A SPECTROSCOPIC AND PHOTOMETRIC STUDY OF THE PLANETARY NEBULAE Kn 61 AND Pa 5

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ABSTRACT

We present the first morpho-kinematical analysis of the planetary nebulae Kn 61 and Pa 5 and explore the nature of their central stars. Our analysis is based on high-resolution and medium-resolution spectroscopic observations, deep narrow-band imaging, and integral photometry. This material allows us to identify the morphological components and study their kinematics. The direct images and spectra indicate an absence of the characteristic [N II] and [S II] emission lines in both nebulae. The nebular spectrum of Kn 61 suggests a hydrogen deficient planetary nebula and the stellar spectrum of the central star reveals a hydrogen-deficient PG 1159-type star. The [O III] position velocity diagram reveals that Kn 61 is a closed, empty, spherical shell with a thin border and a filamentary surface expanding at 67.6 km s\(^{-1}\) and the shell is currently not expanding isotropically. We derived a kinematic age of \(\sim 1.6 \times 10^4\) yr for an assumed distance of 4 kpc. A photometric period of \(\sim 5.7(\pm 0.4)\) days has been detected for Kn 61, indicating the presence of a possible binary system at its core. A possible link between filamentary spherical shells and PG 1159-type stars is noted. The morphology of Pa 5 is dominated by an equatorial toroid and faint polar extensions. The equatorial region of this planetary nebula is expanding at 45.2 km s\(^{-1}\). The stellar spectrum corresponds to a very hot star and is dominated by a steep blue rising continuum and He II, Balmer, and Ca II photospheric lines.

Key words: ISM: kinematics and dynamics – planetary nebulae: individual (Kn 61, Pa 5) – techniques: imaging spectroscopy – techniques: photometric

1. INTRODUCTION

In the present study, we analyze the characteristics of two planetary nebulae (PNe), namely, Kn 61, which has a nearly perfect spherical shape, and Pa 5, which presents a toroidal structure with faint polar extensions. We also explore the possibility that these PNe host binary cores, as has been suggested by Long et al. (2013), Kronberger et al. (2011), Douchin et al. (2012), and Jacoby et al. (2010).

PN Kn 61 (nicknamed the Soccer Ball Nebula) was discovered by Kronberger et al. (2011). A high-quality optical image in the combined light of [O III] \(\lambda 5007\) Å and H\(\alpha\) has been published by the GEMINI observatory (http://www.gemini.edu/node/11656). Of particular interest is that this object lies within the Kepler field. Long et al. (2013) report brightness variability with a possible periodicity up to \(\sim 6\) days from Kepler data. The composite [O III] and H\(\alpha\) Gemini image (see Figure 1 of Douchin et al. 2012) reveals a predominantly bright [O III] filamentary spherical shell. The central star of Kn 61, also known as SDSS J192138.93+381857.2, has a magnitude of \(u = 18.66(\pm 0.01), g = 18.03(\pm 0.01),\) and \(r = 18.48(\pm 0.01)\). The (uncertain) distance has been assumed to be 4 kpc (http://www.gemini.edu/node/11656), from the GEMINI note on the object, mentioned above, though, given its angular size of nearly 110 arcsec, it is possible that it could be slightly closer.

Pa 5 was discovered by D. Patchick (Jacoby et al. 2010). This nebula also lies within the Kepler field. Østensen et al. (2010), using low-resolution spectroscopy in the spectral range 3500–5300 Å, found that the central star of Pa 5, J19195+4445, is very hot. They identify C IV and He II lines in the 4640–4686 Å region in the stellar spectrum as being indicative of the PG 1159 class. In addition, they find a period of 1.12 days using the Kepler data. The origin of variability of the central star (\(\sim 0.002\) mag) is reported as unknown. Kronberger et al. (2006) have classified Pa 5 as a probable bipolar PN. In direct images (DSS) it looks like a bipolar, but only the northeast lobe is apparent and the opposite lobe is much fainter.

In order to improve our understanding of these two PNe contained within the Kepler field, we present new spectroscopic and CCD imaging and photometric results for the nebulae and their central stars. This work combines results from data sets obtained at the Observatorio Astronómico Nacional at San Pedro Mártir, B. C., México (OAN-SPM) and from the Special Astrophysical Observatory 6 m telescope (SAO-RAS).

The structure of the paper is as follows. In Section 2, we describe the observations and the data-reduction steps. In Section 3, we discuss the results. In Section 4, we summarize the conclusions of this work.

2. THE OBSERVATIONS

Tables 1 and 2 display the information relative to the observing runs, divided into instruments with respective dates, exposure times, number of spectra, and spectral range. All data were reduced using standard procedures in IRAF\(^3\) to bias correct, cosmic rays extract, and wavelength calibrate the one- and two-dimensional spectra.

2.1. Optical Imaging and Photometry

The monochromatic images of Kn 61 and Pa 5 were obtained on 2012 August 3 for Kn 61, and on 2013 August 9 for Pa 5, using the Mexman CCD photometer on the 84 cm telescope at the OAN-SPM. We used the ESOPO CCD detector with

\(^3\) IRAF is distributed by the National Optical Astronomy Observatory, which is operated by the Association of Universities for Research in Astronomy, Inc. under cooperative agreement with the National Science Foundation.
Table 1
Log of Time-resolved Observations of Kn61

| Date       | Spectroscopy medium resolution/2.1m OAN-SPM |
|------------|--------------------------------------------|
| DD/MM/20YY | No. of frame | Exp. time (s) | Range Å | Resolution Å |
| 11/08/13   | 1           | 1200         | 4000–7000 | 4.2           |
| 12/09/12   | 2           | 1200         | 4560–5750 | 2.0           |
| 17/07/12   | 3           | 1200         | 4000–7000 | 4.2           |
| 16/07/12   | 1           | 1200         | 4560–5750 | 2.0           |
| 09/06/12   | 6           | 1200         | 4560–5750 | 2.0           |

Table 2
Log of Time-resolved Observations of Pa5

| Date       | Spectroscopy medium resolution/2.1m OAN-SPM |
|------------|--------------------------------------------|
| DD/MM/20YY | No. of frame | Exp. time (s) | Range Å | Resolution Å |
| 16/07/12   | 1           | 1200         | 4000–7000 | 4.2           |
| 18, 20, 24/07/12 | 17       | 1200         | 4250–5500 | 2.0           |
| 12, 14, 15/06/12 | 17       | 1200         | 4550–5750 | 2.0           |
| 10, 12, 08/13  | 3          | 1200         | 4000–7000 | 4.2           |
| 11/08/13    | 1           | 1200         | 4700–5700 | 2.0           |
| 13, 14, 15/08/13 | 22       | 1200         | 4450–5600 | 2.0           |

2.2.2. Medium Resolution

2.2.2. Medium Resolution

The data were obtained using the Manchester Echelle Spectrometer (MES-SPM; Meaburn et al. 2003) on the 2.1 m telescope in its f/7.5 configuration. The MES-SPM is a long-slit, echelle spectrometer that has no cross-disperser; it isolates single orders using interference filters. For the present observations, we used two filters of 90 Å and 50 Å bandwidths to isolate the 87th and 114th orders containing the \( \text{H}\alpha+\text{[N II]} 6584 \text{ Å} \), and \([\text{O III]} 5007 \text{ Å} \) nebular emission lines, respectively. This instrument was equipped with a Marconi CCD detector with 2048 × 2048 square pixels, each 13.6 \( \mu \text{m} \) on a side. The detector was set to a binning of 3 × 3 in both the spatial and spectral directions.

We used a 150 \( \mu \text{m} \) slit of 1′′×5′′ projected width and length, respectively. The resultant spectral dispersion was approximately \( 0.26 \text{ Å} \) pixel\(^{-1} \) and \( 0.19 \text{ Å} \) pixel\(^{-1} \) at \( \text{H}\alpha \) and \([\text{O III]} 5007 \text{ Å} \), respectively (equivalent to \( \sim 11.5 \text{ km s}^{-1} \)). For Kn 61, we placed the slit at a position angle \( \text{P.A.} = 0^\circ \) and through the central star of the nebula (see Figure 1). For Pa 5, we placed the slit along the bright elongated structure whose axis is oriented at \( \text{P.A.} = 50^\circ \) (see Figure 2). A second exposure along the axis defined by the lobes was obtained, but it turned out of poor signal to noise due to thick clouds. Images of the slit projected on the sky were obtained to establish the exact position of the slit on the target. Wavelength calibration against the spectrum of a Th/Ar lamp was obtained after each science exposure, which yields an accuracy of \( \pm 1 \text{ km s}^{-1} \) when converted to radial velocity. Spectra presented in this work are corrected to heliocentric velocity \( (V_0) \). The bi-dimensional \( \text{H}\alpha \) and \([\text{O III]} 5007 \text{ Å} \) emission line spectra or position–velocity \( (P–V) \) arrays are shown in Figures 3 and 4 for Kn 61 and Pa 5, respectively.
used. In all observations the slit was oriented east–west and on the central star for each PN. The exposure time was 1200 s per spectrum. An He-Ne-Ar comparison lamp was obtained after every third spectra to ensure good wavelength calibration. For flux calibration, a standard star was observed at the end of the night, taken from the list of Landolt (1992) and Bohlin et al. (2001).

Figures 5 and 6 are mosaics of the stellar and nebular spectra for Kn 61 and Pa 5, respectively, taken from OAN-SPM. The left panels show medium-resolution spectra of the central star, while the right panels show the nebular spectra. Panels (a) and (b) were taken with the 600 l mm\(^{-1}\) grating, while panels (c) and (d) were taken with the 1200 l mm\(^{-1}\) grating. The 1200 l mm\(^{-1}\) grating spectra shown in these figures were averaged over a single night of observation to improve the signal to noise. The spectra for the nebulae were extracted from the full length of the slit that covers the nebulae.

**SAO-RAS.** Medium-resolution spectroscopic data of Kn 61 were recently obtained at the Special Astrophysical Observatory 6 m telescope on 2013 September 12, using the SCORPIO spectrograph (Afanasiev & Moiseev 2005) installed at the prime focus of the SAO 6 m telescope of the Russian Academy of Sciences in the long-slit unit mode. In this mode, the slit dimensions are 6’ long \(\times\) 1” wide. We used the CCD detector EEV42–40 and the grism VPHG 1200 g (1200 lines mm\(^{-1}\) with a spectral dispersion of 0.88 Å pixel\(^{-1}\)). Three spectra were taken in the spectral range between 3900 Å and 5700 Å. The standard star (BD28d4211) was observed for flux calibration. The calibrated spectra are shown in Figure 7.

### 3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

#### 3.1. Kn 61

Figure 1 shows the images of Kn 61 in [O\textsc{iii}] and H\(\alpha\). We did not detect any emission in [N\textsc{ii}] 6584 Å or in [S\textsc{ii}] 6717, 6731 Å in our images. The [O\textsc{iii}] image shows a highly filamentary bubble. The H\(\alpha\) image is extremely faint, showing some limb brightening at the border. The outline of the bubble in the [O\textsc{iii}] and H\(\alpha\) images covers the same area. In other hydrogen-deficient nebulae, such as A30 (e.g., Meaburn & López 1996) and A78 (e.g., Meaburn et al. 1998), the faint hydrogen shell clearly extends beyond the [O\textsc{iii}] shell, indicating that the latter was expelled in a late thermal flash once the hydrogen layer of the central star had been consumed and the hydrogen-rich envelope had already expanded. In the case of Kn 61, the nebular emission points toward an already hydrogen-impoverished shell as it left the asymptotic giant branch (AGB).

The echelle long-slit spectra of the nebular shell of Kn 61 (see Figure 3) confirm the same peculiar line emission ratios in the sense that the H\(\alpha\) emission line is extremely faint and the [N\textsc{ii}] lines are absent whereas [O\textsc{iii}] is bright. The line profiles (see Figure 3) indicate that Kn 61 is a closed, hollow, spherical shell with a thin border. The filamentary surface is revealed in the [O\textsc{iii}] line profile by the knotty structure along the thin border of the profile. From the [O\textsc{iii}] \(P - V\) array, we find that the velocity splitting at the center of the profile amounts to 135.3 km s\(^{-1}\) with the blueshift component at \(V_{\odot} = -93.0\) km s\(^{-1}\) and the redshift component at \(V_{\odot} = +42.3\) km s\(^{-1}\). This yields an
expansion velocity of 67.6 km s$^{-1}$, which is high for PNe like this (Pereyra et al. 2013). The systemic heliocentric velocity, as measured from the midpoint between the line splitting, is $-25.4(\pm 2)$ km s$^{-1}$. A departure from perfect spherical or isotropic expansion is indicated by a small but definitive tilt in the line profiles. This tilt runs from $-29.73$ km s$^{-1}$ in the south (bottom of the profile) to $-12.07$ km s$^{-1}$ (top) in the north. This must be produced by a slightly anisotropic expansion of the bubble, i.e., receding velocities in the northern part dominate over the approaching ones in the southern section of the bubble, with respect to the systemic velocity. If this trend continues, it is then expected that Kn 61 will become an elongated nebula, tending to an elliptical shape with time. A crude estimate of the kinematic age for the nebula is calculated considering that the angular diameter of the nebula is $104''$. For an assumed distance of 4 kpc, its linear radius is 0.96 pc. Considering as constant the expansion velocity quoted above, this yields a kinematic age for the bubble of $1.6 \times 10^4$ yr.

Likewise, the medium-resolution nebular spectrum for Kn 61 (Figure 5, righthand panels) shows only [O III] 4959, 5007 Å, Hα, and very weak HeII 4686 Å and Hβ nebular emission lines. The sky lines have been removed. The nebular medium-resolution spectrum from the SAO-RAS (Figure 7, right panel) confirms the previous results for the corresponding wavelength ranges. A list of the main emission lines and their fluxes are presented in Table 3. The nebular spectrum of Kn 61 does not show measurable [O III] 4363 Å for either of the [N II] lines. No other diagnostic line ratios are available within this wavelength range, therefore it is not possible to derive electron temperature or electron density and, consequently, ionic abundances. It is interesting to notice, however, that the low Hα/Hβ flux ratio measured seems to indicate that Kn 61 is at least partially optically thin to Lyman photons (e.g., Osterbrock, 1974), which would contribute to explain the very faint Hα emissivity of this nebula.

### Table 3 Fluxes of the Main Emission Lines

| ID | Wavelength Rest $F_{\lambda}$/F(Hβ) measured | ID | Wavelength Rest $F_{\lambda}$/F(Hβ) measured |
|----|--------------------------------------|----|--------------------------------------|
| He II | 4685.68 | 0.88 | H I | 4340.47 | 0.53 |
| O III | 4958.93 | 4.27 | He II | 4685.70 | 1.27 |
| O III | 5006.85 | 14.42 | Ar IV | 4711.33 | 0.24 |
| H I | 6562.82 | 2.69 | Ar IV | 4740.19 | 0.18 |
| O III | 4958.93 | 1.35 | O III | 5006.85 | 4.16 |
| O I | 4651.17 | 0.14 | He II | 5411.57 | 0.14 |
| H I | 6562.82 | 2.94 | |

3.1.1. Central Star of Kn 61

Figure 5 (left panels) shows the spectra from OAN-SPM of the central star of Kn 61. The spectrum has been binned $\times 4$ in the spectral axis to improve signal to noise and help highlight photospheric lines. The stellar spectra show lines characteristic of a Group 3 = lg E (low-gravity central star) class of PG 1159
star (e.g., Parthasarathy et al. 1998), revealed by the absorption line at CIV 4647 Å and the double emission lines also from CIV 5801, 5812 Å. These lines are more clearly appreciated in the medium-resolution stellar spectrum of Kn 61 obtained at SAO-RAS (see Figure 7, left panel). The later spectrum for the central star indicates the presence of an emission line at 4713 Å which is likely a nebular contamination from either HeI or [ArIV], as it is sometimes observed in other PG 1159 stars (Parthasarathy et al. 1998). Additionally, the CIV 4647 Å absorption line is detected. The PG 1159 stars are considered to be very hot, hydrogen-deficient post-AGB stars. In a recent survey of such stars detected in the Data Release 10 of the Sloan Digital Sky Survey (Werner et al. 2014), seven stars are of PG1159 type with spectra similar to the central star of Kn 61. A particularly close resemblance is found between the spectra of the central star of Kn 61 and SDSS J075415.12+085232.18, a PG1159 star with 120,000 K, log g = 0.33, and C/He = 0.33, where the CIV 4647 Å has also been identified.

We have monitored the photometric behavior of the central star of Kn 61 for 2–3 hr each night for 16 consecutive nights. No strong amplitude or periodic variability beyond the natural data scatter on the order of 0.028 mag was detected on such short timescales. Therefore, the photometric data were averaged for each night and the resulting light curve covering 16 nights was analyzed for the presence of a periodic signal using the Period04 program. The latter employs a discrete Fourier transformation technique to calculate the power spectra and spectral window corresponding to the analyzed time series. This produced a statistically significant peak at a frequency of 0.176 days$^{-1}$ in the power spectrum (see Figure 8, left panel), which corresponds to a period of 5.7(±0.4) days. The semi-amplitude of variability is $A = 0.02$ mag and is comparable with the root mean square (rms) of individual nightly light curves before averaging. Similar analysis on two field stars of comparable brightness proved that the periodic signal is authentic and far exceeds random noise. The significance level corresponding to 99% is indicated in Figure 8 by a horizontal dashed line. In addition, we frequency folded the power spectrum within the spectral window, which helps to sort out the alias periods produced by uneven time series. The result confirms a strong, single peak at the indicated timescale.
Figure 6. Panels (a) and (b): OAN-SPM one-dimensional stellar and nebular spectra of Pa 5, respectively, taken with a 600 l mm$^{-1}$ grating. Panels (c) and (d): OAN-SPM one-dimensional stellar and nebular spectra of Pa 5, respectively, taken with the 1200 l mm$^{-1}$ grating.

Figure 7. SAO-RAS spectra. Left panel: stellar spectra of SDSS J192138.93+381857.2. Right panel: nebular spectrum of Kn 61.
frequency. The light curve folded with the determined period is presented in the right panel of Figure 8. The best-fit $\sin \alpha$ curve with the $A = 0.0176$ amplitude around the average magnitude $m_e = 18.674$ is also plotted. The phase zero is set arbitrarily to the moment when the object has an average brightness. The error bars in Figure 8 (right panel) reflect the rms of individual points around each night’s average and they far exceed statistical errors of aperture photometry.

Long et al. (2013) analyzed the light curve of the central star of Kn 61 and found cyclical variability which might be periodic on timescales from two to six days. Our result does not contradict their non-conclusive findings. The object requires longer monitoring and more uniform observations to determine the origin of the variability.

It is interesting to note, however, that for more than a couple of decades, binary nuclei in PNe have been suggested as being responsible for shaping non-spherical, axis-symmetric, or point-symmetric nebulae (e.g., Lívio & Soker 1988) and as a source of their collimated outflows. Kn 61 does not display collimated outflows and it is close to spherical symmetry. However, if the central star of Kn 61 is a binary, its possible orbital period of $\approx 6$ days is relatively long compared to other binary central stars of planetary nebulae (CSPN). The majority of close binary CSPN have usually periods of only a fraction of a day (De Marco 2009). A longer period means that the secondary is relatively distant, leading to reduced chance of interaction between stars and thus reduced influence on the nebular shape and collimation of an outflow.

It is also of interest to compare Kn 61 with the PNe NGC 7094 and A43 (Rauch et al. 2005). These PNe have a very similar morphological structure to Kn 61, i.e., they are both roughly spherical filamentary bubbles and in both cases their central stars are classified as hybrid-PG 1159 type (Solheim et al. 2007). They also display high expansion velocities, $\gtrsim 50$ km s$^{-1}$. These stars are thought to have experienced a late thermal pulse while they were still on the AGB and hydrogen-shell burning was still on, yet they are able to keep small amounts of atmospheric hydrogen. We have drawn the images and spectra of these PNe from the San Pedro Mártir Kinematic Catalogue of Galactic Planetary Nebulae (López et al. 2012) and these are reproduced in Figure 9. Note the remarkable similarity with Kn 61 in both the images and the bi-dimensional line profiles. In these cases, the H$\alpha$ line is bright, in contrast with Kn 61. The [N ii] lines are also absent in both cases, as in Kn 61 (see López et al. 2012). Pereyra et al. (2013) found from an analysis of 100 evolved PNe that those objects located at the point of maximum temperature in the evolutionary tracks, right before their luminosity starts dropping toward the white dwarf region, exhibit a lack of [N ii] emission. The lack of [N ii] is a consequence of the small fraction of nitrogen in the singly ionized state. This, in turn, follows from the high ionization levels of the nebula due to a very hot central star that photoionizes most of the N into doubly and triply ionized states. The relation between soap bubble shapes, i.e., highly filamentary spherical bubbles, and the PG 1159-type stars is puzzling and is noted here for the first time.

### 3.2. Pa 5

Figure 2 shows the corresponding images for Pa 5. We did not detect any emission in [N ii] 6584 Å or in [S ii] 6717, 6731 Å in our images. The [O iii] and H$\alpha$ images show a bright bar that looks like an equatorial structure with a faint lobe extending perpendicular to it toward the northeast. A much fainter extension is barely appreciated on the opposite side. The slit was located along the bright structure. The $P - V$ arrays (see Figure 4) from this position confirm that this structure has an expanding doughnut-like or toroidal shape, expanding at 45.2(±2) km s$^{-1}$ and with a systemic velocity of 12.4(±2) km s$^{-1}$. The H$\alpha$ line profile looks filled close to the top and bottom cusps, indicating that the toroid has a thick inner wall (see Figure 2, right panel). Unfortunately, weather conditions precluded us from obtaining a second slit position along the polar extensions that would have help characterized the likely bipolar structure, as suggested by Kronberger et al. (2006). In a study of PNe with close binary nuclei, López et al.
Figure 9. Images and long-slit spectra of NGC 7094 and A43 taken from the SPM Kinematic Catalogue of Galactic Planetary Nebulae, http://kincatpn.astrosen.unam.mx/. Note their similarity in both images and spectra with Kn 61.

(2011) find that the large majority of these objects tend to have equatorial density enhancements likely produced by the ejection of the envelope along the equatorial plane after the common envelope phase. If the nucleus of Pa 5 is confirmed as a close binary system (see below), its morphology would agree with this characteristic.

The one-dimensional medium-resolution nebular spectra of Pa 5 are shown in Figure 6 (panels (b) and (d)). The emission lines Hα, [O III] 5007, 4959 Å, Hβ, Hγ, He II 4686, 5412 Å, and [Ar IV] 4740, 4711 Å stand out in the spectra. A list of the main emission lines and their fluxes are presented in Table 3. As for Kn 61, the [O III] 4363 Å line is too weak to measure and the [N II] lines are absent; thus, it is therefore not possible to derive a reliable electron temperature in the available wavelength range. For the case of the electron density, the [Ar IV] lines are present and their line ratio indicates an electron density of the order of $1100(\pm200) \text{ cm}^{-3}$, assuming an electron temperature of $10^4 \text{ K}$. This relative high density is reasonably consistent with the fact that the spectrum comes from the dense waist or equator of this PN.

3.2.1. Central Star of Pa 5

Østensen, et al. (2010), using low-resolution spectroscopy in the spectral range of 3500–5300 Å, found that the central star of Pa 5, J19195+4445, is a very hot star and they identify it as belonging to the PG 1159 on the basis of the presence of C IV and He II close to 4686 Å. The spectra for the central star of Pa 5, shown in Figure 6 (panels (a) and (c)), reveal the presence of lines from the Pickering series He II 4200, 4541, 4686, 5412 Å, Hβ, Hγ, and Ca II 5889 Å, but we do not detect the C IV lines so we are unable to confirm the PG 1159 nature of this star.

In addition, Østensen et al. (2010), using the Kepler data, find a period of 1.12 days for the central star of Pa 5. They report a very small amplitude of only 0.05% in terms of the significance of the variability and consider the origin of the variability as unknown. Although we attempted to measure radial velocity
and photometric variations over several nights, the period of this object being close to one day precludes observing different phases from a single ground-based telescope and we could not detect any orbital modulation.

4. CONCLUSIONS

Kn 61 is a highly filamentary bubble with a high expansion velocity, $67.6 \text{ km s}^{-1}$. Kn 61 does not show emission in [N II] and [S II] due to a very hot central star that photoionizes most of the N into doubly and triply ionized states. The Hz emission is extremely faint in comparison to $\text{[O III]}$, showing some limb brightening at the border of the nebula. The nebular and stellar double emission lines also from C IV of the N into doubly and triply ionized states. The H$\alpha$ lines, though the H$\beta$ as that of Kn 61. None of these nebulae present $\text{[N II]}$ emission lines, though the Hz emission is bright in NGC 7094 and A43, whose nebular spectrum has the same kinematic behavior as that of Kn 61. None of these nebulae present $\text{[N II]}$ emission lines, though the Hz line emission is bright in NGC 7094 and A43, in contrast to Kn 61. NGC 7094 and A43 have central stars of hybrid-PG 1159 type, they both are pulsators (Solheim et al. 2007), and they present He II/C IV $4650–4686 \text{ Å}$ and more prominent Balmer lines in the associated nebula. These objects, including Kn 61, are likely mature nebulae located in the region of maximum temperature in their corresponding evolutionary tracks in the Hertzsprung–Russell diagram, just before their luminosity starts dropping toward the white dwarf region. The lack of $\text{[N II]}$ emission is a characteristic of PNe in this stage of evolution, since low-ionization states are pumped to higher levels and this is also where the largest expansion velocities are observed, as pointed out by Pereyra et al. (2013). The possible link between filamentary bubbles and PG 1159-type stars is noted for the first time and requires additional analysis. From the CCD photometry performed on the central star of Kn 61, we obtained a light curve with an orbital period for the system of $\sim 5.7(\pm 0.4)$ days, which coincides with preliminary Kepler data presented by Long et al. (2013) and indicates the possible presence of a binary core, though longer monitoring and uniform observations are required to exclude other explanations, such as variations driven by pulsations. Although Kn 61 is close to having a spherical outline or shape, a deviation from spherical symmetry and isotropic expansion has been detected in the long-slit spectra. A crude kinematic age for the bubble yields $1.6 \times 10^4 \text{ yr}$.

Pa 5 does not show [N II] and [S II] emission lines either. Its morphology is dominated by a dense equatorial toroid and faint polar extensions. The $\text{[O III]}$ and Hz $P–V$ arrays show that equatorial enhancement is thick, sitting at a systemic velocity of $12.4(\pm 2) \text{ km s}^{-1}$ and expanding at $45.2(\pm 2) \text{ km s}^{-1}$. The central star is very hot, showing prominent He II $\lambda 4541, 4686, 5412 \text{ Å}$, H$\beta$, and Ca II $\lambda 5889 \text{ Å}$ absorption lines. Kepler data have yielded a period of 1.12 days for the central star with a very small amplitude (Østensen et al. 2010), but the origin of this variability remains unknown. Our CCD photometry and spectroscopy could not confirm any orbital modulation in this case.

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