

# **ABUNDANCES OF MASSIVE STARS**

## ***SOME RECENT DEVELOPMENTS***

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### **Chemical composition of nearby OB stars: solar?**

- **Modelling of pulsations and inferences on internal structure**
- **Constraints on Galactic chemical evolution models**

### **Deep mixing in OB stars**

- **Theoretical understanding of mixing processes**
- **Impact on evolution off the main sequence**

# Getting the abundances

## Atmospheric parameters

**Teff:** photometry/ionization balance

**logg:** fitting wings of Balmer lines

**microturbulence:** no dependence between metal abundances and EWs

## Model atmospheres and line-formation codes

**Line-blanketed model atmospheres (LTE or NLTE)**

**NLTE line-formation treatment**

- Stars with winds: unified codes (CMFGEN, FASTWIND)
- Stars without winds: plane-parallel codes (TLUSTY, DETAIL/SURFACE)

## Atomic data

Model atom

Oscillator strengths, ...

## Techniques for abundance determination

Curve of growth/spectral synthesis

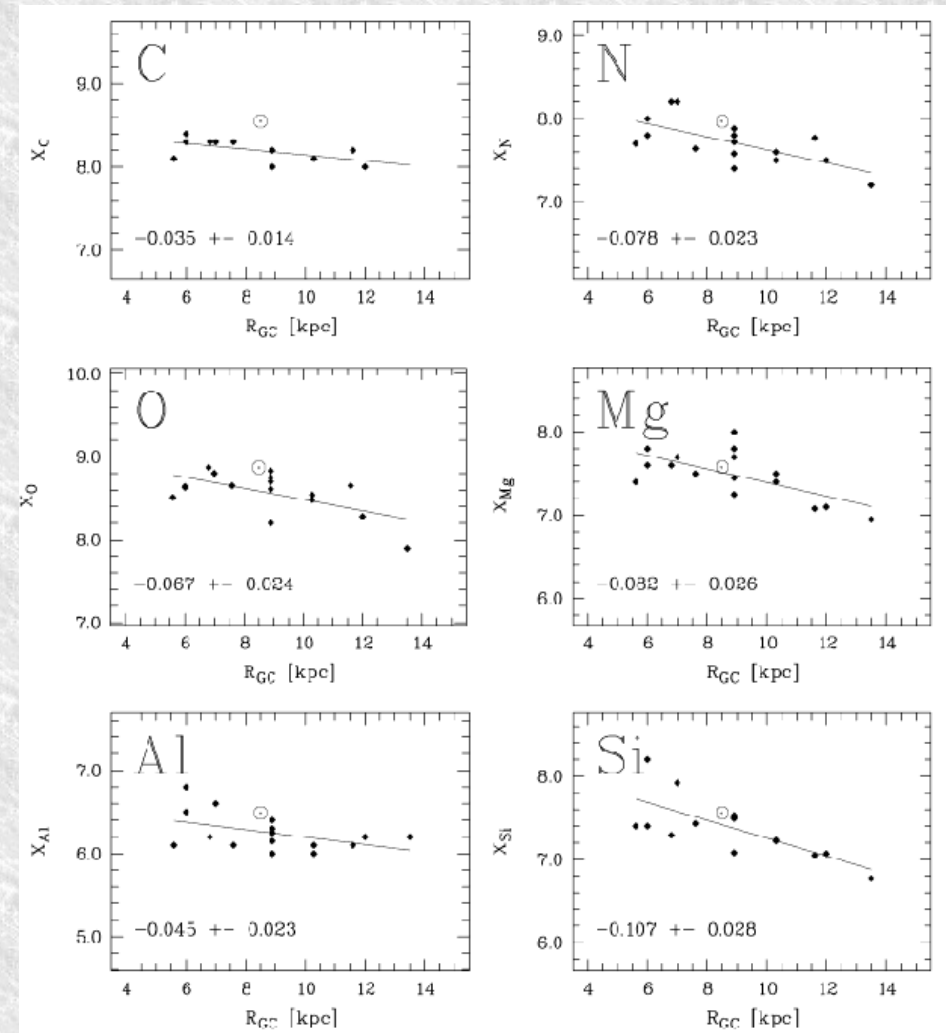
# Chemical composition of nearby OB stars: the data

## Selection criteria:

- Only single stars
- No supergiants to minimize evolutionary effects
- Only stars within  $\sim 1$  kpc
- Only NLTE studies using line-blanketed model atmospheres
- Only studies based on high-resolution optical spectra
- Carbon abundances solely based on 'problematic' lines excluded (e.g. C II 4267)

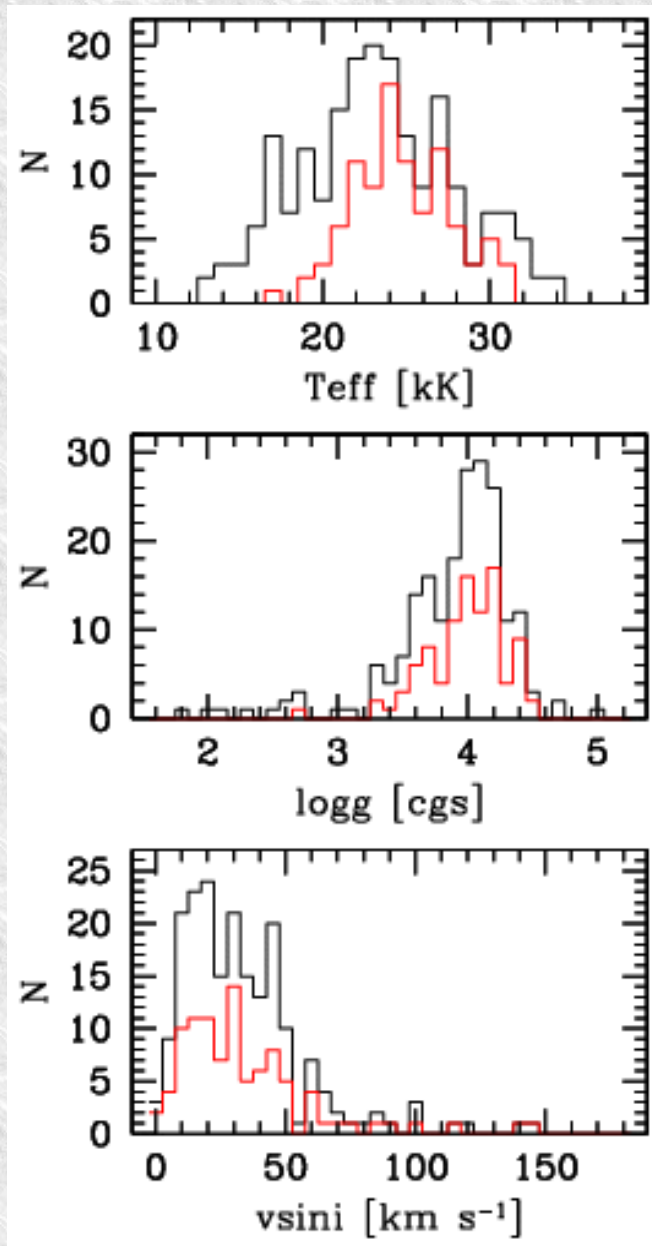


Data from  $\sim 10$  studies: heterogeneous,  
BUT general trends emerging



Gummersbach et al. (1998)

# Chemical composition of nearby OB stars: the data

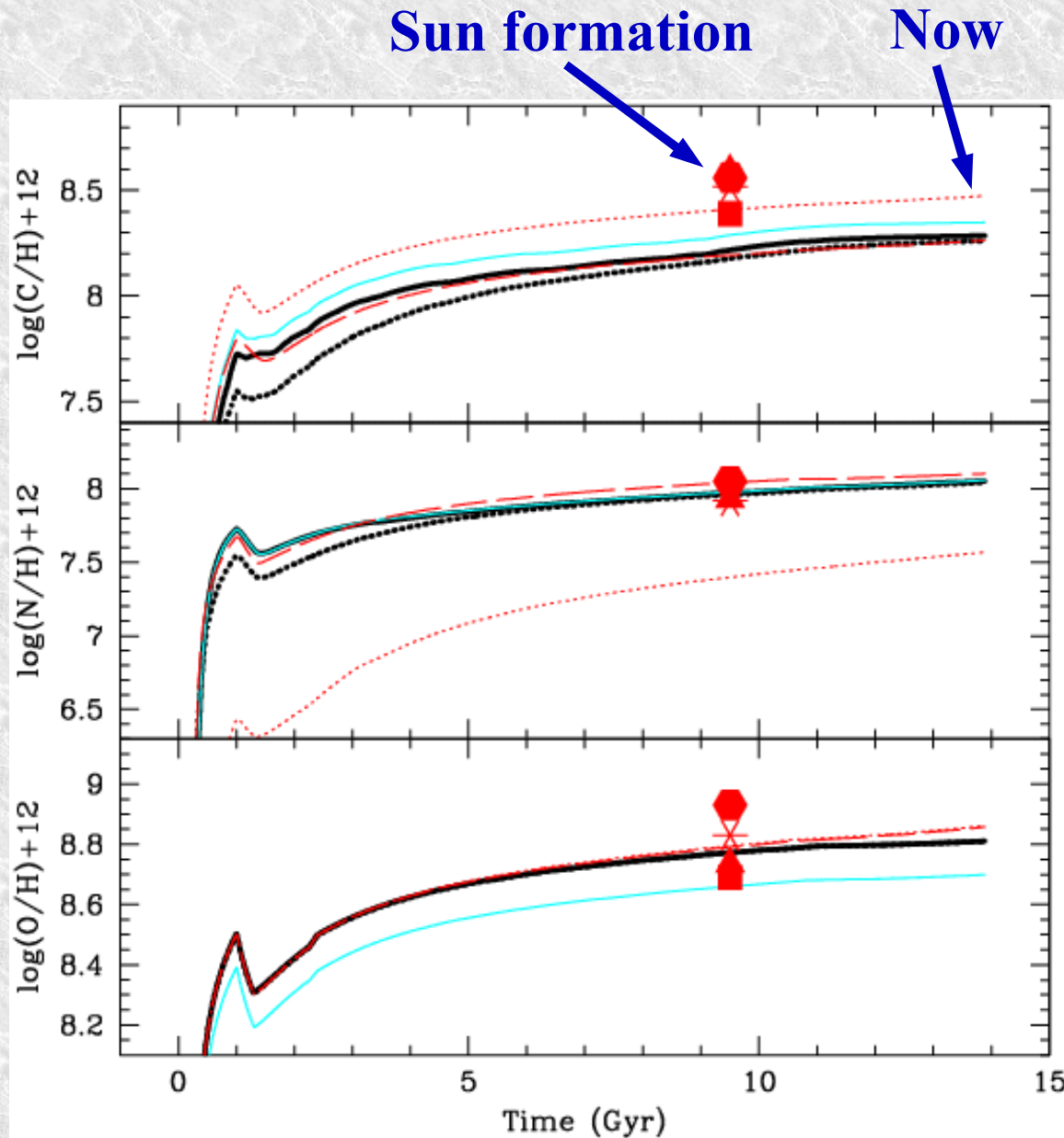


**Stars with abundance data (CNO,  
Mg, Al, Si, S or Fe)  
~200 objects**

**Stars with CNO data  
~100 objects**



# Chemical composition of nearby OB stars: Galactic enrichment

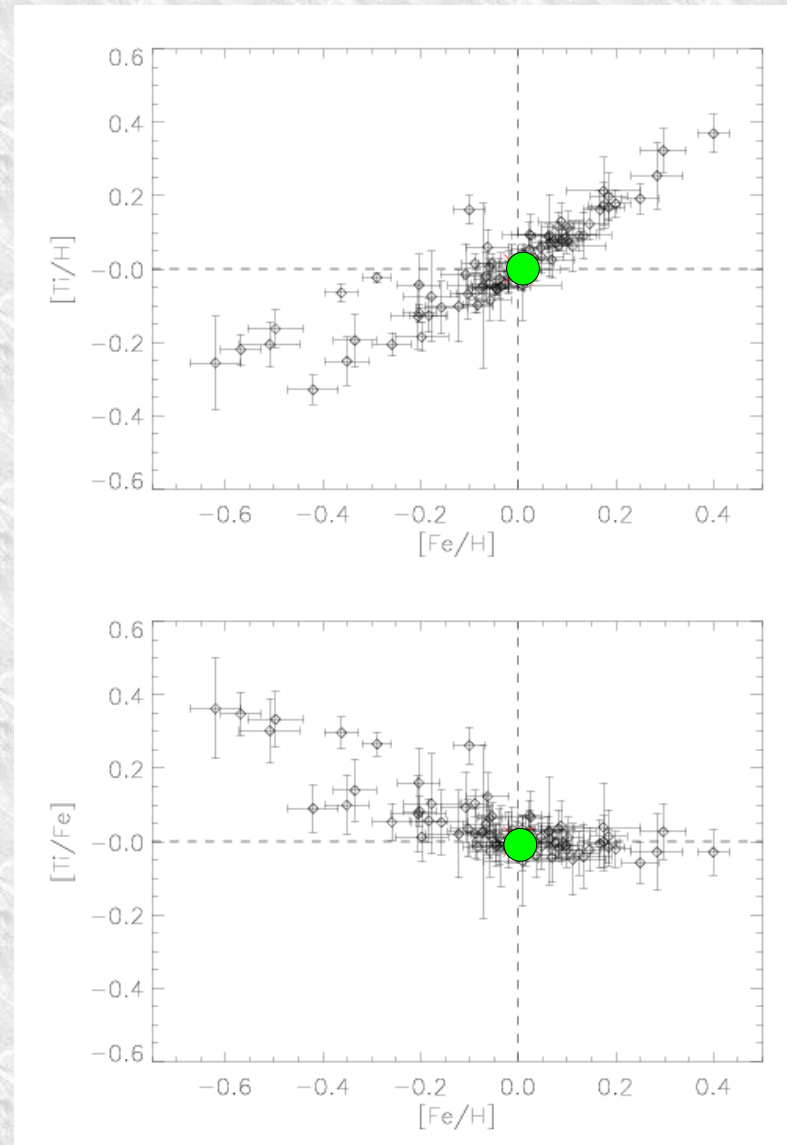
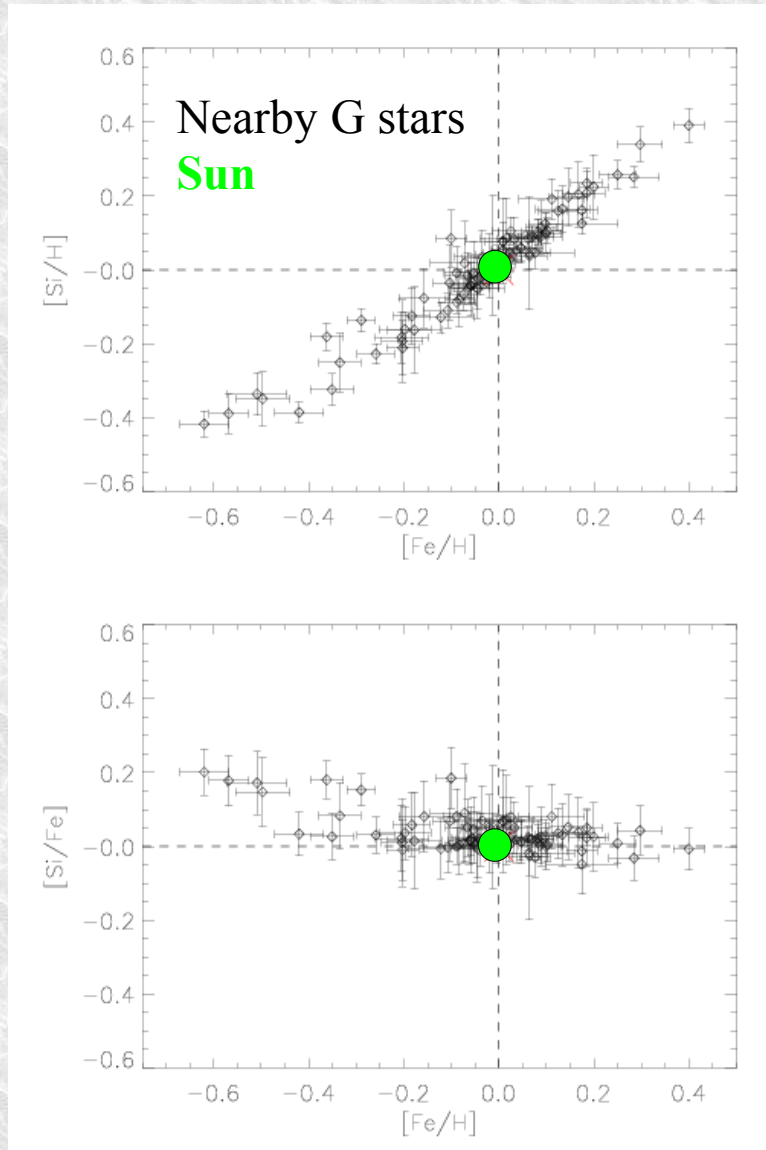


Element	Enrichment since Sun formation (dex)
<b>C</b>	<b>0.07</b>
<b>N</b>	<b>0.10</b>
<b>O</b>	<b>0.05</b>
<b>Fe</b>	<b>0.16</b>
<b>Ne</b>	<b>0.04</b>
<b>S</b>	<b>0.10</b>
<b>Si</b>	<b>0.08</b>
<b>Mg</b>	<b>0.04</b>

Chiappini et al. (2003)

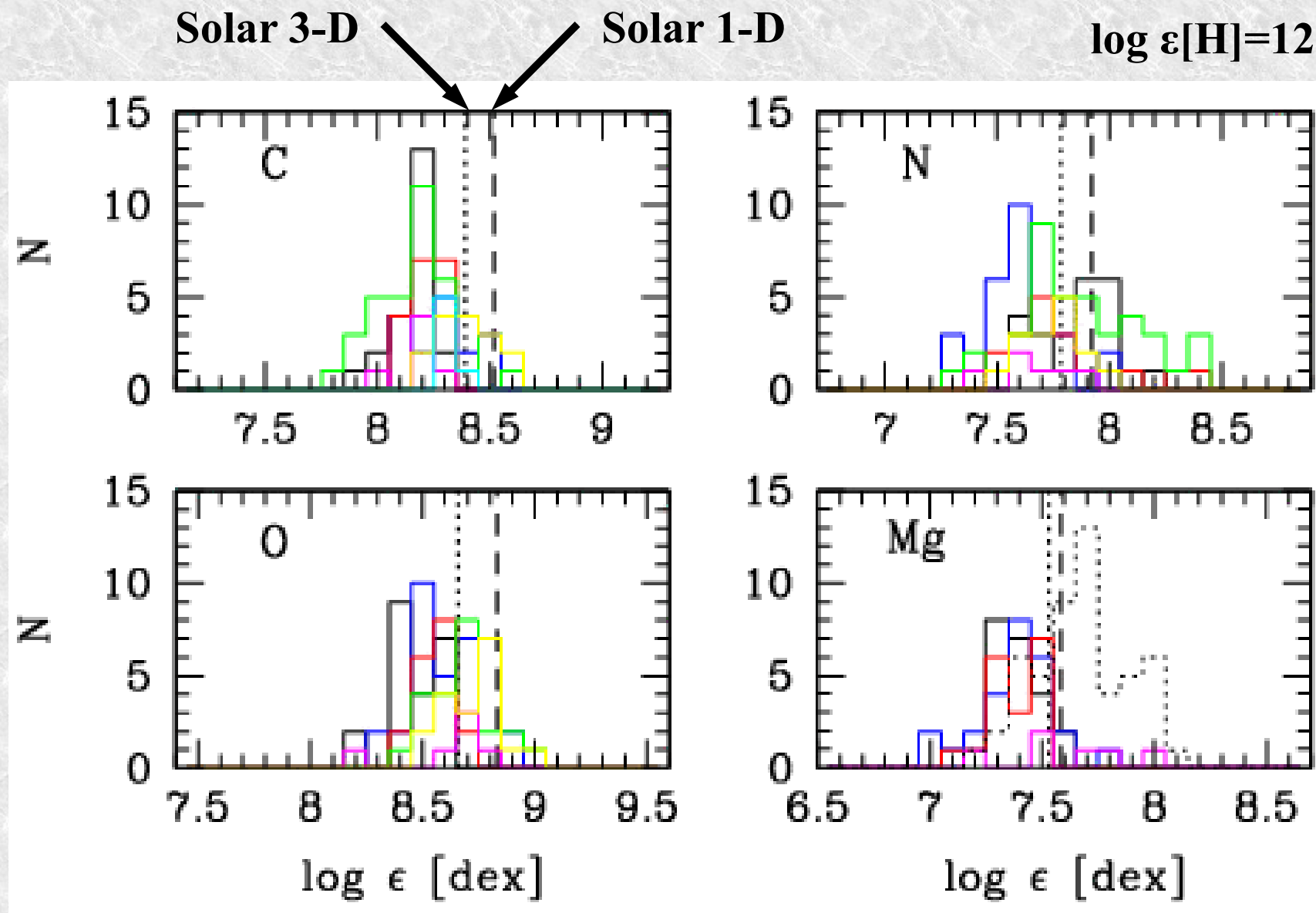
Abundances of OB stars (Liège, 8/7/2008)

# Chemical composition of nearby OB stars: the Sun is 'normal'



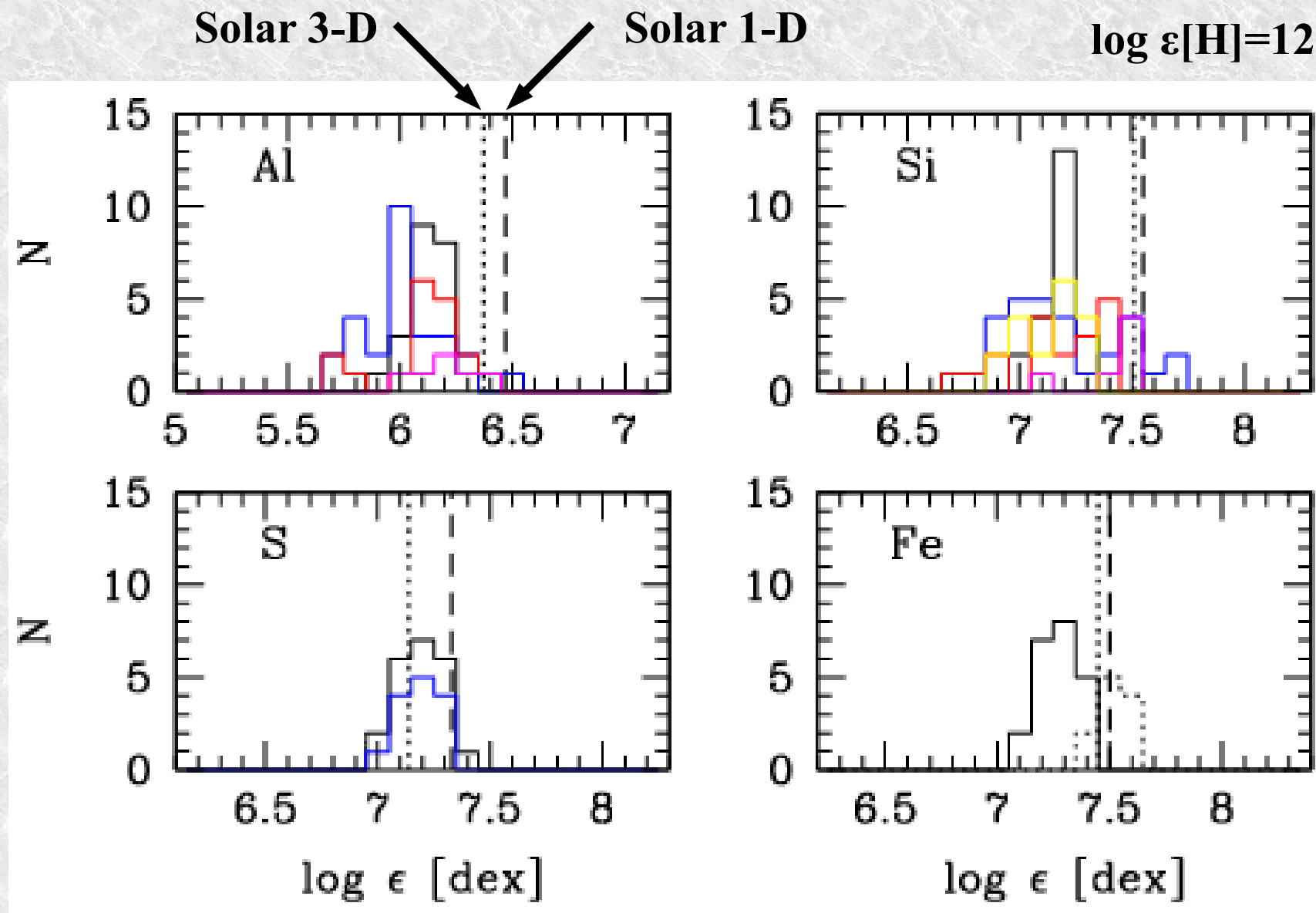
*Allende-Prieto (2006)*

# Chemical composition of nearby OB stars: solar?



- Cunha & Lambert (1994)
- Daflon et al. (1999, 2001, 2003)
- Gies & Lambert (1992)
- Gummersbach et al. (1998)
- Kilian (1992, 1994)
- Morel et al. (2008)
- Nieva & Przybilla (2008)
- ..... Lyubimkov et al. (2005)

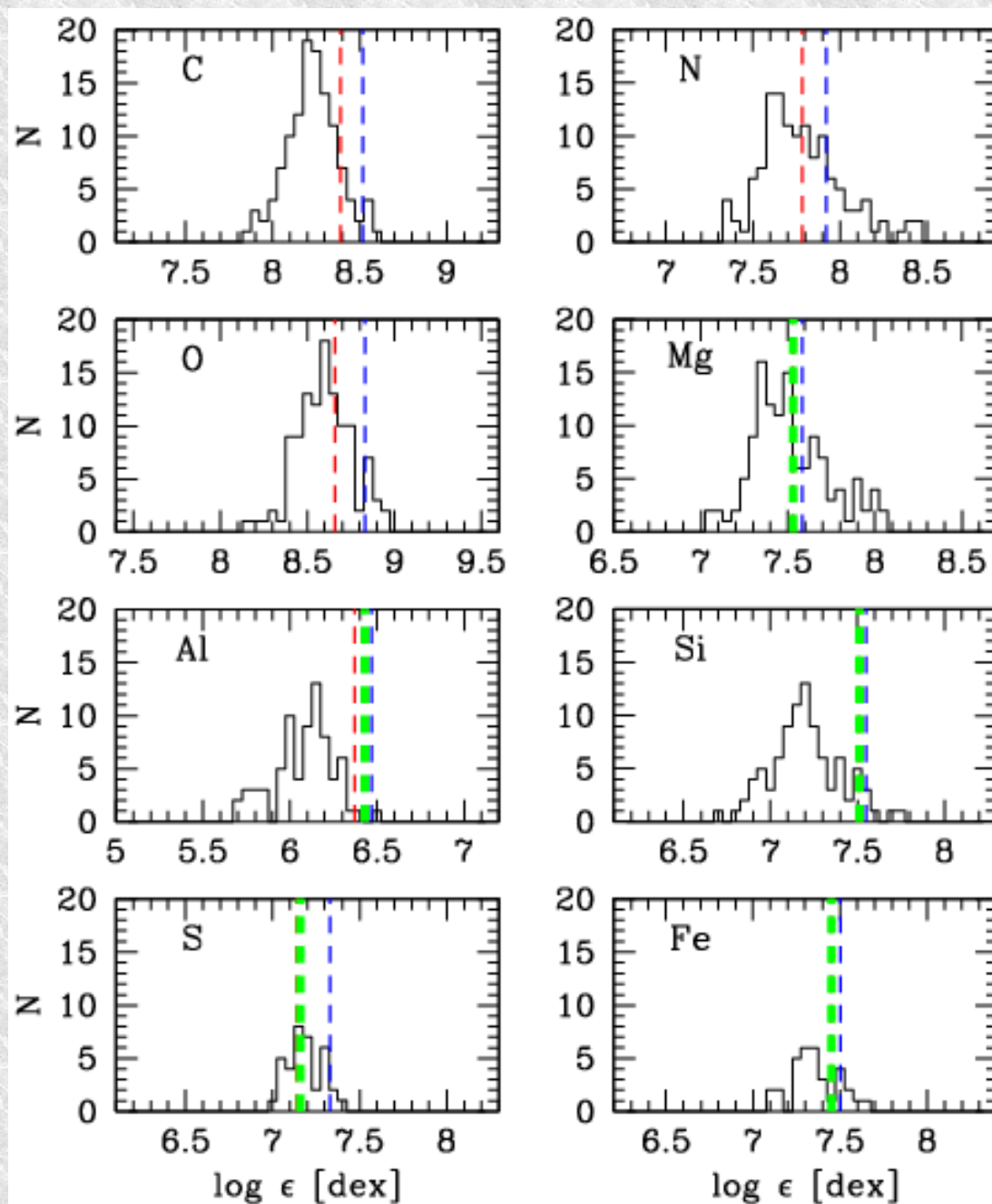
# Chemical composition of nearby OB stars: solar?



Cunha & Lambert (1994)  
Daflon et al. (1999, 2001, 2003)  
Gummersbach et al. (1998)  
Kilian (1992, 1994)  
Morel et al. (2008)  
..... Thompson et al. (2008)



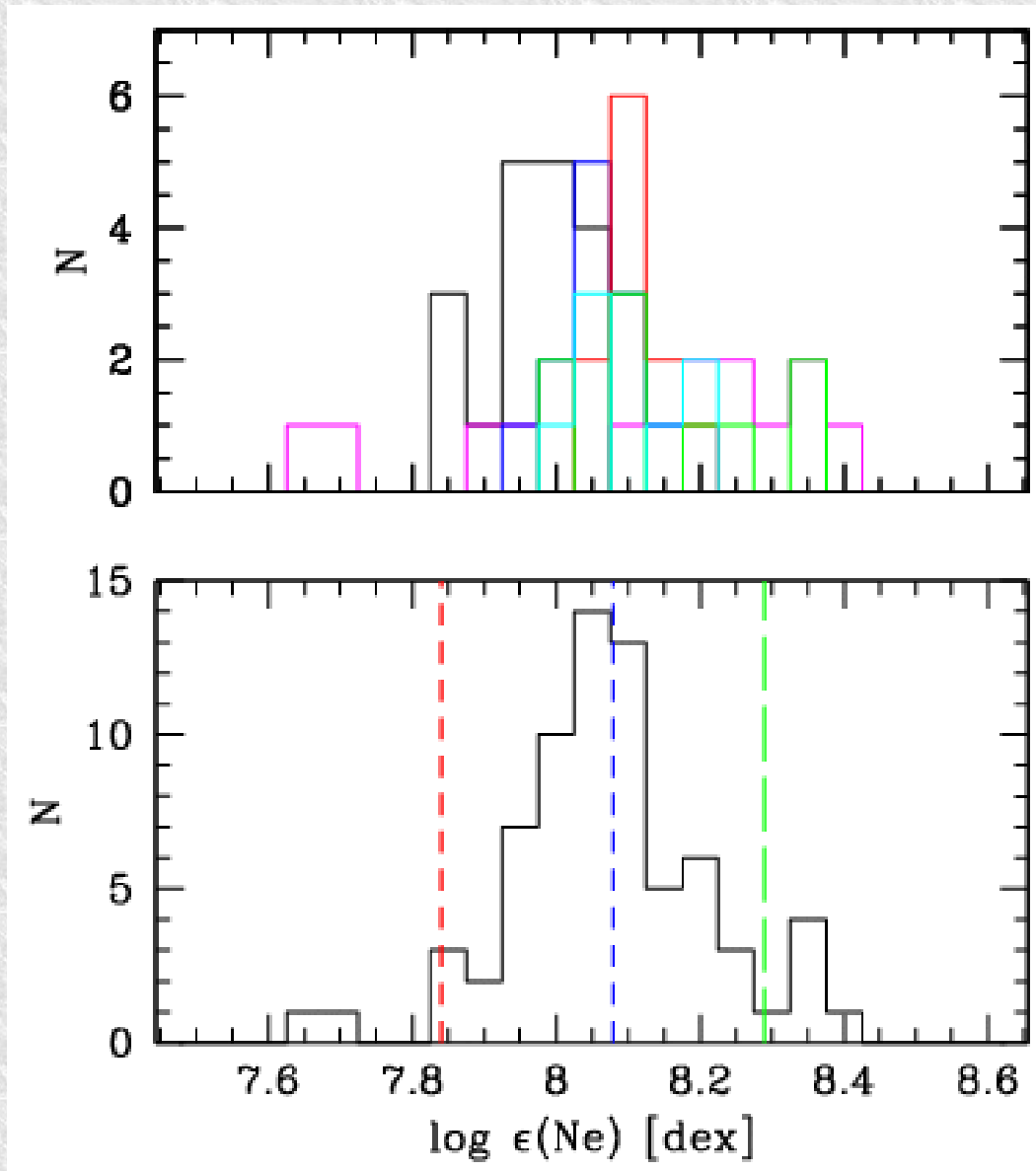
# Chemical composition of nearby OB stars: solar?



----- Solar 1-D  
----- Solar 3-D  
----- Meteorites

**Abundances of B stars  
generally below solar!**

# Chemical composition of nearby OB stars: neon



**Cunha et al. (2006)**

**Dworetsky & Budaj (2000)**

**Hempel & Holweger (2003)**

**Kilian (1994)**

**Morel & Butler (2008)**

**Sigut (1999)**

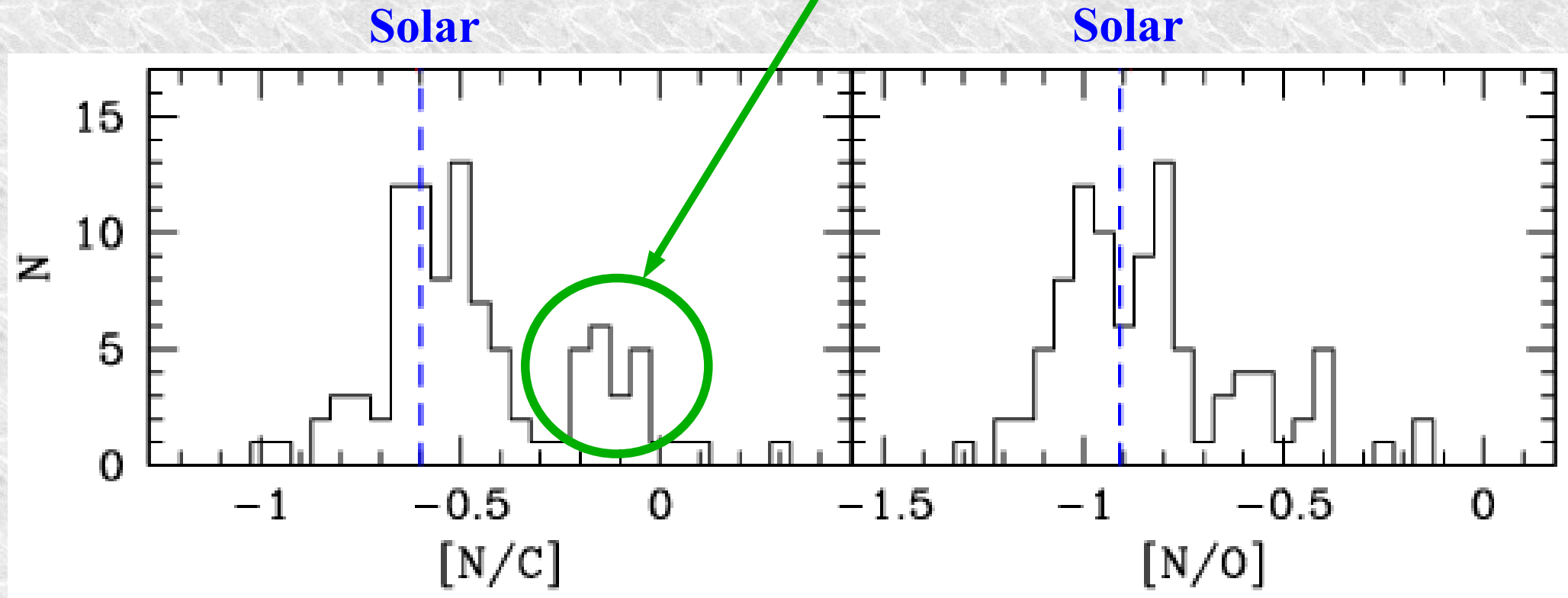
**Solar 3-D**

**Solar 1-D**

**Value necessary to solve the 'solar model problem'**

# Deep mixing in OB stars: CNO

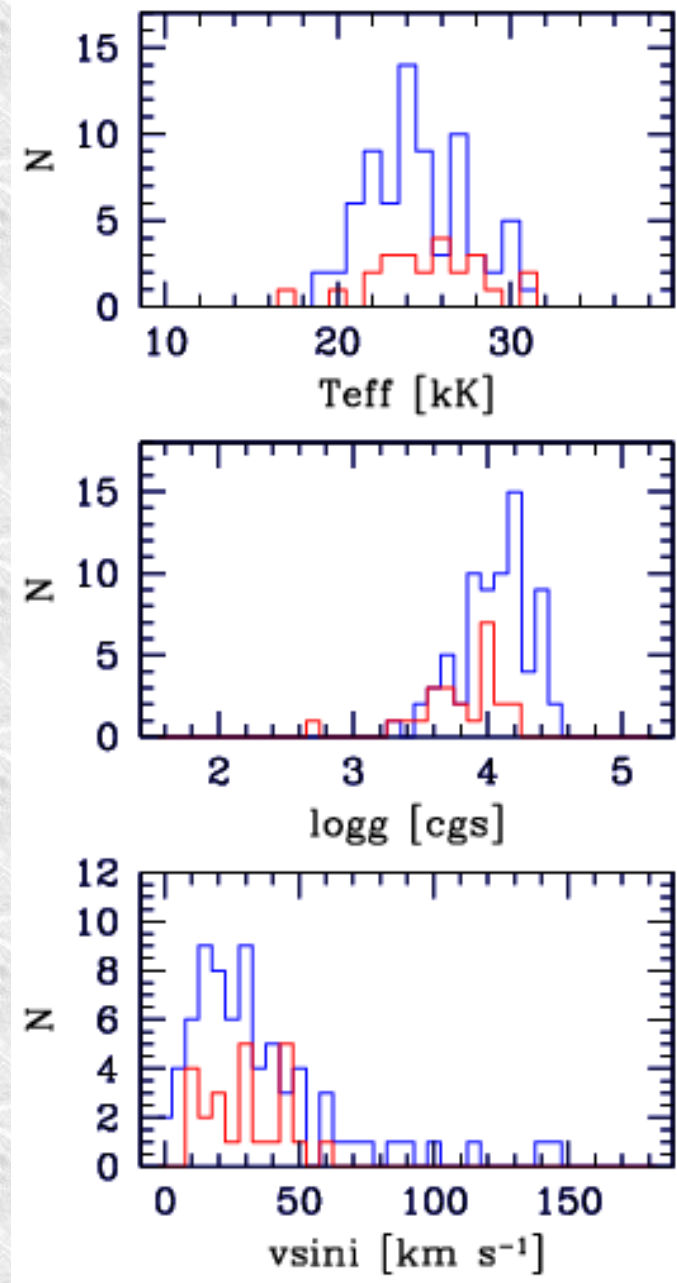
A population of N-enriched main-sequence stars



# Deep mixing in OB stars: CNO

**N-normal stars:**  
 $[N/C] < -0.3$  dex

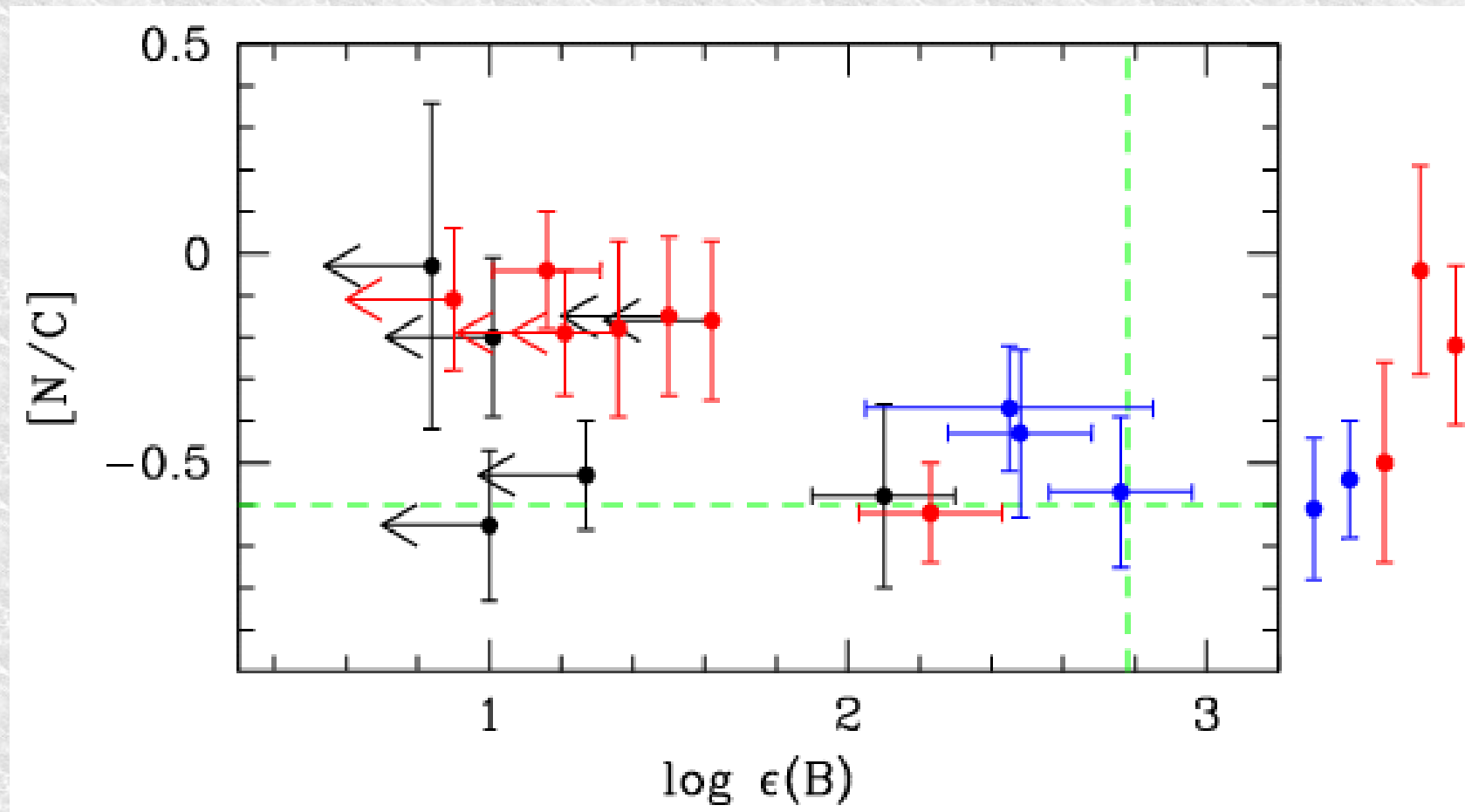
**N-rich stars:**  
 $[N/C] > -0.3$  dex



$\Delta \log g \sim 0.25$  dex: evolutionary effect?

# Deep mixing in OB stars: a link with magnetic fields?

----- Solar values

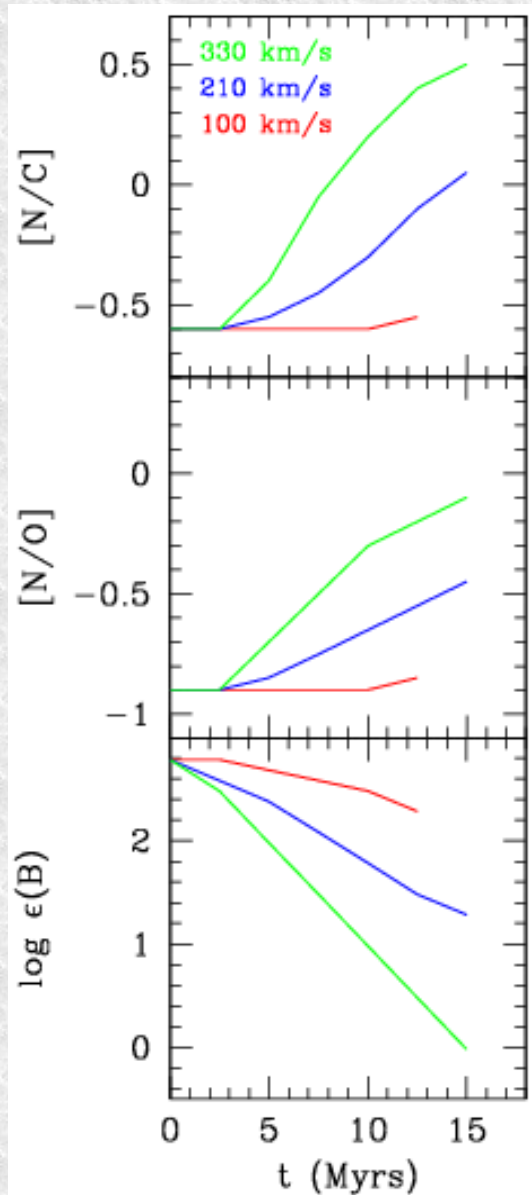


**No field detection**  
**With field detection**

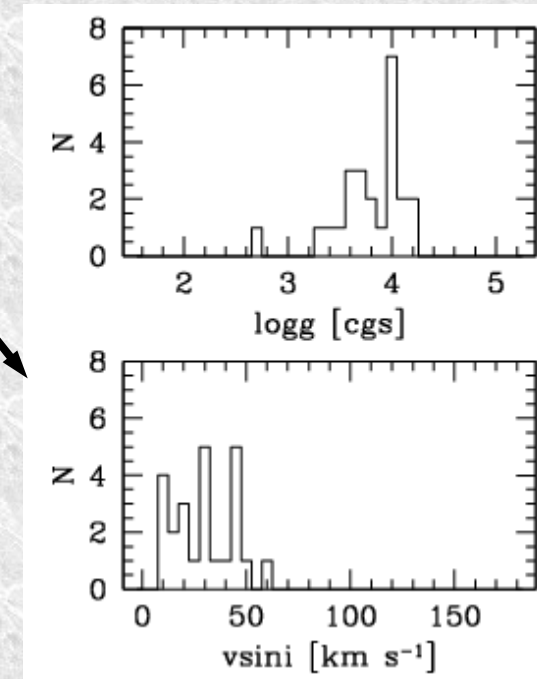
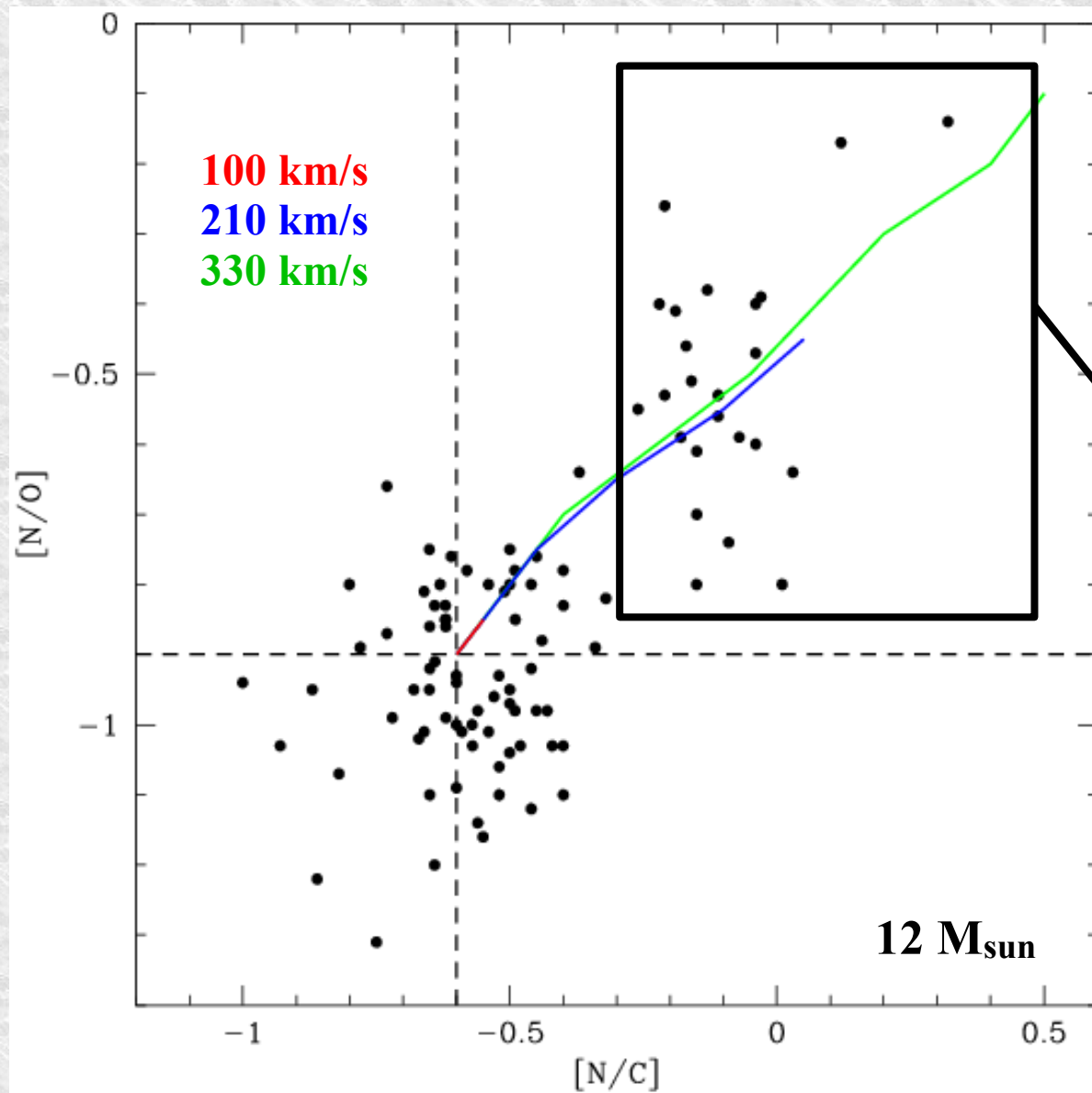
*Morel et al. (2008)*



# Deep mixing in OB stars: confrontation with models



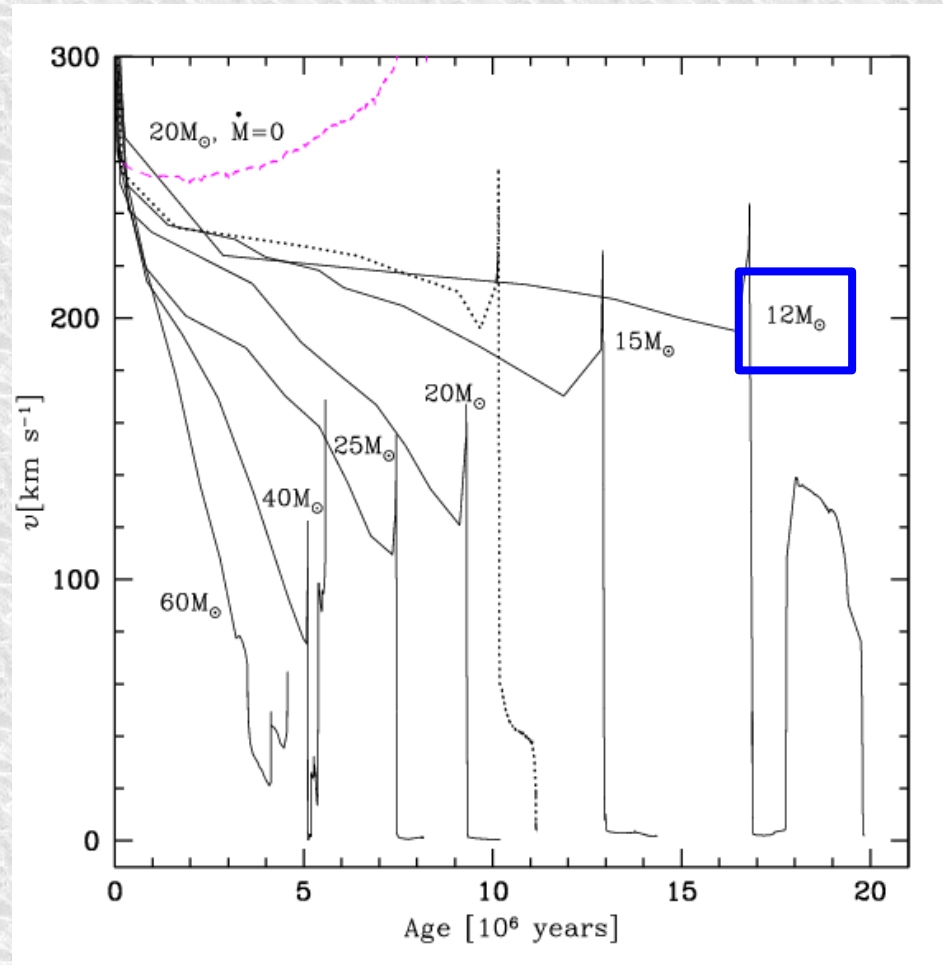
Heger & Langer (2000)



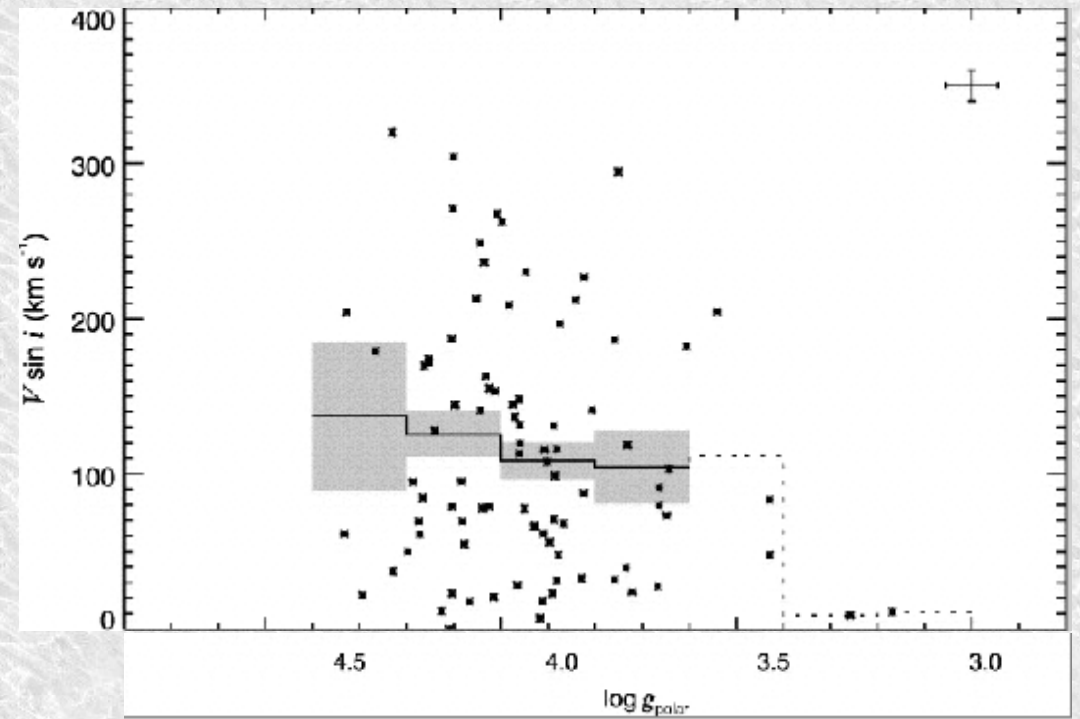
$v(\text{ZAMS}) \sim 200$  km/s needed but  $\langle v \sin i \rangle \sim 30$  km/s only

# Deep mixing in OB stars: confrontation with models

Only a modest decrease of the rotational velocities of B stars from ZAMS to TAMS

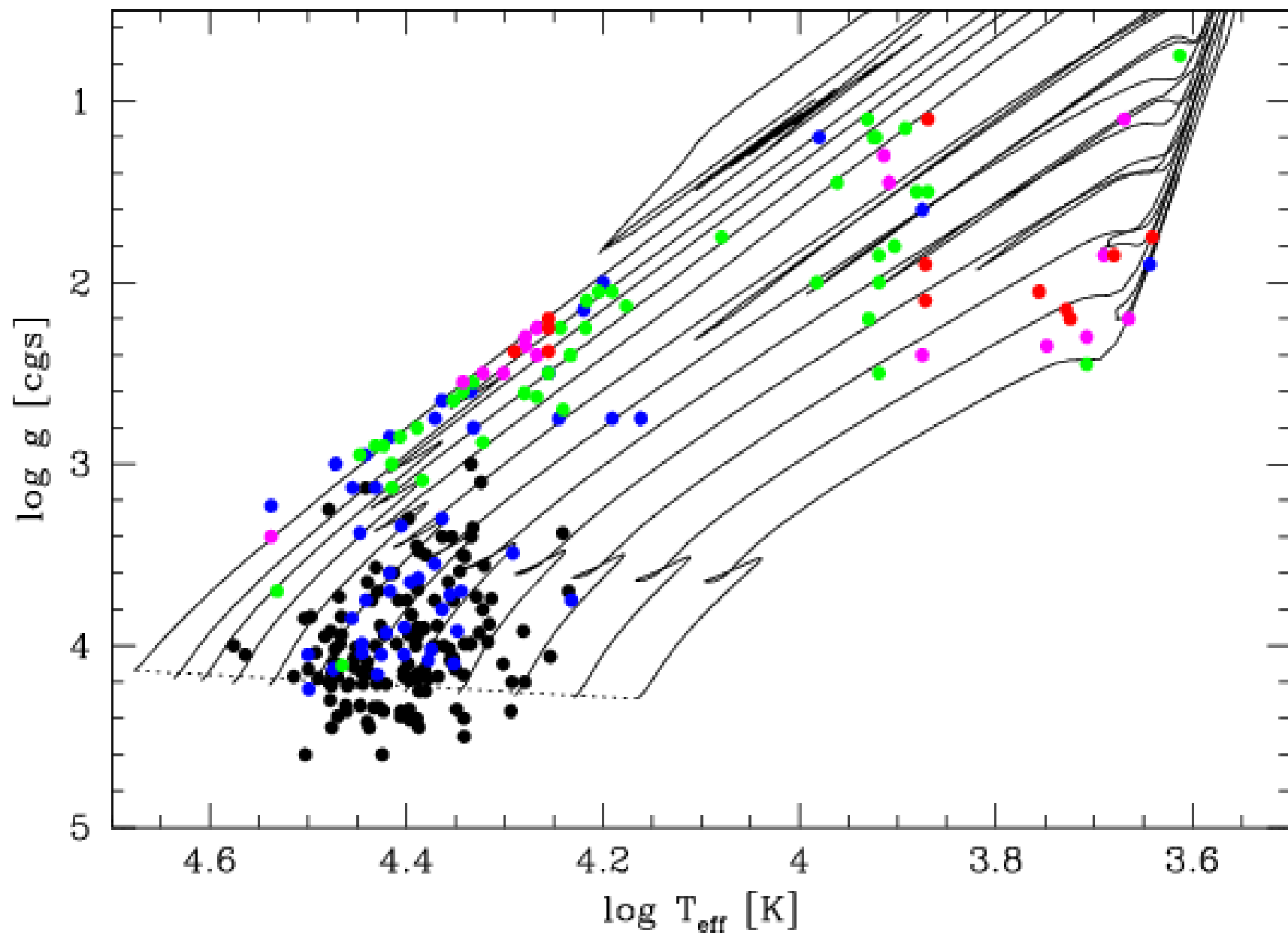


*Meynet & Maeder (2003)*



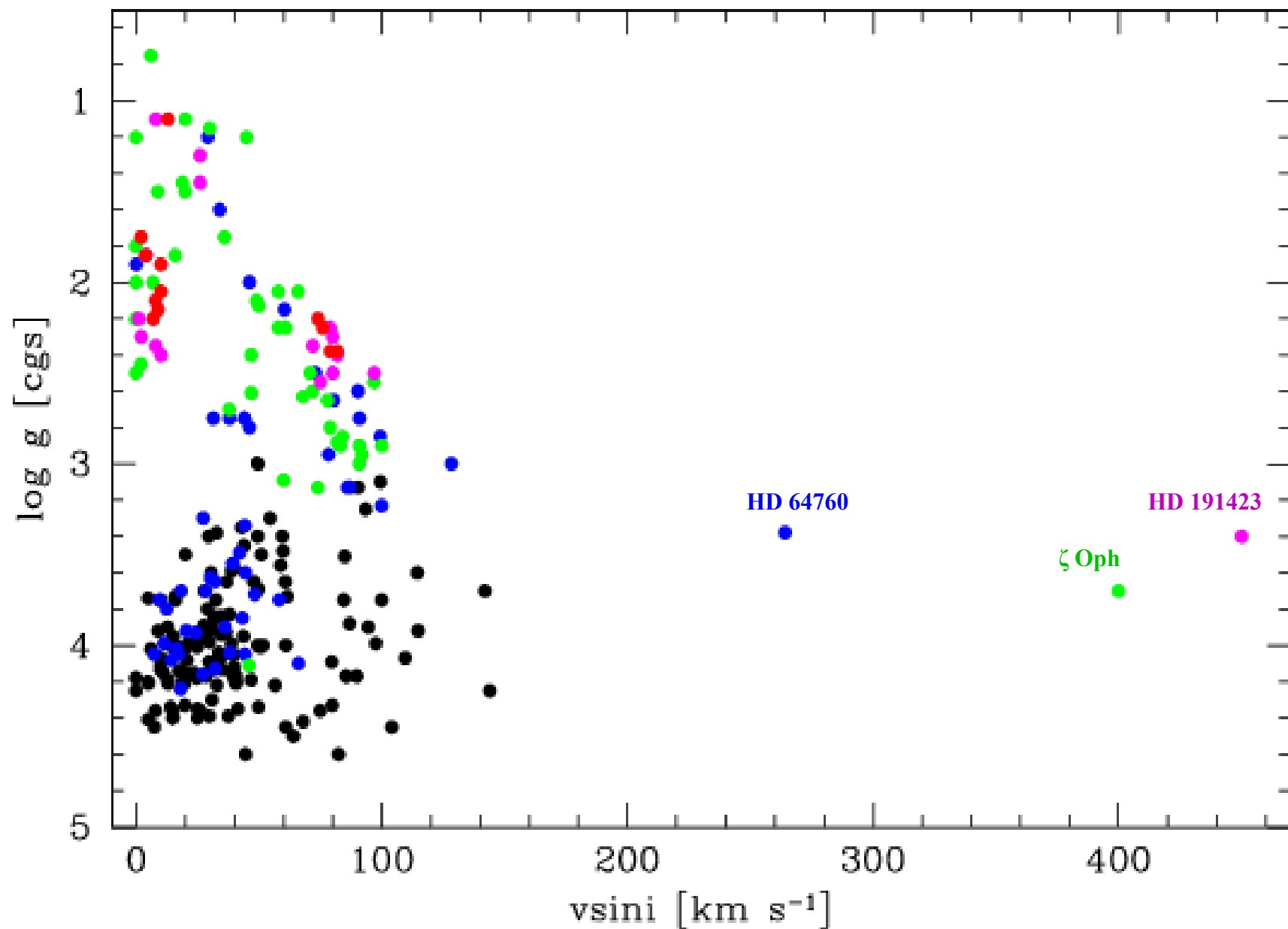
*Huang & Gies (2006)*

# Deep mixing in OB stars: Galaxy



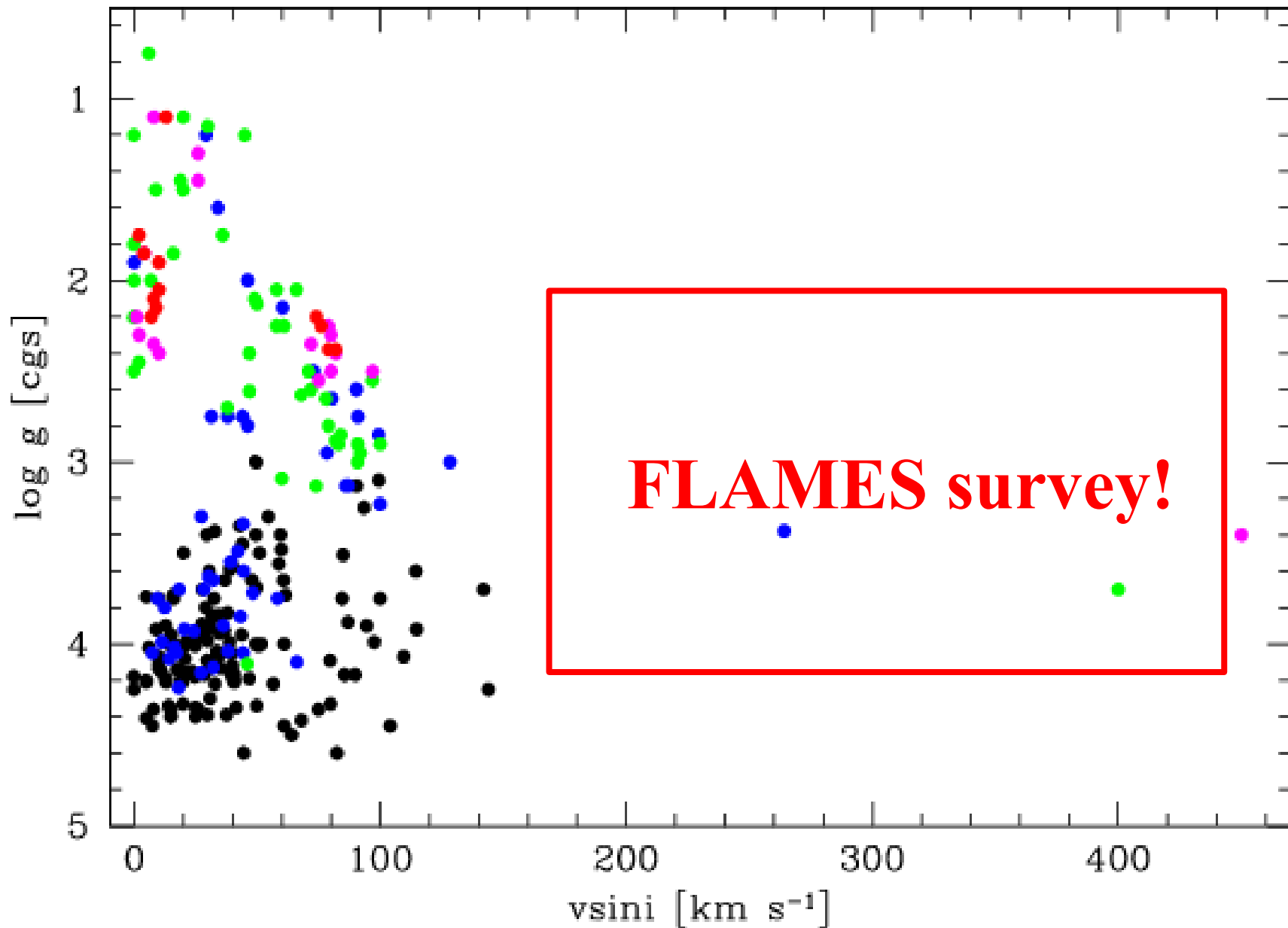
$[N/C] < -0.2$   
 $-0.2 < [N/C] < +0.2$   
 $+0.2 < [N/C] < +0.6$   
 $+0.6 < [N/C] < +1.0$   
 $[N/C] > +1.0$

# Deep mixing in OB stars: Galaxy



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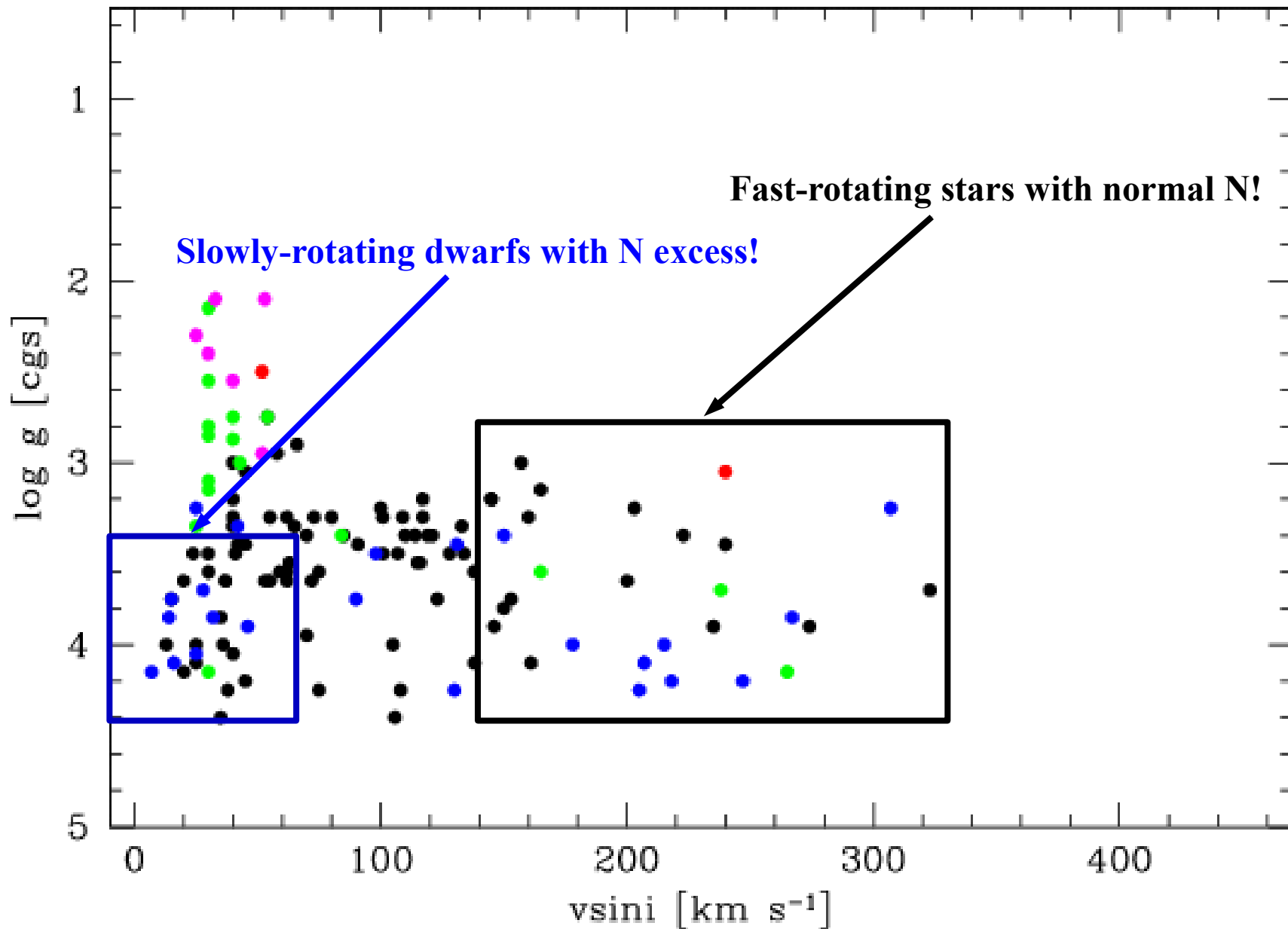
# Deep mixing in OB stars: Galaxy



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 $+0.6 < [N/C] < +1.0$   
 $[N/C] > +1.0$



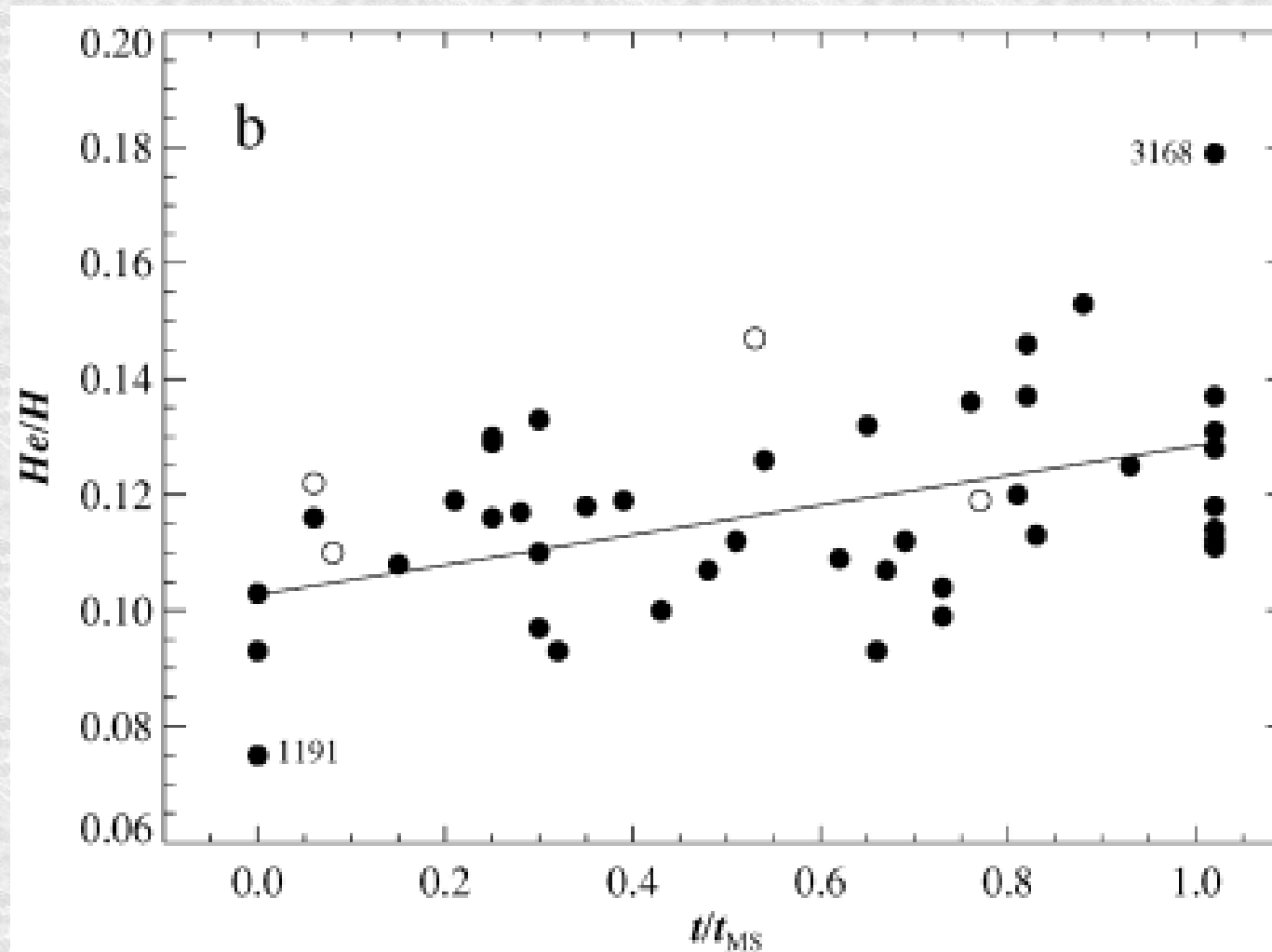
# Deep mixing in OB stars: LMC



$[N/C] < -0.45$   
 $-0.45 < [N/C] < -0.05$   
 $-0.05 < [N/C] < +0.35$   
 $+0.35 < [N/C] < +0.75$   
 $[N/C] > +0.75$

*Hunter et al. (2008)*

# Deep mixing in OB stars: He



*Lyubimkov et al. (2004)*

# Conclusions

## Chemical composition of nearby OB stars

- Abundance studies strongly biased towards early B-type stars: data for O stars and late B-type stars (diffusion effects) desirable
- Metal abundances of OB stars likely underestimated:  $Z \sim 0.010$

## Deep mixing in OB stars

- He, B, CNO: powerful probes of mixing processes
- Clear evolutionary effects
- Two populations not explained by rotational mixing:
  - ★ Slowly-rotating, N-rich dwarfs: mixing efficiency underestimated? stronger loss of angular momentum than expected? magnetic fields?
  - ★ Fast-rotating stars with normal nitrogen in LMC (and in the Galaxy?)
- Needed in the future:
  - ★ Establishing the nature of these two subsamples
  - ★ Abundance data for fast rotators