

The origin of the Galactic Ridge X-ray Emission

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Related publications: Yuasa et al. 2010, A&A, 520, A25 Yuasa et al. 2012, ApJ, 753, 129 Yuasa, Springer Theses Series, January 2013

EAYAM 2015, Taipei, Taiwan



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Galactic Ridge X-ray Emission (GRXE)

X-ray background emission observed along with the Galactic disk and the Galactic bulge. Total luminosity is $\sim 10^{38}$ erg/s in 2-10 keV.

The origin of the GRXE has been one of great mysteries in X-ray astrophysics over 40 years (e.g. Cooke et al. 1969).



Imaging decomposition

Revnivtsev+09 - Chandra 1-Ms imaging

- 80% of GRXE was resolved as point sources.
- Based on solar neighborhood population, GRXE can be considered as a superposition of numerous dim point sources, mostly

coronal X-ray sources and accreting WDs.

soft X-ray band

hard X-ray band

Remaining problem

- Source types not confirmed spectroscopically.
- Spectral decomposition requires broadband energy coverage.

Our approach

- 1. Use Suzaku X-ray telescope for broader energy coverage.
- 2. Construct a spectral model of accreting WDs, especially magnetic CVs.
- 3. Validate the spectral model using nearby CVs.
- 4. Use the CV model to fit the broadband GRXE spectrum.



Modeling X-ray spectrum of magnetic CVs

- Accretion column formed by the strong magnetic field.
- Near the WD surface (~100 km above the surface), gas bulk velocity exceeds the sound velocity.
- A shock is formed, and converts bulk kinematic energy into thermal energy (kT > 10 keV).
- The heated gas cools via X-ray radiation.
- Density, temperature, and velocity can be calculated based on conservation laws.

$$\begin{split} \frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}z}(\rho v) &= 0, \qquad \frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}z}(\rho v^2 + P) = -\frac{GM_{\mathrm{WD}}}{z^2}\rho,\\ v\frac{\mathrm{d}P}{\mathrm{d}z} &+ \gamma P\frac{\mathrm{d}v}{\mathrm{d}z} = -(\gamma-1)\underline{\Lambda n^2}\\ & \text{plasma thermal cooling}\\ & \text{function (e.g. Schure+09)} \end{split}$$

- These reduces to an initial value problem of ODEs (Cropper+99, Suleimanov+05).
- WD mass and Fe abundance are main free parameters of this spectral model.



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Suzaku GRXE observations

- Suzaku's Galactic center and Galactic bulge observations were summed to produce a data set of the GRXE (avoiding known bright X-ray sources).
- Region 1 = 590 ks; Region 2 = 420 ks \rightarrow Total exposure = 1Ms



Close-up view of the XIS spectrum

- Lines from lighter (S/Ar/Ca) elements coexist with those from Fe.
- This indicates contributions from plasmas with very different temperatures.
- At least two plasma components are necessary to explain the spectrum.



Fitting the GRXE in the hard X-ray band

- Single-temperature thermal model gave the best fit at **kT=15.7 (13.7-18.4) keV**.
- The IP spectral model well reproduced the data with Mwp=0.66 (0.59-0.75) Msun.
 - This could be interpreted as a representative WD mass of IPs in the Galaxy. (c.f. \sim 0.5 M_{Sun} by Krivonos+07 with INTEGRAL data)



Broad-band GRXE spectral fitting

- Hard X-ray spectral fit with the CV model extrapolated below 10 keV.
- Another lower temperature component is required.



Broad-band GRXE spectral fitting

- Hard X-ray spectral fit with the CV model extrapolated below 10 keV.
- Another lower temperature component is required.



The broadband GRXE spectrum is decomposed into two components for the first time. **low-kT component 1-1.5 keV** \rightarrow typical **coronal active star high-kT component** >10 keV \rightarrow reproduce by the magnetic CV model

Summary and conclusion

- Constructed X-ray spectral model of magnetic CV.
- Validity confirmed by analyses of 17 nearby CVs observed by Suzaku.
- Broadband GRXE spectrum was measured with the highest precision.
- Spectral fitting suggested two distinctive components which correspond to properties of coronal active stars and accreting WD binaries.
- Our spectroscopy result also supports the "Point Source Scenario" as the origin of the GRXE.



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