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AGN feedback can produce metal enrichment on galaxy scales

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Abstract

Giant (>100 kpc) nebulae associated with active galaxies provide rich information about the circumgalactic medium (CGM) around galaxies, its link with the interstellar medium (ISM) of the hosts and the mechanisms involved in their evolution. We have studied the giant nebula associated with the Teacup (z=0.085) obscured quasar based on VLT MUSE integral field spectroscopy to investigate whether the well known giant (~10 kpc) active galactic nucleus (AGN) induced outflow has an impact on the distribution of heavy elements in and outside the host galaxy. We have mapped the oxygen and nitrogen gas relative abundances (O/H and N/O) in two spatial dimensions across the giant nebula and within the galaxy by means of comparing emission line ratios with photoionisation model predictions. We have found that the outflow responsible for the ~10 kpc ionised bubble is enhancing the gas metal abundance up to ~10 kpc from the AGN. O/H is solar or slightly higher in the bubble edges, in comparison with the subsolar abundances across the rest of the nebula median (O/H~0.63 (O/H)_☉). We conclude that AGN feedback can produce metal enrichment at large extranuclear distances in galaxies (≥ 10 kpc).

1 Introduction

The circumgalactic medium (CGM) is the bound gas halo surrounding galaxies outside their interstellar medium (ISM) and inside their virial radius, extending out to a few hundred kpc.

The CGM may be the key regulator of the galactic gas supply. Gas flows occurring between the CGM and the interstellar medium (ISM) are thought to shape galaxies and drive their evolution, via feedback, accretion and recycling of gas. Thus, investigating the metallicity, structure and kinematics of the different gas phases will help us to understand how galaxies gain, eject and recycle the gas during their existence (see [36] for a review).

Because the CGM is very diffuse and therefore almost invisible in emission, its physical properties remain largely unconstrained. Its understanding has come so far mostly from studies based on absorption lines produced by the CGM around galaxies, imprinted on the spectrum of background objects such as quasars and radio galaxies. The CGM of a few non-active nearby galaxies has also been studied in emission (e.g. [13]), but the procedure is very challenging. The presence of a powerful active galactic nucleus (AGN) can render the gas observable in emission around galaxies up to many 10s of kpc, well into the CGM. Giant emission line nebulae (size ≥ 60 kpc and sometimes ≥ 100 kpc) associated with quasars and radio galaxies at different redshifts have been studied since the 80's (e.g.[6, 24, 38, 7, 5])

The object of this work is the well known Teacup radio quiet type 2 quasar at z = 0.085. It shows a ~10 kpc loop of ionised gas resembling a handle of a teacup (hereof its nickname), which was discovered by volunteers of the Galaxy Zoo project ([18]) and has been widely studied in the context of AGN feedback and its potential impact on galaxy evolution. The system has been proposed to be the scenario of a giant outflow generated either by an AGN wind or induced by a 1 kpc radio jet whose effects are noticed up to at least ~10 kpc from the AGN and might be responsible for the bubble-like morphology ([10, 12, 19, 31, 39, 25, 37]).

[39] discovered a >100 kpc ionised nebula associated with this object (see also [40]), which could be a product of a merger that occurred 1-2 Gyr ago ([19]). This rich gas reservoir, which extends into the CGM, has been rendered visible due to the activity of the quasar nucleus. AGN photoionisation dominates the excitation of the spatially resolved gas emission up to its boundary ([10, 39, 37, 25]), except at some locations outside the putative quasar ionisation cones where evidence for shock excitation has been found ([37]). Stellar photoionisation could also contribute to ionise the gas locally in some tidal features. The large scale kinematics are strongly reminiscent of rotation ([39, 25]) and tentative results suggest subsolar nebular abundances (~0.5 Z_{\odot} , [39]). The well known bubble appears to be expanding from the nucleus and out into the nebula.

We present a detailed optical spectroscopic study of the Teacup nebula based on VLT-MUSE archival data with the main goal of mapping the gas abundances in two spatial dimensions. The ultimate science goal is to establish whether the giant outflow has an impact on the distribution of heavy elements from the nucleus on large spatial scales. We will discuss the results in the context of other studies of the CGM and its role in the evolution of galaxies.

The paper is organised as follows: the data and analysis method are presented in Sect. 2 and 3 respectively. The latter includes the description of the methods used to derive the gas chemical abundances and physical properties of the gas. The results are presented in Sect. 4 and discussed in Sect. 5. The main conclusions are summarised in Sect. 6.

Throughout this paper, we assume flat Λ CDM cosmology following [30], with H₀ = 67.4 km s⁻¹ Mpc⁻¹, $\Omega_{\rm m} = 0.31$. This gives a spatial scale of 1.65 kpc arcsec⁻¹ at z = 0.085.

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2 Data

The data were collected for the 0102.B-0107 program (principal investigator, PI: L. Sartori; see [37] for details) with the European Southern Observatory (ESO) Very Large Telescope (VLT) and the Multi Unit Spectroscopic Explorer (MUSE, [4]). This instrument covers a 1'×' field of view (FoV) in the Wide Field Mode (WFM), with a spatial sampling of 0.2" pix⁻¹. The wavelength coverage is ~4650-9300 Å with a 1.25 Å pix⁻¹ spectral sampling and a resolving power $R = \lambda/\Delta\lambda \sim 1700\text{-}3400 \ (\Delta V \sim 176\text{-}88 \text{ km s}^{-1})$. The observations were performed in March 2019. We used the processed archive data cube (see [41] for details).

3 Analysis

3.1 Spatially resolved emission line flux measurements

Our main goal is to map the electron temperature, $T_{\rm e}$, and the oxygen abundance O/H in two spatial dimensions to investigate whether the giant outflow has an impact on the distribution of heavy elements across the galaxy and out into the CGM. For the $T_{\rm e}$ determination, it is essential to measure the flux ratio of a nebular to an auroral emission line, such as the [OIII] $\lambda 5007/\lambda 4363$ (or [NII] $\lambda 6583/\lambda 5755$). For this, we defined spatial apertures at different locations through the nebula and extracted the integrated spectrum from each one.

The apertures were selected based on the visual inspection of the $[OIII]\lambda 5007$ morphology at different wavelengths (i.e. velocities) scanned through the line profile (see [41] for details). These scans reveal striking morphological changes with velocity and are specially useful to identify some faint structures, such as tidal tails, arcs, knots, filaments, which have similar velocities (Fig. 1).

The map of the positions of the resulting 64 selected apertures is shown if Fig. 2 (left panel). We also show in adjacent panels of the same figure the W_{80} and V_s maps based on [OIII] λ 5007. W_{80} is the velocity width that encloses 80% of the total line flux and V_s is the velocity shift relative to the narrow core of the nuclear [OIII] line, considered here as indicator of the systemic velocity ([11]). The huge dimensions of the nebula both along and perpendicular to the radio axis are apparent. Although some prominent features stand out (knots, filaments, etc), gas emission seems to fill the entire area within the nebular outer boundaries. The large scale rotation pattern ([10, 39, 25]) and the enhanced width, W_{80} , of the lines in the direction perpendicular to the radio axis are clear ([37]).

The 1D spectra extracted from the individual apertures were used to measure the fluxes of $[OIII]\lambda\lambda4959,5007$ and $\lambda4363$, $H\gamma$, $H\beta$, $H\alpha$, $[NII]\lambda\lambda6548,6583$, and $\lambda5755$ and $[SII]\lambda6716,6731$. For a subset of spectra it was first necessary to fit and subtract the stellar continuum (see [41] for details). The E_{B-V} values implied by $H\alpha/H\beta$ were used for extinction correction of the line ratios.



Figure 1: [OIII] continuum subtracted images covering different spectral windows that were selected to highlight the diversity of nebular morphological features. Each image covers a different velocity (i.e. spectral) range relative to the nuclear systemic velocity as indicated on top. The nebular morphology strongly varies with velocity. The left panel shows the total [OIII] flux narrow band image. The well known ~10 kpc ionised bubble is marked with a tiny yellow star in the left panel. The green lines indicate the position angles of the radio axis to the NE and to the W ([12]). To guide the reader, the letters 'A' to 'F' mark some emission line features that can also be identified in the mask map of Fig. 2.



Figure 2: Map of the masks used in our analysis (left) and [OIII] kinematic maps (middle and right panels). The colours in the first map have no particular meaning but help differentiating the apertures. A 1D spectrum was extracted from each one, so that a single W_{80} and V_s (middle and left panels) values are associated to each aperture. V_s is the velocity shift relative to the narrow core of the nuclear [OIII] line. The maps cover the total MUSE FoV ($\sim 1' \times 1'$). W_{80} and V_s are in km s⁻¹. Letters 'A' to 'F', yellow star and solid lines have the same meaning as in Fig. 1.



Figure 3: Maps of $(O/H)/(O/H)_{\odot}$ ratio and $T_{[OIII]}$. The masks used in this analysis are shown in the left panel. They correspond to the apertures for which $[OIII]\lambda 4363$ is detected. Notice that the FoV is smaller than in Fig. 1 and 2. The exact values of O/H and $T_{[OIII]}$ are in Table 1. $T_{[OIII]}$ is in units of 10^4 K.

3.2 Derivation of temperatures and gas chemical abundances

We used the python code PYNEB ([23]) to estimate T_e of [OIII] for spectra with detected [OIII] λ 4363 using [OIII] λ 5007/ λ 4363, and, when possible, of [NII] using [NII] λ 6583/ λ 5755. This code was also used to infer the electron density n_e using [SII] $\lambda\lambda$ 6717,6731. We calculated the corresponding errors by applying to the calculations a Monte Carlo iteration using the nominal fluxes perturbed with the observational errors.

For the derivation of abundances, we used the code HII-CHI-MISTRY (hereafter HCM, [28]). This approach consists of a bayesian-like comparison between certain reddeningcorrected ratios of emission line fluxes relative to a recombination H line (H β in our case), that are sensitive to total oxygen abundance (O/H), nitrogen-to-oxygen ratio (N/O), and ionisation parameter (U), with the predictions from a large grid of photoionisation models. In particular, we used version 5.3 of HCM, which considers models calculated under the most usual conditions in the NLR of active galaxies. As a result, the most probable values and their uncertainties for O/H, N/O and log(U) are obtained. The grid of models is explained in detail in [29] and specific details for the Teacup case can be found in [41].

4 Results

We show in Table 1 the O/H and N/O abundances predicted by photoionisation models for different apertures, as well as the [OIII] and [NII] electron temperatures inferred with PYNEB for the densities estimated with [SII] $\lambda\lambda\delta$ 6716,6731. The observed extinction corrected line ratios relative to H β and measured with the 1dim spectra are also shown. This analysis was performed for a set of 23 (including the nucleus) apertures where [OIII] λ 4363 has been detected (see left panel in Fig. 3). The top (lower) part of the table comprises the apertures in which [NII] λ 5755 is detected (undetected). This does not affect the estimated chemical



Figure 4: Map of $(N/O)/(N/O)_{\odot}$. The FoV is the same as in Fig. 3. The nuclear value is 1.99, which is outside the colour bar range to enhance the contrast for visualisation purposes. The $(N/O)/(N/O)_{\odot}$ values are in Table 1.

abundances, but simply indicates whether $T_{[\text{NII}]}$ could be inferred or not. The O/H, N/O and $T_{[\text{OIII}]}$ information in Table 1 is also shown as 2dim maps in Fig. 3 and 4.

The main result which stands out in Fig. 3 is that the giant ionised bubble shows significantly higher O/H and lower $T_{[OIII]}$ than the gas at most locations across the giant nebula. This is confirmed in all apertures along the bubble edge, where 12 + log(O/H) is in the range 8.68 ± 0.09 - 8.77 ± 0.12 . As in the nucleus (8.66 ± 0.11), these abundances are consistent with the solar value or slightly higher.

For the rest of the nebula (this is, the extended gas outside and beyond the bubble), except in Ap. 13, the oxygen abundances are subsolar everywhere (as tentatively found by [39]). Considering all apertures across the nebula, the *log* of the median is 12+log(O/H)=8.49 (or 63% solar), with values as low as $8.37\pm0.08-8.44\pm0.13$ (48%-56% solar) in Ap. 15, 16, 19, 21, 22.

It is important to highlight that the abundance predictions are based on the assumption that the gas is photoionised by the AGN everywhere. This is reasonable for most apertures except, possibly, at a few positions located in the direction perpendicular to the main axis of the nebula, where shocks might be contributing to the excitation of the gas ([37]). These apertures are labelled Ap. 12, 18, 19 in Fig. 3, left panel. In spite of this uncertainty, the fact that (except for Ap. 13) this gas follows the general behaviour of the O/H and $T_{[OIII]}$ maps suggests that the derived abundances are reliable.

In general, the $T_{[OIII]}$ map (right panel in Fig. 3) mimics the behaviour of the O/H map in an anticorrelation. The nucleus shows the minimum temperature, $T_4=T_{[OIII]}/10^4=1.27\pm0.08$ K, in comparison with the rest of the gas, which shows $T_4 > 1.5$ everywhere. As before, the bubble stands out in this map, with the edges being significantly colder ($T_4 \sim 1.5$ -1.6 in Ap. 3 to 9) than the giant nebula, which is very hot with $T_4 \sim 1.7$ -1.9 almost everywhere.

In regard to the N/O abundance (Fig. 4 and Table 1), the most obvious result is the much higher nuclear value $(log(N/O)=-0.56\pm0.08)$, i.e. roughly twice the solar abundance ratio of -0.86 ± 0.07), compared with the solar or somewhat below solar N/O everywhere else (-1.03 $\pm0.09 \le log(N/O) \le -0.84\pm0.20$), including the bubble edge. There is not such a striking trend of N/O with location as found for O/H. The bubble edge shows among the lowest N/O ratio (~68-85% N/O_☉), although not unique in comparison with other regions of the giant extended nebula. The bubble edge N/O values are lower than the gas encircled by it (ap. 11), the nucleus and the gas in between (ap. 1 and 2).

 $T_{\rm [NII]}$ could be measured only for the nucleus and up to the bubble edge (Table 1). The temperature difference between these two regions is less pronounced than for $T_{\rm [OIII]}$. T_4 [NII] $\sim 0.983 \pm 0.066$ K in the nucleus and somewhat higher in the bubble ($\sim 1.01-1.12$ K).

5 Discussion

With a maximum extension as traced by the MUSE data of ~ 126 kpc (this is a lower limit since the gas fills the FoV in this direction), the Teacup giant nebula traces part of the CGM. Its properties are strongly conditioned by the AGN, but it still provides valuable information about the CGM. If it was not for the nuclear activity, most (if not all) of this gas would remain invisible.

The giant nebula shows subsolar abundances, with $O/H\sim(48\%-84\%)\times(O/H)_{\odot}$ almost everywhere, and median 63%, well below the nuclear, roughly solar abundance. For comparison, different works based on absorption line studies have shown that the dense gas in the CGM of $z \leq 1$ galaxies has a bimodal metallicity distribution function, with an equal number of absorbers in the low-metallicity ($Z \leq 0.03Z_{\odot}$) and high-metallicity ($Z \sim 0.4Z_{\odot}$) branches (e.g. [42]). The abundance of the Teacup ionised nebula falls in the latter group (clearly, this does not discard the presence of lower metallicity gas). The high-metallicity branch has been proposed to trace galactic winds, recycled outflows, and tidally stripped gas ([22]).

Lower CGM metallicities compared with the ISM have been found for different galaxy types, based on studies of absorption line systems at ≤ 200 kpc from their host galaxies (e.g. [17]). These authors found a large range of abundances in the CGM of isolated star forming galaxies, $0.01 \leq Z/Z_{\odot} < 1$ and an offset of log(dZ)=-1.17±0.11 between the CGM and ISM, which shows no dependence with stellar mass. The relation has a large scatter of 1σ =0.72. The offset for the Teacup is smaller for O/H ($log(dZ) \sim -0.17$ using the median nebular O/H), although still within the scatter. Different processes may be at work in this system, related to the nuclear activity and/or to its merger history.

We have shown that the ~10 kpc Teacup bubble to the East of the nucleus, that is known to be driven by an AGN wind or the small nuclear radio jet, is associated with obvious changes in the gas abundance. The bubble edge shows significantly higher O/H (solar or slightly solar, similar to the nucleus) in comparison with the subsolar O/H across the rest of the nebula. Most likely as a consequence, the bubble edge is also significantly less hot $(T_4 \sim 1.5-1.6)$ than the rest of the nebula $(1.7 \leq T_4 \leq 1.9)$. Therefore, the outflow appears to be causing a change in the gas metal content from the nucleus up to ~ 10 kpc.

This mechanism may also explain the nuclear deficit of O/H. For the Teacup values of $\log(M_*/M_{\odot})=11.15\pm0.05$ and star forming rate $SFR \sim 10 M_{\odot} \text{ yr}^{-1}$ ([15, 32]), 12+log(O/H)~8.85 is expected, according to the mass-metallicity-SFR (M_* -Z-SFR) relation by [27] or ~8.8 for the extrapolation of the M_* -Z-SFR relation by [1] to high M_* . Seyfert 2 galaxies with similar M_* tend to show O/H consistent with these predictions ([26]). The Teacup nucleus, on the contrary, shows lower than expected O/H (8.66±0.05), while the nuclear N/O (-0.56±0.08, Table 1) is consistent with that expected for its M_* (log(N/O)=-0.54, [27]).

The dilution produced by inward flows of low-metallicity gas (for instance, from the outskirts of the two merging galaxies) could explain the nuclear O/H and N/O (e.g. [9]). The outflow is also an interesting possibility. This scenario is supported by the similar O/H of the bubble edge and the nuclear gas, which is moreover enhanced in comparison with the rest of the nebula. On one hand, radiative outflows can couple more efficiently with metals via resonance line scattering (e.g. [2, 14]; see also [9]). On the other, galaxies show metallicity gradients such that the inner regions have higher abundances ([33, 20]). Based on this, a gradient is expected to exist within the ~4 kpc diameter nuclear aperture used in the Teacup analysis. The outflow has been generated in the inner regions (≤ 1 kpc) close to the AGN ([12, 31, 37]), where the gas is expected to be more metal rich. If it drags gas out to large distances, as proposed in this scenario, the global metallicity of the residual gas within the nuclear aperture would be lower as a consequence.

An implication of this scenario is that the outflow has been capable of ejecting gas from the galaxy center and dragged it up to ~ 10 kpc. If the outflow expanded without displacing significant amounts of gas to large distances, the bubble abundance would be similar to the rest of the nebula. The implications are important. It supports that metal-enriched galactic outflows (driven by an AGN in this particular case) shape the mass-metallicity relationship, by removing metals from galaxy potential wells and ejecting them to large distances, possibly out into the CGM ([35, 34]).

The behaviour of N/O remains to be explained. An outflow could preserve N/O ([9] (specific modeling would be valuable for AGN generated winds). On the contrary, this ratio is depleted in the bubble edge in comparison with the nucleus and its gradient shows no obvious spatial correlation with the bubble, but just a tentative trend to show among the lowest N/O. This is not necessarily a discrepancy. Given the complexity of the N/O behaviour in terms of secondary and primary stellar production processes, and the fact that the ejected gas would mix with gas across the nebula with a non-uniform N/O distribution, it is difficult to predict how this ratio would behave as the bubble expands and mixes with the pre-existing reservoir.

An alternative scenario to gas ejection from the centre is that local chemical enrichment has been produced by young stars. This is supported by the detection of blue-coloured continuum emission co-spatial with the bubble edge due to a population of stars that are younger ($\leq 100-150$ Myr) than in the rest of the galaxy ($\geq 0.5-1$ Gyr, [37]). According to these authors, widespread star formation has been triggered at the edge of the bubble due to the compressing action of the jet and outflow (positive feedback). The time scale could be long enough to enrich the local gas with O, but not with secondary N ([21]). This would explain the enhanced O/H in comparison with the rest of the nebula, while N/O is not clearly different, and being at the same time significantly lower than in the nucleus.

Yet another possible scenario to explain the abundance values in the bubble relates to the depletion by dust of metals from the gas-phase ISM. If shocks destroyed dust as the bubble expands (e.g. [8]), metals could be released to the gas. Since oxygen is more sensitive to depletion than nitrogen ([16]), this could explain the higher O/H of the bubble in comparison with the rest of the nebula, while having a tentatively lower N/O.

Whether due to nuclear gas ejection, to local star formation or dust destruction, in all three scenarios the AGN induced outflow is responsible for the metal enrichment of the gas at distances as large as ~ 10 kpc. The implications are different. In the ejection scenario, the behaviour of O/H provides observational evidence of how AGN induced outflows can deprive the central regions of galaxies from metals and transfer them up to very large distances, possibly out of the galaxy and into the CGM. In the second scenario, the behaviour of O/H provides evidence of how AGN induced outflows can produce local metal enrichment (this is also the case in the third, the dust depletion scenario) at very large distances from the nucleus, with a delay between the quasar onset and the induced metal enrichment of $\sim 100-150$ Myr.

6 Conclusions

The giant (≥ 126 kpc) nebula associated with the Teacup QSO2 at z = 0.085 traces part of its CGM. Its properties are strongly influenced by the nuclear activity up to the outer detected emission line regions, where it still provides valuable information about the CGM surrounding the quasar host galaxy. If it was not for the nuclear activity, most (if not all) of this gas would remain invisible. This study is an example of the great potential of studying giant nebulae to investigate in emission the CGM around active galaxies at all redshifts.

The widely studied AGN driven outflow responsible for the well known ionised bubble is enhancing the gas metal content (O/H) up to ~ 10 kpc from the AGN. The giant nebula shows subsolar metallicity almost everywhere, except the bubble, which has about solar or slightly super-solar metallicity.

This could be a consequence of the ejection of metal rich gas from the nucleus. In such scenario, the Teacup provides observational evidence for how AGN feedback can deprive the central regions of galaxies from gas and displace metals out to very large distances, possibly out of the galaxy. It supports that metal-enriched AGN outflows can shape the mass-metallicity relationship of galaxies. Alternatively, the O/H enrichment could have been produced locally by the young stellar population formed in the bubble edge, possibly formed as a consequence of positive feedback ~100-150 Myr ([37]). A third possibility is the release of oxygen to the gas phase as a consequence of dust destruction in the bubble by shocks triggered by the expanding outflow.

In any of the scenarios considered, the nuclear activity is the ultimate mechanism responsible for the metal enrichment of the gas at large extranuclear distances (~ 10 kpc).

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Aper.	E(B-V)	[OIII]λ4363	[OIII] λ5007	$[NII]\lambda 5755$	$[NII]\lambda 6584$	$[SII]\lambda 6725$	$[\text{SII}] \frac{\lambda 6716}{\lambda 6731}$	12 + log(O/H)	log(N/O)	${}^{T[\text{OIII}]}_{\text{K}}$	${T_{[NII]}}$ K	$\frac{n_{\mathrm{e}}}{\mathrm{cm}^{-3}}$
1	$0.074 {\pm} 0.012$	$0.144 {\pm} 0.014$	6.000 ± 0.215	$0.019 {\pm} 0.001$	$1.437 {\pm} 0.114$	$1.598 {\pm} 0.047$	$1.316 {\pm} 0.056$	8.68 ± 0.15	-0.86 ± 0.11	16565 ± 875	9508 ± 312	149 ± 79
2	$0.155 {\pm} 0.015$	$0.141 {\pm} 0.012$	$5.802 {\pm} 0.588$	$0.017 {\pm} 0.001$	$1.396 {\pm} 0.044$	$1.507 {\pm} 0.051$	$1.396 {\pm} 0.026$	$8.61 {\pm} 0.13$	-0.85 ± 0.11	16739 ± 1196	$9236 {\pm} 225$	34 ± 36
ω	$0.054 {\pm} 0.013$	$0.135 {\pm} 0.015$	$6.043 {\pm} 0.251$	$0.020 {\pm} 0.002$	$1.044 {\pm} 0.042$	$1.467 {\pm} 0.060$	$1.349 {\pm} 0.048$	$8.76 {\pm} 0.11$	-1.03 ± 0.09	16058 ± 1071	11185 ± 448	100 ± 63
4	$0.034 {\pm} 0.013$	$0.158 {\pm} 0.012$	7.290 ± 0.251	$0.018 {\pm} 0.002$	$1.012 {\pm} 0.048$	$1.359 {\pm} 0.071$	$1.382 {\pm} 0.027$	$8.69 {\pm} 0.10$	-1.00 ± 0.08	15801 ± 699	10822 ± 543	51 ± 34
cπ	$0.063 {\pm} 0.018$	$0.142 {\pm} 0.008$	$7.199 {\pm} 0.322$	$0.016 {\pm} 0.002$	$0.991 {\pm} 0.062$	$1.196 {\pm} 0.056$	$1.343 {\pm} 0.033$	$8.77 {\pm} 0.12$	-0.99 ± 0.08	15064 ± 493	10325 ± 565	109 ± 41
6	$0.046 {\pm} 0.017$	$0.143 {\pm} 0.010$	$6.885 {\pm} 0.319$	$0.019 {\pm} 0.001$	$1.086 {\pm} 0.063$	$1.326 {\pm} 0.078$	$1.321 {\pm} 0.036$	$8.69 {\pm} 0.12$	-0.98 ± 0.11	15433 ± 641	10656 ± 344	$141{\pm}52$
7	0.101 ± 0.014	$0.162 {\pm} 0.009$	$7.342 {\pm} 0.323$	$0.019 {\pm} 0.001$	$1.070 {\pm} 0.067$	$1.419 {\pm} 0.059$	$1.341 {\pm} 0.036$	$8.68 {\pm} 0.09$	-1.00 ± 0.08	15938 ± 501	10743 ± 353	114 ± 50
8	$0.087 {\pm} 0.021$	$0.128 {\pm} 0.014$	5.665 ± 0.326	$0.020 {\pm} 0.001$	$1.291 {\pm} 0.112$	$1.589 {\pm} 0.088$	$1.369 {\pm} 0.046$	8.76 ± 0.15	-0.93 ± 0.11	16181 ± 1037	$10134 {\pm} 391$	74 ± 60
9	0.031 ± 0.013	$0.145 {\pm} 0.006$	$6.900 {\pm} 0.316$	$0.020 {\pm} 0.002$	$1.195 {\pm} 0.069$	$1.423 {\pm} 0.072$	$1.394 {\pm} 0.021$	8.72 ± 0.10	-0.94 ± 0.10	15453 ± 442	10495 ± 516	40 ± 33
10	0.105 ± 0.016	$0.115 {\pm} 0.019$	$4.557 {\pm} 0.208$	$0.020 {\pm} 0.002$	$1.169 {\pm} 0.079$	$1.632 {\pm} 0.074$	$1.411 {\pm} 0.016$	$8.56 {\pm} 0.20$	-0.98 ± 0.11	$16888 {\pm} 1484$	10580 ± 530	1/35
Nucleus	0.186 ± 0.033	0.086 ± 0.014	6.550 ± 0.310	0.021 ± 0.003	$1.497 {\pm} 0.157$	0.920 ± 0.059	1.242 ± 0.138	8.66 ± 0.11	-0.56 ± 0.08	12772 ± 785	9825 ± 658	301 ± 270
11	0.000 ± 0.046	$0.146 {\pm} 0.021$	$5.941 {\pm} 0.387$	N/A	$1.271 {\pm} 0.183$	$1.455 {\pm} 0.082$	1.335 ± 0.017	$8.53 {\pm} 0.17$	-0.85 ± 0.15	16899 ± 1339	N/A	115 ± 22
12	$0.132 {\pm} 0.015$	$0.113 {\pm} 0.014$	$3.570 {\pm} 0.170$	N/A	$1.350 {\pm} 0.061$	$1.865 {\pm} 0.085$	1.450 ± 0.050	$8.52 {\pm} 0.14$	-0.87 ± 0.11	19540 ± 1235	N/A	16 ± 34
13	0.000 ± 0.038	$0.083 {\pm} 0.023$	$3.197 {\pm} 0.325$	N/A	$1.378 {\pm} 0.166$	$1.973 {\pm} 0.228$	$1.417 {\pm} 0.054$	$8.71 {\pm} 0.24$	-0.89 ± 0.14	17766 ± 2661	N/A	$34{\pm}47$
14	0.031 ± 0.025	$0.175 {\pm} 0.035$	6.901 ± 0.531	N/A	$1.244 {\pm} 0.104$	$1.684 {\pm} 0.126$	$1.330 {\pm} 0.029$	$8.53 {\pm} 0.15$	-0.94 ± 0.11	17197 ± 2124	N/A	129 ± 42
15	0.077 ± 0.041	$0.198 {\pm} 0.024$	7.222 ± 0.808	N/A	$0.914 {\pm} 0.115$	$1.480 {\pm} 0.183$	$1.316 {\pm} 0.025$	$8.40 {\pm} 0.12$	-0.94 ± 0.13	17989 ± 1652	N/A	145 ± 34
16	0.023 ± 0.015	$0.271 {\pm} 0.040$	$8.844 {\pm} 0.387$	N/A	$0.647 {\pm} 0.072$	$1.382 {\pm} 0.319$	N/A	$8.37 {\pm} 0.08$	-1.00 ± 0.11	18829 ± 1648	N/A	N/A
17	0.029 ± 0.020	$0.222 {\pm} 0.017$	$8.941 {\pm} 0.404$	N/A	$1.123 {\pm} 0.102$	$1.339 {\pm} 0.146$	1.429 ± 0.061	$8.49 {\pm} 0.05$	-0.87 ± 0.12	16910 ± 754	N/A	33 ± 48
18	0.121 ± 0.012	$0.102 {\pm} 0.023$	$3.917 {\pm} 0.210$	N/A	$1.097 {\pm} 0.058$	$1.602 {\pm} 0.191$	1.466 ± 0.030	$8.56 {\pm} 0.24$	-0.93 ± 0.13	17299 ± 2055	N/A	≤ 75
19	0.027 ± 0.044	$0.090 {\pm} 0.028$	$2.626 {\pm} 0.481$	N/A	$1.245 {\pm} 0.283$	$1.125 {\pm} 0.378$	$1.386 {\pm} 0.039$	$8.39 {\pm} 0.30$	-0.86 ± 0.28	18925 ± 3439	N/A	48 ± 45
20	0.077 ± 0.031	$0.087 {\pm} 0.016$	3.075 ± 0.420	N/A	$1.494 {\pm} 0.282$	$1.888 {\pm} 0.284$	$1.396 {\pm} 0.039$	8.60 ± 0.25	-0.84 ± 0.20	$18398 {\pm} 2835$	N/A	41 ± 45
21	0.126 ± 0.059	$0.201 {\pm} 0.033$	$8.234 {\pm} 1.289$	N/A	$0.716 {\pm} 0.126$	$0.947 {\pm} 0.164$	$1.372 {\pm} 0.028$	$8.44 {\pm} 0.13$	-0.94 ± 0.16	16972 ± 1929	N/A	70 ± 38
22	0.000 ± 0.007	$0.154 {\pm} 0.012$	7.099 ± 0.143	N/A	0.776 ± 0.038	$1.164 {\pm} 0.338$	N/A	8.44 ± 0.18	-0.97 ± 0.17	15798 ± 608	N/A	N/A

Table 1: Photoionisation model predictions of the O/H and N/O relative abundances, the electron temperatures, $T_{[OIII]}$ and $T_{[NII]}$ and electron densities n_e inferred from the $[SII]\frac{\lambda 6716}{\lambda 6731}$ ratio. The observed, extinction corrected line fluxes used in the models are quoted relative to H β . E(B-V) values were inferred from H $\alpha/H\beta$. The spatial location of the apertures can be seen