Adaptive Optics-assisted detection and study of supernovae

Seppo Mattila Finnish Centre for Astronomy with ESO (FINCA) University of Turku

SN 2004ip

VLT/NACO 2004 May 4

VLT/NACO 2004 Sept. 15

Collaborators

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VLT/NACO 2004 Sept. 15

SN 2004it

Supernovae in luminous infrared galaxies (LIRGs)

- U/LIRGs locally rare but at $z \sim 1-2$ dominating the star formation
- Stars forming rapidly during a few x 100 Myr starburst episode in LIRGs
- Large numbers of massive short lived (< a few x 10 Myr) stars exploding as CCSNe
- Still mostly undiscovered due to large extinctions and concentration to nuclear regions
- High spatial resolution near-IR imaging required for the detection and study





ESO Press Photo 54a/07 (21 December 2007)

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Infrared observations and Adaptive Optics techniques reveal hidden "Supernova Factories"

- Monitor samples of nearby (<100 Mpc) starburst dominated LIRGs
- Use AO to provide ~0.1" spatial resolution required for the SN detection and study
- Combined use of near-IR AO and high-res. radio for follow-up studies
- Determine the nature of the SNe and estimate extinctions
- How many SNe are we missing in dusty nuclear regions of LIRGs?





Gemini-North Altair/NIRI PI: Ryder

VLT/NACO observations of IRAS 18293-3413

- Pilot study with NAOS CONICA AO system on ESO VLT in near-IR Ks-band
- Used VIS-WFS, V=15 star 26" away as a natural guide star (NGS)
- Uncorrected seeing FWHM ~ 0.5" 0.9", am ~1.1 1.3
- SR ~ 10 − 30% → FWHM ~ 0.1" ~ 40 pc @ 80 Mpc



Image subtraction for the AO images

Image 1 (FWHM~0.1")



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Image 2 (FWHM~0.1'')





ISIS 2.2: Alard & Lupton (1998)

VLT/NACO reveals SN 2004ip in IRAS 18293-3413

Mattila et al. (2007); Perez-Torres et al. (2007)

- SN 2004ip at 1.4" (500 pc) from the K-band nucleus
- K-band magnitudes consistent with CCSN with $A_V < 40$
- 8.4 GHz VLA detection confirmed the CCSN nature
- First SN to be discovered using AO assisted observations
- Demonstrates the potential of 8-m class telescope + AO in the near-IR



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Perez-Torres et al. (2007); Herrero-Illana et al. in pre.

Gemini-N/ALTAIR reveals SNe 2010cu and 2011hi

Kankare et al. (2012); Romero-Canizales et al. (2012)

- Observations with Gemini-N+ALTAIR/NIRI with laser guide star (LGS)
- Two SNe with projected galactocentric distances 0.37" (180 pc) and 0.79" (380 pc)
- The closest SNe yet discovered to a LIRG nucleus in the near-IR
- Accurate SN photometry from follow-up AO imaging using image subtraction



Gemini-N/ALTAIR reveals SNe 2010cu and 2011hi

Kankare et al. (2012); Romero-Canizales et al. (2012)

• Likely CCSN types and extinctions from 'template' light curve fitting



Early results from Gemini-S + GeMS/GSAOI

- ESO 440-IG058 observed as a part of the GeMS System Verifications
- Used 3 natural guide stars for tip-tilt + 1 on-detector guide star
- Provides 85"x85" FOV with 0.02"/pixel
- Observe 4 LIRGs in Semester 2013A
- Test PSF uniformity, SN detection by image subtraction, photometry etc.
- Feasibility for SNe at high-z ?

Luminous Infrared Galaxy ESO 440-IG058 Gemini South GeMS/GSAOI Jan 2013 S. Ryder (AAO) & the GeMS Team **JHKs** composite

GeMS Ks-band 160sec with NGS

Supernovae as probes of the cosmic star formation

- Correct CCSN rates for the SNe missed due to *obscuration* by dust
- After correction CCSN rates consistent with expectations from the SFRs
- CCSNe provide an *independent* measurement of cosmic star formation history
- Recent HST measurements up to $z \sim 1.3$, E-ELT will provide to $z \sim 4$ (and beyond?)



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Summary

Substantial fraction of CCSNe in U/LIRGs hidden in nuclear regions
High-res. near-IR AO imaging well suited to detect and study
Important for estimating *complete* CCSN rates as a function of redshift
Valuable for testing methods for AO observations of SNe at high-z