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Diffuse gamma-ray emission around the massive star forming region of Carina Nebula Complex

We report the Fermi Large Area Telescope (Fermi-LAT) detection of gamma-ray emission toward the massive star forming region of Carina Nebula Complex (CNC). The GeV gamma-ray emission can be resolved into three different components. The GeV gamma-ray emission from the central point source is considered to originate from η Car. We further found the diffuse GeV gamma-ray emission around the CNC which can be modelled by two Gaussian discs with radii of 0.4 degree (region A) and 0.75 degree (region B), respectively. The GeV gamma-ray emission from both regions A and B have good spatial consistency with the derived molecular gas in projection on the sky. The GeV gamma-ray emission of region A reveals a characteristic spectral shape of the pion-decay process, which indicates that the gamma-rays are produced by the interactions of hadronic cosmic rays with ambient gas. The gamma-rays spectrum of region B has a hard photon index of 2.12 ± 0.02 , which is similar to other young massive star clusters (YMCs). We argue that the diffuse GeV gamma-ray emission in regions A and B likely originate from the interaction of accelerated protons in clusters with the ambient gas.

Summary

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