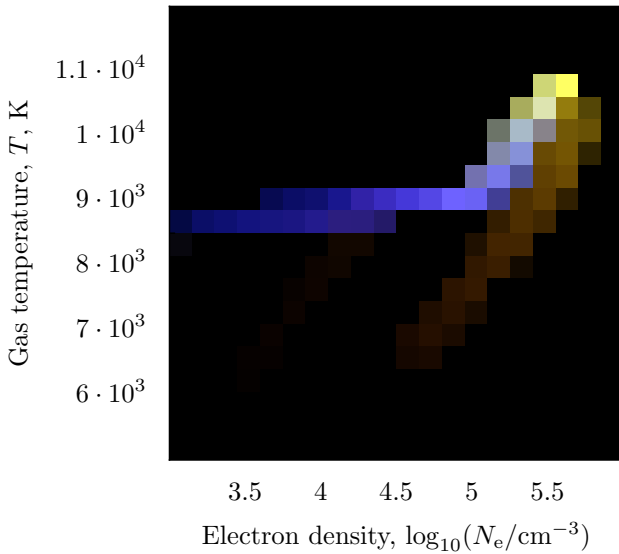


**Table 6.** Input parameters for example physical model of 177-341

Stellar spectrum:	$T_* = 39\,000\text{ K}$
(Simón-Díaz et al. 2006)	$\log g = 4.1$
	$L_* = 2.04 \times 10^5 L_\odot$
Ionizing flux at proplyd:	$\Phi_H = 1.58 \times 10^{13}\text{ cm}^{-2}\text{ s}^{-1}$
Ionization front radius:	$r_0 = 1.91 \times 10^{15}\text{ cm}$
Gas-phase abundances:	He 10.98, C 8.41, N 7.89, O 8.50, Ne 7.78, S 7.04, Cl 5.30, Ar 6.33, Fe 5.77
Dust composition:	Standard Orion (Baldwin et al. 1991)

**Figure 10.** Emission structure in the  $n_e$ – $T_e$  plane for the example physical model of 177-341. The colored image shows three emission lines: [S II] 4070 Å (red), [N II] 5755 Å (green), and [O III] 4363 Å (blue), with brightness proportional to the fraction of the model luminosity in each line that comes from gas with that particular combination of density and temperature.

### 6.3 A physical model of 177-341

As an alternative to the purely empirical analysis presented in the previous sections, a different approach to analysing the emission spectrum of the proplyds is through the construction of physical models that combine a priori simulations of radiative transfer, hydrodynamics, and atomic physics in order to predict the density, temperature, and ionization structure of the proplyd flow. Such models have previously been applied to the ensemble properties of large numbers of proplyds (Johnstone, Hollenbach, & Bally 1998; Henney & Arthur 1998) and in detail to individual objects such as 177-341 (Henney & O’Dell 1999), LV2 (Henney et al. 2002), and LV1 (Graham et al. 2002). We have improved on these models in two significant ways. First, whereas published models have considered only emission from regions where hydrogen is fully ionized and the flow is supersonic, we now use a detailed analytic model of gas acceleration in the ionization front (Henney et al. 2005) to extend the treatment to cover partially ionized emission zones where the gas moves subsonically. Second, whereas published models used ad hoc fitting functions to the emissivity structure, specifically tailored to only the brightest emission lines, we now use the plasma micropysics code Cloudy (Ferland et al. 1998) to self-consistently calculate the full physical structure and emission spectrum of the proplyd flow.

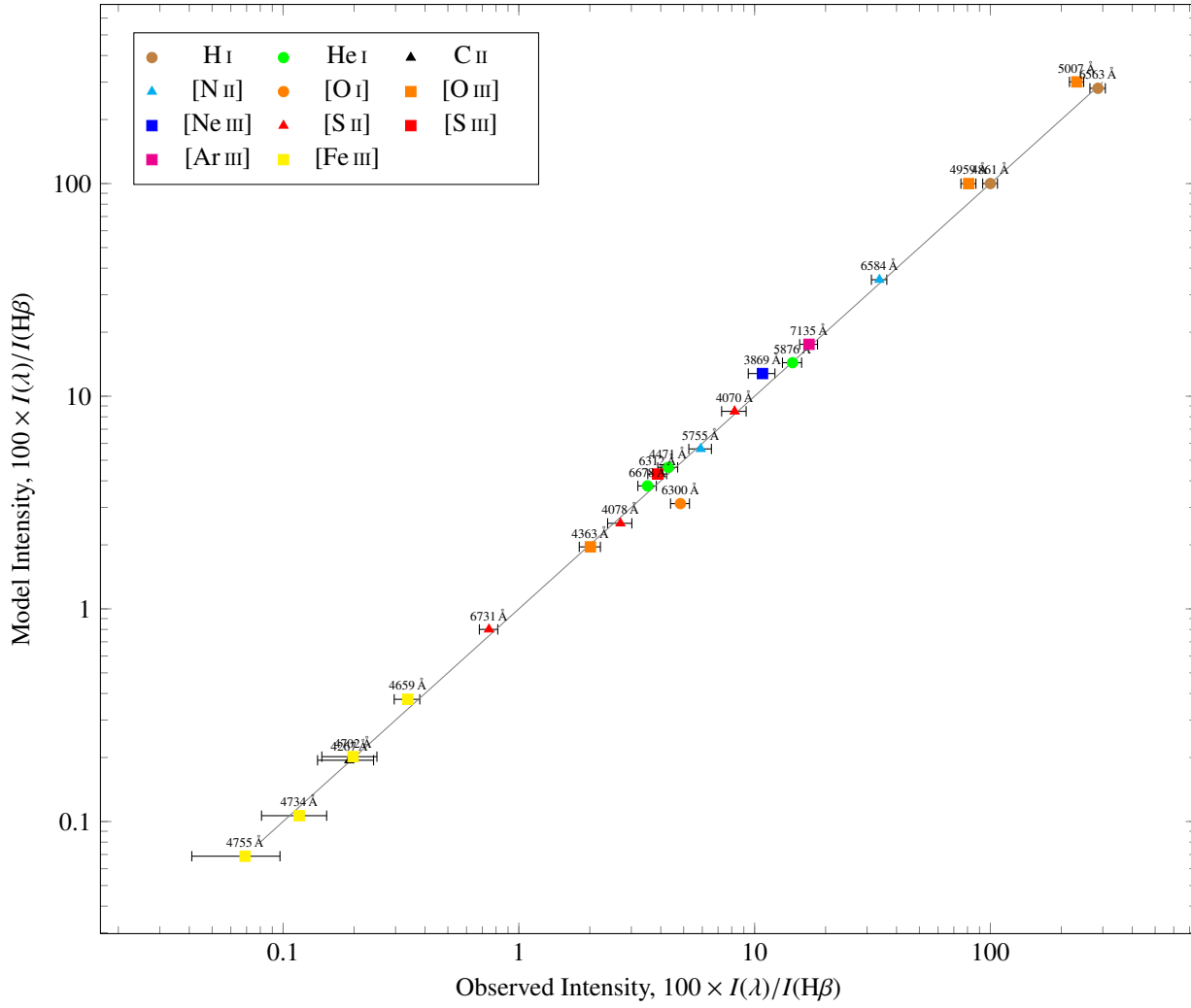
Preliminary results of the emission line spectrum of such a model applied to 177-341 are shown in Figure 11. The input param-

eters for the model (values given in Table 6) are the radius of the ionization front at the proplyd cusp (assumed hemispherical), the intensity and spectral shape of the illuminating stellar radiation, and the composition (gas-phase elemental mix and dust grain populations) of the proplyd material. For all these parameters, we simply took values from the literature, rather than trying to adjust them to fit the current observations. The stellar spectrum is that determined for  $\theta^1$  Ori C by spectroscopic analysis (Simón-Díaz et al. 2006). The ionization front radius is the value determined by fitting to *HST* emission line images (Henney & O’Dell 1999), while the separation of the proplyd from the ionizing star is taken to be

The diffuse radiation field and the proplyd tail are ignored in this model, since the observational aperture (§ 2.2) only covers the proplyd head.

### References

- Baldwin J. A., Ferland G. J., Martin P. G., Corbin M. R., Cota S. A., Peterson B. M., Slettebak A., 1991, *ApJ*, 374, 580  
 Esteban C., Peimbert M., García-Rojas J., Ruiz M. T., Peimbert A., Rodríguez M., 2004, *MNRAS*, 355, 229  
 Ferland G. J., Korista K. T., Verner D. A., Ferguson J. W., Kingdon J. B., Verner E. M., 1998, *PASP*, 110, 761  
 Graham M. F., Meaburn J., Garrington S. T., O’Brien T. J., Henney W. J., O’Dell C. R., 2002, *ApJ*, 570, 222  
 Henney W. J., Arthur S. J., 1998, *AJ*, 116, 322  
 Henney W. J., Arthur S. J., Williams R. J. R., Ferland G. J., 2005, *ApJ*, 621, 328  
 Henney W. J., O’Dell C. R., 1999, *AJ*, 118, 2350  
 Henney W. J., O’Dell C. R., Meaburn J., Garrington S. T., López J. A., 2002, *ApJ*, 566, 315  
 Johnstone D., Hollenbach D., Bally J., 1998, *ApJ*, 499, 758  
 Simón-Díaz S., Herrero A., Esteban C., Najarro F., 2006, *A&A*, 448, 351



**Figure 11.** Comparison of model and observed line intensities for 177-341