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Two new nova shells associated with V4362 Sagittarii and DO Aquilae

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ABSTRACT

A classical nova is an eruption on the surface of a white dwarf in an accreting binary system. The material ejected from the white dwarf surface generally forms an axisymmetric shell. The shaping mechanisms of nova shells are probes of the processes that take place at energy scales between planetary nebulae and supernova remnants. We report on the discovery of nova shells surrounding the post-nova systems V4362 Sagittarii (1994) and more limited observations of DO Aquilae (1925). Distance measurements of $0.5^{+1.4}_{-0.2}$ kpc for V4362 Sgr and 6.7 ± 3.5 kpc for DO Aql are found based on the expansion parallax method. The growth rates are measured to be 0.07 arcsec yr^{-1} for DO Aql and 0.32 arcsec yr^{-1} for V4362 Sgr. A preliminary investigation into the ionization structure of the nova shell associated with V4362 Sgr is presented. The observed ionization structure of nova shells depends strongly on their morphology and the orientation of the central component towards the observer. X-ray, IR, and UV observations as well as optical integral field unit spectroscopy are required to better understand these interesting objects.

Key words: line: profiles – (stars:) circumstellar matter – stars: distances – transients: novae.

1 INTRODUCTION

Classical novae are a subtype of cataclysmic variable and are characterized by eruption light curves whose progression are observed from radio through to γ-ray wavelengths. Novae are characterized by their optical eruption spectra and light curves. Strope, Schaefer & Henden (2010) classify a variety of nova eruption light curves and give physical explanations for many of their features. Unfortunately, these systems do not attract much attention during their quiescent state, however, their shells are probes for many interesting astrophysical processes. Including the degree of clumping as related to shocks in the evolving ejecta shortly post-maximum as well as nebular abundances, which are in turn related to the material accreted before eruption. As there are few nova shells whose structure is resolvable, the discovery of any additional shells allows us to view the population at different ages and investigate their physical properties with the international astronomical community's current ground and space-based observational capabilities.

In many cases, the inclination angle has only been constrained by whether the inner binary system does or does not eclipse. As the orientation of nova shells in the plane of the sky is related to that of the binary nucleus (Porter, O'Brien & Bode 1998), estimates of the binary's orbital characteristics can be reached if the geometry of the shell can be untangled. Hutchings (1972) was the first to show that the most likely structure of nova shells consisted of an equatorial waist with polar cones of emission, although there had been previous discussions on how a nova shell's morphology could be derived from observed emission line structure, with early work summarized in Payne-Gaposchkin (1957). The effort has been continued in more recent years in Ribeiro et al. (2009, 2011, 2013a), Ribeiro, Munari & Valisa (2013b), Munari et al. (2010), Harvey et al. (2016, 2018), and Pavana et al. (2020).

In the examples of T Aur (Gallagher et al. 1980), HR Del (Hutchings 1972; Duerbeck 1987; Moraes & Diaz 2009), DQ Her (Williams et al. 1978; Vaytet et al. 2007), V1500 Cyg (Hutchings & McCall 1977; Becker & Duerbeck 1980), V476 Cyg (Duerbeck 1987), FH Ser (Gill & O'Brien 2000), CP Pup (Duerbeck 1987), RR Pic (Gill & O'Brien 1998), and GK Per (Liimets et al. 2012; Harvey et al. 2016), it is evident that their equatorial waists and polar cone/blob shells have become clumpy. The geometry is often complex due to several processes at work. Clumping of the ejecta is likely due to the Richtmeyer–Meshkov instability (Toraskar et al. 2013) and is important for the formation of dust in the shells of novae (Joiner 1999). See Shore (2013), Mason et al. (2018) for a framework to unify nova observations in the context of a bipolar shell

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Table 1. Demonstration of shell and binary orbital inclination dependence. Values obtained from the literature, apart from the shell inclinations for GK Per, AT Cnc, and Z Cam, which were derived during the preparation of Harvey et al. (2016) and Harvey (2017). In this table, CN stands for classical nova, DN dwarf nova, RN recurrent nova, and PN represents a planetary nebula associated with the listed object. The references are as follows: GK Per; Bode et al. (1987), Morales-Rueda et al. (2002), AT Cnc; Shara et al. (2012a), Z Cam; Shara et al. (2012c), V458 Vul; Wesson et al. (2008), Rajabi et al. (2012), HR Del; Harman & O'Brien (2003), DQ Her; Vaytet, Brien & Rushton (2007), Nova Mon 2012; Ribeiro et al. (2013b), RS Oph; Ribeiro et al. (2009), T Pyx; Chesneau et al. (2011), Hen 2-428; Santander-García et al. (2015), Hen 2-11; Jones et al. (2014), HaTr 4 Tyndall et al. (2012), Sp1; Jones et al. (2012), Abell 65; Huckvale et al. (2013).

Object	Type	Inc. shell	Inc. Binary	P_{orb} (d)
GK Per	CN & DN & PN	$54 \pm 5°$	$50 - 73°$	2
AT Cnc	CN & DN	$48 \pm 4°$	$17 \pm 3°$ or $36 \pm 12°$	0.24
Z Cam	CN & DN	$64 \pm 8°$	$52 - 69°$	0.29
V458 Vul	CN & PN	$\pm 30°$	$\sim 30°$	0.068
HR Del	CN	$35 \pm 3°$	$41 \pm 4°$	0.17
DQ Her	CN	$86.8 \pm 0.2°$	89.6 ± 0.1	0.19
Nova Mon 2012	CN	$82 \pm 6°$	'High inc'	0.296
RS Oph	RN	$39 \pm 9°$	$\sim 30 - 40°$	455.72
T Pyx	RN	$\sim 15°$	$10 \pm 2°$	0.076
Hen 2-428	PN	$68°$	$64.7°$	0.175
Hen 2-11	PN	$\sim 90°$	$90 \pm 0.5°$	0.609
HaTr 4	PN	$65 - 80°$	$55 - 75°$	1.74
Sp 1	PN	$10 - 15°$	$15 - 25°$	2.9
Abell 65	PN	$68 \pm 10°$	$68 \pm 2°$	1

geometry. Of the resolved nova shell population RS Oph (Ribeiro et al. 2009), T Pyx (Chesneau et al. 2011), and V1280 Sco (Chesneau et al. 2012) demonstrate convincing bipolarity, without discernible equatorial waists.

Clumps in equatorial and polar structures are the most probable birth places of carbon and oxygen-rich grains, see e.g. Gehrz et al. (2018). An explanation for the existence of tropical rings and polar cones is given within the hydrodynamical work of Porter et al. (1998) where the tropical rings form by sweeping up conical regions of enhanced density local to the matter ejected by the white dwarf.

In the summary of Slavin, O'Brien & Dunlop (1995), several interesting conclusions are laid out that are still relevant. (i) There is a correlation between remnant shape and speed class and (ii) the orientation of the equatorial rings can be used to determine the orbital inclination of nova systems, see Table 1.

Shells around classical novae have been searched for and presented in three major published articles: Cohen (1985), Gill & O'Brien (1998), and Downes & Duerbeck (2000). The success rate of these searches were 8/17, 4/17, and 13/30 nova shells found around potential candidates, these comprise roughly half of the known nova shells, the other half, for the most part, have been uncovered individually. More recently Schmidtobreick et al. (2015) searched for nova shells around nova-like cataclysmic variable systems, without the successful detection of shells around the 15 objects in their study. The non-detection of nova shells around these objects are used to place constraints on the recurrence time-scale of the objects in their study. Elsewhere, Sahman et al. (2015) searched the IPHAS archives for nova shells around 101 cataclysmic variable systems, of which three showed evidence of previously unknown associated nebulosity.

This paper follows the layout described here. First, observations are presented in Section 2. Following this, our analysis and results are presented in Section 3. The first two sections follow an internal order of imaging and then spectroscopy. In the discussion section (see Section 5) we look at the how the data presented can be incorporated in to what is known in nova theory and the implications for simulations. Here, a report on preliminary ionization analysis using an adapted version of PYCLOUDY (Morisset 2013)[1] is also discussed.

2 OBSERVATIONS

2.1 Imaging

2.1.1 WISE

As demonstrated for GK Per (see fig. 13 of Harvey et al. 2016), classical nova systems with known shells can be seen in the WISE image archive. However, not only the inner shells are captured, but also, because of the nature of the survey, the interaction of ejecta from previous nova events with the interstellar medium can be identified.

Following this a search through the known nova data base of novae without previously documented shells was conducted. The search consisted of acquiring the publicly available multiband WISE images of reasonably bright nova systems that were observed at nova maximum at least more than 15 yr previous to the start of the study (in 2016). The nova systems were found in the CBAT list of novae (IAU 2010). Several of these nova systems showed plausible hints of associated nebulosity in the WISE survey (Wright et al. 2010), see Figs 1 and 2. These hints of nebulosity may have been in the form of bright WISE bands 3 and 4 relative to bands 1 and 2, as was the case for V4362 Sgr, see Table 2. Or of a suggestion of interaction between previous nova events with the interstellar medium. In the case of the latter, as can be seen marked by the red circles and the lines in Fig. 1, with a corresponding description in the associated caption. Fig. 2 is a close-up of suspected associated emission in the Aristachos and WISE images of the first one of these nova, V606 Aql (1899).

[1] https://github.com/Morisset/pyCloudy

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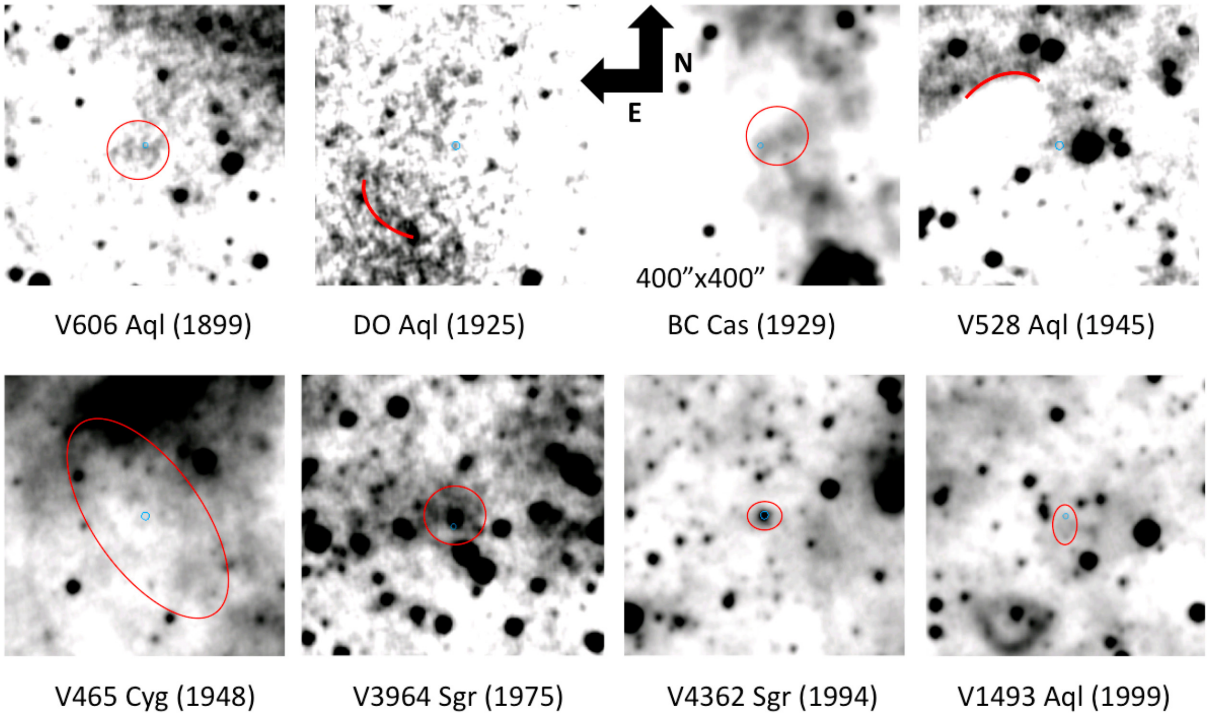

Figure 1. Examples of novae that revealed tentative evidence of shells or other interesting features for follow up from the WISE image archive. The displayed images are from WISE band 3. All images are 400 arcsec × 400 arcsec, with north up and east to the left. From left to right and top to bottom: V606 Aql displayed interesting emission 0.012° and 0.06° to the SE of the nova progenitor (see Fig. 2); DO Aql a possible shock feature 0.037° to the SE; BC Cas features 0.013° W and 0.032° SW; V528 Aql a feature 0.004° E, and a possiblly associated arc 0.037° to the NE; V465 Cyg showed a bright source in WISE bands 1 and 2 and possibly an associated large scale ring in bands 3 and 4 of about 0.03° in radius; V4362 Sgr source is very bright in WISE bands 3 and 4 and V1493 Aql showed possible hints of a nested set of nova shells that would have been associated with previous nova episodes.

2.1.2 Aristarchos

Using the Aristarchos telescope in Greece, deep imaging observations were acquired of the vicinity surrounding the 12 classical nova systems in Table 3. Deconvolved images using MEM and Lucy algorithms were produced for all novae during the survey. This was done along with radial cuts and *R*-band subtraction (difference imaging) for each nova shell candidate, where possible. Unfortunately, with neighbouring stars within 1 arcsec for both novae the deconvolved images have artefacts present and the broad-band-subtracted image versions were deemed the most clear representations.

Of the nova progenitor systems without previously known nova shells 2 of the 12 systems uncovered the unambiguous presence of visible shells, i.e. those presented here. For a list of all novae observed with imaging in this survey, see Table 3. Of the remaining systems, V606 Aql and V528 Aql demonstrated faint emission that may be recovered from deeper observations. The other eight systems (V356 Aql, V1419 Aql, V1493 Aql, V465 Cyg, BC Cas, DM Gem, GI Mon, and V3964 Sgr) showed no evidence for resovable shells at the time of observation with the instrument set-up used (i.e. V1419 Aql and V1493 Aql were not expected to have resolvable shells with the instrumentation used and no broad-band filter observation of V356 Aql was acquired due to weather constraints during the night).

The Aristarchos imaging observations consisted of either one or two narrow-band filters focused on Hα + [N II] (6578 Å / 40 Å, i.e. central wavelength in Å / filter width in Å) and/or [O III] (5011 Å/30 Å) with exposures of 30 or 40 min in each filter, see Table 3. For nova systems in quiescence, the majority of the continuum emission comes from the secondary and the reinstated accretion disc. Imaging in *R* band was collected of each object in order to subtract the stellar continua from the images. The seeing during observations was of the order of 1–2 arcsec. The CCD detector has dimensions of 2048 × 2048 pixels with each pixel being 24 µm across (≈0.28 arcsec per pixel). The imaging data were reduced using standard routines in IRAF.[2] Again, see Table 3 for a summary of the new imaging discussed in this work.

2.2 Spectroscopy

High-resolution echelle spectroscopic data were obtained to measure the observable kinematics of the V4362 Sgr nova shell. These were obtained using the Manchester Echelle Spectrograph (MES) instrument mounted on the 2.1 m telescope at the San Pedro Mártir (SPM) observatory in Mexico (Meaburn et al. 2003). Instead of using a cross-disperser, as in a regular echelle spectrograph, an interference filter isolates the desired spectral orders for high-resolution observations of nebular lines. The slit positions were observed with the instrumentation in its f/7.5 configuration. A Marconi 2048 × 2048 CCD was used with a resultant spatial resolution ≃0.35 arcsec pixel^{-1} after 2 × 2 binning was applied during observation with a ∼6 arcmin long slit. Bandwidth filters of 90 and 60 Å were used to isolate the 87th and 113th orders containing the Hα + [N II] 6548 Å, 6584 Å, and [O III] 5007 Å nebular emission lines.

The nova shells surrounding DO Aql and V4362 Sgr were detected using the low-resolution, high-throughput SPRAT spectrograph

[2]IRAF is distributed by the National Optical Astronomy Observatories, which are operated by the Association of Universities for Research in Astronomy, Inc., under cooperative agreement with the National Science Foundation.

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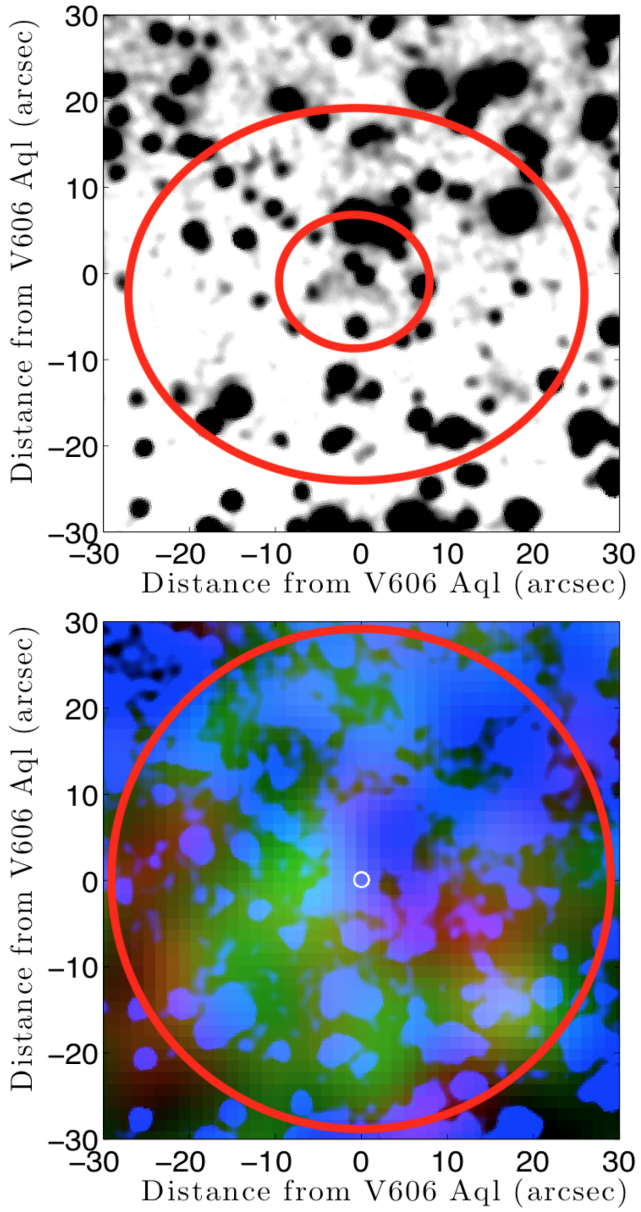

Figure 2. V606 Aql (1899) shows tentative evidence of harbouring visible evidence of a shell, albeit not enough to confirm its visibility and has been left for further investigation, with the same being true for BC Cas. This is largely due to the objects proximity to the Cygnus Rift and the presence of bright neighbouring stars. The top panel shows the Aristarchos Hα image, whereas the bottom panel is an overlay of Wise bands 3 (blue) and 4 (green). Both panels are 60 arcsec × 60 arcsec and are centred on the V606 Aql nova progenitor. The red circles mark the suspected nova shell related emission, mentioned in Fig. 1.

(Piascik et al. 2014) on the Liverpool Telescope (Steele et al. 2004) during mid-2017 and mid-2018, respectively. The SPRAT observations were taken in blue optimized mode without on-chip binning. With sidereal tracking on and a mount angle of 11°. Although this type of observation is of lower spectral resolution, it still allows to apply velocity constraints and has a broad wavelength coverage, which is necessary for first-pass nebular analysis.

For a summary of the spectroscopy observations, see Table 4. For line flux measurements see Table 5 and for the calculated line ratios see Table 6.

Table 2. WISE magnitudes and derived flux following Wright et al. (2010) for a red-dominated source. The flux/mag measurement in WISE band 2 corresponds to a S/N of 1.4 and can therefore be used only as an upper limit, the remaining band observations are well sampled. The strong rise redwards is indicative of either the presence of a cooling dust shell or strong line emission, as would be expected from a coronal nova, see Evans et al. (2014).

Band	1	2	3	4
CWL (μm)	3.4	4.6	12	22
WISE mag	15.117	16.105	8.664	5.501
mag err	0.274	0.3	0.029	0.043
Flux (Jy)	0.00027	0.000061	0.0099	0.048

3 ANALYSIS AND RESULTS

3.1 DO Aql (1925)

With a poorly observed eruption light curve and no early spectral observations (i.e. first 3 months) this system was not recognized initially as a nova and was referred to as 'Wolf's Variable' following discovery (Vorontsov-Velyaminov 1940). The system was proposed to be a recurrent nova and the star of Bethlehem by Kidger (1999), which was subsequently refuted in Schaefer (2013) based on the recurrence time-scale, among other factors. DO Aql is known to have been a slow nova and was thought to have experienced a long plateau at maximum of approximately 250 d, with a 53 d gap in observations. The t_3 (time taken for the nova to decline by three magnitudes from maximum light) of the nova event is reported in Schaefer (2013) to be 900 d, where the visual maximum was reported as 8.7 in V. If the maximum was missed it may have occured during the 53 d gap in observations, or else if it occured prior to the discovery date the t_3 value may then have been derived from a long decline often seen in slow novae after a strong dust-dip. If the maximum is indeed as was reported then the DO Aql eruption light curve would be a precursor example of the extremely slow nova V1280 Sco. Where V1280 Sco is the slowest nova known to date in terms of early photometric and spectroscopic evolution, as well as the lowest recorded velocity expanding shell (Chesneau et al. 2012). This would suggest that V1280 Sco occurred on a low-mass white dwarf. However, the higher expansion velocity shell of DO Aql does not fit into this comparison.

The DO Aql system is composed of an eclipsing binary with a period of 4.03 h, whose quiescent light curve is proposed to demonstrate either obscuration of a hot component or stream overshoot (Shafter, Misselt & Veal 1994). Photometry in the BVRJK bandpasses is presented in Szkody (1994), who observed it to have a V magnitude of 17.66, with colours $(B-V)=0.60$ and $(V-R)=0.39$ during 1998 September.

The observations of this object presented here reveal a previously undiscovered nova shell visible in the Hα + [N II] narrow band filter image, however, [O III] emission cannot be confirmed from the observations presented here. Two epochs are presented for the Hα + [N II] narrow band imaging, from 2015 and 2017, see Table 3, i.e. 90 and 92 yr since the observed nova eruption, implying a growth rate of 0.07 arcsec yr^{-1}. The 2017 observations are affected by poor Seeing conditions, see Table 3, and as such the 2015 Hα + [N II] narrow band image should provide the most accurate distance estimate. Along with GAIA distance shown in Table 7, both epochs of Hα + [N II] were used to provide a distance estimate to the shell, see Table 8.

A SPRAT spectrum taken in 2017 June shows the presence of [N II] emission lines originating from the nova shell. The relative extension

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Table 3. Imaging Observations. All images were acquired using the Aristarchos telescope, except for the 2002 Skinakas imaging observations of V4362 Sgr (PTB 42). The column titled $t-t_{max}$ (yr) shows the time since nova maximum in years with respect to the observation date. Imaging data described below the double line corresponds to known nova producing systems without discovered shells in this survey. Magnitudes at maximum and minimum are taken from the CBAT list of Galactic novae (IAU 2010), whose references are given as discovery announcements, where AN = Astronomische Nachrichten, I = IAU Circulars.

Obs date	$t-t_{max}$ (yr)	Object	m_{max}	m_{min}	Ref	Filter CWL/FW(Å)	Seeing (arcsec)	Exp. (s)
2018-8-5	24.22	V4362 Sgr (1994)	3.5?	15.5	I5993	V (RISE2)	1.6	35
2016-8-2	22.21	V4362 Sgr (1994)				Hα + [N II] 6578/40	1.3	2400
	22.21	V4362 Sgr (1994)				5011/30	1.2	2400
	22.21	V4362 Sgr (1994)				R 6680/100	1.8	300
	22.21	V4362 Sgr (1994)				B 5700/70	2.2	300
2002-5-21	8.02	V4362 Sgr (1994)				Hα	1.6	1800
	8.02	V4362 Sgr (1994)				R	1.8	180 × 2
2017-7-24	91.85	DO Aql (1925)	8.7	16.5	AN225	Hα + [N II] 6578/40	2.3	2400
	91.85	DO Aql (1925)				R 6680/100	2.5	180
2015-8-19	89.93	DO Aql (1925)				Hα + [N II] 6578/40	1.8	2400
	89.93	DO Aql (1925)				R 6680/100	2.1	180
2017-7-24	118.26	V606 Aql (1899)	5.5	17.3	AN153	[O III] 5011/30	2.6	2400
2014-7-20	115.25	V606 Aql (1899)				Hα + [N II] 6578/40	1.6	2400
2014-7-20	115.25	V606 Aql (1899)				R 6680/100	1.8	180
2016-9-4	79.96	V356 Aql (1936)	7.7	17.7	I616	Hα + [N II] 6578/40	2.4	1800
2015-11-18	112.67	DM Gem (1903)	4.8	16.7	AN161	Hα + [N II] 6578/40	1.5	1800
2015-11-18	112.67	DM Gem (1903)				R 6680/100	1.7	180
2015-11-18	97.79	GI Mon (1918)	5.2	18	AN206	Hα + [N II] 6578/40	1.4	1800
2015-11-18	97.79	GI Mon (1918)				R 6680/100	1.7	180
2015-9-14	40.27	V3964 Sgr (1975)	6	17	I2997	Hα + [N II] 6578/40	1.5	1800
2015-9-14	40.27	V3964 Sgr (1975)				R 6680/100	2.0	180
2015-8-19	86.24	BC Cas (1929)	10.7	17.4	AN243	Hα + [N II] 6578/40	1.8	2400
2015-8-19	86.24	BC Cas (1929)				R 6680/100	2.1	180
2015-8-19	22.27	V1419 Aql (1993)	7.6	17	I5791	Hα + [N II] 6578/40	1.6	2400
2015-8-19	22.27	V1419 Aql (1993)				R 6680/100	2.0	180
2014-7-20	15.02	V1493 Aql (1999)	8.8	17.2	I7223	Hα + [N II] 6578/40	1.5	2400
2014-7-20	15.02	V1493 Aql (1999)				R 6680/100	1.8	180
2014-7-20	68.90	V528 Aql (1945)	7.0	18.1	I1014	Hα + [N II] 6578/40	1.6	2400
2014-7-20	68.90	V528 Aql (1945)				R 6680/100	1.9	180
2014-7-20	66.08	V465 Cyg (1948)	7.3	17.0	I1154	Hα + [N II] 6578/40	1.4	2400
2014-7-20	66.08	V465 Cyg (1948)				[O III] 5011/30	1.5	2400
2014-7-20	66.08	V465 Cyg (1948)				R 6680/100	1.8	180

Table 4. Summary of spectroscopy observations undertaken for this work. In this table, PA stands for position angle of the slit on the plane of the sky. *R* represents spectral resolution quoted in terms of velocity resolution at Hα. Resolution at [O III] can be approximately calculated by multiplying the resolution at Hα by 0.75. With regards to the MES slit widths 150 μm corresponds to 1.9 arcsec on the plane of the sky and 300 μm to 3.8 arcsec, thus smaller than the measured extent of both recovered nova shells.

Object	Instrument	Filter/Grism CWL/FW(Å)	Slit (μm)	*R* at Hα (km s^{-1})	PA (°)	Exp. (s)	Date obs
V4362 Sgr	MES	[O III] 70 Å	150	10	90	1800	19/05/2012
V4362 Sgr	MES	Hα 90 Å	150	10	90	1800	19/05/2012
V4362 Sgr	MES	[O III] 70 Å	300	20	150	1200	31/08/2016
V4362 Sgr	MES	Hα 90 Å	300	20	150	1200	31/08/2016
V4362 Sgr	MES	[O III] 70 Å	300	20	60	1200	31/08/2016
V4362 Sgr	MES	Hα 90 Å	300	20	60	1200	31/08/2016
DO Aql	SPRAT	5827/4685	150	850	0	1200*x*3	18/06/2017
V4362 Sgr	SPRAT	5827/4685	150	850	0	1200*x*3	10/07/2018

Table 5. Line flux densities, all measurements are × 10^{-16} erg cm^{-2} s^{-1} Å^{-1}. Errors are of the order of 10 per cent and are not corrected for reddening. '-' denotes when lines were unresolved and therefore could not be measured.

Object	Hβ	Hα	He II 4686 Å	[O III] 5007 Å	[N II] 6548 Å	[N II] 6583 Å
PTB 42	2.3	10.4	–	5.6	11.2	33.1
DO Aql	3.4	4.5	3.7	–	–	–

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Table 6. Comparison of the logarithm of PTB 42 line ratios, relative to the H β line strength for the respective epoch, between the 2002 and 2018 spectra.

Object	H β	[O III] 5007 Å	[N II] 6583 Å
PTB 42 (2002)	0	1.5	1.2
PTB 42 (2018)	0	0.4	1.2

of the different emissions can be seen in Fig. 3, this is expected to have an influence on the measured line ratios. The whole nebular spectrum is contaminated by the spatial resolution constraints of the instrument and seeing during the SPRAT spectrum observation, see Fig. 3 and Table 8.

As an old and bright nova shell surrounding an eclipsing binary, this object is attractive for follow-up studies with larger optical telescopes as well as in other wavelength regimes. Such observations would allow to probe the dust properties of the nebula and well as further investigate its chemical, ionization, and physical structure, such as was done for HR Del in Moraes & Diaz (2009), T Pyx (Shara et al. 1997; Chesneau et al. 2011), and GK Per (Liimets et al. 2012; Shara et al. 2012b; Harvey et al. 2016).

3.2 V4362 Sgr (1994)

V4362 Sgr (1994) was discovered on 1994 May 16.733 UT by Yukio Sakurai and had a maximum observed magnitude of 7.5. Similar to DO Aql, V4362 Sgr was a poorly observed nova in terms of photometry during the later development of its optical light curve, despite being caught on its rise to maximum. However, it was well observed in terms of early-time polarimetry, see Evans et al. (2002) where complementary photometry of the nova is also presented.

As a poorly observed nova in eruption, it is difficult to determine the light curve type, although it seems to resemble that of DQ Her (Strope et al. 2010). The DQ Her light curve demonstrated jitters on an otherwise flat top during and shortly after maximum, which was then followed by a dust formation event that was observed via a strong 'dip' in the post-maximum light curve. A spectrum was obtained of the system a week after discovery, described in Sakurai et al. (1994) who classified it to be a post-maximum Fe II-type nova. Maximum *observed* light came a month later on April 17. In support of a missed maximum, the nova would not have been observable a month earlier as it was too close to the Sun. Dust-dip novae often obtain maximum magnitudes 3-4 brighter than what the recovery reaches after a dust-dip, e.g. DQ Her, FH Ser, T Aur, V705 Cas, and NQ Vul as decribed in Strope et al. (2010). Therefore, the maximum observed visual magnitude could have been around 3.5. This would help explain the small derived distance to the nova, given the implied weak implied absolute magnitude if the nova maximum is attributed to the observed maximum.

The nova was observed with broad-band polarimetry, presented in Evans et al. (2002), that covers 51–83 d post-discovery where they find that the observed absolute polarization was mostly due to scattering by small dust grains in an axisymmetric shell, possibly consisting of narrow conical polar caps and a flattened circular

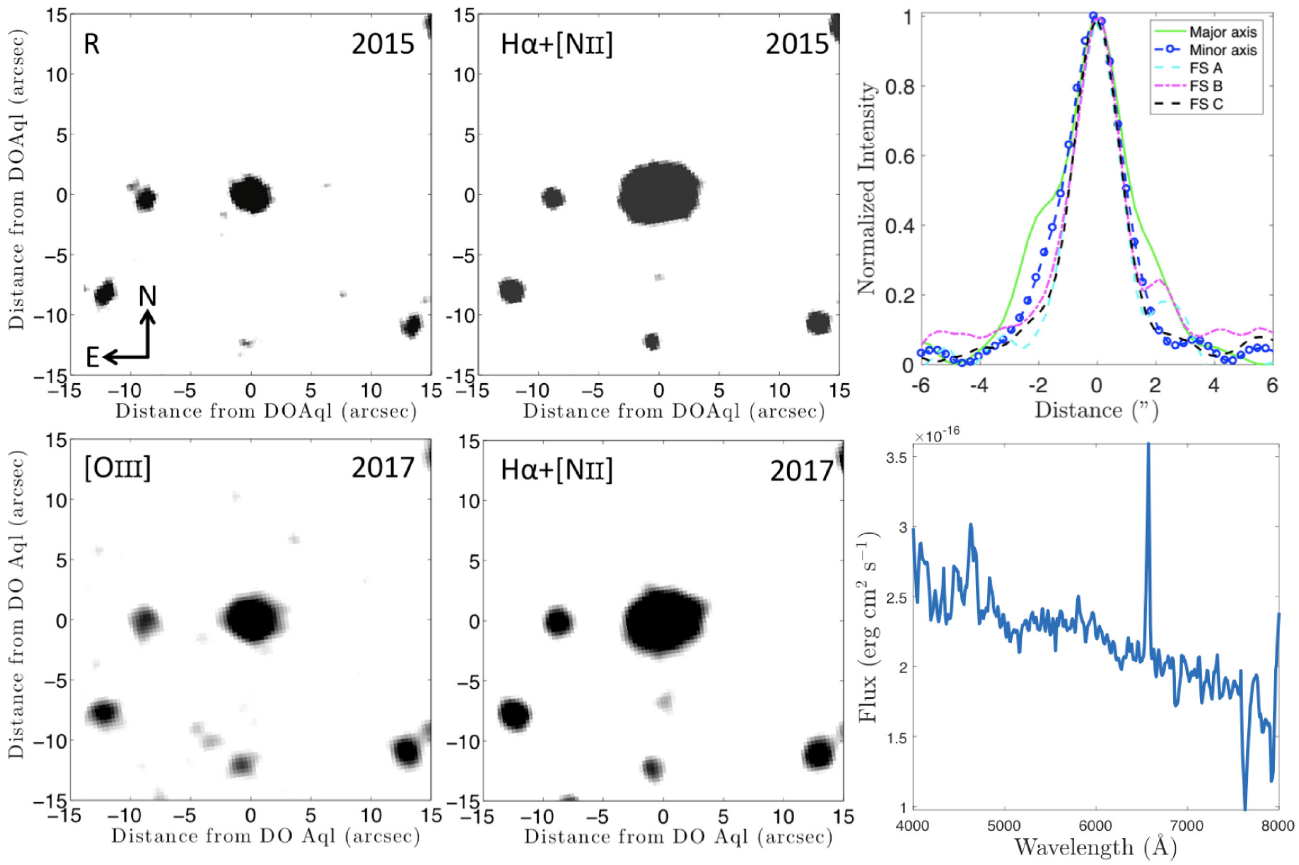

Figure 3. Observations of DO Aql (1925). From left to right, top to bottom the panels show: (i) *R*-band image of DO Aql from 2015, (ii) H α + [N II] 2015 Aristarchos image, (iii) Radial cut of DO Aql in comparison to three field stars, (iv) 2017 [O III] Aristarchos image, (v) 2017 Aristarchos H α + [N II] image, and (vi) Flux density calibrated SPRAT spectrum of the nova shell and remnant 2017, the features shortward of H β are contaminated by noise.

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Table 7. *Gaia* Bailer-Jones et al. (2018) distance estimates for both objects in this study. Distance units are parsecs.

Obj	Source i.d.	modal	-1σ	$+1\sigma$
DO Aql	4208116120913290752	3222.6611	1863.8114	5729.8343
PTB 42	4096752394935572224	2211.0488	1291.2170	4756.0270

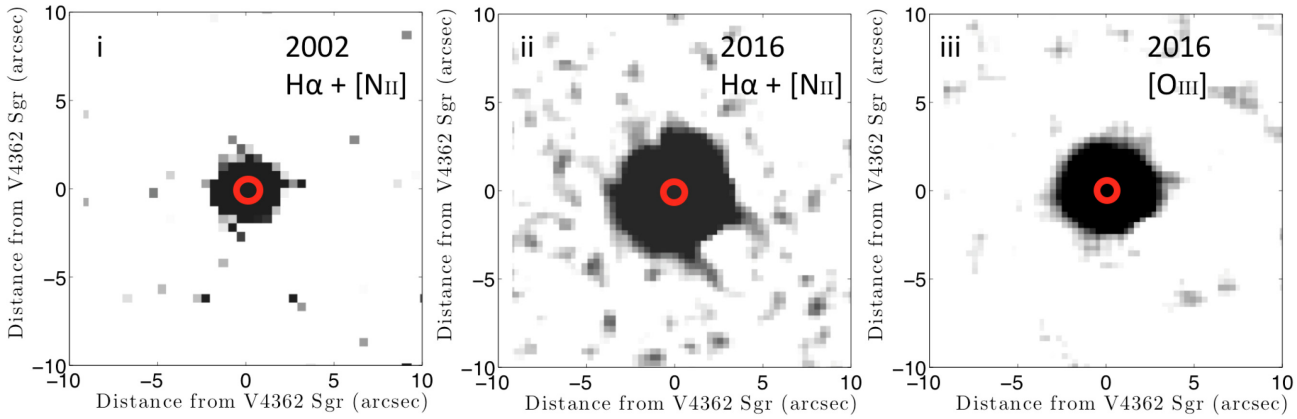

Figure 4. Imaging observations of V4362 Sgr/PTB 42: (i) H α + [N II], Continuum subtracted Skinakas 2002 May image with measured shell dimensions of 2.5 arcsec × 3.1 arcsec, (ii) H α + [N II], Aristarchos 2016 (6.4 arcsec × 7.1 arcsec shell size in continuum subtracted image), and (iii) [O III], Aristarchos 2016, (5.2 arcsec × 5.5 arcsec measured shell size in the continuum subtracted image). North is up and East is to the left. The red circle on each image shows the seeing disc corresponding to the FWHM of the respective observations.

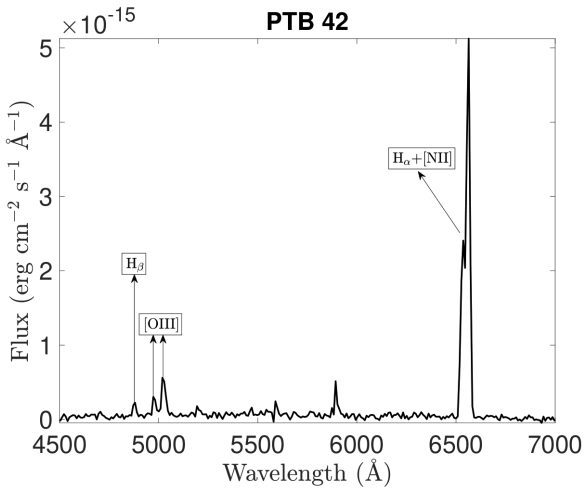

Figure 5. Flux calibrated Liverpool Telescope SPRAT spectrum of the PTB 42 shell surrounding the nova position of V4362 Sgr. The feature around 5876 Å is a sky residual and not He I. The H α emission is blended with the two stronger [N II] lines.

equatorial ring. The proposed structure from the polarimetry in Evans et al. (2002) is very similar to that proposed for V5668 Sgr in Harvey et al. (2018) from comparable observations, i.e. where both are suggestive of polar caps and a flattened equatorial ring. The ALMA observation of V5668 Sgr in Diaz et al. (2018) are consistent with a shell geometry of polar cones and and equatorial ring, as proposed in Harvey et al. (2018). Also, the spectropolarimetric observations of V339 Del in (Kawahita et al. 2019) again demonstrates a similar shell shape.

Here, we present a newly discovered nova shell surrounding the nova progenitor V4362 Sgr. As the nova shell was observed, but misclassified as a planetary nebula (Boumis et al. 2006), it is possible to present multi-epoch narrow-band imaging, see Fig. 4. Multi-epoch high-resolution MES spectroscopy was obtained (Table 4), along with a low-resolution SPRAT spectrum (Fig. 5). The MES spectra are modelled morpho-kinematically through Figs. 6–8. The diameter of the nebulosity is recorded as 4 arcsec in Boumis et al. (2006), see Fig. 9. As the nebular object was named PTB 42 in Boumis et al. (2006) that name will be used here to describe the nebular component and V4362 Sgr will refer to the nova progenitor system. After retrieving the original 2002 imaging data and subsequent subtraction of the stellar contribution gave the following measured values of the Crete 1.3m Skinakas telescope H α + [N II] imaging data (described first in Boumis et al. 2006): minor axis = 2.5 arcsec, major = 3.1 arcsec, an axial ratio of 1.2, see Tables 8 and 9. The spectrum presented of PTB 42 in Boumis et al. (2006) reports a H α flux of 12.7 × 10^{-16} erg s^{-1} cm^{-2} $arcsec^{-2}$ $Å^{-1}$ and a logarithmic extinction at H β of 1.41 ± 0.04 mag. Investigating the evolution of the line ratios between the 2002 and 2018 spectra, we see a decrease in nebular [O III] emission with respect to H β, see Table 6.

From the continuum subtracted 2016 imaging observations, we find in the H α + [N II] narrow-band exposure dimensions of 6.4 arcsec × 7.1 arcsec for the nova shell, giving an uncorrected axial ratio of 1.11. The [O III] Aristarchos 2016 image gives 5.2 arcsec × 5.5 arcsec and thus an axial ratio 1.06 (see Fig. 4 and Table 8), implying an increase in nebular diameter of 0.32 arcsec yr^{-1}. Extension measurements were taken from where the shell flux was 10 per cent above the background level in the [H α + (N II)] – *R*-band and [(O III)] – *B*-band images.

Following Bode (2002), we use the inclination corrected axial ratio for the similar novae DQ Her, and T Aur which are given to be 1.4. Using this value find a probable inclination of the shell, and thus binary, to be 70°−80°, consistent with the eclipse light curve seen in Fig. 10. However, considering an axial ratio of 1.6, as found for HR Del in Moraes & Diaz (2009) would imply a lower inclination for

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Table 8. Distance measurements according to measured major and minor axis diameters for the narrow band images of both nova shells. Calculated errors are a function of the seeing, uncertainty in expansion velocity (V_{exp} in km s^{-1}), and scatter in the distance measurements according to the different distances suggested by the calculations for the stated epochs and filters. The average errors and distances for both nova shells are in the final column. D represents distance from expansion parallax and are stated in kpc. Age is in days (d). Comparing the DO Aql [O III] shell size with the SPRAT slit width it becomes evident why [O III] was not observed, i.e. as the shell spectrum is extracted in the region flanking the stellar spectrum [O III] was probably lost in the stellar spectrum. Also, as the [O III] DO Aql shell is probably not associated with the outermost ejecta and was observed in poor seeing conditions it is not considered in its distance determination.

Object	Age (d)	Filter	Maj axis (Axis)	Min axis (Axis)	Seeing	V_{exp} (km s^{-1})	D maj (kpc)	D min (kpc)	Err	D avg (kpc)
PTB 42	2928	Hα + [N II]	3.1 arcsec	2.5 arcsec	1.6 arcsec	350	0.37	0.46	$\pm$ 1.51	–
PTB 42	8114	Hα + [N II]	7.1 arcsec	6.4arcsec	1.3 arcsec	350	0.45	0.50	$\pm$ 1.38	–
PTB 42	8114	[O III]	5.5arcsec	5.2 arcsec	1.2 arcsec	350	0.59	0.62	$\pm$ 1.34	$0.5^{+1.4}_{-0.2}$
DO Aql	32846	Hα + [N II]	6.6 arcsec	4.8 arcsec	1.8 arcsec	1000	5.6	7.8	$\pm$ 3.36	–
DO Aql	33552	Hα + [N II]	6.6 arcsec	4.9 arcsec	2.3 arcsec	1000	5.8	7.8	$\pm$ 3.52	$6.7\times(\frac{V_{exp}}{1000kms^{-1}})\pm$ 3.5
DO Aql	33552	[O III]	4.5 arcsec	3.3 arcsec	2.5 arcsec	1000	–	–	–	–

Table 9. Results of measurements of the newly discovered nova shells surrounding the V4362 Sgr (PTB 42) and DO Aql nova positions. R_{in} and R_{out} represent inner and outer radii, respectively. The units for R_{in} and R_{out} are log(cm). Exp D represents the distance found via the expansion parallax method, and *Gaia* D the Bailer-Jones et al. (2018) distance.

Object	Max date	Model date	Age (d)	Exp D (kpc)	*Gaia* D (Kpc)	R_{in}	R_{out}
PTB 42	16/05/1994	02/08/2016	8114	$0.5^{+1.4}_{-0.2}$	$2.2^{+2.5}_{-0.92}$	16.45	16.85
DO Aql	14/09/1925	19/08/2015	32846	$6.7\times(\frac{V_{exp}}{1000kms^{-1}})\pm 3.5$	$3.2^{+2.5}_{-1.4}$	17.2	17.36

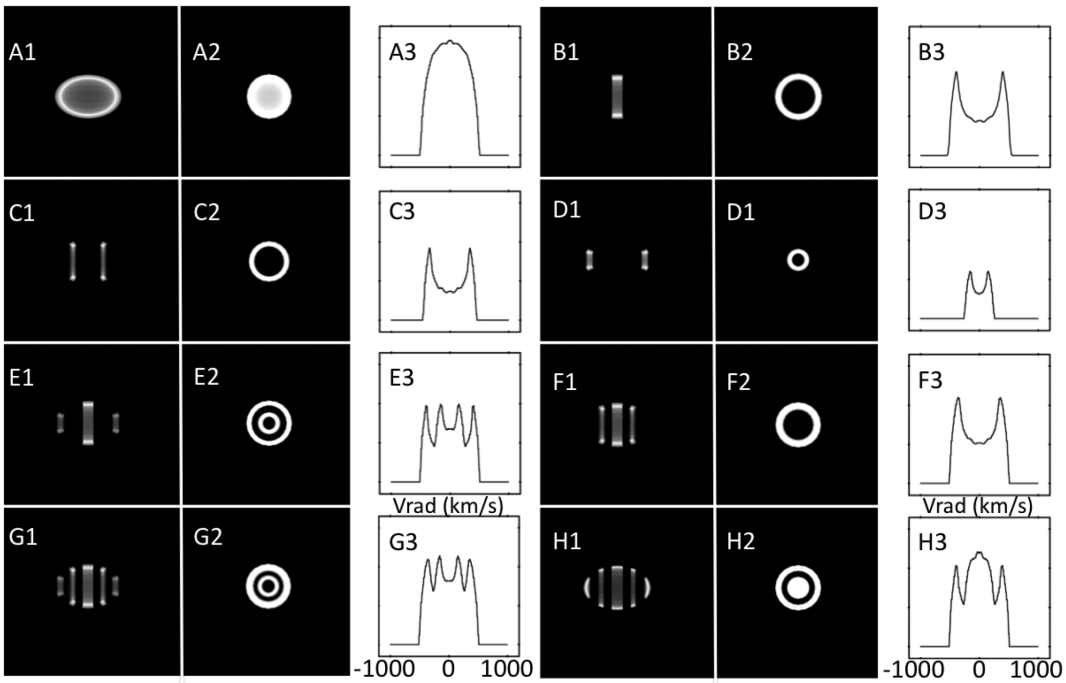

Figure 6. SHAPE models of possible shell morphologies, all placed at an inclination of 90°. Each letter (A–H) represents different morphologies: (A) Elliptical shell; (B) Equatorial waist only; (C) Tropical rings only; (D) Polar cones only; (E) Equatorial waist + Polar cones; (F) Equatorial waist and tropical rings; (G) Equatorial waist, Tropical rings, and Polar cones; (H) Equatorial waist, Tropical rings, and Polar blobs. Then, the 1, 2, and 3 next to each letter depict the simulated 2D image, the resultant position–velocity array and the corresponding flattened 1D spectral line profile, respectively.

PTB 42, which would imply higher polar expansion velocities. This could explain the shallowness of the PTB 42 eclipse. To properly determine the axial ratio and inclination more detailed observations are required, such as the GMOS–IFU observations of HR Del in Moraes & Diaz (2009).

Previously unpublished MES spectra from 2012 and 2016 show a low-velocity system, see Fig. 8 with suggestions of structure matching the description of Evans et al. (2002). The distance derived to this object (see Section 3.3) implies that the nova system is affected by interstellar reddening (otherwise the maximum absolute

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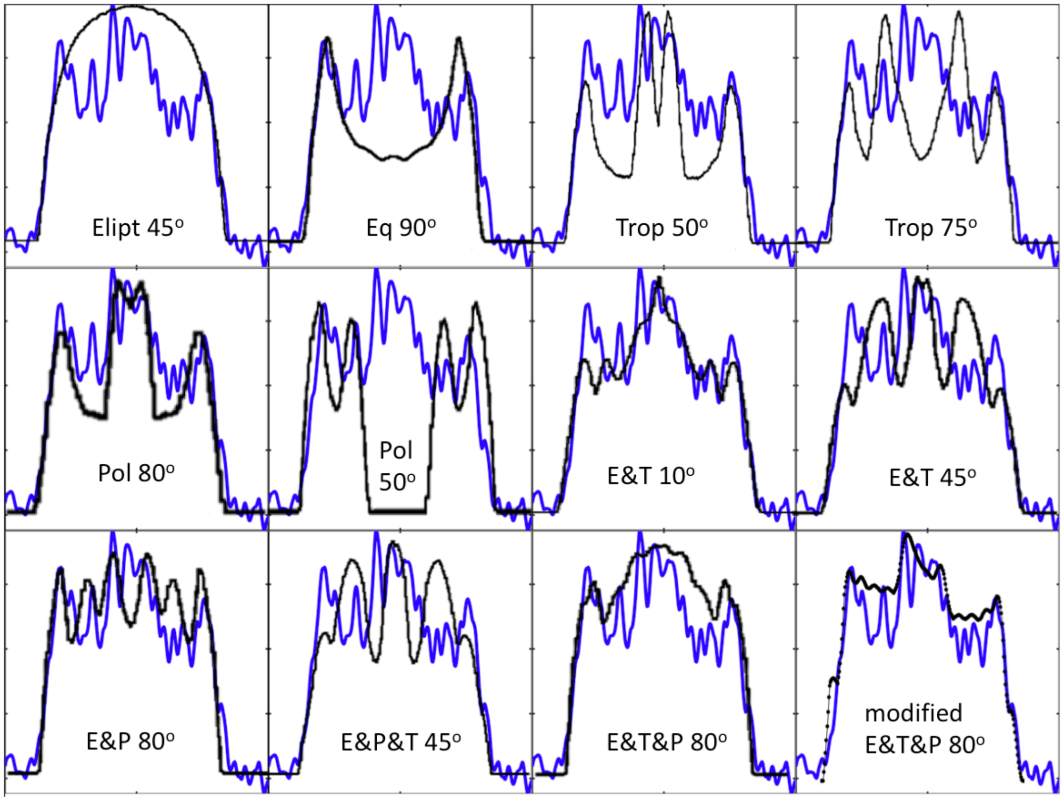

Figure 7. SHAPE spectral line profile simulations – testing possible geometries to fit with the observed line profile. The tested geometries are illustrated in Fig. 6, and are overplotted in black here at their best fit inclination according to geometry. The blue line in each panel is the 2012 [N II] observation of Fig. 8. This analysis suggests that the observed spectral line features could be roughly reproduced by other morphologies. However, 2D line arrays (position–velocity arrays) of nova shells in the literature consistently suggest nova shells occupy a larger covering factor of an elliptical shell base than can be found with a two ring model (be they polar or tropical). Such that, by applying a double ring shell model we would not be consistent with the current known nova shell population. For example, the next best-fitting model in the figure, i.e. the polar cone model at an inclination of 80°, is inconsistent with the narrow-band imaging for a structure only at the poles. Therefore, an equatorial waist, tropical ring, and polar cone morphology is used for the final fit in Fig. 8. The abbreviations in the plots are Elipt = filled eliptical shell; Eq = E = Equatorial ring; Trop = T = Tropical rings; Pol = P = Polar features. It is noted that shell morphology of novae is still an open debate and here we present simply our 'best guess' given the observables at hand. High spatial reolution IFU spectroscopy is needed to properly untangle these structures.

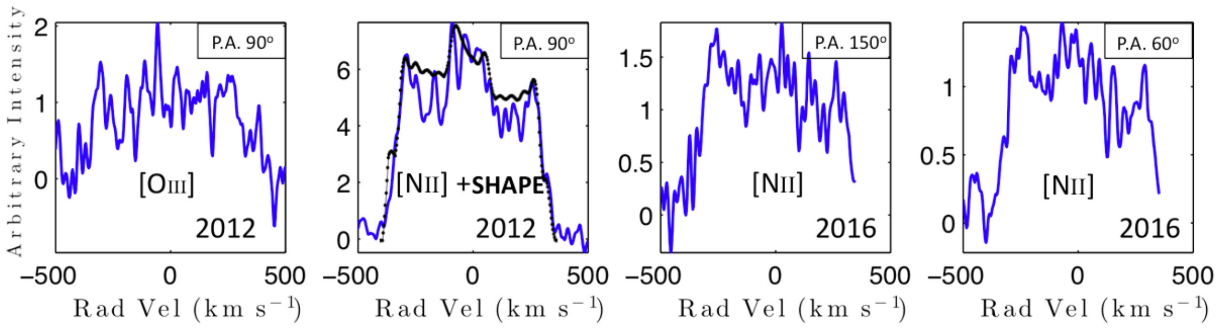

Figure 8. PTB 42 [O III] line and H α from MES observations taken in 2012 and 2016. Due to the shell becoming fainter over time, the 2012 observations have higher S/N and higher spectral resolution (as a more narrow slit could be used). The two 2016 observations illustrated in the right-hand-side panels are from two different slit PA (top right of each subplot). The repeated shape of the [N II] line profile in the lower S/N 2016 observations, in comparison to the 2012 [N II] observation, suggests that the 'brighter blue side' is real and likely due to the dust shell obscuring the nova shell's far side. With low S/N in the [O III] observation no dominant emission region can be identified in these observations. The [O III] emission was undetectable using the instrument set-up in 2016 due to the rapid fading of the shell.

magnitude is of the order of −1). Or else, as this was a poorly observed nova the maximum of this 'erratic' nova was missed (Evans et al. 2002). The system is known to be affected by circumstellar reddening with Boumis et al. (2006) calculating $E(B-V)_{\rm obs} = 0.98$, thus giving $A_v = 3.14$, higher than the catalogued values of $A_v = 2.17$ mag (Schlegel, Finkbeiner & Davis 1998) and $A_v = 1.87$ mag (Schlafly & Finkbeiner 2011). This is suggestive of local reddening at the source, which could be related to its dust shell. Although

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if related to the dust shell, formed later, then this would not have affected the observed peak magnitude. Evans et al. (2002) were able to show that the observed polarization signal was consistent with the presence of small dust grains. Looking at the near-infrared (NIR) flux of the system (see Table 2) in the WISE archive (Wright et al. 2010) and following the analysis prescription in Evans et al. (2014) suggests the survival of a dust shell. This dust shell is expected to be the source of the asymmetry in the 2012 MES [N II] line profile of Fig. 8.

From the information gathered on the nova shell it is possible to start to build a 3D model. The polarimetry of Evans et al. (2002) suggests a PA of around 150°. This value was initially adopted for the PA of the shell. However, from examining the narrow-band images a PA roughly perpendicular to the PA of Evans et al. (2002) is suggested after a polar cone opening angle is taken into account (110° difference i.e. of 40°). This suggests that the dust polarization observed in Evans et al. (2002) arose from a ring-like equatorial structure (although Evans et al. 2002 also found two perpendicular competing sources of polarization). Evans et al. (2002) put forward the idea that the observed broad-band polarimetric behaviour in q, u space is symptomatic of a non-spherical and non-uniform shell, with an equatorial ring and polar blob shell structure being the favoured geometry. No inclination angle for the binary system exists that can be shown to be related to the inclination angle of the resultant nova shell, although the system is believed to be close to edge-on, i.e. of high inclination, supported by the eclipse light curve in Fig. 10. It is noted here that the presence of an eclipse does not necessitate a high inclination, see, for example, T Aur (Bianchini 1980) and some SW Sex stars, e.g. V795 Her in Casares et al. (1996).

The common strong optical nebular lines [(O III) and (N II)] are visible in Fig. 5. The rarefaction time-scale found in Warner (1995) suggests density to decline as t^{-3}, where 't' is in weeks. Theory either suggests an initial density of 10^{14} cm^{-3} (early shocks), or an initial density of 10^{10} cm^{-3} (no-shocks), see Derdzinski, Metzger & Lazzati (2017). Assuming the presence of early shocks and considering the age of PTB 42 at 8114 d would suggest a shell density of 6.7 dex, i.e. in log(cm^{-3}).

3.3 Object distances

3.3.1 Gaia

As neither nova was studied by Schaefer (2018), the astrometrically derived distances presented here are based on the results table outlined in Bailer-Jones et al. (2018).

There has been recent discussion on the parallax offset in the *Gaia* DR 2 data release in relation to planetary nebulae (see Stanghellini et al. 2017 and Kimeswenger & Barría 2018). Current *Gaia* distances are affected by quiescent variability, nebulosity, and other influences of the orbit on observations, discussed in Lindegren et al. (2018). The systematic uncertainties surrounding astrometric parallax for binaries will be better understood with the time-stamped *Gaia* DR 4, until then it will be interesting to confirm these distances by other methods.

Moreover, a systematic parallax offset in the *Gaia* DR2 has been reported varying from 10 up to 100 mas, depending on the position of the sources in the sky, their magnitudes, and their colours, see Gómez-Gordillo et al. (2020) with reference to Luri et al. (2018), Kimeswenger & Barría (2018), Riess et al. (2018), Groenewegen (2018), Muraveva et al. (2018), Stassun & Torres (2018), Graczyk et al. (2019), Schönberner & Steffen (2019), Leung & Bovy (2019), Xu et al. (2019), Hall et al. (2019), and Zinn et al. (2019). For objects such as novae and planetary nebulae, with compact and bluer central stars, the parallax offset has been properly estimated. The mean value from all the available measurements (0.051 mas) and the value derived from a sample of quasars (0.029 mas) were adopted for planetary nebulae by Gómez-Gordillo et al. (2020). The systematic uncertainties surrounding astrometric parallax for binaries will be better understood with the time-stamped *Gaia* DR 4, until then it will be interesting to confirm these distances by other methods.

It is noted in Schaefer (2018) that the *Gaia* distance to DO Aql was not presented due to source confusion. On examination of the data, there is a clear visual companion to DO Aql at an angular distance of 0.9 arcsec, whereas the *Gaia* source detection limit is a separation of 0.3 arcsec.

As the DO Aql source is known in this work from the association with a shell, its *Gaia* source i.d. can be found in Table 7 along with that of PTB 42. However, for both DO Aql and PTB 42 their *Gaia* parallax error exceeds the usable threshold given in Bailer-Jones et al. (2018).

For PTB 42, the nova progenitor system does not appear in the list of Schaefer (2018). Since the distance found through the expansion parallax method is small for V4362 Sgr then why did it not become apparent on analysis of the nova population in the most recent *Gaia* data release? There appear to be enough *Gaia* visits to the source field to determine a reliable *Gaia* parallax distance. Seemingly contrary to this the parallax significance is low. This motivates finding the *Gaia* photometric excess factor, which turns out to be near the reliability threshold. Taking into account the cautionary notes for determining *Gaia* distances to close binary systems without time-stamped data in Lindegren et al. (2018), as well as systems enshrouded in nebulae (Kimeswenger & Barría 2018; Schönberner & Steffen 2019) we explored the expansion parallax derived distance to PTB 42. Through the possession of knowledge of the PA of PTB 42 on the plane of the sky from comparing the broad-band polarimetric observations of Evans et al. (2002) and narrow-band imaging, the binary PA aligns close to the ecliptic. This effect will maximize the error of parallactic distance measurement, until the phase-resolved (time-stamped) *Gaia* release (DR4), discussed in Lindegren et al. (2018).

3.3.2 Expansion parallax

The expansion parallax method requires the astronomer to distinguish between nebular components, as misattributing components to velocities leads to errors in distance estimates (Wade, Harlow & Ciardullo 2000). In order to act conservatively, as the shells are poorly resolved in the discovery data, a relatively large error was derived by assuming that we cannot distinguish between equatorial and polar shell directions.

Wade et al. (2000) and Porter et al. (1998) highlight effects of bipolarity/asphericity in the determination of distances to nova systems. Recently, Santamaría et al. (2020) studied the angular expansion of nova shells with respect to both equatorial and polar components and compared their results to Harvey (2017).

Distance measurements are shown for each of the major and minor axes and epochs in Table 8. Final distances and errors are the mean of the distances measured from each axis and epoch.

3.3.3 DO Aql

The seeing in the 2017 observations presented was too poor to reliably measure the proper motion growth between it and the 2015 observation of the expanding shell. This is partially due to the

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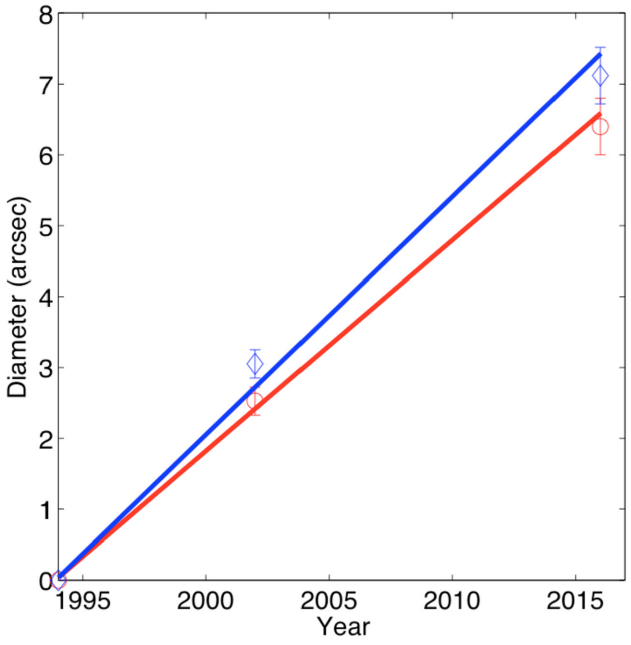

Figure 9. Measured expansion from narrow band imaging, including uncertainty in measurement, of the PTB 42 shell surrounding the nova position of V4362 Sgr. Major axis represented by the blue line and minor axis by the red. The shell is measured to expand at a rate of 0.32 arcsec yr^{-1}.

large distance to the source and the small angular growth expected over 2 out of 92 yr. However, both 2015 and 2017 observations have been used in the distance determination. The major axis is readily confirmed looking at Fig. 3, as well as the existence of small protrusions at both tips of the major axis that could be related to the ablated flows in the shell of HR Del, see Vaytet et al. (2007). However, the minor axis is of a similar extension to the field stars and as such its measurement is uncertain. The PA of the nova shell, as measured from the H α + [N II] images, is taken to be 98° east of north.

There are no previous distance estimates to the nova. Using the expansion parallax method a distance of 6.7 ± 3.5 kpc is found from measurements taken from the 2015 observations, (for a shell expansion velocity of 1000 km s^{-1}, as reported in Vorontsov-Velyaminov 1940), see Tables 3 and 8. Note that distance scales linearly with expansion velocity, as the shell velocity is poorly constrained for this nova we write the distance as 6.7 $\times(V_{exp}/1000\,km\,s^{-1})$ ± 3.5 kpc. The distance cannot be confirmed through comparison with *Gaia*. The object was not included in Schaefer (2018) due to source confusion. As the source is known for this work the *Gaia* distance was checked in the context of the Bailer-Jones et al. (2018) method, see Table 7. However, as the error in parallax is double the magnitude of the derived parallactic distance, the *Gaia* measurements cannot be used to reliably determine a distance to DO Aql, see Section 5 for a discussion and Table 9.

Vorontsov-Velyaminov (1940) describes to the reader a spectrum taken 113 d post-discovery by Merrill (1926) on the Hooker

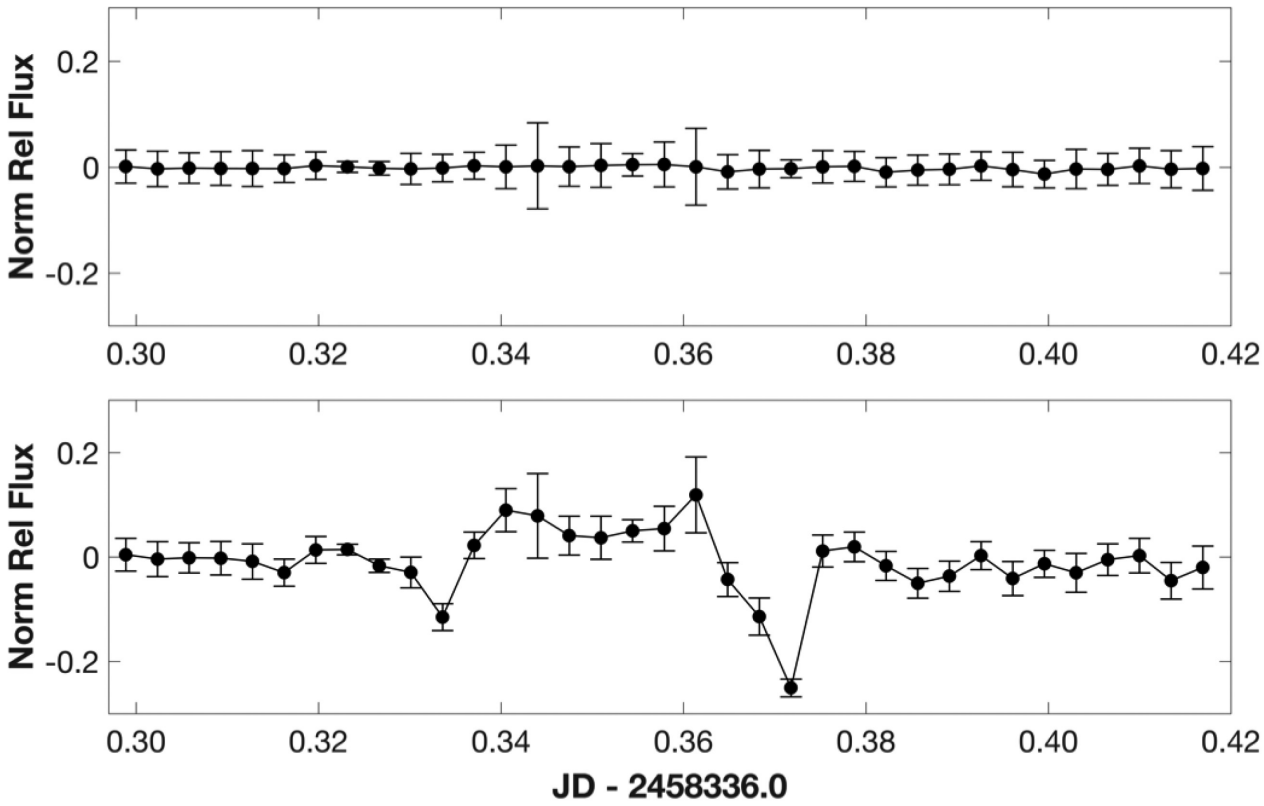

Figure 10. In this figure, the top panel shows the normalized averaged relative photometry of 11 non-variable field stars in the PTB 42 field of observation. The bottom panel is the corresponding PTB 42 light curve, on 2018 August 5. Observing using the RISE2 (Boumis et al. 2010) instrument mounted on the Aristarchos telescope. Evidence of an eclipse can be seen, although higher time resolution observations are required in order to better constrain the system. The light curve shape is reminiscent of the eclipsing dwarf nova system IP Peg, see Shafter et al. (1994). Suggesting the system to be eclipsing and therefore likely viewed at high inclination.

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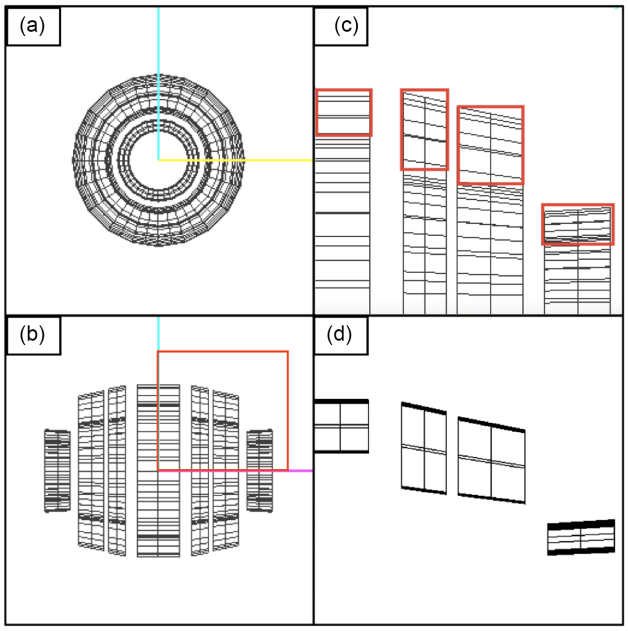

Figure 11. SHAPE model used for input into PYCLOUDY, this figure shows the physical rendering of the fitted line profile in Fig. 8. The top left-hand panel (A) shows the derived morphology of the nova shell as viewed pole-on, whereas the bottom left-hand panel (B) shows the structure as viewed edge-on. The top-right-hand panel (C) is a zoomed in quarter of panel (B), i.e. the section with the red square. The 2D slice of the structure (seen in the bottom panel D and highlighted in red in panel C is output as a datacube and fed into PYCLOUDY using a text file that describes the velocity and density at each position in the shell. A set of 1D CLOUDY simulations are run through the 2D parameter space and are then wrapped in azimuth around the complete shell creating a pseudo-3D model.

100 arcmin that shows DO Aql to be an Fe II type nova, with line ratios similar to those of V5668 Sgr at the same time post-detection (Harvey et al. 2018). Vorontsov-Velyaminov (1940) measured a Balmer line expansion of 1000 km s^{-1}. In the low-resolution SPRAT spectra acquired for this work a full width at half-maximum of 1330–1400 km s^{-1} and a full width at zero instensity of around 2900 km s^{-1} are determined from Balmer lines. However, as no high-resolution spectrum was acquired for DO Aql, the expansion velocity determined from Vorontsov-Velyaminov (1940) is used here to guide the distance calculation and the resultant uncertainty from minor and major axis distance determinations factored into the final error, see Table 8.

3.3.4 PTB 42

Using the expansion parallax relation presented in Warner (1995) and a measured shell expansion of 350 km s^{-1} a distance of $0.5^{+1.4}_{-0.2}$ kpc is found, with the large relative error due to assigning the expansion to either the minor or major axes. As the source is eclipsing the nova is more likely to be on the closer end of the quoted distance scale. Which would make PTB 42 one of the closest and brightest known nova shells, see Table 8.

4 SIMULATIONS

In order to begin to build a 3D model of the PTB 42 nova shell its structure must first be untangled through interpretation of the observations. A similar technique to the following methodology was outlined in Harvey et al. (2018). The PA is informed by polarimetric observations, in this case the study of Evans et al. (2002), as well as from close examination of the major and minor axes in the narrow-band imaging, see Fig. 4. The high-resolution MES spectroscopy is then used to find the radial velocity of individual components of the nova shell. The source inclination is the most difficult value to derive, aside from the filling and covering factors. In order to arrive at an answer for the inclination, assumptions must be made, which are based on the system's expansion velocity by considering the shape of the individual spectral line profiles (and through study of the orbital signature of the quiescent light curve). However, the system inclination can be informed by the orientation of the equatorial ring (Slavin et al. 1995). Complicating the situation is local reddening of the system, as can be seen most clearly in the shape of the [N II] line in the 2012 observation in Fig. 8, as well as the WISE observations summarized in Table 2.

Early photoionization simulations of nova shells demonstrated the presence of possibly counter-intuitive phenomenology, such as the very low temperature of older nova shells (Ferland et al. 1984). Novae tend to have enhanced C, N, and O in comparison to solar abundances, although for some other novae they have been shown to have near solar abundances (Saizar et al. 1991). More recent work suggests that nova shells are not completely photoionized, but may also experience contributions from shock ionization (Li et al. 2017).

After Ferland et al. (1984), efforts followed to understand the temperature and ionization structure of nova shells (Beck et al. 1990), as well as the effect of improving the radiation field (Beck et al. 1995). A large body of work was to continue on interpreting and analysing nova spectra within the understood framework, see Vanlandingham et al. (2005), Shore (2012, 2013), Shore et al. (2014), and Mason et al. (2018).

To manage condensations and more complex structures associated with nova shells, there are several available 3D or pseudo-3D codes available, notably RAINY3D (Moraes & Diaz 2009, 2011), PYCLOUDY (Morisset 2013), PYCROSS (Fitzgerald et al. 2020), and MOCASSIN (Ercolano et al. 2003).

4.1 SHAPE

A 3D morpho-kinematic SHAPE (Steffen et al. 2011)[3] model was created for the V4362 Sgr nova shell / PTB 42, see Figs 8 and 11. Creating a full morpho-kinematic model of a poorly resolved nebula is non-trivial. Care must be made not to overintrepret limited observations with too many model elements. The spatial resolution constraints make it difficult to know the finer structure, i.e. the covering and filling factors related to the specific nova shell. Therefore, only the gross morphological parameters can be estimated from the observations presented here, i.e. the major and minor axis lengths. The PA can be estimated from polarimetric observations and/or narrow-band imaging, whereas the inclination requires knowledge of the binary system's orbital light curve or a fully resolved and distinguishable equatorial ring. Although the spatial information is not resolved, the structures can be resolved by line-of-sight velocities. If velocities along the plane of the sky are required they can be obtained through multi-epochal imaging.

To begin with various possible morphologies were tested through rotation around their inclination angle, see Figs 6 and 7. Following this a morphology consisting of an equatorial waist, tropical rings and

[3] http://bufadora.astrosen.unam.mx/shape/

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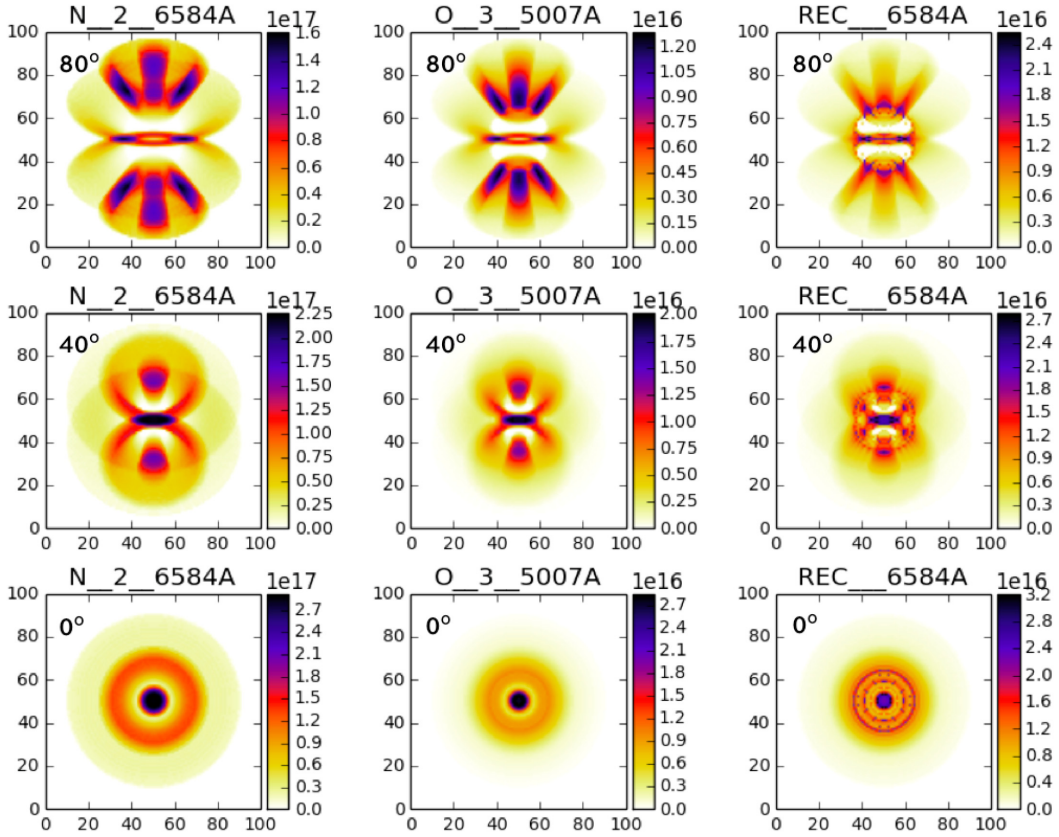

Figure 12. PYCROSS model of PTB 42. The *x*- and *y*-axes are in normalized distance units. The colour bar represents relative arbitrary flux for the associated line emission maps. Using DQ Her shell abundances from Ferland et al. (1984) and a luminosity of $\times 10^{38}$ erg s^{-1}. From left to right, the columns indicate the shell structure for ionization processes involved in the production of the [N II] 6584 Å line combined in the first column. The second column shows the structure of the [O III] 5007 Å emission line and the third column shows only the recombination structure of the [N II] 6584 Å emission line. The top row is plotted at an inclination of 80°, middle row 40° and bottom row is seen pole on at 0° to demonstrate this effect for representative inclinations. As the system is likely an eclipsing binary, see Fig. 10, the system is suspected to have an inclination $\geq$60°. Note the [O III] emission does not extend out as far as the [N II] shell, as is often observed with respect to nova shells, e.g. GK Per (Harvey et al. 2016). Although the surface brightness is similar for the two emission lines, the ionization of the more extended polar caps by the [N II] shell may contribute to the larger observed line intensity of the source. If only the recombination component of the [N II] 6584 Å is considered then we would expect a similar extension and measured line strength to that of the [O III] 5007 Å emission line.

polar cones was chosen. PTB 42 is thought to be at high inclination therefore the highest observed velocities would be from the equatorial disc, although if all velocities were deprojected the polar velocities would be expected to be higher. The observed equatorial velocity is 350 km s^{-1}, as measured from the MES spectra. Then, for an axial ratio of 1.4, i.e. the inclination corrected axial ratio for similar novae DQ Her and T Aur (Bode & Evans 2008), gives a polar velocity of 490 km s^{-1}. Adjusting for inclination when fitting to the asymmetry in the line profile gives an equatorial velocity of 390 km s^{-1} and polar velocity of 550 km s^{-1}. This allowed for the remaining velocities to be set to 550 $\times$ (r/r$_0$) (km s^{-1}). Looking at the line profiles of Fig. 8, the gross morphology of the castellated features are not noise as they are present in multi-epoch observations. The [N II] line profile from the 2012 observation, seen in the second panel from the left in Fig. 8, was chosen for modelling as it had the highest S/N (due to the shell becoming fainter at later times and has the best velocity resolution due to the more narrow slit used). Substructure in the line profiles could be due to the presence of clumps, although on more narrow velocity scales, due to their relatively smaller individual sizes. This implies that the degree of clumping cannot be deduced from these observations. However, it informs that the observed gross structure is related to physically real features. As such, the components can be associated with polar blobs, equatorial waist and tropical rings in the SHAPE model, with the tropical rings suggested by the emission intermediate of the central peak and outer wings. As the system is suspected to be viewed at a high inclination, the broadest observed velocity features are expected to arise from the lower velocity equatorial waist.

Illustrated in Fig. 6 are several morpho-kinematic models that demonstrate the relationship between image, position–velocity array and 1D line spectrum for commonly proposed nova shell morphologies, all viewed at 90°. In Fig. 7 the best-fitting inclinations of the various models are shown plotted over the 2012 MES observation. The best fitting model is then illustrated in Fig. 11. Deep observations with a high-resolution IFU spectrograph (or a long-slit spectrograph on an $\sim$ 8m class telescope) would allow to fully distinguish between the possible morphologies. It should be mentioned regarding the ionization simulations of Fig. 12 that the effects of the equatorial waist, tropical, or polar components are independent such that they can be decoupled from each other. The line profile shapes suggest PTB 42 is viewed at high inclination, which is also supported by the quiescent orbital light curve of the system presented for the first time in Fig. 10. The quiescent light curve, although it requires better temporal sampling, is similar to known eclipsing systems such as

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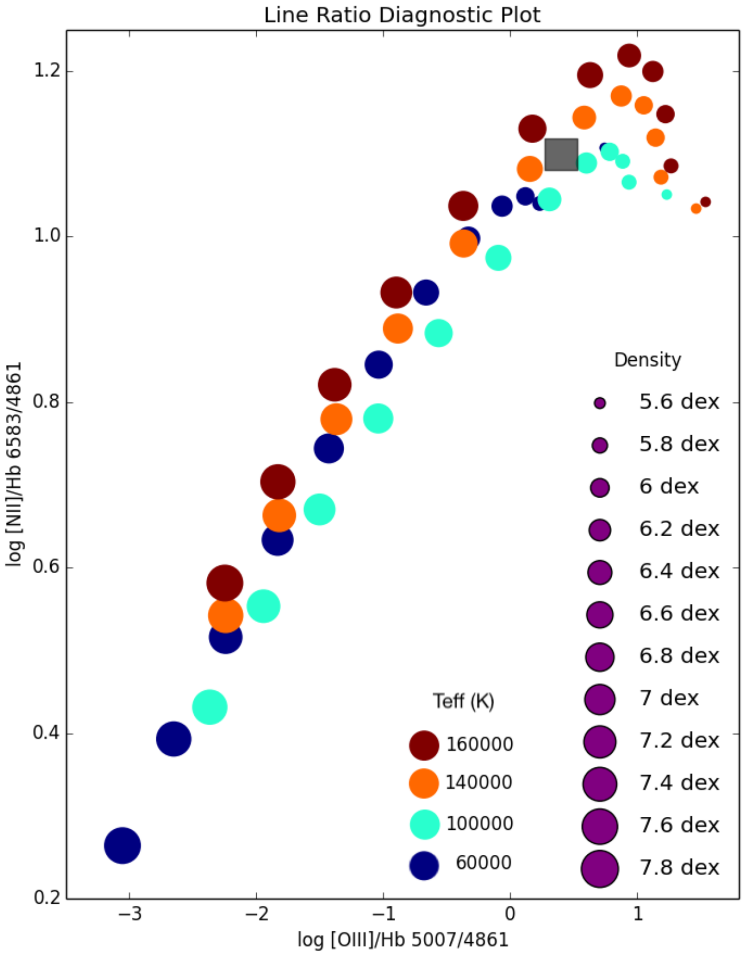

Figure 13. PYCLOUDY simulation grid for the PTB 42 nova shell. Using DQ Her abundances from Ferland et al. (1984). The size of the blue square marks the observed measured line ratios from the SPRAT spectrum of PTB 42 discussed in Section 2.2, and its size equivalent to the uncertainty in line ratio determination. The colour bar on the right provides a key to deciphering the effective temperature of the ionising blackbody. The plot suggests a high-density nova shell, on the order of 6.5–7.5 dex.

T Aur (Walker 1962; Bianchini 1980) and the dwarf nova IP Peg, see Shafter et al. (1994). In order to match the observed asymmetry in the line profiles the morphology of the object was modified such that the flux contribution of the red-shifted portion of the shell was reduced by 5 per cent, see Fig. 7. However, the [N II] line asymmetry may be due to contamination by H α, situated just bluewards of the plotted [N II] line. The density structure of the nova was assumed to be 6.7 dex, as suggested by the PYCLOUDY (Morisset 2013) grid of Fig. 13, and in agreement with theoretical predictions that assume early interacting shocks (Derdzinski et al. 2017).

4.2 Shell ionization

In an attempt to represent a snapshot of the PTB 42 shell, PYCLOUDY (Morisset 2013) was used in this work to both control CLOUDY (Ferland et al. 2013) and interpret SHAPE output data. With the CHIANTI database being of importance in all ionisation simulations presented Dere et al. (1997), Landi et al. (2012). As PTB 42, as well as nova shells more broadly, is not solely photoionized, other sources of ionization must be taken into account. The CLOUDY code takes collisional ionization and recombination into account, as well as effects of turbulence. However, shock ionization is not considered. Early stages in nova shell excitation arises from a number of processes (although thought to be mostly photoionization from the UV bright white dwarf, shock ionization also plays an important role during these early times) and at late times the shell enters a regime of pure recombination. The switch from 'early time' to 'late time' depends on the outburst characteristics on the nova event and can range from a few days for the fastest systems, up to years for the slowest evolving and expanding shells, see V1280 Sco as described in Chesneau et al. (2012). Fossil nova shells [such as that observed in M31N 2008-12a (Darnley et al. 2019), as well as Galactic examples V2275 Cyg (Sahman et al. 2015), AT Cnc (Shara et al. 2012a), and Z Cam (Shara et al. 2012c)] are thought to be mostly shock excited.

The SHAPE model as determined from the PTB 42 line profile, Fig. 8 and Section 4.1, can be output in a data cube, which in turn can be read by a modified version of PYCLOUDY. This pairing routine between SHAPE and PYCLOUDY was first presented in Harvey et al. (2018) and is referred to as 'PYCROSS'. A detailed description of this code will be featured in Fitzgerald et al. (2020).

Before creating models, the conditions must first be understood. The luminosity of the system is based on the quiescent luminosity of DQ Her as was measured in Ferland et al. (1984). Archives were searched through for UV and X-ray observations of the object, targeted or serendipitous, however, unfortunately there were none. The inner and outer radii of the shell are estimated based on the

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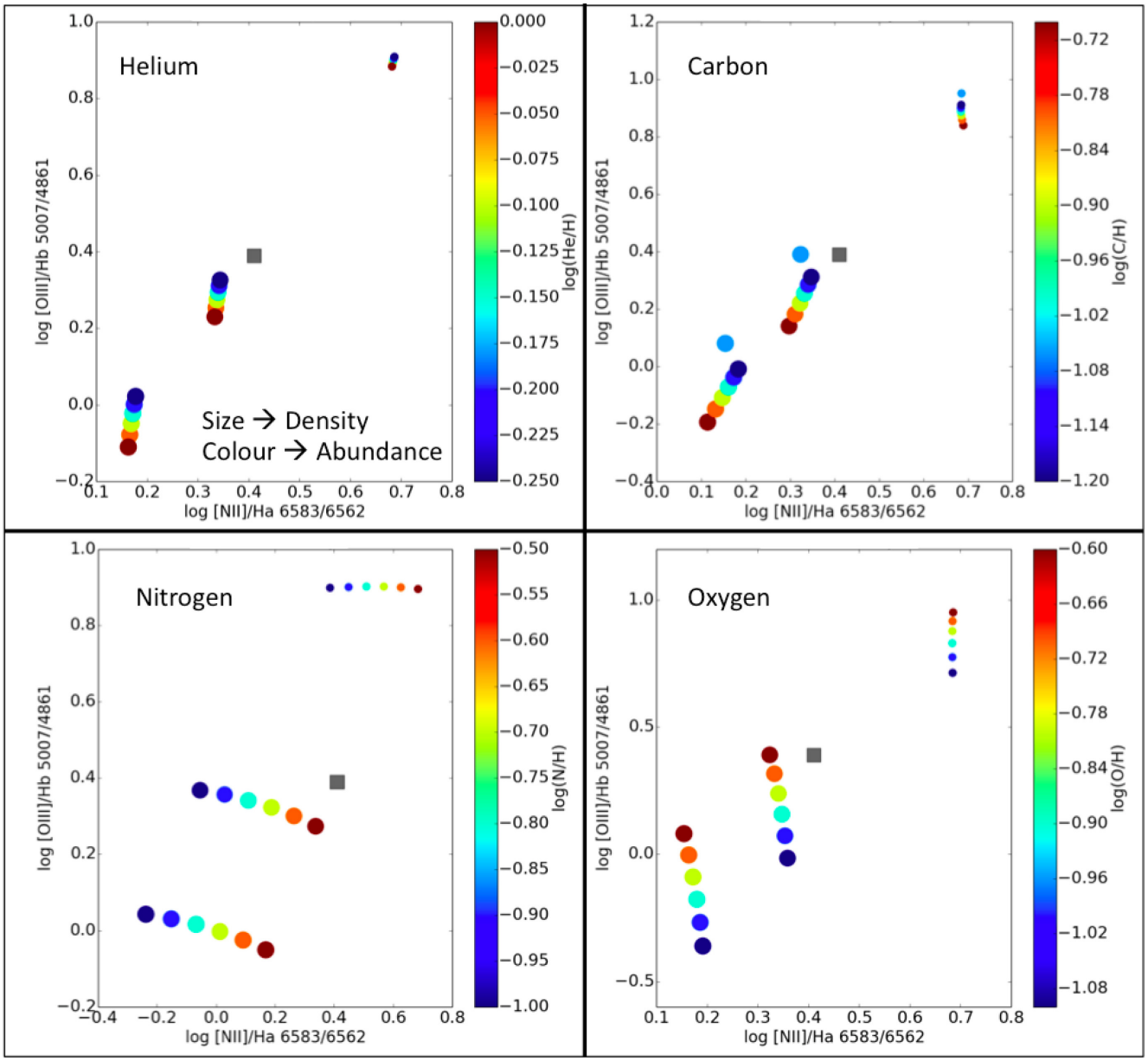

Figure 14. PYCLOUDY simulation grids for the PTB 42 nova shell. The suitability of DQ Her abundances from Ferland et al. (1984) are tested. The blue square marks the observed measured line ratios from the SPRAT spectrum of PTB 42 discussed in 2.2. The colour bar on the right indicates the relative abundance of the element relative to Hydrogen. The plots suggests that relative to DQ Her nova shell abundances that helium and carbon are less abundant and nitrogen and oxygen more abundant. The squares signify the measured observed line ratios. The densities used in these model grids are 6.5, 7.25, and 7.5 dex (in all four panels the highest to lowest density values group from the bottom left corner to the top right corner). These model grids suggest that the helium abundance is more abundant in PTB 42 than in the nova shell of DQ Her, with the same being true for carbon and the opposite for nitrogen and oxygen. However, these suggestions should be taken with a large caution, such that at a different density the inverse interpretation can be arrived at. Therefore, we do not have enough observational constraints to identify the abundances of the nova shell.

observed expansion velocity distribution and narrow-band imaging, although the actual shell thickness is difficult to know without resolving it spatially. Abundances of the archetypal slow nova, DQ Her, were used (Ferland et al. 1984), although a later test is used to check the effect of this assumption, see Fig. 14. The free parameters that were iterated over are nebular density and central blackbody effective temperature until a satisfactory fit was reached. Line ratios estimated by individual models within the grid are extracted and plotted in Fig. 13. From this, an estimate of the shell density and effective temperature can be found for any observable set of line ratios included in the data base, at the distance estimated to the nova from us and the shell from the ionising source. Although the recovered spectral lines are reasonable density indicators, unfortunately they are not good temperature diagnostics at the high densities found here.

As PYCLOUDY drives a 1D ionization code, the 3D SHAPE model is simplified to 2D by taking a slice section of the SHAPE model (see bottom right-hand panel of Fig. 11). The spatial and velocity information is recorded in a data cube, which is then read by the modified version PYCLOUDY and a series of 1D CLOUDY simulations are computed along the 2D slice SHAPE model. Then, PYCLOUDY

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wraps the 2D ionization map around and flips it in order to create the full pseudo-3D photoionization model, see Fig. 12. It is interesting to note that observed line ratios are also inclination dependent, further complicating the problem. This technique is constrained to axisymmetric nebulae.

The grid of models presented in Fig. 13 sample the density and blackbody temperature parameter space for the 1D PYCLOUDY models. The free parameters were density (5.6–7.8 dex in 0.2 dex increments) and blackbody effective temperature (sampled at 60 000, 100 000, 140 000, and 160 000 K). The fixed parameters were inner and outer shell radii ($10^{16.65}$–$10^{17.25}$ cm), DQ Her nova shell abundances from Ferland et al. (1984), shell age (22 yr), turbulent velocity (300 km s^{-1}, affecting line width), source distance (600 pc) and a luminosity of 1×10^{38} erg s^{-1} (Ferland et al. 1984). The shell radius was informed by the observed expansion velocity and age of the nova.

The pseudo-3D model was then generated with the parameter fit to the PYCLOUDY grid as well as the geometry from the SHAPE model. Despite the number of assumptions required this basic model replicates the [N II] and [O III] emission distribution observed. The fit suggests a shell density in the range of 6.4–6.8 dex, see Fig. 13. A shell density of 6.6 dex and blackbody effective temperature of 10 000 K give an average shell electron temperature of 5800 K.

However, as other sources of ionization could not be simulated within the presented framework the ionization source effective temperature is overestimated given the poor temperature dependence of the recovered emission lines, at the derived densities. As such, the effective temperature derived for these models cannot be used. Although the observed lines are dependent on shell density, under the conditions present in the shell. Line strengths in this model include recombination, collisional, and photoionization contributions. The code cannot simulate shock ionization conditions.

To summarize the process employed to understand ionization conditions broad-band spectra are required from which line ratios are measured, ideally including UV and NIR lines. Then, PYCLOUDY is used to run a grid of CLOUDY models, the best-fitting model parameters are then run through the derived geometry. The geometry is found from matching line profiles in high-resolution spectra and narrow-band imaging in the SHAPE software. Polarimetry can be used to inform the PA of the shell. The inclination of the shell is related to the inclination of the binary, which can be found reliably if the binary system is eclipsing. With abundances adapted from the DQ Her nova shell model of Ferland et al. (1984), a pseudo-3D simulation of the ionization structure of PTB 42 / V4362 Sgr is constructed and can be seen in Fig. 12. The results show the difference in emission regions for the strongest nebular lines, i.e. [N II] and [O III]. Although not shown, Balmer lines, for nebulae in general, trace the [N II] emission.

5 DISCUSSION

In this paper, two previously undiscovered classical nova shells are uncovered and an analysis is conducted in an attempt to decipher gross characteristics. The two nova shells surround nova systems of the DQ Her type. Unfortunately, they were both poorly observed during eruption and maximum magnitude possibly missed, although more applicable to V4362 Sgr.

Due to fortuitous multi-epoch observations of the circumstellar environment of the two nova systems studied, distances were estimated. Distance estimation from the expansion parallax method are reliable and provide a good cross-check for distances derived in the *Gaia* era. Although both novae reported on here are bright and close enough to be recovered by *Gaia* DR2 (Gaia Collaboration 2018), on examining the Bailer-Jones et al. (2018) parallaxes and the results on the novae discussed in this work problems are present. First, Schaefer (2018) reports that the distance to DO Aql could not be reported due to source confusion. Here, since the nova progenitor is identified through the associated shell the source can be identified, but since the parallax error is twice that of the measured parallax, distance measurements are not reliable. *Gaia* data shows a visual companion separated from DO Aql by ∼0.9 arcsec. The objects can be distinguished via their colours, with DO Aql being the brighter bluer object. The *Gaia* parallactic distance to DO Aql is thus $1.5^{+1.7}_{-0.6}$ kpc, implying the expansion velocity reported by Vorontsov-Velyaminov (1940) from the 1926 spectrum may be an overestimate. This would better explain why a shell is observed around the DO Aql system, as they are generally observed around nova systems within the nearest kpc or two.

From PYCLOUDY simulations the long-term evolution of density conditions in nova outflow requires early interacting shocks to sustain an observable nova shell at late times, as suggested by Derdzinski et al. (2017). Higher densities in this way require a low filling factor to be consistent with the ejected shell mass estimates derived from radio observations of nova shells. A high degree of clumping is observed in most, if not all, nova shells resolved to the required degree to distinguish such phenomenology, see, for example, the well-resolved shell of GK Per (Seaquist et al. 1989; Anupama & Prabhu 1993; Liimets et al. 2012; Shara et al. 2012b; Harvey et al. 2016).

The most apparent difficulties that arise during analysis are in deriving the opening angles of polar and equatorial features with respect to the central system as well as the degree of clumping. At very early, as well as at late times, shocks are expected to play a role in clumping and the ionization of nova shells (Saizar et al. 1991; Derdzinski et al. 2017; Li et al. 2017).

Here, it is shown that from limited multi-epoch data from small-medium sized research telescopes and archival data new nova shells can be revealed. This holds true even if the nova eruption was poorly observed, as is the case with the two novae studied here. PTB 42 appears to be one of the closest nova systems ever observed from work presented here. Possibly due to its difficult to observe position in the Northern summer sky the system had not been identified by the nova community as an object worth extensive follow-up. With both the discovered shells surrounding DQ Her-like nova systems, and both eclipsing, they are attractive for follow-up studies.

The potential number of undiscovered nova shells is large (with only 10 per cent of the uncovered Galactic nova population having been shown to harbour shells) with many more systems are now expected to have resolvable shells with large aperture or space-based telescopes. As the nova shells inform the observer on aspects of the nova eruption and underlying binary, we finish with an appeal: for more such searches and follow-up deep observations that aid in untangling the geometry, ionization conditions, and system abundances. To date, nova studies have overwhelmingly focused on the nova event, but novae are non-destructive and their shells reveal information on the characteristics of the circumstellar medium, orientation of the underlying binary on the plane of the sky, the abundances of the secondary, the ejected mass, the white dwarf mass, and chemical enrichment through thermonuclear burning processes.

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DATA AVAILABILITY STATEMENT

All WISE data used in the preparation of this manuscript is available from https://irsa.ipac.caltech.edu/Missions/wise.html. Liverpool Telescope data can be acquired from https://telescope.livjm.ac.uk/cgi-bin/lt_search of both raw and calibrated data files using the object names or positions. Imaging data from the Skinakas and Aristachos telescopes, as well as spectroscopy data from MES at the SPM will be available at https://github.com/EJH-ljmu/TwoShells.

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