



# First Abundance Measurement of Organic Molecules in the Atmosphere of HH 212 Protostellar Disk

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## Abstract

HH 212 is one of the well-studied protostellar systems, showing the first vertically resolved disk with a warm atmosphere around the central protostar. Here we report a detection of nine organic molecules (including newly detected ketene, formic acid, deuterated acetonitrile, methyl formate, and ethanol) in the disk atmosphere, confirming that the disk atmosphere is, for HH 212, the chemically rich component, identified before at a lower resolution as a “hot corino.” More importantly, we report the first systematic survey and abundance measurement of organic molecules in the disk atmosphere within  $\sim 40$  au of the central protostar. The relative abundances of these molecules are similar to those in the hot corinos around other protostars and in Comet Lovejoy. These molecules can be either (i) originally formed on icy grains and then desorbed into gas phase or (ii) quickly formed in the gas phase using simpler species ejected from the dust mantles. The abundances and spatial distributions of the molecules provide strong constraints on models of their formation and transport in star formation. These molecules are expected to form even more complex organic molecules needed for life and deeper observations are needed to find them.

**Key words:** accretion, accretion disks – ISM: individual objects (HH 212) – ISM: jets and outflows – ISM: molecules – stars: formation

## 1. Introduction

Accretion disks have been detected in very young protostellar systems, feeding the central protostars. With the advent of the Atacama Large Millimeter/submillimeter Array (ALMA), we have started to resolve the disks and study their physical processes in great detail. HH 212 is one of the well-studied protostellar systems, showing the first vertically resolved disk with a warm atmosphere around the central protostar (Lee et al. 2017b, 2017c). This warm atmosphere seems to be the hot corino reported recently at a lower angular resolution (Codella et al. 2016, 2018). Hot corinos are the hot ( $\gtrsim 100$  K) and compact regions immediately around low-mass (Sun-like) protostars (Ceccarelli et al. 2007), and rich in organic molecules including complex organic molecules (COMs, referring to C-bearing species with six atoms or more; Herbst & van Dishoeck 2009). By determining the connection of the disk atmosphere with the hot corino in HH 212, we aim to determine the origin of the hot corino and the related physical processes in the innermost region. In particular, the nearly edge-on orientation of the disk in this system provides the best view of the atmosphere, allowing us to study the physical properties of the disk atmosphere, and the formation of the organic molecules and their role in producing the rich organic chemistry needed for life.

HH 212 is a young Class 0 protostellar system deeply embedded in a compact molecular cloud core in the L1630 cloud of Orion at a distance of  $\sim 400$  pc (Kounkel et al. 2017). The central source is IRAS 05413-0104, with a bolometric luminosity of  $\sim 9 L_{\odot}$  (updated for the new distance; Zinnecker et al. 1992). The central protostar has a mass of  $\sim 0.25 M_{\odot}$  (Lee et al. 2017c). It drives a powerful bipolar jet (Zinnecker et al. 1998; Lee et al. 2015), which has been recently found to be

spinning (Lee et al. 2017a). A rotating disk must have formed around the protostar in order to launch the jet. Our previous ALMA observations toward the center indeed showed a spatially resolved nearly edge-on dusty disk with a radius of  $\sim 60$  au (Lee et al. 2017b). In addition, we also detected a warm atmosphere of the disk with a few organic molecules (Lee et al. 2017c), suggesting that the warm disk atmosphere can be the hot corino reported before at a lower resolution (Codella et al. 2016). Recent observations at a resolution of  $\sim 0''.15$  (60 au) suggested that deuterated water and  $\text{CH}_3\text{CHO}$  can also reside in the disk atmosphere (Codella et al. 2018). In this paper, we zoom in to the disk region at a higher resolution of  $\sim 0''.03$  (12 au) and higher sensitivity and detect additional and more COMs characteristic of a hot corino, with most of them detected for the first time in the disk atmosphere. Our observations confirm that the hot corino in HH 212 is indeed the warm disk atmosphere. We will discuss the formation of the organic molecules by comparing their abundances to those in hot corinos around other low-mass protostars.

## 2. Observations

The HH 212 protostellar system was observed with ALMA in Band 7 at  $\sim 341.5$  GHz in Cycle 5. The project ID was 2017.1.00044.S. Three observations were executed on the same day on 2017 November 27 with 47 antennas, with each observation having an integration time of  $\sim 32.7$  minutes on the target. Thus, the total time on the target was  $\sim 98$  minutes. The projected baselines were  $\sim 60$ –8500 m. The correlator was set up to have four spectral windows, with three in continuum mode having a bandwidth of 2 GHz, and one in spectral mode having a bandwidth of 1.875 GHz. In this paper, we only report the results obtained with the spectral mode that covers the rest

frequency from  $\sim 345.635$  to  $347.510$  GHz. The spectral resolution was  $1.953$  MHz per channel, resulting in a velocity resolution of  $\sim 1.69$  km s $^{-1}$  per channel at  $346.5$  GHz. The primary beam was  $17''.27$ . A single pointing was used to map the system within  $\sim 1''$  of the central source. The maximum recoverable size scale was  $\sim 0''.4$ , enough to map the disk atmosphere without any significant missing flux.

The data were calibrated with the CASA package, with quasar J0510+1800 as a passband and flux calibrator, and quasar J0541-0211 (a flux of  $0.137$  Jy) as a gain calibrator. We used a robust factor of  $0.5$  for the visibility weighting to generate the channel maps with a synthesized beam of  $0''.036 \times 0''.03$  at a position angle of  $\sim -78^\circ$ . We used the line-free channels to generate a continuum map centered at  $356.5$  GHz. The channel maps of the molecular lines were generated after continuum subtraction. The noise levels are  $\sim 0.121$  mJy beam $^{-1}$  (or  $\sim 1.13$  K) in the continuum map and  $0.80$  mJy beam $^{-1}$  (or  $\sim 7.45$  K) in the channel maps. The velocities in the channel maps are LSR velocities.

### 3. Results

In HH 212, the jet has an axis with a position angle of  $\sim 23^\circ$  and an inclination angle of  $\sim 4^\circ$  to the plane of the sky, with its northern component tilted toward us (Claussen et al. 1998). The disk is nearly edge-on and exactly perpendicular to the jet axis (Lee et al. 2017b). The systemic velocity is  $V_{\text{sys}} = 1.7 \pm 0.1$  km s $^{-1}$  LSR (Lee et al. 2014). In order to facilitate our presentations, we define an offset velocity  $V_{\text{off}} = V_{\text{LSR}} - V_{\text{sys}}$  and rotate our maps by  $23^\circ$  clockwise to align the jet axis in the vertical direction.

Figure 1 shows the emission line intensity maps (contours) of nine organic molecules, including CH $_3$ OH (methanol, 4 lines), CH $_2$ DOH (deuterated methanol, 7 lines),  $^{13}\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$  ( $^{13}\text{C}$  isotopologue of methanol, 1 line, contaminated by a much weaker CH $_2$ DCN line), H $_2$ CCO (ketene, 1 line), CH $_3$ CHO (acetaldehyde, 22 lines), HCOOCH $_3$  (methyl formate, 8 lines), t-HCOOH (formic acid in trans state, 1 line), CH $_3$ CH $_2$ OH (ethanol, 10 lines), and CH $_2$ DCN (deuterated acetonitrile, 5 lines), on the continuum map (color image) of the disk at  $\lambda \sim 865$   $\mu\text{m}$  (or equivalently  $\sim 347$  GHz), obtained from our observations. As seen before at a similar wavelength ( $\lambda \sim 850$   $\mu\text{m}$ ) in Lee et al. (2017b), the continuum map shows a “hamburger-shaped” dusty disk with an equatorial dark lane sandwiched between two brighter features on the top and bottom. As discussed in that paper, the presence of the equatorial dark lane is due to relatively low temperature and high optical depth near the disk midplane. As discussed below, the maps of the molecular emissions are obtained by stacking a number of lines (as indicated above in the parenthesis) in different transitions with a range of upper energy levels for better detections. Molecular line emissions are only detected in the upper (above the midplane) and lower disk atmosphere, with the emission brighter in the lower disk atmosphere below the midplane. No molecular emission is detected toward the disk midplane, either because the emission is lost in the optically thick dust continuum emission or because of a lack of emission of these molecules there. All the molecular emissions are detected within the centrifugal barrier (which has a radius of  $\sim 0''.11$  or  $44$  au) of the central protostar. For CH $_3$ OH, CH $_2$ DOH, CH $_3$ CHO, and CH $_3$ CH $_2$ OH, their emissions are clearly detected in the upper and lower atmosphere with a roughly similar distribution, suggesting that they are

chemically related. In addition, the emission moves closer to the disk midplane from CH $_3$ OH, CH $_2$ DOH, CH $_3$ CHO, to CH $_3$ CH $_2$ OH, suggesting that the emission of less abundant molecule (see the next section for their abundances) traces deeper into the disk atmosphere, probably due to an optical depth effect. However, it could also be due to a chemical stratification in the vertical direction. CH $_2$ DOH and CH $_3$ CH $_2$ OH emission in the lower atmosphere in the outer edge show a structure curving back toward the midplane, following the lower boundary of the dusty disk emission, likely outlining a physical boundary for the dusty disk.

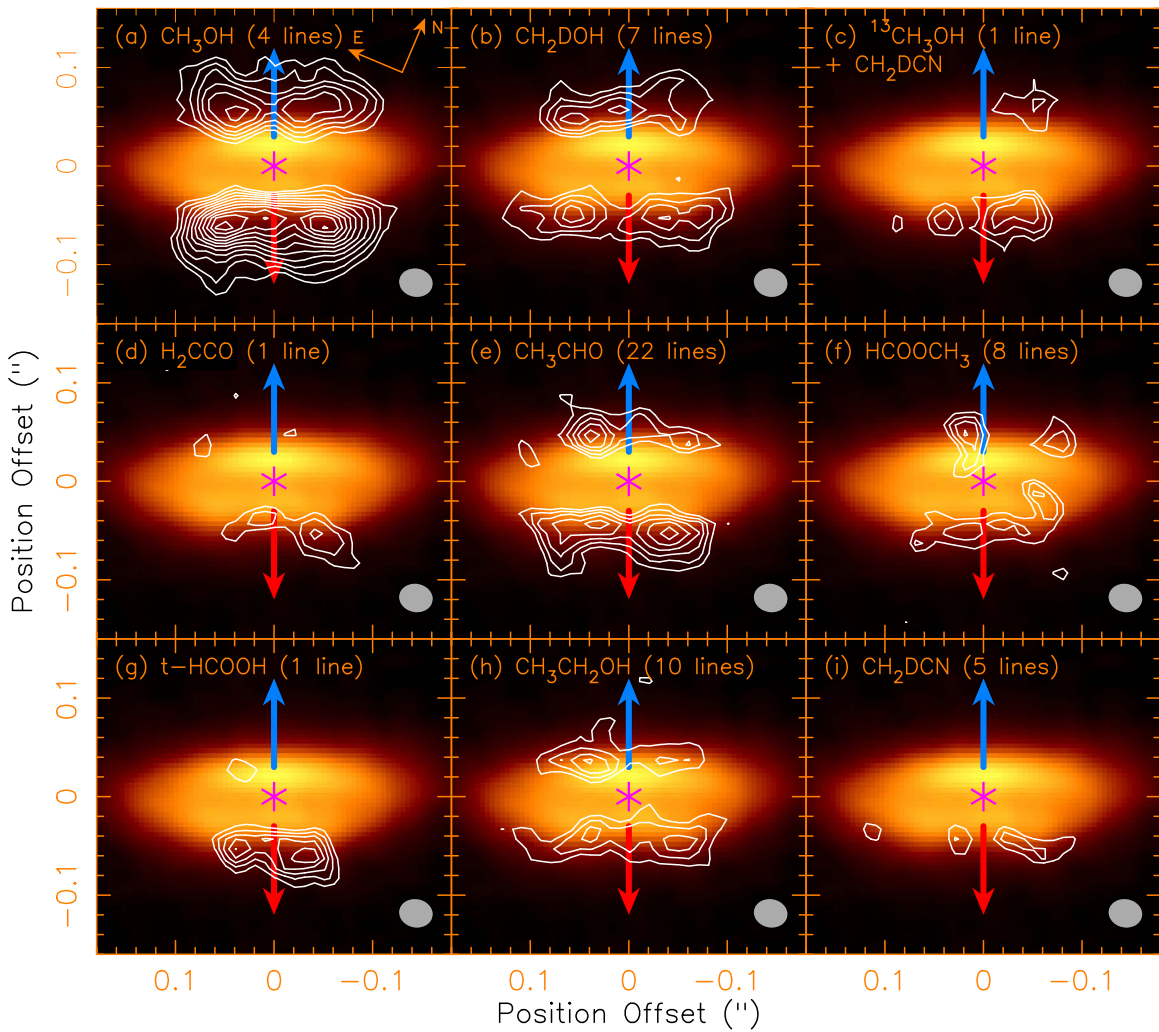
Figure 2 shows the position–frequency (PF) diagrams obtained with a cut along the lower atmosphere, where the emission is brighter, in order to identify the detections of various molecular lines. The PF diagrams for the upper atmosphere show similar structures but are fainter and thus are not shown here. As can be seen, many lines are detected, with their emission detected within  $\sim 5$  MHz of their rest frequencies (or  $\sim 4$  km s $^{-1}$  within the systemic velocity) marked by the vertical lines, with one color for each organic molecular species at different transitions. For each line, the diagrams show a roughly linear PF structure with the redshifted emission in the southeast (positive  $y$ ) and blueshifted emission in the northwest (negative  $y$ ), as seen before in the corresponding position–velocity diagrams for the CH $_3$ OH and CH $_2$ DOH lines (Lee et al. 2017c). As discussed in that paper, this linear PF structure likely arises from a warm rotating ring of the disk atmosphere near the centrifugal barrier. With this feature, we identify lines from the nine organic molecules mentioned above, and a few other simple molecules (e.g., SO, SO $_2$ , and its isotopologue SO $^{18}\text{O}$ ). Other lines from CO and SiO trace mainly the outflow and jet, and thus do not show such a clear linear PF structure.

Table 1 lists the properties of the organic molecular lines. For each molecular species, we stacked the line intensity maps in different transitions, excluding those tentatively detected (marked with T) and blended (marked with B), producing the mean line intensity map shown in Figure 1.

#### 3.1. Physical Condition in the Disk Atmosphere

Here we derive the mean excitation temperature and column density in the disk atmosphere by fitting the rotation diagram of the molecular lines. This diagram plots the column density per statistical weight in the upper energy state in the optically thin limit,  $N_u^{\text{thin}}/g_u$ , versus the upper energy level  $E_u$  of the lines. Here  $N_u^{\text{thin}} = (8\pi k\nu^2/hc^3 A_{ul})W$ , where the integrated line intensity  $W = \int T_B dv$  with  $T_B$  being the brightness temperature.

The emission in the lower disk atmosphere is brighter and is thus used to better derive the mean excitation temperature and column density in the disk atmosphere. Table 1 lists the integrated line intensities in the lower disk atmosphere measured (with a cutoff of  $2\sigma$ ) for the reasonably isolated lines detected with more than  $3\sigma$ . They are the mean values averaged over a rectangular region that covers most of the emission in the lower atmosphere. Figure 3 shows the resulting diagrams for the six molecules detected with multiple lines. The blended lines are excluded. With the CH $_3$ OH lines, we derived an excitation temperature of  $\sim 160 \pm 45$  K. With the lines from its deuterated species CH $_2$ DOH, we derived a similar temperature of  $\sim 148 \pm 19$  K. For a check, we also obtained similar temperatures of  $\sim 138 \pm 32$  K and  $\sim 168 \pm 24$  K for the upper atmosphere from the CH $_3$ OH



**Figure 1.** Total emission line intensity maps of nine organic molecules integrated over velocity within  $\sim 4 \text{ km s}^{-1}$  of the systemic velocity, plotted on top of the continuum map (color image) of the dusty disk. As discussed in the text, the maps of the molecular emissions are obtained by stacking a number of lines (as indicated in the parentheses) in different transitions with a range of upper energy levels for better detections. The asterisk marks the possible position of the central protostar. The blue and red arrows indicate the axes of the blueshifted and redshifted jet components, respectively. The contours start at  $3\sigma$  with a step of  $1\sigma$ . The  $1\sigma$  noise levels in panels (a)–(i) are 1.96, 1.64, 4.06, 3.91, 0.89, 1.10, 4.23, 1.19, and  $1.72 \text{ mJy beam}^{-1} \text{ km s}^{-1}$ .

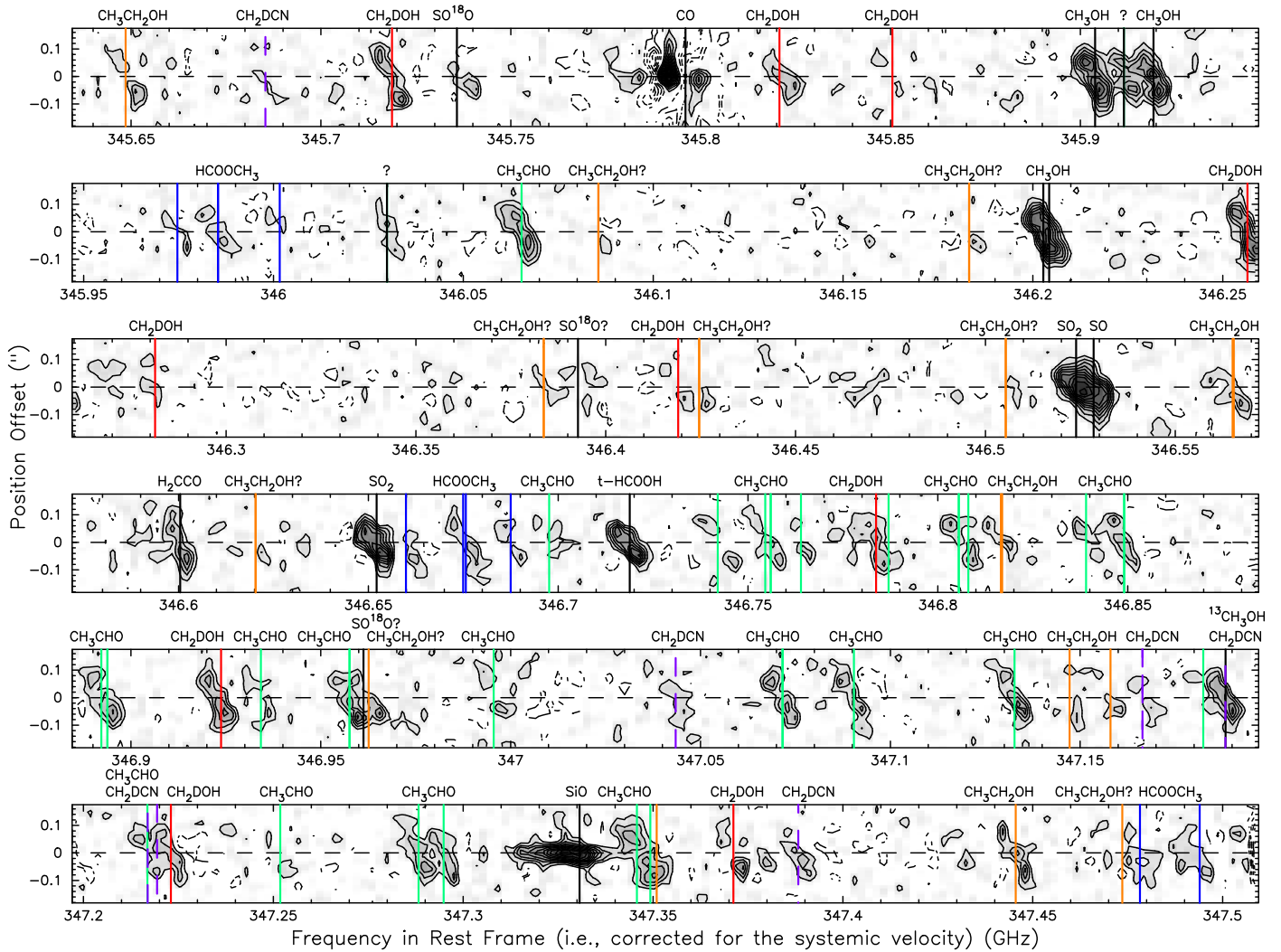
lines and  $\text{CH}_2\text{DOH}$  lines, respectively. The resulting column densities of  $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$  and  $\text{CH}_2\text{DOH}$  are listed in Table 2. As discussed later, because the  $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$  lines are likely optically thick, the  $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$  column density derived here is only a lower limit and a more accurate value will be derived using the  $^{13}\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$  column density below.

From  $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$  and  $\text{CH}_2\text{DOH}$ , we obtain a mean excitation temperature of  $\sim 150 \pm 50 \text{ K}$  in the lower disk atmosphere, similar to that found before in Lee et al. (2017c). This mean temperature is also consistent with that derived toward the disk at a lower angular resolution in Bianchi et al. (2017). Assuming this mean temperature for the disk atmosphere, we can estimate the column densities of other molecules with weaker lines. For those molecules detected with multiple lines, such as  $\text{CH}_3\text{CHO}$ ,  $\text{HCOOCH}_3$ ,  $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$ , and  $\text{CH}_2\text{DCN}$ , we can obtain their column densities by fitting their rotation diagrams, as shown in Figures 3(c)–(f). Notice that the column density of  $\text{CH}_3\text{CHO}$  is estimated here to be  $(1.5 \pm 0.6) \times 10^{16} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ , with the lower limit consistent with that estimated previously at a lower resolution with an excitation temperature of  $\sim 78 \pm 14 \text{ K}$  in Codella et al. (2018). For those detected with a single line, such as  $^{13}\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$ ,  $\text{H}_2\text{CCO}$ , and  $\text{t-HCOOH}$ , we derived their column

densities from their measured integrated line intensity. For  $^{13}\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$ , the only detected line is contaminated by a weaker line of  $\text{CH}_2\text{DCN}$  and thus its column density is estimated after removing the expected intensity of the  $\text{CH}_2\text{DCN}$  line. The expected intensity of the  $\text{CH}_2\text{DCN}$  line is assumed to be given by the mean intensity of other  $\text{CH}_2\text{DCN}$  lines with similar  $E_u$  and  $\log A_{ul}$ , and it is estimated to be  $\sim 21 \text{ K km s}^{-1}$ , or  $\sim 18\%$  of the total intensity there. Also, as the  $^{13}\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$  line is optically thinner than the  $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$  lines, we can improve the  $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$  column density by multiplying the  $^{13}\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$  column density by a  $^{12}\text{C}/^{13}\text{C}$  ratio of 50 as obtained in the Orion Complex (Kahane et al. 2018). As can be seen from Table 2, the  $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$  column density derived this way is about twice that derived from the rotation diagram, suggesting that the  $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$  lines are indeed optically thick. Also shown in the table are the column densities of  $\text{NH}_2\text{CHO}$ ,  $\text{D}_2\text{CO}$ , and  $\text{CH}_3\text{SH}$  measured in Lee et al. (2017c), adjusted with the mean excitation temperature here.

Based on our disk model that reproduced the dust continuum emission at a similar wavelength of  $\sim 850 \mu\text{m}$  (Lee et al. 2017b), the dust continuum emission in the disk atmosphere has an optical depth  $\tau \lesssim 1$ . Thus, the derived column densities





**Figure 2.** Position–frequency diagrams cut along the lower atmosphere of the disk, in order to show the detections of various molecular lines. The contours start from  $2\sigma$  with a step of  $1\sigma$  of 4 K. The frequency has been corrected for the systemic velocity of  $1.7 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ . The vertical lines mark the rest frequencies of the lines in different transitions, with one color for one organic molecular species. The lines from simple molecules are marked with the black vertical lines. The physical properties of the lines are listed in Table 1.

of the organic molecules could be underestimated by a factor of  $e$ . In that disk model, the disk atmosphere has a mean  $\text{H}_2$  column density of  $\sim 3.8 \times 10^{24} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ . Hence, the abundances of the molecules, as listed in Table 2, can be obtained by dividing the column density of the molecules by this mean  $\text{H}_2$  column density. The abundances here can be uncertain by a factor a few because the mean  $\text{H}_2$  column density depends on dust opacity, which can be uncertain by a factor of a few.

## 4. Discussion

### 4.1. Corino-like Disk Atmosphere

Hot corinos with a temperature  $\gtrsim 100 \text{ K}$  have been detected around low-mass protostars and they are rich in organic molecules (including COMs). A hot corino has also been recently reported in HH 212 in the inner 100 au with a detection of  $\text{CH}_3\text{CHO}$  and deuterated water HDO (Codella et al. 2016, 2018). Now at higher resolution, we find  $\text{CH}_3\text{CHO}$  to reside in the disk atmosphere. Moreover, we also detect 8 other organic molecules ( $\text{H}_2\text{CCO}$ ,  $\text{t-HCOOH}$ ,  $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$ ,  $\text{CH}_2\text{DOH}$ ,  $^{13}\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$ ,  $\text{CH}_2\text{DCN}$ ,  $\text{HCOOCH}_3$ , and  $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$ ) in the disk atmosphere, with an excitation

temperature of  $\sim 150 \pm 50 \text{ K}$ . Adding 3 other organic molecules ( $\text{D}_2\text{CO}$ ,  $\text{CH}_3\text{SH}$  and  $\text{NH}_2\text{CHO}$ ) from Lee et al. (2017c), we have 12 organic molecules, with 9 of them being COMs, detected in the disk atmosphere. These results indicate that the hot corino in HH 212 is actually a warm atmosphere of the disk.

### 4.2. Formation of Organic Molecules

We can study the formation of the organic molecules in the disk atmosphere by comparing their abundances to those estimated in the hot corinos around other Class 0 low-mass protostars. The abundance of  $\text{CH}_3\text{CHO}$ , which is commonly observed in hot corinos, is estimated here to be  $3.9 \times 10^{-9}$  in HH 212, similar to those found in other hot corinos, e.g.,  $5.8 \times 10^{-9}$  in IRAS 16293-2422B (Jørgensen et al. 2016),  $2.4 \times 10^{-9}$  in B335 (Imai et al. 2016), and  $4.2 \times 10^{-9}$  in NGC 1333 IRAS4A2 (López-Sepulcre et al. 2017). To facilitate comparison, we calculate and compare the abundances of the organic molecules relative to  $\text{CH}_3\text{CHO}$ . Figure 4 shows the comparison of the relative abundances of seven organic molecules (excluding deuterated species and  $^{13}\text{C}$  isotopologue)

**Table 1**  
Line Properties from Splatalogue

Transition QNs	Frequency (MHz)	$\log(A_{ul})$ ( $s^{-1}$ )	$E_u$ (K)	$W^a$ (K km s $^{-1}$ )	Line List
t-HCOOH 15(2,13)–14(2,12)	346718.85	–3.331	144.457	147	CDMS
H <sub>2</sub> CCO 17(1,16)–16(1,15)	346600.45	–3.325	162.789	79	JPL
CH <sub>3</sub> OH 16(1)– 15(2)–	345903.91	–4.044	332.653	234	JPL
CH <sub>3</sub> OH 18(–3) – 17(–4), E2	345919.26	–4.136	459.435	200	JPL
CH <sub>3</sub> OH 5(4)– –6(3)–	346202.71	–4.662	115.162	129 <sup>m</sup>	JPL
CH <sub>3</sub> OH 5(4)+ – 6(3)+	346204.27	–4.662	115.162	129 <sup>m</sup>	JPL
<sup>13</sup> CH <sub>3</sub> OH 14(1,13)– 14(0,14) – +	347188.28	–3.360	254.251	96 <sup>b</sup>	CDMS
CH <sub>2</sub> DOH 3(2,1) – 2(1,2), e1	345718.71	–4.373	39.434	51	JPL
CH <sub>2</sub> DOH 19(1,19) – 18(2,17), e1	345820.79	–4.531	418.032	B	JPL
CH <sub>2</sub> DOH 22(4,19) – 22(3,19), e1	345850.48	–3.888	613.625	16 <sup>m</sup>	JPL
CH <sub>2</sub> DOH 3(1,2) – 3(0,3), e1	346256.50	–3.699	29.488	152	JPL
CH <sub>2</sub> DOH 22(4,18) – 22(3,20), e1	346281.30	–3.874	613.621	16 <sup>m</sup>	JPL
CH <sub>2</sub> DOH 21(4,18) – 21(3,18), e1	346419.06	–3.886	566.562	13	JPL
CH <sub>2</sub> DOH 21(4,17) – 21(3,19), e1	346783.70	–3.876	566.559	B	JPL
CH <sub>2</sub> DOH 20(4,17) – 20(3,17), e1	346923.75	–3.886	521.634	85	JPL
CH <sub>2</sub> DOH 20(4,16) – 20(3,18), e1	347222.99	–3.878	521.632	B	JPL
CH <sub>2</sub> DOH 19(4,16) – 19(3,16), e1	347371.16	–3.887	478.841	18	JPL
CH <sub>2</sub> DCN 20(1,20)–19(1,19)	345685.36	–2.444	179.628	12	JPL
CH <sub>2</sub> DCN 20(0,20)–19(0,19)	347043.43	–2.438	174.955	27	JPL
CH <sub>2</sub> DCN 20(4,17)–19(4,16)	347166.47	–2.455	261.246	13 <sup>m</sup>	JPL
CH <sub>2</sub> DCN 20(4,16)–19(4,15)	347166.48	–2.455	261.246	13 <sup>m</sup>	JPL
CH <sub>2</sub> DCN 20(2,19)–19(2,18)	347188.29	–2.441	196.562	B	JPL
CH <sub>2</sub> DCN 20(3,18)–19(3,17)	347216.91	–2.447	223.527	B	JPL
CH <sub>2</sub> DCN 20(3,17)–19(3,16)	347219.39	–2.447	223.527	B	JPL
CH <sub>2</sub> DCN 20(2,18)–19(2,17)	347388.21	–2.441	196.615	24	JPL
CH <sub>3</sub> CHO vt = 1, 18(2,17) – 17(2,16), E	346065.34	–2.838	371.350	90	JPL
CH <sub>3</sub> CHO v = 0, 18(11,7) – 17(11,6), E	346697.59	–3.028	430.543	T	JPL
CH <sub>3</sub> CHO v = 0, 18(10,8) – 17(10,7), E	346742.00	–2.986	383.352	16	JPL
CH <sub>3</sub> CHO v = 0, 18(11,8) – 17(11,7), E	346754.52	–3.028	430.451	12 <sup>m</sup>	JPL
CH <sub>3</sub> CHO v = 0, 18(11,8) – 17(11,7), E	346755.92	–3.028	430.474	12 <sup>m</sup>	JPL
CH <sub>3</sub> CHO v = 0, 18(11,7) – 17(11,6), E	346755.92	–3.028	430.474	12 <sup>m</sup>	JPL
CH <sub>3</sub> CHO v = 0, 18(10,9) – 17(10,8), E	346763.91	–2.985	383.297	30	JPL
CH <sub>3</sub> CHO v = 0, 18(9,9) – 17(9,8), E	346787.03	–2.950	340.618	B	JPL
CH <sub>3</sub> CHO v = 0, 18(10,8) – 17(10,7), E	346805.46	–2.985	383.258	S	JPL
CH <sub>3</sub> CHO v = 0, 18(10,9) – 17(10,8), E	346805.46	–2.985	383.258	S	JPL
CH <sub>3</sub> CHO v = 0, 18(9,10) – 17(9,9), E	346807.99	–2.950	340.612	S	JPL
CH <sub>3</sub> CHO v = 0, 18(8,10) – 17(8,9), E	346839.03	–2.920	302.406	23	JPL
CH <sub>3</sub> CHO v = 0, 18(9,10) – 17(9,9), E	346849.06	–2.950	340.535	30 <sup>m</sup>	JPL
CH <sub>3</sub> CHO v = 0, 18(9, 9) – 17(9,8), E	346849.06	–2.950	340.535	30 <sup>m</sup>	JPL
CH <sub>3</sub> CHO v = 0, 18(8,11) – 17(8,10), E	346892.18	–2.920	302.343	S	JPL
CH <sub>3</sub> CHO v = 0, 18(8,11) – 17(8,10), E	346893.81	–2.920	302.316	S	JPL
CH <sub>3</sub> CHO v = 0, 18(8,10) – 17(8,9), E	346893.81	–2.920	302.316	S	JPL
CH <sub>3</sub> CHO v = 0, 18(7,11) – 17(7,10), E	346934.22	–2.896	268.661	B	JPL
CH <sub>3</sub> CHO v = 0, 18(7,12) – 17(7,11), E	346957.55	–2.896	268.606	B	JPL
CH <sub>3</sub> CHO v = 0, 18(7,11) – 17(7,10), E	346957.55	–2.896	268.606	B	JPL
CH <sub>3</sub> CHO v = 0, 18(7,12) – 17(7,11), E	346995.53	–2.896	268.572	24	JPL
CH <sub>3</sub> CHO v = 0, 18(6,13)– 17(6,12), E	347071.54	–2.875	239.399	33 <sup>m</sup>	JPL
CH <sub>3</sub> CHO v = 0, 18(6,12) – 17(6,11), E	347071.68	–2.875	239.399	33 <sup>m</sup>	JPL
CH <sub>3</sub> CHO v = 0, 18(6,12) – 17(6,11), E	347090.40	–2.875	239.397	33 <sup>m</sup>	JPL
CH <sub>3</sub> CHO v = 0, 18(6,13) – 17(6,12), E	347132.68	–2.875	239.321	33	JPL
CH <sub>3</sub> CHO vt = 1, 18(4,14) – 17(4,13), E	347182.41	–2.845	400.378	B	JPL
CH <sub>3</sub> CHO vt = 1, 18(5,13) – 17(5,12), E	347216.79	–2.859	420.440	B	JPL
CH <sub>3</sub> CHO vt = 1, 18(5,14) – 17(5,13), E	347251.82	–2.858	419.672	T	JPL
CH <sub>3</sub> CHO v = 0, 18(5,14) – 17(5,13), E	347288.26	–2.858	214.697	53	JPL
CH <sub>3</sub> CHO v = 0, 18(5,13) – 17(5,12), E	347294.87	–2.858	214.698	115	JPL
CH <sub>3</sub> CHO v = 0, 18(5,13) – 17(5,12), E	347345.71	–2.858	214.640	B	JPL
CH <sub>3</sub> CHO v = 0, 18(5,14) – 17(5,13), E	347349.27	–2.858	214.611	B	JPL

**Table 1**  
(Continued)

Transition QNs	Frequency (MHz)	$\log(A_{ul})$ ( $s^{-1}$ )	$E_u$ (K)	$W^a$ (K km s $^{-1}$ )	Line List
HCOOCH <sub>3</sub> v = 0 28(12,16)–27(12,15) E	345974.66	–3.287	335.433	11 <sup>m</sup>	JPL
HCOOCH <sub>3</sub> v = 0 28(12,17)–27(12,16) A	345985.38	–3.287	335.434	11 <sup>m</sup>	JPL
HCOOCH <sub>3</sub> v = 0 28(12,16)–27(12,15) A	345985.38	–3.287	335.434	11 <sup>m</sup>	JPL
HCOOCH <sub>3</sub> v = 0 28(12,17)–27(12,16) E	346001.61	–3.287	335.430	11 <sup>m</sup>	JPL
HCOOCH <sub>3</sub> v = 0 28(11,17)–27(11,16) E	346659.86	–3.269	320.394	B	JPL
HCOOCH <sub>3</sub> v = 0 28(11,18)–27(11,17) A	346674.98	–3.269	320.395	22 <sup>m</sup>	JPL
HCOOCH <sub>3</sub> v = 0 28(11,17)–27(11,16) A	346675.64	–3.269	320.396	22 <sup>m</sup>	JPL
HCOOCH <sub>3</sub> v = 0 28(11,18)–27(11,17) E	346687.46	–3.269	320.391	22 <sup>m</sup>	JPL
HCOOCH <sub>3</sub> v = 0 27(5,22)–26(5,21) E	347478.25	–3.211	247.252	B	JPL
HCOOCH <sub>3</sub> v = 0 27(5,22)–26(5,21) A	347493.96	–3.211	247.256	30	JPL
g–CH <sub>3</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> OH 20(3,18)–19(3,17) vt = 0–0	345648.57	–3.436	242.486	27	JPL
g–CH <sub>3</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> OH 20(10,10)–19(10, 9) vt = 1–1	346085.56	–3.549	358.843	T	JPL
g–CH <sub>3</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> OH 20(10,11)–19(10,10) vt = 1–1	346085.56	–3.549	358.843	T	JPL
g–CH <sub>3</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> OH 20(9,12)–19(9,11) vt = 1–1	346183.19	–3.522	335.566	T	JPL
g–CH <sub>3</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> OH 20(9,11)–19(9,10) vt = 1–1	346183.19	–3.522	335.566	T	JPL
g–CH <sub>3</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> OH 20(11,10)–19(11, 9) vt = 0–0	346383.64	–3.580	379.110	5 <sup>m</sup>	JPL
g–CH <sub>3</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> OH 20(11, 9)–19(11, 8) vt = 0–0	346383.64	–3.580	379.110	5 <sup>m</sup>	JPL
g–CH <sub>3</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> OH 20(10,11)–19(10,10) vt = 0–0	346424.58	–3.548	353.452	T	JPL
g–CH <sub>3</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> OH 20(10,10)–19(10, 9) vt = 0–0	346424.58	–3.548	353.452	T	JPL
g–CH <sub>3</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> OH 20(9,12)–19(9,11) vt = 0–0	346505.34	–3.521	330.252	T	JPL
g–CH <sub>3</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> OH 20(9,11)–19(9,10) vt = 0–0	346505.34	–3.521	330.252	T	JPL
g–CH <sub>3</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> OH 20(7,14)–19(7,13) vt = 1–1	346565.08	–3.479	296.366	22 <sup>m</sup>	JPL
g–CH <sub>3</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> OH 20(7,13)–19(7,12) vt = 1–1	346565.39	–3.479	296.366	22 <sup>m</sup>	JPL
g–CH <sub>3</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> OH 20(8,13)–19(8,12) vt = 0–0	346620.32	–3.498	309.511	T	JPL
g–CH <sub>3</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> OH 20(8,12)–19(8,11) vt = 0–0	346620.33	–3.498	309.511	T	JPL
g–CH <sub>3</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> OH 20(7,14)–19(7,13) vt = 0–0	346816.58	–3.478	291.241	12 <sup>m</sup>	JPL
g–CH <sub>3</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> OH 20(7,13)–19(7,12) vt = 0–0	346816.92	–3.478	291.241	12 <sup>m</sup>	JPL
t–CH <sub>3</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> OH 21(0,21)–20(1,20)	346962.59	–3.616	185.843	B	JPL
g–CH <sub>3</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> OH 20(6,15)–19(6,14) vt = 0–0	347147.20	–3.461	275.456	13	JPL
g–CH <sub>3</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> OH 20(6,14)–19(6,13) vt = 0–0	347157.99	–3.461	275.457	9	JPL
t–CH <sub>3</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> OH 14(3,12)–13(2,11)	347350.92	–3.757	99.660	B	JPL
t–CH <sub>3</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> OH 21(1,21)–20(0,20)	347445.52	–3.573	185.853	41	JPL
g–CH <sub>3</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> OH 20(5,16)–19(5,15) vt = 1–1	347473.56	–3.447	267.087	B	JPL

#### Notes.

<sup>a</sup> Integrated line intensities (see the text for the definition) measured from the lower disk atmosphere for the reasonably isolated lines detected with more than  $3\sigma$ . They are the mean values averaging over a rectangular region (with a size of  $0''.2 \times 0''.05$  covering most of the emission) centered at the lower atmosphere. In this column, the line intensities commented with “m” are the mean values obtained by averaging over two or more lines with similar  $E_u$  and  $\log A_{ul}$  for better measurements. T: the lines are tentatively detected with about  $2\sigma$  detection and a part of the linear PF structure. S: the lines are blended with the line(s) of the same molecule at different transitions. B: the lines are blended with the line(s) of other molecules. The line intensities here are assumed to have an uncertainty of 40%.

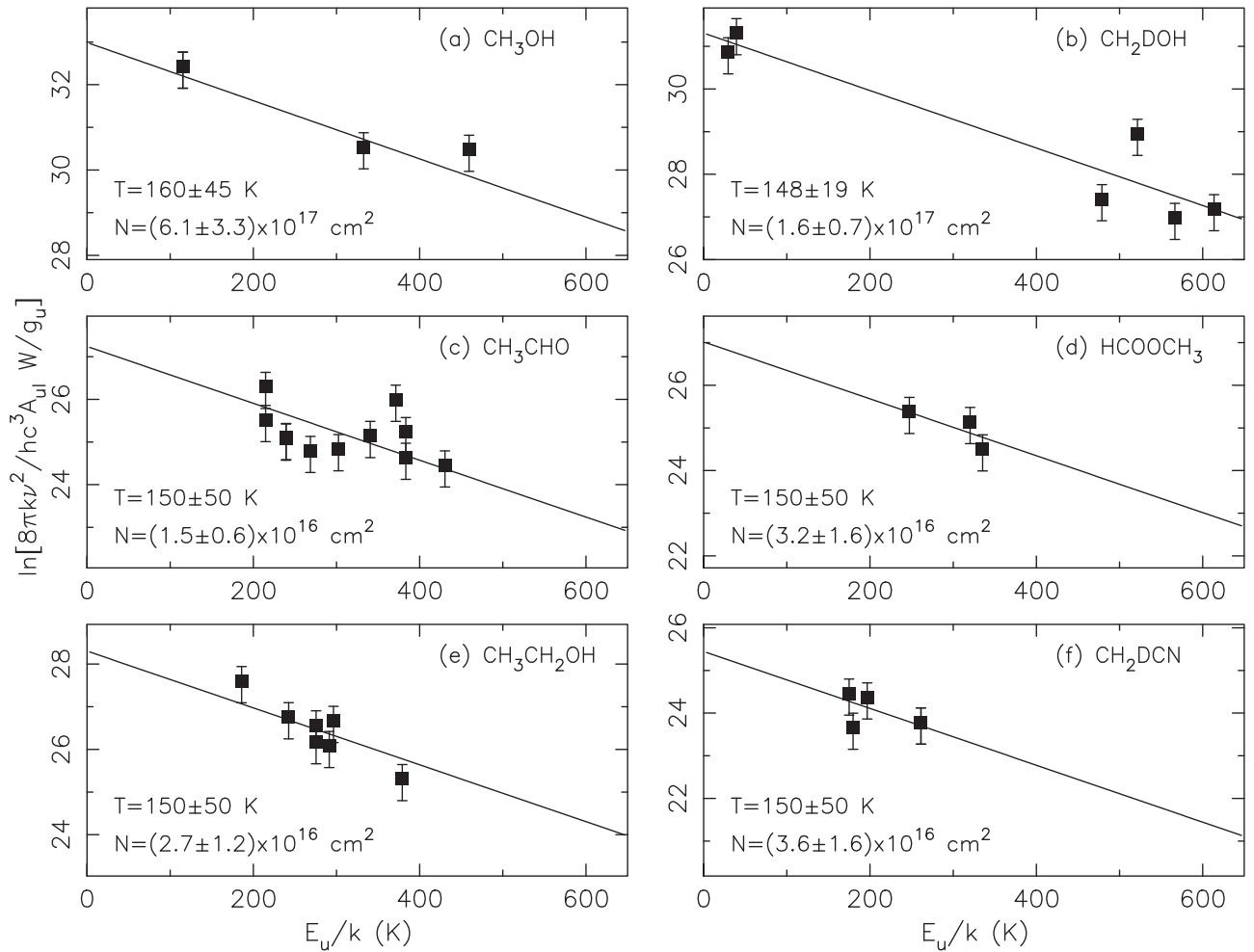
<sup>b</sup>  $^{13}\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$  intensity after removing the small contribution from  $\text{CH}_2\text{DCN}$  (see the text).

to those in IRAS 16293-2422B (Jørgensen et al. 2018), B335 (Imai et al. 2016), and NGC 1333 IRAS4A2 (López-Sepulcre et al. 2017). In this comparison,  $\text{CH}_3\text{SH}$  is excluded because of no reliable measurement of this molecule in other hot corinos to compare with. Interestingly, the relative abundances of most molecules here in HH 212 are similar to those in other hot corinos to within a factor of few, suggesting that the formation of these molecules in the disk atmosphere could be similar to that in other hot corinos. Notice that the abundance of  $\text{CH}_3\text{SH}$  here is also consistent with that predicted in the hot corino, which can be as high as  $5 \times 10^{-8}$  (Majumdar et al. 2016). Moreover, the abundances here are also similar to those seen in the Class I corino SVS13-A (Bianchi et al. 2019) and to those seen in Comet Lovejoy, which shows similar abundances to IRAS 16293-2422B (Biver et al. 2015).

As discussed in Lee et al. (2017c), the high degree of deuteration in methanol (with  $[\text{CH}_2\text{DOH}]/[\text{CH}_3\text{OH}] \sim 0.12$ ) and the detection of doubly deuterated formaldehyde suggest

that the methanol and formaldehyde in the disk atmosphere are originally formed on icy grains and later desorbed (evaporated) into gas phase due to the heating possibly by low-velocity accretion shock near the centrifugal barrier or the radiation of the protostar. This heating can also be produced by an interaction with a wind/outflow from an inner region (Lee et al. 2018). The temperature of the disk atmosphere where the organic molecules are detected is similar to the freeze-out temperature of water, which is  $\sim 150$  K (Öberg et al. 2011). Thus, the detection of deuterated water in the disk atmosphere (Codella et al. 2018) supports that the two organic molecules are evaporated in the disk atmosphere where it is warm enough to release the water. However, how the other organic molecules are formed is still an open question and not necessarily on the grain surfaces.

In case the organic molecules are formed on the icy grains, they can be formed on the icy grains in the disk, as suggested in the TW Hya protoplanetary disk for the methanol (Walsh et al.



**Figure 3.** Rotation diagrams for molecular lines of the six organic molecules including  $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$ ,  $\text{CH}_2\text{DOH}$ ,  $\text{CH}_3\text{CHO}$ ,  $\text{HCOOCH}_3$ ,  $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$ , and  $\text{CH}_2\text{DCN}$ . The diagrams are derived from the line intensities in the lower disk atmosphere listed in Table 1. The error bars show the uncertainty in our measurements, which are assumed to be 40% of the data values. The solid line is a linear fit to the data. In panels (c)–(f), the temperature is fixed at  $150 \pm 50$  K for the fitting in order to derive the column densities from the weak lines.

2016), either in situ on the surface or first in the midplane and then brought to the surface by turbulence (Furuya & Aikawa 2014). Like the hot corinos, it is also possible that the molecules already formed on the icy grains in the prestellar core, and then were brought in to the disk surface. CO is frozen onto to the grains at the temperature of  $\sim 20$  K (Öberg et al. 2011). One possible scenario (although to be proven) is that, in the regions such as prestellar cores and probably the disk midplane where the temperature is below 20 K, CO-rich ices on dust grains can undergo addition reactions with H (and D), O, C, and N atoms accreted from the gas, producing a rich organic chemistry on the grains, as proposed in Charnley & Rodgers (2008).

Having said that, some of the organic molecules could also be quickly formed in the gas phase using simpler species released from grains. This could be the case for formamide, which was found to be mainly formed in the gas phase in a young shocked region such as L1157-B1 (Codella et al. 2017). In addition, acetaldehyde can also be formed in gas phase, as suggested in Charnley (2004).

These organic molecules are of great importance for forming even more COMs such as amino acids and amino sugars, which are the building blocks of life. Our observations clearly show that they have formed in a disk or been brought in to a disk in

the earliest phase of star formation and may play a crucial role in producing the rich organic chemistry needed for life. It is also tempting to estimate the alcohol degree in the disk atmosphere. According to Codella et al. (2018), the column density of deuterated water is  $\lesssim 3 \times 10^{17} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ . Assuming  $[\text{H}/\text{D}] \sim [\text{CH}_3\text{OH}/\text{CH}_2\text{DOH}] \sim 8.1$ , then the column density of the water is  $\lesssim 2.4 \times 10^{18} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ . With the derived column density of ethanol in Table 2, and the molecular mass of ethanol of 46 and water of 18, the alcohol degree by mass is estimated to be  $\gtrsim 2.8\%$ , and thus could be similar to that of a regular beer.

#### 4.3. Possible Disk Wind?

Methanol and acetaldehyde have been argued to trace a disk wind in HH 112 (Leurini et al. 2016; Codella et al. 2018). Now in observations at higher resolution, they seem to trace mainly a ring of disk atmosphere near the centrifugal barrier, which could in principle be heated by a weak (accretion) shock produced by the rapid decrease of the infall velocity near the centrifugal barrier. However, as their maps also show small extensions extending out from the disk (see Figure 1), they may also trace a wind coming out from the disk surface. Nonetheless, as these extensions appear to be surrounding the

**Table 2**  
Column Densities and Abundances in the Lower Disk Atmosphere

Species	Excitation Temperature (K)	Column Density ( $\text{cm}^{-2}$ )	Abundance <sup>a</sup>
CH <sub>3</sub> OH... <sup>b</sup>	160 ± 45	$(6.1 \pm 3.3) \times 10^{17}$	$(1.6 \pm 0.9) \times 10^{-7}$
CH <sub>3</sub> OH... <sup>c</sup>	150 ± 50 <sup>d</sup>	$(1.3 \pm 0.7) \times 10^{18}$	$(3.3 \pm 1.8) \times 10^{-7}$
CH <sub>2</sub> DOH	148 ± 19	$(1.6 \pm 0.7) \times 10^{17}$	$(4.2 \pm 1.8) \times 10^{-8}$
<sup>13</sup> CH <sub>3</sub> OH <sup>e</sup>	150 ± 50 <sup>d</sup>	$(2.5 \pm 1.4) \times 10^{16}$	$(6.6 \pm 3.7) \times 10^{-9}$
H <sub>2</sub> CCO	150 ± 50 <sup>d</sup>	$(3.8 \pm 2.0) \times 10^{15}$	$(1.0 \pm 0.5) \times 10^{-9}$
t-HCOOH	150 ± 50 <sup>d</sup>	$(2.0 \pm 1.1) \times 10^{16}$	$(5.3 \pm 2.9) \times 10^{-9}$
CH <sub>2</sub> DCN	150 ± 50 <sup>d</sup>	$(3.6 \pm 1.6) \times 10^{14}$	$(9.5 \pm 4.2) \times 10^{-11}$
CH <sub>3</sub> CHO	150 ± 50 <sup>d</sup>	$(1.5 \pm 0.6) \times 10^{16}$	$(3.9 \pm 1.6) \times 10^{-9}$
HCOOCH <sub>3</sub>	150 ± 50 <sup>d</sup>	$(3.2 \pm 1.6) \times 10^{16}$	$(8.4 \pm 4.2) \times 10^{-9}$
CH <sub>3</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> OH	150 ± 50 <sup>d</sup>	$(2.7 \pm 1.2) \times 10^{16}$	$(7.1 \pm 3.2) \times 10^{-9}$
CH <sub>3</sub> SH <sup>f</sup>	150 ± 50 <sup>d</sup>	$(9.3 \pm 5.5) \times 10^{16}$	$(2.4 \pm 1.4) \times 10^{-8}$
NH <sub>2</sub> CHO <sup>f</sup>	150 ± 50 <sup>d</sup>	$(1.6 \pm 0.9) \times 10^{15}$	$(4.2 \pm 2.4) \times 10^{-10}$
D <sub>2</sub> CO <sup>f</sup>	150 ± 50 <sup>d</sup>	$(3.0 \pm 1.6) \times 10^{15}$	$(7.9 \pm 4.2) \times 10^{-10}$

**Notes.**

<sup>a</sup> Derived by dividing the column densities of the molecules by the H<sub>2</sub> column density in the disk atmosphere, which is  $\sim 3.8 \times 10^{24} \text{ cm}^{-2}$  (see the text).

<sup>b</sup> Derived from the rotation diagram in Figure 3(a). The value derived this way is considered as the lower limit of the CH<sub>3</sub>OH column density (see the text).

<sup>c</sup> Obtained by multiplying the <sup>13</sup>CH<sub>3</sub>OH column density by 50, which is the <sup>12</sup>C/<sup>13</sup>C ratio obtained in the Orion complex (Kahane et al. 2018). The value derived this way is adopted for the CH<sub>3</sub>OH column density (see the text).

<sup>d</sup> Assuming an excitation temperature (rotational temperature) of  $150 \pm 50$  K, which is the mean value derived from the CH<sub>3</sub>OH and CH<sub>2</sub>DOH lines.

<sup>e</sup> Estimated after subtracting the small contribution from CH<sub>2</sub>DCN (see the text).

<sup>f</sup> Adopted from Lee et al. (2017c), updated for an excitation temperature of  $150 \pm 50$  K.

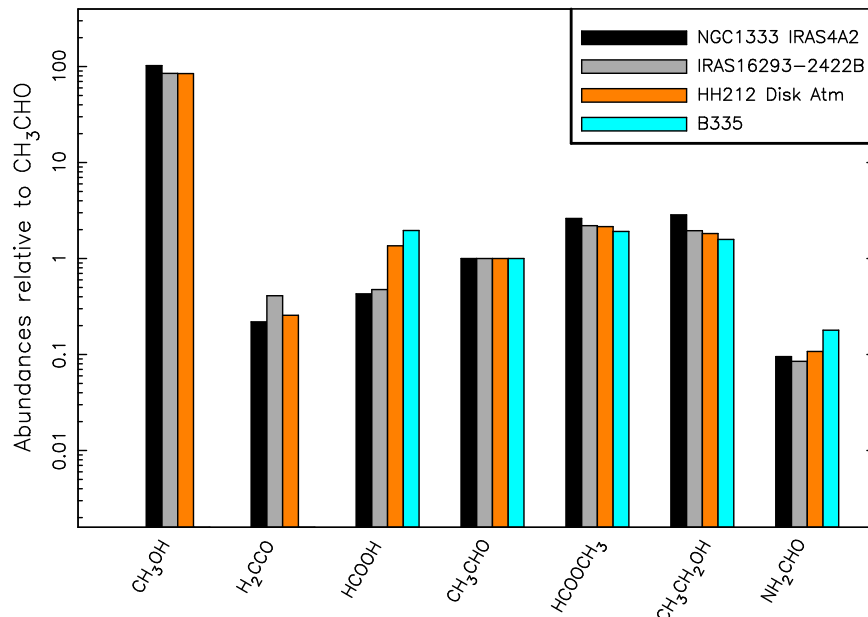
SO outflow shell detected further in Lee et al. (2018), they could also be the disk atmosphere pushed away by the SO outflow shell. Detailed kinematic study of these extensions with the SO outflow shell is needed to check these scenarios.

## 5. Conclusions

The nearly edge-on orientation of the disk in HH 212 provides the best view of the disk atmosphere. Here we have detected 9 organic molecules in the disk atmosphere. These molecules are characteristic of a hot corino and are found here to be in the disk atmosphere, confirming that the corino here is a warm disk atmosphere. Adding 3 other organic molecules from our previous study, we have detected 12 organic molecules, with 9 of them being COMs, in the disk atmosphere within  $\sim 40$  au of the central protostar. These molecules seem to arise mainly from a ring of disk atmosphere near the centrifugal barrier. Some of them may also trace a wind coming out from the disk surface.

The relative abundances of the organic molecules in the HH 212 disk atmosphere are similar to those in hot corinos around other low-mass protostars and even to those in Comet Lovely. It would be interesting to determine whether the hot corinos around other low-mass protostars are also located in their disk atmospheres or not, perhaps through higher-resolution ALMA observations. In addition, the formation mechanism of the organic molecules can also be similar to that in those corinos. The organic molecules can originally be formed on icy grains, either in the disk or in the prestellar core and then brought in to the disk, and then desorbed (evaporated) into the gas phase. They can also be quickly formed in the gas phase using simpler species ejected from the dust mantles.

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**Figure 4.** Comparison of the abundances of organic molecules in the HH 212 disk atmosphere with those in the hot corinos around other low-mass protostars. As shown in Table 2, our measurements have an uncertainty of about 50%.



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