Dead or Alive? Long-term evolution of SN 2015bh (SNhunt275)

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ABSTRACT

Supernova (SN) 2015bh (or SNhunt275) was discovered in NGC 2770 on 2015 February with an absolute magnitude of $M_r \sim -13.4$ mag, and was initially classified as a SN impostor. Here we present the photometric and spectroscopic evolution of SN 2015bh from discovery to late phases (~ 1 yr after). In addition, we inspect archival images of the host galaxy up to ~ 21 yr before discovery, finding a burst ~ 1 yr before discovery, and further signatures of stellar instability until late 2014. Later on, the luminosity of the transient slowly increases, and a broad light curve peak is reached after about three months. We propose that the transient discovered in early 2015 could be a core-collapse SN explosion. The pre-SN luminosity variability history, the long-lasting rise and faintness first light curve peak suggests that the progenitor was a very massive, unstable and blue star, which exploded as a faint SN because of severe fallback of material. Later on, the object experiences a sudden brightening of 3 mag, which results from the interaction of the SN ejecta with circumstellar material formed through repeated past mass-loss events. Spectroscopic signatures of interaction are however visible at all epochs. A similar chain of events was previously proposed for the similar interacting SN 2009ip.

Key words: galaxies: individual (NGC 2770) — stars: evolution — supernovae: general — supernovae: individual (SN 2015bh, SN 2009ip).

1 INTRODUCTION

Massive stars are known to lose mass via steady state winds or through dramatic eruptions in which they increase significantly their brightness, becoming intermediate-luminosity optical transients. In some cases, these non-terminal outbursts compete in luminosity with real supernovae (SNe), and may also mimic their observables. For this reason, they are commonly known as "SN impostors" (e.g. Van Dyk et al. 2000). As a consequence, these luminous eruptions of massive stars may be misclassified as genuine SNe. This is what frequently happens with giant eruptions of massive stars such as luminous blue variable (LBV) stars, whose spectra are characterised by incipient narrow (full-width-at-halfmaximum - FWHM - lower than about 1000 km s⁻¹) hydrogen lines in emission, resembling those observed in Type IIn SNe. In Type IIn SNe, the narrow features are usually interpreted as signatures of interaction between the SN ejecta and the circumstellar medium (CSM) embedding the SN. In general, the discrimination between SN impostors and

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Type IIn SNe is often controversial (see e.g. SN 2011htlike objects, Roming et al. 2012 and Mauerhan et al. 2013b; or even SN 1961V, Van Dyk et al. 2002; Chu et al. 2004; Kochanek et al. 2011; Van Dyk & Matheson 2012), and in some cases even the inspection of the sites in deep, highspatial resolution images obtained many years after the explosion does not provide unequivocal verdicts (e.g. see Van Dyk & Matheson 2012).

The mechanisms triggering these eruptions are still unknown (see Humphreys & Davidson 1994; Smith et al. 2011). A connection between some LBVs with SNe IIn as proposed by for example (Kotak & Vink 2006; Smith & Owocki 2006; Trundle et al. 2009), and occasionally LBVs have been proved to explode as bright SNe IIn (e.g., Gal-Yam et al. 2007; Gal-Yam & Leonard 2009). However, although LBVs are the most usual channel to explain the bursty activity of the SN impostors, these outburst have also been linked to lower mass stars (e.g. the cases of SN 2008S and NGC 3000-OT; Smith et al. 2009, Bond et al. 2009), or the interaction of massive binaries (e.g. Kashi 2010). Outbursts of massive stars may be precursors of terminal SN explosions (e.g. see Ofek et al. 2014), and these instabilities are presumably related to physical processes occurring when the stars approach the end of their life (for instance, after the beginning of neon or oxygen burning - weeks to years prior the explosion; e.g. Fraser et al. 2013b; Smith & Arnett 2014). Such outbursts were very likely observed in a few cases, including LSQ13zm (Tartaglia et al. 2016), SN 2010mc (Ofek et al. 2013), or the well-studied case of SN 2009ip. The latter had experienced repeated outbursts from - at least -2009 to early 2012 (Pastorello et al. 2013), followed by a more luminous, double-peaked re-brightening in summerautumn 2012 (Pastorello et al. 2013; Fraser et al. 2013a; Mauerhan et al. 2013a; Prieto et al. 2013; Margutti et al. 2014; Graham et al. 2014). The mid-to-late 2012 event was interpreted as the terminal core-collapse SN explosion (e.g. Smith et al. 2014), as a merger burst event in a close binary system (Soker & Kashi 2013; Kashi et al. 2013), or as collisions of massive shells formed through repeated mass loss events with the progenitor still alive (Fraser et al. 2015; Moriya 2015). What is clear, in the case of SN 2009ip, is that there is a complex environment surrounding the central object (e.g. Levesque et al. 2014; Mauerhan et al. 2014; Margutti et al. 2014; Martin et al. 2015) which is impeding our inspection of the inner region of the nebula to verify whether the central star is still alive or not.

In other cases, repeated intermediate-luminosity outbursts have been registered, without leading (so far) to a SN explosion. This sample of rare transients includes SN 2000ch (Wagner et al. 2004; Pastorello et al. 2010), SNhunt248 (Mauerhan et al. 2015; Kankare et al. 2015), and UGC 2773-OT (Smith et al. 2016).

A recent example of a transient with a long variability history is SN 2015bh (α =09^h 09^m 35.12, δ =+33° 07′ 21″.3; J2000.0; Fig. 1), also known as SNhunt275, iPTF13efv, PSN J09093496+3307204 or PSN J09093506+3307221. It was discovered in NGC 2770 on 2015 February 07.39 UT, with an unfiltered magnitude of 19.9, by Stan Howerton and the Catalina Real Time Transient Survey (CRTS; Howerton et al. 2015)¹, although it was first detected in 2013 by the Intermediate Palomar Transient Factory (iPTF²; Ofek et al. 2016). Independent discoveries were also reported by Z.-j. Xu (Nanjing, Jiangsu, China) and X. Gao (Urumqi, Xinjiang, China; Howerton et al. 2015). A spectrum was taken on 2015 February 09.93 UTC (Elias-Rosa et al. 2015), by the Asiago Transient Classification Program (Tomasella et al. 2014). It shows a strong H α emission line with both a broad (FWHM ~ 6800 km s⁻¹) and a narrow (FWHM ~ 900 km s⁻¹) component, resembling the spectra of the SN/impostors 2000ch (Wagner et al. 2004; Pastorello et al. 2010) and 2009ip (before the explosion of June 2012; e.g. Pastorello et al. 2013).

In this manuscript, we investigate the nature of SN 2015bh. In the next section (section 2), we describe the host galaxy of SN 2015bh. In sections 3 and 4, we present the photometric and spectroscopic results, and in section 5 we constrain the properties of the progenitor star. The combination of all this information is discussed in detail in section 6. Finally the main results are summarised in section 7. Notice that a study on SN 2015bh has already been published by Ofek et al. (2016), and further discussed by Soker & Kashi (2016) and Thöne et al. (2016), confirming the complex nature of SN 2015bh. Different possible interpretations of the chain of events of this object are presented in these works (6).

2 HOST GALAXY, DISTANCE AND REDDENING OF SN 2015BH

The host galaxy, NGC 2770, is morphologically classified as a spiral galaxy with a small bulge, open and clumpy spiral arms, and large H_I mass $[SA(s)c^3]$. Its star-formation rate is comparable to the values estimated for the Milky Way. The galaxy has a small irregular companion, NGC 2770B, with high star-formation rate (see e.g. Thöne et al. 2009). NGC 2770 has already hosted three Type Ib SNe: 1999eh (Hurst et al. 1999), 2007uy, and 2008D (see e.g. Soderberg et al. 2008; Mazzali et al. 2008), being consequently branded as a possible SN Ib factory (Thöne et al. 2009).

Throughout the paper, we will adopt a distance to NGC 2770 of 29.3 ± 2.1 Mpc ($\mu = 32.33\pm0.15$ mag), as derived from the recessional velocity of the galaxy (Haynes et al. 1997) corrected for Local Group infall into the Virgo cluster (Mould et al. 2000) $v_{Vir} = 2137 \pm 17$ km s⁻¹(z = 0.007), and assuming $H_0 = 73$ km s⁻¹Mpc⁻¹ (values taken from NED).

We will also adopt the total reddening value of $E(B-V) = 0.21^{+0.08}_{-0.05}$ mag towards SN 2015bh, as derived by Thöne et al. (2016) from the equivalent width of the interstellar Na ID lines in a high-resolution spectrum taken on 2015 June 04.

¹ http://nesssi.cacr.caltech.edu/catalina/current.html

http://www.ptf.caltech.edu/iptf/

³ NED, NASA/IPAC Extragalactic Database; http://nedwww.ipac.caltech.edu/



Figure 1. *R*- and *r*-band images of SN 2015bh in NGC 2770 obtained with the 2.56 m Nordic Optical Telescope+ALFOSC at Roque de los Muchachos Observatory (Spain) on 2008 January 12 (a), 2015 March 27 (b), and 2015 May 25 (c). The locations of the transient and those of the three SNe exploded in NGC 2770 are indicated.

3 PHOTOMETRY

3.1 Observations and data reduction

Optical UBVRI (Johnson Cousins system) and ugriz (Sloan system) images of SN 2015bh were taken using a large number of observing facilities, listed in Table A1. We also collected archival and unfiltered data from amateur astronomers taken since 1994, i.e. ~ 21 yr before the target discovery. The data set was completed with images taken in the near infrared (NIR) domain, and observations from space telescopes such as the Ultraviolet and Optical Telescope (UVOT) on board of the SWIFT satellite, and the Hubble Space Telescope (HST).

Photometric observations were pre-processed following the standard recipe in IRAF⁴ for CCD images (overscan, bias, and flat-field corrections). For infrared exposures, we also applied an illumination correction and sky background subtraction using the external IRAF package NOTCam (version 2.5)⁵ for the NOT images and a custom IDL routines for the CPAPIR images (Artigau et al. 2004). The SN magnitudes were measured using a dedicated pipeline (SNOoPY; Cappellaro 2014). This consists of a collection of PYTHON scripts calling standard IRAF tasks (through PYRAF), and other specific analysis tools, in particular SEX-TRACTOR, for instrument extraction and star/galaxy separation, DAOPHOT, to measure the instrumental magnitude via point-spread function (PSF) fitting, and HOTPANTS⁶, for image difference with PSF matching.

In order to calibrate the transient's instrumental magnitudes to standard photometric systems, we used SDSS stars in the field as reference. When needed, these were converted to the Johnson Cousins system using the relations in Chonis & Gaskell (2008). For the infrared photometry, we used as reference for the calibration the Two Micron All Sky Survey (2MASS) catalog.

Unfiltered instrumental magnitudes from a mateur images were also measured through the PSF fitting technique. These were then rescaled to Sloan r-band magnitudes, as this best matches the quantum efficiency peaks of the detectors used for these observations.

When the transient was not detected, upper limits were estimated, corresponding to a peak of 2.5 times the background standard deviation. Error estimates were obtained through an artificial star experiment, combined (in quadrature) with the PSF fit error returned by DAOPHOT, and the propagated errors from the photometric calibration.

The final calibrated magnitudes of SN 2015bh are listed in Tables A2, A3, and A4. Optical *UBVRI* and NIR data are reported in VEGAMAG scale, while *ugriz* data are in AB MAG scale.

 $SW\!I\!FT$ pointed to the field of SN 2015bh at different epochs since 2008 with ultraviolet (UV) and optical filters thanks to the follow-up campaigns of SNe 2007uy and 2008D. A preliminary analysis showed that the transient was not visible in 2008. We estimated upper limits of 19.6, 19.6, and 19.4 mag for SWIFT UVW2, UVM2, and UVW1 respectively. We therefore combined all images of 2008, and used the resulting stacked image as a template for the analysis of images obtained in subsequent epochs. The magnitudes of the transient were obtained using the pipeline from the Swift's Optical/Ultraviolet Supernova Archive (SOUSA; Brown et al. 2014), which uses revised zero-points on the UVOT-Vega system (Breeveld et al. 2011) and includes time-dependent sensitivity corrections. The derived magnitudes are listed in Table A5. As the UVOT U band is much bluer than Johnson Cousins U or Sloan u, we will treat these bands separately.

Finally, HST observed the SN 2015bh field with WFPC2 in a large set of filters between 2008 and 2009 (see Table A6). The magnitudes of the transient in VEGAMAG were obtained using the HSTPHOT⁷ package (Dolphin 2000).

 $^{^4\,}$ IRAF is distributed by the National Optical Astronomy Observatory, which is operated by the Associated Universities for Research in Astronomy, Inc., under cooperative agreement with the National Science Foundation.

⁵ http://www.not.iac.es/instruments/notcam/guide/observe.html

⁶ http://www.astro.washington.edu/users/becker/hotpants.html

 $^{^7\,}$ HSTPHOT is a stellar photometry package specifically designed

3.2 Light curves

The UVOT UV and uUBgVrRiIzJHK light curves of SN 2015bh after the discovery on 2015 February 07 are shown in Fig. 2. The light curve of the transient shows a slow rise of ~ 1.5 mag in around 100 d in all bands, which we label as the '2015a' event. This episode is followed by a sudden steeper increase in the light curve brightness (by about 3 magnitudes in less than 10 days), labelled as the '2015b' event (this re-brightening was also reported by de Ugarte Postigo et al. 2015, and independently detected by R. Arbour⁸, South Wonston, U.K.). This leads to a light curve peak of -17.81 mag in the *r* band, followed by a slow decline for the next 30 days. The observational campaign was subsequently interrupted because of the alignment with the Sun, and observations restarted about 3 months later. At that time, the transient was still visible but had dimmed by over 4 magnitudes (see Table A2). We also notice that, after the 2015b peak, the luminosity of the object decreases more rapidly in the blue bands than the red bands, indicating that the peak of the spectral energy distribution (SED) progressively shifts to longer wavelengths. Table 1 reports the peak magnitudes of the 2015a event, as well as the peak epochs and magnitudes for the 2015b event, all obtained by fitting the light curves with low-order polynomials. Post-maximum and tail decline rates are also disclosed in the same table. In the following, we will adopt as reference epoch that of the 2015b r-band maximum, i.e. 2015 May 24.28, or MJD 57166.28 ± 0.29

As we mentioned before, the site of SN 2015bh was monitored for more than 20 yr before the transient's discovery (see Fig. 1 and tables A2, A3, A5 and A6). A large fraction of data was collected by amateur telescopes, complemented by a few deep images obtained with the Isaac Newton Telescope (see Table A1) and the Pan-STARRS telescope (Kaiser et al. 2010) during its 3Π survey operations (the filter system and calibration are described in Magnier et al. 2013; Schlaffy et al. 2012; Tonry et al. 2012). In these deeper images, we detect a source at the position of SN 2015bh. In addition, examining the data from the extensive follow-up campaigns of SNe 2007uy and 2008D, additional detections are found in 2008 and 2009, including data taken with HST. Interestingly, the transient is detected only at red wavelengths during these years from ground-based telescopes, and we could obtain only upper limits in the other bands. In Fig. 3 we plot the historic rR absolute light curve of SN 2015bh (r magnitudes in the Sloan system have been scaled to the VEGAMAG system by adding a conversion value of 0.16; Blanton & Roweis 2007). The pre-discovery detections and upper limits indicate that the target likely remained at a magnitude below -14 for almost 21 yr, except for an outburst at $r \sim -14.5$ mag in December 2013 (detected with a 0.4m telescope), coincident with the iPTF detection (Duggan et al. 2015; Ofek et al. 2016). Neglecting this outburst, we may note a long-duration brightening, and some signatures of erratic variability.

The rR absolute magnitude light curve of SN 2015bh is compared in Fig. 3 with those of other objects with multi-

peaked light curves, namely the controversial SNe 1961V (Bertola 1963, 1964, 1965, 1967), 2009ip (Maza et al. 2009; Pastorello et al. 2010; Smith et al. 2010; Foley et al. 2011; Pastorello et al. 2013; Mauerhan et al. 2013a; Fraser et al. 2013a; Margutti et al. 2014; Fraser et al. 2015), SN 2010mc (Ofek et al. 2013), LSQ13zm (Tartaglia et al. 2016), and SNhunt248 (Kankare et al. 2015). Only the latter was clearly an impostor, although its multi-peaked light curve shows some resemblance with the other objects of the sample. The light curves of the comparison objects have been computed accounting for the distance and extinction values obtained from the literature⁹. From the comparison, we note that both the 2015a and 2015b events of SN 2015bh are fainter than the equivalent events observed in SNe 2009ip, 2010mc and LSQ13zm, but brighter than those of the impostor SNhunt248. All the precursor outbursts of these transients show shorter duration than 2015a, except for SN 1961V. In general, the absolute magnitude of SN 2015bh during the 2015b event falls in the interval of peak magnitudes observed in SNe IIn, which is between -16 and -19mag (Kiewe et al. 2012; the 2015a event reaches a maximum value of ~ -14.8 mag in the r band). It is significantly brighter than SNhunt248, which is one of the most luminous confirmed SN impostors. All of this may suggest that the 2015b event was an actual SN explosion. However, as we will see in section 4, spectroscopic considerations may lead to different conclusions.

One additional property is that, during the 2015a event, the SN 2015bh light curves possibly show some small-scale fluctuations superposed on the broad curvature (see Fig. 2). A more evident modulation was seen in the SN 2009ip light curve, although after the 2012b peak (e.g. Martin et al. 2015), and was attributed to clumps or heterogeneity in the gas shells expelled by the progenitor star in previous massloss events¹⁰

Finally, around 150 d after maximum, SN 2015bh has faded to $M_r = -13.26 \pm 0.17$ mag, ~4 mag dimmer than at maximum, showing a slow decline, mostly notable in the redder bands (see Table 1). This behaviour suggests a still ongoing CSM interaction. The luminosity at these phases is ~2 mag higher than at the first detection of SN 2015bh in March 2002 (see Table A3). Moreover, as we can see in Fig. 3, SN 2015bh remains always fainter than SN 2009ip at coeval epochs.

In Fig. 4, we show the evolution of intrinsic Johnson-Cousins colour indices for SN 2015bh, SN 2009ip, LSQ13zm and SNhunt248. SN 2015bh shows a relatively flat colour evolution during the 2015a event, but suddenly becomes bluer when the 2015b event takes place. After maximum it turns again toward the red and at late times, i.e. ≥ 150 d after the maximum light, the $(B-V)_0$ colour of SN 2015bh is roughly the same as that registered during the 2015a event.

for use with HST WFPC2 images. We used v1.1.7b, updated 8 these fluctuations September 2009. http://americano.dolphinsim.com/hstphot/ shells of material ex http://www.cbat.eps.harvard.edu/unconf/followups/J09093496+33077245t.dotmpassage.

⁹ SN 1961V: $E(B - V)_{tot} = 0.05 \text{ mag}, \mu = 29.84 \text{ mag};$ SN 2009ip: $E(B - V)_{tot} = 0.02 \text{ mag}, \mu = 32.05 \text{ mag};$ SN 2010mc: $E(B - V)_{tot} = 0.01 \text{ mag}, \mu = 35.79 \text{ mag};$ LSQ13zm: $E(B - V)_{tot} = 0.02 \text{ mag}, \mu = 35.43 \text{ mag};$ SNhunt248: $E(B - V)_{tot} = 0.05 \text{ mag}, \mu = 31.76 \text{ mag}.$

¹⁰ Soker & Kashi (2013) and Kashi et al. (2013) suggest that these fluctuations are consequence of the interaction between shells of material excreted from a progenitor binary system during 307264:http://www.passage.

A similar colour evolution is also seen in the comparison objects during the most luminous outbursts, whilst there are some differences during the first event.

We computed a pseudo-bolometric light curve of SN 2015bh for each event separately (see Fig. 5). The fluxes at the effective wavelengths were derived from extinctioncorrected apparent magnitudes. We computed the bolometric luminosity at epochs when observations in the r band were available. When no observation in another filter was available, the missing photometric point was recovered by interpolating the values from epochs close in time or, when necessary, by extrapolating the missing photometry assuming a constant colour. We estimated the pseudo-bolometric flux at each epoch integrating the SED using the trapezoidal rule, and assuming zero flux outside the integration boundaries. Finally, the luminosity was derived from the measured flux accounting for the adopted distance. For phases < -10d, we integrated the flux only for the optical wavelength range, i.e., from U to z band, while for the 2015b event, we computed the pseudo-bolometric curve considering first the optical bands only, and then including the UV and NIR bands.

The errors in the bolometric luminosity account for the uncertainties in the distance estimate, the extinction and the apparent magnitudes.

By fitting low order polynomials to the pseudobolometric light curve, we estimated that SN 2015bh reached a peak of luminosity of $(1.4 \pm 0.3) \times 10^{41}$ erg s⁻¹ during the first event, and $(29.3 \pm 6.1) \times 10^{41}$ erg s⁻¹ during the 2015b event – which increases to $(72.9 \pm 16.0) \times 10^{41}$ erg s⁻¹ if we include the UV and the NIR contribution (see Table 2). In Fig. 5, we include also the pseudo-bolometric light curves (from U to z band) of SN 2009ip, LSQ13zm and SNhunt248, which we calculated in a similar manner as that of SN 2015bh (for LSQ13zm we have no contribution estimated in the U band). As we can see in the figure, while the overall luminosity of SN 2015bh is fainter than those of SN 2009ip and LSQ13zm (but more luminous than SNhunt248).

4 SPECTROSCOPY

4.1 Observations and data reduction

Spectroscopic monitoring of SN 2015bh started soon after the discovery, on 2015 February 09.97 UT, and lasted until 2016 March 05.89 UT, interrupted by \sim 100 days when the transient was too close to the Sun. Basic information on our spectra is reported in Table A7.

All spectra were reduced following standard procedures with IRAF routines. The two-dimensional frames were debiased and flat-field corrected, before performing the extraction of the 1D spectra. The wavelength calibration was accomplished with the help of arc-lamp exposures obtained in the same night, and then the accuracy of the calibration was checked using night-sky lines. The spectra were flux calibrated using the high signal-to-noise exposure of spectrophotometric standards stars (Oke 1990; Hamuy et al. 1992, 1994). Finally, the flux calibrated spectra were checked against the photometry at coeval epochs and a correction factor was applied to the flux in case of discrepancy. The standard star spectra were also used to remove the strongest telluric absorption bands (in some cases, residuals are still present after the correction).

4.2 Evolution of the spectral continuum and the major features

Fig. 6 shows the sequence of optical spectra of SN 2015bh.

During the early stages of the 2015a event, i.e. from -100 d to -60 d, the spectra exhibit a mildly blue continuum and very little evolution. They are dominated by multi-component Balmer lines in emission and FeII features. Instead, the spectrum at -15.4 d (our last spectrum of the 2015a event), shows a red continuum, indicating that the temperature of the emitting regions has decreased (more detail is given below). However, at the onset of the 2015b event, the continuum temperature changes drastically, increasing by a factor two, and then cools down again when the luminosity declines. During the first days after maximum light, the only visible features in the spectra are the Balmer lines, along with weak He I λ 5876 (possibly blended with Na_I), λ 6678, and λ 7065 features. From +16 d onwards, when the continuum becomes redder, the HeI lines fade in intensity and the FeII line forest reappears. In particular, we note at some early epochs (< 30 d) the presence of one or two weak absorptions features on the blue side of the $H\alpha$ line.

At late phases (>130 d), when the transient was recovered after the seasonal gap, the spectra show a deep change. The narrow lines have disappeared and broad lines are now evident. The He I features are more intense, and lines of calcium such as Ca II] $\lambda\lambda$ 7291, 7323, and Ca II $\lambda\lambda$ 8498, 8542, 8662, along with sodium (Na I $\lambda\lambda$ 5891, 5897; possible blended with He I λ 5876) and weak oxygen (O I λ 7774 and λ 8446, and [O I] λ 5577 and $\lambda\lambda$ 6300, 6364) are also present. The H α profile has also changed showing now three components. See section 4.4 for more details.

The photospheric temperature is estimated by fitting the SED of SN 2015bh with a black-body function after removing the strongest features of the spectra. The temperature evolution of SN 2015bh is shown in the panel (a) of Fig. 7. A conservative uncertainty for the temperature of about \pm 500 K is assumed in our temperature estimates. As aforementioned, it increases from an average T_{bb} of 8500 K during the 2015a event, to $T_{\rm bb}\sim$ 20000 K at the peak of the 2015b event, after passing through a short-lasting temper ature minimum, at $T_{\rm bb} \sim$ 7100 K, just before the major re-brightening (see also Fig. 6). Within approximately 15 d from maximum light, the temperature decreases again to a similar value as during the 2015a event, i.e., ~ 8000 K. These values are comparable with those of SN 2009ip (e.g. Margutti et al. 2014), or luminous interacting SNe IIn (Taddia et al. 2013), but somewhat higher (by around 30 per cent) than those of LSQ13zm (Tartaglia et al. 2016).

Given the temperature and the pseudo-bolometric luminosity of SN 2015bh, we approximat the evolution of the radius of the photosphere. As displayed in panel (b) of Fig. 7, the photospheric radius could have a very slow increase from 1×10^{14} to 3×10^{14} cm in about 100 d. Then, the radius sharply increases during the re-brightening of SN 2015bh

Band ^a	$\mathrm{MJD}_{max,2015a}$	m _{max,2015a} (mag)	$\mathrm{MJD}_{max,2015b}$	m _{max,2015b} (mag)	Decline from max. $[mag (30d)^{-1}]^b$	Tail rate at $\gtrsim 150 \text{ d}$ [mag (100d) ⁻¹]
U	-	_	57165.04 (0.10)	14.67(0.05)	2.81(0.05)	-
В	57131.35(2.03)	18.87(0.06)	57165.34(0.33)	15.50(0.05)	1.27(0.05)	0.31 (0.05)
V	57134.07(1.00)	18.28(0.06)	57167.03(0.11)	15.38(0.05)	1.07(0.05)	0.72(0.13)
R	-	-	57166.71 (0.20)	15.11(0.05)	0.95(0.05)	0.52(0.21)
Ι	-	-	57166.26(0.13)	14.98(0.05)	$0.70 \ (0.05)$	1.21 (0.20)
и	-	-	-	-	2.28(0.50)	-
g	-	-	-	-	1.17(0.25)	0.38(0.07)
r	57132.35(1.00)	18.11(0.06)	57166.28(0.29)	15.10(0.20)	1.06(0.16)	0.46(0.07)
i	57134.35(0.59)	18.07(0.06)	-	-	0.73(0.20)	1.01(0.09)
z	57136.00 (1.00)	18.19(0.06)	-	-	0.55(0.20)	1.03(0.16)
J	-	-	57170.69 (1.20)	14.81 (0.20)	-	-
Κ	-	-	57172.87 (0.62)	14.44 (0.20)	-	-
UVW2	-	-	57163.92 (0.23)	14.62(0.05)	7.02(0.11)	-
UVM2	-	-	57163.56(0.31)	14.48 (0.05)	5.00 (0.06)	-
UVW1	-	-	57163.46 (0.35)	14.42(0.05)	4.10 (0.06)	-

Table 1. Peak epochs, peak apparent magnitudes, and decline rates of SN 2015bh in different bands.

^a The maximum magnitude of the 2015a event of the uUgRIJHK and ultraviolet light curves could not be constrained. The same is true for the ugizH peaks of the 2015b event.

 b Considering an interval of 30 d from maximum light. In the case of *ugiz*, we extrapolate to 30 d the decline estimated between the only 2 detections in these bands after maximum.

Table 2. Peak of the pseudo-bolometric^a light curves of SN 2015bh and comparison transients.

Object	$\begin{array}{c} {\rm Luminosity_{max,2015a}}\\ (\times \ 10^{41} \ {\rm erg \ s^{-1}}) \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} {\rm Luminosity_{max,2015b}}\\ {\rm (\times \ 10^{41} \ erg \ s^{-1})} \end{array}$
SN 2009ip	-	53.0(7.3)
LSQ13zm	-	38.6(5.4)
SNhunt248	-	1.6(0.2)
SN 2015bh	1.4 (0.3)	29.3(6.1)
SN 2015 bh^b	-	72.9 (16.0)

 a From U to z bands but for LSQ13zm in which the U band was not available.

 b Including the UV and the NIR contribution.

(2015b). The same overall behaviour of the radius is also observed, for instance, in SNe 2009ip.

Note that this is a rough estimation of the photospheric radius since we are making assumptions in deriving the temperature and the luminosities of SN 2015bh. For instance, we are assuming a black-body spectrum where the real spectra are also affected by the metal line blending, while we integrate the luminosity over a limited range of wavelength (from U to z band).

4.3 Evolution of the Balmer lines

The Balmer line profiles, in particular those of $H\alpha$, show evident changes in morphology with time (Fig. 8). In particular, we note strong differences in the line profiles between early and late phases. Analysing the evolution of the $H\alpha$ components may allow us to probe the transient's environment, and hence the nature of SN 2015bh. We attempt to reproduce the entire line profile at different epochs using a least-squares minimisation PYTHON script, which provides a multi-component fit considering a χ^2 close to one¹¹. Fig. 9 presents the results of the multi-component fit at some representative epochs: before (-98.4 d), during (-6.4 d), and after (25.6 d and 165.8 d) the 2015b maximum. The best fit of the H α profiles are obtained using Lorentzian components in emission (a narrow and a broad component at early epochs, and 3 components at late time), and Gaussian components in absorption for the P-Cygni, when they were visible. The velocity estimates for the emission components are derived measuring their FWHM, while those of the absorbing gas shells are estimated from the wavelengths of the P-Cygni minima with respect to the $H\alpha$ rest wavelength. The velocities of the different gas components are listed in Table 3, and their evolution is shown in Fig. 10. The velocity uncertainties were estimated with a bootstrap resampling technique, varying randomly the flux of each pixel according to a normal distribution having variance equal to the noise of the continuum. We did this procedure 100 times, and then took the error as the standard deviations of the fit parameters.

At phases < 30 d, the best fit of H α was obtained with two Lorentzian emission components, and one blueshifted absorption component. The FWHM of the narrow H α emission remains nearly constant, with an average value of ~ 1200 km s⁻¹, while the broader component has a fast decline from ~ 6000 km s⁻¹ at early phases to ~ 2600 km s⁻¹ at -15.4 d, later on remaining roughly constant. We note that at 25.6 d, the broad component reaches a velocity of ~ 3950 km s⁻¹. This measurement is affected by some uncertainty and cannot be confirmed by a spectrum taken in the following days.

¹¹ H β line profiles were not decomposed because of the large contamination of the continuum near the line profile, which may affect the line measurements. Note that the χ^2 strongly depends on the accuracy of the variance estimation.



Figure 2. Optical light curves of SN 2015bh. Upper limits are indicated by a symbol with an arrow. The solid marks on the abscissa axis indicate the phases at which spectra are obtained. The dotted line connects the magnitudes during the 2015a event. The dot-dashed vertical line indicates the *r*-band maximum light of SN 2015bh. The light curves have been shifted for clarity by the amounts indicated in the legend. Note that the filters named as SDA correspond to the SWIFT UVW2, UVM2, UVM1 filters, respectively. The uncertainties for most data points are smaller than the plotted symbols. A colour version of this figure can be found in the online journal.

After a careful analysis of the H α line profiles, we are able to distinguish a shallow absorption feature (hereafter labelled P-Cy1) in the blue wing of H α , visible from day -103.3 to day -15.4, thus before the 2015b event. The P-Cy1 absorption is blueshifted by a constant amount of ~ 750 km s⁻¹. At the time of the 2015b event, this absorption is no longer visible. The increased temperature allows the formation of features such as the He I λ 6678 line, as well as other He I lines. When the temperature falls (at phases > 15 d), the P-Cy1 feature becomes detectable again at an unchanged velocity. At the same time, a second absorption

(hereafter labelled as P-Cy2) is observable, blueshifted by \sim 2100 $\rm km\,s^{-1}.$

After the seasonal gap, at later phases (> 130 d), the H α profile is well reproduced with three Lorentzian components, which we will call blue, core, and red components, following the labelling in Benetti et al. (2016) for the Type II-L SN 1996al. The blue and core components are centered at an average wavelength of 6522 Å and 6563 Å, respectively. Instead, the red component displays a slight evolution from 6577 Å (at 132.5 d) to 6587 Å (at 286.6 d). The FWHM of these components shows different behaviour: the



Figure 3. Historical absolute VEGAMAG rR light curve of SN 2015bh (*filled triangles*), shown along with those of SNe 1961V (in *B*-band; *stars*), 2009ip (*circles*), 2010mc (*rotated triangles*), LSQ13zm (*diamonds*), and SNhunt248 (*squares*). SN 2015bh's upper limits are indicated by empty triangles with arrows. The dot-dashed vertical line indicates the *r*-band maximum light of SN 2015bh. A colour version of this figure can be found in the online journal.

blue and red components start from different values, but after 190 d converge to similar and relatively constant widths of 1250/1100 km s⁻¹. The width of the core component, instead, experiences a slow increase the same time interval from ~1050 km s⁻¹ to ~ 1500 km s⁻¹. A small absorption can also be noticed on the top of the H α profile's blue component in the first spectrum obtained after the transient's disappearance behind the Sun. This feature may correspond to the P-Cy2 absorption discussed before, with a velocity of ~ 1850 km s⁻¹ (see Fig. 10).

We also estimated the evolution of the total luminosity of the H α line (see bottom panel of Fig. 10, and Table 3). As expected, the H α luminosity evolves in a similar fashion as the broadband light curves. It is roughly constant at ~ 1.7 × 10³⁹ erg s⁻¹ during the 2015a event, then peaks at 18.0 × 10³⁹ erg s⁻¹ in he 2015b maximum, and decreases thereafter. At late phases it remains nearly constant at ~ 2.3 × 10³⁹ erg s⁻¹.

4.4 Late-time spectra

The detailed inspection of the latest spectra of SN 2015bh (Fig. 11) is an excellent opportunity to peer into the very centre of the ejecta star, and constrain the mechanism that gives rise to the 2015a and 2015b events.

As seen before, the late-time spectra still show narrow lines, although combined with by broader features than those seen in the earlier phases. The main change in the spectra is the profile of H α . This emission line that dominated the spectra at early time was composed of two components, a narrow feature on top of a broader one. Instead, at late times, the H α profile shows three components, interpreted as the result of the interaction between mostly spherical ejecta with an asymmetric CSM (see section 4.3 and Benetti et al. 2016), where the blueshifted H α component arises from faster material than the redshifted one. Note that H β is too weak to distinguish this change in the profile.

Resolved narrow lines of He I λ 6678, λ 7065, and λ 7283 are also present at their rest position with FWHM around 500 km s⁻¹. We do not see any narrow line of He I λ 5876 in the spectrum at 224.0 d, but instead, we find a broad profile of FWHM ~ 2500 km s⁻¹. At 286.6 d, a weak line

Table 3. Main parameters as inferred from the spectra of SN 2015bh. The velocities are computed from the decomposition of the $H\alpha$ profile.

Date	MJD	Phase (days)	$\begin{array}{c} \text{Temperature}^a \\ \text{(K)} \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} {\rm Radius}^b \\ (\times 10^{14} \ {\rm cm}) \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} {\rm FWHM}_{{\rm H}\alpha,{\rm nar}} \\ \left({\rm km}{\rm s}^{-1} \right) \end{array}$	${ m FWHM}_{ m Hlpha, br}$ $({ m kms^{-1}})$	$\stackrel{v_{P-Cyl}}{(\mathrm{km}\mathrm{s}^{-1})}$	$\stackrel{v_{P-Cy2}}{(\mathrm{km}\mathrm{s}^{-1})}$	$\begin{array}{c} {\rm Luminosity}_{{\rm H}\alpha} \\ (\times \ 10^{39} \ {\rm erg \ s^{-1}}) \end{array}$	${{{\rm EW}_{{ m H}lpha}}^c}$ Å
20150209	57062.97	-103.3	8600	1.0(0.1)	1500 (300)	6000 (600)	1000 (200)	-	1.5(0.6)	400 (80)
20150214	57067.07	-99.2	8100	1.3(0.2)	900 (300)	4500 (800)	600 (400)	-	1.5(0.6)	300 (70)
20150214	57067.88	-98.4	8300	1.2(0.2)	1000 (300)	4800 (500)	700 (350)	-	1.6(0.6)	300 (70)
20150311	57092.37	-73.9	8600	1.5(0.2)	900 (300)	3900 (400)	700 (200)	-	1.5(0.6)	300 (60)
20150326	57107.95	-58.3	8400	1.6(0.2)	950 (200)	3800 (300)	700 (200)	-	2.3(0.6)	200(50)
20150327	57108.93	-57.3	8600	1.6(0.2)	1200(400)	3700 (300)	700 (400)	-	2.2(0.6)	250(50)
20140424	57136.00	-30.3	8300	2.0(0.3)	1000 (300)	2900 (300)	650 (300)	-	2.0(0.6)	150(30)
20150508	57150.90	-15.4	7100	2.4(0.4)	1400(400)	2600(400)	700 (200)	-	1.3(0.5)	100(20)
20150516	57158.96	-7.3	16500	2.9(0.3)	1000(300)	3900 (500)	-	-	8.5(1.3)	70 (20)
20150517	57159.90	-6.4	15800	3.5(0.3)	1400(200)	2900 (300)	-	-	11.6(1.8)	70 (20)
20150520	57162.84	-3.4	20400	2.4(0.2)	1400(300)	1700(600)	-	-	18.1(2.6)	70(20)
20150525	57167.91	1.6	13500	5.1(0.6)	1150 (300)	2800 (300)	-	2200 (800)	11.1(1.7)	50(10)
20150609	57182.89	16.6	7900	11.1(1.8)	1200(400)	3000 (900)	800 (300)	1900 (600)	9.8(1.5)	60(10)
20150618	57191.90	25.6	7300	11.4(1.8)	1100 (200)	3900 (400)	900 (200)	2200 (200)	5.9(1.0)	50(10)
					FWHM _{blue}	FWHM _{core}	FWHM _{red}	VP-Cy2		
					$(\mathrm{km}\mathrm{s}^{-1})$	$(\mathrm{kms^{-1}})$	$(\mathrm{km}\mathrm{s}^{-1})$	$(\mathrm{kms^{-1}})$		
20151003	57298.78	132.5	-	-	1500 (300)	1000 (400)	650 (300)	1850 (300)	2.2(0.6)	900 (180)
20151105	57332.04	165.8	-	-	1400 (300)	1400 (400)	100 (300)	-	2.1(0.6)	950 (190)
20151113	57339.95	173.7	-	-	1300 (300)	1000(400)	800 (300)	-	2.3(0.6)	1000 (200)
20151126	57353.13	186.9	-	-	1300(200)	1300 (300)	1000 (300)	-	2.5(0.6)	1200 (240)
20151206	57362.45	196.2	-	-	1200 (300)	1300 (300)	1100 (300)	-	2.1(0.6)	1200 (240)
20160102	57390.25	224.0	-	-	1250 (300)	1400 (300)	1100 (300)	-	2.7(0.6)	1500 (300)
20160305	57452.89	286.6	-	-	1300 (200)	1500(300)	1100 (200)	-	2.2(0.6)	1500 (300)

 a We consider a conservative uncertainty in the temperature of about \pm 500 K.

 b We have propagated the uncertainties from the Stefan-Boltzmann equation.

 c We consider a conservative uncertainty in the EW of about 20 per cent of the measurements.



Figure 4. Intrinsic colour curves of SN 2015bh (filled triangles), compared with those of SN 2009ip (circles), and SNhunt248 (squares). The dotted vertical line marks the approximate date of the beginning of the 2015b event. The dot-dashed vertical line indicates the r-band maximum light of SN 2015bh. A colour version of this figure can be found in the online journal.

of HeI appears in the blue side of the profile. In this case, the photons emitted by HeI λ 5876 may be scattered in the optically thick NaID lines, resulting in a NaI doublet feature instead of a HeI feature in the spectra. This mechanism only works if the HeI lines originate in the inner layers of the SN ejecta at these late phases (e.g. see Benetti et al. 2016 for more details).

 $\rm SN$ 2015bh late-time spectra also present primordial cal-



Figure 5. Pseudo-bolometric optical light curves of SN 2015bh (*triangles*) compared with those of SN 2009ip (*circles*), LSQ13zm (*diamonds*), and SNhunt248 (*squares*). The UV-optical-NIR light curve of SN 2015bh during the 2015b event is also shown (*thick solid line*). The dot-dashed vertical line indicates the *r*-band maximum light of SN 2015bh. A colour version of this figure can be found in the online journal.

cium features (Ca II] $\lambda\lambda7291$, 7323, and Ca II $\lambda\lambda\lambda8498$, 8542, 8662), similar to core-collapse SNe. We tentatively identify lines of O I ($\lambda7774$ and $\lambda8446$) and [O I] ($\lambda5577$ and $\lambda\lambda6300$,



Figure 6. Sequence of optical spectra of SN 2015bh taken from 2015 February 09.97 UTC to 2016 March 05.89 UT. Shades of grey are used for spectra obtained during the 2015a event, spectra taken during and after the 2015b event are in black. The late spectra at 132.5, 173.2, 186.9, and 196.2 d are shown in grey, with a boxcar-smoothed (using a 8 pixel window) version of the spectra overplotted in black. The locations of the most prominent spectral features are indicated by vertical lines.

6364), blueshifted by approximately 2500 km s⁻¹. This suggests asymmetric SN ejecta, where a possible 'blob' of material, which is coming towards us, is being partially ionised by the SN ejecta. Interestingly, the [O I] doublet, is significantly narrower than the permitted oxygen lines (FWHM \approx 1700 km s⁻¹ vs. 2800 km s⁻¹), hence suggesting that these [O I] lines form in the photoionised CSM. Note that the [O I] doublet is weak and we could have misidentified the feature.

Overall, the spectra of SN 2015bh at late phases are still strongly influenced by the CSM interaction, judging by the presence of narrow emission lines, the pseudo continuum of the iron forest blueward of 5450 Å, as well as of the double-peaked H α profile, and the boxy profile of the CaII NIR triplet. Besides the HeI lines, we can also distinguish other

narrow lines at ~ 5166, 5275, 6020, 6400, 7941, and 8439 Å, due to Fe I from the multiplet 26.

4.5 Spectral comparison

Fig. 12 shows the optical spectra of SN 2015bh at three different epochs, together with the approximately coeval spectra of SN 2009ip (Pastorello et al. 2013; Fraser et al. 2013a), SN 2010mc (Ofek et al. 2013), LSQ13zm (Tartaglia et al. 2016), and SNhunt248 (Kankare et al. 2015)¹². The phases of

 12 The spectra are available in the public WISeREP repository (Yaron & Gal-Yam 2012).



Figure 7. Panel (a): Evolution of the best-fit black-body temperatures. Panel (b): Evolution of the radius at the photosphere. The solid line connects the temperature and radius measurements. The dot-dashed vertical line indicates the *r*-band maximum light of SN 2015bh (MJD_{max} = 57166.28 ± 0.29). Both 2015a and 2015b events are also indicated.

the spectra are relative to their primary maximum (brightest peak of the light curves), and they have been corrected for extinction and redshift using values from the literature.

During the first burst [panel (a) in Fig. 12], SNe 2015bh and 2009ip show similar narrow features, though SN 2009ip presents a slightly higher temperature of the continuum and broad P-Cygni features associated with the Balmer lines, which are not visible in SN 2015bh. Around the main maximum [panel (b)], all transients of our sample are remarkably similar: this is very likely the phase in which the strength of the ejecta/CSM interaction reaches its peak (cf. section 6). In passing, we note that the SNhunt248 spectrum at this epoch shows even stronger resemblance to the $2015\mathrm{a}$ rather than the 2015b event. Finally, at late phases [panel (c)], SNe 2015bh and 2009ip show broader features, both in comparison with the other two transients, and with the spectra taken in previous epochs. At these phases, the main difference between these two SNe is the H α profile [see blow-up window in the panel (c) of Fig. 12], which in the case of SN 2015bh, is broader and double-peaked, as observed before in interacting SNe such as SN 1996al (Benetti et al. 2016). Whilst SNhunt248 is considered a SN impostor (Mauerhan et al. 2015; Kankare et al. 2015), LSQ13zm and SN 2009ip have been proposed to be genuine SNe (e.g. Tartaglia et al. 2016; Smith et al. 2014, respectively).

5 HST ARCHIVAL IMAGES OF SN 2015BH

As described in section 3, the SN 2015bh site was also observed by HST with WFPC2 between 2008 and 2009 (WFPC2 Prog.Ids 10877, PI: W. Li, and 11161, PI: A. Soderberg). The field was observed at different times and wavelengths from F336W ($\sim U$) to F814W ($\sim I$) filters. A clear source was detected at the transient position in all the images with *r.m.s.* uncertainties < 0".05, through comparison with ground-based, post-discovery NOT+ALFOSC images



Figure 8. Evolution of the H α profile in velocity space. The dotted lines indicate the major blue absorption components distinguished in the H α line profile. The dashed lines mark the rest wavelength of H α . Spectra have been vertically shifted for clarity by an arbitrary amount.

(taken on 2015 March 27). We performed relative astrometry by geometrically transforming the pre-explosion images to match these post-explosion ones. Assuming these as the deepest images of our collection, we will use them to characterise the nature of SN 2015bh before its discovery.

During the observation period the star seemed to have some erratic variability (Fig. 14 and Table A6) in a range of $\lesssim 1.7$ mag. At the same time, other stars (with comparable brightness as our source) observed in the same field remained practically constant. Comparing our SED with the ATLAS synthetic spectra¹³ of Castelli & Kurucz (2004), we approximate the effective temperature of the precursor star for the different *HST* epochs as shown in Fig. 15 and Table 4. We assume near solar metallicity based on the position of the transient in the host galaxy, the assumption of solar metallicity in the centre of NGC 2770, and a metallicity gradient of -0.06 dex kpc⁻¹ from the nuclear region (Thöne et al.

¹³ http://www.stsci.edu/hst/observatory/crds/castelli_kurucz_atlas.ht



Figure 9. Decomposition of the H α emission line of SN 2015bh before (-98.4 d), during (-6.4 d) and after (26.1 d and 165.8 d) the 2015b event. A colour version of this figure can be found in the online journal.

2009)¹⁴. Accounting for the extinction and distance modulus reported in section 2, we also estimate the corresponding luminosity at such epochs (Table 4).

The temperature and luminosity derived for the first epoch (2008 March 30.45 UT) correspond to a massive star of spectral type A, and are consistent with those of massive stars such as LBVs in outburst (e.g. see Humphreys & Davidson 1994 or Vink 2012). These values are confirmed by ground-based observations (*RI*) and limits (*UBV*) obtained with the NOT+ALFOSC on 2008 March 30.89 UTC (Table A2)¹⁵. Notice that the temperature at this epoch is mostly determined by the *F*336W magnitude. The other three *HST* epochs taken 9 months after, instead, indicate a cooler star (even cooler than normal LBVs in eruption), similar to spectral type G.

The behaviour of the temperature and luminosity is puzzling (see Fig. 14 and Table 4). While the irregularity in luminosity is a fair reflection of the variability of this object, the fast subsequent increase in luminosity by a factor of \sim 3 in one day from 2008 December 19 to 20 is questionable



Figure 10. Panel (a): FWHM evolution for the broad and narrow H α emissions. Panel (b): Evolution of the blueshift of the P-Cy1 and P-Cy2 absorptions. Panel (c): FWHM evolution for the blue, core, and red H α components at late phases. Panel (d): Evolution of the total luminosity of H α . The dot-dashed vertical line indicates the *r*-band maximum of SN 2015bh.

(this would roughly imply that the radius of the star on 2008 December 19 was 70 per cent smaller than a day later).

LBV-like eruptions Giant (e.g. Car: η Davidson & Humphreys 1997), along with major changes in the temperature, are expected to cause variations in the bolometric luminosity (Humphreys et al. 1999). The high luminosity of the first HST epoch of SN 2015bh is consistent with an eruptive state of the transient, while the subsequent HST observations show the progenitor star to have variable luminosity and redder (by 5000 K) colours. These HST observations very likely represent different stages of instability of the star. Notice that this star is always above or close to the Humphreys-Davidson limit (Humphreys & Davidson 1979), confirming severe instabilities in the stellar envelope and interior. Unfortunately, the exact time when the eruption occurs or ends is not clear from our measurements.

Massive stars have been associated to other transients, as is the case of SN 2009ip, where the star was most likely an LBV, with a probable M_{ZAMS} of 50-80 M_{\odot} (Smith et al. 2010; Foley et al. 2011).

 $^{^{14}}$ For the projected distance from the centre of NGC 2770 to SN 2015bh (2.2 kpc), we estimate 12 + log(O/H) \approx 8.5, which is nearly solar metallicity, following the consideration in Smartt et al. (2009).

 $^{^{15}}$ Note that this last epoch was also used to estimate the temperature of the precursor star on 2008 March 30 (top panel of Fig. 15).



Figure 11. Late-time optical spectra of SN 2015bh at +224.0 (grey line) and +286.6 d (black line). The locations of the most prominent spectral features are indicated. A blueshift of 2500 km s⁻¹ has been applied to the vertical lines that mark the rest wavelength of the oxygen.

6 ON THE NATURE OF SN 2015BH

In the previous sections, we analysed the observed properties of SN 2015bh. Combining the information from the light curves, with the evidence of CSM interaction present in the spectra, and the characteristics of the progenitor star, we can attempt to constrain the nature of SN 2015bh.

As mentioned in the introduction, SN 2009ip has been the benchmark to understand this family of transients. In the past years, several interpretations have been proposed to explain the nature of the most luminous event of SN 2009ip in 2012 (Pastorello et al. 2013; Soker & Kashi 2013; Kashi et al. 2013; Mauerhan et al. 2013a; Margutti et al. 2014; Smith et al. 2014; Fraser et al. 2015; Moriya 2015). Although the non-terminal outburst of a massive star plus subsequent shell-shell collision cannot be ruled out, one of the proposed scenarios for SN 2009ip invokes a faint SN explosion of a compact blue supergiant during the first peak in 2012 (after a series of LBV-like eruptions including the giant eruption in 2009), followed by the interaction of the SN ejecta with a circumstellar shell, producing the 2012b event (Mauerhan et al. 2013a; Smith et al. 2014). Below, we will adopt this scenario in our attempt to explain the chain of events observed in SN 2015bh.

(i) The first detection of SN 2015bh in archival data dates back to 2002 March 22.89 UTC (MJD = 52355.89), with M_r = -11.35± 0.36 mag [log(L/L_{\odot}) ~ 6.2]. Later on, the transient was occasionally detected before 2013. As for SN 2009ip, it is likely that SN 2015bh has experienced repetitive outbursts for many years. However, no outbursts have been brighter than M_r = -12.9 mag. Properties of these detections are listed in Table 4.

It is well known that massive stars occasionally produce giant eruptions during which they can largely increase their luminosity for months to years, and experience major mass loss (e.g. Smith 2014). Besides, these massive stars are often unstable, possibly alternating between episodes of erratic variability, outbursts and quiescence. Thus, in our case, we may conceive that a shell was expelled around 2002, or even before, and is travelling at approximately 1000 km s⁻¹(as derived from both the FWHM of the narrow component of H α and the blueshift of P-Cy1).

(ii) At the end of 2013, SN 2015bh experienced an outburst with an absolute magnitude $M_r = -14.6$ mag. This was also detected by Ofek et al. (2016), but their detections are around 2 magnitudes fainter (Fig. 16). As we can see in the insert of the Fig. 16, there is a detection of a clear source in one amateur image at the transient position on 2013 December 11.03¹⁶. However, the subsequent decline in a few hours is quite puzzling. A spectrum taken two days after our data, is presented by Ofek et al. (2016). This shows evidence for a fast outflow with a velocity of several thousand $\mathrm{km}\,\mathrm{s}^{-1}$, similar to that displayed in the SN 2009ip spectra taken one year before the 2012a event (Pastorello et al. 2013). It is noticeable that also this SN 2015bh spectrum was taken around one year before the 2015a event. Pastorello et al. (2013) suggested that these episodes of ejection of fast material are due to a blast wave probably originated in explosions deeper in the star. Similar phenomena have been related to LBV eruptions, or even with the Homunculus Nebula surrounding η Carinae (Smith 2008). This blast wave could be the origin of our bright detection (but see also Soker & Kashi 2016).

As discussed by Ofek et al. 2016, a P-Cygni absorption is

 $^{^{16}}$ Note that this detection is based on a single observation. The field was observed shortly after from another site, and no source brighter than -13 mag was detected.



Figure 12. Comparison of SN 2015bh spectra during (a) the 2015a event, (b) around the maximum of the major peak, and (c) around 224-256 days after the peak, with those of the transients SNe 2009ip, 2010mc, LSQ13zm, and SNhunt248 at coeval epochs. The H α profile is blown-up in the insert of panel (c). All spectra have been corrected for their host-galaxy recession velocities and for extinction (values adopted from the literature).

also seen during the 2013 outburst spectrum, with a velocity of ~ 1000 km s⁻¹. This feature is in agreement with that found in our spectra taken after 2015 February, confirming that material is travelling ahead of that fast outflow. The fact that we do not identify any additional P-Cygni absorptions related with this blast wave at a faster velocity during the 2015a event is however puzzling.

(iii) At the end of 2014, although we cannot definitely rule out a very massive envelope ejection and no terminal explosion, we favour a scenario where the massive star corecollapsed producing SN 2015bh. This episode has been previously named as the 2015a event. Smith et al. (2014) favour the scenario of core-collapse SNe from a compact blue supergiants during the faint 2012a event of SN 2009ip. In analogy, the slow rise of the SN 2015bh light curve could be attributed to the explosion of a small initial radius blue progenitor star. Interestingly we find a good agreement between the SN 2015bh and SN 1987A light curves [Fig. 17; panel (a)]. However, SN 2015bh is $\sim 2 \text{ mag}$ fainter compared to SN 1987A, or other normal Type II SNe (typically < -16mag; e.g. Li et al. 2011; Taddia et al. 2016). One possible explanation is that the progenitor of SN 2015bh was a very massive star ($\geq 25 \, \mathrm{M}_{\odot}$) which experienced large fallback of material onto the collapsed core, resulting in a low explosion energy and small amount of ejected ⁵⁶Ni (e.g. Heger et al.

2003, or Moriya et al. 2010). We also note that relatively 56 Ni poor SNe II with blue supergiant precursors have been already observed (e.g. SN 2009E; Pastorello et al. 2012).

In addition, we note that the CSM is playing a dominant role in all the SN 2015bh evolution. In the panel (b) of Fig. 17 we have overplotted an early spectrum of SN 1987A at ~ -65 d (manipulated using a blue blackbody to match the continuum of SN 2015bh), and a spectrum of SN 2015bh at -98.4 d¹⁷. Although some difference exists in the broadline velocities, both spectra match surprisingly well, except for the narrow line components visible in SN 2015bh. This indicates that the spectra of SN 2015bh are likely formed by two components: a SN photosphere which radiation is slowly diffused, and a blackbody from the ongoing CSMejecta interaction.

The SN 2015bh spectra during the 2015a event also show a multicomponent H α line (section 4.3), typical of interacting SNe. These can be explained by radiation coming from different regions of the SN environment. In the case of SN 2015bh, the narrow component is likely due to recombined gas ejected by the star years before, travelling at a velocity $\leq 1000 \text{ km s}^{-1}$. Instead, the broader component (with a velocity of several thousand km s⁻¹) provides the velocity of the most recent mass ejection, which decreases with time as the reverse shock propagates into the expanding ejecta. The fact that we can detect this broad H α emission may mean that the cool dense shell formed by the interaction between the SN ejecta and the dense CSM is probably patchy.

(iv) Shortly after 2015 May 08 (MJD = 57150.90), the newly ejected material collides with a slower and dense CSM, and produces a re-brightening during the 2015b event. This dense material must have been ejected by the star during a recent stellar mass-loss events. However, given the erratic activity of the SN 2015bh progenitor star (see section 5 and also Fig. 3 and 14), it is difficult to accurately compute when this gas was expelled. A similar phenomena was also proposed as the cause of the major 2012b peak of SN 2009ip (Smith et al. 2014). The CSM interaction becomes the primary energy source thanks to the efficient conversion of the kinetic energy into radiation, which is responsible for the increase of the photospheric temperature (see Fig. 7), the H α luminosity (see panel d of Fig. 10), and the appearance of He I emission lines.

In order to roughly sketch the opacity of the CSMinteraction region, we derived the total H α emission equivalent width (EW) for SN 2015bh following the analysis of Smith et al. 2014. As we can see in Fig. 18, the EW decreases during the 2015a event to arrived to a minimum during the 2015b peak, to then rise to higher values at late times. We can understand this as the SN ejecta is moving into a denser and thicker CSM during the first phases, to then find a more transparent CSM at late times. The collision with that dense CSM is the cause of the re-brightening during 2015b. The late time EW behaviour of SN 2015bh is consistent with SN 2009ip and other interacting SNe (see Smith et al. 2014), and thus, we expect that the EW of H α can grow in the future.

In this context, the disappearance of the P-Cyg1 absorp-

 17 The SN 2015bh spectrum is dated at -98.4 d from the *r*-band 2015b maximum, and at -64.5 d from the *r*-band 2015a maximum.



Figure 13. Subsections of HST WFPC2 images taken between 2008 and 2009 from F336W (first panel on the left) to F814W (last panel on the right) filters. The positions of the source at the position of SN 2015bh are indicated by a 5σ positional uncertainty circle (0.05 arcsec)



Figure 14. Archival *HST* light curves of SN 2015bh. The upper limit is indicated by a symbol with an arrow. The uncertainties for most data points are smaller than the plotted symbols. A colour version of this figure can be found in the online journal.

tion remains a puzzle. Perhaps the material is initially photoionized by the SN, which later recombines. Although, this material was expelled in 2002 or earlier, it does not remain unaffected by the hard radiation produced during the 2015b event.

(v) Once the shock passes the dense CSM, we see again an absorption at ~ 1000 km s⁻¹, along with a second one (P-Cy2) travelling at ~ 2100 km s⁻¹. If this first absorption originates in the same gas region that produced the similar absorption observed during the 2015a event (P-Cy1), it is hard to explain why it is now detectable again. The new absorption may be part of the un-shocked and relatively dense shell expelled before the SN explosion (which we assume was travelling at a low velocity), and is now shocked by the SN ejecta. This can also be some material ejected after the 2013 outburst (though before the May 2015 event) which, being initially hot and generating wide emission lines, is now cool and detected in absorption, as pro-



Figure 15. Observed spectral energy distribution of the candidate progenitor as measured from multi-epoch images from HST(filled symbols) and ground-based telescopes (when coeval detections were available; empty symbols). ATLAS synthetic spectra for a star with $T_{\rm eff}$ of 9000, 8000, 7000 (log g = 2.0), and 5000 K (log g = 1.5) are also shown. The spectra were obtained assuming solar metallicity. The error-bars along the x-axis match the bandwidths of the corresponding filters.

posed by Ofek et al. (2016). All in all, these blueshifted absorptions indicate that at least two shells or clumps of cooler material move at different velocities along the observer's direction. Evidences of clumpy CSM surrounding very massive stars have been found for LBVs and other supergiant stars. See for example the cases of the progenitors of SNe 1987A (Gvaramadze et al. 2015) and 1996al (Benetti et al. 2016), but also the Homunculus nebulae in η Car (Smith 2012). However, constraining these asymmetries is a difficult task given the limited available data.

As we can see in Fig. 19, the spectra obtained during the 2015a event (in particular the one at -15 d), and that taken at day +26 (2015b event) when the brightness of the transient had faded, show very similar features and line ve-

locities. Once again, this could be explained invoking an asymmetric CSM, or assuming that the CSM is becoming optically thinner after the re-brightening. This claim is also supported by the modest changes in the colour/temperature between the early and late phases.

(vi) Finally, at late times, after day +135, the SN ejecta overtakes the denser CSM region. Broad lines in emission, with the strongest being the NIR CaII feature and CaII] $\lambda\lambda$ 7291, 7323 (see Fig. 6, and section 4.4), are detected. Besides, the H α profile changed showing now three components due to the interaction between mostly spherical ejecta with an asymmetric CSM. These spectra are very similar to those of interacting core-collapse SNe such as SN 1996al. The flat light curves suggest that there is still SN ejecta/CSM interaction, preventing the SN following the decline rate predicted by the ⁵⁶Co decay (e.g. see Fig. 17).

The chain of events of SN 2015bh seems a replica of those observed in SN 2009ip. Hence, the similarity between the two transients is remarkable, and can be here summarised:

(1) Strong evidence of pre-explosion variability or stellar outbursts.

(2) Faint light curve peak during the first brightening episode.

(3) Much brighter second peak (episode b), along with strong spectroscopic evidence of ejecta-CSM interaction.

(4) Very similar late-time spectra, including the possible detection of very weak [O I] lines.

As for SN 2009ip, the interpretation of SN 2015bh is controversial. In this case, we notice a slow rise in the light curve on the 2015a event which closely resembles that of a SN with a blue supergiant progenitor. For this reason, a SN 1987A-like explosion within a H-rich cocoon is a reasonable scenario for SN 2015bh, similar to that proposed for SN 2009ip by Mauerhan et al. (2013a) and Smith et al. (2014). Furthermore, we note that an LBV-like outburst has been proposed to explain the nebula surrounding SK-69202 (the blue supergiant progenitor of SN 1987A; Smith 2007). Both SN 2009ip and SN 2015bh have a faint maximum luminosity of the first peak, which may be indicative that the massive progenitors experienced sub-energetic explosions, facing significant mass fallback onto their stellar cores. Consequently, the amount of ejected ⁵⁶Ni is expected to be small. This is consistent with the upper limit of $M_{Ni} \leq$ 0.04 M_{\odot} (Smith et al. 2014) measured for SN 2009ip¹⁸. Large fallback would also explain the lack of prominent [O I] lines in both SNe (but see the discussion in Fraser et al. 2015).

Ofek et al. (2016) and Thöne et al. (2016), still not ruling out alternative scenarios, also seem to favour the final core-collapse for the progenitor of SN 2015bh but during the 2015b event.

Lastly, despite the clues found, the option that the stars did not die still remains a plausible option. In this case, the 2015a+b events can be interpreted as a further (though more severe) mass loss episode plus shell-shell collisions, without leading to a terminal SN explosion. As an additional alter-

¹⁸ Fraser et al. (2013a) estimated $M_{Ni} < 0.02 M_{\odot}$, and Margutti et al. (2014) suggested $M_{Ni} < 0.08 M_{\odot}$.

native, the behaviour of SN 2015bh can also be explained in a binary system scenario (Soker & Kashi 2016).

7 CONCLUSIONS

SN 2015bh was classified as 'SN impostor' because of its spectrum, which presents multi-component H α features reminiscent of those of transients such as SN 2009ip. Although the transient showed a slow evolution in luminosity and a modest variability in its spectral appearance for several months, later on SN 2015bh experienced a major rebrightening during which it increased its luminosity by about 3 mag.

Analysing in detail the photometric and spectroscopic evolution of SN 2015bh, we have been able to follow a chain of events similar to that observed in SN 2009ip. Adopting an explosion scenario similar to that proposed by Mauerhan et al. (2013a) and Smith et al. (2014) for SN 2009ip, we propose that the SN 2015bh precursor was likely a massive blue star, possibly similar to that of SN 1987A. However, the progenitor of SN 2015bh experienced outbursts presumably accompanied by mass loss event along the years. An outburst probably occurred on 2002 (or before), expelling a shell travelling at an average velocity of ~ 1000 km s⁻¹. A second one happened at the end of 2013, ejecting material at fast velocity. At the end of 2014, the progenitor star of SN 2015bh possibly explodes experiencing massive fallback of material onto the collapsed core causing a low luminosity explosion. This would be consistent with the low energy of the explosion and the small ejected $^{56}\mathrm{Ni}$ mass. Later on, fast SN ejecta collide with an outer, dense, and probably non-uniform CSM, producing the rebrightening registered in May 2015. Broad lines of elements such as Ca II and O I, are only detected in the late-time spectra, with the weakening of the ejecta-CSM contaminating contribution. Nonetheless, the CSM interaction which is still affecting the late SN appearance (judging from the flat light curve tail and the presence of boxy and narrow lines in the nebular spectra) prevent us to definitely rule out the non-terminal eruption scenario for SN 2015bh.

One way to shed light on the true nature of SN 2015bh would be continue a photometric and spectroscopic relaxed monitoring to check whether the object vanishes (as expected in the case of a SN), or if another outburst will occur if the progenitor star is still alive, Alongside this, hydrodynamic and/or spectral modeling could bring extra constraints to the nature of the star (stars) that generate SN 2015bh.

Erupting massive stars and SN explosions are rare in nearby galaxies. For this reason, the search of these transients is crucial to determine their nature, especially if the link between SN impostors (i.e. luminous pre-SN outbursts) and real supernova explosions is proved. Obviously, multiwavelength and high-cadence monitoring, along with detailed studies in the X-ray and radio wavelength ranges are crucial for better revealing the structure of the circumstellar environment, and hence to reconstruct the recent stellar mass-loss activity of this type of transients.

Date	MJD	Phase (days)	T(K)	$L (\times 10^{39} \text{ erg s}^{-1})$	$\frac{E^a}{(\times 10^{48} \text{ erg})}$	${ m FWHM}_{ m Hlpha,nar}\ ({ m km}{ m s}^{-1})$	$\begin{array}{c} {\rm FWHM}_{{\rm H}\alpha,{\rm br}} \\ ({\rm km}{\rm s}^{-1}) \end{array}$	Note^{b}
20020322	52355.89	-4810.4	-	6	-	-	-	GBT
20080113	54478.21	-2688.1	-	21	-	-	-	GBT
20080330	54555.45	-2610.8	9000	13	-	-	-	HST
20081219	54819.05	-2347.2	5000	5	-	-	-	HST
20081220	54820.51	-2345.8	5000	15	-	-	-	HST
20090120	54851.70	-2314.6	5000	3	-	-	-	HST
20120215	55972.39	-1193.9	-	16	-	-	-	GBT
20130111	56303.54	-862.7	-	13	-	-	-	GBT
20130208	56331.36	-834.9	-	17	-	-	-	GBT
20131211	56637.03	-529.3	-	72	-	-	-	GBT
20140121	56678.53	-487.8	-	16	-	-	-	GBT
20150420	57132.35	-33.9	8300	140	2	1150	2800	2015a event ^{c}
20150524	57166.28	0	13500	2900	13	1000	2900	2015b event

Table 4. Properties of the progenitor star of SN 2015bh.

^a Radiated energy was estimated considering a peak of approximately 140 d durng the 2015a event, and 50 d during the 2015b event.

 b GBT = Ground Based Telescope; HST = Hubble Space Telescope.

 $^{\rm c}$ Effective temperature and FWHM velocities were derived from spectra taken at phases -30.3 d and 1.6 d.



Figure 16. Historical absolute VEGAMAG r band light curve of SN 2015bh (*filled triangles*) from 2009 to 2014. For comparison we included also the coeval data from Ofek et al. (2016, *diamonds*). Upper limits are indicated by empty symbols with arrows. The right panel shows a zoom of the light curve around the 2013 outburst. The insert is a magnification of the transient position in the image taken on 2013 December 11. A colour version of this figure can be found in the online journal.

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Figure 17. Panel (a): Comparison of the absolute VEGAMAG rR band light curve of SN 2015bh (filled triangles), with that of SN 1987A (right rotated triangles). The SN 1987A light curve has been shifted down by 1.7 mag to match the SN 2015bh light curve at maximum of the 2015a event. The solid mark on the abscissa axis indicate the phase at which SN 2015bh spectrum of panel (b) was obtained. Panel (b): Spectral comparison of SN 2015bh at -98.4 d, with that of SN 1987A at coeval epochs. To match the continuum of SN 2015bh, we added a blue blackbody contribution to the continuum of the SN 1987A spectrum. Both spectra have been corrected for their host-galaxy recession velocities, and normalized to the SN 2015bh spectrum continuum. * Note that the SN 2015bh spectrum is dated at -98.4 d from the *r*-band 2015b maximum, and at -64.5 d from the *r*-band 2015a maximum. A colour version of this figure can be found in the online journal.



Figure 18. Evolution of the total ${\rm H}\alpha$ emission equivalent width of SN 2015bh.

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This research is based on observations made with: the Nordic Optical Telescope, operated by the Nordic Optical Telescope Scientific Association at the Observatorio del Roque de los Muchachos, La Palma, Spain, of the Instituto de Astrofísica de Canarias; the Gran Telescopio Canarias (GTC), installed in the Spanish Observatorio del Roque de los Muchachos of the Instituto de Astrofísica de Canarias, on the island of La Palma; the Italian Telescopio Nazionale Galileo (TNG) operated on the island of La Palma by the Fundación Galileo Galilei of the INAF (Istituto Nazionale

di Astrofisica) at the Spanish Observatorio del Rogue de los Muchachos of the Instituto de Astrofísica de Canarias; The Liverpool Telescope is operated on the island of La Palma by Liverpool John Moores University in the Spanish Observatorio del Roque de los Muchachos of the Instituto de Astrofísica de Canarias with financial support from the UK Science and Technology Facilities Council; the 1.82-m Copernico Telescope and the Schmidt 67/92cm of INAF-Asiago Observatory; the 1.22 m Galileo Telescope of Dipartimento di Fisica e Astronomia (Università di Padova) at the Asiago Observatory: the Telescopi Joan Oró of the Montsec Astronomical Observatory, which is owned by the Generalitat de Catalunya and operated by the Institute for Space Studies of Catalunya (IEEC); the 2m HCT, operated by the Indian Institute of Astrophysics. Observations reported here were also obtained at Haute-Provence Observatory, CNRS, France This paper includes data gathered with the 6.5 meter Magellan Telescopes located at Las Campanas Observatory, Chile. This work is based in part on observations obtained at the MDM Observatory, operated by Dartmouth College, Columbia University, Ohio State University, Ohio University, and the University of Michigan. Observations reported here were also obtained at the MMT Observatory, a joint facility of the Smithsonian Institution and the University of Arizona. The Pan-STARRS1 Surveys (PS1) have been made possible through contributions of the Institute for Astronomy, the University of Hawaii, the Pan-STARRS Project Office, the Max-Planck Society and its participating institutes, the Max Planck Institute for Astronomy, Heidelberg and the Max Planck Institute for Extraterrestrial Physics, Garching, The Johns Hopkins University, Durham University, the University of Edinburgh, Queen's University Belfast, the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics, the Las Cumbres Observatory Global Telescope Network Incorporated, the National Central University of Taiwan, the Space Telescope Science Institute, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration under Grant No. NNX08AR22G issued through the Planetary Science Division of the NASA Science Mission Directorate, the National Science Foundation under Grant No. AST-1238877, the University of Maryland, and Eotvos Lorand University (ELTE) and the Los Alamos National Laboratory. This work was based in part on observations obtained with CPAPIR at the Observatoire du Mont Mégantic, funded by the Université de Montréal, Université Laval, the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC), the Fond québécois de la recherche sur la Nature et les technologies (FQRNT) and the Canada Economic Development program. These results also made use of the Discovery Channel Telescope at Lowell Observatory. Lowell is a private, non-profit institution dedicated to astrophysical research and public appreciation of astronomy and operates the DCT in partnership with Boston University, the University of Maryland, the University of Toledo, Northern Arizona University and Yale University. The Large Monolithic Imager construction was supported by a grant AST-1005313 from the National Science Foundation.

This paper is also based on observations made with the Swift telescope: we thank their staffs for excellent assistance; on data obtained from the Isaac Newton Group Archive which is maintained as part of the CASU Astronomical Data Centre at the Institute of Astronomy, Cam-



Figure 19. Superposition of the 2015 May 08.90 UTC (-15.4 d) and 2015 June 18.90 UTC (25.6 d) spectra of SN 2015bh. The right panel shows a zoom of the H α profiles.

bridge; and on observations made with the NASA/ESA Hubble Space Telescope, obtained from the data archive at the Space Telescope Science Institute. STScI is operated by the Association of Universities for Research in Astronomy, Inc. under NASA contract NAS 5-26555. This work has made use of the NASA/IPAC Extragalactic Database (NED), which is operated by the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology, under contract with NASA.

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APPENDIX A: TABLES OF PHOTOMETRY AND SPECTROSCOPY OF SN 2015BH.

Table A1. Basic information about the telescopes and instruments used	(in alphabetical key or	der).
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Table key	Telescope	Instrument	$\begin{array}{l} \text{Pixel-scale} \\ (\text{arcsec pixel}^{-1}) \end{array}$	Location
AFOSC	1.82 m Copernico Telescope	AFOSC	0.52	Mount Ekar Obs., Asiago, Italy
AGBX	1.00 m Jacobus Kapteyn Telescope	Acquisition and Guidance Unit	0.31	Roque de Los Muchachos Obs., La Palma, Spain
ALFOSC	2.56 m Nordic Optical Telescope	ALFOSC	0.19	Roque de Los Muchachos Obs., La Palma, Spain
ANDOR	0.80 m Cassegrain Telescope	Andor DW436 CCD	0.77	Haute-Provence Obs., Alpes-de-Haute-Provence, France
B&C	1.22 m Galileo Telescope	B&C	-	Mount Pennar Obs., Asiago, Italy
CAFOS	2.20 m Calar Alto Telescope	CAFOS	0.53	Calar Alto Obs., Almería, Spain
CPAPIR	1.60 m Ritchey-Chretien Telescope	CPAPIR	0.89	Observatoire du Mont Mégantic, Québec, Canada
FORS2	8.20 m Very Large Telescope-UT1	FORS2	0.13	European Southern Obs., Cerro Paranal, Chile
GPC1	1.80 m Pan-STARRS Telescope 1	GPC1	0.25	Mount Haleakala Obs., Maui, USA
HFOSC	2.00 m Himalayan Chandra Telescope	HFOSC	0.30	Indian Astronomical Obs., Hanle, India
HST	2.40 m Hubble Space Telescope	WFPC2	$0.05/0.10^{a}$	-
IMACS	6.50 m Magellan Telescope	IMACS	0.11	Las Campanas Observatory, Chile
IO:O	2.00 m Liverpool Telescope	IO:O	0.30	Roque de Los Muchachos Obs., La Palma, Spain
ISIS	4.20 m William Hershel Telescope	ISIS	-	Roque de Los Muchachos Obs., La Palma, Spain
LMI	4.30 m Discovery Channel Telescope	LMI	0.24	Lowell Observatory, Happy Jack, AZ, USA
LRS	3.58 m Telescopio Nazionale Galileo	LRS	0.25	Roque de Los Muchachos Obs., La Palma, Spain
MEIA	0.80 m Joan Oró Telescope	MEIA	0.13	Montsec Astronomical Obs., Catalunya, Spain
MMT	6.50 m Multiple Mirror Telescope	BlueChannel	0.60	MMT Observatory, Arizona, USA
NOTCAM	2.56 m Nordic Optical Telescope	NOTCAM	0.24	Roque de Los Muchachos Obs., La Palma, Spain
OSIRIS	10.40 m Gran Telescopio CANARIAS	OSIRIS	0.25	Roque de Los Muchachos Obs., La Palma, Spain
OSMOS	2.40 m Hiltner Telescope	OSMOS	0.27	Michigan-Dartmouth-MIT Obs., Arizona, USA
PFCU	2.54 m Isaac Newton Telescope	Prime Focus Cone Unit	0.59	Roque de Los Muchachos Obs., La Palma, Spain
PRIME	4.20 m William Herschel Telescope	Prime Imaging	0.42	Roque de Los Muchachos Obs., La Palma, Spain
RATCam	2.00 m Liverpool Telescope	RATCam	0.28	Roque de Los Muchachos Obs., La Palma, Spain
SDSS	2.50 m Telescope	Sloan Digital Sky Survey CCD	0.39	Apache Point Obs., New Mexico, USA
SWIFT	0.30 m Ritchev-Chretien UV/optical Telescope	SWIFT	0.50	-
WFC	2.54 m Isaac Newton Telescope	Wide Field Camera	0.33	Roque de Los Muchachos Obs., La Palma, Spain
CAO	0.36 m Celestron C-14 Telescope	Apogee AP7 CCD	1.27	Coddenham Astronomical Obs., Coddenham, U.K.
CO	0.30 m Maioni Telescope	SBIG ST-8	2.10	Cortina Obs., Italy
GO	0.25 m Newtonian Telescope	DSI-PRO	1.23	Gavena Obs., Firenze, Italy
IAO	0.60 m reflector telescope	KAF-1001E	1.45	Itagaki Astronomical Obs., Teppo-cho, Japan
MAO	0.50 m Newtonian Telescope	FLI Proline 4710 CCD	$2.32/1.16^{b}$	Monte Agliale Obs., Lucca, Italy
MMAO	0.36 m Celestron C-14 Telescope	Starlight MX 916	1.45	Monte Maggiore Astronomical Obs., Forlí, Italy
MO	0.53 m Ritchey-Chrétien Telescope	Apogee Alta U4000	1.11	Montarrenti Obs., Siena, Italy
00	0.40 m Dal Kirkam Telescope	DTA-Electra CCD	1.17	Orciatico Obs., Pisa, Italy
PO	0.36 m Celestron C-14 Telescope	Starlight SXV-H9	1.27	Pennell Obs., South Wonston, U.K.

^{*a*} WFPC2 contains four chips. SN 2015bh field was observed with the WF4 chip (0.10 arcsec px^{-1}) in some epochs, and with the Planetary Camera (0.05 arcsec px^{-1}) in others. ^{*b*} The image taken on 20120116 was done with binning 1x1 and so, the pixel-scale is 1.16 arcsec $pixel^{-1}$

Table A2. Optical Johnson Cousins photometry of SN 2015bh (Vega magnitudes)

	Date	MJD	$Phase^{a}$	U	В	V	R	Ι	Instrument key
$\begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $			(days)	(mag)	(mag)	(mag)	(mag)	(mag)	-
1980011 50083.19 -7073.1 - - - - > 908 AGBX 19970305 5003.10 -663.3 - > 20.0 - - > PRIME 19970305 5003.10 -6673.3 > 19.2 > 19.7 > 19.4 > 19.3 AFOSC 20080110 5447.54 -280.0 - > 18.9 > 17.5 AFOSC 20080112 5447.54 -288.7 > 21.8 > 20.3 - - AFFOSC 20080113 5447.52 -288.8 > 22.6 - - AFFOSC 20080114 5447.52 -288.6 - - - 21.90 (0.37) 20.77 (0.39) AFFOSC 20080114 5447.52 -288.6 - - - 21.91 (0.43) AFFOSC 20080115 54483.20 -285.1 - 2.2.3 20.4 - RATCam 20080115 54483.20 -285.1 - 2.1.2 0.4.47 RATCam<	19940409	49451.93	-7714.3	_	> 21.0	> 20.1	_	_	AGBX
1980(10) 50095,14 -7071.1 - - - - > NACE 20080100 5447.46 -2001.8 >19.1 >20.2 >19.7 >19.4 >19.3 NIS AFOSC 20080110 5447.34 -2080.0 - >21.8 >0.21.8 >20.0 - - RATCam 20080112 54477.24 -2688.7 > - - 21.9 0.018 21.10 0.23 ALFOSC 20080113 54475.21 -2688.0 - - - 20.86 (0.09) - RAFCSC 20080114 54475.27 -2686.0 - - - 21.9 (0.43) ALFOSC 20080115 54480.19 -2886.1 - >21.8 >20.8 - - RATCam 20080116 54481.20 -2885.0 - - 21.4 - RATCam 20080116 54481.20 -2885.0 - - 21.7 - RATCam 20080116 54481.20 -2885.0 - - 21.3 >20.	19960111	50093.19	-7073.1	-	-	-	-	> 19.8	AGBX
19070305 5613.200 -6653.3 - > 20.0 - - - PRIME 2008010 5447.46 -200.3 - > 19.3 > 19.2 > 18.9 > 17.5 AFOSC 20080112 54477.24 -2680.0 - > 21.09 (0.18) 21.10 (0.23) AFOSC 20080112 54477.54 -2688.7 > 21.0 > 22.6 > 22.8 - 21.09 (0.18) 21.10 (0.30) AFFOSC 20080113 54478.21 -2688.7 - - 21.50 (0.27) 20.77 (0.30) LIKS 20080113 54478.27 -2686.7 - - 21.8 > 20.8 - - RATCam 20080115 54482.12 -2686.7 - - - 21.6 - RATCam 20080115 54482.27 -2686.0 - - - RATCam 20080115 54482.27 -2685.0 - - 21.6 -	19961013	50095.14	-7071.1	-	-	-	-	> 18.4	AGBX
2080100 5447.46 >e00.1 >20.2 >19.7 >19.4 >19.3 19.2 >18.9 >17.5 AFOSC 20080110 54477.24 -2689.0 - >21.8 >20.3 - - RATCam 20080112 54477.54 -2688.7 - - 21.09 0.18 21.10 0.23 ALFOSC 20080113 54477.54 -2688.0 - - 21.50 0.077 0.30 LRS 20080114 54474.57 -2686.1 - 2.2 - - RATCam 20080115 5448.0 -2686.0 - 2.2 - - RATCam 20080115 5448.0 -2685.0 - - - 21.6 - RATCam 20080115 5448.0 -2685.0 - - 21.72 0.4 - RATCam 20080116 5448.12 -2685.0 - 2.13 2.04 - - RATCam 2008	19970305	50513.00	-6653.3	-	> 20.0	-	-	-	PRIME
20080110 64475.94 2003 . > > 13.8 > > 12.8 > > 12.8 > > 17.8 AFOSC 20080112 54477.54 -2088.7 - - 21.09 (0.18) 21.10 (0.27) ALFOSC 20080113 54478.27 -2088.81 - - 21.50 (0.27) 20.77 (0.30) LRS 20080113 54478.27 -2086.7 - - 21.50 (0.27) 22.8 - - ALFOSC 20080114 54478.57 -2086.7 > 21.6 > 22.7 > 22.8 > 22.3 - ALFOSC 20080116 54485.08 - > 21.3 > 20.4 - RATCam 20080117 54482.27 -2086.1 - > 21.3 > 20.4 - RATCam 20080118 54482.26 -2085.1 - - 21.7 - RATCam 20080118 54482.26 -2082.0 - 21.3 > 20.4 - RATCam 20080112 54485.0 - 21.3 <td>20080109</td> <td>54474.46</td> <td>-2691.8</td> <td>> 19.1</td> <td>> 20.2</td> <td>> 19.7</td> <td>> 19.4</td> <td>> 19.3</td> <td>AFOSC</td>	20080109	54474.46	-2691.8	> 19.1	> 20.2	> 19.7	> 19.4	> 19.3	AFOSC
20080112 54477.24 -2689.0 - > 21.8 > 20.3 - - RATCam 20080113 54477.54 -2688.0 - - 21.09 (0.18) 21.00 (0.28) ALFOSC 20080113 54478.21 -2688.0 - - 21.50 (0.27) 20.77 (0.30) LRS 20080114 54478.27 -2688.0 - - 21.81 (0.34) ALFOSC 20080115 54480.19 -2866.7 > 21.3 > 20.8 - - RATCam 20080115 54481.20 -2686.7 > 20.3 > 20.4 - RATCam 20080115 54482.37 -2686.1 - > 21.3 > 20.4 - RATCam 20080115 54482.37 -2684.0 - > 21.3 > 20.4 - RATCam 20080112 54493.01 -267.3 > 21.4 > 20.0 > 21.72 (0.46) - RATCam 20080123 54493.01 -267.3 > 21.4 > 20.0 > 21.72 (0.46) <	20080110	54475.94	-2690.3	-	> 19.3	> 19.2	> 18.9	> 17.5	AFOSC
	20080112	54477.24	-2689.0	-	> 21.8	> 20.3	-	-	RATCam
$ 2008112 54477.54 - 2688.7 > 21.0 > 22.6 > 22.8 ALFOSC \\ 2008113 54478.27 - 2688.0 20.86 (0.09) FORS2 \\ 2008114 54478.57 - 2686.7 > 21.6 > 22.7 > 22.8 > 2.0 T (0.39) ALFOSC \\ 2008114 54478.57 - 2686.7 > 21.6 > 22.7 > 22.8 > 20.8 RATCam \\ 2008115 54481.20 - 2685.1 - > 20.3 > 20.2 RATCam \\ 2008116 54481.20 - 2685.1 - > 21.8 > 20.8 RATCam \\ 2008116 54482.57 - 2686.7 > 21.6 > 21.3 > 20.4 RATCam \\ 2008117 54482.27 - 2684.0 - > 21.3 > 20.4 RATCam \\ 2008117 54482.36 - 2683.0 - > 21.3 > 20.4 RATCam \\ 2008118 54483.26 - 2683.0 - > 21.3 > 20.1 RATCam \\ 2008112 54493.01 - 2675.4 - > 21.3 > 20.4 RATCam \\ 2008125 54493.01 - 2675.4 - > 21.9 > 20.9 RATCam \\ 2008125 54493.01 - 2675.4 - > 21.9 > 20.9 RATCam \\ 2008125 54493.01 - 2673.3 > 21.4 > 20.0 > 21.9 - 21.72 (0.46) CAFOS \\ 20080128 54493.01 - 2673.3 > 21.4 > 20.0 > 21.9 21.72 (0.46) RATCam \\ 20080128 54493.01 - 2673.3 > 21.4 > 20.0 > 21.9 RATCam \\ 20080128 54491.1 - 2674.2 > 21.9 > 20.9 RATCam \\ 20080128 54491.1 - 2674.3 > 21.7 RATCam \\ 20080126 5450.11 - 2664.2 - > 22.2 > 21.6 RATCam \\ 20080206 5450.11 - 2664.2 - > 21.1 > 21.3 > 20.2 RATCam \\ 20080206 5450.11 - 2664.2 - > 21.1 > 21.3 > 20.2 RATCam \\ 20080206 5450.11 - 2665.2 21.1 > 21.3 > 20.2 RATCam \\ 20080206 5450.10 - 2658.2 21.1 > 1.9 1.6 RATCam \\ 20080206 5450.11 - 2665.2 21.1 > 1.9 1.6 RATCam \\ 20080206 5452.415 - 2662.1 - > 21.1 > 1.9 1.6 RATCam \\ 20080206 5452.497 - 2639.3 - > 21.7 RATCam \\ 20080206 5452.497 - 2639.3 - > 21.7 RATCam \\ 20080206 5452.497 - 2639.3 - > 21.7 RATCam \\ 20080207 5464.76 - 271.5 > 1.9 1.9 1.9 1.9 1.9 1.9 1.9 1.9 1.9 1.9$	20080112	54477.54	-2688.7	-	-	-	21.09(0.18)	21.10(0.23)	ALFOSC
20080113 54478.21 -2668.1 - - 21.50 (0.27) 207.0030 LRS 20080114 54479.37 -2686.7 - - 20.86 (0.09) - PCRS2 20080114 54479.57 -2686.7 > 21.6 > 22.7 > 22.8 > 22.3 - ALFOSC 20080116 5448.124 -2685.1 - > 20.3 > 20.2 - - RATCam 20080116 5448.124 -2685.0 - - - RATCam 20080117 54483.26 -2684.0 - > 21.3 > 20.4 - - RATCam 20080125 54483.00 -267.3 > 21.4 > 20.9 - - RATCam 20080125 54493.01 -267.3 > 21.4 > 20.9 - - RATCam 20080126 54493.12 -267.2 - > 20.9 - - RATCam 20080126 54493.11 -267.2 - 21.4 CAFOS	20080112	54477.54	-2688.7	> 21.0	> 22.6	> 22.8	-	-	ALFOSC
20080113 54478.27 -2688.0 - - 20.86 (0.09) - FORS2 20080114 54479.57 -2686.7 > 21.6 > 22.7 > 22.8 > 22.3 - RATCam 20080115 5448.120 -2685.1 - > 21.8 > 20.8 - - RATCam 20080115 5448.120 -2685.0 - - - > 21.6 - RATCam 20080115 5448.227 -2685.0 - > 21.3 > 20.1 - - RATCam 20080125 54490.90 -2675.4 - > 21.3 > 20.2 - RATCam 20080125 54493.01 -677.3 > 21.4 > 20.0 > 21.9 - 21.4 CAFOS 20080126 54493.01 -267.3 > 21.4 > 20.0 > 21.9 - - RATCam 20080126 54493.01 -267.3 > 21.4 > 20.0 > 21.9 - - RATCam 20080121	20080113	54478.21	-2688.1	-	-	-	21.50(0.27)	20.77(0.30)	LRS
20080114 54479.57 -2686.7 - - - - 21.9 (1.0.43) ALFOSC 20080115 54480.19 -2686.1 - > 21.8 > 20.8 - - RATCam 20080116 54481.24 -2685.0 - - - RATCam 20080116 54482.27 -2684.0 - > 21.3 > 20.4 - - RATCam 20080118 54483.26 -268.0 - > 21.3 > 20.4 - - RATCam 20080125 54493.00 -2673.3 - - - 21.72 (0.46) - CAFOS 20080125 54493.01 -2673.3 - - - 21.4 CAFOS 20080125 54493.10 -2673.3 - - - RATCam 20080125 5449.10 -2671.2 - 21.3 > 20.9 - - RATCam 20080205 5401.15 -2664.2 - > 22.3	20080113	54478.27	-2688.0	-	-	-	20.86(0.09)	-	FORS2
20080114 54479.57 -2686.7 > 21.6 > 22.7 > 22.8 > 22.3 - ALFOSC 20080116 54481.20 -2685.1 - > 21.8 > 20.8 - - RATCam 20080116 54481.24 -2685.0 - > 21.3 > 20.1 - - RATCam 20080117 54483.26 -2683.0 - > 21.3 > 20.1 - - RATCam 20080125 54493.01 -2675.4 - > 21.3 > 20.2 - - RATCam 20080125 54493.01 -2673.3 - - 21.72 (0.46) - CAFOS 20080125 54493.01 -2673.3 > 21.4 > 20.0 > 21.9 - > RATCam 20080126 54493.12 -2671.2 - > 20.2 > 19.3 - - RATCam 20080205 5450.415 -2662.1 - > 21.3 > 20.2 - RATCam 20080215 5450.49 - - 2.0.2 > 20.4 LRS 20080212<	20080114	54479.57	-2686.7	-	-	-	-	21.91(0.43)	ALFOSC
20080115 54480.10 -2686.1 - > 21.8 > 20.8 - - RATCam 20080116 54481.24 -2685.0 - - - > 21.6 - RATCam 20080117 54482.27 -2684.0 - > 21.3 > 20.4 - - RATCam 20080118 54485.06 -268.0 - > 21.3 > 20.1 - RATCam 20080125 54495.00 -267.3 > 21.4 > 20.0 RATCam RATCam 20080125 54493.01 -267.3 > 21.4 > 20.0 > 21.9 > 21.4 CAFOS 20080125 54493.01 -267.3 > 21.4 > 20.2 > 19.3 - - RATCam 2008013 54497.08 -266.2 - > 22.3 > 21.6 - RATCam 20080205 5450.11 -2664.2 - > 21.3 > 20.2 > 20.4 LRS 20080212 5450.810 -2658.2 - -<	20080114	54479.57	-2686.7	> 21.6	> 22.7	> 22.8	> 22.3	-	ALFOSC
20080116 54481.20 -2685.0 - - - > 21.6 - RATCam 20080116 54482.27 -2684.0 - > 21.3 > 20.4 - - RATCam 20080115 54485.08 -2681.2 - > 19.3 > 18.7 - - RATCam 20080125 54493.00 -2673.3 - - 21.72 0.46) - CAFOS 20080125 54493.01 -2673.3 > 21.4 > 20.0 > 21.9 - > 21.4 CAFOS 20080125 54493.01 -2671.2 - > 20.2 > 19.3 - - RATCam 2008013 54495.12 -261.2 - > 20.2 > 19.3 - - RATCam 20080215 5450.11 -2661.2 - > 22.2 > 21.6 - - RATCam 20080215 5450.79 - - - 20.2 > 20.4 LRS 20080211 54651	20080115	54480.19	-2686.1	-	> 21.8	> 20.8	-	-	RATCam
20080116 5448.2.4 -285.0 - - > 21.6 - RATCam 20080117 54482.27 -2864.0 - > 21.3 > 20.1 - - RATCam 2008012 54485.06 -261.3 > 20.1 - - RATCam 20080125 5449.0.0 -267.3 - - 21.72 (0.46) - CAFOS 20080125 5449.0.1 -267.3 > 21.4 > 20.0 > 21.9 > 20.9 - - RATCam 20080125 5449.112 -267.2 - > 22.2 > 21.6 - - RATCam 2008013 54497.08 -2661.2 - > 22.3 > 21.6 - - RATCam 20080215 5450.11 -2664.2 - > 21.3 > 20.2 > 20.4 LRS 20080211 5450.10 -2652.2 - - - RATCam 20080212 5450.41 - 20.5 > 21.7	20080116	54481.20	-2685.1	-	> 20.3	> 20.2	-	-	RATCam
20080117 54482.27 -2684.0 - > 21.3 > 20.4 - - RATCam 20080118 54485.08 -2681.2 - > 19.3 > 18.7 - - RATCam 20080125 54490.00 -2675.4 - > 21.3 > 20.2 - - RATCam 20080125 54493.01 -2673.3 > 21.4 > 20.0 > 21.9 - > 21.4 CAFOS 20080125 54491.12 -2671.2 - > 21.9 > 20.9 - - RATCam 20080130 54495.12 -2671.2 - > 21.2 > 21.6 - - RATCam 20080205 54504.15 -2662.1 - > 21.3 > 20.2 - - RATCam 20080215 54504.90 -2658.2 - - - > 20.2 > 20.4 LRS 20080215 5452.90 -263.3 - > 21.1 > 19.6 > 19.2 > 18.7 CAFOS <t< td=""><td>20080116</td><td>54481.24</td><td>-2685.0</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>> 21.6</td><td>-</td><td>FORS2</td></t<>	20080116	54481.24	-2685.0	-	-	-	> 21.6	-	FORS2
20080118 54483.68 -2683.2 > > > > > > > > > > > 21.3 > > 20.1 - - RATCam 20080125 5449.00 -2675.4 - > > 21.3 > 20.2 - - RATCam 20080125 54493.01 -2673.3 > 21.4 > 20.0 > > 21.9 - > 21.4 CAFOS 20080125 54493.01 -2673.3 > 21.4 > 20.0 > > 21.9 - > 21.4 CAFOS 20080130 54495.12 -2672.2 - > > 22.2 > 21.6 - - RATCam 20080205 5400.11 -2664.2 - > 22.3 > 21.6 - - RATCam 20080205 5400.11 -2664.2 - > 21.3 > 20.2 - - RATCam 20080212 5450.81 - 2658.3 - > 21.7 - - RATCam 20080212 5450.81 -2658.3 - > 21.1 > 10.6 > 19.2 > 18.7 CAFOS 20080212 5452.69 -2641.3 - > 21.2 > 21.0 -	20080117	54482.27	-2684.0	-	> 21.3	> 20.4	-	-	RATCam
20080120 54485.08 -2681.2 - > 19.3 > 18.7 - - RATCam 20080125 54490.00 -2673.3 - - - 21.72 (0.46) - CAFOS 20080125 54493.01 -2673.3 > 21.4 > 20.9 - > 21.4 CAFOS 20080120 54495.11 -2671.2 - > 21.9 > 20.9 - - RATCam 20080130 54495.12 -2671.2 - > 22.2 > 21.6 - - RATCam 20080205 54504.15 -2662.1 - > 22.3 > 21.6 - RATCam 20080211 54507.93 -2658.3 - > 21.1 > 19.6 > 19.2 > 18.7 CAFOS 20080212 54504.10 -2658.2 - > 21.1 > 19.6 > 19.2 > 18.7 CAFOS 20080201 5452.499 -6641.3 - 21.1 > 21.0 - RATCam 20080301 5455.89 -610.4 - - 20.95 (0.18) 20.44 (0.17) ALFOSC	20080118	54483.26	-2683.0	-	> 21.3	> 20.1	-	-	RATCam
20080125 54490.00 -2675.4 - > 21.3 > 20.2 - - RATCam 20080128 54493.01 -2673.3 > 21.4 > 20.0 > 21.9 - > 21.4 CAFOS 20080129 54493.01 -2673.3 > 21.4 > 20.0 > 21.9 - > 21.4 CAFOS 20080103 54495.12 -2671.2 - > 20.2 > 19.3 - - RATCam 20080205 54504.11 -2664.2 - > 22.2 > 21.6 - - RATCam 20080205 54504.15 -2665.3 - > 21.7 - - RATCam 20080212 54507.93 -2658.3 - > 21.7 - - RATCam 20080212 5450.410 -2658.3 - > 21.7 - - RATCam 20080202 54524.99 -2630.3 - > 21.6 - - RATCam 20080300 54525.89 -2610.4 - - - 20.95 0.18 20.44 CAFOS <t< td=""><td>20080120</td><td>54485.08</td><td>-2681.2</td><td>-</td><td>> 19.3</td><td>> 18.7</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>RATCam</td></t<>	20080120	54485.08	-2681.2	-	> 19.3	> 18.7	-	-	RATCam
$\begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $	20080125	54490.90	-2675.4	-	> 21.3	> 20.2	-	-	RATCam
$ \begin{array}{llllllllllllllllllllllllllllllllllll$	20080128	54493.01	-2673.3	-	-	-	21.72(0.46)	-	CAFOS
$\begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $	20080128	54493.01	-2673.3	> 21.4	> 20.0	> 21.9	-	> 21.4	CAFOS
$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	20080129	54494.12	-2672.2	-	> 21.9	> 20.9	-	-	RATCam
$\begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $	20080130	54495.12	-2671.2	-	> 20.2	> 19.3	-	-	RATCam
$\begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $	20080131	54497.08	-2669.2	-	> 22.2	> 21.6	-	-	RATCam
$\begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $	20080206	54502.11	-2664.2	-	> 22.3	> 21.6	-	-	RATCam
$\begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $	20080208	54504.15	-2662.1	-	> 21.3	> 20.2	-	-	RATCam
$\begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $	20080211	54507.09	-2659.2	-	-	-	> 20.2	> 20.4	LRS
$\begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $	20080211	54507.93	-2658.3	-	> 21.7	-	-	-	RATCam
$\begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $	20080212	54508.10	-2658.2	-	> 21.1	> 19.6	> 19.2	> 18.7	CAFOS
$\begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $	20080228	54524.99	-2641.3	-	> 21.2	> 21.0	-	-	RATCam
$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	20080301	54526.97	-2639.3	-	> 22.6	> 21.8	-	-	RATCam
$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	20080304	54529.96	-2636.3	-	> 22.5	> 21.7	-	-	RATCam
$\begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $	20080310	54535.94	-2630.3	-	> 21.1	> 20.5	-	-	RATCam
$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	20080330	54555.89	-2610.4	> 21.0	> 21.1	> 21.6		-	ALFOSC
2008041554511.95 -2294.3 $ > 20.8$ > 20.9 $ -$ RATCam2008042154577.92 -2588.4 $ > 20.9$ $ -$ RATCam2008042754583.04 -2583.2 $ 21.62 (0.23)$ $-$ FORS22008070754654.76 -2511.5 > 18.4 > 20.4 > 19.4 > 18.9 > 18.9 AFOSC2009022154883.69 -2282.6 > 20.0 > 20.3 > 19.4 $ -$ SWIFT2015021057063.90 -102.4 $ 19.75 (0.18)$ $ -$ AFOSC2015021157064.51 -101.8 > 18.7 > 19.2 > 18.2 $ -$ AFOSC2015021457067.83 -98.4 $ 19.59 (0.04)$ $18.99 (0.02)$ $-$ HFOSC2015021557076.82 -96.5 $ 19.64 (0.03)$ $19.09 (0.03)$ $18.79 (0.04)$ HFOSC2015021857071.89 -94.4 > 19.6 > 19.9 > 18.9 $ -$ AFOSC2015021257075.83 -90.4 $ 19.13 (0.04)$ $18.68 (0.04)$ $ -$ 2015021357076.04 -90.2 $ 19.57 (0.20)$ $ -$ 2015021457075.83 -90.4 $ 19.13 (0.04)$ $18.68 (0.04)$ $ -$ 2015031557086.97 </td <td>20080330</td> <td>54555.89</td> <td>-2610.4</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>20.95(0.18)</td> <td>20.84(0.17)</td> <td>ALFOSC</td>	20080330	54555.89	-2610.4	-	-	-	20.95(0.18)	20.84(0.17)	ALFOSC
$\begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $	20080415	54571.95	-2594.3	-	> 20.8	> 20.9	-	-	RATCam
$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	20080421	54577.92 E4E82.04	-2000.4	-	-	> 20.9	- 91 69 (0.99)	-	FORS
$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	20080427	54585.04	-2085.2	-	-	-	21.02(0.23)	-	FOR52
$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	20080707	54054.70	-2011.0	> 18.4	> 20.4	> 19.4	> 18.9	> 18.9	AFOSC
$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	20060706	54055.00	-2010.7	> 20.0	> 19.3	> 20.1	> 18.9	> 19.8	SWIET
$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	20090221	57063.09	-2282.0	> 20.0	> 20.3	> 19.4 10.75 (0.18)	-	-	AFOSC
$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	20150210	57064 51	-102.4	> 18 7	> 10.2	> 18.2	_		SWIFT
$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	20150211	57064.95	-101.0	/ 10.7	20.27(0.06)	19.68(0.05)	_		AFOSC
$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	20150211	57067.83	-101.5	-	20.27 (0.00)	19.08 (0.03) 19.59 (0.04)	- 18 00 (0 02)	-	HFOSC
$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	20150214	57069.82	-96.5	_	_	19.63 (0.04) 19.64 (0.03)	19.09(0.02)	18.79(0.04)	HFOSC
$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	20150217	57070 79	-95.5	_	20.03(0.04)	19.04(0.05) 19.53(0.05)	-	-	AFOSC
20150212 57075.83 -90.4 - - 19.13 (0.04) 18.68 (0.04) - HFOSC 20150222 57076.04 -90.2 - 19.57 (0.02) 19.13 (0.04) 18.68 (0.04) - HFOSC 20150223 57076.04 -90.2 - 19.57 (0.02) 19.15 (0.03) 18.70 (0.03) 18.46 (0.04) ALFOSC 20150305 57086.97 -79.3 - 19.57 (0.20) - - - IO:O 20150306 57087.74 -78.5 - - 19.01 (0.03) 18.53 (0.03) 18.25 (0.03) HFOSC 20150311 57092.07 -74.2 - 19.42 (0.03) 18.95 (0.03) 18.23 (0.03) ALFOSC 20150311 57092.64 -73.6 - - 19.04 (0.02) 18.48 (0.03) 18.21 (0.04) HFOSC 20150317 57098.79 -67.5 - - 19.04 (0.02) 18.49 (0.03)	20150218	57071.89	-94 4	> 19.6	> 19.9	> 18.9	_	_	SWIFT
20150222 57076.04 -90.2 - 19.57 (0.02) 19.15 (0.03) 18.70 (0.03) 18.46 (0.04) ALFOSC 20150223 57086.97 -79.3 - 19.57 (0.20) - - IO:O 20150305 57086.97 -79.3 - 19.57 (0.20) - - IO:O 20150306 57087.74 -78.5 - 19.01 (0.03) 18.53 (0.03) 18.25 (0.03) HFOSC 20150311 57092.07 -74.2 - 19.42 (0.03) 18.95 (0.03) 18.50 (0.03) 18.23 (0.03) ALFOSC 20150311 57092.64 -73.6 - - 19.04 (0.02) 18.48 (0.03) 18.21 (0.04) HFOSC 20150317 57098.79 -67.5 - - 19.04 (0.02) 18.49 (0.03) 18.29 (0.03) HFOSC 20150318 57099.97 -66.3 - 19.51 (0.05) 18.98 (0.04) - - AFOSC 20150327 57108.90 -57.4 - 19.25 (0.03) 18.29 (0.03) - ALFOSC 20150411 57123.90 -42.4 - <	20150222	57075.83	-90.4	-	-	1913(0.04)	1868(004)	_	HFOSC
20150305 57086.97 -79.3 - 19.57 (0.20) - - - IO:O 20150306 57087.74 -78.5 - - 19.01 (0.03) 18.53 (0.03) 18.25 (0.03) HFOSC 20150311 57092.07 -74.2 - 19.42 (0.03) 18.95 (0.03) 18.50 (0.03) 18.23 (0.03) ALFOSC 20150311 57092.64 -73.6 - - 18.95 (0.03) 18.48 (0.03) 18.21 (0.04) HFOSC 20150317 57098.79 -67.5 - - 19.04 (0.02) 18.49 (0.03) 18.29 (0.03) HFOSC 20150318 57099.97 -66.3 - 19.51 (0.05) 18.98 (0.04) - - AFOSC 20150327 57108.90 -57.4 - 19.25 (0.03) 18.74 (0.03) - - ALFOSC 20150411 57123.90 -42.4 - 18.79 (0.03) 18.29 (0.03) - - ALFOSC 20150428 57140.90 -25.4 - 19.05 (0.04) 18.34 (0.04) - - ALFOSC	20150223	57076.04	-90.2	_	19.57(0.02)	19.15 (0.03)	$18.70 \ (0.03)$	18.46(0.04)	ALFOSC
20150306 57087.74 -78.5 - - 19.01 (0.03) 18.53 (0.03) 18.25 (0.03) HFOSC 20150311 57092.07 -74.2 - 19.42 (0.03) 18.95 (0.03) 18.50 (0.03) 18.23 (0.03) ALFOSC 20150311 57092.07 -74.2 - 19.42 (0.03) 18.95 (0.03) 18.23 (0.03) ALFOSC 20150311 57092.64 -73.6 - - 18.95 (0.03) 18.48 (0.03) 18.21 (0.04) HFOSC 20150317 57098.79 -67.5 - - 19.04 (0.02) 18.49 (0.03) 18.29 (0.03) HFOSC 20150318 57099.97 -66.3 - 19.51 (0.05) 18.98 (0.04) - - AFOSC 20150327 57108.90 -57.4 - 19.25 (0.03) 18.74 (0.03) - - ALFOSC 20150411 57123.90 -42.4 - 18.79 (0.03) 18.29 (0.03) - - ALFOSC 20150428 57140.90 -25.4 - 19.05 (0.04) 18.34 (0.04) - - ALFOSC	20150305	57086.97	-79.3	_	19.57 (0.20)	-	-	-	10:0
20150311 57092.07 -74.2 - 19.42 (0.03) 18.95 (0.03) 18.50 (0.03) 18.23 (0.03) ALFOSC 20150311 57092.64 -73.6 - - 18.95 (0.03) 18.48 (0.03) 18.21 (0.04) HFOSC 20150317 57098.79 -67.5 - - 19.04 (0.02) 18.49 (0.03) 18.29 (0.03) HFOSC 20150318 57099.97 -66.3 - 19.51 (0.05) 18.98 (0.04) - - AFOSC 20150327 57108.90 -57.4 - 19.25 (0.03) 18.29 (0.03) - ALFOSC 20150411 57123.90 -42.4 - 18.79 (0.03) 18.29 (0.03) - - ALFOSC 20150428 57140.90 -25.4 - 19.05 (0.04) 18.34 (0.04) - - ALFOSC	20150306	57087.74	-78.5	_	-	19.01(0.03)	18.53(0.03)	18.25(0.03)	HFOSC
$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	20150311	57092.07	-74.2	-	19.42 (0.03)	18.95(0.03)	18.50(0.03)	18.23(0.03)	ALFOSC
20150317 57098.79 -67.5 - 19.04 (0.02) 18.49 (0.03) 18.29 (0.03) HFOSC 20150318 57099.97 -66.3 - 19.51 (0.05) 18.98 (0.04) - - AFOSC 20150327 57108.90 -57.4 - 19.25 (0.03) 18.74 (0.03) - - ALFOSC 20150411 57123.90 -42.4 - 18.79 (0.03) 18.29 (0.03) - - ALFOSC 20150428 57140.90 -25.4 - 19.05 (0.04) 18.34 (0.04) - - ALFOSC	20150311	57092.64	-73.6	-	-	18.95(0.03)	18.48 (0.03)	18.21 (0.04)	HFOSC
20150318 57099.97 -66.3 - 19.51 (0.05) 18.98 (0.04) - - AFOSC 20150327 57108.90 -57.4 - 19.25 (0.03) 18.74 (0.03) - - AFOSC 20150411 57123.90 -42.4 - 18.79 (0.03) 18.29 (0.03) - - ALFOSC 20150428 57140.90 -25.4 - 19.05 (0.04) 18.34 (0.04) - - ALFOSC	20150317	57098.79	-67.5	-	-	19.04 (0.02)	18.49 (0.03)	18.29 (0.03)	HFOSC
20150327 57108.90 -57.4 - 19.25 (0.03) 18.74 (0.03) - - ALFOSC 20150411 57123.90 -42.4 - 18.79 (0.03) 18.29 (0.03) - - ALFOSC 20150428 57140.90 -25.4 - 19.05 (0.04) 18.34 (0.04) - - ALFOSC	20150318	57099.97	-66.3	-	19.51 (0.05)	18.98 (0.04)	_	-	AFOSC
20150411 57123.90 -42.4 - 18.79 (0.03) 18.29 (0.03) - - ALFOSC 20150428 57140.90 -25.4 - 19.05 (0.04) 18.34 (0.04) - - ALFOSC	20150327	57108.90	-57.4	-	19.25 (0.03)	18.74 (0.03)	-	-	ALFOSC
20150428 57140.90 -25.4 - 19.05 (0.04) 18.34 (0.04) ALFOSC	20150411	57123.90	-42.4	-	18.79 (0.03)	18.29 (0.03)	-	-	ALFOSC
	20150428	57140.90	-25.4	-	19.05 (0.04)	18.34 (0.04)	-	-	ALFOSC

SN 2015bh 23

 ${\bf Table}~{\bf A2}-continued$

Date	MJD	$Phase^{a}$	U	В	V	R	Ι	Instrument kev
		(days)	(mag)	(mag)	(mag)	(mag)	(mag)	
20150508	57150.93	-15.3	-	19.25(0.03)	18.52(0.02)	-	-	ALFOSC
20150516	57158.72	-7.6	14.92(0.06)	16.10(0.07)	16.04(0.09)	-	-	SWIFT
20150516	57158.94	-7.3	15.23(0.03)	16.02(0.05)	15.79(0.04)	15.65(0.07)	15.46(0.04)	MEIA
20150517	57159.88	-6.4	-	15.82(0.08)	15.72(0.11)	15.53(0.12)	-	LRS
20150517	57159.90	-6.4	15.04(0.03)	15.78(0.07)	15.70 (0.04)	15.46(0.10)	15.35(0.05)	MEIA
20150517	57159.92	-6.4	14.64 (0.06)	15.85(0.07)	15.79(0.08)	-	-	SWIFT
20150518	57160.19	-6.1	14.63 (0.05)	15.84 (0.06)	15.68(0.07)	-	-	SWIFT
20150518	57160.91	-5.4	-	15.68(0.07)	15.59(0.07)	15.39(0.09)	-	MEIA
20150519	57161.66	-4.6	14.52(0.05)	15.61(0.06)	15.57(0.07)	-	-	SWIFT
20150520	57162.23	-4.1	14.50 (0.05)	15.59(0.07)	15.65(0.09)	-	-	SWIFT
20150520	57162.85	-3.4	-	15.61(0.01)	15.42(0.03)	15.20(0.03)	15.05(0.02)	ANDOR
20150520	57162.89	-3.4	14.76(0.04)	15.54 (0.06)	15.38(0.04)	15.21 (0.06)	15.07 (0.05)	MEIA
20150521	57163.84	-2.4		15.59(0.05)	15.40(0.01)	15.07(0.02)	14.99(0.04)	ANDOR
20150521	57163.89	-2.4	14.36(0.05)	15.54 (0.06)	-	-	-	SWIFT
20150522	57164 19	-2.1	-	-	1540(006)	_	_	SWIFT
20150522	57164.55	-17	14.36(0.05)	1554(0.06)	15.40(0.00) 15.49(0.07)	_	_	SWIFT
20150522	57164.85	-1.7	14.00 (0.00)	15.54(0.00) 15.59(0.03)	15.49(0.01) 15.39(0.01)	15 19 (0.04)	14.97(0.02)	ANDOR
20150522	57166.81	0.5	14.41.(0.05)	15.03(0.05) 15.46(0.06)	15.35(0.01) 15.35(0.07)	10.13 (0.04)	14.37 (0.02)	SWIFT
20150524	57166.00	0.5	14.41 (0.00)	15.40(0.00) 15.46(0.03)	15.35(0.07) 15.37(0.06)	$\frac{-}{15,12,(0,05)}$	$\frac{-}{14.98(0.04)}$	MEIA
20150524	57167.48	1.0	14.47(0.05)	15.40(0.05) 15.50(0.06)	15.37 (0.00) 15.40 (0.07)	10.12 (0.00)	14.30 (0.04)	SWIFT
20150525	57167.40	1.2	14.47(0.03)	15.59(0.00) 15.54(0.02)	15.40(0.07) 15.22(0.02)	-	-	ALEOSC
20150525	57167.00	1.0	-	13.34(0.02)	15.33 (0.02) 15.27 (0.07)	15.11(0.03) 15.14(0.02)	15.00(0.03) 15.00(0.04)	MEIA
20150525	57107.90	1.0	14.71(0.04) 14.72(0.05)	-	15.57(0.07)	15.14(0.05)	15.00(0.04)	NEIA
20150526	57168.04	1.8	14.52(0.05)	- 15 59 (0.00)	-	-	-	SWIF I
20150526	57168.34	2.1	14.55 (0.05) 14.88 (0.02)	15.58(0.06)	15.44(0.07)	-	-	SWIF I
20150526	57168.90	2.6	14.88(0.02)	15.61 (0.02)	15.36(0.02)	15.13(0.01)	15.00(0.02)	MEIA
20150527	57169.47	3.2	14.65(0.05)	15.67 (0.06)	15.40(0.07)	-	-	SWIFT
20150527	57169.92	3.6	14.96(0.04)	15.63(0.06)	15.40(0.05)	15.18(0.04)	15.03(0.05)	MEIA
20150528	57170.24	4.0	14.71(0.05)	15.74 (0.06)	15.49 (0.07)	-	-	SWIFT
20150528	57170.90	4.6	15.03(0.04)	15.75(0.06)	15.40(0.07)	15.19(0.07)	15.02(0.03)	MEIA
20150530	57172.90	6.6	-	15.87(0.08)	15.52(0.06)	15.27(0.06)	15.15(0.09)	MEIA
20150531	57173.90	7.6	15.27(0.04)	15.88(0.07)	15.48(0.05)	15.25(0.09)	15.12(0.04)	MEIA
20150601	57174.92	8.6	15.39(0.11)	15.89(0.05)	15.50(0.05)	$15.34\ (0.05)$	15.11(0.04)	MEIA
20150602	57175.92	9.6	$15.41 \ (0.12)$	15.95(0.03)	$15.61 \ (0.04)$	15.35(0.05)	15.13(0.06)	MEIA
20150604	57177.00	10.7	-	$16.01 \ (0.04)$	15.63(0.03)	15.42(0.04)	15.19(0.03)	MEIA
20150606	57179.00	12.7	15.79(0.04)	$16.21 \ (0.02)$	15.71 (0.04)	$15.54 \ (0.05)$	15.19(0.04)	MEIA
20150608	57181.00	14.7	15.90(0.15)	16.27 (0.34)	-	$15.51 \ (0.13)$	15.15 (0.16)	MEIA
20150611	57184.90	18.6	$16.21 \ (0.03)$	$16.50 \ (0.04)$	15.97(0.02)	15.56(0.04)	15.38(0.06)	ALFOSC
20150620	57193.00	26.7	-	-	16.27 (0.03)	15.88 (0.05)	15.55 (0.03)	MEIA
20150621	57194.00	27.7	-	-	$16.30\ (0.05)$	15.97(0.09)	15.60(0.04)	MEIA
20150622	57195.89	29.6	17.13(0.03)	17.10(0.03)	16.39(0.02)	$16.04 \ (0.06)$	15.66(0.04)	ALFOSC
20151011	57306.17	139.9	> 21.0	-	-	> 18.2	-	ALFOSC
20151011	57306.17	139.9	-	21.31 (0.19)	-	-	-	ALFOSC
20151023	57318.12	151.8	-	-	20.38(0.29)	-	-	AFOSC
20151105	57331.12	164.8	-	21.48(0.07)	20.69(0.05)	19.39(0.09)	18.99(0.09)	ALFOSC
20151109	57335.11	168.8	-	21.41(0.22)	20.41(0.14)	-	-	AFOSC
20151122	57348.15	181.9	-	21.52(0.06)	20.63(0.06)	19.50(0.06)	19.23(0.10)	ALFOSC
20151203	57359.10	192.8	-	-	20.68(0.28)	-	-	AFOSC
20151203	57359.10	192.8	-	> 21.4	-	-	-	AFOSC
20151216	57372.18	205.9	-	-	20.88(0.11)	19.79(0.18)	19.71(0.18)	ALFOSC
20151216	57372.18	205.9	-	> 20.8	- /	-	-	ALFOSC
20151230	57386.13	219.8	-	21.57(0.09)	20.94 (0.07)	19.57 (0.10)	19.70 (0.06)	ALFOSC
20160114	57401.11	234.8	-	21.63(0.09)	20.98(0.07)	19.79(0.09)	19.80 (0.10)	ALFOSC
20160129	57417.00	250.7	-	> 18.1	> 17.3	-	(00)	ALFOSC
20160217	57435.05	268.8	-	21.82(0.13)	21.18(0.07)	20.01 (0.05)	20.13(0.07)	ALFOSC
20160315	57462.96	296.7	-	21.89(0.07)	21.33(0.07)	20.15(0.07)	20.44(0.08)	ALFOSC
_0100010	5.102.00	200.1		<u> </u>	-1.00 (0.07)	(0.01)	(0.00)	

Table A3. Optical Sloan photometry of SN 2015bh (AB magnitudes)

Date	MJD	$Phase^{a}$	u	g	r	i	Z	Instrument key
		(days)	(mag)	(mag)	(mag)	(mag)	(mag)	
100/120/	40600 14	7476 1	,	,	> 18 1	,	,	PECII
19941204 19951224	49090.14 50075.18	-7470.1	-	-	> 20.5	-	-	PFCU
19991205	51517 12	-5649.2	_	_	> 19.7	_	_	CAO
19991213	51525.12	-5641.2	_	_	> 18.7	_	_	CAO
20000105	51548.03	-5618.2		_	> 18.9		_	CAO
20000100	51595 93	-5570.3	_	_	> 19.4	_	_	CAO
20000221	51609.86	-5556.4	_	_	> 19.1	_	_	CAO
200000000	52019 99	-5146.3	_	_	> 17.9	_	_	CAO
20010508	52037 90	-5128.4	_	_	> 18.8	_	_	CAO
20010000	52161 15	-5005.1		_	> 18.9		_	CAO
20010000	52101.10	-4968 1	_	_	> 19.6	_	_	CAO
20011029	522100.10 52211.13	-4955.2	_	_	> 19.0	_	_	CAO
20011208	52211.10 52251.07	-4915.2	_	_	> 19.1	_	_	CAO
20011200	52269.99	-4896.3	_	_	> 19.9	_	_	CAO
200201220	52209.00	-4867.2	_	_	> 19.9	_	_	CAO
20020301	52334 07	-4832.2	_	_	> 19.0	_	_	CAO
20020301	52355.89	-4810.4		_	21 55 (0.33)		_	WEC
20020322	52388.89	-4777 4		_	> 19.2		_	CAO
20020424	52580.11	-4586.2		_	> 19.2		_	CAO
20021102	52639 33	-4526.9	> 21.5	> 22.1	> 1).1	> 21.8	> 20.4	SDSS
20021201	52644.07	-4521.3	- 21.5	- 22.1	> 19.4	- 21.0	> 20.4	CAO
20030103	52672.99	-4021.0	_	_	> 19.4	_	_	CAO
20030202	52680.05	-4435.5		_	> 19.5	_	_	CAO
20030213	52009.00 52710.04	-4456.2	_	_	> 19.4	_	_	CAO
20030312	52724 01	-4442.3			> 19.1			CAO
20030320	52724.01	-4442.5			> 10.0			CAO
20050402	53670 14	-4454.5	-	-	> 19.0	-	-	CAO
20051105	53756 14	-3410.1		_	> 19.0	_	_	CAO
20000121	54035.81	-3410.1	-	-	> 10.0	-	-	IAO
20001027	54065.06	-3100.3		_	> 19.2	_	_	CAO
20001120	54114 08	-3051.3		_	> 19.3	_	_	CAO
20070114	54212.88	-2953 4		_	> 19.9		_	CAO
20070422	54477 20	-2680 1		_	> 1).)	> 20.4	_	BATCam
20080112	54480.25	-2686.0		_	> 20.4	> 20.4	_	RATCam
20080116	54481 20	-2685.1	> 20.8	_	> 19.9	> 19.9	_	BATCam
20080117	54482.27	-2684.0	> 20.0 > 20.3	_	> 21.1	> 20.5	_	BATCam
20080118	54483 27	-2683.0	- 20.5	_	> 20.7	> 20.0	_	RATCam
20080110	54485.09	-2681.2	_	_	> 18.8	> 18.7	_	BATCam
20080125	54490.92	-2675.4	_	_	> 20.1	> 20.0	_	RATCam
20080120	54494 13	-2672.2	> 21.7	_	> 20.1	> 19.8	_	BATCam
20080129	54495.13	-2072.2	> 21.7 > 20.7	_	> 19.4	> 19.0 > 18.5	_	BATCam
20080130	54497.05	-2669.2	> 21.0		> 21.4	> 21.3		RATCam
20080206	54502.12	-2664.2	-	_	> 21.4	> 21.3	_	BATCam
20080208	54504.17	-2662 1		_	> 20.1	-	_	BATCam
200802200	54525.00	-2641.3	_	_	> 21.0	> 19.8	_	RATCam
20080301	54526.99	-2639.3	_	_	> 221.0	> 17.0 > 22.4	_	BATCam
20080304	54529.97	-2636.3	_	_	> 21.7	> 21.8	_	RATCam
20080310	54535.96	-2630.3	_	_	> 20.8	- 21.0	_	BATCam
20080415	54571 97	-2594.3		_	> 19.9		_	BATCam
20080410	54577 03	-2588 3			> 19.9			RATCam
20080421	54830.01	-2336.3	_	_	> 19.8	_	_	MO
201001200	55220.05	-1946.2			> 19.0			MAO
20100124	55238 42	-1097 8	-	> 22.0	- 17.5	-	-	GPC1
20100211	55238 82	-1027.5	-	- 22.0	> 20.3	-	-	CAO
20100211	55948 20	-1027.0 -1018 0	-	> 21.3	> 20.3	> 20.0	> 20.5	GPC1
20100221	559/0.29	-1017 0	_	> 21.5	> 21.5	> 20.9	> 20.5	CPC1
20100222	55950 90	-1016.0	-	> 21.3 > 21.9	> 21.7	> 21.4 > 21.4	> 21.1 > 20.0	CPC1
20100223	55250.29	-1006 8	-	- 21.0	- 22.0	> 10.0	- 20.9	CPC1
20100304	55266 42	-1800.8	-	-	- > 10 0	- 17.7	-	GPC1
20100311	55270.43 55272.42	-1803 8	-	- > 21 /	- 17.7	-	-	GPC1
20100317	00212.40	-1029.0	-	- 21.4	-	-	-	GLOI

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 ${\bf Table}~{\bf A3}-continued$

Date	MJD	Phase ^a	u	g	r	i	z	Instrument key
		(days)	(mag)	(mag)	(mag)	(mag)	(mag)	
20101021	55490.13	-1676.2	-	-	> 19.2	-	-	CAO
20101213	55543.17	-1623.1	-	-	> 18.8	-	-	MAO
20110104	55565.08	-1601.2	-	-	> 20.5	-	-	MAO
20110117	55578.10	-1588.2	-	-	> 19.4	-	-	MAO
20110124	55585.15	-1581.1	-	-	> 19.6	-	-	00
20110208	55600.93	-1565.3	-	-	> 19.9	-	-	CAO
20110329	55650.24	-1516.0	-	-	-	-	> 21.0	GPCI
20110407	55658.87	-1507.4	-	-	> 20.0	-	-	CAO
20111029	55863.71	-1302.6	-	-	> 19.3	-	-	IAO
20111101	55866.75	-1299.5	-	-	> 19.2	-	-	IAU CDC1
20111200	55901.05 55012.07	-1204.0 1952.2	-	-	-	-	20.31(0.12)	GPUI
20111217	55021.00	-1205.5	-	-	> 20.2	-	-	MAO
20111220	55043.07	-1240.2 1993-9	-	-	> 10.0	-	-	MAO
20120111	55047.01	-1225.2		_	> 19.2			GO
20120121	55051.80	-1210.4		_	> 19.1			00
20120125	55952.02	-1214.4	_	-	> 19.5	-	-	MAO
20120120	55952.82	-1213.5	_	_	> 19.5	_	_	CAO
20120201	55958.03	-1208.2	-	-	20.92(0.19)	-	-	WFC
20120211	55968.37	-1197.9	_	-		21.37(0.23)	-	GPC1
20120215	55972.39	-1193.9	-	21.27(0.11)	20.26(0.07)	_	-	GPC1
20120216	55973.56	-1192.7	-	-	> 18.8	-	-	IAO
20120216	55973.89	-1192.4	-	-	> 18.8	-	-	GO
20120224	55981.53	-1184.8	-	-	> 18.5	-	-	IAO
20120225	55982.04	-1184.2	-	-	> 19.3	-	-	CAO
20120227	55984.51	-1181.8	-	-	> 18.3	-	-	IAO
20120301	55987.59	-1178.7	-	-	> 19.0	-	-	IAO
20120314	56000.86	-1165.4	-	-	> 19.7	-	-	OO
20120316	56002.87	-1163.4	-	-	> 19.6	-	-	MAO
20120327	56013.48	-1152.8	-	-	> 18.5	-	-	IAO
20120408	56025.49	-1140.8	-	-	> 19.2	-	-	IAO
20120414	56031.49	-1134.8	-	-	> 19.0	-	-	IAO
20120415	56032.27	-1134.0	-	20.97(0.10)	-	-	-	GPC1
20120418	56035.44	-1130.8	-	-	> 19.1	-	-	IAO
20120428	56045.47	-1120.8	-	-	> 18.7	-	-	IAO
20121026	56226.75	-939.5	-	-	> 18.4	-	-	IAO
20121210	56271.63	-894.7	-	-	-	-	> 20.4	GPC1
20130107	56299.97	-866.3	-	-	> 18.9	-	-	00
20130108	56300.05	-866.2	-	-	> 19.1	-	-	MAO
20130111	56303.54	-862.7	-	-	21.25(0.30)	-	-	GPCI
20130131	56224.44	-042.0	-	-	> 10.9	-	-	CDC1
20130201	56331 36	-041.0	-	- 21 15 (0 21)	21.23 (0.29) 20.47 (0.11)	-	-	CPC1
20130208	56337 33	-828.0	-	21.13(0.21) 21.49(0.12)	20.47 (0.11) 20.86 (0.09)	-	-	GPC1
20130214	56337.89	-828.3	-	21.49 (0.12)	> 18.6	-	-	GO
20130305	56356 61	-809.7	_	_	> 18.2	_	_	IAO
20130401	56383.41	-782.9	_	_	> 18.8	-	_	IAO
20130415	56397.83	-768.4	-	-	> 19.3	-	-	MAO
20130923	56558.80	-607.5	_	-	> 19.3	-	-	IAO
20131101	56597.76	-568.5	-	-	> 18.9	-	-	IAO
20131118	56614.57	-551.7	-	-	-	-	> 21.3	GPC1
20131205	56631.09	-535.2	-	-	> 19.0	-	-	MAO
20131211	56637.03	-529.2	-	-	18.27 (0.30)	-	-	00
20131211	56637.07	-529.2	-	-	> 19.9	-	-	MAO
20131226	56652.65	-513.6	-	-	-	-	> 20.4	GPC1
20131228	56654.03	-512.2	-	-	> 19.3	-	-	00
20140121	56678.53	-487.8	-	-	$21.50 \ (0.19)$	-	-	GPC1
20140318	56734.78	-431.5	-	-	> 19.0	-	-	MAO
20140328	56744.64	-421.6	-	-	> 18.9	-	-	IAO
20140329	56745.80	-420.5	-	-	> 18.5	-	-	MAO

Table A3 – continued

D	MID							T 1
Date	MJD	Phase"	u	g	r	1	Z	Instrument key
		(days)	(mag)	(mag)	(mag)	(mag)	(mag)	
20140419	56766.90	-399.4	-	-	> 19.6	-	-	CAO
20140423	56770.55	-395.7	-	-	> 18.1	-	-	IAO
20140424	56771.55	-394.7	-	-	> 19.2	-	-	IAO
20140426	56773.88	-392.4	-	_	> 18.8	_	_	MAO
20140506	56783.49	-382.8	-	_	> 19.2	_	_	IAO
20140518	56795.83	-370.4	-	_	> 19.4	_	_	MAO
20140607	56815.27	-351.0	-	_	-	> 21.1	_	GPC1
20140919	56919.81	-246.5	-	_	> 18.5	-	_	IAO
20141004	56934 16	_210.0	_	_	> 19.3	_	_	MAO
20141004	56939.82	-202.1	_	_	> 18.2	_	_	IAO
20141023	56953 78	-212.5	_	_	> 18.7	_	_	IAO
20141029	56958.12	-212.0	_		> 19.6			CO
20141028	56958.13	-200.2	_		> 19.0			MAO
20141020	56960.73	-205.5	_		> 18.8			IAO
20141000	56962 11	-200.0			> 10.0			MAO
20141101	56068 72	107.6			> 17.4			IAO
20141107	57003.08	-197.0	-	-	> 17.9	-	-	MAO
20141212	57012.07	152.0	-	-	> 19.1	-	-	MAO
20141222	57013.07	-100.2	-	-	20.0 10.21 (0.41)	-	-	CO
20141223	57014.98	-101.0	-	-	19.21 (0.41)	-	-	MAO
20141227	57010.03	-140.2	-	-	> 10.5	- 10.11 (0.19)	-	CPC1
20150127	57060.05	105.2	-	-	- 10 50 (0 56)	13.11(0.12)	-	MMAO
20150207	57060.95	102.2	-	-	19.30(0.30)	-	-	AFOSC
20150209	57062.90	-105.5	20.85 (0.20)	19.88 (0.07)	19.49(0.07) 10.26(0.04)	19.38 (0.07) 10.28 (0.05)	-	AFOSC
20150210	57063.69	-102.4	20.78 (0.00)	20.02 (0.03)	19.30(0.04) 10.26(0.05)	19.36 (0.03) 10.22 (0.06)	-	AFOSC
20150211	57066.06	-101.5	-	19.89 (0.00) 10.67 (0.02)	19.30 (0.03) 10.10 (0.02)	19.32 (0.00) 10.06 (0.02)	19.21(0.14)	AFOSC IO:O
20150215	57067.04	-99.5	-	19.07 (0.02) 10.71 (0.02)	19.10 (0.02) 10.21 (0.01)	19.00 (0.02) 10.16 (0.02)	-	10.0
20150214	57060.01	-96.5	-	19.71(0.03) 10.80(0.03)	19.21 (0.01) 10.34 (0.04)	19.10 (0.02) 10.36 (0.04)	-	10:0
20150210	57069.01	-97.5	-	19.89(0.03) 10.84(0.02)	19.34(0.04) 10.20(0.02)	19.30(0.04) 10.25(0.02)	-	10.0
20150210	57009.90	-90.5	-	19.84(0.02) 10.77(0.05)	19.30 (0.02) 10.16 (0.04)	19.33 (0.02) 10.24 (0.05)	-	AFOSC
20150217	57071.88	-90.0	20.30 (0.07)	13.11 (0.05)	19.10(0.04) 10.15(0.50)	13.24(0.03)	-	MAO
20150210	57077.58	-34.4 88.7	-	-	19.10(0.00) 18.51(0.43)	-	-	IAO
20150224	57078.02	-00.1	-	-	10.01(0.43)	- 18 77 (0 19)	-	IAO
20150225	57078.02	-87.3	-	19.13 (0.12) 19.26 (0.03)	- 18 75 (0.02)	18.77 (0.12) 18.74 (0.03)	-	10:0
20150225	57070.07	-01.0	-	10.20 (0.05) 10.23 (0.16)	10.10 (0.02)	18.74(0.03) 18.84(0.12)	-	10:0
20150220	57086.97	-70.3	-	19.33(0.10) 10.28 (0.07)	- 18 70 (0.05)	18.84(0.12) 18.86(0.07)	- 18 75 (0.05)	10:0
20150308	57080.88	-76.4		10.20 (0.01)	18.52 (0.38)	10.00 (0.01)	10.10 (0.00)	PO
20150308	57089.07	-76.3		_	18.02 (0.50) 18.40 (0.50)	_		00
20150308	57093.85	-72.4	20.09(0.07)	10.16(0.04)	18.40(0.00) 18.65(0.03)	1876(0.04)		AFOSC
20150312	57093.85	71.5	20.03 (0.07)	13.10 (0.04)	18.00(0.03)	10.70 (0.04)	-	MAO
20150315	57094.81	-66.4	_	_	18.20(0.23) 18.53(0.40)	_		MAO
20150318	57099.81	-66.3	10.01 (0.08)	10.14(0.05)	18.89(0.40)	$\frac{-}{18,80,(0,05)}$	18 68 (0 10)	AFOSC
20150310	57105.85	-60.5	13.31 (0.00)	13.14 (0.00)	18.09(0.05) 18.49(0.25)	10.00 (0.00)	10.00 (0.10)	PO
20150324	57106.87	-50.4			18.49(0.29) 18.50(0.29)			PO
20150325	57108.92	-57.4	_		18.48(0.03)	1853(003)		ALFOSC
20150321	57100.92	-56.4			18.42 (0.33)	10.00 (0.00)		MMAO
20150328	57123.85	-42.4	_	_	18.42 (0.33) 18.01 (0.25)	_		MMAO
20150411	57123.00	-42.4			18.07(0.23)	18.05(0.02)		ALFOSC
20150414	57126.92	-39.4	_		18.07 (0.03) 18.02 (0.43)	-		CO
20150414	57132.88	-33.4	_		17.02(0.40) 17.96(0.19)			PO
20150420	57133.89	-32.5			17.30(0.13) 17.87(0.24)			MAO
20150421	57134.84	-31.4	-	-	18.22 (0.24)	-	_	MAO
20100422	571/0 01	-91.4	_	-	10.22 (0.21) 18 14 (0.03)	-	-	ALFOSC
20150428	57150.04	-20.4	_	18.94 (0.03)	18.14(0.03)	18.35(0.03)	18.34 (0.04)	ALFOSC
20150500	57153.89	-10.0 -19.4	_	10.04 (0.02)	18 40 (0.43)	10.00 (0.00)	10.04 (0.04)	CO
20150511	57159 51	-12.4	-	-	15.40(0.43) 15.77(0.10)	-	-	
20150510	57158 02	-1.0	-	-	15.60 (0.19)	-	-	PO
20100010	57160.00	-1.0	-	-	15.00(0.20) 15.33(0.91)	-	-	PO
20150510	57161.06	-0.4 _1 २	-	-	15.00(0.21) 15.26 (0.10)	-	-	PO
20100019	57169.00	-4.0 _2 /	-	-	15.20(0.10) 15.20(0.25)	-	-	PO
20100020	01102.90	-0.4	-	-	10.20 (0.20)	-	-	10

Table A3 – continued

Date	MJD	$Phase^{a}$ (days)	u (mag)	g (mag)	r (mag)	i (mag)	$^{ m z}$ (mag)	Instrument key
20150521	57163.91	-2.4	-	-	15.14(0.23)	_	-	РО
20150524	57166.90	0.6	-	-	15.03(0.20)	-	-	PO
20150525	57167.89	1.6	15.68(0.03)	15.37(0.03)	15.22(0.02)	15.38(0.03)	15.49(0.03)	ALFOSC
20150526	57168.91	2.6	-	-	15.09(0.31)	-	-	PO
20150529	57171.92	5.6	-	-	15.24 (0.28)	-	-	PO
20150531	57173.92	7.6	-	-	15.34(0.29)	-	-	PO
20150603	57176.93	10.7	-	-	15.36(0.27)	-	-	PO
20150605	57178.94	12.7	-	-	15.37(0.17)	-	-	PO
20150606	57179.92	13.6	-	-	15.37(0.12)	-	-	PO
20150607	57180.93	14.7	-	-	15.33(0.16)	-	-	PO
20150610	57183.85	17.6	16.90(0.04)	15.99(0.04)	15.79(0.05)	15.77(0.03)	15.78(0.06)	AFOSC
20150610	57183.93	17.7	-	-	15.53(0.17)	-	-	PO
20150613	57186.93	20.7	-	-	15.68(0.26)	-	-	PO
20150615	57188.95	22.7	-	-	15.78(0.22)	-	-	PO
20150618	57191.95	25.7	-	-	15.84(0.27)	-	-	PO
20150624	57197.93	31.7	-	-	16.03(0.38)	-	-	PO
20150629	57202.93	36.7	-	-	16.30(0.29)	-	-	PO
20150701	57204.93	38.7	-	-	16.38(0.50)	-	-	PO
20151023	57318.11	151.8	-	$21.11 \ (0.17)$	19.65 (0.08)	19.76(0.08)	19.19(0.26)	AFOSC
20151031	57326.94	160.7	-	21.22(0.22)	19.82(0.15)	19.85(0.18)	19.50 (0.42)	LMI
20151105	57331.14	164.9	-	20.99(0.07)	19.88(0.06)	$19.71 \ (0.06)$	$19.51 \ (0.08)$	ALFOSC
20151109	57335.11	168.8	-	21.12(0.15)	19.72(0.10)	19.86(0.10)	19.34(0.07)	AFOSC
20151122	57348.19	181.9	-	20.97(0.08)	20.05(0.07)	20.22(0.08)	19.73(0.08)	ALFOSC
20151203	57359.08	192.8	-	21.06(0.23)	19.67 (0.10)	20.08(0.20)	19.59 (0.09)	AFOSC
20151216	57372.17	205.9	-	21.05(0.09)	19.81 (0.08)	20.02(0.10)	-	ALFOSC
20151216	57372.17	205.9	-	-	-	-	> 19.4	ALFOSC
20151230	57386.15	219.9	-	21.19(0.08)	19.98(0.06)	$20.41 \ (0.09)$	$20.02 \ (0.08)$	ALFOSC
20160114	57401.14	234.9	-	$21.22 \ (0.07)$	20.03 (0.05)	$20.51 \ (0.06)$	20.07 (0.10)	ALFOSC
20160217	57435.07	268.8	-	21.43(0.08)	20.17 (0.03)	20.75(0.06)	20.48(0.09)	ALFOSC
20160315	57462.99	296.7	-	$21.54\ (0.07)$	$20.27 \ (0.04)$	21.00(0.07)	20.70(0.08)	ALFOSC

 a Phases are relative to r maximum light, MJD = 57166.28 \pm 0.29.

Table A4. Near infrared photometry of SN 2015bh (Vega magnitudes)

Date	MJD	$\frac{\text{Phase}^{a}}{(\text{days})}$	J (mag)	$_{ m (mag)}^{ m H}$	K (mag)	Instrument key
20150214	57067.64	-98.6	18.30 (0.23)	_	17.91(0.58)	CPAPIR
20150303	57084.69	-81.6	-	-	17.06(0.29)	CPAPIR
20150307	57088.14	-78.1	-	-	17.36(0.25)	NOTCAM
20150307	57088.57	-77.7	-	-	17.18(0.31)	CPAPIR
20150520	57162.57	-3.7	14.98(0.07)	-	-	CPAPIR
20150521	57163.58	-2.7	14.94(0.10)	-	14.64(0.06)	CPAPIR
20150527	57169.57	3.3	-	-	14.47(0.08)	CPAPIR
20150529	57171.89	5.6	14.95(0.26)	14.75(0.24)	14.44(0.21)	NOTCAM
20150604	57177.58	11.3	14.81(0.10)	-	-	CPAPIR
20150607	57180.57	14.3	-	-	14.60(0.09)	CPAPIR
20150927	57292.25	126.0	18.44(0.36)	-	-	NOTCAM
20151024	57319.92	153.6	18.72(0.43)	-	-	CPAPIR
20151031	57326.92	160.6	-	-	$18.94\ (0.62)$	CPAPIR

Table A5. Ultra-violet photometry of SN 2015bh (Vega magnitudes)

Date	MJD	$Phase^{a}$	UVW1	UVM2	UVW2	Instrument key
		(days)	(mag)	(mag)	(mag)	
20090221	54883.69	-2282.6	> 20.8	> 20.4	> 20.3	SWIFT
20131210	56636.57	-529.7	-	> 20.6	-	SWIFT
20131217	56643.23	-523.0	-	> 20.6	-	SWIFT
20131224	56650.10	-516.2	-	> 20.6	-	SWIFT
20131231	56657.31	-509.0	-	> 20.6	-	SWIFT
20140107	56664.29	-502.0	-	> 20.6	-	SWIFT
20140116	56673.40	-492.9	-	> 20.6	-	SWIFT
20140121	56678.73	-487.5	-	> 20.7	-	SWIFT
20140128	56685.44	-480.8	-	> 20.6	-	SWIFT
20140204	56692.33	-474.0	-	> 20.5	-	SWIFT
20140211	56699.34	-466.9	-	> 20.6	-	SWIFT
20140218	56706.37	-459.9	-	> 20.6	-	SWIFT
20140225	56713.34	-452.9	-	> 20.8	-	SWIFT
20140304	56720.65	-445.6	-	> 20.6	-	SWIFT
20140311	56727.16	-439.1	-	> 20.7	-	SWIFT
20140318	56734.21	-432.1	-	> 20.5	-	SWIFT
20140325	56741.59	-424.7	-	> 20.8	-	SWIFT
20140401	56748.61	-417.7	-	> 20.6	-	SWIFT
20140407	56754.69	-411.6	-	> 20.7	-	SWIFT
20140415	56762.08	-404.2	-	> 20.6	-	SWIFT
20140422	56769.39	-396.9	-	> 20.7	-	SWIFT
20140503	56780.29	-386.0	-	> 20.7	-	SWIFT
20140507	56784.95	-381.3	-	> 20.6	-	SWIFT
20140513	56790.89	-375.4	-	> 20.6	-	SWIFT
20140520	56797.36	-368.9	-	> 20.7	-	SWIFT
20140527	56804.54	-361.7	-	> 20.6	-	SWIFT
20140604	56812.17	-354.1	-	> 20.6	-	SWIF'T
20150211	57064.51	-101.8	> 19.6	> 19.7	> 19.2	SWIF'T
20150218	57071.90	-94.4	> 20.4	> 20.4	> 20.0	SWIFT
20150516	57158.73	-7.6	15.57 (0.08)	15.15(0.06)	15.02(0.07)	SWIFT
20150517	57159.92	-6.4	15.17(0.07)	14.83(0.06)	14.67 (0.06)	SWIFT
20150518	57160.19	-6.1	15.01(0.06)	14.70(0.07)	14.63(0.05)	SWIFT
20150519	57161.49	-4.8	-	14.62(0.06)	-	SWIFT
20150519	57161.66	-4.6	14.71(0.06)	14.64 (0.06)	14.46 (0.05)	SWIFT
20150520	57162.23	-4.1	14.77 (0.06) 14.79 (0.05)	14.59(0.06)	14.46(0.06)	SWIFT
20150520	57162.50	-3.8	14.72(0.05)	14.43(0.00)	- 14.20 (0.05)	SWIFT
20150521	57164.10	-2.4	- 14 57 (0.05)	- 14.40.(0.05)	14.39(0.05) 14.42(0.05)	SWIFI
20150522	57104.19 57164 55	-2.1	14.57 (0.05) 14.67 (0.05)	14.40(0.03) 14.57(0.06)	14.43 (0.03) 14.52 (0.05)	SWIFT
20150522	57166.99	-1.7	14.07 (0.03) 14.82 (0.06)	14.37 (0.00) 14.67 (0.06)	14.55(0.05)	SWIFT
20150524	57167.24	0.5	14.82(0.00)	14.07(0.00)	-	SWIFT
20150525	57167.24	1.0	-	-	14.03(0.03) 14.60(0.06)	SWIFT
20150525	57167.40	1.2	14.96(0.00)	14.00 (0.00)		SWIFT
20150525	57168 34	2.1	15.28(0.00)	15.02 (0.06)	- 14.67 (0.06)	SWIFT
20150520	57169.34	2.1	15.20(0.07) 15.45(0.07)	15.02(0.00) 15.10(0.06)	14.87(0.00)	SWIFT
20150527	57170.94	4 0	15.40(0.07) 15.62(0.07)	15.10(0.00) 15.24(0.06)	14.94 (0.06)	SWIFT
20100020	01110.24	1.0	10.02 (0.01)	10.24 (0.00)	11.01 (0.00)	OWT. T

Table A6. HST photometry of SN 2015bh (Vega magnitudes)

Date	MJD	$ext{Phase}^a$ (days)	F336W (mag)	F450W (mag)	F555W (mag)	m F606W (mag)	F658N (mag)	F675W (mag)	F814W (mag)
20080209	54505.50	-2660.8	-	-	-	22.82 (0.04)	19.71 (0.13)	-	-
20080330	54555.45	-2610.8	21.50(0.07)	-	-	21.56(0.02)	-	-	-
20081219	54819.05	-2347.2	-	-	22.73(0.04)	-	-	-	21.80(0.02)
20081220	54820.51	-2345.8	-	22.18(0.02)	-	-	-	20.95(0.02)	-
20090120	54851.68	-2314.6	-	23.90(0.07)	-	-	-	22.60(0.08)	-
20090229	54887.57	-2278.7	> 21.5	-	-	22.48(0.02)	-	-	-

^a Phases are relative to r maximum light, MJD = 57166.28 ± 0.29. From WFPC2 manual: F336W: WFPC2 U (λ_c = 3342 Å); F450W: Wide B (λ_c = 4519 Å); F555W: WFPC2 V (λ_c = 5398 Å); F606W: Wide V (λ_c = 5935 Å); F656N: H_α (λ_c = 6654 Å); F675W: WFPC2 R (λ_c = 6696 Å); F814W: WPFC2 I (λ_c = 7921 Å).

Table A7. Log of spectroscopy observations of SN 2015bh.

Date	MJD	$Phase^{a}$ (days)	Instrument key	Grism or grating + slit	Spectral range $(Å)$	Resolution (Å)
20150209	57062.97	-103.3	AFOSC	gm4+1"69	3400-8200	14
20150214	57067.07	-99.2	ISIS	R300B/R316R+GG495+1."50	3200-9100	5
20150214	57067.88	-98.4	OSIRIS	R1000B+1"00	3650-7850	7
20150311	57092.37	-73.9	MMT	300 + 1.00 (slit)	3350-8550	7
20150326	57107.95	-58.3	OSIRIS	R1000B+1"00	3650-7850	7
20150327	57108.93	-57.3	ALFOSC	gm4+1"00	3400-9000	14
20150423	57136.00	-30.3	IMACS	300 + 0.770 (slit)	4250-8500	4
20150508	57150.90	-15.4	ALFOSC	gm4+1"00	3400-9000	14
20150516	57158.96	-7.3	IMACS	300 + 0.70 (slit)	4250-8500	4
20150517	57159.90	-6.4	LRS	LR-B+1"00	3400-8000	12
20150520	57162.84	-3.4	B&C	300+4".00	3350-8000	11
20150525	57167.91	1.6	ALFOSC	gm4+1."00	3300-9000	14
20150609	57182.89	16.6	LRS	LR-B/LR-R+1"00	3300-9300	11
20150618	57191.90	25.6	OSIRIS	R1000B+1"00	3650-7850	7
20151003	57298.78	132.5	OSMOS	VPH-R+1''00 (slit)	4500-9100	4.1
20151105	57332.04	165.8	AFOSC	gm4+1"69	3400-8250	15
20151113	57339.45	173.2	OSMOS	VPH-R+1."00 (slit)	4500-9100	4.1
20151126	57353.13	186.9	OSIRIS	R1000B+1"00	3640-7870	7
20151206	57362.45	196.2	OSMOS	VPH-R+1.20 (slit)	5600-9000	5.5
20160102	57390.25	224.0	OSIRIS	R1000R+1"00	5100-9300	8
20160305	57452.89	286.6	OSIRIS	R1000R+1."00	5100-9300	8

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