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Various Molecular Gas Responses toward the Mid-stage Merger VV114

T. Saito(UT), D. Iono(NAOJ), M. S. Yun(Umass), D. Espada, Y. Hagiwara, M. Imanishi, K. Nakanishi, H. Sugai(NAOJ), K. Motohara, K. Tateuchi, J. Ueda(UT), and R. Kawabe(JAO)

We present high resolution CO(1-0), 13 CO(1-0), CH₃OH(2-1), CS(2-1), CN($1_{1/2}$ - $0_{1/2}$), CN($1_{3/2}$ - $0_{1/2}$), CO(3-2), HCN(4-3), HCO⁺(4-3), and CS(7-6) maps of an IR-bright late stage merger VV114 obtained during cycle 0 of ALMA. The dense gas (> 10⁶ cm⁻³) traced by HCN(4-3), HCO⁺(4-3) and CS(7-6) clearly identify the highly obscured AGN and intense starburst activities at the overlap region, where a merger-induced star-forming region is predicted from numerical simulations. On the other hand, the CO(3-2)/CO(1-0) ratio demonstrates moderate dense gas (> 10³ cm⁻³) content relative to the total molecular gas. Furthermore, the CO(1-0)/ 13 CO(1-0) ratio increases toward the central region, where the gas is warmer and denser. This trend is consistent with HCN(4-3), HCO⁺(4-3) and CS(7-6) emissions. We use the radiative transfer code RADEX to reveal the entire gas response relative to the star formation, and also derive the gas conditions from CN, CS, and CH₃OH lines. These 10 line analysis suggest that each clump in VV114 has a different physical condition, affected by the AGN, intense starburst activities, or merger-induced tidal force. These ALMA data demonstrate the importance of observing both the diffuse and dense gas in order to obtain a comprehensive view of the physical processes that occur during a major merger event.