

Massive stars exploding in a He-rich circumstellar medium

XII. SN 2024acyl: A fast, linearly declining Type Ibn supernova with early flash-ionisation features

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ABSTRACT

We present a photometric and spectroscopic analyses of the Type Ibn supernova (SN) 2024acyl. It rises to an absolute magnitude peak of $M_o = -17.58 \pm 0.15$ mag in 10.6 days, and displays a rapid linear post-peak light-curve decline in all bands (e.g. $\gamma_{0-60}(V) = 0.097 \pm 0.002$ mag day⁻¹), similar to most SNe Ibn. The optical pseudobolometric light curve peaks at $(3.5 \pm 0.8) \times 10^{42}$ erg s⁻¹, with a total radiated energy of $(5.0 \pm 0.4) \times 10^{48}$ erg. The spectra are dominated by a blue continuum at early stages, with narrow P-Cygni He I lines and flash-ionisation emission lines of C III, N III, and He II. The P-Cygni He I features gradually evolve and become emission-dominated in late-time spectra. The H α line is detected throughout the entire spectral evolution, which indicates that the circumstellar material (CSM) is helium-rich with some residual amount of hydrogen. Our multi-band light-curve modelling yields estimates of the ejecta mass of $M_{ej} = 0.49^{+0.11}_{-0.09} M_{\odot}$ with a kinetic energy of $E_k = 0.06^{+0.01}_{-0.01} \times 10^{51}$ erg, and a ⁵⁶Ni mass of $M_{Ni} = 0.018 M_{\odot}$. The inferred CSM properties are characterised by a mass of $M_{CSM} = 0.51^{+0.05}_{-0.04} M_{\odot}$, an inner radius of $R_o = 17.8^{+3.6}_{-3.0}$ AU, and a density of $\rho_{CSM} = (8.3^{+2.7}_{-1.2}) \times 10^{-12}$ g cm⁻³. The multi-epoch spectra are well reproduced by the CMFGEN/he4p0 model, corresponding to a He-ZAMS mass of 4 M_{\odot} (H-ZAMS mass 18.11 M_{\odot} , pre-SN mass 3.16 M_{\odot}). These findings are consistent with a scenario of an SN powered by ejecta-CSM interaction originating from a low-mass helium star that evolved within an interacting binary system where the CSM with some residual hydrogen may originate from the mass-transfer process. We also discuss an extreme scenario involving the possible merger of a helium white dwarf. In addition, a channel of core-collapse explosion of a late-type Wolf-Rayet (WR) star with hydrogen, or a transitional star between an Of and a WR type (e.g. an Ofpe/WN9 star) with fallback accretion cannot be entirely ruled out.

Key words. circumstellar matter – supernovae: general – supernovae: individual: SN 2024acyl

1. Introduction

Type Ibn supernovae (SNe Ibn) represent a subtype of stellar explosions distinguished by relatively narrow (~ 1000 km s⁻¹) helium emission lines and weak (or no) evidence of hydrogen lines in their spectra, suggesting the presence of He-rich circumstellar material (CSM; Smith 2017; Gal-Yam 2017). SN 1999cq was the first SN Ibn identified with typical Type Ib spectral features superimposed with the narrow He I lines (Matheson et al. 2000); however, the formal designation of this new SN type was introduced by Pastorello et al. (2008a), after the study of the prototypical Type Ibn SN 2006jc (e.g. Foley et al. 2007; Pastorello et al. 2007; Anupama et al. 2009). This class is defined by analogy with SNe IIn, which show relatively narrow

H lines with full width half maximum intensity (FWHM) velocities ranging from a few hundred to ~ 1000 km s⁻¹, arising from the interaction of SN ejecta with the surrounding dense H-rich CSM (Schlegel 1990; Filippenko 1997; Fraser 2020).

A few SNe Ibn have displayed transitional spectra between classical Type Ibn and IIn SNe, with H and He I lines having comparable strengths. This small sample of Type Ibn and IIn events includes SNe 2005la (Pastorello et al. 2008b), 2010al (Pastorello et al. 2015a), 2011hw (Smith et al. 2012; Pastorello et al. 2015a), 2020bjq (Kool et al. 2021), and 2021foa (Reguitti et al. 2022; Farias et al. 2024; Gangopadhyay et al. 2025). Their moderately rich CSM suggests a continuity in properties between SNe Ibn and SNe IIn (Smith et al. 2012; Pastorello et al. 2015a; Reguitti et al. 2022).

Other markers indicating the presence of CSM are the very short duration (≤ 10 days), narrow high-ionisation emission lines detected in very young SNe of various types (e.g. Gal-Yam et al.

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2014; Shivvers et al. 2015; Khazov et al. 2016; Yaron et al. 2017; Zhang et al. 2023, 2024; Bostroem et al. 2023). These features are directly related to the effects of the shock breakout and arise from the recombination of the flash-ionised CSM (e.g. Gal-Yam et al. 2014; Yaron et al. 2017) and the interaction with a dilute wind inside the dense shell (Fransson et al. 1996). To date, only a handful of Type Ibn events have occasionally been observed with flash signatures, including SNe 2010al (Pastorello et al. 2015a), 2019cj (Wang et al. 2024b), 2019uo (Gangopadhyay et al. 2020), 2019wep (Gangopadhyay et al. 2022), and 2023emq (Pursiainen et al. 2023).

Although SNe Ibn exhibit some diversity in their spectra, they typically display an overall photometric homogeneity (see e.g. Pastorello et al. 2016; Hosseinzadeh et al. 2017; Wang et al. 2025; Dong et al. 2025). The light curves of SNe Ibn typically exhibit fast rise times (~ 7 days), rapid post-peak declines ($0.05\text{--}0.15\text{ mag day}^{-1}$), and luminous peak absolute magnitudes ($M \approx -19\text{ mag}$). However, several outliers exist, such as the slow-rising OGLE-2014-SN-131 (Karamehmetoglu et al. 2017), the highly luminous ASASSN-14ms ($M_V \approx -20.5\text{ mag}$; Vallely et al. 2018; Wang et al. 2021b), the double-peaked iPTF13beo (Gorbikov et al. 2014), and the long-lasting OGLE-2012-SN-006 (Pastorello et al. 2015d). The diversity in these observational photometric and spectroscopic properties may indicate a variety of progenitor systems and explosion mechanisms for SNe Ibn.

The progenitors of SNe Ibn are usually believed to be massive ($17\text{--}100 M_\odot$) stars, such as H-poor Wolf-Rayet (WR) stars (e.g. Foley et al. 2007; Pastorello et al. 2007; Tominaga et al. 2008; Maeda & Moriya 2022), or for individual SNe Ibn showing H lines, stars transitioning from luminous blue variable (LBV) to WR stages (e.g. Smith et al. 2012; Pastorello et al. 2015a; Reguitti et al. 2022). Although a popular scenario suggests that these are the core-collapse (CC) explosions of very massive stars embedded in helium-rich CSM, there are still many open questions concerning the homogeneity of Type Ibn progenitors. For example, SNe Ibn have usually been observed in star-forming environments (Taddia et al. 2015; Pastorello et al. 2015a), and thus the massive-star progenitor scenario is favoured. However, this association was challenged by SN Ibn PS1-12sk, which occurred in the outskirts of an elliptical galaxy CGCG 208-042 with no obvious star-formation activity (Sanders et al. 2013).

In addition to the massive-star scenario, multiple alternative progenitor models are plausible to interpret the observables of Type Ibn events. Based on observations of host-galaxy environments and inspection of explosion sites, lower-mass interacting binaries have also been proposed as progenitor systems (e.g. PS1-12sk, SN 2016jc, and SN 2015G; Sanders et al. 2013; Maund et al. 2016; Hosseinzadeh et al. 2019; Sun et al. 2020); see, in addition, Wu & Fuller (2022) and Tsuna et al. (2024). Dessart et al. (2022) performed numerical simulations to model SN Ibn spectra, suggesting that a fraction of them can be produced by the explosion of helium-star progenitors exploding in dense CSM. Moriya et al. (2025) proposed that some SNe Ibn may stem from ultrastripped SN progenitors that lose substantial mass shortly before their explosion, as a result of violent silicon burning. Metzger (2022) proposed that merger-driven destruction of WR stars rather than a CC explosion can produce SN Ibn observables. This ‘explosion’ is actually a disc outflow from the hyperaccretion onto the compact object of the He star. Since the diversity of SNe Ibn is broad, it is perhaps likely that these events originate from multiple formation channels.

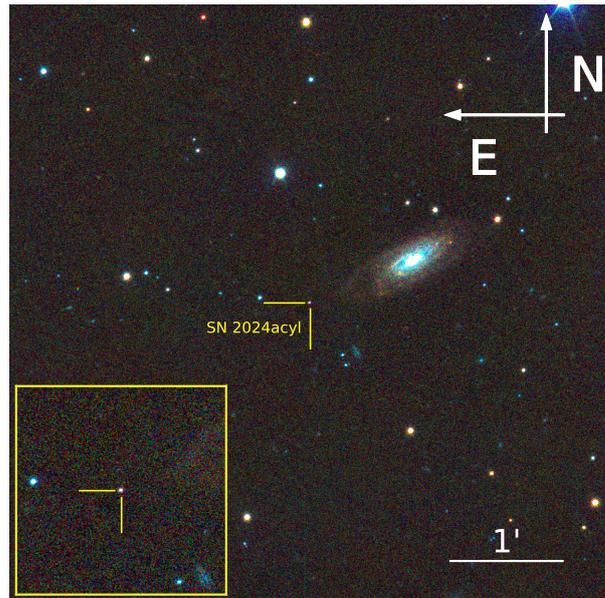


Fig. 1. SN 2024acyl in a NOT+ALFOSC coloured image taken with Johnson *B*, *V*, and Sloan *r* band filters on 2025 January 6. The SN is marked at the crosshair, near the centre of the image.

In this work, we present a detailed analysis of the photometric and spectroscopic observations of SN 2024acyl, an SN Ibn with a linearly declining light curve and early flash-ionisation features. The paper is organised as follows. Section 2 outlines the discovery, distance, and extinction estimates. The photometric and spectroscopic analysis are presented in Sections 3 and 4, respectively. Our main results are discussed in Section 5, and the conclusions are drawn in Section 6.

2. Discovery, distance, and extinction

Type Ibn SN 2024acyl (also known as ATLAS24qxm, GOTO24iwf, and PS24mlb) was first detected by the Asteroid Terrestrial-impact Last Alert System (ATLAS; Tonry et al. 2018; Smith et al. 2020; Shingles et al. 2021), on 2024 December 1 UTC (MJD = 60645.28887; UTC dates are used throughout the paper) at the cyan filter magnitude of $c = 18.307\text{ mag}$ (AB mag; Tonry et al. 2024). Early spectra of SN 2024acyl exhibit prominent He II $\lambda 4686$ and narrow He I $\lambda 5876$ emission lines; hence, it was classified as a young Type Ibn SN with flash features by Santos et al. (2024) via the extended Public European Southern Observatory (ESO) Spectroscopic Survey of Transient Objects (ePESSTO+; Smartt et al. 2015).

SN 2024acyl (RA = $02^{\text{hr}}46^{\text{m}}05^{\text{s}}.326$, Dec = $+28^{\circ}01'17''.91$; J2000) has a projected offset of 34 kpc from the core of its probable host galaxy CGCG 505-052, and is $22''.98$ south and $54''.59$ east of the galaxy centre (see Fig. 1). We adopted the host-galaxy redshift from NASA/IPAC Extragalactic Database (NED¹) database, $z = 0.026532 \pm 0.000017$ (Springob et al. 2005), which corresponds to a luminosity distance of $d_L = 111.2 \pm 7.7\text{ Mpc}$ and a distance modulus of $\mu_L = 35.23 \pm 0.15\text{ mag}$. These values are calculated under the assumption of a standard Λ CDM cosmology with $H_0 = 73\text{ km s}^{-1}\text{ Mpc}^{-1}$, $\Omega_M = 0.27$, and $\Omega_\Lambda = 0.73$ (Spergel et al. 2007). The Milky Way extinction towards SN 2024acyl is $E(B-V)_{\text{MW}} = 0.126\text{ mag}$ (Schlafly & Finkbeiner 2011), while the extinction within the

¹ <https://ned.ipac.caltech.edu>

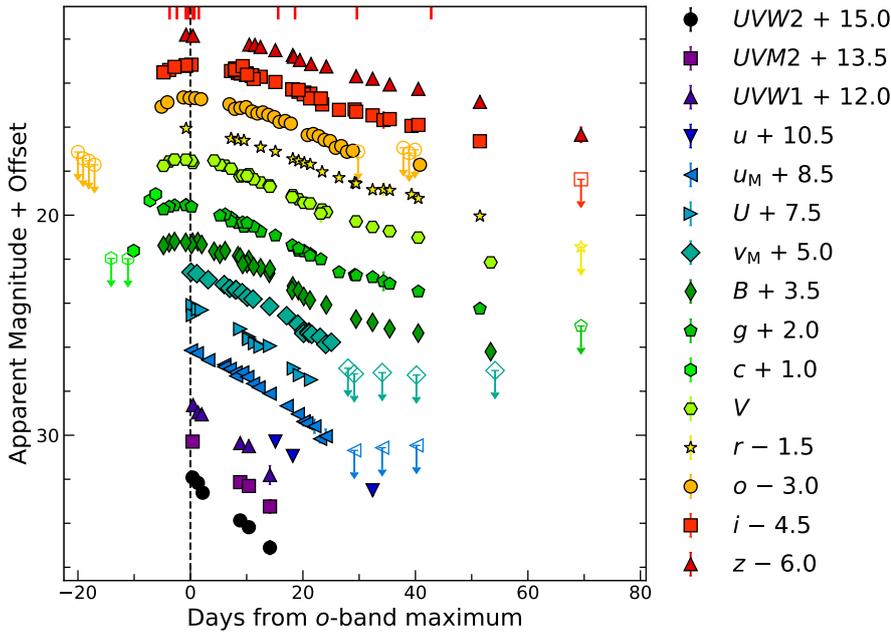


Fig. 2. Ultraviolet and optical light curves of SN 2024acyl. The dashed vertical line indicates the time of the *o*-band maximum light as the reference epoch. The vertical red lines at the top mark spectral observational epochs. The upper limits are plotted with empty symbols with arrows. The light curves for different filters are shifted with arbitrary constants, reported in the legend. The Mephisto *u*- and *v*-band data points in its unique filter system (for details see Chen et al. 2024; Yang et al. 2024) are indicated by u_M and v_M in the legend. Magnitude errors are usually smaller than the symbol size.

host galaxy cannot be firmly constrained owing to the limited spectral resolution and the modest signal-to-noise ratio (S/N) of the SN spectra. Thus, we assume that the total line-of-sight extinction of SN 2024acyl is equal to the Galactic value, $E(B - V)_{\text{Total}} = 0.126$ mag, an assumption also supported by the remote location of the SN from the host-galaxy core (see Fig. 1). For a detailed analysis of the host environment of SN 2024acyl, we refer to Dong et al. (2025).

3. Photometry

3.1. Photometric observations

Soon after the discovery announcement of SN 2024acyl, we launched a comprehensive multi-band follow-up campaign in the framework of the ePESSTO programme, the Nordic Optical Telescope (NOT) Unbiased Transient Survey 2 (NUTS2²), and other programs. We collected ultraviolet (UV) and optical photometric data with the facilities listed in Table A.1 (Appendix A).

Swift/UVOT UV and optical data were retrieved from the NASA *Swift* Data Archive³ and measured with the standard UVOT data-reduction pipeline HEASoft⁴ (version 6.19, Nasa High Energy Astrophysics Science Archive Research Center (Heasarc) 2014). The optical photometric data observed from ground-based telescopes were reduced with the dedicated *ecsnoopy*⁵ pipeline, following standard procedures as described by Cai et al. (2018). In addition, the 1.6 m Multi-Channel Photometric Survey Telescope (Mephisto) magnitudes were measured following the methodology presented by Chen et al. (2024) and Zou et al. (2026). We also retrieved archival data from public surveys such as ATLAS and Pan-STARRS (e.g. Chambers et al. 2016; Flewelling et al. 2020; Magnier et al. 2020a). ATLAS

² <https://nuts.sn.ie>

³ <https://heasarc.gsfc.nasa.gov/cgi-bin/W3Browse/swift.pl>

⁴ <https://heasarc.gsfc.nasa.gov/lheasoft/download.html>

⁵ *ecsnoopy* is a package for SN photometry using PSF fitting and/or template subtraction developed by E. Cappellaro. A package description can be found at <https://sngroup.oapd.inaf.it/ecsnoopy.html>

orange (*o*) and cyan (*c*) magnitudes were processed through the ATLAS Forced Photometry service⁶ (Shingles et al. 2021), while Pan-STARRS1 (PS1) magnitudes were generated with the PS1 Image Processing Pipeline (IPP; Waters et al. 2020; Magnier et al. 2020a,b,c). The final UV and optical magnitudes of SN 2024acyl are published at the Strasbourg astronomical Data Centre.

3.2. Photometric evolution

The multi-band light curves of SN 2024acyl are shown in Fig. 2. Although its discovery was announced by ATLAS on 2024 December 1 (MJD = 60645.29), an earlier detection on 2024 November 28 (MJD = 60642.39) is recovered in archival images. While the post-maximum decline is well observed, the pre-maximum evolution is only sparsely covered by the ATLAS *o*- and *c*-band data. Therefore, the explosion time of SN 2024acyl is estimated from the midpoint between the last non-detection (MJD = 60641.39 in the *c* band) and the first detection (MJD = 60642.39 in the *c* band), yielding MJD = 60641.9 ± 0.5 days.

To determine the properties of SN 2024acyl at peak brightness, we performed a polynomial fit on the *o*-band light-curve data around the maximum (± 12 days), which provides a peak magnitude of 17.66 ± 0.02 mag and a peak time of MJD = 60652.49 ± 0.26 . We adopted this epoch as a reference time. The fitting uncertainties were estimated via Monte Carlo simulations. The light curves of SN 2024acyl are asymmetric, with a relatively long rise (~ 10.6 days) to maximum light, but a fast and linear post-peak decline. We used a linear fit to determine the post-peak decline rates in all bands. The fitted values, which provide a comparison of the fading behaviour across various filters, are reported in Table 1. Given the relatively noticeable changes in the slope of the light curves of SN 2024acyl at approximately +25 days and +45 days, we estimated the decline rates across three distinct time intervals. SN 2024acyl has a rapid decline compared with other Type Ib/c SNe during the whole post-peak evolution in all bands, with the blue-band light curves

⁶ <https://fallingstar-data.com/forcedphot/>

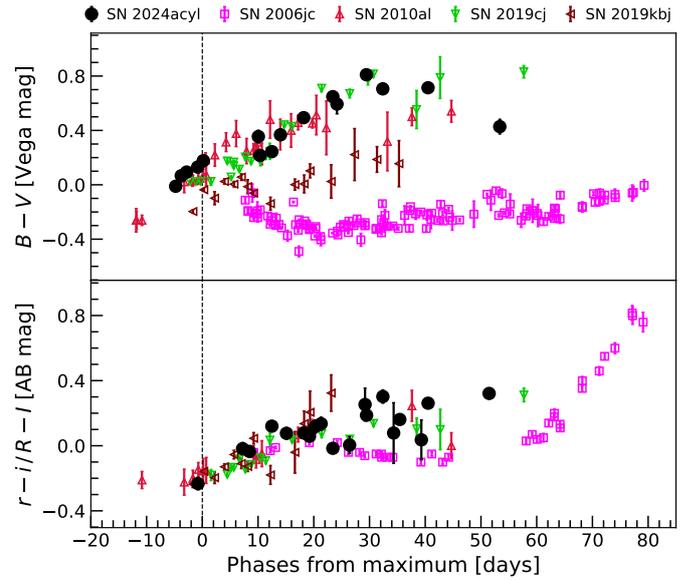
Table 1. Decline rates of the multi-band light curves of SN2024acyl, along with their uncertainties, in units of mag (100 d)⁻¹.

Filter	γ_{0-25}	γ_{25-45}	$\gamma_{\geq 45}$
UVW2	19.80 ± 1.03	...	...
UVM2	20.20 ± 4.19	...	...
UVW1	18.75 ± 1.52	...	...
<i>u</i>	21.19 ± 6.94	...	...
<i>u_M</i>	16.44 ± 0.73	...	...
<i>U</i>	16.78 ± 0.58	...	...
<i>v_M</i>	13.79 ± 0.43	...	...
<i>B</i>	12.34 ± 0.60	5.89 ± 0.45	...
<i>g</i>	11.59 ± 0.29	6.44 ± 0.47	≥ 4.36
<i>V</i>	11.38 ± 0.17	6.79 ± 0.37	...
<i>r</i>	9.63 ± 0.29	6.09 ± 0.35	≥ 7.80
<i>o</i>	8.97 ± 0.57	5.39 ± 0.98	...
<i>i</i>	9.41 ± 0.28	5.42 ± 0.09	≥ 9.64
<i>z</i>	7.98 ± 0.36	5.29 ± 0.33	8.30 ± 2.23

declining faster than those in the red bands (e.g. two extreme bands of *UVW2* and *z* in the first 25 days: $\gamma_{0-25}(UVW2) = 19.8 \pm 1.03$ mag (100 d)⁻¹; $\gamma_{0-25}(z) = 7.98 \pm 0.36$ mag (100 d)⁻¹). From 25 d to 45 d, the light curves decline slower for those bands that are visible, with a sort of pseudoplateau (e.g. $\gamma_{25-45}(B) = 5.89 \pm 0.45$ mag (100 d)⁻¹; $\gamma_{25-45}(z) = 5.29 \pm 0.33$ mag (100 d)⁻¹.) Later, the light curve steepens again with a decline rate of $\gamma_{\geq 45}(z) = 8.30 \pm 2.23$ mag (100 d)⁻¹ until the last detection at about +70 days.

The colour evolution of SN2024acyl is shown in Fig. 3, compared with those of a selected sample of Type Ibn SNe, including the prototypical Type Ibn SN2006jc and a few objects⁷ that share similar light-curve properties with SN2024acyl. In the top panel of Fig. 3, the *B* − *V* colour becomes red very rapidly, moving from a blue colour of +0.0 mag at −5 days to a red one of +0.8 mag at +30 days. After maximum brightness, the *B* − *V* colour turns bluer to +0.4 mag in the following days up to +55 days. However, the comparison objects reveal that there is diversity in the colour evolution of SNe Ibn. The *B* − *V* colour of SNe2010al and 2019cj become redder rapidly at their early stages resembling that of SN2024acyl, but the later evolution turns to moderately redder colours. SN2019kbj shows a similar trend but its colour is bluer. SN2006jc evolves to a blue colour from −0.1 mag to −0.4 mag in its first +15 days and gradually becomes redder at around −0.2 mag (with minor fluctuations) until day +60. Subsequently, it rapidly became redder, which is likely to be associated with dust formation (Mattila et al. 2008; Smith et al. 2008; Di Carlo et al. 2008). In the bottom panel of Fig. 3, the *r* − *i* colour of SN2024acyl slowly increases from −0.2 mag at ~0 day to +0.1 mag at +15 days and subsequently settles to about +0.3 mag (+51 days) but with some fluctuations. We caution that there is also the possibility that fluctuations in the colour curves are likely due to data quality and are not of the SN. The evolution of the *R* − *I*/*r* − *i* colour in the comparison objects is consistent with the trend seen in SN2024acyl within the observed time window, although the colour of SN2006jc becomes much redder at late phases.

Adopting the distance and reddening estimates reported in Sec. 2, SN2024acyl reached absolute magnitudes of $M_B =$


Fig. 3. Colour evolution of SN2024acyl compared with the prototypical Type Ibn SN2006jc and other fast, linearly declining SNe Ibn. *Top panel:* *B* − *V* colours. *Bottom panel:* *R* − *I* or *r* − *i* colours. The colour curves have been corrected for galactic extinction.

−18.02 ± 0.15 mag, $M_g = -18.13 \pm 0.15$ mag, $M_V = -18.14 \pm 0.15$ mag, $M_o = -17.88 \pm 0.15$ mag, and $M_i = -17.82 \pm 0.15$ mag. Only upper limits can be estimated for other bands owing to the incomplete data coverage around maximum: $M_r < -18.04$ mag and $M_z < -17.59$ mag. SN2024acyl is slightly fainter than the average absolute magnitude of SNe Ibn ($M_r \approx -19$ mag; Pastorello et al. 2016; Hosseinzadeh et al. 2017; Wang et al. 2025), and much fainter than the highly luminous ASASSN-14ms ($M_V \approx -20.5$ mag; Valley et al. 2018; Wang et al. 2021b). On the other hand, SN2024acyl is much brighter than SN2023utc, which is the faintest Type Ibn SN reported in the literature ($M_r = -16.4 \pm 0.5$ mag; Wang et al. 2025). To highlight the fast and linear post-peak photometric decline of SN2024acyl, we compared the *r*-band light curve of SN2024acyl with those of a few representative SNe Ibn and the Type Ibn templates presented by Hosseinzadeh et al. (2017) and Khakpash et al. (2024) (see Fig. 4). The light curve of SN2024acyl declines rapidly at phases later than +5 days, consistent with most SNe Ibn (including SNe2006jc and 2020nxt), and it follows the behaviour of the templates released by Hosseinzadeh et al. (2017). However, SN2024acyl before +5 days is less luminous than other SNe Ibn whose peak absolute magnitudes range from −18.9 mag to −20.5 mag, with the notable exception of SN2023utc.

To make a meaningful comparison of SN2024acyl with other SNe Ibn, we constructed their pseudobolometric light curves based on the photometry available in the same set of filters, from the *B* to the *I*/*i* bands. Therefore, we first converted extinction-corrected magnitudes to flux densities, and then integrated the spectral energy distribution (SED) within their effective wavelengths. In our computation, we made the assumption that the flux contribution outside the integration limits, which represent the coverage of each bands, is zero. Occasionally, when some photometric data in a given filter were not available, we interpolated or extrapolated the missing flux from the nearest available photometry assuming a constant colour evolution.

⁷ The comparison SNe Ibn include SNe2006jc (Pastorello et al. 2007), 2010al (Pastorello et al. 2015a), 2019kbj (Ben-Ami et al. 2023), and 2019cj (Wang et al. 2024b).

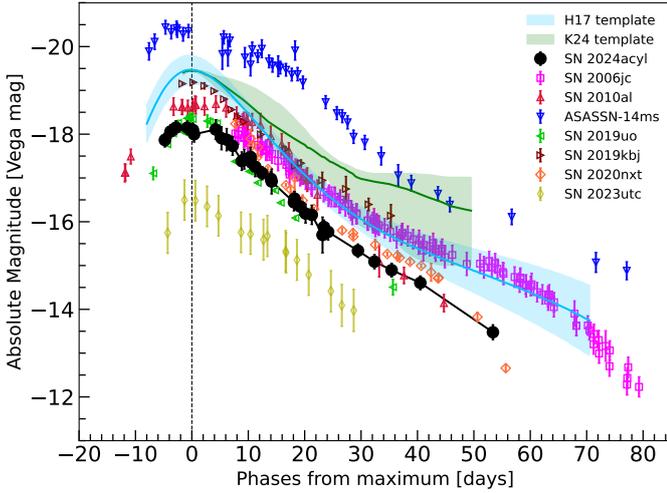


Fig. 4. Light curves in the V -band of SN 2024acyl, including the comparison SNe Ib. Template V -band light curves for Type Ib SNe are from Hosseinzadeh et al. (2017, blue) and Khakpash et al. (2024, green). Due to data-coverage limitations, SN 2023utc is represented using r -band photometry converted to the Vega system.

The resulting pseudobolometric light curves of SN 2024acyl and the compared SNe Ib are shown in Fig. 5. The pseudobolometric light curve of SN 2024acyl is broadly similar to other Type Ib events. The peak ‘optical’ luminosity of SN 2024acyl, $(3.5 \pm 0.8) \times 10^{42} \text{ erg s}^{-1}$, is between those of most SNe Ib ($\sim 3\text{--}20 \times 10^{42} \text{ erg s}^{-1}$) and the faintest SN 2023utc ($\sim 7.1 \times 10^{41} \text{ erg s}^{-1}$). The peak ‘UV+Optical’ luminosity, $(6.7 \pm 0.4) \times 10^{42} \text{ erg s}^{-1}$, of SN 2024acyl is still fainter than that of ASASSN-14ms ($\sim 2.3 \times 10^{43} \text{ erg s}^{-1}$). We observed a significant difference in peak luminosity between the ‘optical’ and ‘UV+Optical’ results. This indicates that the contribution from UV bands is significant during the early phases, which is consistent with observations of other SNe Ib (see Wang et al. 2024a,b). Such a feature suggests a high-temperature scenario in the early phases where the peak of the SED falls within the UV bands (e.g. when $T_{\text{BB}} = 20\,000 \text{ K}$, $\lambda_{\text{max}} \approx 1500 \text{ \AA}$). Furthermore, strong interaction may generate energetic photons; as the ejecta are opaque to this radiation in the early phases, these photons are thermalised into softer UV emission. These factors combined explain the high contribution of UV bands in the early phases, consistent with the work of Maeda & Moriya (2022). In addition, we estimated the radiated energies of SN 2024acyl from the ‘optical’ and ‘UV+Optical’ pseudobolometric light curves, using a non-parametric fit of a ReFANN⁸ code (see details in Wang et al. 2020a,b, 2021a). The resulting radiated energies integrated with the entire photometric evolution time are $(5.0 \pm 0.4) \times 10^{48} \text{ erg}$ and $(8.5 \pm 0.6) \times 10^{48} \text{ erg}$, respectively. These values of SN 2024acyl are within the range of $(1\text{--}32) \times 10^{48} \text{ erg}$, as reported for the typical Type Ib sample (see Table 2 of Wang et al. 2025). Note that these values should be considered lower limits owing to limited temporal and wavelength coverage.

3.3. multi-band light-curve modelling

Type Ib SNe are characterised by strong interaction between their ejecta and a helium-rich CSM (Karamehmetoglu et al. 2017; Kool et al. 2021; Pellegrino et al. 2022). This ejecta-CSM

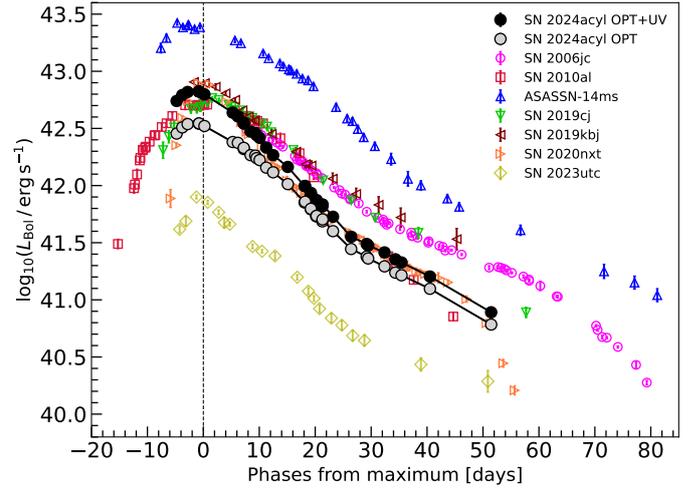


Fig. 5. Pseudobolometric light curves of SN 2024acyl and the comparison SNe Ib. The comparison objects have luminosities comparable to that of the ‘optical’ luminosity of SN 2024acyl, integrating from the B to the I/i bands.

interaction (CSI) is a dominant power source for the light curve, necessitating a more complex model than one based solely on radioactive decay (RD). Therefore, to accurately model the light curve of SN 2024acyl, we adopted a hybrid model that combines contributions from both RD and CSI, following Chatzopoulos et al. (2012).

We adopted the MOSFiT Monte-Carlo fitting code (Guillochon et al. 2018), widely used in other Type Ib SNe (e.g. Kool et al. 2021; Farias et al. 2024), to fit the multi-band light curve of SN 2024acyl. The bands we used to constrain the explosion parameters here were the UV plus the optical $u_M v_M Bgc Vroiz$ ones. The data in the u_M and v_M bands (for which the effective wavelengths are 3454 \AA and 3854 \AA , respectively) are taken from the Mephisto survey with its unique filter system, which has better coverage around the peak and in the post-maximum phases. Using MOSFiT, we obtained the posterior distribution of each parameter along with its uncertainty, and inspected the degeneracy between different parameters. Furthermore, by fitting the light curve of each band independently using MOSFiT, we can accurately model the colour evolution of SN 2024acyl. This approach is particularly effective for the refined u_M - and v_M -bands from the Mephisto survey.

The RD-CSI model implemented in the MOSFiT code is based on the formalism of Chatzopoulos et al. (2012). In this semi-analytical framework, the luminosity, $L(t)$, is computed as the diffusion of an energy input through the ejecta:

$$L(t) = \left[\frac{1}{t_0} e^{-\frac{t}{t_0}} \int_0^t d\tau e^{\frac{\tau}{t_0}} L_{\text{inp}}(\tau) + \frac{E_{\text{init}}}{t_0} e^{-\frac{t}{t_0}} \right] \times \left(1 - e^{-\kappa_{\nu} \rho(t) R(t)} \right). \quad (1)$$

Here, $t_0 = \kappa M_{\text{ej}} / \beta c v_{\text{ph}}$ is the characteristic diffusion timescale, where $\beta \approx 13.8$ is an integration constant derived from the diffusion model (see e.g. Arnett 1982; Valenti et al. 2008). The input energy source, $L_{\text{inp}}(\tau)$, is the sum of RD and CSI. The RD component is powered by the RD chain $^{56}\text{Ni} \rightarrow ^{56}\text{Co} \rightarrow ^{56}\text{Fe}$. The CSI component consists of contributions from both a forwards and a reverse shock, the strengths of which depend on the density profiles of the ejecta and the surrounding CSM (Chevalier 1982).

⁸ <https://github.com/Guo-Jian-Wang/refann>

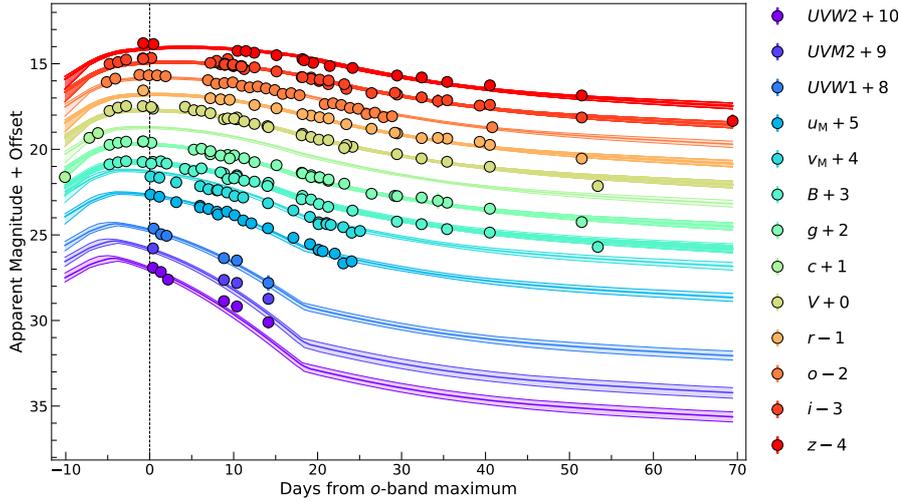


Fig. 6. Fits to the multi-band light curves of SN 2024acyl with $n = 10$, $\delta = 0$, and $s = 0$ using the MOSFiT Monte Carlo code with the hybrid Ni+CSM model. For each filter, a subset of randomly sampled model light curves from the posterior distributions are displayed to illustrate the uncertainty of the model fits.

The model is described by several key parameters. The diffusion process is primarily governed by the ^{56}Ni fraction ($f_{^{56}\text{Ni}}$), the ejecta mass (M_{ej}), the ejecta kinetic energy (E_{k}), the optical opacity (κ), and the gamma-ray opacity (κ_{γ} , which accounts for gamma-ray leakage). The CSI is characterised by the CSM mass (M_{CSM}), its inner radius (R_0), and parameters describing the density profiles of the CSM (s) and the ejecta (n , δ). The CSM density profile is expressed as $\rho_{\text{CSM}} \propto r^{-s}$, where $s = 2$ corresponds to a steady stellar wind, while $s = 0$ represents a dense, shell-like CSM with constant density. Additionally, the MOSFiT fitting process includes some additional parameters including the explosion time (t_{exp}), a minimum photospheric temperature (T_{min}), and an uncertainty term (σ) added in quadrature to the observational errors to account for model uncertainties, which indicate the fitting quality.

The complexity of the RD-CSI model and the high dimensionality of its parameter space make the fitting process computationally challenging. To simplify the problem, we fixed several parameters or use more restrictive priors based on physically motivated assumptions. Given that the fitting results are insensitive to the density profile of the ejecta (see Villar et al. 2017; Kool et al. 2021; Farias et al. 2024), we use restrictive priors for these parameters. For the density profile of the inner ejecta, we adopt a constant-density profile ($\delta = 0$; Wang et al. 2025). Regarding the density profile of the stellar envelope, Chatzopoulos et al. (2012) noted that for the relatively compact scenario, the index n needs to be smaller; specifically, $n \lesssim 10$ for BSG and WR cases, which represent a radiative envelope, in contrast with the convective envelope of RSG stars ($n \approx 12$). Furthermore, Farias et al. (2025) noted that for the RD+CSI hybrid model, the best-fit n is approximately 9. Conversely, Kool et al. (2021) and Wang et al. (2025) fixed $n = 12$ as a standard value, as it does not significantly affect the result. Thus, considering all these scenarios, we adopted $n = 10$ and $n = 12$, which represent compact and generally used cases, respectively. For the density profile of the CSM, we considered two scenarios: $s = 0$ and $s = 2$. The former represents a shell-like CSM driven by strong WR winds or eruptive mass-loss events, while the latter represents a steady stellar wind (Chatzopoulos et al. 2012). We also adopted a constant optical opacity of $\kappa = 0.1 \text{ cm}^2 \text{ g}^{-1}$, typical for helium-rich ejecta (Prentice et al. 2019), and a gamma-ray opacity of $\kappa_{\gamma} = 0.027 \text{ cm}^2 \text{ g}^{-1}$. This procedure reduced the number of free parameters in our fit to eight: $f_{^{56}\text{Ni}}$, M_{ej} , E_{k} , M_{CSM} , ρ_{CSM} , R_0 , T_{min} , and the additional uncertainty term σ . Given the poten-

tial for a complex posterior distribution and the high-dimension parameter space, we employed the nested sampling algorithm implemented in the dynesty package (Speagle 2020) instead of traditional ensemble-based samplers. We initialised the sampler with 120 live points (‘walkers’) and ran the algorithm iteratively until the stopping criterion was reached to ensure the good convergence of the samplers.

The best-fit model is presented in Fig. 6, overlaid on the multi-band photometric data⁹. The corresponding model parameters are listed in Table B.1 (Appendix B). All parameters were constrained by the observational data, with uncertainties defined by the 68% ($\sim 1\sigma$) confidence intervals of their posterior distributions. The additional uncertainty added to the observation data is ~ 0.15 mag in this fitting, consistent with the large-sample analysis of Wang et al. (2025).

Therefore, the results should be regarded as indicative and used with caution. The minimum photospheric temperature, $T_{\text{ph, min}}$, is not listed, as the model is insensitive to this parameter compared to other key parameters (Nicholl et al. 2017). The corner plot, illustrating the posterior distributions and the degeneracies between parameters, is shown in Fig. D.1 in Appendix D.

We found that for both $n = 12$ and $n = 10$, the models with $s = 0$ provide tighter constraints on the parameters compared to the $s = 2$ models. Furthermore, the Bayesian evidence of the $s = 0$ models is approximately $\log \mathcal{Z} \approx 304$, whereas the $s = 2$ models yield $\log \mathcal{Z} \approx 296$. This indicates that the $s = 0$ models are statistically favoured. The value of n does not significantly affect the key parameters; both $n = 12$ and $n = 10$ yield similar low-mass solutions (with consistent M_{CSM} and density) and share comparable Bayesian evidence ($\Delta \log \mathcal{Z} \lesssim 1$), which is consistent with Kool et al. (2021) and Wang et al. (2025). Considering these findings, we indicate that the posterior distributions of the parameters are well constrained.

As presented in Fig. D.1, M_{ej} and E_{k} are degenerate. Thus, we can robustly constrain the $M_{\text{ej}} \lesssim 1 M_{\odot}$ and $E_{\text{k}} \lesssim 0.1 \times 10^{51} \text{ erg}$. The choice of the density profile index n introduces a systematic uncertainty of $\sim 0.2 M_{\odot}$ for M_{ej} and $\sim 0.02 \times 10^{51} \text{ erg}$ for E_{k} . By considering that most SNe Ibn exploded from relatively compact progenitors, we take the posterior of $n = 10$ scenario as a reasonable result. The best-fit values are $M_{\text{ej}} =$

⁹ Since the light curve is not sensitive to the density-profile parameters (n , δ), and the parameter s has only a minor effect on the light-curve shape, in Fig. 6 we present only a single best-fit scenario with $n = 10$, $\delta = 0$, and $s = 0$.

$0.49_{-0.09}^{+0.11} M_{\odot}$ and $E_k = 0.06_{-0.01}^{+0.01} \times 10^{51}$ erg for SN 2024acyl. The value of M_{ej} is comparable to those of other Type Ibn SNe such as PS1-12sk ($\sim 0.3 M_{\odot}$; Sanders et al. 2013), located at the lower end of the M_{ej} distribution of SNe Ibn. The value of E_k is reasonable because it falls in the low-energy tail of SNe Ibn, which is $(0.06-0.91) \times 10^{51}$ erg. However, we caution that these are correlated, as a higher ejecta mass results in a higher kinetic energy, and vice versa.

The derived properties of the CSM are also typical of SNe Ibn. The CSM properties are not significantly affected by the choice of n , which implies that they are robust against variations in the density profile. The M_{CSM} of SN 2024acyl is $0.51_{-0.04}^{+0.05} M_{\odot}$, which is comparable to that of iPTF15ul and SN 2019uo with the assumption of shell-like CSM ($s = 0$) ($\sim 0.3-0.7 M_{\odot}$; Pellegrino et al. 2022; Gangopadhyay et al. 2020). The best-fit inner radius of the CSM of SN 2024acyl is $17.8_{-3.0}^{+3.6}$ AU, which falls within the observed range of 9–60 AU, bracketed by examples such as SN 2020nxt (~ 9 AU; Wang et al. 2025) and iPTF15ul (~ 60 AU; Pellegrino et al. 2022). The posterior CSM density for SN 2024acyl is $\rho_{CSM} = (8.3_{-1.2}^{+2.7}) \times 10^{-12}$ g cm $^{-3}$. The CSM properties of SN 2024acyl is consistent with that of other SNe Ibn with $s = 0$. The outer radius of the CSM can be derived from R_0 , M_{CSM} , and ρ_{CSM} , which is around 24.3 AU, indicating a relatively thin CSM with a thickness of ~ 6.5 AU, suggesting eruptive mass loss of the progenitor. Therefore, the reasonable posterior distributions of the CSM parameters (e.g. R_0 , M_{CSM} , and ρ_{CSM}), and the higher Bayesian evidence $\log \mathcal{Z} \approx 304$ for $s = 0$ models, indicate that its properties are well constrained. The profile of the CSM can be a probe of the mass-loss history of the progenitor, as discussed in Sec. 5.

For interacting SNe, the contribution from RD is often secondary, with M_{Ni} typically being low ($\leq 0.1 M_{\odot}$; Maeda & Moriya 2022; Ben-Ami et al. 2023). For SN 2024acyl, considering the posteriors of mass fraction of ^{56}Ni and the ejecta mass, we find $M_{Ni} = 0.018 M_{\odot}$. This value is comparable to that of SN 2019wep ($0.015 \pm 0.05 M_{\odot}$; Pellegrino et al. 2022) and lies within the range ($0.001-0.15 M_{\odot}$) of the sample from Wang et al. (2025). Finally, we estimated a characteristic ejecta velocity using the relation $v_{ej} \approx \sqrt{2E_k/M_{ej}}$. This yields a velocity of ~ 3500 km s $^{-1}$ for SN 2024acyl, comparable to that of SN 2020bj (~ 3300 km s $^{-1}$; Kool et al. 2021) and SN 2020otz (~ 3480 km s $^{-1}$; Wang et al. 2025). However, as a characteristic value, the velocity derived here may differ from the actual spectroscopic velocity and should therefore be used with caution.

4. Spectroscopy

4.1. Spectroscopic observations

Our spectroscopic observations of SN 2024acyl were obtained using multiple instrumental configurations: The 2.4 m LJT equipped with the Yunnan Faint Object Spectrograph and Camera (YFOSC; Wang et al. 2019) at Gaomeigu, Lijiang, China; the Kast double spectrograph (Miller & Stone 1993) mounted on the 3 m Shane telescope at the Lick Observatory; the 3.58 m New Technology Telescope (NTT) equipped with the ESO Faint Object Spectrograph and Camera 2 (EFOSC2; Buzzoni et al. 1984), located at La Silla, Chile; the 3.58 m Telescopio Nazionale Galileo (TNG) with the Device Optimized for the LOw RESolution (DOLORES; Molinari et al. 1997) spectrograph, hosted on La Palma, Spain; and the 8 m Gemini–North telescope equipped with Gemini Multi-Object Spectrograph (GMOS-N; Hook et al. 2004; Gimeno et al. 2016) on Mauna

Kea in Hawai'i, USA. Additionally, we collected a single-epoch (2024-12-04) spectrum from the Transient Name Server (TNS¹⁰), which was obtained by Soubrouillard & Leadbeater (2024). Basic information for the spectra is reported in Table C.1 (Appendix C).

Reduction of the GMOS-N data was done by (DRAGONS Labrie et al. 2023) packages following standard procedures. The Shane/Kast spectrum was taken at or near the parallactic angle to minimise slit losses caused by atmospheric dispersion (Filippenko 1982). Its data reduction followed standard techniques for CCD frame processing and spectrum extraction (Silverman et al. 2012) using IRAF routines and custom PYTHON and IDL codes¹¹. The NTT/EFOSC2 spectra were reduced using a dedicated pipeline PESSTO¹² (Smartt et al. 2015), while spectra obtained from other instruments were processed using standard procedures in the IRAF environment. Specifically, the raw data were first pre-reduced with preliminary steps, such as bias, overscan, trimming, and flat-fielding corrections. Then, we extracted one-dimensional spectra from the two-dimensional frames. Wavelength and flux calibrations were performed using spectra of comparison lamps and spectrophotometric standard stars, respectively, which were observed during the same night and with the same instrumental configurations as the SN spectra. The wavelength-calibrated spectra were cross-checked with the night-sky emission lines, while the flux-calibrated spectra were improved by calibrating to the coeval broadband photometry. We also examined the consistency between the colours derived from synthetic photometry and the observed colour evolution. However, we noted a minor discrepancy in the data, as the difference in the $g-r$ and $r-i$ bands is approximately ~ 0.1 mag. Since we could not determine the precise reddening parameters, we treated this discrepancy as a systematic uncertainty of the extinction in our fitting procedure. Finally, the strongest telluric absorption bands (e.g. O $_2$ and H $_2$ O) in the SN spectra were removed using the spectra of standard stars.

4.2. Spectroscopic evolution

We collected 12 optical spectra of SN 2024acyl, spanning about 50 days and covering all crucial phases of its evolution. The spectral evolution of SN 2024acyl, as shown in Fig. 7, exhibits features typical of SNe Ibn.

The first spectrum of SN 2024acyl was obtained on 2024 December 4 (phase ~ -3.7 days from maximum light; Soubrouillard & Leadbeater 2024). This low-S/N spectrum shows a blue, almost featureless continuum and did not provide a secure classification. A prominent bump detected at $\sim 4600-4700$ Å is probably due to a blend of C III $\lambda 4648$, N III $\lambda 4640$, and He II $\lambda 4686$ emission lines. We estimated the temperature by fitting the continuum with a blackbody function. Since we noticed that the systematic error is likely to be underestimated, we introduce the jitter term as the additional error in the fitting process. The best-fit results yield a photospheric temperature of $T_{BB} = 19200_{-1100}^{+1200}$ K with the additional jitter $\log(\sigma/10^{42} \text{ erg s}^{-1}) = -4.45_{-0.07}^{+0.0813}$. Subsequently, the second spectrum of SN 2024acyl (~ -2.4 days) supports the classification of this event as a Type Ibn SN (see Sec. 2). This spec-

¹⁰ <https://www.wis-tns.org/object/2024acyl>

¹¹ <https://github.com/ishivvers/TheKastShiv>

¹² <https://github.com/svalenti/pessto>

¹³ Since we added the additional jitter term $\log(\sigma)$, it explicitly accounts for the underestimated systematic errors and intrinsic deviations from the model statistically.

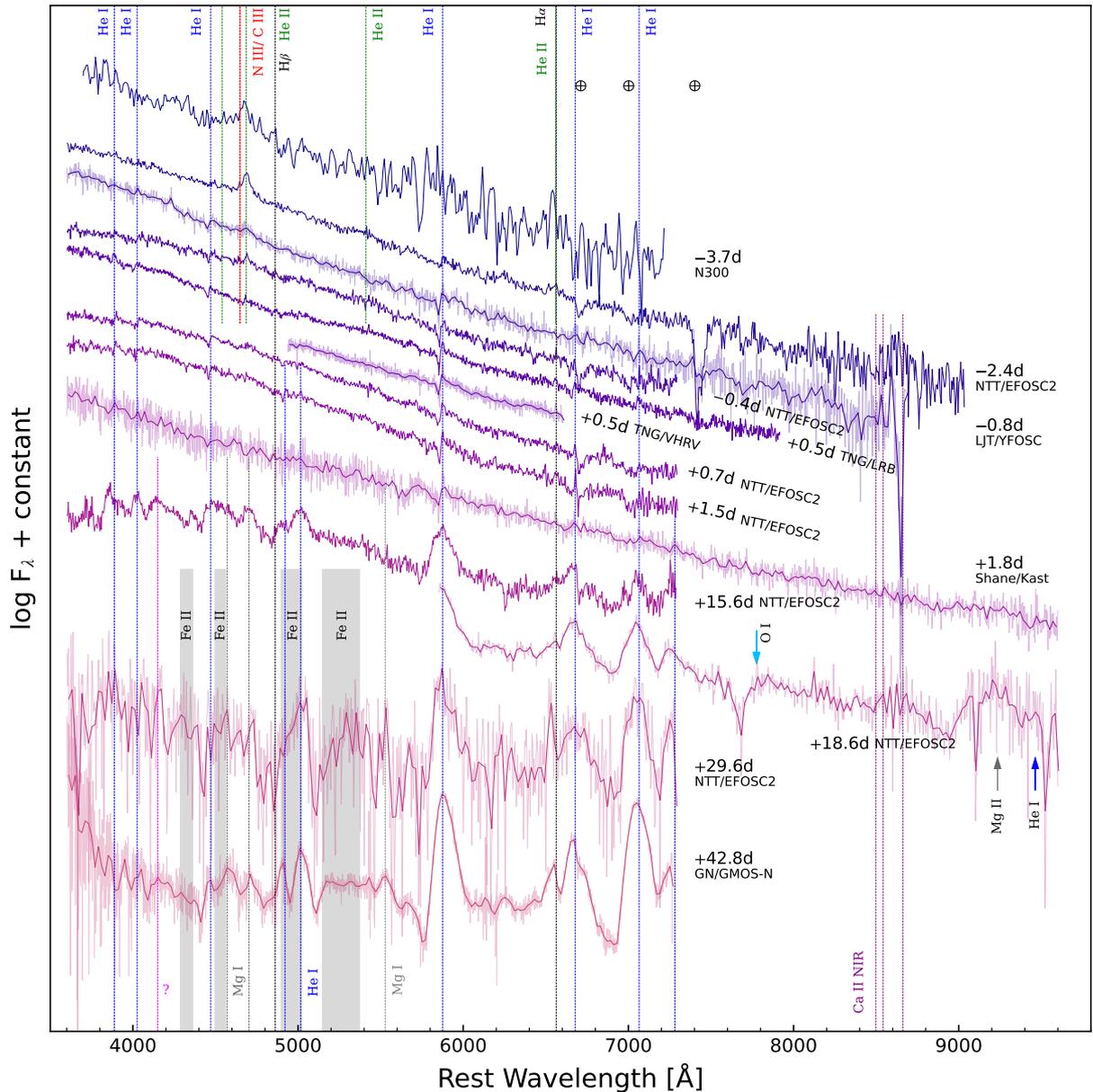


Fig. 7. Time sequence of SN2024acyl spectra. Some prominent features, such as He I, He II, and N III, are marked with vertical lines, while the strongest telluric absorption bands are indicated with the \oplus symbols. The phases reported to the right of each spectrum are from the epoch of o -band maximum light (MJD = 60652.49 \pm 0.26; 2024-12-08). Spectra with a low S/N were binned with 20 \AA each bin; the original (unbinned) spectra are displayed in lighter colours behind. Reddening and redshift corrections have been applied to the spectra.

trum is still dominated by a blue continuum ($T_{\text{BB}} = 15\,000 \pm 600$ K), but now the He I $\lambda 5876$ line is clearly detected with a narrow P-Cygni profile. The position of the minimum of this blueshifted absorption component indicates that the velocity of the He-rich material is 1050 ± 320 km s^{-1} . The feature detected in the first spectrum at ~ 4600 – 4700 \AA is now more prominent, and it shows a double-peaked profile. The red component is likely due to He II $\lambda 4686$, while the blue component possibly arises from a blend of N III $\lambda 4640$ and C III $\lambda 4648$. They are identified as flash-ionisation features, resembling those seen in other Type Ibn events, such as SNe 2010al (Pastorello et al. 2015a), 2019cj (Wang et al. 2024b), 2019uo (Gangopadhyay et al. 2020), 2019wep (Gangopadhyay et al. 2022), and 2023emq (Pursiainen et al. 2023) (see further discussion in Sec. 4.4). We note that the apparent emission bump at

around 6560 \AA is likely due to a blend of H α and He II $\lambda 6560$ in these early spectra.

From -0.8 to $+0.5$ days after maximum light, the spectra are still dominated by blue continua with T_{BB} decreasing from $17\,500 \pm 700$ K to $13\,100 \pm 300$ K. The narrow P-Cygni profiles of He I $\lambda 5876$ become progressively more prominent with measured expansion velocities of 1050 – 1270 km s^{-1} . These P-Cygni features are likely produced in the He-rich CSM moving at a velocity slightly above 1000 km s^{-1} . The feature at 4600 – 4700 \AA gradually becomes weaker during this time window, disappearing at later phases. The following three spectra, from $+0.7$ days ($T_{\text{BB}} = 12\,820 \pm 620$ K) to $+1.8$ days ($T_{\text{BB}} = 11\,200 \pm 600$ K), do not show significant evolution. The measured He I $\lambda 5876$ \AA P-Cygni line velocities are approximately 1280 km s^{-1} and 990 km s^{-1} , respectively. The only Balmer line

detected in SN 2024acyl is weak $H\alpha$, which shows minor evolution in strength during these phases.

The following spectra, from +15.6 to +42.8 days, exhibit major changes. The continua are now much redder, with a temperature decreasing from $T_{\text{BB}} = 8,300 \pm 300$ K to $T_{\text{BB}} = 7,100 \pm 300$ K with a similar $\log(\sigma/10^{42} \text{ erg s}^{-1}) \approx -3.9$. The emission components of He I $\lambda 5876$ dominate over the P-Cygni absorption starting from +15.6 days. The FWHM velocity of these broader He I $\lambda 5876$ emission lines, as obtained from a single Gaussian fit, is about 5800–6200 km s^{-1} . The broader profile observed for all lines indicates that the SN photosphere recedes with time from the CSM to the ejecta. As shown in the bottom of Fig. 7, relatively broad features are identified in the blue region, including He I $\lambda 3889$, $\lambda 4471$, $\lambda 4921$, and $\lambda 5016$, several Fe II multiplets (e.g. Fe II multiplet 42 lines at $\lambda\lambda 4924, 5018, 5169$) blended with He I emission lines, and also Mg I $\lambda\lambda 4571, 5528$ mostly in emission. In addition, He I $\lambda 5876, \lambda 6678, \lambda 7065, \lambda 7281$ evolve significantly, becoming the most prominent emission features in the red spectral region (≥ 5600 Å). $H\alpha$ becomes more evident at late phases, blended with He I $\lambda 6678$, indicating the presence of hydrogen in the outer CSM. The near-infrared (NIR) Ca II triplet is weak in the +18.6 day NTT/EFOSC2 spectrum, while the emission at about 7300 Å is likely a blend of [Ca II] $\lambda\lambda 7291, 7323$ and He I $\lambda 7281$. We also tentatively identify O I $\lambda\lambda 7772, 7774, 7775$ lines in this spectrum, following Pastorello et al. (2015c). A relatively strong bump feature detected at 9000–9400 Å is tentatively identified as a blend including Mg II ($\lambda 9218$ – 9244). The late-time spectra of SN 2024acyl show an evident pseudocontinuum bluewards of ~ 5600 Å. As suggested by Turatto et al. (1993), Smith et al. (2012), and Stritzinger et al. (2012), it is likely due to a forest of narrow and intermediate-width Fe lines, as marked in the shaded region of Fig. 7. The broad W-shape feature at 4600–5200 Å may also be attributed to Fe features blended with He I lines. All the above features are frequently observed in late-time spectra of SNe Ibn.

4.3. He I line evolution

In Fig. 8, we illustrate the temporal evolution of the He I $\lambda 5876$ line profile in SN 2024acyl (left panel). The line strength increases with time, and two distinct kinematic components can be identified. The narrow He I feature, with velocities of about 1000–1300 km s^{-1} as inferred from either the FWHM of the emission or the position of its weak P-Cygni absorption, arises from the slowly moving, unshocked He-rich CSM. A broader component, with a velocity of 5800–6400 km s^{-1} , is detected in the later spectra. The coexistence of two components is consistent with an origin in two distinct regions, with the narrow P-Cygni features forming in the unperturbed CSM and the broader lines arising from the expanding ejecta. Similar evolution has been observed in the spectra of other SNe Ibn, such as ASASSN-15ed (Pastorello et al. 2015b) and SN 2010al (Pastorello et al. 2015a), where narrow lines dominate at early phases before broader ejecta signatures emerge. At early times, the photosphere lies within the dense CSM shell, above which the narrow lines form. These features are likely photoionised either by early ejecta-CSM interaction or by the initial shock breakout. As the shell recombines and becomes transparent, the underlying SN ejecta gradually dominate the spectra.

The middle panel of Fig. 8 shows the velocity evolution of the narrow He I component. In most SNe Ibn, these lines exhibit little or no change over time, consistent with emission from a

quasistationary CSM shell. Typical velocities fall in the range 600–1500 km s^{-1} , comparable to Wolf–Rayet wind speeds. For SN 2024acyl, the narrow-line velocity of ~ 1100 km s^{-1} is similar to those measured in SNe 2020nxt, 2015U, and 2010al, while lower values (< 800 km s^{-1}) are found in SNe 2005la, 2011hw, and 2006jc. This spread in velocity likely reflects differences in progenitor wind properties such as terminal velocity and mass-loss rate.

The right-hand panel of Fig. 8 illustrates the velocity evolution of the broader He I components. Unlike the narrow features, these display more pronounced temporal changes, pointing to a diversity in the ejecta kinematics and in the density structure of the shocked CSM among the SNe Ibn of the comparison sample. For example, in SN 2006jc the intermediate-width He I components narrowed from about 3100 km s^{-1} to 1700 km s^{-1} over four months, while in SN 2005la the velocities increased from ~ 2000 km s^{-1} shortly after discovery to ~ 4200 km s^{-1} within three weeks. However, the limited number of available spectra for SN 2024acyl prevents us from tracing a clear evolutionary trend.

4.4. Comparison with Type Ibn SN spectra

Figure 9 compares the early-time spectrum of SN 2024acyl with those of several Type Ibn events (SNe 2010al, 2019cj, 2019uo, 2019wep, and 2023emq) as well as the Type IIn SN 1998S. All spectra were obtained within a few days prior to the epoch of the maximum light. The inset highlights the region between 4400 and 5000 Å, where flash-ionisation features are most prominent. SN 2024acyl shows remarkable resemblance to other events, particularly in the simultaneous presence of flash-ionisation signatures of He II and prominent N/C lines. The detection of high-ionisation transitions, such as He II $\lambda 4686$ and N III/C III $\lambda\lambda 4640, 4650$, indicates the action of an external photoionisation source on the dense CSM, most likely arising from a shock breakout or the onset of ejecta-CSM interaction. Such transient flash-ionisation signatures are observed only in a subset of SNe Ibn (e.g. Pastorello et al. 2016; Gangopadhyay et al. 2020, 2022; Pursiainen et al. 2023; Wang et al. 2024b), but are well documented in the early spectra of many CC Type II SNe (Fassia et al. 2001; Gal-Yam et al. 2014; Bostroem et al. 2023; Bruch et al. 2023; Zhang et al. 2023, 2024; Jacobson-Galán et al. 2024). Furthermore, the early detection of nitrogen lines in SN 2024acyl points to the presence of CNO-processed material in the progenitor wind, thereby providing constraints on its pre-SN evolutionary state.

Figure 10 illustrates the spectral evolution of SN 2024acyl compared with a diverse sample of Type Ibn and IIB/Ibn events at both intermediate (+10 to +20 d; left panel) and later epochs (+50 to +100 d; right panel). The phases are related to the estimated explosion epoch, in order to make the comparisons more reasonable. Around maximum light, SN 2024acyl exhibits pronounced P-Cygni profiles in He I $\lambda\lambda 4471, 5876, 7065$, closely resembling SN 2010al at comparable phases (Pastorello et al. 2015a). Weak but clearly detectable Balmer emission lines are also present, placing SN 2024acyl within the H-bearing subset of Type Ibn events. At later phases, SN 2024acyl still maintains prominent He I emission lines with increasingly broader widths, consistent with other Type Ibn SNe. The persistent helium features, combined with the enhanced Balmer components, indicate that the CSM is primarily helium-rich, with hydrogen confined to the outermost layers. Taken together, these spectral comparisons confirm that the ejecta of SN 2024acyl interact with a

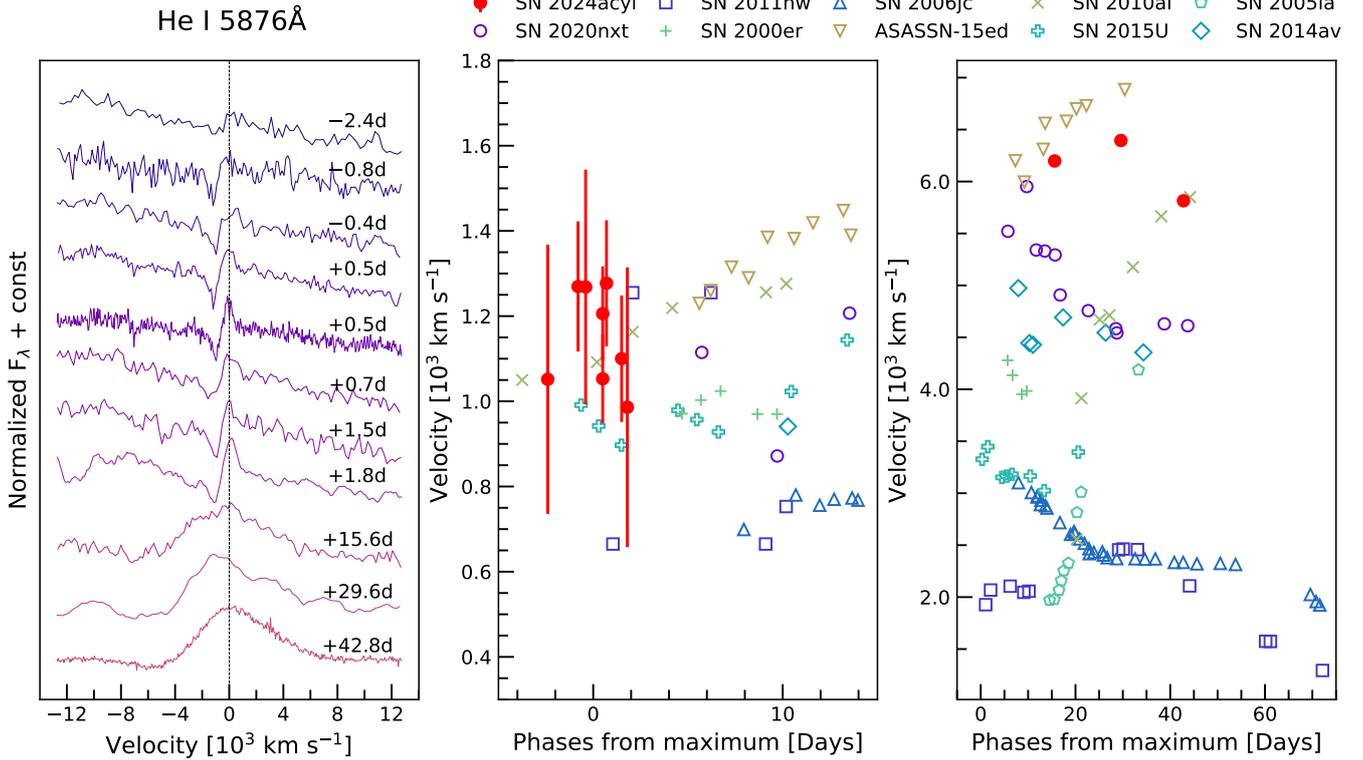


Fig. 8. Temporal evolution of the He I $\lambda 5876$ line. *Left panel:* line-profile evolution in the velocity space. The dashed vertical line marking marks the rest wavelength. *Middle panel:* evolution of the velocities measured from the P-Cygni absorption minimum of the narrow He I component, formed in the unshocked CSM. *Right panel:* evolution of the broader He I emission components, reflecting the dynamics of the shocked gas. For clarity, the uncertainties are not shown in the plots, but they can reach values of up to 30%. The comparison data for SNe Ibn are from Pastorello et al. (2016) and Wang et al. (2025).

dense, helium-dominated CSM that contains a residual amount of hydrogen. The spectroscopic diversity of SNe Ibn likely depends on the variety of their progenitor mass-loss histories, wind compositions, or how the stellar components in a binary system interact in the final stages before the core collapse.

4.5. Spectral modelling

To investigate the ejecta properties and the progenitor system of SN 2024acyl, we compared a subset of the observed spectra with a series of non-local thermodynamic equilibrium radiative-transfer models computed with CMFGEN (Hillier & Dessart 2012). These include both the models of Dessart et al. (2022) and additional tailored simulations with modified input parameters (Dessart, priv. comm.). The adopted configurations involve the interaction of moderately energetic ($\sim 10^{50}$ erg), low-mass ($\lesssim 1 M_\odot$) ejecta with a slowly expanding, helium-rich circumstellar envelope of a roughly comparable mass, which is compatible with our MOSFiT results. Under this condition, the analysis of the low-energy output can be simplified by concentrating on the cool dense shell (CDS), which develops as a compact, thin layer during the interaction and becomes the dominant source of radiation at later phases.

In this steady-state approximation, the hydrodynamical evolution is not explicitly modelled, and the CDS is represented as a chemically mixed layer described by a Gaussian density distribution centred at 2000 km s^{-1} and scaled to recover the total ejecta mass. Energy originating from both RD and residual interaction is deposited non-thermally within the CDS, enabling a

consistent treatment of its ionisation and excitation conditions. Although these simulations are not designed to reproduce individual SNe in detail, they provide a valuable tool to investigate the spectral diversity and the underlying parameter degeneracies. Dessart et al. (2022) further demonstrated that similar spectral morphologies can arise from different combinations of CDS mass, radial extent, and input power.

The persistent presence of He I lines throughout the spectral evolution indicates a progenitor dominated by a helium-rich composition. Therefore, following the methodology of Wang et al. (2024a, 2025), we adopted scenarios with a helium-star progenitor. According to the helium-star evolutionary tracks of Woosley (2019), progenitors with zero-age ‘He’ main-sequence masses of $3\text{--}4 M_\odot$ (e.g. models he3 and he4) are consistent with the observed properties of SNe Ibn. In this work, we made use of model he4, characterised by $M_{\text{preSN}} = 3.16 M_\odot$ and total ejecta mass $1.62 M_\odot$, comprising $0.92 M_\odot$ of helium, $0.31 M_\odot$ of oxygen, $0.03 M_\odot$ of magnesium, and $0.0014 M_\odot$ of calcium, and assuming a solar metallicity, which indicate a low-mass progenitor scenario. Figure 11 presents synthetic spectra from model he4p0 compared with observations of SN 2024acyl at multiple epochs after maximum light. We present the model comparisons of the spectra in +15.6 days, +29.6 days, and +42.8 days since the *o*-band maximum. To highlight the role of luminosity evolution, only the input power changes with time. Thus, we adopt the he4p0 models with $3 \times 10^{42} \text{ erg s}^{-1}$, $5 \times 10^{41} \text{ erg s}^{-1}$, and $1 \times 10^{41} \text{ erg s}^{-1}$ luminosity correspondingly, while the CDS radius ($3 \times 10^{15} \text{ cm}$) and velocity (2000 km s^{-1}) were kept constant. The adopted power values

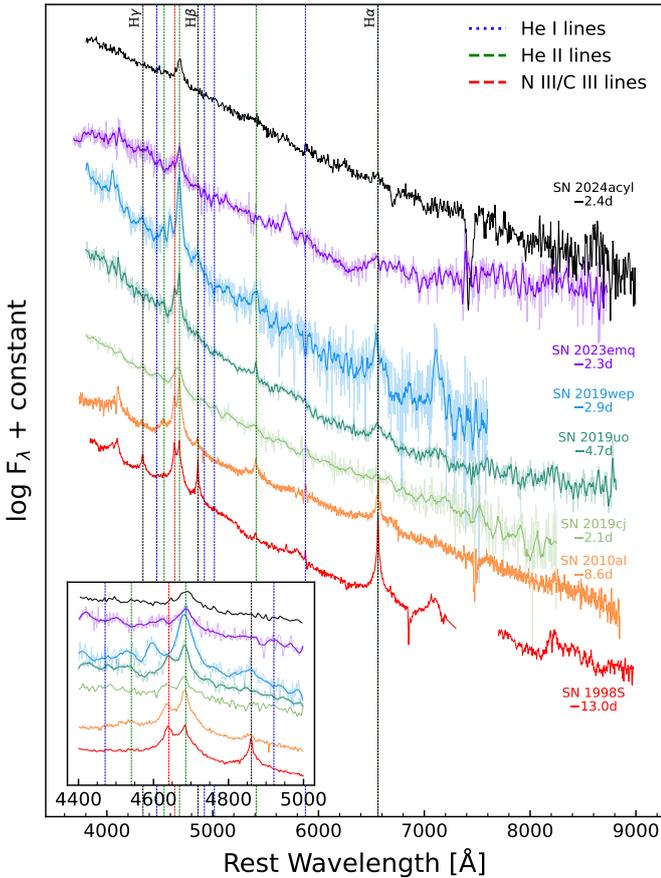


Fig. 9. Comparisons of the spectra of SN 2024acyl with the Type Ibn SN 1998S and other Type Ibn events (SN 2010al, SN 2019cj, SN 2019uo, SN 2019wep and SN 2023emq) at their very early phases. The inset shows a close-up view of the region between 4400 Å and 5000 Å with prominent flash-ionisation features. The phases marked on the right side of each SN spectrum are with respect to the epoch of their maximum light. Spectra with a low S/N were binned with 20 Å in each bin. The original (unbinned) spectra are displayed in lighter colours behind.

are broadly consistent with the observed bolometric light curve (see Fig. 5).

At +15.6 d, the assumption of a narrow and homogeneous dense shell is unlikely to be valid. Relative to SN 2024acyl, the models systematically overpredict the strengths of the He I lines (see the top panel of Fig. 11). At +29.6 d and +42.8 d, the He I profiles predicted by the models exhibit a blue-red asymmetry and a central absorption dip (see Fig. 11, middle and bottom panels). However, the observations of SN 2024acyl reveal a He I line with a single, rounded peak profile. This suggests that the dense shell formed during the interaction is highly clumped.

The most striking difference between SN 2024acyl and the synthetic spectra is that some modelled features are narrower than those observed. This inconsistency could be alleviated by adopting higher CDS velocities in tailored models, which would broaden the lines while preserving the overall spectral morphology. Despite such local mismatches, the overall spectral evolution is well reproduced, providing strong support for the interpretation that the emission of SN 2024acyl is powered by ejecta–CSM interaction.

5. Discussion

In the above sections, we have presented the photometric and spectroscopic analyses of SN 2024acyl. We now piece the analyses together to place SN 2024acyl in the context of SNe Ibn, attempting to study its spectrophotometric properties and shed light on their progenitor systems. We summarise our findings of SN 2024acyl in the following.

- The rise time of the light curve to maximum brightness is about 10.6 days, which is within the observed range of the Type Ibn samples of Hosseinzadeh et al. (2017) and Wang et al. (2024b, 2025), ~2–20 days, although slightly longer than typical SNe Ibn (~7 days; see Fig. 11 of Wang et al. 2025), suggesting the need for a relatively high mass-loss rate to reproduce the early light curve.
- The SN is relatively sub-luminous ($M_o = -17.58 \pm 0.15$ mag) with respect to SNe Ibn ($M_r \approx -19$ mag; Pastorello et al. 2016; Hosseinzadeh et al. 2017; Wang et al. 2025). The estimated peak ‘optical’ and ‘UV+Optical’ luminosities are $(3.5 \pm 0.8) \times 10^{42}$ erg s $^{-1}$ and $(6.7 \pm 0.4) \times 10^{42}$ erg s $^{-1}$, respectively. The corresponding radiated energies are $(5.0 \pm 0.4) \times 10^{48}$ erg and $(8.5 \pm 0.6) \times 10^{48}$ erg, respectively.
- The post-peak light-curve decline shows a fast and almost linear trend, with a decline rate of $\gamma_{0-60}(V) = 0.097 \pm 0.002$ mag day $^{-1}$ during its post-peak evolution. The fast decline in the light curves is attributed to the much lower ejecta mass and optical depth, resulting in the rapid release of stored radiative energy in a short time (Dessart 2024).
- We compared the $B-V$ and $r-i$ colour curves of SN 2024acyl with a number of SNe Ibn, which generally exhibit some heterogeneity in their observed colour evolution. The substantial diversity in colour evolution among SNe Ibn may reflect the different physics that govern the colour curves of these events.
- We performed multi-band light-curve fits using the MOSFiT code and adopted the RD+CSI model to constrain the properties both for the radioactive power and CSM. The posterior distributions of the parameters are well-converged, suggesting a relatively low ejecta mass of $0.49^{+0.11}_{-0.09} M_{\odot}$ and a correspondingly low kinetic energy of $0.06^{+0.01}_{-0.01} \times 10^{51}$ erg. The derived CSM properties are consistent with other Type Ibn SNe, with $M_{\text{CSM}} = 0.51^{+0.05}_{-0.04} M_{\odot}$ and an inner radius of $17.8^{+3.6}_{-3.0}$ AU. The ^{56}Ni mass of SN 2024acyl is $0.018^{+0.009}_{-0.005} M_{\odot}$, consistent with the values inferred from other Type Ibn SNe (e.g. Gangopadhyay et al. 2020; Kool et al. 2021; Maeda & Moriya 2022; Wang et al. 2025). The light-curve fitting results indicate that SN 2024acyl is a less energetic event with small ejecta mass that occurred in a CSM environment typical for Type Ibn SNe.
- The spectral evolution can be divided into three distinct phases. The early spectra from –3.7 to +0.5 days exhibit relatively slow spectral evolution, with hot blue continua and the narrow P-Cygni profiles of the He I lines. In addition, these early spectra are characterised by the prominent flash-ionisation lines of C III, N III, and He II, which are occasionally detected in SNe Ibn. From +0.7 to +1.8 days, the flash-ionisation signatures have completely disappeared, while the narrow He I lines with P-Cygni profiles show a modest evolution. Later spectra after +15.6 days show significant changes with prominent and broad He I emission lines, along with the appearance of Fe II, Ca II, Mg I, and O I lines. Additionally, we find a flux drop in the pseudocontinuum bluewards of ~5600 Å, likely from a forest of Fe II lines. The H α feature is detected in almost all spectra of SN 2024acyl,

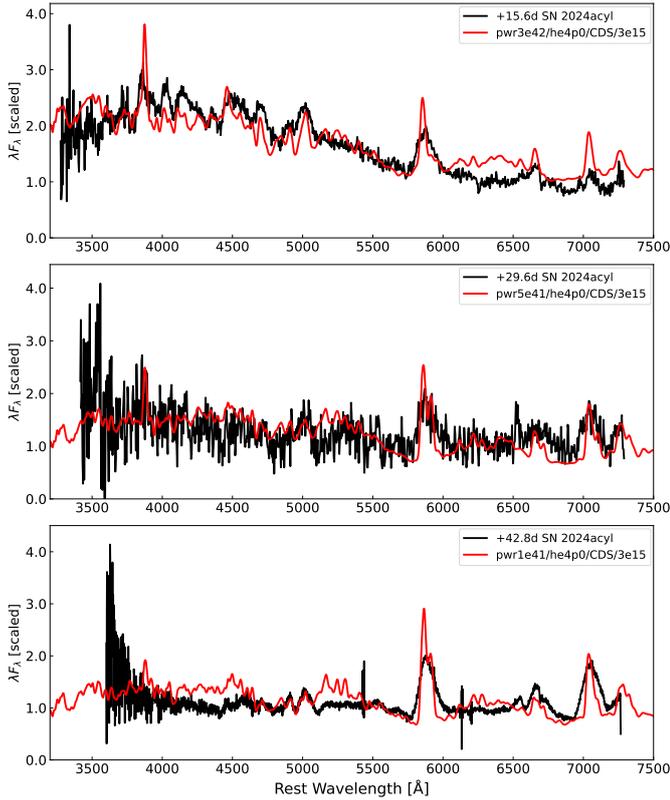


Fig. 11. Comparison of synthetic spectra from the `he4p0` model with the observed spectra of SN 2024acyl obtained after the *o*-band maximum light. No smoothing has been applied to either the observed or the synthetic spectra. The synthetic spectra are based on simulations by Dessart et al. (2022) and Wang et al. (2024a), as well as on newly computed models incorporating updated parameters. The model spectra have been scaled to match the resolution of the observed spectra.

magnitude with the range found by Ben-Ami et al. (2023). Alternatively, following the approach of Maeda & Moriya (2022) for increasing winds from a WR-like progenitor (corresponding to $s = 3$), the mass-loss rate is $\dot{M} \approx 5.5 M_{\odot} \text{ yr}^{-1}$. Both estimates are exceptionally high, significantly exceeding the typical range of 10^{-3} – $10^0 M_{\odot} \text{ yr}^{-1}$ for stellar winds (Nyholm et al. 2017; Wang & Li 2020). These results suggest that a steady mass-loss scenario is unlikely, and an enhanced mass-loss episode a few years before the explosion should be considered. Therefore, our analysis does not rule out the possibility that the progenitor of SN 2024acyl was compatible with a WR-like star experiencing enhanced mass loss shortly before core collapse. As further support, the CSM velocity (990–1280 km s⁻¹) measured for SN 2024acyl is significantly faster than LBV winds (Smith 2017).

Additionally, for a CSM shell expanding at $v \approx 1000 \text{ km s}^{-1}$, the travel time to a radius of $R \approx 17.8 \text{ AU}$ is about 30 days. We also estimate the duration of the eruptive mass-loss event to be ~ 6 days. The kinetic energy released during this event is substantial, around $5 \times 10^{48} \text{ erg}$, which is not negligible compared to the kinetic energy of SN 2024acyl. However, no optical emission was detected in the ATLAS data in the 20–40 days prior to the explosion. Furthermore, we did not find any pre-SN detection in Pan-STARRS archival data, corresponding to a 3σ limit of $m \gtrsim 22 \text{ mag}$. Given the limiting magnitude of the ATLAS survey ($\sim 20 \text{ mag}$ in the *o* band), this non-detection implies that only luminous pre-explosion eruptions would have been detectable.

At this distance, the detection limit corresponds to an absolute magnitude brighter than about -15 mag . For comparison, the pre-explosion outburst of SN 2006jc was detected at roughly -14 mag (Pastorello et al. 2007). This interpretation also suggests that the mass-loss eruption could have been fainter, yet still possibly producing dense and optically thick ejecta. Moreover, the later observation of flash-ionised C III and N III lines implies an extended progenitor, as suggested by Blinnikov et al. (2003), likely resulting from the intense mass-loss process. Therefore, the late-type WR progenitor is likely a potential interpretation for SN 2024acyl.

We remark that a black hole might be formed through fallback accretion with no or weak SN explosion, and thus no or little ⁵⁶Ni will be ejected and the ejecta mass will also be low (e.g. Woosley & Weaver 1995; Zampieri et al. 1998; Maeda et al. 2007; Moriya et al. 2010). This scenario is consistent with the constraints on physical parameters derived from the light-curve modelling of SN 2024acyl – lower ejecta mass of M_{ej} of $0.49^{+0.11}_{-0.09} M_{\odot}$ and lower ⁵⁶Ni mass of $M_{\text{Ni}} = 0.018 M_{\odot}$ (see details in Sec. 3.3). However, the fallback accretion model predicts a lower ejecta velocity, a slower light-curve decline rate compared to typical Type Ibn SN samples, and a possible optical afterglow of a gamma-ray burst (GRB) (Moriya et al. 2010). In contrast, our spectroscopic analysis of SN 2024acyl reveals a relatively high ejecta velocity. Moreover, its light-curve decline rate is consistent with other SN Ibn samples, and its SEDs can be well described by a single black-body model. These observed properties challenge the features predicted by the fallback accretion scenario. Furthermore, another prediction of the fallback-enforced explosion model is a chemical composition rich in oxygen, carbon, and magnesium, but poor in iron (Moriya et al. 2010). This appears to contradict our spectra of SN 2024acyl, which exhibit prominent iron features, as do other typical Type Ibn events and stripped-envelope SN samples (see Fig. 10), but lack a clear detection of oxygen lines, particularly the [O I] $\lambda\lambda 6300, 6364 \text{ \AA}$ doublet. However, the non-detection of these [O I] lines is not conclusive. Their intensity is highly sensitive to the ejecta density (Valenti et al. 2009), and our spectrum at +42.8 days was likely obtained before the ejecta became optically thin to these forbidden lines. Therefore, the fallback accretion scenario cannot be definitively ruled out on the basis of the current spectral evidence.

5.2. SN 2018gjj-like: Type IIb event that exploded in He-rich CSM

We compared SN 2024acyl with SN 2018gjj, a Type IIb SN that exploded in He-rich CSM (Prentice et al. 2020), from early to the late phases as shown in Fig. 12. During the early phase ($t \lesssim 11$ days), both SN 2024acyl and SN 2018gjj display significant signatures of interaction with the CSM. Narrow emission lines from highly ionised species such as N III and C III, along with He II, appear in the spectra. These features are also observed in other strongly interacting Type IIb events, such as SN 2017ckj (Li et al. 2025). Furthermore, a narrow He I P Cygni profile at 5876 \AA is visible in the spectra of both objects. However, we note a difference in the intensity of the H α emission. We do not detect prominent H α emission in the early phase of SN 2024acyl compared with SN 2018gjj. This inconsistency indicates that the progenitor of SN 2024acyl is H-poor. In this phase, the photosphere is located at the outer boundary of the optically thick CSM (Chatzopoulos et al. 2012).

During the phases $15 \lesssim t \lesssim 40$ days (see the fourth to seventh spectra in Fig. 12), broad lines begin to appear. In SN 2018gjj,

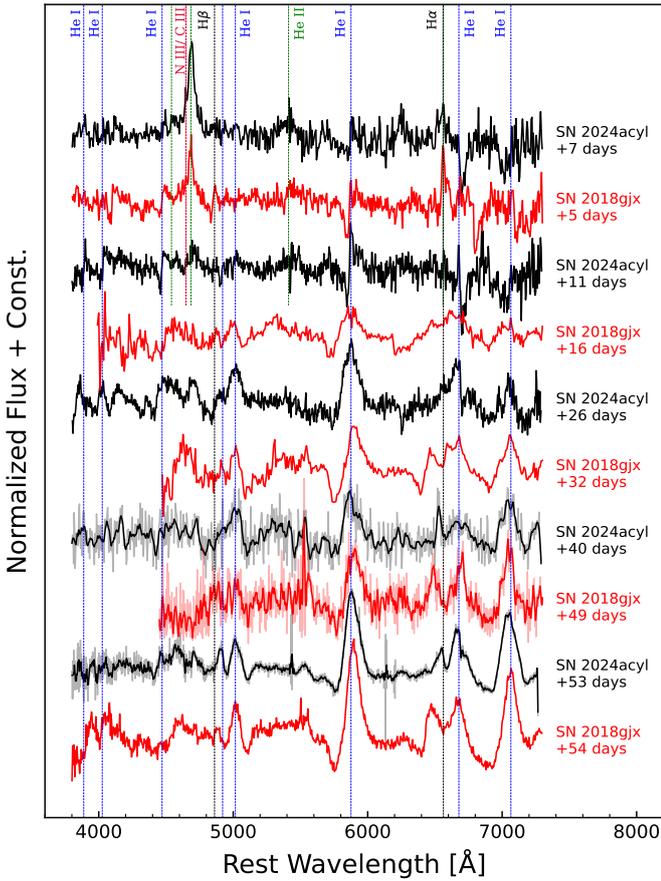


Fig. 12. Comparisons of the spectra of SN 2024acyl with SN 2018gjj at multiple epochs. The SN 2024acyl spectra are in red; SN 2018gjj spectra are in black. Spectra with a low S/N were binned. The original (unbinned) spectra are displayed in lighter colours behind. All the phases marked in the figure are from the (approximate) explosion epoch.

the P-Cygni profiles of He I become broad and prominent, originating from the expanding opaque ejecta (Prentice et al. 2020). This indicates that the ejecta have extended beyond the CSM and the photosphere is currently located near the outer boundary of the ejecta. Additionally, features of Type IIb SNe, such as weak H α absorption, are present in SN 2018gjj. However, we do not observe these features in SN 2024acyl during comparable phases. In the spectrum at +26 days from explosion, there are no prominent broad P Cygni profiles. This discrepancy may be attributed to differences in CSM properties. For SN 2024acyl, the CSM is optically thick ($\tau = \int \kappa \rho dr \gtrsim 100$), and M_{CSM} is comparable to M_{ej} . Consequently, the formation of a CDS obscures the spectroscopic features of the ejecta (Dessart et al. 2015, 2022). Furthermore, given that the radioactive power in SN 2024acyl is much weaker than that of SN 2018gjj, the luminosity of SN 2024acyl is likely dominated by CSM interaction. Unlike SN 2018gjj, SN 2024acyl exhibits strong signatures of CSM interaction throughout its evolution.

At $t \gtrsim 40$ days (see the eighth to tenth spectra in Fig. 12), broad emission lines of He I appear in the spectra of both SNe. This indicates that the photosphere is receding as the ejecta become optically thin (where $\tau \propto t^{-2}$). Consequently, the interaction with the CSM becomes visible again, resulting in broad emission lines, a feature commonly observed in Type Ib SNe. Furthermore, the spectra of both SN 2024acyl and SN 2018gjj

display potential P Cygni absorption features associated with He I $\lambda 5876$. For SN 2024acyl, the velocity estimated from this possible P Cygni absorption is $v_{5876} = 4690^{+550}_{-540}$ km s $^{-1}$, significantly higher than both the wind velocity and the initial CSM velocity (~ 1000 km s $^{-1}$). This suggests that the absorption profile originates from the expanding ejecta or the CDS. Since apparent absorption features can sometimes mimic dips in the pseudocontinuum caused by metal lines (e.g. Pastorello et al. 2015a; Kool et al. 2021), it is necessary to confirm that these features originate from optically thick ejecta. Following the method of Prentice et al. (2020), we estimate the velocity of the possible absorption feature of He I $\lambda 6678$. We measure a velocity of $v_{6678} = 4460^{+270}_{-180}$ km s $^{-1}$. This value is consistent with the estimate obtained from He I $\lambda 5876$, reinforcing the interpretation that these absorption features likely originate from the expanding ejecta and/or CDS. The profile of the He I $\lambda 5876$ broad emission line also shows a profile similar to that of SN 2018gjj, which is symmetric in the late phases, indicating that there was no prominent dust formation in SN 2024acyl similar to that in SN 2018gjj. Additionally, an asymmetric or toroidal CSM geometry (Smith et al. 2015; Prentice et al. 2020) may explain the visibility of these features, as ejecta signatures can remain observable through regions of lower optical depth.

Although there are several similarities between SN 2018gjj and SN 2024acyl, the relatively weak H α emission line in the early phases and the strong signature of CSM interaction throughout its evolution make it difficult to classify SN 2024acyl as a Type IIb SN exploding in He-rich CSM. Compared to SN 2018gjj, SN 2024acyl is more likely an H-poor event. The signature of H α in SN 2024acyl is weak in early phases compared with SN 2018gjj. In the late phases of SN 2024acyl, H α gradually becomes prominent, but present as a pure narrow emission line without any P Cygni profile. This may be due to a small amount of residual hydrogen being excited during the late phases in an optically thin region, which is similar to most of the SNe Ib such as SN 2006jc and SN 2020bjj. The discrepancy of CSM interaction strength can be explained either by inherently strong interaction, as previously discussed, or by a toroidal CSM geometry viewed edge-on. Also, since the case for a WR star as the progenitor of SN 2024acyl is less favoured in the previous discussion, it is also difficult to explain the progenitor of SN 2024acyl within the framework of a Type IIb event. Although these features of SN 2024acyl share similar physical mechanisms with SN 2018gjj, they are inconsistent with an SN IIb classification.

5.3. A possible low-mass progenitor

An alternative scenario for SN 2024acyl is to invoke the explosion of a low-mass ($M_{\text{preSN}} \lesssim 3.5 M_{\odot}$; Woosley 2019; Dessart et al. 2022) He star within a binary system, resulting in a partially stripped CC SN. This binary channel allows the progenitor to be of lower mass, stripped of its H envelope through binary interaction, rather than due to mass loss in a very massive progenitor. As an extreme example, Sanders et al. (2013) explored a white dwarf in a helium-rich CSM within a binary system as a possible progenitor channel for PS1-12sk. This scenario does not require a massive progenitor and recent star formation. The derived parameters of SN 2024acyl seem to well match those of PS1-12sk, such as the low explosion energy ($E_{\text{kin}}(\text{SN 2024acyl}) = 0.06^{+0.01}_{-0.01} \times 10^{51}$ erg; $E_{\text{kin}}(\text{PS1-12sk}) \approx 10^{50}$ erg), the small ejecta mass ($M_{\text{ej}}(\text{SN 2024acyl}) = 0.49^{+0.11}_{-0.09} M_{\odot}$; $M_{\text{ej}}(\text{PS1-12sk}) \approx 0.3 M_{\odot}$), along with the presence of H features in the spectra. The M_{Ni}

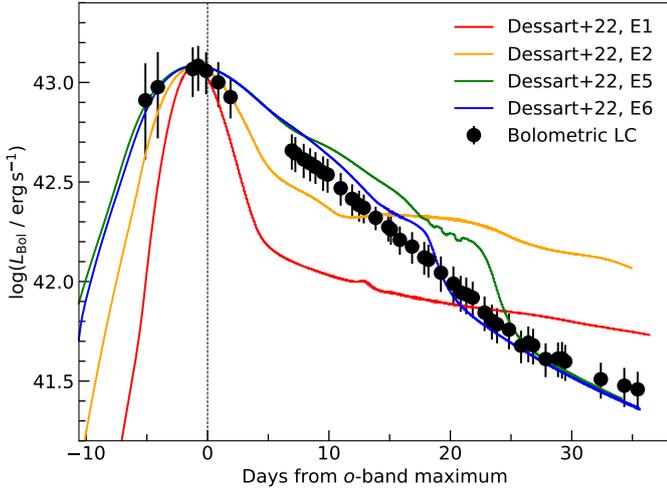


Fig. 13. Bolometric light curve of SN 2024acyl compared with several selected interaction models from Dessart et al. (2022). The comparison interaction configurations are overplotted and normalised to the peak luminosity of SN 2024acyl.

of SN 2024acyl is lower than that of other Type Ibn SNe (which average $\sim 0.04 M_{\odot}$; Maeda & Moriya 2022) and is comparable to values for low-mass Type IIP SNe (Elmhamdi et al. 2003), suggesting that SN 2024acyl likely originated from a low-mass progenitor. In addition, SN 2024acyl is located at the edge of the host galaxy, ~ 34 kpc from its centre, suggesting a potential lower star-formation rate in the nearby area, where it is less likely to form a massive WR-like progenitor (Hosseinzadeh et al. 2019; Warwick et al. 2025). The similarities with PS1-12sk suggest the progenitor of SN 2024acyl is likely a low-mass star, which might even be a helium white dwarf as proposed by Wang et al. (2024a) for a possible progenitor case of another low-mass event, SN 2020nxt. Furthermore, the overall photometric and spectroscopic observables of SN 2024acyl, along with their corresponding modelling results, can be naturally explained by the exploding of a low-mass He star progenitor.

From a spectroscopic point of view, as discussed in Sec. 4.5, the non-local thermodynamic equilibrium fits reproduce the main features and favour a low-mass helium-star progenitor – in particular, a model with a He-ZAMS mass of $4 M_{\odot}$, corresponding to a pre-SN mass of $3.16 M_{\odot}$. Building on the interaction-powered framework, the spectra of SN 2024acyl are consistent with emission from a compact CDS formed by the collision of low-mass ejecta with a slowly expanding, He-rich circumstellar shell. In such models, the radiative output is dominated by shock power and non-thermal deposition, with radioactive heating contributing little at the epochs studied (Dessart et al. 2022). The persistence of strong He I lines, accompanied by weak Balmer features, implies a confined, helium-dominated CSM. These constraints support a low-mass helium-star progenitor, likely stripped via binary interaction, rather than a very massive WR star. From a photometric point of view (see Sec. 3.3), the low posteriors of M_{ej} and E_{k} suggest SN 2024acyl was a slightly underenergetic event with a small ejected mass. In a single-star scenario, the stellar winds from a moderate-mass progenitor are too weak to effectively strip its hydrogen envelope. However, in a close binary system, the progenitor can be stripped through mass transfer to a companion star (Podsiadlowski et al. 1992).

Finally, we compared the bolometric light curve of SN 2024acyl with a selection of radiation-hydrodynamics models from Dessart et al. (2022) in Fig. 13. The bolometric light curve of SN 2024acyl was constructed by fitting black-body models to the SED using an a Markov chain Monte Carlo method, with uncertainties quantified by the 68% confidence intervals of the posterior distributions. We focused on their simulations of an explosion interacting with a dense, shell-like CSM. These models simulate a low-energy explosion ($E_{\text{k}} = 7.5 \times 10^{49}$ erg) colliding with a $1.0 M_{\odot}$ CSM shell. The primary comparison is between a high-mass ejecta scenario (models E1 and E2, with $M_{\text{ej}} = 1.49 M_{\odot}$) and a low-mass ejecta scenario (models E5 and E6, with $M_{\text{ej}} = 0.15 M_{\odot}$). Within these pairs, the models further differ in the expansion velocity of the CSM, corresponding to CSM kinetic energies of 10^{47} erg and 10^{49} erg, respectively. The observed light-curve profile of SN 2024acyl shows a strong resemblance to the low-mass ejecta models (E5 and E6) rather than high-mass ejecta models (E1 and E2). This result suggests that the event was likely produced by an explosion with a small ejecta mass and low kinetic energy, consistent with the light-curve fitting result in Sec. 3.3. Thus, if we have such a small ejecta mass and low kinetic energy, the straightforward interpretation would more likely be that SN 2024acyl was a low-mass stripped helium star.

Furthermore, in the required binary-star scenario, the strong and eruptive mass loss responsible for the dense and shell-like CSM is attributed to late-stage instabilities. Mechanisms such as unstable mass transfer or a nuclear flash can eject a dense, shell-like, helium-rich CSM in the final years before the explosion (Wang et al. 2024a). This scenario is consistent with our observations, as radiative-hydrodynamics models assuming such a shell-like geometry successfully reproduce the key features of the bolometric light curve of SN 2024acyl.

6. Conclusions

In this paper, we have presented observations of the recent, well-monitored Type Ibn SN 2024acyl, which has a relatively faint luminosity, linearly and rapidly evolving light curves, and flash-ionisation spectroscopic features. We propose that SN 2024acyl is likely the interaction-powered explosion of a low-mass He star that evolved in an interacting binary, and the CSM with some residual H may have been produced by a mass-transfer process of the binary system. This is based on the observational properties of SN 2024acyl, the multi-band light-curve modelling with MOSFiT, bolometric light curve and spectral comparisons with theoretical models, and a comparison with other SNe Ibn with similar photometric and spectroscopic features. However, a late-type WR star with hydrogen or even an Ofpe/WN9 star with fallback accretion cannot be entirely ruled out. Lacking a direct detection for the pre-SN mass loss of the progenitor of SN 2024acyl and its companion star, a robust conclusion about the progenitor star, whether arising from a high-mass WR star, a lower-mass He star, or even a He white dwarf in a binary system, cannot be made.

Advanced observational facilities, such as the Mephisto¹⁵ and the Vera C. Rubin Observatory¹⁶, will help increase the discovery rate and may trace the progenitor activities of Type Ibn events. New spectroscopic instrumentation such as SOXS (Son Of X-Shooter; see Radhakrishnan Santhakumari et al. 2024), installed on the NTT at the La Silla Observatory in Chile, will

¹⁵ <http://www.mephisto.ynu.edu.cn>

¹⁶ <https://www.lsst.org/>

play a key role in classifying and following up these transients. In addition, the Chinese Space Station Telescope¹⁷ will enhance our ability to detect and characterise the progenitors of such events. The endeavours we undertake in both theoretical models and advanced facilities will be beneficial to enhancing our understanding of the nature of the poorly understood Type Ib SN.

7. Data availability

Ultraviolet and optical photometric measurements of SN 2024acyl are available at the CDS via <https://cdsarc.cds.unistra.fr/viz-bin/cat/J/A+A/707/A157>. Our observations of the spectra are available via the Weizmann Interactive SN Data Repository (WISeREP; Yaron & Gal-Yam 2012).

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¹⁷ <http://nao.cas.cn/csst/>

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Appendix A: Observational facilities used in the follow-up photometry of SN 2024acyl

Table A.1. Information on the instrumental setups.

Code	Diameter m	Telescope	Instrument	Site
Moravian ¹	0.67/0.92	Schmidt Telescope	Moravian	Osservatorio Astronomico di Asiago, Asiago, Italy
TNOT ²	0.8	Tsinghua-Nanshan Optical Telescope	ANDOR	Nanshan Station of Xinjiang Astronomical Observatory, Xinjiang, P.R. China
fa11 ³	1.00	LCO (TFN site)	Sinistro	LCO node at Teide Observatory, Tenerife, Spain
fa20 ³	1.00	LCO (TFN site)	Sinistro	LCO node at Teide Observatory, Tenerife, Spain
IO:O ⁴	2.00	Liverpool Telescope	IO:O	Osservatorio Roque de Los Muchachos, La Palma, Spain
ALFOSC ⁵	2.56	Nordic Optical Telescope	ALFOSC	Osservatorio Roque de Los Muchachos, La Palma, Spain
ANDOR ⁶	1.60	Multichannel Photometric Survey Telescope	ANDOR	Gaomeigu site, Lijiang Observatory (LJO), Yunnan, P.R. China
LJT ⁷	2.40	Lijiang 2.4 m Telescope	YFOSC	Gaomeigu site, Lijiang Observatory (LJO), Yunnan, P.R. China
ATLAS ⁸	0.50	ATLAS	ATLAS	Haleakalā Observatory, Hawaii, USA; Mauna Loa Observatory, Hawaii, USA
PS1 ⁹	1.80	Pan-STARRS1	GPC1	Haleakalā Observatory, Maui, Hawaii, USA
UVOT ¹⁰	0.30	Swift Modified Ritchey-Chrétien	UVOT	Neil Gehrels Swift Observatory

Sources: 1: A detailed description can be found at <https://www.oapd.inaf.it/sede-di-asiago/telescopes-and-instrumentations/schmidt-6792>; 2: Hu et al. 2026, in prep.; 3: Brown et al. (2013), 4: Steele et al. (2004), 5: Djupvik & Andersen (2010), 6: Yuan et al. (2020), 7: Wang et al. (2019), 8: Tonry et al. (2018), 9: Chambers et al. (2016), 10: Roming et al. (2005).

Appendix B: Best-fit light-curve model for SN 2024acyl and comparisons

Table B.1. MOSFiT multi-band light-curve fitting results of SN 2024acyl with RD+CSI model. The parameters are converted to linear space.

Parameters	Unit	Prior	Posterior ($n = 10$)	Posterior ($n = 12$)
Shell-like CSM ($s = 0$)				
f_{Ni}	–	$\log \mathcal{U}(10^{-3}, 0.1)$	$0.036^{+0.010}_{-0.007}$	$0.063^{+0.020}_{-0.016}$
E_k	10^{51} erg	$\log \mathcal{U}(0.01, 1.0)$	$0.06^{+0.01}_{-0.01}$	$0.04^{+0.01}_{-0.01}$
M_{CSM}	M_{\odot}	$\log \mathcal{U}(0.05, 0.8)$	$0.51^{+0.05}_{-0.04}$	$0.52^{+0.06}_{-0.03}$
M_{ej}	M_{\odot}	$\log \mathcal{U}(0.1, 10.0)$	$0.49^{+0.11}_{-0.09}$	$0.29^{+0.10}_{-0.06}$
R_0	AU	$\log \mathcal{U}(10, 30)$	$17.8^{+3.6}_{-3.0}$	$19.5^{+3.9}_{-3.7}$
ρ	g cm^{-3}	$\log \mathcal{U}(1 \times 10^{-14}, 8 \times 10^{-9})$	$8.3^{+2.7}_{-1.2} \times 10^{-12}$	$8.9^{+1.8}_{-1.5} \times 10^{-12}$
Wind-like CSM ($s = 2$)				
f_{Ni}	–	$\log \mathcal{U}(10^{-3}, 0.1)$	$0.060^{+0.014}_{-0.010}$	$0.085^{+0.010}_{-0.016}$
E_k	10^{51} erg	$\log \mathcal{U}(0.01, 1.0)$	$0.04^{+0.01}_{-0.01}$	$0.02^{+0.01}_{-0.01}$
M_{CSM}	M_{\odot}	$\log \mathcal{U}(0.05, 0.8)$	$0.54^{+0.09}_{-0.04}$	$0.66^{+0.05}_{-0.04}$
M_{ej}	M_{\odot}	$\log \mathcal{U}(0.1, 10.0)$	$0.30^{+0.05}_{-0.05}$	$0.21^{+0.05}_{-0.02}$
R_0	AU	$\log \mathcal{U}(10, 30)$	$16.6^{+1.2}_{-0.8}$	$14.1^{+3.3}_{-2.6}$
ρ	g cm^{-3}	$\log \mathcal{U}(1 \times 10^{-14}, 8 \times 10^{-9})$	$9.8^{+1.5}_{-2.5} \times 10^{-12}$	$8.7^{+3.6}_{-2.4} \times 10^{-12}$

Notes: $\log \mathcal{U}(a, b)$ denotes a Log-Uniform prior distribution between a and b . $\mathcal{U}(a, b)$ denotes a Uniform distribution. Posterior values for log-parameters have been converted to a linear scale (median with 16th and 84th percentiles mapped accordingly).

Appendix C: Log of spectroscopic observations

Table C.1. Log of the spectroscopic observations of SN 2024acyl.

Date	MJD	Phase ^a (d)	Instrumental setup	Grism/Grating	Spectral range (Å)	Exposure time (s)	Resolution (Å)
20241204	60648.8	−3.7	0.3 m Telescope+N300	ALPY200	3800–7400	1800×4	$R \approx 130$
20241206	60650.1	−2.4	NTT+EFOSC2	gr13	3280–9270	1500	21
20241207	60651.7	−0.8	LJT+YFOSC	gm3	3610–8900	2200	18
20241208	60652.1	−0.4	NTT+EFOSC2	gr11	3650–9240	2300	16
20241209	60653.0	+0.5	TNG+DOLORES	LR-B	3340–8120	1500	15
20241209	60653.0	+0.5	TNG+DOLORES	VHR-V	5070–6780	1500	3.5
20241209	60653.2	+0.7	NTT+EFOSC2	gr11	3380–7480	3600	16
20241210	60654.0	+1.5	NTT+EFOSC2	gr11	3370–7490	3600	16
20241210	60654.3	+1.8	Lick Shane+Kast	4310/7500	3610–10,750	2760/2700	9.3
20241224	60668.1	+15.6	NTT+EFOSC2	gr11	3370–7480	3600	16
20241227	60671.1	+18.6	NTT+EFOSC2	gr16	6020–10,000	3600	16
20250107	60682.1	+29.6	NTT+EFOSC2	gr11	3370–7480	3600	16
20250120	60695.3	+42.8	Gemini North+GMOS-N	B480	3650–9240	900×2+900×2	$R \approx 750$

^aPhases are relative to o -band maximum light (MJD = 60652.49 ± 0.26; 2024-12-08) in the observer frame.

Appendix D: MOSFiT corner plots of SN 2024acyl

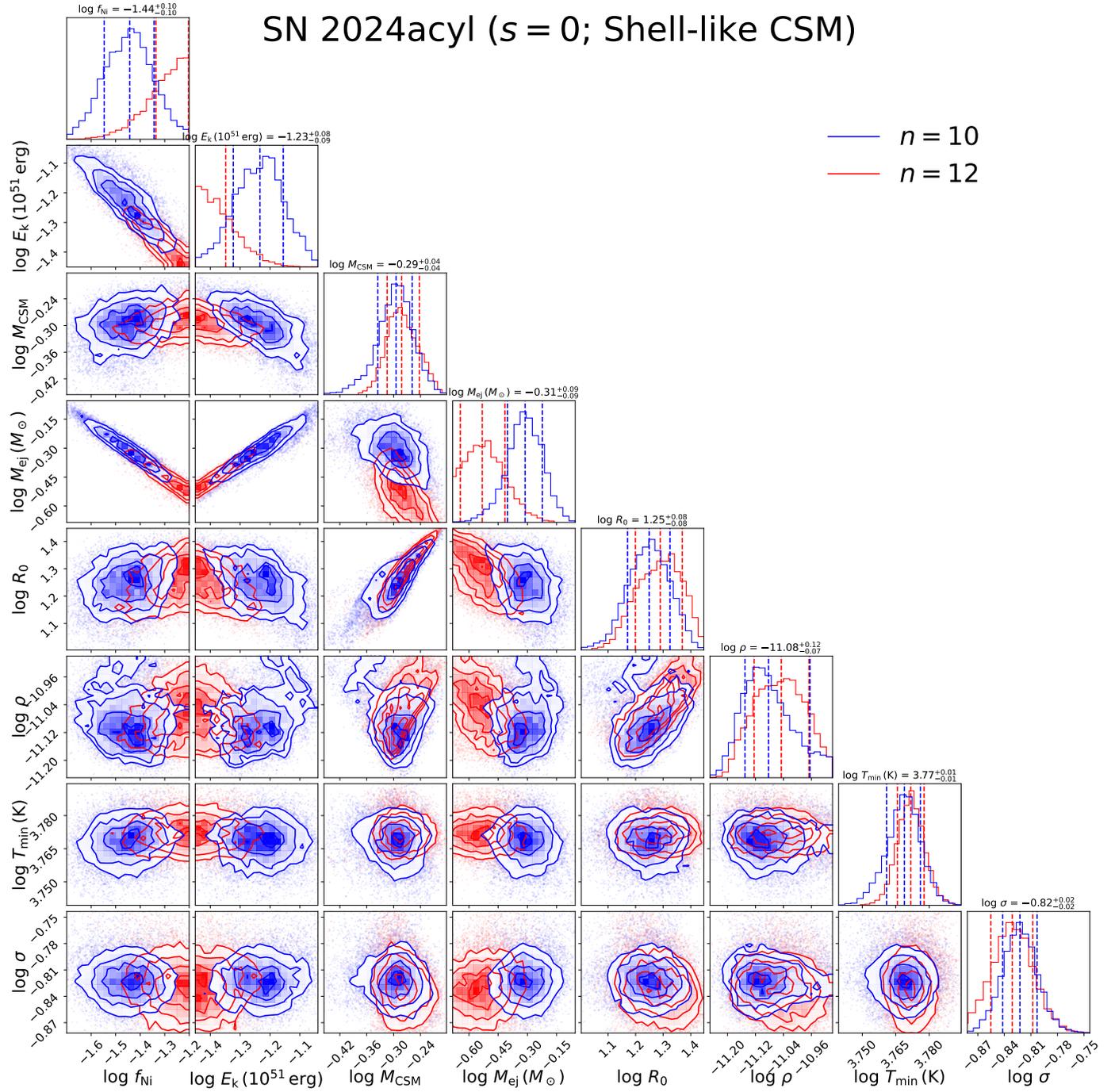


Fig. D.1. Corner plots showing the posterior distributions of the estimated parameters for SN 2024acyl, based on the Ni+CSM model using MOSFiT. All the models adopted the CSM density profile $s = 0$ (shell-like CSM). The blue region represents outer ejecta density profile $n = 10$ while red region represents $n = 12$. Median values are marked by dashed vertical lines, with the shaded regions representing the 68% confidence intervals.