

A catalogue of H α emission-line point sources in the vicinity fields of M 31 and M 33 from the LAMOST survey

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Abstract We present a catalogue of 3305 H α emission-line point sources observed with the Large Sky Area Multi-Object Fiber Spectroscopic Telescope (LAMOST) in the vicinity fields of M 31 and M 33 during September 2011 and January 2016. The catalogue contains 1487 emission-line stars, 532 emission-line nebulae including 377 likely planetary nebulae (PNe), 83 H II region candidates and 20 possible supernova remnants (SNRs) and 1286 unknown objects. Among them, 24 PN candidates, 19 H II region candidates, 10 SNR candidates and one symbiotic star candidate are new discoveries. Radial velocities and fluxes estimated from the H α line and those quantities of seven other major emission lines including H β , [O III] λ 4959, [O III] λ 5007, [N II] λ 6548, [N II] λ 6583, [S II] λ 6717 and [S II] λ 6731 lines of all the catalogued sources yielded from the LAMOST spectra are also presented in our catalogue. Our catalogue is an ideal starting point to study the chemistry properties and kinematics of M 31 and M 33.

Key words: galaxies: individual (M 31, M 33) — stars: emission-line — planetary nebulae: general — H II regions

1 INTRODUCTION

The Andromeda Galaxy (M 31), the closest spiral galaxy and the most dominant member of the Local Group, is always one of the most interesting targets for astronomers. The Triangulum Galaxy (M 33), located in the southeast of M 31 (about 15° away), is the third most massive member in the Local Group. A large number of works have been carried out to investigate the properties and to conjecture the accretion and evolution history of the stellar substructures and dwarf galaxies in the halo of M 31 and M 33 in recent years (e.g., Ibata et al. 2001; Ferguson et al. 2002; Kalirai et al. 2006; Gilbert et al. 2007; Ibata et al. 2007; Gilbert et al. 2009; McConnachie et al. 2009; Tanaka et al. 2010 and references therein). Most of these studies are based on the photometric data. Due to the large distances of M 31 and M 33 (783±25 kpc for M 31 and 809±24 kpc for

M 33; McConnachie et al. 2005), it is challenging for the present ground and space telescopes to give spectroscopic observations for the individual M 31 and M 33 objects, except for some very bright objects, such as the globular clusters and emission-line sources including the planetary nebulae (PNe) and H II regions. The emission-line objects, whose energies are concentrated on a few emission lines, are excellent tracers for the study of the kinematics and chemistry properties of their host galaxies.

Many efforts have been made to identify and study the emission-line objects in M 31 and M 33. More than 30 years ago, Nolthenius & Ford (1984) have identified 34 PNe in M 31. Merrett et al. (2006) have presented a catalogue of 3300 emission-line objects in the M 31 area from the Planetary Nebular Spectrograph Survey. 2730 of them are likely PNe, including 2615 objects belonging to M 31 and the remaining objects associating with the

satellite galaxies and substructures of M 31. Azimlu et al. (2011) have presented a catalogue of 3691 H II regions in M 31 from the observations by the Mosaic Camera of the Mayall telescope and investigated the H α luminosity function of M 31. Sanders et al. (2012) have studied the metallicity profile of M 31 based on the spectra of hundreds of H II regions and PNe observed by the Multiple Mirror Telescope (MMT). Lin et al. (2017) have observed 413 H II regions in M 33 with MMT and analyzed the detail temperatures and oxygen abundances distributions of M 33. Martin et al. (2018) have presented a catalogue of about 800 emission-line point-like sources in the central region of M 31 based on the observation from Canada-France-Hawaii Telescope. Li et al. (2018) obtained optical spectra of 77 PNe in the circumnuclear region of M 31 using the WIYN/Hydra multi-fiber spectrograph.

With 4000 fibers in a field of view of 20 deg², the Large Sky Area Multi-Object Fiber Spectroscopic Telescope (LAMOST; Cui et al. 2004) is a powerful facility to archive spectra of millions of detectable objects. As an extension part of the LAMOST Spectroscopic Survey of the Galactic Anti-center (LSS-GAC; Liu et al. 2014; Yuan et al. 2015), the LAMOST M 31/M 33 survey targets interesting objects in the vicinity fields of M 31 and M 33, including the detectable objects in M 31 and M 33, such as the supergiants, PNe (Yuan et al. 2010; Xiang et al. 2017), H II regions and globular clusters (Chen et al. 2015, 2016), background quasars (Huo et al. 2010, 2013, 2015) and foreground Galactic stars.

In this paper, we will present a systematic search of the H α emission-line point sources in the vicinity fields of M 31 and M 33, based on the LAMOST M 31/M 33 survey data observed during October 2011 and January 2016.

The paper is organized as follows. In Section 2, we briefly introduce the LAMOST observation and data reduction. Section 3 shows the selection of the H α emission-line point sources and Section 4 gives the results. Finally we summarize in Section 5.

2 LAMOST OBSERVATION AND DATA REDUCTION

Objects targeted by LAMOST in the M 31 and M 33 region include known and candidate objects in M 31 and M 33, such as PNe, supergiants, H II regions and globular clusters, known and candidate background quasars, and foreground Galactic stars. An overview of the target selection of the LAMOST M 31/M 33 survey can be referred to Yuan et al. (2015). The LAMOST M 31/M 33 survey are targeted by LAMOST telescope from September to January of the next year in each observational season. The typical total exposure time, depending on the weather conditions, are 600–1200 s, 1200–1800 s and 1800–2400 s for bright (B),

medium (M) and faint (F) plates, respectively. For most plates, the seeing varies between 3 and 4 arcsec, with a typical value of about 3.5 arcsec (Yuan et al. 2015).

This work is based on spectra observed by LAMOST during September 2011 and January 2016. In total, 1 114 164 spectra have been collected by the LAMOST M 31/M 33 survey. Raw data was reduced by the LAMOST two-dimensional (2D) pipeline (Luo et al. 2015), including procedures of bias subtraction, cosmic ray removal, 1D spectral extraction, flat field correction, wavelength calibration and sky subtraction. The LAMOST spectra are separately recorded in blue (3700–5900 Å) and red (5700–9000 Å) arms. The blue and red spectra are processed by the 2D pipeline independently and combined together after the flux calibration, which is processed by an algorithm specifically designed for the LSS-GAC survey (Xiang et al. 2015). The final combined 1D spectra are then adopted to search for the H α emission-line objects and to obtain their properties in this work.

3 SELECTIONS OF H α EMISSION-LINE POINT SOURCES

We first select objects with spectra that have H α emission-line by the criteria of signal-to-noise ratio in the wavelength of 6563 Å larger than 5. This yields a sample of 23 976 H α emission-line candidates. Their H α line profiles are then fitted by Gaussian functions and checked by naked eyes. Any bad spectrum that has poor flat-fielding or sky subtraction is then excluded. As a result, this yields 4448 unique objects as H α line emission-line sources. Figure 1 shows an example of the Gaussian fitting of the H α emission line for an example object.

In the current work, we are only interested in the H α emission-line point sources. To exclude the extended sources such as the background galaxies and dwarf galaxies from our sample, we adopt the images and photometric catalogue of the Panoramic Survey Telescope and Rapid Response System-1 (Pan-STARRS 1; Kaiser et al. 2002, 2010). 795 candidates that are flagged as extended sources in the Pan-STARRS 1 catalogue are first excluded in our sample. The Pan-STARRS 1 *r*-band images of all the remaining objects are visually examined to make sure that all sources in our sample are point sources and free from any contaminants.

There are usually two to three singular explosions for each LAMOST observation. Finally, we have visually examined the singular exposure spectra of the remaining sources and remove objects with fake H α emission line which appear in only one of those singular explosion spectra. As a result, we obtain 3305 unique H α emission-line point sources as our final sample.

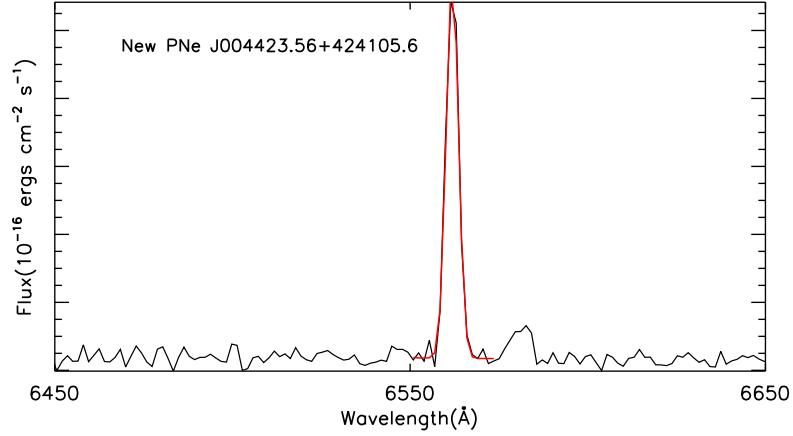


Fig. 1 The Gaussian fitting of the H α emission line for object J00423.56+424105.6. The *black* and *red* lines show the LAMOST spectrum and the fitting results, respectively.

Table 1 Description of the Catalogue

Column	Name	Description
1	ID	Object ID
2	name	Object name
3	RA	Right Ascension (J2000)
4	Dec	Declination (J2000)
5	plate	LAMOST Plate ID
6	spid	LAMOST Spectrograph ID
7	fbid	LAMOST Fiber ID
8	mjd	Observed MJD
9	objtype	Object type tagged in the input catalogue
10	Vha	Radial velocity estimated from H α line
11	Vhaerr	Uncertainty of radial velocity estimated from H α line
12	fluxha	Flux of H α line
13	fluxhaerr	Uncertainty of flux of H α line
14	Vhb	Radial velocity estimated from H β line
15	Vhberr	Uncertainty of radial velocity estimated from H β line
16	fluxhb	Flux of H β line
17	fluxhberr	Uncertainty of flux of H β line
18	V4959	Radial velocity estimated from [O III] λ 4959 line
19	V4959err	Uncertainty of radial velocity estimated from [O III] λ 4959 line
20	flux4959	Flux of [O III] λ 4959 line
21	flux4959err	Uncertainty of flux of [O III] λ 4959 line
22	V5007	Radial velocity estimated from [O III] λ 5007 line
23	V5007err	Uncertainty of radial velocity estimated from [O III] λ 5007 line
24	flux5007	Flux of [O III] λ 5007 line
25	flux5007err	Uncertainty of flux of [O III] λ 5007 line
26	V6548	Radial velocity estimated from [N II] λ 6548 line
27	V6548err	Uncertainty of radial velocity estimated from [N II] λ 6548 line
28	flux6548	Flux of [N II] λ 6548 line
29	flux6548err	Uncertainty of flux of [N II] λ 6548 line
30	V6583	Radial velocity estimated from [N II] λ 6583 line
31	V6583err	Uncertainty of radial velocity estimated from [N II] λ 6583 line
32	flux6583	Flux of [N II] λ 6583 line
33	flux6583err	Uncertainty of flux of [N II] λ 6583 line
34	V6717	Radial velocity estimated from [S II] λ 6717 line
35	V6717err	Uncertainty of radial velocity estimated from [S II] λ 6717 line
36	flux6717	Flux of [S II] λ 6717 line
37	flux6717err	Uncertainty of flux of [S II] λ 6717 line
38	V6731	Radial velocity estimated from [S II] λ 6731 line
39	V6731err	Uncertainty of radial velocity estimated from [S II] λ 6731 line
40	flux6731	Flux of [S II] λ 6731 line
41	flux6731err	Uncertainty of flux of [S II] λ 6731 line
42	type	Object classification of this work

Table 2 Summary of the Catalogue

	Type	Number
Emission stars	New symbiotic star candidate	1
	Others (M dwarfs and B[e] stars, etc.)	1486
Emission Nebulae	Literature PNe	353
	New PN candidates	24
	Literature H II regions	64
	New H II region candidates	19
	Literature SNRs	10
	New SNR candidates	10
	Objects with [O III] λ 5007 flux < 3	52
Others	Galaxies and unknown objects	1286

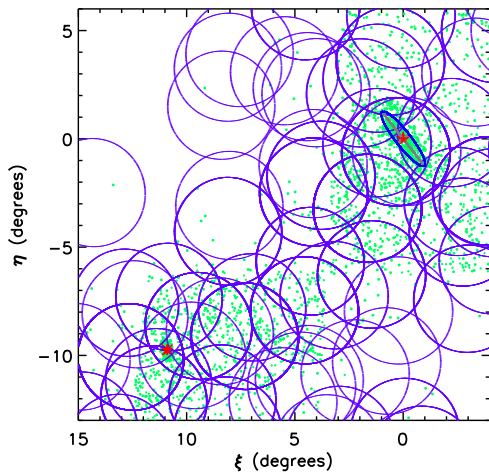


Fig. 2 Spatial distributions of H α emission-line point sources in the vicinity fields of M31 and M33. The *purple circles* mark the LAMOST plates. The *red stars* show the center of M31 and M33, respectively. The *blue elliptic* with a semi-major radius of 95.3 arcmin marks the disk region of M31.

4 RESULTS

Our catalogue is available in electronic form in the online version of this manuscript. Table 1 describes the data format of the catalogue. Each row of the catalogue contains the ID, name, coordinates and LAMOST observational information, such as the Plate ID, Spectrograph ID, Fiber ID, observed MJD and the object type tagged in the input catalogue, of the catalogued objects. Multiple observations of the same object are listed together with the same ID and object name. Figure 2 shows the spatial distribution of all the catalogued H α emission-line point sources in the vicinity fields of M31 and M33 in the ξ - η plane. Here ξ and η are respectively the right ascension and declination offsets relative to the optical center of M31.

For all the catalogued objects, we have made Gaussian fits to their H α emission lines. If there are other prominent emission lines such as H β , [O III] λ 4959, [O III] λ 5007, [N II] λ 6548, [N II] λ 6583, [S II] λ 6717 and [S II] λ 6731 lines in the spectra, the Gaussian profile fits are also ap-

plied to these lines. Some of the emission lines (e.g., H α and [N II] λ 6583 lines) are located in narrow wavelength ranges. In those cases, the spectra are fitted by multiple Gaussian profiles, with one Gaussian component corresponding to one emission line. The center wavelength and integrated area of the Gaussian profiles define the radial velocities and fluxes of the corresponding lines. The resulted properties such as the radial velocity and flux of the H α and seven other prominent emission lines (H β , [O III] λ 4959, [O III] λ 5007, [N II] λ 6548, [N II] λ 6583, [S II] λ 6717 and [S II] λ 6731) are also listed in our catalogue.

There are 745 duplicate observations for our catalogued objects. In Figure 3 we show the distribution of the differences of radial velocities from the H α line deduced from the duplicate observations. The rms of the differences is about 15 km s $^{-1}$, which indicate a internal uncertainty of about 10 km s $^{-1}$ for the H α line radial velocities.

Our H α emission-line point source catalogue consists of objects of different types, including the emission-line object such as PNe, H II regions and supernova remnants (SNRs) in M31 and M33 and the Galactic emission-line stars. We cross-match our sample with the SIMBAD Astronomical Database and find 575 of them been classified, including 213 PNe, 161 emission-line stars and some other types of objects such as H II regions and SNRs. However, as some of the SIMBAD sources are identified by only photometric data. Their classification would be incorrect. In the current work, we will provide new classifications to the catalogued objects based on information of the LAMOST spectroscopic observations. The new classifications are also listed in the catalogue and a summary is given in Table 2.

4.1 Emission-Line Stars

Based on their LAMOST spectra, the catalogued objects can be roughly divided into two groups, one group of objects with significant continuum spectrum and the other group without. There are 1487 objects in our catalogue belonging to the first group. Most of them have spectra of typical stars and have only the H α emission lines. We clas-

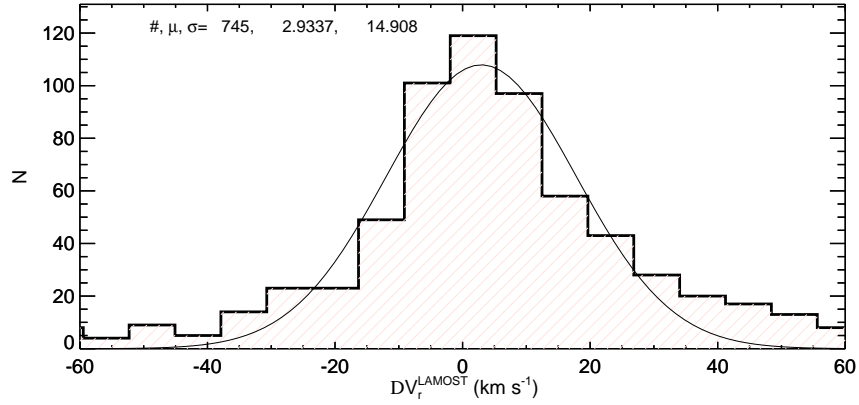


Fig. 3 Histogram of the differences of radial velocities from H α line deduced from duplicate observations of the same targets. A Gaussian fit to the distribution is overlotted, with the number of objects with duplicate observations, and the mean and dispersion of the Gaussian marked.

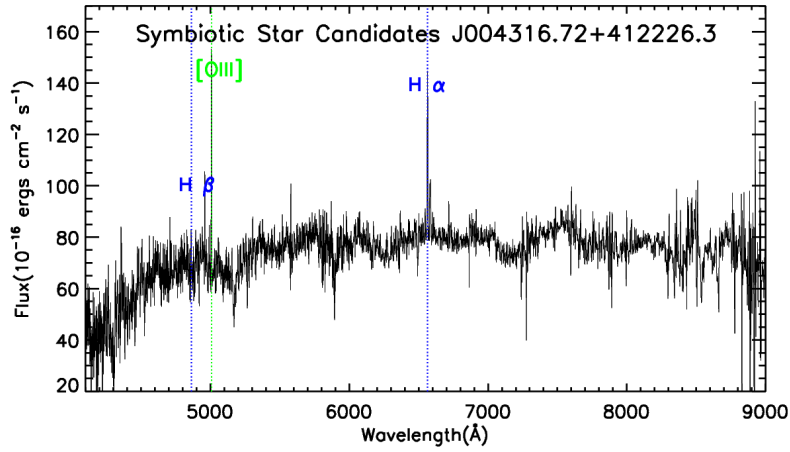


Fig. 4 LAMOST spectrum of a possible symbiotic star LAMOST J004316.72+412226.3. Vertical lines with different colors mark the positions of the different emission lines.

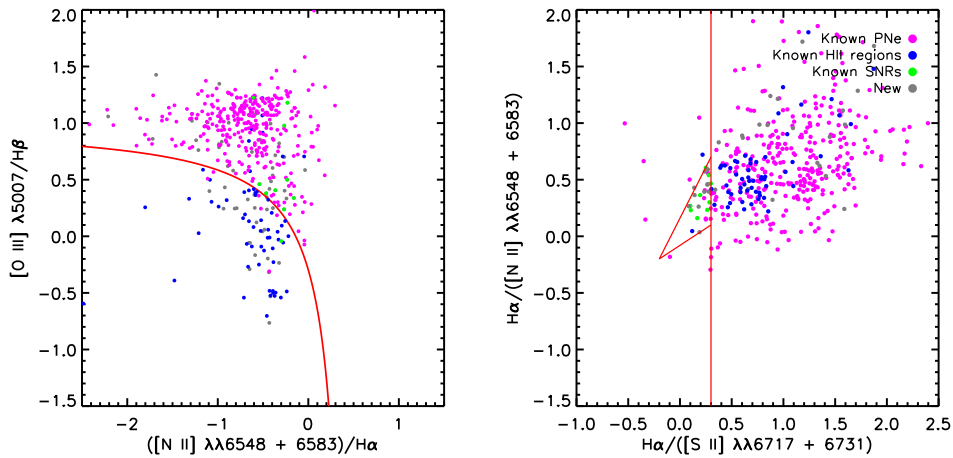


Fig. 5 The BPT (left) and SMB (right) diagrams of our catalogued emission-line nebulae with strong [O III] λ 5007 emission (grey dots). Known PNe, H II regions and SNRs are plotted as pink, blue and green dots, respectively. The red line in the left panel marks the line we adopted to separate PNe and H II regions while those in the right panel are the criterion we adopted to select the SNR candidates (see text for details).

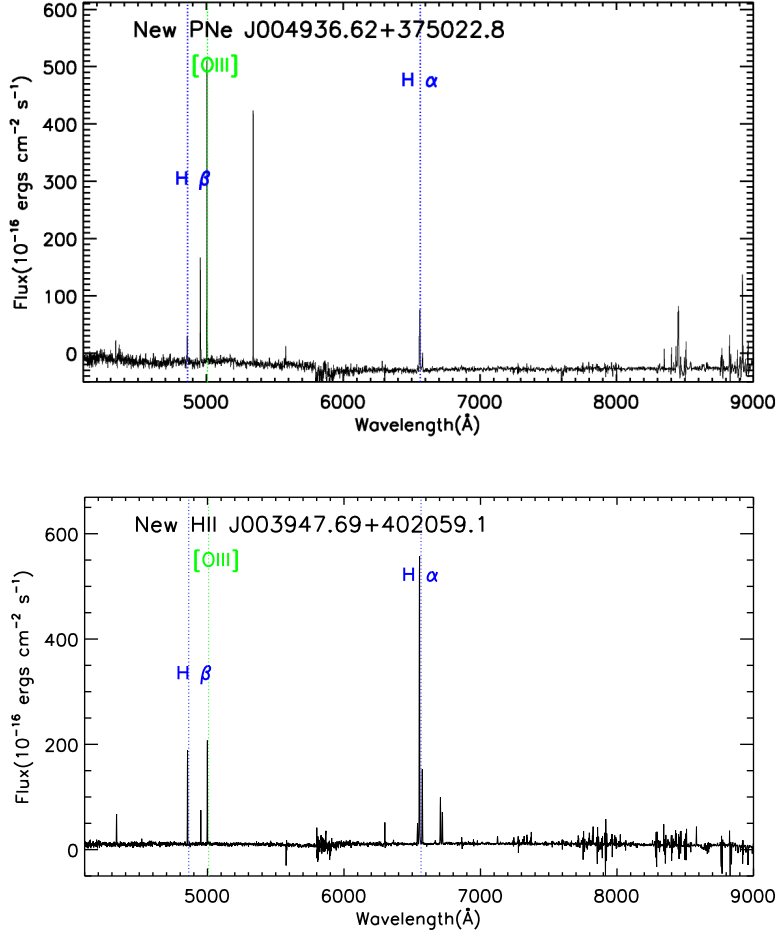


Fig. 6 LAMOST spectra of a PN candidate LAMOST J004936.62+375022.8 (upper panel) and a H II region candidate LAMOST J003947.69+402059.1 (bottom panel). Vertical lines with different colors mark the positions of the different emission lines.

sify them as emission-line stars in the current work. Most of the emission-line stars are M dwarfs displaying strong TiO bands. There are also several B[e] stars, which are B-type main-sequence sub-giant or giant stars with prominent Balmer emission, and some novae.

One of our catalogued object, LAMOST J004316.72 + 412226.3, has a spectrum that is very likely to be a symbiotic star. Symbiotic stars are interacting binaries which usually contain a white dwarf and a red giant (Mikołajewska et al. 2014). The spectrum of a symbiotic star usually presents both the feature of a late-type M giant and strong emission lines such as the Balmer H I lines and the [O III] λ 5007 forbidden lines. The possible symbiotic star LAMOST J004316.72+412226.3 we find in the current work was classified as a PN in Halliday et al. (2006). Its LAMOST spectrum is displayed in Figure 4. The spectrum shows typical features of M stars in the red band and hot stars in the blue band. The emission lines of H α and [O III] λ 5007 lines are significant. However, due to the low resolution and limited signal-to-noise ratio of the

LAMOST spectrum, follow up observations of this object are needed for any further confirmation.

4.2 Emission-Line Nebulae

In our catalogue, there are 532 objects which display no obvious continuum spectra but have abundant emission lines. They are possible PNe, H II regions, and SNRs.

To exclude the contamination of early type stars, in the current work, we classify only the sources with strong emission of [O III] λ 5007 line. These are objects of high electron excitation states, i.e., PNe, H II regions and SNRs. In the current work, we have selected 480 sources with [O III] λ 5007 fluxes greater than 3. To distinguish the PNe, H II regions and SNRs from each others, we adopt the commonly used “Baldwin, Phillips & Terlevich” (BPT) and “Sabbadin, Minello & Biancini” (SMB) diagrams. The BPT diagram, which demonstrate how PNe can be distinguished from H II regions on the basis of their [O III] λ 5007/H β (noted as ‘O3’) and ([N II] λ 6548 +

6583)/H α (noted as ‘N2’) flux ratios (Baldwin et al. 1981), is then adopted to classify the PNe and H II region candidates in our catalogue. Comparing to PN and H II region, the sulfur in SNR is usually found in a wide range of ionization states and the nitrogen emission line of SNR is sensitive to the presence of its radiative shock. We thus adopt the SMB diagram which separate the SNRs from PNe and H II regions by H α /([N II] $\lambda\lambda$ 6548 + 6583) (noted as ‘n2’) and H α /([S II] $\lambda\lambda$ 6717 + 6731) (noted as ‘s2’) flux ratios (Sabbadin et al. 1977; Canto 1981 and Riesgo & López 2006). Figure 5 shows the BPT and SMB diagrams of our catalogued emission-line nebulae with strong emission lines of [O III] λ 5007. As a result, we have identified 377 likely PNe, 83 possible H II regions and 20 SNRs candidates in our catalogue.

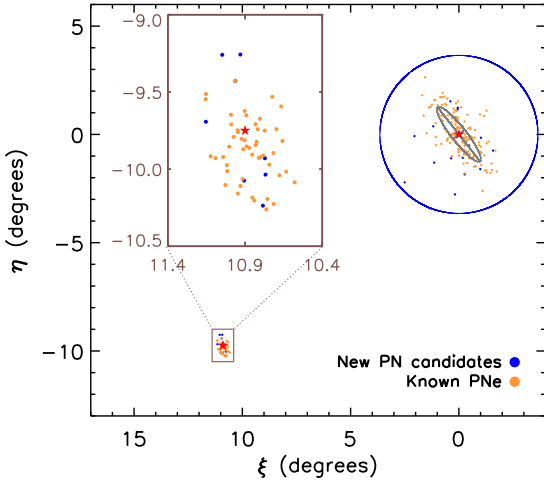


Fig. 7 The spatial distribution of the new PN candidates (blue dots) and known PNe from SIMBAD (orange dots) in our catalogue. Red star symbols mark the center of the M31 and M33 and the grey ellipse the M31 disk region with a semi-major radius of 95.3 arcmin. The blue circle shows the region with a projected distance of 50 kpc to the M31 center.

4.2.1 Planetary nebulae

The curve $O3 > 0.61/(N2 - 0.47) + 1.0$ (Sanders et al. 2012) separates the PNe and H II regions nicely (Fig. 5). It is adopted in the current work to select the PNe and we have identified 377 PN candidates in our catalogue, including 353 known PNe from the literature and 24 new discoveries. The spectrum of an example PN candidate is shown in Figure 6. The spatial distribution of all the PN candidates is shown in Figure 7. Most of the PN candidates are distributed in the disk regions of M31 and M33. However, some of the PN candidates, especially those newly discovered ones, are located in the halo regions of M31 and M33. They are valuable for us to study the chemistry and kine-

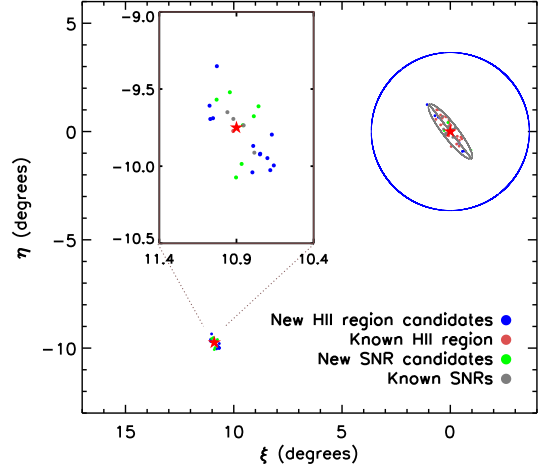


Fig. 8 Similar as Fig. 7 but for H II regions and SNRs. Known and newly identified candidate H II regions, as well as known and new SNR candidates are plotted with brown, blue, grey and green dots, respectively.

matics of the halos of M31 and M33 as well as streams in the halos.

4.2.2 H II regions

From the BPT diagram, we have identified 83 H II region candidates in our catalogue, including 64 known objects from the literature and 19 new identifications. The LAMOST spectrum of an example H II region candidate is also shown in Figure 6 and the spatial distribution of all the catalogued H II region candidates is shown in Figure 8.

4.2.3 Supernova remnants

Following the work of Frew et al.(2010), we adopt criteria: $0.6 \log s2 - 0.08 < \log n2 < 1.8 \log s2 + 0.16$ and $\log n2 < 0.3$ to select the SNR candidates (Fig. 5). As a result, we have identified 20 SNR candidates in the current work, including 10 known ones from literature and 10 new discoveries. Their spatial distribution is also shown in Figure 8.

5 SUMMARY

Based on the spectroscopic data from LAMOST M31/M33 survey during September, 2011 and June, 2016, we have selected 3305 H α emission-line point sources in the vicinity of M31 and M33. We have calculated radial velocities and fluxes of H α line and those quantities of other seven major emission lines (H β , [O III] λ 4959, [O III] λ 5007, [N II] λ 6548, [N II] λ 6583, [S II] λ 6717 and [S II] λ 6731) of all these catalogued sources from their LAMOST spectra by Gaussian profile

fitting method. In our catalogue, we have identified 1487 emission-line stars, including one new symbiotic star candidate, 532 emission-line nebulae, including 24 new PN candidates, 19 new H II region candidates and 10 new SNR candidates, and 1286 unknown objects. Our catalogue is available in electronic form in the online version of this manuscript. It will serve as an ideal starting point to study the chemistry properties and kinematics of the M31.

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