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# GA-NIFS: A massive black hole in a low-metallicity AGN at $z \sim 5.55$ revealed by JWST/NIRSpec IFS

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## ABSTRACT

We present rest-frame optical data of the compact  $z = 5.55$  galaxy GS\_3073 obtained using the integral field spectroscopy mode of the Near-InfraRed Spectrograph on board the *James Webb* Space Telescope. The galaxy's prominent broad components in several hydrogen and helium lines (though absent in the forbidden lines) and  $v$  detection of a large equivalent width of He II  $\lambda 4686$ , EW(He II)  $\sim 20 \text{ \AA}$ , unambiguously identify it as an active galactic nucleus (AGN). We measured a gas phase metallicity of  $Z_{\text{gas}}/Z_{\odot} \sim 0.21_{-0.04}^{+0.08}$ , which is lower than what has been inferred for both more luminous AGN at a similar redshift and lower redshift AGN. We empirically show that classical emission line ratio diagnostic diagrams cannot be used to distinguish between the primary ionisation source (AGN or star formation) for systems with such low metallicity, though different diagnostic diagrams involving He II  $\lambda 4686$  prove very useful, independent of metallicity. We measured the central black hole mass to be  $\log(M_{\text{BH}}/M_{\odot}) \sim 8.2 \pm 0.4$  based on the luminosity and width of the broad line region of the H $\alpha$  emission. While this places GS\_3073 at the lower end of known high-redshift black hole masses, it still appears to be overly massive when compared to its host galaxy's mass properties. We detected an outflow with a projected velocity  $\gtrsim 700 \text{ km s}^{-1}$  and inferred an ionised gas mass outflow rate of about  $100 M_{\odot} \text{ yr}^{-1}$ , suggesting that one billion years after the Big Bang, GS\_3073 is able to enrich the intergalactic medium with metals.

**Key words.** galaxies: active – galaxies: high-redshift – quasars: supermassive black holes – ISM: abundances

## 1. Introduction

Emission line ratio diagnostics are a key tool to measure physical conditions in the interstellar medium (ISM). At  $z = 0$ , this has led to the development of rest-frame optical diagnostics such as [O III]  $\lambda 5007/\text{H}\beta$  versus [N II]  $\lambda 6584/\text{H}\alpha$  (the so-called Baldwin-Phillips-Terlevich, BPT, diagram; Baldwin et al. 1981), [O III]  $\lambda 5007/\text{H}\beta$  versus [S II]  $\lambda \lambda 6717, 6731/\text{H}\alpha$ , and [O III]  $\lambda 5007/\text{H}\beta$  versus [O I]  $\lambda 6300/\text{H}\alpha$  (Veilleux & Osterbrock 1987), all of which are commonly used to identify whether the

primary ionisation source in the ISM is from star formation (SF), photoionisation from an active galactic nucleus (AGN), or possibly other ionisation sources, such as shocks and evolved stars. Through multi-object spectrographs, such as the *K*-band Multi-Object Spectrograph (KMOS; Sharples et al. 2004, 2013) or the Multi-Object Spectrometer For Infra-Red Exploration (MOS-FIRE; McLean et al. 2010, 2012), the extension of these classifications up to  $z \sim 3$  became possible (e.g. Kewley et al. 2013b; Steidel et al. 2014; Strom et al. 2017; Curti et al. 2020a; Runco et al. 2022).

At  $z \sim 0$ , the hard ionising radiation from AGN accretion discs (generally accompanied by a high ionisation parameter  $U$ ) increases both  $[\text{N II}]/\text{H}\alpha$  and  $[\text{O III}]/\text{H}\beta$  ratios with respect to galaxies dominated by SF (e.g. Kewley et al. 2001; Kauffmann et al. 2003). However, with increasing redshift, star-forming galaxies (SFGs) also tend to move to higher values of  $[\text{O III}]/\text{H}\beta$  and/or  $[\text{N II}]/\text{H}\alpha$ , possibly as a consequence of  $\alpha$ -enhanced stellar populations that result in a harder radiation field, variations in the nitrogen abundance, higher electron densities, or a higher ionisation parameter influenced by the SF history (e.g. Brinchmann et al. 2008b; Kewley et al. 2013a; Steidel et al. 2014; Masters et al. 2016; Hirschmann et al. 2017; Kashino et al. 2017; Strom et al. 2017; Topping et al. 2020; Curti et al. 2022; Hayden-Pawson et al. 2022; Runco et al. 2022). The situation may change more dramatically at higher redshift due to the steadily decreasing metallicity of the ISM, which can result in SFGs changing their location on the line ratio diagnostic diagrams (e.g. Kewley et al. 2013a; Feltre et al. 2016; Gutkin et al. 2016; Hirschmann et al. 2017, 2019, 2022; Nakajima & Maiolino 2022), as is indeed observed in recent *James Webb* Space Telescope (JWST) data at  $z \sim 6$ –9 (Curti et al. 2023; Sanders et al. 2023; Cameron et al. 2023).

At  $z > 3$ , the rest-frame optical emission line properties of AGN and SFGs and their location on diagnostic diagrams have essentially been unexplored so far due to the technical difficulties of accessing the relevant redshifted lines at  $z > 3$ . However, according to models, their properties are expected to change strongly, primarily because of the lower metallicity at such early epochs (e.g. Groves et al. 2006; Feltre et al. 2016; Hirschmann et al. 2019; Nakajima & Maiolino 2022). The JWST now enables access to the main rest-frame optical lines up to  $z \sim 7$ , and exploring the location of  $z > 3$  AGN and SFGs in the classical line ratio diagnostic diagrams is of great importance to our understanding of the role of ionising sources in early galaxies.

Another area in which JWST is expected to enable major progress is the evolution of the scaling relations between supermassive black holes (SMBHs) and their host galaxies. Past studies have shown that at high redshift ( $z \gtrsim 6$ ), SMBHs tend to be overly massive in relation to their host galaxies by more than one order of magnitude when compared with local relations (e.g. Bongiorno et al. 2014; Wang et al. 2016; Shao et al. 2017; Venemans et al. 2017; Decarli et al. 2018; Izumi et al. 2021). However, it has been suggested that these results might be due to luminous quasars residing in the tail end of the black hole mass ( $M_{\text{BH}}$ ) to host mass ( $M_{\text{galaxy}}$ ) distribution. Indeed, similar studies with lower luminosity quasars have found  $M_{\text{BH}}/M_{\text{galaxy}}$  ratios more consistent with the local relation (Willott et al. 2015, 2017; Izumi et al. 2018). The JWST offers the possibility of exploring such relations in even lower luminosity AGN at  $3 < z < 9$  and therefore to test these scenarios.

In this paper, we use data obtained with the Integral Field Spectroscopy (IFS) mode of the Near InfraRed Spectrograph (NIRSpec) on board JWST (Jakobsen et al. 2022; Böker et al. 2022) of the galaxy GS\_3073 at  $z = 5.55$  as part of the NIRSpec IFS Guaranteed Time Observations (GTO) programme. This source is located in the Cosmic Assembly Near-infrared Deep Extragalactic Legacy Survey/Great Observatories Origins Deep Survey field centred on the *Chandra* Deep Field South (CANDELS/GOODS-S field; Koekemoer et al. 2011), and it has also been referred to as GDS J033218.92–275302.7 (Vanzella et al. 2010). The source showed indications of the presence of an AGN in previous spectroscopic studies of its

UV light, namely, through detection of very high ionisation lines such as  $\text{N V}\lambda 1240$  and  $\text{O VI}\lambda 1032, 1038$  (see Vanzella et al. 2010; Grazian et al. 2020). However, it was not selected for its potential AGN signatures in our survey, as these remain undetected in deep *Chandra* X-ray observations (2 Ms observations as discussed by Vanzella et al. 2010; see also Grazian et al. 2020 for deeper 7 Ms observations). In addition to confirming its AGN nature, the data shed light on its physical conditions and the power source of its ionised gas emission. We describe the target GS\_3073 and our JWST observations in Sect. 2. In Sect. 3, we discuss the emission line features and spectral fitting. We describe our measurements of black hole mass, host galaxy dynamical mass, outflow properties, and physical conditions in Sect. 4. We discuss our results regarding emission line ratio diagnostic diagrams, early black holes, their feedback, and enrichment in Sect. 5, and we conclude in Sect. 6.

Throughout this work, we adopt a Chabrier (2003) initial mass function ( $0.1$ – $100 M_{\odot}$ ) and a flat  $\Lambda$ CDM cosmology with  $H_0 = 70 \text{ km s}^{-1} \text{ Mpc}^{-1}$ ,  $\Omega_{\Lambda} = 0.7$ , and  $\Omega_m = 0.3$ . The wavelengths of emission lines are quoted in rest-frame if not specified otherwise.

## 2. Data

### 2.1. Ancillary data and previous studies

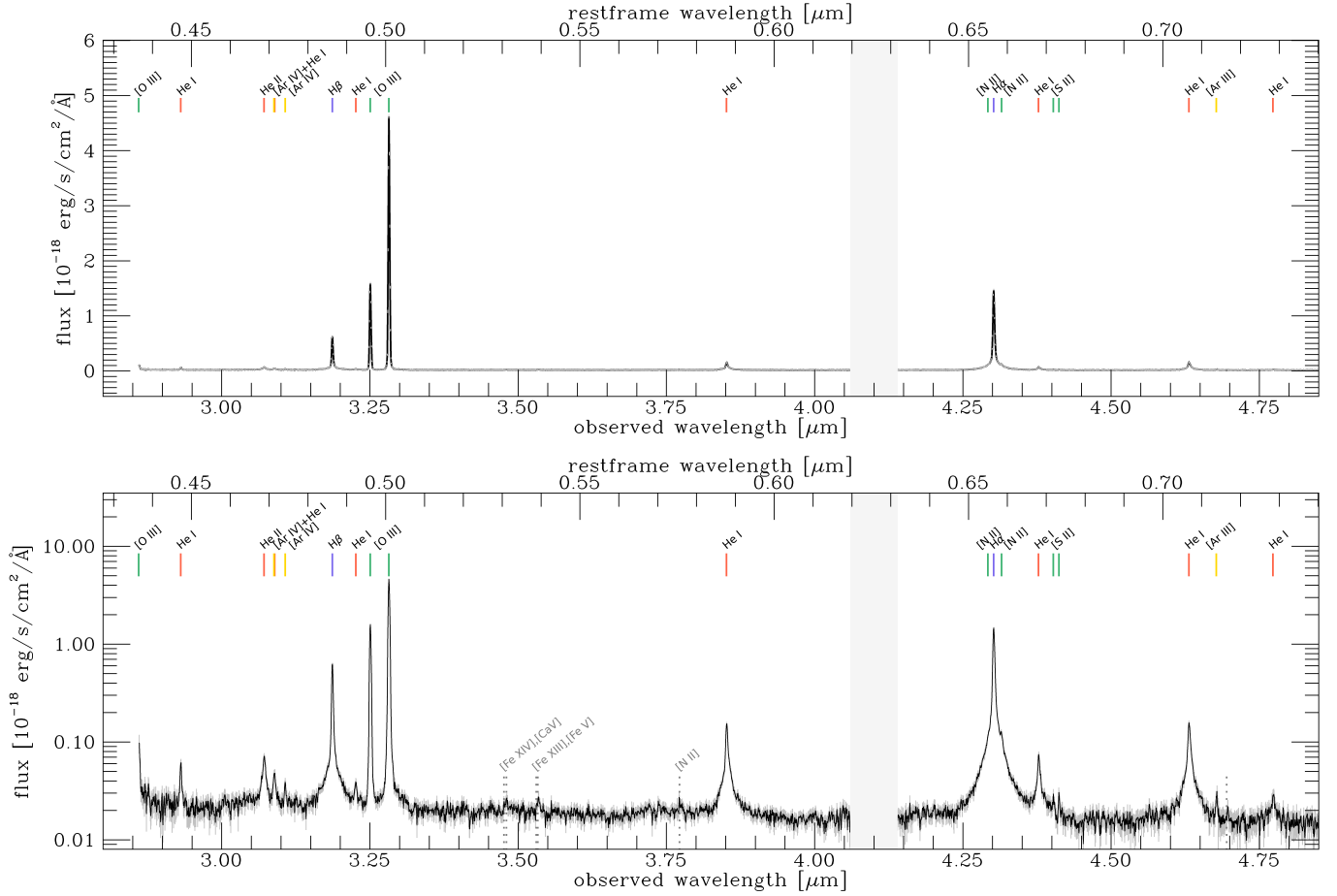
Multi-wavelength observations of GS\_3073 (RA  $3^{\text{h}}32^{\text{m}}18.93^{\text{s}}$ , Dec  $-27^{\circ}53'2.96''$ ) are available thanks to the wide imaging coverage of the GOODS-S field and the spectral energy distribution (SED) fitting, which included photometry from  $U$  to radio bands, performed by several groups (e.g. Stark et al. 2007; Wiklind et al. 2008; Raiter et al. 2010; Vanzella et al. 2010; Faisst et al. 2020; Barchiesi et al. 2023). While initial results favoured a massive galaxy with an old stellar population, later work reported evidence of two stellar populations, one of which is younger, with a total stellar mass of  $\log(M_{\star}/M_{\odot}) \sim 10.5$ – $10.7$  and a star formation rate (SFR) of  $\sim 30$ – $120 M_{\odot} \text{ yr}^{-1}$ . With our new data, we show that these estimates require some revision.

Spectroscopic observations in the rest-frame UV obtained with the Focal Reducer and low dispersion Spectrograph 2 (FOR2) and the Visible Multi-Object Spectrograph (VIMOS; Le Fèvre et al. 2003) have shown evidence for a galactic wind traced by  $\text{Ly}\alpha$  and for the presence of several high ionisation species, such as  $\text{O VI}\lambda 1032$ ,  $\text{N V}\lambda 1240$ , and  $\text{N IV}\lambda 1483, 1486$  (Raiter et al. 2010; Vanzella et al. 2010; Grazian et al. 2020; Barchiesi et al. 2023). In addition, GS\_3073 has been detected in  $[\text{C II}]\lambda 158 \mu\text{m}$  without continuum detection within the Atacama large millimetre/submillimetre array Large Program to Investigate  $[\text{C II}]$  at Early times (ALPINE) survey (Le Fèvre et al. 2020; Faisst et al. 2020; Béthermin et al. 2020; Barchiesi et al. 2023).

In all observations, GS\_3073 is compact, with size estimates in the range of  $0.08$ – $0.18 \text{ kpc}$  from GALFIT fitting (Vanzella et al. 2010; van der Wel et al. 2012). Other structural parameters were constrained through GALFIT fits to the  $H$ -band ( $F160W$ ) data as follows: Sérsic index  $n_S = 8.00 \pm 1.86$ , axis ratio  $q = 0.71 \pm 0.08$ , and position angle  $\text{PA} = 75.07^{\circ} \pm 10.79^{\circ}$ , however with a low-quality flag (van der Wel et al. 2012).

### 2.2. JWST/NIRSpec IFS observations of GS\_3073

The galaxy GS\_3073 has been observed as part of the NIRSpec IFS GTO programme ‘Galaxy Assembly with NIRSpec IFS’ (GA-NIFS) under programme 1216 (PI: Nora Lützgendorf). The target was observed on September 25, 2022, with a medium



**Fig. 1.** Integrated spectrum extracted from the central three by three spaxels in the wavelength range  $2.86 \mu\text{m} < \lambda < 4.85 \mu\text{m}$  with flux in linear scale (top) and log scale (bottom). Several emission lines are present and indicated by vertical lines at the top of the panels. We detected seven He I lines, He II  $\lambda\lambda 4686$ , H $\beta$ , [O III]  $\lambda\lambda 4959$ , 5007, H $\alpha$ , [N II]  $\lambda\lambda 6548$ , 6583, and [S II]  $\lambda\lambda 6716$ , 6731. We also report the detection of [Ar IV]  $\lambda\lambda 4711$ , [Ar IV]  $\lambda\lambda 4740$ , and [Ar III]  $\lambda\lambda 7136$ . (We note that [Ar IV]  $\lambda\lambda 4711$  is blended with He I  $\lambda\lambda 4713$ .) The auroral line [O III]  $\lambda\lambda 4363$  is only partly covered by the spectral band of our observation with the G395H grating. The line [O I]  $\lambda\lambda 6003$  falls into the detector gap masked here in the region  $4.06 \mu\text{m} < \lambda < 4.14 \mu\text{m}$ . The BLR components are present in H $\beta$ , H $\alpha$ , He II, and in the He I lines. In addition, an outflow component is present and is best visible in the broadened asymmetric line base of the [O III] doublet. In the bottom panel, we indicate with grey dotted vertical lines the positions of possible coronal lines, [Fe XVI], [Ca V], [Fe XIII], [Fe V]; of an auroral line, [N II]  $\lambda\lambda 5755$ ; and of another line at  $\lambda \sim 7167.5 \text{ \AA}$ , the position of which is consistent with Si I.

cycling pattern of eight dithers and a total integration time of 5 h with the high-resolution grating/filter pair G395H/F290LP (spectral resolution  $R \sim 1900\text{--}3600$ ; Jakobsen et al. 2022). In addition, PRISM/CLEAR observations with a medium cycling pattern of eight dithers and a total integration time of 1.1 h have also been performed (spectral resolution  $R \sim 30\text{--}330$ ).

Raw data files were downloaded from the Barbara A. Mikulski Archive for Space Telescopes (MAST) and subsequently processed with the JWST Science Calibration pipeline<sup>1</sup> version 1.8.4 under the Calibration Reference Data System (CRDS) context `jwst_1014.pmap`. We made several modifications to the default reduction steps to increase data quality, which are described in detail by Perna et al. (2023) and which we briefly summarise here. Count-rate frames were corrected for  $1/f$  noise through a polynomial fit. Outliers were flagged in the individual 2D exposures using an algorithm similar to LACOSMIC (van Dokkum 2001). Because the point spread function (PSF) is undersampled in the spatial direction across IFS slices, we calculated the derivative of the count-rate maps only along the

dispersion direction. The derivative was then normalised by the local flux (or by three times the rms noise, whichever was highest), and we rejected the 98th percentile of the resulting distribution (see D’Eugenio et al., in prep. for details). Instead of performing the default pipeline steps ‘flat\_field’ and ‘photom’ during Stage 2, we performed an external flux calibration after Stage 3 by utilising the commissioning observations of a standard star (programme 1128, ‘Spectrophotometric Sensitivity and Absolute Flux Calibration’; PI: Nora Lützgendorf; observation 9) reduced under the same CRDS context (see also, e.g., Cresci et al. 2023; Veilleux et al. 2023). Uncertainties related to the flux calibration were expected to be of the order of a few percent (see Böker et al. 2023; Perna et al. 2023). The final cube was combined using the ‘drizzle’ method, for which we used an official patch to correct a known bug<sup>2</sup>. The main analysis in this paper is based on the combined R2700 cube with a pixel scale of  $0.1''$ . We used spaxels away from the central source and free of emission features to perform a background subtraction.

We used the same steps to reduce the R100 data for which we explore cube combinations with smaller pixel scales (down to

<sup>1</sup> <https://jwst-pipeline.readthedocs.io/en/stable/jwst/introduction.html>

<sup>2</sup> <https://github.com/spacetelescope/jwst/pull/7306>

0.03") for a sharper view of the source morphology, particularly in the bluest wavelengths (see Appendix A). A more detailed analysis of the lower resolution data will be presented in future work.

### 3. Analysis

#### 3.1. Detection of a broad line region and outflow component

In Fig. 1 we show the integrated G395H spectrum extracted by summing the spectra from the central three by three spaxels ( $0.3'' \times 0.3''$ , or  $1.8 \text{ kpc} \times 1.8 \text{ kpc}$ ), which should encompass the nuclear emission, in the wavelength range  $2.86 \mu\text{m} < \lambda < 4.86 \mu\text{m}$ . For Fig. 1 and for the fitting described in Sect. 3.2, we calculated an initial noise spectrum by adding the errors in quadrature (i.e. assuming uncorrelated noise between adjacent spaxels based on the error extension in the data cube – ‘ERR’). This noise spectrum was then re-scaled with a measurement of the standard deviation in the integrated spectrum in regions free of line emission in order to take into account correlations due to the non-negligible size of the PSF relative to the spaxel size. This increased the noise by about a factor of three (grey error bars in Fig. 1).

Several emission lines are present in the G395H spectrum. We note the prominent, very broad component in all permitted lines in the spectrum:  $\text{H}\beta$ ,  $\text{H}\alpha$ ,  $\text{He II}$ , and seven  $\text{He I}$  lines. These broad components of the permitted lines, and the fact that they are not present in the forbidden lines, unambiguously reveal the presence of a broad line region (BLR) around an accreting black hole. The fact that these lines are significantly fainter than their narrow counterparts implies a type 1.8 classification of this AGN (e.g. Blandford et al. 1990; Whittle 1992). We report the detection of high ionisation  $[\text{Ar IV}]$  and  $[\text{Ar III}]$ . With grey dotted vertical lines, we indicate the theoretical positions of several coronal lines, of the auroral line  $[\text{N II}]\lambda 5755$ , and of another emission line at  $\lambda \sim 7167.5 \text{ \AA}$ , potentially  $\text{Si I}$ .

In addition, the base of the  $[\text{O III}]$  doublet reveals the presence of a slightly redshifted broad wing (though much narrower than the BLR permitted components), which we assume traces a galactic outflow. For a clearer distinction from the BLR and narrow line components, we call this broad wing the ‘outflow’ component.

#### 3.2. Fitting of the integrated G395H spectrum

We fit the full spectrum shown in Fig. 1. We included a narrow line component tracing the emission from the host galaxy (both from the narrow line region and any SF) for all lines, a broader line component tracing the outflow emission for all lines, and a BLR component for the hydrogen and helium lines tracing the high-density gas in the BLR of the AGN. We estimated the continuum through a first-order polynomial, independently for the two spectral regions separated by the detector gap around  $4.1 \mu\text{m}$ . For the full fit, we tied the relative velocities for all narrow and BLR lines together, and we fixed the velocity of the outflow components relative to the narrow components. The velocity widths of all BLR components were tied, assuming that these emission components originate from the same region. We note that this is likely a simplification, as different species may be stratified in the BLR (Peterson & Wandel 1999), but this approach allowed us to better model the BLR components of the faint helium lines. For the narrow and outflow lines, we tied the velocity widths separately around  $\text{H}\alpha$  and around  $[\text{O III}]$ . This allowed us to account in the first approximation for the

**Table 1.** Emission line properties of GS\_3073 as constrained from our best fit (Sect. 3.2).

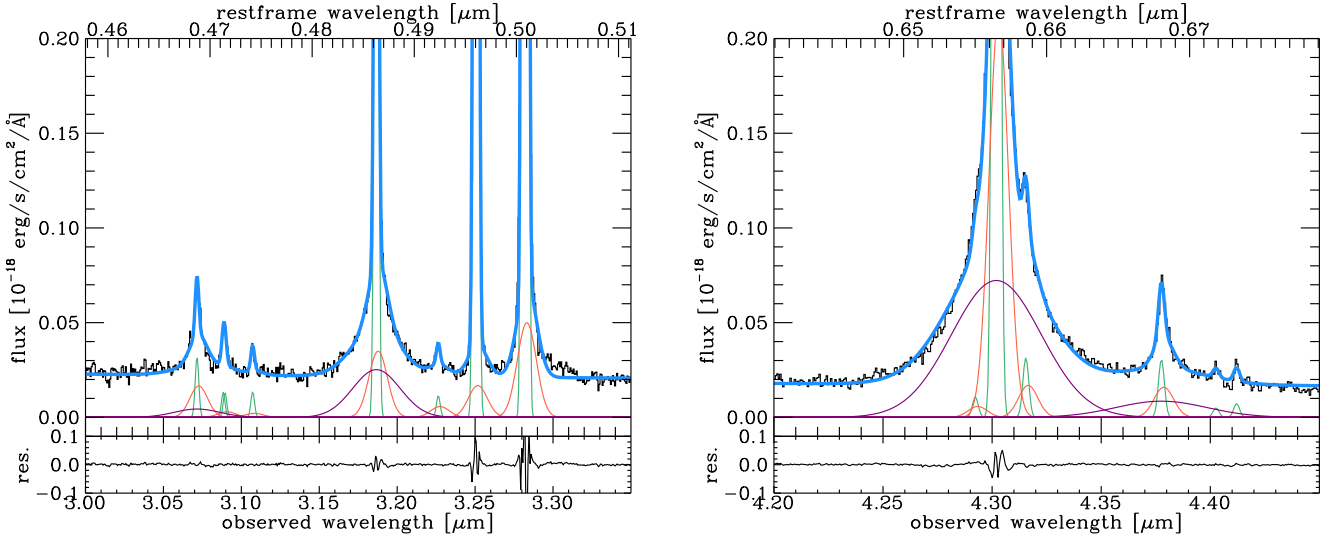
Measurement	Value
$\text{FWHM}_{\text{H}\alpha, \text{narrow}}$	$195.2 \pm 1.7$
$\text{FWHM}_{\text{H}\beta, \text{narrow}}$	$224.7 \pm 0.6$
$\text{FWHM}_{\text{H}\alpha, \text{outflow}}$	$716.6 \pm 12.0$
$\text{FWHM}_{\text{H}\beta, \text{outflow}}^{(a)}$	$1306.7 \pm 23.7$
$\text{FWHM}_{\text{H}\alpha, \text{BLR}}$	$3370.4 \pm 41.4$
$\Delta v_{\text{H}\alpha, \text{narrow, outflow}}$	$76.8 \pm 2.5$
$\Delta v_{\text{H}\beta, \text{narrow, outflow}}$	$100.6 \pm 4.3$
$F_{\text{H}\alpha, \text{narrow}}$	$38.71 \pm 0.43$
$F_{\text{H}\alpha, \text{outflow}}$	$23.59 \pm 0.76$
$F_{\text{H}\alpha, \text{BLR}}$	$37.22 \pm 0.95$
$F_{\text{H}\beta, \text{narrow}}$	$16.04 \pm 0.26$
$F_{\text{H}\beta, \text{outflow}}$	$5.21 \pm 0.35$
$F_{\text{H}\beta, \text{BLR}}$	$9.61 \pm 0.48$
$F_{\text{He II, narrow}}$	$0.93 \pm 0.09$
$F_{\text{He II, outflow}}$	$2.38 \pm 0.32$
$F_{\text{He II, BLR}}$	$1.61 \pm 0.47$
$\text{EW}(\text{He II}_{\text{narrow+outflow}}) [\text{\AA}]$	$20.42 \pm 3.09$
$F_{[\text{O III}]\lambda 5007, \text{narrow}}$	$135.94 \pm 0.41$
$F_{[\text{O III}]\lambda 5007, \text{outflow}}$	$7.69 \pm 0.14$
$F_{[\text{N II}]\lambda 6584, \text{narrow}}$	$1.07 \pm 0.11$
$F_{[\text{N II}]\lambda 6584, \text{outflow}}$	$1.88 \pm 0.25$
$F_{[\text{S II}]\lambda 6717+\lambda 6731, \text{narrow}}$	$0.42 \pm 0.08$
$T_{e, [\text{O III}]} [\text{K}]^{(b)}$	$14163^{+1339}_{-1439}$

**Notes.** Uncertainties were calculated from the formal best fit to the R2700 data. Quoted full width half maxima (FWHM) were corrected for the wavelength-dependent instrumental resolution at the line position. The FWHM and velocities are expressed in units of  $\text{km s}^{-1}$ , and line fluxes are expressed in units of  $10^{-18} \text{ erg s}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ .  $^{(a)}\text{FWHM}_{\text{H}\beta, \text{outflow}} = \text{FWHM}_{[\text{O III}]\lambda 5007, \text{outflow}} \cdot ^{(b)}T_{e, [\text{O III}]}$  was constrained from the narrow line ratio of  $[\text{O III}]\lambda 4363 / ([\text{O III}]\lambda 4959 + [\text{O III}]\lambda 5007)$ . We emphasise that the  $[\text{O III}]\lambda 4363$  emission is only partially covered by our spectrum, but the fit was constrained through the line positions and widths of other high S/N lines.

different spectral resolutions around these main line complexes while still constraining, where possible, the different components of fainter emission lines. We also performed fits tying the line widths in velocity and specifically taking into account the linearly wavelength-dependent spectral resolution of the G395H grating. Overall, this gave very similar results in terms of black hole mass estimates and narrow line ratios; however, we clearly achieved a better fit to the narrow  $[\text{N II}]\lambda 6584$  emission than with our fiducial approach. The line widths of the outflow components were affected the most by this choice (see Table 1).

The fit was further constrained through atomic physics (e.g. Osterbrock & Ferland 2006). Thus, the intensity ratio of the  $[\text{O III}]$  doublet was fixed to  $[\text{O III}]\lambda 5007 / [\text{O III}]\lambda 4959 = 2.98$ , and the intensity ratio of the  $[\text{N II}]$  doublet was fixed to  $[\text{N II}]\lambda 6584 / [\text{N II}]\lambda 6548 = 2.94$ . We verified that the  $[\text{S II}]$  and  $[\text{Ar IV}]$  doublet ratios were within the physically allowed ranges of  $0.44 < [\text{S II}]\lambda 6716 / [\text{S II}]\lambda 6731 < 1.45$  and  $0.12 < [\text{Ar IV}]\lambda 4711 / [\text{Ar IV}]\lambda 4740 < 1.37$  (for  $T_e = 10^4 \text{ K}$ ; see Proxauf et al. 2014, for  $[\text{Ar IV}]$ ). We show a zoom-in of our best fit in Fig. 2. Narrow, outflow, and BLR lines are indicated in green, orange, and purple, respectively, and the full fit is shown in blue.

We report the emission line properties as constrained from our best fit and used in Sects. 4 and 5 in Table 1. In addition, we



**Fig. 2.** Zoom-in of the integrated spectrum extracted from the central three by three spaxels including our best fit (blue) with individual components for the emission lines (narrow: green, outflow: orange, BLR: purple) for different wavelength ranges. Left panel: Wavelength range including He II $\lambda$ 4686, [Ar IV] $\lambda$ 4711, He I $\lambda$ 4713, [Ar IV] $\lambda$ 4740, H $\beta$ , He I $\lambda$ 4922, [O III] $\lambda$ 4959, and [O III] $\lambda$ 5007. Right panel: Wavelength range including [N II] $\lambda$ 6548, H $\alpha$ , [N II] $\lambda$ 6584, He I $\lambda$ 6678, [S II] $\lambda$ 6716, and [S II] $\lambda$ 6731. The bottom sections of each panel show the residuals, res. = data – best fit. We note that for some of the weaker lines, no BLR or outflow component was preferred by the fit. We further note a faint flux excess red-wards of [O III] $\lambda$ 5007 that is undetected in individual spaxels, potentially suggesting some higher velocity (nuclear) outflow components not captured by our fiducial fit.

briefly discuss the line fluxes of He I in Appendix B. In Sect. 4.1, we use the BLR components to measure the central black hole mass and the outflow line components to constrain outflow properties in Sect. 4.3. In our discussion of line ratio diagnostics in Sects. 5.1 and 5.2, we quote values based on narrow and outflow line components.

### 3.3. Kinematic maps

We derived maps of projected flux, velocity, and velocity dispersion for the narrow [O III] and H $\alpha$  lines and for the outflow component as traced by [O III] from multi-component Gaussian fits to the continuum-subtracted emission. Specifically, to derive the 2D maps, we fit the emission in each spaxel separately around [O III] and around H $\alpha$ . We used two components for [O III]: one for the narrow line emission and one for the broader component that we interpret as an outflow. The amplitude, width, and line centroid of both components were free to vary in these fits. For the fit of the H $\alpha$  complex, we also used two components: one for the narrow line emission and one for the BLR emission. While we fixed the line centroid of the BLR emission to the narrow line emission, the amplitude and width of both components were free to vary. This simplified approach (i.e. without explicitly accounting for an outflow component or [N II] emission around H $\alpha$ ) allowed us to fit the lower S/N spectra from individual spaxels and, in particular, at larger distances from the source centre. However, we emphasise that the narrow H $\alpha$  centroid and width are still well constrained due to the outflow and BLR emission being much fainter. We visually inspected the fits to each spaxel and created masks accordingly. The resulting maps are shown in Fig. 3.

A velocity gradient of  $\Delta v \sim 70 \text{ km s}^{-1}$  roughly along the north-south direction was visible in both the narrow [O III] and H $\alpha$  components, which may be interpreted as evidence of rotation. There is a small offset between the integrated [O III] and H $\alpha$  line centroids of about  $8 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ , which is much lower than the spectral resolution of our data. We note that we found a kine-

matic position angle of about  $\text{PA}_{\text{kin}} \sim -15^\circ$  perpendicular to the morphological  $\text{PA} = 75^\circ$  (see Sect. 2.1). However, we also note that this compact source is barely resolved in the combined cube with  $0.1''$  pixel scale, as indicated by the PSF intensity profile imprinted on our line maps (see Fig. 3).

When going to a smaller plate scale and bluer wavelengths in the R100 data, we did see some evidence for structure in the main galaxy, and possibly even for two faint companions (see Appendix A). There is a region of higher positive velocities visible in both the H $\alpha$  and [O III] maps in the east-south-east direction. It is conceivable that this kinematic feature is related to one of these faint tentative companion galaxies.

The velocity dispersion maps are relatively featureless, but we observed elevated dispersions in the central region of the galaxy in both the H $\alpha$  and [O III] maps. This is expected for the observed kinematics of a rotating disc that are affected by beam smearing, particularly in the centre. We did not see an increase in dispersion towards the region of higher velocities in the east-south-east.

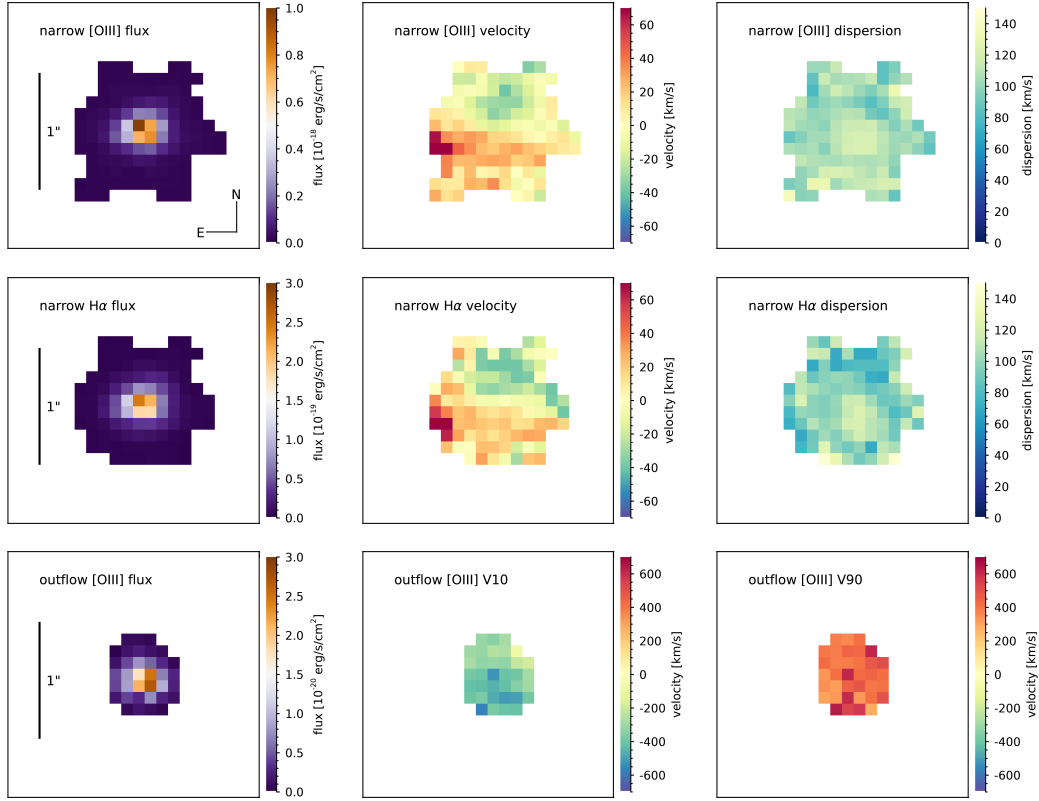
We observed an outflow in the nuclear region. Positive and negative velocities measured from V10 and V90 range up to  $|600\text{--}700| \text{ km s}^{-1}$  (with respect to the systemic velocity of the galaxy; see bottom-middle and bottom-right panels in Fig. 3).

## 4. Results

The physical properties derived from our best fit to the fiducial spectrum integrated over the central three by three spaxels are reported in Table 2. We describe our measurements in the following subsections.

### 4.1. Black hole properties

We found a H $\alpha$ /H $\beta$  flux ratio of  $3.87 \pm 0.22$  for the BLR components. For quasi-stellar objects (QSOs), intrinsic H $\alpha$ /H $\beta$  ratios



**Fig. 3.** Projected maps of line flux, velocity, and velocity dispersion. Top and middle row: flux (left), velocity (middle), and velocity dispersion corrected for instrumental resolution (right) as measured from the narrow [OIII] component (top) and the narrow H $\alpha$  component (middle) tracing the host galaxy kinematics. Bottom: flux (left), V10, the velocity at the 10th percentile of the emission-line profile (middle), and V90, the velocity at the 90th percentile (right), from the outflow [OIII] component. North is up and East is to the left. The spaxel size is  $0.1''$ . A bar in the first column indicates  $1''$ , corresponding to roughly 6 kpc at the source redshift. The highest projected velocities are found in the East-South-East region in both the narrow H $\alpha$  and [OIII] velocity maps, and are possibly related to an ongoing interaction with a faint companion (see Appendix A). Apart from this region, a velocity gradient of  $\Delta v \sim 70 \text{ km s}^{-1}$  along the North-North-West to South-South-East direction is visible in both the narrow [OIII] and H $\alpha$ , possibly indicative of rotation. There is a small offset between the integrated [OIII] and H $\alpha$  line centroids of about  $8 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ . We find elevated velocity dispersions in the galaxy centre, as expected for observations of a rotating disc affected by beam smearing. The outflow is visible in the nuclear region, with positive and negative velocities respectively the systemic velocity of  $|600\text{--}700| \text{ km s}^{-1}$ .

of 3–10 are routinely observed (e.g. Osterbrock 1977, 1981), and therefore no correction for extinction was performed. If the BLR H $\alpha$  luminosity were underestimated due to the presence of dust, the black hole mass calculated in the following paragraph would correspond to a lower limit.

Assuming that the gas in the BLR is virialised, we calculated the central black hole mass from the spectral properties of the H $\alpha$  BLR region following the calibration by Reines et al. (2013)<sup>3</sup>:

$$\log\left(\frac{M_{\text{BH}}}{M_{\odot}}\right) = \log(\epsilon) + 6.57 + 0.47 \log\left(\frac{L_{\text{H}\alpha}}{10^{42} \text{ erg s}^{-1}}\right) + 2.06 \log\left(\frac{\text{FWHM}_{\text{H}\alpha}}{10^3 \text{ km s}^{-1}}\right) \quad (1)$$

(their Eq. (5); see also Greene & Ho 2005), where  $\epsilon$  is a scaling factor dependent on the structure, kinematics, and orientation of the BLR (of the order of  $\sim 1$ ) and reported in the range 0.75–1.4 (Onken et al. 2004; Reines et al. 2013). Following Reines & Volonteri (2015), we therefore assumed  $\epsilon = 1.075 \pm 0.325$ . The luminosity  $L_{\text{H}\alpha}$  and  $\text{FWHM}_{\text{H}\alpha}$  and their uncertainties were measured from our best fit BLR component. In addition, we accounted for the statistical uncertainty

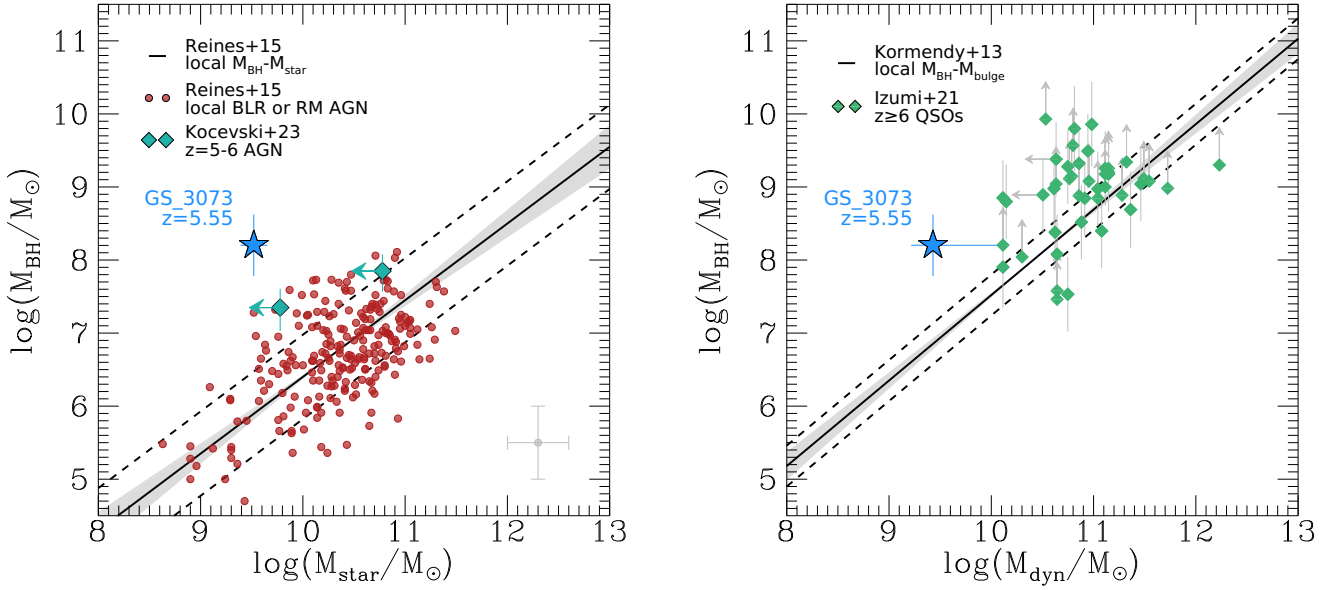
<sup>3</sup> We remind the reader that this calibration has not yet been thoroughly tested at high redshift because rest-frame optical lines were not accessible at  $z > 4$  before the launch of JWST.

**Table 2.** Measurements of the central black hole mass, host galaxy dynamical mass, and outflow properties (see Sect. 4).

Measurement	Value
$\log(M_{\text{BH}}/M_{\odot})_{\text{H}\alpha}$	$8.2 \pm 0.4$
$\log(L_{\text{bol}}/(\text{erg s}^{-1}))$	$\sim 45.2\text{--}46.2$
$\log(L_{\text{Edd}}/(\text{erg s}^{-1}))$	$46.3 \pm 0.4$
$\lambda_{\text{Edd}}$	$\sim 0.1\text{--}1.6$
$\log(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_{\odot})$	$9.4^{+0.7}_{-0.2}$
$v_{\text{out,H}\alpha} = \langle v_{\text{outflow}} \rangle + 2\sigma_{\text{outflow}} [\text{km s}^{-1}]$	$685 \pm 11$
$\dot{M}_{\text{out,ion}} [M_{\odot} \text{ yr}^{-1}]$	$98 \pm 2$
$\eta_{\text{ion}}$	$6.1^{+5.0}_{-2.9}$

of  $\epsilon$  as based on local  $M_{\text{BH}}\text{--}\sigma_{\star}$  relations by adding 0.4 dex in quadrature to our error budget (e.g. Ho & Kim 2014), which dominates the uncertainty. We measured a black hole mass of  $\log(M_{\text{BH}}/M_{\odot}) = 8.2 \pm 0.4$  (see Table 2).

We verified that using a larger aperture (while constraining the BLR width to the best fit from the fiducial higher S/N spectrum) does not significantly change our results on the black hole mass. By integrating the spectrum over the central  $1.15''$ , we



**Fig. 4.** Central black hole mass  $M_{\text{BH}}$  as a function of host galaxy stellar mass  $M_{\text{star}}$  (left) and host galaxy dynamical mass  $M_{\text{dyn}}$  (right) for GS\_3073 (blue filled star) and literature compilations. Left panel: Comparison of our galaxy to local AGN by Reines & Volonteri (2015). In this case, the black hole mass was determined from a BLR or from reverberation mapping (red circles, with representative error bar in grey). The black line with a shaded region shows the best fit with uncertainties to this data by Reines & Volonteri (2015), and the dashed lines indicate the intrinsic scatter plus measurement uncertainties. As teal diamonds, we show data by Kocevski et al. (2023) for which we calculated the black hole mass based on Eq. (1) for consistency with our measurement and the  $z = 0$  data. Right panel: Comparison of our galaxy to  $z \geq 6$  QSOs by Izumi et al. (2021, green diamonds). For our dynamical mass estimate, we adopted a Sérsic index of  $n_s = 4$  and an effective radius of  $R_e = 0.18$  kpc. We indicated uncertainties by varying  $R_e$  between 0.11 and 0.9 kpc. The black line shows the local  $M_{\text{BH}}-M_{\text{bulge}}$  relation with uncertainties and intrinsic scatter by Kormendy & Ho (2013). The black hole of GS\_3073 is at the lower end of the  $M_{\text{BH}}-M_{\text{dyn}}$  distribution when compared to the measurements by Izumi et al. (2021), but it still appears overly massive for its host galaxy’s dynamical mass when compared to the local relation by Kormendy & Ho (2013). Considering the  $M_{\text{BH}}-M_{\text{star}}$  relation, the black hole of GS\_3073 is much more massive in comparison to local broad line AGN with a similar host galaxy stellar mass.

found  $\log(M_{\text{BH}}/M_{\odot}) = 8.3 \pm 0.4$ . This result indicates that the BLR emission is nearly fully encompassed by the central three by three spaxels.

Alternatively, by using the calibrations by Greene & Ho (2005) that utilise the  $H\alpha$  BLR emission, the  $H\beta$  BLR emission, and the  $L_{5100}$  luminosity and by again accounting for the scatter of the local virial relations, we found  $\log(M_{\text{BH}}/M_{\odot}) = 8.0 \pm 0.4$ ,  $\log(M_{\text{BH}}/M_{\odot}) = 7.9 \pm 0.4$  and  $\log(M_{\text{BH}}/M_{\odot}) = 8.2 \pm 0.4$ , respectively. These estimates are consistent with the estimate using the calibration by Reines et al. (2013).

We used different calibrations to estimate the bolometric luminosity  $L_{\text{bol}}$  of GS\_3073<sup>4</sup>. First, assuming that the narrow line emission is dominated by the AGN, we calculated the  $L_{\text{bol}}$  from the narrow line luminosities of  $H\beta$  and [O III] following Eq. (1) by Netzer (2009). This gave  $\log(L_{\text{bol}}/(\text{erg s}^{-1})) = 46.2$  and likely represents an upper limit. When we used Eq. (25) by Dalla Bontà et al. (2020) to estimate  $L_{\text{bol}}$  from the  $H\beta$  BLR luminosity, we got  $\log(L_{\text{bol}}/(\text{erg s}^{-1})) = 45.3$ . We found a similar value, namely,  $\log(L_{\text{bol}}/(\text{erg s}^{-1})) = 45.2 \pm 0.4$ , when calculating  $L_{\text{bol}}$  using Eq. (6) by Stern & Laor (2012) and utilising the  $H\alpha$  BLR luminosity.

Based on our black hole mass estimate from the  $H\alpha$  BLR (Eq. (1)), the Eddington luminosity is  $\log(L_{\text{Edd}}/(\text{erg s}^{-1})) = 4\pi G M_{\text{BH}} m_p c / \sigma_T = 46.3 \pm 0.4$ , where  $G$  is the gravitational constant,  $m_p$  the proton mass,  $c$  the speed of light, and  $\sigma_T$  the Thomson scattering cross-section. Depending on which bolometric luminosity and which black hole mass estimate we

adopted, we found Eddington ratios in the range of  $\lambda_{\text{Edd}} = L_{\text{bol}}/L_{\text{Edd}} = 0.1-1.6$  (see Table 2).

#### 4.2. Host galaxy dynamical mass

In our IFU observations, GS\_3073 is very compact and barely resolved (see also discussion by Vanzella et al. 2010). We estimated its dynamical mass by means of the integrated narrow component line width (corrected for instrumental broadening) as follows:

$$M_{\text{dyn}} = K(n)K(q) \frac{\sigma^2 R_e}{G}, \quad (2)$$

where  $K(n) = 8.87 - 0.831n + 0.0241n^2$ , with the Sérsic index as  $n$  following Cappellari et al. (2006);  $K(q) = [0.87 + 0.38e^{-3.71(1-q)}]^2$ , with the axis ratio as  $q$  following van der Wel et al. (2022); and  $R_e$  as the effective radius. In this calibration,  $\sigma$  is the integrated stellar velocity dispersion. Bezanson et al. (2018) have shown that galaxies with low integrated ionised gas velocity dispersion tend to have higher integrated stellar velocity dispersion (their Fig. 4b). We took this into account by applying a correction of  $\Delta \log(\sigma/(\text{km s}^{-1})) = +0.1$  to our measured narrow line dispersion ( $\sigma_{H\alpha, \text{narrow}} = 83 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ ).

When adopting the structural parameters  $n = 8$ ,  $q = 0.71$ , and  $R_e = 0.18$  kpc from Sérsic fits to the  $H$ -band photometry by van der Wel et al. (2012), we found  $\log(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_{\odot}) \sim 9.2$ . Since a Sérsic index of  $n = 8$  is at the edge of the explored parameter space in the fits by van der Wel et al. (2012), and likely biased by the presence of the AGN at the centre of the galaxy, we adopted  $n = 4$  to derive a fiducial dynamical

<sup>4</sup> Again, we caution that these calibrations are all based on data from low-redshift AGN in the Sloan Digital Sky Survey (SDSS).

mass, leading to  $\log(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_{\odot}) \sim 9.4$ . We found similar values when we adopted the calibration between inclination-corrected integrated line widths and disc velocities by Wisnioski et al. (2018) together with their Eq. (3), namely,  $\log(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_{\odot}) \sim 8.9$ , as well as when we attempted to replace the integrated ionised gas velocity dispersion with  $v_{\text{rms}}^2 = v_{\text{obs}}^2 + \sigma_{\text{obs}}^2$ , namely,  $\log(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_{\odot}) \sim 9.3$ , where  $v_{\text{obs}}$  is half the inclination-corrected maximum observed velocity gradient and  $\sigma_{\text{obs}}$  is the average observed velocity dispersion of individual spaxels in the outer region of the galaxy (both uncorrected for beam smearing; see Fig. 3). A large uncertainty in these calculations stems from the structural parameters of GS\_3073. Overall, if we vary the size between 0.11 and 0.9 kpc, we find dynamical mass estimates in the range of  $9.2 < \log(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_{\odot}) < 10.1$  (see Table 2), and if we also vary the Sérsic index between 0.5 and 8 (see values reported by Vanzella et al. 2010), we find estimates in the range of  $9.0 < \log(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_{\odot}) < 10.3$ .

We note that previous estimates in the literature of the total stellar mass from SED fitting for GS\_3073 are larger than our dynamical mass estimate, with the most recent estimate being  $\log(M_{\star}/M_{\odot}) \sim 10.6$  (Barchiesi et al. 2023). These estimates are based on broadband photometry that had unknown emission line contributions. We found strong emission lines that would significantly contaminate the 3.6 and 4.5  $\mu\text{m}$  *Spitzer* Infra-Red Array Camera (IRAC) fluxes, which are the rest-frame optical constraints closest to the Balmer-break region and therefore most important for stellar mass estimates. If not accounted for properly, these emission lines could lead to overestimates of the stellar mass. We used the R100 spectrum to provide an updated stellar mass estimate based on the continuum emission. We observed no strong Balmer-break in the spectrum, and cannot rule out significant contribution or even dominance of the continuum light from the accretion disc surrounding the black hole. Under the assumption that the continuum light is dominated by the host galaxy, we fit the continuum in the region 2.73–5.30  $\mu\text{m}$  using BEAGLE (Chevallard & Charlot 2016) while fully masking the emission lines (which have multiple physical contributions). Using a constant star formation history (SFH), we found a stellar mass estimate of  $\log(M_{\star}/M_{\odot}) \sim 9.52 \pm 0.13$ , where the uncertainties denote the  $1\sigma$  credible interval. We found a similar stellar mass estimate when fitting the full spectrum (rest-frame UV to optical) with a delayed SFH, where the last 10 Myr were replaced with a constant SFR which was allowed to vary. This estimate is consistent within the uncertainties of our dynamical mass estimate, and we used it as a fiducial value for the stellar mass of GS\_3073.

In Fig. 4, we compare our black hole mass measurement as a function of host galaxy stellar mass and host galaxy dynamical mass to that of various literature compilations and relations derived locally and at high redshift. Reines & Volonteri (2015) provide a compilation of local AGN for which the black hole mass has been measured from  $\text{H}\alpha$  BLR components with the same calibration that we use for our  $M_{\text{BH}}$  measurement. In addition, some local data points come from reverberation mapping. The black hole of GS\_3073 is more massive by more than two orders of magnitude compared to the best fit relation of the local sample and more massive than all local broad line AGN by Reines & Volonteri (2015). In the figure, we also show two data points from Kocevski et al. (2023) at  $z \sim 5.2$  and  $z \sim 5.6$  (see also Onoue et al. 2023). For consistency with our measurement and the  $z = 0$  data, we recalculated the black hole masses based on Eq. (1). This recalibration resulted in an increase of the black hole mass by  $\sim 0.2$  dex relative to what is quoted by the authors. (Following the discussion in that paper, we assumed  $A_V = 4$  for

the higher mass source.) These two sources appear more consistent with the local BLR population, but since their stellar mass estimates are upper limits, these black holes could also be overly massive.

At high redshift, existing black hole mass measurements are primarily obtained from luminous quasars (QSOs;  $\log(L_{\text{bol}}/(\text{erg s}^{-1})) \sim 46.5\text{--}48$ ) for which stellar mass estimates are not available. In the right panel of Fig. 4, we compare the black hole mass of GS\_3073 as a function of host galaxy dynamical mass to  $z \geq 6$  QSOs compiled by Izumi et al. (2021, see also their Fig. 13), which includes data by Willott et al. (2010), De Rosa et al. (2014), Kashikawa et al. (2015), Venemans et al. (2015), Bañados et al. (2016), Jiang et al. (2016), Shao et al. (2017), Mazzucchelli et al. (2017), Decarli et al. (2018). Our galaxy sits at the lower end of the QSO  $M_{\text{BH}}$  distribution (see also the compilations by Willott et al. 2017; Pensabene et al. 2020). Similar to several of the measurements compiled by Izumi et al. (2021), GS\_3073 appears to sit above the local  $M_{\text{BH}}\text{--}M_{\text{bulge}}$  relation constrained by Kormendy & Ho (2013). However, we note that the comparison of the high- $z$  dynamical mass measurements to the local bulge mass measurements constrained from elliptical and S/S0 galaxies is not straightforward. As discussed by Reines & Volonteri (2015), even when accounting for differences in assumptions about the initial mass function and when assuming that the bulge dynamical mass corresponds to the total stellar mass, the slope and normalisation of the  $z = 0$  relations differ (see also discussion by Kormendy & Ho 2013).

#### 4.3. Outflow properties based on the integrated spectrum

Faint but clearly detected wings different from the BLR are seen in most of the strong emission lines in the integrated spectrum extracted from the central three by three spaxel of GS\_3073 (see Fig. 2), which we interpret as tracing an outflow (in line with other outflow indications by Vanzella et al. 2010; Grazian et al. 2020). The outflow emission appears almost symmetric but slightly redshifted, suggesting that the majority of the outflow is pointing away from the observer (see also Vanzella et al. 2010; Grazian et al. 2020). We measured the maximum projected outflow velocity as  $v_{\text{out}} = \langle v_{\text{outflow}} \rangle + 2\sigma_{\text{outflow}}$ , where  $\sigma_{\text{outflow}}$  is corrected for instrumental resolution (e.g. Genzel et al. 2011; Davies et al. 2019). At the position of [O III], we measured  $v_{\text{out}} = 1211 \pm 20 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ , while at the position of  $\text{H}\alpha$ , we measured  $v_{\text{out}} = 685 \pm 11 \text{ km s}^{-1}$  (see description of fitting model in Sect. 3.2). At the [O III] position, we noted an even more extended, faint redshifted wing in emission that is not captured by our best fit model (see left panel of Fig. 2). The velocity separation of this emission reaches roughly  $3100 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ , suggesting a more complex and vigorous outflow<sup>5</sup>.

For the calculation of outflow properties, such as the mass outflow rate  $\dot{M}_{\text{out,ion}}$  and mass loading factor  $\eta_{\text{ion}} = \dot{M}_{\text{out,ion}}/\text{SFR}$ , we used our measurements from the  $\text{H}\alpha$  outflow component, but we note that they may correspond to lower limits given the higher velocity emission seen for the [O III] outflow. We adopted a simple model to estimate  $\dot{M}_{\text{out,ion}}$  from the  $\text{H}\alpha$  outflow component, assuming a photo-ionised constant velocity

<sup>5</sup> Another common definition of maximum projected outflow velocity,  $v_{\text{out},2} = \langle v_{\text{outflow}} \rangle + \text{FWHM}_{\text{outflow}}/2$ , gives outflow velocities that are lower by about one-third (e.g. Rupke et al. 2005; Veilleux et al. 2005; Arribas et al. 2014). In light of the high-velocity [O III] emission seen in the integrated spectrum, we continued our discussion of outflow properties with  $v_{\text{out}}$  as defined in the main text. See also Förster Schreiber et al. (2019), Davies et al. (2020) for other definitions of  $v_{\text{out}}$ .

( $v_{\text{out}}$ ) spherical outflow of extent  $R_{\text{out}}$ , following Genzel et al. (2011), Newman et al. (2012), Förster Schreiber et al. (2019), Davies et al. (2019, 2020), Cresci et al. (2023):

$$\dot{M}_{\text{out,ion}} = \frac{1.36 m_{\text{H}}}{\gamma_{\text{H}\alpha}} \times \frac{L_{\text{H}\alpha,\text{outflow}}}{10^{42} \text{ erg s}^{-1}} \frac{1000 \text{ cm}^{-3}}{n_{e,\text{outflow}}} \frac{v_{\text{out}}}{1000 \text{ km s}^{-1}} \frac{1 \text{ kpc } M_{\odot}}{R_{\text{out}} \text{ yr}}, \quad (3)$$

where  $1.36 m_{\text{H}}$  is the effective nucleon mass for a 10 percent helium fraction,  $\gamma_{\text{H}\alpha} = 3.56 \times 10^{-25} \text{ erg cm}^{-3} \text{ s}^{-1}$  is the  $\text{H}\alpha$  emissivity at  $T = 10^4 \text{ K}$ ,  $n_{e,\text{outflow}}$  is the electron density in the outflow, and  $L_{\text{H}\alpha,\text{outflow}}$  is the  $\text{H}\alpha$  luminosity of the outflow component.

The [S II] lines are comparatively weak for GS\_3073, and no outflow line component in the [S II] doublet was preferred by our best fit. From the narrow component fit, we inferred  $F_{[\text{S II}]\lambda 6716}/F_{[\text{S II}]\lambda 6731} = 0.69 \pm 0.28$ , which corresponds to an electron density of  $n_{e,[\text{S II}]} \sim 1869 \text{ cm}^{-3}$  for  $T = 10^4 \text{ K}$ , using the calibration by Sanders et al. (2016). Alternatively, we could measure the electron density in the narrow and outflow component also from the [Ar IV] $\lambda 4711$ , 4740 ratio (e.g. Proxauf et al. 2014). However, in our case, the [Ar IV] $\lambda 4711$  line is blended with He  $\lambda 4713$ , making this measurement uncertain (see Fig. 2). Though we could not easily constrain the outflow component ratio, we report a density of  $n_{e,[\text{Ar IV}]} = 3032 \text{ cm}^{-3}$  based on the narrow component ratio, which is in line with this emission originating from higher density regions.

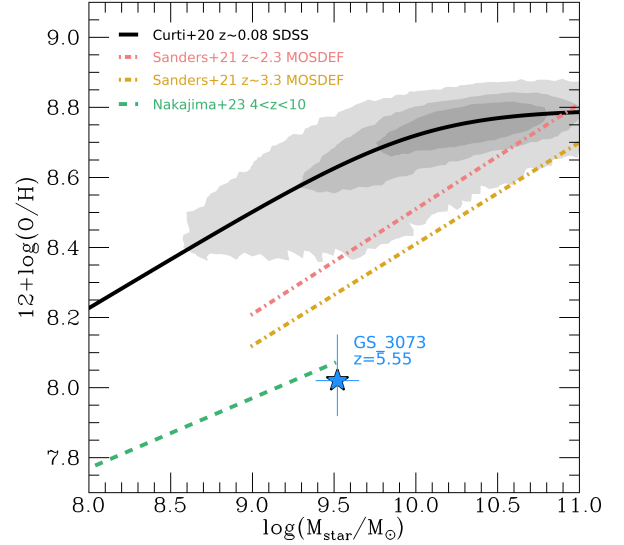
For the density of the outflow component, since this is unconstrained by our data, we followed Förster Schreiber et al. (2019) in assuming  $n_{e,\text{outflow}} = 1000 \text{ cm}^{-3}$  (i.e. their fiducial value for AGN-driven outflows; see also e.g. Perna et al. 2017; Kakkad et al. 2018). With  $L_{\text{H}\alpha,\text{outflow}} = 12.4 \times 10^{42} \text{ erg s}^{-1}$  and adopting  $R_{\text{out}} = R_e \sim 0.18 \text{ kpc}$ , we found  $\dot{M}_{\text{out,ion}} \sim 98 \pm 2 M_{\odot} \text{ yr}^{-1}$ . This is comparable to AGN with strong ionised outflows at  $1 < z < 3$  (Förster Schreiber et al. 2019). It is reasonable to assume that the total mass loss due to outflows is larger since we are only probing the warm ionised gas phase with our measurements. Rupke et al. (2017) and Fluetsch et al. (2019) studied the relation between  $M_{\text{BH}}$  and  $\dot{M}_{\text{out}}$  from various gas phases in local galaxies. For GS\_3073 we found a mass outflow rate that is about twice as high as their best fit relations but nevertheless well within the spread of individual measurements.

We further estimated the mass loading factor  $\eta_{\text{ion}} = \dot{M}_{\text{out,ion}}/\text{SFR}$ . The SFR estimates in the literature from SED fitting for GS\_3073 vary and are in the range of  $\text{SFR} \sim 30\text{--}410 M_{\odot} \text{ yr}^{-1}$  (Barro et al. 2019; Faisst et al. 2020). From the [C II] $\lambda 158 \mu\text{m}$  luminosity, Barchiesi et al. (2023) derived  $\text{SFR}_{[\text{C II}]} = 16_{-7}^{+14} M_{\odot} \text{ yr}^{-1}$ . Since the  $\text{H}\alpha$  narrow line flux likely has a strong AGN contribution, we instead used the  $\text{SFR}_{[\text{C II}]}$ .<sup>6</sup> From this we derived  $\eta_{\text{ion}} \sim 6.1_{-2.9}^{+5.0}$ . This result suggests the AGN in GS\_3073 is powerful enough to expel more mass from the galaxy than is currently consumed by SF, particularly when considering the addition of cold and hot gas likely entrenched in the outflow. We caution that the estimates of both  $\dot{M}_{\text{out,ion}}$  and  $\eta_{\text{ion}}$  are uncertain due to the substantial uncertainties regarding the ionised gas density and outflow geometry.

#### 4.4. Electron temperature and metallicity

Our observations cover part of the auroral [O III] $\lambda 4363$  emission line, which can be used in conjunction with

<sup>6</sup> However, we can use the narrow  $\text{H}\alpha$  flux to derive an upper limit of  $60 M_{\odot} \text{ yr}^{-1}$  on the SFR and a lower limit of 1.6 on the ionised gas mass loading factor, consistent with the estimates from [C II].



**Fig. 5.** GS\_3073 in the mass-metallicity plane (blue star). The  $z \sim 0.08$  relation based on SDSS data by Curti et al. (2020a) is shown as grey shading with the best fit in black. The red and yellow dashed-dotted lines show the best fit relations at  $z \sim 2.3$  and  $z \sim 3.3$ , respectively, by Sanders et al. (2021) based on data from the MOSDEF survey (Kriek et al. 2015). The dashed green line shows the best fit relation obtained by Nakajima et al. (2023) based on a compilation of early JWST data at redshifts  $4 < z < 10$ . At  $z = 5.55$ , GS\_3073 is slightly more massive but still compatible with the extrapolation of this relation.

[O III] $\lambda 4959, 5007$  to measure the electron temperature and gas phase metallicity (e.g. Izotov et al. 2006; Curti et al. 2017 and Maiolino & Mannucci 2019 for a review). Although [O III] $\lambda 4363$  is only partly covered in our R2700 data, we could still perform a simultaneous fit with the other emission lines in our spectrum by fixing the relative line position and the line widths to [O III] $\lambda 5007$ . While tentative, this gives an electron temperature of  $T_e \approx 14\,163_{-1439}^{+1339} \text{ K}$  based on the narrow line ratio [O III] $\lambda 4363$ /[O III] $\lambda 4959, 5007$ . For this calculation, we assumed an electron density of  $10^3 \text{ cm}^{-3}$ , which is consistent within the uncertainties of our best fit value based on the [S II] doublet and corresponds to the same value we adopted for the calculations of the outflow properties (Sect. 4.3). We note however that  $T_{e,[\text{O III}]}$  (i.e. the electron temperature of the high ionisation zone) is relatively insensitive to the exact value of the electron density within a range of  $10^2\text{--}10^4 \text{ cm}^{-3}$ . Following Dors et al. (2020), we assumed that the narrow line emission is dominated by AGN excitation and found that the measured  $T_e$  corresponds to a metallicity of about  $0.2 Z_{\odot}$ , or  $12 + \log(\text{O}^{++}/\text{H}) = 8.00_{-0.09}^{+0.12}$ .<sup>7</sup> By itself, this corresponds to a lower limit due to the unknown contribution of the other ionic species to the total oxygen abundance.

In our R100 observations of GS\_3073, we covered the wavelength range of  $\lambda = 0.6\text{--}5.3 \mu\text{m}$ , which includes the [O II] $\lambda 3727, 3730$  doublet (see Appendix C). Together with our R2700 data<sup>8</sup>, this allowed us to constrain the full O/H abundance. We measured the [O II] $\lambda 3727, 3730$  flux from an aperture that gives [O III] $\lambda 4959, 5007$  flux consistent within

<sup>7</sup> We used solar metallicity  $Z_{\odot} = 0.014$  and  $12 + \log(\text{O}/\text{H}) = 8.69$  (Asplund et al. 2009).

<sup>8</sup> We used the R2700 data to measure the line fluxes of [O III] $\lambda 4363$  and [O III] $\lambda 4959, 5007$  because [O III] $\lambda 4363$  is blended with H $\gamma$  in the lower resolution data.

3 percent of our measurement from the R2700 data. We found the contribution from  $O^+/H$  to be minor. Exploiting the  $[O\text{II}]\lambda\lambda 3727, 3730$  flux and following the prescriptions from [Dors et al. \(2020\)](#) to account for the temperature of the low ionisation region in Seyfert galaxies, we derived a total oxygen abundance of  $12 + \log(O/H) = 8.02^{+0.13}_{-0.10}$ , corresponding to  $0.21^{+0.08}_{-0.04}$  percent solar metallicity. We note that the contribution to the total abundance from even higher ionisation states of oxygen is expected to be fully negligible, as the ionisation correction factor (ICF) computed on the basis of the  $He^+$  and  $He^{++}$  abundances is  $ICF(O) = N(He^+ + He^{++})/N(He^+) = 1.017$  ([Torres-Peimbert & Peimbert 1977](#); [Izotov et al. 1994](#)). As shown in Fig. 5, this places our galaxy well below the gas-phase mass-metallicity relations measured from  $z = 0$  to  $z \sim 3$  ([Curti et al. 2020b](#); [Sanders et al. 2021](#)) and in line with the relation inferred for star-forming galaxies at  $4 < z < 10$  by [Nakajima et al. \(2023\)](#).

## 5. Discussion

### 5.1. An AGN in the SFG regime of the classical line ratio diagnostic diagrams

An important result of our work is that low metallicities in the early Universe blur the differences in classical diagnostic line ratios between galaxies that are primarily ionised by SF versus AGN activity. This can be appreciated in Fig. 6, where we depict the placement of our galaxy in the line ratio diagnostic diagrams showing  $[O\text{III}]/H\beta$  versus  $[N\text{II}]/H\alpha$  (left; [Baldwin et al. 1981](#)) and  $[O\text{III}]/H\beta$  versus  $[S\text{II}]\lambda\lambda 6717, 6731/H\alpha$  (right; [Veilleux & Osterbrock 1987](#)). Our source (green, purple, and blue filled stars for narrow, outflow, and narrow+outflow line ratios, respectively) has an  $[N\text{II}]/H\alpha$  ratio that is lower than the majority of local SFGs and well separated from the local AGN branch. The  $[N\text{II}]/H\alpha$  and  $[S\text{II}]/H\alpha$  narrow line ratios of GS\_3073 are also much lower than those of massive SFGs at  $1 < z < 3$ , while the  $[O\text{III}]/H\beta$  ratio is above average (e.g. [Steidel et al. 2014](#); [Strom et al. 2017](#); [Curti et al. 2020a](#); [Topping et al. 2020](#); see [Maiolino & Mannucci 2019](#) for a review). Despite being an AGN, the low  $[N\text{II}]/H\alpha$  and  $[S\text{II}]/H\alpha$  line ratios place our source in the star-forming regime of the classical  $z = 0$  line ratio diagnostic diagrams.

Theoretical models have predicted that AGN in the early Universe might populate the ‘star-forming’ regime of the classical line ratio diagnostics, to the left of the  $z = 0$  AGN branch, mainly due to their lower metallicities. This is shown in Fig. 6 with thin stars, crosses, and triangles, which represent model predictions by [Nakajima & Maiolino \(2022\)](#) for AGNs with varying metallicities, ionisation parameters, and power law indices (see also e.g. [Groves et al. 2006](#); [Kewley et al. 2013a](#); [Feltre et al. 2016](#); [Gutkin et al. 2016](#); [Hirschmann et al. 2017, 2019](#); and see [Hirschmann et al. 2022](#) for a study of post-processing cosmological simulations). Models with an accretion disc temperature of  $T_{\text{bb}} = 2 \times 10^5$  K are shown with coloured symbols, while models with  $T_{\text{bb}} = 5 \times 10^4$  K and  $T_{\text{bb}} = 1 \times 10^5$  K are shown as grey symbols.

If we consider theoretical model predictions for early galaxies with massive stars, indicated by blue and purple circles in Fig. 6, they are also in agreement with the location of GS\_3073. These models suggest that the classical line ratio diagnostic diagrams alone cannot be used to distinguish SFGs and AGN in the early Universe. Our data demonstrate that high- $z$  AGN can indeed populate the ‘star-forming’ regime of the classical line ratio diagnostics (see also [Kocevski et al. 2023](#)).

We note that some low-metallicity, low- $z$  AGN were also found in the star-forming region of the classical line ratio diagnostic diagrams, although typically with higher  $[N\text{II}]/H\alpha$  ratios ( $>0.1$ ) than our source (but see also e.g. [Simmonds et al. 2016](#); [Cann et al. 2020](#); [Burke et al. 2021](#)). This can be appreciated through the location of  $z \lesssim 0.3$  AGN with broad Balmer lines by [Hviding et al. \(2022\)](#), indicated with red contours in the left panel of Fig. 6 (see also e.g. [Shirazi & Brinchmann 2012](#); [Kawasaki et al. 2017](#); [Keel et al. 2019](#)).

Since we knew that GS\_3073 is an AGN and we had an estimate of its gas phase metallicity from the narrow line ratios (Sect. 4.4), we used this information together with the theoretical model predictions to further constrain the ionisation parameter,  $U$ , and the power law index of the energy slope between the optical and X-ray bands,  $\alpha$ . Based on our measurement of  $Z_{\text{gas}}/Z_{\odot} = 0.21$ , we focussed on models with  $Z_{\text{gas}} = 0.0028$  (20 percent solar; yellow-green symbols by [Nakajima & Maiolino 2022](#) in Fig. 6) in the BPT diagram (left panel) in which our measured line ratios have the highest S/N. We found that our BPT narrow line ratios are consistent with  $\log(U) = -2.0$  and  $\alpha = -1.2$ .

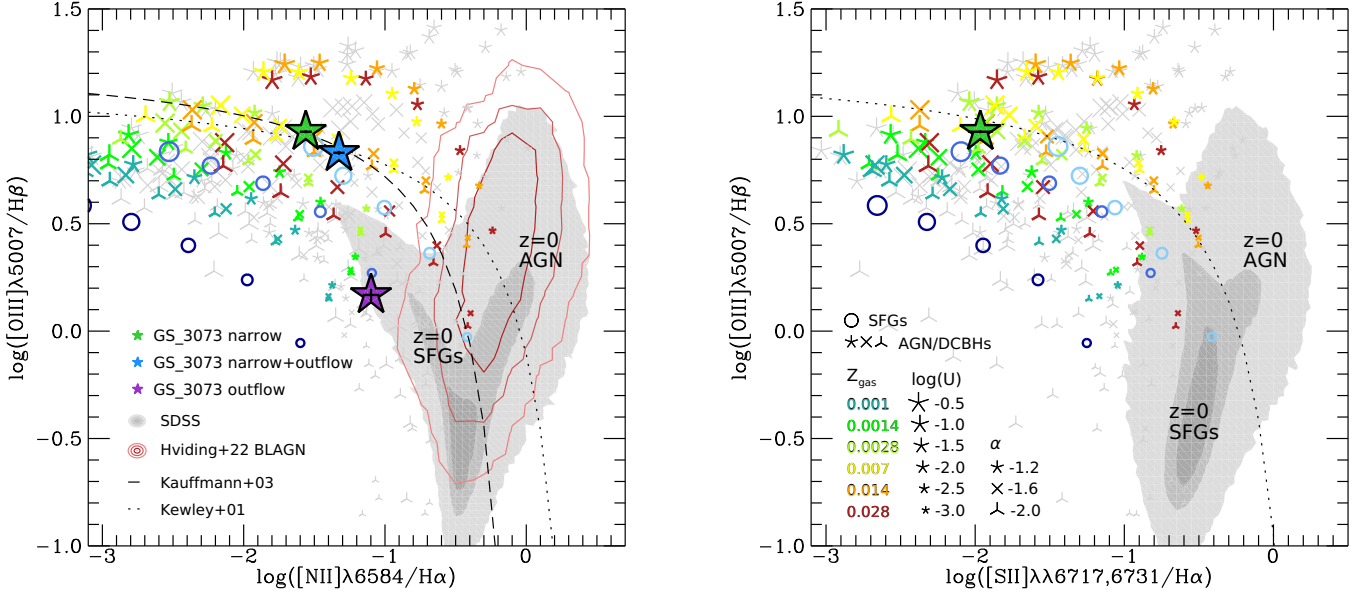
### 5.2. Using He II $\lambda$ 4686 to discriminate SFGs from AGN

To account for the unique conditions in the early Universe, alternative diagnostic diagrams have been proposed to separate SFGs from AGN. Several of them rely on the properties of the He II $\lambda$ 4686 emission we also detected in our galaxy<sup>9</sup> (e.g. [Shirazi & Brinchmann 2012](#); [Bär et al. 2017](#); [Nakajima & Maiolino 2022](#)).

In Fig. 7, we show the placement of our source in two diagnostic diagrams utilising He II $\lambda$ 4686. In the left panel, we show the equivalent width  $EW(\text{He II}\lambda 4686)$  as a function of He II $\lambda$ 4686/ $H\beta$ . This diagram provides constraints on the shape of the ionising spectrum and the temperature of the accretion disc. The presence of He II $\lambda$ 4686 with an ionisation potential of 54.4 eV requires sources of hard ionising radiation. Its equivalent width increases with an increasing fraction of highly ionising photons over non-ionising photons and has therefore been promoted as an indicator of Population III stars (their proposed location is indicated in Fig. 7 by the dotted grey box). He II $\lambda$ 4686/ $H\beta$  effectively constrains the shape of the ionising spectrum through the ratio of ionising photons with  $E > 54.4$  eV to  $E > 13.6$  eV.

The location of GS\_3073 (green, purple, and blue filled stars for the narrow, outflow, narrow+outflow line ratios) in this diagram is better reproduced by models using the high accretion disc temperature of  $T_{\text{bb}} = 2 \times 10^5$  K (symbols connected by the dash-dotted line), possibly indicating an even higher temperature. Notably, a high temperature of the accretion disc is generally associated with smaller black holes. Such a characteristic for this AGN would be in line with the fact that its black hole is smaller than most black holes inferred for more luminous quasars at similar redshift. Both the high equivalent width

<sup>9</sup> He II $\lambda$ 4686 emission can also be associated with Wolf-Rayet stars; however, in this case, the emission is blended with lines such as N III $\lambda$ 4640 to form the so-called blue bump at  $\lambda = 4600\text{--}4680$  Å, which is not seen in GS\_3073 (e.g. [Brinchmann et al. 2008a](#)). Other sources of He II $\lambda$ 4686 have been proposed, including X-ray binaries and fast shocks, to explain observations in some low-redshift, low-metallicity star-forming dwarf galaxies (e.g. [Thuan & Izotov 2005](#); [Kehrig et al. 2015](#); [Schaerer et al. 2019](#); [Umeda et al. 2022](#)). However, for GS\_3073 the AGN nature of the ionising radiation is unambiguous due to the detection of the BLR.



**Fig. 6.** Diagnostic diagrams of  $[\text{O III}]\lambda 5007/\text{H}\beta$  versus  $[\text{N II}]\lambda 6584/\text{H}\alpha$  (left) and  $[\text{O III}]\lambda 5007/\text{H}\beta$  versus  $[\text{S II}]\lambda\lambda 6717, 6731/\text{H}\alpha$  (right). The position of GS\_3073 is indicated with the green, purple, and blue filled stars as constrained by its narrow, outflow, and narrow+outflow line ratios, respectively. Local galaxies from SDSS (Abazajian et al. 2009) are indicated by the grey shading, with the contours encompassing 98, 80, and 50 percent of the sample. The red contours encompass 95, 80, and 50 percent of SDSS broad line AGN as classified by Hviding et al. (2022). The dashed line indicates the demarcation by Kauffmann et al. (2003) between galaxies primarily ionised by SF (left) and AGN (right). The dotted lines by Kewley et al. (2001) include more extreme starbursts or composite objects among the star-forming galaxies to the left. The thin coloured symbols (stars, crosses, triangles) show model grids for AGN and direct collapse black holes by Nakajima & Maiolino (2022) for an accretion disc temperature of  $T_{\text{bb}} = 2 \times 10^5$  K, power law indices constraining the slope between the optical and X-ray bands ( $\alpha = -1.2, -1.6, -2.0$ , corresponding to stars, crosses, triangles), ionisation parameters ( $-3.0 < \log U < -0.5$ , indicated by increasing symbol size), and gas phase metallicities ( $Z_{\text{gas}} = 0.001-0.028$ , teal to red colours). A gas density of  $10^3 \text{ cm}^{-3}$  was assumed. Grey symbols show models with lower  $T_{\text{bb}}$ . The open circles show model grids for galaxies using BPASS SEDs (Eldridge et al. 2017; Stanway & Eldridge 2018), with binary evolution based on a Kroupa (2001) initial mass function with an upper mass cut of  $300 M_{\odot}$  and a stellar age of 10 Myr (see Nakajima & Maiolino 2022 for details). Here, the dark to light colours indicate stellar metallicities in the range  $Z_{\star} = 0.0006-0.0084$ . Compared to these theoretical models, GS\_3073 has line ratios compatible with being either a low-metallicity AGN or a low-metallicity SFG, despite being located within the classical SFG regime in the diagrams.

of  $\text{He II}\lambda 4686$  and the high  $\text{He II}\lambda 4686/\text{H}\beta$  ratio clearly separate our galaxy from model predictions of galaxies without an AGN (blue and purple circles).

The situation is similar for the line ratio diagnostic in the right panel of Fig. 7, which was originally suggested by Shirazi & Brinchmann (2012) to more clearly distinguish sources primarily ionised by SF versus AGN in the local Universe. In this figure, we also show as grey shading  $z = 0$  data by Tozzi et al. (2023), who selected AGN-dominated spaxels (with  $>50\%$  of  $\text{He II}\lambda 4686$  flux excited by the AGN) from galaxies in the Mapping Nearby Galaxies at Apache Point Observatory (MaNGA) survey (Bundy et al. 2015). We note that the authors subtracted any BLR emission before measuring the line ratios. Similar to the BPT diagram, local  $\text{He II}\lambda 4686$ -selected AGN have higher  $[\text{N II}]/\text{H}\alpha$  ratios compared to GS\_3073. Considering the Nakajima & Maiolino (2022) model predictions for early SFGs (circles) and AGN (other small coloured symbols), the separation between SFGs and AGN still prevails at high redshift, even though the demarcation line might evolve over time, as suggested by the placement of the model predictions compared to the  $z = 0$  data.

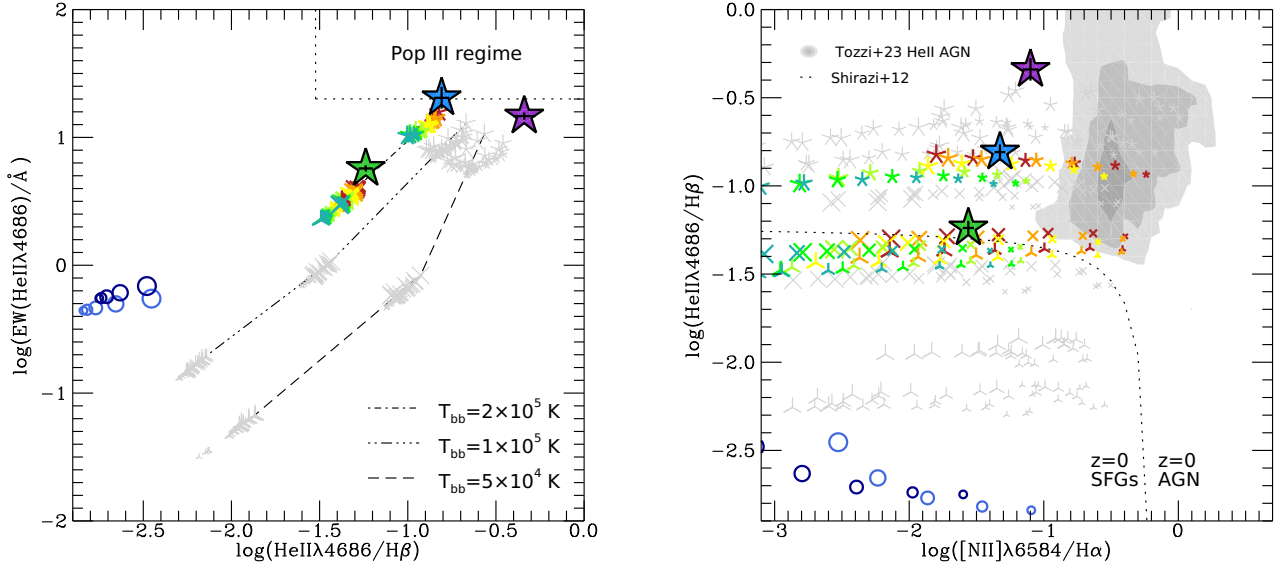
The classical line ratio diagnostic diagrams could not help in identifying the primary ionisation source for the low-metallicity galaxy GS\_3073 (see Sect. 5.1). However, the placement of GS\_3073 in the  $\text{He II}\lambda 4686$  diagnostics, which were discussed with respect to theoretical predictions, suggests that those diagnostics can be used instead.

### 5.3. Massive black holes in the early Universe

Our measurement of  $\log(M_{\text{BH}}/M_{\odot}) \sim 8.2$  from the  $\text{H}\alpha$  BLR is among the few measured ‘lower mass’ black holes at  $z > 5$  (see also Kocovski et al. 2023). Still, the black hole of GS\_3073 appears overly massive compared to local scaling relations by Reines & Volonteri (2015) and Kormendy & Ho (2013) and compared to theoretical model predictions (e.g. Trinca et al. 2023, based on the  $2 \mu\text{m}$  flux; priv. comm.). This finding is similar to other black hole mass measurements at higher redshift.

If black holes at higher redshift are comparatively more massive, this could suggest a more rapid growth of black holes in the early Universe, possibly fuelled by larger gas fractions or more efficient accretion. Higher accretion rates could plausibly be achieved in systems with a higher density. This idea is encapsulated in the analytical model by Chen et al. (2020), where at a fixed stellar mass, smaller SFGs host more massive black holes due to higher central densities. Assuming our fiducial  $R_e = 0.18 \text{ kpc}$  and  $\log(M_{\star}/M_{\odot}) = 9.52$ , their  $M_{\text{BH}}-R_e-M_{\text{star}}$  relation (their Eq. C12) predicts a black hole mass of  $\log(M_{\text{BH}}/M_{\odot}) \sim 7.0$ . This prediction is above the local  $M_{\text{BH}}-M_{\text{star}}$  relation (see Fig. 4) and in line with our findings, but it is still lower than our measurement of  $\log(M_{\text{BH}}/M_{\odot}) \sim 8.2$ .

Interestingly, overly massive black holes are also found in a comparable region of the  $M_{\text{BH}}-M_{\star}$  parameter space in some  $z \lesssim 1$  dwarf galaxy AGN (e.g. Burke et al. 2022; Mezcua et al. 2023;



**Fig. 7.** Diagnostic diagrams of EW(He II  $\lambda 4686$ ) versus He II  $\lambda 4686/\text{H}\beta$  (left) and He II  $\lambda 4686/\text{H}\beta$  versus [N II]  $\lambda 6584/\text{H}\alpha$  (right). The symbols are the same as in Fig. 6: Thin stars, crosses, and triangles show evolved AGN and direct collapse black holes; circles show evolved SFGs; and the position of GS\_3073 is indicated by the large, filled stars (green: narrow, blue: narrow+outflow, purple: outflow). In the left panel, lines of constant  $T_{\text{bb}} = 5 \times 10^4 \text{ K}$ ,  $1 \times 10^5 \text{ K}$ ,  $2 \times 10^5 \text{ K}$  correspond to dashed, dash-triple-dotted, and dash-dotted lines. In the left panel, the dotted region in the top right indicates the regime expected for Pop III stars. In the right panel, narrow line ratios from local He II-selected AGN by Tozzi et al. (2023) are indicated by the grey shading with contours encompassing 94, 80, and 50 percent of the sample. The dotted line indicates the demarcation by Shirazi & Brinchmann (2012) separating SFGs (left) from AGN (right) at  $z = 0$ . In the EW(He II  $\lambda 4686$ ) versus He II  $\lambda 4686/\text{H}\beta$  diagram, GS\_3073 is compatible with an AGN with a hot accretion disc and is clearly separated from SFGs. This is also the case for the He II  $\lambda 4686/\text{H}\beta$  versus [N II]  $\lambda 6584/\text{H}\alpha$  diagnostic (right), although the locally constrained demarcation line by Shirazi & Brinchmann (2012) appears to evolve with redshift if we consider the location of the model predictions, particularly for AGNs with  $\alpha = -2.0$  (thin triangles).

Siudek et al. 2023). These galaxies may evolve onto the local  $M_{\text{bulge}} - M_{\text{BH}}$  relation by  $z = 0$  (Mezcua et al. 2023). Larger black hole masses at earlier times have also been predicted by some cosmological simulations, while others have shown the opposite trend (see Habouzit et al. 2021, 2022). Consolidating a picture of high- $z$  black hole masses in relation to their host galaxy properties over a wide range in masses could therefore serve as a powerful discriminant of feedback implementation.

#### 5.4. AGN feedback and enrichment of the intergalactic medium

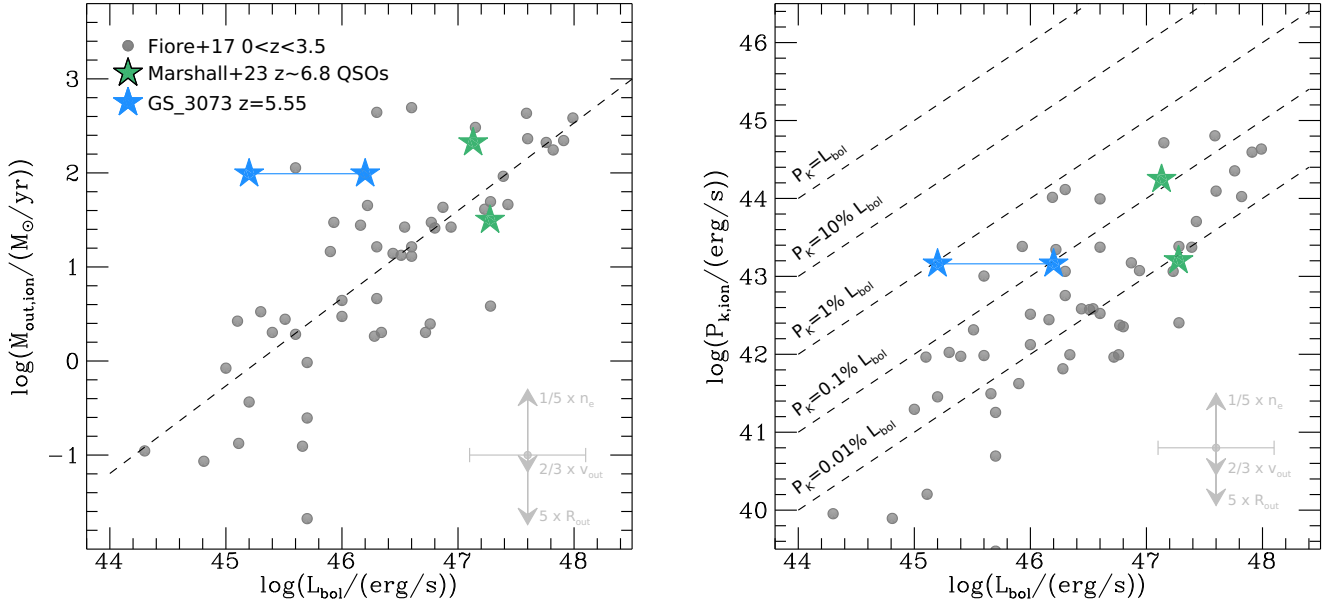
Theoretical work suggests that AGN feedback is crucial in quenching galaxies with host galaxy masses close to the Schechter mass ( $\log(M_{\text{star}}/M_{\odot}) \sim 11$ ; e.g. Di Matteo et al. 2005; Croton et al. 2006; Bower et al. 2006; Hopkins et al. 2006; Cattaneo et al. 2006; Somerville et al. 2008), and this is supported by observational evidence (e.g. Veilleux et al. 2005; McNamara & Nulsen 2007; Fabian 2012; Genzel et al. 2014; Harrison et al. 2014, 2016; Heckman & Best 2014; Förster Schreiber et al. 2014, 2019). Its impact has also been demonstrated empirically (e.g. Penny et al. 2018; Manzano-King et al. 2019; Mezcua et al. 2019; Liu et al. 2020; Davis et al. 2022) and theoretically (e.g. Koudmani et al. 2019, 2021) for galaxies with much lower masses.

In Fig. 8, we compare the mass outflow rate (left) and kinetic power  $P_k = 0.5 \dot{M}_{\text{out}} v_{\text{out}}^2$  (right) measured from the fit to the spectrum of GS\_3073 integrated over the central three by three spaxels (Fig. 2, Sect. 4.3) as a function of the AGN bolometric luminosity to local and lower redshift sources ( $z < 3.5$ ) by Fiore et al. (2017) and to two  $z \sim 6.8$  QSOs by Marshall et al. (2023). The outflow energetics of GS\_3073 are consistent with the scaling derived from the lower- $z$  data, suggesting that the

driving mechanisms in  $z > 5$  AGN do not differ strongly from their lower- $z$  counterparts. Interestingly, the kinetic power is only  $\sim 0.1 - 1.0\%$  of the radiative luminosity of the AGN. This is generally considered as an indication of the outflow being rather ineffective at depositing energy into the ISM and therefore providing no major feedback to the galaxy, at least not in the direct ejective mode. As predicted by many theoretical models (e.g. Gabor & Bournaud 2014; Roos et al. 2015; Bower et al. 2017; Nelson et al. 2019; Zinger et al. 2020), while the ionised outflow may have little impact on the ISM (possibly because of poor coupling), it can potentially escape into the circum-galactic medium (CGM). Thus, it may contribute to its heating and hence suppress fresh gas accretion and possibly result in delayed feedback in the form of starvation.

We emphasise that the quantities discussed here and shown in Fig. 8 are subject to substantial uncertainties. As mentioned in Sect. 4.3, the unknown electron density of the outflowing material and the uncertain outflow geometry hamper a robust estimate of  $\dot{M}_{\text{out,ion}}$  and  $P_{k,\text{ion}}$ . As a reference for  $\dot{M}_{\text{out,ion}}$  and  $P_{k,\text{ion}}$  in Fig. 8, we indicate with arrows how much they would change if  $n_e$ ,  $R_{\text{out}}$ , or  $v_{\text{out}}$  were different by factors 1/5, 5, and 2/3, respectively. Changes in these quantities due to a different definition of the outflow velocity or a different assumption on the gas density or the extent of the outflow dominate the uncertainties (see Sect. 4.3). For the uncertainty on  $L_{\text{bol}}$ , we indicate 0.5 dex, which is motivated by the range of values derived for GS\_3073 and the estimate by Fiore et al. (2017).

We measured relatively large projected outflow velocities and estimated a high mass loading factor for GS\_3073 based on our fit to the integrated spectrum over the central three by three spaxels (Fig. 2, Sect. 4.3). At the same time, we inferred a relatively low dynamical mass for our galaxy (Sect. 4.2). This suggests that indeed a substantial fraction of the material expelled



**Fig. 8.** Mass outflow rate  $\dot{M}_{\text{out,ion}}$  (left) and kinetic power  $P_{k,\text{ion}}$  (right) of the warm ionised gas phase as a function of AGN bolometric luminosity  $L_{\text{bol}}$ . The grey circles show ionised gas outflows at  $0 < z < 3.5$  by Fiore et al. (2017), the green stars show two  $z \sim 6.8$  QSOs from the GA-IFS GTO programme by Marshall et al. (2023), and the blue stars show the range of bolometric luminosities inferred for GS\_3073, as discussed in Sect. 4.1. We have scaled the measurements by Fiore et al. (2017) and Marshall et al. (2023) to correspond to an electron density in the outflow of  $n_e = 1000 \text{ cm}^{-3}$ , as assumed in this work. For  $L_{\text{bol}}$ , we indicate a representative error bar of 0.5 dex, and for  $\dot{M}_{\text{out,ion}}$  and  $P_{k,\text{ion}}$ , we indicate how much they would change if  $n_e$ ,  $R_{\text{out}}$ , or  $v_{\text{out}}$  were different by factors 1/5, 5, and 2/3, respectively (see main text for details). The dashed line in the left panel is a linear fit in logarithmic scales to the data by Fiore et al. (2017). The dashed lines in the right panel show constant ratios of  $P_k$  and  $L_{\text{bol}}$ . The outflow energetics of GS\_3073 in relation to the bolometric AGN luminosity are consistent with lower- $z$  scaling relations, suggesting that the driving mechanisms in  $z > 5$  AGN do not differ from their lower- $z$  counterparts.

by the outflow could escape the potential well of the galaxy and enrich the CGM and even the intergalactic medium.

To quantify this, we estimated the escape velocity at radius  $r$  assuming an isothermal sphere following Arribas et al. (2014) as

$$v_{\text{esc}} \approx \sqrt{\frac{2M_{\text{dyn}}G[1 + \ln(r_{\text{max}}/r)]}{3r}}, \quad (4)$$

where  $r_{\text{max}}$  is the truncation or halo radius. Evaluating at  $r = R_e = 0.18 \text{ kpc}$  with  $r_{\text{max}} = 100r$ , we found  $v_{\text{esc}} \sim 490 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ . Comparing this to our measured outflow velocity of  $v_{\text{out}} = 685 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ , with some material reaching velocities of few  $1000 \text{ km s}^{-1}$  as based on the outflow [OIII] component, this indicates that a sizeable fraction of the outflowing gas could indeed escape the galaxy's potential well. From the distribution of outflow velocities in our best fit outflow components, we found that about 10–40 percent of the emitting ionised gas has velocities in excess of  $v_{\text{esc}} \sim 490 \text{ km s}^{-1}$  when considering both the components around H $\alpha$  and around [OIII]. This suggests that at least 10–40  $M_{\odot} \text{ yr}^{-1}$  of warm ionised gas could escape the galaxy potential if feedback would sustain the measured outflow velocities and mass outflow rates. This material could thus contribute to metal enrichment of the intergalactic medium at this early time in cosmic history.

We note that this estimate likely represents a lower limit for two reasons: First, the measured outflow velocities are projected (i.e. intrinsic outflow velocities will be even larger). Second, we do not account for gas phases other than warm ionised gas plausibly entrenched in the outflow. In particular, we expect contributions from cold gas (molecular and neutral) that likely dominate the outflow mass budget (see e.g. Rupke & Veilleux 2013; Herrera-Camus et al. 2019;

Roberts-Borsani 2020; Fluetsch et al. 2021; Avery et al. 2022; Baron et al. 2022; Cresci et al. 2023).

## 6. Conclusions and outlook

We have presented deep JWST/NIRSpec-IFS data of the galaxy GS\_3073 at  $z = 5.55$ . We focussed on the high spectral resolution spectrum (G395H,  $R \sim 2700$ ) obtained with 5 h on source, and we also used a shorter exposure (1 h) prism spectrum ( $R \sim 100$ ). The high-resolution spectrum revealed about 20 rest-frame optical nebular emission lines, some of which were detected with very high S/N, and another 14 lines/doublets are visible in the prism spectrum. The main results of our analysis are as follows:

- Permitted lines, such as H $\alpha$ , H $\beta$ , He I, and He II, are characterised by a broad component (not observed in the forbidden lines) that can be unambiguously interpreted as tracing the BLR around an accreting SMBH and clearly identifying GS\_3073 as an AGN (type 1.8).
- From the narrow line ratios, we measured a gas phase metallicity of  $Z_{\text{gas}}/Z_{\odot} \sim 0.21$ , which is lower than what has been inferred for both more luminous AGN at a similar redshift and lower- $z$  AGN.
- We empirically showed that classical line ratio diagnostics (Baldwin et al. 1981; Veilleux & Osterbrock 1987) cannot be used to distinguish between the primary ionisation source (AGN or SF) for such low-metallicity systems, whereas different diagnostic diagrams involving He II $\lambda$ 4686 proved useful.
- We measured the central black hole mass of GS\_3073 to be  $\log(M_{\text{BH}}/M_{\odot}) \sim 8.2$ . While this places our galaxy at the lower end of known high- $z$  black hole masses, it still appears

to be overly massive compared to its host galaxy properties, such as stellar mass or dynamical mass.

- We detected an outflow with velocity  $v_{\text{out}} = 685 \text{ km s}^{-1}$  and a mass outflow rate of about  $100 M_{\odot} \text{ yr}^{-1}$ , suggesting that one billion years after the Big Bang, GS\_3073 is able to enrich the intergalactic medium with metals.

Additional JWST data, especially spectroscopic surveys utilising the micro-shutter assembly, will certainly uncover more AGN like the one presented in this paper and will allow an assessment of the AGN and black hole population in the early Universe. It will also be possible to study the impact of early AGN feedback on the first massive galaxies, especially with follow-up IFS observations.

Our paper highlights that the detection of AGN cannot rely entirely on the classical diagnostic diagrams that have been developed and used locally and at intermediate redshifts ( $z \sim 1-3$ ). Other techniques have to be adopted, and the detection of broad components of the permitted lines (not accompanied by similar components on the forbidden lines) provide a clear and unambiguous way to identify accreting black holes. We note that this method requires a spectral resolution of at least  $R > 500$  in order to properly identify and disentangle broad and narrow components. Within this context, the spectral resolution of NIRSpect's Prism may be insufficient for this methodology, even in its reddest part where its spectral resolution reaches  $R \sim 300$ . The medium-resolution gratings are optimally suited for the detection of broad components. The high-resolution gratings, such as the one adopted in this paper, are excellent for detailed modelling of the line profile when the S/N is very high, but it may miss broad wings in the noise in the case of lower S/N spectra.

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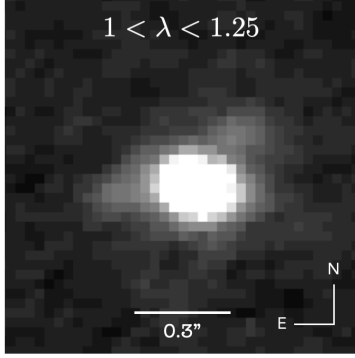
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## Appendix A: Environment of GS\_3073 at $\sim 1\mu\text{m}$



**Fig. A.1.** Image from the R100 data cube combined with a pixel scale of  $0.03''$  in the wavelength range  $1\mu\text{m} < \lambda < 1.25\mu\text{m}$ . North is up and east is to the left. In addition to the bright central source, faint emission was detected in the east and north-west and is either associated with the AGN host galaxy GS\_3073 or low-mass companions.

In Figure A.1, we show a log scale map based on the R100 data summing the flux in the observed wavelength range  $1\mu\text{m} < \lambda < 1.25\mu\text{m}$ . In addition to the central core of GS\_3073, two regions of faint emission become apparent in the east and north-west. The faint flux to the east could arguably be associated with a low-mass companion coincident with a kinematically distinct region of high narrow line velocities (see top centre and middle centre panels in Figure 3). To the north-west there is no distinct kinematic feature visible in our spatially resolved maps, but the [O III] outflow velocities are more redshifted in this region. It is conceivable that we are actually picking up emission from a faint companion. We note that Grazian et al. (2020) speculated that the [C II] emission associated with GS\_3073 (Le Fèvre et al. 2020; Barchiesi et al. 2023) could indicate an ongoing merger

with a dusty companion, possibly fuelling the AGN activity of GS\_3073.

## Appendix B: Line fluxes of He I

**Table B.1.** Total (narrow+outflow+BLR) emission line fluxes of the He I lines detected in the integrated spectrum of GS\_3073 as constrained through our best fit (Section 3.2), normalised to He I $\lambda$ 4471.

Line	Flux/ $F_{\text{He I}\lambda 4471}$
He I $\lambda$ 4471	1.00
He I $\lambda$ 4713 <sup>a</sup>	$0.6 \pm 0.2$
He I $\lambda$ 4922	$0.9 \pm 0.4$
He I $\lambda$ 5876	$10.1 \pm 2.6$
He I $\lambda$ 6678	$5.4 \pm 1.4$
He I $\lambda$ 7065	$12.5 \pm 3.2$
He I $\lambda$ 7281	$1.3 \pm 0.5$

<sup>a</sup>Blended with [Ar IV] $\lambda$ 4711.

In Table B.1, we report the total (narrow+outflow+BLR) line fluxes of the seven He I lines detected in the integrated spectrum of GS\_3073 (see Figure 1) normalised to the total line flux of He I $\lambda$ 4471. We verified that choosing a larger aperture would not significantly modify the line ratios. We note that He I $\lambda$ 4713 is uncertain due to blending with [Ar IV] $\lambda$ 4711. We found that He I $\lambda$ 7065 is particularly strong compared to theoretical predictions (e.g. Smits 1996; Benjamin et al. 1999; Del Zanna & Storey 2022), which has also been seen in some other data sets (see e.g. Benjamin et al. 1999). Knowledge of relative He I intensities may be useful in reproducing more complex spectra of type 1 AGN showing prominent Fe II emission in addition to He I (see e.g. Véron-Cetty et al. 2004; Perna et al. 2021).

