High-resolution simulations of the Interaction between Nova/Supernova Ejecta and the nearby Accretion Disk

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White Dwarfs in Binary Systems

Approximately 30 to 50% of stars are binary or multiple

Stars with different mass evolve differently, the lesser massive star outlives the other

After their main sequence life, stars <8-10M_o become white dwarfs (WDs)

We can find binary systems with either 1 or 2 white dwarfs (single or double degenerate scenarios)





Mass transfer

The stars tend to get closer, the WD can receive mass from its main sequence companion.

The accretion takes place via Roche Lobe overflow (material surpass equipotential point)

More easily from Red Giants due to their size.

The material possess angular momentum and falls spiraling into the WD forming an accretion disk.





Nova & Type la Supernova Outbursts

The accreted material is mostly Hydrogen, which is heated (compressional heating) and nuclear burning occurs in the WD atmosphere.

Depending mainly on the rate of accretion, the new material added to the WD can lead to different explosive events: novae and supernovae



Nova: Hydrogen burning is **unstable**, temperature increases quickly and the whole **envelope is blown up** in a runaway reaction. Very bright events ($10^4 - 10^5$ LSun). (*Jose 2016*, *Starrfield et al. 2008*)

Type la Supernova: Hydrogen burning is **stable**, WD accumulates mass until $\sim 1.4 M_{\odot}$, when density and temperature at the **core** is such that **Carbon is ignited** and the **whole star is blown up** from the inside. Extremely bright event ($\sim 10^{10}$ LSun). (*Hillebrandt*, *W.*, *Kromer*, *M.*, *Röpke*, *F.K.* et al. 2013)

Recurrent Novae

During Nova explosions only the outermost layers of the star are ejected, they do not disrupt the WD nor the binary system.

Novae can recur as enough material is again builded up into the WD, with periods around 10⁴ - 10⁵ years.

Those bursts observed multiple times within a short period ~1-100 years are called recurrent novae.

They are believed to originate from very massive White Dwarfs with high accretion rates.

In the Milky Way, only 10 recurrent nova have been discovered.



Observational cycle of recurrent novae

The goal: Study the role of the Disk

Typical novae studies focus on early stages of the explosion.

What happens to the accretion disk after a nova or supernova outburst?

Is the disk destroyed?

Is the ejected material screened by the disk?

Does the disk distort the spherical geometry of the ejecta?

Does the nova/supernova ejecta **impact the companion** star differently with or without the disk?

Does this impact recurrence time?



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High Resolution Simulations: Axisymmetric SPH

Due to the Rotational symmetry of the WD-disk system, we can perform 2-D axisymmetric simulations, which are much faster and less expensive than in full 3-D.

Hydrodynamic code \rightarrow Axis-SPHYNX (*García-Senz 2022*), a stateof-the-art axisymmetric Smooth Particle Hydrodynamics code

Effective resolution is $N_{3D} = (N_{2D})^{3/2}$, a calculation with 10⁶ particles in 2-D equals 10⁹ in 3-D



Planned Scenarios, Exploring Parameters

| Name | WD mass | Ejecta mass | Velocity [km/s] | Orbital period | Accretion rate |
|------------------------|---------|-------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Recurrent 1 (RS Oph) | 1.38 | 1.2e-6 | 4200 | 454 days | 2e-7 |
| Recurrent Nova 2 | 1.38 | 1.2e-6 | 4200 | 5 days | 2e-7 |
| Classical Nova 1 (CO) | 0.6 | 2e-4 | 1000 | 10 hours | 2e-10 |
| Classical Nova 2 | 1.25 | 2e-4 | 1000 | 10 hours | 2e-10 |
| Classical Nova 3 | 1.25 | 2e-5 | 1000 | 10 hours | 2e-10 |
| Classical Nova 4 (ONe) | 1.25 | 2e-5 | 2600 | 10 hours | 2e-10 |
| Type la Supernova | 1.36 | 1.36 | 7100 | 7.78 hours | 5e-7 |

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Recurrent Nova RS Ophiuchi (P. Orb = 454 days)

Resolution of 10⁶

SPH particles, corresponds to a an effective 3D resolution of 10⁹

Roughly 20 days running with 32 CPUs (~15.000 CPU hours)

Appearance of Kevin-Helmholtz instabilities due to shear flows



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Disk Shielding/Screening

The disk survives and leaves a gap in the geometry of the ejecta

This impacts the chemical pollution onto the Red Giant companion, which is greatly reduced

The survival of the disk favours recurrence, the disk is not build again from scratch



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Recurrent Nova (P. Orb = 5 days)

Much more **reduced system**, the disk is placed **closer** to the WD.

In this case the disk is completely destroyed, but it affects the geometry of the ejecta



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Evolution of the Disk



1 hour vs 2 days

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Type la Supernova

The energy carried by the supernova ejecta is orders of magnitude superior than in a nova explosion.

Only the outermost shell with depth $\sim 0.1 M_{\odot}$ is simulated ($\sim 7\%$ of total WD mass).

The disk is completely obliterated and its impact in the geometry of the ejecta is negligible



Future Work

Rest of Classical Nova scenarios to study the impact of different parameters

Simulation of Nova caused by stellar wind instead of accretion

Full 3D magnetohydrodynamic simulations to study the impact of magnetic fields in the disk geometry

Simulate micronovae: very dim outbursts taking place in the magnetic poles of the WD, caused by very confined accretion in presence of strong fields







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Thank you :)