

# Surface and Circumstellar Magnetism of Cool Evolved Stars

## recent results and open questions



ESPaDOnS@CFHT



Narval@TBL



30m@IRAM



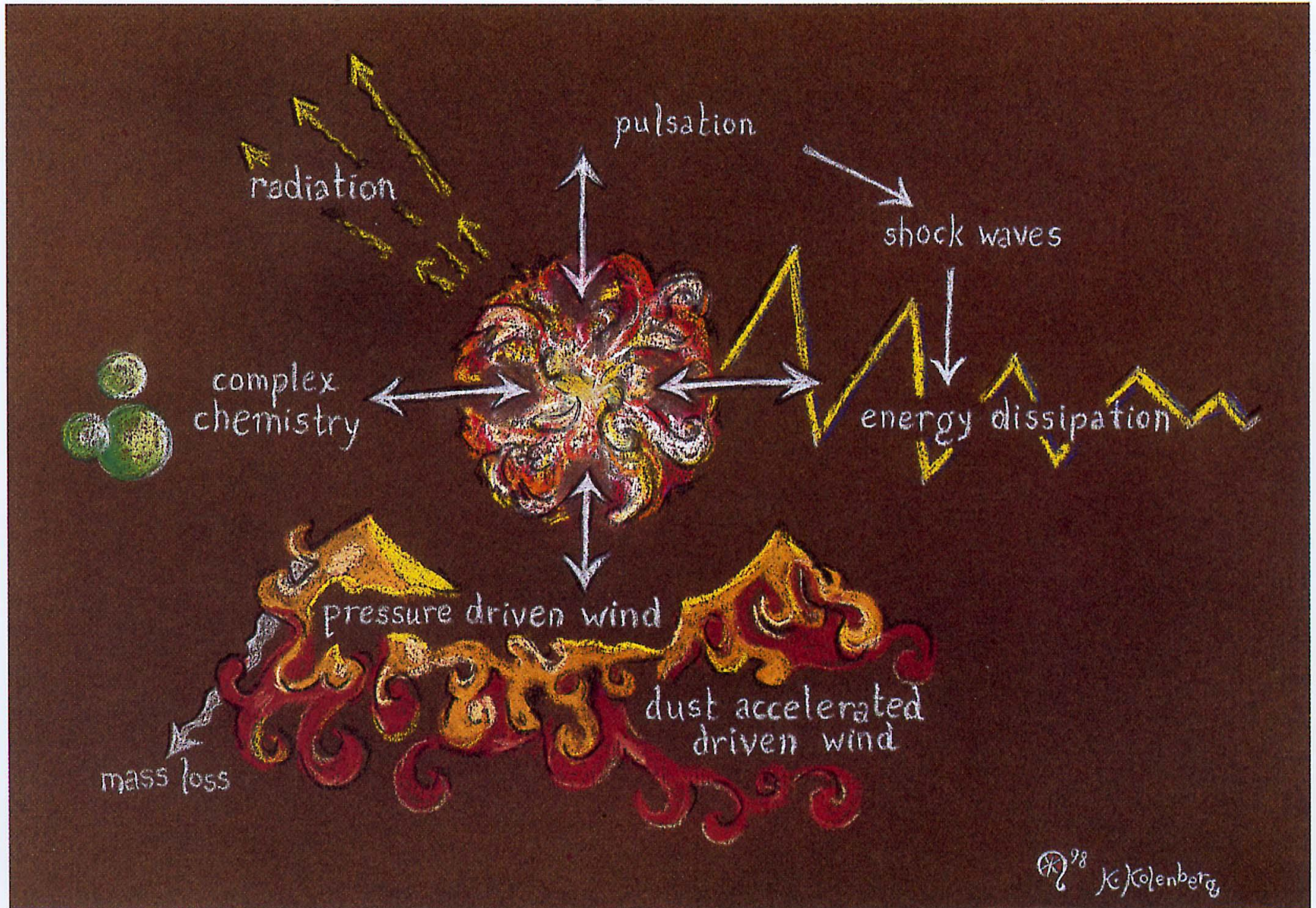
ALMA@ESO

***Agnès Lèbre, University of Montpellier, France***

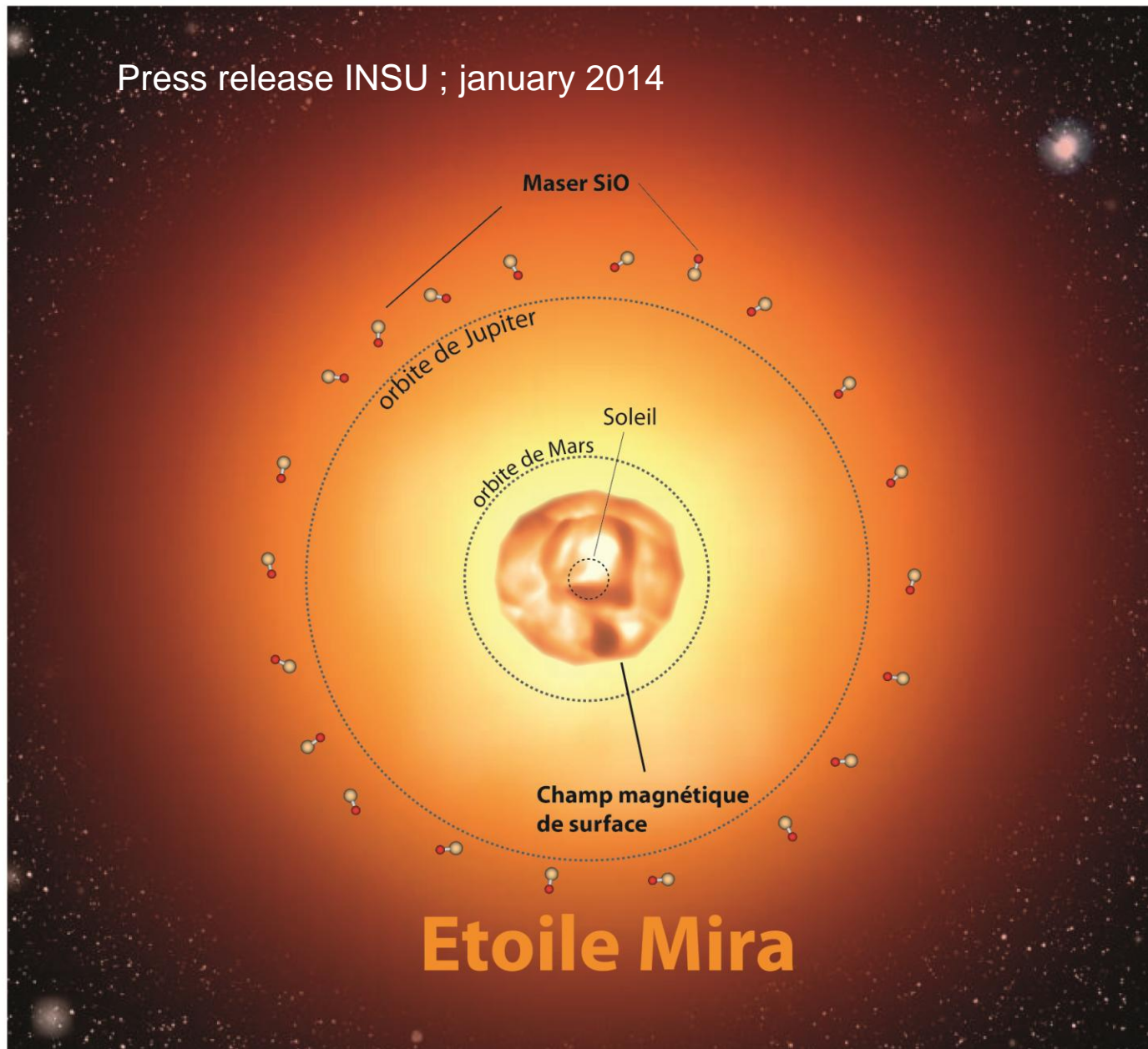
[Agnes.Lebre@umontpellier.fr](mailto:Agnes.Lebre@umontpellier.fr)



# The old AGB picture ! IAU Symposium in Montpellier (1998)



Press release INSU ; january 2014



# Outline :

**-Cool Evolved stars** : sharing main characteristics and physical processes

- **Magnetism in Circumstellar Envelopes** (Radioastronomy)

- **Surface Magnetic Fields** (Spectropolarimetry)

- **Tracing Zeeman effect with circular polarisation** (Stokes V)

-**RGB & early-AGB magnetic fields**

Active giants (global dynamo)  
Descendant of Ap stars (magneto-convection)

-**TP-AGB magnetic fields (Mira stars)**

-**Post-AGB stars (RV Tauri stars) / PN magnetism**

Amplification  
by shock waves ?

-**RSG magnetic fields (special focus : Betelgeuse)**

Turbulent dynamo

- **Perspectives and New Challenges**



# Cool Evolved Stars

## Convection

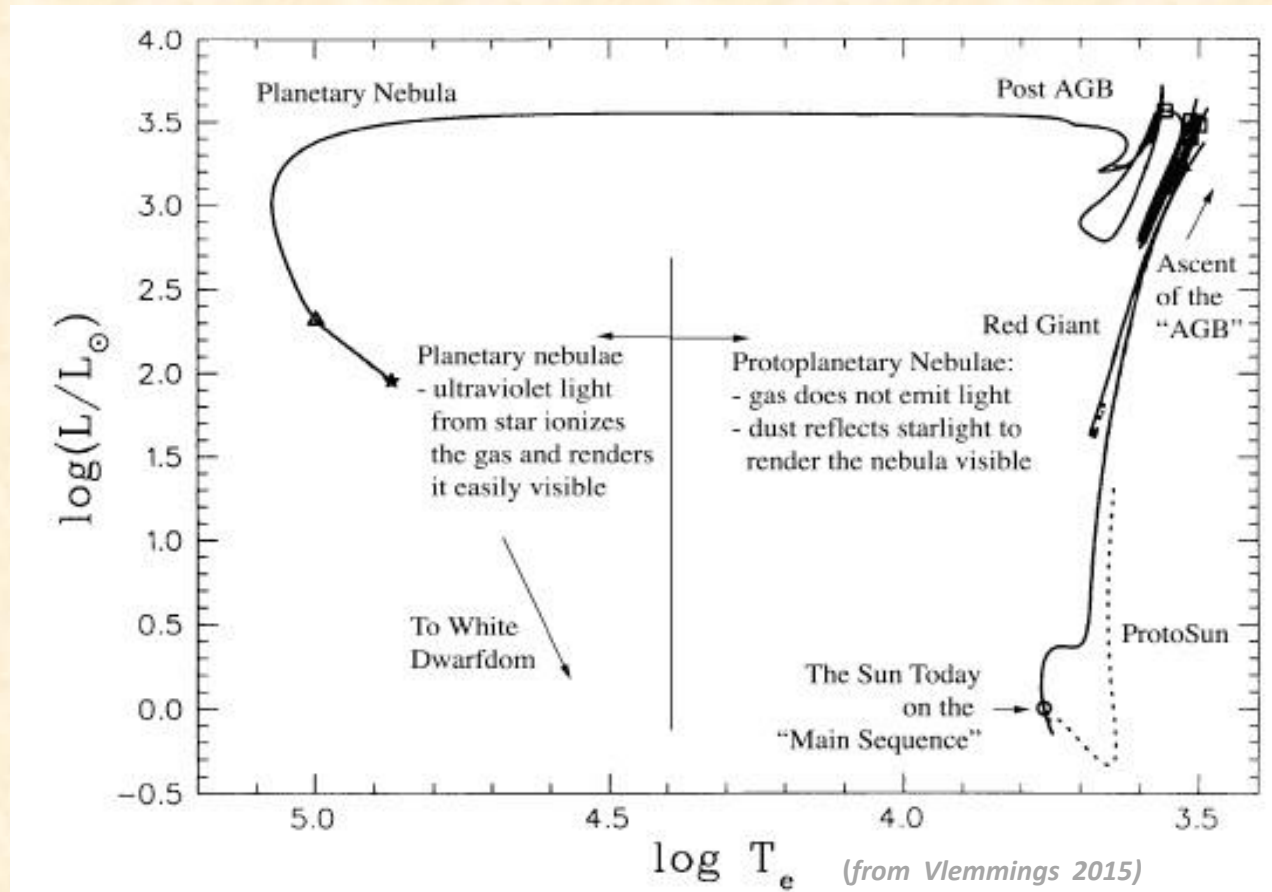
Large-scale convective motions in an extended atmosphere, with few giant cells covering the surface (Freytag & Höfner, 2008)

**Pulsation** (Mira/RV Tauri) periodically generate radiative shocks waves => convection-pulsation

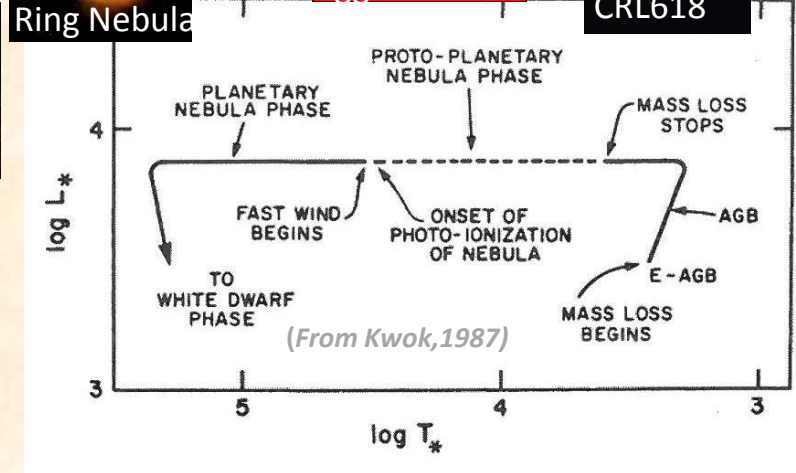
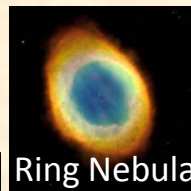
**Mass loss** Heavy mass loss : radiation pressure on dust (Höfner, 2011) levitation due to shocks

**WHAT ELSE ... ?**

Evolutionary path of an **intermediate mass star** before its transition toward the Planetary Nebulae stage.



# Cool Evolved Stars



(HST images)

## During the transition from AGB to PN :

- Severe change of the morphology of the circumstellar envelope (departure from spherical symmetry)
- Evidences of magnetically collimated outflows

**Binarity ? Magnetic fields ? Both ?**

and

**Observational evidences of magnetic fields around AGB, post-AGB, pre-PNe and PNe**

**Magnetic Fields at the Surface of cool and evolved stars ?**



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# Circumstellar Magnetic Fields

Magnetic field strength and structure from

**Circular polarization** (generated through Zeeman splitting)

=> Line of sight component of Magnetic Field + constraints on its geometry

Best tracers

(compactness and strength) :  
**maser circular polarization**  
 (sub)-mm regime

typical molecules  
 probing different zones in CSE

**SiO, H<sub>2</sub>O, OH** for O-rich stars

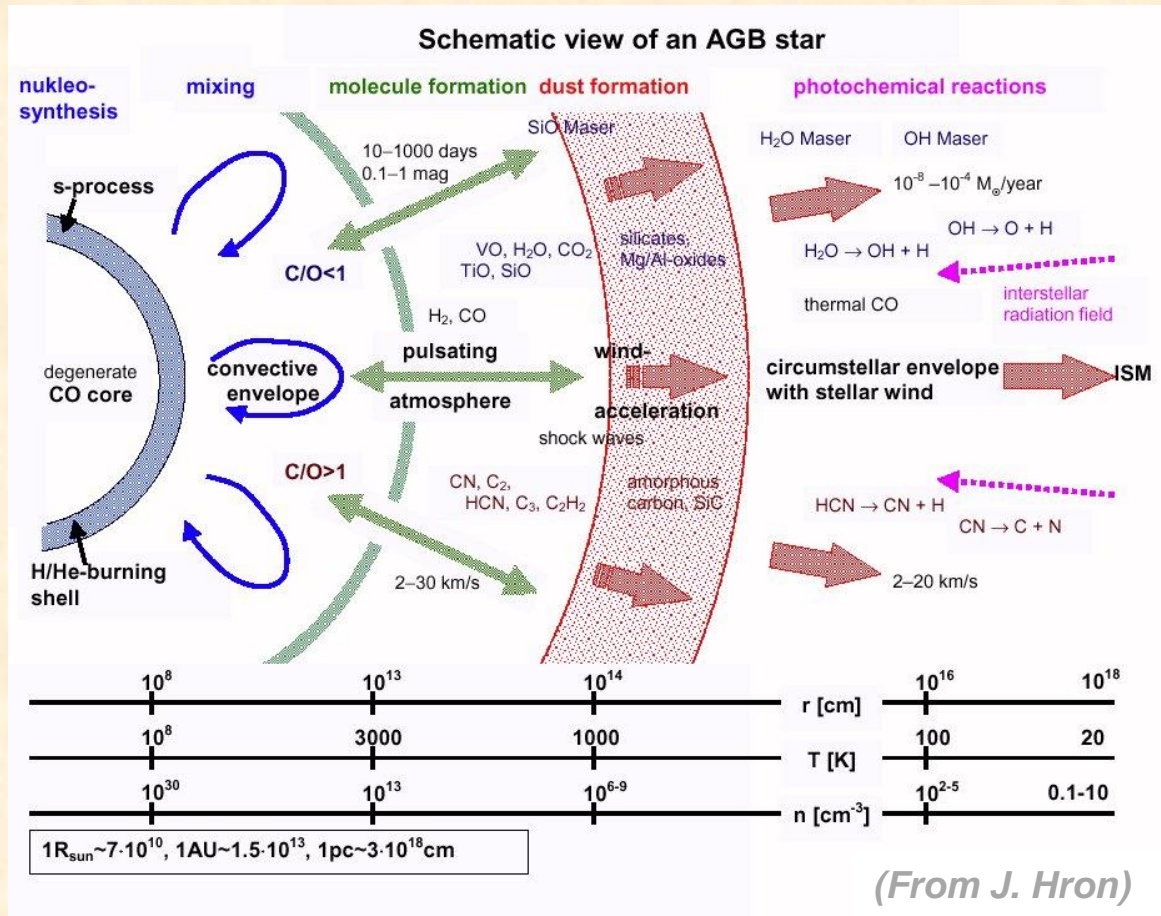
**CN lines** for C-rich stars

(Herpin, 2009 + PhD. A. Duthu)

1st attempt to detect

Zeeman splitting

of non-maser molecular lines



## Magnetic Field strength in AGB envelopes

### O-rich Miras :

SiO at  $2 R^*$

$B \sim 3.5$  (up to 10s) G

Assuming Zeeman

H<sub>2</sub>O at  $\sim 5-80$  AU

$B \sim 0.1 - 2$  G

OH at 100-10 000 AU

$B \sim 1-10$  mG

### C-rich Miras :

CN at  $\sim 2\ 500$  AU

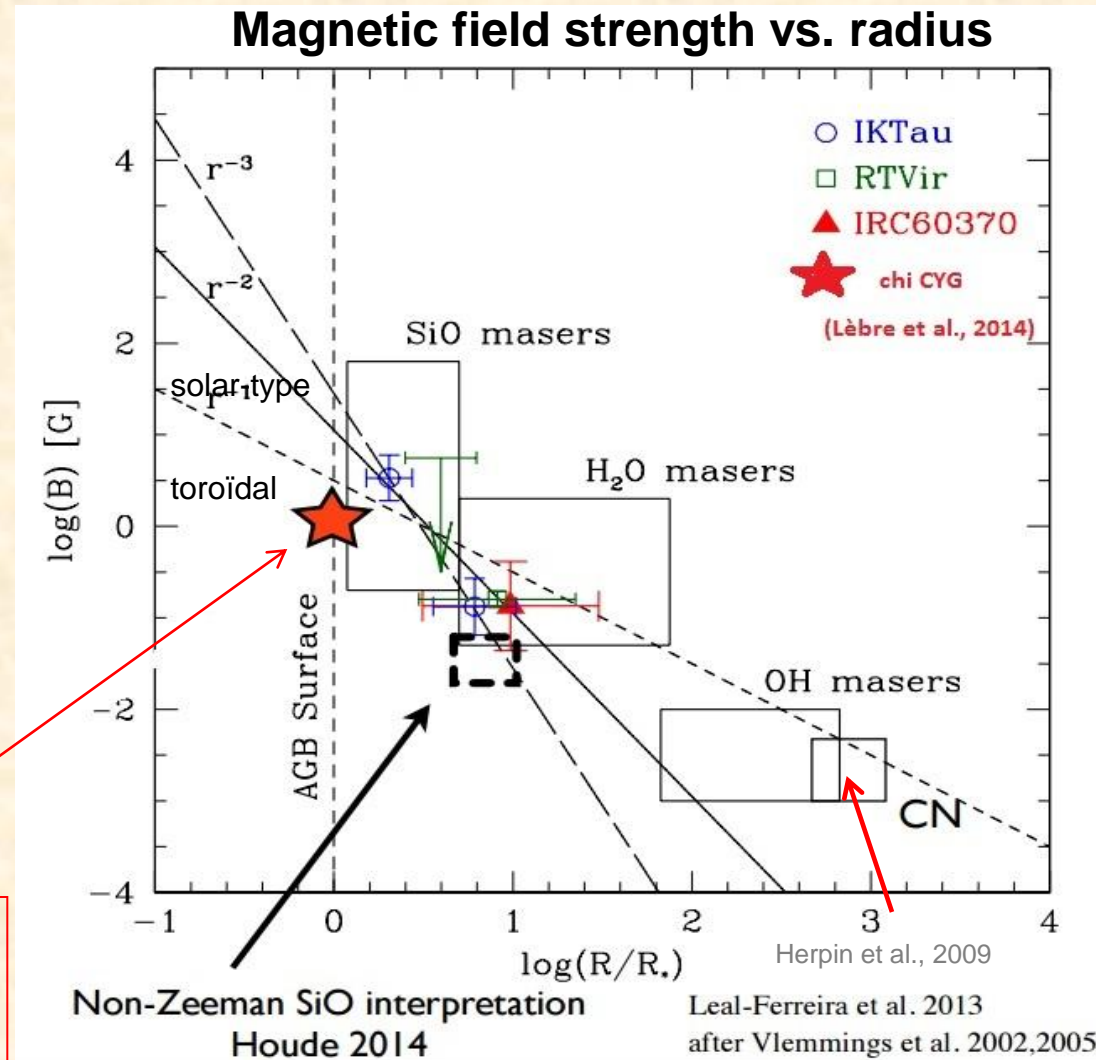
$B \sim 7-10$  mG

Geometry of the field :

Toroidal field  $B \sim 1/r$

### → Extrapolation ?

the magnetic field strength at the stellar surface of Miras could be of the order of a few G.



## Circumstellar Magnetic Fields

Magnetic field strength and structure from

**Linear polarization** (generated through anisotropy with/without magnetic field)  
=> Structure of the plane of sky component of Magnetic Field

Observed both

-in the dust (through aligned grains) => strength of MF

- in the molecular lines (through radiation anisotropy and small Zeeman splitting)  
= Goldreich-Kylafis effect (*Kylafis, 1983*)

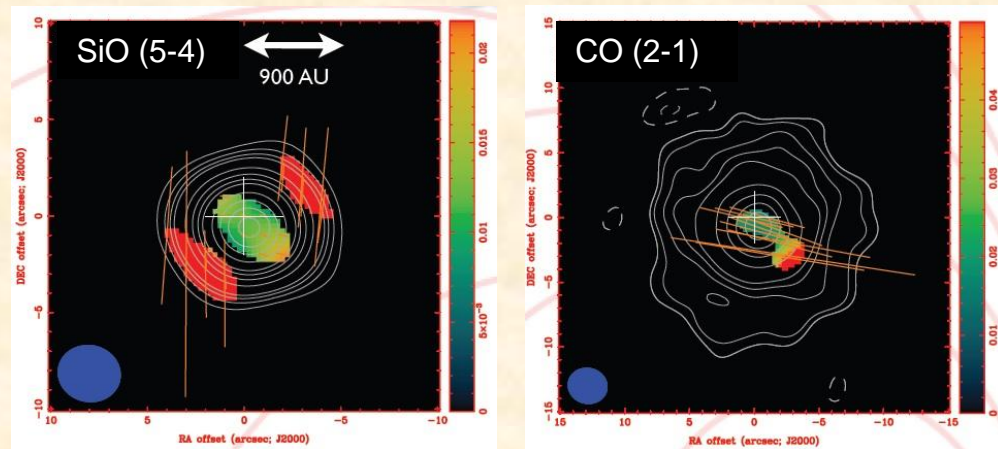
CO & SiO, H<sub>2</sub>O, OH masers => 3D field morphology (in few specific cases)

e.g., 1rst map (SMA) of GK effect in CO lines on the Mira IK Tau (*Vlemmings+2012*)  
IK Tau shows consistent large scale field from thermal SiO out to CO(2-1)

Now with ALMA !

On the Mira X Cyg  
(*Tafoya, Vlemmings in prep.*)

Toward a full description  
of the circumstellar  
magnetic field structure !



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  - **RGB & early-AGB magnetic fields**
  - **TP-AGB magnetic fields (Mira stars)**
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  - **RSG magnetic fields (special focus : Betelgeuse)**
- **Perspectives and New Challenges**

# Surface Magnetic Fields (spectropolarimetry)



ESPaDOnS@CFHT  
2004+  
3.60m Telescope



Narval@TBL  
2006+  
2m Telescope



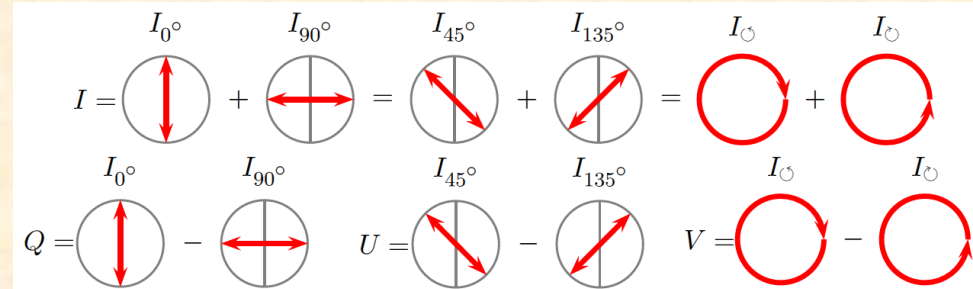
HARPSpol@ESO  
2009+  
3.60m Telescope

Spectral Range : 375 – 1050 nm  
Spectral Resolution : 65 000

Spectral Range : 380 – 690 nm  
Spectral Resolution : 115 000

Simultaneous measurements in two polarisation states :

⇒ Stokes I (unpolarised) spectrum  
+ Stokes V (circular)  
or Stokes U (linear) } polarised spectrum  
or Stokes Q (linear)



⇒ Polarisation (circular or linear) **within spectral (atomic) lines**  
Polarimetric sensitivity  $\sim 10^{-4}$  of the unpolarised continuum

# Tracing Zeeman Effect with Circular Polarisation

Mean Zeeman shift of a transition

$$\Delta\lambda_B = \frac{\lambda_0^2 e B}{4\pi m_e c^2} = 4.67 \times 10^{-12} \lambda_0^2 g_{eff} B$$

$g_{eff}$ : Landè factor (sensitivity of a transition to B)

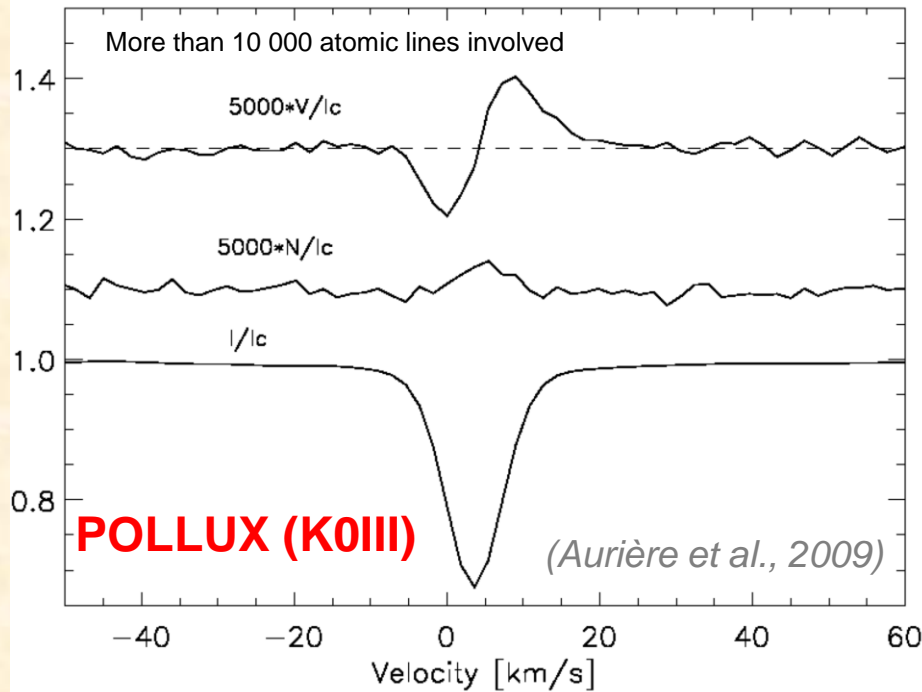
If **weak magnetic field** ( $< 100$  G) :

Polarised signatures undetectable at the level of individual lines

**=> A multiplex approach** over the observed spectral range (thousands of atomic lines involved through a LSD Mask)

The Least Square Deconvolution (L.S.D.)  
(Donati et al., 1997)

## Zeeman detection : sub-Gauss field

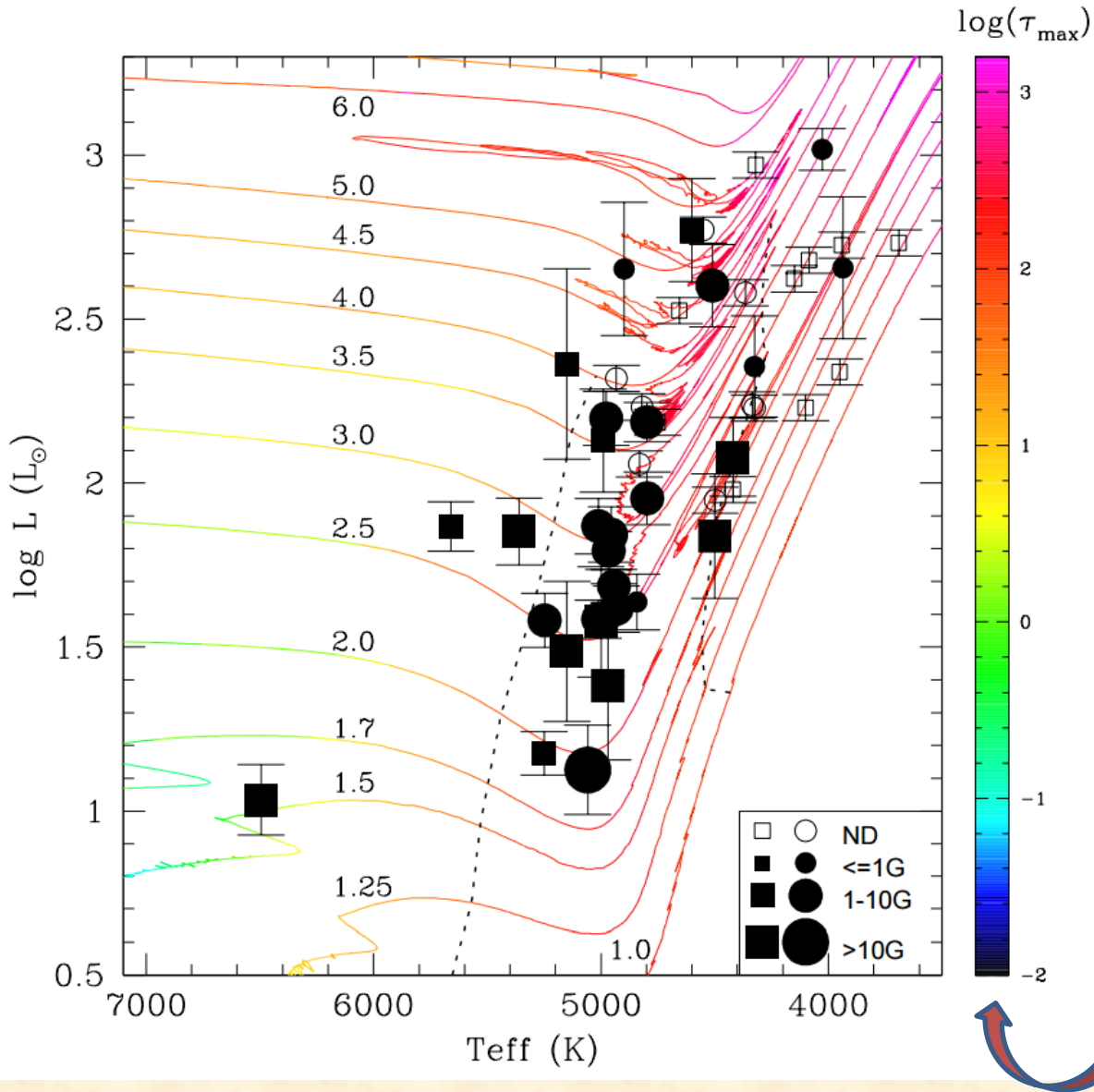


Estimation of  $B_l$ , the **Longitudinal Component of the Magnetic Field** :

$$B_l(G) = -2.14 \times 10^{11} \frac{\int v V(v) dv}{\lambda_0 g_{eff} c \int [I_c - I(v)] dv}$$

First-order moment method  
(Rees & Semel, 1979)  
adapted to LSD profiles.

# RGB & AGB surface magnetic fields (Aurière et al, 2015, A&A 574, A90)



Sample of 48 single G-K giants  
(24 with activity signatures)

29 Zeeman detections  
(with Narval/ESPaDOs)



The most active magnetic giants are concentrated in a  
« Magnetic Strip » ?

1st Dredge-up and  
Core Helium burning phases.

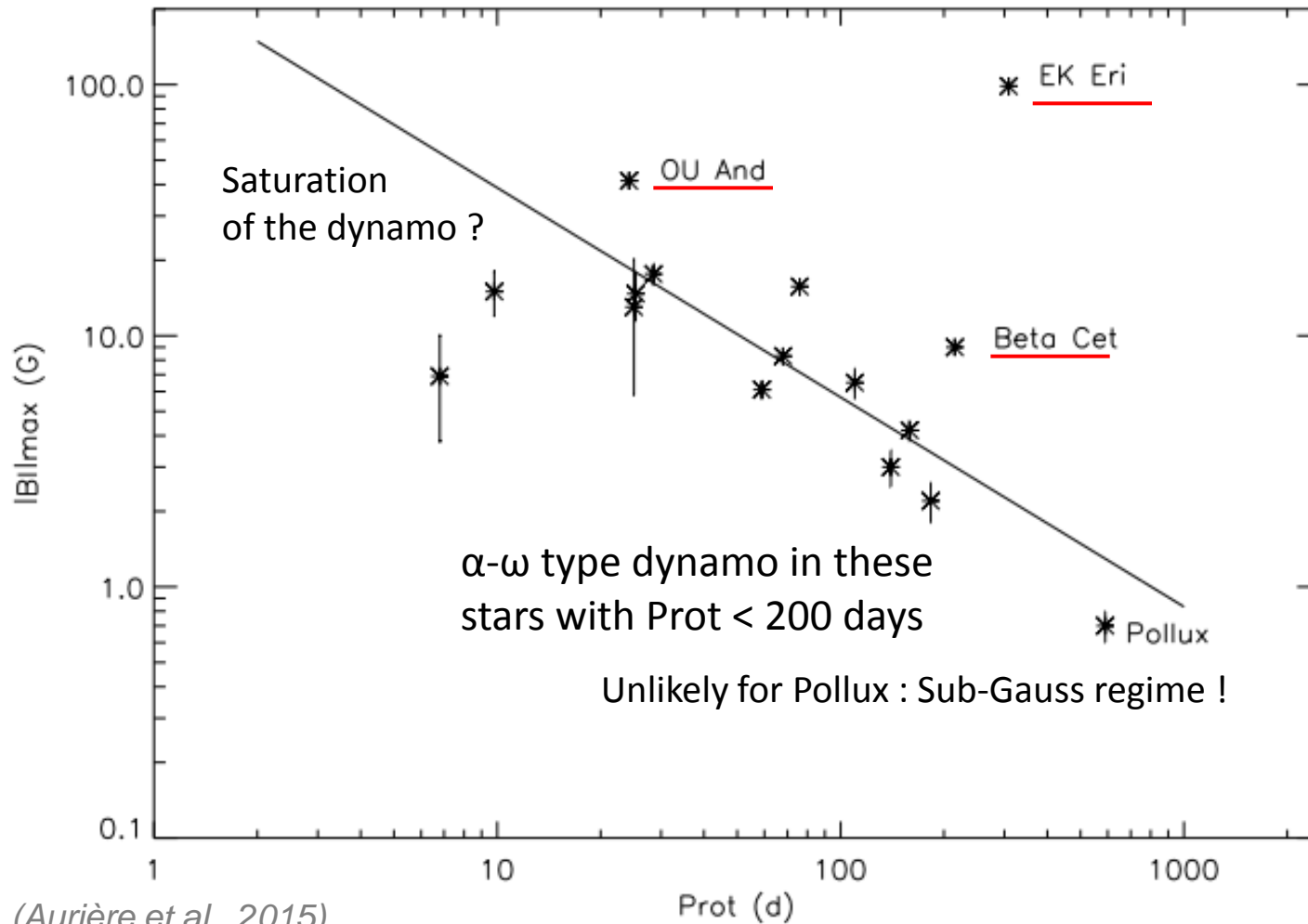
Evolutionary models  
Solar metallicity with rotation  
(from C. Charbonnel et al.)

Convective turnover timescale

$$\tau_{\max} = (\alpha H_p) / V_{\text{conv}}$$

# Preliminary trends with rotation from 16 G-K Giants

with known rotational period ( $P_{rot}$  from few 10s of days to few 100s of days)



(Aurière et al., 2015)

Ap star  
descendant  
candidates :

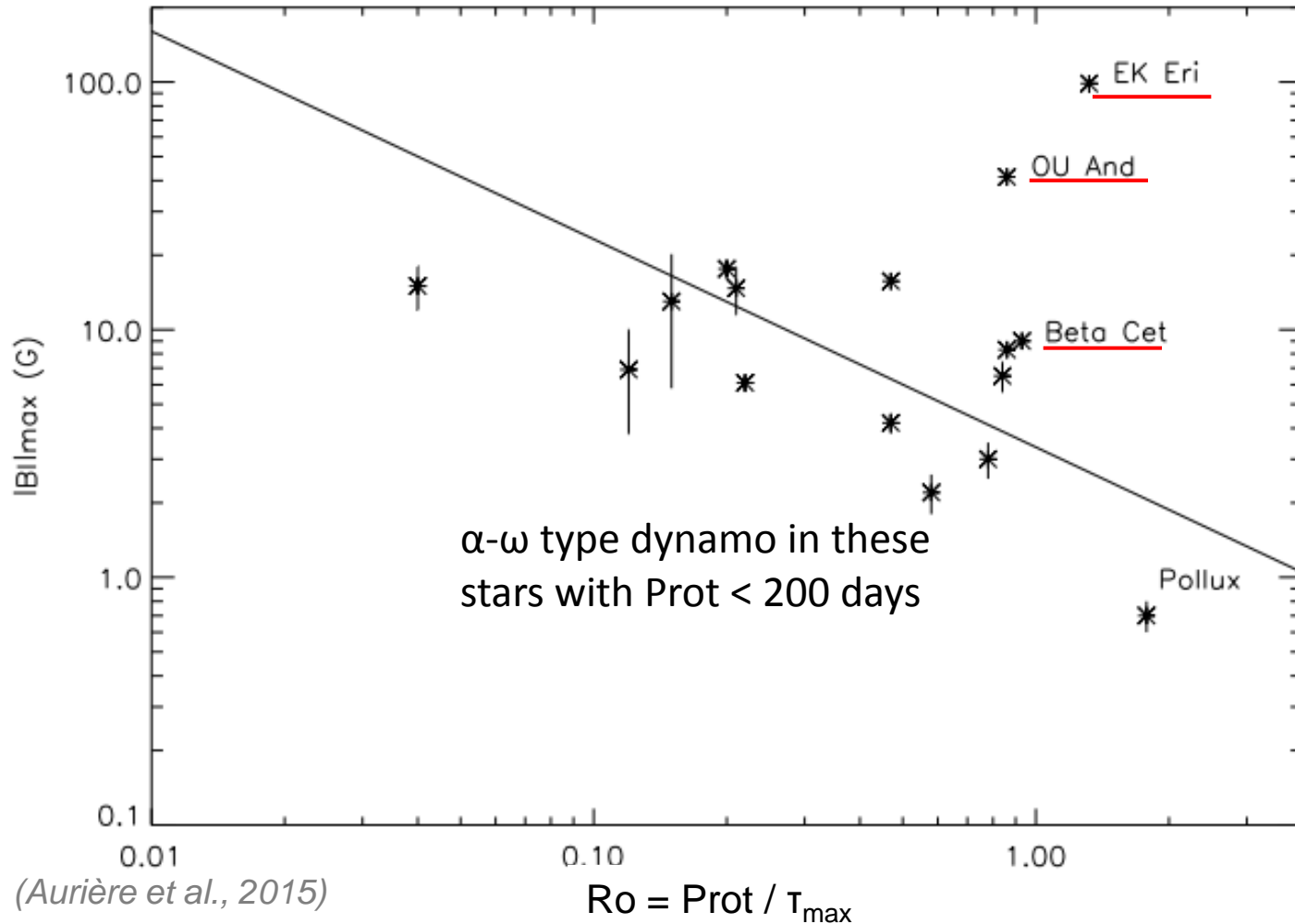
fossil field  
interacting  
with convection

(Aurière et al., 2011;  
Tsetkova et al., 2013)



# Preliminary trends with rotation from 16 G-K Giants

with known rotational period ( $P_{rot}$  from few 10s of days to few 100s of days)



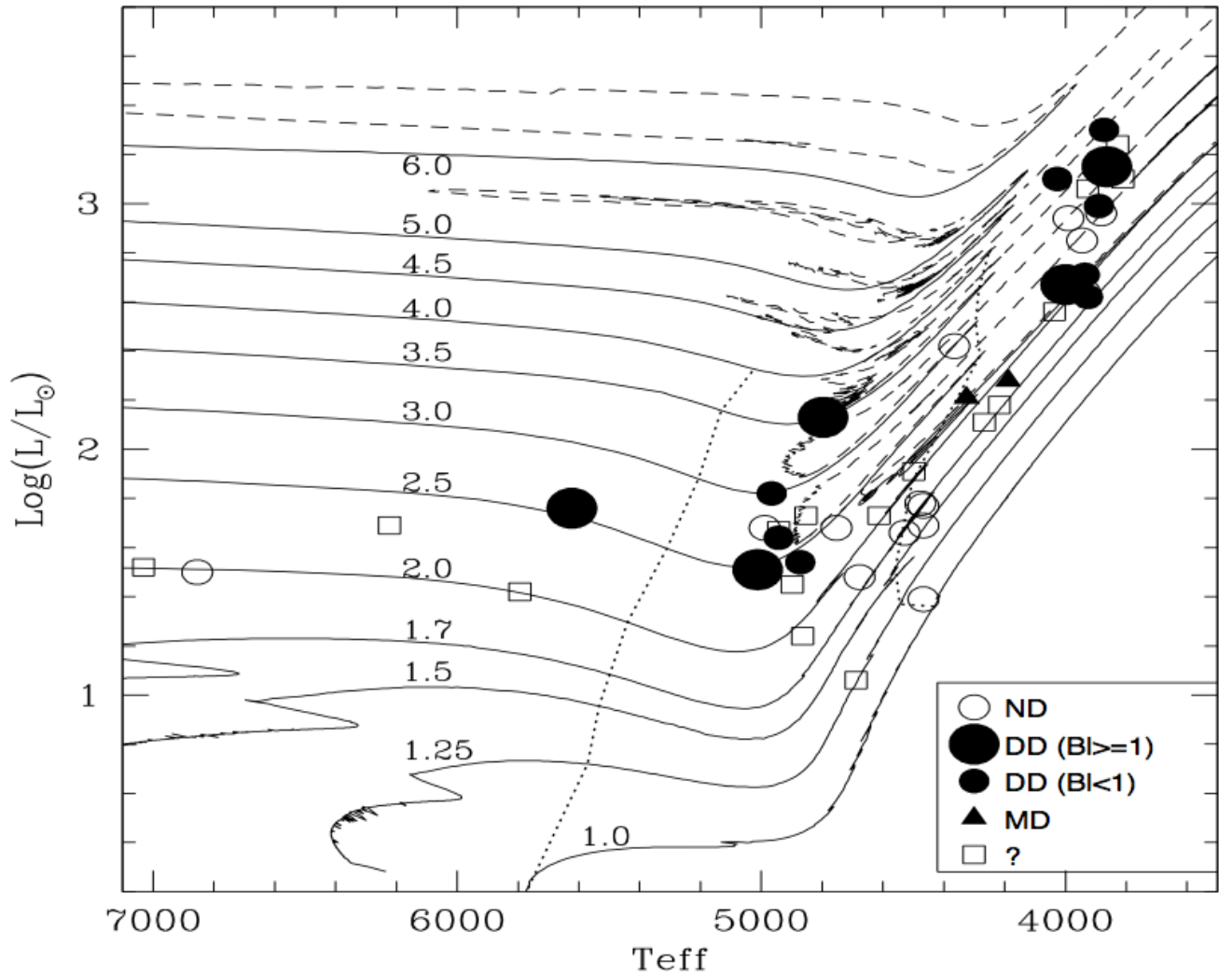
Ap star  
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candidates :

fossil field  
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(Aurière et al., 2011;  
Tsetkova et al., 2013)

$Ro$  :  
Rossby number  
Ratio of inertial to  
Coriolis force

**RGB & AGB surface magnetic fields** (Konstantinova-Antova et al. 2014, UAI 302)



Exploration of unbiased sample ( $\text{magV} < 4$ )

40 Red Giants (with Narval/ESPaDOnS)



Magnetic RGB/AGB with  $B_l < 1$  Gauss (e.g. Pollux)

« 2<sup>nd</sup> magnetic strip » :

Tip RGB / AGB

- low surface rotation

- convection

⇒ Local dynamo ?

Transitory fields ?

**~ 50 % of RGB/AGB with a magnetic field at the Gauss level**  
**Magnetic field and activity is more common than expected !**

## Tip of AGB - Post-AGB stars -PNe

Detection of magnetic fields from Masers SiO & CN lines in their environment (Vlemmings+ 2011)

=> Geometry of the field :  $B \sim 1/r \dots$

(Herpin et al. 2006, 2009; Sabin et al., 2013)

=> Extrapolation toward the photosphere...

## Mira Stars

Common picture :

Hydrogen emission lines (Balmer) => shock wave propagation (atmospheric dynamics)

Time variable linear polarization associated to Balmer lines (Fabas et al., 2011)

### o Ceti and R Leo (M-type Miras)

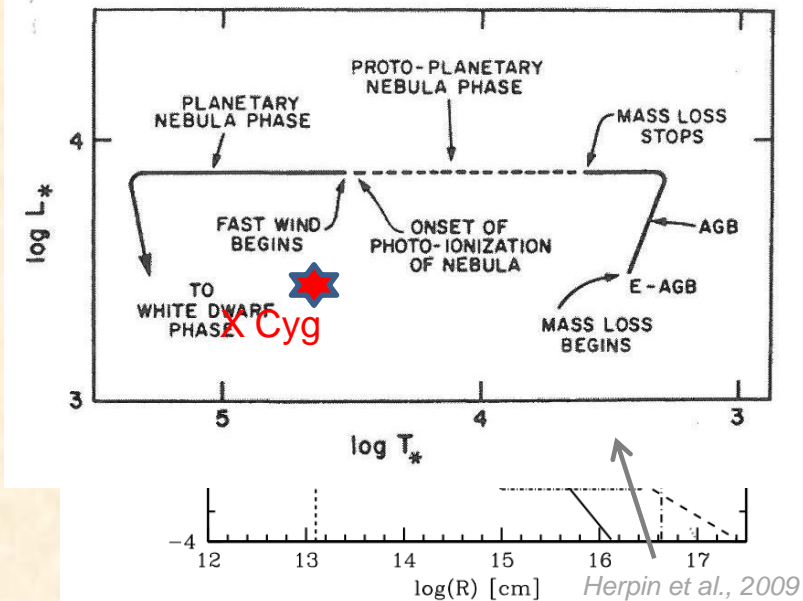
Photospheric magnetic field (~ a few G) expected from theoretical works

(Thirumalai & Heyl, 2013) but not detected (so far ?) with Narval

### χ Cyg (S-type Mira)

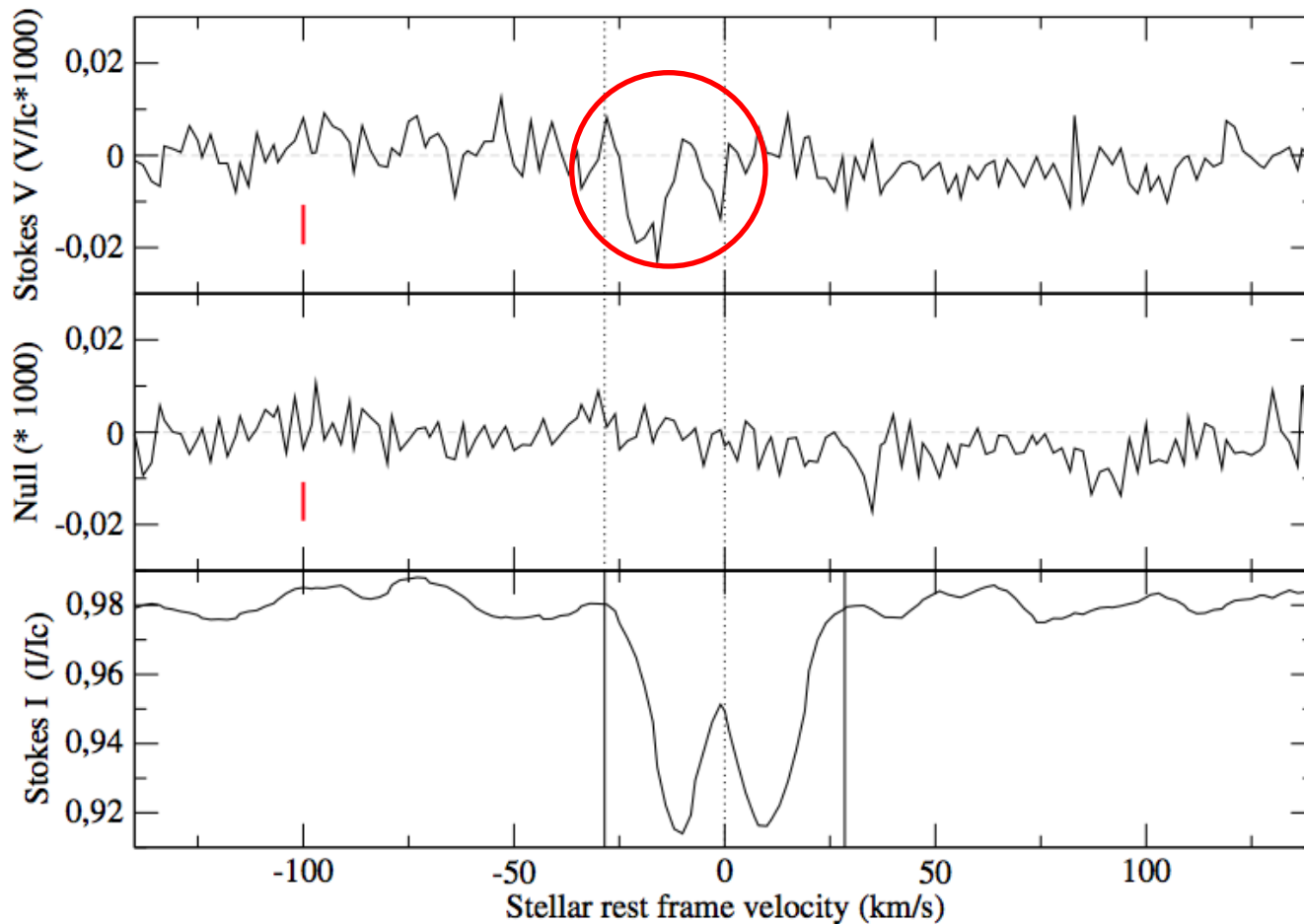
Detection of a weak photospheric magnetic field (Lèbre et al., 2014)

=> Connexion surface magnetic field - atmospheric shock wave



# First detection of a surface magnetic field on a Mira star

Narval observations of  $\chi$  Cyg around its 2012 maximum light



**Definite Detection**

$\chi^2=1.81$  ,  
 $\text{fap}=5.2 \cdot 10^{-10}$



**a (magnetic)  
Zeeman effect  
origin**

Surface field  
estimation : 2-3 G

**Stokes V signal : associated to the blue component of the I profile**

**Stokes I profile : typical line doubling of metallic lines due to a shock wave in the atmosphere.**

*(Lèbre et al. 2014, A&A 561, 85)*

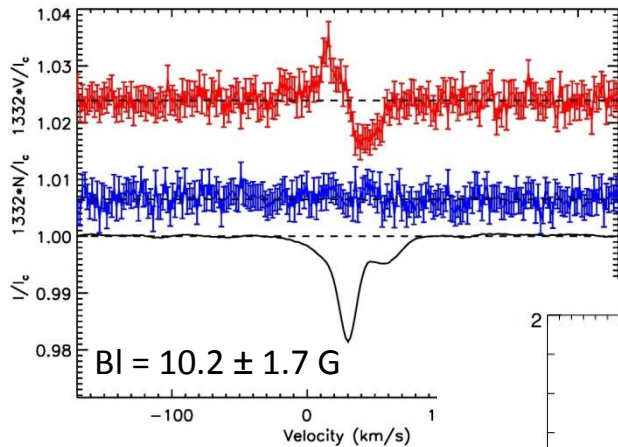
# Post-AGB stars (incl. Pulsating RV Tauri stars)

## RV Tauri stars

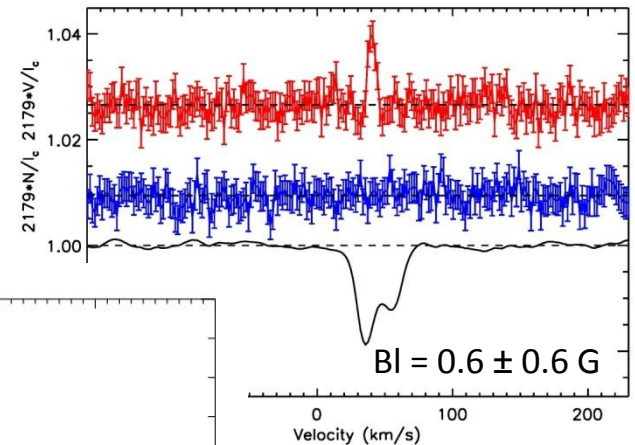
The first positive detections of a photospheric magnetic field (*Sabin et al., 2015*)

**U Mon** (ESPaDOnS april 2014)  
pulsation period ~ 92 days

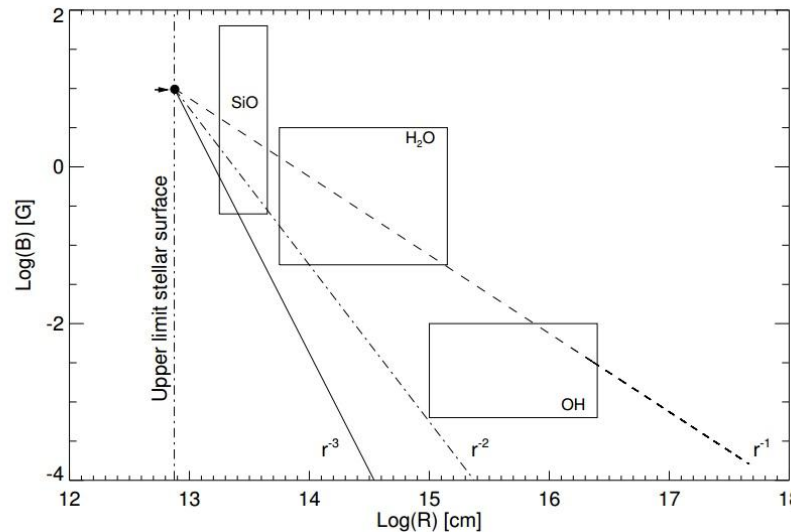
**R Sct** (Narval july 2014)  
pulsation period ~ 142 days



Impact of atmospheric shock waves?



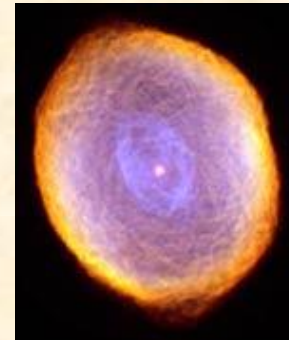
Prediction of maser strengths in the envelope of U Mon ?



Favoring again toroidal field  
(*Sabin et al., 2015*)

## ***Planetary Nebulae***

small-scale structures due to magnetic fields  
e.g. Spirograph nebula (*Huggins et al. 2011*)



## ***Central Star of Planetary Nebulae***

From FORS2@VLT (low resolution spectropolarimetry) :  
Early controversial detections (*Jordan+2012 ; Leone+2014*)

No strong global magnetic field (KG !) from a sample of 12 bright CSPN  
but marginal and weak fields (below 100 G) in 3 targets (*Steffen+2014*)

**Magnetic PN Shaping still not proven !**

Time to move to the massive counterparts ... RSG !

# Magnetic fields in Red Super Giants (RSG)

Red Supergiants :

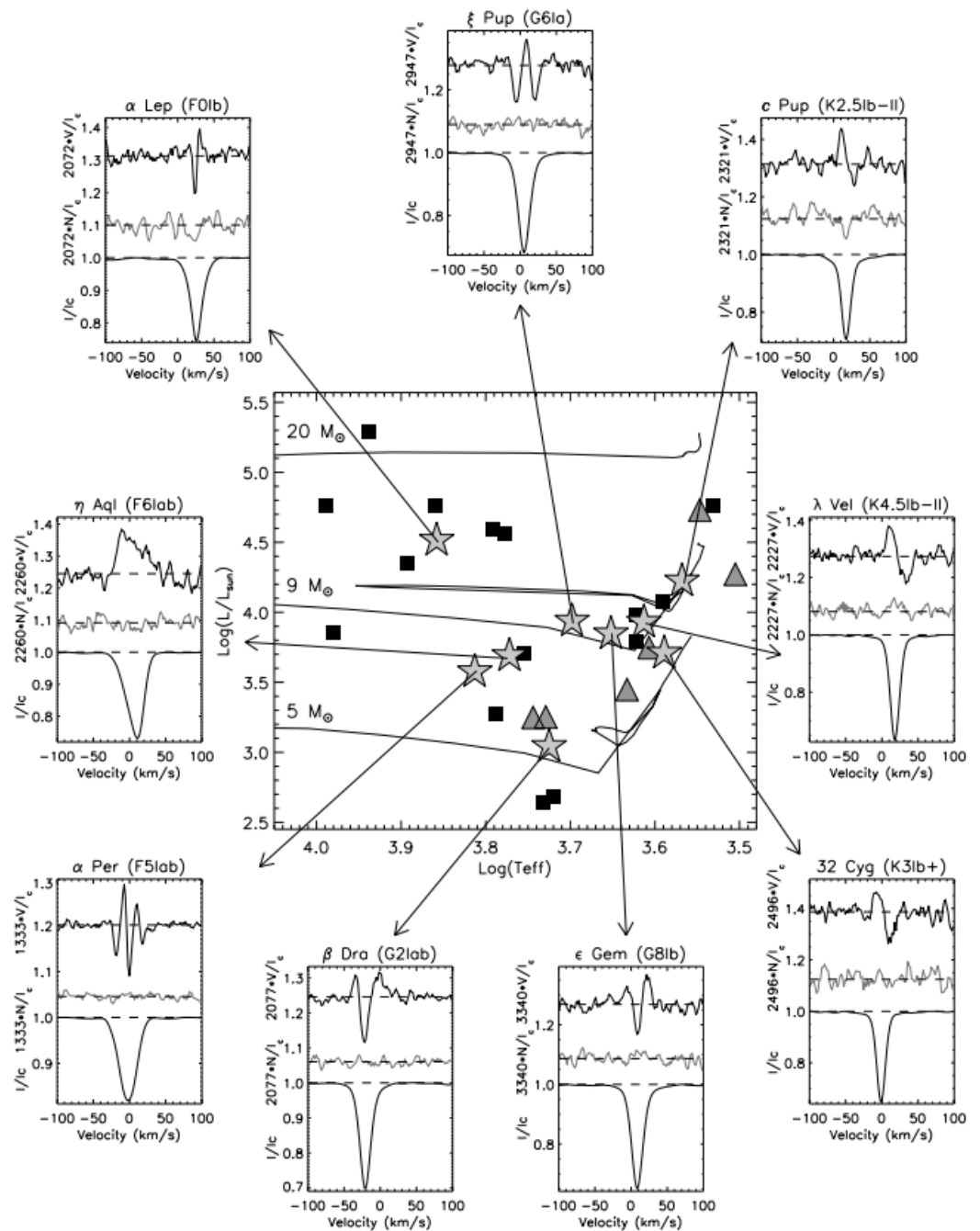
Are they all magnetic stars ?

Common occurrence of magnetic fields at the (sub-)Gauss level

in F- to K- type RSG.

(Grunhut et al. 2010)

In M-type RSG?



## Detection of Surface Field in Betelgeuse (M-type RSG)

$P_{\text{rot}} = 17$  years

(Kervella et al., 2009)

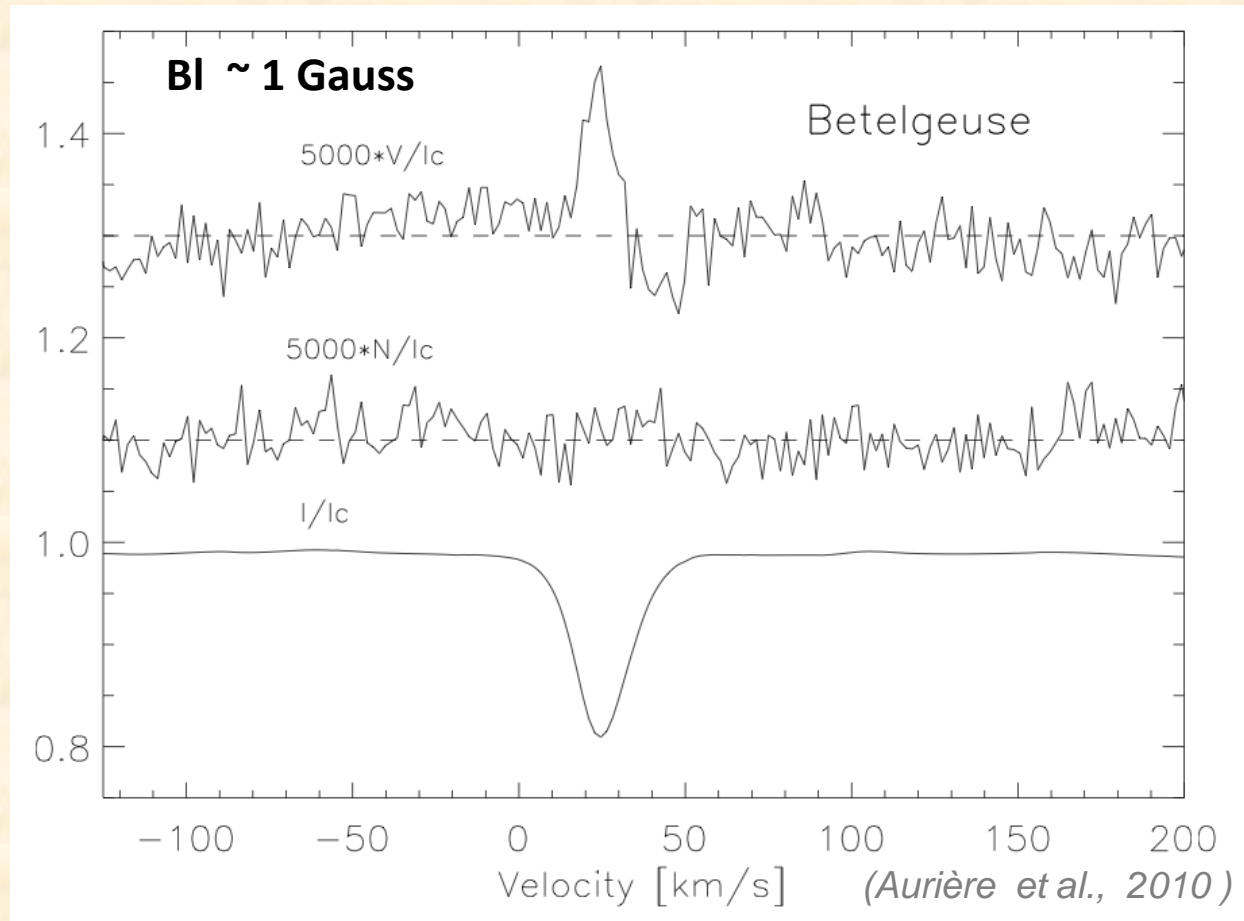
$Ro \sim P_{\text{rot}} / \tau_{\text{conv}}$

$\Rightarrow R_o \sim 90$

not able to sustain a  $\alpha$ - $\omega$  type dynamo

The large-scale convective motions can generate

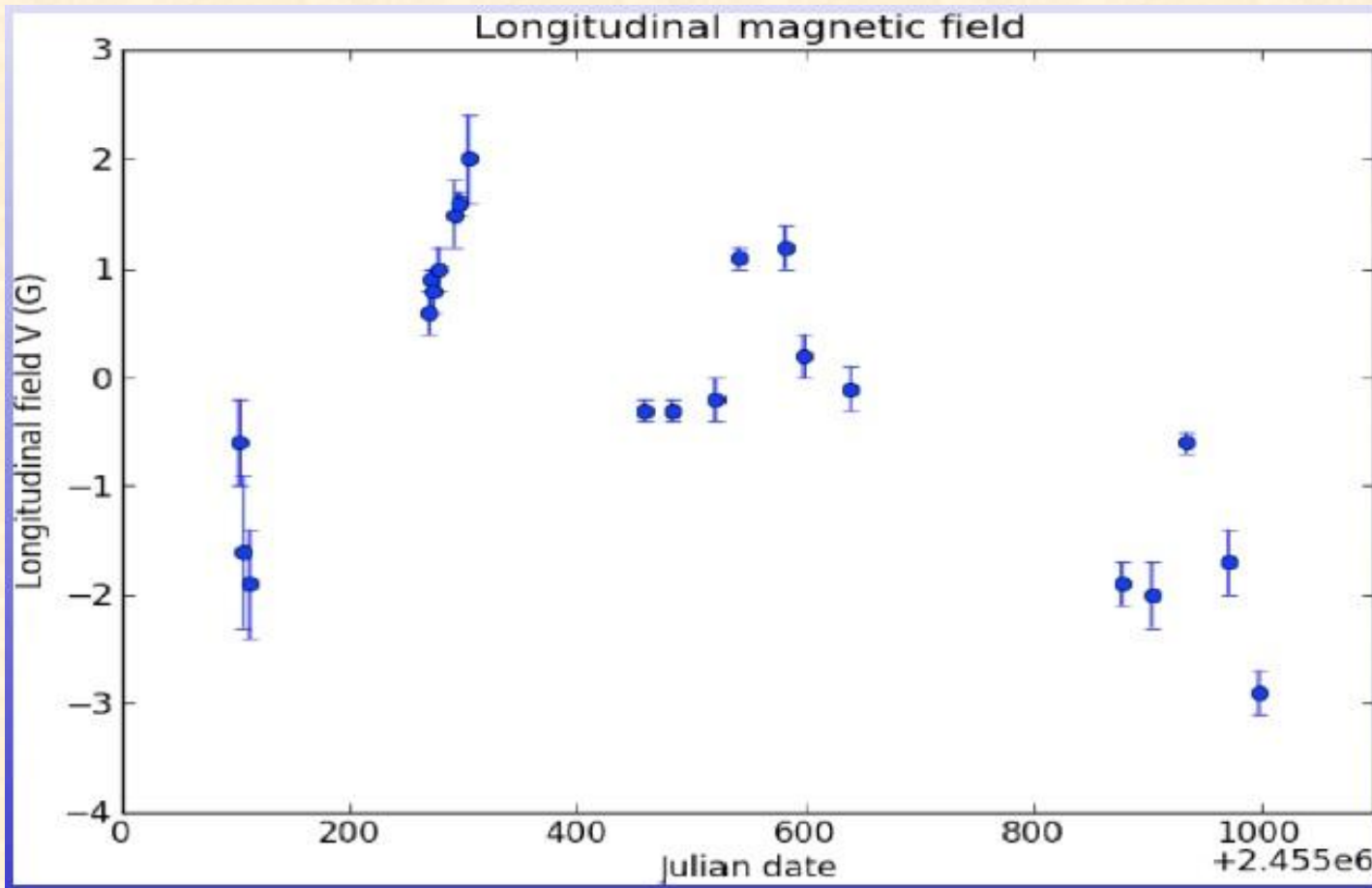
small-scale dynamo action, and thus transitory fields.



Geometry of magnetic field remains unknown !



## Variations of the Magnetic Field of Betelgeuse (2009-2012)



Field variability  
< 1 month !

(stellar rotation  
17 years !)

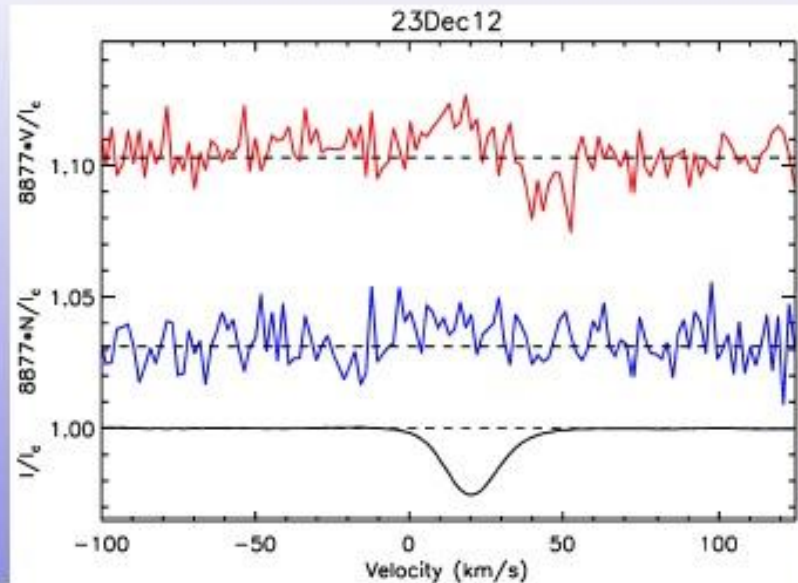
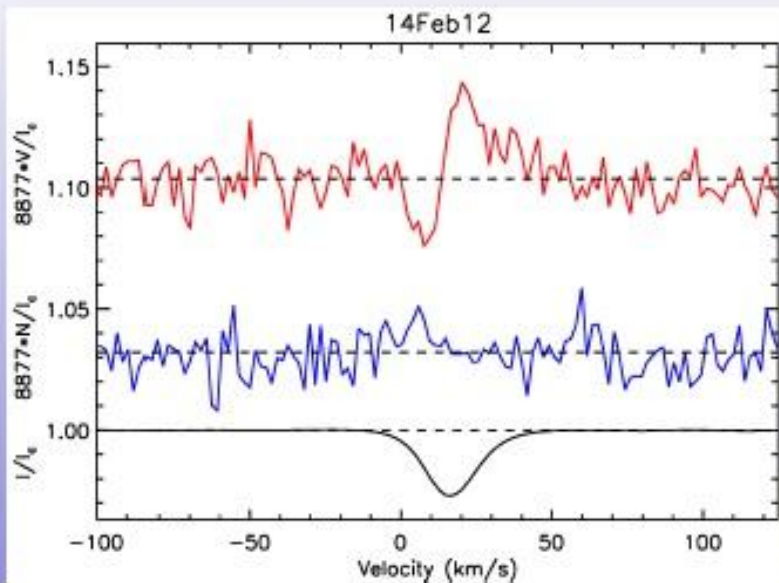


Consistent with  
convective  
timescales  
(Dorch & Freytag,  
2004)

(Bedecarrax et al., 2013) + long term monitoring in progress with a Large program Narval

(Mathias et al., in preparation)

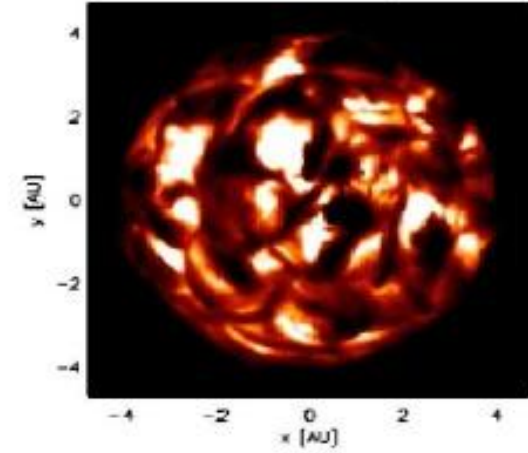
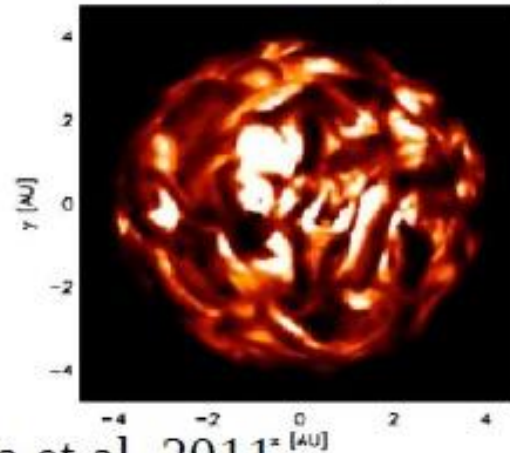
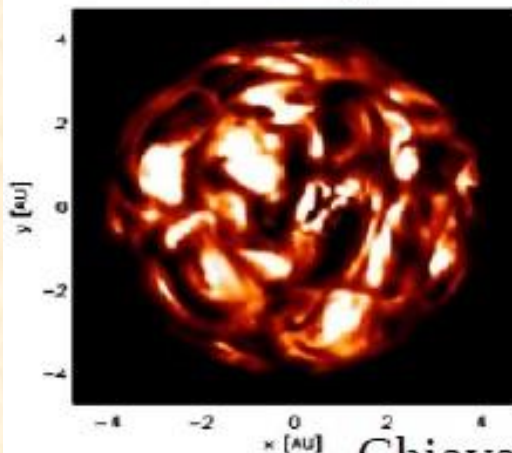
# Field Variations at the Surface of Betelgeuse



Time: 21.976 years

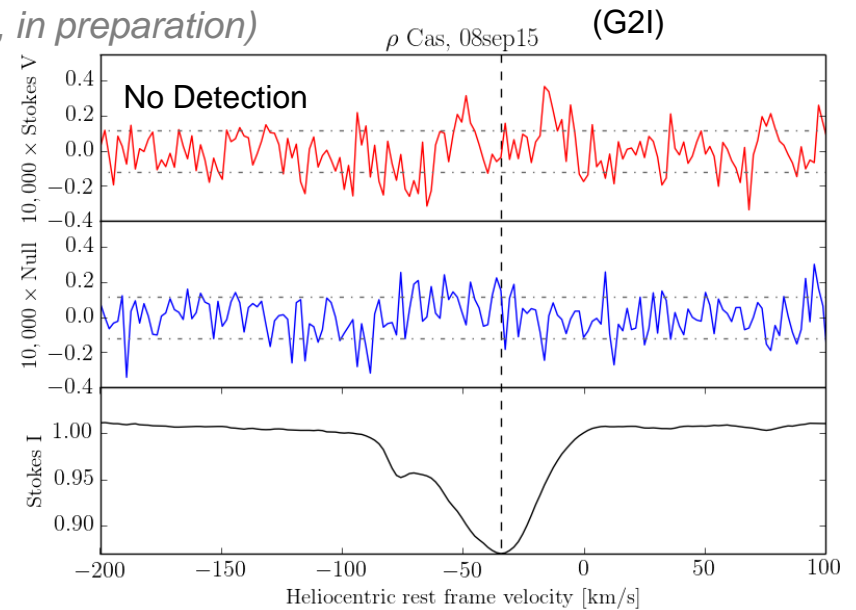
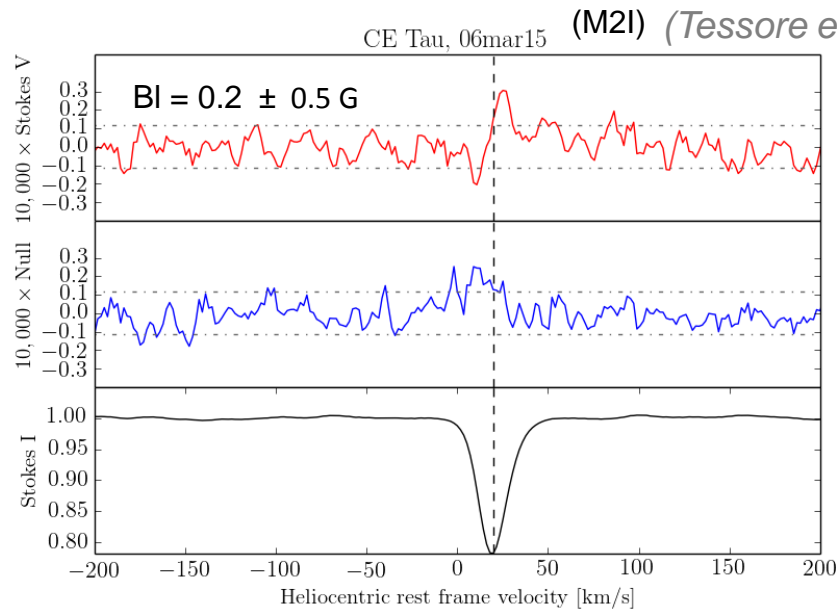
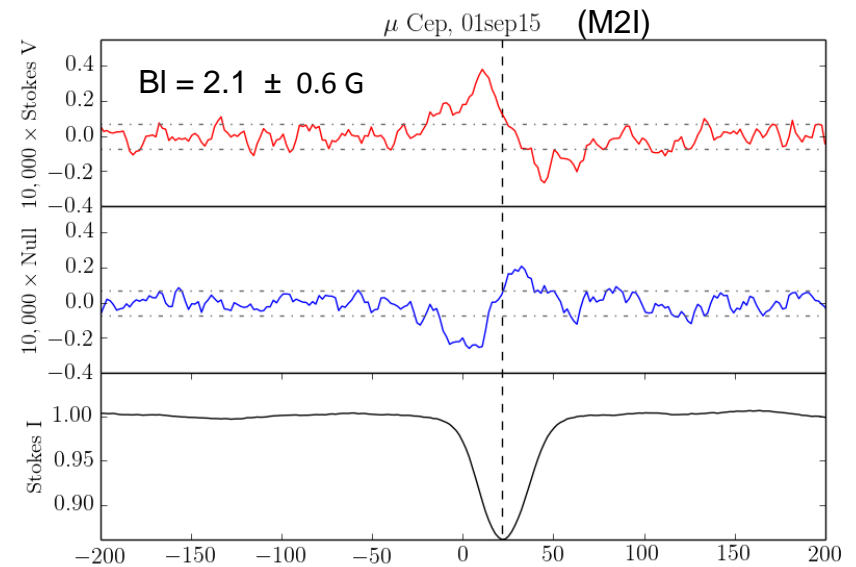
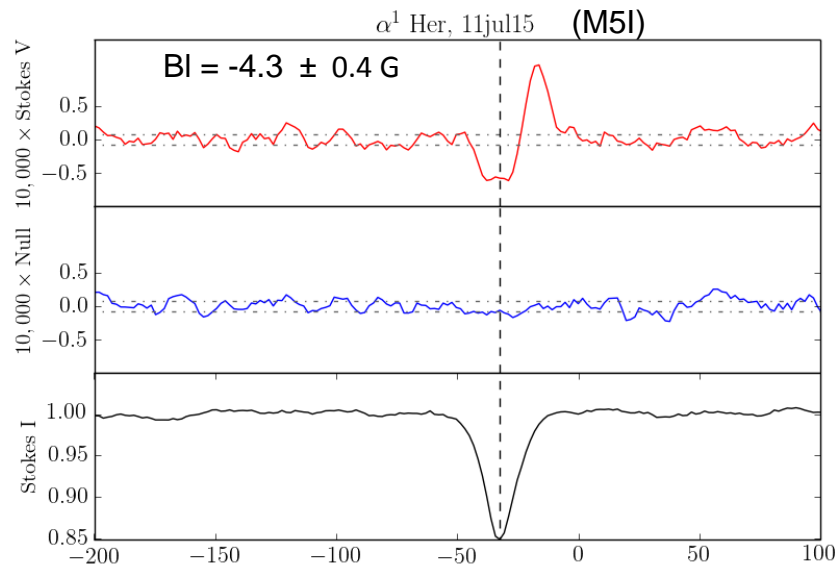
Time: 22.594 years

Time: 23.228 years



Chiavassa et al. 2011

# New DetectionS of Surface Field in other M-type RSG



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# Theoretical predictions for magnetic fields

at the **surface** of cool and evolved stars :

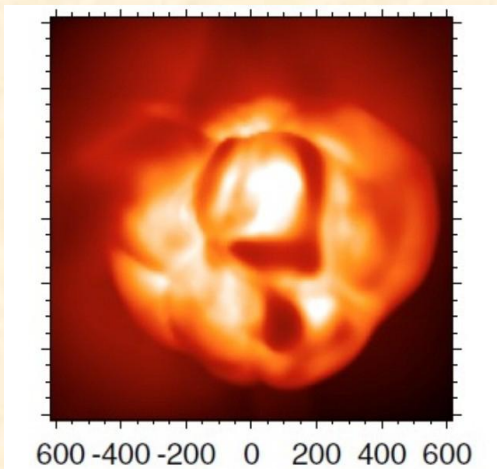
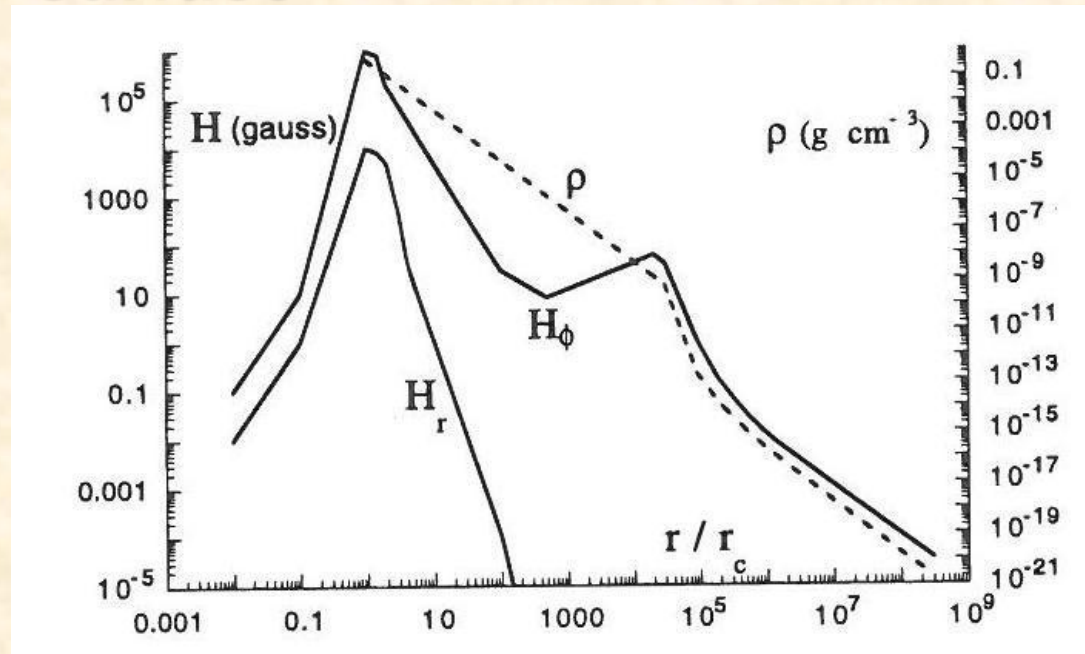
- *Pascoli & Lahoche (2008)*:

Magnetic activity in an AGB's core

→ **toroidal field (10 G @ surface)**

→ decrease through envelope

→ ejection of massive winds



- *Dorch (2004)*, for Red Supergiants (Betelgeuse) :

**Generation of a magnetic field from a local dynamo powered by convection**

*Freytag & Hoefner (2008)*

3D simulation of the atmosphere of an AGB

## RGB & AGB magnetic fields – new challenges

**Kepler Giants** with seismic constraints (mixed modes in red giants) :

Asteroseismic signatures of internal magnetic field (*Fuller et al. 2015 ; Cantiello et al. 2016*)

Angular momentum transfer from the core to convective envelope (*Mosser et al. 2012, 2014*)

=> Constraints on/from the dynamo ?

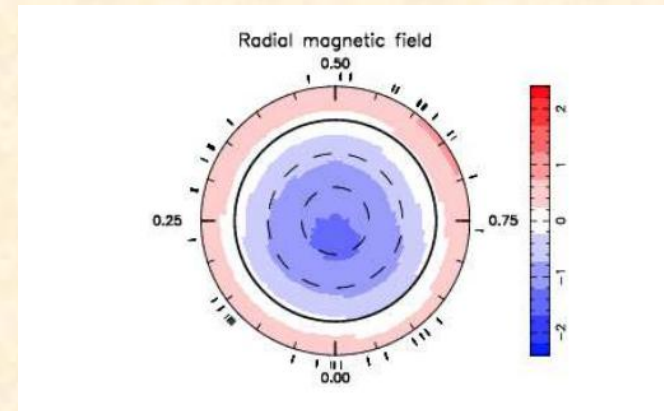
**Zeeman Doppler Imaging** on few targets so far

(*Donati et al., 1999 ; Petit et al., 2004*)

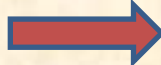
- RS CVn stars (active binaries)
- FK Com stars (very fast rotators and active giants)

and on Pollux (K0III) 

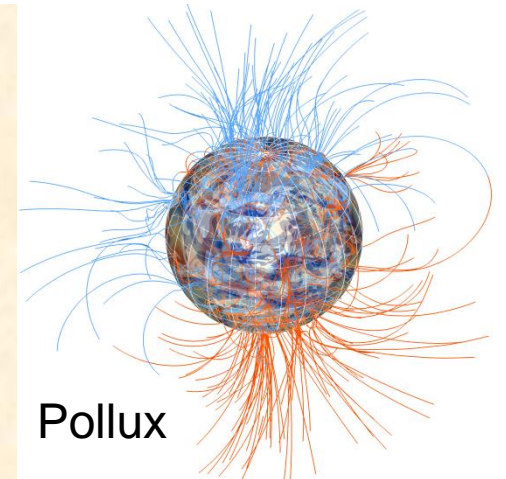
(*Aurière et al., 2014, IAU 302 Proc.*)



**3D MHD simulation** of the convective envelope  
( with ASH code)

Dipolar configuration 

(*Palacios & Brun, 2014, IAU 302 Proc.*)



## **Magnetic Fields in Cool Evolved Stars (AGB-RSG) – new challenges**

Need for **long term monitoring** + coordination of instruments ?

e.g., RGB/AGB observed for +4yr (*Aurière et al. 2015*)

=> derive rotational period

=> intermittent fields (variations)

Betelgeuse followed over +6yr (*Aurière et al. 2010, Petit et al. 2013*)

=> Magnetic Field timescales variations

New **molecular tracers** (for CSE and surface field)

**Linear polarization** : complementary diagnostics (for CSE and surface field)

Toward IR spectropolarimetry

(SPIRou@CFHT, SPIP@TBL, CRIRES+@VLT)



Toward UV spectropolarimetry (ARAGO/M5-ESA)

**Exciting Time Ahead !**