Observations of cataclysmic variables with *INTEGRAL*

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Astronomical Institute, Academy of Sciences 251 65 Ondřejov, Czech Republic & ISDC, Versoix, Switzerland Non-magnetic cataclysmic variable (CV)



- Donor, lobe-filling star
 Bright spot (stream impact onto disk)
- ····· Mass stream
 - ••• Non-mag. white dwarf ••• Accretion disk

- Accretion disk thermal radiation (UV, optical, IR)
- Opt. thick, geom. thin boundary layer (therm. rad. - soft X-rays) (high m
)
- Opt. thin, geom. thick boundary layer (bremsstrahlung – hard X-rays) (low m)

Dominant source of luminosity: accretion process

Intermediate polar – mildly magnetized white dwarf

Impact region near the magnetic pole of the WD (bremsstrahlung – hard X-rays)







Non-magnetic CVs

Boundary layer changes from optically thin, geom. thick to optically thick, geometrically thin during outburst





2.0





Production of gamma-rays in CVs

Acceleration of particles by the rotating magnetic field of the WD in intermediate polars in the propeller regime – AE Aqr – detected by ground-based Cherenkov telescopes in the TeV passband (e.g. Meintjes et al. 1992)

TeV emission from the polar AM Her detected by ground-based Cherenkov telescopes (Bhat et al. 1991)



Detection in the keV – MeV passbands by INTEGRAL may be also possible

CVs and INTEGRAL:

- In total, ~ 335 CVs brighter than 17.5 mag(V) at least during maxima of their long-term activity and located within -14°<b_{II} <+14° are contained in the latest version of *The Catalog and Atlas of CVs* (Downes et al. 2001) (this number excludes classical novae brighter than 17.5 mag(V) only during explosion and steadily fainter than 17.5 mag(V) after return to quiescence).
- Also CVs with a slightly larger b_{II} are expected to be scanned because of the large field of view.
- Currently the best coverage for CVs lying toward the Galactic center.
- Some CVs far from the Galactic plane lie in the fields scheduled for obs. of other kinds of object.
- Simultaneous information in the optical, medium X-ray, hard X-ray, and gamma spectral region (or at least a suitable upper limit) for each CV in each scan or field.

Modes of observation:

Galactic Plane Scans (GPS) (-14°<b_{ll}<+14°) – Pointed observations Targets of opportunity most important for CVs !

Total exposure times of IBIS.

Known CVs: The Catalog and Atlas of Cataclysmic Variables (Downes et al. 2001).







Orbital modulation in folded OMC data (100 sec exp. only) (ephemeris of Jablonski and Steiner (1987)) *P*_{orb} = 3.37 hr

Smooth curve: moving averages – orb. modul. clearly visible Ocurrence of brightenings is independent on the phase Scatter – rotational modulation of the white dwarf contributes! OMC is able to provide important data for such objects

Field of the intermediate polar V1223 Sgr. Co-added frames from IBIS. mid exp. JD 2452730.1680; exp. 115548 sec (32.8 hr). Size of the field: 9.1°x7.1°. North is up, East to the left.

Profile of rot. modulation in 15 – 40 keV region different from previous obs. in softer passbands:

0.2 – 18.6 keV: ~sinusoidal profile

15 – 40 keV: flat-topped profile, narrower minima

Full amplitude of spin mod.: A = $(I_{max} - I_{min}) / (I_{max} + I_{min})$

Exp. time: 186 891 sec 100 scw (62 scw March – May 2003, 36 scw Sept – Oct 2003, 2 scw March 2004)

V 1432 Aql

Prominent orbital modulation – variable aspect of the impact region on the WD

Fit to co-added IBIS image:

15 – 40 keV: flux = 0.318 +/- 0.045 ct / s (significance: 7 sigma)

40 - 80 keV: flux = 0.109 +/- 0.044 ct / s (significance: 2.5 sigma)

IBIS (15 – 40 keV) image of the intermediate polar GK Per (267 950 sec exp. (~74.4 hr). Co-added images: 19 March 2003, 27 – 29 July 2003. Size of field: 9.1°x7.1°. North is up, East to the left.

GK Per

Search for rapid variations

Low-amplitude changes on time scale of a few days may be present

Two rapid jumps of mean magnitude: real features or instrumental effect?

Short-lived episode of shalow low state

Rapid variations (flickering) superimposed on the long-term changes

Results for CV observations with INTEGRAL and perspectives

- Proof that CVs can be successfully detected and observed in hard X-rays with INTEGRAL (for most CVs much harder passbands than possible previously!)
- Confirmation of our prediction that magnetic CVs are promising targets
- More CVs (and in harder passbands) will be detectable with increasing integration time Also increasing probability of detecting the objects in outbursts, high and low states...
- Simultaneous hard X-ray and optical observations (or at least suitable upper limits)
- Long-term variability of CVs (GPS) will be increasingly even more valuable with increasing time
- Analysis of the properties of rotational and orbital modulation in magnetic CVs
- Covering the gap between TeV energies (obs. by Cherenkov tel.) and X-rays obs. by previous satellites

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