HE0359-3959: An Extremely Radiating Quasar

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1. EXTREME POPULATION A SOURCES ALONG THE 4DE1 MAIN SEQUENCE

We present a multiwavelength spectral study of the quasar HE0359-3959, which has been identified as an extreme radiating source at intermediate redshift (z = 1.5209). Along the spectral range, the different ionic species give information about the substructures in the broad line region. The presence of a powerful outflow with an extreme blueshifted velocity of ∼6,000 ± 500 km s⁻¹ is shown in the CIV 1549 emission line. A prominent blueshifted component is also associated with the 1900Å blend, resembling the one observed in CIV 1549. We detect a strong contribution of the low–ionization lines, FeII and Near-Infrared CaII triplet. We find that the physical conditions for the low, intermediate, and high–ionization emission lines are different, which indicate that the emission lines are emitted in different zones of the broad line region. The asymmetries shown by the profiles reveal different forces over emitter zones. The high–ionization region is strongly dominated by radiation forces, which also affect the low and intermediate–ionization emitter region, commonly governed by virial motions. These results support the idea that highly radiating sources host a slim disk.

Keywords: quasars: emission lines, quasars: outflows, quasars: individuals HE0359-3959, quasars: supermassive black holes, galaxy evolution: feedback
In the case of HE0359-3959, the blueshifted component associated with the high ionization lines, for example in CIVλ1549 emission line, indicating the presence of outflows. More details about the xA sources behavior can be found in Martínez-Aldama et al. of this volume.

1.1. HE0359-3959: An Extreme xA Source

In our extreme luminosity Hamburg-ESO sample (Marziani et al., 2009; Sulentic et al., 2017), we have identified four cases of highly radiating quasars that show an extreme behavior, i.e., a high Eddington ratio and a strong blue asymmetry. These cases have a high Eddington ratio and a strong blue asymmetry. The aim of this paper is to analyze the spectral behavior of an extreme xA source, HE0359-3959. We performed multicomponent fits in a wide spectral range: UV, optical and Near–Infrared (Section 2); which gives us information about the dynamics and the physical conditions of the broad line region (BLR) (Section 3). In Section 4, we summarize the main results of our work.

2. OBSERVATIONS, DATA REDUCTION, AND MULTICOMPONENT FITTING

2.1. Observations and Data Reduction

Ultraviolet (UV), optical, and Near–Infrared spectra were observed with the Very Large Telescope (VLT-ESO). Optical and Near–Infrared spectra were obtained with the Infrared Spectrometer And Array Camera (ISAAC; decommissioned in 2013) using a slit of 0.6′. The near–infrared spectrum was observed in 2010 in the K band with a total exposure time of 1,120 s. The optical spectrum was observed in 2004 in the J band with a total exposure time of 3,600 s. For the ultraviolet spectrum, we used the Focal Reducer and low dispersion Spectrograph (FORS1) and a slit of 1.0′ with a total exposure time of 1,440 s. It was observed in 2008. The data reduction was done using the IRAF package. The procedures followed are explained in Marziani et al. (2009), Martínez-Aldama et al. (2015), and Sulentic et al. (2017).

2.2. Multicomponent Fits

We perform multicomponent fits using SPECFIT, an IRAF routine (Kriss, 1994) to get the information of the most important emission lines. In each spectral range we fit a local continuum. The FWHM of all the broad components (BC) for Hβ, AlIIIλ1860, SiIIIλ1892, CIVλ1549, and SiIVλ1397 was taken equal. In the Figure 2, we present the multicomponents fits after continuum subtraction, for the CIVλ1549 and Ca II triplet range. The rest of the fits will be shown in an upcoming paper.

3. RESULTS

3.1. Multiwavelength Analysis

Low–ionization lines (LIL) have an ionization potential (IP) \(\leq 20\) eV. The Hβ line is the prototype of LIL. In population A3 and A4 sources Hβ has associated a blueshifted component (Bachev et al., 2004). In the case of HE0359-3959, the blueshifted component has a contribution to the total flux of \(\sim 9\%) and shows a centroid a half intensity of \(c(1/2)\sim-500 \pm 70 \text{ km s}^{-1}\).

The Felt (IP≈16 eV) has an important contribution in the optical and near–infrared regions. To reproduce it we used the templates modeled by Marziani et al. (2009) and Garcia-Rissmann et al. (2012) for the optical and near–infrared ranges, respectively. Several works have found (Persson, 1988; Ferland and Persson, 1989; Joly, 1989; Dultzin-Hacyan et al., 1999; Martínez-Aldama et al., 2015) a close relationship between the Felt and the NIR Ca II λ8498, λ 8542, and λ8662 A triplet. This relation is very well appreciable in this object: as well as the optical
Fe II is strong, the NIR Ca II triplet also is. It is the first time where we observe the Ca II triplet lines isolated at high redshift. Strong intensities of both ions imply an extremely low-ionization degree ($U < 10^{-2}$; $U$: ionization parameter) and a high density ($n_H \sim 10^{11-13}$ cm$^{-3}$) (Baldwin et al., 2004; Matsuoka et al., 2007; Martínez-Aldama et al., 2015).

In the UV region, the 1900Å blend is formed by two intermediate–ionization lines (III; IP $\sim 20-40$ eV), AlIII 1860 and SiIII 1892, which are accompanied by CIII] 1909 and some FeII transitions. In this blend we appreciate a blueshifted component. This component should be most likely associated with AlIII 1860. Respect to AlIII 1860, the blueshifted component has a contribution of the total profile of 60%. The centroid of this component is at $c(1/2) \sim -3,200 \pm 250$ km s$^{-1}$, which indicates the presence of an outflow generated by radiation forces presented in the intermediate–ionization lines (Marziani et al., 2014). On the other hand, considering the high intensity of AlIII 1860, SiIII 1892, Ca II and Fe II, it could suggest a possible chemical enrichment of the BLR (Juarez et al., 2009).

High ionization lines (HII; IP $> 40$ eV), CIV 1549, HeII 1640, and SiIV 1397, show a prominent blueshifted component. We find that the blue component has a contribution of 76, 62, and 57% to the total flux of CIV 1549, HeII 1640, and SiIV 1397, respectively. The CIV 1549 reaches $c(1/2) \sim -6,000 \pm 500$ km s$^{-1}$, while HeII 1640 and SiIV 1397 reach $c(1/2) \sim -4,000 \pm 550$ km s$^{-1}$. The velocities reached are ones of the highest found in the literature (Richards et al., 2011; Coatman et al., 2016; Sulentic et al., 2017). Then, it indicates that the full profile is dominated by an outflow and suggests the disk plus wind scenario (Gaskell, 1982; Richards et al., 2002, 2011).

3.2. Physical Properties of HE0359-3959
In order to study the physical properties of the quasar HE0359-3959, we built a grid of photoionization simulations using the CLOUDY code (Ferland et al., 1998, 2013). For our simulations we consider a Matsews and Ferland continuum (Mathews and Ferland, 1987), a plane-parallel geometry, a metallicity $Z \odot$ with an overabundance of Al and Si with respect to carbon (by a factor of three), and a column density of $N_C = 10^{23}$ cm$^{-2}$. See Negrete et al. (2012) for more details. Our simulations span the density range $7.00 \leq \log(n_H) \leq 14.00$ and $-4.5 \leq \log(U) \leq 0.00$ for the ionization parameter, in intervals of 0.25 dex. More details about the CLOUDY simulations can be found in Negrete et al. (2014). Using the UV lines, we define three groups of diagnostic ratios:

- The flux ratio AlIII 1860/SiIII 1892 is a useful density diagnostic.
- The flux ratio SiIV 1397/SiIII 1892 for the ionization parameter.
- The flux ratio CIV 1549/SiIV 1397 is mainly sensitive to the relatives abundances of C and Si.

In Figure 3 is shown the result of the simulations. We obtained that the flux ratios are intersected in $\log(n_H) = 12.32$ cm$^{-3}$ and $\log(U) = -2.95$. Compared to not highly radiating AGNs (Negrete et al., 2013), this source shows a high density and a low ionization parameter, which marks a different behavior in the BLR, probably causing by the slim disk hosted in these kind of sources. Taking into account the high intensity of AlIII 1860, Fe II, and Ca II we conclude that effectively the low–ionization emitter zone has a high density and low–ionization parameter.

Negrete et al. (2012) proposed a new method to determine the size of the BLR ($r_{BLR}$) and the black hole mass ($M_{BH}$) based on the product $n_H \cdot U$ and independently of redshift. This method gives similar results to the obtained from the classical methods such as reverberation mapping at low–$z$ (Negrete et al., 2014). Knowing the product of $n_H \cdot U$ obtained from the CLOUDY simulations, we compute the size of the BLR ($r_{BLR}$) and considering the
FWHM of the broad components as the velocity dispersion, we can get the black hole mass \((M_{\text{BH}})\) and the Eddington ratio. The size of the BLR is \(\log(r_{\text{BLR}}) = 18.37 \pm 0.04\) cm and the black hole mass is \(\log(M_{\text{BH}}) = 9.52 \pm 0.41\). These values are in agreement with the ones found for a large xA sample at high-redshift (Martínez-Aldama et al., in preparation).

The Eddington ratio for this source is \(L/L_{\text{Edd}} = 0.74 \pm 0.11\). Considering that it shows a \(c(1/2) \sim -6,000 \pm 500\) km s\(^{-1}\) for \(\lambda 1549\), we confirm the directly proportional relation between \(c(1/2)\) and \(L/L_{\text{Edd}}\). Indicating that \(L/L_{\text{Edd}}\) could be the driver of the outflows (Sulentic et al., 2017).

4. CONCLUSIONS

The information given by the multiwavelength analysis indicates that in HE0359–3959 there is coexistence of substructures in the broad line region. Low and intermediate–ionization regions, where H\(\beta\), Al\(\text{III}\)1860 and Si\(\text{II}\)1892 are emitted, are dense \((\rho_{\text{H}} \sim 10^{11–12\text{ cm}^{-3}})\) and optically thick \((U \sim 10^{-2.5})\). They are mainly governed by virial motions and the presence of a blueshifted component indicates the influence of radiation forces. On the other hand, according to Marziani et al. (2010) the high–ionization region is less dense \((\rho_{\text{H}} \sim 10^{10\text{ cm}^{-3}}, U \sim 10^{-1})\), pointing out a difference with the physical conditions shown by the low and intermediate–ionization lines.

High ionization lines are dominated by strong radiation forces, producing outflows in high–ionization lines like C\(\text{IV}\)1549, He\(\text{I}\)1640, and Si\(\text{II}\)1397. The high Eddington ratio value suggests the presence of a slim optically thick disk which could be related to the extreme outflow properties observed in HE0359-3959. The presence of strong outflows has been related with the co–evolution of the active galactic nuclei and the host galaxy.

AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

MLM-A and PM: Data reduction, multicomponents fits, analysis, writing, revision. AD: Analysis, reduction, writing, revision. CN: Analysis, photoionization models, revision. DD: Analysis, revision. MAM-C: Data reduction, multicomponents fits.

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FIGURE 3 | Isocontors for HE0359-3959 with SZ\(_{\text{O}}\) and an overabundance of \(N\) and \(Si\). The blue line indicates the flux ratio Al\(\text{III}\)1860/Si\(\text{II}\)1892, the yellow one indicates the ratio Si\(\text{IV}\)1397/Si\(\text{II}\)1892, and the orange corresponds to the Al\(\text{III}\)1860/Si\(\text{II}\)1397. Shadows associated with each line indicate the error. The flux ratios are intersected in \(n_{\text{U}}\). U = 9.27 ± 0.39.
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Conflict of Interest Statement: The authors declare that the research was conducted in the absence of any commercial or financial relationships that could be construed as a potential conflict of interest.

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