Physical properties of fullerene-containing Galactic planetary nebulae

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ABSTRACT

We searched the Spitzer Space Telescope data archive for Galactic planetary nebulae (PNe), which show the characteristic 17.4 and 18.9 μm features due to C_{60}, also known as buckminsterfullerene. Out of 338 objects with Spitzer/IRAC spectrograph data, we found eleven C_{60}-containing PNe, six of which (Hen2-68, IC2501, K3-62, M1-6, M1-9 and SaSt2-3) are new detections, not known to contain C_{60} prior to this work. The strongest 17.4 and 18.9 μm C_{60} features are seen in Tc1 and SaSt2-3, and these two sources also prominently show the C_{60} resonances at 7.0 and 8.5 μm. In the other nine sources, the 7.0 and 8.5 μm features due to C_{60} are much weaker. We analysed the spectra, along with ancillary data, using the photoionization code CLOUDY to establish the atomic line fluxes, and determine the properties of the radiation field, as set by the effective temperature of the central star. In addition, we measured the infrared spectral features due to dust grains. We find that the polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon (PAH) profile over 6–9 μm in these C_{60}-bearing carbon-rich PNe is of the more chemically processed class A. The intensity ratio of 3.3 to 11.3 μm PAH indicates that the number of C-atoms per PAH in C_{60}-containing PNe is small compared to that in non-C_{60} PNe. The Spitzer spectra also show broad dust features around 11 and 30 μm. Analysis of the 30 μm feature shows that it is strongly correlated with the continuum, and we propose that a single carbon-based carrier is responsible for both the continuum and the feature. The strength of the 11 μm feature is correlated to the temperature of the dust, suggesting that it is at least partially due to a solid-state carrier. The chemical abundances of C_{60}-containing PNe can be explained by asymptotic giant branch nucleosynthesis models for initially 1.5–2.5 M_☉ stars with Z = 0.004. We plotted the locations of C_{60}-containing PNe on a face-on map of the Milky Way and we found that most of these PNe are outside the solar circle, consistent with low metallicity values. Their metallicity suggests that the progenitors are an older population.

Key words: dust, extinction – ISM: molecules – planetary nebulae: general.

1 INTRODUCTION

Since their laboratory discovery in 1985 (Kroto et al. 1985), fullerences, particularly C_{60}, have drawn considerable interest from astrochemists looking for them in interstellar conditions. Fullerenes are extremely stable and easily form in laboratories on the earth, so it had been thought that they should exist in interstellar space. However, the first confirmed detection of cosmic fullerenes was only recently reported by Cami et al. (2010) in the C-rich planetary nebula (PN) Tc1. Since then, a plethora of papers reported the discovery of cosmic fullerenes in Galactic (García-Hernández et al. 2010, 2011b; Zhang & Kwok 2011; Otsuka et al. 2013) and Large/Small Magellanic PNe (García-Hernández et al. 2010, 2011b), Galactic asymptotic giant branch (AGB) stars (Gielens et al. 2011), H-poor R Coronae Borealis (R CrB) stars (Clayton et al. 2011; García-Hernández, Kameswara Rao & Lambert 2011a), reflection nebulae (Sellgren et al. 2010; Peeters et al. 2012), a binary XX Oph star (Evans et al. 2012) and young stellar objects (Roberts, Smith & Sarre 2012). While the number of fullerene detections is increasing, the formation process and the excitation mechanism of fullerenes in evolved stars are the subject of active research. For instance, a recent work of Micelotta et al. (2012) details a possible formation mechanism, while Bernard-Salas et al. (2012) provide an observational/theoretical study of the fullerene excitation conditions. In order to allow for further investigation of the formation process.
and excitation mechanisms, it is of crucial importance to characterize the observational and physical properties of the environments in which fullerenes are found. PNe provide an excellent opportunity to do this.

PNe represent the final stage in the evolution of initially 1–8 M\(_{\odot}\) stars. At the end of its life, such a star evolves first into a red giant branch star, then an AGB star, and finally a PN. In the early AGB stage, dust grains are formed above the surface of the star. Dust grains receive radiation pressure from the central star and move radially outwards. The grains drag the H-rich envelope; as a result, dramatic mass-loss begins. Dust controls not only the mass-loss history of the stars but also the evolution of the interstellar medium (ISM) in galaxies. To understand the stellar evolution and the ISM evolution in galaxies, it is important to understand the amount, composition and formation process of the dust grains produced by dying stars.

According to stellar evolution theory, stars with a main-sequence mass \( \sim 1.2-3.5\) M\(_{\odot}\) can efficiently synthesize C by nucleosynthesis taking place in the He-rich intershell and the third dredge-up during the late AGB phase, so that these stars evolve into C-rich AGB stars/PNe. Several species of C-rich dust can form in the ejected nebula. Using infrared space telescopes such as ISO, Spitzer and AKARI, the presence of these dust species was confirmed using the characteristic emission bands in mid-infrared spectra in the range from \(3\) to \(40\) \(\mu\)m; for example, amorphous carbon, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon (PAH), the 11 \(\mu\)m silicon carbide (SiC) band and the unidentified 30 \(\mu\)m feature are detected. C-rich evolved stars are important producers of C-based dust grains in galaxies.

In order to address the outstanding questions on the formation and the excitation mechanism of C\(_{\odot}\) in evolved stars, in particular, PNe, it is necessary to find more fullerene-containing PNe in the entire Spitzer data archive, measure the C\(_{\odot}\) band as accurately as possible, and investigate the properties of dust, ionized gas and central stars in these C\(_{\odot}\)-containing PNe.

In this paper, we present results that are based on all Spitzer/Infrared Spectrograph (IRS) observations of Galactic PNe (338 objects in total). Our search resulted in six new detections: Hen2-68, IC2501, K3-62, M1-6, M1-9 and SaSt2-3. In addition, we found the 17.4 and 18.9 \(\mu\)m C\(_{\odot}\) bands in the Spitzer/IRS short-high (SH) spectrum of IC418, Morisset et al. (2012) reported the C\(_{\odot}\) detection in ISO spectra. We compare the Spitzer, AKARI and ISO mid-IR spectra of these objects and previously known fullerene-containing PNe M1-11 (Otsuka et al. 2013), M1-12, M1-20 (García-Hernández et al. 2010) and Tc1 (Cami et al. 2010) to the properties of the central stars and the other dust features such as the 3.3 and the 6–9 \(\mu\)m PAH bands, and the broad 11 and 30 \(\mu\)m features, which are frequently seen in C\(_{\odot}\) PNe. Moreover, we construct photoionization models using CLOUDY (Ferland et al. 1998) to derive the physical properties of the central stars and the nebulae of the 11 PNe in our sample.

## 2 Observations and Data Reduction

Our aim is to study in detail the properties of the gas and dust in Galactic fullerene-containing PNe, to provide constraints on C\(_{\odot}\) formation and excitation, and to find clues to the formation and processing of carbonaceous dust. Mid-infrared observations at high spectral resolution are crucial for this, and we thus selected our sample based on the availability of the Spitzer/IRS short-low (SL; 5.2–14.5 \(\mu\)m), SH (9.9–19.6 \(\mu\)m) and long-high (LH; 18.7–37.2 \(\mu\)m) spectra and ISO spectra. Where available, we have also included data at shorter wavelengths from AKARI/InfraRed Camera (IRC) 2.5–5 \(\mu\)m spectroscopy, as well as optical and infrared images from the Hubble Space Telescope (HST), the 8.2 m Gemini telescopes and the European Southern Observatory (ESO)/New Technology Telescope (NTT) 3.6 m telescope to get a better understanding of the properties of gas and dust.

The observation logs for Spitzer, ISO and AKARI are summarized in Table 1. The second column shows the position of each PN in the Galactic coordinates. The information of Spitzer and ISO observations is summarized in the third to sixth columns. The signal-to-noise ratios (SNRs) are measured between 18.5 and 19.5 \(\mu\)m for Spitzer and ISO/short wavelength spectrometer spectra (SWS) and between 148 and 154 \(\mu\)m for ISO/long wavelength spectrometer spectra, respectively. The information of AKARI/IRC observations is given in the remaining columns. The SNRs are measured between 3.3 and 3.6 \(\mu\)m.

### 2.1 Spitzer/IRS and ISO Spectra

We searched the entire Spitzer/IRS (Houck et al. 2004) archive for PNe with observations in the SL (5.2–14.5 \(\mu\)m), SH (9.9–19.6 \(\mu\)m)

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Table 1. Spitzer, ISO and AKARI observing log.

| Nebula     | PN G    | AOR key/ TDT | Obs. date yy-mm-dd | PI          | SNR | OBSID | AKARI | Obs. date yy-mm-dd | PI          | SNR |
|------------|---------|--------------|--------------------|-------------|-----|-------|-------|--------------------|-------------|-----|
| Hen2-68    | 294.9–0.43 | 25852417    | 09-04-03           | L. Stanghellini | 138 | 3460047 | T. Onaka | 09-01-26          | 26          |
| IC418      | 215.2–24.2 | 4909568     | 04-10-01           | D. Cruikshank | 105 | Saturated |       |                   |             |
| IC2501     | 248.2–0.43 | 89201301     | 98-02-22           | D. Beintema | 87  |       |       |                   |             |
|            |          | 86801205     | 98-04-01           | M. Barlow    | 24  |       |       |                   |             |
| K3-62      | 095.2+0.07 | 25847808    | 08-08-06           | L. Stanghellini | 208 | 3460033 | T. Onaka | 08-12-18          | 17          |
| M1-6       | 211.2–0.35 | 21953024    | 08-12-07           | J. Bernard-Salas | 318 | 3460036 | T. Onaka | 09-03-29          | 44          |
| M1-9       | 212.0–0.43 | 2194560     | 08-04-27           | J. Bernard-Salas | 83  |       |       |                   |             |
| M1-11      | 232.8–0.47 | 19903232    | 06-11-09           | H. Dinerstein | 211 | 3460037 | T. Onaka | 09-04-11          | 52          |
| M1-12      | 235.3–0.39 | 25849856    | 08-11-30           | L. Stanghellini | 138 | 3460038 | T. Onaka | 09-04-15          | 39          |
| M1-20      | 006.1+0.83 | 11315712    | 05-04-19           | M. Bobrowsky | 38  |       |       |                   |             |
| SaSt2-3    | 232.0+0.57 | 21958144    | 08-04-29           | J. Bernard-Salas | 16  |       |       |                   |             |
| Tc1        | 345.2–0.88 | 11321600    | 05-03-21           | M. Bobrowsky | 57  |       |       |                   |             |

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* SWS mode.
* LWS mode.
and LH (17.8–37.2 μm) modules. In this search, we found six new fullerene-containing PNe, namely Hen2-68, IC2501, K3-62, M1-6, M1-9 and SaSt2-3. Morisset et al. (2012) reported that IC418 shows two resonances at 17.4 and 18.9 μm in the ISO spectra due to C_{60}. We confirmed both of these C_{60} lines in the Spitzer spectrum of IC418, which was not previously analysed. We combine this data set with Spitzer/IRS spectra of M1-11, M1-12, M1-20 and Tc1, which are known to show the 17.4 and 18.9 μm C_{60} resonances. We did not include the C_{60} PN K3-54 (García-Hernández et al. 2010), because only Spitzer/IRS SL and LL spectra are available.

To reduce the Spitzer/IRS data, we used the reduction package SMART v8.2.5 provided by the IRS Team at Cornell University (Higdon et al. 2004) and irsclean provided by the Spitzer Science Center. With irsclean, we removed the bad pixels. For the SH and LH spectra, we subtracted the sky background using offset spectra taken in the same program as the on-source spectra, if available. We scaled the flux density of the SL spectra up to, and the LH spectra down to, the SH spectra using the overlapping wavelength regions. Finally, we scaled the flux density of these combined spectra to the Wide-field Infrared Survey Explorer (WISE) band 4 photometric value (λ_c = 22 μm), except for IC2501. The flux density at the WISE band 4 and the adopting scaling factor matching this band for each object are listed in Table 2.

For IC2501, we estimated the light loss using the Two Micron All-Sky Survey (2MASS) Ks-band image. By measuring the pixel values of the entire nebula and those inside the area of the SH slit, we estimated that ~39.7 per cent of the light from IC2501 was included in the SH entrance of Spitzer. Thus, we scaled the flux density of the spectrum by a factor of 2.519.

For IC418, we scaled the flux density of the Spitzer SH spectrum up to match that of ISO. The spectral resolution of the ISO spectrum was reduced to ~600 to match that of Spitzer/SH by the Gaussian convolution method. Then, we combined this into a single 2.5–170 μm spectrum. Finally, we scaled the flux density of this spectrum to the WISE band 4 photometry with a scaling factor of 1.203 (see Table 2). In the 10–20 μm wavelength range, we adopted the Spitzer/IRS data, and outside this range we used the ISO spectrum.

### Table 2. The flux density at the WISE band 4 and the adopted scaling factor for Spitzer/IRS and ISO.

| Nebula   | F_4 (WISE4) (Jy) | Scaling factor |
|----------|------------------|----------------|
| Hen2-68  | 4.34             | 1.288          |
| IC418    | 150.33           | 1.203          |
| IC2501   | 19.40            | 2.519          |
| K3-62    | 9.56             | 1.215          |
| M1-6     | 9.10             | 1.251          |
| M1-9     | 1.36             | 1.081          |
| M1-11    | 52.51            | 1.181          |
| M1-12    | 9.13             | 1.224          |
| M1-20    | 3.17             | 1.257          |
| SaSt2-3  | 0.242            | 1.147          |
| Tc1      | 10.08            | 3.858          |

* Determined using the 2MASS Ks image. See the text for detail.

2.2 **AKARI/IRC spectra**

Checking for the presence of the 3.3 μm PAH feature is necessary to estimate the extent by which the 8.5 μm C_{60} band is contaminated by the 8.6 μm PAH feature. Using the intensity ratio of 3.3 to 11.3 μm PAH bands, we can estimate the number of C-atoms of each PAH grain.

To that end, we analysed the 2.5–5.5 μm spectra of Hen2-68, IC2501, K3-62, M1-6, M1-11 and M1-12 taken with the IRC spectrograph (Onaka et al. 2007) on board of the AKARI satellite (Murakami et al. 2007). The data were obtained as part of two different mission programmes, AGBGA (IC2501, PI: Y. Nakada) and PNSPEC (the remainder, PI: T. Onaka). The 1 arcmin × 1 arcmin observing window is large enough to include the optical nebulae of these PNe as demonstrated in Section 2.3; therefore, we assume that the loss of the light is negligibly small and we did not perform any correction in flux density. For the data reduction, we used the IRC spectroscopy toolkit for the Phase 3 data version.

2.3 **Optical and mid-infrared images of C_{60}-containing PNe**

To check the apparent size of the nebulae, the nebular shape and the slit position in the Spitzer observations, we analysed the archival optical and mid-infrared images from HST, Gemini 8.2 m and ESO/NTT 3.6 m telescopes. These images are necessary to set the outer radii of each PN in CLOUDY photonization models (see Section 3).

We downloaded the archival data of IC2501 and K3-62 from the Canadian Astronomy Data Centre (CADC) taken by the Gemini telescopes with the mid-infrared imager and spectrograph T-ReCS for IC2501 and Michelle for K3-62. These data were taken through the observing programmes GS-2004B-DD-8 (PI: K. Volk) for IC2501 and GN-2005A-C-4 (PI: S. Kwok) for K3-62. Both images were taken using the Si-5 filter (λ_c = 11.6 μm). We reduced the data of IC2501 and K3-62 using NOAO/IRAF1 in a standard manner. The archival HST data of Hen2-68 (WFC3/F507N), IC418, M1-6, M1-11, M1-12 and M1-20 (all Wide Field Planetary Camera 2/F656W) were also downloaded from the CADC and reduced using the standard pipeline with STSDAS/MULTIDRIZZLE to obtain higher resolution images. The NTT/ESO Faint Object Spectrograph and Camera (v2) data of Tc1 taken through the programme 64-H-0557(A) (PI: T. Rauch) were downloaded from the ESO archive centre, and we reduced the R-band image using IRAF. The instrumental distortion was corrected with the XXXYMMATCH, GEOMAP and GEOFER tools, and we aligned the positions of stars in the detector.

The reduced images are presented in Fig. 1. Since our attention is mainly towards the regions where the 17.4 and 18.9 μm C_{60} bands are detected, we also present the slit position and its size for the Spitzer/IRS SH module (slit dimension: 4.7 arcsec × 11.3 arcsec), indicated by the green boxes for IC418, IC2501 and Tc1. For the other PNe which do not show the green boxes, the slit size is larger than the apparent size of the nebulae, and thus, the SH measurements have collected all the light emitted by the nebulae. We do not show the images of M1-9 and SaSt2-3, because there are no high-resolution images available. We were able to measure the nebular size of these two objects using the 2MASS J-band images which show that M1-9 and SaSt2-3 have round-shaped nebulae with ~4 and ~2 arcsec radii, respectively.

There are no common characteristics in the morphology of the nebula shape. The C_{60}-containing PNe show different morphologies.

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1 IRAF is distributed by the National Optical Astronomy Observatories, which are operated by the Association of Universities for Research in Astronomy (AURA), Inc., under a cooperative agreement with the National Science Foundation.
nebular shapes: ring (K3-62), round (Hen2-68, IC2501, Tc1), elliptical (IC418, M1-12, M1-20), bipolar (M1-6) and multipolar (M1-12). Moreover, blobs are seen in Hen2-68 (∼1 arcsec SE from the centre of the nebula), in IC2501 (∼2 arcsec NW and SE) and in Tc1 (∼5 arcsec SE). We confirm that Tc1 has a faint optical nebula which extends up to ∼25 arcsec (not presented here; see fig. 6b of Williams et al. 2008).

3 PROPERTIES OF THE CENTRAL STARS AND THE NEBULAE

Before studying the IR spectra of our sample, we infer the overall physical properties of the central stars as well as the nebular conditions.

To derive physical parameters of the central stars and the nebulae, we run photoionization models for each PN except for Hen2-68, K3-62, IC418 and M1-11 using CLOUDY (Ferland et al. 1998). We refer to the results by Morisset & Georgiev (2009) for IC418 and Otsuka et al. (2013) for M1-11. Since there is no information on gas emission line fluxes, except for Hβ, the effective temperature $T_{\text{eff}}$ and the distance $d$, we could not model Hen2-68 and K3-62 using CLOUDY. The effective temperatures ($T_{\text{eff}}$) of Hen2-68 and K3-62 are from Preite-Martinez et al. (1989) and Kondratyeva (2003), respectively. These models allow us to estimate the contribution from the [Ar II] 6.99 μm line to the 7.0 μm C60 band.

3.1 CLOUDY modelling approach

In the CLOUDY calculations, we used Tlusty’s non-local thermodynamic equilibrium theoretical atmosphere models for O stars (Huben & Lanz 1995). The surface gravities log g of hot white dwarfs ($T_{\text{eff}} \gtrsim 50,000$ K) are sometimes $\gtrsim 6$. If our sample contains such hot white dwarfs, they should have highly ionized nebulae showing high ionization potential lines such as He II lines and [O IV]
Table 3. Properties of the central stars and the nebulae derived using photoionization models.

| Nebula     | Teff (K) | log (L/Lo) | log g (cm s⁻²) | Type of central star | P-Cygni d (kpc) | C/NI/Ne/S/Ar (Log X/H+12) | F[Ar II] 6.99 μm/ F[Ar III] 8.99 μm |
|------------|----------|------------|----------------|---------------------|-----------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Hen2-68    | 30 000   | ?          | ?              | ?                   | ?               | ?                         | ?                                   |
| IC418      | 36 700   | 3.26       | 3.55           | H-rich              | 4.00            | 8.90/8.00/5.60/8.00/6.65   | 2.0                                 |
| IC2501     | 51 650   | 3.17       | 4.75           | wels?               | 2.20            | 8.77/8.88/5.86/9.44/6.13   | 0.03                                |
| K3-62      | 45 000   | ?          | ?              | ?                   | 6.00            | ?                         | ?                                   |
| M1-6       | 34 960   | 3.31       | 3.50           | [WC10-11]           | 4.10            | 8.76/7.91/8.60/8.05/6.49/5.95 | 0.18                                |
| M1-9       | 43 500   | 3.41       | 4.50           | ?                   | 9.0             | 8.81/7.69/3.64/7.68/2.55/8.59 | 0.04                                |
| M1-11      | 31 830   | 3.67       | 3.30           | [WC10-11]           | 2.10            | 8.49/7.89/8.30/7.67/15.59   | 5.20                                |
| M1-12      | 31 660   | 3.54       | 3.40           | [WC10-11]           | 3.90            | 8.74/7.75/5.80/7.86/4.85/8.51 | 1.99                                |
| M1-20      | 45 880   | 3.59       | 4.75           | wels?               | 7.30            | 8.70/8.58/5.85/7.85/6.76/5.94 | 0.02                                |
| SaSt2-3    | 29 750   | 2.80       | 3.30           | OB                  | 6.00            | 8.72/7.48/2.38/7.68/6.17/5.93 | 4.71                                |
| Tc1        | 34 060   | 3.40       | 3.30           | O(II)               | 3.00            | 8.71/7.83/6.81/7.98/6.58/6.07 | 0.10                                |

25.9 μm. However, our sample does not show such lines in the nebulae. Since the absorption line analysis of the central star of IC418 shows that the log g ~ 4 (Patriarchi, Cerutti-Sola & Perinotto 1989; Morisset & Georgiev 2009), we assume that the log g of other objects in our sample are in the range between ~3 and ~5. We used a series of theoretical atmosphere models with Teff in the range from 27 500 to 55 000 K and the log g in the range from 3.0 to 4.75 to describe the spectral energy distribution (SED) of the central star. We referred to Zhang & Kwok (1993) for the log g of M1-6, M1-9, M1-12, M1-20 and Tc1 as the first estimate. For SaSt2-3, we used the same log g as for Tc1.

We adopted a constant hydrogen (H) density for all PNe. We fixed the outer radius at the values measured using the images shown in Fig. 1 and varied the inner radius with the H density to match the observed de-reddened Hβ flux of the whole nebula measured by Dopita & Hua (1997) for SaSt2-3 and Cahn, Kaler & Stanghellini (1992) for the others. The distances to each PN estimated by Tajitsu & Tamura (1998) are adopted, except for SaSt2-3. For this source, we adopted the upper value of Pereira & Miranda (2007), namely 6 kpc.

For the gas-phase elemental abundances X/H, we adopted the observed values by prior works as a first guess and varied these to match the observed flux densities of over 30 emission lines of He/C/NI/O/Ne/Si/Cl/Ar in UV to mid-IR wavelength, except for SaSt2-3 (14 lines). We adopted the line ratios measured by Sharpee et al. (2007) for IC2501 and by Henry et al. (2010) for M1-6, M1-9 and M1-12, by Wang & Liu (2007) for M1-20, by Pereira & Miranda (2007) for SaSt2-3 and compiled by Pottasch, Surendiranath & Bernard-Salas (2011) for Tc1. The emission line fluxes in the mid-IR wavelength range were measured by us for all objects in our sample. We did not include the [Ar II] 6.99 μm as an Ar abundance constraint. Thus, we considered line fluxes from HeI, CII, CIII, [NI], [OI, I], [CI, II], and [ArII, ArIII].

There are no UV spectra of M1-6, M1-9, M1-12, M1-20 and SaSt2-3 required to determine the C abundances using collisionally excited lines such as CIII] 1906/09 Å. For the C abundances of these PNe, we set the value according to C/Ar = -0.89 × [Ar/H] + 0.49,

which is established among 115 Milky Way PNe and the C abundances are estimated using collisionally excited C emission lines in the UV wavelength (Otsuka, in preparation). We updated collisional strengths and transition probabilities of CII], [OI], [NII], [NeII], [SII], [CII], [ClII] and [ArII, ArIII] lines, which are the same data listed in table 7 of Otsuka et al. (2010). Reliable dielectric recombination (DR) rate measurements do not exist for low stages of ionization of S at photoionization temperatures (CLOUDY manual); thus, we adopted the scaled DR rate of oxygen for the sulphur line calculations, to match the observed [S II].

3.2 Results of the CLOUDY modelling and comparison with non-C60-containing PNe

The results of the best model fits are listed in Table 3. The second to fourth columns show the effective temperatures, the luminosities L*, of the central stars and surface gravities, respectively. The uncertainties in the Teff and log g are within 1000 K and 0.2 cm s⁻², respectively. Since the distances to each PN have a large uncertainty, typically a factor of ~1.5–2, the uncertainty in log (L*/Lo) is ~0.35–0.6. The fifth column shows the type of the central star, from Weidmann & Gamen (2011b, 2011a). The predicted F[Ar II] 6.99 μm/F[Ar III] 8.99 μm ratios, which are used in the 7.0 μm C60 flux measurements (see Section 4.4 and Appendix A), are listed in the last column.

The gas abundances derived by the models are given in the eighth column. The uncertainties in the derived gas abundances are within 0.1 dex. The uncertainty between the observed and our model predicted gas abundances is within 0.1–0.2 dex. All objects are C rich (i.e. the C/O ratio >1) and the elemental composition is very similar within the sample, suggesting that these PNe have evolved from similar progenitor stars. As we mentioned above, the C abundances in M1-6, M1-9, M1-12 and M1-20, and SaSt2-3 are not determined using collisionally excited C lines yet. In order to accurately measure the C/O ratio, we need to detect collisionally excited C lines or C and O recombination lines in these C60-containing PNe, in the future. The average Ar abundance, which indicates the initial metallicity of the progenitors, among nine of the objects in our sample is 5.99 (Ar = 6.55; Lodders 2003), corresponding to the metallicity of Z ~0.005 in Ar (0.27 Z⊙), which is close to the typical metallicity of the Small Magellanic Cloud. Plotting the estimated L* and Teff on the He-burning tracks from Vassiliadis & Wood (1994) with Z = 0.004 shows that the initial mass of the objects is ~1.5–2.5 M⊙. The chemical abundances of our C60-containing PNe can be explained by the AGB nucleosynthesis models for the initially 1.5–2.5 M⊙ stars with Z = 0.004 by Karakas (2010) (Table 4).

In the last line of Table 4, we list the average abundances of non-C60-containing Galactic C-rich PNe taken from Pottasch & Bernard-Salas (2006). The abundances of C60 PNe are not very different from those of these non-C60-containing PNe, except for N. This might be due to the two α capturing by 14N, because the Ne abundances in C60-containing PNe are slightly larger than the model predictions. The low Ar abundance in C60-containing PNe (5.81–6.20) suggests that the progenitors are an older population.
Table 4. Comparison of the predicted abundances for different initial mass stars with $Z = 0.004$ by Karakas (2010) and the observed abundances.

| Initial mass | C | N | O | Ne | S |
|--------------|---|---|---|----|---|
| $1.50\ M_\odot$ | 8.46 | 7.65 | 8.23 | 7.42 | 6.70 |
| $1.75\ M_\odot$ | 8.80 | 7.70 | 8.25 | 7.51 | 6.70 |
| $1.90\ M_\odot$ | 8.94 | 7.71 | 8.25 | 7.61 | 6.70 |
| $2.10\ M_\odot$ | 9.00 | 7.68 | 8.25 | 7.67 | 6.70 |
| $2.25\ M_\odot$ | 9.26 | 7.72 | 8.27 | 8.00 | 6.72 |
| $2.50\ M_\odot$ | 9.38 | 7.76 | 8.27 | 8.20 | 6.73 |
| C$_{60}$ PNe | 8.49–8.90 | 7.49–8.00 | 8.23–8.61 | 7.67–8.05 | 6.15–6.76 |
| non-C$_{60}$ | 8.85 | 8.23 | 8.56 | 8.06 | 6.85 |
| C-rich PNe$^a$ | 8.49–8.90 | 7.49–8.00 | 8.23–8.61 | 7.67–8.05 | 6.15–6.76 |

$^a$The averaged value between 11 C-rich Galactic PNe listed in table A1 of Pottasch & Bernard-Salas (2006). The averaged Ar abundance is 6.42.

3.3 Presence of the stellar wind

We checked the presence of P-Cygni profiles in the Ly$\alpha$ 1215 Å line in the archived Far Ultraviolet Spectroscopic Explorer and International Ultraviolet Explorer spectra, as listed in the sixth column. We found that IC418, IC2501 and Tc1 indeed show the P-Cygni profile. There are no data for Hen2-68, K3-62, SaSt2-3, M1-6 and M1-12 and no data for M1-11 with enough SNR to check for the presence of a P-Cygni Ly$\alpha$ profile. However, since M1-6, M1-11, M1-12 and M1-20 have Wolf–Rayet-like central stars ([WC10,11]; weak emission line stars, wels), which show the broad C IV lines, there has to be a strong wind (e.g., Acker & Neiner 2003).

4 THE IR SPECTRA OF GALACTIC C$_{60}$ PNE

4.1 Overview: spectral features and variations in 5–36 $\mu$m

The 5.3–35 $\mu$m spectra are presented in Fig. 2. The data of M1-11 shortwards of 10 $\mu$m are from ESO Very Large Telescope/VLT spectrometer and imager for the mid-infrared (see Otsuka et al. 2013). The positions of the C$_{60}$ bands and several atomic lines seen in the spectra are indicated by the dotted lines. The blue edge of the SH spectrum of SaSt2-3 is very noisy (SNR $\lesssim 5$). Therefore, we combined the 5.3–14 $\mu$m spectra to see the underlying feature-less continuum with third- to fifth-order spline in the range from 5.3 to 23 $\mu$m, except for IC2501 and M1-11. For IC2501, we determined the continuum over 2.5–5.0 and 10–19.6 $\mu$m, while for M1-11 we used 2.5–5.0 and 8–23 $\mu$m. The flux density normalization for IC2501 was performed using the extrapolated continuum from 10–19.6 $\mu$m continuum (the green line). Several emission features seen in these spectra are indicated by dotted lines. The 17.4 and 18.9 $\mu$m C$_{60}$ bands are also presented in Fig. 4.

There are strong variations in the intensity of the 8.5, 17.4 and 18.9 $\mu$m C$_{60}$ bands relative to the local dust continuum. We investigate correlations between the C$_{60}$ band and the local dust continuum in the following sections.

4.2 The 17.4 and 18.9 $\mu$m C$_{60}$ line profiles

The broad 11 and 30 $\mu$m features are also seen in all PNe. Fig. 3 shows the spectra normalized to the flux density at 20 $\mu$m. All the spectra show a thermal dust continuum; the slope (clearly visible over 12–23 $\mu$m) is different for the different objects, pointing to different dust temperatures, caused by the difference in irradiation. The strengths of the 17.4 and 18.9 $\mu$m C$_{60}$ bands are not changing with the local dust continuum. We investigate correlations between the C$_{60}$ band strength, the broad 11 $\mu$m band and the local dust continuum in the following sections.

The broad 11 $\mu$m PAH bands are seen on the 17.4 and 18.9 $\mu$m C$_{60}$ bands and on the 6–9 $\mu$m complex in Sections 4.2 and 4.3, respectively.

4.3 Presence of the stellar wind

We checked the presence of P-Cygni profiles in the Ly$\alpha$ 1215 Å line in the archived Far Ultraviolet Spectroscopic Explorer and International Ultraviolet Explorer spectra, as listed in the sixth column. We found that IC418, IC2501 and Tc1 indeed show the P-Cygni profile. There are no data for Hen2-68, K3-62, SaSt2-3, M1-6 and M1-12 and no data for M1-11 with enough SNR to check for the presence of a P-Cygni Ly$\alpha$ profile. However, since M1-6, M1-11, M1-12 and M1-20 have Wolf–Rayet-like central stars ([WC10,11]; weak emission line stars, wels), which show the broad C IV lines, there has to be a strong wind (e.g., Acker & Neiner 2003).

4.4 Overview: spectral features and variations in 5–36 $\mu$m

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There are strong variations in the intensity of the 8.5, 17.4 and 18.9 $\mu$m C$_{60}$ bands relative to the local dust continuum. We investigate correlations between the C$_{60}$ band and the local dust continuum in the following sections.

4.2 The 17.4 and 18.9 $\mu$m C$_{60}$ line profiles

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The 6–9 $\mu$m PAH bands are seen in all PNe, although the band profiles are different from ones frequently seen in non-C$_{60}$ PNe. There is the possibility that the 6.99 and 7.07 $\mu$m C$_{70}$ resonances might contribute to the 7.0 $\mu$m band. However, we could not detect any C$_{70}$ bands in our sample, except for the already reported features in Tc1 (Cami et al. 2010). Therefore, in the PNe in our sample except for Tc1, the 7.0 $\mu$m line is concluded to be due to a complex of the 6.92 $\mu$m aliphatic vibration band, the [Ar ii] 6.99 $\mu$m and the 7.0 $\mu$m C$_{60}$ band. Except for SaSt2-3 and Tc1, the 8.5 $\mu$m C$_{60}$ bands are contaminated by the 8.6 $\mu$m PAH band. We focus on the 17.4 and 18.9 $\mu$m C$_{60}$ bands and on the 6–9 $\mu$m complex in Sections 4.2 and 4.3, respectively.

The broad 11 and 30 $\mu$m features are also seen in all PNe. Fig. 3 shows the spectra normalized to the flux density at 20 $\mu$m. All the spectra show a thermal dust continuum; the slope (clearly visible over 12–23 $\mu$m) is different for the different objects, pointing to different dust temperatures, caused by the difference in irradiation. The strengths of the 17.4 and 18.9 $\mu$m C$_{60}$ bands are not changing with the local dust continuum. We investigate correlations between the C$_{60}$ band strength, the broad 11 $\mu$m band and the local dust continuum in the following sections.
our sample. Narrow emission lines are also seen in the same range; e.g., H\textsc{i} 17.61 \textmu m (n = 11–18), [P \textsc{ii}] 17.89 \textmu m (2P_{1/2}–2P_{3/2}), [S \textsc{ii}] 18.71 \textmu m (P_{3/2}–P_{3/2}) and H\textsc{i} 19.06 \textmu m (n = 7–8), as well as spike noise. Since the red wings of the 18.9 \textmu m C\textsubscript{60} bands in M1-11 and M1-20 are noisy, the full width at zero intensity of the 18.9 \textmu m C\textsubscript{60} band is a little bit larger than that in the others. The narrower width of the 18.9 \textmu m C\textsubscript{60} band in SaSt2-3 relative to the other objects is due to the low SNR around 19 \textmu m.

Although there are some issues in the data quality as explained above, the normalized line profiles of the 17.4 and 18.9 \textmu m C\textsubscript{60} bands are almost similar to each other, as can be seen from the average spectrum, which is plotted in grey in each panel.

4.3 The 7.0 and 8.5 \textmu m C\textsubscript{60} and the broad 6–9 \textmu m complex

We investigate the 6–9.2 \textmu m continuum-subtracted spectra (Fig. 2), and the result is shown in the upper panel of Fig. 5. As a reference, we show the 6–9.2 \textmu m line profile of the C-rich young PN NGC 7027 in the lower panel of Fig. 5. We did not detect C\textsubscript{60} bands in this PN. According to the classification of 6–9 \textmu m PAH profiles by Peeters et al. (2002), NGC 7027 is a class B PN. Bernard-Salas et al. (2009) classified the 6–9 \textmu m PAH profiles of 11 Magellanic Cloud PNe with no C\textsubscript{60} as class B among 14 objects. Hence, a comparison between our sources and NGC 7027 is useful to investigate the differences between C\textsubscript{60} and non-C\textsubscript{60} PNe and also to see the contribution from the 6.92 \textmu m aliphatic emission and from the 8.6 \textmu m PAH emission to the 7.0 and 8.5 \textmu m C\textsubscript{60} bands, respectively.

The line profiles in the C\textsubscript{60}-containing PNe are similar to each other, except for the 6.2 and 8.5 \textmu m bands. Only two sources, Tc1 and SaSt2-3, clearly show the strong 8.5 \textmu m C\textsubscript{60} band, while the 6.2 \textmu m PAH band is very weak. In other sources, these bands are heavily contaminated by PAHs at 8.6 and 6.2 \textmu m, respectively (see Fig. 5a), thus hampering the flux measurements of the 7.0 and 8.5 \textmu m C\textsubscript{60} bands. The 7.2–8.1 \textmu m band profile in the C\textsubscript{60}-containing PNe is quite different from that in NGC 7027. While NGC 7027 and other class B objects exhibit 7.7 \textmu m emission peaking between 7.8 and 8 \textmu m, our objects show little emission in this
amorphous carbon (HAC) grains. HAC is a generic name for a mixture of aliphatic and aromatic carbon, consisting of PAH clusters embedded within a matrix of aliphatically bonded material. Moreover, a 7.49 μm emission band is detected in all PNe. This emission band is possibly due to the 7.50 μm C<sub>60</sub> resonance. On the other hand, the 7.49 μm feature will have large contamination from the H I 7.46 μm (n = 6–5) and the H I 7.50 μm (n = 8–6). In IC418, for example, our measured respective fluxes of H I 7.46 and H I 7.50 μm are 1.59(−1) and 5.89(−12) erg s<sup>−1</sup> cm<sup>−2</sup>. The observed intensity ratio of H I 7.46 to 7.50 μm (2.70) is smaller than the theoretical value (3.77) in the case of T<sub>e</sub> = 10<sup>4</sup> K and n<sub>e</sub> = 10<sup>4</sup> cm<sup>−3</sup> derived by Storey & Hummer (1995). Therefore, we conclude that the 7.49 μm complex is a combination of both H I and C<sub>60</sub>. We assume that only part of the 7.49 μm feature is due to H I, and the remainder is carried by C<sub>60</sub>.

The fluxes of the 6.2 and 8.6 μm PAH bands are listed in Table 5.

### 4.4 Flux measurements of the C<sub>60</sub> lines

We employed multiple Gaussian fitting for all C<sub>60</sub> bands to separate the various components in each feature. The details are discussed in Appendix and the results are listed in Table 6. We also list the total flux of the 7.0 μm complex composed of the 7.0 μm C<sub>60</sub> band, the 6.92 μm aliphatic band and the [Ar II] 6.99 μm line, as well as the total flux of the 8.5 μm C<sub>60</sub> and 8.6 μm PAH complex. The total fluxes can be treated as upper limits to the C<sub>60</sub> fluxes. In the fits of the 17.4 and 18.9 μm C<sub>60</sub> bands, we employed two- or three-component Gaussians.

The measurement errors of the central wavelength, the full width at half-maximum (FWHM) and the fluxes of the C<sub>60</sub> lines are 1σ. The 17.4 and 18.9 μm C<sub>60</sub> bands in Tc1 include a contribution from C<sub>70</sub> (Cami et al. 2010), with the flux ratios of the C<sub>60</sub> to C<sub>70</sub> at 17.4 and 18.9 μm of 3.44 and 9.29, respectively. For Tc1, we also listed the fluxes of the 17.4 and 18.9 μm C<sub>60</sub> lines after the contribution from the C<sub>70</sub> lines is subtracted. For SaSt2-3, the fluxes of 17.4 and 18.9 μm C<sub>60</sub> are also listed when the above ratios for Tc1 are applied, although we could not clearly detect any C<sub>70</sub> bands in SaSt2-3.

The flux ratios relative to the 18.9 μm C<sub>60</sub> band are summarized in Table 7. In Tc1, the 7.0 μm feature is a complex of the C<sub>60</sub> and C<sub>70</sub>, but the exact fraction of each component to the 7.0 μm band is unknown. Therefore, the F(7.0 μm)/F(18.9 μm) value in Tc1 represents an upper limit. In other PNe, since we could not detect any C<sub>70</sub> emissions, the contribution of the C<sub>70</sub> to the 7.0 μm band is very small. The F(17.4 μm)/F(18.9 μm) ratio is almost constantly ~0.5 in all objects in our sample as we argued in Section 4.2, while there is more scatter in the F(7.0 μm)/F(18.9 μm) and the F(8.5 μm)/F(18.9 μm) ratios due to the contributions from the [Ar II] 6.99 μm line and the 8.6 μm PAH band to the 7.0 and 8.5 μm C<sub>60</sub> bands, respectively.

### 4.5 The 3.3 μm PAH band in AKARI spectra

The reduced AKARI spectra show emission bands at 3.2–3.6 μm, which are due to aromatic and aliphatic hydrocarbon species. The strong resonance at 3.3 μm is attributed to the aromatic C-H stretching vibration in PAHs and the 3.4–3.6 μm faint broad-band is due to aliphatic hydrocarbon. We should note that the 3.3 μm PAH band is always contaminated with the H I 3.2 μm line (n = 5–9).

Using the theoretical intensity ratio of H I 3.2 to 4.65 μm (n = 5–7) = 0.46 in the case of the electron temperature T<sub>e</sub> = 10<sup>4</sup> K and the electron density n<sub>e</sub> = 10<sup>4</sup> cm<sup>−3</sup> (Storey & Hummer 1995), we

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**Figure 5.** Upper panel: the continuum subtracted over 6.0–9.2 μm of all sources for which data are available in this range, normalized to the peak flux density of the 8.5 μm C<sub>60</sub>+8.6 μm PAH band and then adjusted. The emission features seen in these spectra are indicated by dotted lines and lower case letters. Lower panel: the ISO/SWS spectrum of the C-rich PN NGC 7027. We removed the high-excitation lines such as [CI v] 6.71 μm, He i 6.95 μm, [Na iv] 7.32 μm, [Ne v] 7.65 μm, [Ar v] 7.90 μm, [Na vi] 8.61 μm and [K v] 8.83 μm and the pure rotational transition lines of molecular hydrogen (H<sub>2</sub>) lines from the original spectrum of NGC 7027. The resolution of this spectrum was reduced to that of Spitzer/IRS. The original resolution spectrum is indicated by the red line and the degraded one is indicated by the black line. The emission features seen in these spectra are indicated by dotted lines and lower case letters. a: PAH C = C stretch 6.23 μm; b: C<sub>60</sub> + 6.4 μm (possible); c: C<sub>2</sub> planar (possible) or PAH C = C stretch 6.67 μm; d: C<sub>60</sub> 7.0 μm + [Ar i] 6.99 μm; e: an emission feature at 7.30 μm seen by Scott & Duley (1996) and Scott, Duley & Jahani (1997); f: C<sub>60</sub> + H I 7.46 μm and the H I 7.50 μm complex; g: PAH C=C stretch 7.7 μm; h: C<sub>60</sub> 8.1 μm (possible); i: C<sub>60</sub> 8.5 μm and j: PAH C-H in-plane bend 8.6 μm.
Table 5. 3.3, 6.2, 8.6 and 11.3 μm PAH band fluxes.

| Nebula      | λ_{obs} (μm) | F(λ_{PAH} 3.3) (erg s^{-1} cm^{-2}) | λ_{obs} (μm) | F(λ_{PAH} 6.2) (erg s^{-1} cm^{-2}) | λ_{obs} (μm) | F(λ_{PAH} 8.6) (erg s^{-1} cm^{-2}) | λ_{obs} (μm) | F(λ_{PAH} 11.3) (erg s^{-1} cm^{-2}) | F(λ_{3.3})/F(λ_{11.3}) |
|-------------|--------------|--------------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------------|------------------|
| Hen2-68     | 3.30         | 1.38(−13) ± 4.83(−14)                | 6.23         | 5.74(−13) ± 1.04(−14)               | 8.70         | 2.09(−13) ± 4.68(−15)               | 11.26        | 2.02(−13) ± 3.39(−14)               | 11.38 ± 0.12     |
| IC418       | 3.29         | 1.96(−11) ± 1.11(−12)                | 6.27         | 3.46(−11) ± 2.03(−13)               | 8.68         | 1.62(−11) ± 5.45(−14)               | 11.26        | 2.74(−11) ± 8.02(−13)               | 0.72 ± 0.23      |
| IC2501      | 3.30         | 3.18(−12) ± 1.16(−13)                |              |                                     |              |                                     |              |                                     | 0.54 ± 0.04      |
| K3-62       | 3.30         | 2.86(−13) ± 3.46(−14)                | 6.23         | 1.41(−12) ± 2.99(−14)               | 8.72         | 7.38(−13) ± 5.96(−15)               | 11.25        | 8.94(−13) ± 6.03(−14)               | 0.32 ± 0.04      |
| M1-6        | 3.30         | 4.05(−13) ± 4.02(−14)                | 6.23         | 2.58(−12) ± 3.33(−14)               | 8.66         | 5.50(−13) ± 8.25(−14)               | 11.27        | 5.81(−13) ± 7.85(−14)               | 0.70 ± 0.13      |
| M1-9        | 6.23         | 1.75(−13) ± 1.56(−15)                |              |                                     | 8.71         | 6.28(−14) ± 1.30(−14)               | 11.28        | 1.25(−13) ± 1.87(−14)               | 0.54 ± 0.04      |
| M1-11       | 3.29         | 7.02(−12) ± 2.89(−13)                | 6.23         | 1.36(−12) ± 2.29(−14)               | 8.69         | 7.59(−12) ± 2.95(−13)               | 11.25        | 8.16(−13) ± 7.85(−13)               | 0.61 ± 0.04      |
| M1-12       | 3.29         | 5.41(−13) ± 3.96(−14)                | 6.22         | 3.26(−13) ± 7.04(−14)               | 8.69         | 8.60(−13) ± 1.24(−13)               | 11.25        | 8.36(−13) ± 1.23(−13)               | 0.63 ± 0.10      |
| M1-20       | 6.22         | 7.68(−13) ± 2.23(−14)                | 8.71         | 3.98(−13) ± 8.54(−14)               | 11.26        | 8.56(−13) ± 1.63(−13)               | 11.29        | 1.34(−14) ± 4.68(−16)               | 11.27 ± 0.30     |
| SaS2-3      | 6.25         | 1.49(−14) ± 9.90(−16)                |              |                                     |              |                                     |              |                                     | 0.54 ± 0.04      |
| Tc1         | 6.20         | 8.08(−13) ± 5.42(−14)                |              |                                     |              |                                     |              |                                     | 0.68 ± 0.04      |

Total flux of the 7.0 μm line.
(1) The residual flux after the predicted [Ar ii] 6.99 μm flux and 6.92 μm aliphatic band feature are subtracted. The value is the flux of the C_{60} 7.0 μm feature.
(2) The flux of the C_{60} 8.5 μm feature measured using a two-component Gaussian fit. For SaS2-3 and Tc1, a single Gaussian is fitted to the C_{60} 8.5 μm feature.
(3) Total flux of the C_{60} 8.5 μm and PAH 8.6 μm bands.
(4) By applying the flux ratio of C_{60}/C_{70} observed in Tc1 by Cami et al. (2010).

removed the contribution of the H1 3.2 μm line from the 3.3 μm emission band, assuming that the FWHM velocities of H1 3.2 and 4.65 μm are the same and the line profiles of these H1 lines can be represented by a single Gaussian. The resulting spectra in the range from 3.1 to 3.9 μm are presented in Fig. 6. In panels a–h, as a comparison, we also present the ISO/SWS spectrum of NGC 7027 indicated by grey lines. The spectral resolution of NGC 7027 data was reduced down to ~110 at 3.3 μm using Gaussian convolution to match that of AKARI/IRC. For the purpose of removing the H1 3.2 μm, we used the H1 4.65 μm instead of H1 3.73 μm, because the SNR of local continuum around 4.65 μm is better (IC418, in particular) and there is less contribution from nearby emission lines.
The positions of some aliphatic hydrocarbons seen in M1-6 and NGC 7027 are indicated by the dotted lines (a). The flux density is normalized to the peak intensity of the 3.3 \( \mu \)m PAH band and the local continuum of these spectra is subtracted. Due to low SNR of Hen2-68 and K3-62, we overestimated the flux of H\( \alpha \) 3.2 \( \mu \)m. The central wavelength and the fluxes of the solo 3.3 \( \mu \)m PAH band error are listed in the second and third columns of Table 5.

For IC418, we confirmed the presence of the broad PAH 3.3 \( \mu \)m emission band in the ISO spectrum. The spectral resolution was also reduced to 110 at 3.3 \( \mu \)m using Gaussian convolution to match that of AKARI/IRC. We again removed the contribution of the H\( \alpha \) 3.2 \( \mu \)m line by employing the same technique as described above and we again measured the solo flux of the 3.3 \( \mu \)m PAH band. The resultant spectrum and the result of the flux measurement are also shown in Fig. 6 and Table 5, respectively.

The 3.2–3.6 \( \mu \)m band profile is very similar amongst the sources in our sample. All our sources exhibit the 3.3 \( \mu \)m PAH band.

### Table 7. The flux ratios of the C\(_{60}\) lines relative to the 18.9 \( \mu \)m C\(_{60}\) band.

| Nebula      | \( F(7.0)/F(18.9) \) | \( F(8.5)/F(18.9) \) | \( F(17.4)/F(18.9) \) |
|-------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Hen2-68     | 1.25 ± 0.22          | 0.28 ± 0.05          | 0.50 ± 0.11          |
| IC418       | 0.74 ± 0.08          | 0.50 ± 0.03          | 0.46 ± 0.03          |
| IC2501      | 0.50 ± 0.05          | 0.32 ± 0.05          | 0.46 ± 0.06          |
| K3-62       | 0.98 ± 0.05          | 0.82 ± 0.05          | 0.45 ± 0.05          |
| M1-6        | 1.04 ± 0.11          | 0.39 ± 0.07          | 0.55 ± 0.13          |
| M1-11       | 0.77 ± 0.03          | 0.29 ± 0.01          | 0.49 ± 0.02          |

### Table 8. The 3.3 and 11.3 \( \mu \)m PAH band fluxes in ISO/SWS spectra of no C\(_{60}\)-containing PNe.

| Nebula      | \( F(3.3) \) (erg s\(^{-1}\) cm\(^{-2}\)) | \( F(11.3) \) (erg s\(^{-1}\) cm\(^{-2}\)) | \( F(3.3)/F(11.3) \) |
|-------------|------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| BD+30\(^{\circ}\) 3639 | 6.28(−14) | 2.34(−13) | 0.27 |
| Hubble5 | 1.88(−14) | 9.02(−14) | 0.21 |
| Hen2-113 | 5.62(−14) | 1.51(−13) | 0.37 |
| Hen3-1333 | 8.77(−14) | 2.82(−13) | 0.31 |
| M1-78 | 2.10(−14) | 8.32(−14) | 0.25 |
| M2-43 | 1.92(−14) | 4.66(−14) | 0.41 |
| NGC 6302 | 8.67(−15) | 3.36(−14) | 0.26 |
| NGC 6537 | 4.63(−15) | 1.60(−14) | 0.29 |
| NGC 7027 | 2.05(−13) | 1.58(−12) | 0.13 |
| Vo1 | 1.41(−14) | 3.95(−14) | 0.36 |

### 4.6 The size of PAHs

The 3.3/11.2 \( \mu \)m PAH band ratio depends on the hardness of the radiation field (i.e. the average photon energy that is absorbed) and the PAH size distribution since (1) the intrinsic PAH flux ratio \( F(3.3 \mu m)/F(11.3 \mu m) \) decreases with increasing number of the C-atoms and (2) the 3.3 \( \mu \)m PAH arises mainly from PAHs containing between roughly 30 and 70 C-atoms while the 11.2 \( \mu \)m PAH is dominated by PAHs containing between about 80 to several hundred carbon atoms (Allamandola, Tielens & Barker 1989; Schutte, Tielens & Allamandola 1993; Draine & Li 2007; Ricca et al. 2012). The observed \( F(3.3 \mu m)/F(11.3 \mu m) \) ratios are given in the last column of Table 5. The average \( F(3.3 \mu m)/F(11.3 \mu m) \) is 0.60 among our sample. We also measured the \( F(3.3 \mu m)/F(11.3 \mu m) \) PAH intensity ratios of 10 other Galactic non-C\(_{60}\) PNe using their ISO/SWS spectra. These results are listed in Table 8. The average value is 0.29, consistent with the results by R. Ohsawa based on AKARI/IRC and Spitzer/IRS spectra of 16 Galactic non-C\(_{60}\) PNe (0.3; in private communication). Since the radiation field is...
probably roughly similar for all C_{60}-containing PNe and non-C_{60} PNe, the \( F(3.3 \mu m)/F(11.3 \mu m) \) ratio is likely governed by the PAH size distribution. Thus, we conclude that our C_{60}-containing PNe have relatively smaller PAHs than non-C_{60} PNe.

### 4.7 The broad 11 \( \mu m \) feature

The appearance of the broad 11 \( \mu m \) feature is presented in Fig. 7(a). The flux density is normalized to the peak flux density of the 18.9 \( \mu m \) C_{60} after the continuum was subtracted. The \( H_i \) 11.3 and 12.4 \( \mu m \), [S\textsc{iv}] 10.51 \( \mu m \) and [Ne\textsc{ii}] 12.81 \( \mu m \) lines are subtracted out using multiple Gaussian fitting. Except for M1-11, the emission profiles show a nearly flat portion between 11.2 and 12.4 \( \mu m \). The position of the 11.3 \( \mu m \) PAH band is indicated by the dotted line in Fig. 7(a). The peak intensity of the 11 \( \mu m \) feature in SaSt2-3 and Tc1, which show the prominent C_{60} bands, is much weaker than in the other PNe.

The band profile and the peak intensity in IC418, K3-62, M1-6 and M1-12 are very similar. The effective temperatures \( T_{\text{eff}} \) in these PNe are quite different (31 660–45 000 K), so we believe that the 11 \( \mu m \) emission does not correlate with \( T_{\text{eff}} \) (Fig. 7b). We measured the integrated flux emission band \( F(E) \) and the integrated flux \( F(C) \) of the underlying continuum between 10.2 and 13.2 \( \mu m \) (Table 9).

![Figure 7](https://academic.oup.com/mnras/article-abstract/437/3/2577/1028764/Physical-properties-of-fullerene-containing,alt=Image)

**Figure 7.** Upper: the continuum-subtracted spectra over 9.1–14 \( \mu m \), normalized to the peak flux density of C_{60} 18.9 \( \mu m \), except for IC2501, SaSt2-3 and Tc1. The scaling factor for these PNe are 2, 10 and 10 after the normalization to C_{60} 18.9 \( \mu m \). The position of the 11.3 \( \mu m \) PAH (or HAC) is indicated by the dotted line. Lower: the plot between the intensity and the effective temperatures of the central stars.

![Figure 8](https://academic.oup.com/mnras/article-abstract/437/3/2577/1028764/Physical-properties-of-fullerene-containing,alt=Image)

**Figure 8.** The correlation between the band strengths of the 18.9 \( \mu m \) C_{60} band and the broad 11 \( \mu m \) band.

The flux of the emission band \( F(E) \) includes the 11.3 \( \mu m \) emission. The error estimate of \( F(E) \) and \( F(C) \) is assumed to be equal to the standard deviation of continuum <10.2 and >13.2 \( \mu m \). Fig. 7(b) shows the band strengths [defined as the ratio \( F(E)/F(C) \)] against \( T_{\text{eff}} \). The correlation coefficient between these two parameters is 0.10, meaning they are not correlated. Even if we exclude SaSt2-3 because the SNR of this object is much lower than those of the other PNe, the correlation coefficient is still small (~0.20). Thus, we confirm that there is no correlation between the 11 \( \mu m \) band strength and the \( T_{\text{eff}} \) of the central star.

The peak intensities of the broad 11 \( \mu m \) feature in SaSt2-3 and Tc1 are much lower than those in the other PNe. The relation between the 11 \( \mu m \) band and the 18.9 \( \mu m \) C_{60} band strength is of interest (Fig. 8). Bernard-Salas et al. (2012) demonstrated the similarity between the observed 6–14 \( \mu m \) spectra of C_{60}-containing PNe and the spectra of HAC/a-C:H particles, which shows strong emission around 11.3 \( \mu m \) (see fig. 7 of Bernard-Salas et al. 2012). They concluded it likely to demonstrate a link between the fullerene formation process and the 6–9 and 10–13 \( \mu m \) broad-bands. To check the relation between the 18 \( \mu m \) C_{60} and the 11 \( \mu m \) band strengths, we also measured the integrated flux \( F(C) \) of the underlying continuum between 18.5 and 19.2 \( \mu m \), as listed in the third column of Table 10. We define the ratio of the 18.9 \( \mu m \) C_{60} band integrated flux to \( F(C) \) as the 18.9 \( \mu m \) C_{60} band strength, and we plotted the

### Table 9. The 11 \( \mu m \) band fluxes of the emission and continuum components.

| Nebula  | \( F(E)^a \) (erg s\(^{-1}\) cm\(^{-2}\)) | \( F(C)^b \) (erg s\(^{-1}\) cm\(^{-2}\)) | \( F(E)/F(C) \) |
|---------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Hen2-68 | 2.89\((-11)\) | 5.44\((-11)\) | 0.53 \(\pm\) 0.01 |
| IC418   | 1.24\((-9)\)  | 1.90\((-9)\)  | 0.65 \(\pm\) 0.01 |
| IC2501  | 5.63\((-11)\) | 1.59\((-10)\) | 0.35 \(\pm\) 0.01 |
| K3-62   | 4.91\((-11)\) | 1.06\((-10)\) | 0.46 \(\pm\) 0.01 |
| M1-6    | 9.42\((-11)\) | 1.36\((-10)\) | 0.69 \(\pm\) 0.01 |
| M1-9    | 9.04\((-12)\) | 2.15\((-11)\) | 0.42 \(\pm\) 0.01 |
| M1-11   | 4.22\((-10)\) | 6.17\((-10)\) | 0.68 \(\pm\) 0.01 |
| M1-12   | 6.93\((-11)\) | 1.18\((-10)\) | 0.59 \(\pm\) 0.01 |
| M1-20   | 4.74\((-11)\) | 5.64\((-11)\) | 0.84 \(\pm\) 0.02 |
| SaSt2-3 | 6.20\((-13)\) | 2.54\((-12)\) | 0.24 \(\pm\) 0.01 |
| Tc1     | 5.28\((-11)\) | 1.43\((-10)\) | 0.37 \(\pm\) 0.01 |

\(^a\)The sum of the band emission without continuum between 10.2 and 13.2 \( \mu m \).

\(^b\)The sum of the continuum between 10.2 and 13.2 \( \mu m \).
diagram of the 18.9 μm C_60 and 11 μm band strengths in Fig. 8, although careful treatment of the 18.9 μm C_60 band strength of SaSt2-3 is necessary, as we explained in Section 4.2. No trend exists between the 11 μm band and the 18.9 μm C_60 band strengths, suggesting that the heating mechanism of the C_60 and the broad 11 μm bands is different.

### 4.8 The 30 μm feature and the cold dust continuum

All the sources in our sample show a clear broad emission feature around 30 μm, except for IC2501, for which we do not have any data >20 μm. The feature typically starts around 24 μm, and ends around 45 μm, outside of the Spitzer/IRS wavelength coverage, and it is carried by a solid-state component. Its identification remains unclear. Hony, Waters & Tielens (2002) argued that the feature is due to MgS (magnesium sulphide), while rejecting other carriers, such as HACs. The MgS identification has been widely accepted by the community for the 30 μm feature seen in carbon-rich AGB stars, post-AGB stars and PNe (e.g. Zijlstra et al. 2006; Zhukovska & Gail 2008; Woods et al. 2011; Lombaert et al. 2012). However, Zhang, Jiang & Li (2009) have demonstrated using energetic arguments that the abundance of MgS is not sufficient to explain the strength of the feature in the post-AGB star HD36126, thus creating considerable doubt concerning the validity of the MgS identification. In a recent analysis of the 30 μm feature observed in a sample of extreme carbon stars, Messenger, Speck & Volk (2013) search for a correlation between the 30 μm feature and the 11.3 μm SiC (silicon carbide) feature, on the grounds that the 30 μm feature is likely carried by a carbide or sulphide component. They find that a correlation exists within specifically this class of objects, suggesting that the abundance of the carrier of the 30 μm feature is linked to the SiC abundance. Analysis of laboratory spectra shows that various types of sulphides, so not just MgS, all show a resonance at approximately the right wavelength (Messenger et al. 2013).

In this work, however, we explore the possibility that the 30 μm feature is due to the carrier of the dust continuum. The dust continuum in carbon-rich AGB stars and PNe is generally thought to be due to amorphous carbon (e.g. Srinivasan et al. 2010), but there are hints that graphite is more appropriate (e.g. Speck et al. 2009). Comparing the opacities of amorphous carbon and graphite shows that while amorphous carbon produces a featureless continuum, graphite exhibits a very broad, strong feature peaking around 40 μm, which shifts to longer wavelengths for larger grains (Draine & Lee 1984). The position of the feature also seems to be a function of the conductivity of graphite, and Jiang et al. (2013) show that for graphite with a d.c. conductivity of 100 Ω\(^{-1}\) cm\(^{-1}\) the resonance is found at 30 μm. Therefore, if we accept that carbon in its crystalline form could produce a feature around 30–40 μm, and that the exact position of this feature may be dependent the grain properties, such as size and shape, we can investigate whether it is possible to construct a dust opacity that explains both the long-wavelength dust continuum and the strength of the 30 μm feature at the same time.

#### 4.8.1 Deriving the opacity function using IC418

IC418 is the most suitable source to constrain the opacity function of the carrier responsible for both the continuum and the 30 μm feature, because it is the only source in our sample where spectroscopy is available at λ > 40 μm, allowing us to trace the full extent of the 30 μm feature, and has an additional stretch of continuum baseline at even longer wavelengths. The constructed opacity function can then be applied to the other objects in our sample.

First, we removed all emission lines from the spectrum of IC418, by blocking the data at the wavelength ranges listed in Table 11. All data with μ < 13.5 μm have been blocked because of a change in slope due to contributions from hot dust and PAH emission. The remaining spectrum was then re-binned with a spectral resolution of Δλ/λ = 10 to reduce the noise and make the spectrum more smooth. All data points in the re-binned spectrum of IC418 were assigned a flux uncertainty of 5 per cent, in line with typical values for the Spitzer/IRS and ISO flux calibration accuracy.

Assuming that dust in PNe is found to be present at a range of temperatures, reflecting a range of distances to the central star, we follow the method put forward by Kemper et al. (2002). This model assumes that dust is distributed around the central star following a power law ρ(r) ∝ r\(^{-α}\), with the temperature distribution also following a power law T(r) ∝ r\(^{-β}\). Thus, following Kemper et al. (2002) we can derive, for spherical grains, that

\[
F_\nu = C \cdot Q_{abs}(λ) \int_{T_{min}}^{T_{max}} T^{-α} B_\nu(T) dT
\]

with α = (3 − p)/q > 0. \(Q_{abs}(λ)\) is the absorption efficiency as a function of wavelength. Relevant species that could contribute to the continuum are amorphous carbon and graphite, as discussed before, but also SiC. Both amorphous carbon and SiC essentially follow a power law \(αλ^{-β}\) for λ > 3.5 μm. Graphite does deviate from this power-law behaviour due to the strong resonance around 40 μm which may be related to the 30 μm feature we are trying to

### Table 10. The 18.5–19.3 μm continuum fluxes and the 18.9 μm C_60 band strength.

| Nebula   | F(E)\(^a\) (erg s\(^{-1}\) cm\(^{-2}\)) | F(C)\(^b\) (erg s\(^{-1}\) cm\(^{-2}\)) | F(E)/F(C) |
|----------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------|
| Hen2-68  | 7.83(-13)                            | 2.03(-11)                            | 3.85(-2) + 6.62(-3) |
| IC418    | 4.44(-11)                            | 7.38(-10)                            | 6.02(-2) + 2.82(-3) |
| IC2501   | 3.93(-12)                            | 7.78(-11)                            | 5.05(-2) + 7.85(-3) |
| K3-62    | 1.32(-12)                            | 4.66(-11)                            | 2.83(-2) + 3.58(-3) |
| M1-6     | 1.98(-12)                            | 4.83(-11)                            | 4.10(-2) + 2.28(-3) |
| M1-9     | 4.19(-13)                            | 2.07(-12)                            | 6.26(-2) + 5.33(-3) |
| M1-11    | 6.89(-12)                            | 2.62(-11)                            | 2.63(-2) + 4.45(-3) |
| M1-12    | 2.41(-12)                            | 4.62(-11)                            | 5.21(-2) + 2.71(-3) |
| M1-20    | 8.74(-13)                            | 1.70(-11)                            | 5.14(-2) + 5.65(-3) |
| SaSt2-3  | 3.03(-13)                            | 1.04(-12)                            | 2.90(-1) + 2.87(-2) |
| Tc1      | 2.40(-11)                            | 5.05(-11)                            | 4.76(-1) + 1.01(-2) |

\(a\)The 18.9 μm C_60 fluxes.
\(b\)The continuum fluxes between 18.5 and 19.3 μm.

### Table 11. Wavelength ranges blocked in the spectrum of IC418, prior to continuum fitting.

| Blocked range (μm) | Comment                                |
|--------------------|----------------------------------------|
| <13.5              | Broad 11 μm and 11 μm PAH bands         |
| 15.5–16            | [N II] 15.5 μm                          |
| 17–18              | 17.4 μm C_60 band and H1 17.61 μm      |
| 18.5–19.5          | 18.9 μm C_60 band and [S II] 18.7 μm   |
| 23–45              | 30 μm feature                           |
| 51–53              | [O I] 51.8 μm                           |
| 56–58              | [N II] 57.3 μm                          |
| 62–64              | [O I] 63.2 μm                           |
| 87–90              | [O I] 88.4 μm                           |
| 121–123            | [N II] 121.8 μm                         |
| 144–147            | [O I] 145.5 μm                          |
| 155–160            | [C II] 157 μm                           |
fit. This means we can substitute $\lambda^{−\beta}$ for $Q_{\text{obs}}(\lambda)$ in equation (2), which yields

$$F_\nu = C \cdot \lambda^{−\beta} \int_{T_{\text{min}}}^{T_{\text{max}}} T^{−\alpha} B_\nu(T) dT. \quad (3)$$

This equation is fitted to the re-binned spectral data of the continuum emission due to the dust in IC418 using the MPFIT algorithm (Markwardt 2009) excluding the wavelengths listed in Table 11. The fit is not very sensitive to the minimum temperature at the outskirts of the nebula, so we fix $T_{\text{min}} = 20$ K, a temperature more or less characteristic for dust in the ISM. This results in only four free parameters, namely the maximum dust temperature $T_{\text{max}}$, closest to the central star, the power-law index $\alpha$ describing the physical properties of the nebula, the power-law index $\beta$ describing the opacity function of the continuum and the scaling factor $C$.

### 4.8.2 Derivation of opacities

Due to the presence of two power laws in equation (3) (one over $T$ and one over $\lambda$), there is a certain amount of degeneracy in the resulting fit. Trial and error shows that $\alpha$ is approximately equal to unity, so we have fixed it at that value, to find that the index $\beta$ describing the opacity power law is 1.20. The scaling factor $C = 3.3(-10)$, and we find that the maximum temperature $T_{\text{max}} = 155.3$ K.

We can use these fit parameters now as true values in equation (2), while we leave $Q_{\text{obs}}(\lambda)$ as an unknown. Using the spectrum of IC418 with all emission lines and features, except the 30 $\mu$m feature, removed as $F_\nu(\lambda)$, we can derive $Q_{\text{obs}}(\lambda)$. The result is a table of $Q$ values over a range from 13.5 to $\sim$150 $\mu$m, which we have re-binned with a spectral resolution of $\lambda/\Delta\lambda = 10$. The derived opacity for the 30 $\mu$m feature and the continuum together is shown in Fig. 9 with the red line, along with a $\lambda^{-1.2}$ power law in black. Outside the 30 $\mu$m feature, the derived opacity follows the power law quite closely, and is therefore able to reproduce the continuum emission. Note that the derived opacity is given in arbitrary units, because we did not specify any grain size or shape. The mass contained in this component can therefore not be derived.

![Figure 9](https://example.com/figure9.png)

**Figure 9.** The derived opacity for the carrier of the continuum and the 30 $\mu$m feature (red), compared to a power-law opacity $\alpha\lambda^{-1.2}$ (black). The $Q$ values are in arbitrary units.

### 4.8.3 Fitting the 30 $\mu$m feature in the entire sample

The joint opacity $Q_{\text{obs}}(\lambda)$, shown in Fig. 9, can be used in equation (2) to fit the continuum and 30 $\mu$m emission in all sources in the sample. Again, we treat $T_{\text{max}}$ and $C$ as free parameters. Experience shows that $\alpha$ always has a value close to unity, so we fixed this parameter at that value. The equation was solved using the MPFIT routine (Markwardt 2009), and the results for all targets in our sample are shown in Table 12 and Fig. 10. The first column of Table 12 gives the source name, the second column the fitted $T_{\text{max}}$ and the third column the scaling factor $C$. In Fig. 10, the spectra are shown in black, and the photometry points with blue crosses. The photometry comes from the four WISE bands ($\lambda, c = 3.4, 4.6, 11.6$ and 22.1 $\mu$m) and the AKARI/IRC and Far-Infrared Surveyor bands (9.2, 19.8, 66.7 and 89.2 $\mu$m). The red line shows the best-fitting result to equation (2), which was fitted to the data to the right of the dashed line, e.g. with $\lambda > 13.5$ $\mu$m. The best-fitting modified blackbody, e.g. a single-temperature blackbody multiplied by a $\lambda^{-p}$ emissivity law, to the same data is shown for comparison with a green line. For clarity, the spectra of M1-11 and Tc1 are shifted by the indicated factor. The uncertainties on the derived maximum temperature are of the order of 0.1–0.9 K, while the scaling factor is simply a linear factor applied to minimize the $\chi^2$ values, and hence has an uncertainty of less than 1 per cent.

Fig. 10 shows that for all sources in our sample, we can achieve a good fit to the 30 $\mu$m feature and continuum at the same time, using the opacity table derived from the full spectrum of IC418 (Fig. 9), and by applying the emission model described in equation (2). Therefore, the fit results for our sample are consistent with having a single carrier for the continuum emission ($\lambda > 13.5$ $\mu$m) and the 30 $\mu$m feature. The exact composition of this material remains unknown at this time, but we speculate that it may be related to HAC or graphite, because these species are known to have features in this wavelength range (Draine & Lee 1984; Grishko et al. 2001; Jiang et al. 2013). The opacity plot (Fig. 9) provides a starting point for future attempts to identify the material responsible for the continuum and the 30 $\mu$m feature.

### 5 DISCUSSION

#### 5.1 Fullerenes in Galactic PNe

Out of 338 Galactic PNe observed with the Spitzer/IRS spectroscopic modules, we found a total of eleven objects in which C$_{60}$ is present using the SH data, six of which (Hen2-68, IC2501, K3-62, M1-6, M1-9 and SaSt2-3) are new detections. These 11 sources

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**Table 12.** Fit parameters for all sources, for the solution to equation (2), using the joint opacity presented in Fig. 9 for $Q_{\text{obs}}$.

| Nebula          | $T_{\text{max}}$ (K) | $C$     |
|-----------------|----------------------|---------|
| Hen2-68         | 139.1 ± 0.1          | 2.57(-11)|
| IC418           | 146.1 ± 0.1          | 6.70(-10)|
| K3-62           | 138.5 ± 0.2          | 5.86(-11)|
| M1-6            | 150.3 ± 0.2          | 3.58(-11)|
| M1-9            | 147.0 ± 0.9          | 5.91(-12)|
| M1-11           | 149.5 ± 0.1          | 2.00(-10)|
| M1-12           | 140.8 ± 0.1          | 4.77(-11)|
| M1-20           | 148.1 ± 0.1          | 1.33(-11)|
| SaSt2-3         | 148.9 ± 0.1          | 9.00(-13)|
| Tc1             | 117.2 ± 0.1          | 1.75(-10)|

---
Figure 10. The best-fitting results for each of the objects to the continuum emission beyond 13.5 and the 30 \( \mu m \) feature. The spectra are shown in black, and the photometry points with blue crosses. The red line shows the best-fitting result to equation (2), which was fitted to the data to the right of the dashed line, e.g. with \( \lambda > 13.5 \mu m \). The best-fitting modified blackbody, e.g. a single-temperature blackbody multiplied by a \( \lambda^{-\beta} \) emissivity law, to the same data is shown for comparison in each of the panels with a green line. For clarity, the spectra of M1-11 and Tc1 are shifted by the indicated factor.

were identified by the presence of the 17.4 and 18.9 \( \mu m \) \( C_{60} \) resonances. SaSt2-3 and Tc1 also clearly show strong features at 7.0 and 8.5 \( \mu m \) due to \( C_{60} \). Except for SaSt2-3 and Tc1, the 8.5 \( \mu m \) \( C_{60} \) band is heavily contaminated by the 8.6 \( \mu m \) PAH band.

The large number of Galactic PNe checked for the presence of \( C_{60} \) represent a considerable fraction of the total number of known (C-rich and O-rich) PNe in the Milky Way (~1200; Acker et al. 1992); thus, from this representative sample, we may conclude that the detectable presence of \( C_{60} \) is rather rare, with a detection rate of 1 out of ~30.7 PNe (= 338/11).

Among our 338 PNe, the distances to 264 objects were measured by Stanghellini & Haywood (2010). Using their results, we plot the positions of these PNe on a face-on map of the Milky Way shown in Fig. 11. The positions of the spiral arms are taken from Cordes & Lazio (2002). Stanghellini & Haywood (2010) did not measure the distance to SaSt2-3; therefore, we assumed the distance of 6 kpc, as earlier mentioned. Most PNe are concentrated to the Galactic centre; however, there are very few \( C_{60} \)-containing PNe located in that direction, only M1-20 (in the Galactic bulge) and Tc1. Most of the \( C_{60} \)-containing PNe are in the Galactic anticentre and they are predominantly located in the region beyond the Perseus spiral arm.

In Fig. 12, we plotted the diagram of the Galactocentric distance against the Ar abundances of \( C_{60} \)-containing PNe. To investigate whether progenitor stars of \( C_{60} \)-containing PNe are initially metal rich, we used Ar as a metallicity because Ar is not synthesized in low-mass AGB stars. The dotted line in Fig. 12 shows the relation established for our sample, except for M1-20 and it is represented by

\[
\log(Ar/H) + 12 = (-0.02 \pm 0.01)D_{\text{gal}} + (6.27 \pm 0.10),
\]

where \( D_{\text{gal}} \) is the Galactocentric distance in kpc. The correlation factor is 0.48. Our Ar gradient \((-0.02)\) estimated by fitting to our sample is consistent with the result by Henry, Kwitter & Balick (2004), who investigated the Ar abundance gradient using Galactic disc PN abundances. They reported that their correlation was \((-0.03 \pm 0.01)D_{\text{gal}} + (6.58 \pm 0.079)\). Their measured Ar abundances in PNe located around \( D_{\text{gal}} = 5 \) and 10 kpc seem to be from

\[
(4)
of Galactic PNe

Figure 11. The positions of the 254 non-C\(_{60}\) (asterisks) and the 11 C\(_{60}\) PNe (filled blue circles) on a face-on map of the Milky Way. The position of the Sun is indicated by the filled green circle. The solar circle is indicated by the dotted line.

Figure 12. The diagram between the distance from the Galactic centre and the Ar abundances of our sample. The dotted line shows the relation established among our sample, except for M1-20.

\[ \log(O/H) + 12 = (-0.02 \pm 0.01)D_{\text{gal}} + (8.64 \pm 0.10). \]  

The correlation factor is \(-0.54\). Henry et al. (2004) reported a slope of \(-0.037 \pm 0.008\) and an intercept of \(9.87 \pm 0.069\). We need to be careful when interpreting the value derived for the O abundance; because O is slightly increased by the helium burning and the third dredge-up during the AGB phase, its abundance does not indicate the initial metallicity. We can conclude that C\(_{60}\) PNe are relatively metal-poor even if O is increased during the AGB phase.

Figure 13. The plot between the band strength of the broad 11 \(\mu\)m band and the maximum dust temperature \(T_{\text{max}}\).

5.2 The nature of the carrier of the 11 \(\mu\)m band

We have shown in Section 4.7 that the 11 \(\mu\)m band emission does not correlate with the C\(_{60}\) emission or the central star’s effective temperature. However, when we plot \(F(E)/F(C)\) against the \(T_{\text{max}}(\text{dust})\) derived in Section 4.8, we find that the 11 \(\mu\)m band strength feature seems to scale with the thermal dust emission, as shown in Fig. 13, if we exclude the noisy spectrum of SaSt2-3. The correlation coefficients are 0.69 without SaSt2-3 and 0.39 with SaSt2-3, respectively. This correlation suggests that the carrier of this feature is a thermally heated dust component. On the other hand, a substructure in the 11 \(\mu\)m feature at 11.3 \(\mu\)m points to a carrier that is related to PAHs. A similar broad feature is seen in Magellanic Cloud PNe, where it is thought to contain contributions from thermal emission from SiC and stochastically heated PAHs and PAH-like species (Bernard-Salas et al. 2009).

5.3 Relative fraction of the 17.4 and 18.9 \(\mu\)m C\(_{60}\) band flux to the dust continuum flux

By combining the best fits for the 13.5–200 \(\mu\)m SED presented in Fig. 10 and the spline function fits for the 5.3–23 \(\mu\)m continuum, we estimated the integrated dust continuum flux in 10.2–200 \(\mu\)m. We estimated the integrated fluxes in 22.7–200 \(\mu\)m and in 10.2–22.7 \(\mu\)m by using the former and latter ones, respectively, and then we simply summed these fluxes. The integrated dust continuum \(F(\text{dust})\) is listed in the second column of Table 13. The subsequent two columns give the total flux of the 17.4 and 18.9 \(\mu\)m emissions \(F(\text{C}_{60})\) and its fraction with respect to \(F(\text{dust})\). The high \(F(\text{C}_{60})/F(\text{dust})\) also indicates that SaSt2-3 and Tc1 are unusually C\(_{60}\) rich.

6 SUMMARY

We examined the properties of the nebulae, the central stars and the infrared spectroscopic features in 11 Galactic C\(_{60}\)-bearing PNe based on ground-based and space telescope data, and theoretical models. Six of the sources in our sample (Hen2-68, IC2501, K3-62, M1-6, M1-9 and SaSt2-3) are newly identified as C\(_{60}\)-containing PNe. Photoionization models indicate that the nebular chemical abundance pattern and the current evolutionary status of the central
stars are very similar, strongly suggesting that these C$_{60}$-bearing PNe have evolved from progenitors with similar initial mass and chemical composition. We found that the chemical abundances of C$_{60}$-containing PNe can be explained by AGB nucleosynthesis models for initially 1.5–2.5 M$_\odot$ stars with $Z = 0.004$. Their metallicity suggests that the progenitors are from an older population. We plotted the locations of the C$_{60}$-containing PNe on a face-on map of the Milky Way and we found that most of these PNe are outside the solar circle, consistent with low metallicity values. The effective temperatures differ from source to source, ranging from 29 750 to 51 650 K. There is no common characteristic in the nebular shape. Among the 11 PNe, SaSt2-3 and Tc1 clearly show strong C$_{60}$ bands at 7.0 and 8.5 $\mu$m, while all 11 objects exhibit the 17.4 and 18.9 $\mu$m C$_{60}$ features. The flux ratio between the 17.4 and 18.9 $\mu$m C$_{60}$ features is rather constant amongst the sample, with an average value of 0.49. The PAH profile over 6–9 $\mu$m in our sample is of the more chemically processed class A. We estimated the number of C-atoms in typical PAHs using the ratio of the 3.3 to the 11.3 $\mu$m PAH flux. The number of C-atoms per PAH in C$_{60}$-containing PNe is small, compared to that in non-C$_{60}$ PNe. We studied the nature of the 11 and 30 $\mu$m features. Both are showing to be due to thermal dust emission. The 11 $\mu$m band may have a contribution due to stochastically heated PAHs, while the carrier of the 30 $\mu$m feature is shown to be one and the same as the carrier of the dust continuum.

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As mentioned in Sections 2.2 and 4.3, all C_{60}-containing PNe in our sample show PAH features. Therefore, we assumed that the emission line around 8.5 μm is not only due to C_{60}, but also shows a contribution due to the 8.6 μm PAH band. We measured the C_{60} band in SaSt2-3 and Tc1 using a single Gaussian, thus obtaining the FWHM of the 8.5 μm C_{60} band. In a multiple Gaussian fit to the 8.5 μm C_{60} and 8.6 μm PAH complex in PNe except for SaSt2-3 and Tc1, we adopted the average FWHM of the 8.5 μm C_{60} in SaSt2-3 and Tc1 (~0.18 μm) as the first assumption for the 8.5 μm C_{60} component. We fix the FWHM of the 8.6 μm PAH band at the value of 0.23 μm measured from the ISO/SWS spectrum of NGC 7027 displayed in Fig. 5b.

Measurements of the 7.0 μm C_{60} band are more difficult. To investigate the excitation mechanism of C_{60}, flux measurements of the 7.0 μm C_{60} bands with any contamination subtracted are necessary, as discussed by Bernard-Salas et al. (2012). The 7.0 μm C_{60} band is mainly contaminated by the [Ar II] 6.99 μm line. We do not detect any pure rotational H_{2} lines in any of the spectra, so we assume that the contribution from the H_{2} v = 0–0 S(5) 6.91 μm line is negligibly small. In NGC 7027, the flux ratio of the 6.92 μm aliphatic band to the 6.2 μm PAH band is 0.12.

We estimated the flux in the 7.0 μm C_{60} resonance by deconvoluting the observed 7.0 μm band in its components due to the 6.92 μm aliphatic band, the [Ar II] 6.99 μm line and the 7.0 μm C_{60} combination. We assumed that the flux ratio of the 6.92 to 6.2 μm PAH bands (0.12) is the same as in NGC 7027 and the flux ratio of [Ar II] 6.99 μm to [Ar II] 8.99 μm derived with CLOUDY (see Table 3). The predicted ratio of F([Ar II] 6.99 μm)/F([Ar III] 8.99 μm) is given in the last column. The values in Hen2-68 and K3-62 are estimated using a relation between the ratio and T_{eff} among our PNe with T_{eff} > 36 000 K.

\[
F([\text{Ar II}] 6.99 \mu m)/F([\text{Ar III}] 8.99 \mu m) = -1.35 \times 10^{-4} T_{\text{eff}} + 6.16. \tag{A1}
\]

The predicted line ratio, in combination with the measured flux for the [Ar III] 8.99 μm line, was used to estimate the contamination from the [Ar II] 6.99 μm line to the C_{60} 7.0 μm feature. The total flux of the 7.0 μm complex (F_{tot}(7.0 \mu m)) is simply the sum of the [Ar II] 6.99 μm (F(6.99 μm)), the 6.92 μm aliphatic band (F(6.92 μm)) and the C_{60} 7.0 μm band (F_{C_{60}}(7.0 μm)). Thus, the approximate flux of the 7.0 μm C_{60} line can be written as

\[
F_{C_{60}}(7.0 \mu m) = F_{\text{tot}}(7.0 \mu m) - \text{Const.} \times F(8.99 \mu m) - 0.12 F(6.2 \mu m), \tag{A2}
\]

where the constant is the flux ratio F([Ar II] 6.99 μm)/F([Ar III] 8.99 μm) and F(6.2 μm) is the 6.2 μm PAH flux.

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