

CO Survey toward the Magellanic Supernova Remnants

Hidetoshi Sano^{1,2}, Yumiko Yamane², Takuro Nagaya², Kosuke Fujii³, Satoshi Yoshiike², Kengo Tachihara², Yasuo Fukui^{1,2}

¹Institute for Advanced Research, Nagoya University (sano@a.phys.nagoya-u.ac.jp); ²Department of Physics, Nagoya University; ³Department of Astronomy, School of Science, The University of Tokyo

Abstract: In supernova remnants (SNRs), the interaction between the shock waves and interstellar gas plays an essential role in producing high energy radiation and cosmic rays (CRs). We present new CO observations toward 25 supernova remnants (SNRs) residing with the Large Magellanic Cloud (LMC), including the TeV γ -ray sources N132D and 30 Doradus C. Our observations revealed that $\sim 90\%$ of the SNRs were detected by $^{12}\text{CO}(J=1-0)$ line emission with a 3σ level or higher. At least ten of them were shown to have CO clouds that have a good spatial correspondence with thermal/non-thermal X-rays; this indicates that shock-cloud interactions may have occurred. The molecular gases associated with N132D showed a high intensity ratio of $^{12}\text{CO} J=3-2 / 1-0 > 0.8$, indicating that shock-heating occurred. We also found five molecular clouds and three HI clouds associated with 30 Doradus C, which showed either complementary or similar distributions to the non-thermal X-ray filaments in a 10 pc scale. The interstellar proton density of 30 Doradus C was estimated to be $\sim 60 \text{ cm}^{-3}$, which corresponded to the total energy of the cosmic-ray protons being at least $\sim 1.2 \times 10^{50}$ erg.

TeV γ -rays in the Large Magellanic Cloud

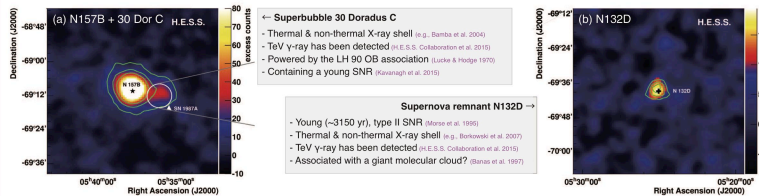
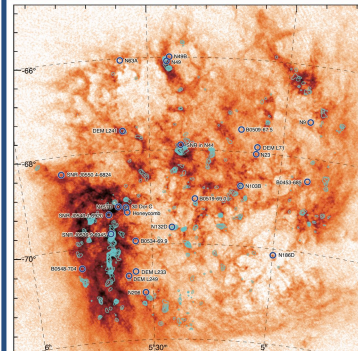


Fig. 1: Sky maps of the Large Magellanic Cloud (H.E.S.S. Collaboration et al. 2015). (A) TeV γ -ray emission toward the PWN N157B and the superbubble (SB) 30 Doradus C. (B) TeV γ -ray emission toward the SNR N132D.

- TeV γ -ray SNRs are the most likely candidates for acceleration site of cosmic-ray (CR) below $knee$ energy.
- H.E.S.S. discovered the TeV γ -rays in the Magellanic SNR/SB (H.E.S.S. Collaboration et al. 2015).
→ We can demonstrate to study the CR acceleration in the Magellanic sources.
- To reveal the total energy of CRs, we should identify the interstellar gas associated with the SNR/SB.
- Shock-cloud interaction also plays an important role in understanding the CR acceleration (Sano et al. 2015a)
→ Turbulent motion enhances B field and synchrotron X-rays around the clumpy interstellar medium.

We need complete surveys of CO/HI toward the Magellanic SNRs in order to understand the origin of CRs.

Observations & Archival Data



We observed CO emission lines toward the Magellanic SNRs with X-rays.

$^{12}\text{CO}(J=1-0)$
Telescope: Mopra 22-m
Angular resolution: ~ 45 arcsec
Velocity resolution: $\sim 0.53 \text{ km s}^{-1}$
Noise level: $\sim 0.16 \text{ K ch}^{-1}$

$^{12}\text{CO}(J=3-2)$
Telescope: ASTE 10-m
Angular resolution: ~ 21 arcsec
Velocity resolution: $\sim 0.1 \text{ km s}^{-1}$
Noise level: $\sim 0.09 \text{ K ch}^{-1}$

HI [archival data]
Telescope: ATCA & Parkes
Angular resolution: ~ 60 arcsec
Velocity resolution: $\sim 0.82 \text{ km s}^{-1}$
Noise level: $\sim 1.0 \text{ K ch}^{-1}$

X-rays [archival data]
Telescope: Chandra
Angular resolution: ~ 0.5 arcsec

Fig. 2: Distribution of the HI emission (Kim et al. 2003) overlaid on the $^{12}\text{CO}(J=1-0)$ contours taken by the NANTEN radio telescope (Fukui et al. 2008). The superposed circles show the X-ray SNRs, which are the targets of this study.

Case 1: Superbubble 30 Doradus C

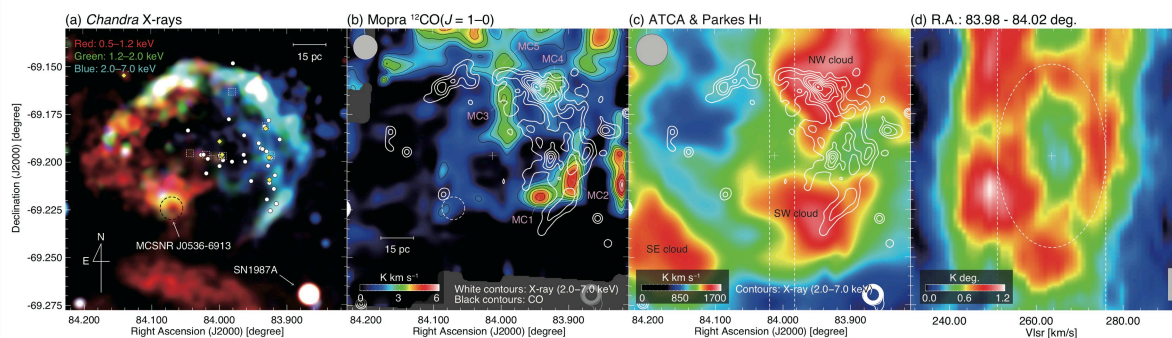


Fig. 3: Distributions of X-ray and interstellar gas toward the superbubble 30 Doradus C (Sano et al. 2017a).

- Five CO clumps, MC1–5, are significantly detected ($> 5\sigma$) along with the non-thermal X-ray shell. It is remarkable that the CO distribution is complementary to the X-ray peaks in a several pc scale. Especially the most intense clumps MC1 and MC2 are rim-brightened in non-thermal X-rays, suggesting possible evidence for the shock-cloud interaction (e.g., Sano et al. 2010; 2013; 2017b).
- We identified an HI cavity-like structure with a diameter of ~ 0.1 around $V_{\text{SN}} = 264 \text{ km s}^{-1}$, suggesting the expanding motion with $\Delta V = 12.5 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ due to the stellar wind from high-mass stars and/or SNe.
- The interstellar proton density is $\sim 60 \text{ cm}^{-3}$, assuming the shell radius ~ 47 pc and thickness ~ 10 pc. → If the hadronic process is mainly working, the total energy of CRs W_{CR} at least $\sim 1.2 \times 10^{50}$ erg.

Case 2: SNR N132D

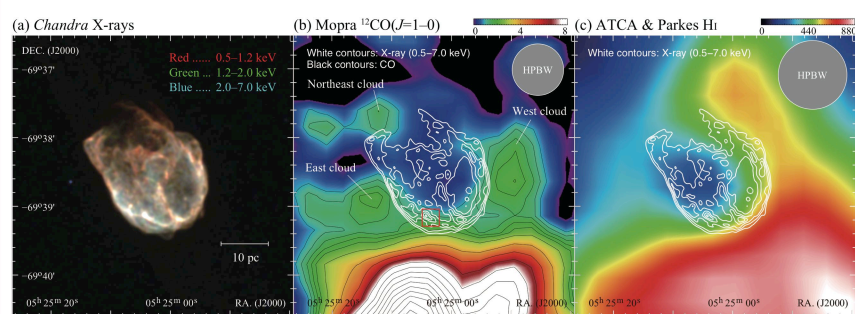


Fig. 4: Distributions of the X-ray and interstellar gas toward the SNR N132D (Sano et al. 2015b, 2017c). (a) The Chandra three color image of SNR N132D. Red, green, and blue correspond to 0.5–1.2, 1.2–2.0, and 2.0–7.0 keV intensity distributions, respectively. (b) Integrated intensity map of the Mopra $^{12}\text{CO}(J=1-0)$ data in a velocity range of $V_{\text{LSR}} = 255.5$ to 268.5 km s^{-1} is shown in color. The color scale indicates integrated intensity on a square-root scale in unit of K km s^{-1} . The white contours indicate the X-ray intensity in Fig. 4a. The lowest contour level and intervals are 6.50×10^{-3} and 2.80×10^{-3} counts $\text{s}^{-1} \text{ pixel}^{-1}$, respectively. (c) Integrated intensity map of ATCA & Parkes HI (Kim et al. 2003). The velocity range and contours are the same as those in Fig. 3b. The color scale also indicates integrated intensity on a linear scale and its unit is same as that in Fig. 3a. (d) Spatial distribution of the line intensity ratio between $^{12}\text{CO}(J=3-2)$ and $^{12}\text{CO}(J=1-0)$ superposed on the X-ray contours as shown in Fig. 3b. Data were smoothed with a Gaussian function of size of $45''$.

- We newly found three CO clouds and HI gas interacting with the SNR. The two of them are located in the west and east, which form the cavity-like structures along the X-ray shell.
- We discussed that the CO/HI cavity-like structures were created by the stellar wind / UV photons from the massive star prior to the supernova explosion and are now interacting with the SNR shock. Furthermore, the enhancement of non-thermal X-rays (2.0–7.0 keV) in the southern part can be described as a result of shock interaction with clumpy CO structures.
- We have revealed that a high intensity ratio of $^{12}\text{CO} J=3-2 / 1-0 > 0.8$ toward the southeast region, indicating the shock heating.
- The interstellar proton density is estimated to be $\sim 90 \text{ cm}^{-3}$, assuming the shell radius ~ 14 pc and thickness ~ 5 pc.
→ If the hadronic process is mainly working, $W_{\text{CR}} \sim 1 \times 10^{50}$ erg

Fig. 4: $^{12}\text{CO}(J=3-2)$ and $^{12}\text{CO}(J=1-0)$ line profiles toward the southwestern part of N132D that are shown with the red box in Figure 4(b). All the spectra were smoothed so as to have a HPBW of $45''$.

Case 3: Other X-ray SNRs

- 90% of the SNRs were detected in CO with 3σ noise level or higher.
- At least ten of them were shown to have CO clouds that have a good spatial correspondence with thermal/non-thermal X-rays

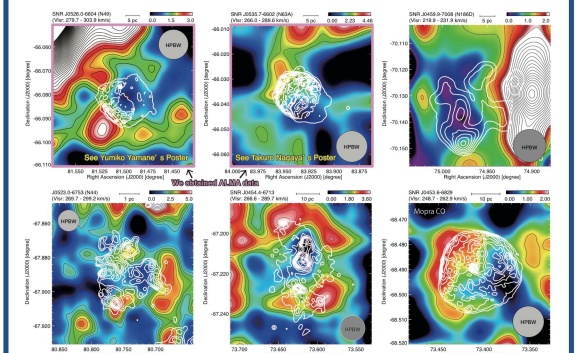


Fig. 6: Distributions of the Mopra $^{12}\text{CO}(J=1-0)$ intensity superposed on the Chandra X-ray contours toward (a) N49, (b) N63A, (c) N160D, (d) N44, (e) J0454.4-6713, and (f) J0453.6-6829. The lowest contour levels of CO are 3σ for each SNR.

Conclusions

We revealed the interstellar gas distributions toward the 25 Magellanic SNRs. At least ten of them were shown to have CO clouds that have a good spatial correspondence with X-rays. Some SNRs show a high intensity ratio of $^{12}\text{CO} J=3-2 / 1-0 > 0.8$, indicating that shock-heating occurred. Further γ -ray observations using CTA will reveal various TeV γ -ray SNRs in the LMC.

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