

Population Nucleosynthesis

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“At CIQuA we strive to study astronomy at the highest level possible, usually around 1500m.”

Collaborators

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Population Nucleosynthesis

- Detailed single stellar evolution models
- Detailed binary stellar evolution models
- Single vs binary parameter space
- (Traditional) Population Synthesis
- Why use Population Synthesis?
- Population Nucleosynthesis
- AGB stars, **Hot Bottoms**, Binary Processes
- Chemical Yields, Nuclear Reaction Rates

Detailed 1D Single Stellar Evolution

Solutions to equations:

- Hydrostatic equilibrium $\frac{dP}{dm} = \frac{-Gm}{4\pi r^4}$
- Mass conservation $\frac{dr}{dm} = \frac{1}{4\pi r^2 \rho}$
- Nuclear energy generation $\frac{dL}{dm} = \epsilon$
- (Radiative) Transport of the energy flux
 $\frac{dT}{dm} = -\frac{3}{4ac} \frac{\kappa}{T^3} \frac{F}{(4\pi r^2)^2}$ (or convection prescription)
- Chemistry $\frac{dX_i}{dt} = X_i X_j \langle \sigma v \rangle_{ij}$

Run time and extra time

- Code runs in \sim minutes-hours
- Basic chemistry: ^1H , ^4He , ^{12}C , ^{14}N , ^{16}O , ^{20}Ne , ^{56}Fe
- Post-processing nucleosynthesis required for extra isotopes
- Code runs in \sim days

Single Star Uncertainties

- Initial mass M
- Initial abundances Z
- Mass-loss prescription
- Convective mixing prescription (MLT)
- Nuclear reaction rates $\langle \sigma v \rangle$
- Code breakdown (numerical problems)
- Coupling to supernova II/Ib/c models

Detailed 1D Binary Stellar Evolution

There are two types of code:

Detailed 1D Binary Stellar Evolution

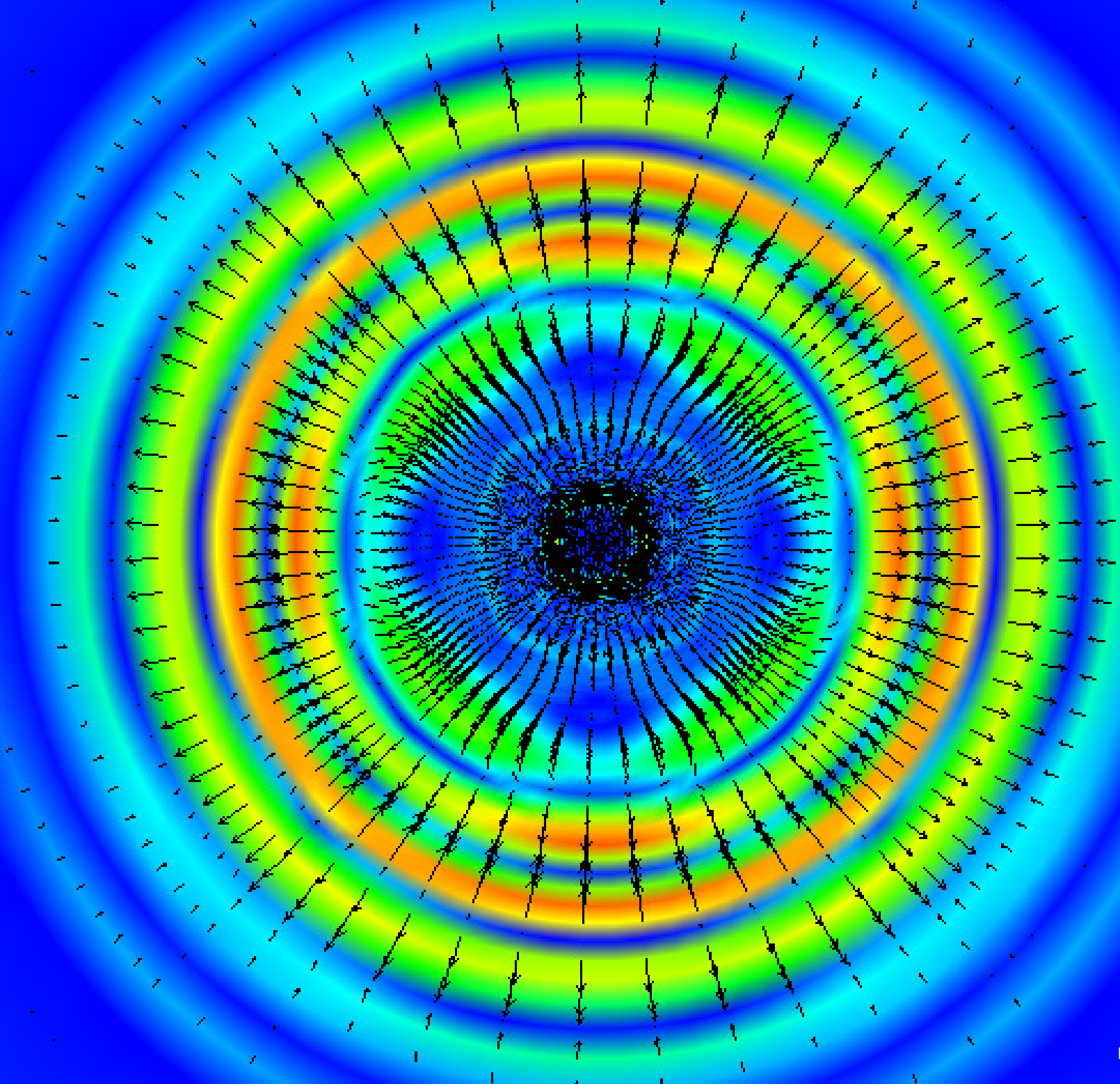
There are two types of code:
Coupled 1D models. e.g. Eggleton's TWIN.

- Assumes stars are approximately spherical
- 1D stellar structure equations
- Perhaps small perturbations
- Simple mass transfer

Detailed 3D Binary Stellar Evolution

Full 3D models, e.g. Djehuty

- 3D explicit (magneto-) hydrodynamic code
- Nuclear bomb simulation code!
- As close to “reality” as we can get
- Requires (US military) supercomputers
- Most of us are not allowed to use it!



Binary Star Uncertainties

Guess...

Binary Star Uncertainties

- Initial mass M
- Initial abundances Z
- Mass-loss prescription
- Convective mixing prescription (MLT)
- Nuclear reaction rates $\langle \sigma v \rangle$
- Code breakdown (numerical problems)
- Coupling to supernova II/Ib/c models

Binary Star Processes

- Tidal Interaction
- Roche Lobe Overflow
- Common Envelope Evolution
- Wind collision
- Wind accretion
- Thermohaline Mixing
- Explosions: Type Ia SNe and novae

Run time and extra time

- Code runs in at least twice the time of its single star equivalent
- Basic chemistry: ^1H , ^4He , ^{12}C , ^{14}N , ^{16}O , ^{20}Ne , ^{56}Fe
- Post-processing nucleosynthesis???
- Djehuty code evolves stars in approximately real time!

Single Star Parameter Space

At its simplest, this is two dimensional

- Mass M (distribution IMF)
- Metallicity Z (solar scaled or LMC/SMC)

Assume $Z = Z_{\odot}$ to reduce this to 1D.
All other physics is fixed.

Binary Star Parameter Space

This is never simple!

- Mass M_1 (IMF)
- Mass M_2 (or ratio $q = M_2/M_1$, flat- q)
- Metallicity Z (abundances solar scaled?)
- Separation a (or period P related by Kepler's law, flat- \ln)
- Eccentricity e

A five-dimensional space!

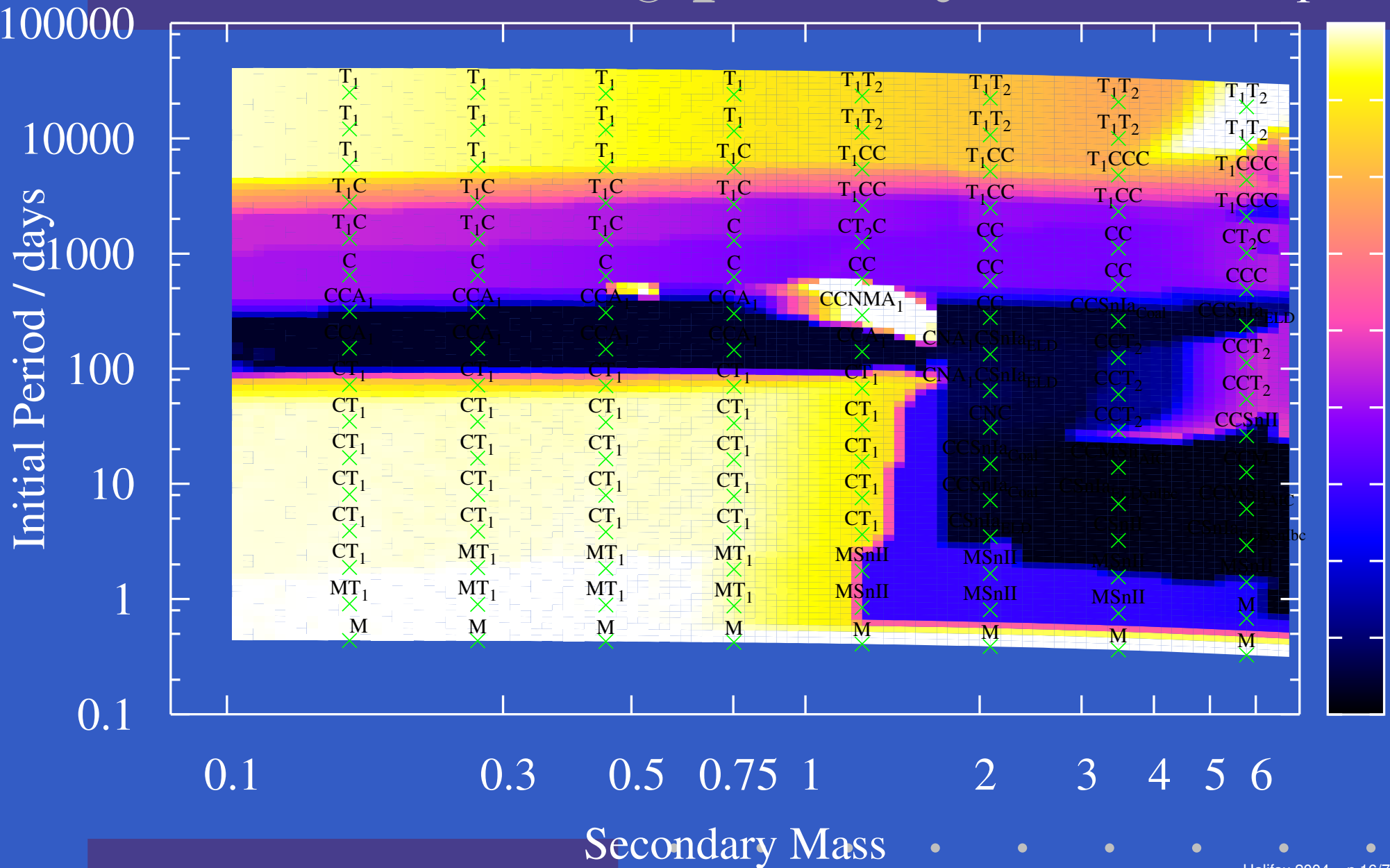
Assume $e = 0$, $Z = Z_{\odot}$ to reduce it to 3D.

Chaos in Binaries

- Evolution is chaotic
- Perturb initial conditions slightly →
- Leads to very different evolution!
- High resolution grid required to resolve these effects
- Particularly novae and SNe Ia which occur rarely

N14 from a $7 M_{\odot}$ primary star

1



Time is Money (unless you're a student)

- At 1 hour per model (*very* conservative!)

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- With 100 grid points per dimension...

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- That is 10^6 grid points...
- Or 10^6 hours...

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- Or 38 PhDs...

Time is Money (unless you're a student)

- At 1 hour per model (*very* conservative!)
- With 100 grid points per dimension...
- That is 10^6 grid points...
- Or 10^6 hours...
- Or 41667 days...
- Or 114 years...
- Or 38 PhDs...
- That assumes you got the physics right in the first place. Which you didn't!

Population Synthesis

What if we can reduce the code run time by a factor of 10^7 ? Evolution of a stellar population would take a matter of hours. You could start a model run, go to the pub, and it'll be finished by the time you wake up ...



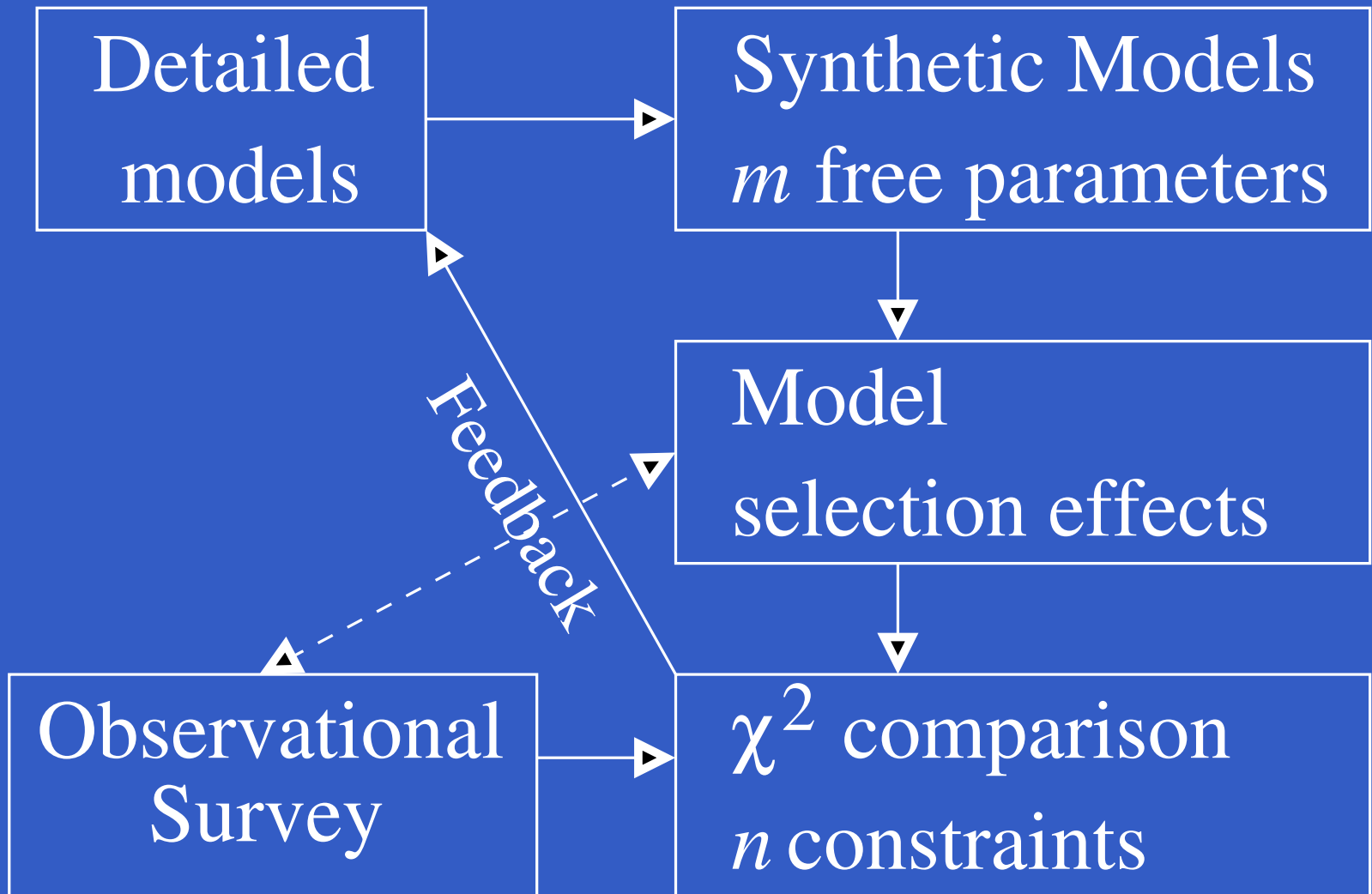
Population Synthesis

- Fit results from detailed models to simple functions
- Fit timescales τ_i , radius R , luminosity L , core mass M_c etc. as $f(M, Z, t)$
- Couple to binary star model (tides, RLOF, CE, wind accretion etc.)
- Model of single or binary star, from birth to death, takes $< 0.1s$
- Millions of stars per day!
- Lose internal stellar structure information.

Why Population Synthesis?

- It is the only way to explore the complete parameter space
- Easily experiment with new physics e.g. change mass-loss prescription, common envelope removal efficiency etc.
- Compare to observations e.g. number ratios of stellar types, supernova rates etc. to determine the value of input parameters
- Feed these results back to detailed modellers
- Tells them what they *should* be getting!

Flow diagram of (my?) life



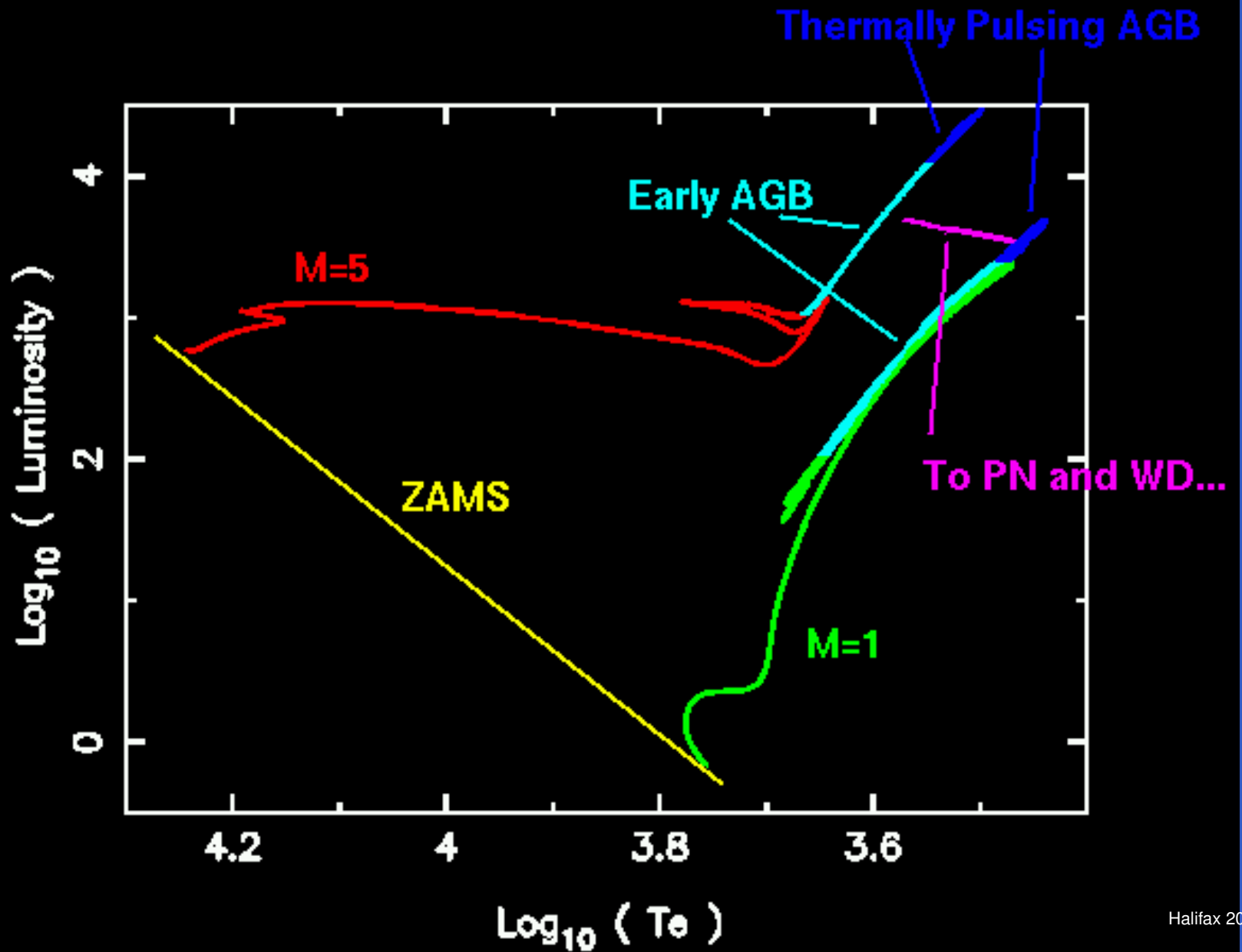
Limitations

- Fit accuracy $\sim 5\%$: good enough for most applications
- Limited variables for comparison with observations (L , R , M , stellar type, event – e.g. SN or nova – rates; also \dot{M})
- But this is enough to ID many types of binaries e.g. X-ray binaries, symbiotic stars, double degenerate pairs, Algols etc. and constrain (some) free parameters in the physics

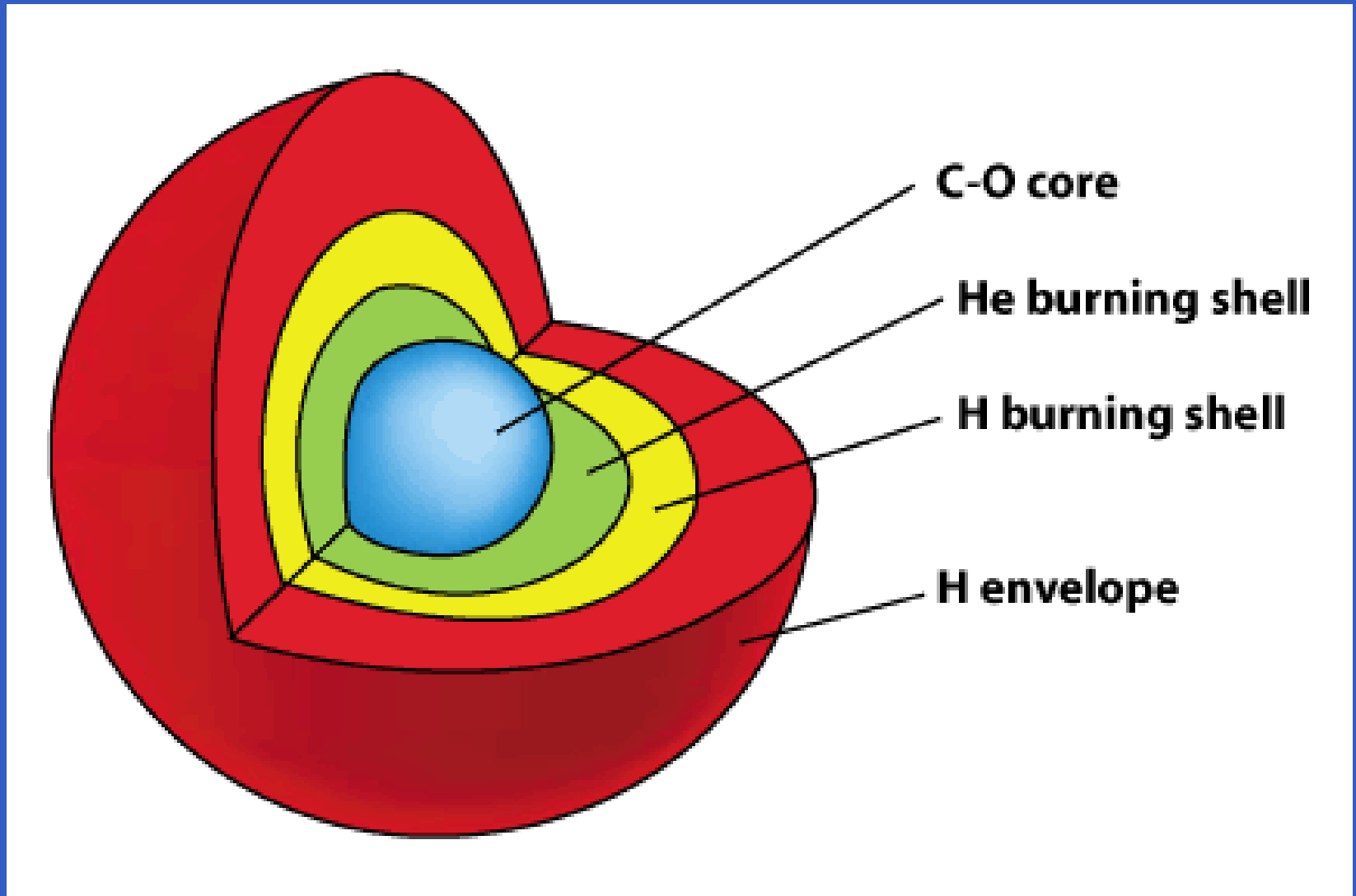
Population Nucleosynthesis

- Introduce nucleosynthesis into synthetic model
- Comparison variable set extends to L , R , M , \dot{M} , stellar type, event rate and surface abundances of more than 130 isotopes.
- Provides extra constraints on the models' free parameters.
- Fast/accurate nucleosynthesis model (observations $\sigma \sim 0.1$ dex)
- Synthetic AGB (Iben, Renzini, Groenewegen, Forestini etc)

Nucleosynthesis in Stars



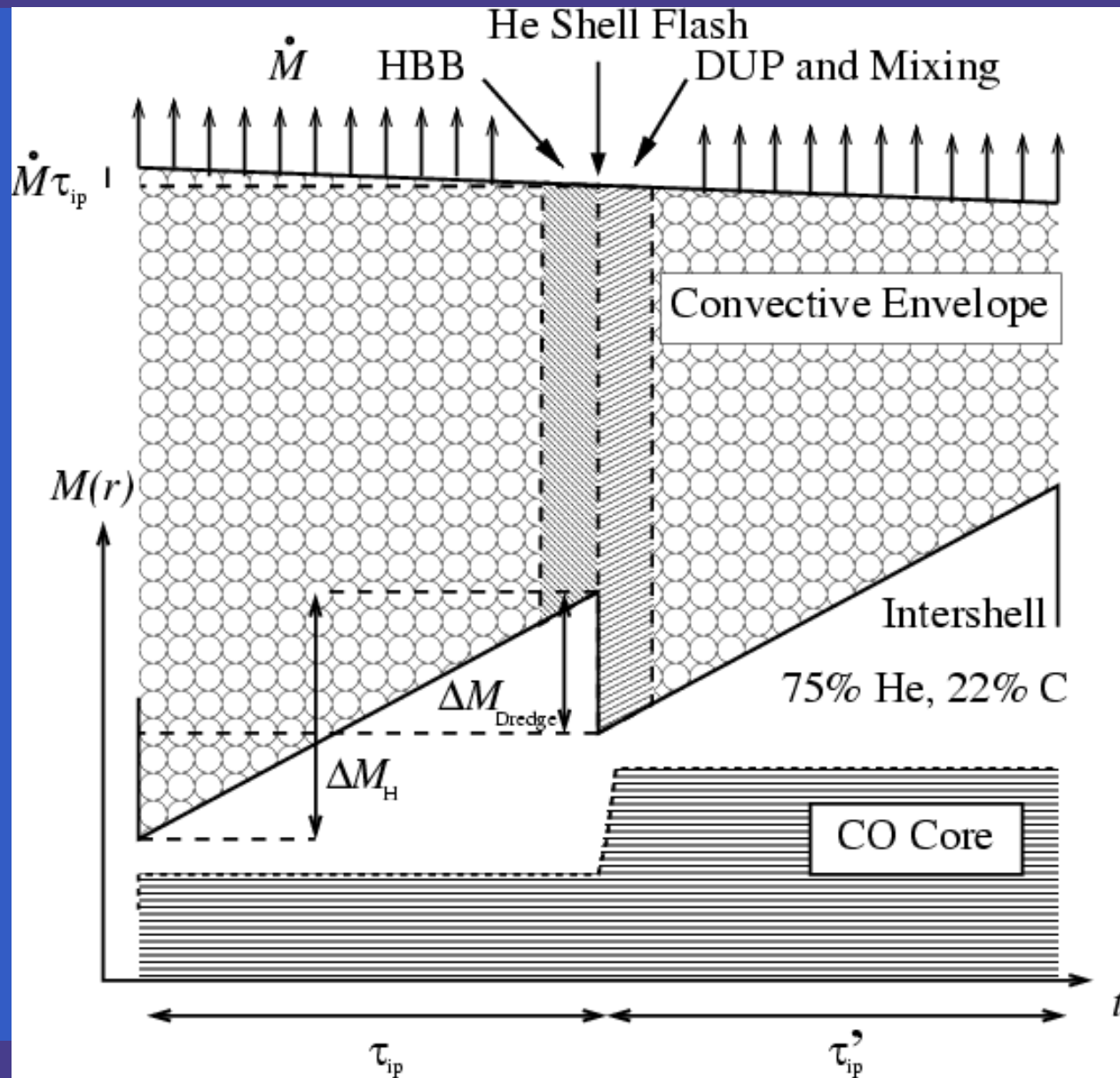
TPAGB star



Nucleosynthesis in TPAGB Stars

- Helium burning converts ${}^4\text{He}$ into ${}^{12}\text{C}$, ${}^{16}\text{O}$ and ${}^{20}\text{Ne}$ during each pulse (more on this later!)
- The convective hydrogen envelope mixes into the helium-burnt region
- Carbon, oxygen and neon are brought to the surface during each pulse
- This is the “Third Dredge Up”
- NB Difficult to model! Need high resolution, tough numerics.

Thermal Pulses

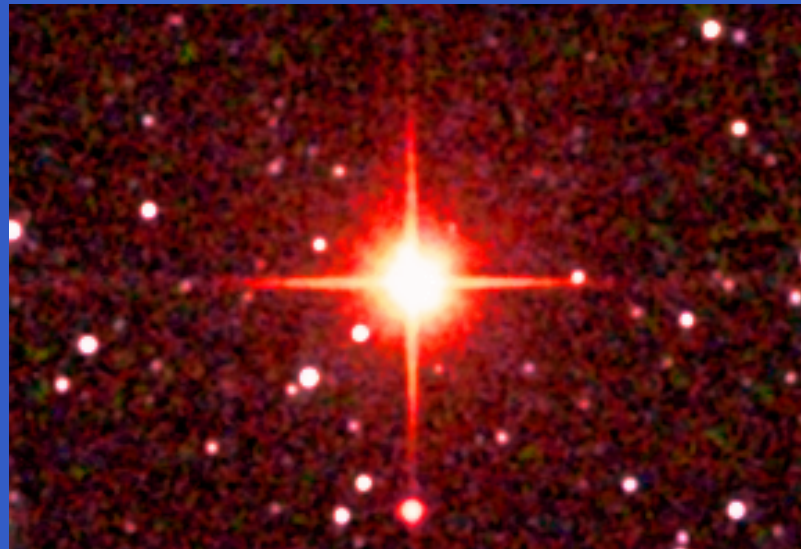


Third Dredge Up

- Occurs when core mass M_c exceeds a threshold $M_{c,\min}$
- Amount of material mixed: $\lambda = \Delta M_{\text{Dredge}} / \Delta M_{\text{H}}$
- Include in models by fitting the parameters λ and $M_{c,\min}$
- Fit intershell abundances to detailed models: assume $f(M, Z)$

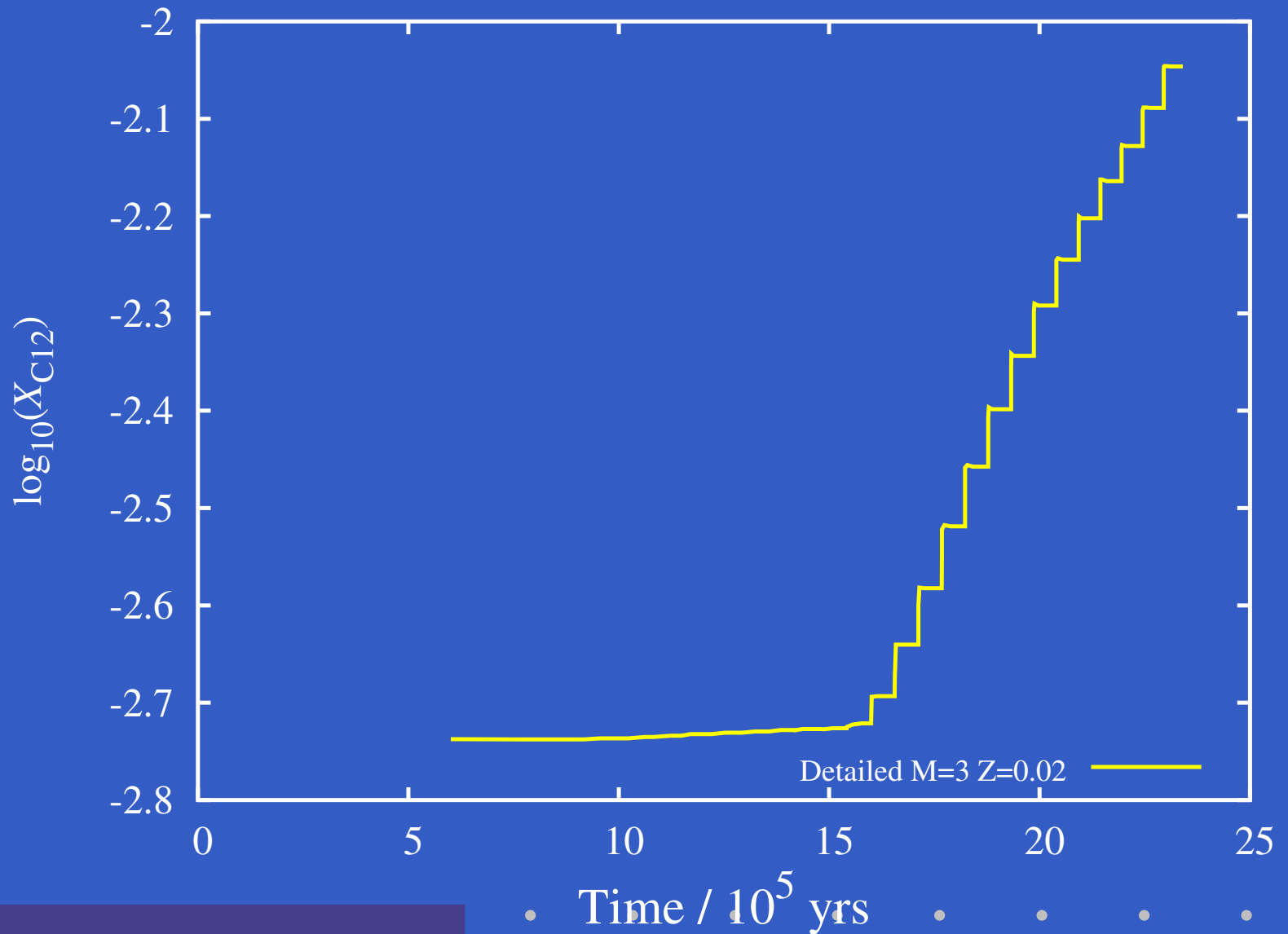
Carbon Stars

- Surface carbon increases: star becomes a “Carbon Star”
- Easily visible (bright, ID by photometry) and complete SMC/LMC surveys exist



V713 Monocerotis

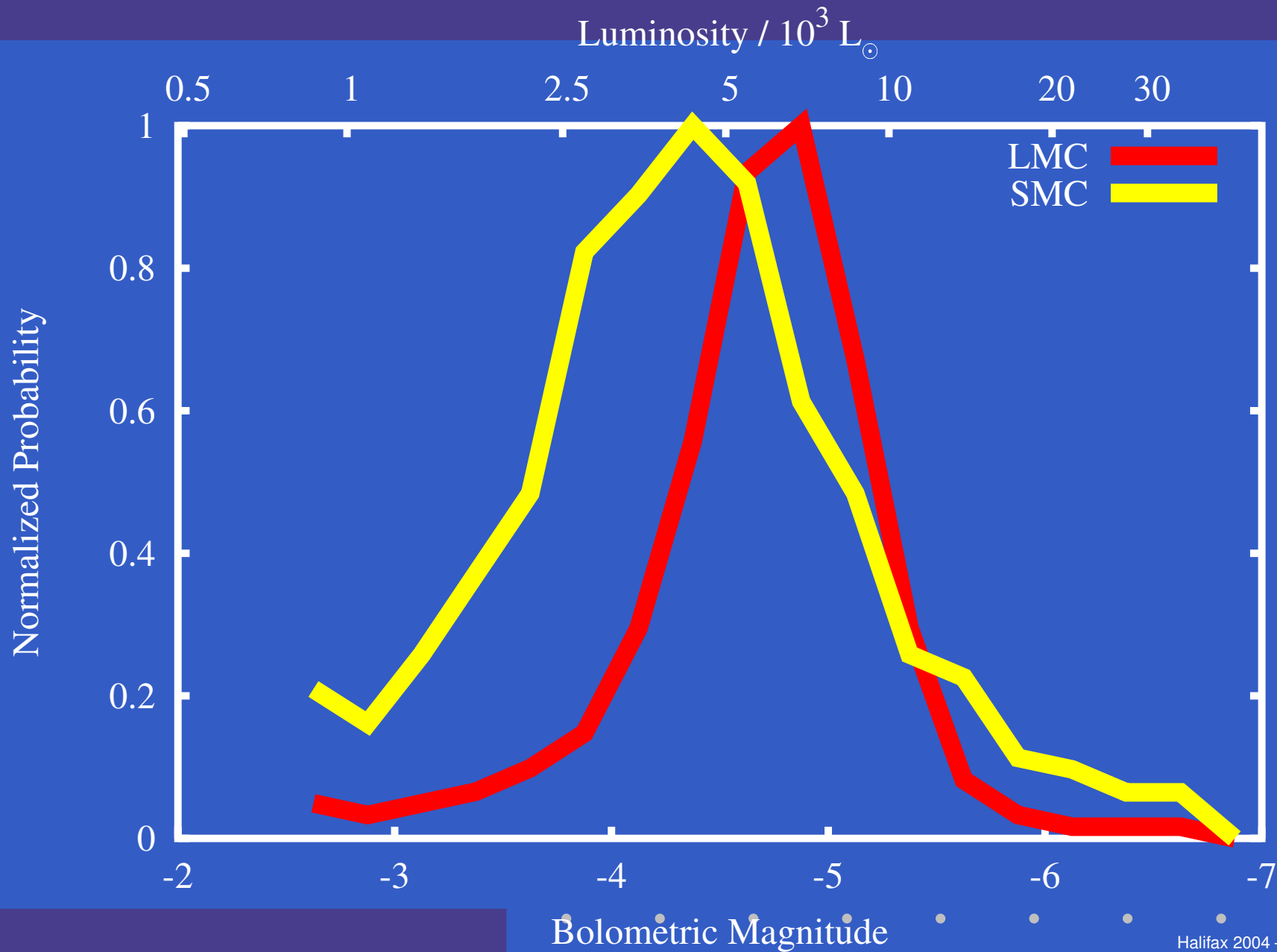
Carbon DUP



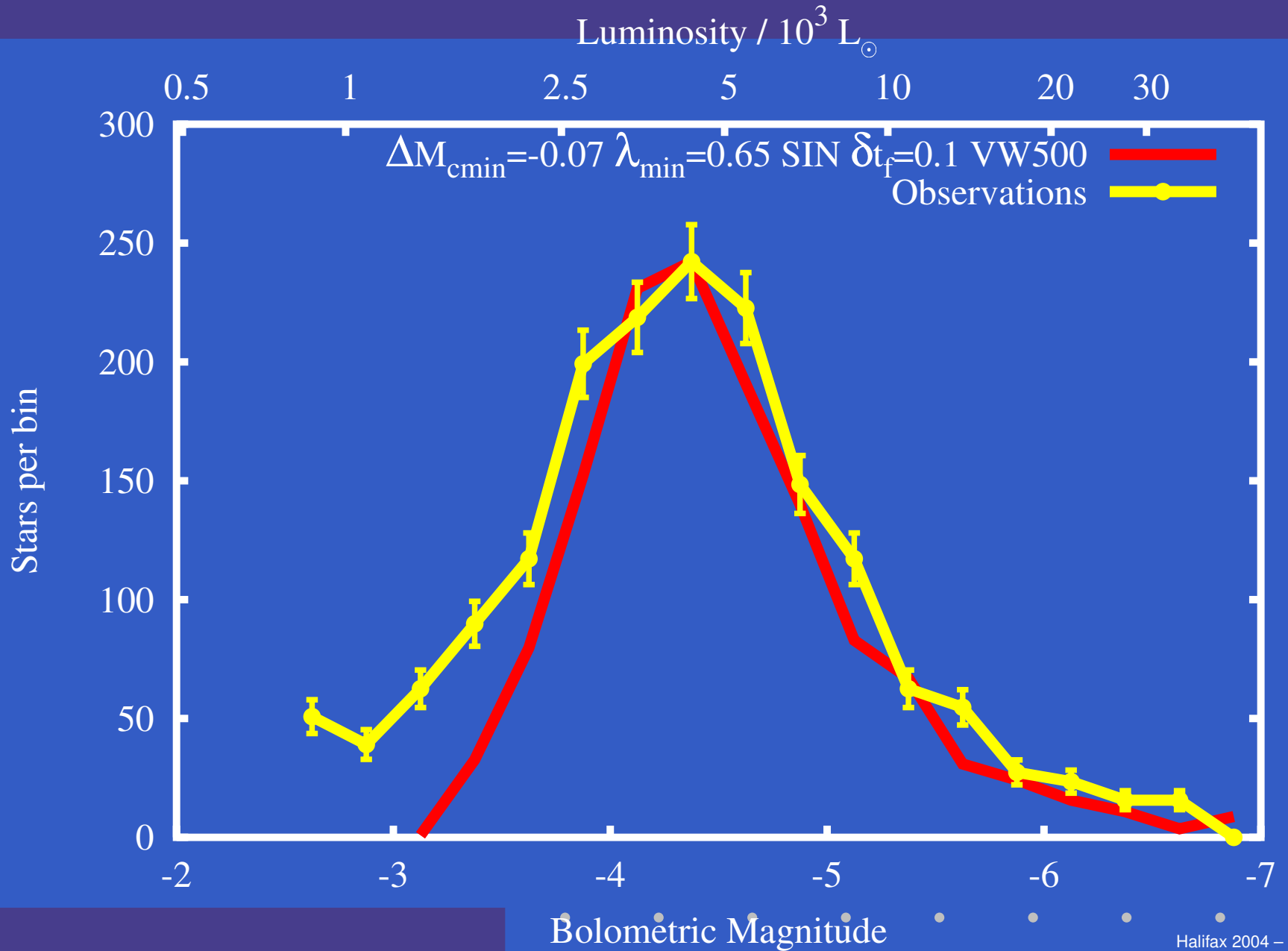
Calibrating λ and $M_{c,\min}$

- λ and $M_{c,\min}$ are fitted to Amanda's detailed models: Are they correct?
- Construct the luminosity function of carbon stars by modelling a population
- Define λ_{\min} such that $\lambda = \max(\lambda_{\min}, \lambda_{\text{fit}})$
- Define $\Delta M_{c,\min}$ so $M_{c,\min} = M_{c,\min}^{\text{fit}} + \Delta M_{c,\min}$
- Plot $dN/d\text{mag}$ for different λ_{\min} and $\Delta M_{c,\min}$
- Use χ^2 test: best fit to LMC ($Z = 0.008$) and SMC ($Z = 0.004$).

CSLFs



Best Fit for the SMC



Best Fit for the SMC

- $\lambda_{\min} = 0.65$ and $\Delta M_{c,\min} = -0.07 M_{\odot}$.
- So third dredge-up occurs *earlier* and is *more efficient* than the detailed models predict.
- New (detailed) models by Richard Stancliffe can fit the LMC models nicely.
- But they still fail for the SMC.
- The models are still wrong!
- This is why synthetic models are good.

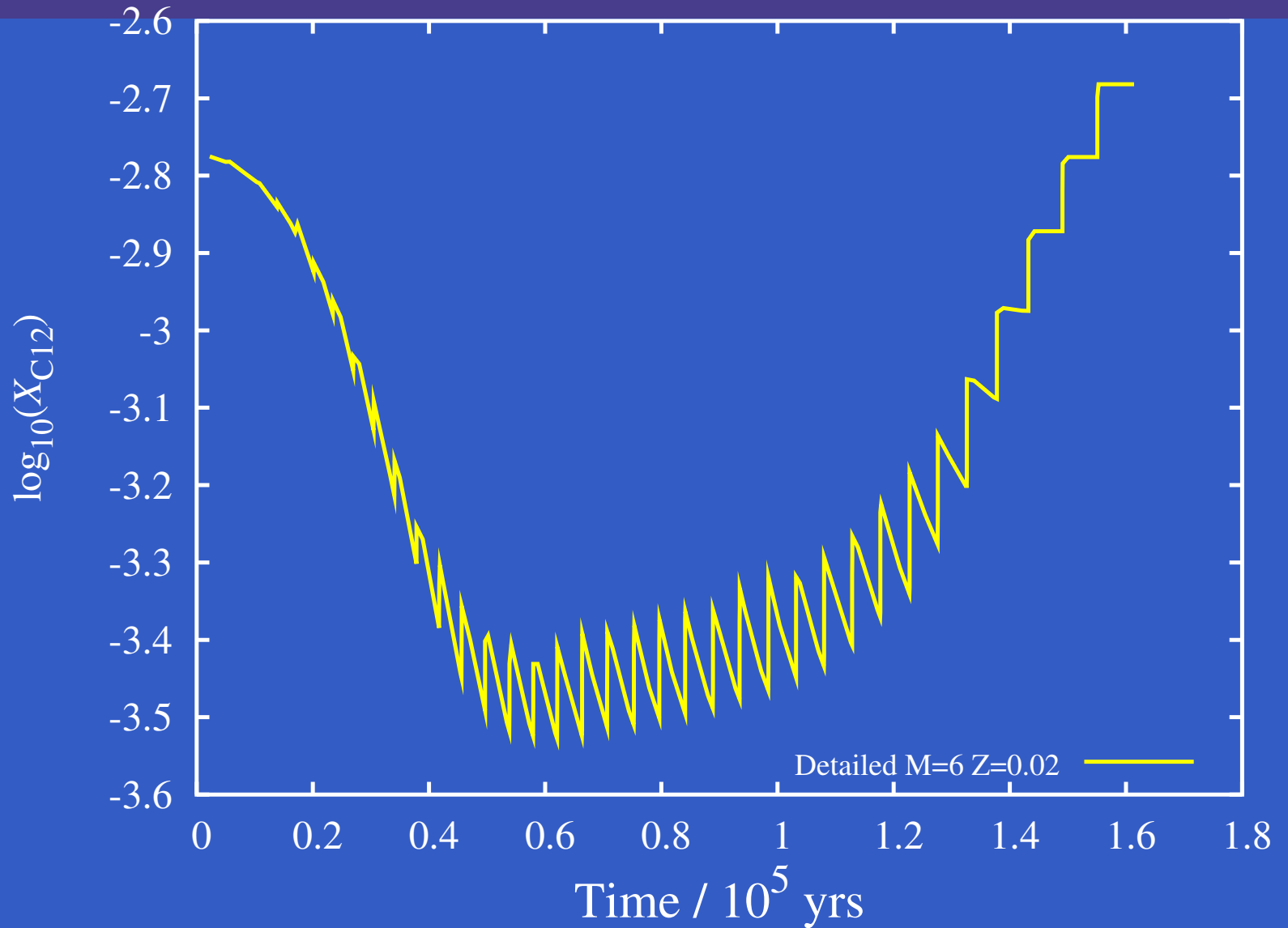
Hot Bottoms?



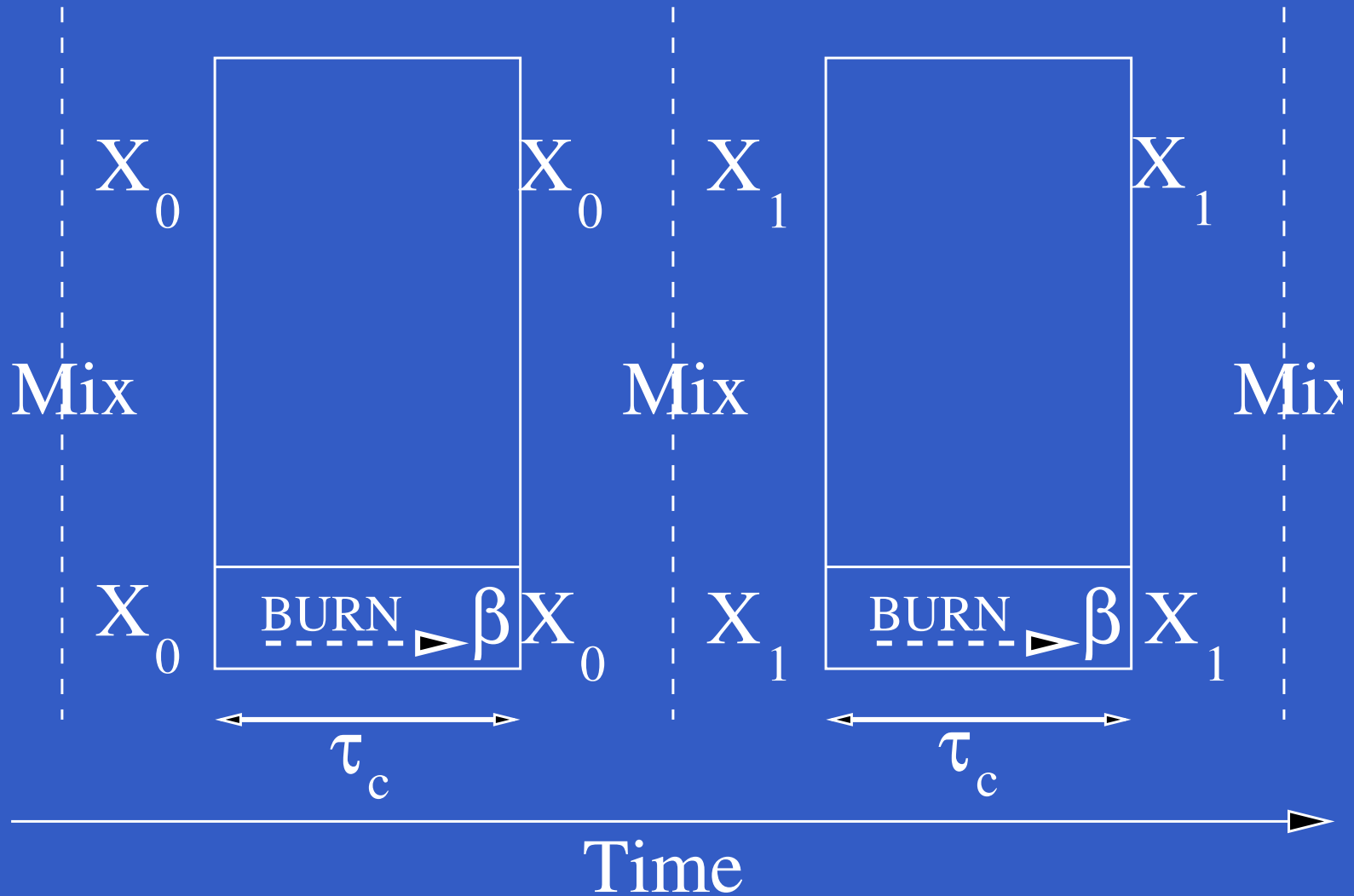
Hot Bottoms

- In stars with $M \gtrsim 4 M_{\odot}$ the base of the convective envelope is hot enough that *Hot Bottom Burning* occurs
- Hydrogen burning occurs in the convective region!
- CNO, NeNa and MgAl cycles may operate, depending on the temperature
- Higher mass \rightarrow higher temperature
- CNO cycling prevents a star from evolving to a carbon star

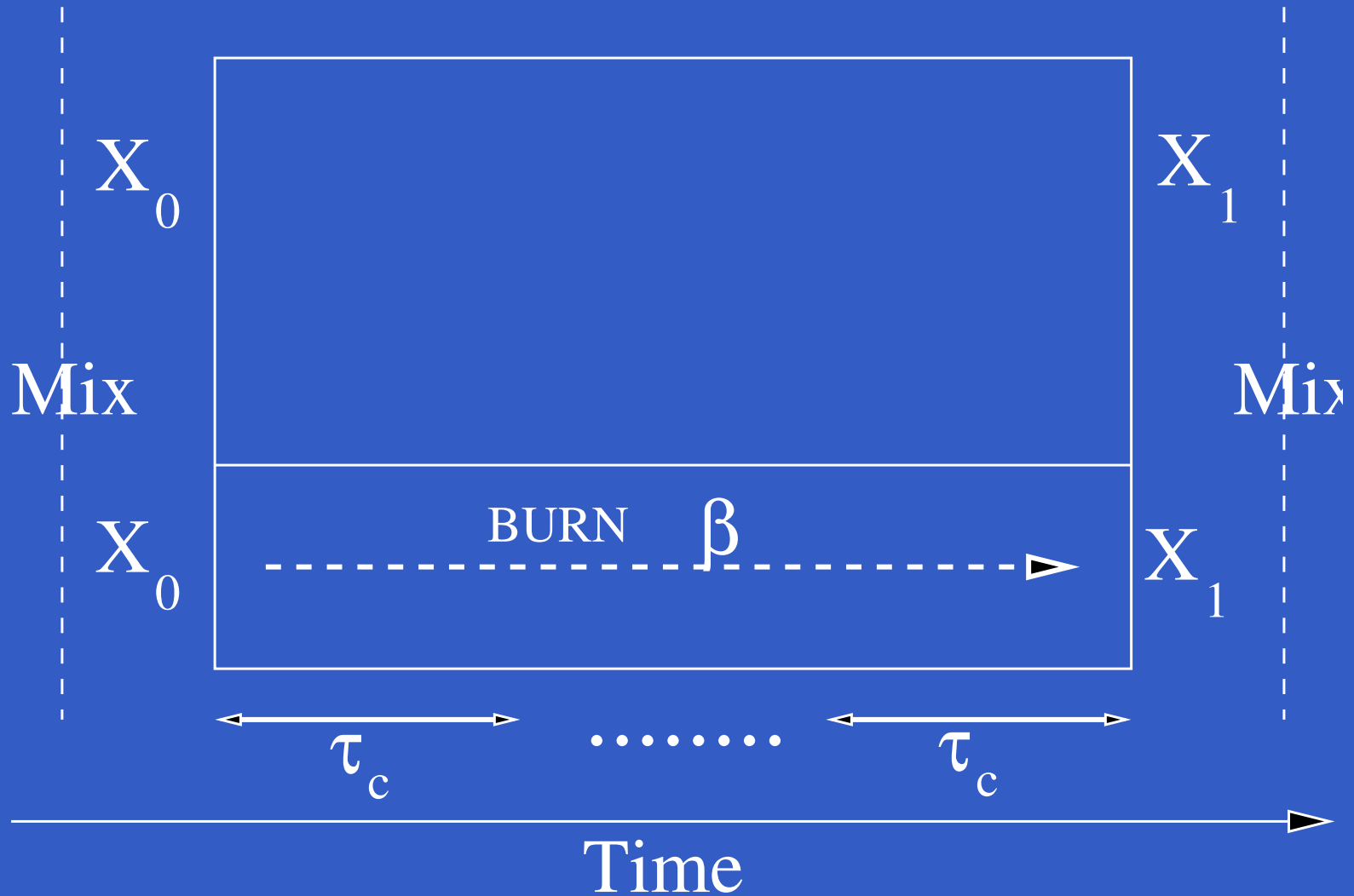
Not a Carbon Star



Quick Analytic Burning



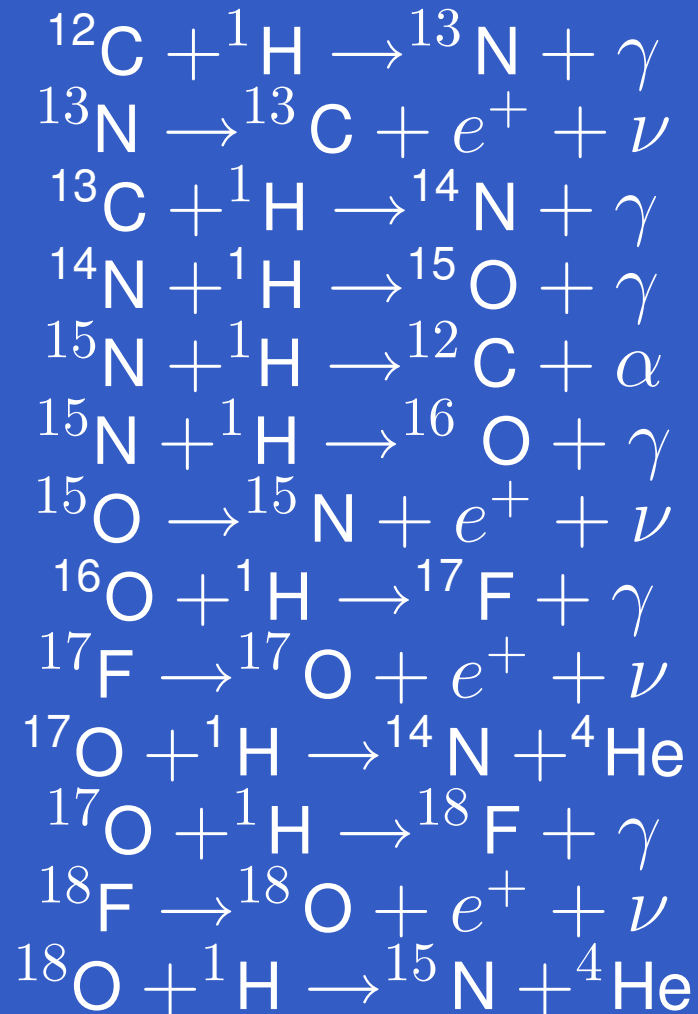
Quick Analytic Burning



Quick Analytic Burning

- burn \rightarrow mix \rightarrow burn \rightarrow mix... replaced by
- A single burn \rightarrow mix step
- Calibrate amount of burning and burn time to Amanda's detailed models
- Require quick, but accurate, solution to nuclear burning because differential equation solving takes too long
- Iterative method is slow, consider analytic solution

The CNO cycle



The CN cycle

- $^{15}\text{N} + ^1\text{H} \rightarrow ^{16}\text{O} + \gamma$ is slow at low temperature (or short burn times)
- CNO splits to CN and ON cycles
- Express CN cycle as eigenvalue problem

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} ^{12}\text{C} \\ ^{13}\text{C} \\ ^{14}\text{N} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1/\tau_{12} & 0 & 1/\tau_{14} \\ 1/\tau_{12} & -1/\tau_{13} & 0 \\ 0 & 1/\tau_{13} & -1/\tau_{14} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} ^{12}\text{C} \\ ^{13}\text{C} \\ ^{14}\text{N} \end{bmatrix}$$

- Solve for $^{12,13}\text{C}$, ^{14}N as (simple) $f(t)$.

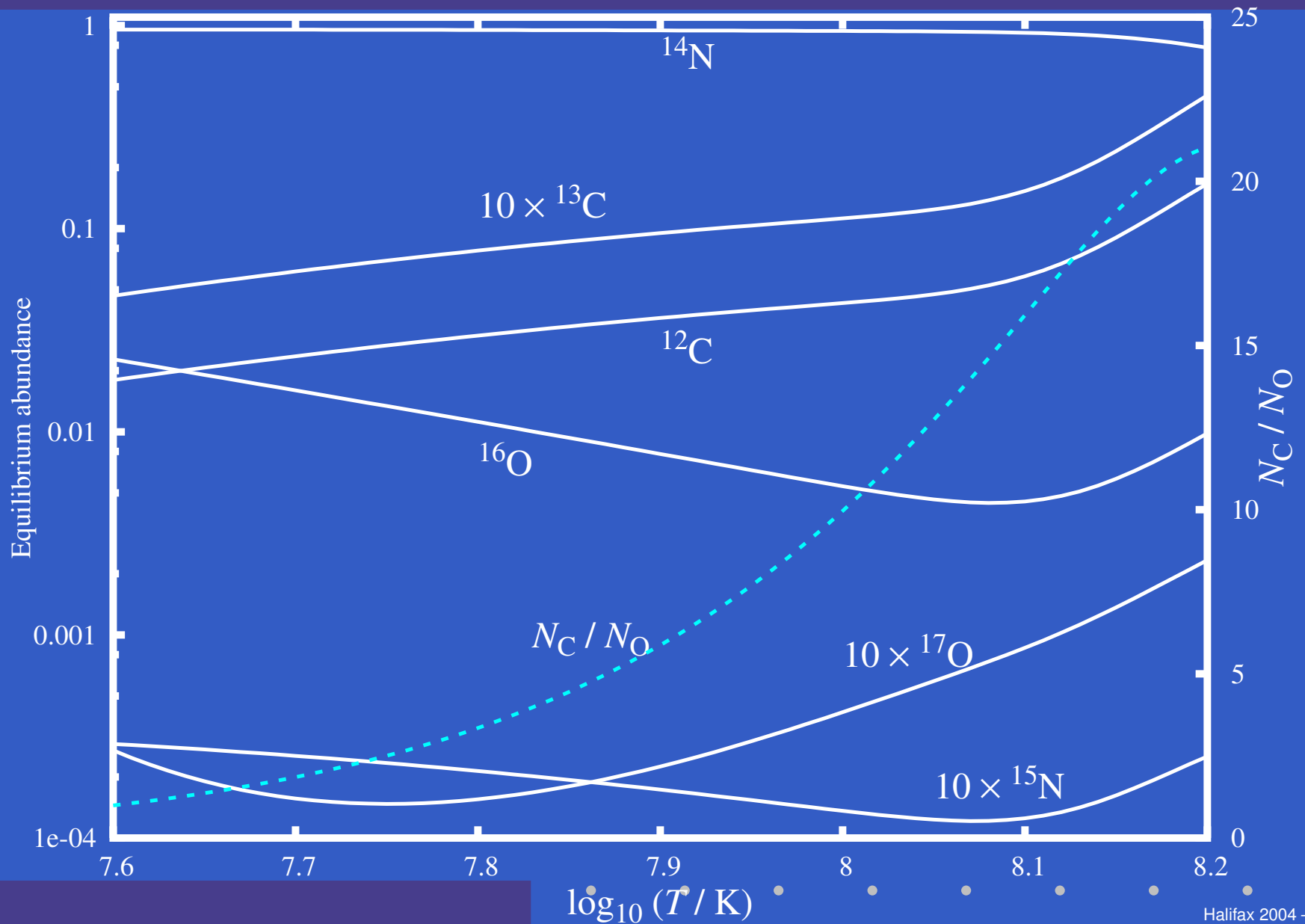
The ON Cycle

- Long burn times: CN cycle \rightarrow eq. $\sim 98\%$ ^{14}N
- ON cycle activates

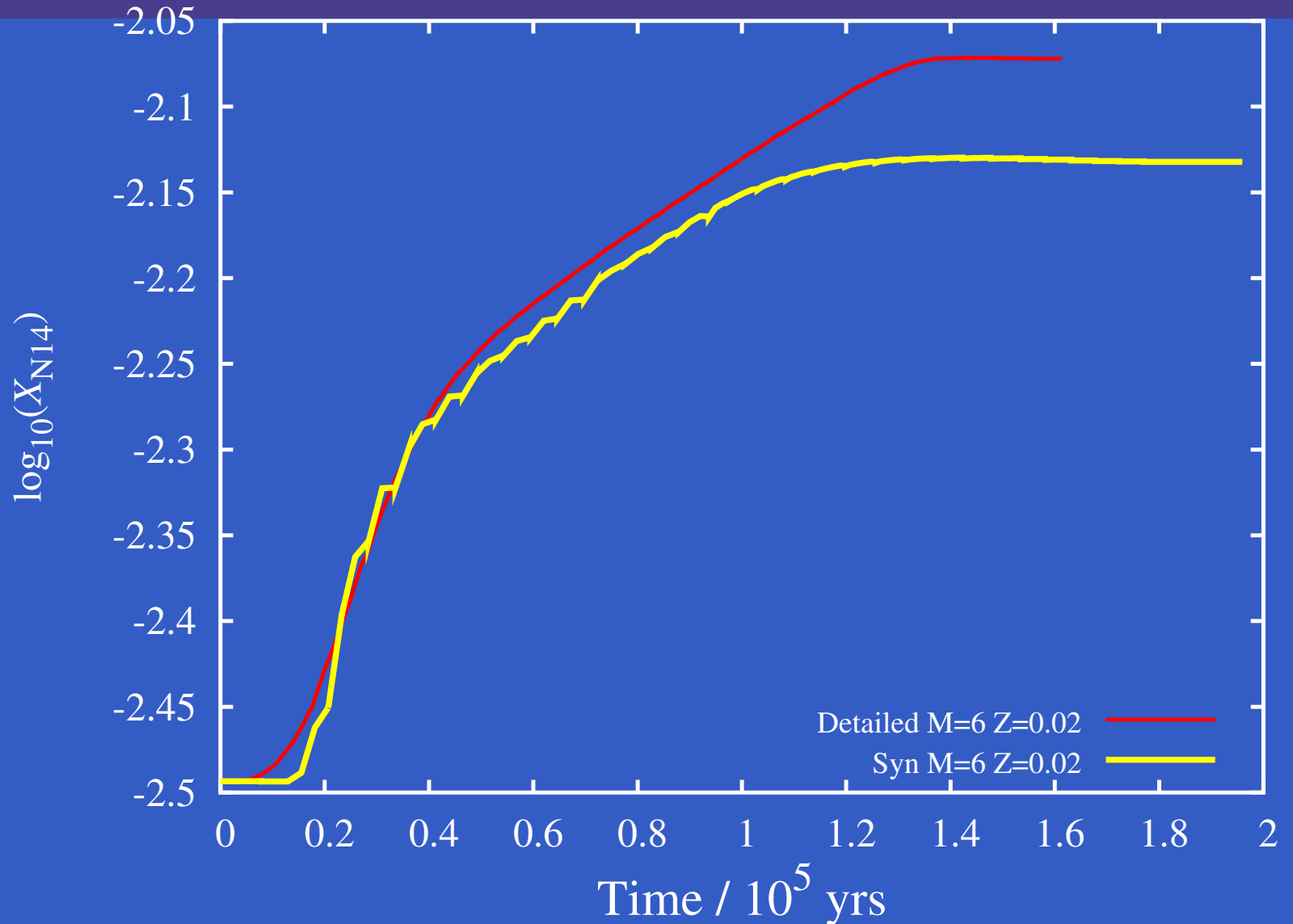
$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} ^{14}\text{N} \\ ^{16}\text{O} \\ ^{17}\text{O} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1/\tau_{12} & 0 & 1/\tau_{14} \\ 1/\tau_{12} & -1/\tau_{13} & 0 \\ 0 & 1/\tau_{13} & -1/\tau_{14} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} ^{14}\text{N} \\ ^{16}\text{O} \\ ^{17}\text{O} \end{bmatrix}$$

- Oxygen (slowly!) destroyed.
- Again ^{14}N is the result.

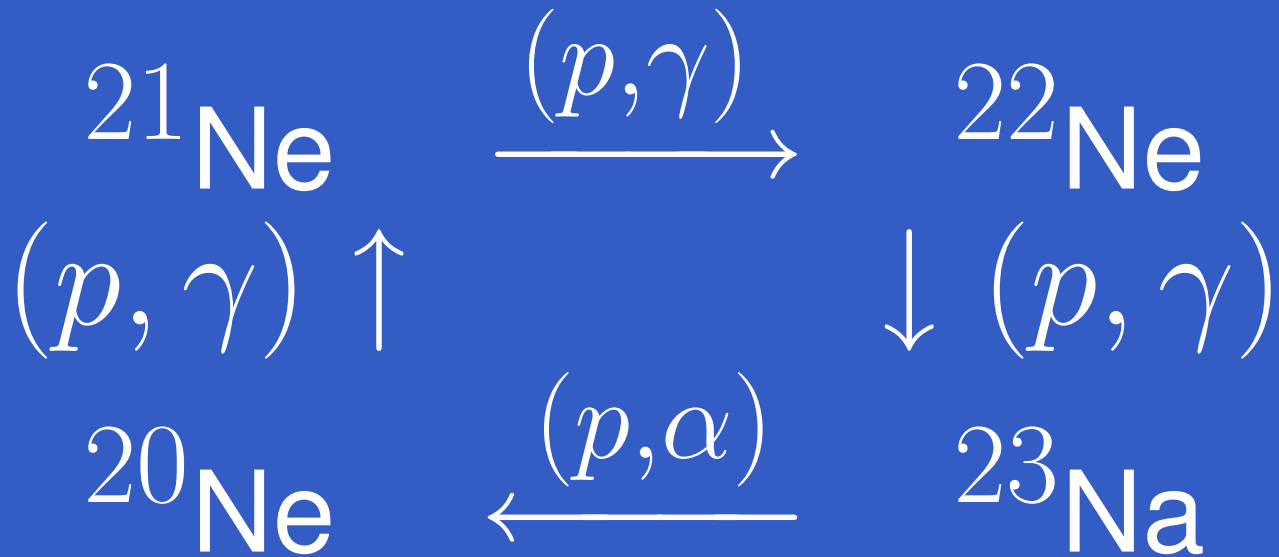
CNO Equilibrium



Synthetic vs Detailed



Simpler NeNa cycle

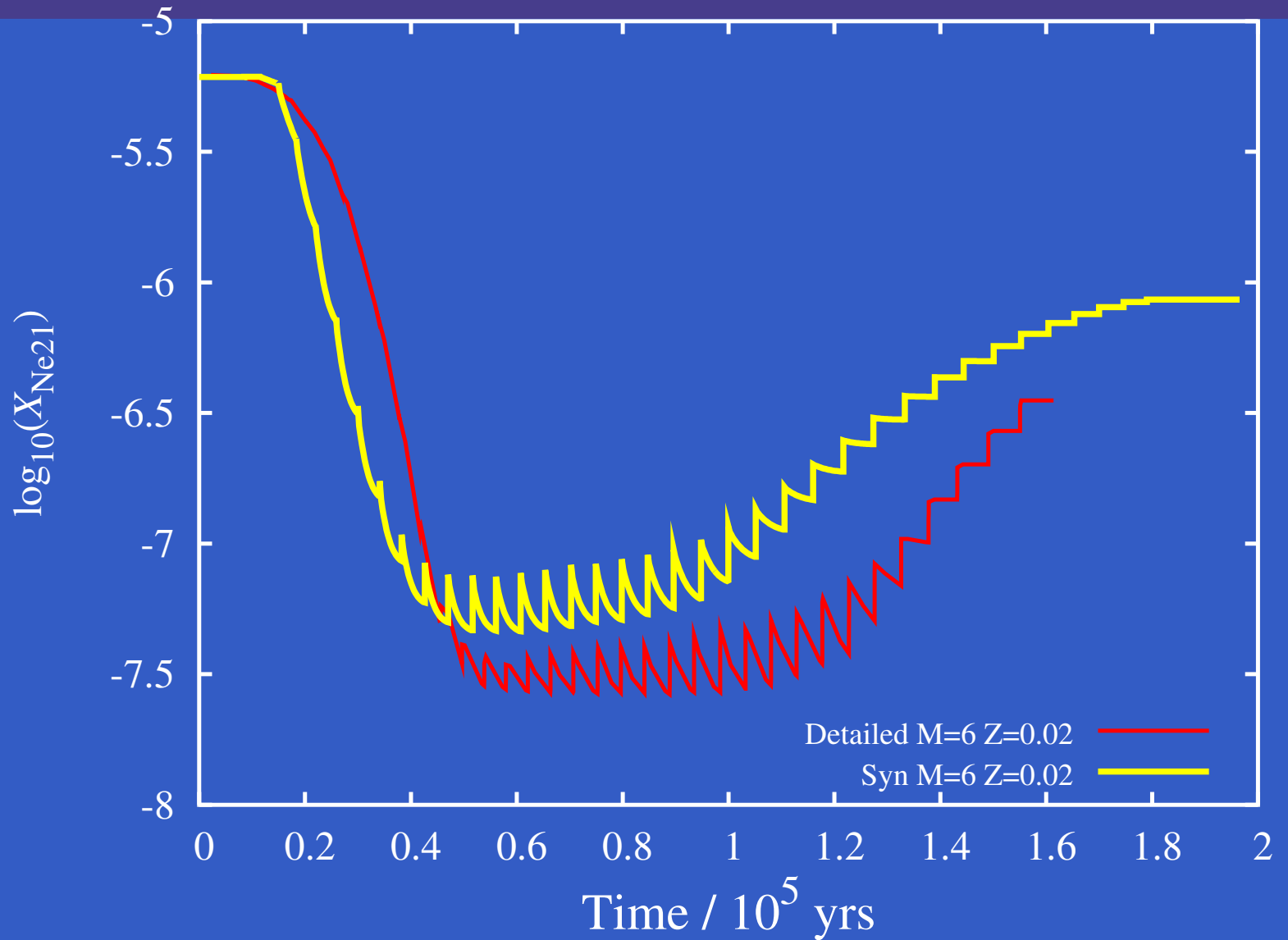


Another eigenvalue problem

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} {}^{20}\text{Ne} \\ {}^{21}\text{Ne} \\ {}^{22}\text{Ne} \\ {}^{23}\text{Na} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{1}{\tau_{20}} & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{\tau_{23}} \\ \frac{1}{\tau_{20}} & \frac{1}{-\tau_{21}} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{\tau_{21}} & -\frac{1}{\tau_{22}} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{\tau_{22}} & -\frac{1}{\tau_{23}} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} {}^{20}\text{Ne} \\ {}^{21}\text{Ne} \\ {}^{22}\text{Ne} \\ {}^{23}\text{Na} \end{bmatrix}$$

→ analytic solution...

Example: ^{21}Ne



Becomes the MgAl Chain

- $$\frac{d^{24}\text{Mg}}{dt} = -\frac{^{24}\text{Mg}}{\tau_{24}},$$

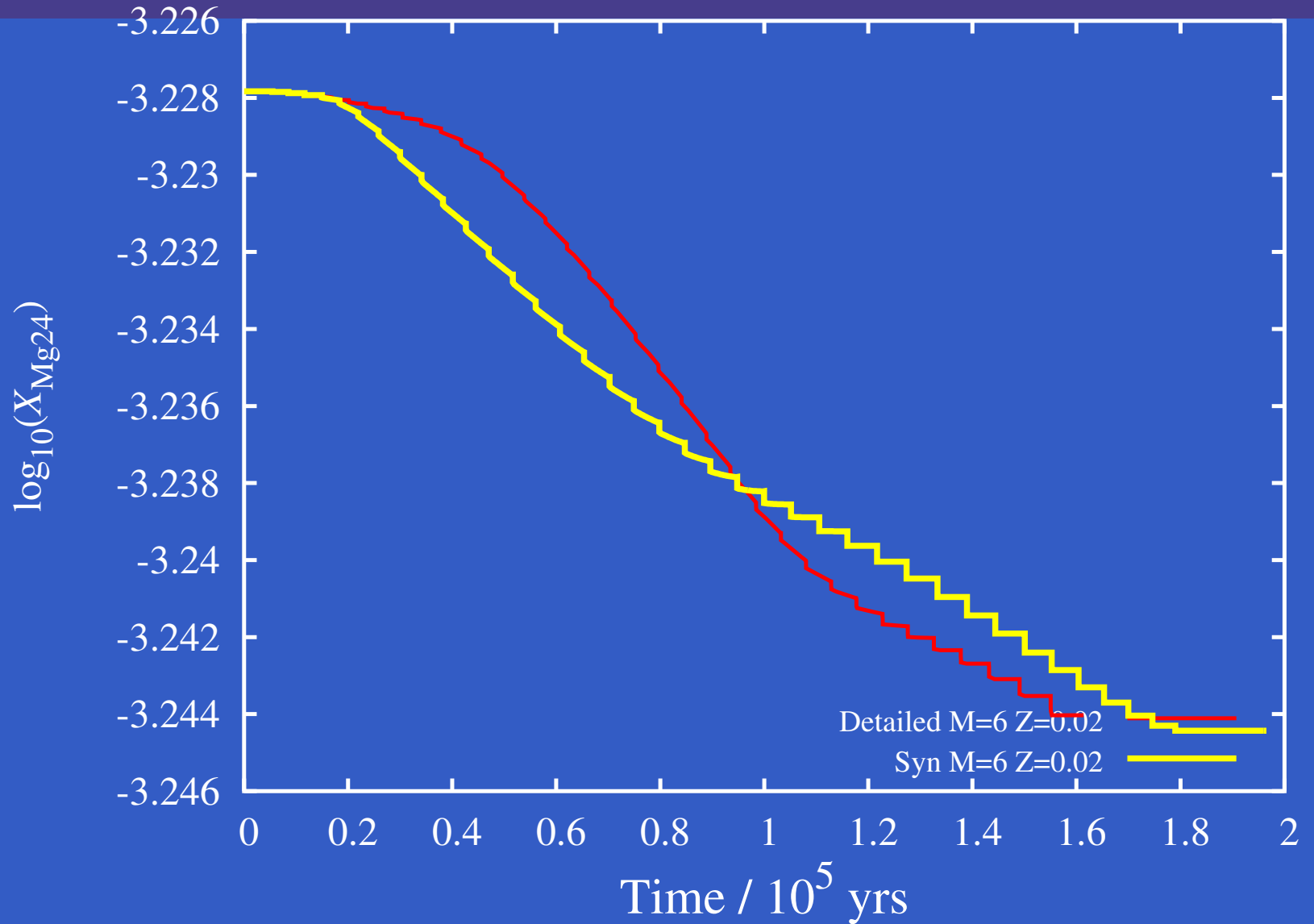
- $$\frac{d^{25}\text{Mg}}{dt} = -\frac{^{25}\text{Mg}}{\tau_{25}} + \frac{^{24}\text{Mg}}{\tau_{24}},$$

- $$\frac{d^{26}\text{Al}}{dt} = \frac{^{25}\text{Mg}}{\tau_{25}} - \frac{^{26}\text{Al}}{\tau_{\beta 26}} - \frac{^{26}\text{Al}}{\tau_{26'}} = \frac{^{25}\text{Mg}}{\tau_{25}} - \frac{^{26}\text{Al}}{\tau_{26'}},$$

- $$\frac{d^{26}\text{Mg}}{dt} = \frac{^{26}\text{Al}}{\tau_{\beta 26}} - \frac{^{26}\text{Mg}}{\tau_{26}}$$

- $$\frac{d^{27}\text{Al}}{dt} = \frac{^{26}\text{Mg}}{\tau_{26}} + \frac{^{26}\text{Al}}{\tau_{26'}} > 0$$

Example: ^{24}Mg



Chemical Yields

- Galactic Chemical Evolution models require calculations of *yields*
- This is the amount of mass ejected as each isotope from a population of stars
- Synthetic models can be used to calculate the yields from single *and binary stars*
- Uncertainties due to variable initial distributions / physics

Chemical Yields

One definition (my definition)

$$\text{yield of } i = \frac{\text{MASS OUT AS ISOTOPE } i}{\text{MASS INTO STARS}}$$

- Mass into stars is different for single and binary populations, this definition takes that into account.
- Binary interaction reduces number of GB and AGB stars, so reduces the yield of isotopes produced in GB and AGB stars.

Nitrogen Yield (Integrated)

Integrated nitrogen yield (mass out as ^{14}N / mass input to stars)

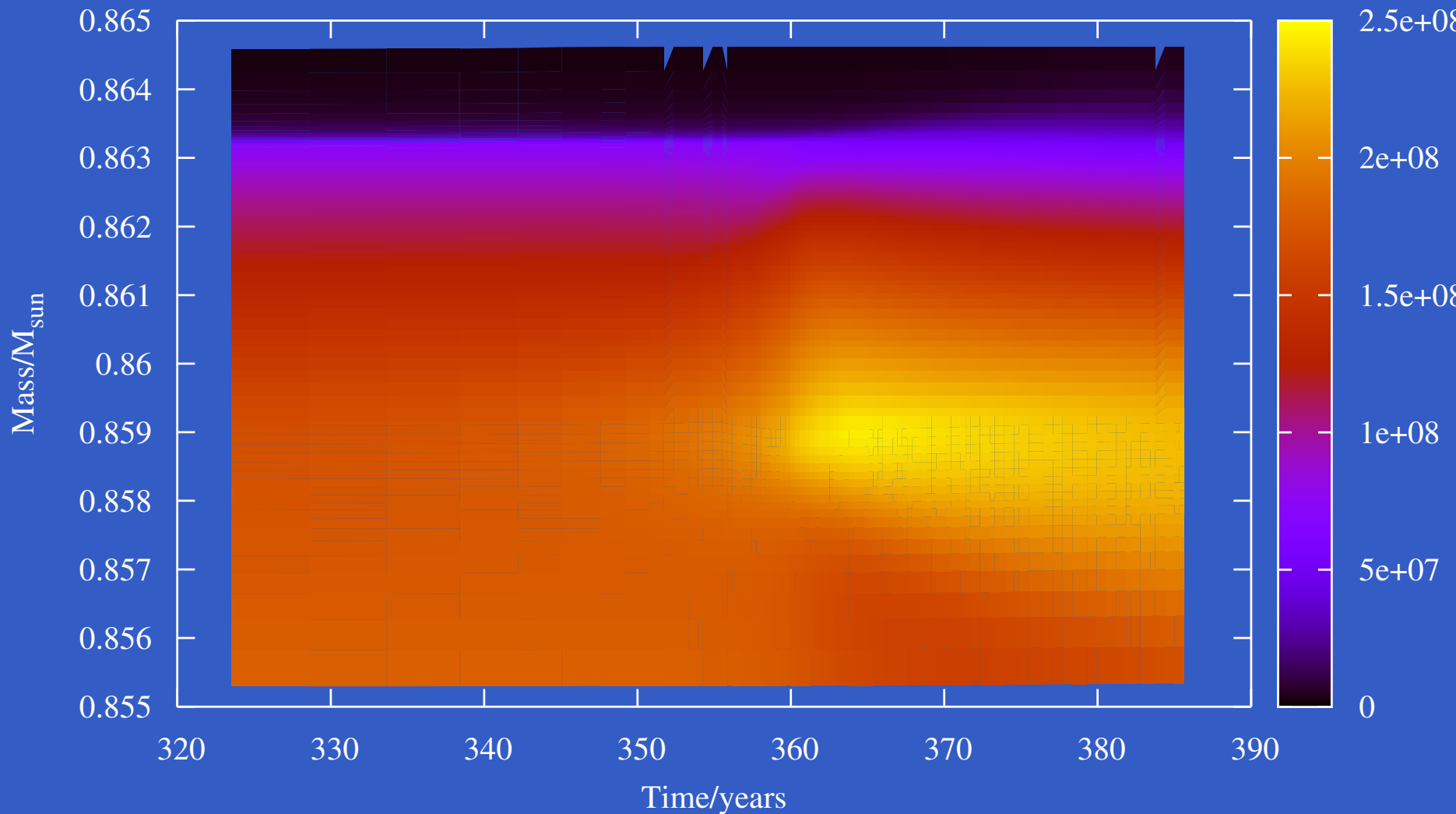
- Single Stars 1.294×10^{-3}
- Binary Stars 9.878×10^{-4}
- Difference due to binaries : -24%

Reaction Rates in the Intershell

- Intershell composition → envelope pollution
- Reaction rates determine amount of isotopic production
- Many are quite uncertain (e.g. $^{25}\text{Mg} (\alpha, n)^{28}\text{Si}$ fac. $10^5!$)
- Can we quantify the uncertainty in the yields?
- Difficult problem: many rates/stars, takes too long
- Perhaps with a synthetic model?
- Synthetic Helium Burning!
- Convective intershell: much like HBB.

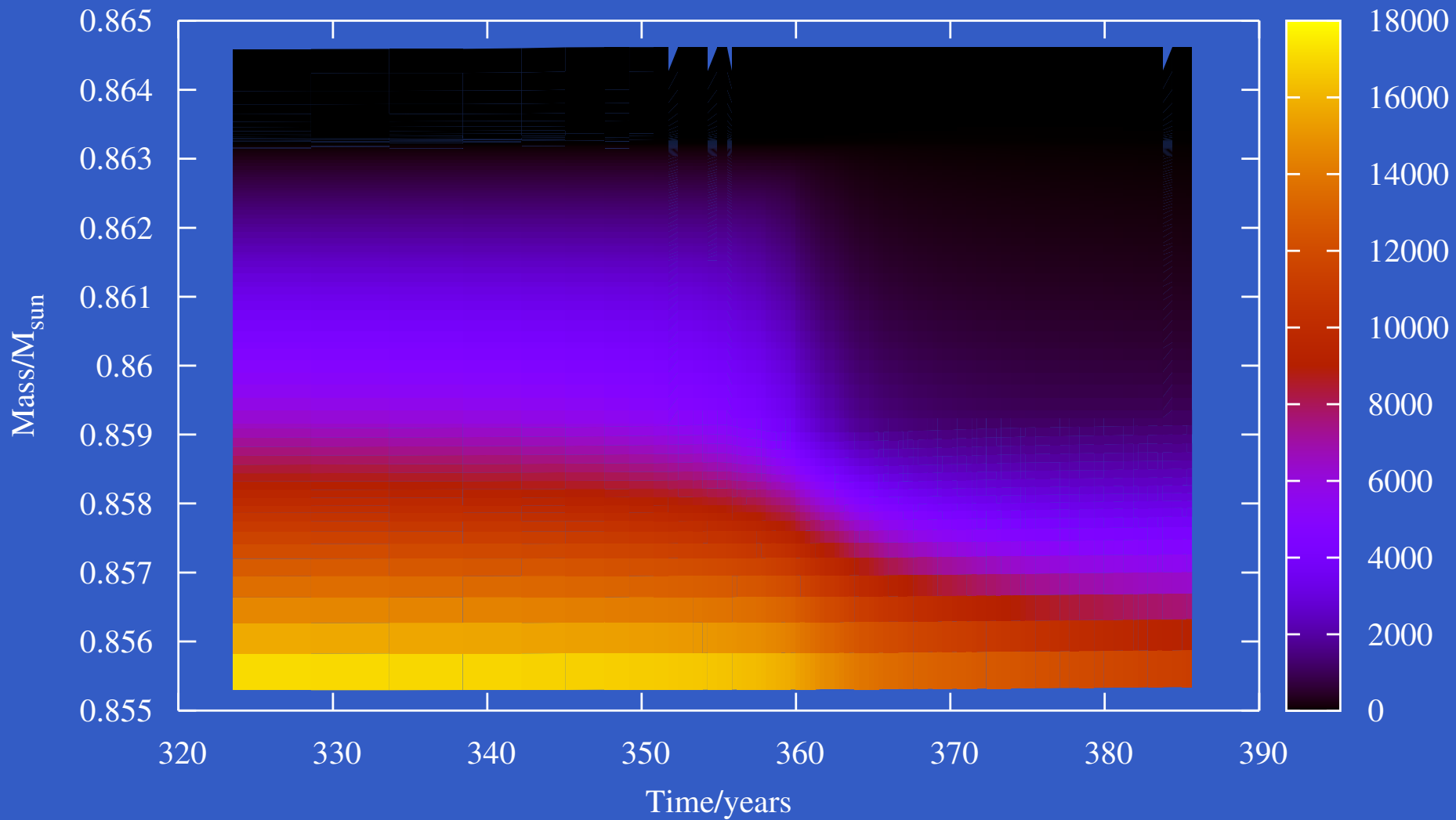
Helium Flash: T

Pulse 1 (Flash Only) : Temperature



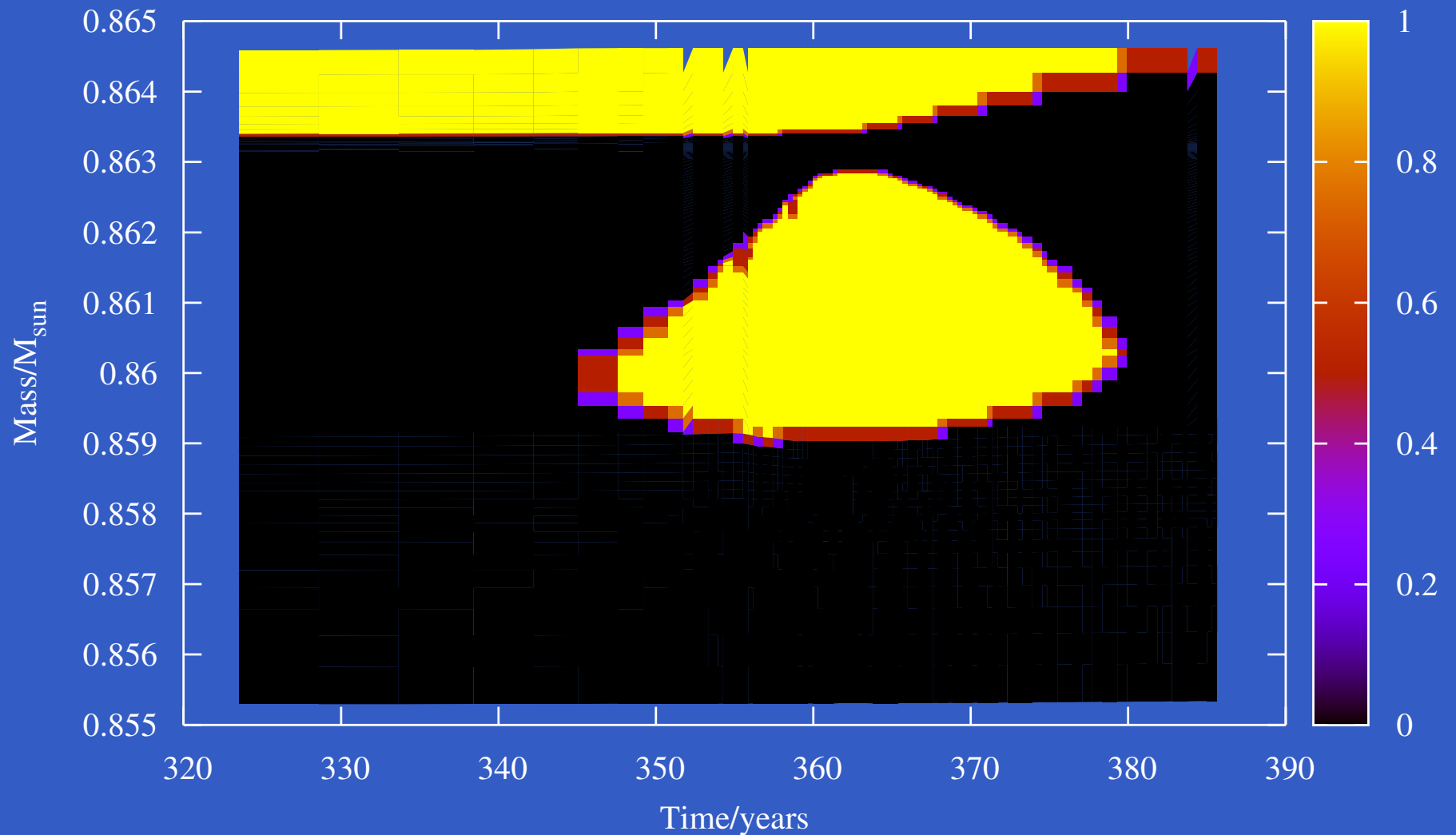
Helium Flash: ρ

Pulse 1 (Flash Only) : Density



Helium Flash: convection

Pulse 1 (Flash Only) : Convective Zones



Helium Burning Reactions

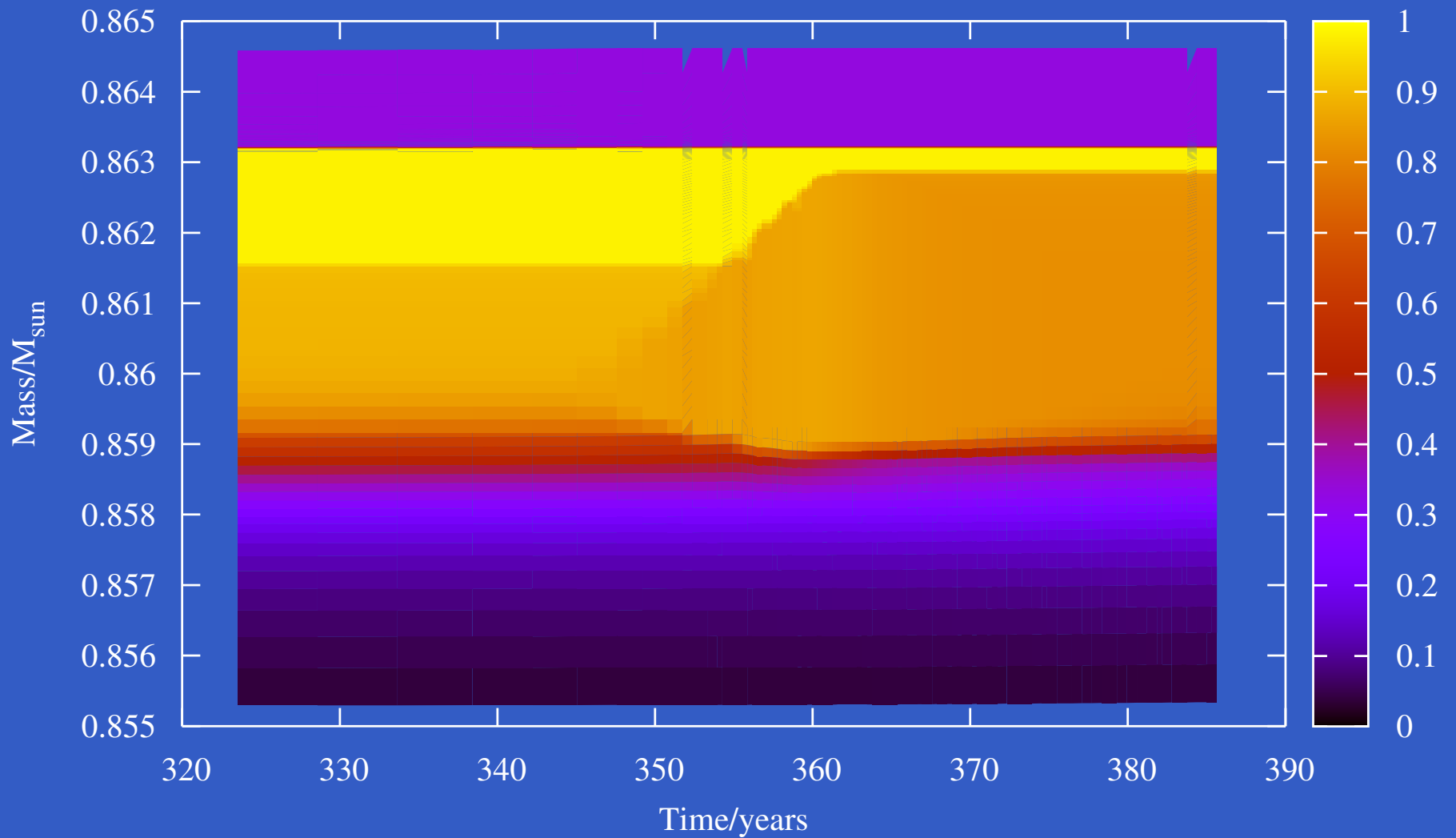
Material is processed by complete hydrogen burning, so is 0% ^1H , $\sim 98\%$ ^4He , **CNO** \rightarrow ^{14}N , other trace metals (perhaps NeNa/MgAl cycled).
Two reaction sets operate

- α -capture e.g. $^4\text{He}(\alpha\alpha, \gamma)^{12}\text{C}$, $^{12}\text{C}(\alpha, \gamma)^{16}\text{O}$, $^{16}\text{O}(\alpha, \gamma)^{20}\text{Ne}$ etc.
- n -capture e.g. $^{20}\text{Ne}(n, \gamma)^{21}\text{Ne}$, $^{24}\text{Mg}(n, \gamma)^{25}\text{Mg}$, $^{28}\text{Si}(n, \gamma)^{29}\text{Si}$

Detailed models give final abundances $^4\text{He} = 0.7$, $^{12}\text{C} = 0.26$, $^{16}\text{O} = 0.004$.

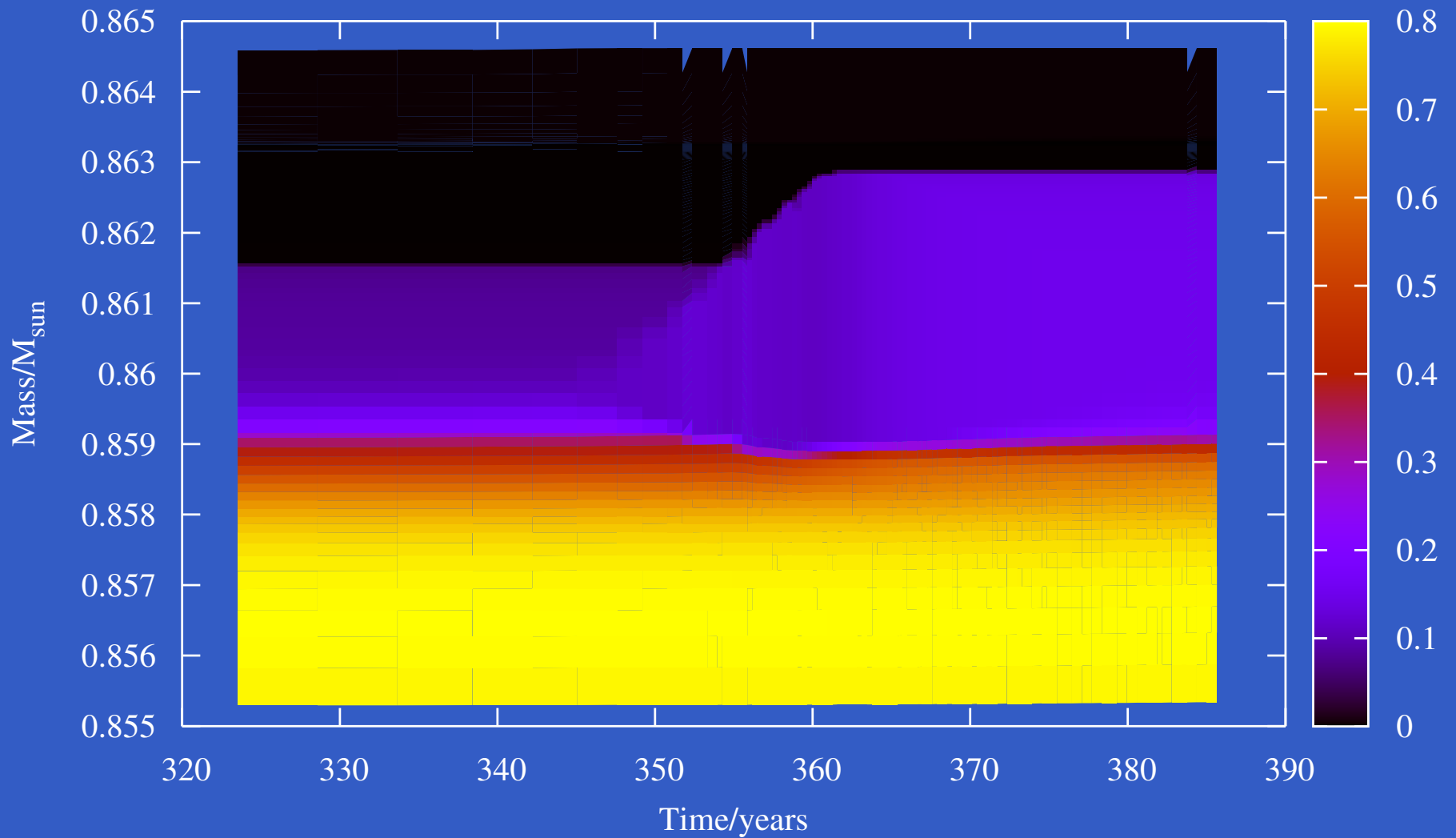
Helium Flash: ${}^4\text{He}$

Pulse 1 (Flash Only) : ${}^4\text{He}$



Helium Flash: ^{12}C

Pulse 1 (Flash Only) : ^{12}C



α captures

$$\frac{d^4\text{He}}{dt} = -3 \langle \sigma v \rangle_{3\alpha} ({}^4\text{He})^3 - \langle \sigma v \rangle_{\alpha 12} {}^4\text{He} {}^{12}\text{C} - \langle \sigma v \rangle_{\alpha 16} {}^4\text{He} {}^{16}\text{O} - \dots,$$

$$\frac{d^{12}\text{C}}{dt} = \langle \sigma v \rangle_{3\alpha} ({}^4\text{He})^3 - \langle \sigma v \rangle_{\alpha 12} {}^4\text{He} {}^{12}\text{C},$$

$$\frac{d^{16}\text{O}}{dt} = \langle \sigma v \rangle_{\alpha 12} {}^4\text{He} {}^{12}\text{C} - \langle \sigma v \rangle_{\alpha 16} {}^4\text{He} {}^{16}\text{O}$$

$$\frac{d^{20}\text{Ne}}{dt} = \langle \sigma v \rangle_{\alpha 16} {}^4\text{He} {}^{16}\text{O} - \langle \sigma v \rangle_{\alpha 20} {}^4\text{He} {}^{20}\text{Ne}$$

...

First approximation...

$$\frac{d^4\text{He}}{dt} = -3 \langle \sigma v \rangle_{3\alpha} ({}^4\text{He})^3 - \langle \sigma v \rangle_{\alpha 12} {}^4\text{He} {}^{12}\text{C} - \langle \sigma v \rangle_{\alpha 16} {}^4\text{He} {}^{16}\text{O},$$

$$\frac{d^{12}\text{C}}{dt} = \langle \sigma v \rangle_{3\alpha} ({}^4\text{He})^3 - \langle \sigma v \rangle_{\alpha 12} {}^4\text{He} {}^{12}\text{C},$$

$$\frac{d^{16}\text{O}}{dt} = \langle \sigma v \rangle_{\alpha 12} {}^4\text{He} {}^{12}\text{C} - \langle \sigma v \rangle_{\alpha 16} {}^4\text{He} {}^{16}\text{O}$$

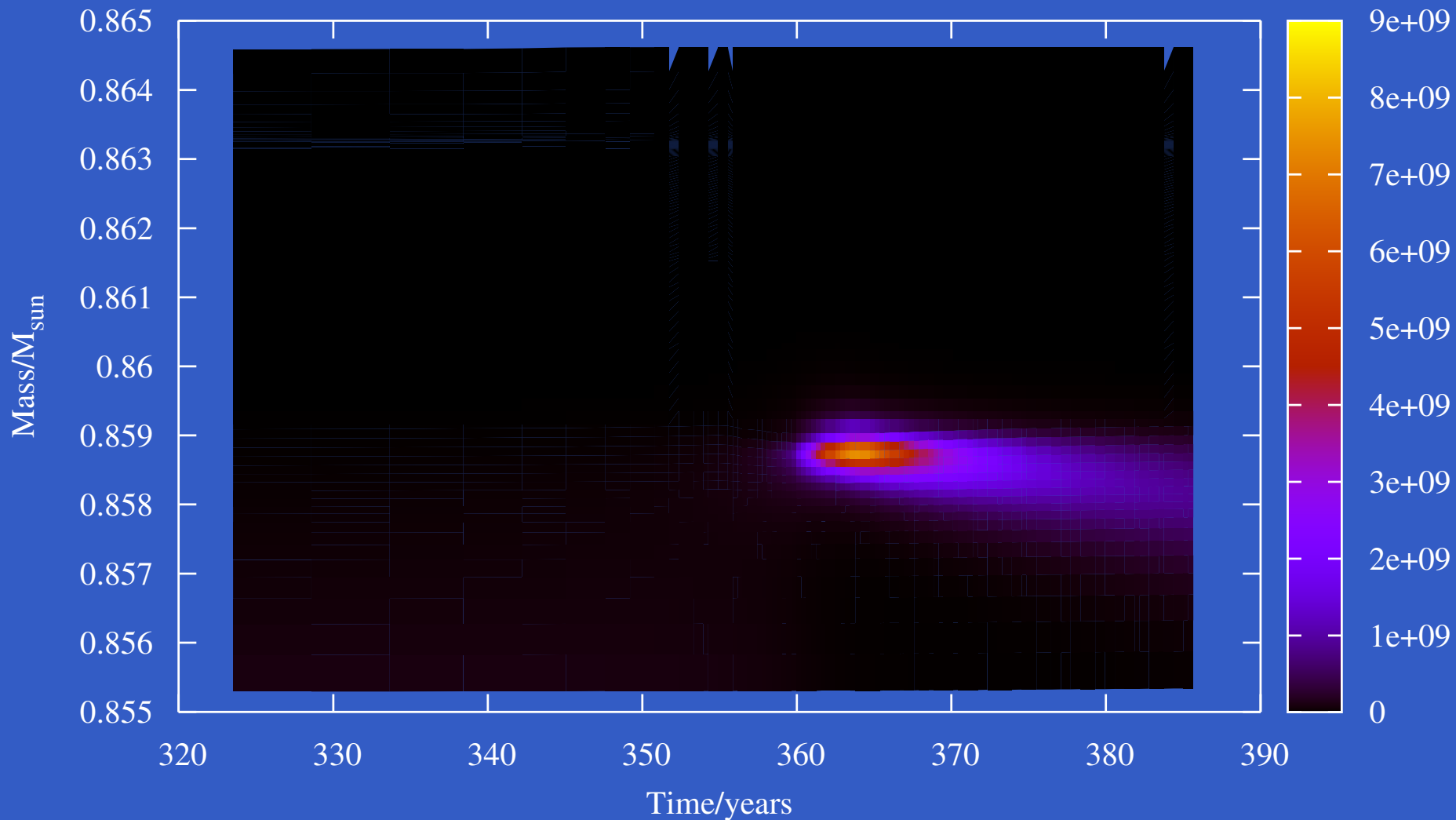
$$\frac{d^{20}\text{Ne}}{dt} = \langle \sigma v \rangle_{\alpha 16} {}^4\text{He} {}^{16}\text{O} - \langle \sigma v \rangle_{\alpha 20} {}^4\text{He} {}^{20}\text{Ne}$$

But it's not really like HBB!

- Some of the material ingested into the convective pocket is *not from hydrogen burning*
- In fact it is *radiatively He-burnt material!*
- Abundances ${}^4\text{He} \sim 0.55$, ${}^{12}\text{C} \sim 0.4$, ${}^{16}\text{O} \sim 0.015$ are a function of mass
- Contribution due to this “dredge up” is small but contributes to the ${}^{12}\text{C}$, ${}^{16}\text{O}$, ${}^{20}\text{Ne}$
- *Not* easy to model with a simple algorithm :(

$^{16}\text{O}(\alpha, \gamma)^{20}\text{Ne}$ Burn Rate

Pulse 1 (Flash Only) : $^{16}\text{O}(\alpha, \gamma)^{20}\text{Ne}$ rate



Prototype Model

- Assume constant abundance radiative dredge-up material
- Fit T and ρ (max) of convective pulse vs t
- Burn a fraction of the intershell at T, ρ for the pulse duration (~ 25 years)
- Fit a constant mixing rate (burnt + unburnt) to Amanda's model results

Iterative Burning

- Traditional technique, required because of ${}^4\text{He}^3$ term and significant ${}^{12}\text{C}$ -burning
- At each timestep use iterative relaxation method to calculate abundances
- n -capture equilibrium
- Code in Perl, easy to experiment or change (or break!)
- slower than C or the evil F so must be efficient
- Iterative solution agrees with Runge-Kutta solution

$M = 5 M_{\odot}$, $Z = 0.02$, TP19, mix rate 1

Isotope	Amanda	Rob
^4He	0.7007	0.7064
^{12}C	0.2666	0.2656
^{16}O	0.004212	0.002608
^{20}Ne	0.001585	0.001566
^{21}Ne	2.869×10^{-5}	2.328×10^{-5}
^{22}Ne	0.01794	0.01921
^{24}Mg	0.0001174	0.00009838
^{25}Mg	0.002673	0.001504
^{26}Mg	0.003016	0.001613

Why simple HBB model worked

- T and ρ are \sim constant over an interpulse period
- Burning shell is thin compared to M_{conv}
- Total amount burned $< M_{\text{conv}}$
- Hydrogen abundance \sim constant over an interpulse

Why simple He-burning model fails

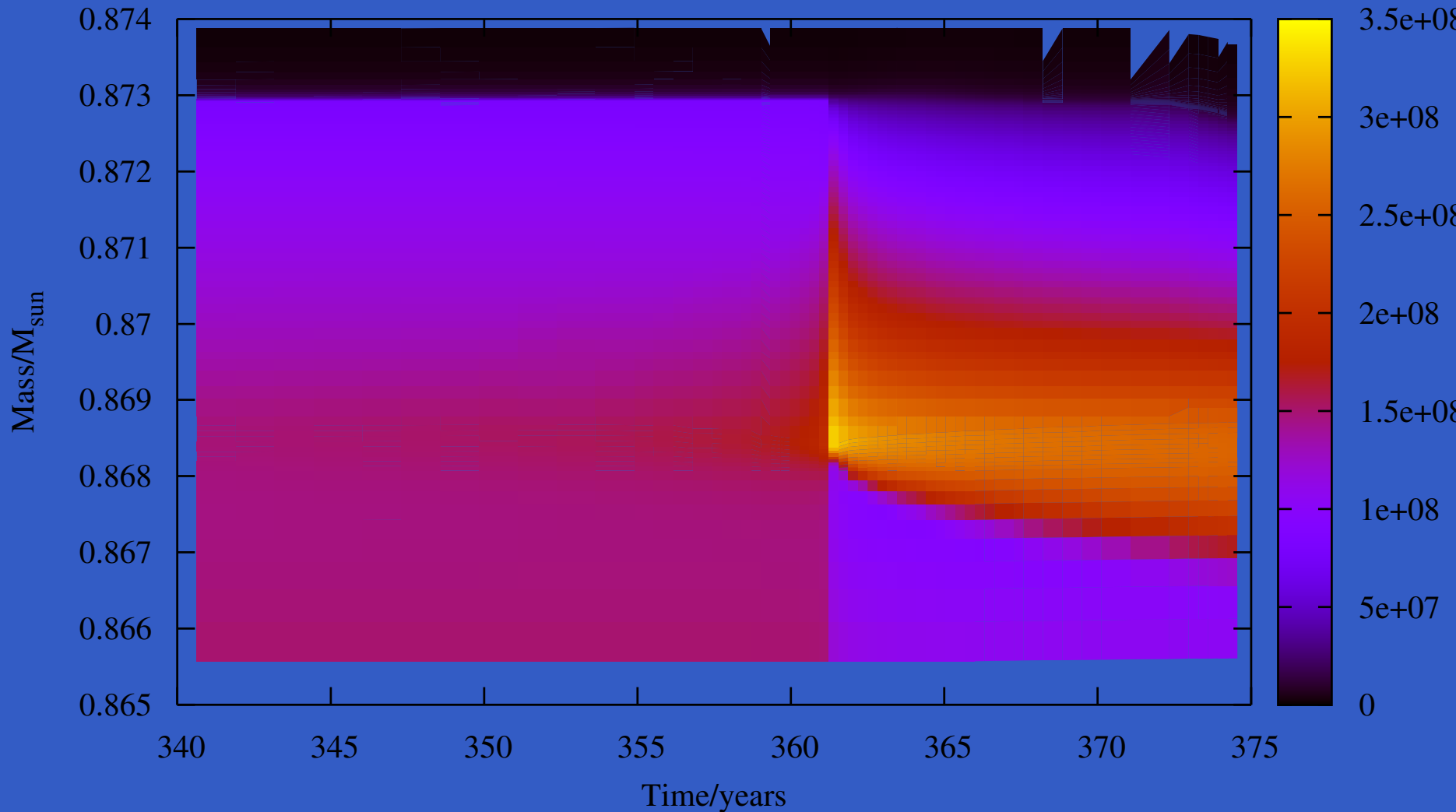
- T and ρ are definitely not constant in mass or time
- Burning shell is not thin compared to M_{conv} ?
- Total amount burned $\gg M_{\text{conv}}$
- Helium abundance is not constant
- Mixing rate is not constant?
- *Not* because neutrons are out of eq.
- Burning by iterative network is much slower (but quicker than RK!)

Conclusions

- Need to model radiative burning properly:
need mass grid
- Convective burning tricky without T , ρ , Y and
mixing as $f(t)$
- We may as well use detailed models...
- It's just too complicated for synthetic models.
- Easier to fit results of detailed model runs.

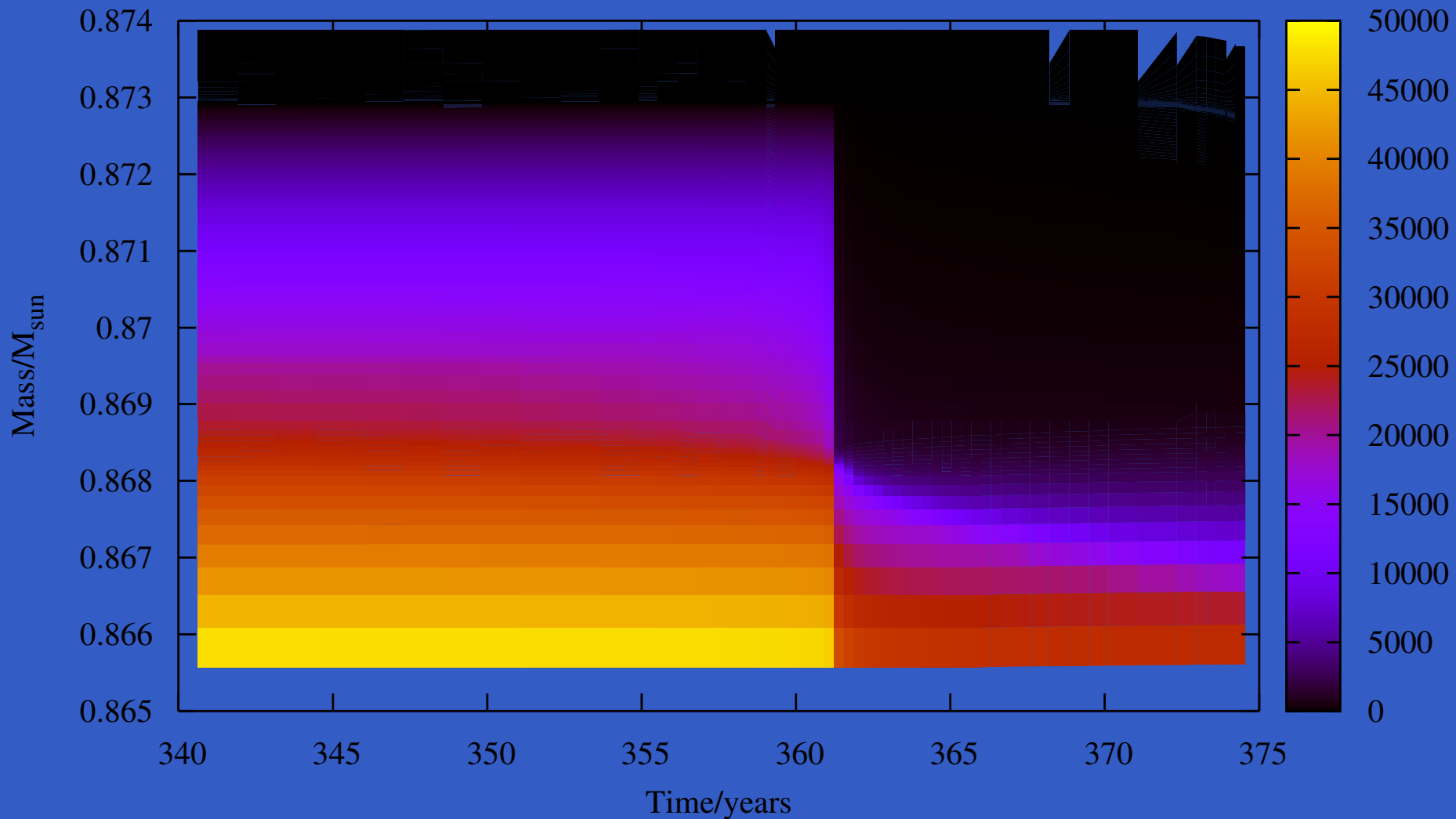
Thermal Pulse 19 T

Pulse 3 (Flash Only) : Temperature



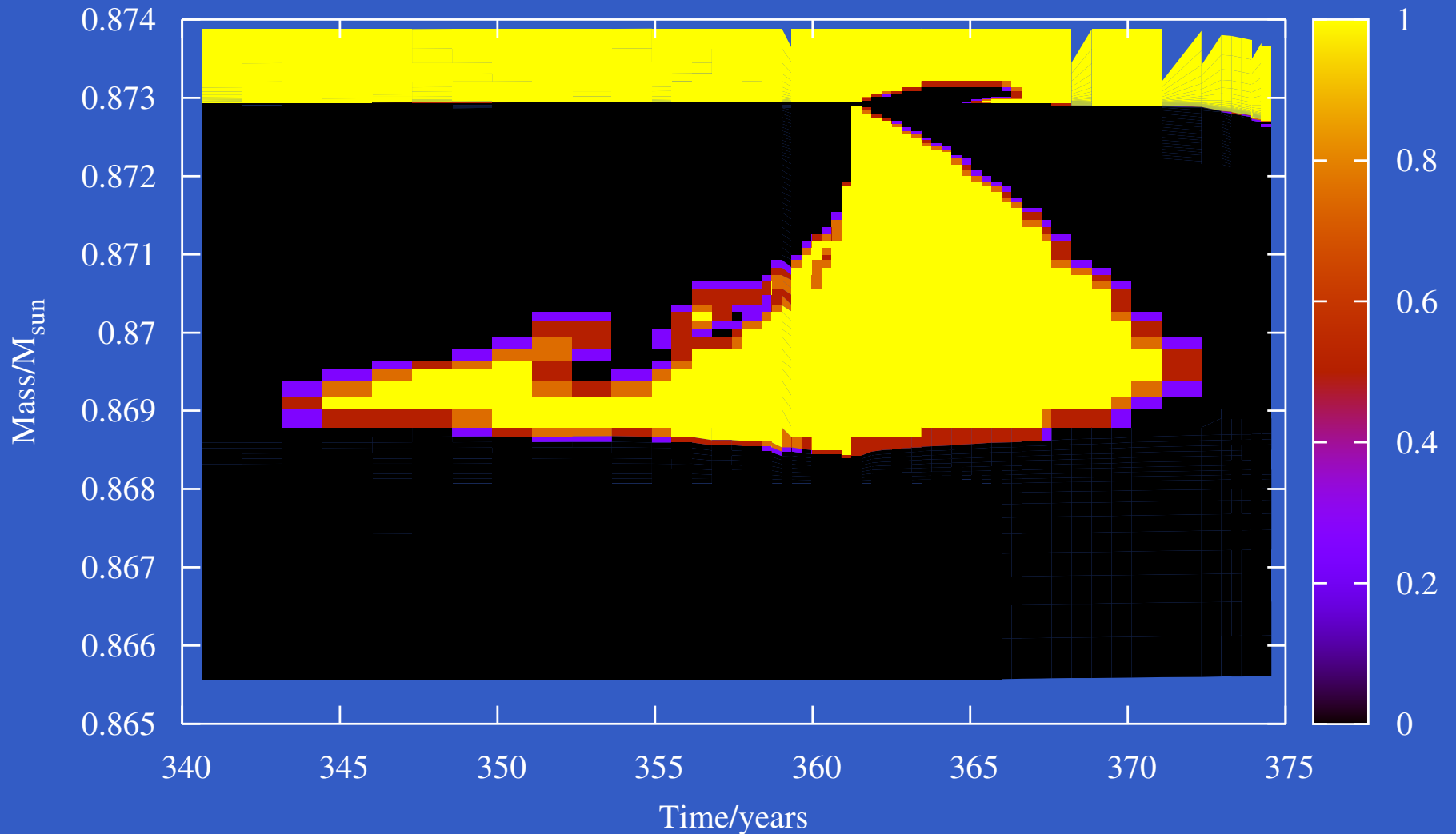
Thermal Pulse 19 ρ

Pulse 3 (Flash Only) : Density



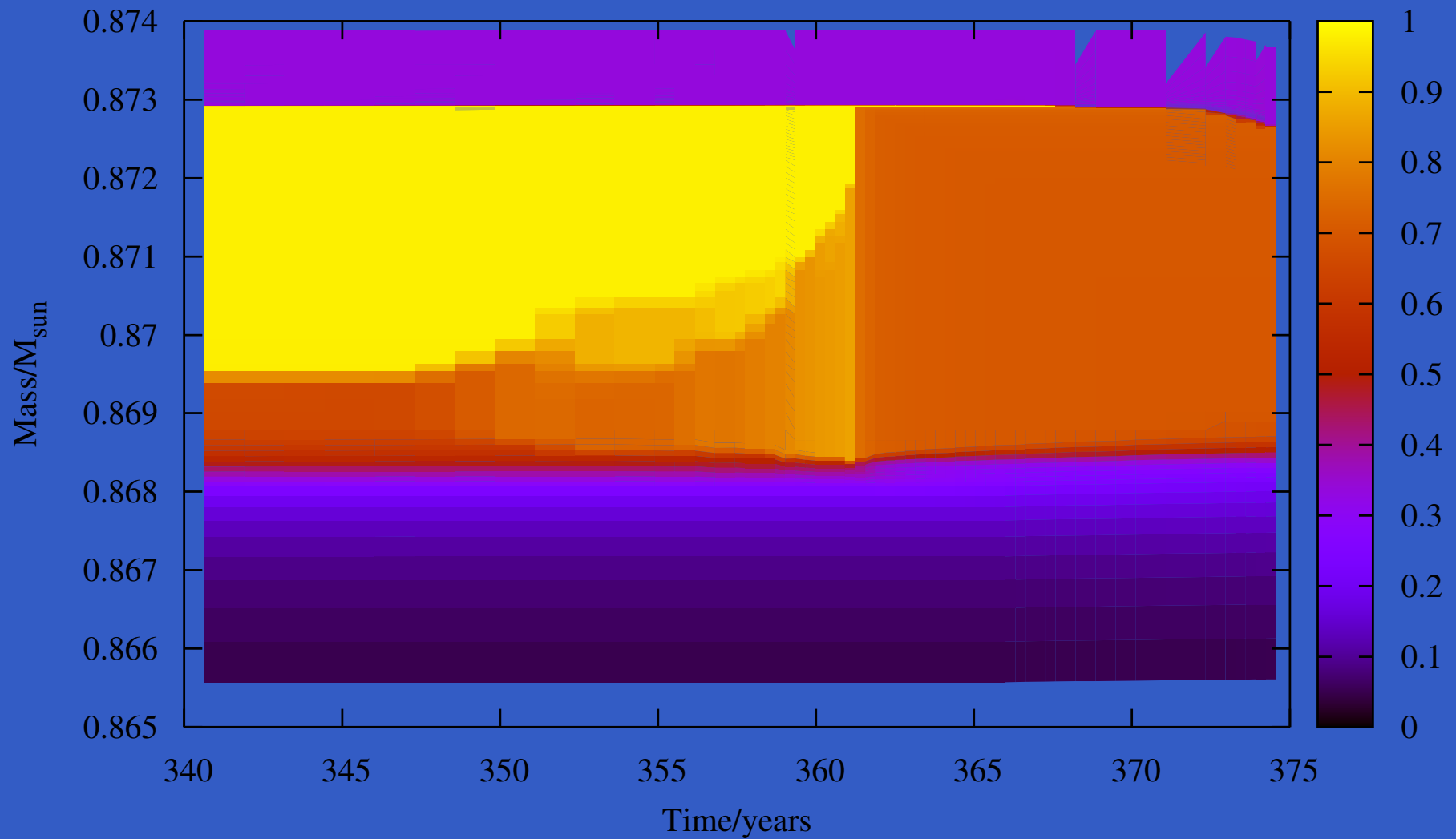
Thermal Pulse 19 Convection

Pulse 3 (Flash Only) : Convective Zones



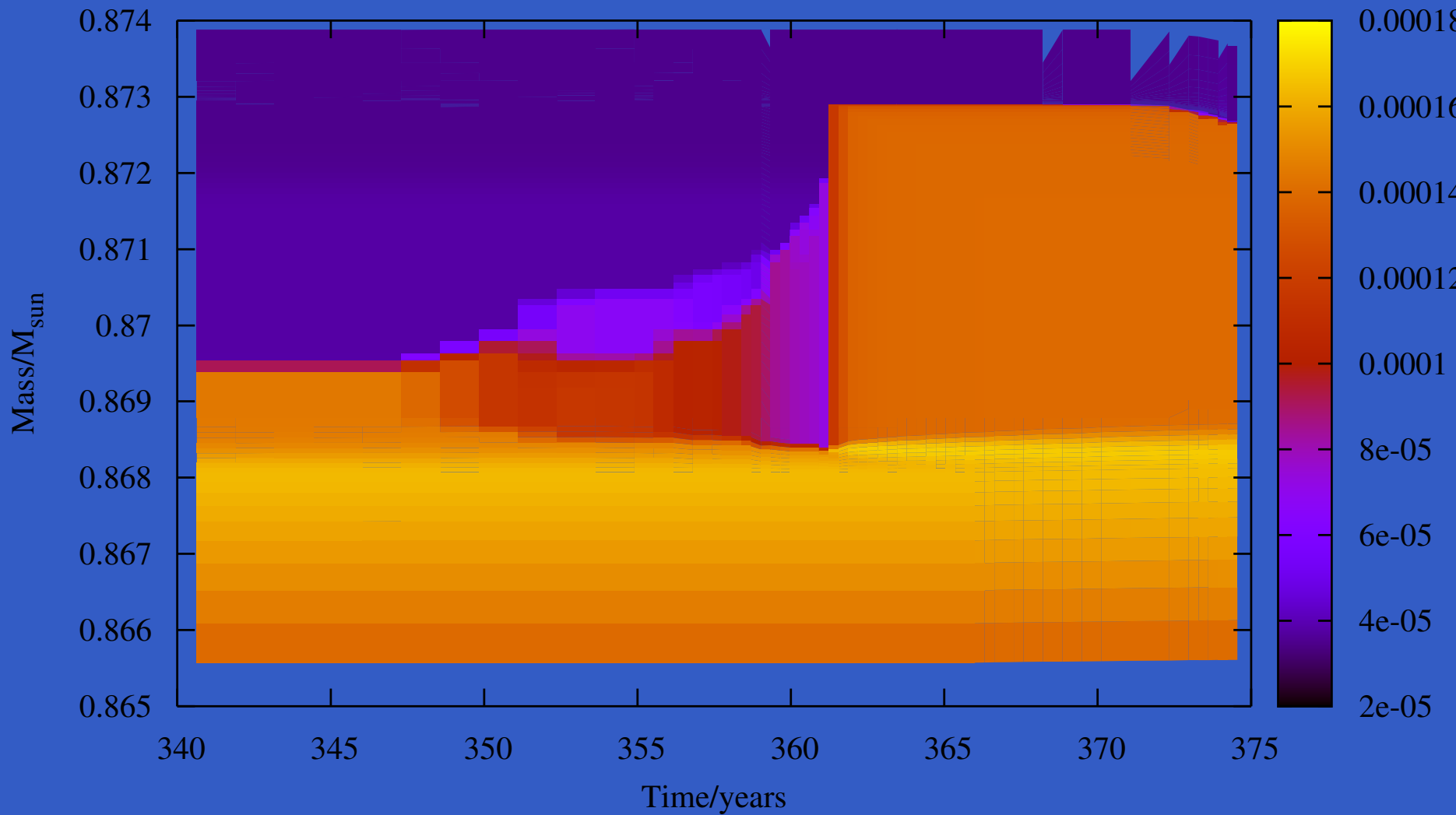
Thermal Pulse 19 ^4He

Pulse 3 (Flash Only) : ^4He



Thermal Pulse 19 ^{29}Si

Pulse 3 (Flash Only) : ^{29}Si



The end

