The surprising look of core-collapse SN progenitors



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Stellar death bridges many fields of Astrophysics

- Star formation
- Chemical evolution
- Supernova, Black Holes, Neutron Stars
- Cosmology
- Intergalactic, interstellar, circumstellar media
- High-energy physics, ...
- Stellar evolution

Supernovae: remnant, chemistry, progenitor



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Types of Supernovae: classification of the spectrum (after e.g. Fillipenko 1997)





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Since last 10 yr: direct detection of SN progenitors



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Archival image

progenitor

mage credits: Patrice Poyet, ESO

Direct detection of SN progenitors



How to compare observations and stellar evolution models?

Observations

- Photometry: magnitudes + colors
- Spectroscopy: lines (EW + rad. vel)



(Mattila+ 08)

Stellar evolution models

- Luminosity + temperature
- Abundances



Inverse problem: obtain L and Teff from the observations

SN progenitor detected in 6 bands (VRIJHK)



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SN progenitor is a RSG with initial mass ~8 M_{\odot}



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massive stars: beginning of their lives





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Consequence: predictions from models of the interior of massive stars cannot be directly compared to the observations.

Solution: atmospheric code

Atmospheric code:

interpreter, translating physical quantities predicted by the interior models to be compared to the observations.



Innovation: couple the Geneva stellar interior/evolution code with the CMFGEN radiative transfer code for the wind and atmosphere.









Spectral evolution of massive stars



Groh+ 2014, A&A in press (arXiv 1401.7322)

Spectral energy distribution of SN progenitors

For the first time, spectrum and abs. mag. of SN progenitors from stellar evolution models



(Groh+ 13, A&A in press; arXiv 1308.4601)

Predicting the absolute magnitudes of SN progenitors



Predicting the absolute magnitudes of SN progenitors










Allow us to investigate the detectability of SN progenitors

 20
 40
 60
 80
 100
 120

 Initial Mass (Msun)
 (Groh+ 13,A&A in press; arXiv 1308.4601)













⁽after evol. tracks from Ekstrom+ 12)













Agrees with observations of SN II progenitors (Smartt 09)











OB-type RSG YHG/LBV SN IIL/b



⁽after Groh+ 13a)



(Groh+ 13b, A&A 550, L7)



(Groh+ 13b, A&A 550, L7)



13b, A&A 550, L7)



Eta Car

(Credit: S. White)

AG Car



13b, A&A 550, L7)

LBVs are progenitors of SNe from 20-25 $\rm M_{\odot}$ rotating stars (similar spectrum to Eta Car and AG Car , but lower luminosity)

Eta Car

(Credit: N. Smith, J. Morse, NASA/ESA)

AG Car

(Credit: S. White)













LBV



LBVs detected as SN progenitors

(Kotak & Vink 06; Smith+ 07, 10, 11; Pastorello+ 07; Gal-Yam & Leonard 07, 09; Mauerhan+ 12; Fraser+ 13)

SN lbc

WR







Role of binaries? What is the most frequent evolutionary scenario?

Detectability of SN Ic progenitors

WR stars have not yet been observed as SN Ic progenitors (Smartt 09; Eldridge+ 13)



(Groh+ 13a, A&A in press; arXiv 1308.4601; see also Yoon+ 12)

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Ic progenitor detectable up to 2.7 Mpc (m=24.5mag), 5.5 Mpc (m=26.0 mag).

Detectability of SN Ib progenitors

Possible first detection of a SN Ib progenitor (iPTFI3bvn) (Cao+ 13)



(Cao+ 13)

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The candidate progenitor of iPTF13bvn

Absolute magnitude vs. initial mass for SN lb progenitors



A slowly-rotating WN star with initial mass 31-35 $M\odot$

(Groh+ 13c, A&A 558, 1)

The candidate progenitor of iPTF13bvn

Location in the HR diagram



(Groh+ 13c, A&A 558, 1)



Rotating models

(Groh+ 13c, A&A in press; arXiv 1308.4601)



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Rotating models

(Groh+ 13c, A&A in press; arXiv 1308.4601)







- Binarity + not all stars rotate at 40% of critical speed; see e.g. Sana+12,13
- Assumes all stars with 8-120 M_{\odot} give rise to SNe; but see e.g Fryer 06; Ugliano+ 12
- SN type based on H and He abundance in the ejecta.; see e.g. Dessart+12

Take-home messages

1. We are able to predict the look of massive stars across their evolution and at the pre-SN stage, in the near and far Universe.

Predictions compare well with observations of SN IIP, IIb and Ibc progenitors.