THE UNIVERSAL GAS MASS FRACTION IN CLUSTERS OF GALAXIES

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1. INTRODUCTION

The current matter in rich clusters of galaxies was accumulated from regions that would presently span approximately 10 Mpc and should comprise a fair sample of the universe. It has been known for some time that the dominant component of baryonic matter in rich clusters is the hot X-ray-emitting gas (David et al. 1995; White & Fabian 1995; Jones & Forman 1999; Ettori et al. 2003; Allen et al. 2004, 2008; Vikhlinin et al. 2006, 2009; Sun et al. 2009). White et al. (1993) showed that the observed high gas mass fraction in clusters has significant cosmological consequences regarding the total mass density of the universe. The segregation of baryons between stars and hot gas depends on both the radius within a group or cluster and the total mass of the system. The ratio of gas mass to stellar mass increases from approximately unity in the cores of groups up to more than a factor of five at large radii in the richest and hottest clusters (David et al. 1995; Gonzalez et al. 2007). In addition, since the gas is more extended than the dark matter, the gas mass fraction increases with radius within groups and clusters (David et al. 1995; White & Fabian 1995; Allen et al. 2004; Vikhlinin et al. 2006). The greater extent of the gas, relative to the stellar and dark matter, probably arises from some form of non-gravitational heating (e.g., mechanical active galactic nucleus heating and supernova-driven galactic winds) which breaks the self-similarity between groups and clusters (Ponman et al. 1999; Arnaud & Evrard 1999; Lloyd-Davies et al. 2000; Bialek et al. 2001; Neumann & Arnaud 2001; Finoguenov et al. 2002; Voit et al. 2005; Kravtsov et al. 2005; Davé et al. 2008; Bode et al. 2009).

Most studies of nearby clusters find that the gas mass fraction approaches a nearly constant value of $f_{\text{gas}} \approx 13\%$ at large radii in the hottest and most massive clusters (David et al. 1995; White & Fabian 1995; Allen et al. 2004; Vikhlinin et al. 2006; Sun et al. 2009). This is slightly less than the Wilkinson Microwave Anisotropy Probe value of 17%. Based on these findings, there have been several cosmological studies whose results are based on the assumption that the gas mass fraction in rich clusters is independent of redshift (Ettori et al. 2003, 2009; Allen et al. 2004; Ferramacho & Blanchard 2007; Juett et al. 2010). All of these studies have found results consistent with the concordant $\Lambda$CDM cosmological model. However, a recent analysis of Chandra observations of 13 optically selected, moderate redshift clusters culled from the Red-Sequence Cluster Survey (RCS; Gladders & Yee 2005) by Hicks et al. (2008) reports a significant scatter in the gas mass fraction of clusters with average gas mass fractions of $f_{\text{gas}} = 4.8\%$ at $r_{2500}$ and $6.8\%$ at $r_{500}$ (where $r_{5}$ is the radius within which the average mass density of the cluster is $\Delta$ times the critical density of the universe at the redshift of the cluster). If this result is more representative of clusters compared to previous studies of X-ray-selected clusters, then it would make precision cosmological studies based on the assumption of a universal gas mass fraction in clusters problematic.

2. DATA ANALYSIS

RCS 2318+0034 was observed with the Chandra ACIS-S detector on 2005 May 3 (ObsID 4938) and with the ACIS-I detector on 2009 August 7 (ObsID 11718). Both observations were taken in very faint (VF) telemetry mode. All data were re-processed with CIAO 4.3 and CALDB 4.4.6. We used acis_process_events to apply the latest CTI and gain corrections and filtered the VF mode data to reduce the charged particle background. During the ACIS-S observation, the I2, I3,
S1, S2, and S3 chips were turned on and the cluster was positioned on the S3 chip. During the ACIS-I observation, the I0, I1, I2, I3, and S3 chips were turned on and the cluster was positioned on the I3 chip. Light curves were generated in the 2.5–7.0 keV and 9.0–12.0 keV energy bands for the BI chip S1 during the ACIS-S observation and for the BI chip S3 during the ACIS-I observation. All time intervals with background rates in these energy bands exceeding 20% of the quiescent background rate were excised from further analysis. The resulting cleaned exposure times for the ACIS-S and ACIS-I observations are 50,155 s and 143,275 s. The appropriate ACIS blank exposure time in the background data set to produce the same 9–12 keV count rate. We therefore reduced the count rate in the I3 blank field data set even after adjusting the exposure time in the background data set to produce the same 9–12 keV count rates as in the two RCS 2318+0034 observations.

Molecular contamination has been building up on the cold ACIS filters since launch. This only affects the ACIS QE below 2 keV. Since the ACIS-I observation of RCS 2318+0034 was taken more recently than the observations used to compile the background files, the throughput of ACIS at low energies in the RCS 2318+0034 observation is less than it was during the background observations. To correct for this effect, we extracted spectra from a source free region on I3 beyond the virial radius of the cluster in the ACIS-I observation of RCS 2318+0034 and the I3 blank field background file. We found that the count rate in the 0.3–6.0 keV energy band (i.e., the energy band we use to generate surface brightness profiles) during the RCS 2318+0034 observation is still 4.6% less than the count rate in the I3 blank field data set even after adjusting the exposure time in the background data set to produce the same 9–12 keV count rate. We therefore reduced the count rate in the I3 background data set by 4.6% before subtracting the background. We repeated this procedure for all five chips (all four ACIS-I chips from the ACIS-I observation and the S3 chip from the ACIS-S observation) used to generate background-subtracted surface brightness profiles for RCS 2318+0034. For all spectral analysis, we used the CIAO task specextract which extracts source and background spectra and computes photon-weighted effective area and response files.

Because of the lack of measured galaxy redshifts for RCS 2318+0034, we adopt a redshift of $z = 0.78$ (which is the same as that used in Hicks et al. 2008) derived from the energy centroid of the H-like and He-like Fe-Kα emission lines in the ACIS spectrum. Assuming the standard $\Lambda$CDM cosmology with $H_0 = 70 \text{ km s}^{-1} \text{ Mpc}^{-1}$, $\Omega_M = 0.3$, and $\Omega_\Lambda = 0.7$, gives a luminosity distance of $D_L = 4870 \text{ Mpc}$ to RCS 2318+0034 and $1" = 7.45 \text{ kpc}$ in the rest frame of the cluster.

3. X-RAY MORPHOLOGY

Adaptively smoothed ACIS images of the co-added RCS 2318+0034 observations in a hard (2.0–6.0 keV) and soft (0.5–2.0 keV) energy bands are shown in Figure 1. In the hard band image, RCS 2318+0034 appears to be a fairly relaxed hot cluster, while the soft band image reveals that RCS 2318+0034 is undergoing a merger with a smaller and cooler system that is presently located about 100 kpc to the west of the dominant cluster. The “×” in both figures indicates the location of the peak in the hard band surface brightness of the main cluster. The soft energy band image shows that the cool gas in the center of the main cluster has been displaced toward the east during the merger, possibly due to merger-induced sloshing (Ascasibar & Markevitch 2006).

Since there are insufficient counts in the ACIS data to generate a temperature map, we generated a hardness ratio image by adaptively smoothing the raw 0.5–2.0 keV and 2.0–6.0 keV images with the same kernel and then divided the two images. The resulting hardness ratio image is shown in Figure 2 along with surface brightness contours derived from the soft band image shown in Figure 1. The hardness ratio image shows that there is an elongated region of softer X-ray emission associated with the merging cooler system. The coolest emission from the main cluster is slightly displaced toward the east from the cluster core. The hardest X-ray emission arises from the region between the two merging cores. The spectral analysis presented below shows that this hard X-ray emission probably originates from a merger-induced shock.

Figure 1. Left: hard band (2.0–6.0 keV) adaptively smoothed image; right: soft band (0.5–2.0 keV) adaptively smoothed image of RCS 2318+0034. The cross marks the location of the peak surface brightness of the main cluster in the hard band image. (A color version of this figure is available in the online journal.)
4. SURFACE BRIGHTNESS PROFILE

Due to the on-going merger in RCS 2318+0034, we extracted surface brightness profiles using both full annuli and annuli excluding a 120° pie slice toward the west. All surface brightness profiles were computed using the location of the cross in Figure 1 as the origin. Data from the ACIS-S and ACIS-I observations were co-added and the normalized blank sky background images were used for background subtraction. To determine the appropriate weighting for the instrument and exposure maps, we extracted a spectrum from the central 500 kpc of RCS 2318+0034 and fit the spectrum to a single temperature apec model with the absorption fixed at the galactic value ($N_{\text{gal}} = 4.04 \times 10^{20} \text{ cm}^{-2}$) and obtained $kT = 7.5 \text{ (6.4--8.6)} \text{ keV}$, an abundance of $Z = 0.12 (< 0.33)$ (based on the abundance table of Grevesse & Sauval 1998), and an emission-measure of $\epsilon = (3.21 \pm 0.16) \times 10^{-4} \text{ cm}^{-5}$. All error bars are given at the $1\sigma$ confidence level. Instrument and exposure maps weighted by the thermal emission from a 7.5 keV plasma were then generated for all five CCDs used to calculate the surface brightness profiles. Figure 3 shows the resulting background-subtracted and exposure-corrected 0.5–6.0 keV surface brightness profile excluding the emission from a 120° pie slice toward the west. We refer to this as our standard surface brightness profile.

The X-ray surface brightness profile of clusters is commonly fit with a $\beta$ model, given by

$$\Sigma(r) = \Sigma_0 \left( 1 + \left( \frac{r}{r_c} \right)^2 \right)^{-3\beta+1/2}.$$  \hspace{1cm} (1)

The results of fitting a $\beta$ model to the background-subtracted and exposure-corrected surface brightness profiles using full
annuli are shown in Table 1. This table shows that as larger radii are included in the fitting process, larger values of $\beta$ and core radii, $r_c$, are obtained. The results of fitting the surface brightness profiles that exclude the emission from the 120° pie slice are shown in Table 2. This table shows that smaller values of $\beta$ and $r_c$ are obtained when the emission from the merging system toward the west is excluded; however, there is still a trend of increasing $\beta$ and $r_c$ when larger regions are included in the fitting process. The main difficulty in fitting the surface brightness profile is that the X-ray surface brightness of RCS 2318+0034 drops below the 3σ background around 350 kpc, which is only about two core radii from the center of the cluster (see Figure 3). It is therefore difficult to obtain a tight constraint on the asymptotic slope of the X-ray surface brightness.

To explore the systematic uncertainties in the derived parameters of the $\beta$ model, we generated a surface brightness profile excluding the emission from a 120° pie slice, using an exposure map weighted by the thermal emission from a 4 keV thermal plasma, since the gas temperature in clusters typically decreases by a factor of two at large radii (Vikhlinin et al. 2006). Table 2 shows that the derived values for the $\beta$ model are consistent with the values obtained using an exposure map weighted by the thermal emission from a 7.5 keV plasma. We also varied the background level by ±5% to determine the sensitivity of the derived parameters on the estimated background. This exercise shows that if the surface brightness profile is only fit within the central 350 kpc, then the results are fairly insensitive to the adopted background. However, if the emission from larger radii is included in the analysis, the results are quite sensitive to the exact background level used in the analysis.

Table 1

| Fitted Region (kpc) | $\beta$ | $r_c$ (kpc) | $\Sigma_0$ (counts cm$^{-2}$ arcsec$^{-2}$ s$^{-1}$) |
|---------------------|---------|------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| 0–250               | 0.64 ± 0.11 | 136 ± 28  | (4.53 ± 0.30) × 10$^{-8}$ |
| 0–350               | 0.74 ± 0.09 | 159 ± 23  | (4.42 ± 0.26) × 10$^{-8}$ |
| 0–450               | 0.85 ± 0.09 | 183 ± 21  | (4.29 ± 0.23) × 10$^{-8}$ |

Notes. Results of fitting a $\beta$ model within different radii (fitted region) to the surface brightness profile extracted from full annuli. The nominal background rates and instrument maps weighted by the emission from a 7.5 keV thermal plasma were used in the analysis.

Table 2

| Fitted Region (kpc) | $\beta$ | $r_c$ (kpc) | $\Sigma_0$ (counts cm$^{-2}$ arcsec$^{-2}$ s$^{-1}$) |
|---------------------|---------|------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| 0–250               | 0.58 ± 0.09 | 112 ± 27  | (5.39 ± 0.47) × 10$^{-8}$ |
| 0–350               | 0.70 ± 0.09 | 142 ± 23  | (5.07 ± 0.38) × 10$^{-8}$ |
| 0–450               | 0.75 ± 0.08 | 152 ± 21  | (4.99 ± 0.36) × 10$^{-8}$ |

Notes. Results of fitting a $\beta$ model within different radii (fitted region) to surface brightness profiles excluding the emission from a 120° pie slice toward the west. The top three rows give the results using instrument maps weighted by the emission from the 7.5 keV thermal plasma. The middle three rows give the results using instrument maps weighted by the emission from the 3 keV thermal plasma. The bottom three rows give the results using instrument maps weighted by the emission from the 7 keV thermal plasma.

5. SPECTRAL ANALYSIS

To further investigate the on-going merger in the center of RCS 2318+0034, we extracted spectra from the two cores and the region between the two cores. The results of fitting a single temperature $apec$ model with the hydrogen column density fixed at the galactic value are shown in Table 3. While the uncertainties on the gas temperatures are fairly large, due to the limited photon statistics, we find that the western core is cooler than the eastern core, as inferred from the hardness ratio map. There is also a region of hotter gas between the two cores. This is consistent with a merger scenario in which the hotter gas was produced by a merger shock. The large uncertainties in the temperature prevent a more detailed analysis of the merger dynamics.

A temperature profile was generated by extracting the emission from within three concentric annuli with approximately 1000 net counts per spectrum. The spectra were fit to an absorbed single temperature $apec$ model with the hydrogen column density fixed at the galactic value. The resulting temperature profile shows some evidence for a radial decrease in the gas temperature (see Figure 4). Also shown in Figure 4 is the broken power-law temperature profile used to estimate the total gravitating mass in RCS 2318+0034 and the resulting values for $r_{2500}$ and $r_{500}$ (see Section 6). In addition, we extracted a spectrum from the innermost region excluding the emission within a 120° pie slice toward the west (which excises the emission from the merging subcluster), but the resulting gas temperature is consistent with the inner temperature shown in Figure 4. Since the emission from RCS 2318+0034 drops below the X-ray background at approximately 350 kpc, it is difficult to constrain the gas temperature at larger radii.

Table 3

| Region                  | $kT$ (keV) |
|-------------------------|------------|
| Western core            | 3.24 (2.70–4.19) |
| Shock                   | 11.5 (7.27–21.6) |
| Eastern core            | 7.18 (4.36–14.7) |

Note. Best-fit temperatures and 1σ uncertainties.
where $\rho_0$ is the central gas density. Thermal plasma models in XSPEC are normalized by the emission measure, defined as

$$\epsilon = \frac{10^{-14}}{4\pi [D_A(1+z)]^2} \int n_e n_H dV,$$

(3)

where $D_A$ is the angular distance to the source, $n_e$ is the electron number density, and $n_H$ is the hydrogen number density. The central gas density for a given $\beta$ model is determined by inserting the density profile given by Equation (2) into Equation (3), integrating over a cylindrical volume with a radius of 500 kpc and equating the result with the observed emission measure within this region. Using our standard $\beta$ model ($\beta = 0.70$ and $r_c = 142$ kpc) and the observed emission measure within 500 kpc, we obtain $n_e(0) = (8.04 \pm 0.18) \times 10^{-3} \, \text{cm}^{-3}$. The statistical uncertainty in the emission measure produces an uncertainty of only 2.3% in the central gas density, since the density scales as the square root of the emission measure. If we re-fit the spectrum extracted from the central 500 kpc with the temperature fixed at 4 or 10 keV, we obtain best-fit emission measures of $(3.47 \pm 0.22) \times 10^{-4} \, \text{cm}^{-3}$ or $(3.17 \pm 0.15) \times 10^{-4} \, \text{cm}^{-3}$, respectively. Thus, any variations in the gas temperature within this region would probably not generate more than an additional systematic uncertainty of 2.1% in the central gas density.

The dominant uncertainty in the gas mass in RCS 2318+0034 is not due to uncertainties in the central gas density, but is primarily due to the variations in the $\beta$ model parameters derived from fitting the X-ray surface brightness over different regions (see the range in values of $\beta$ and $r_c$ in Tables 1 and 2). Figure 5 shows the cumulative gas mass derived from several different $\beta$ models relative to the cumulative gas mass derived from our standard $\beta$ model. The $\beta$ models used for this comparison are given in the figure caption and are chosen to sample the full range of possible gas masses. Figure 5 shows that the range of acceptable $\beta$ models produces an uncertainty in the gas masses at $r_{2500}$ and $r_{500}$ of about 5% and 7%–10%, respectively. We thus assign an average combined uncertainty in the gas mass at these radii of 10%.

The total gravitating mass of a spherically symmetric system in hydrostatic equilibrium is given by

$$M_{\text{gas}}(< r) = \frac{-kT r}{\mu m_p G} \left( \frac{d \ln \rho}{d \ln r} + \frac{d \ln T}{d \ln r} \right).$$

(4)

where $k$ is Boltzmann’s constant, $\mu = 0.6$ is the mean mass per particle, $m_p$ is the proton mass, and $G$ is the gravitational constant. The primary uncertainty in computing the gravitating mass in RCS 2318+0034 is the lack of a detailed knowledge of the gas temperature profile. We therefore compute the gravitating mass assuming two temperature profiles: (1) an isothermal model and (2) the broken power-law temperature profile in Vikhlinin et al. (2005). We use our standard $\beta$ model for the gas density distribution in both cases.

Extracting a spectrum in an annulus from 70 kpc to 1 Mpc in RCS 2318+0034 and fitting the spectrum to an absorbed apec model yields a temperature of $T_{\text{spec}} = 6.32 \ (5.05–8.18) \, \text{keV}$ (1$\sigma$ uncertainty). The resulting gas mass, total gravitating mass, and gas mass fraction at $r_{2500}$ and $r_{500}$ assuming the gas is isothermal are shown in Table 4. The values for $r_{2500}$ and $r_{500}$ are calculated from the total gravitating mass profile. Since the resulting values for $r_{500}$ in Table 4 are slightly less than 1 Mpc, we also extracted spectra from several annuli with inner radii of 70 kpc and outer radii of 700, 800, and 900 kpc. Due to the limited photon statistics in the Chandra observation, the best-fit temperatures are all consistent within the uncertainties. Table 4 shows that assuming an isothermal $\beta$ model for RCS 2318+0034 produces gas mass fractions of 0.07 ± 0.02 and 0.08 ± 0.02 at $r_{2500}$ and $r_{500}$, respectively. The error bars take into account the 10% uncertainty in the gas mass noted above and the uncertainty
in $T_{\mathrm{spec}}$. The gas mass fraction is essentially independent of radius at large radii since, for an isothermal $\beta = 0.7$ model, $\rho_{\mathrm{gas}} \sim r^{-2}$ and $\rho_{\mathrm{tot}} \sim r^{-2}$.

Based on the analysis of Chandra observations of a sample of 13 rich clusters of galaxies, Vikhlinin et al. (2005) found that the temperature profile of these clusters could be fit with a broken power-law model, given by

$$T/T_{\mathrm{spec}} = \begin{cases} 1.07, & 0.035 < r/r_{180} < 0.125, \\ 1.22 - 1.2r/r_{180}, & 0.125 < r/r_{180} < 0.6, \end{cases}$$

(5)

where $(T)$ is the emission-weighted temperature excluding the central 70 kpc (essentially $T_{\mathrm{spec}}$). For clusters, $r_{500} \sim 0.6r_{180}$. With this substitution, the temperature profile in Equation (5) is very similar to that derived for a sample of groups by Sun et al. (2009).

Gas masses, total gravitating masses, and gas mass fractions within $r_{2500}$ and $r_{500}$ are shown in Table 5 using our standard $\beta$ model and the assumption that the gas is isothermal. However, the gas and total gravitating masses are underestimated in $T_{\mathrm{spec}}$ and the $1\sigma$ limits on $T_{\mathrm{spec}}$.

### Table 4
Results Assuming the Gas Is Isothermal

| $T_{\mathrm{spec}}$ (keV) | $r_{2500}$ (Mpc) | $r_{500}$ (Mpc) | $M_{\mathrm{gas}}(r_{2500})$ ($10^{15}$ $M_\odot$) | $M_{\mathrm{gas}}(r_{500})$ ($10^{15}$ $M_\odot$) | $M_{\mathrm{tot}}(r_{2500})$ ($10^{15}$ $M_\odot$) | $M_{\mathrm{tot}}(r_{500})$ ($10^{15}$ $M_\odot$) | $f_{\mathrm{gas}}(r_{2500})$ | $f_{\mathrm{gas}}(r_{500})$ |
|-------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 5.05                    | 0.308           | 0.745           | 0.796                                        | 2.82                                          | 9.96                                          | 28.2                                          | 0.080                     | 0.10                       |
| 6.32                    | 0.352           | 0.837           | 0.992                                        | 3.25                                          | 14.8                                          | 39.9                                          | 0.067                     | 0.081                      |
| 8.18                    | 0.408           | 0.955           | 1.25                                          | 3.81                                          | 23.1                                          | 59.3                                          | 0.054                     | 0.064                      |

Notes. The gas mass ($M_{\mathrm{gas}}$), total gravitating mass ($M_{\mathrm{tot}}$), and gas mass fraction ($f_{\mathrm{gas}}$) within $r_{2500}$ and $r_{500}$ derived from our standard $\beta$ model and the assumption that the gas is isothermal. Masses are shown for the best-fit emission-weighted temperature between 70 kpc and 1 Mpc ($T_{\mathrm{spec}}$) and the $1\sigma$ limits on $T_{\mathrm{spec}}$.

### Table 5
Results Using a Broken Power-law Temperature Profile

| $T_{\mathrm{spec}}$ (keV) | $r_{2500}$ (Mpc) | $r_{500}$ (Mpc) | $M_{\mathrm{gas}}(r_{2500})$ ($10^{15}$ $M_\odot$) | $M_{\mathrm{gas}}(r_{500})$ ($10^{15}$ $M_\odot$) | $M_{\mathrm{tot}}(r_{2500})$ ($10^{15}$ $M_\odot$) | $M_{\mathrm{tot}}(r_{500})$ ($10^{15}$ $M_\odot$) | $f_{\mathrm{gas}}(r_{2500})$ | $f_{\mathrm{gas}}(r_{500})$ |
|-------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 5.05                    | 0.320           | 0.682           | 0.853                                        | 2.53                                          | 11.2                                          | 21.6                                          | 0.076                     | 0.12                       |
| 6.32                    | 0.364           | 0.765           | 1.05                                          | 2.93                                          | 16.4                                          | 30.4                                          | 0.064                     | 0.096                      |
| 8.18                    | 0.420           | 0.872           | 1.30                                          | 3.43                                          | 25.1                                          | 45.1                                          | 0.052                     | 0.076                      |

Notes. The gas mass ($M_{\mathrm{gas}}$), total gravitating mass ($M_{\mathrm{tot}}$), and gas mass fraction ($f_{\mathrm{gas}}$) within $r_{2500}$ and $r_{500}$ derived from our standard $\beta$ model along with the temperature profile in Vikhlinin et al. (2005). Masses are shown for the best-fit emission-weighted temperature ($T_{\mathrm{spec}}$) and the $1\sigma$ limits on $T_{\mathrm{spec}}$.

7. COMPARISON WITH PREVIOUS ANALYSIS

Our estimated gas mass fractions using the combined 200 ks of Chandra data are approximately 50% greater at $r_{2500}$ and significantly greater at $r_{500}$ compared with the values derived from the earlier 50 ks observation (Hicks et al. 2008). Comparing the derived parameters for RCS 2318+0034 in Hicks et al. with our results, we find that both studies produced similar values for the gas temperature ($T_{\mathrm{spec}} = 5.05–8.18$ keV compared to $T_{\mathrm{spec}} = 5.20–7.40$ keV) and core radius ($r_c = 142 \pm 23$ kpc compared to $r_c = 171 \pm 6$ kpc) for the surface brightness profile. However, we obtain a value for the outer slope of the surface brightness profile corresponding to $\beta = 0.70 \pm 0.09$ compared to $\beta = 0.86 \pm 0.03$ in Hicks et al. This difference is primarily due to the poorer photon statistics in the initial 50 ks Chandra observation. Larger values of $\beta$ will overestimate the total gravitating mass and underestimate the gas mass and gas mass fraction. Jones & Forman (1999) found an average value of $\beta = 0.6$ when fitting the surface brightness profile of a large sample of rich clusters observed with the Einstein Observatory. More recently, in a study of 31 clusters culled from the RXCESS sample, which includes both relaxed and unrelaxed clusters, Croston et al. (2008) found an average power-law slope in the surface brightness profile between 0.3$r_{500}$ and 0.8$r_{500}$ among 6 keV clusters corresponding to $\beta = 0.7$.

At $r_{2500}$, we obtain $M_{\mathrm{gas}}(r_{2500}) = 9.9^{+2.6}_{-2.0} \times 10^{12} M_\odot$ and $M_{\mathrm{gas}}(r_{500}) = 1.5^{+0.8}_{-0.5} \times 10^{13} M_\odot$ assuming that the gas is isothermal. Hicks et al. (2008) derived $M_{\mathrm{gas}}(r_{2500}) = (9.7 \pm 0.6) \times 10^{12} M_\odot$ and $M_{\mathrm{gas}}(r_{500}) = (2.43 \pm 0.28) \times 10^{14} M_\odot$ assuming that the gas is isothermal. However, the gas and total masses listed for RCS 2318+0034 in Table 7 of Hicks et al. are inconsistent with the parameters given in Tables 3 and 4. The corrected values are $M_{\mathrm{gas}}(r_{2500}) = 1.60 \times 10^{13} M_\odot$ and $M_{\mathrm{gas}}(r_{500}) = 2.80 \times 10^{14} M_\odot$ (A. Hicks 2011, private communication). While there are some differences between our results due to differences in $r_{2500}$ and $\beta$, our gas mass fraction at $r_{2500}$ suggests that all X-ray-derived gas mass fraction estimates are biased high by this amount.
is consistent with the corrected A. Hicks (2011, private communication) result. We find that assuming a broken power-law temperature profile increases both $M_{\text{gas}}(r_{2500})$ and $M_{\text{tot}}(r_{2500})$ by 10% relative to the values derived by assuming the gas is isothermal. Thus, both temperature profiles produce the same value for the gas mass fraction of $f_{\text{gas}}(r_{2500}) = 0.06 \pm 0.02$.

At $r_{500}$, we obtain $M_{\text{gas}}(r_{500}) = 3.2^{+1.0}_{-0.7} \times 10^{13} M_\odot$, $M_{\text{tot}}(r_{500}) = 4.0^{+1.9}_{-1.2} \times 10^{14} M_\odot$, and $f_{\text{gas}}(r_{500}) = 0.06 \pm 0.02$ assuming that the gas is isothermal. Hicks et al. (2008) derived $M_{\text{gas}}(r_{500}) = (1.99 \pm 0.28) \times 10^{13} M_\odot$ and $M_{\text{tot}}(r_{500}) = (12.9 \pm 2.0) \times 10^{14} M_\odot$. However, the corrected values are $M_{\text{gas}}(r_{500}) = 3.64 \times 10^{13} M_\odot$ and $M_{\text{tot}}(r_{500}) = 6.61 \times 10^{14} M_\odot$ (A. Hicks 2011, private communication). Assuming a broken power-law temperature profile reduces $M_{\text{gas}}(r_{500})$ by 10% (due to the smaller value of $r_{500}$) and $M_{\text{tot}}(r_{500})$ by 25% (primarily due to the declining gas temperature). The assumption of a broken power-law temperature profile thus produces a larger gas mass fraction of $f_{\text{gas}}(r_{500}) = 0.10 \pm 0.02$.

8. DISCUSSION AND SUMMARY

In general, the gas mass fraction in groups and clusters depends on both the virial mass of the system and the radius within which the gas mass fraction is computed. At small radii, the gas mass fraction also depends on whether the cluster has a cool core. The central gas density in cool-core clusters is more than an order of magnitude greater than the central density in non-cool-core systems. Since $r_{2500}$ is only $\sim 200$ kpc in groups, the presence of a cool core can have a significant impact on the gas mass fraction at $r_{2500}$ in groups. Sun et al. (2206) show that there is indeed a strong anti-correlation between the gas mass fraction in groups at $r_{2500}$ and the central gas entropy. For hotter systems (larger values of $r_{2500}$), the presence of a cool core has less of an impact on the gas mass fraction at $r_{2500}$.

Reports of the average gas mass fraction within $r_{2500}$ vary from 4.5% in groups (Sun et al. 2009) up to 7.8% (Vikhlinin et al. 2006) and 11.0% (Allen et al. 2008) in clusters. The reported gas mass fraction within $r_{500}$ varies from 8.1% in groups (Sun et al. 2009) up to 13.0% in clusters (Vikhlinin et al. 2006; Ettori et al. 2010; Pratt et al. 2010; Juett et al. 2010). These results are illustrated in Figure 6 and show that the differences are mainly due to the range in gas temperatures, or cluster masses, sampled in these different studies. The average gas temperature of the clusters in the Vikhlinin et al. sample is 4.5 keV compared to 7.7 keV in the sample of clusters analyzed by Allen et al., which contains a substantial fraction of clusters culled from the Massive Cluster Survey (Ebeling et al. 2001).

Our estimate for the gas mass fraction within $r_{500}$ in the optically selected cluster, RCS2318+0034, is fully consistent with the results of X-ray-selected clusters (see Figure 6). This result is also illustrated in Figure 7, where we compare the scaled gas mass and spectroscopic temperature within $r_{500}$ for the X-ray-selected clusters in Vikhlinin et al. (2006), the SZ-selected clusters in Andersson et al. (2011), and the optically selected cluster, RCS 2318+0034. Croston et al. (2008) derived a scaling relation between the gas mass and temperature based on an analysis of clusters culled from the REXCESS sample. The scaling relation in Croston et al. is based on the temperature between 0.15$r_{500}$ and 0.75$r_{500}$. Extracting a spectrum from within this region in RCS2318+0034 gives a temperature of 5.3 $\pm$ 0.9 keV. Using the scaling relations in Croston et al. gives an estimated gas mass at $r_{500}$ of $(2.2-4.2) \times 10^{15} M_\odot$, which is consistent with our estimate for the gas mass in RCS2318+0034 (see Table 4). In addition, the scaling relation between $f_{\text{gas}}(r_{500})$ and $M_{\text{gas}}(r_{500})$ derived by Vikhlinin et al. (2009) predicts $f_{\text{gas}}(r_{500}) = 10.0\%$, which is in very good agreement with our result. Within $r_{2500}$, we find a gas mass fraction of 6% for RCS2318+0034, which is significantly less than that found for most clusters (see Figure 6). Figures 1 and 2 show that RCS2318+0034 is undergoing a merger which may affect the estimate of the gas mass fraction at $r_{2500}$.
One of the most extensively studied cluster relations is that between the gas temperature and X-ray luminosity (e.g., Edge & Stewart 1991; David et al. 1993; Fabian et al. 1998; Arnaud & Evrard 1999). Early studies found a great deal of scatter in the $L_x-T$ relation (Edge & Stewart 1991; David et al. 1993). Fabian et al. (1994) showed that most of this scatter was due to the inclusion of massive cooling flow clusters along with non-cool-core clusters in the previous studies. The X-ray luminosity of massive cooling flow clusters can be up to five times greater than the X-ray luminosity of non-cool-core clusters for a given temperature. By removing the emission from cool cores, Markevitch (1998) found that the scatter in the $L_x-T$ relation can be greatly reduced. Similar conclusions have also been obtained by more recent studies (e.g., Maughan 2007; Pratt et al. 2009; Maughan et al. 2011). While most studies have shown that the $L_x-T$ relation for clusters at a given redshift is not self-similar, there is significant evidence that the evolution of the $L_x-T$ relation is nearly self-similar (e.g., Vikhlinin et al. 2002; Maughan 2007; Maughan et al. 2011).

Maughan et al. (2011) recently studied the $L_x-T$ relation for a sample of 114 clusters observed by Chandra with redshifts of $0.1 < z < 1.3$. The $L_x-T$ relations in Maughan et al. were derived from both the total emission within $r_{500}$ and the emission within $(0.15-1.0)r_{500}$. Due to the limited photon statistics in the Chandra observation of RCS2318+0034, the uncertainty in the gas temperature between $(0.15$ and $1.0)r_{500}$ is too large for a useful comparison, so we only compare results using the total emission within $r_{500}$. Figure 8 shows the scaled $L_x-T$ data for the relaxed and unrelaxed clusters in Maughan et al. (2011) along with the temperature and X-ray luminosity of RCS2318+0034. Figure 8 shows that the temperature and X-ray luminosity of the $z = 0.78$ cluster, RCS2318+0034, is consistent with other unrelaxed clusters with similar redshifts given the observed scatter among clusters.

In summary, we find that the large-scale properties of the optically selected cluster RCS2318+0034 are consistent with the large-scale properties of X-ray-selected clusters. At smaller radii, we find a lower gas mass fraction in RCS2318+0034 compared to most X-ray-selected clusters, which may be due to the on-going merger.

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