High-resolution FUSE and HST ultraviolet spectroscopy of the white dwarf central star of Sh 2–216* **

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ABSTRACT

Context. We perform a comprehensive spectral analysis of LS V +46°21 in order to compare its photospheric properties to theoretical predictions from stellar evolution theory as well as diffussion calculations. 

Aims. LS V +46°21 is the DAO-type central star of the planetary nebula Sh 2–216. High-resolution, high-S/N ultraviolet observations obtained with FUSE and STIS aboard the HST as well as the optical spectrum have been analyzed in order to determine the photospheric parameters and the spectroscopic distance.

Methods. We performed a detailed spectral analysis of the ultraviolet and optical spectrum by means of state-of-the-art NLTE model-atmosphere techniques.

Results. From the N IV – N V, O IV – O VI, Si IV – Si V, and Fe V – Fe VII ionization equilibria, we determined an effective temperature of (95 ± 2) kK with high precision. The surface gravity is log g = 6.9 ± 0.2. An unexplained discrepancy appears between the spectroscopic distance d = 224±33 pc and the parallax distance d = 129±8 pc of LS V +46°21. For the first time, we have identified Mg IV and Ar VI absorption lines in the spectrum of a hydrogen-rich central star and determined the Mg and Ar abundances as well as the individual abundances of iron-group elements (Cr, Mn, Fe, Co, and Ni). With the realistic treatment of metal opacities up to the iron group in the model-atmosphere calculations, the so-called Balmer-line problem (found in models that neglect metal-line blanketing) vanishes.

Conclusions. Spectral analysis by means of NLTE model atmospheres has presently arrived at a high level of sophistication, which is now hampered largely by the lack of reliable atomic data and accurate line-broadening tables. Strong efforts should be made to improve upon this situation.

Key words. ISM: planetary nebulae: individual: Sh 2–216 – Stars: abundances – Stars: atmospheres – Stars: evolution – Stars: individual: LS V +46°21 – Stars: AGB and post-AGB

1. Introduction

The planetary nebula (PN) Sh 2–216 (PN G158.6+00.7) has been discovered as a large and faint emission nebula (Sharpless 216) and was classified as an H II region. Fesen et al. (1981) performed spectrophotometry on this “curious emission-line nebula” and found several forbidden lines and properties similar to PNe. Reynolds (1985) used high-resolution Fabry-Perot spectrophotometry to show that Sh 2–216 has all the characteristics of an extremely old PN with a very low expansion velocity \( v_{\exp} < 4 \) km \( s^{-1} \), but a central star (CS) was not found. Reynolds (1985) speculated that the CS is no longer centrally located due to deceleration of the PN shell over a long period of time by the interstellar medium (ISM).

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Cudworth & Reynolds (1985) have unambiguously identified LS V +46°21, one of two possible CS candidates (the other was AS84 (Hardorp, Theile, & Voigt 1965)) located nearly midway between the apparent center of Sh 2–216 and its eastern rim, as the exciting star of Sh 2–216 by proper-motion measurements. Sh 2–216 has obviously experienced a mild interaction with the ISM (Tweedy, Martos, & Noriega-Crespo 1995). From its distance and proper motion, Kerber et al. (2004) have determined that it has a thin-disk orbit of low inclination and eccentricity, and that the CS left the center of its surrounding PN about 45,000 years ago.

At a distance of \( d = 129 \) pc (Harris et al. 2007), it is the closest possible PN known. With an apparent size of 100’ × 100’ (Borkowski et al. 1990), it is among the physically most extended (cf. Rauch et al. 2004) and hence, oldest PNe (about 660,000 years, Napiwotzki 1999) known.

Since its identification as the CS of Sh 2–216, LS V +46°21 has been object of many investigations and analyses which are briefly summarized here.

Feibelman & Bruhweiler (1990) were able to detect a large number of Fe V and Fe VI lines in spectra taken by the International Ultraviolet Explorer (IUE). Tweedy & Napiwotzki (1992) have demonstrated that LS V +46°21, which is the brightest \( (m_V = 12.67 ± 0.02) \), Cheselka et al. (1993) DAO-type white
dwarf (WD 0441+467, McCook & Sion 1999) known, has the properties \( T_{\text{eff}} = 90 \) kK, \( \log g = 7 \) (cm s\(^{-2}\)), H/He = 0.01 by number) necessary to ionize the surrounding nebula.

Napiwotzki (1992, 1993), Napiwotzki & Schönberner (1993), and Napiwotzki & Rauch (1994) have reported that the Balmer-series lines of very hot DAO white dwarfs could not all be fit simultaneously with an NLTE model of a given \( T_{\text{eff}} \). For example, fits to the individual Balmer lines of LS V+46°21 gave values of \( T_{\text{eff}} \) ranging from about 50 kK for H\( \alpha \) to 90 kK for H\( \delta \). This circumstance is known as the Balmer line problem (BLP). Bergeron et al. (1993) found (in LTE calculations for DAO WDs) that the BLP is reduced by the consideration of metal-line blanketing, and Bergeron et al. (1994) could show clearly that the presence of heavy metals is the source of the BLP. Barstow, Hubeny & Holberg (1998) have shown that models which neglect the opacity of heavy elements are not well suited for the analysis of DA white dwarfs. To summarize, pure hydrogen models are not suited for the spectral analysis of hot DA(O) WDs in general (cf. Fig [12].

Werner (1996) calculated NLTE model atmospheres for LS V+46°21 based on parameters of Tweedy & Napiwotzki (1992) and introduced C, N, and O (at solar abundances) in addition. Surface cooling by these metals as well as the detailed consideration of the Stark line broadening in the model-atmosphere calculation has the effect that the BLP almost vanishes in LS V+46°21. Later, Kruk & Werner (1998) could demonstrate that these model atmospheres reproduce well HUT (Hopkins Ultraviolet Telescope) observations of LS V+46°21 within 912 – 1840 Å at \( T_{\text{eff}} = 85 \) kK and \( \log g = 6.9 \).

Napiwotzki (1999) determined \( T_{\text{eff}} = 83.2 \pm 3.3 \) kK and \( \log g = 6.74 \pm 0.19 \). The model contained only H and He (at an abundance ratio of \( n_{\text{He}}/n_{\text{H}} = -1.95 \)) and a fit to H\( \delta \) was done to derive \( T_{\text{eff}} \) (cf. Fig [12]). Also, instead of assuming LTE, which fails in the region of typical white dwarf central stars \( T_{\text{eff}} = 100 \) kK / \( \log g = 7.0 \), he calculated an NLTE model based on the accelerated lambda iteration (ALI) method as described by Werner (1996).

Werner et al. (2003) evaluated the Fe \( \nu \) – Fe \( \nu \) ionization equilibrium and arrived at \( T_{\text{eff}} = 90 \) kK and \( \log g = 7.0 \).

Traulsen et al. (2005) considered the opacity of light metals (C, N, O, and Si) in addition and determined \( T_{\text{eff}} = 93 \pm 5 \) kK and \( \log g = 6.9 \pm 0.2 \) (cm s\(^{-1}\)) \( T_{\text{eff}} \) and \( \log g \) were derived from the ionization equilibrium of O \( \nu \) – O \( \nu \). The abundances for the included elements were determined to be [He] = \( -0.9 \), [C] = \( -1.0 \), [N] = \( -2.0 \), [O] = \( -0.9 \), and [Si] = \( -0.3 \) \( \nu \) (where: \( \nu \) (mass fraction / solar mass fraction) of species \( x \)). From O \( \nu \lambda 1371 \) Å a radial velocity of \( \nu_{\text{rad}} = +22.4 \) km s\(^{-1}\) was measured.

Recently, Hofmann (2005) determined an oversolar iron abundance in a preliminary analysis based on H+He+Fe models.

In this paper, we present a detailed analysis of the individual abundances of iron-group elements and light metals based on high-resolution UV observations (Sect. [2]). The analysis is described in Sect. [3].

2. Observations and reddening

Spectral analysis by model-atmosphere techniques needs observations of lines of successive ionization stages in order to evaluate the ionization equilibrium of a particular species which is a sensitive indicator of \( T_{\text{eff}} \). For stars with \( T_{\text{eff}} \) as high as \( \approx 90 \) kK, the ionization degree is very high and most of the metal lines are found at UV wavelengths. Thus, high-S/N and high-resolution UV spectra are a prerequisite for a precise analysis. Consequently, we used FUSE (Far Ultraviolet Spectroscopic Explorer) and HST/STIS (Space Telescope Imaging Spectrograph aboard the Hubble Space Telescope) in order to obtain suitable data.

2.1. The FUSE spectrum of LS V+46°21

FUSE provides spectra in the wavelength band 900 – 1187 Å with a typical resolving power of 20 000. FUSE consists of four independent co-aligned telescopes with prime-focus Rowland circle spectrographs. Two of the four channels have optics coated with Al+LiF and two channels have optics coated with SiC. Each spectrograph has three entrance apertures: LWRS (30′′×20′′), MDRS (4′′×20′′), and HIRS (1′′25′′×20′′). Further information on the FUSE mission and instrument can be found in Moos et al. (2000) and Sahnow et al. (2000).

This star was observed many times in all three spectrograph apertures (LWRS, MDRS, and HIRS) as part of the wavelength calibration program for FUSE. The observations used in this analysis are listed in Table [1]. The LWRS observations were photometric or nearly so in all four channels, so the effective exposure time was essentially the same for all of them. The effective exposure time varied considerably in the MDRS channels as a result of channel misalignments. The time given in Table [1] for these observations is that of the LiF1 channel; the LiF2 time is similar but the SiC channel exposure time is typically lower by a factor of two.

| Table 1. FUSE observations of LS V+46°21 used in this analysis. |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| dataset         | start time (UT) | aperture | exp time (sec) |
| M1070404        | 2001-01-10 15:29| LWRS     | 5606            |
| M1070407        | 2001-01-25 14:46| LWRS     | 6826            |
| M1070416        | 2003-02-06 09:59| LWRS     | 7511            |
| M1070419        | 2003-09-27 00:48| LWRS     | 3541            |
| M1070422        | 2004-01-23 17:40| LWRS     | 2990            |
| M1070402        | 2001-01-09 17:36| MDRS     | 1418            |
| M1070405        | 2001-01-23 16:15| MDRS     | 8922            |
| M1070408        | 2001-01-25 19:58| MDRS     | 6257            |
| M1070417        | 2003-02-06 15:05| MDRS     | 4899            |
| M1070420        | 2003-09-27 15:55| MDRS     | 3613            |
| M1070423        | 2004-01-26 06:49| MDRS     | 4401            |

The raw data for each exposure were reduced using CalFUSE version 3.0.7. For a description of the CalFUSE pipeline, see Dixon et al. (2007). The exposure with the maximum flux outside of airglow lines was then identified for each observation. Any exposures with less than 40% of this flux were discarded and the remainder were normalized to match the peak exposure and their exposure times were scaled accordingly. These corrections were negligible (less than 1%) for all but the last exposure of M1070422, where a delayed target acquisition resulted in a significant correction. For the MDRS spectra these corrections were negligible for the LiF channels but were typically ~50% for the SiC channels. The MDRS spectra were subsequently renormalized to match the LWRS spectra. The exposures were coaligned by cross-correlating on narrow ISM features and combined. This coalignment was then repeated to combine the observations; the end result was a single spectrum for each channel and spectrograph aperture. Subsequent analyses were performed primarily using the LWRS spectra, with the
MDRS spectra providing a confirmation that weak features were real and not the result of detector fixed-pattern noise.

At first glance, the FUSE spectrum of LS V +46°21 gives the impression that it is hopeless to find signatures of the stellar photosphere in the sea of interstellar absorption lines (Fig. 1). However, some strong, isolated lines, e.g. of N iv, P v, S vi, and Cr vi, as well as a large number of Fe vi, Fe vii, and Ni vi lines, are identified and are included in our analysis.

In order to demonstrate that a combined model of photospheric and interstellar absorption reproduces the FUSE observation well, we decided to apply the profile-fitting procedure OWENS which enables us to model the interstellar absorption lines with high accuracy. The use of this procedure is described in Sect. 3.

2.2. The STIS spectrum of LS V +46°21

The STIS observation had been performed with the E140M grating and the FUV-MAMA detector which provides echelle spectra in the wavelength range from 1144 Å to 1729 Å with a theoretical resolving power of $\lambda/\Delta\lambda = 45,800$. Two spectra (total exposure time 5.5 ksec, resolution $\approx 0.06$ Å) were taken in 2000 and processed by the standard pipeline data reduction (version of June 2006).

In order to increase the signal-to-noise ratio ($S/N$), the two obtained spectra have been co-added and were subsequently smoothed with a Savitzky-Golay filter (Savitzky & Golay 1964). This spectrum has a very good $S/N > 50$.

2.3. Interstellar absorption and reddening

In order to fine tune model-atmosphere parameters and better match the observations, we have determined from all models both the column density of interstellar neutral hydrogen ($n_{HI}$) and the reddening ($E_{B-V}$).

From a detailed comparison of H 1 Ly $\alpha$ (Fig. 1) with the observation (best suited because the interstellar H 1 absorption dominates the complete line profile), we determined $n_{HI} = (8.5 \pm 1.0) \times 10^{19}$ cm$^{-2}$. For the following analysis, we adopt this value.

We determine the reddening from the FUSE and STIS spectra (Fig. 2). We note that the FUSE and STIS fluxes agree quite well for 1150 – 1180 Å. We achieve the best match to the continuum slope with $E_{B-V} = 0.065^{+0.010}_{-0.015}$ (Fig. 2).

This value is higher than the $E_{B-V} = 0.024 \pm 0.008$ predicted by the Galactic reddening law of Groenewegen & Lamers (1989). In the case of LS V +46°21 its PN is likely to modify the expect reddening behaviour in two ways: first, the enormous ambient PN will result in additional reddening (although the column density is small), and second, presence of the circumstellar material is probably modifying the applied reddening law (Seaton 1979). Our $E_{B-V}$ is lower than $E_{B-V} = 0.1$ that derived from the analysis of a HUT spectrum (915 Å $< \lambda < 1840$ Å). Recently, Harris et al. (2007) have determined $E_{B-V} = 0.08$ from optical spectra.

We have to mention that fitting the extinction is uncertain. The generic curves are averages to many sight lines and often don’t fit a single one well. The curves are less well-characterized as one goes farther into the FUV, as there are multiple absorbers possible and they each have a distinctive wavelength-dependence (see, e.g., Sofia et al. 2005). However, the exact $E_{B-V}$ is not important, neither for our following spectral analysis by detailed line-profile fitting (Sect. 3.3) nor for our distance determination (Sect. 3.4). We finally adopt $E_{B-V} = 0.065$.

3. Data modeling and analysis

In the following, we describe in detail the analysis of the FUSE and STIS spectra of LS V +46°21 by means of NLTE model-atmosphere techniques.

3.1. Model atmospheres and atomic data

We employed TMAP, the Tübingen NLTE Model Atmosphere Package (Werner et al. 2003), for the calculation of plane-parallel, homogeneous, static models which consist of H, He, C, N, O, F, Mg, Si, P, S, Ar, Ca, Sc, Ti, V, Cr, Mn, Fe, Co, and
Ni (in the following, we will refer to Ca – Ni as iron-group elements). H, He, C, N, O, F, Mg, Si, P, S, and Ar are represented by “classical” model atoms (Rauch 1997) partly taken from TMAD, the Tübingen Model Atom Database.

For Ca+Sc+Ti+V+Cr+Mn+Fe+Co+Ni individual model atoms are constructed by IrOnIc (Rauch & Deetjen 2003), using a statistical approach in order to treat the extremely large number of atomic levels and line transitions by the introduction of “super-levels” and “super-lines”. In total 686 levels are treated in NLTE, combined with 2417 individual lines and about 9 million iron-group lines (Table 2), taken from Kurucz (1996) as well as from the OPACITY and IRON projects (Seaton et al. 1994; Hummer et al. 1993). It is worthwhile to mention that this is the most extended model we have calculated with TMAD so far. The frequency grid comprises about 34 000 points spanning 10^{12} – 3 × 10^{17} Hz. On a PC of our institute’s cluster with a 3.4 GHz processor and 4 GB RAM, one iteration takes about 48 000 s. We need more than one week of CPU time to calculate one complete model with a convergence criterion of 10^{-4} in the relative corrections of temperature, densities, occupation numbers, and flux for all (90) depth points.

3.2. Line identification

The UV spectrum of LS V +46°21 exhibits a large number of stellar and interstellar absorption features. None of the identified photospheric lines shows evidence for on-going mass loss of LS V +46°21.

We are able to identify and reproduce about 95% of all spectral lines in the FUSE and STIS spectra of LS V +46°21. It is likely that most of the remaining unidentified lines (e.g. in Fig. 12) stem from the same ions, but are from transitions whose wavelengths are not sufficiently well-known. For instance for Fe v, Kurucz (1996) provides only 22 laboratory measured (POS) lines and 1952 lines with theoretical line positions (LIN lines). This situation is even worse for other ions (Fe v: 224 and 58664, respectively) and species.

Despite these problems, we identify weak Mg iv lines in the STIS spectrum (Table 3). The strongest of which, Mg iv λ 1683.0 Å, is shown in Fig. 3. Noerdlinger & Dynan (1975) had already proposed this identification for a respective feature in the supergiant δ Ori.

Moreover, we could identify Si iv and Si v lines (Table 3), which provide a new ionization equilibrium to evaluate for the T_{eff} determination. An example for a Si v line is shown in Fig. 3. We have also identified Ar vi λ 1303.86 Å as an isolated line in the STIS spectrum (Table 3) of LS V +46°21 (Fig. 4). To our

Fig. 2. Sections of the FUSE (1150 – 1170 Å) and STIS (1170 – 1650 Å) spectra of LS V +46°21 compared with synthetic spectra at different E_B-V (for clarity, the FUSE and STIS spectra are smoothed with Gaussians of 0.1 Å and 1 Å FWHM, respectively). The synthetic spectra are smoothed with Gaussians of 1 Å FWHM and are normalized to the flux level of the observation around He ii λ 1640 Å. Due to the many (photospheric and interstellar) absorption lines, a convolution of the FUSE spectrum with a wider Gaussian would result in an artificially lower “continuum”. The overall continuum is well reproduced at E_B-V = 0.065.

Fig. 3. Sections of the STIS spectrum of LS V +46°21 around Mg iv λ 1683.0 Å (top) and Si v λ 1276.0 Å (bottom). Identified lines are marked with their ion’s name. “is” denotes interstellar lines.

1 http://astro.uni-tuebingen.de/~rauch/TMAD/TMAD.html
We have inspected the spectrum of LS V +6°21. We list the number of so-called “super levels” and sampled lines that are statistically combined to “super lines”.

| ion     | levels | super levels | super lines | sample lines |
|---------|--------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| H I     | 10     | 3            | 6           |              |
| H II    | 1      |              |             |              |
| He I    | 5      | 3            | 7           | 24           |
| He II   | 14     | 90           | 7           | 27           |
| He III  | 1      |              | 3           | 6            |
| C III   | 10     | 12           | 7           | 24           |
| C IV    | 54     | 295          | 7           | 26           |
| C V     | 1      | 0            | 1           | 0            |
| N IV    | 9      | 10           | 3           | 5            |
| N V     | 54     | 297          | 7           | 24           |
| N VI    | 1      | 0            | 7           | 26           |
| O IV    | 11     | 19           | 1           | 0            |
| O V     | 90     | 608          | 3           | 5            |
| O VI    | 54     | 291          | 7           | 24           |
| O VII   | 1      | 0            | 7           | 24           |
| F V     | 8      | 9            | 1           | 0            |
| F VI    | 6      | 4            | 3           | 5            |
| F VII   | 2      | 1            | 7           | 24           |
| F VIII  | 1      | 0            | 7           | 24           |
| Mg III  | 1      | 0            | 7           | 24           |
| Mg IV   | 8      | 7            | 3           | 5            |
| Mg V    | 5      | 2            | 7           | 24           |
| Mg VI   | 1      | 0            | 7           | 24           |
| Si III  | 6      | 4            | 1           | 0            |
| Si IV   | 16     | 44           | 3           | 5            |
| Si V    | 15     | 20           | 7           | 25           |
| Si VI   | 1      | 0            | 7           | 24           |
| P III   | 3      | 0            | 1           | 0            |
| P IV    | 15     | 9            | 3           | 5            |
| P V     | 18     | 12           | 7           | 22           |
| P VI    | 1      | 0            | 7           | 23           |
| S IV    | 6      | 4            | 1           | 0            |
| S V     | 14     | 16           | 3           | 5            |
| S VI    | 18     | 48           | 7           | 22           |
| S VII   | 1      | 0            | 7           | 22           |
| Ar IV   | 2      | 0            | 1           | 0            |
| Ar V    | 9      | 6            |              |              |
| Ar VI   | 15     | 21           |              |              |
| Ar VII  | 20     | 36           |              |              |
| Ar VIII | 13     | 24           |              |              |
| Ar IX   | 1      | 0            |              |              |
| total   | 522    | 1937         | 162         | 480          |

Table 2. Statistics of “classical” (left) and iron-group (Ca – Ni, right) model atoms used in our calculations. We give the number of levels treated in NLTE and the respective line transitions. For the iron-group levels, we list the number of so-called “super levels” and sampled lines that are statistically combined to “super lines”.

The complete FUSE and STIS spectra compared to the synthetic spectra calculated from our final model with identification marks as well as a table with the wavelengths of all identified lines are available online. In Figs. 11–14 and 16 we show some details of the FUSE spectrum. In Figs. 11–14 and 16.
we start our analysis with model atmospheres based on parameters (Sect. 1) of Traulsen et al. (2005). We include Mg and Ca – Ni in addition (solar abundance ratios). In a first step, we prepared with synthetic spectra with solar (full line) and 10× solar F abundance (dashed line).

In the first part of this analysis, we will mainly concentrate on the STIS spectrum in which we find many isolated lines of many species and their ions. Since the number of species is large, it is impossible to calculate extended model-atmosphere grids on a reasonable time scale. Therefore, we pursued the following strategy. We start our analysis with model atmospheres based on parameters (Sect. 1) of Traulsen et al. (2005). We include Mg and Ca – Ni in addition (solar abundance ratios). In a first step, we will then re-adjust \( T_{\text{eff}} \) precisely and check log \( g \) (Sect. 3.3.3). Subsequently, we will fine-tune the C, N, and O abundances in order to improve the fit to the STIS observation (Sect. 3.3.1). The abundances of Mg, Si, P, S, Ar, and Ca – Ni are then fine-tuned. During this whole process, our results for \( T_{\text{eff}} \) and log \( g \) are continuously checked for consistency.

3.3.1. Metal abundances

The abundances of C, N, O, Mg, and Si have been determined by detailed line-profile fits based on the FUSE and STIS observations. Examples are shown in Figs. 3, 6, and 13. In the FUSE spectrum of LS V +46°21, P \( \lambda \lambda 1117, 1128 \) Å are identified (Fig. 7). These lines are well reproduced at a 0.5× solar abundance.

We have identified S \( \lambda \lambda 933, 944 \) Å in the FUSE and S \( \lambda \lambda 1419.38, 1419.74, 1423.85 \) Å in the STIS spectra (Fig. 8). The line cores of the S \( \lambda \) resonance doublet appear too deep to match the observation and are not well-suited for an abundance determination. The reason might be the uncertain continuum level in the FUSE wavelength range due to the strong interstellar absorption and the insufficient line-broadening tables. Though we use data of Dimitrijević & Sahal-Bréchet (1993), these need to be extrapolated to the temperatures and densities at the line-forming regions especially of the line cores (which form in the outer parts of the atmosphere) and are, thus, not very accurate.

However, S \( \lambda \lambda 1419.38, 1419.74, 1423.85 \) Å (Fig. 8) are well reproduced at a 0.5× solar abundance. S \( \lambda \lambda 1117.76 \) Å (Fig. 11) is part of a strong blend but is in reasonable agreement with the observation. S \( \lambda \lambda 1122, 1129, 1134 \) Å as well as S \( \lambda \lambda 976, 1000, 1018 \) Å are not identified but these are too strong at solar abundance.

We find discrepancies similar to those with the S \( \lambda \) resonance doublet’s line cores (too deep) also for O \( \lambda \lambda 1117.76 \) Å (Fig. 11) where we use tables provided by Dimitrijević & Sahal-Bréchet (1992a). We encounter the same problems in the STIS wavelength region where the continuum is much better defined with the resonance doublet of N \( \lambda \lambda 1122, 1129, 1134 \) Å as well as S \( \lambda \lambda 976, 1000, 1018 \) Å are not identified but these are too strong at solar abundance.

In the STIS spectrum of LS V +46°21, we could identify iron-group lines of Cr, Mn, Fe, Co, and Ni. For these we de-
determined the abundances (Fig. 13) with an accuracy of 0.3 dex from line profile fits. No trace of Ca, V, Sc, and Ti was found, neither in the STIS nor in the FUSE spectrum. We did some test calculations in order to find upper abundance limits, i.e. at what abundances do lines of these species appear too strongly to be in hidden in the observation. These limits are about 20 – 50 times solar. For our model calculations, however, we assume that the Ca, V, Sc, and Ti have a solar-relative abundance pattern with the other iron-group elements and adopt a 5× solar abundance for them.

3.3.2. Surface gravity

[Traulsen et al. 2005] calculated a spectroscopic distance of \( d = 240 \pm 36 \) pc (same method as described in Sect. 3.4). This is not in agreement with the result of [Harris et al. 2007] who found \( d = 128.9^{+3.7}_{-3.3} \) pc from the trigonometric parallax. The spectroscopic distance is strongly dependent on \( \log g \) (see Equation 2), which is determined from detailed line profile fits. From our experience, we know that in the relevant \( \log g \) range (around 7), the typical error range is about 0.5 dex – resulting in a large error in \( d \). Since we have a direct measurement of the distance \( \lambda \), this adds a strong constraint (Sect. 3.4).

From Equation 2 we can estimate that we need a higher \( \log g \) (of about 7.4) than found in previous analyses and thus, we extend our model-atmosphere grid to higher \( \log g \) and higher \( T_{\text{eff}} \). However, we find that a higher \( \log g \) cannot be compensated by a change of \( T_{\text{eff}} \) within the error limits derived from fits to the hydrogen Balmer lines. A detailed comparison of the H II 1640Å 2-3 multiplet with the STIS observation is shown in Fig. 10. He II \( \lambda 1640 \) Å is sensitive to both the He abundance as well as \( \log g \). E.g. a factor of 0.5/2.0 in the He abundance can be approximately compensated by \( +0.5/-0.5 \) in \( \log g \). However, from this line we derive \( \log g = 6.9 \pm 0.3 \) and \([\text{He}]\) = 0.1 \pm 0.3 dex. At \( \log g = 6.9 \), e.g. the C IV \( \lambda 1169 \) Å doublet is well reproduced (Fig. 6).

The determination of \( \log g \) is a crucial issue of this work and thus, we tried to use the hydrogen Lyman lines for this purpose. Unfortunately, neither L α which is in the STIS wavelength range nor the higher lines of the Lyman series are suited: while the complete L α line profile is dominated by absorption of interstellar H I (Fig. 1), the strong interstellar absorption in the FUSE wavelength range at \( \lambda \leq 1100 \) Å strongly hampers, e.g.,
3.3.3. Effective temperature

An ionization equilibrium is a very sensitive indicator for \( T_{\text{eff}} \).
The evaluation of ionization equilibria of many species with many lines increases the accuracy (e.g. Rauch 1993) further. As a prerequisite, lines of successive ions of a species have to be identified. In the STIS spectrum of LS V +46°21, we found lines of N IV – N V, O IV – O V, Si IV – Si V, Fe V – Fe VII, and Ni V – Ni VII which are suitable for this purpose. In addition, the FUSE spectrum provides lines of N IV, O VII, Si IV, Fe VI – Fe VII, and Ni VI – Ni VII.

With our synthetic spectra, we are able to reproduce all O lines but O VI λ 1371 Å. The reason is unknown, however, a possible reason is the approximate formula used for the quadratic Stark effect. Thus, detailed line-broadening data for this line is highly desirable.

In Fig. 12 we show the dependency of the Fe V – Fe VII equilibrium on \( T_{\text{eff}} \). We can model Fe V – Fe VII lines simultaneously at \( T_{\text{eff}} = 95 \text{kK} \). Fig. 13 demonstrates that other ionization equilibria are also well reproduced at this \( T_{\text{eff}} \). For other species, the reader may have a look at the complete FUSE and STIS spectra (Sect. 3.2).

Fig. 11. Dependency of H\( \beta \) on \( T_{\text{eff}} \) (left) and log \( g \) (right). A section of the optical spectrum of LS V +46°21 (taken in Oct 1990 with the TWIN spectrograph attached to the 3.5 m telescope at the Calar Alto observatory) around H\( \beta \) compared with theoretical line profiles calculated from models with \( T_{\text{eff}} = 90, 95, 100 \text{kK} \) and log \( g = 6.5, 6.9, 7.3 \). In this parameter range, H\( \beta \) appears not very sensitive on \( T_{\text{eff}} \) but very sensitive on log \( g \) in the line center. At log \( g = 6.9 \), the central depression is perfectly matched and the observed line profile is well reproduced.

Fig. 12. Section of the STIS spectrum of LS V +46°21 compared to models with different \( T_{\text{eff}} \) and log \( g \). The Fe V and Fe VII lines appear strongly dependent on changes of \( T_{\text{eff}} \) while Fe VI is almost independent in the relevant \( T_{\text{eff}} \) range. Fe V, Fe VI, and Fe VII are reproduced simultaneously at \( T_{\text{eff}} = 95 \text{kK} \). Note that the \( T_{\text{eff}} \) determination by Napiwotzki (1999) based on H+He composed models resulted in a much too low \( T_{\text{eff}} \) (top panel). “unid.” denotes a unidentified line.
Additional constraints for $T_{\text{eff}}$ are found in the optical wavelength range, where the observed H$\alpha$ and He $\lambda 4686$ Å line profiles (Figs. 13) show emission reversals in their line cores. These are reproduced by our models. Such emission cores can be used as a measure for $T_{\text{eff}}$ as well (Rauch, Köppen & Werner 1996). While the H$\alpha$ emission core changes only little in the relevant $T_{\text{eff}}$ range, significant changes are visible in He $\lambda 4686$ Å (Fig. 14). From this line, $T_{\text{eff}} = 97$ kK can be determined. However, precise $T_{\text{eff}}$ determinations from emission reversal profiles require higher spectral resolution than the 1.5 Å achieved in the present spectrum.

We finally adopt $T_{\text{eff}} = 95$ kK. From the comparison of synthetic spectra from models within $T_{\text{eff}} = 90 - 100$ kK, we estimate an error range in $T_{\text{eff}}$ of 2 kK.

### 3.4. Mass, distance, and luminosity

In Fig. 15 we compare the position of LS V +46°21 to evolutionary tracks in the $\log T_{\text{eff}} - \log g$ plane. We can interpolate a mass of $M = 0.550^{+0.020}_{-0.015} M_\odot$ and a luminosity of $\log L/L_\odot = 2.2 \pm 0.2$ from the evolutionary tracks of Schönberner (1983) and Blöcker & Schönberner (1990).
The spectroscopic distance of LS V +46°21 is calculated following the flux calibration of [Heber et al. 1984],
\[ f_V = 3.58 \times 10^{-9} \times 10^{-0.4 m_V} \text{ erg cm}^{-2} \text{ sec}^{-1} \text{ Å}^{-1} \]  
with \( m_V = m_V - 2.175c \), \( c = 1.47E_{B-V} = 0.096^{+0.014}_{-0.022} \), \( m_V = 12.67 \pm 0.02 \), \( \log g = 6.9 \pm 0.2 \), and \( M = 0.530^{+0.020}_{-0.015} M_\odot \), the distance is derived from
\[ d = 7.11 \times 10^4 \sqrt{H_0 \times M \times 10^0.4 m_V \log g} \text{ pc}. \]

With the Eddington flux at \( \lambda_{\text{eff}} = 5454 \) Å of our final model atmosphere, \( H_0 = (1.49 \pm 0.03) \times 10^{-7} \text{ erg cm}^{-2} \text{ sec}^{-1} \text{ Hz}^{-1} \), we derive a distance of \( d = 224^{+46}_{-58} \) pc. This is not in agreement with the distance \( (d = 128.9 \) pc) of [Harris et al. 2007]. On the basis of the spectral analysis a value of \( \log g = 7.4 \) which would be needed to reach agreement can be excluded. (Sect. 3.3.2).

4. The FUSE and the ISM absorption model

Along the line of sight to LS V +46°21 we detect interstellar absorption by H I, D I, C I, C II, C III, C IV, C IV, N I, N II, O I, Al II, Si II, Si III, P II, S II, S II, Cl II, Ar II, Fe II, Fe III, H 2 (J = 0 \text{ -- } 9), HD (J = 0 \text{ -- } 1), and CO. Absorption by C IV \( \lambda \lambda 1548, 1550 \) Å, N v \( \lambda \lambda 1238, 1242 \) Å, and Si IV \( \lambda \lambda 1393, 1402 \) Å is also present at the velocity of the interstellar absorption of the species mentioned above (\( v_{\text{helio}} \approx 6 \text{ km s}^{-1} \)), in addition to the photospheric absorption at \( \approx 20 \text{ km s}^{-1} \).

At the FUSE and STIS resolutions all the interstellar absorption lines display only a single absorption component with a common velocity, \( v_{\text{helio}} \approx 6 \text{ km s}^{-1} \). However, the detection of several ionization stages for some of the species (e.g., C I, C II, and C IV) indicate that there must be at least three ISM components along this line of sight: a cool component traced by molecular hydrogen and C I (amongst other species), a photoionized component traced by the high-ionization species (C IV, N v, and Si IV), and a warm component where the bulk of the species such as C II, N I, O I, S II, and Fe II, etc. resides. The highly ionized species likely reside in the photoionized gas associated with the PN where optical emission lines of H \( \alpha \) and [O III] have been detected [Fesen et al. 1981]. The analysis of the ISM along this line of sight is discussed by Oliveira (2007, in prep.).

With the procedure OWENS it is possible to model different interstellar absorption clouds with different chemical compositions, radial and turbulent velocities, temperature and column densities for each element included. We show two examples of the quality of our ISM modeling (Fig. 16).

The ISM fit is generally quite good, but incorporation of the new stellar model into the fits will help to refine the derived ISM parameters.

5. The Galactic orbit

We used the STIS spectrum of LS V +46°21 in order to determine its radial velocity out of a total of 54 Fe vI and Fe vII photospheric lines. We obtained \( v_{\text{rad}} = +20.6 \text{ km s}^{-1} \) with a standard deviation of \( \sigma_{v_{\text{rad}}} = \pm 1.5 \text{ km s}^{-1} \). This is in agreement with \( v_{\text{rad}} = +22.4 \pm 3 \text{ km s}^{-1} \) measured by Traulsen et al. (2005). Measurements from IUE spectra by Tweedy & Napiwotzki (1992) and Holberg et al. (1998) (11.9 and 11.1 km s\(^{-1}\), respectively) may be less accurate because the star was possibly not well centered in the aperture (Holberg priv. comm.).

Kerber et al. (2004) have performed their orbit calculations with the radial velocity given by Tweedy & Napiwotzki (1992) which is about a factor of two lower than measured from our STIS spectra. Thus, we have re-calculated the orbit (Fig. 17). We follow Pauli et al. (2003) and use the Galactic potential of Flynn, Sommer-Larsen, & Christensen (1996) which includes a dark halo, bulge and stellar components, as well as three disks. The equations of motion are integrated using a fourth order Runge-Kutta scheme. To compute the tangential velocity we have used as a reference the proper motion of Kerber et al. (2004). Using the parallactic distance (128.9 pc) of Harris et al. (2004), we find that LS V +46°21 is a thin-disk object and its orbit extends about \( \pm 20 \text{ kpc} \) perpendicular to the Galactic plane at a distance interval of 8.02 kpc < \( \rho < 8.85 \text{ kpc} \) from the Galactic center (Fig. 17). With our spectroscopic distance (224 pc), there is not much difference: the orbit is now confined between \( \pm 0.25 \text{ kpc} \) from the Galactic plane, whereas it is lying at a distance 7.50 kpc < \( \rho < 8.90 \text{ kpc} \) from the center.

We have verified that this conserves total energy to better than \( 10^{-11} \), and the z component of angular momentum to better than \( 10^{-10} \) for LS V +46°21.
The previously determined surface gravity of log $g = 6.9 \pm 0.2$ (Toussaint et al. 2005) is confirmed. Thus, the spectroscopic distance of 224 pc (Sect. 3.3.4) is too large compared with the parallax distance of 129 pc (Harris et al. 2007). It is disconcerting that we have such a large discrepancy for this star that is so well observed. $T_{\text{eff}}$ is well determined by different ionization equilibria and, thus, only a higher log $g$ of about 7.4 (Sect. 3.3.2) could reconcile the discrepancy since the parallax distance requires a smaller stellar radius.

7. Conclusions

The successful reproduction of the high-resolution FUSE and STIS spectra of LS V $+46^\circ 21$ by our synthetic spectra calculated from NLTE model atmospheres shows that — when done with sufficient care — theory works.

From the $N_{\text{IV}} - N_{\text{V}}, O_{\text{IV}} - O_{\text{Vl}}$, $Si_{\text{IV}} - Si_{\text{V}}$, and Fe $v - Fe$ v ionization equilibria, we were able to determine $T_{\text{eff}} = 95 \pm 2$ kK with — for these objects — unprecedented precision. Since this is a prerequisite for reliable abundance determinations (Tab. 5), the error limits for the determined abundances became also correspondingly small (Fig. 13).

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Napiwotzki (2001) investigated distance scales of old PN and found that trigonometric distances ($d_{\text{tt}}$) are always smaller than spectroscopic distances determined by means of NLTE models ($d_{\text{NLTE}}$). He found a distance ratio of $r_{\text{obs}} = d_{\text{NLTE}}/d_{\text{tt}} = 1.55 \pm 0.29$. However, simulations showed that a significant fraction of this discrepancy could be explained by biases caused by large relative errors of some parallax measurements (cf. Fig. 2 in Napiwotzki 2001). Recently, Harris et al. (2007) used improved error estimates for both distances and determined $r_{\text{obs}} = 1.3$. The parallax errors of several objects are significantly reduced and so are the biases as discussed in Harris et al. (2007).

In the case of LS V $+46^\circ 21$, we arrive at a ratio of $r_{\text{obs}} = 1.74 \pm 0.35$ (cf. Napiwotzki 2001, $r_{\text{obs}} = 1.46$) which is in accordance with the apparently general problem. However, one of the aims of this work was to solve this problem (cf. Napiwotzki 2001; Harris et al. 2007, and the discussions therein) — but it remains at almost the same level although we use very elaborate NLTE model atmospheres. Since the $TMAP$ NLTE model

6. Is Sh 2–216 a planetary nebula?

LS V $+46^\circ 21$ is definitely a post-AGB star with a mass of $M = 0.550 M_{\odot}$ (Sect. 3.4). During its AGB mass-loss phase, it has lost about 75% of its initial mass into the ISM. Due to an interaction with the ambient ISM, the previously ejected envelope matter began to slow down about 45 000 ago and LS V $+46^\circ 21$ is moving out of the geometric center. However, it is still surrounded by its “own” material and ionizes it. Narrow-band images of Sh 2–216 exhibit a shell-like nebula. Its expansion time can not be calculated reliably because the measured upper limit for the present $v_{\text{exp}}$ of 4 km s$^{-1}$ (Reynolds 1985) has a relatively large error range. Moreover, the low $v_{\text{exp}}$ is the result of interaction with the ISM and, thus, the rate of change in that velocity over time is difficult to extrapolate back in time. If we assume a constant $v_{\text{exp}} = 4$ km s$^{-1}$, we get an upper limit for expansion time of about 460 000 years. This expansion time is in agreement with evolutionary calculations of Schönberner (1983) for the stellar remnant. However, the real expansion time may be much smaller.

The classification of Sh 2–216 as a PN is corroborated but not proved, however, based on the latest parameters of LS V $+46^\circ 21$ and Sh 2–216, e.g. the determination of the ionized nebula mass could give evidence for Sh 2–216 being a “real” PN. We can calculate that, at a distance of 128.9 pc (Harris et al. 2007), an apparent diameter of 100’ gives a linear radius of $r_{\text{sh}} = 1.87$ pc. If we assume that an old nebular shell has a thickness of $\approx 0.02 r_{\text{sh}}$, assume a density of five particles $/ \text{cm}^3$ (cf. Tweedy et al. 1995) and a solar composition ($\mu = 1.26$), then we arrive at $m_{\text{sh}} \approx 0.2 M_{\odot}$. Although this may be a coarse approximation, the $m_{\text{sh}}$ appears in agreement with an “average” PN mass.

Fig. 17. The Galactic orbit of LS V $+46^\circ 21$ in the last 2 Gyrs in Galacto-centric coordinates (top). At the bottom, a magnification around the present position of LS V $+46^\circ 21$ is shown. During its PN phase ($\approx 460 000$ years), LS V $+46^\circ 21$ has made its way along the (very small) thicker part of the track.

Table 4. Data related to the orbit of LS V $+46^\circ 21$. $z$ is the present height above the Galactic plane, the given angle is measured between the present orbit direction and the Galactic latitude.

| $z$ | angle | $U$ | $\sigma(U)$ | $V$ | $\sigma(V)$ | $W$ | $\sigma(W)$ |
|-----|-------|-----|-------------|-----|-------------|-----|-------------|
| pc  | $^\circ$ | km s$^{-1}$ |            | km s$^{-1}$ |            | km s$^{-1}$ |            |
| 1   | 2     | 14.2 | 1.5         | 219.0 | 15.0        | 12.5 | 0.7         |

The location of LS V $+46^\circ 21$ is presently about 1 pc above the Galactic plane (Fig. 17). Its present velocity is summarized in Table 4, with $U$ in the Galactic disk, positive to the Galactic center, $V$ positive in the direction of Galactic rotation, and $W$ pointing to the North Galactic pole (NGP). We adopt the IAU convention (Kerr & Lynden-Bell 1986) of $R_{\odot} = 8.5$ kpc and $V_{\odot} = 220$ km s$^{-1}$ for the Galactic rotational velocity at the Sun’s position. For the solar peculiar motion we adopt the values of Dehnen & Binney (1998) of $U_{\odot} = 10.00$ km s$^{-1}$, $V_{\odot} = 5.25$ km s$^{-1}$, and $W_{\odot} = 7.17$ km s$^{-1}$. The values of $U$, $V$, $W$, and of the Galacto-centric positions $X$, $Y$, $Z$, constitute the inputs to the code. Here, $X$ is positive in the direction of Galactic rotation, $Y$ positive from the Galactic center to the Sun, and $Z$ positive towards the NGP.
atmospheres (Sect. 3.1) used for this analysis are homogeneous, it would be highly desirable to calculate stratified models for LS V +46°21 in order to search for significant differences.

**Table 5.** Photospheric abundances of LS V +46°21 normalized to log \( \sum \mu E_i = 12.15 \), compared with solar abundances (Asplund et al. 2005).

| element | \( \log \epsilon \) | \([x]\) |
|---------|-------------------|------|
| H       | 12.035            | 0.112|
| He      | 10.634            | -0.818|
| C       | 8.880             | -0.510|
| N       | 8.892             | 0.046|
| O       | 9.332             | -0.453|
| F       | 5.875             | <0.116|
| Mg      | 8.889             | 0.053|
| Si      | 8.960             | 0.082|
| P       | 6.560             | -0.211|
| S       | 8.265             | -0.301|
| Ar      | 7.781             | 0.079|
| Ca      | 8.583             | <1.750|
| Sc      | 5.442             | <1.819|
| Ti      | 7.320             | <1.819|
| V       | 6.327             | <1.699|
| Cr      | 8.214             | 0.938|
| Mn      | 7.908             | 0.858|
| Fe      | 9.867             | 0.750|
| Co      | 7.468             | 0.858|
| Ni      | 8.638             | 0.719|

The derived abundance pattern (Fig. 18) gives evidence for an interplay of gravitational settling (e.g. the He and C abundances are strongly decreased by a factor of \( \approx 0.15 \)) and radiative levitation (iron-group elements show an abundance up to \( \approx 10 \times \) solar).

**Fig. 18.** Photospheric abundances of LS V +46°21 determined from detailed line profile fits. For F, Ca, Sc, Ti, and V upper limits can be found only.

A comparison to abundance predictions (Fig. 19) from diffusion calculations of Chayer, Fontaine & Wesemael (1995a) and Chayer et al. (1995b) shows a good agreement for C, N, O, Mg, S, and Fe with the DA values while we find that Si has a higher abundance and Ar and Ca have a lower abundance in our model.

**Fig. 19.** Comparison of the elemental number ratios found in our spectral analysis compared to predictions of diffusion calculations for DA and DO models (Chayer et al., 1995b) with \( T_{\text{eff}} = 95 \, \text{kK} \) and \( \log g = 7 \).

Good et al. (2005) have determined C, N, O, Si, and Fe abundances using FUSE observations of 16 DAO white dwarfs. They compare their results with values given by Chayer et al. (1995a) and find deviations of +0.25, −0.50, −0.10, +3.0, and +0.1 dex (interpolated by us in their figures at \( T_{\text{eff}} = 95 \, \text{kK} \)), respectively. This is within 0.5 dex in agreement with our result.

In our metal-line blanketed NLTE model atmospheres which include the opacity of 20 species from H to Ni (Sect. 3), the BLP (Sect. 1) vanishes (Fig. 20) if the synthetic spectra are compared to the available medium-resolution optical spectra at \( S/N \approx 30 \). High-resolution and high-\( S/N \) spectra are highly desirable to check for remaining discrepancies.

**Fig. 20.** Synthetic Balmer-line spectra of our final model \((T_{\text{eff}} = 95 \, \text{kK}, \log g = 6.9)\) compared with the observation (cf. Napiwotzki 1999).

The reddening of \( E_{B-V} = 0.065_{-0.010}^{+0.010} \) towards LS V +46°21 is much higher than expected from the Galactic reddening law (Sect. 2.3) possibly because of additional reddening due to dust in the nebula Sh 2−216.

**8. Future Work: Atomic and line-broadening data**

With the analysis of the high-resolution, high-\( S/N \) UV spectrum of LS V +46°21 it is demonstrated that state-of-the-art NLTE spectral analysis has presently arrived at a high level of sophisti-
cation. The main limitation now encountered is the lack of reliable atomic and line-broadening data.

Going to higher resolution and S/N in the observations reveals uncertainties in atomic data even for the most abundant species. Thus, it is a challenge for atomic physics to provide properly measured atomic data (for a wide range of ionization stages).

Discrepancies between our synthetic line profiles of the resonance doublets of N\textsc{v}, O\textsc{vi}, and S\textsc{vi} and the observation may have their reason in insufficient line-broadening tables. Even for strategic lines like, e.g., O\textsc{v} λ 1371 Å which is often used to determine T\textsubscript{eff}, no appropriate tables are available. Theoretical physics should provide data which covers the atmospheric relevant temperature and density space.

Better atomic and line-broadening data will then strongly improve future spectral analyses and thus, make determinations of photospheric properties more reliable.

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