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The Cas A CCO: An observer's view

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The compact object (presumably, a neutron star) at the center of the very young Cassiopeia A supernova remnant attracted a lot of attention because it possibly showed a fast cooling, much faster than in standard neutron star cooling theories. However, the conclusion about the fast cooling is based on observations with detectors that lose their sensitivity with time, and it involves some assumptions that are not always clearly spelled out in the papers. Having worked on the Cas A CCO observations since its discovery in 1999 and knowing firsthand the detector properties, we will present our current view on observed properties of this fascinating object.

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