

## A FAR ULTRAVIOLET SPECTROSCOPIC EXPLORER SURVEY OF CORONAL FORBIDDEN LINES IN LATE-TYPE STARS

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### ABSTRACT

We present a survey of coronal forbidden lines detected in *Far Ultraviolet Spectroscopic Explorer (FUSE)* spectra of nearby stars. Two strong coronal features, Fe XVIII  $\lambda 974$  and Fe XIX  $\lambda 1118$ , are observed in 10 of the 26 stars in our sample. Various other coronal forbidden lines, observed in solar flares, also were sought but not detected. The Fe XVIII feature, formed at  $\log T = 6.8$  K, appears to be free of blends, whereas the Fe XIX line can be corrupted by a C I multiplet. *FUSE* observations of these forbidden iron lines at spectral resolution  $\lambda/\Delta\lambda \sim 15,000$  provides the opportunity to study dynamics of hot coronal plasmas. We find that the velocity centroid of the Fe XVIII feature deviates little from the stellar rest frame, confirming that the hot coronal plasma is confined. The observed line widths generally are consistent with thermal broadening at the high temperatures of formation and show little indication of additional turbulent broadening. The fastest rotating stars, 31 Com,  $\alpha$  Aur Ab, and AB Dor, show evidence for excess broadening beyond the thermal component and the photospheric  $v \sin i$ . The anomalously large widths in these fast-rotating targets may be evidence for enhanced rotational broadening, consistent with emission from coronal regions extending an additional  $\Delta R \sim 0.4\text{--}1.3 R_*$  above the stellar photosphere, or represent the turbulent broadening caused by flows along magnetic loop structures. For the stars in which Fe XVIII is detected, there is an excellent correlation between the observed *Röntgensatellit (ROSAT)* 0.2–2.0 keV soft X-ray flux and the coronal forbidden line flux. As a result, Fe XVIII is a powerful new diagnostic of coronal thermal conditions and dynamics that can be utilized to study high-temperature plasma processes in late-type stars. In particular, *FUSE* provides the opportunity to obtain observations of important transition region lines in the far-UV, as well as simultaneous measurements of soft X-ray coronal emission, using the Fe XVIII coronal forbidden line.

*Subject headings:* line: profiles — stars: coronae — stars: late-type — ultraviolet: stars — X-rays: stars

### 1. INTRODUCTION

The study of stellar coronae historically has been relegated to the X-ray wavelengths at which high-temperature plasmas predominately radiate. Unfortunately, observational limitations, including low spectral resolution, lack of precise wavelength calibrations, small effective areas, line blending, nonnegligible continua, and unreliable atomic parameters, have made it difficult to transfer powerful spectroscopic techniques commonly used in the ultraviolet (UV) to the X-ray spectral region. This disparity is improving with the development of powerful X-ray telescopes, such as the *Chandra X-Ray Observatory (CXO)* and the *X-Ray Multi-Mirror Mission (XMM-Newton)*. With each new observation of a late-type star by these telescopes, our understanding of the structure of stellar coronae is advancing (see, e.g., Ayres et al. 2001; Brickhouse, Dupree, & Young 2001; Güdel et al. 2003). However, even the modern array of X-ray spectrometers falls far short of the resolving power needed to study the dynamics of coronal emission lines. In particular, the spectral resolution of the *CXO* gratings is nominally about  $\lambda/\Delta\lambda \sim 1000$ , which corresponds

to a velocity resolution of  $300 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ . The spectral resolution of the reflection grating spectrometer (RGS) on board *XMM-Newton* is at least a factor of 2 worse. In contrast, the *Far Ultraviolet Spectroscopic Explorer (FUSE)* has a resolving power of  $\lambda/\Delta\lambda \sim 15,000$ , which corresponds to a velocity resolution of  $20 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ . At present, the fortuitous presence of coronal forbidden lines in the UV provides a way to study fundamental aspects of the structure of stellar coronae, by circumventing the limitations of contemporary X-ray spectroscopy.

Over the course of the last century, coronal forbidden lines have repeatedly been observed and studied in the Sun (Edlén 1945). Most recently, solar flare observations using the Solar Ultraviolet Measurements of Emitted Radiation (SUMER) instrument on board the *Solar and Heliospheric Observatory (SOHO)* have identified many coronal forbidden lines in the wavelength range from 500 to 1600 Å (Feldman et al. 2000). By comparison, detections of ultraviolet coronal forbidden lines in other stars have been a relative novelty. The initial discoveries were of Fe XXI  $\lambda 1354$  in the brightest coronal late-type stars, including the active M dwarf AU Mic (M0 V; Maran et al. 1994), the hyperactive RS Canum Venaticorum (RS CVn) binary HR 1099 (K0 IV+G5 V; Robinson et al. 1996), and the giant star binary system Capella (G8 III+G1 III; Linsky et al. 1998). Unfortunately, the line profile analysis is complicated, because Fe XXI  $\lambda 1354$  is blended with a chromospheric C I emission line. Besides Fe XXI, only one other coronal forbidden line species has been spotted in the wavelength range available from the *Hubble Space Telescope (HST)*: Jordan et al. (2001) identified the relatively cool Fe XII  $\lambda\lambda 1242, 1349$

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coronal lines in the spectrum of  $\epsilon$  Eri. Ayres et al. (2003) have presented a comprehensive survey of Fe XII and Fe XXI coronal forbidden lines based on *HST* observations, primarily with the Space Telescope Imaging Spectrograph (STIS).

The *FUSE* satellite provides access to the important 900–1200 Å spectral region below the short-wavelength cutoff of *HST*, covering a new spectral region to search for stellar coronal forbidden lines. Again, solar flare observations of coronal lines have previously been made at these wavelengths (Feldman et al. 2000). Feldman & Doscheck (1991) published the solar spectrum from 914 to 1177 Å, based on rocket observations, as a template for stellar observations to be made by *FUSE*. Included were 18 coronal forbidden lines, the strongest of which are Ca XIII  $\lambda$ 1133, Fe XVIII  $\lambda$ 974, Fe XIX  $\lambda$ 1118, and Fe XVII  $\lambda$ 1153. Various authors have noted the presence of coronal forbidden lines in *FUSE* observations of active stars. Young et al. (2001) identified the Fe XVIII line in the spectrum of Capella and found that the bulk of the Fe XVIII emission arises from the G8 giant. Del Zanna, Landini, & Mason (2002) also used the Fe XVIII and Fe XIX lines in their multiwavelength analysis of the emission measure of AU Mic. Redfield et al. (2002) identified Fe XVIII and Fe XIX in observations of AB Dor,  $\epsilon$  Eri, and AU Mic, as part of a *FUSE* survey of cool dwarf stars.

Dupree et al. (2003, in preparation observed) the Fe XVIII and Fe XIX lines in  $\beta$  Cet and 31 Com.

The present paper surveys a large body of *FUSE* observations of late-type stars for coronal forbidden lines. Our objective is not only to enumerate positive detections, but also to demonstrate the utility of the coronal forbidden line diagnostics for understanding the dynamics of high-temperature plasmas in stellar coronae.

## 2. OBSERVATIONS

Table 1 lists the 26 stars in our sample. They include the targets of the *FUSE* team's cool star survey, supplemented with a number of Guest Observer observations. Table 2 summarizes the *FUSE* observations. Most targets were observed in time-tagged mode, and all were observed through either the medium-resolution slit (MDRS;  $4''0 \times 20''$ ) or the large aperture (LWRS;  $30'' \times 30''$ ). The LWRS has the advantage of usually including light from all of the LiF and SiC channels for the duration of the exposure, at the expense of higher airglow contamination, especially at Ly $\beta$  and Ly $\gamma$ , but also in many O I and N I lines. The MDRS reduces airglow, but thermal effects often cause one or more of the channels to drift out of the aperture during an exposure, because only the LiF1 channel is used for

TABLE 1  
PROPERTIES OF STARS OBSERVED BY *FUSE*

Star Name	HD	Spectral Type	$v_{\text{rad}}$ (km s $^{-1}$ )	$m_V$	$B-V$	$f_{\text{bol}}$ ( $\times 10^{-7}$ ergs cm $^{-2}$ s $^{-1}$ )	Distance <sup>a</sup> (pc)	$v \sin i^b$ (km s $^{-1}$ )	Reference
SAO 76194.....	23628	A4 V	0	7.71	0.18	0.20	130	215	1
HR 5999 .....	144668	A7 IV	-1.9	6.98	0.29	0.39	210	204	2
$\alpha$ Aql.....	187642	A7 V	-26.1	0.77	0.22	118	5.15	210	3
$\alpha$ Car .....	45348	F0 II	20.5	-0.72	0.15	478	95.8	9	2
47 Cas .....	12230	F0 V	-26	5.28	0.30	1.89	33.6	62.1	4
$\alpha$ CMi .....	61421	F5 IV-V	-3.2	0.34	0.40	185	3.50	5.0	5
$v$ Peg .....	220657	F8 IV	-11.1	4.40	0.61	5.2	53	33.7	6
EK Dra .....	129333	F8	-30.5	7.61	0.59	0.24	33.9	17.3	7
31 Com .....	111812	G0 IIIp	-1.4	4.94	0.63	3.4	94.2	66.5	6
HR 9024 .....	223460	G1 III	0.7	5.90	0.79	1.6	130	21.5	6
$\alpha$ Aur Ab .....	34029	G1 III	52.4, 51.3, 25.4 <sup>c</sup>	0.76	0.65	138	12.9	36	8
$\beta$ Dra .....	159181	G2 Iab	-20.0	2.79	0.98	24	110.9	10.7	6
$\alpha$ Aqr .....	209750	G2 Ib	7.5	2.95	0.96	20	230	7.8	6
$\alpha$ Cen A.....	128620	G2 V	-24.6	-0.01	0.71	283	1.35	3	9
DK UMa .....	82210	G4 III	-27.2	4.57	0.75	4.6	32.4	5.5	6
$\mu$ Vel .....	93497	G5 III	6.2	2.72	0.91	28	35.5	6.4	6
$\alpha$ Aur Aa.....	34029	G8 III	7.1, 8.1, 32.8 <sup>c</sup>	0.91	0.88	140	12.9	3	8
$\beta$ Cet .....	4128	K0 III	13.0	2.04	1.02	56	29.4	3.0	10
$\beta$ Gem.....	62509	K0 IIIb	3.3	1.15	1.00	121	10.3	<1.0	6
AB Dor .....	36705	K1 V	29.2	6.93	0.80	0.51	14.9	91	11
$\alpha$ Cen B.....	128621	K2 V	-20.7	1.33	0.88	93	1.35	2	12
$\epsilon$ Eri .....	22049	K2 V	15.5	3.73	0.88	10.4	3.22	2.0	13
$\alpha$ Tau .....	29139	K5 III	54.3	0.85	1.54	343	20.0	2.0	6
TW Hya.....	...	K8 V	13.5	11.1	0.7	0.010	56	<15	14
AU Mic.....	197481	M0 V	-5.7 <sup>d</sup>	8.61	1.44	0.3	10.0	<6.2	15
$\alpha$ Ori .....	39801	M2 Iab	21.0	0.58	1.77	1065	131.1	<11	16
Proxima Cen .....	...	M5.5 V	-15.7	11.05	1.97	0.3	1.295	1.4	17

<sup>a</sup> *Hipparcos* parallaxes taken from the SIMBAD database.

<sup>b</sup> Source of  $v \sin i$  given in Reference column.

<sup>c</sup> Radial velocities calculated for orbital phases (0.34, 0.35, and 0.98, respectively) at the time of the three *FUSE* observations (Hummel et al. 1994).

<sup>d</sup> Based on 37 C I lines observed with STIS (Pagano et al. 2000).

REFERENCES.—(1) Simon, Drake, & Kim 1995. (2) Royer et al. 2002. (3) Van Belle et al. 2001. (4) Audard et al. 2000. (5) Hale 1994. (6) De Medeiros & Mayor 1999. (7) Montes et al. 2001. (8) Strassmeier et al. 1988. (9) Pallavicini et al. 1981. (10) Gray 1989. (11) Brandt et al. 2001. (12) Smith, Edvardsson, & Frisk 1986. (13) Fekel 1997. (14) Franchini et al. 1992. (15) Pettersen 1980. (16) Gray 2000. (17) Wood et al. 1994.

TABLE 2  
SUMMARY OF *FUSE* OBSERVATIONS

Star Name	Data Set	Observation Date	Aperture	Exposures	Exposure Time (ks)
HD 23628 .....	P1860501	2000 Dec 29	LWRS	6	6.9
HD 144668.....	P1860201	2001 Aug 20	LWRS	4	4.8
$\alpha$ Aql.....	P1180701	2001 Sep 14	LWRS	8	4.2
$\alpha$ Car .....	P1180101	2000 Dec 11	LWRS	2	5.6
$\alpha$ Car .....	P2180101	2001 Oct 25	LWRS	3	6.1
$\alpha$ Car .....	P2180102	2001 Oct 26	LWRS	9	11.1
47 Cas .....	P1860601	2000 Nov 26	LWRS	3	10.9
Procyon .....	P1041801	2001 Oct 21	MDRS	7	5.3
$\nu$ Peg .....	B0720301	2001 Jul 1	LWRS	4	11.8
EK Dra .....	P1860401	2000 Mar 1	LWRS	3	10.3
31 Com .....	P1180401	2001 Apr 20	LWRS	8	12.9
HR 9024 .....	B0720101	2001 Jul 10	LWRS	19	37.2
$\alpha$ Aur .....	P1040301	2000 Nov 5	LWRS	10	14.2
$\alpha$ Aur .....	P1040302	2000 Nov 7	LWRS	10	12.3
$\alpha$ Aur .....	P1040303	2001 Jan 11	MDRS	28	21.4
$\beta$ Dra .....	P1180301	2000 May 9	LWRS	2	5.6
$\beta$ Dra .....	P2180301	2001 Jun 30	LWRS	8	16.4
$\alpha$ Aqr .....	P1180201	2000 Jun 29	LWRS	1	3.3
$\alpha$ Aqr .....	P1180202	2001 Oct 8	LWRS	7	15.9
$\alpha$ Aqr .....	P2180201	2001 Jun 16	LWRS	11	34.4
$\alpha$ Aqr .....	P2180202	2001 Oct 7	LWRS	5	10.5
$\alpha$ Cen A.....	P1042601	2001 Jun 25	MDRS	8	15.3
DK UMa .....	C1070102	2002 Feb 14	LWRS	6	24.6
$\mu$ Vel .....	C1070201	2002 Mar 5	LWRS	8	25.2
$\beta$ Cet .....	P1180501	2000 Dec 10	LWRS	10	12.6
$\beta$ Gem.....	P1180601	2000 Nov 11	LWRS	7	21.9
AB Dor.....	X0250201 <sup>a</sup>	1999 Oct 20	LWRS	1	22.1
AB Dor .....	X0250203	1999 Dec 14	LWRS	6	24.2
$\alpha$ Cen B.....	P1042501	2001 Jun 24	MDRS	13	22.7
$\epsilon$ Eri .....	P1040701	2000 Dec 8	MDRS	15	34.8
$\alpha$ Tau .....	P1040901	2001 Jan 14	MDRS	8	12.2
TW Hya.....	P1860101	2000 Jun 3	LWRS	3	2.1
AU Mic.....	P1180801	2000 Aug 26	LWRS	9	17.3
AU Mic.....	P2180401	2001 Oct 10	LWRS	13	26.5
$\alpha$ Ori .....	P1180901	2000 Nov 3	LWRS	7	10.4
Proxima Cen.....	P1860701	2000 May 16	LWRS	2	6.9

<sup>a</sup> The star was only observed in the LiF channels (987–1187 Å).

guiding. We monitor the integrated flux of the strongest lines in each segment (i.e., C III  $\lambda$ 977, O VI  $\lambda$ 1031, and C III  $\lambda$ 1176). During exposures when the star drifts out of the aperture, the flux in these lines is significantly reduced from its nominal value. These exposures are therefore not included in the reduction of the final spectrum.

The spectral images were processed with CalFUSE, Version 2.0.5.<sup>6</sup> Compared to earlier versions of the pipeline, this new rendition provides a more accurate wavelength scale, removes large noise event bursts, corrects for misplaced photons at low-sensitivity portions of the detector (the so-called walk problem), improves corrections for scattered light and astigmatism, extracts the spectrum using an “optimal” algorithm, and applies a more accurate flux calibration (flux errors are less than 15% [Oegerle, Murphy, & Kriss 2000<sup>7</sup>]). Although the scattered-light correction and

flux calibration are much improved, they remain approximations and can occasionally lead to negative flux levels, at which there is no stellar emission. The flux error incorporates the errors involved in these calibration steps. Individual exposures were reduced separately, and the integrated flux in strong emission lines was used to test the consistency of the signal recorded in each segment, throughout the entire observation. For each segment, the exposures then were cross-correlated, using selected stellar emission features, and co-added, excepting those with significant drops in signal due to target drifts out of the aperture (a common occurrence for MDRS observations). Redundant segments were not co-added, however, to avoid degrading the spectral resolution. The correction for astigmatism (curvature of spectrum perpendicular to the dispersion) improves the spectral resolution by 5%–10% compared with earlier versions of CalFUSE used to reduce the previously published spectra of AB Dor (Ake et al. 2000) and Capella (Young et al. 2001).

The relative wavelength scale within a given detector channel is accurate to  $\pm 5$  km s<sup>-1</sup> over most of the far-UV

<sup>6</sup> See <http://fuse.pha.jhu.edu/analysis/analysis.html>.

<sup>7</sup> See the *FUSE* Data Handbook, Version 1.1, available at <http://fuse.pha.jhu.edu/analysis/dhbook.html>.

(FUV) bandpass, except for some deterioration at the far edges of the individual channels (Dixon 2001).<sup>8</sup> Because of the absence of an onboard wavelength calibration lamp, we established the zero point of the wavelength scale according to interstellar absorption features in the C II  $\lambda 1036.34$  and C III  $\lambda 977.02$  lines and by comparing the C III  $\lambda 1176$  lines in *FUSE* spectra with wavelength-calibrated observations by *HST*. The procedure is described in detail by Redfield et al. (2002).

### 3. SEARCHING FOR CORONAL FORBIDDEN LINES

We searched for evidence of coronal forbidden lines in the 900–1200 Å region in our sample of stellar spectra. Because of our relatively poor knowledge of the rest wavelengths of these lines, the relatively weak signal of the coronal lines, and the moderate likelihood of coincidental blends with low-temperature lines, labeling spectral features located at wavelengths coincident with an expected coronal line can lead to misidentifications, as demonstrated below. Therefore, we used a comparative technique developed by Ayres et al. (2003) to identify coronal forbidden lines in longer wavelength *HST* spectra. We compared each sample spectrum with a typical spectrum of an active and an inactive dwarf star (AU Mic and  $\alpha$  Cen A, respectively) and an active and an inactive giant star ( $\beta$  Cet and  $\beta$  Gem, respectively). Strong coronal emission lines will stand out as broad features in the spectra of active stars, but should be absent in the inactive stars. Coincidental low-temperature lines in the active spectra can be identified because they will be relatively narrow and also present in the inactive stars. The underlying assumptions in this comparative analysis are that active stars have larger coronal emission measures than inactive stars, that giant stars all have reasonably similar emission measure distributions, and that all dwarf stars also share similar emission measure distributions. Although we have chosen specific active stars to demonstrate this technique below, any star with its own unique emission measure distribution can be used as the standard. This comparison proves useful at identifying coincident blends and should be used along with other line identification techniques when searching for coronal forbidden lines.

Figure 1 illustrates the comparative technique. We selected the four strongest high-temperature ( $T > 10^6$  K) coronal forbidden lines observed in solar flares (Feldman & Doschek 1991) and located in the *FUSE* spectral range: Fe XVIII  $\lambda 974$  ( $\log T \sim 6.81$  K), Fe XIX  $\lambda 1118$  ( $\log T \sim 6.89$  K), Ca XIII  $\lambda 1133$  ( $\log T \sim 6.38$  K), and Fe XVII  $\lambda 1153$  ( $\log T \sim 6.72$  K). As the strongest lines in the *FUSE* spectral range detected in solar flares, these lines are an appropriate place to start looking for coronal forbidden lines in stellar spectra. The top two panels of Figure 1 demonstrate that Fe XVIII and Fe XIX are positively detected, because the features appear in the normalized spectra of both active stars and are absent in the inactive stars. Fe XVII, shown in the bottom panel, is clearly not detected in any of the stars. At the expected location of Ca XIII, there is a prominent feature. However, it is present only in the spectra of the giant stars, both active and inactive, and is narrow, inconsistent with the high line formation temperature. Therefore, it has the characteristics of a low-temperature line. In fact, Harper

et al. (2001) identified numerous fluorescent Fe II lines in the *FUSE* spectra of  $\alpha$  TrA, two of which fall at wavelengths 1133.675 and 1133.854 Å. These lines are blended and appear as a single feature. Therefore, the emission detected in *FUSE* spectra at  $\sim 1133.7$  Å is not Ca XIII, but rather a coincidental fluorescent Fe II line pumped by H Ly $\alpha$ .

The comparative technique was applied to an extensive list of more than 50 candidate coronal forbidden lines that lie in the *FUSE* spectral range. Of these, only two were positively detected: the Fe XVIII  $\lambda 974$  and Fe XIX  $\lambda 1118$  lines mentioned above. These features form at  $\log T = 6.8$  and 6.9 K, respectively. In Table 3, we list the observed integrated line strengths corresponding to direct flux integrations within  $\pm 150$  km s<sup>-1</sup> of line center for stars with  $v \sin i < 50$  km s<sup>-1</sup> and within  $\pm 250$  km s<sup>-1</sup> for stars with  $v \sin i > 50$  km s<sup>-1</sup>. X-ray fluxes, also included in the table, are based on the 0.2–2.0 keV band observed by the *Röntgensatellit* (*ROSAT*).

### 4. Fe XVIII $\lambda 974$

The addition of the Fe XVIII  $\lambda 974$  line, in particular, to the collection of UV coronal forbidden lines is very promising, because of its optimum spectral context. Unlike other high-temperature forbidden lines, such as Fe XIX  $\lambda 1118$  and Fe XXI  $\lambda 1354$ , whose profiles are compromised by coincident blends,<sup>9</sup> the nearest significant blend with Fe XVIII is  $\sim 300$  km s<sup>-1</sup> from line center. Therefore, Fe XVIII requires no additional assumptions or delicate deconvolutions when one tries to reconstruct the intrinsic coronal forbidden line profile. Furthermore, the ultraviolet continua of typical cool stars decrease dramatically toward the shorter wavelengths. Therefore, modeling the continuum, if it is present at all, is less challenging in the spectral region around Fe XVIII, than, for example, at Fe XXI  $\lambda 1354$ . Also, the strong local interstellar medium (LISM) absorption in the prominent C III  $\lambda 977$  line adjacent to the Fe XVIII line provides a convenient means of calibrating the zero point of the local velocity scale.

Figure 2 presents the Fe XVIII  $\lambda 974$  lines and single Gaussian fits in seven spectra of the slowly rotating stars with Fe XVIII detections. Table 4 lists the derived parameters. In Figure 2, the horizontal line indicates the continuum level (often zero), based on line-free regions on either side of the Fe XVIII feature. The intrinsic stellar line profile (prior to convolution with the instrumental line-spread function [Wood et al. 2002a] and the rotational line profile) is shown by the dashed curve. The solid curve represents the predicted profile, including both instrumental and rotational broadening. Note that the intrinsic line widths are so broad that the contribution of the instrument and rotation often is negligible. Rotational broadening is most noticeable for 47 Cas, which is the only star among these seven with  $v \sin i > 20$  km s<sup>-1</sup>; the other six stars have relatively modest rotational velocities (see Table 1). In fact, Figure 2 indicates very little variation in line width among the seven targets, consistent with domination by thermal broadening. The line formation temperature for Fe XVIII is  $\log T = 6.76$  K, which corresponds to an FWHM of 69 km s<sup>-1</sup>, but Fe XVIII is likely to form over a modest spread in temperatures. A reasonable range is  $6.62 \text{ K} \leq \log T \leq 6.93 \text{ K}$ , which corresponds to

<sup>8</sup> Introduction to CalFUSE, Version 2.0, is available at [http://fuse.pha.jhu.edu/analysis/calfuse\\_intro.html](http://fuse.pha.jhu.edu/analysis/calfuse_intro.html).

<sup>9</sup> The Fe XXI line is blended with the C I line at 1354.29 Å, and Fe XIX is blended with eight C I lines from 1117.20 to 1118.49 Å.

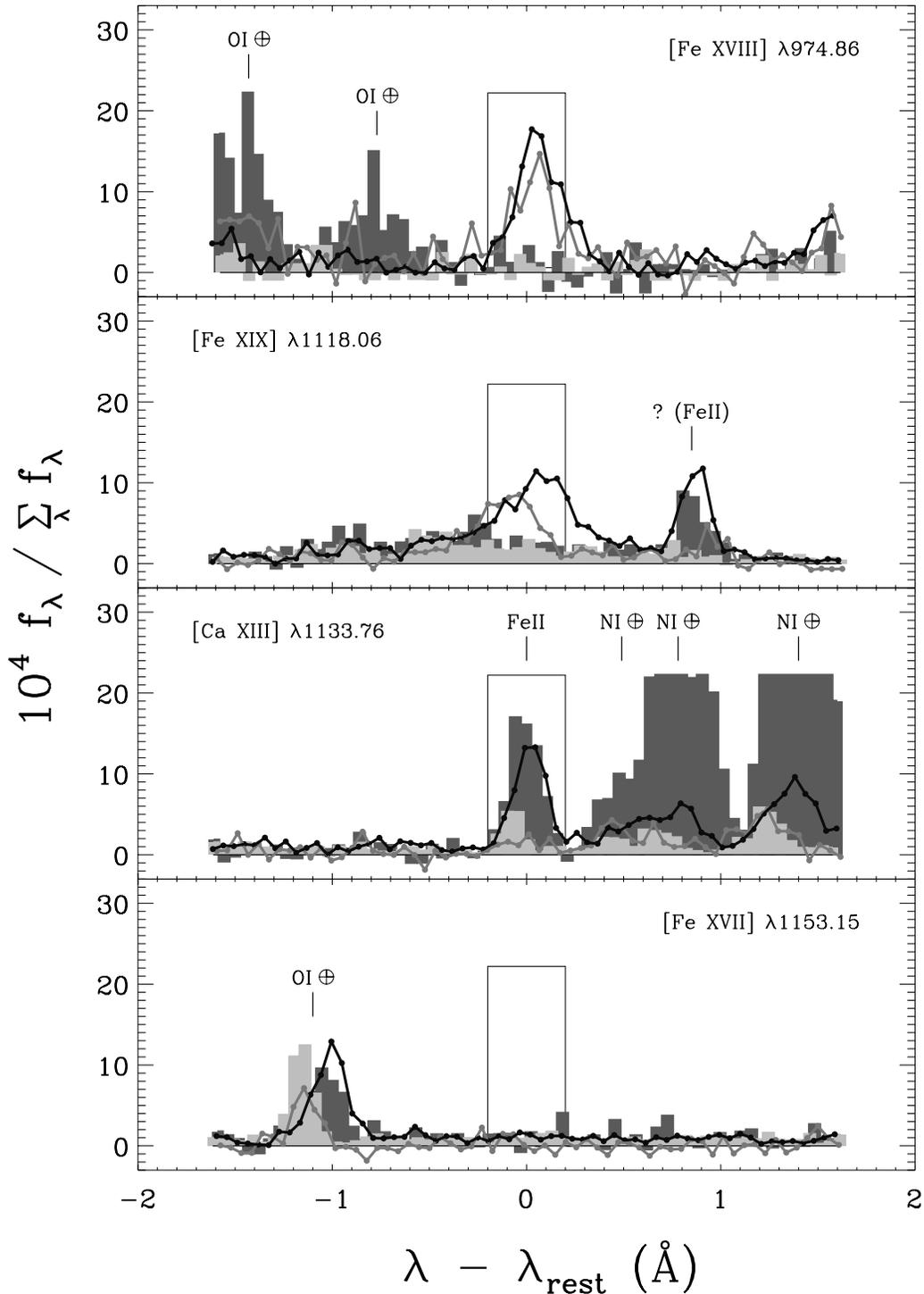


FIG. 1.—Comparison technique to distinguish coronal emission lines from coincidental low-temperature emissions. Each of the four panels represents the normalized stellar flux, centered on the rest wavelength of a strong coronal forbidden line in the *FUSE* spectral range, selected from solar work (Feldman & Doscheck 1991). Four different stars are shown: an active giant ( $\beta$  Cet; dark connected circles), an inactive giant ( $\beta$  Gem; dark histogram), an active dwarf (AU Mic; light connected circles), and an inactive dwarf ( $\alpha$  Cen A; light histogram). The central box indicates the wavelength region in which the coronal feature is expected to be found. Genuine coronal forbidden lines should appear in the spectra of the active stars, but not the inactive ones. The top two panels show positive detections of Fe XVIII  $\lambda 974$  and Fe XIX  $\lambda 1118$ . The third panel demonstrates that the comparative technique successfully ferrets out coincidental blends. For example, there appears to be a feature that corresponds to Ca XIII  $\lambda 1133$  but is detected in the active and inactive giants only. The feature, in fact, is a blend of two fluorescent Fe II lines at 1133.68 and 1133.85 Å (Harper et al. 2001). The bottom panel demonstrates that Fe XVII  $\lambda 1153$  is absent at *FUSE* sensitivity levels.

widths of  $59 \text{ km s}^{-1} \leq \text{FWHM} \leq 84 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ . In column (7) of Table 4, we list the equivalent temperature required to account for the observed intrinsic line width if turbulent motions do not contribute to the line broadening.

Figure 2 also demonstrates that Fe XVIII  $\lambda 974$  displays no large velocity shifts, as the emission centroids are approximately at the rest velocity of the stellar photosphere in all cases. In a couple of the stars, 47 Cas and EK Dra, we were

TABLE 3  
OBSERVED IRON AND X-RAY FLUXES

STAR NAME	INTEGRATED FLUX ( $\times 10^{-14}$ ergs $\text{cm}^{-2}$ $\text{s}^{-1}$ )			REFERENCE
	Fe XVIII $\lambda 974^a$	Fe XIX $\lambda 1118^{a,b}$	X-Ray (0.2–2.0 keV)	
HD 23628 .....	<1.8	<1.0	$90 \pm 20^c$	1
HD 144668.....	<1.2	<3.0	$76 \pm 4^c$	1
$\alpha$ Aql.....	<3.1	<7.7	$71 \pm 2$	1
$\alpha$ Car .....	<1.5	<1.3	$420 \pm 10$	1
47 Cas .....	$1.0 \pm 0.3$	$1.2 \pm 0.2$	$1310 \pm 30$	1
$\alpha$ CMi.....	<3.0	<4.9	$1300 \pm 20$	1
$\nu$ Peg.....	<1.0	<0.6	$600 \pm 100$	2
EK Dra .....	$1.0 \pm 0.3$	$0.6 \pm 0.1$	$730 \pm 190$	1
31 Com .....	$0.8 \pm 0.3$	$1.5 \pm 0.2$	$800 \pm 100$	2
HR 9024 .....	<0.8	<0.6	$1000 \pm 500$	2
$\beta$ Dra .....	<0.9	<1.1	$190 \pm 10$	1
$\alpha$ Aqr.....	<0.5	<0.3	<20	1
$\alpha$ Cen A.....	<1.1	<2.4	$700 \pm 200$	2
DK UMa .....	$1.1 \pm 0.2$	$1.0 \pm 0.1$	$1400 \pm 100$	2
$\mu$ Vel .....	$1.4 \pm 0.2$	$1.9 \pm 0.2$	$1600 \pm 100$	2
$\alpha$ Aur.....	$11.5 \pm 1.3$	$31.0 \pm 4.7$	$12700 \pm 1600$	2
$\beta$ Cet.....	$3.8 \pm 0.4$	$4.1 \pm 0.4$	$2000 \pm 200$	2
$\beta$ Gem.....	<0.9	<0.6	$30 \pm 2$	1
AB Dor.....	$1.6 \pm 0.3$	$1.6 \pm 0.2$	$5500 \pm 2000$	1
$\alpha$ Cen B.....	<1.3	<2.4	$\sim 1200$	1
$\epsilon$ Eri.....	$0.8 \pm 0.2$	$0.7 \pm 0.1$	$1500 \pm 500$	2
$\alpha$ Tau.....	<0.9	<0.6	<4	2
TW Hya.....	<1.8	<0.5	$300 \pm 10$	1
AU Mic.....	$0.6 \pm 0.1$	$0.7 \pm 0.1$	$2200 \pm 1000$	1
$\alpha$ Ori.....	<0.8	<0.6	<13	1
Proxima Cen.....	<0.4	<0.5	$700 \pm 200$	2

<sup>a</sup> Fluxes calculated by direct numerical integration of fixed  $\pm 150$   $\text{km s}^{-1}$  region for all stars with  $\nu \sin i < 50$   $\text{km s}^{-1}$  and within  $\pm 250$   $\text{km s}^{-1}$  for all stars with  $\nu \sin i > 50$   $\text{km s}^{-1}$ .

<sup>b</sup> Fluxes include contributions from possible blends with low-temperature C I lines.

<sup>c</sup> Hard X-ray source: probably not the A star, but an unseen companion.

REFERENCES.—(1) X-ray fluxes calculated from 0.2 to 2.0 keV band from *ROSAT* WGACAT (from HEASARC). (2) Ayres et al. 2003.

unable to determine an accurate zero point of the wavelength scale, because either there is no obvious LISM absorption in the C III  $\lambda 977$  line or no high-resolution, wavelength-calibrated data (e.g., STIS) are available to measure the velocity of LISM absorption empirically. Therefore, for these two stars, we assume that the centroid of the C III emission line is at the rest velocity of the star. Redfield et al. (2002) showed that the centroid of C III can be shifted from line center by as much as  $15$   $\text{km s}^{-1}$ . Therefore, we use  $15$   $\text{km s}^{-1}$  as our estimate of the systematic error. Only in the two broadest profiles, 31 Com and AB Dor, do the statistical errors dominate the systematic errors. Spreading out the signal of an already weak coronal line makes it extremely difficult to accurately determine the centroid of the Fe XVIII feature. Higher signal-to-noise ratio (S/N) observations are required for the stars that exhibit broad Fe XVIII line profiles in order to measure the centroids of the emission.

The Fe XVIII widths in most of the stars are consistent with little to no turbulent broadening: thermal broadening alone is sufficient to account for the observed intrinsic line width. The two fastest rotating stars in the sample, 31 Com and AB Dor, show large intrinsic line widths, however, even when the photospheric rotational broadening is taken into

account. Another fast rotator, 47 Cas, also shows a large line width, marginally in excess of the expected thermal broadening. Although an additional broadening mechanism may also play a part in the coronal line profiles of 47 Cas, we limit the following analysis to 31 Com and AB Dor. The spectra of these two stars clearly indicates that thermal broadening alone is insufficient to account for the width of the coronal line profiles. In Figure 3, the top panels show the initial single Gaussian fit, for which the rotational broadening was fixed at the observed photospheric value. It is clear that the inferred intrinsic line profile is much wider than those of the slow rotators, shown in Figure 2. It seems unlikely that nonthermal, turbulent broadening in 31 Com and AB Dor could explain the very broad profiles, because such broadening is clearly of little importance in the other stars. Instead, we interpret the additional broadening to be the result of “superrotation,” extended corotating coronal emission high above the stellar photosphere. In the bottom panels of Figure 3, the intrinsic line width was fixed at the thermal value. An alternative broadening mechanism is now required to derive a satisfactory fit to the data. If we allow the rotational velocity to vary, the additional broadening can now be attributed to a value of  $\nu \sin i$  that is larger than the photospheric value. Both models produce equally

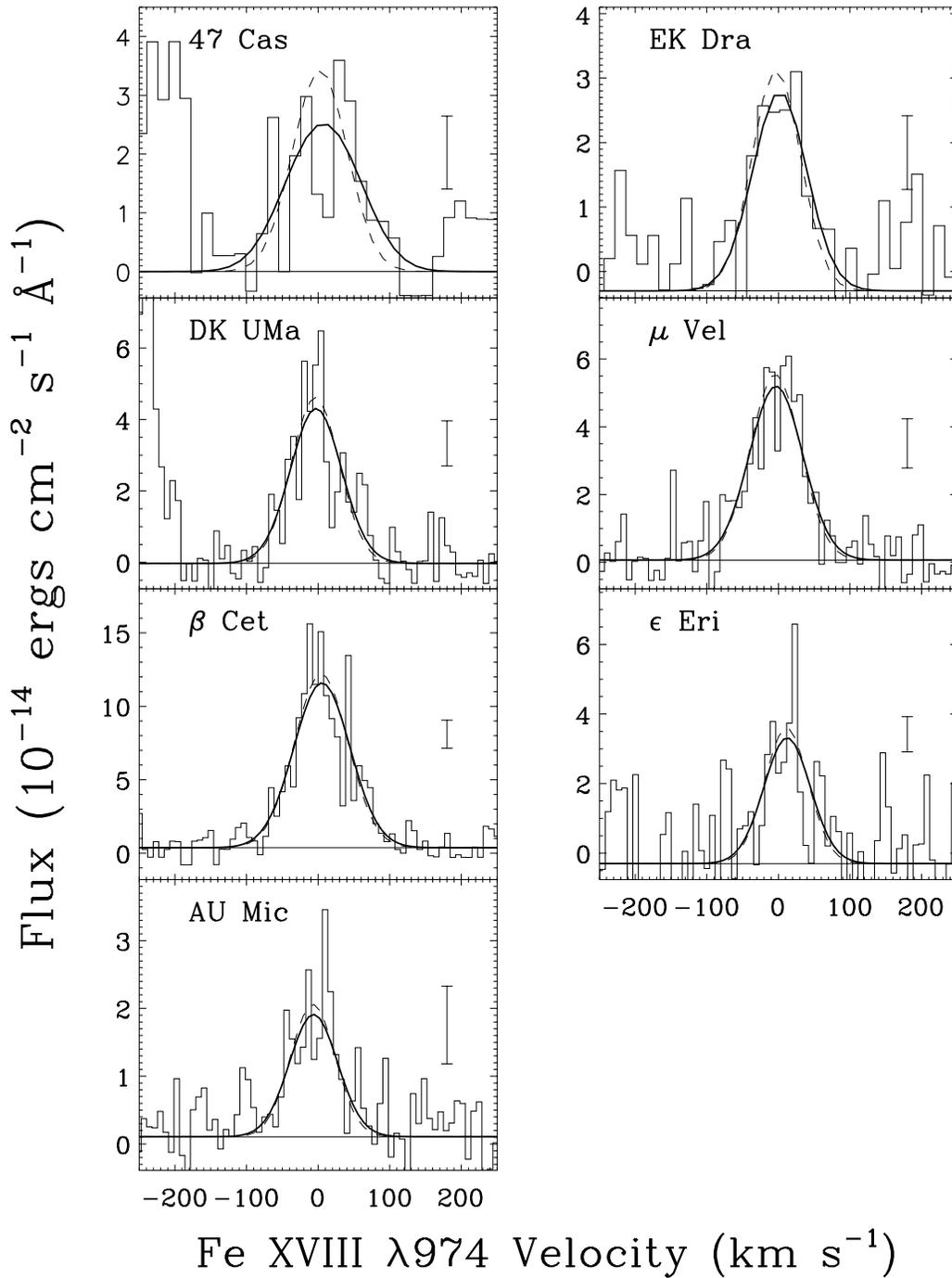


FIG. 2.—Single Gaussian fits to Fe XVIII  $\lambda 974$  for the slowly rotating stars. The SiC 2A channel data are shown as a histogram, and zero velocity is fixed at the stellar (photospheric) radial velocity. The continuum (*horizontal line*) is assumed to be constant over the line profile and is matched to line-free regions on either side of the coronal feature. The dashed curve indicates the intrinsic line profile before convolution with the rotational and instrumental line profiles, and the solid curve shows the result after the broadening functions have been applied. A  $1 \sigma$  error bar is shown on the right-hand side of each panel.

satisfactory fits, but the top panels indicate a model that assumes that the rotational velocity is fixed at the photospheric value and that turbulent broadening must account for the line width, whereas in the bottom panels it is assumed that turbulent broadening is negligible, based on the results of the slowly rotating stars, and the rotational velocity is instead the free parameter. For 31 Com,  $\chi^2_{\nu} = 1.25$  for the fixed rotational velocity model and  $\chi^2_{\nu} = 1.24$  for the variable rotational velocity model. For

AB Dor,  $\chi^2_{\nu} = 2.48$  for the fixed rotational velocity model and  $\chi^2_{\nu} = 2.42$  for the variable rotational velocity model. Unfortunately, the S/N of the data is not high enough to differentiate between the two assumptions based solely on the subtle differences in the resulting line profile. However, the unanimous result that turbulent broadening is nonexistent in our sample of slowly rotating stars leads us to propose that the additional broadening is due to the rotation of the coronal material at velocities greater than the

TABLE 4  
FE XVIII EMISSION-LINE FIT PARAMETERS

Star Name (1)	HD (2)	$v^a$ (km s <sup>-1</sup> ) (3)	Integrated Flux ( $\times 10^{-14}$ ergs cm <sup>-2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> ) (4)	FWHM <sub>obs</sub> <sup>b</sup> (km s <sup>-1</sup> ) (5)	FWHM <sup>c</sup> (km s <sup>-1</sup> ) (6)	log $T_{\text{eq}}^d$ (K) (7)
47 Cas .....	12230	$-4 \pm 15$	$1.0 \pm 0.1$	$113 \pm 10$	$87 \pm 10$	$6.96^{+0.07}_{-0.08}$
EK Dra .....	129333	$-3 \pm 15$	$0.96 \pm 0.10$	$78 \pm 10$	$74 \pm 10$	$6.82^{+0.08}_{-0.09}$
31 Com .....	111812	$22 \pm 35$	$0.70 \pm 0.07$	$149 \pm 14$	$125 \pm 14$	$7.28^{+0.06e}_{-0.07}$
DK UMa ....	82210	$-4 \pm 10$	$1.19 \pm 0.13$	$75.3 \pm 9.6$	$75.3 \pm 9.6$	$6.84^{+0.07}_{-0.09}$
$\mu$ Vel .....	93497	$-2.6 \pm 5.0$	$1.5 \pm 0.2$	$77 \pm 10$	$77 \pm 10$	$6.86^{+0.07}_{-0.09}$
$\beta$ Cet .....	4128	$-1.1 \pm 5.0$	$3.53 \pm .35$	$83.4 \pm 6.8$	$83.4 \pm 6.8$	$6.93 \pm 0.05$
AB Dor .....	36705	$-16 \pm 19$	$1.92 \pm 0.32$	$309 \pm 35$	$288 \pm 35$	$8.00^{+0.07f}_{-0.08}$
$\epsilon$ Eri .....	22049	$7 \pm 10$	$0.97 \pm 0.10$	$75.8 \pm 8.8$	$75.8 \pm 8.8$	$6.84^{+0.07}_{-0.08}$
AU Mic.....	197481	$-5 \pm 10$	$0.56 \pm 0.08$	$81 \pm 14$	$81 \pm 14$	$6.90^{+0.09}_{-0.12}$

<sup>a</sup> Relative to the radial velocity of the stellar photosphere.

<sup>b</sup> Observed FWHM of the Fe XVIII feature.

<sup>c</sup> FWHM after deconvolving the photospheric rotational velocity; negligible for  $v \sin i \leq 10$  km s<sup>-1</sup>.

<sup>d</sup> Equivalent temperature required to account for deconvolved FWHM, assuming no turbulent velocity contribution; expected temperature range for the formation of Fe XVIII is  $6.62 \text{ K} \leq \log T \leq 6.93 \text{ K}$ .

<sup>e</sup>  $T_{\text{eq}}$  too large; can be explained with rotational velocity  $v \sin i \sim 95^{+80}_{-20}$  km s<sup>-1</sup>, or extended emission at  $\Delta R \sim 0.4^{+1.2}_{-0.3} R_*$  above the stellar photosphere.

<sup>f</sup>  $T_{\text{eq}}$  too large; can be explained with rotational velocity  $v \sin i \sim 210^{+60}_{-40}$  km s<sup>-1</sup>, or extended emission at  $\Delta R \sim 1.3^{+0.7}_{-0.4} R_*$  above the stellar photosphere.

photospheric  $v \sin i$ . The best-fit  $v \sin i$  for 31 Com is  $95^{+80}_{-20}$  km s<sup>-1</sup> and for AB Dor,  $210^{+60}_{-40}$  km s<sup>-1</sup>. Although the S/N of the data prohibits an accurate determination of the coronal rotational velocity, it is clear that it must be greater than the photospheric value. Based on the enhanced rotational velocities, we can estimate how far above the stellar surface the presumably corotating emitting plasma extends. For 31 Com, we infer that coronal material extends to  $\Delta R \sim 0.4^{+1.2}_{-0.3} R_*$  above the stellar surface and for AB Dor,  $\Delta R \sim 1.3^{+0.7}_{-0.4} R_*$ . Similar calculations have been made using transition region lines (Ayres et al. 1998; Brandt et al. 2001) and coronal forbidden lines (Ayres et al. 2003) observed with *HST*. Extended, but cooler, structures also have been inferred through time series of H $\alpha$  absorption spectra of AB Dor (Collier Cameron 1996). Jardine, Collier Cameron, & Donati (2002) have used Zeeman-Doppler maps of AB Dor to extrapolate the topology of the extended coronal magnetic field.

An alternative interpretation is to explain the observed additional broadening by the presence of high-speed flows. Measurements of density-sensitive lines in spectra observed by the *Extreme Ultraviolet Explorer* (*EUVE*) satellite seem to indicate that the emitting volume of the coronal plasma is small compared to the stellar radius (Dupree et al. 1993; Sanz-Forcada, Brickhouse, & Dupree 2002). This appears to imply compact coronal structures, as opposed to extended corotating coronal emission. Such high-speed flows in coronal plasmas have recently been observed on the Sun (Winebarger et al. 2002). However, we only detect additional broadening in the fastest rotating stars, not necessarily in the most active. For example, slow rotators, such as  $\epsilon$  Eri and AU Mic, which are much more active than the Sun, do not exhibit additional broadening, although they may be expected to have prominent high-speed flows. Therefore, we feel that emission from plasma confined in extended, but thin, magnetic loops is a more likely explanation for the observed additional broadening in the fastest rotators, although a specific model should be built with densities consistent with the *EUVE* measurements to support this conclusion.

To estimate whether plasma confined in extended magnetic flux tubes can explain the observed broad Fe XVIII emission lines, we consider this simple example. We assume that all of the Fe XVIII emission occurs in half-circular flux loops extending up to a height  $\Delta R$  above the stellar surface, with a constant radius  $\alpha \Delta R$  and electron density  $n_e$ . If there are  $n$  such loops, then the emission measure  $\text{EM} = n_e^2 n V_{\text{loop}} = n_e^2 n \pi^2 \alpha^2 (\Delta R)^3$ . We can now solve for the product,

$$n\alpha^2 = \frac{\text{EM}}{\pi^2 n_e^2 (\Delta R)^3}.$$

As an example, we consider the corona of AB Dor. Güdel et al. (2001) analyzed the nonflare spectrum of AB Dor observed by the RGS instrument on *XMM-Newton*. In their three-component model, the middle temperature component has a temperature  $kT_2 = 0.65$  keV, similar to the formation temperature of Fe XVIII, and the corresponding emission measure  $\text{EM}_2 = 4.7 \times 10^{52}$  cm<sup>-3</sup>. Ratios of the helium-like triplet lines of O VII are consistent with a coronal electron density  $n_e = 3 \times 10^{10}$  cm<sup>-3</sup>. If superrotation is the explanation for the widths of the Fe XVIII line, then  $\Delta R = 1.3 R_* = 9 \times 10^{10}$  cm for  $R_* \sim 1 R_\odot$  (Güdel et al. 2001). These parameters yield  $n\alpha^2 = 0.007$ . If we assume  $n = 10$  or 100, then  $\alpha = 0.03$  or 0.009, and the loops are thin, as is true for the solar corona (Schrijver et al. 1999). We conclude that the superrotation model with many thin flux loops is consistent with the coronal data for this test case. Also the flux loop thickness parameter  $\alpha$  will likely be small, as expected, for a wide range of coronal parameters.

#### 4.1. Fe XVIII $\lambda 974$ in *Capella*

Interpretation of the coronal Fe XVIII  $\lambda 974$  feature of the giant binary *Capella* is complicated by the fact that both stars (the G8 giant primary [ $\alpha$  Aur Aa] and the G1 giant secondary [ $\alpha$  Aur Ab]) can contribute to the Fe XVIII emission. *HST* observations of the Fe XXI  $\lambda 1354$  line profile of *Capella* have demonstrated that the relative contribution by each star changes with time. Based on the analysis of *Capella*

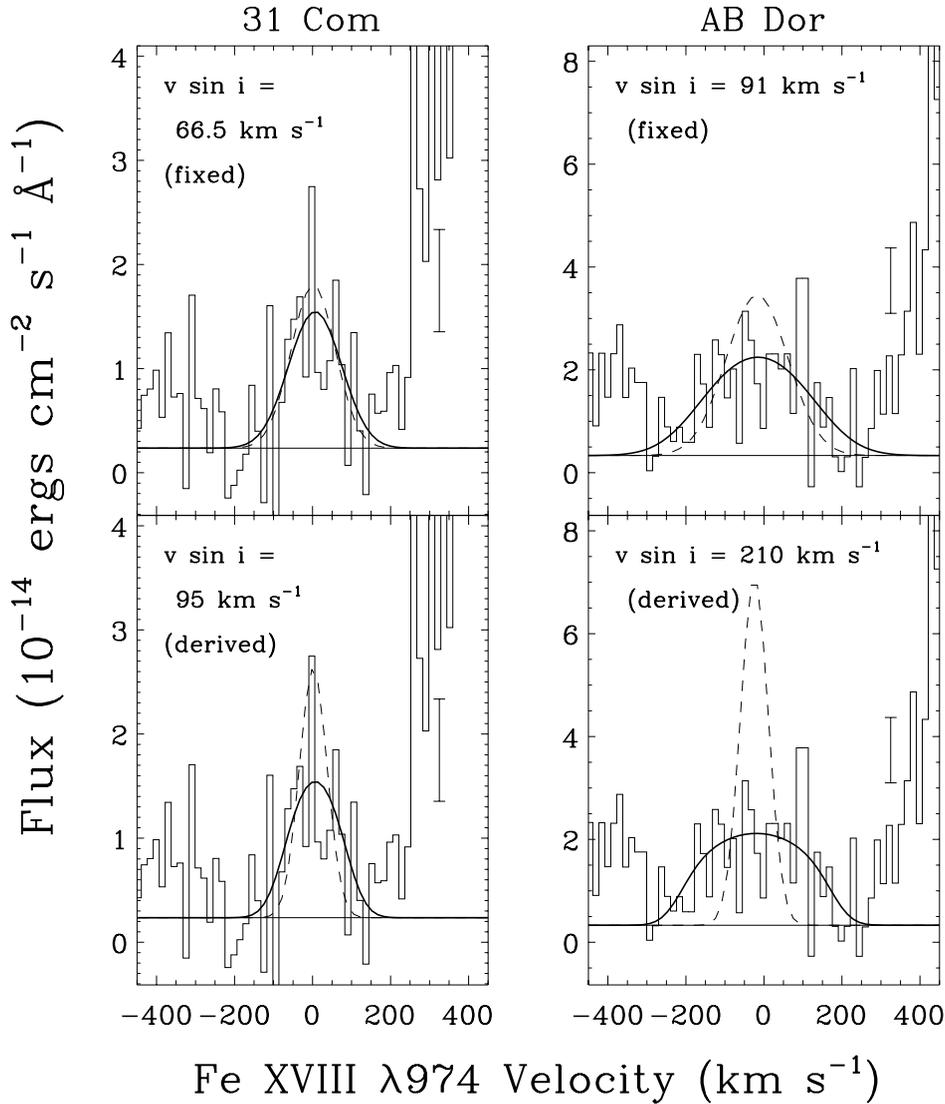


FIG. 3.—Single Gaussian fits to Fe XVIII  $\lambda 974$  for the fast rotating stars 31 Com and AB Dor. The data are taken from the SiC 2A channel. The continuum (horizontal line) is assumed to be constant over the line profile and is matched to line-free regions in the vicinity of the coronal feature. The top panels show the result when the  $v \sin i$  is fixed at the photospheric value. The sharp rise in flux to the red of the coronal line is the blue wing of the strong C III  $\lambda 977$  feature. The inferred intrinsic line widths including rotation (dashed curves) are uncharacteristically large in both cases. The solid curves show the convolution of the intrinsic profiles with the instrumental profiles. The bottom panels show an alternative model, in which the intrinsic line width (dashed curve) is frozen at the thermal value and the rotational velocity ( $v \sin i$ ) is allowed to vary. The best-fit  $v \sin i$  is given in the bottom panels. The superrotational broadening can be explained by highly extended coronal regions corotating with the stellar surface. A  $1 \sigma$  error bar is shown on the right-hand side of each panel.

observations taken on 1995 September 9, Linsky et al. (1998) determined that each star provided approximately half of the total Fe XXI emission flux. Johnson et al. (2002) and Ayres et al. (2003) showed in STIS observations of Capella taken 4 years later, on 1999 September 12, that the Fe XXI emission from the G8 primary star was reduced to  $\lesssim 20\%$  of its previous level, although that of the G1 component remained about the same. Young et al. (2001) used a single Gaussian model and applied it to the first *FUSE* observation of Capella (2000 November 5) to evaluate the individual stellar contributions to the Fe XVIII emission flux. They estimated that the G8 primary contributed  $\sim 75\%$  of the total flux. We go beyond that first-stage analysis by fitting all three available *FUSE* observations in an effort to better understand the nature of Capella's coronal Fe XVIII feature. The dates of the Capella observations are listed in

Table 2, while individual stellar velocities and phases and the ephemeris references are listed in Table 1.

First, we modeled the Fe XVIII  $\lambda 974$  emission profile with a single Gaussian, appropriate if the emission were coming principally from one of the stars. Figure 4 illustrates the fit to each individual exposure. The first two observations were taken near orbital quadrature (maximum radial velocity separation) and the third near conjunction (minimum velocity separation). The velocity scale was adjusted to the reference frame of the G8 primary star, known to  $\leq 5 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ , using the strong LISM absorption in the neighboring C III  $\lambda 977$  line (Wood et al. 2002b). The fit parameters corresponding to Figure 4 are listed in Table 5. It is unclear why there is a decrease in integrated flux between the first and second two observations. Instrumental effects, such as thermal drifts, can cause a decrease in flux, as discussed in § 2.

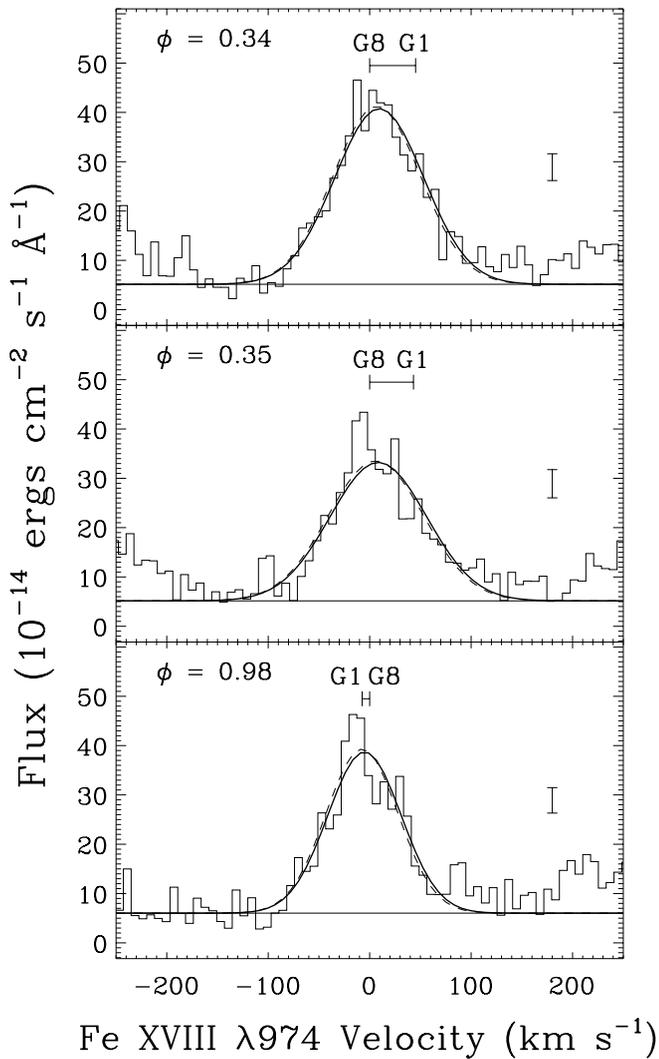


FIG. 4.—Single Gaussian fits to Fe XVIII  $\lambda 974$  for Capella, observed at three orbital phases. The first two observations were taken near quadrature, the third near conjunction. The velocity scale is in the reference frame of the G8 III star. The relative velocity of the G1 III star also is indicated. The data are taken from the SiC 2A channel. A  $1\sigma$  error bar is shown on the right-hand side of each panel.

Although stellar variability may also explain the decrease in flux (Ambruster, Sciortino, & Golub 1987), it is unlikely, because the first two discrepant observations were taken only two days apart. However, the flux discrepancy does not affect the line width, line centroid, or flux ratio of the binary components and therefore does not affect the conclusions of this work. The bulk of the emission clearly is associated with the G8 star, based on the centroid of the emission, as was noted by Young et al. (2001). Note, however, that the Fe XVIII line width decreases significantly between quadrature and conjunction. This indicates that although emission from the G8 primary star may dominate, there is a nonnegligible contribution from the faster rotating G1 star, and we are compelled to fit the Capella emission feature with two components, one for the contribution of each star.

In order to estimate the contribution of the G1 secondary star, we modeled the Fe XVIII  $\lambda 974$  emission profile with two Gaussians, one for each star, including instrumental and rotational broadening as before. In this case, however, the

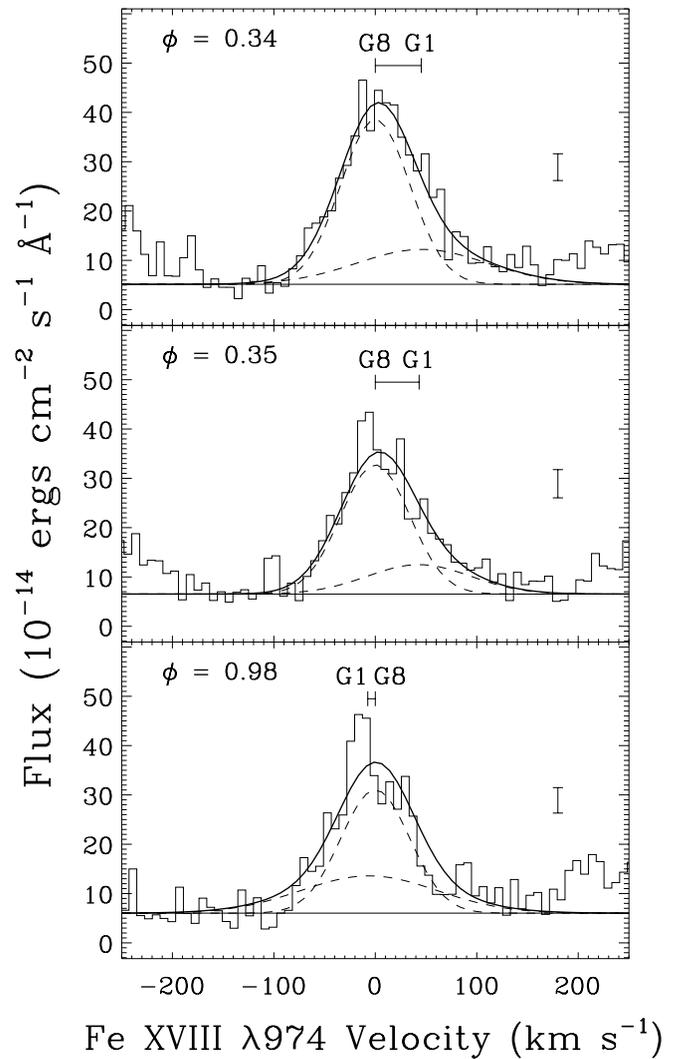


FIG. 5.—Same as Fig. 4, but for a multiple Gaussian model, with one component for each star. The velocity centroids of both stars and the FWHM of the primary were fixed in the quadrature spectra. The only free parameter in the model for the conjunction spectrum is the total flux.

rotational velocity of the G8 star is small ( $v \sin i = 3 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ ), but that of the G1 star is much larger ( $v \sin i = 36 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ ; Strassmeier et al. 1988). Although there is discernible emission from the G1 secondary star, it is still relatively weak, and the Gaussian modeling benefits from fixing several of the free parameters. In particular, we constrained the velocity centroid of each component to be at the respective orbital velocity and the FWHM of the G8 component to the value determined from the single Gaussian fit near conjunction (essentially the thermal width). Both constraints are motivated by the empirical Fe XVIII behavior of active single stars, discussed in § 4: Velocity centroids are consistent with the photospheric radial velocities, and line widths in slow rotators are well characterized by thermal broadening alone. The results of the double Gaussian modeling are depicted in Figure 5 and listed in Table 5. The  $\chi^2_\nu$  goodness-of-fit metric is also listed in Table 5. The fits are noticeably improved for the two observations near quadrature, particularly redward of the main component (80–140  $\text{km s}^{-1}$ ). The G1 secondary apparently contributes  $\sim 30\%$  of the flux in Fe XVIII. The width of the secondary component is

TABLE 5  
 CAPELLA (HD 34029) Fe XVIII EMISSION-LINE FIT PARAMETERS

Star Name	Spectral Type	Date	Phase	$v^a$ (km s <sup>-1</sup> )	Integrated Flux ( $\times 10^{-14}$ ergs cm <sup>-2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> )	FWHM <sub>obs</sub> <sup>b</sup> (km s <sup>-1</sup> )	FWHM <sup>c</sup> (km s <sup>-1</sup> )	log $T_{\text{eq}}^d$ (K)	$\chi^2$
Single Gaussian Fit									
$\alpha$ Aur Aa.....	G8 III	2000 Nov 5	0.34	$5.5 \pm 5.0$	$12.7 \pm 1.3$	$97.5 \pm 4.3$	$97.5 \pm 4.3$	$7.06 \pm 0.03$	3.31
		2000 Nov 7	0.35	$3.0 \pm 5.0$	$9.76 \pm 0.98$	$92.8 \pm 6.8$	$92.8 \pm 6.8$	$7.02^{+0.04}_{-0.05}$	6.21
		2001 Jan 11	0.98	$-8.1 \pm 5.0$	$9.62 \pm 0.96$	$80.1 \pm 5.0$	$80.1 \pm 5.0$	$6.89 \pm 0.04$	9.99
Double Gaussian Fit <sup>e</sup>									
$\alpha$ Aur Aa.....	G8 III	2000 Nov 5	0.34	0.0	$9.09 \pm 0.91$	80.1	80.1	6.89	1.12
$\alpha$ Aur Ab ....	G1 III			0.0	$4.44 \pm 0.72$	$169 \pm 25$	$164 \pm 25$	$7.51^{+0.08f}_{-0.11}$	1.12
$\alpha$ Aur Aa.....	G8 III	2000 Nov 7	0.35	0.0	$7.47 \pm 0.75$	80.1	80.1	6.89	1.14
$\alpha$ Aur Ab ....	G1 III			0.0	$2.86 \pm 0.66$	$158 \pm 28$	$151 \pm 30$	$7.44^{+0.11f}_{-0.14}$	1.14
$\alpha$ Aur Aa.....	G8 III	2001 Jan 11	0.98	0.0	$7.12 \pm 0.62$	80.1	80.1	6.89	2.27
$\alpha$ Aur Ab ....	G1 III			0.0	$2.15 \pm 0.34$	164	158	7.48 <sup>f</sup>	2.27

<sup>a</sup> Relative to the radial velocity of the stellar photosphere.

<sup>b</sup> Observed FWHM of the Fe XVIII feature.

<sup>c</sup> FWHM after deconvolving the photospheric rotational velocity; negligible for  $v \sin i \leq 10$  km s<sup>-1</sup>.

<sup>d</sup> Equivalent temperature required to account for FWHM, assuming no turbulent velocity contribution; expected temperature range for the formation of Fe XVIII is  $6.62 \text{ K} \leq \log T \leq 6.93 \text{ K}$ .

<sup>e</sup> Only values with error bars are free parameters in double Gaussian fits.

<sup>f</sup>  $T_{\text{eq}}$  too large; can be explained with rotational velocity  $v \sin i \sim 80$  km s<sup>-1</sup>, or extended emission at  $\Delta R \sim 1.2 R_*$  above the stellar photosphere.

broader than expected from thermal broadening alone. As for 31 Com and AB Dor, discussed above, we interpret the excess width in terms of an extended coronal zone. In this case, we estimate that the emission extends  $\Delta R \sim 1.2 R_*$  above the stellar photosphere. Ayres et al. (2003) reached similar conclusions about the Fe XXI  $\lambda 1354$  line of the G1 star.

### 5. Fe XIX $\lambda 1118$

The other coronal forbidden line detected in *FUSE* observations of late-type stars is Fe XIX  $\lambda 1118$ . In contrast to Fe XVIII  $\lambda 974$ , there are several severe blends that can obscure the Fe XIX feature. At least eight C I lines are scattered between 1117.20 and 1118.49 Å. In some stars, however, these C I lines are weak relative to the coronal emission. The interval surrounding Fe XIX is shown in Figure 6 for the 10 stars that exhibit a significant Fe XVIII feature. If we assume that the emission measure is the same for the formation of Fe XVIII and Fe XIX, we can predict the line profile of Fe XIX based on theoretical emissivities and the empirical Gaussian parameters. We compute the emissivities with CHIANTI, Version 4 (Dere et al. 1997; Young et al. 2003). Each ion is assumed to be emitting at its most probable temperature. The resulting ratio of emissivities is insensitive to assumptions of pressure, abundances, or ionization equilibrium. In Figure 6, the single Gaussian profiles of Fe XVIII, presented in Figures 2, 3, and 4, have been scaled by the relative emissivities. In some cases, particularly 47 Cas,  $\beta$  Cet, AU Mic, and  $\mu$  Vel, there is excellent agreement between the observed spectra and the predicted Fe XIX line profile. The shapes and Doppler shifts of the Fe XIX line profiles relatively free of blending seem to be identical to those for Fe XVIII. Here the C I lines are weak, although some excess carbon emission is present, particularly blueward of the coronal feature. In other cases, especially Capella and 31 Com, the C I emission wreaks havoc with the spectra. The Fe XIX line is clearly detected in many cases;

nevertheless, severe blending typically limits our ability to analyze it. In some cases, particularly, EK Dra, DK UMa, and  $\epsilon$  Eri, we significantly overestimate the flux of the Fe XIX feature. Our first-order assumption that the emission measure is identical for Fe XVIII ( $\log T \sim 6.81$  K) and Fe XIX ( $\log T \sim 6.89$  K) was motivated by the idea that the emission measure distribution is unlikely to change drastically over a small change in formation temperature. This is supported by the differential emission measure analysis of AU Mic by Del Zanna et al. (2002), as well as the fact that the other stars show excellent agreement between the observed and predicted levels of Fe XIX emission in Figure 6.

Because stellar flux was not detected in the SiC channels of the 1999 October 20 observation of AB Dor, the Fe XVIII emission profile was only observed in the 1999 December 14 observation (see Table 2). However, both visits successfully observed the spectral region surrounding the Fe XIX coronal forbidden line. The co-added spectrum is shown in Figure 6. The full *FUSE* spectrum of AB Dor indicates that C I emission lines are present (Redfield et al. 2002). Therefore, we expect some C I contamination in the Fe XIX profile. The broad emission in the Fe XIX line of AB Dor appears to be consistent with the broad emission detected in Fe XVIII, although it is difficult to differentiate between the contribution of Fe XIX flux and C I emission. This is an excellent example of the powerful use of a coronal forbidden line that is uncontaminated by low-temperature lines, such as Fe XVIII  $\lambda 974$ , and the difficulty in analyzing coronal lines that are severely blended, such as Fe XIX  $\lambda 1118$ .

### 6. Fe XVIII AND SOFT X-RAYS

All of the stars in our sample have soft X-ray fluxes observed by *ROSAT*. Because the forbidden lines observed in the UV and the soft X-rays both sample high-temperature coronal plasmas in these stars, a correlation between the two diagnostics is expected. Figure 7 compares Fe XVIII  $\lambda 974$  and the 0.2–2.0 keV soft X-rays. The coronal fluxes

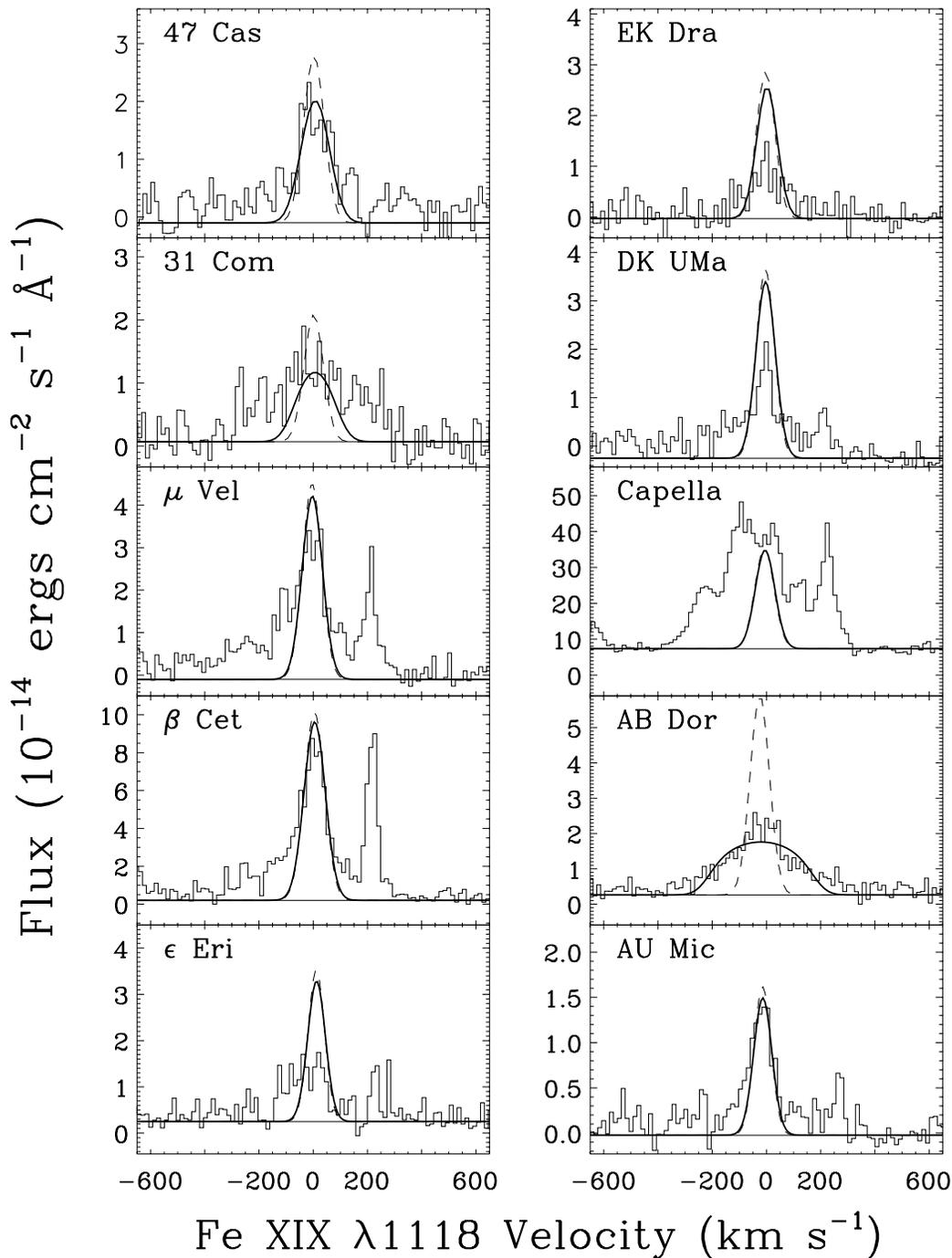


FIG. 6.—Predicted emission profiles of Fe XIX  $\lambda 1118$ . The LiF 2A channel data are shown as a histogram, for which zero velocity is fixed at the stellar radial velocity. The continuum level is indicated by the horizontal line. The Fe XVIII profile fits in Figs. 2–4 have been used to predict the Fe XIX emission profiles. Excess emission is evident in some cases because of a severe blend with a C I multiplet.

are normalized by the bolometric fluxes given in Table 1, to remove biases of stellar size and distance. Those stars with detected Fe XVIII emission are displayed as open circles, and those with upper limits are shown as filled circles. A unit slope power law is indicated by the dashed line. A good correlation exists over 2 orders of magnitude, down to a sensitivity threshold of  $L_{\text{Fe XVIII}}/L_{\text{bol}} \sim 3 \times 10^{-9}$ . All of the upper limits are consistent with this correlation. Ayres et al. (2003) demonstrated a similar unit slope power-law correlation for Fe XXI  $\lambda 1354$ . In active stars, at least, the Fe XVIII flux can serve as a surrogate for the broadband soft X-ray emission.

## 7. CONCLUSIONS

*FUSE* provides an opportunity to study a new collection of high-temperature ( $T > 10^6$  K) forbidden lines in nearby coronal stars. The goal of the present paper was to extensively examine *FUSE* observations of late-type stars for such features and to analyze any detections as potential diagnostics of the physical characteristics of the high-temperature plasmas. Our results are as follows:

1. In searching the *FUSE* spectra for candidate coronal forbidden lines identified in solar flares (Feldman &

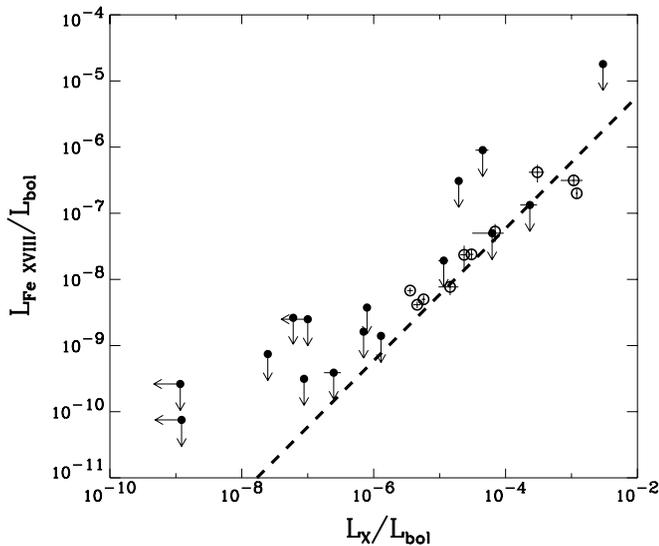


FIG. 7.—Comparison of normalized Fe XVIII  $\lambda 974$  fluxes and soft X-rays. Open circles indicate stars with detected Fe XVIII emission; filled circles indicate upper limits. The detections are well matched by a unit slope power-law correlation (*dashed line*). An anticipated break at lower activity levels is masked by the apparent sensitivity levels of the typical *FUSE* pointings.

Doscheck 1991; Feldman et al. 2000), only two were found: Fe XVIII  $\lambda 974$  and Fe XIX  $\lambda 1118$ . Detections were obtained in 10 of the 26 stars in our sample. The two *FUSE* lines join the Fe XII  $\lambda\lambda 1242, 1349$  and Fe XXI  $\lambda 1354$  coronal lines from the STIS 1200–1600 Å region.

2. Of the five known ultraviolet coronal forbidden lines, Fe XVIII  $\lambda 974$  has important advantages as a spectroscopic diagnostic. Unlike Fe XXI  $\lambda 1354$  and Fe XIX  $\lambda 1118$ , Fe XVIII is not blended with low-temperature lines that can corrupt the intrinsic line profile. Likewise, the stellar continuum is almost nonexistent at the location of Fe XVIII, whereas at longer wavelengths it can create difficulties for isolating the weak coronal forbidden emission. Although *FUSE* does not have an internal wavelength calibration system, LISM absorption in the strong C III  $\lambda 977.02$  line, just 660 km s<sup>-1</sup> redward of Fe XVIII, often can be used as a wavelength fiducial (in those cases in which  $v_{\text{LISM}}$  is known independently).

3. We find that a single Gaussian component is successful for modeling the Fe XVIII  $\lambda 974$  profile for all single stars. The line is fully resolved, so instrumental broadening is negligible.

4. The centroid of Fe XVIII  $\lambda 974$  is approximately at rest relative to the radial velocity of the star, in contrast to lower temperature ( $T \sim 10^5$  K) transition region lines, which are often redshifted 10–15 km s<sup>-1</sup> (Wood, Linsky, & Ayres 1997; Peter & Judge 1999; Redfield et al. 2002). Therefore, the high-temperature plasma likely is confined in stable

magnetic structures, not participating in any large systematic mass motions.

5. For all of the slowly rotating stars, thermal broadening dominates the widths of the coronal forbidden lines, consistent with predicted formation temperatures  $\sim 6 \times 10^6$  K. Turbulent broadening appears to be negligible, which is additional evidence that the hot coronal material might be stably entrained in coronal magnetic structures in slowly rotating stars.

6. Three of the fastest rotating stars in our sample (AB Dor, 31 Com, and the G1 star of Capella) all show excess broadening in Fe XVIII  $\lambda 974$ . Because of the overwhelming similarity of Fe XVIII line widths in all of the slowly rotating stars of our sample, we attribute the excess to superrotational broadening. That is, the hot gas is corotating in extended coronal structures rising well above the stellar surface. We estimate that this material is located approximately  $\Delta R \sim 0.4\text{--}1.3 R_*$  beyond the stellar photosphere. High-speed flows could also potentially explain the excess broadening, although it is not clear why such flows would be observed in the fastest rotating stars. A detailed discussion concerning the cause of the excess broadening is given in § 4.

7. The Fe XVIII  $\lambda 974$  profile of Capella is complicated by contributions from both stars of the binary. As demonstrated with the Fe XXI  $\lambda 1354$  line, the relative contribution of each star can vary (Linsky et al. 1998; Johnson et al. 2002; Ayres et al. 2003). Using three different observations, at quadrature and conjunction, we find that the G8 primary contributes  $\sim 70\%$  of the Fe XVIII emission and the G1 secondary  $\sim 30\%$ .

8. We find an excellent correlation between Fe XVIII  $\lambda 974$  and the 0.2–2.0 keV *ROSAT* soft X-ray flux. Although upper limits mask any trends at lower activity levels, we expect that the correlation will exhibit a “break” at a critical activity level, where the Fe XVIII flux will drop faster than the unit slope power law for stars of progressively lower activity. In particular, Güdel, Guinan, & Skinner (1997) have demonstrated that the coronal temperature drops with decreasing activity and that eventually the coronal emission measures will peak below the Fe XVIII formation temperature, suppressing the forbidden line flux relative to the soft X-ray band.

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