

Feeding versus feedback in AGN from near-infrared IFU observations: the case of Mrk 766

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ABSTRACT

We have mapped the emission-line flux distributions and ratios as well as the gaseous kinematics of the inner 450 pc radius of the type 1 Seyfert galaxy Mrk 766 using integral field near-infrared *J*- and *K_I*-band spectra obtained with the Gemini Near Infrared Integral Field Spectrograph at a spatial resolution of 60 pc and velocity resolution of 40 km s⁻¹. Emission-line flux distributions in ionized and molecular gas extend up to ≈ 300 pc from the nucleus. Coronal [S IX] λ1.2523 μm line emission is resolved, being extended up to 150 pc from the nucleus. At the highest flux levels, the [Fe II] λ1.257 μm line emission is most extended to the south-east, where a radio jet has been observed. The emission-line ratios [Fe II] λ1.2570 μm/Paβ and H₂λ2.1218 μm/Brγ show a mixture of Starburst and Seyfert excitation; the Seyfert excitation dominates at the nucleus, to the north-west and in an arc-shaped region between 0.2 and 0.6 arcsec to the south-east at the location of the radio jet. A contribution from shocks at this location is supported by enhanced [Fe II]/[P II] line ratios and increased [Fe II] velocity dispersion. The gas velocity field is dominated by rotation that is more compact for H₂ than for Paβ, indicating that the molecular gas has a colder kinematics and is located in the galaxy plane. There is about 10³ M_⊙ of hot H₂, implying ≈10⁹ M_⊙ of cold molecular gas. At the location of the radio jet, we observe an increase in the [Fe II] velocity dispersion (150 km s⁻¹), as well as both blueshift and redshifts in the channel maps, supporting the presence of an outflow there. The ionized gas mass outflow rate is estimated to be ≈10 M_⊙ yr⁻¹, and the power of the outflow ≈0.08 L_{bol}.

Key words: galaxies: active – galaxies: individual: Mrk 766 – galaxies: kinematics and dynamics – galaxies: nuclei – galaxies: Seyfert.

1 INTRODUCTION

The study of the extended emission in the narrow-line region (NLR) around nearby active galactic nuclei (AGN) allows the investigation of both the AGN feeding – via gas inflows (e.g. Fathi et al. 2006; Storchi-Bergmann et al. 2007; Davies et al. 2009; Müller Sánchez et al. 2009; Schnorr Müller et al. 2011) and feedback – via the interaction of the AGN radiation and mass outflow with the circumnuclear gas, affecting its kinematics and excitation (e.g. Wilson et al. 1993; Schmitt & Kinney 1996; Veilleux, Goodrich & Wilson 1997; Ferruit, Wilson & Mulchaey 2000; Veilleux, Cecil & Bland-Hawthorn 2005; Holt et al. 2006; Crenshaw & Kraemer

2007; Crenshaw et al. 2009, 2010a,b; Fischer et al. 2010, 2011; Müller-Sánchez et al. 2011).

Most studies on the feeding and feedback mechanisms of AGN presently available in the literature are based on optical observations, which are affected by dust obscuration, a problem that can be softened by the use of infrared (IR) observations. Another advantage of IR spectral region is that, besides observing ionized gas emission, we can also observe emission from molecular gas (H₂). Our group, AGN Integral Field Spectroscopy (AGNIFS), has been developing a project to map both the feeding and feedback in nearby AGN using near-infrared (NIR) integral field spectroscopic observations mostly with the instrument Near Infrared Integral Field Spectrograph (NIFS) at the Gemini North Telescope. The main findings of our group so far have been that the molecular gas – traced by *K*-band H₂ emission, and the ionized gas traced by H I recombination lines and [Fe II] emission, present distinct flux

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distributions and kinematics. Usually, the H_2 emitting gas is restricted to the plane of the galaxy, while the ionized gas extends also to high latitudes and is associated with the radio emission, when present (Riffel et al. 2006a, 2008, 2009, 2011; Storchi-Bergmann et al. 2009, 2010; Riffel, Storchi-Bergmann & Nagar 2010). The H_2 kinematics is usually dominated by rotation, including in some cases, streaming motions towards the nucleus, while the kinematics of the ionized gas, and in particular of the $[\text{Fe II}]$ emitting gas, shows also, in many cases, a strong outflowing component associated with radio jets from the AGN. Similar results have been found using the Spectrograph for Integral Field Observations in the Near Infrared at the Very Large Telescope. Davies et al. (2009) found molecular gas inflows towards the nucleus of NGC 1097 and Müller Sánchez et al. (2009) mapped similar H_2 inflows feeding and obscuring the active nucleus of NGC 1068, while Müller-Sánchez et al. (2011) mapped outflows in ionized gas around seven AGN.

In this work, we present the gaseous distribution and kinematics of the inner 450 pc radius of the narrow-line type 1 Seyfert (Seyfert 1) galaxy Mrk 766 (NGC 4253) a barred spiral galaxy (SBa), located at a distance of 60.6 Mpc, for which 1 arcsec corresponds to 294 pc at the galaxy. The *Hubble Space Telescope* (*HST*) images of this galaxy show some irregular dust filaments around the nucleus (Malkan, Gorjian & Tam 1998). Kukula et al. (1995) show that the radio source appears to be extended to south-east (SE) in position angle (PA) $\approx 150^\circ$ (on a scale of ≈ 1.0 arcsec). The optical emission is extended beyond the radio structure (González Delgado & Pérez 1996). The NIR spectrum is well described by Rodríguez-Ardila, Contini & Viegas (2005a), showing a large number of permitted lines of H I , He I , He II and Fe II , and by forbidden lines of $[\text{S II}]$, $[\text{S III}]$ and $[\text{Fe II}]$. High-ionization lines like $[\text{Si IX}]$, $[\text{Si X}]$, $[\text{S IX}]$ and $[\text{Mg VIII}]$ are also observed. The X-ray observations of this galaxy show that it is a strong variable source, with evidences of the amplitude being larger at ≈ 2 keV. The mass of the supermassive black hole has been accurately measured via reverberation mapping by Bentz et al. (2009), resulting in a mass of $1.76_{-1.40}^{+1.56} \times 10^6 M_\odot$. There are no CO observations for this galaxy in the literature.

Mrk 766 was selected for this study because: (i) it presents strong NIR emission lines (e.g. Rodríguez-Ardila et al. 2005a), allowing the mapping of the gaseous distribution and kinematics; and (ii) it has radio emission, allowing the investigation of the role of the radio jet (Kukula et al. 1995) in the gas excitation and kinematics. This paper is organized as follows: In Section 2, we describe the observations and data reduction procedures. The results are presented in Section 3 and discussed in Section 4. We present our conclusions in Section 5.

2 OBSERVATIONS AND DATA REDUCTION

The observations of Mrk 766 were obtained using the NIFS (McGregor et al. 2003) operating with the Gemini North Adaptive Optics system ALTAIR in 2010 June under the programme GN-2010A-Q-42, following the standard Sky-Object-Object-Sky dither sequence. Observations were obtained in the J band using the J_G5603 grating and ZJ_G0601 filter, and in the K_I band using the KI_G5607 grating and HK_G0603 filter.

On-source and sky position observations were both obtained with individual exposure times of 550 s. Two sets of observations with six on-source individual exposures were obtained: the first, in the J band, was centred at $1.25 \mu\text{m}$ and covered the spectral range 1.14 to $1.36 \mu\text{m}$, and the second, in the K_I band, was centred at $2.3 \mu\text{m}$ and covered the spectral range 2.10 to $2.53 \mu\text{m}$.

The data reduction procedure included trimming of the images, flat-fielding, sky subtraction, wavelength and spatial distortion calibrations. We also removed the telluric bands and flux calibrated the frames by interpolating a blackbody function to the spectrum of the telluric standard star. These procedures were executed using tasks contained in the NIFS software package which is part of GEMINI IRAF package, as well as generic IRAF tasks. In order to check our flux calibration, we extracted a nuclear spectrum with the same aperture of a previous spectrum of the galaxy by Rodríguez-Ardila et al. (2004). The two spectra are very similar to each other (considering the difference in spectral resolution), with the largest difference in flux being about 5 per cent at $2.2 \mu\text{m}$. The final integral field unit (IFU) data cube for each band contains ~ 4200 spectra, with each spectrum corresponding to an angular coverage of $0.05 \text{ arcsec} \times 0.05 \text{ arcsec}$, which translates into $\approx 15 \times 15 \text{ pc}^2$ at the galaxy and covering the inner $3 \text{ arcsec} \times 3 \text{ arcsec}$ ($\approx 900 \times 900 \text{ pc}^2$) of the galaxy.

The full width at half-maximum (FWHM) of the arc lamp lines in the J band is 1.65 \AA , corresponding in velocity space to 40 km s^{-1} , while in the K_I band the FWHM of the arc lamp lines is 3.45 \AA , corresponding to 45 km s^{-1} . The angular resolution obtained from the FWHM of the spatial profile of the flux distribution of the broad component of the $\text{Pa}\beta$ and $\text{Br}\gamma$ lines and is $0.21 \text{ arcsec} \pm 0.03 \text{ arcsec}$ for the J band and $0.19 \text{ arcsec} \pm 0.03 \text{ arcsec}$ for the K_I band, corresponding to 60 and 55 pc at the galaxy, respectively.

3 RESULTS

In the top-left panel of Fig. 1, we present an optical image of Mrk 766 obtained with the Lick observatory Nickel telescope (Hunt et al. 1999). In the top-right panel, we present an optical image of Mrk 766 obtained with the *HST* Wide Field Planetary Camera 2 (WFPC2) through the filter $F606W$ (Malkan et al. 1998). In the bottom panels we present, to the left, a zoom of the *HST* image within the field of view (FOV) covered by the NIFS observations and to the right an image obtained from the NIFS data cube within a continuum window centred at $2.22 \mu\text{m}$. In Fig. 2, we present two IFU spectra integrated within a $0.25 \text{ arcsec} \times 0.25 \text{ arcsec}$ aperture: one at the nucleus and the other at 0.5 arcsec east of it (Position A), chosen randomly with the purpose of just presenting a characteristic extranuclear spectrum. The nucleus was defined to be the location of the peak flux in the continuum.

We list in Table 1 the emission-line fluxes we could measure from these two spectra, which comprise 20 emission lines from the species $[\text{P II}]$, $[\text{Fe II}]$, He II , H I , H_2 , $[\text{S IX}]$ and $[\text{Ca VIII}]$. They were measured with the *splot* task in IRAF and the uncertainties were estimated as the standard deviation of the average of six measurements.

3.1 Emission-line flux distributions

In order to map the flux distributions as well as the centroid velocity and velocity dispersion fields, we used the PROFIT routine (Riffel 2010) to fit the profiles of $[\text{P II}] \lambda 1.1886 \mu\text{m}$, $[\text{S IX}] \lambda 1.2523 \mu\text{m}$, $[\text{Fe II}] \lambda 1.2570 \mu\text{m}$, $\text{Pa}\beta \lambda 1.2822 \mu\text{m}$, $\text{H}_2 \lambda 2.1218 \mu\text{m}$ and $\text{Br}\gamma \lambda 2.1661 \mu\text{m}$ emission lines at each pixel over the whole FOV. These emission lines were chosen because they have the highest signal-to-noise ratio (S/N) among their species (coronal, ionized and molecular gas). The flux values (as well as those of the central wavelength and width of the profile, see next sections) were obtained by the fit of the profiles using both Gaussian and Gauss–Hermite (GH) series. We found out that the latter gave better fits to most lines, except for the $[\text{S IX}]$ line, for which the GH

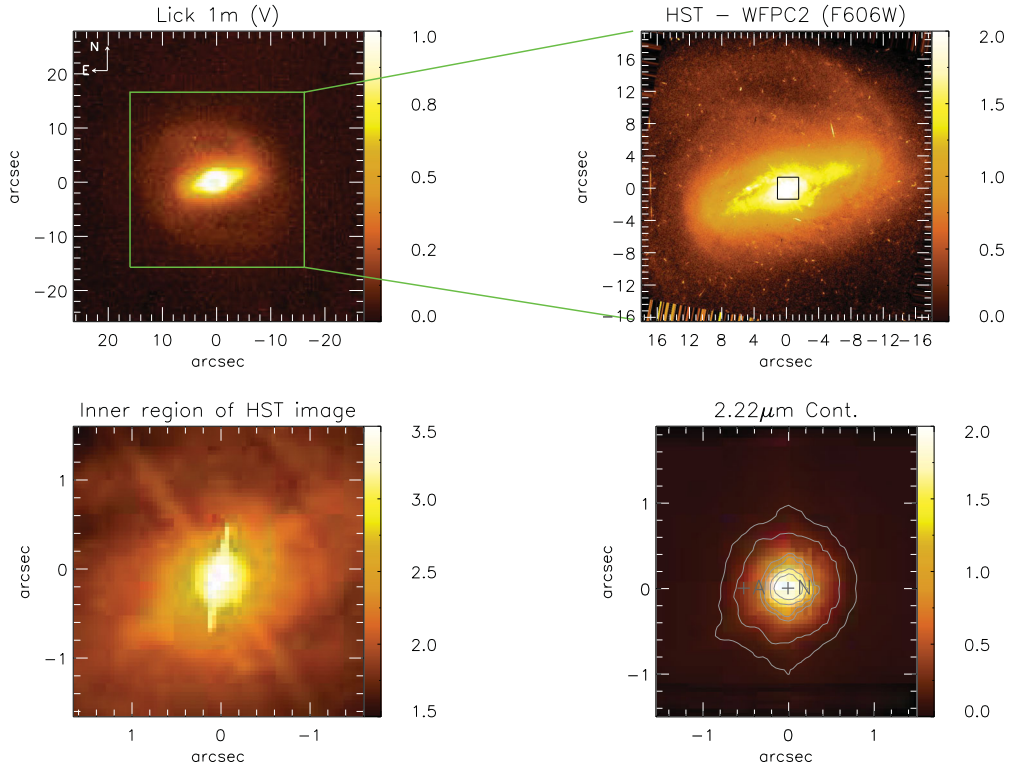


Figure 1. Top-left panel: Lick 1 m telescope *V*-band image of Mrk 766 (Hunt et al. 1999) in arbitrary flux units. Top-right panel: *HST*-WFPC2 continuum image of Mrk 766 obtained through the filter *F606W* (Malkan et al. 1998). Bottom-left panel: zoom of the inner 3.0 arcsec \times 3.0 arcsec of the *HST*-WFPC2 image. The colour bars for the *HST* images show the flux in arbitrary units. Bottom-right panel: 2.22 μ m continuum image obtained from the NIFS data cube with fluxes shown in units of 10^{-17} erg s $^{-1}$ cm $^{-2}$. The position angle of the major axis of the galaxy is PA = 73 $^\circ$ and the bar is oriented along PA = 105 $^\circ$. The box in the *HST* image shows the NIFS FOV. The labels A and N mark the position where the spectra of Fig. 2 have been extracted.

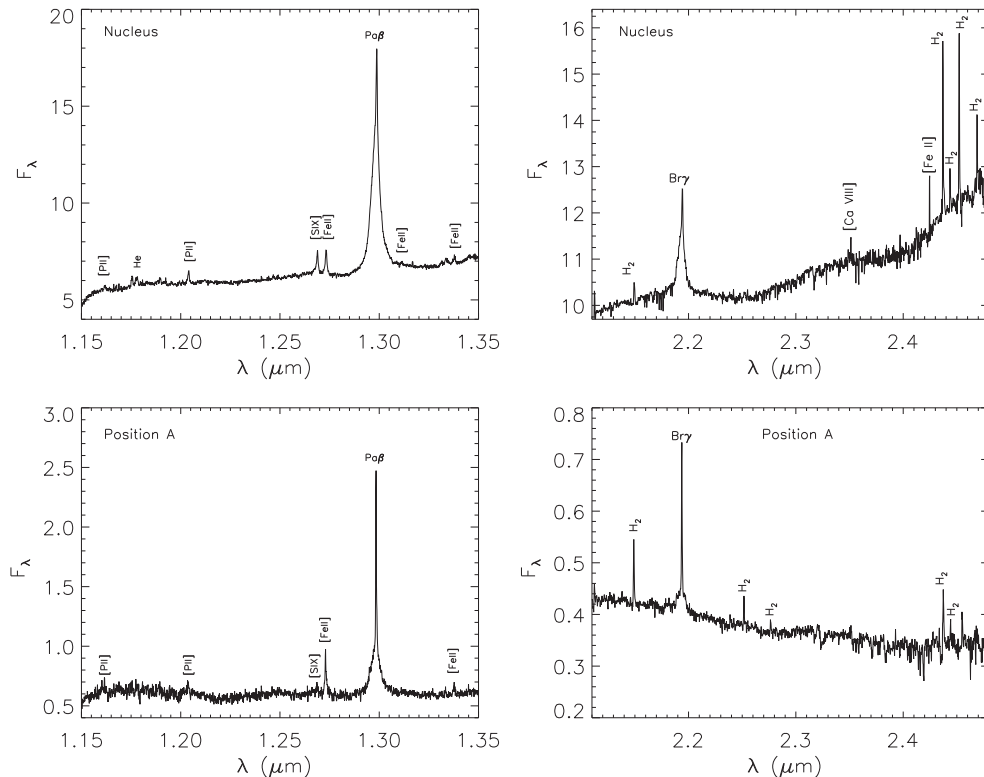
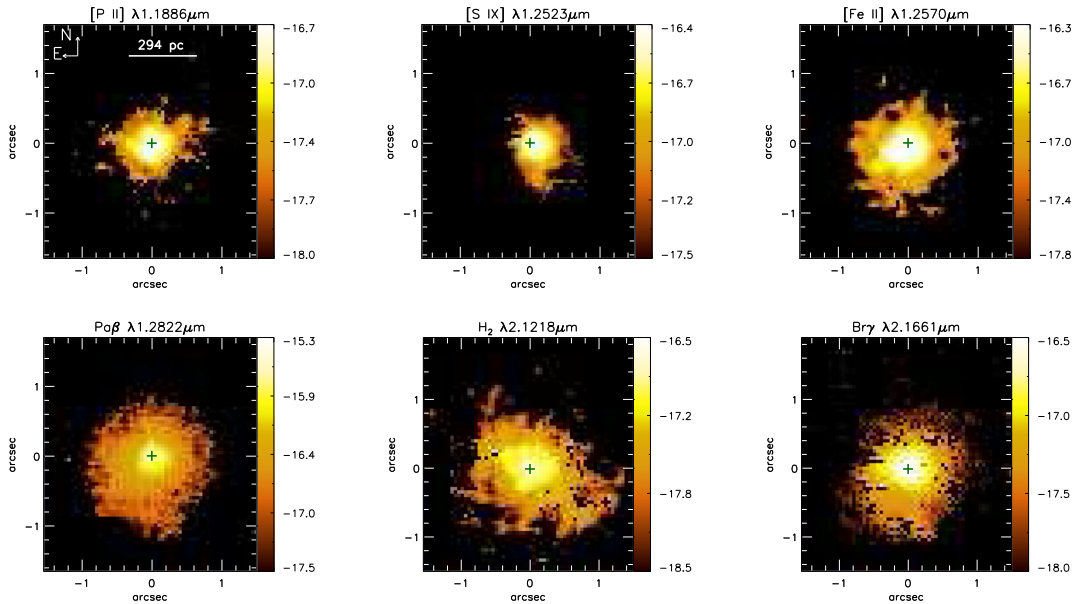


Figure 2. Spectra obtained within a 0.25 arcsec \times 0.25 arcsec aperture centred at the nucleus and at 0.5 arcsec east from it (Position A, marked in Fig. 1). The flux is in 10^{-17} erg s $^{-1}$ cm $^{-2}$ \AA^{-1} units.

Table 1. Measured emission-line fluxes (in units of 10^{-16} erg s $^{-1}$ cm $^{-2}$) for the two positions identified in Fig. 1.

λ_{vac} (μm)	ID	Nucleus F(10^{-16} erg s $^{-1}$ cm $^{-2}$)	Position A F(10^{-16} erg s $^{-1}$ cm $^{-2}$)
1.18861	[P II] $^1D_2 - ^3P_2$	4.89 ± 0.2	–
1.25235	[S IX] $^3P_1 - ^3P_2$	10.45 ± 0.6	0.39 ± 0.05
1.25702	[Fe II] $a^4D_{7/2} - a^6D_{9/2}$	12.98 ± 0.6	2.59 ± 0.2
1.28216	H I Pa β (narrow)	34.1 ± 2	6.39 ± 0.82
1.28216	H I Pa β (broad)	421.7 ± 20	6.39 ± 0.82
1.32092	[Fe II] $a^4D_{7/2} - a^6D_{7/2}$	1.28 ± 0.1	0.51 ± 0.03
2.12183	H $_2$ 1-0S(1)	5.66 ± 0.03	1.21 ± 0.17
2.15420	H $_2$ 2-1S(2)	–	–
2.16612	H I Br γ (narrow)	8.46 ± 0.3	2.21 ± 0.45
2.16612	H I Br γ (broad)	90.0 ± 4	2.21 ± 0.45
2.18911	He II 10-7	1.96 ± 0.12	–
2.22344	H $_2$ 1-0 S(0)	–	0.41 ± 0.09
2.24776	H $_2$ 2-1 S(1)	–	0.25 ± 0.02
2.32204	[Ca VIII] $^2P_{3/2}^0 - ^2P_{1/2}^0$	1.56 ± 0.80	–
2.36760	[Fe II] $a^4G_{9/2} - a^4H_{9/2}$	52.2 ± 0.83	–
2.39396	[Fe II] $b^4D_{7/2} - a^2F_{7/2}$	10.6 ± 1.76	–
2.40847	H $_2$ 1-0 Q(1)	23.70 ± 2.24	1.02 ± 0.19
2.41367	H $_2$ 1-0 Q(2)	22.6 ± 1.30	0.32 ± 0.02
2.42180	H $_2$ 1-0 Q(3)	36.70 ± 2.01	–
2.43697	H $_2$ 1-0 Q(4)	75.7 ± 1.12	–


Figure 3. Emission-line flux distributions. Flux levels are shown according to the colour bar in logarithmic units (erg s $^{-1}$ cm $^{-2}$).

fits introduced extra wings in some regions where the line was weak. We decided then to adopt the parameters of the fit obtained from the GH for all lines except for [S IX], for which we adopted the fit with Gaussians. In the case of Pa β and Br γ , we have also fitted a broad component to the line. This was done via a modification of the *profit* routine to fit the broad component and subtract its contribution from the profiles in order to generate a data cube only with the narrow component. The steps in this procedure were: (i) fit only one Gaussian to the broad component; (ii) subtract it from the spectra where it is present, and (iii) fit the narrow component.

In Fig. 3, we present the resulting flux distribution maps, where we have masked out the bad fits by using the χ^2 map, which is an

output from the *profit* routine. All maps have their peak fluxes at the same position, which also coincides with that of the peak of the continuum: the nucleus.

The [P II] and [S IX] flux distributions are the most compact, reaching about 0.5 arcsec from the nucleus in all directions in the case of the former, and being more extended to the south-west in the case of the latter. Another coronal line (not shown in the figure), [Ca VIII] $\lambda 2.3220 \mu\text{m}$, also shows a similarly compact flux distribution, indicating that the coronal line region is compact but resolved, extending up to 150 pc from the nucleus, what is a typical radius for this region (e.g. Rodríguez-Ardila et al. 2006; Storchi-Bergmann et al. 2009; Mazzalay, Rodríguez-Ardila & Komossa 2010; Riffel et al. 2011).

The highest levels of the [P II] flux distribution are more elongated towards the SE. This elongation is also observed in the [Fe II] emission, which reaches 0.8 arcsec (240 pc) from the nucleus in that direction. The Pa β flux distribution is the most extended in all directions, reaching up to 1 arcsec from the nucleus. The Br γ flux distribution is very similar to that of Pa β , although noisier due to its lower flux. The H $_2$ flux distribution is somewhat distinct, being elongated from north-east to south-west, thus approximately perpendicular to the elongation of the [Fe II] flux distribution, reaching 1.5 arcsec (440 pc) from the nucleus towards the south-west.

3.2 Emission-line ratios

In Fig. 4, we present line-ratio maps obtained from the flux maps, where regions with bad fits were masked out. The average uncertainties in the line-ratio values are ≈ 10 per cent. In the left-hand panel, we present the [Fe II] $\lambda 1.2570 \mu\text{m}/\text{Pa}\beta$ ratio map, which can be used to investigate the excitation mechanism of [Fe II] (e.g. Rodríguez-Ardila et al. 2004; Rodríguez-Ardila, Riffel & Pastoriza 2005b; Storchi-Bergmann et al. 2009; Riffel et al. 2011). The values of [Fe II]/Pa β for Mrk 766 range from 0.2 (most locations) to 1.0 with the highest values – between 0.6 and 1 – being observed between 0.2 and 0.6 arcsec to the SE of the nucleus. Another line ratio that can be used to investigate the [Fe II] excitation mechanism is [Fe II] $\lambda 1.2570 \mu\text{m}/[\text{P II}] \lambda 1.8861 \mu\text{m}$. Values larger than 2 indicate that shocks have passed through the gas destroying the dust grains, releasing the Fe and enhancing its abundance and emission (e.g. Oliva et al. 2001; Storchi-Bergmann et al. 2009; Riffel et al. 2010, 2011). We present this ratio map in the central panel of Fig. 4. The lowest values, (≤ 2), are observed to the north and north-west of the nucleus while the highest values of ≈ 7.0 are observed in a narrow strip at ≈ 0.6 arcsec to the SE of the nucleus, approximately at the border of the region with the highest values of [Fe II]/Pa β .

In the right-hand panel of Fig. 4, we present the H $_2\lambda 2.1218 \mu\text{m}/\text{Br}\gamma$ ratio map, which is useful to investigate the excitation of the H $_2$ emission line (e.g. Rodríguez-Ardila et al. 2004, 2005b; Riffel, Rodríguez-Ardila & Pastoriza 2006b; Riffel et al. 2008, 2009; Storchi-Bergmann et al. 2009). In Mrk 766, the values of this ratio range from 0.2 to 2.0. The lowest values are observed at the nucleus and in most regions to the south and SE, except for the region between 0.2 and 0.6 arcsec to the SE where the values increase to ≈ 0.8 (where both [Fe II]/Pa β and [Fe II]/[P II] show larger values). Such increased values are also observed to the north where they reach ≈ 1.25 . At approximately 1 arcsec to the

south-west, the values reach up to ≈ 2 , although the fit of the lines is not so good and the uncertainty is high there.

3.3 Gas kinematics

The *profit* routine (Riffel 2010) that we have used to obtain the flux of the emission lines, provide also the centroid velocity (V), velocity dispersion (σ) and higher order GH moments (h_3 and h_4), which have been used to map the gas kinematics. In Fig. 5, we present the centroid velocity fields after subtraction of the heliocentric systemic velocity of $3853 \pm 17 \text{ km s}^{-1}$, which was obtained through a model fitted to the Pa β velocity field, as discussed in Section 4.3. The uncertainties in the velocity maps range from 5 to 20 km s^{-1} depending on the S/N of the spectra (which decrease from the centre towards the border of the mapped region). The white regions in the figures represent locations where the S/N was not high enough to allow the fitting of the line profiles. All velocity fields show blueshifts to the east (left in the figures) and redshifts to the west, with the line of nodes oriented at a position angle (PA) of approximately 80° (see Section 4.3), with the isovelocity lines showing an approximate ‘spider diagram’ characteristic of rotation.

Fig. 6 shows the velocity dispersion maps corresponding to the centroid velocity maps of Fig. 5. As in the case of the centroid velocities, the uncertainties in the velocity dispersion maps range from 5 to 20 km s^{-1} depending on the S/N of the spectra. The white regions in the figures represent locations where the S/N was not high enough to allow the fitting of the line profiles. The [Fe II] σ map shows the highest values of up to 150 km s^{-1} to the SE of the nucleus and lowest values, down to 75 km s^{-1} , to the north-west. The [P II] σ map has medium values with soft deviations. The Pa β σ map shows high values at the nucleus and also 0.4 arcsec to the south and 0.6 arcsec to the north and lower values to the east, south and west of this central region. The higher values at the nuclear region may be due to residual contamination from the broad component of the line. The H $_2$ emitting gas presents the lowest σ values, which are smaller than 70 km s^{-1} at most locations. We do not show the h_3 and h_4 maps because their values are low and do not present any systematic behaviour.

3.4 Channel maps

Channel maps along the emission-line profiles are shown in Figs 7–10 for the [S IX], [Fe II], Pa β and H $_2$ emission lines, respectively. Each panel presents the flux distribution in logarithmic units

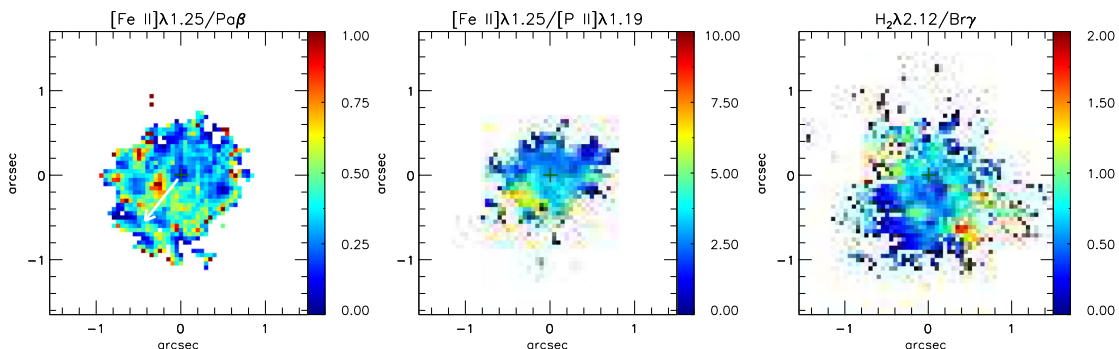


Figure 4. Emission-line ratio maps. In the left-hand panel, we show the [Fe II] $\lambda 1.2570 \mu\text{m}/\text{Pa}\beta$ ratio map, in the central panel the [Fe II] $\lambda 1.2570 \mu\text{m}/[\text{P II}] \lambda 1.8861 \mu\text{m}$ ratio map and in the right-hand panel the H $_2\lambda 2.1218 \mu\text{m}/\text{Br}\gamma$ ratio map. The central cross marks the position of the nucleus. The white arrow in [Fe II]/Pa β panel shows the extent of the radio structure (Kukula et al. 1995).

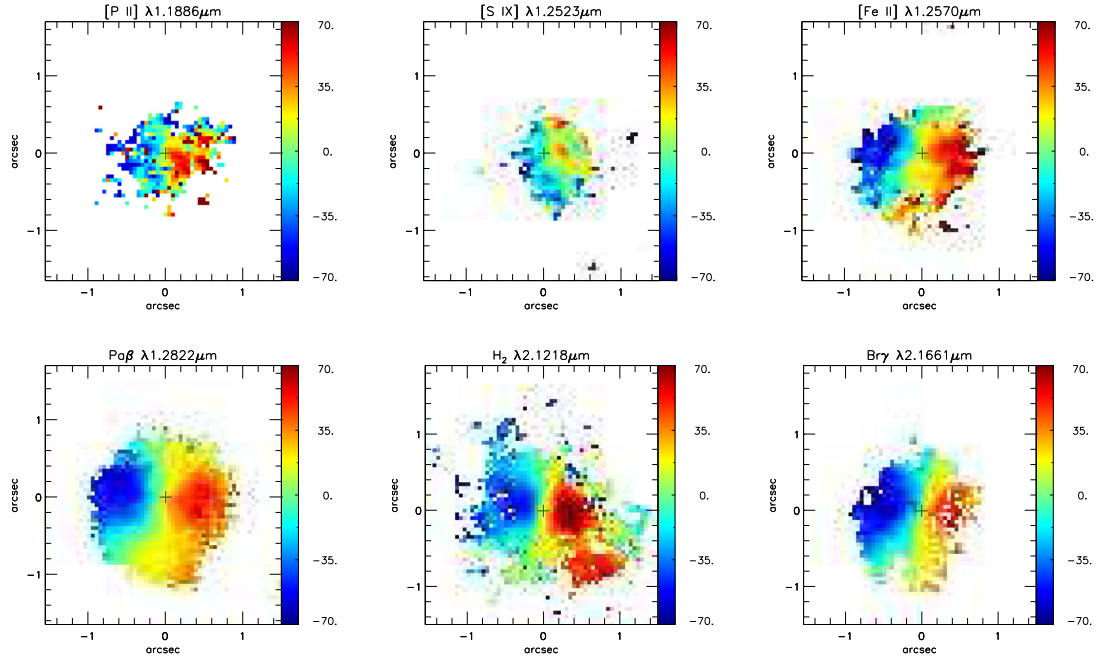


Figure 5. Centroid velocity field for the [P II] $\lambda 1.1886 \mu\text{m}$ (top left), [S IX] $\lambda 1.2523 \mu\text{m}$ (top middle), [Fe II] $\lambda 1.2570 \mu\text{m}$ (top right), Pa β (bottom left), H $_2$ $\lambda 2.1218 \mu\text{m}$ (bottom middle) and Br γ (bottom right) emitting gas. The central cross marks the position of the nucleus. The colour bar shows the velocities in units of km s^{-1} .

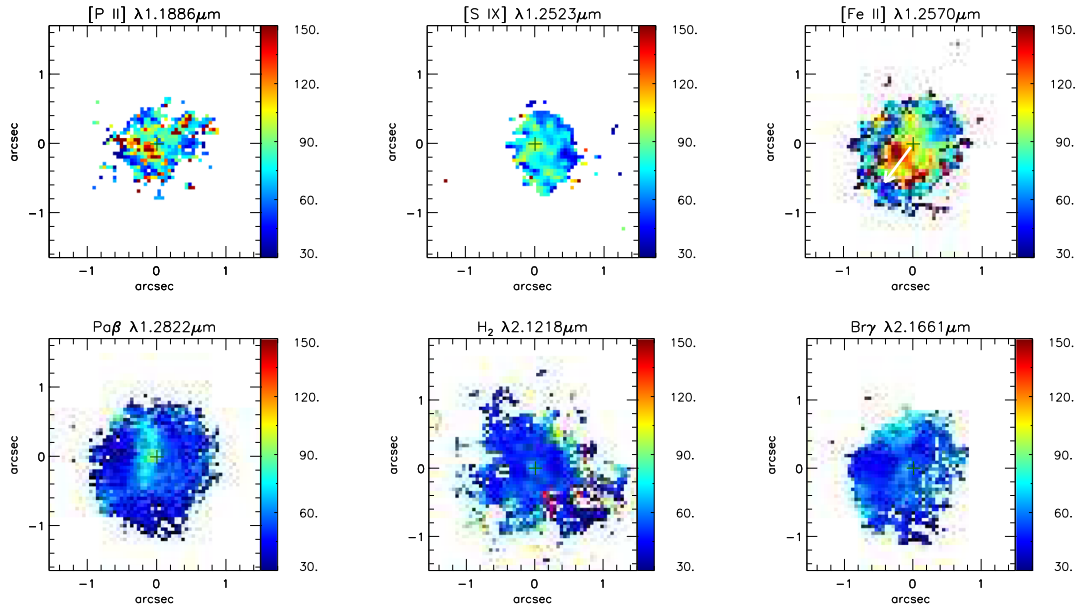


Figure 6. σ maps for the same emission lines of Fig. 5. The central cross marks the position of the nucleus. The colour bars show the σ values in units of km s^{-1} . The white arrow in [Fe II] panel shows the extent of the radio structure (Kukula et al. 1995).

integrated in velocity bins centred at the velocity shown in the top-left corner of each panel (relative to the systemic velocity of the galaxy). The central cross marks the position of the nucleus. We do not show channel maps for [P II] and Br γ because the [P II] maps are similar to those of [Fe II] and those for Br γ are similar to those of Pa β but noisier.

In Fig. 7, the channel maps along the [S IX] emission-line profile show the flux distributions integrated within velocity bins of 25 km s^{-1} (corresponding to one spectral pixel). At the highest

velocities the emission is extended 0.5 arcsec to the south/south-west, and at the lowest velocities, the [S IX] is concentrated in the nucleus.

In Fig. 8, the channel maps along the [Fe II] emission-line profile show the flux distributions integrated within velocity bins of 105 km s^{-1} (corresponding to three spectral pixels) for the highest velocities and 50 km s^{-1} for the central panels (corresponding to two spectral pixels). All [Fe II] channel maps present flux distributions which are elongated towards the SE, up to ≈ 0.9 arcsec (270 pc)

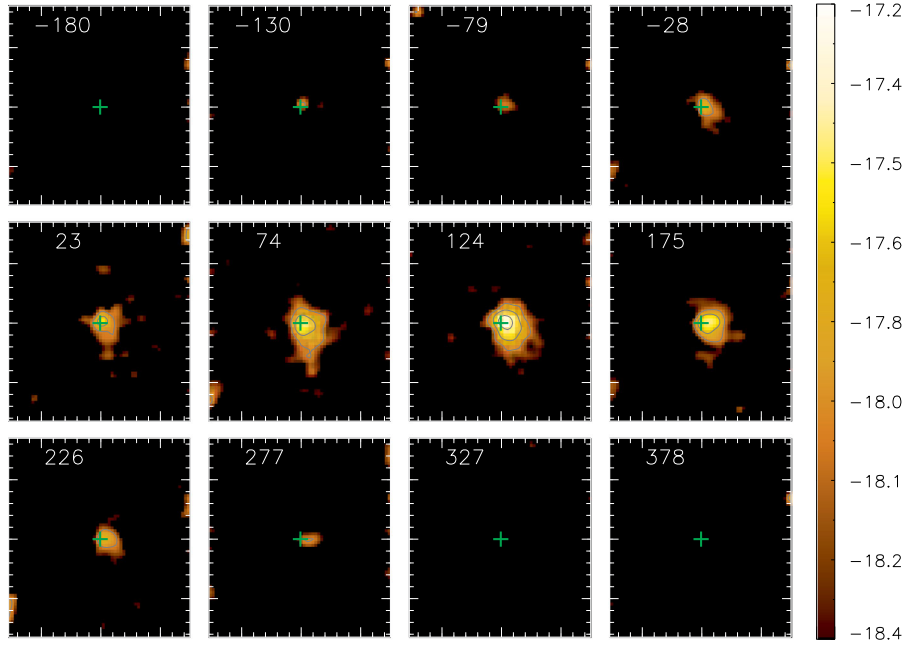


Figure 7. Channel maps along the [S II] emission-line profile, centred at the velocity shown in the upper-left corner of each panel in km s^{-1} . The long tick marks are separated by 1 arcsec and the cross marks the position of the nucleus.

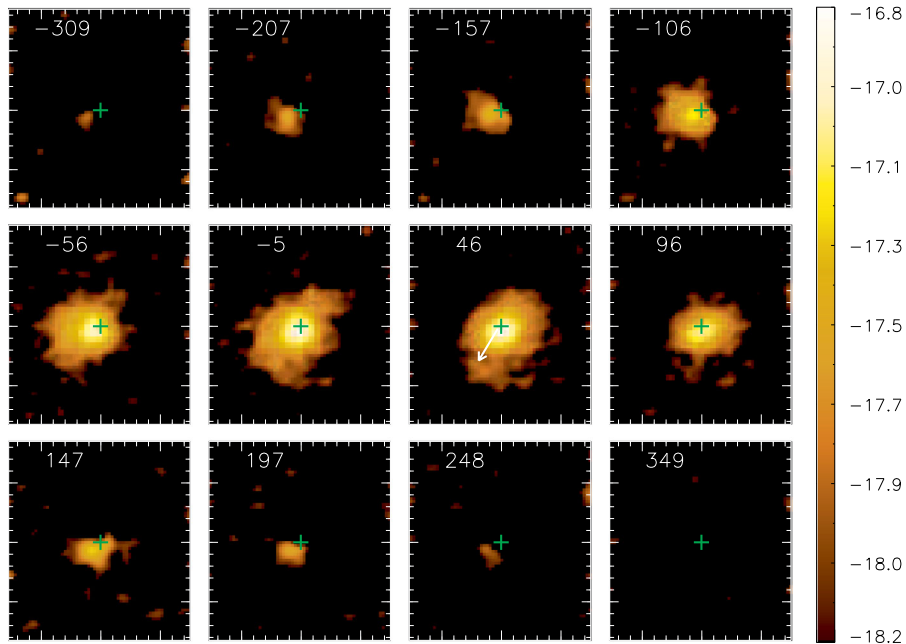


Figure 8. Channel maps along [Fe II] emission-line profile. Description as in Fig. 7, with a white arrow showing the extent of the radio structure (Kukula et al. 1995).

from the nucleus. Both the highest blueshifts and highest redshifts, which reach 250 km s^{-1} , are also observed to the SE of the nucleus.

Fig. 9 shows the channel maps for the Pa β emitting gas for the same velocity bins as for [Fe II]. The highest blueshifts and redshifts are observed mostly at the nucleus, but are probably due to residuals of a broad component to the line which was fitted and subtracted.

The flux distributions are more extended and more symmetrically distributed around the nucleus than those of the [Fe II] channel maps.

Fig. 10 shows the channel maps for the H₂ emitting gas, for velocity bins of 30 km s^{-1} . The highest blueshifts and redshifts, reaching $\approx 130 \text{ km s}^{-1}$, are observed to the north-east and south-west of the nucleus, respectively, following the line of nodes of the

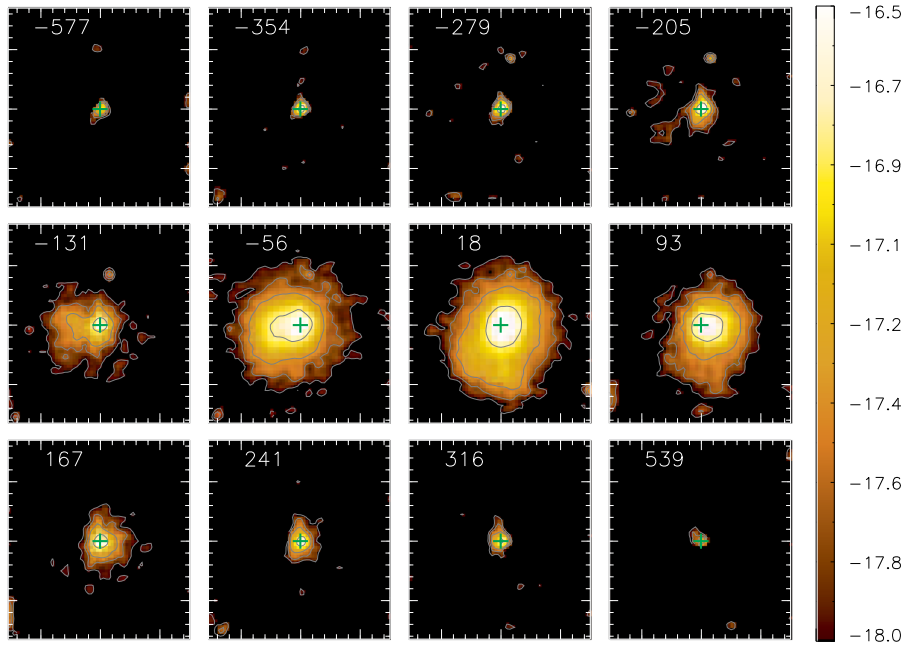


Figure 9. Channel maps along Pa β emission-line profile. Description as in Fig. 7.

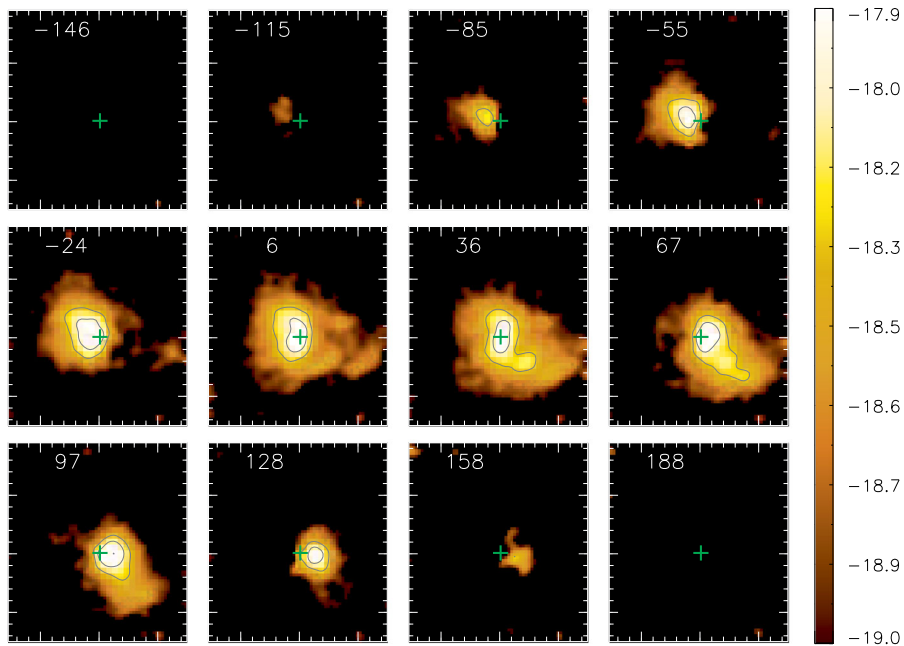


Figure 10. Channel maps along H₂ emission-line profile. Description as in Fig. 7.

galaxy, as seen in Fig. 5. For zero and positive velocities there is a structure extending from the nucleus to the south-west.

4 DISCUSSION

4.1 Gaseous excitation

4.1.1 Diagnostic diagram

In order to further map the excitation of the circumnuclear line-emitting region, we constructed a spectral diagnostic diagram

with the ratios $[\text{Fe II}] \lambda 1.2570 \mu\text{m}/\text{Pa}\beta$ versus $\text{H}_2\lambda 2.1218 \mu\text{m}/\text{Br}\gamma$ (Larkin et al. 1998; Rodríguez-Ardila et al. 2004, 2005b; Riffel et al. 2010), shown in Fig. 11. Typical values for the nuclei of Seyfert galaxies range between 0.6 and 2.0 for both ratios (Rodríguez-Ardila et al. 2005b), while for Starbursts the values are smaller than 0.6 and for low-ionization nuclear emission-line regions (LINERs) the values are larger than 2, as shown in the top panel of Fig. 11. In this figure, the black filled circles represent Seyfert ratios, the blue open circles Starbursts ratios and red crosses represent ratios of LINERs. Most ratios present Starburst and Seyfert values, with a few LINER values. The locations from where the distinct line ratios

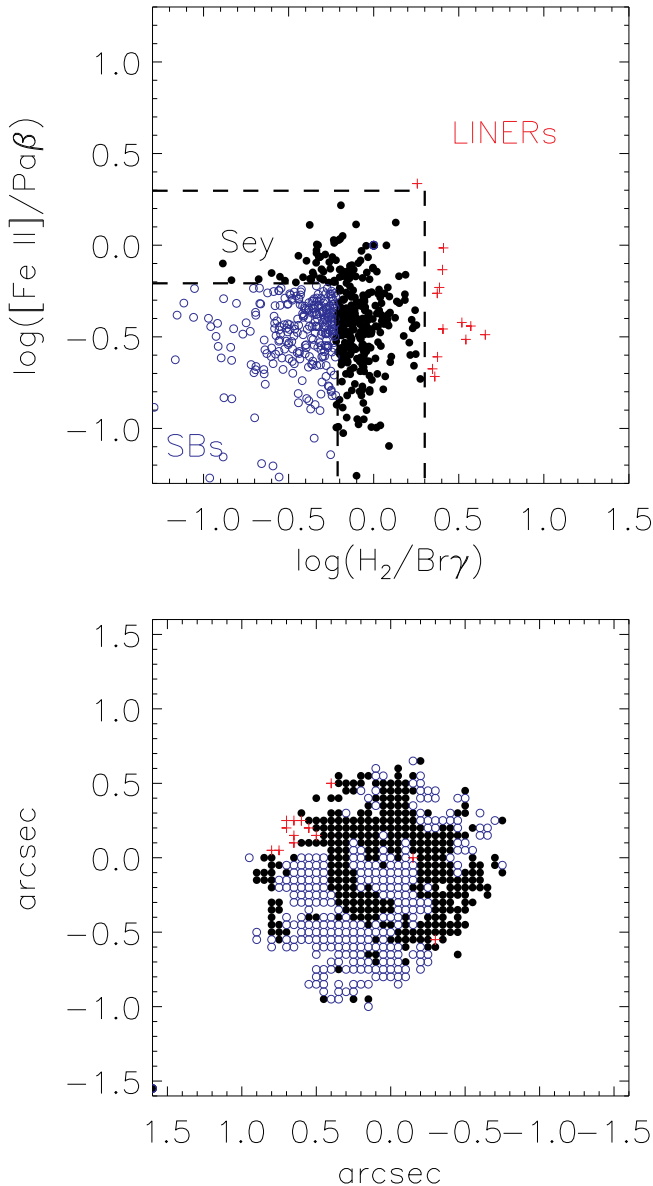


Figure 11. Top panel: $[\text{Fe II}] \lambda 1.25 \mu\text{m}/\text{Pa}\beta$ versus $\text{H}_2 \lambda 2.12 \mu\text{m}/\text{Br}\gamma$ line-ratio diagnostic diagram. The dashed lines delimit regions with ratios typical of Starbursts (blue open circles), Seyferts (black filled circles) and LINERs (red crosses). Bottom panel: spatial position of each point from the diagnostic diagram.

originate are shown in the bottom panel of Fig. 11. Seyfert ratios are found at the nucleus, in most regions to the north and between 0.2 and 0.6 arcsec to the SE. In a few locations to the north of the nucleus, between the nucleus and the region of enhanced ratios (at 0.2–0.6 arcsec) and beyond this region, Starburst ratios are found. LINER ratios are only found at the south-west border of the mapped region.

4.1.2 The H_2 emission

The excitation of warm H_2 has been the subject of many previous studies (e.g. Black & van Dishoeck 1987; Hollenbach & McKee 1989; Storch-Bergmann et al. 1999, 2009; Reunanen, Kotilainen & Prieto 2002; Rodríguez-Ardila et al. 2004; Davies et al. 2005; Rodríguez-Ardila et al. 2005b; Riffel, Rodríguez-Ardila &

Pastoriza 2006b; Riffel et al. 2008, 2009, 2010; Guillard et al. 2010; Mazzalay et al. 2013; Riffel, Storch-Bergmann & Winge 2013). Summarizing, these studies have shown that the H_2 emission lines can be excited by two mechanisms: (i) fluorescent excitation through absorption of soft-UV photons (912–1108 Å) in the Lyman and Werner bands (Black & van Dishoeck 1987) and (ii) collisional excitation due to heating of the gas by shocks, in the interaction of a radio jet with the interstellar medium (Hollenbach & McKee 1989) or heating by X-rays from the central AGN (Maloney, Hollenbach & Tielens 1996). The second mechanism is usually referred to as thermal process since it involves the local heating of the emitting gas, while the first is usually called a non-thermal process. Previous studies have verified that non-thermal processes are not important for most galaxies studied so far (e.g. Rodríguez-Ardila et al. 2004, 2005b; Riffel et al. 2010).

In the case of Mrk 766, the $\text{H}_2/\text{Br}\gamma$ ratio (Fig. 4) is larger than 0.6 to the north-east of the nucleus and in the arc-shaped region between 0.2 and 0.5 arcsec to the SE supporting Seyfert excitation there. The origin of the H_2 excitation could be fluorescence or thermal excitation. One possible evidence for fluorescence (a non-thermal process) is a ratio between the H_2 lines $2.24/2.12 \mu\text{m}$ higher than 0.6 (Storch-Bergmann et al. 2009). We could measure this ratio at position A, where the value is ~ 0.2 , favouring thermal excitation. At a number of other positions, the $2.24 \mu\text{m}$ line is fainter, but wherever it could be measured, the line ratio is smaller than 0.2. This line ratio thus seems to favour thermal excitation due to heating by X-rays or shocks from a radio jet (which seems to be present to the SE) in the region with ‘Seyfert excitation’, although there is no clear signature of shocks such as an increase in velocity dispersion as observed in the $[\text{Fe II}]$ emission.

In the remaining regions, the $\text{H}_2/\text{Br}\gamma$ ratio is smaller than 0.6, supporting starburst excitation via heating from shocks in supernovae (SNe) winds and/or by UV radiation from young stars. The presence of starbursts in the nuclear region is in agreement with the results of Rodríguez-Ardila & Viegas (2003), who reported the observation of the polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon $3.3 \mu\text{m}$ feature in the IR spectrum of Mrk 766 within the inner 150 pc, suggesting the presence of recent star formation there. The mixed Seyfert and Starburst excitation is also seen in the diagnostic diagram of Fig. 11.

4.1.3 The $[\text{Fe II}]$ emission

Using the $[\text{Fe II}] \lambda 1.2570 \mu\text{m}/\text{Pa}\beta$ and $[\text{Fe II}] \lambda 1.2570 \mu\text{m}/[\text{P II}] \lambda 1.8861 \mu\text{m}$ line-ratio maps shown in Fig. 4, we can investigate the excitation mechanism of $[\text{Fe II}]$. The first ratio $[\text{Fe II}] \lambda 1.2570 \mu\text{m}/\text{Pa}\beta$ is controlled by the ratio between the volumes of partially to fully ionized gas regions, as the $[\text{Fe II}]$ emission is excited in partially ionized gas regions. In AGNs, such regions can be created by X-ray (e.g. Simpson et al. 1996) and/or shock (e.g. Forbes & Ward 1993) heating of the gas. For Starburst galaxies, $[\text{Fe II}]/\text{Pa}\beta \leq 0.6$ and for SNe for which shocks are the main excitation mechanism, this ratio is larger than 2 (Rodríguez-Ardila et al. 2004, 2005b).

The values of $[\text{Fe II}]/\text{Pa}\beta$ range from ≈ 0.2 to the north-west to ≈ 1.0 in the arc-shaped region between 0.2 and 0.6 arcsec to the SE of the nucleus. Kukula et al. (1995) have obtained a 3.6 cm radio image of Mrk 766 and found an extended emission to the SE, at the location of the arc-shaped region where there is an enhancement of the $[\text{Fe II}]/\text{Pa}\beta$ ratio. The variation of this line ratio, and its correlation with the radio structure suggest that excitation by shocks from the

radio jet is indeed important at this location. On the other hand, we cannot rule out the possible contribution from SNe as well.

The above conclusion is also supported by the [Fe II] $\lambda 1.2570 \mu\text{m}$ /[P II] $\lambda 1.1886 \mu\text{m}$ line-ratio map (central panel of Fig. 4). These two lines have similar ionization temperatures, and their parent ions have similar ionization potentials and relative recombination coefficients. Values larger than 2 indicate that the shocks have passed through the gas destroying the dust grains, releasing the Fe and enhancing its abundance and thus emission (Oliva et al. 2001; Storchi-Bergmann et al. 2009; Riffel et al. 2010). For SNe remnants, where shocks are the dominant excitation mechanism, [Fe II]/[P II] is typically higher than 20 (Oliva et al. 2001). For Mrk 766, to the SE of the nucleus, where there is the radio structure, [Fe II]/[P II] values reach ≈ 10 (Fig. 4), suggesting that shocks are indeed important in agreement with the highest values obtained for the [Fe II]/Pa β at the same locations. In other regions, typical values are [Fe II]/[P II] ≤ 2 , indicating almost no contribution from shocks.

Finally, the diagnostic diagram of Fig. 11 confirms Seyfert excitation in the nucleus and in the SE arc and regions surrounding the nucleus and non-Seyfert values in the other regions. And the low [Fe II]/[P II] ratios in these other regions suggest also that SNe winds should not be important, favouring ionization by young stars instead.

4.2 Mass of ionized and molecular gas

The mass of ionized gas in the inner $900 \times 900 \text{ pc}^2$ of the galaxy can be estimated using (e.g. Scoville et al. 1982; Riffel et al. 2008; Storchi-Bergmann et al. 2009)

$$M_{\text{H II}} \approx 3 \times 10^{17} \left(\frac{F_{\text{Br}\gamma}}{\text{erg s}^{-1} \text{cm}^{-2}} \right) \left(\frac{D}{\text{Mpc}} \right)^2 (M_{\odot}), \quad (1)$$

where $F_{\text{Br}\gamma}$ is the integrated flux for the Br γ emission line and D is the distance to Mrk 766. We have assumed an electron temperature $T = 10^4 \text{ K}$ and electron density $N_e = 100 \text{ cm}^{-3}$ (Osterbrock & Ferland 2006).

The mass of warm molecular gas can be obtained using (Scoville et al. 1982)

$$M_{\text{H}_2} \approx 5.0776 \times 10^{13} \left(\frac{F_{\text{H}_2\lambda 2.1218}}{\text{erg s}^{-1} \text{cm}^{-2}} \right) \left(\frac{D}{\text{Mpc}} \right)^2 (M_{\odot}), \quad (2)$$

where $F_{\text{H}_2\lambda 2.1218}$ is the integrated flux for the H $_2\lambda 2.1218 \mu\text{m}$ emission line and we have used the vibrational temperature $T = 2000 \text{ K}$ (Riffel et al. 2008, 2010; Storchi-Bergmann et al. 2009).

We used the Br γ /Pa β line ratio in order to estimate the effect of the reddening in the observed fluxes for these lines. We constructed a reddening map using the Pa β /Br γ line ratio. The resulting map is very noisy with an additional uncertainty relative to other line ratios because the lines are in different spectral bands (K and J). The $E(B - V)$ values are also mostly very small. Thus, instead of using this map to correct the whole Br γ flux distribution for reddening – as we would introduce too much noise – we have estimated an average value for $E(B - V) = 0.3 \pm 0.1$ using the integrated fluxes for Br γ and Pa β emission lines over the whole FOV, following Storchi-Bergmann et al. (2009) and adopting the extinction law of Cardelli, Clayton & Mathis (1989).

Adopting this $E(B - V)$ value, the fluxes for the emission lines in the K band increase by about 10 per cent. The effect of the reddening is negligible for the line ratios of Fig. 4, since the lines are from the same band and the reddening has no effect on the discussion of the gas excitation presented above. On the other hand, its effect

is not negligible for the estimate of the ionized and molecular gas masses, which have thus been corrected. Integrating over the whole IFU field, we obtain the following reddening-corrected values: $F_{\text{Br}\gamma} \approx 6.82 \pm 0.35 \times 10^{-15} \text{ erg s}^{-1} \text{cm}^{-2}$ and $F_{\text{H}_2\lambda 2.1218} \approx 7.3 \pm 0.37 \times 10^{-15} \text{ erg s}^{-1} \text{cm}^{-2}$. The resulting masses are $M_{\text{H II}} \approx 7.6 \pm 0.4 \times 10^6 M_{\odot}$ and $M_{\text{H}_2} \approx 1.32 \pm 0.07 \times 10^3 M_{\odot}$.

The above values are similar to those we have obtained in previous studies, which are in the range $0.1 \times 10^6 M_{\odot} \leq M_{\text{H II}} \leq 1.7 \times 10^6 M_{\odot}$ and $66 M_{\odot} \leq M_{\text{H}_2} \leq 3300 M_{\odot}$, respectively.

The mass of molecular gas is thus 10^3 times smaller than that of the ionized gas but, as discussed in Storchi-Bergmann et al. (2009), this H $_2$ mass represents only that of warm gas emitting in the NIR. The total mass of molecular gas is dominated by the cold gas, and the usual proxy to estimate the cold H $_2$ mass has been the CO emission. A number of studies have derived the ratio between the cold and warm H $_2$ gas masses by comparing the masses obtained using the CO and NIR emission. Dale et al. (2005) obtained ratios in the range 10^5 – 10^7 ; using a larger sample of 16 luminous and ultraluminous IR galaxies, Müller-Sánchez et al. (2006) derived a ratio $M_{\text{cold}}/M_{\text{warm}} = 1$ – 5×10^6 . More recently, Mazzalay et al. (2013) compiled from the literature values of M_{cold} derived from CO observations and H $_2 2.12 \mu\text{m}$ luminosities for a larger number of galaxies, covering a wider range of luminosities, morphological and nuclear activity types. From that, an estimate of the cold H $_2$ gas mass can be obtained from

$$M_{\text{H}_2 \text{ cold}} \approx 1174 \left(\frac{L_{\text{H}_2\lambda 2.1218}}{L_{\odot}} \right), \quad (3)$$

where $L_{\text{H}_2\lambda 2.1218}$ is the luminosity of the H $_2 2.12 \mu\text{m}$ line. The resulting mass value is $M_{\text{H}_2 \text{ cold}} \approx 9.8 \times 10^8 M_{\odot}$.

4.3 Gaseous kinematics

All the velocity fields shown in Fig. 5 suggest rotation in the inner 450 pc of Mrk 766. In order to obtain the systemic velocity, orientation of the line of nodes and an estimate for the enclosed mass, we fitted a model of circular orbits in a plane to the Pa β and H $_2\lambda 2.1218 \mu\text{m}$ velocity fields. The expression for the circular velocity is given by (Barbosa et al. 2006; Riffel et al. 2006b, 2011)

$$V_r = V_s + \sqrt{\frac{R^2 GM}{(R^2 + A^2)^{3/2}}} \frac{\sin(i) \cos(\Psi - \Psi_0)}{\left(\cos^2(\Psi - \Psi_0) + \frac{\sin^2(\Psi - \Psi_0)}{\cos^2(i)} \right)^{3/4}} \quad (4)$$

where R is the projected distance from the nucleus in the plane of the sky, Ψ is the corresponding PA, M is the mass inside R , G is the Newton's gravitational constant, V_s is the systemic velocity, i is the inclination of the disc ($i = 0$ for a face-on disc), Ψ_0 is the PA of the line of nodes and A is a scalelength projected in the plane of the sky.

The location of the kinematical centre was not allowed to vary, being fixed to the position of the peak of the continuum. The equation above contains five free parameters, which can be determined by fitting the model to the observations. This was done using the Levenberg–Marquardt least-squares fitting algorithm, in which initial guesses are given for the free parameters. The best-fitting model for Pa β is shown in Fig. 12 (top-left panel) and the best-fitting model for H $_2\lambda 2.1218 \mu\text{m}$ in Fig. 13. In both figures, we show the residual maps (observed velocity field – model) for [Fe II] (bottom-left panel), H $_2$ (bottom-right panel) and Pa β (top-right panel).

The parameters derived from the fit of the Pa β are: the systemic velocity corrected to the heliocentric reference frame $V_s = 3853 \pm 17 \text{ km s}^{-1}$, $\Psi_0 = 80^\circ \pm 3.36$, $M = 8.72 \pm 0.63 \times 10^8 M_{\odot}$,

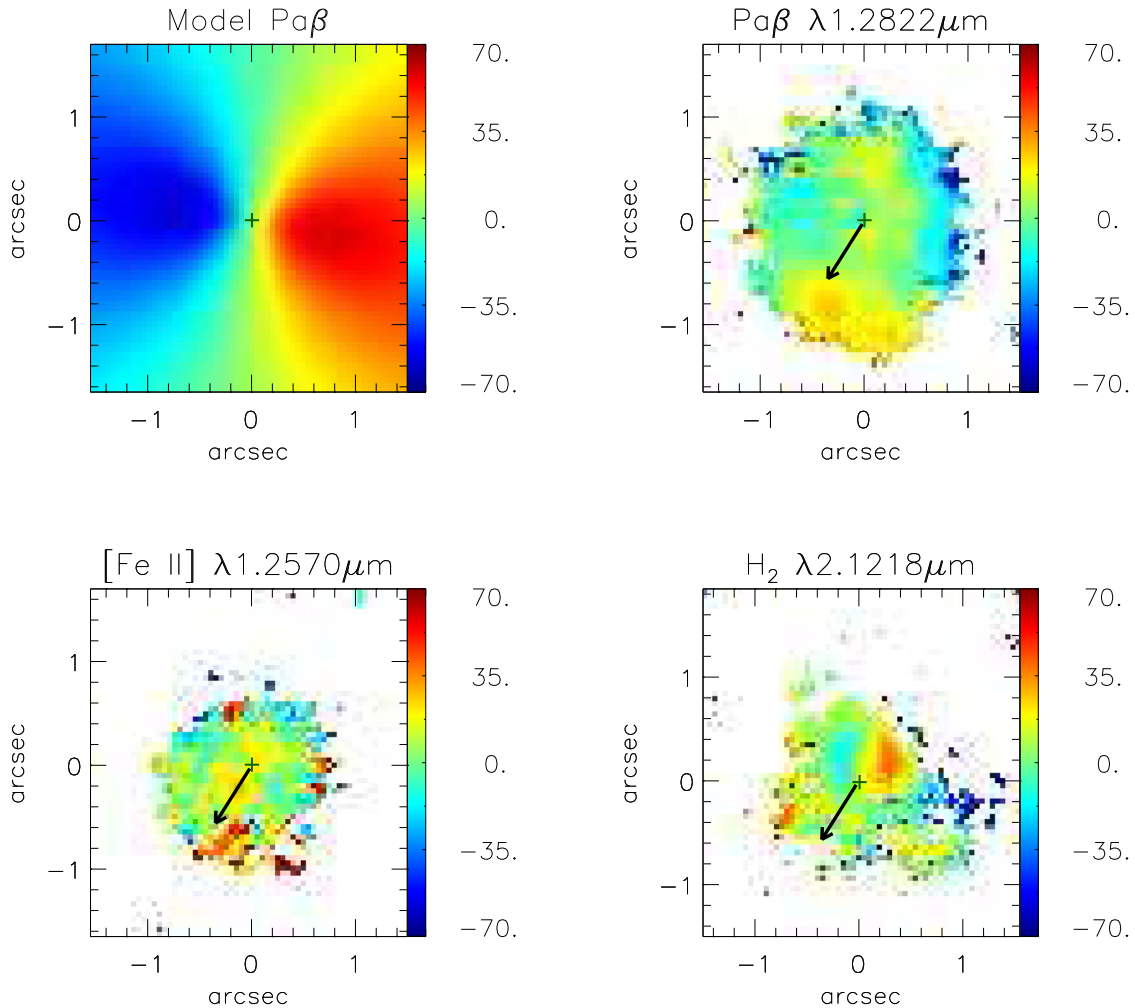


Figure 12. Rotating disc model fitted to the Pa β velocity field, together with the residuals of its subtraction from the observed velocity fields of Pa β , [Fe II] λ 1.2570 μ m and H $_2$ λ 2.1218 μ m. The black arrows show the extent of the radio structure (Kukula et al. 1995).

$i = 30^\circ \pm 4^\circ$ and $A = 163.4 \pm 10$ pc. We can compare the NIR line-emitting gas kinematics with results obtained in the optical at larger scales. González Delgado & Pérez (1996) present long-slit spectroscopy of Mrk 766 at kpc scales with the slit oriented along PA = 55° . They found that the kinematic of the high-excitation gas (traced by the [O III] λ 5007 emission) is more perturbed than that of the low-ionization gas (traced by H α and H β), showing radial motions consistent with gas outflows from the nucleus. The low-ionization gas seems to be dominated by rotation in the plane of the galaxy with a velocity amplitude of ~ 130 km s $^{-1}$. At distances smaller than 1.5 arcsec from the nucleus, the velocity amplitude is < 50 km s $^{-1}$, which is somewhat smaller than the amplitude that we have derived. This is expected, since the slit used by González Delgado & Pérez (1996) was not oriented along the major axis of the galaxy. González Delgado & Pérez (1996) quote a photometric major axis orientation of 105° , based on a large-scale continuum image at λ 5960 Å. The PA of the line of nodes Ψ_0 that we have found is 25° smaller than this value. On the other hand, our Ψ_0 is in reasonable agreement with the value listed at the Hyperleda ($\Psi_0 \approx 73^\circ$; Paturel et al. 2003). Fig. 1 shows that Mrk 766 presents a bar with size of 4.5 kpc. The orientation of the bar is similar to that of the photometric major axis considered by González Delgado & Pérez (1996). As the bar is broad and luminous and the outer parts

of the galaxy are faint, we believe they have mistakenly concluded that the direction of the bar was that of the major axis. The systemic velocity and i are in reasonable agreement with the values listed at the Hyperleda (Paturel et al. 2003) and NED data bases ($V_s \approx 3876$ km s $^{-1}$ and $i \approx 36^\circ$ and M and A are similar to values found for other Seyfert galaxies using the same model (e.g. Barbosa et al. 2006). For the H $_2$ λ 2.1218 μ m fit, we found a much more compact velocity field than that of Pa β , with a scalelength $A = 41.1 \pm 4$ pc. The other parameters were practically the same. This signature of a more compact rotating disc in H $_2$ than in Pa β , is similar to that we have found for Mrk 1066 (Riffel & Storchi-Bergmann 2010), indicating that H $_2$ presents a colder and more ordered kinematics. An exception is the region to the south-west, which seems to show a detached kinematics. This region is probably a molecular cloud that is not in the galaxy disc.

The residuals shown in Fig. 12 show blueshifts in the borders of the measured field in Pa β to the north–north-east of the nucleus which we attribute to poor fits of the lines in this region. More significant are the redshift residuals to the south–SE, a region where the largest residuals in the [Fe II] velocity field are also observed. There is where the enhanced [Fe II] velocity dispersion and the radio structure are also located. In addition, in this same region, the [Fe II] flux distributions in the channel maps of Fig. 8 show both

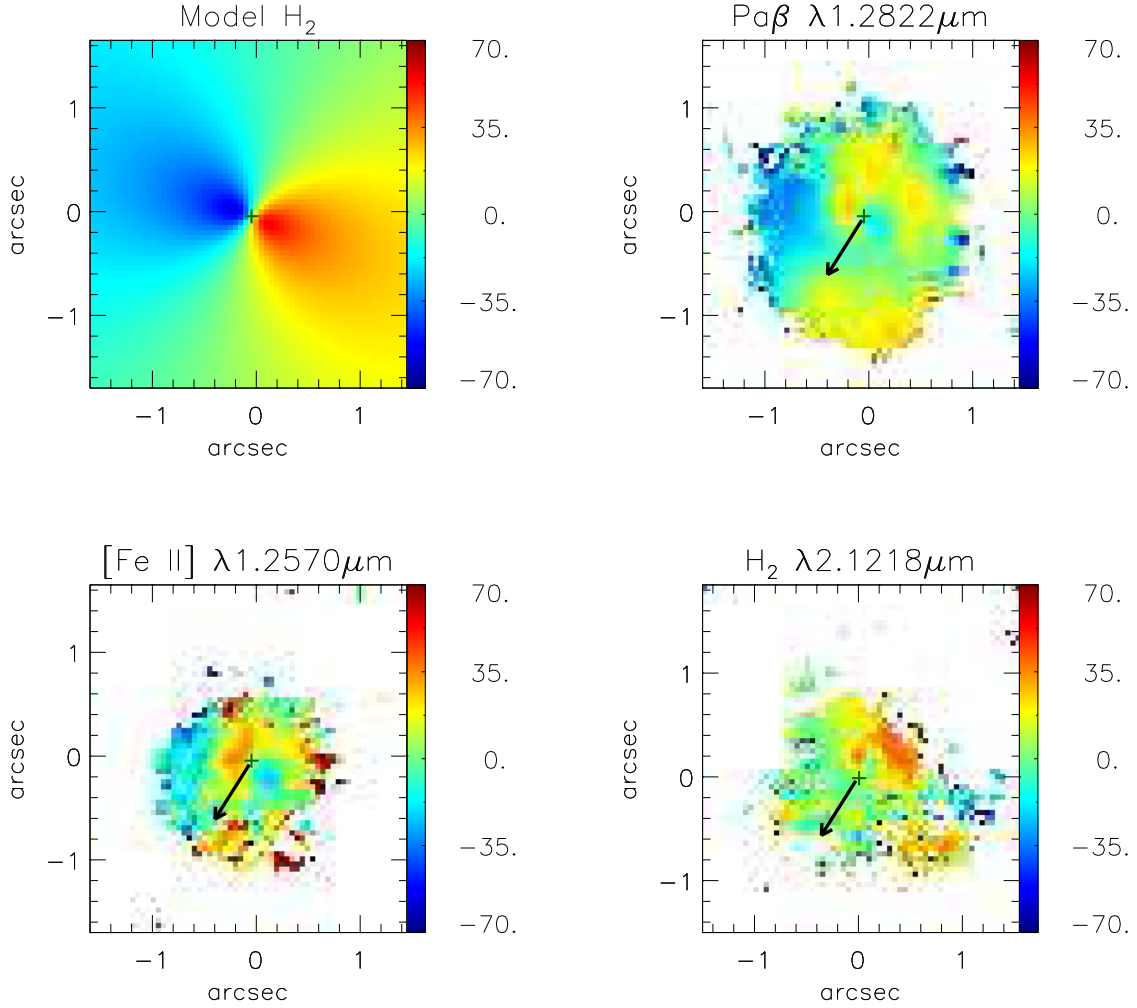


Figure 13. Rotating disc model fitted to the $H_2\lambda 2.1218\ \mu\text{m}$ velocity field, together with the residuals of its subtraction from the observed velocity fields of $\text{Pa}\beta$, $[\text{Fe II}]\ \lambda 1.2570\ \mu\text{m}$ and $H_2\lambda 2.1218\ \mu\text{m}$. The black arrows show the extent of the radio structure (Kukula et al. 1995).

blueshifts and redshifts, with velocities of up to $250\ \text{km s}^{-1}$. We interpret these results as being due to emission of gas in a one-sided outflow oriented along the $\text{PA} \approx 135^\circ$. The observation of both blueshifts and redshifts in the channel maps supports that its axis lies approximately in the plane of the sky. The main residuals in the H_2 velocity field that are not in the borders of the field (where the line fits are poorer) are the redshifts observed to the north–north-west. As this is the near side of the galaxy, we speculate that these residuals could be due to inflows in the plane of the galaxy. These residuals are seen along the direction of the bar at $\text{PA} \approx -60^\circ$. We speculate that they may be associated with inflows along the bar, as predicted by theoretical models (e.g. Combes 2004) and as measured in a few cases (e.g. Mundell & Shone 1999). In previous studies, we have found inflows along nuclear dusty spirals (Riffel et al. 2008, 2013; Schnorr Müller et al. 2011). Indeed, numerical simulations by Maciejewski (2004a,b) have shown that if a central SMBH is present, shocks can extend all the way to the vicinity of the SMBH and generate gas inflows consistent with the accretion rates inferred in local AGN. Similar residuals are also seen in the $\text{Pa}\beta$ and $[\text{Fe II}]$ residual maps: redshifts to north–north-west, also suggesting inflows. We rule out the possibility of these redshifts being due to a counterpart of the SE outflow once it is observed

in redshift over the far side of the galaxy. A possible counterpart should be in blueshift and behind the near side of the galaxy plane. We do not see such a component; one possibility is that it is hidden by the galaxy plane.

The residuals shown in Fig. 13, after the subtraction of the circular velocity model fitted to the H_2 velocity field shows similar residuals to the south–SE for $\text{Pa}\beta$ and $[\text{Fe II}]$, but show additional residuals in the northern part of the field. In the case of the H_2 residuals, redshifts are observed also in the region to the south-west, that we have interpreted as due to a detached cloud, that is probably not in the galaxy plane.

4.3.1 Mass outflow rate

With the goal of quantifying the feedback from the AGN in Mrk 766, we estimate the ionized-gas mass outflow rate through a circular cross-section with radius $r = 0.25\ \text{arcsec} \approx 75\ \text{pc}$ located at a distance of $h = 0.4\ \text{arcsec}$ from the nucleus to the SE. This geometry corresponds to a conical outflow with an opening angle of $\approx 64^\circ$, estimated from Fig. 8. The mass outflow rate can be obtained using

$$\dot{M}_{\text{out}} = m_p N_e v f A \quad (5)$$

and the filling factor (f) can be obtained from

$$f = \frac{L_{\text{Pa}\beta}}{j_{\text{Pa}\beta} V} \quad (6)$$

where m_p is the proton mass, N_e the electron density, v_{out} is velocity of the outflowing gas and $L_{\text{Pa}\beta}$ and $j_{\text{Pa}\beta}$ are the luminosity and the emission coefficient of Pa β (Riffel et al. 2011).

We have assumed that $N_e = 500 \text{ cm}^{-3}$, $L_{\text{Pa}\beta} = 1.43 \times 10^{39} \text{ erg s}^{-1}$, $j_{\text{Pa}\beta} = 4.07 \times 10^{-22} \text{ erg cm}^{-3} \text{ s}^{-1}$ and $v_{\text{out}} = 147 \text{ km s}^{-1} / \sin \theta \approx 277 \text{ km s}^{-1}$, where θ is the angle between the wall of the cone (from where we observe the line-of-sight velocity component of 147 km s^{-1}) and the plane of sky. The latter velocity value was obtained directly from the channel maps considering that the structure seen to SE is due to the emission of the walls of the cone. As described above, the axis of the cone seems to lie close to the plane of the sky. From the estimated aperture of the cone, we adopt a maximum angle between the cone and the plane of the sky of 32° . Under these assumptions we obtain $f = 0.18$ and then $\dot{M}_{\text{out}} \approx 10 M_\odot \text{ yr}^{-1}$. The value found here for \dot{M}_{out} is in good agreement with those found in Veilleux et al. (2005), which range from 0.1 to $10 M_\odot \text{ yr}^{-1}$, it is of the same order of that obtained by Riffel et al. (2011), of $8 M_\odot \text{ yr}^{-1}$, and is also within the range of the values found by Müller-Sánchez et al. (2011), which range from 2.5 to $120 M_\odot \text{ yr}^{-1}$.

Following Storchi-Bergmann et al. (2010), we can use the above mass outflow rate to estimate the kinetic power of the outflow using

$$\dot{E} \approx \frac{\dot{M}_{\text{out}}}{2} (v_{\text{out}}^2 + \sigma^2), \quad (7)$$

where $v_{\text{out}} = v_{\text{obs}} / \sin \theta$ is the velocity of the outflowing gas and σ is its velocity dispersion. Using $\sigma \approx 100 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ (from Fig. 6) and $v_{\text{out}} = v_{\text{obs}} / \sin \theta = 277 \text{ km s}^{-1}$, we obtain $\dot{E} \approx 2.9 \times 10^{41} \text{ erg s}^{-1}$ which is in good agreement with the values obtained for Seyfert galaxies and compact radio sources (Morganti, Tadhunter & Oosterloo 2005). This value is also similar to that obtained for Mrk 1157 (Riffel et al. 2011), of $\dot{E} \approx 5.7 \times 10^{41} \text{ erg s}^{-1}$, it is within the range of those found by Müller-Sánchez et al. (2011), between 0.6 and $50 \times 10^{41} \text{ erg s}^{-1}$.

In order to compare the above value of \dot{E} with the bolometric luminosity, we estimate the latter as 10 times the X-ray luminosity, of $3.5 \times 10^{41} \text{ erg s}^{-1}$ (Boller et al. 2001), resulting in $\dot{E} \approx 0.08 L_{\text{Bol}}$.

Finally, we can calculate the mass accretion rate to feed the active nucleus from (Riffel et al. 2011)

$$\dot{m} = \frac{L_{\text{bol}}}{c^2 \eta}, \quad (8)$$

where L_{bol} is the nuclear bolometric luminosity, η is the efficiency of conversion of the rest mass energy of the accreted material into radiation and c is the light speed. The bolometric luminosity was already estimated as $3.5 \times 10^{42} \text{ erg s}^{-1}$. Assuming $\eta \approx 0.1$, which is a typical value for a geometrically thin, optically thick accretion disc (Frank, King & Raine 2002), we obtain an accretion rate of $\dot{m} \approx 1.4 \times 10^{-2} M_\odot \text{ yr}^{-1}$, which is about three orders of magnitude smaller than the mass outflow rate, a ratio compared with those found in our previous studies.

5 CONCLUSIONS

We have mapped the gas flux distribution, excitation and kinematics from the inner $\approx 450 \text{ pc}$ radius of the Seyfert 1 galaxy Mrk 766 using NIR J - and K -band integral-field spectroscopy at a spatial resolution of $\approx 60 \text{ pc}$ (0.20 arcsec). The main conclusions of this work are as follows.

(i) The emission-line flux distributions of molecular hydrogen H_2 and low-ionization gas are extended to at least $\approx 300 \text{ pc}$ from the nucleus.

(ii) The H_2 line emission is most extended along PA = 70° , which is close to the PA of the line of nodes of the gas kinematics.

(iii) The [Fe II] emission is most extended approximately along the perpendicular direction to the line of nodes of the gas kinematics.

(iv) The coronal line [S IX] emission is resolved and extends up to $\approx 150 \text{ pc}$ from the nucleus.

(v) The emission-line ratios [Fe II]/Pa β and $\text{H}_2/\text{Br}\gamma$ show a mixture of Starburst and Seyfert type excitation; the Seyfert values dominate at the nucleus, to the north-west and in an arc-shaped region between 0.2 and 0.6 arcsec to the SE where a radio jet has been observed, while Starburst values are present at the nucleus and other regions.

(vi) The enhancement of the [Fe II]/[P II] line ratio at the location of the radio jet, as well as the corresponding increase in the [Fe II] flux and velocity dispersion support a contribution from shocks to the gas excitation in the arc-shaped region to the SE; in the remaining regions, the favoured excitation mechanism is UV radiation from young stars.

(vii) The H_2 gas kinematics is dominated by rotation in a compact disc with a velocity amplitude of 140 km s^{-1} and low velocity dispersion ($40\text{--}60 \text{ km s}^{-1}$, consistent with orbital motion in the plane of the galaxy).

(viii) The kinematics of the ionized gas is also dominated by rotation, but channel maps in [Fe II] show in addition an outflowing component to the SE, with an axis lying close to the plane of the sky reaching velocities of $\sim 300 \text{ km s}^{-1}$, probably associated with the radio jet.

(ix) The mass outflow rate in ionized gas is estimated to be $\approx 10.7 M_\odot \text{ yr}^{-1}$ and the power of the outflow estimated to be $\approx 0.08 L_{\text{Bol}}$.

(x) The mass of ionized gas is $M_{\text{H II}} \approx 7.6 \times 10^6 M_\odot$ while the mass of the hot molecular gas is $M_{\text{H}_2} \approx 1.3 \times 10^3 M_\odot$ and the estimated cold molecular gas mass is $M_{\text{H}_2 \text{ cold}} \approx 9.8 \times 10^8 M_\odot$.

The distinct flux distributions and kinematics of the H_2 and [Fe II] emitting gas, with the first more restricted to the plane of the galaxy and in compact rotation and the second related with the radio jet and in outflow are common characteristics of eight Seyfert galaxies (ESO428-G14, NGC 4051, NGC 7582, NGC 4151, Mrk 1066, Mrk 1157, Mrk 79 and Mrk 766) we have studied so far using similar integral-field observations and two others (Circinus and NGC 2110) using long-slit observations. These results again suggest – as those found in previous studies – that the H_2 emission is tracer of the AGN feeding, while the [Fe II] is a tracer of its feedback.

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