Galaxies in dense environments, such as groups and clusters, experience various processes by which galaxies gain and lose gas. Using data from the SDSS-IV MaNGA survey, we previously reported the discovery of a giant (6—8 kpc in diameter) Hα blob, Totoro, about 8 kpc away from a pair of galaxies (Satsuki and Mei) residing in a galaxy group that is experiencing a group—group merger. Here, we combine interferometric 12CO(1—0) molecular gas data, new wide-field Hα, u-band data, and published X-ray data to determine the origin of the blob. Several scenarios are discussed to account for its multiwavelength properties, including (1) Hα gas being stripped from the galaxy Satsuki by ram pressure, (2) a separated low-surface-brightness galaxy, (3) gas being ejected or ionized by an active galactic nucleus (AGN), and (4) a cooling intragroup medium (IGM). Scenarios (1) and (2) are less favored by the present data. Scenario (3) is also less likely as there is no evidence for an active ongoing AGN in the host galaxy. We find that the CO (cold) and Hα (warm) gas coexist with X-ray (hot) structures; moreover, the derived cooling time is within the regime where molecular and Hα gas are expected. The coexistence of gas with different temperatures also agrees with that of cooling gas in other systems. Our multiwavelength results strongly suggest that the CO and Hα gas are the product of cooling from the IGM at its current location, i.e., cooling has occurred, and may be ongoing, well outside the host-galaxy core.

Unified Astronomy Thesaurus concepts: Galaxy groups (597); Galaxy interactions (600); Cooling flows (2028); Active galactic nuclei (16)
natural consequence of clustering of galaxies is frequent interactions between galaxies and the environment in which they live (e.g., Fernández-Trincado et al. 2014). Such interactions can stimulate the gain and loss, and heating and cooling of gas in various ways and control the star formation processes in galaxies. For example, interaction between galaxies can potentially trigger nuclear activity and nuclear starbursts that generate energetic gas outflow/winds to the environments (e.g., Larson & Tinsley 1978; Silk & Rees 1998; Springel et al. 2005; Ellison et al. 2008; Hopkins et al. 2008; Fernández-Trincado et al. 2014). Further, when a galaxy moves at a high speed through a high-density region, a complex hydrodynamical interaction of its interstellar medium (ISM) and the surrounding hot intracluster/intergalactic medium takes place. A large fraction of gas could be removed from a galaxy if the ram pressure is strong enough to overcome the gravitational force (Gunn & Gott 1972). These gas removal processes can lead to the interruption of star formation activity.

On the other hand, fresh supplies of gas can sustain star formation in galaxies. Galaxies can gain gas through accretion of small companions (Bond et al. 1991; Lacey & Cole 1993). Moreover, cold gas can form from the cooling of the hot intracluster medium (ICM) or intragroup medium (IGM) and be accreted to galaxies (Egami et al. 2006; O’Dea et al. 2008). Such a process can rejuvenate early-type and SO galaxies by supplying gas into their centers.

In our previous paper (Lin et al. 2017, hereafter Paper I), we report the discovery of a giant ionized gaseous (Hα) blob associated with a dry merger system (i.e., mergers between two early-type galaxies; Figures 1(a) and (b) reside in a galaxy group, Figure 1(c)). The ionized gaseous blob is offset from both of galactic nuclei. The gaseous blob might be a result of galaxy interactions, active galactic nucleus (AGN) activity, or a galaxy interacting with or being accreted by the dry merger. In any of these cases, we may be witnessing an ongoing gain and/or loss of gas in these galaxies.

The Hα blob was identified from the first-year MaNGA survey (Mapping Nearby Galaxies at APO; Bundy et al. 2015), part of SDSS-IV (Blanton et al. 2017). The Hα blob (nicknamed “Totoro”) is ∼3–4 kpc in radius and is ∼8 kpc away (in projection) from the host galaxy MaNGA target 1-24145 (or MCG+10-24-117, nicknamed “Satsuki”; 17°15′23″26′′, +57°25′58″36′′, stellar mass $M_* \approx 10^{11} M_\odot$). There is no distinct optical continuum counterpart at the position of Totoro. The mass of the ionized gas is $8.2 \times 10^4 M_\odot$ (Paper I). The SDSS image indicates that the host galaxy Satsuki has a companion galaxy (nicknamed “Mei”) located to the southeast of Satsuki (Figure 1(b)). The companion is also within the hexagon bundle field of view (FoV; ∼32′/5 in diameter) of MaNGA. These two galaxies are at similar redshifts ($z \approx 0.03$), with their line-of-sight velocity differing by ∼200 km s$^{-1}$. Both galaxies are elliptical and thus form a dry (gas-poor) merger, also known as VII Zw 700.

On the large scale, the dry merger (Satsuki and Mei) is located at the overlap region of a group–group merger (O’Sullivan et al. 2019). Satsuki and Mei are associated with the less massive northern component, while the nearby large elliptical galaxy NGC 6338 is the brightest galaxy of the more massive group (Figure 1(c)). The dry merger (Satsuki and Mei) and NGC 6338 are separated by ∼42 kpc in projection and by ∼1400 km s$^{-1}$ in velocity. The two merging groups are expected to form a galaxy cluster in the future. The merger velocity of the two groups is as large as 1700–1800 km s$^{-1}$, making this one of the most violent mergers yet observed between galaxy groups (O’Sullivan et al. 2019).

Our Hα blob Totoro has also been observed by O’Sullivan et al. 2019 using the APO 3.5 m telescope (see their Figure 10), but only the high-luminosity, main blob region was detected. O’Sullivan et al. (2019) also show that the Hα gas of NGC 6338 consists of three diffuse filaments in the southeast and northwest quadrants, extending out to ∼9 kpc from the nucleus. The Hα filaments have also been revealed in previous observations by the Hubble Space Telescope and the CALIFA survey (Martel et al. 2004; Pandge et al. 2012; Gomes et al. 2016). Moreover, O’Sullivan et al. (2019) show that both NGC 6338 and VII Zw 700 contain potential X-ray cavities, which would indicate past AGN jet activity. In addition, both systems are observed to contain cool IGM.

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29 Calar Alto Legacy Integral Field Area Survey (Sánchez et al. 2012).
structures correlated with the $\text{H}_\alpha$ emission (see also Pandge et al. 2012).

We diagnosed the physical properties of Satsuki and Totoro using MaNGA data in Paper I:

1. **Kinematics**: the ionized ($\text{H}_\alpha$) gas component reveals that there is a moderate velocity variation ($\lesssim 100$ km s$^{-1}$) from the position of Satsuki along the connecting arms to Totoro, but there is no velocity gradient across Totoro itself, and the velocity and velocity dispersion across the blob are low ($\lesssim 100$ km s$^{-1}$; Figure 7 of Paper I).

2. **Excitation line**: the Baldwin–Phillips–Terlevich (BPT) emission-line diagnostics (Baldwin et al. 1981) indicate $\text{LI}$(N)ER-type excitations for Satsuki and a composite (LI (N)ER–H II mix$^{30}$) for Totoro.

3. **Gas metallicity**: metallicity$^{31}$ of the gas around Satsuki is close to the solar value; on the other hand, the metallicity of Totoro is higher than that of Satsuki by 0.3 dex.

Several possibilities for Totoro were raised in Paper I, including (1) the gas being ram-pressure-stripped from Satsuki, (2) a galaxy interacting with the dry merger (Satsuki and Mei), and (3) gas being ejected or ionized by an AGN associated with Satsuki. However, the data in Paper I are not sufficient to provide strong constraints on the nature of Totoro.

In this paper, we present new observations of this system and determine the most plausible origin of Totoro. Our new observations include:

1. **Wide-field $\text{H}_\alpha$ image**: to reveal the distribution of ionized gas at larger scale (i.e., beyond the FoV of the MaNGA bundle).

2. **$u$-band observation**: to constrain the ionizing source, i.e., star formation or not, and to search for the possible continuum counterpart of the $\text{H}_\alpha$ blob, and

3. **Molecular gas in $^{12}$CO(1–0)**: to constrain the amount and distribution of cold, i.e., potentially star-forming, gas.

Moreover, in addition to the scenarios raised in Paper I, O’Sullivan et al. (2019) argue for the “cooling gas” hypothesis in Satsuki; therefore, we also use

1. **X-ray data** from O’Sullivan et al. (2019) to constrain the properties of the surrounding hot medium.

The paper is organized as follows. Section 2 describes the observations and our data reduction. The results are presented and discussed in Section 3. In Section 4, we summarize our results and list our conclusions.

Throughout this study, we assume a cosmology with $\Omega_m = 0.3$, $\Omega_\Lambda = 0.7$, and $H_0 = 70$ km s$^{-1}$ Mpc$^{-1}$. We use a Salpeter stellar initial mass function.

$^{30}$ Shocks can also lead to line ratios occupying the composite regions. However, the analysis of shock and photoionization mixing models of Paper I shows that the shocks are unlikely to be the dominant mechanism that is responsible for the ionization of Totoro.

$^{31}$ Most of the metallicity calibrators can only be applied to those regions in which ionization is dominated by star formation and may not be applicable to regions with ionization parameters or ISM pressure different from typical H II regions. In Paper I, we adopted the “N2S2Hα” calibrator, which is suggested to be less sensitive to the ionization parameters (Dopita et al. 2016). However, caution is still needed when interpreting the derived metallicity.

### 2. Data

#### 2.1. MaNGA

MaNGA, the largest integral field spectroscopy (IFS) survey of the nearby universe to date, observed ~10,000 galaxies with a median redshift ($z$) of 0.03. The details of the MaNGA survey, the integral-field unit (IFU) fiber system, the sample selection, observing strategy, and the data reduction and analysis pipelines are explained in Drory et al. (2015), Wake et al. (2017), Law et al. (2015, 2016), and Westfall et al. (2019), respectively, and also summarized in Paper I.

The MaNGA data used in this work were reduced using the MPL-7 version (corresponding to SDSS data release 15: Aguado et al. 2019) of the MaNGA data reduction pipeline. An earlier version of the pipeline (MPL-4) was used for Paper I. The differences between the pipeline products of MPL-4 and MPL-7 are negligible for the current work. The spectral-line fitting is carried out using the Pipe3D pipeline (Sánchez et al. 2016, 2016). Details of the fitting procedures are described in Sánchez et al. (2016, 2016) and summarized in Paper I. The method described in Vogt et al. (2013) is used to compute the reddening using the Balmer decrement at each spaxel.

#### 2.2. Wide-field $\text{H}_\alpha$ Data

Deep optical images were taken at the prime focus of the 6 m telescope of the Special Astrophysical Observatory of the Russian Academy of Sciences (SAO RAS) with the SCORPIO-2 multimode focal reducers (Afanasiev & Moiseev 2011). A narrowband filter AC6775 (the central wavelength $\text{CWL} = 6769$ Å, the bandwidth FWHM $= 15$ Å) covers the spectral region around the redshifted $\text{H}_\alpha$ emission line. Two middle-band filters, FN655 ($\text{CWL} = 6559$ Å, FWHM $= 97$ Å) and FN712 ($\text{CWL} = 7137$ Å, FWHM $= 209$ Å), were used to obtain the blue and red continuum images. We combined the data taken during two nights, 2017 March 05/06 and 06/07, with seeing of 1.3–1.75. The total exposure time depended on the filter FWHM: 7800, 1300, and 780 s in the filters AC6775, FN655, and FN712, respectively. The detector, CCD E2V 42–90 (2K × 4.5K), operated in the bin 2 × 2 readout mode, provides a 0.635 px$^{-1}$ scale in the 6$'$1 field of view.

The data reduction was performed in a standard way for SCORPIO-2 direct image processing with IDL-based software (see, for instance, Sitnik et al. 2015). The underlying stellar continuum from the $\text{H}_\alpha$ image was subtracted using the linear combination of the images in filters FN655 and FN712. The astrometry grid was created using the Astrometry.net project web interface$^{32}$ (Lang et al. 2010).

We emphasize that the purpose of the wide-field observation is to reveal the distribution of $\text{H}_\alpha$ gas outside of the MaNGA FoV, in particular, to look for a potential tidal tail(s) on the other side of Totoro. To be in line with the measurements and discussions in Paper I, the MaNGA $\text{H}_\alpha$ map will be used by default throughout this paper, and the wide-field $\text{H}_\alpha$ map will be used only where specifically mentioned in the text. The flux of the new narrowband image has been calibrated by the MaNGA spectral-line data to avoid systematic errors related to narrowband filter calibration (e.g., only one standard star per night, mismatch between the redshifted lines and a peak of the filter transmission curve, etc.). This forces the flux of the

$^{32}$ [http://nova.astrometry.net/](http://nova.astrometry.net/)
narrowband image to be consistent with that of MaNGA spectral-line data.

2.3. u-band Data

The u-band observation was taken with the wide-field imaging facility MegaCam with a 1° field of view at the Canada–France–Hawaii Telescope (CFHT) from 2017 April 27 to June 24 (PI: L. Lin; project ID: 17AT008). The total exposure time is 12,000 s. The MegaCam data were processed and stacked via MegaPipe (Gwyn 2008). The final image has a limiting magnitude of 26.3 mag (1° aperture in radius).

2.4. Molecular Gas (CO) Data

We mapped the $^{12}$CO($J = 1 \rightarrow 0$; 115.2712 GHz emission with the NOthern Extended Millimeter Array (NOEMA) at Plateau de Bure (PI: L. Lin; project ID: S16BE001). The full width at half power of the primary beam of each NOEMA antenna at the $^{12}$CO(1–0) frequency is $\sim$50″, sufficiently large to cover Satsuki, Mei, and Totoro. The observations were spread across 11 nights from 2015 May 25 to July 18 with five or seven antennas in D configuration. The total on-source-time is $\sim$22 hr. The shortest possible baseline length is $\sim$24 m, and therefore sources larger than about 15″ might be resolved out. Nonetheless, in Section 3, we will see that the distribution of molecular gas matches the H$\alpha$ extremely well.

Data reduction, calibration, and imaging were performed with the CLIC and MAPPING software of GILDAS using standard procedures. Images were reconstructed using natural weighting to preserve maximum sensitivity. The resultant synthesized beam is $3\prime\prime\times 2\prime\prime\prime$ (PA = 73.3°), with an effective beam size of $2\prime\prime\prime\times 8\prime$ The aim of the observation is to constrain the amount of molecular gas traced by $^{12}$CO(1–0); therefore, a relatively low spectral resolution (53.6 km s$^{-1}$) was proposed to maximize the detection probability. The rms noise in the $^{12}$CO(1–0) cube is 0.31 mJy beam$^{-1}$ per 53.6 km s$^{-1}$.

Figure 2 shows the $^{12}$CO(1–0) spectrum integrated over Totoro and the connecting arms, outlined by a dashed ellipse with an area of 210 arcsec$^2$ on the integrated intensity map in Figure 3(a). The $^{12}$CO(1–0) emission is strongly detected in two channels with velocities of $\sim$0–100 km s$^{-1}$ and marginally detected in the adjacent channels. A single Gaussian fit to the line profile is overplotted in Figure 2. The FWHM of the line is 86.5 ± 7.4 km s$^{-1}$ and the line velocity relative to the galaxy velocity is 18.6 ± 3.3 km s$^{-1}$. The $^{12}$CO(1–0) (hereafter, CO) line properties are summarized in Table 1.

3. Results and Discussion

In this section, we will present and discuss our results following the scenarios mentioned in the Introduction, namely, Section 3.1, the gas being ram-pressure-stripped from Satsuki; Section 3.2, an extremely low-surface-brightness galaxy or ultradiffuse galaxy (UDG); Section 3.3, gas being ejected or ionized by an AGN. In addition, Paper I did not discuss the scenario of the IGM cooling, which we discuss in Section 3.4. We will present the analysis and results of the data at a specific wavelength described in Section 2 when it is needed to test a specific scenario.

3.1. Ram Pressure Stripping

Galaxies in dense environments experience ram pressure (Gunn & Gott 1972). As pointed out in Paper I, ram pressure stripping is not expected to produce a centrally concentrated blob but is more likely to form clumpy structures embedded in a jellyfish-like tail (e.g., Boselli et al. 2016; Poggianti et al. 2017; Bellhouse et al. 2019; Jáchym et al. 2019). The centrally peaked structure we observe in Totoro in H$\alpha$ is also seen in molecular gas. The integrated intensity map of CO is shown in Figure 3(a) and the comparison with H$\alpha$ is displayed in Figure 3(b). The morphology of molecular gas generally agrees well with H$\alpha$ emission. The CO emission of Totoro is also dominated by a large, centrally concentrated structure associated with Totoro, but the peak position of CO is offset toward the south of the H$\alpha$ peak by $\sim$0″3 (~200 pc). The multiwavelength peak coordinates of Totoro, along with other properties that will be derived and discussed in this paper, are provided in Table 2. The two arm-like structures connecting the extended structure and the central region of the galaxy are also seen in CO. Moreover, as somewhat expected, an early-type galaxy like Satsuki has a low molecular gas content. While there is a strong and compact H$\alpha$ emission at the nucleus of Satsuki, no CO detection is found at this position. Instead, two knots are moderately detected in the northeast and southwest of the nucleus. Although their orientation is consistent with that of the possible past AGN jets indicated by X-ray cavities (O’Sullivan et al. 2019), deep CO observations are required to confirm the nature of these two knots.

We cannot rule out that the H$\alpha$ and CO morphologies would appear clumpier if the angular resolution is improved. The recently reported size of gas clumps in ram-pressure-stripped tails of galaxies range from several hundreds of parsecs to several kiloparsecs (e.g., Bellhouse et al. 2017; Lee &
Although we are not able to resolve individual gas clumps with our \( \sim 1.7 \) kpc resolution, if Totoro is intrinsically clumpy as ram-pressured-stripped gas, we should see a sign of clumpy substructure given that the size of the object is as large as 6—8 kpc in diameter.

Ram-pressure-stripped gas is known to have high velocities (several hundreds of \( \text{km} \, \text{s}^{-1} \)) and velocity dispersions (\( > 100 \) \( \text{km} \, \text{s}^{-1} \); e.g., Bellhouse et al. 2017; Consolandi et al. 2017). Figures 3(c) and 3(d) display the CO and MaNGA H\( \alpha \) velocity fields in color scale. For ease of comparison, contours of CO-integrated intensity map are overplotted on both velocity fields. There is a strong variation in the line-of-sight H\( \alpha \) velocity at the two connecting arms, with redshifted gas in the left tail and blueshifted gas in the right tail. Such features are not observed in the CO velocity field. At the main blob region of Totoro, both CO and H\( \alpha \) velocity fields show no velocity gradient, little variation, and low velocity (mostly \( \leq 60 \) \( \text{km} \, \text{s}^{-1} \)) across the region, suggesting that the system is not in rotation, unless it is perfectly face on. The velocity dispersion of H\( \alpha \) gas in the region of Totoro is only \( \sim 50 \) \( \text{km} \, \text{s}^{-1} \) (Paper I); the narrow CO line width also implies a low gas velocity dispersion. Therefore, the gas kinematics of Totoro is in conflict with that of ram-pressure-stripped gas. We should caution, however, that the velocity resolutions of our CO and H\( \alpha \) map are relatively...
Notes.
1 Redshift of VII Zw 700, taken from the NASA-Sloan Atlas (http://nasaatlas.org/).
2 Position of intensity peak in images, no centroid fitting is performed.
3 Based on MaNGA Hα data.
4 Based on the assumption that all MaNGA Hα fluxes come from star formation.

Table 1

|          | 12CO (1–0) Line Properties of the Hα Blob Totoro |
|----------|-------------------------------------------------|
| Velocity (km s⁻¹) | Line Flux (Jy) | Line Luminosity (K km s⁻¹ pc²) | Line Width (km s⁻¹) | Peak Flux (mJy) |
| 18.6 ± 3.3 | 1.01 ± 0.05 | (4.83 ± 0.23)×10⁷ | 86.5 ± 7.4 | 13.00 ± 0.74 |

Table 2

|                      | Properties of the Offset-cooling Gas Totoro |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| **General Properties** |                                            |
| Host                 | VII Zw 700 (dry merger: Satsuki and Mei)   |
| Redshift             | 0.0322                                     |
| Distance to the host | ∼8 kpc                                     |
| Environment          | merging group                              |
| **Peak Position**    |                                            |
| 12CO(1–0)            | 17:15:22.46, +57:26:6.90                   |
| Hα                   | 17:15:22.40, +57:26:7.83                   |
| X-ray                | 17:15:22.52, +57:26:7.89                   |
| **Luminosity**       |                                            |
| 12CO(1–0)            | 4.8 × 10⁷ K km s pc²                      |
| Hα                   | 5.9 × 10¹⁰ erg s⁻¹                        |
| X-ray                | 4.4 × 10¹⁰ erg s⁻¹                        |
| **Gas Mass**         |                                            |
| Cold gas (H₂)        | 2.1 × 10⁸ M₀ (12CO (1–0))                 |
|                      | 1.9 × 10⁸ M₀ (Aᵥ cloud)                   |
|                      | 2.5 × 10⁸ M₀ (Aᵥ diffuse)                 |
| Warm gas (Hα)        | 8.2 × 10⁴ M₀                              |
| Hot gas (X-ray)      | 1.2 × 10⁹ M₀                              |
| **Other Properties** |                                            |
| SFR                  | < 0.047 M₀ yr⁻¹                           |
| Cooling time         | 2.2 × 10⁸ yr                              |

Notes.
5 Redshift of VII Zw 700, taken from the NASA-Sloan Atlas (http://nasaatlas.org/).
6 Position of intensity peak in images, no centroid fitting is performed.
7 Based on MaNGA Hα data.
8 Based on the assumption that all MaNGA Hα fluxes come from star formation.

stripping. However, we note that this does not mean that the galaxy has not experienced any ram pressure stripping. We come back to this discussion in Section 3.4.3.

3.2. Separate Galaxy

In Paper I, we argue that Totoro may be a separate galaxy interacting with the dry merger (Satsuki and Mei). We can examine this scenario by (1) searching for its underlying stellar component, (2) looking for interaction features, and (3) comparing the molecular gas and star formation properties of this galaxy candidate with other galaxy populations.

3.2.1. Underlying Stellar Counterpart

The CFHT u-, g-, r, and i-band images are presented in Figures 4(a)—4(c), respectively. There are extended stellar halos surrounding the two galaxies, but we find no apparent optical counterpart directly from the images at the position of Totoro. The limiting magnitude 34 and the surface brightness of Totoro are listed in Table 3. Due to the absence of an optical counterpart at the position of Totoro, only upper limits can be placed on the surface brightnesses (i.e., limiting surface brightness of the observations).

In Paper I, we used a multicomponent GALFIT (Peng et al. 2010) model to search for a stellar component of Totoro from a g-band image and found no substructure that is responsible for the blob. However, the residual of this complex parametric model still showed significant fluctuations that could hinder the detection of small scale substructure (see Figure 6 in Paper I). The ongoing interaction of the main system creates an extended stellar envelope and asymmetric structures that are challenging to the model. In this paper, we use three different approaches to further search for a potential stellar counterpart to Totoro from multiple-band (g, r, and i) images. All three methods are commonly used in the literature for background subtraction and for both compact and extended source detection.

First, we use the Python photometry tool sep (Barbary 2016) 35 to generate a “background” model of the image with a small background box size (5 pixels). The tool sep uses the same background algorithm as in SExtractor (Bertin & Arnouts 1996). We then subtract the “background” model from the image to increase the contrast around the main galaxies. This method has been used to separate galaxy stellar halos and the light from adjacent (background) objects (e.g., Huang et al. 2018; Rubin et al. 2018), and to identify faint, extended emission such as tidal tails (e.g., Mantha et al. 2019).

As a second approach, we subtract a blurred version of the image from the original one. The blurred version of the image is created by convolving the image with a circular Gaussian kernel (σ = 4 pixels). This procedure is part of the unsharp

34 The gr limiting surface brightnesses quoted here are different from those given in Paper I. This is because the former is scaled from the limiting magnitudes using a 1″ aperture size while the latter was measured using an aperture size corresponding to 1 arcsec² area, which, however, is more affected by the point-spread function (PSF) because of the small aperture.

35 https://github.com/kbarbary/sep
The masking method in digital image processing\(^{36}\) and can also increase the contrast of the image. Compared to the first approach, the Gaussian convolution makes it more sensitive to a low-threshold feature with a sharp edge. This method has been commonly used to identify HII regions in galaxies (e.g., Rahman et al. 2011; Pan et al. 2020, in preparation) and to detect faint embedded spiral and bar features in early-type galaxies (e.g., Barazza et al. 2002; Kim et al. 2012). The method has been applied to IFS data for the later purpose as well by Gomes et al. (2016).

For our third method, we perform isophotal fitting using the Ellipse task in IRAF (Tody 1986, 1993). We first mask out all detected objects other than the main galaxy using \(\text{sep}\). Then, we run Ellipse on the masked images, allowing the centroid and the shape of the isophote to vary. Using the resulting isophotal parameters, we create the corresponding 2D model using the \(\text{bmodel}\) task and subtract it from the input image. Compared to the GALFIT parametric model, the Ellipse one does not depend on the choice of model component and typically leads to smoother residuals. This approach has been routinely used to determine the morphology of elliptical and lenticular galaxies (e.g., Hao et al. 2006; Oh et al. 2017) and to search for low-surface-brightness tidal features in nearby galaxies (e.g., Tal et al. 2009; Gu et al. 2013).

The residual maps of these methods are shown in Figure 5. From left to right, the panels correspond to the analysis of the background, unsharp mask, and isophotal fitting methods; from top to bottom, we show the residual maps and annular residual profiles of the \(u\), \(g\), \(r\), and \(i\) bands, respectively (\(u\)-band results will be discussed later in this section). The annular profiles are centered on the H\(\alpha\) peak of Totoro. We also explore different parameters adopted in these procedures (e.g., the size of the

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\(^{36}\) The original unsharp mask technique rescales the residual and adds it back to the original image.
background box or the convolution kernel). The choice of these parameters within a reasonable range does not affect the results.

Using these methods, we detect a large number of unresolved (point-like) sources on the g-, r- and i-band images, presumably a combination of globular clusters of the main system and background galaxies. The residual profiles are generally flat, fluctuating around the zero value. This is true for all grI bands and methods, suggesting that there is no sign of a distinctive stellar counterpart at the position of Totoro. Therefore, our new analyses confirm the previous result by using GALFIT in Paper I. There are two unresolved sources in the Totoro area (red circle in Figure 5), but we do not notice any increase or decrease in the number density around the Totoro area. The two sources are associated with neither Hα nor the CO peak. We will come back to the nature of these two unresolved sources later. On the residual maps from the unsharp mask method, we uncover a pair of “ripple”-like features close to the center of the main galaxy. These substructures remain the same when we vary the convolution kernel used, and they resemble the structure we saw on the GALFIT residual maps in Paper I. Such “ripples” often relate to recent galaxy interaction or the presence of dust (e.g., Colbert et al. 2001; Kim et al. 2012; Duc et al. 2015; Bilek et al. 2016). However, it is unclear whether there is any connection between them and Totoro.

Because there is no optical (g, r, and i) continuum counterpart found in Totoro, it is expected to be composed mostly of young stars if it is indeed a galaxy. In Paper I, we use the excitation state of optical lines to constrain the presence of young stars. However, the result is method (diagnostic diagram) dependent. The u-band luminosity of a galaxy is dominated by young stars of ages <1 Gyr; therefore, it is more sensitive to any recent star formation than any of the other broadband luminosities available (Moustakas et al. 2006; Prescott et al. 2009; Zhou et al. 2017) and is a more straightforward probe than optical emission-line diagnostics.

Similar to the grI bands, the u-band emission in the MaNGA hexagonal FoV is dominated by the dry merger (Satsuki and Mei) as shown in Figure 4, but the u-band data are less affected by the large stellar halos associated with the dry merger (Satsuki and Mei) than the redder bands, and therefore serve as a better probe for the underlying stellar component. The limiting magnitudes and surface brightness of the u-band image are 26.3 mag and 27.54 mag arcsec−2, respectively (Table 3). The point source in the upper-left corner of the dry merger (Satsuki and Mei) is a foreground star according to the MaNGA spectrum.

Although visually there is no distinguishable u-band feature (i.e., recent star formation) associated with Totoro, to ensure that the u-band counterpart of Totoro is not embedded within the light of the dry merger (Satsuki and Mei), we subtract the photometric models for the merging system from the u-band image using the three different methods mentioned above. The residual maps and profiles are shown in the top row of Figure 5. The residual maps and profiles are not perfectly smooth, but we find no obvious evidence for a distinctive, extended u-band counterpart at Totoro. The two point sources seen in the g-, r-, and i-band residual maps are also seen in the u-band residual image of the isophotal fitting (and marginally seen in the background method as well). This confirms the results in Paper I that star formation alone cannot explain the excitation state of Totoro.

To gain some insight into the nature of the two unresolved objects in the Totoro area, their photometric redshifts are determined using the EAZY (Brammer et al. 2008) and PÉGASE 2.0 (Fioc & Rocca-Volmerange 1997) template fitting the aperture magnitudes measured from the isophotal fitting residual images using GAIA (Graphical Astronomy and Image Analysis Tool). The default EAZY template is generated from the PÉGASE 2.0 models using the Blanton & Roweis (2007) algorithm and then calibrated using semianalytic models, plus an additional young and dusty template. The PÉGASE 2.0 template is a library including ~3000 models with a variety of star formation histories and with ages between 1 Myr and 20 Gyr, as described in detail in Grazian et al. (2006). Figure 6 shows the chi-squared of the fit for a given redshift using the EAZY and PÉGASE templates (left column of each panel) and the best-fit SED with the observed fluxes at the i, r, g, and u bands overlaid as red circles (right column of each panel). The results based on the EAZY and PÉGASE templates are presented in the top and bottom rows, respectively. The minimum chi-squared value indicates that the southern source (17°15′22″1111, +57°26′56″628) is a background galaxy at z ∼0.40 and 0.37 using the EAZY and PÉGASE templates, respectively (Figure 6(a)). The redshift of our target is marked by a yellow dashed line in the figures. We notice a second minimum at z >0.03, close to the redshift of our target. However, at such low redshifts, the source would be resolved, not point like. The most plausible redshift of the northern source (17°15′22″573, +57°26′76″659) is 0.29 according to both templates (Figure 6(b)), but we cannot rule out other possibilities of z >0.4, in particular z ∼0.15, due to the shallower basin-shaped chi-square distribution. Nonetheless, the redshift of Totoro (yellow dashed line) is not associated with any local minimum of the chi-square values. We find poorer fits when using stellar templates, providing further support that the source is not a nearby object. The best-fitted SEDs from PÉGASE are exported to the SED-fitting code New-Hyperz37 in order to derive the stellar mass (M⋆) and star formation rate (SFR) of these two objects. The results suggest that the southern and northern sources are ∼3 × 106 and ∼6 × 106 M⊙, and their specific SFR (sSFR=SFR/M⋆) are < 10−11 yr−1. We also estimate their M⋆ assuming they are at the same redshift as Totoro (z = 0.03) and yield ∼106 and ∼107 M⊙ for the southern and northern sources, respectively. Given their point-like morphologies (<1 kpc2), we expect to see distinctive stellar mass surface density (Σs) distributions in the MaNGA data if they are associated with Totoro. However, we find no such features. It should be noted that the above stellar masses may be subjected to non-negligible uncertainties due to the lack of (near-) infrared measurements.

We use the web interface Marvin,38 a tool to visualize and analyze MaNGA data (Cherinka et al. 2019), to search for any signatures in the spectra of these two sources by redshifting strong optical emission lines (e.g., Hα) based on the derived photometric redshifts. However, the emission lines are too faint to be seen by MaNGA. Given their likely high redshift and their positions being offset from the centroid of the Hα blob, these two point sources are unlikely to be associated with Totoro.

37 http://userpages.irap.omp.eu/~rvello/newhyperz/
38 https://dr15.sdss.org/marvin
that of MaNGA, but the FoV is \(~\times 10\) times larger. For comparison, Figure 7(a) zooms in to the region of the MaNGA hexagonal FoV. The new Hα image globally resembles that of the MaNGA Hα in Figure 1(a), but shows finer structures thanks to higher spatial resolution.

A zoom-out view of the region of interest is displayed in Figure 7(b). There are several Hα knots beyond the MaNGA FoV toward the east. These are background galaxies or foreground stars. It is clear that there is no hint of Hα emission extending beyond the MaNGA FoV at the opposite side of Totoro. Quantitatively, we can estimate the possible missing flux of MaNGA by comparing the Hα flux related to Totoro from the two observations. The total Hα luminosity of Totoro and the surrounding \(~\times 15''\) (\(~\times 9\) kpc) region outside of the MaNGA FoV (blue circle in Figure 7(b)) is \(6.5 \times 10^{39}\) erg s\(^{-1}\). The total Hα luminosity of Totoro measured by MaNGA is \(5.9 \times 10^{39}\) erg s\(^{-1}\). Therefore, the possible missing flux of Totoro due to a limited MaNGA FoV is no larger than 10%. Accordingly, the scenario of a separate galaxy appears less likely unless the tidal tail(s) develop at only one side of a galaxy. Such cases are relatively rare, though not impossible (e.g., Arp 173, Arp188, and Arp 273), depending on the stage of the interaction and the projected orientation on the sky (e.g., Mihos 2004; Struck & Smith 2012). However, the low gas velocity provides additional support against a merger scenario (Figures 3(c) and 3(d)).

On the other hand, it is possible that Totoro is a completely disrupted dwarf galaxy. The averaged surface brightness of Totoro has an upper limit of \(~\times 27\) mag arcsec\(^{-2}\) (Table 3). It would be classified as a dwarf low-surface-brightness galaxy (LSB; \(>23\) mag arcsec\(^{-2}\)) if it is a galaxy. In the next section, we compare the star formation and cold gas properties of Totoro with other galaxy populations, including LSBs. As a side note, the nearby galaxy NGC 6338 is encompassed by the wide-field Hα observation. Figure 7(c) shows the Hα image of NGC 6338. There are no strong filaments or bridge linking NGC 6338 and VII Zw 700, presumably because the two are very separate entities (with a projected separation of \(\sim 42\) kpc and \(\sim 1400\) km s\(^{-1}\) difference in line-of-sight velocity), but there is a bit more Hα emission between galaxies than the rest of the regions in the plotted area. The Hα emission of NGC 6338 is characteristic of three previously reported filaments in the southeast and northwest quadrants. The Hα intensity contours of 0.035 and \(0.09 \times 10^{-16}\) erg s\(^{-1}\) cm\(^{-2}\) are overplotted to highlight the asymmetric filaments. We also refer the reader to Martel et al. (2004) and O’Sullivan et al. (2019) for higher-resolution Hα images of NGC 6338 and Gomes et al. (2016) for optical IFS data analysis of NGC 6338.

### 3.2.3. Msun–SFR Relation of Galaxies

Another way to constrain the origin of Totoro using data in hand is to look into the question of whether Totoro shares similar gas and star formation properties with nearby galaxies. This could not be concluded in Paper I due to the lack of cold gas data. Figure 8 compares the star formation rate (SFR) and molecular gas mass \((M_{\text{mol}})\) of Totoro with other galaxy populations. The plot resembles the Kennicutt–Schmidt relation (Kennicutt 1989) assuming that the molecular gas and star-forming regions coexist. The galaxy data include nearby LSBs (O’Neil et al. 2003; Matthews et al. 2005; Cao et al. 2017) and nearby star-forming \((sSFR > 10^{-11}\) yr\(^{-1}\)) and quiescent \((sSFR < 10^{-11}\) yr\(^{-1}\)) galaxies (Saintonge et al. 2017).
MaNGA FoV is at most 10%. The conversion factor of 2.0 taken from the xCOLD GASS survey indicates that only an upper limit was found. Blue and red squares are nearby this work. The gray, green, and magenta symbols are LSB measurements from ∼ uncertainty of the conversion factor is (Kennicutt 1998). The total H₂ mass of Totoro traced by CO is computed using

\[
\frac{M_{\text{H}_2}}{M_\odot} = 1.05 \times 10^4 \frac{X_{\text{CO}}}{(2 \times 10^{20} \text{cm}^{-2} \text{K km s}^{-1})^{-1}} \times \frac{S_{\text{CO} \Delta v}}{[\text{Jy km s}^{-1}]} \frac{D_l^2}{[\text{Mpc}]} (1 + z)^{-1},
\]

where \(X_{\text{CO}}\), \(S_{\text{CO} \Delta v}\), and \(D_l\) are the CO-to-H₂ conversion factor, integrated line flux density, and luminosity distance, respectively (Bolatto et al. 2013). We adopt a Galactic \(X_{\text{CO}}\) of 2 × 10^{20} cm^{-2} (K km s^{-1})^{-1} (Bolatto et al. 2013). The derived \(M_{\text{H}_2}\) of Totoro is (2.1 ± 0.1) × 10^8 \(M_\odot\). Note that the uncertainty due to different methodologies to derive Galactic \(X_{\text{CO}}\) is ∼30% (Bolatto et al. 2013).

In addition to CO, the gaseous column density \(N_{\text{H}_2}\) also follows from the amount of extinction \(A_V\), which can be derived from the MaNGA Hα and Hβ data. For reference, the mean \(A_V\) across Totoro is ∼0.5 mag. The conversion from extinction to H₂ column density depends on the medium (Bohlin et al. 1978; Evans et al. 2009):

\[
\frac{N(\text{H}_2)}{[\text{cm}^{-2}]} = 6.9 \times 10^{20} \frac{A_V}{[\text{mag}]} \quad \text{(molecular cloud)} \quad (3)
\]

\[
= 9.4 \times 10^{20} \frac{A_V}{[\text{mag}]} \quad \text{(diffuse ISM)} \quad (4)
\]

These yield an \(M_{\text{H}_2}\) of ∼1.9 × 10^8 and ∼2.5 × 10^8 \(M_\odot\) assuming a molecular-cloud- (Equation (3)) and diffuse-ISM-39 We should note that the value of \(M_{\text{H}_2}\) depends on the choice of \(X_{\text{CO}}\). We may overestimate \(M_{\text{H}_2}\) by ∼30% to a factor of a few if the metallicity of Totoro is indeed higher than the solar metallicity by ∼0.3 dex as discussed in the Introduction (Bolatto et al. 2013). Vantyghem et al. (2017) use the optical thin 12CO(3-2) emission line to estimate the \(X_{\text{CO}}\) of the BCG of the cooling-core cluster RXJ0821+0752, finding an \(X_{\text{CO}}\) of a factor of 2 lower than the Galactic (our adopted) value. However, this is within the object-to-object scatter from extragalactic sources and based on several assumptions such as isotopic abundance ratio and excitation line ratios. Statistical analysis is necessary in order to constrain the \(X_{\text{CO}}\) in BCGs.
type (Equation (4)) medium, respectively. The three $M_{\text{H}}$ derived using radio and optical measurements agree well with each other. The $\text{H}_2$ mass derived from CO is used for the discussion in the rest of the paper.

Although only upper limits could be achieved for many LSB objects, they largely follow the trend established by star-forming galaxies toward the lower end in both $M_{\text{H}}$ and SFR axes, consistent with the finding of McGaugh et al. 2017. On the other hand, quiescent galaxies, mostly early types, have lower SFR for a given $M_{\text{H}}$ and a lower CO detection rate than that of star-forming galaxies (see also Calette et al. 2018). Due to the low SFR, Totoro deviates from the SFR–$M_{\text{H}}$ relation formed by LSBs and star-forming galaxies and appears to overlap with quiescent galaxies.

The $\text{H}\alpha$ emission in quiescent galaxies is dominated by LI(N)ER excitation (Hsieh et al. 2017; Pan et al. 2018). In the LI(N)ER regions of quiescent galaxies, the surface density of $\text{H}\alpha$ luminosity ($\Sigma_{\text{H}\alpha}$) is found to be tightly correlated with the underlying $\Sigma_{\text{HI}}$ (Hsieh et al. 2017), in which the $\text{H}\alpha$ are primarily powered by the hot, evolved stars rather than recent star formation. BPT diagnostics suggest that Totoro is powered by a composite (LI(N)ER–H II mix) mechanism (Paper I). If Totoro is analogous to a LI(N)ER region in quiescent (early-type) galaxies, the average $\Sigma_{\text{H}\alpha}$ of Totoro corresponds to a $\Sigma_{\text{H}\alpha}$ of $\sim 7 \times 10^4 M_{\odot}$ kpc$^{-2}$ according to the “resolved LI(N)ER sequence” of quiescent galaxies reported by Hsieh et al. (2017). The predicted $\Sigma_{\text{H}\alpha}$ is higher than the mass of Satsuki’s stellar halo by a factor of 3–5; however, there is no distinct stellar counterpart at the location of Totoro. For this reason, in spite of the overlap in Figure 8, Totoro is not analogous to the LI(N)ER region in quiescent galaxies. Lastly, we should note that if the true global SFR of Totoro is considerably lower than the upper limit, Totoro would fall below the main cloud of data points of quiescent galaxies.

On the whole, Totoro is unlikely to be consistent with nearby normal star-forming, early-type, and low-surface-brightness galaxies in terms of the Kennicutt–Schmidt relation and the resolved LI(N)ER sequence. In addition, it is worth noting that the average $A_V$ of Totoro corresponds to an SFR surface density ($\Sigma_{\text{SFR}}$) at least six times higher than the observed upper limit based on the local $A_V$–$\Sigma_{\text{SFR}}$ relation derived from MaNGA galaxies (Li et al. 2019). Generally speaking, the dust and star formation relation (if any) of Totoro is also dissimilar to that of star-forming regions in nearby galaxies even when the systematic dependencies on other physical properties (e.g., metallicity) are considered.

While LSBs have been studied for decades, recently, van Dokkum et al. (2015) have identified a new class of LSBs in the Coma cluster, UDGs. These UDGs have a surface brightness as low as $\geq 24.5$ mag arcsec$^{-2}$, but their sizes are similar to those of L galaxies. It is not clear how UDGs were formed. One possible scenario is that UDGs are failed massive galaxies, which lost their gas at high redshift by ram pressure stripping or other effects after forming their first generation of stars (van Dokkum et al. 2015; Yozin & Bekki 2015). Our finding of a large molecular gas reservoir appears in direct conflict with this scenario.

On the other hand, several studies suggest that UDGs are extended dwarf galaxies. Some simulations predict them to be rapidly rotating (Amorisco & Loeb 2016). Di Cintio et al. (2017) suggest that the extended sizes of UDGs are the consequence of strong gas outflows driven by starbursts. However, the SFR of Totoro is extremely low and the system is not rotating. Altogether, there is no evidence in our data to support Totoro as a UDG.

In summary, the newly obtained CO, $\text{H}\alpha$, and $\mu$-band data allow us to better constrain the nature of Totoro; however, combining the results in Section 3.2, we argue that Totoro is unlikely to be a separate galaxy interacting with the dry merger (Satsuki and Mei). The reasons include the lack of stellar counterpart and tidal features and the different star formation, ionized and cold gas, and dust properties (i.e., $M_{\text{H}}$–SFR, $\Sigma_{\text{H}}$–$\Sigma_{\text{H}\alpha}$, and $A_V$–$\Sigma_{\text{SFR}}$ relations and gas kinematics) from those of a variety of nearby galaxy populations (i.e., star-forming and quiescent galaxies, LSBs, and UDGs).

3.3. AGN-driven Activity

3.3.1. Multiwavelength Nuclear Characteristics

Radio. A possible origin of Totoro is gas that is photoionized by X-ray emission from a misaligned blazar at the core of Satsuki. A blazar is a subclass of radio-loud AGNs which is characterized by a one-sided jet structure (Urry & Padovani 1995). However, blazars invariably have bright compact radio cores, whereas no detection at 1.4 GHz is found for Satsuki (O’Sullivan et al. 2019; Wang et al. 2019), and there is only marginal detection at 5 GHz (Paper I). For these reasons, a blazar is a very unlikely scenario for Totoro.

Optical. The $\text{H}\alpha$ equivalent width (EW) is $< 3 \AA$ across the entire $\text{H}\alpha$-emitting region and the EW does not present a rise toward the center of Satsuki. The $\text{H}\alpha$ velocity dispersion does not present a central peak either (Paper I). Moreover, the $\text{H}\alpha$ luminosity of Satsuki follows the continuum emission, i.e., it does not present a central peak emission with stronger intensities that follows an $r^{-2}$ or lower decline from the center (Singh et al. 2013). Therefore, Satsuki presents a lack of optical characteristics of a strong AGN.

X-ray. A comprehensive study of the X-ray emission of the region based on Chandra and XMM-Newton data has been reported recently by O’Sullivan et al. (2019). Figure 9(a) shows the Chandra X-ray image of the NGC 6338 group taken from O’Sullivan et al. (2019). X-ray and galaxy velocity studies have shown the group to be a high-velocity near head-on merger (Wang et al. 2019), with the two group cores visible as bright clumps of X-ray emission with trailing X-ray tails. The northern and southern clumps are respectively associated with VII Zw 700 and NGC 6338. Figure 9(b) zooms in to the MaNGA observed region. The northern X-ray clump, around Satsuki, is dominated by a bar of X-ray emission extending roughly southeast–northwest. The clump and bar are centered somewhat to the north of the optical centroid of Satsuki, and the bar is made up of three X-ray knots whose intensities progressively decrease from the western end. The nuclei of Satsuki and Mei are not correlated with the brightest X-ray emission (see also Wang et al. 2019). Nonetheless, after subtracting the overall surface brightness distribution, there is a hint of excess X-ray emission at the position of the nuclei of Satsuki and Mei (see O’Sullivan et al. 2019 for the construction of the overall surface brightness distribution). X-ray luminosities of $4.17 \times 10^{39}$ erg s$^{-1}$ for the nucleus of Satsuki and $\leq 2.5 \times 10^{38}$ erg s$^{-1}$ for Mei are reported (O’Sullivan et al. 2019). The values suggest that there are no strong X-ray AGNs in Satsuki or Mei, or the AGNs are fading. For reference, the X-ray luminosity of Totoro is $(4.4 \pm 0.2) \times 10^{40}$ erg s$^{-1}$. 
3.3.2. Gas Ejected by AGN

All in all, the multiwavelength data show no direct evidence for an active ongoing AGN in Satsuki. However, it is known that the AGN luminosity can vary over timescales as short as $10^5$ yr. Thus, we still cannot rule out the possibility of a recent AGN outflow. AGN-driven extended outflows are detected in multiple phases, including ionized gas and many molecular lines (Roberts-Borsani 2020 and references therein). Even though the observed radial extent of AGN outflows is $\lesssim 1$ kpc in most cases, galactic-scale outflows, as Totoro would be, given its extreme distance from Satsuki, are also reported (e.g., Leung et al. 2019; López-Cobá et al. 2019, 2020). However, the low gas velocities (Figures 3(c) and 3(d)) do not support the scenario of an energetic outflow. Nonetheless, we should note that although an AGN does not seem like a plausible mechanism for moving H$\alpha$ or CO out of the galaxy core to the current position of Totoro, the potential cavities identified in Satsuki suggest that in the past (~40 Myr ago), the AGN was indeed active and had non-negligible impact on its surroundings (O’Sullivan et al. 2019).

3.3.3. Gas Ionized by AGNs

There have been studies showing that AGNs are able to ionize gas extending to large distances, such as the well-known ionized cloud Hanny’s Voorwerp $\sim 20$ kpc from its host galaxy IC 2497 (e.g., Husemann et al. 2008; Lintott et al. 2009; Husemann et al. 2010). It is believed that an interaction-triggered, currently fading AGN illuminated and ionized Hanny’s Voorwerp (Józsa et al. 2009; Lintott et al. 2009; Keel et al. 2012). Diffuse ionized gas similar to Hanny’s Voorwerp was also found $\sim 32$ kpc north of the iconic interacting galaxies NGC 5194/5195 or M51 (Watkins et al. 2018). The low AGN luminosity and activity and the tidal history provide similarities between Satsuki, IC 2497 and M51. However, there are also several differences between Hanny’s Voorwerp and the M51 cloud and Totoro in terms of excitation state (Seyfert versus LINER–H II, morphology (diffuse for Hanny’s Voorwerp and M51’s cloud versus centrally concentrated for Totoro), and the properties of the host galaxy (late type versus early type; see Paper I for the details). For these reasons, we argue that this scenario is unlikely.

3.4. Cooling Gas

3.4.1. Spatial Comparison of Cold, Warm, and Hot Gas

A scenario we did not consider is Paper I is the cooling of the hot IGM or ICM. However, in some cases, ionized and molecular gas which are thought to be the product of that cooling (Babyk et al. 2018; Lachlaura et al. 2018; Olivares et al. 2019; Russell et al. 2019).
O’Sullivan et al. (2019) show that the X-ray peak of the southern centroid of NGC 6338. Three X-ray filaments are observed to extend from the galaxy center, following the same branching filamentary structure as the Hα gas (Figure 7(c)). These X-ray filaments are cooler than their surroundings and have very low gas entropies and short cooling times (O’Sullivan et al. 2019), strongly indicating that they are a locus of cooling from the IGM. Young X-ray cavities are also found in NGC 6338, suggesting recent AGN outbursts in this galaxy.

As shown in Figure 9(b), the peak of the Hα emission (contours) at the nucleus of Satsuki is not associated with the bar, but the position of Totoro corresponds to the brightest X-ray peak. This was first noted by O’Sullivan et al. (2019) who showed that this was also the coolest part of the X-ray bar, and concluded that the Hα was likely material cooled from the IGM, as in the filaments of NGC 6338. They also suggested that the offset between Satsuki and the center of the X-ray clump is evidence that ram-pressure forces caused by the (supersonic) motion of the galaxy are detaching the gas from the galaxy. In this scenario, the X-ray bar would once have been centered on Satsuki but has been pushed back to the north and perhaps along the line of sight, away from the galaxy core.

Figure 9(c) shows our CO data overlaid on the Chandra image. The molecular gas is well correlated with the western X-ray knot, and (as previously discussed) with the Hα. Figures 9(d)–(e) show the Chandra temperature maps from O’Sullivan et al. (2019) showing the cool gas around NGC 6338 and Satsuki, and the high-temperature gas between the two, which has been shock-heated by the group–group merger. Overlaid Hα and CO contours show that the ionized and molecular gas are located in the coolest part of the IGM, as in NGC 6338 and the centers of other groups and clusters (e.g., Salomé et al. 2006; Hamer et al. 2012).

3.4.2. Cooling Time and Gas Properties

Studies have shown that warm and cold gas in the brightest group and cluster galaxies (BCGs) are preferentially observed in systems where the cooling times lie below ~1 Gyr (Edge 2001; Salomé & Combes 2003; Cavagnolo et al. 2008; Pulido et al. 2018; Rafferty et al. 2008). O’Sullivan et al. (2019) found that the cooling times are as short as ~1 Gyr in both cores of Satsuki and NGC 6338. We can also estimate the cooling time around Totoro, i.e., the west end of the X-ray bar as a cylinder of radius 2.58 (1.5 kpc) and length 11.72 (5.9 kpc, corresponding to Region 2 in Figure 10(b) of O’Sullivan et al. 2019). The temperature, density, and luminosity of the X-ray gas are estimated via spectral fitting of the Chandra data. Using Equation (1) in O’Sullivan et al. (2019), we estimate the cooling time ($t_{cool}$) in the Totoro region to be 2.22^{+0.12}_{-0.11} × 10^8 yr, well within the regime where warm and cold gas are expected.

If the warm and cold gas have indeed cooled from the hot gas, one would expect the hot gas to be significantly more massive than the cool/warm gas. The hot gas mass is derived from a radial deprojected profile (Figure 9 in O’Sullivan et al. 2019), centered on the middle of the X-ray bar. Within a radius of 6.5 kpc, the hot gas mass ($M_H$) is $1.2^{+0.2}_{-0.1} × 10^9 M_\odot$. The derived hot gas mass is indeed significantly higher than the total mass of warm ($\sim 10^8 M_\odot$) and cold gas ($\sim 10^8 M_\odot$) from CO.

The ratio of the cold to hot gas of Totoro is ~17%. Pulido et al. (2018) investigate the molecular gas properties of 55 central cluster galaxies. They found a strong correlation of hot and cold gas mass traced by X-ray and CO, suggesting that the hot and cold gas arise from the same ensemble of clouds. In other words, the cold gas is unlikely a result of external effects, such as merger or stripping from a plunging galaxy. The average fraction of cold to hot gas in their sample is ~18%. The cold to hot gas mass ratio of Totoro is in good agreement with that of these central cluster galaxies (see also Olivares et al. 2019). The consistency provides support that a similar process to that in the central cluster galaxies has occurred in Satsuki and Totoro.

In addition, molecular mass has been found to be correlated with the amount of Hα gas expressed by $L_{H\alpha}$ in the cooling-core galaxies of clusters (Edge 2001; Salomé & Combes 2003). In Figure 10, we show the $H_2$ gas mass versus $L_{H\alpha}$ for data taken from the literatures. Totoro is overlaid with an orange square and falls at the low end of the correlation. The consistency of Totoro with the $M_{H_2}$–$L_{H\alpha}$ relationship of cooling systems again supports a similar process of cooling in the system. To put it another way, our multilayer data of Totoro show that its position on the mass (luminosity) relations between cold ($\lesssim 100$ K; CO), warm ($\sim 10^4$ K, Hα), and hot ($> 10^7$ K, X-ray) gas is in line with the gas content of systems with short cooling times. We summarize the physical properties of Totoro in Table 2.

As a side note, the cold and warm gas in cooling systems often appear filamentary, but it is worth noting that the multiphase gas morphologies of our target are strikingly similar to the BCG of cluster A1991 reported by Hamer et al. 2012 (see their Figure 2). The Hα-emitting gas is relatively circular (blob like) and is spatially coincident with the most rapidly cooling region (X-ray peak) of the ICM. The peak in the Hα and X-ray gas lies roughly 11 kpc to the north of the BCG, and there are connecting arm structures between the peak and the secondary peak at the galactic nucleus. Moreover, the bulk of
the molecular gas with a mass of $\sim 8 \times 10^8 M_\odot$ is also found at the location of the cooling region. However, note that spatial resolution must play an important role in detecting the morphology of cooling gas. We cannot rule out that the morphologies of Totoro and the cooling gas in A1991 are more filamentary than a single peak.

Finally, the velocity fields of cooling gas in galaxy clusters, traced by CO and H$\alpha$, are characteristic of slow motions (projected velocity $< 400$ km s$^{-1}$), narrow line widths ($> 250$ km s$^{-1}$), and a lack of relaxed (e.g., rotating) structures (e.g., Salomé et al. 2008; Hammer et al. 2012; Oliveira et al. 2019). The observed velocity structures, despite low velocity resolutions, of Totoro traced by CO and H$\alpha$ (Figures 3(c) and 3(d)) agree with those of other cooling systems. In addition, the gas velocities of Totoro traced by CO and H$\alpha$ are not exactly identical, but the differences are small, $\sim 35$ km s$^{-1}$ at the main blob region and 60–90 km s$^{-1}$ at the connecting arms. This is also consistent with the finding by Oliveira et al. (2019) that the velocity difference between CO and H$\alpha$ gas is well below 100 km s$^{-1}$, providing an additional support for CO and H$\alpha$ gas arising from the same bulk of clouds. The velocity difference may be related to the different velocity resolutions of CO and H$\alpha$ observations and line-of-sight projection effect. We should note again that our CO and H$\alpha$ observations suffer from low velocity resolutions; therefore, the velocity fields must be interpreted with caution. Nonetheless, the maps still provide a guide of the velocity resolution needed for future observation of this system. Future high velocity resolution CO and H$\alpha$ observations are required to reveal the detailed gas kinematics of Totoro.

3.4.3. Environments

While most of the studies of cooling gas focus on BCGs in rich clusters, cold gas cooling from the hot X-ray medium is also observed at smaller scales in galaxy groups, such as NGC 5044, NGC 4638, and NGC 5846 (David et al. 2014; Temi et al. 2018). In fact, the observed cool-core fractions for galaxy groups are slightly higher than those of galaxy clusters (O’Sullivan et al. 2017). Therefore, gas cooled from the IGM is not unique to Totoro.

In Section 3.1, we argue that the cold gas in Totoro is unlikely to be the primitive gas of Satsuki being stripped by ram pressure. Nonetheless, the X-ray tail (Figure 9(a)) and the offset between the center of the X-ray bar and the optical centroid of Satsuki are both evidence that the motion of the dry merger (Satsuki and Mei) is rapid enough to lead to stripping of the hot gas halo (O’Sullivan et al. 2019). The question then arises of where and when the ionized and molecular gas we observed was formed; has ram pressure or other effects changed its location? We might normally expect to see the most rapid cooling in or near the galaxy center. However, the offset of the X-ray bar means that the densest, coolest IGM gas is no longer located at the center of Satsuki. Ram pressure, by pushing the X-ray halo and bar away from the core of Satsuki, may therefore have caused a reduction in cooling in the galaxy center (O’Sullivan et al. 2019).

CO emission occurs in dense molecular clouds that are “self-shielding” from the ionizing effects of the surrounding environment. While some of the H$\alpha$ emission likely comes from the outer layers of such molecular cloud complexes, observations show that in some cooling systems, the H$\alpha$ emission is considerably more extended than the molecular gas (e.g., in NGC 5044; Schellenberger et al. 2020), which may suggest that it is associated with a less dense cooled gas component. Such low-density material would likely move with the surrounding IGM if ram pressure pushed it back from the galaxy. Dense molecular clouds would not be affected by ram pressure and might be expected to fall under gravity toward the center of Satsuki, unless they are connected to the IGM via magnetic fields (McCourt et al. 2015) or surrounding layers of neutral and ionized gas (Li et al. 2018). Even with such connections to the surrounding environment, it seems implausible that the molecular gas could have condensed out of the IGM into the core of Satsuki and then been uplifted. The correlation between the CO, H$\alpha$, and the coolest X-ray gas strongly suggests that the molecular and ionized gas is the product of cooling from the IGM at its current location, i.e., that cooling has occurred (and may be ongoing) in Totoro, well outside the center of Satsuki.

Last but not least, as suggested by O’Sullivan et al. (2019) and this work, we are witnessing a merger between two groups undergoing rapid radiative cooling. Further analysis on the multiwavelength phase of cooling gas in NGC 6338, from cold to hot gas as in this study, will be carried in a separate paper (E. O’Sullivan et al. 2020, in preparation).

3.4.4. Future of the Gas

Cooling gas can potentially serve as the fuel for an AGN and/or central star formation (O’Dea et al. 2008; Rafferty et al. 2008; Mittal et al. 2009; Hicks et al. 2010; Fogarty et al. 2017). In X-ray-bright groups, like our target, star formation in the central galaxy is generally weak even in systems known to be cooling. By contrast, as many as 85%–90% of group-dominant galaxies have radio AGNs; moreover, dominant galaxies with active or recently active radio jets are relatively common in X-ray-bright groups (Kolokythas et al. 2018, 2019). Galaxy-cluster-dominant galaxies, however, seem much more likely to have significant star formation.

Here, we consider whether the cooling gas would fuel star formation assuming the gas will fall back into Satsuki. McDonald et al. (2018) compare the cooling rate of the ICM/IGM to the observed SFR in the central galaxy for a sample of isolated ellipticals, groups, and clusters. They found that the cooling ICM/IGM is not providing the fuel for star formation in systems with cooling rate $< 30 M_\odot$ yr$^{-1}$, which are dominated by groups and isolated ellipticals. On the other hand, SFR increases with increasing cooling rate for rapidly cooling systems ($> 30 M_\odot$ yr$^{-1}$), presumably due to an increase in either the cooling efficiency of the hot gas or the star formation efficiency of the cooled gas (see also Edge 2001; Salomé and Combes 2003; O’Dea et al. 2008). The cooling rate ($M_\odot/t_{cool}$ of Totoro is $\approx 1.2 \times 10^5 M_\odot/2.2 \times 10^8$ yr $\approx 5 M_\odot$ yr$^{-1}$. In this aspect, the cooling gas in our group-dominant, relatively low cooling rate system is less likely to significantly contribute to star formation.

Moreover, star formation can be suppressed by AGN feedback even in systems with short cooling times. The summed AGN jet power ($P_{jet}$) for both cavities associated with Satsuki from O’Sullivan et al. (2019) is $(0.97 - 2.67) \times 10^{41}$ erg s$^{-1}$ (an estimate of heating; the actual value depends on the cavity age used: buoyant rise time, sonic expansion timescale, or refill time); the energy is comparable to the X-ray luminosity for the whole X-ray-emitting gas $(\sim 3 \times 10^{41}$ erg s$^{-1}$; an estimate of cooling). Rafferty et al. (2008) find a tendency for
star-forming systems to have low $P_{\text{cav}}/L_X$ ratios ($<1$) and quiescent systems to have high $P_{\text{cav}}/L_X$ ratios ($>1$), supporting the suppression of star formation by AGN feedback. However, this is not exclusively the case; star-forming cooling systems can have high $P_{\text{cav}}/L_X$ ratios and vice versa. The estimated heating available from the cavities around Satsuki make it a borderline case, and the ongoing merger and stripping add to the complexities. The fate of Totoro may depend on how effectively energy from the cavities can heat their surroundings.

Finally, it is worth mentioning that Satsuki and Totoro may host a little star formation activity with an upper limit of $< 0.059$ and $< 0.047 M_\odot$ yr$^{-1}$, respectively, assuming all of the H$\alpha$ fluxes come from star formation. It is unclear if the current star formation (if any) is related to the cooling and gas fueling processes. McDonald et al. (2018) attribute the low-level star formation in low cooling rate systems to recycling of gas lost by evolved stars, namely, the star formation is not related to cooling gas.

4. Summary

In Paper I, we identified a H$\alpha$ blob Totoro $\sim$8 kpc away from a dry merger (Satsuki and Mei) from MaNGA data (Figure 1). Here we present new optical (wide-field H$\alpha$ and $u$-band), millimeter ($^{12}$CO(1–0)) observations, and published X-ray data (O’Sullivan et al. 2019), with the aim of providing significant constraints and answers to fundamental questions regarding the nature of Totoro. The main conclusions of this paper are as follows:

1. The data disfavor the scenario that Totoro is stripped from Satsuki by ram pressure based on the morphology and kinematics of ionized (H$\alpha$) and molecular gas, and the properties of the host galaxy (Section 3.1 and Figure 3).

We consider whether Totoro is a separate galaxy interacting with the dry merger (Satsuki and Mei) from several aspects:

1. We apply three commonly used methods to $g$-, $r$-, and $i$-band images (Figure 4) to look for an underlying stellar counterpart of Totoro. However, we find no compact underlying stellar component associated with Totoro (Section 3.2.1 and Figure 5).

2. No tidal tail feature is seen in H$\alpha$ beyond the MaNGA FoV. If Totoro is a galaxy interacting with the dry merger (Satsuki and Mei), it may have a nontypical tidal history and morphology, or it is a completely disrupted low-surface-brightness dwarf galaxy (Section 3.2.2, Figure 7, and Table 3).

3. However, Totoro shows different star formation, gas, and dust properties (in terms of $M_{H\alpha}$-SFR, $\Sigma_{SFR}$=dust, and $A_V$=$\Sigma_{SFR}$ relations and gas kinematics) from those of a variety of nearby galaxy populations (i.e., star-forming and quiescent galaxies, LSBs and UDGs). Therefore, Totoro is unlikely to be a separate galaxy interacting with the dry merger (Satsuki and Mei; Section 3.2.3 and Figure 8).

4. The $u$-band data, which are sensitive to recent star formation, show no strong sign of recent star formation at the position of Totoro. Therefore, the ionized gas of Totoro is unlikely to be powered by star formation, confirming the results of emission-line ratio diagnostics in Paper I and the previous bullet point that Totoro is not an analog of a star-forming region in nearby galaxy populations (Section 3.2.1 and Figure 5).

We consider whether Totoro is a result of AGN activity.

1. However, in spite of possible past AGN outbursts, the multiwavelength data show no direct evidence for an active ongoing AGN in Satsuki or Mei. Moreover, Totoro is unlikely to be gas being ionized or ejected by an AGN as its physical properties (gas excitation state, morphology, and kinematics, etc.) are distinct from similar objects (Section 3.3).

Finally, we consider whether Totoro is formed via cooling of hot IGM as implied by O’Sullivan et al. (2019).

1. We compare the spatial distribution of H$\alpha$ and CO with X-ray intensity and temperature maps. We find that the ionized and molecular gas are related to the most rapidly cooling region of the hot IGM. The cooling time in the Totoro region is well within the regime where cooling is expected (Section 3.4.1 and 3.4.2 and Figure 9).

1. The mass (or luminosity) relations between cold ($< 100$ K; CO), warm ($\sim 10^4$ K, H$\alpha$), and hot ($> 10^7$ K, X-ray) gas, as well as gas kinematics are in line with the gas content of cooling systems, supporting again the notion that Totoro originates from the same physical process of cooling gas (Section 3.4.2 and Figure 10).

1. The previous study by O’Sullivan et al. (2019) suggests that the densest, coolest X-ray gas has been pushed away from the core of the host galaxy Satsuki by ram pressure. The correlation between the CO, H$\alpha$, and the coolest X-ray gas presented in this work strongly suggests that the molecular and ionized gas are the product of cooling from the hot X-ray gas and is formed at its current location, leading to the observed offset cooling and the reduction in cooling in the galaxy core (Section 3.4.3).

2. The cooling rate of Totoro is considerably lower than that of star-forming cooling systems. The estimated heating available from the cavities around Satsuki is comparable to the cooling X-ray luminosity. The fate of Totoro may depend on how effectively energy from the cavities can heat their surroundings, but note that the ongoing merger (Satsuki, Mei, and NGC 6338) and stripping add to the complexities (Section 3.4.4).

In the majority of clusters, the peaks of optical and X-ray emission are very close to the center of the galaxy, so it is difficult to determine whether the appearances of warm or even cold gas are primarily related to the cooling of the IGM/ICM or the host galaxy. Offset cooling is rare ($< 5\%$; e.g., Hamer et al. 2012); therefore, VII Zw 700 provides an exceptional opportunity to constrain the gas cooling process and the interplay between cooling gas and host galaxy. In future work, we intend to constrain the gas kinematics at the connecting arms with high-spectral-resolution data to quantify the potential of a fueling process for Satsuki. A detailed multiwavelength analysis, from CO to H$\alpha$, to other optical lines (e.g., H$\beta$, [N II], [O III], etc.), and to X-ray, will be presented in an upcoming paper (E. O’Sullivan et al. in preparation). Moreover, the large sample of optical IFU survey MaNGA ($\sim$5000 galaxies in the
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latest SDSS data releases DR15/16 and ~10,000 in the future) along with the Chandra archive is a suitable starting point for future multiwavelength statistical studies of cooling gas properties. Although MaNGA does not target specific environments, the large sample size of MaNGA ensures observations of numerous galaxies located in groups and clusters. Given the significant fraction of cooling cores in galaxy clusters/groups (e.g., Mittal et al. 2009; O’Sullivan et al. 2017), more cooling gas candidates are expected in the final MaNGA sample.

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This work use GAIA to derive aperture photometry. GAIA is a derivative of the SKYCAT catalog and image display tool, developed as part of the VLTI project at ESO. SKYCAT and GAIA are free software under the terms of the GNU copyright. The 3D facilities in GAIA use the VTK library.

This research made use of APLpy, an open-source plotting package for Python (Robitaille and Bressert 2012).

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