Revealing the velocity structure of the filamentary nebula in NGC 1275 in its entirety

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ABSTRACT
We have produced for the first time a detailed velocity map of the giant filamentary nebula surrounding NGC 1275, the Perseus cluster’s brightest galaxy, and revealed a previously unknown rich velocity structure across the entire nebula. We present new observations of the low-velocity component of this nebula with the optical imaging Fourier transform spectrometer SITELLE at CFHT. With its wide field of view (∼11′ × 11′), SITELLE is the only integral field unit spectroscopy instrument able to cover the 80 kpc × 55 kpc (3.8′ × 2.6′) large nebula in NGC 1275. Our analysis of these observations shows a smooth radial gradient of the [N II]6583/Hα line ratio, suggesting a change in the ionization mechanism and source across the nebula, while the dispersion profile shows a general decrease with increasing distance from the AGN at up to ∼ 10 kpc. The velocity map shows no visible general trend or rotation, indicating that filaments are not falling uniformly onto the galaxy, nor being pulled out from it. Comparison between the physical properties of the filaments and Hitomi measurements of the X-ray gas dynamics in Perseus are also explored.

Key words: Galaxies: NGC 1275 - Galaxies: clusters: individual: Perseus cluster

1 INTRODUCTION
The central dominant galaxy of the Perseus galaxy cluster, NGC 1275, is surrounded by a giant filamentary emission-line nebula. Such nebulae, with Hα luminosities as high as several 1042 erg/s, are not rare among clusters having peaked X-ray surface brightness distributions like Perseus, known as cool core clusters (e.g. Crawford et al. 1999). However, the filamentary nebula in NGC 1275 extends over 80 kpc × 55 kpc (3.8′ × 2.6′) and is therefore among the largest known in any cluster (e.g. McDonald et al. 2012; Hamer et al. 2016). The origin of these nebulae (residual cooling flow, merger gas accretion or dragged gas) and source of ionization (heat conduction from the ICM, shocks or turbulent mixing) are not yet clear. The ionization source does not appear to be related to star formation as the line ratios are different from those in H II regions (e.g. Kent & Sargent 1979). These nebulae therefore constitute an active area of research for our understanding of how phenomena such as shocks heat and ionize their surrounding medium.

Being the cluster’s brightest galaxy (BCG) in Perseus, NGC 1275 resides in a complex environment, both internally perturbed by the nuclear outbursts of its active galactic nuclei (AGN) and externally affected by interactions with its surrounding environment. As the brightest cluster in the X-ray sky (Forman et al. 1972), it has been observed across all the electromagnetic spectrum, revealing a variety of struc-
tures. X-ray observations of the intracluster medium (ICM) have shown a succession of cavities created by the jets of the central supermassive black hole, pushing away the cluster gas and leaving buoyantly rising bubbles filled with radio emission (e.g. Fabian et al. 2011).

First observed by Minkowski (1957) and Lynds (1970), the nebula surrounding NGC 1275 consists of two distinct components: a high-velocity system ($\sim 8200 \text{ km s}^{-1}$, HV) corresponding to a foreground galaxy, and a low-velocity system ($\sim 5200 \text{ km s}^{-1}$, LV) associated with NGC 1275. HST observations of the LV system have revealed a threadlike filamentary composition, some only 70 pc wide and 6 kpc long (Fabian et al. 2008). The brighter filaments have soft X-ray counterparts (Fabian et al. 2003) and Karl G. Jansky Very Large Array 230-470 MHz observations show a spur of emission in the direction of the northern filament (Gendron-Marsolais et al. 2017). Cold molecular gas are associated with some of the filaments, e.g. CO (Salomé et al. 2006; Ho et al. 2009; Salomé et al. 2011) and H$_2$ (Lim et al. 2012).

The nebula was imaged by Conselice et al. (2001) in its full extent with high-resolution imaging, integral field and long-slit spectroscopy (WIYN & KPNO). The authors produced a first velocity map of the central $\sim 45''$ (16 kpc), revealing evidence for rotation, and suggested that the filaments were being formed through compression of the hot ICM by the AGN outflows of NGC 1275. Further observations from the Gemini Multi-Object Spectrograph along six slits aligned with 2-3 filaments showed evidence of outflowing gas and flow patterns (Hatch et al. 2006). Overall, this suggests that these filamentary nebulae could be formed by gas being dragged out from the rise of AGN radio bubbles in the ICM and stabilized by magnetic fields (Fabian et al. 2003; Hatch et al. 2006; Fabian et al. 2008). This is further supported by the presence of a horseshoe-shaped filament, bending behind the North-West outer cavity, similarly to the toroidal flow pattern trailing behind a buoyant gas bubble in a liquid. Under this assumption, the loop-like X-ray structure extending at the end of the northern filament would then be a fallback of gas dragged out to the north by previously formed bubbles (Fabian et al. 2011). However, the H$\alpha$ emission found in several core cool core clusters’ BCGs is delimited within their cooling radius and a strong correlation has been found between H$\alpha$ luminosity and the X-ray cooling flow rate of the host cluster (McDonald et al. 2010). This suggests that the ionized gas may be linked to the ICM and a radially infalling cooling flow model is favoured.

NGC 1275 is one of the richest nebulae to study due to its proximity and the complexity of its structures. In this article, we present new observations of NGC 1275 obtained with SITELLE, a new optical imaging Fourier transform spectrometer at Canada-France-Hawaii Telescope (CFHT). Unlike previous IFU observations of NGC 1275, its wide field of view ($11' \times 11'$) covers the large nebula in its entirety. To directly compare our results with Hitomi Collaboration et al. (2017), we adopt a redshift of $z = 0.017284$ for NGC 1275, corresponding to an angular scale of 21.2 kpc arcmin$^{-1}$. This corresponds to a luminosity distance of 73.5 Mpc, assuming $H_0 = 69.6 \text{ km s}^{-1}\text{Mpc}^{-1}$, $\Omega_M = 0.286$ and $\Omega_{\text{vac}} = 0.714$.

**Figure 1.** Mean integrated flux SN3 filter image centered on NGC 1275. The HV system and the different filaments of the LV system are identified.

## 2. DATA REDUCTION AND ANALYSIS

NGC 1275 was observed in January 2016 with the optical imaging Fourier transform spectrometer SITELLE at CFHT during Queued Service Observations 16BQ12 in science verification mode (PI G. Morrison) with the SN3 filter ($>90\%$ transmission from 647-685 nm) for 2.14h (308 exposures of 25 seconds, $R=1800$). SITELLE is a Michelson interferometer with a large field of view of $11' \times 11'$, comparable to $1' \times 1'$ for MUSE and up to $8'' \times 8''$ for SINFONI equipped with two E2V detectors of $2048 \times 2064$ pixels, resulting in a spatial resolution of $0.321'' \times 0.321''$. These observations were centered at RA 03h19m53.19s and DEC +41°33′51.0′′, offset by about 3′ from NGC 1275. The data reduction and calibration of these observations were conducted using the SITELLE’s software ORCS (version 3.1.2, Martin et al. 2015 ¹). Five emission lines are resolved in these observations: [N II]λ6548, H$\alpha$, [N II]λ6584, [S II]λ6716 and [S II]λ6731. Details of the wavelength, astrometric and photometric calibration followed are described in Martin et al. (2018). The OH sky lines velocities were fitted with an optical model of the interferometer in most regions of the cube with the function SpectrAL.Cube.Map.SkyVelocity() and the resulting wavelength corrections for instrumental flexures were applied to the cube using SpectrAL.Cube.Correct.Wavelength() (Martin et al. 2018). The mean integrated flux SN3 filter image centered on NGC 1275 is shown on figure 1.

The complexity of this nebula arises from its several components: overlapping filaments with slightly different velocity shifts, the HV system and the AGN contribution. As we focus only on the LV component, pixels with [N II]λ6548, H$\alpha$ and [N II]λ6584 emission lines with a velocity shift close to the AGN 1275 systemic velocity were identified. The HV system was identified similarly, using a $8200 \text{ km/s}$ systemic velocity, and subtracted. Fitting both the contribution from the AGN and the filaments, we found that the contribution from the AGN is predominant in terms of lines fluxes inside a radius of 6′. The central region centered at

¹ [https://github.com/thomasoarb/orcs](https://github.com/thomasoarb/orcs)
3 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

3.1 Ionization mechanism

Figure 2 (left) shows the Hα flux map. While the surface brightness of Hα is mostly constant in the extended filaments, it is higher in the inner ∼30′′ = 11 kpc.

Optical line ratios can be good indicators of the dominant excitation mechanism operating on the line-emitting gas (photoionization by stars, by a power-law continuum source or shock-wave heating, Baldwin et al. 1981). The ratio $[\text{N II}]\lambda 6583/\text{H}\alpha$ provides, for example, a measure of the ionization state of a gas. When the source of ionization is stellar formation, this line ratio is a linear function of metallicity saturating at a value of ∼0.5 for high metallicity (e.g. Kewley et al. 2006). The SITELLE $[\text{N II}]\lambda 6583/\text{H}\alpha$ line ratio map of NGC 1275 is presented in figure 2 (middle) and the mean and ensemble ratio profiles taken in annuli containing 400 pixels is shown on figure 3. The line ratio varies through the map, being ∼0.5 – 1 in the extended filaments, and above 1 in the central part of the nebula. However, streaks of star forming clusters associated with some filaments of NGC 1275 have been found (Canning et al. 2014). Similar line ratio gradients have also been previously observed in the filaments of NGC 1275 (Hatch et al. 2006) and in several BCG with optical line emission (e.g. Hamer et al. 2016). The central region with higher line ratios could be related to energetic sources of ionization such as AGN and shocks, while filaments must be ionized by a source with lower power. To effectively distinguished the source of ionization though, other line ratios are required, falling outside of the filter used during these observations. The complete detailed BPT diagnostic of NGC 1275 nebula will be conducted using awarded SITELLE observations at 365–385 nm and 480–520 nm (PI: Gendron-Marsolais) and presented in future work (Gendron-Marsolais et al. in prep.).

Figure 2. Flux map of Hα emission in the LV system region (left, units are in erg/s/cm$^2$/pixel), $[\text{N II}]\lambda 6583/\text{H}\alpha$ line ratio map (middle) and dispersion map (right, scale unit is in km/s).

Figure 3. The mean (in red, with error bars indicating the standard deviation) and ensemble fit result (in blue) $[\text{N II}]\lambda 6583/\text{H}\alpha$ line ratio, dispersion and velocity profiles taken in annuli containing 400 pixels centred on the AGN. Dispersions and velocities are given in km/s and the distance from the AGN is in kpc.
3.2 Velocity dispersion measure across the nebula

According to the top-down multiphase condensation model, warm filaments and cold molecular clouds condensed out of the hot ICM through "chaotic cold accretion" (e.g. Gaspari et al. 2017b). This link between ICM and filaments imply that both must have the same ensemble velocity dispersion. On the other hand, if these filaments are rather dragged out from the rise of AGN radio bubbles, they would be stabilized into the hot gas by magnetic fields, and therefore also sharing the same velocity field (Fabian et al. 2008). The Hitomi Soft X-ray Spectrometer has shown that the line-of-sight velocity dispersions are on the order of $164 \pm 10$ km/s in the $30 - 60$ kpc region around the nucleus of the Perseus cluster (Hitomi collaboration 2016), while SITELLE has provided an ensemble line-of-sight velocity dispersion of $137 \pm 20$ km/s (Gaspari et al. 2017a). In contrast, the dispersion map obtained from the fitting of each binned pixel shown in figure 2 shows instead smaller velocity dispersion in the filaments ($\lesssim 115$ km/s), but increasing linewidth closer to the center (up to $\sim 130$ km/s). SITELLE’s level of resolution therefore probes smaller structures like individual filaments, rather than the ensemble multiphase gas. Interestingly, the mean and ensemble dispersion profiles in figure 3 show a general decrease up to $\sim 10$ kpc from the nucleus but a bump is visible between $\sim 15 - 20$ kpc. This corresponds to the region between the inner and ghost cavities and contains a known shock in the ICM to the north-east (Fabian et al. 2006) which could be responsible for the higher mean dispersion.

Further comparisons can be explored between Hitomi and Sitelle line-of-sight velocity dispersions in the same regions as the ones used in Hitomi Collaboration et al. (2017) and shown in Figure 4. SITELLE pixels contained in each of those regions with Hα and [N II] lines (including the AGN but excluding the IV system) were fitted as ensembles (see Table 1). The resulting velocities dispersions are as low ($\sim 120$ km/s) and uniform as the Hitomi measurements for the hot gas, supporting the infalling cooling flow model.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>$v_{bulk}$ (km/s)</th>
<th>$\sigma_v$ (km/s)</th>
<th>$v_{bulk}$ (km/s)</th>
<th>$\sigma_v$ (km/s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reg 0</td>
<td>75^{+26}_{-28}</td>
<td>189^{+19}_{-18}</td>
<td>48 $\pm$ 3</td>
<td>145 $\pm$ 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reg 1</td>
<td>46^{+19}_{-19}</td>
<td>103^{+19}_{-20}</td>
<td>$-8 \pm 9$</td>
<td>155 $\pm$ 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reg 2</td>
<td>47^{+14}_{-14}</td>
<td>98^{+17}_{-17}</td>
<td>182 $\pm$ 2</td>
<td>116 $\pm$ 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reg 3</td>
<td>$-39^{+15}_{-16}$</td>
<td>106^{+20}_{-20}</td>
<td>122 $\pm$ 2</td>
<td>94 $\pm$ 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reg 4</td>
<td>$-77^{+29}_{-28}$</td>
<td>218^{+24}_{-21}</td>
<td>182 $\pm$ 3</td>
<td>88 $\pm$ 3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.3 Kinematics of the filaments

The velocity map of the IV system (see Figure 5) reveals a previously unknown rich velocity structure across the entire nebula. The presence of a larger scale velocity gradient is hard to extract from such a detailed map. We note that the median heliocentric velocity of the map is 5229 km/s, giving a high fraction of redshifted pixels ($\sim 80\%$) relative to our chosen rest frame. We will discuss this difference in future work (Gendron-Marsolais et al. in prep.). Overall, the mean and ensemble velocity profiles from figure 3 do not show any clear radial gradient in velocity. On average, the filaments do not seem to be falling smoothly and uniformly onto the galaxy nor do they seem to be pulled out of it. No potential rotation, as suggested in Conselice et al. (2001), is visible. The lack of ordered motion and the low measured velocities might indicate that these features are short lived, consistent with the molecular gas (e.g. Russell et al. 2016).

With the spectral and spatial resolution provided by SITELLE, the kinematics of the filaments can be studied individually. The line-of-sight velocity structure across the northern filament is very complex. Velocities from each pixel are plot against their distance from the AGN in figure 6 and show a scattered profile. The mean velocity profile taken...
The northern filament is therefore either stretching or collapsing depending on its de-projected orientation. Furthermore, the southeast filament also shows complex dynamics with a mostly negative line-of-sight velocity, varying from $\sim -100$ km/s to $-300$ km/s and increasing again up to $\sim 0$ km/s as the distance from the center increase (see figure 6). Finally, the mean velocity profile across the horseshoe-shaped filament extracted from then bins is shown on figure 6. It has an overall positive velocity increasing almost symmetrically on either side of the loop, reaching velocities of $\sim 200$ km/s. Again, this is similar to Hatch et al. (2006) results and consistent with simulations of flow patterns below a rising bubble where the gas flows down on either sides of the bubble, the highest velocities located just behind the bubble. Table 1 shows the comparisons between Hitomi and Sitelle best-fitted bulk velocities. Contrary to Hatch et al. (2017), the mean of the fitted velocities taken from ten bins.

**REFERENCES**

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