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A CO molecular gas wind 340 pc away from the Seyfert 2 nucleus in ESO 420-G13 probes an elusive radio jet

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ABSTRACT

A prominent jet-driven outflow of CO(2–1) molecular gas is found along the kinematic minor axis of the Seyfert 2 galaxy ESO420-G13, at a distance of 340–600 pc from the nucleus. The wind morphology resembles a characteristic funnel shape, formed by a highly collimated filigree filamentary emission at the base, likely tracing the jet propagation through a tenuous medium, until a bifurcation point at 440 pc where the jet hits a dense molecular core and shatters, dispersing the molecular gas into several clumps and filaments within the expansion cone. We also trace the jet in ionised gas within the inner ≤ 340 pc using the [Ne ii]λ12.8μm line emission, where the molecular gas follows a circular rotation pattern. The wind outflow carries a mass of ~ 8 × 10³ M⊙ at an average wind projected speed of ~ 160 km s⁻¹, which implies a mass outflow rate of ~ 14 M⊙ yr⁻¹. Based on the structure of the outflow and the budget of energy and momentum, we discard radiation pressure from the active nucleus, star formation, and supernovae as possible launching mechanisms. ESO420-G13 is the second case after NGC1377 where the presence of a previously unknown jet is revealed due to its interaction with the interstellar medium, suggesting that unknown jets in feeble radio nuclei might be more common than expected. Two possible jet–cloud configurations are discussed to explain the presence of an outflow at such distance from the AGN. The outflowing gas will likely not escape, thus a delay in the star formation rather than quenching is expected from this interaction, while the feedback effect would be confined within the central few hundred parsecs of the galaxy.

Key words. ISM: jets and outflows – galaxies: active – galaxies: individual: ESO 420-G13 – submillimeter: ISM – galaxies: evolution – techniques: high angular resolution

1. Introduction

Feedback from star formation and active galactic nuclei (AGN) has been invoked to ease the tension between cosmological simulations of galaxy formation and evolution, and observations across all redshifts. Massive and fast outflows are rather common among luminous AGN, being detected in different gas phases and physical scales: from parsec-scale ultra-fast (0.1 c) outflows in X-rays to kpc-scale winds detected in atomic, molecular and ionised gas with velocities reaching or even exceeding 1000 km s⁻¹ (e.g. Fiore et al. 2017). By removing and/or heating the inter-stellar medium (ISM) such outflows may be able to suppress the star formation in the host galaxy. Indeed, simulations of massive galaxy formation in the past 15 years rely on the feedback effect from supermassive black holes (SMBHs) to reproduce the properties of massive galaxies observed in the local Universe (Springel et al. 2005; Bower et al. 2006; Croton et al. 2006; Silk & Mamon 2012; Dubois et al. 2013; Choi et al. 2015; Somerville & Davé 2015; Weinberger et al. 2018). From the observational point of view, however, it has yet to be established the overall impact that AGN-driven outflows cause to the star formation in their host galaxies.

Vast observational efforts in the last years have been dedicated to the detection and characterisation AGN winds in molecular gas (e.g. Cicone et al. 2012, 2014; Feruglio et al. 2010, 2013; Spoon et al. 2013; Dasyra et al. 2014; García-Burillo et al. 2015; Fiore et al. 2017; Cicone et al. 2018; Alonso-Herrero et al. 2018; Flquets et al. 2019; Rosario et al. 2019; Feruglio et al. 2019), producing a relatively large collection of individual sources. Recently, a compilation of 45 galaxies analysed by Flquets et al. (2019) showed that the outflow mass is largely dominated by the molecular and neutral gas in AGN galaxies, revealing also that the presence of an AGN strongly boost the mass outflow rates. However, essential aspects such as the overall occurrence of outflows in AGN host galaxies and the driving mechanisms of such outflows still remain unclear. In particular, the role of jets among moderate-to-low-luminosity AGN is not understood. Some examples where the presence of a jet is required to launch the observed outflows are NGC 1266 (Alatalo et al. 2011; Nyland et al. 2013), NGC 1068 (García-Burillo et al. 2014), IC 5063 (Morganti et al. 2015; Dasyra et al. 2016), and NGC 5643 (Alonso-Herrero et al. 2018). A clearer case was found in NGC 1377, due to the collimated morphology of the molecular gas wind (Aalto et al. 2012). According to theoretical predictions, jets are very efficient at delivering a large amount of energy and momentum at large distances from the active nucleus (e.g. Wagner et al. 2012; Fabian 2012). However, jet-driven outflows were identified by Flquets et al. (2019) only in a few powerful radio-loud AGN in their sample.

A systematic survey of outflows in a representative sample of galaxies is required to determine the occurrence of this phenomenon and to probe the overall impact of feeding and feedback in AGN, spanning a luminosity range that brackets the knee of the AGN luminosity function. While this is the aim of our ALMA “Twelve micron sample WInd STatistics” (TWIST) survey (see Section 2.1), in this study we report the first outflow detected in the nucleus of the Seyfert 2 galaxy ESO 420-G13, a
Southern target (α = 04h 13m 49.7s, δ = −32° 00′ 25″) located at D = 49.4 Mpc. This object has been classified as a Luminous InfraRed Galaxy (LIRG; L_{\text{IR}} \sim 10^{11} L_{\odot}, Sanders et al. 2003), showing a composite spectrum within the inner 1 kpc with a mixed contribution from Seyfert 2 emission and a post-starburst component, the latter characterised by an A-star dominant continuum (Thomas et al. 2017). On the other hand, the optical and near-infrared (near-IR) morphology is rather characteristic of an early type SA0 galaxy, with nuclear dusty spirals revealed in the mid-IR continuum (Asmus et al. 2014). For an integrated K band magnitude of 9.51 ± 0.08 mag taken from the HyperLeda database (Makarov et al. 2014), we estimate a supermassive black hole mass of about M_{\text{BH}} \sim 4 \times 10^{9} M_{\odot}, using the correlation in Kormendy & Ho (2013). Regarding the star formation, we derive a SFR = 6.1 ± 0.6 M_{\odot} yr^{-1}, using the PAH 11.3 μm flux given by Stierwalt et al. (2014) and the calibration by Diamond-Stanic & Rieke (2012), close to the ~ 12 M_{\odot} yr^{-1} derived from the [C ii]158 μm emission (De Looze et al. 2014; Sargsyan et al. 2014). A solid evidence for the presence of an AGN comes from the detection of high-excitation mid-IR fine-structure lines in the Spitzer/IRS spectra of ESO 420-G13 (Lebouteiller et al. 2015), since photoionisation by stars drops abruptly after the helium ionisation edge at 54 eV and thus cannot produce a significant amount of lines such as [Ne v]34, 32, 30, with 97.12 eV and [O iv]25, 30 μm with 54, 94 eV (e.g. Weedman et al. 2005; Armus et al. 2006; Goulding & Alexander 2009). At radio wavelengths there is bright non-resolved emission within the inner < 17″ (Condon et al. 1996; Condon et al. 1998). Still, ESO 420-G13 show a IR-to-radio ratio of q_{\text{IR}} = 2.7 (this work; q_{\text{IR}} definition from Ivison et al. 2010; Flquetsch et al. 2019), typical of starburst galaxies, while powerful radio-loud galaxies have q_{\text{IR}} \lesssim 1.8. In the X-rays, Torres-Albà et al. (2018) found a slight excess at 6.4 keV, but could not confirm the presence of a Fe Kα line.

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1. Flat-ACDM, H_0 = 73 km s^{-1} Mpc^{-1}, Ω_m = 0.27, ζ = 0.01205 (this work).
2. http://leda.univ-lyon1.fr

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#### Fig. 1: Left: the early-type galaxy ESO 420-G13 imaged by Spitzer/IRAC in the 3.6 μm continuum. Right: ALMA resolves the cold dust continuum at 1.2 mm into several knots defining a spiral pattern (background map). The nuclear disc is also revealed in the VLT/VISIR warm dust continuum at 12.7 μm adjacent to the [Ne ii]12.8μm emission line (black contours, starting from 2x rms with a spacing of ×10^{3}3; Asmus et al. 2014). The nuclear point-like source is possibly associated with synchrotron emission from the AGN, also detected at radio frequencies (Condon et al. 1996; Condon et al. 1998). The synthesised beam size is shown in the upper-right corner.

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2. Observations

2.1. A source from the TWIST survey

ESO 420-G13 is one of the galaxies included in the Twelve micron WInd StAtistics (TWIST) project (Fernández-Ontiveros et al. in prep.), a CO(2−1) molecular gas survey of 41 galaxies drawn from the 12 micron sample (Rush et al. 1993). Half of the sample was acquired in 27 h of observing time with the Atacama Large Millimeter/submillimeter Array (ALMA) interferometer (PI: M. Malkan; Programme IDs: 2017.1.0036.S, 2018.1.00366.S), located at Llano de Chajnantor (Chile), while the other half corresponds to data available in the ALMA scientific archive. The TWIST sample covers the knee of the 12 μm luminosity function of Seyfert galaxies in the nearby Universe (D = 10−50 Mpc), and thus the results obtained from TWIST will be representative of the bulk population of active galaxies. This is crucial to quantify the global AGN feeding and feedback and measure the time-averaged impact of these processes.
2.2. ALMA millimetre interferometry

ESO 420-G13 was observed with ALMA on December 8th, 2017 using the 12 m array (PI: M. Malkan; Programme ID: 2017.1.00236.S). The spectral setup was optimised for the CO(2–1) transition line in band 6, at 230.5380 GHz rest frequency (excitation temperature $T_{\text{ex}} = 16.6$ K, critical density $n_{\text{crit}} = 2.7 \times 10^4$ cm$^{-3}$), which was selected as an optimal mass tracer in terms of angular resolution and sensitivity. A velocity channel width of 2.4 km s$^{-1}$ and a total bandwidth of 2467 kHz were selected for the correlator setup. Additionally, two continuum bands at $\sim 1.2$ mm were acquired to trace the cold dust continuum, and a spectral band centred on the CS(5–4) at 244.9356 GHz. This line (with $T_{\text{line}} = 35.3$ K) traces denser gas and has a critical density typically three orders of magnitude higher than the CO(2–1) line. The data were calibrated using the Common Astronomy Software Applications package (CASA), pipeline v5.1.1-5, and the scripts provided by the observatory. These included the flagging of four antennae due to either a bad value in the system temperature ($T_{\text{sys}}$), amplitude outliers, or a spike in $T_{\text{sys}}$. Imaging and post-processing were done using our own scripts under CASA v5.4.0-70. The image reconstruction was performed using the standard hogbom deconvolution algorithm with briggs weighting and a robustness value of 2.0. This is equivalent to using natural weighting for the image reconstruction, and allows us to recover extended flux that might be filtered for lower robustness values, which give a larger weight to the most extended baselines. The beam size in the CO(2–1) spectral window is $0\farcs11 \times 0\farcs14$ at a position angle of PA = 108:5, which corresponds to $26.3 \times 33.5$ pc$^2$ at a distance of 49.4 Mpc. The field-of-view (FOV) has a diameter of $27\arcsec$ (≈ 6 kpc) and was covered using a single pointing. The largest angular scale that could be resolved in this antennae configuration is $0\farcs8$ (≈ 190 pc).

Average continuum images were also obtained for each of the two frequency side-bands, discarding those channels with either CO(2–1) or CS(5–4) line emission detection. The masking procedure for the continuum data was run interactively during the cleaning process. Additionally, a deeper continuum image at $\sim 240$ GHz (1.2 mm) was obtained by combining all the continuum channels within the four spectral windows (left panel in Fig. 1 and upper left panel in Fig. 2). The spectral datacubes of the emission lines were produced with a channel width of $\sim 10$ km s$^{-1}$ and a pixel size of $0\farcs02$. The emission line regions were automatically masked during the cleaning process in the spectral cubes using the “auto-multithresh” algorithm in tclean. The continuum emission was then subtracted in the spectral frequency domain – i.e. prior to the image reconstruction – using a zero degree polynomial between the adjacent continuum channels at both sides of the respective emission lines. Finally, the datacubes were corrected for the attenuation pattern of the primary beam. The rms sensitivity of the processed cubes is $0.02$ mJy beam$^{-1}$ in continuum and $0.5$ mJy beam$^{-1}$ for a $10$ km s$^{-1}$ line width.

2.3. Mid-infrared narrow-band imaging

ESO 420-G13 was imaged using the VISIR$^3$ instrument, installed at the Very Large Telescope on Cerro Paranal (Chile) during the night of January 19th, 2006 (programme ID: 076.B-0969). These observations include two narrow-band filters in the N band, NEII ($\lambda_c = 12.81 \mu$m, $\Delta\lambda = 0.21 \mu$m) and NEII 2 ($\lambda_c = 13.04 \mu$m $\Delta\lambda = 0.22 \mu$m), which were acquired using a chopping throw of $10\arcsec$ and a pixel scale of $0\farcs127$. The final reduced images, processed using the VISIR pipeline delivered by ESO$^4$ as described in Asmus et al. (2014), were taken directly from the Sub-Arc-Second Mid-Infrared Atlas of Local AGN (SASMIRALA$^5$). At a redshift of $z = 0.01205$ the NEII 2 filter contains the [NeII]2.8 um fine-structure line redshifted to 12.96 $\mu$m, while the adjacent NEII filter provides a measurement of the $\sim 12.5$–$12.7$ $\mu$m mid-infrared (mid-IR) continuum in the rest frame. Due to the similar width and transmission of the two narrow-band filters, we directly subtracted the continuum image from the line image. The difference in transmission between the two filters is of the order of the photometric error, i.e. about 5% as measured for the associated calibrators in the SASMIRALA atlas. Due to the lack of reference stars in the VISIR FOV, a reliable astrometric calibration for the mid-IR images could not be obtained. Therefore, we assume the position of the bright mid-IR nucleus to be coincident with that of the compact nuclear continuum source in the ALMA 1.2 mm map.

3. Results

At first sight ESO 420-G13 resembles an early type galaxy in the Spitzer/IRAC $3.6 \mu$m image (left panel in Fig. 1) with an inner kpc-size disc revealed by both warm and cold dust emission (right panel). The superior angular resolution of ALMA allows us to resolve the dust emission at 1.2 mm into three main components: a circumnuclear ring with $\sim 0\farcs8$ diameter (190 pc), an unresolved point-like source in the centre of this ring, and a kpc-size spiral structure. The latter is more prominent in the CO(2–1) intensity map (upper-right panel in Fig. 2), where the cold molecular gas can be traced at radii up to $\sim 1.1$ kpc away from the nucleus. The inner ring is presumably located at the inner Lindblad resonance, showing bright CO(2–1) emission possibly associated with active star formation. This is also the case for the bright 1.2 mm continuum spot on the North-East, which also has enhanced molecular gas emission. Inside the ring we detect diffuse line emission, however the lack of a bright knot in CO(2–1) is in contrast with the bright core found in the 1.2 mm continuum at the centre of the ring ($\sim 0.30 \pm 0.08$ mJy). This suggests that the millimetre radio emission from the nucleus could be non-thermal synchrotron radiation associated with the active nucleus. In this regard, a bright compact radio core was previously detected at 1.4 GHz by Condon et al. (1996), albeit at lower angular resolution ($17\arcsec$). Further radio observations at high-angular resolution would be required to probe the inner jet morphology and the synchrotron nature of the emission. The total CO(2–1) intensity integrated in the ALMA map is $260 \pm 2$ Jy km s$^{-1}$, which corresponds to a mass of $M_{\text{mol}} = (3.07 \pm 0.02) \times 10^4$ M$_{\odot}$, assuming optically-thick gas and $\alpha = 0.8$ M$_{\odot}$ (K km s$^{-1}$ pc$^2$)$^{-1}$, as in LIRG and ULIRG galaxies (Bolatto et al. 2013). This is in agreement with the upper limit of $< 10^9$ M$_{\odot}$ derived from previous single-dish observations (Elffag et al. 1996). Faint CS(5–4) emission is detected in the nucleus ($1.3 \pm 0.2$ Jy km s$^{-1}$) and tentatively also in two molecular gas clumps in the spiral arms with integrated fluxes in the $0.3$–$0.5$ Jy km s$^{-1}$ range.

3.1. A molecular gas wind

A remarkable wind has been detected thanks to its redshifted CO(2–1) emission extended along the kinematic minor axis of ESO 420-G13, within the inner kpc of the galaxy. It can be clearly distinguished in the mean velocity and sigma moment maps ob-

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$^3$ IR spectrograph and imager for the mid-infrared (Lagage et al. 2004).

$^4$ European Southern Observatory.

$^5$ http://dc.g-vo.org/sasmirala
Fig. 2. ALMA maps for the 1.2 mm continuum (upper left), CO(2–1) intensity (upper right), CO(2–1) average velocity (lower left), and CO(2–1) average velocity dispersion (lower right) maps for the Seyfert 2 galaxy ESO420-G13. The zoomed inset panels correspond to the grey square regions indicated in the corresponding maps. Contours in all panels correspond to the [Ne ii]12.8 µm line emission from VLT/VISIR (starting from 3×rms with a spacing of ×10^{N/4}). Assuming trailing spiral arms implies that the South-East extreme of the kinematic minor axis is the nearest point to us. The synthesised beam size is shown in the inset panels and in the upper-right corner of the lower maps.

tained from the spectral cube and shown in the lower panels of Fig. 2. The wind extends from ~ 1"5 to 2"5 away from the nucleus (340 pc to 600 pc) with projected velocities in the +50–250 km s^{-1} range, and presumably indicates the orientation of the central engine axis. Its locus with respect to the systemic velocity (3568 ± 7 km s^{-1}, this work) can be seen in the cube slices from 115 to 190 km s^{-1} shown in Fig. 3. The channel map reveals a characteristic funnel shape morphology (e.g. Privon et al. 2008; Wagner & Bicknell 2011), with a narrow filamentary emission starting at ∆α = -0"60, ∆δ = +1"65 (340 pc projected distance), at 115 km s^{-1}, elongated in the outflow direction, prior to a bifurcation point. At this forking point, the wind starts spreading further out perpendicularly to the direction of motion, developing a complex structure formed by filaments and several individual clouds that move faster along the cone axis and also with increasing distance from the nucleus. The width of the cone, measured in the direction perpendicular to the kinematic minor axis, ranges from the size of a beam/individual cloud (~ 20 pc) up to 200 pc in its widest point. This morphology is also traced by the sigma map in Fig. 2 (σ ~ 50 km s^{-1}).
Fig. 3. CO(2–1) channel maps from +115 km s\(^{-1}\) to +190 km s\(^{-1}\) (step of 15 km s\(^{-1}\); projected velocities) relative to a systemic velocity of \(v_{\text{sys}} = 3568 \pm 7\) km s\(^{-1}\) (this work). A complex filamentary emission on a gradually denser ISM is revealed within the outflowing wind, starting with a diffuse emission trail at \(\Delta \alpha = -0''60, \Delta \delta = +1''30\) (black arrow; projected distance of 340 pc from the AGN) followed by a jet-ISM impact point at \(\Delta \alpha = -0''80, \Delta \delta = +1''65\) (pink marker; projected 440 pc). After the bifurcation the wind expands developing a cone-like structure where the highest velocities are found along its central axis. The green-solid contours correspond to the integrated [Ne\(\text{ii}\)]\(12\)\(\mu m\) emission from VLT/VISIR (starting from \(3 \times \text{rms}\) with a spacing of \(\times 10^{N/4}\)). The black star indicates the position of the AGN in the 1.2 mm continuum map. The synthesised beam size is shown in the lower-right corner of the first panel.

To determine the position angle (PA) of the kinematic major and minor axes, we have modelled the galaxy rotation of the CO(2–1) gas using DiskFit\(^6\) (Sellwood & Spekkens 2015). This code applies a \(\chi^2\) minimisation to find a global model that fits the circular speed of the disc measured at different radii. In order to avoid over-fitting of non-axisymmetric components, only the rotation was considered here, thus radial flows or non-circular motions were not included in the fit. Furthermore we fixed the axis ratio at \(b/a = 0.96\) (from NED\(^7\) based on 2MASS images). The best-fit model has a \(PA = 57.8\pm0.1\) for the kinematic major axis, and a systemic velocity of \(v_{\text{sys}} = 3568 \pm 7\) km s\(^{-1}\). The rotation curve obtained is shown in the position-velocity (PV) diagram in Fig. 4 (pink line in top panel). The molecular gas motions within the innermost \(r \leq 0''4\) (95 pc) appear to be dominated by a nuclear ring or disc which coincides with the ring observed in both the dust continuum and the CO(2–1) intensity distribution (see insets in Fig. 2). Outside of the ring, the velocities drop by \(\sim 50\) km s\(^{-1}\) from \(r = 0''4\) to 1” at both sides of the major axis, as shown by the upper panel in Fig. 4, to increase again up to 80–100 km s\(^{-1}\) at \(\sim 1''5\) from the nucleus. This is also evident in the mean velocity map in Fig. 2. The secondary maxima in velocity occur at the intersection of the PV cuts along the major axis with the spiral arms, suggesting that streaming motions associated with the density waves in the galaxy disc alter the local velocity field in these regions.

\(\chi^2\) minimisation, defined in the kinematic local standard of rest frame (LSRK).

\(^6\) https://www.physics.queensu.ca/Astro/people/Kristine_Spekkens/diskfit/

\(^7\) The NASA/IPAC Extragalactic Database (NED) is operated by the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology, under contract with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.
The spectral profile of the total integrated CO(2–1) emission shown in Fig. 5 (upper panel) is dominated by the galaxy rotation, which has a larger contribution to the intensity in the blue side of the profile. The outflow has a minor contribution to the integrated intensity (< 3%), while it is easily identified in the slice of the CO(2–1) datacube along the kinematic minor axis (bottom panel in Fig. 5). The wind can be seen in the spectrum of a short slice extracted along the kinematic minor axis (1″ < Δx < 3″; orange dot-dashed line in Fig. 5, bottom-left panel), however the slit intersects only a small section of the outflow cone (see slit positions in the right panel of Fig. 5). Thus, the amplitude of the extracted spectrum is comparable to the interferometric artefacts in the map (see the negative residual at blueshifted velocities). An optimal extraction of the outflow spectrum can be performed using a 3D mask in the ALMA datacube, to select the outflow region in the spatial dimensions and isolate the wind from the rotating gas in the velocity dimension. The red contours in Figs 4 and 5 represent the different projections of the 3D mask on the PV diagram and the image plane, respectively, while the integrated spectrum is shown in Fig. 5 (red-solid line). No counter outflow is detected at the blueshifted side of the kinematic minor axis (< −3″ < Δx < −1″; blue-dashed line in Fig. 5) nor in the integrated spectrum of the opposite symmetric 3D mask (purple-dashed line). See Section 4 for a further discussion on this issue.

The integrated wind emission (7.0 ± 0.6 Jy km s⁻¹) translates into a molecular gas mass of (8.3 ± 0.7) × 10⁶ Mₖ, derived from the Solomon et al. (1997) formula and α = 0.8 M_k (K km s⁻¹ pc⁻²)⁻¹, typical of LIRG and ULIRG galaxies (Bolatto et al. 2013). As no information on the excitation and optical depth of the gas in the wind is available, it is unclear whether other α values, such as those found for IC 5063 (Dasyra et al. 2016), could be appropriate. If instead a Milky Way value of α = 4.3 M_k (K km s⁻¹ pc⁻²)⁻¹ is assumed (Bolatto et al. 2013), the derived mass would be significantly larger, of (4.5 ± 0.4) × 10⁷ Mₖ. For the case of optically thin emission, the wind mass would drop by a factor of ∼ 3 (e.g. Combes et al. 2013; Dasyra et al. 2016).

### 3.2. Extended ionised gas

The [Ne ii]λ3426 emission-line contours above 3× rms have been over-plotted on the moment maps in Fig. 2 and the channel maps in Fig. 3. The ionised gas distribution shows a central peak – possibly associated with the AGN – plus an elongated plume with an extension of about 1″ (240 pc) 3× rms along the North-West direction, coincident with the kinematic minor axis. The orientation of the ionised gas emission is surprisingly well aligned with that of the CO(2–1) outflow, as best seen in e.g. the 115 km s⁻¹ velocity slice (upper-left panel in Fig. 3). The Spitzer/IRS spectrum obtained by Lebouteiller et al. (2015) suggests that the continuum filter is not affected by contamination from PAH or blueshifted [Ne ii]λ3426 emission (see Fig. B.1).

At scales larger than the 3× 3 kpc² covered by the ALMA observations, ESO 420-G13 presents an extended tail of ionised gas towards the North-East and possibly the South-West, produced by the AGN and the star formation (Thomas et al. 2017). The far-IR lines observed by Herschel/PACS (Fernández-Ontiveros et al. 2016) show a brighter distribution along the kinematic minor axis (e.g. see the [O i]λ1455 line, the [O ii]λ1640, and the [C ii]λ1589 lines in Fig. C.1). The lower angular resolution in the far-IR (9′× 9′ per spaxel vs. 1″ seeing in the optical) does not explain this difference. No dust lanes that could explain this displacement are detected in the IRAC (Fig. 1) or the 2MASS archival images. A more efficient cooling of the diffuse rarefied gas through the far-IR lines (Osterbrock & Ferland 2006) needs to be examined using observations at higher angular resolution.

### 4. Discussion

#### 4.1. A wind revealing a jet

The results shown in Section 3 point out to the detection of a jet-related wind in ESO 420-G13, i.e., of a collimated outflow oriented along the minor axis of the galaxy and powered by the mechanical energy input from the AGN. In this picture, we interpret the extended [Ne ii]λ3426 emission as a collimated ionised wind associated with hot gas in the jet cavity. The structure of the molecular gas outflow further out resembles closely that of numerical simulations of jet-cloud interactions (Wagner & Bicknell 2011; Wagner et al. 2016). The jet percolates the porous ISM propagating through a tenuous medium until it collides with a denser molecular core and splits, leading to the apparent bifurcation. Fig. 3 shows a collimated, filamentary outflow starting at a projected distance of 340 pc from the nucleus and at relatively low velocities (115 km s⁻¹). At higher velocities, the outflow obtains a conical shape, with a starting point that is most likely associated with a dense jet-ISM impact point at 440 pc. The exterior of the dispersed gas cone has lower projected velocities than the interior of the cone, which is sensible if, e.g., part of the jet remains in its initial trajectory. The dispersed gas also moves faster (160–290 km s⁻¹; Fig. 3) with increasing distance from the impact point, which is sensible if energy is mainly transported near the jet front. Inversely, the narrow side of the cone shows relatively high velocity dispersion (≥ 50 km s⁻¹) when compared to the gas rotation (∼ 20 km s⁻¹), which could be explained by...
the effect of higher turbulence (Wagner et al. 2012) or higher ram pressure (in the case of a two-phase medium; Hopkins & Elvis 2010) in the clouds that first experienced the jet impact. Overall, overpressured jets can inflate a bubble within the ISM, bifurcate and cause conical winds and disperse the molecular gas into several clumps and filaments (Wagner et al. 2012). This picture is similar to that seen in the galaxy IC 5063 (Dasyra et al. 2016).

The cases of NGC 1377 and ESO 420-G13 suggest that unresolved jets might still have an important role in the feeding process even for non powerful radio galaxies. In NGC 1377 (Aalto et al. 2016), no radio emission was known at the time of the molecular wind detection. In ESO 420-G13, faint radio emission was seen, but its origin could not be linked to a jet. The molecular wind suggests the presence of a jet, which was most likely unresolved in previous radio observations (< 17′′, Condon et al. 1996; Condon et al. 1998). Overall, elusive jets like those seen in NGC 1377 or ESO 420-G13 can be detected through their interaction with the ISM. While in NGC 1377 a continuous outflow can be traced from the nucleus up to a distance of 150 pc at both sides along the jet axis, in ESO 420-G13 the molecular gas wind starts at 340 pc away from the nucleus, which could further strengthen the argument of the presence of a jet. At shorter radii the molecular gas shows regular rotation, while the morphology of the [Ne II]12.8μm emission suggests that and ionised wind might be present in the innermost few hundred parsecs. Future integral field spectroscopic observations at subarcsec resolution would be required to confirm the nature of the ionised wind. No counter-outflow is detected in the opposite direction of the redshifted molecular gas outflow. In the following Subsection, we propose geometries that could explain the jet-cloud interactions.

4.2. Jet-cloud configuration

Two main scenarios are explored to explain how the observed outflow could be driven by jet-cloud interactions. First, we consider a jet close to the galaxy minor axis, colliding with a cloud located far from the galaxy plane. The non-detection of a blueshifted counterpart is reasonable, since the chance to find a molecular cloud at a relatively high altitude is low. The existence of such a cloud even require out-of-equilibrium dynamical conditions, caused by e.g. a previous feedback episode or by a minor merger in the past. A previous outflow event could have been launched by SNe, or by the AGN radiation, or by former jet activity, as in e.g. the case of Centaurus A (Salomé et al. 2016). In this scenario, the molecular gas would have reformed as the relic outflow cooled down (Richings & Faucher-Giguère 2018). Thus, the current jet event could push further away the same material that was ejected in the past. Alternatively, the minor merger scenario could be supported by the high IR luminosity in ESO 420-G13 (∼ 10^{11} L_{⊙}), and the post-starburst features reported by Thomas et al. (2017) in the optical spectrum. This could also explain the existence of molecular gas clouds at a high altitude above the disc and the non-symmetric distribution of clouds in the opposite side. However, no stellar emission in the IRAC 3.6 μm associated with the minor companion has been detected (see left panel in Fig. 1). With the current dataset, we deem the past feedback event more likely than the past minor merger event.

In the second scenario, the jet is pushing molecular gas that belongs to the (thick) galaxy disc, at an intrinsically low altitude. For a jet moving nearly parallel to the disk due to precession, as
in the case of IC 5063, the jet does not really shatter until it hits a dense molecular core at 340 pc. At shorter radii the jet percolates the ISM through the inner circumnuclear ring, leading to the [Ne ii]$_{12.8 \mu m}$ emission in the low-density cavities. However, the outflow asymmetry is hard to justify. Otherwise, one can consider a jet emerging perpendicular to the galaxy disc, which then bends or precesses at a certain height and gets redirected towards the disc. This would explain why the innermost gas is unaffected. The [Ne ii]$_{12.8 \mu m}$ emission in this case would be also associated with the low-density ionised medium carved by the jet in the ISM. The one-sided wind would require an asymmetric jet bending, which is often observed in radio galaxies. However, the jet bending region is not identified in the CO(2–1) line maps. If the jet bent was caused by precession, the symmetric counter-jet would have likely generated a blueshifted outflow, since the disc is rich in molecular gas near the expected impact point. If the jet bent was linked to a collision with a molecular cloud, then this cloud is small or destroyed and, thus, non-detectable.

4.3 Energy and momentum balance

Another argument favouring the jet scenario comes from the comparison of the wind kinetic luminosity and the radio power of ESO 420-G13. The wind kinetic luminosity ($L_{\text{kin}}$) was computed from the product $\frac{1}{2}MV^2d^{-1}$, where $M$ is the mass of the gas in the wind, $V$ is the wind speed measured as the average speed of the outflow spectrum in Fig. 5 (160 km s$^{-1}$, projected velocity), and $d$ is the distance from the location of the driving mechanism. For a radio jet, this is equivalent to the jet-cloud impact point. In our computations, we always assume that the wind started away from the nucleus, not that it got transported from the nucleus to $\sim 340$ pc away. Considering that the jet-ISM interaction occurs near the forking point of the outflowing CO(2–1) emission (Fig. 3), then the average projected distance covered by the wind is $d \sim 100$ pc (0′/4). For an outflow mass of $(8.3 \pm 0.7) \times 10^7$ $M_\odot$ (see Section 3.1), we derive a mass outflow rate of $M \sim MV/d = 14 \pm 1 \times 10^3$ $M_\odot$ yr$^{-1}$, a kinetic luminosity of $L_{\text{kin}} = 1.1 \times 10^{39}$ erg s$^{-1}$, and a momentum rate of the accelerated gas of $MV = 1.4 \times 10^{44}$ erg cm$^{-1}$. The error in the mass outflow rate corresponds only to the propagated uncertainty of the CO(2–1) intensity measurement, while a larger uncertainty is expected from the assumed geometry and the adopted $\alpha$ value. Furthermore, these values should be considered as lower limits due to the projection effect. If an inclination angle of $i \sim 20^\circ$–$30^\circ$ is assumed, then the deprojected velocity would be of about 320–470 km s$^{-1}$, and the corresponding kinetic luminosity would be $\sim 4.9 \times 10^{41}$ erg s$^{-1}$. Note that we are not including the velocity dispersion to define the average velocity of the wind, as has been done in e.g. Fluttsch et al. (2019). Although this approach may be appropriate for a spherical wind, given the high collimation in our case we consider that including the turbulence of the wind would overestimate its average velocity.

We first compare these quantities with the kinetic and radiative power of the active nucleus in ESO 420-G13. In order to compute the radio power we used two different methods that provide lower and upper limits. The lower limit is derived by fitting the radio-to-IR spectral energy distribution (SED), compiled from NED in the 843 MHz to 70 $\mu m$ range (Fig. 6; Table A.1). The dust component was fitted using a modified black body (Casey 2012). Assuming that the synchrotron radiation from the nucleus dominates at low frequencies, this component was modelled using a broken power law with an exponential cut off (Rybicky & Lightman 2004), which is in agreement with the ALMA fluxes for the radio core (open circles in Fig. 6, not included in the fit). Using a standard $\chi^2$ minimisation method, a minimum radio power of $10^{39}$ erg s$^{-1}$ was found. The jet power, as computed from its radio emission, could be missing some of the energy deposited in a hot bubble that does pV work. An estimate of the total mechanical power is obtained from the calibration by Heckman & Best (2014) for a sample of $\sim 40$ radio galaxies, comparing the derived values of the work required to inflate the X-ray cavities observed in these galaxies with the monochromatic 1.4 GHz continuum flux of the nucleus (data from Cavagnolo et al. 2010, Birzan et al. 2008, and Rafferty et al. 2006). Following Heckman & Best (2014) we use a normalisation factor of $f_{\text{env}} = 4$, and a 1.4 GHz flux of 65 mJy (Condon et al. 1998; Table A.1) to estimate a total mechanical power of $\sim 4 \times 10^{42}$ erg s$^{-1}$ in ESO 420-G13. Therefore, the radio power differs from the wind kinetic luminosity by up to an order of magnitude, despite the wide range in the estimated jet power.

For a black hole mass of $M_{\text{BH}} \sim 4 \times 10^8$ $M_\odot$ (see Section 1), and an AGN luminosity of $L_{\text{AGN}} = 0.5\pm 1 \times 10^{44}$ erg s$^{-1}$ – that is 10–20% of the total IR luminosity based on the flux ratios of the mid-IR fine-structure lines observed by Spitzer/IRS ([Ne ii]$_{14.3 \mu m}$/[Ne ii]$_{12.8 \mu m} = 0.10 \pm 0.01$ and [O iv]$_{25.9 \mu m}$/[Ne ii]$_{12.8 \mu m} = 0.45 \pm 0.03$; Fernández-Ontiveros et al. 2016), the corresponding Eddington ratio is $\log(L_{\text{AGN}}/L_{\text{Edd}}) \leq -2.7$. This suggests that the active nucleus is likely in the radio or kinetic mode, thus favouring the jet scenario. Notably, ESO 420-G13 is not classified as radio-loud according to classical IR-to-radio flux ratios integrated over the whole galaxy ($q_{\text{IR}} = 2.7$, radio-loud have $q_{\text{IR}} \leq 1.8$; Ivison et al. 2010). Just considering the AGN contribution would lower $q_{\text{IR}}$ to values in the 1.7–2.0 range, thus the nucleus would be very close to the radio-loud domain if the radio emission is dominated by the AGN. Higher angular resolution observations ($< 1''$) at radio wavelengths are required to probe the jet morphology and constrain its power estimate.

4.4 Other wind drivers

How do we know that the wind is not triggered by AGN radiation? The AGN emission accounts only for $\sim 10$–20% of the galaxy’s bolometric luminosity, that is $L_{\text{AGN}} = 0.5\pm 1 \times 10^{44}$ erg s$^{-1}$. This is more than three orders of magnitude higher when compared to the X-ray luminosity, which could be instead dominated by star formation in the host galaxy (see Section 1). In case the wind was driven by radiation pressure from the AGN, its distance from the generating mechanism would be higher than before, i.e. $\sim 600$ pc (2.5). Thus, the wind mass flow rate and momentum rate would be $2.3 \times 10^{32}$ $M_\odot$ yr$^{-1}$ and $2.3 \times 10^{33}$ erg cm$^{-1}$, respectively. This momentum rate does not exclude the AGN as a potential driving mechanism, considering the estimated radiation pressure of $L_{\text{AGN}}/c = 1.7\pm 3.7 \times 10^{31}$ erg cm$^{-1}$ and the momentum boosting that can be achieved during some phases of energy-driven expansion (Cicone et al. 2014). Still, in this scenario it would be hard to explain why the molecular gas rotating close to the nucleus is not blown away.

Regarding the radiation pressure from stars, no clear sign of a local starburst – such as excess emission in the dust continuum – is detected near the outflow region. No significant excess of hot dust can be claimed either in the 12.8 $\mu m$ continuum image. Rather weak emission is seen in the 1.2 mm continuum map (see upper-left panel in Fig. 2), originating from three discrete knots in or near the area that the CO wind occupies. These regions all have comparable fluxes, in the 0.11–0.15 mJy range, contributing
up to a total of 0.48 ± 0.08 mJy. Even if all of the pertinent emission was originating from the cold dust instead of the jet-related synchrotron, none of these regions could produce more than 2.5% of the total cold dust emission, which is equal to 6.1 ± 0.3 mJy. The corresponding infrared luminosity fraction is 2 × 10^9 L⊙ (as L_IR for the entire galaxy is 8 × 10^{10} L⊙). From Kennicutt (1998), this translates into a local star formation rate (SFR) of 0.3 M⊙ yr^{-1}. Given that ~ 100 M⊙ are needed for one supernova (SN) event to take place, the probability is very low for a SN to be responsible for this wind. Alternatively, a population of (young) stars cannot drive the wind either. The area comprising the CO wind occupies 4% of the overall galaxy in the near infrared (JHKs 2MASS bands). The overall galaxy emission, which is comparable in the IR and in the optical bands and includes the AGN contribution, is (5.8 ± 1.3) × 10^{44} erg s^{-1}. The force exerted to the gas due to stellar radiation pressure, L_{stars}/c, would then be as high as 7.7×10^{32} erg cm^{-1}, significantly lower than the momentum rate of the gas (1.4 × 10^{34} erg cm^{-1}). Therefore, neither SNe nor stellar radiation can locally drive the wind.

4.5. Further evolution of ESO 420-G13

For a mass outflow rate of 14 M⊙ yr^{-1} and a total molecular gas mass of M_{mol} = (3.07 ± 0.02) × 10^{8} M⊙ (see Section 3), the depletion time would be of η = M_{mol}/M = 23 Myr at the current outflow rate. However the outflowing gas would not likely escape the galaxy, falling again to the central part. Therefore, the result of this interaction points to a delay of the star formation instead of a quenching, while most of the feedback effect is expected in the central few hundred parsecs of the galaxy. This is in line with the results from Flütsch et al. (2019). More violent AGN activity in the past would be required in order to explain the current evolutionary stage of ESO 420-G13.

5. Summary

In this work we present a collimated molecular gas outflow detected in the CO(2–1) transition using ALMA interferometric observations of the central 3 × 3 kpc^2 in the Seyfert 2 galaxy ESO 420-G13. The molecular gas outflow has a conical shape with ~ 20 pc width at the closest point to the nucleus up to 200 pc at the farthest point. It carries a molecular gas mass of ~ 8 × 10^{6} M⊙ yr^{-1} at an average projected velocity of 160 km s^{-1}, which translates into an outflow rate of ~ 14 M⊙ yr^{-1}. Based on the outflow structure and the energy and momentum balance, we conclude that this is a jet-driven wind powered by mechanical energy input from the AGN, becoming the second case after NGC 1377 in which the presence of a previously unknown jet is revealed through its interaction with the ISM. However, in ESO 420-G13 the molecular gas wind is detected very far from the AGN, at 340 pc (projected), traced only by [Ne ii]2.8 µm ionised gas emission at closer distances down to the nucleus. Two possible scenarios are proposed to explain the origin of such an outflow: i) an outer molecular cloud originated by previous jet activity or a minor merger event, then impacted by the current jet, or ii) a molecular cloud in the galaxy disc impacted by a jet, either propagating through the porous ISM or after a bent or a precession. The outflowing molecular gas detected will likely fall back into the galaxy, delaying instead of quenching the star forming process in the centre.

The case of ESO 420-G13 proves that moderate-luminosity jets in non-powerful radio galaxies can still play a main role driving molecular gas outflows in these objects. Deep and high-angular resolution data for CO lines, radio wavelengths, and ionised gas are required to reveal the presence of these jets. In this context, the TWIST survey will provide a census of similar jet-driven outflows in nearby galaxies, allowing us to move from individual galaxy studies to a robust statistical analysis of these phenomena.

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Appendix A: Radio to far-IR continuum fluxes

Table A.1. Far-IR to radio continuum fluxes for the nucleus of ESO420-G13. Flux measurements other than ALMA have been compiled from the literature and the NED database. The columns in the table correspond to the facility used for the continuum measurement, the observed frequency, the continuum flux density, the angular resolution of the observations, and the corresponding reference for the measurements. Note that the largest angular scale in the ALMA maps is 0′′.8, thus the measured flux should be considered as a lower limit to the integrated flux within the FOV (27′′).

| Telescope/instrument | Frequency (Hz) | Flux (Jy)     | Aperture       | Ref. |
|----------------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|------|
| PACS 70 µm           | 4.2029 x 10^{12} | 17.1 ± 0.3    | 6″3 x 5″5      | a    |
| PACS 100 µm          | 2.9294 x 10^{12} | 20.8 ± 0.5    | 7″4 x 6″8      | a    |
| PACS 160 µm          | 1.8052 x 10^{12} | 16.2 ± 0.3    | 12″3 x 10″5    | a    |
| SPIRE 250 µm         | 1.19553 x 10^{12} | 6.43 ± 0.07   | 18″5 x 17″5    | b    |
| SPIRE 350 µm         | 8.56739 x 10^{11} | 2.44 ± 0.05   | 25″3 x 23″7    | b    |
| SPIRE 500 µm         | 5.87111 x 10^{11} | 0.76 ± 0.03   | 37″0 x 34″1    | b    |
| ALMA 241 GHz         | 2.41108 x 10^{11} | > 1.7 x 10^{-3} | ~ 27″        | c    |
| ALMA 241 GHz         | 2.41108 x 10^{11} | (340 ± 60) x 10^{-6} | 0″8 x 0″10   | c    |
| ALMA 227 GHz         | 2.26605 x 10^{11} | > 1.3 x 10^{-3} | ~ 27″        | c    |
| ALMA 227 GHz         | 2.26605 x 10^{11} | (250 ± 40) x 10^{-6} | 0″09 x 0″11  | c    |
| VLA 1.4 GHz          | 1.425 x 10^{9}    | (65 ± 2) x 10^{-3} | 16″6 x 17″5   | d    |
| SUMSS 843MHz         | 8.43 x 10^{8}     | (85 ± 3) x 10^{-3} | ~          | e    |

Notes. (a) Herschel/PACS Point Source Catalog. (b) Herschel/SPIRE Point Source Catalog. (c) This Work. (d) Condon et al. (1998). (e) NED database.

Appendix B: Transmission of VISIR narrow-band filters

Fig. B.1. Transmission profile of the VISIR narrow-band filters NEII (grey line) and NEII_2 (orange line). The Spitzer/IRS high-resolution spectrum from Lebouteiller et al. (2015) suggests that contamination from PAH emission is not present within the inner kpc (green-solid line, right axis). A blueshifted emission line with ~1000 km s^{-1} (dotted vertical line) would find the same transmission in both narrow-band filters, and therefore would not appear in the continuum-subtracted map.
Appendix C: Optical vs. far-IR fine-structure lines

Fig. C.1. The ALMA CO(2-1) mean velocity map is compared to the extended [O III]$_{5007}$ Å line emission (green contours), the Herschel/PACS IFU spectra for the [O I]$_{63}$µm far-IR fine-structure line (square insets in the upper-left panel), the [O III]$_{88}$µm line (upper-right panel), and the [C II]$_{158}$µm line (lower panel). The optical datacube was taken from the Siding Spring Southern Seyfert Spectroscopic Snapshot Survey (Thomas et al. 2017) and was aligned to the ALMA data assuming the peak of the stellar optical continuum to coincide with the unresolved 1.2 mm radio core. As shown by Thomas et al. (2017), the [O III]$_{5007}$ Å emission morphology is asymmetric and extended along PA $\sim 30^\circ$. Note the lower angular resolution of the PACS data ($9\arcsec 4 \times 9\arcsec 4$ per spaxel element, only the central and neighbouring elements from the $5 \times 5$ array are shown here. [O I]$_{63}$µm, [O III]$_{88}$µm, and [C II]$_{158}$µm fluxes are in Jy (see scale in the left inset panel of the middle row), normalised to the value indicated in the upper left corner of each frame, to ease the comparison among different frames.