DETECTION OF CH₃NCO IN THE GALACTIC CENTER STAR-FORMING REGION SAGITTARIUS B2(M) BY RADIO ASTRONOMICAL OBSERVATIONS

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Large difference of chemical compositions between molecular clouds and comets is a big question for astrochemistry. The case of a pre-biotic molecule CH₃NCO is one of them. The abundance ratio of [CH₃NCO]/[HNCO] is high in the comet 67P (> 4, [1]), although it is low (0.02-0.3, e.g., [2]) in molecular clouds. An abundance of CH₃NCO is expected to be held and/or increased during evolutionary process of a cloud. A pair of an old core and a young core having the similar chemical compositions needs to be investigated for this evolutionary process. In this work, we aimed to detect CH₃NCO in the middle (M) core, which is relatively older than the north (N) core, in the Galactic Center star-forming region Sagittarius B2 with the 45 m telescope of Nobeyama Radio Observatory. The rotational transitions of $J=10\to 9$ to $13\to 12$ for CH₃NCO were detected in the 85-114 GHz region. The column density and the rotational temperature are derived to be $N=(4.3\pm 2.1)\times 10^{13}$ cm⁻² and $T_{rot}=(32\pm 9)$ K, respectively, assuming local thermal equilibrium. Similarly, an abundance of HNCO is estimated to be $N=(1.3\pm 0.5)\times 10^{15}$ cm⁻² ($T_{rot}=21\pm 2$ K), giving the ratio of [CH₃NCO]/[HNCO] = 0.032. Thus, as a simplest model, it is suggested that an abundance of CH₃NCO is held during evolutionary process of the Sagittarius B2 region.

[1] Goesmann et al., Science, 349, 689 (2015). [2] Halfen et al., ApJ, 812, L5 (2015).