

# An ISO and IUE study of Planetary Nebula NGC 2440\*

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**Abstract.** The infrared and ultraviolet spectra of planetary nebula NGC 2440 is presented. The observations were made respectively by the Infrared Space Observatory (ISO) and International Ultraviolet Explorer (IUE). These data, in conjunction with published optical observations have been used to derive electron temperature and density. A trend of electron temperature with ionization potential is found. In particular the electron temperature increases from 11 000 to 18 000 K with increasing IP. The electron density has a constant value of  $4500 \text{ cm}^{-3}$  in agreement with previous determination. The chemical abundance has been derived for the following elements; helium, carbon, nitrogen, oxygen, neon, sulfur and argon. The ionization correction factor turns out to be very small (almost unnecessary) for all species except sulfur.

**Key words.** ISM: abundances – planetary nebulae: individual: NGC 2440 – Infrared: ISM: lines and bands

## 1. Introduction

NGC 2440 has a highly ionized spectrum. It has been of great scientific interest for astronomers for different reasons: The nebula present a complex bipolar or multipolar morphology, effects of stratification (Walker & Aller, 1970), and strong N II lines (Shields et al., 1981). The latter leads to a high nitrogen abundance, that together with the high helium abundance, classify it as Type I nebula (Peimbert, 1978). The earlier studies by Shields et al. (1981) give an electron density of  $3000 \text{ cm}^{-3}$  and an electron temperature of 14 000 for the O III. Later studies by Hyung & Aller (1998) led to a higher density of  $5000 \text{ cm}^{-3}$  but agree on the electron temperature finding 14 200 K and 10 000 K for O III and N II respectively.

ISO and IUE provide valuable information which allow us to precisely derive the electron density ( $N_e$ ), temperature ( $T_e$ ) and the nebular abundance. Infrared lines avoid many problems usually encountered when deriving abundances, especially temperature fluctuations. This is of particular interest because infrared lines are insensitive to this effect, which could be present in the

nebula. This and other advantages are briefly discussed in recent papers by Pottasch & Beintema (1999) and Bernard Salas et al. (2001).

The following section of this paper will be devoted to the ISO and IUE observations. The nebula is bigger than both ISO-SWS and IUE apertures and because of dust absorption (although small) the fluxes need to be corrected for extinction. This is discussed in section 3. In section 4 the line fluxes (infrared, optical and ultraviolet) are presented. In section 5 the  $N_e$  and  $T_e$  are derived as well as the abundance for the nebula. In section 6 a complete discussion of the parameters previously derived,  $T_e$ ,  $N_e$  and abundances is given. The conclusions are given in the last section.

## 2. ISO and IUE observations

The infrared observations were made with the Short Wavelength Spectrometer (SWS) on board ISO. Information about this instrument can be found in de Graauw et al. (1996). The wavelength range covered by the instrument is from 2.38 to  $45.2 \mu\text{m}$ . The observation used correspond to a SWS01 observing template, TDT number 72501762. This is a fast observation corresponding to Speed 2 and was reduced at a fix spectral resolution of 400. The observations were centered at RA(2000)  $07^{\text{h}}41^{\text{m}}55.4^{\text{s}}$  and Dec(2000)  $-18^{\circ}12'31.8''$ . Pointing errors in ISO are uncertain by about  $3''$ . In Fig. 1 the SWS spectrum of NGC 2440 is presented.

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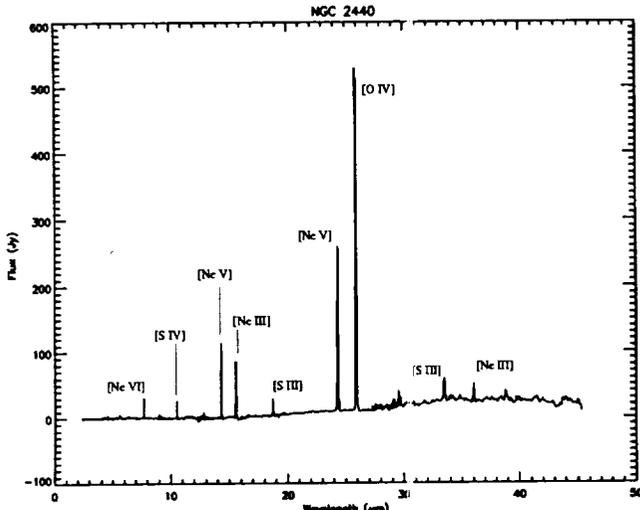


Fig. 1. SWS spectrum of NGC 2440. The continuum is very low. Strong lines are measured and have been labeled. No PAH features are present.

Standard reduction techniques were applied and no major problems were encountered. Information about these tools used to reduce the data, can be found in the interactive analysis software package distributed by the SWS consortium. The observed infrared intensities are given in Table 2.

Maybe Feibelman can comment a little bit more about the IUE observations There are several ultraviolet observations made with the International Ultraviolet Explorer (IUE). Two low resolution spectra and two high ones were used in this paper. When not available ultraviolet measurements from Shields et al. (1981) were also used. The low resolution spectra are labeled SWP 07262 and LWR 06256 and the high ones as SWP 07263 and LWR 10741. The observed ultraviolet intensities are given in Table 3

### 3. Corrections to line fluxes

All fluxes measured, infrared, ultraviolet and optical, have been corrected for extinction (although the correction in the infrared is very small). Because of the size of the nebula and relative small aperture size of the instruments, aperture corrections have been applied.

#### 3.1. Extinction

In the previous work by Shields et al. (1981) a  $C_{H\beta} = 0.63$  was found (where  $C_{H\alpha} = \log\left(\frac{F(H\beta)_{predicted}}{F(H\alpha)}\right)$ ), although

In this work the observed lines have been corrected by extinction using  $C_{H\beta} = 0.50$ . This leads to  $E_{B-V} = 0.34$ . The predicted  $F_{H\beta}$  has been determined in two ways.

One way to measure the extinction is using the predicted  $F_{H\beta}$  given by radio fluxes. Applying the following equation:

$$F(H\beta) = \frac{S_\nu}{2.82 \cdot 10^9 \cdot t^{0.53} \left(1 + \frac{He^+}{H^+} + 3.7 \frac{He^{++}}{H^+}\right)} \quad (1)$$

the expected  $H\beta$  flux can be found. In eq. 1  $S_\nu = 0.411$  Jy at 5 GHz (Pottasch, 1984),  $t$  is the temperature of the nebula in  $10^4$  K (in this case  $T_e = 15000$  is used) and  $2.82 \cdot 10^9$  is a conversion factor if the flux density  $S_\nu$  in Jy and the  $F(H\beta)$  in  $\text{erg cm}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ . The helium abundances are taken from Table 7 and have been derived using the theoretical predictions of Benjamin et al. (1999) at a  $N_e = 10000 \text{ cm}^{-3}$  (using  $N_e = 100 \text{ cm}^{-3}$  will lead to the same values). Eq. (1) leads to a predicted  $H\beta$  of  $91.0 \cdot 10^{-12} \text{ erg cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$ . The extinction factor is thus  $C_{H\beta} = 0.46$ . This is in good agreement with what Hyung & Aller (1998) ( $C_{H\beta} = 0.53$ ) found. An average of those two ( $\overline{C_{H\beta}} = 0.50$ ) has been used in the present paper to correct for extinction.

#### 3.2. Aperture corrections

NGC 2440 has a measured size (Shields et al., 1981) of  $10''$  for the main body and a faint envelope that extends up to  $30''$ . ISO-SWS uses different size apertures for the different bands. These sizes range from  $14'' \times 20''$  (the smallest), to larger apertures  $14'' \times 27''$ ,  $20'' \times 27''$  and  $20'' \times 33''$ . The aperture of the IUE is very similar to ISO-SWS smallest aperture, it's an ellipse of  $10'' \times 23''$ . It is likely that some of the nebula is missing and, because of the similarity in aperture size, the correction factor in the infrared and ultraviolet will be similar.

In order to correct the infrared lines from aperture effects the SWS measurements have been compared with those from the Infrared Astronomical Satellite (IRAS), which has an aperture big enough to contain the whole nebula. This comparison is shown in Table 1. The SWS and IRAS fluxes (Pottasch, 1986) are shown in columns 4 and 5. In the last column the scale factor to reproduce the IRAS measurements (basically  $F_{IRAS} / F_{SWS}$ ) is given.

The advantage of this is that the lines IRAS has measured lie on different SWS apertures so that a correction for each one can be applied. As can be seen in Table 1 the IRAS fluxes for Ne VI and S IV is bigger than in the fluxes

**Table 1.** Comparison of IRAS measurements with ISO-SWS fluxes. Both, IRAS and ISO fluxes are in units of  $10^{-12}$  erg  $\text{cm}^{-2}$   $\text{s}^{-1}$ .

$\lambda$ ( $\mu\text{m}$ )	Ion	SWS		IRAS Flux	Correc. factor
		Aperture	Flux		
7.654	Ne VI	14" x 20"	52	70:	1.35
10.52	S IV	14" x 20"	29	50	1.72
12.81	Ne II	14" x 27"	9.2	8	0.87
14.32	Ne V	14" x 27"	96	90	0.93
15.56	Ne III	14" x 27"	65	75	1.15
18.7	S III	14" x 27"	17	30:	1.80

flux is missing in these apertures. Therefore, all measurements with the large aperture are seeing the whole nebula. Only in the smallest aperture some flux is missing. The aperture correction factor are 1.35 and 1.72 for Ne VI and S IV. Although the Ne VI line from IRAS is noisy an average scale factor of 1.54 is found from both lines. This average factor should be correct within  $\pm 0.2$ .

The  $\text{Br}_\alpha$  line at  $4.043 \mu\text{m}$  ( $3.91 \cdot 10^{-12}$  erg  $\text{cm}^{-2}$   $\text{s}^{-1}$ ) leads to a very low  $\text{H}_\beta$  flux ( $57.0 \cdot 10^{-12}$  erg  $\text{cm}^{-2}$   $\text{s}^{-1}$ ) because it is being underestimated. This fact can be used to correct the infrared lines by scaling the  $\text{Br}_\alpha$  line in order to get the proper predicted  $\text{H}_\beta$  flux (which is  $91.0 \cdot 10^{-12}$  erg  $\text{cm}^{-2}$   $\text{s}^{-1}$ ). The observed flux for this line is  $4.00 \cdot 10^{-12}$  erg  $\text{cm}^{-2}$   $\text{s}^{-1}$ . The theoretical prediction given by Hummer & Storey (1987) at  $T_e=15000$  K and  $N_e=1000 \text{ cm}^{-3}$  (using  $N_e=10000 \text{ cm}^{-3}$  will lead to the same conclusions) leads to  $I(\text{Br}_\alpha/\text{H}_\beta)=6.86 \cdot 10^{-2}$ . Therefore, the expected  $\text{H}_\beta$  flux is  $F_{\text{H}_\beta}=58.3 \cdot 10^{-12}$  erg  $\text{cm}^{-2}$   $\text{s}^{-1}$ . If this is compared with the predicted one, an aperture correction factor of 1.56 is found which agrees with the average factor derived before. Therefore a factor of 1.56 has been adopted to correct the measurements done in the smallest SWS aperture (below  $12 \mu\text{m}$ ).

To correct the ultraviolet lines the fact that the ratio of the helium lines  $F(\lambda 1640)/F(\lambda 4686)=6.94$  (for a  $T_e=15000$  K) has been used. Using the dereddened fluxes listed in Tables 3 and 4 a ratio of 3.54 is found. The scaling factor becomes 1.96, which we shall use.

The optical data used in this study has been taken from Hyung & Aller (1998). These fluxes are only represent part of the nebula, specifically the brightest part of the northern blob using a slit of  $4''$ . Using the entire  $\text{H}_\beta$  flux, they have been scaled to the total flux.

#### 4. Line fluxes

In Table 2, 3, and 4 the infrared, ultraviolet and optical lines are listed.

**Table 2.** Infrared line intensities for NGC 2440. All fluxes are in units of ( $10^{-12}$  erg  $\text{cm}^{-2}$   $\text{s}^{-1}$ )

$\lambda$ ( $\mu\text{m}$ )	Ident.	Flux		
		observed	dereddened <sup>1</sup>	corrected <sup>2</sup>
4.051	H I $\text{Br}_\alpha$	3.91	4.00	6.24
4.527	[Ar VI]	16.8	17.2	26.8
5.611	[Mg V]	13.5	13.7	16.09
6.986	[Ar II]	3.30	3.34	5.21
7.654	[Ne VI]	52.0	52.7	82.2
7.900	[Ar V]	4.33	4.40	6.86
8.994	[Ar III]	9.37	9.83	15.33
10.512	[S IV]	29.1	30.5	57.6
12.813	[Ne II]	9.18	9.36	9.36
13.101	[Ar V]	4.20	4.28	4.28
14.323	[Ne V]	96.4	97.8	97.8
15.557	[Ne III]	65.2	66.3	66.3
18.712	[S III]	16.7	17.1	17.1
24.321	[Ne V]	121.8	123.5	123.5
25.896	[O IV]	297.9	301.7	301.7
33.479	[S III]	14.8	14.93	14.93
36.017	[Ne III]	9.35	9.42	9.42

<sup>1</sup> Dereddened fluxes using  $C_{\text{H}\beta}=0.50$

<sup>2</sup> Aperture corrected and dereddened fluxes: Lines up to  $12 \mu\text{m}$  have been applied an aperture correction factor of 1.56 while for the rest of the lines (from  $12 \mu\text{m}$  to  $45.2 \mu\text{m}$ ) no aperture correction factor has been applied.

that no weak lines are found. Only one hydrogen line ( $\text{Br}_\alpha$ ) and one helium line at  $9.26 \mu\text{m}$  are found. High ionization stages for Argon (Ar VI), neon (Ne VI) and magnesium (Mg V) have been measured. The strongest line is that of O IV. Argon, neon and sulfur are all present in the most important stages of ionization.

Calibration errors increase at longer wavelength, but on average they amount to about 20%. Fluctuation errors depends on the line strength, and they decrease with line strength. Normally weak lines ( $I < 5$ , where  $I$  is in  $10^{-12}$  erg  $\text{cm}^{-2}$   $\text{s}^{-1}$ ) have estimated errors of about 20%, intermediate lines ( $5 < I < 10$ ) of about 10%, while the strongest lines ( $I > 10$ ), have normally less than 5% uncertainty. There is just one exception, the sulfur line at  $18.712 \mu\text{m}$ , in which both up and down scan differs by 40%.

#### 4.2. Ultraviolet spectrum

In the IUE spectra fifty lines were measured. Nitrogen, oxygen, carbon, magnesium and silicon lines are abundant. In Table 3 the observed fluxes are listed in column 3. The extinction law applied (Fluks et al., 1994) is given in col-

**Table 4.** Optical line fluxes. Observed values were taken from Hyung & Aller (1998). The dereddened fluxes were derive using an interstellar extinction of  $C_{H\beta}=0.50$  ( $E_{B-V}=0.34$ ). Fluxes are in units of  $10^{-12}\text{erg cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$ .

Wavelength (nm)	Ident.	Measured Fluxes	Dereddened Fluxes
342.68	[Ne V]	25.3*	118
372.60	[O II]	15.17	64.1
372.97	[O II]	7.59	32.0
386.87	[Ne III]	27.2	111.3
436.32	[O III]	7.29	26.6
447.15	He I	0.99	3.51
468.57	He II	23.5	78.1
471.15	[Ar IV]	2.29	7.56
474.00	[Ar IV]	2.46	8.05
486.10	H $\beta$	31.6	99.54
500.68	[O III]	522.4	1572
519.17	[Ar III]	0.10	0.28
519.80	[N I]	1.69	4.81
520.03	[N I]	1.17	3.33
551.76	[Cl III]	0.64	0.52
553.79	[Cl III]	0.23	0.60
575.46	[N II]	4.80	12.02
575.46	[N II]	4.54 <sup>†</sup>	11.37
587.57	He I	3.10	7.60
630.03	[O I]	6.53	14.9
631.20	[S III]	0.66	1.50
658.33	[N II]	383.7	841
658.33	[N II]	263.1 <sup>†</sup>	576.7
671.64	[S II]	1.96	4.21
673.08	[S II]	3.13	6.71
700.59	[Ar V]	1.39	2.87
726.29	[Ar IV]	0.149	0.296
732.00	[O II]	3.14	6.196
733.03	[O II]	2.63	5.18

\* taken from Rowland et al. (1993)

<sup>†</sup> taken from Perinotto & Corradi (1998) (see text)

if not possible data form Shields et al. (1981) was used. The low resolution spectra was preferred because the calibration is better.

Maybe Feibelman want to comments something about errors or something

### 4.3. Optical data

Together with the infrared and ultraviolet data, optical lines were also used to derive the physical parameters of the nebula, and to have information in some stages of ionization that weren't observed neither in the infrared nor ultraviolet. The observed fluxes were taken from Hyung & Aller (1998), and corrected for reddening. The Ne V line

S III, Ar III, O III, Ne III and Ne V. The helium lines were used to derive the helium abundance. The rest of the ion were included to have information on several missing stages of ionization.

For the N II the average values for the lines at 575.5 and 658.4 nm. given by Perinotto & Corradi (1998) have been included. They measure the flux in different regions of the nebula from the center (*cen*), to positive increasing distances from the center (*p1, p2, etc.*) and negative increasing distances (*n1, n2, etc.*). The different values given by Hyung & Aller (1998) and Perinotto & Corradi (1998) leads to different  $T_e$  which can slightly affect the relative abundances derived for low ionization potentials (IP) ions.

## 5. Physical parameters and abundance

### 5.1. Electron density

$N_e$  has been derived for nine ions. A  $T_e=15\,000$  K has been assumed and a justification for this choice is given in the following subsection. The  $N_e$  is shown in Table 5, and as can be seen,  $N_e$  seems to be constant for all the ions except for S III and Ar V. For comparison, the  $N_e$  found by Keenan et al. using the R-matrix method in successive papers in 1996, 1997, 1998 and 1999 for S II, Ar IV, Ne IV and O II respectively have been included in the table. An average of about  $4000\text{ cm}^{-3}$  is found. In the paper by Hyung & Aller (1998) an average  $N_e$  of  $5000\text{ cm}^{-3}$  is found. If the average  $N_e$  is derive from Table 5, but excluding the S III and Ar V ratio, a value of  $4500\text{ cm}^{-3}$  is found. This is in good agreement with the  $N_e$  given by Hyung & Aller (1998) and Keenan et al. (1996,1997,1998,1999) and therefore has been adopted to derive the  $T_e$  and abundances.

**Table 5.** Electron density.  $T_e=15\,000$  K is used.

Ion	IP (eV)	Lines used (nm)	Observed ratio	$N_e$ ( $\text{cm}^{-3}$ )	Other Meas. <sup>1</sup>
S II	10.4	673.1/671.6	1.59	4260	3100 <sup>a</sup>
O II	13.6	372.6/372.9	2.00	4890	5000 <sup>d</sup>
S III	23.3	33 470/18 700	0.87	871:	
Cl III	23.8	553.8/551.8	1.15	4900:	
C III	24.4	190.7/190.9	1.35	4360	
Ar IV	40.7	472.4/472.5	1.04	4900	
Ar V	40.7	471.1/474.0	0.94	5200	4000 <sup>b</sup>
Ar V	59.8	13 100/7900	0.62:	34 500:	
Ne IV	63.4	242.4/242.2	1.11	3400	4000 <sup>c</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Values taken from Keenan et al. 1996<sup>a</sup>, 1997<sup>b</sup>, 1998<sup>c</sup>, 1999<sup>d</sup>  
: Large uncertainty

are noisy and the error in their line flux determination is larger than in any other ion.

## 5.2. Electron temperature

To derive  $T_e$  the ratio of lines originating from levels that differ by several electron volts are needed. An  $N_e=4500 \text{ cm}^{-3}$  has been assumed.

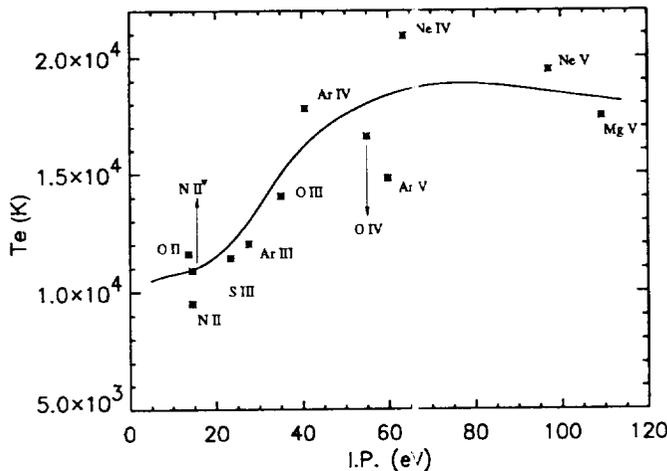


Fig. 2. Electron temperature versus ionization potential. The ratios used for each ion are indicated. The  $N_{II}^{\psi}$  has been derive using the lines fluxes given by Perinotto & Corradi (1998). The shape of the assumed curve is in accordance with the expected physical behavior (see discussion Sect. 5.2.)

The  $T_e$  for twelve different ions has been derived and are shown in Table 6. These temperatures are plotted against the ionization potential in Fig. 2. The curve represent the trend of the  $T_e$  with the ionization potential (IP).

The values given by Keenan et al. (1997, 1998, 1999) are also shown in Table 6. The  $T_e$  derive for the  $N_{II}$  differs by 1400 K whenever the optical lines from Hyung & Aller (1998) or Perinotto & Corradi (1998) are used. In Fig. 2 these values have been plotted with the exception of the  $T_e$  determined with  $Ne_{III}$  and  $S_{III}$  (using the 33.4  $\mu\text{m}$  line). The  $Ne_{III}$  have been excluded because in other nebulae studies (Pottasch & Beintema (1999); Bernard Salas et al. (2001)) it usually gives a lower  $T_e$ . Probably this has something to do with the atomic parameter data. The  $T_e$  derive from the  $S_{III}$  (631.2/33 400) is not included because the infrared line is very noisy, instead the ratio 631.2/18 700 has been used. It also should be notice that the  $S_{III}$  ratio is sensitive to the adopted  $N_e$  and this could

Table 6. Electron temperature.  $N_e=4500 \text{ cm}^{-3}$  is used.

Ion	IP (eV)	Lines used (nm)	Obs. ratio	$T_e$ (K)	Other Meas. <sup>1</sup>
O II	13.6	732.0/372.6*	0.177	11 700	11 700 <sup>1c</sup>
N II	14.5	575.5/658.4	0.0143	9500	
N II	14.5	575.5/658.4	0.0197	10 900 <sup>†</sup>	
S III	23.3	631.2/18 700	0.088	11 400 <sup>2</sup>	–
S III	23.3	631.2/33 400	0.100	8700	–
Ar III	27.6	519.2/8990	0.018	12 000	
O III	35.1	436.3/500.7	0.0169	14 060	
Ar IV	40.7	726.3/471.1	0.039	17 800	17 650 <sup>1a</sup>
Ne III	41.0	386.8/15 500	1.68	13 800	
O IV	54.9	140.0/25 900	0.148	16 600	
Ar V	59.8	700.5/7900	0.39	14 800	
Ne IV	63.4	472.4/242.2 <sup>b</sup>	0.012	20 900	19 800 <sup>1b</sup>
Ne V	97.1	342.6/24 300	0.95	19 400	
Mg V	109.3	278.3/5610	0.61:	17 500	

<sup>1</sup> Values taken from Keenan et al. 1997<sup>a</sup>, 1998<sup>b</sup>, 1999<sup>c</sup>

<sup>†</sup> Using the line fluxes given by Perinotto & Corradi (1998)

\* The lines used are; (732.0+773.0)/(372.6)

\* The lines used are; (472.4+472.6)/(242.2+242.6)

: Very noisy

## 5.3. Chemical abundances

The element abundances for carbon, nitrogen, oxygen, neon, magnesium, argon and sulfur have been derived. Unfortunately for silicon and chlorine only one stage of ionization was measured which is not enough to properly derive the element abundance. The determination of the ionization correction factor (ICF) should have been too uncertain. The ions for which abundance have been derive are listed in Table 7

The equation used to determine these ionic abundances was:

$$\frac{N_{ion}}{N_p} = \frac{I_{ion}}{I_{H\beta}} N_e \frac{\lambda_{ul}}{\lambda_{H\beta}} \frac{\alpha_{H\beta}}{A_{ul}} \left( \frac{N_u}{N_{ion}} \right)^{-1} \quad (2)$$

In the equation  $N_p$  is the density of the ionized hydrogen;  $I_{ion}/I_{H\beta}$  is the measured intensity of the ionic line, normalized to  $H\beta$ ;  $\lambda_{ul}$  is the wavelength of the line and  $\lambda_{H\beta}$  is the wavelength of  $H\beta$ ;  $\alpha_{H\beta}$  is the effective recombination coefficient for  $H\beta$ ;  $A_{ul}$  is the Einstein spontaneous transition rate for the line and finally  $N_u/N_{ion}$  is the ratio of the population of the level from which the line originates to the total population of the ion.

As can be seen in Table 7 the ICF is 1 or 1.1 in all cases but sulfur. This shows how powerful it can be to combine

## 6. Discussion

### 6.1. Electron density

The  $N_e$  has been derived for several ions which have different IP. This value seems to be constant, about  $4500 \text{ cm}^{-3}$ , there is no trend with the IP. This could mean that the ejection of the outer layers has been constant with time. This supports the supposition made before, that the nebula is homogeneous.

### 6.2. Electron temperature

A trend of the  $T_e$  is found with the IP. As previously studied by Bernard Salas et al. (2001) for NGC 7027, this agrees with a simple picture of the nebula where the high states of ionization are reached closer to the central star so they give higher temperatures, and the low states of ionization give lower  $T_e$  because they are formed further away. As mentioned, to derive the abundances an  $f_{\text{tes}}$  has to be assumed, that in this case is determined by the curve in Fig. 2. As can be seen in Fig. 2 the trend at high IP not as well determined as at low IP, where this assumption is more important. For ions with low IP the abundance has been derived mainly with ultraviolet or optical data, and these lines are sensitive to the  $T_e$  adopted, where the curve is well determined. On the other hand abundances of ions at high IP have been derived from infrared and therefore are insensitive (or very little) in the adopted  $T_e$ .

### 6.3. Comparison of abundances

The abundances derived have been compared to those found in the Sun, O, B stars and previous literature (see Table 8 for references). Helium and carbon agree with those found by Kwitter & Henry (1996). The carbon abundance found by Hyung & Aller (1998) seems too little. The nitrogen is half that found by the same authors. The ICF used by Hyung & Aller (1998) seems too large. On the other hand the oxygen and neon abundance agree quite well. The sulfur abundance is between those reported by Hyung & Aller (1998) and Kwitter & Henry (1996) and finally the argon derived from Hyung & Aller (1998) is smaller than the present study. From the three elements carbon, nitrogen and oxygen, only oxygen is less abundant than in the Sun and O, B stars. Maybe some oxygen has been converted into carbon and nitrogen via cycle CNO. Neon and argon are similar to O, B stars which could mean that the nebula hasn't formed any of these elements during its evolution. The sulfur is less abundant but the reason for this is not clear.

Other interesting possibility is the comparison of the ratio of carbon, oxygen and/or nitrogen. This is shown in Table 9. The N/O ratio is 3 times bigger than in NGC 7027

Table 9. Comparison of the abundance ratios of C, N and O

	NGC 2440	NGC 7027 <sup>1</sup>	Sun	O Stars
N/O	1.23	0.39	0.15	0.15
C/O	1.89	1.46	0.48	0.42
$\frac{(C+N+O)}{H}$	1.47(-3)	1.24(-3)	1.19(-3)	6.56(-4)

<sup>1</sup> From Bernard Salas et al. (2001)

is twice as big as any other source. The progenitor star of NGC 2440 must be much more massive than the Sun or NGC 7027 (3-4  $M_{\odot}$ , Bernard Salas et al. (2001)). This is also supported by the helium abundance which is also larger than any of these comparison sources.

## 7. Conclusions

### Acknowledgements.

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Table 3. IUE intensities for the high and low resolution spectra for NGC 2440. All fluxes are in units of  $10^{-12}$  erg cm $^{-2}$  s $^{-1}$ . When a flux from low resolution spectra is followed by a “ means that this line is blend with the wuotated ones.

$\lambda$ (nm)	Ident.	Flux <sup>1</sup>		$A_{H\beta}/E_{B-v}$	Flux <sup>2</sup>	Flux <sup>3</sup>
		HR	LR			
116.86	C IV	3.60		10.613	99.9	195.8
123.92	N V	1.33	2.74	9.747	28.1	55.2
124.21	?	0.63		9.73	13.25	26.0
124.31	N V	1.45		9.718	30.4	59.6
130.06	C III		0.39 <sup>‡</sup>	9.198	6.95	13.6
132.77	C II		0.42:‡	8.961	6.95	13.62
137.09	O V	0.55	0.32	8.641	8.23	16.13
140.13	O IV]	0.78	2.74	8.442	10.97	21.5
140.51	O IV]	0.57		8.420	7.96	15.60
140.73	O IV]	0.28		8.409	3.90	7.64
148.36	N IV]	3.75	10.14	8.162	48.3	94.7
148.68	N IV]	2.38		8.156	30.6	60.0
154.86	C IV	11.99	27.36	8.131	153.0	299.8
155.12	C IV	7.24		8.131	92.4	181.0
157.50	Ne V	0.630*		8.136	8.05	15.78
160.24	[Ne IV]		0.58 <sup>‡</sup>	8.117	7.37	14.44
164.07	He II	22.36	23.43	8.031	276.5	541.9
166.10	O III	0.44	2.96:	7.941	5.29	10.37
166.64	O III	1.06		7.927	12.69	24.87
171.10	Si II	0.630*		7.850	7.36	14.43
171.68	S III?		0.42 <sup>‡</sup>	7.839	4.89	9.58
174.71	N III]	0.48	10.1	7.784	5.49	10.77
174.90	N III]	0.71		7.780	8.11	15.90
175.00	N III]	4.07		7.779	46.5	91.2
175.24	N III]	2.19		7.776	25.0	49.0
175.43	N III]	0.45		7.773	5.13	10.06
180.49	[Ne III]		0.450 <sup>‡</sup>	7.756	5.10	10.00
180.80	Si II	0.160*		7.758	1.82	3.56
187.54	Si III]		0.390 <sup>‡</sup>	7.90	4.63	9.07
190.70	C III]	24.29	41.92	8.027	300.0	588.0
190.91	C III]	17.7		8.041	219.6	430.3
229.80	C III	0.26	0.61	8.795	4.08	8.00
232.65	C II]	1.46		8.639	21.84	42.8
232.81	C II]	0.65	0.37?	8.621	9.67	18.95
238.66	He II	0.31		8.082	3.89	7.63
242.30	[Ne IV]	3.38	7.47 <sup>‡,†</sup>	7.814	39.1	76.5
242.56	[Ne IV]	3.79		7.791	43.5	85.2
242.74	[Ne IV]		7.47 <sup>‡,†</sup>	7.776	85.3	167.1
247.15	[O II]	0.56	1.04	7.462	5.79	11.36
251.24	He II	0.58	1.04	7.226	5.57	10.92
273.46	He II	1.13	1.62	6.215	7.91	15.51
278.42	[Mg V]	0.66:	0.87	6.089	4.44	8.71
279.73	Mg II	0.23		6.058	1.53	3.00
280.45	Mg II	0.13		6.041	0.86	1.69
283.00	O IV?	0.20		5.982	1.30	2.55
283.77	O III	0.72	0.59	5.962	4.66	9.13
285.51	Mg I	0.31		5.923	1.98	3.88
286.96	?	0.13		5.889	0.82	1.61
290.14	C IV	0.12		5.821	0.74	1.46
292.95	[Mg V]	0.21		5.759	1.27	2.50
302.50	O III	0.21		5.570	1.20	2.35
303.11	O III		0.15 <sup>‡</sup>	5.558	0.85	1.68
304.86	O III	1.03	1.22	5.526	5.81	11.39
313.44	O III	7.15	7.88	5.371	38.4	75.3
320.47	He II	2.69	3.88	5.252	13.93	27.31

Flux<sup>1</sup>: Observed flux; HR= High Resolution Spectra; LR= Low Resolution Spectra

Flux<sup>2</sup>: Dereddened flux

Flux<sup>3</sup>: Dereddened and aperture corrected flux (Aperture factor is 1.96)

Table 7. Ionic and element abundances.

Ion	$\lambda$ (nm)	$N_{ion}/N_p$	$\sum N_{ion}/N_p$	ICF <sup>1</sup>	$N_{elem.}/N_p$
He <sup>+</sup>	587.7	0.0554 <sup>a</sup>			
He <sup>++</sup>	468.6	0.0639 <sup>a</sup>	0.119	1	0.119
C <sup>+</sup>	(2:2.6, 232.8) <sup>b</sup>	6.10(-5)			
C <sup>++</sup>	190.9	5.68(-4)			
C <sup>3+</sup>	154.9	3.75(-5)	6.66(-4)	1.01	6.73(-4)
N <sup>0</sup>	519.8, 520.0	7.88(-6)			
N <sup>+</sup>	658.3	1.14(-5)	used		
N <sup>+</sup>	658.3 <sup>†</sup>	7.80(-6)			
N <sup>+</sup>	575.5	8.21(-5)			
N <sup>++</sup>	1750	3.09(-4)			
N <sup>3+</sup>	148.5	9.39(-5)			
N <sup>4+</sup>	123.9	1.50(-5)	4.37(-4)	1	4.37(-4)
O <sup>0</sup>	630.0	2.45(-6)			
O <sup>+</sup>	372.7, 373.0	3.54(-5)			
O <sup>++</sup>	500.8, 436.3	1.82(-4)			
O <sup>3+</sup>	25900	1.06(-4)	3.26(-4)	1.1	3.56(-4)
Ne <sup>+</sup>	12810	1.10(-5)			
Ne <sup>++</sup>	15500	4.10(-5)			
Ne <sup>3+</sup>	242.5, 472.5	2.26(-5)			
Ne <sup>4+</sup>	14320	8.99(-6)			
Ne <sup>4+</sup>	24300	1.65(-5)			
Ne <sup>5+</sup>	7650	1.02(-5)	1.10(-4)	1	1.10(-4)
Mg <sup>+</sup>	280.0	—			
Mg <sup>4+</sup>	5610	3.42(-6)	—	—	—
Si <sup>+</sup>	34800				
Si <sup>++</sup>	189.2		—	—	—
S <sup>+</sup>	671.6, 673.1	3.24(-7)			
S <sup>++</sup>	18710	1.80(-6)			
S <sup>3+</sup>	10510	1.10(-6)	3.22(-6)	1.47	4.72(-6)
Cl <sup>++</sup>	553.8, 551.8	4.51(-8)			
Ar <sup>+</sup>	6980	3.58(-7)			
Ar <sup>++</sup>	8990	1.31(-6)			
Ar <sup>3+</sup>	471.1, 474.0	7.09(-7)			
Ar <sup>4+</sup>	7900, 207.2	1.22(-7)			
Ar <sup>5+</sup>	4527	3.58(-7)	2.86(-6)	1.07	3.06(-6)

<sup>1</sup> ICF = Ionization Correction Factor<sup>a</sup> Using the predictions for the helium emission lines given by Benjamin et al. (1999)<sup>b</sup> Using the high IUE resolution spectra<sup>†</sup> Value from citetperinotto

Table 8. Comparison of abundances in NGC 2440

Element	Present abund.	Sun <sup>1</sup>	O,B Stars <sup>2</sup>	Hyung <sup>3</sup>		Kwitter <sup>4</sup>
				ICF-M	Model	Model
Helium	0.119	0.098		0.126	0.11	0.12
Carbon	6.73(-4)	3.55(-4)	1.74(-4)	3.40(-4)	4.0(-4)	6.34(-4)
Nitrogen	4.37(-4)	9.33(-5)	6.46(-5)	9.98(-4)	9.0(-4)	8.22(-4)
Oxygen	3.56(-4)	7.41(-4)	4.17(-4)	4.41(-4)	3.5(-4)	5.71(-4)
Neon	1.10(-4)	1.20(-4)	1.23(-4)	9.51(-5)	7.0(-5)	7.42(-5)
Magnesium	–	3.8(-5)	2.40(-5)	2.00(-6)	2.0(-6)	
Silicon	–	3.55(-5)	2.40(-5)	1.74(-6)	1.9(-6)	
Sulfur	4.72(-6)	1.86(-5)	1.23(-5)	1.72(-6)	2.0 (-6)	
Chlorine	–	1.86(-7)	1.86(-7)	1.35(-7)	1.2(-7)	
Argon	3.09(-6)	3.63(-6)		2.02(-6)	2.2(-6)	

<sup>1</sup>Solar abundance from Grevesse et al. (1993) and Anders & Grevesse (1989)<sup>2</sup>O, B star abundances are the average of Gies Gies & Lambert (1992) and Killian–Montenbruck et al. (1994)<sup>3</sup>Abundances by Hyung & Aller (1998) determined using the ICF method<sup>4</sup>From Kwitter & Henry (1996)