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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

# Water content and wind acceleration in the envelope around the oxygen-rich AGB star IK Tauri as seen by *Herschel/HIFI*<sup>★,★★</sup>

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(Affiliations are available on page 5 of the online edition)

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## ABSTRACT

During their asymptotic giant branch evolution, low-mass stars lose a significant fraction of their mass through an intense wind, enriching the interstellar medium with products of nucleosynthesis. We observed the nearby oxygen-rich asymptotic giant branch star IK Tau using the high-resolution HIFI spectrometer onboard *Herschel*. We report on the first detection of H<sub>2</sub><sup>16</sup>O and the rarer isotopologues H<sub>2</sub><sup>17</sup>O and H<sub>2</sub><sup>18</sup>O in both the ortho and para states. We deduce a total water content (relative to molecular hydrogen) of  $6.6 \times 10^{-5}$ , and an ortho-to-para ratio of 3:1. These results are consistent with the formation of H<sub>2</sub>O in thermodynamical chemical equilibrium at photospheric temperatures, and does not require pulsationally induced non-equilibrium chemistry, vaporization of icy bodies or grain surface reactions. High-excitation lines of <sup>12</sup>CO, <sup>13</sup>CO, <sup>28</sup>SiO, <sup>29</sup>SiO, <sup>30</sup>SiO, HCN, and SO have also been detected. From the observed line widths, the acceleration region in the inner wind zone can be characterized, and we show that the wind acceleration is slower than hitherto anticipated.

**Key words.** line: profiles – radiative transfer – instrumentation: spectrographs – stars: AGB and post-AGB – circumstellar matter – submillimeter: stars

## 1. Introduction

IK Tau, also known as NML Tau, is an extremely red, oxygen-rich, Mira-type variable, with a period of about 470 days (Wing & Lockwood 1973). Its dust-driven wind produces a cool circumstellar envelope (CSE), which fosters a rich gas-phase chemistry (e.g., Duari et al. 1999). IK Tau is relatively nearby, at a distance of ~265 pc (Hale et al. 1997). Estimates of its mass-loss rates range from  $3.8 \times 10^{-6}$  (Neri et al. 1998) to  $3 \times 10^{-5} M_{\odot}/\text{yr}$  (González Delgado et al. 2003). IK Tau's proximity and relatively high mass-loss rate facilitate the observation of molecular emission lines. Currently, a dozen different molecules and some of their isotopologs have been discovered in IK Tau, including CO, HCN, SiO, SiS, SO, SO<sub>2</sub>, and NaCl (e.g. Milam et al. 2007; Decin et al. 2010).

In this Letter, we report on the detection of thermal emission of water (H<sub>2</sub>O) in the envelope around IK Tau. The main isotopolog (H<sub>2</sub><sup>16</sup>O) as well as the rarer isotopologs (H<sub>2</sub><sup>17</sup>O and H<sub>2</sub><sup>18</sup>O) are detected for both the ortho- and para-states. We also present observations of high-excitation rotational transitions of <sup>12</sup>CO, <sup>13</sup>CO, <sup>28</sup>SiO, <sup>29</sup>SiO, <sup>30</sup>SiO, HCN, and SO and demonstrate that the observed line widths characterize the acceleration region in the inner wind zone.

## 2. Observations and data reduction

The HIFI instrument (de Graauw et al. 2010) onboard the *Herschel* satellite (Pilbratt et al. 2010) offers the possibility to

observe molecular fingerprints in the frequency ranges of 480–1150 GHz and 1410–1910 GHz at a spectral resolution up to 125 kHz. Single-point observations towards IK Tau were carried out with the *Herschel/HIFI* instrument in the dual beam switch (DBS) mode with a 3' chop throw. The observation strategy and data-reduction are discussed in Appendix A and in Bujarrabal et al. (2010).

## 3. Results

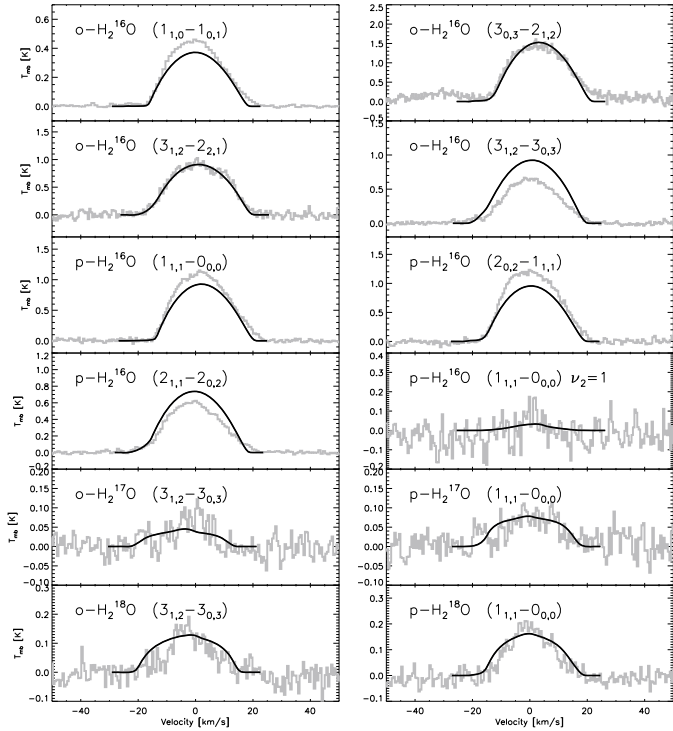
In the 13 single-point observations obtained so far, covering a frequency range of 92.8 GHz in total, 31 molecular emission lines have been detected belonging to <sup>12</sup>CO, <sup>13</sup>CO, H<sub>2</sub><sup>16</sup>O, H<sub>2</sub><sup>17</sup>O, H<sub>2</sub><sup>18</sup>O, <sup>28</sup>SiO, <sup>29</sup>SiO, <sup>30</sup>SiO, HCN, SO, and NH<sub>3</sub> (see Table A.2 in the Appendix). The detection of NH<sub>3</sub> is described in Menten et al. (2010).

For the first time, different excitation lines of water are discovered for the two nuclear spin isomers, ortho- and para-H<sub>2</sub><sup>16</sup>O, as well as for the rare isotopologs H<sub>2</sub><sup>17</sup>O and H<sub>2</sub><sup>18</sup>O (see Fig. 1). The observations of these transitions provide information about the total water content, the ortho-to-para ratio, and the isotopic ratios H<sub>2</sub><sup>16</sup>O/H<sub>2</sub><sup>17</sup>O and H<sub>2</sub><sup>16</sup>O/H<sub>2</sub><sup>18</sup>O (see Sect. 3.1).

High-excitation rotational transitions are observed for different molecules (see Fig. 2). From the observed line widths, which range between 11 and 19 km s<sup>-1</sup>, it is immediately clear that the HIFI observations offer us a strong diagnostic to trace the wind acceleration zone in the inner envelope (see Sect. 3.2). Moreover, the high-excitation <sup>12</sup>CO  $J = 10-9$  and  $J = 16-15$  lines, complemented with ground-based observations of <sup>12</sup>CO for  $J = 1-0$  to  $J = 7-6$ , can be used as temperature indicator for the envelope as close as ~20  $R_{\star}$  (see Sect. 3.2).

\* *Herschel* is an ESA space observatory with science instruments provided by European-led Principal Investigator consortia and with important participation from NASA.

\*\* Appendices (pages 6 and 7) are only available in electronic form at <http://www.aanda.org>



**Fig. 1.** HIFI observations of water lines (gray) compared to their line profile predictions (black). Row 1–2: ortho- $\text{H}_2^{16}\text{O}$ , row 3–4: para- $\text{H}_2^{16}\text{O}$ , row 5: ortho and para- $\text{H}_2^{17}\text{O}$ , and row 6: ortho and para- $\text{H}_2^{18}\text{O}$ .

### 3.1. Water in IK Tau's envelope

**Water content:** We observed both ortho and para-water lines for different isotopologs in IK Tau (Fig. 1). Using the analytical formula from Groenewegen (1994), we calculated a photodissociation radius of  $2.8 \times 10^{16}$  cm or  $1870 R_\star$ , while the theoretical models by Willacy & Millar (1997) predict a value around  $1600 R_\star$ . Assuming the same photodissociation radius for all isotopologs and isomers, we deduced (see Appendix B) a water-abundance  $[\text{ortho-}\text{H}_2^{16}\text{O}/\text{H}_2] = 5 \times 10^{-5}$  and an ortho-to-para water ratio (OPR) of 3:1. Taking the uncertainty in the photodissociation radius into account, the estimated uncertainty in the water abundance is a factor 2 for the assumed envelope structure (see Sect. 3.2).

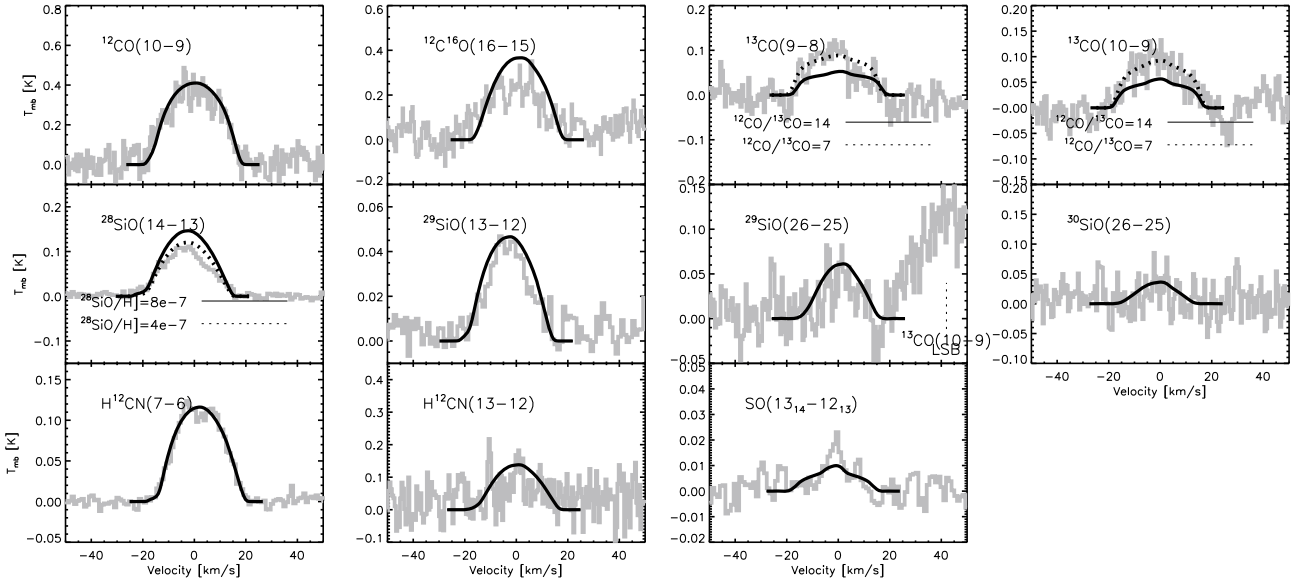
The total (ortho+para)  $\text{H}_2^{16}\text{O}$  abundance for IK Tau derived in this Letter, relative to the total hydrogen content and assuming that all hydrogen is in the form of molecular hydrogen, is  $[\text{H}_2^{16}\text{O}/\text{H}_{\text{tot}}] = 3.3 \times 10^{-5}$ , slightly lower than the photospheric thermodynamic equilibrium (TE) prediction of  $7 \times 10^{-5}$  for an evolved star with a C/O ratio of 0.75 (Cherchneff 2006). The theoretical TE value for the total water abundance is, however, very dependent on the exact value of the C/O ratio, which is unknown for IK Tau. Cherchneff (2006) predicts a higher inner wind abundance of  $3.5 \times 10^{-4}$  around  $5 R_\star$  in the case of pulsationally induced non-equilibrium chemistry. The upper limit implied by the cosmic abundances of carbon and oxygen is no more than  $1 \times 10^{-3}$ , assuming that all carbon is locked in CO and the remaining oxygen goes into  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (Anders & Grevesse 1989). Vaporization of icy bodies (Justtanont et al. 2005) or grain surface reactions via Fischer-Tropsch catalysis (Willacy 2004) will also result in a higher water abundance. Considering the agreement between the derived and the TE abundance, the effects of the other processes seem negligible for IK Tau.

On the basis of ISO-LWS data, Maercker et al. (2008) derived for IK Tau an ortho- $\text{H}_2^{16}\text{O}$  abundance (relative to  $\text{H}_2$ ) of

$3.5 \times 10^{-4}$ , significantly higher than the value we derived. Both studies used an almost equal photodissociation radius. However, Maercker et al. (2008) only included the ground-state for the excitation analysis. As shown by Decin et al. (2010), neglecting the first vibrational state of the bending mode,  $\nu_2 = 1$ , leads to an underprediction of the HIFI transitions here presented. Since the ISO data used in the study of Maercker et al. are saturated, the integrated intensity is insensitive to the exact value of the abundance, which will result in an overprediction of the  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ -abundance. We also note that the  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  line profile predictions are quite sensitive to the exact value of the kinetic temperature and the dust radiation field (and wavelength-dependent absorption efficiencies) (Decin et al. 2010), which in part might also explain the difference between the value we derive  $[\text{ortho-}\text{H}_2^{16}\text{O}/\text{H}_2] = 5 \times 10^{-5}$  and the value of Maercker et al. (2008)  $[\text{ortho-}\text{H}_2^{16}\text{O}/\text{H}_2] = 3.5 \times 10^{-4}$ . A comparison with the ISO-LWS data will be presented in Decin et al. (in prep.).

For the oxygen-rich Mira W Hya, Zubko & Elitzur (2000) derived an OPR value of 1:1.3 and Barlow et al. (1996) reported a value of 1:1. However, Barlow et al. noted that their derived value is quite uncertain, due to the high opacities in the water lines used. Justtanont et al. (2010) derived an OPR of 2.1:1 for the S-type AGB  $\chi$  Cyg. Our study here is the first time that the OPR value in an oxygen-rich Mira is determined from a combination of emission lines of  $\text{H}_2^{16}\text{O}$ ,  $\text{H}_2^{17}\text{O}$ , and  $\text{H}_2^{18}\text{O}$ . The advantage of using the rarer isotopologs is that the opacity of the lines is lower, making the line intensities more sensitive to the OPR value. The observed para-water lines are consistent with an OPR value of 3:1 ( $\pm 0.4$ ). The lowest energy level of para- $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  is  $\sim 34$  K below that of ortho- $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ . When water forms in the gas phase via exothermic reactions the energy released is much greater than this energy difference and the OPR reflects the high-temperature ( $\sim 50$  K) thermodynamic 3:1 ratio of the statistical weights between the species. The derived OPR value of 3:1 confirms that water in IK Tau is formed in warm and dense regions of the envelope where the chemistry is in thermodynamical equilibrium.

**Isotope ratios:** Assuming the same photodissociation radius as for the main isotopolog, the isotopic ratios we derive for IK Tau are  $\text{H}_2^{16}\text{O}/\text{H}_2^{17}\text{O} = 600 (\pm 150)$  and  $\text{H}_2^{16}\text{O}/\text{H}_2^{18}\text{O} = 200 (\pm 50)$ , hence well below the solar values ( $^{16}\text{O}/^{17}\text{O} \sim 2632$  and  $^{16}\text{O}/^{18}\text{O} \sim 499$ ; Asplund et al. 2009). Interpreting the derived isotopic ratios in terms of nucleosynthesis and subsequent dredge-ups or extra mixing processes is quite complex (e.g. Harris et al. 1985, 1987; Karakas et al. 2010). In stars that are sufficiently massive to undergo CNO-cycle hydrogen burning, the low initial  $^{17}\text{O}$  abundance (assumed to be solar) is enhanced. When helium burning begins inside the hydrogen-burning shell,  $^{17}\text{O}$  is expected to be completely destroyed in the region where maximum hydrogen burning occurs. The isotope  $^{18}\text{O}$ , on the other hand, is expected to be destroyed during hydrogen burning, so that it virtually disappears from the hydrogen-burning zone and from the hydrogen-exhausted CNO equilibrium zone within it. When helium burning starts, the  $^{18}\text{O}$  abundance might slightly increase. A succession of convective mixings brings to the surface material that is affected by these nuclear transformations. Calculations by Harris et al. (1985) show that in every star that becomes a red giant star ( $M \gtrsim 0.8 M_\odot$ ), the initial  $^{16}\text{O}/^{17}\text{O}$  ratio decreases to  $\sim 440$  during the first dredge-up, while the  $^{16}\text{O}/^{18}\text{O}$  slightly increases. The second dredge-up occurs at the end of core helium burning only for the most massive intermediate-mass stars ( $M \gtrsim 4.5 M_\odot$ ). The estimated



**Fig. 2.** HIFI observations of line transitions of several molecules (gray) compared to their line profile predictions (black). Full black lines refer to line predictions using the molecular abundance stratifications as determined by Decin et al. (2010), dotted black lines show the model predictions for the refined fractional abundances as determined in this Letter (see Appendix B).

$^{16}\text{O}/^{17}\text{O}$  ratio ranges between 150 and 500, while the  $^{16}\text{O}/^{18}\text{O}$  ratio slightly increases. The third dredge-up occurs in the subsequent helium shell-burning phase for stars  $\geq 2 M_{\odot}$ , and is expected to yield isotopic ratios of  $^{16}\text{O}/^{17}\text{O} \leq 200$ . If hot bottom burning occurs (for stars above  $3\text{--}4 M_{\odot}$ ), the  $^{16}\text{O}/^{17}\text{O}$  ratio will be of the order of 20–50. That the  $^{16}\text{O}/^{17}\text{O}$  ratio is around 600, implies that the first but no subsequent dredge-ups occurred and constrains the initial mass of IK Tau to be within  $1\text{--}2 M_{\odot}$ . Alternatively, if the star is more massive than  $2 M_{\odot}$  and the third dredge-up has occurred (but has not turned the star into a carbon-rich star), transferred material from a post-third dredge-up envelope must have had a  $^{16}\text{O}/^{17}\text{O}$  ratio  $\leq 200$ . This implies that in stars with  $^{16}\text{O}/^{17}\text{O} \sim 600$  the transferred material has been heavily diluted by material from the star’s own envelope with much higher  $^{16}\text{O}/^{17}\text{O}$  ratios. From Fig. 5 of Harris et al. (1987), it is estimated that IK Tau has a low s-process neutron exposure,  $\tau_0 \leq 0.1$ , implying a low absolute enhancement of the s-process elements and only a few third dredge-up events, consistent with IK Tau still being an oxygen-rich AGB star.

Hitherto, the lower than solar  $^{16}\text{O}/^{18}\text{O}$  ratios cannot be explained by any stellar evolution model in the literature. However, IK Tau is not the only Galactic star with a low  $^{16}\text{O}/^{18}\text{O}$  ratio (see Fig. 3 in Karakas et al. 2010); some barium stars analyzed by Harris et al. (1985) also have a low  $^{16}\text{O}/^{18}\text{O}$  value. It is anticipated that the observations of other evolved stars in the framework of the HIFISTARS programme (P.I. V. Bujarrabal) will add new information to this discussion.

### 3.2. Thermodynamical structure of the envelope

Being a simple diatomic molecule with a well understood energy diagram, CO has been successfully used to study the structure of the CSEs around evolved stars (e.g., Schöier et al. 2002; Decin et al. 2006). Different transitions can be used to investigate different regions of the envelope, probing the density, the temperature, and the velocity of the CSE. Decin et al. (2010) used the  $^{12}\text{CO}$   $J = 1\text{--}0$  to  $J = 7\text{--}6$  lines to determine the thermophysical structure of the CSE of IK Tau beyond  $\sim 100 R_{\star}$ , based on a non-local thermodynamic equilibrium (non-LTE) radiative transfer analysis of the available transitions. In the first instance,

the kinetic temperature and velocity structure of the envelope were calculated by solving the equations of motion of gas and dust and the energy balance simultaneously. To get insight into the structure in the inner wind region, the HCN  $J = 3\text{--}2$  and  $J = 4\text{--}3$  transitions were used, since observational evidence exists that HCN is formed close to the star ( $\lesssim 3.85''$ , Marvel 2005). The Gaussian HCN line profiles indeed point toward line formation partially in the inner wind where the stellar wind has not yet reached its full terminal velocity (Bujarrabal & Alcolea 1991). The results of Decin et al. (2010) infer a wind acceleration that is lower than derived from solving the momentum equation.

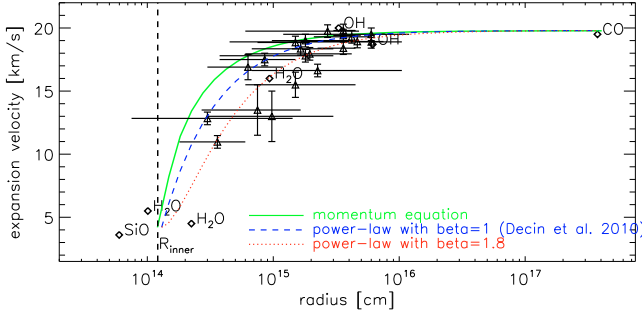
#### 3.2.1. Temperature structure

Adopting the thermodynamic structure derived in Decin et al. (2010) (and reproduced in Fig. B.1 of the Appendix), the theoretical line profiles for the  $^{12}\text{CO}$   $J = 10\text{--}9$  and  $J = 16\text{--}15$  are calculated (see Fig. 2) using the non-LTE radiative transfer code GASTRONoM (Decin et al. 2006, 2010). The  $^{12}\text{CO}$   $J = 10\text{--}9$  line is very well reproduced, while the  $J = 16\text{--}15$  line exhibits slightly larger deviations. The latter most likely reflects the very difficult calibration of this frequency setting (for which standing waves heavily perturbed the baseline, see Bujarrabal et al. 2010). This result is consistent with the temperature structure in the region between 20 and  $100 R_{\star}$  derived by Decin et al. (2010).

#### 3.2.2. Velocity structure

To constrain the wind acceleration in the CSE, all molecular emission lines as shown in Figs. 1–2 were modelled (see Appendix B). The line formation region of each molecular line was estimated by considering the range of projected radii where  $I_{\nu_0}(p) p dp$ , with  $I_{\nu_0}$  the intensity at the line center and  $p$  the impact parameter, exceeds half of its maximum value (see Fig. 3). We note that the radial extent of the line formation region is almost insensitive to the exact value of the velocity structure. Optical depths effects can strongly affect the observed line widths, and detailed radiative transfer modelling (as presented in this Letter) is required to determine the underlying velocity structure. Most of the observed lines have line widths in excess of  $17 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ . However, a few lines are considerably narrower,





**Fig. 3.** Velocity profile of IK Tau. Velocity data are obtained from mapping of maser emission: SiO (Boltz & Diamond 2005), H<sub>2</sub>O (Bains et al. 2003), and OH (Bowers et al. 1989). The CO expansion velocity derived from ground-based CO  $J = 1-0$  data is also indicated (Decin et al. 2010). The triangles show the place in the envelope where the line formation is highest for the HIFI data presented in Figs. 1–2, i.e., where  $I_{\nu}(p) p^2$  is at its maximum. The horizontal bars show the minimum and maximum radial distance for the line formation of each individual transition. The vertical bars show the uncertainty on the observed line widths. The expansion velocity deduced from solving the momentum equation is shown by the full green line. The dashed blue line represents a power law (Eq. (1)) with  $\beta = 1$  (as used for the modelling in Appendix B). For comparison, an even smoother expansion velocity structure with  $\beta = 1.8$  is shown with the red dotted line. The vertical dashed black line indicates the dust condensation radius  $R_{\text{inner}}$ . The velocity at  $R_{\text{inner}}$  is assumed to be equal to the local sound velocity.

and their line formation regions are located in that part of the envelope where the wind has not yet reached its terminal velocity ( $19 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ ). Although the line formation regions are quite broad, we find the first observational evidence that the wind acceleration is slower than implied by the momentum equation, corroborating the results of Decin et al. (2010). Using the classical  $\beta$ -parametrization (e.g., Lamers & Cassinelli 1999) to simulate the velocity structure,

$$v(r) \simeq v_0 + (v_{\infty} - v_0) \left(1 - \frac{R_{\star}}{r}\right)^{\beta}, \quad (1)$$

where  $v_0$  is the velocity at the dust condensation radius and  $v_{\infty}$  is the terminal velocity, we find that  $1 \leq \beta \leq 2$ . The theoretical line predictions shown in this Letter are computed for  $\beta = 1$ . The momentum equation, in contrast, matches a much steeper velocity profile with  $\beta = 0.6$ . We note that the velocity structure derived by Justtanont et al. (2010) for  $\chi$  Cyg is compliant with a  $\beta$ -value of 0.9. As discussed by Decin et al. (2010), there are several possible causes for a less steep velocity structure. We summarize that a slower wind velocity may be caused by incomplete momentum coupling, dust emission being slightly optically thick to the stellar radiation, the fact that not all dust species are formed at the same time and at the same radial distance, and/or that some dust species are inefficient as wind drivers.

#### 4. Conclusions

Using the HIFI spectrometer onboard *Herschel*, we have observed the evolved oxygen-rich Mira star, IK Tau, in 31 molecular emission lines. For the first time, several lines of ortho and para H<sub>2</sub><sup>16</sup>O, and the rarer isotopologs H<sub>2</sub><sup>17</sup>O and H<sub>2</sub><sup>18</sup>O have been detected. We have deduced a total water content (relative to H<sub>2</sub>) of  $6.6 \times 10^{-5}$ , and an ortho-to-para ratio of 3:1. The measured thermal emission from water therefore points toward TE

chemistry, as opposed to pulsationally induced non-equilibrium chemistry, grain surface reactions, or evaporation of icy bodies. For the isotopic ratios, we find subsolar values H<sub>2</sub><sup>16</sup>O/H<sub>2</sub><sup>17</sup>O = 600 and H<sub>2</sub><sup>16</sup>O/H<sub>2</sub><sup>18</sup>O = 200.

The high-excitation lines of <sup>12</sup>CO, <sup>13</sup>CO, <sup>28</sup>SiO, <sup>29</sup>SiO, <sup>30</sup>SiO, HCN, and SO indicate that the wind acceleration is slower than hitherto anticipated from solving the momentum equation. These results show the great capability of HIFI to study the complex thermodynamical and chemical envelopes of evolved stars in tremendous detail.

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## Appendix A: Details about the observation strategy and data reduction

**Table A.1.** LO frequencies  $\nu_{\text{LO}}$ , main beam efficiencies  $\eta_{\text{MB}}$  according to Eq. (A.1), velocity resolution  $\Delta v$  (for 0.5 MHz frequency resolution), and operational days (OD) when observations were carried out.

$\nu_{\text{LO}}$ (GHz)	$\eta_{\text{MB}}$	$\Delta v$ (km s <sup>-1</sup> )	OD
564.476	0.69	0.27	292
614.763	0.68	0.24	292
758.772	0.68	0.20	297
975.087	0.67	0.15	293
995.481	0.67	0.15	293
1102.757	0.67	0.14	294
1106.735	0.67	0.14	294
1157.495	0.67	0.13	296
1200.717	0.66	0.12	296
1713.596	0.64	0.09	298
1757.417	0.63	0.09	298
1838.039	0.63	0.08	298
1864.539	0.63	0.08	298

The regular DBS mode was used for bands 1 up to 5, while FastDBS was applied to bands 6 and 7 to achieve higher stability with respect to electrical standing waves. Two orthogonal polarizations were measured simultaneously. The double-sideband (DSB, Helmich et al., in prep.) observations ensure an instantaneous 8 GHz and 5.2 GHz frequency coverage by the wide band spectrometer (WBS) for respectively bands 1 up to 5, and bands 6 and 7. The spectral resolution is 0.5 MHz. Care was taken in choosing local oscillator (LO) frequencies such that no strong lines from the two sidebands would blend, and that at the same time a maximum number of molecular lines would be covered.

The data were processed with the standard HIFI pipeline using HIPE, and non-stitched Level-2 data were exported using the HiClass tool available in HIPE. Further processing, i.e. blanking spurious signals, baseline removal, stitching of the spectrometer subbands, and averaging, was performed in CLASS. When the quality of the spectra measured in both horizontal and vertical polarization was good, these were averaged to lower the rms noise. This approach is justified since polarisation is not a concern for the presented molecular-line analysis. In all cases, we assumed a side-band gain ratio of one.

All data presented in this Letter were converted from the antenna-temperature ( $T_A^*$ ) scale to the main-beam temperature ( $T_{\text{MB}}$ ) scale according to  $T_{\text{MB}} = T_A^*/\eta_{\text{MB}}$ , with values of the main-beam efficiency  $\eta_{\text{MB}}$  (Table A.1) calculated for the LO frequency  $\nu_{\text{LO}}$ , according to

$$\eta_{\text{MB}} = \eta_{\text{B}} \times \exp\left(-\left(\frac{\nu_{\text{LO}}/\text{GHz}}{6 \times 10^3}\right)^2\right) \times \eta_{\text{F}}, \quad (\text{A.1})$$

with  $\eta_{\text{B}} = 0.72$  and  $\eta_{\text{F}} = 0.96$  being the beam efficiency in the 0 Hz frequency limit and the forward efficiency, respectively. The absolute calibration accuracy ranges from 10% for the lowest frequency lines up to 30% for the high frequency (>1 THz) lines.

## Appendix B: Radiative transfer modelling

The molecular emission lines shown in Figs. 1–2, were modelled using the non-LTE radiative transfer code GASTRoNOoM (Decin et al. 2006). Last updates to the code and a discussion of

**Table A.2.** Observation summary.

Molecule	Transition	Freq. [GHz]	I [K km s <sup>-1</sup> ]	Noise [K]	Comments
o-H <sub>2</sub> <sup>16</sup> O	1 <sub>1,0</sub> –1 <sub>0,1</sub>	556.936	10.22	0.005	
o-H <sub>2</sub> <sup>16</sup> O	5 <sub>3,2</sub> –4 <sub>4,1</sub>	620.701	14.89	0.005	maser
o-H <sub>2</sub> <sup>16</sup> O	3 <sub>1,2</sub> –3 <sub>0,3</sub>	1097.365	14.44	0.036	
o-H <sub>2</sub> <sup>16</sup> O	3 <sub>1,2</sub> –2 <sub>2,1</sub>	1153.127	22.60	0.062	
o-H <sub>2</sub> <sup>16</sup> O	3 <sub>0,3</sub> –2 <sub>1,2</sub>	1716.770	30.89	0.104	
o-H <sub>2</sub> <sup>16</sup> O	5 <sub>3,2</sub> –5 <sub>2,3</sub>	1867.749	3.45	0.118	standing waves
o-H <sub>2</sub> <sup>16</sup> O	3 <sub>2,1</sub> –3 <sub>1,2</sub>	1162.912	13.70	0.062	
p-H <sub>2</sub> <sup>16</sup> O	2 <sub>1,1</sub> –2 <sub>0,2</sub>	752.033	13.71	0.015	
p-H <sub>2</sub> <sup>16</sup> O	5 <sub>2,4</sub> –4 <sub>3,1</sub>	970.315	19.34	0.026	maser
p-H <sub>2</sub> <sup>16</sup> O	2 <sub>0,2</sub> –1 <sub>1,1</sub>	987.927	27.85	0.030	
p-H <sub>2</sub> <sup>16</sup> O	1 <sub>1,1</sub> –0 <sub>0,0</sub>	1113.343	25.10	0.028	
p-H <sub>2</sub> <sup>16</sup> O	1 <sub>1,1</sub> –0 <sub>0,0</sub> $\nu_2=1$	1205.798	0.59	0.070	tentative, see Fig. 1
p-H <sub>2</sub> <sup>16</sup> O	4 <sub>2,2</sub> –4 <sub>1,3</sub>	1207.639	8.21	0.070	maser
p-H <sub>2</sub> <sup>16</sup> O	5 <sub>3,3</sub> –6 <sub>0,6</sub>	1716.953	1.03	0.104	standing waves
o-H <sub>2</sub> <sup>17</sup> O	3 <sub>1,2</sub> –3 <sub>0,3</sub>	1096.414	1.20	0.036	
p-H <sub>2</sub> <sup>17</sup> O	1 <sub>1,1</sub> –0 <sub>0,0</sub>	1107.167	1.50	0.036	
o-H <sub>2</sub> <sup>18</sup> O	3 <sub>1,2</sub> –3 <sub>0,3</sub>	1095.627	2.52	0.036	
p-H <sub>2</sub> <sup>18</sup> O	1 <sub>1,1</sub> –0 <sub>0,0</sub>	1101.699	3.57	0.028	
<sup>12</sup> C <sup>16</sup> O	10–9	1151.985	9.61	0.062	
<sup>12</sup> C <sup>16</sup> O	16–15	1841.35	2.48	0.03	standing waves
<sup>13</sup> C <sup>16</sup> O	9–18	991.329	2.43	0.030	
<sup>13</sup> C <sup>16</sup> O	10–9	1101.350	2.75	0.028	
<sup>28</sup> Si <sup>16</sup> O	14–13	607.599	2.31	0.005	
<sup>29</sup> Si <sup>16</sup> O	13–12	557.179	0.89	0.005	
<sup>29</sup> Si <sup>16</sup> O	26–25	1112.833	0.74	0.028	low S/N, see Fig. 2
<sup>30</sup> Si <sup>16</sup> O	26–25	1099.708	0.39	0.028	tentative, see Fig. 2
HCN	7–6	620.304	2.65	0.005	
HCN	13–12	1151.452	2.22	0.062	tentative, see Fig. 2
SO	13 <sub>14</sub> –12 <sub>13</sub>	560.178	0.20	0.005	
NH <sub>3</sub>	1 <sub>0</sub> –0 <sub>1</sub>	572.498	4.93	0.005	
U		988.255	1.37	0.030	or at 1003.215 MHz

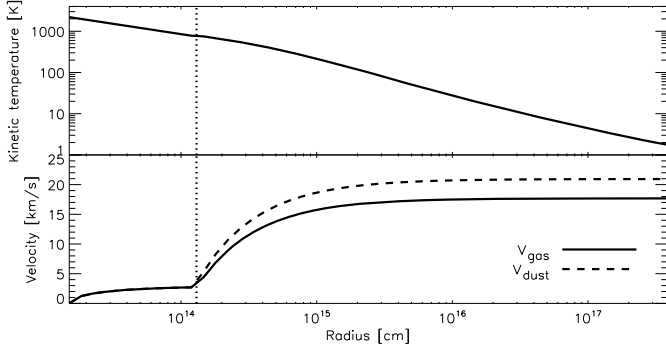
**Notes.** First column gives the molecular name, second column the transition, third column the frequency of the line, fourth column the integrated intensity, fifth column the noise, and last columns some comments (if necessary). One line is still unidentified, and is indicated with a “U” in the first column.

the available line lists and collisional rates can be found in Decin et al. (2010). The thermodynamical structure (see Fig. B.1) determined by Decin et al. (2010) was confirmed using the new HIFI observations (Sect. 3.2). Modelling the CO and H<sub>2</sub>O lines provides insight into the cooling/heating rates by transitions of these molecules (see also Decin et al. 2006, 2010). As can be seen in Fig. B.3, H<sub>2</sub>O transitions provide the main cooling agent in the region up to  $\sim 2 \times 10^{15}$  cm, while adiabatic cooling takes over for the region beyond  $\sim 2 \times 10^{15}$  cm.

In the first instance, the molecular abundance stratifications derived by Decin et al. (2010) were assumed to model the <sup>13</sup>CO, <sup>28</sup>SiO, <sup>29</sup>SiO, <sup>30</sup>SiO, HCN, and SO lines (see full black lines in Fig. 2 and full lines in Fig. B.2). Using the new HIFI observations, the <sup>13</sup>CO and <sup>28</sup>SiO abundance fractions were refined in the inner envelope (see dashed black lines in Fig. 2 and dashed lines in Fig. B.2).

The radiative transfer modelling for water included the 45 lowest levels of the ground state and first vibrational state (i.e. the bending mode  $\nu_2 = 1$  at 6.3  $\mu\text{m}$ ) for all isotopologs. Level energies, frequencies, and Einstein A coefficients were extracted from the HITRAN water line list (Rothman et al. 2009). The H<sub>2</sub>O–H<sub>2</sub> collisional rates were taken from Faure et al. (2007). The effect of including excitation to the first excited vibrational state of the asymmetric stretching mode ( $\nu_3 = 1$ ) was tested, and was found to be negligible (Decin et al. 2010).

A good agreement was found for the HCN(7–6) line proving that the inner abundance fraction [HCN/H<sub>tot</sub>] is  $\sim 2.2 \times 10^{-7}$ . The <sup>13</sup>CO  $J = 9–8$  and  $J = 10–9$  lines are somewhat underpredicted assuming a <sup>12</sup>CO/<sup>13</sup>CO ratio of 14 as obtained by Decin et al. (2010). Decreasing this ratio to 7 yields a better fit, but we



**Fig. B.1.** Thermodynamic structure of the envelope of IK Tau derived from the  $^{12}\text{CO}$   $J = 1-0$  to  $J = 7-6$  and  $\text{HCN}$   $J = 3-2$  and  $J = 4-3$  rotational line transitions for the stellar parameters given in Table B.1 (Decin et al. 2010). The start of the dusty envelope,  $R_{\text{inner}}$ , is indicated by the dotted line.

**Table B.1.** (Circum)stellar parameters for IK Tau (Decin et al. 2010).

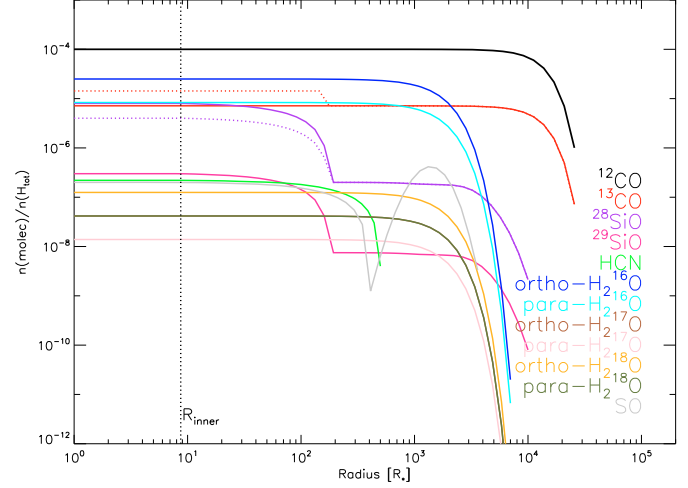
$T_{\text{eff}}$ [K]	2200	$[\text{CO}/\text{H}_{\text{tot}}]$	$1 \times 10^{-4}$
$R_*$ [ $10^{13}$ cm]	1.5	$^{12}\text{CO}/^{13}\text{CO}$	14 (7)
$\dot{M}$ [ $M_{\odot}/\text{yr}$ ]	$8 \times 10^{-6}$	$^{28}\text{SiO}/\text{H}_{\text{tot}}$	$8 \times 10^{-6}$ ( $4 \times 10^{-6}$ )
distance [pc]	265	$^{29}\text{SiO}/\text{H}_{\text{tot}}$	$3 \times 10^{-7}$
$R_{\text{inner}}$ [ $R_*$ ]	8.7	$^{30}\text{SiO}/\text{H}_{\text{tot}}$	$1 \times 10^{-7}$
$v_{\infty}$ [ $\text{km s}^{-1}$ ]	17.7	$[\text{HCN}/\text{H}_{\text{tot}}]$	$2.2 \times 10^{-7}$
$v_{\text{turb}}$ [ $\text{km s}^{-1}$ ]	1.5	$[\text{SO}/\text{H}_{\text{tot}}]$	$1 \times 10^{-6}$ ( $1 \times 10^{-5}$ )
$[\text{ortho-}\text{H}_2^{16}\text{O}/\text{H}_{\text{tot}}]$	$2.5 \times 10^{-5}$	OPR	3:1
$\text{H}_2^{16}\text{O}/\text{H}_2^{17}\text{O}$	600	$\text{H}_2^{16}\text{O}/\text{H}_2^{18}\text{O}$	200

**Notes.**  $T_{\text{eff}}$  is the effective stellar temperature,  $R_*$  denotes the stellar radius,  $\dot{M}$  the gas mass-loss rate,  $R_{\text{inner}}$  the dust condensation radius,  $v_{\infty}$  the terminal velocity of the wind, and  $v_{\text{turb}}$  the turbulent velocity in the wind. The molecular fractional abundances are given relative to  $\text{H}_{\text{tot}} = \text{n}(\text{H}) + 2\text{n}(\text{H}_2)$ , and denote the abundance at the dust condensation radius (see Fig. B.2). Values between parentheses denote refined inner wind abundance values obtained from the new HIFI observations. The fractional abundances for all water isotopologs and isomers are based on the HIFI data presented in this Letter.

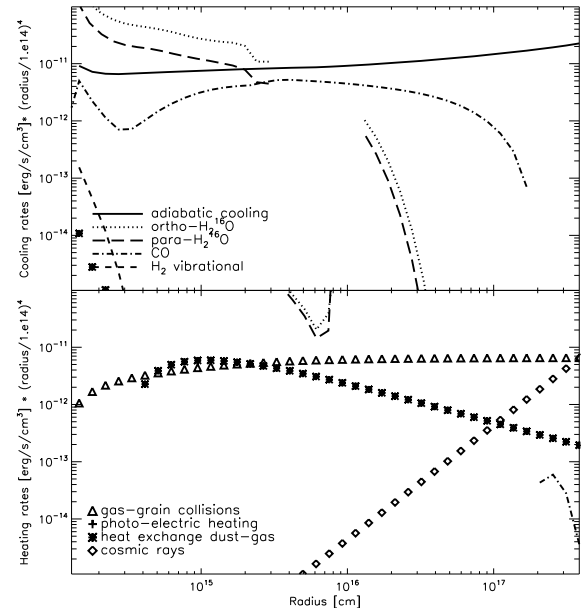
point out that the line profiles are quite noisy. The  $^{13}\text{CO}$  fractional abundance was obtained assuming the same photodissociation radius as for  $^{12}\text{CO}$  (Mamon et al. 1988). However, if the effect of less self-shielding of  $^{13}\text{CO}$  (compared to  $^{12}\text{CO}$ ) were more important than estimated by Mamon et al. (1988), the photodissociation radius of  $^{13}\text{CO}$  would be smaller, affecting the low excitation rotational transitions more than the higher excitation lines observed by HIFI. Another possibility might be that the velocity structure is steeper than the  $\beta = 1$  power law now assumed in the region between  $\sim 20$  and  $150 R_*$ , where these high-excitation lines are mainly formed. Since a constant mass-loss rate is assumed, this would imply a lower density in this region, and hence a higher  $^{13}\text{CO}$  abundance fraction to produce the correct line intensity.

Only one higher-excitation  $^{28}\text{SiO}$  line has been observed so far. The  $J = 14-13$  transition indicates that the inner wind abundance might be a factor 2 lower than deduced by Decin et al. (2010), yielding an inner wind abundance of  $4 \times 10^{-6}$ , decreasing to  $2 \times 10^{-7}$  around  $180 R_*$ . The isotopolog line of  $^{29}\text{SiO}(13-12)$  is very well predicted for an inner abundance of  $3 \times 10^{-7}$ ; the higher excitation  $J = 26-25$  line of both  $^{29}\text{SiO}$  and  $^{30}\text{SiO}$  are consistent with the HIFI observations. This implies an isotopic ratio of  $^{28}\text{SiO}/^{29}\text{SiO}$  of 13.

Using the abundance pattern determined by Decin et al. (2010), the  $\text{SO}(13_{14} - 12_{13})$  is quite well predicted.



**Fig. B.2.** Fractional abundance stratifications for  $^{12}\text{CO}$ ,  $^{13}\text{CO}$ ,  $^{28}\text{SiO}$ ,  $^{29}\text{SiO}$ ,  $\text{HCN}$ ,  $\text{SO}$ ,  $\text{ortho-}\text{H}_2^{16}\text{O}$ ,  $\text{para-}\text{H}_2^{16}\text{O}$ ,  $\text{ortho-}\text{H}_2^{17}\text{O}$ ,  $\text{para-}\text{H}_2^{17}\text{O}$ ,  $\text{ortho-}\text{H}_2^{18}\text{O}$ , and  $\text{para-}\text{H}_2^{18}\text{O}$ . For all molecules (except water), the full line represents the results obtained by Decin et al. (2010). For  $^{13}\text{CO}$  and  $^{28}\text{SiO}$ , the new results based on the HIFI data are shown in dotted lines. The fractional abundances for all water isotopologs and isomers are based on the HIFI data presented in this Letter.



**Fig. B.3.** Cooling and heating rates in the envelope of IK Tau due to different processes (for details, see Decin et al. 2006). As can be seen in the plot, both  $\text{CO}$  and  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  transitions mainly cool the envelope, but in certain restricted ranges can heat the envelope.