

# Mysteries in the formation of chemically polluted binaries

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# chemically polluted binaries

- binaries with an **unevolved (MS, RG) star showing signs of advanced (AGB) nucleosynthesis:**  
enhanced abundances of **C** and **s-process elements** (Ba, La, Zr, Sr, Pb, ...)

	<b>Ba stars</b>	<b>CH stars</b>	<b>CEMP-s stars</b>
- population:	Galactic disk		halo
- metallicity:	$\sim 0.5 Z_{\text{sun}}$	$\sim 0.1 Z_{\text{sun}}$	$< 0.01 Z_{\text{sun}}$
- fraction (RG):	$\sim 1\%$	$\sim 2\%$	6–20% (!)
- duplicity:	100%	100%	100%?

- probes of **AGB nucleosynthesis**
- probes of **binary interaction processes** at low/intermediate stellar mass:  
*focus of this talk*

# binary evolution scenario

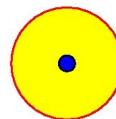
MS ( $M_1 > 0.9\text{--}1.5 M_\odot$ )



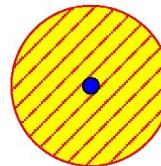
MS ( $M_2 < M_1$ )



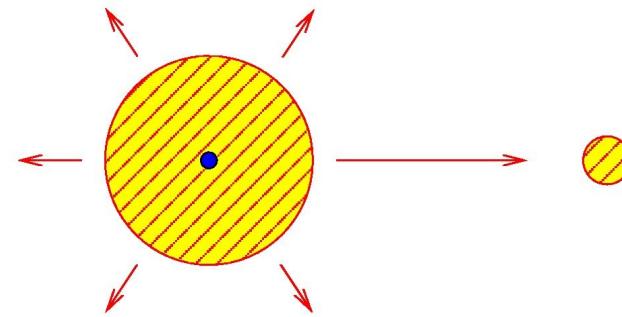
first giant branch



AGB: surface C  $\uparrow$  s  $\uparrow$



mass loss (wind, RLOF)



accretion: C  $\uparrow$  s  $\uparrow$

white dwarf

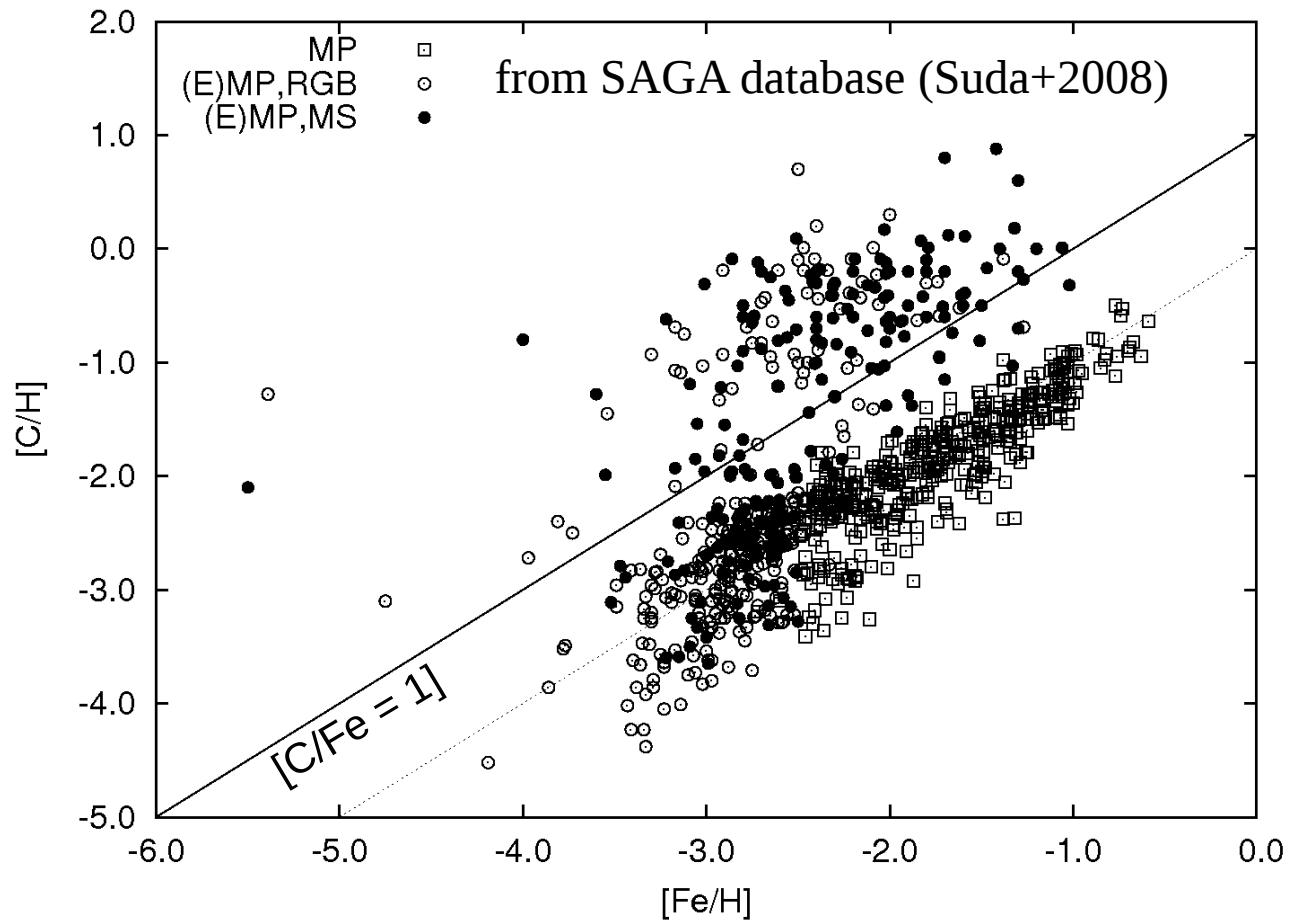


Ba star  
CH star  
CEMP-s star



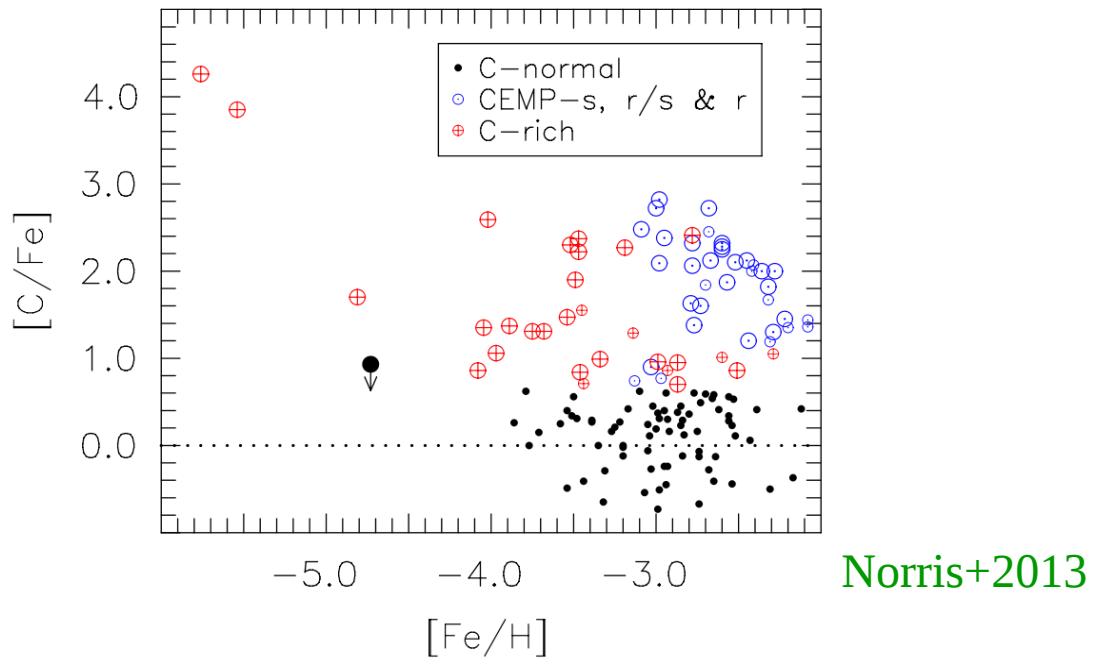
# carbon-enhanced metal-poor stars

- 6–25% of halo stars with  $[\text{Fe}/\text{H}] < -2$  have  $[\text{C}/\text{Fe}] > 1$   
Lucatello+2006, Lee+2013
- ~80% also enhanced in s-process elements:  
**CEMP-s** stars  
⇒ AGB nucleosynthesis
- some also appear r-process enriched:  
**CEMP-r/s**
- probably all **binaries**  
Lucatello+2005,  
Starkenburg+2014
- similar origin to Ba and CH stars



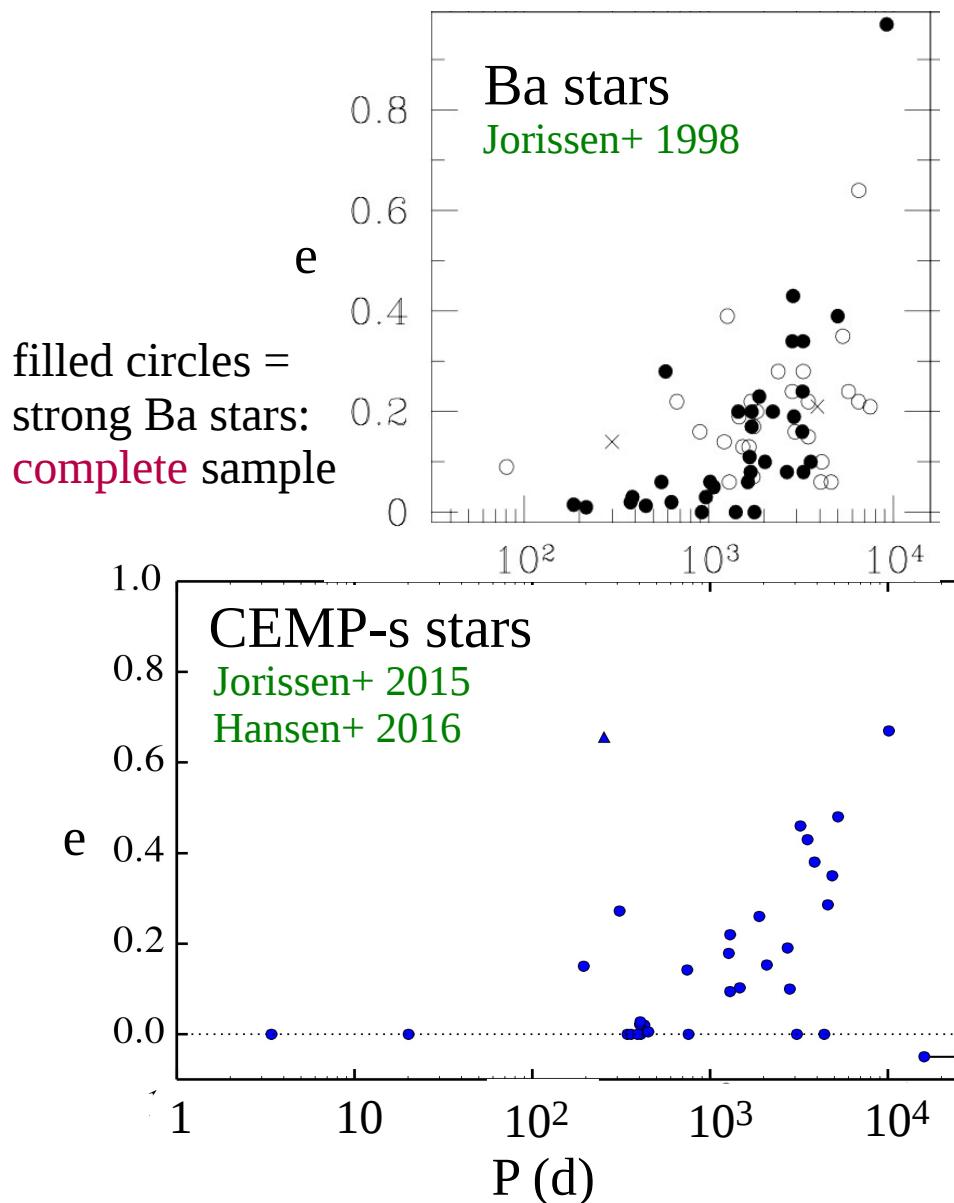
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Lucatello+2005,  
Starkenburg+2014
- similar origin to Ba and CH stars
- **CEMP-no** stars: no heavy-element enhancements
  - dominate at  $[\text{Fe}/\text{H}] < -3$
  - normal (field) binary properties  
Starkenburg+2014, Hansen+2015
  - probably entirely different origin



# orbits of AGB descendants

eccentricity versus orbital period

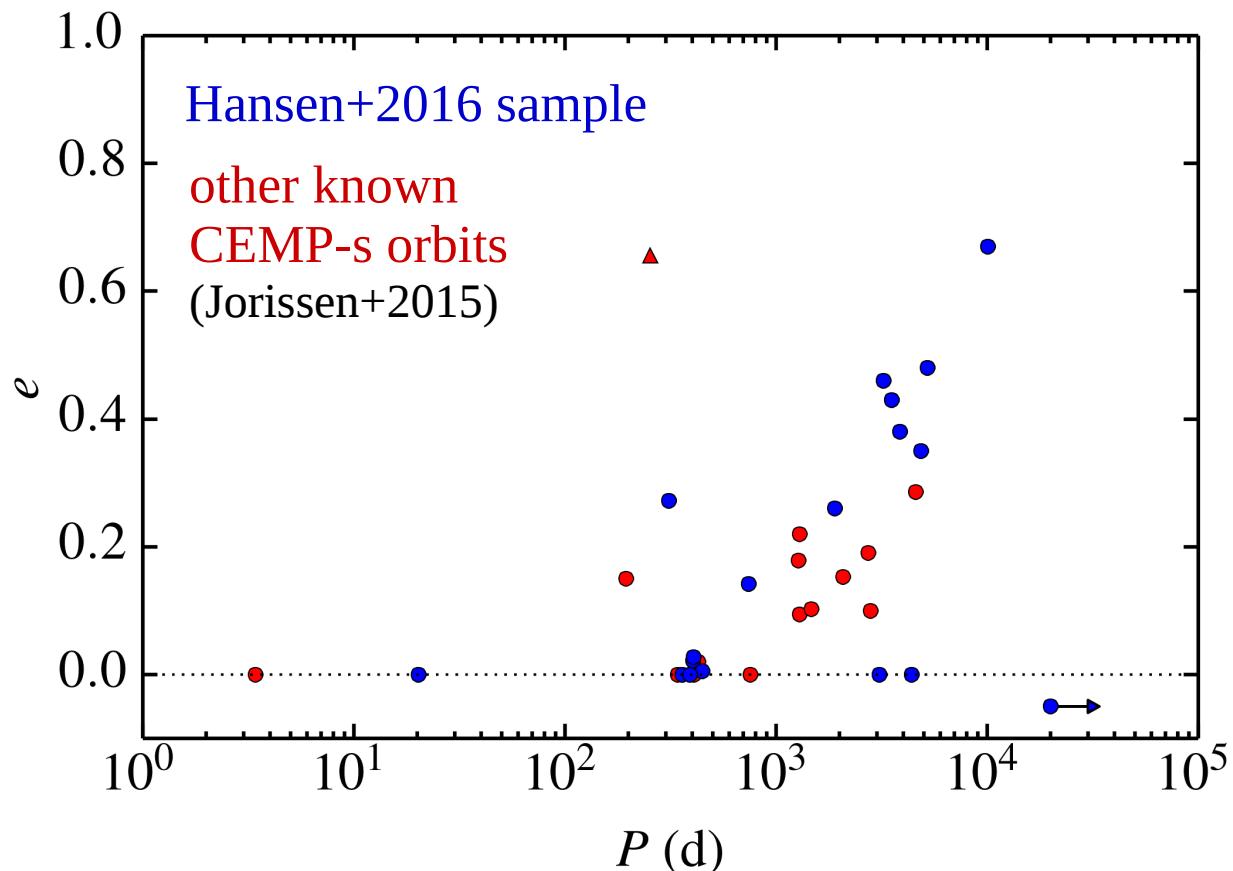


- periods mostly  $10^2 - 10^4$  days
- substantially eccentric (but less so than unevolved binaries at same  $P$ )
- mass functions consistent with WD companions

# CEMP-s binary properties

- Hansen+2016: high-precision RV monitoring of 22 CEMP-s stars over 8 years:
  - 18 show orbital motion (17 orbits determined)
  - 4 constant RV, apparently *single* (~80% binary frequency?)

(N.B. also some Ba-rich blue stragglers appear to be single... Milliman+ 2015)

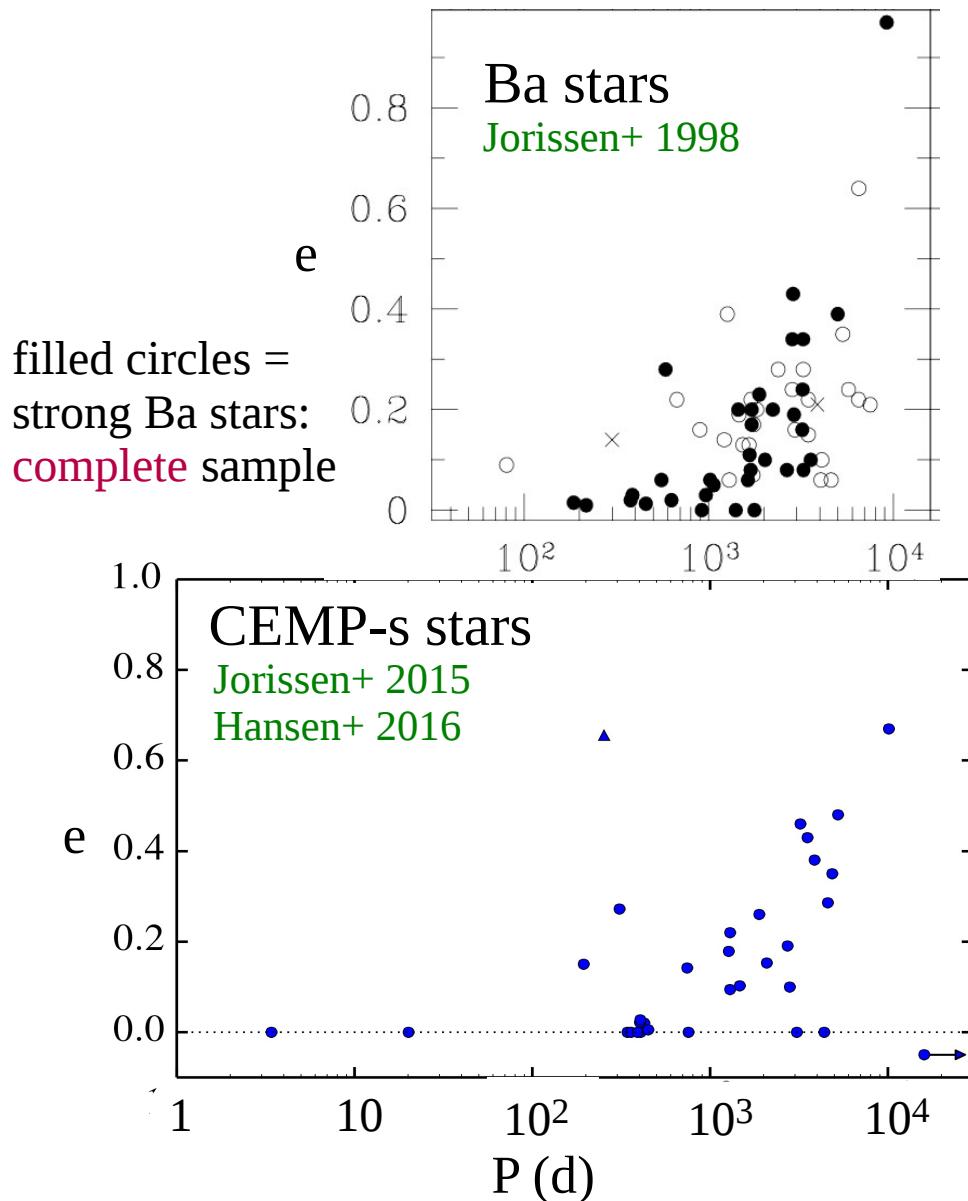


lack of orbital periods  $> 10^4$  d  
is *not* a selection effect  
(cf. Starkenburg+ 2014)

consistent with Ba star  
orbits Jorissen+ 1998

# orbits of AGB descendants

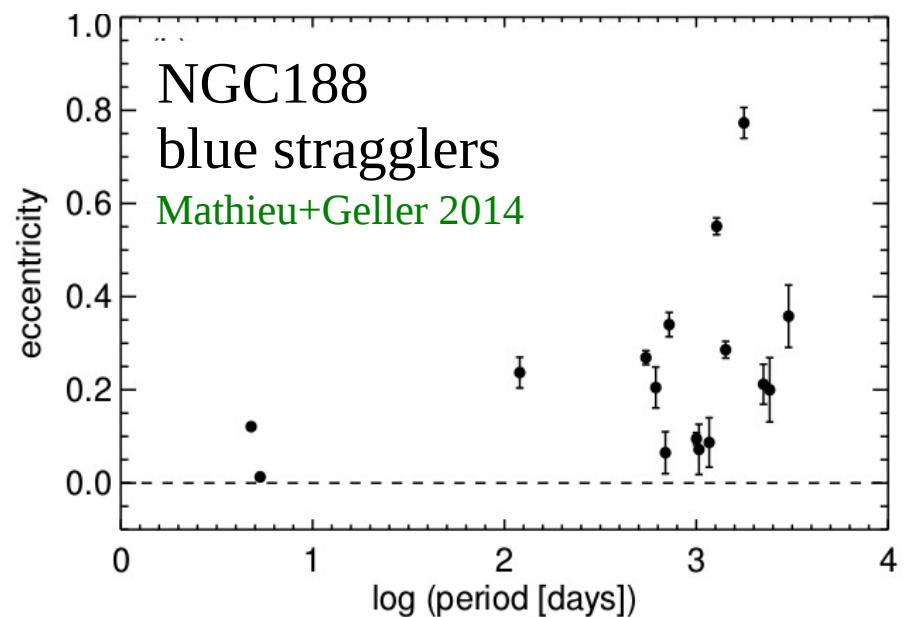
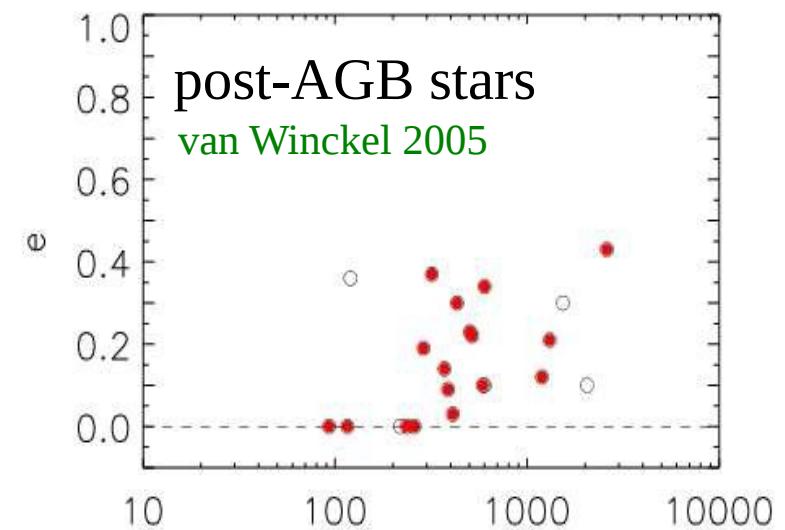
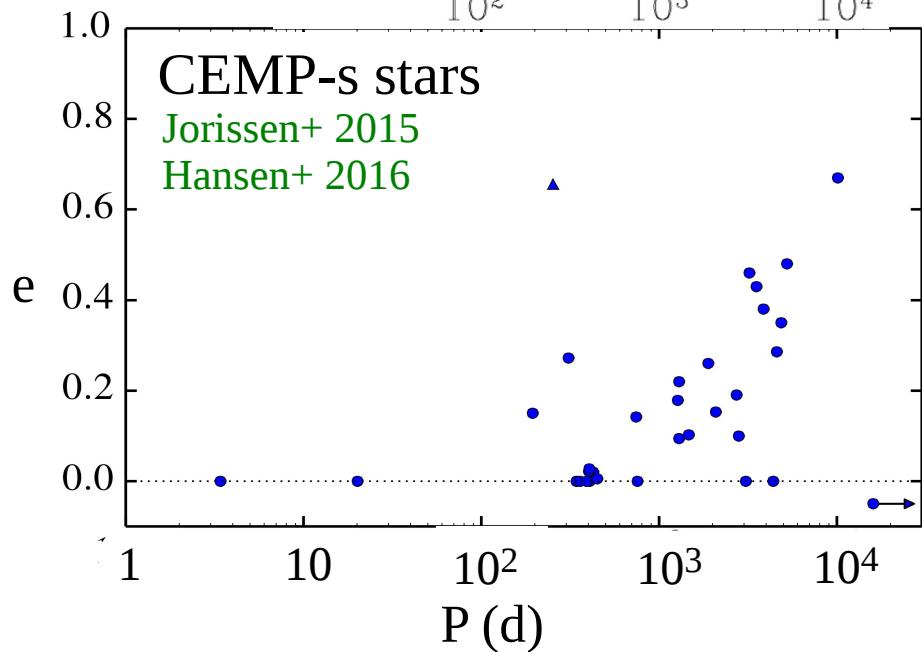
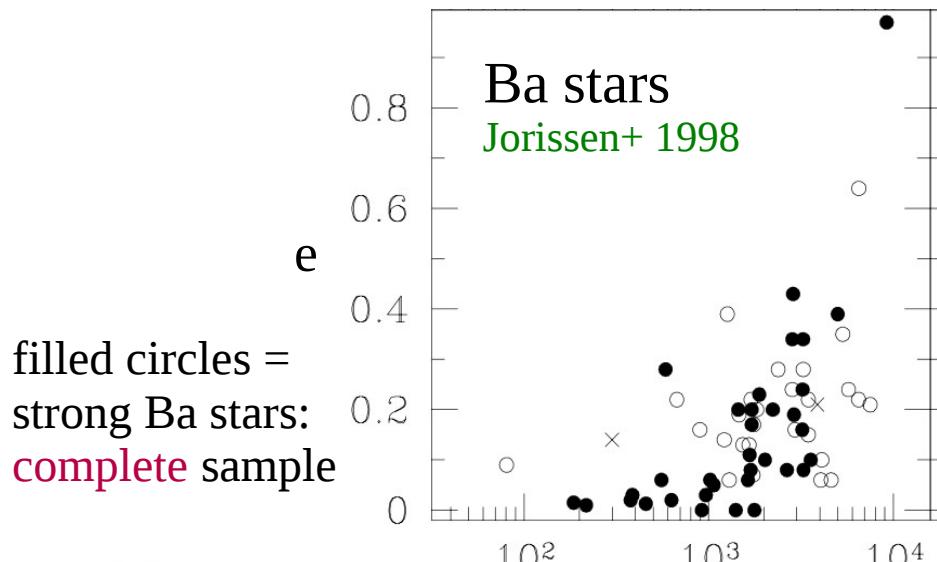
eccentricity versus orbital period



- periods mostly  $10^2 - 10^4$  days
- substantially eccentric (but less so than unevolved binaries at same  $P$ )
- mass functions consistent with WD companions
- **very similar  $e$ - $P$  distributions** found among many classes of post-AGB/RGB binaries:
  - extrinsic S stars (without Tc)
  - **post-AGB stars** in binaries
  - S-type **symbiotics**
  - **blue stragglers** in old populations
  - sdB+MS binaries

# orbits of AGB descendants

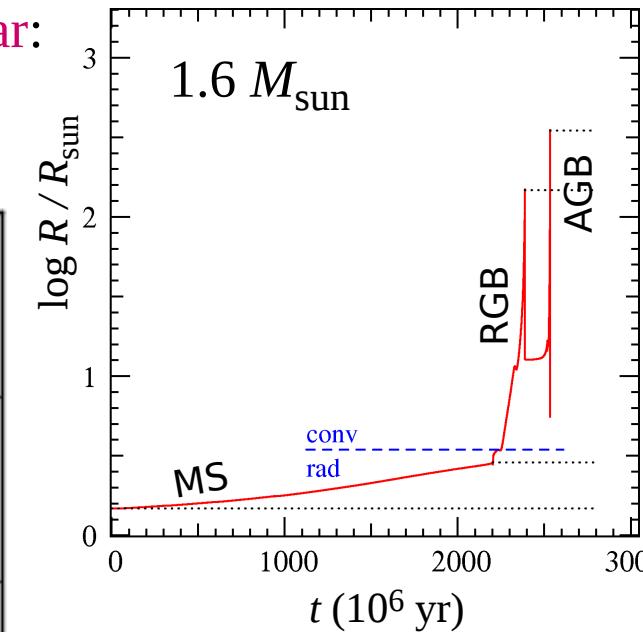
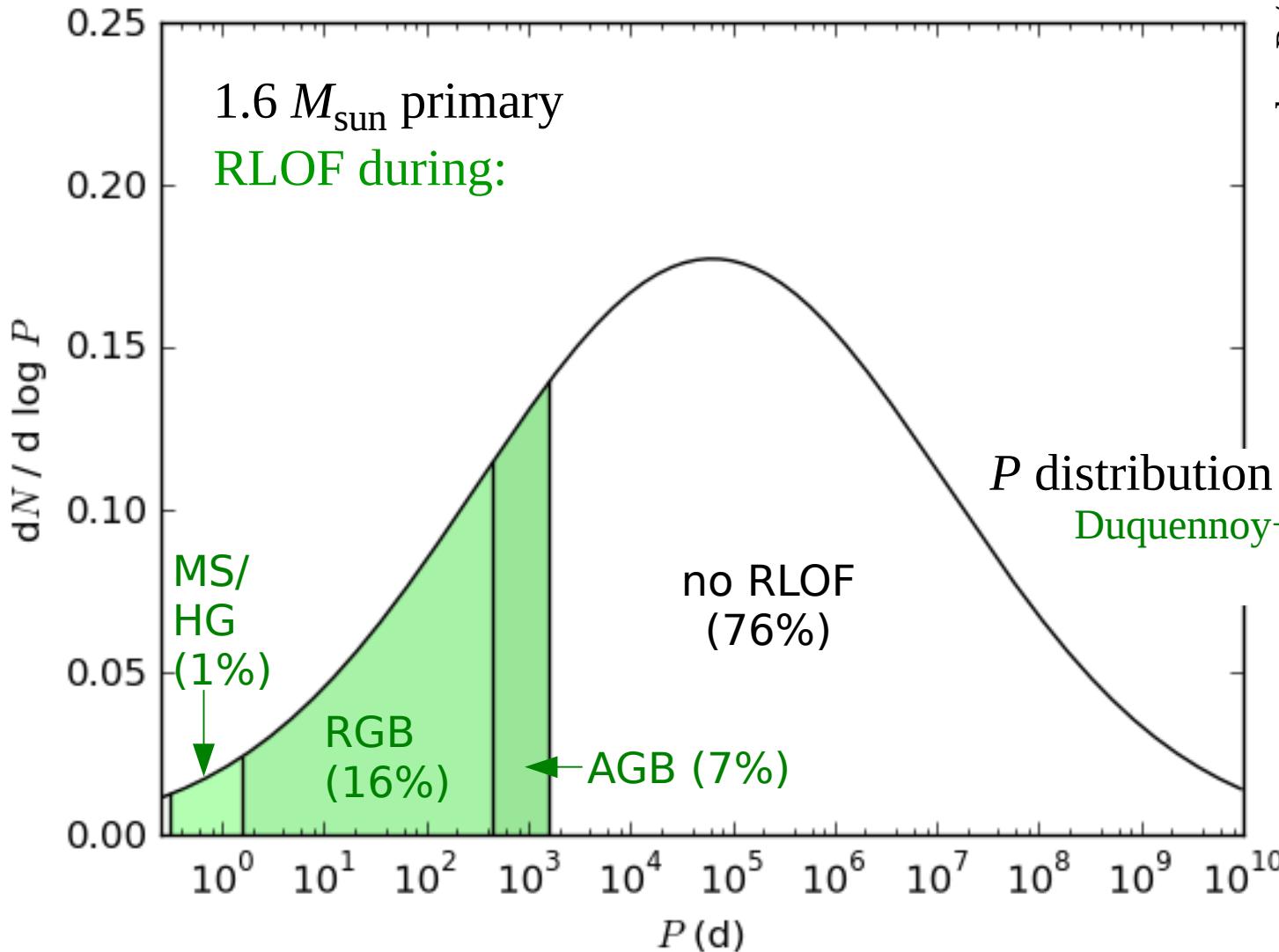
eccentricity versus orbital period



# close binaries

stellar radius increase of a **low-mass star**:

- ~25% of low-mass binaries undergo RLOF

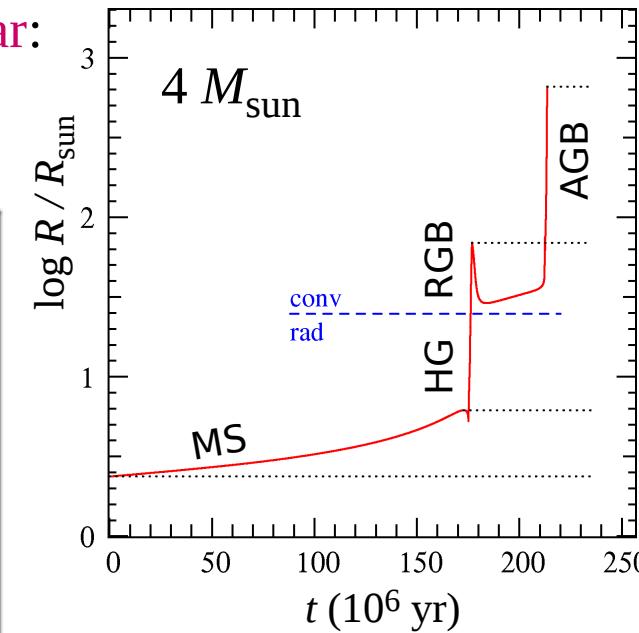
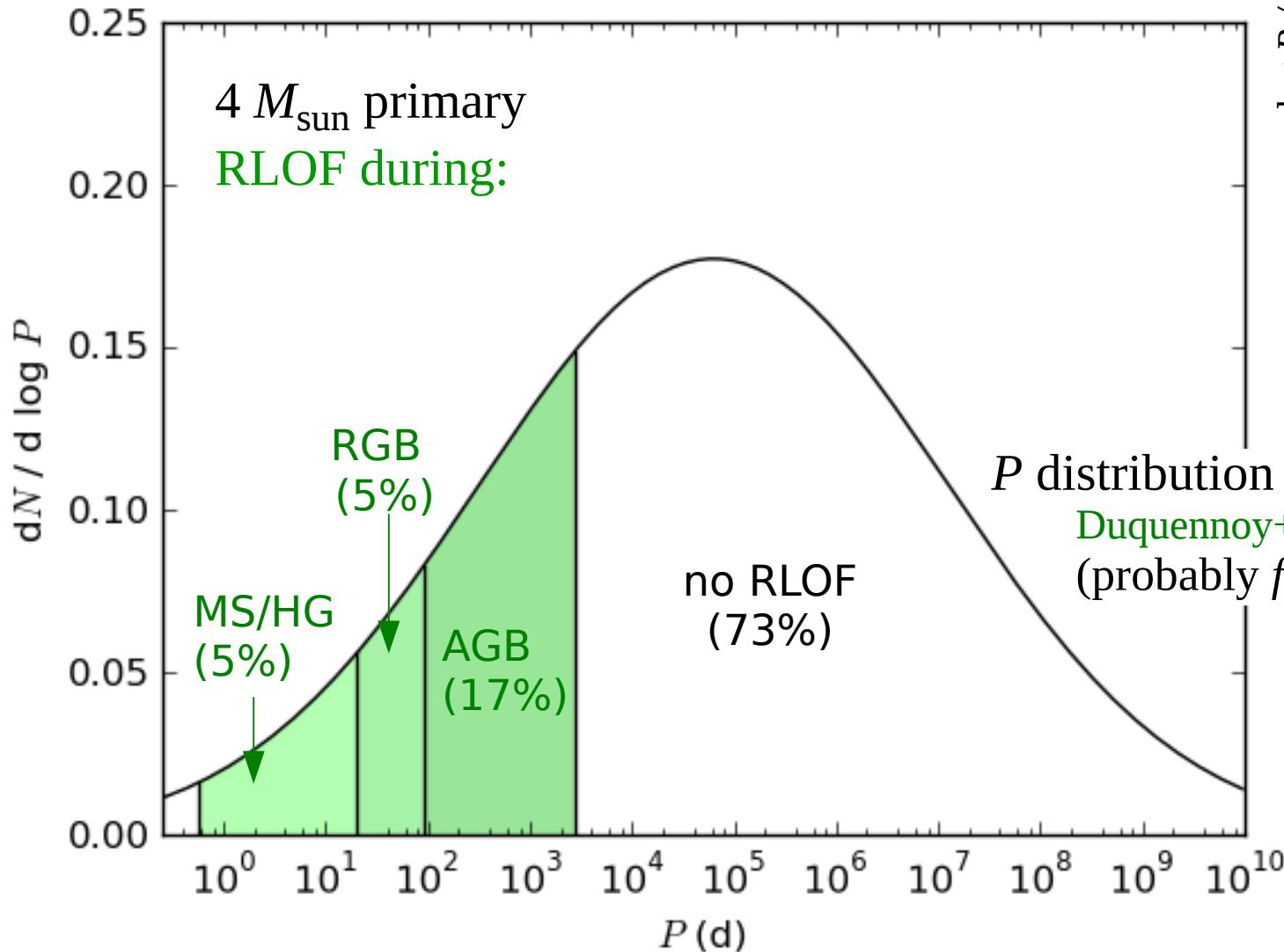


46% of G dwarfs are multiple systems  
(of which 13% triple, quadruple, ...)  
Tokovinin 2014

# close binaries

radius increase of an intermediate-mass star:

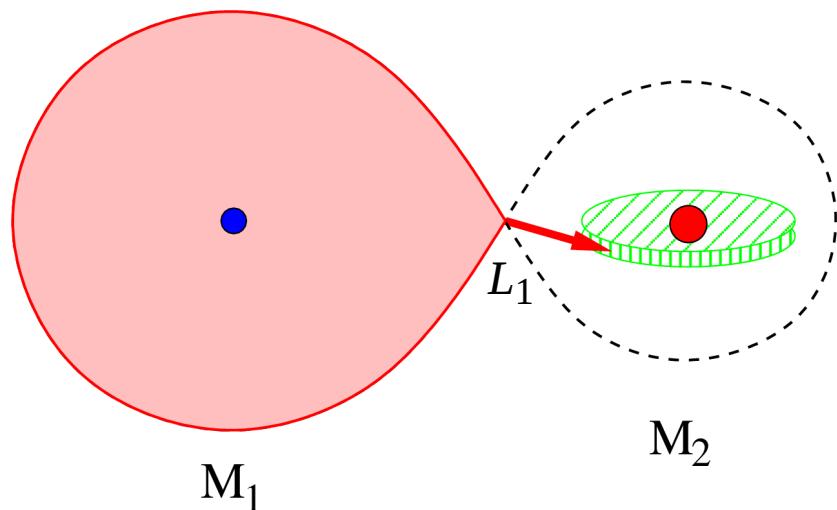
- ~25% of low-mass binaries undergo RLOF



multiplicity fractions increase with mass

Duchene+Kraus 2013,  
Moe+DiStefano 2016

# Roche-lobe overflow

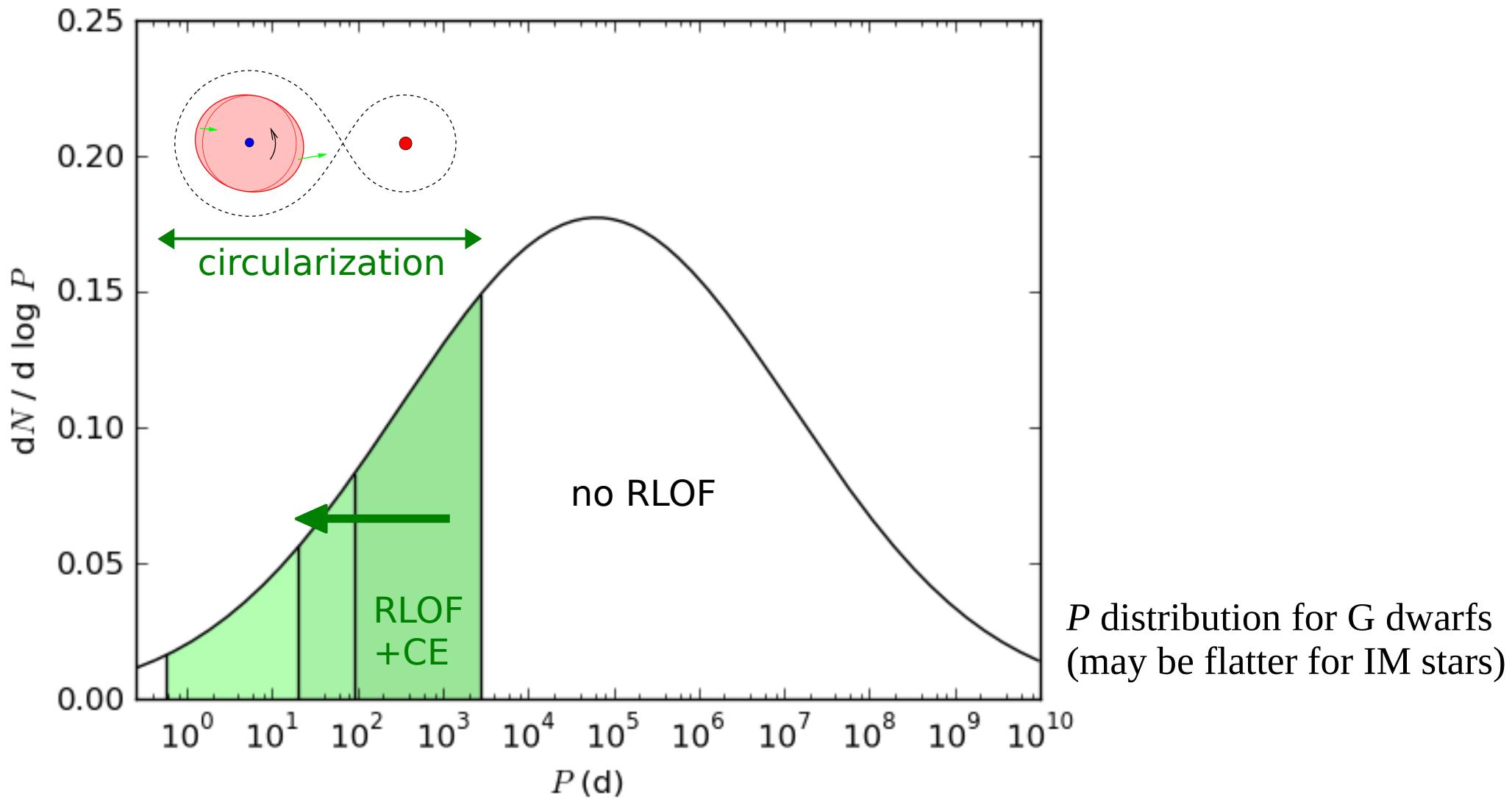


- close binaries with **MS** and **HG** primaries  $\Rightarrow$  **stable and efficient** RLOF (provided  $M_1/M_2 < \sim 4$ )

- **red giant** (RGB or AGB) primaries  $\Rightarrow$  RLOF is usually **unstable**, unless  $M_1/M_2 < q_{\text{cr}} \sim 0.8$
- typical outcome: dynamical mass transfer and formation of **common envelope**, with almost **no accretion** and strong **spiral-in**
- complications:
  - luminous RGB/AGB stars have (very) extended atmospheres
  - radiation pressure may deform Roche lobes **Schuerman 1972, Dermine+2009**
  - $q_{\text{cr}}$  may be  $> 1$  in some cases **Chen+Han 2008, Woods+ 2011, Pavlovskii+Ivanova 2014**

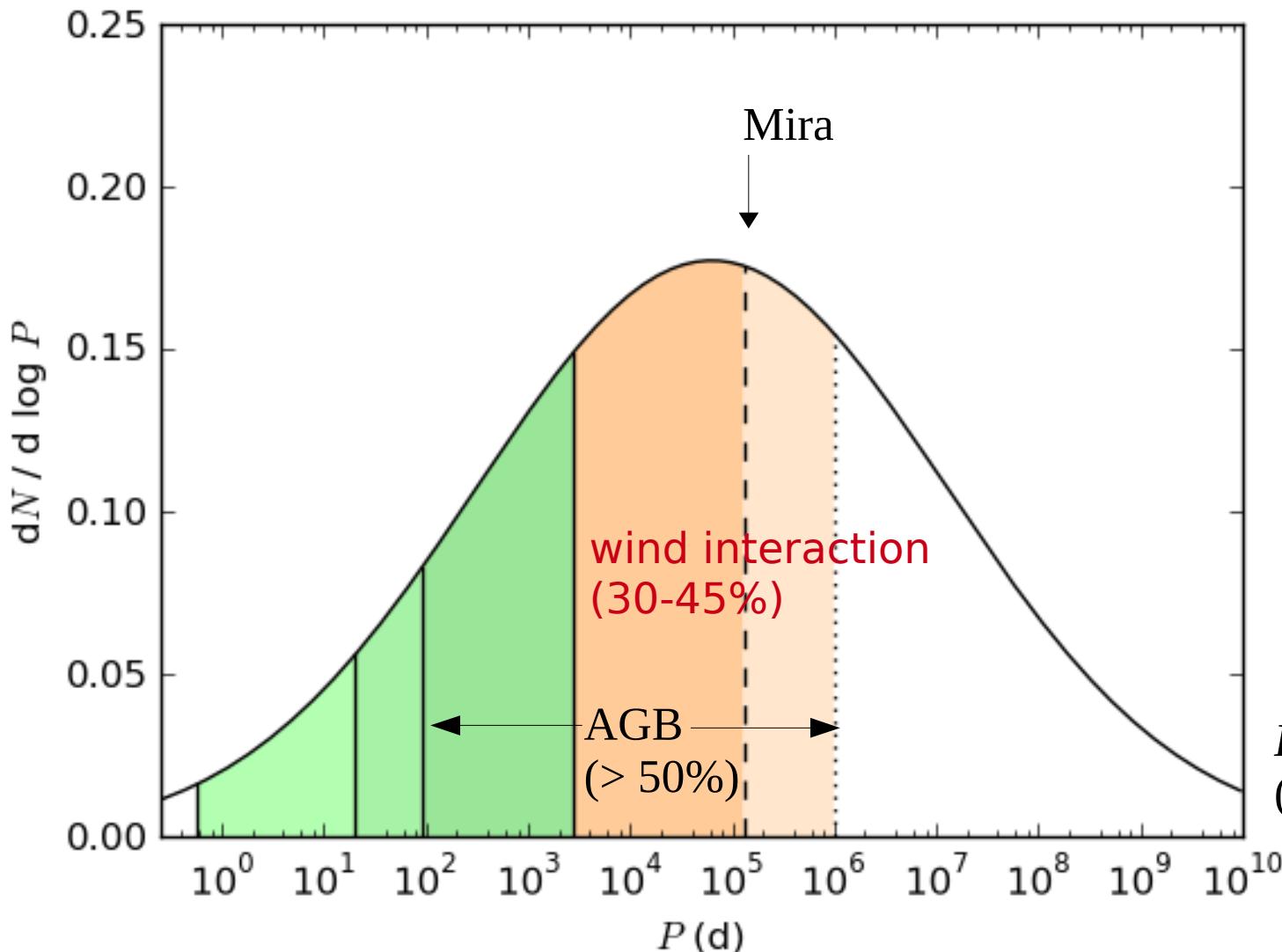
# close binaries

- close binaries tend to circularize due to **tidal interactions**
- most red-giant binaries expected to spiral-in to **closer orbits**

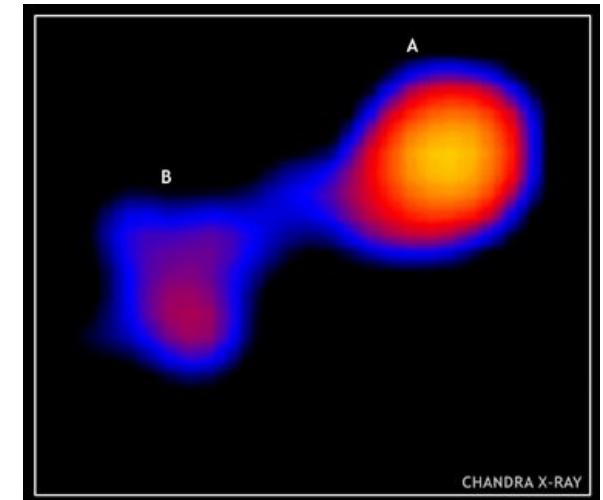


# wide binaries

- wide binaries can also interact by their **stellar winds**, especially on the **AGB** where the **bulk of mass loss** occurs (slow, dense winds)



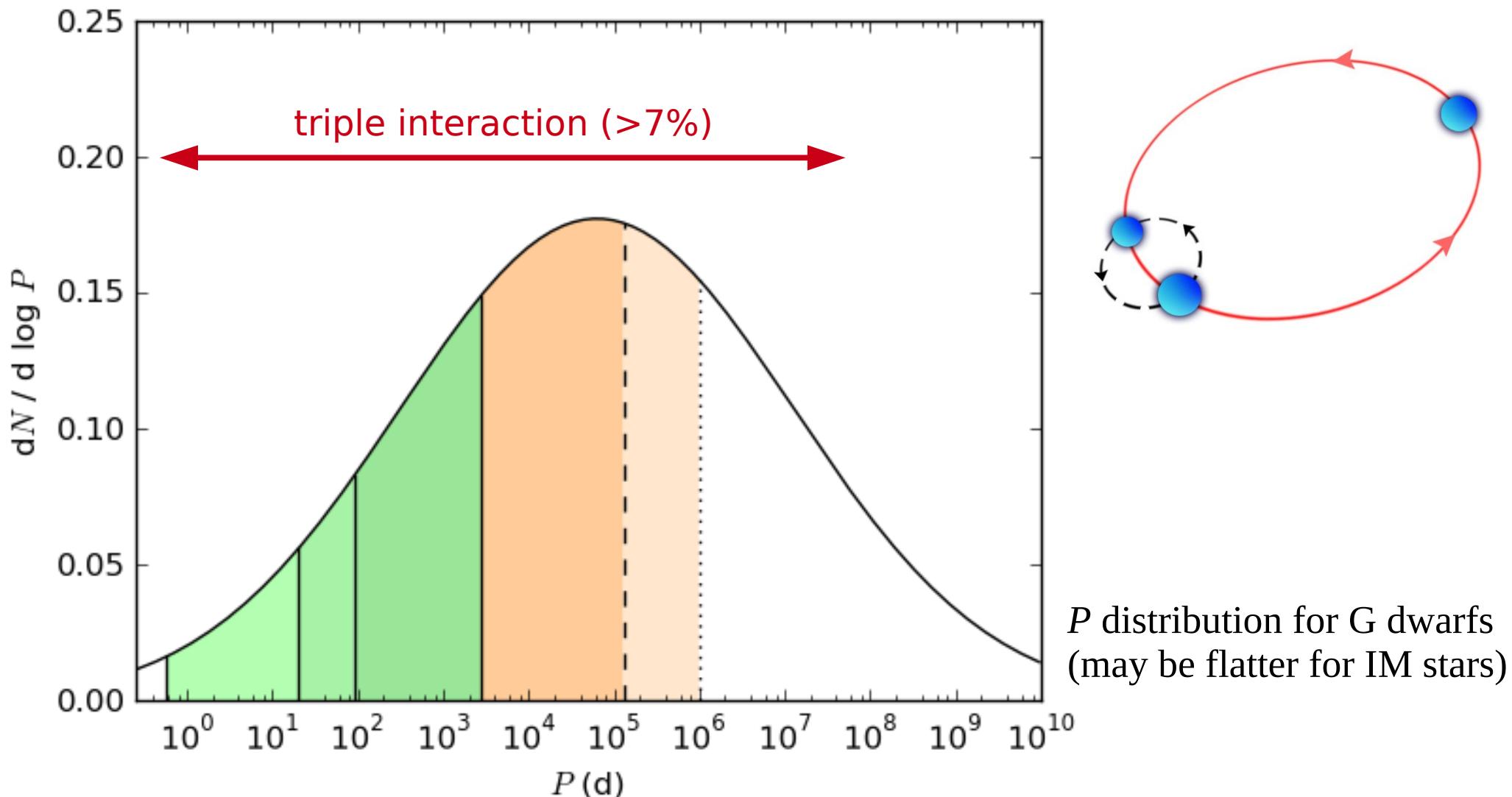
example: **Mira AB**, a wide symbiotic binary  
Karovska+ 2005



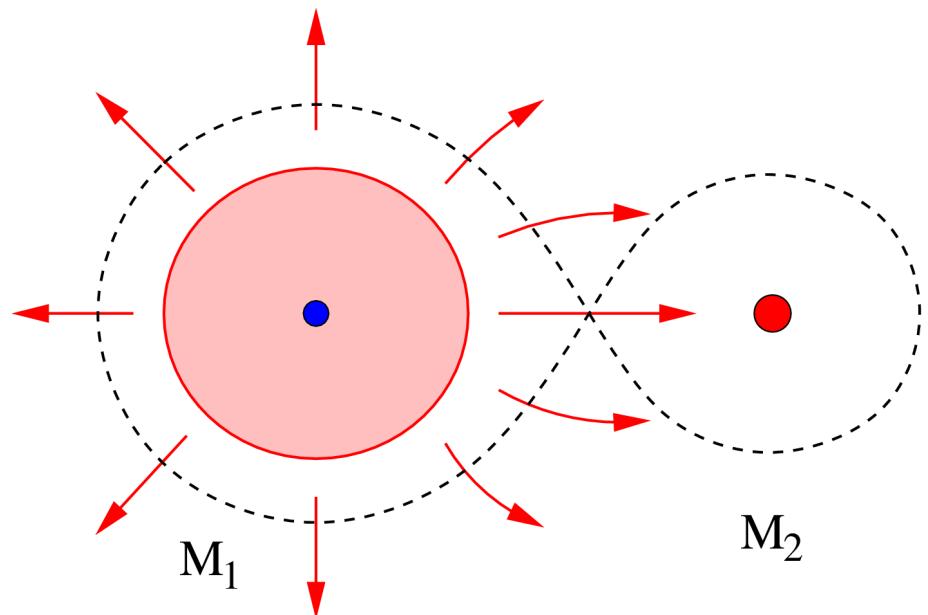
$P$  distribution for G dwarfs  
(may be flatter for IM stars)

# wide binaries

- orbits of all these binaries may also be affected by an outer **triple component** in suitably **inclined orbit** (see talk by **S. Toonen**)



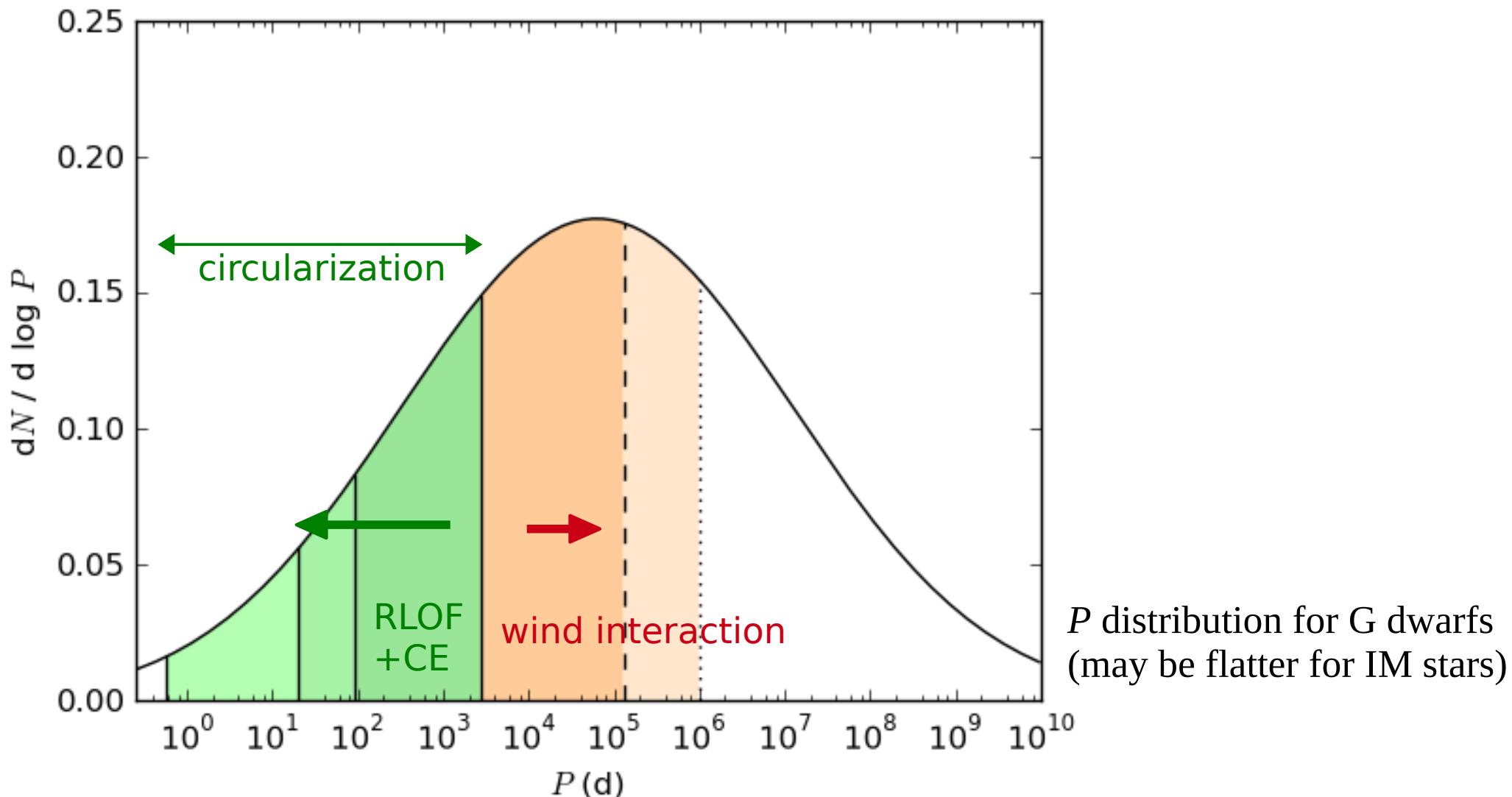
# wind interaction and accretion



- stellar wind outflow is modified by companion  $\Rightarrow$  may affect shape of circumstellar envelope and produce **asymmetric PNe**  
e.g. Soker 1998, De Marco 2009
- companion captures part of the stellar wind  $\Rightarrow$  **wind accretion**
- if outflow is roughly isotropic and mostly lost from binary system  $\Rightarrow$  **expansion** of the orbit ( $P \propto M_{\text{tot}}^{-2}$ )

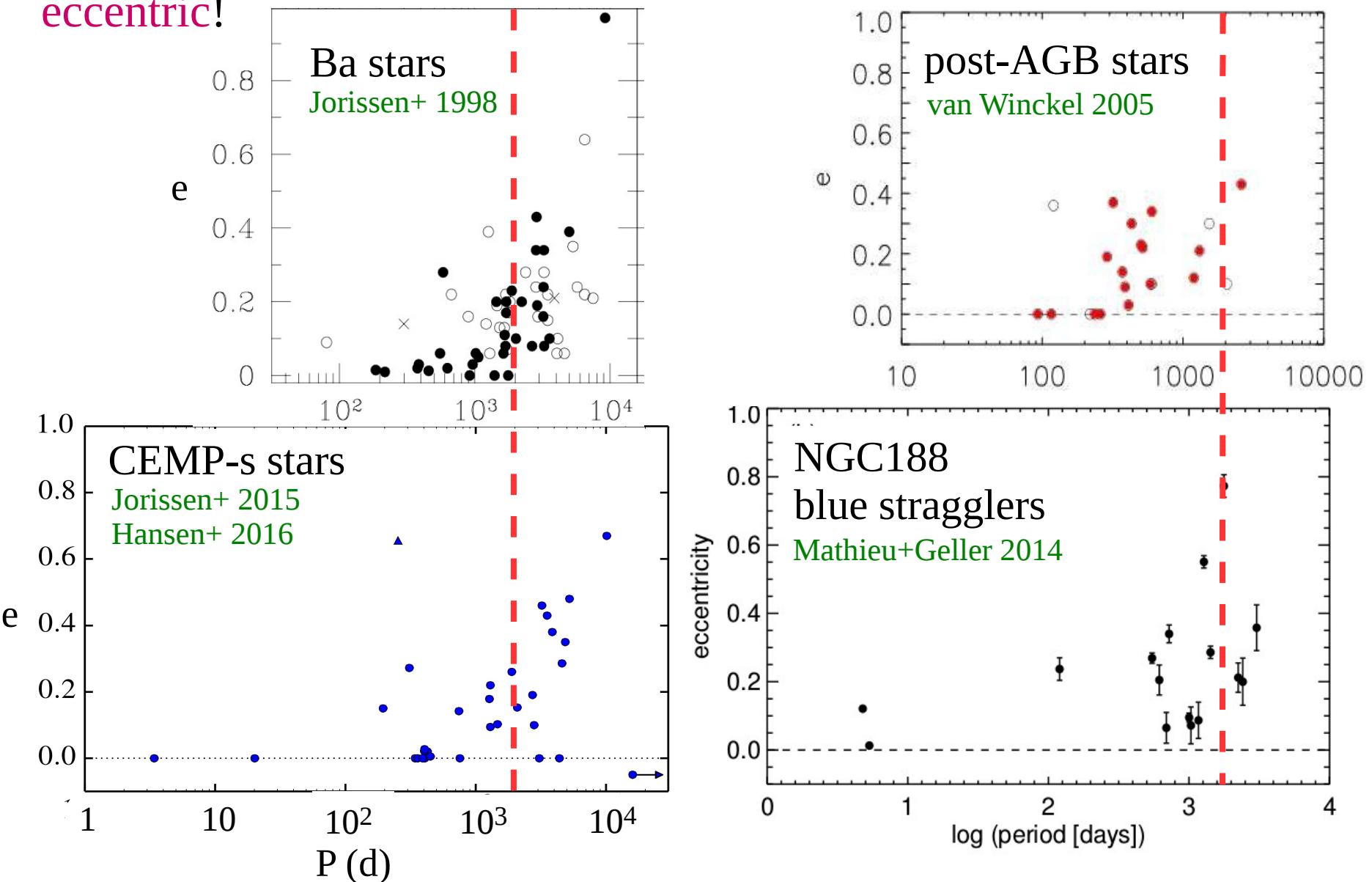
# descendants of AGB binaries

- expectations from canonical binary evolution:  
close binaries should tighten and circularize, wide binaries should widen



# descendants of AGB binaries

- ... but known post-AGB binaires are right in the expected  $P$  gap, and often eccentric!

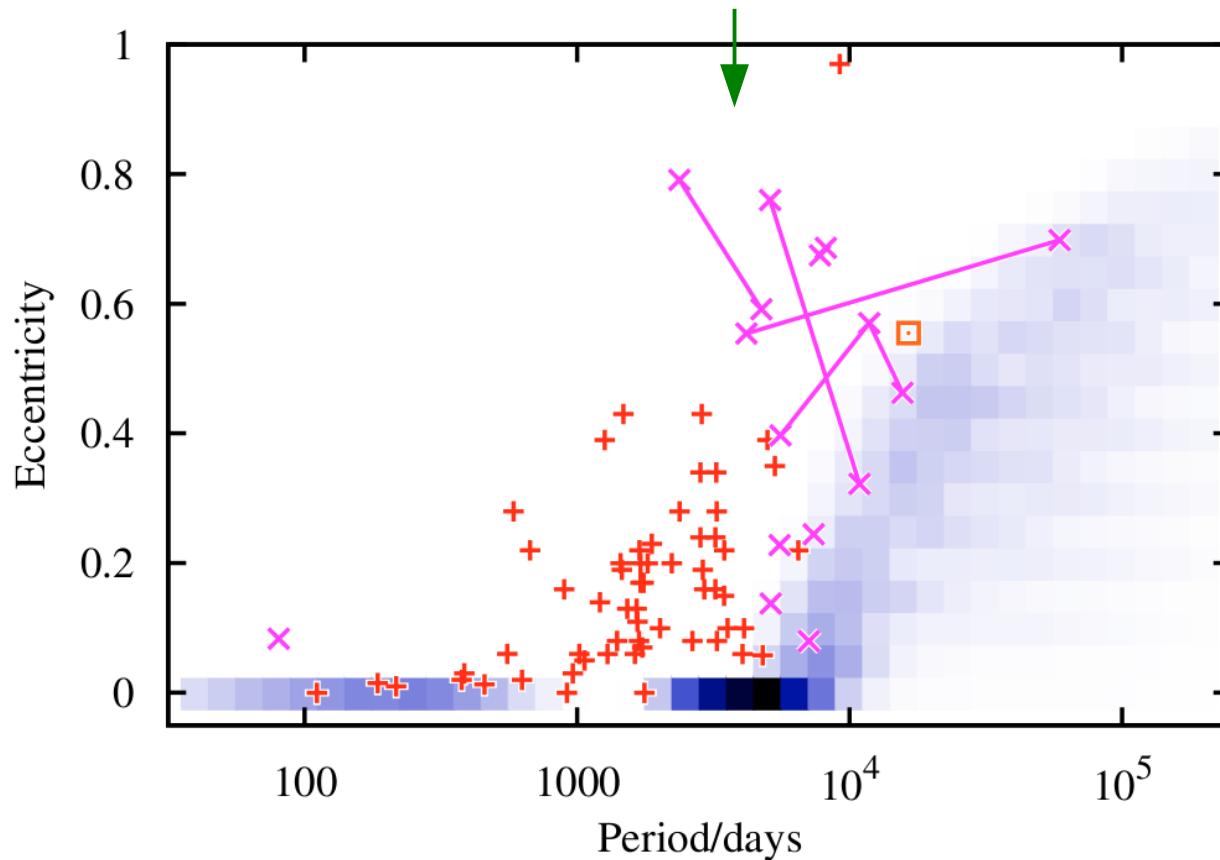


# barium star orbits

- standard binary evolution models cannot reproduce the  $e$ - $P$  distribution
  - RLOF and tides circularize Ba star orbits with  $P < 3000$  d
  - most Ba stars found in  $P$  gap predicted by binary population synthesis
  - many stars predicted at  $P > 10^4$  d, but not observed

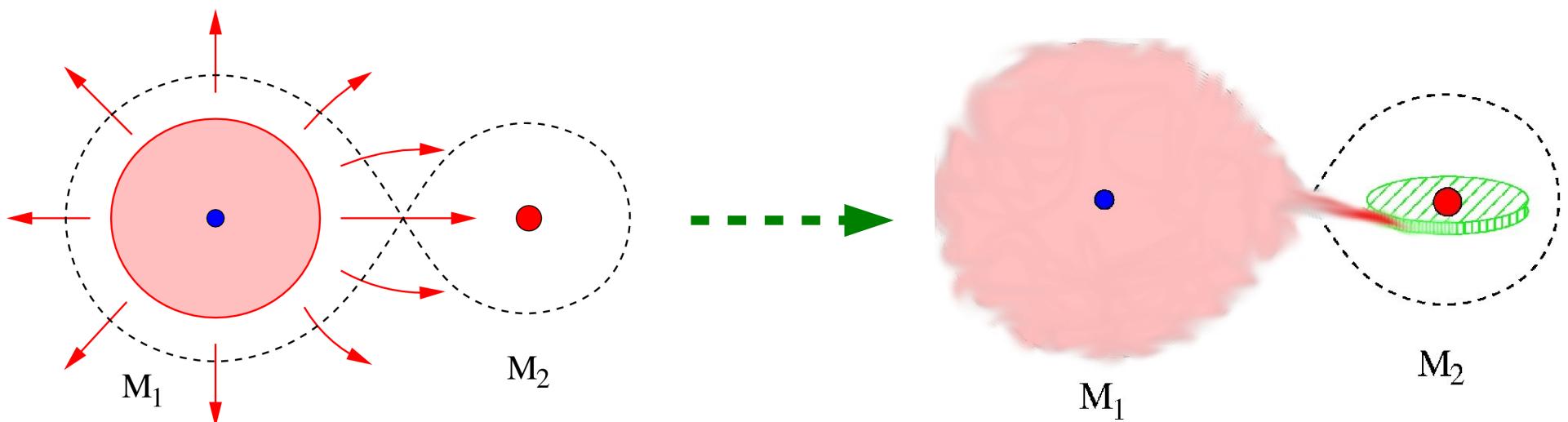
Pols+ 2003, Frankowski 2004, Izzard+ 2010

(also see poster by G.-M. Oomen)



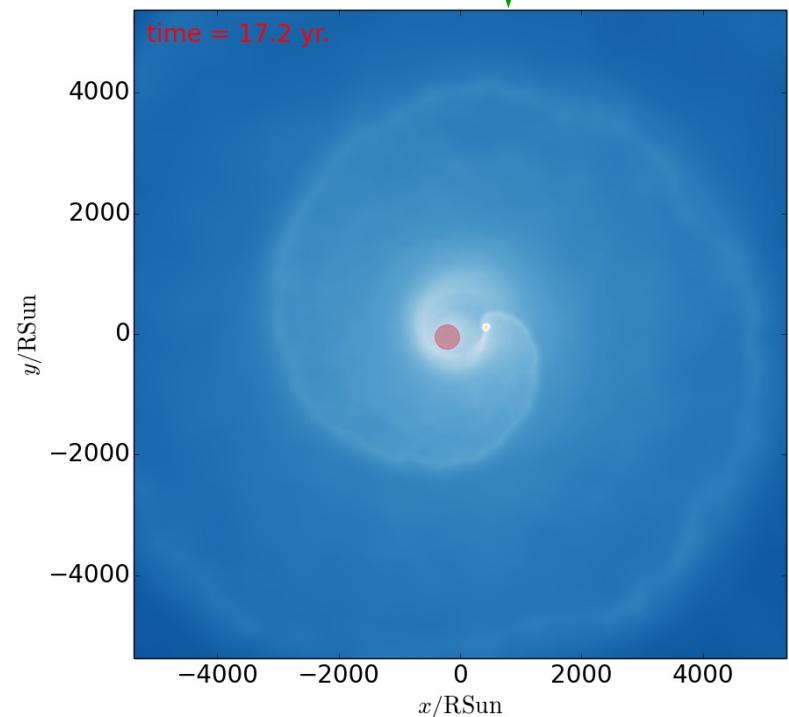
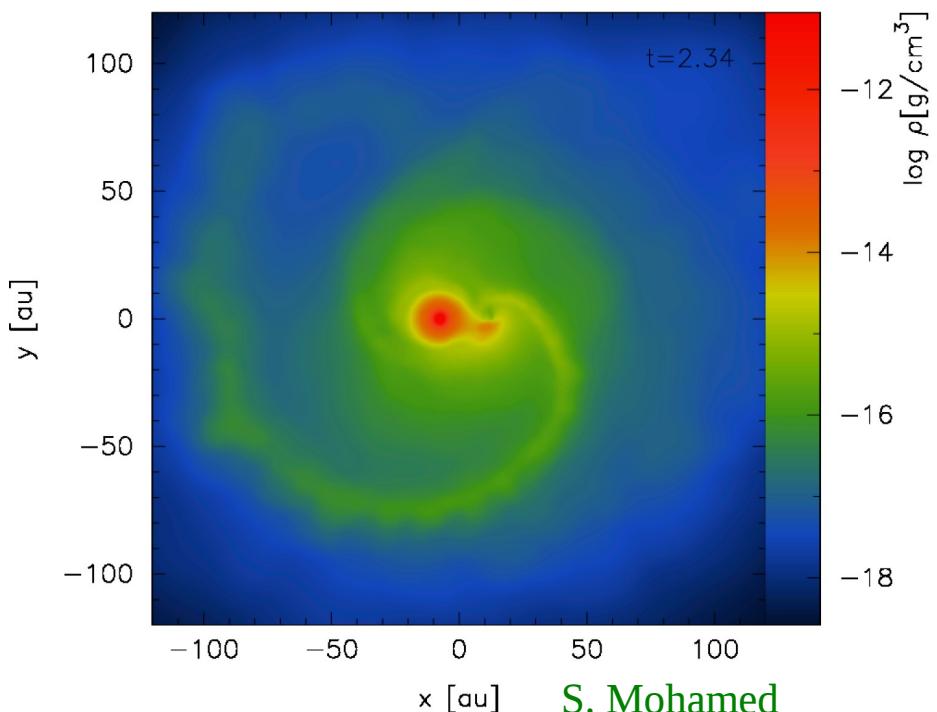
# wind interaction revisited

- usually described as **Bondi-Hoyle-Lyttleton** accretion (isotropic flow,  $v_{\text{wind}} \gg v_{\text{orb}}$ )  $\Rightarrow$  small accretion efficiencies, orbital expansion
- ... but conditions for BHL accretion do not hold for AGB binaries with slow, dense winds
- extended atmospheres, strong radiation pressure  $\Rightarrow$  blurs distinction with RLOF  
e.g. Dermine+ 2009
- possibility of **wind-RLOF**: slow wind fills Roche lobe, highly distorted outflow  
Mohamed+Podsiadlowski 2007



# wind mass transfer simulations

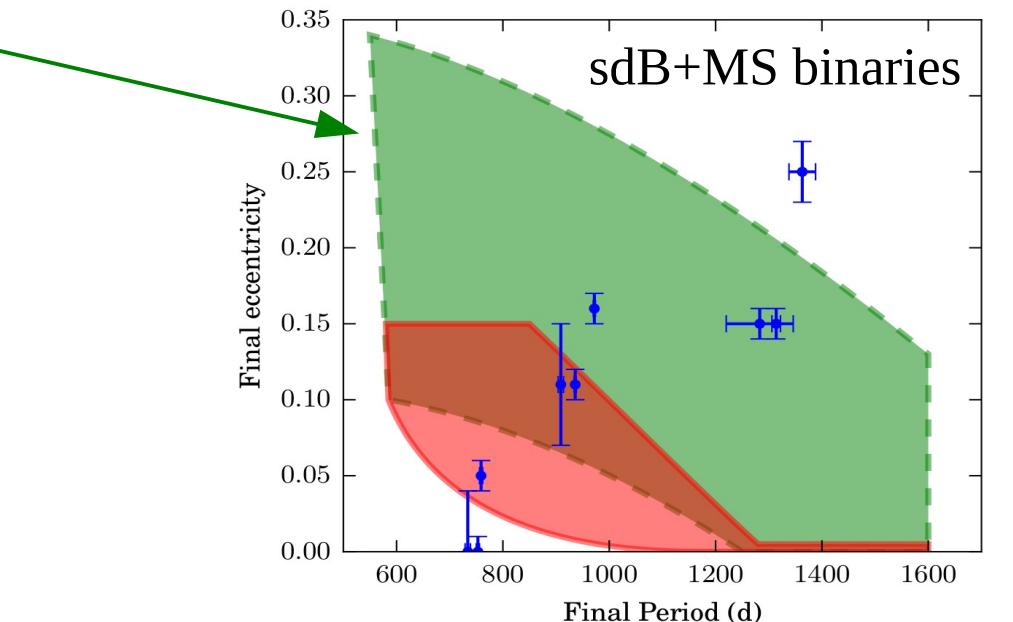
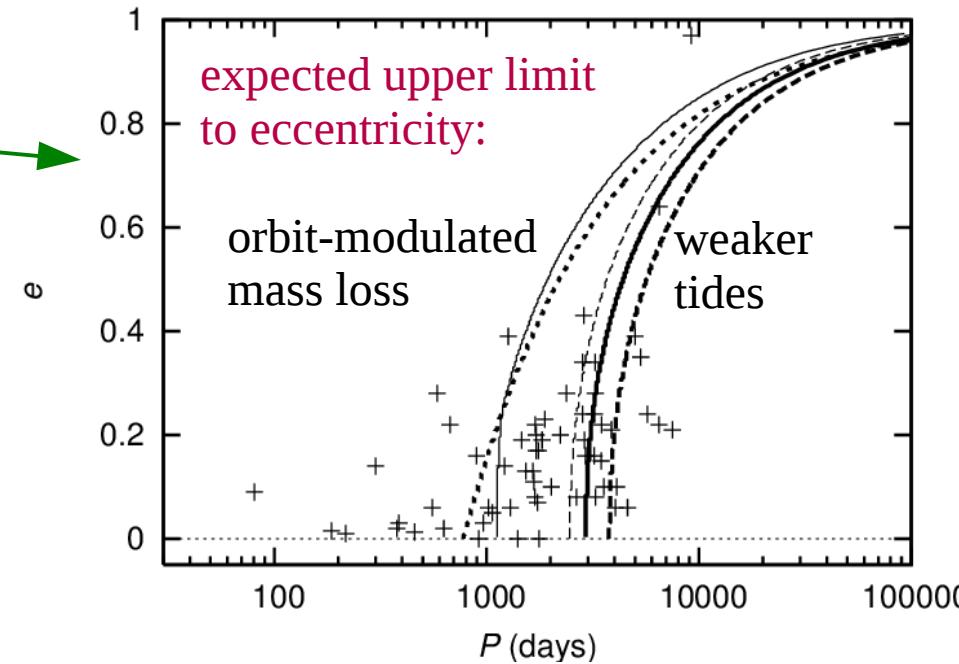
- confirmed by **hydro simulations** of AGB wind mass transfer:
    - larger accretion efficiencies (compared to BHL) e.g. Mohamed 2010
    - formation of circumbinary discs e.g. Chen+ 2017
    - enhanced angular momentum loss (compared to isotropic wind)  
Jahanara+ 2005, Chen+ 2017, Saladino+ 2017
- ⇒ possibility of **orbital shrinkage** (see talk by M. Saladino)



# possible $e$ -pumping mechanisms

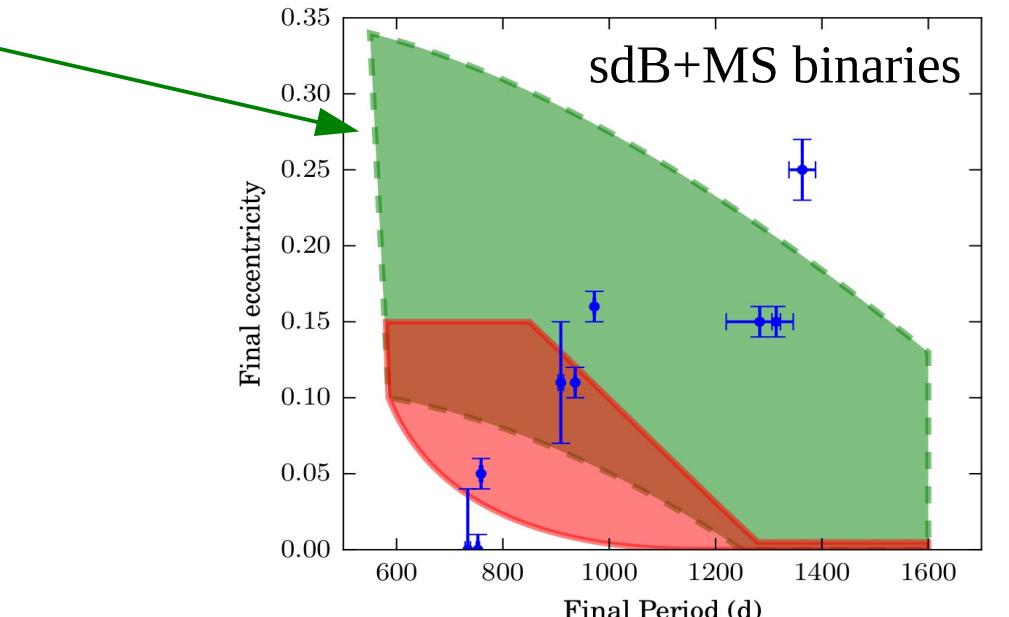
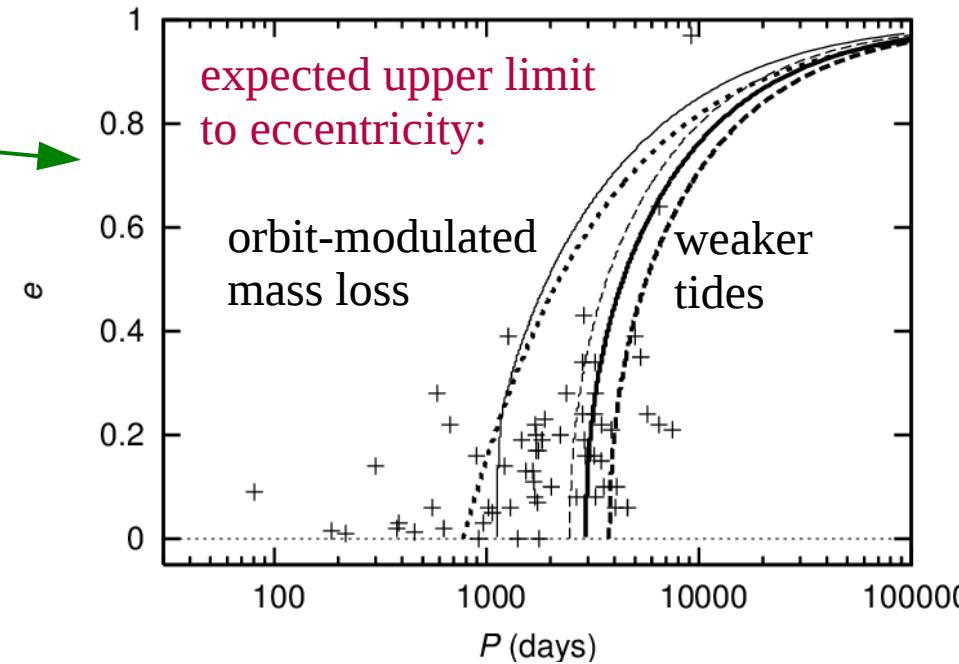
- enhanced wind mass loss at periastron  
van Winckel+ 1995, Bonacic+ 2008  
(Ba stars; also explains orbit of **Sirius**)
- RLOF at periastron  
Soker+ 2000, Vos+ 2015
- circumbinary disks (formed from ejected envelope)  
as seen in post-AGB-star binaries

Waelkens+ 1996, Dermine+ 2013, Vos+ 2015

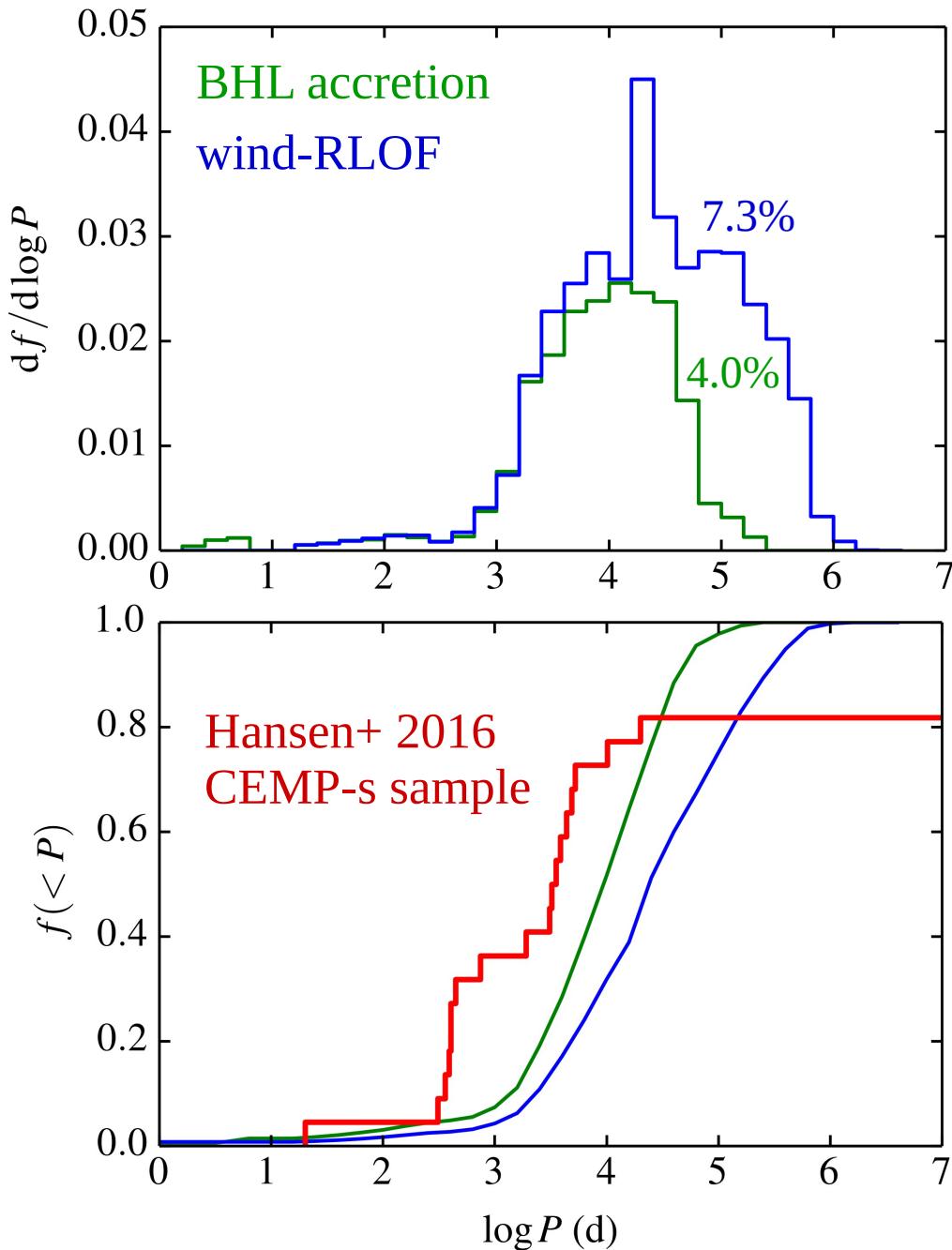


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as seen in post-AGB-star binaries  
Waelkens+ 1996, Dermine+ 2013, Vos+ 2015
- outer triple companion  
Perets+Kratter 2012
- WD birth “kicks”??  
Izzard+ 2010
- tides-pulsation interaction?



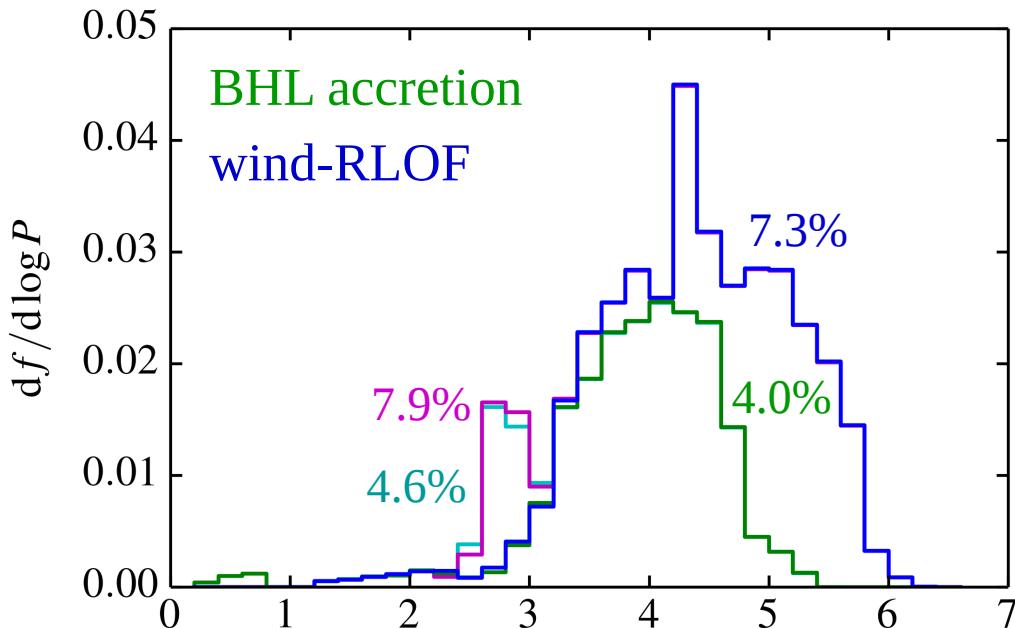
# CEMP-s population synthesis



binary population synthesis of  
CEMP-s stars: [Abate+ 2015](#)

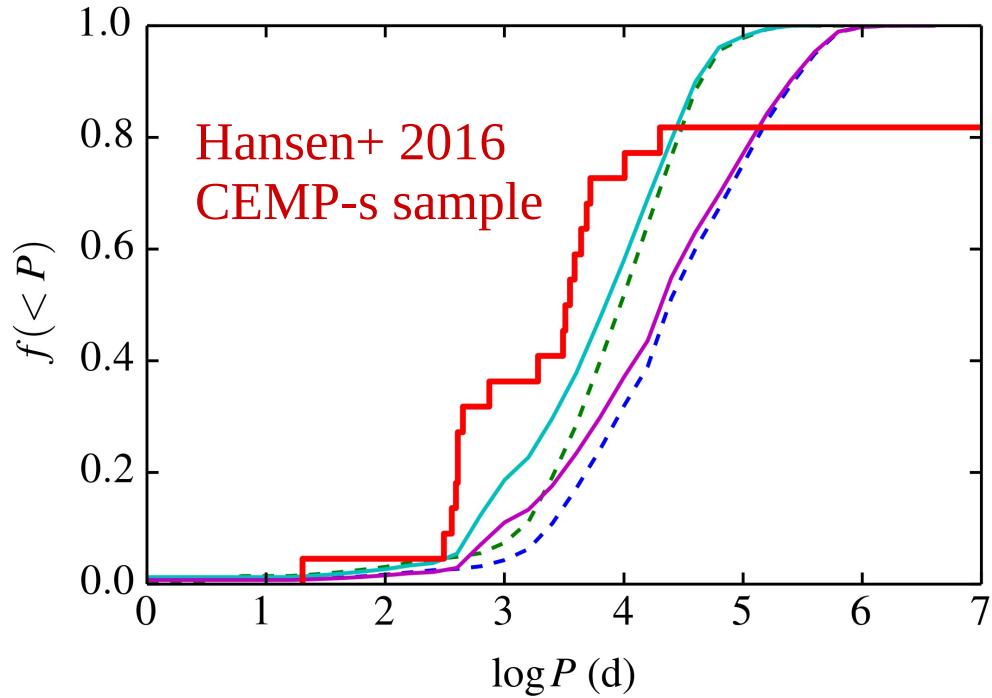
- disregard eccentricities
- can reproduce **observed CEMP-s fraction** of  $\approx 6\%$  at  $[\text{Fe}/\text{H}] > -2.8$  (SDSS/SEGUE, [Lee+2014](#))
- mostly resulting from **wind mass transfer**, which needs to be very efficient (wind-RLOF)
- requires wide range of initial orbits ( $P \sim 10^3 - 10^6$  d)
- isotropic wind assumption  $\Rightarrow$  final periods are too wide

# CEMP-s population synthesis

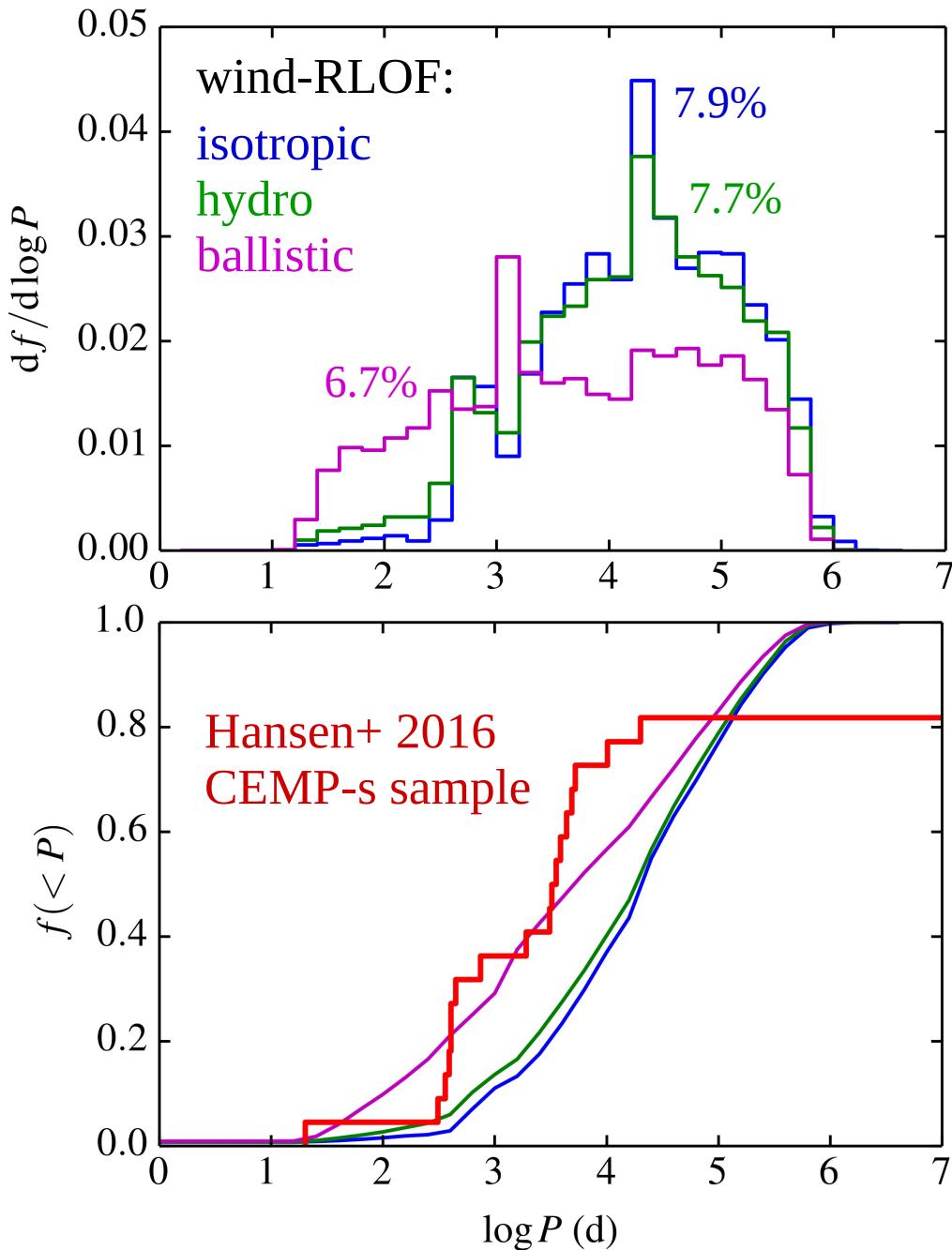


contribution from stable RLOF?  
Abate+2017, in prep.

- revised RLOF stability criterion for red giants (Chen+Han 2008)  
⇒ modest effect on  $P$  distribution



# CEMP-s population synthesis



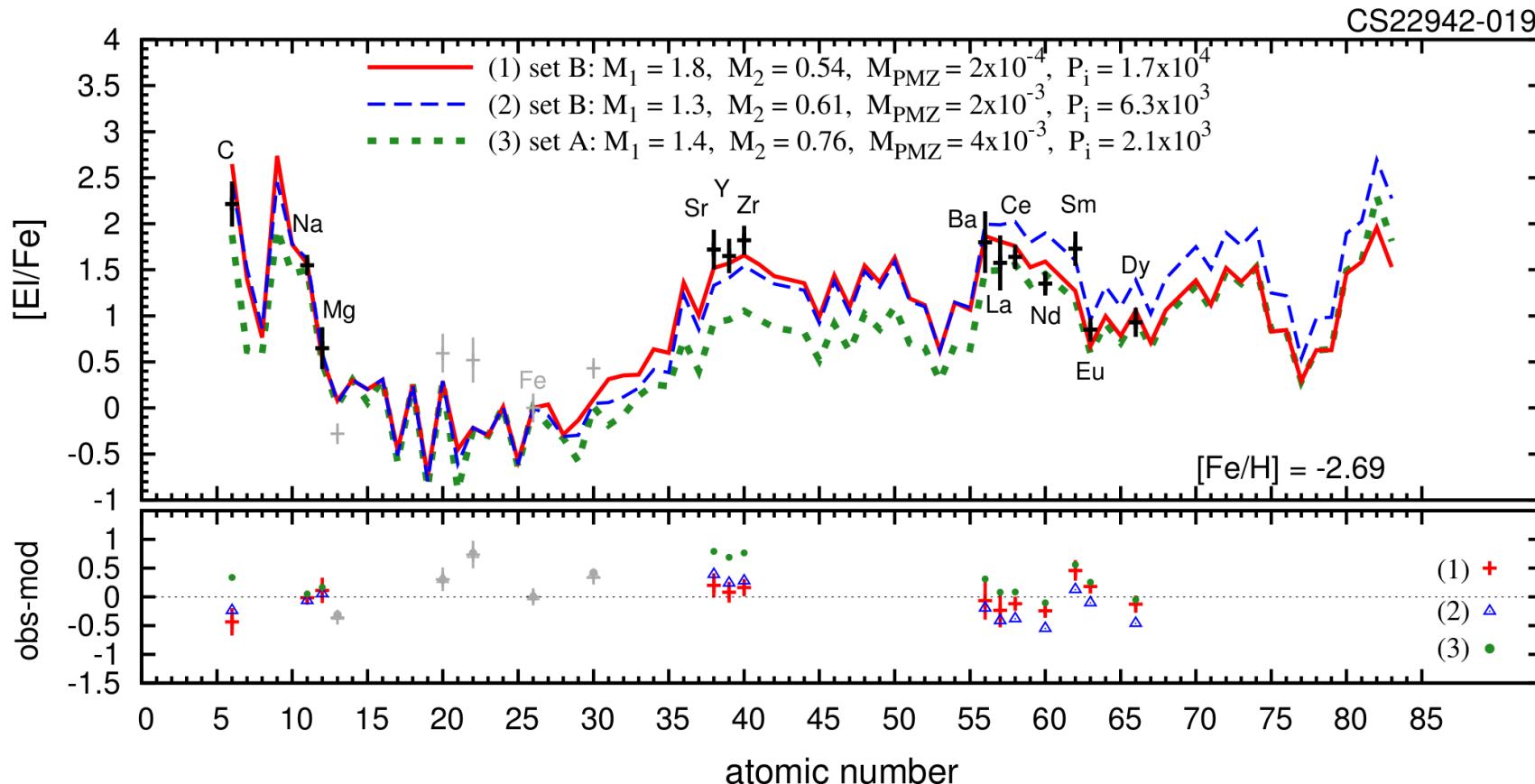
enhanced angular momentum loss?  
Abate+2017, in prep.

- parameterized AM loss,  
compared to isotropic wind:
  - hydro models of wind transfer  
[Jahanara+2005](#)
  - ballistic “wind” transfer models  
[Brookshaw+Tavani 1993](#)

⇒ strong orbital AM loss helps  
producing close CEMP-s orbits  
... but still too many wide  
binaries ( $P > 10^4$  d)

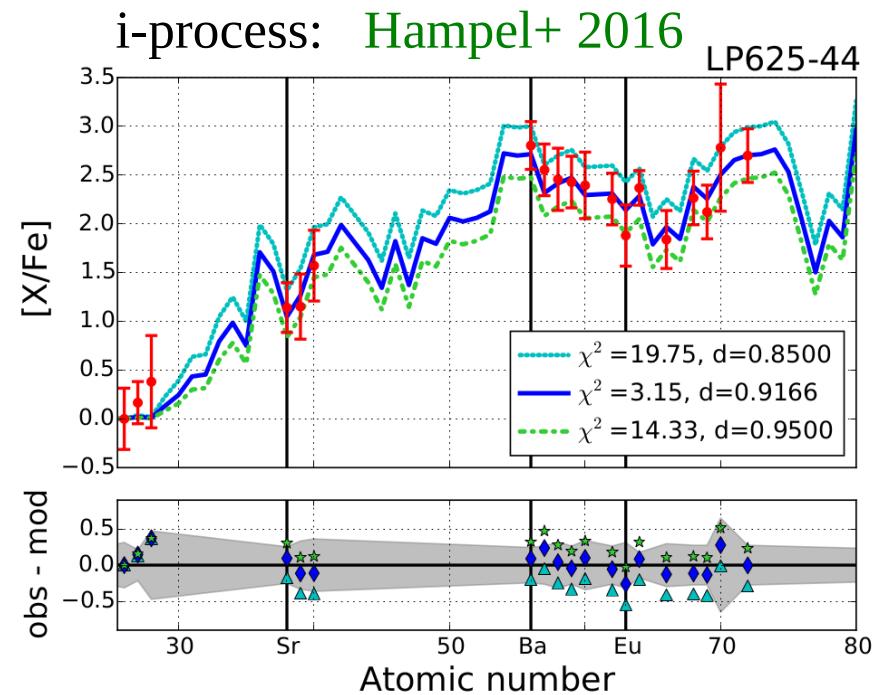
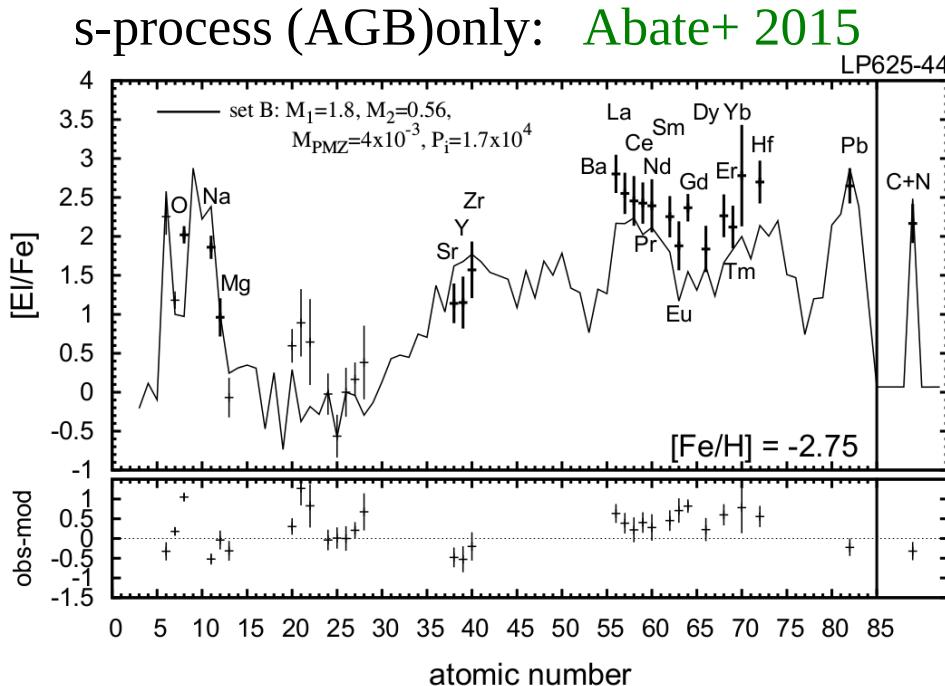
# modelling CEMP-s binaries

- Abate+ 2015: 14 CEMP-s binaries with known orbits:
  - fit measured **abundances**, surface gravity and **orbital period**
  - find **best-fitting binary model**, using recent AGB nucleosynthesis models Karakas+2010, Lugaro+2012
  - generally good fit to CEMP-s abundance patterns



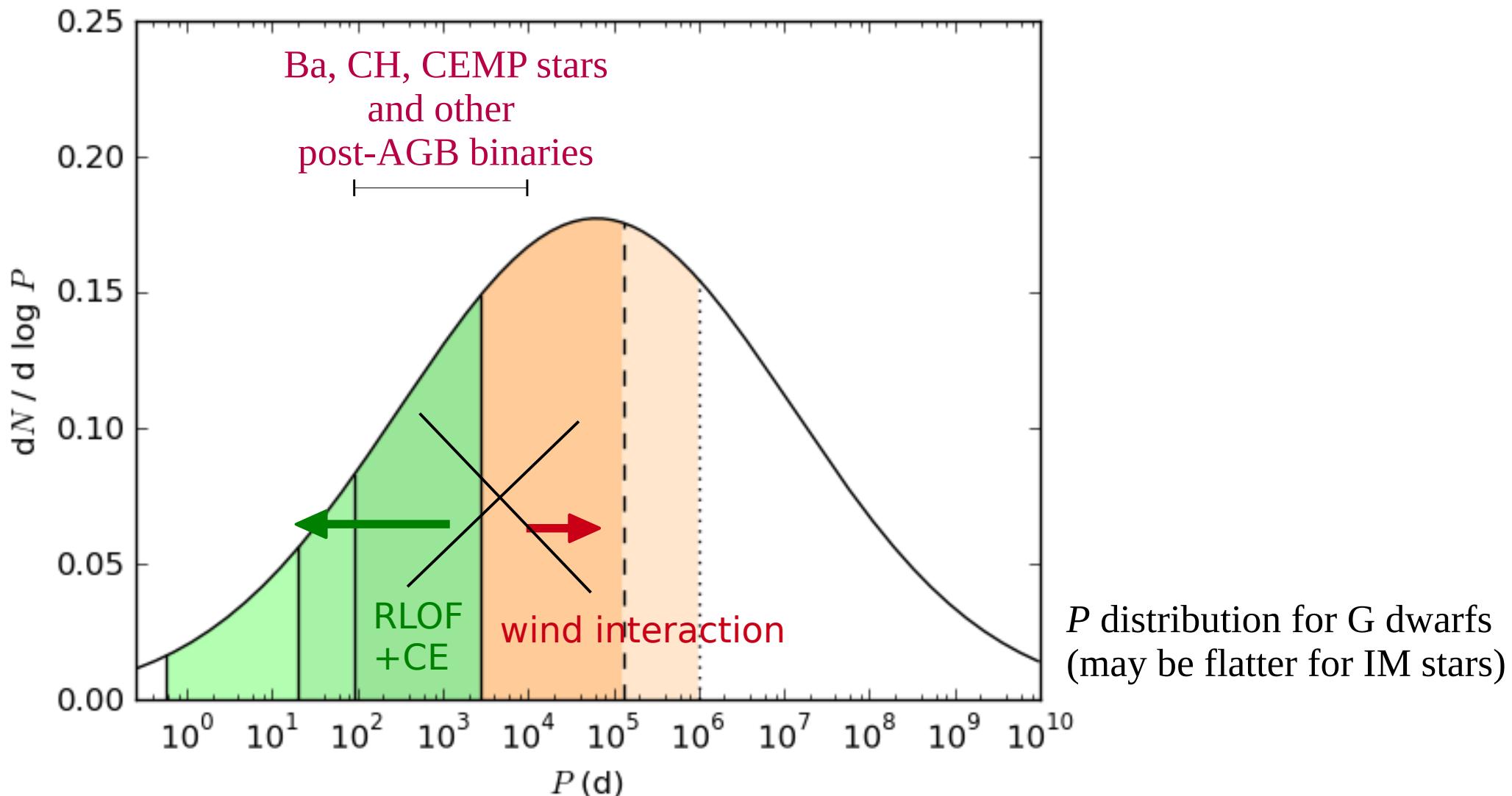
# modelling CEMP-r/s binaries

- CEMP-r/s stars: overabundances of typical r-process elements (Eu, etc)
- can not be reproduced by current AGB (s-process) nucleosynthesis
- models invoking **separate s- and r-processes** component also fail!  
**Abate+2016**
- a single nucleosynthesis process with **intermediate neutron densities** (i-process,  $\sim 10^{15} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ ) can produce observed abundance patterns  
**Hampel+ 2016**



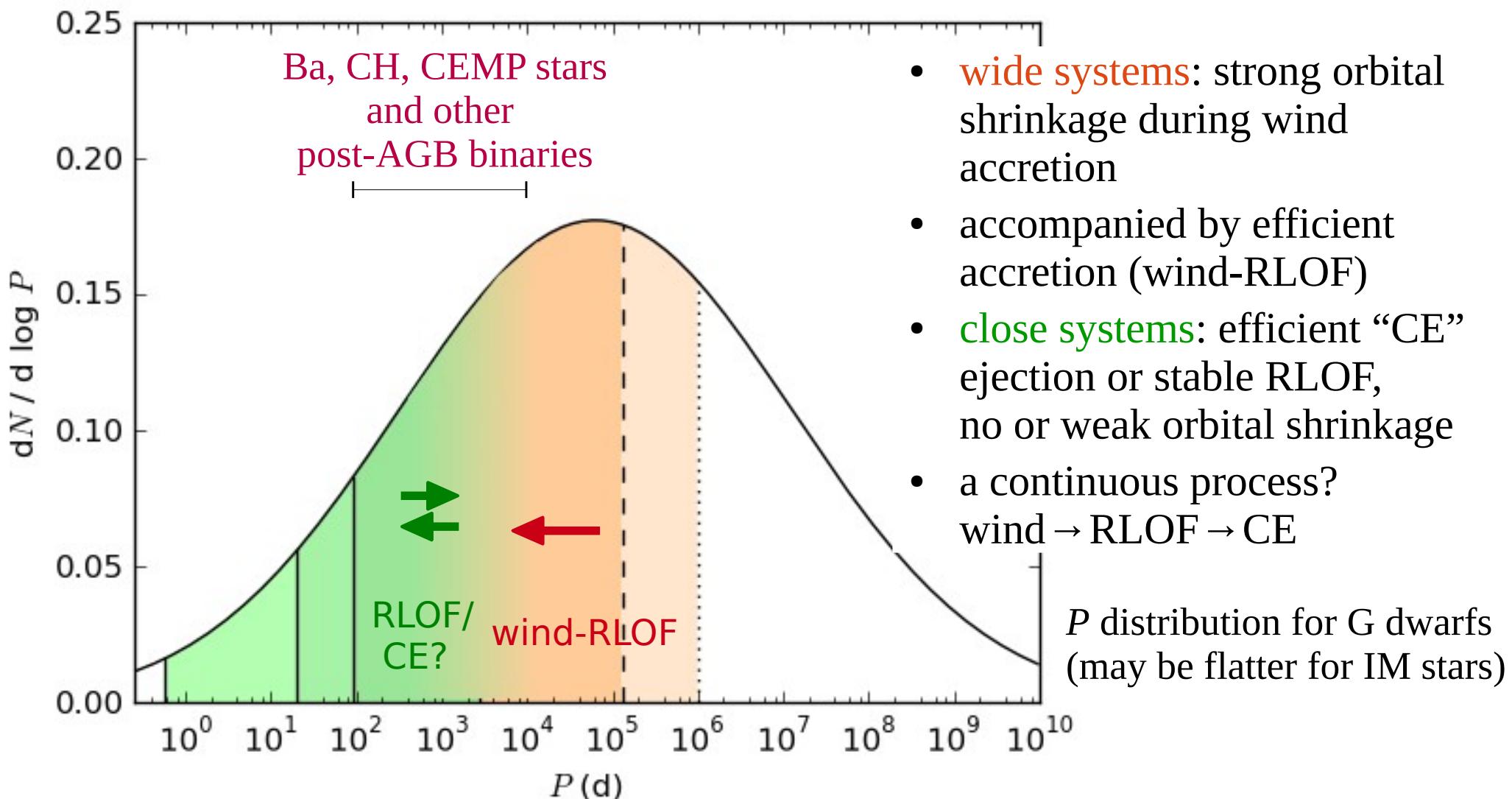
# descendants of AGB binaries

- observational evidence: **efficient mass transfer + a continuity of orbital properties** across close/wide-binary boundary



# descendants of AGB binaries

- observational evidence: **efficient mass transfer** + a **continuity of orbital properties** across close/wide-binary boundary



# summary

- >50% of low- and intermediate-mass binaries undergo their main interaction during the AGB phase
  - provides interesting tests of both AGB nucleosynthesis and binary interaction processes
- combination of wind interaction, RLOF and common envelopes: far from being well understood
- evidence from Ba, CH and CEMP stars, as well as many other post-AGB binaries:
  - efficient wind accretion (wind-RLOF) with strong orbital shrinkage
  - stable RLOF or CE ejection *without* strong orbital shrinkage
  - pumping of eccentricity during interaction
  - continuity of properties across types of interaction