



The Beginnings and Ends of Double White Dwarfs

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Quantification of the effects of unresolved double-degenerates in the white dwarf luminosity function

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The white dwarf luminosity function is an essential tool to understand the nature and the history of the different components of our Galaxy. However, observational white dwarf samples from which the luminosity functions are built are contaminated by unresolved double-degenerates. These systems are considered as ‘single’ white dwarfs from an observational point of view and therefore contribute with unreliable information to the luminosity function. In this work we quantify the effects of unresolved double-degenerates in the white dwarf luminosity function by means of detailed population synthesis studies.

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