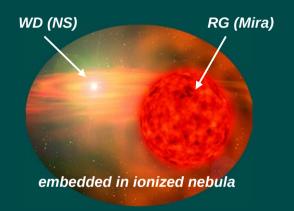
Research field: variable stars, especially the long period eclipsing and interacting binary systems.

Ongoing project: "Properties of the symbiotic stars of different populations of the Milky Way and its satellite galaxies"

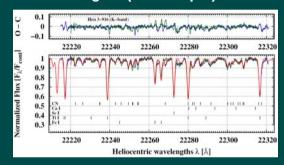
## Symbiotic systems



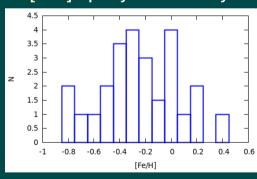
Chemical abundance analysis of the symbiotic red giants

- Gemini South (PHOENIX spectrograph) near-IR spectra (R ~50000) at H, and K-bands (λ ~ 1.54, 1.56, 2.23, and 2.36 μm).
- Method: spectrum synthesis analysis employing standard local thermal equilibrium (LTE) based on 1D, hydrostatic model atmosphere (MARCS, PHOENIX).
- Photospheric abundances of CNO and elements around the iron peak: Fe, Ti, Ni, Sc.

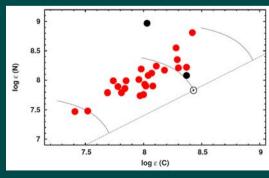
K-band region ( $\lambda \sim 2.23 \mu m$ )



[Fe/H] - proxy for metallicity

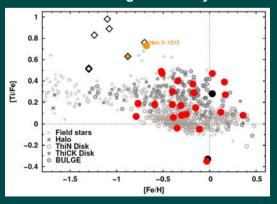


Increase in <sup>14</sup>N isotope – all symbiotic giants are after first dredge-up



<sup>12</sup>C/<sup>13</sup>C: 5 - 23, median: ~10

[Ti/Fe]–[Fe/H] - increasing trend with decreasing metallicity



Spectra (around H $\alpha$ ; R $\sim$ 6500). Traces of enhancement with ZrO were found in approximately half of our sample (37 objects).