Asteroseismology of PG 1541+651 and BPM 31594 with TESS.

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ABSTRACT
We present the photometric data from TESS for two known ZZ Ceti stars, PG 1541+651 and BPM 31594. Before TESS, both objects only had observations from short runs from ground-based facilities, with three and one period detected, respectively. The TESS data allowed the detection of multiple periodicities, 12 for PG 1541+651, and six for BPM 31594, which enables us to perform a detailed asteroseismological study. For both objects we found a representative asteroseismic model with canonical stellar mass ∼ 0.61 M⊙ and thick hydrogen envelopes, thicker than 10−5.3 M∗. The detection of triplets in the Fourier transform also allowed us to estimate mean rotation periods, being ∼ 22 h for PG 1541+651 and 11.6 h for BPM 31594, which is consistent with range of values reported for other ZZ Ceti stars.

Key words: surveys–(stars:) white dwarfs–stars: variables: general

1 INTRODUCTION
White dwarf stars are the endpoint of the evolution for all stars with initial masses up to 8.5–12 M⊙ (Siess 2007; Doherty et al. 2015; Lauffer et al. 2018) when we consider single stellar evolution. This implies that more than 97% of the stars in the Milky Way, including the Sun, will end their lives as white dwarf stars. Therefore, the white dwarf population conveys an important record of the evolution of all stellar populations in our Galaxy. The most numerous class of white dwarf stars are the hydrogen atmosphere DAs, comprising ∼ 87% of all white dwarfs known to date (Kepler et al. 2019, 2021a). In addition, variable DA white dwarf stars are also the most numerous class of pulsating white dwarfs. They are known as ZZ Ceti stars or DAVs, comprising ∼ 80% of all known pulsating white dwarfs (e.g. Bogdán et al. 2021). ZZ Ceti stars show periodic brightness variations due to gravity-driven g-mode pulsations, with periods from 70 to 3000 s and variation amplitudes of 1–60 ppt (e.g. Fontaine & Brassard 2008; Winget & Kepler 2008; Kepler & Romero 2017; Córscio et al. 2019). The excitation mechanism is related to the increase in opacity at the base of the hydrogen envelope, due to partial ionization of hydrogen (Dolez & Vauclair 1981; Winget et al. 1982) and later the ability of the convection zone to react quickly to changes in thermal structure (Brickhill 1991; Goldreich & Wu 1999). This occurs in a narrow range of effective temperature, between 13 500 K and 10 500 K, depending on the stellar mass. The instability strip for ZZ Ceti is pure, meaning that all DA white dwarfs should show photometric variability within these effective temperature range (Castanheira et al. 2007; Gianninas et al. 2011).

As we move through the ZZ Ceti instability strip, there is a change in the behaviour of the pulsation spectrum (Clemens 1993; Mukadam et al. 2006). The hot ZZ Cetis, near the blue edge of the instability strip, show stable sinusoidal or sawtooth light curves, with a few short periods (<350 s) and small variation amplitudes (1.5–20 mma). On the red edge, the cool ZZ Cetis show non-sinusoidal light-curves and a collection of long periods (> 650 s), with large amplitude variations (40–110 mma) that suffer from severe mode interference, leading to the presence of linear combination frequencies and/or harmonics in the Fourier transform. Around 11 500 K, the warm-like ZZ Cetis show mixed characteristics from hot and cool members for short and long periods, respectively.

Asteroseismology applied to white dwarf stars allows us...
to study the inner structure and the evolutionary properties of these objects through the observed period spectrum, in the same way as quakes on Earth allow for the study of the inner core. The technique consists of a comparison between the observed periods and the theoretical periods computed from representative models, as inversion is not doable at present. Each pulsation mode propagates in a specific region, providing information on that particular place inside the star, where its amplitude has a maximum weight. In particular, the thickness of the hydrogen and helium layers (Castanheira & Kepler 2008, 2009; Romero et al. 2012, 2013), the chemical composition of the inner core and an estimate of the $^{12}$C($\alpha,\gamma$)$^{16}$O reaction rate (Metcalfe et al. 2002; De Gerónimo et al. 2017; Pepper et al. 2022; Chidester et al. 2022), crystallization (Montgomery & Winget 1999; Romero et al. 2013), and the properties of the convective regions (Montgomery 2007; Montgomery et al. 2020), can be determined from the observed period spectrum through asteroseismology. In addition, the determination of the rate of period change (Kepler et al. 2005) can be used to study elementary particles such as neutrinos (Winget et al. 2004) and axions (Córsico et al. 2012; Mukadam et al. 2013; Córsico et al. 2016; Kepler et al. 2021b).

Since the discovery of the first ZZ Ceti star, HL Tau 76 (Landolt 1968), there are more than 400 ZZ Cetis reported to date (see for instance Bognár & Sodor 2016; Córsico et al. 2019; Romero et al. 2019b; Vincent et al. 2020; Guidry et al. 2021; Romero et al. 2022). However, for most ZZ Cetis, only a limited number of observed periods are known, usually detected as a result of short runs from the discovery paper, and no follow-up observations were performed.

The increase in the number of new ZZ Cetis and new detected periods was boosted by recent space-based observations. For instance, the TESS satellite (Ricker et al. 2014, 2015), launched in 2018 April 18, observed several ZZ Ceti candidates and known pulsators (see for example Bognár et al. 2020; Romero et al. 2022). This satellite observes between 150 and 300 white dwarf stars every month. Each observation run last for a total of 27 days, in a 120 s–cadence for selected objects, and a 20 s–cadence mode for a limited sample of bright objects.

In particular, PG 1541+651 and BPM 31594 are two warm-like ZZ Cetis with three and one periods, respectively, detected from ground-based discovery observations (Vauclair et al. 2000; McGraw 1976). The number of detected modes considerably increased after they were observed by the TESS satellite, allowing a more detailed asteroseismological analysis. In this work, we present observations from TESS for PG 1541+651 and BPM 31594, along with a detailed asteroseismological analysis. The paper is organized as follows: in section 2 we present the results from previous observation runs for both objects. We describe the data reduction process and results from TESS observations in section 3. Section 4 is devoted to a detailed asteroseismological analysis of the targets, and we summarized our findings in section 5.

2 SELECTED TARGETS

Vauclair et al. (2000) reported the detection of photometric variability in PG 1541+651 (TIC 458484139), based on ~9 h observations performed on the 2-m Pic du Midi and the 1.93-m Haute Provence Observatory telescopes. Three periods were identified at 689, 564 and 757 s, with the 689 s period having the largest amplitude. These periods show typical values for a ZZ Ceti in the middle of the instability strip (Mukadam et al. 2006). The spectroscopic effective temperature and surface gravity were determined by Gianninas et al. (2011), $T_{\text{eff}} = 11560 \pm 250$ K and $\log g = 8.12 \pm 0.038$, after applying the 3D convection correction (Tremblay et al. 2013), leading to a stellar mass of $0.67 \pm 0.03 M_\odot$. Later on, Gentile Fusillo et al. (2021), using photometry and parallax from Gaia eDR3, found $T_{\text{eff}} = 11607 \pm 203$ K and $\log g = 8.035 \pm 0.028$, with a significantly lower stellar mass of $0.626 \pm 0.018 M_\odot$.

The pulsational variability of BPM 31594 (TIC 101014997) was first reported by McGraw (1976) based on ~13 h of observations at the Sutherland observing station of the South African Astronomical Observatory, using the 0.76-m and 1.02-m telescopes. He found two periods at 617 s and 314 s, with an amplitude of 0.18 mag. O’Donoghue et al. (1992), based on ~300 h run at the 0.76–1.02- and 1.9-m reflectors at the Sutherland observing station of the South African Astronomical Observatory, also reported the detection of a period of 617 s, along with several harmonics.

Gianninas et al. (2011) obtained the atmospheric parameter for BPM 31594, being $T_{\text{eff}} = 11500 \pm 250$ K and $\log g = 8.05 \pm 0.038$ after applying the 3D convection correction. With these values, the stellar mass is $0.63 \pm 0.03 M_\odot$. Later Fuchs (2017) found a slightly higher effective temperature of $11786 \pm 22$ K and a lower surface gravity $\log g = 8.029 \pm 0.006$, corresponding to a stellar mass of $0.615 \pm 0.005 M_\odot$, similar to that found by Gianninas et al. (2011).

Note that, as is the case for many ZZ Ceti stars, no further follow-up observations were published for these objects until the TESS satellite.

3 DATA ANALYSIS

BPM 31594 was observed in Sectors 3 and 4 with 120 s–cadence, and in Sectors 30 and 31 with both 120 s and 20 s cadence. PG 1541+651 was observed in Sectors 14 to 17 and 21 to 24 with 120 s cadence and in Sectors 41, 47, 48, 50, and 51 in 120 s and 20 s cadence.

We downloaded all light curves for BPM 31594 and PG 1541+651 from the Mikulski Archive for Space Telescopes, which is hosted by the Space Telescope Science Institute (STScI) in FITS format. The data were processed based on the Pre-Search Data Conditioning pipeline (Jenkins et al. 2016). We extracted times and fluxes (PDCSAP FLUX) from the FITS files. The times are given in barycentric corrected dynamical Julian days (BJD – 2457000, corrected for leap seconds, see Eastman et al. 2010). For each sector, the fluxes were converted into fractional variations.

1 PG 1541+651 can also be found in the literature as PG 1541+650.
2 http://archive.stsci.edu/
from the mean, that is, differential flux $\Delta f / f$, and transformed into amplitudes in parts-per-thousand (ppt). The ppt unit corresponds to the milli-modulation amplitude (mma) unit. The contamination level from other stars in the image is low, with $CROWDSAP$ of 0.94 and 0.704 for BPM 31594 and PG 1541+651, respectively. We sigma-clipped the data at 5$\sigma$ to remove the outliers that appear above five times the median absolute deviation, that is, that depart from the median by 5$\sigma$.

We computed the Fourier transforms (FTs) for all light curves and looked for pulsations signatures above the detection limit, defined as 5$\langle A \rangle$. For pre-whitening, we employed our customized tool, in which, using a nonlinear least-squares method, we simultaneously fit each pulsation frequency in a waveform $A_i \sin(\omega t + \phi)$, with $\omega = 2\pi f / P$, and $P$ the period. This iterative process was run, starting with the highest peak, until no peak appeared above the detection limit. The uncertainties in the frequencies are estimated as $1/T$, where $T$ is the duration of each block, and vary from 0.11 $\mu$Hz to 0.43 $\mu$Hz.

### 3.1 PG 1541+651

The ZZ Ceti star PG 1541+651 was observed by TESS in Sectors 14–17, 21–24, 41, 47–48, and 50–51. For Sectors 41, 47, 48, 50, and 51 the observations were taken with 20s-cadence, while for the previous sectors, the data correspond only to 120s-cadence. For this object, we separate the data into five blocks, corresponding to continuous observations runs, to avoid possible spurious signals due to long gaps in the data. For each block, we obtained the Fourier transform (FT) and identify the characteristic frequencies. Figure 1 shows the FT for all concatenated sectors, Sectors 14–17, Sectors 21–24, Sector 41, Sectors 47–48 and Sectors 50–51, from top to bottom. Note that the amplitude scale is not the same for all the plots. The data corresponds to 120s-cadence observations for all blocks, as there are no periods detected below the Nyquist limit, corresponding to a period of 240 s.

The frequencies detected from each block are listed in Table 2, along with the corresponding periods and amplitudes. As can be seen from this table, there are only two frequencies that are present in all five blocks, but most of them are detected in four of the five blocks. Other frequencies are present in some blocks, but not detected in others. Note that not all the frequencies correspond to independent pulsation modes, since there are several multiplets in the period spectra (see section 3.1.1).

As can be seen from Figure 1, and also from the values listed in Table 1, the amplitudes of the peaks in the FT vary from block to block. For the first block (14–17) the dominant mode, that with the highest amplitude in the FT, is at a frequency of 2480.5871 $\mu$Hz (403.1304 s). In the second block (21–24) the amplitude of that mode decreases considerably, while the mode with a frequency of $\sim$1847 $\mu$Hz ($\sim$541 s) shows the highest amplitude in the FT. Finally, the amplitude for the mode with $\sim$1847 $\mu$Hz decreases from the third to the fifth block, making the mode with a frequency of $\sim$1458 $\mu$Hz ($\sim$685 s) the dominant mode from Sectors 41 to 51. This change in amplitude, from a short to a longer period in a scale of a few years is not likely to be related to convection (Montgomery et al. 2020).

In general, peaks corresponding to high-frequencies, higher than $\sim$1250 $\mu$Hz are narrow, with widths roughly matching the spectral window of the observations. The peaks with frequencies below 1248 $\mu$Hz (periods longer than $\sim$800 s) show a complex structure in the FT for all the blocks, spreading their power over a broad band in the FT. This behaviour is in agreement with the dichotomy found by Hermes et al. (2017a), based on 27 DAVs observed with the Kepler satellite. These authors found that peaks corresponding to periods longer than $\sim$800 s have substantially broader mode widths than those with periods shorter than $\sim$800 s, and are most likely representative of phase-unstable single modes, reminiscent of a damped harmonic oscillator. Later, Montgomery et al. (2020) showed that the depth of the convection zone changes during the pulsation cycle, causing the reflection of the outgoing travelling wave to not be coherent. Since in most cases, modes with periods longer than $\sim$800 s propagate all the way to the base of the surface convection zone, these will be affected by the time-dependent position of the outer turning point.

#### 3.1.1 Rotational splittings

White dwarf stars are considered slow rotators, with rotation periods that range from hours to days (Kepler & Romero 2017; Hermes et al. 2017a). Rotation leads to a breaking of the degeneracy in pulsation frequencies, causing a single $\ell$ mode to separate into the $2\ell+1$ components in the azimuthal order $m$ (e.g. Unno et al. 1989).

For slow rotation we can consider that the frequency separation between the central $m = 0$ component and the $\pm m$ components are equal, and thus, a rotation period can be estimated following the equation (Cowling & Newing 1949; Ledoux 1951):

$$\frac{1}{P_{\text{rot}}} = \frac{\Delta \nu_{k,\ell,m}}{m(1 - C_{\ell \ell})}$$

where $m$ is the azimuthal number and $C_{\ell \ell}$ is the rotational splitting coefficient given by:

$$C_{\ell \ell} = \frac{\int_0^{R^2} \rho r^2 [2\xi_r \xi_t + \xi_t^2] dr}{\int_0^{R^2} \rho r^2 \xi_t^2 + \ell(\ell+1)\xi_t^2 dr}$$

where $\rho$ is the density, $r$ is the radius and $\xi_r$ and $\xi_t$ are the radial and horizontal displacement of the material (see Unno et al. 1989, for details). In addition, the spherical degree and azimuthal order of the modes can be identified from the rotationally split multiplets present in the FT (e.g., Winget et al. 1991, 1994). In the asymptotic regime, for high radial order modes, the value of the rotational splitting coefficient is $C_{\ell \ell} \sim 1/\ell(\ell + 1)$, being $\sim 0.5$ and $\sim 0.166$, for $\ell = 1$ and $\ell = 2$ modes.

By analysing the frequency spectrum for PG 1541+651 from the TESS data, we identify seven possible multiplets. The components for each multiplet are listed in Table 2, along with the corresponding harmonic degree ($\ell$) and the azimuthal order ($m$). We identify four of them as triplets, with harmonic degree $\ell = 1$, with a frequency separation...
between 6 and 7 $\mu$Hz. The regions of interest in the Fourier transform are shown in Figure 2 for the modes with central components at $\sim 2487\mu$Hz (top), $\sim 1840\mu$Hz (middle) and $\sim 1465\mu$Hz (bottom) for the data from Sectors 21 to 24 and 120 s-cadence.

The remaining two multiplets (last ones in Table 2) show a frequency separation between the components that is much larger than the others, and thus we do not assign a harmonic degree. The region of the FT corresponding to the multiplet with a central component at a frequency of 1159.81 $\mu$Hz is depicted in Figure 3. The frequency separation is $\sim 17$ $\mu$Hz, which is larger than two times the separation between the multiplets identified as dipole modes.

As stated before, the region of the FT for frequencies around 1225 $\mu$Hz shows a quite complex structure that changes from one block to the next. This can be seen from Figure 4, where we show the region of interest for all blocks. From the first block, corresponding to Sectors 14 to 17, we only detect one peak at $\sim 806$ s. As we move forward, other components seem to gain energy and reach amplitudes above the detection limit. In particular, components with higher frequencies (shorter periods) seem to lose energy as we move to more recent sectors, with the component centred at $\sim 829$ s (1206 $\mu$Hz) being the one with the highest amplitude for the data corresponding to the 50-51 block. If we consider the combined peaks detected in the five blocks, we can identify five periods, as indicated in the fourth panel in Figure 4, corresponding to the data from Sectors 47 and 48. We identify these collections of frequencies as two possible multiplets centred at $\sim 815$ s (1226 $\mu$Hz). The first multiplet is identified as a $\ell = 1$ mode, with a $\Delta \nu \sim 6.5\mu$Hz
Table 1. List of periods and amplitudes for PG 1541+651 for each block (top row).

| Periods | Block 14-17 | Block 21-24 | Block 41 | Block 47-48 | Block 50-51 | All Blocks |
|---------|-------------|-------------|---------|-------------|-------------|-----------|
| Π (s)   | AMP (ppt)   | Π (s)       | AMP (ppt) | Π (s)       | AMP (ppt)   | Π (s)     |
|         |             |             |         |             |             |           |
| 302.5562 | 3.3489      | 302.5351    | 5.8632   | 302.5338    | 8.2818      | 302.5344  |
| 375.7850 | 4.2753      | 375.1835    | 5.2731   | 375.5697    | 2.8104      | 375.5726  |
| 401.0212 | 1.5348      | 401.0175    | 3.3980   |             |             | 401.1767  |
| 568.6268 | 3.9720      | 568.2078    | 5.9730   |             |             | 568.2076  |
| 621.8078 | 2.4711      |             |         |             |             | 621.8078  |
| 679.5963 | 3.0513      |             |         |             |             | 679.5963  |
| 730.4653 | 8.8848      |             |         |             |             | 730.4653  |
| 781.2597 | 3.5981      |             |         |             |             | 781.2597  |
| 806.5962 | 6.609       |             |         |             |             | 806.5962  |
| 849.7289 | 6.438       |             |         |             |             | 849.7289  |
| 852.2140 | 4.8796      |             |         |             |             | 852.2140  |
| 875.2320 | 3.8219      |             |         |             |             | 875.2320  |

Table 2. Frequency, period, frequency separation and ℓ and m identification for multiplets components found for PG 1541+651.

| Frequency (μHz) | Period (s) | Frequency Separation (μHz) | ℓ | m |
|-----------------|------------|----------------------------|----|---|
| 2493.744        | 401.004    | 6.609                      | 1  | +1|
| 2487.135        | 402.069    | 7.095                      | -1 | 0 |
| 2480.526        | 403.140    | 7.036                      | -1 | 0 |
| 1846.965        | 541.429    | 6.845                      | 1  | +1|
| 1840.015        | 543.474    | 7.036                      | -1 | 0 |
| 1853.065        | 545.534    | 7.036                      | 1  | +1|
| 1471.462        | 679.596    | 6.580                      | 1  | +1|
| 1464.882        | 682.649    | 6.580                      | -1 | 0 |
| 1458.302        | 685.728    | 6.580                      | 1  | +1|
| 1233.580        | 810.681    | 6.467                      | 1  | +1|
| 1227.053        | 814.961    | 6.496                      | -1 | 0 |
| 1220.567        | 819.291    | 6.496                      | 1  | +1|
| 1248.581        | 800.909    | 21.528                     | ?  | +|
| 1227.053        | 814.961    | 21.528                     | ?  | +|
| 1204.857        | 829.974    | 22.196                     | ?  | +|
| 1176.846        | 849.729    | 17.041                     | ?  | +|
| 1159.085        | 862.214    | 17.041                     | ?  | +|
| 1142.554        | 875.232    | 17.041                     | ?  | +|

3.2 BPM 31594

BPM 31594 was observed by TESS in Sectors 3 and 4 with 120 s cadence, and in Sectors 30 and 31 with 20 s-cadence. Thus, we separate the data into two blocks, corresponding to continuous observation runs. Figure 5 shows the FT for the two blocks, corresponding to Sectors 30 and 31 (bottom panel) and Sectors 3 and 4 (middle panel). The FT for the concatenated data is shown in the top panel of this figure.

The detected frequencies, periods and amplitudes for each block are listed in Table 3. From the 03-04 block, we detect 6 periods, with a dominant peak at 617.89 s. From block 30-31, we detect five additional periods, and confirm the ones present in block 03-04. The mode with the highest amplitude is by far the one with a frequency of 1618.4 μHz (f3), in agreement with the results from McGraw (1976) and O’Donoghue et al. (1992). We also detected the prograde and retrograde components for this frequency, shown in Figure 6, and thus we identify this mode as a dipole ℓ = 1 mode.

Among the detected frequencies, we look for linear combinations and harmonics by computing combinations of the detected frequencies, considering that their amplitude cannot be larger than that of the parent modes (Buchler et al. 1995). We identify two harmonics of the main period, and three linear combinations of the main peak and f2, identified as such in the last column of Table 3. Note that the peak corresponding to the frequency 3166.7 μHz reported by (McGraw 1976) is present in the TESS data for both blocks. On the other hand, sub-harmonics of the main period, previously reported by O’Donoghue et al. (1992), are not present in the TESS data.

(see Table 2). The second multiplet shows a separation of ~22 μHz.

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Table 3. List of frequencies, periods and amplitudes detected for BPM 31594.

| ID    | 03-04 | 30-31 |
|-------|-------|-------|
|       | Freq $\mu$Hz | $\Pi$ s | Amp ppt | Freq $\mu$Hz | $\Pi$ s | Amp ppt |
|       | 3166.8722 | 315.7670 | 4.0095 | 3166.6852 | 315.7876 | 2.3515 |
|       | 2487.8989 | 401.9456 | 5.7188 | 2488.6026 | 401.8319 | 6.3873 |
|       | 1631.8405 | 612.8050 | 10.9446 | 1630.7763 | 613.2049 | 7.9732 |
|       | 1618.3989 | 617.8946 | 39.114 | 1618.3725 | 617.9047 | 32.7478 |
|       | 1461.1146 | 623.0607 | 8.8420 | 1460.9453 | 622.6862 | 8.6200 |
|       | 1548.4505 | 645.8069 | 8.4213 | 1548.3318 | 645.8564 | 3.6726 |
|       | 1461.1146 | 623.0607 | 8.8420 | 1460.9453 | 622.6862 | 8.6200 |
|       | 1548.4505 | 645.8069 | 8.4213 | 1548.3318 | 645.8564 | 3.6726 |
|       | 1461.1146 | 623.0607 | 8.8420 | 1460.9453 | 622.6862 | 8.6200 |
|       | 1548.4505 | 645.8069 | 8.4213 | 1548.3318 | 645.8564 | 3.6726 |
|       | 1461.1146 | 623.0607 | 8.8420 | 1460.9453 | 622.6862 | 8.6200 |
|       | 1548.4505 | 645.8069 | 8.4213 | 1548.3318 | 645.8564 | 3.6726 |
|       | 1461.1146 | 623.0607 | 8.8420 | 1460.9453 | 622.6862 | 8.6200 |
|       | 1548.4505 | 645.8069 | 8.4213 | 1548.3318 | 645.8564 | 3.6726 |
|       | 1461.1146 | 623.0607 | 8.8420 | 1460.9453 | 622.6862 | 8.6200 |
|       | 1548.4505 | 645.8069 | 8.4213 | 1548.3318 | 645.8564 | 3.6726 |
|       | 1461.1146 | 623.0607 | 8.8420 | 1460.9453 | 622.6862 | 8.6200 |
|       | 1548.4505 | 645.8069 | 8.4213 | 1548.3318 | 645.8564 | 3.6726 |

Figure 2. Portions of the Fourier transform for PG 1541+651 for the identified triplets with the shorter periods with central components at $\sim 402$ s (top), $\sim 543$ s (middle) and $\sim 683$ s (bottom) for the observation from Sectors 21 to 24 and 120 s–cadence. The red line correspond to the 5$\langle$A$\rangle$ detection limit. For the bottom panel, we include the data for Sector 41 with 20 s–cadence (dashed line) for completeness. The frequency separation between the central and prograde and retrograde components is between 6 and 7 $\mu$Hz for all triplets shown in this figure.

Figure 3. Fourier transform for PG 1541+651 for the region between $1140$ and $1185$ $\mu$Hz for PG 1541+651, for Sectors 14-17 and 120 s–cadence. The red line correspond to the 5$\langle$A$\rangle$ detection limit.

4 ASTEROSEISMOLOGY

In this section, we present a detailed asteroseismological study of PG 1541+651 and BPM 31594. We employ a grid of DA white dwarf representative models, product of fully evolutionary computations that consider the evolution of the progenitor star from the main sequence to the cooling curve. The models were computed using the LPCODE evolutionary code (see Althaus et al. 2010; Renedo et al. 2010; Romero et al. 2013, 2015, for details). The model grid covers the mass region where C/O–core white dwarfs are expected, with stellar masses between $0.493$ and $1.05 M_\odot$. The inner chemical profile is determined by the model evolution, thus the internal structure, from the C/O core to the hydrogen envelope, are consistent. In addition, models with different thickness of the hydrogen layers are included (Bradley 1996; Cowling & Newing 1949), with hydrogen masses ranging from $4\times10^{-4} M_\odot$ to $\sim 10^{-10} M_\odot$, where the upper limit depends on the stellar mass, and is set by residual nuclear burning at the base of the hydrogen layer (Romero et al. 2012, 2019a). We do not consider hydrogen envelopes thinner than $10^{-10} M_\odot$ since, by the time the white dwarf reaches the instability strip, the outer convective zone will be deep enough to mix the hydrogen into the much ($\sim 100x$) more massive helium.
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Figure 4. Fourier transform for the region between 1190 and 1260 µHz for PG 1541+651, for Sectors 14-17, 21-24, 41, 47-48 and 50-51 from top to bottom. Their respective spectral windows are shown on the right side. The red line correspond to the $5\langle A\rangle$ detection limit. The approximate values and ranges for the corresponding periods are depicted in the plot. On the right panel we depict the spectral window for each block.

Table 4. Periods list for PG 1541+651 used for asteroseismology. For the periods that appear as multiplets in the FT, we indicate the harmonic degree. Values for the modes marked in italic correspond to the central components of the multiplets shown in Figure 4.

| ID | Freq $\mu$Hz | $\Pi$ s | $\ell$ |
|----|--------------|---------|-------|
| $f_1$ | 3305.3641 | 302.5385 | - |
| $f_2$ | 2663.4520 | 375.7526 | - |
| $f_3$ | 2487.1350 | 402.0690 | 1 |
| $f_4$ | 1840.0153 | 543.4738 | 1 |
| $f_5$ | 1758.6227 | 568.6268 | - |
| $f_6$ | 1608.2140 | 621.8078 | - |
| $f_7$ | 1464.8820 | 682.6488 | 1 |
| $f_8$ | 1368.9904 | 730.4653 | - |
| $f_9$ | 1279.9841 | 781.2597 | - |
| $f_{10}$ | 1227.0522 | 814.9613 | 1 |
| $f_{11}$ | 1227.0522 | 814.9613 | 2 |
| $f_{12}$ | 1159.8049 | 862.2140 | - |

4.1 PG 1541+651

The list of periods for PG 1541+651 considered for the asteroseismological fit is listed in Table 4. The period values are taken from Table 1. For periods that are detected in more than one block, we consider the mean value, weighted by the amplitude in the FT. In case of multiplets, we consider the value of the period of the central component ($m = 0$) from Table 2. For PG 1541+651 we identify 12 independent modes; four of them are identified positively as $\ell = 1$ dipoles and one is identified as a $\ell = 2$ quadrupole, given the number of detected components and the frequency separation between them (see section 3.1.1).

As can be seen from Table 1, most of the periods are not detected in all the data blocks. In fact, only four modes are detected in four of the five the blocks, whether it is the central components or at least one component of a multiplet. These modes are the ones identified by $f_3$, $f_4$, $f_7$ and $f_{10}$, with periods of 402.0690, 543.4732, 682.6488 and 814.9609 s. For the moment, we consider that the last period (814.96 s), corresponds to only one mode with an unknown harmonic degree. We first perform an asteroseismological fit using these four periods. The structural parameters of two models with the lowest value of $\chi^2$ are listed in Table 5. Both models are characterized by a stellar mass of 0.609 $M_\odot$, but the hydrogen envelope mass is quite different. The model...
Next, we perform an asteroseismological fit considering all 12 periods detected for PG 1541+651, listed in Table 4. In this case, we consider that the period of \( \sim 815 \) s corresponds to the central component of two multiplets, that have harmonic degrees \( \ell = 1 \) and \( \ell = 2 \). The structural parameters characterizing the best fit model are listed in Table 6, along with the theoretical periods and the value of the quality function. Figure 7 shows the inverse of \( \chi^2 \) as a function of the effective temperature and the mass of the hydrogen envelope, for sequences characterized by a stellar mass of the best fit model, being 0.609 \( M_\odot \). The effective temperature for the best fit model (minimum of \( \chi^2 \)) is in agreement with the determination from Gentile Fusillo et al. (2021), within the uncertainties. The chemical profile and the run of the Brunt–Väisälä and the Lamb frequencies for the best fit model are shown in Figure 8.

Figure 9 shows the run of the weight function \( W \) for five of the six modes identified as central components of multiplets. The vertical red lines correspond to the position of the each chemical transition, being, from right to left, the H–to–He transition, the base of the He buffer, and the point where the carbon abundance is larger than the oxygen abundance in the C/O core (see Fig. 8 for details). Note that the weight function is very sensitive to the position of the H-to-He transition for all modes depicted in Figure 9.

Finally, each theoretical mode has an associated value of the rotational splitting coefficient \( C_{k,\ell} \). The values for the \( C_{k,\ell} \) for the modes identified as multiplets are listed in column 6 of Table 6. Combining this value with the observed
Table 5. Best fitting models for PG 1541+651 considering the four recurring periods. The stellar mass, hydrogen envelope and effective temperature are listed in columns 1, 2 and 3, respectively. The theoretical periods are listed in column 4, along with the harmonic degree and radial order. The value of the quality function is listed in the last column.

| M (M☉) | log(M_H/M_☉) | T_{eff} [K] | Π [s] (ℓ, k) | χ² |
|--------|--------------|-------------|--------------|-----|
| 0.609  | −8.33        | 11800       | 397.5016 (1.5), 540.5612 (1.8), 686.4946 (1.11), 813.7084 (2.25) | 2.2535 |
| 0.609  | −5.24        | 11290       | 400.3013 (1.6), 550.4957 (1.9), 678.4833 (1.12), 814.4608 (1.15) | 2.7890 |

Figure 7. Contour map with the value of the inverse of the quality function (gray scale) for PG 1541+651, considering models with stellar mass of 0.609 M☉. The quality function is that given by equation 3, plotted as a function of the effective temperature and the logarithm of the hydrogen envelope mass.

Table 6. Best fitting model for PG 1541+651 considering all detected periods. The stellar mass, effective temperature and hydrogen envelope are listed in column 2. The theoretical periods, harmonic degree and radial order are listed in columns 3, 4 and 5, respectively. The value of the rotation kernel and the rotation period are listed in the columns 6 and 7, respectively, for the modes identified as multiplets. The value of the quality function is listed in the last row of column 2.

| Model | Π [s] | ℓ  | k  | C_{rot} | P_{rot} [h] |
|-------|-------|----|----|---------|-------------|
| M (M☉) | 0.609 | 305.6120 | 2 | 8 |  |
| T_{eff} [K] | 11240 | 375.9419 | 2 | 11 | |
| log(M_H/M_☉) | −5.35 | 402.9660 | 1 | 6 | 0.4877 | 21.53 |
| χ² | 1.5037 | 552.9017 | 1 | 9 | 0.4521 | 21.93 |
|  | 564.3766 | 2 | 18 |  |
|  | 616.4197 | 2 | 20 |  |
|  | 680.4286 | 2 | 12 | 0.4587 | 22.85 |
|  | 726.3037 | 2 | 24 |  |
|  | 780.4958 | 2 | 26 |  |
|  | 809.2072 | 2 | 27 | 0.1626 | 21.28* |
|  | 821.7833 | 1 | 15 | 0.4946 | 21.66 |
|  | 867.1427 | 2 | 29 | 0.1642 | 27.08* |

Figure 8. The square of the Brunt-Väisälä and the Lamb frequencies (top panel) and the chemical profiles (bottom panel) for the best fit model for PG 1541+651 listed in Table 6, with a stellar mass of 0.609 M☉, effective temperature of 11 240 K, and a hydrogen mass of 4.5 × 10^{-6} M_☉.

For BPM 31594 we detected nine frequencies in the FT, with six modes identified as independent modes. For our asteroseismological fit we consider the period values from the 30-31 block, and fix the harmonic degree of the main mode, with a period of 617.9 s, as ℓ = 1. The final list is shown in Table 7.
From our asteroseismological fit, we found a minimum in the quality function for a stellar mass of 0.690 $M_\odot$. However, the luminosity of the model leads to a distance of 37 pc, which is 7 pc closer than the distance determined with Gaia DR3 parallax, of 44.3 pc (Gentile Fusillo et al. 2021). We searched for a seismological solution that is compatible with the distance determination. The structure parameters and the theoretical periods of this model are listed in Table 8. Figure 10 depicts the inverse of $\chi^2$ as a function of the effective temperature and the mass of the hydrogen envelope, for sequences with a stellar mass of 0.632 $M_\odot$, where a solution family can be seen for the thickest envelope value. Figure 11 shows the run of the Brunt-Väisälä and Lamb frequencies (top panel) and the chemical profile for the best fit model (middle panel). In the bottom panel of Figure 11 we depict the weight function $W$ for the theoretical mode with a period of 617.7 s. This is the main observed mode, which is also identified as a triplet. Note that this mode is quite sensitive to the H/He transition, and thus to the mass of the hydrogen envelope.

From the asteroseismological fit we also get the value of the rotational splitting coefficient $C_{k\ell}$ (eq. 2) for all the theoretical periods. In particular, for the main mode fitted with a theoretical period of 617.7 s the value is $C_{1,12} = 0.4825$. Following equation 1, with $\Delta \nu_{k,\ell,m} = 12.4 \mu$Hz, we obtain a rotation period of 11.57 h.

5 CONCLUSIONS

In this work we present a detailed astroseismological study of two warm–like ZZ ceti stars, PG 1541+651 and BPM 31594,
based on the photometric data obtained by the TESS mission.

PG 1541+651 was observed in eight sectors with 120 s cadence, and also in five sectors with both 120 and 20 s cadence, from Sectors 14 to 51, with 20 s cadence data for five sectors. We found 12 modes, four of them identified as triplets due to the presence of the rotational splitting components. From our asteroseismological fit we found a representative model characterized by a stellar mass of 0.690 M_⊙, effective temperature of 11 240 K, and a hydrogen envelope of 4.5 x 10^{-6} M_⊙ (or 2.7 x 10^{-6} M_⊙). Due to the large number of observed modes we were able to break the degeneracy in M_H in our asteroseismological fit.

BPM 31594 was observed during the first year of the TESS mission, in Sectors 3 and 4, and during the third year in Sectors 30 and 31. We identify six periods, being the dominant period as triplet. For this object we used the restrictions in stellar mass given by the distance and found a best fit model characterized by a hydrogen mass of 7.6 x 10^{-5} M_⊙, Run of the weight function W (bottom panel) for the main mode, with a period of 617.7 s.

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**DATA AVAILABILITY**

Data from TESS is available at the MAST archive https://mast.stsci.edu/search/hst/ui/$#/sl. Ground based data will be shared on reasonable request to the corresponding author.

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