

## Short-lived episodic outflow in a water fountain star

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Water fountains are evolved stars that show early stages of collimated mass loss during the transition from the asymptotic giant branch, providing valuable insight into the formation and shaping of asymmetric planetary nebulae. In this talk, we introduce a peculiar water fountain star, IRAS 18113-2503, and show the results of a multi-epoch VLBI campaign to unveil the spatial and 3D kinematic structure of its water masers. Our observations reveal three pairs of high-velocity (150-300 km/s) bipolar bow shocks on a scale of 180 mas (2000 au). We find, for the first time, an exponentially decelerating system of episodic ejections in a water fountain, with a periodicity of ~10 years. Using a simple kinematic model, we derive some physical properties of the jet, its source and surroundings, and show that the observations may best be explained by a close binary system of ~10 au separation.