Spectroscopic Clues about Luminosities of Type Ia Supernovae

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d) Similarities in the Spectra of Type I Supernovae

It has often been suggested that spectra of Type I supernovae show remarkable similarities. We have available excellent data to investigate this question. With reference to SN 1972e in NGC 5253, it can be seen from figures 6 and 7 that the spectrum

SN 1991T and SN 1991bg



Filippenko et al. 1992 Phillips et al. 1992



Filippenko et al. 1992 Leibundgut et al. 1993

Truly Bizarre Type Ia SNe



Phillips et al. 2007, Mark's talk



Li et al. 2003 Jha et al. 2006

Not to mention 02ic (Hamuy et al. 2003) or 05gj (Aldering et al. 2006)

A Continuum of Type Ia Spectra?



Temperature? (e.g., Nugent et al. 1995)

Nickel mass?

Progenitor?

Viewing angle?

Diversity of Type Ia SNe, Good or Bad?



Light-Curve Shape Calibration



Stretch (Perlmutter et al. 1997)



Riess et al. 1996 Jha et al. 2007

Spectra and Light-Curve Shape



CfA Sample of 44 Type Ia SNe

Jha et al. 2006

Includes U band

More coming, Hicken et al.











Spectra of Many SNe



With a Variety of Light Curve Shape Parameters



Similar Decline Rate, Some Spectroscopic Differences





Deviations from median spectrum in small phase range, by Δm_{15}



cf. Berian et al. 2006



Fitting for Line Strengths and Velocities



Strength of 5800Å Feature



cf. Nugent et al. 1995, Garnavich et al. 2004, Bongard et al. 2006

Strength of 4100Å Feature



cf. Nugent et al. 1995 Bronder et al. 2007

Si II Grotrian Diagram





Summary

• Diversity in Type Ia spectra provides challenges and opportunities

• Some variations among spectra correlate with light-curve shape parameters

• Specifically, Si II lines in spectra can provide a good indication of Δm_{15}