

Depletion signatures in the Spite plateau new insights from UVES data



Altiplano
Peruvian high
plateau in the
Andes

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Spread of the Spite plateau: NO

Astron. Astrophys. 307, 172–183 (1996)

Spread of the lithium abundance in halo stars*

M. Spite¹, P. François², P.E. Nissen³, and F. Spite¹

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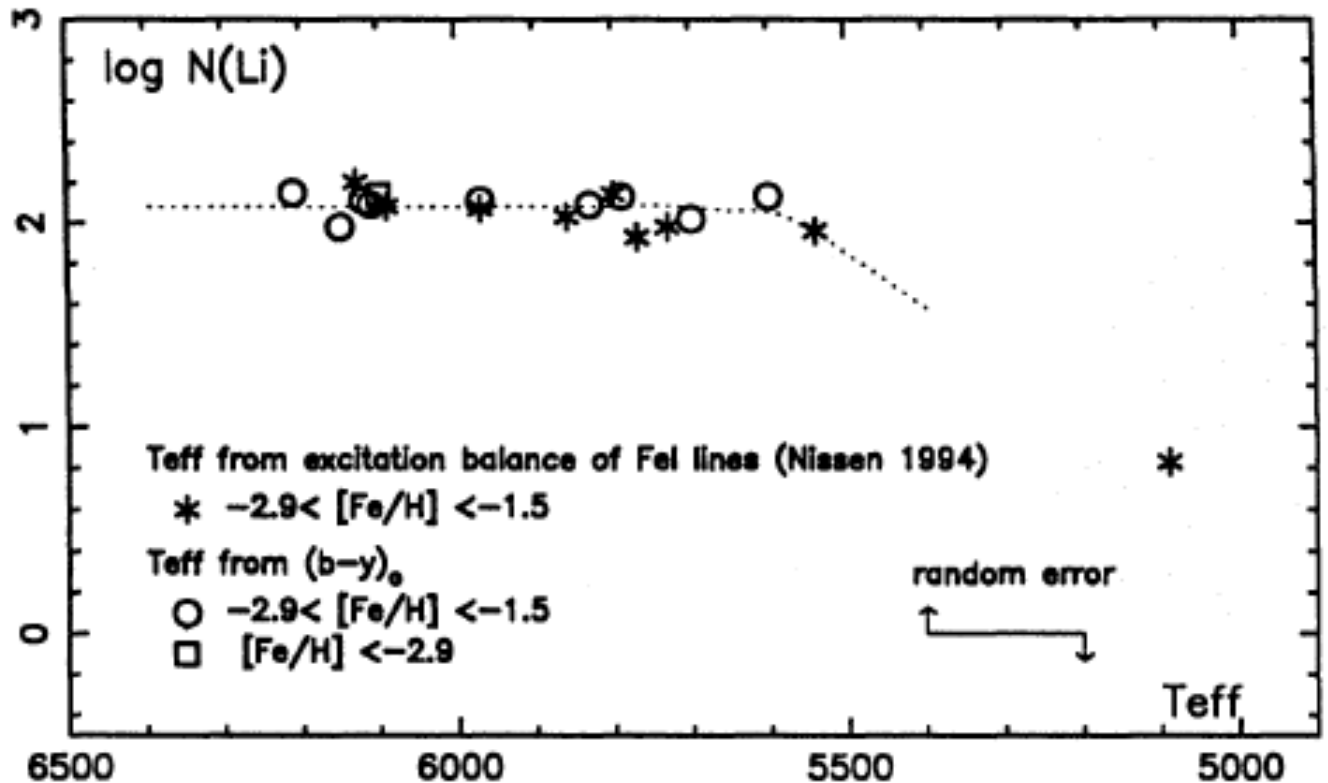


Fig. 5. Lithium abundance versus temperature. When the temperature could not be deduced from the excitation balance of the FeI lines (stars in Nissen et al. 1994) it has been deduced from the $(b-y)_o$ index. The level of the plateau is 2.08 and the rms scatter around the mean 0.07.

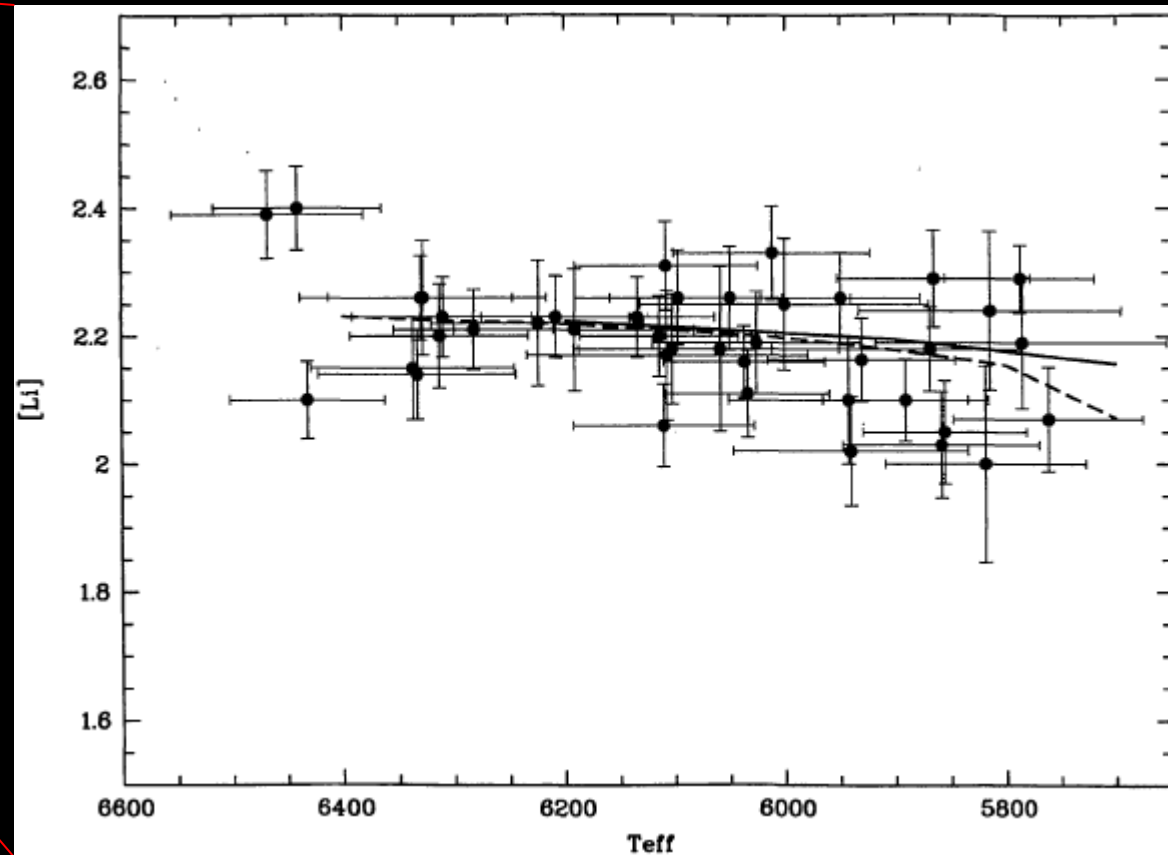
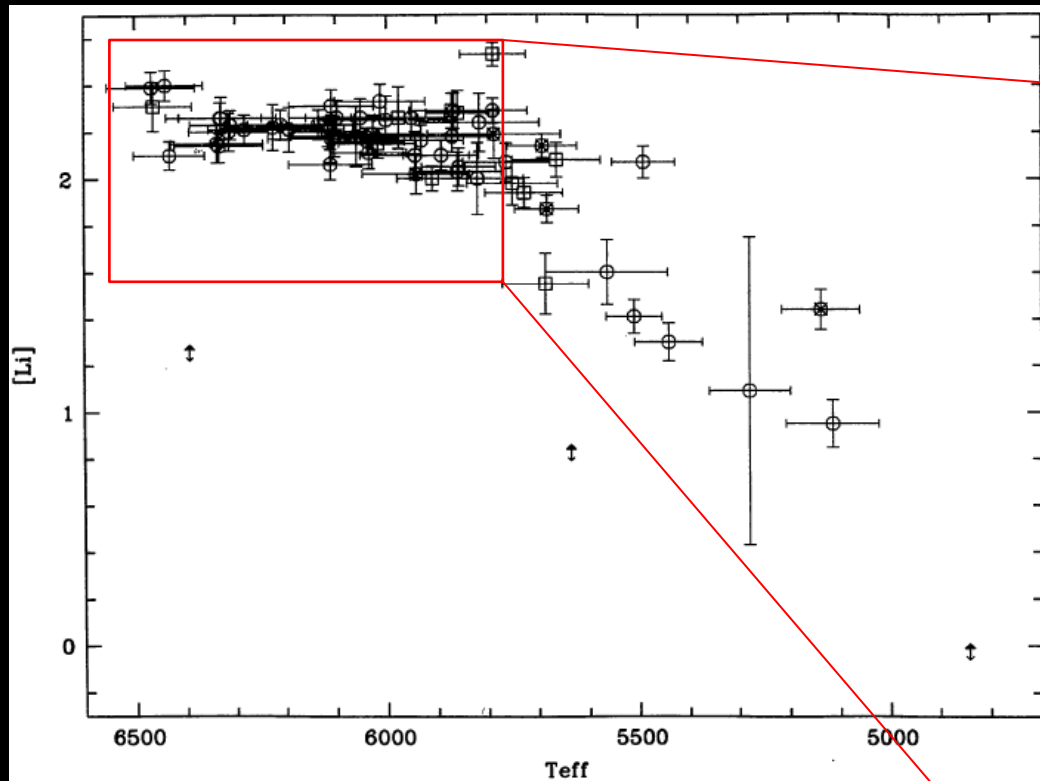
Spread of the Spite plateau: tiny

Mon. Not. R. Astron. Soc. 285, 847–861 (1997)

The primordial lithium abundance

P. Bonifacio and P. Molaro

$[\text{Fe}/\text{H}] \leq -1.5$) we found no evidence for intrinsic dispersion, a tiny trend with T_{eff} and no trend with $[\text{Fe}/\text{H}]$. The trend with the T_{eff} is fully consistent with the standard



Spread of the Spite plateau: NO

THE ASTROPHYSICAL JOURNAL, 523:654–677, 1999 October 1

THE SPITE LITHIUM PLATEAU: ULTRATHIN BUT POSTPRIMORDIAL¹

SEAN G. RYAN

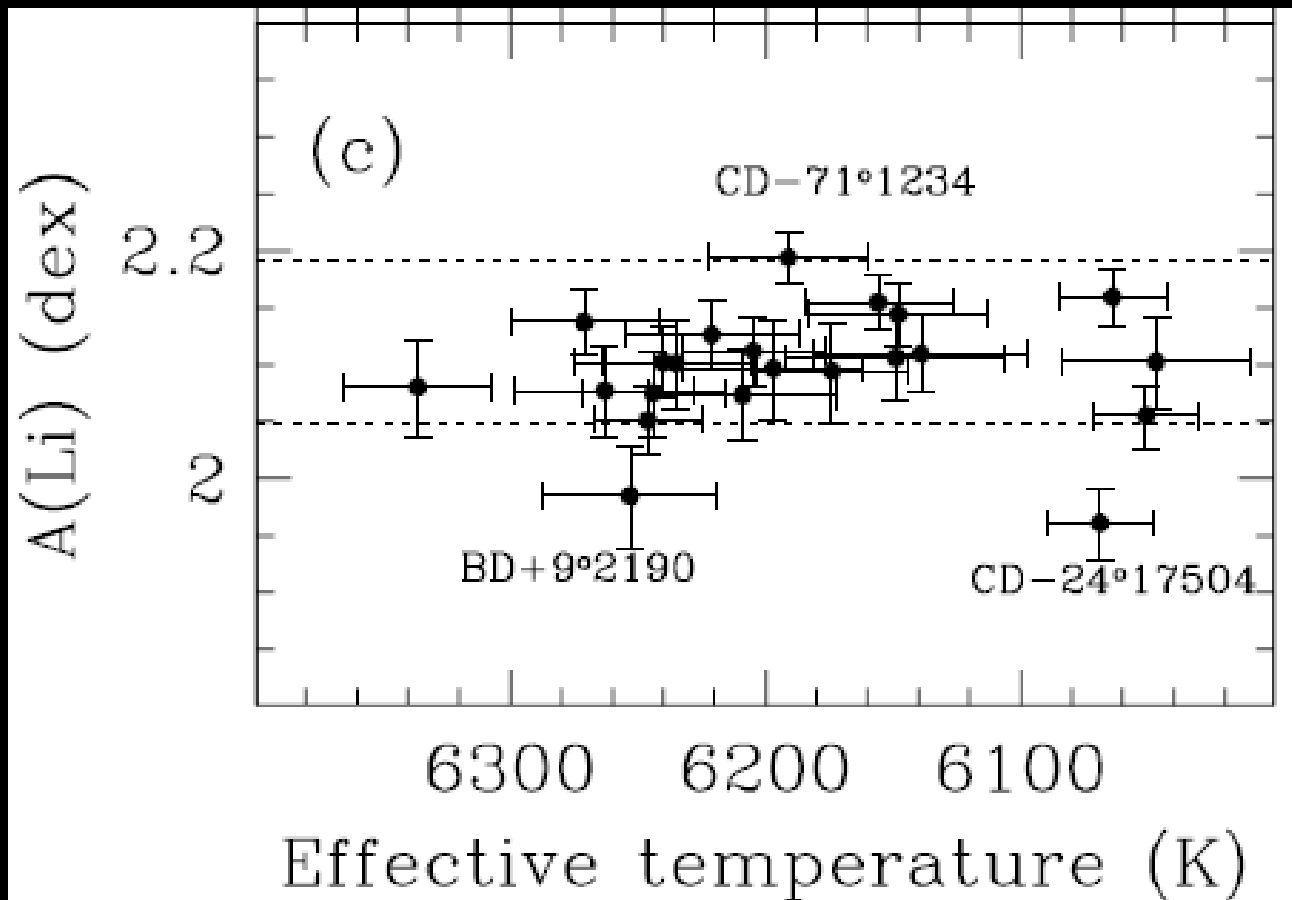
Royal Greenwich Observatory (closed), and Physics Department, The Open University, Walton Hall, Milton Keynes MK7 6AA, England, UK;
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Research School of Astronomy and Astrophysics, The Australian National University, Private Bag, Weston Creek Post Office, ACT 2611, Australia;
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AND

previous studies. Our sample does not exhibit a trend with effective temperature, although the temperature range is limited. However, for $-3.6 < [\text{Fe}/\text{H}] < -2.3$ we do recover a dependence on metal-



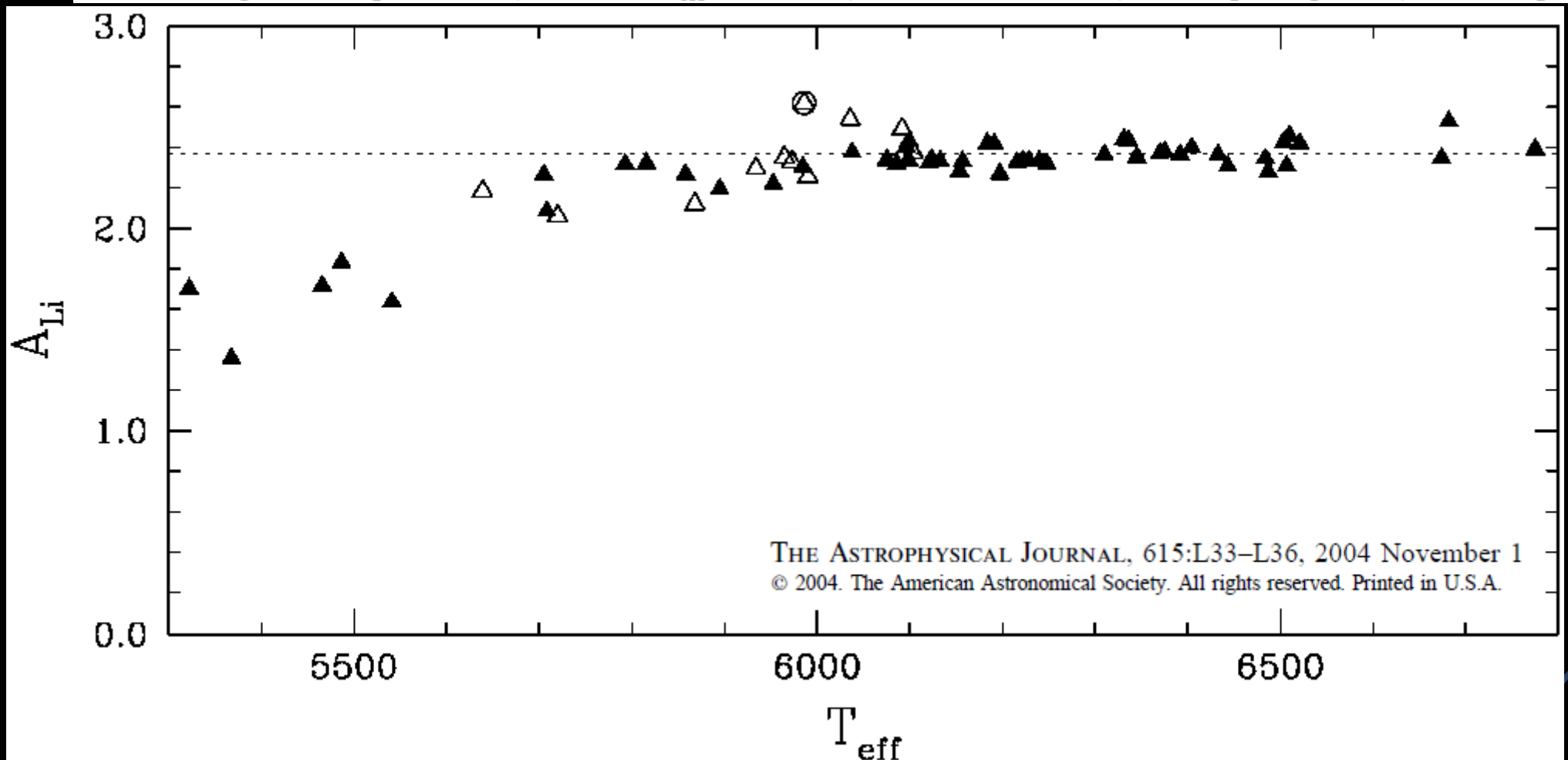
Spread of the Spite plateau: NO

REAPPRAISING THE SPITE LITHIUM PLATEAU: EXTREMELY THIN AND MARGINALLY CONSISTENT WITH *WMAP* DATA

JORGE MELÉNDEZ¹ AND IVÁN RAMÍREZ²

Received 2004 July 27; accepted 2004 September 15; published 2004 September 27

and an improved infrared flux method temperature scale. The Li abundance of 41 plateau stars (those with $T_{\text{eff}} > 6000$ K) is found to be independent of temperature and metallicity, with a star-to-star scatter of only 0.06 dex over a broad range of temperatures ($6000 \text{ K} < T_{\text{eff}} < 6800 \text{ K}$) and metallicities ($-3.4 < [\text{Fe}/\text{H}] < -1$), thus imposing



Spread of the Spite plateau: perhaps

A&A 442, 961–992 (2005)
DOI: 10.1051/0004-6361:20042491

The lithium content of the Galactic Halo stars★

– Charbonnel^{1,2} and F. Primas^{3,2,★★}

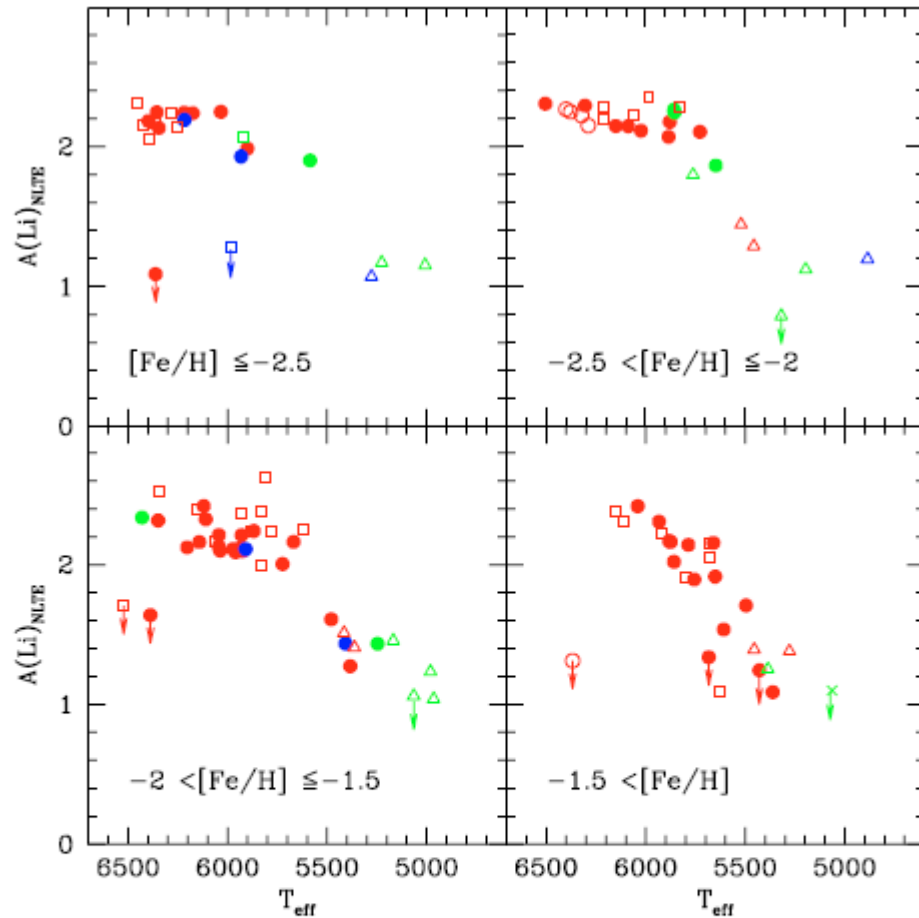


Fig. 17. $A(\text{Li})_{\text{NLTE}}$ versus T_{eff} (2) for our *complete* sample stars, for separate metallicity bins. The different symbols indicate the evolutionary status of the stars. Filled circles: dwarfs. Open circles: turnoff stars. Open squares: subgiants. Open triangles: stars at the base of the RGB. Crosses: RGB stars. The arrows indicate the lithium upper limits.

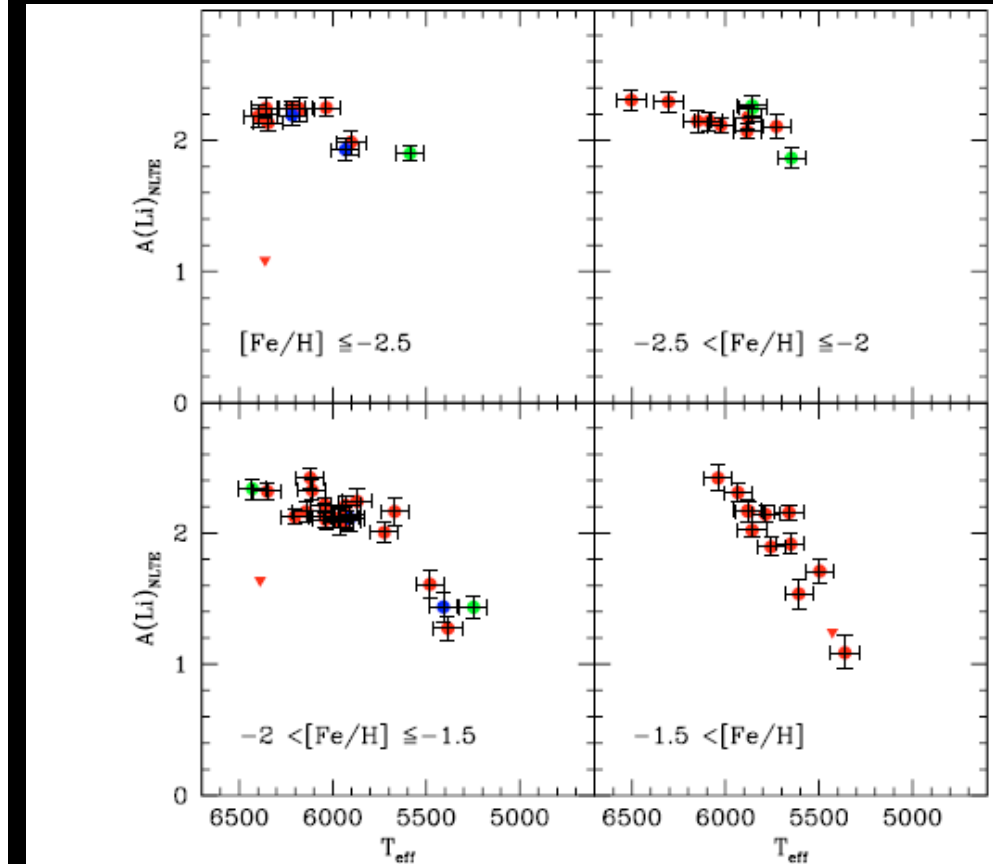


Fig. 18. $A(\text{Li})_{\text{NLTE}}$ versus T_{eff} (2) for the dwarfs of our *complete* sample. Upside-down triangles represent lithium upper limits.

Spread of the Spite plateau: no

A&A 462, 851–864 (2007)

First stars VII - Lithium in extremely metal poor dwarfs^{★,★★}

P. Bonifacio^{1,2,3}, P. Molaro^{2,3}, T. Sivarani⁴, R. Cayrel², M. Spite², F. Spite², B. Plez⁵, J. Andersen^{6,7},
B. Barbuy⁸, T. C. Beers⁴, E. Depagne⁹, V. Hill², P. François², B. Nordström⁶, and F. Primas¹⁰

$-3.0 < [\text{Fe}/\text{H}] < -2.5$. Our best value for the mean level of the plateau is $A(\text{Li}) = 2.10 \pm 0.09$. The scatter around the mean is entirely explained by our estimate of the observational error and does not allow for any intrinsic scatter in the Li abundances. In addition, we

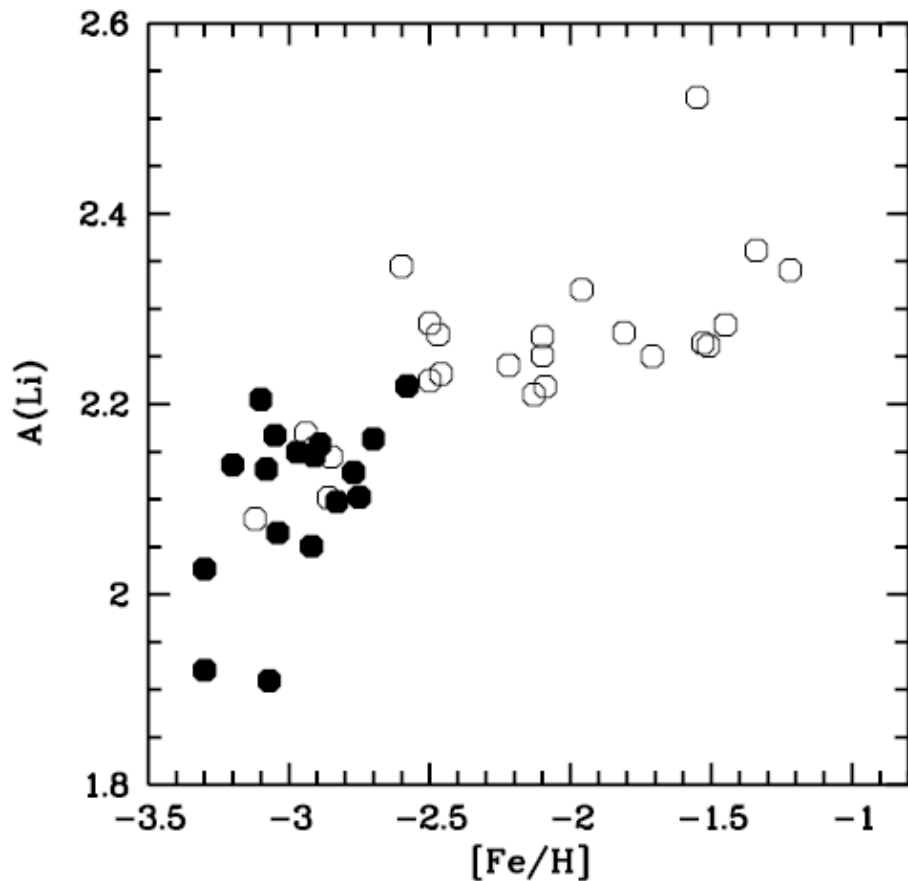


Fig. 7. Comparison of our sample (filled circles), with that of A06 (open circles). The temperature scale of both samples is based on $H\alpha$ profiles.

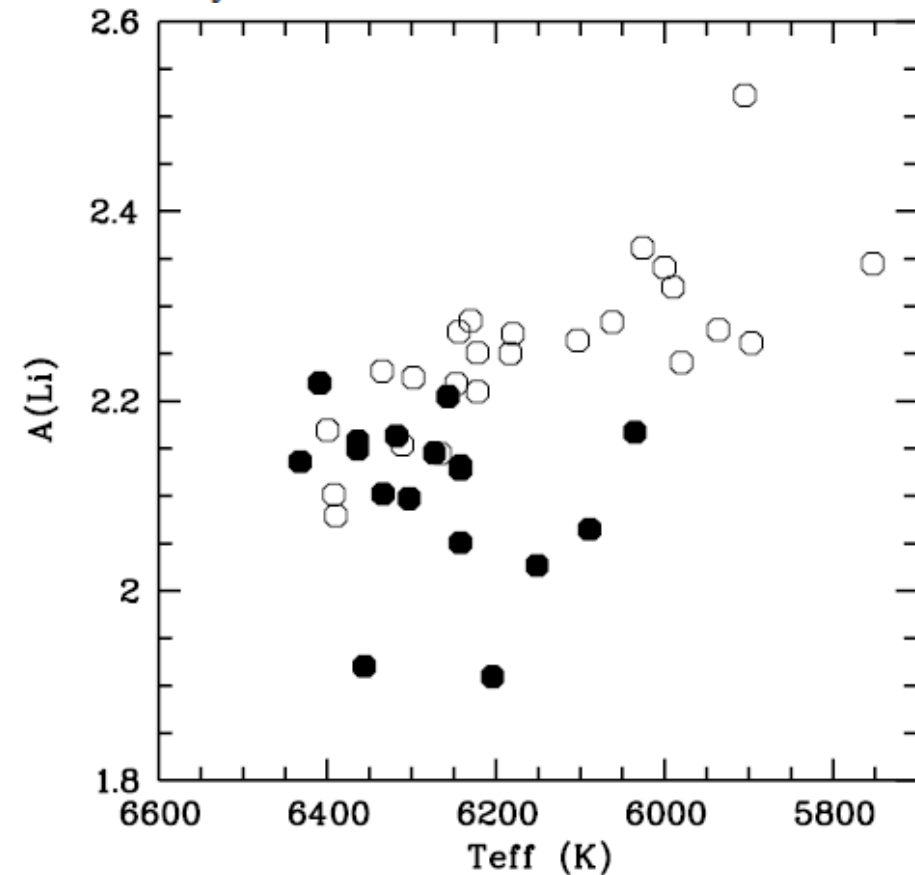


Fig. 9. Comparison of our sample (filled circles), with that of A06 (open circles) in the Li- T_{eff} plane.

Spread of the Spite plateau: at low [Fe/H]

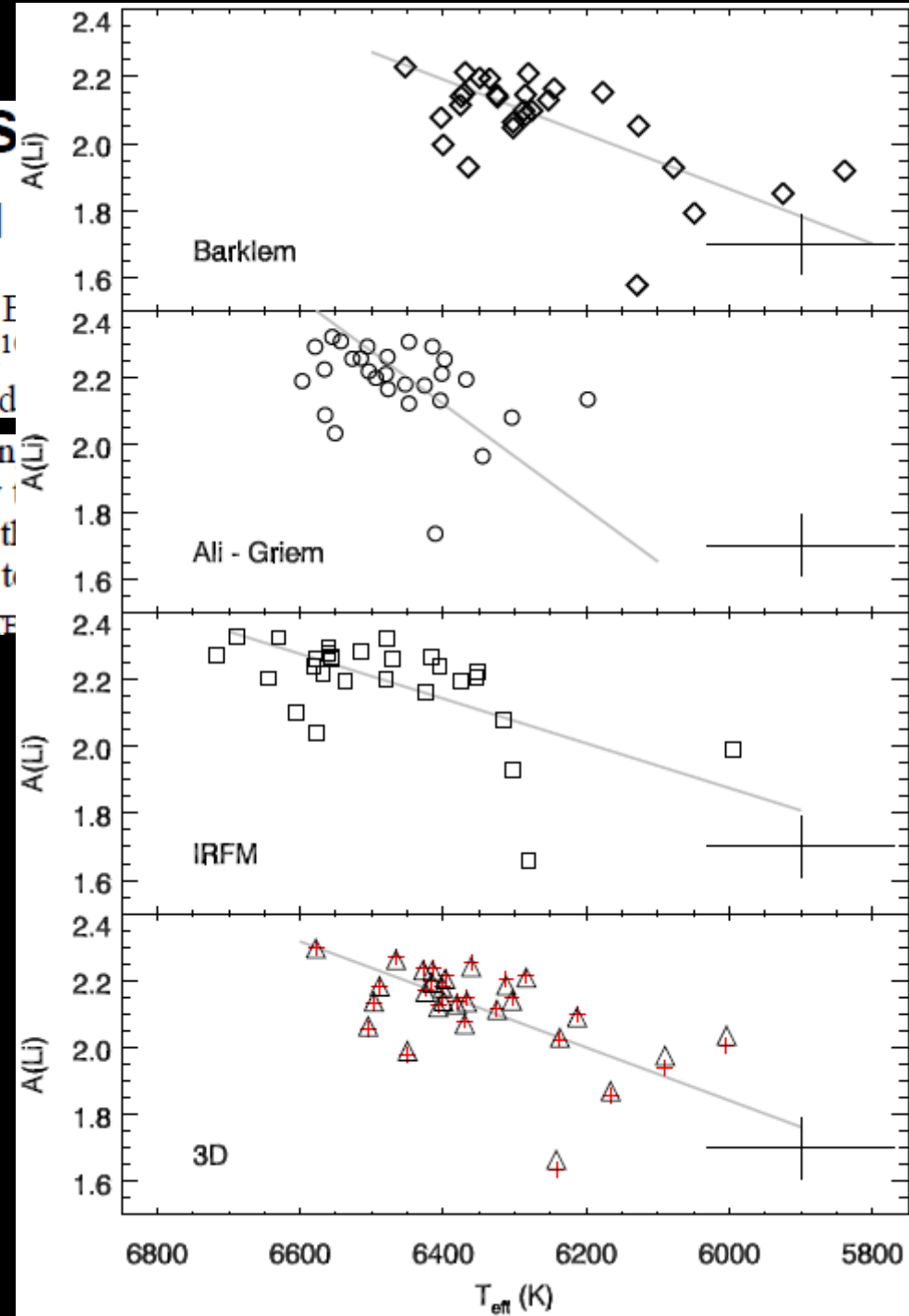
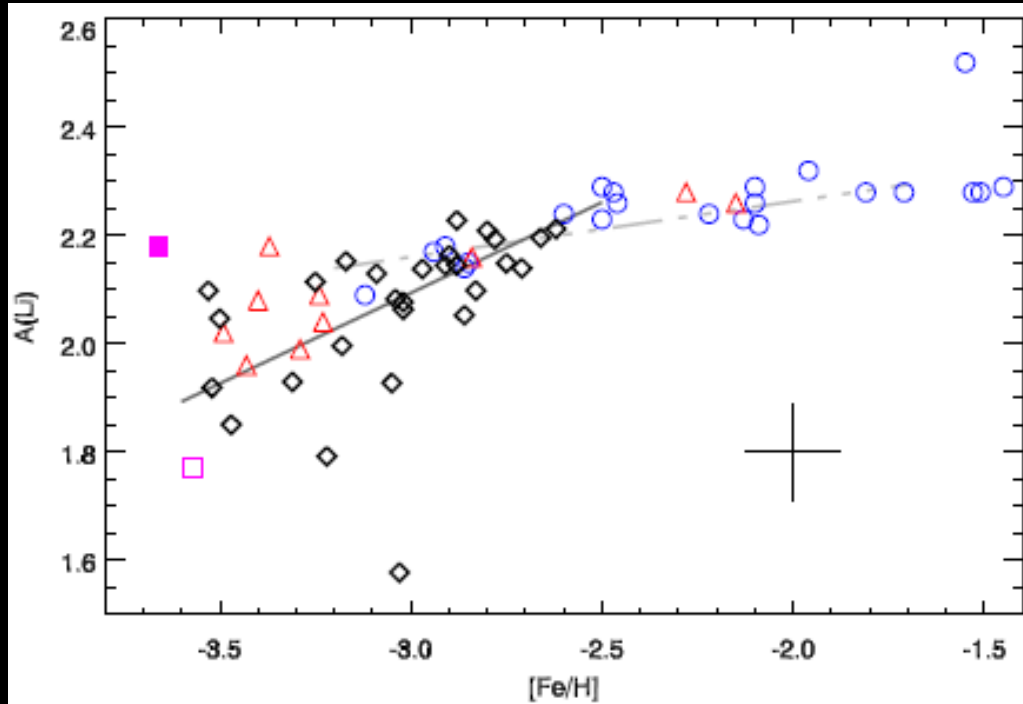
2010A&A...522A..26S

The metal-poor end of the Spite plateau

I: Stellar parameters, metallicities, and

L. Sbordone^{1,2,3}, P. Bonifacio^{1,2,4}, E. Caffau², H.-G. Ludwig^{1,2,5}, N. T. I. Steffen⁸, R. Cayrel², B. Freytag⁹, C. Van't Veer², P. Molaro⁴, B. Plez¹, Beers¹², N. Christlieb⁵, P. François², and

dex in [Fe/H], which has a significance of 2-3 σ . The slopes derived using a significant slope is also detected in the $A(\text{Li})-T_{\text{eff}}$ plane, driven mainly by stars to be Li-poor. However, when we remove these stars the slope detected in the full sample is considered, the scatter in $A(\text{Li})$ increases by a factor of 2 to thin above [Fe/H]=-2.8. At this metallicity, the plateau lies at $\langle A(\text{Li}) \rangle_{3D, NLTE}$



Spread of the Spite plateau: YES

A&A 515, L3 (2010)

Observational evidence for a broken Li Spite plateau and mass-dependent Li depletion^{*,**}

J. Meléndez¹, L. Casagrande², I. Ramírez², M. Asplund², and W. J. Schuster³

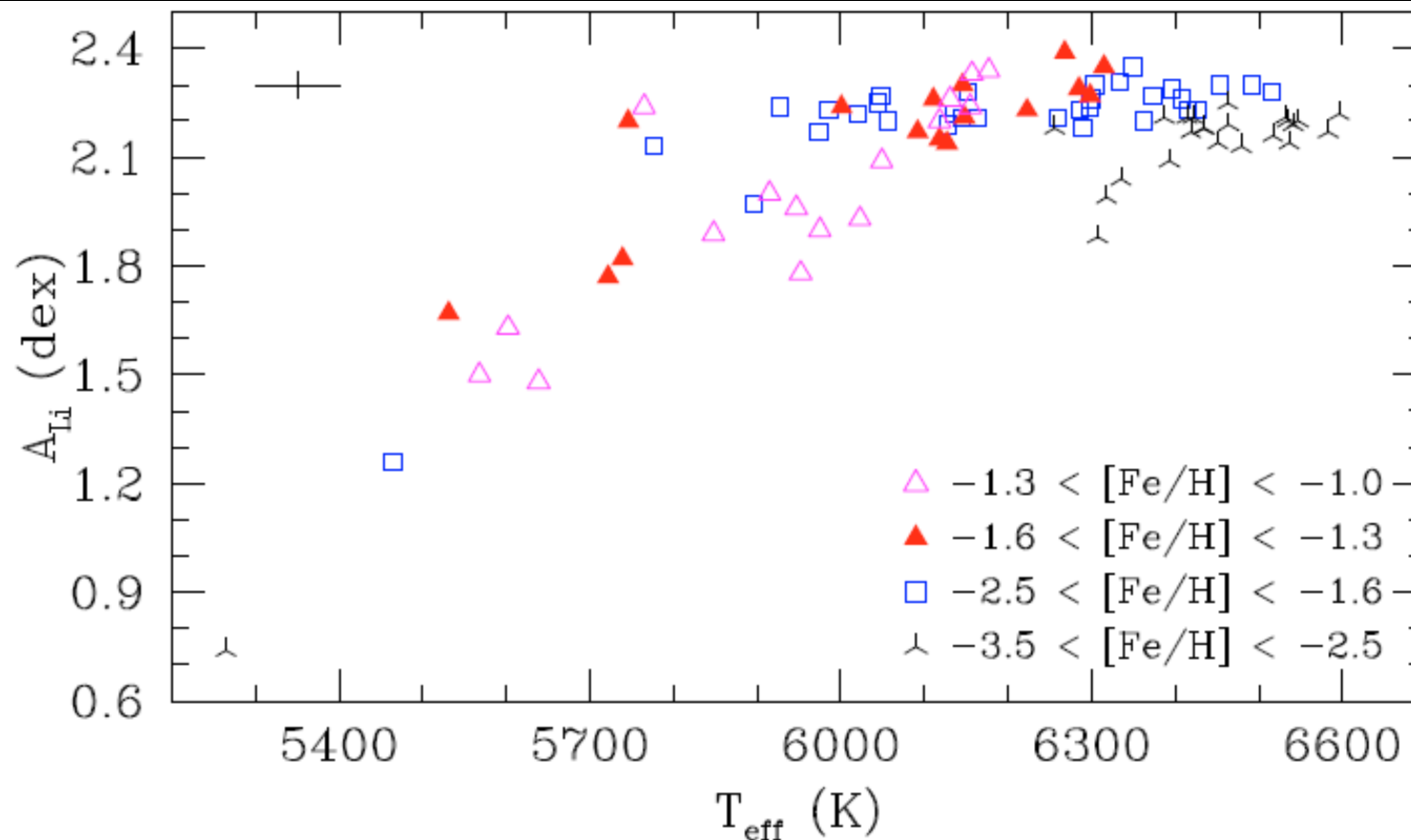


Fig. 2. Li abundances vs. T_{eff} for our sample stars in different metallicity ranges. A typical error bar is shown.

Spread of the Spite plateau: YES

A&A 515, L3 (2010)

Observational evidence for a bi-modal and mass-dependent Li

J. Meléndez¹, L. Casagrande², I. Ramírez², M.

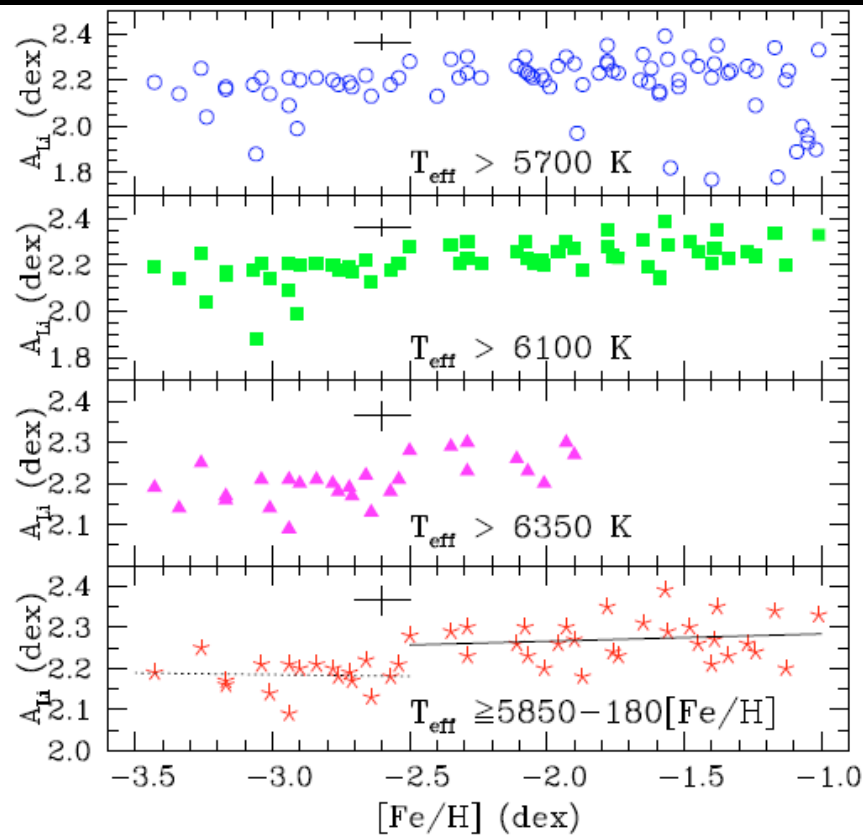


Fig. 3. Li abundances for stars with $T_{\text{eff}} > 5700$ K (open circles), > 6100 K (filled squares), > 6350 K (filled triangles) and $\geq 5850 - 180 \times [\text{Fe}/\text{H}]$ (stars). In the bottom panel stars above the cutoff in T_{eff} fall into two flat plateaus with $\sigma = 0.04$ and 0.05 dex for $[\text{Fe}/\text{H}] < -2.5$ (dotted line) and $[\text{Fe}/\text{H}] \geq -2.5$ (solid line), respectively.

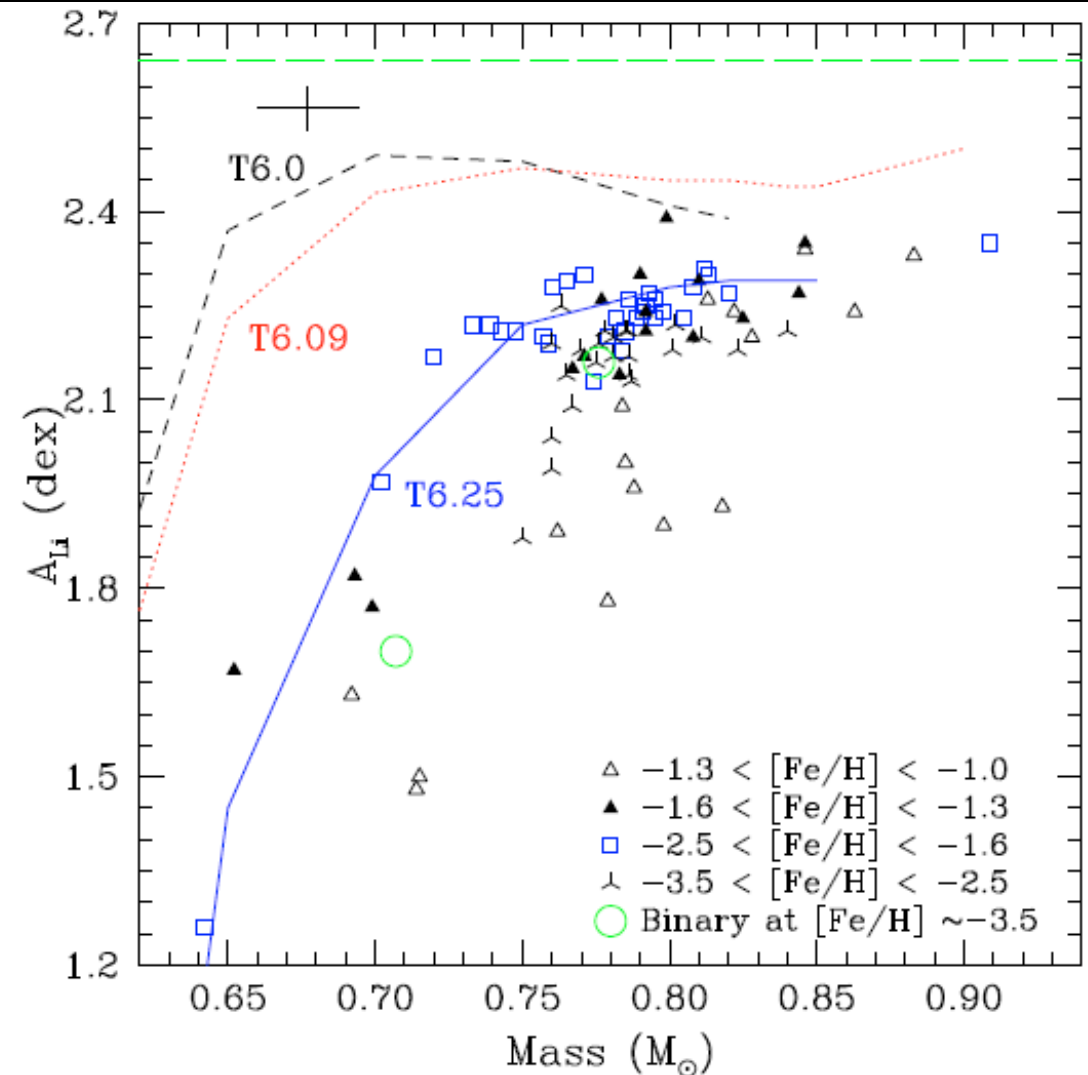



Fig. 5. Li abundances as a function of stellar mass in different metallicity ranges. The metal-poor ($[\text{Fe}/\text{H}] \sim -3.5$) binary BPS CS22876-032 (G08) is represented by open circles, nicely fitting the Li-mass trend. Models at $[\text{Fe}/\text{H}] = -2.3$ including diffusion and T6.0 (short dashed line), T6.09 (dotted line) and T6.25 (solid line) turbulence (Richard et al. 2005) are shown. The models were rescaled to an initial $A_{\text{Li}} = 2.64$ (long dashed line) and by $\Delta M = +0.05 M_{\odot}$.

Highest precise homogeneous analysis of Li covering a broad range in T_{eff} and metallicity

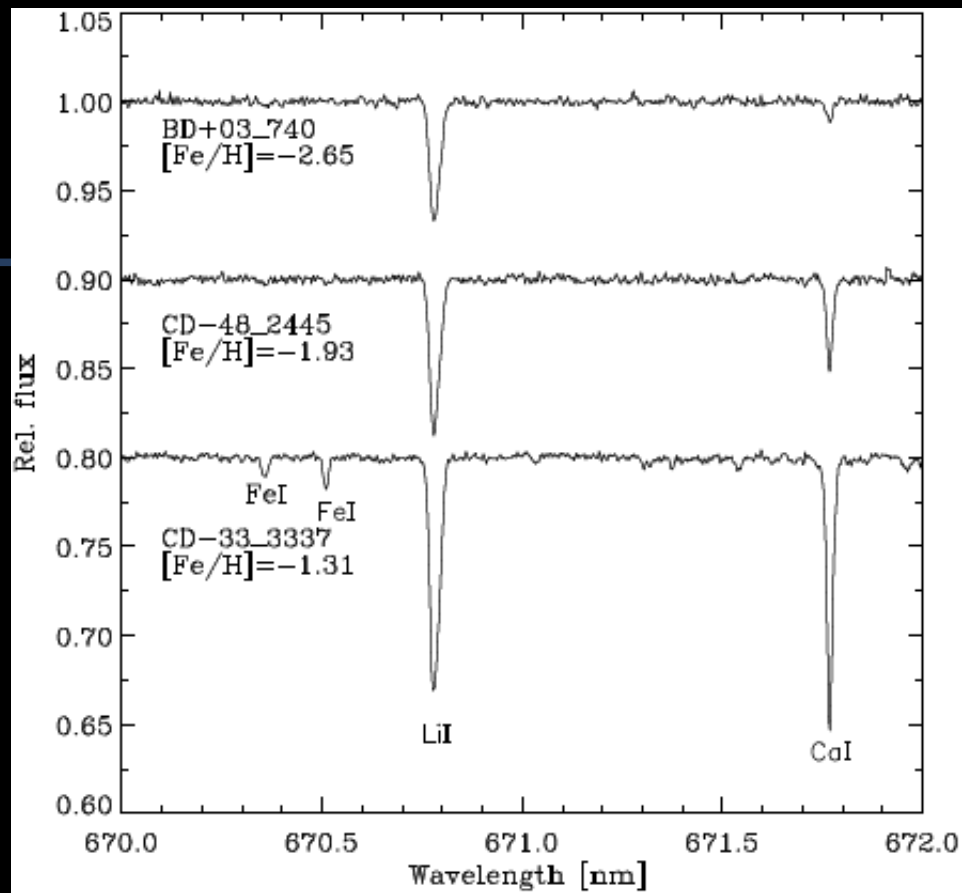
- 113 stars, mostly based on UVES/VLT data, plus some HIRES/Keck data + Data from the literature
- $-3.5 < [\text{Fe}/\text{H}] < -1$
- $5400 \text{ K} < T_{\text{eff}} < 6600 \text{ K}$

How to get new insights into the Li-7 problem?: *improving the Li abundances*

- I. **Less is more:** use the best available data (higher resolution, higher S/N, or average literature EW data)
- II. **Better handle of reddening:** $E(B-V)$ affects the photometric T_{eff} , so precise $E(B-V)$ is needed
- III. **Improve the T_{eff} scale:** higher T_{eff}  higher Li
- IV. **Explore other variables:** e.g. lithium vs. evolutionary stage, different $[Fe/H]$ intervals

I. Best available data

Asplund et al.
2006;
VLT+UVES



Asplund &
Meléndez
2008;
Keck + HIRES

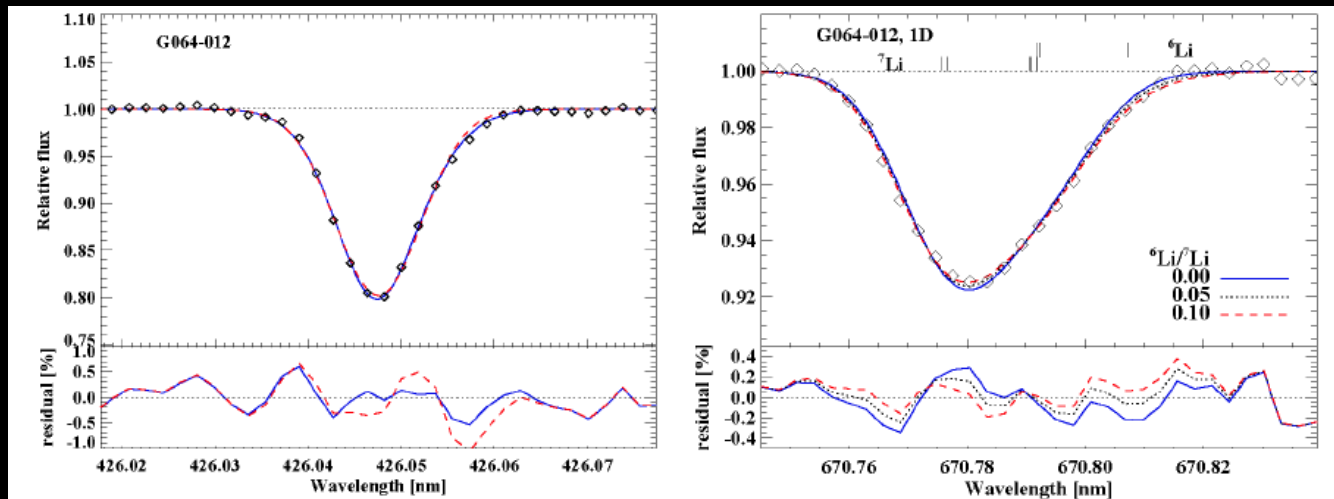


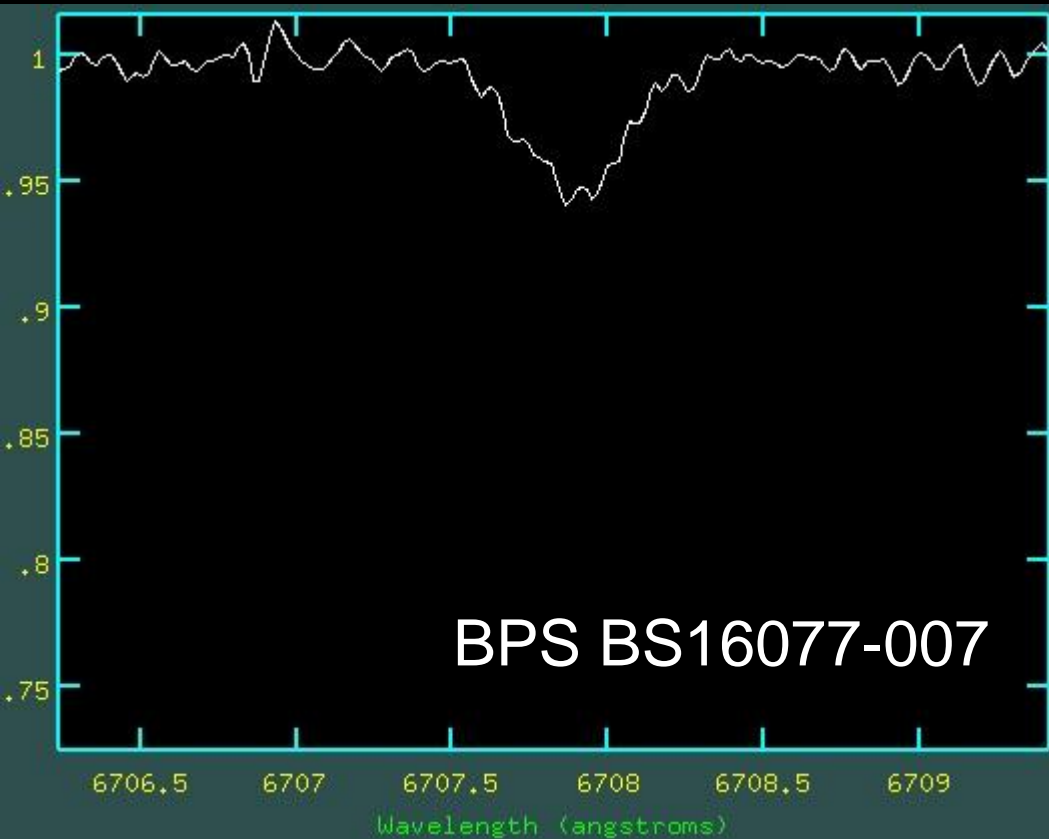
FIGURE 1. *Left panel:* The observed FeI 426 nm line in G064-012 (rhombs) together with the best-fitting 1D (dashed, red) and 3D (solid, blue) profiles. Notice the much reduced residuals in the 3D case due to the predicted line asymmetry. *Right panel:* The observed and predicted (1D) profiles of the LiI 670.8 nm line for three different ${}^6\text{Li}/{}^7\text{Li}$ ratios. The best-fitting value is ${}^6\text{Li}/{}^7\text{Li} \approx 5\%$.

I. New UVES (+HIRES) data

New UVES program (2010-B).

PI: Meléndez,

co-I: Casagrande, Ramirez, Asplund, Lind



- 23 stars observed for NaD (IS) and Li

- A few more stars added from the ESO and Keck archives

(Thanks to P. Bonifacio and F.S. team for sharing the NaD region of 11 stars)

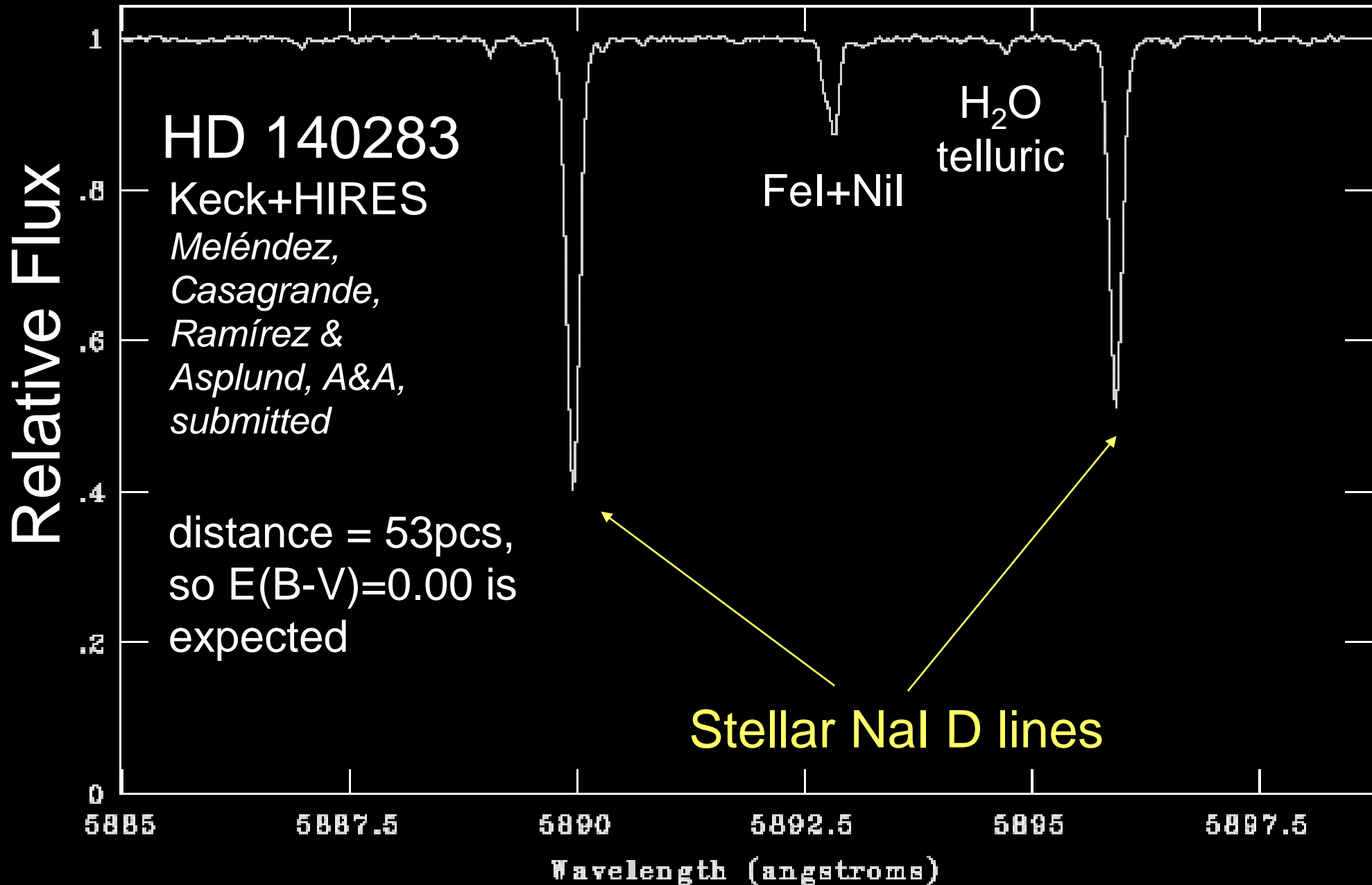
- **Total sample** (Melendez et al. 2010) + new sample =

113 stars in the metallicity range

$-3.5 < [Fe/H] < -1$

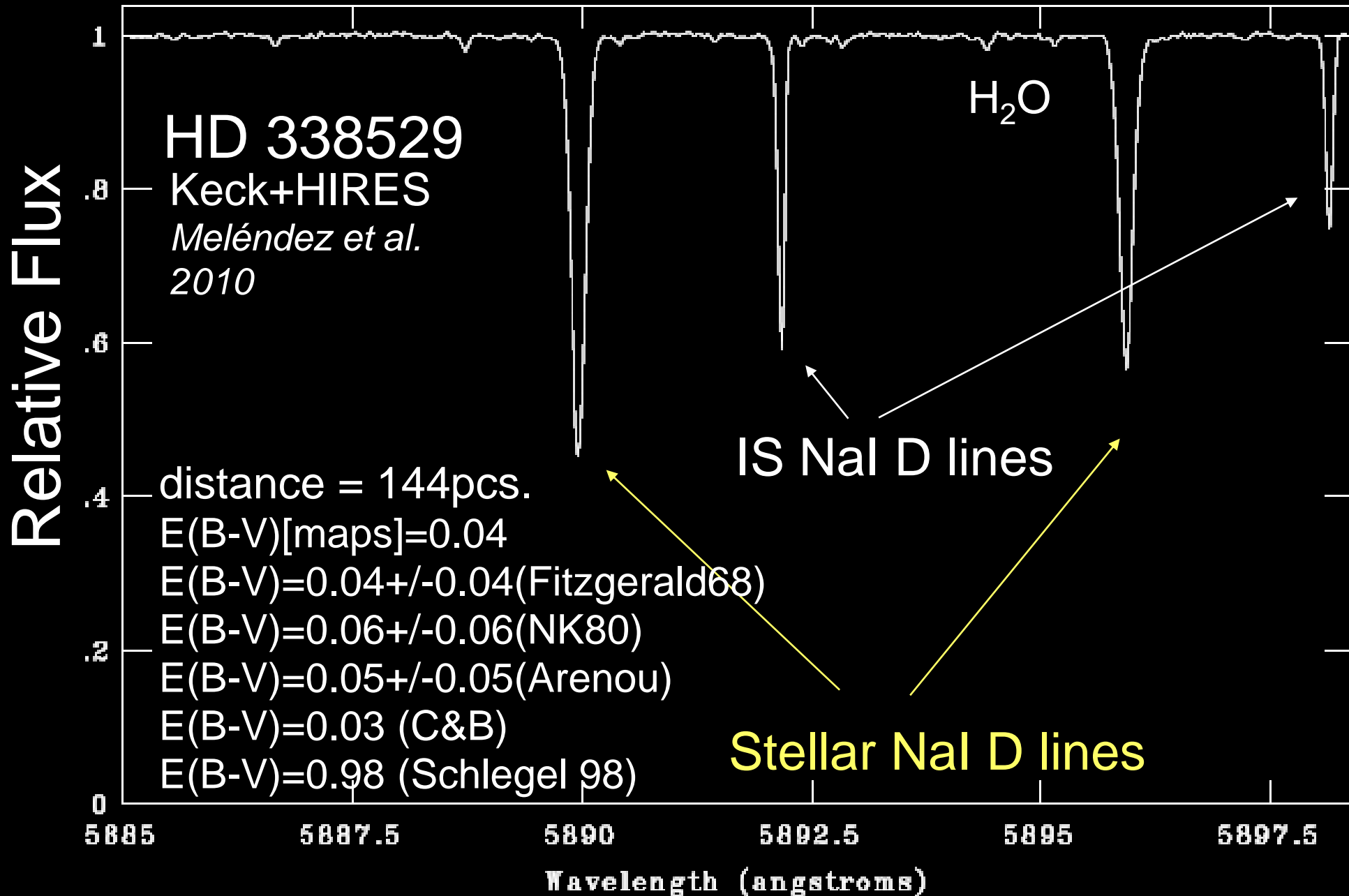
II. Improve E(B-V): using NaD lines

$$E(B-V) = 0.000 \pm 0.001 \text{ mag}$$



II. Improve E(B-V): using NaD lines

$$E(B-V) = 0.008 \pm 0.001 \text{ mag}$$



III. Improve the T_{eff} scale: Casagrande+

Casagrande, Ramírez, Meléndez, Bessell & Asplund 2010 (A&A, in press)

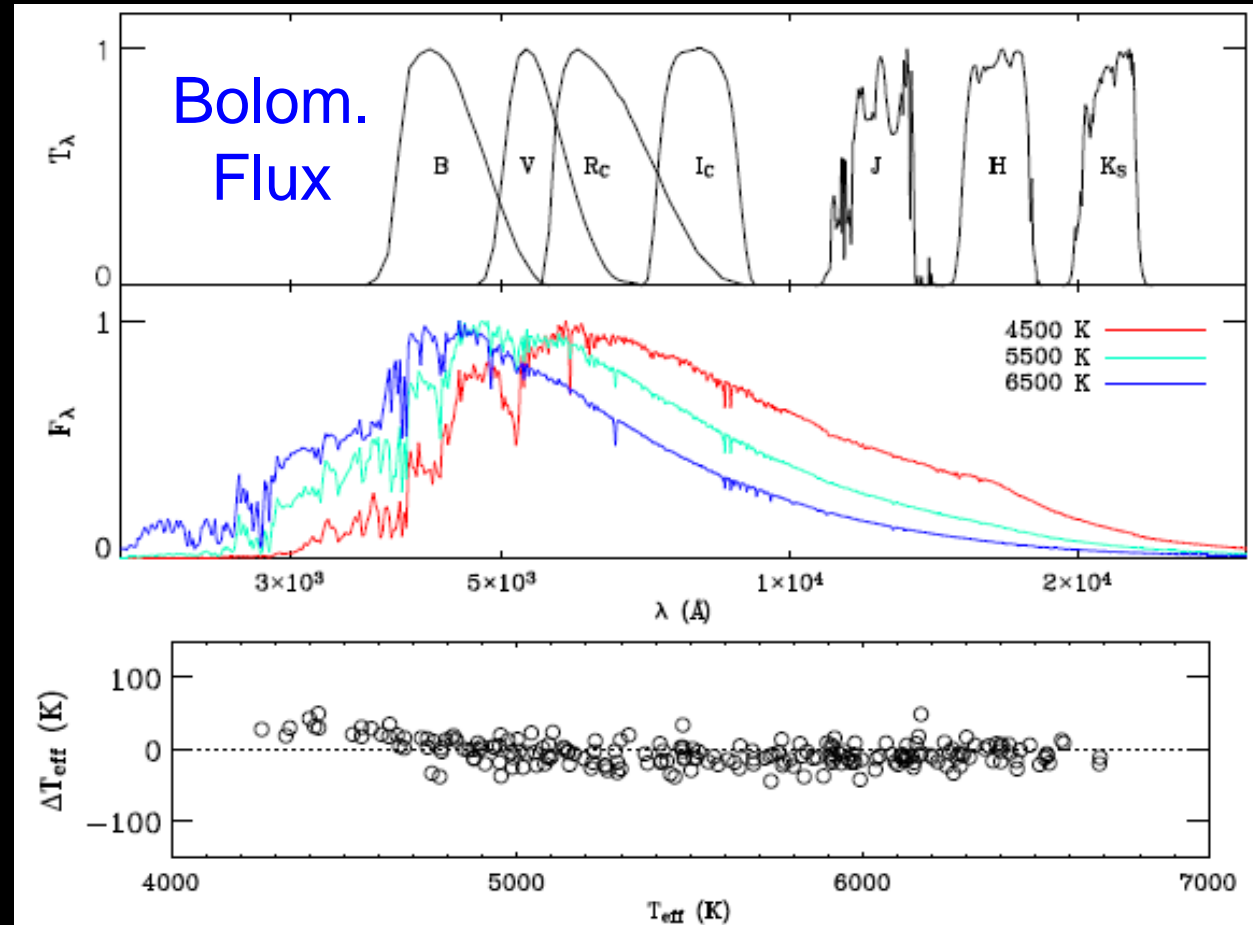
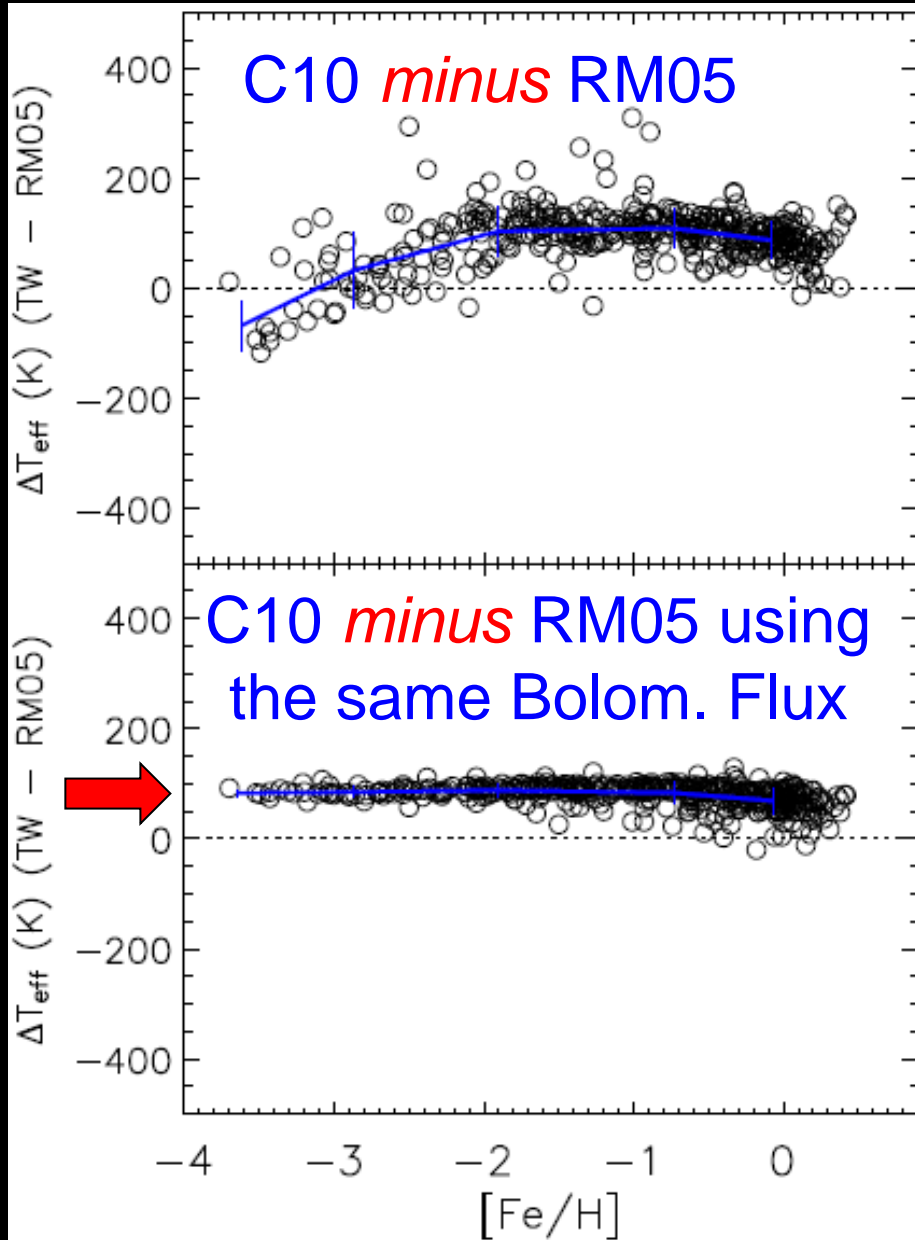
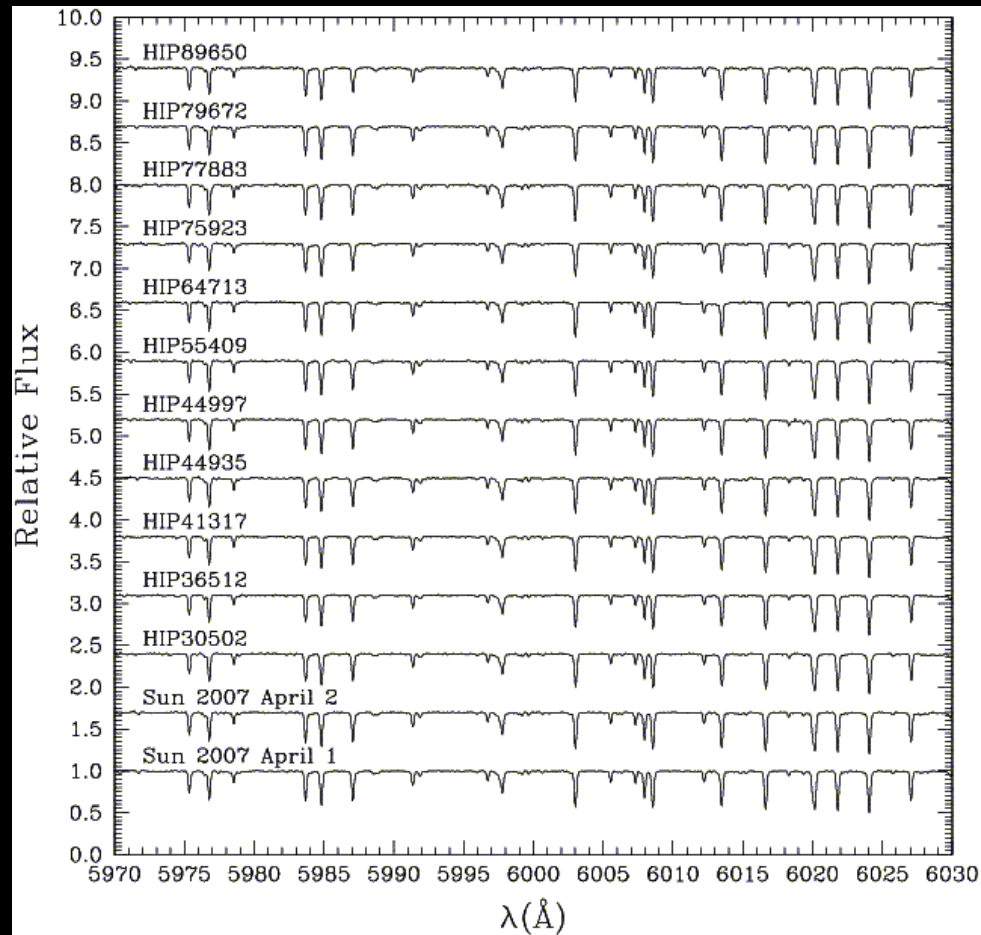


Fig. 1. Top panel: Johnson-Cousins-2MASS filter sets used in this work. Middle panel: synthetic solar metallicity spectra at different T_{eff} . For the sake of comparison all curves have been normalized to unit. Bottom panel: difference in effective temperatures with – without using $(RI)_C$ magnitudes to recover the bolometric flux.

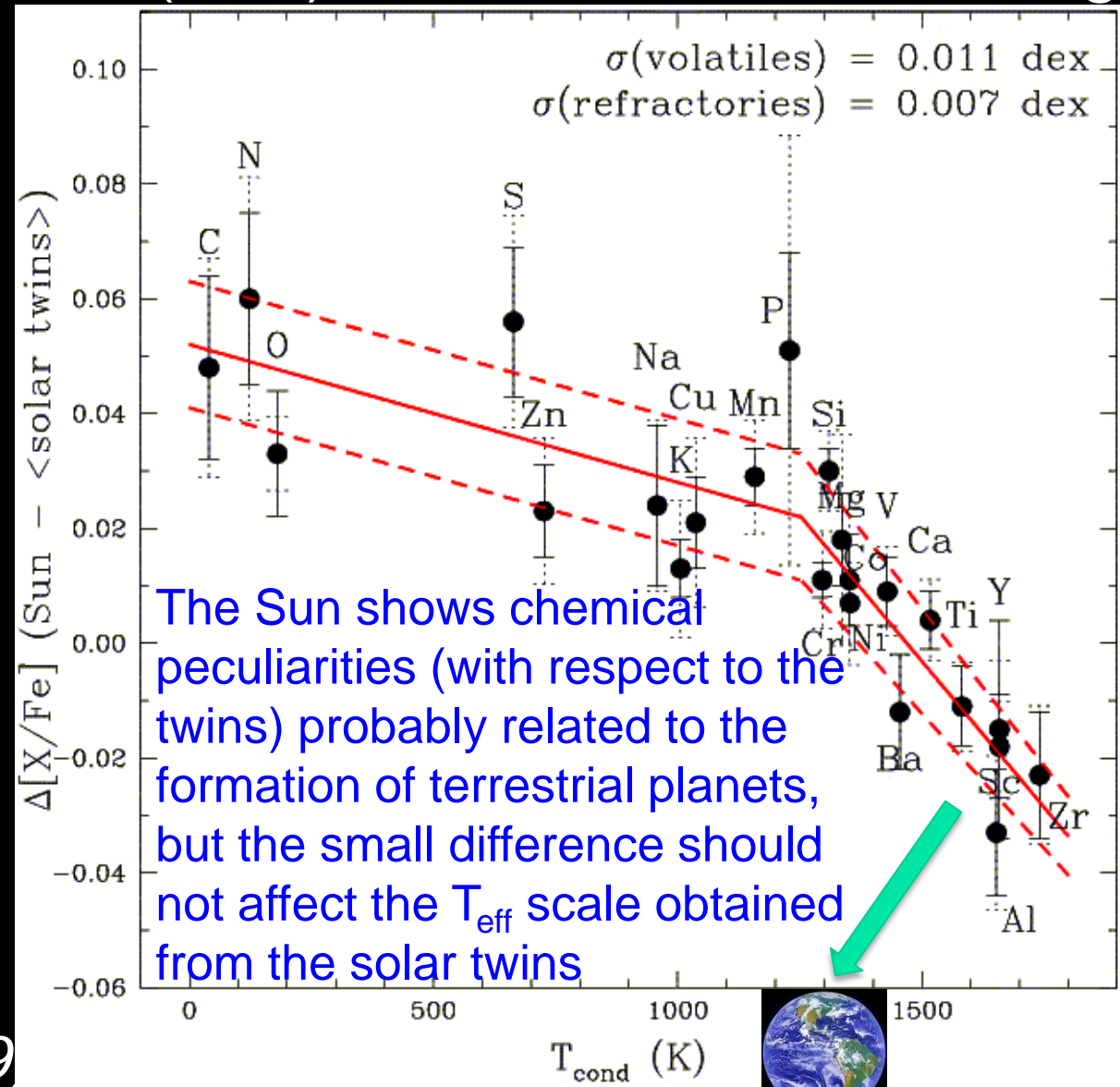
III. Improve the T_{eff} scale: solar twins

Casagrande, Ramírez, Meléndez, Bessell & Asplund 2010, A&A

Zero-point of our new T_{eff} scale (C10) has been checked using solar twins



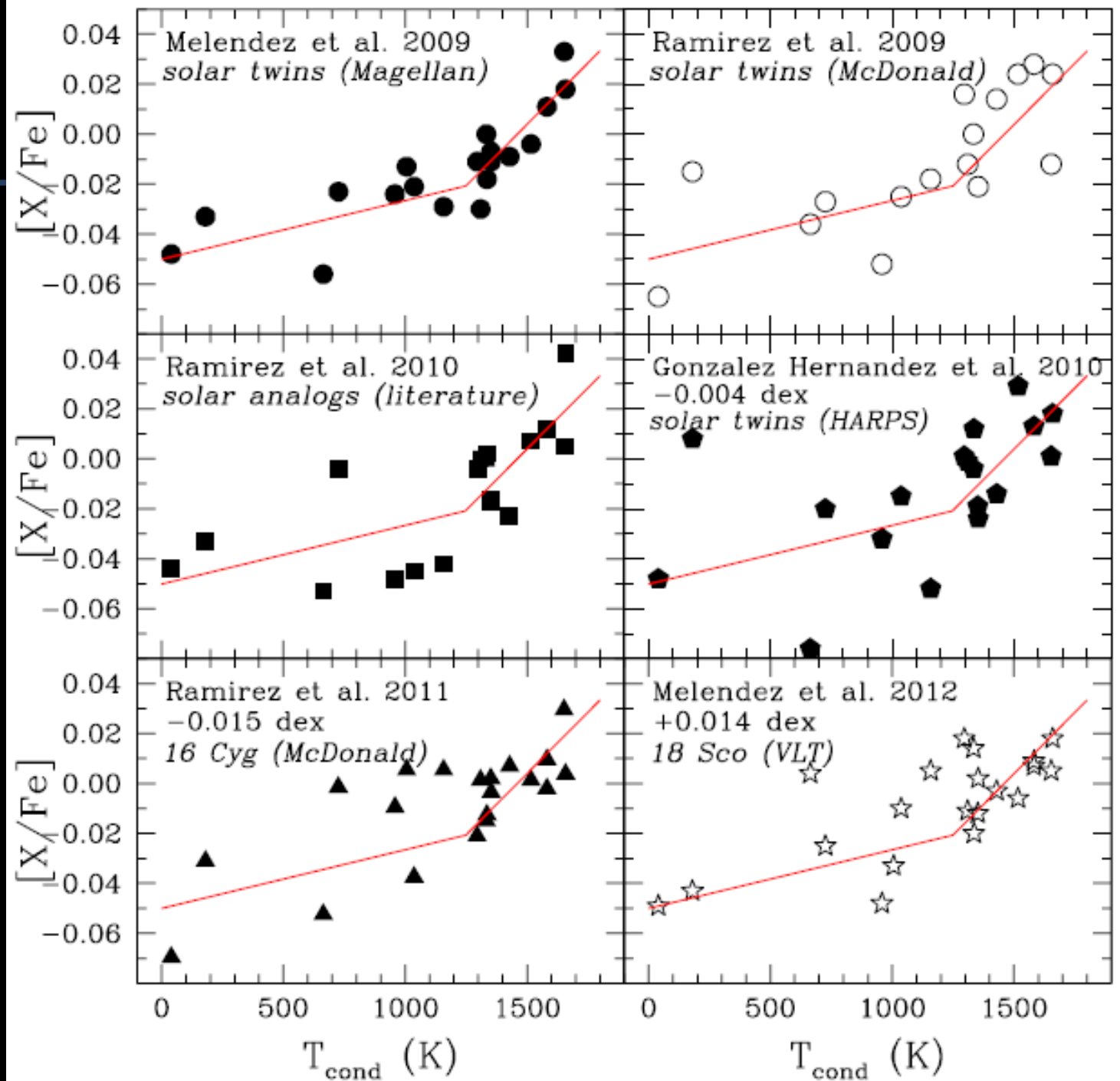
Southern Solar twins found with Magellan+MIKE (Meléndez et al. 09)



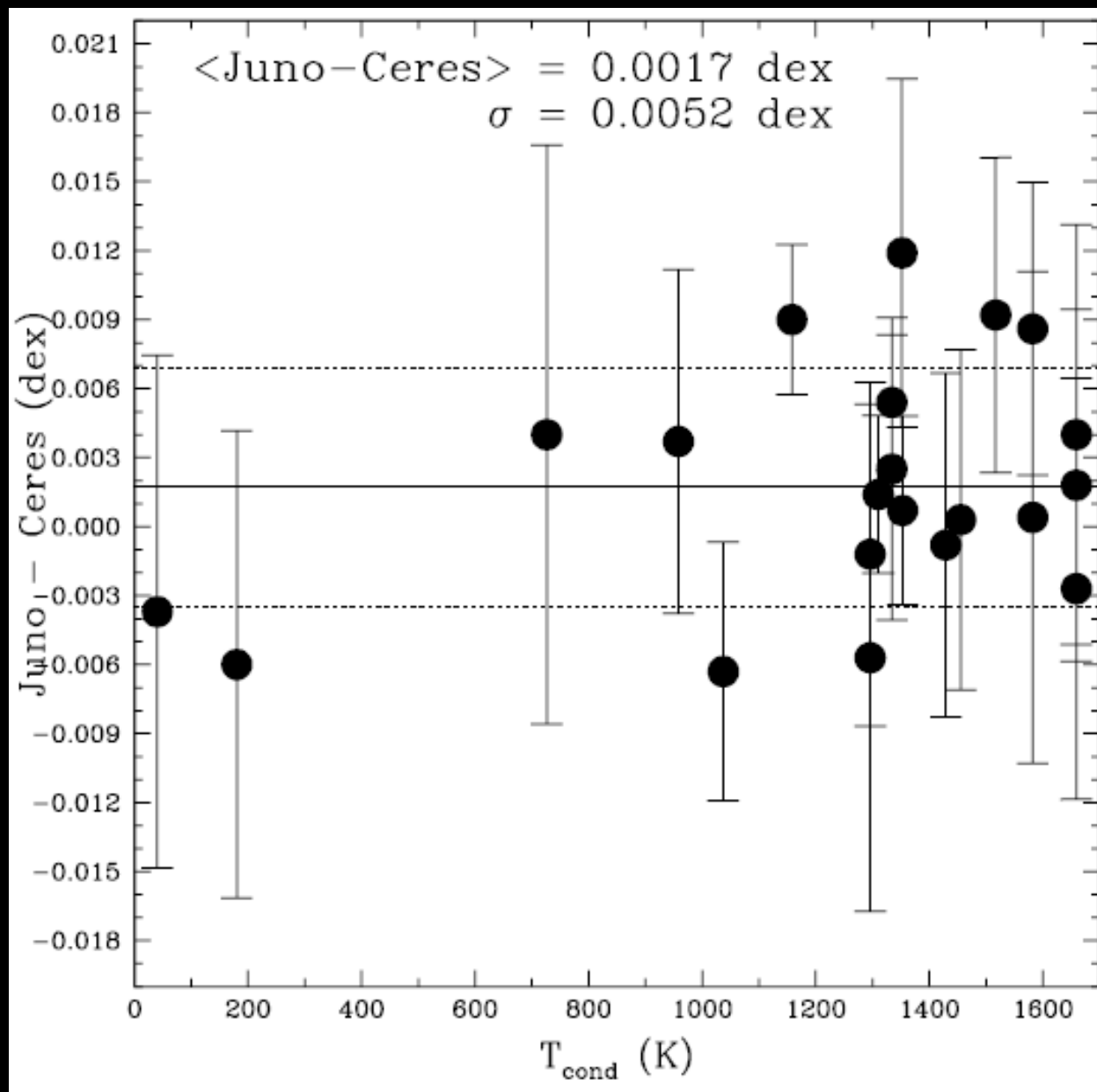
The Sun shows chemical peculiarities (with respect to the twins) probably related to the formation of terrestrial planets, but the small difference should not affect the T_{eff} scale obtained from the solar twins



The Sun has chemical anomalies!

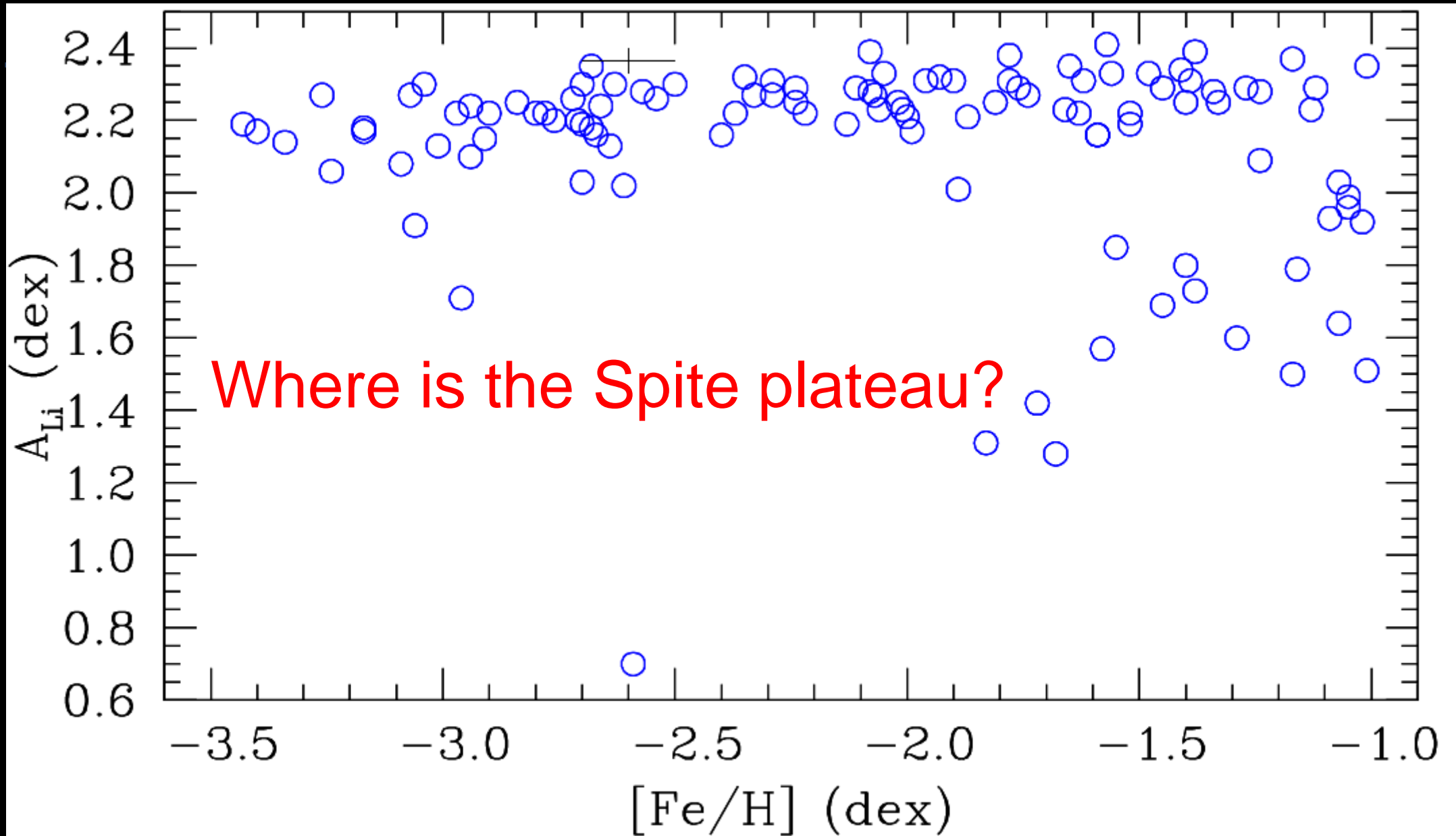


Check of our errors using 2 asteroids (sigma = 0.005 dex !!!)

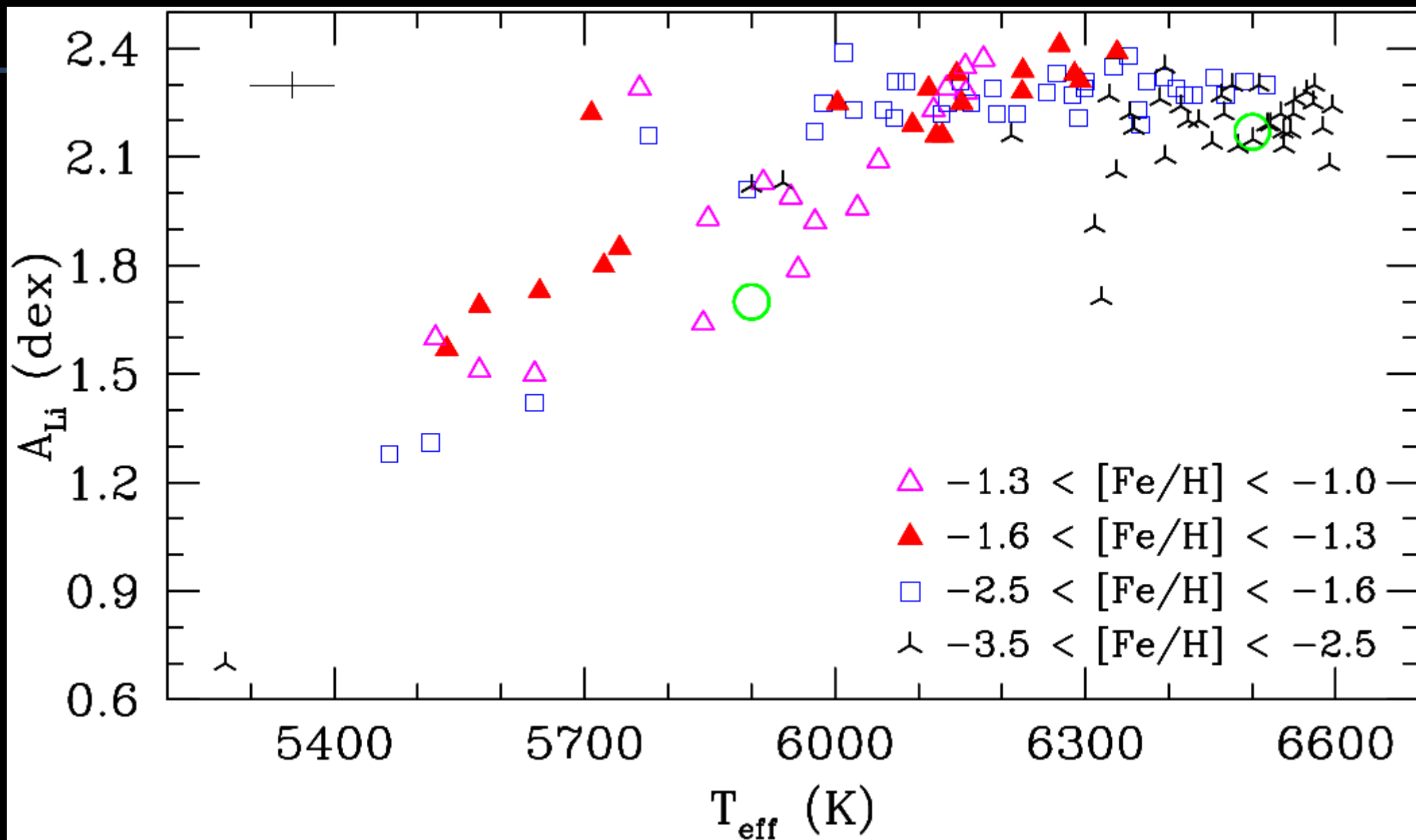


IV. New results on Li in metal-poor stars

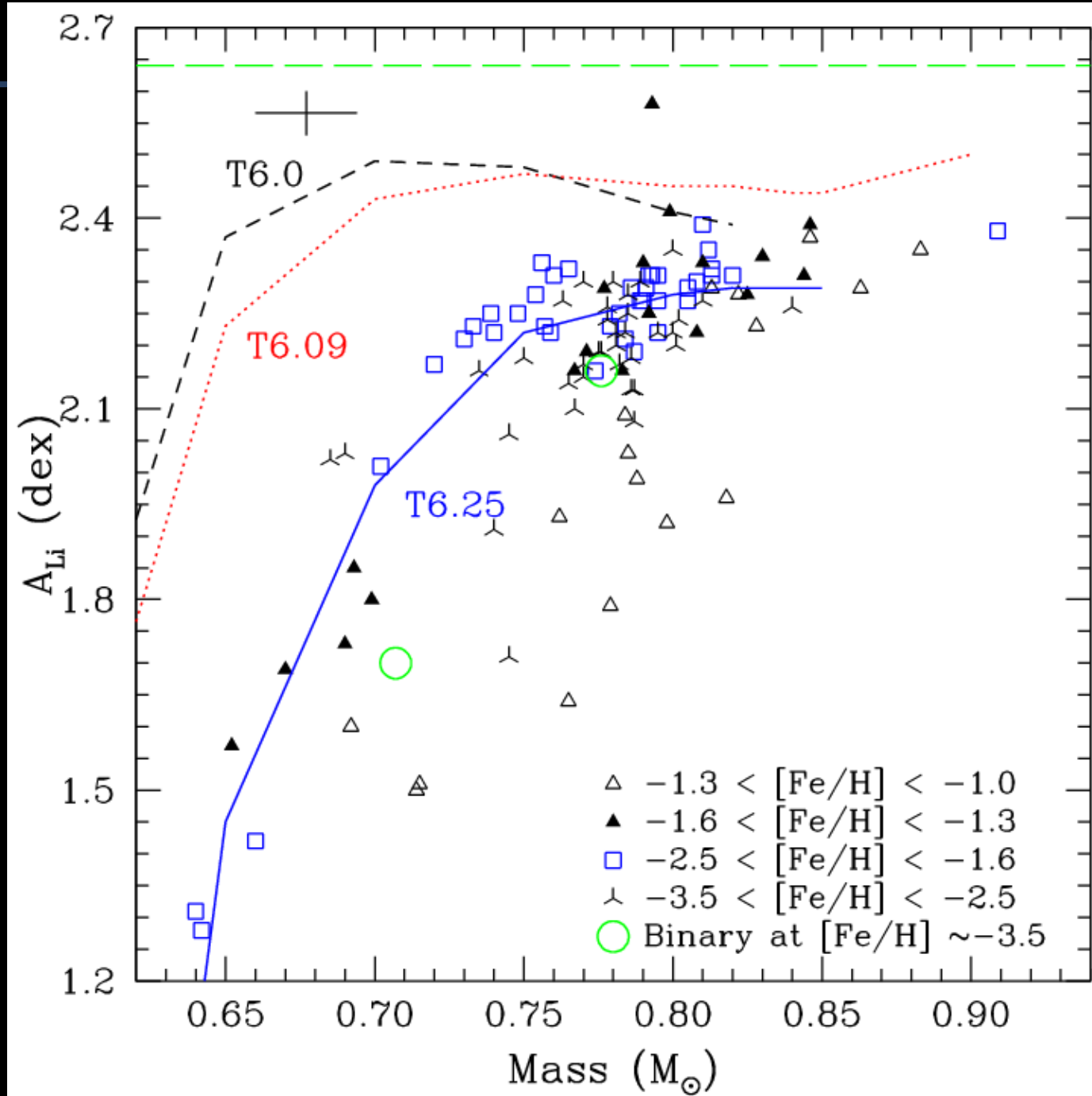
IV. New results: $A(\text{Li})$ vs. $[\text{Fe}/\text{H}]$



IV. New results: $A(\text{Li})$ vs. T_{eff}



IV. New results: $A(\text{Li})$ vs. mass



Explore stellar depletion in 6 metallicity bins (113 stars)

- $1.25 < [\text{Fe}/\text{H}] < -1.00$

- $1.50 < [\text{Fe}/\text{H}] < -1.25$

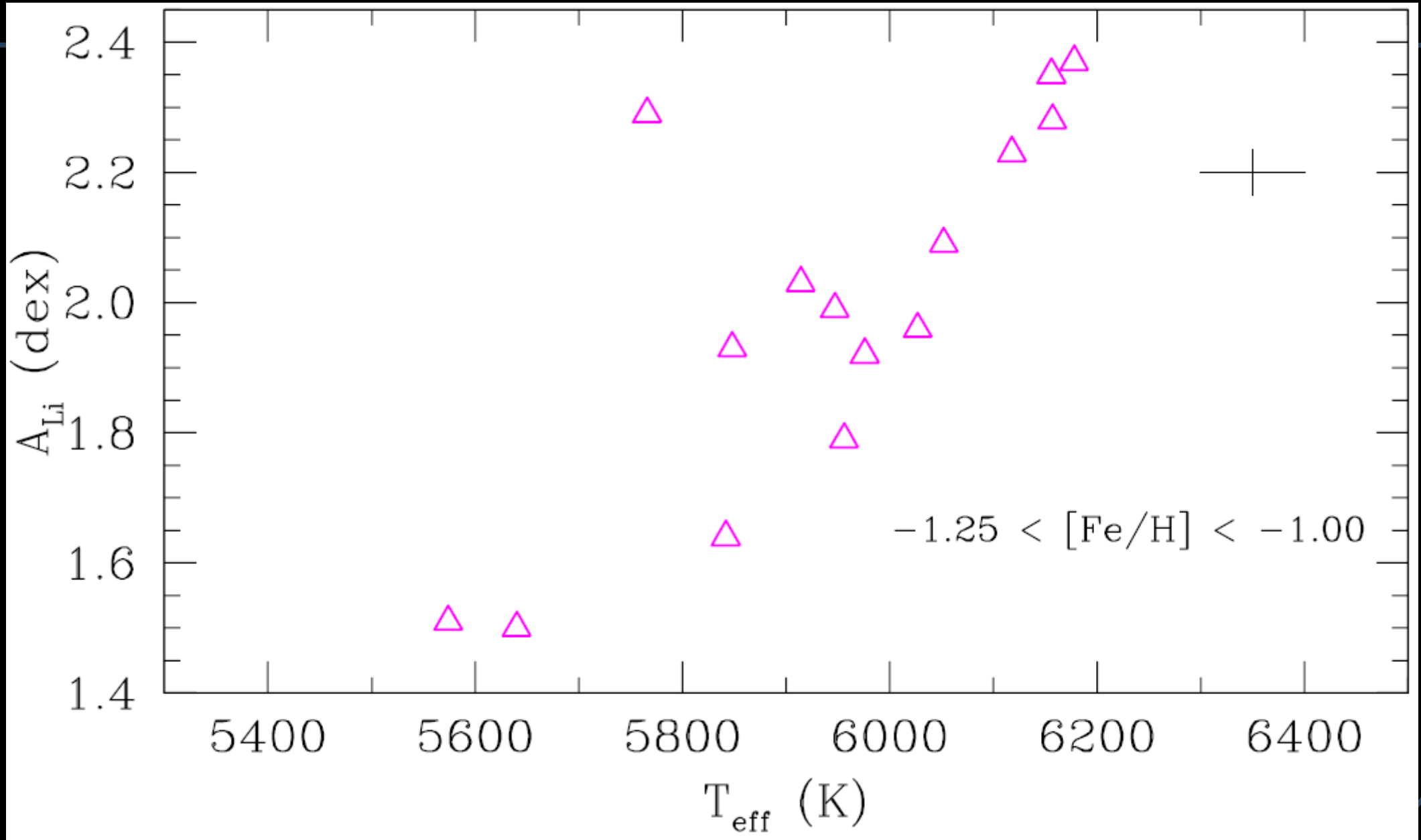
- $2.0 < [\text{Fe}/\text{H}] < -1.5$

- $2.5 < [\text{Fe}/\text{H}] < -2.0$

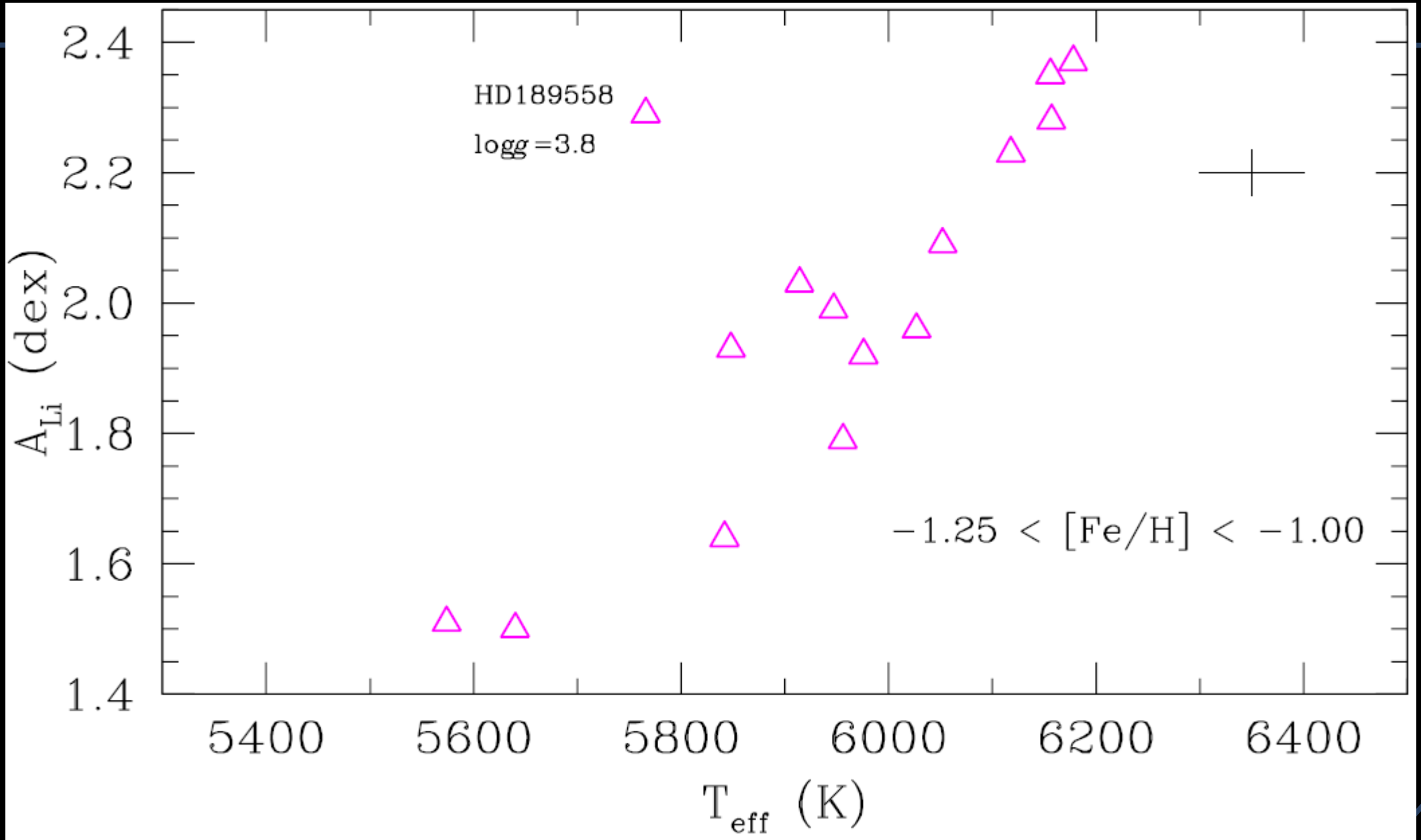
- $3.0 < [\text{Fe}/\text{H}] < -2.5$

- $3.5 < [\text{Fe}/\text{H}] < -2.0$

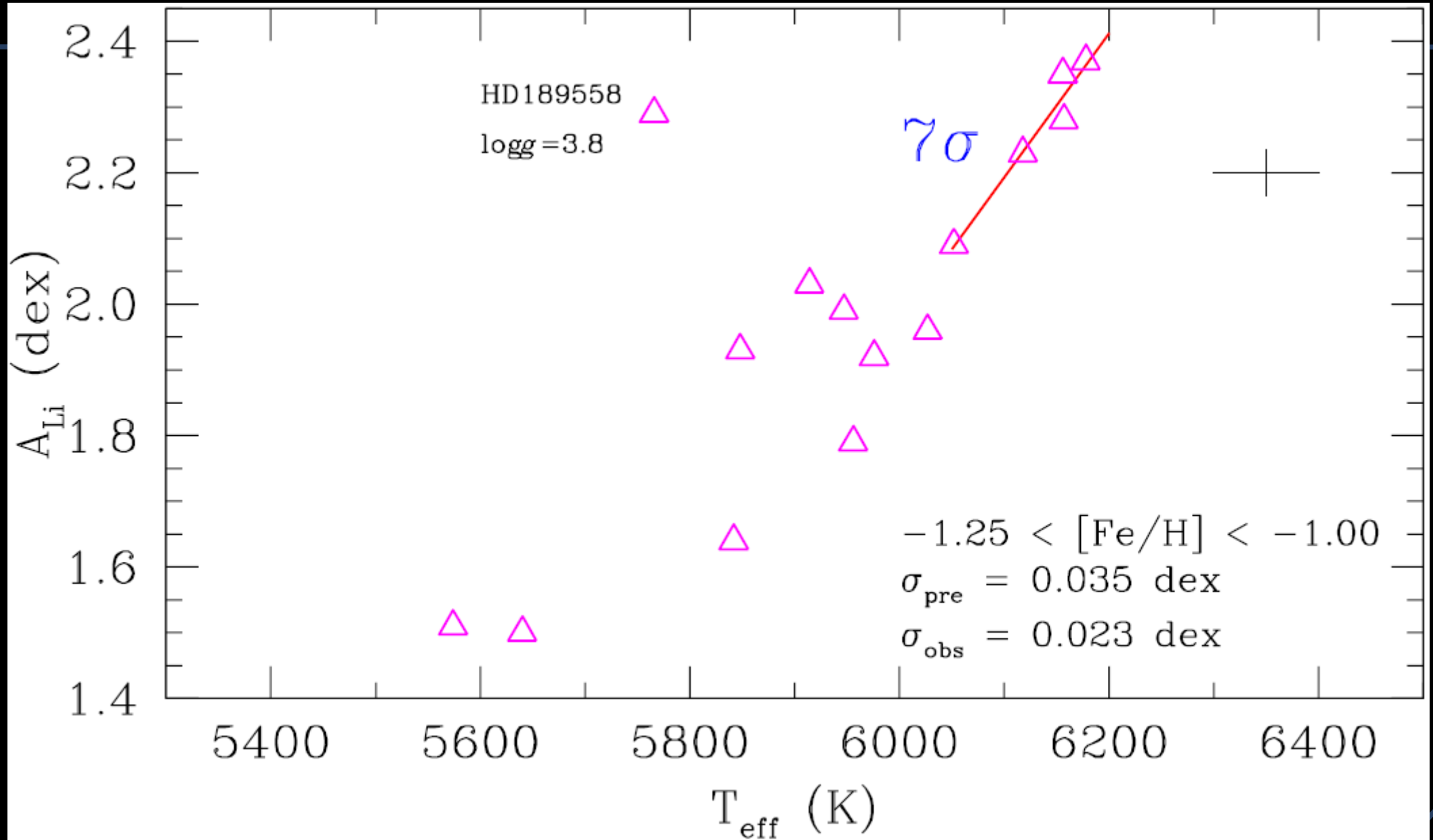
- 1.25 < [Fe/H] < -1.00



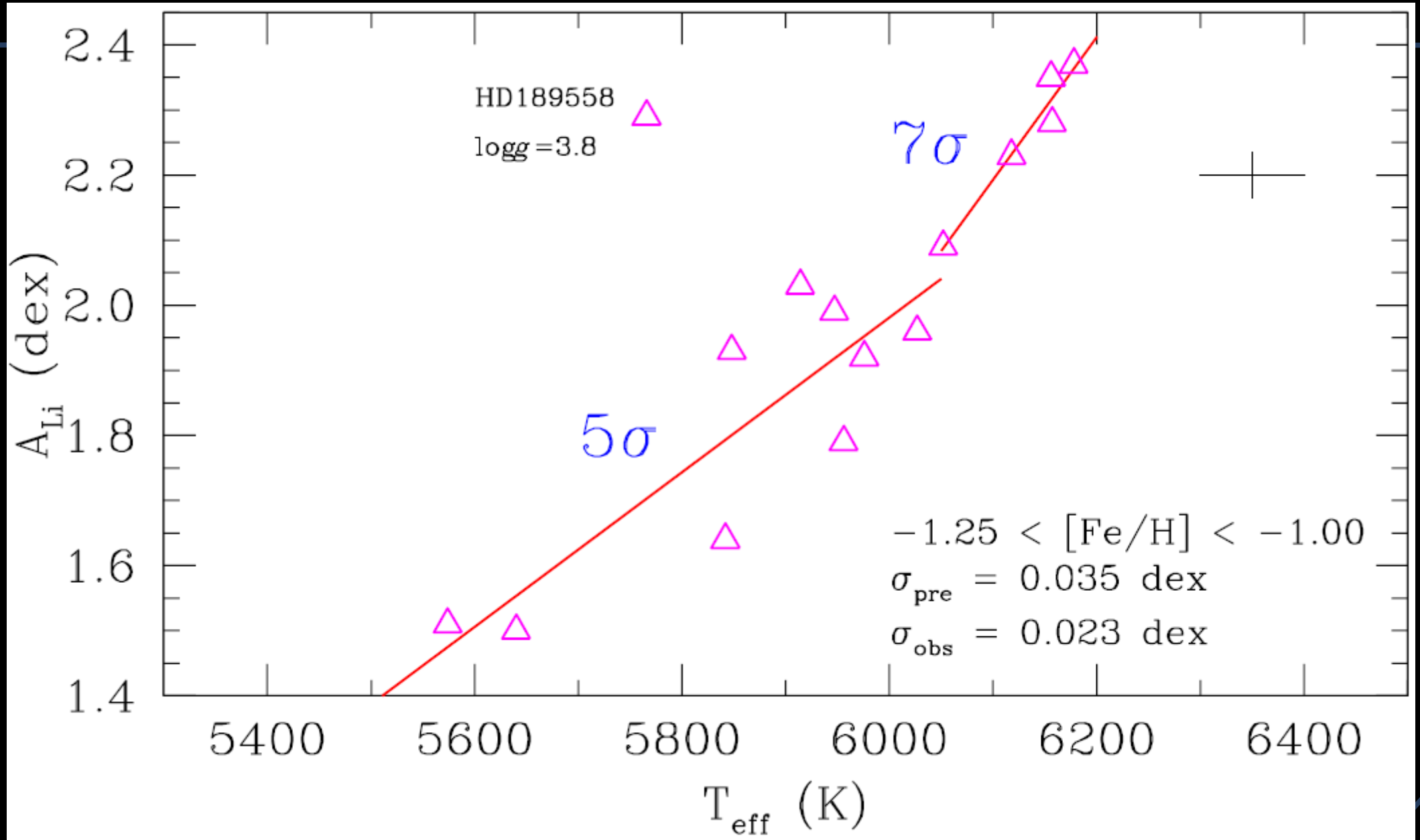
- 1.25 < [Fe/H] < -1.00



- 1.25 < [Fe/H] < -1.00

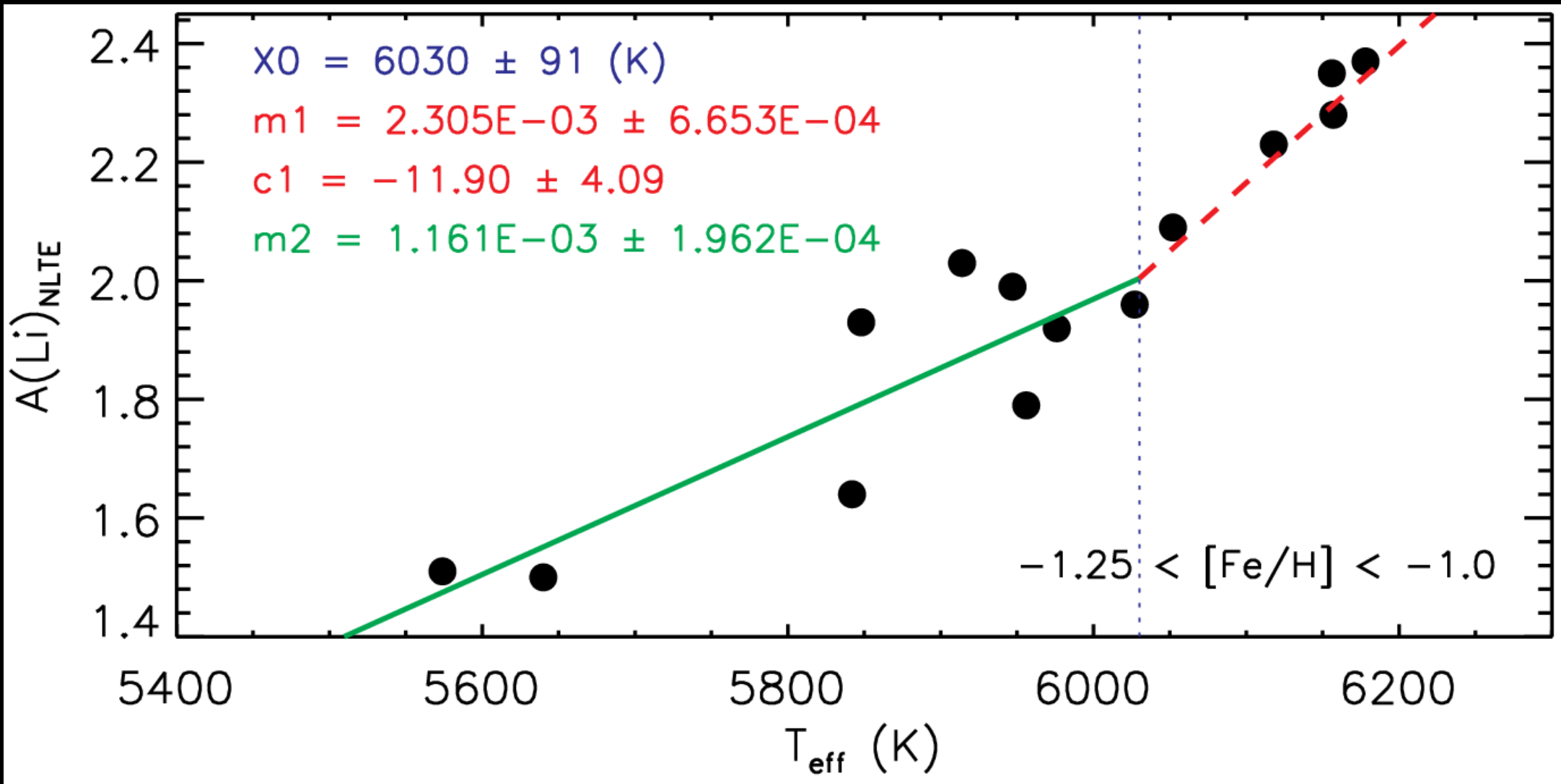


- 1.25 < [Fe/H] < -1.00

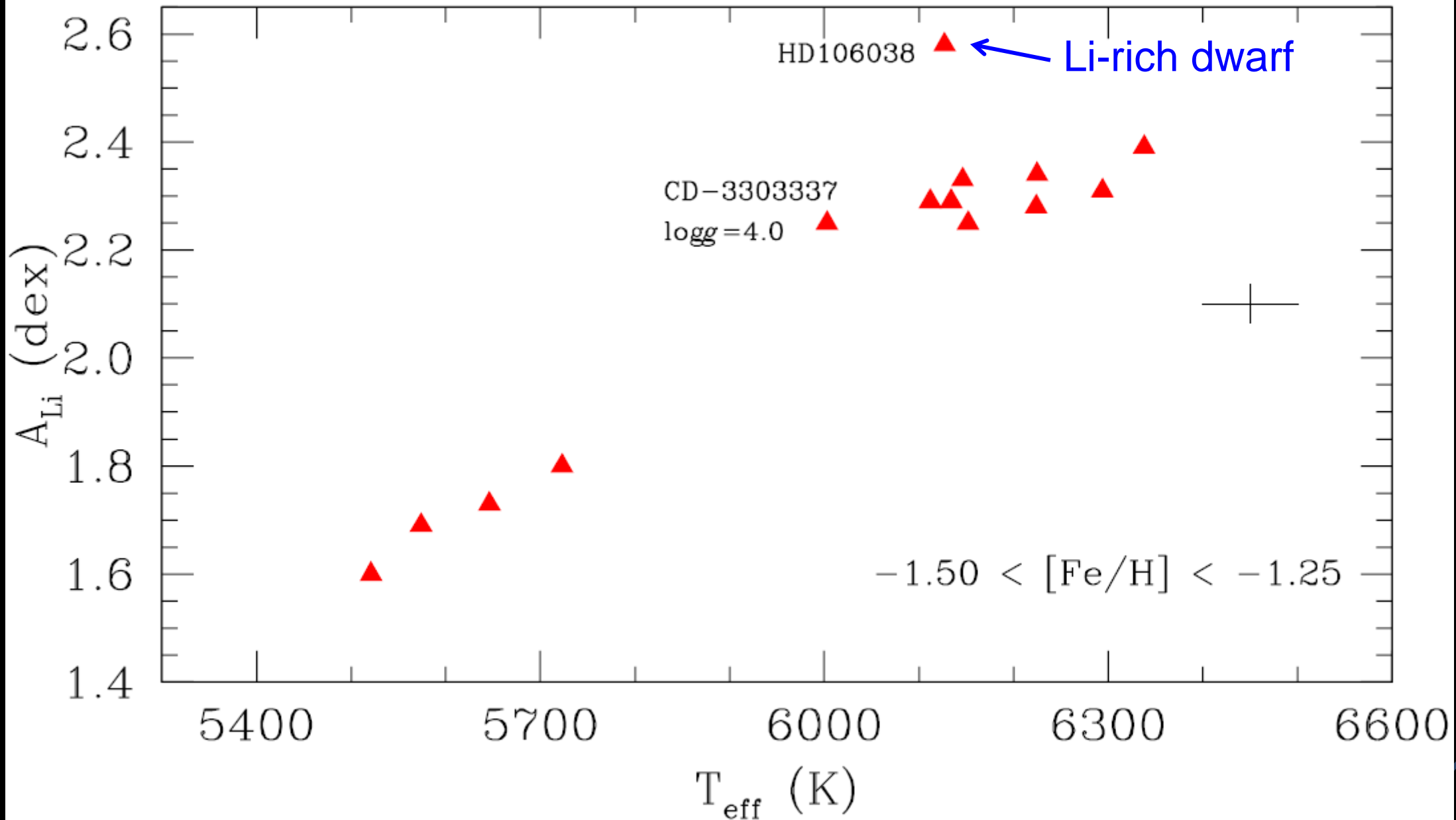


- 1.25 < [Fe/H] < -1.00

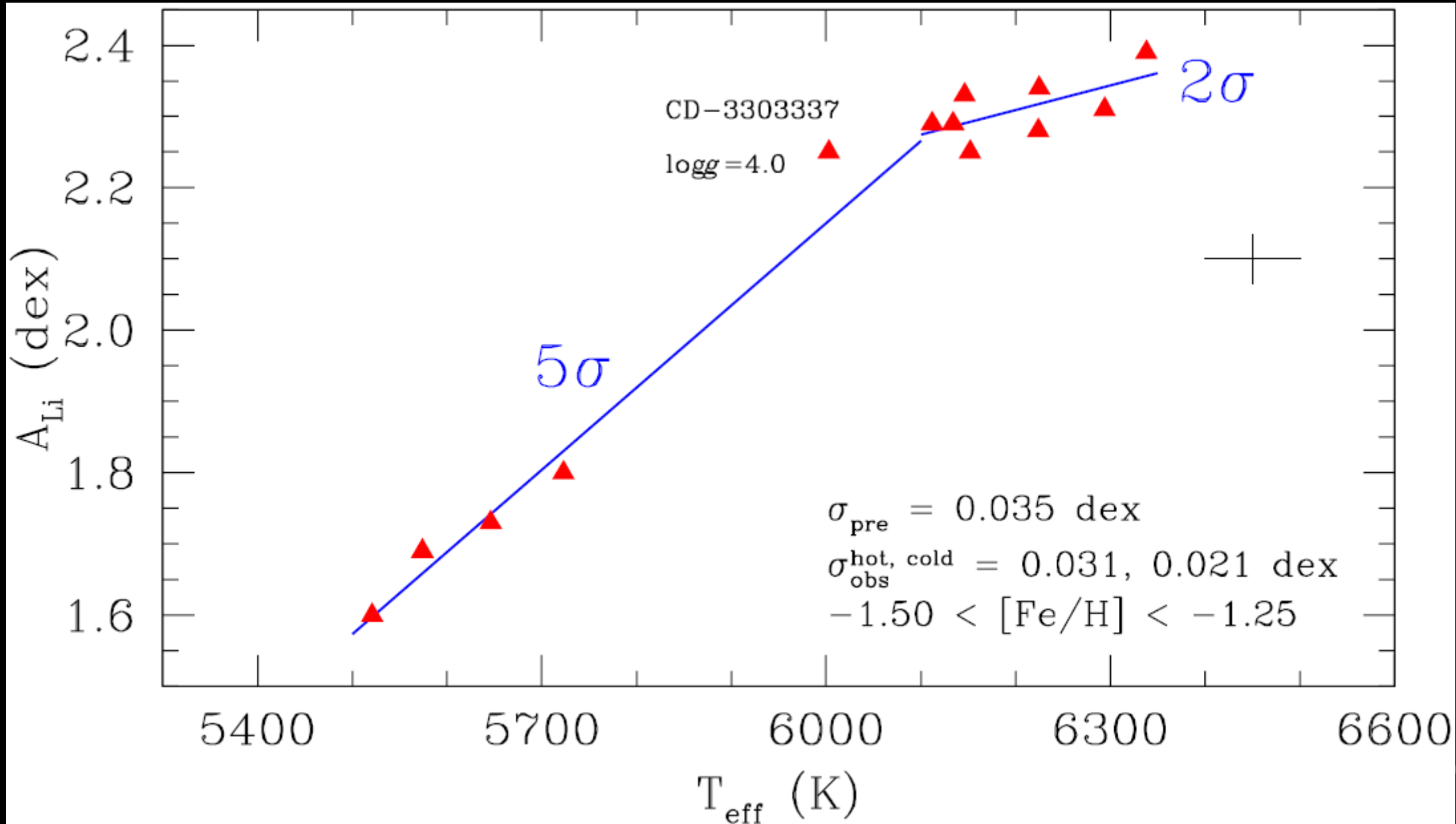
Automatic fit of the “break”



- 1.50 < [Fe/H] < -1.25

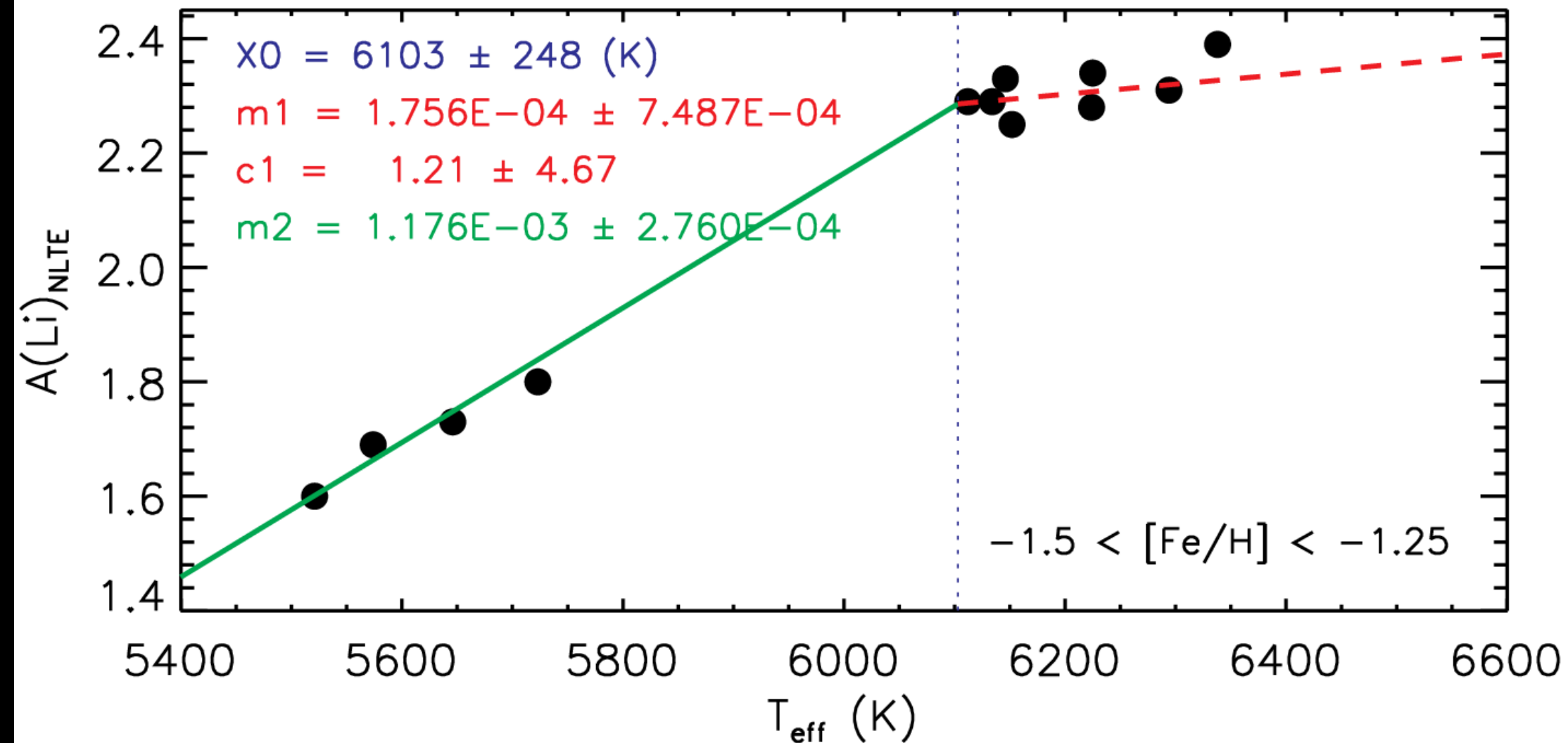


- 1.50 < [Fe/H] < -1.25

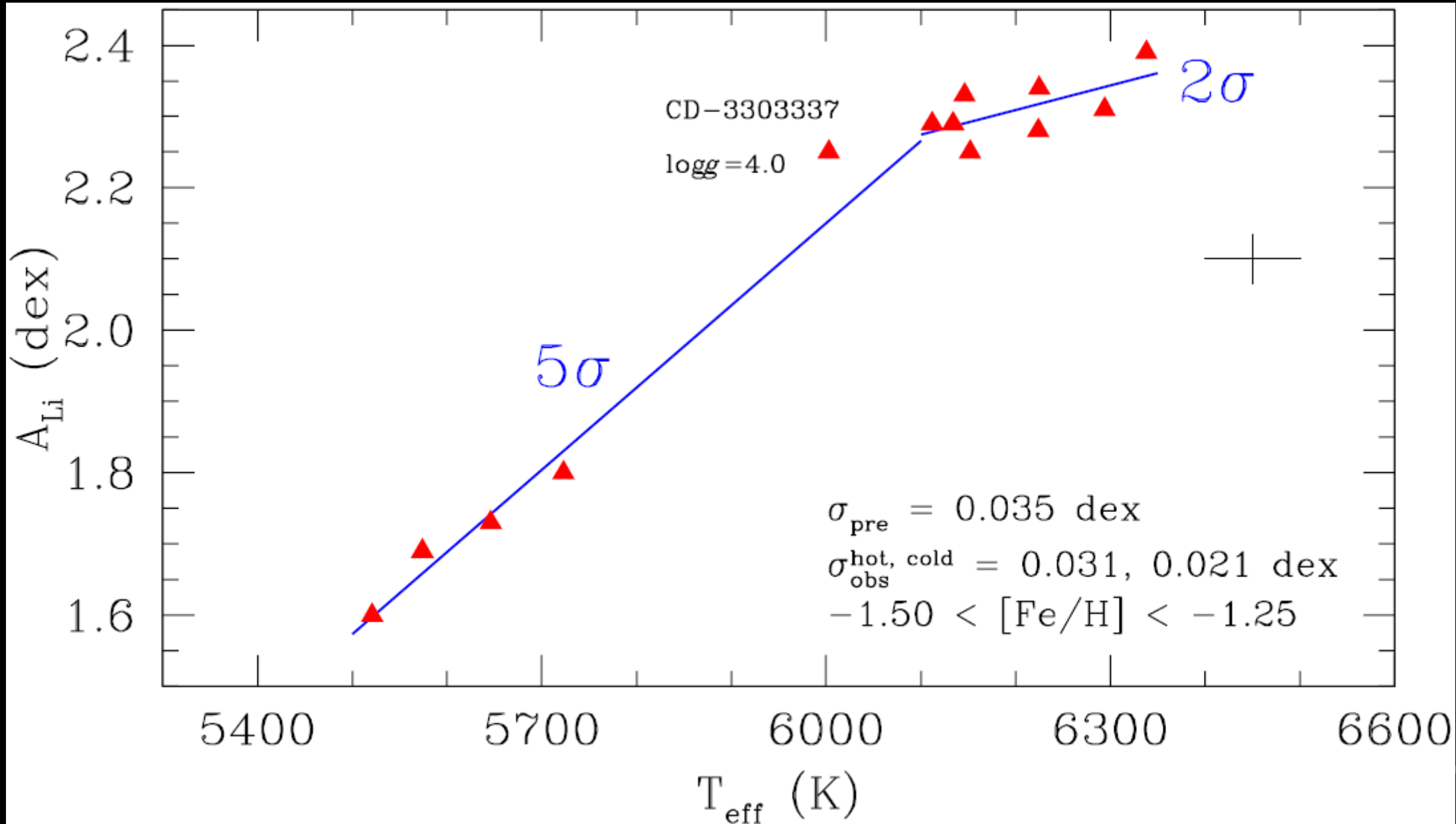


- 1.50 < [Fe/H] < -1.25

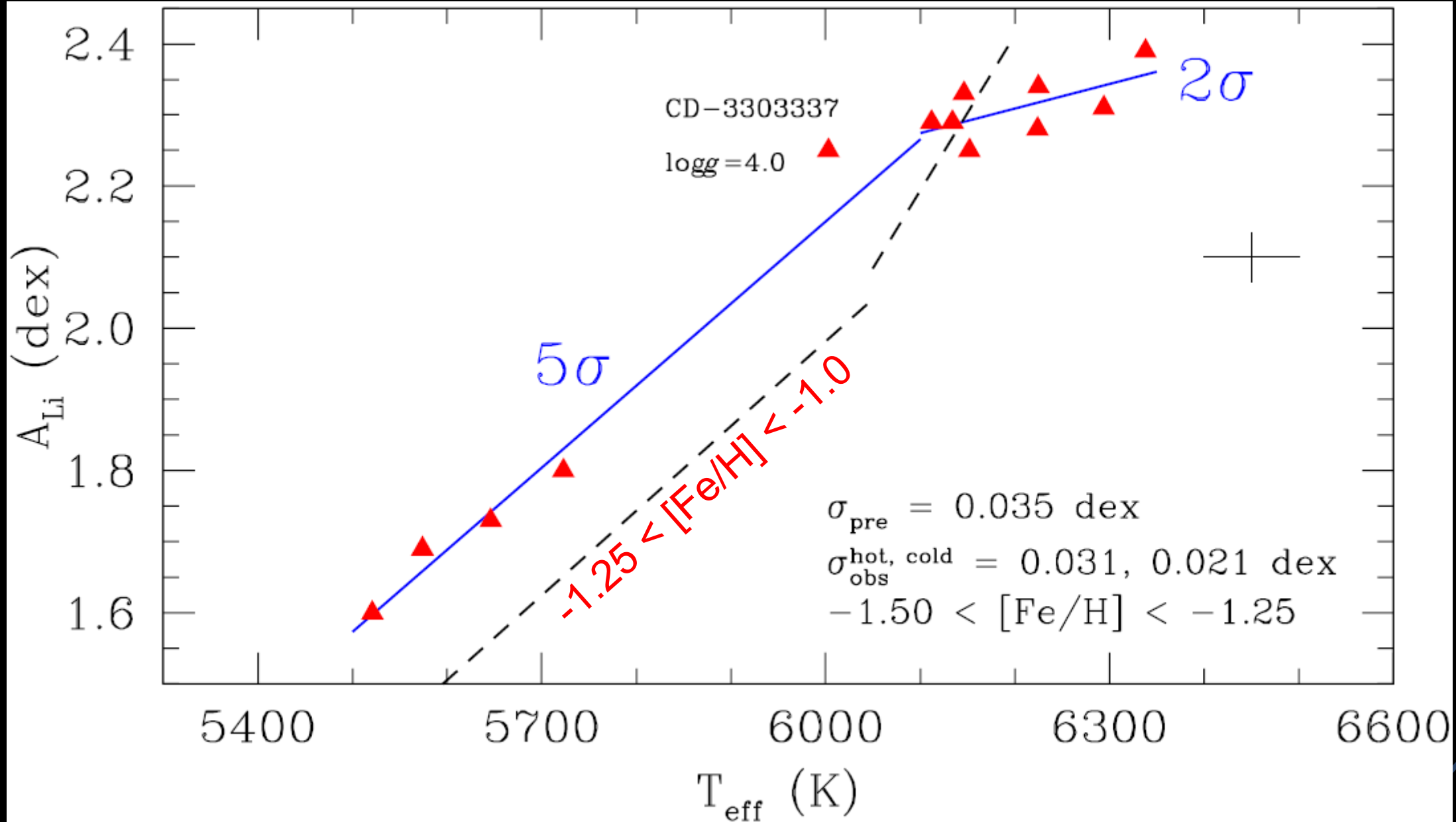
Automatic fit of the “break”



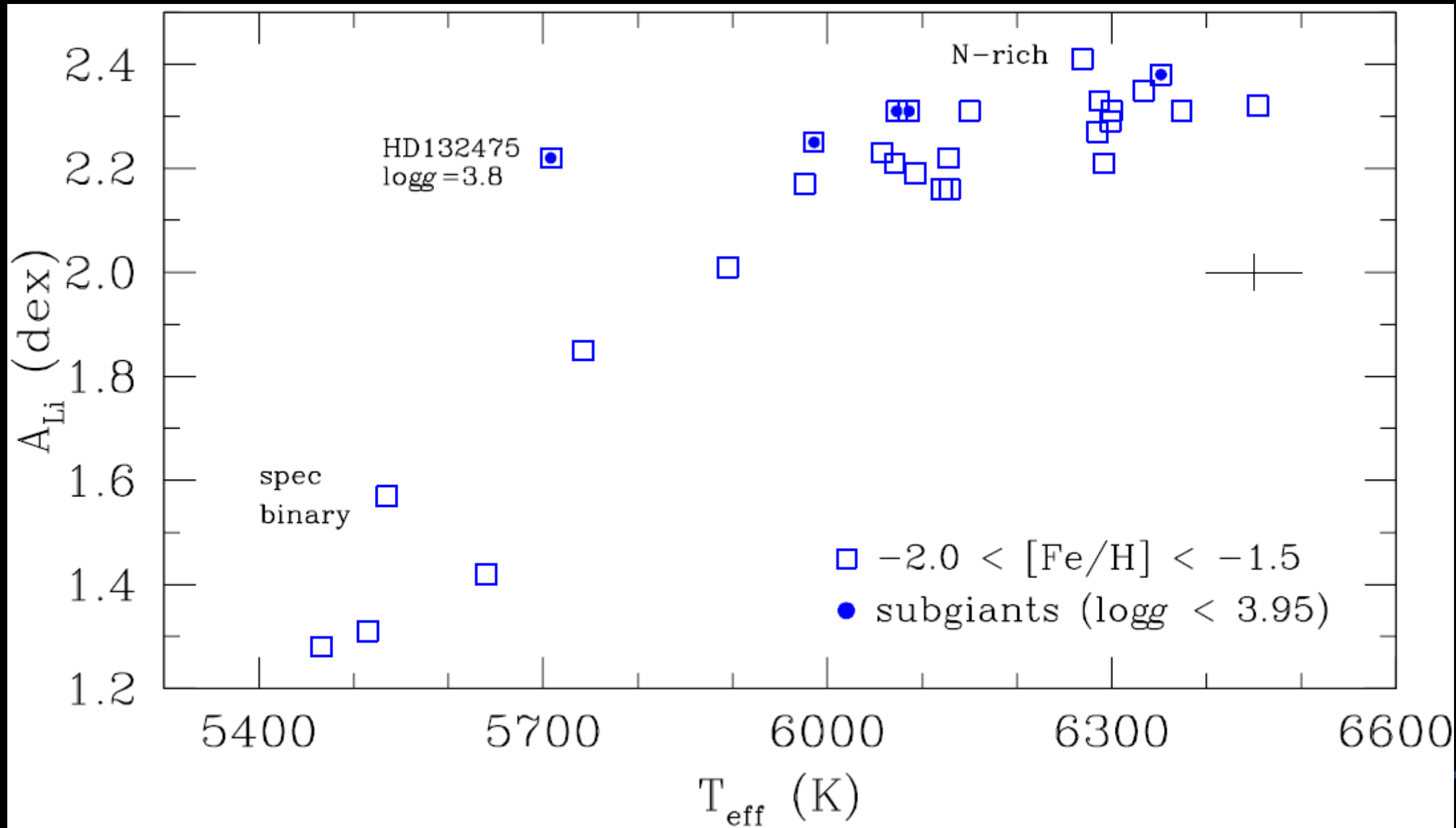
- 1.50 < [Fe/H] < -1.25



- 1.50 < [Fe/H] < -1.25

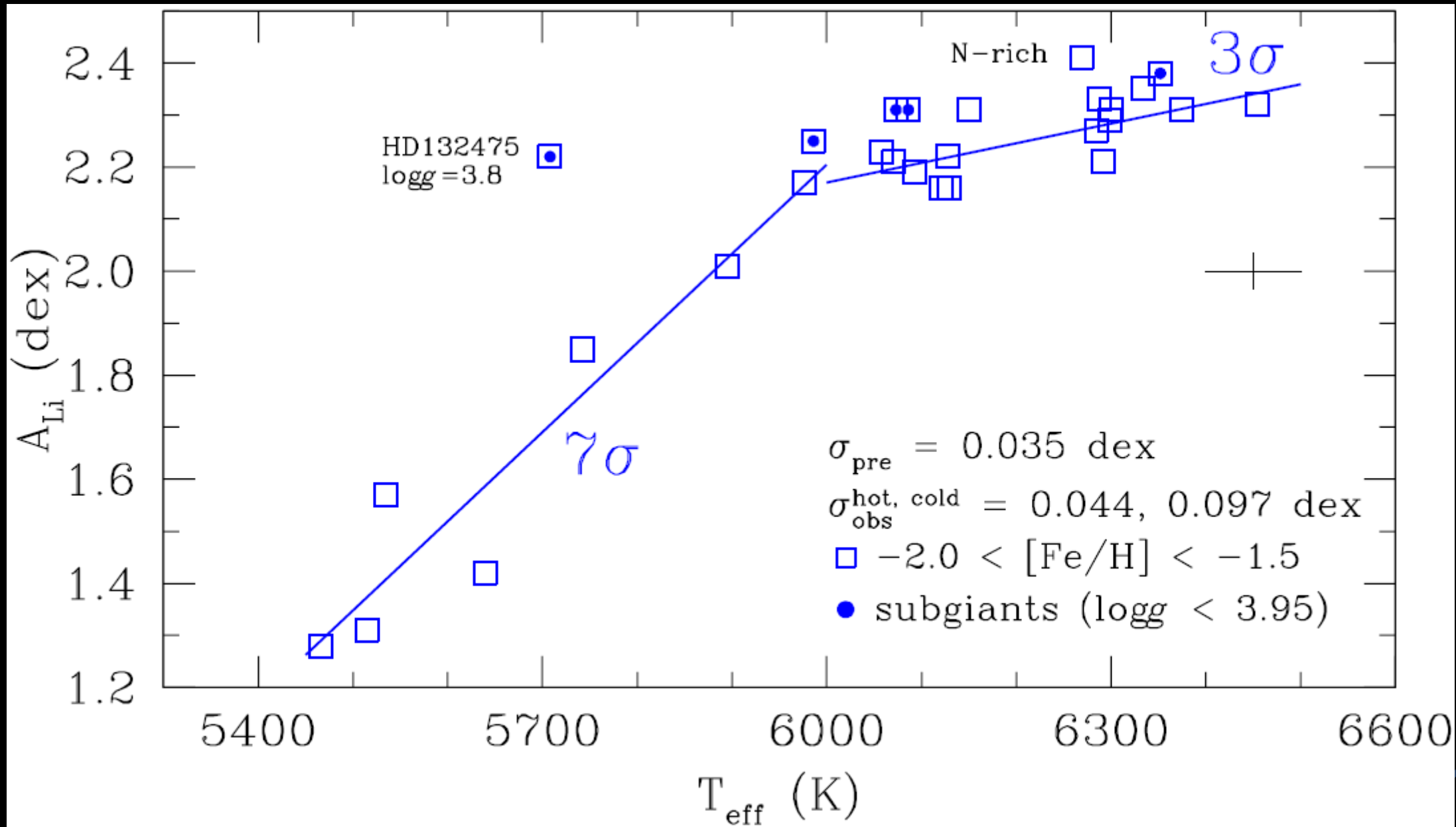


- 2.0 < [Fe/H] < -1.5



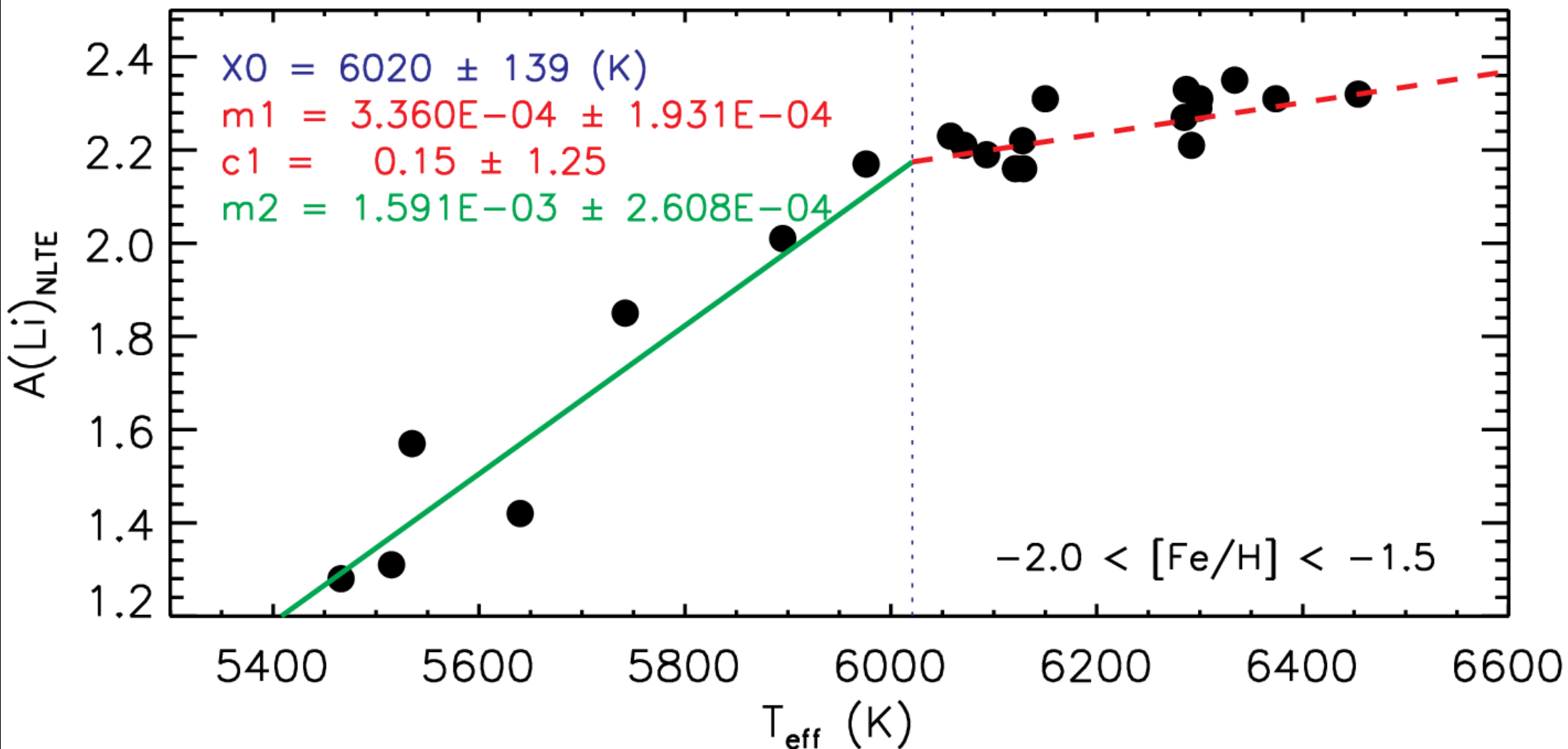
Early subgiants have high Li abundances ! (Chabonnel & Primas 2005)

- 2.0 < [Fe/H] < -1.5

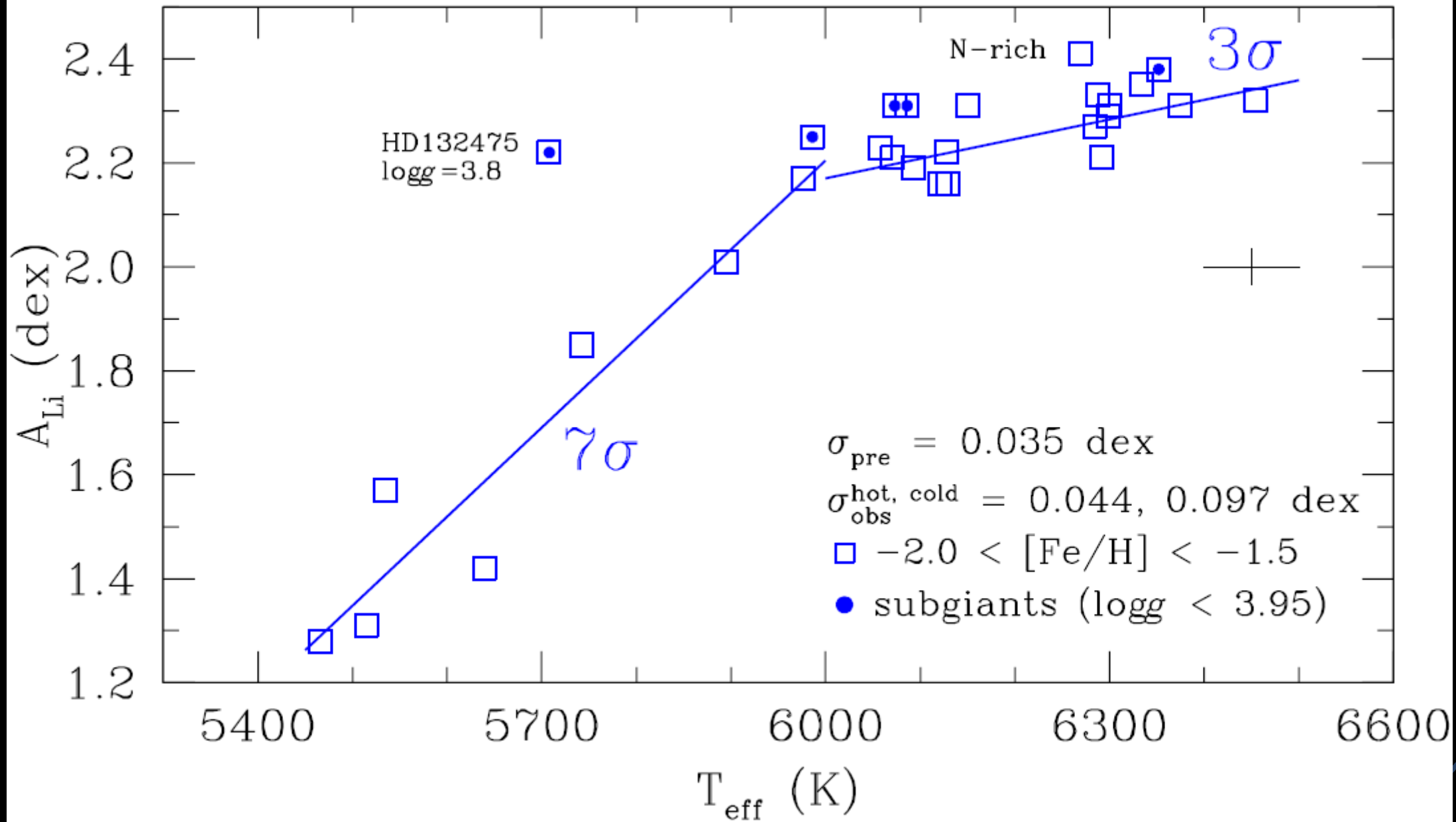


- 2.0 < [Fe/H] < -1.5

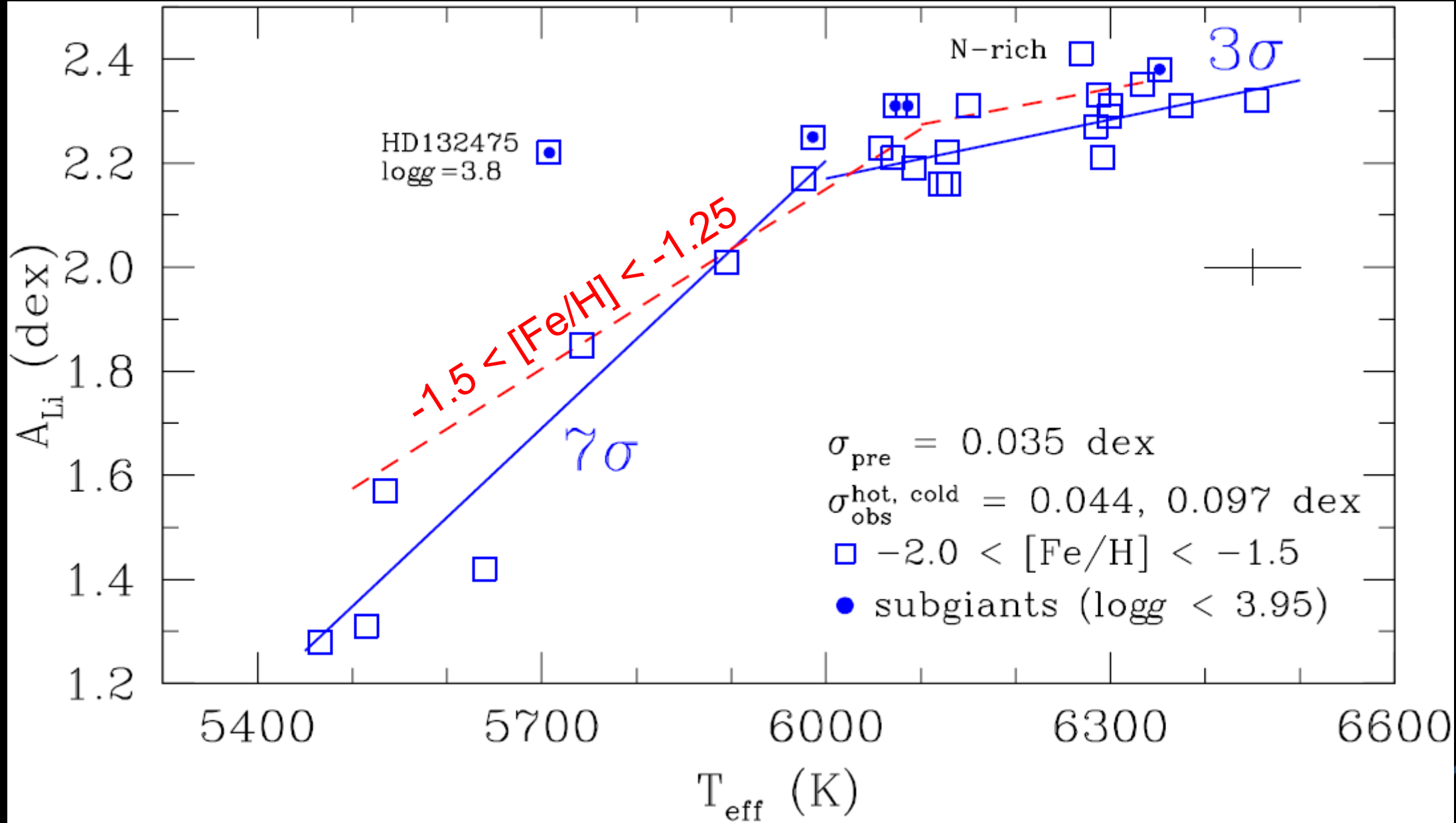
Automatic fit of the “break”



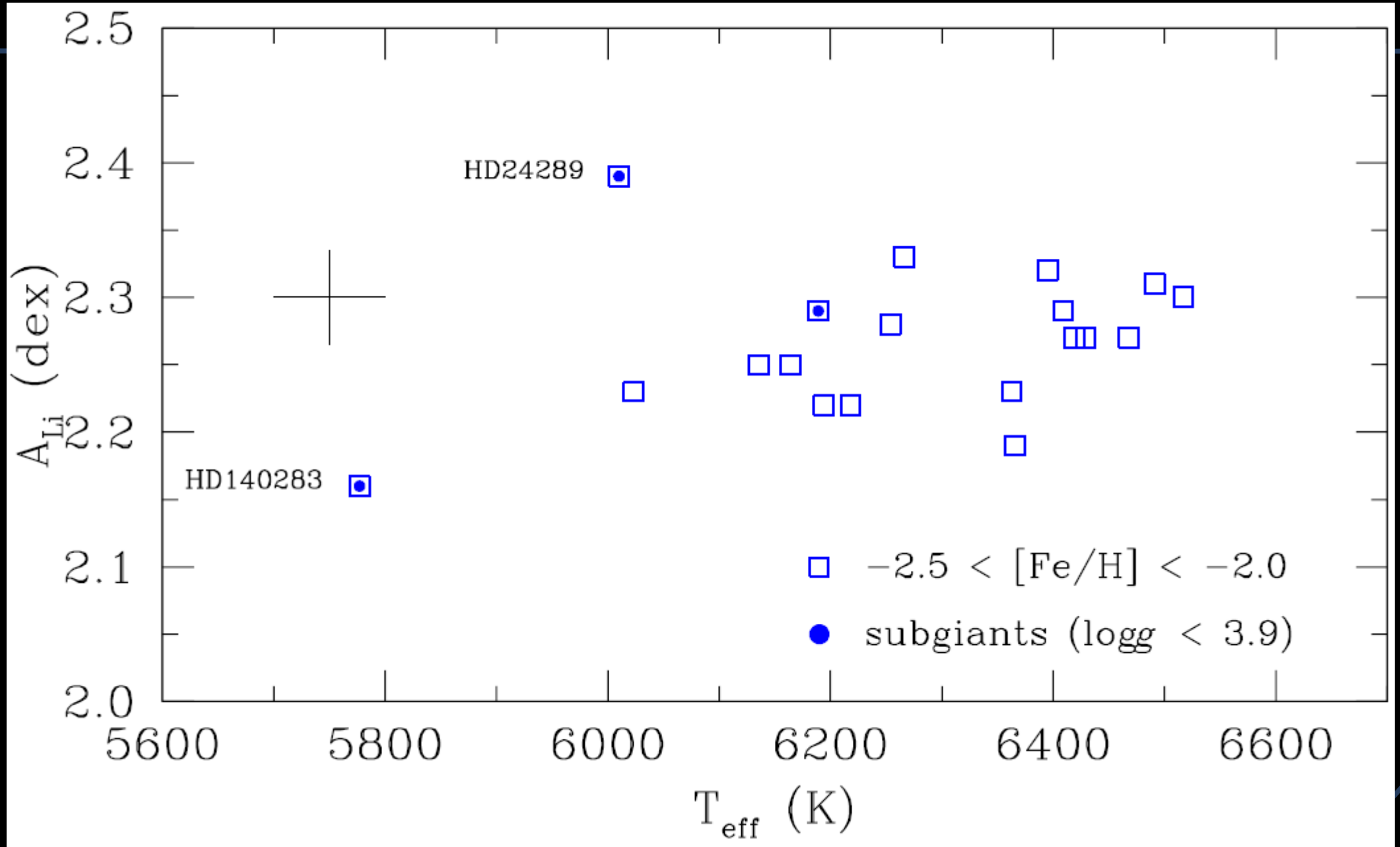
- 2.0 < [Fe/H] < -1.5



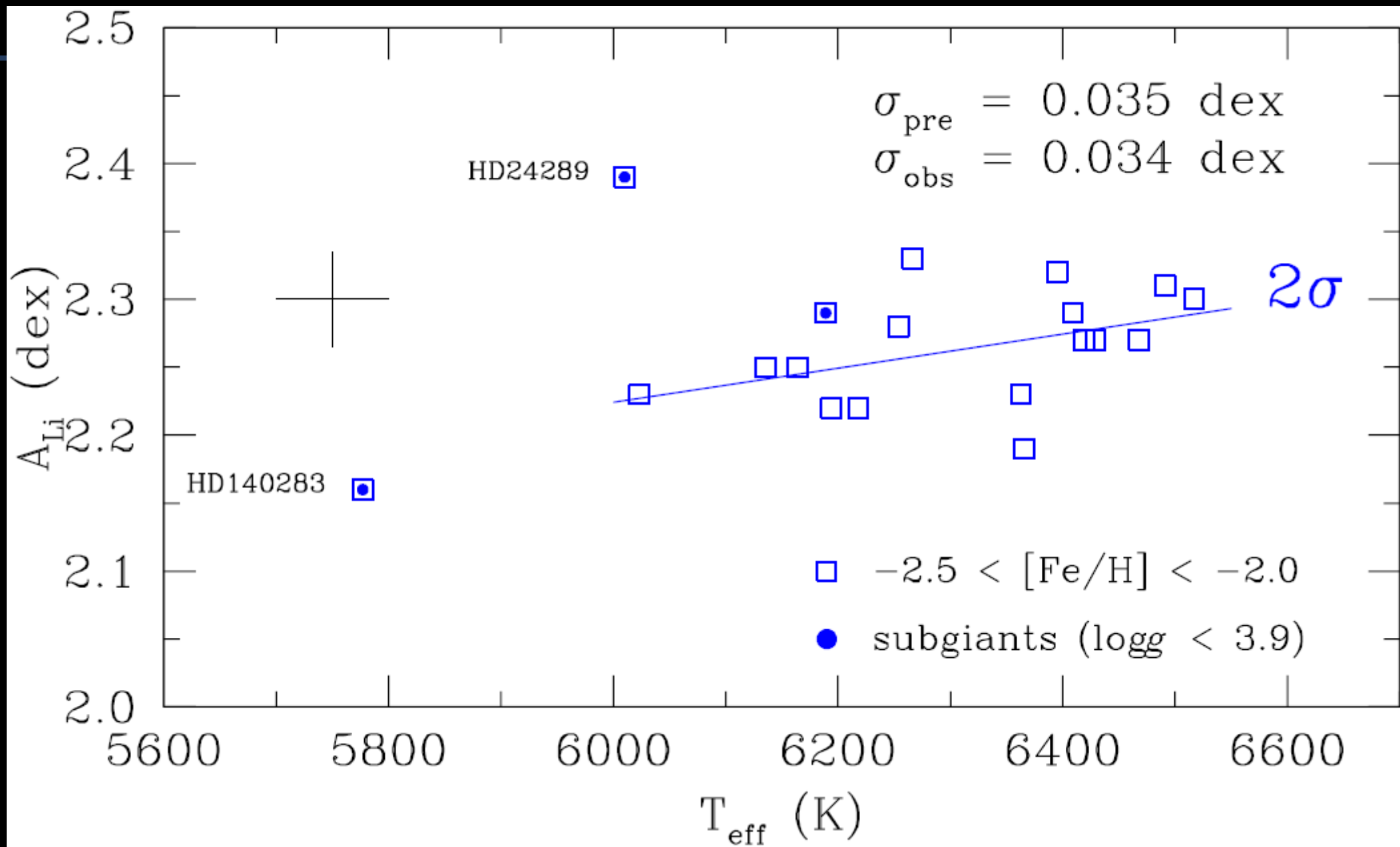
- 2.0 < [Fe/H] < -1.5



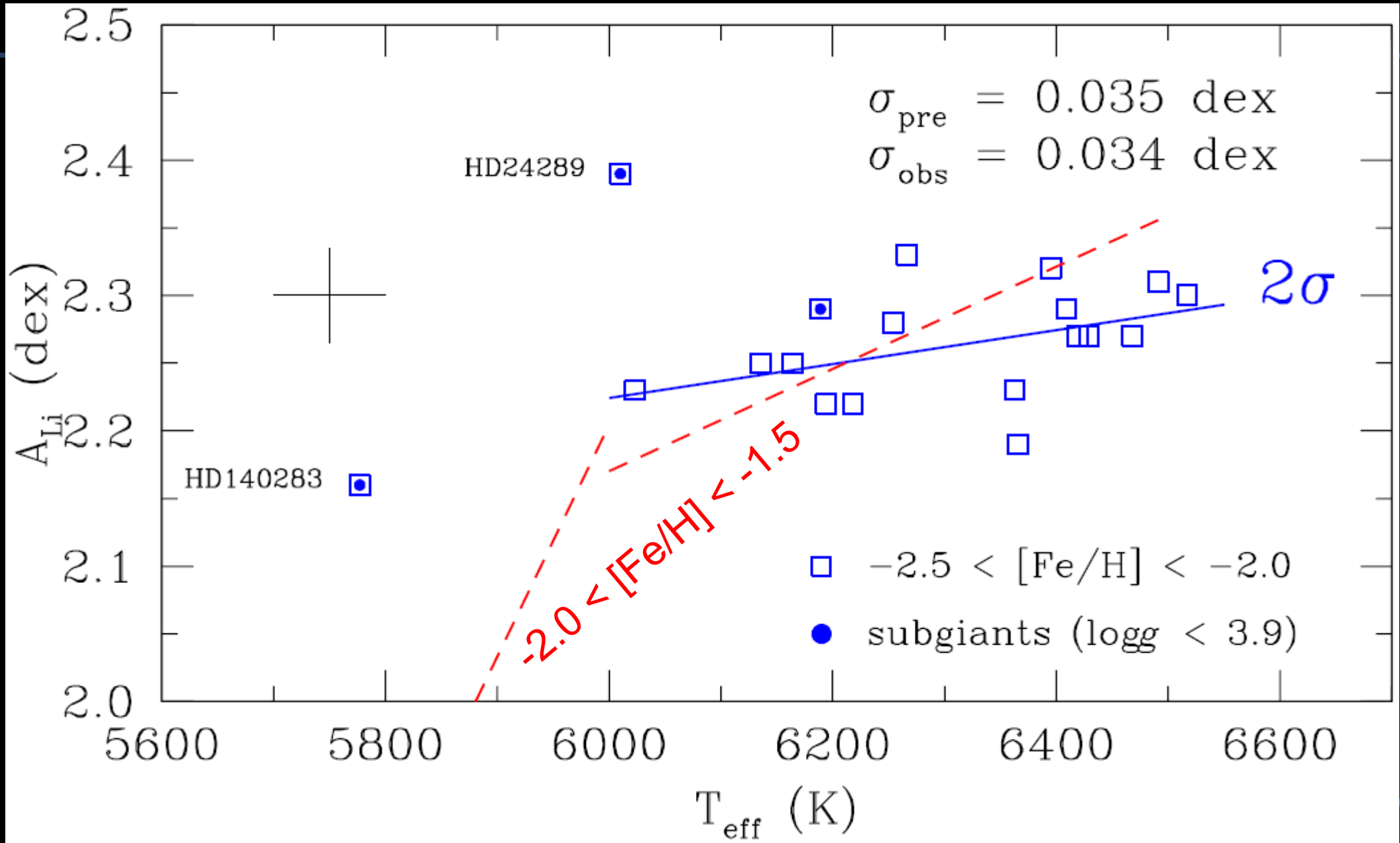
- 2.5 < [Fe/H] < -2.0



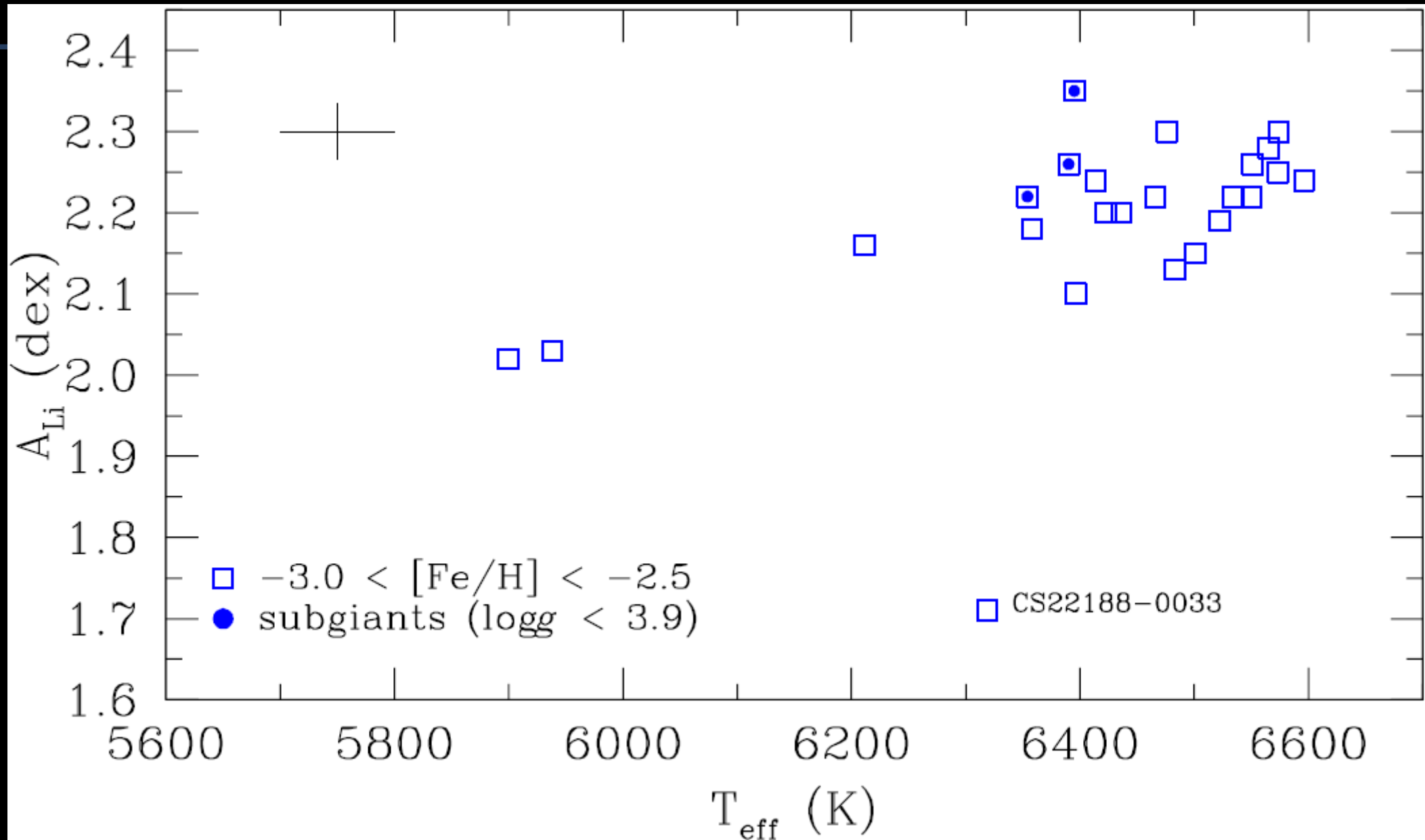
- 2.5 < [Fe/H] < -2.0



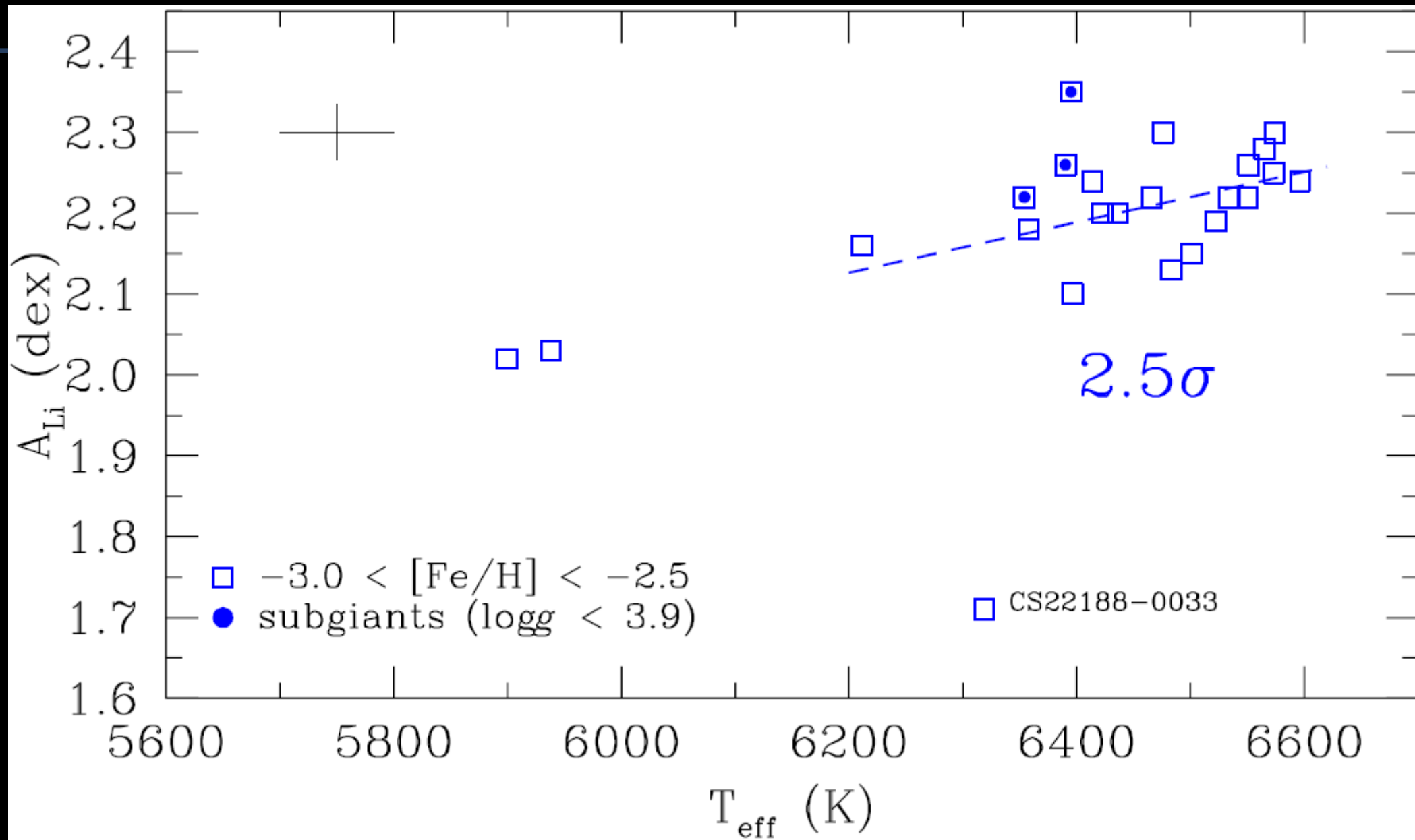
- 2.5 < [Fe/H] < -2.0



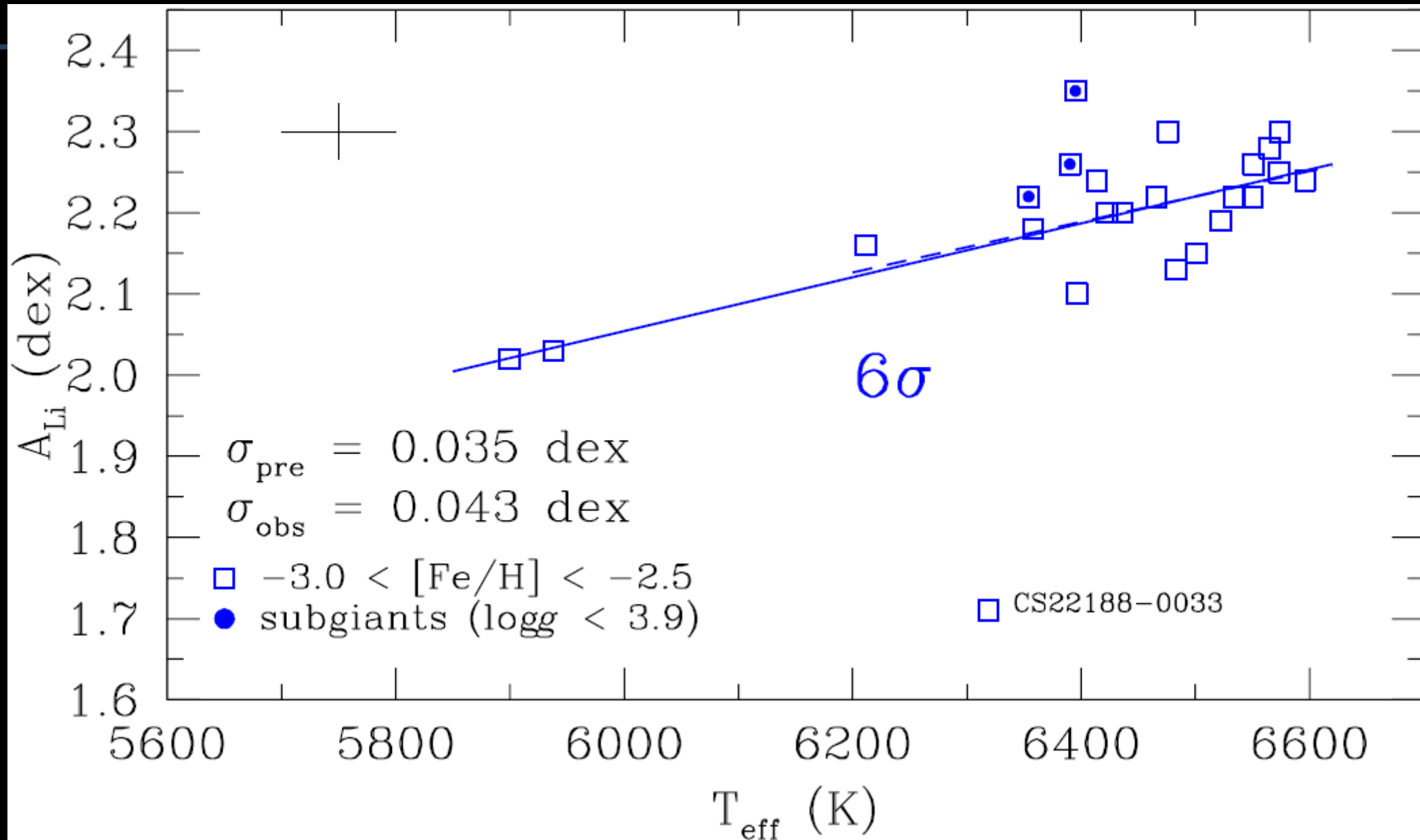
$-3.0 < [\text{Fe}/\text{H}] < -2.5$



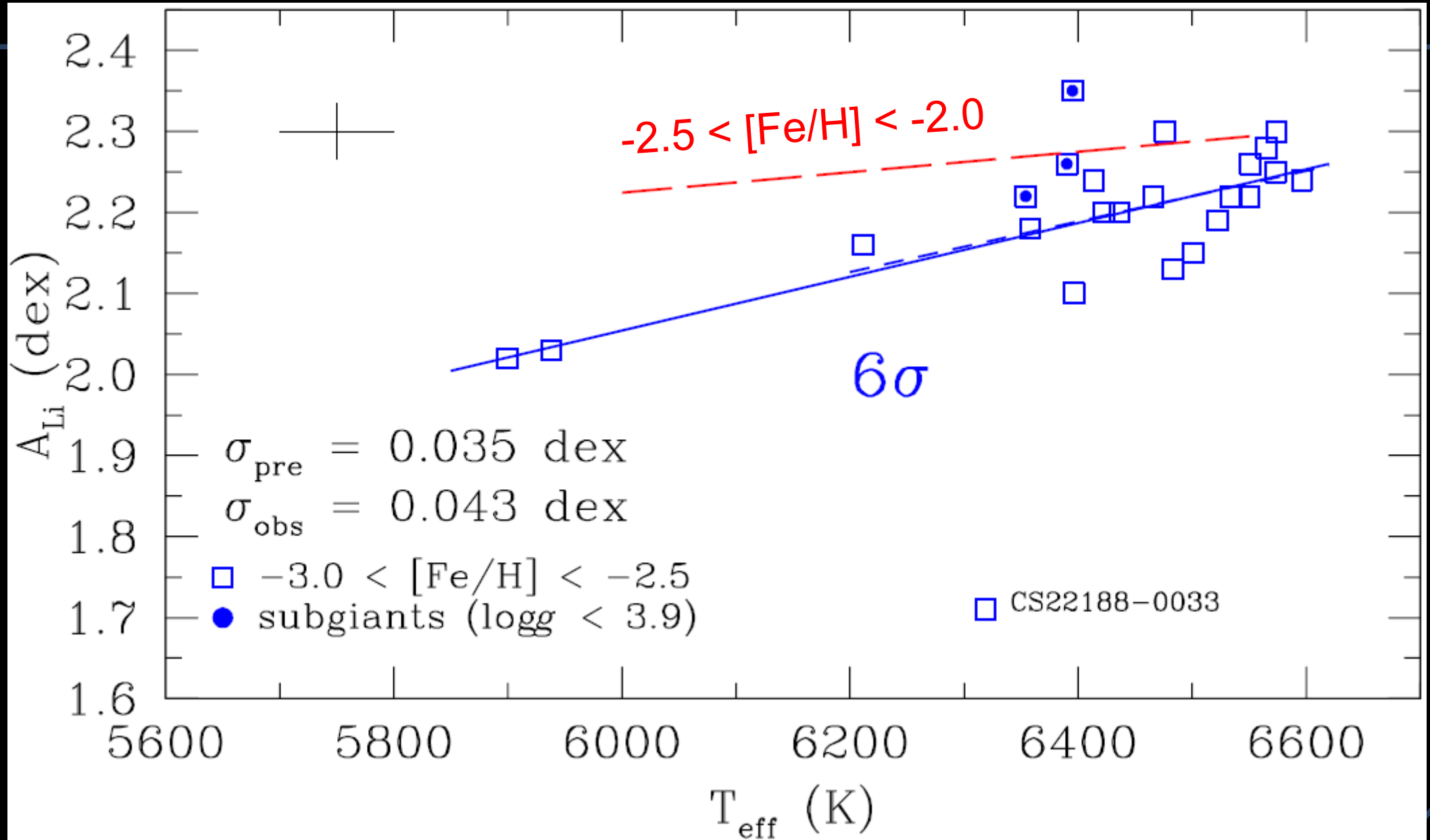
$-3.0 < [\text{Fe}/\text{H}] < -2.5$



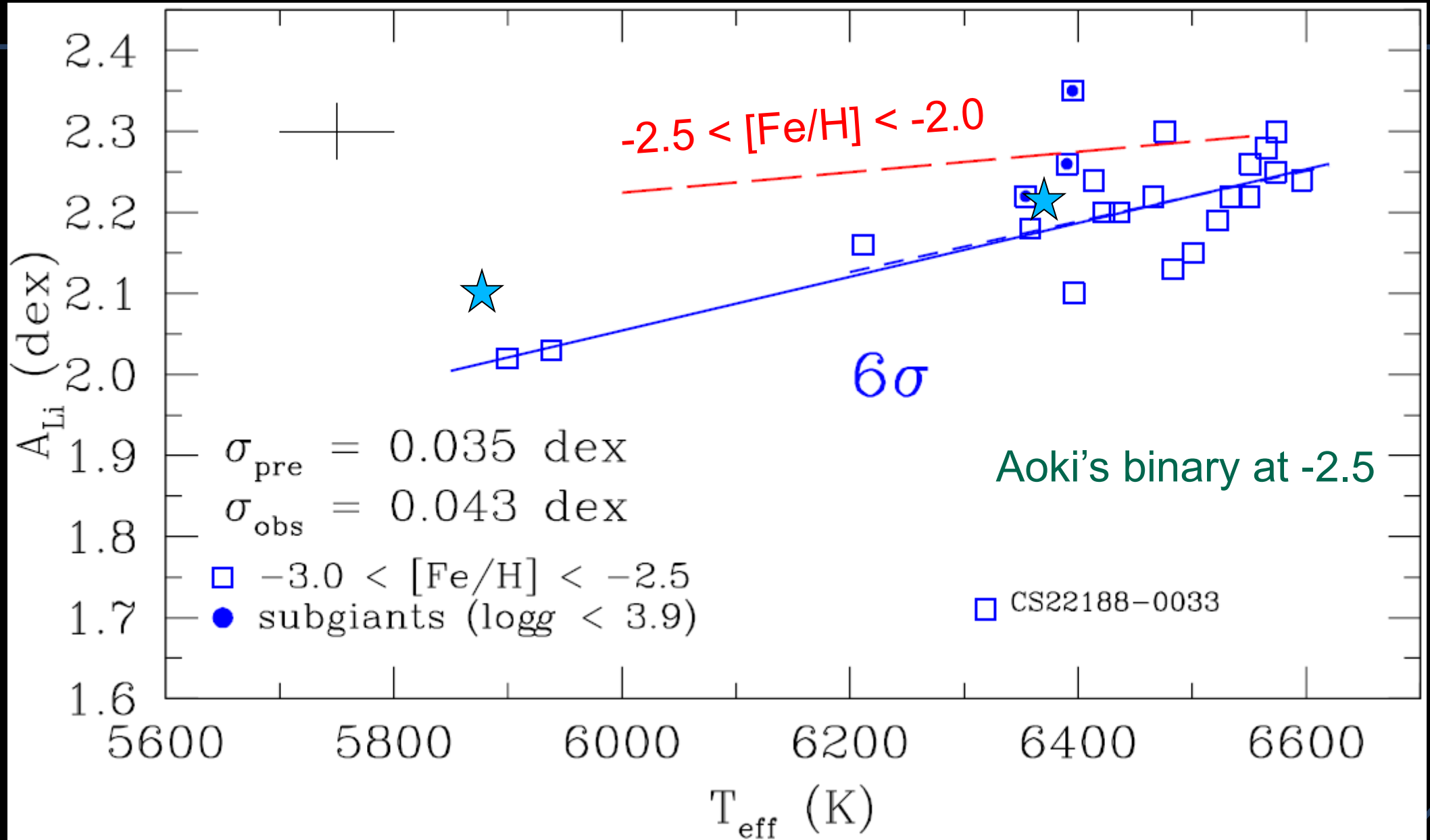
$-3.0 < [\text{Fe}/\text{H}] < -2.5$



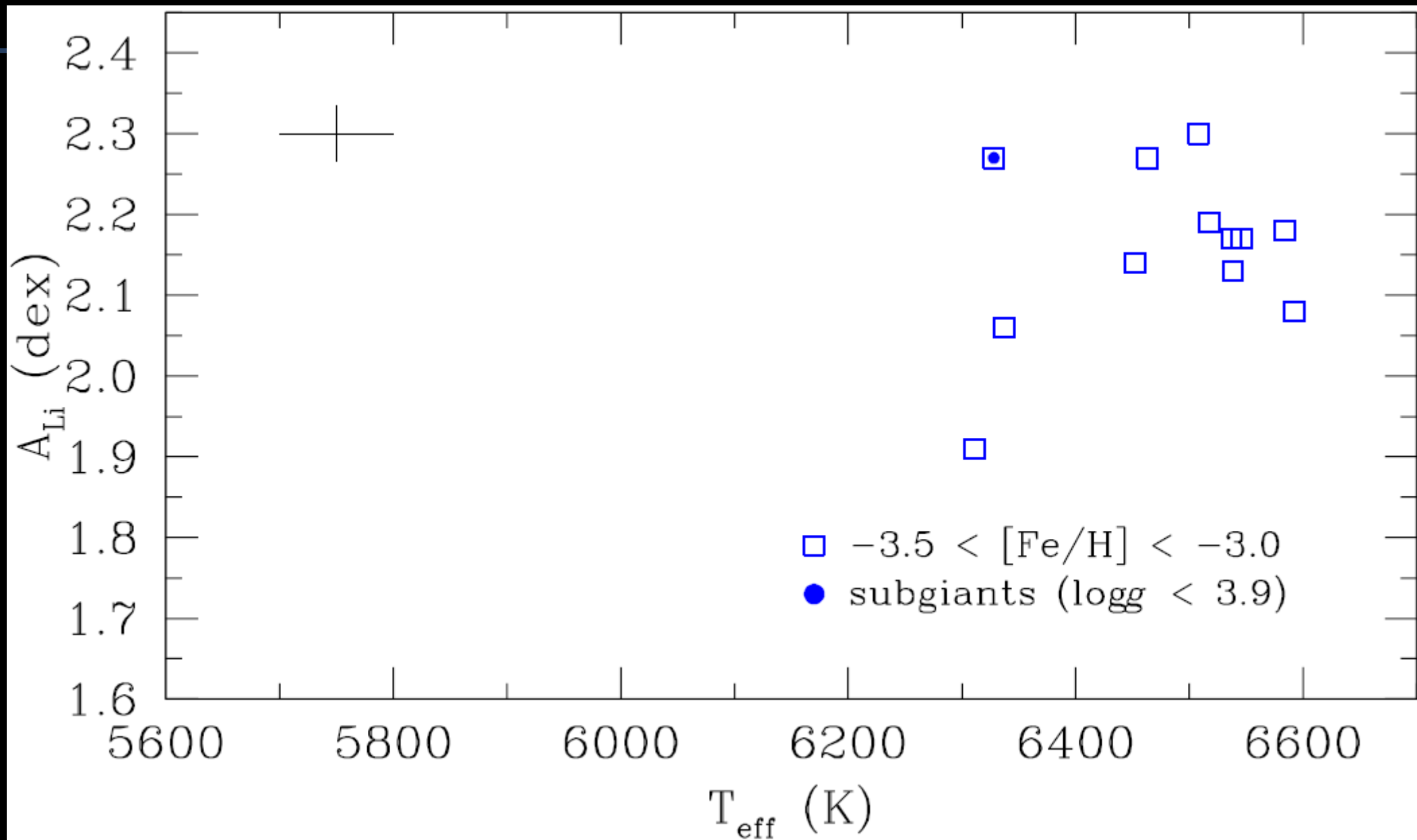
$-3.0 < [\text{Fe}/\text{H}] < -2.5$



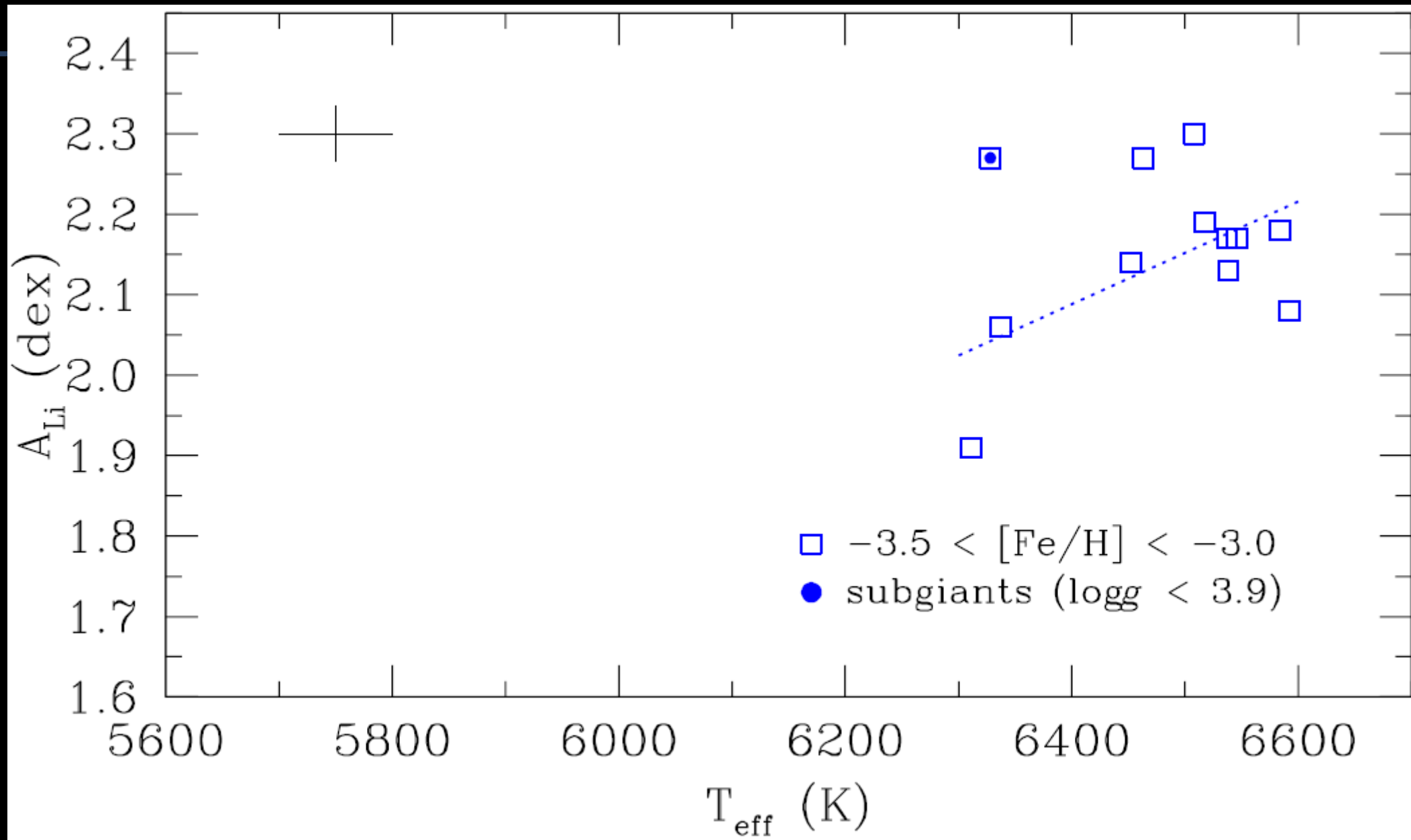
$-3.0 < [\text{Fe}/\text{H}] < -2.5$



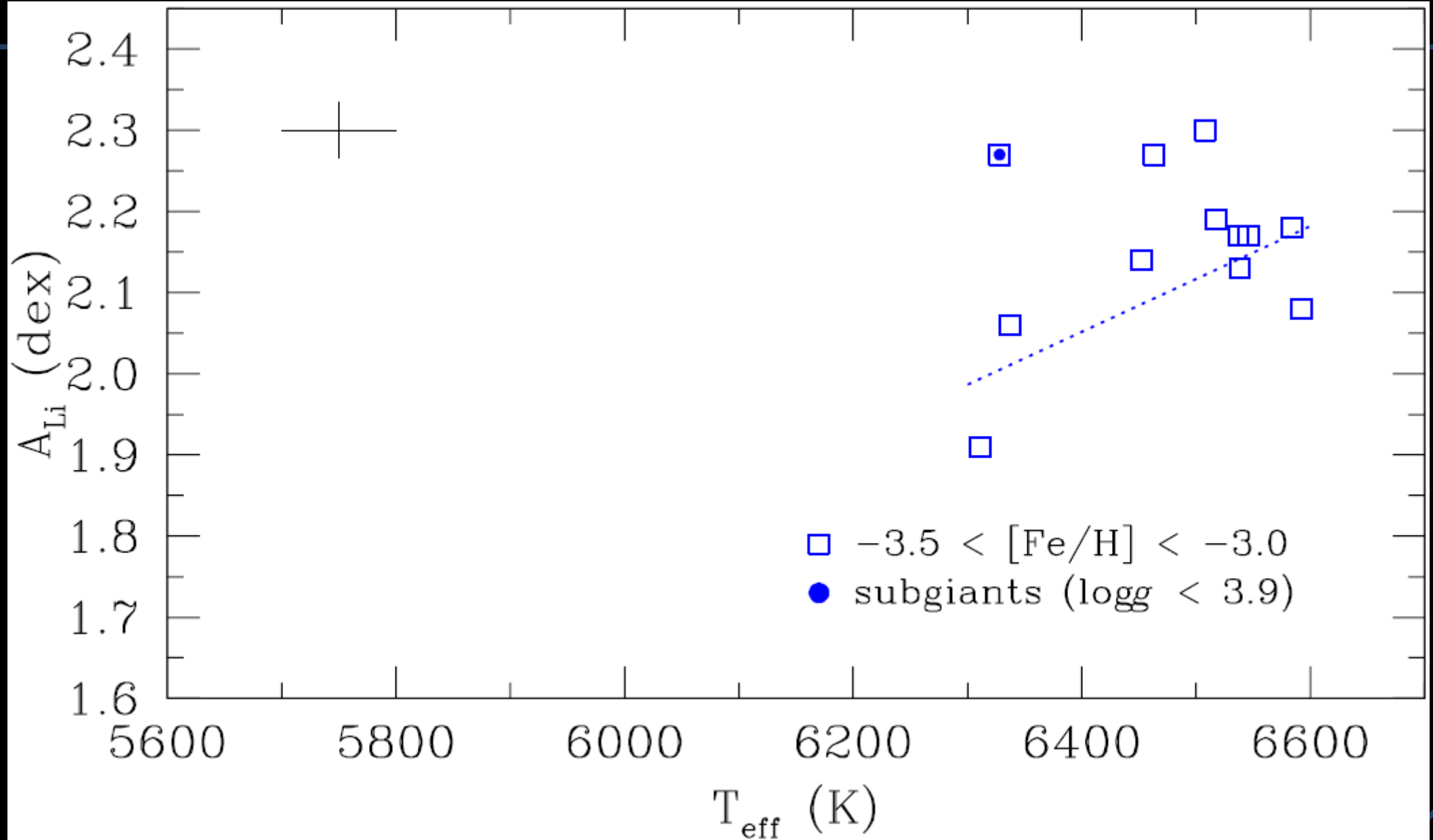
$-3.5 < [\text{Fe}/\text{H}] < -3.0$



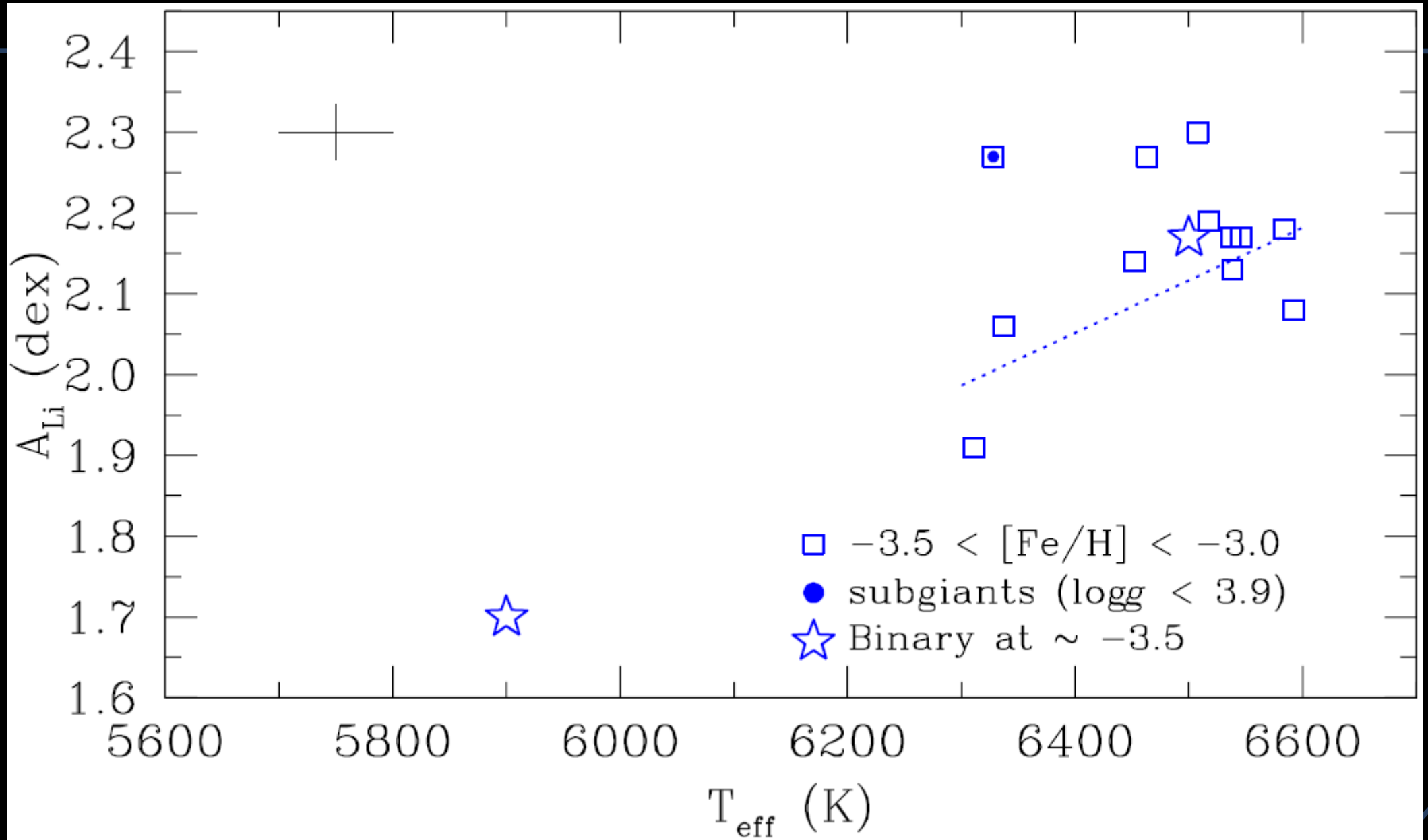
$-3.5 < [\text{Fe}/\text{H}] < -3.0$



$-3.5 < [\text{Fe}/\text{H}] < -3.0$

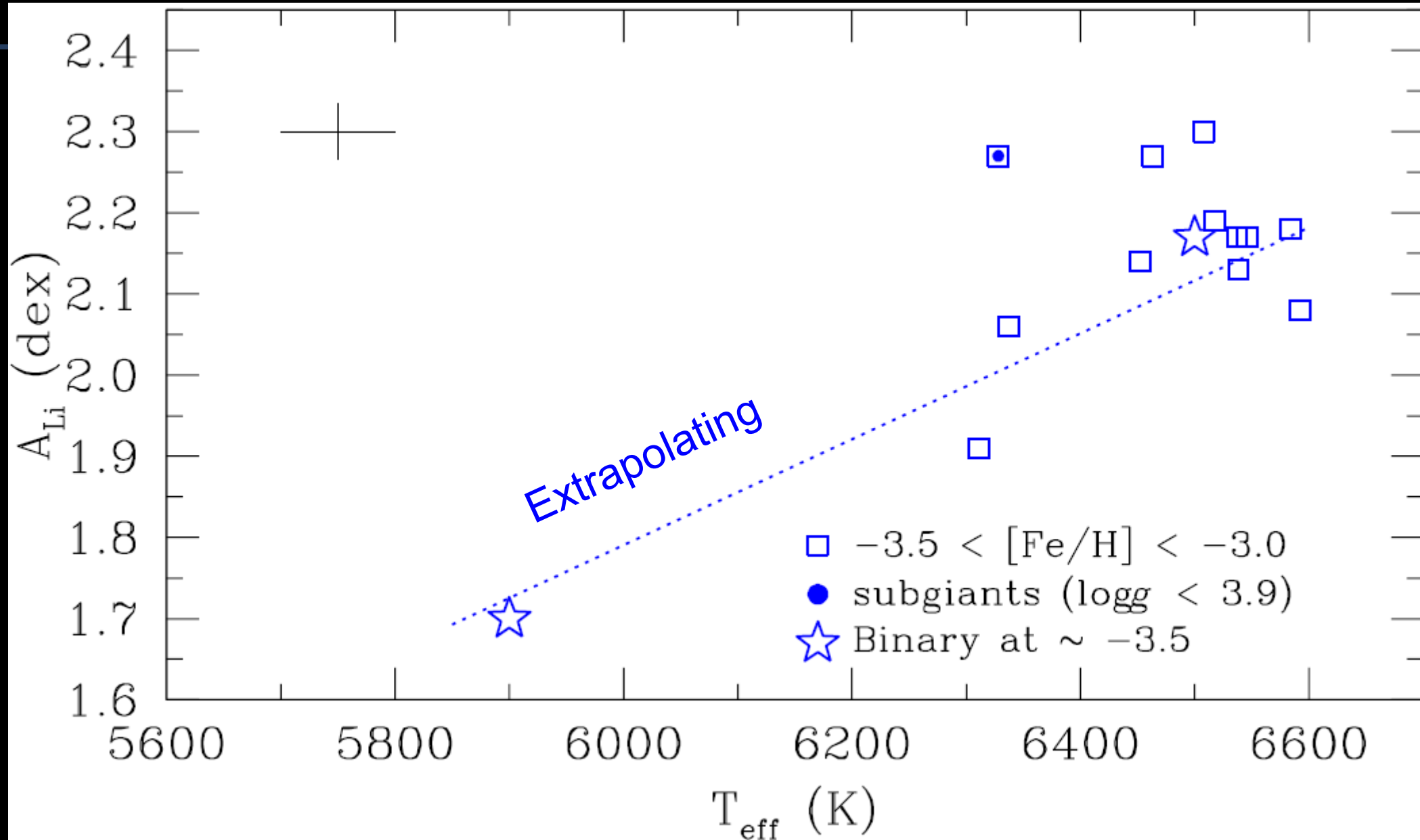


$-3.5 < [\text{Fe}/\text{H}] < -3.0$

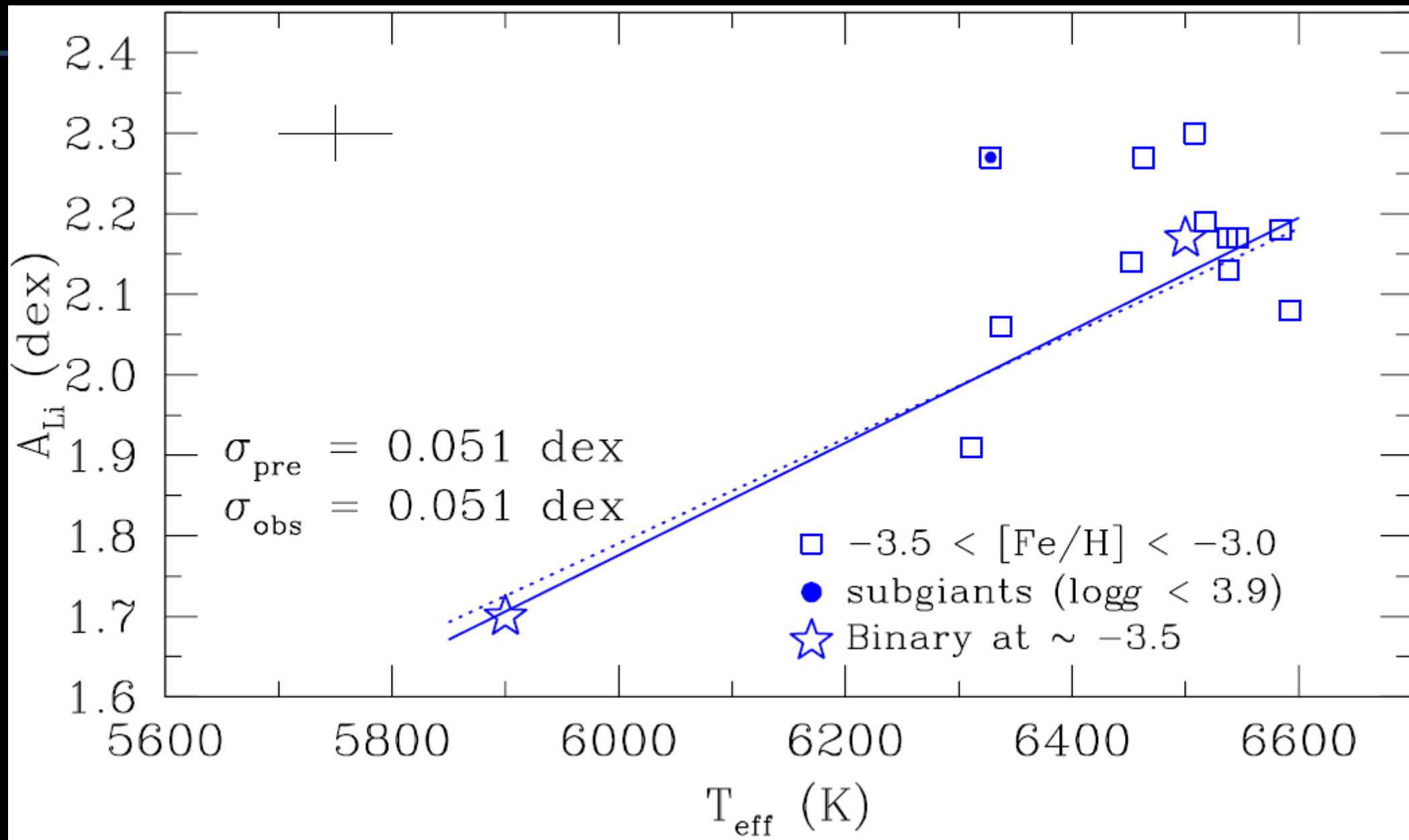


Binary from Gonzalez Hernandez et al.

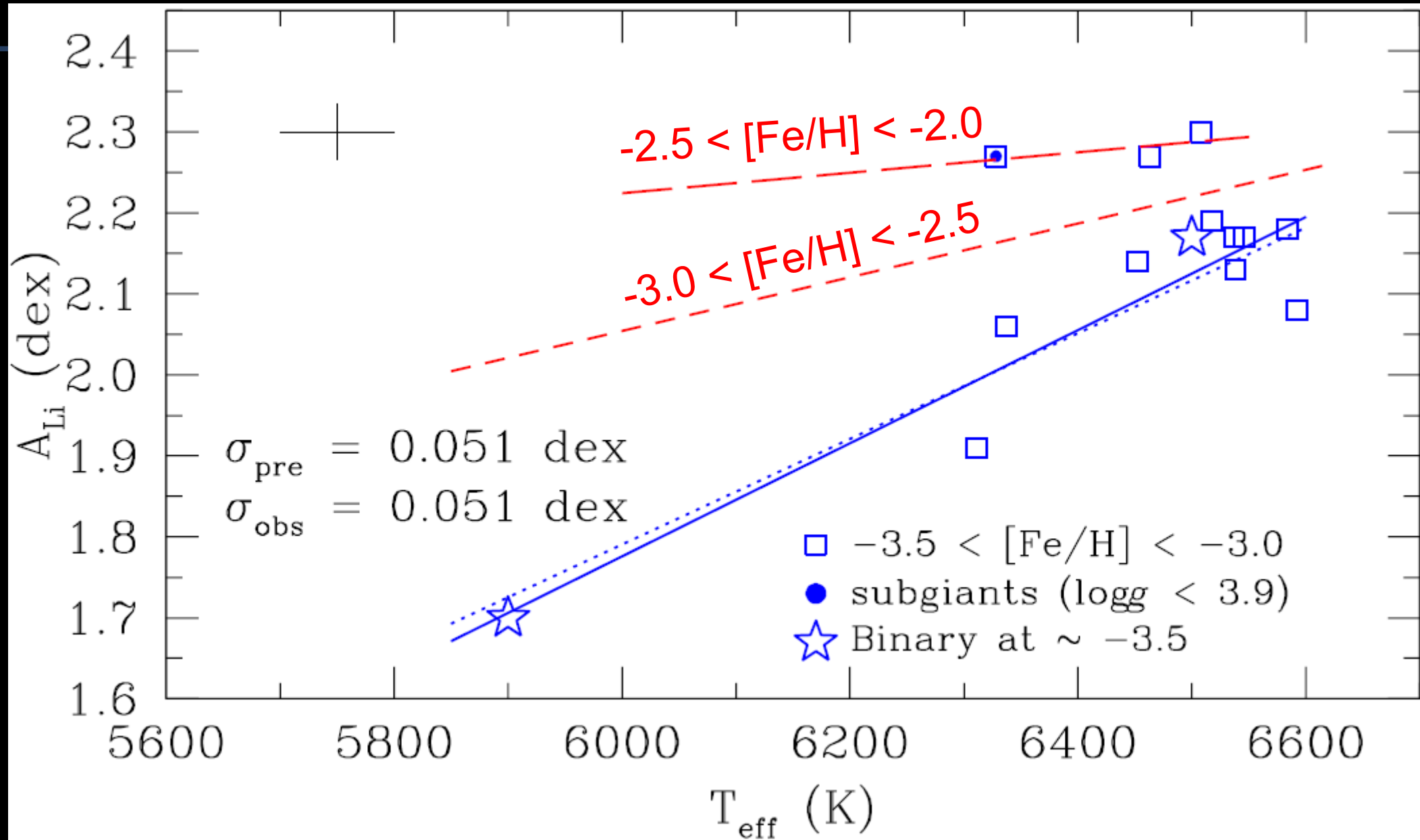
$-3.5 < [\text{Fe}/\text{H}] < -3.0$



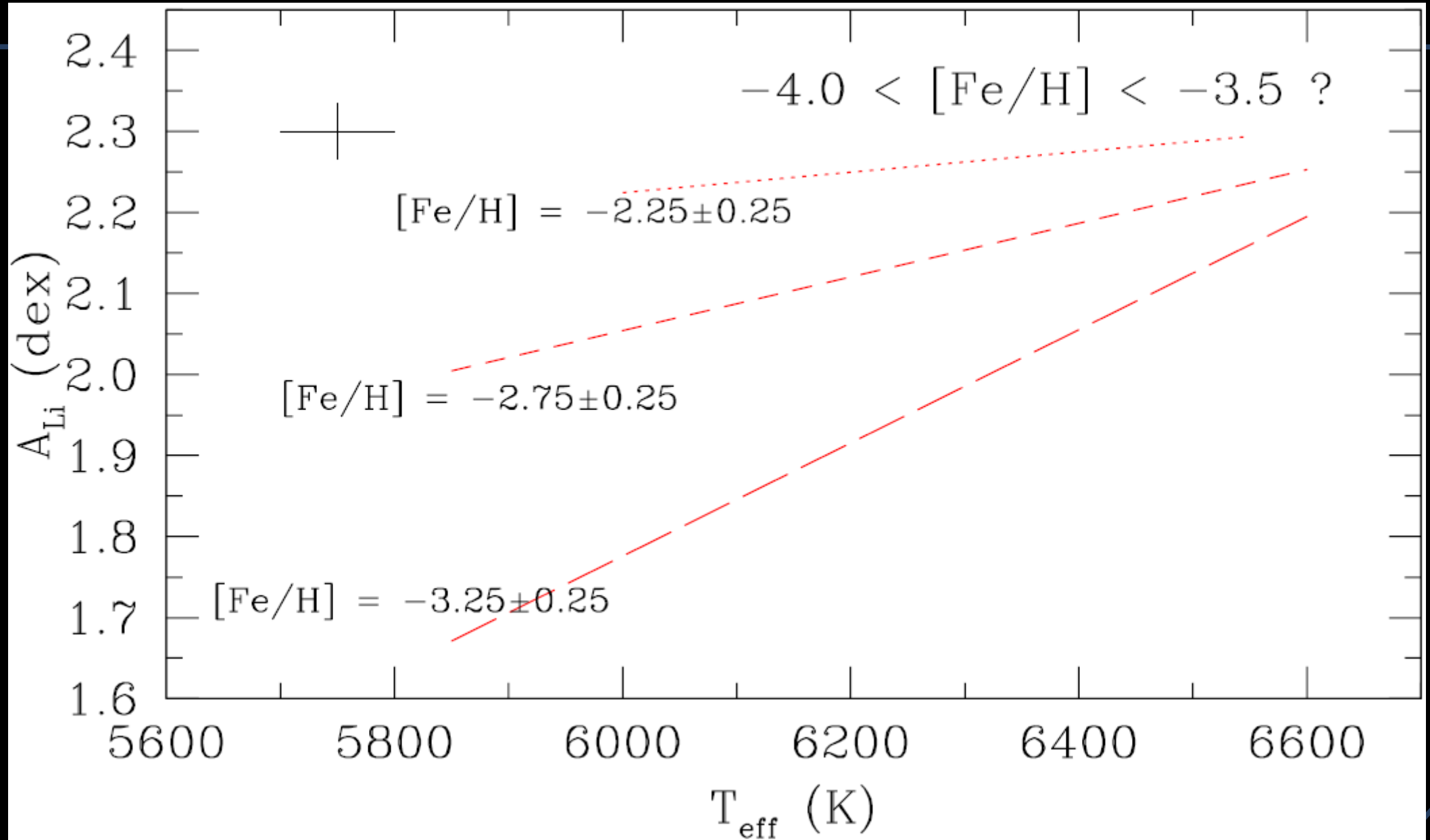
$-3.5 < [\text{Fe}/\text{H}] < -3.0$



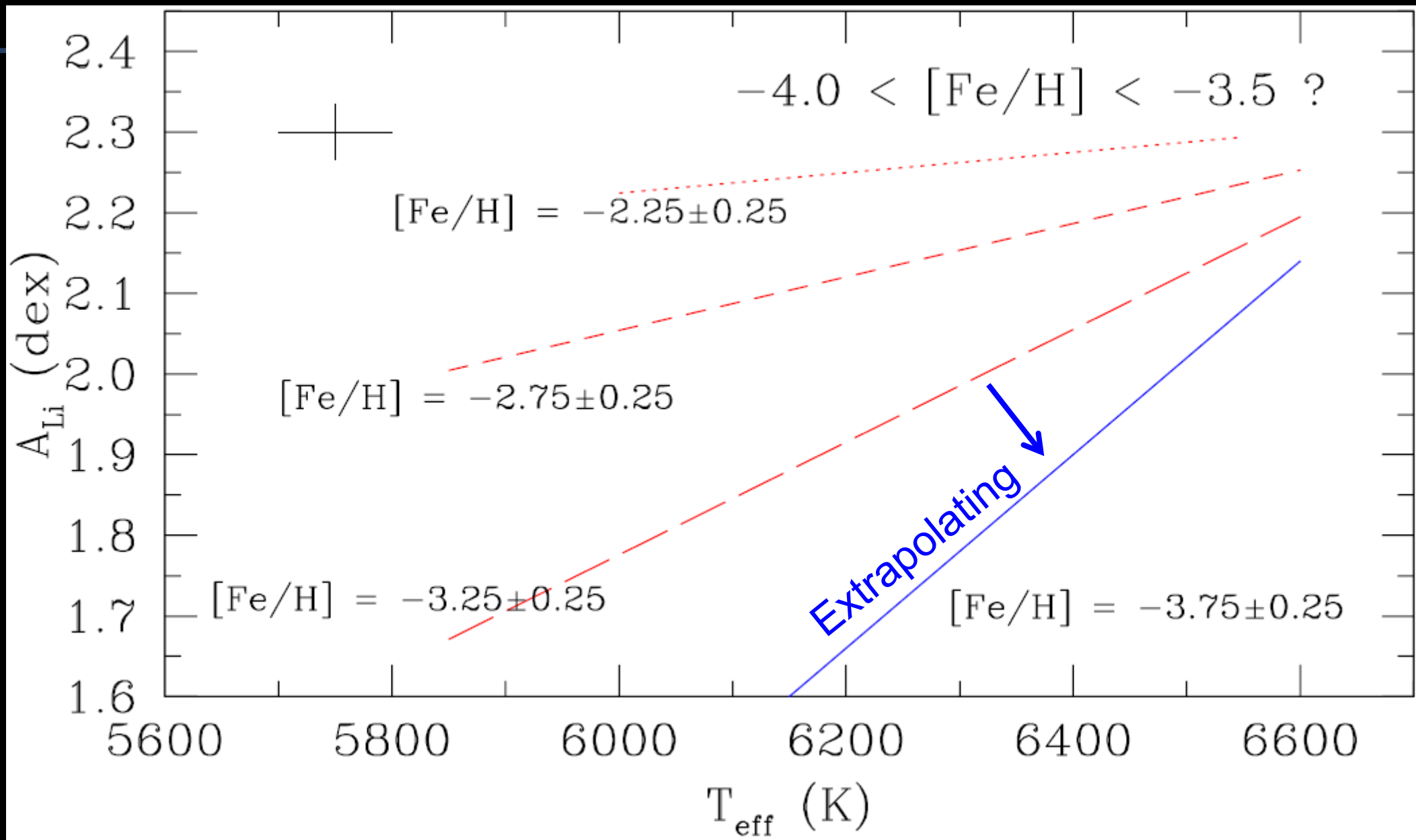
-3.5 < [Fe/H] < -3.0



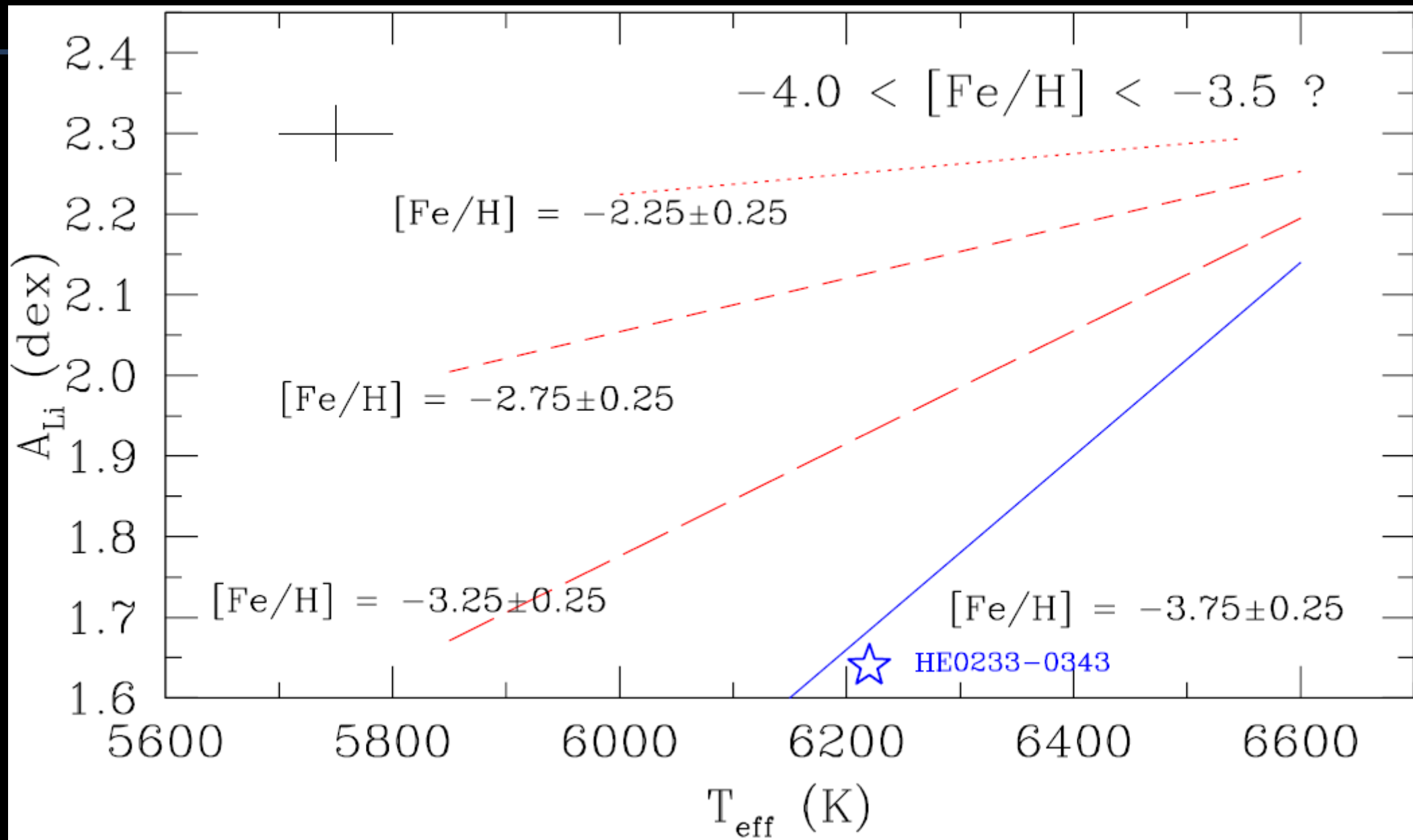
[Fe/H] < -3.5 ...



[Fe/H] < -3.5 ...



[Fe/H] < -3.5 ...



Conclusions

- The (undepleted) Spite plateau is at $A(\text{Li}) \geq 2.3$
- There is strong evidence for Li stellar depletion at all metallicities.
- The depletion is metallicity dependent, imposing strong constraints on stellar models of Li depletion
- In extremely metal-poor stars ($[\text{Fe}/\text{H}] < -3.5$) the Li abundance will be very low even at high T_{eff}
- We need more data at all metallicities below $[\text{Fe}/\text{H}] < 1$