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# Dense Circumstellar Knots in Cassiopeia A

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http://astro.snu.ac.kr/~koo/casa.html

# **Outline of Talk**

### I. Deep [Fe II]+[Si I] 1.64 µm Image

- Background
- UWIFE survey

#### **II. Dense Circumstellar Knots**

- QSFs in the deep 1.64  $\mu$ m image
- High-resolution spectroscopic results



#### HST ACS F625W image of Cas A with Av~10 mag contour from X-ray study (Hwang and Laming 2012)

- Obtain an `extinction-free' image of shocked dense gas in Cas A
- [Fe II] 1.64 µm line = shock tracer

[Fe II] 1.64 µm filter at UKIRT 3.8 m telescope



Sample 1-D spectra of Cas A knots (Lee, Y.-H.+ 2017)

## **UWIFE Survey**

- UKIRT Widefield Infrared survey for Fe<sup>+</sup> (Lee, J.-J.+ 2014)
   ℓ=7° to 62°, |b|≤ 1.5°
- Cas A: L([Fe II]) = 12 L<sub>o</sub>



# [Fe II] 1.64 $\mu$ m luminosity of 19(/79) Galactic SNRs in $\ell$ =7° to 62° (Lee, Y.-H.+ 2019)



Deep [Fe II]+ [Si I] 1.64  $\mu$ m image obtained by 10-hr exposure using UKIRT 3.8 m telescope in 2013 September (seeing ~ 0.7" or 0.012 pc; Koo et al. 2018)

 $(\Delta v_{FWHM} \sim \pm 2600 \text{ km/s})$ 

# **Dense CSM of Cas A**

- Two types of "Knots" (Minkowski 1959)
  - Fast-moving ejecta knots
  - QSFs (Quasi-Stationary Floculli): CNO processed CSM
    - $|v| \le 500 \text{ km/s}$ , He and N-enriched
      - vdB (1971), Peimbert and vdB (1971), Chevalier and Kirshner (1978), vdB and Kemper (1985), Lawrence+ (1995), Hurford & Fesen (1996), Gerardy & Fesen (2001), Alarie+ (2014), Lee, Y.-H.+ (2017)





[N II] (Alarie+ 2014)

#### Origin of QSFs

#### (1) Fragments of RSG shell swept up by fast wind

• Chevalier and Liang (1989), Reed (1995), Garcia-segura+ (1996)

#### (2) Dense clumps embedded in RSG wind

- Chevalier and Oishi (2003), Laming & Hwang (2003), Lee, J.-J. (2014);
  Schure et al. (2008), van Veelen et al. (2009), Hwang and Laming (2009)
  - QSFs are not restricted to a shell
  - Expansion velocity is small for them to be (1)
  - Cas A is interacting with smooth RSG wind
- N overabundance?

# **QSFs in the Deep [Fe II] Image**

- Identification of 309 Knots (=130 QSFs + 179 FMKs)
  - 5σ above background
  - proper motion in 2008 and 2013 [Fe II] images
  - Counterparts in HST F098M and HST F850LP images
    (cf) ~40 QSFs in Hα+[NII] (vdB and Kemper 1985; Alarie 2014)



G= FMKs, Magenta contour = QSFs





## **QSF Spatial distribution**

- Highly asymmetric with prominent features
  - 60% in P.A.=240° 280°
  - Southwestern QSF arc (Lawrence+ 1995)



## Western area



CO (Kilpatrick+ 2014; see also the poster by Ping Zhou)

## **QSF Mass and Lifetime**

#### Total Mass

- M(Fe)~7.9×10<sup>-6</sup> M<sub>☉</sub> → M<sub>QSF</sub>(H+He)~0.23 M<sub>☉</sub> ~ 4% of M<sub>SW</sub> (cf) M<sub>SW</sub> ~ 6 M<sub>☉</sub> (Lee, J.-J.+ 2014)
- Lifetime
  - Most QSFs in 1951 are seen in our 2013 image  $\rightarrow \tau \ge 60$  yr

- Lab for cloud-shock interaction
- Mass-loss history of Cas A

## **High-resolution Spectroscopy of QSFs**

#### IGRINS Observations of Knot 24

- IGRINS: High-resolution(R~45000) H&K spectrometer
- Harlan J. Smith telescope at McDonald Obs. + DCT at Lowell Obs.



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- A deep [Fe II]+[Si I] 1.64 um image
  - shocked SN ejecta + shocked CSM in [Fe II] emission
  - unshocked SN ejecta in [Si I] emission
- 130 QSF knots
  - highly anisotropic spatial distribution
    - dense, clumpy CSM in west
  - M(QSFs)=0.23  $M_{\odot}$  ~ 4% of the RSG wind
- NIR spectroscopic observations of QSFs.
  - radiative precursor in QSF 24
    - Cas A progenitor v<sub>LSR</sub> ~-50 km/s
    - Fe is not heavily depleted
      - BSG progenitor