

6668-MHz Methanol maser exploration of the W51 SFR complex beyond W51 main

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W51 is one of the most massive giant molecular clouds in the Galaxy. It contains two giant HII regions labelled W51A and W51B which are themselves resolved into smaller components. In W51A, the most luminous sites are the two protocluster regions, so-called IRS2 and e1/e2. These regions, known to harbour maser emission from various species, show clear evidence of embedded young massive forming stellar objects. Our initial investigation of the region through MERLIN observations revealed intense and complex Class-II 6.668-GHz methanol maser activity towards W51 Main, associated with the e1/e2 protocluster. Here we present the second part of the investigation of this SFR complex which revealed

the presence of 6.668-GHz methanol maser activity in several regions including W51 IRS2/North with indication that the masers are excited by multiple objects potentially at different stages of evolution.