

SUZAKU OBSERVATIONS OF THREE FeLoBAL QUASI-STELLAR OBJECTS: SDSS J0943+5417, J1352+4239, AND J1723+5553

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ABSTRACT

We present *Suzaku* observations of three iron low-ionization broad absorption line quasars (FeLoBALs). We detect J1723+5553 (3σ) in the observed 2–10 keV band, and constrain its intrinsic N_{H} column density to $N_{\text{H}} > 6 \times 10^{23} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ by modeling its X-ray hardness ratio. We study the broadband spectral index, α_{ox} , between the X-ray and UV bands by combining the X-ray measurements and the UV flux extrapolated from Two Micron All Sky Survey magnitudes, assuming a range of intrinsic column densities, and then comparing the α_{ox} values for the three FeLoBALs with those from a large sample of normal quasars. We find that the FeLoBALs are consistent with the spectral energy distribution of normal quasars if the intrinsic N_{H} column densities are $N_{\text{H}} > 7 \times 10^{23} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ for J0943+5417, $N_{\text{H}} > 2 \times 10^{24} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ for J1352+4239, and $6 \times 10^{23} \text{ cm}^{-2} < N_{\text{H}} < 3 \times 10^{24} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ for J1723+5553. At these large intrinsic column densities, the optical depth from Thomson scattering can reach ~ 6 , which will significantly modulate the UV flux. Our results suggest that the X-ray absorbing material could be located at a different place from the UV absorbing wind, likely between the X-ray and UV emitting regions. We find a significant kinetic feedback efficiency for FeLoBALs, indicating that the outflows are an important feedback mechanism in quasars.

Key words: quasars: absorption lines – quasars: general – quasars: individual (SDSS J0943+5417, SDSS J1352+4239, SDSS J1723+5553) – X-rays: galaxies

Online-only material: color figures

1. INTRODUCTION

Quasars and active galactic nuclei (AGNs) are ubiquitous phenomena wherever we look in the universe. The subset of quasars known as broad absorption line quasars (BALQSOs) are characterized by blue-shifted, rest-frame UV absorption troughs due to gas outflow. Even before the first definitive survey in Weymann et al. (1991), BALQSOs provided a unique glimpse into the central engines of AGNs, where the nature of the intrinsic absorption has important implications for the structure of the central engine. To classify a quasar as a BALQSO, the traditional definition of Weymann et al. (1991) requires the absorption troughs to be at least 2000 km s^{-1} wide. Recent studies have relaxed this, e.g., Trump et al. (2006), to include quasars with absorption troughs over 1000 km s^{-1} in width. Regardless of which definition is used, BALQSOs are further divided into those that exhibit absorption troughs from only high-ionization species (HiBALs) and those with low-ionization species (LoBALs). Most BALQSOs are HiBALs, and most LoBALs also have high-ionization troughs in their spectra (Weymann et al. 1991; Trump et al. 2006). LoBALs are further classified by the low-ionization species they exhibit: in this paper, the objects surveyed have strong iron absorption, and are therefore iron LoBALs (FeLoBALs). This type of BALQSO is rare, and comprises only 1.5%–2.1% of the entire quasar population (Dai et al. 2010b), while LoBALs and BALQSOs make up $\sim 4\%$ – 7% (Dai et al. 2010b) and $\sim 20\%$ – 40% (Dai et al. 2008; Shankar et al. 2008a; Ganguly & Brotherton 2008; Knigge et al. 2008; Maddox et al. 2008; Allen et al. 2010), respectively, depending on the threshold of the trough width. Focusing on FeLoBALs is meaningful because of their unique characteristics and the bearing they have on the broader

picture: either as an evolutionary link in the normal AGN lifetime or as a geometric interpretation of a uniform class of objects.

Besides the low-ionization absorption lines, the optical continua for LoBALs are more reddened than HiBALs and normal quasi-stellar objects, suggestive of stronger dust absorption, perhaps from large quantities of dust in the vicinity of the central engine (Sprayberry & Foltz 1992). LoBALs in particular are more apparently X-ray weak than normal BALQSOs (Green et al. 2001; Gallagher et al. 2002a). There is a large portion, $\sim 80\%$, not detected in X-rays, along with lower than expected values for the UV to X-ray luminosity ratio, α_{ox} ⁴ (α_{ox} lower than expected by ~ -0.9), that leads most previous studies, e.g., Green et al. (2001) and Gallagher et al. (2002a), to conclude that there is extreme X-ray absorption in LoBALs. Streblyanska et al. (2010), however, found that LoBALs in general have lower column densities ($N_{\text{H}} < 10^{22} \text{ cm}^{-2}$) than HiBALs. This conclusion may have been influenced by their X-ray bright sample, required for sufficient quality to perform X-ray spectral analyses.

Low-ionization BALQSOs with broad iron absorption lines (FeLoBALs) represent an extreme category. They have the reddest continuum spectra, complex UV spectra, and possibly largest X-ray absorption column densities. There are a handful of FeLoBALs already studied in X-rays, with only a few detections. Almost all were observed using the sensitive X-ray telescope, *Chandra*. The nearby FeLoBAL Mrk 231 ($z = 0.042$) was also detected by *XMM-Newton* and *BeppoSAX* (Turner & Kraemer 2003; Braito et al. 2004) in addition to *Chandra* (Gallagher

⁴ The broadband spectral index, 2500 \AA to 2 keV point-to-point power-law slope.

et al. 2002b), which allowed for the most in-depth studies of an FeLoBAL to date. All three studies find the 0.4–10 keV X-ray emission to be mostly reflected and scattered into our line of sight, and the direct X-ray emission is mostly absorbed. Using the Phoswich Detector System on board *BeppoSAX*, Braito et al. (2004) detect the direct X-ray emission of Mrk 231 at 3σ in the 15–60 keV band, which allows the authors to constrain an intrinsic column density $N_{\text{H}} \sim 2 \times 10^{24} \text{ cm}^{-2}$. Another recent study focused on two FeLoBALs is Rogerson et al. (2011), where the authors calculated α_{ox} upper limits for both objects, comparing them with a large sample of normal AGNs (Steffen et al. 2006). Other studies focused on subsets of quasars, but had FeLoBALs contained within their scope. Quite a few of these focused on radio-detected objects. In one study, Urrutia et al. (2005) selected 12 luminous red quasars, with the criteria that they were also detected by Faint Images of the Radio Sky at Twenty-Centimeters (FIRST; Becker et al. 1995), and used standard aperture photometry (for details see Section 2.2) to conduct X-ray analyses. They found that all of their objects are X-ray absorbed to some degree; in addition, they found a slightly steeper spectral slope than that for normal quasars, with an unweighted mean of $\Gamma = 2.2 \pm 0.4$ and a high-energy region weighted mean of $\Gamma = 2.1 \pm 0.5$. Brotherton et al. (2005) selected five radio-loud BALQSOs, three of which are LoBALs, and two of those LoBALs exhibited iron features. The three LoBALs were found to exhibit the steepest α_{ox} values in the study. Miller et al. (2009) also selected 21 radio-loud BALQSOs, one of which is classified as an FeLoBAL. The authors proposed that the X-ray properties are explained by a model that consists of X-ray emission in the disk/corona and linked to the radio jet. Almost all of these studies calculated intrinsic column densities for these objects, most of which are in the 10^{22} – 10^{24} cm^{-2} range. These will be discussed in detail in Section 5.2. In this study, we will use our X-ray detections and non-detections to constrain X-ray absorption column densities. One of our objects is the first X-ray detection (at the 3σ level) by *Suzaku* of an FeLoBAL.

It is not understood why FeLoBALs possess unique physical characteristics; evolution and geometry are the contending theories. A geometric interpretation (e.g., Elvis 2000) proposes that the broad absorption line region of a BALQSO simply arises from looking straight down a narrow outflow, while normal AGNs and quasars are the same object viewed from different angles. A recent discovery of a LoBAL transitioning from an FeLoBAL within a few years rest frame favors special lines of sight, because of the short timescale (Hall et al. 2011). On the other hand, L  pari et al. (2009) proposed that BALQSOs, and FeLoBALs especially, are early progenitors of normal AGNs and quasars, at the very end of an extreme starburst period and in the process of blowing out material from type II SNe that is Fe II rich. This evolutionary theory is partially supported by the higher fraction of LoBALs at high IR luminosities (e.g., Farrah et al. 2007; Urrutia et al. 2009; Dai et al. 2010b). A recent *Spitzer* spectral survey of six FeLoBALs (Farrah et al. 2010) showed significant signatures of dust and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon emissions. Spectral modelings in the UV regime also support a large covering fraction of the wind for FeLoBALs (e.g., Casebeer et al. 2008). Other evidence, such as the decreasing fraction as a function of radio luminosity, is consistent with a geometric interpretation (Shankar et al. 2008a; Dai et al. 2010b). Therefore, the population of LoBALs and FeLoBALs could also be a combination of both evolution and geometry (Dai et al. 2010b).

Another interesting question is how FeLoBALs contribute to the quasar feedback process. AGN feedback is widely used in galaxy formation models (e.g., Granato et al. 2004; Scannapieco & Oh 2004; Hopkins et al. 2005; Shankar et al. 2008b) to explain the coevolution of AGNs and their host galaxies. Feedback can reproduce such phenomena as the M – σ relation (e.g., Graham et al. 2011; G  ltekin et al. 2009), star formation rates (Silk & Nusser 2010), and even the shortfall in the halo baryon fraction (Silk & Nusser 2010). Whether FeLoBALs are an evolutionary stage or a geometric interpretation of AGNs, studying their feedback efficiency allows us to add to our limited picture of their physical characteristics.

In this paper we present new *Suzaku* observations of three FeLoBALs, SDSS objects J094317.59+541705.1, J135246.37+423923.5, and J172341.08+555340.5 (hereafter J0943+5417, J1352+4239, and J1723+5553, respectively). The targets are classified as FeLoBALs by Trump et al. (2006), and are the brightest ($K_s < 14.4$ mag) of the Two Micron All Sky Survey (2MASS) selected BALQSOs (Dai et al. 2008). J0943+5417 is a radio-intermediate quasar detected with a peak flux of $1.71 \text{ mJy beam}^{-1}$ and rms noise of $0.145 \text{ mJy beam}^{-1}$ by FIRST. None of these objects are detected at the flux limit in the NRAO/Very Large Array Sky Survey (Condon et al. 1998). J0943+5317 and J1352+4239 are typical FeLoBALs with extremely complex rest-frame UV spectra, whereas J0943+5417 has absorption troughs so wide that they overlap and completely suppress the UV continuum. We extrapolate our UV data from 2MASS, which samples the rest-frame optical bands, and then correct to the rest-frame UV. The complexity of the observed optical/rest-frame UV spectra makes it extremely difficult to model the continuum. This is addressed in Section 3. Since the targets all have redshifts $z \sim 2$, the XIS on board *Suzaku* can probe the rest-frame energy up to 30 keV, where the rest-frame 6–30 keV (observed 2–10 keV) emission is only moderately affected by absorption even if $N_{\text{H}} \sim 10^{24} \text{ cm}^{-2}$, allowing us to detect the FeLoBALs if they are Compton thin. We study the relationship between X-ray and UV luminosities for these three FeLoBALs, and compare our values to a large sample of optically selected normal quasars. Our *Suzaku* observations and data reduction are described in Section 2, followed by calculations of 2500 Å luminosities in Section 3. Section 4 presents results, followed by discussion in Section 5. Throughout the paper we assume a cosmology of $H_0 = 70 \text{ km s}^{-1} \text{ Mpc}^{-1}$, $\Omega_M = 0.3$, $\Omega_\Lambda = 0.7$, and $k = 0$.

2. SUZAKU OBSERVATIONS AND DATA REDUCTION

2.1. Suzaku Observations

We observed the three FeLoBALs in 2009 with the *Suzaku* X-ray observatory (Mitsuda et al. 2007), with exposure times ranging between 32 and 36 ks for each object. Table 1 lists the observation log. During each observation, the standard data mode was used with the pointing observation mode. The three working X-ray Imaging Spectrometer (XIS) cameras (XIS0, XIS1, XIS3; Koyama et al. 2007) were operated in both the 3×3 and 5×5 photon counting modes with a minimum time resolution of 8 s. *Suzaku* operates in a low-Earth orbit, 550 km above the Earth, completing one period in 96 minutes. The background in our observations is low and stable, without flares, consistent with most *Suzaku* observations (Yamaguchi et al. 2006).

Table 1
The *Suzaku* Observation Log

Object	Observation Start (UT)	Observation Stop (UT)	3 × 3 Mode Exposure (s)	5 × 5 Mode Exposure (s)
J0943+5417	14:08:03, 2009 May 24	08:20:12, May 25	28,210.81	6,015.56
J1352+4239	23:54:09, 2009 Jun 2	18:00:19, Jun 3	23,792.67	8,289.84
J1723+5553	08:49:36, 2009 Jun 4	19:33:19, Jun 4	35,944.81	...

Note. Only data for the 3 × 3 mode exist for J1723+5553.

Table 2
Count Rates and Uncertainties for Each Object

Object	Observed 0.2–2 keV		Observed 2–10 keV	
	FI Count Rate	BI Count Rate	FI Count Rate	BI Count Rate
J0943+5417	$<3.0 \times 10^{-4}$	$<6.7 \times 10^{-4}$	$<3.3 \times 10^{-4}$	$<8.5 \times 10^{-4}$
J1352+4239	$<2.1 \times 10^{-4}$	$<9.0 \times 10^{-4}$	$<3.9 \times 10^{-4}$	$<9.9 \times 10^{-4}$
J1723+5553	$<2.3 \times 10^{-4}$	$<6.9 \times 10^{-4}$	$4.4 \pm 1.4 \times 10^{-4}$	$<9.0 \times 10^{-4}$

Notes. The 3σ upper limits are reported here, and the 3σ hard band detection of J1723+5553. The count rates are within the half-power diameter region of *Suzaku* and are scaled to full power after the conversion to fluxes. The units are counts s^{-1} .

2.2. *Suzaku* Data Reduction

Starting with the cleaned event files, we visually inspect the data using *DS9*⁵ to check for any anomalies and ensure that our data extraction is completely contained within the *Suzaku* field. Using the standard aperture photometry, the half-power diameter region around each source is obtained using the *Suzaku* Technical Description,⁶ along with a corresponding background annulus. The background annuli are chosen individually for each mode (3 × 3, 5 × 5) to maximize the background area while keeping the inner radius large enough not to be contaminated by the source and the outer radius still contained within the field. The effective area for the background annulus is measured from the mean of the inner and outer radii of the background region. We then use the High Energy Astrophysics Science Archive Research Center (HEASARC) tool XSELECT in conjunction with these regions to filter the energy to the observed full (0.2–10 keV), soft (0.2–2 keV), and hard (2–10 keV) bands, extracting the counts and exposure times. We first combine the 3 × 3 and 5 × 5 mode data, then measure the source and background counts for the three CCDs, XIS0, XIS1, and XIS3, separately. We note that XIS1 is a back-illuminated instrument, which has a higher background and sensitivity at lower energy ranges. The count rates and uncertainties for XIS0 and XIS3, which are both front-illuminated (FI) instruments, are found separately and then combined using the Bayesian estimation method to give a total FI count rate and error for the count rate. The final count rates and uncertainties are listed in Table 2.

We first examine the full band, and do not detect the sources; then we examine the soft band, with the same result. In the hard band, we do not detect the sources in most situations. We marginally detect SDSS J1723+5553 (2.6σ and 1.6σ) in both of the FI CCDs in the observed 2–10 keV band. Combining the data from the two FI CCDs, we detect J1723+5553 at the 3σ significant level (Table 2). The FI CCDs have comparable effective areas, and lower background rates at 2–10 keV than

the BI CCD, which means they are more efficient at detecting faint sources in this energy band. Thus the non-detection of the source in the BI CCD (XIS1) is expected, given the low X-ray flux. Therefore, we conclude that the detection of J1723+5553 in the 2–10 keV band is real. We do not detect the other objects in any of the detectors.

Finally, we use the HEASARC tool PIMMS to convert the count rates into fluxes. Since the intrinsic column density of the quasars is unknown, we use a range of $10^{20} \text{ cm}^{-2} \leq N_H \leq 10^{25} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ to calculate the unabsorbed, intrinsic fluxes. For the galactic column density, the Dickey & Lockman (1990) averaged N_H values are used ($1.3 \times 10^{20} \text{ cm}^{-2}$, $1.21 \times 10^{20} \text{ cm}^{-2}$, and $3.08 \times 10^{20} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ for J0943+5417, J1352+4239, and J1723+5553, respectively). The photon index is taken to be $\Gamma = 1.9$ (e.g., Reeves & Turner 2000; Dai et al. 2004; Saez et al. 2008), equivalent to an energy index $\alpha = 0.9$. The unabsorbed fluxes are calculated from the BI and FI rates separately using PIMMS and then the upper limits are combined using the Bayesian estimation method. We use just the FI rates in calculations for J1723+5553. Next, we estimate the monochromatic 2 keV (rest-frame) luminosity using the unabsorbed fluxes (or flux limits) in the observed 0.2–2 and 2–10 keV bands. Using the power-law model, the flux, F , is given by

$$F = \int_{\nu_1}^{\nu_2} f_0 \nu^{-\alpha} d\nu, \quad (1)$$

where f_0 is a constant found analytically for the 2–10 and 0.2–2 keV ranges.

From the simple relation in Equation (1), we interpolate the value for the monochromatic flux density at the observed energy $E_X = 2 \text{ keV}/(1+z)$ using

$$f_{\nu_X} = f_0 \nu_X^{-\alpha}. \quad (2)$$

We find the 2 keV rest-frame luminosity ($l_{2 \text{ keV}}$) from the corresponding observed fluxes using

$$l_{\nu, \text{rest}} = \frac{f_{\nu, \text{obs}}}{(1+z)} 4\pi D_L^2, \quad (3)$$

where $\nu, \text{obs} = \nu/(1+z)$ and D_L is the luminosity distance. Since $f_{\nu, \text{obs}}$ is calculated for a range of intrinsic absorption, we obtain a range of monochromatic luminosities at 2 keV (Table 3).

⁵ An astronomical imaging and data visualization application (Joye & Mandel 2003).

⁶ Available at http://heasarc.gsfc.nasa.gov/docs/suzaku/prop_tools/suzaku_td/suzaku_td.html.

Table 3
2 keV Rest Frame Monochromatic Flux and Luminosity

Energy Range	Intrinsic N_H	J0943+5417		J1352+4239		J1723+5553	
		f_X	l_X	f_X	l_X	f_X	l_X
Extrapolated from 0.2–2 keV observed	10^{20}	$<1.4 \times 10^{-32}$	$<4.8 \times 10^{26}$	$<1.0 \times 10^{-33}$	$<2.7 \times 10^{26}$	$<9.3 \times 10^{-33}$	$<2.7 \times 10^{26}$
	10^{21}	$<1.5 \times 10^{-32}$	$<4.9 \times 10^{26}$	$<1.0 \times 10^{-32}$	$<2.7 \times 10^{26}$	$<9.4 \times 10^{-33}$	$<2.8 \times 10^{26}$
	10^{22}	$<1.6 \times 10^{-32}$	$<5.3 \times 10^{26}$	$<1.1 \times 10^{-32}$	$<3.0 \times 10^{26}$	$<1.0 \times 10^{-32}$	$<3.1 \times 10^{26}$
	10^{23}	$<2.9 \times 10^{-32}$	$<9.7 \times 10^{26}$	$<2.2 \times 10^{-32}$	$<6.0 \times 10^{26}$	$<2.0 \times 10^{-32}$	$<6.0 \times 10^{26}$
	10^{24}	$<5.6 \times 10^{-31}$	$<1.9 \times 10^{28}$	$<6.2 \times 10^{-31}$	$<1.7 \times 10^{28}$	$<4.9 \times 10^{-31}$	$<1.4 \times 10^{28}$
Extrapolated from 2–10 keV observed	10^{25}	$<1.7 \times 10^{-23}$	$<5.6 \times 10^{35}$	$<3.4 \times 10^{-22}$	$<9.1 \times 10^{36}$	$<8.2 \times 10^{-23}$	$<2.4 \times 10^{36}$
	10^{20}	$<1.8 \times 10^{-32}$	$<5.9 \times 10^{26}$	$<1.9 \times 10^{-32}$	$<5.0 \times 10^{26}$	2.9×10^{-32}	8.5×10^{26}
	10^{21}	$<1.8 \times 10^{-32}$	$<5.9 \times 10^{26}$	$<1.9 \times 10^{-32}$	$<5.0 \times 10^{26}$	2.9×10^{-32}	8.5×10^{26}
	10^{22}	$<1.8 \times 10^{-32}$	$<6.0 \times 10^{26}$	$<1.9 \times 10^{-32}$	$<5.1 \times 10^{26}$	2.9×10^{-32}	8.5×10^{26}
	10^{23}	$<1.9 \times 10^{-32}$	$<6.4 \times 10^{26}$	$<2.0 \times 10^{-32}$	$<5.5 \times 10^{26}$	3.1×10^{-32}	9.2×10^{26}
	10^{24}	$<3.5 \times 10^{-32}$	$<1.2 \times 10^{27}$	$<3.9 \times 10^{-32}$	$<1.1 \times 10^{27}$	5.9×10^{-32}	1.7×10^{27}
	10^{25}	$<2.7 \times 10^{-31}$	$<8.9 \times 10^{27}$	$<3.5 \times 10^{-31}$	$<9.5 \times 10^{27}$	5.0×10^{-31}	1.5×10^{27}

Notes. Listed are the monochromatic fluxes and luminosities for the rest-frame energy corresponding to 2 keV observed. The units are cm^{-2} for N_H , $\text{erg s}^{-1} \text{cm}^{-2} \text{Hz}^{-1}$ for flux, f_X , and $\text{erg s}^{-1} \text{Hz}^{-1}$ for luminosity, l_X . All fluxes and luminosities are upper limits, except for the 3 σ detection.

Table 4
Rest-frame 2500 Å Luminosity

Object	z	A_u	K_s Magnitude	$f_{21590 \text{ Å}}$ ($\text{erg cm}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1} \text{Hz}^{-1}$)	$l_{\sim 6900 \text{ Å}}$ ($\text{erg s}^{-1} \text{Hz}^{-1}$)	$l_{2500 \text{ from } J}$ ($\text{erg s}^{-1} \text{Hz}^{-1}$)	$l_{2500 \text{ from } H}$ ($\text{erg s}^{-1} \text{Hz}^{-1}$)	$l_{2500 \text{ from } K_s}$ ($\text{erg s}^{-1} \text{Hz}^{-1}$)
J0943+5417	2.23	0.063	14.251	1.408×10^{17}	1.6×10^{32}	9.1×10^{31}	1.3×10^{32}	1.6×10^{32}
J1352+4239	2.04	0.055	13.861	2.002×10^{17}	2.0×10^{32}	1.5×10^{32}	1.5×10^{32}	1.8×10^{32}
J1723+5553	2.11	0.178	14.097	1.804×10^{17}	1.9×10^{32}	7.8×10^{31}	9.5×10^{31}	1.6×10^{32}

Notes. Statistics for all three objects. The redshift, z , and galactic extinction, A_u , are taken from Sloan Digital Sky Survey; K_s is the observed magnitude from 2MASS; f_{21590} is the observed flux in the K_s band; $l_{\sim 6900 \text{ Å}}$ is the luminosity in the rest-frame wavelengths of the K_s band for each object. The last three columns contain the luminosity at 2500 Å as extrapolated from the J , H , and K_s bands.

3. THE 2500 Å LUMINOSITY

We calculate the rest-frame 2500 Å luminosity, l_{2500} , by extrapolating the observed 2MASS magnitudes (probing rest-frame 4000–7000 Å for $z \sim 2$ objects) using the mean quasar spectral energy distribution (SED) of Richards et al. (2006). Since all three objects are at $z \sim 2$, the 2MASS bands sample the rest-frame optical bands of the FeLoBALs, where there is less spectral complexity than the rest-frame UV bands. The Sloan Digital Sky Survey (SDSS) magnitudes sample the rest-frame UV of the FeLoBALs, where it is extremely difficult to model the continuum due to the presence of complicated absorption troughs and dust extinction. Although the observed 2MASS wavelengths are further from the rest-frame UV than the observed SDSS wavelengths, we do not have to rely on a difficult-to-estimate model of the continuum. The observed optical spectrum of J0943+5417 is almost completely suppressed (see Figure 1), which demonstrates why we use the 2MASS data that circumvent reliance on complex corrections.

We first correct for Galactic extinction caused by the Milky Way for the 2MASS magnitudes. This extinction is given for the u band in the SDSS quasar catalog for each object (Schneider et al. 2007). From that value, we obtain the extinction in the 2MASS bands using the Milky Way extinction curve,

where the values of color excesses, $E(\lambda - V)$, and $R_V = 3.08$ are taken from Pei (1992). After correcting for Galactic extinction, we calculate the observed flux densities at the central J , H , and K_s wavelengths, and obtain the rest-frame monochromatic luminosities at optical bands (at $\sim 6900 \text{ Å}$) using Equation (3). We correct for the intrinsic dust extinction in these quasars assuming $E(B - V) = 0.077$ with a Small Magellanic Cloud-like extinction curve, found by Reichard et al. (2003) to be a good approximation for LoBALs. Since FeLoBALs have higher dust extinctions than LoBALs, we possibly undercorrect the intrinsic dust extinction for our targets. Finally, we extrapolate the rest-frame optical luminosities to l_{2500} using the mean quasar SED of Richards et al. (2006). The parameters and intermediate results used in all these calculations are listed in Table 4. The results obtained from J , H , and K_s bands are consistent within 20% for J0943+5417 and J1352+4239, suggesting no significant complexity in the corresponding spectra. For J1723+5553, the 2500 Å luminosities extrapolated from J and H bands are consistent within 20%; however, the value extrapolated from the K_s band is twice as large. It is possible that the observed K_s band is contaminated by a strong H_α emission line. For all three objects, we use the average of the l_{2500} values extrapolated from the J , H , and K bands, in our following calculations.

4. RESULTS

After calculating the intrinsic monochromatic luminosities at 2500 Å and 2 keV rest frame, we measure the broadband

$$\frac{A_\lambda}{A_B} = \left(\frac{E(\lambda - V)}{E(B - V)} + R_V \right) \frac{1}{1 + R_V}, \quad (4)$$

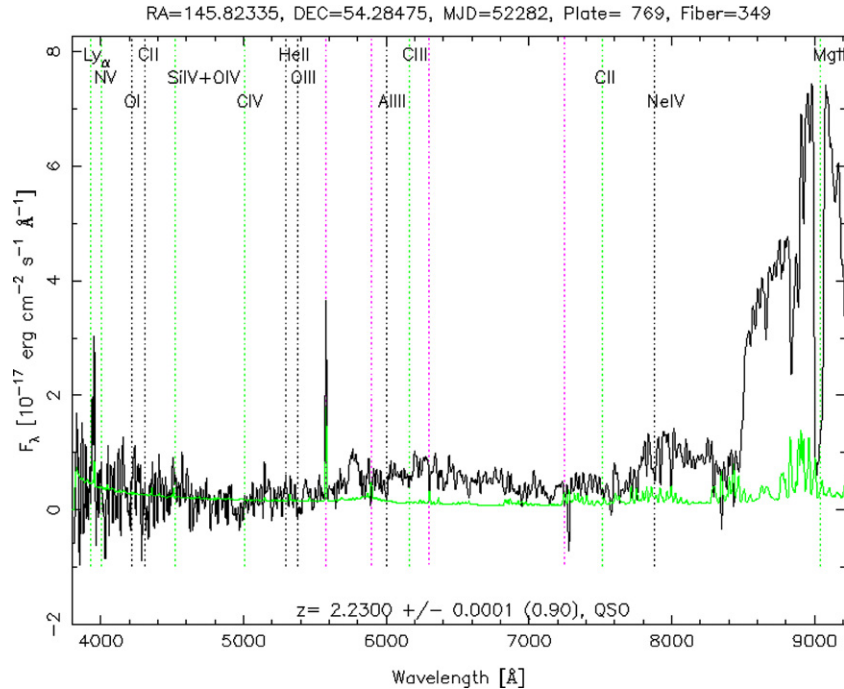


Figure 1. Observed optical spectrum of J0943+5417 from the Sloan Digital Sky Survey. The suppression of the spectrum here is a clear example of why it is difficult to correct the observed optical data.

(A color version of this figure is available in the online journal.)

spectral index between the UV and X-ray bands, $\alpha_{\text{ox}} = 0.3838 \times \log(l_{2\text{keV}}/l_{2500})$, and then compare our α_{ox} values to those of the large sample of 333 normal quasars from Steffen et al. (2006). The sample was chosen to cover as much of the l - z plane as possible. Other studies including FeLoBALs (Brotherton et al. 2005; Rogerson et al. 2011) found a slightly different trend. Brotherton et al. (2005) assumed a galactic column density using Schlegel et al. (1998) and found lower than expected intrinsic α_{ox} values for their two FeLoBALs. They lie right on the bottom edge of and just below ($\Delta\alpha_{\text{ox}} = 0.3$) the scatter of expected α_{ox} for the $l_{2500} \sim \alpha_{\text{ox}}$ relation from Steffen et al. (2006). Rogerson et al. (2011) compared the observed α_{ox} of their FeLoBALs with the Steffen et al. (2006) study, and found the observed α_{ox} to be ~ 0.48 below the expected scatter. From this they inferred an intrinsic column density. We follow the convention of Steffen et al. (2006) and use 2500 Å and 2 keV, although α_{ox} can be defined using other optical wavelengths and X-ray energies, as shown by Young et al. (2010). In this section, we first examine the dependency of α_{ox} on the intrinsic absorption in our FeLoBALs, using α_{ox} calculated independently from the soft X-ray (0.2–2 keV, observed) and the hard X-ray (2–10 keV, observed) spectra. Then we analyze α_{ox} as a function of UV and X-ray luminosities, and draw conclusions about the intrinsic column density.

4.1. Intrinsic Absorption and α_{ox}

We first study the relation between α_{ox} and the intrinsic absorption in Figure 2. Each sub-figure corresponds to one FeLoBAL, and shows the entire input range for intrinsic column density. The values calculated from the 2–10 keV (hard) spectrum are depicted in black, and the 0.2–2 keV (soft) spectrum are depicted by red, filled symbols. Where monochromatic luminosities at 2 keV are upper limits due to the non-detection of a source, α_{ox} is also only an upper limit, depicted in all figures by arrows. Included are solid lines for the

expected $\alpha_{\text{ox}} \sim l_{2500}$ relation, as found by Steffen et al. (2006), and dashed lines to depict the expected scatter.

At 2 keV the intrinsic luminosity and its uncertainty are dependent on the column density within the FeLoBAL itself, which causes intrinsic absorption that must be corrected for. We use a range $10^{20} \text{ cm}^{-2} \leq N_{\text{H}} \leq 10^{25} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ for intrinsic column densities since the true quantity is unknown. This gives a different value of intrinsic luminosity, and therefore α_{ox} , for each column density. The luminosities at 2500 Å are extrapolated from the rest-frame optical luminosities, using a normal quasar SED from Richards et al. (2006), where we have corrected both the intrinsic extinction and Galactic extinction due to dust as discussed in Section 3. We find the uncertainty in the luminosities to be $\sim 20\%$.

In the two non-detected FeLoBALs (J0943+5417 and J1352+4239), for column densities up to $1 \times 10^{23} \text{ cm}^{-2}$, the soft limit is more stringent for α_{ox} , although the difference between the two limits diverges by ≤ 0.2 . At higher column densities, the hard spectrum is the appropriate limit to use. The divergence between the soft and hard limits is increasingly larger with increasing column density. J1723+5553 is a different story: only at $N_{\text{H}} \geq 6 \times 10^{23} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ are the upper limits from the soft X-ray spectrum consistent with the 3σ detection in the hard X-ray spectrum. The 3σ detection and its uncertainties for α_{ox} calculated from the hard X-rays are ≥ 0.3 above the upper limits given by the soft X-ray energy range for column densities $< 6 \times 10^{23} \text{ cm}^{-2}$. Thus, the X-ray hardness ratio of J1723+5553 constrains the intrinsic column density to $N_{\text{H}} \geq 6 \times 10^{23} \text{ cm}^{-2}$.

4.2. Monochromatic Luminosities versus α_{ox}

Figure 3 shows the correlation between l_{2500} and α_{ox} , with the best-fit linear regression for normal AGN found by Steffen et al. (2006) plotted. This relation is given by $\alpha_{\text{ox}} = (-0.137 \pm 0.008) \log(l_{2500}) + (2.638 \pm 0.240)$ (Steffen et al. 2006). The solid line shows the expected α_{ox} , and the scatter is depicted

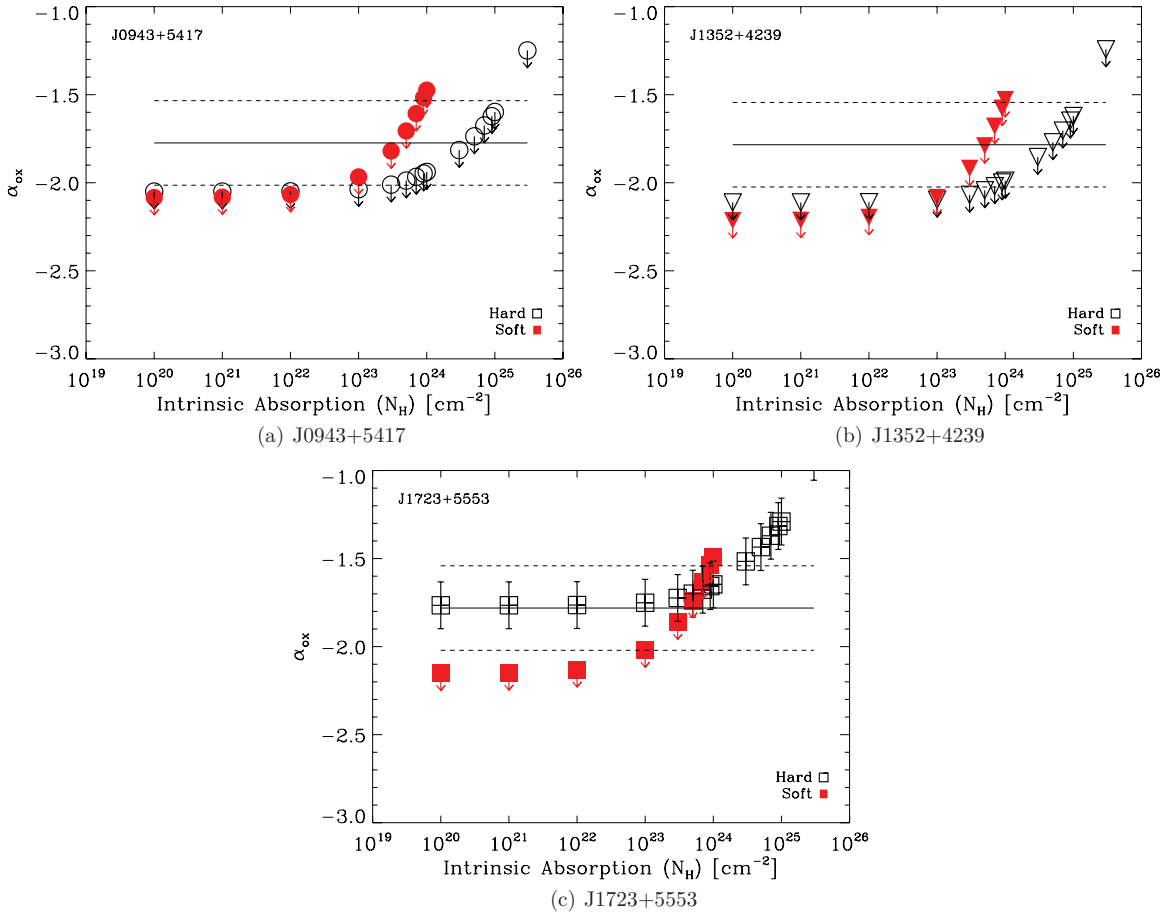


Figure 2. Dependence of α_{ox} on intrinsic absorption (N_{H}). Values calculated from the 2–10 keV range are shown in black, while values calculated from the 0.2–2 keV range are shown in red filled symbols. The expected α_{ox} from l_{2500} is depicted by the solid line, with the expected scatter depicted by the dashed lines.

(A color version of this figure is available in the online journal.)

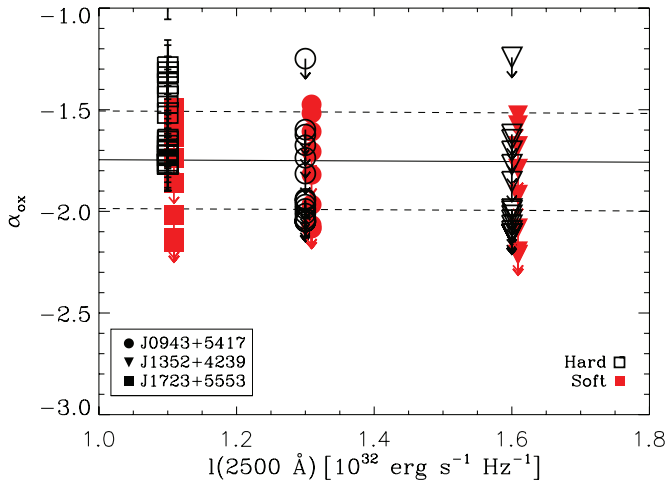


Figure 3. α_{ox} vs. $l_{2500 \text{ \AA}}$ monochromatic luminosity. Values calculated from the 2–10 keV range are shown in black, while values calculated from the 0.2–2 keV range are shown in red filled symbols and shifted to the right for clarity. The solid and dashed lines represent the mean and scatter (0.24) of the relation from Steffen et al. (2006).

(A color version of this figure is available in the online journal.)

by the dashed lines. Column density increases as α_{ox} becomes less negative. The upper limits on α_{ox} from the soft X-ray spectrum are shifted slightly to the right of the hard X-ray upper limits in Figure 3 for ease of viewing. The upper limits

plotted for J0943+5417 and J1352+4239 are consistent with the normal AGN in the scatter of ± 0.24 for $N_{\text{H}} \geq 4 \times 10^{23}$ and $N_{\text{H}} \geq 8 \times 10^{23} \text{ cm}^{-2}$, respectively. This range falls in the column density region ($N_{\text{H}} \geq 1 \times 10^{23}$) where the hard spectrum provides the appropriate upper limit. For J1723+5553, combining the constraint from X-ray hardness ratio ($N_{\text{H}} > 6 \times 10^{23} \text{ cm}^{-2}$), the values of α_{ox} fall within the expected scatter if the intrinsic absorption is in the range of $6 \times 10^{23} \text{ cm}^{-2} \leq N_{\text{H}} \leq 3 \times 10^{24} \text{ cm}^{-2}$.

Figure 4 shows the correlation between $l_{2 \text{ keV}}$ and α_{ox} , again with the best-fit linear regression and expected scatter, using the relation, $\alpha_{\text{ox}} = (-0.077 \pm 0.015) \log(l_{2 \text{ keV}}) + (0.492 \pm 0.387)$, from Steffen et al. (2006). Column density increases from left to right, corresponding to rising intrinsic luminosity. For column densities $N_{\text{H}} \geq 7 \times 10^{23} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ for J0943+5417 and $N_{\text{H}} \geq 2 \times 10^{24} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ for J1352+4239, α_{ox} is consistent with the normal AGN sample. The upper limits given by the soft spectrum fall within (and above) the scatter in the high column density region, where the hard spectrum gives the better constraint. Our 3σ detection of J1723+5553 indicates that for column densities $N_{\text{H}} \leq 8 \times 10^{24} \text{ cm}^{-2}$, J1723+5553 is consistent with the SEDs of normal AGNs.

Therefore, combining all constraints, J1723+5553 is consistent with normal AGN for column densities $6 \times 10^{23} \text{ cm}^{-2} \leq N_{\text{H}} \leq 3 \times 10^{24} \text{ cm}^{-2}$, while α_{ox} for J0943+5417 and J1352+4239 are consistent with normal AGN for $N_{\text{H}} \geq 7 \times 10^{23} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ and $N_{\text{H}} \geq 2 \times 10^{24} \text{ cm}^{-2}$, respectively.

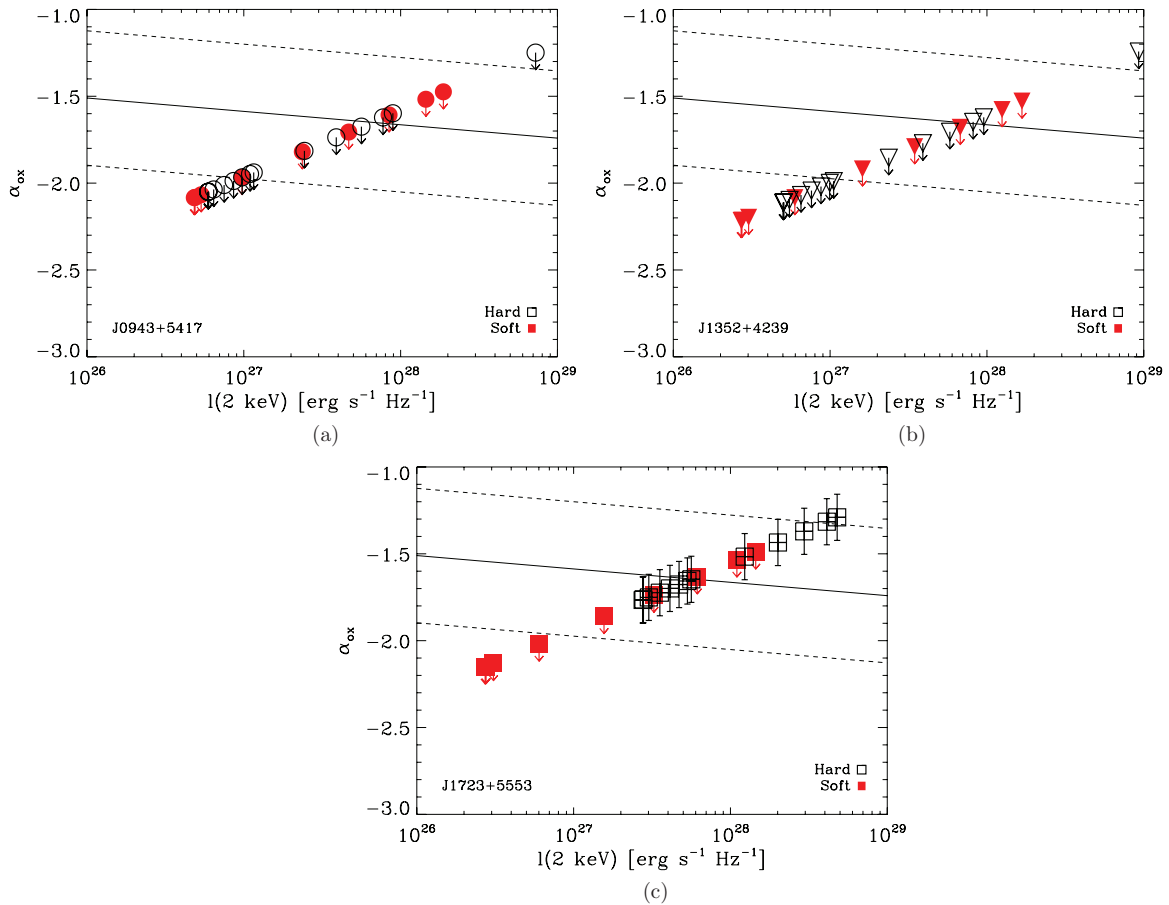


Figure 4. α_{ox} vs. $l_{2\text{ keV}}$ monochromatic luminosity. Values calculated from the 2–10 keV range are shown in black, while values calculated from the 0.2–2 keV range are shown in red filled symbols. The solid and dashed lines represent the mean and scatter (0.387) of the relation as seen in Steffen et al. (2006).

(A color version of this figure is available in the online journal.)

5. DISCUSSION

5.1. Column Densities and Intrinsic X-ray Luminosities

We find significantly high column densities for all three FeLoBALs studied, $6 \times 10^{23} \text{ cm}^{-2} \leq N_{\text{H}} \leq 3 \times 10^{24} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ for J1723+5553, $N_{\text{H}} \geq 7 \times 10^{23} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ for J0943+5417, and $N_{\text{H}} \geq 2 \times 10^{24} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ for J1352+4239. Only a small sample of FeLoBALs has been studied in X-rays previously. We summarize all the measurements in Table 5, which is divided into two subsamples: those that are radio loud, and those that are not. The radio-loud objects tend to have lower column densities, which could be due to geometry or evolution. The X-ray emission may be linked to the jets as well as from the corona right above the central portion of the accretion disk (e.g., Miller et al. 2009). The BAL wind (see Gallagher & Everett 2007 for a detailed illustration) would then only absorb X-ray emission from the accretion disk region. We do not know for certain what complicated structure dependence for X-ray emission may exist in a radio-loud FeLoBAL, but the column density results are still important and thus we include them for completeness. Our three FeLoBALs are radio quiet, and our constraints are consistent with the subsample that is not known to be radio loud. These objects in general are found to have N_{H} on the order of a few 10^{23} cm^{-2} or higher. Notably, the most recent study by Rogerson et al. (2011) found column densities for J2215–0045 and J0300+0048 to be $N_{\text{H}} \sim 10^{24} \text{ cm}^{-2}$, with J2215–0045 just above the range we calculate for J1723+5553, but still consistent with our N_{H} for the two non-detections.

The most recent calculation of column density for Mrk 231 by Braito et al. (2004), using *BeppoSAX*, found $N_{\text{H}} \sim 2 \times 10^{24} \text{ cm}^{-2}$, in agreement with all three of our objects. Green et al. (2001) cite lower column densities ($N_{\text{H}} \geq 6.5 \times 10^{22} \text{ cm}^{-2}$), but they also noted that this is an average expected column density for a HiBAL, and that N_{H} for a LoBAL would be higher.

The fact that our 3σ detection in J1723+5553 is in the observed 2–10 keV (rest frame 6–30 keV) hard band rather than the soft X-ray band is significant, as this is expected from highly absorbed X-ray emission from the corona above the supermassive black hole. The non-detection of the source in the observed 0.2–2 keV (rest frame 0.6–6 keV) band is consistent with our interpretation that we detect the direct X-ray emission in the observed 2–10 keV band, as high column densities will suppress the soft X-rays more than the hard X-rays. This is further supported by the fact that none of these objects is detected, even at the 3σ level of significance, for the broadband observed 0.2–10 keV (rest frame 0.6–30 keV) energy range. If the observed 2–10 keV spectrum is reflected or scattered into our line of sight, the X-ray spectrum will be a flat power-law, and we would also detect the source in the observed 0.2–2 keV band, which has a larger collecting area for *Suzaku*. Combining the measurements from this paper and those from Braito et al. (2004) and Rogerson et al. (2011), it is most likely that the intrinsic N_{H} column density absorbing the X-ray emission in a radio-quiet FeLoBAL is in the range from $\sim 10^{24}$ up to 10^{25} cm^{-2} . This is about 1–2 orders of magnitude higher than the X-ray absorption

Table 5
X-ray Observations of FeLoBALs

FeLoBALs				
Object	Detection	Observatory	N_H (cm $^{-2}$)	Reference
J0943+5417 ^a	No	<i>Suzaku</i>	$\geq 7 \times 10^{23}$	This paper
J1352+4239	No	<i>Suzaku</i>	$\geq 2 \times 10^{24}$	This paper
J1723+5553	No	<i>Suzaku</i>	$6 \times 10^{23} - 3 \times 10^{24}$	This paper
SDSS J0300+0048	No	<i>Chandra</i>	$\geq 1.8 \times 10^{24}$	Rogerson et al. (2011)
SDSS J2215-0045	No	<i>Chandra</i>	$\geq 3.4 \times 10^{24}$	Rogerson et al. (2011)
Mrk 231	Yes	<i>BeppoSAX</i>	$\sim 2 \times 10^{24}$	Braito et al. (2004)
Q0059-2735	No	<i>Chandra</i>	$\geq 6.5 \times 10^{22}$ ^b	Green et al. (2001)
Radio-loud FeLoBALs				
Object	Detection	Observatory	N_H (cm $^{-2}$)	Reference
SDSS J1556+3517	Yes	<i>Chandra</i>	$< 9.6 \times 10^{23}$	Kunert-Bajraszewska et al. (2009)
SDSS J2107-0620	Yes	<i>Chandra</i>	$< 9.6 \times 10^{23}$	Kunert-Bajraszewska et al. (2009)
SDSS J1044+3656	Yes	<i>Chandra</i>	$< 9.6 \times 10^{23}$	Kunert-Bajraszewska et al. (2009)
SDSS J0814+3647	Yes	<i>Chandra</i>	...	Miller et al. (2009)
SDSS J2107-0620	No	<i>XMM-Newton</i>	4×10^{23}	Wang et al. (2008)
FIRST 1044+3517	Yes	<i>Chandra</i>	$\sim 3 \times 10^{23}$	Brotherton et al. (2005)
FIRST 1556+4517	Yes	<i>Chandra</i>	$\sim 3 \times 10^{23}$	Brotherton et al. (2005)
FTM 1004+1229	Yes	<i>Chandra</i>	2.8×10^{23}	Urrutia et al. (2005)
FTM 1036+2828 ^c	Yes	<i>Chandra</i>	3.8×10^{22}	Urrutia et al. (2005)
FIRST J0840+3633 ^a	Yes	<i>Chandra</i>	$\geq 6.5 \times 10^{22}$ ^b	Green et al. (2001)

Notes. Previous studies of FeLoBALs in the X-ray. We have added column density constraints when the study provided them.

^a Radio moderate.

^b Green et al. (2001) note that this should represent an average HiBAL, and would be higher for a LoBAL.

^c Sometimes classified as a mini-BAL.

range in BALQSOs ($N_H \sim 10^{22} - 10^{24}$ cm $^{-2}$, e.g., Gallagher et al. 2006).

Using α_{ox} to provide limits on intrinsic column density also allows us to provide limits on the intrinsic X-ray luminosity. Using the combined constraints summarized at the end of Section 4.2, the intrinsic X-ray luminosity for J0943+5417 is $l_{2\text{keV}} \geq 9.8 \times 10^{26}$ erg s $^{-1}$ Hz $^{-1}$; for J1352+4239 it is $l_{2\text{keV}} \geq 1.7 \times 10^{27}$ erg s $^{-1}$ Hz $^{-1}$; for J1723+5553 it is $4.4 \times 10^{27} \leq l_{2\text{keV}} \leq 1.2 \times 10^{28}$ erg s $^{-1}$ Hz $^{-1}$. Compared to the normal sample of AGN from Steffen et al. (2006), these luminosities fall into the middle to high range of X-ray luminosities for normal quasars. This is predicated on the fact that we assumed an intrinsic SED for a normal AGN. The broadband luminosities for these objects in the soft band are $L_{0.6-6\text{keV}} \geq 3.8 \times 10^{44}$ erg s $^{-1}$, $L_{0.6-6\text{keV}} \geq 6.9 \times 10^{44}$ erg s $^{-1}$, and 1.8×10^{45} erg s $^{-1} \leq L_{0.6-6\text{keV}} \leq 4.9 \times 10^{45}$ erg s $^{-1}$, for J0943+5417, J1352+4239, and J1723+5553, respectively. The corresponding hard band luminosities are $L_{6-30\text{keV}} \geq 3.2 \times 10^{44}$ erg s $^{-1}$, $L_{6-30\text{keV}} \geq 5.85 \times 10^{44}$ erg s $^{-1}$, and 1.5×10^{45} erg s $^{-1} \leq L_{6-30\text{keV}} \leq 4.2 \times 10^{45}$ erg s $^{-1}$.

5.2. Thomson Scattering Implications

Such high column densities are interesting physically, as they are either in or on the cusp of a regime where the Thomson scattering cross-section, $\sigma_T = 6.65 \times 10^{-25}$ cm 2 , will be large enough to scatter incident photons. Although we probe the rest-frame quasar spectra in the rest-frame 6–30 keV (observed 2–10 keV) band, the Klein–Nishina correction to the Thomson scattering cross-section is still negligible. For J1723+5553, using the expected α_{ox} from the $\alpha_{\text{ox}} - l_{2\text{keV}}$ relation, the optical depth is $\tau \sim 1$. For J0934+5417 and J1352+4239, the expected α_{ox} value from the $\alpha_{\text{ox}} - l_{2\text{keV}}$ relation gives an intrinsic $N_H \sim 8.5 \times 10^{24}$ cm $^{-2}$, which indicates a Thomson

scattering optical depth of $\tau \sim 6$. Such a large optical depth will also significantly modulate the UV flux (~ 400 times dimmer); however, these objects are already more luminous in the UV than most of the AGNs in the Steffen et al. (2006) study. As another check, we calculate the black hole mass of the quasars assuming they are emitting at 1/3 of the Eddington luminosity (e.g., Shankar et al. 2010). We extrapolate our rest-frame luminosities to 5100 Å and assume a bolometric correction of 10.33 for 5100 Å (Richards et al. 2006) before using Equation (5) to find the black hole masses:

$$M_{\text{BH}} \simeq \frac{1}{3} \left(\frac{L_{\text{Edd}}}{1.5 \times 10^{38}} M_{\odot} \right) \simeq \frac{3L_{\text{bol}}}{1.5 \times 10^{38}} M_{\odot}. \quad (5)$$

For the values reported here, all three FeLoBALs have $M_{\text{BH}} \sim 1.4 \times 10^8 M_{\odot}$. Even at the lower end of the column density constraints, $N_H \geq 6 \times 10^{23}$ cm $^{-2}$, the optical depth would be $\tau \sim 0.4$, which would dim the intrinsic luminosity by one and a half times. At the column density corresponding to the expected α_{ox} for J0943+5417 and J1352+4239, $\sim 8.5 \times 10^{24}$ cm $^{-2}$ (from the $\alpha_{\text{ox}} - l_{2\text{keV}}$ relation, and still within the limits for J1723+5553), the optical depth of $\tau \sim 6$ would mean the intrinsic luminosity would be increased by 400 times, giving a black hole mass of $M_{\text{BH}} \sim 3.2 \times 10^{12} M_{\odot}$. Such a large mass is not a physical possibility; therefore, it is unlikely that these objects are super-luminous in the UV, and we only see the tiny fraction of Thomson scattered emission.

Since the X-ray emission region is expected to be smaller than the UV emission region from either variability (e.g., Chartas et al. 2001) or quasar microlensing (e.g., Dai et al. 2003, 2010a; Pooley et al. 2007; Morgan et al. 2008; Chartas et al. 2009) arguments, it is instead possible that the X-ray absorbing material is located between the X-ray and UV emission region and only covers the X-ray emitting region. This is

consistent with the disk wind models of Gallagher & Everett (2007) and Murray et al. (1995), where an essential component of the model is the Compton thick shielding gas between the X-ray and UV emission, protecting the disk wind from being ionized by the X-ray emission. Rogerson et al. (2011) also reached a similar conclusion, where the Thomson scattering optical depth was argued to have $\tau \geq 3$ (≥ 20 times dimmer). In this paper, the constraint is likely more stringent with $\tau \sim 6$ (~ 400 times dimmer). Aoki (2010) analyzed the UV spectrum of J1723+5553, and found the N_{H} column density in the UV wind was $N_{\text{H}} \geq 5 \times 10^{17} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ using the curve of growth method with the unresolved Balmer absorption lines. Aoki (2010) pointed out that the covering fraction cannot be determined due to unresolved absorption lines, and assumed a covering fraction of 1. The column density would be higher than the given limit if the covering fraction is significantly less than 1. The limit derived by Aoki (2010) is seven orders of magnitude less than, but still consistent with, our X-ray column densities. If the X-ray and UV absorbing gasses are located in different regions, it can still be incorporated into both existing geometrical interpretations of FeLoBALs (e.g., Murray et al. 1995; Gallagher & Everett 2007) or evolutionary models (e.g., Fabian 1999). However, for evolutionary models the UV emission should come from the photosphere of the gas/dust cloud rather than the accretion disk. Such models have been simulated in recent studies (e.g., Casebeer et al. 2008), and support that FeLoBALs may be an evolutionary stage in the development of normal quasars.

Another explanation is that FeLoBALs have intrinsic SEDs different from normal quasars. They could be extremely X-ray weak compared to normal quasars, as in the case of the narrow-line quasar PHL 1811 (Leighly et al. 2007), or the narrow-line Seyfert 1 galaxy WPVS 007 (Grupe et al. 2008). This would nullify our N_{H} constraints for J0934+5417 and J1352+4239, since they are obtained by assuming a normal quasar SED. However, this would not explain J1723+5553, which we detect in the observed 2–10 keV band, but not in the observed 0.2–2 keV band. If J1723+5553 were intrinsically X-ray weak, and X-ray unabsorbed, we would expect to see a flat-line power-law slope for quasars in the hard and the soft X-ray bands. This is not consistent with our observations. In addition, the N_{H} constraint from the X-ray hardness ratio is still valid for $N_{\text{H}} \geq 6 \times 10^{23} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ with the Thomson scattering optical depth $\tau \geq 0.4$, which could only marginally scatter the UV emission if the true N_{H} column density is close to the lower boundary.

More X-ray detections of FeLoBALs are needed so that we are not restricted by using the broadband SED constraints. It is also possible that quasar host galaxies contribute a fraction of rest-frame 4000–7000 Å emission; however, the contamination at this band is usually small. In addition, we correct the intrinsic dust extinction for FeLoBALs using the average dust extinction for LoBALs, which will underestimate the intrinsic flux and give less steep α_{ox} values. A priori, it is unclear what the net effect of these two possibilities will be on the broadband flux; IR spectroscopy is needed to help resolve these issues.

5.3. AGN Kinetic Feedback

We calculate the kinetic feedback efficiency, $\epsilon_k = \dot{E}_k / L_{\text{Bol}}$, of the X-ray absorber in FeLoBALs using the location, luminosity, and N_{H} column density constraints obtained in this paper. In particular, \dot{E}_k is the kinetic feedback power, $\dot{E}_k = Mv^2/2 = 4\pi\mu m_p f_c r N_{\text{H}} v^3$ (e.g., Moe et al. 2009), where μ is the mean molecular weight, m_p is the proton mass, f_c , r , N_{H} ,

and v are the covering fraction, location, column density, and velocity of the wind, respectively, and L_{Bol} is the bolometric luminosity of the quasar. If the SEDs of FeLoBALs are consistent with those of normal quasars, we obtain a reasonable $N_{\text{H}} \sim 3 \times 10^{24} \text{ cm}^{-2}$; this is the upper end of the column density range for our 3σ detection, and entirely consistent with our column density lower limits for the non-detections. We locate the wind between the UV and X-ray emission regions, $\sim 40r_g$ and $r_g = GM/c^2$, using the microlensing constraints of Dai et al. (2010a). For the covering fraction, we use the intrinsic FeLoBAL population range of 1.5%–2.1%, depending on which model (Dai et al. 2010b) is used, and assume that the quasars are emitting at a typical 0.3 Eddington limit (Shankar et al. 2010). We are left with one uncertainty, the velocity of the X-ray absorber. The velocity of the BAL wind is usually measured in the UV wind, which can reach up to $\sim 0.1c$. Since the X-ray absorbing wind is located at smaller radii than the UV absorber, its velocity can be higher than the wind velocity measured from the UV spectrum. The only velocity measurement of the X-ray absorber is from the blueshifted X-ray absorption lines detected in a few gravitationally lensed BALQSOs (Chartas et al. 2002, 2003, 2007), and this velocity can reach 0.3–0.8c. Since the X-ray absorption lines are mostly detected in mini-BALs, we could possibly be looking through the edge of the wind, where the wind can be by fully accelerated. Thus, we consider the X-ray absorption line as providing an upper limit, and assume our wind velocity is 0.1–0.3c, between the estimates from the two methods. We find the feedback efficiency, ϵ_k , for FeLoBALs is in the range (outflow velocity dependent) of either 0.2%–4.8% for a covering fraction of 1.5%, or 0.3%–6.9% for a covering fraction of 2.1%. To reach the minimum of 5% required to explain the coevolution between black holes and host galaxies (e.g., Silk & Rees 1998; Granato et al. 2004; Hopkins et al. 2005), with the other variables given here, we need a column density of $N_{\text{H}} \geq 8 \times 10^{25} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ or $N_{\text{H}} \geq 6 \times 10^{25} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ for low velocity wind with the different covering fractions. These are consistent with our lower limits on column density for the two non-detections, but out of reach for J1723+5553. However, for the high end of the conservative wind velocity range, only $N_{\text{H}} \geq 3 \times 10^{24}$ and $N_{\text{H}} \geq 2 \times 10^{24}$ are needed for $f_c = 1.5\%$ and 2.1%, respectively. Both of these column densities are consistent with the results for J1723+5553, and thus it is likely that FeLoBALs can contribute to AGN feedback. This becomes even more likely when models like Hopkins & Elvis (2010) are considered. They describe a “two-stage” feedback process, where a weak wind from the central engine energizes a hot, diffuse interstellar medium, which is then amplified when it hits instabilities in a cold cloud within the host. This amplification outside of the central engine requires feedback efficiency as small as 0.5%. The BAL wind in FeLoBALs, therefore, is a promising candidate for the feedback process responsible for the coevolution between black holes and host galaxies. More measurements of N_{H} are needed to further quantify how important the contributions are from FeLoBALs and BALQSOs to kinetic feedback efficiency.

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