The eROSITA Final Equatorial-Depth Survey (eFEDS)

A multiwavelength view of WISE mid-infrared galaxies/active galactic nuclei

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ABSTRACT

We investigate the physical properties – such as the stellar mass ($M_*$), star-formation rate, infrared (IR) luminosity ($L_{\text{IR}}$), X-ray luminosity ($L_X$), and hydrogen column density ($N_{\text{H}}$) – of mid-IR (MIR) galaxies and active galactic nuclei (AGN) at $z < 4$ in the 140 deg\(^2\) field observed by eROSITA on SRG using the Performance-and-Verification-Phase program named the eROSITA Final Equatorial Depth Survey (eFEDS).

Methods. By cross-matching the WISE 22 $\mu$m (W4)-detected sample and the eFEDS X-ray point-source catalog, we find that 692 extragalactic objects are detected by eROSITA. We have compiled a multiwavelength dataset extending from X-ray to far-IR wavelengths. We have also performed (i) an X-ray spectral analysis, (ii) spectral-energy-distribution fitting using X-CIGALE, (iii) 2D image-decomposition analysis using Subaru Hyper Suprime-Cam images, and (iv) optical spectral fitting with QSFit to investigate the AGN and host-galaxy properties. For 7088 WISE 22 $\mu$m objects that are undetected by eROSITA, we have performed an X-ray stacking analysis to examine the typical physical properties of these X-ray faint and probably obscured objects.

Results. We find that (i) 82\% of the eFEDS–W4 sources are classified as X-ray AGN with $L_X > 42$ erg s\(^{-1}\); (ii) 67 and 24\% of the objects have log ($L_{\text{IR}}/L_X$) > 12 and 13, respectively; (iii) the relationship between $L_X$ and the 6 $\mu$m luminosity is consistent with that reported in previous works; and (iv) the relationship between the Eddington ratio and $N_{\text{H}}$ for the eFEDS–W4 sample and a comparison with a model prediction from a galaxy-merger simulation indicates that approximately 5.0\% of the eFEDS–W4 sources in our sample are likely to be in an AGN-feedback phase, in which strong radiation pressure from the AGN blows out the surrounding material from the nuclear region.

Conclusions. Thanks to the wide area coverage of eFEDS, we have been able to constrain the ranges of the physical properties of the WISE 22 $\mu$m-selected sample of AGNs at $z < 4$, providing a benchmark for forthcoming studies on a complete census of MIR galaxies selected from the full-depth eROSITA all-sky survey.

Key words. galaxies: active – X-rays: galaxies – infrared: galaxies

1. Introduction

Since infrared (IR) all-sky surveys were originally conducted with the Infrared Astronomical Satellite (IRAS; Neugebauer et al. 1984) and the AKARI satellite (Murakami et al. 2007) as well as deep IR observations with the Infrared Space Observatory (ISO; Kessler et al. 1996), IR galaxies have been established as an important population for understanding both galaxy formation and evolution and the co-evolution of galaxies and supermassive black holes (SMBHs; Sanders & Mirabel see e.g., 1996; Goto et al. see e.g., 2011; Chen et al. see e.g., 2020, and references therein). The IR galaxies are mainly powered by star formation (SF), active galactic nuclei (AGN), or both, and these emissions contribute to the cosmic IR background (e.g., Lagache et al. 2005).

Following the abovementioned pioneering works, the Spitzer Space Telescope (Werner et al. 2004) has shed light on mid-IR (MIR) objects in the high-$z$ Universe (see the review by Soifer et al. 2008, and references therein). More than 300,000 IR galaxies have been found with flux densities at 24 $\mu$m ($f_{24}$) ranging down to several tens of mJy, and their number counts, energy (AGN-dominant or SF-dominant) diagnostics, and contributions to the cosmic star formation rate (SFR) density have been investigated extensively (e.g., Chary et al. 2004; Donley et al. 2008; Le Floc’h et al. 2009; Magnelli et al. 2011). A relevant result of these studies on “faint” IR galaxies is that the number fraction of AGN increases with increasing MIR flux (e.g., Brand et al. 2006; Treister et al. 2006) (see also Veilleux et al. 1999).

The advent of the Wide-field Infrared Survey Explorer (WISE; Wright et al. 2010) has provided an avenue for detecting an enormous number of MIR AGN (see e.g., Assef et al. 2018). In particular, MIR-bright ($f_{22} > a$ few mJy) but optically faint WISE objects (which are often called dust-obscured galaxies (DOGs))\(^1\), have been reported to harbor a strong AGN surrounded by a large amount of dust (e.g., Eisenhardt et al. 2012; Wu et al. 2012; Toba et al. 2015, 2017a; Toba & Naga 2016; Noboriguchi et al. 2019; Yutani et al. 2021).

\(^1\) The original definition of DOGs was $f_{22} > 0.3$ mJy and $R−[24] > 14$, where $R$ and [24] represent Vega magnitudes in the R-band and at 24 $\mu$m, respectively (see Dey et al. 2008, for more detail).
Some dusty AGN are located at $1 < z < 4$, where the cosmic SFR density and BH mass-accretion rate density reach a maximum (e.g., Madau & Dickinson 2014; Ueda et al. 2014). Thus, these objects may be a crucial population for unveiling the growth history of SMBHs and their host masses in the dusty Universe.

From an X-ray study point of view, a large fraction of (dusty) IR galaxies was not detected at X-ray wavelengths (see the review by Hickox & Alexander 2018). According to deep X-ray observations with Chandra, a fraction of the Spitzer-detected IR-faint AGN may be expected to have a hydrogen column density as large as $N_{\text{H}} = 10^{23}$ cm$^{-2}$. Some are even Compton-thick (CT) AGN, with $N_{\text{H}} > 1.5 \times 10^{24}$ cm$^{-2}$, although the fraction of CT-AGN has quite a large variation – from 10 to 90% – possibly caused by differences in sample selection and analyses (Fiore et al. 2008; Lanzuisi et al. 2009; Treister et al. 2009; Corral et al. 2016). In particular, the fraction of CT-AGN among DOGs may increase with increasing IR luminosity (Fiore et al. 2008). Recently, Carroll et al. (2021) reported that about 62% of IR-bright WISE AGN are not detected in X-rays. Using the intrinsic-to-observed X-ray luminosity ratio, they found that those AGN have high $N_{\text{H}}$, approaching the CT-AGN regime, which is supported by survival analysis and X-ray stacking analysis. Toba et al. (2020a) indeed discovered a CT-AGN using deep NuSTAR observations of an IR-bright DOG. However, studies of NIR galaxies at $z < 4$ with moderately deep X-ray surveys are still based on a limited survey area, <50 deg$^2$ (e.g., LaMassa et al. 2019; Mountrichas et al. 2020, and references therein), which prevents us from obtaining a complete picture of the X-ray properties of NIR galaxies, such as their X-ray luminosity, over a wide parameter range.

The extended ROentgen Survey with an Imaging Telescope Array (eROSITA; Merloni et al. 2012, 2020; Predelli et al. 2021) provides a valuable probe for determining the X-ray properties of galaxies. eROSITA is the primary instrument on the Spectrum-ROentgen-Gamma (SRG) mission (Sunyaev et al. 2021), which was successfully launched on July 13, 2019 (see also Pavlinsky et al. 2021). The combination of WISE and eROSITA provides a complete census of NIR galaxies over a wide range of X-ray luminosities. Because of the all-sky surveys, even if WISE NIR sources are not detected by eROSITA, an X-ray stacking analysis can still yield estimates of the typical X-ray properties of this possibly heavily obscured population, as successfully achieved with X-ray deep fields (e.g., Daddi et al. 2007; Eckart et al. 2010).

In this paper, we report a multiwavelength analysis of NIR galaxies at $z < 4$ in the GAMA-09 field observed by eROSITA using the Performance-and-Verification-Phase program named the “eROSITA Final Equatorial Depth Survey (eFEDS; Brunner et al. 2022).” The eFEDS main X-ray catalog contains 27,369 X-ray point sources detected over an area of 140 deg$^2$ in a single broad band, with a 5$\sigma$ sensitivity of $f_{\text{0.3-2.2 keV}} \sim 9 \times 10^{-15}$ erg s$^{-1}$ cm$^{-2}$ (Liu et al. 2022; Salvato et al. 2022), which reveals X-ray properties of more than 500 MIR-detected AGN. The structure of this paper is as follows. Section 2 describes sample selection, the multiwavelength dataset, and the methodology of (i) X-ray spectral fitting, (ii) spectral-energy-distribution (SED) modeling, (iii) 2D image decomposition, and (iv) X-ray stacking analysis. The results of these analyses are summarized in Sect. 3. In Sect. 4, we discuss the physical properties of AGN and their hosts and characterize the eROSITA-detected and -undetected WISE NIR galaxies by comparison with a model prediction from a galaxy-merger simulation. Finally, our conclusions and a summary are given in Sect. 5. Throughout this paper, the adopted cosmology is a flat Universe with $H_0 = 70$ km s$^{-1}$ Mpc$^{-1}$, $\Omega_M = 0.3$, and $\Omega_{\Lambda} = 0.7$, which are the same as those adopted in Liu et al. (2022) and Salvato et al. (2022). We assume the initial mass function (IMF) of Chabrier (2003). Unless otherwise noted, all magnitudes refer to the AB system.

2. Data and analysis

2.1. Sample selection

Figure 1 shows a flowchart of our sample-selection process. Our sample is drawn from the DESI Legacy Imaging Surveys Data Release (DR) $R^2$ (LS8: Dey et al. 2019). LS8 provides optical photometry ($g$, $r$, and $z$) taken from the Dark Energy Camera Legacy Survey (DECaLS) and WISE forced photometry from imaging through NEOWISE-Reactivation (NEOWISE-R; Mainzer et al. 2014) that is measured in the unWISE maps (Lang et al. 2014; Lang et al. 2016) at the locations of the optical sources. WISE provides four-band MIR photometry at 3.4 $\mu$m (W1), 4.6 $\mu$m (W2), 12 $\mu$m (W3), and 22 $\mu$m (W4). In addition, LS8 provides photometry, parallaxes, and proper motions from Gaia DR2 (Gaia Collaboration 2018). We first prepared a WISE 22 $\mu$m (W4)-detected sample with a signal-to-noise ratio (SN) of $f_{22} > 5$ from LS8. We then excluded the objects for which $f_{22}$ was severely affected by contributions from their neighborhoods by adopting $\text{frac}\_\text{flux}_{\text{w4}} < 0.5$, which yielded 7780 objects (hereafter referred to as the eFEDS–W4 sample) in the eFEDS footprint. Next, we connected the eFEDS–W4 sample and the eFEDS main X-ray catalog with optical-to-MIR counterparts (Salvato et al. 2022) through a unique ID for objects in LS8. The counterparts were assigned after comparing the results of associations obtained using two independent methods: a Bayesian-statistics-based algorithm (NWAY; Salvato et al. 2018).

A15, page 2 of 18

\textbf{Fig. 1.} Flowchart of the sample-selection process.

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and a maximum-likelihood method (Sutherland & Saunders 1992) (astromatch⁶; Ruiz et al. 2018). Both of the methods used LS8; in particular, they were trained on the LS8 properties of a sample of more than 23 000 X-ray sources with secure counterparts (see Salvato et al. 2022, for more details). Based on the comparison of the two methods, each object was set to a counterpart reliability flag (CTP_quality). Salvato et al. (2022) also provided a classification of counterparts (i.e., galactic or extragalactic source) based on optical spectra (if available), Gaia parallaxes, and multicolor information, which can be referred to as a classification flag (CTP_CLASSIFICATION). Before connecting the catalog, we reduced the eFEDS main X-ray sample to 21 934 extragalactic sources that had reliable optical counterparts by adopting CTP_quality ≥ 2 and CTP_CLASSIFICATION ≥ 2 (see Liu et al. 2022; Salvato et al. 2022, for more details).

As a result of the cross-matching, 692 objects with eROSITA counterparts (hereafter referred to as the eFEDS–W4-nonX sample) were left; the corresponding sky distribution is presented in Fig. 2. For the 7088 objects that were not detected by eROSITA counterparts (hereafter referred to as the eFEDS–W4-X sample), we performed the stacking analysis described in Sect. 2.7. We then compiled redshifts and multiwavelength photometric data⁷ for the eFEDS–W4 sample.

2.2. Spectroscopic redshifts

Spectroscopic redshifts (zspec⁸) were compiled from the Two-Micron All-Sky Survey (2MASS; Skrutskie et al. 2006) Redshift Survey (2MRS; Huchra et al. 2012), LAMOST DR4 (Cui et al. 2012), Sloan Digital Sky Survey (SDSS; York et al. 2000) DR16 (Ahumada et al. 2020), the 2dF-SDSS LRG and QSO Survey (2SLAQ; Croom et al. 2009), Galaxy and Mass Assembly (GAMA; Driver et al. 2011) DR3 (Baldry et al. 2018), 6dF Galaxy Survey (6dFGS; Jones et al. 2004) DR3 (Jones et al. 2009), and WiggleZ Dark Energy Survey project DR1 (Drinkwater et al. 2010).

In this work, we focused on objects whose redshifts were spectroscopically confirmed to derive reliable physical quantities and draw an accurate conclusion. Therefore, we only considered 360 objects with zspec (hereafter referred to the eFEDS–W4–X subsample) in Sects. 3 and 4. The redshift distribution of the eFEDS–W4–X subsample is presented in Fig. 3. The eFEDS–W4–X sources distribute the redshifts up to zspec ~ 3.4 with a mean redshift value of 0.63.

2.3. Multiwavelength dataset

2.3.1. UV data

Far-UV (FUV) and near-UV (NUV) data were taken from the Galaxy Evolution Explorer (GALEX; Martin et al. 2005). We used the revised catalog⁹ from the GALEX All-Sky Survey (AIS) (GUVcat_AIS; Bianchi et al. 2017), which contains 82 992 086 sources with 5σ limiting magnitudes of 19.9 in the FUV and 20.8 in the NUV. Before cross-matching, we extracted 80 315 723 sources with (i) GRANK ≤ 1 and (ii) fuv_artifact = 0 and fuv_flags = 0 or nuv_artifact = 0 and nuv_flags = 0, where GRANK, f/nuv_artifact, and f/nuv_flags are the primary-source, artifact, and extraction flags, respectively. This eliminated spurious and duplicate sources (see Sect. 6.2 and Appendix A in Bianchi et al. 2017, for more detail).

2.3.2. u-band data

The u-band data were taken from the SDSS and the Kilo-Degree Survey (KiDS; de Jong et al. 2013). We used the SDSS PhotoPrimary table in DR16 (Ahumada et al. 2020) and KiDS DR4¹⁰ (Kuijken et al. 2019), which contain 469 053 874 and 100 350 871 sources, respectively. The 5σ limiting u-band magnitudes of the SDSS and KiDS DR4 are approximately 22.0 and 24.2, respectively. Because KiDS DR4 does not cover the entire region of the eFEDS (see Fig. 2), we used the SDSS u-band data

- ⁶ https://github.com/ruizca/astromatch
- ⁷ Salvato et al. (2022) provided multiwavelength photometric data up to MIR for X-ray sources in the eFEDS main X-ray catalog. Nevertheless, we compiled data ourselves up to the far-IR (FIR) to perform SED analysis for the eFEDS–W4 sample regardless of eROSITA detections using identical photometry with UV–FIR (see Sect. 2.5).
- ⁸ zspec used in this work were obtained from the report by Salvato et al. (2022) except for a proprietary zspec, which was obtained through the SPectroscopic IDentification of ERosita Sources (SPIDERS)–SDSS-IV follow-up campaign (Melloni et al., in prep.).
- ⁹ http://dolomiti.pha.jhu.edu/uvsky/GUVcat/GUVcat_AIS.html
- ¹⁰ A small bug was reported by the KiDS team, which induces incorrect photometry in some tiles; for these tiles, the data in DR4.1 should be replaced. However, we confirmed that the eFEDS sources were not located in the problematic tiles; therefore, we used the original DR4 catalog (see http://kids.strw.leidenuniv.nl/DR4/index.php).
for objects outside the KiDS footprint. Before cross-matching, we extracted sources with \( \text{FLAG}_\text{GAAP} \_u = 0 \) to ensure reliable \( u \)-band fluxes for the KiDS sources (see Kuijken et al. 2019) (see also Sect. 2.3.4).

### 2.3.3. Optical data

In addition to DECaLS–LS8 \((g, r, i, z, \text{and } y)\), we used KiDS DR4 \((g, r, i, z, \text{and } y)\), where objects with \( \text{FLAG}_\text{GAAP} \_g/r/i/z/y = 0 \) were extracted in each band for cross-matching. Additionally, we utilized deep optical data obtained from the Hyper Suprime-Cam (HSC; Miyazaki et al. 2018) Subaru Strategic Program survey (HSC-SSP; Aihara et al. 2018a) (see also Furusawa et al. 2018; Kawamoto et al. 2018; Komiyama et al. 2018). The HSC–SSP is an ongoing optical imaging survey with five broadband filters \((g, r, i, z, \text{and } y)\)-band and four narrowband filters (see Aihara et al. 2018a; Bosch et al. 2018; Coupon et al. 2018; Huang et al. 2018). In this work, we used S19A wide-layer data obtained from March 2014 to April 2019, for which the survey footprint mostly overlaps with eFEDS (see Fig. 2). The HSC catalog provides forced photometry for the \( g, r, i, z, \text{and } y \)-bands with \( 5\sigma \) limiting magnitudes of 26.8, 26.4, 26.4, 25.5, and 24.7, respectively (Aihara et al. 2018b, 2019). These are approximately 15 times deeper than those from LS8. The typical seeing is approximately \( 0.6^\prime\prime \) in the \( i \)-band, and the astrometric uncertainty is approximately 40 mas in rms.

We first narrowed down the sample to unique HSC objects with \( \text{isprimary} = \text{True} \). We then adopted five flags for each band: (i) \( \text{sdsscentroid} \_\text{flag} = \text{False} \) (i.e., an object has a clean measurement of the centroid position), (ii) \( \text{pixelflags\_edge} = \text{False} \) (i.e., an object is not at the edge of a CCD or a co-added patch), (iii) \( \text{pixelflags\_saturated} \_\text{center} = \text{False} \) (i.e., the central \( 3 \times 3 \) pixels of an object are not saturated, (iv) \( \text{pixelflags\_crcenter} = \text{False} \) (i.e., the central \( 3 \times 3 \) pixels of an object are not affected by cosmic rays, and (v) \( \text{pixelflags\_bad} = \text{False} \) (i.e., none of the pixels in the footprint of an object is labeled as bad). This left 422,260,020 HSC sources for cross-matching. We employed clean optical data as much as possible for the SED fitting regardless of overlap of the survey footprints for LS8, KiDS, and HSC (see Sect. 2.5).

### 2.3.4. Near-IR data

We compiled near-IR (NIR) data from the VISTA Kilo-degree Infrared Galaxy Survey (VIKING; Arnaboldi et al. 2007; Edge et al. 2013). The VIKING data were incorporated into KiDS DR4, for which aperture-matched optical–NIR forced photometry was available. We used \( J-, H-, \text{and } K_\text{s}-\text{band data with } 5\sigma \) limiting magnitudes of approximately 23 in \( J \) and 22 in \( K_\text{s} \) (Kuijken et al. 2019). Before cross-matching, we extracted sources with \( \text{FLAG}_\text{GAAP} \_J = 0, \text{FLAG}_\text{GAAP} \_H = 0, \text{or } \text{FLAG}_\text{GAAP} \_K_\text{s} = 0 \) to ensure reliable photometry (see Kuijken et al. 2019).

Because the KiDS–VIKING catalog (KiDS DR4) partially covers the eFEDS footprint (see Fig. 2), we also used the UKIRT Infrared Deep Sky Survey (UKIDSS; Lawrence et al. 2007) data. We utilized the UKIDSS Large Area Survey DR11plus, which we obtained through the WSA–WFSCM Science Archive\(^{11} \), which contains 88,298,646 sources. The limiting magnitudes of UKIDSS are 20.2, 19.6, 18.8, and 18.2 Vega mag in the \( Y-, J-, H-, \text{and } K\)-bands, respectively. The UKIDSS catalog contains the Vega magnitudes for each source, and we converted them into AB magnitudes using offset values \( \Delta m \) (\( m_{\text{AB}} = m_{\text{Vega}} + \Delta m \)) for the \( Y-, J-, H-, \text{and } K\)-bands of 0.634, 0.938, 1.379, and 1.900, respectively, according to Hewett et al. (2006). Before cross-matching, we extracted 77,276,542 objects with \( \text{priорSec} \leq 0 \text{ or } \text{frameSetID} \) (and \( \text{pperrbits} < 256 \) or \( \text{hperrbits} < 256 \) or \( \text{pperrbits} < 256 \) to ensure clean photometry for uniquely detected objects in the same manner as in Toba et al. (2015, 2019b). If an object lay outside the KiDS–VIKING footprint, its NIR flux densities were taken from UKIDSS; otherwise, we always referred to the KiDS–VIKING NIR data.

### 2.3.5. Far-IR data

We obtained the FIR data from a project of the Herschel Space Observatory (Pilbratt et al. 2010) Astrophysical Terahertz Large Area Survey (H-ATLAS; Eales et al. 2010; Bourne et al. 2016). This survey provides flux densities at 100 and 160 \( \mu \)m – obtained using a photoconductor array camera and spectrometer (PACS; Poglitsch et al. 2010) – and at 250, 350, and 500 \( \mu \)m – obtained using the Spectral and Photometric Imaging Receiver (SPIRE; Griffin et al. 2010). We used H-ATLAS DR1 (Valiante et al. 2016), which contains 120,230 sources in the GAMA fields. The 1\( \sigma \) noise levels for source detection (which include both confusion and instrumental noise) are 44, 49, 7.4, 9.4, and 10.2 mJy at 100, 160, 250, 350, and 500 \( \mu \)m, respectively (Valiante et al. 2016).

Because H-ATLAS partially overlaps the eFEDS region (see Fig. 2), we also utilized all-sky data from the AKARI FIR Surveyor (FIS; Kawada et al. 2007) Bright Source Catalog version 2.0 (Yamamura et al. 2018), which includes 918,054 FIR sources. This catalog provides the positions and flux densities in four FIR wavelengths centered at 65, 90, 140, and 160 \( \mu \)m, with \( 5\sigma \) sensitivities in each band of approximately 2.4, 0.55, 1.4, and 6.3 Jy, respectively; these are the deepest FIR all-sky data. Following Toba et al. (2017b), we selected 501,444 sources with high detection reliability (\( \text{GRADE} = 3 \)) for cross-matching, that is, sources that were detected in at least two wavelength bands or in four or more scans in one wavelength band.

### 2.3.6. Cross identification of multi-band catalogs

We cross-identified the GALEX, KiDS–VIKING, SDSS, HSC, UKIDSS, AKARI, and H-ATLAS catalogs with the eFEDS–W4–X sample, which we refer to as RA and Dec. Using a search radius of 1” for KiDS–VIKING, SDSS, and HSC, 3” for GALEX, 10” for H-ATLAS, and 20” for AKARI in the same manner as in Toba et al. (2017b, 2019a,b), we cross-identified 382 (55.2%), 321 (46.4%), 635 (91.8%), 655 (94.7%), 681 (98.4%), 22 (3.2%), and 119 (17.2%) objects with those catalogs (SDSS, KiDS–VIKING, AKARI, and H-ATLAS, respectively. We note that 3/382 (0.8%), 33/635 (5.2%), and 6/681 (0.9%) objects had two candidates within the search radius as counterparts for the GALEX, HSC, and UKIDSS sources, respectively. For cross-matching with other catalogs (SDSS, KiDS–VIKING, AKARI, and H-ATLAS), we obtained one-to-one identification. We found that the multiple fractions of HSC sources were relatively large, possibly due to the high number density of HSC sources. Therefore, we estimated the chance coincidence of cross-matching with the HSC catalog by generating a mock catalog with random positions in the same manner as in Toba et al. (2019b), where the source position in the HSC catalog was shifted from the original position to \( \pm 1^\prime\prime \) or \( \pm 2^\prime\prime \) along the right ascension direction. Consequently,

\(^{11}\) http://wsa.roe.ac.uk/index.html
the chance coincidence was estimated to be <0.2%. We chose the nearest object as the counterpart for this case.

2.4. X-ray spectral analysis
Liu et al. (2022) analyzed the X-ray spectra of all eFEDS X-ray sources (see also Nandra et al., in prep.), including those of our eFEDS-W4-X sample. The methodology is summarized below. We extracted the X-ray spectra using srtcool v1.63 of the eROSITA Science Analysis Software System (eSASS; Brunner et al. 2022). We used multiple models to fit the spectra of the AGN, and the baseline model was an absorbed power-law. To model bright sources with a soft excess, we added an additional power-law component to the baseline model, creating a “double-power-law” model. To model faint sources for which we could not constrain the spectral shape parameters of the “single-power-law” model, we fixed the power-law slope $Γ$, the absorbing column density $N_H$, or both at typical values for the sample ($Γ = 2.0$ and $N_H = 0$).

We employed the Bayesian method BXA (Buchner et al. 2014; Buchner 2019) to derive constraints on the spectral parameters. For each parameter, we measured the median and 1σ confidence intervals from the posterior distribution. In the spectral analysis, we always modeled the Galactic absorption using $N_H$, as measured by the HI4PI (HI4PI Collaboration 2016), and adopted the photoionization cross-sections provided in Verner et al. (1996) and the abundances provided in Wilms et al. (2000).

Based on a detailed analysis of the parameter posterior distributions, Liu et al. (2022) provided an $N_H$ measurement flag for each source, dividing the sources into four classes: (1) uninformative, (2) unobscured, (3) mildly-measured, and (4) well-measured. Following Liu et al. (2022), we considered unobserved sources with a median $N_H < 21.5 \, \text{cm}^{-2}$ as X-ray unobscured (or type 1 AGN) and mildly-measured or well-measured sources with a median $N_H \geq 21.5 \, \text{cm}^{-2}$ as X-ray obscured (or type 2) AGN. For each source, based on the parameter constraints of the data, we chose the most suitable model to estimate the X-ray luminosities. Generally, we adopted the flexible double-power-law model for high-quality data and the single-power-law model with one or more parameters fixed for low-quality data. However, in the case of X-ray type 2 AGN, we adopted the single-power-law model instead of the flexible double-power-law model to avoid strong degeneracy between the soft excess and the absorption. A full description of the X-ray data reduction and analysis is provided in Liu et al. (2022).

2.5. SED fitting with X-CIGALE
To derive the physical properties of our sample, we performed SED fitting in which we employed a new version of the Code for Investigating GALaxy Emission (CIGALE: Burgarella et al. 2005; Noll et al. 2009; Boquien et al. 2019), known as X-CIGALE12 (Yang et al. 2020). X-CIGALE implements an X-ray module that enables fitting from X-ray to FIR wavelengths in a self-consistent framework by considering the energy balance between the UV–optical and IR wavelengths. This code can handle many parameters, such as the star formation history (SFH), single stellar population (SSP), attenuation law, AGN emission, dust emission, and radio synchrotron emission (see e.g., Boquien et al. 2014, 2016; Buat et al. 2015; Lo Faro et al. 2017; Toba et al. 2019b, 2020c). The parameter ranges used in the SED fitting are listed in Table 1.

We assumed a SFH comprising two exponentially decreasing SFRs with different e-folding times (e.g., Ciesla et al. 2015, 2016b). We chose the SSP model of Bruzual & Charlot (2003), assumed the IMF of Chabrier (2003), and used the standard nebular emission model included in X-CIGALE (see Inoue 2011).

For attenuation by the dust associated with the host galaxy, we utilized a starburst attenuation curve (Calzetti et al. 2000; Leitherer et al. 2002) in which we parameterized the color excess of the nebular emission lines $E(B-V)_\text{Hα}$, extended with the Leitherer et al. (2002) curve. The color excess of stars, $E(B-V)_*$, can be converted from $E(B-V)_\text{Hα}$ by assuming a simple reduction factor ($f_{\text{EBV}} = (E(B-V)_*)/(E(B-V)_\text{Hα}) = 0.44$ (Calzetti 1997).

We modeled the IR emission from dust (reprocessed from the absorbed UV–optical stellar emission) using the dust templates provided by Dale et al. (2014). This model is formulated as $dM_d(U) \propto U^{-\alpha} \, dU$, where $M_d$ is the dust mass, $U$ is the intensity of the radiation field, and $\alpha$ is a dimensionless parameter.

We modeled the AGN emission using SKIRTOR (Baes et al. 2011; Camps & Baes 2015; Stalevski et al. 2012, 2016), a two-phase medium torus model with high-density clumps embedded in a low-density component, with seven parameterized quantities (see Stalevski et al. 2016; Yang et al. 2020, for details). As parameters, we used the torus optical depth at 9.7 μm ($τ_{9.7}$), the torus density radial parameter ($p$), the torus density angular parameter ($q$), the angle between the equatorial plane and the edge of the torus ($Δ$), the ratio of the maximum to minimum radii of the torus ($R_{\text{max}}/R_{\text{min}}$), the viewing angle ($θ$), and the AGN fraction of the total IR luminosity ($f_{\text{AGN}}$), all of which are listed in Table 1.

We modeled the X-ray emission using a combination of (i) an AGN with a power-law photon index (Γ) defined as $f_{\gamma} \propto \nu^{-\Gamma}$, (ii) low-mass X-ray binaries (LMXBs), (iii) high-mass X-ray binaries (HMXBs), and (iv) hot gas. The X-ray emissions from the LMXBs and HMXBs were connected to the assumed SFH and SED, and the hot-gas emission was modeled using free–free and free–bound emission from optically-thin plasma with $Γ = 1$. To connect the continuum emission from X-rays with other wavelengths, X-CIGALE employs an empirical relation between $α_{\text{OX}}$ and $L_{\text{2500Å}}$ (Just et al. 2007), where $L_{\text{2500Å}}$ is the intrinsic (de-reddened) AGN luminosity density at 2500 Å, and $α_{\text{OX}}$ is the SED slope between 2500 Å and 2 keV. The derived value of $α_{\text{OX}}$ is allowed to deviate from that expected from $α_{\text{OX}} = α_{\text{OX}}(L_{\text{2500Å}})$ relation (Just et al. 2007) by up to $\sim 2\sigma$ (i.e., $|Δα_{\text{OXmax}}| = |α_{\text{OX}} - α_{\text{OX}}(L_{\text{2500Å}})|_{\text{max}} = 0.2$), following Yang et al. (2020).

Using the parameter settings listed in Table 1, we fitted the stellar, nebular, AGN, SF, and X-ray components to at most 25 photometric points from X-ray to FIR wavelengths of the eFEDS-W4-X subsample. Below, we explain the photometry used for each dataset employed for the SED fitting. For the X-ray data, we used FluxCorr_S and FluxCorr_HL, which are the absorption-corrected fluxes in the 0.5–2 and 2–10 keV bands, respectively (see Liu et al. 2022). For the UV data, we used FUV$_{\text{mag}}$ and NUV$_{\text{mag}}$, which are the GALEX calibrated magnitudes in the FUV and NUV wavelengths (see Bianchi et al. 2017). For the optical (DECaLS) and MIR (unWISE) data in LS8, we used forced photometry at the positions of the optical counterparts (see Dey et al. 2019). For the SDSS and HSC optical data, we used the cfoved1 magnitude, whose HSC five-band photometry was forced photometry (see e.g., Bosch et al. 2018). For the optical–NIR data taken from KiDS, we used aperture-matched forced photometry at the positions of the optical counterparts (MAG_GAAP_u/g/r/i/z/y/j/h/k/s) (see Kuijken et al. 2019). For the NIR data taken from UKIDSS, we utilized the Petrosian (1976) magnitudes (j/h/kPetroMag)

12 https://gitlab.lam.fr/gyang/cigale/tree/xray
KiDS–VIKING and LS8 (the optical data, the median values of the differences between KiDS–VIKING and SDSS was 0.08 mag. For objects from different surveys (e.g., KiDS–VIKING photometry for objects detected using the same band taken for galactic extinction. Hence, we corrected this effect using the correction term provided in Table 6 of Valiante et al. (2016). We performed 2D image analysis in the same manner as in Li et al. (2021), which involved an automated fitting routine based on the image modeling tool Lenstronomy (Birrer et al. 2015; Birrer & Amara 2018) to decompose the image into a point source and a host-galaxy component. A full description is provided in Ding et al. (2020) and Li et al. (2021). We briefly summarize the analysis here. For image decomposition, we used a cut-out image obtained from the HSC i-band, for which the image size was automatically optimized in the procedure.

We performed 2D brightness profile fitting for the background-subtracted cut-out images using a point spread function (PSF) (for the point source) and a single elliptical Sérsic model (for the host galaxy) to determine galactic structural properties, such as the Sérsic index ($n$) and half-light radius ($R_h$) as well as the flux densities of the central point source and the host galaxy (see Eq. (1) in Li et al. 2021). The best-fit model image was obtained using $\chi^2$ minimization based on the particle swarm optimization algorithm (Kennedy & Eberhar 1995). The $1\sigma$ error of the best-fit structural parameters and the flux density of each component could be inferred through the Markov-chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) sampling procedure in Lenstronomy (Foreman-Mackey et al. 2013). However, we eventually employed a 10% error for each quantity because the derived errors based on the MCMC procedure were found to be unrealistically small, possibly due to adopting a fixed PSF in our 2D profile fitting (see Sect. 3.1 in Li et al. 2021).

Figure 4 presents examples of quasar-host decomposition based on the HSC i-band image. We found that the reduced $\chi^2$ ($\chi^2_{\text{decomp}}$) of the profile fitting worsened for objects at $z < 0.1$, probably because the radial profile of a low-$z$ object is often difficult to explain with a single Sérsic model (Li et al. 2021). Moreover, it was difficult, even when using the HSC data, to decompose the host emission for objects at $z > 1$ given the angular resolution of the HSC. Following Li et al. (2021), we used products (e.g., host flux densities) for objects at $0.2 < z < 0.8$ with reduced $\chi^2_{\text{decomp}} < 5$ to ensure reliable host properties (see Sect. 4.2).

Table 1. Parameter ranges used in the SED fitting with X-CIGALE.

| Parameter          | Value                        |
|--------------------|------------------------------|
|                    | Double exp. SFH              |
| $\tau_{\text{main}}$ [Myr] | 1000, 2000, 4000, 6000      |
| $\tau_{\text{burst}}$ [Myr]   | 3, 80                        |
| $f_{\text{burst}}$            | 0.01, 0.1                    |
| $\text{age}$ [Myr]            | 500, 2000, 4000, 6000        |
| SSP (Bruzual & Charlot 2003)  |                              |
| IMF                 | Chabrier (2003)              |
| Metallicity        | 0.02                         |
| Nebular emission   | (Inoue 2011)                 |
| $\log U$           | $-2.0$                       |
| Dust attenuation   | (Calzetti et al. 2000; Leitherer et al. 2002) |
| $E(B-V)_{\text{lines}}$     | 0.05, 0.1, 0.2, 0.4, 0.6, 0.8, 1.0, 2.0 |
| AGN emission       | (Stalevski et al. 2012, 2016) |
| $\tau_9.7$         | 3, 7                         |
| $\rho$             | 0.5                          |
| $q$                | 0.5                          |
| $\Delta$ [$^{\circ}$] | 40                           |
| $R_{\text{max}}/R_{\text{min}}$ | 30                          |
| $\theta$ [$^{\circ}$] | 30, 50, 70                   |
| $f_{\text{AGN}}$    | 0.1, 0.2, 0.3, 0.4, 0.5, 0.6, 0.7, 0.8, 0.9 |
| Dust emission      | (Dale et al. 2014)           |
| $\alpha$           | 0.0625, 2.0000, 4.0000        |
| X-ray emission     | (Yang et al. 2020)           |
| AGN photon index   | 1.5, 2.0, 2.5                 |
| $|\Delta \alpha_{\text{OX}}|_{\text{max}}$ | 0.2                         |
| LMXB photon index  | 1.56                         |
| HMXB photon index  | 2.0                          |

(see also Lawrence et al. 2007). For the FIR data, we used the default fluxes (i.e., FLUX_65/90/140/160 for AKARI and F100/160/250/350/500B for Herschel) (see Valiante et al. 2016; Yamamura et al. 2018). The flux densities at 250, 350, and 500 µm can be boosted, especially for faint sources (known as flux boosting or flux bias), which are caused by confusion noise and instrument noise. Hence, we corrected this effect using the correction term provided in Table 6 of Valiante et al. (2016). We corrected all the flux densities from X-ray to MIR wavelengths for galactic extinction.

Further, we examined the consistency of optical and NIR photometry for objects detected using the same band taken from different surveys (e.g., KiDS–VIKING u-band and SDSS u-band). For the u-band magnitude, the median value of the difference between KiDS–VIKING and SDSS was 0.08 mag. For the optical data, the median values of the differences between (i) KiDS–VIKING and LS8 (g, r, and z), (ii) HSC and LS8 (g, r, and z), and (iii) KiDS–VIKING and HSC (g, r, i, z, and y) were typically 0.09, 0.05, and 0.03 mag, respectively, which is acceptable in this work. However, the median values of the differences between KiDS–VIKING and UKIDSS for the J, H, and K-bands were 0.12, 0.15, and 0.11 mag, respectively, which is a relatively large discrepancy. Although the differences in optical and NIR photometry did not significantly affect the resulting physical values, as discussed in Sect. 3.2, we should consider the possible systematic differences in NIR photometry in this work.

Following Toba et al. (2019b), we used the flux density at a given wavelength when SN was greater than 3 at that wavelength. If an object was undetected, we placed 3σ upper limits at those wavelengths. Although the photometry employed in each catalog is different, they may trace the total flux densities. Therefore, the influence of differences in the photometry is expected to be small. Nevertheless, it is worth addressing whether physical properties are actually estimated in a reliable way given the uncertainties in each source of photometry, which we discuss in Sect. 3.2.

2.6. 2D image decomposition

Among the 7088 objects in the eFEDS–W4-nonX sample, 5822 objects were in the survey footprint of the HSC-SSP. Because

13 X-CIGALE handles the SED fitting of photometric data with upper limits by employing the method presented by Sawicki (2012). This method computes $\chi^2$ by introducing the error function (see Eqs. (15) and (16) in Boquien et al. 2019).

14 Because the i-band data provide the highest image quality among the HSC five-band data for the typical seeing of 0′′6 (Aihara et al. 2018a), the i-band is ideal for 2D image analysis.
4288/5822 (~74%) sources did not have $z_{\text{spec}}$, we computed photometric redshifts ($z_{\text{photo}}$) for them. We utilized $z_{\text{photo}}$ calculated using the machine learning code Deep Neural Network (DNNz; Nishizawa et al., in prep.). The DNNz comprises multilayered perceptrons with four fully connected hidden layers, with each layer having 100 nodes. For the inputs, we have used the model fluxes and PSF-convolved aperture fluxes for five HSC broadband filters, translated into asinh magnitudes (Lupton et al. 1999), as well as the sizes derived from second-order moments for each filter. The output is the probability of an individual galaxy being in a certain redshift bin, with redshifts divided linearly from $z = 0$–~7. With the spectroscopic-redshift sample and the high-quality photometric-redshift sample in COSMOS, which are summarized in Nishizawa et al. (2020), the code is trained so that the output probability approaches a Dirac delta function at the true redshift.

Figure 5 shows a comparison between $z_{\text{spec}}$ and $z_{\text{photo}}$ for the eFEDS–W4-nonX sample. In which we computed $z_{\text{spec}}$ from the SDSS DR15, GAMA DR3, and WiggleZ DR1. The resulting accuracy of $z_{\text{photo}}$, the normalized median absolute deviation defined as $\sigma_{\Delta z/(1+z_{\text{spec}})} = 1.48 \times \text{median}(|\Delta z/(1+z_{\text{spec}})|)$ (e.g., Ilbert et al. 2006), is 0.03. The outlier fraction (i.e., the fraction of sources with $|\Delta z/(1+z_{\text{spec}})| > 0.15$) is 3.98%, which is acceptable in this work (see also Sect. 2.4). However, we have verified the performance of $z_{\text{photo}}$ only for the objects at $z < 4$. Therefore, we only considered the objects at $z < 4$ to ensure the reliability of $z_{\text{photo}}$ for these high-$z$ sources (see Fig. 3). Moreover, we adopted brightblob\footnote{https://www.legacysurvey.org/dr8/bitmasks/#id1} $> 3$ to extract extragalactic objects with reliable redshifts (see also Sect. 2.2). Accordingly, 4441 objects (hereafter referred to as the eFEDS–W4-nonX subsample) remained for the stacking analysis. The sample was separated into five subsamples using the following redshift bins: (i) $z < 0.1$, (ii) $0.1 < z < 0.25$, (iii) $0.25 < z < 0.5$, (iv) $0.5 < z < 1.0$, and (v) $z > 1.0$, and we then stacked each subsample as follows.

We first masked the previously detected sources using the position from the catalog (Salvato et al. 2022) in the X-ray images (30′ radius for point source and a spatial extent for extended sources). This ensured that we could properly characterize the background. We performed masking on four bands, that is, full (0.2–10 keV), soft (0.2–0.6 keV), mid (0.6–2.3 keV), and hard (2.3–5.0 keV) (see Brunner et al. 2022). We then stacked images in all four bands by taking the mean of the inverse exposure weighted 2′×2′ cutouts centered on each LS8 position, essentially creating count-rate stacked images. To not overly weigh sources at the edges of the field, we required a minimum exposure time of 180 s, which reduced the number of stacked sources by 3–5%, with the larger percentage in the hard band, which experienced a lot of vignetting (see Sect. 3.3).

Thereafter, we attempted to detect the source in the stacked image by PSF-matching the center to the background. We
selected a boundary SN of 1.8 as our boundary, which corresponded to a matched detection significance of 5.0. Lastly, we determined the (limiting) fluxes above the background using the following energy conversion factors: full, $5.03 \times 10^{11}$; soft, $9.61 \times 10^{11}$; mid, $1.06 \times 10^{12}$; and hard, $1.13 \times 10^{11}$. They were calculated using an absorbed power-law model with $N_H = 20 \text{ cm}^{-2}$ and $\Gamma$ of 1.7.

### 3. Results

As described in Sects. 2.2 and 2.7, we conservatively narrowed down the eFEDS–W4 sample to 360 objects in the eFEDS–W4–X subsample and to 4441 objects in the eFEDS–W4–nonX subsample with $z < 4$ to ensure the reliability of the determined physical quantities (see also Fig. 1). We present the results of X-ray spectral analysis, SED fitting, and X-ray stacking analysis, which characterize eROSITA-detected and -undetected WISE galaxies and AGN.

#### 3.1. Results of X-ray spectral analysis

Figure 6 presents examples of the X-ray spectra. We estimated the absorption-corrected X-ray luminosities in the rest-frame soft (0.5–2 keV) band ($L_X$ (0.5–2 keV)) and hard (2–10 keV) band ($L_X$ (2–10 keV)) for all the 360 objects. However, for 21 objects (with a class of uninformative), $L_X$ has large uncertainties because the shapes of the X-ray spectra have been fixed (see Liu et al. 2022). We therefore exclude them from the following analysis. The luminosities of these 360–21 = 339 objects are presented as a function of redshift in Figs. 7 and 8. The mean values and standard deviations of these luminosities are $\log L_X$ (0.5–2 keV) = $43.4 \pm 1.41$ erg s$^{-1}$ and $\log L_X$ (2–10 keV) = $43.4 \pm 1.37$ erg s$^{-1}$. If we consider objects with $\log L_X$ (2–10 keV) > $42$ erg s$^{-1}$ as AGN (e.g., Barger et al. 2005), 278/339 (~82%) objects satisfy the criterion. We find that approximately 86 and 14% of X-ray AGN are classified as X-ray type 1 and type 2 AGN according to the best-fit model (see Sect. 2.4).

We present $N_H$ for 339 objects in the eFEDS–W4–X subsample in Fig. 9. The mean value and standard deviation of $N_H$ for our AGN sample is $\log N_H = 20.6 \pm 0.69 \text{ cm}^{-2}$, and the mean value and standard deviation of the photon index is $\Gamma = 2.0 \pm 0.3$; both are in good agreement with a previous work on X-ray AGN (Trump et al. 2011).

#### 3.2. Results of SED fitting

Figure 10 shows examples of the SED fits obtained with X–CIGALE. We confirmed that 197/360 (~55%) objects reduced $\chi^2 \leq 3$, while 263/360 (~73%) objects have reduced $\chi^2 \leq 5$. This suggests that the data are moderately well fitted by X–CIGALE with a combination of stellar, nebular, AGN, SF, and X-ray components. Hereafter, we focus on the subsample of 263 eFEDS–W4–X sources with reduced $\chi^2$ smaller than 5 for the SED fitting, in the same manner as in Toba et al. (2019b, 2020c).

Figure 11 shows the IR luminosity ($L_{IR}$). $L_{IR}$ is traditionally defined as the luminosity integrated over the wavelength range 8–1000 µm (e.g., Sanders & Mirabel 1996; Chary et al. 2004). However, because this definition includes contributions from stellar emissions, we did not adopt any wavelength boundary for the integration range. Instead, we employed a physically oriented approach to estimate $L_{IR}$ as a function of redshift based on X–CIGALE by considering the energy re-emitted by dust that has absorbed UV–optical emission from SF–AGN (see the following analysis). The luminosities of these objects are presented as a function of redshift in Figs. 7.

Fig. 6. Examples of the X-ray spectra from eROSITA. The best-fit model and its 99% confidence interval are displayed as blue-shaded regions. For each source, the lower panel shows comparison of the data with the best-fit model in terms of (data−model)/error, where error is calculated as the square root of the model predicted number of counts.

Fig. 7. Absorption-corrected X-ray luminosity in the 0.5–2 keV band for the 339 objects in the eFEDS–W4–X subsample as a function of redshift.
The mean values are $\Delta E(B-V) = 0.05$, $\Delta \log M_* = 0.004$, $\Delta \log SFR = 0.16$, and $\Delta \log L_{IR} = 0.11$. Although there is no significant dependence on redshift, the relatively large offsets for SFR and $L_{IR}$ suggest that these quantities may be sensitive to photometric uncertainties. This may be a limitation of our SED fitting method given the limited number of data points. This possible uncertainty should be kept in mind in the following discussion.

### 3.3. Results of X-ray stacking analysis

Figure 13 shows the stacked images in the observed frame of all the eFEDS–W4-nonX samples as functions of redshift. The resulting X-ray flux in each band is tabulated in Table 2. X-ray photons are detected in the 0.2–0.5-, 0.6–2.3-, and 0.2–10-keV bands for objects at $z < 1$, while $3\sigma$ upper limits are obtained for the 2.3–5.0-keV band regardless of redshift. Using the stacked spectra at these five redshift bins, we estimated the mean intrinsic (absorption-corrected) 2–10 keV luminosities of the eFEDS–W4-nonX subsamples. To convert the observed count rates into luminosities, we consider an absorbed power-law model with a 1% unabsorbed scattered component, assuming $\Gamma = 2.0$ and four different values of absorption at the source redshift, $N_H = 0, 10^{20}, 10^{21}$, and $10^{24}$ cm$^{-2}$, in addition to the Galactic absorption of $N_H = 2.58 \times 10^{20}$ cm$^{-2}$ (Liu et al. 2022). For simplicity, we ignore other components such as optically-thin thermal emission and emissions from X-ray binaries in the host galaxies. Thus, our estimates of the AGN luminosities must be taken to be upper limits. We basically refer to the count rates in the 0.6–2.3 keV band, where eROSITA is the most sensitive and all the stacked spectra are significantly detected. If the $3\sigma$ upper limit of the 2.3–5.0 keV count rate gives a smaller luminosity than the estimate from the 0.6–2.3 keV count rate, then we adopt the former value as an upper limit (which is the case only for $z < 0.1$ and $N_H = 10^{23}$ cm$^{-2}$). The results are summarized in Table 3. It is noteworthy that the presence of obscured AGN with $L_{2-10} > 10^{42}$ erg s$^{-1}$ in these X-ray-undetected sources is possible, although the inferred mean AGN luminosity is highly dependent on the assumed absorption column density.

We present the resulting values of $L_X$ for the eFEDS–W4-nonX stacked sample as a function of redshift in Fig. 8, where $L_X$ is plotted assuming $N_H = 0$ cm$^{-2}$. We observe that the values of $L_X$ for this stacked sample are smaller than those for the eFEDS–W4-X sample. Given the fact that the majority of the eFEDS–W4-X sample is expected to be unobscured AGN (see Sect. 3.1 and Fig. 9), this result indicates that the estimates of $L_X$ for the eFEDS–W4-nonX stacked sample are reasonable. Figure 11 presents the resulting values of $L_{IR}$ for the eFEDS–W4-nonX subsample as a function of redshift. Because $L_{IR}$ can be estimated for individual sources in the sample (see below), we plotted the mean values and standard deviations of $\log L_{IR}$ as in Toba et al. (2019b, 2020c). To create the mock catalog, X–CIGALE first uses the photometric data for each object based on the best-fit SED and then modifies the photometry for each one by adding a value taken from a Gaussian distribution with the same standard deviation as the observation. This mock catalog is then analyzed in exactly the same way as for the original observations (i.e., the mock analysis uses the same simulation model as the fitting model) (see Boquien et al. 2019, for more details). This analysis also enables us to examine the influence of photometric uncertainties on the derived physical quantities (see Sect. 2.5).
Fig. 10. Examples of SED fitting. The black points are photometric data, and the gray solid line represents the resulting best-fit SED. The inset shows the SED at 0.1–500 µm, with the contributions from the stellar, AGN, and SF components to the total SED shown as blue, yellow, and red lines, respectively.

Fig. 11. IR luminosity as a function of redshift. The green stars represent the eFEDS–W4-nonX subsample, for which the values of $L_{\text{IR}}$ are the mean and standard deviation for sources (indicated by green dots) in each redshift bin, as given in Table 2. The yellow star represents the ELIRG (WISEJ0909+0002) reported in Toba et al. (2021b). Objects with red circles have FIR detections from Herschel or AKARI.

To compare the shapes of the SEDs between the eFEDS–W4 samples with and without eROSITA detections, we performed SED fitting for the eFEDS–W4-nonX subsample. We compiled the multiwavelength data and performed SED fitting to the UV–FIR data in the same manner as described in Sects. 2.3 and 2.5. We created the composite SED by stacking the best-fit SEDs for all the objects. The composite SEDs of the eFEDS–W4-nonX and eFEDS–W4-X subsamples are shown in Fig. 12. The differences in $E(B - V)_*\text{,}$ the stellar mass ($M_*$), the SFR, and $L_{\text{IR}}$ derived from X-CIGALE in this work and those derived from the mock catalog are shown in the right-hand panel histograms of each quantity. The red dotted lines correspond to $\Delta = 0.$
Fig. 13. Stacked X-ray images (2′ × 2′) of the eFEDS–W4-nonX samples as a function of redshift bin. From left to right: bins are $z < 0.1$, $0.1 < z < 0.25$, $0.25 < z < 0.5$, $0.5 < z < 1.0$, $z > 1.0$, and all the samples. The energy bands (in the observed frame) of the subsample are 0.2–10, 0.2–0.5, 0.6–2.3, and 2.3–5.0 keV from top to bottom.

Table 2. X-ray fluxes of the stacked eFEDS–W4-nonX subsample.

| Redshift range | N   | $f_X$ [$10^{-16}$ erg s$^{-1}$ cm$^{-2}$] |
|----------------|-----|------------------------------------------|
|                |     | 0.2–0.5 keV | 0.6–2.3 keV | 2.3–5.0 keV | 0.2–10 keV |
| $z < 0.1$      | 950 | 1.3 ± 0.6   | 3.6 ± 0.7   | < 18.8$^{(a)}$ | 5.8 ± 1.5 |
| $0.1 < z < 0.25$ | 1325 | 0.9 ± 0.5   | 2.4 ± 0.7   | < 16.7$^{(a)}$ | 3.8 ± 1.2 |
| $0.25 < z < 0.5$ | 774  | 0.9 ± 0.6   | 1.5 ± 0.8   | < 22.2$^{(a)}$ | 2.9 ± 1.5 |
| $0.5 < z < 1.0$ | 876  | 0.8 ± 0.6   | 1.3 ± 0.8   | < 21.9$^{(a)}$ | 3.1 ± 1.5 |
| $z > 1.0$      | 513  | < 2.3$^{(a)}$ | < 2.9$^{(a)}$ | < 28.8$^{(a)}$ | < 5.7$^{(a)}$ |

Notes. $^{(a)}$3σ upper limit.

eFEDS–W4-X and eFEDS–W4-nonX subsamples are displayed in Fig. 14, where we do not use ~0.005–0.1 µm for stacking the SEDs because there are no data points in that wavelength range. No significant differences are observed in the NIR and FIR SEDs among these sources.

In the optical region, however, the eFEDS–W4-X subsample exhibits a power-law SED caused by emission from the AGN accretion disk, while the eFEDS–W4-nonX subsample exhibits Balmer and 4000 Å break features caused by emission from the AGN host. In addition, the strength of the silicate feature at 9.7 µm (i.e., $\tau_{9.7}$) is larger for the eFEDS–W4-nonX subsample than for the eFEDS–W4-X subsample (see the inset of Fig. 14). The power-law feature of the eFEDS–W4-X subsample is consistent with the fact that the majority of the sample comprises X-ray type 1 AGN (see Sect. 3.1). However, some eFEDS–W4-nonX sources may be dust-obscured type 2 AGN, including CT-AGN (see Sect. 4.3). This is supported by the relatively strong 9.7 µm silicate dust absorption seen in their composite SED. Nevertheless, this is inconclusive because $N_{HI}$ cannot be constrained for the eFEDS–W4-nonX subsample given the current dataset.

4. Discussion

4.1. Relationship between MIR and X-ray luminosities

The MIR luminosity (e.g., the 6 µm luminosity $L_6$) and the hard X-ray luminosity [e.g., $L_X$ (2–10 keV)] of the AGN are positively correlated over a wide luminosity range, regardless of the AGN type (e.g., Gandhi et al. 2009; Asmus et al. 2015; Mateos et al. 2015; Stern 2015; Chen et al. 2017; Ichikawa et al. 2017; Toba et al. 2019a). Because our AGN sample has a wide range of...
Table 3. Absorption-corrected X-ray luminosities in the 2–10 keV band of the stacked eFEDS–W4-nonX subsample.

| Redshift | Assumed $N_H$ [$10^{22}$ cm$^{-2}$] | $L_X$ [2–10 keV] [erg s$^{-1}$] |
|----------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 0.05     | 0                                  | $2.95 \times 10^{40}$            |
|          | 1                                  | $1.40 \times 10^{41}$            |
|          | 10                                 | $<1.83 \times 10^{42}$ (i)       |
|          | 100                                | $2.98 \times 10^{42}$            |
| 0.175    | 0                                  | $2.81 \times 10^{41}$            |
|          | 1                                  | $1.03 \times 10^{42}$            |
|          | 10                                 | $1.85 \times 10^{43}$            |
|          | 100                                | $2.83 \times 10^{43}$            |
| 0.375    | 0                                  | $9.95 \times 10^{41}$            |
|          | 1                                  | $2.69 \times 10^{42}$            |
|          | 10                                 | $3.86 \times 10^{43}$            |
|          | 100                                | $1.00 \times 10^{44}$            |
| 0.75     | 0                                  | $4.57 \times 10^{42}$            |
|          | 1                                  | $8.53 \times 10^{42}$            |
|          | 10                                 | $7.01 \times 10^{43}$            |
|          | 100                                | $4.60 \times 10^{44}$            |
| 2.0      | 0                                  | $8.41 \times 10^{43}$            |
|          | 1                                  | $1.01 \times 10^{44}$            |
|          | 10                                 | $2.79 \times 10^{44}$            |
|          | 100                                | $4.00 \times 10^{45}$            |

Notes. $6\sigma$ upper limit.

X-ray and IR luminosities, as shown in Figs. 8 and 11, it is worth investigating whether our eFEDS–W4-X sample also follows this relationship. We show the resulting relationship between the rest-frame 6 μm luminosity and the rest-frame 2–10 keV luminosity in Fig. 15. The plotted points represent X-ray AGN (with log $L_X$ (2–10 keV) $> 42$ erg s$^{-1}$) with reliable $L_X$ (i.e., which are classified as unobscured, mildly measured, or well-measured). The X-ray luminosity is corrected for absorption (see Sect. 2.4), while the 6 μm luminosity is corrected for contamination from the host galaxy in the same manner as in Toba et al. (2019a).

We also plot the best-fit $L_6$–$L_X$ relation for AGN samples from the Bright Ultra-hard XMM–Newton Survey (BUXS; Mateos et al. 2015), the SDSS quasars (Stern 2015), and data compiled for some deep fields (Chen et al. 2017). We performed a linear regression in log–log space for the eFEDS–W4-X AGN sample by considering the errors in $L_6$ and $L_X$ obtained from a Bayesian maximum-likelihood method provided by Kelly (2007). The resulting linear relation is as follows:

$$\log L_X = (0.73 \pm 0.02) \log L_6 + (11.4 \pm 1.04),$$

and the correlation coefficient is $r \sim 0.91$, which confirms the tight correlation between $L_6$ and $L_X$ for our X-ray AGN sample. We note that the slope of this relation (i.e., $L_X/L_6$) is flatter than for the X-ray AGN detected by the ROSAT all-sky survey (RASS) reported in Toba et al. (2019a), while it is steeper than that of the AGN detected by deep X-ray observations such as XMM–COSMOS (Chen et al. 2017). Chen et al. (2017) suggested that X-ray flux limits may affect the slopes, as the ratio $L_X/L_6$ determined using shallower X-ray flux limits tends to be larger. Because the flux limit of eROSITA–eFEDS is more than one order of magnitude deeper than that of RASS, while it is about one order of magnitude shallower than that of XMM–COSMOS (although the survey area of eFEDS is about 65 times larger than XMM–COSMOS), this result may support the explanation suggested by Chen et al. (2017).

We also plot the 6 μm and hard X-ray luminosities of the eFEDS–W4-nonX stacked sample. The mean values of $L_X$ for this stacked sample (with $N_H=0–10^{23}$ cm$^{-2}$) in each redshift bin, and their standard deviations, are plotted on the x-axis. The weighted means and standard deviations of the $L_6$ values in each redshift bin are plotted on the y-axis. We find that the best-fit slope of the stacked AGN sample with log $L_X > 42$ erg s$^{-1}$ is $\sim 0.47$, which is consistent with that for the XMM–COSMOS sample, which further supports the explanation suggested by Chen et al. (2017).

### 4.2. Structural properties of AGN host galaxies

In Sect. 2.6, we described the 2D image decomposition of the HSC images used to distinguish emission from a central point source and an extended component. This analysis provides flux-density data for the AGN and its host separately, which enables us to estimate the stellar mass reliably without it being affected by the AGN emission.

#### 4.2.1. Correlation of the AGN fraction derived from X–CIGALE and 2D image decomposition

Figure 16 shows the relationship between the point-source fraction of the i-band flux density ($f_{PS\,i}/f_{metal\,i}$) derived from the image decomposition and the AGN fraction derived from the SED fitting with X–CIGALE. The AGN fraction is defined as $L_{IR\,(AGN)}/L_{IR}$. The sources plotted in this figure are limited to those with reduced $\chi^2_{\text{decomp}} < 5$ at 0.2 < $z$ < 0.8 (see Sect. 2.6). In particular, it is worth investigating how the AGN fraction from an optical decomposed-image point of view is associated with that from the IR SED-fitting point of view for type 1 AGN. Hence, we focus on X-ray type 1 AGN, as classified in Sect. 3.1. We find these quantities to be weakly correlated, with correlation coefficients $r \sim 0.26$ where $r$ is derived using the Bayesian method (Kelly 2007) (see Sect. 4.1). This result indicates that the 2D...
significantly to the IR fluxes for luminous AGNs, suggesting an AGN–SF connection; that is the co-existence of gas consumption into SF and SMBHs (see e.g., Imanishi et al. 2011; Stemo et al. 2020).

Further, we compare the AGN fraction measured at the rest-frame i-band from the best-fit SEDs and image decomposition ($f_{PS}/f_{total}$). We observe a weak correlation with correlation coefficient $r \sim 0.2$ for X-ray type 1 AGN. By contrast, we observe a moderately strong correlation ($r \sim 0.3$) for X-ray type 2 AGN, which may indicate that SED decomposition (to distinguish between emissions from the accretion disk and stellar component) in the optical bands has a large uncertainty, particularly for type 1 AGN (see Sect. 4.2.2).

4.2.2. Consistency of stellar mass based on the host flux densities

Many works have reported that estimates of stellar masses based on SED fitting – particularly for type 1 AGN – may have large uncertainties because it is often difficult to distinguish the accretion disk and the stellar component given a limited number of photometric bands (see e.g., Merloni et al. 2010; Bongiorno et al. 2012; Toba et al. 2018). This motivated an investigation to determine how to estimate securely the stellar mass derived from SED fitting with X–CIGALE. The host flux information provided by the 2D image decomposition enables us to estimate the stellar mass reliably (e.g., Li et al. 2021). Accordingly, we performed SED fitting to the HSC five-band photometry of each AGN host to obtain the stellar mass ($M^{*}_{HSC}$) without being affected by AGN emission. To obtain a better estimate of the stellar mass, we parameterized the SFH and SSP over narrow intervals.

Figure 17 shows a comparison of the stellar mass derived from the SED fitting with all the data ($M^{*}_{X-CIGALE}$; see Sect. 2.5) and from the HSC five-band flux density for the AGN host from the eFEDS–W4–X sample at $0.2 < z < 0.8$ as a function of redshift. This comparison shows that the stellar mass derived in this work may be systematically underestimated by $\sim 0.3$ dex. The resulting correlation coefficient ($r = -0.20 \pm 0.17$) indicates that this offset does not considerably depend on redshift, at least up to $z = 0.8$. Nevertheless, a faint ($i$-mag $> 23$) object at $z > 0.7$ deviates considerably from the typical offset, which should be kept in mind as indicative of the uncertainty in the stellar mass.

image decomposition and SED fitting with X–CIGALE work consistently to evaluate the contributions of the AGN to the optical and IR bands. In addition, we find that even for objects with $f_{PS}/f_{total} > 0.8$ the AGN fraction rarely exceeds 0.6, which is consistent with what is reported in previous works (e.g., Lyu et al. 2017; Ichikawa et al. 2019). The SF activity is expected to contribute significantly to the IR fluxes for luminous AGNs, suggesting an AGN–SF connection; that is the co-existence of gas consumption into SF and SMBHs (see e.g., Imanishi et al. 2011; Stemo et al. 2020).

Further, we compare the AGN fraction measured at the rest-frame i-band from the best-fit SEDs and image decomposition ($f_{PS}/f_{total}$). We observe a weak correlation with correlation coefficient $r \sim 0.2$ for X-ray type 1 AGN. By contrast, we observe a moderately strong correlation ($r \sim 0.3$) for X-ray type 2 AGN, which may indicate that SED decomposition (to distinguish between emissions from the accretion disk and stellar component) in the optical bands has a large uncertainty, particularly for type 1 AGN (see Sect. 4.2.2).
Finally, we discuss the evolutionary phase of the eFEDS–W4 sample using the Eddington ratio ($\lambda_{\text{Edd}}$) and $N_H$. The Eddington ratio is defined as $\lambda_{\text{Edd}} = L_{\text{bol}}/L_{\text{Edd}}$, where $L_{\text{bol}}$ is the bolometric luminosity and $L_{\text{Edd}}$ is the Eddington luminosity. For 32 quasars that are cataloged in the SDSS DR16 quasar catalog (Lyke et al. 2020), we estimate the single-epoch virial black-hole mass ($M_{\text{BH}}$) based on a few recipes using the continuum luminosities at 1450, 3000, and 5100 Å, as well as the full width at half maximum (FWHM) of the C IV, Mg II, and Hβ lines (Vestergaard & Peterson 2006; Shen et al. 2011) (see also Sect. 5.2 in Rakshit et al. 2020). We employed the quasar spectral-fitting package (QSFt v1.3.0; Calderone et al. 2017) to determine the line widths and continuum luminosities in the same manner as in Toba et al. (2021a). The values of $M_{\text{BH}}$ for the remaining sources are obtained from the stellar mass using an empirical relation for AGN up to $z \sim 2.5$ provided in Suh et al. (2020). We use $M_{\text{BH}}$-CIGALE as the stellar mass unless $M_{\text{BH}}$-BC is available. The uncertainties in the stellar mass and the intrinsic scatter of $M_{\text{BH}}$ have quite large uncertainties (0.5–1 dex). In addition, only 12% of the eFEDS–W4 subsample plotted in Fig. 18 has a spectroscopically derived $\lambda_{\text{Edd}}$- and $N_H$-majority for the sample is empirically estimated by assuming an $M_{\text{BH}}-N_H$ relation. Therefore, we take into account the uncertainties in $N_H$ and $\lambda_{\text{Edd}}$ as well as statistical errors in the fraction through Monte Carlo randomization to estimate $f_{\text{blow-out}}$. We find that $f_{\text{blow-out}} = 5.0 \pm 2.5\%$ (see Fig. 19). We note that this value should be considered a lower limit because we only investigated $N_H$–$\lambda_{\text{Edd}}$ for X-ray detected WISE 22 µm sources with $z_{\text{spec}}$ (i.e., eFEDS–W4-X subsample). In particular, a fraction of X-ray undetected WISE 22 µm sources (i.e., eFEDS–W4-nonX sample) is expected to be obscured AGN (see Sect. 3.3); thus, these AGN may be located in the blow-out region, which would increase $f_{\text{blow-out}}$.

Nevertheless, the estimated $f_{\text{blow-out}}$ is larger than that reported by Ricci et al. (2017), who examined the $\lambda_{\text{Edd}}$–$N_H$ relation for hard-X-ray-selected AGN with a median redshift of $z = 0.037$ and reported that only 1.4% of the sources in their sample are found in this region. This discrepancy is probably caused by the difference in redshift; the fraction of X-ray-observed AGN increases with increasing redshift (e.g., Hasinger 2008; Merloni et al. 2014; Ueda et al. 2014). Figure 19 shows the fraction of objects in the blow-out region as a function of redshift. There is a positive correlation; high-$z$ obscured galaxies tend to reside in the AGN-feedback phase, which supports the above possibility. Recently, Jun et al. (2021) investigated the $\lambda_{\text{Edd}}$–$N_H$ relationship for optical, IR, and submillimeter-selected AGN as well as for X-ray selected ones with redshifts up to $z \sim 3$. They found that IR or submillimeter-bright red AGN tend to be located in the blow-out region. We note that the absence of local AGN in the blow-out region may also be coupled with the timescale of the blow-out phase (see Jun et al. 2021, for details). Given the fact that (i) the $M_{\text{BH}}$–$\lambda_{\text{Edd}}$ relation used to derive $\lambda_{\text{Edd}}$ may be applicable up to $z = 2.5$ (Suh et al. 2020) and (ii) the number of objects in this redshift range is too small (see Fig. 3), we may need more sample spectra to determine whether this increasing trend is real.

The values of $N_H$ and $\lambda_{\text{Edd}}$ were estimated by Ricci et al. (2017) using X-ray and optical spectra. Hence, those values are well constrained compared with this work.
Yutani et al. (2021) performed high-resolution N-body–SPH simulations with the ASURA code (Saitoh et al. 2008, 2009) and investigated the time evolution of the SEDs of galaxy mergers using the radiative transfer simulation code RADMCT3D (Dullomond et al. 2012). Although our eFEDS–W4-X sources may not always experience galaxy mergers in their lifetimes, it is still worth comparing observational results with model predictions. The evolutionary track of a merger as a function of time on the log \( \lambda_{\text{Edd}} - N_\text{H} \) diagram is presented in Fig. 18. This track is calculated from the final (∼200 Myr) phase of evolution of the merger of two galactic central regions, each with \( M_{\text{BH}} = 4 \times 10^6 M_\odot \). The stellar mass and the gas mass of the galactic core are \( M_\text{st} = 4 \times 10^9 M_\odot \) and \( M_\text{g} = 8 \times 10^9 M_\odot \), respectively. The spatial resolution is 8 pc. The gas-to-dust mass ratio is assumed to be 50 (Toba et al. 2017d). We observe that approximately half of our eFEDS–W4–X subsample, including ELIRGs, is not covered by evolutionary tracks. This is probably because the assumed \( M_{\text{BH}} \) in Yutani et al. (2021) is smaller than that of objects considered in this work. The typical \( M_{\text{BH}} \) for objects with spectroscopically derived \( M_{\text{BH}} \) is \( \log (M_{\text{BH}}/M_\odot) \sim 9.3 \). Indeed, Yutani et al. (2021) could not reproduce objects with \( L_\text{IR} > 10^{13} L_\odot \) under the condition described above, which may indicate that more massive BH mergers are required to reproduce the \( \lambda_{\text{Edd}} - N_\text{H} \) distribution for our sample. Additionally, we find that the track moves around significantly on the \( \lambda_{\text{Edd}} - N_\text{H} \) plot. In particular, \( \lambda_{\text{Edd}} \) changes dramatically by 0.5 or even 1 dex in the blow-out region. The timescale for the blow-out or feedback phase is expected to be ∼30 Myr, which is consistent with that reported in Jun et al. (2021).

Actually, Brusa et al. (2022) reported a powerful quasar (XID439) with red colors in the optical, MIR, and X-ray at \( z = 0.603 \) detected by eROSITA. Its SDSS spectrum shows a broad (FWHM ∼ 1650 km s\(^{-1}\)) component in the [O III]λ5007 line, suggesting that XID439 is in the AGN feedback phase. Multiwavelength SED fitting with X–CIGALE and X-ray spectral analysis yielded the values \( \lambda_{\text{Edd}} \sim 0.25 \) and \( N_\text{H} = 2.75 \times 10^{22} \) cm\(^{-2}\) for the quasar. XID439 is thus in the blow-out region and on the evolutionary track in the feedback phase in \( \lambda_{\text{Edd}} - N_\text{H} \) plane (see Fig. 18), which supports the above idea. As mentioned before, however, the relatively small number of objects with spectroscopically derived values of \( \lambda_{\text{Edd}} \) still prevents us from drawing a definite conclusion about this argument. Our ongoing spectroscopic campaign through the SDSS IV–V collaboration will provide a more complete view of this figure.

5. Summary

In this work, we have investigated the physical properties of MIR galaxies at \( z < 4 \). The parent sample is drawn from 7780 WISE 22- \( \mu \)m-detected sources (the eFEDS–W4 sample) in the eFEDS catalog within a region of 140 deg\(^2\). By cross-matching the sample with the eFEDS main X-ray catalog, we find that 692 MIR galaxies (the eFEDS–W4–X sample) are detected and 7088 sources (the eFEDS–W4–nonX sample) are undetected by eROSITA. We compiled multiwavelength data from X-ray to FIR wavelengths and performed SED fitting with X–CIGALE. We perform X-ray spectral analysis for the eFEDS–W4 sample and X-ray stacking analysis for the eFEDS–W4–nonX sample. This multiwavelength approach provides AGN and host properties (such as the stellar mass, SFR, and \( N_\text{H} \)) for the eFEDS–W4 galaxies.

Because of the wide-area data from eFEDS, we are able to determine various physical properties for the sample objects and find candidates of spatially rare populations such as ELIRGs. With all the caveats discussed in Sect. 4.3 in mind, the distribution of the eFEDS–W4 sample on the \( \lambda_{\text{Edd}} - N_\text{H} \) plane, and a comparison with the output from a galaxy-merger simulation, indicate that approximately 5.0% of the sources in our sample are likely in a relatively short-lived (∼30 Myr) feedback phase, in which nuclear material is blown out owing to radiation pressure from the AGN. The eROSITA all-sky survey (eRASS) is ongoing and is planned to continue until the end of 2023. Because eROSITA on SRG observes the entire sky in six months and will scan the entire sky eight times by the end of the mission, depth of the survey will increase progressively. The completion of eRASS (eRASS8) will thus provide a complete census of MIR galaxies over a wide luminosity and redshift range from the X-ray point of view. In that sense, this work establishes a benchmark for obtaining a full picture of such IR populations.
