



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

ASTRONOMY &  
ASTROPHYSICS

# Population and spectral synthesis: it doesn't work without binaries!

JJ Eldridge

with Elizabeth Stanway & BPASS team



# Outline

- Who am I?
- Who is the BPASS team?
- What is BPASS?
- How do you “do” spectral synthesis.
- Implications of interacting binaries for:
  - Individual stars
  - Star clusters
  - Galaxies
  - Ionizing radiation and BPT diagrams
  - Supernovae

# Who am I?

- I prefer to be called **JJ**.
- I prefer **them/they** pronouns.
- “I study exploding binary stars and try to explode the myth of a gender binary”.
- Also work on equity and inclusivity in academia.
- Read/watch too much sci-fi.
- Twitter: @astro\_jje



# binary population & spectral synthesis



**JJ Eldridge**

Stellar models, population and spectral synthesis



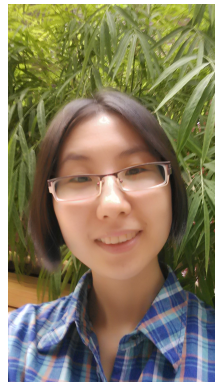
**Elizabeth Stanway**

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



**Liam McClelland**

Helium & Wolf-Rayet stars



**Lin Xiao**

Nebula emission 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

# binary population & spectral synthesis

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

## **Ethos:**

- 1) “Yes there are uncertainties but let's take our best guess, no tuning, and see if we can be less wrong than single star populations”.
- 2) “Give the community an easy tool to use in modelling the Universe with binary populations rather than all the single star codes out there”.

**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, McClelland, Bray, Taylor, Ng & Greis (all 60 pages of it!)

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.
- Moriya & 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

**Summary: if you have colleagues using starburst99, GALEV, GALAXEV(BC03) or any other single star spectral synthesis codes, tell them to use BPASS. (They don't have to talk to me just go to [bpass.auckland.ac.nz](http://bpass.auckland.ac.nz)).**

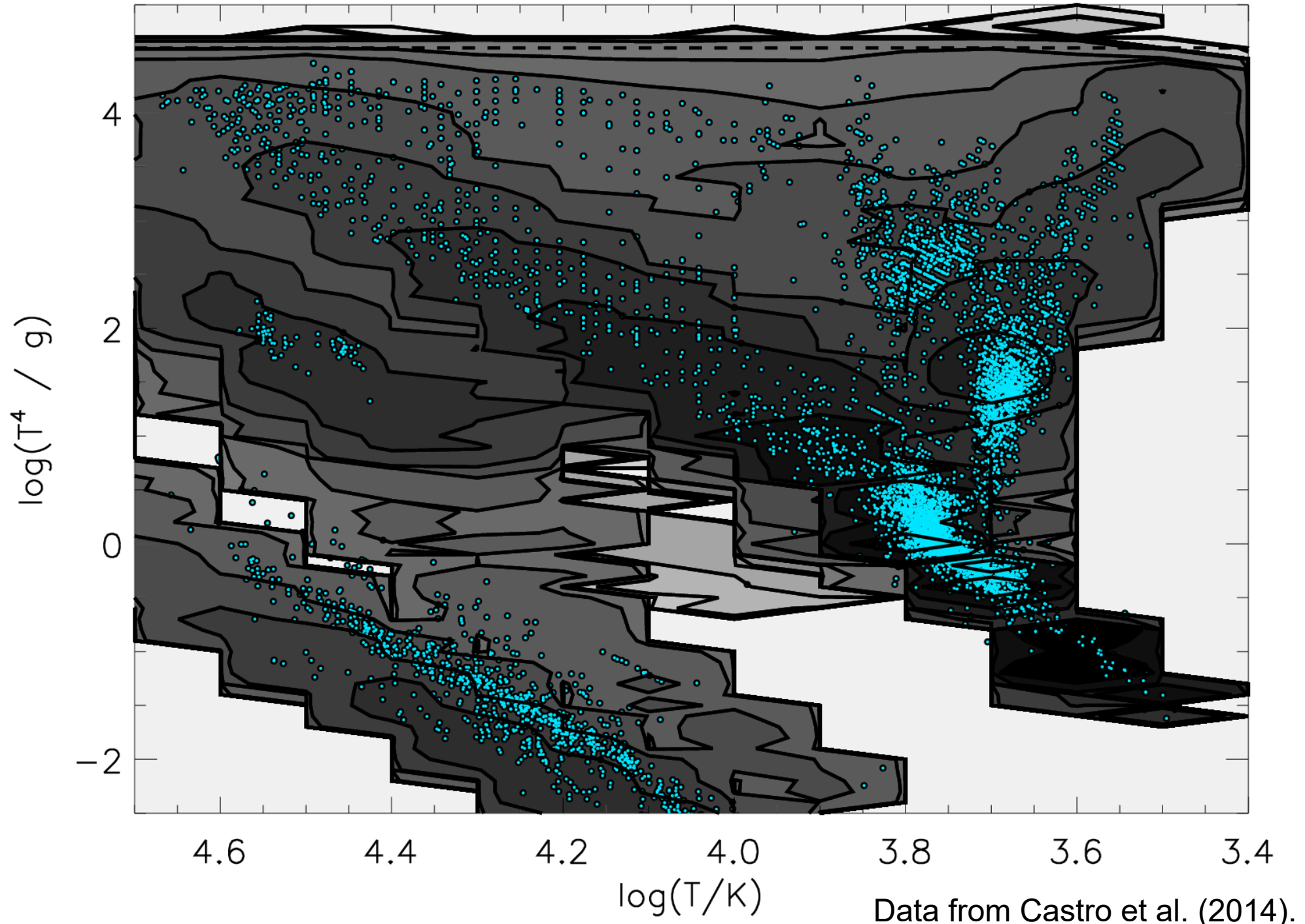
# So how do you “do” spectral synthesis?

- 1) Calculate stellar models, i.e. population synthesis (Izzard, Klencki, Neijssel, Ruiters talks).
- 2) Find surface gravity, temperature and composition of stellar models.
- 3) Select relevant atmosphere model
- 4) Combine into population (using hilfskonstrukts).

Where do atmosphere models come from?  
In BPASS: WM-Basic, PoWR & BaSeL v3.1.

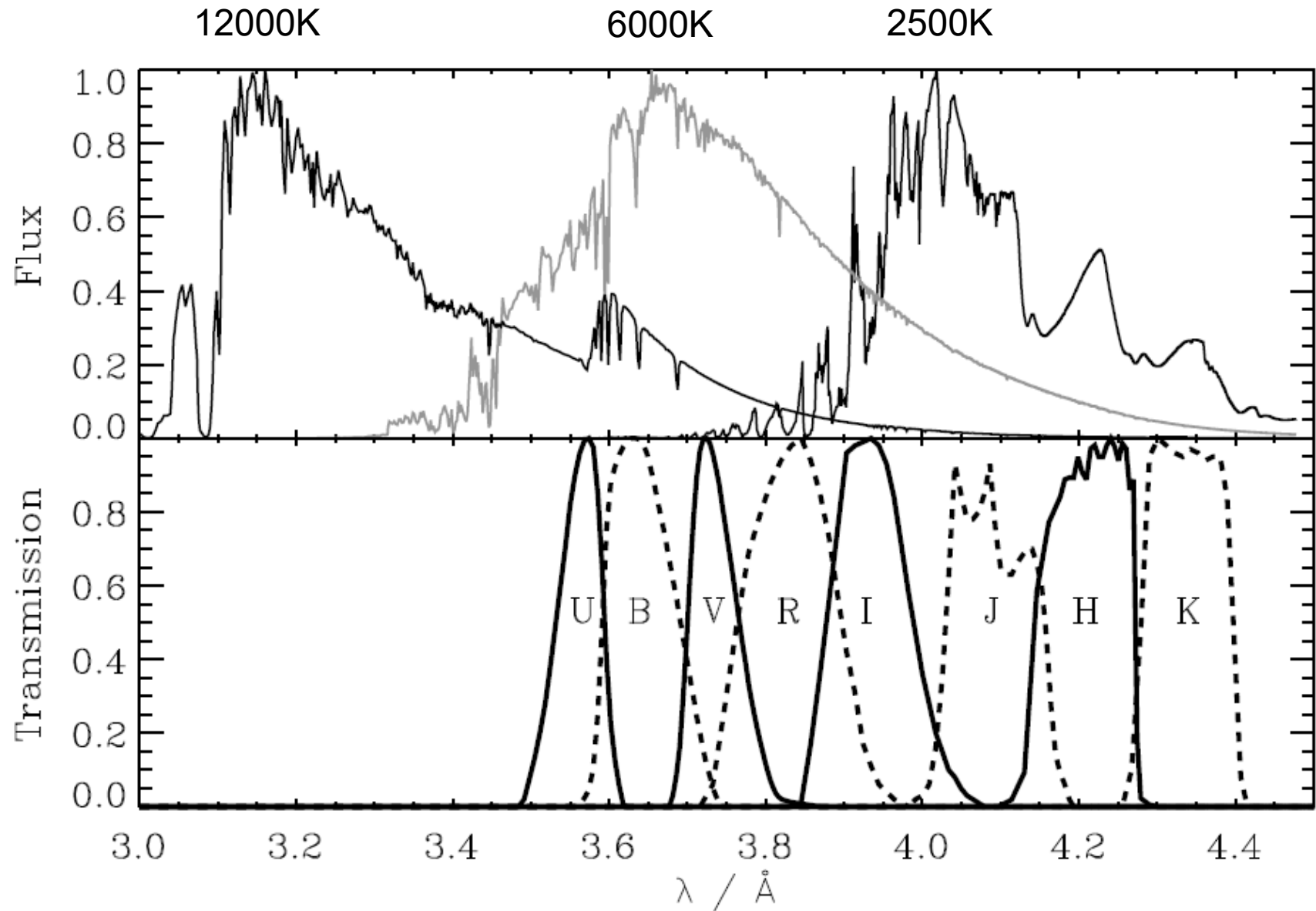
Or can calculate directly, see work of:  
Jose Groh on combining Geneva models directly with CMFGEN models, also see Rix et al. (2004).

# Starting point: spectroscopic HR diagram (binaries)





# Link to spectral models, and use broad-band filters



# The resultant spectra for an instantaneous burst.

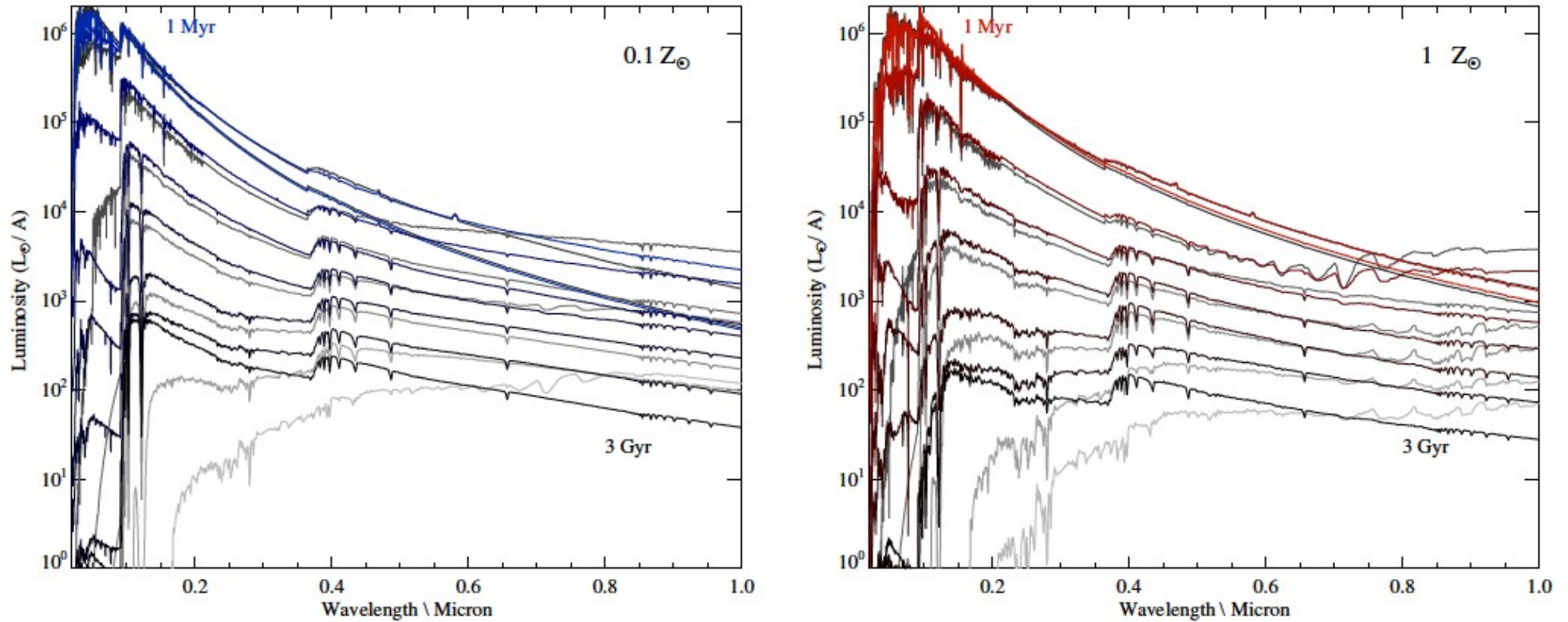
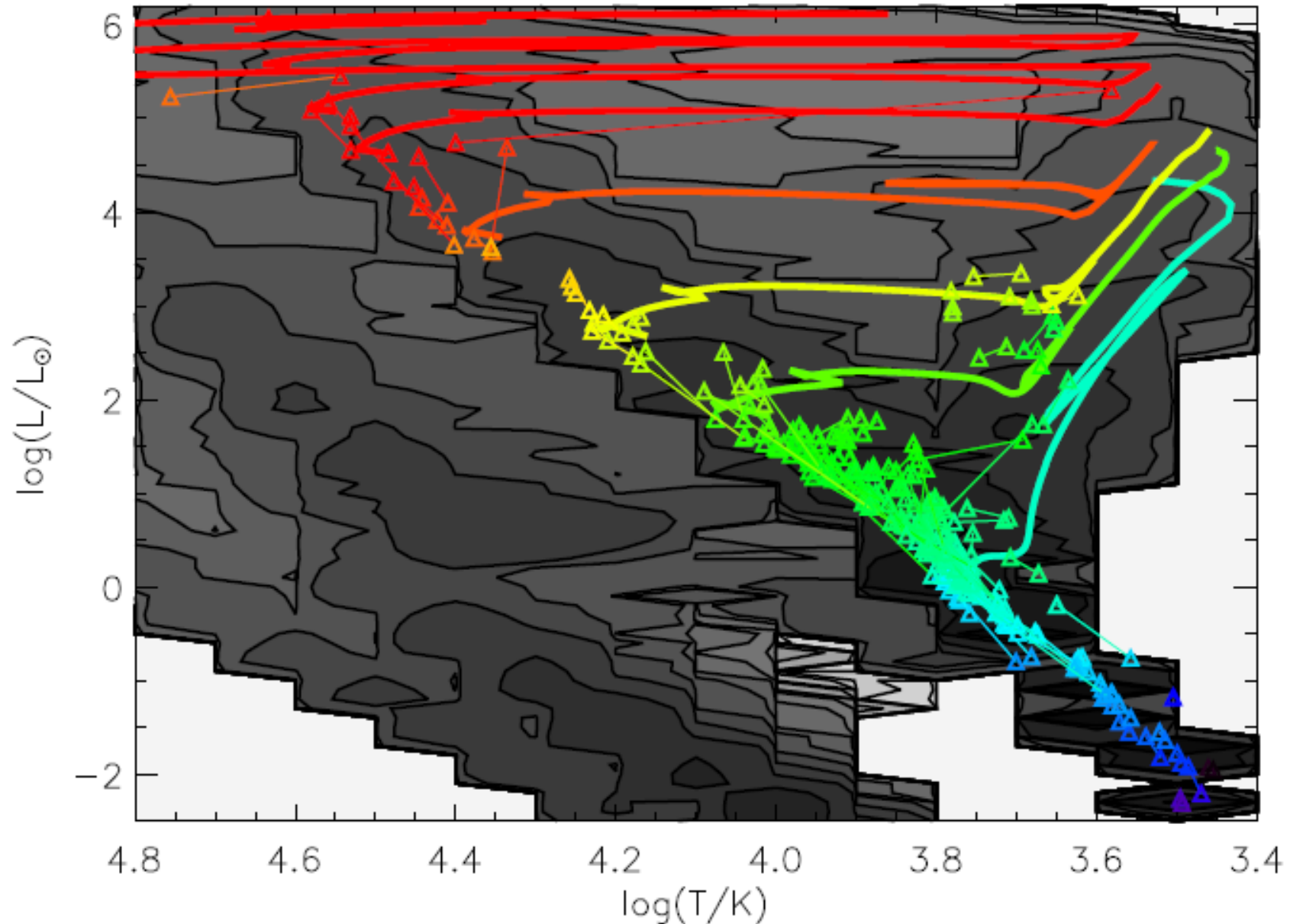


Figure 3. The synthetic spectra produced for a co-eval population (i.e. instantaneous starburst) at times of 1, 3, 10, 30, 100, 300, 1000 and 3000 Myr after star formation. Spectra are shown for binary populations (bold, coloured lines) and single stars (pale, greyscale line), and at metallicities of  $Z=0.002$  and  $Z=0.020$ .

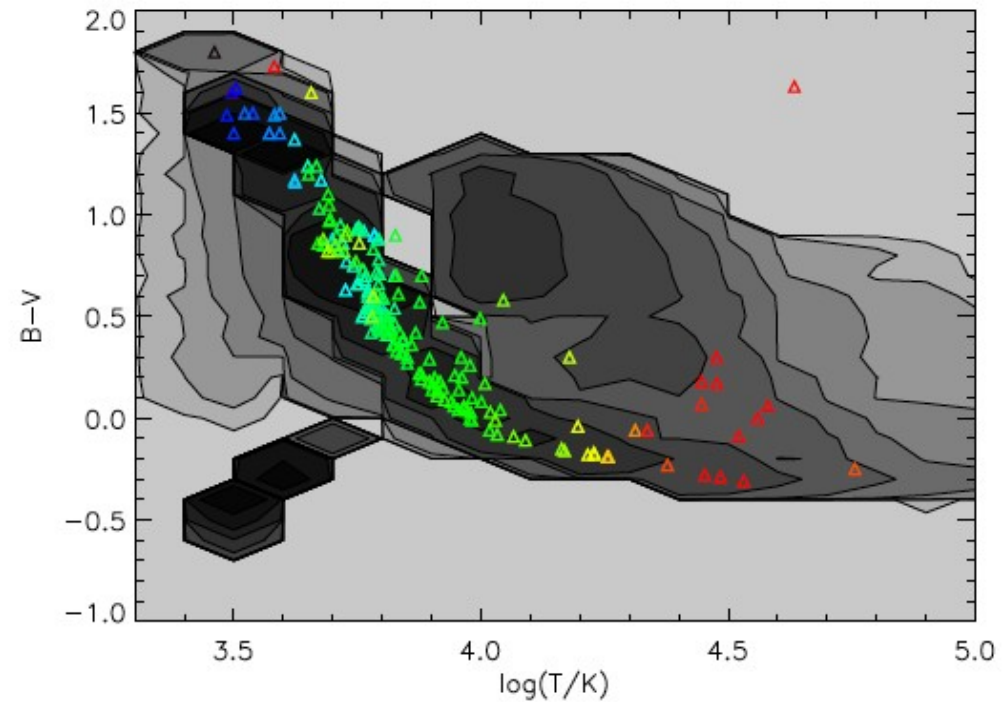
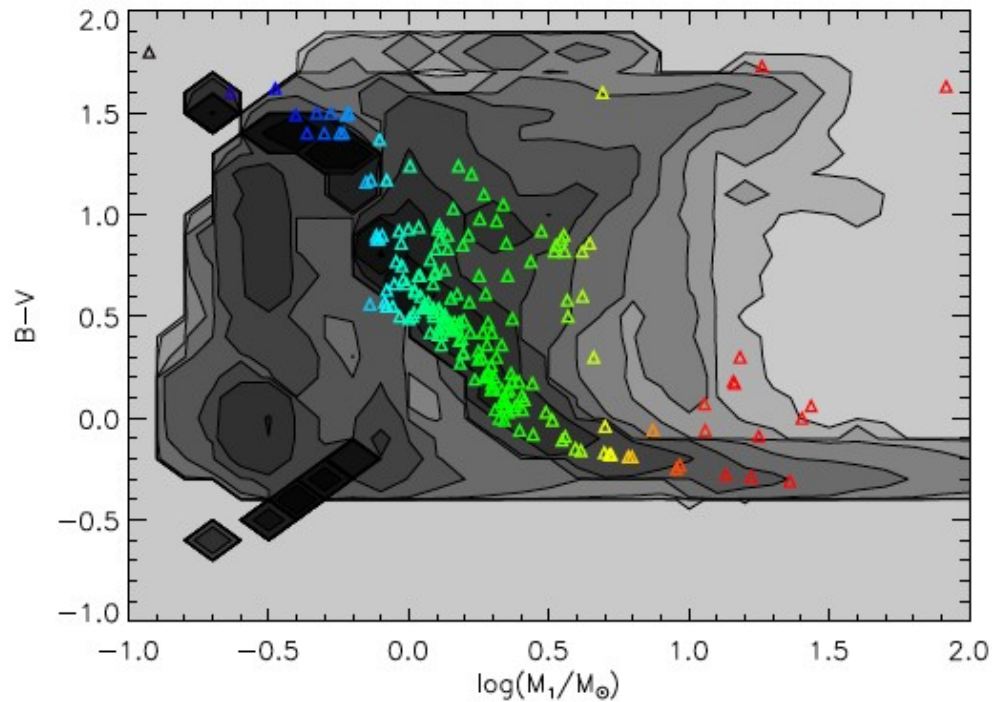
But how do we test this? First let us look at individual resolved stars.

# HR diagram for eclipsing binaries



**Data: DEBCat + VV Cephei +  $\gamma$ -Velorum + WR20a**

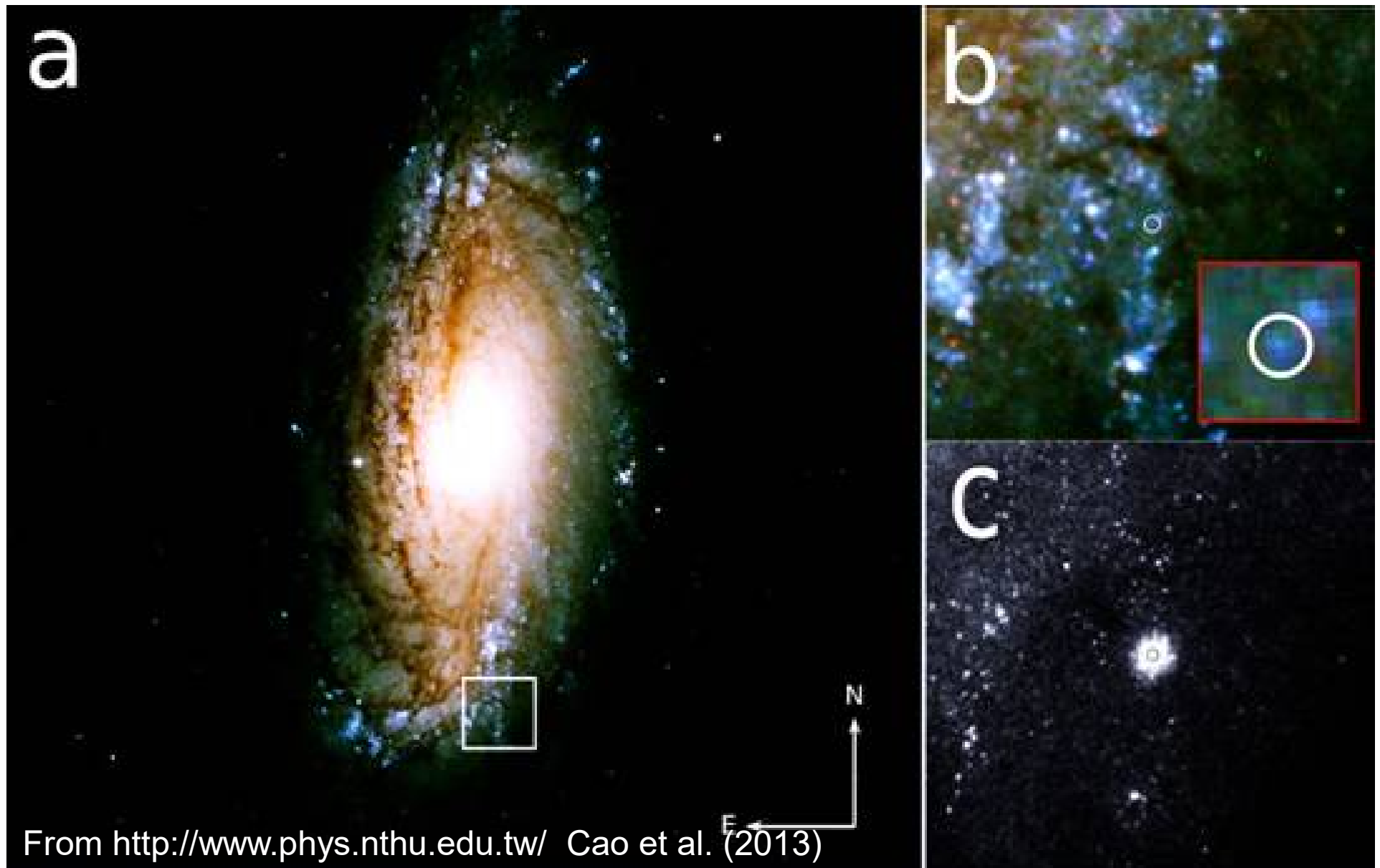
# Eclipsing binary broad-band colours...



**Data: DEBCat + VV Cephei +  $\gamma$ -Velorum + WR20a**

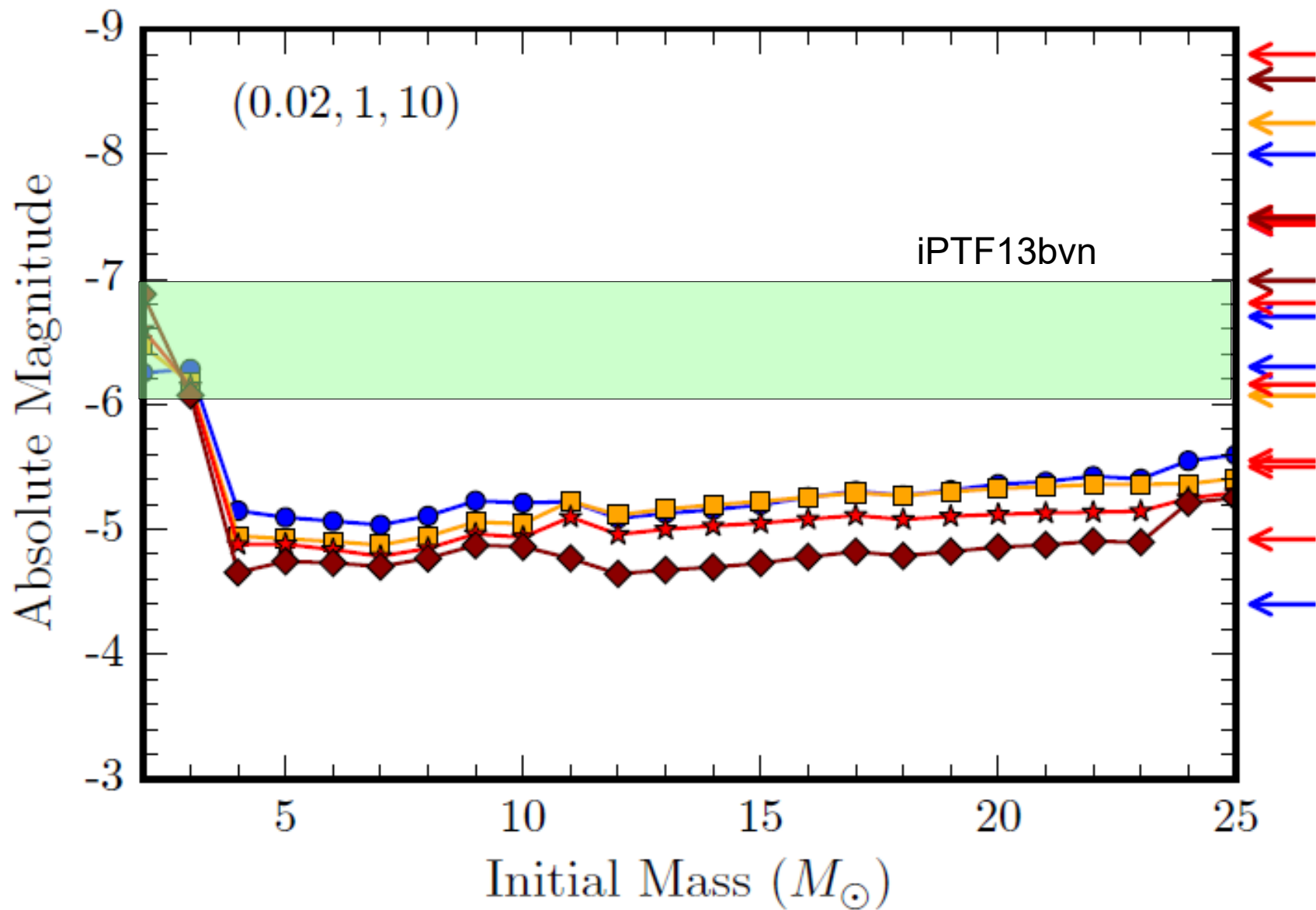


# Type Ib SN iPTF13bvn



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

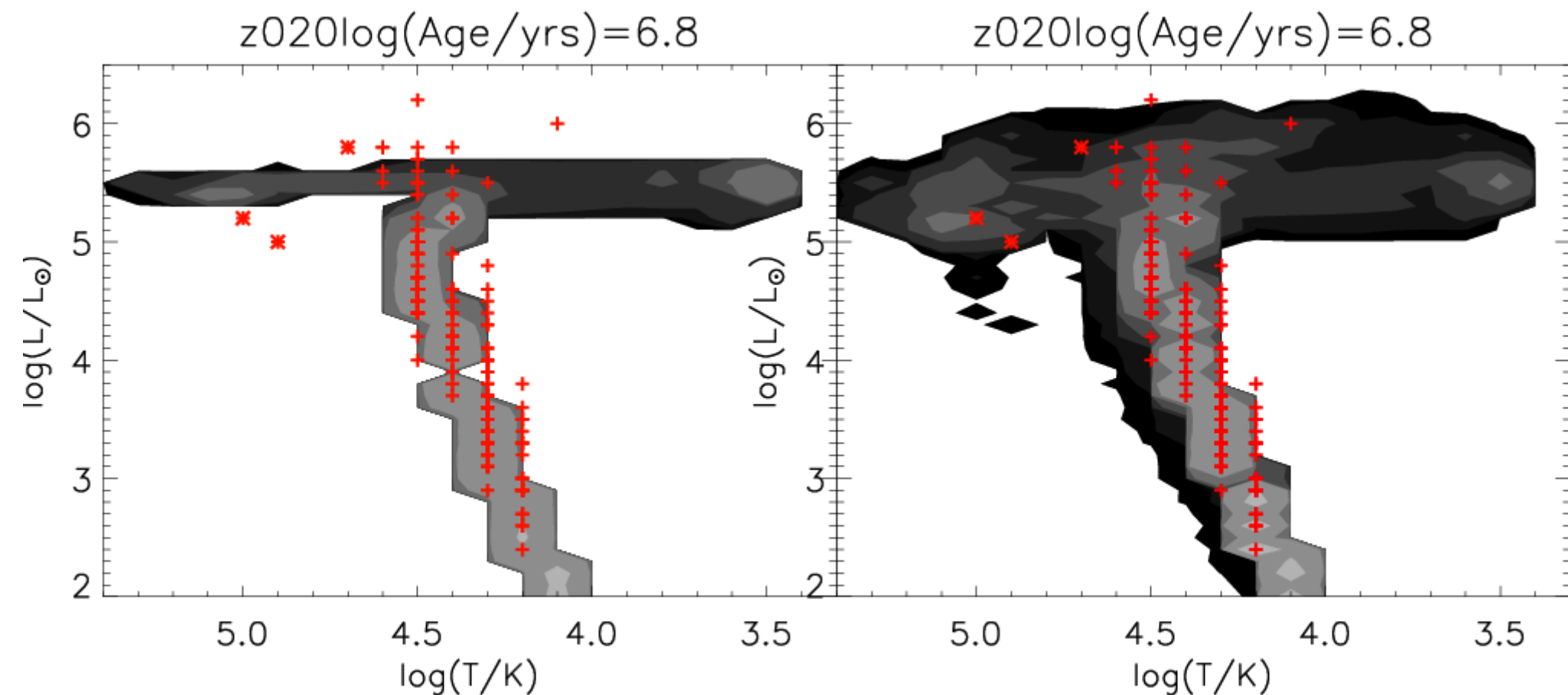
# Progenitors of type Ib/c supernova progenitors



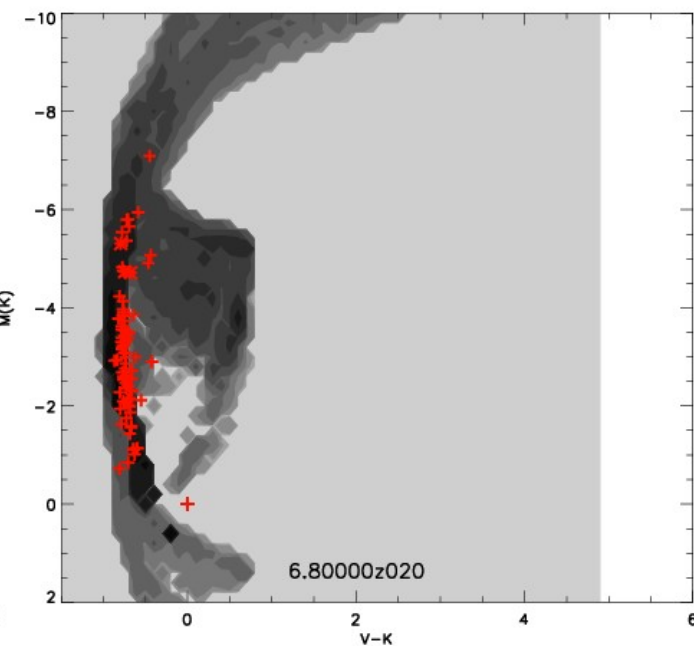
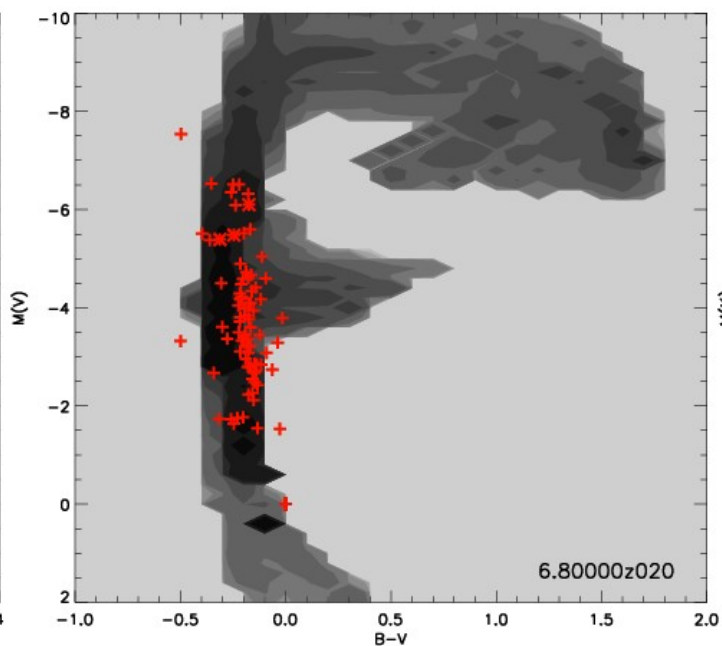
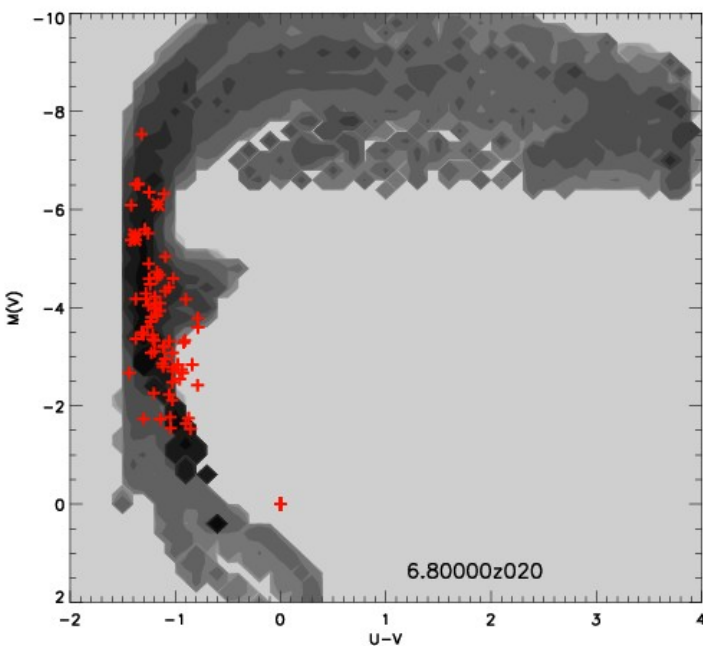
McClelland & Eldridge (2016) also see Yoon et al. (2012) and Yoon (2017)

So lets think about entire stellar populations....

# Cygnus OB2 – $\log(\text{age}/\text{yr})=6.8$

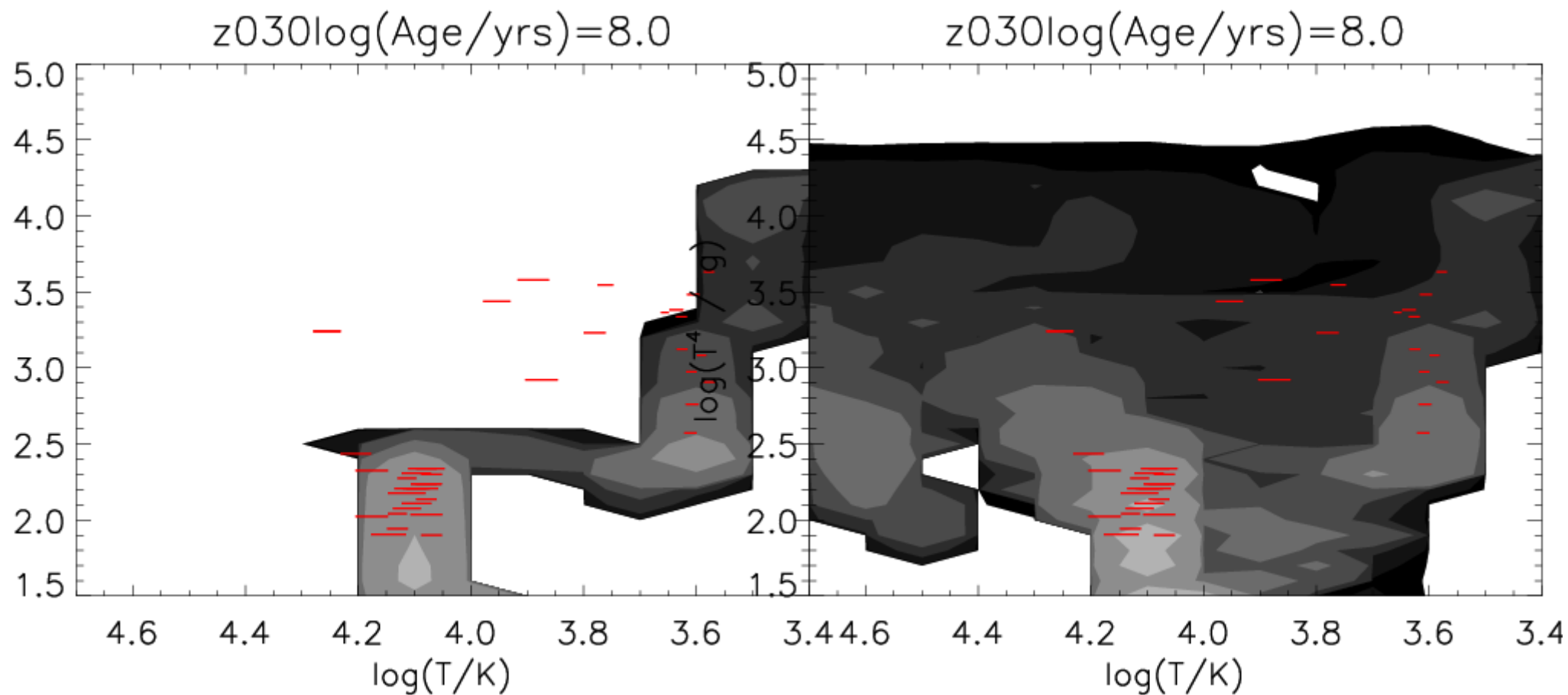


# Cygnus OB2 – $\log(\text{age}/\text{yr})=6.8$

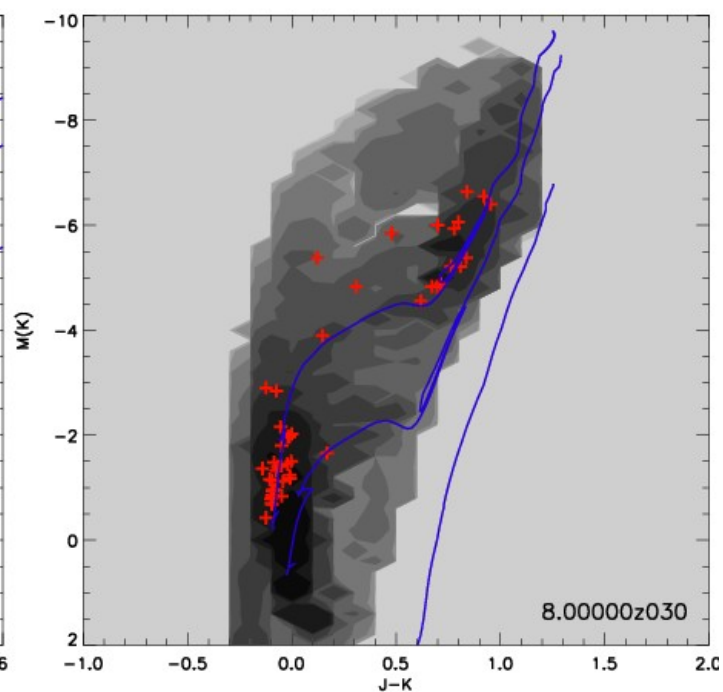
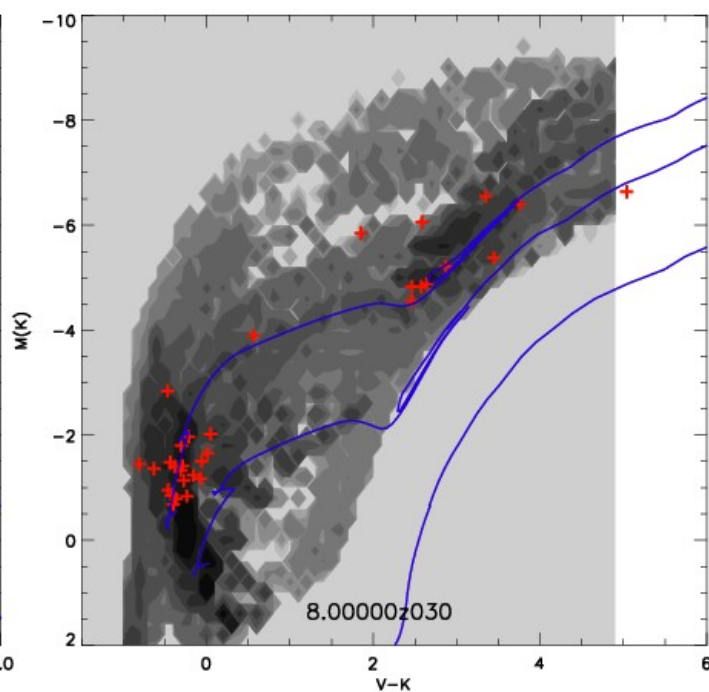
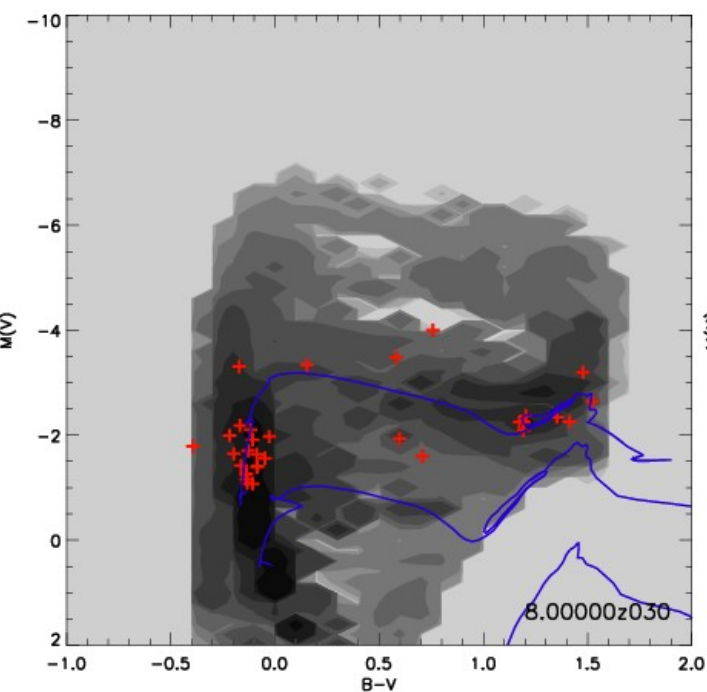




# NGC6067 – $\log(\text{age}/\text{yr})=8.0$

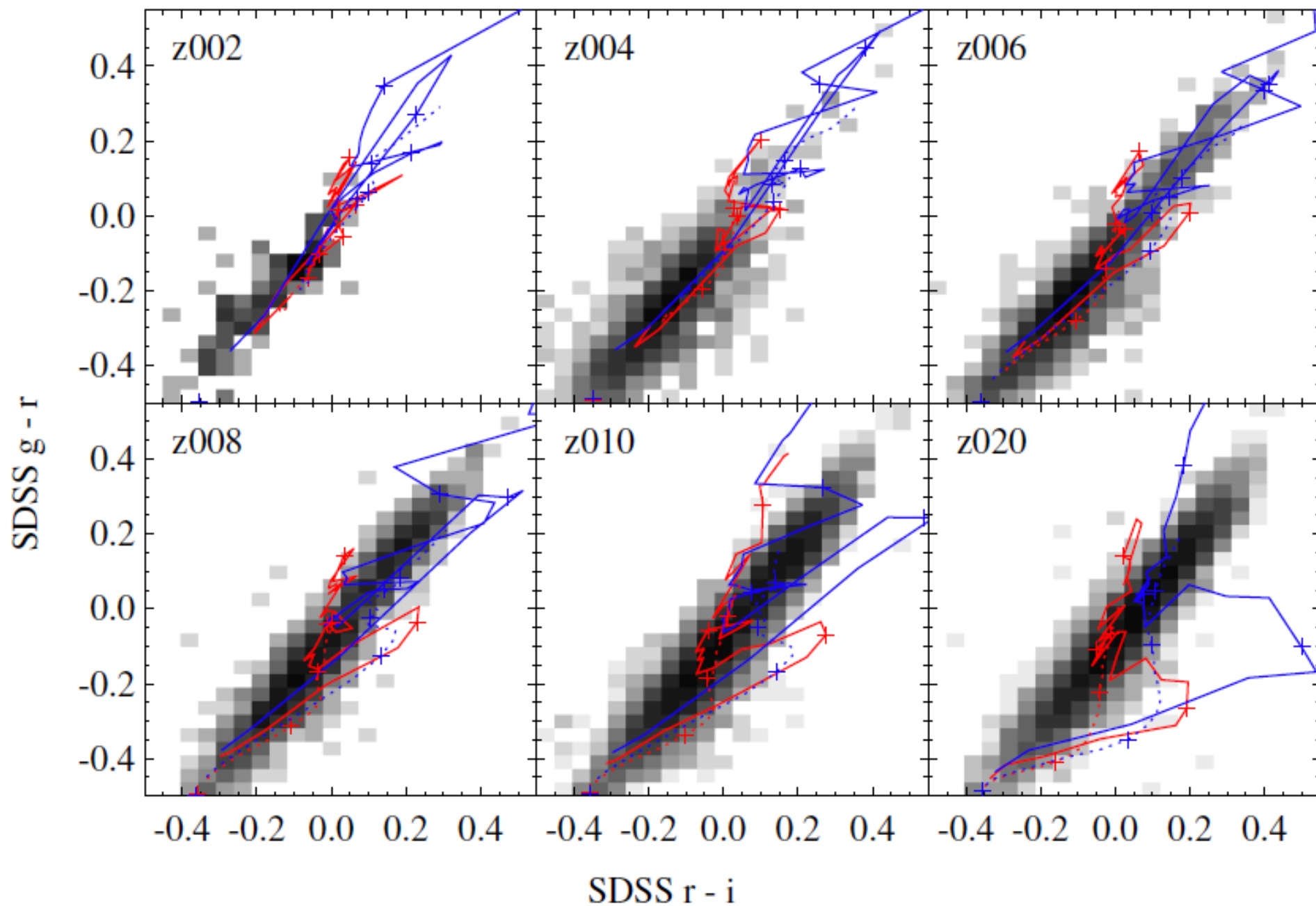


# NGC6067 – $\log(\text{age}/\text{yr})=8.0$

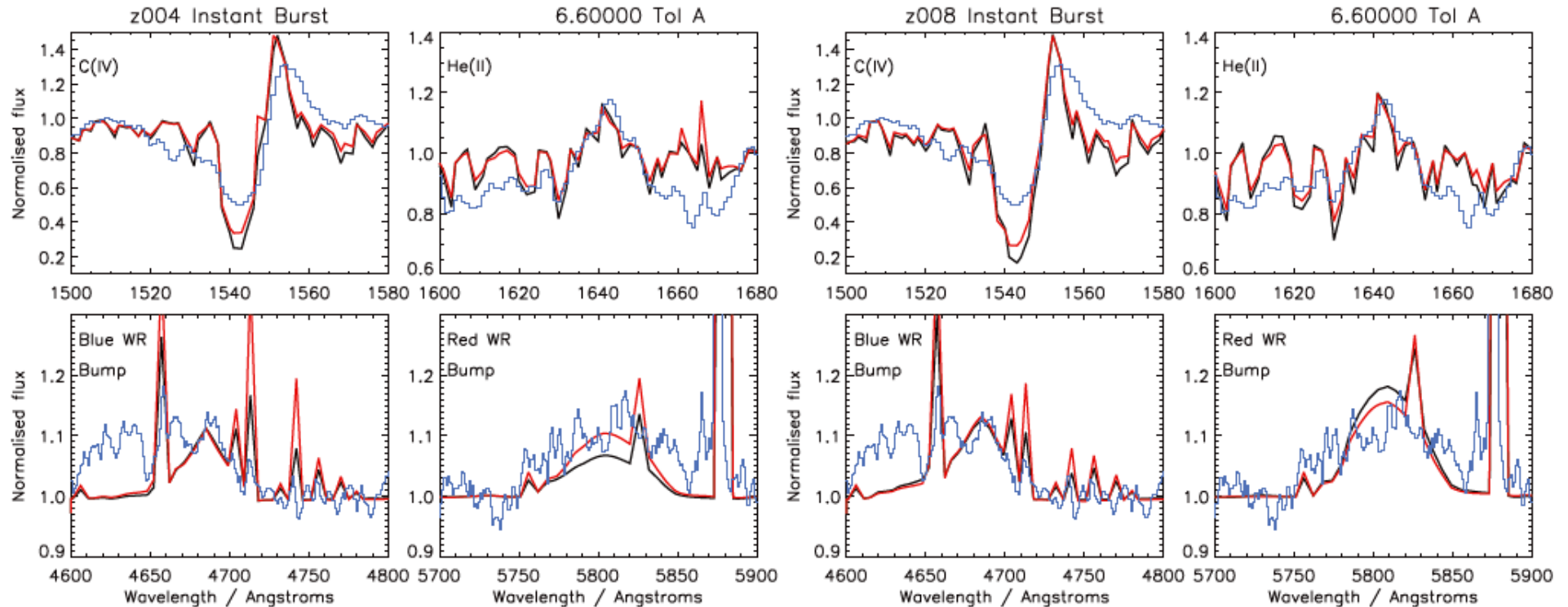


What about unresolved stellar populations?

# Colours of SDSS star-forming galaxies



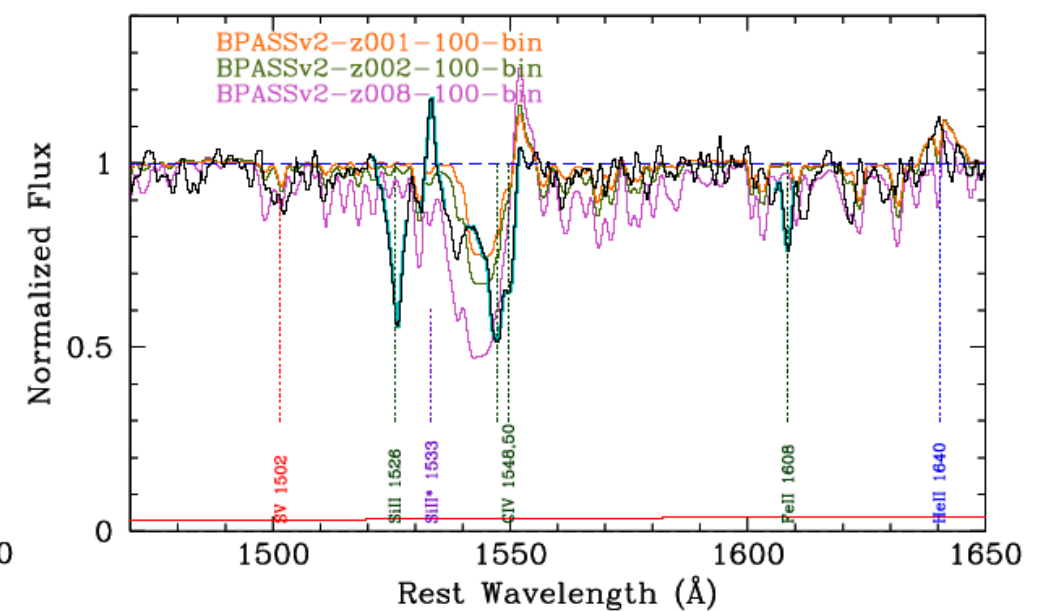
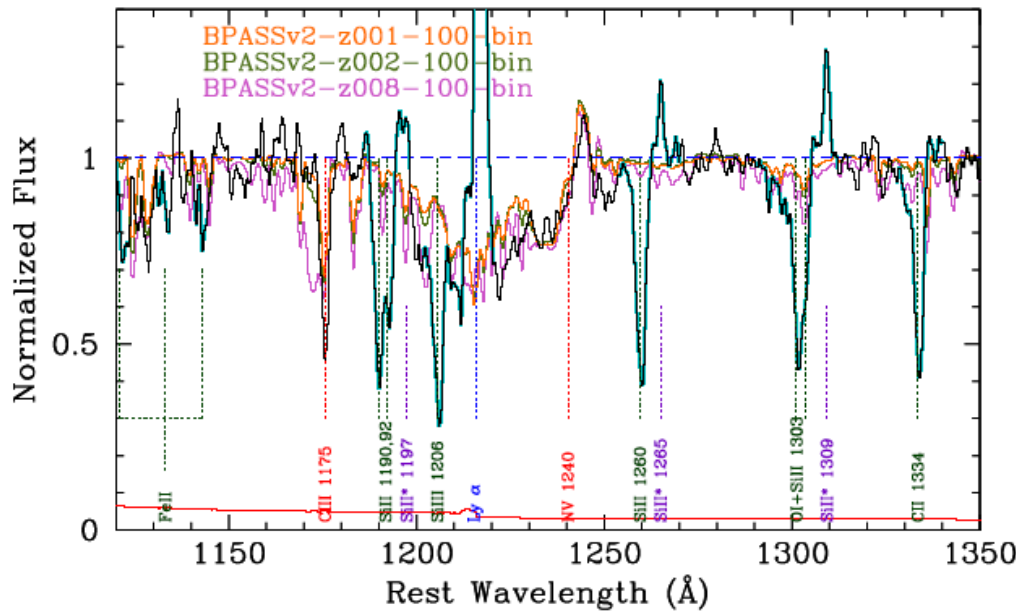
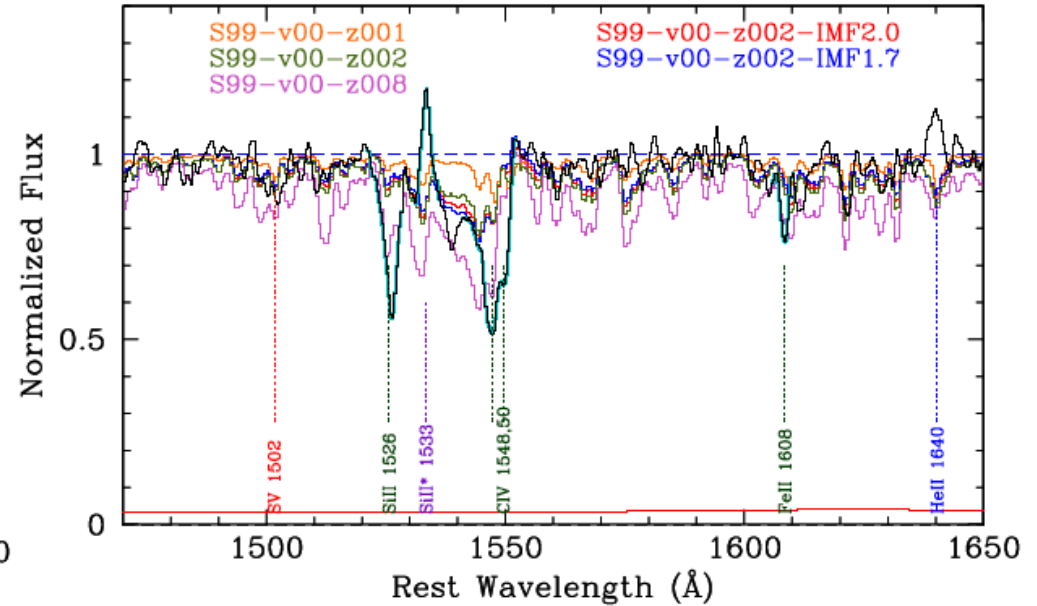
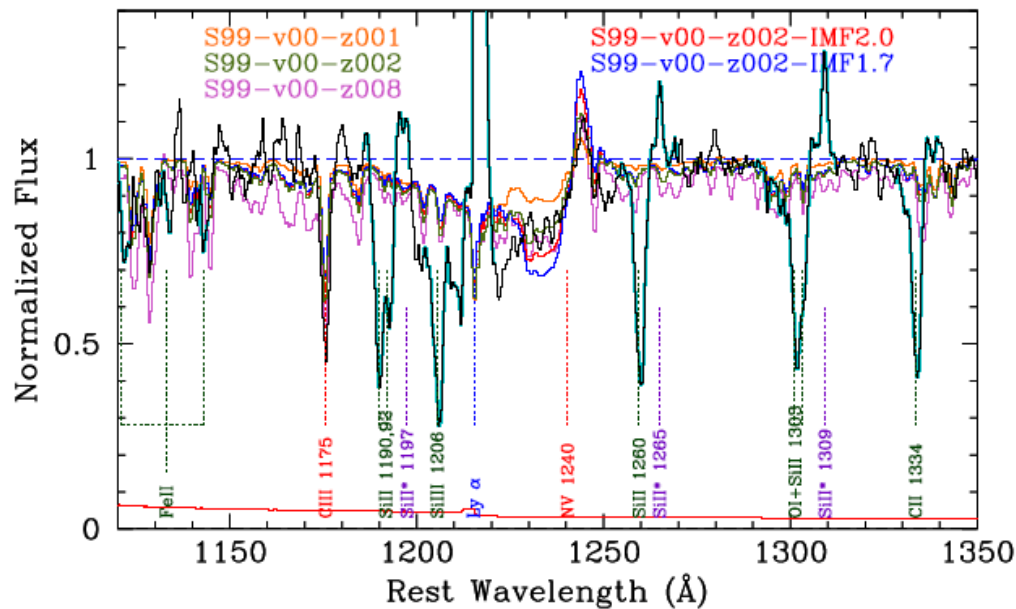
# Spectra of star-forming regions



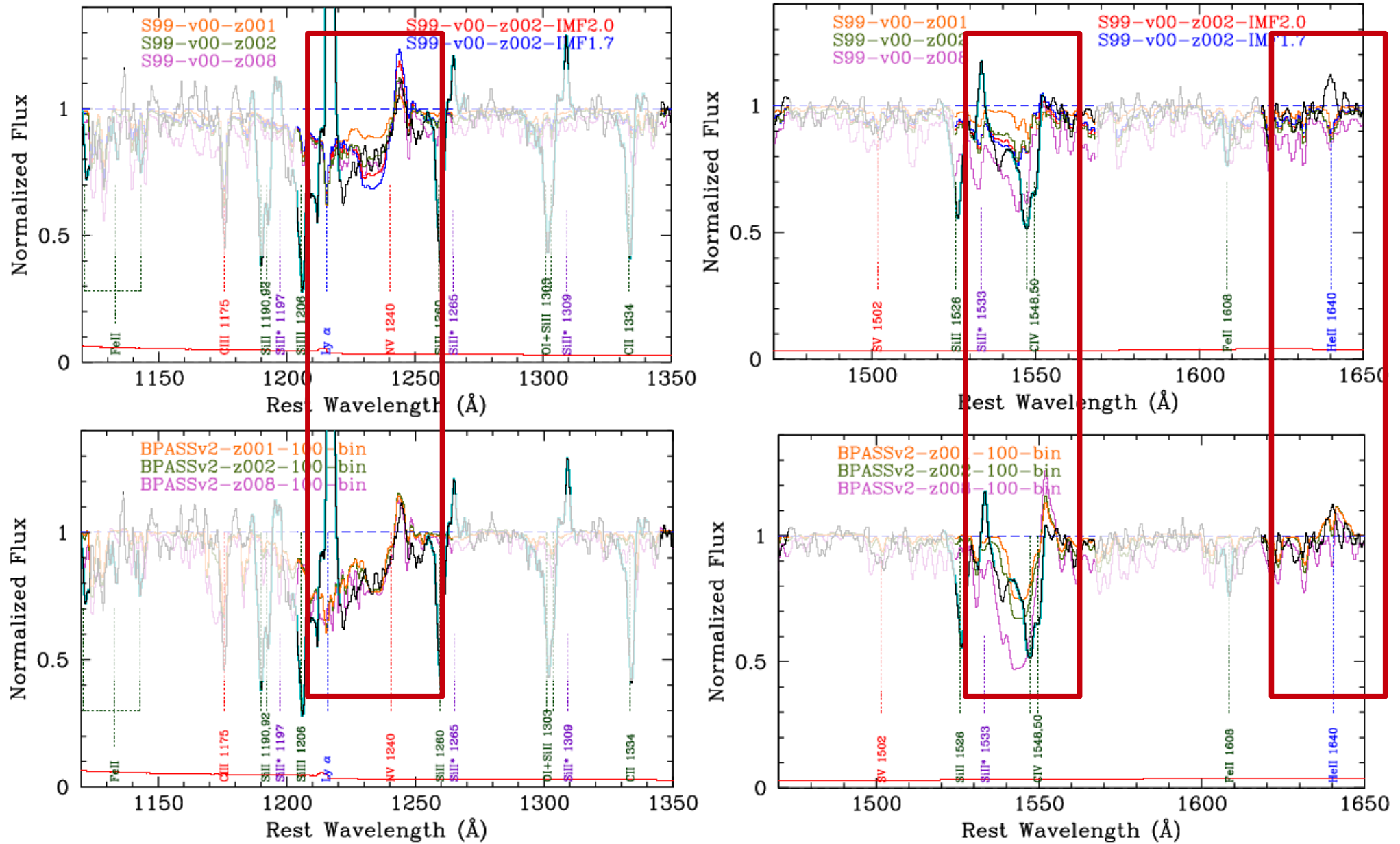
**Figure 7.** Our best-fitting spectra for Tol A both for an age of  $10^{6.6}$  yr. The left-hand panel is for a SMC-like metallicity,  $Z = 0.004$ . The right-hand panel is for an LMC-like metallicity,  $Z = 0.008$ . The observations are shown in blue. The single-star models are shown with solid black lines while the binary models are the solid red lines.



# Stellar emission lines in high-z galaxies



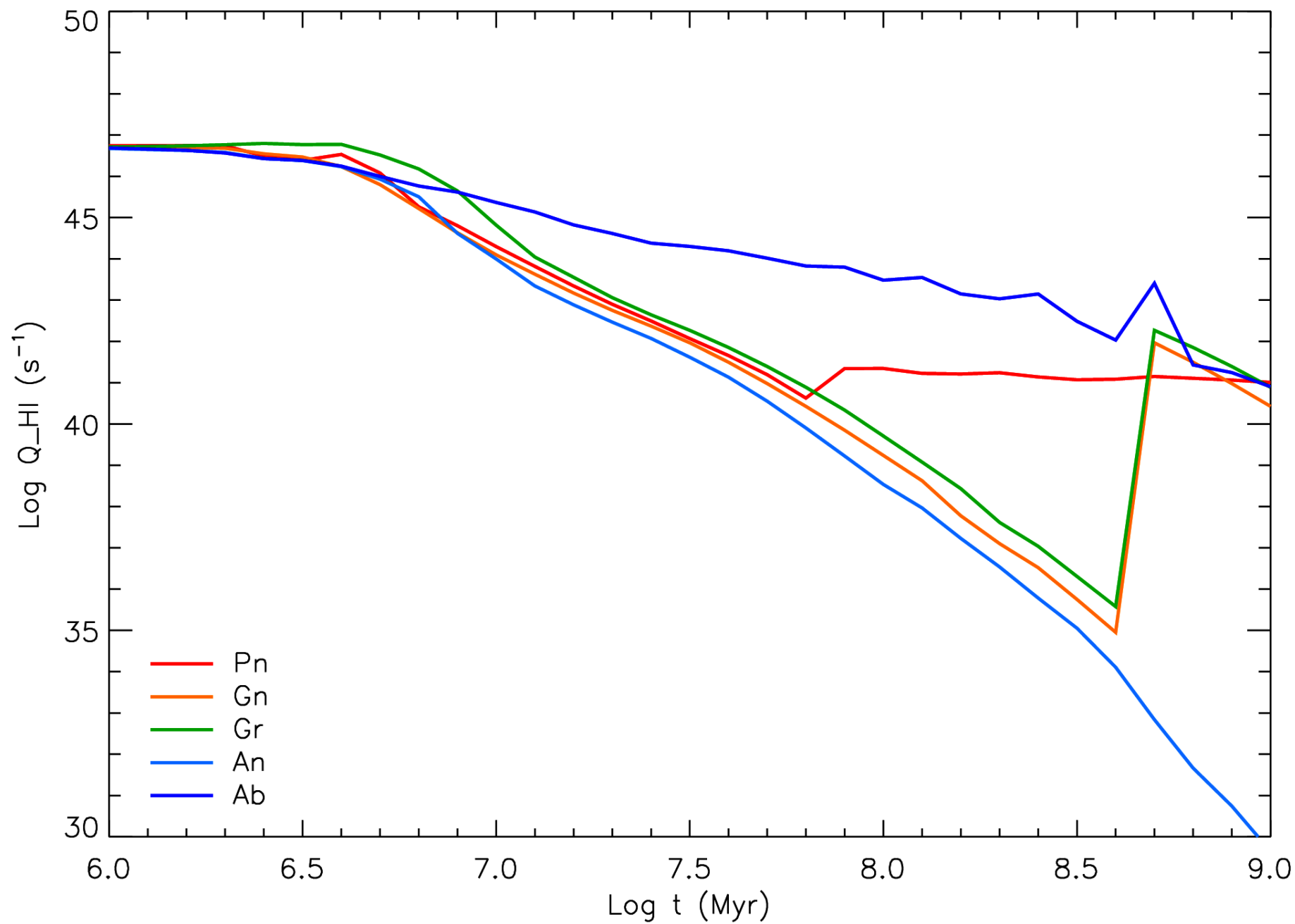
# Stellar emission lines in high-z galaxies

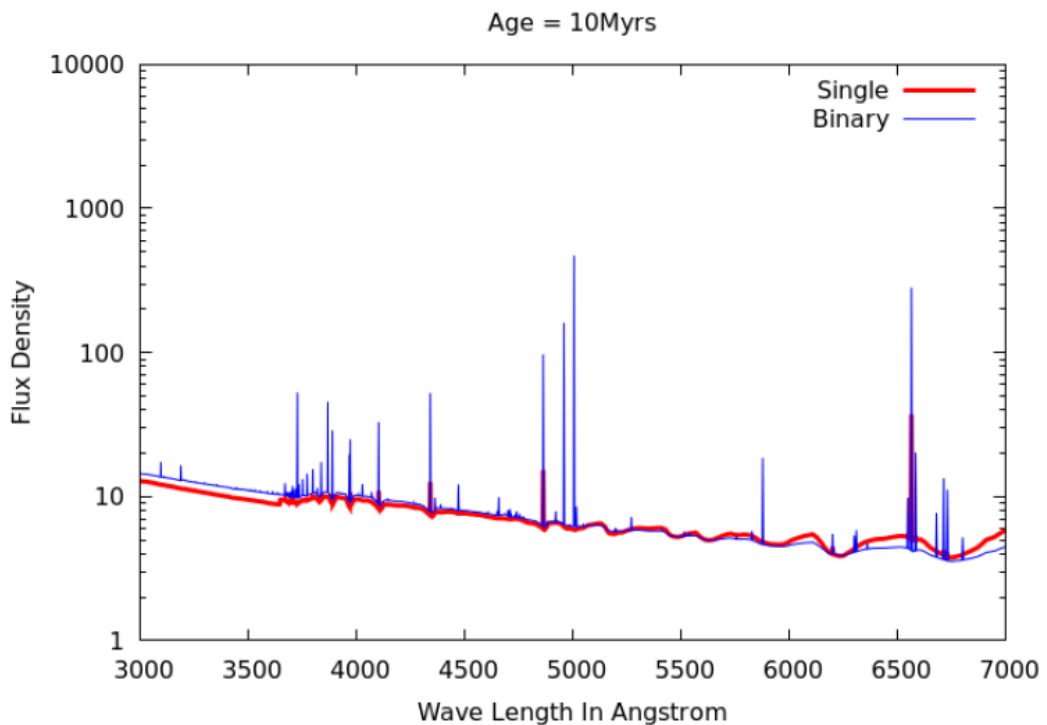
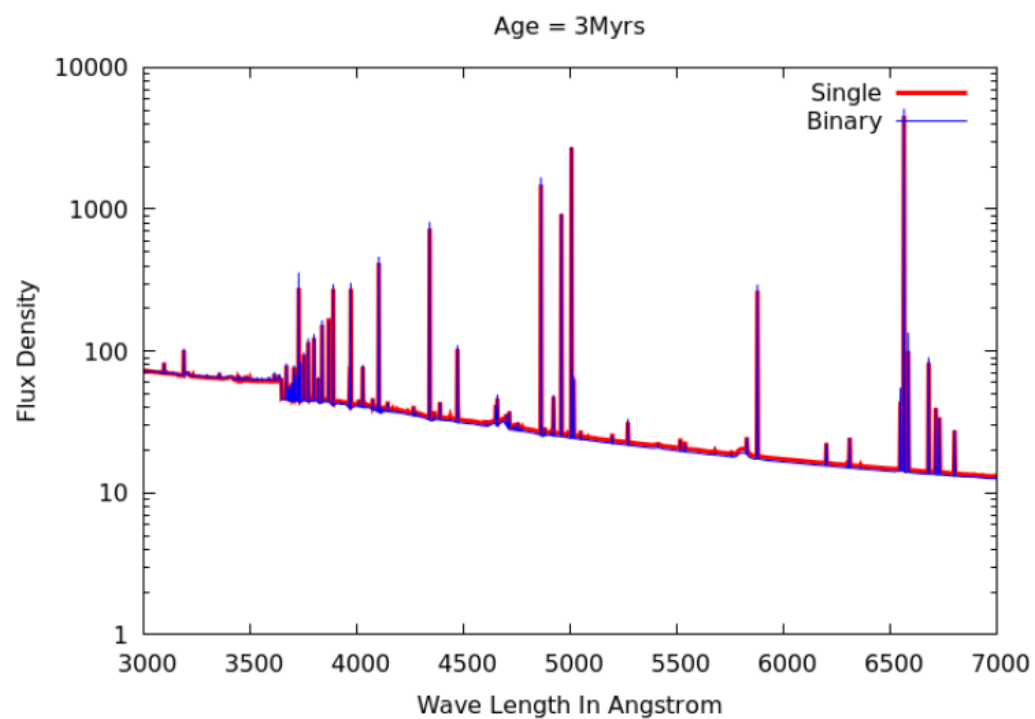


Steidel et al. (2016)  
See also Eldridge & Stanway (2012)

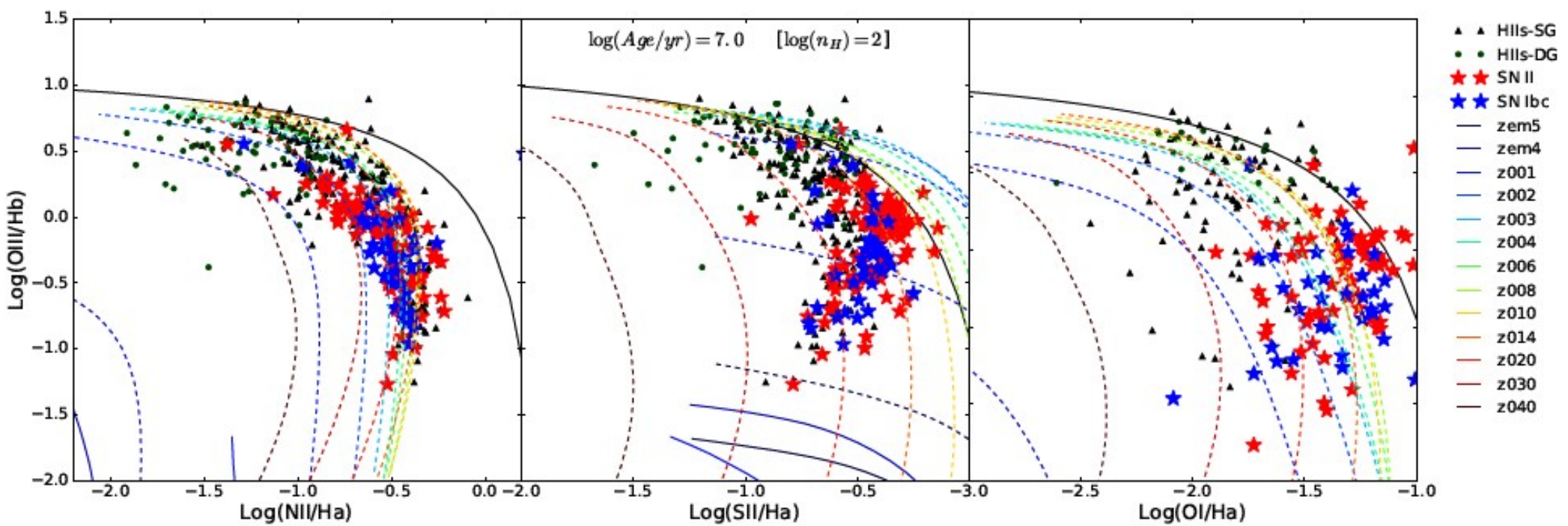
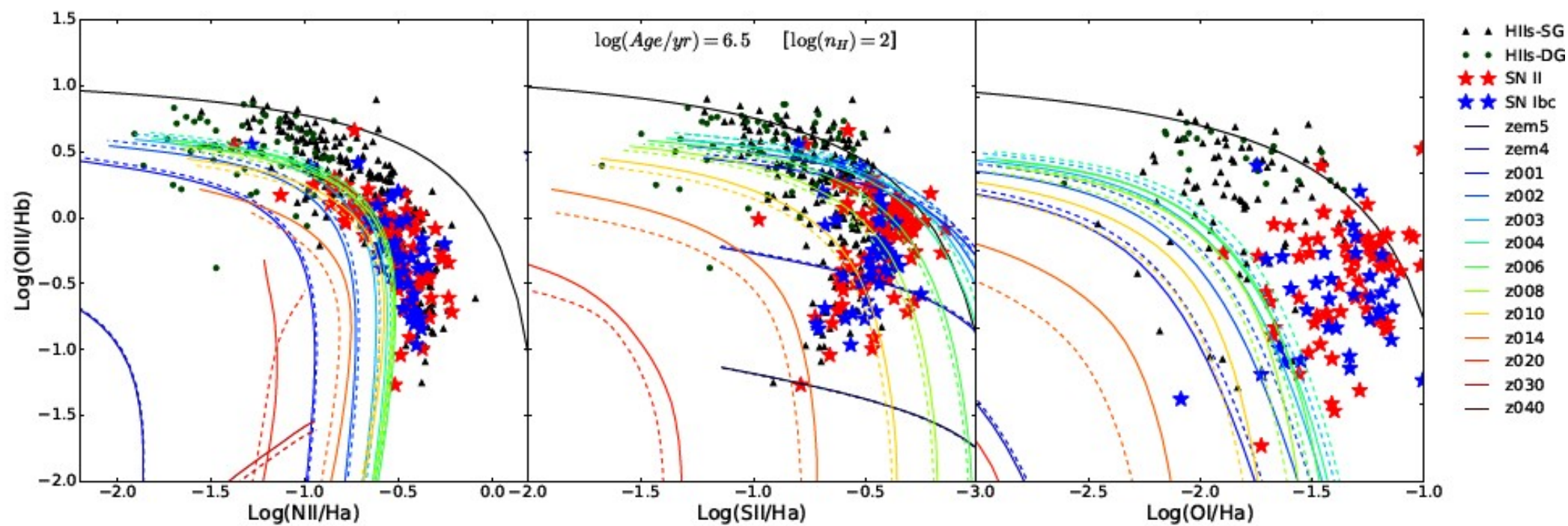
So what is the one thing that binaries do that single stars can't?

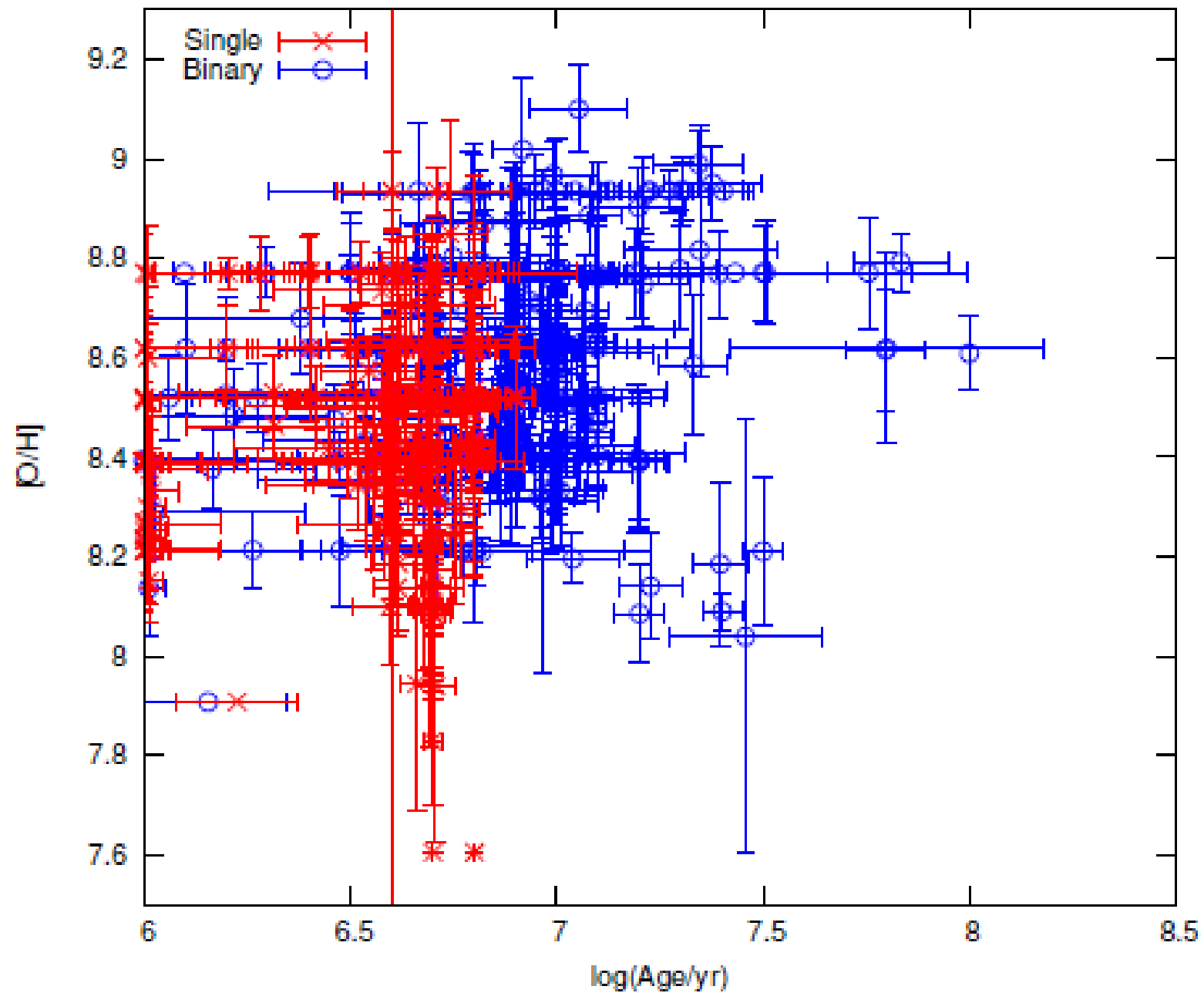
Hot stars at times older than 10Myrs.  
(Also see Ylva Goetberg's work)

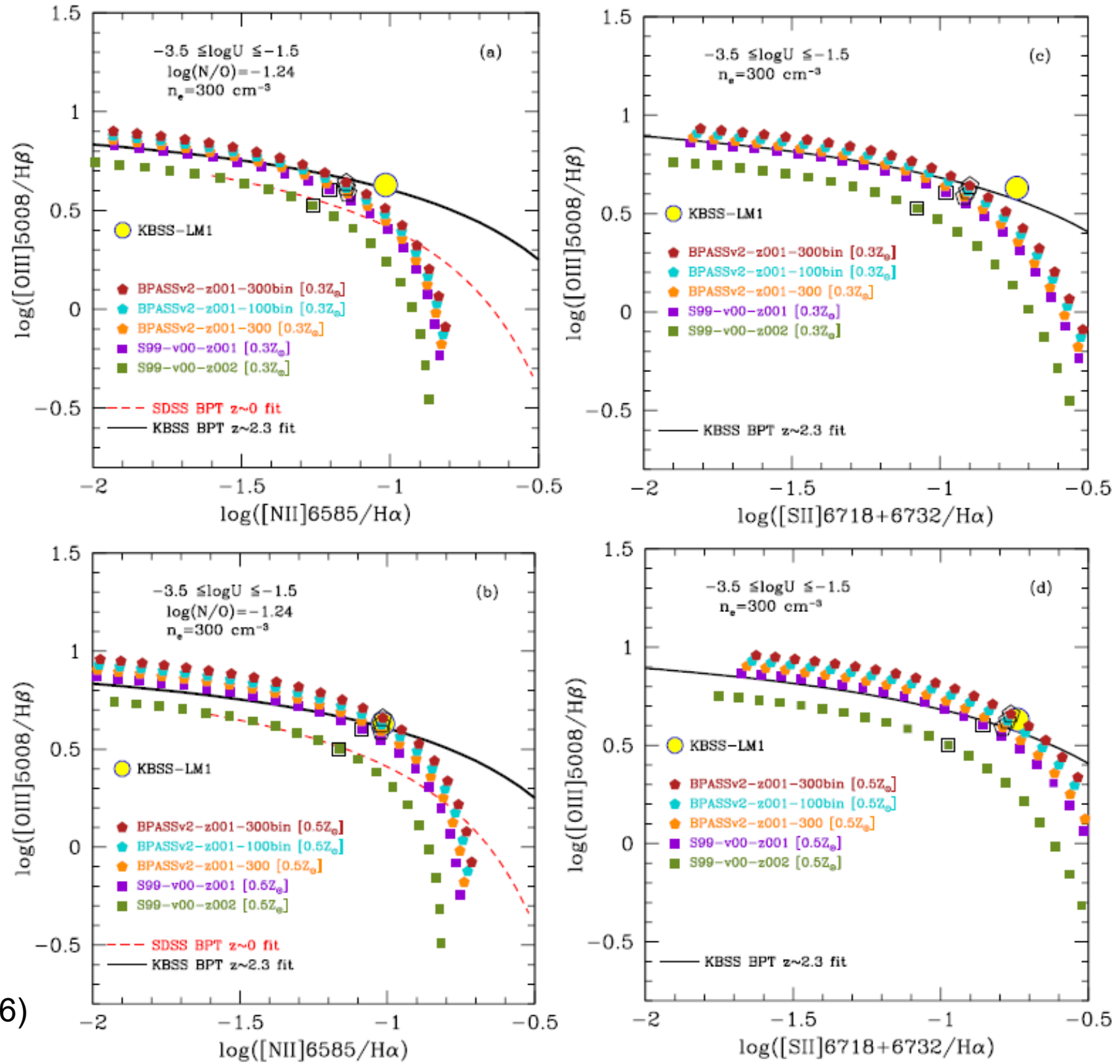












# Summary

Spectral synthesis includes: stars, star clusters (resolved & unresolved), broad-band colours, spectral features, nebula emission lines and even supernova lightcurves.

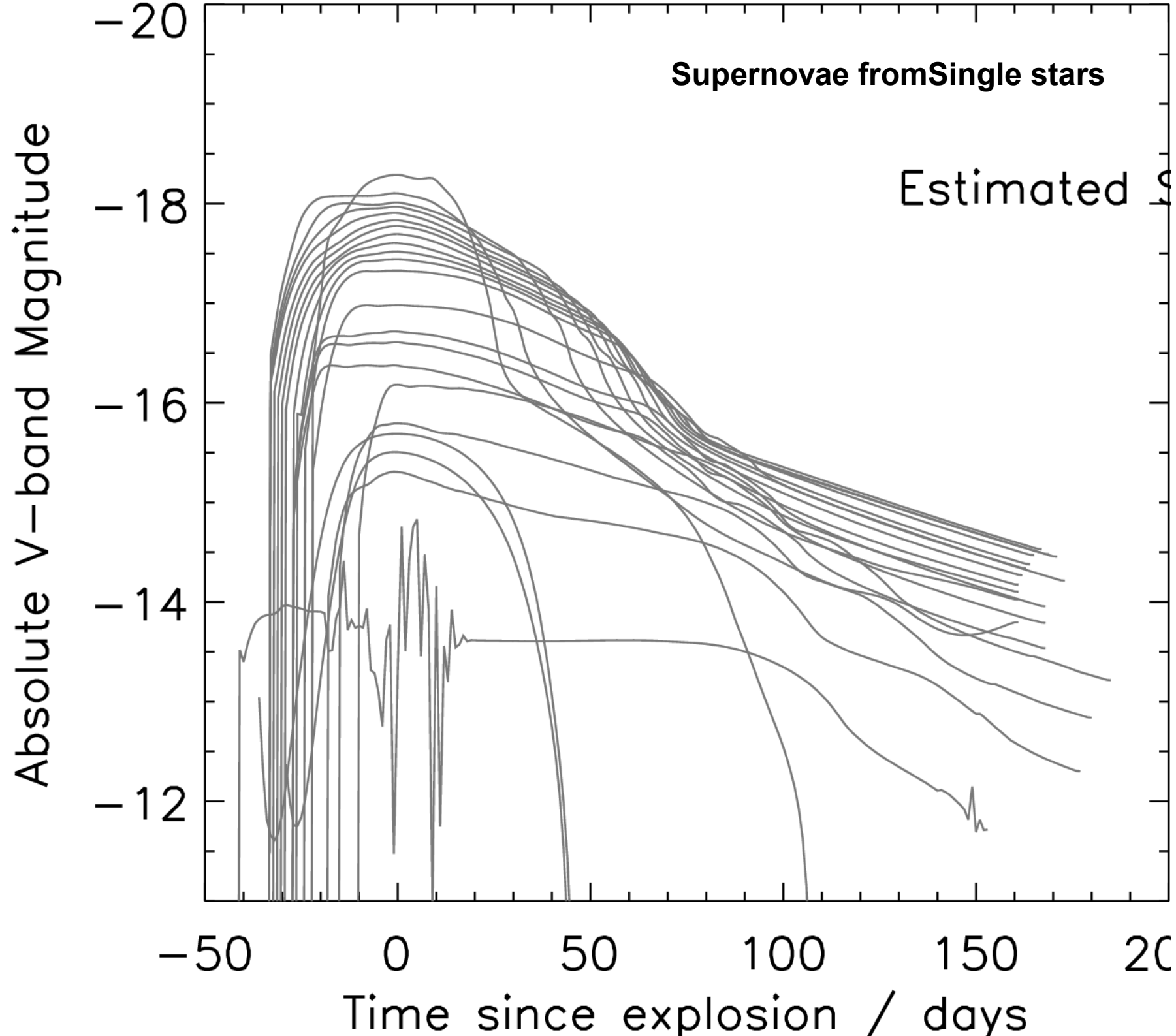
“Observing” models gives effective ways to constrain and test stellar and population models.

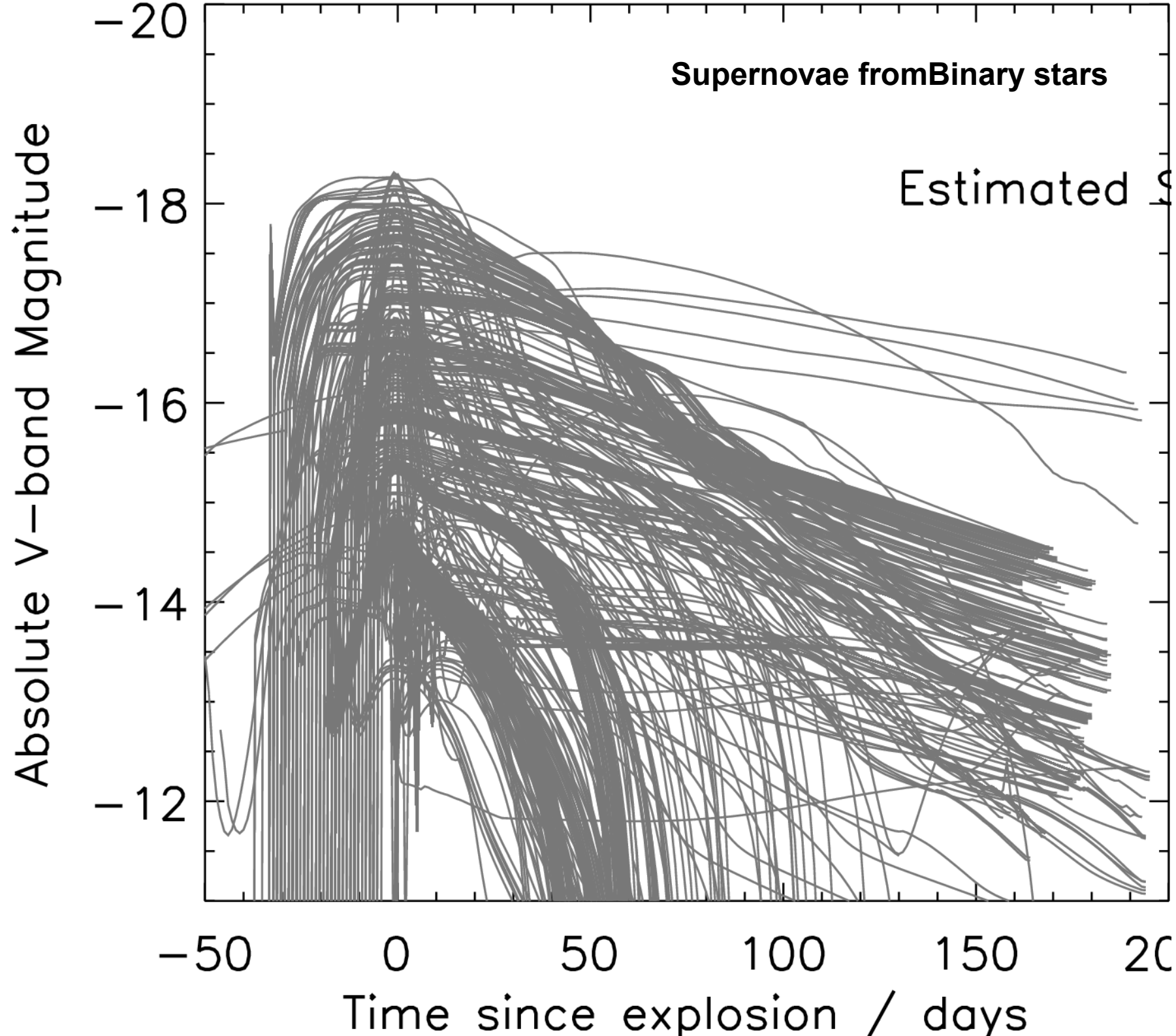
It is also key to not focus on one observable and instead work for the broader view.

Other things I’m also thinking about:

Common Envelope Evolution, GW sources, neutron-star & black-hole kicks stochasticity, X-ray binaries, very massive stars, superluminous supernovae, GRBs, PISN, red supergiant mass-loss rates, remnant mass distribution....

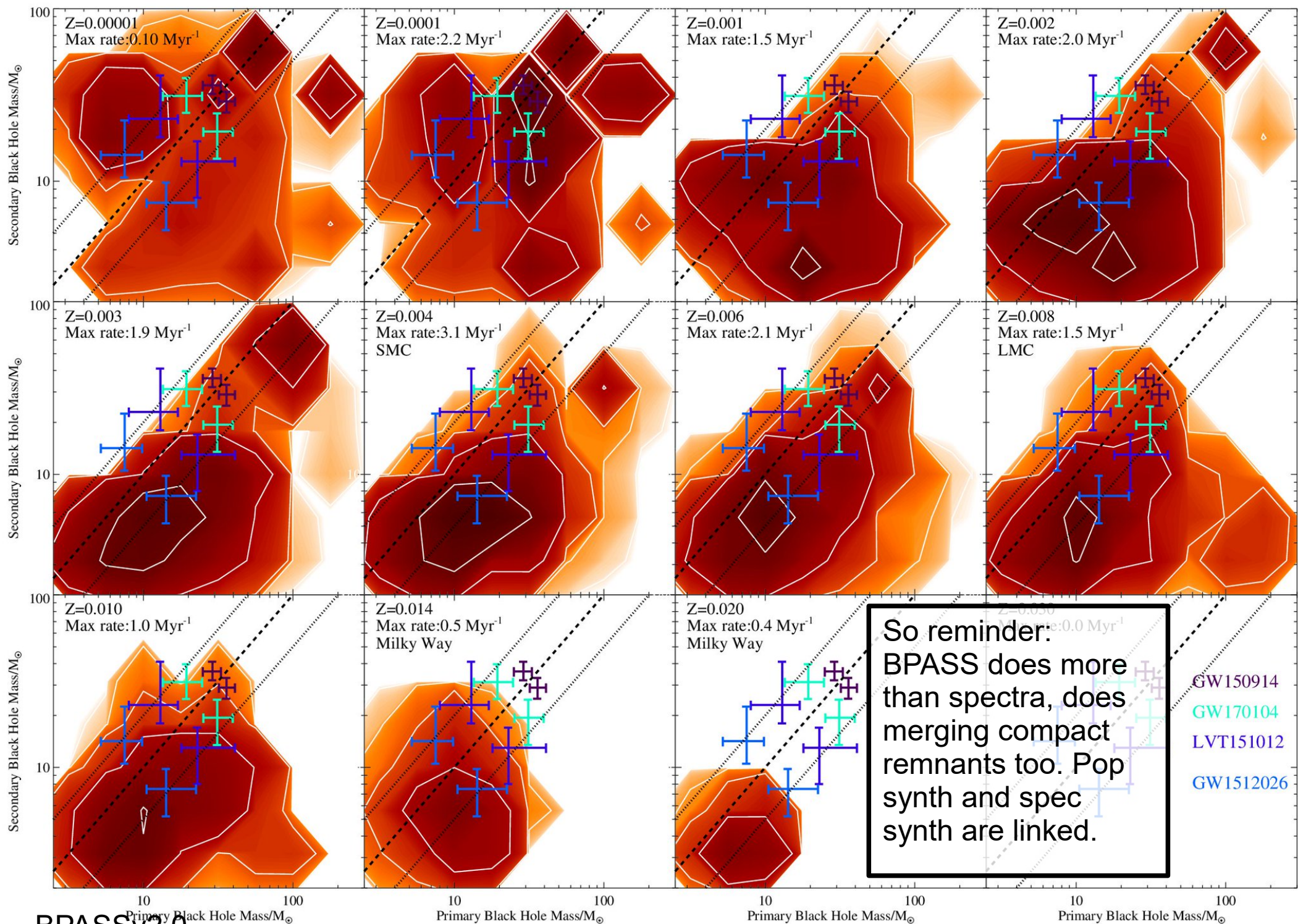
Last thing, with detailed models we can put them into “The Supernova Explosion Code” by Viktoriya Morozova et al., and create the synthetic supernova lightcurves.



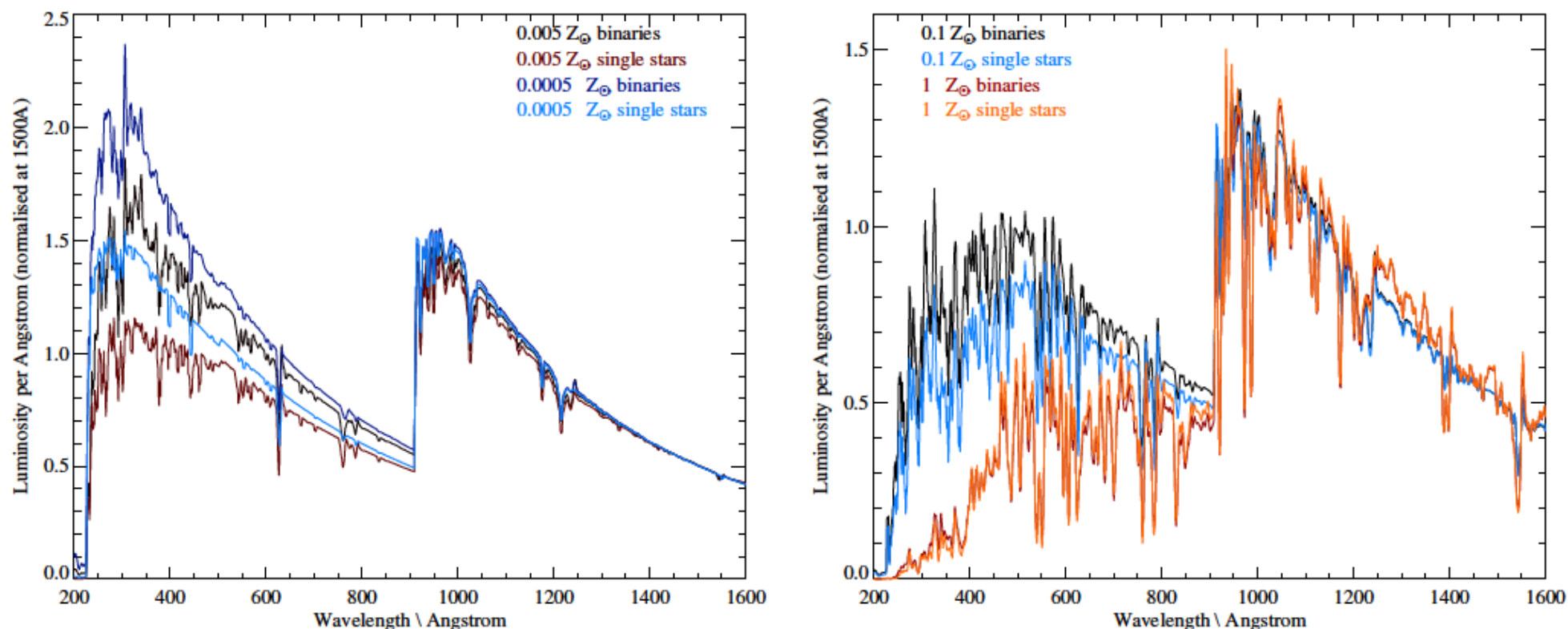






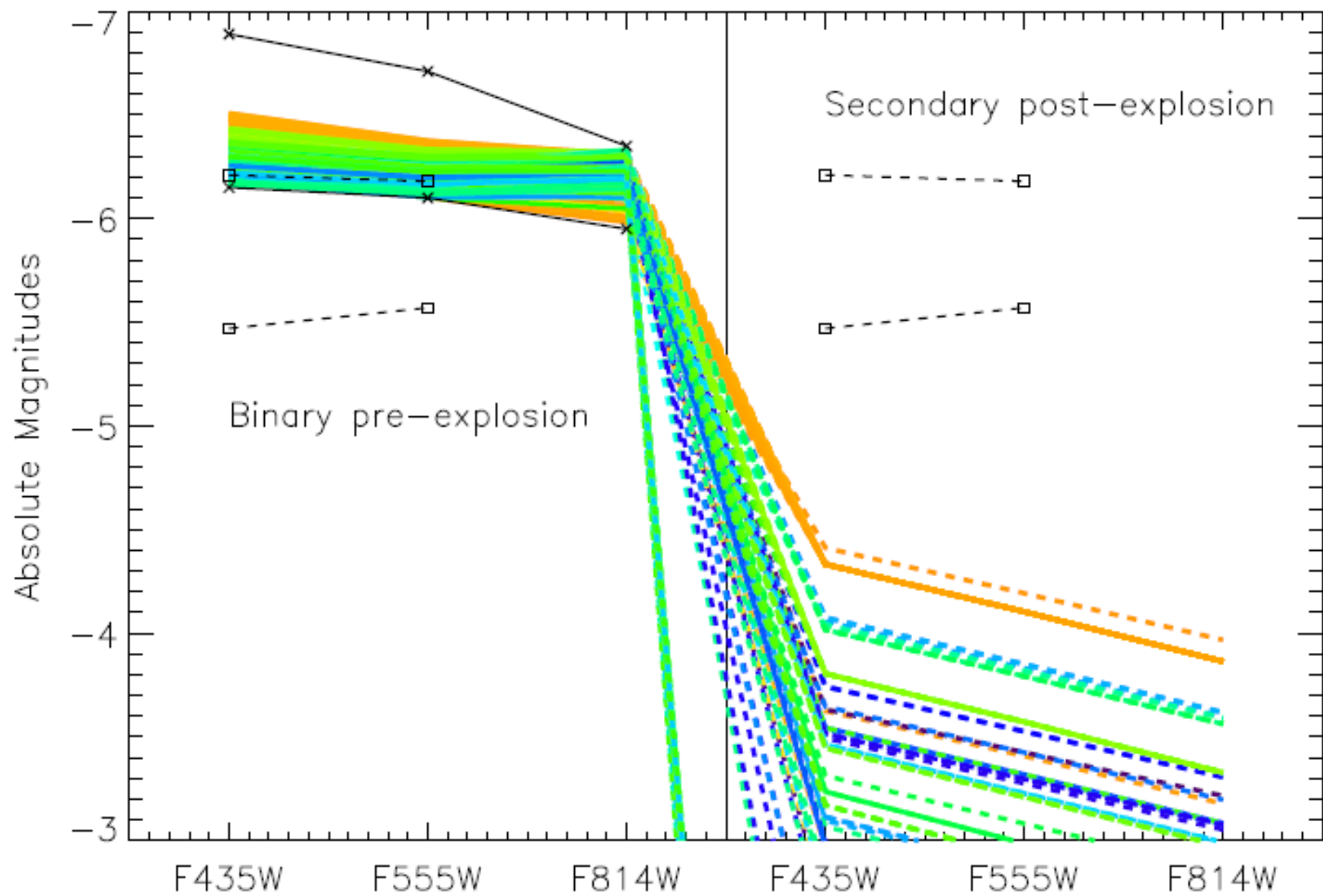


# The resultant spectra for constant star-formation

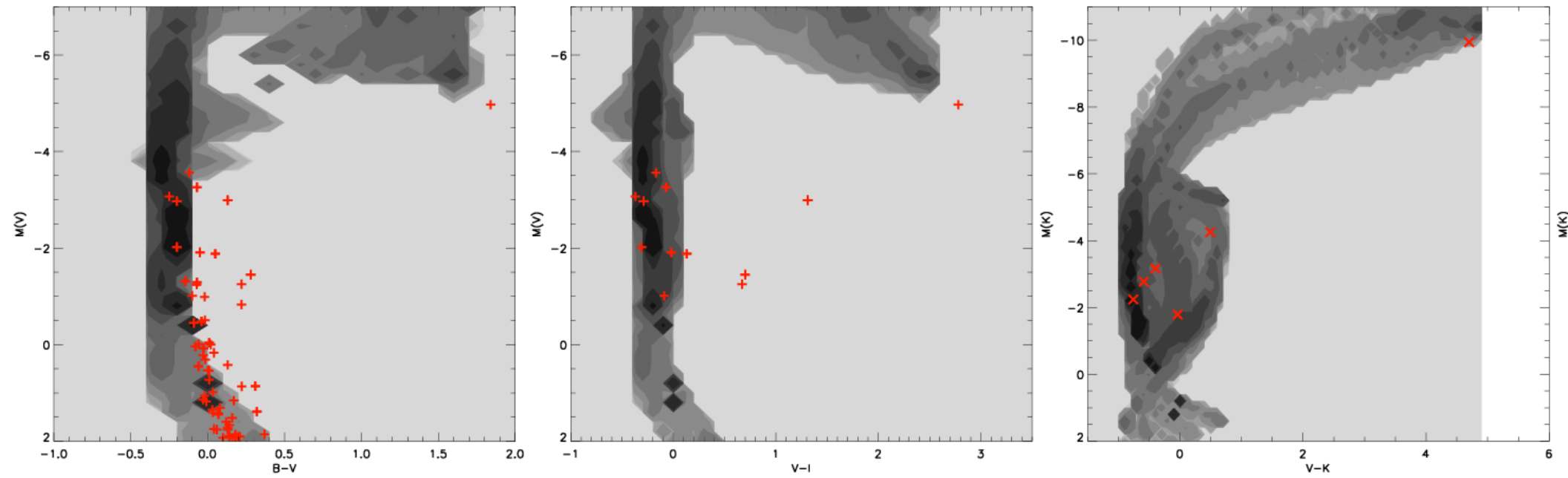


**Figure 4.** The extreme ultraviolet spectral region in synthetic spectra produced for a co-eval population (i.e. instantaneous starburst) at a time 30 Myr after star formation, as a function of metallicity and single star vs binary evolution. The effect of binary evolution is to increase the hardness of the spectrum, and hence the ionizing photon output, particularly at very low metallicities. Synthetic spectra have been scaled to a common luminosity at 1500Å.

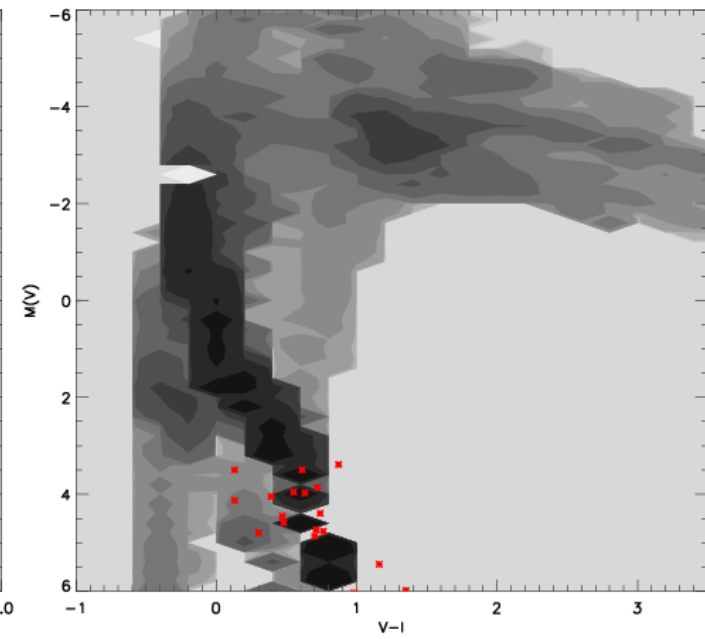
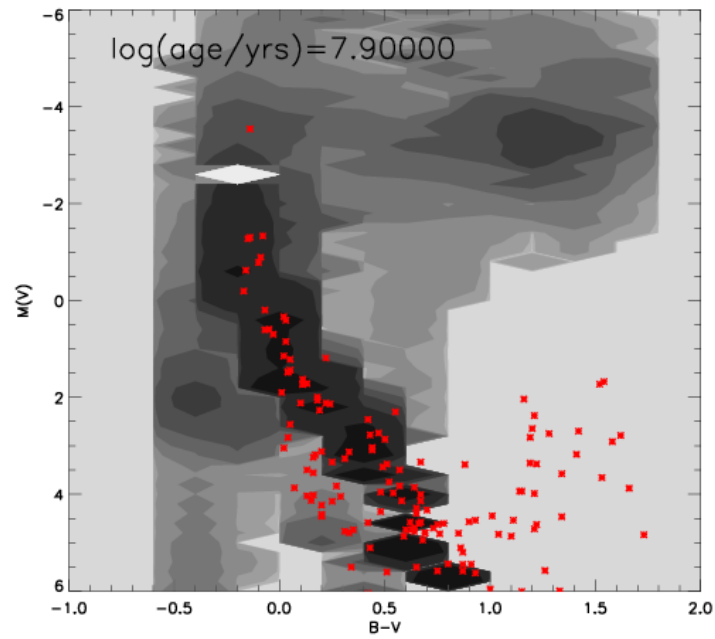
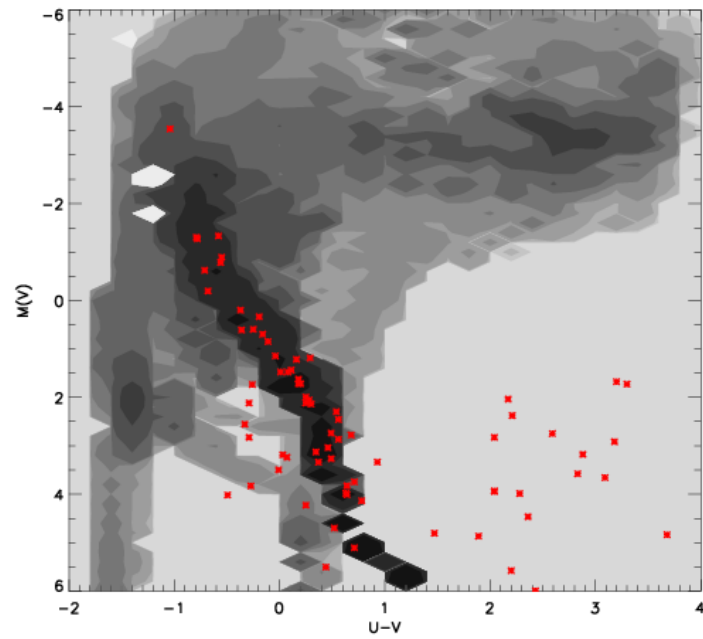




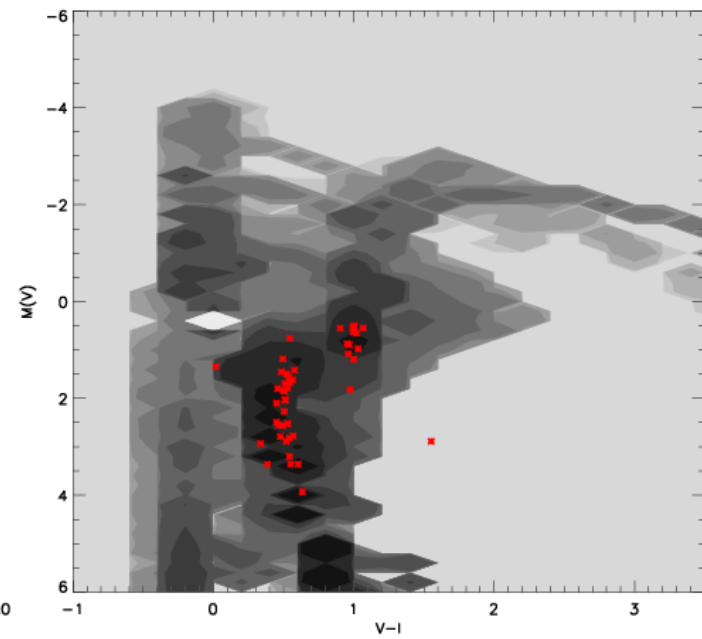
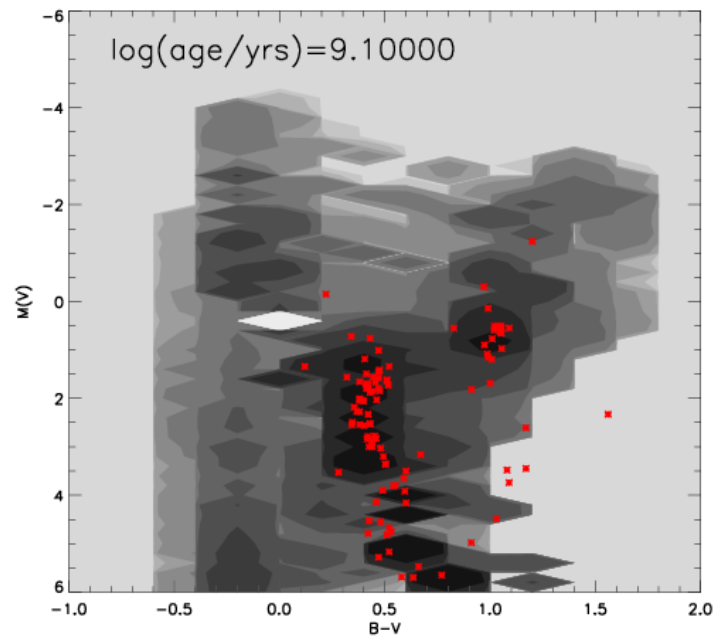
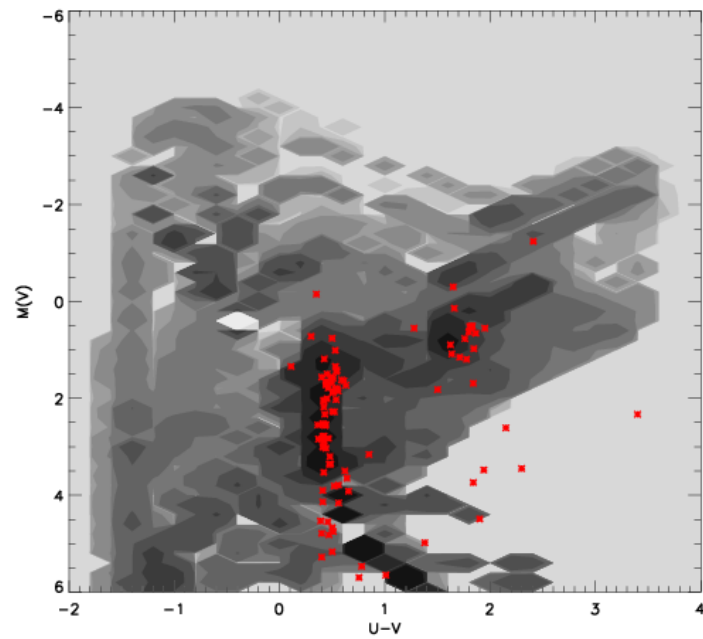
# Upper Sco – $\log(\text{age}/\text{yr})=7.0$



# IC2602 – $\log(\text{age}/\text{yr})=7.9$ (7.5)



# NGC752 – $\log(\text{age}/\text{yr})=9.1$





# NGC3532 – $\log(\text{age}/\text{yr})=8.6$ (8.5)

