

An evolutionary study of volatile chemistry in protoplanetary disks

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ABSTRACT

The volatile composition of a planet is determined by the inventory of gas and ice in the parent disk. The volatile chemistry in the disk is expected to evolve over time, though this evolution is poorly constrained observationally. We present ALMA observations of C¹⁸O, C₂H, and the isotopologues H¹³CN, HC¹⁵N, and DCN towards five Class 0/I disk candidates. Combined with a sample of fourteen Class II disks presented in Bergner et al. (2019b), this data set offers a view of volatile chemical evolution over the disk lifetime. Our estimates of C¹⁸O abundances are consistent with a rapid depletion of CO in the first \sim 0.5–1 Myr of the disk lifetime. We do not see evidence that C₂H and HCN formation are enhanced by CO depletion, possibly because the gas is already quite under-abundant in CO. Further CO depletion may actually hinder their production by limiting the gas-phase carbon supply. The embedded sources show several chemical differences compared to the Class II stage, which seem to arise from shielding of radiation by the envelope (impacting C₂H formation and HC¹⁵N fractionation) and sublimation of ices from infalling material (impacting HCN and C¹⁸O abundances). Such chemical differences between Class 0/I and Class II sources may affect the volatile composition of planet-forming material at different stages in the disk lifetime.

Keywords: astrochemistry – protoplanetary disks – ISM: molecules

1. INTRODUCTION

Planet formation takes place within the gas- and dust-rich disks surrounding young stars. The volatile composition of a planet is set by the reservoirs of gas and ice in the disk at the time of its assembly. It is therefore important to understand how the gas and ice compositions evolve over the disk lifetime. In particular, the relative abundances of volatile elements (C/N/O) in an exoplanet’s atmosphere offer a promising way to infer its formation history (e.g. Öberg et al. 2011; Cridland et al. 2016), provided that we understand the chemistry of these elements in the disk. Additionally, C, N, and O are the main ingredients of organic chemistry, and the inventories of these elements incorporated into nascent

planets may have important implications for the viability of prebiotic chemistry.

One key trend to emerge from observations of volatiles in disks is that CO and H₂O appear depleted in the molecular layer relative to ISM abundances (Dutrey et al. 2003; Chapillon et al. 2008; Hogerheijde et al. 2011; Favre et al. 2013; Bergin et al. 2013; Williams & Best 2014; McClure et al. 2016; Cleeves et al. 2016; Schwarz et al. 2016; Du et al. 2017). This is thought to reflect the transport of ice-covered dust grains to the disk midplane, where chemical and/or physical processes prevent the volatiles from re-entering the gas (e.g. Meijerink et al. 2009; Bergin et al. 2010; Krijt et al. 2016; Schwarz et al. 2018). The different volatilities and chem-

ical reactivities of major volatile carriers (H_2O , CO, and N_2) mean that each element will be depleted to a different extent, with oxygen being most depleted, followed by carbon and then nitrogen. Modeling of the CO, C_2H , and HCN emission in the IM Lup disk supports this depletion pattern (Cleeves et al. 2018).

Besides impacting the relative distribution of CO and H_2O between the disk midplane and atmosphere, this depletion may also alter the chemistry of other volatiles in the disk atmosphere. In particular, models predict that an O-depleted gas with a strong UV radiation field should facilitate the production of cyanides and hydrocarbons (Du et al. 2015). Bright cyanide (CN , HCN, CH_3CN , HC_3N) and hydrocarbon (C_2H , C_3H_2) emission towards a number of protoplanetary disks has been interpreted as an outcome of this chemistry (Bergin et al. 2016; Guzmán et al. 2017; Bergner et al. 2018).

While this framework can explain the emission patterns in a few individual sources, we are lacking a systematic view of how the volatile chemistry evolves with time. Depletion factors measured across different disks vary dramatically (generally factors of a few to 100 for CO and two to four orders of magnitude for O traced by H_2O , e.g. McClure et al. 2016; Du et al. 2017), and it is unclear whether this is an evolutionary effect or a reflection of different depletion efficiencies in different physical environments. Similarly, it is not clear at what stage volatile depletion becomes important for regulating disk chemistry. The low CO abundance inferred for the ~ 1 Myr IM Lup disk (20 \times lower than ISM levels; Cleeves et al. 2018) suggests that depletion must, in at least some cases, occur very early in the disk lifetime.

The physical evolution of a protostar begins with an object deeply embedded in its envelope (termed Class 0). The envelope undergoes infall and accretion onto a circumstellar disk (Class I) and is eventually dispersed, leaving only a protoplanetary disk (Class II). Classes are generally assigned based on the infrared slope of the SED and/or the protostar's bolometric temperature (Dunham et al. 2014b). Recent evidence indicates that grain growth and possibly planet formation are well underway by the Class II stage (Andrews et al. 2018; Zhang et al. 2018), and perhaps already by the embedded stage (ALMA Partnership et al. 2015; Harsono et al. 2018). This implies that much of the physics and chemistry important for planet formation may be set in the Class 0/I (protostellar) disk stage.

It has only recently become possible to disentangle Class 0/I disks from the envelope using high spatial resolution observations of line kinematics (e.g. Murillo et al. 2013; Ohashi et al. 2014), and our understanding of how the protostellar disk chemistry relates to protoplanetary

disk chemistry is poor. Notably, the degree of volatile depletion in protostellar disks is unclear. Anderl et al. (2016) see evidence for ~ 1 order of magnitude CO depletion in a sample of Class 0 envelopes, and Harsono et al. (2020) find low water abundances in embedded Class I disks. Meanwhile, van 't Hoff et al. (2018) and Zhang et al. (2020) find evidence for an ISM CO abundance in the embedded disks L1527, TMC 1A, HL Tau, and DG Tau. Additional observations of embedded sources, particularly those that resolve the protostellar core or disk from the envelope, are needed to provide insight into the chemistry and depletion of volatile molecules in protostellar disks.

Further constraint on the volatile chemistry in disks is offered by molecular isotopologues. Different isotopic fractionation pathways are active under specific physical conditions, and so studying fractionation can provide insight into what types of chemistry are active at different evolutionary stages. This is especially important for interpreting fractionation patterns seen in Solar system bodies, which are often used to infer where in the Solar nebula and from what material different objects formed (e.g Kerridge et al. 1987; Messenger & Walker 1997; Ehrenfreund & Charnley 2000).

The HCN isotopologues DCN and HC^{15}N are bright at mm wavelengths and relatively abundant throughout the star formation sequence, offering a valuable probe of deuterium and ^{15}N fractionation. Generally, D fractionation is expected to proceed by gas-phase ion exchange reactions that favor the incorporation of D into molecules in cold environments. Fractionation pathways beginning with H_2D^+ are predicted to be efficient below 30 K (e.g Millar et al. 1989; Pagani et al. 1992). Pathways beginning with CH_2D^+ were originally expected to be efficient up to 80 K and were more recently predicted to be active up to 300 K (Roberts & Millar 2000; Roueff et al. 2013; Favre et al. 2015). CH_2D^+ initiation was expected to dominate DCN formation in early chemical models (Millar et al. 1989), though modeling by Willacy (2007) introduced pathways to form DCN starting with H_2D^+ or D_3^+ , both of which should favor colder environments. Though smaller in magnitude than D fractionation, ^{15}N fractionation also proceeds through gas-phase ion exchange reactions in cold environments (Terzieva & Herbst 2000; Rodgers & Charnley 2008). Additionally, in strongly UV-irradiated environments such as disk atmospheres, selective dissociation of $^{15}\text{N}^{14}\text{N}$ over N_2 due to different self-shielding efficiencies also enhances the incorporation of ^{15}N into molecules besides N_2 (Heays et al. 2014).

Recently, DCN/HCN and $\text{HC}^{15}\text{N}/\text{HCN}$ fractionation patterns were surveyed in a sample of six Class II disks

by Huang et al. (2017) and Guzmán et al. (2017). Huang et al. (2017) find high DCN/HCN ratios in disks, consistent with measurements in pre- and proto-stellar sources, but with a wide morphological diversity suggestive of an in situ chemistry dependent on the unique physical conditions in each disk. Guzmán et al. (2017) find high HC¹⁵N/HCN ratios consistent with values measured in cold gas and in comets, suggestive of inheritance. Still, for the one disk with spatially resolved emission (V4046 Sgr), an increasing HCN/HC¹⁵N ratio moving outwards in the disk suggests that in situ photodissociation-driven fractionation is important. A similar result is seen in the TW Hya disk by Hily-Blant et al. (2019). Measurements of D and ¹⁵N fractionation in HCN towards Class 0/I disks are still needed to evaluate whether younger disks demonstrate similar fractionation patterns, or if there is a distinct Class II fractionation chemistry.

In this work, we present an evolutionary study of volatile chemistry in Class 0, I, and II sources. We focus our analysis on two chemical regimes: (i) the relationship between hydrocarbon, cyanide, and CO chemical families as traced by C₂H, HCN, and C¹⁸O, and (ii) ¹⁵N/¹⁴N fractionation and D/H fractionation in HCN. Our source targets consist of five protostellar (Class

0/I) disk candidates and fourteen Class II disks. C¹⁸O, C₂H, H¹³CN, DCN, and HC¹⁵N observations towards the Class 0/I sources are presented in this work, along with HCN isotopologue observations for a subset of the Class II sources. C₂H, HCN, and C¹⁸O observations towards the Class II disks were previously presented in Bergner et al. (2019b). HC¹⁵N and DCN were also previously targeted towards six disks in our sample in Guzmán et al. (2017) and Huang et al. (2017). Combining these data sets, we can test the paradigm of volatile depletion and its chemical side-effects, explore isotope fractionation chemistry, and distinguish the extent to which Class II disks represent a distinct chemical regime. In Section 2 we describe our source samples and observations. Section 3 presents the observational results, including line detections and emission morphologies. In Section 4 we derive column density and abundance estimates, and explore evolutionary trends in the C₂H, HCN, and C¹⁸O abundances. In Section 5 we derive HCN/HC¹⁵N and HCN/DCN ratios across the source sample. Lastly, in Section 6 we discuss trends in the C₂H, HCN, and C¹⁸O chemistries and in HCN/HC¹⁵N and HCN/DCN ratios, and implications for the volatile chemical evolution over the disk lifetime.

Table 1. Summary of previously unpublished observations

Transition	ALMA Project Code	Source targets
CO 2–1	2015.1.00964.S	Ser-emb 1, 7, 8, 15, 17
¹³ CO 2–1	2015.1.00964.S	J1609, J1612, J1614
C ¹⁸ O 2–1	2015.1.00964.S	Ser-emb 1, 7, 8, 15, 17
C ₂ H N=3–2, J=5/2–5/2, F=3–3	2015.1.00964.S	Ser-emb 1, 7, 8, 15, 17
HCN 3–2	2015.1.00964.S	HD 143006, J1604, J1609, J1612, J1614
H ¹³ CN 3–2	2015.1.00964.S	Ser-emb 1, 7, 8, 15, 17
HC ¹⁵ N 3–2	2016.1.00627.S	CI Tau, DM Tau, DO Tau, LkCa 15, MWC 480
	2015.1.00964.S	Ser-emb 1, 7, 8, 15, 17
	2016.1.00627.S	CI Tau, DM Tau, DO Tau, LkCa 15, MWC 480
DCN 3–2	2015.1.00964.S	Ser-emb 1, 7, 8, 15, 17; HD 143006, J1604, J1609, J1612, J1614
	2016.1.00627.S	CI Tau, DM Tau, DO Tau

2. OBSERVATIONS

The observations used in this project were taken as part of ALMA projects 2015.1.00964.S and 2016.1.00627.S (PI: K. Öberg). The targets include protostellar (Class 0/I) disk candidates as well as protoplanetary (Class II) disks. We aim to characterize evolutionary trends in (i) the CO, hydrocarbon, and cyanide chemistry, and (ii) deuterium and ¹⁵N fractionation in HCN. We

therefore focus on transitions of the CO isotopologues CO, ¹³CO, and C¹⁸O; the HCN isotopologues HCN, H¹³CN, HC¹⁵N, and DCN; and C₂H. Table 1 summarizes the previously unpublished molecular line observations within each ALMA program. We note that this data set is complementary to that presented in Bergner et al. (2019b), which included observations of CO or C¹⁸O, HCN or H¹³CN, and C₂H towards each Class II

Table 2. Source summary

Class 0/I targets ^{a,b}							
Source	Region	R.A. (J2000)	Dec. (J2000)	Class	T_{bol} (K)	M_{env} (M_{\odot})	L_{bol} (L_{\odot})
Ser-emb 1*	Serpens	18:29:09.1	0:31:30.9	0	39 [2]	3.1 [0.05]	4.1 [0.3]
Ser-emb 7*	Serpens	18:28:54.1	0:29:30.0	0	58 [13]	4.3 [0.4]	7.9 [0.3]
Ser-emb 8*	Serpens	18:29:48.1	1:16:43.7	0	58 [16]	9.4 [0.3]	5.4 ^c [6.2]
Ser-emb 15*	Serpens	18:29:54.3	0:36:00.8	I	101 [43]	1.3 [0.1]	0.4 [0.6]
Ser-emb 17*	Serpens	18:29:06.2	0:30:43.1	I	117 [21]	3.6 [0.4]	3.8 [3.3]
Class II targets							
Source	Region	R.A. (J2000)	Dec. (J2000)	Dist. ^d (pc)	Age ^e (Myr)	M_{\star} ^e (M_{\odot})	L_{\star} ^e (L_{\odot})
CI Tau*	Taurus	04:33:52.0	22:50:29.8	158.7	0.7 (0.4–1.8)	0.66	1.20
DM Tau*	Taurus	04:33:48.7	18:10:9.7	145.1	4.0 (2.5–7.1)	0.53	0.24
DO Tau*	Taurus	04:38:28.6	26:10:49.1	139.4	0.4 (0.1–0.9)	0.45	1.40
HD 143006*	Upper Sco	15:58:36.9	-22:57:15.5	166.1	4.0	1.78	3.80
J1604-2130*	Upper Sco	16:04:21.6	-21:30:28.9	150.1	13.8 (7.4–32)	1.11	0.62
J1609-1908*	Upper Sco	16:09:00.7	-19:08:53.1	137.6	4.8 (2.5–9.1)	0.68	0.32
J1612-1859*	Upper Sco	16:12:39.2	-18:59:28.9	139.1	4.1 (1.8–8.3)	0.56	0.29
J1614-1906*	Upper Sco	16:14:20.3	-19:06:48.5	143.9	2.1 (1.0–5.4)	0.60	0.46
LkCa 15*	Taurus	04:39:17.8	22:21:03.1	158.9	2.0 (0.9–4.3)	1.03	1.04
MWC 480*	Taurus	04:58:46.3	29:50:36.6	161.8	6.5	1.84	25
AS 209	Ophiuchus	16:49:15.3	-14:22:09.0	121.0	1.0	0.83	1.41
HD 163296	Isolated?	17:56:21.3	-21:57:22.5	101.5	13	2.04	17
IM Lup	Lupus	15:56:09.2	-37:56:06.5	158.4	0.5	0.89	2.57
V4046 Sgr	β Pic	18:14:10.5	-32:47:35.3	72.4	13	1.75	0.86

^a Class 0/I source properties are taken from Enoch et al. (2009) and Enoch et al. (2011).

^b A distance of 436 pc is assumed for all Serpens sources (Ortiz-León et al. 2018).

^c Likely an underestimate due to saturation in the 70 μ m flux measurement.

^d From *Gaia* Data Release 2 (Gaia Collaboration et al. 2018)

^e Stellar properties are taken from Pegues et al. (2020) (calculated using the methodology outlined in Andrews et al. (2018), except for V4046 Sgr which is taken from Rosenfeld et al. (2012)). When available, age ranges reflecting the uncertainty are listed in parentheses.

* Indicates a source with new observations presented in this work.

source. In the following sections, we describe in more detail the target samples and ALMA observations for the Class 0/I and Class II groups.

2.1. Protostellar (Class 0/I) disk candidates

The sample of protostellar disk candidates consists of five low-mass protostars in the Serpens cluster, described in Table 2. Each was identified as hosting a candidate disk based on non-zero flux at >50 k λ *uv* distances, corresponding to physical distances <1800 AU, in 230 GHz continuum observations (Enoch et al. 2011). Ser-emb 1, 7, and 8 are classified as Class 0 sources, and Ser-emb 15 and 17 as Class I (Enoch et al. 2009). Enoch et al. (2009) estimate that the Class 0 lifetime in Serpens is about 0.2 Myr, assuming a Class I lifetime of 0.54 Myr as found in Evans et al. (2009). A study of the organic molecule emission towards this source sample revealed that Ser-emb 1, Ser-emb 8, and Ser-emb 17 host hot corinos based on the detection of a warm, rich

organic chemistry in the protostellar core (Bergner et al. 2019a).

Full observational details can be found in Bergner et al. (2019a). Briefly, targets were observed by ALMA as part of project 2015.1.00964.S from May to June of 2016. Two Band 6 spectral setups (217–233 GHz and 243–262 GHz) were covered. This project makes use of spectral windows covering transitions of CO, C¹⁸O, C₂H, H¹³CN, HC¹⁵N, and DCN. All spectral windows have a channel width of 122 kHz, corresponding to \sim 0.14–0.17 km/s across the range of frequencies.

2.2. Class II disks

The full Class II disk sample is described in Bergner et al. (2019b), and source properties are shown in Table 2. The sample spans a range of physical properties including age (0.4–14 Myr), stellar mass (0.5–2 M_{\odot}), and stellar luminosity (0.2–25 L_{\odot}). In addition to the C₂H, HCN, and C¹⁸O observations presented in Bergner et al. (2019b), here we include previously unpublished

observations of DCN, HC¹⁵N, and ¹³CO lines towards a subset of the full disk sample.

The DCN 3–2 transition was observed towards HD 143006, J1604, J1609, J1612, and J1614 as part of ALMA project 2015.1.00964S; and towards CI Tau, DM Tau, and DO Tau as part of project 2016.1.00627.S. The HC¹⁵N 3–2 transition was observed towards CI Tau, DM Tau, DO Tau, LkCa 15, and MWC 480 as part of project 2016.1.00627.S. For sources with DCN or HC¹⁵N observations, we also re-analyze the HCN and H¹³CN 3–2 observations originally presented in Bergner et al. (2019b) to facilitate a consistent analysis of isotopic ratios. Lastly, we include previously unpublished observations of ¹³CO 2–1 towards J1609, J1612, and J1614, for which C¹⁸O emission was not detected. Observations took place from May–June of 2016 for project 2015.1.00964S and in December 2016 for project 2016.1.00627.S. In both cases, two Band 6 spectral setups covered similar frequency ranges and spectral resolutions as described for the Serpens observations.

2.3. Data reduction

Following pipeline calibration of the ALMA data, we performed self-calibration using the combined continuum emission from spectral windows within a given sideband. Depending on the continuum brightness, up to two rounds of phase self-calibration were performed. Solution intervals ranged from 12.1–42.35 sec for the Class 0 sources, 6.05–12.1 sec for the Class I sources, 60.5–84.7 sec for the Class II Upper Sco sources, and 6.05–48.4 sec for the remaining Class II sources. Continuum imaging was performed using Briggs weighting with a robust factor of 0.5. The self-calibration solutions were applied to the spectral line data following continuum subtraction in the uv plane. Calibrated and continuum-subtracted data were CLEANed to a 4σ noise threshold in CASA 5.5.0 using Briggs weighting and the automasking task `auto-multithresh` in `tclean`. We applied the standard automasking parameters for short baseline 12m line data (`sidelobethreshold` = 2.0, `noisethreshold` = 4.5, `minbeamfrac` = 0.3, `negativethreshold` = 15.0, `lownoisethreshold` = 1.5). Automasking results were verified by comparing to hand-masked images for select lines including extended and compact emission morphologies, and bright and weak emission strengths. For the Class 0/I sources, images were generated with a channel width of 0.25 km s^{-1} . We used a robust factor of 0.5 for all molecules except C₂H, for which we used a robust factor of 2.0 due to its weak and diffuse emission. For the Class II sources, imaging was performed with a channel width of 0.5 km s^{-1} . A robust factor of 2.0 was used for all disks except for HD 143006 and J1604,

whose bright emission permitted robust factors of 1.0 and 0.0 respectively.

3. OBSERVATIONAL RESULTS

3.1. Class 0/I sources

3.1.1. Line detections and velocity structures

Figure 1 shows an overview of the continuum and line emission observed towards the five Serpens protostellar disk candidates. As discussed in Bergner et al. (2019a), the continuum emission is more extended in the Class 0 sources (Ser-emb 1, 7, and 8) than in the Class I sources (Ser-emb 15 and 17), reflecting that they are less evolved and more deeply embedded in the envelope.

For line observations, the greyscale map represents the intensity integrated across the entire velocity range where emission is detected. The red and blue contours outline the emission originating from red- and blue-shifted velocities in the range indicated for each panel. Many velocity ranges were tested for each line in an effort to identify coherent velocity structures in the sources, and those shown represent the clearest structures that could be distinguished. We refer to the total intensity maps and the velocity structure maps as ‘Full’ and ‘R/B’, respectively. Velocity ranges and moment zero rms values for both sets of maps are listed in Table 3. We note that the spatial resolution of these observations ($\sim 0.5''$; Table 3) is not high enough to definitively identify the presence of Keplerian disks (see Martín- Doménech et al. 2019). Still, we can identify rotational structures in the compact molecular line emission that are perpendicular to the outflow direction, which we identify as either a disk or the disk-forming region of the rotating inner envelope. The following sections present the line emission velocity structures identified for each source.

3.1.2. Ser-emb 1

In Ser-emb 1, CO emission clearly traces an outflow structure. The line emission from C¹⁸O, H¹³CN, DCN, and HC¹⁵N show compact structures coincident with the continuum peak. For C¹⁸O, there is clearly resolved east–west velocity structure indicative of rotation, which may also be present for HC¹⁵N though the resolution is too low to confirm. Interestingly, the extended C₂H emission shows rotation in the same east–west direction. That the compact line emission rotates perpendicular to the outflow is suggestive that it is tracing a disk. However see Martín-Doménech et al. (2019) for a more detailed analysis of the structure of Ser-emb 1, in which a rotating infalling envelope cannot be ruled out as the origin of velocity structure. The CO and C¹⁸O velocity structures are much more coherent in Ser-emb 1 than

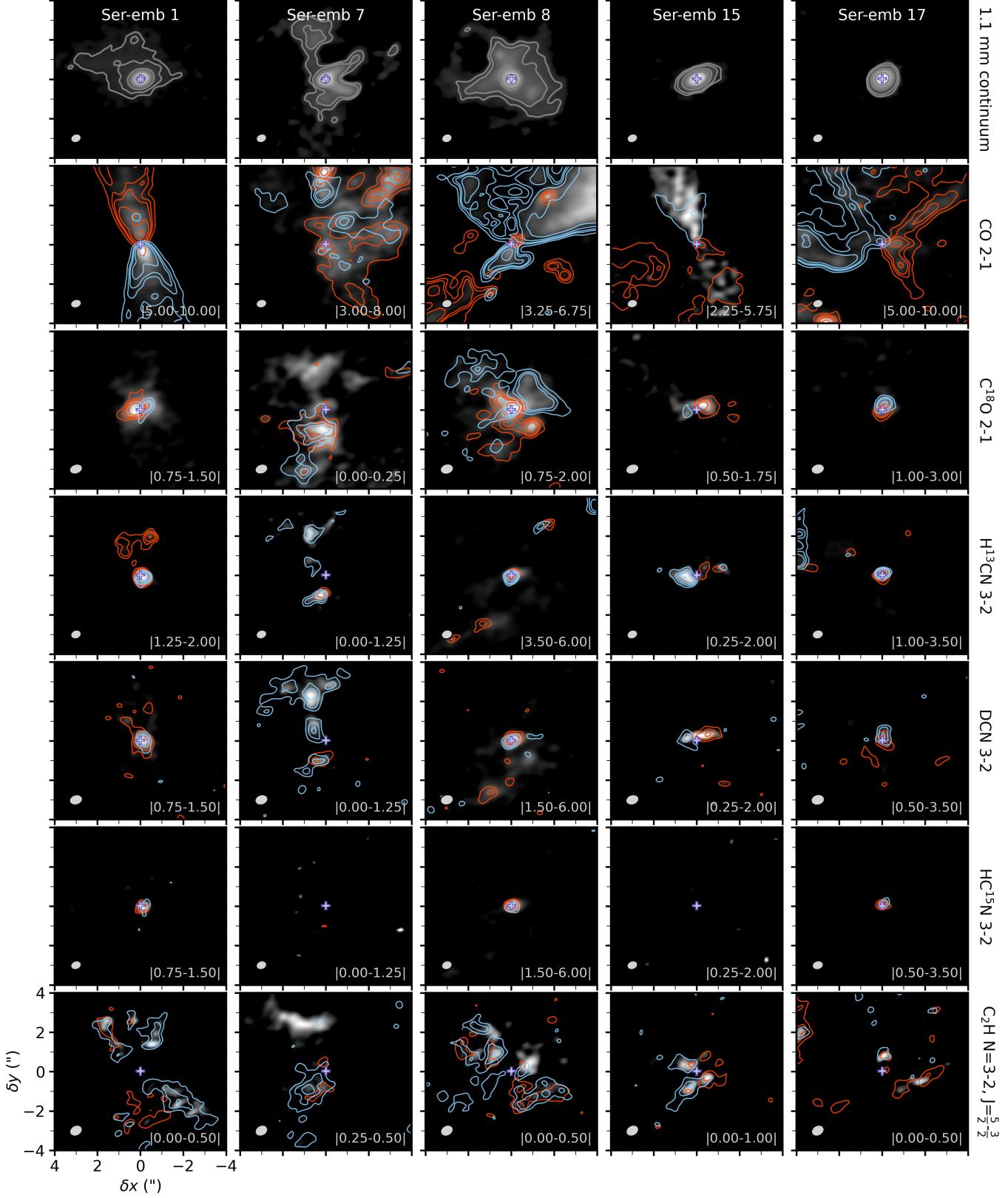


Figure 1. Protostellar disk candidate source structures (arranged with increasing T_{bol} left to right). The first row shows the 260 GHz continuum maps. To show extended structure a power-law color scale is used with $\gamma=0.3$. Contour levels correspond to $[6,10,30,100,400]\sigma$. All other rows show integrated intensity maps for each molecular line in greyscale. Colored contours correspond to the blue- and red-shifted emission within the velocity ranges indicated in the lower right of each panel (in km/s). Contours correspond to $[7,15,20,30,50]\sigma$ for CO, $[5,8,10,15]\sigma$ for $C^{18}O$, $[4,6,8,12]\sigma$ for $H^{13}CN$ and $HC^{15}N$, and $[3,5,7,10]\sigma$ for DCN and C_2H . Moment 0 rms values for each velocity range can be found in Table 3. Restoring beams are shown in the bottom left of each panel. Color scales are normalized to each individual image, and emission below 3σ is not shown.

the other Class 0 sources (Ser-emb 7 and 8), suggesting a smaller envelope contribution and that its structure and evolutionary stage may be more similar to those of a typical Class I source.

3.1.3. *Ser-emb 7*

Ser-emb 7 shows the most complicated structure of the sources in our sample. No coherent velocity structure could be identified for CO. For other detected molecular lines (C^{18}O , H^{13}CN , C_2H , and DCN), we identify two molecular emission peaks north and south of the continuum center, which are blue-shifted and red-shifted with respect to one another. For our analysis we will focus on the southern molecular emission peak, which is closer to the continuum peak. While the emission extracted from this region is not necessarily associated with the formation of a disk, it still offers constraints on the chemistry in the inner protostellar core. The velocities for Ser-emb 7 are shown relative to the southern component velocity center in Figure 1, and so all emission in the northern component appears blue-shifted. C^{18}O and C_2H do not show any clear velocity structure around the southern component, while H^{13}CN and DCN show a velocity gradient along the southwest-northeast axis.

3.1.4. *Ser-emb 8*

CO in Ser-emb 8 traces a messy outflow structure, and C^{18}O shows extended emission with velocity structures roughly similar to CO (i.e., blue-shifted emission in the northeast and red-shifted in the southwest). H^{13}CN , HC^{15}N , and DCN all show compact emission with signatures of a southwest-northeast rotation direction. Though projection effects are difficult to disentangle, the velocity structures are consistent with a small-scale rotation roughly in and out of the plane of the sky, and an outflow direction roughly within the plane of the sky, i.e. perpendicular outflow and disk-like structures. C_2H emission is extended and shows no clear velocity structures.

3.1.5. *Ser-emb 15*

Ser-emb 15 shows the clearest velocity structures of all the sources in our sample. There is an outflow traced by CO in the north-south direction. C^{18}O , H^{13}CN , and DCN show compact emission with east-west rotational structure. C_2H rotates along a similar direction, but with slabs of emission peaking above and below the continuum center. This is reminiscent of the ‘hamburger-bun’ structure seen towards the edge-on protostellar disk HH-212 (Lee et al. 2017; Codella et al. 2019). Together with the particularly flattened DCN structure, this is

quite suggestive that we are viewing an incipient disk edge-on.

3.1.6. *Ser-emb 17*

CO traces a very wide-angle west-east outflow in Ser-emb 17. Of the compactly emitting molecules, C^{18}O and DCN show a clear north-south rotation direction, while no rotational structure can be resolved for H^{13}CN or HC^{15}N . C_2H shows both compact and extended emission, with no apparent velocity structure. As in Ser-emb 1, 8, and 15, the compact line emission rotates in a direction perpendicular to the outflow, suggestive of a disk structure.

3.1.7. *Spectral extraction*

As seen in Figure 1, the structures of these embedded sources can be quite complex. Our aim is to isolate the molecular component of the protostellar disks or disk-forming regions. We therefore extract spectra from a region defined by the DCN emitting region: of all the lines covered here, DCN seems to most consistently trace compact disk-like emission. This is especially apparent in Ser-emb 15, in which DCN traces a flattened, visibly disk-like feature. For Ser-emb 7, 8, 15, and 17 we adopt a 6σ cutoff for the DCN emission mask, and in Ser-emb 1 we choose an 8σ cutoff to isolate the more compact central region. σ values correspond to the rms of the DCN ‘R/B’ maps listed in Table 3. For Ser-emb 7 we restrict the DCN mask to exclude the northern molecular emission peak (see Section 3.1.3). The angular sizes of the resulting masks are 0.40, 0.18, 0.43, 0.46, and 0.37 square arcseconds for Ser-emb 1, 7, 8, 15, and 17, respectively.

The resulting spectral line profiles are shown in Figure 2. We fit each line as a sum of Gaussians corresponding to different possible velocity components: a ‘medium’ component (Gaussian width constrained to $[0.1, 3]$ km/s) is included for all lines, and other components are added when needed to reproduce the overall profile: ‘absorption’ (Gaussian width $[0.1, 1]$ km/s and amplitude <0), ‘broad’ (Gaussian width $[2, 10]$ km/s), or ‘narrow’ (Gaussian width $[0.1, 0.4]$). With this routine we obtain very good fits to the spectra, as can be seen in Figure 2. We use the MCMC package `emcee` (Foreman-Mackey et al. 2013) to sample posterior distributions of the Gaussian fit parameters. By fitting for the absorption feature, we can recover the original flux density prior to self-absorption from the envelope/cloud, though we note that in the case of C^{18}O towards Ser-emb 8 and Ser-emb 17 there is some degeneracy between the amplitudes of the emission and absorption features.

We wish to isolate line fluxes originating from the disk-like structures, and excluding emission from the

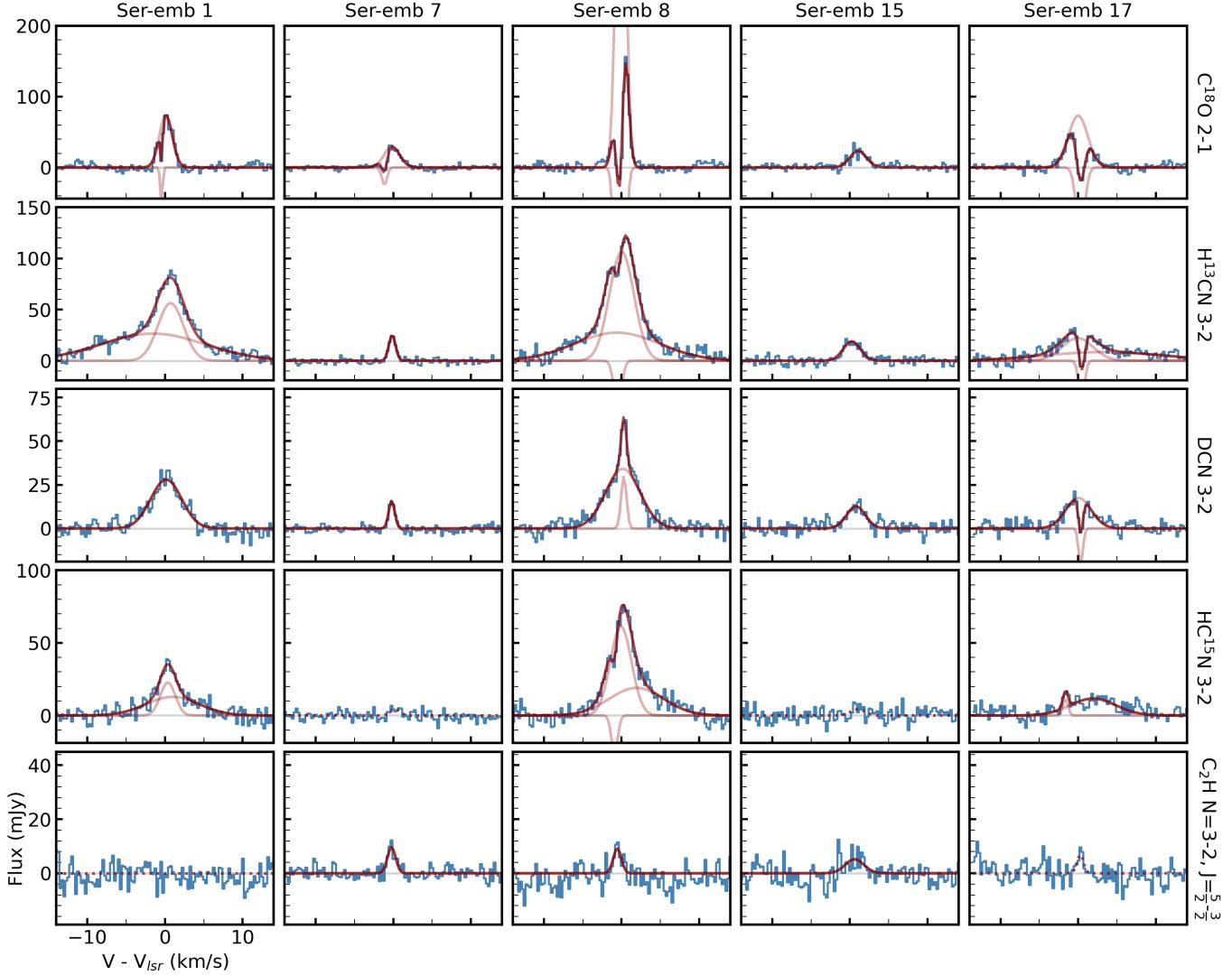


Figure 2. Spectral lines towards the protostellar disk/disk-forming region of the Serpens sources, extracted from within a DCN emission mask. Blue lines represent the observed spectra. Dark red lines show the overall fit, with contributions from different velocity components shown as light red lines. Non-detections ($<3\sigma$) are shown as dotted red lines.

parent cloud or outflows. We assume that narrow velocity components (emission or absorption, with Gaussian widths $\lesssim 0.5$ km/s) arise from the cloud. We also assume that broad emission components are associated with outflows. This is supported by the line profiles of DCN (which is spatially most closely associated with compact disk-like structures), which do not include a broad emission component. Thus, we assume that the flux coming from the disk-like region corresponds to the medium velocity component. We note that if broad emission does in fact originate from the disk structure, this would increase the fluxes by a factor of $\sim 2\text{--}3$ for H¹³CN in Ser-emb 1, 8, and 17 and for HC¹⁵N in Ser-emb 1 and 8. For non-detections of HC¹⁵N and C₂H, we calculate upper limits adopting the source's line width for H¹³CN and C¹⁸O, respectively. The fluxes resulting

from this treatment are listed in Table 3. Gaussian fit uncertainties are added in quadrature with a 10% calibration uncertainty, i.e. the estimated absolute calibration uncertainty for ALMA (e.g. Remijan et al. 2020), and propagated through all subsequent analysis.

3.2. Class II sources

Figure 3 shows the moment zero maps for the HCN isotopologues observed towards the Class II disks, along with deprojected and azimuthally averaged intensity profiles. ¹³CO moment zero maps for J1609, J1612, and J1614 can be found in Appendix A. Keplerian masking was used to generate the moment zero maps, assuming the star properties listed in Table 2, and disk inclinations and position angles listed in Appendix A (Table 8). Mask outer radii are chosen to encompass the observed

Table 3. Class 0/I line observations

Transition	Beam dim. (" \times ")	Chan. rms ^a (mJy beam $^{-1}$)	Vel. range ^b (km s $^{-1}$)		Mom. 0 rms ^b (mJy beam $^{-1}$ km s $^{-1}$)	Flux ^c (mJy km s $^{-1}$)	
			R/B	Full	R/B	Full	
Ser-emb 1							
C ¹⁸ O 2-1	0.62 \times 0.48	5.4	0.75–1.50	-1.75–2.00	2.8	6.1	154 \pm 16
H ¹³ CN 3-2	0.51 \times 0.43	5.0	1.25–2.00	-10.75–7.25	2.6	15.3	233 \pm 30
DCN 3-2	0.62 \times 0.50	5.2	0.75–1.50	-2.25–2.50	2.8	6.2	139 \pm 15
HC ¹⁵ N 3-2	0.51 \times 0.42	5.6	0.75–1.50	-1.50–2.50	2.9	6.2	55 \pm 9
C ₂ H N=3-2, J=5/2-3/2	0.63 \times 0.51	5.0	0.00–0.50	-1.00–0.75	2.3	3.7	< 21
Ser-emb 7							
C ¹⁸ O 2-1	0.61 \times 0.48	5.5	0.00–0.25	-3.00–3.00	1.9	7.7	74 \pm 9
H ¹³ CN 3-2	0.51 \times 0.43	5.0	0.00–1.25	-2.25–1.00	3.3	5.1	27 \pm 3
DCN 3-2	0.62 \times 0.51	5.2	0.00–1.25	-2.25–0.75	3.6	5.4	15 \pm 2
HC ¹⁵ N 3-2	0.51 \times 0.43	5.5	0.00–1.25	-2.25–0.75	3.6	5.4	< 10
C ₂ H N=3-2, J=5/2-3/2	0.63 \times 0.51	4.9	0.25–0.50	-2.50–0.50	1.8	5.0	13 \pm 2
Ser-emb 8							
C ¹⁸ O 2-1	0.63 \times 0.51	5.3	0.75–2.00	-3.00–2.00	3.5	7.1	886 \pm 240
H ¹³ CN 3-2	0.52 \times 0.44	5.1	3.50–6.00	-8.50–5.75	4.6	12.7	426 \pm 50
DCN 3-2	0.61 \times 0.51	5.6	1.50–6.00	-3.75–3.75	6.4	7.9	190 \pm 20
HC ¹⁵ N 3-2	0.51 \times 0.43	5.8	1.50–6.00	-3.50–4.25	6.8	8.8	212 \pm 40
C ₂ H N=3-2, J=5/2-3/2	0.63 \times 0.51	4.8	0.00–0.50	-3.00–1.00	2.2	5.6	12 \pm 4
Ser-emb 15							
C ¹⁸ O 2-1	0.63 \times 0.48	5.2	0.50–1.75	-1.50–2.75	3.6	6.5	62 \pm 7
H ¹³ CN 3-2	0.51 \times 0.42	4.9	0.25–2.00	-1.75–1.50	3.8	5.0	52 \pm 6
DCN 3-2	0.63 \times 0.50	4.9	0.25–2.00	-1.25–2.00	3.9	5.3	39 \pm 6
HC ¹⁵ N 3-2	0.51 \times 0.42	5.7	0.25–2.00	-0.50–1.50	4.3	4.5	< 36
C ₂ H N=3-2, J=5/2-3/2	0.63 \times 0.51	4.9	0.00–1.00	-1.50–1.00	3.1	4.6	15 \pm 4
Ser-emb 17							
C ¹⁸ O 2-1	0.63 \times 0.50	5.3	1.00–3.00	-3.00–3.00	4.5	7.5	230 \pm 26
H ¹³ CN 3-2	0.52 \times 0.44	5.0	1.00–3.50	-4.25–6.25	4.8	10.1	112 \pm 19
DCN 3-2	0.63 \times 0.53	5.4	0.50–3.50	-2.25–4.50	5.2	7.5	72 \pm 9
HC ¹⁵ N 3-2	0.53 \times 0.44	5.5	0.50–3.50	-2.00–4.25	5.5	8.1	85 \pm 10
C ₂ H N=3-2, J=5/2-3/2	0.63 \times 0.51	5.0	0.00–0.50	-1.25–1.25	2.3	4.7	< 35

^a For 0.25 km s $^{-1}$ channels. ^b Velocity ranges and moment zero rms values correspond to two different sets of moment zero maps: ‘R/B’ maps include a subset of channels with emission, chosen to reveal velocity structures, and are shown as red/blue contours in Figure 1. ‘Full’ maps include the full range of channels with emission, shown in greyscale in Figure 1. Fluxes listed in this table correspond to the ‘Full’ velocity range. ^c Extracted within a mask defined by the DCN emitting region (see Section 3.1.7). 3 σ upper limits are reported for nondetections. Uncertainties consist of Gaussian fit uncertainties, added in quadrature with a 10% calibration uncertainty.

emission. A full description of the masking technique can be found in Bergner et al. (2018) and Pegues et al. (2020). Deprojected radial profiles were generated using the disk inclinations and position angles in Table 8.

Fluxes are calculated by summing the emission within the moment zero map. We also apply the same Keplerian mask to 200 synthetic image cubes of randomly drawn emission-free channels neighboring the target line. The integrated flux uncertainty is estimated from the standard deviation in the integrated fluxes of these emission-free moment zero maps, added in quadrature with a 10% calibration uncertainty. The moment zero rms varies across the map because each pixel represents

the sum of a different number of channels when Keplerian masking is used. We therefore calculate the standard deviation in intensity within each pixel across the 200 emission-free maps, and adopt the median pixel rms as the moment zero map rms. Line observation results for the Class II sources are listed in Appendix A (Table 7).

We consider a line to be detected if the measured flux is $>3\sigma$ and if emission $>3\sigma$ is present in the moment zero map. Based on these detection criteria, DCN is detected towards CI Tau, HD 143006, J1604, and J1609; HC¹⁵N towards LkCa 15 and MWC 480; HCN towards

Table 4. Spectral line data

Molecule	Transition	Frequency (GHz)	E_{up} (K)	$\log(A_{ul})$	g_u	Q(30 K)	Refs. ^a
CO	2–1	230.538	16.6	-6.16	5	11	1
¹³ CO	2–1	220.399	15.9	-6.22	10	23	2
C ¹⁸ O	2–1	219.560	15.8	-6.22	5	12	2,3
C ₂ H ^b	N=3–2, J=5/2–5/2, F=3–3 N=3–2, J=7/2–5/2, F=4–3 & F=3–2 ^c	262.209 262.004 & 262.006	25.2 25.2	-5.40 -4.28	7 16	59 59	4,5,6 4,5,6
HCN	3–2	265.886	25.5	-3.08	21	43	7
H ¹³ CN	3–2	259.012	24.9	-3.11	21	44	8,9,10
DCN	3–2	217.239	20.9	-3.34	21	53	11
HC ¹⁵ N	3–2	258.157	24.8	-3.12	7	15	8,12

^a All line parameters are taken from the CDMS catalog (Müller et al. 2001, 2005) based on data from the following: [1] Winnewisser et al. (1997), [2] Klapper et al. (2001), [3] Winnewisser et al. (1985), [4] Müller et al. (2000), [5] Padovani et al. (2009), [6] Sastry et al. (1981), [7] Ahrens et al. (2002), [8] Fuchs et al. (2004), [9] Cazzoli & Puzzarini (2005), [10] Maiwald et al. (2000), [11] Brünken et al. (2004), [12] Cazzoli et al. (2005)

^b The J=5/2–5/2 transition was observed towards the Class 0/I sources, and the J=7/2–5/2 complex towards the Class II sources.

^c The hyperfine components are blended, so the line parameters refer to the total J=7/2–5/2 line. The total degeneracy is found by adding the degeneracies of each hyperfine component, and the total Einstein coefficient is found from the degeneracy-weighted sum of Einstein coefficients of each hyperfine component.

HD 143006, J1604, J1609, and J1614; and H¹³CN towards DM Tau, LkCa 15, MWC 480.

The HCN and H¹³CN lines presented here were imaged with different parameters from Bergner et al. (2019b) in order to be consistent with the DCN and HC¹⁵N images, thus facilitating our analysis of isotopic ratios. The main difference in imaging is in the choice of robust parameter. Here, weak lines are imaged with a robust parameter of 2.0 instead of 1.0, which enabled a detection of H¹³CN towards DM Tau and of HCN towards J1614. We also imaged HCN towards J1604 with a robust of 0.0 since the emission is very bright, allowing us to better resolve the emission morphology in the inner disk. We also note that H¹³CN and HC¹⁵N 3–2 were previously observed towards LkCa 15 and MWC 480 with a similar sensitivity and spatial resolution in Guzmán et al. (2017). We obtain H¹³CN fluxes a factor of ~ 1.3 and 1.7 higher compared to Guzmán et al. (2017) for MWC 480 and LkCa 15, respectively, possibly due to our Keplerian masking technique which reduces the incorporation of emission-free regions into our moment zero images. We find a similar HC¹⁵N flux in MWC 480 but a slightly lower flux in LkCa 15 (by a factor of ~ 0.8) compared to Guzmán et al. (2017). This is reflective of the uncertainty inherent in imaging weak molecular line data; our uncertainties are probably under-estimated for lines close to the detection threshold.

In disks where both DCN and HCN are detected, their morphologies are qualitatively similar: HD 143006

shows a plateau in intensity towards the disk center, J1604 has a strong emission depletion towards the center, and J1609 is centrally peaked. The inner gap in J1604 is wider in DCN than in HCN, and the intensity is negative within ~ 30 AU. This negative emission is not seen for channels without line emission, and could be caused by over-subtraction of the continuum where it is coupled to the line emission. That the DCN intensity drops below zero while HCN does not may indicate that it is emitting closer to the midplane. HC¹⁵N and H¹³CN exhibit shallow, extended emission profiles in LkCa 15 and a centrally peaked morphology in MWC 480. HC¹⁵N emission in LkCa 15 is asymmetrical and lacks emission in the northeast region of the disk, whereas H¹³CN emission is more axisymmetric.

4. HCN, C₂H, AND C¹⁸O COLUMN DENSITIES & ABUNDANCES

4.1. Class 0/I column densities

With the integrated flux densities $\int S_\nu d\nu$ from Table 3, we estimate total molecular column densities N_T from:

$$N_T = \frac{4\pi \int S_\nu d\nu}{A_{ul} \Omega h c g_u} e^{E_u/T_r} Q(T_r), \quad (1)$$

where A_{ul} is the Einstein coefficient for the transition, Ω is the angular size of the emitting region, g_u is the upper state degeneracy, E_u is the upper state energy, T_r is the rotational temperature, and $Q(T_r)$ is the temperature-

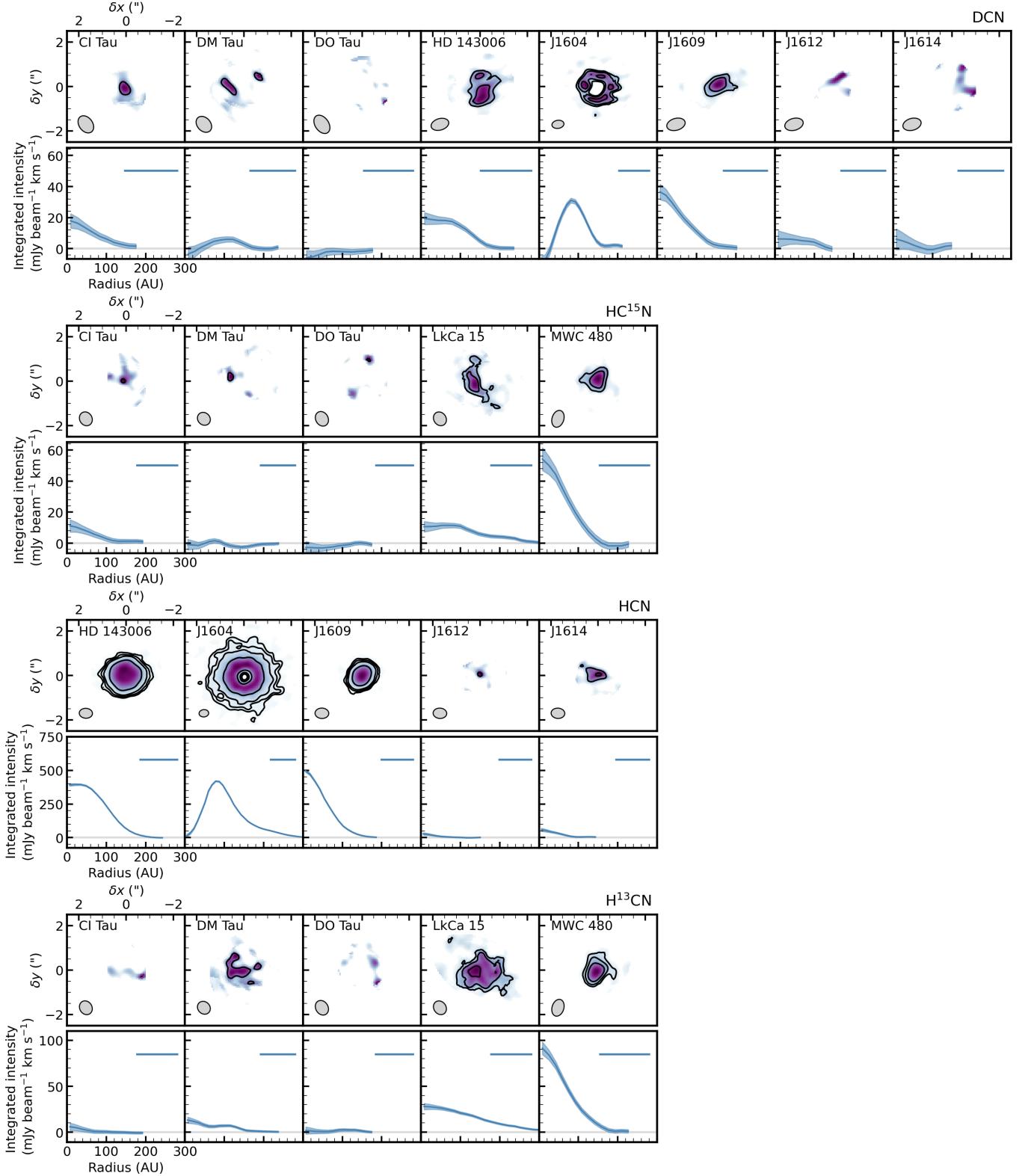


Figure 3. HCN isotopologues in the Class II disks. Top sub-panels: moment zero maps extracted using Keplerian masking. Contours represent 3, 5, 8, 20, 50, 100 \times the median rms across the map. The rms values for each panel can be found in Table 7. Emission at a level below 1 \times rms is not shown, and color scales are normalized to each individual image. The restoring beams are shown in the lower left of each image. Bottom sub-panels: deprojected, azimuthally averaged intensity profiles. Shaded regions show the 1 σ uncertainties at each radial distance, calculated as σ_{mom0}/\sqrt{N} , where σ_{mom0} is the moment zero rms and N is the number of independent measurements (i.e. beams) per annulus. Horizontal bars in the top right of each panel represent the restoring beam major axis.

dependent molecular partition function. All spectral line parameters can be found in Table 4. For Ω , we adopt the angular size of the masks used for spectral extraction (listed in Section 3.1.7). The rotational temperatures are not known and cannot be determined from these data alone, so we calculate column densities adopting rotational temperatures of 20, 30, and 50 K. This is informed by the lukewarm temperature profile derived for the embedded disk L1527 (\sim 20–50 K midplane temperatures; van 't Hoff et al. 2018), though the effect of a much warmer (100 K) rotational temperature is discussed in Section 6.

The resulting column densities are shown in Table 5. We find that the choice of rotational temperature has only modest effects on the column density. For subsequent analysis, we adopt the 30 K case as our fiducial value, and incorporate the variation in column density resulting from a 20 K or 50 K rotational temperature into the uncertainties.

4.2. Class II column densities

Column density estimates for C₂H, HCN, and C¹⁸O in the Class II sources are derived using the observations presented in Bergner et al. (2019b), with a few exceptions. First, for CI Tau, DM Tau, DO Tau, LkCa 15, and MWC 480, we do not have ALMA observations of HCN 3–2, so we previously used HCN fluxes measured with the SMA for these disks. However, for the comparison presented here, we opt to solve for the HCN column density using H¹³CN as a proxy since HCN suffers from optical depth effects (Bergner et al. 2019b). Second, because C¹⁸O 2–1 is not detected towards J1609, J1612, or J1614, we previously used CO to estimate C¹⁸O fluxes. However, here we use ¹³CO instead, as CO is likely optically thick in these sources. These two changes allow for an improved comparison of the chemistry across our sample.

To estimate disk-averaged column densities, integrated fluxes are extracted from moment zero maps using an elliptical mask. The mask is defined by the maximum radius containing emission at a 4σ level, projected along the same position angle and inclination used to generate the Keplerian mask (Table 8). This treatment allows us to determine the disk-integrated flux and the emission region Ω self-consistently, while avoiding severe beam dilution; note though that these fluxes differ slightly from those integrated across the entire moment zero map, as in Section 3.2. For non-detected lines, we derive upper limits using the continuum major axis (fit at the 3–5 σ level) as the mask radius.

Equation 1 was used along with the spectral line parameters listed in Table 4 to estimate column densities

Table 5. Class 0/I column densities

Source	$N_{T,30K} [\Delta_{20K}, \Delta_{50K}] (\text{cm}^{-2})$
C¹⁸O	
Ser-emb 1	$6.8 \pm 1.7 \times 10^{15} [-0.8, +2.3]$
Ser-emb 7	$6.0 \pm 1.5 \times 10^{15} [-0.7, +2.0]$
Ser-emb 8	$3.6 \pm 1.3 \times 10^{16} [-0.4, +1.2]$
Ser-emb 15	$2.5 \pm 0.7 \times 10^{15} [-0.3, +0.8]$
Ser-emb 17	$1.1 \pm 0.3 \times 10^{16} [-0.1, +0.4]$
H¹³CN	
Ser-emb 1	$9.8 \pm 1.6 \times 10^{12} [+0.2, +1.8]$
Ser-emb 7	$2.1 \pm 0.3 \times 10^{12} [+0.0, +0.4]$
Ser-emb 8	$1.6 \pm 0.3 \times 10^{13} [+0.0, +0.3]$
Ser-emb 15	$2.0 \pm 0.3 \times 10^{12} [+0.0, +0.4]$
Ser-emb 17	$4.9 \pm 1.0 \times 10^{12} [+0.1, +0.9]$
C₂H	
Ser-emb 1	$< 7.0 \times 10^{14} [+0.2, +1.3]$
Ser-emb 7	$7.7 \pm 1.5 \times 10^{14} [+0.2, +1.4]$
Ser-emb 8	$3.5 \pm 1.2 \times 10^{14} [+0.1, +0.6]$
Ser-emb 15	$4.6 \pm 1.3 \times 10^{14} [+0.1, +0.8]$
Ser-emb 17	$< 1.2 \times 10^{15} [+0.0, +0.2]$
DCN	
Ser-emb 1	$1.0 \pm 0.2 \times 10^{13} [-0.0, +0.3]$
Ser-emb 7	$2.1 \pm 0.4 \times 10^{12} [-0.1, +0.5]$
Ser-emb 8	$1.3 \pm 0.2 \times 10^{13} [-0.1, +0.3]$
Ser-emb 15	$2.6 \pm 0.5 \times 10^{12} [-0.1, +0.7]$
Ser-emb 17	$5.6 \pm 1.1 \times 10^{12} [-0.3, +1.4]$
HC¹⁵N	
Ser-emb 1	$2.3 \pm 0.5 \times 10^{12} [+0.0, +0.4]$
Ser-emb 7	$< 7.5 \times 10^{11} [+0.1, +1.4]$
Ser-emb 8	$8.3 \pm 1.8 \times 10^{12} [+0.2, +1.5]$
Ser-emb 15	$< 1.4 \times 10^{12} [+0.0, +0.3]$
Ser-emb 17	$3.8 \pm 0.6 \times 10^{12} [+0.1, +0.7]$

Column densities and uncertainties are calculated assuming a 30 K rotational temperature. Numbers listed in brackets indicate the change to the listed column density for a 20 K or 50 K rotational temperature, respectively (in the same order of magnitude as the 30 K value).

from disk-integrated fluxes. As for the Class 0/I sources, we solve for column densities assuming rotational temperatures of 20, 30, and 50 K. The integrated fluxes, emitting regions Ω , and resulting column densities are listed in Table 9 in Appendix B. As in the case of the Serpens sources, the column densities are not very sensitive to the choice of rotational temperature.

As demonstrated in Bergner et al. (2019b), the C₂H and HCN lines covered here are generally optically thick in Class II disks. We therefore adjust the Class II HCN and C₂H column densities following Goldsmith &

Langer (1999):

$$N_T = N_{T,\text{thick}} \times \frac{\tau}{1 - e^{-\tau}}. \quad (2)$$

This correction excludes HCN column densities derived from H¹³CN, as these are already likely to be optically thin.

For the disks fit in Bergner et al. (2019b), the average disk-averaged optical depth for the C₂H N=3-2, J=7/2-5/2 and HCN J=3-2 lines are 2.1±0.4 and 5.8±1.8, respectively. Uncertainties represent the standard deviations across the disk sample, and are propagated throughout all analyses involving τ -corrected column densities. Note that these values represent the total line optical depth of all hyperfine components, τ_{total} . In principle, the flux from each hyperfine component should be corrected individually for optical depth, however in the disk-integrated spectra used in this work, the hyperfine components are blended. Because of this, the optical depth corrections are approximate. For C₂H, the F=4-3 and F=3-2 hyperfine components have similar relative intensities (0.572 and 0.428, respectively), and the estimated τ_{total} is not too high. We therefore assume that the opacity of the blended hyperfine lines can be described by the weighted opacity of the individual components, leading to $\tau_{\text{blend}} = 0.51 \times \tau_{\text{total}}$. For the C₂H N=3-2, J=7/2-5/2 τ_{total} of 2.1±0.4, this results in a τ_{blend} of 1.1±0.2 for use in Equation 2. In the case of HCN, most opacity (92.6%) in the J=3-2 transition is contained in the overlapping F=2-1, 3-2, 4-3, and 2-3 components at 265.886 GHz. These components are sufficiently overlapping that they may be treated as a single line. We assume that the τ_{total} of 5.8±1.8 can be used directly in Equation 2, though this may over-correct the contribution from the satellite lines (F=3-3 and F=2-2) which are less optically thick than the main complex.

4.3. HCN, C₂H, and C¹⁸O correlations across evolutionary stages

We now combine the Class 0/I and Class II column density results to explore correlations between HCN, C₂H, and C¹⁸O across all stages. The size scales that the column densities are extracted from correspond to ∼150 AU for the Class 0/I sources, and ∼150–600 AU for the Class II sources. For sources with H¹³CN observations (i.e., all Class 0/I and some Class II sources), we convert from H¹³CN to HCN column densities using the local ISM ¹²C/¹³C ratio of 68±15 (Milam et al. 2005). We note that ¹³C fractionation is not expected to be important for HCN in protostellar or disk environments (e.g. Roberts et al. 2002; Hily-Blant et al. 2019). For J1609, J1612, and J1614, C¹⁸O column densities are found from ¹³CO assuming the local ISM ¹⁶O/¹⁸O ratio

of 560±25 (Wilson & Rood 1994) and the same ¹²C/¹³C ratio as before.

We also estimate disk-averaged H₂ column densities for our source sample to enable a comparison of molecular abundances. Following Hildebrand (1983) and Andrews & Williams (2005), we convert the 260 GHz continuum flux to a disk mass by:

$$M_d = \frac{d^2 F_\nu}{\kappa_\nu \zeta B_\nu(T)}, \quad (3)$$

where M_d is the disk mass, d is the distance, κ_ν is the dust opacity, ζ is the dust-to-gas ratio, and $B_\nu(T)$ is the Planck function given a dust temperature T . We adopt a κ_ν of 2.62 cm² g⁻¹ following the power-law scaling of Beckwith et al. (1990) with a power-law index $\beta=1$. We assume a dust-to-gas ratio of 1:100 and a uniform dust temperature of 20 K (Andrews & Williams 2005). We acknowledge that the dust opacity, dust-to-gas ratio, dust size distribution, and dust temperature may vary across our source sample, and further insight into the physical structures of these sources is needed for a more robust abundance comparison. The effects of these uncertainties are discussed further in Section 4.5.

We convert the disk mass M_d to the total number of H₂ molecules \mathcal{N}_{H2} assuming a typical gas molecular weight of 2.37× the mass of atomic hydrogen. Finally, we convert to an H₂ column density by dividing \mathcal{N}_{H2} by the area of the mask used to extract the continuum flux. For the Class 0/I sources this is the same DCN emission mask used for the spectral line extraction. Note that for Ser-emb 7, this does not coincide with the continuum peak position. For the Class II sources, we integrate the continuum flux within an ellipse fit to the 260 GHz continuum at a 3-5 σ threshold, depending on the continuum brightness. While the Class II continuum emission is generally more compact than the molecular line emission (typically by a factor of ∼2–5 in angular area; see Tables 9 and 10), we assume that the H₂ column densities derived in this way are representative of the disk average. Continuum fluxes, source areas Ω , and H₂ columns are listed in Table 10 in Appendix B.

Figure 4 shows comparisons of the C₂H, HCN, and C¹⁸O column densities (top) and column density ratios with respect to H (bottom), which we will refer to as abundances. For each panel, we also include the Spearman ρ correlation coefficient calculated for the Class 0/I sources and the Class II sources. This measures the degree to which the column densities/abundances of each molecule pair are monotonically related. Possible ρ values range from -1 (strongly anti-correlated) to 1 (strongly correlated), with 0 indicating no correlation. We use the `scipy.stats.spearmanr` module to cal-

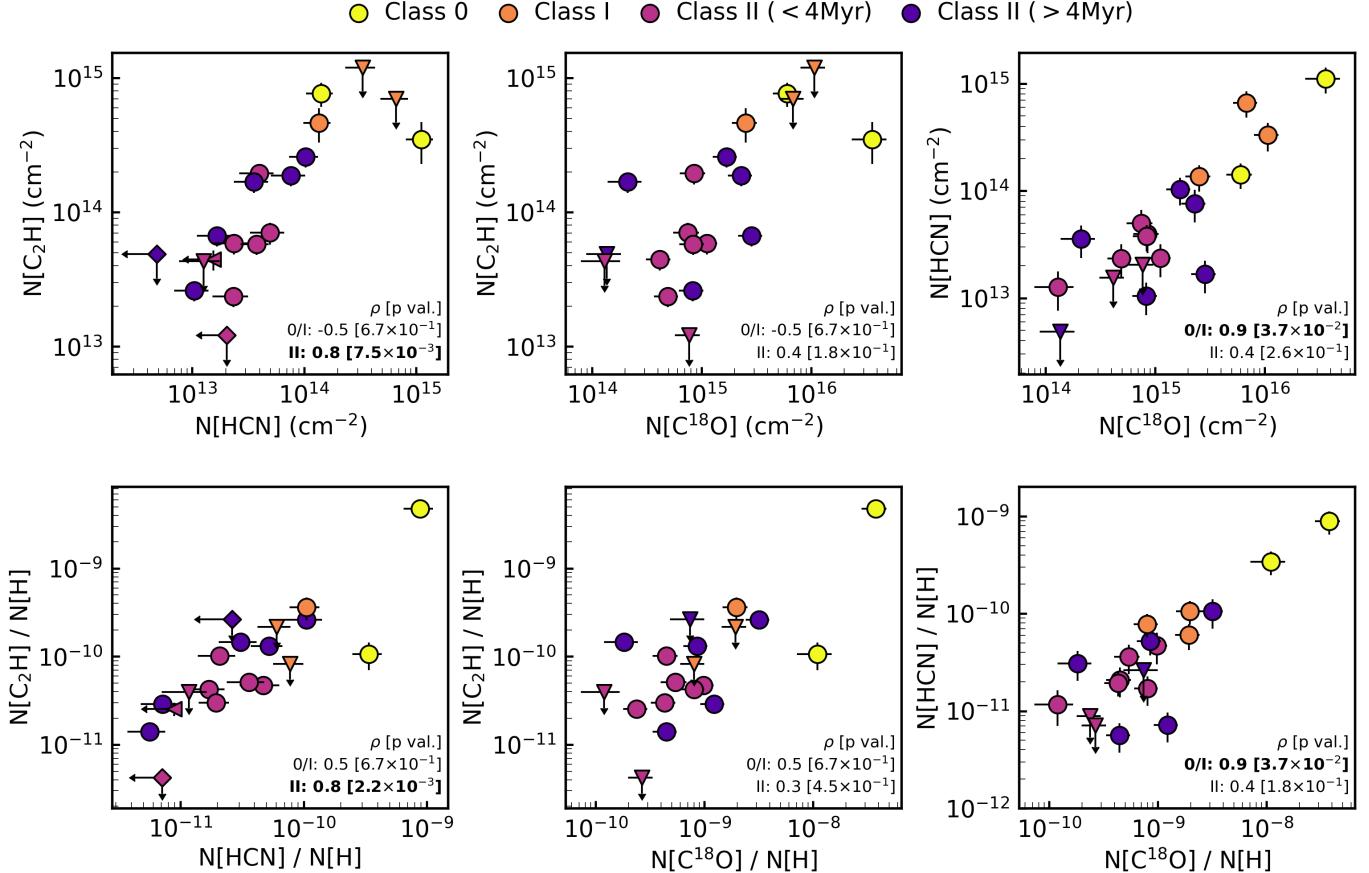


Figure 4. Correlation plots for the disk-averaged C₂H, HCN, and C¹⁸O column densities (top) and abundances with respect to H (bottom). Yellow, orange, pink, and purple points represent Class 0, Class I, young Class II (< 4 Myr), and old Class II (> 4 Myr) sources, respectively. Triangle and diamond markers indicate sources with one or both upper limits for each molecule pair, respectively. Spearman ρ correlation coefficients are shown for the Class 0/I and the Class II sources; statistically significant values are bolded. Ser-emb 1 is included in the Class I category based on its CO isotopologue morphologies (Section 3.1.1) and its chemical similarity to the other Class I sources.

culate Spearman ρ coefficients and their p values. We consider a p value $< 5\%$ to be statistically significant. Note that this treatment excludes upper limits.

The observed correlations are similar when considering column densities or abundances, and our discussion will mainly focus on the abundances. Statistically significant positive correlations are seen between the HCN and C₂H abundances in the Class II sources, and between the HCN and C¹⁸O abundances in the Class 0/I sources. In all other cases, abundance correlations are weakly positive and statistically insignificant.

There are no clear abundance jumps/discontinuities between the Class 0/I and Class II sources. Within the protostellar stage, abundances are typically higher in the Class 0 sources than the Class I sources. Within the Class II sources, there are no clear trends between < 4 Myr and > 4 Myr sources. Chemical implications of these trends are discussed in Section 6.2.

It is important to note that our sample contains just two Class 0 and three Class I sources, and a larger sample size is needed for a more robust assessment of correlation and scatter within these evolutionary stages. Also, better constraints for sources with non-detections are needed to improve this analysis. In particular, the C₂H transition observed towards the Class 0/I sources is over an order of magnitude weaker than the transition observed towards the Class II sources, and the upper limits for non-detections are not very constraining.

4.4. C¹⁸O abundances vs. age

With these observations, we can also evaluate how the C¹⁸O abundance changes with evolutionary stage. Here, for the Class II disks, we re-derived column densities and abundances using C¹⁸O and continuum fluxes extracted from a circle defined by the C¹⁸O beam major axis. By focusing on the inner-most disk regions accessible at this resolution, we aim to reduce the impact of CO freeze-

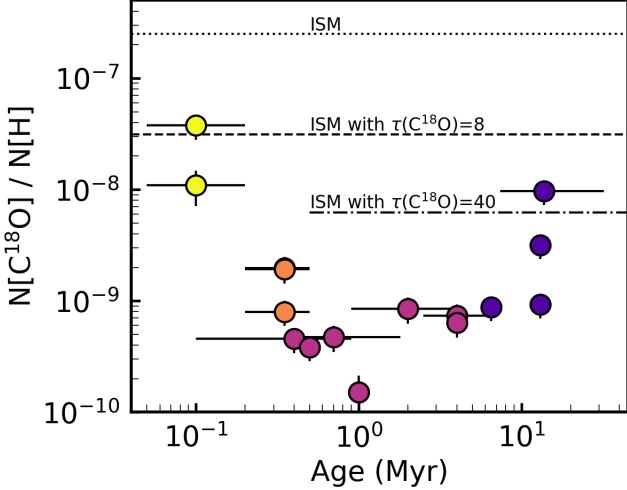


Figure 5. Age dependence of $\text{C}^{18}\text{O}/\text{H}$ abundances. Colors are the same as in Figure 4. Note that these values are measured within the inner beam to minimize freeze-out contributions at larger radii, and thus may differ from the disk-averaged values in Figure 4. The $\text{C}^{18}\text{O}/\text{H}$ abundance expected for the ISM is shown as a dotted line, and the apparent abundance given an optical depth of 8 and 40 as a dashed line and dot-dash line, respectively.

out on our observations. We also exclude J1609, J1612, and J1614 from this analysis, as their C^{18}O abundances are estimated from ^{13}CO which may be optically thick. Class II source ages and uncertainties are taken from Table 2. For the Class 0 and Class I sources, we adopt ages of 0.1 ± 0.1 and 0.35 ± 0.15 Myr, respectively. This is based on the estimated Class 0 and Class I lifetimes of 0.2 and 0.5 Myr, respectively (Enoch et al. 2009; Evans et al. 2009).

Figure 5 shows the resulting C^{18}O abundances as a function of the estimated source ages. We emphasize that the C^{18}O optical depth is a major uncertainty in assessing both the absolute $\text{C}^{18}\text{O}/\text{H}$ abundances and the relative trends between evolutionary stages. Still, we can use constraints from the literature to estimate how much our observations are affected. C^{18}O emission has been found to be optically thick in several embedded disks (van 't Hoff et al. 2018; Zhang et al. 2020). The C^{18}O 2–1 optical depths in the embedded disks in Zhang et al. (2020) are likely around $\sim 4\text{--}8$, based on the reported C^{18}O and $^{13}\text{C}^{18}\text{O}$ fluxes and assuming a $^{12}\text{C}/^{13}\text{C}$ ratio around 70. We therefore expect that moderate optical depth effects may affect the protostellar sources in our sample. C^{18}O has also been found to be optically thick within the CO snow lines of Class II disks, with opacities ranging from ~ 8 in TW Hya (Zhang et al. 2017) to several tens in HD 163296 (Booth et al. 2019). It is therefore probable that C^{18}O optical depth

effects range from moderate to severe for the Class II disks in our sample.

In light of this, it is likely not appropriate to compare our measured $\text{C}^{18}\text{O}/\text{H}$ abundances to the ISM abundance of $\sim 2.5 \times 10^{-7}$ (assuming $\text{CO}/\text{H} = 1.4 \times 10^{-4}$ and $^{16}\text{O}/^{18}\text{O} = 560$). We therefore include in Figure 5 the apparent ISM abundance given an optical depth of 8 and 40 as more realistic benchmarks. Based on the previously mentioned literature measurements, we estimate that the $\tau=8$ case is the most appropriate comparison for the Class 0/I sources. The Class II disks likely span a range of optical depths between the $\tau=8$ and $\tau=40$ cases. As a sanity check, we compare the depletion factors inferred from our $\text{C}^{18}\text{O}/\text{H}$ abundances to the depletion factors found from detailed modeling in Zhang et al. (2019). We recover similar CO depletion factors for HD 163296 and DM Tau in the $\tau=40$ scenario (i.e., $\sim 1\text{--}10 \times$ depleted), and for IM Lup in the $\tau=8$ scenario ($\sim 10\text{--}100 \times$ depleted). This further supports that this is a reasonable range of optical depths to assume for the Class II disks in our sample. Still, we stress the need for observations of a rarer CO isotopologue to better constrain the magnitude of optical depth effects in our observations.

As seen in Figure 5, the Class 0 $\text{C}^{18}\text{O}/\text{H}$ abundances in our sample are consistent with ISM levels if C^{18}O is moderately optically thick ($\tau=8$). On the other hand, even assuming $\tau=8$, the Class I $\text{C}^{18}\text{O}/\text{H}$ abundances are depleted in CO relative to ISM levels by about an order of magnitude. The Class II sources are likely depleted in CO by factors of a few up to 100, depending on the optical depths in individual sources. We cannot distinguish if there are any trends in CO depletion with age within the Class II stage given the optical depth uncertainties. However, even in the $\tau=40$ case we see that most disks exhibit around an order of magnitude in CO depletion relative to ISM levels. The exceptions, V4046 Sgr and J1604, show abundances that are comparable to ISM levels if the C^{18}O optical depths are large.

It is important to consider possible effects of CO freeze-out on our derived abundances. Although we extract fluxes from the inner beam of the Class II disks to minimize freeze-out effects, in some sources the midplane CO snow line radius may be smaller than the beam. Still, while freeze-out can lower the gas-phase CO abundance in the dense midplane region, detailed models show that freeze-out around the midplane cannot explain the low CO abundances in the emissive surface layers which our observations are sensitive to (Favre et al. 2013; Zhang et al. 2019). Moreover, for the disks around the Herbig Ae stars HD 163296 and MWC 480, which have a warmer temperature structure and mid-

plane snow lines likely beyond the radius of our extraction mask, we measure $\text{C}^{18}\text{O}/\text{H}$ abundances comparable to those of other Class II sources. Thus, CO freeze-out cannot fully explain the low CO abundances observed in our sample. For the embedded disks, we expect that the temperature structures are warmer (van 't Hoff et al. 2018), and CO freeze-out should not impact the inner protostellar core. Still, it is important to recognize that episodic accretion events may play an important role in setting the CO freeze-out behavior in protostars (Jørgensen et al. 2015). Improved constraints on the protostellar physical structures and evolutionary histories are needed to better understand whether accretion variations are likely to impact our conclusions.

4.5. Abundance caveats

There are several additional uncertainties that may affect the abundances we derive for all molecules. Optically thick continuum emission could be problematic for recovering accurate molecular line fluxes (Cleeves et al. 2016; Harsono et al. 2018). Additionally, our assumption of a constant dust opacity for all sources may introduce bias into this comparison, as κ depends on the grain size distribution and could therefore vary systematically with source age. However, it is not clear that there is a more appropriate assumption, as dust opacities are not well constrained for any source age. Extrapolating $\kappa_{1.3\text{mm}} = 1.0 \text{ cm}^2\text{g}^{-1}$ derived for dense protostellar cores in Ossenkopf & Henning (1994) (assuming $\beta=1$) yields a $\kappa_{1.1\text{mm}}$ about $2.5\times$ smaller than the value that we used. If the true opacity is smaller than our adopted value, this would result in an under-estimated H_2 column and over-estimated molecular abundances for the Class 0/I sources. Similarly, if the dust-to-gas ratio increases with evolutionary stage, this would result in an over-estimated H_2 column and in turn under-estimated molecular abundances in the older sources.

Another uncertainty in deriving abundances is the temperature of the gas and dust emitting in the protostellar sources. For instance, gas in the inner protostellar regions may be warmer than 30 K. If we instead adopt an excitation temperature of 100 K in the Class 0/I sources, this increases the column densities of all molecules by a factor of ~ 2 . Additionally, because the disk cools and becomes more optically thick from the Class 0 to Class I stage, the adopted 20 K characteristic dust temperature may result in mass over-estimates for the younger protostellar sources or under-estimates for the older protostellar sources (Jørgensen et al. 2009; Dunham et al. 2014a). Adopted dust temperatures of 15 K or 30 K instead of 20 K results in $\sim 40\text{--}50\%$ variations in the derived dust masses (and therefore H_2 columns).

5. HCN ISOTOPOLOGUE RATIOS

5.1. Class 0/I sources

As discussed in Section 1, isotopic fractionation occurs under specific physical conditions, and fractionation patterns are often used to infer the conditions in which molecules formed. We aim to explore deuterium and ^{15}N fractionation using our observations of the HCN isotopologues. Because the major isotopologue HCN is not covered for the Class 0/I sources, we convert from H^{13}CN to HCN fluxes assuming the local interstellar $^{12}\text{C}/^{13}\text{C}$ ratio of 68 ± 15 (Milam et al. 2005). As mentioned in Section 4.3, ^{13}C fractionation is not expected to be important in protostellar or disk environments (e.g. Roberts et al. 2002; Hily-Blant et al. 2019). HCN/DCN and HCN/ HC^{15}N ratios are then found from the ratio of column densities determined in Section 3.1.7.

The HCN isotopologue ratios are listed in Table 6 for an assumed rotational temperature of 30 K. HCN/ HC^{15}N ratios range from 88 in Ser-emb 17 to 287 in Ser-emb 1. For comparison, the $^{14}\text{N}/^{15}\text{N}$ ratio in the local ISM is 450 ± 22 , similar to the value of 441 ± 5 measured in the Solar wind (Wilson & Rood 1994; Marty et al. 2011). Thus, we see some degree of ^{15}N enhancement in HCN for all of the Serpens sources. HCN/DCN ratios are comparatively more consistent across the Serpens sources, ranging only from 52 in Ser-emb 15 to 87 in Ser-emb 8. Relative to the local ISM H/D ratio of $4.3 \pm 0.4 \times 10^4$ and the protosolar value of $5.0 \pm 0.9 \times 10^4$ (Linsky et al. 2006; Geiss & Gloeckler 2003), these sources show significant deuterium fractionation.

As noted previously, the choice of rotational temperature has a small impact on our results. This is particularly true for column density ratios: changing the rotational temperature from 30 to 50 K or 30 to 20 K results in HCN/DCN variations around 6% and HCN/ HC^{15}N variations around 1%. This is small compared to other sources of uncertainty (i.e. the $^{12}\text{C}/^{13}\text{C}$ ratio, Gaussian line fitting, and telescope calibration). In addition to these known sources of uncertainty, we emphasize that this treatment assumes that the HCN isotopologues emit co-spatially. Higher spatial resolution and multi-line observations are needed to confirm if all isotopologues are indeed characterized by the same emitting area and rotational temperature.

5.2. Class II sources

We now estimate the HCN/DCN and HCN/ HC^{15}N ratios in the Class II disks with detections. In some disks H^{13}CN was observed instead of HCN, so like for the Class 0/I disks we convert from H^{13}CN to HCN fluxes assuming a $^{12}\text{C}/^{13}\text{C}$ ratio of 68 ± 15 (Milam et al. 2005).

Table 6. HCN isotopologue flux & column density ratios

Source	Major isotopologue	$F(\text{Major}/\text{Minor})^a$	$N_T(\text{HCN}/\text{Minor})^{b,c}$	
			No τ correction	$\tau(\text{HCN})=5.8\pm1.8$
HC ¹⁵ N				
Ser-emb 1	H ¹³ CN	4.3 [0.9]	287 [97]	
Ser-emb 7	H ¹³ CN	>2.8	>189	
Ser-emb 8	H ¹³ CN	2.0 [0.4]	135 [47]	
Ser-emb 15	H ¹³ CN	>1.4	>97	
Ser-emb 17	H ¹³ CN	1.3 [0.3]	88 [30]	
DM Tau	H ¹³ CN	>1.7	>115	
LkCa 15	H ¹³ CN	1.5 [0.3]	100 [31]	
MWC 480	H ¹³ CN	1.6 [0.3]	106 [29]	
DCN				
Ser-emb 1	H ¹³ CN	1.7 [0.3]	65 [21]	
Ser-emb 7	H ¹³ CN	1.8 [0.3]	68 [23]	
Ser-emb 8	H ¹³ CN	2.2 [0.4]	87 [28]	
Ser-emb 15	H ¹³ CN	1.3 [0.3]	52 [18]	
Ser-emb 17	H ¹³ CN	1.5 [0.3]	60 [21]	
CI Tau	H ¹³ CN	<0.9	<33	
DM Tau	H ¹³ CN	>1.8	>70	
HD 143006	HCN	24.5 [2.8]	13 [2]	75 [25]
J1604	HCN	18.4 [0.6]	10 [1]	56 [18]
J1609	HCN	17.8 [2.6]	9 [2]	54 [19]
J1614	HCN	>5.4	>3	>17

^a The ratio of the integrated line intensities of the major and minor HCN isotopologues.

^b Column density ratios are calculated assuming a rotational temperature of 30 K.

^c When H¹³CN is the major isotopologue, we use the ¹²C/¹³C ratio to convert from H¹³CN to HCN, and assume the emission is optically thin. When HCN is the major isotopologue, we show the column density ratio assuming either optically thin emission, or adjusting for an estimated optical depth. See text for details.

When performing this analysis, it is important that the fluxes are extracted from the same spatial region. The CASA task `imsmooth` is used to smooth the HCN and H¹³CN images to the same resolution as the DCN images. We then use the same mask to extract fluxes of each major and minor isotopologue pair (i.e., HCN or H¹³CN, and HC¹⁵N or DCN). We define the extraction mask as pixels with $>3\sigma$ emission of both the major and minor isotopologue in order to avoid diluting the intensity of the minor isotopologue. Note that the fluxes used in this analysis differ from the disk-integrated values presented previously. We solve for the major:minor isotopologue column density ratio according to:

$$\frac{N_T(a)}{N_T(b)} = \frac{\int S_\nu d\nu(a) Q(T_r)(a) e^{E_u(a)/T_r}}{\int S_\nu d\nu(b) Q(T_r)(b) e^{E_u(b)/T_r}} \frac{A_{ul}(b) g_u(b)}{A_{ul}(a) g_u(a)}, \quad (4)$$

where all parameters are the same as described for Equation 1. As before, we adopt a rotational temperature of 30 K. Variations in the isotopologue ratios derived using

20 K or 50 K rotational temperatures are incorporated into the uncertainties. As described in Section 4.2, HCN is likely optically thick in the Class II disks. We therefore apply an opacity correction assuming $\tau=5.8\pm1.8$ (see Section 4.2) to the HCN fluxes used in this analysis.

Table 6 lists the derived HCN isotopologue column density ratios. The HCN/HC¹⁵N ratio could be measured for two sources in the sample. In LkCa 15 and MWC 480, the HCN/HC¹⁵N ratios of 100 and 106, respectively, are low compared to the local ISM and protosolar values around 450 (Wilson & Rood 1994; Marty et al. 2011), and within the range measured for the Serpens sources (Section 5.1). The ratios we derive are similar to those found in Guzmán et al. (2017). In DM Tau, H¹³CN is detected but HC¹⁵N is not detected, so we place a lower limit on HCN/HC¹⁵N of 115. Neither HC¹⁵N nor H¹³CN was detected towards CI Tau or DO Tau, and so we cannot place any useful limits on the HCN/HC¹⁵N ratio in those sources.

The HCN/DCN ratio could be measured for three sources: HD 143006, J1604, and J1609. For these sources, the HCN/DCN ratio is ~ 10 assuming HCN is optically thin, or 54–75 for an HCN opacity of 5.8. We can also place limits on the HCN/DCN ratio for CI Tau of < 33 , for DM Tau of > 70 , and for J1614 of > 17 (assuming $\tau_{\text{HCN}}=5.8$). Note that CI Tau is detected in DCN but not H^{13}CN (Section 3.2), resulting in an HCN/DCN upper limit. In DO Tau and J1612, neither DCN nor the major isotopologue (HCN or H^{13}CN) is detected, so no limits can be placed.

For comparison, the Class II HCN/DCN ratios measured from (optically thin) $\text{H}^{13}\text{CN}/\text{DCN}$ flux ratios in Huang et al. (2017) range from ~ 14 –194 assuming a 30 K excitation temperature. Both the opacity-uncorrected and corrected values that we find are consistent with this range. Regardless of the optical depth, the ratios we measure are very low compared to the local ISM and presolar values around 5×10^4 (Linsky et al. 2006; Geiss & Gloeckler 2003). Compared to the Class 0/I HCN/DCN ratios around 70, the ratios in the Class II sources are either low in the optically thin case or comparable in the optically thick case.

5.3. HCN fractionation across evolutionary stages

Our observations cover multiple HCN isotopologues in both the Class 0/I and Class II sources, enabling a comparison of HCN/ HC^{15}N and HCN/DCN ratios throughout the disk lifetime. Figure 6 shows the resulting column density ratios derived in Sections 5.1 and 5.2. For comparison, we also show literature measurements of other evolutionary stages: HCN/ HC^{15}N in the pre- and proto-stellar sources TMC-1 (Ikeda et al. 2002), the dark clouds L183 and L1544 (Hily-Blant et al. 2013), and the protostellar envelopes of IRAS 16293A, R CrA IRS7B, and OMC-3 MMS6 (Wampfler et al. 2014); the Class II disks AS 209, LkCa 15, MWC 480, HD 163296, V4046 Sgr, (Guzmán et al. 2017) and TW Hya (Hily-Blant et al. 2019); and the comets Hale-Bopp and Holmes (Bockelée-Morvan et al. 2008). For HCN/DCN we include measurements in the pre- and proto-stellar sources TMC-1 (Turner 2001), a sample of infrared dark clouds (Feng et al. 2019), and a sample of protostellar envelopes (Jørgensen et al. 2004); the Class II disks AS 209, LkCa 15, MWC 480, HD 163296, V4046 Sgr, (Huang et al. 2017) and TW Hya (Qi et al. 2008); and the comets Hale-Bopp (Meier et al. 1998) and Hyakutake (Bockelée-Morvan et al. 2008). For the Class II measurements taken from Guzmán et al. (2017) and Huang et al. (2017), we re-derive column density ratios assuming a 30 K rotational temperature to enable a consistent comparison with our results.

The HCN/ HC^{15}N ratios in the Class 0/I sources range from ~ 90 –290, and decrease with evolutionary stage as traced by bolometric temperature. Most Class II disks have an HCN/ HC^{15}N ratio between ~ 80 and 150. The exception, TW Hya, has a disk-averaged ratio above 200, though the ratio in the inner disk is lower (121 ± 11 ; Hily-Blant et al. 2019). The HCN/ HC^{15}N ratios in the Class II disks are comparable to the Class 0/I sources Ser-emb 8 and 17 (and the lower limit in Ser-emb 15), and low compared to the other pre- and protostellar sources. Cometary HCN/ HC^{15}N ratios are consistent with (if on the high end) of the values measured in Class II disks.

Compared to the HCN/ HC^{15}N ratio, the HCN/DCN ratio is quite flat across our sample of Class 0/I disk candidates, ranging from just 52–87. These ratios are comparable to measurements in pre- and protostellar sources. In the Class II sources, the new measurements we derive have large uncertainties due to potential optical depth effects (Section 5.2). Even so, it seems that the HCN/DCN ratio is slightly lower in young Class II sources compared to the protostellar disk sources. The HCN/DCN ratio again increases slightly in > 3 Myr Class II sources, beginning with DM Tau. Cometary HCN/DCN ratios are high compared to most Class II disks. The exception is V4046 Sgr, whose anomalously high HCN/DCN ratio is consistent with the upper limit measured towards Hale-Bopp.

6. DISCUSSION

Our sample spanning Class 0/I protostellar disk candidates and Class II disks allows us to explore evolutionary trends in disk chemistry. In Section 4.3 we looked for evolutionary relationships between C_2H , HCN, and C^{18}O chemistries, and in Section 5.3 for patterns in $^{14}\text{N}/^{15}\text{N}$ and D/H fractionation of HCN. We now discuss the chemical implications of our analysis.

6.1. Evolution of C^{18}O abundances

In Section 4.4 we presented evolutionary patterns in $\text{C}^{18}\text{O}/\text{H}$ abundances. While there are a number of important uncertainties in our derived abundances, namely the C^{18}O optical depths, we can still identify several trends from the existing data. We emphasize that more rigorous abundance retrievals and/or observations of rarer CO isotopologues are needed to confirm our findings.

The Class 0 $\text{C}^{18}\text{O}/\text{H}$ abundances are not distinguishable from ISM levels with our data, assuming that C^{18}O optical depths up to a factor of ~ 10 are possible in these sources. It is also important to note that the disk cannot always be isolated in the Class 0 sources: the morphology of C^{18}O emission in the Class 0 sources (Figure

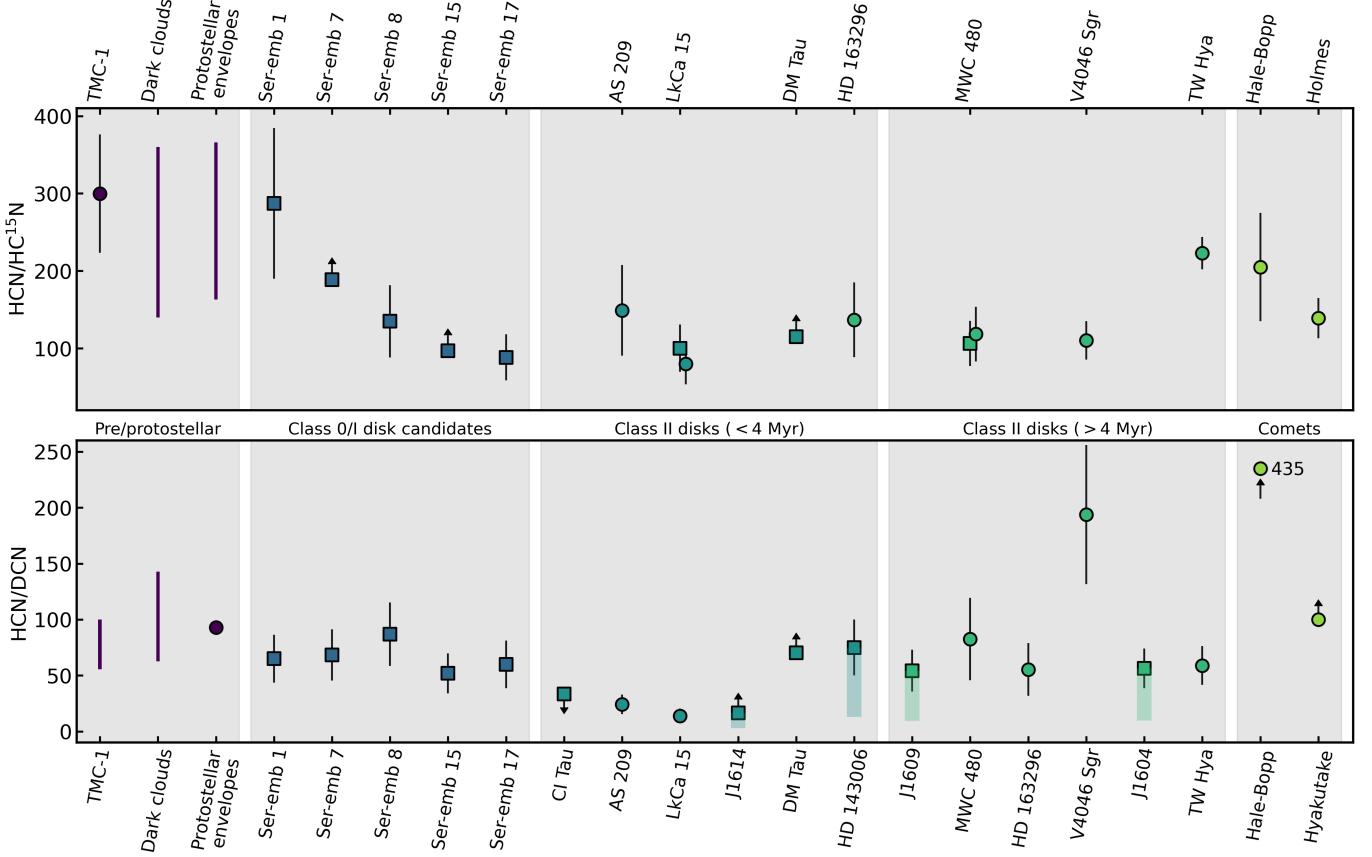


Figure 6. HCN isotopologue ratios during the star formation sequence (see text for citations of literature measurements). For the pre- and protostellar sources, vertical bars represent the range of values measured towards a source or group of sources. Shaded bars show the range of HCN/DCN ratios assuming an HCN optical depth up to 5.8 (see Section 5.2).

1) is more suggestive of envelope emission than protostellar core/disk emission. Observations of a rarer isotopologue would help to isolate emission from the inner disk-forming region (e.g. Zhang et al. 2020).

The C¹⁸O/H abundances in the Class I sources are difficult to reconcile with an ISM abundance, even assuming moderate C¹⁸O optical depths. It is likely that these sources are depleted in CO by about an order of magnitude compared to ISM levels. We note that Zhang et al. (2020) recently found evidence for ISM-like CO abundances in three protostellar disks, which may signify that a range of depletion timescales and outcomes are possible. Indeed, chemical models by Drozdovskaya et al. (2014) demonstrate that differences in infall physics can strongly influence the chemical processing that occurs in embedded disks. The sources in Zhang et al. (2020) are among the most massive protostellar disks known, and their higher CO abundances may reflect a different physical/chemical environment compared to the Serpens sources. Still, the results from this work and Zhang et al. (2020) both indicate that CO depletion is a rapid process taking place on a \sim 0.5–1 Myr timescale.

The decrease in C¹⁸O/H abundances from the Class 0 to Class I sources is either an artifact of envelope material clouding our view of the Class 0 core/disk regions, or reflects an active depletion mechanism. The drop in CO abundances also coincides with an increase in ¹⁵N fractionation of HCN, which is likely due to enhanced photochemistry during envelope clearing (see Section 6.3). It is possible that envelope clearing also facilitates CO depletion, e.g. through increased exposure to X-rays which drive CO destruction by reactions with He⁺ (e.g. Favre et al. 2013). We also note that single-dish studies show that CO abundances on envelope scales increase from Class 0 to Class I objects (Jørgensen et al. 2002, 2005), converse to what we see here. This implies that the chemistry in the inner protostellar regions is distinct from the envelope, and highlights the importance of understanding chemical evolution during infall.

The Class II sources have a wide range of probable C¹⁸O optical depths, from factors of a few to several tens (Zhang et al. 2017; Booth et al. 2019), making it difficult to interpret depletion trends with age within the Class II stage. Still, even with a conservative estimate of

C^{18}O optical depth, $\tau=40$, the majority of disks exhibit $\text{C}^{18}\text{O}/\text{H}$ abundances about an order of magnitude below ISM levels. The similar depletion levels in the Class II sources compared to the Class I sources suggests that the low CO abundances seen widely in Class II disks (e.g. Dutrey et al. 2003; Favre et al. 2013; Cleeves et al. 2016; Zhang et al. 2017) are set very early in the disk lifetime. Indeed, Cleeves et al. (2016) suggest depletion in an earlier evolutionary stage as a possible explanation for CO depletion in the young disk IM Lup (~ 0.5 Myr; Andrews et al. 2018).

While most disks have apparent $\text{C}^{18}\text{O}/\text{H}$ abundances around $10^{-10}\text{--}10^{-9}$, two sources, V4046 Sgr and J1604, have notably higher abundances closer to 10^{-8} . Interestingly, both are old (~ 13 Myr) transition disks. The high C^{18}O abundances in these disks could be explained by a distinct chemistry taking place at the heavily irradiated inner disk edge, or could be an artifact of different dust properties skewing the derived gas masses in (old) transition disks compared to full disks.

In summary, our results are consistent with a scenario in which CO is depleted relative to ISM levels on a $\sim 0.5\text{--}1$ Myr timescale. We do not see evidence for significantly higher depletion levels in the Class II stage compared to the Class I stage. This suggests that depletion levels are largely set in the embedded stages, and further depletion during the Class II stage is not especially efficient. An important consideration if CO depletion takes place early is that models of physical and chemical mechanisms for CO depletion in disks generally begin with ISM CO abundances and assume physical properties of Class II disks (e.g. Reboussin et al. 2015; Krijt et al. 2018; Schwarz et al. 2018; Eistrup et al. 2018). Our results underscore the need to test whether these (or other) mechanisms could deplete CO in the context of protostellar rather than protoplanetary disk physics and chemistry.

6.2. C_2H , HCN, and C^{18}O chemistries

We now assemble evidence from the C_2H , HCN, and C^{18}O emission morphologies (Figure 1) and abundance correlations (Figure 4) to gain insight into the chemical and physical factors driving their formation. In particular, we wish to explore how the chemistries of the three molecules relate to one another. As described in Section 1, models predict that CO will be removed from the disk atmosphere over its lifetime, as some combination of physical and chemical processes sequester volatiles in the midplane (e.g. Meijerink et al. 2009; Krijt et al. 2016; Schwarz et al. 2018). In an increasingly O-poor (i.e., high C/O) gas in the disk atmosphere, HCN and C_2H formation are predicted to be enhanced (Du et al. 2015).

The expectation would therefore be that CO abundances decrease and HCN and C_2H abundances increase as the disk evolves. While our results do not fit this evolutionary scenario, the underlying chemistry (i.e. efficient C_2H and HCN formation in O-depleted gas) can still explain most of our results.

6.2.1. Class 0/I sources

A positive correlation is seen between HCN and C^{18}O abundances in the protostellar sources. These molecules are also spatially coincident, with both generally tracing rotating material in the inner protostellar core. It is important to note that our sample includes just five Class 0/I sources, and a larger sample size is needed to confirm the observed HCN and C^{18}O correlation. Based on the existing data, however, we speculate that the observed positive correlation is related to sublimation of ices from infalling material. An ice contribution is supported by that the Serpens sources with hot corino emission (Ser-emb 1, 8, and 17; Bergner et al. 2019a) have systematically higher column densities of all HCN isotopologues than the non-hot corino sources (Table 5). It is also otherwise difficult to explain why a tight abundance correlation (and spatial coincidence) would be observed in the protostellar sources but not the Class II sources. The correlation is likely driven primarily by CO sublimation in the protostellar core, which releases carbon into the gas and facilitates gas-phase formation of C-bearing molecules like HCN. The similar binding energies of N_2 and CO (e.g. Fayolle et al. 2016) means that nitrogen should also be abundant in the gas phase in similar regions. A gas-phase HCN formation channel seems necessary to explain the HC^{15}N fractionation patterns seen in the protostellar sources (see Section 6.3), though direct sublimation of HCN ice may also contribute to its gas-phase abundance. We also note that HCN emission is more compact than C^{18}O in the Class 0 sources. This could be an excitation effect, or could imply that some additional ingredient beyond gas-phase C and N is facilitating its formation in the disk-like region of the protostar (e.g. moderate radiation exposure or higher densities).

C_2H emits in a distinct region compared to HCN and C^{18}O in the protostellar sources (Figure 1). The morphologies in Ser-emb 1, 8, and 15 are suggestive of either an outflow cavity or a proto-disk atmosphere, consistent with observations of small hydrocarbons towards other embedded sources (e.g. Oya et al. 2014; Artur de la Villarmois et al. 2019). In both cases we expect low shielding from radiation in these regions, supporting that C_2H formation is favored by an intense irradiation field (Bergin et al. 2016; Aikawa & Herbst 1999). Highly

irradiated environments may also have high C/O ratios due to the destruction of carbon grains or PAHs (e.g. Visser et al. 2007; Anderson et al. 2017), further enhancing C₂H formation.

6.2.2. Class II sources

HCN and C₂H show a strong positive abundance correlation in the Class II sources, indicating a common physical/chemical driver. We do not observe an anti-correlation between C¹⁸O with C₂H or HCN, indicating that factors other than the C/O ratio are influencing the chemistry. However, this does not mean that CO depletion is unimportant for C₂H and HCN formation. The majority of Class II sources have estimated C¹⁸O/H abundances that are low compared to the ISM value (Section 6.1). The lack of a clear trend between C¹⁸O with C₂H and HCN may simply reflect that the chemistry in these disks is already operating in a high C/O gas. Indeed, Cleeves et al. (2018) show that C₂H and HCN formation become insensitive to changes in the C/O ratio once the value is above ~ 1.8 . The bright emission of C₂H in most Class II disks may itself imply a high C/O ratio in the disk atmosphere: chemical models predict that efficient hydrocarbon formation is favored by C/O ratios $\gtrsim 1$ (Bergin et al. 2016; Schwarz et al. 2019; Miotello et al. 2019). It is important to note that achieving a C/O ratio > 1 requires CO destruction (not simply sequestration), with O being partitioned in e.g. H₂O and C remaining in the gas (Bergin et al. 2016).

Thus, if a sufficiently high C/O ratio is present in all disks, then HCN and C₂H formation may be insensitive to variations in the C/O ratio, and other factors will become important in shaping the abundance relationships between molecules. For instance, all three molecules should depend on the availability of gas-phase carbon, which will decrease as CO is removed. The weak (statistically insignificant) positive correlations between C₂H and HCN with C¹⁸O could in part reflect this common dependency. Radiation exposure is also predicted to be an essential ingredient for C₂H and HCN formation (e.g. Aikawa & Herbst 1999), and could contribute to the strong correlation between the two molecules.

It is important to note that in some disks, the morphologies of C₂H and HCN are quite distinct (see especially DM Tau, HD 163296, and V4046 Sgr in Figure 2 of Bergner et al. 2019b), indicating that, while the disk-averaged abundances show a clear relationship, there are still important differences in their formation chemistries. While this work is focused on comparing bulk disk properties, further insight into the relationship between chemical families will be gained by

high-resolution observations that compare chemical substructures.

6.3. Evolution of HCN fractionation

As shown in Figure 6, the protostellar sources show a decreasing HCN/HC¹⁵N ratio with evolutionary stage as traced by bolometric temperature. This indicates active HC¹⁵N fractionation in the protostellar stage. This trend is readily explained by photodissociation-driven fractionation turning on as the envelope clears and the disk is increasingly exposed to UV from the protostar. If temperature-driven fractionation were responsible, we would expect to see a similar trend in the evolution of DCN fractionation. We note that a photochemical fractionation scenario requires gas-phase HCN formation via N₂ dissociation, implying that HCN observed in the protostellar cores is at least in part formed in situ in the gas. Photochemical fractionation is also thought to be important in Class II disks based on radially resolved HCN/HC¹⁵N measurements (Guzmán et al. 2017; Hily-Blant et al. 2019). The agreement between HCN/HC¹⁵N ratios in the most evolved protostellar sources and the Class II sources supports that the same mechanism is at play. Still, our inferences are based on disk-averaged properties, and higher-resolution observations that reveal radial variations in the HCN/HC¹⁵N ratio would help to confirm whether and how photochemical fractionation takes place in these sources.

Unlike HC¹⁵N, deuterium fractionation in the protostellar stage is either inefficient or proceeds with comparable efficiency across all Class 0–Class I sources, resulting in flat HCN/DCN ratios. This likely reflects that deuterium fractionation is typically temperature-driven rather than photodissociation-driven, and thus should not exhibit strong trends with envelope clearing. With the data available to date, we see a tentative trend in which HCN/DCN ratios decrease slightly from Class I to young Class II disks, followed by a modest increase in HCN/DCN ratios in > 3 Myr Class II disks (with the exception of the anomalously high increase in V4046 Sgr). These trends may trace evolution of the physical structures of Class II disks, however a spatially resolved analysis is needed to better understand the dependence of D fractionation patterns on disk physical properties.

7. CONCLUSIONS

We present ALMA observations of C¹⁸O, C₂H, and HCN (and isotopologues DCN and HC¹⁵N) towards a sample of protostellar (Class 0/I) disk candidates and protoplanetary (Class II) disks. We aim to isolate emission associated with the protostellar core/disk-forming region in the Class 0/I sources, enabling a view of chemical evolution throughout the disk lifetime. We focus our

analysis on the relationship between C^{18}O , C_2H , and HCN , as well as isotopic fractionation of HC^{15}N and DCN . We conclude the following:

- Coherent velocity structures in molecular line emission are identified on small scales towards the continuum peak of all Class 0/I sources except for Ser-emb 7, which displays a complicated physical structure. Generally the rotation axis of the small-scale line emission is perpendicular to the outflow orientation, consistent with a disk or disk-forming structure. DCN 3–2 emission seems to reliably trace the compact disk-like structures of the embedded sources, especially notable in Ser-emb 15.
- We estimate molecular column densities and abundances for the disk or disk-forming region of all Class 0–Class II sources. Accounting for probable C^{18}O optical depth effects, the $\text{C}^{18}\text{O}/\text{H}$ abundances are likely an order of magnitude lower than ISM levels in the Class I sources, and factors of a few to two orders of magnitude lower in the Class II sources. Our results are consistent with a rapid CO depletion taking place on a timescale of 0.5–1 Myr, and suggest that the low CO abundances seen widely in Class II disks are set very early in the disk lifetime.
- C_2H and HCN abundances are positively correlated in the Class II stage, reflecting a common physical and/or chemical driver. We do not observe an anti-correlation in the abundances of C^{18}O with HCN or with C_2H . This may reflect that CO is already quite depleted by the Class I stage: given sufficiently high C/O ratios, further CO depletion does not map to enhanced C_2H and HCN formation. Instead, CO depletion may actually hinder HCN and C_2H production by limiting the supply of gas-phase carbon.
- HCN and C^{18}O show a strong positive abundance correlation in the Class 0/I sources. This is likely driven by ice sublimation from infalling material, with gas-phase HCN formation enhanced by the release of CO (and N_2) in the warm protostellar core. This scenario is supported by that HCN , DCN , and HC^{15}N column densities are systematically higher in the Class 0/I sources that also host hot corino emission, which signals efficient ice desorption.
- C_2H emission traces outflow cavity or proto-disk atmosphere structures in the protostellar sources. This supports that C_2H formation is favored by intense irradiation in PDR-like transition zones.
- $\text{HCN}/\text{HC}^{15}\text{N}$ levels range from ~ 90 –290 in the Class 0/I sources and decrease with evolutionary stage (as

traced by T_{bol}). This can be explained by an increase in photodissociation-driven fractionation as the envelope clears. The Class II sources show similar $\text{HCN}/\text{HC}^{15}\text{N}$ ratios as found in the older protostellar sources (~ 80 –150), perhaps reflecting a continuing photochemical fractionation throughout the Class II lifetime.

- HCN/DCN ratios are quite consistent across the protostellar sources (~ 50 –90), indicating that gas-phase D fractionation is either inefficient or is consistently efficient during the protostellar stage. HCN/DCN ratios drop slightly between Class I and young Class II sources, with a tentative increase again in >3 Myr disks. This could trace disk physical evolution in the Class II stage, though a spatially resolved analysis is needed to better understand the D fractionation mechanism.

From this survey, we see that the embedded stage represents a distinct chemical regime from the Class II stage in several of ways. Shielding of radiation by the envelope inhibits gas-phase ^{15}N fractionation pathways, and also means that C_2H does not form co-spatially with the dust disk until the Class II stage. Additionally, ice sublimation from infalling material may provide important ingredients for gas-phase chemistry in the protostellar core. On the other hand, CO appears depleted early in the disk lifetime, and depletion levels may not vary significantly between embedded disks and Class II disks. The role of such effects in setting the volatile compositions of planet-forming material is an important question going forward.

There are a number of avenues that will further our understanding of disk chemical evolution. We emphasize the need for larger sample sizes to better disentangle the effects of disk physical properties on the chemistry through more robust statistical analysis. Multi-line observations would also provide improved constraints on line optical depths and excitation temperatures, allowing for more accurate column density estimates and offering insight into where vertically the emission originates. Lastly, local chemical variations are seen even with the moderate spatial resolution in this program, e.g. the distinctive C_2H morphologies compared to HCN and C^{18}O . Future high-resolution studies of chemical sub-structures should offer a powerful and complementary tool for understanding how volatile chemistry depends on local physical and chemical disk properties.

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Software: NumPy ([van der Walt et al. 2011](#)), Matplotlib ([Hunter 2007](#)), Astropy ([Astropy Collaboration et al. 2013](#)), SciPy ([Virtanen et al. 2020](#)),

Table 7. New Class II line observations

Transition	Beam dimensions ($'' \times ''$)	Chan. rms ^a (mJy beam $^{-1}$)	Vel. range ^b (km s $^{-1}$)	Mom. Zero rms ^c (mJy beam $^{-1}$ km s $^{-1}$)	Ω^d (square arcsec.)	Mom. Zero flux ^d (mJy km s $^{-1}$)
CI Tau						
H ¹³ CN 3-2	0.64×0.53	2.8	4.00–8.00	4.3	2.2	< 35
DCN 3-2	0.83×0.58	3.0	4.00–8.00	4.7	2.2	27 ± 10
HC ¹⁵ N 3-2	0.64×0.53	2.8	4.00–8.00	4.0	2.2	< 31
DM Tau						
H ¹³ CN 3-2	0.60×0.52	2.8	3.50–8.50	4.2	3.4	58 ± 16
DCN 3-2	0.79×0.58	3.2	3.50–8.50	5.1	3.4	< 46
HC ¹⁵ N 3-2	0.60×0.52	2.8	3.50–8.50	4.2	3.4	< 42
DO Tau						
H ¹³ CN 3-2	0.68×0.53	2.7	4.00–8.00	3.8	3.6	< 40
DCN 3-2	0.90×0.58	3.0	4.00–8.00	4.6	3.6	< 29
HC ¹⁵ N 3-2	0.68×0.53	2.7	4.00–8.00	3.9	3.6	< 38
HD 143006						
HCN 3-2	0.56×0.45	5.5	4.00–11.00	9.0	5.1	2149 ± 220
DCN 3-2	0.77×0.51	3.0	6.50–9.50	3.9	4.7	82 ± 15
J1604						
HCN 3-2	0.41×0.33	7.7	1.50–7.00	10.8	11.8	8507 ± 850
DCN 3-2	0.51×0.36	4.8	4.00–5.50	4.2	4.7	295 ± 31
J1609						
HCN 3-2	0.58×0.47	5.4	-1.00–9.00	11.0	3.0	1048 ± 110
DCN 3-2	0.80×0.53	3.0	1.00–7.00	4.9	3.6	67 ± 18
¹³ CO 2-1	0.76×0.51	3.9	-1.00–9.00	7.9	3.6	118 ± 26
J1612						
HCN 3-2	0.58×0.47	5.4	2.00–7.50	8.5	1.7	< 79
DCN 3-2	0.80×0.53	3.0	2.00–7.50	5.3	1.7	< 36
¹³ CO 2-1	0.76×0.51	3.9	2.00–7.50	6.1	2.7	103 ± 20
J1614						
HCN 3-2	0.58×0.46	5.3	-1.00–8.50	11.4	2.4	130 ± 40
DCN 3-2	0.79×0.53	3.0	-1.00–8.50	6.6	2.4	< 51
¹³ CO 2-1	0.75×0.51	4.0	2.00–9.50	7.2	3.7	75 ± 22
LkCa 15						
H ¹³ CN 3-2	0.64×0.52	2.7	3.00–9.00	3.4	6.5	202 ± 26
HC ¹⁵ N 3-2	0.64×0.53	2.8	3.50–9.50	3.4	6.5	83 ± 21
MWC 480						
H ¹³ CN 3-2	0.77×0.50	3.9	0.00–8.50	6.8	4.2	176 ± 36
HC ¹⁵ N 3-2	0.77×0.50	3.9	1.50–10.50	7.2	4.2	82 ± 25

^a For 0.5 km s $^{-1}$ channels. ^b Velocity range included in the moment zero map. ^c Median moment zero map rms. ^d Fluxes are extracted by summing the moment zero map, which has an angular size Ω . 3 σ upper limits are reported for nondetections. Uncertainties are derived by bootstrapping, added in quadrature with a 10% calibration uncertainty.

APPENDIX

A. LINE OBSERVATION DETAILS

Details on the line observations towards the Class II disks are listed in Table 7. Disk inclinations and position angles used for generating Keplerian masks and radial profiles are listed in Table 8. Moment zero maps for ¹³CO 2–1 observed towards J1609, J1612, and J1614 are shown in Figure 7.

Table 8. Class II disk geometries

Source	Inclination (°)	Position angle (°)	Reference
AS 209	38	86	1
CI Tau	50	11	2
DM Tau	34	155	3
DO Tau	28	170	2
HD 143006	17	170	4
HD 163296	48	132	1
IM Lup	50	144	1
J1604-2130	6	80	5
J1609-1908	50	95	6
J1612-1859	53	104	6
J1614-1906	27	19	6
LkCa 15	52	60	1
MWC 480	37	148	1
V4046 Sgr	33	76	1

References: [1] Huang et al. (2017), [2] Long et al. (2019), [3] Teague et al. (2015), [4] Benisty et al. (2018), [5] Dong et al. (2017), [6] Barenfeld et al. (2017)

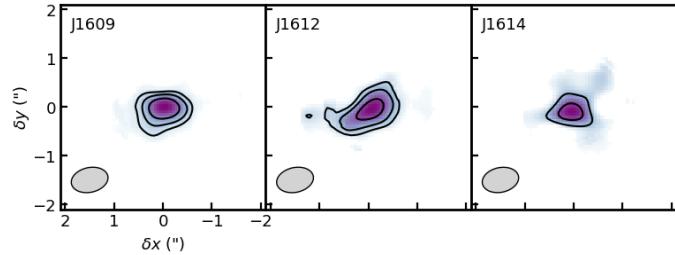


Figure 7. ^{13}CO 2–1 moment zero maps. Contours represent 3, 5, 8× the median rms across the map. The rms values for each panel can be found in Table 7. Emission at a level below $1\times\text{rms}$ is not shown, and color scales are normalized to each individual image. The restoring beams are shown in the lower left of each image.

B. COLUMN DENSITY ESTIMATES

C_2H , HCN, and C^{18}O column density estimates for the Class II sources are shown in Table 9. Continuum fluxes and H_2 column density estimates for all sources are listed in Table 10.

Table 9. Class II line fluxes and column densities within the 4σ emission radius

Source	Flux ^a	Ω ^a	N_T	N_T (τ -corrected) ^b
	(mJy km s ⁻¹)	(square arcsec.)	(cm ⁻²)	(cm ⁻²)
C^{18}O				
AS 209	382 \pm 47	8.0	8.5 \pm 2.2 $\times 10^{14}$	
CI Tau	607 \pm 65	26.1	4.1 \pm 1.0 $\times 10^{14}$	
DM Tau	1119 \pm 110	40.8	4.9 \pm 1.2 $\times 10^{14}$	
DO Tau	246 \pm 29	5.7	7.6 \pm 1.9 $\times 10^{14}$	
HD 143006	129 \pm 17	3.1	7.4 \pm 2.0 $\times 10^{14}$	
HD 163296	5925 \pm 590	37.1	2.8 \pm 0.7 $\times 10^{15}$	
IM Lup	1233 \pm 120	19.7	1.1 \pm 0.3 $\times 10^{15}$	
J1604	1365 \pm 140	10.6	2.3 \pm 0.6 $\times 10^{15}$	
LkCa 15	414 \pm 45	8.8	8.3 \pm 2.1 $\times 10^{14}$	
MWC 480	1462 \pm 150	15.5	1.7 \pm 0.4 $\times 10^{15}$	
V4046 Sgr	1179 \pm 120	25.4	8.3 \pm 2.1 $\times 10^{14}$	
^{13}CO				
J1609	97 \pm 13	1.0	1.7 \pm 0.5 $\times 10^{15}$	
J1612	83 \pm 11	1.3	1.1 \pm 0.3 $\times 10^{15}$	
J1614	44 \pm 10	0.7	1.1 \pm 0.3 $\times 10^{15}$	
HCN				
AS 209	3678 \pm 370	8.4	6.8 \pm 1.0 $\times 10^{12}$	4.0 \pm 1.3 $\times 10^{13}$
HD 143006	2118 \pm 210	3.9	8.5 \pm 1.2 $\times 10^{12}$	5.0 \pm 1.7 $\times 10^{13}$
HD 163296	9532 \pm 950	51.6	2.9 \pm 0.4 $\times 10^{12}$	1.7 \pm 0.6 $\times 10^{13}$
IM Lup	5683 \pm 570	21.8	4.1 \pm 0.6 $\times 10^{12}$	2.4 \pm 0.8 $\times 10^{13}$
J1604	8284 \pm 830	9.8	1.3 \pm 0.2 $\times 10^{13}$	7.6 \pm 2.6 $\times 10^{13}$
J1609	1025 \pm 110	2.6	6.1 \pm 0.9 $\times 10^{12}$	3.6 \pm 1.2 $\times 10^{13}$
J1612	< 26	0.5	< 8.3 $\times 10^{11}$	< 4.8 $\times 10^{12}$
J1614	50 \pm 12	0.4	2.2 \pm 0.6 $\times 10^{12}$	1.3 \pm 0.5 $\times 10^{13}$
V4046 Sgr	9883 \pm 990	85.7	1.8 \pm 0.3 $\times 10^{12}$	1.0 \pm 0.3 $\times 10^{13}$
H^{13}CN				
CI Tau	< 30	2.2	< 2.3 $\times 10^{11}$	
DM Tau	43 \pm 11	2.1	3.5 \pm 1.0 $\times 10^{11}$	
DO Tau	< 21	1.2	< 3.0 $\times 10^{11}$	
LkCa 15	176 \pm 24	5.4	5.5 \pm 0.9 $\times 10^{11}$	
MWC 480	150 \pm 24	1.7	1.5 \pm 0.3 $\times 10^{12}$	
C_2H				
AS 209	2800 \pm 300	10.2	1.2 \pm 0.2 $\times 10^{14}$	1.9 \pm 0.3 $\times 10^{14}$
CI Tau	988 \pm 100	15.8	2.7 \pm 0.4 $\times 10^{13}$	4.4 \pm 0.8 $\times 10^{13}$
DM Tau	2012 \pm 200	60.5	1.4 \pm 0.2 $\times 10^{13}$	2.4 \pm 0.4 $\times 10^{13}$
DO Tau	< 20	1.2	< 7.5 $\times 10^{12}$	< 1.2 $\times 10^{13}$
HD 143006	382 \pm 49	3.8	4.3 \pm 0.7 $\times 10^{13}$	7.0 \pm 1.3 $\times 10^{13}$
HD 163296	4511 \pm 450	47.8	4.1 \pm 0.6 $\times 10^{13}$	6.7 \pm 1.1 $\times 10^{13}$
IM Lup	1240 \pm 140	15.0	3.6 \pm 0.6 $\times 10^{13}$	5.9 \pm 1.0 $\times 10^{13}$
J1604	2598 \pm 260	9.8	1.2 \pm 0.2 $\times 10^{14}$	1.9 \pm 0.3 $\times 10^{14}$
J1609	584 \pm 64	2.5	1.0 \pm 0.2 $\times 10^{14}$	1.7 \pm 0.3 $\times 10^{14}$
J1612	< 32	0.5	< 3.0 $\times 10^{13}$	< 4.9 $\times 10^{13}$
J1614	< 27	0.4	< 2.6 $\times 10^{13}$	< 4.3 $\times 10^{13}$
LkCa 15	2401 \pm 240	29.5	3.5 \pm 0.5 $\times 10^{13}$	5.8 \pm 1.0 $\times 10^{13}$
MWC 480	1823 \pm 180	5.0	1.6 \pm 0.2 $\times 10^{14}$	2.6 \pm 0.4 $\times 10^{14}$
V4046 Sgr	2938 \pm 300	80.2	1.6 \pm 0.2 $\times 10^{13}$	2.6 \pm 0.4 $\times 10^{13}$

^a Integrated within the maximum radius containing emission at a 4σ level, as described in Section 4.2. 3σ upper limits are reported for nondetections. Uncertainties are derived by bootstrapping, added in quadrature with a 10% calibration uncertainty. ^b With an optical depth correction applied as described in Section 4.2.

Table 10. Continuum fluxes and H₂ column density estimates

Source	Beam dim.	Ω	260 GHz continuum flux	$N_T(\text{H}_2)$
	($'' \times ''$)	(square arcsec.)	(mJy)	(cm $^{-2}$)
Ser-emb 1	0.50 \times 0.42	0.4	127.3	8.5×10^{24}
Ser-emb 7	0.50 \times 0.42	0.2	1.3	1.6×10^{23}
Ser-emb 8	0.50 \times 0.42	0.4	53.3	3.3×10^{24}
Ser-emb 15	0.50 \times 0.42	0.4	20.8	1.3×10^{24}
Ser-emb 17	0.50 \times 0.42	0.4	78.8	5.5×10^{24}
AS 209	0.53 \times 0.50	3.9	277.3	1.9×10^{24}
CI Tau	0.52 \times 0.43	2.7	173.9	1.7×10^{24}
DM Tau	0.49 \times 0.43	7.1	131.6	5.0×10^{23}
DO Tau	0.56 \times 0.43	1.4	151.2	2.9×10^{24}
HD 143006	0.49 \times 0.39	1.5	78.4	1.4×10^{24}
HD 163296	0.46 \times 0.40	10.2	877.1	2.3×10^{24}
IM Lup	0.50 \times 0.48	8.8	453.5	1.4×10^{24}
J1604	0.48 \times 0.38	4.2	111.5	7.2×10^{23}
J1609	0.48 \times 0.38	0.6	26.1	1.2×10^{24}
J1612	0.48 \times 0.38	0.6	3.9	1.8×10^{23}
J1614	0.49 \times 0.38	0.5	21.5	1.1×10^{24}
LkCa 15	0.52 \times 0.43	2.3	168.4	1.9×10^{24}
MWC 480	0.67 \times 0.42	5.1	375.0	2.0×10^{24}
V4046 Sgr	0.77 \times 0.56	3.2	218.8	1.9×10^{24}

Class 0/I continuum fluxes are measured within the DCN mask used for line extractions (Section 3.1.1). Class II continuum fluxes are measured within an ellipse fit to the 3–5 σ continuum contour, depending on the SNR. See Section 4.5 for a discussion of uncertainty sources in deriving H₂ column densities.

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