Optical spectroscopy of IRAS 02091+6333

S. Kimeswenger1, A. Bacher1, M. Emprechtinger1, G. E. Grömer1, W. Kapferer1, W. Kausch1, M. G. Kitzbichler1, M. F. M. Lechner1, C. Lederle1, K. Uytterhoeven2,3, and A. A. Zijlstra4

1 Institut für Astrophysik der Leopold–Franzens–Universität Innsbruck, Technikerstr. 25, 6020 Innsbruck, Austria
2 Instituut voor Sterrenkunde, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Celestijnenlaan 200 B, 3001 Leuven, Belgium
3 Mercator Telescope, Calle Alvarez de Abreu 70, 38700 Santa Cruz de La Palma, Spain
4 Astrophysics Group, Department of Physics, UMIST, PO Box 88, Manchester M60 1QD, UK

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Abstract. We present a detailed spectroscopic investigation, spanning four winters, of the asymptotic giant branch (AGB) star IRAS 02091+6333. Zijlstra & Weinberger (2002) found a giant wall of dust around this star and modelled this unique phenomenon. However their work suffered from the quality of the optical investigations of the central object. Our spectroscopic investigation allowed us to define the spectral type and the interstellar foreground extinction more precisely. Accurate multiband photometry was carried out. This provides us with the possibility to derive the physical parameters of the system. The measurements presented here suggest a weak irregular photometric variability of the target, while there is no evidence of a spectroscopic variability over the last four years.

Key words. stars: AGB and post-AGB – stars: individual: IRAS 02091+6333 = GSC 04041-01743

1. Introduction

When Zijlstra & Weinberger (2002) discovered a massive dust shell around the AGB star IRAS 02091+6333 they could use only a single quick look spectrum and the original TYCHO $B_T$ and $V_T$ magnitudes (Perryman et al. 1997) to estimate the spectral type and the interstellar extinction towards the target. The spectroscopic investigation was lacking comparison spectra obtained with the same instrument setup. Furthermore the TYCHO instrument was close to its sensitivity limits. Thus we obtained spectra and photometry of this unique object for several years to derive an accurate spectral type and the foreground extinction. This allowed us to determine more precisely the distance of the target for the modelling of the dust shell found on Infrared Astronomical Satellite (IRAS) images. Zijlstra & Weinberger (2002) outline such shells for various types of objects at late stages of their evolution. Their focus was especially on a swept up shell with a void in the interstellar matter (ISM) around the target. This is crucial for both, the “Swiss cheese” like structure of the ISM and for the hydrodynamic evolution of the planetary nebula (PN) built after this evolutionary stage.

We thus investigated the spectroscopic and photometric properties of the central star to provide new input for the complete model of this unique object and its surroundings.

Send offprint requests to: S. Kimeswenger, e-mail: stefan.kimeswenger@uibk.ac.at

* Based on observations at the Innsbruck 60-cm telescope and the Flemish Mercator telescope on Roque de los Muchachos, Spain.

2. Data

The spectroscopic data were obtained with the Innsbruck 60-cm telescope (Kimeswenger 2001; Bacher et al. 2001) and an OptoMechanics 10C spectograph. A CompuScope Kodak 0400 CCD camera was attached to the spectograph. In the year 2000 a grating with 600 l/mm was used, resulting in a resolution of 1 Å/pixel. Later a grating with 240 l/mm (2.6 Å/pixel) was mounted to achieve a better S/N ratio. The complete log of the observations is given in Table 1. The exposure times varied with the wavelength region from 300 to 900 s. Each spectrum is a composite of individual takes covering about 800 Å with the high resolution grating and 2000 Å with the medium resolution mode. The wavelength shifts were selected to obtain appropriate overlaps of at least 25% of the wavelength range. In most of the nights several spectra were obtained to improve the S/N and eliminate cosmic ray events. The positions along the slit and the starting wavelengths varied to eliminate possible systematic errors in the setup. Flatfield, bias subtraction and wavelength calibration were carried out in a standard manner with the help of MIDAS routines. For comparison the late type standard stars HD 23475 (M 2IIb), HD 39801 (M 2I), HD 13325 (M 3III), HD 40239 (M 3II), HD 44478 (M 3III), HD 42995 (M 4III) HD 5316 (M 4III) and HD 12292 (M 5III) were observed with the medium resolution setup. The spectra were not calibrated absolutely, but only corrected for exposure time and airmass (with the atmospheric extinction given by Tüg 1980).
The wide band direct imaging in Innsbruck was obtained with an AP7p STeP 502e CCD device (Kimeswenger et al. 2002a; Lederle & Kimeswenger 2003). 24 images were taken in the nights of 10th and 11th of December 2002 with B, V, R and Ic filters. The exposure times were 30, 20, 10 and 10 s in B, V, R and Ic respectively. After standard basic CCD reduction the source extraction was performed using SExtractor V2 (Bertin & Arnouts 1996). The rms of the comparison standards in the field was $<0.003, \sigma_v = 0.009, \sigma_R = 0.007$ and $\sigma_I = 0.004$. Absolute calibration was obtained in both nights using the standard stars HR 580 and HR 596. The rms variations of the zero-points were less than $0.003 \sigma$ resulting in an error of the mean zero-point of less than $0.0015$.

The long term monitoring of the target was done with the P7 photometer attached to the 1.2-m Mercator telescope located at La Palma, using the 7 filters of the Geneva photometric system (Meylan & Hauck 1981; Golay 1994). The data was obtained and reduced within the framework of monitoring stars with constant airmass as described in Burki et al. (1995). The typical errors derived by the rms of the standard stars for the nights are below $0.1 \sigma$. The results are listed in Table 2.

3. Results

3.1. Spectroscopy

First the spectra were investigated with respect to variability. We cannot detect spectral variability (except in the region of the telluric water vapor bands longwards to 8000 Å – see Fig. 1). Also individual equivalent widths of metal lines of the IR CaII triplet and of Mg lead us to the same conclusion. Thus a composite spectrum was derived for the classification. The classification criteria of Kirkpatrick et al. (1991) were applied in the same way as described in Kimeswenger et al. (2003). This results in a spectral class of M4–M5. The scheme of TiO indices (Malyuto et al. 1997) argues for an M4.2III star. Applying the extension by Schmidt-Kaler & Oestreich (1998) we obtain an M4III star with $M_{bol} \approx -2.65 \sigma$ ($M_V \approx -0.5 \sigma$). The relation of the TiO to the NaD and Mg indices propose luminosity class III.

The most reliable classification is the direct comparison with standards, using the identical instrument setup. For this purpose eight comparison stars were taken during February 2001 and January 2003 between the target exposures with the same setup. Especially the TiO features at 7200–7400 Å and 7700–8000 Å are extremely sensitive to the effective temperature of the stars in that domain. The latter was not covered by the spectrum used by Zijlstra & Weinberger (2002). The classification using such bands is completely independent of the correction for the atmospheric and interstellar extinction. The results are shown in Fig. 2. The target superimposes nearly exactly the M4III star HD 5316. The overlay gives us an exact solution for the interstellar extinction. The results are shown in Fig. 2. The target superimposes nearly exactly the M4III star HD 5316. The overlay gives us an exact solution for the interstellar extinction of $E_{B-V} = 0.43 \sigma$. 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3.2. Photometry and distance

We have searched literature and telescope archives for photometry, but found in the optical and in the MIR-FIR only those mentioned already in Zijlstra & Weinberger (2002) – namely TYCHO in the optical, Midcourse Space Experiment (MSX, Egan et al. 1999) and IRAS in the infrared. The results of our photometry, together with results from literature are collected in Table 3. For the flux to magnitude conversion for IRAS we used the results of Wainscoat et al. (1992) and for MSX that of Cohen et al. (2000). The calibration of IRAS by Hickman et al. (1995) was not taken into account, as the MSX and the IRAS 12 µm fluxes gave differences of about 0.40 for all M type comparison stars here. For the TYCHO measurements we applied the color equations as given in the catalogue: \( V_T = V - 0.090 \times (B_T - V_T) \) and \( B - V = 0.850 \times (B_T - V_T) \).

During the reviewing process of this work, the 2MASS NIR data was made public. Although we listed the values in Table 3, they were not useful, as the target was overexposed even in the short 53 ms preexposure of the survey. We thus didn’t include these values in our interpretation.

The first TYCHO catalogue (Perryman et al. 1997) and the reanalysis of the same data in TYCHO-2 (Høg et al. 2000) give completely different results for the \( B_T \) band. The \( V_T \) band differs considerably more than the error given in the catalogue. Thus we assume the error to be significantly higher. For further analysis we use the TYCHO-2 values.

The Mercator monitoring (Fig. 3) clearly shows an irregular variability with an amplitude below 0.1 in \( V \). On the other hand the variation between our measurements, those of the amateur observations reported in Zijlstra & Weinberger (2002) and TYCHO-2 in the optical give an amplitude of some tenths of a magnitude. The \((V_T_{\text{min}} - V_T_{\text{max}})\) value (15% and 85% of the 228 photometric transits) given in TYCHO-2 is 1.71. But we assume the latter is mainly due to the limits of the experiment.

The MSX and IRAS measurements together with the spectroscopic stability lead us to the conclusion that the object seems to be very stable in the effective temperature. That fact limits the optical photometric amplitude to those found in the Mercator monitoring. Such small variations seem to be usual for late type stars around the tip of the first giant branch (Ita et al. 2002).

The colors \((V - R)_0 = 1.15\) and \((V - I_C)_0 = 2.68\) indicate a M4.5III MK class (Drilling & Landolt 2000). Using our
The table 3. Summary of photometric observations except those listed in Table 2. The TYCHO measurements were converted to the standard system (see text).

| date       | Band | Mag.   | Quality or error | Ref. |
|------------|------|--------|------------------|------|
| 10/11.12.2002 | $B$ | $12^\circ 607$ | $0^\circ 014$ | here |
|            | $V$  | $10^\circ 519$ | $0^\circ 009$ | here |
|            | $R$  | $9^\circ 077$  | $0^\circ 004$ | here |
|            | $I_c$| $7^\circ 309$  | $0^\circ 019$ | here |
| ≥1989      | $B$  | $12^\circ 22$  | $0^\circ 23$  | TYC-1 |
|            | $V$  | $10^\circ 41$  | $0^\circ 05$  | TYC-1 |
|            | $B$  | $12^\circ 46$  | $0^\circ 23$  | TYC-2 |
| January 2000 | $V$  | $10^\circ 37$  | $0^\circ 05$  | TYC-2 |
| January 2001 | $I$  | $7^\circ 4$    | ?               | [1]  |
| 5.1.1999   | $J$  | $5^\circ 326$  | $0^\circ 03$  | 2MASS |
|           | $H$  | $4^\circ 350$  | $0^\circ 29$  | 2MASS |
|           | $K_s$| $4^\circ 034$  | $0^\circ 34$  | 2MASS |
| ≥1983      | [8.3]| $3^\circ 80$   | qal 4          | MSX  |
|           | [14.6]| $2^\circ 09$   | qal 1          | MSX  |
|           | [12] | $3^\circ 76$   | qal 3          | IRAS |
|           | [25] | $3^\circ 55$   | qal 3          | IRAS |

[1] Zijlstra & Weinberger (2002).  
* The 2MASS data is flagged in the data base as “radial profile fitting of overexposed source” and “profile fit very poor”.

Table 4. Summary of the results for IRAS 02091+6333.

| Spectral type    | $T_{\text{eff}}$ | Type of photometric variability | $V_{\text{phot}}$ | $M_V$ | $M_{\text{bol}}$ | Distance | Luminosity |
|------------------|------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|-------|------------------|----------|------------|
| M4 II, III       | $3350\pm 26$ K   | irr. or SR                       | $10^\circ 52\pm 03$ | $0^\circ 43\pm 01$ | $0^\circ 1$ | $1020\pm 10^{+100}_{-120}$ pc | $920\pm 150$ L$_\odot$ |

Two stars – namely HD 13325 (M 3III) and HD 5316 (M 4III) – overlap between their and our sample. One can clearly see in Fig. 4 the broad band mid-IR flux hardly varies between M 3 and M 4 stars. Only M 5 stars have a significant different SED. We thus fit our target between the M 4 stars of the sample. This provides us with (using all bands) a distance of 1020 pc. The HIPPARCOS errors for the bright comparison stars and the uncertainties from the photometry of the target results in a lower limit of 870 pc and an upper one of 1150 pc. The luminosity derived from the spectroscopy and the V photometry gives us 920 pc. According to van Belle et al. (1999) for $K-[12] > 0^\circ 6$ there is no correlation with the effective temperature anymore. Thus this band, lacking here, would deliver us no additional information.
3.3. Astrometry

The target was suspected to have a relatively high proper motion in the TYCHO catalogue, although the positional error given there is very high. We thus tried to derive a value for the proper motion in the same way as in Kimeswenger et al. (2002b) by using the six sky survey plates of the region. But as the target is extremely overexposed and lies near the corner of the POSS-E (1952 and 1993) and of the Quick-VN (1983) plates, we cannot derive a proper solution. The accuracy is about the same as in the the TYCHO experiment. Kislyuk et al. (1999) give similar numbers in their online version, using their plate from 1983 and the AC2000 catalogue position from 1905 (Urban et al. 1997). But forwarding the errors in both catalogues to the resulting proper motion we again end up with large error bars (12 ± 7 mas yr⁻¹). The direction of the motion vector is co-lined with the TYCHO result, suggesting a genuine movement which leads to a motion of about 60 km s⁻¹ relative to the surrounding stellar field after subtracting the galactic rotation for a distance of about 1 kpc (only about 1.5 mas yr⁻¹).

This is, although still possible, very high for galactic disk stars. The vector is almost opposite to the galactic rotation parallel to the galactic plane. Further investigations about the population fraction for a distance of about 1 kpc (only about 1.5 mas yr⁻¹). The small irregular photometric variability fits well to this assumption for a distance of about 1 kpc (only about 1.5 mas yr⁻¹).

This may suggest a wind having a higher momentum. One can only speculate on the origin of this additional source of energy. There is no signature in the spectroscopy for a hot companion, and thus the distance) but hardly the photometric colors (Girardi et al. 2000a). This adds some uncertainties to the values derived for individual sources.

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