

Water distribution in shocked regions of the NGC 1333-IRAS 4A protostellar outflow[★]

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ABSTRACT

Context. Water is a key molecule in protostellar environments because its line emission is very sensitive to both the chemistry and the physical conditions of the gas. Observations of H₂O line emission from low-mass protostars and their associated outflows performed with HIFI onboard the *Herschel* Space Observatory have highlighted the complexity of H₂O line profiles, in which different kinematic components can be distinguished.

Aims. The goal is to study the spatial distribution of H₂O, in particular of the different kinematic components detected in H₂O emission, at two bright shocked regions along IRAS 4A, one of the strongest H₂O emitters among the Class 0 outflows.

Methods. We obtained *Herschel*-PACS maps of the IRAS 4A outflow and HIFI observations of two shocked positions. The largest HIFI beam of 38'' at 557 GHz was mapped in several key water lines with different upper energy levels, to reveal possible spatial variations of the line profiles. A large velocity gradient (LVG) analysis was performed to determine the excitation conditions of the gas.

Results. We detect four H₂O lines and CO (16–15) at the two selected shocked positions. In addition, transitions from related outflow and envelope tracers are detected. Different gas components associated with the shock are identified in the H₂O emission. In particular, at the head of the red lobe of the outflow, two distinct gas components with different excitation conditions are distinguished in the HIFI emission maps: a compact component, detected in the ground-state water lines, and a more extended one. Assuming that these two components correspond to two different temperature components observed in previous H₂O and CO studies, the LVG analysis of the H₂O emission suggests that the compact (about 3'', corresponding to about 700 AU) component is associated with a hot ($T \sim 1000$ K) gas with densities $n_{\text{H}_2} \sim (1-4) \times 10^5 \text{ cm}^{-3}$, whereas the extended (10''–17'', corresponding to 2400–4000 AU) one traces a warm ($T \sim 300-500$ K) and dense gas ($n_{\text{H}_2} \sim (3-5) \times 10^7 \text{ cm}^{-3}$). Finally, using the CO (16–15) emission observed at R2 and assuming a typical CO/H₂ abundance of 10^{-4} , we estimate the H₂O/H₂ abundance of the warm and hot components to be $(7-10) \times 10^{-7}$ and $(3-7) \times 10^{-5}$.

Conclusions. Our data allowed us, for the first time, to resolve spatially the two temperature components previously observed with HIFI and PACS. We propose that the compact hot component may be associated with the jet that impacts the surrounding material, whereas the warm, dense, and extended component originates from the compression of the ambient gas by the propagating flow.

Key words. stars: low-mass – ISM: jets and outflows – ISM: molecules – ISM: individual objects: NGC 1333-IRAS 4A – stars: formation

1. Introduction

Molecular outflows represent direct evidence of the earliest phases of star formation when collimated jets are driven (e.g., Arce et al. 2007; Ray et al. 2007). Shock fronts are generated

at the point of impact of the ejected material with the surrounding cloud, inducing changes in the chemical composition and enhancing the abundance of several species. Along with H₂ and CO, H₂O is one of the main cooling agents in shocks (Kaufman & Neufeld 1996; Flower & Pineau des Forêts 2010; Karska et al. 2013). It is also very sensitive to physical conditions and chemical processes of the shocked gas (van Dishoeck et al. 2011). An increase of the water gas-phase abundance from $<10^{-7}$ up to 3×10^{-4} is expected in warm shocked gas (≥ 100 K)

[★] PACS maps and HIFI spectra (FITS format) are only available at the CDS via anonymous ftp to cdsarc.u-strasbg.fr (130.79.128.5) or via <http://cdsarc.u-strasbg.fr/viz-bin/qcat?J/A+A/568/A125>

because of the combined effects of sputtering of ice mantles and high-temperature reactions that drive atomic oxygen into H₂O (Hollenbach & McKee 1989; Kaufman & Neufeld 1996; Flower & Pineau des Forêts 2010; Suutarinen et al. 2014).

Systematic observations of multiple H₂O transitions in prototypical star-forming regions have been conducted with *Herschel* (Pilbratt et al. 2010). Thanks to its much higher sensitivity and spectral resolution and its smaller beam size with respect to previous space missions, such as ISO, *Odin*, and SWAS, *Herschel* has provided strong constraints on the water abundance and physical conditions in water-emitting gas. In particular, the Water In Star-forming regions with *Herschel* (WISH, van Dishoeck et al. 2011) key program has been dedicated to the study of the physical and dynamical properties of water and its role in shock chemistry. The H₂O line profiles observed with the Heterodyne Instrument for the Far Infrared (HIFI, de Graauw et al. 2010) at outflow shocks show several kinematic components along with variations with excitation energy (Kristensen et al. 2012; Vasta et al. 2012; Santangelo et al. 2012). The observed H₂O emission probes warm (>200 K) and very dense gas ($n_{\text{H}_2} \gtrsim 10^6 \text{ cm}^{-3}$), which is associated with high- J CO emission (e.g. Karska et al. 2013; Santangelo et al. 2013) and is not traced by other molecules seen from the ground, such as low- J CO and SiO (e.g., Vasta et al. 2012; Nisini et al. 2013; Tafalla et al. 2013; Santangelo et al. 2013). The differences in line profiles of the various tracers also confirm the uniqueness of H₂O as a probe of shocked gas.

A two-temperature-components model has been suggested by Santangelo et al. (2013) to reproduce the H₂O, CO, and mid-IR H₂ lines, observed along the L1448 and L1157 protostellar outflows. This model consists of 1) an extended warm component ($T \sim 500$ K) traced by lower excitation H₂O emission ($E_u \lesssim 140$ K) and by CO lines up to $J = 22-21$; and 2) a compact hot component ($T \sim 1000$ K) traced by higher excitation H₂O emission and higher- J CO transitions. Two gas components with different excitation conditions have also been proposed by Busquet et al. (2014) to account for the H₂O and CO emission observed at the bright shock region B1 in the L1157 outflow. Finally, multiple-temperature components have been suggested to explain the spectrally unresolved CO ladder at the position of several Class 0 sources (e.g., Goicoechea et al. 2012; Herczeg et al. 2012; Dionatos et al. 2013; Karska et al. 2013; Manoj et al. 2013; Green et al. 2013). The nature of these two components and, notably, their spatial extent has not yet been clarified, however. To understand this problem better, maps of velocity-resolved H₂O lines that are sensitive to different excitation conditions are needed.

NGC 1333 ($d = 235$ pc, Hirota et al. 2008) is a well-studied star-forming region and contains many young stellar objects (YSOs) and outflows (e.g., Liseau et al. 1988; Bally et al. 1996; Knee & Sandell 2000). Within the region, IRAS 4A and IRAS 4B are two low-mass protostars with a projected separation of about $30''$; both have been identified as binary systems using mm interferometry (e.g., Lay et al. 1995; Looney et al. 2000; Choi 2005; Jørgensen et al. 2007). The companion to IRAS 4B is detected at a separation of $11''$, whereas IRAS 4A is resolved into two components with a separation of only $2''$. IRAS 4A is one of the youngest protobinary systems found so far, as inferred by its strong dust continuum emission with cold blackbody-like spectral energy distribution and its well-collimated outflow (e.g., Sandell et al. 1991; Blake et al. 1995), extending over arcminute scales. The IRAS 4A low-mass protostar has been the subject of extensive observations with ground-based submillimeter telescopes and interferometers

(e.g., Blake et al. 1995; Di Francesco et al. 2001; Maret et al. 2005; Choi 2005; Jørgensen et al. 2007; Yıldız et al. 2012). As part of WISH, Kristensen et al. (2010, 2012) observed several H₂O transitions towards the IRAS 4A source with *Herschel*-HIFI, showing the complex line profiles with multiple components within the HIFI beam. In the line profiles, these authors identified a broad Gaussian component ($\text{FWHM} \gtrsim 20 \text{ km s}^{-1}$) that was also detected in the CO (10–9) emission (Yıldız et al. 2013) and is associated with the molecular outflow. In addition, they identified a so-called medium-broad component, offset with respect to the source velocity and with smaller line widths ($\text{FWHM} \sim 5-10 \text{ km s}^{-1}$), which they associated with currently shocked gas close to the protostar (Kristensen et al. 2013).

In this paper, we present new *Herschel*-PACS and HIFI observations of several key H₂O lines that are sensitive to different excitation conditions, and HIFI CO (16–15) spectra at two shocked positions along the IRAS 4A outflow. The data are complemented by ground-based CO (3–2) and (6–5) maps by Yıldız et al. (2012). The goal is to study the spatial distribution of the water emission to spatially separate the multiple kinematic components that were previously detected towards the source within the HIFI beam. The observations and data reduction are described in Sect. 2. In Sect. 3 we present the observational results. The analysis and interpretation of the H₂O excitation conditions and its physical origin are discussed in Sect. 4. Finally, in Sect. 5, we present the main conclusions.

2. Observations

2.1. PACS observations

PACS maps of H₂O ($2_{12}-1_{01}$) at 1670 GHz and CO (14–13) emission were used for the analysis. The maps are presented in Fig. 1, and a summary of the observations is given in Table 1. The observations are part of the OT1 program “*Probing the physics and dynamics of the hidden warm gas in the youngest protostellar outflows*” (OT1_bnisini_1). The PACS instrument is an Integral Field Unit (IFU), consisting of a 5×5 array of spatial pixels, each covering $9''.4 \times 9''.4$, for a total field of view of $47'' \times 47''$. PACS was used in line-spectroscopy mode to obtain a spectral Nyquist-sampled raster map of IRAS 4A. The reference coordinates are at the position of IRAS 4A, $\alpha_{J2000} = 03^{\text{h}}29^{\text{m}}10^{\text{s}}.50$, $\delta_{J2000} = +31^{\circ}13'30''.9$. The diffraction-limited FWHM beam size at $179 \mu\text{m}$ is about $13''$. The data were reduced with HIPE¹ (*Herschel* Interactive Processing Environment, Ott 2010) version 9.0. Within HIPE, they were flat-fielded and flux-calibrated by comparison with observations of Neptune. The calibration uncertainty is estimated to be around 20%, based on the flux repeatability for multiple observations of the same target in different programs and on cross-calibration with HIFI and ISO. Finally, continuum subtraction was performed in IDL, and integrated line maps were obtained.

2.2. HIFI observations

We selected two active shock positions along the IRAS 4A outflow: R1 ($\alpha_{J2000} = 03^{\text{h}}29^{\text{m}}10^{\text{s}}.82$, $\delta_{J2000} = +31^{\circ}13'51''.9$), at the origin of the jet from the driving source, and R2 ($\alpha_{J2000} = 03^{\text{h}}29^{\text{m}}14^{\text{s}}.59$, $\delta_{J2000} = +31^{\circ}14'45''.8$), which is the head of the red lobe of the outflow. They appear as very bright peaks in the PACS H₂O ($2_{12}-1_{01}$) and CO (14–13) maps shown in Fig. 1.

¹ HIPE is a joint development by the *Herschel* Science Ground Segment Consortium, consisting of ESA, the NASA *Herschel* Science Center, and the HIFI, PACS and SPIRE consortia.

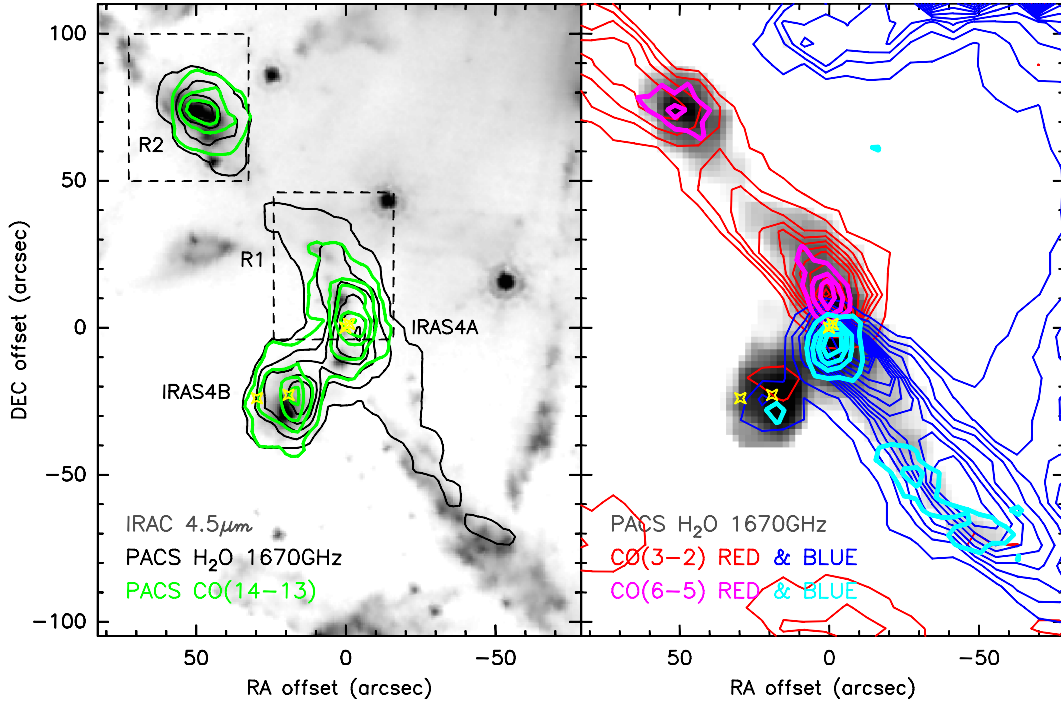


Fig. 1. PACS map of the H_2O ($2_{12}-1_{01}$) emission at 1670 GHz of the IRAS 4 region compared with the *Spitzer*-IRAC emission at $4.5 \mu\text{m}$ and the CO ($14-13$) emission in the *left panel* and with the JCMT CO ($3-2$) and APEX CO ($6-5$) emission (Yildiz et al. 2012) in the *right panel*. The CO ($3-2$) and CO ($6-5$) maps are integrated in the velocity ranges between -20 km s^{-1} and 3 km s^{-1} for the blue-shifted emission and 12 km s^{-1} and 50 km s^{-1} for the red-shifted emission. The contour levels start at the 5σ level and increase in steps of 10σ for the PACS H_2O and CO ($14-13$) maps, from the 5σ level emission in steps of 5σ for the CO ($3-2$) and from the 5σ level emission in steps of 3σ for the CO ($6-5$). Offsets are with respect to the central source IRAS 4A, at coordinates $\alpha_{\text{J2000}} = 03^{\text{h}}29^{\text{m}}10^{\text{s}}.50$, $\delta_{\text{J2000}} = +31^{\circ}13'30''.9$. The positions of the IRAS 4A and IRAS 4B binary sources are marked with yellow symbols (Looney et al. 2000). The regions mapped with HIFI in the water lines around the selected shock positions (R1 and R2) are indicated.

Table 1. Parameters of the lines mapped with PACS.

Line	Frequency (GHz)	Wavelength (μm)	E_u/k_B (K)	HPBW (arcsec)
$\text{o-H}_2\text{O}$ ($2_{12}-1_{01}$)	1669.90	179.5	114.4	13
CO ($14-13$)	1611.79	186.0	580.5	13

Notes. The observation IDs of both lines are 1342225852, 1342225853, and 1342225854.

Single-pointing observations of the $\text{o-H}_2\text{O}$ ($1_{10}-1_{01}$) line at 557 GHz and the CO ($16-15$) transition at the two selected positions were conducted with *Herschel*-HIFI in dual beam-switch and fast-chop mode. In addition, an area of size equal to the HIFI beam width at 557 GHz ($38''$) was mapped in on-the-fly mode in three other H_2O lines, spanning excitation energies E_u from 50 K to 250 K (see Table 2). The observations were carried out between July 2012 and August 2012 as part of the OT2 program “Solving the puzzle of water excitation in shocks” (OT2_gasantang_1). Contextually, the spectral set-up allowed us to observe transitions from other molecules: N_2H^+ ($6-5$), SO ($13_{14}-12_{13}$), CH_3OH ($3_{-2}-2_{-1}$), NH_3 (1_0-0_0), and ^{13}CO ($10-9$). A summary of the performed observations is given in Tables 2 and A.1.

The data were processed with the ESA-supported package HIPE version 11 for calibration. The calibration uncertainty is taken to be 20%. Further reduction of all the spectra, including baseline subtraction, and the analysis of the data were performed

using the GILDAS² software. H- and V-polarizations were co-added after inspection to increase sensitivity, since no significant differences were found between the two data sets. The calibrated T_A^* scale from the telescope was converted into the T_{mb} scale using the main-beam efficiency factors provided by Roelfsema et al. (2012)³ and reported in Table 2. At the velocity resolution of 1 km s^{-1} , the rms noise ranges between 10 mK and 20 mK (T_{mb} scale).

3. Results

Figure 1 shows the PACS maps of H_2O ($2_{12}-1_{01}$) at 1670 GHz and CO ($14-13$), in comparison with the *Spitzer*-IRAC emission at $4.5 \mu\text{m}$ and the ground-based CO ($3-2$) and CO ($6-5$) (Yildiz et al. 2012) towards the IRAS 4 region. The figure highlights the spatial correlation between H_2O , high- J CO, and *Spitzer* $4.5 \mu\text{m}$ emissions, in agreement with previous studies of outflows from low-mass protostars (e.g., Nisini et al. 2010; Santangelo et al. 2013; Tafalla et al. 2013). In particular, PACS CO ($14-13$) and APEX CO ($6-5$) emissions are spatially associated with the PACS H_2O emission, whereas the low- J CO ($3-2$) emission is more extended and offset. A sharp change of propagation direction of $\sim 30^\circ$ in the north-eastern outflow red lobe, occurring close to the R1 shock position, is visible both in H_2O and CO emission. This directional variability was previously shown by both single-dish and interferometric observations, and several mechanisms were proposed to explain it, including magnetic

² <http://www.iram.fr/IRAMFR/GILDAS/>

³ See also <http://herschel.esac.esa.int/twiki/bin/view/Public/HifiCalibrationWeb?template=viewprint>.

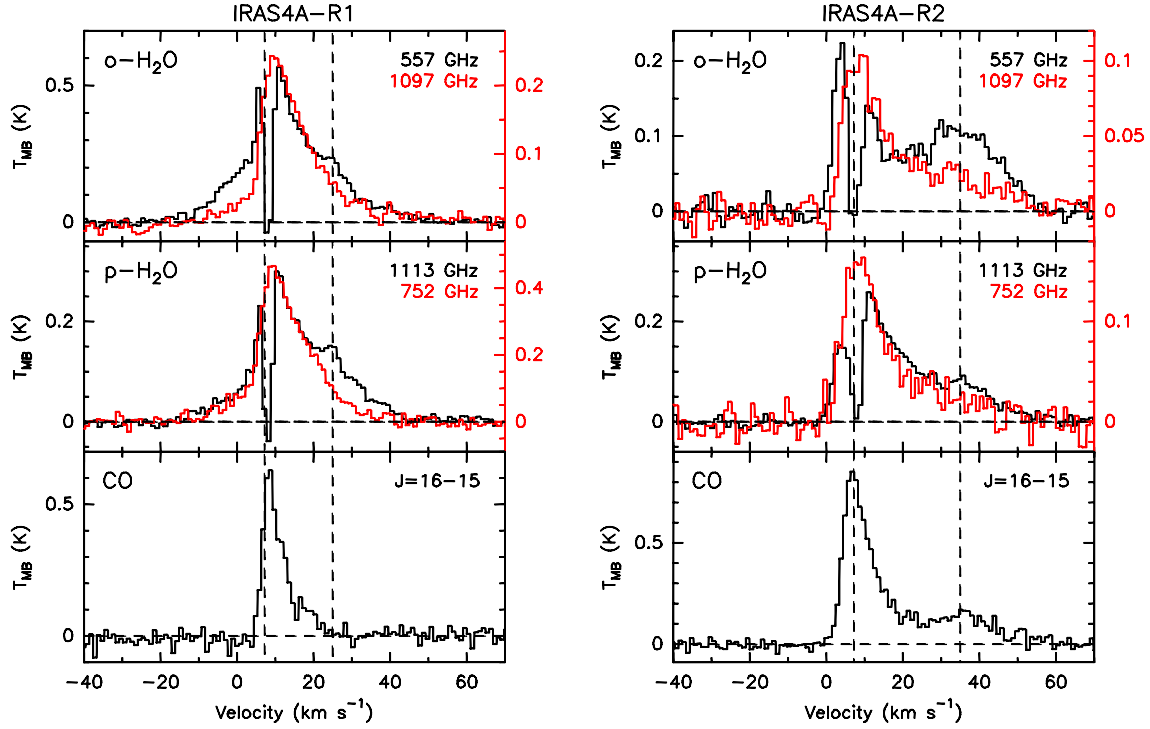


Fig. 2. HIFI spectra of the H₂O and CO transitions observed at the R1 (*left*) and R2 (*right*) shock positions along IRAS 4A. The spectra are all convolved to the same angular resolution of the H₂O (1₁₀–1₀₁) line at 557 GHz ($\sim 38''$), with the exception of the CO (16–15) line, which is a single pointing HIFI observation at $\sim 12''$ resolution. The spectra shown in red have intensities provided in the right-hand axes. The vertical dashed line marks the systemic velocity ($v_{\text{LSR}} = +7.2 \text{ km s}^{-1}$) and the H₂O secondary emission peaks at +25 and +35 km s^{−1} for R1 and R2.

Table 2. Parameters of the lines observed with HIFI.

Line	Observation ID	Band	Mode ^a	Sideband	η_{MB}	Frequency (MHz)	E_u/k_B (K)	HPBW (arcsec)
o-H ₂ O (1 ₁₀ –1 ₀₁)	1342248895, 1342248897	1	SP	LSB	0.75	556 936.07	61	38
p-H ₂ O (2 ₁₁ –2 ₀₂)	1342249432, 1342249433	2	M	USB	0.75	752 033.23	137	28
o-H ₂ O (3 ₁₂ –3 ₀₃)	1342249853, 1342249854	4	M	USB	0.74	1 097 365.05	249	19
p-H ₂ O (1 ₁₁ –0 ₀₀)	1342249021, 1342250209	4	M	USB	0.74	1 113 343.06	53	19
CO (16–15)	1342249639, 1342249640	7	SP	USB	0.70	1 841 345.51	752	12

Notes. ^(a) SP = Single Pointing mode; M = Mapping mode.

deflection, a precessing jet, and collisions with a dense core in the ambient cloud (e.g., Blake et al. 1995; Girart et al. 1999; Choi 2001, 2005; Baek et al. 2009; Choi et al. 2011; Yıldız et al. 2012). Strong H₂O emission peaks are found at the location of active shocked regions and at the position of IRAS 4A and its neighbour IRAS 4B (see also Nisini et al. 2010, 2013). In particular, the R1 and R2 shock positions appear as bright peaks in the H₂O and high-*J* CO emission, as revealed by PACS and ground-based observations.

An overview of the HIFI observations is given in Fig. 2 and Fig. A.1, where H₂O and CO spectra observed at the two selected shock positions and the spectra of additional lines detected with HIFI are shown. All H₂O spectra observed in mapping mode are convolved to the same angular resolution of $38''$ for comparison with the observations of the ground-state o-H₂O transition at 557 GHz. Several kinematic components can be distinguished in the observed H₂O line profiles at both the R1 and R2 positions. First, an absorption dip around the systemic velocity of IRAS 4A ($v_{\text{LSR}} = +7.2 \text{ km s}^{-1}$, Kristensen et al. 2012) is detected in the ground-state transitions of o- and p-H₂O (at

557 GHz and 1113 GHz), associated with cold gas in the outer envelope. Second, a triangularly shaped outflow wing is present up to about 50 km s^{−1} at R1 and about 60 km s^{−1} at R2. Third, an excess of emission at high velocity is observed in the ground-state transitions of o- and p-H₂O. This secondary high-velocity (HV) emission peak appears at a velocity of about +25 km s^{−1} and +35 km s^{−1} in R1 and R2. Similar variations of water line profiles with excitation were observed at the bow-shock positions along the red lobes of the L1448 (R4) and L1157 (R) outflows by Santangelo et al. (2012) and Vasta et al. (2012).

Figure 3 presents the H₂O 557 GHz/1097 GHz line ratio as a function of velocity for R1 and R2. Water transitions with different upper level energies were chosen and convolved to the same angular resolution of $38''$, and the ratios are plotted only for velocities where both transitions have $S/N > 3$. Neglecting the velocity range 4–10 km s^{−1}, where the absorption dip in the 557 GHz H₂O contaminates the analysis, the ratio between the o-H₂O (1₁₀–1₀₁) and o-H₂O (3₁₂–3₀₃) lines increases significantly with velocity, reflecting the fact that the secondary HV peak at both R1 and R2 appears in the lower excitation energy transitions

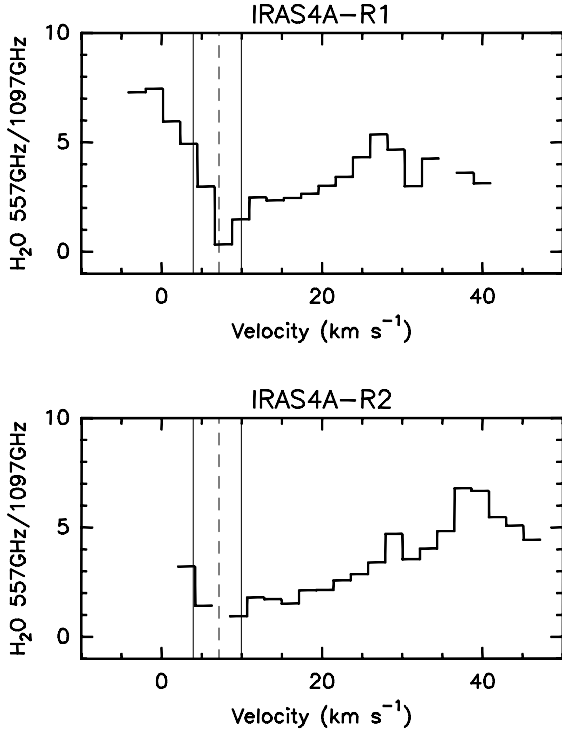


Fig. 3. Ratio between the o-H₂O ($1_{10}-1_{01}$) (at 557 GHz) and o-H₂O ($3_{12}-3_{03}$) (at 1097 GHz) lines as a function of velocity at the two observed shock positions R1 (*upper panel*) and R2 (*lower panel*). The 1097 GHz water spectra are convolved to the same angular resolution as the 557 GHz spectra, i.e., 38". The line ratios are plotted only where the S/N ratio is higher than three for the two lines, at a spectral resolution of 2 km s⁻¹. The vertical dashed line indicates the source velocity, whereas the solid vertical lines mark the velocity range of the absorption dip (4–10 km s⁻¹).

(see Fig. 2). Finally, we note that the increasing trend is stronger at R2, the shock position farthest from the central driving source. We point out that these findings for the shock positions are in contrast to observations of H₂O emission lines at the central protostellar positions, which show constant line ratios (Mottram et al., in prep.).

Recent studies have shown that high- J CO emission is associated with H₂O emission, corresponding to a warm ($\gtrsim 300$ K) and dense ($n_{\text{H}_2} \gtrsim 10^6$ cm⁻³) gas component (e.g., Karska et al. 2013; Santangelo et al. 2013). This finding is consistent with our CO (16–15) observations at R2, showing a similar line profile as the ground-state water velocities, that is, strong, broad emission around the systemic velocity of the source and an HV emission peak. We note that the detection of a secondary HV emission component at R2 in the H₂O 557 GHz and in the CO (16–15) lines, with angular resolutions of about 38" and 12", suggests that this emission is associated with a compact gas component centred on the shock. Therefore, the non-detection of this HV emission peak in the higher-excitation, smaller-beam size H₂O transitions is probably due to an excitation effect, with the HV component being less excited than the low-velocity (LV) component, as previously found in the L1448 and L1157 bow shock positions (e.g., Vasta et al. 2012; Santangelo et al. 2012).

On the other hand, at the R1 position no clear secondary peak around +25 km s⁻¹ is detected in CO (16–15). This difference possibly arises because the HV peak is spatially shifted towards IRAS 4A by $\sim 10''$ with respect to R1, while the CO (16–15) was observed with a beam size of 12" (see also Sect. 3.1 and Figs. 7 and 8).

3.1. Water spatial distribution

Figure 4 shows the HIFI spectra at 1113 GHz observed around the R1 and R2 shock positions. The figure highlights the variation of the water line profiles around the shocked regions.

From examining the R1 position, we note that the H₂O line profiles close to IRAS 4A resemble those along the outflow, which testifies that the outflow dominates the water profiles. This similarity is even clearer when we compare the H₂O profiles centred at R1 and at IRAS 4A (Fig. 5). The p-H₂O 1113 GHz spectra show the same profile in the red-shifted emission, although the on-source position is brighter than R1. On the other hand, the H₂O profiles of the higher excitation energy H₂O 1097 GHz line appear to be different, with the on-source position being fainter than R1. This difference suggests that at R1 the excitation conditions of the H₂O emitting gas are different from the conditions at the position of the central source. In addition, in the on-source spectra, significant blue-shifted emission is detected that is not seen at the R1 position. The blue wing presents an excess of emission at ~ 0 km s⁻¹ (-7 km s⁻¹ with respect to the source velocity), which is quite symmetric in the 1113 GHz line with respect to the red-shifted secondary peak. Kristensen et al. (2013) interpreted this blue-shifted H₂O component as originating from a compact dissociative shock close to the protostar. We remark that our profiles present some differences with those presented in Kristensen et al. (2013); in the latter, for example, the secondary red-shifted peak is not as bright and the relative intensity of the low- and high-velocity blue-shifted components is significantly different. These differences are probably due to the different observation pointings. However, Kristensen et al. (2013) suggested that time variability might also change the H₂O line profiles.

The R2 position, which is a pure shock position far from the driving source of the outflow, is a very interesting laboratory to study the water distribution around shocks. Our HIFI observations clearly show that the different water kinematic components mentioned above (see Sect. 3 and Fig. 2) are not uniformly distributed across the mapped region (Fig. 4). In particular, the HV peak is observed only at the bright shock peak, but is not detected in water line profiles offset from the shock position, which show a triangular wing shape. These two types of line profiles probably indicate two different gas components in the water emission: a compact gas component, located at the shock peak and associated with the HV peak, and a more diffuse component. The difference is shown in the left panel of Fig. 6, where line emission from the R2 position and a position (10", -10") offset from the R2 shock are chosen as representative. An emission residual between the two spectra is also displayed. The spectrum associated with the compact component shows an excess of emission at the systemic velocity and at the HV peak with respect to the extended component. The two detected components are therefore not kinematically distinct, since the velocity range of the emission is the same in both cases. Thus, it would not have been possible to distinguish them within the 38" beam size of single-pointing observations.

In Fig. 7, the maps of the H₂O 1113 GHz emission, integrated in the three velocity ranges reported in the caption and corresponding to blue-shifted emission, LV red-wing emission, and HV emission peak, are presented for the R1 (upper panel) and the R2 (lower panel) positions, in comparison with the H₂O 1670 GHz PACS map. Blue-shifted emission is only detected close to the central source IRAS 4A. At R1, the HV-peak emission appears to have a compact distribution, spatially associated with IRAS 4A, whereas the LV-wing emission is elongated in the outflow red-lobe direction. In contrast, no significant difference

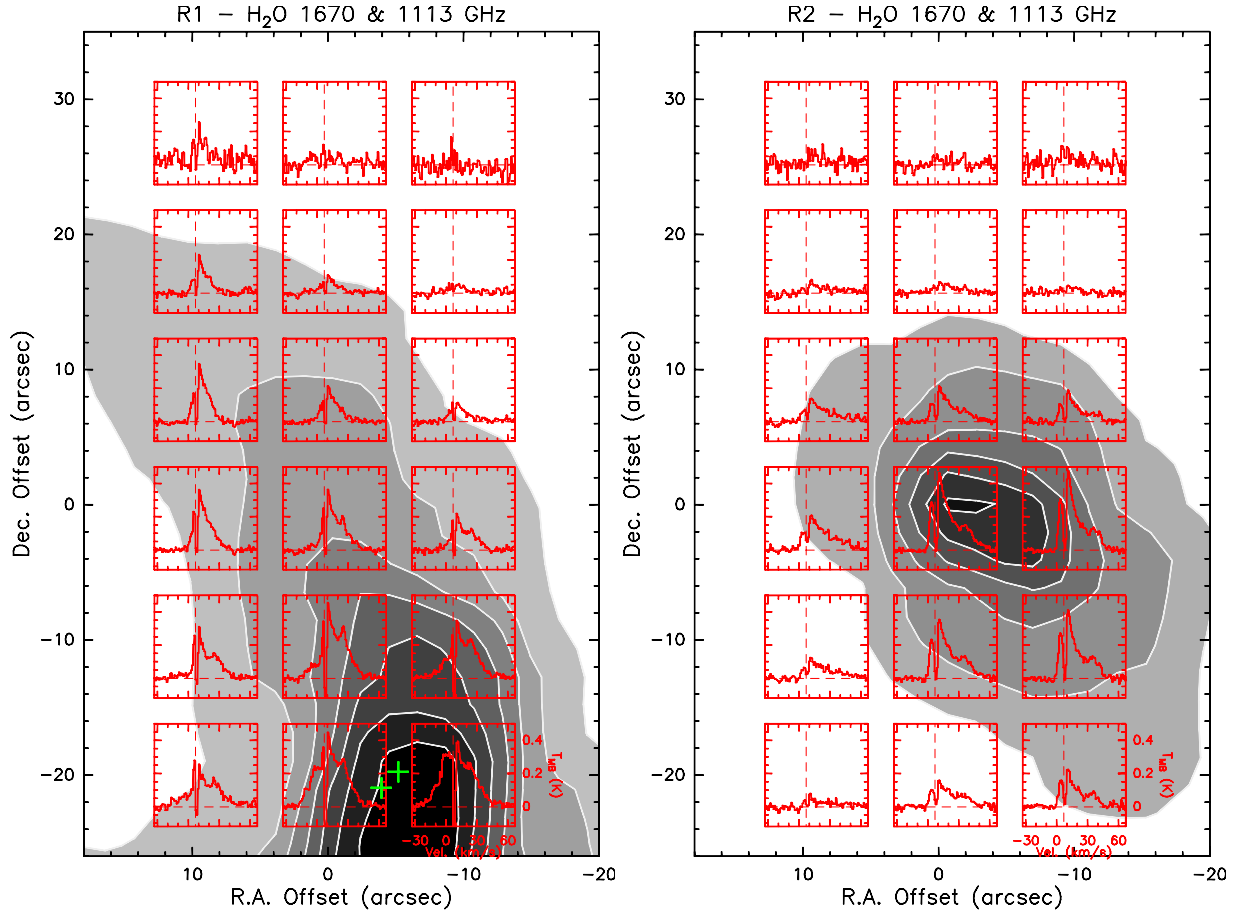


Fig. 4. HIFI spectra of the 1113 GHz H_2O line, mapped at R1 (*left*) and R2 (*right*). The spectra are overlaid on the respective PACS H_2O map at 1670 GHz (grey scale and white contours). Offsets are with respect to the R1 and R2 shock positions. The IRAS 4A binary source position is marked with green crosses.

between the LV-wing and the HV-peak emission can be observed at R2 at this angular resolution ($19''$, corresponding to about 4500 AU) with both distributions appearing unresolved. This difference is discussed in more detail in Sect. 4.

Similar conclusions can be drawn at R1 from Fig. 8, where the CO (3–2) emission is integrated in the same velocity ranges as adopted for the H_2O maps of Fig. 7. The HV-peak emission appears to be more compact than the LV-wing emission and shifted with respect to R1 towards IRAS 4A. We note that a second north-eastern emission peak can be identified in the HV-peak emission, which is not associated with bright PACS H_2O 179 μm emission. A different situation with respect to the H_2O 1113 GHz emission is observed at R2 in the CO (3–2) emission, however. Here, the HV-peak emission shows a compact distribution that is not resolved on an angular scale of $14''$ and spatially associated with the H_2O emission at 179 μm . In contrast, the LV-wing emission is associated with a diffuse gas component, following the outflow direction, and is spatially more extended than the H_2O emission. The CO (3–2) observations thus seem to support the scenario of two distinct gas components in the R2 shock position.

Finally, a comparison between the CO (3–2) spectra observed at R2 and at a position ($10''$, $-10''$) offset from the shock is presented in the right panel of Fig. 6. Although the CO (3–2) spectra show different line profiles in the LV emission with respect to H_2O , once more, they indicate that the HV peak is

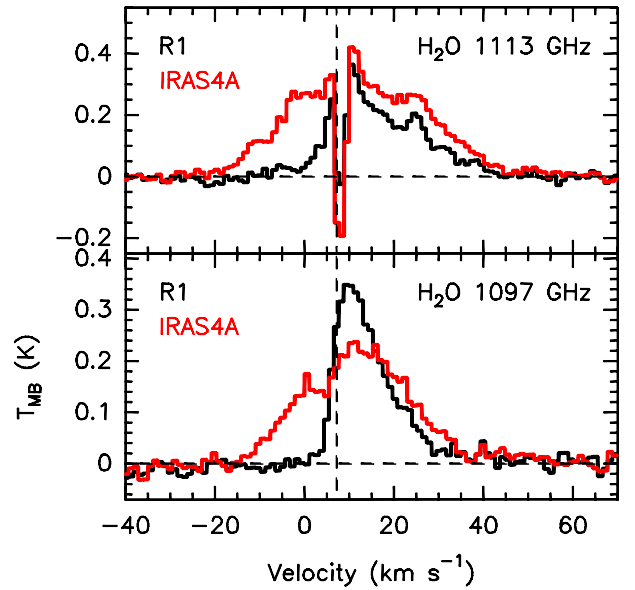


Fig. 5. Comparison between the H_2O ($1_{11}-0_{00}$) (1113 GHz) and ($3_{12}-3_{03}$) (1097 GHz) line profiles at R1 and on the IRAS 4A source. The vertical dashed line indicates the source velocity.

associated with a compact gas component not detected in the more diffuse LV gas.

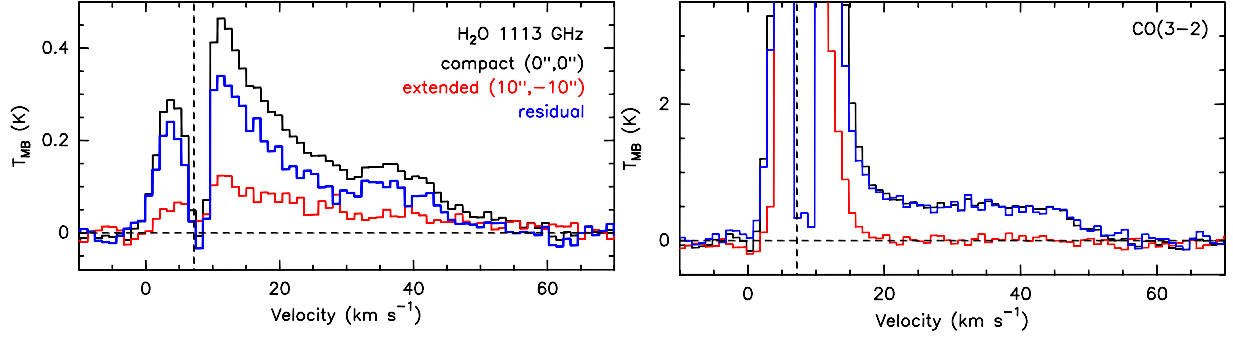


Fig. 6. *Left:* comparison between the H₂O $1_{11}-0_{00}$ emission at 1113 GHz (19'' beam size) at the R2 shock position (black), corresponding to the compact gas component, and that at the offset position (10'', -10'') with respect to R2 (red), corresponding to the extended component. The residual spectrum, given by the difference between the two displayed spectra, is shown in blue. Offsets are with respect to R2. The vertical dashed line indicates the source velocity. *Right:* same as the left panel for the CO (3-2) emission.

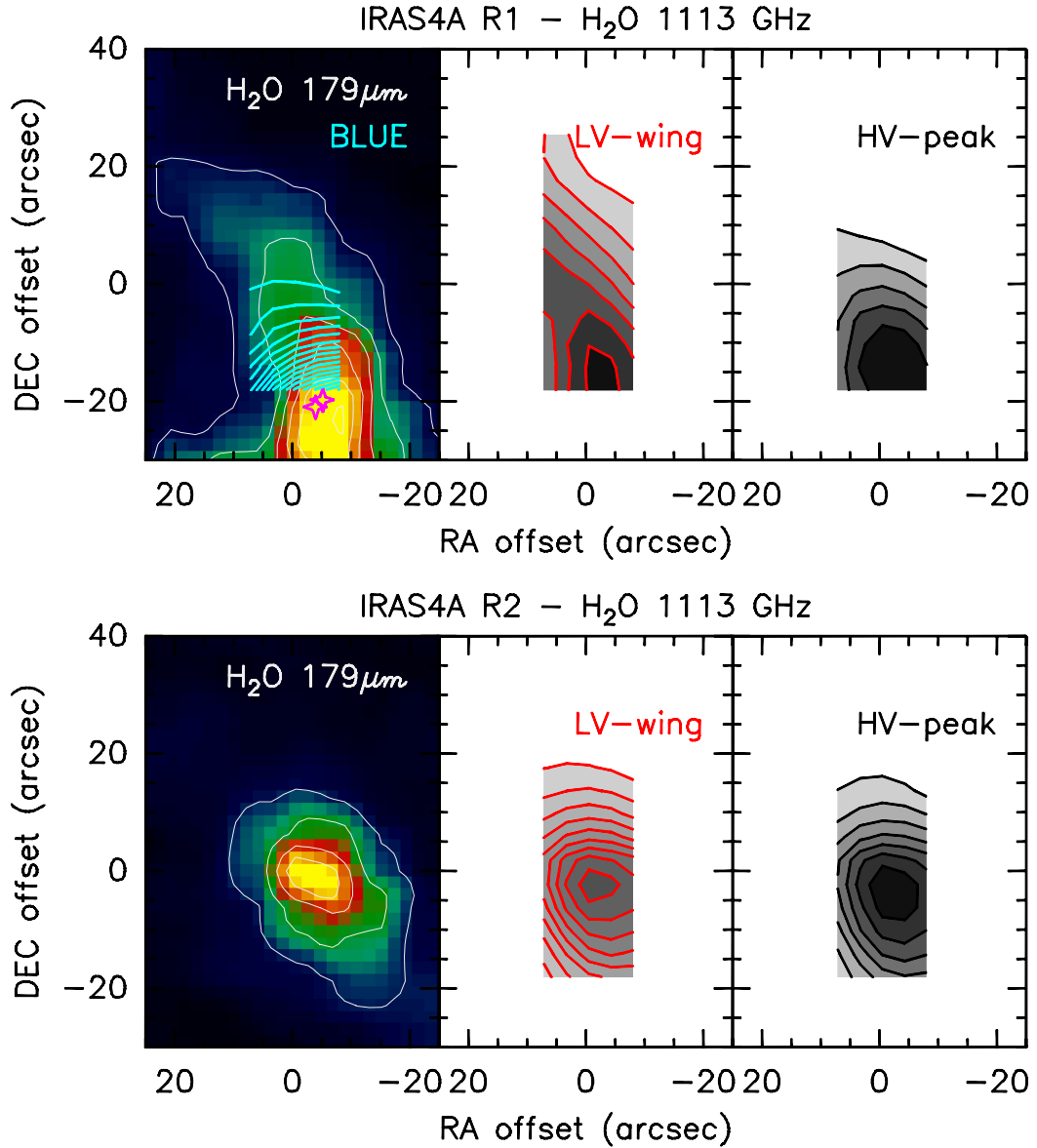


Fig. 7. Velocity-integrated maps of the HIFI H₂O 1113 GHz emission at the R1 (*upper panel*) and R2 (*lower panel*) positions compared with the PACS H₂O 179 μm map. At R1, the H₂O 1113 GHz emission is integrated in three velocity ranges: the blue-shifted emission (between -20 km s⁻¹ and 3 km s⁻¹), the low-velocity (LV) wing emission (between 11 km s⁻¹ and 20 km s⁻¹), and the high-velocity (HV) emission peak (between 20 km s⁻¹ and 30 km s⁻¹). At R2, two velocity ranges are considered: the LV wing emission (between 11 km s⁻¹ and 30 km s⁻¹) and the HV emission peak (between 30 km s⁻¹ and 45 km s⁻¹). The contour levels start from the 5σ level and increase in steps of 10σ for the PACS 179 μm emission and in steps of 3σ for the HIFI 1113 GHz emission. Offsets are with respect to the R1 and R2 shock positions. The magenta symbols represent the position of the IRAS 4A binary source.

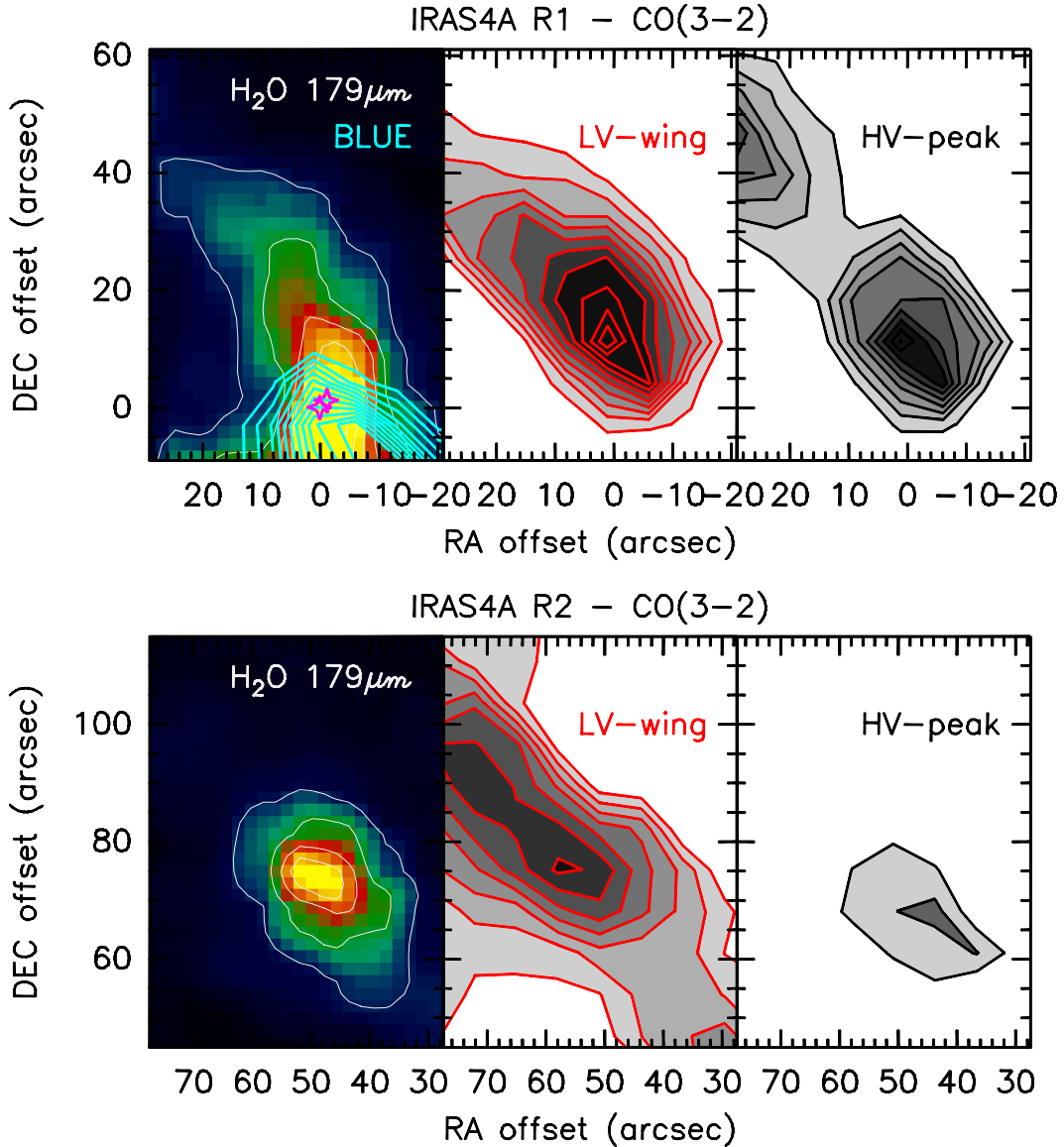


Fig. 8. Same as Fig. 7 for the CO (3–2) emission. Offsets here are with respect to the central source IRAS 4A.

We note that, because of the low sensitivity in the line wings, the APEX CO (6–5) data do not detect HV line emission and thus cannot be used to analyse the two spatial components observed in the H₂O and CO (3–2) lines.

4. Two gas components in shocked H₂O emission

To investigate the presence of two distinct gas components at R2, we compared their associated H₂O line ratios with respect to the higher excitation energy H₂O 1097 GHz line (Fig. 9). We assumed that the compact gas component dominates the H₂O emission at the R2 shock position while the extended component dominates the H₂O emission at the position (10'', –10'') offset from R2, as supported by the difference in the observed line profiles (see Figs. 4 and 6). The line intensities are integrated only in the line wings, between 10 km s^{–1} and 60 km s^{–1}, because of the absorption dip at the source systemic velocity. The two distinct gas components with different excitation conditions at R2 are confirmed by the significantly different associated water line ratios. In particular, the three measured line ratios are higher in the compact component, which is consistent with this

component being less excited than the extended one and detected only in the lower excitation water lines.

To characterize the two gas components at R2 in terms of excitation conditions, we ran the radex non-LTE molecular LVG radiative transfer code (van der Tak et al. 2007) in plane-parallel geometry, with collisional rate coefficients from Dubernet et al. (2006, 2009) and Daniel et al. (2010, 2011) and molecular data from the Leiden Atomic and Molecular Database (LAMDA⁴, Schöier et al. 2005). A grid of models with density ranging between 10⁴ cm^{–3} and 10⁸ cm^{–3} and temperatures ranging between 100 K and 1600 K was built. Two values of o-H₂O column density were considered, corresponding to optically thin and moderately thick water emission. We adopted a typical line width of 20 km s^{–1} for both components from the HIFI spectra and an H₂O ortho-to-para ratio equal to 3 (Emprechtinger et al. 2013), corresponding to the high-temperature equilibrium value. The ratio between the p-H₂O 1113 GHz and the o-H₂O 1097 GHz lines with similar beam sizes (19'') was considered to avoid beam-filling problems. The line-wing intensities

⁴ <http://www.strw.leidenuniv.nl/~moldata/>

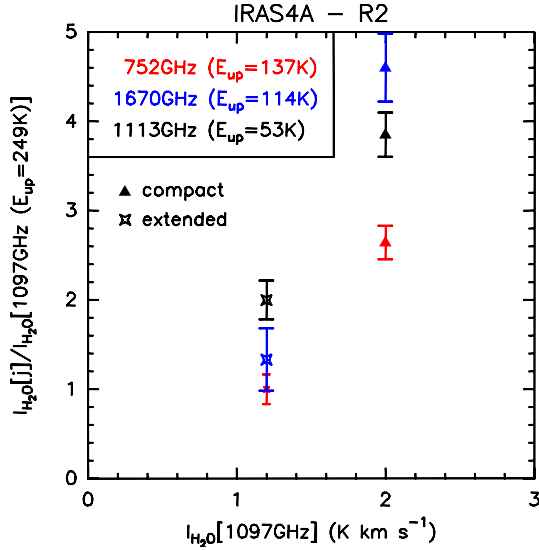


Fig. 9. H₂O line ratios with respect to the o-H₂O (3₁₂–3₀₃) line at 1097 GHz measured at the R2 shock position, corresponding to the compact component, and at the offset position (10'', –10'') with respect to R2, corresponding to the extended component. The HIFI water line intensities are integrated in the line wings (see Fig. 10) at the original angular resolution of the spectra (see Table 2), while the intensity of the H₂O line at 1670 GHz in the two gas components is measured from the PACS map by averaging over 19''. The intensity of the H₂O (2₁₁–2₀₂) line at 752 GHz associated with the compact component is corrected for the beam size ratio with respect to the 1097 GHz line (28''/19''), assuming the source to be point-like.

(between 10 km s^{–1} and 60 km s^{–1}) were measured at the same chosen positions corresponding to the two gas components. A comparison between the observed and predicted water line ratios as a function of the H₂ density for four values of temperature (100 K, 300 K, 500 K, and 1000 K) is presented in Fig. 10. In both cases, the low-density regime can be excluded, meaning that a gas density $n \gtrsim 10^5$ cm^{–3} is required. Such high densities are consistent with HIFI CS (12–11) observations⁵ at a similar position about (9'', 4'') offset from R1 (Gómez-Ruiz et al., in prep.), suggesting that gas densities in excess of 10⁵ cm^{–3} are needed to reproduce the CS (12–11) intensity in the line wing. They are also consistent with JCMT observations of broad CS (10–9) emission at the position of the IRAS 4A central source, probing warm and dense gas (Jørgensen et al. 2005).

To investigate the excitation conditions of the two H₂O components at R2 in detail, we assumed that these components correspond to the warm and hot components found in previous works, that is, the warm component at about 300–500 K and the hot component at about 1000 K (see Santangelo et al. 2013; Busquet et al. 2014). By assuming these temperatures and modelling the observed H₂O 1113/1097 GHz line ratio and the intensity of the H₂O 1097 GHz line using the radex LVG code, we find that the hot component is associated with small emitting sizes (about 3'', corresponding to about 700 AU), gas densities $n_{\text{H}_2} \sim (1\text{--}4) \times 10^5$ cm^{–3}, and o-H₂O column densities $\sim (0.5\text{--}1) \times 10^{16}$ cm^{–2} (corresponding to $\tau_{557 \text{ GHz}} \sim 15\text{--}40$ at the peak of the H₂O emission). The warm component is instead more extended (sizes of about 10''–17'', corresponding to 2400–4000 AU) and associated with higher gas densities $n_{\text{H}_2} \sim (3\text{--}5) \times 10^7$ cm^{–3} and lower o-H₂O column densities

$\sim (1\text{--}2) \times 10^{13}$ cm^{–2} (corresponding to optically thin H₂O emission, with $\tau_{557 \text{ GHz}} \sim 0.04$). The derived sizes for the extended and compact components are consistent with the fact that we cannot spatially resolve and separate them in the H₂O emission with angular resolutions higher than 19'' (see Fig. 7), while they can be spatially distinguished in the CO (3–2) emission, where the angular resolution is higher (14'', see Fig. 8).

Next, we used the CO (16–15) emission observed at R2 to estimate the H₂O abundance of the two spatial components. Since similar line profiles are observed for CO (16–15) and H₂O at this position (see Sect. 3 and Fig. 2), we can assume that they share a common origin, meaning that the excitation conditions of CO (16–15) are the same as derived for H₂O in both components. Since the CO (16–15) spectrum at R2 is a single-pointing observation, however, we cannot spatially separate the emission from the two components as we did with H₂O. Although the two components are not kinematically distinct (see Sect. 3.1), a crude way of separating their relative contribution to the intensity of the single observed CO (16–15) spectrum and thus deriving rough estimates of the H₂O abundance, is to separate them in velocity; hence, we attribute the velocity range from +11 km s^{–1} to +30 km s^{–1} to the extended component and from 30 km s^{–1} to 45 km s^{–1} to the compact one, as suggested by the velocity-integrated maps of CO (3–2) (Fig. 8) and the CO (16–15) line profile. Assuming for each component the same excitation conditions and emission sizes as derived from H₂O, we obtain CO column densities of about 2×10^{15} cm^{–2} and 2×10^{16} cm^{–2} for the extended and compact components, respectively, which correspond to an H₂O/H₂ abundance of about $(7\text{--}10) \times 10^{-7}$ for the warm extended component and $(3\text{--}7) \times 10^{-5}$ for the hot compact component (assuming a typical CO/H₂ abundance of 10^{–4}). The low fractional H₂O abundance associated with the warm gas component agrees with other studies of molecular outflows (e.g., Bjerkeli et al. 2012; Vasta et al. 2012; Nisini et al. 2013; Santangelo et al. 2013; Tafalla et al. 2013; Busquet et al. 2014). Moreover, our finding of higher fractional H₂O abundance in the hot gas is consistent with ISO data (e.g., Giannini et al. 2001) and previous *Herschel* observations of shocked gas along the L1448 and L1157 outflows (e.g., Santangelo et al. 2013; Busquet et al. 2014).

We speculate that the compact hot component, detected in the H₂O emission at R2, may be associated with the jet that impacts the surrounding material. Conversely, the warm, dense, and extended component originates from the compression of the ambient gas by the propagating flow. This picture was recently proposed by Busquet et al. (2014) for the L1157 outflow. Our data, however, allow for the first time to spatially resolve these two gas components through emission maps and confirm this scenario. We point out that high-angular resolution observations are crucial to probe the structure of the investigated shock region in depth.

5. Conclusions

We performed *Herschel*-HIFI observations of two shock positions (R1 and R2) along the IRAS 4A outflow. An area corresponding to the size of the largest HIFI beam of 38'' at 557 GHz was mapped in several key water lines with different upper level energies to study the water spatial distribution and to separate spatially different gas components associated with the shock. The main results of the work can be summarized as follows:

1. At both selected shock positions, we detect four H₂O lines with upper energy levels in the range 50–250 K and

⁵ The data are part of the OT1 program “Peering into the protostellar shocks: NH₃ emission at high-velocities”.

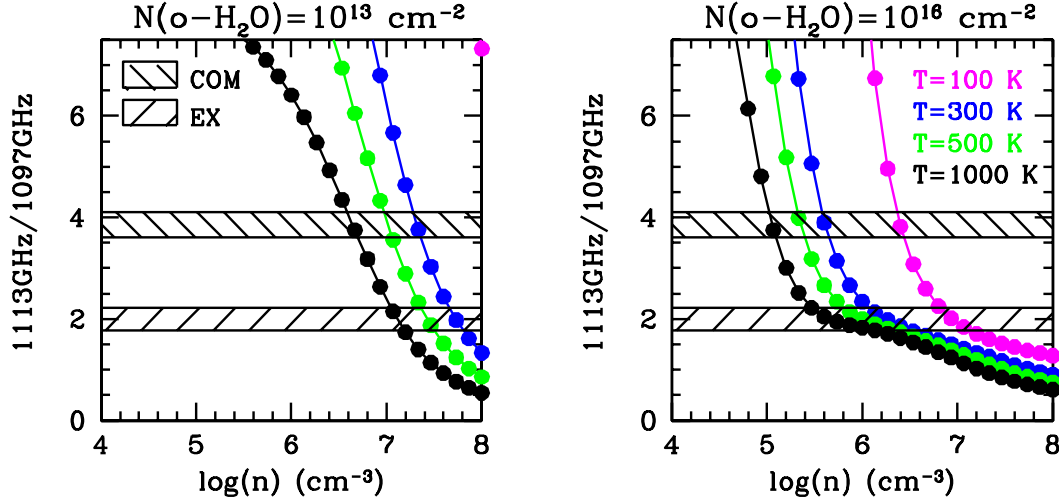


Fig. 10. Radex predictions for the ratio between the p-H₂O (1₁₁–0₀₀) (at 1113 GHz) and the o-H₂O (3₁₂–3₀₃) (at 1097 GHz) lines as a function of the H₂ density for four values of kinetic temperature (100, 300, 500, and 1000 K) and two values of o-H₂O column density (10¹³ and 10¹⁶ cm⁻²). The shaded bands represent the water ratios observed for the compact and extended components at R2, i.e., the R2 position and a position (10'', –10'') offset from R2. The HIFI water line intensities are integrated in the line wings, between 10 and 60 km s⁻¹, at the original angular resolution of the spectra (19'').

Table A.1. Parameters of additional lines observed with HIFI.

Line	Observation ID	Band	Mode ^a	Sideband	η_{MB}	Frequency (MHz)	E_u/k_B (K)	HPBW (arcsec)	R1	R2 (x = yes)
N ₂ H ⁺ (6–5)	1342248895, 1342248897	1	SP	LSB	0.75	558966.50	94	38	x	–
SO (13 ₁₄ –12 ₁₃)	1342248895, 1342248897	1	SP	LSB	0.75	560178.65	193	38	x	–
CH ₃ OH (3 ₋₂ –2 ₋₁)	1342248895, 1342248897	1	SP	USB	0.75	568566.05	40	38	x	–
NH ₃ (1 ₀ –0 ₀)	1342248895, 1342248897	1	SP	USB	0.75	572498.16	27	37	x	–
¹³ CO (10–9)	1342249853, 1342249854	4	M	LSB	0.74	1101349.66	291	19	x	x

Notes. ^(a) SP = Single Pointing mode; M = Mapping mode.

- CO (16–15). In addition, transitions from related outflow and envelope tracers are detected.
- At the R2 shock position, the head of the red-lobe of the outflow, two gas components with different excitation conditions are detected from the HIFI maps: a compact component, detected in the ground-state water lines, and a more extended component. They are not kinematically distinct, since the velocity range of the emission is similar in both cases, thus they cannot be distinguished within the large *Herschel* beam sizes of 19'' and 38'' at the frequencies of the ground-state H₂O transitions.
- The LVG analysis of the H₂O emission suggests that the compact (about 3'') component is associated with a hot ($T \sim 1000$ K) gas with densities $n_{\text{H}_2} \sim (1-4) \times 10^5$ cm⁻³, while the extended (10''–17'') component traces a warm ($T \sim 300-500$ K) and dense ($n_{\text{H}_2} \sim (3-5) \times 10^7$ cm⁻³) gas.
- From a crude comparison between H₂O and CO (16–15) emission observed at R2, we estimate the H₂O/H₂ abundance of the warm and hot components to be $(7-10) \times 10^{-7}$ and $(3-7) \times 10^{-5}$.

Our H₂O emission maps allow us, for the first time, to spatially resolve these two temperature components that were previously observed with HIFI and PACS. We suggest that the compact hot component is associated with the jet that impacts the surrounding material, while the warm, dense, and extended one

originates from the compression of ambient gas by the propagating flow.

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Appendix A: Additional lines observed with HIFI

The spectra of additional lines detected within the HIFI bands are presented in Fig. A.1 and summarized in Table A.1. We note that the R1 shock position seems to be more chemically rich than R2; more molecules are detected at R1 than at R2. The profiles of the lines detected at R1 show a red-wing component associated with the outflow and a low-velocity emission component possibly associated with the chemically enriched envelope material. The latter is clearly associated with the detection of N₂H⁺ and

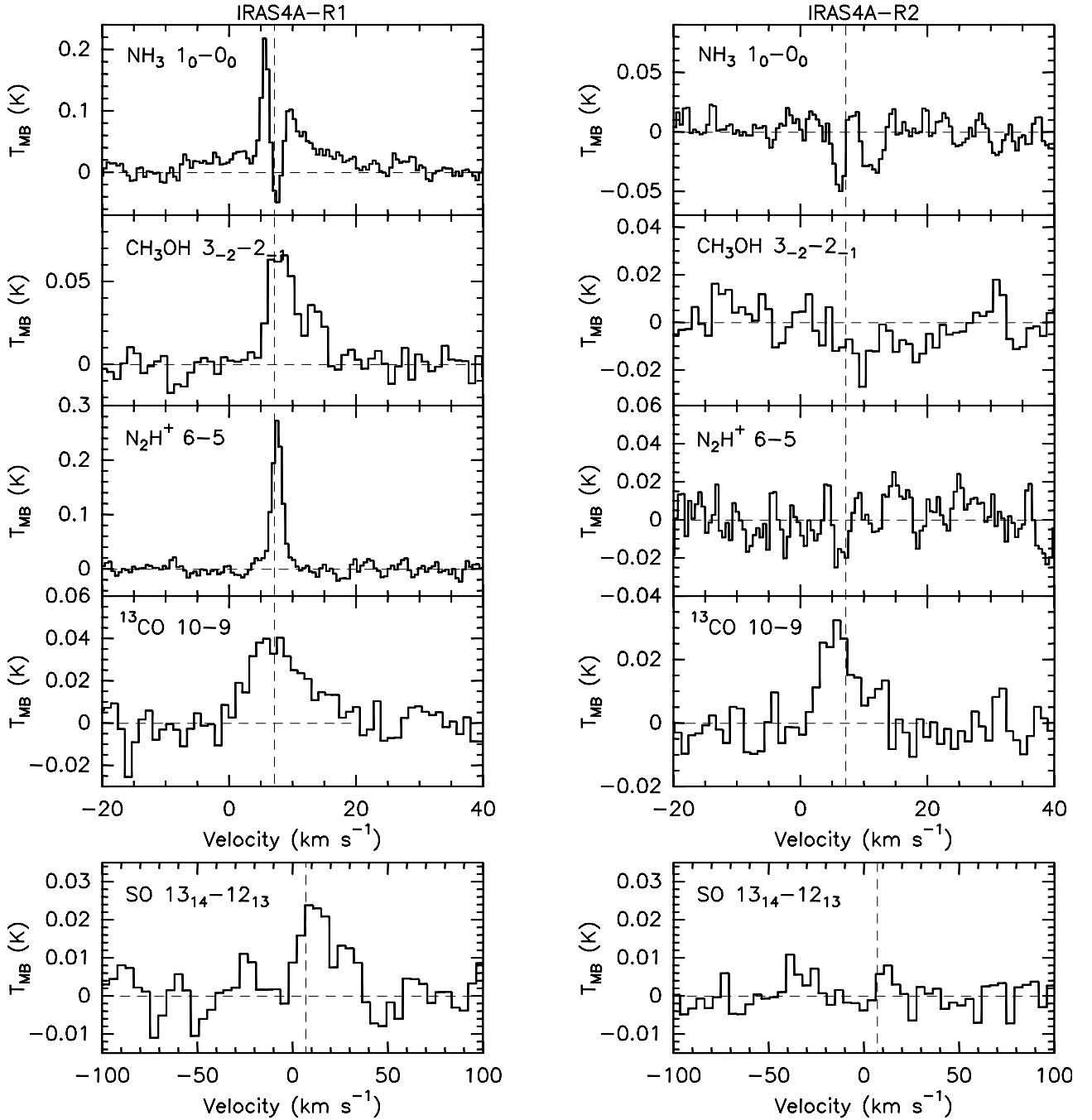


Fig. A.1. Additional lines observed with HIFI at the selected shock positions. All observations were taken in single-pointing mode, with the exception of the ^{13}CO (10–9) line. The absorption features seen in the NH_3 spectrum at R2 are due to contamination from emission in the off-source reference position.

the absorption dip, centred at the source velocity, present in the NH_3 spectrum. This detection is consistent with the beam size of the observations being large enough (about $38''$) to encompass part of the emission associated with the central driving source of the outflow, along with the emission coming from the outflow itself. We finally point out that the absorption features seen in the NH_3 spectrum at R2 are due to contamination from emission in the off-source reference position.

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