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Gap transients and interacting supernovae

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Modern surveys have revealed a wide variety of stellar transients showing signatures of interaction between the most recent ejecta and pre-existing circumstellar material. Some of them are intermediate-luminosity objects (with absolute magnitudes ranging from -10 to -15), and can be faint SNe, non-terminal single outbursts of massive stars, giant eruptions of luminous blue variables, or the outcome of stellar mergers. Occasionally, outbursts are observed a very short time before a genuine supernova explosion. The resulting supernova will strongly interact with the circumstellar cocoon, producing long-lasting, energetic transients. I will provide an observational review of the most recent discoveries in this field.