

# HST GO12600:

*The Most Comprehensive study of  
the UV Spectra of Galactic Planetary  
Nebulae to Date*

*Reggie Dufour  
Rice University*

*UV Astronomy: HST and Beyond*  
*Grand Hyatt, Kauai, Hawaii June 18-21 2012*



# HST GO12600:

*The Most Comprehensive study of  
the UV Spectra of Galactic Planetary  
Nebulae to Date “work in progress!”*

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## GO12600: Cycle 19 HST Program (32 orbits)

The goal of this project is to assess the role played in carbon production by low and intermediate mass stars (LIMS), i.e. the progenitors of planetary nebulae (PNe). One of the most pressing problems in galactic chemical evolution today is understanding the relative roles of LIMS (1-8 Mo) versus massive stars (8-120 Mo) in affecting the cosmic level of the element C. We are launching a fresh, ambitious project whose purpose is to employ STIS to obtain UV spectra of unprecedented-quality of 10 carefully chosen, bright solar metallicity PNe spanning a broad range in progenitor mass. Line strength measurements of important emission lines of C, N, and O such as OIII] 1660-6Å, NIII] 1747-54Å, CIII] 1907-9Å, and (when He<sup>++</sup> is strong) CIV] 1550Å and OIV] 1400Å in each object will be used along with our own in-house abundance software to determine ion and element abundances for these three species. In turn, these results will be used to assess stellar yields (productivity rates) available in the literature. Favored yield sets will be used to calculate our own chemical evolution models to assess the importance of LIMS in the cosmic evolution of C.

# OUTLINE

1. THE “CHARACTERS”
2. SCIENCE DRIVERS
3. STIS OBSERVATIONS
4. RESULTS: EXAMPLE SPECTRA
5. ANALYSIS EXAMPLE: NGC 3242
6. FUTURE PLANS

# 1. THE CHARACTERS

## A. The People

Reggie Dufour (Rice University), PI  
Dick Henry (Univ. Oklahoma), CoPI  
Karen Kwitter (Williams College), CoI  
Bruce Balick (Univ. Washington), CoI  
Dick Shaw (NOAO), CoI  
Romano Corradi (IAC, Spain), CoI

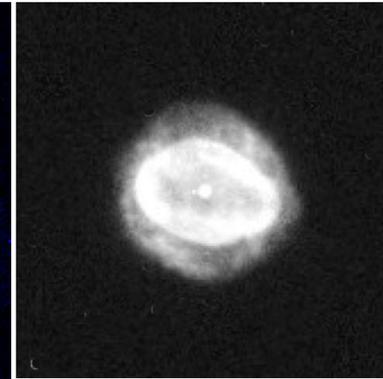
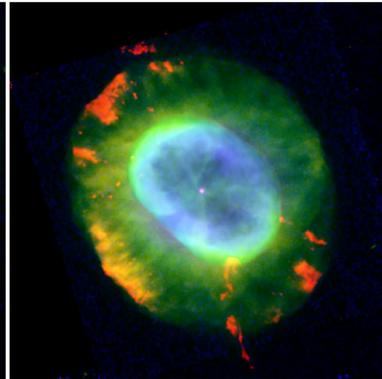
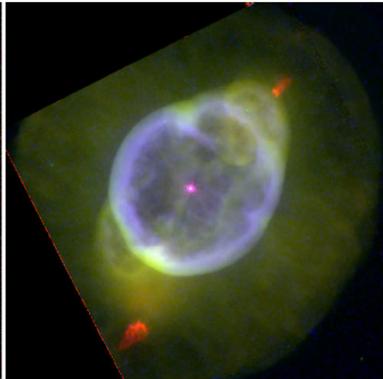
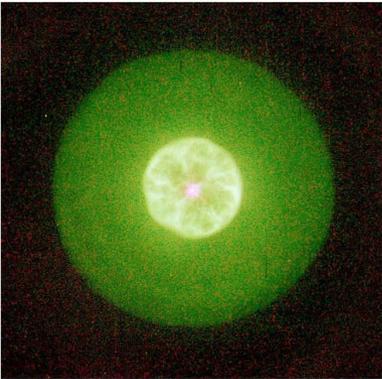


## B. The Nebulae

Observed to date: NGC 3242, IC2165, NGC 5882, NGC 5315, NGC 6537, & PB6

round core →

← elliptical core



IC 3568

NGC 3242

NGC 7662

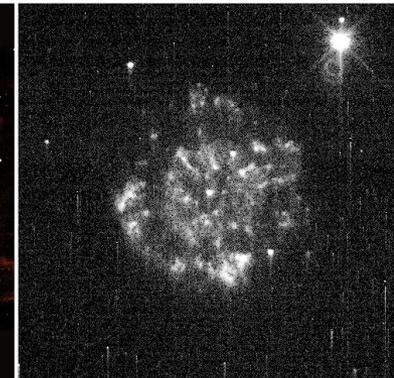
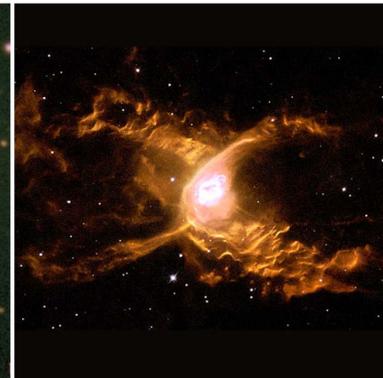
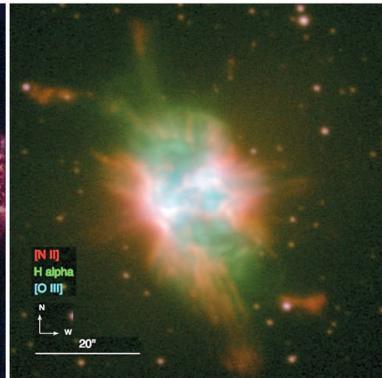
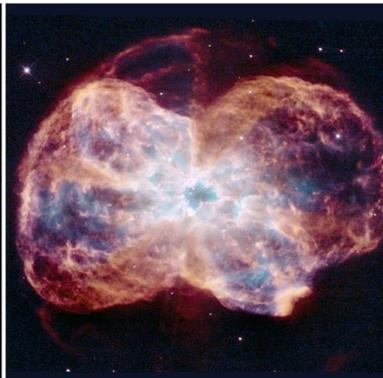
IC2165

NGC 5882

bipolar / multipolar, closed lobes →

← open lobes

irregular



NGC 5315

NGC 2440

NGC 6778\*

NGC 6537

PB 6 = ESO 213-7

\* = ground-based image

## 2. SCIENCE DRIVERS -- C&O in HII Regions

Spectroscopic observations of HII regions in star-forming galaxies indicate a significant variation in N/O & C/O vs. O/H  $\Rightarrow$  C & O has secondary sources in addition to SNe.

All C abundances (in HII regions And BCGs) come from UV spectroscopy of CIII] 1909A. Most studies were with HST FOS (not STIS) due to larger Entrance apertures (but 1D).

Most N abundances come from Optical spectroscopy of [NII] 6583A (large ICF's).

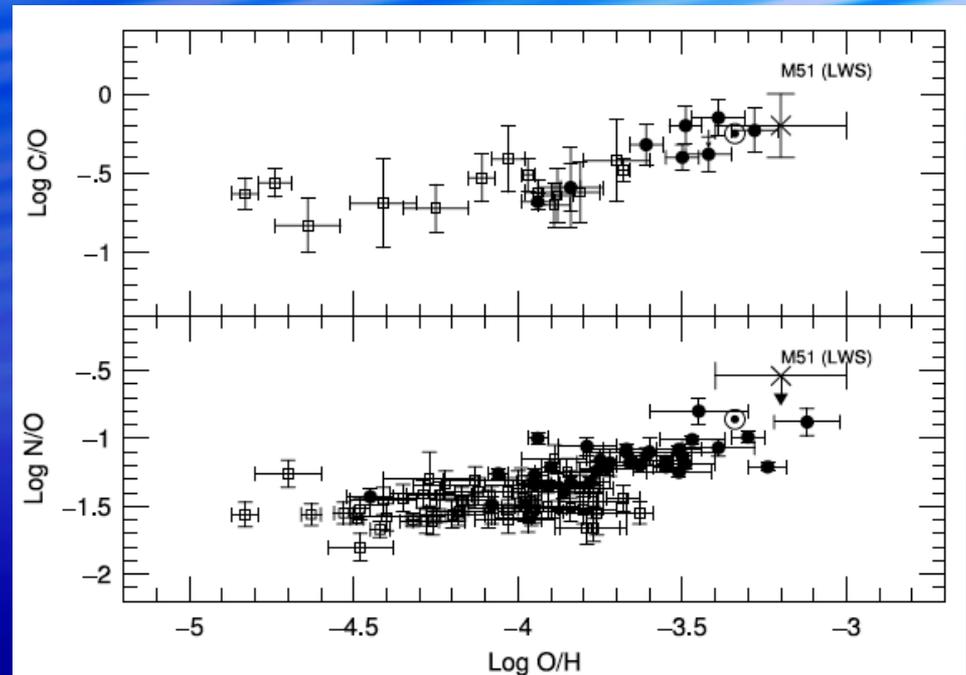


FIG. 6.—*Top:* C/O vs. O/H from spectroscopy of H II regions. Filled circles are data for H II regions in spirals (Garnett et al. 1999), and open squares are H II regions in irregular galaxies (Garnett et al. 1995, 1997). Our ISO results for M51 are shown by the cross. *Bottom:* N/O vs. O/H from observations of H II regions. Symbols as in the top panel. References for data points: Garnett et al. 1997; Kennicutt et al. 2003; Castellanos et al. 2002; Garnett 1990; Thuan et al. 1995.

But little known ancient IUE results:

FROM FIGURE 3

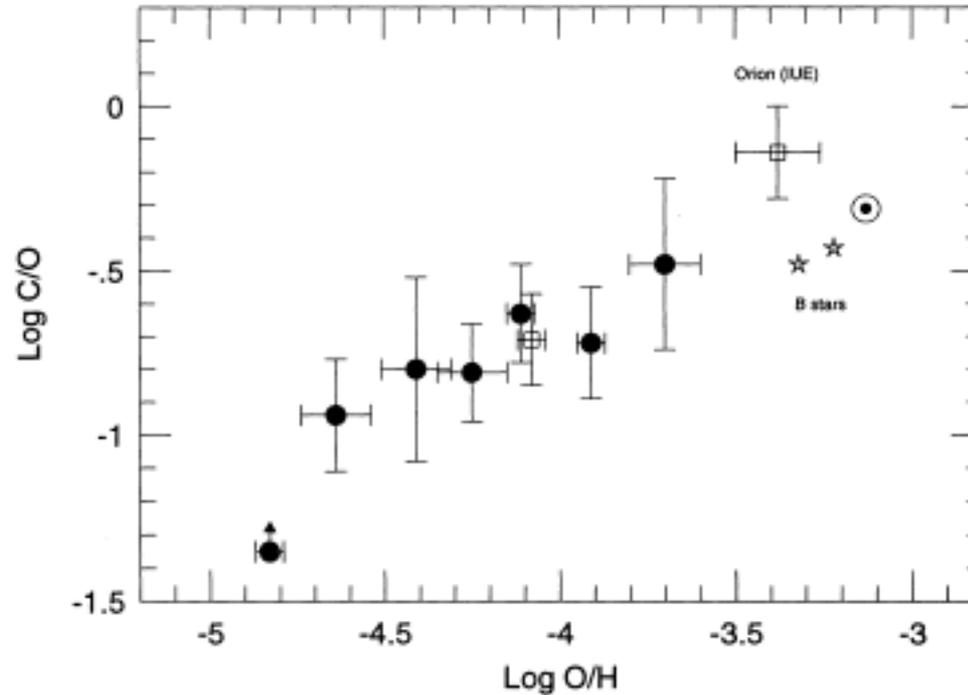


FIG. 3.—The C/O abundance ratio in irregular galaxies vs. O/H. Filled circles are the data from our FOS spectra; unfilled squares are data for Orion and NGC 2363 obtained from IUE spectra. The stars represent the mean abundances in B stars determined by GL92 and CL94.

Dufour (1984)

## 2. SCIENCE DRIVERS -- C&O in HII Regions

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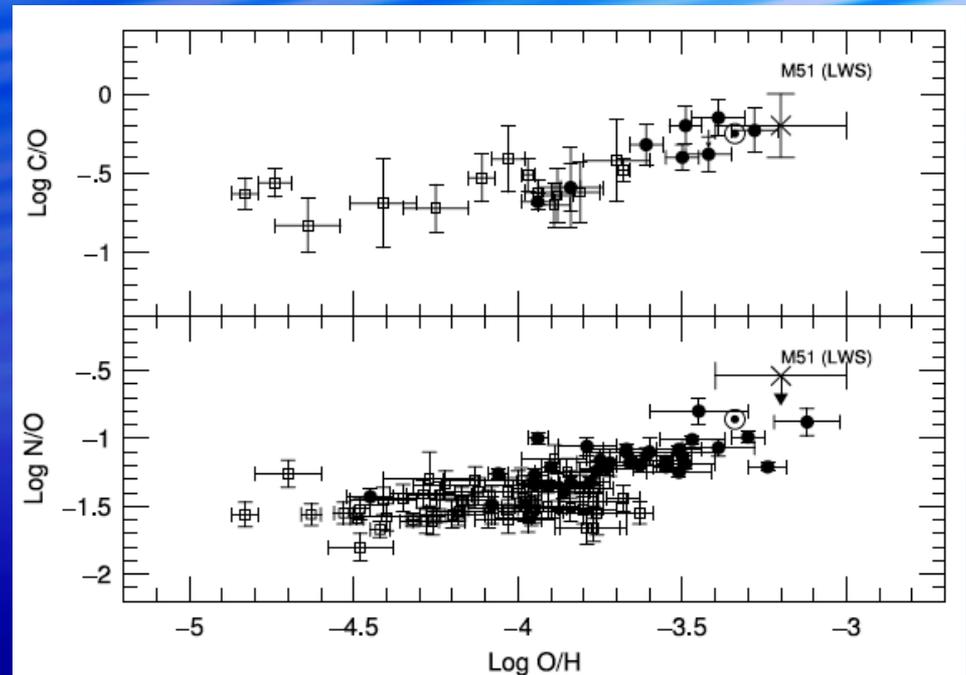


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## 2. SCIENCE DRIVERS -- UV spectroscopy of PNe

(a) Planetary Nebulae (PNe) are important sources of carbon and nitrogen enrichment in galaxies.

(b) The major emission lines of the dominant ionization states of C & N are in the ultraviolet for photoionized nebulae.

C <sup>+2</sup> C III] 1907, 1909 Å	N <sup>+2</sup> [N III] 1747-1754 Å
C <sup>+3</sup> C IV 1548, 1550 Å	N <sup>+3</sup> [N IV] 1483, 1487 Å
	N <sup>+4</sup> N V 1239, 1243 Å

{also lines from ions other astrophysically significant elements:  
He<sup>+,+2</sup>, O<sup>+,+2,+3,+4</sup>, Ne<sup>+,+2,+3,+4</sup>, Ar<sup>+,+3,+4</sup>, Mg<sup>+</sup>, Si<sup>+,+2</sup>}

(c) Abundances for PNe derived from visible light spectra alone involve large ionization corrections for N {only [N II] lines} and are very suspect for C based on the (weak) C II 4267 Å recombination line.

(d) Accurate C & N abundances in PNe are necessary for comparison with theoretical yields of low-to-intermediate mass stars (LIMS; 1-5M<sub>o</sub>).

**...but not everyone appreciates the UV carbon lines:**

Comments from an HST cycle 20 panel(?) report forwarded email by a nebular spectroscopy colleague:

...but get this, the weakness they quoted for our M31 PNe COS proposal was :

“The COS spectra target the doublet of C III@1906+09, and the doublet of C IV@1548+50. However, the panel felt that it was not clear how efficient those lines are for abundance determination.”

## 2. SCIENCE DRIVERS -- UV spectroscopy of PNe

(a) Planetary Nebulae (PNe) are important sources of carbon and nitrogen enrichment in galaxies.

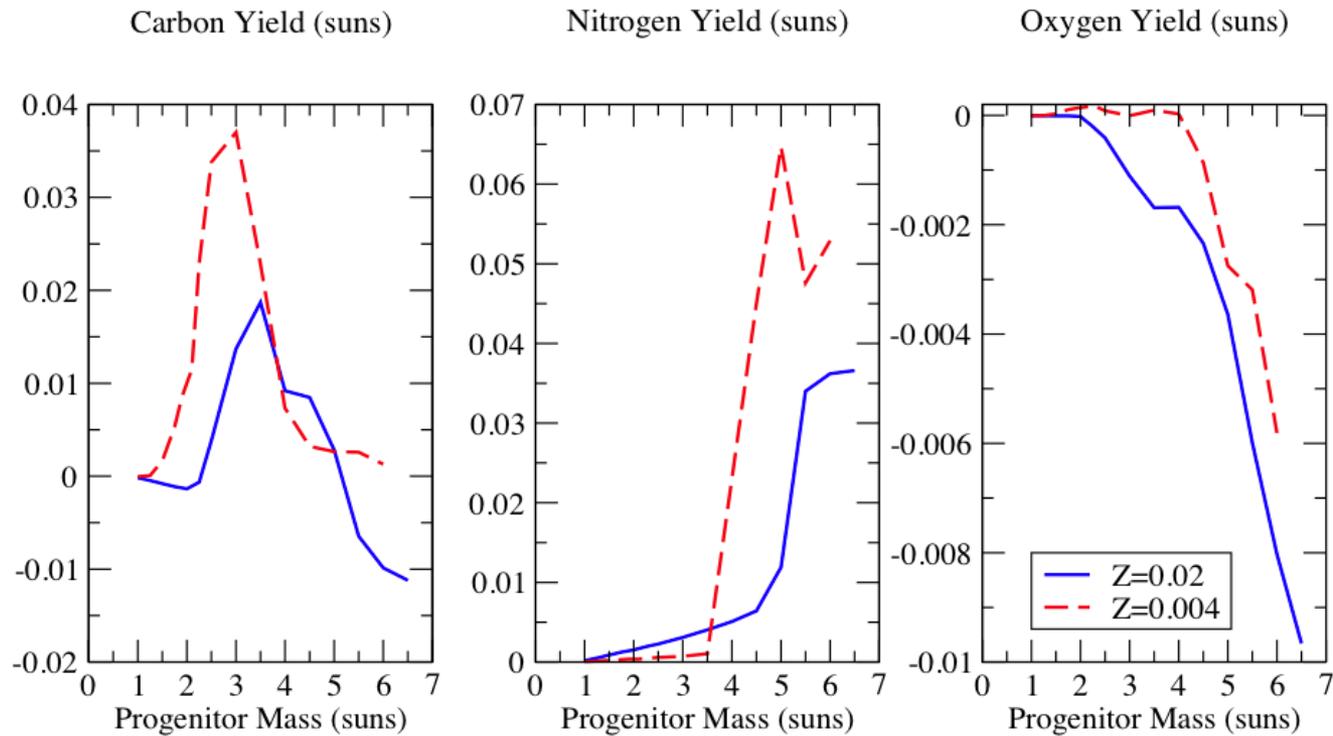
(b) The major emission lines of the dominant ionization states of C & N are in the ultraviolet for photoionized nebulae.

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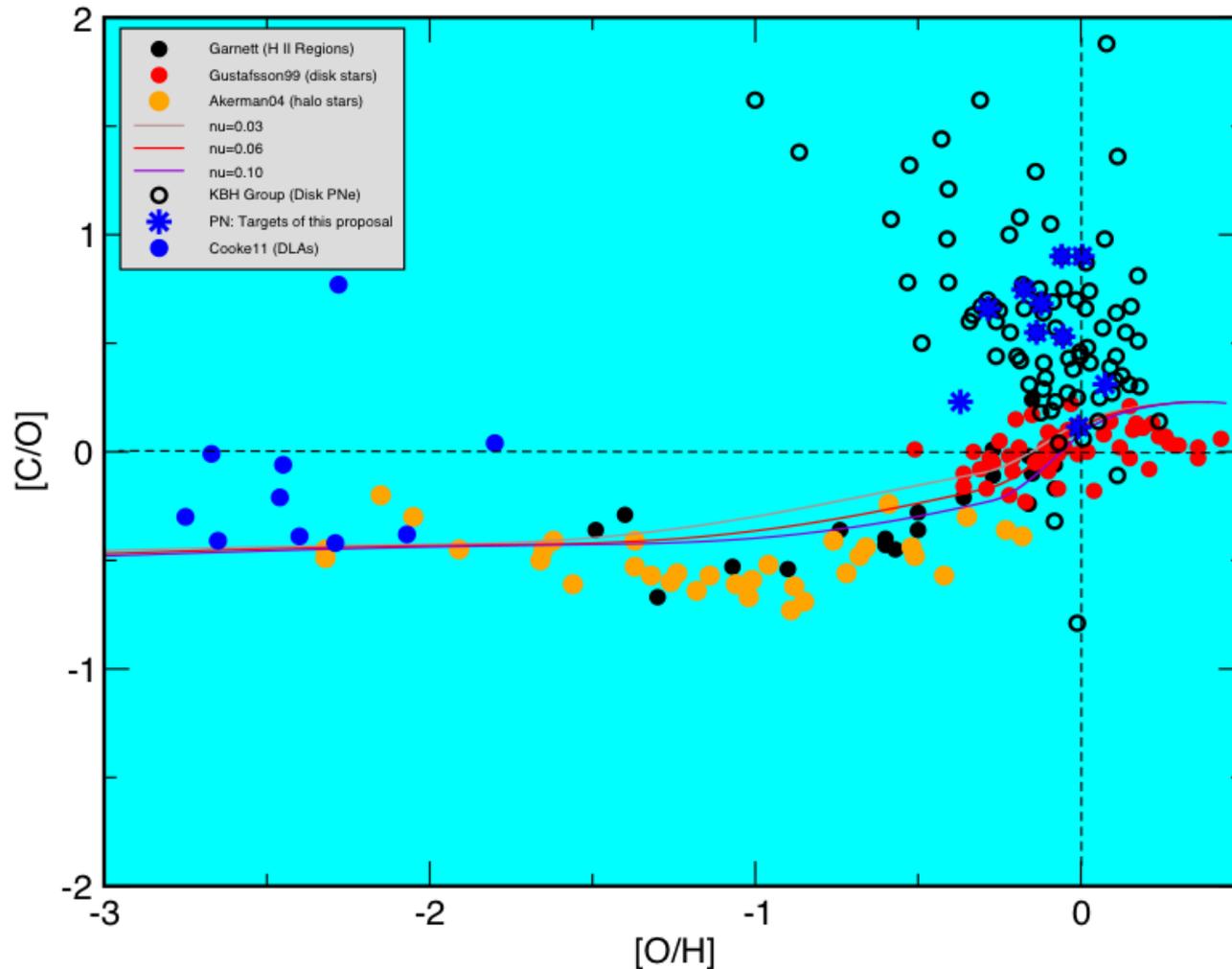
{also lines from ions other astrophysically significant elements:  
He<sup>+,+2</sup>, O<sup>+,+2,+3,+4</sup>, Ne<sup>+2,+3,+4</sup>, Ar<sup>+3,+4</sup>, Mg<sup>+</sup>, Si<sup>+,+2</sup>}

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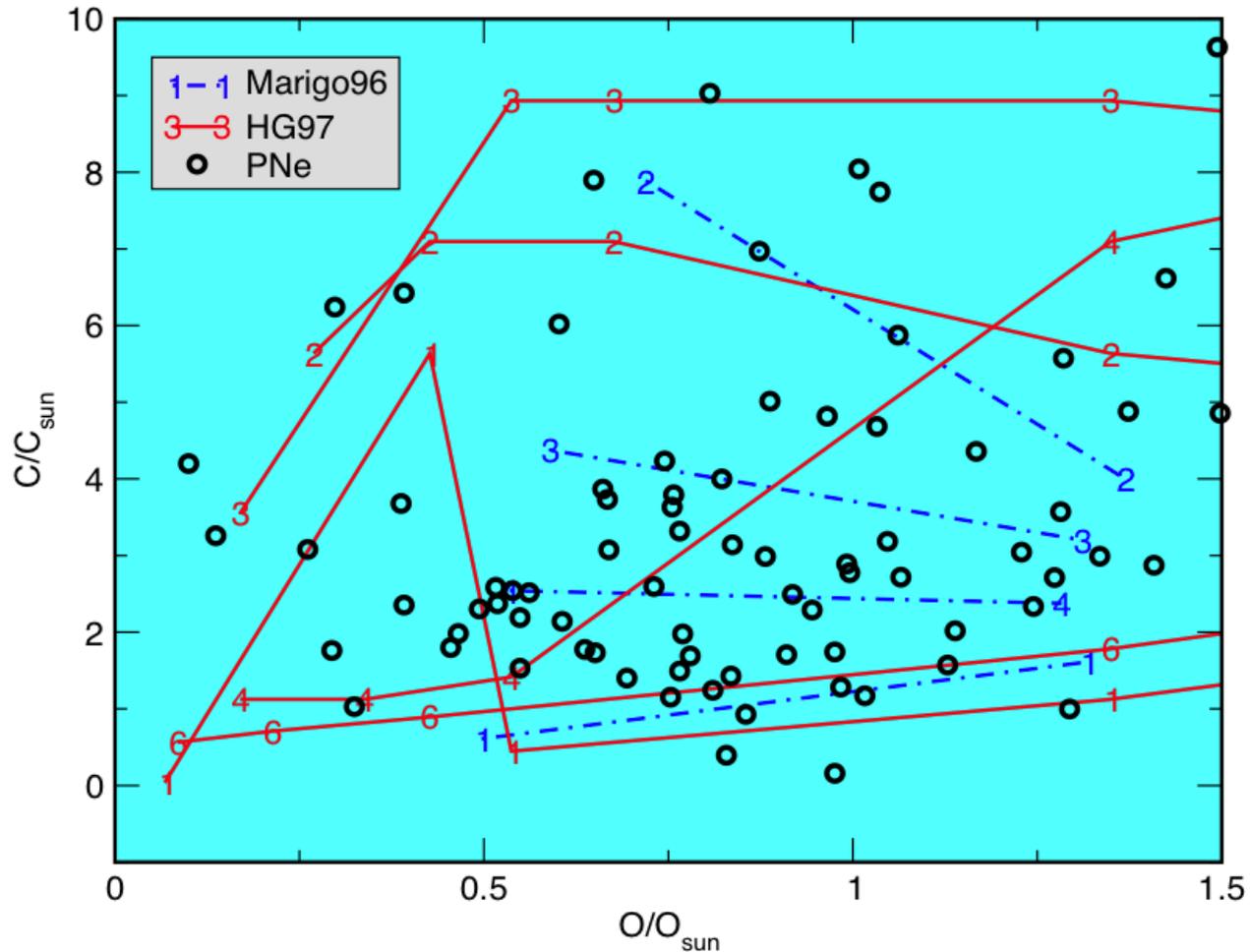
(d) Accurate C & N abundances in PNe are necessary for comparison with theoretical yields of low-to-intermediate mass stars (LIMS; 1-5M<sub>o</sub>).



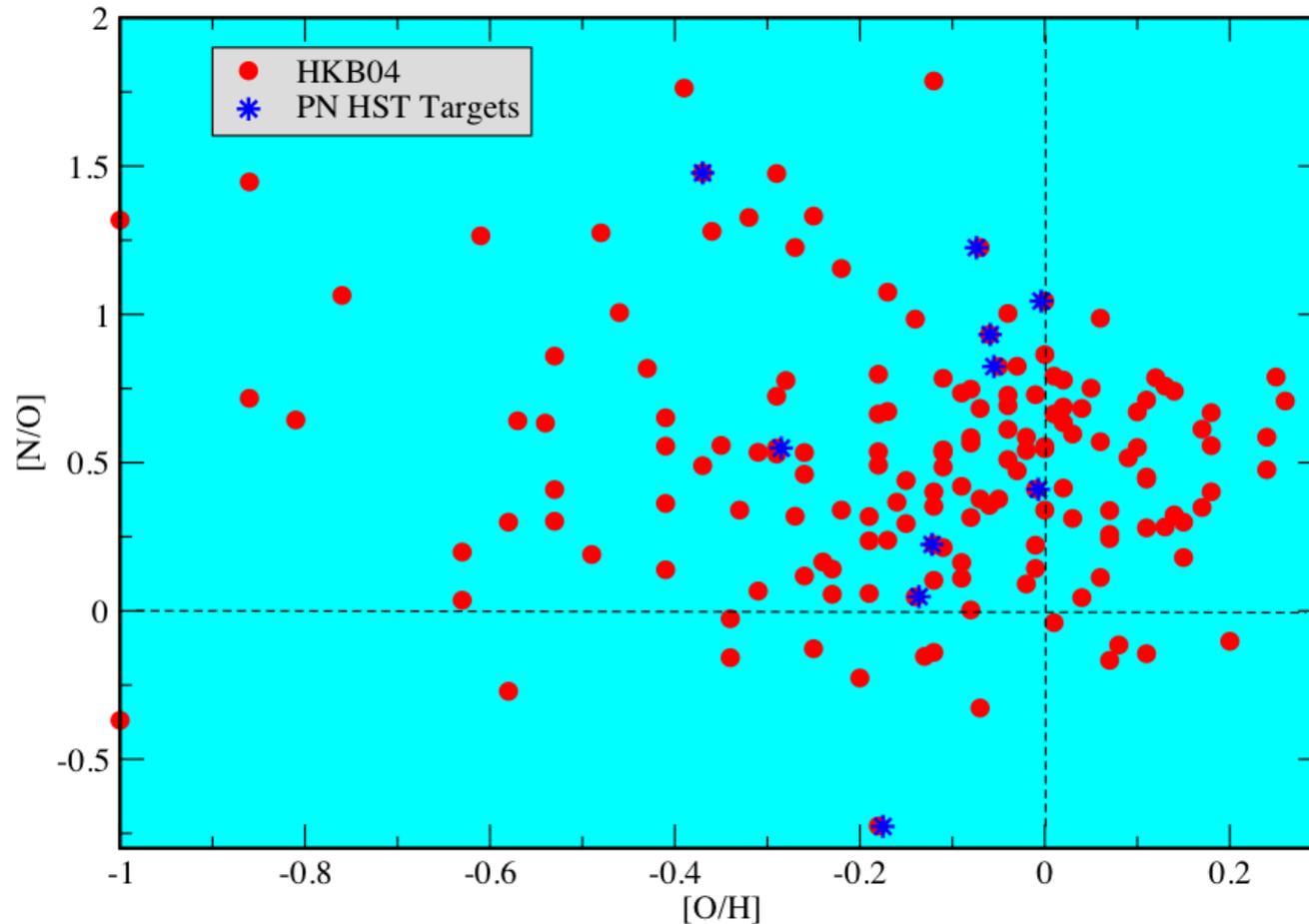
Computed yields of LIMS of C, N, and O versus progenitor mass, both in solar masses, from Karakas (2010). Examples for solar (0.02; solid line) and LMC (0.004; dashed line) metallicities are shown. Note that below about 3.5 suns the C yield is high while the N yield is small, but above this mass threshold the situation is reversed. Changeover is due to the onset of hot bottom burning, as described in the text. Note also that higher mass LIMS are predicted to consume O in the CNO cycle.



$\log(\text{C}/\text{O})$  versus  $\log(\text{O}/\text{H})$ , both normalized to solar values (Asplund et al. 2009). The dashed lines show solar values. Objects in this plot include dwarf galaxy H II regions (Garnett et al. 1995), Galactic disk stars (Gustafsson et al. 1999), metal-poor Galactic halo stars (Akerman et al. 2004), and metal-poor damped Lyman alpha systems (Pettini et al. 2008). Together these objects define a strikingly narrow track. Given the diversity of object types, clearly the processes for synthesizing C and O are universal. The obvious deviation of PNe from this universal track results from self-contamination by LIMs. Solid lines are unpublished chemical enrichment models by Henry.



A confrontation between theory and observation!  $C/C_{\text{sun}}$  versus  $O/O_{\text{sun}}$  for the updated Henry, Kwitter, & Bates (2000) sample of PNe along with model predictions from v.d. Hoek & Groenewegen (1997; solid lines) and Marigo et al. (1996; dot-dashed lines). The relevant progenitor mass is indicated on each model track. A successful set of models should span the entire region occupied by the observed PNe, indicating that progenitor mass and metallicity determine the position of any one PN. In this case both sets appear to be reasonably successful in spanning the area of the data shown. The point of the current proposal is to greatly improve the C abundances by employing 21<sup>st</sup> century techniques and instrumentation, and then reevaluating all existing model sets.



Log(N/O) versus log(O/H) relative to the solar values for the Henry, Kwitter, & Balick (2004) sample of PNe. The 10 objects chosen as targets in this proposal are indicated with stars. The dashed lines show solar abundance values by Asplund et al. 2009. The range of N/O ratios for our 10 PNe targets vary from N/O = 0.06 to  $\sim 7.2$  (compared to the solar value of N/O = 0.13); that is, from  $\sim 1/2$  to  $\sim 55$  times solar.

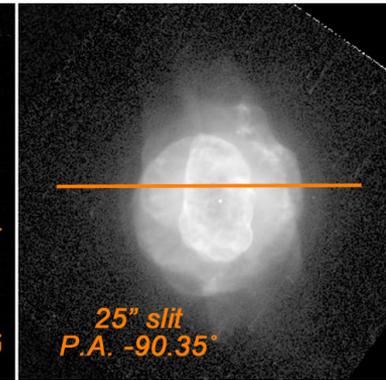
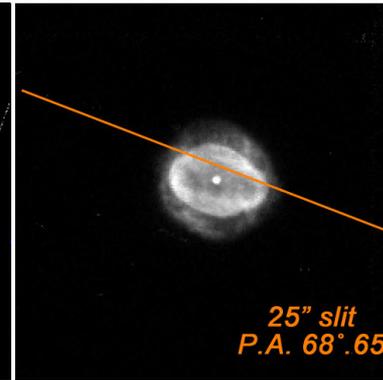
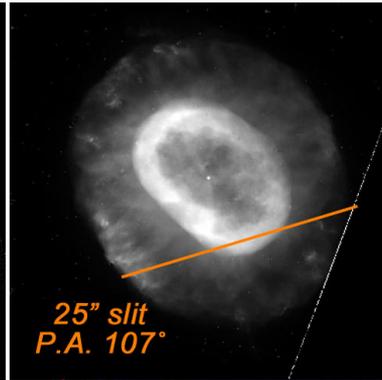
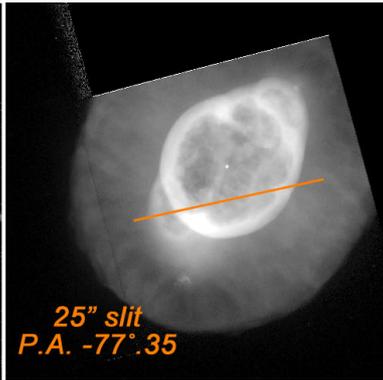
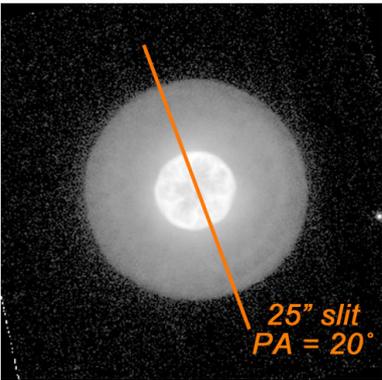
### 3. STIS OBSERVATIONS (32 orbits granted)

- **Co-spatial** longslit spectra of 10 extended PNe covering the full UV-optical range (1150-10,000Å)
- High spatial resolution ( $\sim 0.05''$  along the 0.2-0.5'' wide slit)
- High S/N and dynamic range ( $> 10\times$  IUE)
- Good spectral purity (R $\sim 300$  STIS L; R $\sim 1000$  STIS M)
- Good ionization structure coverage across nebulae (effectively  $\sim 25''$ )
- 10 PNe, 32 orbits, 1 STIS with CCD, 2-3 STIS with UV-MAMAs
- G140L, G230L, G230M/1907-1909, G430L, G430M/4363, G750L, G750M/6563-6583 (also 6717-6730)

# Slit Positions\*

round core →

← elliptical core



IC 3568

NGC 3242

NGC 7662

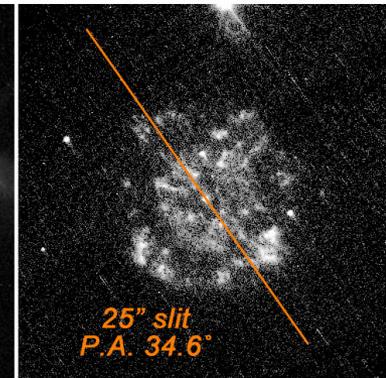
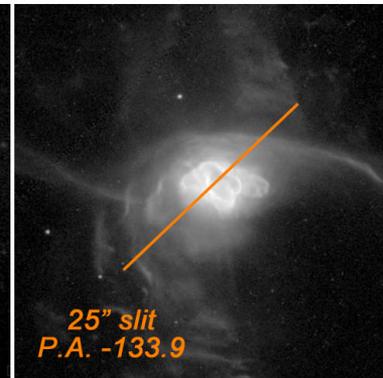
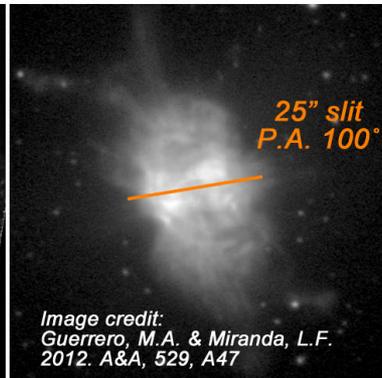
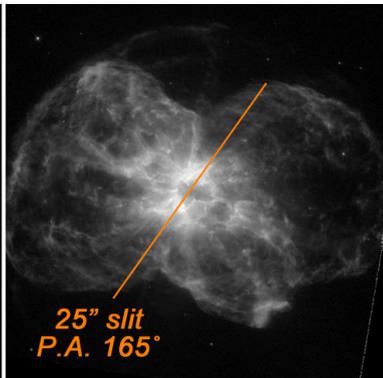
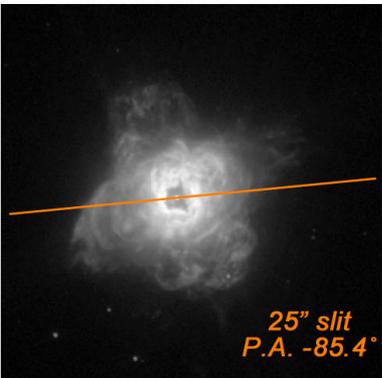
IC2165

NGC 5882

bipolar / multipolar, closed lobes →

← open lobes

irregular



NGC 5315

NGC 2440

NGC 6778\*

NGC 6537

PB 6 = ESO 213-7

\* = ground-based image

\*STIS UV-MAMA safety concerns limited slit positions close to central stars for several Pne and even required 3 substitute nebulae from original target list (HST orbit observability limited slit PA ranges as well).

# Observations Schedule

## DONE:

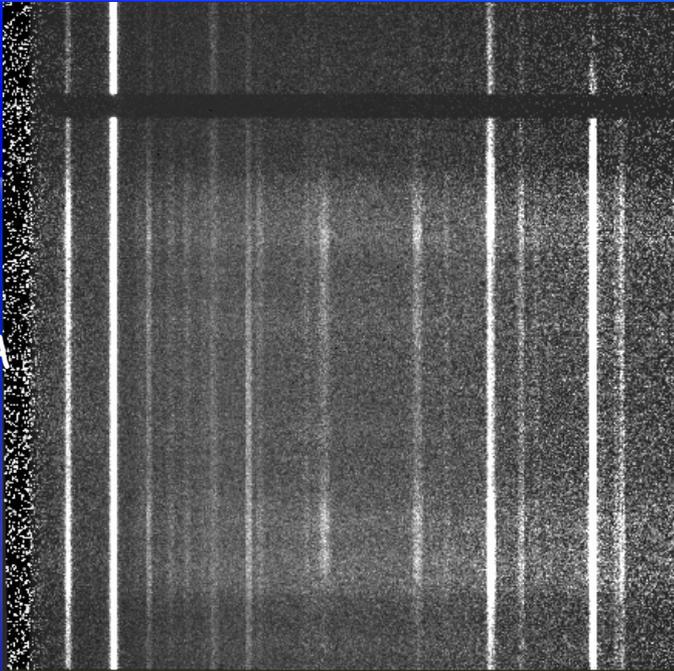
NGC 3242 - January 15,21  
NGC 5315 - February 26,27  
NGC 6537 - February 29, March 1  
(G230L redo April 20)  
NGC 5882 - April 21, 25  
PB6 (ESO 213-7) - April 25, 26  
IC 2165 - April 28, 30

## SCHEDULING:

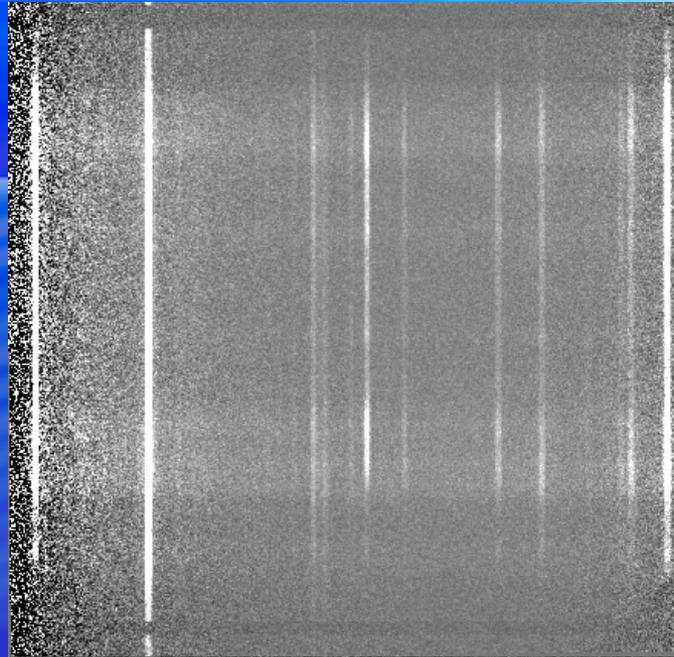
IC 3568 - July 12 - 21  
NGC 6778 - July 29 - August 12  
NGC 7662 - October 1 -19  
NGC 2440 - January 20 - February 17 (2013)

# 4. EXAMPLE SPECTRA: NGC 3242 (UV-MAMAs; 25" slit)

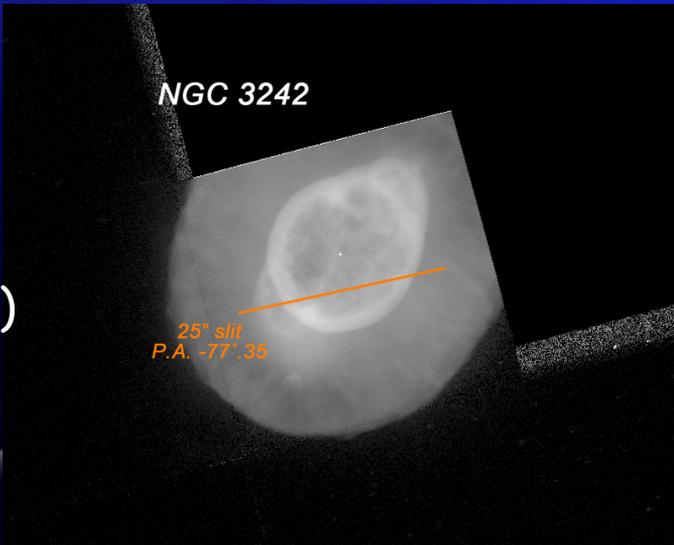
G140L  
1150-1730Å



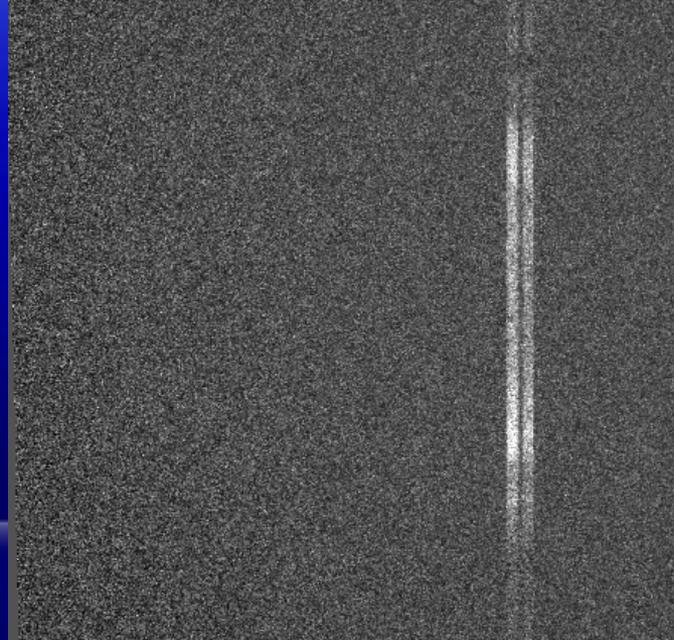
G230L  
1570-3180Å



SLIT  
25" MAMA)



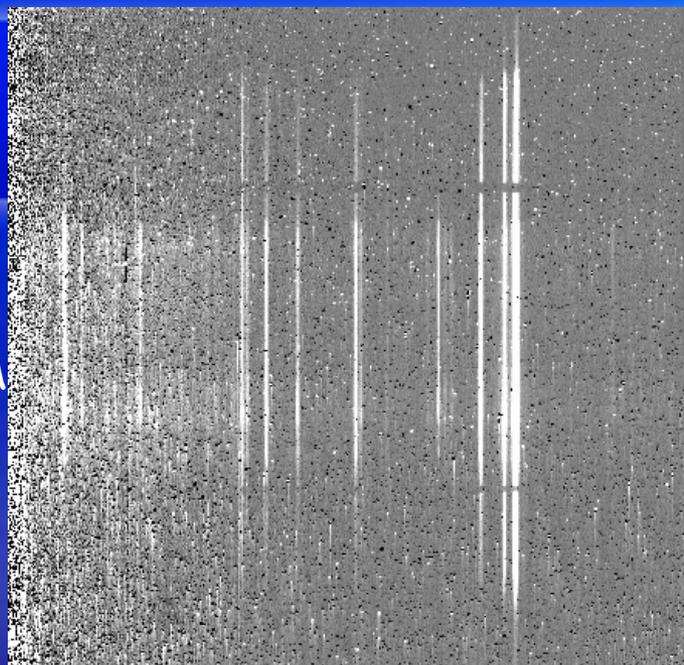
G230M  
1839-1929Å



# STIS CCD Spectra: NGC 3242 (52" slit; 2X MAMA)

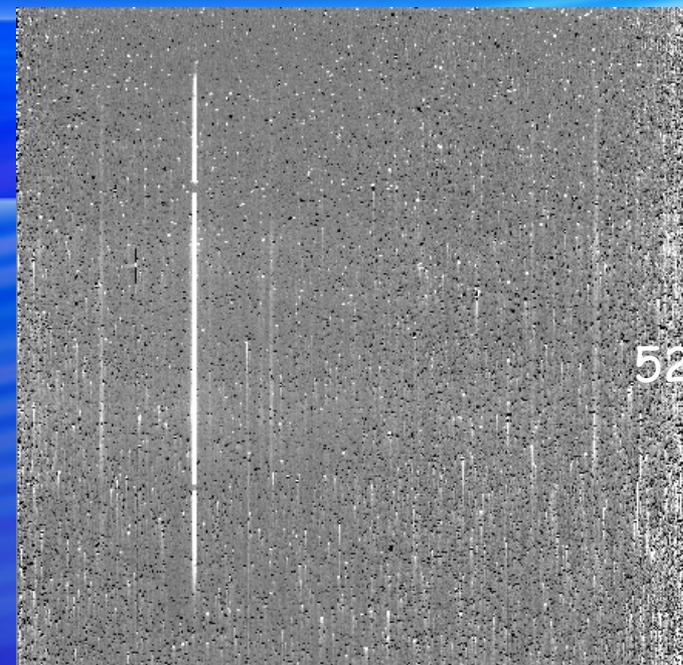
G430L

2900-5700Å



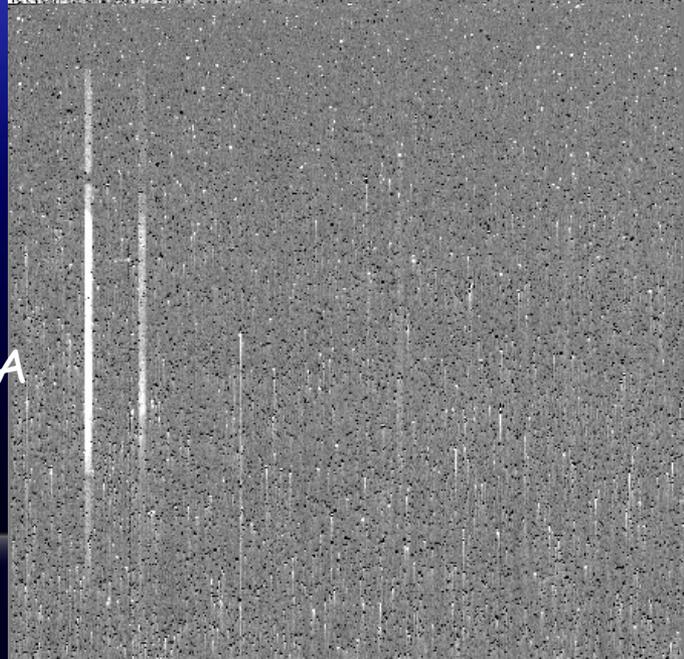
G750L

5240-10270Å



G430M

4308-4594Å

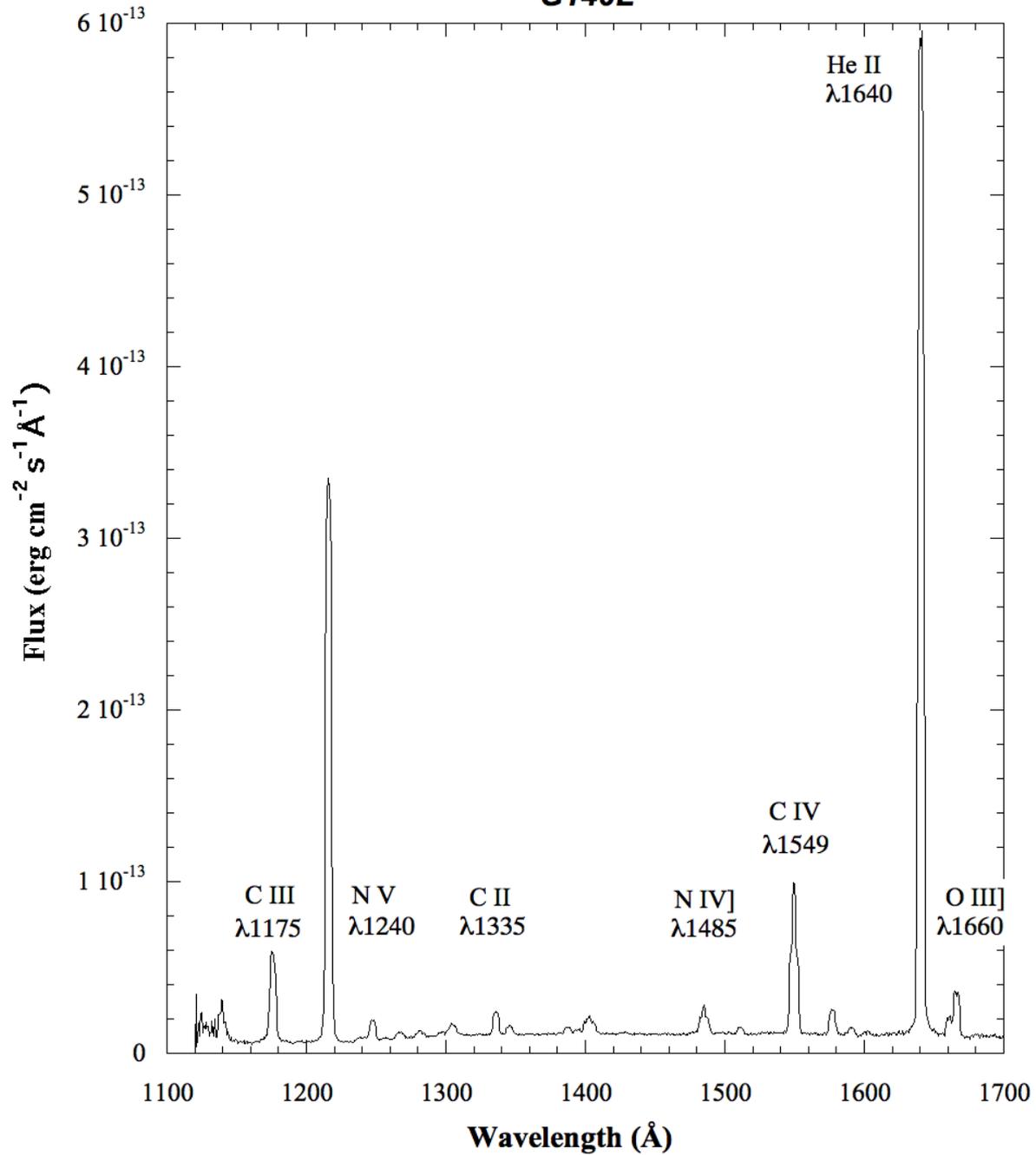


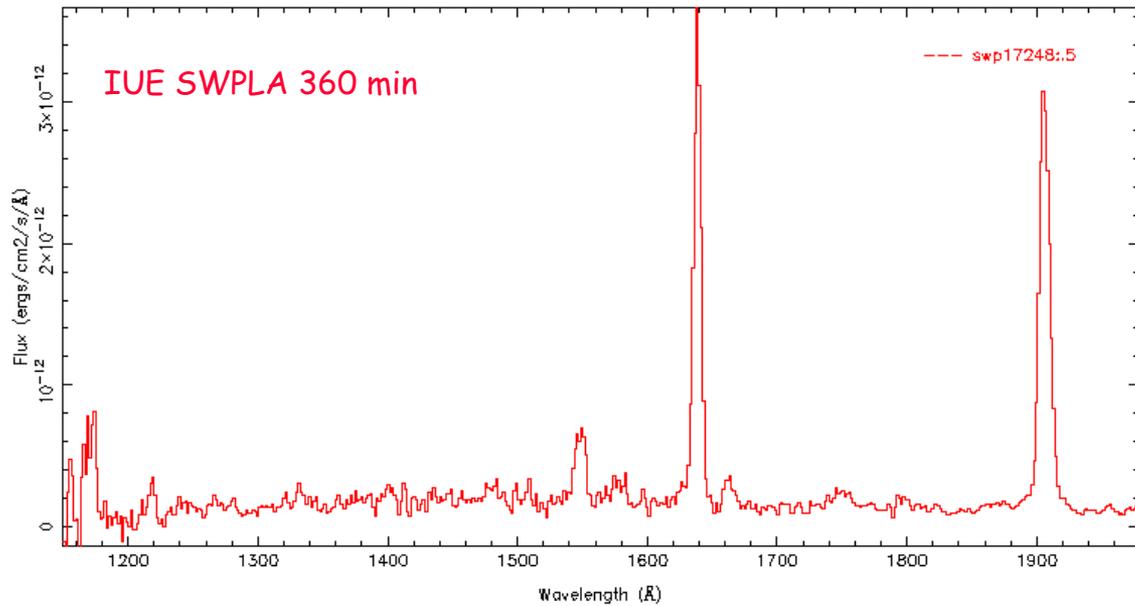
G750M

6482-7054Å

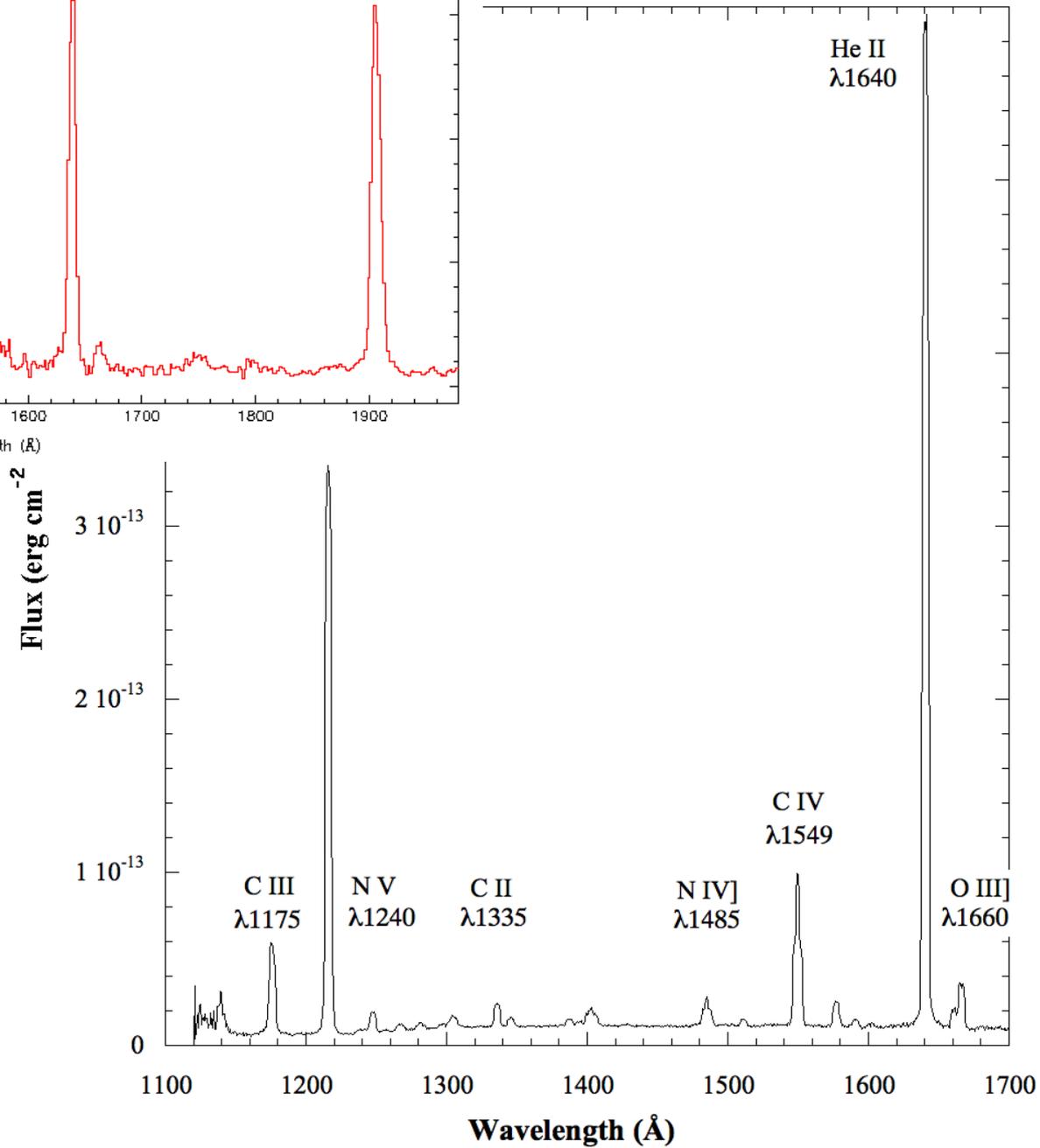


**NGC 3242**  
**G140L**

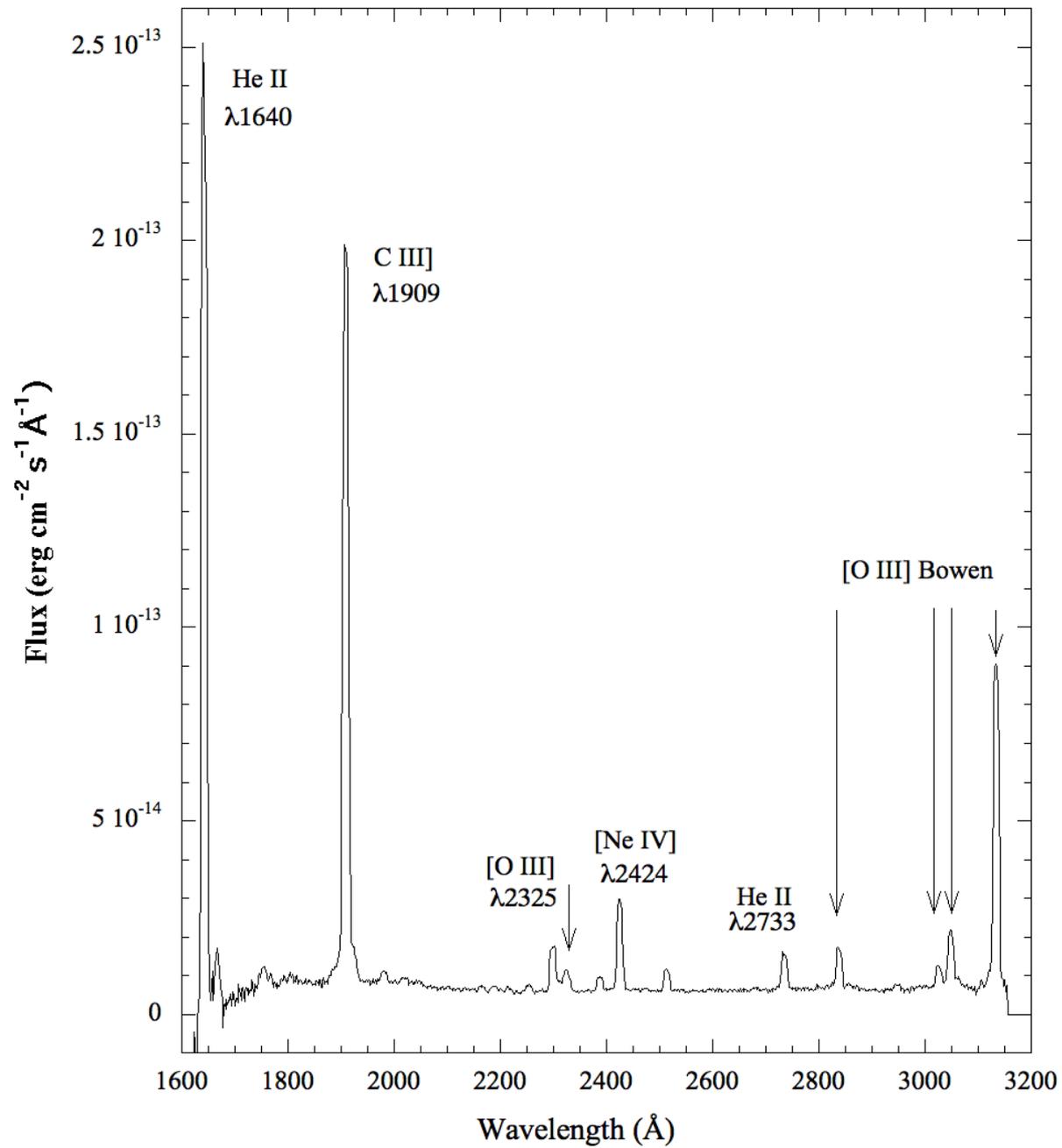




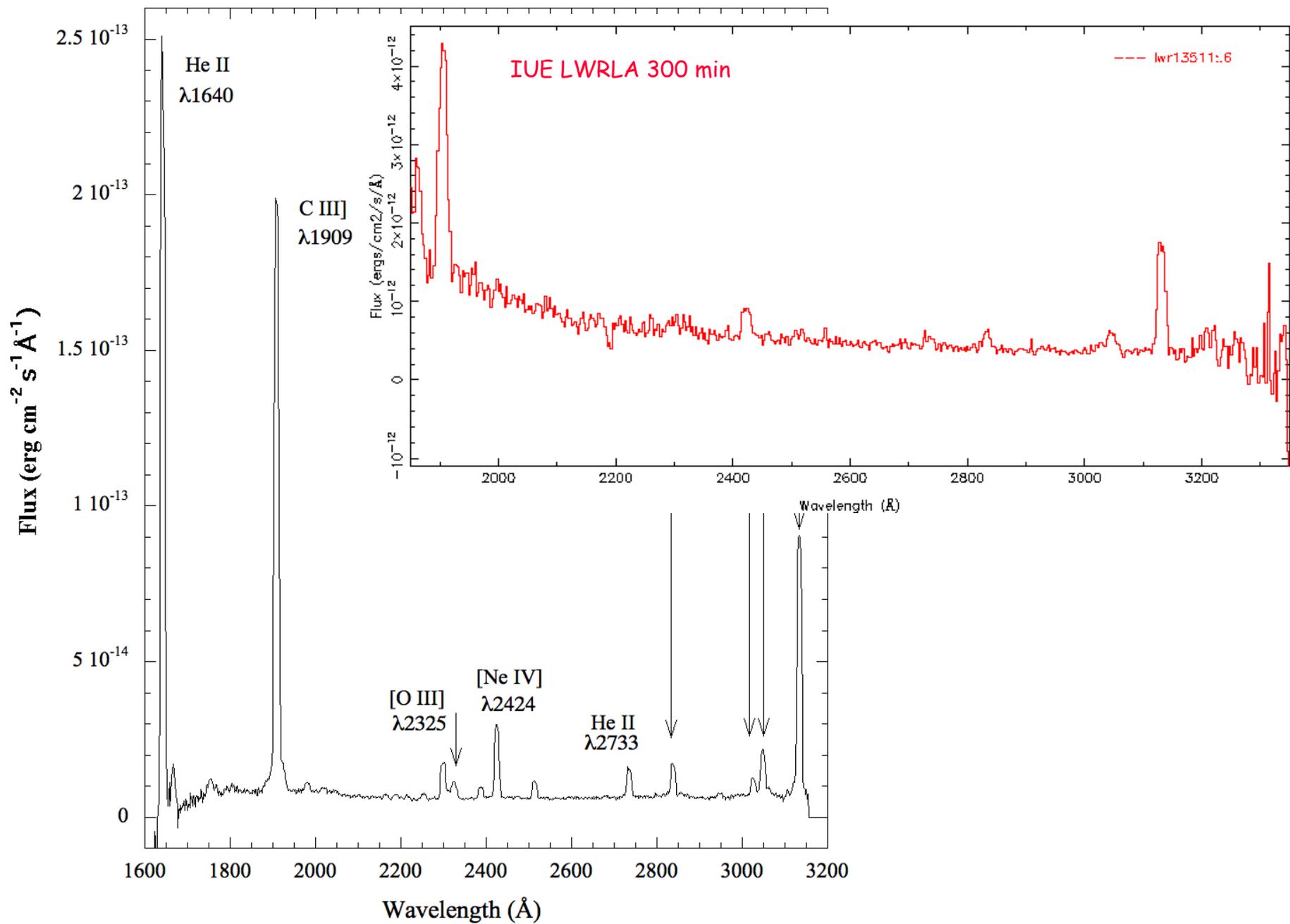
NGC 3242  
G140L



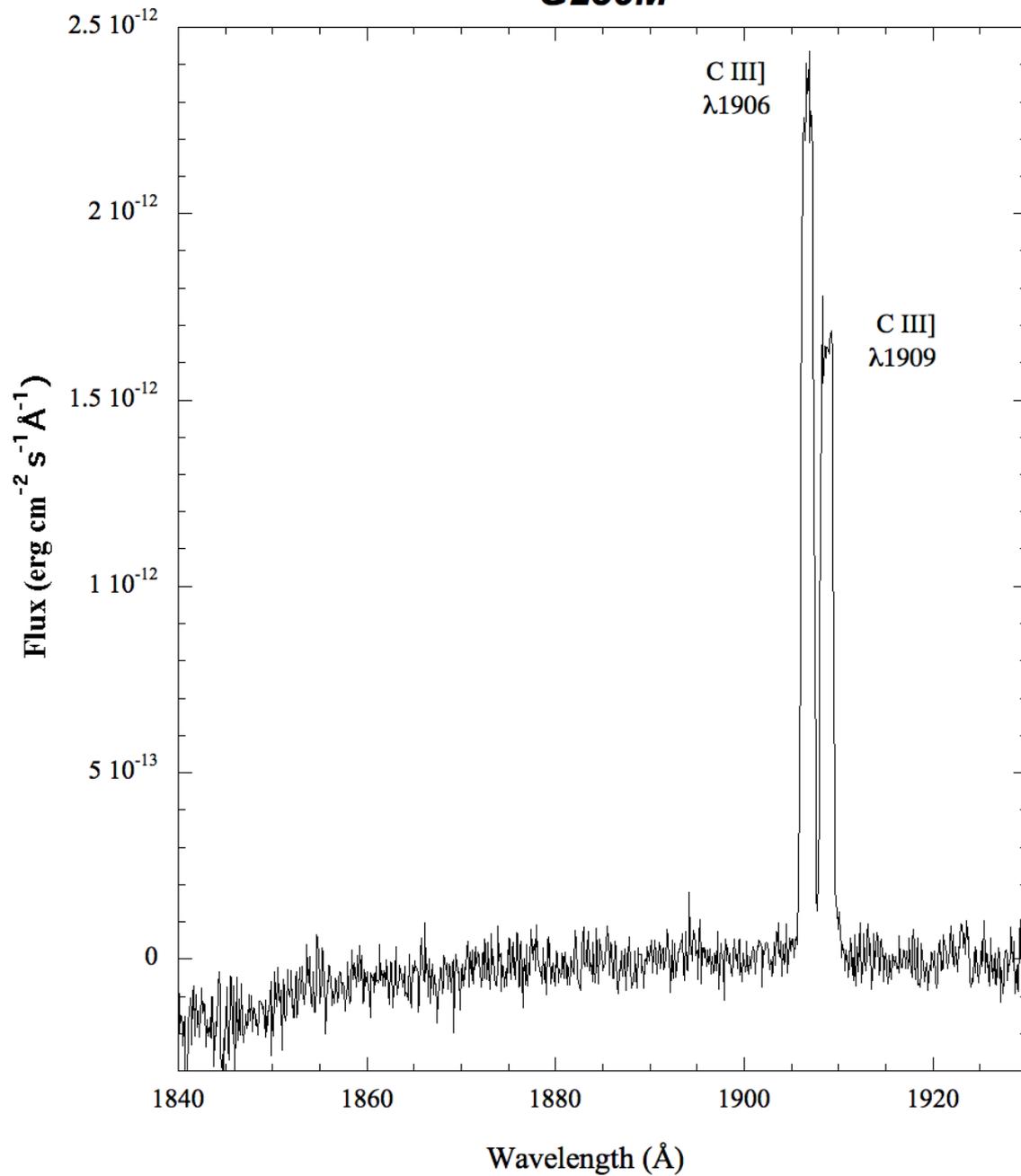
**NGC 3242**  
**G230L**



**NGC 3242**  
**G230L**

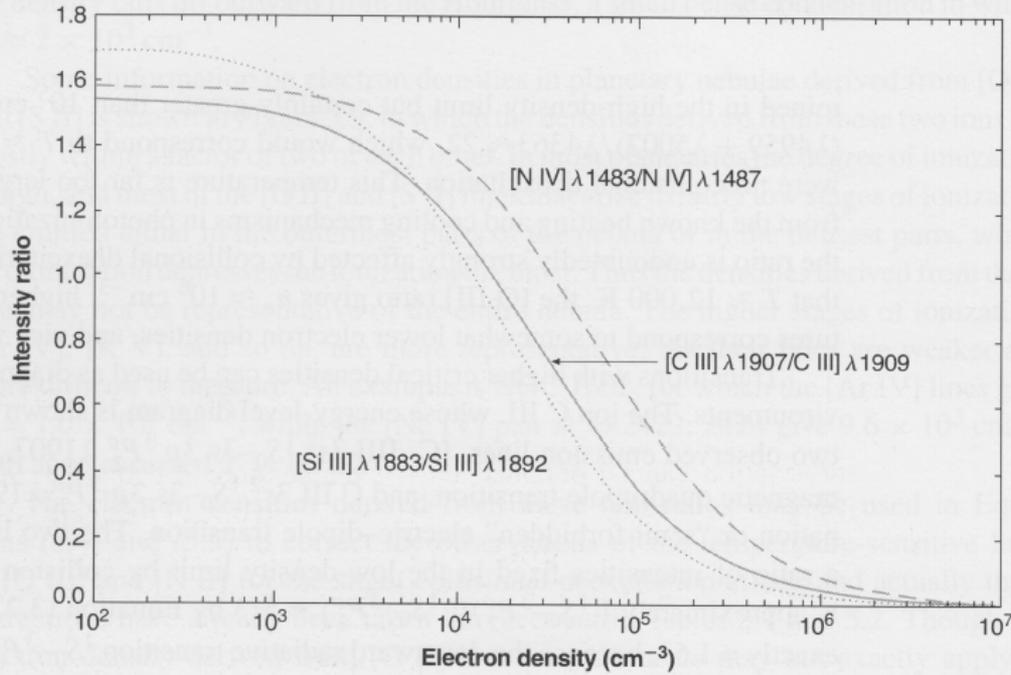


**NGC 3242**  
**G230M**



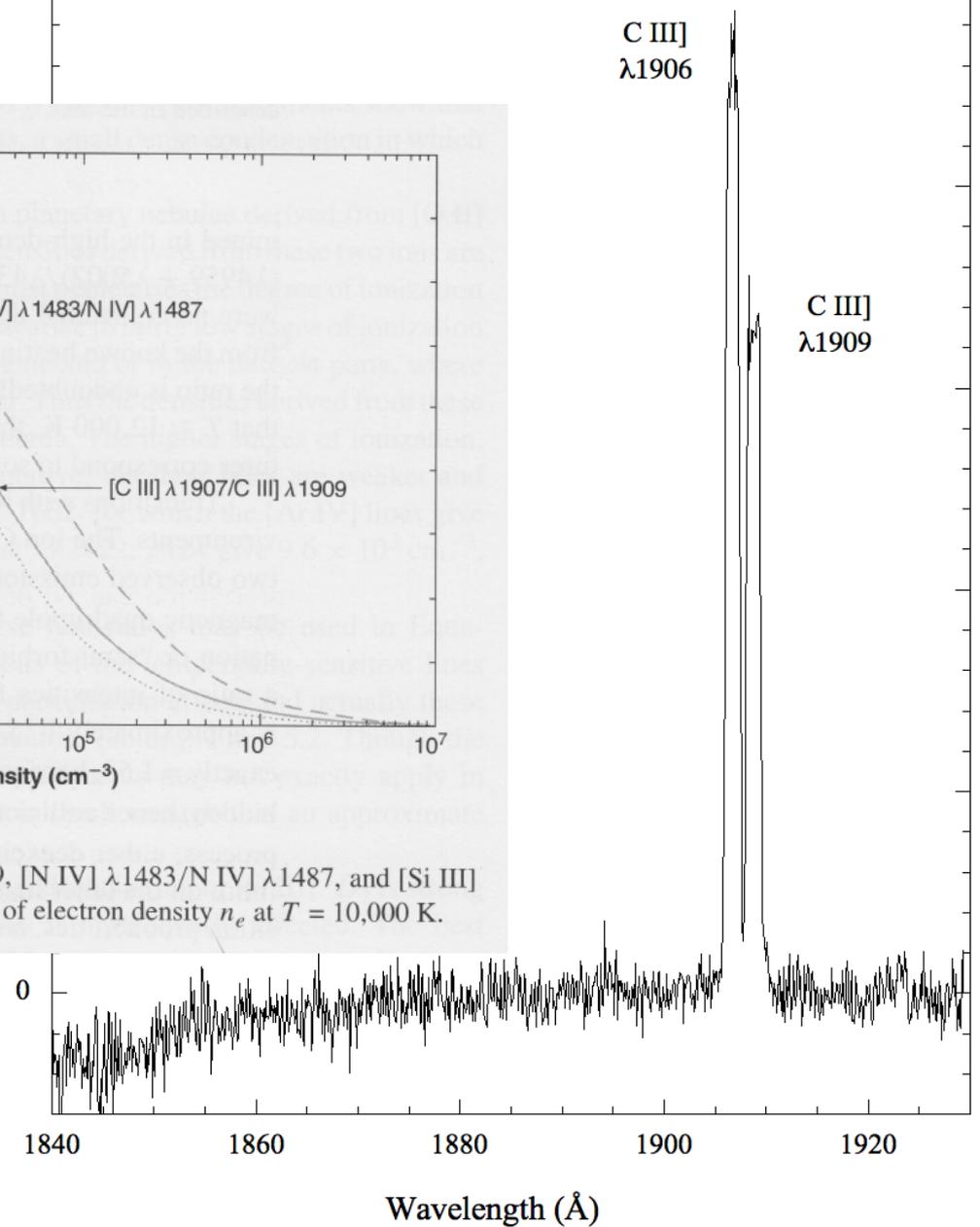
**NGC 3242**  
**G230M**

$2.5 \cdot 10^{-12}$

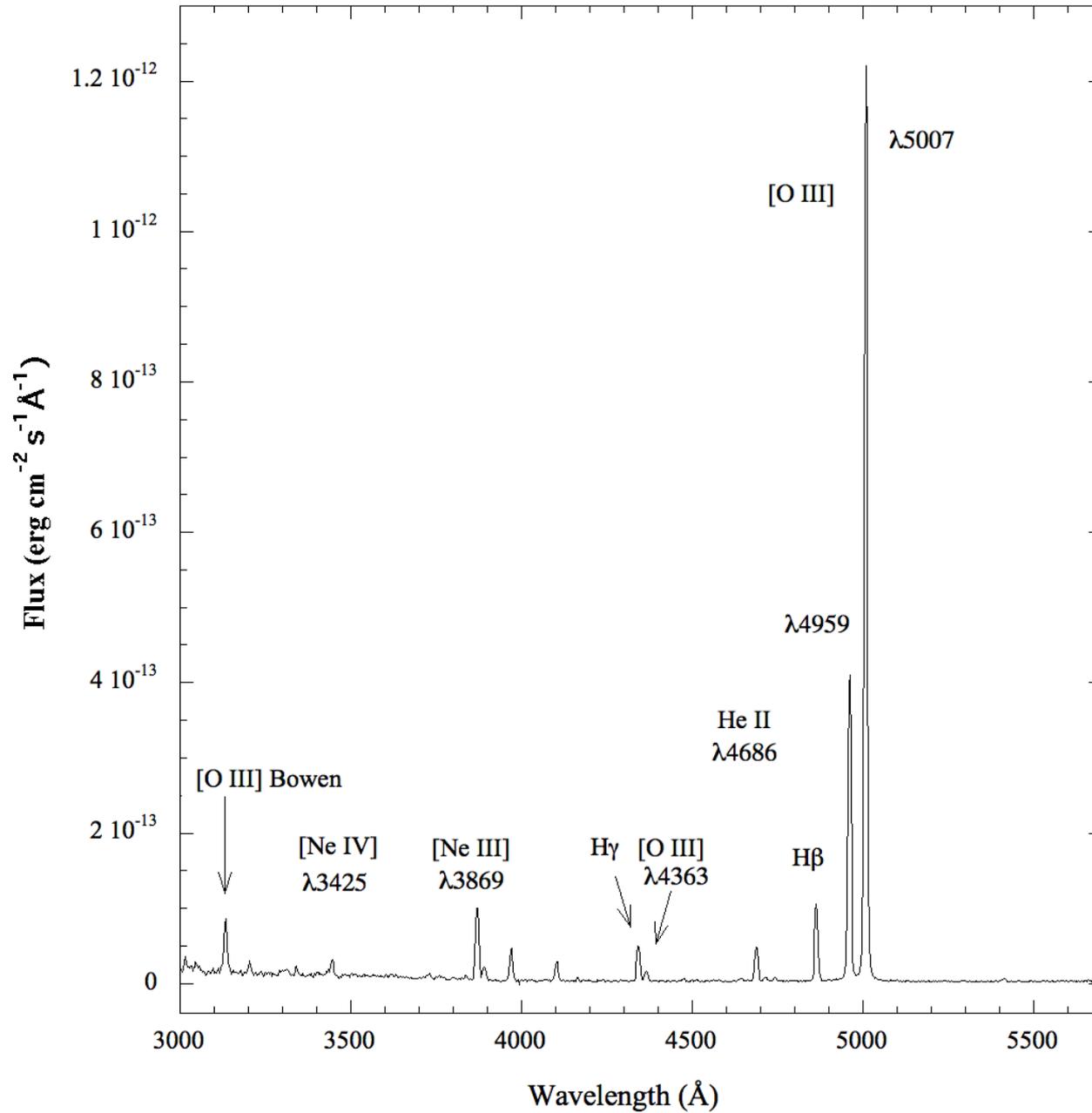


**Figure 5.11**

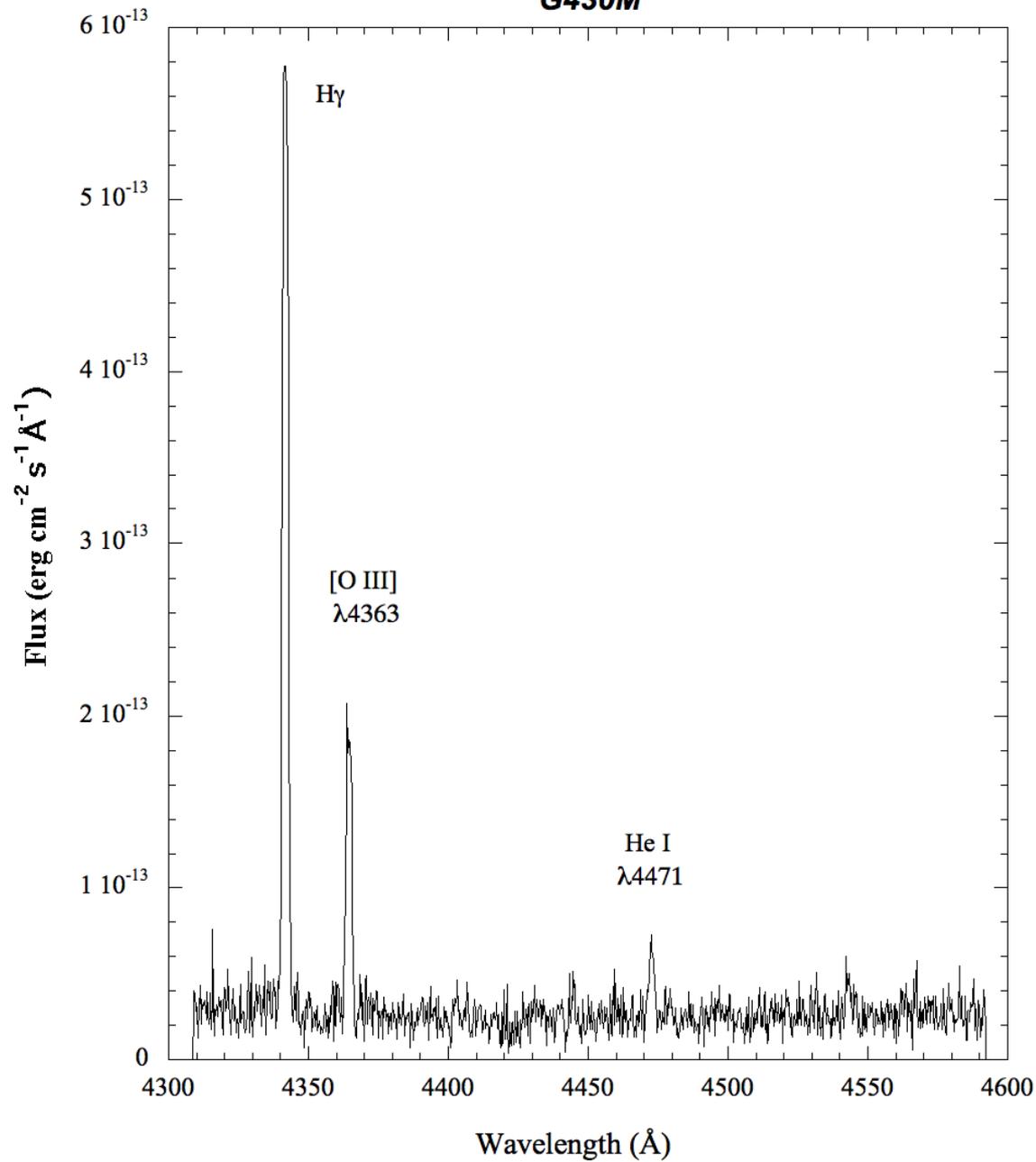
Calculated variation of [C III]  $\lambda 1907$  / [C III]  $\lambda 1909$ , [N IV]  $\lambda 1483$  / [N IV]  $\lambda 1487$ , and [Si III]  $\lambda 1883$  / [Si III]  $\lambda 1892$  intensity ratios as a function of electron density  $n_e$  at  $T = 10,000$  K.



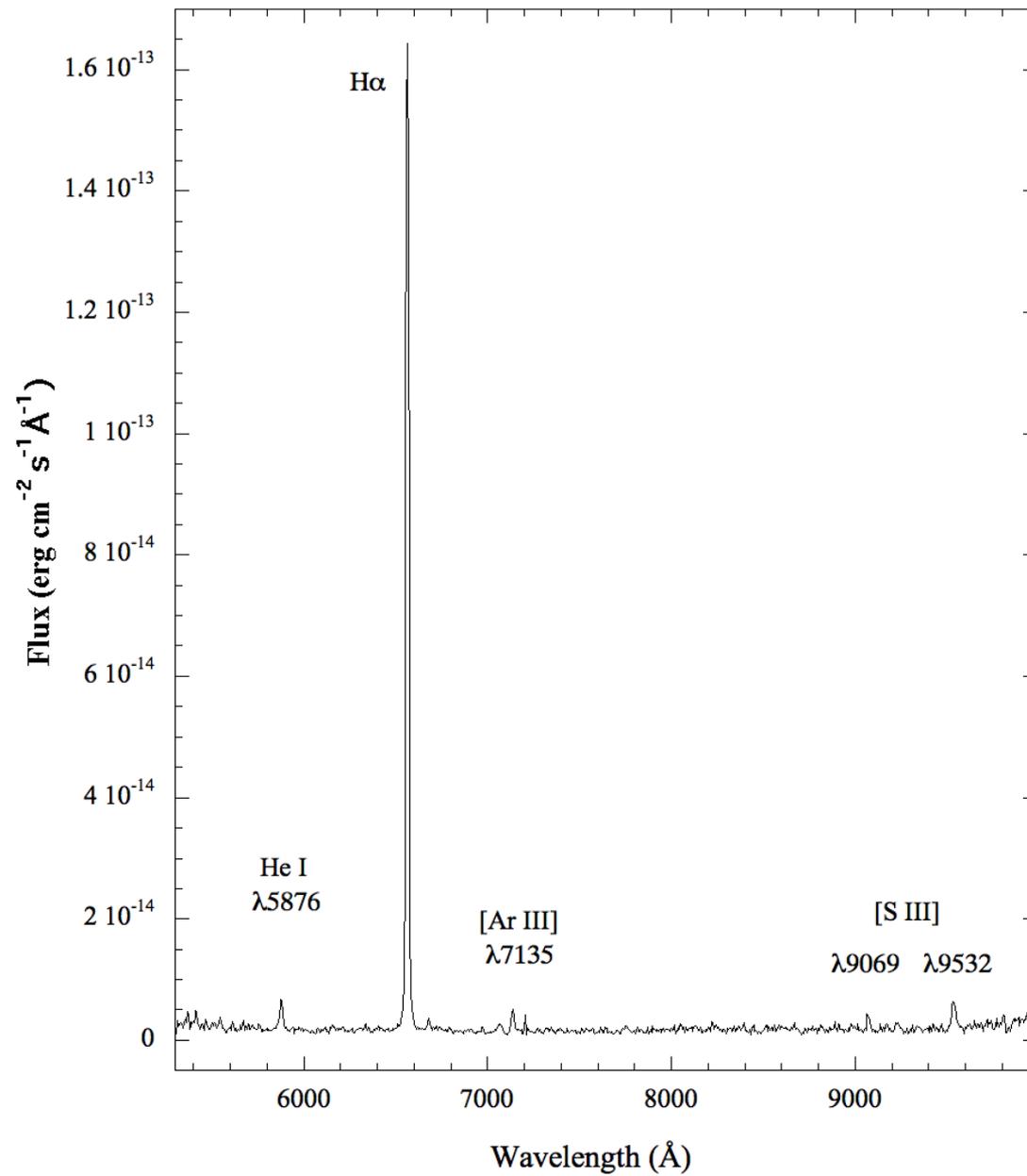
NGC 3242  
G430L



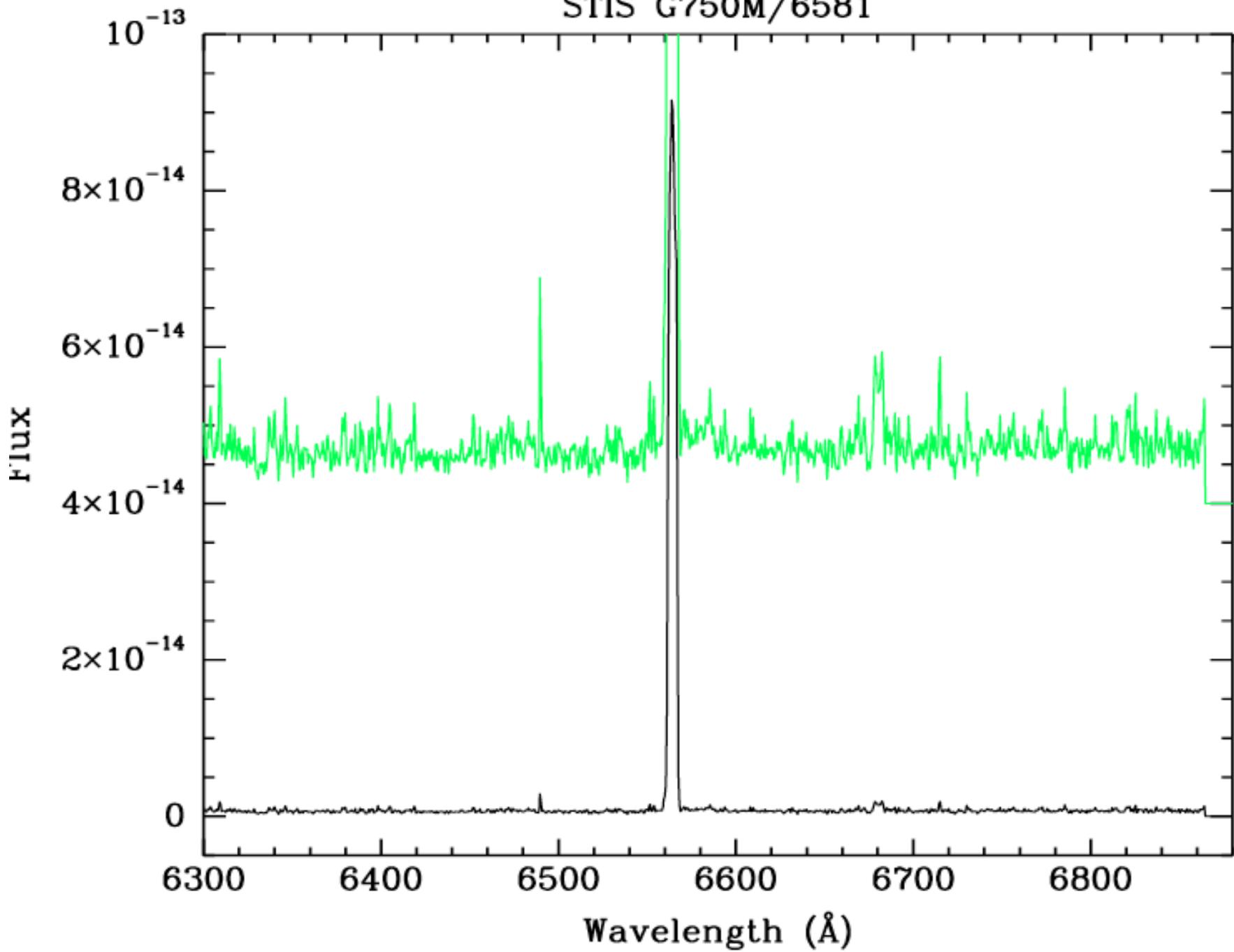
**NGC 3242**  
**G430M**



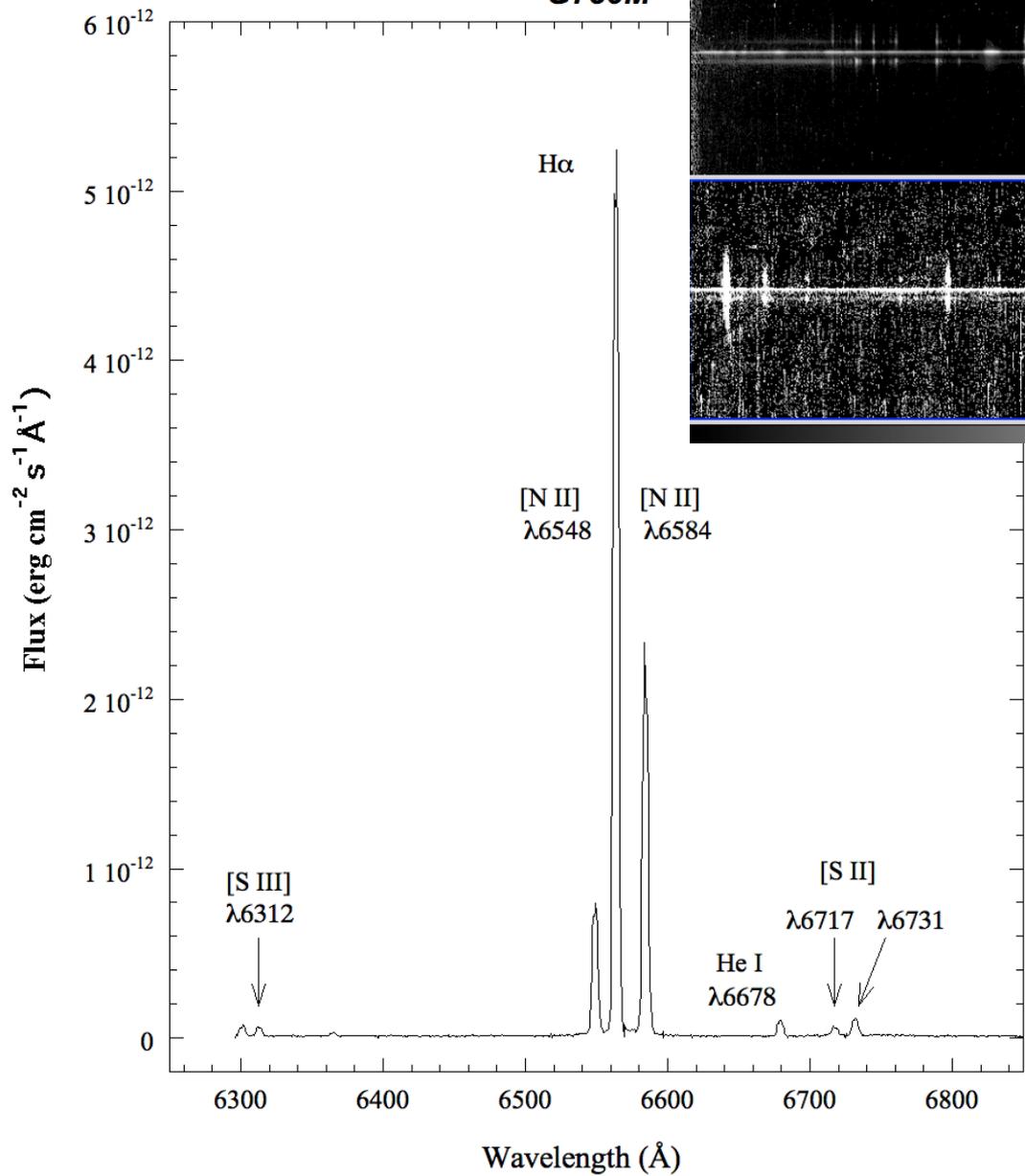
NGC 3242  
*G750L*



## STIS G750M/6581



**NGC 5315**  
**G750M**



## 5. ANALYSIS

**EXTRACTION:** Spectra extracted from 2D to 1D for integrated line measurements. (requires careful attention paid to extracting same slit lengths between UV and optical; also avoid stellar contamination)

**MEASUREMENTS:** Emission line strengths in 1D spectra measured with IRAF/STSDAS software using both direct line areas and gaussian fitting of profiles (also S/N estimates made)

**DEREDDENING:** Use observed H Balmer and He recombination line strengths to derive magnitude of interstellar reddening and apply corrections to emission line measurements

**DENSITY/TEMPERATURES:** Derive Ne and Te from various emission line diagnostics (hopefully for both low and high ionization zones).

**ABUNDANCES:** Derive ionic concentrations directly with 5-level atom codes (ELSA & Nebular). Correct for unseen ionization states using ICF's to derive final elemental concentrations.

# Nebular Emission-Line Diagnostic Software

**nebular.iraf** - 5-level (7 for some ions with UV lines) software package embedded into IRAF/STSDAS (Shaw & Dufour 1995, PASP, 107, 896) and also the web:

(<http://stsdas.stsci.edu/nebular/>)

New version being developed by Shaw using python/pyraf and updated atomic data coming in 2013.

**ELSA** - Emission Line Spectrum Analyzer - Code similar to nebular developed by Kwitter & Henry (2001, ApJ, 562, 804) with convenient additional options for error propagation and producing directly publishable LaTeX tables of spectrum line measurements and abundance results. Code and documentation available at:

(<http://www.williams.edu/Astronomy/research/PN/elsa/>)

Abundance diagnostics using additional UV lines currently being added into the code.

# NGC 3242

Emission-line  
Measurements  
and extinction  
corrections:

(using ELSA)

Example S/N

wavelength	ion	ROUGH SNR
1175	C III	30
1336	C II	12
1402	O IV]	10
1485	N IV]	12
1640	He II	300
1663	O III]	20
1909	C III]	80
3727	[O II]	3
4363	[O III]	12
4686	He II	30
Hbeta	H I	30
5007	[O III]	300
5876	He I	8
Halp	H I	100
6584	[N II]	2

Line	3242in		
	f( $\lambda$ )	F( $\lambda$ )	I( $\lambda$ )
C III $\lambda$ 1175	1.849	22.2	24.7
C II $\lambda$ 1336	1.415	5.48	5.94
O IV] $\lambda$ 1402	1.307	5.99	6.45
N IV] $\lambda$ 1485	1.231	7.70	8.26
C IV $\lambda$ 1549	1.184	37.9	40.5
[Ne V] $\lambda$ 1575	1.168	6.29	6.73
Ne IV] $\lambda$ 1602	1.153	1.14::	1.22::
He II $\lambda$ 1640	1.136	244	261
O III] $\lambda$ 1662	1.129	15.5	16.5
C II $\lambda$ 1760	1.121	8.18	8.72
C III] $\lambda$ 1909	1.229	224	241
HeII Pa6 $\lambda$ 2253	1.542	2.15	2.35
[O III]/C II] $\lambda$ 2325	1.356	8.42	9.10
HeII Pa eps $\lambda$ 2385	1.204	3.50	3.76
[Ne IV] $\lambda$ 2423	1.118	25.7	27.4
He II Pa delta $\lambda$ 2511	0.955	5.97	6.31
He II Pa gamma $\lambda$ 2733	0.701	9.54	9.95
O III Bowen fl $\lambda$ 2837	0.619	10.1	10.5
He I $\lambda$ 2945	0.550	1.51	1.56
O III Bowen fl $\lambda$ 3025	0.506	6.12	6.32
O III Bowen fl $\lambda$ 3048	0.494	17.0	17.5
O III Bowen fl $\lambda$ 3133	0.454	86.5	89.0
He II Pa beta $\lambda$ 3203	0.424	17.4	17.9
[Ne V] $\lambda$ 3346	0.371	9.62	9.86
He I $\lambda$ 3448	0.337	17.2:	17.6:
[O II] $\lambda$ 3727	0.292	8.27::	8.43::
He II + H9 $\lambda$ 3835	0.262	3.87:	3.94:
[Ne III] $\lambda$ 3869	0.252	97.6	99.3
He I + H8 $\lambda$ 3889	0.247	17.5	17.8
[Ne III] $\lambda$ 3968	0.225	30.1 <sup>a</sup>	30.6 <sup>a</sup>
He $\epsilon$ $\lambda$ 3970	0.224	15.0 <sup>a</sup>	15.3 <sup>a</sup>

Line	3242in		
	f( $\lambda$ )	F( $\lambda$ )	I( $\lambda$ )
[S II] $\lambda$ 4071	0.196	2.53::	2.57::
He II $\lambda$ 4100	0.188	0.437 <sup>a</sup>	0.443 <sup>a</sup>
H $\delta$ $\lambda$ 4101	0.188	27.6 <sup>a</sup>	28.0 <sup>a</sup>
He II $\lambda$ 4339	0.124	0.788 <sup>a</sup>	0.797 <sup>a</sup>
H $\gamma$ $\lambda$ 4340	0.124	45.9 <sup>a</sup>	46.4 <sup>a</sup>
[O III] $\lambda$ 4363	0.118	13.1	13.2
He I $\lambda$ 4472	0.090	4.02:	4.05:
[K IV] $\lambda$ 4511	0.080	1.68??	1.70??
He II $\lambda$ 4542	0.072	1.03	1.04
N III + O II $\lambda$ 4640	0.048	3.92:	3.95:
He II $\lambda$ 4686	0.036	43.0	43.3
He I + [Ar IV] $\lambda$ 4711	0.030	4.98	5.00
[Ar IV] $\lambda$ 4740	0.023	4.40	4.42
He II $\lambda$ 4859	0.000	1.71 <sup>a</sup>	1.72 <sup>a</sup>
H $\beta$ $\lambda$ 4861	0.000	100 <sup>a</sup>	100 <sup>a</sup>
[O III] $\lambda$ 4959	-0.030	409	410
[O III] $\lambda$ 5007	-0.042	1230	1232
He II $\lambda$ 5412	-0.134	3.92::	3.90::
He I $\lambda$ 5876	-0.231	8.78	8.70
He II $\lambda$ 6560	-0.360	5.54 <sup>a</sup>	5.45 <sup>a</sup>
H $\alpha$ $\lambda$ 6563	-0.360	291 <sup>a</sup>	286 <sup>a</sup>
[N II] $\lambda$ 6584	-0.364	2.61::	2.56::
He I $\lambda$ 6678	-0.380	6.93::	6.81::
He I $\lambda$ 7065	-0.443	3.86	3.79
[Ar III] $\lambda$ 7136	-0.453	6.44	6.30
[O II] $\lambda$ 7324	-0.481	0.853::	0.834::
[Ar III] $\lambda$ 7751	-0.539	1.02::	0.996::
[S III] $\lambda$ 9069	-0.670	3.90	3.77
P9 $\lambda$ 9228	-0.610	2.18	2.12
[S III] $\lambda$ 9532	-0.632	8.98	8.71
P8 $\lambda$ 9546	-0.633	2.16	2.09

Table 1. Ionic Abundances

Ion	3242in		
	T <sub>used</sub>	Abundance	Notes
He <sup>+</sup>	[O III]	5.73(-2)	
He <sup>+2</sup>	[O III]	4.00(-2)	
icf(He)		1.00	
O <sup>+</sup> (3727)	[N II]	*4.49(-6)	
O <sup>+</sup> (7325)	[N II]	*4.47(-6)	
O <sup>+</sup>	wm	4.49(-6)	
O <sup>+2</sup> (5007)	[O III]	*2.56(-4)	
O <sup>+2</sup> (4959)	[O III]	*2.46(-4)	
O <sup>+2</sup> (4363)	[O III]	*2.56(-4)	
O <sup>+2</sup>	wm	2.54(-4)	
icf(O)		1.70	
Ar <sup>+2</sup> (7135)	[O III]	*4.09(-7)	
Ar <sup>+2</sup> (7751)	[O III]	*2.68(-7)	
Ar <sup>+2</sup>	wm	3.90(-7)	
Ar <sup>+3</sup> (4740)	[O III]	*5.06(-7)	
icf(Ar)		1.71	
C <sup>+2</sup> (1909)	[O III]	*1.82(-4)	
C <sup>+3</sup> (1549)	[O III]	*2.58(-5)	
icf(C)		1.73	
icf(Cl)		1.70	
N <sup>+</sup> (6584)	[N II]	*4.41(-7)	
N <sup>+3</sup> (1485)	[O III]	3.66(-5)	
icf(N)		97.5	
Ne <sup>+2</sup> (3869)	[O III]	*5.40(-5)	
Ne <sup>+2</sup> (3967)	[O III]	5.54(-5)	
Ne <sup>+3</sup> (1602)	[O III]	*3.24(-5)	
Ne <sup>+4</sup> (1575)	[O III]	*3.04(-5)	
icf(Ne)		1.73	

Table 2. Temperatures and Densities

Parameter	3242in	
	Value	Notes
T <sub>[OIII]</sub>	11820	
T <sub>[NII]</sub>	10300	Default.
T <sub>[OII]</sub>	10270	
Ne <sub>[SII]</sub>	5000	Default.

Table 3. Total Elemental Abundances

Parameter	3242in	Solar Ref	Orion Ref
He/H	9.73(-2)	8.50(-2)	9.70(-2)
C/H	3.14(-4)	2.69(-4)	3.31(-4)
C/O	0.717	0.550	0.616
N/H	4.30(-5)	6.76(-5)	5.37(-5)
N/O	9.82(-2)	0.138	0.100
O/H	4.38(-4)	4.89(-4)	5.37(-4)
Ne/H	9.34(-5)	8.51(-5)	1.12(-4)
Ne/O	0.213	0.174	0.209
S/H	1.05(-6)	1.32(-5)	1.66(-5)
S/O	2.41(-3)	2.70(-2)	3.09(-2)
Ar/H	1.54(-6)	2.51(-6)	4.17(-6)
Ar/O	3.51(-3)	5.13(-3)	7.77(-3)

# Temperatures Densities Abundances

ELSA produces  
publishable tables  
directly from inputted  
spectral measurements

There are also options  
for error propagation  
from line strengths  
accuracies and extent  
of extinction  
corrections

## 6. FUTURE

2013 February - STIS observations completed

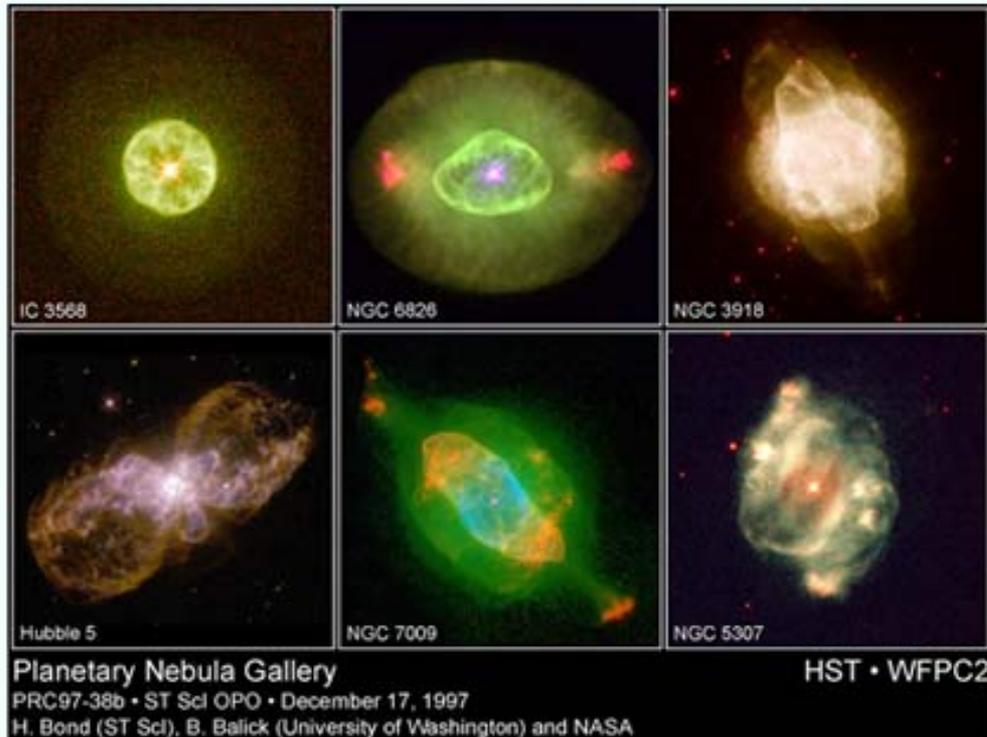
2013 summer - Complete 1D integrated spectra line measurements and abundance analyses (ApS publication); make available on the web at the Williams' s PNe spectra atlas site.

2013/2014 - Perform analyses of spatial line variations across slits for individual nebulae; compare with HST imagery to model ionization structure, physical conditions, and abundances across nebulae.

2014 - Theoretical analysis of the “confrontation between observation and theory” for LIMS. Also, possibly an appraisal of older C & N abundance studies of PNe based on more limited emission line data of past UV spectroscopic studies.

2014 - Apply for more STIS time...!!

# MAHALO!



## GALLERY OF PLANETARY NEBULA SPECTRA

*Karen B. Kwitter & Richard B.C. Henry*

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