XMM–Newton large programme on SN1006 – II. Thermal emission

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ABSTRACT
Based on the XMM–Newton large programme on SN1006 and our newly developed tools for spatially resolved spectroscopy analysis as described in Li et al. (Paper I), we study the thermal emission from interstellar medium (ISM) and ejecta of SN1006 by analysing the spectra extracted from 583 tessellated regions dominated by thermal emission. With some key improvements in spectral analysis as compared to Paper I, we obtain much better spectral fitting results with significantly less residuals. The spatial distributions of the thermal and ionization states of the ISM and ejecta show significantly different features, which are in general consistent with a scenario that the ISM (ejecta) is heated and ionized by the forward (reverse) shock propagating outward (inward). Different heavy elements show different spatial distributions so different origins, with Ne mostly from the ISM, Si and S mostly from the ejecta, and O and Mg from both the ISM and ejecta. Fe L-shell line emissions are only detected in a small shell-like region south-east (SE) to the centre of SN1006, indicating that most of the Fe-rich ejecta has not yet or just recently been reached by the reverse shock. The overall abundance patterns of the ejecta for most of the heavy elements, except for Fe and sometimes for S, are consistent with typical Type Ia SN products. The north-west (NW) half of the supernova remnant interior between the NW shell and the soft X-ray brighter SE half probably represents a region with turbulently mixed ISM and ejecta, so has enhanced emission from O, Mg, Si, and S, lower ejecta temperature, and a large diversity of ionization age. In addition to the asymmetric ISM distribution, an asymmetric explosion of the progenitor star is also needed to explain the asymmetric ejecta distribution.

Key words: acceleration of particles – shock waves – methods: data analysis – cosmic rays – ISM: supernova remnants – X-rays: ISM.

1 INTRODUCTION
The thermal X-ray emission from young supernova remnants (SNRs) is often comprised of different components. These X-ray emission components are produced by the interstellar medium (ISM) and supernova (SN) ejecta shocked by the SNR blast wave or the reverse shock. These shocked plasma components mix with each other either physically or in projection, producing different thermal, chemical, and ionizational states in the observed X-ray spectra. Decomposing these plasma components plays an important role in understanding the underionized plasma, energy non-equipartition between different particles, and shock history of the post-shock gas.

The historical Type Ia SNR SN1006 (e.g. Stephenson 2010) is one of the best cases suitable for the study of the spatial distributions of different hot plasma components. First, owing to its high Galactic latitude ($b = 14.6^\circ$), the foreground extinction to SN1006 is relatively low ($N_{\text{H}} = 6.8 \times 10^{20} \text{ cm}^{-2}$; Dubner et al. 2002) among the Galactic SNRs. Therefore, soft X-ray emission lines from some relatively light elements, for example, oxygen, are particularly strong compared to other young SNRs of the same type (e.g. the Tycho’s SNR; Decourchelle et al. 2001; G1.9+0.3; Borkowski et al. 2013). Secondly, the density of the surrounding medium of SN1006 is low ($n_0 \sim 0.3 \text{ cm}^{-3}$; Dubner et al. 2002). As a result, SN1006 likely stays in the earliest evolutionary stage among the few historical SNRs (Tycho, Kepler, Cas A, etc.), although it is already over a
thousand years old. This is another key reason of the particularly strong oxygen lines, because most of the oxygen atoms have not yet been completely ionized. The shocked plasma properties of SN1006 show significant dispersion, and some heavy elements, such as Fe, even appear to be newly shocked (e.g. Yamaguchi et al. 2008). SN1006 is thus a potential candidate for studying the shock heating and ionization of the ISM and the SN ejecta at very early stage of an SNR’s hydrodynamic evolution. Thirdly, the distance to SN1006 is just \( \approx 2.18 \) kpc (Winkler, Gupta & Long 2003). As a result, the X-ray image shows many well-resolved features (e.g. Miceli et al. 2009; Uchida, Yamaguchi & Koyama 2013; Winkler et al. 2014) which are large and bright enough for spatially resolved spectral analysis.

In Li et al. (2015, Paper I), we have conducted spatially resolved spectroscopy analysis of SN1006 based on our newly developed tools, as well as our XMM–Newton Large Programme (LP) and archival data. We have constructed images of many parameters based on spectral modelling of 3596 tessellated regions with a 1-T model plus a non-thermal synchrotron component and various background components. In particular, we found that the Fe abundance estimated based on the 1-T model is enhanced only in a small region located off the geometric centre and to the south-east (SE) of the SNR. This strongly suggests that the Fe-rich ejecta is newly shocked, consistent with the low ionization state of Fe lines as revealed in both X-ray emission lines (e.g. Yamaguchi et al. 2008; Uchida et al. 2013) and optical/UV absorption lines from background sources (e.g. Wu et al. 1993; Hamilton et al. 1997; Winkler et al. 2005). Furthermore, we also found multiple peaks in the probability distribution functions (PDFs) of the temperature \((kT)\) and ionization parameter \((n_e T)\) of the single-temperature plasma. This indicates that even in regions as small as a few tens of arcseconds (the typical size of the tessellated regions as adopted in Paper I), there could be significant variations of the thermal and ionizational states of the plasma. We also found some significant residuals in the spectral fitting of some regions. This indicates that further improvement in spectral decomposion and modelling are needed.

In this paper, we will decompose the thermal emission of SN1006 into the ISM and ejecta components and further study their spatial distributions. The paper is organized as follows: in Section 2, we describe several improvements of the spectral analysis procedures as adopted in Paper I and the new ‘2-T’ model used to decompose the ISM and ejecta components. In Section 3, we present the key results based on the updated analysis of the thermal emission of SN1006 and discuss their scientific implications. Our main results and conclusions are summarized in Section 4.

2 SPATIALLY RESOLVED SPECTRAL ANALYSIS OF THE REGIONS DOMINATED BY THERMAL EMISSION

2.1 Tessellated meshes and spectra extraction

The XMM–Newton LP on SN1006, the processes of data reduction, and the methods of spatially resolved spectroscopy analysis have been described in detail in Paper I.

In Paper I, we conducted spatially resolved spectral analysis in 3596 tessellated regions each contains \( \geq 10^4 \) counts in 0.3–8 keV. This high-resolution run is sufficient to decompose the thermal and non-thermal components in the spectra and to roughly characterize the average thermal (traced by the electron temperature \(kT\)) and ionization states (traced by the ionization parameter \(n_e T\)) of the plasma. However, the tessellated regions in Paper I typically have too few photons to resolve the Si-K\(_\alpha\) lines at \( \sim 1.8 \) keV, which are known to be broader than expected from a single non-equilibrium ionization (NEI) model in SN1006 (e.g. Yamaguchi et al. 2008; Uchida et al. 2013), therefore plays a key role in studying the diversity of the thermal and ionizational states of the plasma. Furthermore, in order to save computer time, we have stacked the spectra extracted from different observations in Paper I. Because there is a deficiency in the low-energy calibration of the PN camera, the energy response of the low-energy spectra of PN is changing with time (Dennerl et al. 2004). As a result, the direct stacking of the spectra taken at different times causes significant residual in fitting the low-energy spectra of PN (typically at \( \lesssim 1 \) keV). This is the main reason of the large \( \chi^2/\text{d.o.f.} \) (often \( > 2.0 \)) of the spectra dominated by thermal emission in Paper I (the residuals are mainly in the energy range dominated by the O VII and O VIII lines).

In this paper, we improve the spectral analysis procedures as adopted in Paper I in the following ways. First, we focus on the thermal emission from the interior region of SN1006. We filter out the north-east (NE) and south-west (SW) limbs dominated by non-thermal emission using an elliptical region shown in Fig. 1. It is generally difficult to study the properties of different thermal emission components in the two limbs dominated by non-thermal emission. Second, we reconstruct the tessellated meshes to extract spectra with higher signal-to-noise ratios. We set a threshold that each mesh contains \( \geq 10^4 \) counts in the energy range of the Si K\(_\alpha\) bump (1.66–1.95 keV, typically including emission lines from Si IX to Si XIII; Paper I). The spectra extracted from each tessellated regions are thus typically sufficient to resolve all the prominent soft X-ray emission lines (O VIII, O VII, Ne, Mg, Si, and in many cases S). 583 regions are created within the elliptical region dominated by thermal emission (Fig. 1). We call the analysis based on these meshes the ‘low-resolution run’, in contrast to the ‘high-resolution run’ presented in Paper I. Thirdly, we create the redistribution matrix file for all the spectra extracted from the three instruments (MOS-1, MOS-2, and PN) of the 15 observations and the 583 regions, instead of using the templet response files in Paper I. Finally, we jointly fit
the spectra extracted from different observations instead of stacking them and directly fitting the stacked spectra. Examples of the spectra extracted from individual meshes are shown in Fig. 2, which show significant O vii, O viii, Ne, Mg, Si emission line features and some weak residuals at higher energy probably from emission lines of heavier elements.

2.2 Spectral model

The plasma of SN1006 is comprised of various components with different thermal, chemical, and ionizational states (e.g. Yamaguchi et al. 2008; Miceli et al. 2012; Uchida et al. 2013). In Paper I, we have adopted a simple VNEI+SRCUT model plus three Gaussian lines representing the O vii high level transitions not included in the VNEI code (Kδ, Kε, Kζ), in addition to several background components. This model is insufficient to decompose the various plasma components and often produce significant residuals in some prominent emission lines (e.g. the Si-Kα lines at ~1.8 keV). We herein adopt a ‘2-T’ model (two VNEI) representing the various plasma components, plus an SRCUT model to describe the residual non-thermal emission, three linked Gaussian lines representing the O vii Kβ – ζ transitions, and the same background components as adopted in Paper I. The two VNEI components are assumed to be from the shocked ISM and ejecta, respectively. Both of them (also the SRCUT and Gaussian lines) are subject to the foreground extinction of N_H = 6.8 × 10^{20} cm^{-2} (Dubner et al. 2002).

We fix most of the parameters of the ISM component. First, we assume solar abundance for all the heavy elements (using the abundance table from Anders & Grevesse 1989), consistent with an ISM assumption. Secondly, we noticed that the temperature of the ISM component cannot be well constrained. This is because the ISM mostly contributes to the oxygen and neon lines at < 1 keV, and most of the higher energy lines are dominated by the ejecta component (e.g. Fig. 2). The relatively narrow energy range and small number of available emission lines makes the plasma temperature poorly constrained in most of the regions. Instead of directly determining it from spectral fitting, we fix the ISM temperature at 1.5 keV, the value obtained from a careful analysis of the SE edge of the SNR (Miceli et al. 2012). We caution that this assumption may be incorrect for some regions known to have lower temperature shocked ISM [e.g. the north-west (NW) rim; Paper I], but will typically not affect our determination of the ejecta properties because the ISM component usually has much lower abundances than the ejecta and does not contribute significantly to the high-energy emission lines such as those from Si and S (mostly from the ejecta).

With most of the parameters fixed, there are only two free parameters of the ISM component: the ionization parameter n_e/\tau_{ISM} and the normalization.

For the ejecta component, most of the parameters are set free, including the temperature (kT_{ej}), the ionization parameter n_e/\tau_{ej}, the redshift (converted to the line of sight velocity v_{ej}), the value obtained from a careful analysis of the SE edge of the SNR (Miceli et al. 2012). Therefore, the fitted absolute value of the O abundance (and also the abundances of other heavy elements) may have large uncertainties. Furthermore, the degree of microscopic mixing between shocked ISM and ejecta is poorly known, so the absolute abundances of heavy elements are also poorly constrained theoretically. We have tested models with the O abundance fixed at different values (e.g. similar to those adopted in Yamaguchi et al. 2008; Uchida et al. 2013), but found no significant differences in the resultant abundance ratios between other heavy elements and O. In the following sections, we only present the abundance ratio between different elements and
oxygen for quantitative discussions. We also caution that the accuracy of the absolute O abundance affects the determination of the emission measure (EM) and thus the estimation of the electron number density \((n_e)\). Different from Paper I, the S abundance is set free, independent on the Si abundance, as there are often some S line features which could be roughly characterized based on the high counting statistic at even \(\gtrsim 2\) keV (e.g. Fig. 2). Since the Fe K-shell line features cannot be resolved in the spectra of most regions (they are detected in the spectra of the whole SNR; Paper I), the Fe abundance is constrained with the L-shell lines which form a bump at \(\sim 1\) keV. The Ni abundance is linked to the value of Fe, while the C, N, Ar, and Ca abundances are fixed at solar values because the emission lines from them are too weak in our spectra.

The Gaussian lines representing the \(\text{O}^{\text{VII}}\) high level transitions are also subject to the same redshift and foreground extinction as the \(\text{V}^{\text{NEI}}\) component of the ejecta. Similar as in Paper I, we assume the instrumental broadening is the only source of broadening for these lines. The centroid energy of the three lines is also fixed at 0.714, 0.723, and 0.730 keV, respectively. We further link the normalization ratio of them by \(\text{K}/\text{K}=\text{K}/\text{K}/\text{K}=0.5\) (Yamaguchi et al. 2008). There is thus only one free parameter of these Gaussian lines: the normalization of the \(\text{O}^{\text{VII}}\) K\(\delta\) line.

The non-thermal and background components are the same as adopted in Paper I. In particular, the normalization of the \(\text{SRCUT}\) is fixed at the value converted from the 1.4 GHz flux-accurate image of Dyer, Cornwell & Maddalena (2009), while the photon index \(\alpha\) and cutoff frequency \(\nu_{\text{cutoff}}\) are set free. All the background parameters are fixed and scaled from the background spectra presented in the appendix of Paper I.

As a key improvement from Paper I, we jointly fit the spectra extracted from different observations. In order to account for the deficiency in the low-energy calibration of the PN camera, we convolve a Gain model to each PN spectra. Similar as in Paper I, the slope of the Gain is fixed at 1 and the offset of each observation is also fixed at 0.714, 0.723, and 0.730 keV, respectively. We further multiply a constant normalization factor to all of the spectra, in order to account for the possible difference in area scale and calibration bias of the spectra extracted from different instruments and different observations.

Examples of the fitted spectra from individual regions are presented in Fig. 2, and the best-fitting parameters are summarized in Table 1. Since calculating errors of spectral parameters is very time consuming, we do not finish error calculation in the spectral analysis of all the regions. Instead, we show the typical values of two example regions in Table 1.

We have individually checked the spectra extracted from all the regions to confirm that the fitting is at least reasonable. The \(\chi^2/\text{d.o.f.}\) map is shown in Fig. 3. Compared to the ‘1-T’ fitting of the stacked spectra in Paper I, the \(\chi^2/\text{d.o.f.}\) reduces significantly in this joint spectral analysis with a ‘2-T’ model. The maximum \(\chi^2/\text{d.o.f.}\) in this ‘2-T’ fit of the low-resolution run is 1.35, compared to 2.81 for the high-resolution run with less spectral features in Paper I.

Similar as in Paper I, we also derive some parameters from the direct spectral fitting parameters. In particular, the electron number density \(n_e\) is derived from the normalization of the \(\text{V}^{\text{NEI}}\), using the same geometric model as Paper I (originally from Miceli et al. 2012). We caution that this shell-like geometric model is for the shocked ISM, which may not be optimized for the ejecta component. However, since the structure of the ejecta is not well constrained, we adopt the same geometric model as the ISM for

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\begin{array}{cccc}
\hline
\text{Parameter} & \text{reg100515} & \text{reg100573} \\
\log(n_e/\text{cm}^{-3})_{\text{ISM}} & 9.320^{+0.034}_{-0.103} & 8.948^{+0.220}_{-0.076} \\
\alpha & 0.76^{+0.07}_{-0.05} & 0.73^{+0.01}_{-0.02} \\
kT_{\text{ejecta}}/\text{keV} & 1.29^{+0.25}_{-0.26} & >9.2 \\
\log(n_e/\text{cm}^{-3})_{\text{ejecta}} & 9.065^{+0.070}_{-0.089} & 9.532^{+0.008}_{-0.021} \\
\alpha_{\text{ejecta}} & 0.26^{+0.02}_{-0.05} & 0.27^{+0.01}_{-0.02} \\
Z_{\text{O,ejecta}}/\text{Solar} & <20 & 2.39^{+0.74}_{-0.53} \\
(Z_{\text{Ne}}/Z_{\text{O}})_{\text{ejecta}} & 0.62^{+0.21}_{-0.19} & 0.28^{+0.03}_{-0.02} \\
(Z_{\text{Mg}}/Z_{\text{O}})_{\text{ejecta}} & 3.78^{+0.89}_{-0.91} & 1.43^{+0.12}_{-0.13} \\
(Z_{\text{Si}}/Z_{\text{O}})_{\text{ejecta}} & 3.25^{+1.07}_{-0.64} & 2.21^{+0.37}_{-0.95} \\
(Z_{\text{Zn}}/Z_{\text{O}})_{\text{ejecta}} & <0.39 & <0.13 \\
\nu_{\text{cutoff}}/\text{Hz} & 1238^{+264}_{-184} & 2818^{+75}_{-443} \\
\alpha & 0.11^{+0.06}_{-0.01} & 0.1(\text{< 0.103}) \\
\chi^2/\text{d.o.f.} & 704.14/603 & 1417.55/1258 \\
\hline
\end{array}
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**Table 1.** Parameters and errors of the two example regions shown in Fig. 1. Errors are statistical only and are quoted at 90 per cent confidence level.

**Figure 3.** \(\chi^2/\text{d.o.f.}\) of the ‘2-T’ joint spectral fit of the low-resolution run. The maximum \(\chi^2/\text{d.o.f.}\) is 1.347, while the minimum value is 0.859.

a rough estimation of \(n_e\). As mentioned above, another potential uncertainty in estimating \(n_e\) is the absolute abundance of oxygen, which shows a significant degeneracy with the normalization of the \(\text{V}^{\text{NEI}}\). For the ISM component, it is generally reliable to fix the oxygen abundance at solar, but for the ejecta, it makes a great difference whether the dominant species is hydrogen or oxygen (produces the most prominent emission features in soft X-ray). In this paper, we estimate \(n_e\) based on the best-fitting abundances of heavy elements. We further derive the ionization age \(t_{\text{ion}}\) from \(n_e\) and the directly fitted \(n_e\). \(t_{\text{ion}}\) has truly time dimension and tracks the ionization history corrected for the local density variation.
3 RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

3.1 Spatial distributions of the ISM and ejecta components

In Fig. 4, we present some of the parameter maps based on the joint spectral analysis with the ‘2-T’ model of the low-resolution run.

In general, all the parameters are in reasonable ranges, indicating that the systematical analysis of the spectra is reliable. In particular, the temperature of the ejecta (Fig. 4a) is typically higher ($\sim 2.5$ keV) than obtained from the high-resolution run in Paper I (typically $\sim 1.5$ keV in the same region). This is because the Si lines are now included in the spectral fitting, which often need a high-temperature component (in most of the cases the ejecta) to describe. The line-of-sight velocity of the ejecta ($v_{\text{ejecta}}$; blue shifted defined as positive; Fig. 4b) has the highest value in the centre and decreases from inner to outer regions, consistent with an expanding shell geometry with most of the soft X-ray emission contributed by the ejecta in the near side. The typical value of $v_{\text{ejecta}}$ is $<5000$ km s$^{-1}$, also consistent with the measured proper motion of the non-thermal filaments (Winkler et al. 2014). The contribution of non-thermal emission, as indicated by the cutoff frequency of the SRCUT component (Fig. 4c; typically $<3 \times 10^{16}$ Hz), is much smaller than the NE and SW limbs ($\nu_{\text{cutoff}}$ is typically $>10^{17}$ Hz on the non-thermal filaments; Paper I).

The ionization age and electron number density ($n_e t$, $n_e$, and $t_{\text{ion}}$) of the ISM (Figs 4d–f) and ejecta (Figs 4g–i) are roughly in the same range as obtained from the high-resolution run (Paper I). There are some significant differences in the spatial distributions of these parameters of the ISM and ejecta components. For example, $n_e$ of the ISM is clearly centrally peaked, while $n_e t_{\text{ejecta}}$ has smoother distribution except for a ‘dark belt’ in the SE half of the SNR interior and the much lower values at the NW rim which is known to be dominated by the shocked high-density ISM (e.g. Nikolić et al. 2013). The difference in $n_e$ of the ISM and ejecta is even more significant, with the overall shape of the ISM component consistent with a
only present in some small regions which are not resolved in the low-resolution run. At high temperature ($kT \geq 2$ keV), $n_e t$ is quite stable in a narrow range of $(1.5 - 5) \times 10^9$ cm$^{-3}$ s. These data points mostly represent the shocked ejecta in the SE half of the SNR (Figs 4a and g). On the other hand, many regions in the NW half of the SNR has a low temperature of $\sim$1 keV (Fig. 4a); the ionization states of them are quite diverse with $n_e t$ in a range from $5 \times 10^8$ cm$^{-3}$ s to $>10^{10}$ cm$^{-3}$ s. The gradual decrease of $n_e t$ of ejecta from SE to NW (Fig. 4h) and the relatively large $n_e t$ of ejecta (Fig. 4i) of these regions are consistent with the above scenario that they represent the turbulent mixing region between the shocked ISM and ejecta. Their relatively low temperature may be naturally explained by the adiabatic cooling caused by the fast expansion of this region.

The discussions presented in this section are mainly based on the qualitative trends shown in the parameter maps. To our knowledge, there is no dedicated 3D numerical simulations of SN1006 considering the particle acceleration and surrounding ISM distribution. Such hydrodynamical simulations, coupled with the NEI code (e.g. Ferrand et al. 2012; Orlando et al. 2016), could be quantitatively compared to the parameter maps shown in this paper. As a well-studied SNR in a relatively uniform environment, such a quantitative comparison between models and observations of SN1006 will play a key role in understanding the hydrodynamical evolution of Type Ia SNRs.

### 3.2 Metal abundances of the SN ejecta

The abundance or abundance ratio (to oxygen) maps of different elements are presented in Fig. 6. As discussed in Section 2.2 and Paper I, the absolute abundances of heavy elements are difficult to determine because of the degeneracy of abundance and EM in spectral fitting. Although this effect may significantly affect the measurement of the O abundance, the overall trend of O distribution of the ejecta component (Fig. 6a) is consistent with what we found in Paper I through equivalent width (EW) and O abundance maps. The non-uniform and in many cases supersolar O abundance strongly indicate that O emission in SN1006 is not only from the ISM.

In contrast, the distribution of Ne in the ejecta is largely consistent with a primarily ISM origin (see Fig. 2 for an example). In most of the regions, the Ne abundance of the ejecta is consistent with the lower limit set in spectral fitting. Even some strong Ne emitting features such as the NW shell and the ‘dark belt’ revealed by the Ne EW and Ne abundance maps from the ‘1-T’ model in Paper I do not appear in the Ne abundance maps of the ejecta component here (Fig. 6b).

The Mg distribution is similar as O, but shows larger gradient, i.e. the Mg/O ratio shown in Fig. 6(c) is not uniform and similar as the O distribution. Therefore, similar as the O, there should also be some Mg contained in the ejecta. However, the O- or Mg-rich ejecta only appear in the NW half of the SNR representing the mixed ISM and ejecta between the forward and reverse shocks.

Si and S emission lines are mainly produced by the ejecta (e.g. Fig. 2). They also have similar spatial distributions (Figs 6d and e). A significant difference between Si/S and O/Mg distributions is that the former is centrally filled, so probably have two components: one coincide with the O/Mg-rich ejecta (high abundance in the NW half) and the other one distributes in the inner region or SE half without much O/Mg.

In most regions, the Fe abundance is consistent with the lower limit set in spectral fitting. Such a low Fe abundance may be biased as the major tracer of Fe emission is the L-shell lines around $\sim$1 keV, which are weak at low ionization states. As a result, in the absence...
of Fe K-shell lines in most of the regions, we may miss some Fe at low ionization states in the X-ray spectra (Fe II absorption lines are found towards some UV-bright background sources; e.g. Wu et al. 1993). In addition to the low ionization age of some shocked Fe, an alternative explanation of the low Fe abundance is that the Fe-rich ejecta may distribute in the inner region of the SNR and even not yet being reached by the reverse shock. This is indicated by the nearly shell-like Fe-rich feature with clearly supersolar Fe/O ratio (Fig. 6f). This feature also appears on the Si/O and S/O maps (Figs 6d and e) and is likely a recently shocked feature with $t_{\text{ion,ejecta}}$ probably slightly higher than the surrounding regions (Fig. 4i). The existence of both shocked and unshocked ejecta is further supported by UV absorption line studies of background sources (e.g. Hamilton et al. 1997).

The spatial distributions of ejecta, as traced by the emission or absorption lines of some heavy elements in both X-ray and UV/optical, are clearly asymmetric (e.g. Hamilton et al. 1997; Winkler et al. 2005; Yamaguchi et al. 2008; Uchida et al. 2013; also see Paper I and the above discussions). This asymmetric ejecta distribution could either be a result of asymmetric ambient ISM distribution (which could often produce strongly asymmetric outer shells and sometimes also asymmetric inner shells; e.g. Chen et al. 2008), or be produced by an asymmetric explosion of the progenitor star. The ambient gas distribution, as traced by H I 21-cm observation of the neutral gas (Dubner et al. 2002), optical emission line observations of the ionized gas (e.g. Winkler et al. 2003; Nikolić et al. 2013), or IR observations of the interstellar dust (Winkler et al. 2013), is clearly asymmetric. This asymmetric ISM distribution could explain the enhanced O, Mg, Si, and S emissions in the NW half of the SNR, which may be produced by the mixture of the shocked ISM and ejecta. The strong forward shock in this direction and possibly also the strong reverse shock may enhance the turbulent mixing of the post-shock gases. However, such an asymmetric ISM distribution cannot explain the strong Si, S, and Fe emission in the SE half of the SNR, where the pre-shock ISM density is much lower and the ejecta is most likely reverse shocked instead of mixing with the shocked ISM. Furthermore, the X-ray observation of the electron density distribution does not favour a strong asymmetry in post-shock density in the SE side (e.g. Miceli et al. 2009, 2012; Paper I). Therefore, the asymmetric SN explosion, instead of only asymmetric ISM distribution, is likely the major reason of the asymmetric ejecta distribution, as also suggested by the geometric models presented in other works (e.g. Hamilton et al. 1997; Winkler et al. 2005; Uchida et al. 2013).

In Fig. 7, we compare the abundances of some heavy elements (Ne, Mg, Si, S, Fe) of the ejecta to the nucleosynthesis yields predicted by some theoretical models from Iwamoto et al. (1999). Heavy elements in SN1006 can be divided into two clearly distinguished groups: O-Ne-Mg and Si-S. These two groups are synthesized in different processes in nuclear burning: O-Ne-Mg from C burning while Si-S from O burning. Compared to core collapsed SNR, in Type Ia SNR, the C burning products have much lower contribution to the abundance pattern in the ejecta than the O burning ones. Therefore, we conclude that the observed abundance patterns of the ejecta of SN1006 are consistent with standard Type Ia SN models for O, Ne, Mg, Si, and S, while inconsistent with the Type II SN model. However, the abundance of Fe, which is a product of Si burning, is always the lower limit in spectral fitting (as also shown in Fig. 6f) and inconsistent with the Type Ia SN model. This also occurs in some regions for S as indicated by the low S abundance branch in Fig. 7. The low abundance of Fe and S is most likely a result that a significant fraction of the SN ejecta, which is rich in Fe and sometimes S, has either a too low ionization state or not yet been reached by the reverse shock.
The relative abundances (to O) of different elements (Ne, Mg, Si, S, Fe) of the ejecta component. Data from the same region are connected together with a thin solid line. Theoretical model predictions of Type Ia (the classical deflagration model W7 and the delayed detonation model CDD1) and Type II (10–50 M\(_{\odot}\)) SNe from Iwamoto et al. (1999) are plotted with large filled circles connected with thick solid lines. The O-Si abundances are in general consistent with the Type Ia SN products, but the observed Fe and Mg are mostly originated from the ejecta. Most of the Fe-rich ejecta has not yet or just recently been reached by the reverse shock. This scenario is consistent with the above scenario for the ionization history. The abundance pattern of different elements in the ejecta is consistent with typical Type Ia SN products. The overall spatial distribution of heavy elements, such as the enhanced ejecta emission in the SE half of the SNR, supports a scenario of asymmetric explosion of the progenitor star of SN1006. In addition, the asymmetric ISM distribution also plays an important role in shaping the soft X-ray emission, such as the enhanced O, Mg, Si, and S emissions from the ejecta between the NW shell and the soft X-ray brighter SE half of the SNR.

4 SUMMARY

Based on the XMM–Newton LP on SN1006 and our newly developed tools for spatially resolved spectroscopy analysis as described in Paper I, we study the interior regions of SN1006 dominated by the thermal emission after excluding the two non-thermal limbs. We construct 583 tessellated regions (the low-resolution run) with a higher signal-to-noise ratio (compared to the high-resolution run presented in Paper I) in order to resolve all the prominent soft X-ray emission lines, including the Si lines at \(\sim 1.8\) keV. For each region, we jointly fit all the spectra extracted from different instruments and different observations with a '2-T' model plus the O vii K\(\beta\) – \(\xi\) lines, the non-thermal emission, and the background components. The two thermal components represent the ISM and ejecta contributions. The joint fitting with the '2-T' model significantly improves the spectral analysis, resulting in much lower \(\chi^2/d.o.f.\) values as compared to the '1-T' fitting of the stacked spectra in Paper I. We then construct maps of various parameters and discuss their scientific implications. Our key results are summarized below.

The spatial distributions of the thermal and ionization states (traced by \(n_t, n_e,\) and \(\epsilon_{\text{ion}}\)) of the ISM and ejecta show some significantly different features. In general, these features are consistent with a scenario that the ISM (ejecta) is heated and ionized by the forward (reverse) shock propagating outward (inward). The low surface brightness region between the NW shell and the X-ray brighter SE half of the SNR most likely represents the region between the forward and reverse shocks where the shocked ISM and ejecta turbulently mix with each other. For regions with \(kT_{\text{ejecta}} > 2\) keV, \(n_t/\text{H}_2\) is in a narrow range; these regions represent the reverse shocked ejecta mostly in the SE half of the SNR. On the other hand, for regions with lower \(kT_{\text{ejecta}}\), \(n_t/\text{H}_2\) is much more diverse, and may represent the mixed ISM and ejecta between the forward and reverse shocks.

Emission lines of different elements in and around SN1006 have different spatial distributions so probably different origins. Ne is mostly originated from the ISM, while a significant fraction of O and Mg are originated from the ejecta. Si and S are mostly from the ejecta. Most of the Fe-rich ejecta has not yet or just recently been reached by the reverse shock. This scenario is consistent with the above scenario for the ionization history. The abundance pattern of different elements in the ejecta is consistent with typical Type Ia SN products. The overall spatial distribution of heavy elements, such as the enhanced ejecta emission in the SE half of the SNR, supports a scenario of asymmetric explosion of the progenitor star of SN1006. In addition, the asymmetric ISM distribution also plays an important role in shaping the soft X-ray emission, such as the enhanced O, Mg, Si, and S emissions from the ejecta between the NW shell and the soft X-ray brighter SE half of the SNR.

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