



Observations of Type Ia Supernovae Strongly Interacting with Their Circumstellar Medium Jeffrey M. Silverman NSF Astronomy & Astrophysics Postdoctoral Fellow University of Texas at Austin



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PTF11kx and the ia-csm Objects

Jeffrey M. Silverman NSF Astronomy & Astrophysics Postdoctoral Fellow University of Texas at Austin



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with P. E. Nugent, A. Gal-Yam, M. Sullivan, D. A. Howell, A. V. Filippenko, M. Graham, O. Fox, & C. Harris and the Palomar Transient Factory,

the UC Berkeley SN group, the Lawrence Berkeley National Lab & the Texas Supernova Spectral Survey

PTF11kx (early-time data, t < 100 d) [Dilday+12]

- Resembled a somewhat overluminous SN Ia (99aa/91T-like)
- Initially "crazy deep" Ca II H&K absorption

Ca II H&K became emission w/ time

- H α emission appeared and increased w/ time





Dilday+12





PTF11kx (late-time data, 100 < t < 440 d) [JMS+13a]

Not much spectral evolution for ~1 yr

- Very strong H α emission (width ~2000 km/s)
 - H α emission increases w/ time

 Strong broad (~10,000 km/s) Ca II NIR triplet emission













JMS+13a

PTF11kx (very late-time data, t ~ 1340 d) [Graham+15a & FOE poster]

Not detected in g- or R_S-band DEIMOS images



...but H α emission from PTF11kx persists!!!



Other SNe Ia Strongly Interacting w/ CSM (Ia-CSM, Ian, IIa, IIna, hybrid SNe)

- PTF11kx looked like a SN la at first
- After ~1 month, PTF11kx looked kinda like a SN IIn
- There are others like it: la-CSM objects
- Ia-CSM objects are the thermonuclear explosion of a WD that strongly interacts with a H-rich CSM.

But by definition,



SNe la don't have H in their spectra...

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Older la-CSM Objects

- SN 1997cy (Turatto+2000; Germany+2000)
- SN 1999E (Rigon+2003)
- SN 2002ic (Hamuy+2003; Deng+2004; Kotak+2004; Wang+2004; Wood-Vasey+2004)
- SN 2005gj (Aldering+2006; Prieto+2007)
- SN 2008J (Taddia+2012)
- SN 2008cg, SN 2011jb, CSS120327:110520-015205 (only unrefereed CBETs)

Newer la-CSM Objects

- PTF11kx (Dilday+2012; JMS+13a; Graham+15a)
- 7 more PTF objects (JMS+13b)
- SN 2012ca (Fox+2014...but see also Inserra+2013)
- SN 2013dn (Fox+2014)
- 2—3 more objects announced in ATELs

→ ~20 (or 1) la-CSM objects

















s⁻¹ cm⁻² Ang⁻¹) + offset Log (erg







How much is too much? [Leloudas+15]

- Generated >800 spectra with differing amounts of circumstellar interaction
- 10 co-authors each classified a random subset (by eye, SNID, Superfit, GELTAO)
- Main factor affecting spectral classification is f_V = flux_{SN} / flux_{continuum}
- S/N, extinction, and strength of narrow emission lines didn't affect classifications



PTF 11kx Summary [Dilday+12; JMS+13a; Graham+15a]

- SN Ia w/ symbiotic nova progenitor
- Possible evidence for single degenerate (RG)
- Weird and rare, but it does have brethren (though it's an extreme/weak Ia-CSM object)
- Directly links Ia-CSM objects to SNe Ia and WDs

JMS+13b; Fox+13; Fox+14; Leloudas+15]

- Luminous (-21 $\leq M_{R,peak} \leq$ -19) & slow LCs
- Strong H α and Ca II near-IR triplet emission
- Weak H β , He I, and O emission
- Collisionally excited H?
- Spectra are la-91T/99aa + continuum (up to 3x the SN la flux) + narrow H emission
- $L_{H\alpha} \approx 10^{40-41} \text{ erg/s}$

[JMS+13b; Fox+13; Fox+14; Leloudas+15]

- Strong, early-time UV emission
- No early time XR or radio emission
- Red wing of H α decreases w/ time and strong, late-time NIR/mid-IR emission
- Evidence of dust formation



- Strong Na I D absorption from host ISM
- Late-type (or dwarf irregular) host galaxies

Other SNe Ia w/ CSM interaction?

- Ia-CSM objects have a lot (11kx has slightly less than others)
- Strong late-time limits on H emission (e.g., Mattila+05; Leonard07; Shappee+13; Taubenberger +14; Lundqvist+15; Graham+15b; Maguire+15)
- Variable and/or blueshifted Na I D absorption (e.g., Patat+07; Blondin+09; Simon+09; Sternberg+11; Foley +12; Maguire+13)
- Should other SNe Ia with H-rich CSM show H emission?
- Viewing angle effect??

Are kinda luminous SNe IIn actually Ia-CSM?

- Maybe...if CSM interaction starts right after explosion?
- Maybe...if there's more or denser CSM than around (what I call) Ia-CSM objects?
- Spectra are classified as SNe IIn if the continuum flux is ≥3x the SN Ia flux (Leloudas+15)
- Perhaps some (or all) moderately luminous SNe IIn are actually Ia-CSM objects?

Can we distinguish between la-CSM objects and SNe IIn?

- Ia-CSM objects have observational characteristics (some necessary, but none obviously sufficient)
- Many SNe IIn share most (but not all) Ia-CSM signatures (e.g., JMS+13a; Fox+14)
- Is there a continuous/overlapping range of observables connecting la-CSM objects to (at least some) SNe IIn?

How common are la-CSM objects?

- Observed Ia-CSM rate is >0.1–1% of SN Ia rate (Dilday+12, based on SDSS-II and PTF)
- Theoretical fraction of SNe Ia from symbiotic nova progenitors is 1–30% (e.g., Han+04, Lu+09, Chiotellis+12)
- Can host properties, environments, or stellar ages tell us something?

Thanks!

