Joint fit of Warm Absorbers in COS and HETG spectra of NGC 3783

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Abstract  Warm Absorbers (WAs), as an important form of AGN outflows, show absorption in both the UV and X-ray bands. Using XSTAR generated photoionization models, for the first time we present a joint fit to the simultaneous observations of HST/COS and Chandra/HETG on NGC 3783. A total of five WAs explain well all absorption features from the AGN outflows, which are spread over a wide range of parameters: ionization parameter log $\xi$ from 0.6 to 3.8, column density log $N_H$ from 19.5 to 22.3 cm$^{-2}$, velocity $v$ from 380 to 1060 km s$^{-1}$, and covering factor from 0.33 to 0.75. Not all the five WAs are consistent in pressure. Two of them are likely different parts of the same absorbing gas, and two of the other WAs may be smaller discrete clouds that are blown out from the inner region of the torus at different periods. The five WAs suggest a total mass outflowing rate within the range of 0.22–4.1 solar mass per year.

Key words: galaxies: individual (NGC 3783) — quasars: absorption lines — ultraviolet: galaxies — X-ray: galaxies

1 INTRODUCTION

Warm absorbers (WAs), known as an important form of Active Galactic Nucleus (AGN) feedback, are likely having an effective impact on their host galaxies, and even the intergalactic environment. WAs, the outflowing ionized gas that generates absorption in X-ray and ultraviolet (UV) bands, are detected in about 50% of Type I Seyfert galaxies either in UV (Crenshaw et al. 1999) or in the X-ray band (Reynolds 1997). This offers great opportunities to study the geometrical and physical characteristics of gas around black holes, and further how AGN feedback affects host galaxies.

A lot of efforts have been spent in studying WAs in the past three decades (since being identified by Halpern 1984), but nevertheless their properties and origins are not fully understood. Nowadays the strategy for WA studies is to focus on a few exceptional Seyfert galaxies, and cumulate a large amount of data, much of which are simultaneous multi-wavelength spectral observations. UV spectra offer higher resolution and more accurate dynamic measurements, corresponding to a small number of atomic transitions. In contrast, X-ray spectra cover more transitions from ions at various ionization states, but are subject to lower resolution and observation precision (e.g., Kaspi et al. 2002). The combination of high-resolution UV and X-ray spectroscopy enables more comprehensive WA studies (e.g., Costantini 2010). Tens of joint UV-X-ray campaigns have provided much insight into the physical conditions of these absorbing outflows.

However, a broad understanding of these WAs in the two bands has yet to emerge. One important reason is that the ionization levels and kinematics of both UV absorbers and X-ray WAs are measured through different methods, and frequently there is only partial overlap in the conditions of the two sets of absorbers (Crenshaw et al. 2003). Zhang et al. (2015, hereafter Z15) upgraded XSTAR¹ and provided a method to fit every physical component in UV spectra the same way that is used in fitting X-ray spectra. As a consequence, the observed spectra can be fitted simultaneously, providing better constraints on the properties of WAs based on combined information from the UV and X-ray regimes.

The Seyfert I galaxy NGC 3783 (∼41.6 Mpc, from NED²) is a perfect target as it is very bright in the X-ray and UV bands, and exhibits strong absorption features

¹ https://heasarc.gsfc.nasa.gov/heasoft/xstar/xstar.html
² http://ned.ipac.caltech.edu
detected with many instruments such as ROSAT, ASCA, Chandra, XMM-Newton, Suzaku, FUSE, HST/STIS and HST/COS (e.g., Turner et al. 1993; Shields & Hamann 1997; Kaspi et al. 2002; Gabel et al. 2003a; Blustin et al. 2002; Netzer et al. 2003; Krongold et al. 2003; Brenneman et al. 2011). The accumulative exposure time on its nuclear region taken by Chandra/HETG is more than 1 Ms. Simultaneous UV-X-ray observations of NGC 3783 were taken in both 2001 and 2013, which show clear variations in velocity of WAs (Scott et al. 2014). However, the derived physical parameters, such as column density $N_{\text{H}}$, ionization parameter $\xi$ and velocity $v$, vary from author to author among the X-ray studies, but the UV regime is more promising for giving precise $v$ but less constrained $N_{\text{H}}$ and $\xi$ from individual lines (discussed in Sect. 5.1).

A major obstacle in WA studies is that the contribution of WAs identified in the UV band is not well accounted for in the X-ray spectra, and vice versa. In this paper, we aim to identify WAs from the simultaneous HETG and COS observations of NGC 3783 in 2013, using the joint fitting method presented in Z15. Section 2 describes the observations and data reduction. In Section 3 we analyze the radiation and absorption components in the spectra and prepare suitable models for them. We give the fitting results in Section 4. The discussion and exploration are presented in Section 5. We end with a summary of our conclusions.

2 OBSERVATION AND DATA REDUCTION

NGC 3783 was observed by Chandra/HETG and HST/COS simultaneously in March 2013 (PI: William Brandt) with exposure times of 160 ks and 4 ks, respectively. The observations were close, conducted within five days of each other.

2.1 COS Spectrum

The COS spectrum covers the wavelength band of 1135–1795 Å (Osterman et al. 2011), consisting of G130M and G160M data (with the gratings centered at 130 and 160 nm respectively) where M means the medium spectral resolution $R = \lambda/\Delta\lambda$ from 16000 to 21 000. In fact, this NGC 3783 observation in 2013 consists of eight discrete shorter observations, four from G130M and four from G160M respectively, which are all primarily calibrated and processed through the pipeline CALCOS before being downloaded from Multi-mission Archive for Space Telescopes (MAST3). Flat-fielding, alignment and co-addition of the processed exposures are carried out using IDL routines described in Danforth et al. (2010). They are merged with exposure weighting, and the final spectrum has signal-to-noise (S/N) ratios per resolution element (0.07 Å or 17 km s$^{-1}$) ranging from 15–25. Finally the COS flux spectrum is converted into the format commonly used in X-ray studies through the IDL tool PINTOFALE4. A Pulse Height Amplitude (PHA) file is obtained, with the corresponding response (RSP) file that convolves G130M and G160M line spread functions (LSF). Figure 1 presents the COS spectrum of NGC 3783.

2.2 HETG Spectrum

As joint observations, Chandra observed NGC 3783 with the HETG instrument twice within two days in March 2013, which have exposure times of about 60 ks (ID: 14991) and 100 ks (ID: 15626), respectively. The HETG consists of two sets of gratings: the Medium Energy Grating (MEG) which covers the wavelength range of 2.5–31 Å and the High Energy Grating (HEG) with the range of 1.2–15 Å. Since NGC 3783 is heavily obscured by WAs, especially in the longer wavelength band, only the 2–11 Å band is taken into account in this work. The two observations are not apparently contaminated by other sources in the field of view, but the zeroth order images are affected by the issue of pile-up. Therefore we run the Interactive Spectral Interpretation System (ISIS) script TG_FINDZO5 to analyze and extract the spectra and corresponding response files (RMF and ARF). For the spectral analysis, we only use the first order spectra for better S/N ratio. Figure 2 is the combined MEG and HEG spectrum of NGC 3783.

3 ANALYSIS AND MODEL PREPARATION

We use ISIS$^7$ (version 1.6.2, Houck 2002) to analyze and fit the spectra. ISIS is a programmable, interactive tool for studying the physics of spectra. The emission and absorption lines are identified based on AtomDB$^8$ (version 3.0.3) (Foster et al. 2012).

The photoionization code XSTAR (Version 2.2, Kallman 2001) is employed to model the emitting and

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3 http://archive.stsci.edu
4 http://hea-www.harvard.edu/PINTofALE/
5 http://space.mit.edu/cxc/analysis/findzo/index.html
6 http://cxc.cfa.harvard.edu/ciao/threads/diffuse_emission
7 http://space.mit.edu/cxc/isis/
8 http://www.atomdb.org
absorbing plasma that are photoionized by the central AGN. In XSTAR models, the intrinsic free parameters are column density $N_H$ and the ionization parameter $\xi = L_{\text{ion}}/(n r^2)$, where $L_{\text{ion}}$ is the luminosity in the 1–1000 Ryd energy range, $n$ is the hydrogen density and $r$ is the distance to the ionizing source. The metal abundances are generally set to solar values.

### 3.1 Local Absorption in the Milky Way

The column density of Galactic gas absorption is about $10^{21}$ cm$^{-2}$ along the line of sight to NGC 3783 (Kalberla et al. 2005), which is included in all the later analysis by employing the interstellar medium (ISM) absorption model TBnew. Dust extinction can effectively reduce UV radiation. We take this effect into consideration by using the extinction curve formula proposed by Gordon et al. (2009), with parameter

$$R_v = A(V)/E(B-V) = 3.1$$

(Cardelli et al. 1989), and $A(V) = 0.332$ in the case of NGC 3783.

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http://pulsar.sternwarte.uni-erlangen.de/wilms/research/tbabs/
3.2 Spectral Energy Distribution of NGC 3783

It is necessary to construct the spectral energy distribution (SED) of NGC 3783 for generating the photoionization models. The HETG and COS spectra are put into one plot (Fig. 3). Intrinsic UV continuum from the accretion disk can be corrected from the local absorption. The ionizing spectrum in the X-ray band is obtained by fitting the continuum in the 2–6 keV band, which is not severely affected by WAs. Local absorption is strong between the HETG and COS bands, as shown by the red line, thus no more data points are likely to be found in between. We use a typical AGN SED (Elvis et al. 1994) but scaled with wavelength (\(\propto \lambda^{-0.27}\)) to match the intrinsic UV and X-ray continuum, in order to mimic the ionizing SED of NGC 3783. The ionizing luminosity is then obtained as \(L_{\text{ion}} = 7.6 \times 10^{43} \text{ erg s}^{-1}\).

3.3 Emission in NGC 3783

The intrinsic radiation in NGC 3783 has different origins in the UV and X-ray bands. In the X-ray band, the continuum radiation mostly comes from the Comptonized corona at the inner region of the accretion disk. We use a single power-law model to account for it.

The intrinsic UV radiation on the other hand generally comes from the accretion disk, broad line region (BLR) and narrow line region (NLR). The multiple blackbody emission in the accretion disk can also be fitted empirically by a power-law model. The radiation from photoionized clouds in the BLR and NLR however needs to be generated by XSTAR.

As in Z15, we take the plausible assumption that the clouds in BLR have approximately virial speed, i.e. \(v \propto \sqrt{GM/R}\), where \(M\) represents the black hole mass and \(R\) represents the distance to the center. In this case, several groups of clouds are in the BRL with different velocities. Each group is assumed to have the same ionization condition and the same full width at half-maximum (FWHM) value, and are thus regarded as one photoionization component. The clouds in the NLR have much smaller rotational velocity (<2000 km s\(^{-1}\)), which are also described by one photoionization component.

To obtain the line-broadening parameter \(b\) (FWHM = \(2\sqrt{\ln2}b\)) for generating those photoionization components in XSTAR, we fit strong emission lines with Gaussians. The best targets for profile decomposition is the \(Ly\alpha\), \(N\ V\) doublet, and \(C\ IV\) doublet, which have high S/N ratio in the COS spectra. We fit the five lines jointly according to their rest wavelength relations, taking the strong and weak line flux ratio of the doublets to be 2:1 as in an optically thin case.

Three groups of Gaussians with FWHM values of \(\sim 8100, 2500\) and \(600\) km s\(^{-1}\) are needed (Table 1), in which the former two indicate the virial velocities in the BLR and the latter is for the NLR. The redshift \(z = 0.009815(19)\) of the NLR components, which is slightly larger than \(z = 0.009760\) of the host galaxy obtained by de Vaucouleurs et al. (1991), will be used as the systemic redshift in this work.

We generate two XSTAR models for the BLR and one model for the NLR. The densities of the BLR and NLR are set to \(10^{10}\) cm\(^{-3}\) and \(10^{9}\) cm\(^{-3}\), respectively (Z15). For both cases, the column density is set to \(10^{25}\) cm\(^{-2}\), the temperature is set to 15000 K, the metallicities are set to the solar values, while the ionization parameter and the redshift are left as free parameters.

3.4 Absorption in NGC 3783

The HETG spectrum, which is grouped to 0.01 Å per bin, reveals tens of absorption lines, mostly from K-shell transitions of H-like and He-like ions of O, Ne, Mg, Si, and S, and L-shell transitions of Si and Fe (Fig. 2). The L-shell Si lines are from lower ionized absorbing gas, while the two strong lines Si X\(\text{III}\) at 6.7 Å and Si X\(\text{IV}\) at 6.2 Å suggest higher ionization. For the highly ionized WAs, we take the line-broadening parameter \(b = \sqrt{v_{\text{th}}^2 + 2v_{\text{turb}}^2}\) of 350 km s\(^{-1}\) estimated from the 900 ks HETG observations in 2001 (Kaspi et al. 2002), which is larger than the MEG spectral resolution of \(\sim 170\) km s\(^{-1}\).

The outflow velocities of WAs can be better estimated from the N\(\text{V}\) and C\(\text{IV}\) doublet troughs in the COS spectrum. By fitting with Gaussians, we find dynamic components with velocities of 600, 880 and 1070 km s\(^{-1}\) (Table 1), of which the second one is identified by the absorption dip of the N\(\text{V}\) 1239 Å line, and the asymmetric shape of the C\(\text{IV}\) 1548 Å absorption line. Determining the turbulent velocity \(v_{\text{turb}}\) is somewhat complex since thermal broadening can make an important contribution. According to FWHM = \(2\sqrt{\ln2}v_{\text{th}}^2 + 2v_{\text{turb}}^2\), turbulent velocities are obtained from their fitted FWHM. \(v_{\text{th}}\) represents the thermal velocity, which is about \(v_{\text{th}} = 13\sqrt{T_4/A}\) where \(T_4\) is the temperature in the unit of 10\(^4\) K and \(A\) is the atomic number. The temperatures of these lower ionized WAs are about \(10^{4.4}\) K according to the thermal stability curve of NGC 3783 generated by Netzer et al. (2003), and meanwhile, we take the mean value of atomic numbers for carbon and nitrogen as the \(A\) value. All the turbulent velocity \(v_{\text{turb}}\) values and outflowing velocities are listed in Table 1.
Fig. 3 The HETG (left) and COS (right) spectra in one plot, where the data are in blue and error bars are in cyan. The red curves represent the hot coronal (left) and accretion disk (right) radiation undergoing the Milky Way’s gas absorption and dust extinction. The black dash-dot-dotted line is the scaled typical AGN SED (Elvis et al. 1994) that approaches the ionizing SED of NGC 3783.

### Table 1 Gaussian Fitted Intrinsic Lines in the COS Spectrum

| Ion (λrest) | f (photons cm⁻² s⁻¹ Å⁻¹) | λrest (Å) | Velocity (km s⁻¹) | FWHM (km s⁻¹) | νturb (km s⁻¹) |
|-------------|-------------------------|-----------|-------------------|---------------|----------------|
| **Emission lines from BLR and NLR** |
| Lyα (1215.67) | 0.41617 | 2606.3 | 1227.57 | 8101 | 3440 |
| | 2882.2 | 1227.73 | 2514 | 1068 |
| | 771.4 | 1227.60 | 596 | 253 |
| N v (1238.82) | 0.15553 | 728.8 | 1250.95 | 8101 | 3440 |
| | 176.8 | 1251.11 | 2514 | 1068 |
| | 121.9 | 1250.98 | 595 | 253 |
| N v (1242.81) | 0.077805 | 364.4 | 1254.98 | 8101 | 3440 |
| | 88.4 | 1255.14 | 2514 | 1068 |
| | 60.9 | 1255.01 | 596 | 253 |
| C iv (1548.19) | 0.19045 | 3752.3 | 1563.35 ± 0.12 | 8101 ± 77 | 3440 ± 33 |
| | 1627.5 | 1563.55 ± 0.08 | 2514 ± 36 | 1068 ± 16 |
| | 682.6 | 1563.39 ± 0.03 | 596 ± 18 | 253 ± 8 |
| C iv (1550.78) | 0.094824 | 1876.1 | 1565.97 | 8101 | 3440 |
| | 813.8 | 1566.17 | 2514 | 1068 |
| | 341.3 | 1566.00 | 596 | 253 |
| **Absorption lines from WAs** |
| N v (1238.82) | 0.15553 | 116.7 ± 3.8 | 1248.50 | 600 | 198 | 83 |
| | 46.8 ± 1.3 | 1246.57 ± 0.03 | 1067 ± 5 | 192 ± 17 | 81 ± 7 |
| | 26.9 ± 1.3 | 1247.34 ± 0.03 | 880 ± 8 | 156 ± 15 | 65 ± 7 |
| N v (1242.81) | 0.077805 | 98.3 ± 3.8 | 1252.52 | 600 | 198 | 83 |
| | 37.5 ± 1.3 | 1250.58 | 1067 | 192 | 81 |
| | 27.7 ± 1.8 | 1251.36 | 880 | 156 | 65 |
| C iv (1548.19) | 0.19045 | 374.3 ± 2.2 | 1560.28 | 600 | 198 | 83 |
| | 114.7 ± 3.5 | 1557.87 | 1067 | 192 | 81 |
| | 56.7 ± 3.7 | 1558.84 | 880 | 156 | 65 |
| C iv (1550.78) | 0.094824 | 282.3 ± 14.9 | 1562.90 ± 0.01 | 600 ± 2 | 198 ± 19 | 83 ± 8 |
| | 91.7 ± 3.8 | 1560.48 | 1067 | 192 | 81 |
| | 90.5 ± 4.6 | 1561.45 | 880 | 156 | 65 |

Based upon the lack of response of WAs to changes in the continuum, some lower limits on distance are given (Netzer et al. 2003; Behar et al. 2003). They may be located between the inner region of the torus and the NLR (≈1–25 pc), as assumed in our model. Although the WAs can easily cover the region of the accretion disk, they usually do not cover the whole BLR that has a transverse size of 1.9 × 10¹⁶ cm (Onken & Peterson 2002). We use
the XSPEC model ‘partcov’ to mimic this effect when fitting the COS spectrum.

Finally, we generate XSTAR models for these WAs. The column density \( N_{\text{H}} \), the ionization parameter \( \xi \) and the redshift \( z \) are free parameters. The WA with velocity \( 600 \text{ km s}^{-1} \) is saturated in the N \( \text{V} \) and C \( \text{IV} \) absorption lines, which has been taken into account by XSTAR.

4 JOINT FITTING AND FIVE WARM ABSORBERS

The HETG and COS spectra are well fitted by these physical components. The photon indices of power-laws in the X-ray and UV bands are \( \Gamma = 1.07 \pm 0.02 \) and \( 2.43 \pm 0.04 \) respectively, as shown by the red lines in Figure 3. The XSTAR models for BLR and NLR can nicely reproduce the COS emission lines except for the Si \( \text{IV} \) line at 1416 ˚A that needs an additional Gaussian component (Fig. 1). A Gaussian absorption model is used to account for the local broad Ly\( \alpha \) absorption.

A total of five WAs are used to fit the absorption features in both the COS and HETG spectra (Figs. 5 and 6). The parameters of the best-fit WAs are listed in Table 2, and their synthetic spectral models in the two bands are shown in Figure 4. WAs 1–4 have absorptions in both the UV and X-ray bands, while WA 5 only appears in the X-ray band. WAs 1 and 2 have similar low ionization states, similar column densities and their velocities are higher than other WAs. WAs 3 and 4 have similar velocities and column densities, but at slightly different ionization states. Now that WAs 1–4 are nicely constrained in the HETG spectrum, WA 5 seems highly ionized, with the highest column density.

5 DISCUSSION

5.1 Comparison of WAs with Previous Studies

The WAs in NGC 3783 have been extensively studied in both the UV and X-ray bands even before high-resolution grating observations were available (e.g., Turner et al. 1993; Shields & Hamann 1997). Later on, based on high resolution spectra, different photoionization models were applied to describe the WAs (as summarized in Scott et al. 2014). These models usually have the same column density parameter \( N_{\text{H}} \), but different ionization parameters such as \( U \), \( U_{\text{OX}} \) or \( \xi \). In order to compare among different studies, we convert them all to \( \xi \) as used in XSTAR by: \( \log U = \log \xi - 1.5 \) (Crenshaw & Kraemer 2012) and \( \log U = \log U_{\text{OX}} + 1.99 \) (Krongold et al. 2003). The spectral modeling results are mainly from the X-ray spectra: Chandra/HETG observations (Netzer et al. 2003; Krongold et al. 2003; Brenneman et al. 2011), XMM-Newton/RGS observations (Blustin et al. 2002) and Suzaku/XIS observations (Brenneman et al. 2011). In the UV regime, dynamic components are better constrained. HST/STIS and FUSE spectra give the radial velocities of four WAs: 1350, 550, 725 and 1027 km s\(^{-1}\) (e.g., Gabel et al. 2003a). By comparing photoionization models with individual lines, Gabel et al. (2005) constrained the \( N_{\text{H}} \) and \( U \) for three of the four WAs.

We compare our results with theirs in Figure 7, but the results do not simply match each other. Since their studies use the systemic redshift of 0.009760 (de Vaucouleurs et al. 1991) while we use 0.009815 of the NLR instead, their velocities are all increased by 17 km s\(^{-1}\). WAs 3 and 4 match well two absorbers identified in the X-ray band by Netzer et al. (2003) in terms of velocity, ionization parameter and column density. On the other hand, the velocities of WAs 1, 3 and 4 also match two UV dynamic components measured by Gabel et al. (2003a), but we do not detect their 1365 km s\(^{-1}\) component. In fact, Gabel et al. (2003b) found that this 1365 km s\(^{-1}\) component has a decrease in velocity of \( \sim 80 \text{ km s}^{-1} \) from 2000 to 2002 based on the STIS observations. The authors speculated about a possible mechanism for this deceleration that could cause is a directional shift in the motion of the WA with respect to our line of sight to the background emission sources, and deduced an upper limit time scale of 17 yr during which the WA would move outside the BLR. The non-detection of this WA in our work supports this scenario. Our WA 2 is not close to any previously identified one, though its properties are similar to WA 1. It may just move inside our line of sight in a short time. WA 5 is likely at higher ionization state than previous detections, but still has a similar column density.

5.2 Pressure Balance

Gonçalves et al. (2006), Holczer et al. (2007) and Goosmann et al. (2016) constructed a continuous distribution of column densities with the ionization parameter, assuming that all WAs are in pressure equilibrium. We thus generate the thermal photoionization equilibrium curve (Krolik et al. 1981; known as S-curve) in Figure 8, but find some of the five WAs are not on the unstable vertical part, which suggests that their gas pressure is different and their geometry does not prefer a continuous distribution. However, WAs 3 and 4 are likely in pressure balance. They have similar velocities, column densities and their covering factors are complementary. It
is reasonable to believe that they are the same absorbing gas, but different parts have slightly different ionization states. WAs 1 and 2 are dropping out from the pressure balance region. They have lower ionization parameters, lower column densities, lower covering factors, but higher velocities. They may be smaller discrete clouds that are easily blown out from the inner region of the torus at different periods.

### 5.3 Mass Outflow Rate

A bi-conical chimney is a natural geometry for WA outflows (Dorodnitsyn et al. 2008). We use the following formula to estimate the mass loss rate, which is derived by Krongold et al. (2007):

\[
\dot{M}_{\text{out}} = 0.8 \pi m_p N_{\text{H}} v_r R f(\delta, \phi),
\]

where \( f(\delta, \phi) \) is a factor that depends on the particular orientation of the disk and the wind and, for all reasonable angles \( \delta > 20^\circ \) and \( \phi > 45^\circ \), it is of the order of unity. \( v_r \) is the line-of-sight outflow velocity.

According to the matching results in Section 5.1, the electron density of WA 4 is in the range of \( 1.2 \times 10^2 \)–\( 1.2 \times 10^3 \) cm\(^{-3} \) as derived by Gabel et al. (2005) and Netzer et al. (2003). Combining with the ionizing luminosity \( L_{\text{ion}} = 7.6 \times 10^{43} \text{erg s}^{-1} \) and \( \xi \) obtained, we estimate that WA 4 is 0.7–22.0 pc away from the nu-
Fig. 5 The red curve represents the best-fit XSTAR models for Lyα, N V, and C IV absorption lines in the COS spectrum, where the data are in blue and error bars are in cyan. The positions of WAS 1–4 are labeled with arrows. The absorption lines in 1227.89, 1253.82, 1548.26 and 1550.85 Å are from the local ISM.

Fig. 6 The red curve represents the best-fit XSTAR models for absorption lines in the HETG spectrum, where the data are in blue and error bars are in cyan.
Fig. 7 Comparison of WA parameters with previous works. The five WAs this work are marked as black squares, which from right to left are WA 1 to WA 5, respectively. Netzer et al. (2003), Krongold et al. (2003) and Brenneman et al. (2011; labeled with “a” for HETG data) use HETG observations from 2001. Blustin et al. (2002) use RGS data. Brenneman et al. (2011) use Suzaku data (here labeled with “b”). Gabel et al. (2003a) use STIS and FUSE data to determine the velocities of WAs as marked with the four yellow vertical lines. Gabel et al. (2005) constrain the N_{HI} and ξ for three of the four WAs.

On the other hand, WA 1 and WA 2 may represent two blown-out clouds. We adopt a spherical-shape assumption for WA 1 and WA 2. Assuming the BLR transverse size is 1.9 × 10^{16} cm (Onken & Peterson 2002), and based on the best-fit values of corresponding covering factors, their sizes are estimated as 1.09 × 10^{16} and 1.17 × 10^{16} cm, respectively. Adopting those values as their thickness, the best-fit column densities of WA 1 and WA 2 indicate that their electron densities are about 8.34 × 10^{3} and 3.18 × 10^{3} cm^{-3}, respectively. The distances of 15.9 and 20.9 pc for WA 1 and WA 2 respectively can be derived. Their mass outflow rates are estimated following the same method as for WA 4, which are 0.010 and 0.005 M_⊙ per year respectively. WA 5 is highly ionized and cannot be efficiently blown away by the radiation pressure. Its distance to the black hole should be larger than the inner radius of the torus (∼ 1 pc), and less than other WAs that infers an upper limit of ∼ 16 pc. Based on these constraints, the range of mass outflow rate of WA 5 is about 0.15–2.4 M_⊙ per year. Finally, the cumulated mass outflow rate of the five WAs is in the range of 0.22–4.1 M_⊙ per year. We can see that WAs disappeared and new WAs appeared during the past decade, so the mass outflow rate is statistical.

6 SUMMARY

The bright Seyfert I galaxy NGC 3783 was observed by Chandra/HETG and HST/COS nearly simultaneously in March 2013. We perform a joint fit on these two band spectra to constrain the properties of WAs.
We jointly fit the two band spectra of NGC 3783 by considering the physical components of the local gas absorption, local dust extinction, AGN Comptonized corona emission, accretion disk black body emission, BLR emission, NLR emission and the intrinsic W As. Finally, five W As can explain well all absorption lines in both the UV and X-ray band spectra.

The five W As do not stay together at the pressure balance part of the S-curve. Two W As are likely different parts of the same absorbing gas, while the other two W As may be smaller discrete clouds that are blown out from the inner region of the torus at different periods. The highest ionized W A has the highest column density, which implies there is some tenuous gas that occupies a large volume.

The total mass outflow rate of the five W As is in the range of 0.22–4.1 $M_\odot$ per year.

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