Grids of synthetic spectra for H-poor central stars of planetary nebulae (CSPNe)

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Abstract. We present comprehensive grids of model spectra from far-UV to IR, covering the parameter space of [WC] (Keller \textit{et al.} 2011) and PG1159 stars. Models are calculated with the CMFGEN code, accounting for non-LTE, line blanketing, wind, clumping, and including ions previously neglected. The grids are available at http://dolomiti.pha.jhu.edu/planetarynebulae.html. We used them to analyse UV and far-UV spectra of NGC6905’s and NGC5189’s central stars.

Keywords. stars: AGB and post-AGB, stars: atmospheres, stars: mass loss, stars: winds, outflows, stars: individual (NGC 6905, NGC 5189).

1. Introduction. Grids of Synthetic Spectra

H-poor CSPNe are commonly divided into: [WC], showing strong C and He emission lines; PG1159, positioned at the top of the WD cooling track and exhibiting absorption lines of highly ionized He, C and O, besides weaker UV wind lines; and [WC]-PG1159, that are believed to be transition objects. They are thought to constitute an evolutionary sequence: [WC] stars would evolve from the AGB at an almost constant luminosity towards higher temperatures and then progress as PG1159 into the WD cooling track, while luminosity and mass-loss decrease and the wind reaches very high terminal velocities.

We computed, with the CMFGEN code (Hillier & Miller 1998), uniform model sets that enable systematic analysis of observed spectra of PG1159 and [WC] type CSPNe to constrain stellar parameters. They facilitate line identification and illustrate spectral line changes across the CSPN evolutionary phase. The parameter space covered by our model grids is shown on the left panel of Fig. 1. It approximately follows the tracks from Miller Bertolami & Althaus (2006). For each \([\log g, T_\ast]\) point, several models of different mass-loss rates and terminal velocities \((v_\infty)\) were calculated. The right panel of Fig. 1 shows examples of models from the grid of PG1159 type CSPNe, parametrized with \(R_t = R_\ast[(v_\infty/2500 \text{ km s}^{-1})(M/10^{-4} \text{ M}_\odot \text{ yr}^{-1})]^{2/3}\). Detailed discussion on the grid for [WC] type stars hotter than 50 kK can be found on Keller \textit{et al.} (2011).

2. NGC 6905 and NGC 5189

We analysed UV and far-UV spectra of the central stars of NGC 6905 (Keller \textit{et al.} 2011) and NGC 5189 using the [WC] grid to constrain their main physical parameters (Table 1). We also explored additional parameters, such as less abundant ions not included in the wider grids – affecting almost exclusively the O V lines – and the Fe content (Fig. 2), finding an upper limit of 0.3 times solar in both stars. Werner \textit{et al.} (2011), however, finds solar iron abundance for a group of PG1159 stars.
Table 1. Used spectra and derived parameters. $T_\ast$ is the temperature at an optical depth of 20, $R_\ast$ is the transformed radius, $X_{\text{He}}, X_{\text{C}},$ and $X_{\text{O}}$ are He, C, and O mass fractions.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Object</th>
<th>Instrument</th>
<th>Data Set</th>
<th>Resol.[Å]</th>
<th>Range[Å]</th>
<th>$T_\ast$[kK]</th>
<th>$R_\ast$[R$_\odot$]</th>
<th>$v_\infty$[km/s]</th>
<th>$X_{\text{He}}$</th>
<th>$X_{\text{C}}$</th>
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Figure 1. Left: stellar parameters covered by our grids of models and evolutionary tracks from Miller Bertolami & Althaus (2006) (lines). Right: example of models from the PG1159 grid.

Figure 2. Left: observed spectra (continuous line) of NGC5189’s CS and models of different Fe content (dashed lines). The numerous narrow absorptions are due to interstellar H$_2$, which also affects the blue edge of the Ne VII P-Cygni profile. Right: spectra of NGC6905’s CS (continuous line) and models computed with (dashed line) and without (dotted line) Mg, Na, Co, and Ni.

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References