X-RAY-SELECTED GALAXY GROUPS IN BOÈTES

Bruna Vajgel1,2, Christine Jones2, Paulo A. A. Lopes1, William R. Forman2, Stephen S. Murray2,3, Andrew Goulding2, and Felipe Andrade-Santos2
1 Observatório do Valongo, Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil
2 Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics, 60 Garden Street, Cambridge, MA 02138, USA
3 Department of Physics and Astronomy, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD 21218, USA

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ABSTRACT

We present the X-ray and optical properties of the galaxy groups selected in the Chandra X-Boètes survey. We used follow-up Chandra observations to better define the group sample and their X-ray properties. Group redshifts were measured from the AGN and Galaxy Evolution Survey spectroscopic data. We used photometric data from the NOAO Deep Wide Field Survey to estimate the group richness (Ngals) and the optical luminosity (Lopt). Our final sample comprises 32 systems at z < 1.75 with 14 below z = 0.35. For these 14 systems, we estimate velocity dispersions (σgr) and perform a virial analysis to obtain the radii (R200 and R500) and total masses (M200 and M500) for groups with at least 5 galaxy members. We use the Chandra X-ray observations to derive the X-ray luminosity (LX). We examine the performance of the group properties σgr, Lopt, and LX, as proxies for the group mass. Understanding how well these observables measure the total mass is important to estimate how precisely the cluster/group mass function is determined. Exploring the scaling relations built with the X-Boètes sample and comparing these with samples from the literature, we find a break in the LX–M500 relation at approximately M500 = 5 × 1013 M⊙ (for M500 > 5 × 1013 M⊙, M500 ∝ LX 0.61±0.02, while for M500 ≤ 5 × 1013 M⊙, M500 ∝ LX 0.44±0.03). Thus, the mass–luminosity relation for galaxy groups cannot be described by the same power law as galaxy clusters. A possible explanation for this break is the dynamical friction, tidal interactions, and projection effects that reduce the velocity dispersion values of the galaxy groups. By extending the cluster luminosity function to the group regime, we predict the number of groups that new X-ray surveys, particularly eROSITA, will detect. Based on our cluster/group luminosity function estimates, eROSITA will identify ~1800 groups (LX = 1031–1043 erg s−1) within a distance of 200 Mpc. Since groups lie in large-scale filaments, this group sample will map the large-scale structure of the local universe.

Key words: galaxies: groups: general – surveys – X-rays: galaxies: clusters

Online-only material: color figures, extended figure

1. INTRODUCTION

Galaxy groups have lower masses, lower velocity dispersions, lower luminosities, and smaller extents than galaxy clusters. However, galaxy groups are not simply scaled down versions of rich clusters (e.g., Mulchaey 2000; Ponman 2003; Voit 2005). Due to a group’s shallow gravitational potential, feedback processes (e.g., galactic winds and active galactic nucleus (AGN) feedback) play important roles in the group’s evolution. Feedback processes also can systematically increase the intrinsic scatter and change global properties. Because the evolution of galaxy groups is not a simple product of gravitational mechanisms, it is complex to reproduce it in simulations and thus necessary to check the results with observations.

The matter composition in groups also may be altered by feedback processes. While the intracluster medium (ICM) is strongly dominated by the hot gas in clusters, in groups the mass of the galaxy members can exceed the gas mass (Giodini et al. 2009). When this occurs, the characteristic properties of the gas, including X-ray luminosity (LX), X-ray temperature (TX), and gas mass fraction (f), will be lower compared to the dynamical properties, including velocity dispersion (σ) and total mass (MTot). A direct consequence of this is the break in the scaling relations of galaxy clusters and galaxy groups (Davé et al. 2008; Pope 2009; Mittal et al. 2011).

Scaling relations for clusters and groups, including X-ray luminosity versus mass, X-ray luminosity versus velocity dispersion, and X-ray luminosity versus temperature, have been investigated extensively (Finoguenov et al. 2001; Reiprich & Böhringer 2002; Popesso et al. 2006; Rykoff et al. 2008; Lopes et al. 2009b; Vikhlinin et al. 2009; Ettori et al. 2010; Leauthaud et al. 2010). However, the question of whether the relations determined for clusters also hold true for poor clusters and groups still remains unsettled.

Some evidence supports a break in the scaling relations at the low end of the group/cluster mass range, possibly caused by the strong influence of non-gravitational physics on low-mass groups. In studies of poor systems, Mahdavi et al. (2000) and Xue & Wu (2000) found L X ∝ σ−3.88±0.4 and L X ∝ σ−2.35±0.21, flatter than the theoretical expectation for a self-similar model, L X ∝ σ−4. Helsdon & Ponman (2000; L X ∝ σ−2.4±0.4) and Osmond & Ponman (2004; L X ∝ σ−2.31±0.62) also found significantly flatter relations in groups. For groups, Finoguenov et al. (2001) reported a steeper M–T slope than for clusters. Maughan et al. (2012) found an observed steepening in the L X–TX relation for relaxed systems below 3.5 keV and argued it is caused by central heating that affects the ICM to larger radii in lower mass systems.

Other studies do not support a break in the scaling relations between groups and clusters, but instead find consistent results for the whole observed mass range, though often with larger scatter for groups for the L X–σ, L X–T , M–T, σ–T, and M–Y X relations (e.g., Mulchaey & Zabludoff 1998; Osmond & Ponman 2004; Sun et al. 2009; Eckmiller et al. 2011).
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Michael Anderson in 2006 in his SAO REU 6 summer project to examine the redshift distribution of the 32 candidates in the X-Boötes field. The observations were made with the Hectospec spectrograph on the 6.5 m MMT telescope. Each fiber has a diameter of 0.5′′. The spectrograph is positioned in 15 different locations on the sky as shown in Figure 2 from Kochanek et al. (2012). The wavelength range is 3700–9200 Å, with a pixel scale of 1.2 Å and a spectral resolution of 6 Å. The AGES survey was designed to investigate the AGN activity and properties of galaxies from the local to the distant universe.

The final sample comprises 21,805 redshifts for galaxies and AGNs to a limiting magnitude of $I < 20$ mag, having 4764 of 21,805 AGN spectra. The survey is sensitive to $L^\ast$ galaxies to $z = 0.5$. The median galaxy redshift is 0.31 and 90% of the redshifts are in the range 0.05 < $z$ < 0.66.  

4 In our survey, we do not expect to observe many clusters with $L_X > 2 \times 10^{44}$ erg s$^{-1}$ since their numeric density is equal to $10^{-6}$ Mpc$^{-3}$ and our Chandra survey observations are only 5 ks and cover 9 deg$^2$.  

5 The original extended source list from Kenter et al. (2005) contains 43 objects. After determining their redshift, we verified that two sources were identified twice. They are XBS 01 and XBS 02, and XBS 16 and XBS 17.  

6 Research Experience for Undergraduate students.  

7 http://space.mit.edu/cxc/marx-4.5/index.html
Figure 1. Chandra images in the 0.5–2 keV energy band binned with 4′′ resolution for three sources originally classified by Kenter et al. (2005) as extended, which we found in deeper Chandra observations to be point-like.

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

Figure 2. Extended X-ray source XBS 06 at α = 14:26:57.9 and δ = 34:12:01. This group has 2300 net X-ray counts, \( L_X = 3.1 \times 10^{43} \text{ erg s}^{-1} \) in the 0.5–2 keV band and \( N_{\text{gals}} = 50 \). The left panel shows the ACIS-S 30 ks image (ObsId = 10945) in the 0.5–2 keV band with the radio contours of the jets (red lines). It is possible to see a cavity in the X-ray emission, probably associated with the SW radio lobe. The middle panel presents the \( I \)-band image from NDWFS, where we can see the BCG at the center of the X-ray emission. The right panel is the FIRST-NRAO radio image that shows the BCG’s radio lobes, which extend \( \approx 110 \text{ kpc} \) and \( 75 \text{ kpc} \).

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

3. DYNAMICAL ANALYSIS OF GALAXY GROUPS

3.1. Redshift Determinations for Each Group

We use the AGES data to determine the redshifts of the galaxy groups. Each system’s redshift was first estimated inside a 60′′ radius aperture centered on the X-ray position. We use two different approaches to estimate the galaxy group’s redshift. In the first, we try to identify each group in redshift space by applying a “gap technique” (Katgert et al. 1996). If we identify the group in redshift space, then we measure its redshift applying a biweight estimate using only those galaxies selected by the gap technique. If we do not identify a group in redshift space, we apply a second approach, which consists of determining the redshift of the group applying the biweight estimate to all galaxies within 60′′ of the X-ray position, no matter their redshift differences.

The gap technique (Katgert et al. 1996) identifies each group in redshift space. Two galaxies, which are adjacent in redshift, are determined to belong to the same group if their velocity difference does not exceed a pre-determined value, called the velocity gap. We adopt a variable velocity gap referred to as a “density gap” (Adami et al. 1998; Lopes 2007; Lopes et al. 2009a). The density gap width is given by the expression

\[
\Delta z = 500 \left[ 1 + \exp\left(-\frac{(N - 6)}{33}\right) \right]/c,
\]

where \( N \) is the number of galaxies inside the 60′′ radius aperture and \( c \) is the speed of light in \( \text{km s}^{-1} \). The gap technique considers the system to be a galaxy group if it has at least three galaxies identified. After a galaxy group is identified through the gap technique, we determine its redshift through the biweight estimate (Beers et al. 1990), using only the galaxies selected with the gap technique. If more than one group of galaxies is identified, we choose the group with the smallest offset from the X-ray centroid. After the redshift determination, we diagnosed two groups that were identified twice in X-rays by Kenter et al. (2005). They are groups XBS 01 and XBS 02, and XBS 16 and XBS 17. For our analysis, we keep the groups XBS 02 and XBS 17 because they have more galaxies identified as members compared to their duplicate identifications.

With the gap technique, we are able to identify 17 of 32 extended sources in redshift space. For the other 15 systems, the biweight estimate is performed using all galaxies within 60′′ of the X-ray center. If there is only one galaxy with a measured redshift, its redshift is taken as the redshift of the system. Using this second approach, we are able to estimate the redshifts for 10 of the 15 groups. Since the gap technique combined with the...
### Table 1
Information of Position, Redshift, and Exposure for the 32 Galaxy Groups Selected with the X-Boötes Survey

| Name   | R.A. (J2000) | Decl. (J2000) | ObsId | Exposure (ks) | z          | Nspec<sup>a</sup> | Technique<sup>b</sup> |
|--------|--------------|---------------|-------|---------------|------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| XBS 02 | 14:25:32.90  | 32:56:44      | 4268  | 4.7           | 0.215 ± 0.001 | 7                | Gap (60")           |
| XBS 04 | 14:26:32.51  | 35:08:21      | 3621  | 4.7           | 0.175± 0.001 | 0                | Spectrum             |
| XBS 05 | 14:26:37.04  | 35:27:34      | 7775  | 14.8          | 0.257      | 1                | BGG<sup>c</sup>      |
| XBS 06 | 14:26:57.90  | 34:12:01      | 10495 | 30.0          | 0.129 ± 0.004 | 17               | Gap (60")           |
| XBS 07 | 14:27:09.30  | 33:15:10      | 9895  | 30.6          | 0.011      | 1                | BGG<sup>c</sup>      |
| XBS 08 | 14:27:13.78  | 32:28:57      | 7948  | 42.2          | 0.132      | 1                | BGG<sup>c</sup>      |
| XBS 09 | 14:27:41.89  | 33:12:54      | 4258  | 4.6           | 0.151 ± 0.000<sup>d</sup> | 13          | Gap (60")           |
| XBS 11 | 14:29:00.60  | 35:37:34      | 7000  | 4.4           | 0.234 ± 0.001 | 9               | Gap (60")           |
| XBS 13 | 14:29:16.51  | 33:59:29      | 9434  | 24.8          | 0.129 ± 0.002 | 13               | Gap (60")           |
| XBS 14 | 14:29:55.87  | 33:17:11      | 4253  | 4.6           | 0.419 ± 0.002 | 3               | Gap (60")           |
| XBS 17 | 14:31:09.17  | 35:06:09      | 3624  | 4.6           | 0.194 ± 0.003 | 11              | Gap (60")           |
| XBS 18 | 14:31:13.81  | 32:32:25      | 10496 | 28.8          | 0.231 ± 0.018 | 0                | Spectrum             |
| XBS 20 | 14:31:56.12  | 34:38:06      | 9896  | 50.9          | 0.350 ± 0.002 | 11              | Gap (60")           |
| XBS 21 | 14:32:51.50  | 32:30:18      | 4277  | 4.7           | ...         | 0                | ...                 |
| XBS 22 | 14:32:53.14  | 33:18:06      | 4246  | 4.7           | 0.569 ± 0.000<sup>d</sup> | 5          | Gap (60")           |
| XBS 25 | 14:34:27.43  | 34:07:46      | 4220  | 4.6           | 0.191 ± 0.002 | 4               | Gap (60")           |
| XBS 26 | 14:34:49.05  | 35:43:01      | 3598  | 4.7           | 0.152 ± 0.001 | 4               | Gap (60")           |
| XBS 27 | 14:35:08.85  | 35:03:49      | 9435  | 44.6          | 0.730 ± 0.066 | 0                | Spectrum             |
| XBS 28 | 14:35:09.03  | 33:30:50      | 4247  | 4.7           | 0.422 ± 0.138 | 1                | BGG<sup>c</sup>      |
| XBS 29 | 14:35:11.94  | 34:09:22      | 13132 | 27.7          | 0.404      | 1                | BGG<sup>c</sup>      |
| XBS 32 | 14:36:01.94  | 34:42:26      | 3643  | 4.7           | 0.534 ± 0.001 | 4               | Gap (60")           |
| XBS 33 | 14:36:15.44  | 33:46:50      | 4232  | 4.7           | 0.343 ± 0.001 | 6               | Gap (60")           |
| XBS 35 | 14:36:51.06  | 34:17:37      | 3659  | 4.7           | 0.045      | 1                | BGG<sup>c</sup>      |
| XBS 36 | 14:37:05.56  | 33:33:44      | 4234  | 4.7           | 0.243 ± 0.000<sup>d</sup> | 4          | Gap (60")           |
| XBS 37 | 14:37:07.06  | 34:18:48      | 3659  | 4.7           | 0.122 ± 0.001 | 5               | Gap (60")           |
| XBS 38 | 14:37:14.35  | 34:15:03      | 4218  | 5.0           | 0.541 ± 0.002 | 8               | Gap (60")           |
| XBS 39 | 14:37:29.18  | 34:18:22      | 3660  | 4.6           | 0.396      | 1                | BGG<sup>c</sup>      |
| XBS 41 | 14:37:42.77  | 34:08:07      | 10461 | 100.0         | 0.543 ± 0.186 | 1                | BGG<sup>c</sup>      |
| XBS 42 | 14:37:47.63  | 33:31:10      | 4249  | 4.6           | 0.218 ± 0.021 | 1                | BGG<sup>c</sup>      |
| XBS 43 | 14:37:48.49  | 35:06:17      | 3628  | 4.6           | 0.574 ± 0.002 | 3               | Gap (0.5 Mpc)        |
| XBS 46 | 14:28:33.80  | 35:05:35      | 4258  | 4.6           | 0.196 ± 0.000<sup>d</sup> | 3          | Gap (60")           |
| XBS 52 | 14:43:35.94  | 35:09:51      | 3615  | 4.6           | 0.599 ± 0.015 | 1                | BGG<sup>c</sup>      |

Notes.

<sup>a</sup> Number of galaxy redshifts used to estimate the group redshift.
<sup>b</sup> Technique applied to estimate the group redshift.
<sup>c</sup> This redshift was estimated by Stanford et al. (2012).
<sup>d</sup> ACIS-S observations.
<sup>e</sup> Brightest galaxy of the group.
<sup>f</sup> Redshift uncertainties <0.001.
The biweight estimate provides more reliable results than just the biweight estimate, we attempt to refine the redshifts determined from the biweight analysis. To do this, we compute the 0.5 Mpc radius using the redshift estimated from the biweight analysis and we apply the gap technique inside this physical aperture. If we identify a group in redshift space within 0.5 Mpc, we perform a biweight estimate using the galaxies now identified to be associated with the group. With this new approach, we are able to determine redshifts for 5 of the 10 groups with redshifts derived only through the biweight estimate. Finally there are five groups that do not have AGES data (XBS 04, 08, 18, 21, and 27). For XBS 04, we adopted the redshift determined from optical and IR spectra by Stanford et al. (2012). This cluster was originally identified using the Spitzer Deep Wide Field Survey (Ashby et al. 2009) data and matched with the NDWFS data. There are seven members spectroscopically identified, one of them is a quasi-stellar object observed in AGES. For XBS 08, we adopted the redshift of the brightest cluster galaxy (BCG) from the Sloan data as the group redshift. For XBS 18 and 27, we determined the redshift from the X-ray spectrum. XBS 21 has no redshifts. The list of the groups with their respective redshifts and the technique applied is given in Table 1.

To assure the reliability of the group redshifts (especially the groups XBS 05, 28, 39, 41, and 52 for which the redshift was estimated based on only one or two galaxies), we identify the brightest galaxy of the group (BGG) with $M_R \leq M^*_{R} - 1$, inside an aperture of 60″ centered on the X-ray emission and compare its redshift with the redshift of the group. When the redshift difference $|cz_{\text{group}} - cz_{\text{BGG}}| \geq 300$ km s$^{-1}$, we adopt the redshift of the BGG as the redshift of the system. We could identify the BGG in 28 of the 32 groups. For these 28 groups, 16 have a group redshift consistent with the redshift of the brightest galaxy of the group, 6 only have the BGG redshift, and the remaining 6 groups do not have a redshift consistent with the BGG redshift. For these six groups, we adopt the redshift of the BGG as the redshift of the group. Table 2 shows the information for the BGGs. Thus, the final group sample contains 32 X-ray

### Table 2

| Name | R.A.-BGG (deg) | Decl.-BGG (deg) | z-BGG | $M_R$ | Offset* (arcmin) |
|------|----------------|----------------|-------|-------|-----------------|
| XBS 02 | 216.387 | 32.9440 | 0.214 | −22.62 | 0.11 |
| XBS 05 | 216.655 | 35.4588 | 0.257 | −21.53 | 0.06 |
| XBS 06 | 216.749 | 34.1999 | 0.128 | −23.90 | 0.36 |
| XBS 07* | 216.786 | 33.2525 | 0.011 | −20.51 | 0.13 |
| XBS 08* | 216.797 | 32.4880 | 0.132 | −23.19 | 0.68 |
| XBS 09 | 216.931 | 33.2042 | 0.151 | −21.83 | 0.22 |
| XBS 11 | 217.251 | 35.6226 | 0.191 | −23.85 | 0.39 |
| XBS 13 | 217.310 | 33.8986 | 0.129 | −23.15 | 0.22 |
| XBS 14 | 217.482 | 33.2864 | 0.011 | −23.19 | 0.68 |
| XBS 17 | 217.798 | 35.1026 | 0.191 | −22.71 | 0.46 |
| XBS 20 | 218.220 | 33.3062 | 0.569 | −24.50 | 0.26 |
| XBS 25 | 218.615 | 34.1279 | 0.189 | −23.36 | 0.24 |
| XBS 26 | 218.705 | 35.7131 | 0.152 | −23.36 | 0.24 |
| XBS 28 | 218.788 | 33.5182 | 0.422 | −23.49 | 0.25 |
| XBS 29 | 218.810 | 34.1496 | 0.404 | −20.28 | 0.54 |
| XBS 32 | 219.019 | 34.6994 | 0.534 | −24.23 | 0.72 |
| XBS 33 | 219.057 | 33.7881 | 0.337 | −23.49 | 0.51 |
| XBS 35 | 219.211 | 34.2927 | 0.045 | −21.47 | 0.09 |
| XBS 36 | 219.271 | 33.5610 | 0.243 | −23.66 | 0.11 |
| XBS 37 | 219.279 | 34.3140 | 0.122 | −23.59 | 0.03 |
| XBS 38 | 219.319 | 34.2516 | 0.547 | −24.14 | 0.33 |
| XBS 39* | 219.380 | 34.3097 | 0.396 | −19.75 | 0.45 |
| XBS 41 | 219.429 | 34.1363 | 0.543 | −24.28 | 0.07 |
| XBS 42 | 219.448 | 33.5610 | 0.243 | −23.66 | 0.11 |
| XBS 43 | 219.442 | 35.1138 | 0.576 | −23.37 | 0.65 |
| XBS 46 | 219.478 | 35.1645 | 0.599 | −22.63 | 0.02 |

**Notes.**

* Offset between the X-ray position and the BGG.

* Redshift from NASA/IPAC Extragalactic Database (NED).

* Redshift from SDSS DR8.

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Figure 3. Positions of the 32 galaxy groups (red circles) in the Chandra mosaic of Boötes ACIS-I fields. (A color version of this figure is available in the online journal.)

Figure 4. Redshift distribution of the 30 X-ray-selected groups in the Boötes field.
selected groups and we are able to determine the redshifts for 31 of these.

### 3.2. Virial Analysis

With the redshifts estimated, we calculate the dynamical properties of the groups, including velocity dispersion, physical radius, and total mass. To do this, we perform a virial analysis. Lopes et al. (2009a) showed that if a survey is complete to at least $M^{\ast}+1$, the velocity dispersion ($\sigma_v$) and the corresponding mass estimates for galaxy groups and clusters are reliable, while if the survey is shallower, those masses may be biased. Therefore, we apply the virial analysis only for the groups with $z \leq 0.35$, where AGES is complete to $M^{\ast}+1$. We also require that the galaxy group must have at least five galaxy members.

The first step before starting the virial analysis is to eliminate the interlopers. To do so, we use a technique called “shifting gapper” (Lopes et al. 2009a), applied to all galaxies with spectra available within $R_{500}$ centered on the X-ray coordinates. The $R_{500}$ of each group is determined from the $L_X-M_{500}$ relation for groups from Eckmiller et al. (2011) using the X-ray luminosities estimated in Section 5. We convert $M_{500}$ to $R_{500}$ using the equation:

$$M_{500} = 500 \times \frac{4\pi}{3} \rho_c R_{500}^3,$$

where $\rho_c$ is the critical density of the universe at the redshift of the group.

The principle of the “shifting-gapper” technique is the same as for the gap technique used to estimate the redshifts of the groups, except for two differences: (1) we apply the procedure in radial bins from the center of the group, and (2) the size of the velocity gap between two galaxies adjacent in velocity depends on the velocity limits of each group (as shown in Equation (3)). This method makes no assumption about the dynamical state of the group. The procedure applied is very similar to the one used in Lopes et al. (2009a). The most important difference is that we do not run the interloper rejection to a radius of 4 Mpc, but instead we stop at $R_{500}$. The reason why we perform the analysis only inside $R_{500}$ is because for poor groups, 4 Mpc is several times larger than the virial radius.

We start the “shifting-gapper” technique by selecting all available within $R_{500}$ of the group center and with $|cz - cz_{\text{group}}| \leq 4000$ km s$^{-1}$, where $cz_{\text{group}}$ is the redshift of the group estimated in Section 3.1. We run the gap technique in radial bins of 0.35 Mpc width or larger (if it does not exceed $R_{500}$) to guarantee the selection of at least 15 galaxies in each annulus. In the first radial bin, we order the galaxies by velocity and run the gap technique. A galaxy is excluded as an outlier if the velocity difference between it and the adjacent galaxy exceeds the velocity gap given by

$$\Delta z = \frac{|v_{lo} - v_{hi}|}{10} \times \left\{1 + \exp\left[-(N - 6)/3\right]\right\}/c,$$

where $v_{lo}$ and $v_{hi}$ are the lower and higher velocity limits of the galaxies in the group measured inside 0.5 Mpc. These velocity limits are symmetric.

If no group is found in the first radial bin, we keep all the galaxies, $v_{lo}$ and $v_{hi}$, and we reanalyze them with the galaxies of the next annulus. If a group is identified according to Equation (3), we keep all the galaxies selected as members within $v_{lo}$ and $v_{hi}$. Then, we update the values of $v_{lo}$ and $v_{hi}$ using only the member galaxies. For the next annulus, we use these new values for $v_{lo}$ and $v_{hi}$. We repeat this routine until we reach $R_{500}$.

After excluding the interlopers, we have 14 groups within $z \leq 0.35$ with at least 5 galaxy members. Figure 5 illustrates the results of the outliers removal for the three most massive groups in the sample. In each panel, the filled circles to the left of the solid line represent the group members and the open squares represent the rejected interlopers. The vertical line marks $R_{500}$ for each group from the $L_X-M_{500}$ relation (Eckmiller et al. 2011). In Figure 5, we extended the interloper rejection analysis to larger radii to show the large-scale structure in which these groups reside. The result of the outlier exclusion inside $R_{500}$ is not altered, if we extend the analysis to large radii.

In the Appendix, we present the galaxy group catalog to $z \leq 0.35$. We show the galaxy number density profile and the spatial distribution of galaxy members and interlopers for each of these 14 groups. In the numeric density profiles (left panel of Figure 11), we can see that even the least massive groups present a peak of density over the galaxy background distribution, reinforcing that these systems are real galaxy groups. In the spatial distribution of galaxy members and interlopers (middle and right panels of Figure 11), we also see a clump of galaxy
members inside $R_{500}$ for all 14 groups. The colors of the galaxy members and interlopers represent their velocities. Through the colors of the symbols, it is possible to verify that these central galaxy clumps are not a projection effect, but a real agglomeration of galaxies at the same distance.

These 14 groups were subjected to the virial analysis adopted by Girardi et al. (1998), Popesso et al. (2005, 2007), Biviano et al. (2006), and Lopes et al. (2009a). For more details about the rejection of interlopers and the virial interlopers analysis, see Lopes et al. (2009a). As a result of this procedure, we obtain $\sigma_{gr}$, $R_{500}$, $R_{200}$, $M_{500}$, and $M_{200}$. In our further analysis, we adopt the $R_{500}$ estimated through the virial analysis. The results of the virial analysis are given in Table 3: the group name; number of galaxies used to compute the velocity dispersion ($N_\sigma$), velocity dispersion ($\sigma_{gr}$), physical radius ($R_{500}$), total mass ($M_{500}$), optical luminosity ($L_{\text{opt}}$), and richness ($N_{\text{gal}}$). The final two quantities will be derived in Section 4. The X-Boo\'t\es\'e groups have velocity dispersion estimates of $110 < \sigma_{gr} < 650$ km s$^{-1}$. We find that these 14 groups have total masses which range over 2 magnitudes from $3 \times 10^{12} M_{\odot}$ to $2 \times 10^{14} M_{\odot}$.

4. OPTICAL PROPERTIES

For each of the 14 groups with mass estimates, we derive the richness and optical luminosity. Using the photometric data from the NDWFS, we apply the same procedure used in Lopes et al. (2006, 2009a). Our richness ($N_{\text{gal}}$) is defined as the number of galaxies with $m_R - 1 < m_R < m_R + 2$ inside $R_{500}$, where $m_R$ is the characteristic apparent magnitude in the $R$ band of the cluster luminosity function. Since the NDWFS is complete to $M_R + 2$ to $z = 1.37$, we guarantee that no galaxy is lost between the magnitude range considered to estimate the optical richness. The optical luminosity was also estimated inside $R_{500}$. We adopt the values for the bright end of the Schechter luminosity function, obtained by Popesso et al. (2006). They found the slope of the bright end $\alpha = -1.09$ and $M^{*} = -20.94$ inside $R_{200}$. We convert the values of $M^{*}$ for $z = 0$ using the cosmology adopted in this work. For different redshifts, we apply an evolutionary correction for $M^{*}$ from Yee & Lopez-Cruz (1999):

$$M^{*}(z) = M^{*}(0) - 0.4Qz,$$

where $Q = -1.4$.

The first step in estimating the group richness is to convert $M^*$ into $m^*$ and calculate the apparent radius in arcseconds for $R_{500}$. As we are only interested in galaxies with magnitudes between $m_R^* - 1 < m_R < m_R^* + 2$, we selected all objects inside $R_{500}$ with magnitudes between $m_R^* - 1 + k_e < m_R < m_R^* + 2 + k_e$, where $k_e$ and $k_i$ are the $k$-corrections for elliptical and spiral (Sbc) galaxies, respectively. Considering the $k$-correction in the magnitude limits, we can guarantee that all galaxies inside $m_R^* - 1 < m_R < m_R^* + 2$ are selected. We define $N_{\text{grp}}$ as the number of galaxies inside $R_{500}$ and within the magnitude range defined previously.

Next we estimate the galaxy background contribution and subtract it from $N_{\text{grp}}$. We used 20 fields each 0.5’ in aperture spread randomly inside a $1^\circ$ annulus, 3 Mpc distant from the center of each galaxy group. In each field, we counted the number of galaxies within the same magnitude range used to extract $N_{\text{grp}}$. The background contribution of galaxies ($N_{\text{bkgd}}$) is given by the median number in the 20 fields. To avoid the border effect and contamination by other systems, fields with galaxy counts higher than $3\sigma$ or lower than $2\sigma$ were excluded from the median. Finally, the corrected galaxy counts in the group, $N_{\text{cor}}$, is equal to $N_{\text{grp}} - N_{\text{bkgd}}$, where $N_{\text{bkgd}}$ is normalized by the source area.

We next apply the $k$-correction to the galaxies inside $R_{500}$ following a bootstrap procedure. This method consists of randomly selecting $N_{\text{cor}}$ galaxies from $N_{\text{grp}}$ galaxies and applying the $k$-correction to each one. An elliptical $k$-correction is applied to $X$ percent of the $N_{\text{cor}}$ galaxies, while a Sbc $k$-correction is applied to $100 - X$ percent. This percentage $X$ of $k_e$ depends on the redshift. We assume that at $z < 0.15$ galaxy clusters and groups are composed of $80\%$ early-type galaxies (E and SO), while at $0.15 < z < 0.30$ the percentage drops to $50\%$ and for $z > 0.30$, it is equal to $30\%$ (Dressler et al. 1997; Smith et al. 2005; Lopes et al. 2009a). Then, with the corrected magnitudes, we can count the number of galaxies in the range $m_R^* - 1 < m_R < m_R^* + 2$. We repeat this procedure 100 times. The final value of $N_{\text{gal}}$ is provided by the median of the 100 procedures. The richness uncertainty ($\sigma_{N_{\text{gal}}}$) is a combination of the uncertainties of the background count ($\sigma_{\text{bkgd}}$) and the bootstrap procedure ($\sigma_{\text{boot}}$).

Thus, $\sigma_{N_{\text{gal}}}$ is equal to $\sqrt{\sigma_{\text{bkgd}}^2 + \sigma_{\text{boot}}^2}$.

We applied the same bootstrap procedure to estimate the optical luminosity for each of the 14 groups. Using bins of $\Delta m = 0.02$, we generated a magnitude distribution for the $N_{\text{cor}}$ galaxies inside $R_{500}$ with magnitudes within $m_R^* - 1 < m_R < m_R^* + 2$. The total optical luminosity ($L_{\text{opt}}$) of each system is given by

$$L_{\text{opt}} = \sum_{i=1}^{n} N_i 10^{-0.4R_i},$$

where $N_i$ is the corrected counts for each magnitude bin $R_i$. Then, we transformed the optical luminosity to absolute magnitude ($M_{\text{grp}}$) and applied the $k$-correction. To obtain the optical luminosity in solar units, we used the following equation:

$$L_{\text{opt}} = 10^{-0.4(M_{\text{grp}} - M_{\odot})},$$

where $M_{\odot} = 4.42$ (Blanton & Roweis 2007). The results for $L_{\text{opt}}$ and $N_{\text{gal}}$ inside $R_{500}$ for each group can be found in Table 3. The X-Boo\'t\es\'e groups have optical luminosities $10^{11} L_{\odot} < L_{\text{opt}} < 10^{12} L_{\odot}$, with nine groups ($\sim 65\%$) having $L_{\text{opt}} \lesssim 0.5 \times 10^{12} L_{\odot}$. Richnesses are in the range $5 < N_{\text{gal}} < 60$. Hence, as expected, the $L_{\text{opt}}$ and $N_{\text{gal}}$ have values typical of galaxy groups.
5. X-RAY PROPERTIES

To determine the 0.5–2 keV X-ray luminosity for the 31 groups with determined redshifts, we follow the procedure described in Böhringer et al. (2000). The analysis of the X-ray emission for each group consists basically of measuring the net source counts in a specified region of the galaxy group and then converting the count rate into X-ray flux and luminosity.

The first step is to estimate the background counts used to obtain the net source counts for each group. The background contribution in the 0.5–2 keV band is evaluated in an annulus centered on the central coordinates of the group, with inner and outer radii equal to 0.5 Mpc + 1′ and 0.5 Mpc + 2′, respectively. The annulus is divided into 12 equal sectors. We obtain the count rate of each sector by dividing the photon counts by the average exposure time of each sector. We excluded all counts coming from the point sources cataloged in Kenter et al. (2005) from both the background and source counts. In addition, we visually inspected the deep fields in the Boötes region to eliminate the point sources that were not cataloged by Kenter et al. (2005). To avoid the survey border effect and the contamination by other extended sources inside the ring, the median sector count rate was determined and sectors with lower than 2σ or higher than 3σ deviation from the median of all the sectors were discarded from further calculations. The final background count rate is given by the median count rates of the remaining sectors.

The X-ray count rates of the galaxy groups are estimated inside 0.5 Mpc as well as $R_{500}$, when possible. The background count rate normalized by the source area is subtracted from the source count rate. To convert the net count rates to X-ray flux in the 0.5–2 keV energy band, we use the PIMMS software package routine. We calculate the conversion factor from count rates to flux for a source assuming a given spectral model, temperature, abundance, and hydrogen column density.

We adopted the astrophysical plasma emission code APEC (Smith et al. 2001) to represent the intra-group medium, with a metallicity equal to 0.3 $Z_\odot$ and a temperature of 1 keV. The hydrogen column density (21 cm) in the direction of each group was obtained from Dickey & Lockman (1990). Once the redshift of the group is known, we determine the luminosity, $L_X$, based on the measured flux. We use this luminosity to better estimate the temperature of the gas using the $L_X - T_X$ relation from Sun (2012):

$$E(z)^{-1}L_X = L_0 \left( \frac{T_X}{2.5 \text{ keV}} \right)^{2.74}, \quad (7)$$

where $T_X$ is in keV, $L_0$ is equal to $0.3334 \times 10^{44}$ erg s$^{-1}$, and $E(z) = \sqrt{\Omega_m(1 + z)^3 + \Omega_\Lambda}$. The temperature estimate allows the calculation of a new flux and new luminosity. We repeat this procedure iteratively, until the difference between the temperatures of the two last iterations is less than 0.1 keV. Usually, the temperature converges in two or three iterations. The $k$-correction from Böhringer et al. (2000) is applied to obtain the rest-frame X-ray luminosity. To convert the X-ray luminosity in the 0.5–2 keV energy band into bolometric luminosity, we used xspec to simulate the spectrum of each group with the appropriate $nH$ column density, redshift, temperature, and abundance. We assumed a thermal plasma model and a photoelectric absorption model for the intragroup medium. We calculated the ratio between the bolometric (0.1–100 keV) and 0.5–2 keV energy band luminosity and multiplied the rest-frame X-ray luminosity of the group by this ratio to convert it to bolometric luminosity. The results are shown in Table 5.

We also extract the X-ray surface brightness profiles for the groups. Using SHERPA,10 we fit a β model (Cavaliere & Fusco-Femiano 1976) to the surface brightness profile:

$$S(r) = S_0 \left( 1 + \frac{r^2}{r_c^2} \right)^{-\frac{3\beta+1}{2}}, \quad (8)$$

where $r_c$ is the core radius and $S_0$ is the central surface brightness. The background was estimated using an annulus, with inner and outer radii equal to 0.5 Mpc + 1′ and 0.5 Mpc + 2′.11 The background region of each group was chosen to be free from contamination of extended sources and far from the detector edge. The counts from point sources were excluded from both the background and source regions. Figure 6 shows the β model fit for the group XBS 006. We were able to extract the parameters of the β model from the brightness profiles for 11 of 30 groups, which have at least 200 counts. For groups with counts below 200 photons, it was not possible to determine these parameters. The results are shown in Table 4. We find that 11 groups have β slopes between 0.4 and 0.9, while the core radii range from 22 to 143 kpc.

Of these 11 groups, we could determine the gas temperature for 9. We use CIAO to extract the spectrum of each group inside 0.5 Mpc and $R_{500}$, using the blank sky fields to subtract the background. The background region has the same area as its respective source region. The procedure differs from our X-ray luminosity and X-ray surface brightness profile analysis since now it is necessary to use the blank sky to subtract the background.

---

8 For sources XBS 06 and XBS 17, we took the inner and outer radii equal to 1 Mpc + 1′ and 1 Mpc + 2′, respectively, because their $R_{500}$ is larger than 0.5 Mpc.
9 Available on the HEASARC-NASA Web site.
10 http://cxc.harvard.edu/sherpa4.4/index.html
11 For sources XBS 06 and XBS 17, the background was estimated inside a annulus, with inner and outer radii equal to 1 Mpc + 1′ and 1 Mpc + 2′.
background because most of data used to extract the spectra are the smaller fields from ACIS-S observations. After extracting the spectrum, we used XSPEC to fit a thermal model and obtain the temperature of the gas. As we did to convert X-ray luminosity in the 0.5–2 keV energy band into bolometric luminosity, we assume a thermal plasma and photoelectric absorption model for the intra-group medium. We use the $nH$ column density and redshift of each group. As a first trial, we chose $T_X$ to be 1 keV and the heavy element abundance to be 0.3 Z⊙ and then constrained those parameters by the spectral fit. We were able to fit the spectrum of nine groups. The gas temperatures of these groups range from 0.6 to 4 keV. The results are shown in Table 5.

6. SCALING RELATIONS

In this section, we explore the use of optical and X-ray properties as mass proxies at $z \leq 0.35$. We compare $M_{500}$ and $\sigma_{gr}$ to optical ($L_{opt}$) and X-ray ($L_X$) luminosities by fitting an orthogonal regression (Akritas & Bershady 1996). All the scaling relations obtained in this work are of the form:

$$\log_{10}(Y) = A + B \times \log_{10}(X).$$  \hfill (9)

The result of the scaling relations are summarized in Table 6. The columns give (1) the parameters in the relation (X–Y); (2) the sample(s) used; (3) and (4) show the intercept (A) and the slope (B) and their respective uncertainties; and (5) shows the scatter in the $Y$ parameter at a fixed $X$.

Figure 7 shows the comparison between $\sigma_{gr}$ and $L_{opt}$ (left panel) and between $M_{500}$ derived from the velocity dispersion and $L_{opt}$ (right panel). All properties were computed within $R_{500}$. We also compare the X-Boötes sample (black dots) with the NoSOCS sample (gray stars) from Lopes et al. (2009a). To make the NoSOCS sample comparable to the X-Boötes sample, the velocity dispersions were recomputed inside $R_{500}$.

We fit the relations for the Boötes sample (black line), for NoSOCS sample (magenta line), Boötes and NoSOCS with no cut in mass (red line), with a mass cut of $M_{500} \leq 5 \times 10^{13} M_{\odot}$ (blue line) and with a mass cut of $M_{500} > 5 \times 10^{13} M_{\odot}$ (green line). The best-fit values of the relations $L_{opt}$ vs $\sigma_{gr}$ and $L_{opt}$ vs $M_{500}$ for the Boötes sample do not agree with the results for NoSOCS. While the slope of the $L_{opt}$ vs $\sigma_{gr}$ relation for Boötes has a slope of 0.79 ± 0.09, the relation for NoSOCS has a slope of 0.47 ± 0.04. There is also a large scatter in the relation for $\sigma < 400$ km s$^{-1}$. This can be explained by the fact that low-mass systems have fewer than 10 galaxy members selected and the use of systems with fewer than 10 galaxies leads to an increase in the scatter in the scaling relations. Due to the large scatter and the few points below $M_{500} \leq 5 \times 10^{13} M_{\odot}$, it is not possible to say if there is a break in the $L_{opt}$ vs $\sigma_{gr}$ relation between the high- and low-mass systems.

Optical scaling relations are generally more difficult to interpret because their behavior cannot be described by simple physics scaling arguments. This comes from the fact that galaxy properties are the result of a complex non-linear process of formation and evolution. According to the self-similar model prediction, the $M_{1000}$ vs $L_{opt}$ relation has a predicted power-law slope equal to one. For this to be true, the mass-to-light ratio must be constant for the sample. As most studies indicate (e.g., Lopes et al. 2009b), there is an increase of $M/L$ vs mass of the cluster. The straightforward result of the dependence of $M/L$ on the mass is that the power-law slope of the $M_{1000}$ vs $L_{opt}$ relation will not be the same for galaxy groups and clusters.

In Figure 8, we show the $L_X$ vs $\sigma_{gr}$ (left panel) and $L_X$ vs $M_{500}$ (right panel) relations. All properties were computed within $R_{500}$. We also compare the X-Boötes sample (black dots) with the samples from Lopes et al. (2009a, gray stars), Vikhlinin et al. (2009, red triangles), Maughan et al. (2008, green squares), and Sun et al. (2009, blue pentagons). We fit the relations for the Boötes sample (black line) for all the samples (purple line) and for all the samples with mass cuts of $M_{500} \leq 5 \times 10^{13} M_{\odot}$ (magenta line) and $M_{500} > 5 \times 10^{13} M_{\odot}$ (cyan line). It is important to note that differently from X-Boötes and NoSOCS samples, where masses were determined using galaxy dynamics, Vikhlinin et al. (2009), Sun et al. (2009), and Maughan et al. (2008) estimated the $M_{500}$ using X-ray data. To verify how
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Figure 7. Comparison between optical properties for 14 X-Boötes groups at $z < 0.35$ with at least 5 member galaxies (black dots) and the NoSOCS sample of galaxy groups and clusters (gray stars). In the left panel, we show the relation between optical luminosity and velocity dispersion ($\sigma_{\text{opt}}$). The red, blue, and green lines are the orthogonal regression fit for both data sets (X-Boötes and NoSOCS), both data sets with $M_{500}$, respectively. The black line is the orthogonal regression fit using only the X-Boötes data. The magenta line is the regression fit only for NoSOCS. The red, blue, and green lines are the orthogonal regression fit for both data sets (X-Boötes and NoSOCS), both data sets with $M_{500} \leq 5 \times 10^{13} M_\odot$, and both data sets with $M_{500} > 5 \times 10^{13} M_\odot$, respectively.

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

Table 6

| Relation ($X-Y$) | Sample | $A$ | $B$ | $\sigma_{\text{Log}F_X}$ |
|------------------|--------|-----|-----|--------------------------|
| $L_{X_{500}}-\sigma_{500}$ | XBS    | 2.79 ± 0.05 | 0.79 ± 0.09 | 0.15 |
|                  | NoSOCS | 2.79 ± 0.01 | 0.47 ± 0.04 | 0.22 |
|                  | XBS, NoSOCS | 2.79 ± 0.01 | 0.55 ± 0.04 | 0.21 |
|                  | XBS, NoSOCS ($M_{500} > 5 \times 10^{13} M_\odot$) | 2.79 ± 0.01 | 0.42 ± 0.03 | 0.21 |
|                  | XBS, NoSOCS ($M_{500} \leq 5 \times 10^{13} M_\odot$) | 2.55 ± 0.24 | 0.43 ± 0.36 | 0.47 |
| $L_{X_{500}}-M_{500}$ | XBS    | 0.15 ± 0.12 | 1.65 ± 0.17 | 0.23 |
|                  | NoSOCS | 0.52 ± 0.03 | 1.37 ± 0.13 | 0.19 |
|                  | XBS, NoSOCS | 0.53 ± 0.04 | 1.65 ± 0.12 | 0.20 |
|                  | XBS, NoSOCS ($M_{500} > 5 \times 10^{13} M_\odot$) | 0.51 ± 0.03 | 1.13 ± 0.08 | 0.19 |
|                  | XBS, NoSOCS ($M_{500} \leq 5 \times 10^{13} M_\odot$) | 0.11 ± 0.37 | 1.50 ± 0.50 | 0.29 |
| $L_{X_{500}}-\sigma_{500}$ | XBS    | 2.16 ± 0.07 | 0.23 ± 0.07 | 0.30 |
|                  | NoSOCS | 2.36 ± 0.06 | 0.20 ± 0.03 | 0.49 |
|                  | XBS, NoSOCS | 2.27 ± 0.05 | 0.24 ± 0.03 | 0.57 |
|                  | XBS, NoSOCS ($M_{500} > 5 \times 10^{13} M_\odot$) | 2.47 ± 0.04 | 0.14 ± 0.02 | 1.01 |
|                  | XBS, NoSOCS ($M_{500} \leq 5 \times 10^{13} M_\odot$) | 2.19 ± 0.05 | 0.10 ± 0.05 | 1.38 |
| $L_{X_{500}}-M_{500}$ | XBS    | −1.25 ± 0.21 | 0.66 ± 0.21 | 0.34 |
|                  | All ($M_{500} > 5 \times 10^{13} M_\odot$) | −1.05 ± 0.05 | 0.68 ± 0.02 | 0.74 |
|                  | All ($M_{500} \leq 5 \times 10^{13} M_\odot$) | −0.85 ± 0.05 | 0.61 ± 0.02 | 0.74 |

the results change if the X-ray samples are neglected, we fit the $L_X-M_{500}$ relation using only the X-Boötes and NoSOCS samples. The best-fit values are $M_{500} \propto L_X^{0.76\pm0.07}$ (for no mass cut), $M_{500} \propto L_X^{3.37\pm0.15}$ (for $M_{500} \leq 5 \times 10^{13} M_\odot$), and $M_{500} \propto L_X^{0.50\pm0.05}$ (for $M_{500} > 5 \times 10^{13} M_\odot$). These values are consistent within 1σ with the results displayed in Table 6.

Since the X-Boötes sample was X-ray-selected, it is clearly not volume limited, but flux limited and therefore various correlations could be subject to Malmquist bias. To test the Malmquist bias in the $L_X-\sigma_f$ and $L_X-M_{500}$ relations, we choose two volumes ($z = 0.20$ and $z = 0.35$) and determine the limiting X-ray luminosity ($L_X = 1.12 \times 10^{42}$ and $L_X = 4.01 \times 10^{42}$ erg s$^{-1}$, respectively) equivalent to the limiting flux of the X-Boötes survey for extended sources ($f_X = 1 \times 10^{-14}$ erg s$^{-1}$ cm$^{-2}$) in each volume. For $z \leq 0.35$ and $L_X > 4.01 \times 10^{42}$ erg s$^{-1}$, the best-fit values are $\sigma_f \propto L_X^{0.16\pm0.12}$ and

In this fit, the groups XBS 07, XBS 26, and XBS 35 were excluded.
$M_{500} \propto L_{X}^{0.83\pm0.09}$. For $z \leq 0.20$ and $L_{X} > 1.12 \times 10^{42}$ erg s$^{-1}$, the best-fit values are $\sigma_{gr} \propto L_{X}^{0.42\pm0.27}$ and $M_{500} \propto L_{X}^{1.13\pm0.65}$. The resulting power-law exponents of the scaling relations are consistent with the best-fit values found for the X-Bo"otes sample (see Table 6). The uncertainties on the fits are large and these are directly linked to the small number of sources used to fit the relations. For this reason, we cannot conclude that we are not entirely free from the Malmquist bias, but the tests suggest that we are not dominated by it. To investigate it in detail, it is necessary more data and larger samples to test this further.

The best-fit values of the relation $L_{X} - \sigma_{gr}$ for the Bo"otes sample agree with the results for all the samples (NoSOCS and X-Bo"otes combined), with the self-similar model predictions ($\sigma \propto L_{X}^{0.5}$) and with the results found in Figure 8 of Fassnacht et al. (2008), in Mahdavi & Geller (2001) ($\sigma_{gr} \propto L_{X}^{0.23\pm0.15}$), and in Helsdon & Ponman (2000) ($\sigma_{gr} \propto L_{X}^{0.21\pm0.03}$). The slope of the $L_{X} - \sigma_{gr}$ relation for Bo"otes has a slope of $0.23 \pm 0.07$. When we consider the mass cut $M_{500} = 5 \times 10^{13} M_\odot$, the result is a similar slope for both high- and low-mass regimes (0.14 and 0.10, respectively). For the high-mass systems, the slope may have been flattened by six clusters from the NoSOCS sample. They have high values for $L_{X}$ ($10^{44} - 10^{45}$ erg s$^{-1}$) compared to their velocity dispersions ($700 - 1000$ km s$^{-1}$). When these six clusters are excluded from the fit, the relation has a slope of $0.25 \pm 0.05$. In the low-mass regime ($M_{500} \leq 5 \times 10^{13} M_\odot$), the slope of the relation is obtained using 16 groups and therefore the result is uncertain. Based on these results, we can not conclude if there is a break in the $L_{X} - \sigma_{gr}$ relation.

Although we are unable to determine the existence of a break in the $L_{X} - \sigma_{gr}$ relation, there are a set of galaxy groups with $\sigma_{gr} \leq 200$ km s$^{-1}$ that has an offset in an opposite direction to what would be expected if we consider the effects of feedback processes over the intragroup medium. In the presence of AGN outburst, for instance, a fraction of the intragroup gas could be expelled from the group gravitational potential. As a direct consequence, the group $L_{X}$ would decrease, but the velocity dispersion would remain unaltered. However, what is observed from the left panel of Figure 8 is that groups with $\sigma_{gr} \leq 200$ km s$^{-1}$ have higher $L_{X}$ in comparison with their $\sigma_{gr}$. This same phenomenon was observed before by dell’Antonio et al. (1994), Mahdavi et al. (2000), Mahdavi & Geller (2001), Helsdon et al. (2005), and Rines & Diaferio (2010).

If the velocity dispersion values estimated from the galaxy velocities in the line of sight (see Section 3.2) are a fair estimate of the “real” velocity dispersion, then some process must have reduced the velocity dispersion of the galaxies in these systems. Helsdon et al. (2005) suggested three scenarios to explain the reduction of the galaxy velocity dispersion. The first possibility is the dynamical friction, which leads to a transfer of energy from a large orbiting body to the dark matter particles through which it moves. The second possibility is that orbital energy may be converted into internal energy of galaxies, through tidal interactions. This effect is not significant in clusters because the orbital velocities of galaxies are substantially higher than their internal velocity dispersion. The third possibility is that much of the orbital motion of the galaxy groups takes place in the plane of the sky and does not contribute to the line of sight velocity dispersion. Tovmassian et al. (2002) showed that it is expected to find elongation and an anisotropic velocity dispersion tensor in many systems since groups generally form within cosmic filaments.

For the $L_{X} - M_{500}$ relation (right panel of Figure 8), the best-fit values for the X-Bo"otes sample agree with the results found for all the samples and for all the samples with the mass cut of $M_{500} > 5 \times 10^{13} M_\odot$. However, in the low-mass regime...
(\(M_{500} \lesssim 5 \times 10^{13} \, M_\odot\)), the slope of 0.45 ± 0.08 does not agree with the steeper slopes (0.61–0.68) found for the other samples. It is clear in Figure 8 that there is a break in the \(L_X-M_{500}\) relation for low- and high-mass systems. Thus, galaxy groups cannot be described by the same power law as galaxy clusters.

A large number of researchers (e.g., Reiprich & Böhringer 2002; Ettori et al. 2002; Maughan et al. 2006; Maughan 2007; Vikhlinin et al. 2009; Pratt et al. 2009) have measured the slope for \(L_X-M_{500}\) relation as 0.5–0.7, which is flatter than the self-similar predictions of \(M_{500} \propto L_X^{3/4}\). These works show that the ICM is heavily affected by non-gravitational processes. Since \(L_X\) comes from the hot ICM, any change in the amount of hot gas in the system will influence the \(L_X\). However, the feedback processes cannot explain the steep \(L_X-M_{500}\) relation for low-mass systems. If we consider the \(L_X-M_{500}\) relation for clusters (purple and cyan lines in Figure 8), the groups show an excess of \(L_X\) compared to \(M_{500}\). Since the \(M_{500}\) of the X-Boötes groups were derived from the velocity dispersion (see Section 3.2), reduction in the velocity dispersion will provoke an reduction in \(M_{500}\). As we mentioned before, dynamical friction, tidal interactions between the galaxy members of the group, and projection effects can decrease the velocity dispersion values. These effects are not significant in clusters, causing the \(L_X-M_{500}\) to be flatter for groups than for clusters.

It is interesting to note that the steepening of scaling relations in the group regime extends also to systems at intermediate and high redshifts. Willis et al. (2005) found evidence from the \(L_X-T_X\) relation for poor groups at \(z \sim 0.4\). Jeltema et al. (2007, 2009) showed that there is some tendency for intermediate-redshift groups to have velocity dispersions that are low given their X-ray luminosity. Adami et al. (2011) found signs of major substructures in the velocity distribution of high-redshift groups that could explain their relatively high \(L_X\) value compared to its optical richness. All these works show some indications of the deviation from the energy equipartition between galaxies and intragroup gas.

7. \(\log N-\log S\) AND THE X-RAY LUMINOSITY FUNCTION OF GROUPS

Using the survey solid angle, we calculate the number of groups per flux bin, the \(\log N-\log S\) relation, for the Boötes survey sample, which is complete to \(f_X = 1 \times 10^{-14} \, \text{erg} \, \text{s}^{-1} \, \text{cm}^{-2}\). Kenter et al. (2005) estimated that the X-Boötes survey on axis detection limit is \(\approx 1 \times 10^{-14} \, \text{erg} \, \text{s}^{-1} \, \text{cm}^{-2}\), which agrees with the predictions made by Chon & Böhringer (2012) and Pillepich et al. (2012). The \(\log N-\log S\) relation predicts the number of systems that future large X-ray surveys will observe. The eROSITA all sky survey, in particular, will have an average exposure time of 3 ks and will be complete to \(f_X = 3 \times 10^{-14} \, \text{erg} \, \text{s}^{-1} \, \text{cm}^{-2}\). Thus, it will be able to observe clusters with masses as small as \(3.5 \times 10^{14} \, h^{-1} \, M_\odot\) to \(z = 2\). Based on Figure 9, eROSITA will detect 100,000–130,000 galaxy groups and clusters brighter than \(f_X = 3 \times 10^{-14} \, \text{erg} \, \text{s}^{-1} \, \text{cm}^{-2}\) to \(z = 2\), which agrees with the predictions made by Chon & Böhringer (2012) and Pillepich et al. (2012).

With the eROSITA flux limit it will be possible to observe groups that are more luminous than \(L_X = 10^{43} \, \text{erg} \, \text{s}^{-1}\) to \(z = 0.46\), groups with \(L_X = 10^{42} \, \text{erg} \, \text{s}^{-1}\) to \(z = 0.114, \) and groups with \(L_X = 5 \times 10^{42} \, \text{erg} \, \text{s}^{-1}\) to \(z = 0.238\), and groups with \(L_X = 10^{43} \, \text{erg} \, \text{s}^{-1}\) to \(z = 0.319\). To estimate how these groups are distributed in bins of luminosity within a given volume, we build the X-ray luminosity function (XLF).

The differential luminosity function is defined as

\[
\phi(L_X, z) = \frac{d^2N}{dV dL_X}(L_X, z),
\]

where \(N\) is the number of clusters of luminosity \(L_X\) in a volume \(V\) at a redshift \(z\). Schmidt (1968) was the first to propose the \(1/V_{\text{max}}\) technique for deriving a nonparametric representation of the differential XLF. Later, this technique was generalized by Avni & Bahcall (1980). Here, we follow the procedure described in Mullis et al. (2004) to fit the XLF, using the X-Boötes sample. We divide the observed luminosity range into bins of width \(\Delta L\), within each of which there are \(N_j\) observed groups. The luminosity binning is uniform in log space. The XLF is estimated by summing the density contributions of each

\[14\] During the wavelet detection, Kenter et al. (2005) compared all detected sources with the local PSF. The profile of a detected source was fitted to a Gaussian with the width as a free parameter. The source was only considered extended if the free parameter fitted width were larger than the local PSF width.
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Figure 10. Determinations of the group/cluster X-ray luminosity function measured by X-Bo"otes (red circles) and 160SD (blue circles). The Schechter fit for the nonparametric data points is represented by the black line. The dashed lines represent the 1σ uncertainty region of the Schechter fit, assuming the errors for \( L_\ast \) and \( \alpha \) are correlated. The data point uncertainties are \( \pm 1\sigma \).

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

group in the given luminosity and redshift bin:

\[
\phi(L_X, z) = \frac{1}{\Delta L} \sum_{i=1}^{N_j} \frac{1}{V_{\text{max}}(L_{X,i})},
\]

where \( L_{X,i} \) is the luminosity of a group and \( V_{\text{max}} \) is the total comoving volume in which a group with \( L_{X,i} \) could have been detected above the flux limits of the survey. The total comoving volume is defined by

\[
V_{\text{max}}(L_X) = \int_{z_{\text{min}}}^{z_{\text{max}}} \Omega(f_X(L_X, z)) \frac{dV(z)}{dz} dz.
\]

\( \Omega(f_X) \) is the survey solid angle written as a function of the X-ray flux and \( dV(z)/dz \) is the differential comoving volume element per steradian. To fit the group XLF, we adopt the Schechter function (Schechter 1976),

\[
\phi(L_X) = A L_X^{-\alpha} \exp \left( -\frac{L_X}{L_\ast} \right).
\]

This is the parametric representation of the group/cluster XLF, where \( L_\ast \) is the characteristic luminosity marking the transition between the power-law and exponential regimes, \( \alpha \) is the faint-end slope, \( A = \phi^\ast / L_\ast^{-\alpha} \) and \( \phi^\ast \) is the normalization in units of \( \text{Mpc}^{-3} \).

Typical values of \( L_\ast \) are between \( 10^{44} \) and \( 10^{45} \) erg s\(^{-1}\), depending on the cosmological model adopted. Since the Bo"otes sample goes only to a maximum of \( L_X = 10^{44} \) erg s\(^{-1}\), we add the 160SD low redshift sample from Mullis et al. (2004) to our data to be able to fit \( L_\ast \). In Figure 10, we show the XLF fit (black line) for the X-Bo"otes (red circles) and 160SD (blue circles).

Figure 11. Left panel in each row is the density profile of the AGES galaxies centered in the central coordinates of the galaxy group. The middle panel is the \( \Delta \text{R.A.} \) vs. \( \Delta \text{Decl.} \) diagram. The filled circles are the galaxy members inside \( R_{500} \) (big red circle) used to estimate \( \sigma \). The open circles are galaxy members outside \( R_{500} \). The open squares are the rejected interlopers. The colors of the symbols represent the difference in velocity between the group and the galaxies. The color scale is represented by the color bar (in units of \( 10^3 \) km s\(^{-1}\)) on the right side of the right panel. The right panel is the zoom in region of the 1 Mpc blue box of the middle panel with \( I \)-band NDWFS image in the background. The open circles are the galaxy members inside \( R_{500} \) used to estimate \( \sigma \). The open squares are the rejected interlopers. The symbol colors follow the same scale of the color bar on the right.

(An extended version and a color version of this figure are available in the online journal.)
circles) samples. The dashed lines indicate the 1σ region of the Schechter fit assuming the errors for $L_X^*$ and $\alpha$ are correlated. The data are plotted at the center of each luminosity bin. The uncertainties on the data points are ±1σ, based on Poissonian errors for the number of groups per luminosity bin (Gehrels 1986).

We find $L_X^* = (1.44 ± 1.12) \times 10^{45}$ erg s$^{-1}$, $\alpha = 1.28 ± 0.09$, and $\phi^* = (1.65 ± 0.32) \times 10^{-6}$ Mpc$^{-3}$ (10$^{44}$ erg s$^{-1}$)$^{-1}$. The value found for $L_X^*$ is compatible with what was found by Böhringer et al. (2002) for the REFLEX sample ($L_X^* = 1.02^{+0.11}_{-0.09} \times 10^{45}$ erg s$^{-1}$) [15]. The normalization $\phi^* = 5.75 \times 10^{-7}$ and the slope $\alpha = 1.69 ± 0.045$ for the REFLEX differ from what we found here because the REFLEX sample does not extend as low as $L_X = 10^{41} – 10^{42}$ erg s$^{-1}$, the faint end of our XLF.

With the XLF parameterized, we can estimate the expected number of groups ($N_{\text{exp}}$) for a given range of luminosity inside a given volume. Assuming there is no evolution in the XLF, $N_{\text{exp}}$ can be computed by integrating the luminosity function $\phi(L_X)$ over a given volume and a luminosity interval according to

$$N_{\text{exp}} = \int_{L_{X_{\text{min}}}}^{L_{X_{\text{max}}}} \int_{z_{\text{min}}}^{z_{\text{max}}} \phi(L_X) \Omega(f_X(L_X, z)) \frac{dV(z)}{dz} dz dL_X.$$  

Assuming that the eROSITA all sky survey will be complete to $f_X = 3 \times 10^{–14}$ erg s$^{-1}$ cm$^{-2}$, we adopt $\Omega(f_X(L_X, z)) = 4\pi$. To integrate $N_{\text{exp}}$, we consider four intervals of redshift ($0 < z \leq 0.046, 0.046 < z \leq 0.114, 0.114 < z \leq 0.238$, and $0.238 < z \leq 0.319$) and three intervals of luminosity ($10^{41} \leq L_X \leq 10^{42}$, $10^{42} \leq L_X \leq 5 \times 10^{42}$, and $5 \times 10^{42} \leq L_X \leq 10^{43}$ erg s$^{-1}$ cm$^{-2}$). The results, listed in Table 7, show that with eROSITA, it will be possible to detect approximately 27,400 groups within $z = 0.32$. Approximately 1800 of these groups between $10^{41} \leq L_X \leq 10^{43}$ erg s$^{-1}$ will be within $z = 0.046$, which corresponds to a luminosity distance ($D_L$) of 200 Mpc. Thus, since groups trace the large-scale filaments, the eROSITA survey will map the large-scale structures and filaments throughout the local universe by determining the locations of groups.

### 8. CONCLUSIONS

We have used the extended source catalog from Kenter et al. (2005) to build the X-Boötes galaxy group catalog. Group redshifts are measured from the AGES (Kochanek et al. 2012) spectroscopic data. Our final sample comprises 32 systems at $z < 1.75$, with 14 below $z = 0.35$. For groups with at least five galaxy members inside $R_{500}$, we apply a virial analysis to estimate velocity dispersions and to obtain the radii ($R_{200}$ and $R_{500}$) and total masses ($M_{200}$ and $M_{500}$). To derive the group richness and the optical luminosity, we use photometric data from the NDWFS (Jannuzi & Dey 1999). The X-ray luminosity for each group is determined from the Chandra X-ray observations.

After measuring the group properties, we examine their performance as proxies for the group mass. It is important to understand how well these observables measure the total mass because they will often be used as mass proxies in large surveys (e.g., eROSITA). Exploring the scaling relations built with the X-Boötes sample and comparing them with samples from the literature, we find a break in the $L_X–M_{500}$ relation at approximately $M_{500} = 5 \times 10^{14}$ M$_{\odot}$. A possible explanation for this break can be the dynamical friction, tidal interactions, and projection effects that reduce the velocity dispersion values of the galaxy groups. We also examine the $L_X–\sigma_{\text{gr}}, L_{\text{opt}}–M_{500}$, and $L_{\text{opt}}–\sigma_{\text{gr}}$ relations. However, due to the large scatter in these relations, it is difficult to determine if there is a break between cluster and group samples.

By extending the Log$N$–Log$S$ and the luminosity function to the group regime, we predict the number of groups that the new X-ray survey, eROSITA, will detect per interval of luminosity and distance. eROSITA will observe a total of 27,400 galaxy groups within $z = 0.32$ with $L_X$ between $10^{41} – 10^{43}$ erg s$^{-1}$. The galaxy groups will be a powerful tool for eROSITA to map the large-scale structure in the local universe.

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### APPENDIX

#### EXTENDED SOURCES

In this appendix, we present the catalog of the 14 galaxy groups to $z = 0.35$ with at least 5 member galaxies inside $R_{500}$. Figure 11 shows the density profile of the AGES galaxies centered in the central coordinates of the galaxy group and the spatial distribution of galaxies in the ΔRA. versus ΔDecl. diagram for each group.

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