

# Insight-HXMT View of the Black Hole Candidate Swift J1727.8–1613 during Its Outburst in 2023

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# Abstract

The transient Galactic black hole candidate Swift J1727.8-1613 went through an outburst for the very first time in 2023 August and lasted for almost 6 months. We study the timing and spectral properties of this source using publicly available archival Insight-HXMT data for the first 10 observation IDs that last from MJD 60181 to 60198 with a total of 92 exposures for each of the three energy bands. We have detected quasi-periodic oscillations (QPOs) in a frequency range of  $0.21 \pm 0.01 - 1.86 \pm 0.01$  Hz by fitting the power density spectrum. Based on the model-fitted parameters and properties of the QPOs, we classify them as type C in nature. We also conclude that the origin of the QPOs could be the shock instabilities in the transonic advective accretion flows around black holes. The spectral analysis was performed using simultaneous data from the three onboard instruments LE, ME, and HE of Insight-HXMT in the broad energy band of 2−150 keV. To achieve the best fit, spectral fitting required a combination of models, e.g., interstellar absorption, power-law, multicolor disk–blackbody continuum, Gaussian emission/absorption, and reflection by neutral material. From the spectral properties, we found that the source was in an intermediate state at the start of the analysis period and was transitioning to the softer states. The inner edge of the accretion disk moved inward in progressive days following the spectral nature. We found that the source has a high inclination of 78°−86°. The hydrogen column density from the model fitting varied in the range of  $(0.12 \pm 0.02 - 0.39 \pm 0.08) \times 10^{22}$  cm<sup>-2</sup>.

Unified Astronomy Thesaurus concepts: [X-ray binary stars](http://astrothesaurus.org/uat/1811) (1811); [Black holes](http://astrothesaurus.org/uat/162) (162); [Stellar accretion disks](http://astrothesaurus.org/uat/1579) ([1579](http://astrothesaurus.org/uat/1579)); [Shocks](http://astrothesaurus.org/uat/2086) (2086); [Compact radiation sources](http://astrothesaurus.org/uat/289) (289)

## 1. Introduction

Stellar-mass black holes are one of the end products of the death of massive stars. They reside in binary systems where a companion star supplies matter, and during accretion they emit radiation. A significant amount of their radiation comes out in the form of X-rays; therefore, they are called black hole X-ray binaries (BHXRBs). Depending on the mass of the companion star, they can be mainly of two types: low-mass X-ray binaries (LMXRBs) or high-mass X-ray binaries (HMXRBs). The LMXRBs consist of type A or later type of stars, whereas the HMXRBs consist of giant O- or B-type stars (e.g., N. E. White et al. [1995](#page-16-0); B. E. Tetarenko et al. [2016](#page-16-0)). During the transfer of mass from the companion, matter accumulates at a distance from the BH due to insufficient viscosity to drive the matter inward (S. Minshige [1993;](#page-16-0) E. Kuulkers et al. [1997](#page-16-0); A. N. Parmar et al. [1997;](#page-16-0) J.-P. Lasota [2001](#page-16-0)), which is called the pile-up radius (S. K. Chakrabarti et al. [2019](#page-15-0); K. Chatterjee et al. [2022](#page-15-0)). Due to the accumulation of more matter, the temperature of the disk rises. The gradual increase in temperature develops instability at the pile-up radius, which further increases the viscosity. At some point in time, when the accumulated matter gains enough viscosity to push forward,

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accretion starts. On the other hand, irradiation of the accumulated matter at the outer boundary by the central object can also trigger mass accretion when the temperature of the accumulated matter crosses a critical limit (A. R. King & H. Ritter [1998;](#page-16-0) S. Mondal [2020](#page-16-0)). Thus, these systems make ideal laboratories for studying the physics of accretion. BHXRBs mostly stay in a quiet, dormant state when their flux remains at a very low detection level. Episodically, the radiation level increases by a very large factor, and they become easily detectable, which is known as an outburst (Y. Tanaka & N. Shibazaki [1996;](#page-16-0) R. A. Remillard & J. E. McClintock [2006](#page-16-0)). The X-ray luminosity increases by several orders of magnitude during an outburst when compared to a quiescence. Depending on the nature of the outburst, the sources are classified into two types: persistent and transient sources. Most of the BHXRBs are transient types of sources. They stay in the dormant state for most of their lifetimes. The luminosity becomes  $\sim 10^{37-38}$  erg s<sup>-1</sup> during the episodic outbursting phase (Y. Tanaka & N. Shibazaki [1996](#page-16-0)).

During the onset of an outburst, the flux in the light curve changes noticeably. Based on their nature, the outbursts are divided into two types (D. Debnath et al. [2010](#page-15-0)): fast-rise slow decay and slow-rise slow decay (SRSD). However, there are also some other classified outburst types, e.g., according to Zhang et al. ([2019](#page-16-0)), outbursts can also be classified into glitch, reflare, multipeak, and mini outburst. There are generally four designated spectral states during a complete BH outburst (R. A. Remillard & J. E. McClintock  $2006$ ). They are known as the hard state (HS), hard intermediate state (HIMS), soft

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intermediate state (SIMS), and soft state (SS). Generally, when an outburst starts, it starts in the HS. Then it slowly moves toward the SS through the HIMS and SIMS (T. Belloni et al. [2005;](#page-15-0) T. M. Belloni et al. [2011](#page-15-0) and references within). After it reaches its SS, the rising phase generally comes to an end, and the outburst starts its decaying phase. In the decaying phase, it goes in the opposite direction and reaches the declining HS. When a BH outburst goes through all these states, it is known as a type I outburst. When the soft state is absent, it is known as a "failed" or type II outburst (Hynes et al. [2000](#page-15-0); C. Brocksopp et al. [2001,](#page-15-0) [2004](#page-15-0); T. Belloni et al. [2002;](#page-15-0) F. Capitanio et al. [2009;](#page-15-0) P. A. Curran & S. Chatty [2013;](#page-15-0) B. E. Tetarenko et al. [2016;](#page-16-0) M. Del Santo et al. [2016](#page-15-0), [2016;](#page-15-0) J. A. Garcia et al. [2019](#page-15-0); K. Alabarta et al. [2021](#page-15-0)).

The energy spectrum of a BHXRB generally consists of two main components. One is the soft thermal multicolor blackbody component, which is due to the blackbody radiation of the seed photons in the standard accretion disk (I. D. Novikov & K. S. Thorne [1973](#page-16-0); N. I. Shakura & R. A. Sunyaev [1973](#page-16-0)). The other is the hard power-law component, which can extend up to very high energies. The origin of this component is thought to be due to the inverse Comptonization of a fraction of seed photons from the disk, which is intercepted by a hot Compton cloud (R. A. Sunyaev & L. G. Titarchuk [1980](#page-16-0), [1985](#page-16-0); F. Haardt & L. Maraschi [1993;](#page-15-0) A. A. Zdziarski et al. [1993](#page-16-0); L. Titarchuk [1994;](#page-16-0) S. Chakrabarti & L. G. Titarchuk [1995](#page-15-0); P. T. Zycki et al. [1999](#page-16-0)). When the outburst is in the HS, there is a very small contribution from the thermal blackbody component and mostly the (non)thermal power-law component dominates. In the SS, the thermal blackbody component becomes dominant, while in the intermediate states (HIMS and SIMS), the contribution from the two components stays comparable. Other than these two components, in the case of a high soft state (HSS), there could be the presence of bulk motion Comptonization (BMC), which takes place due to the relativistic speed of matter when it reaches a closer to the BH (R. D. Blandford & D. G. Payne [1981a](#page-15-0), [1981b;](#page-15-0) D. G. Payne & R. D. Blandford [1981](#page-16-0); S. Chakrabarti & L. G. Titarchuk [1995](#page-15-0); D. Psaltis & F. K. Lamb [1997](#page-16-0); K. Borozdin et al. [1999;](#page-15-0) D. Psaltis [2001](#page-16-0)). It was recently observed by K. Chatterjee et al. ([2023](#page-15-0)) that BMC was present in the radiation spectrum of the black hole candidate (BHC) MAXI J0637-430.

In addition, reprocessing of the Comptonized photons from the Compton cloud by the accretion disk is known as reprocessed radiation (I. M. George & A. C. Fabian [1991](#page-15-0); R. R. Ross & A. C. Fabian [2005;](#page-16-0) J. Garcia & T. R. Kallman [2010](#page-15-0)), which generates reflection spectra. As a result, the Fe K $\alpha$  emission line at  $\sim$ 6.4 keV and a reflection hump above 20 keV may originate. The presence of these complex features in the spectrum of BHXRBs makes it interesting to study. It is important to study and model these features to understand their origin. This can be achieved by fitting broadband data using multicomponent models. In this regard, high-resolution broadband data of Insight-HXMT (S.-N. Zhang et al. [2020](#page-16-0)) can be very useful.

Besides rich spectral features, temporal properties are equally important to understanding the dynamics of the accreting gas around the BHs. During an outburst, it has been observed that the light curves show changes in very small timescale, especially in the high-energy bands. The Fourier transformation of the light curve imprints such changes as both broadband noise and narrow features in the power density

spectrum (PDS; M. van der Klis [1989](#page-16-0)). The broadband noise is spread over a large frequency range modeled by power-law or broad Lorentzian functions. The peaklike feature is a power peak in narrow frequency ranges, known as the quasiperiodic oscillation (QPO). The PDS is modeled by one or multiple Lorentzian profiles along with the power-law model. The Lorentzian model helps estimate the properties of the QPO (M. A. Nowak [2000](#page-16-0); T. Belloni et al. [2002](#page-15-0)). Low-frequency quasiperiodic oscillations (LFQPOs) lie in the frequency range of a few mHz to ∼30 Hz (T. Belloni et al. [2002](#page-15-0); P. Casella et al. [2005;](#page-15-0) S. E. Motta et al. [2015](#page-16-0)). Depending on their properties, e.g., the frequency (*v*), Q-value ( $=v/\delta v$ , where  $\delta v$  is the full width at half-maximum or FWHM), (%)rms, etc., LFQPOs are classified into three different types: type A, B, and C (P. Casella et al. [2005](#page-15-0)). Several ideas were put forward to explain the LFQPO phenomenon in BHs. Although type C LFQPO is now a well-studied phenomenon, there is still debate about its origin, as several models can explain it. Some of the often used explanations are the Lense–Thirring precession (L. Stella et al. [1999](#page-16-0); A. Ingram et al. [2009](#page-15-0)), magnetoacoustic waves (L. Titarchuk et al. [1998](#page-16-0)), accretionejection instability (M. Tagger & R. Pellat [1999](#page-16-0)) and the shock oscillation model (D. Molteni et al. [1996](#page-16-0); S. K. Chakrabarti et al. [2005,](#page-15-0) [2008](#page-15-0), [2015](#page-15-0)). However, compared to type C, the other two types' origin is still not clearly known.

The shock oscillation is one of the features of the two-component advective flow (TCAF; S. Chakrabarti & L. G. Titarchuk [1995](#page-15-0)) model. This model suggests that there are two different forms of angular momentum distribution in matter supplied from the companion star, Keplerian and sub-Keplerian. Due to its high viscosity, the Keplerian component moves in a viscous timescale and forms a thin accretion disk on the equatorial plane. The accretion disk moves inward as this matter gains critical viscosity. Less viscous accretion flow characterizes the sub-Keplerian one, which falls radially in a freefall timescale. This matter resides above and below the Keplerian disk. The sub-Keplerian component, which is optically thin, creates a shock front where infalling matter virtually stops because of the tug of war between centrifugal and gravitational forces. The boundary layer, sometimes referred to as the CENBOL (centrifugal pressure-supported boundary layer, S. Chakrabarti & L. G. Titarchuk [1995](#page-15-0)), is the shock front. In this model, the postshock region is the "Compton" cloud region, the repository of hot electrons. As blackbody photons are produced by the disk, the soft multicolor blackbody component can be explained by the Keplerian component. Some of the captured soft disk photons are upscattered and released as hard power-law photons by the CENBOL, which serves as the Comptonizing region. During the start of an outburst, the CENBOL forms farther away from the BH, and the disk is also truncated at a very large radius. As a result, photons originating from the disk become hard through inverse Compton scattering by hot electrons, and thus we always observe a hard state during the onset of an outburst from BHs. As time progresses, the Keplerian disk moves inward, producing more blackbody radiation. More soft photons are intercepted in the CENBOL, which are upscattered and help to cool down the CENBOL. More photons are emitted in the whole process, and flux increases and the source goes toward a softer state. In a high soft state, the CENBOL is totally quenched, and the disk reaches very close to the black

<span id="page-2-0"></span>hole. Thus, only the disk photons now contribute to the radiation, which makes the spectrum soft.

Besides describing the spectral features and their changes, this model also explains the QPO properties. In the HS, when the CENBOL is bigger, it could produce LFQPOs due to the resonance oscillation of the shock when the infall and cooling timescales match (D. Molteni et al. [1996](#page-16-0); S. K. Garain et al. [2014;](#page-15-0) S. K. Chakrabarti et al. [2015](#page-15-0)). As the outburst progresses, CENBOL loses its size, and we see a rise in the frequency of the QPO. This is discussed with mathematical relation in Section [4.](#page-8-0) As the SS approaches, the CENBOL shrinks in size, and there is no oscillation; cooling takes over the heating timescale. Thus, we do not see any QPO in the SS. In between the HS and SS, when the CENBOL is intermediate in size, there could be the presence of either type C or type A/B QPOs. In the HIMS, we see type C, whereas, in the SIMS, mostly type  $A/B$  is seen.

As changes in both the spectral and timing properties come from the same system and changes in spectral states can also dictate the types of QPOs, there could be a possible correlation between the spectral and temporal properties. A connection between these two properties is observed using a hardness intensity diagram, or HID (J. Homan et al. [2001](#page-15-0)), which shows the variation of the flux in the light curve (considered here as timing property) with the hardness ratio, or HR, which shows roughly the variation of the spectral nature of the outburst (considered as spectral property here). A detailed outburst study showed that the changes in both properties are due to the interplay between different mass accretion rates or variation in viscosity, which can be understood through the accretion rate ratio–intensity diagram or ARRID (S. Mondal et al. [2014](#page-16-0); A. Jana et al. [2016;](#page-15-0) K. Chatterjee et al. [2020](#page-15-0)). The rms– intensity diagram (RID; T. Munoz-Darias et al. [2011](#page-16-0)) and hardness ratio–intensity diagram or HID (T. Belloni et al. [2005](#page-15-0)) can also link spectral and temporal properties from a pure observational ground. As shown in S. K. Chakrabarti et al.  $(2015)$  $(2015)$  $(2015)$ , when the cooling timescale is within 50% of the infall/ heating timescale, the QPO originates, which is in accord with the spectral model-fitted ARRID in S. Mondal et al. ([2014](#page-16-0)), where OPOs disappeared for ARR  $< 0.5$  in the ARRID. Unlike most of the explanations in the literature, the shock oscillation model in the TCAF paradigm is successful in addressing the spectral and temporal properties responsible for the origin of QPOs, which prompted us to consider this model for the rest of the paper to explain QPOs observed in the Swift J1727.8-1613 during Insight-HXMT era.

The BHC Swift J1727.8-1613 was discovered very recently on 2023 August 24, or MJD 60180 (J. A. Kennea & Swift Team [2023](#page-15-0)). MAXI (M. Matsuoka et al. [2009](#page-16-0)) detected the source to be very bright with a flux of 7 Crab in the 2−20 keV energy range. Since then, multiwavelength follow-up observations have been carried out by several ground-based and spacebourne telescope facilities (M. C. Baglio et al. [2023](#page-15-0); J. C. A. Miller-Jones et al. [2023](#page-16-0); H. Negoro et al. [2023b](#page-16-0); B. O'Connor et al. [2023;](#page-16-0) Y. D. Wang & E. C. Bellm [2023](#page-16-0); D. Williams-Baldwin et al. [2023](#page-16-0)). The source is reported to be located at a distance of  $2.7 \pm 0.3$  kpc (D. Mata Sanchez et al. [2024](#page-16-0)) and a mass of  $10 \pm 2 M_{\odot}$  (J. Svoboda et al. 2024). The revelation of the presence of hydrogen and helium emission lines in the optical spectrum led to its classification as an LMXRB (A. J. Castro-Tirado et al. [2023](#page-15-0)). The X-ray spectrum and other properties point to its nature as a BHXRB (H. Y. Liu et al. [2023](#page-16-0);

R. A. Sunyaev et al. [2023](#page-16-0)). This was supported strongly after the detection of type C QPOs (N. Bollemeijer et al. [2023](#page-15-0); P. A. Draghis et al. [2023](#page-15-0); I. Mereminskiy et al. [2024](#page-16-0); D. M. Palmer & T. M. Parsotan [2023](#page-16-0)) and a flat radio spectrum (J. Bright et al. [2023;](#page-15-0) J. C. A. Miller-Jones et al. [2023](#page-16-0)). There have been X-ray monitoring of the source with NICER (B. O'Connor et al. [2023](#page-16-0)), NuSTAR (M. Dovciak et al. [2023](#page-15-0)), Insight-HXMT (J.-Q. Peng et al. [2024](#page-16-0)), IXPE (Veledina et al. [2023](#page-16-0)), AstroSat (T. Katoch et al. [2023](#page-15-0)). Using IXPE data on 2023 September 7, Veledina et al. ([2023](#page-16-0)) estimated its polarization with a polarization degree (PD) of  $4.1\% \pm 0.2\%$  and polarization angle (PA) of  $2^{\circ}2 \pm 1^{\circ}3$ . There was a further polarization study of the source by A. Ingram et al.  $(2024)$  $(2024)$  $(2024)$ .

At the beginning of the outburst, the source was consistent with being in the hard state, described by a power law with a photon index (Γ)  $\sim$ 1.5−1.7 (Η. Y. Liu et al. [2023](#page-16-0)). Later, using the NICER observations, N. Bollemeijer et al. ([2023](#page-15-0)) reported the softening of the spectrum with a substantial contribution of the soft blackbody component after 25 days from the start of the outburst. The presence of LFQPOs was reported by P. A. Draghis et al. ([2023](#page-15-0)), and the evolution of LFQPOs at the high-energy band using AstroSat data was reported by A. Nandi et al. ([2024](#page-16-0)). The source also showed a soft time lag of  $0.014 \pm 0.001$  s between energy bands of 3–10 and 0.5–3 keV on 2023 August 29 (MJD 60185; D. Debnath et al. [2023](#page-15-0) using NICER data). With reflection spectroscopy, these authors found the disk inclination to be ∼87°. However, none of the studies in the literature discussed the origin of the spectral and temporal properties in the context of the shock oscillation model, which prompted us to analyze the broadband X-ray data from Insight-HXMT and interpret them in light of accretion with shocks.

The paper is organized as follows: in Section 2, we describe the observation, data selection, reduction, and analysis procedures. In Section [3,](#page-4-0) we portray the spectral and temporal properties and observed results. In Section [4](#page-8-0), we discuss the possible physical origin of our result and the connection between observed features. Finally, in Section [5](#page-15-0), we summarize the results and draw conclusions.

#### 2. Observation, Data Selection, Reduction, and Analysis

The source is being extensively monitored by various X-ray satellites, as discussed earlier. For this study, we use China's first dedicated X-ray satellite Insight-HXMT (HXMT; S. Zhang et al. [2014](#page-16-0); S.-N. Zhang et al. [2020](#page-16-0)) data. In Sections 2.1–[2.3,](#page-3-0) we discuss the data selection, reduction, and analysis, respectively.

#### 2.1. Data Selection

The source was regularly monitored by the Insight-HXMT satellite. In the [data archive,](http://archive.hxmt.cn/proposal) observations are available on demand. We found that there are a total of 34 observation IDs (obsIDs) available.<sup>6</sup> Out of those available 31 obsIDs, we took the first 10 obsIDs. However, unlike other X-ray satellite data, each obsID in HXMT has several exposures. Also, some of the obsIDs have continuous observations of about 2–3 days. We found that for these first 10 obsIDs, each of them has a minimum of seven to a maximum of 18 exposures. Initially, we performed the analysis of all the exposures for the first three obsIDs and found no significant change in the parameters of

Although three of them were not downloadable.



<span id="page-3-0"></span>

Note. Here, column (1) lists the observation IDs. Columns (2) and (3) denote the start and end date of observations, while columns (4) and (5) refer to corresponding MJDs. Column (6) gives the exposure time of each observation.

spectral fits in the consecutive exposures. Therefore, we avoid fitting every exposure of each obsID. The details of the selected data are given in Table 1.

Here, we note that, in general, the exposure is the time span of observation within an obsID. The Insight-HXMT has several obsIDs for this source, each of which lasts for a different amount of time, which is the exposure time. In Table 1, one can see that all the obsIDs have different exposures, with some of them having a time gap between them. When reducing the data, we found that inside every obsID, there were several sub-IDs, the name of which starts with that particular ID. The total exposure of an entire obsID was cut into several sub-IDs with different exposure times but with no time gap between them. This can be seen in Table  $3$  (columns (3) and (5)). GTIs are also different. They can be separated in time between the consecutive ones. Here, this is not the case. Thus, to differentiate between them, we called these "exposure IDs" and used this phrase throughout the paper. Within one obsID (like the first one in Table 1), there are several exposure IDs (like 12 exposure IDs in the 1st column of Table [3](#page-9-0)). This has not been defined like this before. To keep things easy, we have taken this approach.

# 2.2. Data Reduction

The main scientific instrument of Insight-HXMT is an array of 18 NaI/CSI phoswich scintillation detectors, each of which covers an effective area of  $286 \text{ cm}^2$ . The satellite has three instruments or payloads: High Energy (HE; C. Liu et al. [2020](#page-16-0)), Medium Energy (ME; Y. Chen et al. [2020](#page-15-0)), and Low Energy (LE; X. Cao et al. [2020](#page-15-0)). They have an effective area of 5100, 952, and 384 cm<sup>2</sup> and cover an energy range of 20−250, 5−30, and 1−15 keV, respectively.

After downloading on-demand level-1 data from the archive, we produced cleaned level-2 data for science analysis. The processing of cleaning raw data was done in the following way. We first installed the  $HXMTDAS'$  v2.05. Using this software, we run the hpipeline command using proper input and output directories. This pipeline performs several subsequent automatic commands for all three instruments under some given conditions. Some conditions were set to get a good time interval, e.g., elevation angle  $>10^{\circ}$ ; geomagnetic cutoff rigidity  $>8$  GeV; pointing offset angle  $< 0.04^{\circ}$ ;  $> 600$  s away from the

South Atlantic Anomaly. All these commands altogether extract and clean the raw data and produce cleaned and analyzable science products.<sup>8</sup> The specific commands hespecgen, mespecgen, and lespecgen produce the spectra for HE, ME, and LE instruments. Whereas, the helcgen, melcgen, and lelcgen tasks produce the light curve files for the three instruments. herspgen, merspgen, and lerspgen produce corresponding response files. The background subtraction for both the timing and spectral data was performed using the commands hebkgmap, mebkgmap, and lebkgmap for instruments HE, ME, and LE, respectively. For the  $\chi^2$  fit statistics in XSPEC, we grouped the spectrum using the grppha task of FTOOLS to a minimum of 30 counts per bin. We also set the time bin size to 0.01 s to produce the light curves for generating PDS and QPOs.

Using the cleaned spectra and light curves, we further fitted and analyzed to extract the outburst properties, which are discussed in Section 2.3.

#### 2.3. Data Analysis

We have downloaded the daily average light curve of  $MAXI/GSC<sup>9</sup>$  from the archive to study the outburst profile in addition to Insight-HXMT. Using the unbinned light curves from LE, ME, and HE modules, we have first produced 0.01 s time-binned light curves. Then the PDS was generated using the fast Fourier transformation (FFT) technique in the powspec task of the XRONOS package in the HEASoft software. Each observation's data was subdivided into several intervals, each of which contains 8192 newbins. First, the PDS for each interval is generated, and then they are averaged to make a resultant PDS. The PDS is normalized in a way that their integral can give the rms-squared fractional variability. The white noise level is subtracted by using a normalization value of  $-2$  in powspec and a geometrical rebinning of  $-1.02$ is used. For some data, we needed to use a geometrical rebinning of  $-1.05$  to have a prominent QPO-like nature in the PDS. We model the PDS with the Lorentzian model for both the fundamental QPO and the harmonic components in powspec. The parameters from the fitted Lorentzian model for the fundamental QPO help us obtain the frequency ( $v_{\rm qpo}$ ), the FWHM, and the normalization. For several observations,

http://[hxmten.ihep.ac.cn](http://hxmten.ihep.ac.cn/software.jhtml)/software.jhtml

 $\frac{8}{8}$  This is discussed in the HXMT manual (http://[hxmten.ihep.ac.cn](http://hxmten.ihep.ac.cn/SoftDoc/501.jhtml)/<br>SoftDoc/501.jhtml) in full detail.

http://maxi.riken.jp/star\_data/J1727-162/[J1727-162.html](http://maxi.riken.jp/star_data/J1727-162/J1727-162.html)

<span id="page-4-0"></span>

Figure 1. Variation of the (a) MAXI/GSC 2−20 keV count rate, (b) MAXI/ GSC 2−6 and 6−20 keV count rates, and (c) hardness ratio with time. The HR is the ratio of the 6−20 keV count rate to the 2−6 keV count rate of the MAXI/GSC data.

we have found the presence of single or multiple harmonics. We have also extracted their properties using the same fitting method. We have fitted the light curves of all the exposures of the listed 10 observations. We report them in Section 3.

For the spectral analysis, we have used the same LE, ME, and HE modules and fitted the broadband data in the 2−150 keV energy band. The best is achieved by using the combination of disk blackbody, power-law, Gaussian, and pexrav models. For some observations, we needed to add a gabs model to achieve the best fit. For interstellar absorption, we have used the tbabs model. Since we simultaneously fit all three modules, we have included a constant to normalize the three resultant fittings. The following two model combinations are used: (i) constant\* tbabs\* gabs\* (diskbb + power-law + Gaussian + pexrav), (ii) constant\* tbabs\* (diskbb + power-law + Gaussian + pexrav) for which gabs was not required. The spectral analysis was done for the exposures marked with "\*" in Table [3.](#page-9-0) We did not perform the spectral analysis for all epochs as we did not see a change in spectral features over such a small time gap, unlike the timing properties, which showed variations within a day. We report them in Section 3.

We note that light curves for the LE instrument were not produced for some exposures. Therefore, we represented only those exposures' MJDs in Table [4](#page-12-0) for which all three light curves were available for analysis for uniformity.

#### 3. Results

Using the timing and spectral analysis presented above, we have studied the accretion flow properties of the very recent 2023 outburst of the BHC Swift J1727.8-1613. We studied the QPO properties of the source during the outburst as well as the spectral nature and radiation properties using Insight-HXMT data. We broadly discuss the results in Sections 3.1 and [3.2](#page-5-0).

# 3.1. Temporal Properties

## 3.1.1. Outburst Profile and Hardness Ratio

Figure 1 shows the variation of the flux obtained from MAXI/GSC during the outburst. The outburst started roughly at around MJD 60180 (2023 August 24), when its flux came

out of quiescence. The MAXI/GSC flux started to rise after this date, as we can notice from panel (a) of Figure 1. Within 5 days, the flux increased very rapidly, and the total flux reached its peak on MJD 60185 (2023 August 29). After that, the flux started to decrease very slowly, except for the period from MJD 60200 to 60225, where the flux showed a significant change. In panel (b), we show the variations of the count rates with time in the 2−6 and 6−20 keV energy bands. We notice that, after MJD 60185, the hard flux (i.e., 6−20 keV) decreased very slowly, whereas the soft 2−6 keV flux showed a lot of variation, just like the total 2−20 keV flux. On MJD 60185, the 2−20 keV and hard 6 −20 keV fluxes reached their peak values, whereas the soft flux reached its peak much later at around MJD 60217. This suggests that the variation in the total count rate is mainly due to the variation of the soft component. After this period, the soft flux also decreased slowly until the end of the outburst and entered again into the quiescence phase.

In panel (c), we show the variation of the hardness ratio, which is the ratio of the hard  $(F_H)$  6−20 keV to the soft  $(F_S)$  2 −6 keV flux. At the start of the outburst, the HR was ∼0.5 and then it gradually decreased until MJD 60235 as the outburst progressed. After that, the HR became almost constant, although decreasing very slowly to ∼0.025 at the end of the considered data of the outburst on MJD 60350. The way HR is defined, when this value is on the higher side, the spectral nature of the source is hard. This is the general case when an outburst is starting. When this value is low, there is dominance of soft flux over hard flux and the spectral nature would be soft. Without studying the detailed spectral analysis, HR provides a quick idea about the spectral nature of an outburst. Depending on the HR value, we propose that the source was already in the intermediate state after the onset of the outburst. After MJD 60185, it made a transition into the SS.

#### 3.1.2. Quasiperiodic Oscillations (QPOs)

As described in Section [2](#page-2-0), we used the 0.01 s time-binned light curves from all three bands (LE, ME, and HE) and produced the PDS to study QPOs. We find that QPO nature was present in all the light curves in all three energy bands. In Figure [2,](#page-5-0) we show a model-fitted PDS continuum in the 0.1 −50 Hz frequency range for 0.01 s time-binned HE light curve from the obsID P0614338004 (Exposure ID P061433800401- 20230831-01-01). In Figure [3](#page-5-0), we show the variation of the QPO frequency  $(\nu_{\rm qpo})$  for the 10 different obsIDs, as stated before. We first checked the first obsID P0614338001. It has several exposure IDs (given in Table [3](#page-9-0)). While we fit every exposure of this obsID, we found that the QPO frequency was changing even within this small period. This is the reason we fitted all the light curves of the exposures of the obsIDs that we have taken for analysis. We find that for every single obsID, the  $\nu_{\rm qpo}$  showed significant variation. Figure [3](#page-5-0)(a)–(c) shows the variations of the  $\nu_{\rm qpo}$  with time for 10 different obsIDs for LE, ME, and HE, respectively. It is interesting to observe that  $\nu_{\rm qpo}$ has changed in frequency so much within this short period, which suggests that there are some changes happening in the system in a very short timescale.

In Figure [4](#page-6-0), we show the evolution of  $\nu_{\text{qpo}}$  for the total duration of our analysis period. In (a), (b), and (c) panels, the variations are for LE, ME, and HE, respectively. We found that the QPO frequencies were  $0.23 \pm 0.01$ ,  $0.24 \pm 0.01$ , and  $0.24 \pm 0.01$  Hz for LE, ME, and HE on the starting day of our analysis. After this day,  $v_{\rm qpo}$  shows a rapid increase with

<span id="page-5-0"></span>

Figure 2. The model-fitted PDS using 0.01 s time-binned HE light curve from the observation ID P0614338004 (Exposure ID P061433800401-20230831-01-01).

time until ∼MJD 60187 when  $\nu_{\text{qpo}}$  was 1.16 ± 0.01,  $1.16 \pm 0.01$ , and  $1.16 \pm 0.01$  for LE, ME, and HE, respectively. After this date, it increased very slowly until MJD  $\sim$  60190 when  $v_{\text{qpo}}$  was 1.44  $\pm$  0.01, 1.44  $\pm$  0.01, and  $1.50 \pm 0.01$  for the three bands. Then it decreased for a very short period until it rapidly increased to  $\sim$ 1.5 Hz again in all three bands. After that, it increased and decreased in a narrow range of  $\sim$ 1.0−1.5 Hz until MJD  $\sim$ 60197, and then it finally increased again. We have discussed the possible reasons behind this nature in Section 3.2.

Using the PDS fitting, we extracted the centroid frequency, the FWHM, and the Normalization (LN) of the QPOs. The "fplot" task of the "ftools" package in the HEASoft software produces plots of the light curves. Using this task, we plotted and saved each value of time and the corresponding count rate. Then we average the counts to find out the average count rate for that light curve. The same task is applied to extract both the source and background count rates for all the exposures. Then, using these estimates, we calculated the Q-value and rms that represent the sharpness of the QPO and the fractional variability in the PDS, respectively. These values are listed in Table [5](#page-14-0) in columns  $(5)$ – $(7)$  (*Q*-value) and  $(8)$ – $(10)$ (rms) for LE, ME, and HE, respectively.

In Figure [5,](#page-6-0) we show the evolution of the QPO rms  $(\%)$  with time (MJD). In the LE band (Figure  $5(a)$  $5(a)$ ), the rms was higher at the start of the analysis period, and it then gradually decreased. In the ME band (Figure  $5(b)$  $5(b)$ ), it increased from the onset of the analysis period for some time and then decreased. The HE band (Figure  $5(c)$  $5(c)$ ) shows a similar trend as in the LE band. Since the QPO nature has already been reported in the recent paper by W. Yu et al. ([2024](#page-16-0)), we are not focusing on the classification of the QPO. However, by the values of both  $Q$ -factor and rms, it can be said that the QPO is type C in nature for all the exposures reported here.

# 3.2. Spectral Properties

Along with the timing properties, studying the spectral properties provides more insights into the nature of the outburst. With the available Insight-HXMT data, we analyzed the source for a total of 32 exposures. These exposure IDs are marked with a<br>""" sign in the 1st column of Toble 3, An extensive spectral " sign in the 1st column of Table [3.](#page-9-0) An extensive spectral analysis on this source has not been done so far. We perform a



Figure 3. Evolution of QPO frequencies (Hz) with time. Here we have shown three different plots for (a) LE, (b) ME, and (c) HE instruments. Panels (1)–(10) in each of the three of these plots (a, b, c) represent the  $\nu_{\rm qpo}$  variation for the 10 observation IDs we used.

detailed spectral analysis on this source for the first time using HXMT data. We started our spectral analysis from MJD 60181.4. We have simultaneously used LE+ME+HE in the  $2-150 \,\text{keV}$ energy band (LE in 2–10, ME in 10–35, and HE in 35–150 keV) for our spectral fitting for all the selected exposure IDs.

<span id="page-6-0"></span>

Figure 4. Evolution of QPO frequency with time during the whole period of analysis for (a) LE, (b) ME, and (c) HE.



**Figure 5.** Evolution of the QPO rms  $(\%)$  with time (MJD) for (a) LE, (b) ME, and (c) HE.

We first fitted the data with the phenomenological [diskbb](https://heasarc.gsfc.nasa.gov/xanadu/xspec/manual/node166.html) and [power-law](https://heasarc.gsfc.nasa.gov/xanadu/xspec/manual/node221.html) models. We used the multiplicative [tbabs](https://heasarc.gsfc.nasa.gov/xanadu/xspec/manual/node273.html) model to account for the interstellar absorption. Our model reads as constant\* tbabs(diskbb + powerlaw) in XSPEC. The constant is taken to normalize between three different instruments in LE, ME, and HE. We found that the fit was not statistically acceptable. There was a clear sign of the Gaussian feature in the unfolded spectrum around 5−6 keV. Also, there was a humplike feature  $\sim$ 20 keV. Besides these features, the absorption feature was noticed below 2 keV. Thus, we refitted the data using the model combination as constant\* tbabs\* gabs(diskbb + power-law + ga + pexrav). Here, the [gabs](https://heasarc.gsfc.nasa.gov/xanadu/xspec/manual/node251.html) model takes care of the low energy absorption feature, while the [Gaussian](https://heasarc.gsfc.nasa.gov/xanadu/xspec/manual/node181.html) and [pexrav](https://heasarc.gsfc.nasa.gov/xanadu/xspec/manual/node214.html) models take care of the contribution from the Gaussian and humplike nature, as mentioned above. In Figure  $5(a)$ , we show the bestfitted unfolded spectrum using this model combination for the obsID P061433800501 (Exposure ID: P061433800501- 20230902-01-01), where  $\chi^2/\text{DOF} \sim 1$ . After some exposures, we found that the gabs model was not needed anymore to achieve the best fit. Then, the model combination in XSPEC reads as constant\* tbabs(diskbb + power-law + ga +  $pexrav$ ). In Figure  $6(b)$ , we show an unfolded best-fitted spectrum using the later model combination. This is for



Figure 6. The model-fitted spectrally analyzed unfolded spectra. (a) is or observation ID. P061433800501 (Exposure: P061433800501-20230902-01- 01) for which the gabs model was required to achieve the best fit. (b) is for the observation ID. P061433800601 (exposure: P061433800601-20230904-01- 01), for which the gabs model was not required to achieve the best fit.

the obsID. P061433800601 (exposure ID: P061433800601- 20230904-01-01), for which  $\chi^2$ /DOF ~ 0.9.

For our overall spectral analysis with the two sets of models, we have assumed abund  $= 1.0$  and  $Fe<sub>abund</sub> = 1.0$  in the pexrav model with redshift  $(z) = 0$ . From the spectral fitting, we extracted various properties of the source during the first few days of the outburst. We estimated the inner disk temperature ( $T_{\text{in}}$  in keV) photon index of power law (Γ), which is the slope of the spectrum. We found that from MJD 60181.4 to 60190.0, there was an absorption feature at  $\sim$ 1.65 −1.95 keV. After this day, the gabs model was no longer needed to achieve the best fit. The  $T_{\text{in}}$  was ∼0.19 ± 0.02 keV at the start of the outburst, and it gradually increased to  $\sim$ 0.43 ± 0.03 keV on the last day of our analysis. The  $\Gamma$  of the power-law model was  $2.12 \pm 0.15$  on the first day. From the light curve in Figure [1](#page-4-0), we notice that the flux was already very high at the starting date of our analysis (HXMT data was available from this date, too). The value of  $T_{\text{in}}$  and  $\Gamma$  indicates that the source has already transitioned past its HS and could be in an intermediate state. As the outburst progressed,  $T_{\text{in}}$  became higher with the norm of the diskbb model decreased as the outburst progressed.  $\Gamma$  of the power-law model was in the narrow range  $\sim$ 2.10−2.16 for the first few days, then decreased a little and then again slowly increased to ∼2.20. We found the presence of a broad Gaussian line, with the line



Figure 7. Variation of spectrally fitted properties (a) hydrogen column density  $(n<sub>H</sub>)$ , (b) inner disk temperature  $(T<sub>in</sub>$  in keV), (c) diskbb normalization, (d) Photon Index (Γ), (e) reflection fraction ( $R_{ref}$ ), and (f) cutoff energy ( $E_{cut}$ ) with time.

energy varying between 5.2 and 5.8 keV. We did not link the Γ of the pexrav model to the  $\Gamma$  of the power-law model, as we noticed that the spectral slope was different between low and high energies. The Γ of the pexrav model varied in the range of ∼0.9−1.9. The  $E_{\text{cut}}$  varied in the range of ∼20  $-32 \text{ keV}$ . The cos(*i*) parameter varied in the range  $0.05-0.1$ for most of the exposures except for the first two, where it was  $\sim$ 0.5 and 0.2, respectively. This could be due to the degeneracy of the parameter space. The column density of H  $(N_H)$  varied in the range  $(0.12 \pm 0.02 - 0.39 \pm 0.08) \times 10^{22}$  cm<sup>-2</sup> during the entire duration of this analysis. In Figures  $7(a)$ –(f), we show the variations of the spectral model-fitted parameters with time.

# 3.3. Correlation between Spectral and Timing Properties

It has been previously seen that the QPO frequency ( $\nu_{\rm qpo}$ ) and  $\Gamma$ show a positive correlation for some of the sources during their active outbursting phase (F. Vignarca et al. [2003](#page-16-0); N. Shaposhnikov & L. Titarchuk [2009;](#page-16-0) H. Stiele et al. [2013](#page-16-0)). We also tried to find out if there are any correlations between these two properties. In Figure 8, we show the variations of the photon index with the QPO frequency for the three energy bands. Considering these points, we have found a positive correlation between  $\Gamma$  and  $\nu_{\rm qpo}$ . Using both the Pearson Linear and Spearman Rank correlation methods, we found correlation coefficients for the three energy bands, as shown



Figure 8. Variation of photon index of power law (Γ) with QPO frequency  $(\nu_{\rm qpo})$  for (a) LE, (b) ME, and (c) HE instruments. Here,  $\Gamma$  is the spectral fitted index using combined LE+ME+HE data.

in Table [2.](#page-8-0) In all of the three energy bands, we see a moderately strong correlation when it comes to  $\Gamma$  and  $\nu_{\rm qpo}$ , as the correlation coefficient is ∼0.5−0.8. This shows the timing and spectral properties, the origin of which is the same geometric variation of the Compton corona, are moderately correlated in this source.

<span id="page-8-0"></span>Table 2 Correlation Coefficients between the QPO Frequency ( $\nu_{\rm qpo}$ ) and Photon Index of Power Law (Γ)

	Pearson Linear	Spearman Rank
LE	$0.65 \pm 0.15$	$0.65 \pm 0.19$
МE	$0.65 \pm 0.15$	$0.65 \pm 0.19$
HE	$0.64 \pm 0.15$	$0.64 \pm 0.19$

# 3.4. Propagation of Shock

In the TCAF paradigm, the oscillation of the shock is responsible for the origin of QPOs. When this shock front oscillates, it produces QPOs. The shock oscillation model has two types of timescales: the infall timescale  $(t<sub>i</sub>)$  and the cooling timescale  $(t<sub>c</sub>)$  and matching of these timescales gives the resonance condition responsible for the QPOs. The relation between the QPO frequency and shock location is given as (D. Molteni et al. [1996;](#page-16-0) S. K. Chakrabarti & S. G. Manickam [2000;](#page-15-0) S. K. Chakrabarti et al. [2004](#page-15-0)),

$$
\nu_{\rm qpo} = \frac{c^3}{2GM_{\rm BH}} \frac{1}{RX_s(X_s - 1)^{1/2}} \, \text{Hz},\tag{1}
$$

where, c, G,  $M_{BH}$ ,  $X_s$ , and R are the speed of light, the gravitational constant, the mass of the BH, location of the shock (in units of the Schwarzschild radius  $r<sub>s</sub>$ ), and the ratio of matter densities in postshock to preshock regions ( $\rho_{+}/\rho_{-}$ ) respectively. From our timing analysis, we extracted the information about the QPO frequency  $(\nu_{\rm qpo})$ . Using the above relation, we estimated the shock location during the outburst. Using Equation  $(1)$ , we found that the shock was far away  $(500 r_s, r_s = 2GM_{BH}/c^2)$  from the BH at the start of the outburst (see Figure  $9(b)$ ). It then shifted toward the black hole sharply as the QPO frequency increased rapidly during the initial few days ( $\sim$ 250 r<sub>s</sub>). Close to MJD 60185, the shock location started to decrease very slowly and it reached  $\sim$ 100  $r_s$ at the end of our analysis period. The values of the shock location are given in Table [4](#page-12-0).

If the time of the first exposure ID was taken to be 0, and the shock location as  $X_{s0}$  and after time t, if the shock is at  $X_s$ , then the velocity of the movement of the shock would be given by the equation (S. K. Chakrabarti et al. [2005](#page-15-0))

$$
v = \frac{X_{s0} - X_s}{t} \text{ m s}^{-1}.
$$
 (2)

Using this relation, we have estimated the velocity of the movement of the shock. The estimated shock velocities are given in Figure 9(c), which is a few tens of m  $s^{-1}$  in agreement with the previous estimates (S. K. Chakrabarti et al. [2005](#page-15-0); S. Mondal et al. [2015](#page-16-0)). We find that the shock velocity varies within this period. In the beginning, the shock moved with a speed of  $\sim$ 50−100 m s<sup>-1</sup> when the  $X_s$  was also larger. Then, after MJD ∼60183.7, it decreased a little bit with values  $<$  50 m s<sup>-1</sup>. Then it slowed down and was moving with a speed of  $\sim$ 10−30 m s<sup>-1</sup> with some fluctuations and continued until the end of the observation period.

## 4. Discussion

The Galactic black hole Swift J1727.8-1613 went through an outburst recently in 2023. We have used Insight-HXMT data



Figure 9. Variation of shock properties with time in accordance with  $\nu_{\rm qpo}$ . In (a) we show the variation of  $\nu_{\rm qpo}$  with time, and in (b) and (c) we show the variations of the shock location  $(X_s)$  and shock speed  $(v)$  with time.

for both our spectral and timing studies from MJD 60181.4 to 60198.0. The evolution of the light curve makes the outburst nature of the source a fast-rise slow decay type. After the onset of the outburst, the flux reached its peak value very fast within 5 days. Using the 0.01 s time-binned light curves from the three instruments of HXMT (LE, ME, and HE), we studied the source's timing properties. Using the spectra files from these three instruments, we also studied the spectral properties of this source by analyzing combined LE+ME+HE spectra in the 2 −150 keV broad energy range.

QPO is one of the most important and common phenomena for stellar mass black holes. For this newly discovered source, we analyzed a total of 342 light curves (114 for LE, ME, and HE each). However, in some of the exposures, light curves were not produced properly. There were a total of 92 exposures, which commonly produced LE, ME, and HE light curves. We list those data in Table [3](#page-9-0). Finally, we analyzed 276 light curves. We found the presence of QPO in all of these light curves, and they showed rapid evolution in frequency in this short analysis period. The QPO frequency  $(\nu_{\rm qpo})$  showed an increase in frequency within even a single day. The evolution of the QPO frequency has been discussed broadly in Section [3](#page-4-0). It showed an increasing trend from the start of our analysis. We found that the rms  $(\%)$  was very high ( $> 13\%$ ) for all the exposures. The Q-value was also high, though for some observations, it was close to those QPOs that are types A/B. However, the frequency and rms allow us to classify the QPOs as type C, which is in agreement with P. Casella et al. ([2005](#page-15-0)). Considering the values of rms, Q-value and the type of QPO, we suggest that the source was in the HIMS. Recently, W. Yu et al. ([2024](#page-16-0)) also reported the timing properties of this source for a longer period. The QPO frequency has varied in a much broader range in their report from 0.1 to 8 Hz. The authors also concluded the observed QPOs in the full period as type C. During the 2009–10 outburst of the BHC XTE J1752-223  $(K.$  Chatterjee et al.  $2020$ ), we found the existence of type C QPOs that had Q-values comparable to this source. During the 2016–17 outburst of the BHC GRS 1716-249 (K. Chatterjee et al. [2021](#page-15-0)), type C QPOs were found to be present with similar rms (%) values. Other than these sources, T. Belloni et al. ([2002](#page-15-0)), P. Casella et al. ([2005](#page-15-0)), and the references therein can be seen as an analogy. Such similarities in observed QPO

Table 3 Start and Stop Time of All the HXMT Exposures

<span id="page-9-0"></span>

Exposure ID	<b>UT</b> Start	<b>MJD</b> Start	UT Stop	<b>MJD</b> Stop	Average MJD
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
P061433800101-20230825-01-01*	2023-08-25	60181.34	2023-08-25	60181.49	60181.42
P061433800102-20230825-01-01*	2023-08-25	60181.49	2023-08-25	60181.63	60181.66
P061433800103-20230825-01-01*	2023-08-25	60181.63	2023-08-25	60181.76	60181.70
P061433800104-20230825-01-01	2023-08-25	60181.76	2023-08-25	60181.89	60181.83
P061433800105-20230825-01-01	2023-08-25	60181.89	2023-08-26	60182.02	60182.06
P061433800106-20230826-02-01 <sup>*</sup>	2023-08-26	60182.02	2023-08-26	60182.15	60182.19
P061433800107-20230826-02-01	2023-08-26	60182.15	2023-08-26	60182.28	60182.22
P061433800108-20230826-02-01	2023-08-26	60182.28	2023-08-26	60182.42	60182.45
P061433800110-20230826-02-01	2023-08-26	60182.55	2023-08-26	60182.68	60182.62
P061433800111-20230826-02-01	2023-08-26	60182.68	2023-08-26	60182.81	60182.85
P061433800112-20230826-02-01*	2023-08-26	60182.81	2023-08-26	60182.95	60182.99
P061433800113-20230826-02-01	2023-08-26	60182.95	2023-08-27	60183.05	60183.01
P061433800201-20230827-01-01 <sup>*</sup>	2023-08-27	60183.05	2023-08-27	60183.20	60183.13
P061433800202-20230827-01-01	2023-08-27	60183.20	2023-08-27	60183.34	60183.37
P061433800203-20230827-01-01	2023-08-27	60183.34	2023-08-27	60183.48	60183.41
P061433800204-20230827-01-01	2023-08-27	60183.48	2023-08-27	60183.61	60183.55
P061433800205-20230827-01-01	2023-08-27	60183.61	2023-08-27	60183.74	60183.78
P061433800206-20230827-01-01*	2023-08-27	60183.74	2023-08-27	60183.87	60183.81
P061433800207-20230827-01-01	2023-08-27	60183.87	2023-08-28	60184.00	60183.94
P061433800208-20230828-02-01	2023-08-28	60184.00	2023-08-28	60184.14	60184.17
P061433800209-20230828-02-01	2023-08-28	60184.14	2023-08-28	60184.26	60184.20
P061433800210-20230828-02-01	2023-08-28	60184.26	2023-08-28	60184.40	60184.34
P061433800211-20230828-02-01	2023-08-28	60184.40	2023-08-28	60184.53	60184.57
P061433800212-20230828-02-01*	2023-08-28	60184.53	2023-08-28	60184.64	60184.69
P061433800301-20230829-01-01*	2023-08-29	60185.30	2023-08-29	60185.46	60185.48
P061433800302-20230829-01-01	2023-08-29	60185.46	2023-08-29	60185.59	60185.53
P061433800303-20230829-01-01	2023-08-29	60185.59	2023-08-29	60185.72	60185.76
P061433800304-20230829-01-01	2023-08-29	60185.72	2023-08-29	60185.85	60185.89
P061433800305-20230829-01-01	2023-08-29	60185.85	2023-08-29	60185.99	60185.92
P061433800306-20230829-01-01 P061433800307-20230830-02-01 <sup>*</sup>	2023-08-29 2023-08-30	60185.99 60186.12	2023-08-30 2023-08-30	60186.12 60186.24	60186.16 60186.29
P061433800308-20230830-02-01	2023-08-30	60186.24	2023-08-30	60186.38	60186.32
P061433800309-20230830-02-01	2023-08-30	60186.38	2023-08-30	60186.51	60186.55
P061433800310-20230830-02-01	2023-08-30	60186.51	2023-08-30	60186.65	60186.69
P061433800311-20230830-02-01	2023-08-30	60186.65	2023-08-30	60186.78	60186.72
P061433800312-20230830-02-01	2023-08-30	60186.78	2023-08-30	60186.91	60186.85
P061433800313-20230830-02-01	2023-08-30	60186.91	2023-08-31	60187.04	60187.08
P061433800314-20230831-03-01 <sup>*</sup>	2023-08-31	60187.04	2023-08-31	60187.15	60187.10
P061433800401-20230831-01-01*	2023-08-31	60187.15	2023-08-31	60187.30	60187.23
P061433800402-20230831-01-01	2023-08-31	60187.30	2023-08-31	60187.44	60187.48
P061433800403-20230831-01-01	2023-08-31	60187.44	2023-08-31	60187.57	60187.51
P061433800404-20230831-01-01	2023-08-31	60187.57	2023-08-31	60187.70	60187.64
P061433800405-20230831-01-01	2023-08-31	60187.70	2023-08-31	60187.84	60187.87
P061433800406-20230831-01-01	2023-08-31	60187.84	2023-08-31	60187.97	60187.91
P061433800407-20230831-01-01 <sup>*</sup>	2023-08-31	60187.97	2023-09-01	60188.10	60188.04
P061433800408-20230901-02-01	2023-09-01	60188.10	2023-09-01	60188.22	60188.27
P061433800409-20230901-02-01	2023-09-01	60188.22	2023-09-01	60188.36	60188.30
P061433800410-20230901-02-01	2023-09-01	60188.36	2023-09-01	60188.50	60188.43
P061433800411-20230901-02-01	2023-09-01	60188.50	2023-09-01	60188.63	60188.67
P061433800412-20230901-02-01	2023-09-01	60188.63	2023-09-01	60188.76	60188.70
P061433800413-20230901-02-01	2023-09-01	60188.76	2023-09-01	60188.89	60188.83
P061433800414-20230901-02-01*	2023-09-01	60188.89	2023-09-02	60189.07	60189.09
P061433800501-20230902-01-01*	2023-09-02	60189.07	2023-09-02	60189.22	60189.15
P061433800502-20230902-01-01	2023-09-02	60189.22	2023-09-02	60189.35	60189.39
P061433800503-20230902-01-01	2023-09-02	60189.35	2023-09-02	60189.49	60189.43
P061433800504-20230902-01-01	2023-09-02	60189.49	2023-09-02	60189.62	60189.66
P061433800505-20230902-01-01	2023-09-02	60189.62	2023-09-02	60189.75	60189.79
P061433800506-20230902-01-01	2023-09-02	60189.75	2023-09-02	60189.88	60189.82
P061433800507-20230902-01-01	2023-09-02	60189.88	2023-09-03	60190.02	60190.05
P061433800508-20230903-02-01*	2023-09-03	60190.02	2023-09-03	60190.15	60190.19
P061433800509-20230903-02-01	2023-09-03	60190.15	2023-09-03	60190.28	60190.22
P061433800510-20230903-02-01	2023-09-03	60190.28	2023-09-03	60190.41	60190.35
P061433800511-20230903-02-01	2023-09-03	60190.41	2023-09-03	60190.54	60190.58





Note. Column (1) represents the Exposure IDs taken for this complete analysis.

Columns (2) and (4) represent the time (UT) of the start and end of those exposures.

Columns (3) and (5) represent the start and end MJDs of those exposures, respectively.

Column (6) represents the average MJD for those exposure IDs.

properties in different sources require physical explanations of common origin.

Here, we would like to focus on the physical scenario that explains the origin of QPOs due to the shock oscillations in advective flows around BHs. Accretion onto BH can be explained as transonic flow with the possibility of multiple

sonic points (S. K. Chakrabarti [1989](#page-15-0)). The matter from the companion need not necessarily be only Keplerian. There could be a supply of matter that has angular momentum distribution deviated from the Keplerian one. This is the sub-Keplerian component. Such a lower angular momentum component of infalling matter gets accreted in a freefall timescale. Due to the

tug of war between the gravitational force and centrifugal force, this matter could virtually stop at some distance from the BH and undergo a shock transition, creating a postshock region. Depending on the flow properties, the standing shocks form (S. K. Chakrabarti [1989](#page-15-0); C. B. Singh et al. [2022](#page-16-0) and references therein). This approach can well describe the observed spectral and temporal properties of BHs (D. Debnath et al. [2014](#page-15-0); S. Mondal et al. [2014](#page-16-0); K. Chatterjee et al. [2020,](#page-15-0) [2021,](#page-15-0) [2023](#page-15-0)). According to D. Molteni et al. ([1996](#page-16-0)), the shock can be oscillatory due to the presence of cooling. This was later shown in simulation by S. K. Garain et al. ([2014](#page-15-0)). During the oscillation when the cooling timescale due to the Comptonization process and the heating timescale match, QPOs originate (see S. K. Chakrabarti et al. [2015](#page-15-0)). Additionally, it has also been observed by the authors that once the QPO sets in, it gets locked for a week or more depending on the above condition.

According to S. K. Chakrabarti et al.  $(2005)$  $(2005)$  $(2005)$ ,  $X_s$  can be located anywhere above  $10 r<sub>s</sub>$  depending on the flow parameters producing shocks. The shock forms far away  $\sim$ 1000 r<sub>s</sub> when the spectral nature of the ongoing outburst is hard and decreases gradually in the progressive days as cooling increases (S. Mondal et al. [2015](#page-16-0)). When the cooling timescale  $(t_c)$  and infall timescale  $(t_i)$  become comparable to each other (D. Molteni et al. [1996](#page-16-0)), an oscillation could set in the shock boundary due to resonance. This could produce variations, as we observe in the light curves. This might be the case for this source regarding the origin of the occurrence of the QPOs. Here, from this analysis, we have found that the shock was far away ( $\sim$ 500  $r_s$ ) when the QPO frequency ( $v_{\rm qpo}$ ) was low (∼0.2 Hz). The disk was far away. As the disk moves inward, cooling increases with progressive days, and QPO frequency increases, as shown in Equation ([1](#page-8-0)), following inverse scaling with  $X_s$ . This is the case that we observed here. After the start, as the outburst progressed, the cooling began to take place and  $X_s$  got smaller in size. As a result,  $\nu_{\rm qpo}$  increased. After a few days, the shock location decreased very slowly. Without changing its value much, the  $v_{\rm qpo}$  was also increasing very slowly. We also tried to observe how the shock moved, considering the constant velocity approach, as given in Equation ([2](#page-8-0)). We have found that the shock speed varied in a broad range. At the start, the shock velocity was relatively higher compared to later days, while it became nearly constant with some fluctuations in later times. Such fluctuations can be due to the limitation of assuming constant velocity of the shock propagation. For a comparison, we refer to S. K. Chakrabarti et al. ([2005](#page-15-0)). The authors showed that considering the constant velocity approximation, the average speed of the shock is close to  $20 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ , which is nearly consistent with our result. This also depends on the nonconstant time difference between the exposures. However, the overall velocity profile agrees that the shock moved faster when  $X_s$  was bigger, decreased with  $X_s$ , and afterward almost with constant velocity.

From the spectral properties, we have seen that the  $T_{\text{in}}$  was low initially and then gradually increased. The exact opposite trend was observed for the Normalization of the diskbb model. The norm of diskbb model varies as https://[heasarc.](https://heasarc.gsfc.nasa.gov/docs/xanadu/xspec/manual/node166.html) gsfc.nasa.gov/docs/xanadu/xspec/manual/[node166.html](https://heasarc.gsfc.nasa.gov/docs/xanadu/xspec/manual/node166.html)

$$
N_{\text{diskbb}} = \left(\frac{R_{\text{in}}}{D_{10}}\right)^2 \cos i \tag{3}
$$

where,  $R_{\rm in}$ ,  $D_{10}$  are the inner disk radius of the accretion disk and the distance of the source in 10 kpc unit.  $i$  is the inclination

angle of the accretion disk to the observer. Assuming that  $D_{10}$ and  $\theta$  do not change during an outburst, the relation could be shortened like  $R_{\text{in}} \sim N_{\text{diskbb}}^{1/2}$ . For our case, except for one exposure, the inclination varied in a narrow range of 78°–86°. Thus, as the  $N_{\text{diskbb}}$  decreased, it means the inner edge of the disk moved closer to the BH, which agrees with the fact that  $T_{in}$ increased as the disk moved closer. Furthermore, this also supports the properties we showed from the timing analysis that the shrinking of the postshock region with time.

The photon index of power law  $(Γ)$  is an important property to decide the spectral nature of an ongoing outburst. This decides the slope in the spectrum, which tells whether the spectrum extends up to high energy or not. When an outburst stays in the hard state, the photon index of power law  $(Γ)$ generally stays low ∼1.7 (R. A. Remillard & J. E. McClintock [2006](#page-16-0)). From the expression of the power-law component  $(A(E) \propto E^{-\Gamma})$ , this suggests that the spectrum extends up to high energy. As the source gets toward intermediate states, Γ becomes  $\sim$ 2 (e.g., R. A. Remillard & J. E. McClintock [2006](#page-16-0)), even up to 3, sometimes. In the high soft state,  $\Gamma$  reaches a value of  $>3$  (see teR. A. Remillard & J. E. McClintock [2006](#page-16-0) for a review), although sources have been discovered to reach the soft state with  $\Gamma$  < 3. According to the TCAF configuration (S. Chakrabarti & L. G. Titarchuk [1995](#page-15-0)), as discussed earlier in the Introduction, the shock location produces both the change in the spectral and timing properties, changes in size in different spectral states. In the HS, it stays very far from the source, at  $\sim$ 1000  $r_s$ . The disk is even further away. As a result, only a few photons come in the process of radiation. As the disk approaches closer, the  $X_s$  becomes smaller, and the component from the disk starts to gradually dominate over the hard power-law component. In the intermediate states, these two components stay comparable. This time the shock stays at a few 100  $r_s$ . In the SS, the disk moves even closer, and  $X_s$ becomes very small (a few tens of  $r_s$ ). Thus, the disk component now fully dominates, and the spectrum becomes very soft. Thereby, the location of the shock determines the spectral state of the outburst. Looking at the spectral parameters, and also the location of the shock, we propose that the source was already in an intermediate state at the start of our analysis period. As the outburst progressed, it was transitioning toward softer states. From the values of the parameter  $cos(i)$  of the pexrav model, we find that the inclination of the disk was  $>60^{\circ}$ , which makes this source a highly inclined system. This is in agreement with the recent reports of W. Yu et al. ([2024](#page-16-0)) and T. Bouchet et al. ([2024](#page-15-0)). The hydrogen column density  $(N_H)$  showed a variation, which is common for Galactic black hole binaries (A. J. Eckersall et al. [2017;](#page-15-0) K. Chatterjee et al. [2023](#page-15-0)) unless the system is heavily obscured, which has recently been found for the newly discovered BH Swift J151857.0-572147 (S. Mondal et al. [2024](#page-16-0)), Swift J1658.2-4242 (S. Mondal & V. Jithesh [2023](#page-16-0) and references therein). The  $N<sub>H</sub>$  has a variation in the range of  $(0.12 \pm 0.02 - 0.39 \pm 0.08) \times 10^{22}$  cm<sup>-2</sup>.

The QPO frequency can be produced from the oscillation of the Compton corona, which can also be the origin of the hard power-law photons that extend the spectrum to higher energies (e.g., H. C. Lee & G. S. Miller [1998;](#page-16-0) N. Kumar & R. Misra [2014;](#page-16-0) K. Karpouzas et al. [2020](#page-15-0); C. Bellavita et al. [2022;](#page-15-0) H. X. Liu et al. [2022](#page-16-0); etc.). Therefore, these two features might be interlinked or correlated. As described in the introduction, the oscillation of the CENBOL can be the

<span id="page-12-0"></span>

 $\pm\,0.01$   $1.30\pm\,0.01$   $1.30\pm\,0.01$   $7.3\pm\,1.1$   $6.6\pm\,0.5$   $6.0\pm\,0.5$   $13.5\pm\,1.4$   $18.1\pm\,1.2$   $20.4\pm\,1.4$   $157\pm\,22$   $156\pm\,21$   $156\pm\,21$ 

Table 4

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Note. In column (1), we have listed the MJD 60180 (to save space) of the exposure IDs we used. Columns (2), (3), and (4) represen<sup>t</sup> the QPO frequency in LE, ME, and HE energy bands, respectively. Columns (5), (6), and (7) represen<sup>t</sup> the Q-values of QPOs in LE, ME, and HE energy bands, respectively. Columns (8), (9), and (10) represen<sup>t</sup> the QPO rms (%) in LE, ME, and HE energy bands, respectively. Columns (11), (12), and (13) represen<sup>t</sup> the shock location in LE, ME, and HE energy bands, respectively.

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Table 5Properties from Spectral Analysis

<span id="page-14-0"></span>

TBabs Time		gabs		diskbb		power law		Gaussian			pexrav						
<b>MJD</b>	$N_{\rm H}$	$E_{\rm abs}$	$\sigma_{\rm abs}$	$N_{\rm abs}$	$T_{\rm in}$	Norm	$\Gamma$	Norm (photons ke-	$E_g$	$\sigma_g$	Norm	$\Gamma$	$E_{\text{cut}}$	$R_{\text{ref}}$	cos(i)	Norm (photons/	$\chi^2$ /DOF
	$(\times 10^{22}$							$V^{-1}$			(ph $\rm cm^{-2}$					$keV^{-1}$	
(Day)	$cm^{-2}$ )	(keV)	(keV)	(keV)	(keV)	$(R_{\rm in}/D_{10})^2 \cos(i)$ $(\times 10^4)$		$\rm cm^{-2} \ s^{-1})$	(keV)	(keV)	$s^{-1}$		(keV)			$\rm cm^{-2} \ s^{-1})$	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)
60181.4	$0.19 \pm 0.03$			$1.78 \pm 0.16$ $0.41 \pm 0.03$ $0.18 \pm 0.02$	$0.19 \pm 0.02$	$18 \pm 2$	$2.12 \pm 0.15$	$13.1 \pm 1.3$	$5.25 \pm 0.66$	$1.92 \pm 0.15$	$0.82 \pm 0.12$	$1.14 \pm 0.11$ $26.2 \pm 1.1$		$0.40 \pm 0.05$ $0.49 \pm 0.04$		$3.3 \pm 0.4$	1384.5/1401
60181.6	$0.19 \pm 0.06$			$1.80 \pm 0.30$ $0.23 \pm 0.04$ $0.01 \pm 0.01$ $0.21 \pm 0.02$		$19 \pm 1$	$2.16 \pm 0.15$	$18.2 \pm 1.2$		$5.48 \pm 0.62$ 1.62 $\pm$ 0.13	$0.63 \pm 0.05$			$0.94 \pm 0.11$ $20.3 \pm 1.2$ $0.50 \pm 0.06$ $0.19 \pm 0.02$		$2.7 \pm 0.8$	1375.4/1401
60181.7	$0.19 \pm 0.06$			$1.65 \pm 0.24$ $0.43 \pm 0.03$ $0.01 \pm 0.01$ $0.31 \pm 0.05$		$11 \pm 3$	$2.10 \pm 0.14$	$15.1 \pm 1.0$		$5.62 \pm 0.55$ $0.92 \pm 0.13$	$0.21 \pm 0.03$			$1.01 \pm 0.08$ $20.1 \pm 0.9$ $0.52 \pm 0.09$ $0.05 \pm 0.01$		$4.4 \pm 0.8$	1341.3/1283
60182.1	$0.19 + 0.08$			$1.65 \pm 0.15$ $0.46 \pm 0.03$ $0.01 \pm 0.02$ $0.26 \pm 0.02$		$11 \pm 4$	$2.16 \pm 0.14$	$18.5 + 0.6$		$5.55 \pm 1.05$ 0.88 $\pm$ 0.26	$0.26 \pm 0.07$			$1.01 \pm 0.23$ $17.8 \pm 2.4$ $0.47 \pm 0.09$	$0.06 \pm 0.01$	$5.4 \pm 0.8$	1235.4/1283
60182.9	$0.39 \pm 0.04$			$1.95 \pm 0.16$ $0.37 \pm 0.03$ $0.03 \pm 0.01$ $0.39 \pm 0.02$		$13 \pm 4$	$1.96 \pm 0.17$	$6.1 \pm 0.5$	$5.42 \pm 0.62$	$0.99 \pm 0.15$	$0.39 \pm 0.09$			$1.36 \pm 0.36$ $20.2 \pm 3.7$ $0.52 \pm 0.09$	$0.05 \pm 0.01$	$17.2 \pm 1.7$	1220.6/1283
60183.1	$0.39 \pm 0.06$			$1.90 \pm 0.08$ $0.40 \pm 0.03$ $0.06 \pm 0.01$ $0.34 \pm 0.02$		$78 \pm 4$	$1.98 \pm 0.13$	$6.3 \pm 0.4$		$5.29 \pm 0.72$ 1.26 $\pm$ 0.13	$0.62 \pm 0.08$			$1.35 \pm 0.08$ $20.6 \pm 0.7$ $0.08 \pm 0.01$ $0.05 \pm 0.02$		$17.4 \pm 1.2$	1004.8/1313
60183.8	$0.39 \pm 0.08$			$1.76 \pm 0.13$ $0.36 \pm 0.02$ $0.18 \pm 0.01$ $0.28 \pm 0.02$		$230 \pm 21$	$1.96 \pm 0.15$	$5.2 \pm 0.6$		$5.48 \pm 1.21$ $1.05 \pm 0.17$	$0.45 \pm 0.06$				$1.47 \pm 0.11$ $22.2 \pm 1.8$ $0.01 \pm 0.01$ $0.05 \pm 0.02$	$23.9 \pm 2.1$	1149.6/1313
60184.6	$0.35 \pm 0.08$			$1.77 \pm 0.18$ $0.35 \pm 0.03$ $0.18 \pm 0.02$ $0.29 \pm 0.02$		$290 \pm 26$	$1.99 \pm 0.11$	$5.7 \pm 0.4$		$5.45 \pm 1.17$ $1.06 \pm 0.17$	$0.51 \pm 0.04$				$1.52 \pm 0.12$ $22.1 \pm 1.9$ $0.01 \pm 0.01$ $0.05 \pm 0.02$	$27.1 \pm 2.1$	1201.5/1303
60185.4	$0.35 \pm 0.08$			$1.80 \pm 0.08$ $0.37 \pm 0.01$ $0.18 \pm 0.01$ $0.31 \pm 0.04$		$210 \pm 14$	$2.00 \pm 0.16$	$6.3 \pm 0.4$			$5.34 \pm 1.08$ $0.93 \pm 0.17$ $0.43 \pm 0.06$				$1.53 \pm 0.12$ $21.6 \pm 1.9$ $0.01 \pm 0.01$ $0.05 \pm 0.02$	$28.2 \pm 2.1$	1111.1/1285
60186.2	$0.35 \pm 0.08$			$1.76 \pm 0.08$ $0.38 \pm 0.04$ $0.18 \pm 0.02$ $0.33 \pm 0.02$		$120 \pm 19$	$2.11 \pm 0.15$	$9.7 \pm 0.5$		$5.31 \pm 0.44$ $1.02 \pm 0.26$	$0.53 \pm 0.07$			$1.58 \pm 0.20$ $22.0 \pm 2.8$ $0.01 \pm 0.01$ $0.05 \pm 0.01$		$29.1 \pm 2.5$	1122.9/1285
60187.1	$0.33 \pm 0.06$			$1.95 \pm 0.11$ $0.40 \pm 0.04$ $0.13 \pm 0.01$ $0.32 \pm 0.02$		$120 \pm 13$	$2.10 \pm 0.15$	$9.5 \pm 0.6$	$5.35 \pm 0.21$ 0.95 $\pm$ 0.34		$0.45 \pm 0.09$			$1.58 \pm 0.36$ $21.8 \pm 5.1$ $0.01 \pm 0.01$ $0.05 \pm 0.01$		$28.7 \pm 2.7$	996.5/1285
60187.2	$0.35 \pm 0.08$			$1.80 \pm 0.08$ $0.39 \pm 0.02$ $0.18 \pm 0.02$ $0.34 \pm 0.02$		$110 \pm 15$	$2.13 \pm 0.11$	$10.8 \pm 0.5$	$5.29 \pm 0.14$ 0.98 $\pm$ 0.24		$0.49 \pm 0.07$			$1.61 \pm 0.23$ $22.6 \pm 3.3$ $0.01 \pm 0.01$ $0.05 \pm 0.01$		$28.7 \pm 2.4$	1078.2/1285
60188.0	$0.32 \pm 0.04$			$1.82 \pm 0.06$ 0.40 $\pm$ 0.04 0.11 $\pm$ 0.01 0.36 $\pm$ 0.02		$41 \pm 4$	$2.17 \pm 0.12$	$15.3 \pm 0.7$	$5.31 \pm 0.23$ 0.91 $\pm$ 0.04		$0.39 \pm 0.03$				$1.63 \pm 0.53$ $20.9 \pm 3.3$ $0.50 \pm 0.08$ $0.09 \pm 0.02$	$27.8 \pm 3.3$	1057.8/1313
60189.0	$0.12 \pm 0.03$			$1.95 \pm 0.17$ $0.24 \pm 0.02$ $0.04 \pm 0.01$ $0.37 \pm 0.03$		$24\pm4$	$2.18 \pm 0.15$	$13.5 \pm 0.6$	$5.44 \pm 0.13$ $1.01 \pm 0.04$		$0.43 \pm 0.07$				$1.61 \pm 0.53$ 22.1 $\pm$ 6.8 0.50 $\pm$ 0.01 0.05 $\pm$ 0.01	$27.8 \pm 3.1$	1016.9/1313
60189.1	$0.12 \pm 0.03$			$1.71 \pm 0.05$ 0.40 $\pm$ 0.04 0.11 $\pm$ 0.01 0.34 $\pm$ 0.05		$38 \pm 5$	$2.14 \pm 0.11$	$10.4 \pm 0.5$	$5.51 \pm 0.21$ $1.01 \pm 0.04$		$0.44 \pm 0.06$				$1.69 \pm 0.05$ 24.4 $\pm$ 0.8 0.01 $\pm$ 0.01 0.05 $\pm$ 0.01	$32.1 \pm 2.5$	1466.1/1431
60190.1	$0.12 \pm 0.04$	$1.95 \pm 0.13$ $0.24 \pm 0.02$ $0.04 \pm 0.01$			$0.35 \pm 0.03$	$37 \pm 6$	$2.18 \pm 0.16$	$11.9 \pm 0.6$	$5.54 \pm 0.30$ $1.01 \pm 0.08$		$0.37 \pm 0.11$			$1.74 \pm 0.07$ $24.8 \pm 0.1$ $0.17 \pm 0.02$ $0.10 \pm 0.01$		$33.2 \pm 3.1$	1271.4/1431
60191.0	$0.26 \pm 0.04$		$1.95 \pm 0.19$ $0.22 \pm 0.03$ $0.03 \pm 0.01$		$0.36 \pm 0.02$	$27 \pm 3$	$2.03 \pm 0.15$	$6.6 \pm 0.5$	$5.47 \pm 0.40$ 0.89 $\pm$ 0.04		$0.26 \pm 0.03$				$1.66 \pm 0.07$ $23.5 \pm 0.1$ $0.22 \pm 0.03$ $0.10 \pm 0.02$	$30.6 \pm 2.9$	1124.7/1431
60191.1	$0.31 \pm 0.03$	$\cdots$	$\cdots$	$\cdots$	$0.41 \pm 0.03$	$10 \pm 1$	$2.10 \pm 0.12$	$8.4 \pm 1.2$	$5.51 \pm 0.43$ $1.01 \pm 0.13$		$0.35 \pm 0.05$				$1.68 \pm 0.08$ $25.1 \pm 0.9$ $0.01 \pm 0.01$ $0.05 \pm 0.02$	$30.4 \pm 1.5$	1250.1/1434
60192.2	$0.34 \pm 0.06$	$\cdots$	$\cdots$	$\cdots$	$0.43 \pm 0.04$	$10 \pm 1$	$2.04 \pm 0.11$	$6.2 \pm 1.0$	$5.52 \pm 0.43$ $1.01 \pm 0.11$		$0.35 \pm 0.04$				$1.64 \pm 0.12$ $25.4 \pm 1.1$ $0.01 \pm 0.01$ $0.05 \pm 0.02$	$27.8 \pm 2.9$	1232.7/1434
	60193.4 $0.25 \pm 0.04$	$\cdots$	$\cdots$	$\cdots$	$0.44 \pm 0.05$	$6\pm3$	$2.25 \pm 0.09$	$16.8 \pm 0.8$		$5.47 \pm 0.42$ $1.01 \pm 0.11$	$0.41 \pm 0.07$				$1.65 \pm 0.07$ $24.9 \pm 0.8$ $0.01 \pm 0.01$ $0.10 \pm 0.01$	$23.7 \pm 1.8$	1496.2/1434
60194.1	$0.35 \pm 0.06$	$\cdots$	$\cdots$	$\cdots$	$0.42 \pm 0.03$	$11 \pm 6$	$2.08 \pm 0.14$	$7.5 \pm 1.2$		$5.46 \pm 0.42$ $0.69 \pm 0.11$	$0.19 \pm 0.03$			$1.66 \pm 0.07$ $25.6 \pm 0.8$ $0.01 \pm 0.01$ $0.05 \pm 0.01$		$26.9 \pm 1.1$	1177.1/1434
60194.5	$0.12 \pm 0.02$	$\cdots$	$\cdot$	$\cdots$	$0.45 \pm 0.04$	$3 \pm 1$	$2.20 \pm 0.16$	$10.9 \pm 0.4$		$5.57 \pm 0.48$ 1.09 $\pm$ 0.28	$0.41 \pm 0.08$			$1.84 \pm 0.14$ $29.5 \pm 2.1$ $0.52 \pm 0.03$ $0.10 \pm 0.01$		$32.1 \pm 1.1$	1697.1/1428
60195.0	$0.35 \pm 0.08$	$\cdots$	$\cdots$	$\cdots$	$0.42 \pm 0.04$	$10 \pm 1$	$2.02 \pm 0.11$	$5.5 \pm 0.9$	$5.52 \pm 0.47$ 0.71 $\pm$ 0.19		$0.15 \pm 0.07$			$1.68 \pm 0.22$ $26.4 \pm 2.2$ $0.01 \pm 0.01$ $0.05 \pm 0.01$		$27.9 \pm 1.1$	1048.9/1432
60195.2	$0.35 \pm 0.08$	$\cdots$	$\cdots$	$\cdots$	$0.42 \pm 0.03$	$9 \pm 1$	$2.01 \pm 0.13$	$5.5 \pm 1.0$	$5.51 \pm 0.42$ $0.73 \pm 0.11$		$0.17 \pm 0.05$			$1.68 \pm 0.21$ $26.5 \pm 2.1$ $0.01 \pm 0.01$ $0.05 \pm 0.01$		$27.9 \pm 1.1$	1070.8/1432
60195.6	$0.12 \pm 0.03$	$\cdots$	$\cdot$	$\cdots$	$0.38 \pm 0.03$	$6 \pm 1$	$2.16 \pm 0.36$	$8.9 \pm 1.1$		$5.59 \pm 0.43$ $1.01 \pm 0.13$	$0.41 \pm 0.08$			$1.81 \pm 0.08$ 30.5 $\pm$ 0.7 0.42 $\pm$ 0.04 0.10 $\pm$ 0.01		$29.1 \pm 2.2$	1515.8/1430
60196.0	$0.35 \pm 0.08$	$\cdots$	$\cdots$	$\cdots$	$0.44 \pm 0.05$	$8 \pm 1$	$2.05 \pm 0.15$	$6.2 \pm 1.0$		$5.52 \pm 0.47$ 0.74 $\pm$ 0.17	$0.15 \pm 0.02$			$1.72 \pm 0.10$ $27.8 \pm 1.6$ $0.01 \pm 0.01$ $0.05 \pm 0.01$		$28.6 \pm 3.3$	1048.1/1434
60196.2	$0.35 \pm 0.08$	$\cdots$	$\cdots$	$\cdots$	$0.43 \pm 0.04$	$8 \pm 1$	$2.06 \pm 0.16$	$6.6 \pm 1.1$		$5.55 \pm 0.47$ 0.66 $\pm$ 0.17	$0.13 \pm 0.04$				$1.69 \pm 0.10$ $26.7 \pm 1.7$ $0.06 \pm 0.01$ $0.05 \pm 0.01$	$27.4 \pm 2.2$	1036.3/1434
60196.6	$0.12 \pm 0.03$	$\cdots$	$\cdots$	$\cdots$	$0.35 \pm 0.03$	$12 \pm 2$	$2.05 \pm 0.18$	$5.5 \pm 0.8$		$5.61 \pm 0.47$ $1.01 \pm 0.17$	$0.39 \pm 0.04$			$1.76 \pm 0.11$ $29.8 \pm 1.8$ $0.44 \pm 0.03$ $0.10 \pm 0.01$		$27.6 \pm 1.9$	1517.3/1434
60197.0	$0.34 \pm 0.08$	$\cdots$	$\cdots$	$\cdots$	$0.43 \pm 0.03$	$8 \pm 1$	$1.99 \pm 0.10$	$4.4 \pm 0.7$	$5.57 \pm 0.40$ 0.71 $\pm$ 0.24		$0.14 \pm 0.04$			$1.69 \pm 0.17$ $28.6 \pm 2.5$ $0.14 \pm 0.01$ $0.05 \pm 0.01$		$27.1 \pm 3.1$	1009.5/1434
60197.1	$0.35 \pm 0.05$		$\cdots$	$\cdots$	$0.43 \pm 0.04$	$8 \pm 1$	$2.06 \pm 0.13$	$6.8 \pm 1.1$		$5.44 \pm 0.20$ $0.75 \pm 0.32$	$0.16 \pm 0.01$			$1.73 \pm 0.32$ $27.2 \pm 4.6$ $0.31 \pm 0.01$ $0.05 \pm 0.01$		$27.5 \pm 1.9$	1108.2/1434
60197.6	$0.12 \pm 0.03$		$\cdots$	$\cdots$	$0.44 \pm 0.02$	3±7	$2.20 \pm 0.15$	$10.5 \pm 1.0$		$5.61 \pm 0.14$ $1.05 \pm 0.19$	$0.35 \pm 0.12$			$1.83 \pm 0.21$ $31.7 \pm 3.1$ $0.50 \pm 0.02$ $0.10 \pm 0.01$		$28.2 \pm 0.8$	1455.9/1434
	60198.0 $0.35 \pm 0.04$	$\cdots$	$\cdots$	$\cdots$	$0.43 \pm 0.03$	$9 \pm 1$	$2.14 \pm 0.13$	$8.1 \pm 0.7$			$5.52 \pm 0.21$ $0.55 \pm 0.04$ $0.11 \pm 0.03$				$1.89 \pm 0.44$ 31.9 $\pm$ 2.9 0.50 $\pm$ 0.02 0.09 $\pm$ 0.01 35.7 $\pm$ 3.4		1087.4/1434

Note. Column (1) represents the MJD of those respective Exposure IDs for which we have performed spectral analysis.

Column (2) gives the values of hydrogen column densities  $(N_H)$  of those analyzed exposures.

Columns (3), (4), and (5) give the values of the parameters of the "gabs" model.

Columns (6) and (7) give the model-fitted values of the parameters from the "diskbb" model. The Norm is a value of the ratio of the inner disk radius ( $R_{\rm in}$ ) in km, source distance ( $D_{10}$ ) in 10 kpc, and cosine of th inclination angle.

Columns (8) and (9) give the model-fitted values of the parameters from the "power-law" model.

Columns (10), (11), and (12) give the model-fitted values of the parameters from the "Gaussian" model.

Columns (13)–(17) give the model-fitted values of the parameters from the "pexrav" model. reflection scaling factor ( $R_{\text{ref}} = 0$  for no reflected component, <0 reflection component only).

Column 18 gives  $\chi^2$ /DOF values of the respective spectral fits.

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The errors are estimated with a 90% confidence interval, which corresponds to  $1.645\sigma$  in XSPEC.

<span id="page-15-0"></span>mechanism producing the QPOs. This CENBOL is also responsible for producing the power law part of the spectrum. The change in the size of the shock location gives the change of spectral states as well as the frequency of the QPOs. We found such correlations for the source Swift J1727.8-1613 during its 2023 outburst.

# 5. Summary and Conclusions

We have studied the timing and spectral properties of the BHC Swift J1727.8-1613 during its recent outburst in 2023. We show the evolution of the light curve along with its hardness ratio for the entire duration of the outburst using archival MAXI/GSC data. Studying the entire evolution of the outburst was not the scope of this paper. Using the Insight-HXMT data, we chose the first 10 obsIDs for our analysis. We use all the exposures from those obsIDs and selective exposures for timing and spectral analysis, respectively. Using 0.01 s time-binned light curves from all three instruments of HXMT, i.e., LE, ME, and HE, we studied the QPO properties by producing a PDS. The QPO properties were extracted with the use of the Lorentzian model. For spectral analysis, we use  $LE + ME$ + HE spectrum files in the broad 2−150 keV energy band. We found that the models (i) constant\*tbabs\*gabs\*(diskbb + power-law + Gaussian + pexrav) for those for which gabs was required, (ii) constant\* tbabs\* (diskbb + power-law + Gaussian + pexrav) fits the spectra best. From our analysis, we conclude that: (i) Quasiperiodic oscillations were present during the entire period of our analysis, which showed evolution in QPO frequency from  $0.21 \pm 0.01$  to  $1.86 \pm 0.01$  Hz within this analysis period. (ii) The values of the Q-factor and rms best represent the QPOs as type C. (iii) Our study infers that the QPOs might have originated due to the resonance oscillations of the shocks. As the shock moved inward (outward), the QPO frequency increased (decreased). (iv) With the shock moving inward, the spectral nature of the source was transitioning toward the softer states, after it started in the intermediate state at the onset of the analysis period. (v) The spectral and temporal properties correlate to each other which makes our claim stronger about the origin of QPOs. (vi) This source has a high inclination. (vii) The hydrogen column density varied in the range of  $(0.12 \pm 0.02 - 0.39 \pm 0.08) \times 10^{22}$  cm<sup>-2'</sup>. which is quite common for interstellar absorption of Galactic black holes.

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# Data Availability

This work has made use of public data from several satellite/ instrument archives and has made use of software from the HEASARC, which is developed and monitored by the Astrophysics Science Division at NASA/GSFC and the High Energy Astrophysics Division of the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory. This work made use of the data from the

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