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Lines in the Galactic Center

Global Distribution of Fe K alpha

Region Observed with the Suzaku

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(Submitted on 14 Jul 2011 (v1), last revised 15 Jul 2011 (this version, v2))
We have surveyed spatial profiles of the Fe K\$\alpha\$ lines in the Galactic center diffuse X-rays (GCDX), including the transient region from the GCDX to the Galactic ridge X-ray emission (GRXE), with the Suzaku satellite. We resolved Fe K\$\alpha\$ line complex into three lines of Fe \emissiontype{I}, Fe \emissiontype{XXV} and Fe \emissiontype{XXVI} K\$\alpha\$, and obtained their spatial intensity profiles with the resolution of \$\sim \timeform{0D.1}\$.

We compared the Fe \emissiontype{XXV} K\$\alpha\$ profile with a stellar mass distribution (SMD) model made from near infrared observations. The intensity profile of Fe \emissiontype{XXV} K\$\alpha\$ is nicely fitted with the SMD model in the GRXE region, while that in the GCDX region shows \$3.8 \pm0.3\$ \$(\timeform{0D.2}<|I|<\timeform{1D.5})\$ or \$19\pm6\$ \$(|I|<\timeform {0D.2})\$ times excess over the best-fit SMD model in the GRXE region. Thus Fe \emissiontype{XXV} K\$\alpha\$ in the GCDX is hardly explained by the same origin of the GRXE. In the case of point source origin, a new population with the extremely strong Fe \emissiontype{XXV} K\$\alpha\$ line is required. An alternative possibility is that the majority of the GCDX is truly diffuse optically thin thermal plasma.

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