

Temperature Fluctuations in Ionized Nebulae and their Effect on the Oxygen Abundance Determination



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instituto de astronomía

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Temperature Fluctuations in Ionized Nebulae and their Effect on the Oxygen Abundance Determination

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- Manuel Peimbert
- Maria de los Angeles Peña-Guerrero
- Cesar Esteban
- Jorge García-Rojas
- Valentina Luridiana



Temperature Fluctuations or Temperature Inhomogeneities?

- Temperature Fluctuations or Temperature Inhomogeneities are the same:
- They are just departures from a homogeneous temperature.
- They are characterized by the normalized standard deviation from the average temperature.

$$t^2 = \left\langle \frac{[T(r) - T_0]^2}{T_0^2} \right\rangle \quad T_0 = \langle T(r) \rangle$$

- Where the average is done over the observed volume and weighted by n_e and n_{ion}^* .

Outline

- 1) What are the temperature inhomogeneities?
- 2) Qualitatively: What is their effect in abundance determinations?
- 3) How do we know they are there?
- 4) What is the amplitude of the inhomogeneities?
- 5) Quantitatively: What is their effect in abundance determinations?
- 6) Statistically: What should be done to improve the abundance determinations?
- 7) Conclusions

What are the Temperature Inhomogeneities?

- The standard study of photoionized regions is based on the hypothesis that to derive reliable abundances it is enough to do an analysis assuming homogeneous temperature and density.
- For many objects, it is possible to determine one (or a few) temperature and one (or a few) density using Collisionally Excited Line (CEL) ratios.
- With these physical characteristics at hand (and using $[\text{O II}]/\text{H}\beta$ and $[\text{O III}]/\text{H}\beta$ ratios) it is possible to determine O^+ and O^{++} abundances.

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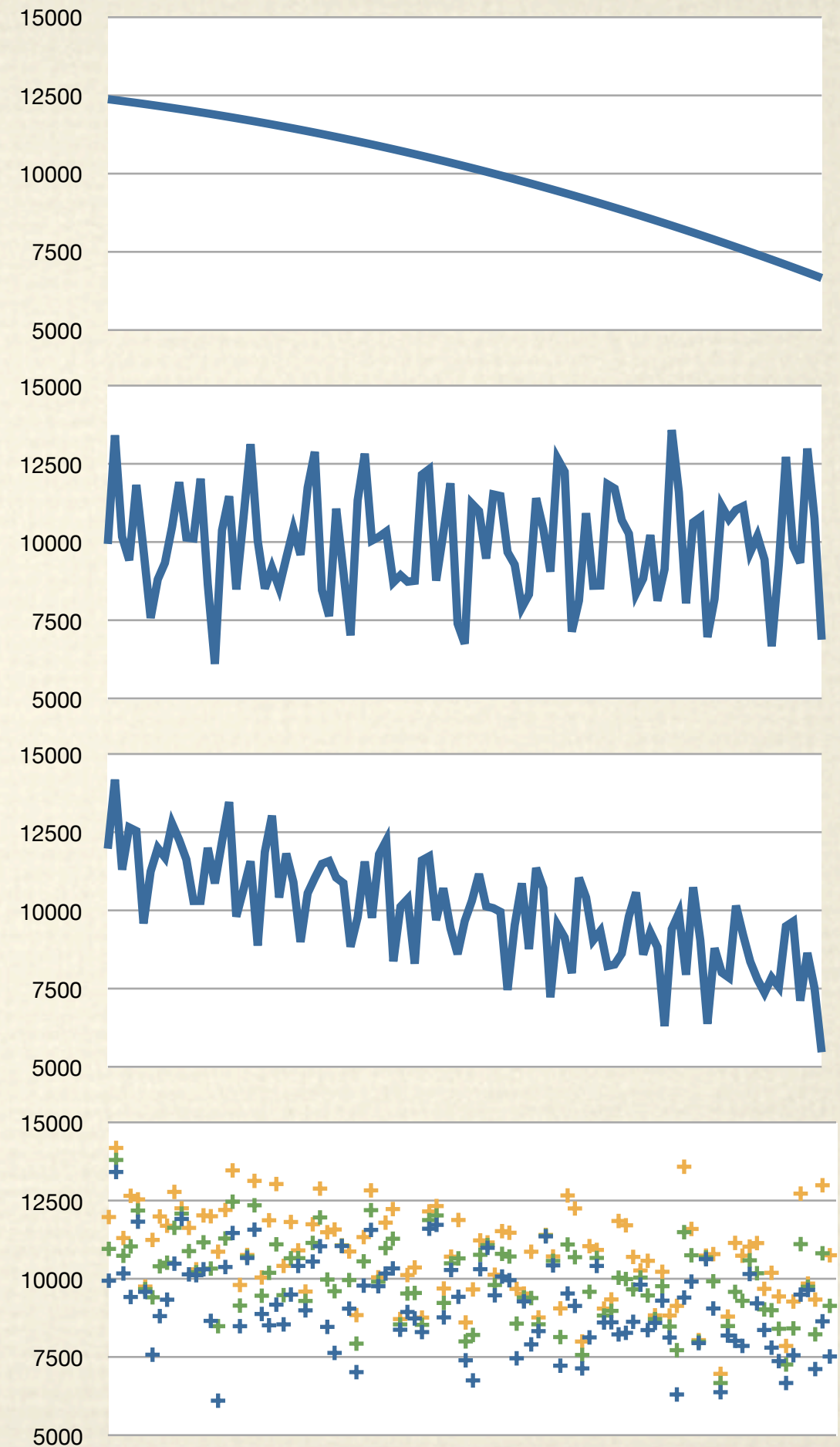
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- There is an additional assumption that, if there are some small variations in the temperature, the temperature one determines will be an average and when determining abundances the effects of this single temperature will average out.
- Small things that are usually included are:
 - 2 zone analysis.
 - Photoionization models produce t^2 values of about 0.004.

- The specific intensity of the emission lines depends on the velocity distribution of the electrons on the observed region of space.
- And the conclusions can be deeply skewed if one assumes a single temperature (Maxwellian distribution*) in a region where several temperatures (Maxwellian distributions*) are present.

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- And the conclusions can be deeply skewed if one assumes a single temperature (Maxwellian distribution*) in a region where several temperatures (Maxwellian distributions*) are present.
- It doesn't matter whether the inhomogeneities come from a steep gradient, small scale fluctuations or even coexisting Maxwellians within the same microscopic volume*.



Qualitatively: What is the effect of the Temperature Inhomogeneities?

- In the presence of thermal inhomogeneities, Optical (and UV) CELs are brighter in the hotter regions while RLs are brighter in the cooler regions.
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 - The CELs from the hotter regions would be considered adequately, while the CELs from the cooler regions would be much fainter than expected.
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- Therefore the abundances would be underestimated.
- This effect can easily explain the observed ADFs of H II regions and of most PNe.
- Caveats:
 - Some PNe (maybe 10%) do have H poor clumps.
 - If a significant amount of the emission comes from regions with densities over 10^5 , the density inhomogeneities would mimic the effects of temperature inhomogeneities.
 - For IR lines it breaks down when there is a significant amount of emission from regions with densities over 10^3 .

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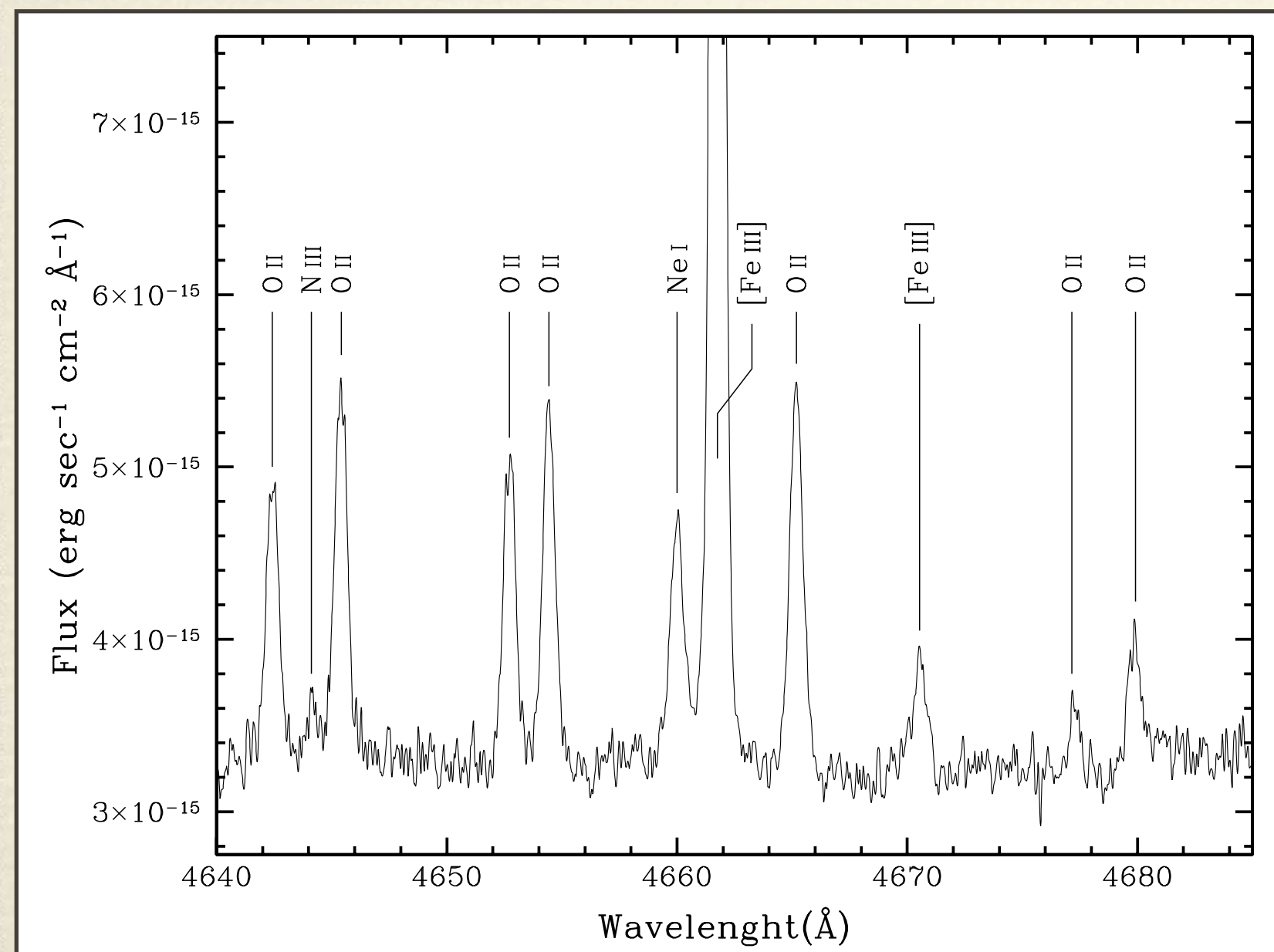
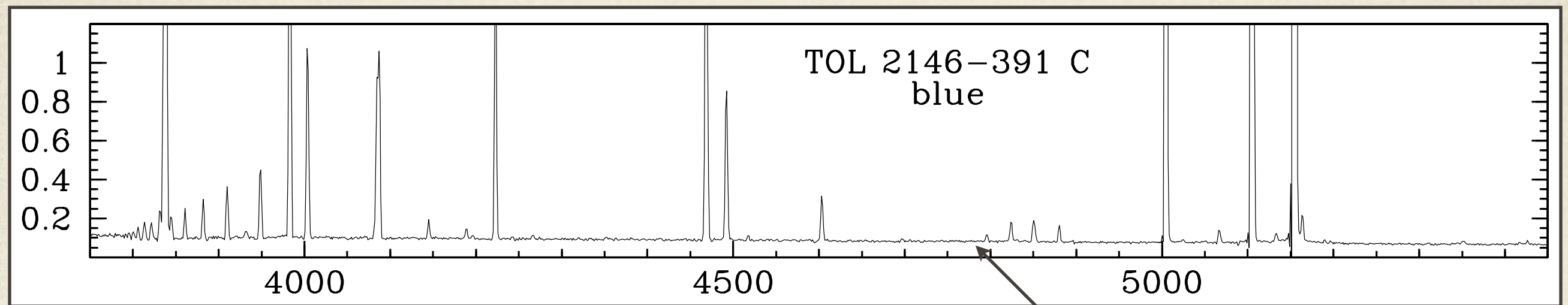
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- Temperatures determined from different ions give different results.
- Temperatures determined using RLs are always lower than those determined from Optical CELs.
- There are ADFs in most (if not all) H II regions and PNe.
- We know there are shockwaves, shadowed regions, ionization fronts, x-rays and cosmic rays.
- Some people insist that photoionization dominates the energetics of these regions but, the presence of filling factors, $\epsilon \ll 1.00$, indicates this is not the case.

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- Some people insist that photoionization dominates the energetics of these regions but, the presence of filling factors, $\epsilon \ll 1.00$, indicates this is not the case.
- A different question is whether these inhomogeneities occur in a chemically homogeneous region or not.
- We have used several different methods to determine the magnitude of these thermal inhomogeneities.
 - Comparing: Balmer with Oxygen CEL temperatures.
 - Comparing O^{++} CEL with O^{++} RL abundances.
 - Comparing C^{++} CEL with C^{++} RL abundances.
 - Comparing Oxygen CEL with He^+ RL temperatures.
- These magnitudes agree with each other showing that H, He, C, and O well mixed.



4 O II lines

Added together they are 7 times
fainter than the Fe line

and 150 times fainter than 4363

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- We need to model a distribution of temperatures.
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- We can try to make a model with a very large number of gas parcels.
 - It would be a very artificial distribution without much astrophysical meaning.
- We can simplify the problem assuming small deviations.
 - Much work has been done using a Taylor expansion.

t^2 formalism: Taylor expansion

$$I(\lambda, n_e, n_{ion}, T) \equiv I_\lambda(T) \times n_e \times n_{ion}$$

$$I_\lambda(T) = I_\lambda(T_0) + I'_\lambda(T_0)(T - T_0) + \frac{1}{2!}I''_\lambda(T_0)(T - T_0)^2 + \frac{1}{3!}I'''_\lambda(T_0)(T - T_0)^3 + \dots$$

$$\begin{aligned}\langle I_\lambda(T(r)) \rangle &= I_\lambda(T_0) + I'_\lambda(T_0) \langle [T(r) - T_0] \rangle \\ &+ I''_\lambda(T_0) \frac{1}{2!} \langle [T(r) - T_0]^2 \rangle \\ &+ I'''_\lambda(T_0) \frac{1}{3!} \langle [T(r) - T_0]^3 \rangle + \dots\end{aligned}$$

$$t_k = \left\langle \frac{[T(r) - T_0]^k}{T_0^k} \right\rangle$$

$$\langle I_\lambda(T(r)) \rangle = I_\lambda(T_0) + I'_\lambda(T_0)T_0 t_1 + I''_\lambda(T_0)T_0^2 \frac{t_2}{2!} + I'''_\lambda(T_0)T_0^3 \frac{t_3}{3!} + \dots$$

t^2 formalism: second order approximation

$$\langle I_\lambda(T(r)) \rangle = I_\lambda(T_0) + I'_\lambda(T_0)T_0 t_1 + I''_\lambda(T_0)T_0^2 \frac{t_2}{2!} + I'''_\lambda(T_0)T_0^3 \frac{t_3}{3!} + \dots$$

$$T_0 = \langle T(r) \rangle$$

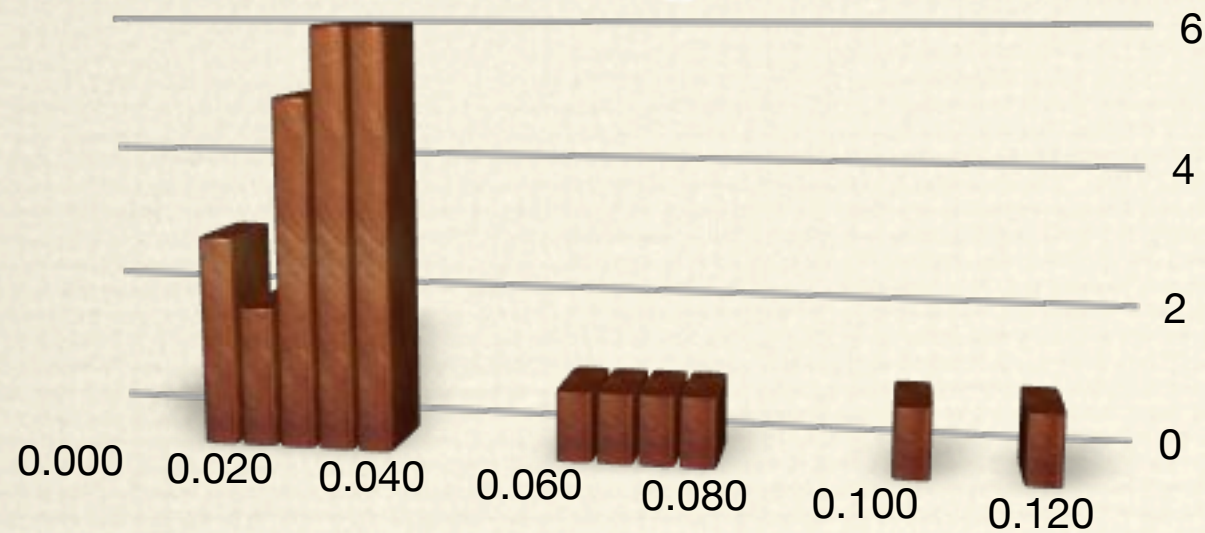
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$$t^2 = t_2 = \left\langle \frac{[T(r) - T_0]^2}{T_0^2} \right\rangle$$

What are the values of t^2 ?

• H II Regions

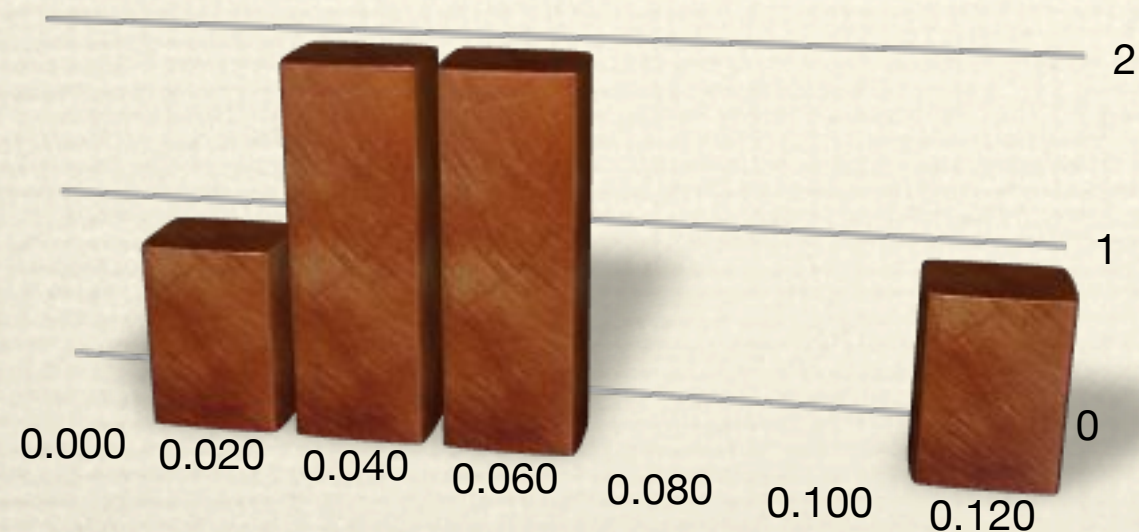


• range 0.020-0.120

• median ~ 0.035

• average ~ 0.044

• Planetary Nebulae



• range 0.028-0.120

• median ~ 0.050

• average ~ 0.055

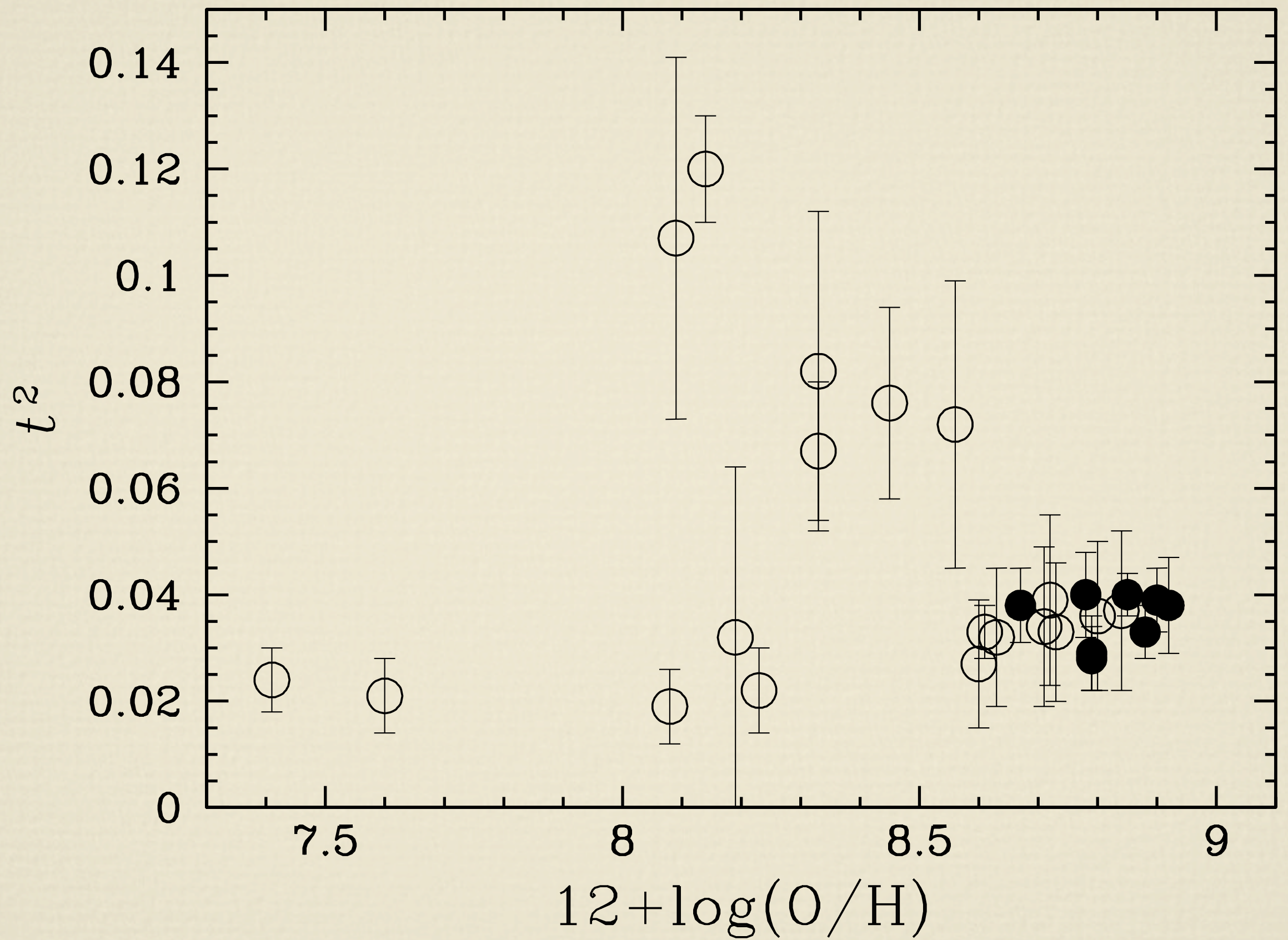
Table 11 — Average t^2 for Wide Metallicity Range H II regions (WMR)

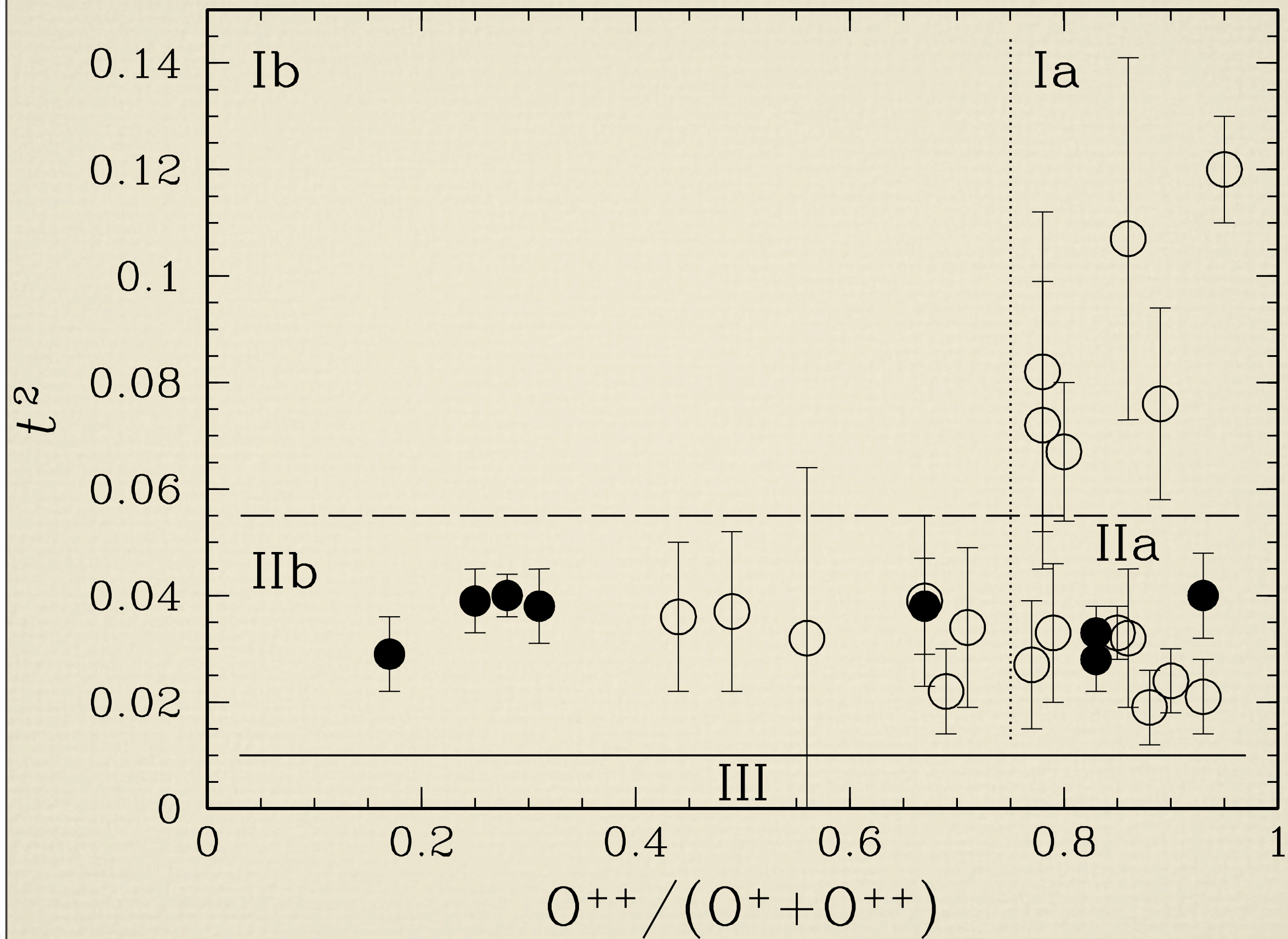
| Object | Location ^a | O/H ^b | O/H ^c | t^2 | O ⁺⁺ | $T_e[\text{O III}]$ | $n_e[\text{O II}]$ | References | Type ^d |
|---|-----------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------|---------------------------------|---------------------|---|------------|-------------------|
| | | | | | O ⁺ +O ⁺⁺ | | | | |
| NGC 3576 | G | 8.56 | 8.92 | 0.038±0.009 | 0.67 | 8500±50 | 2300±200 | 1 | IIb |
| M16 | G | 8.50 | 8.90 | 0.039±0.006 | 0.25 | 7650±250 | 1050±250 | 2 | IIb |
| M17 | G | 8.52 | 8.88 | 0.033±0.005 | 0.83 | 8950±380 | 480 ±150 | 3 | IIa |
| M8 | G | 8.51 | 8.85 | 0.040±0.004 | 0.28 | 8090±140 | 1800±800 | 3 | IIb |
| H1013 | X | 8.45 | 8.84 | 0.037 | 0.49 | 7370±630 | 280 ±60 | 4 | IIb |
| NGC 595 | X | 8.45 | 8.80 | 0.036 | 0.44 | 7450±330 | 260 ±30 | 4 | IIb |
| M20 | G | 8.53 | 8.79 | 0.029±0.007 | 0.17 | 7800±300 | 240 ±70 | 2 | IIb |
| Orion | G | 8.51 | 8.79 | 0.028±0.006 | 0.83 | 8300±40 | 2400±300 | 5, 6 | IIa |
| NGC 3603 | G | 8.46 | 8.78 | 0.040±0.008 | 0.93 | 9060±200 | 2300±750 | 2 | IIa |
| K932 | X | 8.41 | 8.73 | 0.033 | 0.79 | 8360±150 | 470 ±40 | 4 | IIa |
| NGC 2403 | X | 8.36 | 8.72 | 0.039 | 0.67 | 8270±210 | 370 ±40 | 4 | IIb |
| NGC 604 | X | 8.38 | 8.71 | 0.034±0.015 | 0.71 | 8150±160 | 270 ±30 | 4 | IIb |
| S 311 | G | 8.39 | 8.67 | 0.038±0.007 | 0.31 | 9000±200 | 260 ±110 | 7 | IIb |
| NGC 5447 | X | 8.35 | 8.63 | 0.032 | 0.86 | 9280±180 | 280± ⁶⁹⁰ ₂₈₀ | 4 | IIa |
| 30 Doradus | X | 8.33 | 8.61 | 0.033±0.005 | 0.85 | 9950±60 | 279 ±16 | 8 | IIa |
| NGC 5461 | X | 8.41 | 8.60 | 0.027±0.012 | 0.77 | 8470±200 | 540 ±110 ^e | 4, 9 | IIa |
| NGC 5253 | X | 8.18 | 8.56 | 0.072±0.027 | 0.78 | 11960±290 | 660 ±140 | 10 | Ia |
| NGC 6822 | X | 8.08 | 8.45 | 0.076±0.018 | 0.89 | 13000±1000 | 190 ±30 | 11 | Ia |
| NGC 5471 | X | 8.03 | 8.33 | 0.082±0.030 | 0.78 | 14100±300 | 220 ±70 ^f | 9 | Ia |
| NGC 456 | X | 7.99 | 8.33 | 0.067±0.013 | 0.80 | 12165±200 | 130 ±30 | 12 | Ia |
| NGC 346 | X | 8.07 | 8.23 | 0.022±0.008 | 0.69 | 13070±50 | 144± ⁴⁴ ₃₈ ^g | 13, 14 | IIb |
| NGC 460 | X | 7.96 | 8.19 | 0.032±0.032 | 0.56 | 12400±450 | 170 ±20 | 12 | IIb |
| NGC 2363 | X | 7.76 | 8.14 | 0.120±0.010 | 0.95 | 16200±300 | 550 ±100 | 4 | Ia |
| TOL 2146 – 391 | X | 7.79 | 8.09 | 0.107±0.034 | 0.86 | 15800±170 | 280 ±30 | 15 | Ia |
| TOL 0357 – 3915 | X | 7.90 | 8.12 | 0.029±0.064 | 0.87 | 14870±230 | 340 ±50 | 15 | Ia |
| Haro 29 | X | 7.87 | 8.05 | 0.019±0.007 | 0.88 | 16050±100 | 235 ±85 ^g | 13, 16 | IIa |
| SBS 0335–052 | X | 7.35 | 7.60 | 0.021±0.007 | 0.93 | 20500±200 | 297 ±85 ^g | 13, 17 | IIa |
| I Zw 18 | X | 7.22 | 7.41 | 0.024±0.006 | 0.90 | 19060±610 | 87± ⁶⁵ ₅₆ ^g | 13, 17 | IIa |
| $\langle t^2(\text{WMR}) \rangle = 0.044$ | | | | | | | | | |

● 8 meter class telescope

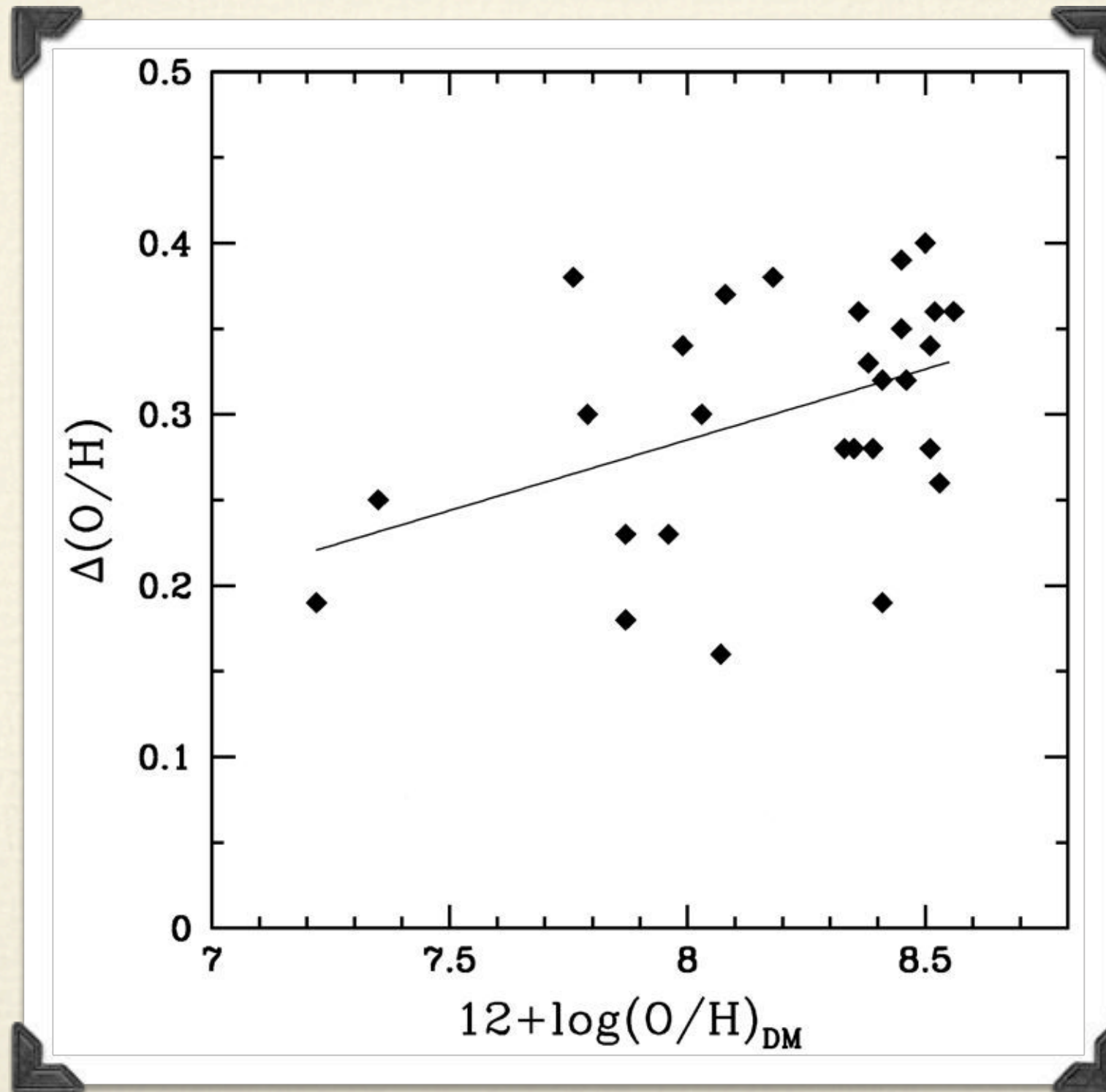
● 19 echelle

● 9 long slit

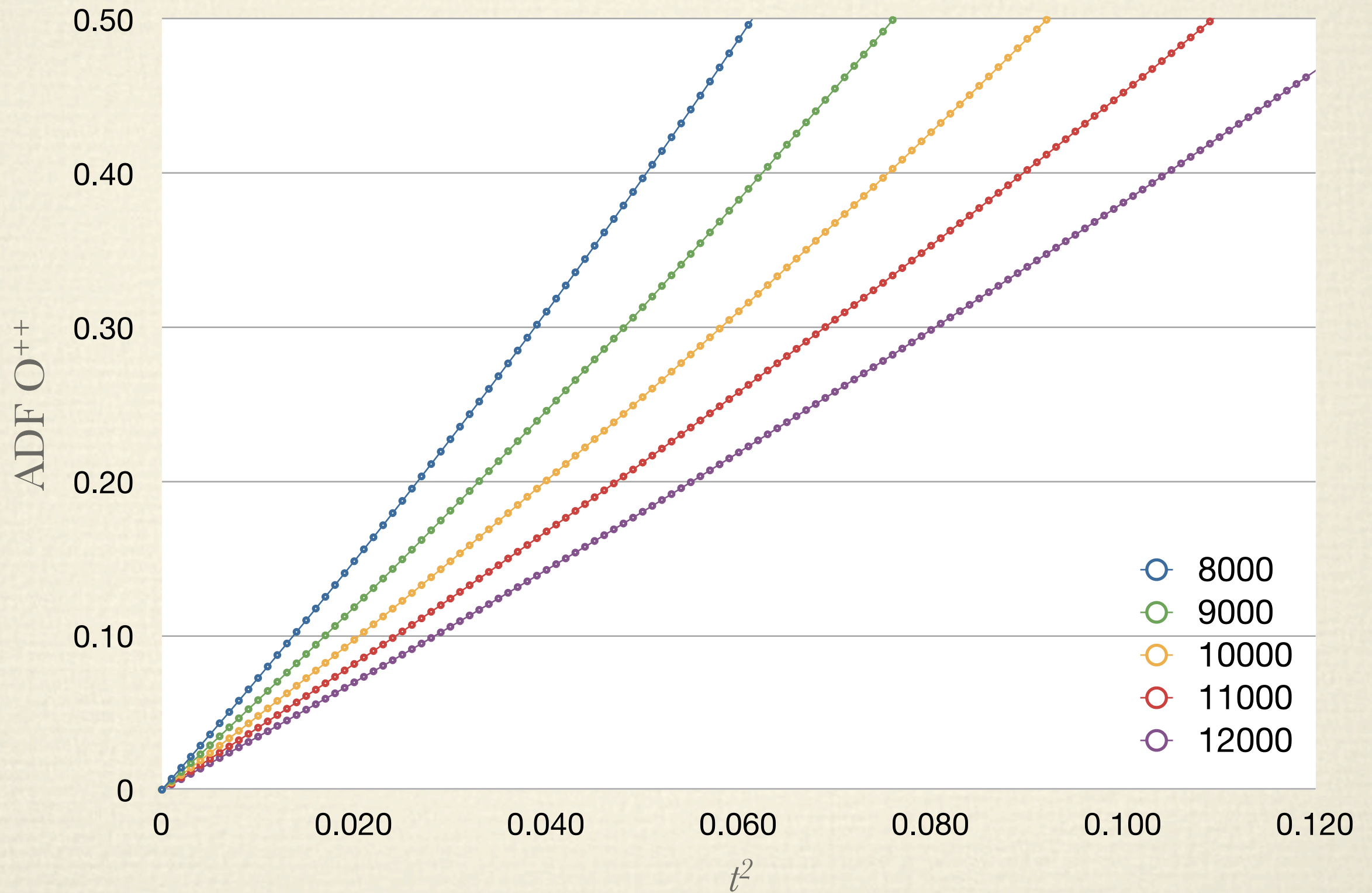


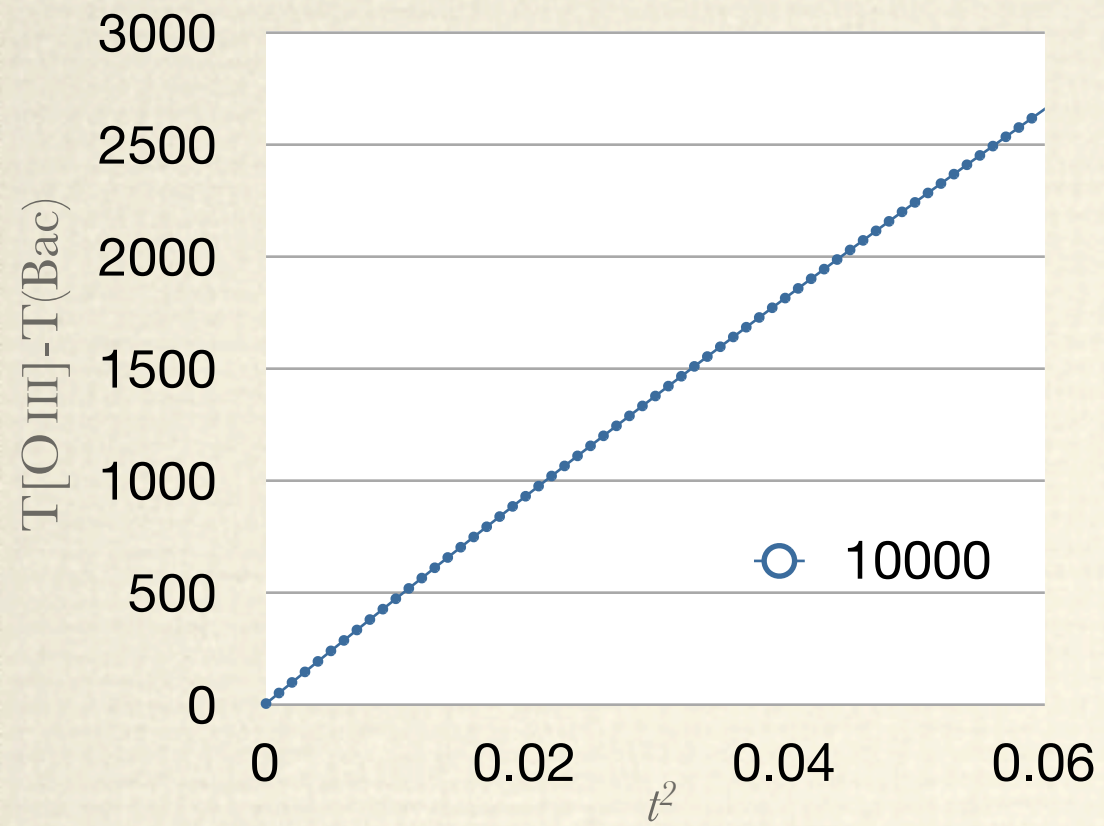


Quantitatively: What is their effect in abundance determinations?



It is possible to determine the ADF
as a function of t^2 and $T_e[\text{O III}]$

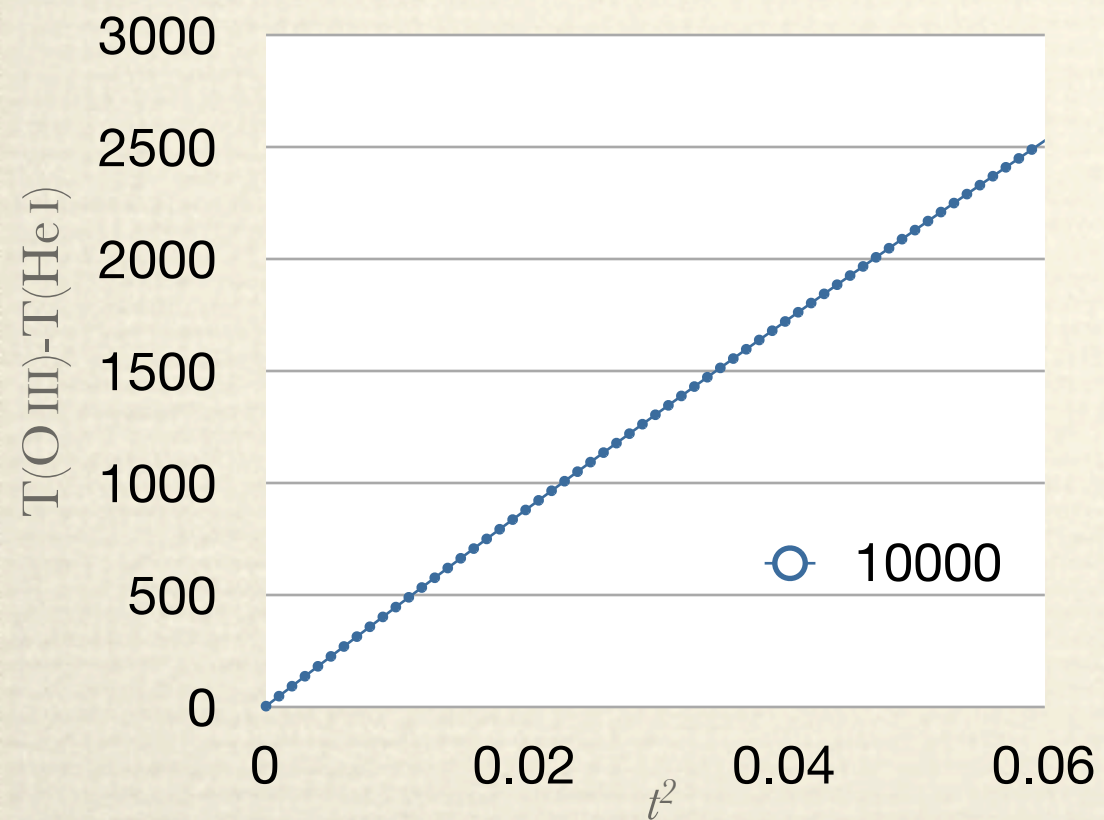




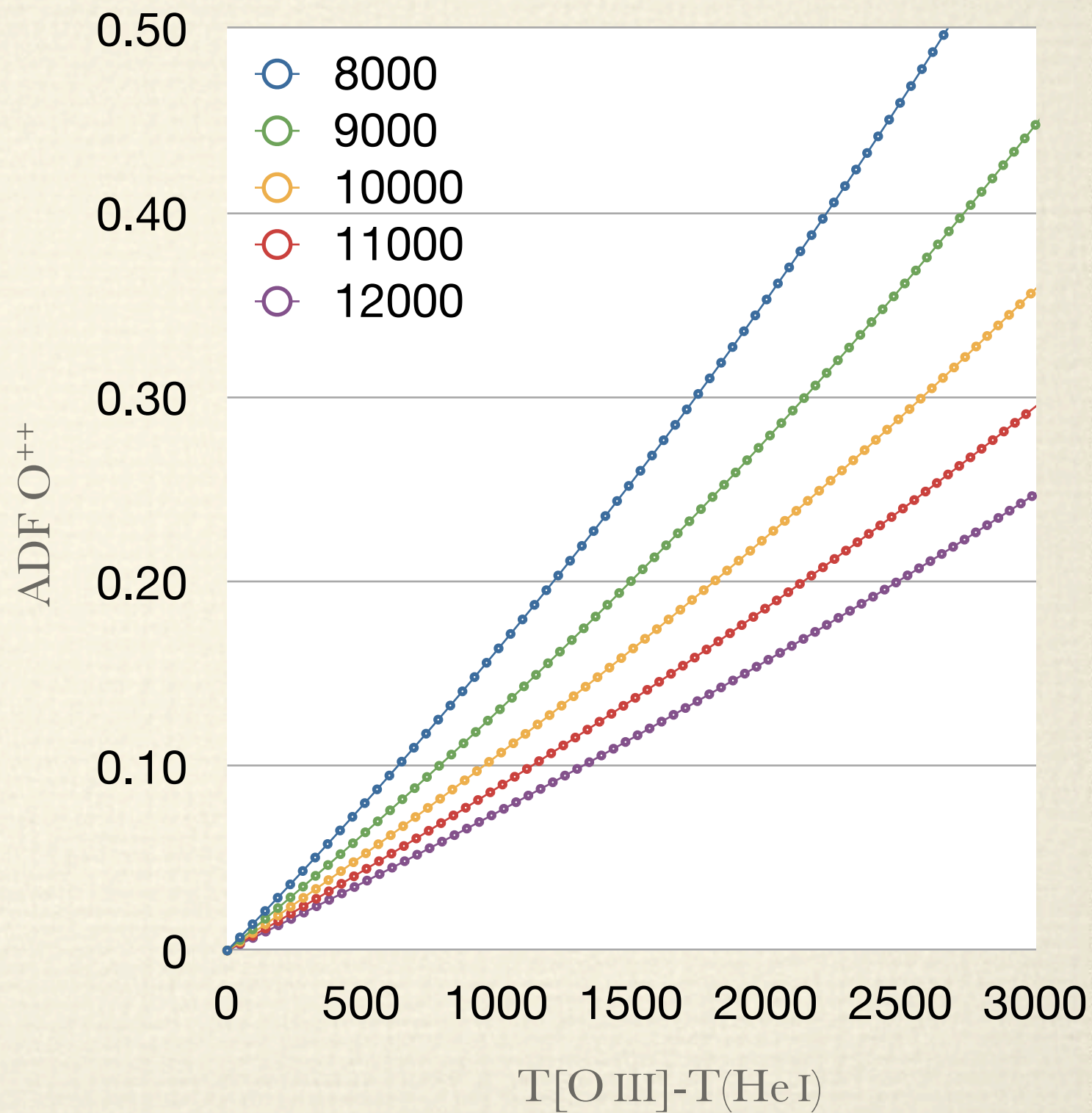
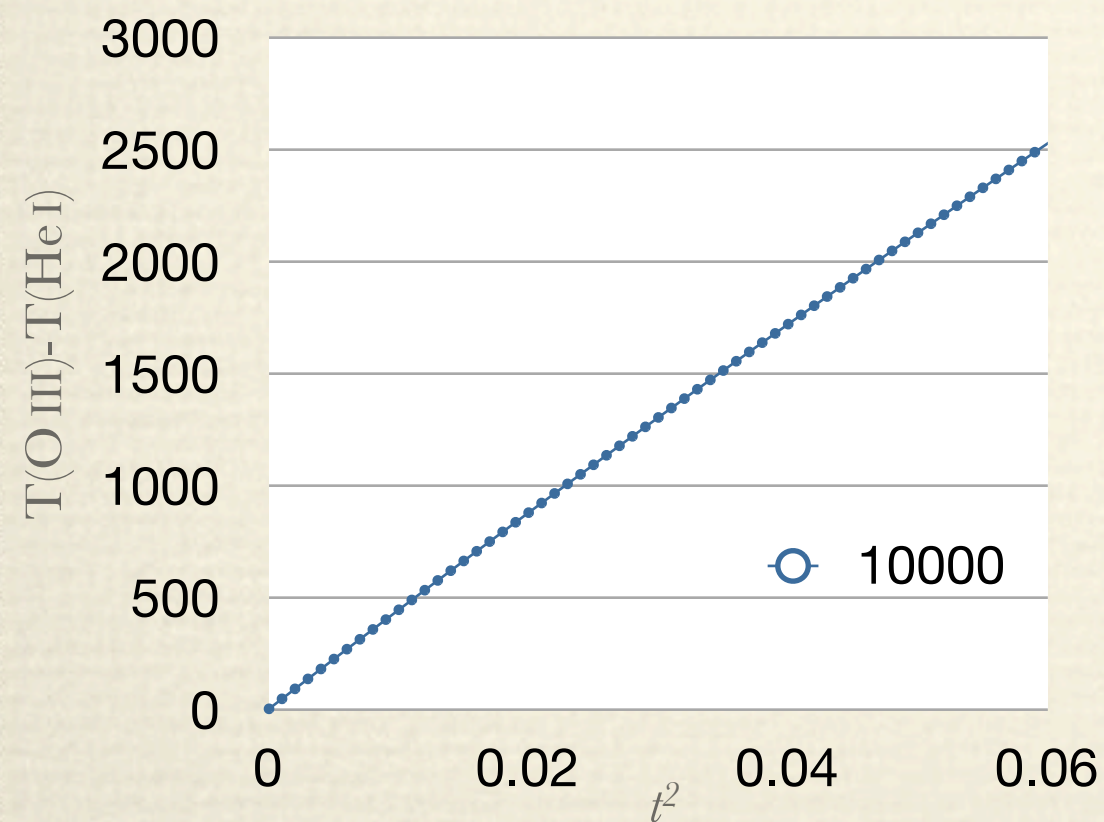
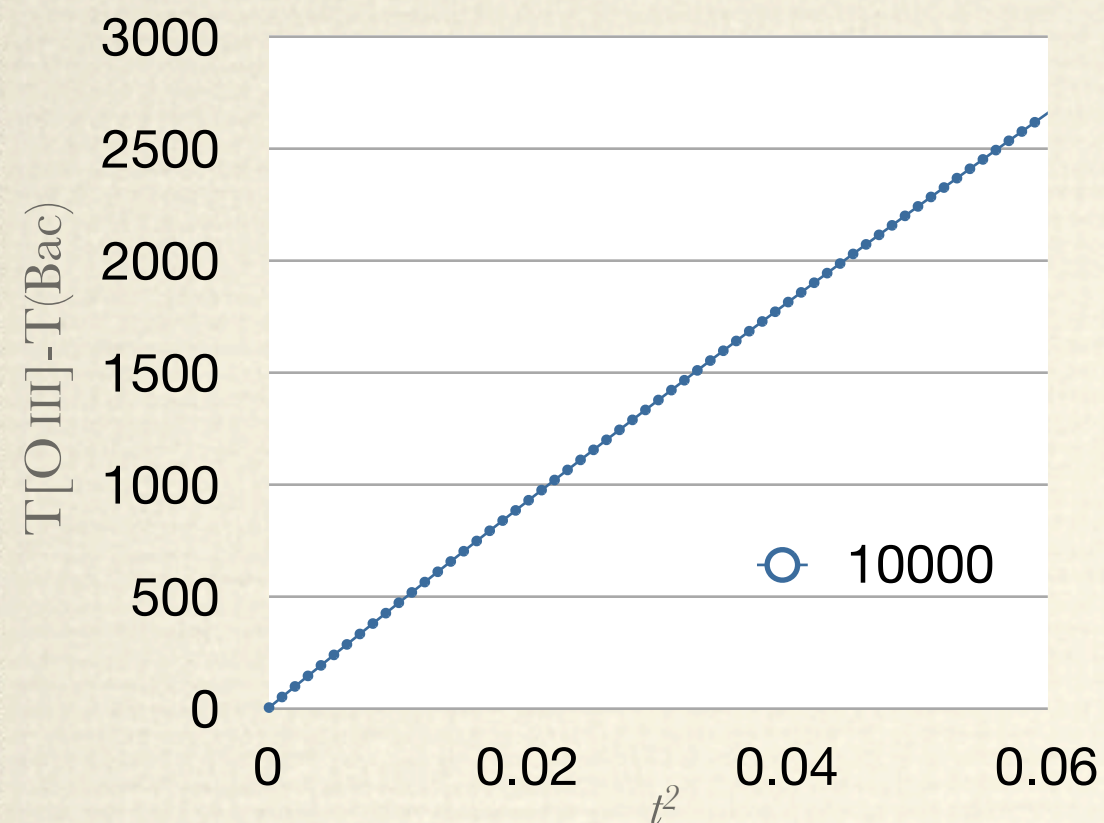
When comparing temperatures from different ions it is important to make sure you are considering the same volumes

...or at least similar volumes.

e.g. objects with high fraction of He^{++} are not very good.



It is also possible to determine the ADF
as a function of ΔT and $T_e[\text{O III}]$



Statistically: What should be done to improve the Abundance Determinations?

- For most objects it is not possible to determine t^2 .
- When determining abundances using the direct method the abundances are underestimated by a factor of about 2.
- For H II regions we propose the Corrected Auroral Line Method (t^2 + dust; in units of $12+\log \text{O}/\text{H}$):

$$(\text{O}/\text{H})_{\text{CALM}} = 1.0825 \times (\text{O}/\text{H})_{\text{DM}} - 0.375$$

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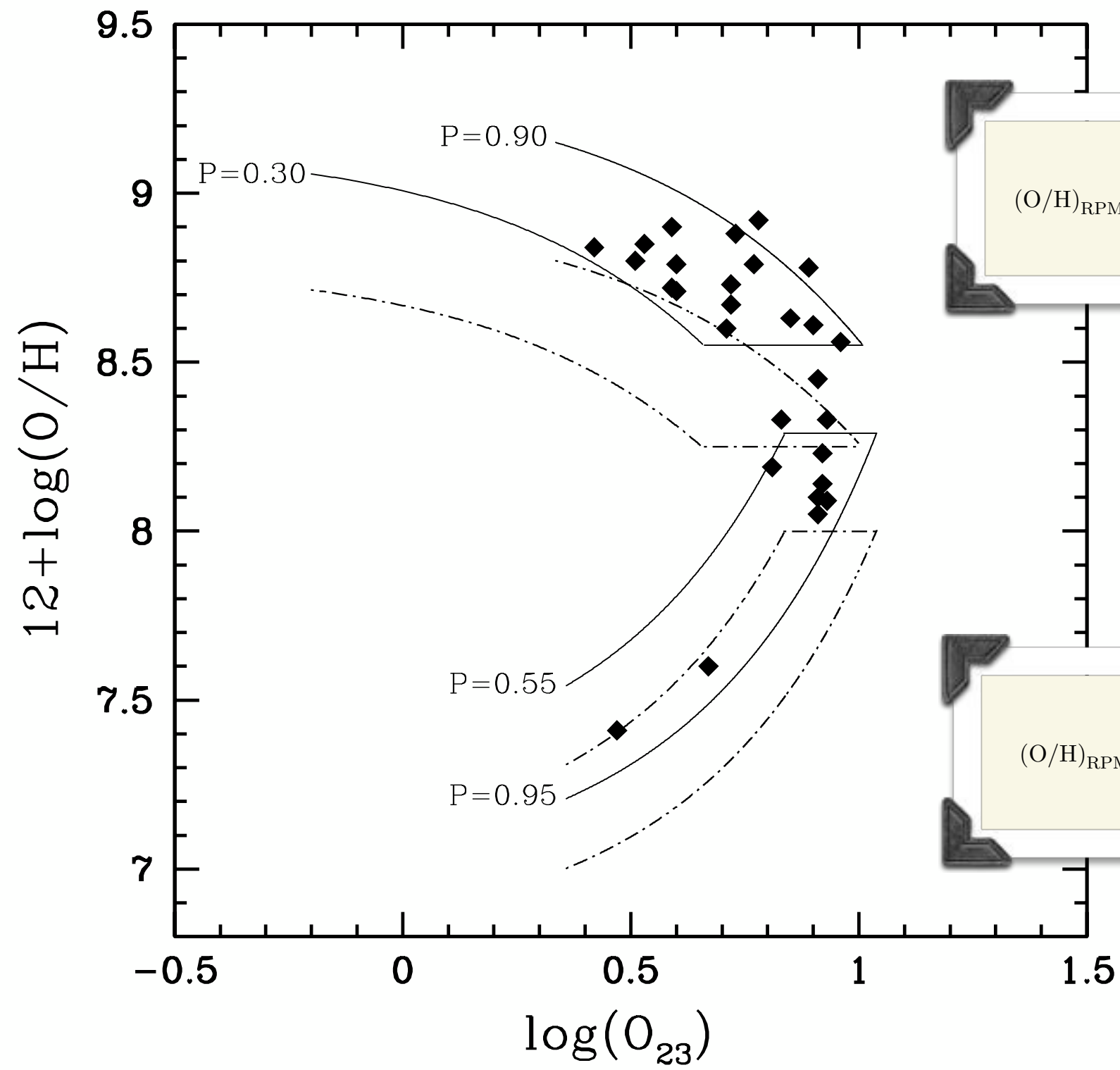
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- When doing numerical models an average t^2 should be forced into the model.
- I would suggest making:
 - 1/4 of the cells slightly cooler.
 - 1/4 of the cells as they are.
 - 1/4 of the cells slightly hotter.
 - and 1/4 of the cells even hotter.
- The objective would be to obtain:
 - $t^2=0.035$ for H II regions of low degree of ionization
 - $t^2=0.051$ for H II regions of high degree of ionization
 - $t^2=0.055$ for PNe.

- For objects that are even fainter.
 - Using ideas from:
 - Peimbert, M. 1967
 - Pagel, B. E. J. et al. 1979
 - Pilyugin, L. S. et al. 2005
 - Peimbert, A. et al. 2010
 - Peña-Guerrero, M. A. et al. 2012
 - One can Recalibrate Pagel's strong line Method:

$$(\text{O}/\text{H})_{\text{RPM}} = \frac{\text{O}_{23} + 1837 + 2146\text{P} - 850\text{P}^2}{209.5 + 201.7\text{P} + 107.2\text{P}^2 - 4.37\text{O}_{23}}$$

$$(\text{O}/\text{H})_{\text{RPM}} = \frac{\text{O}_{23} + 90.73 + 94.58\text{P} - 5.26\text{P}^2}{14.81 + 5.52\text{P} + 5.81\text{P}^2 - 0.252\text{O}_{23}}$$



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- If ignored, these Inhomogeneities will lead to systematic underestimations of the O/H ratio.
- Most H II regions and PNe are chemically homogeneous.
- When available, RLs are better to determine abundances since they have the same dependence on T_e and n_e than $H\beta$.
- In H II regions the effect is in the 0.15 - 0.45 dex range (where 0.10 is due to the oxygen trapped in dust).
- In PNe the effect is in the 0.15 - 0.70 dex range.

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- This correction should also be used the strong line methods (when calibrated using CELs).
- PNe need more work.... as of now

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$$(O/H)_{CALM} = 1.0825 \times (O/H)_{DM} - 0.375$$
- This correction should also be used the strong line methods (when calibrated using CELs).

$$(O/H)_{RPM} = \frac{O_{23} + 1837 + 2146P - 850P^2}{209.5 + 201.7P + 107.2P^2 - 4.37O_{23}}$$

$$(O/H)_{RPM} = \frac{O_{23} + 90.73 + 94.58P - 5.26P^2}{14.81 + 5.52P + 5.81P^2 - 0.252O_{23}}$$
- PNe need more work.... as of now

$$(O/H)_{PNe} = (O/H)_{DM} + 0.35$$
- Numerical models can be altered to mimic higher t^2 .
- When comparing numerical models to observed objects, it is better to fit nebular lines than to fit auroral lines or temperatures.

Thank you



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$$T_0(N_i, N_e) = \frac{\int T(\mathbf{r}) N_i(\mathbf{r}) N_e(\mathbf{r}) d\Omega dl}{\int N_i(\mathbf{r}) N_e(\mathbf{r}) d\Omega dl}, \quad (9)$$

$$t^2 = \left\langle \left[\frac{T(\mathbf{r}) - T_0}{T_0} \right]^2 \right\rangle = \frac{\int T^2(\mathbf{r}) N_e(\mathbf{r}) N_i(\mathbf{r}) d\Omega dl - T_0^2 \int N_e(\mathbf{r}) N_i(\mathbf{r}) d\Omega dl}{T_0^2 \int N_e(\mathbf{r}) N_i(\mathbf{r}) d\Omega dl}. \quad (12)$$

$$I(\lambda, n_e, n_{ion}, T) \equiv I_\lambda(T) \times n_e \times n_{ion}$$

$$I_\lambda(T) = I_\lambda(T_0) + I'_\lambda(T_0)(T - T_0) + \frac{1}{2!} I''_\lambda(T_0)(T - T_0)^2 + \frac{1}{3!} I'''_\lambda(T_0)(T - T_0)^3 + \frac{1}{4!} I''''_\lambda(T_0)(T - T_0)^4 + \dots$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\int_V I_\lambda(T(r)) n_e(r) n_{ion}(r) dV}{\int_V n_e(r) n_{ion}(r) dV} &= \frac{\int_V I_\lambda(T_0) n_e(r) n_{ion}(r) dV}{\int_V n_e(r) n_{ion}(r) dV} \\ &+ \frac{\int_V I'_\lambda(T_0)(T(r) - T_0) n_e(r) n_{ion}(r) dV}{\int_V n_e(r) n_{ion}(r) dV} \\ &+ \frac{1}{2!} \frac{\int_V I''_\lambda(T_0)(T(r) - T_0)^2 n_e(r) n_{ion}(r) dV}{\int_V n_e(r) n_{ion}(r) dV} \\ &+ \frac{1}{3!} \frac{\int_V I'''_\lambda(T_0)(T(r) - T_0)^3 n_e(r) n_{ion}(r) dV}{\int_V n_e(r) n_{ion}(r) dV} \\ &+ \frac{1}{4!} \frac{\int_V I''''_\lambda(T_0)(T(r) - T_0)^4 n_e(r) n_{ion}(r) dV}{\int_V n_e(r) n_{ion}(r) dV} + \dots \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\int_V I_\lambda(T(r)) n_e(r) n_{ion}(r) dV}{\int_V n_e(r) n_{ion}(r) dV} &= I_\lambda(T_0) \frac{\int_V n_e(r) n_{ion}(r) dV}{\int_V n_e(r) n_{ion}(r) dV} \\ &+ I'_\lambda(T_0) \frac{\int_V (T(r) - T_0) n_e(r) n_{ion}(r) dV}{\int_V n_e(r) n_{ion}(r) dV} \\ &+ I''_\lambda(T_0) \frac{1}{2!} \frac{\int_V (T(r) - T_0)^2 n_e(r) n_{ion}(r) dV}{\int_V n_e(r) n_{ion}(r) dV} \\ &+ I'''_\lambda(T_0) \frac{1}{3!} \frac{\int_V (T(r) - T_0)^3 n_e(r) n_{ion}(r) dV}{\int_V n_e(r) n_{ion}(r) dV} \\ &+ I''''_\lambda(T_0) \frac{1}{4!} \frac{\int_V (T(r) - T_0)^4 n_e(r) n_{ion}(r) dV}{\int_V n_e(r) n_{ion}(r) dV} + \dots \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\int_V I_\lambda(T(r)) n_e(r) n_{ion}(r) dV}{\int_V n_e(r) n_{ion}(r) dV} &= I_\lambda(T_0) \\ &+ I'_\lambda(T_0) T_0 t_1 \\ &+ I''_\lambda(T_0) T_0^2 \frac{t_2}{2!} \\ &+ I'''_\lambda(T_0) T_0^3 \frac{t_3}{3!} \\ &+ I''''_\lambda(T_0) T_0^4 \frac{t_4}{4!} + \dots \end{aligned}$$

$$T_0 = \frac{\int_V T(r) n_e(r) n_{ion}(r) dV}{\int_V n_e(r) n_{ion}(r) dV} \quad t_k = \frac{\int_V (T(r) - T_0)^k n_e(r) n_{ion}(r) dV}{T_0^k \int_V n_e(r) n_{ion}(r) dV}$$

$$\frac{\int_V I_\lambda(T(r)) n_e(r) n_{ion}(r) dV}{\int_V n_e(r) n_{ion}(r) dV} = I_\lambda(T_0) + I'_\lambda(T_0) T_0 t_1 + I''_\lambda(T_0) T_0^2 \frac{t_2}{2!} + I'''_\lambda(T_0) T_0^3 \frac{t_3}{3!} + I''''_\lambda(T_0) T_0^4 \frac{t_4}{4!} + \dots$$

$$t^2 = \frac{\int_V [T(r) - T_0]^2 n_e(r) n_{ion}(r) dV}{T_0^2 \int_V n_e(r) n_{ion}(r) dV} \quad t^2 = t_2 = \frac{\int_V [T(r) - T_0]^2 n_e(r) n_{ion}(r) dV}{T_0^2 \int_V n_e(r) n_{ion}(r) dV}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \langle I_\lambda(T(r)) \rangle &= \langle I_\lambda(T_0) \rangle + \langle I'_\lambda(T_0) [T(r) - T_0] \rangle \\ &+ \frac{1}{2!} \langle I''_\lambda(T_0) [T(r) - T_0]^2 \rangle \\ &+ \frac{1}{3!} \langle I'''_\lambda(T_0) [T(r) - T_0]^3 \rangle \\ &+ \frac{1}{4!} \langle I''''_\lambda(T_0) [T(r) - T_0]^4 \rangle + \dots \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \langle I_\lambda(T(r)) \rangle &= I_\lambda(T_0) + I'_\lambda(T_0) \langle [T(r) - T_0] \rangle \\ &+ I''_\lambda(T_0) \frac{1}{2!} \langle [T(r) - T_0]^2 \rangle \\ &+ I'''_\lambda(T_0) \frac{1}{3!} \langle [T(r) - T_0]^3 \rangle \\ &+ I''''_\lambda(T_0) \frac{1}{4!} \langle [T(r) - T_0]^4 \rangle + \dots \end{aligned}$$

$$\langle I_\lambda(T(r)) \rangle = I_\lambda(T_0) + I'_\lambda(T_0) T_0 t_1 + I''_\lambda(T_0) T_0^2 \frac{t_2}{2!} + I'''_\lambda(T_0) T_0^3 \frac{t_3}{3!} + I''''_\lambda(T_0) T_0^4 \frac{t_4}{4!} + \dots$$

$$T_0 = \langle T(r) \rangle \quad t_k = \left\langle \frac{[T(r) - T_0]^k}{T_0^k} \right\rangle$$

$$\begin{aligned} \langle I_\lambda(T(r)) \rangle &= I_\lambda(T_0) \\ &+ I'_\lambda(T_0) T_0 t_1 \\ &+ I''_\lambda(T_0) T_0^2 \frac{t_2}{2!} \\ &+ I'''_\lambda(T_0) T_0^3 \frac{t_3}{3!} \\ &+ I''''_\lambda(T_0) T_0^4 \frac{t_4}{4!} + \dots \end{aligned}$$

$$t^2 = \left\langle \frac{[T(r) - T_0]^2}{T_0^2} \right\rangle$$

$$t^2 = t_2 = \left\langle \frac{[T(r) - T_0]^2}{T_0^2} \right\rangle$$

$$T_0(ion) = \frac{\int T_e(\mathbf{r})N_e(\mathbf{r})N_{ion}(\mathbf{r})dV}{\int N_e(\mathbf{r})N_{ion}(\mathbf{r})dV},$$

$$t^2(ion) \equiv \frac{\int (T_e - T_0)^2 N_e(\mathbf{r})N_{ion}(\mathbf{r})dV}{T_0^2 \int N_e(\mathbf{r})N_{ion}(\mathbf{r})dV},$$

$$(\mathrm{O}/\mathrm{H})_{\mathrm{CALM}} = (\mathrm{O}/\mathrm{H})_{\mathrm{DM}} + f(\mathrm{P}, \mathrm{O}/\mathrm{H}),$$

$$f(\mathrm{P}, \mathrm{O}/\mathrm{H}) = \mathrm{C}_1 + \mathrm{C}_2 \times \mathrm{P} + \mathrm{C}_3 \times (\mathrm{O}/\mathrm{H})_{\mathrm{DM}} + \mathrm{C}_4 \times \mathrm{P} \times (\mathrm{O}/\mathrm{H})_{\mathrm{DM}},$$

$$f(\mathrm{P}, \mathrm{O}/\mathrm{H}) = f(\mathrm{O}/\mathrm{H}) = 0.0825(\mathrm{O}/\mathrm{H})_{\mathrm{DM}} - 0.375;$$

$$(\mathrm{O}/\mathrm{H})_{\mathrm{CALM}} = 1.0825(\mathrm{O}/\mathrm{H})_{\mathrm{DM}} - 0.375.$$

$$\begin{aligned} (\mathrm{O}/\mathrm{H})_{\mathrm{RPM}} &= \left(\frac{\mathrm{O}_{23} + 726.1 + 8.42\mathrm{P} + 327.5\mathrm{P}^2}{85.96 + 82.76\mathrm{P} + 43.98\mathrm{P}^2 + 1.793\mathrm{O}_{23}} \right) 1.0825 - 0.375 \\ &= \frac{\mathrm{O}_{23} + 1837 + 2146\mathrm{P} + 850\mathrm{P}^2}{209.5 + 201.7\mathrm{P} + 107.2\mathrm{P}^2 + 4.37\mathrm{O}_{23}}, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} (\mathrm{O}/\mathrm{H})_{\mathrm{RPM}} &= \left(\frac{\mathrm{O}_{23} + 106.4 + 106.8\mathrm{P} - 3.40\mathrm{P}^2}{17.72 + 6.60\mathrm{P} + 6.95\mathrm{P}^2 - 0.302\mathrm{O}_{23}} \right) 1.0825 - 0.375 \\ &= \frac{\mathrm{O}_{23} + 90.73 + 94.58\mathrm{P} - 5.26\mathrm{P}^2}{14.81 + 5.52\mathrm{P} + 5.81\mathrm{P}^2 - 0.252\mathrm{O}_{23}}. \end{aligned}$$

$$(\mathrm{O}/\mathrm{H})_{\mathrm{CALM}} = 1.0825 \times (\mathrm{O}/\mathrm{H})_{\mathrm{DM}} - 0.375$$

$$12 + \log{(\mathrm{O}/\mathrm{H})}$$

$$(\mathrm{O}/\mathrm{H})_{\mathrm{RPM}} = \frac{\mathrm{O}_{23} + 1837 + 2146\mathrm{P} - 850\mathrm{P}^2}{209.5 + 201.7\mathrm{P} + 107.2\mathrm{P}^2 - 4.37\mathrm{O}_{23}}$$

$$(\mathrm{O}/\mathrm{H})_{\mathrm{RPM}} = \frac{\mathrm{O}_{23} + 90.73 + 94.58\mathrm{P} - 5.26\mathrm{P}^2}{14.81 + 5.52\mathrm{P} + 5.81\mathrm{P}^2 - 0.252\mathrm{O}_{23}}$$

$$(\mathrm{O}/\mathrm{H}) \geq 8.55$$

$$(\mathrm{O}/\mathrm{H}) \leq 8.29$$

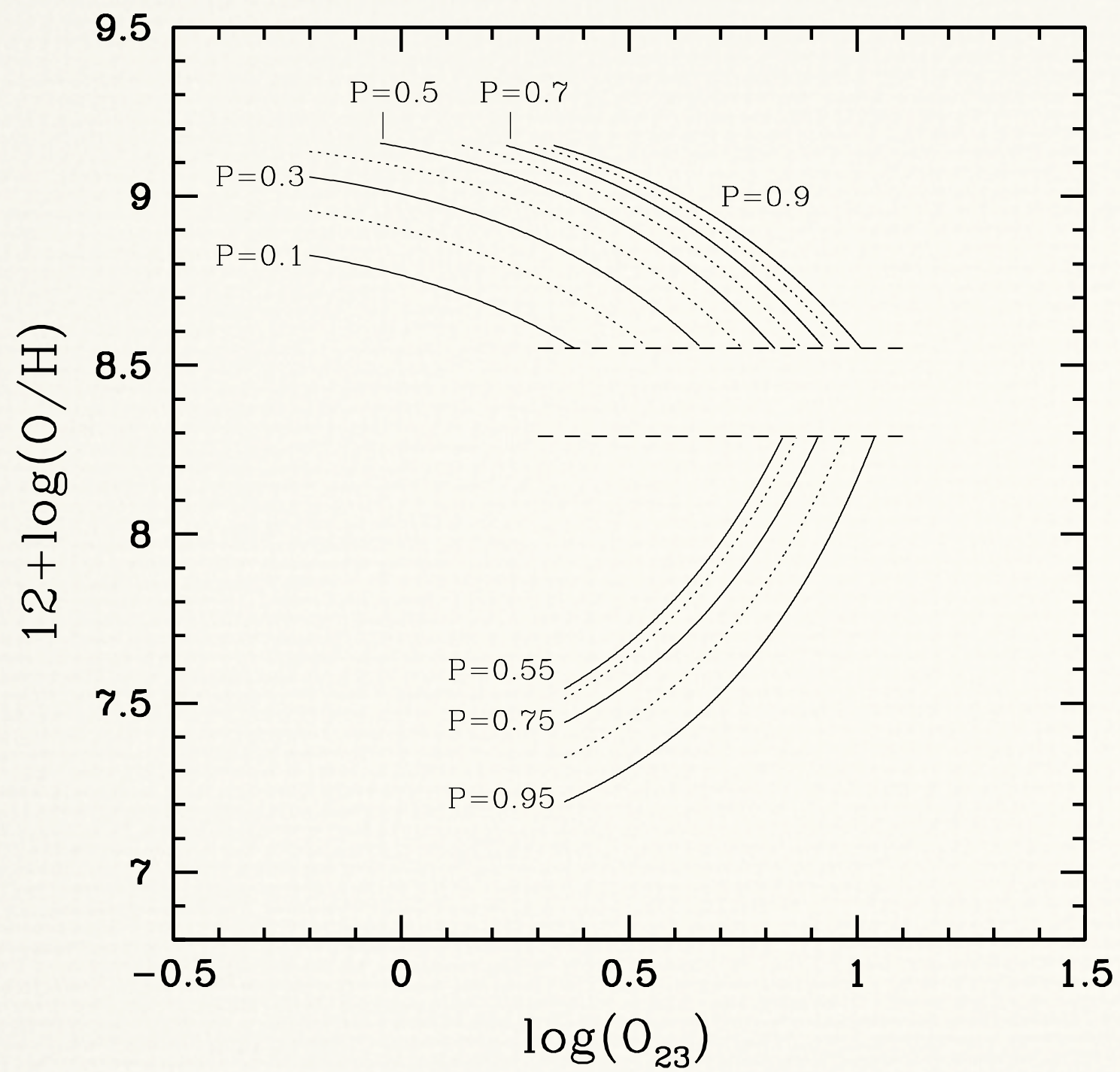
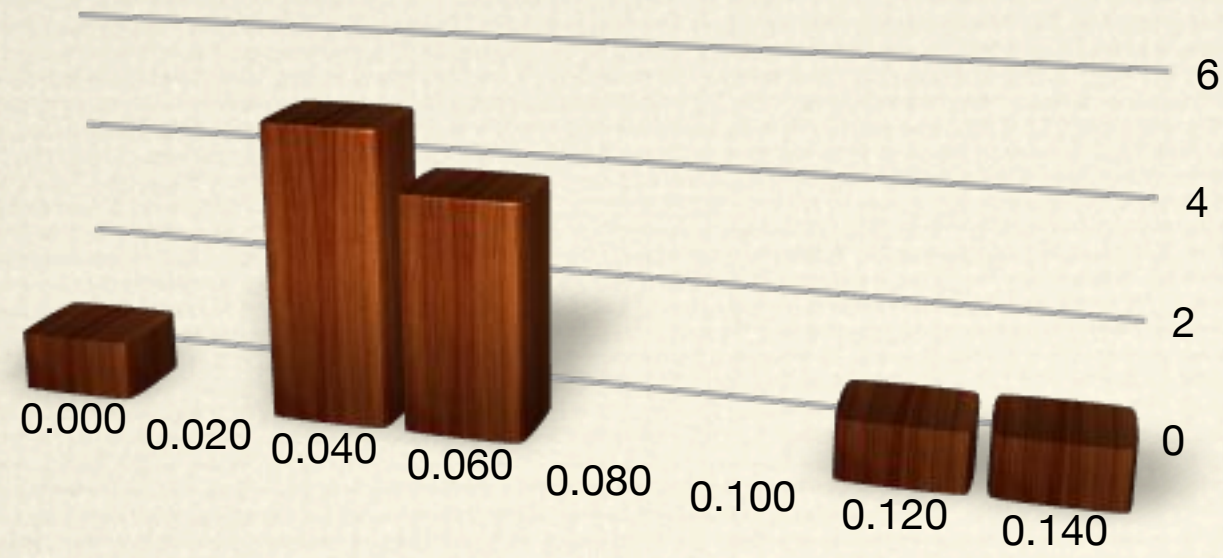


Table 1. H II region data

| Object | Type ^a | $T_e[\text{O III}]$ | t^2 | $\log(\text{O}_{23})$ | P | $\frac{\text{O}^{++}}{\text{O}^{+}+\text{O}^{++}}$ | O/H ^b | O/H ^c | References |
|-----------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------|-----------------------|------|--|------------------|------------------|------------|
| Upper branch | | | | | | | | | |
| NGC 3576 | GR | 8500±50 | 0.038±0.009 | 0.78 | 0.78 | 0.67 | 8.56 | 8.92 | 1 |
| M16 | GR | 7650±250 | 0.039±0.006 | 0.59 | 0.28 | 0.25 | 8.50 | 8.90 | 2 |
| M17 | GR | 8950±380 | 0.033±0.005 | 0.73 | 0.83 | 0.83 | 8.52 | 8.88 | 3 |
| M8 | GR | 8090±140 | 0.040±0.004 | 0.53 | 0.38 | 0.28 | 8.51 | 8.85 | 3 |
| H1013 | XR | 7370±630 | 0.037 | 0.42 | 0.49 | 0.49 | 8.45 | 8.84 | 4 |
| NGC 595 | XR | 7450±330 | 0.036 | 0.51 | 0.37 | 0.44 | 8.45 | 8.80 | 4 |
| M20 | GR | 7800±300 | 0.029±0.007 | 0.60 | 0.20 | 0.17 | 8.53 | 8.79 | 2 |
| Orion | GR | 8300±40 | 0.028±0.006 | 0.77 | 0.86 | 0.83 | 8.51 | 8.79 | 5, 6 |
| NGC 3603 | GR | 9060±200 | 0.040±0.008 | 0.89 | 0.92 | 0.93 | 8.46 | 8.78 | 2 |
| K932 | XR | 8360±150 | 0.033 | 0.72 | 0.72 | 0.79 | 8.41 | 8.73 | 4 |
| NGC 2403 | XR | 8270±210 | 0.039 | 0.59 | 0.66 | 0.67 | 8.36 | 8.72 | 4 |
| NGC 604 | XR | 8150±160 | 0.034±0.015 | 0.60 | 0.71 | 0.71 | 8.38 | 8.71 | 4 |
| S 311 | GR | 9000±200 | 0.038±0.007 | 0.72 | 0.32 | 0.31 | 8.39 | 8.67 | 7 |
| NGC 5447 | XR | 9280±180 | 0.032 | 0.85 | 0.78 | 0.86 | 8.35 | 8.63 | 4 |
| 30 Doradus | XR | 9950±60 | 0.033±0.005 | 0.90 | 0.85 | 0.85 | 8.33 | 8.61 | 8 |
| NGC 5461 | XR | 8470±200 | 0.027±0.012 | 0.71 | 0.80 | 0.77 | 8.41 | 8.60 | 4, 9 |
| NGC 5253 | HIIG | 11960±290 | 0.072±0.027 | 0.96 | 0.85 | 0.78 | 8.18 | 8.56 | 10 |
| Transition zone | | | | | | | | | |
| NGC 6822-V | XR | 13000±1000 | 0.076±0.018 | 0.91 | 0.88 | 0.89 | 8.08 | 8.45 | 11 |
| NGC 5471 | XR | 14100±300 | 0.082±0.030 | 0.93 | 0.75 | 0.78 | 8.03 | 8.33 | 9 |
| NGC 456 | XR | 12165±200 | 0.067±0.013 | 0.83 | 0.78 | 0.80 | 7.99 | 8.33 | 12 |
| Lower branch | | | | | | | | | |
| NGC 346 | XR | 13070±50 | 0.022±0.008 | 0.92 | 0.88 | 0.69 | 8.07 | 8.23 | 13, 14 |
| NGC 460 | XR | 12400±450 | 0.032±0.032 | 0.81 | 0.62 | 0.56 | 7.96 | 8.19 | 12 |
| NGC 2363 | XR | 16200±300 | 0.120±0.010 | 0.92 | 0.97 | 0.97 | 7.76 | 8.14 | 4 |
| TOL 2146 – 391 | HIIG | 15800±170 | 0.107±0.034 | 0.91 | 0.92 | 0.86 | 7.79 | 8.09 | 15 |
| TOL 0357 – 9315 | HIIG | 14870±230 | 0.029±0.064 | 0.93 | 0.93 | 0.87 | 7.90 | 8.12 | 15 |
| Haro 29 | HIIG | 16050±100 | 0.019±0.007 | 0.91 | 0.91 | 0.88 | 7.87 | 8.05 | 13, 16 |
| SBS 0335–052 | HIIG | 20500±200 | 0.021±0.007 | 0.67 | 0.93 | 0.93 | 7.35 | 7.60 | 13, 17 |
| I Zw 18 | HIIG | 19060±610 | 0.024±0.006 | 0.47 | 0.86 | 0.90 | 7.22 | 7.41 | 13, 17 |



Liu & Danziger 2001