What will Eta Car look like in 2000 years?

John Raymond and Nelson Caldwell



Enormous Outbursts: 1837,1892

100 M_{SUN} star with ~5 M_{SUN} companion

Two lobes expanding at 650 km/s

Slower 'waist'

Diffuse gas expanding at > 1000 km/s

Nitrogen-Rich

UNIQUE



M31 Supernova Remnant Catalogs

Optical:

Blair et al. 1982 Walterbos and Braun 1992, Braun & Walterbos 1993 Lee & Lee 2014

Radio:

Dickel & D'Odorico 1984 Galvin & Filipovic 2014

X-Ray:

Stiele et al. 2011 Sasaki 2018

UV:

Leahy 2023

Odd Object in Caldwell et al. PNe Survey

Hectospec low resolution multifiber instrument on the MMT.

NOT in SNR Catalogs: Apparent [S II]/Hα is too small

 $[N II] >> H\alpha$

Line widths ~ 3000 km/s

Nearly unresolved



Emission line Object



Barely resolved

Location:

Arm of M31 with lots of Star formation

 V_{LSR} = -300 km/s



[O II] Line Profile

Velocity width ~ 3000 km/s

Very lumpy profile Peak at 0 and near ±800 km/s

(3727 at edge of detector)

V in frame of M31



[O III] Line Profile

Peak near zero velocity with smaller Peak at -800 and shoulder at +750 km/s

Unfold the blend: 5007/4959 = 3

Start from + velocity edge and subtract 1/3 of the counts from the bin 2880 km/s to the blue

Dotted line shows blue wing of 5007



[S II] Line Profile

Unfold 6717, 6731 similarly to [O III]

Overlap is worse; Separation is 640 km/s

Ratio is not known and may not be constant

Some ratios give negative emission

Best fit ratio is 0.8 – 1000-3000 cm⁻³



[N II] and H α Profile

Also severe overlap: 1620 km/s separation and 3:1 ratio of [N II] 6584:6548

But Hα lies between and ratio is not known.

Try different H α /[N II] and get best fit of 0.1-0.2, as expected from H β .

Peaks at -800, 0, +750



Comparison to Eta Car

Profile:

Peaks 0 and symmetric ±800 km/s compared to ±650 Diffuse profile extending to ~2000 km/s compared to > 1000

Abundances:

Extremely N-rich compared to N-rich

Sounds like Eta Car, but

No central star Diameter ~ 12 pc.

X-rays: $L_x \sim 10^{36}$ erg/s Kaaret 2002

Schematic Picture

Older Eta Car?

Slow reverse shock in ejecta to make optical. ISM would have to be very low density for $\rho_1 V_1^2 = \rho_2 V_2^2$ Hard to explain X-rays

Young SNR expanding into Eta Car-like shell?

 V_2 can be smaller, ρ_2 can be higher, X-rays can be explained

Will Eta Car Actually Explode?

 \sim 100 M_{SUN} --- might collapse directly to BH

Sukhbold et al. 2016 find that SN is possible

Binary evolution might drastically modify things

Companion star might explode

Progenitor of WB92-26 could be less massive

Eta Car is unique in our Galaxy. WB92-26 is unique in M31. Might be others in other galaxies mis-classified because apparent [S II]/H α < 0.4