

# Discovery of a Very Bright and Intrinsically Very Luminous, Strongly Lensed Ly $\alpha$ Emitting Galaxy at z = 2.82 in the BOSS Emission-Line Lens Survey

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#### **Abstract**

We report the discovery of a very bright (r=20.16), highly magnified, and yet intrinsically very luminous Ly $\alpha$  emitter (LAE) at z=2.82. This system comprises four images in the observer plane with a maximum separation of  $\sim 6''$  and it is lensed by a z=0.55 massive early-type galaxy. It was initially identified in the Baryon Oscillation Spectroscopic Survey Emission-Line Lens Survey for GALaxy-Ly $\alpha$  EmitteR sYstems survey, and follow-up imaging and spectroscopic observations using the Gran Telescopic Canarias and William Herschel Telescope confirmed the lensing nature of this system. A lens model using a singular isothermal ellipsoid in an external shear field reproduces the main features of the system quite well, yielding an Einstein radius of  $2''.95\pm0''.10$ , and a total magnification factor for the LAE of  $8.8\pm0.4$ . This LAE is one of the brightest and most luminous galaxy–galaxy strong lenses known. We present initial imaging and spectroscopy showing the basic physical and morphological properties of this lensed system.

*Key words:* cosmology: observations – galaxies: evolution – galaxies: individual (BG1429+1202) – gravitational lensing: strong

### 1. Introduction

The study of the physical properties of typical  $L^*$  highredshift galaxies has been limited by their faintness ( $r \simeq 24.5$ at  $z \sim 3$ ), even for  $8/10 \,\mathrm{m}$  class telescopes. Recently, the properties of these high-redshift galaxies have been studied by building large samples of hundreds to thousands of individual spectra to construct high signal-to-noise ratio (S/N) composite spectra (e.g., Shapley et al. 2003). Although these techniques have been very successful, they require a large amount of observing time and only probe the average physical properties of these galaxies. Another way to study high-redshift galaxies in detail is to use the fortuitous alignments with foreground massive structures, which provide natural magnification and associated amplification produced by strong gravitational lensing. Hundreds of strongly lensed galaxies have recently been discovered by employing various observational techniques, mainly from the optical to the radio. However, only a handful of optically very bright ( $r \sim 20$ ), strongly magnified high-redshift galaxies have been discovered so far (Yee et al. 1996; Allam et al. 2007; Belokurov et al. 2007; Smail et al. 2007; Lin et al. 2009; Dahle et al. 2016), allowing detailed spectroscopic studies of their individual properties,

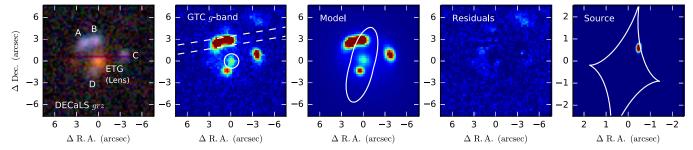
such as stellar populations, chemical composition, and kinematics of the interstellar medium (e.g., Pettini et al. 2000, 2002; Quider et al. 2009, 2010; Dessauges-Zavadsky et al. 2010).

In this Letter, we report the discovery of a bright ( $r\sim20$ ), quadruply gravitationally lensed Ly $\alpha$  emitter (LAE). We provide the first physical and morphological analysis of the lensing galaxy and the lensed LAE. Throughout the Letter, we adopt a cosmology with  $\Omega_{\rm m}=0.274,~\Omega_{\Lambda}=0.726$  and  $H_o=70~{\rm km\,s^{-1}\,Mpc^{-1}}$ . All quoted magnitudes are in the AB system.

## 2. Discovery and Follow-up

Recently, by searching for secondary emission lines in the spectra of massive elliptical galaxies within the database of the Sloan Digital Sky Survey (SDSS: York et al. 2000), the Sloan Lens ACS Survey (SLACS: e.g., Bolton et al. 2006, 2008), and the Baryon Oscillation Spectroscopic Survey (BOSS) Emission-Line Lens Survey (BELLS: Brownstein et al. 2012) have discovered over 100 lensed star-forming galaxies at moderate redshifts ( $z \sim 1$ ). Very recently, by applying spectroscopic selection techniques similar to SLACS and BELLS, but adapted to high-redshift Ly $\alpha$  emission, Shu et al. (2016a) identified a new sample of 187 high-probability lensed LAE candidate systems at  $2 < z_{\rm LAE} < 3$ , the BOSS Emission-Line Lens Survey for GALaxy-Ly $\alpha$  EmitteR sYstems (BELLS GALLERY) survey, selected from the final data release (DR12)

<sup>\*</sup> Based on observations made with the Gran Telescopio Canarias (GTC) and William Herschel Telescope (WHT), in the Spanish Observatorio del Roque de los Muchachos of the IAC, under Directors Discretionary Time (DDT programs IDs: GTC2016-054 and DDT2016-077).



**Figure 1.** From left to right: a DECaLS *grz* color image of the lens system; a GTC/OSIRIS *g*-band image showing the orientation of the WHT/ACAM and GTC/OSIRIS long slits (white dashed lines) and the position of the spectroscopic 1"-radius BOSS fiber (white circle); predicted lensed and foreground images with the critical line; final residuals from the best-fit model; and the position of the LAE in the source plane relative to the caustic. All the images are centered on the lensing galaxy and oriented such that north is up and east is to the left.

of the BOSS (Dawson et al. 2013) of the SDSS-III (Eisenstein et al. 2011). Of these, 21 of the highest quality candidates were recently observed with the *Hubble Space Telescope* and the first results were presented in Shu et al. (2016b).

By visual inspection of SDSS and DECaLS<sup>12</sup> color images of the BELLS GALLERY sample, we found one candidate showing bluish features  $\approx 3.13$  from the z = 0.5531 massive early-type galaxy, SDSS J142954.80+120235.6 (hereafter ETG). Its BOSS spectrum (Plate-MJD-Fiber: 5463-56003-121) shows a secondary emission line at 4652 Å (Ly $\alpha$  at z = 2.8253; Shu et al. 2016a). The positions of the bluish features with respect to the ETG are consistent with a fold lensing configuration: a bright lensed image pair, A and B (with a separation of  $\simeq 1.75$ ), and two fainter images, C and D (see Figure 1). The lensed image pair, A and B, is identified in SDSS as a single source, SDSS J142954.88+120238.3 (hereafter BG1429+1202 for the lensed LAE, where BG stands for BELLS GALLERY), showing blue colors in the DECaLS and SDSS bands (Table 1). The lensed A and B images are also detected in the UKIRT Infrared Deep Sky Large Area Survey (Lawrence et al. 2007), only in the Y-band with 21.06  $\pm$  0.19 mag and  $21.12 \pm 0.20$  mag, respectively.

We carried out Director Discretionary Time (DDT) for optical imaging and long-slit spectroscopic observations on 2016 June 29 using the Auxiliary-port Camera (ACAM: Benn et al. 2008) at the William Herschel Telescope (WHT) to confirm the lensing nature of this LAE. The ACAM long-slit was oriented at a sky position angle (PA) =  $103^{\circ}.35$ , and positioned so as to encompass the two brightest lensed images, A and B, as shown in Figure 1. Despite the bad seeing conditions that night ( $\sim$ 4" FWHM), we could confirm the lensing nature of this system with the detection in the long-slit spectrum of strong rest-frame UV continuum (with Si IV and C IV in absorption) and Ly $\alpha$  emission at a redshift  $z=2.823\pm0.008$ , in agreement with the redshift of the Ly $\alpha$  detected in the BOSS fiber spectrum, likely from the lensed image D (see Figure 1).

We again observed BG1429+1202 on 2016 July 29, this time in very good seeing conditions ( $\simeq$ 0."75 FWHM, measured in the 330 s *g*-band acquisition image), using the Optical System for Imaging and low-Intermediate-Resolution Integrated Spectroscopy camera (OSIRIS<sup>13</sup>) on the Gran Telescopio Canarias (GTC). We used the R1000B grism, which provides a spectral coverage of 3630–7500 Å (950–1960 Å, rest-frame) and a dispersion of 2.12 Å px<sup>-1</sup>. The OSIRIS 1."2

Table 1
Properties of the System

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ID	R.A.(1) (J2000.0)	Decl.(1) (J2000.0)	g (2)	r(3)	z(4)
ETG	14:29:54.806	+12:02:35.53	22.88	20.51	19.00
			$\pm 0.12$	$\pm 0.07$	$\pm 0.10$
A(5)	14:29:54.936	+12:02:38.23	21.48	21.23	21.32
			$\pm 0.08$	$\pm 0.03$	$\pm 0.04$
B(5)	14:29:54.831	+12:02:38.48	21.64	21.34	21.31
			$\pm 0.08$	$\pm 0.03$	$\pm 0.04$
C	14:29:54.570	+12:02:36.69	22.27	22.22	22.02
			$\pm 0.09$	$\pm 0.08$	$\pm 0.09$
D	14:29:54.848	+12:02:34.24	22.57	22.30	21.85
			$\pm 0.11$	$\pm 0.10$	$\pm 0.11$
Total LAE			20.40	20.16	20.07

**Note.** (1) Positions with 0."11 astrometric rms using GAIA DR1 (Gaia Collaboration et al. 2016); (2) photometry and  $1\sigma$  errors from the GTC/OSIRIS g-band image; (3) and (4) photometry and  $1\sigma$  errors from the DECaLS DR2 Tractor catalog, except for the lens that were taken from the SDSS DR12 due to image artifacts in DECaLS co-adds, and (5) the lensed images A and B were deblended using GALFIT (Peng et al. 2002). The magnitudes listed have not been corrected for the Galactic dust extinction, which are 0.104, 0.072, and 0.040 mag for g, r, and z, respectively (Schlafly & Finkbeiner 2011).

wide long-slit was oriented in the same PA used in the WHT/ACAM spectroscopic observations (Figure 1). Given this configuration, the corresponding spectral resolution is  $\simeq 8$  Å (or  $\simeq 500$  km s<sup>-1</sup> FWHM). The total integration time was 44 minutes, split into 4  $\times$  660 s. The data were reduced with IRAF and PYTHON tasks.

#### 3. Analysis and Discussion

#### 3.1. Source Properties

The rest-frame UV spectrum of the brightest lensed images, A and B, is shown in Figure 2. Despite the relatively short exposure time, the achieved high S/N GTC/OSIRIS spectrum (~25 in the continuum) shows a strong Ly $\alpha$  emission, and a series of strong absorption lines, similar to those seen in the composite spectrum of hundreds of  $z\sim3$  Lyman break galaxies (LBGs) (Shapley et al. 2003). The strongest absorption features are associated with the interstellar medium and stellar winds in a variety of ionization states, from neutral (O I) to highly ionized species (Si IV or C IV). High ionization features with a strong P Cygni profile are seen both in C IV  $\lambda$ 1548, 1550 and Al III  $\lambda$ 1854, 1862 doublets, which is indicative of stellar winds from very young massive stars. However, we identify

Dark Energy Camera Legacy Survey: http://legacysurvey.org/decamls/

http://www.gtc.iac.es/instruments/osiris/

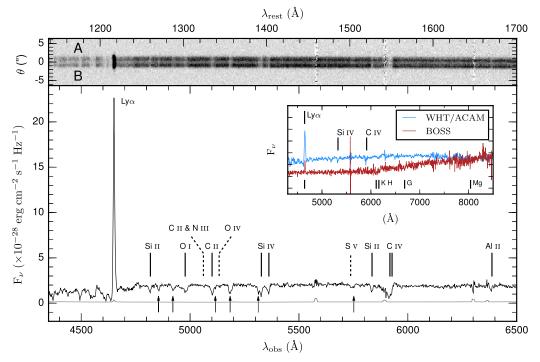


Figure 2. GTC/OSIRIS spectrum of BG1429+1202 (black solid line) and its  $1\sigma$  error (gray solid line). Ticks mark the positions of the strong interstellar absorption features (solid lines) and photospheric lines (dashed lines) of BG1429+1202, as well as other absorption features related to intervening systems at lower redshifts (black solid arrows). The 2D spectrum is also shown on the top. In the inset panel we show the BOSS and WHT spectra with the positions of the Ly $\alpha$  emission, as well as the absorption features related to the ETG at z=0.5531 from the BOSS fiber spectrum.

additional absorption features unrelated to BG1429+1202 (nine absorption features associated with an intervening metal-line system at  $z_{abs} = 2.179 \pm 0.001$ , and one broad absorption line at 5183 Å with an observed equivalent width  $W_{\rm obs} = 6.95 \pm 0.2$  Å remains unidentified). Analysis of the spectra for the individual lensed images A and B shows no differences in the profiles of the absorption features and no evidence for velocity offsets between them, as expected if they are both images of the same background source. The same happens to their rest-frame UV slope,  $\beta$ , which is essentially flat in  $F_{\nu}$ . Adopting a simple power-law approximation for the UV spectral range  $F_{\lambda} \propto \lambda^{\beta}$  and using the observed r and z magnitudes  $(\sim 1600-2400 \,\text{Å})$ rest-frame),  $\beta = -2.1 \pm 0.1$ , which implies an effective UV extinction  $A_{1600} \sim 0.6$  or  $E(B-V) \sim 0.13$ , reflecting modest dust content (Calzetti et al. 2000).

We identified several photospheric absorption features, from which we derived the systemic redshift  $z_{\rm sys} = 2.8224 \pm 0.0013$  using the cleanest among them: O IV  $\lambda 1343$ , and a close blend of C II and N III at  $\lambda 1324$ .

The Ly $\alpha$  emission line has an observed (A + B) flux of  $F_{\rm Ly}\alpha=(2.1\pm0.3)\times10^{-15}\,{\rm erg\,s^{-1}\,cm^{-2}},$  much higher than the Ly $\alpha$  flux measured within the 1"-radius BOSS fiber ( $F_{\rm Ly}^{\rm BOSS}=0.256\times10^{-15}\,{\rm erg\,s^{-1}\,cm^{-2}}$ ). The measured restframe equivalent width of Ly $\alpha$  is  $W_0^{\rm Ly}\alpha=39\pm15\,$  Å. The errors reflect the uncertainty in the determination of the stellar continuum redward of Ly $\alpha$ . Although the line appears unresolved in our low-resolution spectrum (FWHM  $\simeq 500\,{\rm km\,s^{-1}}$ ), it is resolved in the BOSS spectrum. Fitting a Gaussian to the BOSS Ly $\alpha$  line, we measured a FWHM of  $382\pm50\,{\rm km\,s^{-1}}$ , after accounting for the instrumental broadening. The nebular C III]  $\lambda$ 1906, 1908 doublet is also detected in emission but with low significance (4 $\sigma$ ) and is

not resolved in our GTC/OSIRIS spectrum. This galaxy can be classified as an LAE, given the rest-frame equivalent width and the velocity width of the  $Ly\alpha$  line (e.g., Ouchi et al. 2008). From our spectrum and available photometric data we do not detect evidence of any AGN contribution. However, a more extensive characterization awaits higher spatial resolution imaging and multi-wavelength photometry.

A careful analysis of the kinematics goes beyond the present Letter given the low spectral resolution of these data. However, the high S/N of the GTC/OSIRIS spectrum allows us to detect differences in the kinematics of the Ly $\alpha$  emission and interstellar features. Figure 3 (left panel) shows velocity plots of the Ly $\alpha$  emission line and several normalized interstellar absorption lines, relative to  $z_{\rm sys}$ . The Ly $\alpha$  emission has its peak redshifted with a velocity  $v_{\rm Ly}\alpha \sim +200~{\rm km\,s^{-1}}$ , while the interstellar absorption lines appear blueshifted by  $\sim\!-150~{\rm km\,s^{-1}}$ , which is consistent with galaxy-scale outflows of material from the galaxy in the form of a wind, similar to those seen in other star-forming galaxies at  $z\sim3$  (Shapley et al. 2003).

We also notice that a spatial gradient of the  $Ly\alpha$  velocity is present in the 2D spectrum (Figure 3, right upper panel). This velocity structure is seen both in A and B but appears mirrored, as expected for those images in this system, as A and B images straddle the fold critical curve (see Figure 1). We carefully checked the 2D spectrum to see if this pattern is present in other lines, but we found none with this signature. The 1D spatial distribution of  $Ly\alpha$  is also compared with that of the rest-frame UV continuum (Figure 3, right lower panel). The  $Ly\alpha$  emission appears more extended in the inner region between A and B, than the UV continuum. Deeper and higher spatial resolution observations are needed to constrain the  $Ly\alpha$  and UV continuum spatial distributions.

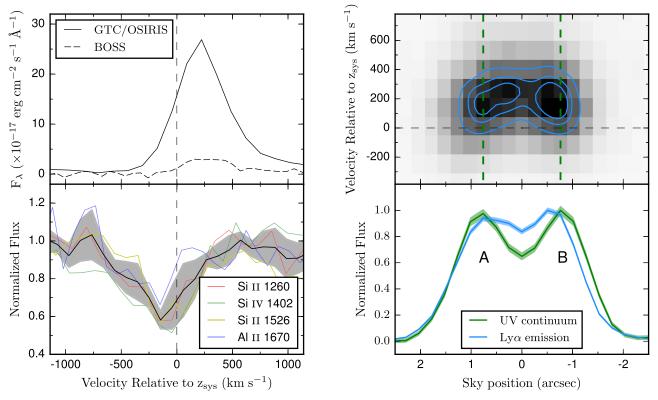


Figure 3. Left: GTC/OSIRIS and BOSS Ly $\alpha$  emission (upper panel) and interstellar absorption features (lower panel) on rest velocity frame. The Ly $\alpha$  emission appears to be redshifted,  $v_{\text{Ly}\alpha} \sim +200 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ , while the interstellar absorption lines are blueshifted by  $v_{\text{abs}} \sim -150 \text{ km s}^{-1}$  (mean profile in black with the standard deviation in gray shadow). Right: 2D Ly $\alpha$  emission in the position–velocity plane (upper panel) where a spatial gradient of velocity is seen in both A and B images. In the lower panel we show the normalized spatial profiles of the rest-frame UV continuum (green line) and Ly $\alpha$  emission (blue line). The shaded regions show the 1 $\sigma$  errors of the spatial profiles. The Ly $\alpha$  emission appears more extended between A and B than the rest-frame UV continuum.

#### 3.2. Lens Model

To interpret the properties of the lensed system in more detail, we used the 330 s GTC/OSIRIS g-band image obtained in  $\simeq 0.75$  FWHM seeing for accurate lens modeling. As shown in Figure 1, the lens system comprises four images forming a so-called *fold* configuration, when the source lies very close to a fold caustic. Similar to previous works (Bolton et al. 2008; Brownstein et al. 2012; Shu et al. 2015, 2016b, 2016c), we have developed a lens model using a nonlinear optimizer, consisting of minimizing a  $\chi^2$  function using the Levenberg-Marquardt algorithm with the LMFIT package (Newville et al. 2014), where the observational data are compared to the model (see Shu et al. 2016b for details). The foreground-light is modeled using the elliptical Sérsic profile and similar to Shu et al. (2015, 2016b, 2016c), its subtraction is performed jointly with the lens modeling. The lens model includes a mass distribution of the foreground lens parameterized as a singular isothermal ellipsoid (SIE), and an additional external shear is included to model the higher-order effect from the environment. The surface brightness distribution of the background source is reconstructed parametrically using an elliptical Sérsic model. The foreground-light model is combined with the predicted lensed images and convolved with the point-spread function that was modeled with a star in the GTC/OSIRIS gband field of view.

For the lens, the best-fit lens model ( $\chi^2/\text{dof} = 3494/3709$ ) predicts an Einstein radius  $b_{\text{SIE}} = 2\rlap.{''}95 \pm 0\rlap.{''}10$ , a minor-to-major axis ratio q = 0.34, and a position angle P.A. = 165°.5. The strength and position angle of the external shear are  $\gamma = 0.059 \pm 0.008$  and  $\phi_{\gamma} = 89°.9$ , respectively. The

characteristic lensing velocity dispersion defined as  $\sigma_{\rm SIE} = c \sqrt{\frac{b_{\rm SIE}}{4\pi} \frac{D_{\rm L}}{D_{\rm LS}}}$  is  $390 \pm 6 \, {\rm km \, s^{-1}}$ , where  $D_{\rm LS}$  and  $D_{\rm S}$  are the angular diameter distances from the lens and the observer to the source, respectively. We also find a minor-to-major axis ratio of the SIE component (0.34), smaller than that of the light distribution suggested by the *g*-band model result (0.85). The lensing velocity dispersion suggests that cluster or line of sight structures also contribute a substantial fraction of convergence. There is no clear evidence of a crowded environment around the ETG, either by visual inspection of color images or in the SDSS photometric redshifts, but  $\sim 1'$  to the north there is a galaxy, SDSS J142953.71+120333.9, with a BOSS spectroscopic redshift  $z=0.5527\pm0.0002$ , very close to the lensing ETG, indicating that a cluster or group of galaxies at  $z\simeq0.55$  may be present, as suggested by the external shear field.

For the source, the lens model gives local magnifications of 3.2, 3.1, 1.8, and 0.7 for images A, B, C, and D, respectively, which means that the total magnification is  $8.8 \pm 0.4$ . The source has an effective radius  $R_{\rm eff} = 0.159 \pm 0.007$ , which corresponds to  $R_{\rm eff} = 1.28 \pm 0.06$  kpc for the adopted cosmology. The source has a minor-to-major axis ratio q = 0.56 and a Sérsic index n = 3.9. It is centered at  $\Delta R.A. = -0.43$  and  $\Delta decl. = 0.56$  relative to the center of the lens galaxy.

#### 3.3. Intrinsic Properties

Having determined the magnification of the LAE we can estimate its intrinsic properties. From the total DECaLS DR2 r-band magnitude, we determine a rest-frame 1600 Å luminosity  $L_{1600} = (6.12 \pm 0.48) \times 10^{30} \, \mathrm{erg \, s^{-1} \, Hz^{-1}}$ . Using Kennicutt's

 Table 2

 Intrinsic Properties of BG1429+1202 and Other Bright Galaxy–Galaxy Lenses

Object	z	$m_{ m UV}^{ m a}$ ( $\simeq$ 1500–1700 Å)	$\mu^{b}$	$L_{\rm UV}^{\rm c}$ (×10 <sup>29</sup> erg s <sup>-1</sup> Hz <sup>-1</sup> )	$L_{\rm Ly\alpha}^{\rm c}$ (×10 <sup>42</sup> erg s <sup>-1</sup> )	References
BG1429+1202	2.822	20.16	8.8	6.99	28.0	
MS 1512-cB58	2.726	20.64	30	1.16		1, 2
Cosmic Eye	3.073	20.30	28	2.08		3
8 o'clock	2.735	19.22	12.3	10.55		4
Cosmic Horseshoe	2.381	19.70	24	2.74	3.3	5, 6
LBGs	~3	24.61		1.06		7
LAEs	~3.1	25.84		0.36	5.8	8

#### Notes.

**References.** (1) Ellingson et al. (1996), (2) Seitz et al. (1998), (3) Smail et al. (2007), (4) Allam et al. (2007), (5) Belokurov et al. (2007), (6) Quider et al. (2009), (7) Reddy & Steidel (2009), (8) Ouchi et al. (2008).

conversion (Kennicutt 1998), this rest-frame UV luminosity translates into an intrinsic star formation rate (SFR) of  $\simeq 90$  $M_{\odot}$  yr<sup>-1</sup> when corrected for magnification, reddening, and the lower proportion of low-mass stars in the Chabrier (2003) stellar IMF relative to the standard Salpeter (1955) adopted by Kennicutt (a factor of 1/1.8). Turning to Ly $\alpha$ , assuming the space distribution of Ly $\alpha$  in the source plane and its lensing magnification are similar to that of the rest-frame UV continuum, and applying the correction for the magnification and the slit losses (the GTC/OSIRIS slit captured a fraction  $\simeq$ 0.60 of the total light of BG1429+1202), we derive an intrinsic Lylpha luminosity of  $L_{{
m Ly}lpha}=(2.80\pm0.39) imes$ 10<sup>43</sup> erg s<sup>-1</sup>. Assuming case-B recombination and Kennicutt's conversion (Kennicutt 1998), this luminosity results in SFR(Ly $\alpha$ )  $\simeq 25~M_{\odot}\,{\rm yr}^{-1}$ . Comparing the estimates of SFR from the rest-frame UV and Ly $\alpha$ , we measure  $f_{\rm esc}^{{\rm Ly}\alpha}\sim 0.30$ , consistent with that estimated from LAEs at  $z \sim 3$  (e.g., Verhamme et al. 2008; Zheng et al. 2016). However, we should note that the measured  $f_{\rm esc}^{{\rm Ly}\alpha}$  results from the assumption that the spatial distribution of  ${\rm Ly}\alpha$  (and its magnification) follows the rest-frame UV continuum. Ly $\alpha$  halos are hard to resolve from individual LAEs, and have been studied mainly by using stacking techniques (Steidel et al. 2011; Momose et al. 2016), or in nearby high-redshift analogs (e.g., Yang et al. 2016). However, for a few cases, strong gravitational lensing allows spatially resolved studies of high-redshift galaxies (e.g., Patrício et al. 2016). A more detailed analysis will be possible with high-resolution narrowband imaging and integral field spectroscopy.

In order to establish how typical the intrinsic properties of this galaxy are, we compare it with other UV-selected  $z\sim 3$  LBGs and LAEs. BG1429+1202 is intrinsically more luminous in the rest-frame UV by factors of 7 and 19, relative to L from the luminosity functions of Reddy & Steidel (2009) for  $z\sim 3$  LBGs and  $z\sim 3.1$  LAEs selected by narrowband imaging by Ouchi et al. (2008), respectively. It is also intrinsically very luminous in Ly $\alpha$  emission, when compared with  $L_{\text{Ly}\alpha}^*$  from the luminosity functions of LAEs at  $z\sim 3.1$  (factor of  $\sim$ 5; Ouchi et al. 2008) and LAEs at z=2.8 in CDFS (factor of  $\sim$ 9 – 5; Zheng et al. 2016).

Table 2 presents a comparison with other well known, exceptionally bright in the optical, galaxy-galaxy  $z \sim 3$  lenses: the Cosmic Eye (Smail et al. 2007), MS 1512-cB58 (Yee

et al. 1996), the 8 o'clock (Allam et al. 2007), and at lower redshift, the Cosmic Horseshoe (Belokurov et al. 2007). BG1429+1202 has similar brightness but is intrinsically very luminous in the rest-frame UV continuum and Ly $\alpha$ . It is also the only Ly $\alpha$  emitter (the Ly $\alpha$  line of the Cosmic Horseshoe galaxy shares many of the properties of the Ly $\alpha$  emitters, but its  $W_0^{\text{Ly}\alpha}$  is below the threshold generally adopted to define it as Ly $\alpha$  emitter; Quider et al. 2009). This puts BG1429+1202 in the small group of very bright  $z\sim 3$  galaxies that, due to high magnification and high intrinsic luminosity, have brightnesses that provide the unique opportunity to obtain high S/N spectroscopy, which allows us to study its physical properties in detail.

### 4. Conclusion

In this Letter, we report the discovery of a bright quadruply lensed LAE at z = 2.8224. The very bright apparent magnitude partially results from gravitational lensing by a z = 0.5531luminous red galaxy, which provides a magnification of  $8.8 \pm 0.4$ . After accounting for the lensing magnification, BG1429+1202 is also intrinsically very luminous in the restframe UV and Ly $\alpha$  emission by about 19 and 5 times the typical  $L_{\rm UV}^*$  and  $L_{\rm Ly\alpha}^*$  of LAEs at  $z\sim 3$ , respectively, showing low dust content and indications of massive recent star formation. Compared with the few well known strongly lensed galaxies, it is the most luminous one in the Ly $\alpha$  line. This makes this source another good laboratory for further detailed studies of the physics of star formation and Ly $\alpha$  emission in galaxies during the cosmic epoch of star formation. The new method presented in Shu et al. (2016a, 2016b) and in this work opens a new window into the study of high-redshift galaxies using the combination of massive spectroscopic surveys, largearea multi-band imaging, gravitational lensing, and follow-up with 10 m telescopes like GTC.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> Rest-frame UV apparent magnitudes from the r- or i-bands, depending on the redshift.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup> Total magnification factor.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>c</sup> Intrinsic rest-frame UV and Lyα luminosity, respectively, corrected from the lensing magnification.

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