

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

# The near-infrared outflow and cavity of the proto-brown dwarf candidate ISO-Oph 200<sup>★</sup>

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## ABSTRACT

In this Letter a near-infrared integral field study of a proto-brown dwarf candidate is presented. A  $\sim 0.5$  blue-shifted outflow is detected in both H<sub>2</sub> and [Fe II] lines at  $V_{\text{sys}} = (-35 \pm 2)$  km s<sup>-1</sup> and  $V_{\text{sys}} = (-51 \pm 5)$  km s<sup>-1</sup> respectively. In addition, slower ( $\sim 10$  km s<sup>-1</sup>) H<sub>2</sub> emission is detected out to  $< 5.4$ , in the direction of both the blue and red-shifted outflow lobes but along a different position angle to the more compact faster emission. It is argued that the more compact emission is a jet and the extended H<sub>2</sub> emission is tracing a cavity. The source extinction is estimated at  $A_v = 18 \pm 1$  mag and the outflow extinction at  $A_v = 9 \pm 0.4$  mag. The H<sub>2</sub> outflow temperature is calculated to be  $1422 \pm 255$  K and the electron density of the [Fe II] outflow is measured at  $\sim 10\,000$  cm<sup>-3</sup>. Furthermore, the mass outflow rate is estimated at  $\dot{M}_{\text{out}[H_2]} = 3.8 \times 10^{-10} M_{\odot} \text{ yr}^{-1}$  and  $\dot{M}_{\text{out}[Fe II]} = 1 \times 10^{-8} M_{\odot} \text{ yr}^{-1}$ .  $\dot{M}_{\text{out}[Fe II]}$  takes a Fe depletion of  $\sim 88\%$  into account. The depletion is investigated using the ratio of the [Fe II] 1.257  $\mu\text{m}$  and [P II] 1.188  $\mu\text{m}$  lines. Using the Pa $\beta$  and Br $\gamma$  lines and a range in stellar mass and radius  $\dot{M}_{\text{acc}}$  is calculated to be  $(3-10) \times 10^{-8} M_{\odot} \text{ yr}^{-1}$ . Comparing these rates puts the jet efficiency in line with predictions of magneto-centrifugal models of jet launching in low mass protostars. This is a further case of a brown dwarf outflow exhibiting analogous properties to protostellar jets.

**Key words.** brown dwarfs – stars: jets – stars: formation

## 1. Introduction

Outflows play an important role in the star formation process and are driven by young stellar objects (YSOs) in the Class 0 to Class II evolutionary stages (Frank et al. 2014). Thus, they can be observed across a large range in wavelength (Whelan 2014). Also, as different wavelength regimes can offer complementary observational constraints to launching models, multi-wavelength studies have proven important (Nisini et al. 2016). Near-infrared (NIR) integral field observations are a particularly useful tool for studies of jet launching in Class 0/I sources which are still very much embedded in their natal clouds (Davis et al. 2011). The *J*, *H*, and *K* NIR bands cover Fe II forbidden and H<sub>2</sub> ro-vibrational emission lines that are strong tracers of jets. These lines can be used to infer jet properties such as temperature and density and to measure the extinction towards the jet (Garcia Lopez et al. 2013). Integral field spectroscopy provides spectro-images which allow the properties of the jets to be mapped as a function of velocity and distance (Davis et al. 2011). Such studies have found the [Fe II] and H<sub>2</sub> lines to be tracing different components of the jet, with the forbidden emission associated with faster, hot dense material and the molecular emission tracing lower excitation, slower molecular gas (Caratti o Garatti et al. 2006; Garcia Lopez et al. 2010). Additionally, H<sub>2</sub> is often found to trace cavities which are postulated to be evacuated by a wide-angled wind (Davis et al. 2011).

Recently, we reported the first detection of a large-scale Herbig-Haro optical jet driven by a Class I proto-brown dwarf

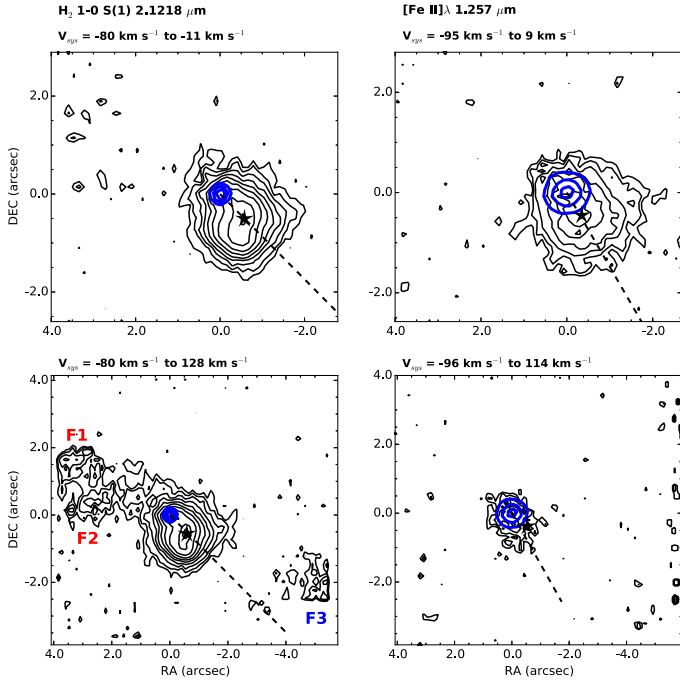
(proto-BD) that shows several of the well-known features seen in protostellar HH jets (Riaz et al. 2017). Here we present the results of a NIR study of an outflow from a proto-BD candidate, which also shows characteristics similar to protostellar jets. The driving source of the outflow is a YSO named ISO-Oph 200 ( $\alpha = 16:31:43.8$ ,  $\delta = -24:55:24.5$ ). The near- to mid-infrared (2–24  $\mu\text{m}$ ) spectral slope of the SED for ISO-Oph 200 is consistent with a Class I classification (Evans et al. 2009). We have conducted physical and chemical modelling of sub-millimeter/millimeter continuum and molecular line data for this object, and find the results to be consistent with an early Stage 0 + I evolutionary stage (Riaz et al., in prep.). The total (dust + gas) mass for ISO-Oph 200 as derived from the sub-millimeter 850  $\mu\text{m}$  flux is  $0.06 \pm 0.01 M_{\odot}$  with a bolometric luminosity of  $\sim 0.09 \pm 0.02 L_{\odot}$ . The mass of the central object in this Class I system can be constrained to within the sub-stellar mass regime using the measured bolometric luminosity and numerical simulations of stellar evolution, as discussed in Riaz et al. (2016). Considering the very low mass reservoir in the (envelope + disk) for this system, and the presence of an outflow that will further dissipate the envelope material, ISO Oph-200 will likely have a final mass below the sub-stellar limit, and can be considered as a strong candidate proto-BD.

## 2. Observations and data reduction

ISO-Oph 200 was observed at the VLT using the integral field spectrograph SINFONI, on April 19 2016 (*H* and *K* band, seeing = 1.1), May 12 2016 (*J* band, seeing = 1.3), and May 13 2016 (*K* band, seeing = 0.55). SINFONI is a medium resolution instrument with  $R = 2000, 3000, \text{ and } 4000$ , in the *J*, *H*, and

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**Fig. 2.** Continuum subtracted spectro-images of the ISO-Oph 200 outflow in the  $\text{H}_2$  1-0S(1) and  $[\text{Fe II}]$  1.257  $\mu\text{m}$  lines. Velocities have been corrected for the systemic velocity of the source. *Top panels:* here the emission in a mainly blue-shifted velocity range is shown to highlight the blue-shifted jet emission only. Black contours begin at  $3\sigma$  and increase in multiples of 1.5.  $1\sigma = 4.5 \times 10^{-15} \text{ erg cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1} \mu\text{m}^{-1}$ . The black contours show the continuum emission and they correspond to 50%, 75%, and 95% of the peak flux of the continuum. The black stars marks the position of the emission peaks and the emission PA is delineated by the dashed line. *Bottom panels:* here the emission in the velocity ranges  $-80 \text{ km s}^{-1}$  to  $128 \text{ km s}^{-1}$  ( $\text{H}_2$ ) and  $-96 \text{ km s}^{-1}$  to  $114 \text{ km s}^{-1}$  ( $[\text{Fe II}]$ ) is shown. This range was chosen to show simultaneously the extended blue and red-shifted low velocity  $\text{H}_2$  emission which it is argued traces the cavity. The chosen range also shows that there is no red-shifted counterpart to the blue-shifted jet emission and that the cavity emission is not seen in  $[\text{Fe II}]$ . Contours start at  $3\sigma$  and increase in multiples of 1.5.  $1\sigma = 5 \times 10^{-15} \text{ erg cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1} \mu\text{m}^{-1}$ . The continuum emission is plotted in the same way as for the top panels.

along the same PA and with a similar velocity to the blue-shifted lobe. None is detected. However, low velocity ( $\sim 10 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ ), fainter (also see Fig. 3), red and blue-shifted spatially resolved  $\text{H}_2$  emission is seen at distance of  $2''.6$  to  $5''.4$  and along a different PA to the faster emission. The main emission features here are marked F1, F2, and F3 in Fig. 2. The velocity, morphology and PA of this emission would suggest that it is tracing a cavity around the collimated jet. This emission is not detected in  $[\text{Fe II}]$  and is discussed further in Sect. 4.

A  $\text{H}_2$  excitation diagram can be constructed by plotting the natural log of the column densities (divided by the statistical weight), of a number of  $\text{H}_2$  lines against the upper energy level of the line. This can be used to derive the temperature and to constrain the extinction of the line emitting region (Davis et al. 2011). In a thermalised gas at a single temperature the points will lie along a straight line, the slope of which is the temperature (Caratti o Garatti et al. 2006). The extinction is constrained by investigating the scatter of the points about this straight line. Correcting the line fluxes for extinction should reduce the scatter of the points about a linear fit. Therefore, varying  $A_v$  and analysing the goodness of the fit leads to an estimate of  $A_v$  (Todd & Ramsay Howat 2006). A  $\text{H}_2$  excitation diagram for the ISO-Oph 200 jet was constructed (see Fig. A.1) using the fluxes

**Table 1.** Outflow emission features and corresponding properties.

Outflow feature	$V_{\text{sys}}$ ( $\text{km s}^{-1}$ )	Offset (")	PA ( $^\circ$ )
$\text{H}_2$ Jet	$-35 \pm 2$	$0''.7$	230
Fe II Jet	$-51 \pm 5$	$0''.5$	215
F1	$4 \pm 3$	$4''.0$	67
F2	$10 \pm 3$	$2''.6$	80
F3	$-14 \pm 5$	$5''.4$	248

**Notes.** Offsets are with respect to the source position and along the given PA. PAs are measured E of N. It is argued that F1, F2 and F3 form part of a cavity around the jet.

given in Table 1. For  $A_v = 9 \text{ mag}$ ,  $T = 1442 \pm 255 \text{ K}$  is measured. This result is in agreement with the temperatures reported by Garcia Lopez et al. (2013) for the very low mass protostar IRSS4. By varying the extinction it is found that the analysis of the excitation diagrams is in a agreement with the  $A_v$  estimates presented in Sect. 3.1.

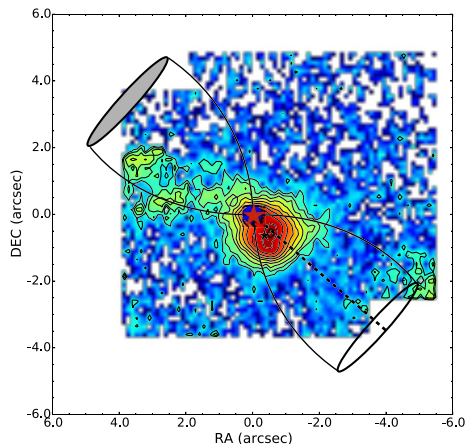
Using the ratios of the  $[\text{Fe II}]$  lines and the models of Takami et al. (2006), the electron density ( $n_e$ ) can be estimated. Studies have found that the  $1.600 \mu\text{m}/1.644 \mu\text{m}$ ,  $1.664 \mu\text{m}/1.644 \mu\text{m}$ , and  $1.677 \mu\text{m}/1.644 \mu\text{m}$  ratios are more accurate tracers of the density than the  $1.534 \mu\text{m}/1.644 \mu\text{m}$  ratio. However, due to the non-detection of the  $1.600 \mu\text{m}$ ,  $1.664 \mu\text{m}$ , and  $1.677 \mu\text{m}$  lines here we are limited to using the  $1.534 \mu\text{m}/1.644 \mu\text{m}$  ratio. From this ratio and the models we estimate  $n_e \sim 10^4 \text{ cm}^{-3}$ . This is in line with typical jet densities (Davis et al. 2011).

The mass outflow rate ( $\dot{M}_{\text{out}}$ ) can be investigated by calculating the mass of both  $\text{H}_2$  and H (from the  $[\text{Fe II}]$  lines) in the jet and combining this with the jet velocity and the length of the jet over for which the mass was estimated. Using Eqs. (1) and (2) of Davis et al. (2011) the column density of  $\text{H}_2$  and H are estimated at  $N_{\text{H}_2} = 3.6 \times 10^{21} \text{ m}^{-2}$  and  $N_{\text{H}} = 1.5 \times 10^{22} \text{ m}^{-2}$ . The fluxes of the  $\text{H}_2$  1-0S(1) and  $[\text{Fe II}]$  1.644  $\mu\text{m}$  lines were used here and were corrected for the jet extinction ( $A_v = 9 \text{ mag}$ ). For the jet velocity the same approach as adopted in Garcia Lopez et al. (2013) is used here. That is the line width is taken as a lower limit to the jet velocity. The lower limits to the jet velocity are  $100 \text{ km s}^{-1}$  and  $150 \text{ km s}^{-1}$  for the  $\text{H}_2$  and  $[\text{Fe II}]$  line respectively. For  $\dot{M}_{\text{out}}$  it is found that  $\dot{M}_{\text{out}[\text{H}_2]} = 3.8 \sim 10^{-10} M_\odot \text{ yr}^{-1}$  and  $\dot{M}_{\text{out}[\text{Fe II}]} = 1.2 \times 10^{-9} M_\odot \text{ yr}^{-1}$ . For  $\dot{M}_{\text{out}[\text{Fe II}]}$  a Fe/H solar abundance was assumed. Using the ratio of the  $[\text{Fe II}]$  1.257  $\mu\text{m}$  and  $[\text{P II}]$  1.188  $\mu\text{m}$  lines it is found that  $88\% \pm 14\%$  of the Fe is still in dust grains in the jet (Garcia Lopez et al. 2010). Taking this value of the dust depletion into account places  $\dot{M}_{\text{out}[\text{Fe II}]}$  at  $\sim 1 \times 10^{-8} M_\odot \text{ yr}^{-1}$ . Overall our results put the jet efficiency ( $\dot{M}_{\text{out}}/\dot{M}_{\text{acc}}$ ) within the limits of magneto-centrifugal jet launching models (Frank et al. 2014). Also note that as the mass outflow rate is higher in the  $[\text{Fe II}]$  than  $\text{H}_2$  component of the jet, our results support the argument of Garcia Lopez et al. (2013), that most of the outflow material is transported in the component traced by the atomic rather than molecular lines.

## 4. Discussion and conclusions

High angular resolution observations of jets from low mass YSOs have provided critical constraints to jet launching models in the form of collimation, rotation, and structural studies for example (Frank et al. 2014). The difficulty with obtaining such high angular resolution observations, of jets at the lower end of the mass spectrum, has meant that the question of





**Fig. 3.** Colour map of the full  $\text{H}_2$  1-0S(1) emission. The colours are shown to highlight the difference intensity between the  $\text{H}_2$  jet emission along a PA of  $230^\circ$  (dashed line) and the extended emission which likely delineates a cavity. A cavity with opening angle  $40^\circ$  is overlain here and well represents the extended fainter emission.

whether there are differences in how BD jets and stellar jets are launched has not yet been well investigated (Whelan et al. 2012; Garcia Lopez et al. 2013). To date, discussion of BD jet launching has focused on a comparison between the kinematical and morphological properties of BD and YSO jets (e.g. asymmetries, multiple velocity components, molecular components) and on measurements of the jet efficiency. High angular resolution is not necessary to measure the jet efficiency and magneto-centrifugal jet launching models set an upper limit of 30% for  $\dot{M}_{\text{out}}/\dot{M}_{\text{acc}}$  (Cabrit 2009). Thus, studies of  $\dot{M}_{\text{out}}/\dot{M}_{\text{acc}}$  have been used as a first test of jet launching at the lowest masses (Whelan 2014).

The detection here of a molecular hydrogen jet and cavity adds to the list of ways in which jets at the lowest masses are found to be analogous to stellar jets. Molecular hydrogen emission lines (MHELs) have long been associated with stellar jets with two jet components detected. Both a molecular component to a collimated FEL jet and a component which traces excitation along the walls of a edge-brightened cavity are observed (Davis et al. 2002). For the latter component, it is theorised that the jet is surrounded by a wide-angled wind which carves out a cavity in the ambient medium and that the shocked  $\text{H}_2$  emission is a result of the interaction between the wind and the ambient gas (Frank et al. 2014). Davis et al. (2002) give the wide-angled wind opening angles of a number of Class 0/I sources. Values range between  $25^\circ$  and  $100^\circ$  and there is a trend of the opening angle increasing with age. In Fig. 3, the  $\text{H}_2$  cavity emission is shown in green over-plotted on the  $\text{H}_2$  jet emission (red). The extended  $\text{H}_2$  emission from ISO-Oph 200 is fitted with a bipolar cavity of opening angle of  $40^\circ$ , putting our source within the range of the Class I sources of Davis et al. (2002). The fact that the extended  $\text{H}_2$  emission has different geometry and kinematics to the blue-shifted jet as traced by both  $\text{H}_2$  and [Fe II] supports the argument that what we are seeing is a wind-swept cavity. A slow wide-angled wind is a natural by-product of a magneto-hydrodynamic (MHD) disk wind and its detection here is further evidence that MHD jets occur at the lowest masses (Frank et al. 2014).

Turning now to estimates of jet efficiencies for proto-BDs, it would be reasonable to expect  $\dot{M}_{\text{out}}$  in proto-BDs to be higher than for Class II BDs, as seen for low mass YSOs (Frank et al. 2014), and for the jet efficiencies to remain within the limits of leading jet launching models. Riaz et al. (2017) presented some

evidence that  $\dot{M}_{\text{out}}$  in proto-BDs is higher than in Class II BDs but very few sources have been properly investigated to date. The first studies of  $\dot{M}_{\text{out}}/\dot{M}_{\text{acc}}$  in BDs concentrated on Class II sources and values were found to be  $>1$  which is inconsistent with models. Improvements in data and methods led to a better constrained estimate for one Class II BD ISO-Cha I 217 (Whelan 2014). Observations of proto-BD jets have to date been confined to optical data which has led to problems with estimates of jet efficiencies. Firstly, the jet and source extinction is generally not well known and secondly  $\dot{M}_{\text{acc}}$  has been under-estimated due to poor sampling of the accretion zone by the accretion tracers. The efficiency study presented here demonstrates the importance of NIR observations for investigating  $\dot{M}_{\text{out}}/\dot{M}_{\text{acc}}$  in BD jets. The [Fe II] and  $\text{H}_2$  lines allow both the jet and source extinction to be well studied, the dust depletion in the jet to be investigated, and obscuration effects are limited by the use of the NIR HI lines. These improvements have meant that this is the second case where efficiency has been found to be within accepted limits. Also note that  $\dot{M}_{\text{out}}$  in ISO-Oph 200 ( $\sim 10^{-9}$ ) is higher than in ISO-ChaI 217 ( $\sim 10^{-11}$ ) as would be expected.

In conclusion we argue that NIR studies of proto-BD jets are an important tool for investigating jet launching in the BD mass regime. Evidence of outflow components such as wide-angled winds can be looked for, the source and jet extinction can be investigated and measurements of the jet efficiency made. Furthermore, it will be possible in the near future to carry out observations of the jet collimation and structure at high angular resolution with JWST/NIRSPEC, which can provide additional constraints to jet launching models.

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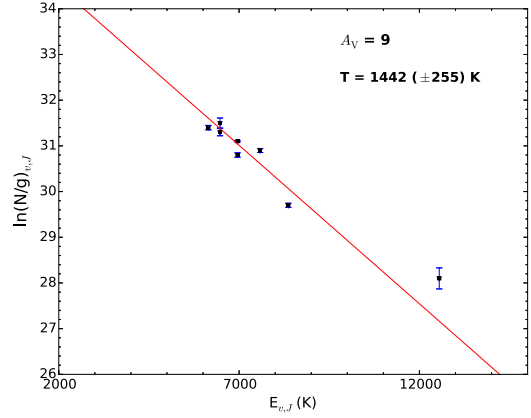
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## Appendix A: Emission lines fluxes and excitation diagram

Table A.1. Detected lines.

	$\lambda_{\text{vac}} (\mu\text{m})$	Flux ( $\times 10^{-16} \text{ erg cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$ )
H <sub>2</sub> 3-1S(7)	1.13	$8.5 \pm 0.6$
[P II]	1.188	$3.7 \pm 0.6$
[Fe II]	1.257	$26.3 \pm 0.7$
Pa $\beta$	1.2822	$120.0 \pm 0.7$
[Fe II]	1.279	$18.6 \pm 0.7$
[Fe II]	1.295	$7.9 \pm 0.7$
[Fe II]	1.321	$9.2 \pm 0.7$
[Fe II]	1.534	$10.6 \pm 1.7$
Br12	1.6412	$13.6 \pm 1.9$
[Fe II]	1.644	$47.6 \pm 1.9$
H <sub>2</sub> 1-0S(3)	1.9576	$33.7 \pm 1.5$
H <sub>2</sub> 1-0S(2)	2.0338	$33.8 \pm 1.5$
H <sub>2</sub> 1-0S(1)	2.1218	$72.2 \pm 1.6$
Bry	2.1661	$305.0 \pm 1.6$
H <sub>2</sub> 1-0S(0)	2.2235	$21.5 \pm 1.7$
H <sub>2</sub> 2-1S(1)	2.2477	$7.3 \pm 1.7$
H <sub>2</sub> 1-0Q(1)	2.4066	$72.4 \pm 3.6$
H <sub>2</sub> 1-0Q(2)	2.4134	$33.1 \pm 3.6$
H <sub>2</sub> 1-0Q(3)	2.4237	$74.4 \pm 3.6$

**Notes.** The fluxes represent the source and jet emission and have not been extinction corrected.



**Fig. A.1.** Colour map of the full H<sub>2</sub> 1-0S(1) emission. The colours are shown to highlight the difference intensity between the H<sub>2</sub> jet emission along a PA of 230° (dashed line) and the extended emission which likely delineates a cavity. A cavity with opening angle 40° is overlain here and well represents the extended fainter emission.