Supernova Remnants

Explosion by core-collapse of massive stars (II, Ib/c) or thermonuclear instability in accreting C+O white dwarf (Ia)

 $\sim 10^{51}$ ergs kinetic energy released per explosion

Forward shock heats and compresses interstellar medium, accelerates particles

Reverse shock heats ejecta starting from outermost layer inward as ejecta expand

Low gas densities, short ages of $100-10^4$ yr (depends on gas density) ionizing plasma: ionization timescale = $n_{electron} \ge t_{shock}$







- ~24 neutrinos were detected ~12 hours before the optical light was detected-
- confirmation that neutrinos carry most of the energy and test of neutrino 'diffusion' theory

Direct detection of ⁵⁶Co γ-ray lines



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SNR 1987A in Large Magellanic Cloud



X-ray emission is approaching inner circumstellar ring X-rays correlate with radio 48

Young SN remnants HST CHANDRA ATCA GEMINI evolve rapidly 12 µm Some extragalactc 1996 SN have been followed for 1999 years 2001 0 2003

SN 1987A Through Time in Different Wave Bands

2005

The Birth of a SNR

• See https://www.nasa.gov/feature/goddard/ 2017/the-dawn-of-a-new-era-forsupernova-1987a





 X-ray spectrum dominated by shocked gas with v_{shock}~550km/sec (rather slower than the optical emitting gas

SuperNova Remnants

- We distinguish between
 - SN explosions (the actual events and the next few years) and
 - Remnants what happens over the next few thousand years.



SN 1987A observed in 1999, 2000

SNRs enrich the ISM by dispersing material produced both during the star's life and at the moment of the SN event. ~2 per century for Milky Way (all types)- can directly study the chemical composition to constrain SN models

The Young SNR Inner Ring The nucleosynthesis products in the Hot Spots interior debris are confined mostly within a sphere Blast Wave expanding with Shocked Gas velocity ~ 2000 km s^{-1} **Reverse Shock** Interior Debris 20.00

The blue-yellow interface represents the reverse shock , while the yellow annulus represents the X-ray-emitting gas, bounded on the outside by the blast wave . The white fingers represent protrusions of relatively dense gas.



3-D Structure



Fig. 2 Cas A present. Left: Composite view of Cas A in X-ray (*Chandra*, green & blue), visible (HST, yellow), and the IR (Spitzer, red); from *Chandra* Photo album, released June 2005. Right: A detailed 3D reconstruction of Cas A also in X-ray (black & green), optical (yellow), and IR (red, blue & gray.) Doppler shifts measured in X-ray and infrared lines provided the third dimension, from DeLaney et al. (2010).

Velocity data allows an inversion of the 2-D to 3-D structure

3-D View of Cas-A

- green is X-ray emitting Fe; yellow is X-ray, optical and infrared emitting Ar and Si;
- red is infrared emitting unshocked ejecta;
- the pink dot represents the compact object.
- T. Delaney et al



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SNRs are probes both of their progenitor star (and of their pre-supernova life) and of the medium into which they explode (the ISM)

They are also cosmic accelerators (cosmic rays).

Birth places of neutron stars and stellar mass black holes.

- laboratories for study of magnetic fields, shock physics, jets, winds, nuclear physics etc
- SNR evolution (and their appearance now) depends on many factors:
 - age
 - environment (density)
 - total energy of the explosion
 - progenitor star (mass, type of SN associated..)



SNR Types

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- Shell-like thermal
 - Young objects whose global X-ray emission is dominated by emission from ejecta
 - Cas A, Tycho
 - Old objects dominated by thermal emission at the primary shock
 - Cygnus Loop, PKS1209-52
- Shell-like non-thermal
 - Young SNRs dominated by non-thermal emission, often bright VHE gamma ray sources
 - RX1730-3946, Vela Jr, G1.9+0.3, SN1006

- Pulsar wind nebulae
 - Centrally peaked emission from non-thermal radiation due to electrons powered by a rapidly rotating neutron star
 Crab Nebula, 3C 58
 - Mixed morphology
 - Centrally peaked objects (sometimes with a shell as well) dominated by thermal emission
 - May also have some non thermal emission due to a pulsar
 - Heterogeneous set of old and young objects

G1.9+0.3 Most Recent SN in MW



- 2 radio images separated by 13 years showing expansion and implied explosion epoch 140 years ago
- Not noticed because near galactic center, region of high extinction
- A simple uniform-expansion model describes the data well, expansion rate of 0.642% ± 0.049% yr-1 Without deceleration, the remnant age 156 ± 11 yr,
- G1.9+0.3 is the only Galactic SNR increasing in flux, with implications for the physics of electron acceleration in shock waves.



Non-Thermal Remnants

- Sometimes the explosion does not seem to produce lots of hot gas and instead one detects synchrotron emission from relativistic particles produced by a central Neutron star
 - these are called *plerions* or 'Crab-like' SNR.
 - in 'thermal' remnants there can be also exist synchrotron emission from shock accelerated electrons in other SNR





- Kepler SNR- remnant of a type Ia
- Chandra analysis indicates that the Kepler supernova was likely triggered by an interaction between a white dwarf and a red giant star.





x-ray and optical image

Kepler SNR

• Fe Emission in the x-ray band in blue, IR emission due to dust in pink.

• Notice strong asymmetry in Fe emission



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Figure 24: Left: *Chandra* image of Kepler's SNR, with red indicating Si-K α emission (1.75-1.95 keV), L emission (0.8-1.6 keV), and blue continuum emission (4-6 keV). The image is based on a deep, 750 ks,

[•] Vink 2012

X-ray Emission from Supernova Remnants

Thermal Emission

- characterized by electron temperature, ionization timescale, element abundances
- primarily bremsstrahlung continuum
- collisionally excited emission lines

Nonthermal Emission

- blackbody or power law from pulsar/neutron star if present (across electromagnetic spectrum)
- synchrotron emission from electrons accelerated at the shock (usually radio, sometimes up to X-rays)
 - •some SNR are dominated by NT emission (Crab-like, plerions)

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In our Galaxy there are~300 identified SNRs

- $\sim 8\%$ detected in the TeV range
- $\sim 10\%$ in the GeV range
- $\sim 30\%$ in optical wavelengths
- $\sim 40\%$ in X-rays
- ~ 95 % in radio





- Type Ia produce mainly Fe -- low O/Fe ratio.
- Type II produces: mainly 0 -- high O/Fe ratio



- Sometimes the explosion does not seem to produce lots of hot gas and instead one detects synchrotron emission from relativistic particles produced by a central Neutron star
 - these are called plerions or 'Crab-like' SNR.
 - in 'thermal' remnants there can be synchrotron emission from shock accelerated electrons in other SNR



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Combining Bremmstrahlung and Synchrotron Radiation

- In some supernova remnants one sees both processes at work
 - Bremmstrahlung from electrons that are shock heated by the SN blast wave +line emission
 - Synchrotron radiactive pulsar





• Composite SNR G21.5-0.9 (Matheson & Safi-Harb 2005).

3 phases in SNR's life.

•Free expansion (less than 200-300 years)

•Adiabatic or "Taylor-Sedov" phase (about 20,000 years)

•Radiative or Snow-plow phase (up to 500,000 years)

and then ... Merge with the ISM

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Remnant Evolution

Free Expansion

Ejecta expand without deceleration r~t (see movie Rudnick et al., 1996, BAAS, 188.7403.) - Core collapse SN have initial velocities of ~5000km/sec and several M_{\odot} of ejecta , SN Ia ~10,000 km/sec, ~1 M_{\odot}

Adiabatic (Sedov-Taylor, or "atomic bomb")

Ejecta are decelerated by a roughly equal mass of ISM- $r\sim t^{2/5}$ Energy is conserved-(Cooling timescales are much longer than dynamical timescales, so this phase is essentially adiabatic e.g. net heat transfer is zero).

Evolution of density, pressure is self-similar

Temperature increases inward, pressure decreases to zero

Radiative

Dissipation of remnant energy into ISM Remnant forms a thin, very dense shell which cools rapidly Interior may remain hot- typically occurs when shock velocities vs drop to around 200 km/sec



Cas-A Difference of X-ray Images Taken 2 Years Apart Delaney e al 2005



Reminder....Useful Equations for the 3 Phases

$$R = vt,$$

$$V = (2E_0/M_{ej})^{0.5}$$

Free Expansion

$$Sedov-Taylor
V_s = (2/5)R_s/t = 5000 \text{ km/s } (r/2\text{pc}) E^{1/2}_{51}n^{-1/2}$$

$$R_s \sim 0.3 \text{ pc } E^{1/5}_{51}n^{-1/5}t_{yr}^{2/5}$$

$$T \sim 10^6 E^{2/5}_{51}n^{-2/5}t_{30000yr}^{-6/5}$$

Radiative Phase

$$T_{rad} = 1.4 \times 10^{12} \left(\frac{E_{51}}{n_{\rm H}}\right)^{1/3} \text{ s} \approx 44,600 \left(\frac{E_{51}}{n_{\rm H}}\right)^{1/3} \text{ yr},$$

 $R_{rad} = 7.0 \times 10^{19} \left(\frac{E_{51}}{n_{\rm H}}\right)^{1/3} \text{ cm} \approx 23 \left(\frac{E_{51}}{n_{\rm H}}\right)^{1/3} \text{ pc},$

Free expansion phase

•Independent of the nature of the SN explosion

No deceleration

-Evolution only depends on $E_{\scriptscriptstyle o}\,$ the initial energy.

•Velocity of ejected shell ~ 10⁴ km s⁻¹

•Mass swept-up negligible until $\rm M_{sN} \sim \rm M_{eje}$ $\sim 1~\rm M_{\odot}$

===> R_s = 250 yrs M_{eje} ^{5/6} $n_1^{-1/3} E_{51}^{-1/2}$

SNR enters then its Adiabatic Phase



1987A HST in 2010



Shocked Ejecta

Forward shock moves supersonically into interstellar/circumstellar medium Reverse shock propagates into ejecta, starting from outside



Shock Jump Conditions



Conservation of Mass

$$\frac{P + \rho u^2 = constant}{\frac{u^2}{2} + \frac{5P}{2\rho} = constant}$$

 $\rho u = constant$

assuming: no B, no Elosses due to Cosmic t-independent adiabatic flow and mono-atomic 80 S. Safi-Harb

Shock Solutions



Shock Physics Longair 3.14

In a frame of reference in which the shock is stationary, the gas entering the shock from upstream has density, ϱ_1 , velocity, u_1 , pressure, $P_1 = nkT_1$, and internal energy density, ϵ_1 . The corresponding parameters describing the downstream flow are ϱ_2 , u_2 , P_2 , and ϵ_2 .

The internal energy density of the gas is related to its density and pressure by $\epsilon = P/[(\gamma - 1)\varrho]; \gamma = 5/3$ for a monoatomic gas

Using conservation of mass, momentum and energy (Rankine-Hugoniot eas) gives

 $\rho_2/\rho_1 = u_1/u_2 = [\gamma+1]/(\gamma-1)+(2/M^2);$ M= Mach number of shock as M=v/c where c is the speed of sound goes to infinity $\rho_2 = 4\rho_{1,1}$





The shock is "collisionless" because its size scale is much smaller than the mean-free-path for collisions (heating at the shock occurs by plasma processes) coupled through the structure of turbulence in shocks and acceleration

Collisions do mediate ionizations and excitations in the shocked gas

Shocks in SNRs transform bulk energy of ejecta into thermal energy of the gas and nonthermal energy associated with magnetic fields and high energy particles!

They occur because the expanding ejecta are moving at speeds much greater than the sound speed of the pre-shock gas

Shock structure is affected by nature of the pre-shock gas, how magnetic fields evolve in the shock and how much energy is lost to cosmic rays!

Shocks in SNRs are said to be collisionless because Coulomb collisions take too long to produce the shocks that are observed

$$\sigma_{Coulomb} = \frac{4\pi Z_1^2 Z_2^2 e^4}{m_{reduced}^2 v^4} = 10^{-20} cm^2 (proton - proton)$$
$$\tau_{Coulomb} = \frac{1}{n\sigma_{Coulomb} v} = 35000 \ n^{-1} v_{1000 \ km}^{-1} yrs$$

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Shock Physics Longair 11.3

In limit of strong shocks the temperature and pressure can become very large. speed of the ejecta can be \sim 5000km/s In the shock front the undisturbed gas is both heated and accelerated as it passes through the shock front mediated by their atomic or molecular viscosities. The acceleration and heating of the gas takes place over a physical scale of the order of a few mean free paths of the atoms, molecules or ions of the gas. the shock front is expected to be narrow and the heating takes place over this short distance.

$$\frac{p_2}{p_1} = \frac{2\gamma M_1^2}{(\gamma + 1)},$$
$$\frac{p_2}{p_1} = \frac{(\gamma + 1)}{(\gamma - 1)},$$
$$\frac{T_2}{T_1} = \frac{2\gamma(\gamma - 1)M_1^2}{(\gamma + 1)^2}$$

$$kT_2 == \frac{1}{4} \left(1 - \frac{1}{4} \right) \mu m_p v_o^2 = \frac{3}{16} \mu m_p v_o^2$$
$$T_2 = \sim 1.36 \ 10^7 K \left(\frac{v_1}{1000 \ km \ s^{-1}} \right)^2 = 1.17 \ keV \ \left(\frac{v_1}{1000 \ km \ s^{-1}} \right)^2$$

The Shock

- A key ingredient in SNR dynamics is the strong (high Mach number) shock which is "collisionless"
- the effect of the shock is carried out through electric and magnetic fields generated collectively by the plasma rather than through discrete particle–particle collisions
- the shock system is given by the synonymous terms "adiabatic" and "non-radiative" to indicate that no significant energy leaves the system in this phase
- a "radiative" shock describes the case where significant, catastrophic cooling takes place through emission of photons

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Electron Heating at SNR Shocks Compare $\rm T_e$ to $\rm T_p$

Temperatures behind shock are proportional to mass $kT_{i,e} \sim m_{i,e} v_{sh}^2$

Electrons and ions will equilibrate their temperatures by Couloumb collisions, but possibly more quickly by complicated collisionless plasma processes

The efficiency of heating depends on the Mach number (shock velocity): faster electron heating in slower shocks



Shocked Plasma takes time to come into equilibrium

- particle ("Coulomb") collisions in the post-shock plasma bring the temperature of all species, including the free electrons, to an equilibrium value: $kT = 3/16\mu m_p v_s^2$
- However it takes time for the system to come into equilibrium and for a long time it is in non-equilibrium ionization (NEI)

 $\tau \sim n_e t \sim 3 \times 10^{12} \text{ cm}^{-3} \text{s}$; when $\tau > 10^{12}$ it is in approx equilibrium

if the plasma has been shocked recently or is of low density it will not be in equilibrium

Shocked Plasma takes time to come into equilibrium

- Line ratios of He-like ions and total He-like line flux are especially sensitive to non-equilibrium effects
- In the graph the ratio of forbidden to resonance OVII line strength is plotted vs the ratio of the total OVIII/OVII ratio as a function of electron temperature T_e and n_et





• H. Yamaguchi 2015

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NEI Diagnostic and SNR Type



• Timescale to reach equilibrium depends on ion and temperaturesolution of coupled differential equations.

Time scale to achieve 'equilbrium' for a given ion as a function of temperature- while the is some range from ion to ion most have $n_e t \sim 10^{12}$



G. 1.— [Left axis] Density-weighted timescales (in units of cm^{-3} s) for C, N, O, Ne, Mg, Al, S, Si, Ar, Ca, Fe, and Ni to achieve one ding (e^{-1}) towards ionization equilibrium in a constant temperature plasma. [Right axis] Density-weighted timescale for all ions to be in 10% of their equilibrium value.

Smith and Hughes 2010

Time-Dependent Ionization

Oxygen heated to 0.3 keV (Hughes & Helfand 1985)



lonization is effected by electron-ion collisions, which are relatively rare in the \sim 1 cm⁻³ densities of SNRs

Ionization is time-dependent

Ionization timescale = $n_e t$ electron density x time since impulsively heated by shock

lonization equilibrium attained at $n_e t \sim 10^{12}\,cm^{\text{-3}}\,yr$

Ionizing gas can have many more Hand He- like ions, which then enhances the X-ray line emission

Inferred element abundances will be too high if ionization equilibrium is inappropriately assumed for an⁹⁴ ionizing gas

Sedov-Taylor phase

This solution is the limit when the swept-up mass exceeds the SN ejecta mass -the SNR evolution retains only vestiges of the initial ejecta mass and its distribution.

The key word here is SELF SIMILAR (solutions can be scaled from solutions elsewhere)

===> f(r, t) becomes $f(r/r_{ref}) * f(r_{ref})$ (skipping the equations) $R_s=12.4 \text{ pc} (KE_{51}/n_1)^{1/5} t_4^{2/5}$ t =390 yr $R_s T_{meas}^{-1/2}$

In the Sedov-Taylor model one expects thermal emission coming from a thin shell behind the blast wave. As the shock expends the pressure drops between the shock wave and the material ejected.

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- Forward shock into the ISM- is a 'contact discontinuity'outside of this the ISM does not yet 'know' about the SN blast wave
- Reverse shock- information about the interaction with the ISM travels backwards into the SN ejecta
- Shell like remnants
- Shell velocity much higher than sound speed in ISM, so shock front of radius R forms.

- If the density (gm/cm³) in the ISM/circumstellar gas is ρ_{ism}
- then the radius of the shock when it has swept up an equal mass to the eject M_{ejecta} is simply
- $r_1 = 2pc(M_{ejecta}/M_{\odot})^{1/3} (\rho_{ism}/10^{-24} \text{ gm/cm}^3)^{-1/3}$
- to get an estimate of the time this occurs
 - assume that the shock has not slowed down and the total input energy remains the same (radiation losses are small) and travels at a velocity $v_{ejecta} = (v_{ejecta}/10^4 \text{ km/sec})$ to get

 $t_1 = r_1 / (v_{ejecta} / 10^4 \text{ km/sec}) = 200 \text{ yr}(E_{51})^{-1/2} (M_{ejecta} / M_{\odot})^{5/6} (r_{ism} / 10^{-24} \text{ gm/cm}^3)^{-1/3}$

• To transform variables total energy E=1/2 $M_{ejecta}v^2 \sim r^3 \rho_{ism}v^2$ to get $r \sim (E/\rho_{ism})^{1/5} t^{2/5}$

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Limit of Strong Shocks

- Ratio of temperatures behind and in front of the shock is related to the Mach speed, *M*, of the shock (shock speed/sound speed in gas)
- $T_2/T_1 = (2\gamma(\gamma-1)\mathcal{M}^2)/(\gamma-1)^2 = 5/16\mathcal{M}^2$ if the adiabatic index $\gamma = 5/3$ (ideal gas)

Radiative/Snow plough phase

T drops as a steep function of radius

===> at some point, T is below $T_{recomb} \sim 1$ keV- the cooling function increases steeply and the gas recombines rapidly

Age of SNR when this happens depends on models for cooling functions, explosion energy and density.

roughly t_{cool} ~nkT/n² Λ (T) -~4×10⁴yrT₆^{3/2}/n

 $(\Lambda(T)$ is the cooling function)

phase starts when t_{cool} < T_6 < $E^{1/7}n^{2/7}$

Between 17,000 and 25,000 years (assuming standard $E_{\rm o}$ and $n_{\rm 1})$

Then: THE END... SNR merges with surrounding medium

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End of Snowplough Phase- Draine sec 39.1.4

- The strong shock gradually slows (radiative losses and accumulation of 'snowplowed' material) evolution dominated by momentum conservation, radiative cooling dominates, energy not conserved
- cooling timescale tcool~nkT/n² Λ (T)~4x10⁴yrT₆^{3/2}/n
- Shock compression declines until v_{shock}~c_s (sound speed); no more shock
- Using this criteria the 'fade away' time
- $t_{fade} \sim ((R_{rad}/t_{rad})/c_s)^{7/5} t_{rad}$
- $t_{fade} \sim 1.9 \times 10^6 \text{ yrs } E_{51}^{0.32} \text{ n}^{-0.37} (c_s/10 \text{ km/sec})^{-7/5}$ - $c_s = 0.3 \text{ km/sec} (T/10 \text{ k})^{1/2}$
- $R_{fade} \sim 0.06 kpc E_{51}^{0.32} n^{-0.37} (c_s/10 km/sec)^{-2/5}$
- $v \sim 200 \text{ km/sec}(t/3x10^4 \text{ yr})^{-3/4}$

Complexities

- We have been using simple analytic models
- The situation, as usual is more complex due to instabilities and structure in the gas into which the shock runs.





-1.60

irregular shock boundaries mixing between ejecta layers mixing between ejecta and ISM

Kifonidis et al. 2000

Summary of Lecture Next 5 Slides

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- Kinetic energy of expansion (KE) is transferred into internal energy total energy remains roughly the same (e.g. radiative losses are small)
- The temperature of the gas is related to the internal energy

$$T \sim 10^{6} k E_{51}^{1/2} n^{-2/5} (t/2x 10^{4} yr)^{-6/5}$$

for typical explosion energies and life times the gas emits in the x-ray band

• measuring the size (r), velocity (v) and temperature T allows an estimate of the age

$$\tau_{sedov} \sim 3x10^4 T_6^{-5/6} E_{51}^{1/3} n^{-1/3} yr$$

• at T $\sim 10^6$ -10⁷ k the x-ray spectrum is line dominated

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- Free Expansion Phase
- the ejecta expands freely into the interstellar medium. The expanding envelope compresses the ISM, creates a shock wave because of its high velocity, and sweeps up the ISM. During this initial phase, the mass of gas swept up is <<mass of the ejecta and the expansion of the envelope is not affected by the outer interstellar gas andit keeps its initial speed and energy.
- Adiabatic Expansion Phase
- When mass of gas swept up > mass of ejecta the kinetic energy of the original exploded envelope is transferred to the swept up gas, and the swept up gas is heated up by the shock wave roughly independent of the physics of the explosion. The radiative losses from the swept up gas are low (energy is conserved) adiabatic expansion phase.

The evolution during this phase is determined only by the energy of explosion E_0 , the density of interstellar gas, and the elapsed time from the explosion t. A self similar solution relating the density, pressure, and temperature of the gas, and the distribution of the expansion velocity exists (Sedov-Taylor) 106

Sedov-Taylor Solution

- nice discussion in Draine sec 39.1.2
- assume a spherical shock of radius R and it has a a power law dependence on energy of the explosion, E, time since explosion,t, and density of the medium into which it is running ρ.
- $R=AE^{\alpha}\rho^{\beta}t^{\eta}$
- with dimensional analysis (e.g. the powers to which mass length and time appear to get
- mass $\alpha+\beta=0$, length $1-2\alpha-3\beta=0$, $-2\alpha+\eta=0$ time

one solves this to get $\alpha = 1/5$, $\beta = -1/5$, $\eta = 2/5$

or R=AE^{1/5} $\rho^{-1/5} t^{2/5}$

putting in the physics and numbers R=1.54x10¹⁹cm $E_{51}^{1/5}n^{-1/5} t_3^{2/5}$ (we have switched units, n is particle density, t_3 is in units of 10³ years, E_{51} is in units of 10⁵¹ ergs. v_s =1950km/s $E_{51}^{1/5}n^{-1/5} t_3^{-3/5}$

T=5.25x10⁷k $E_5^{2/5}n^{-2/5} t_3^{-6/5}$