



# Probing the evolution of Active Galactic Nuclei using the Fe Kα line

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### The iron Ka line





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### The iron Ka line





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### The iron $K\alpha$ line



#### Iron Kα line: 2 components with different origins



Nandra et al. (2007)

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## The narrow core of the iron Kα line



Narrow core of the iron Kα line is a tracer of dense material around the central engine



From Chandra/HEG average FWHM  $\rightarrow r_{K\alpha} \sim 3^* R_{BLR}$  (Shu et al. 2012)





#### Decrease of the EW of the iron K $\alpha$ line with the luminosity in type-I AGN (and the Eddington ratio $\lambda_{Edd}$ )

Iwasawa & Taniguchi (1993)

 $\log(EW) = (1.73 \pm 0.03) - (0.17 \pm 0.03)\log(L_{X44})$ 



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# Detection of the X-ray Baldwin effect in type-II AGN using a Suzaku sample of 80 AGN

Corrected for absorption using physical AGN models (photoelectric abs.+ Compton scatter)







• Due to variation of the relativistically broadened component? (Nandra et al. 1997)

• Related to continuum variability? (Jiang et al. 2006)

# • Due to the dependence of the continuum with $\lambda_{Edd}$ ? (Ricci et al. 2013b)

• Luminosity-dependent unification? (Page et al. 2004, Ricci et al. 2013a)

### <u>Possible</u> explanations





High quality XMM-Newton/EPIC and Chandra/HEG data confirmed that X-ray Baldwin effect is due to the <u>narrow component</u>







• Due to variation of the relativistically broadened component? (Nandra et al. 1997)

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- Due to the dependence of the continuum with  $\lambda_{\text{Edd}}?$  (Ricci et al. 2013b)

• Luminosity-dependent unification? (Page et al. 2004, Ricci et al. 2013a)

### <u>Possible</u> explanations





Most studies use all available observations for all sources of the sample

**<u>Fit per observation</u>**:  $\log(EW) \propto -(0.22 \pm 0.03)\log(L_{X44})$ 

The correlation is significantly attenuated when the values are averaged over different observations (*Shu et al. 2010, 2012*)

#### Fit per source:

 $\log(EW) \propto -(0.13 \pm 0.04) \log(L_{X44})$ 

Monte Carlo simulations showed that variability fails to explain the whole trend







• Due to variation of the relativistically broadened component? (Nandra et al. 1997)

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# • Due to the dependence of the continuum with $\lambda_{Edd}$ ? (*Ricci et al. 2013b*)

• Luminosity-dependent unification? (Page et al. 2004, Ricci et al. 2013a)

### <u>Possible</u> explanations



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### Physical torus models



# Recently several works have carried out montecarlo simulations to understand the contribution of the torus to the X-ray spectrum

→ Murphy & Yaqoob (2009)





Only using a steeper dependence of  $\Gamma$  on  $\lambda_{Edd}$  we obtained slopes consistent with the observed value  $\rightarrow \Gamma \propto 0.58 \log \lambda_{Edd}$  (*Risaliti et al. 2009, Jin et al. 2012*)

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• Due to variation of the relativistically broadened component? (Nandra et al. 1997)

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#### <u>Possible</u> explanations





# The fraction of absorbed AGN (f<sub>obs</sub>) decreases with increasing luminosities

Lawrence (1991), Ueda et al. (2003), Simpson (2005), Maiolino et al. (2007),Hasinger (2008), Fiore et al. (2009), Beckmann et al. (2009), Mor et al. (2009), Burlon et al. (2011), Ueda et al. (2011), Hiroi et al. (2012)



Is it related to a decrease of the covering factor of the obscuring torus with the luminosity?







#### Decrease of the f<sub>obs</sub> with the luminosity: not only in the soft X-rays



Maiolino et al. 2007

Beckmann et al. 2009

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Opening angle calculated from the decrease of obscured sources with luminosity





























































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### **Summary & Conclusions**



• The narrow Fe Kα: the most important tracer of neutral material surrounding the supermassive black hole.

• First evidence of an X-ray Baldwin effect in type-II AGN, with the same slope as type-I, probably the same mechanism is at work in the two classes.

• The positive  $\Gamma$ - $\lambda_{Edd}$  correlation fails to reproduce the slope of the X-ray Baldwin effect, unless a steeper trend (as found by Risaliti et al. 2009) is considered

• A torus with a luminosity-dependent covering factor is able to reproduce the slope of the X-ray Baldwin effect for a large range of values of the equatorial column density.

• *ASTRO-H* (launch in 2015) will shed much light on the origin of the narrow Fe Kα line (FWHM 300 km/s @6.4keV)



ASTRO-H, Credits:JAXA



# The narrow core of the iron Kα line







### The origin of the iron $K\alpha$ line



Narrow core likely due to the contribution of several components



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### The Baldwin effect



**<u>Baldwin effect</u>**: inverse proportionality of the EW of CIV ( $\lambda$ 1549) and the luminosity (*Baldwin 1977*)

Change in ionizing continuum and gas metallicity?

Possible explanations

• Change in the BLR covering factor?

	Sample	redshift	Slope
Xu+ 08	26223	1.5 <z<5.1< td=""><td>-0.156±0.001</td></z<5.1<>	-0.156±0.001
Kinney+90	200	z<2.0	-0.17±0.04
Dietrich+02	788	0 <z<5.0< td=""><td>-0.14±0.02</td></z<5.0<>	-0.14±0.02

Also found for:

Ly $\alpha$ , [CIII] $\lambda$ 1908, Si IV $\lambda$ 1396, MgII $\lambda$ 2798 (*Dietrich et al. 2002*), UV iron emission lines (*Green et al. 2001*), mid IR lines (*Honig et al.* 2008), forbidden lines (*Croom et al. 2002*)







 $f_{obs} = \sin \sigma$ 





# Study of the influence of variability

Shu et al. (2012) simulating spectra using

 $F_{\rm var} \propto L_X^{-0.135}$ 

Markowitz & Edelson (2004)

Only a very small percentage of their simulations (8%) can reproduce the observed X-ray Baldwin effect



# Variability alone cannot account for the whole correlation

Shu et al. (2012)

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#### The fraction of absorbed AGN ( $f_{obs}$ ) decreases with increasing luminosities

e.g., Lawrence (1991), Ueda et al. (2003), Simpson (2005), Maiolino et al. (2007), Hasinger (2008), Fiore et al. (2009), Beckmann et al. (2009), Mor et al. (2009), Burlon et al. (2011), Ueda et al. (2011), Hiroi et al. (2012)

Is it related to a decrease of the covering factor of the obscuring torus with the luminosity?







• Due to variation of the relativistically broadened component? (Nandra et al. 1997)

#### • Influence of radio-loud (RL) AGN ? (Jimenez Bailon et al. 2005)

#### Possible explanations • Related to

• Related to continuum variability? (Jiang et al. 2006)

- Due to the dependence of the continuum with  $\lambda_{\text{Edd}}?$  (Ricci et al. 2013b)

• Luminosity-dependent unification? (Page et al. 2004, Ricci et al. 2013a)





• Studies of large radio-quiet (RQ) AGN samples have confirmed the X-ray Baldwin effect (*Bianchi et al. 2007, Shu et al. 2012*)

• X-ray Baldwin effect found also in RLAGN (Grandi et al. 2006)

	Sample	Observatory	Slope
Shu+ 12	32 (RQ)	Chandra/HEG	-0.18±0.03
Shu+ 10	33 (RQ+RL)	Chandra/HEG	-0.22±0.03
Bianchi+ 07	157 (RQ)	XMM-Newton/EPIC	-0.17±0.03
Jimenez Bailon+ 05	38 (RQ)	XMM-Newton/EPIC	-0.06±0.20
Zhou & Wang 05	66 (RQ+RL)	XMM-Newton/EPIC	-0.19±0.04
Page+ 04	53 (RQ+RL)	XMM-Newton/EPIC	-0.17±0.08

Most studies found a slope of  $B \approx -0.20$