

A Light-curve Investigation of Electron-capture Supernovae

Masato Sato (U. Tokyo, Komaba)

Collaborators: Nozomu Tominaga, Takashi J. Moriya (NAOJ), Sergei I. Blinnikov, Marat Sh. Potashov (NRC Kurchatov Institute), Daichi Hiramatsu (CfA | Harvard & Smithsonian), Francisco Förster (University of Chile), and Joseph P. Anderson (ESO)

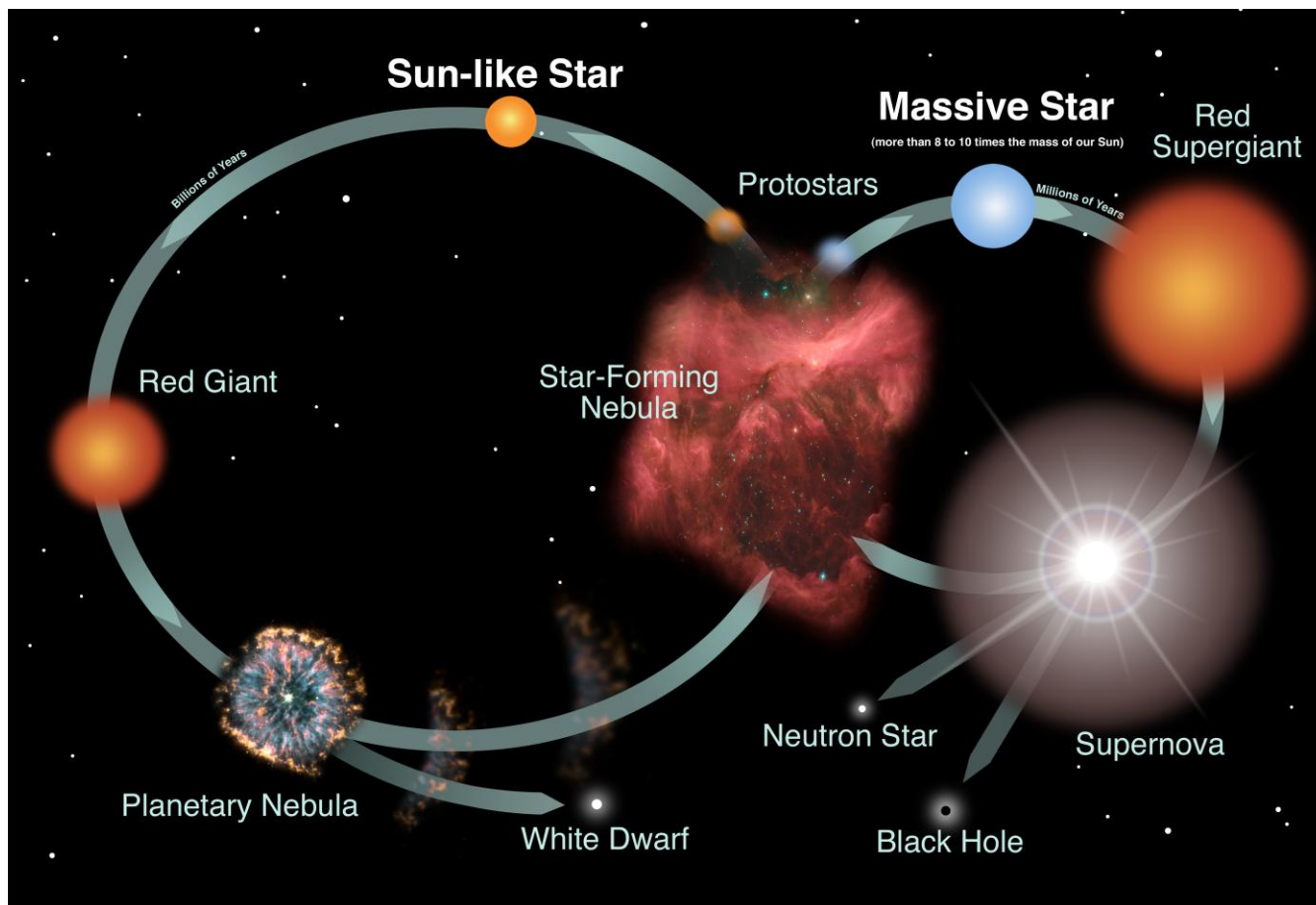
Mar. 10, 2026

12th Supernova Neutrino Workshop

概要

- 最も低質量な重力崩壊型超新星である電子捕獲型超新星の光度曲線の特徴を明らかにし、その候補天体を調査することで、その発生率や爆発エネルギーに示唆を与えた。
- We investigate light-curve properties of the lowest-mass core-collapse supernovae, electron-capture supernovae. Investigating the ECSN candidates, we infer their occurrence rate and explosion energies.

Lifecycles of stars

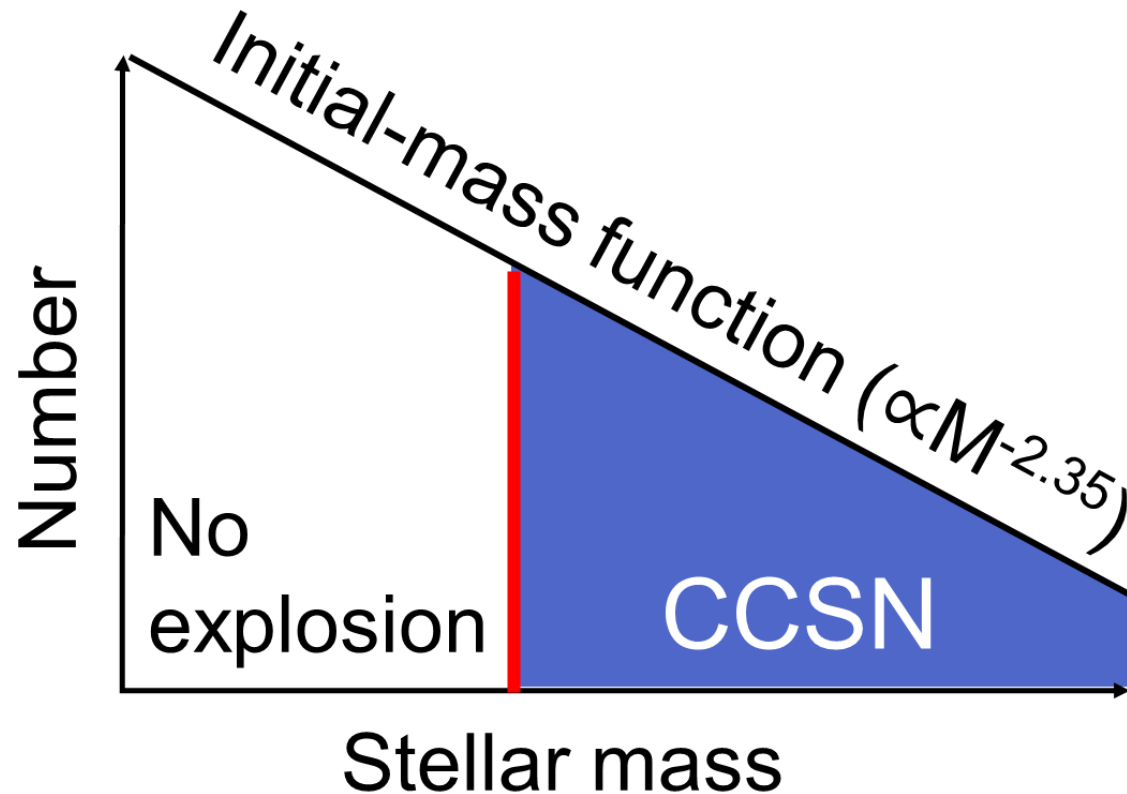


SNe contribute to ...

- Star formation
- Galaxy evolution
- Chemical evolution
- Diffuse SN neutrino background

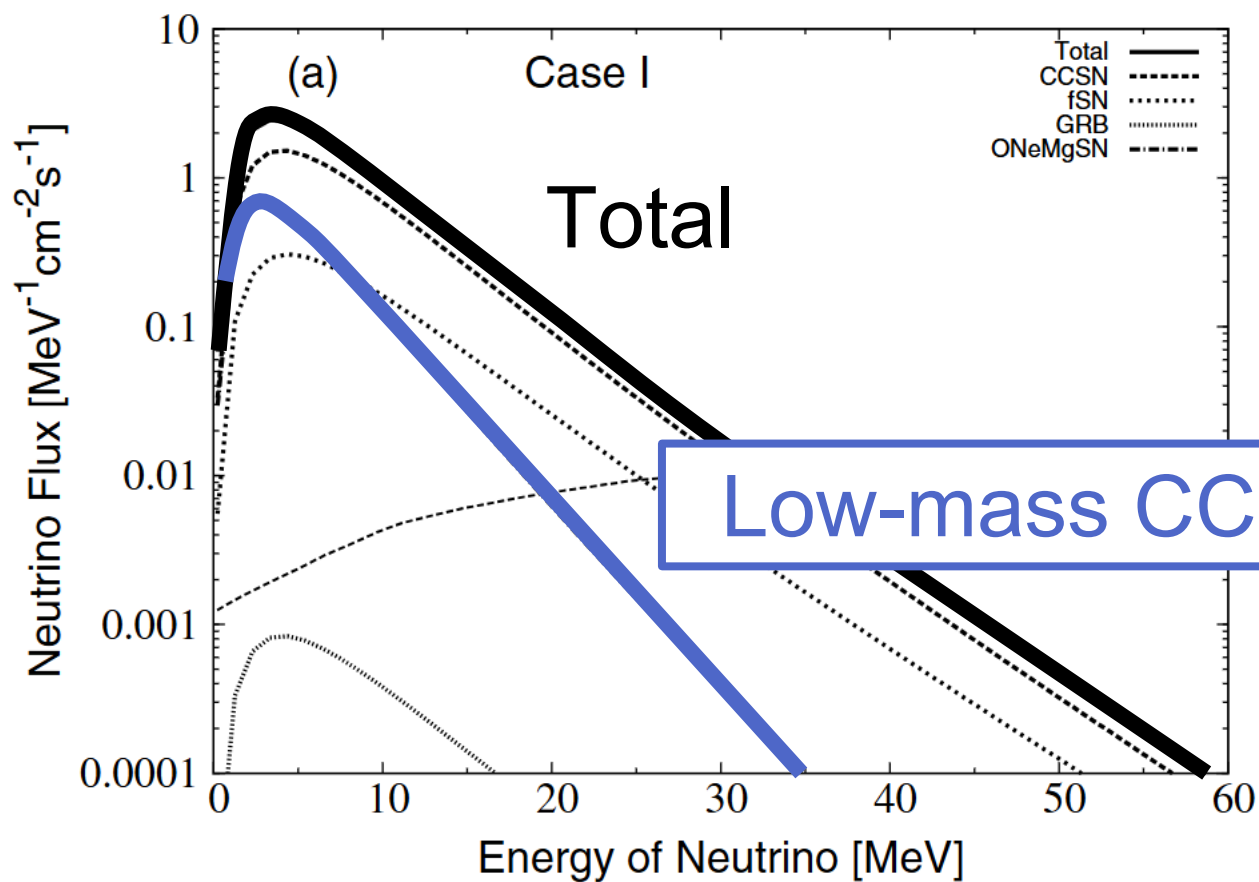
NASA,
Night Sky Network

Initial-mass range of CCSNe



Low-mass limit strongly affects CCSN rate.

Diffuse SN neutrino background



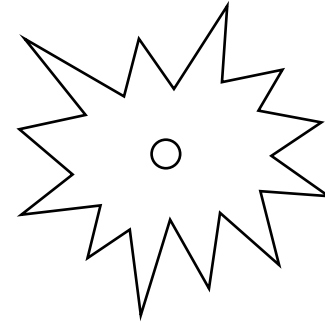
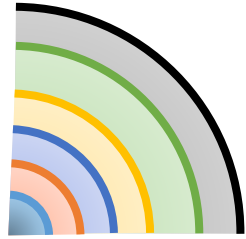
Mathews+14

Terminal fate of massive stars

RSG star

$\gtrsim 10M_{\odot}$

Fe core



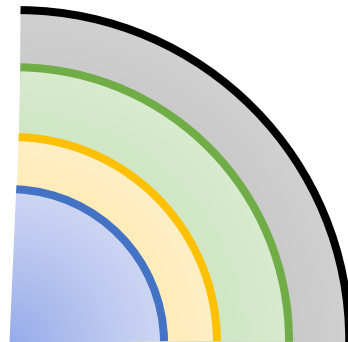
Fe-core-collapse
(FeCC) SN

Super-AGB star

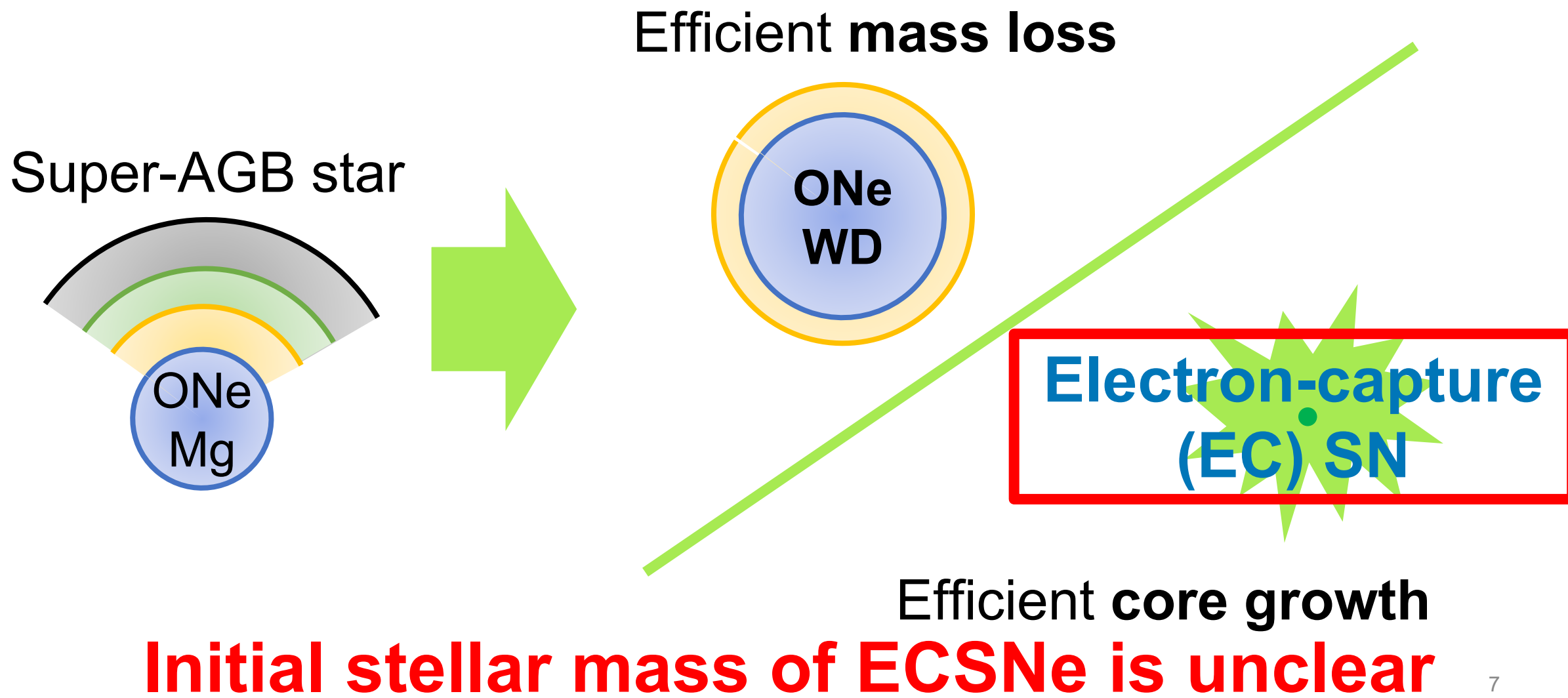
$\sim 8-10M_{\odot}$

degenerate

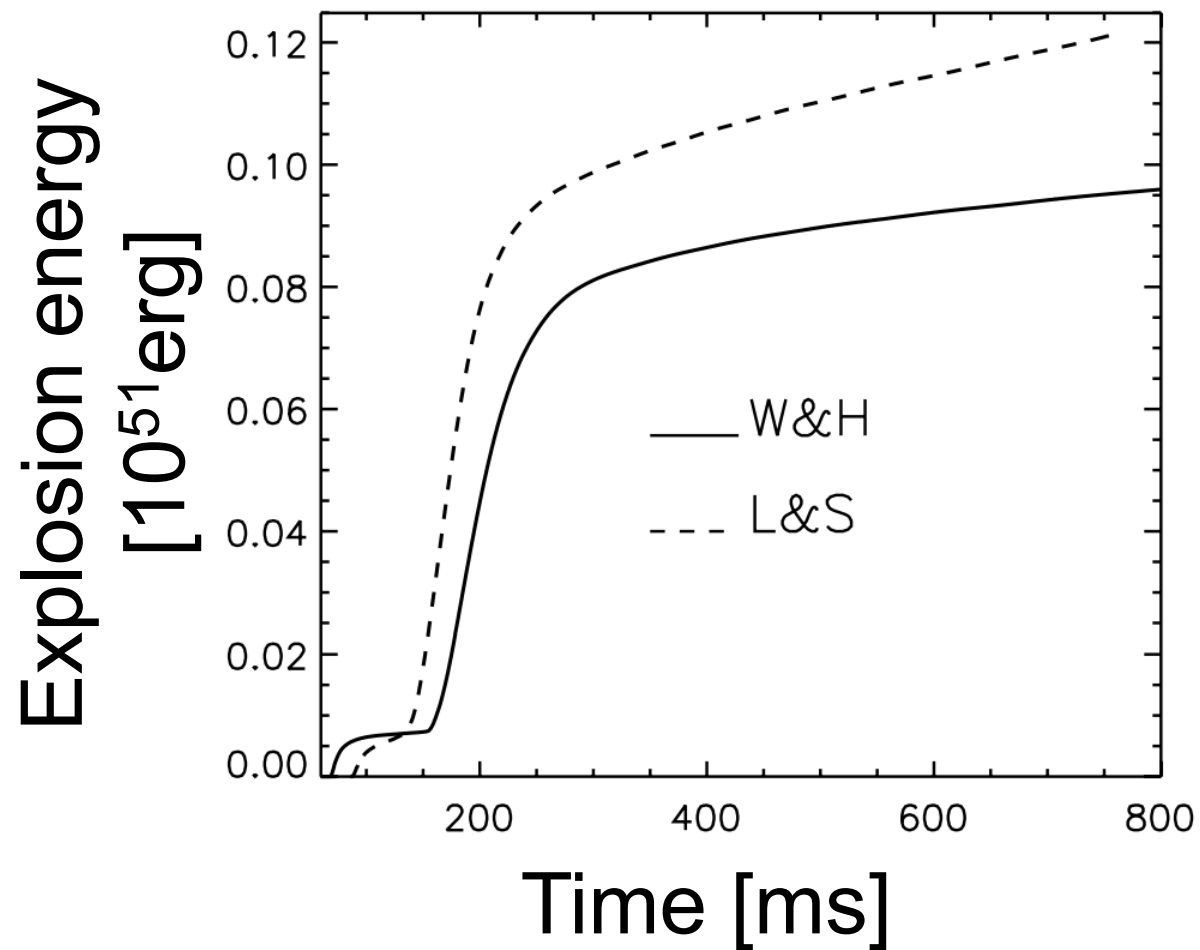
O+Ne+Mg core



Terminal fate of super-AGB stars



ECSN explosion

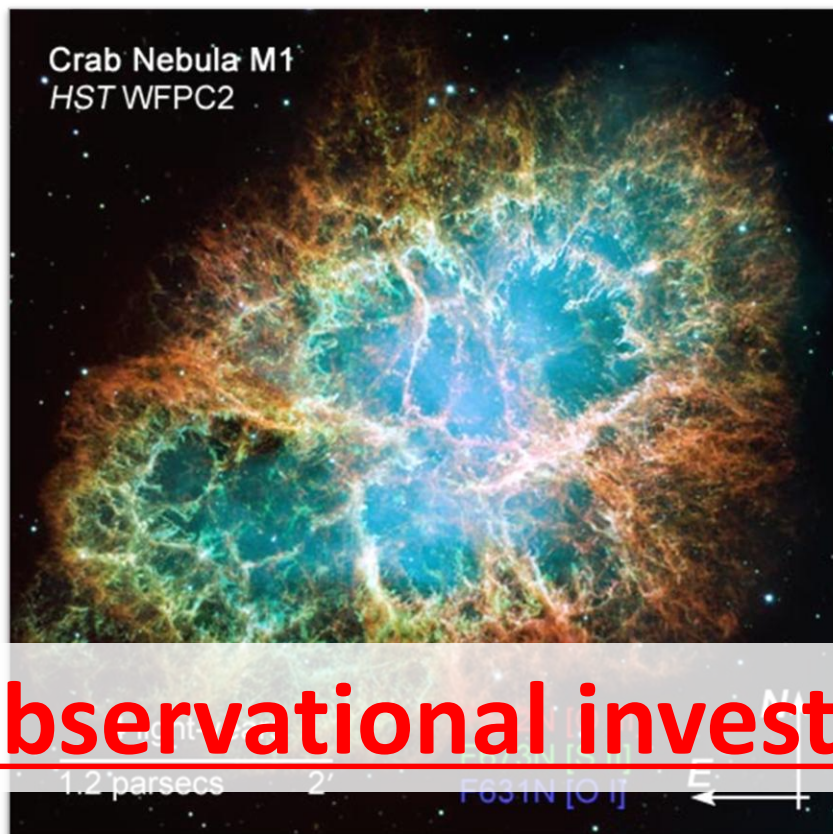


Low energy
 $\sim 10^{50}$ erg

Kitaura+06

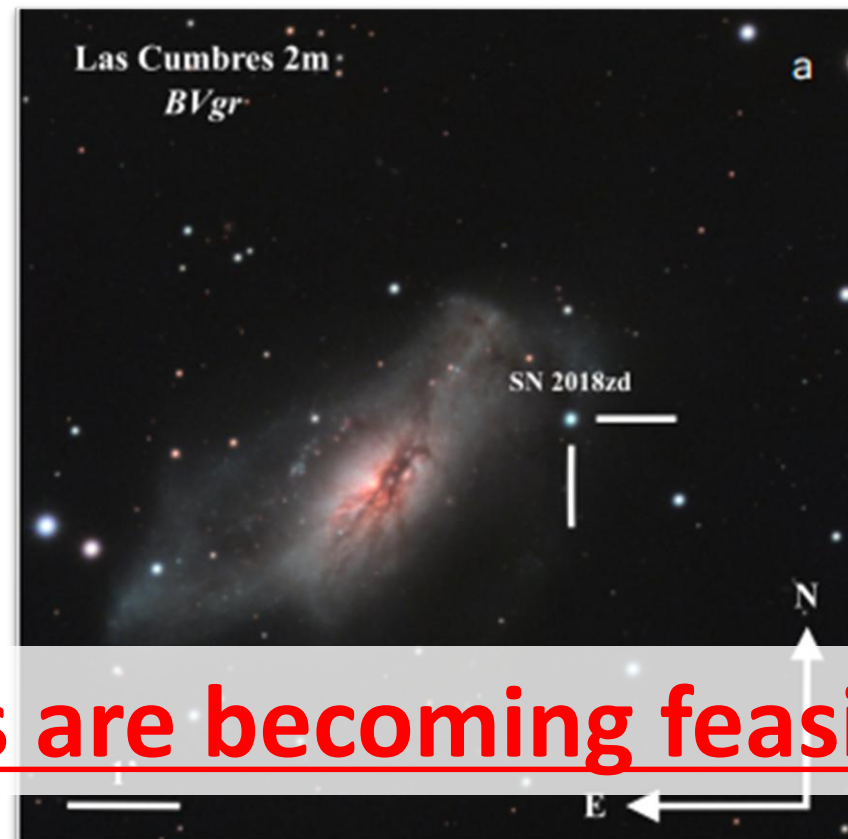
ECSN candidates

SN 1054 (Crab nebula, Nomoto+82)



NASA, ESA, J. Hester and A. Loll
(Arizona State University)

SN 2018zd (Hiramatsu+21)



Hiramatsu+21

Observational investigations are becoming feasible.

Aim of my research

Theory (Sato+24)

- Revealing a robust observational difference between ECSNe and low-mass FeCCSNe
- Proposing a diagnostic method to identify ECSNe

Observation (Sato+ submitted)

- Searching for ECSN candidates in the past
- Examining the consistency between ECSN theory and observation

Progenitor models

RSG stars

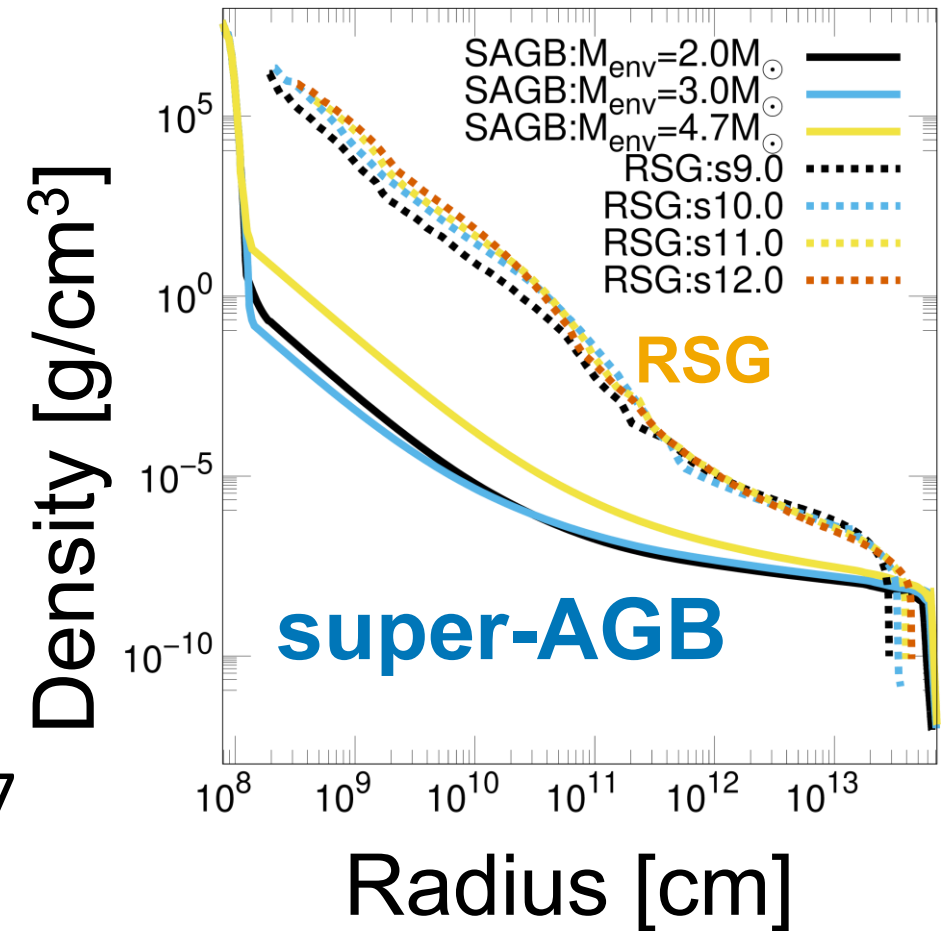
(for FeCCSN, Sukhbold+16)

- Initial mass $M_{\text{ZAMS}} = 9-12 M_{\odot}$

Super-AGB stars

(for ECSN, Tominaga+13)

- Envelope mass $M_{\text{env}} = 2.0-4.7 M_{\odot}$
- Envelope H abundance $X(\text{H})_{\text{env}} = 0.2-0.7$



Low-density and extended envelope

Light-curve models

Explosion

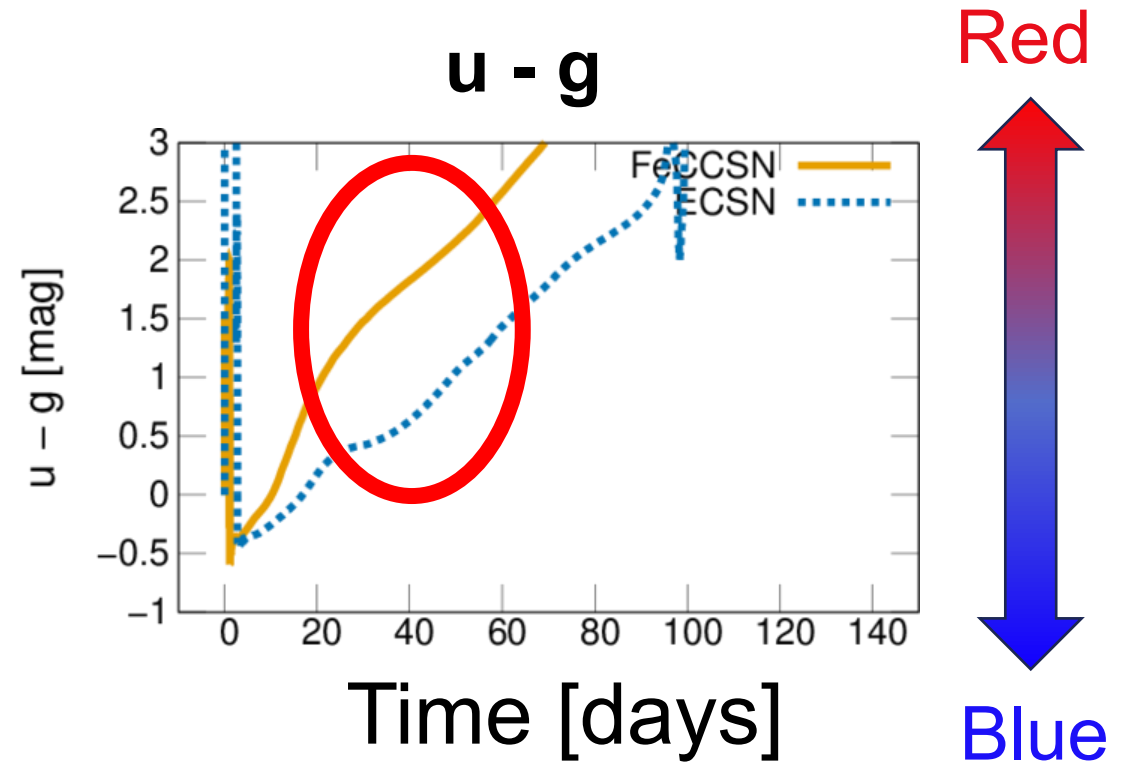
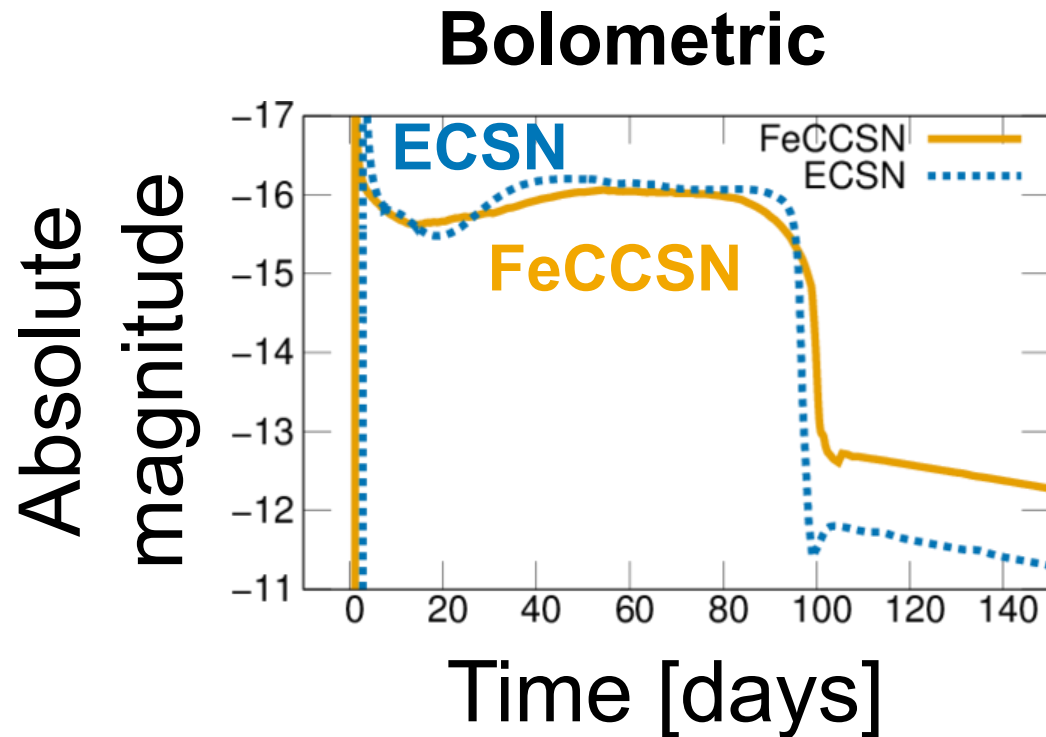
- Thermal bomb
- Explosion energy $(0.1-14.2) \times 10^{50}$ erg

Light-curve calculation

- 1D multi-group radiation hydrodynamics code, STELLA (Blinnikov+93)

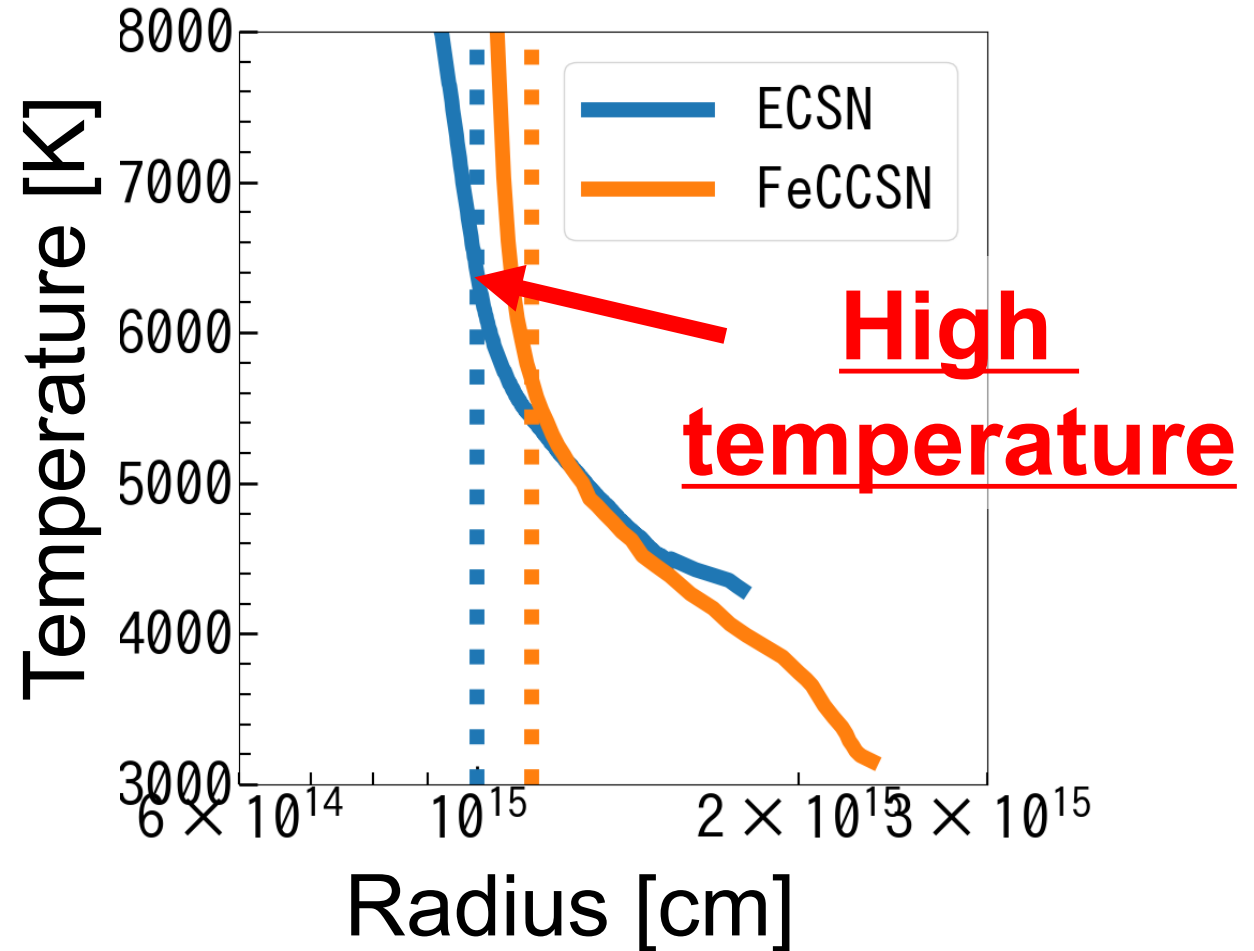
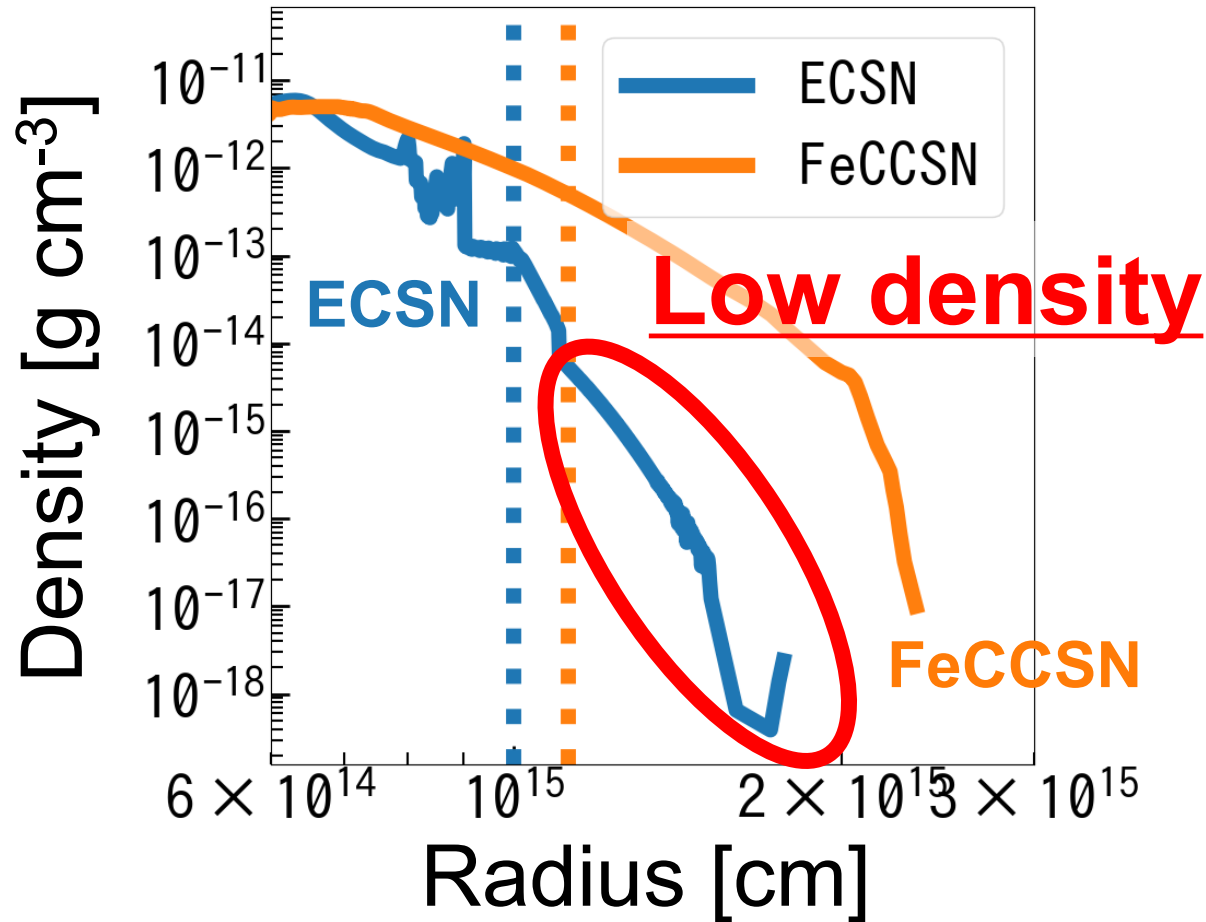
~ 2000 models

Light curves

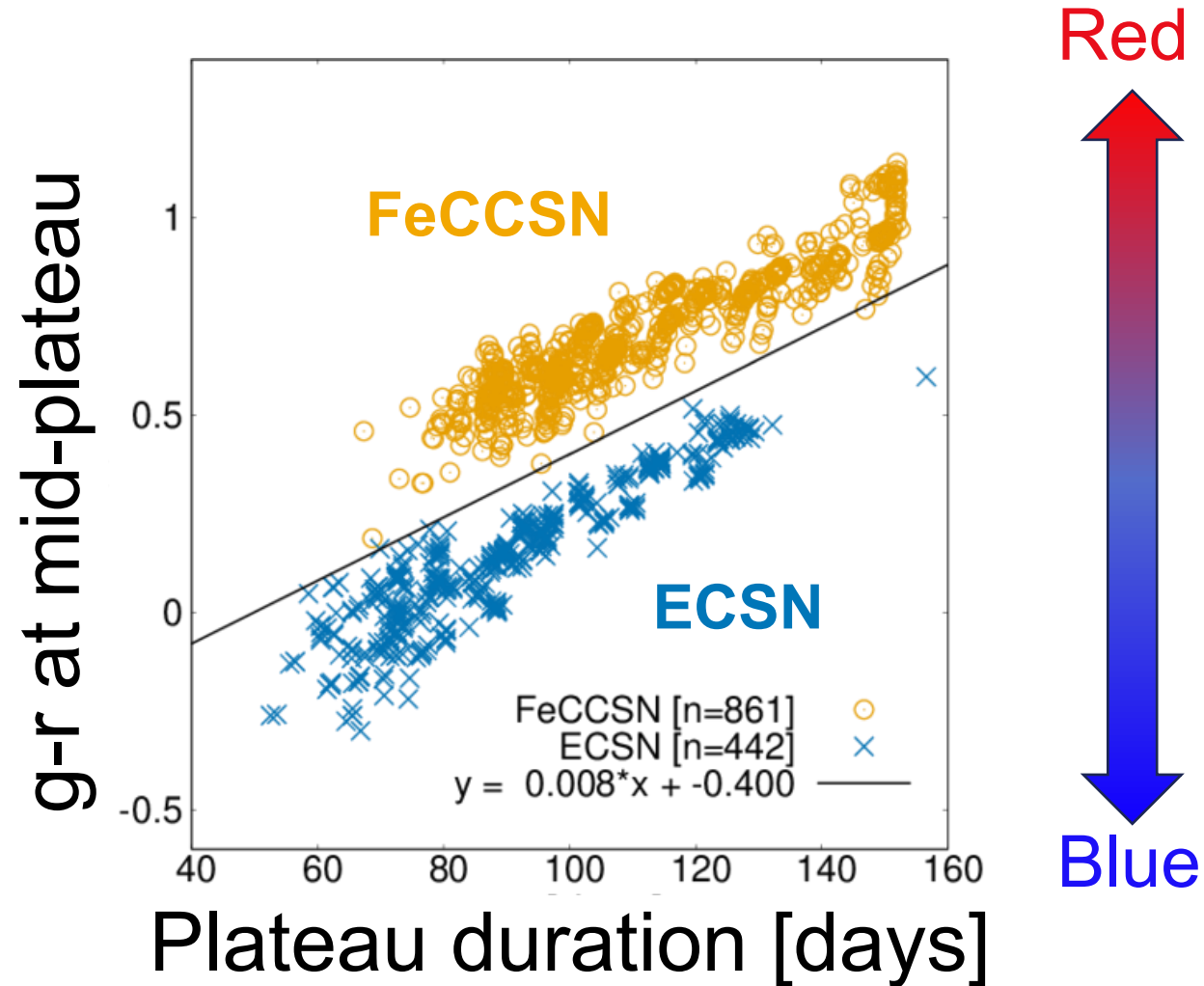


Blue plateau of ECSN

Hydrodynamical structure



Diagnostic method of ECSN



Identify
ECSNe with
blue plateau

Aim of my research

Theory (Sato+24)

- Revealing a robust observational difference between ECSNe and low-mass FeCCSNe
- Proposing a diagnostic method to identify ECSNe

Observation (Sato+ submitted)

- Searching for ECSN candidates in the past
- Examining the consistency between ECSN theory and observation

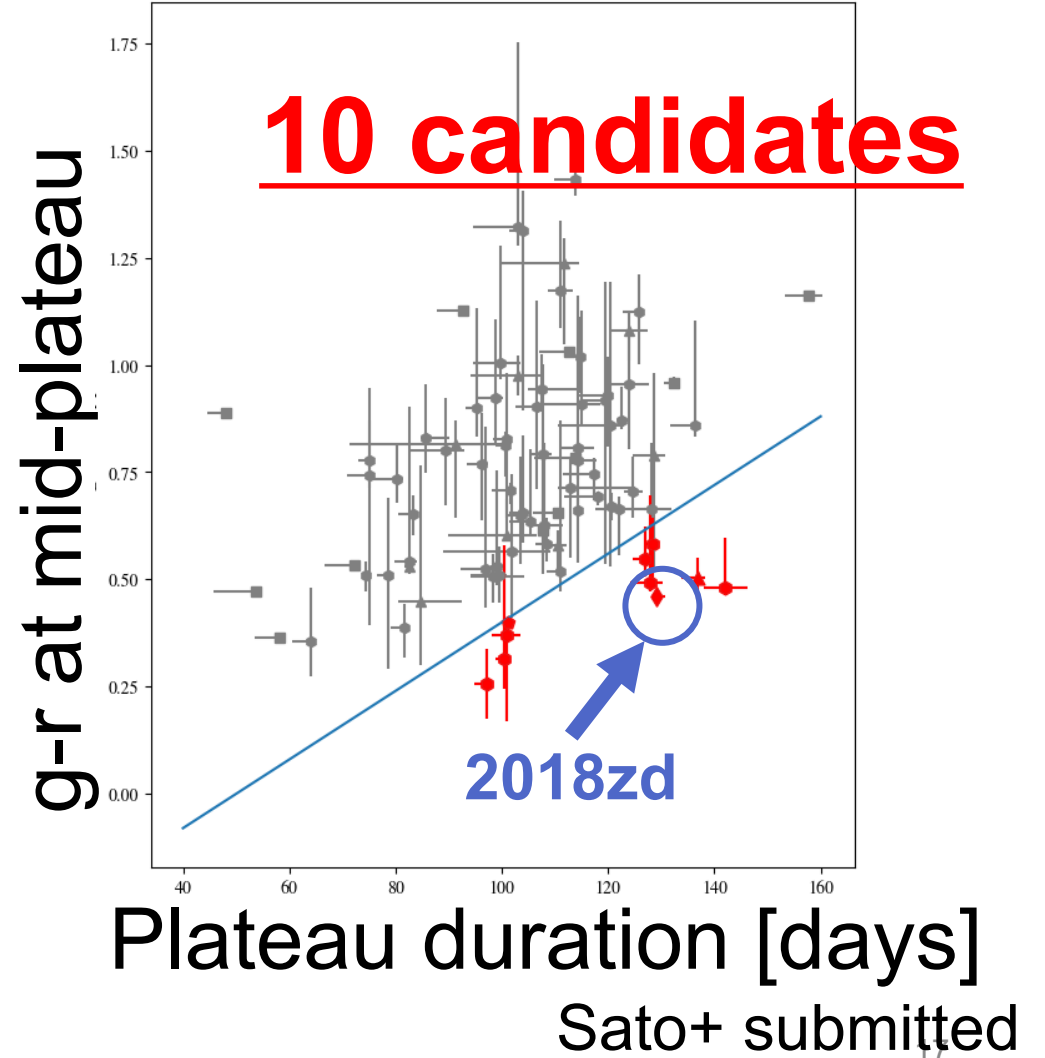
Applying the diagnostic to the past SNe

97 Type-II SNe

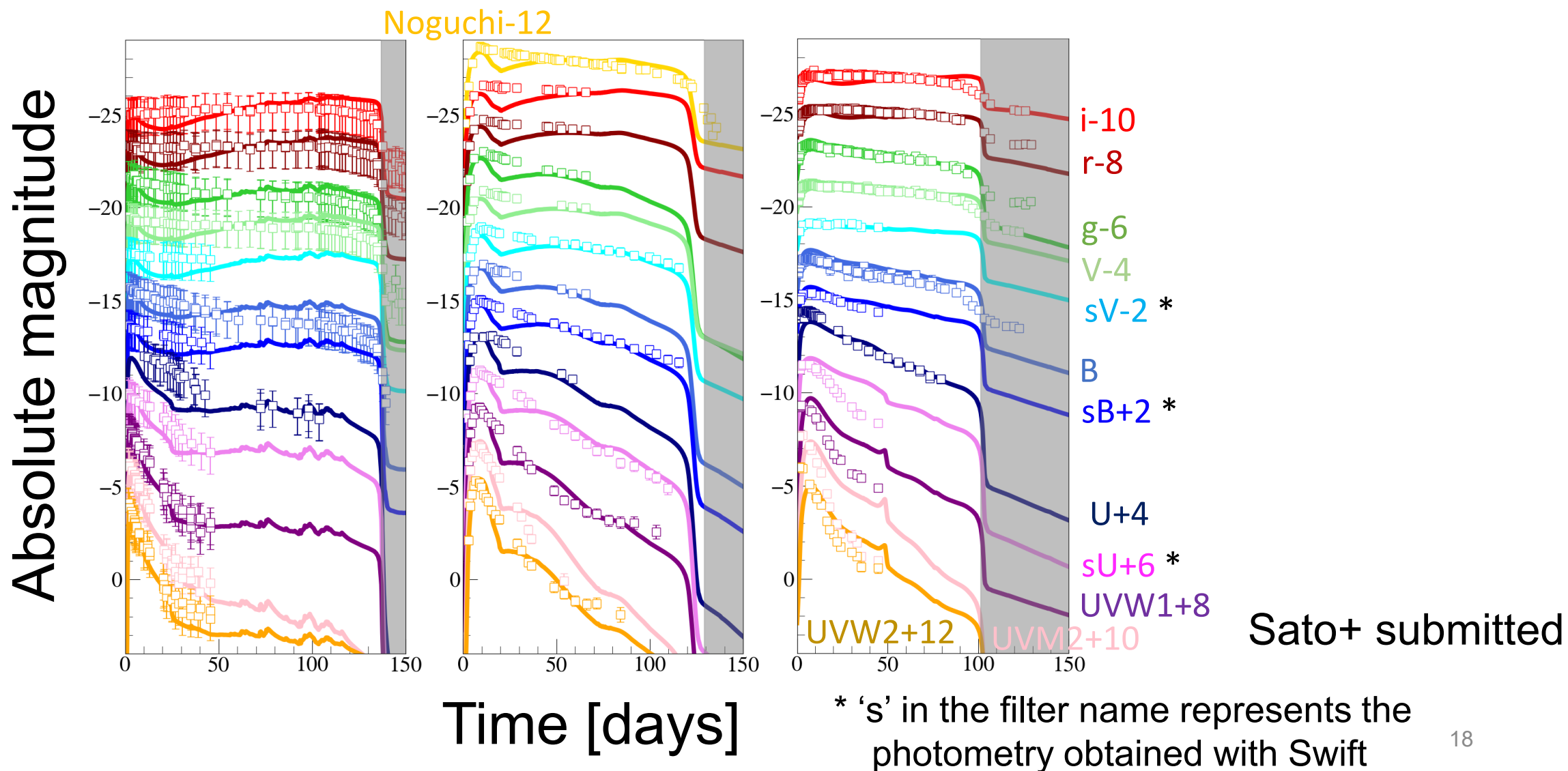
Literature sample: 35

- Faran+14: 5
- Galbany+16: 7
- Valenti+16: 10
- Anderson+24: 11
- Hiramatsu+21: 1 (2018zd)
- Shrestha+23: 1 (2023axu)

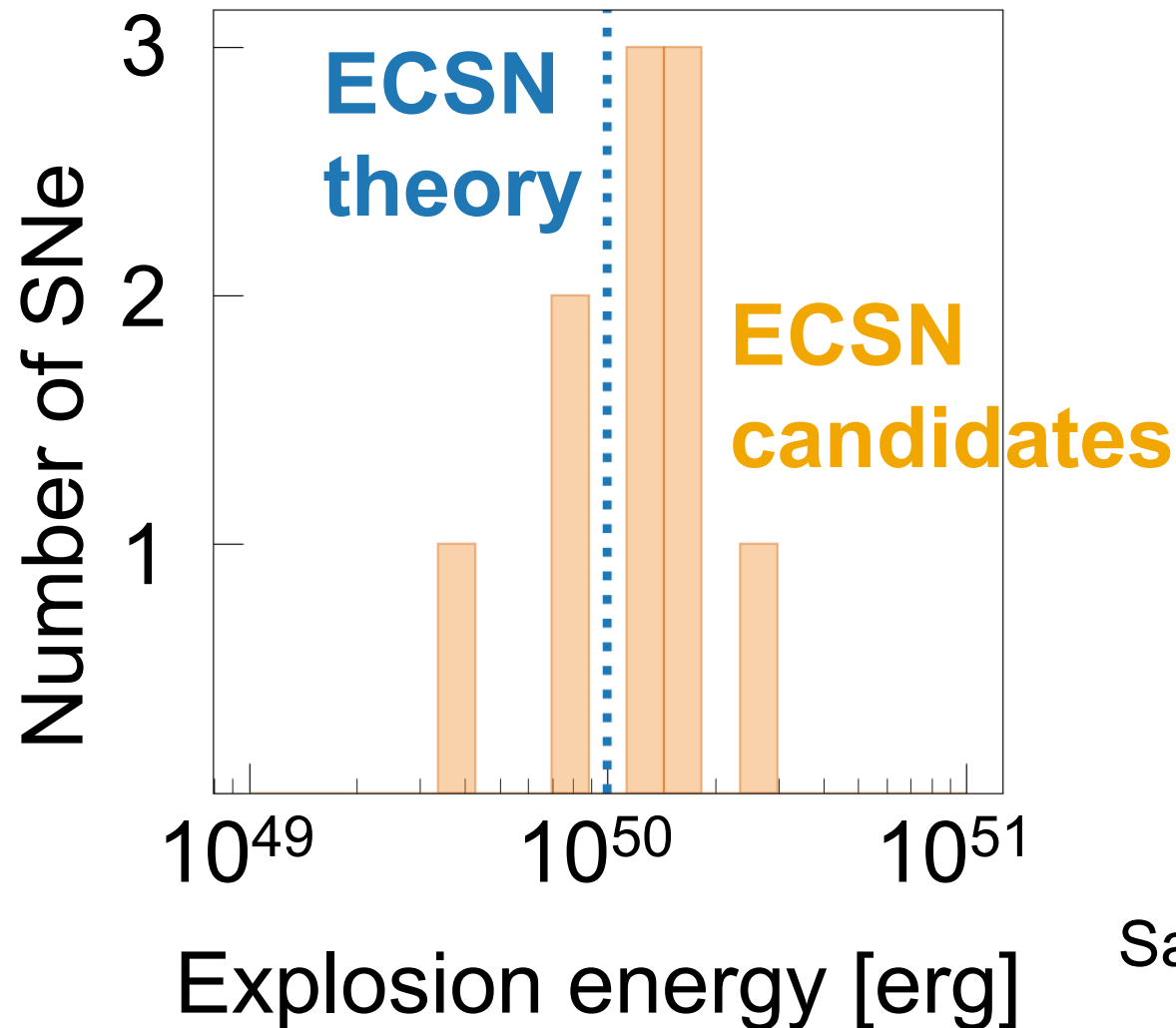
ZTF survey sample: 62



Comparison with models



Explosion energy



Consistent with
explosion theory

Sato+ submitted

Occurrence ratio & Initial mass

Occurrence ratio

- ~ 3.0 - 15.7 % of Type-II SNe (1.8 - 9.2 % of CCSNe).

Initial mass

- The initial stellar mass window may be ~ 0.1 - 0.7 M_{\odot} .

Summary

- ECSNe show bluer plateaus than low-mass FeCCSNe.
- 10 ECSN candidates are found from 97 Type-II SNe in the past with the color-based diagnostic.
- The explosion energies of the candidates are inferred to be $\sim 10^{50}$ erg, consistent with the first-principles simulations.
- The occurrence ratio of ECSNe are inferred to be $\sim 3.0-15.7$ % of Type-II SNe.