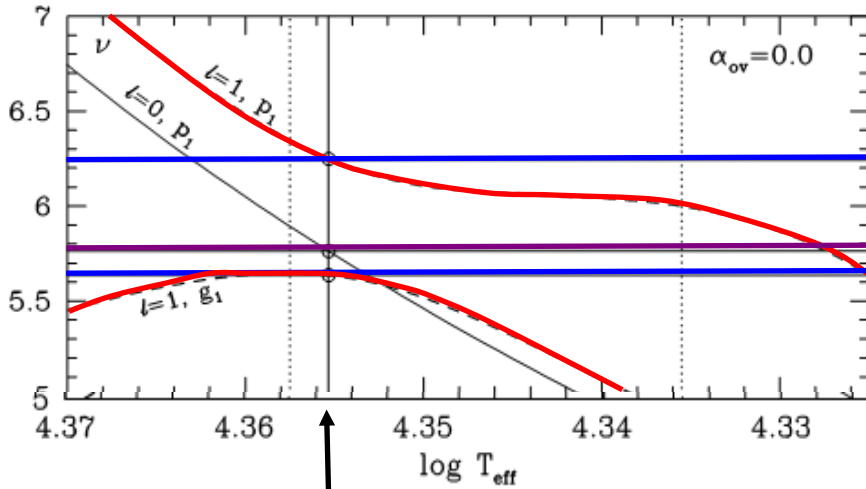
**p modes have large amplitudes near the surface**



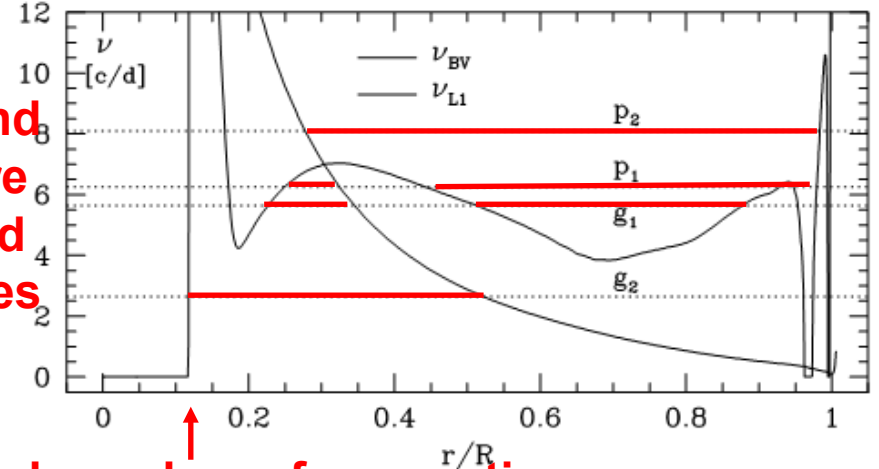
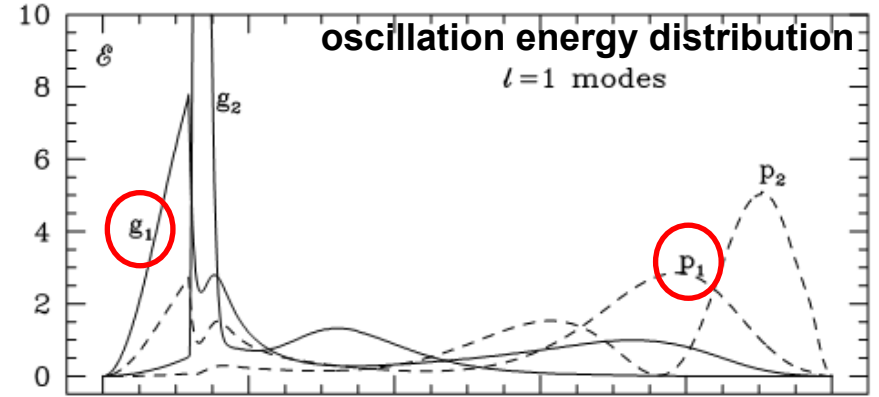
**Figure 1.4:** Typical variation of the kinetic energy density as a function of depth in the star for a  $g$ -mode (left), a mixed mode (middle) and a  $p$ -mode (right) in an evolved star of  $2 M_{\odot}$ . The different modes sample different parts of the star. (figure taken from Roxburgh et al. 2000)



avoided crossing  $\rightarrow$  mixed modes  $\rightarrow$  info on core boundary



fitted model of  $\nu$  Eridani  
(3 frequencies)



p1 and g1 are mixed modes

boundary of convective core

Lamb frequency  $S_l^2 \equiv \frac{[l(l+1)]c^2}{r^2}$

Brunt-Väisälä frequency

$$N^2 = g \left( \frac{1}{\Gamma_1 p} \frac{dp}{dr} - \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{d\rho}{dr} \right)$$


$$N^2 \simeq \frac{g^2 \rho}{p} (\nabla_{\text{ad}} - \nabla + \nabla_{\mu})$$

$\omega_{n,l,m} > S_l, N$  : propagation of sound waves  
 $\omega_{n,l,m} < S_l, N$  : propagation of gravity waves  
 otherwise, evanescent

**→ EACH MODE BRINGS AN INFORMATION ABOUT A  
DIFFERENT LAYER OF THE STAR !**

## Rotation splittings and rotation FOR SLOW ROTATORS

degeneracy:  $2m+1$  frequencies for each mode  $l$

$$\sigma_{k\ell m} - \sigma_{k\ell 0} = m \int K_{k\ell}(r) \Omega(r) dr$$


kernel constructed from the eigenfunctions of the modes in the absence of rotation

rotation profile inside the star

each frequency (each couple  $l, k$ ) = one linear condition on  $\Omega$

$$\int K_i(r) \Omega(r) dr = w_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, N.$$

# HD129929

*Detection of 6 frequencies:*

$$f_1 = 6.461699 \text{ c/d } (l=2, m=?)$$

$$f_2 = 6.978305 \text{ c/d } (l=1, m=0)$$

$$f_3 = 6.449590 \text{ c/d } (l=2, m=?)$$

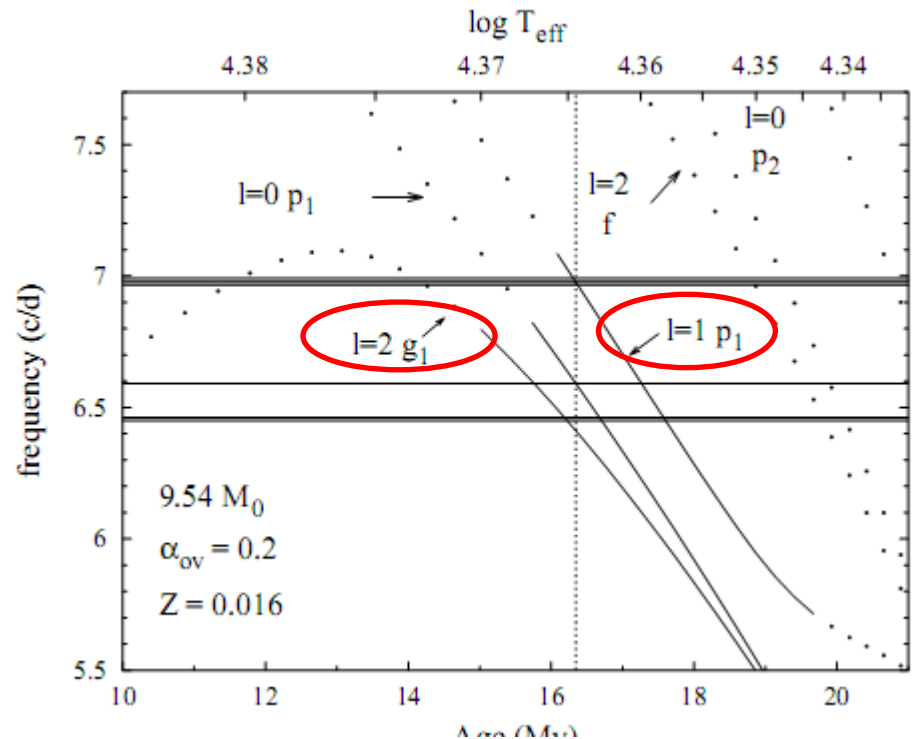
$$f_4 = 6.990431 \text{ c/d } (l=1, m=1)$$

$$f_5 = 6.590940 \text{ c/d } (l=0, m=0)$$

$$f_6 = 6.966172 \text{ c/d } (l=1, m=-1)$$

**2 consecutive  
members of quintuplet**

**one triplet**

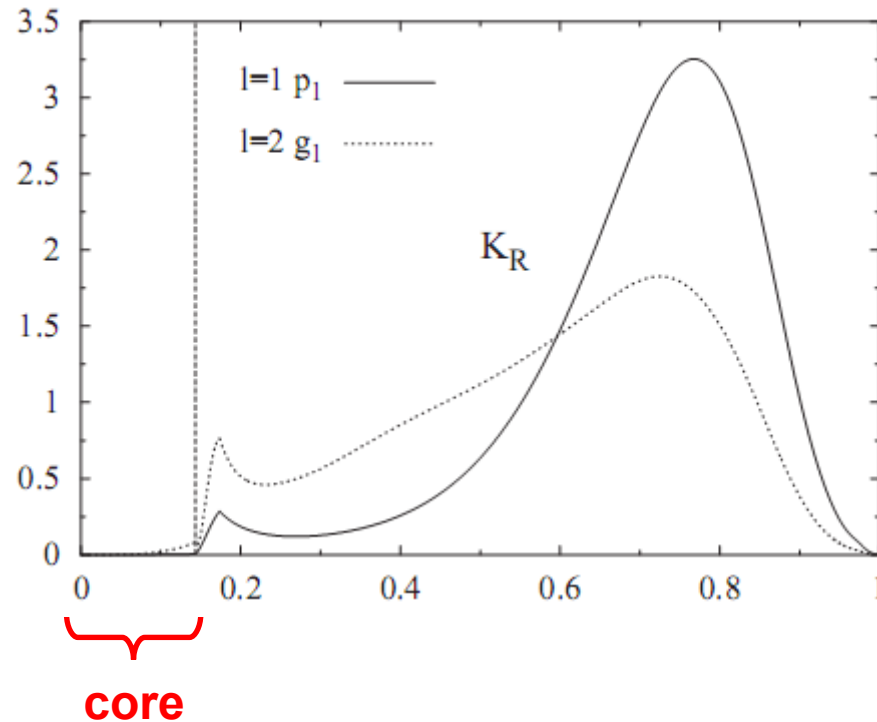


04/10/2011

KIT

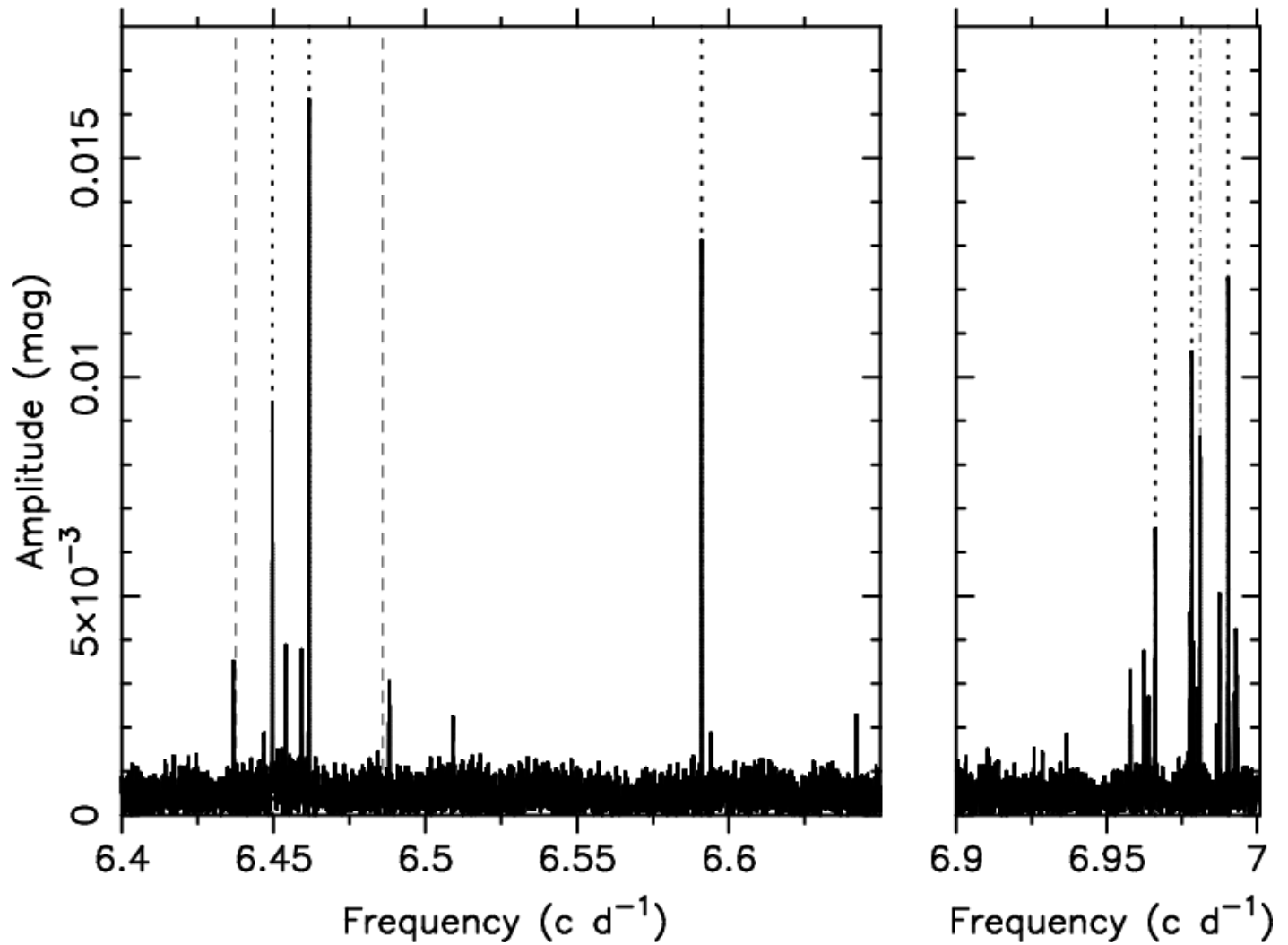
kernels are very different for the two modes  
→ give information about the rotation at different depths  
(of the radiative envelope)!

HD129929



HD129929 - A  $\beta$  cephei star  
Périodogramme

sparse  
spectrum



## **Methods of observation:**

**photometric : time series – direct measure of intensity variations**

**spectroscopic : measure of the changes of the surface velocity**

**The two methods sample the SAME pulsations, but in different ways**

**modes observed: low degree  $l$**

**Intensity variations and Doppler shift of spectral lines are weighted averages of the pulsation amplitude over the  $\tau=2/3$  surface  
→ reduced sensitivity to modes with high degree  $l$**

**Doppler observations: projection of the velocity over the line of sight  
→ slightly better observations of modes of moderate degree  $l$**

**Example:  $l=3$  modes detected in velocity observations, not in intensity observations.**

**Low frequencies → long-term monitoring is necessary  
especially true for high-order g-mode pulsators (SPB)**

**Ground-based observations:  
networks of small and medium size telescopes (Whole Earth Telescope,  
Delta Scuti Network, STEllar PHotometry International network)  
large multisite campaigns on dedicated stars**

**Space missions:  
non-dedicated: WIRE, Kepler  
dedicated: MOST, CoRoT**

**Mode identification → need for multi-site multicolour photometry  
and high-resolution spectroscopy**



## example of a $\beta$ Cephei star: 12 Lacertae

**Table 2.** Frequencies and amplitudes of the first moment of the Si III  $\lambda 4553 \text{ \AA}$  line together with their S/N ratio (we refer to the text for explanation). Error estimates (Montgomery & O'Donoghue 1999) for the independent frequencies range from  $\pm 0.000002$  for  $f_1$  to  $\pm 0.00002$  for  $f_9$ . The error on the amplitude is  $0.01 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ .

ID	Frequency		Amplitude [ $\text{km s}^{-1}$ ]	S/N
	[ $\text{d}^{-1}$ ]	[ $\mu\text{Hz}$ ]		
$f_1$	5.178964	59.941713	14.50	99.6
$f_2$	5.334224	61.738704	7.70	52.2
$f_3$	5.066316	58.637917	6.26	42.7
$f_4$	5.490133	63.543206	2.61	17.5
$f_9$	0.342841	3.968067	1.34	7.1
$f_5$	4.256966	49.270440	0.92	6.8
$f_6$	5.218075	60.394387	0.84	5.8
$f_7$	6.702318	77.573125	0.62	4.4
$f_8$	7.407162	85.731042	0.67	5.1
$f_9$	5.84511	67.65184	0.79	5.2
$2f_1$	10.35814	119.88590	0.63	4.5
$f_2 + f_3$	10.40056	120.37693	0.72	3.8
$f_1 + f_2$	10.51319	121.68044	2.59	19.7
$2f_1 + f_3$	15.42400	178.51860	0.72	6.6
$f_1 + f_2 + f_3$	15.57950	180.31838	0.71	6.4



about 10 frequencies

## mode identification: photometric spectroscopic

**Table 5.** Final results for the mode identifications for 12 Lac from our spectroscopic analysis together with the results from the photometric amplitude ratios (Handler et al. 2006).

ID	Frequency [ $\text{d}^{-1}$ ]	$\ell$		$n$
		Spectr	Phot.	
$f_1$	5.178964	1	1	1
$f_2$	5.334224	0	0	0
$f_3$	5.066316	1	1	0
$f_4$	5.490133	2	2	1
$f_9$	0.342841	-	1,2,4	0,-1
$f_5$	4.256966	-	2	[+]
$f_6$	5.218075	-	2,4	?
$f_7$	6.702318	-	1	?
$f_8$	7.407162	-	1,2	?
$f_9$	5.84511	-	1,2	?
$f_p$	5.30912	-	1,2	?

## example of a $\beta$ Cephei star: 12 Lacertae

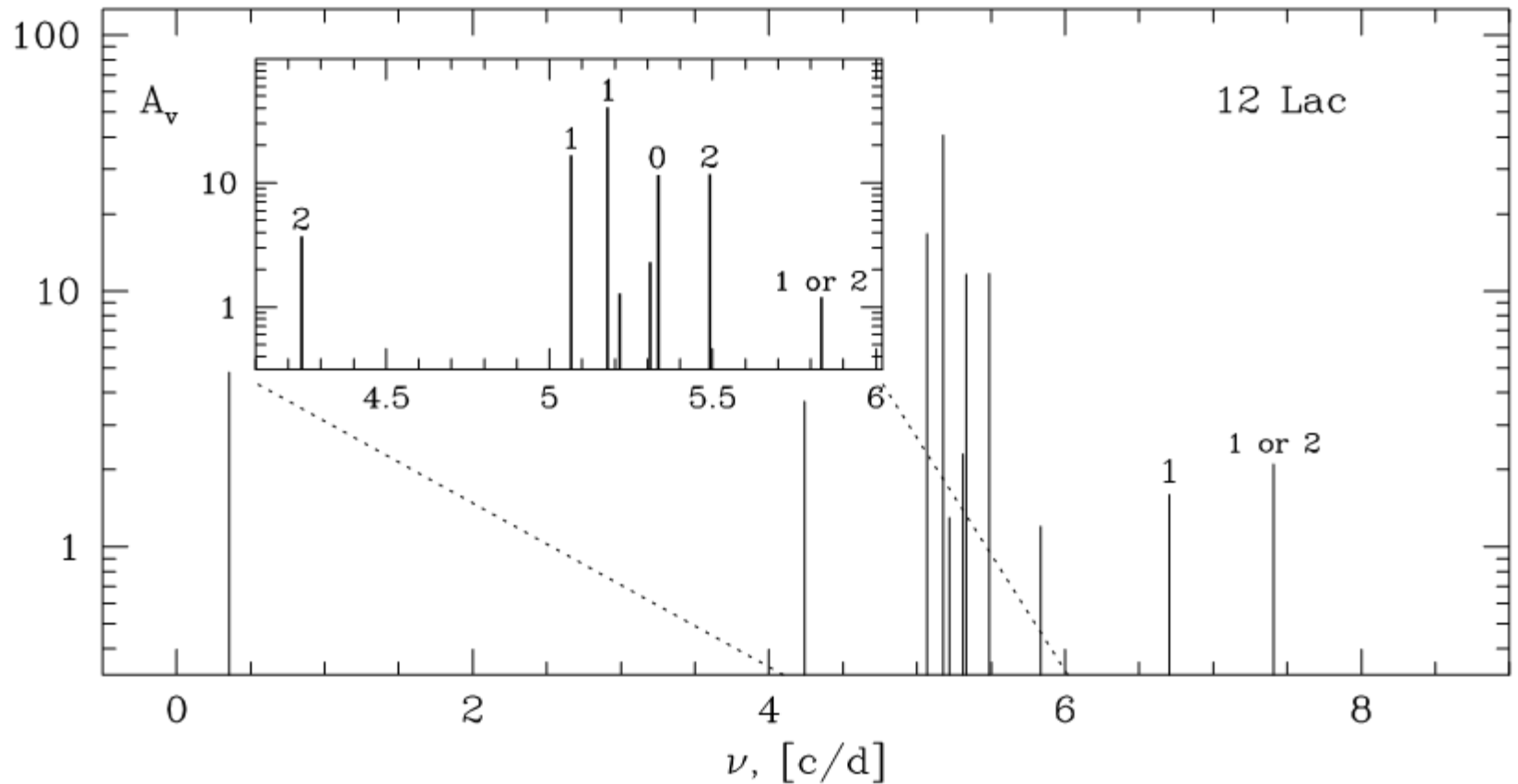


Figure 1. Oscillation spectra of  $\nu$  Eri and 12 Lac based on Jerzykiewicz et al. (2005) and Handler et al. (2006) data, respectively. The numbers above the bars are the most likely  $\ell$ -values, as inferred from data on amplitudes in four passbands of Strömgen photometry.

# Asteroseismology of B stars $\neq$ asteroseismic studies of solar-type stars

## solar-type stars

short-lived modes

comb-like spectrum of low degree  
high-order p modes

mode identification relatively easy  
with echelle diagram

asymptotic regime  
fit large and small separations

## B stars

long-lived modes

sparse spectrum of low order, low-  
degree p and g modes ( $\beta$  Cephei)  
or  
high-order g-modes (SPB)

mode identification is difficult  
need multicolour photometry and  
spectroscopy

fit exactly each frequency

# Main-sequence B stars: mode identification

**multicolour photometry**: amplitude and phase behavior of an oscillation mode are different in different filters

→ **degree l can be determined**

**line-profile variations**: its shape is entirely determined by the parameters in all the pulsational velocities, **including l and m**

# Asteroseismology of main-sequence B stars: Method

**$\beta$  Cephei stars**: sparse spectrum in non-asymptotic regime

## **DIRECT FITTING**

- run forward stellar models
- fit each axisymmetric frequency
- analyze the rotational splittings
- get constraints on the stellar parameters, the other observables  
( $\log T_{\text{eff}}$ ,  $\log g$ ,  $[M/H]_{\text{surf}}$ ,  $L$ ,  $R$ ), and the physics
- improve the physics

**→ NICE RESULTS OBTAINED**

# Main-sequence B stars

## Theoretical modelling

« Standard » stellar evolution code + « interesting » physics



### modeling parameters:

Mass  $M$

Initial Hydrogen mass fraction  $X$

Initial Metallicity  $Z$

(or initial Helium mass fraction  $Y$ )

Overshooting parameter  $\alpha_{ov}$



initial chemical composition

opacities: opal / OP / ?

« mixing »: overshooting, rotation, ?

convection theory

diffusion and gravitational settling

radiative accelerations

magnetic fields

mass loss

departures from spherical symmetry

...

# Asteroseismology: what we would like to learn

Basic stellar parameters

Mixing

Internal rotation

Diffusion, gravitational settling

Convective overshooting

Opacities, equation of state

Evolution of the chemical abundances

Mass loss

Magnetic fields

# Examples of well-studied stars or « A few \* success \* stories »

## Before Corot

- 16 Lacertae
- HD129929
- $\nu$  Eridani
- $\theta$  Ophiuchi
- 12 Lacertae

## Corot stars

- HD 180642
- HD 50230
- HD 51756
- HD 170580



# Examples of well-studied stars

- **16 Lacertae** : 3 frequencies observed and identified, 2 axisymmetric modes; no multiplet  
→ very precise values of  $M$ ,  $T_{\text{eff}}$ ,  $L$ , age
- HD129929
- $\nu$  Eridani
- $\theta$  Ophiuchi
- 12 Lacertae
- HD 180642

# Examples of well-studied stars

- 16 Lacertae : 3 frequencies observed and identified, 2 axisymmetric modes; no multiplet  
→ very precise values of  $M$ ,  $T_{\text{eff}}$ ,  $L$ , age

- **HD129929** : 6 freq. observed and identified, 2 axisymmetric modes, 1 triplet,  
(movie) 2 members of a quintuplet

→ precise values for  $M$ ,  $Z$ ,  $T_{\text{eff}}$ ,  $L$ , age

+ evidence for core overshooting

+ evidence for non-rigid rotation

Note: bad frequencies  
= no solution!!!

- $\nu$  Eridani
- $\theta$  Ophiuchi
- 12 Lacertae

# Examples of well-studied stars

- 16 Lacertae : 3 frequencies observed and identified, 2 axisymmetric modes; no multiplet  
→ very precise values of  $M$ ,  $T_{\text{eff}}$ ,  $L$ , age
- HD129929 : 6 freq. observed and identified, 2 axisymmetric modes, 1 triplet, 2 members of a quintuplet  
→ precise values for  $M$ ,  $Z$ ,  $T_{\text{eff}}$ ,  $L$ , age  
+ evidence for core overshooting and non-rigid rotation
- $\nu$  Eridani: 12 frequencies observed, 7 identified,  
2 axisymmetric modes, one triplet  
+ 2 low-frequency modes
- $\theta$  Ophiuchi
- 12 Lacertae

# $\nu$ Eridani observations

**Large multisite photometric campaign 2002-2003:** 11 telescopes, 148 clear nights

+

**Large multisite spectroscopic campaign:** 11 observatories, 2294 high-resolution spectra

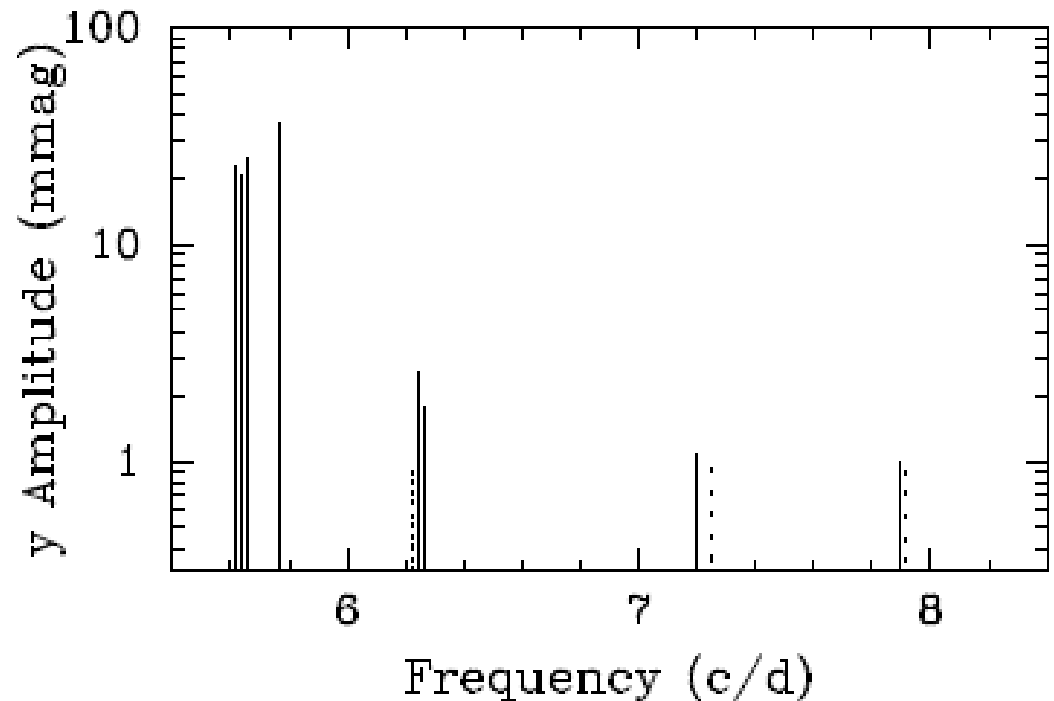
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**Large multisite photometric campaign 2003-2004:** 5 telescopes, 142 clear nights

# $\nu$ Eridani pulsations

first photometric campaign  $\rightarrow$  8 independent frequencies detected  
+ 1 low-frequency mode

ID	Freq. ( $\text{cd}^{-1}$ )
$f_1$	5.76327
$f_3$	5.62006
$f_4$	5.63716
$f_2$	5.65393
$f_6$	6.24408
$f_7$	6.26205
$f_8$	7.19994
$f_5$	7.89780
$f_A$	0.43218

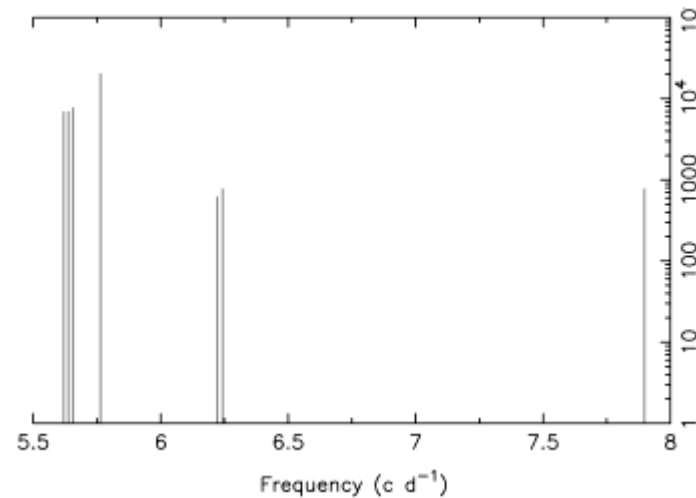


Handler et al. 2004

# $\nu$ Eridani pulsations

spectroscopic campaign  $\rightarrow$  7 independent frequencies detected  
+ no low-frequency mode

Number	Identification	Freq. ( $\text{cd}^{-1}$ )
1	$f_1$	5.763298
2	$f_2$	5.654014
3	$f_3$	5.620097
4	$f_4$	5.637432
5	$f_1 + f_2$	11.417312
6	$f_1 + f_3$	11.383395
7	$f_1 + f_4$	11.400730
8	$f_1 + f_2 + f_3$	17.037409
9	$f_9$	6.242458
10	$f_{10}$	7.898225
11	$2f_1 + f_2 + f_3$	22.800707
12	$2f_1 + f_3$	17.146693
13	$f_{13}$	6.221429
14	$2f_1 + f_2$	17.180610
15	$2f_1 + f_4$	17.163392
16	$f_1 + f_{10}$	13.661523
17	$3f_1$	17.289894
18	$3f_4$	16.912296
19	$1 + f_2 + f_3$	12.274111



Aerts et al. 2004

# $\nu$ Eridani pulsations

second photometric campaign  $\rightarrow$  10 independent frequencies detected + 2 low-frequency modes

ID	Frequency [ $d^{-1}$ ]
$f_1$	$5.763256 \pm 0.000012$
$f_2$	$5.653897 \pm 0.000020$
$f_3$	$5.619979 \pm 0.000021$
$f_4$	$5.637215 \pm 0.000025$
$f_5$	$7.89859 \pm 0.00022$
$f_7$	$6.26225 \pm 0.00025$
$f_A$	$0.43257 \pm 0.00028$
$f_6$	$6.24468 \pm 0.00034$
$f_B$	$0.61411 \pm 0.00033$
$f_{10}$	$7.9296 \pm 0.0005$
$f_9$	$7.9132 \pm 0.0005$
$f_8$	$7.2006 \pm 0.0005$

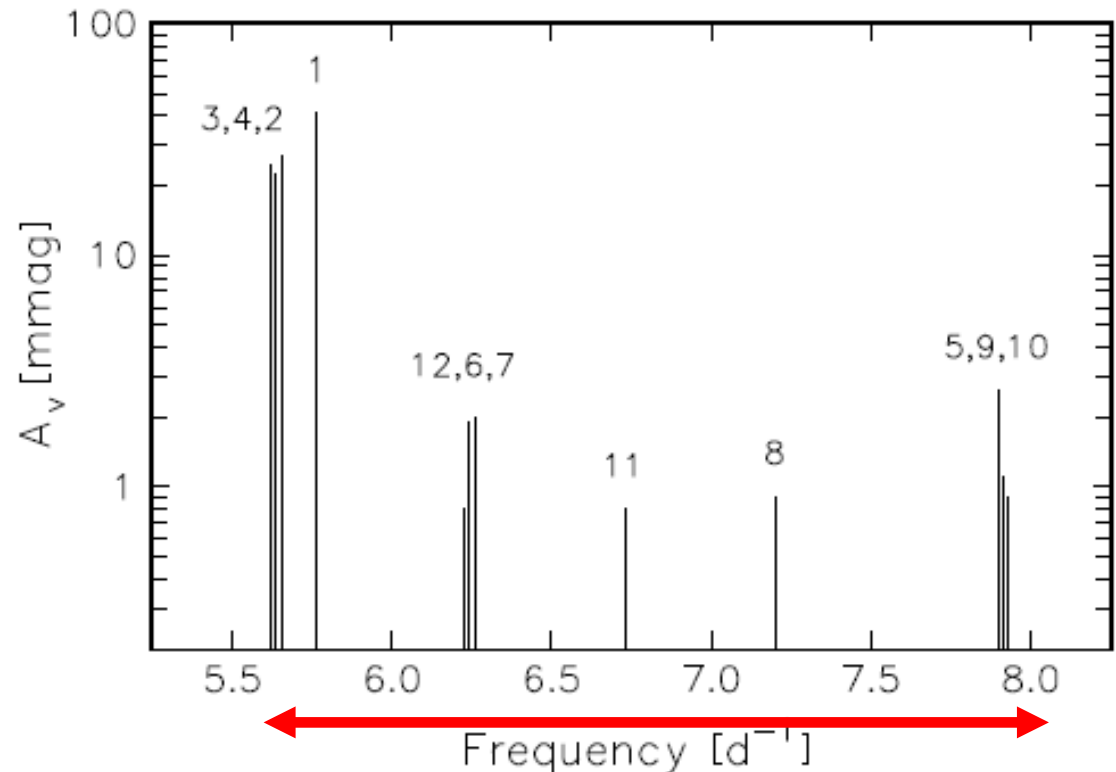
Jerzykiewicz et al. 2005

# $\nu$ Eridani pulsations

combined first + second photometric campaign  $\rightarrow$  12 independent frequencies detected + 2 low-frequency modes

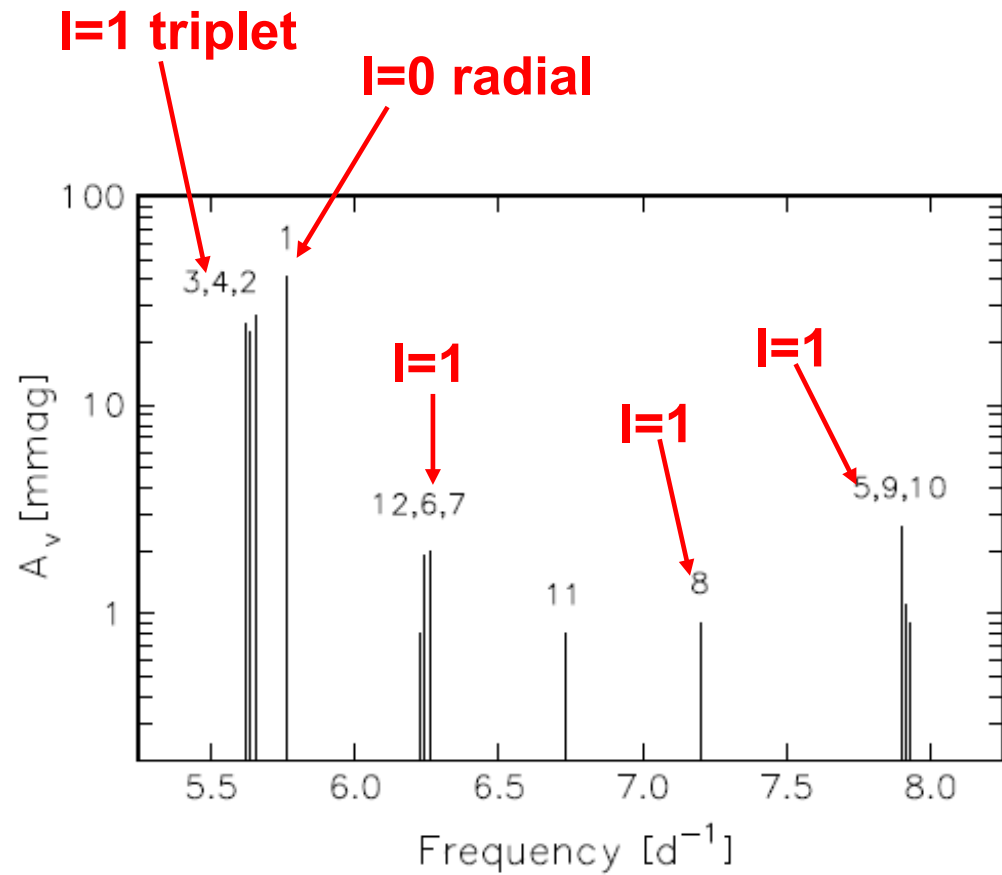
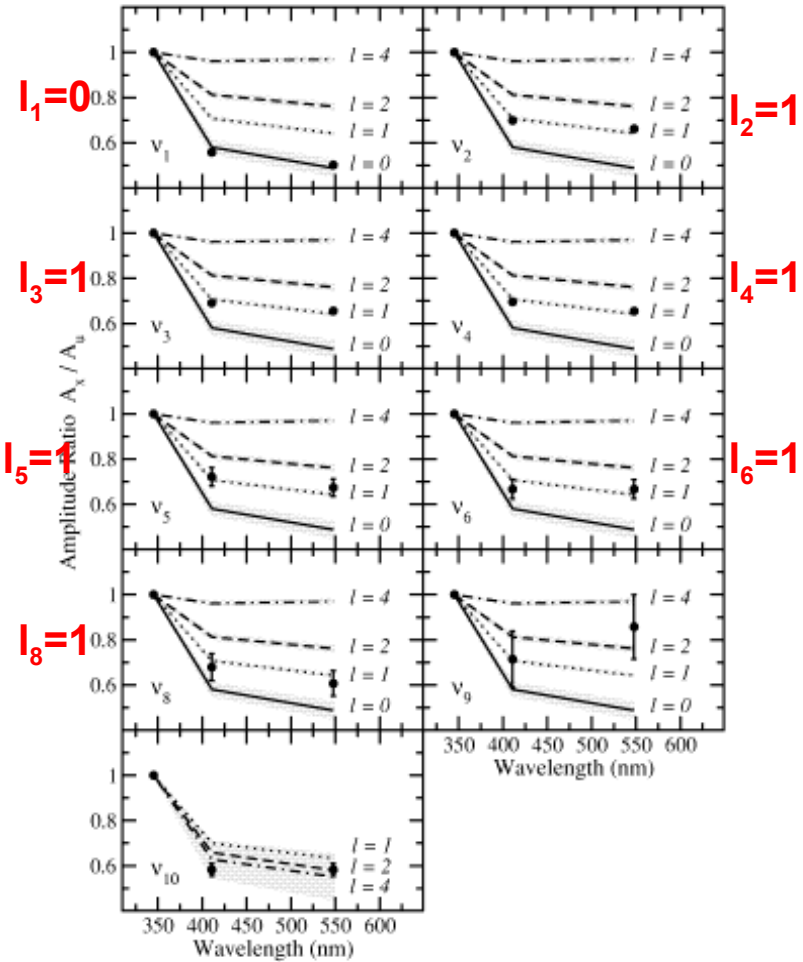
ID	Frequency [ $d^{-1}$ ]
$f_1$	$5.7632828 \pm 0.0000019$
$f_2$	$5.6538767 \pm 0.0000030$
$f_3$	$5.6200186 \pm 0.0000031$
$f_4$	$5.6372470 \pm 0.0000038$
$f_5$	$7.898200 \pm 0.000032$
$\rightarrow f_A$	$0.432786 \pm 0.000032$
$f_7$	$6.262917 \pm 0.000044$
$f_6$	$6.243847 \pm 0.000042$
$\rightarrow f_B$	$0.61440 \pm 0.00005$
$f_9$	$7.91383 \pm 0.00008$
$f_{10}$	$7.92992 \pm 0.00010$
$f_8$	$7.20090 \pm 0.00009$
$f_{11}$	$6.73223 \pm 0.00012$
$f_{12}$	$6.22360 \pm 0.00012$

$\rightarrow$  HYBRID  $\beta$  CEPHEI/SPB star!





# $\nu$ Eridani mode identification



# $\nu$ Eridani modelling

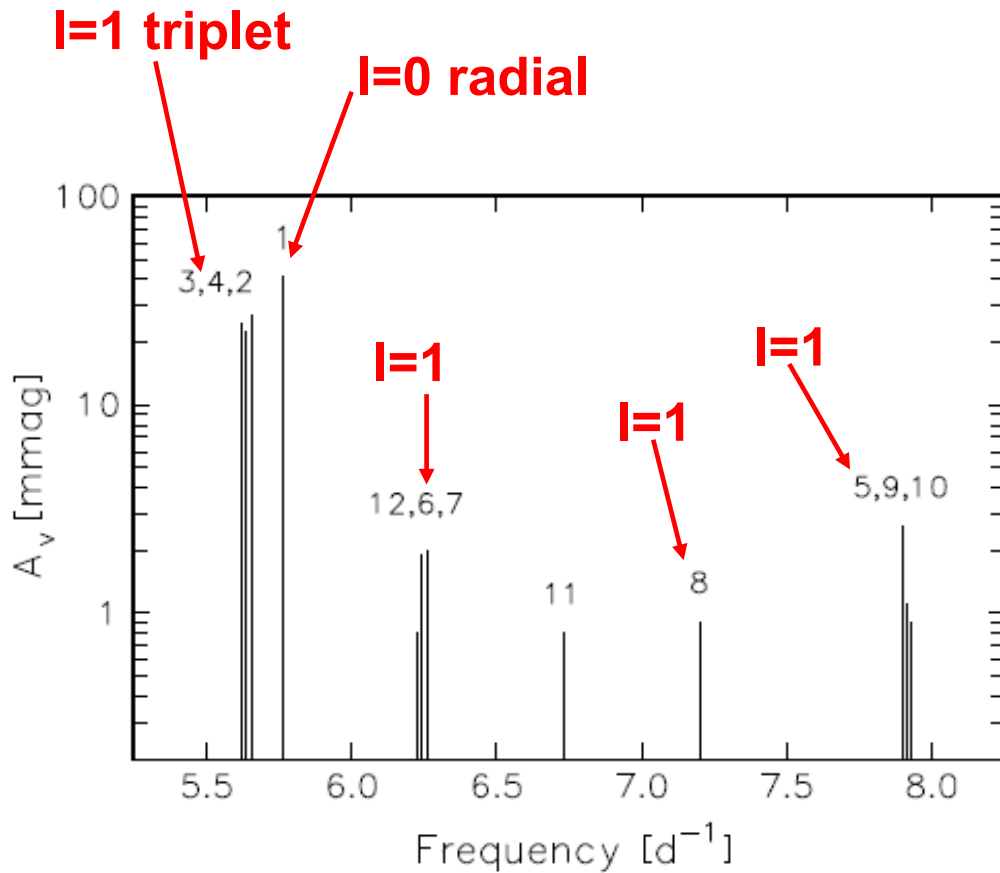
2 axisymmetric modes identified + complete triplet + additional frequencies

→ asteroseismic modelling possible

For each set of model parameters  $(M, X, Z, \alpha_{\text{ov}})$ , fitting the radial mode gives the **age of the star ( $T_{\text{eff}}$ )**

For a given set of model parameters  $(X, Z, \alpha_{\text{ov}})$ , fitting the second axisymmetric frequency fixes **the age ( $T_{\text{eff}}$ ) AND the mass  $M$**

# $\nu$ Eridani modelling

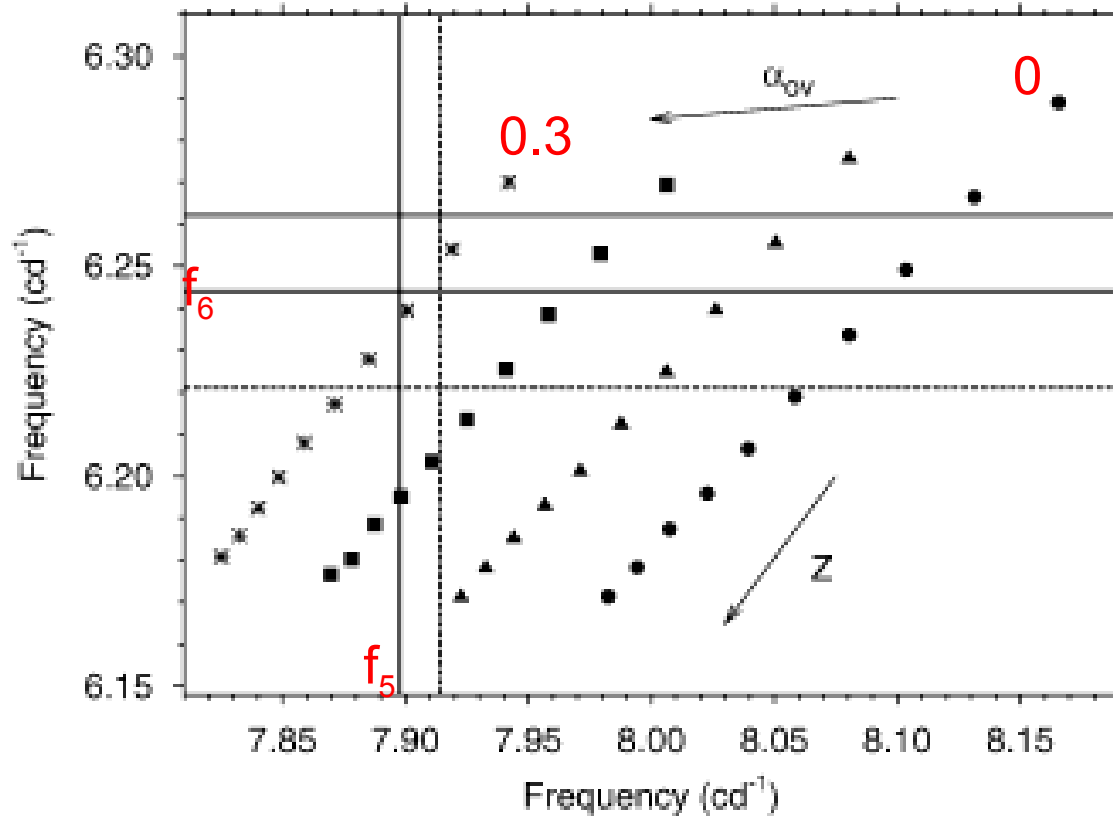


$\rightarrow f_1$  is a p1 mode  
 $\rightarrow f_4$  is a  $l=1$  g1 mode

$f_6$  can be fitted by the  $l=1$  p1 mode, without additional constraints on the parameters (for each  $\alpha_{ov}$ , M and Z are now fixed)

# $\nu$ Eridani modelling

for all the models that fit  $f_1$  and  $f_4$ , look at the values of the  $f_6$  ( $l=1, p1$ ) and  $f_5$  ( $l=1, p2$ ) frequencies



→ « high » overshooting:  
 $\alpha_{ov} \sim 0.3$

and

« low » metallicity:  
 $Z \sim 0.015$

# $\mathbb{R}$ Eridani modelling

Modelling seems to be OK  
also evidence for non-rigid rotation

**BUT**

**No excited frequencies in the range of observed frequencies!!!**

→ Non-standard models (higher Fe or lower X)  
or  
Ad-hoc enhancement of iron in the driving region

→ higher frequency modes can be excited,  
but **NOT the low frequency g modes**

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**No excited frequencies in the range of observed frequencies!!!**

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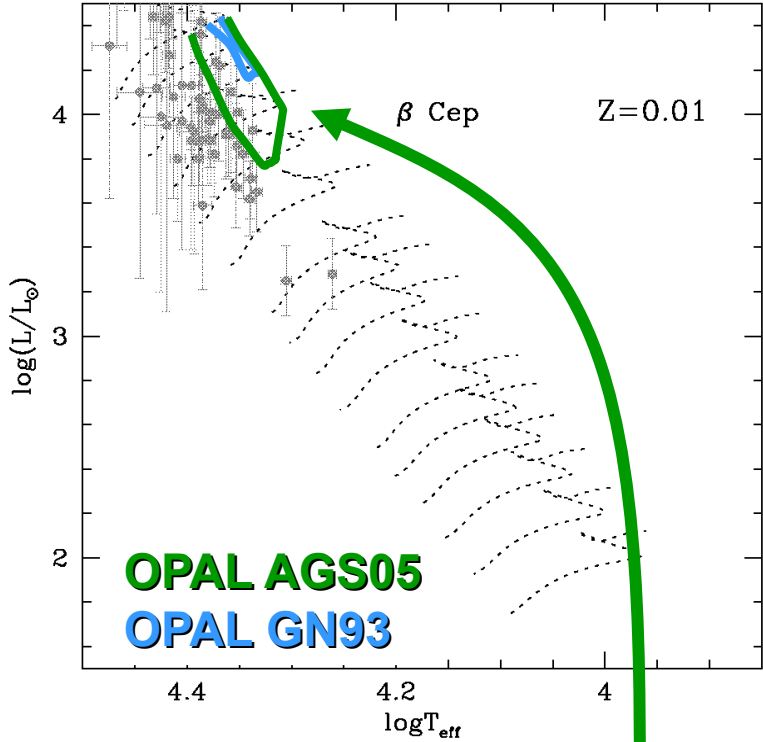
→ higher frequency modes can be excited,  
but **NOT the low frequency g modes**

# Abundances and opacities

**Chemical composition (in particular Fe)  
and  
opacity tables ( $\kappa$  mechanism)**

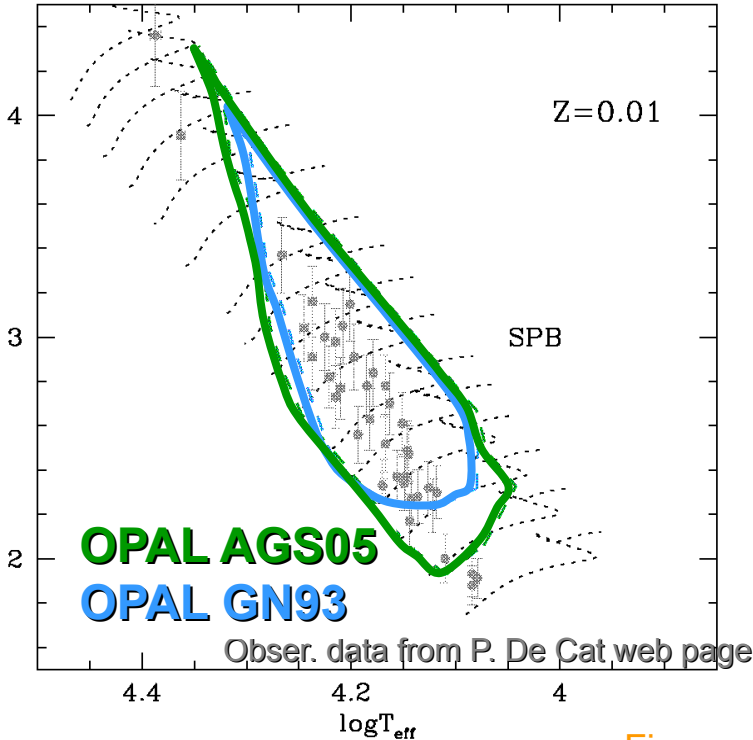
**→ very important to determine excitation**

# Abundances



$Z=0.01$  Kolaczowski et al. 06;  
Morel et al. 06

AGS05  $Z_{\odot}=0.012$

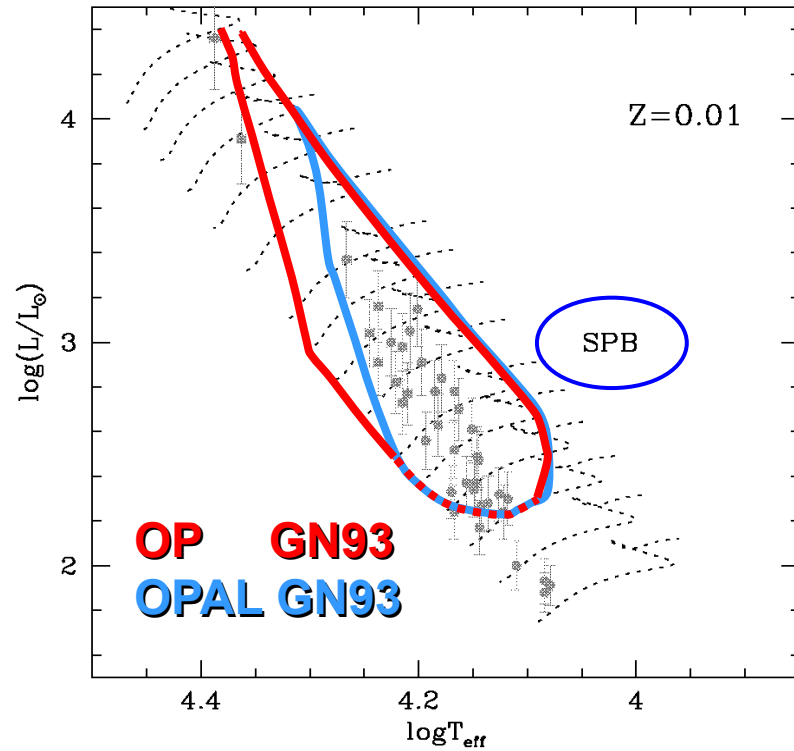
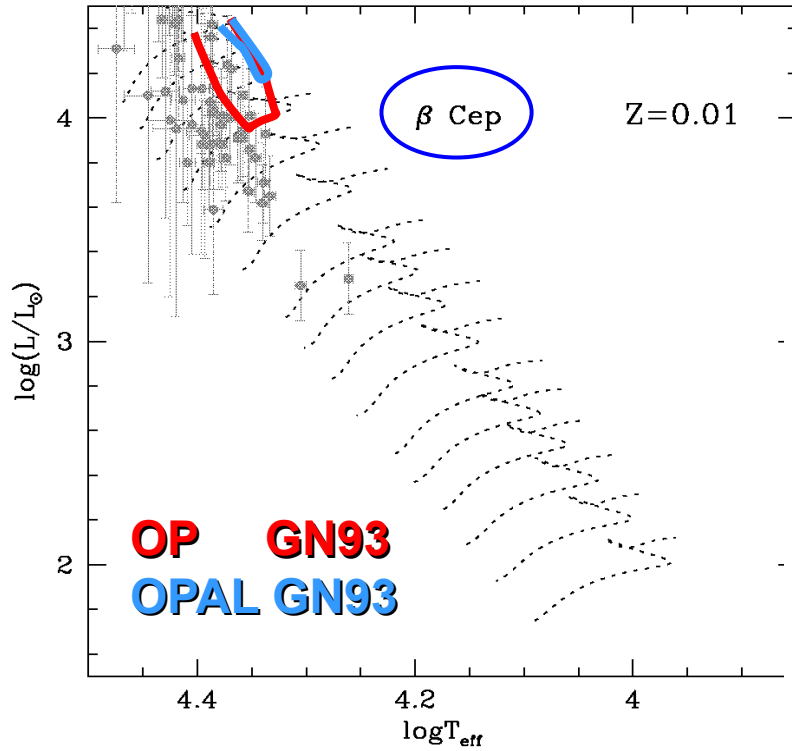


AGS05  $\rightarrow$  20% more Fe!

Figures courtesy of Montalbán & Miglio



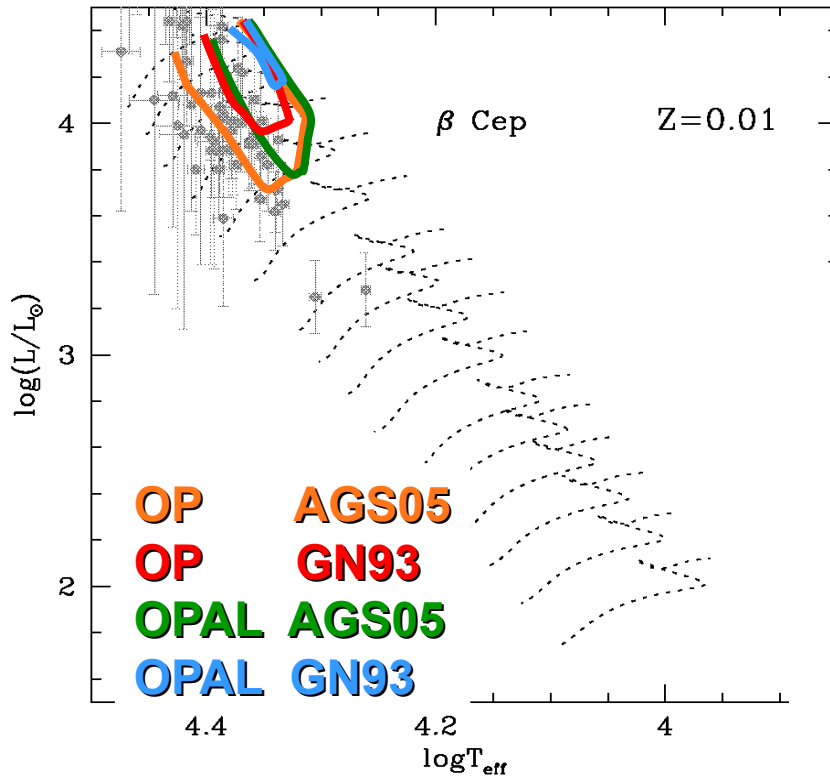
# Opacities



Obser. data from P. De Cat web page

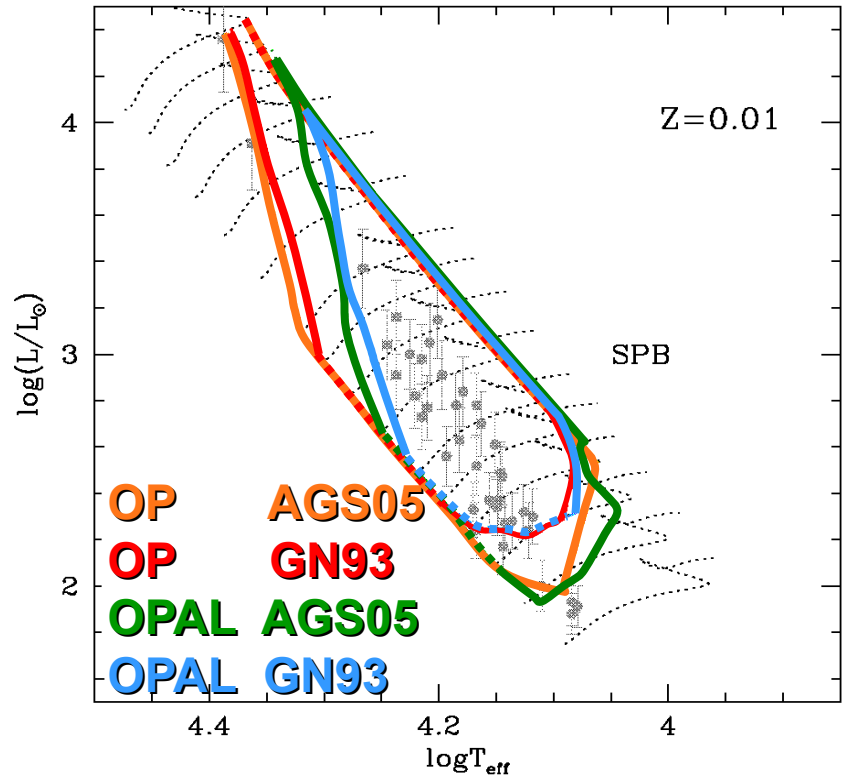
Figures courtesy of  
Montalban&Miglio

# Abundances and opacities



Obser. data from P. De Cat web page

Figures courtesy of  
Montalbán & Miglio



# Abundances and opacities

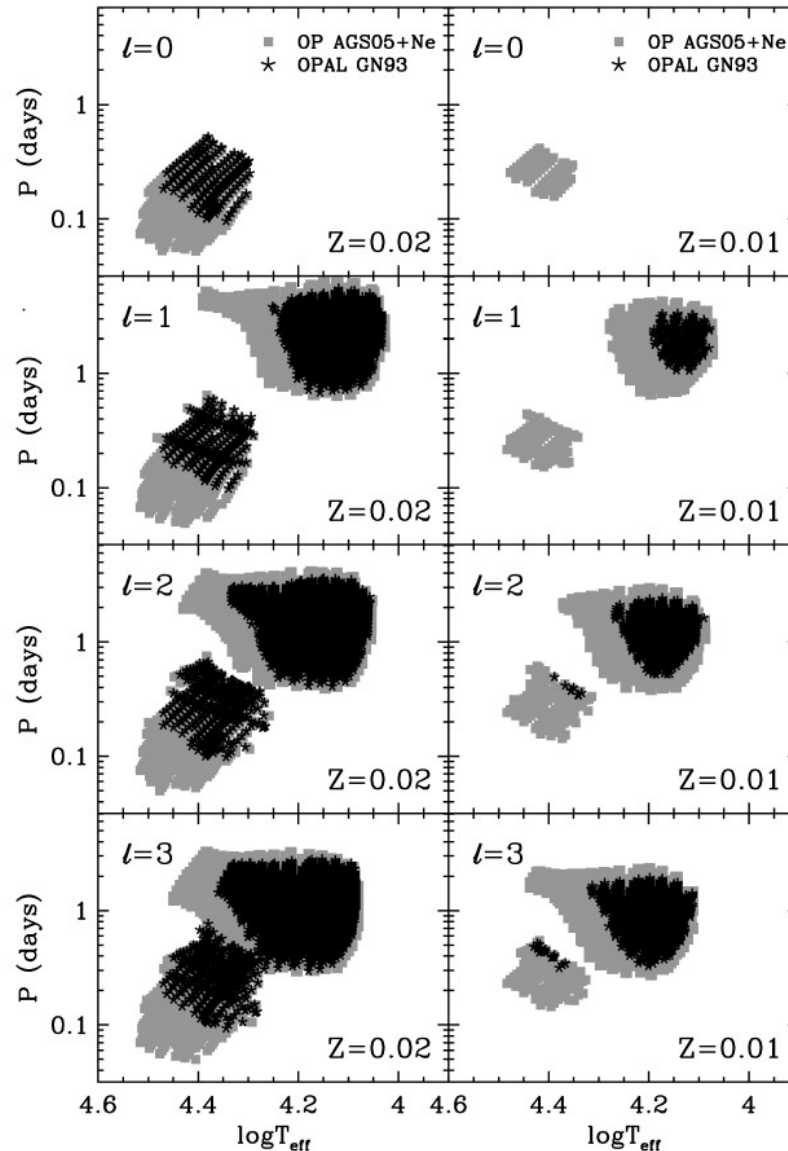
AGS05 and OP



bluer border of SPB and  $\beta$  Cephei instability strips

larger number of hybrid SPB- $\beta$  Cephei pulsators

more  $\beta$  Cephei modes excited at  $Z=0.01$



# $\nu$ Eridani modelling

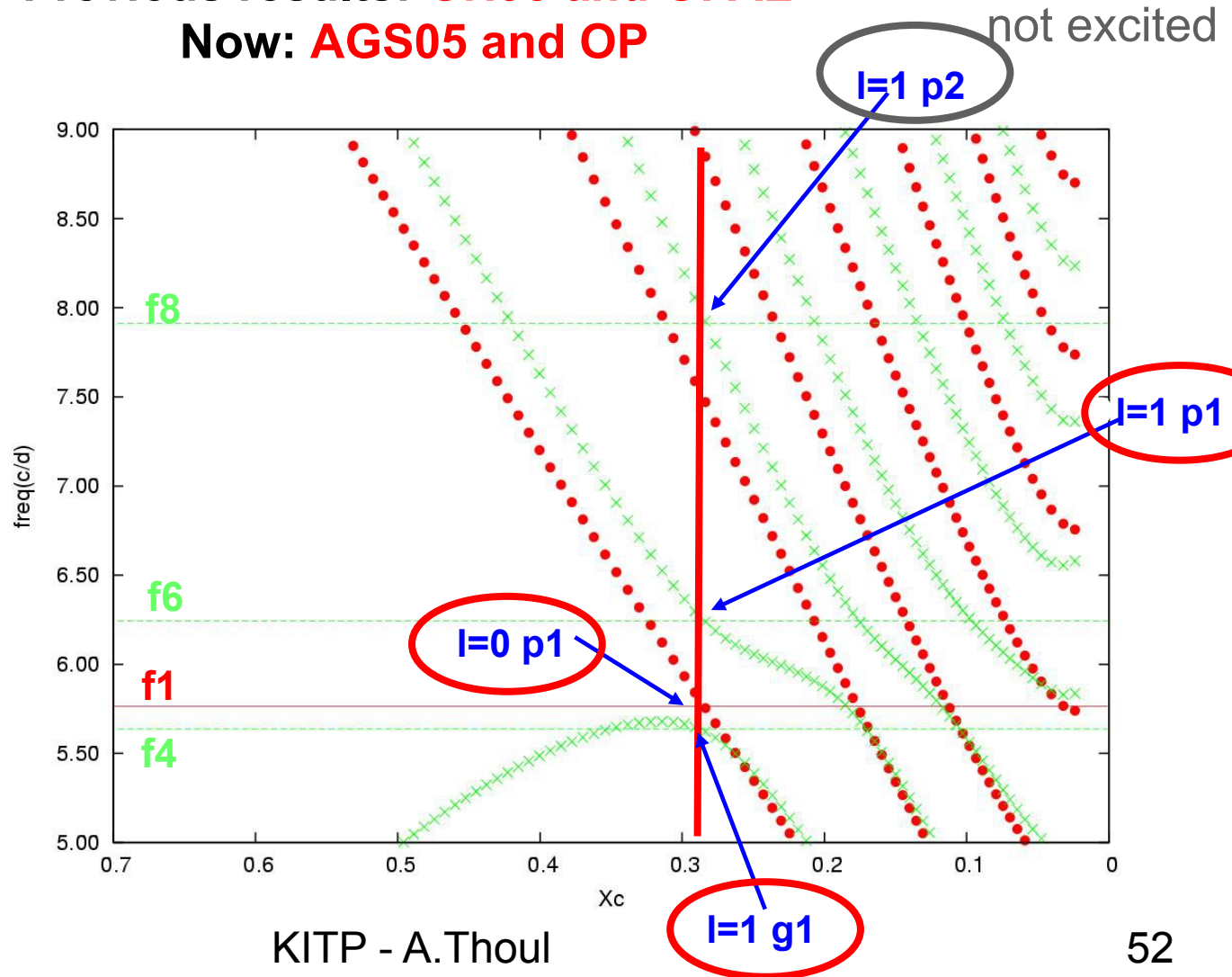
Previous results: **GN93** and **OPAL**

Now: **AGS05** and **OP**

fit 4 frequencies



- $X=0.7211$   
 $Z=0.021$   
 $\alpha_{ov}=0.22$   
 $M=9.1$
- $X=0.70$   
 $Z=0.022$   
 $\alpha_{ov}=0.22$   
 $M=8.9$



# $\nu$ Eridani modelling

ID	Frequency [d <sup>-1</sup> ]
$f_1$	5.7632828 ± 0.0000019
$f_2$	5.6538767 ± 0.0000030
$f_3$	5.6200186 ± 0.0000031
$f_4$	5.6372470 ± 0.0000038
$f_5$	7.898200 ± 0.000032
$f_A$	0.432786 ± 0.000032
$f_7$	6.262917 ± 0.000044
$f_6$	6.243847 ± 0.000042
$f_B$	0.61440 ± 0.00005
$f_9$	7.91383 ± 0.00008
$f_{10}$	7.92992 ± 0.00010
$f_8$	7.20090 ± 0.00009
$f_{11}$	6.73223 ± 0.00012
$f_{12}$	6.22360 ± 0.00012

low-frequency high order g modes :

excited in range 0.55-0.91 c/d

→  $f_B$  is excited, but not  $f_A$

# $\nu$ Eridani

- **AGS05 abundances and OP opacities help solve the problems of  $\nu$ Eri.**
- **BUT some problems remain:**
  - **Z higher than observed; independent of X!**
  - **highest frequency mode not excited**
  - **range of excited high-order g modes**

# Examples of well-studied stars

- 16 Lacertae : 3 frequencies observed and identified, 2 axisymmetric modes; no multiplet  
→ very precise values of  $M$ ,  $T_{\text{eff}}$ ,  $L$ , age
- HD129929 : 6 freq. observed and identified, 2 axisymmetric modes, 1 triplet, 2 members of a quintuplet  
→ precise values for  $M$ ,  $Z$ ,  $T_{\text{eff}}$ ,  $L$ , age  
+ evidence for core overshooting and non-rigid rotation
- **$\nu$  Eridani**: 12 frequencies observed, 7 identified, 2 axisymmetric modes, one triplet + 2 low-frequency modes = **HYBRID  $\beta$  Cephei/SPB pulsator**  
→ precise values for  $M$ ,  $Z$ ,  $T_{\text{eff}}$ ,  $\log g$ , age,  $\alpha_{\text{ov}}$ , non-rigid rotation  
**+ need for updated abundances AGS05 and OP opacities**  
**+ problems not completely solved**
- $\theta$  Ophiuchi
- 12 Lacertae

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**evidence for high overshooting**  
**rigid rotation possible**  
**non-axisymmetry in splitting explained by second-order effects of rotation**  
**+ problem with spectroscopic error box...**
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# Examples of well-studied stars

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→ **very precise values of M,  $T_{\text{eff}}$ , L, age**
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**evidence for high overshooting**  
**rigid rotation possible**  
**non-axisymmetry in splitting explained by second-order effects of rotation**  
+ problems with spectroscopic error box
- **12 Lacertae: 10 frequencies observed, 6 identified, problematic identification...**

# 12 (DD) Lacertae

## A long history...

Observed as a **variable star** since **1915!**

$P = \text{period, } 0^{\text{d}}193089 \text{ days, } = 4^{\text{h}} 38^{\text{m}} 3^{\text{s}}$

$1/P = 5,17896 \text{ c/d}$

**Present value: 5.179034 c/d**

Observed as a **multi-periodic** variable star since **1957!**

*« Thus the star 12 (DD) Lacertae has a principal period of 4h. 38m. and a secondary period of 4h. 44m., while recently a third component of 3h. 45m. has been found, and a fourth one of 3.9h. has been suggested. The periods occur in the variation of both the light and the radial velocity. »*

**Two frequencies** known with **good precision** since **1961!**

$P_1 = 0^{\text{d}}19308858$

$P_2 = 0^{\text{d}}1973685$

$f_1 = 5,17897 \text{ c/d}$

$f_2 = 5,06666 \text{ c/d}$

**Present**

**values:**

**5.179034 c/d**


**5.066346 c/d**

# 12 (DD) Lacertae a long history...

★ 1978: 6 frequencies, including an  $l=3$  triplet

« As a result of a frequency analysis of the published observations of 12 Lacertae, six short-period sine-wave components are found in the star's light variation. The component frequencies have the following values:  $32.5426 \pm 0.0007$ ,  $31.8341 \pm 0.0022$ ,  $34.4951 \pm 0.0024$ ,  $33.5189 \pm 0.0013$ ,  $66.0615 \pm 0.0015$ ,  $26.644 \pm 0.009$  rad/d, and the »

« From the position of the four strongest components in the frequency spectrum it is concluded that 12 Lacertae is a slowly rotating nonradial oscillator in which two spherical harmonic modes of different degree are simultaneously excited. If use is made of the line profile observations, the triplet frequencies can be identified as corresponding to  $l = 3, m = -1, -2, -3$  oscillations »

	$f_1 = 5,17930$ c/d ● $f_2 = 5.0665$ c/d $f_3 = 5.4901$ c/d ● $l=3$ $f_4 = 5.3347$ c/d ● $f_5 = 10.5140$ c/d $f_6 = 4.2405$ c/d	<b>Present values:</b>	$f_1 = 5,179034$ c/d
			$f_2 = 5.066346$ c/d
			$f_3 = 5.490167$ c/d
			$f_4 = 5.334357$ c/d
			$f_5 = -$ c/d
			$f_6 = 4.24062$ c/d
	$f_4 - f_1 = 0.1554$ c/d $f_3 - f_4 = 0.1554$ c/d		

# 12 (DD) Lacertae

## a complicated history...

★ **1980: radial mode + different identification: triplet is  $l=2$ , NOT  $l=3$ !**

« Line profile observations of the Si III  $\lambda 4567$  line in the  $\beta$  Cephei star 12 Lacertae have been successfully fitted over three observing runs with a four-mode solution consistent with periods determined earlier by Jerzykiewicz. It is found that the variations in line shape can be fitted only with a radial mode of amplitude  $13 \text{ km s}^{-1}$  and with three nonradial modes of amplitude  $40 \text{ km s}^{-1}$  whose states are described by  $l = 2, m = 0, -1, \text{ and } -2$ . The latter three modes are evidently equipartitioned in energy. The  $l = 2$  identification is also compatible with the observed light and color amplitudes for these modes, but  $l \geq 3$  fails to meet these tests. Two independent »

★ **1994: try to discriminate between proposed identifications using the moment method BUT impossible to identify the modes!**

★ **1998: try to identify the modes through stellar modelling BUT impossible to identify the modes!**

### Abstract

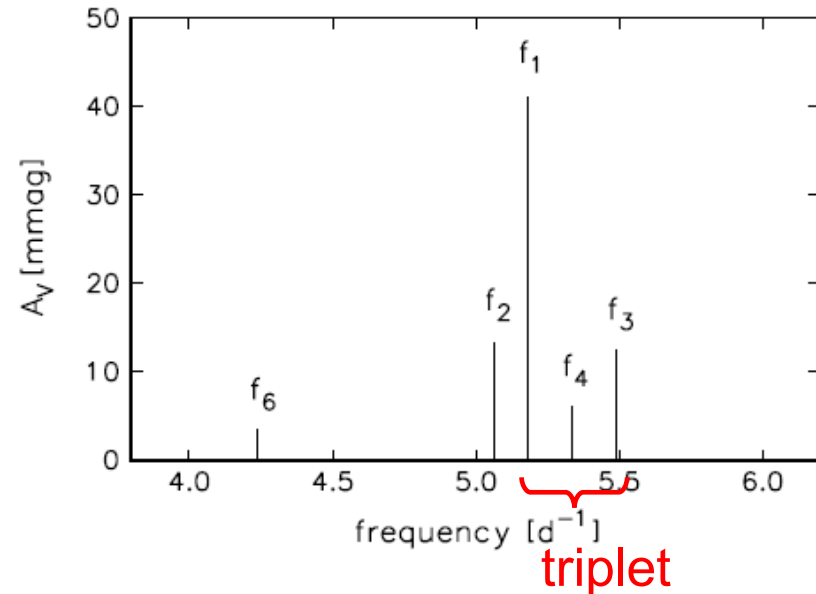
Five pulsation modes have been detected in this well-known beta Cephei star. Three of them, including the strongest one, form an equidistant frequency triplet. We consider identifications of the observed pulsation frequencies with computed eigenfrequencies of low degree modes ( $l \leq 2$ ) in a series of stellar models covering the range of the effective temperature and surface gravity consistent with best available data. We show that the existing determinations of the degree of even the strongest observed mode are discrepant and therefore do little to constrain the problem. Finally, we discuss the difficulties posed by the observed equidistant frequency triplet.

# 12 (DD) Lacertae

## a very complicated history...



**1999: discrepant determinations of the degree of the VERY equidistant triplet**



**Abstract.** Five pulsation modes are simultaneously excited in this well-known  $\beta$  Cephei star. Three of them, including the one with the largest light and radial-velocity amplitudes, form a triplet. The triplet is equidistant in frequency to within the errors of measurement, that is,  $0.0003 d^{-1}$ .

Explaining why the triplet should be so nearly equidistant turns out to be a real challenge to the theory. We investigate the following three options: (1) rotational splitting, (2) an oblique magnetic pulsator, and (3) nonlinear phase lock. Unfortunately, apart from the frequencies, the data are meager. Photometric indices yield the effective temperature and surface gravity of rather low accuracy. In addition, the existing determinations of the spherical harmonic degree of even the strongest observed mode are discrepant. Consequently, the model parameters are not well constrained.

We show that of the three above-mentioned options, the oblique pulsator model is unlikely because it would require excessively strong dipolar field or a special field geometry. The rotational splitting is a possibility, but only for an  $\ell = 2, p_0$  mode in a model with specific values of the effective temperature and surface gravity. Finally, we note that the nonlinear phase lock

# 12 (DD) Lacertae

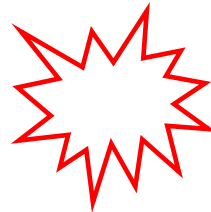
## the story continues.... and....

### SURPRISE!!!!!!

 **2006: Large multisite campaign → 10 independent frequencies.**  
The equidistant triplet **not a triplet at all: different values of  $\ell$  !!!**

#### ABSTRACT

We report a multisite photometric campaign for the  $\beta$  Cephei star 12 Lacertae. 750 hours of high-quality differential photoelectric Strömberg, Johnson and Geneva time-series photometry were obtained with 9 telescopes during 190 nights. Our frequency analysis results in the detection of 23 sinusoidal signals in the light curves. Eleven of those correspond to independent pulsation modes, and the remainder are combination frequencies. We find some slow aperiodic variability such as that seemingly present in several  $\beta$  Cephei stars. We perform mode identification from our colour photometry, derive the spherical degree  $\ell$  for the five strongest modes unambiguously and provide constraints on  $\ell$  for the weaker modes. We find a mixture of modes of  $0 \leq \ell \leq 4$ . In particular, we prove that the previously suspected rotationally split triplet within the modes of 12 Lac consists of modes of different  $\ell$ ; their equal frequency splitting must thus be accidental.



# 12 (DD) Lacertae

## the latest observations and identifications

**Table 2.** Multifrequency solution for our time-resolved photometry of 12 Lac. Formal error estimates (following Montgomery & O'Donoghue 1999) for the independent frequencies range from  $\pm 0.000007 \text{ cd}^{-1}$  for  $f_1$  to  $\pm 0.00023 \text{ cd}^{-1}$  for  $f_{10}$ . Formal errors on the amplitudes are  $\pm 0.2 \text{ mmag}$  in  $u$  and  $\pm 0.1 \text{ mmag}$  in  $v$  and  $V$ . The S/N ratio, computed following Breger et al. (1993), is for the  $V$  filter data.

ID	Freq. ( $\text{cd}^{-1}$ )	$u$ Ampl. (mmag)	$v$ Ampl. (mmag)	$V$ Ampl. (mmag)	S/N
$f_1$	5.179034	56.4	40.7	38.1	178.6
$f_2$	5.066346	23.3	16.7	16.0	74.6
$f_3$	5.490167	14.2	11.7	11.1	52.4
$f_4$	5.334357	21.9	11.6	10.0	47.3
$f_5$	4.24062	4.4	3.7	3.6	15.8
$f_A$	0.35529	7.2	4.8	5.0	14.4
$f_6$	7.40705	2.8	2.1	2.0	9.7
$f_7$	5.30912	2.7	2.3	2.0	9.5
$f_8$	5.2162	1.3	1.3	1.3	6.2
$f_9$	6.7023	2.2	1.6	1.3	6.3
$f_{10}$	5.8341	1.8	1.2	1.3	6.1
$f_1 + f_4$	10.513392	8.3	5.9	5.5	32.9
$f_3 + f_A$	5.84546	2.3	1.6	1.8	8.7
$f_2 + f_4$	10.400704	2.3	1.7	1.7	10.3
$2f_1$	10.358069	1.9	1.2	1.2	6.9
$f_1 + f_2$	10.245381	1.7	1.3	1.2	6.9
$2f_8$	10.4324	1.5	1.4	1.0	6.1
$2f_4$	10.668715	1.0	0.8	0.7	4.3
$f_3 + f_4$	10.824524	0.8	0.7	0.6	3.9
$f_2 + f_3$	10.556514	1.1	0.8	0.7	4.0
$2f_1 + f_2$	15.424415	0.6	0.6	0.5	4.3
$f_1 + f_2 + f_4$	15.579738	1.0	0.6	0.5	4.5
$2f_1 + f_4$	15.692426	1.0	0.6	0.5	4.3

### identification:

**Table 3.** Mode identifications for 12 Lac from our analysis of the photometric amplitude ratios.

ID	Freq. ( $\text{cd}^{-1}$ )	$\ell$
$f_1$	5.179034	1
$f_2$	5.066346	1
$f_3$	5.490167	2
$f_4$	5.334357	0
$f_5$	4.24062	2
$f_A$	0.35529	1, 2 or 4
$f_6$	7.40705	1 or 2
$f_7$	5.30912	2 or 1 or 3
$f_8$	5.2162	4 or 2
$f_9$	6.7023	1
$f_{10}$	5.8341	1 or 2
$f_3 + f_A$	5.84546	2 or 1
$2f_8$	10.4324	1 or 2 or 3

hybrid  
 $\beta$  Cephei/  
SPB?

$$\left. \begin{aligned} f_1 - f_2 &= 0,112688 \text{ c/d} \\ f_4 - f_1 &= 0,155323 \text{ c/d} \\ f_3 - f_4 &= 0,15581 \text{ c/d} \end{aligned} \right\}$$

**Not a triplet:  
coincidence!!!**



# 12 (DD) Lacertae

## a very interesting story indeed!

As mentioned in the Introduction, two hypotheses to explain the pulsation spectrum of 12 Lac seemed promising before our multisite campaign took place: first, the presence of a rotationally split triplet consisting of the modes ( $f_1, f_3, f_4$ ) and second, the presence of the fundamental and first radial overtones (modes  $f_5, f_3$ ). Our mode identification allows us to judge these hypotheses: neither is correct.

The suspected rotationally split structure consists of modes of  $\ell = 1, 0, 2$ , and the suspected radial modes both turned out to be  $\ell = 2$ . Consequently, all previous attempts to understand the pulsation spectrum of 12 Lac were not correct.

# 12 (DD) Lacertae

## present status of the observations

Summary of the evolution of the mode identification  
for the frequencies of 12Lac:

(l,m)	Stamford & Watson (1977)	Jerzykiewicz (1978)	Smith (1980)	Mathias et al (1994)	Aerts et al (1996)	Dziembowski & Jerzykiewicz (1999)	Handler et al (2006)	Desmet (2008)
$f_1 = 5.179$ c/d	(2,-2)	(3,-1)	(2,0)	(2, $\cong$ 1 )	(2,-1)	(1, ?)	(1, 1)	<b>(1,1)</b>
$f_2 = 5.066$ c/d	(2,0)	(1,-1)	(0,0)	(?,0)	(2 or 3, ?)	(1 or 2,?)	(1, 0)	<b>(1,0)</b>
$f_3 = 5.490$ c/d		(3,-3)	(2,-2)		(2,-2)	(1, ?)	(2, ?)	<b>(2,1)</b>
$f_4 = 5.334$ c/d		(3,-2)	(2,-1)	(2,0)	(3,1)		(0, 0)	<b>(0,0)</b>
$f_5 = 4.241$ c/d							(2, ?)	<b>(2,?)</b>
$f_6 = 7.407$ c/d							(1 or 2, ?)	

# 12 (DD) Lacertae modelling

## assumptions:

$X = 0.70$ ,  $Z = 0.015$ , composition A04, opacity OP,  
 $\log T_{\text{eff}} = [4.355, 4.395]$ ,  $\log L = [4.0, 4.35]$ ,

Handler et al. 2006 frequencies, Desmet et al. 2008 identifications

**no overshooting**

Fit  $f_4$  as  $l=0$   $p_1$  mode (radial fundamental)

Fit  $f_2$  as  $l=1$   $g_1$  mode ( $n=-1$ )

Constraints on  $T_{\text{eff}}$  and  $L$  → **no other radial orders possible for  $f_2$  and  $f_4$**

→  $M = 11.77 M_0$      $\log T_{\text{eff}} = 4.39$      $\log L = 4.19$

→  $f_3$  is  $(l, m, n) = (2, 1, -1)$

→  $f_5$  is 0.3 c/d from nearest quadrupole  $(l, m, n) = (2, 2, -2)$

→ with some effects of rotation,  $f_5$  is  $(2, 2, -2)$  or  $(2, 1, ?)$

→ all modes unstable except low frequency mode

# 12 (DD) Lacertae

## BUT the story continues!!!!!!

### assumptions:

$X = 0.72$ ,  $Z = 0.015$ , composition AGS05, opacity OP,  
 $\log T_{\text{eff}} = 4.389 \pm 0.018$ ,  $\log g = 3.65 \pm 0.15$ ,

Handler et al. 2006 frequencies, Desmet et al. 2008 identifications

**We rule out  $f_4$  as the radial fundamental, because  $f_9$  is identified as  $l=1$**

→  $f_4$  is the first overtone  $(l,n)=(0,2)$

**→ NO PROBLEM WITH THE ERROR BOX**

→  $f_2$  is  $l=1$ , p1 mode

$f_3$  could be a  $l=2$ ,  $n=0$  mode with  $m>0$

$f_5$  could be a  $l=2$  g2 mode

$f_6$  cannot be a  $l=1$  mode, and has to be  $l=2$

$f_7$  cannot be a  $l=1$  mode, and could be part of an

$l=2$  quintuplet with  $f_3$  or an  $l=3$

$f_8$  cannot be a  $l=4$

$f_9$  is  $l=1$  p3 mode

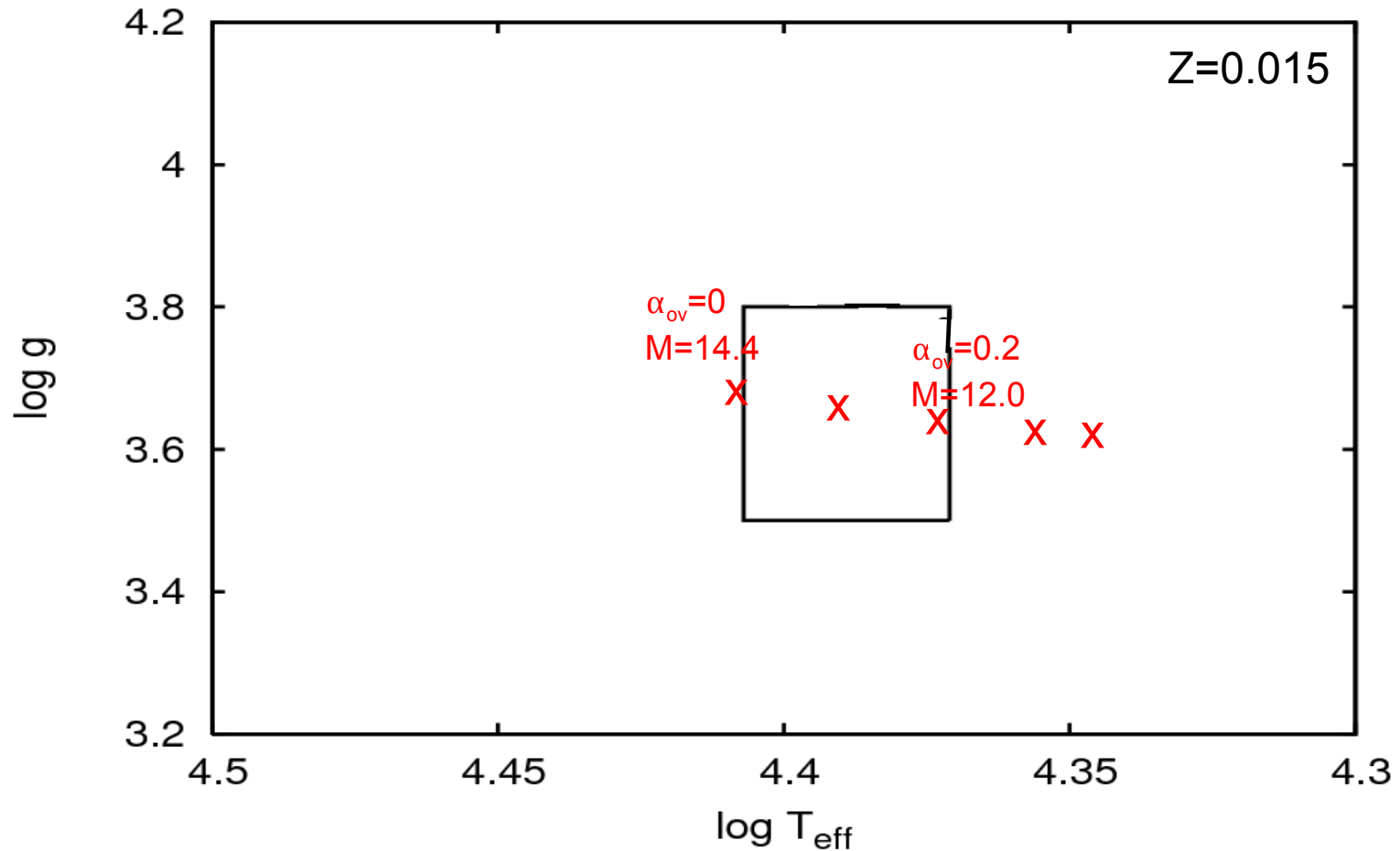
$f_{10}$  cannot be a  $l=2$ , and could be  $l=2$

Table 3. Mode identifications for 12 Lac from our analysis of the photometric amplitude ratios.

ID	Freq. ( $\text{cd}^{-1}$ )	$\ell$
$f_1$	5.179034	1
$f_2$	5.066346	1
$f_3$	5.490167	2
$f_4$	5.334357	0
$f_5$	4.24062	2
$f_A$	0.35529	1, 2 or 4
$f_6$	7.40705	1 or 2
$f_7$	5.30912	2 or 1 or 3
$f_8$	5.2162	4 or 2
$f_9$	6.7023	1
$f_{10}$	5.8341	1 or 2
$f_3 + f_A$	5.84546	2 or 1
$2f_8$	10.4324	1 or 2 or 3

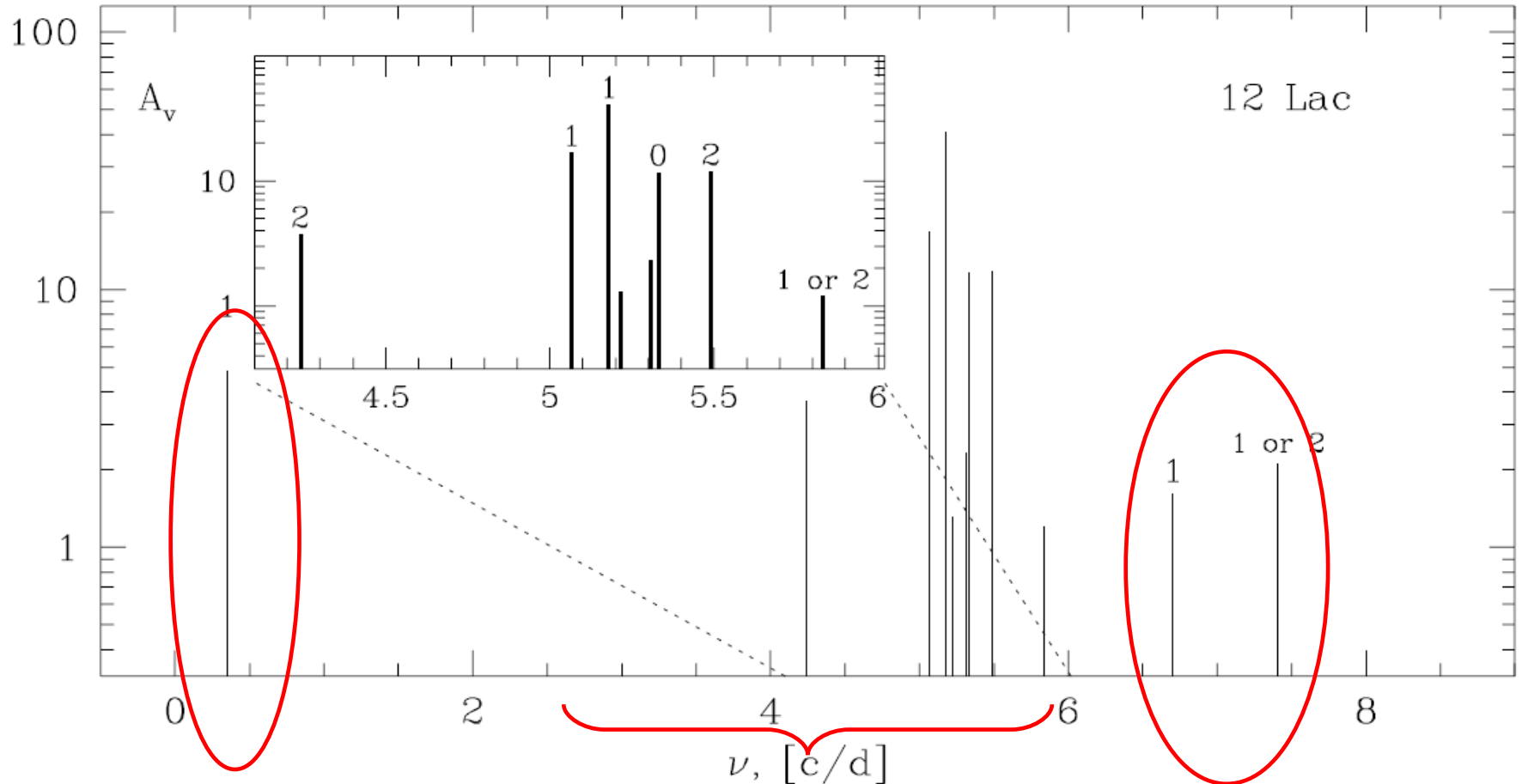
# 12 (DD) Lacertae

## the story continues...



# 12 (DD) Lacertae

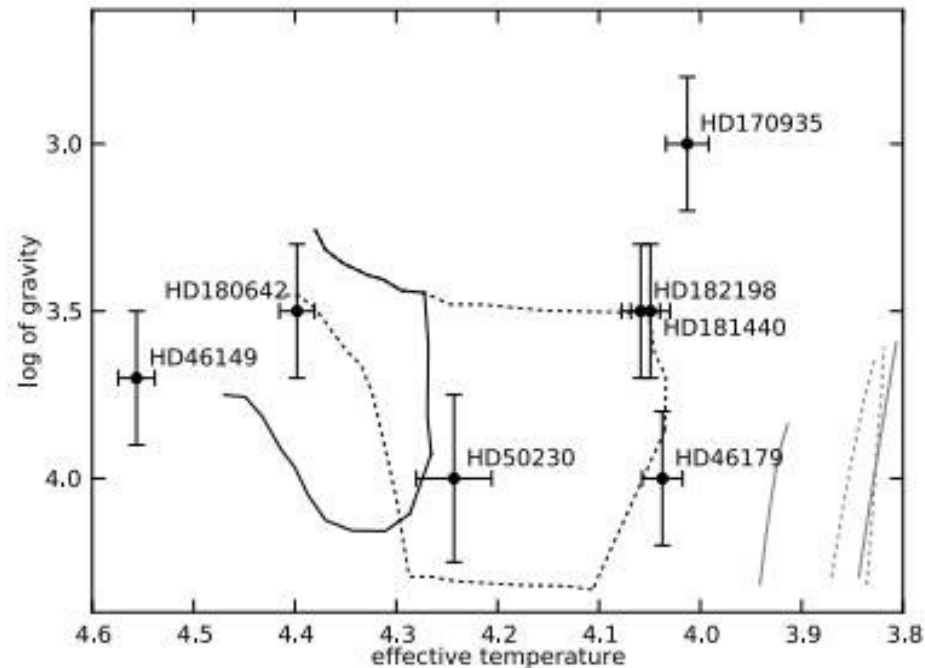
## the story continues...



# Examples of well-studied stars

- 16 Lacertae : 3 frequencies observed and identified, 2 axisymmetric modes; no multiplet  
→ **very precise values of  $M$ ,  $T_{\text{eff}}$ ,  $L$ , age**
- HD129929 : 6 freq. observed and identified, 2 axisymmetric modes, 1 triplet, 2 members of a quintuplet  
→ precise values for  $M$ ,  $Z$ ,  $T_{\text{eff}}$ ,  $L$ , age  
**+ evidence for core overshooting and non-rigid rotation**
- $\nu$  Eridani: 12 frequencies observed, 7 identified, 2 axisymmetric modes, one triplet + 2 low-frequency modes  
→ precise values for  $M$ ,  $Z$ ,  $T_{\text{eff}}$ ,  $\log g$ , age,  $\alpha_{\text{ov}}$ , non-rigid rotation  
**+ need for updated abundances AGS05 and OP opacities**  
+ problems not completely solved
- $\theta$  Ophiuchi: 7 frequencies observed, all identified, 2 axisymmetric modes, one triplet, 3 members of a quintuplet  
→ very precise values for  $M$ ,  $T_{\text{eff}}$ ,  $\log g$ , age,  $\alpha_{\text{ov}}$ , ...  
**evidence for high overshooting**  
**rigid rotation possible**  
**non-axisymmetry in splitting explained by second-order effects of rotation**
- **12 Lacertae: 10 frequencies observed, 6 identified, problematic identification...**  
→ very precise values for  $M$ ,  $T_{\text{eff}}$ ,  $\log g$ , age,  $\alpha_{\text{ov}}$ , ...  
**→ reliable mode identification is crucial**  
**→ problem of excitation not entirely solved**

# Corot B stars



**Fig. 1** Observational  $\log T_{\text{eff}}\text{-}\log g$  diagram with the two predicted instability strips (SPB, dashed line,  $\beta$  Cep, solid line) and a selection of CoRoT targets, using OPAL opacities and a metallicity of  $Z = 0.02$ . For reference, also the  $\gamma$  Dor/ $\delta$  Sct instability strips are shown (grey dashed/solid lines).



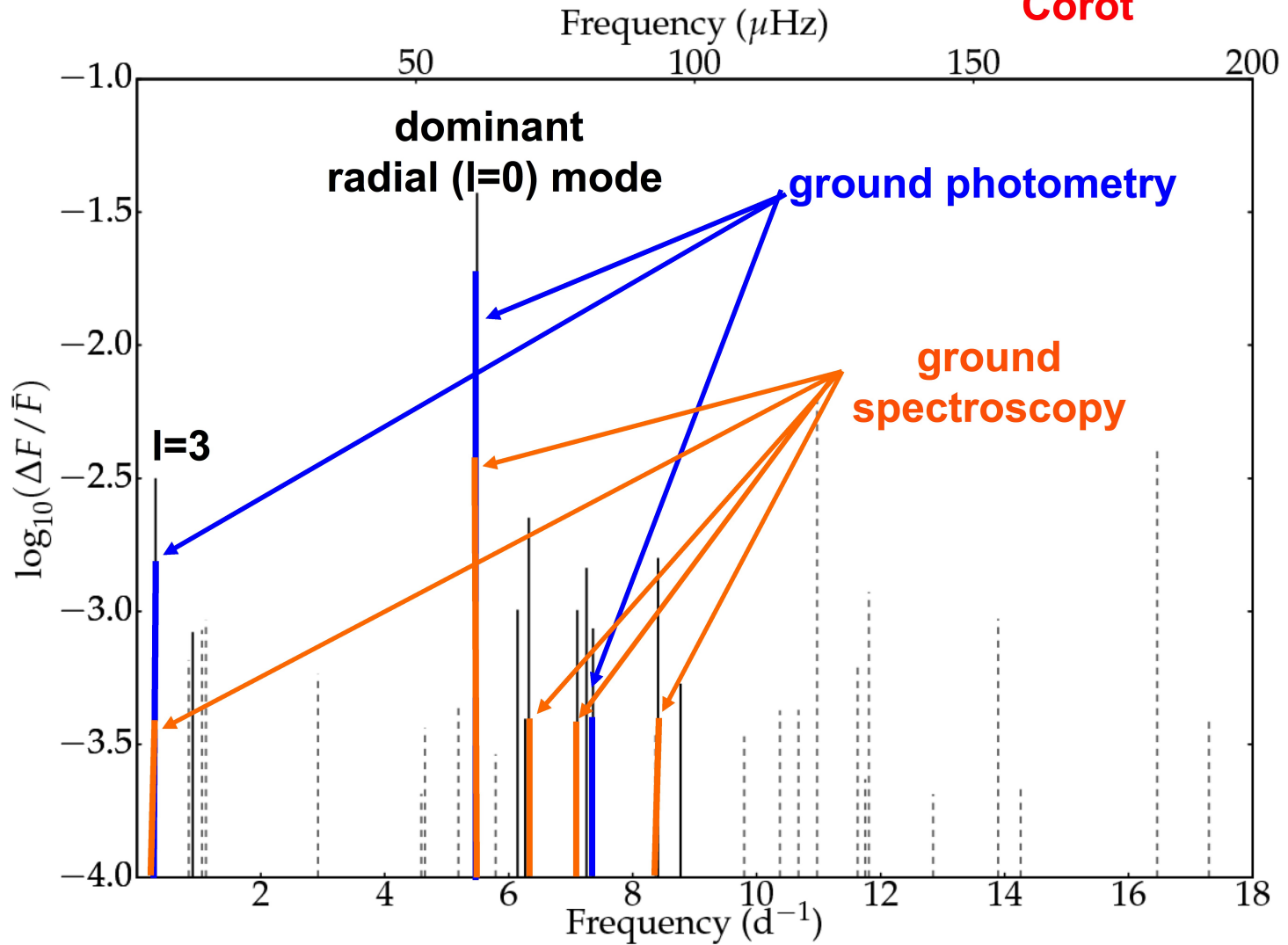
# Examples of well-studied stars

- **HD 180642: (Corot main target + ground): 11 independent frequencies + 3 harmonics + 19 combination freq. (locked phases)  
1 identified (high amplitude radial mode, no clear multiplet)**
- HD 50230
- HD 51756
- HD 170580



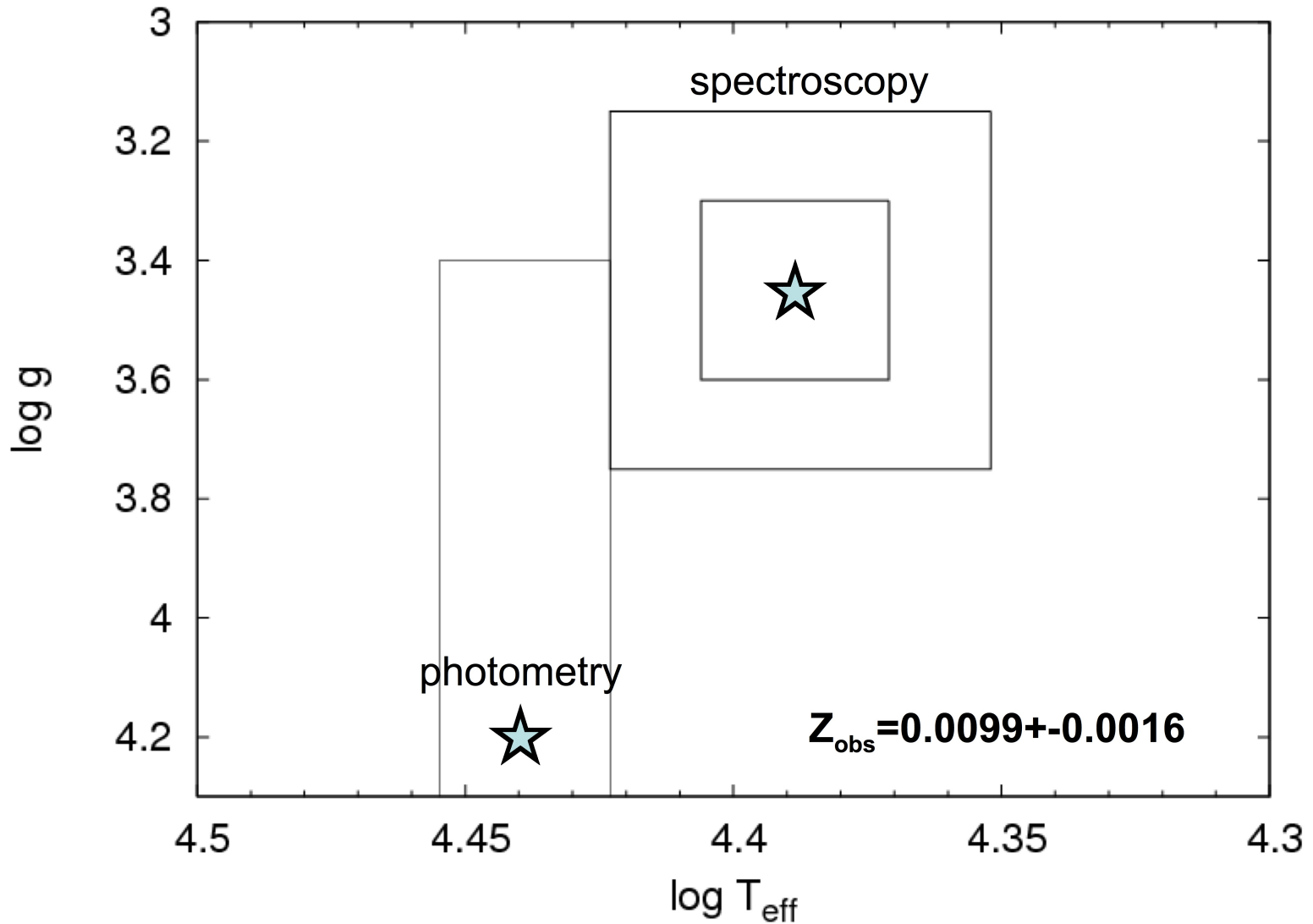
# HD180642

11 independent frequencies from Corot





# HD180642





# HD180642

## Modelling:

**Fit the radial mode, check excitation, then fit remaining modes**

**“Free parameters”:  $X$ ,  $Z$ ,  $\alpha_{ov}$ ,  $M$**

**Range of parameters explored:**

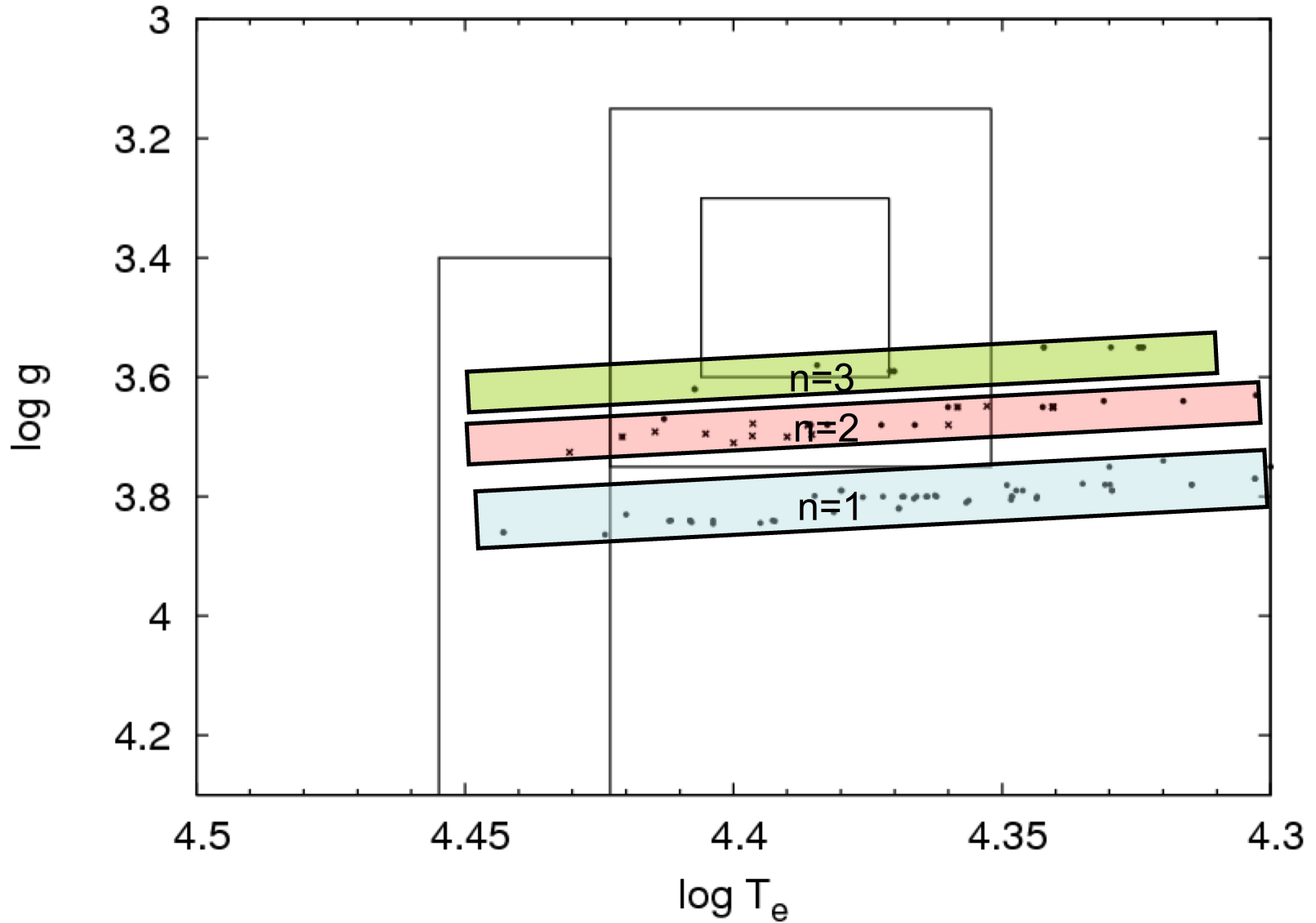
$$X = 0.68 - 0.74$$

$$Z = 0.010 - 0.018$$

$$M = 7.6 - 20$$

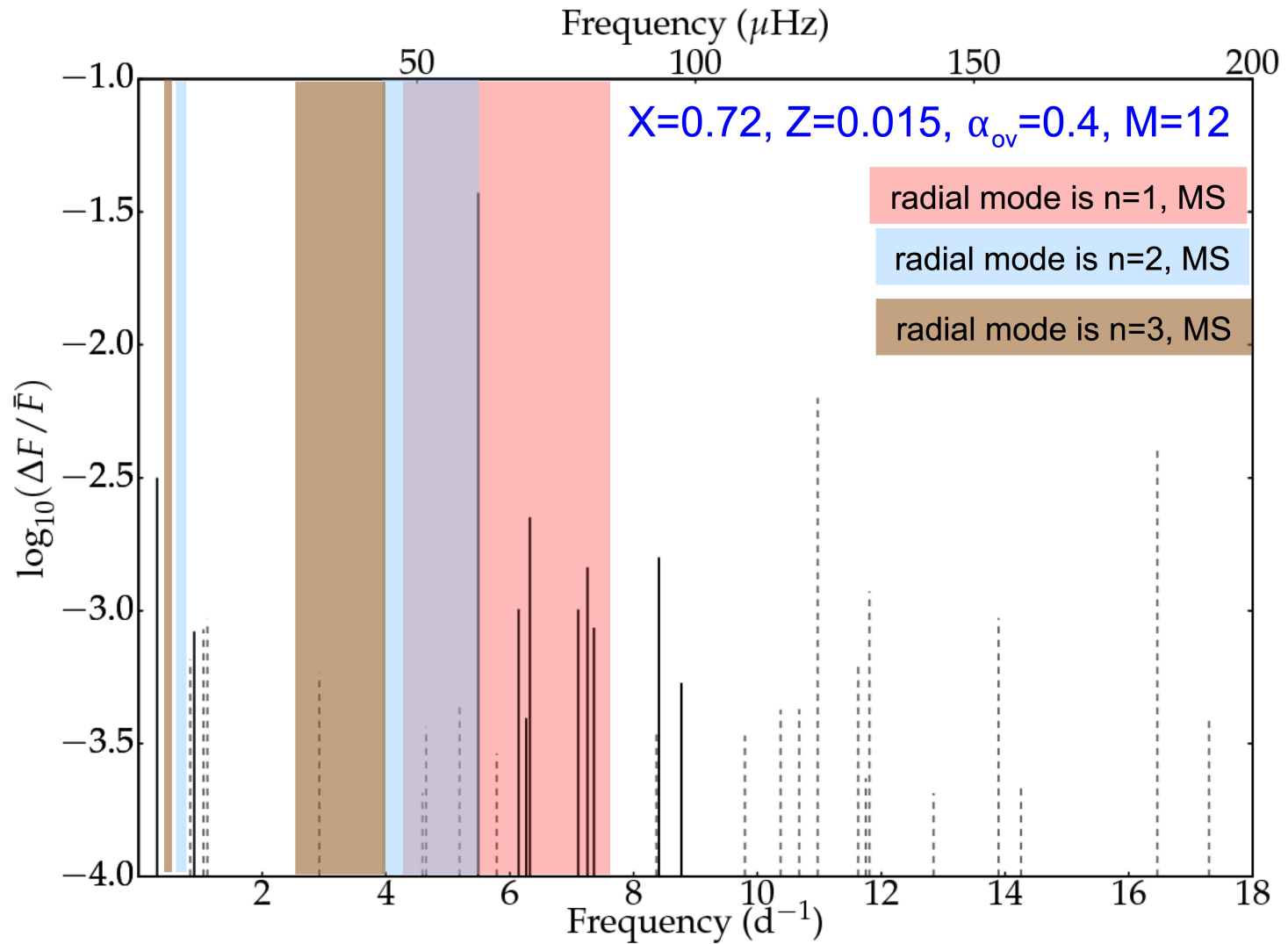
$$\alpha_{ov} = 0 - 0.5$$

# HD180642





# HD180642



# Examples of well-studied stars

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1 identified (high amplitude radial mode, no clear multiplet)  
→ precise values for  $M$ ,  $T_{\text{eff}}$ ,  $\log g$ , age,  $\alpha_{\text{ov}}$ , ...  
→ **Very low overshooting**  
→ **Discrepancy between spectroscopic and seismic  $\log g$ : pulsational broadening not taken into account correctly when deducing  $\log g$  from wings of spectral lines**

- HD 50230
- HD 51756
- HD 170580

# Examples of well-studied stars

- **HD 180642:** (Corot main target + ground): 11 independent frequencies + 3 harmonics + 19 combination freq. (locked phases)  
1 identified (high amplitude radial mode, no clear multiplet)
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  - ➔ Very low overshooting
  - ➔ Discrepancy between spectroscopic and seismic  $\log g$ : pulsational broadening not taken into account correctly when deducing  $\log g$  from wings of spectral lines
- **HD 50230:** hundreds of gravity modes and tens of p modes  
non-uniform period spacings  $\rightarrow \alpha_{\text{ov}} > 0.2$  and smooth  
gradient of chemical composition at core boundary
- HD 51756
- HD 170580



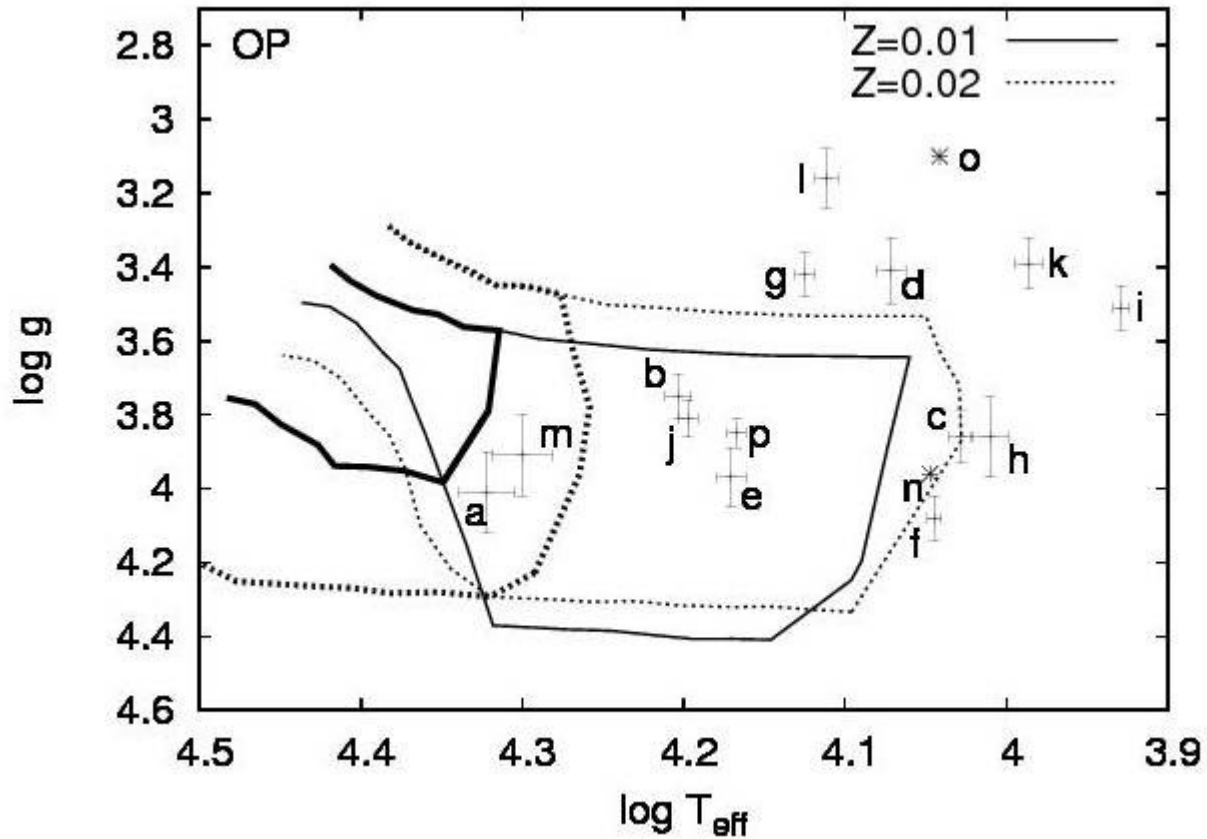
# Examples of well-studied stars

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- HD 50230: hundreds of gravity modes and tens of p modes  
non-uniform period spacings  
 $a_{\text{ov}} > 0.2$  and smooth gradient of chemical composition at core boundary
- HD 51756: STABLE
- **HD 170580: many high order g modes, one p mode  
... in progress...**

# Kepler B stars



# What we have learned so far from the asteroseismology of $\beta$ Cephei stars

very precise values of the basic stellar parameters  
( $M$ ,  $T_{\text{eff}}$ ,  $\log g$ ,  $L$ , age)

evidence for varying core overshooting (0 to 0.4)

evidence for non-rigid rotation in some  $\beta$  Cephei stars

need for updated abundances AGS05 and OP opacities  
( $\nu$  Eri,  $\theta$  Oph, 12Lac)

non-axisymmetry in splitting can be explained by second-order effects of rotation ( $\theta$  Oph)

reliable mode identification is crucial (story of 12Lac)

# Challenges (observational)

- **good frequency determination**: need to resolve the individual frequencies → long data sets with very good coverage

Note: for classical pulsators, no inherent problem, since modes are phase coherent over periods of years or more  
(in contrast to solar-like pulsators)

BUT a real challenge for SPB stars due to long periods of high-order g-modes

- **reliable mode identification: necessary!** (see 12Lac)

More difficult for classical pulsators than for solar-like oscillations  
(no equal spacings)

Multiplets (rotational splittings) can overlap with the spectrum of axisymmetric frequencies (see 12Lac)

- need **good determination of basic stellar parameters** (Teff, log g, [M/H]) to rule out some models

# Challenges (observational)

→ lots of photometric data will come from space observations

**BUT**

**need ground-based follow-up** with  
**multicolour photometry**  
and  
**high-resolution spectroscopy**

**BECAUSE**

**detailed modelling is impossible without reliable frequencies**  
**AND mode identification**  
as well as a precise position in the HR diagram

# Challenges (modelling)

- explain **the range of modes excitation**
- and the presence of  $\beta$  Cephei and SPB stars in **low Z** environments
- explain mode selection

# Challenges (modelling)

→ **Improve physics** in models:  
rotation, mixing, convection, magnetic field...

• **Good opacities** are crucial!

• Correct initial **chemical composition**  
+ **its evolution** (diffusion, radiative accelerations)

• **Stellar modelling of fast rotators**



## Before Corot

- 16 Lacertae 2003
- HD129929 2003
- $\nu$  Eridani 2004
- $\theta$  Ophiuchi 2007
- 12 Lacertae 2009

## Corot stars

- HD 180642 2011
- HD 51756 2011