

Dissecting GAs Stripping Phenomena in galaxies with MUSE (GASP)

Abstract

GASP (Gas Stripping Phenomena in galaxies) is an ESO Large Program (196.B-0578) using MUSE in wide-field mode with natural seeing to study galaxies at $z=0.04-0.07$ in different environments. This first data release comprises half of the final sample (57/114 galaxies). We release the reduced data cubes and fits images with maps of H α and H β emission-line fluxes, H α radial velocity, average star formation rate in four age bins, luminosity-weighted stellar age and stellar mass density, as well as the integrated 1D spectrum of each galaxy.

Overview of Observations

GASP observations were carried out in service mode with the MUSE spectrograph located at the Nasmyth B focus of the Yepun (Unit Telescope 4) VLT. The constraints demanded for the observations were clear conditions, moon illumination $<30\%$, moon distance $>30^\circ$, and image quality <0.9 arcsec, corresponding to <1 arcsec seeing at zenith.

The majority of GASP galaxies were observed with four exposures of 675 s each, each rotated by 90° and slightly offset with respect to the previous one to minimize the cosmetics. The minimum time on target is therefore 2700 s per galaxy. Some targets, however, show long tails in the optical images and require two offset pointings to cover the galaxy body and the length of the tails. Each of these pointings is covered with 2700 s split into four exposures, as above.

The great majority of pointings have a significant fraction of sky coverage, while for a few galaxies it was necessary to do a 120 s sky offset after each 675 s exposure because the galaxy fills the MUSE field-of-view ($\sim 1' \times 1'$).

The observations of this first data release were taken during the first three semesters of the program (P96, P97 and P98).

Details on the survey observations and strategy can be found in Poggianti et al. 2017 ApJ, 844, 48.

Release Content

We release here data for the first 57 galaxies observed by GASP.

For each galaxy we release one MUSE reduced datacube and 11 fits files with ancillary data, for a total of 684 files.

For all galaxies, the data characteristics and quality are very homogeneous. The spectral range between 4800 and 9400 Å is sampled with a resolution FWHM ~ 2.6 Å ($R=1770$ at 48900 Å and 3590 at 9300 Å), and a sampling of 1.25 Å/pixel.

In the table below, we list the target name, coordinates, date of observations, exposure time per pointing, number of pointings.

target	RA	DEC	DATE-OBS	EXPTIME	N
JO201	00:41:30.29	-09:15:45.9	2015-12-17T01:05:57.104	2700	2
JO200	00:42:05.03	-09:32:03.8	2015-10-09T03:01:29.266	2700	2
JO13	00:55:39.68	-00:52:36.0	2015-12-06T01:03:12.826	2700	1

target	RA	DEC	DATE-OBS	EXPTIME	N
JO28	01:10:09.31	-15:34:24.5	2015-10-05T03:25:08.561	2700	1
JO27	01:10:48.56	-15:04:41.6	2015-10-04T03:30:41.290	2700	1
JO36	01:12:59.42	+15:35:29.4	2015-10-08T04:56:40.450	2700	1
JO49	01:14:43.85	+00:17:10.1	2015-11-15T02:14:21.607	2700	1
JO47	01:15:57.67	+00:41:35.9	2015-10-05T04:24:36.559	2700	1
A3128_B_0148	03:27:31.09	-52:59:07.7	2016-10-05T05:43:03.432	2700	1
JO102	03:29:04.69	-52:50:05.4	2016-12-26T04:10:37.604	2700	1
A3128_B_0248	03:29:23.42	-52:26:02.9	2016-12-28T03:03:51.025	2700	1
JO112	03:40:06.02	-54:02:27.3	2015-10-08T07:56:21.452	2700	1
A3158_11_91	03:41:16.75	-53:24:00.6	2016-12-21T02:43:21.457	2700	1
JO113	03:41:49.17	-53:24:13.7	2015-12-07T02:43:23.930	2700	1
A3158_B_0223	03:41:59.80	-53:28:04.2	2016-12-26T03:13:28.041	2700	1
A3158_B_0234	03:42:24.68	-53:29:26.0	2016-12-21T03:40:44.479	2700	1
A3266_B_0257	04:27:52.58	-60:54:11.6	2016-10-05T06:43:14.456	2700	1
A500_F_0152	04:38:21.25	-22:13:02.2	2017-01-22T03:42:46.376	2700	1
JW10	04:39:18.19	-21:57:49.6	2016-12-29T05:10:43.951	2700	1
A3376_B_0261	06:00:13.68	-39:34:49.2	2016-10-05T07:45:25.928	2700	1
A3376_B_0214	06:00:43.18	-39:56:41.6	2016-12-30T05:22:01.357	2700	1
JW108	06:00:47.96	-39:55:07.4	2016-12-28T05:50:53.542	2700	1
JO119	06:29:59.10	-54:47:38.7	2015-11-15T06:17:11.709	2700	1
JO197	09:06:32.58	-09:31:27.3	2015-11-19T07:32:35.208	2700	1
P443	09:59:31.53	-00:15:22.8	2017-01-01T05:21:58.497	2700	1
P877	10:00:49.96	-00:08:57.0	2016-12-31T06:33:31.765	2700	1
P648	10:01:27.74	+00:09:18.4	2016-12-30T06:21:06.806	2700	1
P669	10:02:00.62	+00:10:44.3	2016-12-31T05:36:04.758	2700	1
JO204	10:13:46.83	-00:54:51.1	2015-12-06T07:52:01.809	4050	1
P3984	10:14:05.86	-00:07:37.6	2016-01-09T05:11:18.804	2700	1
P5215	10:16:58.24	-00:14:52.9	2016-12-29T06:08:09.987	2700	1
P5169	10:18:13.79	+00:03:56.6	2017-01-22T04:40:25.377	2700	1
A970_B_0338	10:19:01.65	-10:10:36.9	2017-01-04T07:13:46.599	2700	1
P8721	10:34:08.65	+00:00:03.2	2016-01-09T07:06:40.162	2700	1
A1069_B_0103	10:39:36.49	-08:56:34.8	2017-02-04T05:48:06.942	2700	1
JO5	10:41:20.38	-08:53:45.6	2016-01-08T05:16:07.951	2700	1
P11695	10:46:14.89	+00:03:00.8	2016-01-10T06:30:33.335	2700	1
P17048	11:12:38.27	+00:08:01.2	2016-01-18T06:19:34.892	2700	1
P17945	11:15:26.45	+00:16:11.6	2016-12-31T07:31:39.863	2700	1
JO123	12:53:01.03	-28:36:52.6	2016-03-05T07:37:18.211	2700	1
JO134	12:54:38.33	-30:09:26.5	2017-01-26T05:30:34.240	2700	1
JO135	12:57:04.30	-30:22:30.3	2016-03-08T03:51:59.851	2700	1

target	RA	DEC	DATE-OBS	EXPTIME	N
JW29	12:57:49.48	-17:39:57.1	2016-07-29T23:45:57.313	2700	1
P40457	13:01:33.06	-00:04:51.1	2016-06-02T00:09:44.201	2700	1
JO157	13:28:18.18	-31:48:18.8	2016-05-13T02:19:14.708	2700	1
JO156	13:28:34.46	-31:01:26.8	2016-03-08T04:49:40.373	2700	1
JO171	20:10:14.70	-56:38:30.6	2016-05-13T08:32:46.428	2700	1
JO175	20:51:17.60	-52:49:21.8	2016-08-11T05:44:52.463	4725	1
JO206	21:13:47.41	+02:28:34.4	2016-08-08T04:16:06.860	2700	2
JO179	21:47:07.07	-43:42:18.2	2016-09-03T01:26:00.289	2700	1
JO69	21:57:19.20	-07:46:43.8	2016-09-05T03:48:26.863	2700	1
JO190	22:26:53.62	-30:53:11.1	2016-08-05T06:09:20.313	2700	1
JO93	23:23:11.74	+14:54:05.0	2016-07-29T08:03:23.626	2700	2
JO85	23:24:31.36	+16:52:05.3	2016-07-12T08:41:34.071	2700	2
JW100	23:36:25.06	+21:09:02.5	2016-07-15T08:07:30.194	2700	1
JO95	23:44:26.66	+09:06:55.8	2016-07-29T09:01:22.142	2700	1
JO194	23:57:00.68	-34:40:50.1	2016-08-05T07:20:02.837	2700	2

Release Notes

The spectral reference system of our 3D cube spectra is barycentric. The wavelength axis refers to wavelength measured in air.

Data Reduction and Calibration

The data are reduced with the most recent version of the MUSE pipeline at any time (Bacon et al. 2010 SPIE, 7735, 8; <https://www.eso.org/sci/software/pipelines/muse/>). This was version 1.2 for the first data taken and version 1.6 for the last galaxies included in this release. The procedures and philosophy of the data reduction closely follow those set out in the ESO Pipeline Manual. To speed up and automate the process, raw data are organized and prepared with custom scripts, then fed to ESOREX recipe version 3.12. For our observations, the pipeline can be run in a semi-automated fashion, since the observations are mostly identical in execution and calibration. Briefly, the pipeline was run with mainly default parameters. The data and the standard star frames were flat-fielded, wavelength-calibrated, and corrected for differential atmospheric refraction. Typical wavelength calibration has ≈ 0.025 Å rms in the fit, and the mean resolution R measured from the arcs is about 3000.

Most of the exposures had sufficient sky coverage within the MUSE field of view, leaving $> 50\%$ area for sky measurements. The sky is modeled directly from the individual frames using the 20% pixels with the lowest counts, thus there is no risk of accidentally subtracting any faint diffuse H α within the FOV. For spatially extended galaxies, the offset sky exposures of 120 s allow the sky to be modeled adequately.

The standard star observation closest in time to the science observations was used for the flux calibration. After flux calibration and telluric correction (performed using the spectrophotometric standard star observed each night), the final flux-calibrated data cube is generated by lining up the individual frames using sources in the white-light images to calculate the (small) offsets. Galaxies with multiple pointings use sources in the overlaps for alignment. In a few cases, we found no sources in the overlap; we therefore computed the offsets using custom scripts and OMEGAWINGS point source catalogs as reference.

Data Quality

We applied a correction to the astrometric calibration provided by the ESO pipeline by registering the position of point-like sources in the MUSE white-light image. WINGS/OmegaWINGS catalogues (Varela et al. 2009 A&A, 497, 667, Gullieuszik et al. 2015 A&A, 581, 41) were used as a reference. The accuracy of the absolute astrometric calibration is limited by the low number of bright OmegaWINGS bright point-like sources in the $\sim 1 \times 1$ arcmin MUSE field-of-view (in most cases just one or two). As a fairly conservative estimate of the accuracy of the absolute astrometric precision we can therefore use half of the FWHM of the MUSE PSF. Considering that all the observations were carried out with sub-arcsec seeing, we can safely assume that the astrometry accuracy is better than ~ 0.5 arcsec.

The data generally reach a surface brightness detection limit of $V \sim 27$ mag arcsec⁻² and $\log H\alpha \sim -17.6$ erg s⁻¹ cm⁻² arcsec⁻² at the 3σ confidence level.

Known issues

None.

Previous Releases

This is the first data release for GASP.

Data Format

Files Types

When more than one pointing per galaxy was obtained, we release the aligned and combined datacube.

The emission-line flux maps we release have been: a) corrected for dust extinction internal to our own Galaxy; b) subtracted of the stellar component using the SINOPSIS code (Fritz et al. 2017 ApJ in press, arXiv 1704.05088). The details of these procedures are described in Poggianti et al. 2017 ApJ 844, 48.

The H α and H β emission-line maps and H α velocity map are obtained with the IDL publicly available software KUBEVIZ (Fossati et al. 2016 MNRAS, 455, 2028), written by Matteo Fossati and David Wilman. Starting from an initial redshift, KUBEVIZ uses the MPFIT (Markwardt 2009, ASP Conf. Ser. 411, 251) package to fit Gaussian line profiles. All the fluxes provided in this release refer to single component fits.

KUBEVIZ uses “linesets,” defined as groups of lines that are fitted simultaneously. Each lineset (e.g., H α and [N II] $\lambda\lambda$ 6548, 6583) is considered a combination of 1D Gaussian functions keeping the velocity separation of the lines fixed according to the line wavelengths. KUBEVIZ imposes a prior on the velocity and intrinsic line width of each lineset, which is fixed to that obtained by the fit of the H α and [N II] lines. Moreover, the flux ratios of the two [N II] and [O III] lines are kept constant in the fit assuming the ratios given in Storey & Zeippen (2000, MNRAS, 312, 813).

Before carrying out the fits, the datacube was average filtered in the spatial direction with a 5X5 pixel kernel, corresponding to 1 arcsec = 0.7–1.3 kpc depending on the galaxy redshift.

Moreover, as recommended by Fossati et al. (2016), the errors on the line fluxes are scaled to achieve a reduced $\chi^2 = 1$. The continuum was calculated between 80 and 200 Å redward and blueward of each line, omitting regions with other emission lines and using only values between the 40th and 60th percentiles.

To obtain the measurements of total emission-line fluxes corrected for underlying stellar absorption and for deriving the spatially resolved stellar population properties that we release, we used our spectrophotometric model SINOPSIS (Fritz et al. 2017 ApJ in press, arXiv 1704.05088). This code searches the combination of SSP spectra that best fits the equivalent widths of the main lines in absorption and emission and the continuum at various wavelengths, minimizing the $\chi^2 = 1$ using an adaptive simulated annealing algorithm. The star formation history is left free with no analytic priors. The version of the code used for this data release uses the latest SSP models from S. Charlot & G. Bruzual (2017, in preparation) which have a higher spectral and age resolution than previous versions, and the latest evolutionary tracks from Bressan et al. (2012 MNRAS, 427, 127). Please, refer to Fritz et

al. (2017) for details on the spectrophotometric fitting procedures. We provide as fits files the SINOPSIS maps of a) average star formation rate in 4 age bins, b) luminosity-weighted age; c) stellar mass (mass in living stars+remnants). All the quantities contained in this release refer to a Chabrier (2003 PASP, 115, 763) Initial Mass Function.

The 1D integrated spectrum we provide is integrated over the region enclosed by the most external stellar continuum isophote (at the Halpha wavelength), as described in sec.6.5 of Poggianti et al. (2017).

In the following we use the galaxy named JO204 as an example to illustrate the data products and file naming conventions:

GASP_JO204_datacube.fits (PRODCATG=SCIENCE.CUBE.IFS)

This is the reduced datacube obtained from the MUSE pipeline. It is a fits file with two extensions for data values (EXTNAME=DATA) and data variance (EXTNAME=STAT).

The ancillary data released with the datacubes are:

- GASP_JO204_IMAGE_FOV_0001.fits (PRODCATG=ANCILLARY.IMAGE)
White-light image obtained by integrating the datacube over the whole spectral range.
- GASP_JO204_map_Halpha.fits (PRODCATG=ANCILLARY.IMAGE)
Emission map of Halpha. Data were masked out if the SNR on the emission flux measurements is less than 5 or the error on the measured velocity and velocity dispersion is larger than 50 km/s.
- GASP_JO204_map_Hbeta.fits (PRODCATG=ANCILLARY.IMAGE)
Emission map of Hbeta. The selection criteria is the same as for the Halpha emission map.
- GASP_JO204_map_vgas.fits (PRODCATG=ANCILLARY.IMAGE)
Radial velocity of the gas component in km/s. The keyword ZREF in the file header is the redshift value that set the zero-point of the velocity values. The data selection criteria are the same used for the Halpha emission map.
- GASP_JO204_map_SFR1.fits (PRODCATG=ANCILLARY.IMAGE)
Map of the star formation rate in the 1st age bin ($t < 2.0e07$ yr).
- GASP_JO204_map_SFR2.fits (PRODCATG=ANCILLARY.IMAGE)
Map of the star formation rate in the 2nd age bin ($2.0e07$ yr $< t < 2.7e08$ yr).
- GASP_JO204_map_SFR3.fits (PRODCATG=ANCILLARY.IMAGE)
Map of the star formation rate in the 3rd age bin ($5.7e08$ yr $< t < 5.7e09$ yr).
- GASP_JO204_map_SFR4.fits (PRODCATG=ANCILLARY.IMAGE)
Map of the star formation rate in the 4th age bin ($t > 5.7e09$ yr).
- GASP_JO204_map_lwage.fits (PRODCATG=ANCILLARY.IMAGE)
Map of the luminosity-weighted age.
- GASP_JO204_map_TotMass2.fits (PRODCATG=ANCILLARY.IMAGE)
Map of the stellar mass.
- GASP_JO204_spec.fits (PRODCATG=ANCILLARY.SPECTRUM)
Integrated 1D spectrum of the galaxy.

The files:

*map_vgas.fits
*map_Halpha.fits
*map_Hbeta.fits

are multi extension fits files: data are stored in the first extension (EXTNAME=DATA), and the associated measurement uncertainty (1σ) is stored in the second one (EXTNAME=STATS).

Catalogue Columns

No catalogues are released.

Acknowledgements

Any publication making use of these data, whether obtained from the ESO archive or via third parties, must include the following acknowledgments:

- “This paper uses data from the GASP survey (Poggianti et al. 2017 ApJ, 844, 48).”
- "Based on data products created from observations collected at the European Organisation for Astronomical Research in the Southern Hemisphere under ESO programme(s) 196.B-0578"

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