

The Shortest Periodic and Flaring Activity of the 6.7 GHz Methanol Maser in the Intermediate-mass Protostar G 014.23–00.50

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To statistically investigate the periodic flux variability of methanol masers at 6.7 GHz around protostars [1], we have initiated a single-dish monitor project using the Hitachi 32-m radio telescope since 30 December 2012 [2]. Target sources consist of 442 methanol masers, declination of which is upper than -30° . Here, we report the shortest periodic and flaring flux variability of the 6.7 GHz methanol maser newly detected in the intermediate-mass protostar G 014.23–00.50 via the monitor until 21 January 2016 [3].

The 6.7 GHz methanol maser in G 014.23–00.50 shows seven spectral components at $V_{\text{lsr}} = 20.98\text{--}25.30\text{ km s}^{-1}$. We newly detected characteristic flux variability in only one of them at $V_{\text{lsr}} = 25.30\text{ km s}^{-1}$, those are flaring and periodic one. The flaring activities were detected via comparing to non-detection durations below the detection limit ($3\sigma \sim 0.15\text{ Jy}$ in the case of an integration with all the data in each observational date). Their time-scale of the flux rising was typically a few days or shorter (21 hrs at the shortest) and the ratio of the peak flux density was more than 180 in comparison with a quiescent phase (Figure 1). The periodicity of these flaring activities was also detected with the period of 23.9 ± 0.1 days, which has persisted in at least 47 cycles (Figure 2). This period is the shortest one observed in masers at around intermediate-/high-mass protostars so far.

We conclude that the flaring and intermittent periodic (the period of 23.9 days) flux variability detected in only one spectral component might be explained by a periodic

change in the flux of seed photons or a periodic variation of the dust temperature via an extra heating source of a shock formed in the colliding-wind binary model [4], in which the orbital semi-major axes of the binary are 0.26–0.34 au.

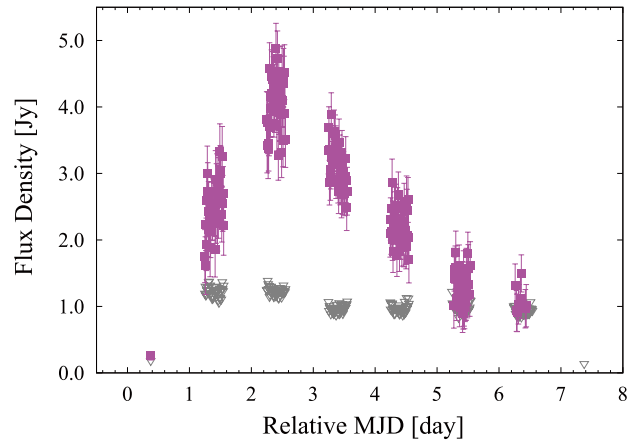


Figure 1: Example of the flaring activities detected at $V_{\text{lsr}} = 25.30\text{ km s}^{-1}$. The horizontal axis is observational dates relative to the reference date of 8 September 2015.

References

- [1] Goedhart, S., et al.: 2004, *MNRAS*, **355**, 553.
- [2] Yonekura, Y., et al.: 2016, *PASJ*, **68**, 74.
- [3] Sugiyama, K., et al.: 2017, *PASJ*, **69**, 59.
- [4] van der Walt, D. J.: 2011, *AJ*, **141**, 152.

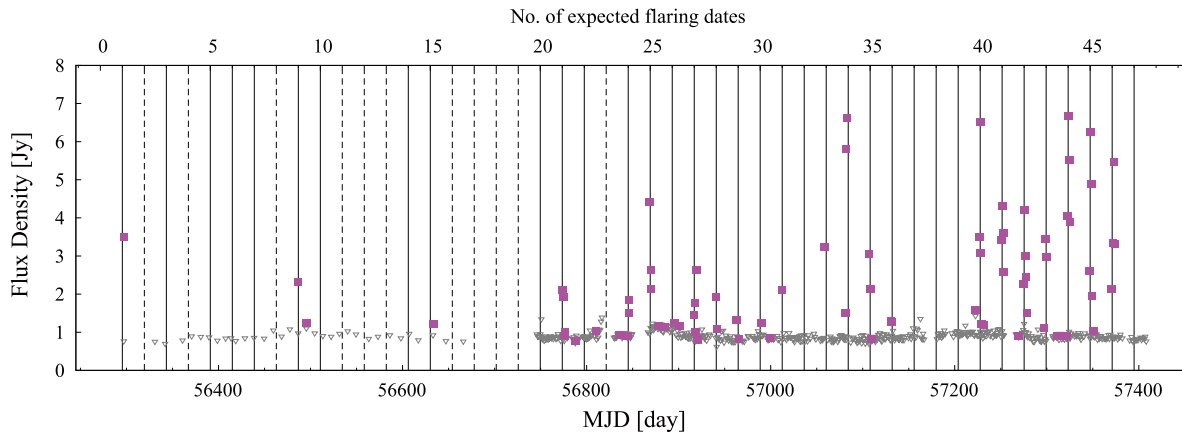


Figure 2: Periodic flux variation detected at $V_{\text{lsr}} = 25.30\text{ km s}^{-1}$. Solid and dashed vertical lines show the expected flaring dates with and without observational data.