### Red novae stellar mergers

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the great eruption of  $\eta$  Car

some pre-planetary nebulae

(Boomerang)

Blue Ring Nebula

TYC 2597-735-1

the progenitor of SN 1987A

## products of mergers of noncompact stars are common

anomalous Cepheids

Betelgeuse



protostars

OMC1 source l

★ chemically peculiar stars
★ R –type stars

FK Com stars

- ★ some blue strugglers
- ★ hot sub-dwarfs
- ★ Be & B[e] stars









## ZTF SLRN-2020 (subluminous red nova, <10 $M_{Jup}$ +1 $M_{\odot}$ ) 100 L $_{\odot}$ K. De at al. May 2023, *Nature*

#### star+planet red novae

#### Other transients reported: ASASSN-15qi,ASASSN-13db (possibly YSOs)









too weak to be observed after their outbursts









## Nandez et al. 2013 view from above the binary

mergers are associated with mass loss



Pejcha et al. 2017 side view

How to enlarge the sample? LSST to the rescue?



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predicted red-nova rates:

observed rates corrected for completeness, biases

population synthesis plus some model of merger physics

Soker & Tylenda 2006: 1 in 10-50 yr in MW

Kochanek et al. (2014), based on bright MW events, no correction for incompleteness:

- 2 faint red novae per decade per galaxy (one V1309 Sco/10 yr)
- plenty of missed low-luminosity events
- N~L<sup>-1.4</sup> at -11<M<sub>r</sub><-16 mag
- Bayesian statistics

Howitt et al. (2023) used population synthesis

- 8×10<sup>-4</sup> Mpc<sup>-3</sup> yr<sup>-1</sup>
- 2 bright event per 10 yr per galaxy

But! No red nova in the MW since 2008

predicted red-nova rates:

- observed rates corrected for completeness, biases
- population synthesis plus some model of merger physics

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Karambelkar et al. 2023

### Red novae in LSST\*\*, 10 yr cadence

300-1500 red novae detected (Mr<13.5 mag) how many of these will be recognized? strong contamination from accretion events, especially from YSOs few will be bright enough for spectroscopic follow ups

a few cases of contact binary decay as in V1309 Sco (cadence 10 yr!)

use LSST rates to get populations synthesis / merger physics right possible binomial distributions for mergers vs common envelope systems

\*\*Based on calculations of Howitt et al. 2020, Karambelkar et al. 2023



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# Thank you

