

# THE INFLUENCE OF METALS IN THE LUMINOSITY FUNCTION OF WHITE DWARFS

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White dwarfs are almost completely degenerate stars whose evolution is driven by the gravothermal readjustment of their structure in which the migration of heavier chemical species towards the interior plays an important role. Metals have also some influence on the lifetime and mass of the progenitors of white dwarfs. The problem is that, as a consequence of the short lifetime of metals in their atmosphere, the metallicity of field white dwarfs is not known. One way to avoid this problem is to work with the luminosity function of white dwarfs in wide, non-interacting binaries where the chemical composition of the non-degenerate companion is known.