A STUDY OF H$_2$ EMISSION IN THREE BIPOLAR PROTO–PLANETARY NEBULAE: IRAS 16594–4656, HEN 3-401, AND ROB 22$^{1,2}$

BRUCE J. HRIVNAK,$^3$ NATHAN SMITH,$^4$ KATE Y. L. SU,$^5$ AND RAGHVENDRA SAHAI$^6$

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ABSTRACT

We have carried out a spatial-kinematic study of three proto–planetary nebulae, IRAS 16594–4656, Hen 3-401, and Rob 22. High-resolution H$_2$ images were obtained with NICMOS on the Hubble Space Telescope, and high-resolution spectra were obtained with the Phoenix spectrograph on Gemini-South. IRAS 16594–4656 shows a “peanut-shaped” bipolar structure with H$_2$ emission from the walls and from two pairs of more distant, point-symmetric faint blobs. The velocity structure shows the polar axis to be in the plane of the sky, contrary to the impression given by the more complex visual image and the visibility of the central star, with an ellipsoidal velocity structure. Hen 3-401 shows the H$_2$ emission coming from the walls of the very elongated, open-ended lobes seen in visible light, along with a possible small disk around the star. The bipolar lobes appear to be tilted $10^\circ$–$15^\circ$ with respect to the plane of the sky, and their kinematics display a Hubble-like flow. In Rob 22, the H$_2$ appears in the form of an “S”-shape, approximately tracing out the similar pattern seen in the visible. H$_2$ is especially seen at the ends of the lobes and at two opposite regions close to the unseen central star. The axis of the lobes is nearly in the plane of the sky. Expansion ages of the lobes are calculated to be $\sim 1600$ yr (IRAS 16594–4656), $\sim 1100$ yr (Hen 3-401), and $\sim 640$ yr (Rob 22), based on approximate distances.

Subject headings: circumstellar matter — infrared: stars — ISM: individual (Hen 3-401, IRAS 16594–4656, Rob 22) — planetary nebulae: general — stars: AGB and post-AGB — stars: mass loss

Online material: color figures

1. INTRODUCTION

Proto–planetary nebulae (PPNs) are objects in transition between the asymptotic giant branch (AGB) and planetary nebula (PN) stages of stellar evolution. Studies over the past decade, particularly imaging studies with the Hubble Space Telescope (HST), have shown that this transition stage is key to understanding the shaping of PNs (Balick & Frank 2002). In the interacting stellar winds model (Kwok 1982), which was later generalized to include an equatorial density gradient (Balick 1987), it was assumed that a fast wind from the central star interacted with the detached, slowly moving remnant AGB envelope to shape the nebula. HST images of PPNs show that many and perhaps most of them display a basic bipolar structure (Ueta et al. 2000; Su et al. 2001; Sahai et al. 2007; Siódmiak et al. 2008). These are shapes that appear to be further developed in the PN stage. In addition, a point symmetry is often seen; Sahai & Trauger (1998) attribute this to collimated jets, which may be episodic and change their direction, and which they advocate as the main shaping agents of PNs.

Studying H$_2$ in PPNs is one of the best ways to probe the presence of a fast, perhaps collimated, post-AGB wind and its effect in shaping the nebula. H$_2$ is the main constituent of the detached circumstellar envelope around a PPN. While a fast wind ($V > 100$ km s$^{-1}$) has the energy to dissociate the H$_2$ on direct impact, it can also produce shocks in the medium that move at a slower speed and collisionally excite the H$_2$. Recent surveys have shown the presence of shock-excited H$_2$ in bipolar PPNs (García-Hernández et al. 2002; Kelly & Hrivnak 2005). Detailed high-resolution H$_2$ studies have been published of approximately a half dozen PPNs (Sahai et al. 1998; Kastner et al. 2001; Cox et al. 2003; Davis et al. 2005; Hrivnak et al. 2006; Van de Steene et al. 2008).

In this paper we present the results of a detailed H$_2$ emission study of three bipolar PPNs, IRAS 16594–4656 (“Water Lily Nebula”), Hen 3-401 (IRAS 10178–5958), and Rob 22 (IRAS 10197–5750). All three have relatively hot central stars for PPNs, B and A spectral types, and all possess large infrared excesses due to circumstellar dust (Parthasarathy & Pottasch 1989; García-Lario et al. 1999a). All three are or would be classified as DUPLEX (DUst Prominent, Longitudinally-EXTended) nebulae in the classification system of Ueta et al. (2000; see also Siódmiak et al. 2008).

Rob 22 has a nebula that looks like a pair of butterfly wings. At high spatial resolution, the lobes show a filamentary structure in visible light. In addition to bipolar structure, some point symmetry is apparent in the lobes. A large halo extends out to $25''$ (Sahai et al. 1999a). The nebula appears to be viewed essentially edge-on, with a dark lane obscuring the star in visible light. In the more detailed morphological classification system of Sahai et al. (2007) this object is classified as Bcw,ml,ps(s),h(e): bipolar nebula with closed lobes, central obscuring waist, minor lobes present, point-symmetric shape, and elongated halo. The spectral type is A2 Ie, based on light reflected off the lobes of the nebula (Allen 1978). The circumstellar envelope appears to have a dual chemistry, with an oxygen-rich region evidenced by OH maser emission...
(OH 284.18–0.79; Allen et al. 1980) and crystalline silicate emission (Molster et al. 2002), and a carbon-rich region evidenced by polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon (PAH) emission (Molster et al. 1997).

The nebula of Hen 3–401 possesses long, narrow lobes. It seems to be viewed at a slightly larger angle with respect to the plane of the sky, with the central star appearing faintly between the lobes (Sahai et al. 1999b). The morphological classification of this object is Bow(0.6,sk): bipolar nebula with open lobes, central obscuring waist with star evident (at 0.6 μm), and with a skirt-like structure (Sahai et al. 2007). The spectral type of the star is Be, and the spectrum shows strong Balmer emission lines and lots of permitted and forbidden low-excitation emission lines. The nebula appears to be carbon-rich, since it shows CO emission (Loup et al. 1990; Bujarrabal & Bachiller 1991) and PAH emission (Parthasarathy et al. 2001) but not OH (Silva et al. 1993) emission or crystalline silicates (Parthasarathy et al. 2001).

In IRAS 16594–4656, the star is clearly seen and relatively bright compared to the nebula, giving the impression that the nebula is at a larger orientation angle. The nebula has the appearance of a basic bipolar structure with a pronounced point symmetry, consisting of three pairs of oppositely directed, slightly curved, thin lobes. Also seen is a smaller elliptical structure oriented from northwest to southeast (Hrivnak et al. 1999). The morphological classification of this object is Mcw (0.6,an,ps(m,an),h(a): multipolar nebula with closed lobes, central obscuring waist with star evident (at 0.6 μm), ansae present, point symmetry with two or more pairs of diametrically opposed lobes and with ansae, and a halo with centrosymmetric arcs (Sahai et al. 2007). Its spectrum shows Balmer emission lines (García-Lario et al. 1999a) and has been classified as Be7 based on the Hα line (Van de Steene et al. 2000). Reiners (2002), on the basis of high-resolution spectra, fit the spectrum with $T_{\text{eff}} = 14,000$ K and log g = 2.1, slightly hotter than β Ori (B8 I); this indicates a spectral type of B5–7 Ie. He also observed many emission lines. The nebula appears to be carbon-rich, showing PAH features and displaying the 21 and 30 μm features seen in carbon-rich evolved stars (García-Lario et al. 1999a; Volk et al. 2002). Van de Steene et al. (2008) recently published a detailed kinematic and morphologic study of this object using H2 emission, and we will refer to their results in the present study.

We begin with an examination of the high-resolution H2 images (see Sahai et al. [2000] for preliminary images of Rob 22 and Hen 3–401, and Hrivnak et al. [2004] for preliminary images of IRAS 16594–4656), then present new high-resolution, long-slit H2 spectra, and then follow with a discussion of the kinematics. From these, we are able to determine properties of the collimated winds in these three PPNs and how they have shaped the surrounding nebulae.

## 2. High-Resolution H2 Imaging Observations

High-resolution near-infrared (near-IR) imaging observations of the three PPNs were obtained with the HST and the Near-Infrared Camera and Multiobject Spectrometer (NICMOS) Camera 2 (NIC2). The camera has a resolution of 0.076 × 0.075 arcsec pixel$^{-1}$ and a field of view of 19.5″ × 19.3″. Observations were made with a narrowband H2 filter (F212N) and also with an adjacent continuum filter (F215N) for the purpose of distinguishing the H2 1–0 S(1) emission from the scattered starlight.

Hen 3–401 and Rob 22 were observed on 1998 under General Observer program ID 7840 (PI: S. Kwok) using the original HST NICMOS camera. Observations were also made with the F160W (H) and F222M (K) filters for both of these objects. IRAS 16594–4656 was observed in 2002 under General Observer program ID 9366 (PI: B. Hrivnak) using the refurbished HST NICMOS camera. Observations were also made with the F110W (J) filter. The observing log is listed in Table 1.

The data were taken in the multiple nondestructive mode (MULTIACCUM) to obtain a high dynamic range without saturating the detector. Three sets of observations were made through each filter at each position on the array, and each target was imaged at three (Hen 3–401, Rob 22) or four (IRAS 16594–4656) different positions of the NIC2 array using a predefined dither pattern.

The data were processed using the standard NICMOS calnicosa pipeline, which applied bias subtraction, dark subtraction, flat fielding, and cosmic-ray removal. The more recent data for IRAS 16594–4656 were recalibrated using the HST archival On-the-Fly Reprocessing System, which provides recalibration using the most up-to-date reference files. The individual files were then corrected for the “pedestal effect” using the IRAF STSDAS pedsub task to flattening the sky value in the four quadrants of the NIC2 array. We then combined the 12 images with each filter using the IRAF STSDAS/Dither package with the parameters suggested in the HST Dither Handbook (Koekemoer et al. 2002). The data for Hen 3–401 and Rob 22, which were taken and reduced earlier, were reduced with the same philosophy but in a more manual fashion, as described by Su et al. (2003).

The reduced F212N and F215N images were then flux calibrated using the appropriate calibration values for each filter before and after the NICMOS refurbishing. These calibration values are listed in Table 2. The individual F212N and F215N images for the three PPNs, with the thermal backgrounds removed, are displayed in Figure 1.

For IRAS 16594–4656, the relatively bright central star is surrounded by a distinct peanut-shaped nebula in the F212N image, while only some smaller and fainter nebulosity surrounds the star in the F215N image. Thus one can immediately see that most of the nebular light in the F212N image is due to the H2 emission rather than scattered starlight. One can also see faint emission from...
two of the pairs of longer, thin lobes, with brighter emission ("ansa") at their ends. For Rob 22, the F212N and F215N images appear rather similar. They each show, rather than a central star, emission coming from two closely spaced regions separated by a dark equatorial band. These bright regions may represent light from the central star scattered toward us from above and below an obscuring disk or torus. The two bright regions lie roughly along the line that connects the approximately point-symmetric outer ends of the two lobes. The dark space between the two bright regions might thus be due to the torus. The nebula appears to be
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3. H$_2$ IMAGES

To produce images of these three PPNs showing only H$_2$ emission requires the removal of the scattered light from the F212N image, which can be accomplished through the subtraction of an appropriately scaled image of the adjacent continuum (F215N image). The scaling is necessary to correct for differences in the source continuum in the two bandpasses. Differences due to the filter profiles and detector response were corrected by the flux calibration. In a similar previous study (Hrivnak et al. 2006), we examined the question of how best to scale the F215N continuum image for subtraction from the F212N image to remove the scattered continuum light. The object of that study, IRAS 17150–3224, had no other emission lines in these two bandpasses, and the resulting H$_2$ image of Hen 3-401 is shown in Figure 3. The nebula is seen mostly in scattered light but with some contribution from H$_2$ emission. For Hen 3-401, the nebula is seen more clearly and is larger in the F212N image than in the F215 image, indicating that in the F212N image, it is seen in both scattered light and H$_2$ emission. The star is bright in each image.

3.1. IRAS 16594–4656

A spectrum for IRAS 16594–4656 in the 2 $\mu$m region (2.10–2.27 $\mu$m) has been published by Van de Steene & van Hoof (2003). It was obtained with a long slit 1.0$''$ wide and oriented east-west. The spectrum shows a relatively strong H$_2$ feature at 2.12 $\mu$m with a much weaker Br$\gamma$ emission line. Since the Br$\gamma$ is at a wavelength that places it at the edge of a wing of the F215N filter profile, its contribution is insignificant in this image. This is illustrated in Figure 2, which shows the spectrum of the object plotted together with the filter profiles. Thus, for the continuum removal, we convolved a linear fit to the observed spectral continuum (with the H$_2$ emission removed) with the filter profiles and the detector response using the STSDAS/SYNPHOT calcpht task. This resulted in a scale factor of 1.016 that we used to scale the F215N image prior to subtraction of the flux-calibrated images.

The resulting H$_2$ image of IRAS 16594–4656 is displayed in Figure 3a. It shows a limb-brightened, double-lobed bipolar structure with the west lobe larger and brighter (ratio of 1.6) than the east lobe. Approximate sizes (10 $\sigma$ level) are 2.6$''$×2.8$''$ for the west lobe and 2.2$''$×2.5$''$ for the east lobe. In addition, one can see two pairs of more distant H$_2$-emitting ansae, each pair collinear on a line passing through the star. The ansae to the southwest are brighter and farther from the star than those to the northeast, with distances of 6.2$''$ and 5.4$''$ for the ansae at P.A. = 33$^\circ$ and of 5.8$''$ and 4.7$''$ for the those at P.A. = 54$^\circ$. These ansae are found at the ends of the thin lobes seen in the visible light images (Hrivnak et al. 1999; Su et al., 2001), and will be discussed together with the visible image in §5. The emission at the position of the star appears to approximately cancel out, indicating that there is little, if any, H$_2$ emission from the star.

3.2. Hen 3-401

Spectra of the 2.12 $\mu$m H$_2$ line and the Br$\gamma$ line of Hen 3-401 have been published by García-Hernández et al. (2002). They observed this object twice with a 4.5$''$ wide slit oriented at P.A. = 70$^\circ$ and 90$^\circ$, approximately along the bipolar axis, and they found the H$_2$ emission to be clearly extended. The H$_2$ line is stronger than the Br$\gamma$ line by about a factor of 1.5, and since the latter lies in the wing of the F215N filter, its contribution to the flux in the F215N image is very small. This is illustrated in Figure 2. Neglecting the contribution of the line results in a scale factor of 0.994 (the spectrum is essentially flat in this region).

The resulting H$_2$ image of Hen 3-401 is shown in Figure 3b. H$_2$ emission extends along the two almost cylindrical, slightly barrel-shaped lobes, each with a size of 2.5$''$×10$''$. The east lobe is brighter, with a ratio of 1.2. The two lobes are limb-brightened and appear to be brightest 2.5$''$–5.3$''$ (east) and 1.5$''$–4.3$''$ (west) from the star. The ends of the lobes are open. Little, if any, of the H$_2$ emission appears to come from the central star.

3.3. Rob 22

Rob 22 was also observed spectroscopically in this region by García-Hernández et al. (2002). They observed with the slit oriented at P.A. = 90$^\circ$, in this case almost perpendicular to the bipolar lobes. With a slit width of 4.5$''$, they likely included most of the nebula but missed some of the H$_2$ emission from the very ends of the lobes. Their spectra show the Br$\gamma$ line to be stronger than the H$_2$ 2.12 $\mu$m H$_2$ line by about a factor of 2.5, but since it still falls on the extreme edge of the filter profile, its contribution will be small. Nevertheless, we examined the scaling of the F215N image with and without consideration of this emission line. Neglecting the contribution of the line results in a scale factor of 0.979, while including it results in a scale factor of 0.967. We will...
use the scale factor with the line included, but note that the difference is only at the 1% level. Note, however, that the difference can be larger in localized regions, since the Brγ difference is only at the 1% level. Note, however, that the difference likely have different distributions.

The resulting H2 image of Rob 22 is shown in Figure 3c. The nebula appears to have somewhat of a point-symmetric “S” shape, with a bright clump in the inner part of each lobe near the position of the unseen central star (the clump to the northeast is brighter) and a ridge of H2 along the end of each lobe (especially the south lobe). The north lobe is brighter, with a ratio of 1.2. Much of the extended structure within a few arcseconds of the star disappears after continuum subtraction, indicating that the features at the bases of the polar lobes nearest the star are due to scattered light from a dusty flared disk or torus, not H2 emission.

4. HIGH-RESOLUTION H2 SPECTRA

4.1. Observations and Reduction

High-dispersion, long-slit spectral observations were made of the three sources in the H2 v = 1–0 S(1) line at 2.1218 μm using the near-IR echelle spectrograph Phoenix (Hinkle et al. 1998) on the 8 m Gemini-South telescope on Cerro Pachon, Chile. Phoenix has a 1024 x 256 InSb detector with a pixel scale of 0.085” x 1.26 km s⁻¹ at a wavelength of ~2 μm. The slit width was 0.34”, providing an effective velocity resolution of 6 km s⁻¹ (R ~ 50,000). The spectrum covers a range of ~1300 km s⁻¹ (0.0086 μm) centered on this H2 line. The area of the sky projected by the long slit onto the detector is ~13.4” in length, so for the observations of IRAS 16594–4656 and Hen 3-401, more than one exposure was taken moving along the slit, yielding a longer effective slit to cover each target. The observations were made in 2003 under three queue observing programs (GS-2002B-Q-53, GS-2003A-Q-27, and GS-2003B-Q-41). Image quality on the different nights varied from 0.7” to 1.0”, as measured in the R band.

Several spectra were obtained for each of the PPNs at various positions. For each object, one spectrum was taken with the slit oriented through the star along the major axis of the lobes. Additional spectra were taken at various offsets and orientations. For IRAS 16594–4656, two of the slit positions were oriented to pass through the star and the pairs of H2 clumps. An observing log listing the slit positions is given in Table 3, and the orientations of the slit for these various observations are shown in Figure 3.

The weather for these observations was mostly clear, although some patchy clouds were present during observations of Rob 22 and IRAS 16594–4656. Sky subtraction was accomplished by obtaining one exposure of blank sky near each source immediately before or after a pair of exposures of the target. Spectral flat fields were obtained using an internal quartz emission lamp. For each target, a bright standard star was observed on the same night with the same grating setting in order to correct for telluric absorption and for flux calibration. Numerous telluric lines were also used for wavelength calibration, adopting the telluric spectrum available from NOAO.8 We calculated the apparent velocities adopting a rest wavelength of 21218.356 Å for the H2 v = 1–0 S(1) line (Bragg et al. 1982), and these velocities were then corrected to a heliocentric reference frame. Uncertainty in the resulting velocities is roughly ±1 km s⁻¹, dominated by scatter in the dispersion solution for the numerous telluric lines across the observed wavelength range.

4.2. Position-Velocity Diagrams

4.2.1. IRAS 16594–4656

Spectra of IRAS 16594–4656 were obtained at five different positions on the nebula, as illustrated in Figure 3. The resulting position-velocity (PV) diagrams are shown in Figure 4. In all cases the brightest emission displays a closed ellipse, but with different sizes and strong variations in intensity around the ellipse. In slit position a (P.A. = 72°), which is along the major bipolar axis, and slit position b (P.A. = 52°), which is rotated 20° from the major axis, the inner ellipses seem to be tilted slightly, with the west-southwest lobe slightly blueshifted compared to the east-northeast lobe. However, this is a small effect, and the polar axis appears to lie very close to the plane of the sky.

Slit positions c (P.A. = 33°) and d (P.A. = 345°) also pass through the star, but are oriented closer to the minor axis (slit position d is along the minor axis), and the size of the bright inner ellipse is correspondingly smaller. Slit position e (P.A. = 345°) is parallel to the minor axis but offset from the star through the major bi-

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8 See ftp://ftp.noao.edu/catalogs/arcturusatlas/ir/.
Fig. 3.—Left: Resulting flux-calibrated H$_2$ images of (a) IRAS 16594−4656, (b) Hen 3-401, and (c) Rob 22. Right: H$_2$ image with the position of the Phoenix slits overlaid. The labeling of the slits corresponds to the labeling in the PV diagrams (Figs. 4, 7, and 10). [See the electronic edition of the Journal for a color version of this figure.]
spectra these clumps are seen in H$_2$ emission. In slit position $b$, the centroid velocities of the two clumps differ by 10 km s$^{-1}$ ($-36$ to $-26$), with each about 5 km s$^{-1}$ from the mean velocity of $\sim -30$ km s$^{-1}$. In slit position $c$, the velocity of the two clumps is about the same. These velocities can be explained by a model in which the clumps are ejected by rotating jets. The clumps at slit position $b$ appear closer to the star than those at slit position $c$; this can be a result of a projection effect and/or temporal effect, assuming that they are moving outward from the central star at the same speeds. If the clumps in each point-symmetric pair began moving from the location of the star at the same time, then they should be at the same distance from the star. However, in both cases the brighter southwest clumps appear farther from the star than the northeast clumps, so the assumption of constant velocity for the clumps may not be correct. Alternatively, the clumps may simply be nonuniform brightness enhancements at the ends of the filaments.

The bright ellipses are consistent with limb-brightened lobes. When allowance is made for the resolution of the spectra, it appears that the interiors of the lobes are devoid of H$_2$ emission. In the four slit positions that include the star (Figs. 4 $a$–$d$), the blueshifted side of the inner ellipse is brighter. This may be due to extinction within the lobes or intrinsically brighter H$_2$ emission from the side facing us. The elliptical morphologies of the PV diagrams for the four slit positions through the star, especially

![Diagram](image-url)

**TABLE 3**

| Object       | Date (2003) | P.A.$^a$ (deg) | Position (arcsec) | $t_{exp}^b$ (s) | No. Obs. |
|--------------|-------------|----------------|------------------|---------------|----------|
| Rob 22       | Jan 14      | 17             | Through star     | 500           | 2        |
| Rob 22       | Jan 14      | 17             | 0.7 W of star    | 500           | 2        |
| Rob 22       | Jan 14      | 17             | 0.7 E of star    | 500           | 2        |
| Hen 3-401    | Dec 17      | 73             | Through star     | 500           | 2        |
| Hen 3-401    | Dec 17      | 73             | 0.7 S of star    | 500           | 2        |
| Hen 3-401    | Dec 17      | 73             | 0.7 N of star    | 500           | 2        |
| IRAS 16594–4656 | May 08   | 52             | Through star     | 600           | 2        |
| IRAS 16594–4656 | May 08   | 33             | Through star     | 600           | 2        |
| IRAS 16594–4656 | May 08   | 345            | 0.9 W of star    | 600           | 2        |
| IRAS 16594–4656 | May 15   | 345            | Through star     | 600           | 3        |
| IRAS 16594–4656 | May 15   | 72             | Through star     | 600           | 2        |

$^a$ The letters in parentheses for IRAS 16594–4656 refer to the slit orientations as displayed in Fig. 4.

$^b$ Exposure times per observation.

**Fig. 4.**—H$_2$ PV diagram of IRAS 16594–4656. Panels $(a)$–$(e)$ correspond to the five slit positions shown in Fig. 3.
the one along the major axis, are consistent with an expanding ellipsoid. Thus they differ from the “peanut-shape” PV diagram that one might expect from two bipolar expanding bubbles. Thus the expansion along the minor axis does not appear to be significantly retarded by a constraining higher density torus.

We investigated the velocity field in more detail using the morpho-kinematic modeling program SHAPE (Steffen & López 2006). In this program, the morphology of the nebula and the velocity field can be specified and a resulting PV diagram produced. The shape of the nebula was assumed to be a three-dimensional symmetrical dumbbell based on the H$_2$ (cross-sectional) image. It was then assumed that the H$_2$ emissivity uniformly followed the contours of the nebula. We began by investigating a velocity field in which the velocity increased linearly with distance (so-called Hubble flow), which is seen in some PNs and is seen in Hen 3-401 ($\times 4.2$). This produced a PV diagram that had a peanut shape, contrary to the elliptical shape seen (see Fig. 5, left and right panels). When we assumed on the other hand a constant velocity ($9 \text{ km s}^{-1}$), the PV diagram agreed more closely with the observed ellipse but was slightly diamond-shaped. A very good fit was obtained by the addition of a slight Hubble flow, with $V = (8 + 2.4r/100) \text{ km s}^{-1}$, as shown in the center panels of Figure 5. We determine, based on adding an inclination to the model, that the tilt of the polar axis is no more than $24^\circ$ from the plane of the sky.

Slices in velocity across the PV diagrams at position along the slit $= 0''$ (along the line of sight through the star) with width $0.77''$ are displayed in Figure 6. These show a uniform expansion of the shell with an expansion velocity of $V_{\text{exp}} = 9 \text{ km s}^{-1}$. The velocity center is at $-30 \text{ km s}^{-1}$. The expansion velocity of the lobe at $0.9''$ west of the star is similar; this is consistent with uniform expansion of an elliptical bubble.

These observations reveal a systemic heliocentric radial velocity of $V_{\text{hel}}(\text{H}_2) = -30 \text{ km s}^{-1}$, which translates to $V_{\text{LSR}} = -26 \text{ km s}^{-1}$, with $V_{\text{exp}} = 9 \text{ km s}^{-1}$. These velocities can be compared with the millimeter-wave CO $J = 1-0$ emission line of $V_{\text{LSR}}(\text{CO}) = -26 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ with $V_{\text{exp}} = 16 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ (Loup et al.
1990). The CO expansion represents the velocity of the outer remnant of the AGB mass loss expanding into the ambient interstellar medium, while the H$_2$ expansion represents the velocity of the shock front at the edge of the inner bipolar cavity along the line-of-sight direction, which is essentially perpendicular to the polar axis. The difference between these two expansion velocities appears to reflect the two different kinematic regions. Heliocentric radial velocity measurements of individual lines in the visible spectrum showed a range of $-10$ to $-40$ km s$^{-1}$, with average values of $-20$ km s$^{-1}$ for the absorption lines and $-32$ km s$^{-1}$ for the emission lines (Reyniers 2002).

4.2.2. Hen 3-401

Spectra of Hen 3-401 were obtained at four different positions on the nebula. The resulting PV diagrams for the three oriented along the bipolar axis are shown in Figure 7. (The fourth one, passing through the star but oriented perpendicular to the axis, showed no extended structure, only H$_2$ emission at the position of the star with the systemic velocity.) In each of these three slit positions, we see a pair of convex arcs from each lobe. They are not closed at the ends, indicating open lobes out to at least $\pm 7''$ from the star. At the two offset positions, some emission appears to partially fill the interior of the lobes; this may simply be contamination from the very edges of the lobes due to seeing.

The bipolar axis is obviously tilted from the plane of the sky, with the west lobe moving toward us, and with velocities along the lobes that are proportional to distance from the star (Hubble flow). The pairs of convex arcs represent emission from the thin front and back walls of slightly barrel-shaped lobes. The difference between the pair in each lobe is about 30 km s$^{-1}$ for the slit passing through the star (Fig. 7b), but about 23 km s$^{-1}$ in the two offset positions; this is consistent with seeing the radial expansion along the bipolar axis, but only a projected component of it in the offset positions. If the expansion really is a Hubble flow, then the relationship between observed expansion velocities of the front and back sides of the lobes in Figure 7b compared to their apparent spatial size can constrain the dynamical age of the nebula for a given distance. If we assume axial symmetry—so that the lobes have roughly the same length-to-width ratio as in H$_2$ images (this seems justifiable based in the similar morphology in Figs. 7b and 12)—then one can stretch the PV plot in Figure 7b to have the correct aspect ratio. Figure 7b thus represents a slice through the structure of the nebula in the plane along our line of sight (see Smith [2006] for a more detailed explanation in the case of the
bipolar lobes of η Carinae). This yields a tilt of the polar axis from the plane of the sky for Hen 3-401 of roughly 15° (±5°). In that case, the lateral expansion speed of the lobes (the radial expansion speed perpendicular to the polar axis) is $V_{\text{exp}} \approx 15.5 (±1)$ km s$^{-1}$. In the images, the polar lobes have a width of roughly 2.5′, which corresponds to $3.7 \times 10^{11} (D_{\text{kpc}})$ km, where $D_{\text{kpc}}$ is the heliocentric distance in kiloparsecs to Hen 3-401. Thus, the age of the nebula would be only about 380 $D_{\text{kpc}}$ yr if the expansion has been ballistic. Assuming a distance of 3 kpc (Bujarrabal & Bachiller 1991) thus yields a nebular age of 1100 yr.

There is some weak H$_2$ emission coming from the star as well. In fact, the very weak central peak appears to show some extended structure, with a possible tilt—i.e., it is slightly blueshifted toward the east and redshifted toward the west, as shown in Figure 8 in an expanded view of the region around the central star. This may be emission from an inner ring or disk surrounding the central star. This same type of tilted structure from the central H$_2$ peak is also seen in similar spectra of the young PN M2-9. In fact, it is remarkable that all aspects of the overall kinematic structure of H$_2$ emission from Hen 3-401 in Figure 7b are almost identical to those of M2-9 (Smith et al. 2005). Even the lateral expansion velocity of the lobes is roughly the same as for M2-9. Although the apparent size of Hen 3-401 is smaller by a factor of $\sim 4.5$, it distance is larger by about the same amount, so the two objects have the same size, nebular age, and overall appearance. A detailed comparison of their central stars might therefore be quite illuminating.

At most positions, H$_2$ emission from the far side of the lobes is fainter than on the near side, especially where the far side is behind an area of bright emission on the near side. A similar effect is seen in M2-9, where it is probably due in part to extinction by dust in the lobes (Smith & Gehrz 2005). However, an asymmetry does appear in the brightness of the east-west lobes of Hen 3-401, with the brighter peak from the near side closer to the star in the west lobe, position $\approx 2''$, while in the east lobe it is at position $\approx 3''$; this is in accord with what is seen in the H$_2$ image (§3.2).

Slices in velocity across the positions $+3''$ and $-3''$ with width 0.26″ are displayed in Figure 9. Velocity widths of the arcs are narrower along the axis (Fig. 7b) than in the offset positions. This is due to projection effects in a Hubble flow. For a hollow cylinder

![Figure 8](image1.png)

**Fig. 8.—**Enlarged H$_2$ PV diagram of the region around the central star of Hen 3-401.

with walls of constant thickness, the path length through the walls reaches a minimum for a sight line passing through the polar axis, translating to the smallest spread in velocity.

These observations reveal a radial velocity for the system of $V_{\text{hel}}(H_2) = -24$ km s$^{-1}$ ($V_{\text{LSR}} = -36$ km s$^{-1}$), with $V_{\text{exp}} = 15$ km s$^{-1}$. These are in good agreement with the millimeter-wave CO $J = 1$–0 emission-line values of $V_{\text{LSR}}(\text{CO}) = -36$ km s$^{-1}$ with $V_{\text{exp}} = 16$ km s$^{-1}$ by Loup et al. (1990) [although Bujarrabal & Bachiller (1991) measured the somewhat different value of
4.2.3. Rob 22

Figure 10 shows the long-slit Phoenix spectra of Rob 22, with one slit positioned along the middle of the lobes through the center of the nebula (b) and offset slit positions on either side. The very weak H\textsubscript{2} emission and the complex continuum structure in the long-slit spectra indicate that even a narrowband F212N image is actually dominated by dust structures seen in reflected continuum light. This is true over most of the nebula, with the exceptions being the north and south ends of the polar lobes. In the center slit position (b) there appear to be two continuum sources separated by \( \sim 0.6'' \), with the northern one the brighter, while in the slit position to the west there is one continuum source. These are consistent with the H\textsubscript{2} image. These continuum sources likely represent light from the obscured central star scattered toward us by regions of enhanced density. The three panels show a slight positional offset in the emission pattern, in agreement with the S shape of the nebula.

The spectra of the nebula show very faint H\textsubscript{2} emission from two hollow expanding lobes with an ellipsoidal structure. The southern lobe is brighter and larger in H\textsubscript{2}, in agreement with the H\textsubscript{2} image. The nebula appears to have a polar axis very close to the plane of the sky, although the southern lobe is slightly blueshifted and thus tilted slightly toward us. The lateral expansion speed of the lobes (difference in velocity between the front and back of the south lobe) is approximately 30 km s\textsuperscript{-1}. Thus \( V_{\text{exp}} \approx 15 \text{ km s}^{-1} \) and \( V_{\text{rad}}(\text{H}_2) \approx +5 \text{ km s}^{-1} \), which transforms to \( V_{\text{LSR}} \approx -7 \text{ km s}^{-1} \). These are in general agreement with the OH maser measurement of \( V_{\text{LSR}(\text{OH})} = -6 \pm 3 \text{ km s}^{-1} \), \( V_{\text{exp}} = 20 \text{ km s}^{-1} \) (Allen et al. 1980; Silva et al. 1993). However, they differ from the molecular line CO \( J = 1-0 \) measurement of \( V_{\text{LSR}(\text{CO})} = -0.1 \text{ km s}^{-1} \), \( V_{\text{exp}} \sim 35 \text{ km s}^{-1} \) (Bujarrabal & Bachiller 1991), although the investigators commented on the severe galactic CO contamination in this direction.

5. DISCUSSION

5.1. IRAS 16594–4656

The PV diagrams for IRAS 16594–4656 indicate an expanding ellipsoidal nebula with its major axis nearly in the plane of the sky. This is a different orientation and morphology than had been concluded based on the visual images of the nebula. In the visual images (see Fig. 11a), the star appears bright and the southwest lobe(s) appears brighter and perhaps larger than the northeast lobe(s). This is in contrast to nebulae like AFGL 2688 (Egg Nebula), IRAS 17150–3224, IRAS 17441–2411, and Rob 22, in which the star is obscured and the two lobes look more symmetrical in size, suggesting that the polar axis is very nearly in the plane of the sky. Inspection of the visual images had previously led us to conclude that IRAS 16594–4656 was inclined at an intermediate orientation (\( \sim 30^\circ \)) with respect to the plane of the sky with the southwest lobe oriented in the direction of the observer (Su et al. 2001). Even the new H\textsubscript{2} image, with the southwest lobe appearing larger than the northeast lobe, suggests this, assuming symmetry in the lobes.

However, other more recent observations at other wavelengths support our conclusion based on kinematics that the axis of the main bipolar lobes, as delineated in the H\textsubscript{2} image, is nearly in the plane of the sky. A polarization study of this source (Ueta et al. 2005) indicates a hollow shell with reflection from the walls. The polarization structure is aligned with the major axis of the nebula, with low polarization perpendicular to this, suggesting the
presence of a dusty torus. A high-resolution mid-IR study clearly shows the limb-brightened ends of such a torus (Volk et al. 2006). The mid-IR image does not show the elliptical structure expected of a torus seen at an intermediate angle, but rather shows a bar with bright ends, consistent with a torus seen nearly edge-on. The bright mid-IR emission is located at the two ends of the pinched waist seen in the H$_2$ image, showing the presence of enhanced dust density which shapes the outflow. The approximately similar amounts of polarizations seen at opposite sides of the nebula are consistent with a nebula in which the bipolar axis is close to the plane of the sky rather than at an intermediate angle, and the authors suggest an angle of 15° with respect to the plane of the sky (Ueta et al. 2005). Thus both the polarization and mid-IR images are consistent with the result of this kinematic study, and the corresponding one of Van de Steene et al. (2008) that the bipolar lobes are aligned nearly in the plane of the sky.

The H$_2$ image shows limb-brightened lobes, consistent with the idea that they were carved out by collimated outflows. Based on the angular diameter across the lobes of 2.0'' and the measured $V_{\text{exp}} = 9$ km s$^{-1}$, one can calculate an approximate expansion age.

Fig. 11.—Images of IRAS 16594—4656 at various wavelengths: (a) F606W (V band; $\lambda_{\text{eff}} = 0.603$ μm, $\langle \Delta \lambda \rangle = 0.150$ μm); (b) F110W (H band); and (c) H$_2$ emission (from Fig. 3). Panel (d) is a color composite of the three, with blue representing the V band, green the J band, and red the H$_2$ emission. To better show the details in the central region, it is shown as an inset with the intensity scaled down by a factor of 10 and then displayed with a logarithmic scale.
for the lobes of $530 \times D_{\text{bip}}$ yr. Using the polar velocity determined using SHAPE, along with the angular diameter between the two ends of the bipolar lobes of $4.0^\circ$, leads to an expansion age of $740 \times D_{\text{bip}}$ yr. This leads to an estimated age for the lobes of $1400$–$1900$ yr, using a distance of $2.6$ kpc based on an assumed total luminosity of $10^7 L_\odot$ (Hrivnak et al. 2000).

Comparing the morphology of the nebula in different wavelength regions shows several striking features. In visible light (Fig. 11a), the nebula shows a basic bipolar structure, but with a series of three pairs of point-symmetric thin lobes. Thus at this wavelength it has been classified as point-symmetric and multipolar. Portions of several circumstellar rings are also seen (Hrivnak et al. 2001). In the $J$-band (Fig. 11b) the thin lobes are present and a portion of at least one ring is seen faintly. Seen more prominently, however, is a somewhat elliptical morphology extending from the northwest to the southeast that is also present in the visible image. However, it is not actually an ellipse, since the axes are not separated by $180^\circ$; the northwest lobe is at a position angle of $305^\circ$, and the southeast one is at $110^\circ$. The published $H$-band image is similar (Su et al. 2003), with the star relatively brighter compared to the fainter thin lobes. The $H_2$ image (Fig. 11c), in contrast, shows a clear bipolar, “peanut” morphology with shorter, more spherical lobes. The major axis is at a position angle of $75^\circ$ with the west lobe larger. Some of the structures that define these peanut-shaped lobes can be seen on close examination in the $V$ and $H$ images. Among these is the bright “cap” at the end of the eastern lobe. As mentioned earlier, the mid-IR images at 10 and $20 \mu$m reveal two bright regions just outside the pinched waist of the peanut. The mid-IR emission also faintly delineates the edges of the two peanut-shaped lobes seen in $H_2$. Volk et al. (2006), in comparing the mid-IR images to this $H_2$ image, concluded that the coincidence of the faint mid-IR emission with the $H_2$ emission from the walls of these lobes suggested that the mid-IR emission was likely partially shock heated. The walls of these peanut-shaped lobes are clearly outlined in polarized light (Ueta et al. 2007), agreeing with the position of the dust seen in the mid-IR.

In a composite image (Fig. 11d), we see the enhanced $H_2$ emission from the walls of the peanut-shaped bipolar lobes and the $H_2$ at the ends of the long, thin lobes. The nonuniformity in the emission from the walls may indicate lower density regions, through which jets may have carved holes from which the long, thin lobes may have emerged. This composite image also shows clearly several different structures seen in this object at different wavelengths, reinforcing the idea that the morphology of this nebula is more complex than simply symmetric bipolar lobes. It is more complex than either of the other PPNs of this study.

In their excellent study of this object, Van de Steene et al. (2008) used their long-slit $H_2$ spectra together with our spectra (from the archive) to produce channel maps and from these to determine a more detailed three-dimensional image of the shell structure of IRAS 16594–4656. While it basically consists of two hollow bipolar lobes joined at the waist, it is more complex, with some holes and extended structures (see their Fig. 8). These correspond to the brightness variations and the cap seen in our $H_2$ image. They also analyzed $[O \mathord{\hbox{I}}]$ and $[C \mathord{\hbox{II}}]$ emission lines, and making the reasonable assumption that these lines were produced in the same shock as the $H_2$ lines, they used these as diagnostics of the physical conditions in the shock region. From these, they deduce that the emission arises in very high density regions, $3 \times 10^6$ cm$^{-3} \leq n_e \leq 5 \times 10^7$ cm$^{-3}$. At these conditions of density, temperature ($T_{\text{rot}} \approx 1400$ K; Van de Steene & van Hoof 2003), and velocity (8 km s$^{-1}$), the excitation can be due to either C-type or J-type shocks (Van de Steene et al. 2008). They also made long-slit observations of the $[\text{Fe II}]$ 1.645 $\mu$m emission line, which indicate that this emission arises, not in the lobes, but from a wind close to the star.

5.2. Hen 3-401

This nebula is very highly collimated, with the lobes extending $\sim 14.5^\prime$ from the central star with a length-to-width ratio for each lobe of $\sim 7$. The lobes in this object do not appear to be closed, but rather have “tattered” ends. The PV diagrams show a Hubble flow in the velocity in the lobes. This can arise due to an eruptive ejection (ballistic motions) or (self-similar) hydrodynamic growth patterns (Balick & Frank 2002). The velocities show that the eastern lobe is tilted away from us and the western lobe toward us. From the complementary image and spectroscopy, an estimate can be made of the velocity at the ends of the lobes and the inclination angle of the bipolar axis. With the measured length of the open-ended lobes of $14.5^\prime$ and the width of $2.2^\prime$ (from the sharpened $V$ image; Sahai et al. 1999b), and the lateral lobe expansion velocity of $15.5$ km s$^{-1}$, one can calculate a minimum expansion velocity at the ends of the lobes of $\sim 200$ km s$^{-1}$. The PV diagram along the bipolar axis (Fig. 7b) shows that the velocity at the ends of the two lobes differs by 20 km s$^{-1}$ from that of the star. This implies an inclination angle of $\leq 6^\circ$ to the plane of the sky. This is somewhat smaller than we found from the appearance of the PV diagram in § 4.2.2, but both clearly indicate a small inclination angle.

In visible light, a “skirt” structure is seen surrounding the inner parts of the bipolar lobes and extending coaxially with the lobes for $\sim 3^\prime$ from the star (discussed by Sahai et al. [1999b]). This skirt also appears in the $H$-band image but not in $H_2$. This is seen in Figure 12. The western lobe is the brighter in scattered light, with brightness ratios in the different bands of 2.4 ($V$; Sahai et al. 1999b), 1.4 ($J$), and 1.4 (2.15 $\mu$m). If one assumes an intrinsic symmetry in the two lobes, then this suggests some obscuration by an extended equatorial disk. In contrast, the eastern lobe is brighter in $H_2$, with a ratio of 1.2. This may be a result of the differing local shock conditions in the nebula. There is a suggestion of a torus from the optical image (Sahai et al. 1999b) and from the polarization measurements (Scarrott & Scarrott 1995; Ueta et al. 2007). A recent high-resolution mid-IR imaging study shows that the mid-IR emission arises mostly from a $1^\prime$ core, with weaker emission arising from the walls extending out to about $3^\prime$ from the star (Muthumariappan et al. 2006). These authors suggest that the core contains a flared disk, based on the temperature gradient detected in the core.

In the $H$ band, the star is more prominent than in the visible and the inner region of the lobes is slightly less prominent. In visible light, there is a bright inner edge to the lobes, with enhanced light out to the ends of the skirt. This is also seen in the $H$ band but not the $H_2$ image. A faint halo is seen in both the visible and $H$-band images. The $H_2$ emission is particularly bright $2.0^\prime$–$5.5^\prime$ from the star. These different regions of brightness are seen in the composite image (Fig. 12d).

Based on the extremely large intensity ratio of the $H_2$ 1–0 S(1) to 2–1 S(1) line of 26 (García-Hernández et al. 2002), it is clear that the excitation mechanism is due to shocks. These presumably arise as the fast wind, which carved out the narrow lobes, produces shocks in the walls that excite the $H_2$. H$_2$ wings are observed to extend out to $\sim 1600$ km s$^{-1}$ (García-Lario et al. 1999b).

The young PN M2-9 is very similar to Hen 3-401 in visible appearance, as has been remarked on by García-Lario et al. (1999b) and also in its mid-IR appearance (although with not quite as...
Fig. 12.—Images of Hen 3-401 at various wavelengths: (a) F606W (\( \sim V \) band; \( \lambda_{\text{eff}} = 0.603 \, \mu\text{m}, \Delta \lambda = 0.150 \, \mu\text{m} \)); (b) F160W (\( \sim H \) band); and (c) \( \text{H}_2 \) emission (from Fig. 3). Panel (d) is a color composite of the three, with blue representing the \( V \) band, green the \( H \) band, and red the \( \text{H}_2 \) emission.
pinched a waist; Smith & Gehrz 2005) and its kinematics. It possesses smooth, almost cylindrical lobes, a bright central star, and a thin H$_2$ zone (Hora & Latter 1994; Smith et al. 2005). A recent study of winds driven by magnetic pressure from a toroidal field was able to reproduce well the morphology of these two objects (García-Segura et al. 2005).

5.3. Rob 22

The PV diagrams for Rob 22 show an expanding nebula with the H$_2$ emission arising from the ends of the lobes and the walls. The bipolar axis lies nearly in the plane of the sky with the south lobe expanding slightly toward us compared with the north lobe. Given the expansion velocity of $\sim 15$ km s$^{-1}$ and the angular size of the lobes of $\sim 2.0''$, this leads to a kinematic age of $\sim 320 \times D_{\text{kpc}}$ yr. For a distance of $\sim 2$ kpc (Allen et al. 1980), this yields an age for the lobes of $\sim 640$ yr.

In the visual image (Fig. 13a; Sahai et al. 1999a), the south lobe is brighter than the north lobe with a ratio of 1.6. In the near-IR, the north lobe is slightly brighter, with ratios of 1.05 in $H$ (F160W; Fig. 13b), 1.1 in 2.15 $\mu$m, and 1.2 in the H$_2$ image (Fig. 13c). If the reduced relative brightness in the south lobe in the $V$ band is due to extinction by the dense equatorial disk, then the disk would...
need to be extremely large if it were orthogonal to the axis of the outflow, which as we have seen is very close to the plane of the sky. It may be more likely that there is simply an intrinsic asymmetry in the lobes that contributes most of the difference.

If we compare the different images (Fig. 13), we see a strong point symmetry in the shape. Even at 7.7 and 8.7 μm this shape is seen (Muthu et al. 2004). Such a pattern can be formed by collimation of an outflow by a precessing disk. The H2 emission has wings to at least ±450 km s⁻¹ (Allen et al. 1980).

The V image shows a distinct dark band separating the lobes. In the H image, this dark lane is not so prominent, and a bright, compact clump appears. This bright clump is red but not point-like, and likely represents warm dust heated by the obscured central star. The nebula is brighter close to the star, with a particularly bright region northeast of the center of the nebula. A similar tral star. The nebula is brighter close to the star, with a particularly bright region northeast of the center of the nebula. A similar morphology to the H-band image is seen in a recent adaptive optics very high resolution (R ~ 0.06′′) K-band image obtained by Lagadec et al. (2008); this shows some finer detail and in particular a bright linear extension toward the southeast from the very bright region near the center, defining the southern part of the “V”-shaped central obscured region. The halo is evident in both the V and H images. A faint region in the north lobe (referred to as a “spur” by Sahai et al. [1999a]) is seen in both the V and H images, although in the V image it is outlined by emission farther out in the lobe while in the H image it is outlined by emission closer to the center. In the H2 image, the emission is particularly strong in the same region northeast of the center, with a less bright region on the other side (southwest) of the center. In addition, the H2 is particularly bright along the ends of the lobes. This can arise due to shock excitation produced as the collimated wind, which may have produced the S-shaped nebula, interacts with the AGB wind of the halo. Polarization measurements show scattering from the ends of the lobes, in addition to the presence of a equatorial dust torus (Ueta et al. 2007).

The faint region spur in the north lobe is evident in all three images. It is interesting that in the OH observations (Dyer et al. 2001), the more negative velocities arise from this faint region; perhaps it represents an evacuated hole punched through the nebula.

The OH emission appears to be confined primarily to the equatorial regions (Sahai et al. 1999a; Dyer et al. 2001; Zijlstra et al. 2001), where it may represent the expansion or rotation of a disk. The mixed C and O circumstellar chemistry might also suggest a disk, as this explanation has been advocated as the cause of the mixed chemistry in several other post-AGB objects, such as the Red Rectangle (van Winckel 2003). The detection of hot dust, manifested in the spectral energy distribution of this object (but not in the other two), is consistent with a disk. Or it may be that this object is in transition between an O-rich chemistry to a C-rich one, with the PAH emission arising closer to the star, as may be the case for PN with [WC] central stars.

5.4. Comparison with Other Spatial-Kinematic Studies of PPNs

A small number of other bipolar PPNs have also been studied spatially or kinematically in H2. We discuss these for comparison. AFGL 2688 (“Egg” Nebula) has been imaged using HST NICMOS (Sahai et al. 1998) and shows H2 emission from clumps in its spindle-shaped closed lobes, especially near their outer ends. This is consistent with the emission arising along the walls of the lobes. It also shows strong emission from an extended equatorial region. A kinematic study by Kastner et al. (2001) shows that the highest velocity H2 along the polar axis resides close to the star and that the velocity of the H2 decreases along the polar axis away from the star. They find a similar effect for AFGL 618. They interpret this as resulting from a faster collimated wind colliding with slower moving AGB material. The equatorial H2 shows one side to be blue- and the other redshifted, which Kastner et al. (2001) interpret indicating a combination of expansion and rotation. An alternate interpretation would be multiple bipolar jets along the equator (Cox et al. 2003) rather than rotation, and this seems to be the more likely explanation. This decrease with distance along the polar axis seen in AFGL 2688 and AFGL 618 is in contrast with what is seen in Hen 3-401. Hen 3-401 displays a clear trend of the H2 velocity increasing in velocity with distance away from the star, in accord with what one would expect from an unhindered ejection of material from the region of the central star.

Davis et al. (2005) recently made spatially resolved high-resolution (R ~ 20,000 or 16 km s⁻¹) H2 observations of four bipolar PPNs. They observed them with the spectrograph slit oriented along the bipolar axis and then offset slightly to each side, similar to our observing pattern for Hen 3-401 and Rob 22. In two of these objects, M1-2 and IRAS 17441 – 2411, one sees a distinct velocity difference between the two lobes (ΔVₜ₉ ~ 55 and ~10 km s⁻¹, respectively); for IRAS 17243 – 1755 H2 is detected only weakly from one lobe, and for IRAS 17150 – 3224 the two lobes have similar velocities (bipolar axis in the plane of the sky). For this last object, they also suggested that there may be rotation in the lobes based on systematic velocity differences seen in the offset positions.

Hrivnak et al. (2006) also studied IRAS 17150 – 3224 with higher spectral resolution, and they obtained a high-resolution (0.2′′) HST NICMOS H2 image. The image shows the H2 emission to come primarily from clumps near the ends of the lobes, but these are not resolved in the spectra, which basically show the integrated emission and velocity of the clumps. The two lobes have a similar velocity, as in the above study, with slight velocity differences in the offset positions due to small effects of the different H2 clumps rather than rotation.

As we have referred to previously, Van de Steene et al. (2008) also recently studied the kinematics of IRAS 16594 – 4656. They also observed with the Phoenix spectrograph on Gemini-South at even somewhat higher spectral and spatial resolution than we did. Their spectra show a similar picture of an expanding H2 ellipsoid with Fexp = 8 km s⁻¹. They combined their spectra with ours to produce a detailed three-dimensional image of the shell structure.

In none of these earlier studies does one see such clearly resolved spatial-kinematic structures as are seen in the new Gemini-South Phoenix data of IRAS 16594 – 4656, Hen 3-401, and Rob 22. In all three the emission from the walls of the lobes is clearly traced in the PV diagram. The small slit size and high spectral resolution, together with the high spatial resolution images, result in exceptional kinematic detail for a PPN.

6. SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

The high-resolution HST NICMOS H2 images of these three PPNs have allowed us to determine the spatial location of their H2 emission, and the spatially resolved H2 spectroscopic observations have allowed us to determine the kinematics of the H2-emitting regions. In all three cases, the systemic and expansion velocities are similar to those determined from the molecular line CO or OH measurements. We find the following results for these three PPNs.

*IRAS 16594 – 4656.*—While the V- and H-band images show a complex multilobe structure, the H2 images show a clear bipolar, peanut shape, although with variations in density (“holes”)
and structure (see Van de Steene et al. 2008). The H₂ emission originates along the walls of the lobes (sides and ends), with fainter emission from more distant (ejected?) clumps. The PV diagram shows the H₂ to arise in an expanding ellipsoidal velocity structure, which is in contrast to the bilobes of the density structure. The kinematics indicates that the bipolar lobes are nearly in the plane of the sky ($i \approx 10°$); this differs from the earlier interpretations of the lobes as being at some intermediate orientation, but it is consistent with recent mid-IR imaging and near-IR polarization studies. The lobes are estimated to have an age of $\sim 1600$ yr.

Hen 3-401.—The H₂ emission originates from the sides of lobes, which have open ends. The lobes are tilted somewhat to the plane of the sky ($\sim 10°$–$15°$), with the western lobe moving toward us, and they show an increasing velocity with radial distance (Hubble flow). An estimated age for the lobes is $\sim 1100$ yr. The open ends and unhindered outflow may be the consequence of its higher degree of collimation (greater linear momentum).

Rob 22.—The H₂ emission originates primarily from ends of the S-shaped nebula and from regions of the S shape near the obscured central star. The nebula is nearly in the plane of the sky, consistent with the absence of a visible star due to obscuration by a disk. An age of $\sim 630$ yr is estimated for the lobes.

H₂ surveys of PPNs have shown that H₂ emission is commonly found in those with a bipolar morphology. As can be seen from this study, the combination of H₂ high-resolution images and spatially resolved, high-resolution spectra provides valuable insight into the structure and shaping mechanisms for these bipolar nebulae.

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