Early Chemical Enrichment by the First Cosmic Explosions



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The Universe at Redshift 20



128 kpc comoving

Primordial Halo at z ~ 20



Properties of the First Stars 1999 - 2013

- thought to be very massive (25 500 solar masses) due to inefficient H₂ cooling
- form in isolation (one per halo), in binaries, or in small multiples
- T_{surface} ~ 100,000 K
- extremely luminous sources of ionizing and LW photons (> 10⁵⁰ photons s⁻¹)
- 2 3 Myr lifetimes

no known mechanisms for mass loss -- no line-driven winds

Fragmentation of Pop III Protostellar Disks



Greif et al. 2012, MNRAS, 424, 399

Pop III Star H II Regions in Cosmological Flows



Pop III Star H II Regions



Whalen, Abel & Norman 2004, ApJ, 610, 14



Dynamical Instabilities in Primordial Ionization Fronts

Whalen & Norman 2006 ApJS, 162, 281 Whalen & Norman 2008a, ApJ, 672, 287 Whalen & Norman 2008b, ApJ, 673, 664

Final Fates of the First Stars Heger & Woosley 2002, ApJ 567, 532



Probing the Masses of The First Stars

- stellar archaeology: can the ashes of the first stars be found in ancient, dim stars in the Galactic halo (fossils from the second generation)?
- can we see the first supernova explosions, and thereby *directly* infer the properties of their progenitors?

2D Rotating Progenitor Pop III Explosion Models in CASTRO

- progenitors evolved in the 1D KEPLER stellar evolution code, exploded, and then followed to the end of nucleosynthetic burn (~ 100 sec)
- KEPLER profiles then mapped into the new CASTRO AMR code and then evolved in 2D out to shock breakout from the star
- 2 rotation rates, 3 explosion energies, 3 masses, and 2 metallicities, for a total of 36 models
- self-gravity of the gas plus the gravity of the compact remnant (the latter is crucial for capturing fallback)



CASTRO Code (Almgren et al 2009)





Chemical Enrichment of the Early Cosmos: Ashes of the First Stars?

Joggerst, .., Whalen, et al 2010 ApJ 709, 11





IMF-Averaged Yields and the EMP Stars

Mixing in Pop III PI SNe I

Joggerst & Whalen 2011 ApJ, 728, 129



Mixing in Pop III PI SNe II

Chen et al. 2014 ApJ, 792, 44



The "Odd-Even" Effect

- original non-rotating stellar evolution models predict a strong 'odd-even' nucleosyntheticsignature in PI SN element production
- 18 EMP stars in the SEGUE-II catalogue have now been selected for spectroscopic followup on the suspicion that they too harbor this pattern (Ren et al. 2012, RAA, 12, 1637)
- a PI SN candidate has now been observed in the local universe (SN 2007bi, Gal-Yam et al. 2009, Nature, 462, 624)



Heger & Woosley 2002, ApJ, 567, 532



Chen et al. 2014 ApJ, 792, 28



Four Characteristic Scales of Mixing in Primordial SN Remnants

- inside the star itself, prior to shock breakout
- on scales of 10 20 pc in primordial H II regions
- at 100 200 pc, when the SN remnant collides with the H II region shell
- on scales of 1 2 kpc, when the SN remnant overruns nearby halos

Primordial SN Remnants in Relic H II Regions Whalen et al. 2008 ApJ, 682, 49

Reverse Shock

Collision with the Shell: Fragmentation?





Explosions in Neutral Halos: Containment

Late Radiative Phase

Fallback





Chemical Enrichment of Neighbor Halos

Cen & Riquelme 2008, ApJ, 674, 644





Whalen et al. 2010 ApJ, 712, 101

Radiation Adaptive Grid Eulerian (RAGE)

Frey, Even, Whalen et al. 2013 ApJS, 204, 16

- grey flux-limited diffusion coupled to a high-order Godunov hydro solver on a cell-based adaptive mesh refinement grid
- matter and radiation temperatures, while coupled, are evolved separately
- energy due to radioactive decay of ⁵⁶Ni is locally deposited in the gas
- LANL OPLIB database of atomic opacities



Pop III PI SN Light Curves

Whalen et al. 2013, ApJ, 762, L6 Whalen et al. 2013, ApJ, 777, 110



z-series (blue compact giants)

u-series (red hypergiants)

Spectral Evolution: z250



JWST NIRCam Light Curves at z = 30

- NIRCam detection threshold is absolute magnitude 32 for deep surveys
- PI SNe will be visible to JWST beyond z = 30 and will even be able to perform spectrometry on them
- Although JWST's deep field will be very narrow, it is expected that at least a few PI SNe will be in them in a given survey (Hummel et al. 2012, ApJ, 755, 72)



WFIR T Wide-Field Infrared Survey Telescope







 all sky NIR survey mission

proposed sensitivity of AB magnitude
27 @ 2.2 µm

z = 15

z = 20

WFIRST could detect large numbers of Pop III PI SNe at z = 15 - 20, which may be their optimum redshift for detection due to Lyman-Werner UV backgrounds

Pop III Core-Collapse NIRCam Light Curves

Whalen et al. 2013, ApJ, 768, 95



The Radio Signatures of the First Supernovae

Meiksin & Whalen 2013, MNRAS, 430, 2854



Pop III Type IIn Supernovae Light Curves

Whalen et al. 2013, ApJ, 768, 195



4 More Studies of Pop III SNe in Progress

- hypernovae (Smidt et al 2014, ApJ submitted)
- pair-pulsational SNe (Whalen et al. 2014, ApJ, 781, 106)
- 85 140 M_{sun} PI SNe (Smidt et al. 2014, ApJ, in prep
- 150 500 M_{sun} PI SNe (Whalen et al 2014, ApJ submitted



Formation of Supermassive Stars and SMBH Seeds in Lyman-Werner Protogalaxies



Whalen et al. 2014, ApJ in prep





Supermassive Pop III SNe: the Most Energetic SNe in the Universe

Whalen et al. 2013d, ApJ, 778, 17

- may herald the births of SMBH seeds
- 10⁵⁵ erg thermonuclear SNe
- 55,000 solar masses
- visible at any redshift to both JWST and WFIRST





The Supernova that Destroyed a Protogalaxy

Johnson, Whalen et al 2013, ApJ, 775, 107 Whalen et al 2013, ApJ, 774, 64 Whalen et al 2013, ApJ, 777, 99



Conclusions

- JWST will see Pop III PI SNe beyond z = 30, and WFIRST will find them at z = 15 - 20
- Pop III CC SNe will be visible in the NIR out to z
 ~ 10 15
- Pop III Type IIne will be visible to z ~ 15 20
- they will be our first direct probes of the Pop III IMF
- they will also reveal many protogalaxies that would otherwise not be detected by next generation observatories