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X-ray and multi-wavelength observations of $z>0.5$ 3CRR radio galaxies.

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The complex nuclear structures of active galactic nuclei (AGN) lead to strong selection effects in most wavebands, including the X-ray. Highly obscured AGN are hard to find, and identify. Estimating their numbers, a function of luminosity and redshift, remains a major quest both for AGN science, and in understanding the level of accretion power particularly in the early Universe.

Multi-wavelength observations of the low-frequency, radio-selected 3CR luminous AGN sample ($z>0.5$) largely avoid selection biases, revealing the obscured AGN, and probing both their intrinsic, and orientation-dependent properties.

Chandra, Spitzer, Herschel and multi-wavelength observations confirm that the FIR ($> \sim 40\mu\text{m}$) does not depend on orientation and that \sim half the sample is significantly obscured with \sim a quarter being Compton thick. This is a larger fraction than typically estimated for optically- or X-ray-selected, high-luminosity samples. Once the primary X-ray power-law is obscured, AGN X-ray spectra are complex, and detecting and estimating X-ray obscuration levels becomes highly uncertain. This is particularly true for sources close to the flux limit. The loss or miss-classification of obscured AGN in surveys also results in large (~ 10 - 1000) uncertainties on their intrinsic luminosities.

The use of independent measures of the AGN power, such as the low-frequency radio, help to counteract such problems, and so to probe the intrinsic AGN properties.

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