AN IRAS-SELECTED SEYFERT 2 GALAXY IRAS 18325−5926:
THE X-RAY SOURCE AND NUCLEAR OBSCURATION

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ABSTRACT

We report x-ray and optical spectroscopic observations of an IRAS-selected Seyfert 2 galaxy IRAS 18325−5926. The first x-ray observation of this object was made using the Ginga LAC. The x-ray source is found to be highly variable on time scales of 10^2−10^4 s, similar to those of Seyfert 1 nuclei. The x-ray spectrum is well described by power-law continuum with a photon-index Γ=2.2 modified by photoelectric absorption intrinsic to the source with N_H=1.4×10^{22} cm^{-2} and a broad (σ=0.6 keV) iron K line. The absorption corrected x-ray luminosity in the 2−10 keV band is L_X=5.4×10^{41} h_20^2 ergs s^{-1}. We obtained new optical spectra in red and blue bands, which show the strong emission lines of typical Seyfert 2s with a heavy reddening (A_V=3.5 mag). A blue asymmetry is obvious in some strong emission lines and we can resolve narrow (FWHM=450 km s^{-1}) and slightly blueshifted (=160 km s^{-1}) broad (FWHM=1200 km s^{-1}) components. The optical classification of Seyfert 2s can be explained in terms of nuclear obscuration which may occur in the form of a “global” covering rather than in the form of a torus inferred from the unified model, since the extinction derived from optical and x-ray data are comparable. This fact suggests that the hypothesis in which the classification between Seyfert 1’s and 2’s depends on the orientation is not complete, and a global obscuration is likely to dominate the dusty IRAS galaxies with Seyfert 2 characteristics. © 1995 American Astronomical Society.

1. INTRODUCTION

One of the most important achievements of the IRAS mission was the discovery of a large number of infrared galaxies. Although starburst activity dominates most of these, active galactic nuclei (AGNs) emitting nonthermal radiation have been also discovered. Comparison between pre-IRAS AGNs and IRAS-selected AGNs is interesting. A “warm” IRAS color, or flat spectral index between 25 and 60 μm, was suggested as an indicator of the presence of AGN in the IRAS galaxies (de Grijp et al. 1987). Interestingly, type 2 objects dominate IRAS AGNs (the fraction is ~70% in the de Grijp sample), whereas type 1 objects occupy a large fraction of the optical/UV-selected AGNs.

IRAS 18325−5926 is one of the IRAS discovered type 2 Seyfert galaxies selected by the “warm” IRAS color (α_{25−60}=−0.94, and f_{60 μm}=3.17 Jy: de Grijp et al. 1985, 1987, 1992). The host galaxy Fairall 49 is identified as the IRAS source, and a distance of 119 Mpc was derived from the redshift z=0.0198 (the Hubble constant H_0=50 km s^{-1} Mpc^{-1} is assumed throughout this paper). Carter (1984) claimed that this galaxy should be classified as a Seyfert 1.8 since weak broad wing emission exists at the base of the Hβ emission-line profile and low ionization lines such as [O i]λ6300 and [N i]λ5199 are relatively strong. In the recent optical/near-infrared polarization survey of AGNs (Brindle et al. 1990a), IRAS 18325−5926 is found to be the highest polarized object (P=5.71±0.23% at the V band) among narrowline objects in the sample.

The x-ray source H1829−591 (Piccinotti et al. 1982) detected by HEAO 1 A-2 is identified with this galaxy (Ward et al. 1988). Since the EXOSAT observation resulted in non-detection in the LE but in detection in the ME, Ward et al. (1988) suggested that strong low-energy x-ray absorption might occur due to heavy obscuration in the nucleus. The sensitivity of the Ginga LAC (Large Area proportional Counters; Turner et al. 1988) allows us to make a precise x-ray measurements of this galaxy. Together with our new optical spectroscopic observation, we discuss the nature of this IRAS-selected Seyfert 2 galaxy.

2. X-RAY DATA

2.1 Observations and Data Reduction

IRAS 18325−5926 was observed by the Ginga LAC on May 17 1989. The LAC experiment is comprised of eight identical proportional counters with a total effective area of
The collimated field of view is $1^\circ \times 2^\circ$ FWHM. Each counter has two detection layers, the TOP layer sensitive to x-rays in 1–20 keV, and MID layer sensitive to x-rays above 6 keV. The data processing mode MPC-1, which provides pulse-height spectra in the range of 0–37 keV, is divided into 48 energy channels in both TOP and MID layer. The spectral resolution of the LAC at the Fe K band ($\sim$6 keV) is $\Delta E/E \sim 20\%$. Observation using the low bit rate allowed 16 s time resolution.

Five linear scans over the position of IRAS 18325$-$5926 were performed on May 12 1989. The x-ray source was detected at the position of the galaxy. Two other sources were also detected along the scan path at both sides of the IRAS galaxy. However, since the two serendipitous sources are located well outside of the LAC field of view in the pointing observation, we safely ruled out any contamination in the observed spectrum. The x-ray intensities and coarse spectra of the two sources are available in the Ginga Faint Source Catalog (Awaki et al. 1995).

In order to obtain a reliable x-ray spectrum, we discarded the data during periods of high background. The remaining data with integrated exposure time of $8.7 \times 10^3$ s in the pointing mode were used to construct the x-ray spectrum of IRAS 18325$-$5926. We subtracted the non-x-ray background and the cosmic diffuse x-ray background (CXB) separately, using the method described in Awaki et al. (1991a). The local CXB was obtained from the observation of a nearby blank field. We should note that during the background observation, an active galaxy ESO 103$-$G35 which is an x-ray source (e.g., Warwick et al. 1993) was present at the edge of the LAC field of view where the transmission efficiency of the collimator is 4%. We took this contamination into account when estimating the normalization of the CXB. The source count rate in the TOP layer of the integrated spectrum, after subtracting the background, was $11.5 \pm 0.08$ counts s$^{-1}$ in the 2–20 keV band.

As shown in Fig. 1, obvious flux changes on various time scales of ranging from $10^3$ to $10^4$ s can be seen. The shortest doubling time was $\sim 1500$ s in this observation. This indicates the presence of a compact central source similar to Seyfert 1 nuclei. Such rapid variability has been observed in estimating the normalization of the CXB. The source count rate in the TOP layer of the integrated spectrum, after subtracting the background, was $11.5 \pm 0.08$ counts s$^{-1}$ in the 2–20 keV band.
other Seyfert 1 nuclei including MCG-6−30−15 (Nandra et al. 1990) and IRAS 13224−3809 (Boller et al. 1993).

2.2 Spectral Fitting

We fit the integrated spectrum from the sum of TOP and MID layers with a power-law model modified by the photoelectric absorption occurring along the line of sight (Fig. 2). The absorption cross section is taken from Morrison & McCammon (1983). The fit was unacceptable due to the presence of an emission-line feature around 6 keV. We used a Gaussian to describe the line feature identified with iron Kα. Fixing the linewidth to be narrow (i.e., σ of the Gaussian is assumed to be 0.05 keV), the line energy of 6.28±0.2 keV (redshift corrected) and the EW=227±66 eV are obtained. If the linewidth is allowed to be free, we obtain the following characteristics of the iron emission; line energy 6.37±0.2 keV, linewidth σ=0.6±0.3 keV (see Fig. 3), and the equivalent width EW=430±150 eV. The quality of fit is significantly improved from the narrowline case (Δχ²=6.2, F=8.9). In both cases, the continuum is well described by an absorbed power law with photon index Γ=2.24±0.06 and the absorption column density N_H=(1.43±0.2)×10²² cm⁻². The N_H value exceeds the corresponding galactic extinction [E(B−V)=0.09] and implies that the absorption of soft x rays originates in cold material intrinsic to the galaxy. An additional Fe K absorption edge also improves the fit only for the case of narrow Fe Kα line. The threshold energy E_H=8.8±0.7 keV clearly rules out cold iron and He-like iron is preferred (Fe XX–Fe XVI are inferred within the 90% confidence range). At the threshold energy, an optical depth τ=0.18±0.14 is obtained. For the broadline case, the iron edge is not significant and the optical depth is constrained to be less than 0.27 at E_H=8.8 keV.

Although the simple absorbed power law can describe 2−20 keV continuum well without a "high-energy hump" which is seen in many Seyfert 1 nuclei (Nandra & Pounds 1994), we also tried a power-law model modified by Compton reflection in cold, optically thick material (Lightman & White 1988). The quality of fit (χ²=15.5 at 23 degrees of freedom) is comparable to that of the simple power-law model. Even though a slightly steeper intrinsic slope Γ=2.4 is obtained, the lack of improvement of the fit means that the reflection strength (or geometry of the reflection material) cannot be constrained. The results of above spectral fittings are summarized in Table 1. Any spectral change accompanying the flux variation is not obvious within the uncertainties. The averaged x-ray flux observed by Ginga is 3.5×10⁻¹¹ ergs cm⁻² s⁻¹ in the 2−20 keV band. The absorption corrected x-ray luminosity in the 2−10 keV band was L_X=5.4×10³⁸ ergs s⁻¹, well within the range for Seyfert 1s.

### Table 1. Spectral fits to x-ray data.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mode</th>
<th>Γ</th>
<th>N_H</th>
<th>E_{edge}</th>
<th>τ</th>
<th>E_{line}</th>
<th>σ</th>
<th>EW</th>
<th>χ²/dof</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>NL</td>
<td>2.24±0.05</td>
<td>1.43±0.2</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>6.28±0.20</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>227±66</td>
<td>22.03/25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BL</td>
<td>2.25±0.05</td>
<td>1.40±0.2</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>6.37±0.20</td>
<td>0.63±0.31</td>
<td>430±150</td>
<td>16.71/24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NL</td>
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<td>8.8±0.10</td>
<td>0.18±0.14</td>
<td>6.28±0.20</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>190±70</td>
<td>17.83/23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BL</td>
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<td>1.33±0.2</td>
<td>8.8±1.00</td>
<td>0.09±0.14</td>
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<td>0.55±0.3</td>
<td>390±150</td>
<td>16.00/22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Cola.— (1): Fitting models. In the model of NL, the line width of Fe K is assumed to be narrow (σ=0.05 keV) whilst it is left to be free in the BL model. (2): Photon-index of power-law. (3): Hydrogen column density corresponding to the low energy cut-off in unit of 10¹²cm⁻². (4): Threshold energy of the iron K-shell absorption edge in the rest frame. (5): Optical depth of the edge absorption at the threshold energy. (6): Peak energy of Gaussian for the iron K emission line in the rest frame. (7): Line width (σ of Gaussian). (8): Equivalent width of the line. (9): Chi-squared value and the degrees of freedom.

3. OPTICAL DATA

3.1 Observations and Data Reduction

The spectroscopic observations of IRAS 18325−5926 were obtained using the 1.5 m telescope of Cerro Tololo InterAmerican Observatory, National Optical Astronomy Observatories, in August and September 1992. The 1.5 m CCD spectrometer consists of a GEC CCD detector system mounted on a f/7.5 Cassegrain spectrograph. Two gratings (Nos. 16 and 35) were used to obtain blue (4000−5500 Å) and red (6000−7000 Å) spectra. Spectral resolutions with a 3 arcsec slit were 3.7 and 3.2 Å for the blue and the red spectral regions, respectively. We obtained two blue and two red spectra with total exposures of 3600 and 2100 s, respectively. The data were reduced with using IRAF. The reduction was made using the standard procedure of bias subtraction and flatfielding with the data of the dome flats. Flux calibration was obtained using a CTIO standard star (Hamuy et al. 1992). The observations were made under photometric conditions. The two independent spectra were stacked into one spectrum for the blue and the red regions in order to improve signal-to-noise ratio. The central 3 arcsec spectrum was extracted for each spectral region. The final blue and red spec-

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1IRAFl is the imaging analysis software package developed by NOAO.
Emission-Line Spectra

The overall optical spectrum (Fig. 4) shows that IRAS 18325–5926 is a typical Seyfert 2 galaxy. In order to identify the excitation condition of the ionized gas in Fig. 5, we give a diagram of emission line ratios between [N II]λ6584/Hα and [O III]λ5007/Hβ (cf. Baldwin et al. 1981; Veilleux & Osterbrock 1987). The data point deduced from the total flux is located in the domain of the Seyfert 2 galaxies, although the observed [O III]λ5007/Hβ ratio, 5.44, is close to the lower extreme of Seyfert 2 galaxies (10.0±4.5: from a compilation by Whittle 1992). The [O III]λ5007 emission-line luminosity \( \log L_{\lambda5007}(\text{ergs s}^{-1}) = 41.40 \) is very close to the mean value of Whittle's Seyfert sample \( \log L_{\lambda5007}(\text{ergs s}^{-1}) = 41.44 \). In the diagram of the hard x ray and [O III]λ5007 luminosities (Fig. 3c in Mushuay et al. 1994), IRAS 18325–5926 is found at the middle of the correlation. In this regard, IRAS 18325–5926 is therefore very typical of other Seyfert galaxies in both its x-ray and [O III]λ5007 line strengths.

The strong emission lines such as Hβ and [O III] lines show evidence for the blueward line asymmetry. This feature is frequently observed in many Seyfert 2 galaxies (cf. Heckman et al. 1981; Whittle 1985, 1992; Dahari & De Robertis 1988). The CCD readout produces a weak wing-like feature (see Fig. 6). Since, this effect seems to be small (less than a few percent of the flux), the observed blueward asymmetry of the emission lines are considered to be real. In Fig. 7, we show the results of a two-component Gaussian fitting of the Hβ, [O III]λ4959, and [O III]λ5007 emission lines. These lines are well decomposed into narrow (FWHM≈450 km s\(^{-1}\)) and broad (FWHM≈1200 km s\(^{-1}\)) components. These line-velocity widths are corrected for the instrumental resolution. The line width of the narrow component is comparable to the median value of Seyfert 2 galaxies (510 km s\(^{-1}\); Feldman et al. 1982). The broad component is blue-shifted by 160 km s\(^{-1}\) with respect to the narrow one. The redshifts derived from the narrow components are consistent with those derived with low-ionization lines such as [O I]λ6300, giving \( z = 0.01982 ± 0.00006 \) after the heliocentric correction. We note that the redshift of 0.0196 derived in previous work (Carter 1984; de Grijs et al. 1985) may be affected by the blueshifted broad components.

Although the Hα and [N II]λ6548,6584 emission lines show no obvious line asymmetry, we are able to decompose them in the same way. The results are shown in Fig. 8 and Table 2. It is remarkable that a very broad component (FWHM≈3400 km s\(^{-1}\)) of Hα emission is necessary to fit the spectra. This component amounts to about 20% of the total Hα emission. Note that as modeling using a Gaussian does not always fit the line asymmetry well, poor modeling could result in an artificial very broad component. If it is real, this component may come from the broadline region observed in Seyfert 1 galaxies. There is no hint of such very broadline component in the Hβ emission, suggesting that IRAS 18325–5926 belongs to the Seyfert 1.9 galaxy class (cf. Osterbrock 1989) rather than the Seyfert 1.8 class (Carter 1984) or Seyfert 2 class (de Grijs et al. 1985). Alternatively, IRAS 18325–5926 could be a variable in terms of brightness of the broadline region.

We are able to estimate the reddening of the emitting region by comparing the observed Balmer decrement (the Hα/Hβ ratio) with the theoretical one (3.1: case B with \( T_e = 10^4 \) K and \( N_e = 10^4 \) cm\(^{-3}\); Osterbrock 1989). We find \( A_V = 2.7 \) and 3.4 mag for the narrow and the broad components. For the total Hα/Hβ ratio, we obtain \( A_V = 3.5 \) mag.
This reddening is heavier by a factor of 3 compared with those of Seyfert 2 galaxies (Dahari & De Robertis 1988).

4. DISCUSSION

4.1 X-ray Properties

The x-ray data obtained from our Ginga observation revealed that the central source of IRAS 18325−5926 has a Seyfert 1-like nature in terms of its x-ray luminosity and variability. The absorption corrected 2−10 keV x-ray luminosity, $L_x = 5.4 \times 10^{33}$ ergs s$^{-1}$ is well within the luminosity range of Seyfert 1s. We also confirm that IRAS 18325−5926 follows the $L_x - L_{IR}$ relation found by Ward et al. (1988).

The x-ray variability of Seyfert 2 nuclei has not yet been well studied. There are only a few objects known to be variable. Mrk 3 was found to be variable on a time scale of at least a few years (Iwasawa et al. 1994). Possible short term variability (~several hours) in heavily obscured nuclei was observed only from NGC 4945 (Iwasawa et al. 1993; Mushotzky et al. 1993). IRAS 18325−5926 is the first example of such clear x-ray variation on time scales as short as $10^{-4}$ s which is typically seen in Seyfert 1s.

We find evidence for a broad iron K line with $\sigma = 0.6$ keV (corresponding to FWHM = $7 \times 10^{7}$ km s$^{-1}$) which is significantly broader than those from the optical BLR. Sometimes poor modeling of the continuum emission may produce a spurious broadline. The narrowline plus additional absorption edge model indeed gives a fairly good fit. However, the broad iron K emission has been verified in a recent ASCA observation (Iwasawa et al. 1995). The broad iron line may originate at the innermost region of an accretion disk, within a few tens of the gravitational radius. The profile of a line arising in the relativistic disk may be modified depending on the disk orientation or blackhole metric (e.g., Fabian et al. 1989; Chen & Halpern 1989). The medium-resolution x-ray spectrum provided by ASCA is consistent with such a characteristic profile. Since the Gaussian centroid energy (6.37 ± 0.2 keV) is consistent with cold Fe, the line may be broadened by Doppler motion which is expected from highly inclined disk. An edge-on disk also produces little reflection (George & Fabian 1991) consistent with our observation, but the large EW is hard to explain. An alternative solution is the case of a highly ionized disk. If a single broad Gaussian is fit to a relativistic line from a face-on disk where the effect of gravitational redshift is pronounced, then the Gaussian centroid is shifted towards lower energies by >0.2 keV (see Mushotzky et al. 1995). If this is the case of IRAS 18325−5926, the Gaussian centroid energy may suggest a larger intrinsic energy indicative of higher ionization. Reflection from highly ionized matter can also account for the lack of the high-energy hump in this object (Ross & Fabian 1993; Matt et al. 1993).

There is some disagreement between the x-ray spectra of IRAS 18325−5926 and classical Seyfert 1s. The power-law slope $\Gamma = 2.24 \pm 0.06$ is steeper than the "canonical" one ($\Gamma \approx 1.7$) measured using EXOSAT (Turner & Pounds 1989) and HEAO-1 (Mushotzky 1984) from Seyfert 1s. Recently, Nandra & Pounds (1994) reported that the intrinsic slope of Seyfert 1 nuclei in the 2−20 keV range should be $\Gamma = 1.95 \pm 0.05$ after taking into account the effect of the Compton reflection in cold material (e.g., Lightman & White 1988) which can flatten the power-law continuum above ~10 keV. Our results for both the simple power-law and the reflection-modified power-law models unambiguously indicate that IRAS 18325−5926 has a steeper intrinsic continuum. A highly ionized iron absorption edge is marginally detected, when the line is narrow. The threshold energy $E_{\text{edge}} = 8.8$ keV corresponding He-like iron is higher than the mean value of Seyfert 1s (7.92 ± 0.12 keV; Nandra & Pounds 1994). There are two possible origins of the ionized absorber. One is the intervening partially ionized gas screen which lying in the line of sight which has been found in some Seyfert 1 galaxies (e.g., Nandra & Pounds 1992; Fabian et al. 1994). This should be located closer to the central source than the cold soft x-ray absorber. The other is ionized reflections material (for example, the accretion disk) which is illuminated by the central source. A sum of the direct and reflection components results in an apparently smeared shallow edge.

4.2 Nuclear Obscuration

We confirmed that IRAS 18325−5926 has a typical Seyfert 2 type optical emission-line spectrum as previously suggested by de Grijp et al. (1985) and Carter (1984). However, the x-ray data show the presence of a central source having a Seyfert 1-like nature. Using the unified model, we can describe the optical Seyfert 2 spectrum by nuclear obscuration. However the toroidal geometry of the absorber generally considered may not be appropriate. Here we instead propose a "global" obscuration of the nucleus of IRAS 18325−5926, as illustrated in Fig. 9.
The obscuring torus picture of a Seyfert 2 nucleus has very thick matter in the line of sight. The BLR and the central source are hidden, but a small fraction of their radiation is scattered towards us in the uncovered regions close to the symmetrical axis of and above the torus (e.g., Antonucci 1993). The obscuring torus in the line of sight is observed as a cold x-ray absorber of extremely large column density larger than $N_H \approx 10^{23} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ (Awaki et al. 1991b; Koyama et al. 1992; Hanson et al. 1990; Warwick et al. 1993; Mulchaey et al. 1994) and up to $10^{24.7} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ (Iwasawa et al. 1993) in classical Seyfert 2 galaxies. On the other hand, in a number of Seyfert 2 galaxies, the obscuration in NLR inferred from optical observations is much smaller than the x-ray absorption. In fact, the typical reddening in the NLR of Seyfert 2 galaxies is $N_H \approx 2 \times 10^{21} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ (corresponding to $A_V \approx 1.1$ mag with the standard gas-to-dust ratio; Dahari & De Robertis 1988). The polarized broadline emission (e.g., Antonucci & Miller 1985; Miller & Goodrich 1990) and unabsorbed soft x-ray component (e.g., Koyama et al. 1989; Iwasawa et al. 1993; Mulchaey et al. 1993; Turner et al. 1993; Iwasawa et al. 1994) found in some Seyfert 2 galaxies indicate the presence of a scattering region not covered by the obscuring material in the nuclei, since they are believed to be hidden behind the obscuring torus and seen only in the scattered light. These observational results support the torus model.

In contrast, the Ginga x-ray spectrum of IRAS 18325–5926 shows a smaller $N_H \approx 1.4 \times 10^{22} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ one to two orders of magnitude below that of the classical sample. The reddening appropriate for the given x-ray extinction using

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**Fig. 6.** An instrumental profile of He–Ar line. The effect of the CCD readout is shown in the weak blue excess emission.

**Fig. 7.** The result of the Gaussian fit for the Hβ, [O iii]λ4959, and [O iii]λ5007 emission lines.

**Fig. 8.** The result of the Gaussian fit for the Hα, [N ii]λ6548, and [N ii]λ6584 emission lines. The very broad component of the Hα emission is also shown.
the standard dust-to-gas ratio is comparable to the NLR reddening deduced from the Balmer decrement in our optical data. We resolved narrow (=450 km s\(^{-1}\)) and broad (=1200 km s\(^{-1}\)) components for the strong lines, H\(\beta\), [O iii]\(\lambda 5007\), H\(\alpha\), and [N ii]\(\lambda 6583\), and also a very broad component only at the base of H\(\alpha\) (=3400 km s\(^{-1}\)). The broadline component appears to be more heavily reddened than the narrow component (see Sec. 3.2).

The detection of the broad H\(\alpha\) wing provide important information about the obscuration nature, relating to the x-ray luminosity. There is a good correlation between unreddened broad H\(\alpha\) and the 2–10 keV x-ray luminosities in Seyfert 1 galaxies (Ward et al. 1988), with average ratio \(L_x/L_{H\alpha}=16\). The flux of the very broad component is \(6.8\times10^{-14}\) ergs cm\(^{-2}\) s\(^{-1}\), and the ratio is \(~200\) in IRAS 18325–5926. The reddening required to produce the average ratio observed in relatively unreddened Seyfert 1s is \(A_V=3.5\) mag. This provides a completely independent check of the VBLR reddening, which is very similar to the reddening of the broad (FWHM=1200 km s\(^{-1}\)) component derived from its Balmer decrement. This calculation strongly supports the hypothesis that significant reddening should occur in a dust screen in front of both the NLR and BLR. There is some internal extinction toward the inner nucleus as implied by the difference in reddening between the 450 and the 1200 km s\(^{-1}\) components. However, additional extinction would be unlikely for the very broad (~3400 km s\(^{-1}\)) emission-line region from the above calculation. On the other hand, the column density of the x-ray absorbing gas (\(N_H=1.4\times10^{22}\) cm\(^{-2}\)) implies a larger extinction (\(A_V\sim7\) mag) assuming the standard gas-to-dust ratio. This means that the innermost part of the nucleus including the 3400 km s\(^{-1}\) region is dust-free as noted by Ferland (1990), Netzer & Laor (1993), and Laor & Draine (1993) for the BLR in general.

Thus we do not necessarily place the very thick torus in the nucleus of IRAS 18325–5926, but rather prefer a global obscuration. The lack of the reflection component in the x-ray spectrum is also consistent with the absence of the cold, thick obscuring torus surrounding the x-ray source, since if it existed out of line of sight, the reflection hump should be pronounced due to the absorption in the cold matter (e.g., Awaki et al. 1991b; Krolik et al. 1994; Nandra & Pounds 1994; Ghisellini et al. 1994).

The NLR reddening is heavier by a factor of 3 in \(A_V\) than the mean for Seyfert 2s (Dahari & De Robertis 1990); this provides further evidence for a nucleus shrouded by a large amount of dust. The data are then consistent with a transmitted and not scattered origin of the weak H\(\alpha\) broad wing as well as the x-ray continuum. In this case, the high polarization could originate by dichroic absorption through the dust grains rather than scattering. This scenario would be compatible with the fact that the wavelength-dependent polarization is well fit with the empirical Serkowski's (1973) curve which describes the transmission of light through aligned dust grains (Brindle et al. 1990b).

This obscuration geometry may affect the excitation condition of the optical emission-line region. In the torus model, some of the ionizing radiation from the central source freely escapes into the NLR and induces high excitation lines similar to those of Seyfert 1s as observed in classical Seyfert 2 galaxies. However, with global obscuration, the ionizing radiation and particularly the soft x rays are attenuated so that the ionization of the NLR resulting is lower than in the torus Seyfert 2s. This idea is consistent with the small [O iii]\(\lambda 5007/H\beta\) ratio, and strong [O i]\(\lambda 6300\) implying lower ionization (Carter 1984).

Finally, Seyfert 2 galaxies tend to be more molecule rich compared with Seyfert 1s (Heckman et al. 1989). Heckman et al. (1989) also noted that there is a systematic difference in the far-infrared properties between Seyfert 1 and 2 galaxies. If the dichotomy between Seyfert 1 and 2 nuclei is solely due to the viewing angle, the above observational differences cannot be explained straightforwardly. Recently, Jackson et al. (1993) mapped NGC 1068 in HCN emission which traces high-density (=10\(^6\) cm\(^{-3}\)) gas. They found that the molecular hydrogen column density inferred from the HCN emission amounts to more than 1.3\times10\(^{23}\) cm\(^{-2}\) (corresponding to \(A_V\sim70\) mag) in the central 600 pc region of NGC 1068. Furthermore, Cameron et al. (1994) found that the mid-infrared emission in NGC 1068 is extended over a region of ~70\times140 pc. Since the mid-infrared emission comes from dust grains heated by nonthermal continuum radiation from the nucleus, it is unlikely that there is dusty, a few parsec-scale torus in the nucleus of NGC 1068. These lines of evidence strongly suggest that the global covering of the central engine works even in the archetypical Seyfert 2 galaxy NGC 1068.

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5. CONCLUSIONS

IRAS 18325–5926 shares the properties of Seyfert 1 nuclei in terms of the x-ray luminosity and its rapid time variability, although the x-ray spectral slope is significantly steeper than that of typical Seyfert 1s. Our optical spectroscopy shows a hint of a very broad line (≈3400 km s⁻¹) component in the Hα emission, implying the Seyfert 1.9 class rather than typical Seyfert 2. The x-ray variability and the detection of very broad Hα wing imply presence of an obscured Seyfert 1 nucleus. It is remarkable that the column density of the x-ray absorber (N_H ≈ 1.4 × 10²² cm⁻²) is much smaller than in the classical Seyfert 2s. A study of the obscuration of the optical emission-line regions suggests a large amount of dust grains in outer part of the nucleus. The observed x-ray continuum and the broad Hα emission is not likely due to scattering but transmission. The Ginga x-ray spectrum shows no evidence for a torus of cold, thick material. We thus propose a global covering picture rather than the canonical torus model for IRAS-selected type 2 objects as well as IRAS 18325–5926.

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