Eta Carinae and the Pre-Supernova Circumstellar Material of Massive Stars

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The sub-arcsecond dusty environment of Eta Carinae*

O. Chesneau¹, M. Min², T. Herbst¹, L. B. F. M. Waters², D. J. Hillier³, Ch. Leinert¹, A. de Koter², I. Pascucci¹, W. Jaffe⁴, R. Köhler¹, C. Alvarez¹, R. van Boekel², W. Brandner¹, U. Graser¹, A. M. Lagrange⁵, R. Lenzen¹, S. Morel⁶, and M. Schöller⁶



8

10

 $\lambda (\mu m)$

12

14

8

10

 $\lambda \ (\mu m)$

12

14

8

10

 $\lambda (\mu m)$

12







8.8 μm 12.5 μm 18.0 μm

Thermal-IR Magellan/MIRAC3

+

VLT AO imaging NAOS/CONICA

J

H

K

VLT images made by Olivier (Chesneau + 2005)



K

L

Μ





Gemini South/Phoenix R=60,000 (Smith 2006)



1.644 µm [Fe II]



Episodic dust formation in Eta Car: (Smith 2010, MNRAS, 402, 145)

Eccentric colliding-wind binary with X-rays and hot dust at periastron.





Episodic dust formation in Eta Car: (Smith 2010, MNRAS, 402, 145)

Dust temp is too hot for silicates.

Probably corundum (Al₂O₃; alumina), since gas around Eta Car is very C-poor. Condenses at 1700 K. dust formation down Stream in dense

post-shock gas

~60 AU





Hot companion/ wind

X-rays

Similar to dust formation in WC+O binaries (Tony Moffat's talk), but probably not C rich.



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 Corundum from new dust formed in wind-wind collisions fills the central region



 $100 \times M(dust)$ 400K 200K 140K $0.02 M_{\odot} 1.5 M_{\odot} 11 M_{\odot}$

Total = $12.5 M_{\odot}$

Previous estimates from λ =2-12 μ m typically gave 2-3 M_o

Higher mass comes from cool dust emitting at $\lambda > 12 \mu m$. Smith et al. 2003

Cloudy models of gas excitation in nebula suggest 17 M_{\odot} or more.

Smith & Ferland 2007

Gemini South/Phoenix R=60,000 1.644 µm [Fe II] 2.122 µm H₂ 1-0 S(1) (or source of the second sec

-500 0 500 Heliocentric velocity (km s⁻¹) Smith (2006) ApJ, 644, 1151

Range of Ejecta Speed = 40 - 650 km/s

Follows a Hubble law

Eta Carinae' s 1843 eruption:

Ejected mass = 10-15 M_{\odot} KE = 10^{49.6} - 10⁵⁰ erg E_{rad} = 10^{49.7} erg \leftarrow KE/E_{rad} \approx 1

Wind or Explosion?

OBSERVED MASSES OF LBV NEBULAE

In circumstellar shells around LBVs, a mass of ~10 M_{\odot} is typical for L_* > 10⁶ L_{\odot} .

Less massive shells also seen, indicating a **variety** of outburst energy and mass.

> Smith & Owocki (2006) ApJ Letters, 645, L45





CSM Interaction



$$L = \frac{1}{2} w V_{SN}^3 = \frac{1}{2} \dot{M} \frac{V_{SN}^3}{V_w}$$

Efficient conversion of $KE \rightarrow Light$



We can observe V_{SN} , V_{w} and L, and thus constrain CSM mass.

SNe IIn require several M_{\odot} of CSM ejected only a few years before core collapse.

Diversity of SN IIn luminosity:

Increasing CSM mass

Efficient conversion of KE ➡ Light

A range of circumstellar shell mass provides a huge observed range of luminosity for SNe IIn.

- Very luminous SNe IIn (rare) require massive LBV-like eruptions before core collapse.
 - Observed CSM expansion speeds
 of 100-600 km/s
- Lower luminosity (most common IIn) can be extreme red supergiants or LBVs.
 - Observed CSM expansion speeds of 20-500 km/s







LBVs and Type IIn SNe:

(see summary in Smith 2014, ARAA)

This was forbidden in standard single star models

• Very luminous SNe IIn require high mass of CSM - some require >10 M_{\odot} ejected in decade before core collapse .

- 5 direct detections of SN progenitors (or host cluster)
 - SN 2005gI M₀ ≈ 50-60 M_☉ (Gal-Yam & Leonard 2009)
 - SN 1961V M₀ ≈ 100 M_☉ (Smith et al. 2011, Kochanek 2011)
 - SN 2010jI $M_0 > 30 M_{\odot}$ (Smith et al. 2011)
 - SN 2009ip $M_0 \approx 50-80 M_{\odot}$ (Smith+2010, Mauerhan+13)
 - SNhunt275 preSN eruptions (still going)

But caution: LBVs are bright, easy to detect







Paczynski + 67; Podsiadlowski + 92, de Mink + 2013

Binary-star mass-transfer (ROCHE LOBE OVERFLOW)

Only 3 massive star binaries caught in brief RLOF phase with spatially resolved CSM.

RY Scuti: eclipsing massive binary system in transition to WR+O via RLOF.

A more massive analog of β Lyrae (J. Nemravova talk) Two separate ejections. Age = 130 yr 1881 ± 4 1754 ± 32 Age = 255 yr (arcsec)axis HST/WFPC2 Hα Keck/NIRC2-AO Lp Mass donor: of Smith et al. (2011) Will be a WR Size Mass gainer: [See poster outside by Gehrz, Smith, & Shenoi] Will be a rapidly rotating O star, B[e], or LBV?



Multiwavelength observations of NaSt1 (WR 122): Equatorial mass loss and X-rays from an interacting Wolf-Rayet binary arXiv:1502.01794 (MNRAS in press)

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The yellow hypergiant HR 5171 A: Resolving a massive interacting binary in the common envelope phase*,**

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1. MERGER. Morris & Podsiadlowski 2007, 2008, etc.









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Some problems/objections:

• Predicts filled polar caps and empty equator. Observations suggest opposite.



By now, these polar caps would have been hit 5-10 yrs ago by the fastest ejecta going 35,000 km/s.





1. MERGER. Morris & Podsiadlowski 2007, 2008, etc.



Some problems/objections:

- Predicts filled polar caps and empty equator. Observations suggest opposite.
- For successful merger, equatorial mass shed is at least 4-5 M_{\odot} . This seems high for SN1987A's ring, and is too high for SBW1 (M<1 M_{\odot}).

The equatorial outflow occurs as the envelope loses angular momentum during the blue loop. The total mass lost can be estimated from angular momentum conservation

$$M_{ER} = \frac{\Delta L}{\sqrt{GM_{\star}R_{\star}(1-\Gamma)}} \sim 4 M_{\odot}$$
⁽⁴⁾

if the mass is lost near critical rotation (as suggested by the low expansion velocity of the ring of around $10.3 \,\mathrm{km}\,\mathrm{s}^{-1}$). Here ΔL is the excess angular momentum that needs to be lost, i.e. is the difference between the post-merger angular momentum in the envelope and the maximum angular momentum for a stable blue supergiant ($\sim 4 \times 10^{54} \,\mathrm{erg}\,\mathrm{s}$). We assume an Eddington factor of $\Gamma = 0.4$ and that the envelope must lose $\sim 6 \times 10^{54} \,\mathrm{erg}\,\mathrm{s}$ at a radius of roughly 6000 R_{\odot} . This is likely to be a lower limit unless magnetic processes in the excretion disk can increase





1. MERGER. Morris & Podsiadlowski 2007, 2008, etc.



Some problems/objections:

- Predicts filled polar caps and empty equator. Observations suggest opposite.
- For successful merger, equatorial mass shed is at least 4-5 M_{\odot} . This seems high for SN1987A's ring, and is too high for SBW1 (M<1 M_{\odot}).
- The resulting BSG merger product is rotating at critical rotation, and takes several Myr to spin down with the low inferred wind mass-loss rate. Age of equatorial ring is only 1-2e4 yr.

Mergers produce rapid rotators



de Mink et al. (2013)

MNRAS 442, 1483-1490 (2014)

doi:10.1093/mnras/s

Sher 25: pulsating but apparently alone

William D. Taylor,¹* Christopher J. Evans,¹ Sergio Simón-Díaz,^{2,3} Hugues Sana,⁴ Norbert Langer,⁵ Nathan Smith⁶ and Stephen J. Smartt⁷



FEROS/ESO2.2m – echelle spectra

SBW1:

Lack of radial velocity variation rules out a close massive companion. Might allow low-mass (<1 Msun) wide (P=yrs) companion or highly eccentric orbit.

Also, narrow lines indicate a SLOW equatorial rotation speed of only 41 km/s.

(In fact, all 3 are relatively slow rotators)



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2. RSG – BSG contraction and spin up.



Langer et al. (1998)

Figure 3. Equatorial rotation velocity as a function of time (solid line) of a model $12 M_{\odot}$ rotating star during the transition from the red-supergiant branch to the blue-supergiant stage during core helium burning (t = 0 is arbitrary). It is compared to the Keplerian (dashed

3. RLOF event in wider binary. Short duration (few 1000 yr) mass-transfer phase. Produces very slow equatorial outflow Through L2.



Is the (low-mass?) companion still there?

Why did this happen right before SN?





Binary-star mass-transfer (ROCHE LOBE OVERFLOW)

Only 3 massive star binaries caught in brief RLOF phase with spatially resolved CSM.

WHICH KNOWN H-RICH STARS HAVE HIGH-ENOUGH MASS-LOSS RATES TO BE Type IIn SUPERNOVAE?



RY Scuti: eclipsing massive binary system in transition to WR+O via RLOF. (Smith et al. 2011, arXiv:1105.2329)

Repeated equatorial ejections every 120 years (cyclical?).

WHY?

RLOF...

Accretion onto mass gainer companion:

Overluminous Out of thermal equilibrium Critical rotation

(LBVs, Be stars, B[e]sg...?) What about the mass gainer's SN?



Spectropolarimetry: Direct evidence for highly asymmetric CSM

Mauerhan et al. (2014) MNRAS, 442, 1166

SN 2009ip

Weaker polarization (lower asymmetry) during broad-line SN photosphere phase (2012a and end of 2012b).

Stronger polarization (high asymmetry) in CSM-interaction dominated phase (2012b peak).

Two components are roughly orthogonal in PA.





PROPERTIES OF SN2006gy's CSM

A Massive LBV-like Shell: Clues from Spectral Evolution

Time evolution of Luminosity (Smith et al. 2010, ApJ, 709, 856)

• High CSM density required to drain KE...

 $L = (1/2) 4\pi R^2 \rho V_{shock}^3$

Cumulative swept-up CSM mass:
 ≥ 18 M_☉





 $E_{rad} = 2.5e51 \text{ erg}$ $E_{K} = 3e51 \text{ erg}$

PROPERTIES OF SN2006gy's CSM

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Time evolution of narrow $\text{H}\alpha$

(Smith et al. 2010, ApJ, 709, 856)

- Narrow absorption gets weaker... ...running out of CSM?
- Narrow absorption gets broader... ...faster CSM at larger radii?



PROPERTIES OF SN2006gy's CSM

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Hubble Flow at 150-500 km/s

Suggests ≥10⁴⁹ erg ejection ~8 yr before SN (fall 1998) Comparing the CSM of Eta Carinae and SN 2006gy:

Both had multiple massive shell ejections.

Inner massive shell, H-rich, M \sim 10-20 M_{\odot} ejected at 100-600 km/s, Hubble law





Outer massive shell, R ~ 1 ly ejected ~1000-2000 yr earlier





John F.W. Herschell 1792-1871



Smith & Frew (2011)



Can dust form in strong shocks?

WC+O Colliding-wind binaries do it. (they are C-rich)

persistent dust producers (a.k.a. "Pinwheels")

episodic dust producers (at periastron like WR140)





Tuthill et al., Monnier et al.

END FATES of MASSIVE STARS: What type of supernova from which type of star?

Single-star mass-loss (STELLAR WINDS and ERUPTIONS)



Image courtesy M. Modjaz

Paczynski et al. 67; Podsiadlowski et al. 92

Supernovae: SN types & initial mass.





Sana et al. 2012, de Mink et al. 2013 (see also Kiminki et al. 2007,2014; Kobulnicky & Fryer, etc.):

- Binary interaction must dominate the evolution of massive stars
- Roughly 2/3 of massive stars will interact & exchange mass or merge

CONSTRAINTS FROM SUPERNOVA PROGENITOR STARS

