Extreme Variables in Star Forming Regions

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Eruptive Pre-Main Sequence (PMS) Variables



Hartmann & Kenyon (1996)

Eruptive Pre-Main Sequence (PMS) Variables

- Both classes defined at optical wavelengths. This tends to exclude younger protostars.
- Optically invisible PMS stars have shown infrared variability and share spectral characteristics with FUORs, i.e OO Ser, [CTF93]216-2, AR 6B and PP 13S (Hodapp et al 1996, Caratti o Garatti et al 2011, Aspin & Reipurth 2003, Aspin & Sandell 2001).
- Aspin & Greene (2010) find a number of Class I FUOR-like objects

- V1647 Ori (Fedele et al. 2007), OO Ser (Kospal et al. 2007) and [CTF93]216-2 (Caratti o Garatti et al 2011) show characteristics of both FUORs and EXORs (Spectrum, Outburst Duration)
 - EXORs and FUORs part of a continuum of outburst events (Gibb et al. 2006, Fedele et al. 2007)

Importance of FUORs

- FUOR outbursts are thought to be common among PMS stars
- Would help to explain observed scatter in HR diagrams of low-mass PMS clusters. (Baraffe et al 2009).
 - Solve the so called "Luminosity problem" (Kenyon et al. 1990, Caratti o Garatti et al 2012)
- Stellar and sub-stellar masses derived until now are likely to be wrong!!!
- Goal of the project: Determine how common are FUORs
 - Use of UKIDSS GPS and VVV (GLIMPSE, WISE, IPHAS, etc)

Candidate Selection

- Search for candidates in 2 epoch variability data from GPS data release DR5
 - MergedClass=-1
 - K_1(2)ppErrBits < 256
 - K_1(2)EII < 0.3
 - <u>\</u>K>1
 - K<16 mag in at least one epoch
 - Coordshift < 0.5 arcsec
 - Removing false positives left us with 17 candidates with ΔK up to 3.75 mag

Properties

- Extremely red in CMD
- NIR excess in colourcolour diagrams
- 11 of 17 candidates within 1 deg² of Serpens OB2 association
- NIR photometry and spectroscopy with ISAAC.





Serpens OB2 (blue -3.6 µm, green -4.5 µm, red -8.0 µm)



GPS15 however, not associated with a star forming region

GPS3 Corresponds to one of the reddest objects in our sample, along with GPS15



 GPS15 and GPS3 correspond to very red objects.
Show similarities to embedded sources classified as FUORs





Everything points to deeply embedded Class I FUOR/EXOR classification

FIRE Spectroscopy





DR7 Candidate selection

- 3365 stars selected
- 28 candidates
- 12 in a ~6°x3° area in Cygnus
- 5 within 300 arcsec of SFRs from Avedisova (2002).
- 66% of our sample located at SFRs



Thank you