The $M_{\text{BH}} - M_*$ relation for X-ray obscured, red QSOs at 1.2 < z < 2.6

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ABSTRACT
We present near-infrared spectra, obtained with SINFONI and XShooter observations at ESO VLT, of nine dusty, red QSOs at 1.2 < z < 2.6. The sources are hard X-ray detected, characterized by cold absorption ($N_H > 10^{21} - 10^{22}$ cm$^{-2}$) and show a broad Hα component in the NIR spectra. We complement this sample with twelve additional sources taken from the literature with similar properties resulting in a total sample of 21 X-ray obscured, intermediate type (1.8-1.9), dusty reddened QSOs. From the broad Hα line we have computed the BH masses through the virial formula and derived Eddington ratios. Moreover, from optical/IR multi-component SED fitting we have derived the stellar mass of their host galaxies and their SFRs. We find that most of the sources in our sample are hosted in starburst and main sequence star-forming galaxies with Eddington ratios $\lambda > 0.1$.

We find a strong trend with the BH mass i.e. less massive objects are scattered below and above the local relation while the most massive ones are mainly located above it. We also studied the evolution of these sources on the $M_{\text{BH}}-M_*$ plane compared to a sample of optically blue type–1 QSOs and we find that obscured red QSOs show a ratio of $M_{\text{BH}}$ to $M_*$ that increases with redshift which is consistent with or slightly lower than what has been found for blue QSOs.

These sources may represent the blow-out phase at the end of the rapid BH growth and immediately preceding the classical blue QSOs typically sampled in optical surveys. They in fact show evidence of outflows in the ionized gas component, but their BH has already fully formed.

Key words: galaxies: active - galaxies: evolution - quasars: emission lines - quasars: supermassive black holes - cosmology: observations

1 INTRODUCTION

Tight scaling relations between the central BH mass and various properties of their host galaxies in the local Uni-
verse (velocity dispersion of the bulge component, \( \sigma \), stellar masses, \( M_* \), luminosity), have been discovered after the launch of the Hubble Space Telescope (HST) nearly 20 years ago. These correlations [Magorrian et al. 1998; Ferrarese & Merritt 2000; Marconi & Hunt 2003; Haring & Rix 2004] have revolutionized the way we conceive the physical link between galaxy and AGN evolution, suggesting a possible physical coupling between BHs and host galaxies in their evolution.

The local scaling relations, although important in establishing the role of SMBHs in galaxy evolution, have been unable to uniquely determine the physical nature of the SMBH-galaxy coupling. A large number of theoretical models (some including feedback) have been proposed which can reproduce them reasonably well [Silk & Rees 1998; Granato & Danese 2004; King 2005], but make different predictions for their redshift evolution. Constraining the high-z \( M_{\text{BH}}-M_* \) plane is thus of fundamental importance in discriminating between different models but it is unfortunately observationally complex. First of all, we have to rely on less-accurate, single-epoch virial mass estimators based on broad AGN emission lines. Moreover, in deriving the host galaxy properties, we are limited by the presence of the bright nucleus.

At high redshift, most studies of the \( M_{\text{BH}}-M_* \) relationship have focused on optically blue-type 1 broad line AGN (BLAGN) [e.g. Peng et al. 2006; Maiolino et al. 2007]; Menci et al. 2008; Alexander et al. 2008] where the central source to be buried by the surrounding material and unable to derive BH masses from the AGN luminosity and the width of the broad lines (see e.g., Peterson 2006; Shen 2013; Kormendy & Ho 2013) for recent reviews). The emerging picture (see Kormendy & Ho 2013 for a comprehensive picture) points towards a mild or absent evolution of the average black-hole-to-host-galaxy-mass ratio up to \( z \approx 1 \) [Jahnke et al. 2009; Cisternas et al. 2011; Schramm & Silverman 2013] and a positive one for \( z > 1 \) [e.g. Menci et al. 2010; Decarli et al. 2010; Jahnke et al. 2009; Shemmer & Shields 2013; Schramm & Silverman 2013] for which the UV broad lines (e.g. Mg II and C IV, observed in the optical band at high-z) are detected and virial formulas can be used to derive BH masses from the AGN luminosity and the width of the broad lines (see e.g., Kormendy & Ho 2013; Shen 2013 for recent reviews). The emerging picture (see Kormendy & Ho 2013 for a comprehensive picture) points towards a mild or absent evolution of the average black-hole-to-host-galaxy-mass ratio up to \( z \approx 1 \) [Jahnke et al. 2009; Cisternas et al. 2011; Schramm & Silverman 2013] and a positive one for \( z > 1 \) [e.g. Menci et al. 2010; Decarli et al. 2010; Jahnke et al. 2009; Shemmer & Shields 2013; Schramm & Silverman 2013] for which the UV broad lines (e.g. Mg II and C IV, observed in the optical band at high-z) are detected and virial formulas can be used to derive BH masses from the AGN luminosity and the width of the broad lines (see e.g., Kormendy & Ho 2013; Shen 2013 for recent reviews).

In contrast to the observational results mentioned above, Alexander et al. (2008) found that for AGN hosted in submm selected galaxies (SMGs) at \( 2 < z < 2.6 \), the growth of SMBHs actually lags that of the host stellar mass. The apparently contradictory behavior can be interpreted as a selection bias possibly affecting in the opposite way these studies. In fact, studying luminous AGN we are biased towards selecting the most massive SMBHs [see Lauer et al. 2007; Merloni et al. 2010; Schulze & Wisotzki 2011; while a sample of SMGs will be biased towards massive stellar hosts [see Lamastra et al. 2010] since the galaxies that are undergoing the most intense star formation at \( z \approx 2 \) also appear to be massive galaxies at this epoch (e.g., Papovich et al. 2006). In addition to possible bias in the sample selection, quasars with different properties may represent different phases in black hole and galaxy evolution.

Although SMGs are very interesting high-z (\( z \approx 2 \); e.g., Chapman et al. 2005) objects with large star-formation activities (up to few 1000 M\(_{\odot}\) yr\(^{-1}\); Magnelli et al. 2012), they represent the most extreme class of sources of the entire star-forming galaxy population. New important constraints in understanding the physical nature of the AGN-galaxy coupling require the extension of the analysis of the BH–galaxy relation to the population of X-ray obscured, dust-reddened QSOs. Current AGN–galaxy co-evolution models predict an early dust-enshrouded phase associated with rapid BH growth triggered by galaxy mergers [Silk & Rees 1998; Di Matteo et al. 2005; Hopkins et al. 2008]. Tidal interactions trigger both violent star formation and funneling of large amount of gas into the nuclear region which feed and obscure the accreting SMBH (e.g., Urrutia et al. 2008; Schawinski et al. 2010). During this phase, we expect the central source to be buried by the surrounding material and the AGN to likely appear as an optically type–2 AGN, X-ray obscured and red (e.g., Menci et al. 2008; Hopkins et al. 2008).

So far, studies on this population are restricted to very few peculiar objects and the statistic is therefore not enough to draw a global picture. The observation of red QSOs is in fact more challenging compared to the blue ones. Measurements of BH masses for red QSOs at \( z > 1 \) cannot be derived from optical spectroscopy: the UV broad emission lines, used to estimate the BH masses through virial estimators, are not detected due to dust extinction. For these sources, we can detect the AGN optical broad lines e.g., \( \lambda \), redshifted in the near-IR, since dust extinction is reduced with respect to the rest-frame UV lines (see Maiolino et al. 2006).

Until recently, there have been only a handful of published works on the evolution of the scaling relations between BHs and host masses for red QSOs: the above mentioned work of Alexander et al. (2008) based on a sample...
of 4 QSOs detected in SMGs, the work from Sarria et al. (2010) based on three hard X-ray selected, obscured, red QSOs with broad Hα emission line and the most recent work from Urrutia et al. (2012) based on a 2MASS-FIRST selected sample of 13 red QSOs at 0.4<z<1. Sarria et al. (2010) found that the M BH/M ∗ ratio at z=1-2 is in agreement with the local BH-galaxy relation, and lower than the average M BH/M ∗ ratio observed in blue QSOs in the same redshift range. However, this result is still tentative since it is based on only three AGN. On the contrary, Urrutia et al. (2012) found that most of the sources in their sample lie below the local relation and that objects below the local relation are the ones acerting at high Eddington ratio (Λ = L/LEdd >0.3).

Here we present new IR spectra obtained with SINFONI and XShooter at VLT of 9 X-ray obscured, red QSOs for which a broad Hα component has been observed in the IR spectra. We complement these data with additional sources available in literature reaching a final total sample of 21 X-ray obscured, intermediate type (Osterbrock 1981), red QSOs with broad Hα emission observed in the NIR. This represents the most extensive study so far for this class of targets. The aim of the paper is to study the M BH-M ∗ scaling relation and its evolution for this class of sources by comparing them with the results obtained for optically blue QSOs.

The paper is organized as follows: in section 2 we will introduce our sample, starting from the new observations and proceeding with the samples taken from the literature and included in our analysis. In section 3 and 4 we derive virial BH masses and host galaxy stellar masses. Star formation rates and Eddington ratios are presented in section 5. Results on the M BH-M ∗ plane are shown in section 6 followed by the comparison with the semi-analytical model prediction in section 7. Finally, discussion and conclusions are presented in section 8. Unless otherwise stated, uncertainties are quoted at the 68% (1σ) confidence level.

2 THE SAMPLE

This work is based on new near-IR observations (program 88.B-0316(A) with SINFONI and 090.A-0830(A) with XShooter at the ESO VLT) of hard X-ray detected, obscured (N H > 10 21 – 10 22 cm −2 ) AGN with red (R-K > 4.5) colors which show a broad Hα line, integrated with data collected from literature. The final sample consists of 21 objects, 9 of them are new targets while the remaining 12 are data taken from the literature as listed below. The sample is summarized in Table 1.

2.1 New observations

Our observations were performed with SINFONI and X-Shooter at VLT.

SINFONI Observations: We obtained near-IR spectra using SINFONI at VLT of eleven hard X-ray selected obscured (N H > 10 22 cm −2 ) red (R-K > 4) QSOs at 0.7<z<2.6, selected from the Chandra Deep Field South (CDFS) (1Ms exposure, Giacconi et al. 2002). The sources were already spectroscopically classified as type-2 AGN in the optical band and had unambiguous spectroscopic redshifts (GOODS-S, Szokoly et al. 2004). As our sample consisted of sources at different redshifts, observations were obtained in the J, H and K bands to detect the Hα line. The resolutions in the three bands are respectively R = 2000, R = 3000 and R = 4000. The requested on-source integration time was 2.3 hours. However, of the 11 sources targeted, only 7 have been observed completely while 2 of them were observed for only 1.5 hours and the last 2 for 45 minutes. The typical seeing conditions during the observations were 0.5” - 1.1”.

Data have been reduced by using the ESO-SINFONI pipeline. This pipeline performs the background subtraction, flat-fielding, the spectral calibration of each individual slice, and then reconstructs the cube. Out of these targets we detected a broad Hα component for 4 of them (three of which are observed for the whole requested time while CDFS633 only for 45 minutes). Here we focus on these sources for which the Ho broad component allowed us to infer their BH masses. If we restrict the sample to z<1 and f_{2-10keV} > 1×10 −15 erg cm −2 s −1 we have seven objects, 4 of which with broad Hα detected. At the time of the observations, one source had a wrong redshift estimate and thus the Hα line could not be detected while, for another one, the source was not at the center of the observed field. Therefore, we can conclude that out of 5 hard X-ray selected with f_{2-10keV} > 1×10 −15 erg cm −2 s −1, obscured (N H > 2×10 22 cm −2 ) red (R-K > 4) QSOs at 1.0<z<2.6, we detect a broad Hα line in 4/5 of the sample.

XShooter Observations: NIR spectra have been obtained using XShooter at VLT (Vernet et al. 2011) of 10 X-ray obscured and luminous AGN at 1.25<z<1.72 selected from the COSMOS field (i.e. XMM-COSMOS sample, Hasinger et al. 2007; Cappelluti et al. 2009; Brusa et al. 2010). The parent sample consisted of ~150 “obscured QSOs” candidates, selected on the basis of their red optical colors (R-K > 4.5) and high X-ray to optical flux ratio and/or bright IR emission compared to the optical one (see Brusa et al. 2010 Sec. 7 for details). Among them, the observed sample consisted of the 6 K-brightest sources in the 1.25<z<1.72 redshift range with only photometric redshift available, plus 4 spectroscopically confirmed objects satisfying the same redshift and magnitude selection (3 narrow-line objects and 1 broad line AGN). Compared to the CDFS sources, these sources are brighter thus extending the range of luminosities covered by our sample to higher values. The exposure times ranged from 1hr to 2hrs with typical seeing conditions of 0.5”-1.0”. Spectra have been taken with a resolution of R=5100 (0.9” slit). The reduction has been done using Reflex 2.4. A detailed description of the full sample, data reduction and analysis can be found in Brusa et al. (2014). Here we focus on 5 sources at L X ~ 10 44 erg/s and N H > 10 21–22 cm −2 for which a broad Hα component has been detected and hence BH masses could be computed. One of these sources is COSMOS2028, whose VLT/SINFONI spectra have been already published by Banerji et al. (2012) ULASJ1002+0137). Given the lower resolution of their spectra (R=1500), Banerji et al. (2012) could not deblend the narrow and broad Hα components. The measured FWHM and consequently the BH masses are quoted at the 68% (1σ) confidence level.
From these two observational campaigns, we thus find that, selecting hard X-ray obscured AGN with red colors, we are able to build a highly complete sample of objects (≥80%) with broad Hα emission lines, above a certain flux.

Overall we have obtained a final sample of 9 sources with broad Hα component. We fitted the line profile as explained in Sec. 3.1 and derived the full width at half maximum of the line (FWHM). Stellar masses have been computed with a 2-component SED fitting procedure as explained in Sec. 4.

2.2 Additional sources

In order to increase the statistic of the study we complemented the new data with a collection of high-z sources taken from literature with similar properties. Following is the list of included samples:

- 3 QSOs from Sarria et al. (2010)
  - We include in our sample three X-ray obscured, red (R − K > 5) QSOs from Sarria et al. (2010). IR spectra of hard X-ray sources detected in the Hellas2XMM (Fiore et al. 2003) and ELAIS-S1 survey (Feruglio et al. 2008) have been taken with SINFONI and Isaac, and a broad Hα line has been detected in three cases. This sample is the most similar to our new observations. For these objects, we re-analyzed the spectra after improving the reduction, sky subtraction and extraction.

- 6 QSOs hosted in SMGs from Alexander et al. (2008)
  - We include in our work a sample of 6 SMGs that host X-ray identified obscured AGN with broad Hα line from Alexander et al. (2008). Four of these sources (the one with available stellar masses measured from Hamline et al. 2011) were already reported in Sarria et al. (2010). Here we recomputed the stellar masses for all of the 6 sources using the SED fitting method as explained in Sec. 4, after collecting the available photometry from literature. BH masses have been recomputed using the Xo FWHM measurements reported in Alexander et al. (2008) but differently from them, we used the de-absorbed X-ray luminosity (Mushotzky et al. 2000, Manners et al. 2003, Alexander et al. 2003) instead of the continuum 5100Å luminosity (see discussion in Sec. 3). The latter can in fact be absorbed and/or dominated by the stellar continuum.

- 2 QSOs hosted in ULIRGs from Melbourne et al. (2011)
  - We include in our sample 2 X-ray obscured AGN hosted in ULIRGs observed with the Keck laser guide star adaptive optics (LGSAO) system and the OSIRIS Integral Field Spectrograph from Melbourne et al. (2011). The targets (four in total) were selected from optical and NIR colors of the NOAO Deep Wide-Field Survey (NDWFS) of Boötes to be Dust Obscured Galaxies (DOGs, Dey et al. 2008) and to have strong Hα emission. BH masses have been recomputed using the formula derived in Sec. 3 and since only two sources are detected in the 5ks Chandra X-ray observations of the Boötes field (Kenter et al. 2005), we include only these two in our analysis. As already pointed out by Melbourne et al. (2011) the use of X-ray luminosity leads to larger BH mass estimates, as expected by the fact that the rest-frame optical continuum is likely absorbed by dust. Stellar masses have been recomputed using the SED fitting technique as explained in Sec. 4, after collecting the available photometry from literature.

- A QSO from Del Moro et al. (2009)
  - We include in our sample also a QSO at z = 1.87 from Del Moro et al. (2009). This object has been selected as the most extreme X-ray-to-optical flux ratio (EXOs) sources amongst the sample of bright X-ray selected EXOs obtained by cross-correlating 2XMMp and SDSS catalogs. New UKIRT optical/NIR photometry and MOIRCS IR spectroscopy have been presented in Del Moro et al. (2009). X-ray luminosity and FWHM of the broad Hα line, available in Del Moro et al. (2009), have been used to compute the BH masses using the formula derived in Sec. 3, while stellar masses have been derived from the K-band absolute magnitude. Del Moro et al. (2009) measures a K-band apparent magnitude of 19.9 in AB system, that, converted in K-band absolute magnitude, measures a K-band apparent magnitude of 25.74. Assuming the relations between M_∗ and L_k for star-forming and quiescent galaxies found by Ilbert et al. (2010), we estimated log M_∗ = 12.23 ± 0.4."}

2.3 Comparison sample of optical type–1 blue QSOs from Merloni et al. (2010)

As a comparison sample, we used a sample of ~90 unobscured, optically type–1, blue QSOs (R − K ~2–3) from the zCOSMOS survey in the redshift range 1 < z < 2.2, presented in Merloni et al. (2010). For consistency with our X-ray selection, only sources with XMM detections (82/89) have been included in the analysis. Merloni et al. (2010) computed their BH masses using the virial formula from McGill et al. (2008). However, since we want to use these objects as comparison sample of the obscured one, we recomputed the BH masses using the MgII line and the 3000Å continuum luminosity as described in Sec. 3 by adopting the same calibration method as for the obscured sample (eq. 3). For blue, unobscured QSOs, the continuum L_3000 is not expected to be severely affected by obscuration and can therefore be used in the virial equation. For the stellar masses, since the method used by Merloni et al. (2010) is the same used in this paper, we do not recompute them but we use the ones provided in their Table 1.

3 BH MASS ESTIMATES

BH masses have been obtained using the relation which combines the virial theorem with the radius-luminosity relation and provides mass estimates which are dubbed as “single epoch”, in contrast to the mass estimates from reverberation mapping observations (e.g. Peterson et al. 2004, Vestergaard...
Table 1. Analyzed sample. (a) IDs from Giacconi et al. (2002). (b) IDs from Cappelluti et al. (2009). (c) ID from Feruglio et al. (2008). (d) IDs from Mignoli et al. (2004).

| ID          | RA     | DEC     | z    |
|-------------|--------|---------|------|
| New SINFONI@VLT observations of CDFS AGN |
| CDFXS57(a)  | 03:32:12.9 | -27:52:36.9 | 2.561 |
| CDFXS153(a) | 03:32:18.3 | -27:50:55.3 | 1.536 |
| CDFXS531(a) | 03:32:14.4 | -27:51:10.9 | 1.544 |
| CDFXS633(a) | 03:31:50.4 | -27:52:12.2 | 1.374 |
| New XShooter@VLT observations of COSMOS AGN |
| COSMOS18(b) | 10:00:31.9 | +02:18:11.8 | 1.606 |
| COSMOS60053(b) | 10:01:09.2 | +02:22:54.7 | 1.582 |
| COSMOS175(b) | 09:58:53.0 | +02:20:56.4 | 1.530 |
| COSMOS2028(b) | 10:02:11.3 | +01:37:06.6 | 1.592 |
| COSMOS5321(b) | 10:03:08.8 | +02:09:03.5 | 1.470 |

Re-analysis of the Sarria et al. (2010) data

| ID          | RA     | DEC     | z    |
|-------------|--------|---------|------|
| XMMES1_460(c) | 00:36:41.5 | -43:20:38.1 | 1.748 |
| Ab2690.29(d) | 00:01:11.4 | -25:12:05.1 | 2.087 |
| BPM1627_181(d) | 00:50:31.6 | -52:06:30.0 | 1.335 |

| ID          | RA     | DEC     | z    |
|-------------|--------|---------|------|
| A1236+6214  | 12:36:35.5 | +62:14:24.0 | 2.015 |
| A1237+6203  | 12:37:16.0 | +62:03:23.0 | 2.053 |
| A1312+4238  | 13:12:15.2 | +42:39:00.0 | 2.555 |
| A1312+4238  | 13:12:22.3 | +42:38:14.0 | 2.560 |
| A1636+4059  | 16:36:55.8 | +40:59:14.0 | 2.592 |
| A1637+4053  | 16:37:06.5 | +40:53:13.0 | 2.375 |

| ID          | RA     | DEC     | z    |
|-------------|--------|---------|------|
| Melbourne et al. (2011) |
| DOG2       | 14:33:35.6 | +35:42:43.0 | 1.300 |
| DOG3       | 14:34:00.3 | +33:57:14.0 | 1.684 |

| ID          | RA     | DEC     | z    |
|-------------|--------|---------|------|
| Del Moro et al. (2009) |
| 2XMMJ1232+2152 | 12:32:04.9 | +21:52:55.4 | 1.870 |

K & Peterson[2006]. The relation for single epoch mass estimates can be written as:

\[
\log M_{\text{BH}} = \alpha + 2\log v_{1000} + \beta \log L_{\text{44}}
\]  

(1)

where \(L_{\text{44}}\) is the luminosity estimator in units of \(10^{44} \text{ erg s}^{-1}\) and \(v_{1000}\) is the velocity estimator in units of \(1000 \text{ km s}^{-1}\). \(\beta\) is the slope of the radius-luminosity relation which connects the size of the Broad Line Region (BLR) with the continuum luminosity (e.g. Kaspi et al. 2000; Bentz et al. 2009). The normalization \(\alpha\) is calibrated by assuming that the single epoch masses are in agreement with reverberation mapping masses (Vestergaard & Peterson 2006) which, in turn, are in agreement with the \(M_{\text{BH}} - \sigma\) relation for normal galaxies (Onken et al. 2004). Such approach is motivated by the unknown geometry and kinematics of the BLR (see, e.g., McLure & Dunlop 2001, Onken et al. 2004). However, due to the different choices adopted in the calibration, a large number of different relations are reported in the literature that relate black hole mass, broad line width and continuum luminosity (e.g. McGill et al. 2008; Kormendy & Ho 2013). The key point for this paper is that the BH-galaxy scaling relation adopted to calibrate \(\beta\) should be the same or be consistent with the scaling relation at \(z=0\) used as a reference for studying the redshift evolution.

Here we adopt a relation which has been calibrated by directly imposing that single epoch masses agree with the local BH-galaxy scaling relations (Marconi et al. 2014, in preparation). Briefly, single epoch virial products (i.e. BH masses for \(\alpha = 0\)) have been estimated from H\(\beta\) using the average spectra for the objects of the reverberation mapping database by [Peterson et al. 2004] updated with the measurements from the most recent campaigns. In the case of MgII we have used the spectral measurements from International Ultraviolet Explorer (IUE) data performed by Wang et al. (2009). BH masses have been estimated from the stellar velocity dispersion (see e.g. Park et al. 2012 for a compilation of data), or from the luminosity (Bentz et al. 2009) of the host spheroid using the \(M_{\text{BH}} - \sigma\) and/or \(M_{\text{BH}} - L_V\) relations by Gültekin et al. (2009). The adopted relations can be expressed in the form

\[
\log M_{\text{BH}} = 6.7 + 2\log \left( \frac{\text{FWHM}_\text{H}\beta}{10^3 \text{km s}^{-1}} \right) + 0.5\log \left( \frac{L_{\lambda}\left(5100\text{Å}\right)}{10^{44} \text{erg s}^{-1}} \right)
\]  

(2)

\[
\log M_{\text{BH}} = 6.6 + 2\log \left( \frac{\text{FWHM}_\text{MgII}}{10^3 \text{km s}^{-1}} \right) + 0.5\log \left( \frac{L_{\lambda}\left(3000\text{Å}\right)}{10^{44} \text{erg s}^{-1}} \right)
\]  

(3)

where FWHM refers to the H\(\beta\) and MgII broad lines and \(L_\lambda(5100\text{Å})\) and \(L_\lambda(3000\text{Å})\) represent the AGN continuum luminosity \(\lambda L_\lambda\) at 5100 and 3000 Å, respectively. Uncertainties on the normalization, i.e. \(\alpha\), are of the order of 0.1 dex (see Marconi et al. 2014, in preparation, for more details). In the following, for the comparison with the \(z = 0\) relation, we will use as a reference the \(M_{\text{BH}} - \sigma\) relation by Sarriya et al. (2010) data because the sample adopted by those authors defines a \(M_{\text{BH}} - \sigma\) relation consistent with that of Gültekin et al. (2009).

To compute the BH masses of the objects in our sample, we used eq. 2 after converting H\(\beta\) in Ho using the correlation between Ho and H\(\beta\) widths found by Greene & Ho (2005). Moreover, since our sample is made of dust reddened QSOs, the continuum luminosity at 5100 Å is expected to be absorbed and/or strongly contaminated by stellar continuum. For this reason we replaced \(L_{\lambda}\left(5100\text{Å}\right)\) with the absorption corrected X-ray \([2 – 10]\text{keV}\) luminosity using eq. (5) of Maiolino et al. (2007b). We obtain for the BH mass the following expression:

\[
\log M_{\text{BH}} = 7.11 + 2.06\log \left( \frac{\text{FWHM}_\text{H}\beta}{10^3 \text{km s}^{-1}} \right) + 0.693\log \left( \frac{L_{[2–10\text{keV}]} - L_{5100}}{10^{44} \text{erg s}^{-1}} \right)
\]  

(4)

For our statistical analysis of the scaling relation evolution, we assign to each black hole mass measurement an error given by the sum of the statistical and systematic uncertainties. The systematic uncertainty in the \(\log M_{\text{BH}}\) determination has been estimated in 0.3 dex to account for the observed scatter in the virial relation itself, while in the computation of the statistical errors, we take into account the errors in the X-ray luminosity and FWHM measurements, together with the uncertainties associated with the \(L_{[2–10\text{keV}]} - L_{5100}\) relation coefficient which contributes with 0.07 dex (in quadrature).

\(\alpha\) an average 10% error in the X-ray luminosities of all sources has been assumed in computing the BH masses.
Figure 1. Zoom-in showing the broad Hα line of the near-IR spectra of the 9 X-ray obscured and red QSOs for which a broad Hα component has been observed in XShooter and SINFONI. The last three spectra correspond to the objects already published in Sarria et al. (2010) for which we present the new reduction and fit. The blue line shows the broad Hα Gaussian component while the green one corresponds to the narrow components for Hα and [NII]. Finally the red line is the resulting fit. The bottom panel of each plot shows the sky spectrum.

3.1 FWHM measurements

We measured the FWHM in the 9 new IR spectra presented here plus the three sources taken from Sarria et al. (2010) for which we re-analyzed the spectra after improving the sky subtraction and extraction. Following Sarria et al. (2010), the broad Hα component detected in the IR spectra has been fitted with a broad gaussian and one or more narrow gaussians accounting for the contribution of the narrow components of both Hα and [NII]. The underlying continuum has been fitted with a linear component. Regions affected by low S/N and/or bad sky residuals are not taken into account in the fit. We linked the narrow components of Hα and [NII]...
to have the same velocity shift and the same velocity dispersion. Moreover, the flux of the [NII]λ6584 line was linked to be one third of the [NII]λ6584 line. The uncertainty in the width of the broad line is estimated by accounting for the correlation with the other components. A zoom of the 12 analyzed spectra around the region of the broad Hα line, together with the line fit is shown in Fig. 1. For the rest of the sources, we have taken the FWHM published values.

Rest Frame FWHM values are reported in Table 2. As explained above, the measured FWHM of the Hα broad component has been used, together with the de-absorbed X-ray [2 – 10]keV luminosity in Eq. 4 to compute the BH masses.

3.2 Intrinsic X-ray luminosity estimates

Intrinsic X-ray [2-10keV] luminosities have been computed after correcting the flux for the absorption N_H. When possible, N_H values have been derived directly by fitting the X-ray spectra. On the contrary, for sources detected with few counts, for which a proper X-ray spectral analysis cannot be performed, we have used the hardness ratio (computed as HR=-(H-S)/(H+S) where S and H are the soft and hard band counts) as a measure of obscuration. For the 9 sources for which new observations are presented, we have performed a fit of the X-ray spectra (for details see Mainieri et al. 2007, 2011; Merloni et al. 2014) for all but COSMOS60053, for which the quality of the X-ray data is low. For these sources, the N_H is typically constrained within 0.1 dex. This translates into uncertainties on the rest-frame X-ray fluxes (and therefore luminosities) from <5% for the brightest sources to ~20% for the faintest ones. For the remaining sources, the N_H values have been taken from literature or derived from the hardness ratio (as specified in Table 2) assuming a power-law X-ray spectrum with a typical photon index Γ = 1.8 (Piconcelli et al. 2005).

Since X-ray luminosities are used, together with the FWHM, to compute the BH masses, it is important to be sure that the derived values are robust. To this end, we have used the MIR/X-ray luminosity ratios (Gandhi et al. 2009; Fiore et al. 2008; Lanzuisi et al. 2009) to check the consistency of the L_X with the whole SED of the source (see Sec. 4). We find that the agreement is good for all but 6 sources. In three of these objects, the discrepancy is however relatively small (corresponding to a ~0.3 dex difference in luminosity) and can be ascribed to the large scatter present in the MIR/X-ray ratio used (Gandhi et al. 2009). On the contrary, for the remaining three objects (CDFSX633, A1236+6214 and A1237+6203), the discrepancy is larger i.e. ~0.5 – 0.6 dex in X-ray luminosity. In these cases, there is the possibility that the X-ray luminosity as derived by the X-ray data may be not reliable due to an underestimate of the N_H value caused by the low counts statistics. For these sources, we derived new intrinsic SED-derived X-ray luminosities and we used them in the computation of the BH masses (see next section). Intrinsic X-ray luminosities are reported in Table 2.

4 GALAXY STELLAR MASS ESTIMATES

Stellar masses of the AGN host galaxies have been derived using a detailed two-component Spectral Energy Distribution (SED) fitting procedure (Bongiorno et al. 2012) in which the observed optical-to-NIR SED is fitted with a large grid of models made from a combination of AGN and host-galaxy templates.

For the AGN component, we adopted the Richards et al. (2006) mean QSO SED derived from the study of 259 type-1 quasars with both Sloan Digital Sky Survey and Spitzer photometry. We allow for extinction of the nuclear AGN light by applying a SMC-like dust-reddening law (Prevot et al. 1984) of the form: $A_\lambda/E(B-V) = 1.39\lambda^{-1.2}$. For the galaxy component we generated a library of synthetic spectra using the models of stellar population synthesis of Bruzual & Charlot (2003). We assumed a universal initial mass function (IMF) from Chabrier (2003) and we built 10 exponentially declining star formation histories (SFH) $SFR \propto e^{-t/\tau}$ with e-folding times, $\tau$, ranging from 0.1 to 30 Gyr and a model with constant star formation. For each of the SFHs, the SED was generated for a grid of 13 ages ranging from 50 Myr to 9 Gyr, subject only to the constraint that the age should be smaller than the age of the Universe at the redshift of the source. Moreover, dust extinction of the galaxy component has been taken into account using the Calzetti’s law (Calzetti et al. 2000), which is the most used attenuation curve in high-redshift studies.

This technique, applied to data-sets with a wide multi-wavelength optical-to-NIR coverage, which is the case for most of our objects, allow us to decompose the entire spectral energy distribution into a nuclear AGN and a host galaxy components and to derive robust measurements of the host galaxy properties, i.e. stellar mass. For more details we refer the reader to Bongiorno et al. (2012).

In the sample considered here, we used this technique for all but one of the 21 sources. The result of the SED fitting procedure applied to our data is shown in Fig. 2 and the values of the host stellar masses, using a Chabrier IMF, are reported in Table 2. In few cases, the most extreme blue data point show an excess compared to the whole SED and to the model fit. The excess corresponds to the rest-wavelength of the Lyα emission line and is not taken into account in the fitting procedure. For the remaining source (2XMMJ1232+2152), no multi-wavelength photometry was available and hence our estimated stellar mass has been computed from the absolute K-band magnitude.

As in the 24µm flux measures there could be a strong contribution from star formation, we also computed the AGN 12µm fluxes derived from the X-ray luminosities using the Gandhi et al. (2009) relation to constrain the AGN-only emission. We find that in some cases these two quantities (12µm and 24µm fluxes) are indeed discrepant. In 2 cases (i.e., CDFSX531, A1637+4053) we have used the AGN 12µm point derived from the X-ray luminosity to constrain the AGN emission since the whole SED shape was, in terms of $\chi^2$, slightly better constrained. Moreover, for BPM1627+181, no 24µm observations were available and thus the 12µm point was used. In these three cases, the observed 24µm point is shown in Fig. 2 as an open circle and indicates that the given stellar mass has been computed an-
Figure 2. SED fits for the 20 sources for which we derive stellar masses through multi-wavelength SED fitting. Black circles are rest-frame fluxes corresponding to the observed bands plotted rest-frame. Purple and blue lines correspond to the galaxy and the AGN template found as best-fit solution through the $\chi^2$ minimization, while the black line shows their sum. Green triangles correspond to the rest-frame 12$\mu$m luminosity predicted from $L_{[2-10\text{keV}]}$ using the relation from Gandhi et al. (2009). This point is taken into account (instead of the 24$\mu$m observed luminosity) in the fit of 3 sources in which the 24$\mu$m point is absent (BPM1627_181) or clearly contaminated by star-formation emission (CDFSX531, A1637+4053). In the latter case, the observed 24$\mu$m point is showed as empty circle and the 12$\mu$m one as green square. Blue squares correspond to the 5.8$\mu$m luminosity predicted from $L_{[2-10\text{keV}]}$ using the relation from Lanzuisi et al. (2009). We show this point only for the 10 objects in which the 12$\mu$m luminosity does not seem to agree with the whole SED. Finally, red frames indicate the 6 cases in which both the rest-frame 12$\mu$m and the 5.8$\mu$m luminosities are in disagreement with the whole SED.

It is worth noting that, for the source A1637+4053, the scarce observational data-points make the fit of this source, and thus $M_*$ poorly constrained. Moreover, the X-ray luminosity of this source is an upper limit and thus it is its $M_{\text{BH}}$.

In other cases (10/20, i.e., CDFSX633, COSMOS60053, XMMES1_460, A1236+6214, A1237+6203, A1312+4239, A1312+4238, A1636+4059, DOG2, DOG3) the 12$\mu$m luminosity of this source is an upper limit and thus it is its $M_{\text{BH}}$. 


Table 2. Physical quantities for the selected sample. Stellar masses are computed using the Chabrier IMF. Objects marked with (*) are sources for which we report in the table the new corrected SED-derived $L_X$ (see Sec. [3]). The $L_X$ as measured directly from X-ray data are kept in parenthesis, as well as the BH masses computed using these values. A 10% error is associated to $L_X$. The reported $N_H$ values are: (a) computed from X-ray spectral analysis; (b) computed from X-ray spectral analysis by Mainieri et al. [2007, 2011]; (c) computed from the HR by Merloni et al. [2013]; (d) taken from Sarra et al. [2010]; (e) computed from the HR by Alexander et al. [2003]; (f) computed from the HR by Mushotzky et al. [2000]; (g) computed from the HR by Manners et al. [2003]; (h) taken from Melbourne et al. [2011]; (i) computed from X-ray spectral analysis by Del Moro et al. [2009].

| ID          | $L_{\text{obs}}^{\alpha}[2-10\text{keV}][\text{erg/s}]$ | $N_H[\text{cm}^{-2}]$ | $\text{FWHM}_{\text{H}α}[\text{Km/s}]$ | $\log M_{\text{BH}}[M_\odot]$ | $\log M_*[M_\odot]$ |
|-------------|----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| CDFSX57     | $2.3 \times 10^{44}$                                     | $2.0 \times 10^{23}(a)$| $1538 \pm 498$                       | $7.74 \pm 0.42$               | $10.44 \pm 0.18$   |
| CDFSX153    | $1.1 \times 10^{44}$                                     | $3.0 \times 10^{23}(a)$| $1904 \pm 185$                       | $7.71 \pm 0.32$               | $10.94 \pm 0.01$   |
| CDFSX531    | $1.1 \times 10^{43}$                                     | $2.0 \times 10^{23}(a)$| $3620 \pm 714$                       | $7.59 \pm 0.45$               | $10.59 \pm 0.02$   |
| CDFSX633(*)  | $7.2 \times 10^{43} [1.5 \times 10^{43}]$               | $3.0 \times 10^{23}(a)$| $1665 \pm 557$                       | $7.47 \pm 0.43 [6.97]$        | $10.81 \pm 0.09$   |
| COSMOS18    | $7.5 \times 10^{44}$                                     | $3.2 \times 10^{23}(b)$| $2162 \pm 531$                       | $8.41 \pm 0.38$               | $11.38 \pm 0.19$   |
| COSMOS60053 | $9.5 \times 10^{43}$                                     | $> 1.0 \times 10^{20}(c)$| $2776 \pm 391$                       | $8.00 \pm 0.33$               | $11.22 \pm 0.12$   |
| COSMOS175   | $3.8 \times 10^{43}$                                     | $2.5 \times 10^{21}(b)$| $8623 \pm 460$                       | $9.44 \pm 0.31$               | $11.55 \pm 0.05$   |
| COSMOS2028  | $1.5 \times 10^{45}$                                     | $7.9 \times 10^{21}(b)$| $5423 \pm 146$                       | $9.44 \pm 0.31$               | $11.91 \pm 0.03$   |
| COSMOS5321  | $3.8 \times 10^{45}$                                     | $3.9 \times 10^{21}(b)$| $7772 \pm 87$                        | $10.03 \pm 0.31$              | $12.22 \pm 0.05$   |
| XMMS1*460   | $7.2 \times 10^{44}$                                     | $3.2 \times 10^{22}(d)$| $2310 \pm 111$                       | $8.45 \pm 0.31$               | $10.53 \pm 0.03$   |
| Ab2690-29   | $8.9 \times 10^{44}$                                     | $6.3 \times 10^{22}(d)$| $5871 \pm 245$                       | $9.35 \pm 0.31$               | $12.00 \pm 0.11$   |
| BPM1627+181 | $1.6 \times 10^{44}$                                     | $6.3 \times 10^{22}(d)$| $2173 \pm 330$                       | $7.94 \pm 0.33$               | $10.83 \pm 0.21$   |
| A1236+6214(*)| $3.5 \times 10^{44} [6.3 \times 10^{43}]$               | $5.0 \times 10^{23}(e)$| $1600 \pm 200$                       | $7.90 \pm 0.33 [7.39]$        | $10.46 \pm 0.05$   |
| A1237+6203(*)| $5.9 \times 10^{44} [1.2 \times 10^{43}]$               | $3.2 \times 10^{22}(e)$| $2400 \pm 500$                       | $8.43 \pm 0.37 [7.96]$        | $10.54 \pm 0.11$   |
| A1312+439   | $7.9 \times 10^{44}$                                     | $1.0 \times 10^{21}(f)$| $2500 \pm 500$                       | $8.55 \pm 0.35$               | $11.61 \pm 0.23$   |
| A1312+438   | $5.0 \times 10^{44}$                                     | $1.0 \times 10^{21}(f)$| $2600 \pm 1000$                      | $8.45 \pm 0.46$               | $10.59 \pm 0.06$   |
| A1636+4059  | $1.0 \times 10^{45}$                                     | $1.0 \times 10^{21}(g)$| $3000 \pm 400$                       | $8.79 \pm 0.33$               | $10.92 \pm 0.12$   |
| A1637+453   | $< 1.0 \times 10^{44}$                                   |                         | $3300 \pm 1000$                      | $< 8.18$                      | $11.35 \pm 0.39$   |
| DOG2        | $2.1 \times 10^{44}$                                     | $6.1 \times 10^{21}(h)$| $2288 \pm 40$                        | $8.07 \pm 0.31$               | $10.47 \pm 0.23$   |
| DOG3        | $3.9 \times 10^{44}$                                     | $6.0 \times 10^{20}(h)$| $6757 \pm 96$                        | $9.23 \pm 0.31$               | $11.91 \pm 0.01$   |
| 2XMMJ1232+2152 | $1.6 \times 10^{46}$                                 | $2.0 \times 10^{23}(i)$| $5280 \pm 331$                       | $10.12 \pm 0.31$              | $12.23 \pm 0.20$   |

The new MIR luminosities predicted in this way are shown with blue squares in the SED fit in Fig. 2 of the 10 sources listed above. For 4 of these cases (XMMS1*460, A1312+438, A1636+4059 and DOG3), the MIR luminosity predicted by the Lanzuisi relation is in agreement with the one expected by the whole SED. For the remaining 6 (CDFSX633, COSMOS60053, A1236+6214, A1237+6203, A1312+439, DOG2) a discrepancy is still visible. As explained in Sec. 5.2, for the three sources for which the discrepancy corresponds to a difference of the order of 0.5 - 0.6 dex in the X-ray luminosity (CDFSX633, A1236+6214 and A1237+6203), we computed new intrinsic X-ray luminosities assuming the MIR luminosity as derived by the SED and applying the relation found by Lanzuisi et al. [2009]. These SED-derived $L_X$ of these three sources have been used to compute the BH masses and are reported in Table 2. The original $L_X$ values obtained from the X-ray data analysis (see Sec. 5.2) are also listed in Table 2 in parentheses.

5 HOST GALAXY’S STAR FORMATION RATES AND BH EDDINGTON RATIOS

In this section, we study and compare the rate at which host galaxies accrete in relation with their BHs. To this end, we

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3 The same result would be obtained using the relation derived by Fiore et al. [2008] since, in the luminosity range spanned by the analyzed sample, the two relations are very similar.

4 Before doing that we double-checked, with a a different SED code which includes the starburst component, that the discrepancy found cannot be ascribed to SF contamination to the 24μm photometric point.
have derived the galaxy star formation rate and BH Eddington ratio for each object in the sample. In general, the most reliable way to compute the galaxy’s SFR is adding up the rate of unobscured star formation (emitted in the UV) with the obscured one re-emitted in the (mid- and far-) IR by dust. However, for bright IR sources, SFR$_{UV}$ is negligible compared to the absorbed one and we can simply assume SFR$_{TOT}$ $\sim$ SFR$_{IR}$. For this reason, mid- and far-IR measurements of cold dust heated by star-forming processes are in principle the most reliable way to measure the galaxy’s SFR. On the one hand, in case of bright QSOs, the AGN contamination in the IR band can be not negligible and thus the derived SFRs slightly overestimated (see e.g. Bongiorno et al. 2012; Mullaney et al. 2012). On the other hand, the optical/IR SED fitting procedure relies only on the UV emission measurements, which traces the unobscured SF and takes into account the obscured component using the dust correction factor computed from the full SED.

For the objects in our sample we estimated the host star formation rate of unobscured star formation (emitted in the UV) with an error of $\pm 0.35$ dex in $\lambda$.

Figure 3 shows the starburstiness $R_{SB}$ $=$ sSFR/sSFR$_{MS}$ of the host galaxies versus the BH Eddington ratio. The sSFR values are normalized assuming the best-fit of the galaxy main sequence as a function of redshift (horizontal dashed line) obtained by Whitaker et al. (2012). Dotted lines trace 4 times above and below the main sequence: the three delimited regions are used to define a galaxy to be starburst, main sequence or quiescent (Rodighiero et al. 2011).

SFRs have been derived from IR/or submm fluxes when available and from SED-fitting otherwise (see Table 3). Open circles correspond to the cases for which we have only an upper limit on the SFR while filled circle with an arrow correspond to the objects with log(SFR) $<$ 0. The cross with the errorbar in the upper left corner shows the average error on the $x$-axis which corresponds to an error of $\sim0.35$ dex in $\lambda$.

Table 3. SFRs (Chabrier IMF) in M$_{\odot}/$yr and Eddington ratios $\lambda$ of the analyzed sample. band indicates which data we used to compute the SFR.

| ID          | log(SFR) | band    | $\lambda$ |
|-------------|----------|---------|-----------|
| CDFSX57     | $<$2.56  | PEP     | 1.38      |
| CDFSX153    | $<$1.95  | PEP     | 0.56      |
| CDFSX531    | 1.82$\pm$0.07 | PEP | 0.038 |
| CDFSX633    | $<$1.92  | PEP     | 0.56      |
| COSMOS18     | $<$2.21  | PEP     | 1.31      |
| COSMOS60053 | 2.87$\pm$0.01 | PEP | 0.24 |
| COSMOS175    | $<$2.14  | PEP     | 0.05      |
| COSMOS2628   | 2.44$\pm$0.01 | PEP | 0.03 |
| COSMOS5321   | 2.36$\pm$0.01 | PEP | 0.15 |
| XMMES1_460   | 2.41$^{+0.14}_{-0.04}$ | SED | 1.15 |
| Ab2690.29    | $<$0     | SED     | 0.18      |
| BPM1627_181  | $<$0     | SED     | 0.54      |
| A1236+6214   | 2.72$^{+0.01}_{-0.03}$ | PEP | 1.06 |
| A1237+6203   | 2.48$^{+0.10}_{-0.09}$ | Scuba | 1.0 |
| A1312+4239   | 2.35$^{+0.14}_{-0.12}$ | Scuba | 1.00 |
| A1312+4238   | 2.09$^{+0.18}_{-0.19}$ | Scuba | 0.75 |
| A1636+4059   | 3.22$^{+0.12}_{-0.10}$ | Scuba | 0.74 |
| A1637+4053   | 3.44$^{+0.16}_{-0.16}$ | Scuba | 0.16 |
| DOG2        | 2.56$^{+0.10}_{-0.08}$ | SED | 0.58 |
| DOG3        | 2.22$^{+0.10}_{-0.10}$ | SED | 0.09 |
| 2XMMJ1232+2152 | $<$9.90 | —      | 0.46 |
BH masses are normalized to the Sani et al. (2011) local relation (see Sec. 3), to study the redshift evolution, high redshift sources in this plane have to be compared to the above local relation. The Sani et al. (2011) local relation is shown in Fig. 4 with a solid line. From this comparison, we find that, X-ray obscured, red QSOs are largely scattered around the local scaling relation. In particular, we note that while less massive objects are equally scattered below and above the local relation, the most massive ones are mainly found above. Considering the Eddington ratios of the analyzed sources, we find both high and low accreting SMBHs equally distributed below and above the local relation. This is in contrast to the work from Urrutia et al. (2012), who studied a sample of 13 luminous, red QSOs at $z<1$, and found that low accreting SMBHs ($\lambda<0.3$) lie mainly above the scaling relation while high accreting SMBHs ($\lambda>0.3$) below.

Moreover, we note that the position of some sources (i.e. objects taken from Sarria et al. (2010) and Alexander et al. (2008)) is different compared to what presented in their original papers. This is due to a more accurate estimate of the stellar masses, a different calibration used to compute the BH masses, the use of the $L_X$ instead of the $L_{\lambda<0.2}$ in the BH mass formula for the sources in Alexander et al. (2008) and, for BPM1627181, also to a more accurate FWHM measurement. Differences in the BH mass are below 0.4 dex while the host masses can differ up to 0.7 dex.

### 6.1 Evolution of the $M_{BH}-M_*$ scaling relation

In Fig. 5, we plot the offset $\Gamma(z)$ between the $M_{BH}/M_*$ and the local values, calculated as distance in the log space of each point to the Sani et al. (2011) correlation, as a function of redshift:

$$\Gamma(z) = log\left(\frac{M_{BH}}{M_*}\right)(z) - log\left(\frac{M_{BH}}{M_*}\right)(z = 0).$$

In this plot, we also include the comparison sample of optically type-1, blue QSOs at $1.2 < z < 2.1$ from Merloni et al. (2010) for which we re-computed the BH masses using eq. 4 of Sec. 3, consistently with the dust obscured, red ones.

We see that both blue and red QSOs show $M_{BH}/M_*$ ratios increasing going to earlier epochs with red QSOs having slightly lower values at $z<1.9$. This is evident in the upper panel of Fig. 5 where mean values and errors are shown for both populations. Since the $M_*$ of A1637+4053 is poorly constrained by the SED fit and its $M_{BH}$ is an upper limit due to its $L_X$, for the last bin of the red QSOs sample, we show both the mean value taking it into account (open circle) and excluding it (filled circle). The solid and dashed lines correspond to the redshift evolution derived for blue QSOs at $z<2.1$ and extrapolated at higher redshift (Merloni et al. 2010). High redshift red QSOs do not seem to follow such trend having on average lower values that remain constant at

\[5\] Some of the previous works have defined $\Gamma$ as the offset from the scaling relations in terms of “excess black hole mass”. To compare this measures with our points we have divided these values by $\sqrt{1+A^2}$ where $A=0.79$ is the slope of the Sani et al. (2011) relation (see also Merloni et al. 2010).
Figure 5. **Main panel:** Redshift evolution of the offset measured for our sample from the local $M_{\text{BH}} - M_*$ relation. The offset $\Gamma(z)$ is calculated as the distance of each point to the Sani et al. (2011) correlation. Different colors and symbols correspond to the different subsamples (as in Fig. 4) while light grey symbols show the comparison sample of type–1, blue QSOs from Merloni et al. (2010). Solid dark grey line shows the best fit obtained by Merloni et al. (2010) rescaled using an average value to take into account the different formulas used in the BH masses computation. **Upper panel:** Red symbols are the average values and errors of our data binned in four redshift bins compared to the blue QSOs from Merloni et al. (2010) (blue symbols). Grey open symbols are objects from literature: triangles are from Salviander et al. (2007, low z) and Shields et al. (2003, high-z); squares from Woo et al. (2008) and circles from Peng et al. (2006). **Right panel:** Histogram of the blue (grey histogram) and red (red shaded histogram) QSOs populations in the common redshift range (1.2 < z < 2.0). For ease of comparison, the red histogram here has been multiplied by 4. The Kolmogorov-Smirnov statistics shows that the probability that the two samples are drawn from the same parent population is 10%.

### 6.2 Possible biases

As discussed by e.g. Lauer et al. (2007) and Schulze & Wisotzki (2011), AGN flux limited samples are generally biased towards higher values of $M_{\text{BH}}/M_*$. The magnitude of this bias depends on the flux limit of the sample i.e. it increases for brighter limiting fluxes, the underlying distribution functions and the intrinsic scatter in the $M_{\text{BH}}$-$M_*$ relation. Since both the unobscured AGN sample from Merloni et al. (2010) and the new sample of obscured AGN presented here are flux limited, i.e. X-ray flux limited from XMM-COSMOS and CDFS, both samples are affected by this selection bias. However, since the Chandra Deep Fields observations are very deep, the expected bias is negligible, contrary to the XMM-COSMOS AGN samples for which a non-negligible bias is expected (as already discussed in Schulze & Wisotzki 2011). We quantified the magnitude of the bias using the framework presented in Schulze & Wisotzki (2011). We used their Equation 29, assuming the $z$=1 BH mass function and Eddington ratio distribution function derived from the VVDS survey (Schulze et al. in prep) and applying the limiting fluxes corresponding to the considered fields. The
result is shown in Fig. 6. In this figure, we show with grey points the averages and their errors of the offsets from the local relation of the unobscured type–1 AGN sample and with orange squares and the blue pentagon the averages for CDFS-only and COSMOS-only obscured sources in the analyzed sample, respectively.

The predicted bias in case of no evolution is shown with a long-dashed grey line for the XMM-COSMOS flux limit. This has to be compared to the grey symbols. The lines correspond to the expected luminosity bias computed considering the X-ray limiting fluxes of the X-Shooter sample ($1 \times 10^{-14}$ erg cm$^{-2}$ s$^{-1}$; blue dot-dashed line), the Sinfoni sample ($1 \times 10^{-15}$ erg cm$^{-2}$ s$^{-1}$; orange dashed lines) and the XMM-COSMOS sample of optically blue QSOs (long-dashed grey line).

Interestingly, the CDFS-only mean value at $z \sim 1.5$ is much lower than the predicted one given the observational bias. In fact, it is important to keep in mind that the estimates of bias effects can suffer from some limitations and uncertainties: (i) an accurate prediction of the sample bias at a given redshift requires the knowledge of the underlying distribution functions i.e. the spheroid mass function, the Active BH mass function (BHMF) and the Eddington Ratio Distribution function at that given redshift. Unfortunately, these distributions are still very poorly constrained at high $z$, i.e. the spheroid mass function itself is basically unknown at high $z$. Also the BHMF is best established at the high mass end while the low mass end is less well determined and the systematics not fully understood. Moreover, (ii) even considering all these uncertainties, a reliable bias prediction requires a sample with a well defined selection function. This is the case for the optical type–1, blue AGN sample from Merloni which are selected from the whole XMM-COSMOS sample to be at $1.0 < z < 2.1$ and with broad lines in the spectra. The same is not true for our sources, made of different subsamples of objects for which spectroscopic NIR follow-up was performed.

7 EVOLUTION OF THE SCALING RELATION: COMPARISON WITH THE MODEL PREDICTIONS

In this section, we compare our observational results with the semi-analytic model from [Menci et al. 2008] and reference therein which allows us to follow the accretion onto SMBHs and the related AGN activity together with the evolution of galaxies. According to this model, galaxy interactions (i.e. both major and minor merging and fly-by events) trigger both starburst events and SMBH growth by inflow of cold gas in the galaxy disk which is destabilized and thus loses angular momentum. In addition, a second component of quiescent star formation, corresponding to the gradual conversion of gas into stars on a longer timescale (1Gyr compared to $\sim 10^7$ yr of the starburst events), is always ongoing and responsible for the galaxy growth. The amount of gas available in the system, together with the galaxy interaction rate and their effectiveness in destabilizing the gas, are hence the driving parameters regulating both galaxy and SMBH growths. This model correctly describe the tight correlation between the BH mass and the stellar mass in the local Universe ([Lamastra et al. 2010]) and the evolution of the luminous AGN population over a wide range of redshift (see [Menci et al. 2003, 2008]). Such observables are also reproduced by several other semi-analytic models based on the assumption of interaction-triggered AGN implemented with accretion of hot gas and/or of instabilities in self-gravitating disks as additional triggers (see [Bower et al. 2006, Croton et al. 2006, Hopkins et al. 2008, Marulli et al. 2008, Somerville et al. 2008, Guo et al. 2011, Fanidakis et al. 2012, Hirschmann et al. 2012]). We compare our observations with the Menci model since it is ideally suited to our purpose. It is indeed the only one that includes a physical description of AGN feedback providing a distribution of the AGN absorbing column density as a function of the luminosity and redshift tested against observations (see [Menci et al. 2008]).
In this section, we take a step forward and we follow the merging history of the galaxies at different epochs, it is possible to study the relative growth of BHs and host galaxies and to make predictions on the $M_{\text{BH}}-M_*$ relation at different epochs and as a function of various galaxy properties e.g. mass, gas fraction and star formation rate.

Lamastra et al. (2010) showed that a typical prediction of such interaction-driven model is that the evolution of the $M_{\text{BH}}-M_*$ relation is stronger for increasing stellar or BH mass. Moreover, in agreement with the observations (e.g. Peng et al. 2006; Maiolino et al. 2007a; Merloni et al. 2010), they find that blue QSOs have a higher $M_{\text{BH}}/M_*$ ratio at earlier epochs which decreases going to lower redshift and approaches the local relation. This trend is due to the fact that, in the early phases, the assembly of BH masses is extremely rapid and much faster than the stellar mass growth since these objects are hosted in the most massive halos formed in dense environments in which both the interaction rate and the fraction of destabilized gas are large. On the contrary, going towards lower redshift, the decline of the interaction rate and of the destabilized gas fraction, suppresses the growth of BHs which is only due to galaxy interactions while quiescent star formation still proceeds continuing to build up stellar mass.

In this section, we take a step forward and we follow in the Monte Carlo simulations only the X-ray obscured, reddened QSO. The model includes a detailed treatment of AGN feedback which is directly related to the impulsive, luminous AGN phase (Menci et al. 2006, 2008) and is based on expanding blast waves as a mechanism to propagate outwards the AGN energy injected into the interstellar medium at the center of galaxies. In the simulation, AGN are classified as obscured ($N_H \geq 10^{22} \text{ cm}^{-2}$) and unobscured ($N_H < 10^{22} \text{ cm}^{-2}$) on the basis of the neutral hydrogen column densities corresponding to the unshocked gas in the galaxy disk (equation 6 in Menci et al. 2008).

Since our sample is not a complete sample of sources with a clean selection but rather a collection of sources selected with slightly different criteria, it is not easy to compare them with the model predictions. X-ray obscuration and dust-reddening are common properties of all sources. For this reason, to select in the simulation the sample which is most similar to the data presented in this work, we performed a color cut selecting only X-ray obscured sources with red colors (i.e. $R-K > 4$ in Vega magnitudes). The simulated galaxy magnitudes are computed from the predicted star formation and chemical enrichment histories using the single stellar population model of Bruzual & Charlot (2003) and the Salpeter initial mass function. The dust extinction affecting the above magnitudes is computed from the dust optical depth and applying the appropriate attenuation to the luminosity at various wavelengths. The comparison is shown in Fig. 7 where, together with the observational points (symbols and color-code are as in Fig. 4), we plot the contour plot of the predicted redshift evolution of the offset from the local $M_{\text{BH}}-M_*$ relation ($\Gamma(z)$) for AGN with $\log(L_X) > 43.7$, $N_H > 10^{22} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ and $R-K > 4$. These cuts are chosen to best reproduce the selection criteria of the observed sample. The three contour levels correspond to different values of the fraction of objects with a given value of $\Gamma(z)$ at the considered redshift: 0.02, 0.1 and 0.2 from the lightest region to the darkest. The colored dots with error bars denote our selected sample with the same coding as in Fig. 4.

The model predicts that the $\Gamma(z)$ value for obscured and red QSOs slightly increases towards higher $M_{\text{BH}}/M_*$, with a lower offset than the one predicted for blue QSOs (see Lamastra et al. 2010). This is in excellent agreement with our observations. We do actually find that most of the sources in our sample lie well inside the contours of the model prediction and that red X-ray obscured AGN and optical type-1, blue AGN follow a very similar path in the $M_{\text{BH}}-M_*$ plane.

8 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

In this work we have analyzed a sample of X-ray obscured, intermediate type, dust reddened QSOs at $1.5 < z < 2.6$. Red, obscured QSOs are different from optical type-1 blue QSOs studied so far both in their host and nuclear properties, in that they are dusty and thus red and their nuclei are obscured. These objects may represent a “transitional” phase in the AGN-galaxy co-evolving scenario as expected by the popular theoretical models by e.g. Hopkins et al. (2008), Menci (2004). According to these models, in fact, major mergers are the main AGN fueling mechanism and galaxy mergers are able to funnel a large amount of gas onto the nuclear regions in a short time scale. In this phase the AGN is indeed expected to be obscured and red. Moreover, the resulting high gas density in the central region of the galaxy triggers starburst events: red and obscured QSOs are expected to live in star-forming galaxies as found for most of our sources (90% are main-sequence or starburst galaxies). Later, as radiative pressure on the dust grains begins to clear the dust and gas away during the blowout phase in which...
evidence of outflows are expected, the AGN is revealed as an UV-luminous optical type–1, blue QSOs.

We have analyzed the position of these sources in the $M_{\text{BH}} - M_*$ plane. We found a trend with the BH mass, i.e. while less massive red QSOs are about equally scattered below and above the local relation, the most massive ones are mainly located above it. The same trend with BH mass is predicted by the interaction-driven models since high mass BHs form in the most biased regions of the primordial density field where high redshift interactions were favored (see e.g. Lamastra et al. 2010).

Looking at the average $M_{\text{BH}} / M_*$ ratios as a function of redshift, we find that, similarly to unobscured, optically blue QSOs (e.g. Merloni et al., 2010), obscured red QSOs show an higher ratio compared to the local one, and the increase is higher going to higher redshift ($z \sim 2.6$).

Possible observational biases have been analyzed. In particular, as discussed by e.g. Lauer et al. (2007) and Schulze & Wisotzki (2011), AGN flux limited samples are generally biased towards higher values of $M_{\text{BH}} / M_*$. Looking at the XMM-COSMOS samples and the CDFS sample, we find that the observed general trend in the $\Gamma(z) - z$ plane is very similar to the one predicted by the bias, thus suggesting that both obscured and unobscured AGN lie on the local scaling relation up to high $z$ but are observed at higher values of $\Gamma(z)$ due to observational biases.

However, we must keep in mind that the estimates of bias effects suffer from some limitations i.e. they require the knowledge of the underlying distribution functions (the spheroid mass function, the active BH mass function and the Eddington ratio distribution function) at the given redshift and unfortunately, these distributions are still very poorly constrained at high $z$.

The computed $M_{\text{BH}} / M_*$ average values are consistent with or slightly lower (up to $z < 1.9$) compared to what has been found for blue QSOs (Merloni et al. 2010). This result suggests that in the analyzed population of obscured, red QSOs the BH and their host stellar masses are already fully formed and thus their ratio is similar to what observed in optically blue QSOs.

Recently Urrutia et al. (2012) studying a sample of 13 $z < 1$ luminous, dust reddened QSOs, found that these sources are preferentially located below the local scaling relation. This result has been interpreted as the evidence that these sources are in the intermediate phase (blow-out phase, see e.g. Hopkins et al. 2008) between the major-merger induced starbursts which appear as ULIRGs and SMGs and the optical type–1, blue QSOs where we expect a rapid BH growth. In our sample, on the contrary, the BH has already grown up and the objects are located on average above the local relation, especially at the high mass end. However, strong outflows are still visible i.e. for the sources for which we have high resolution spectra with good S/N of the [OIII] region from X-Shooter, we indeed find compelling evidence of the presence of outflowing material in the ionized gas component (Brusa et al., 2014). This suggests that we are observing the final stage of such intermediate phase, when the BH growth is at its end but the AGN feedback has still not finished to clean up the dust and nuclear gas. This is not so surprising considering that these sources do show broad lines in their optical lines (redshifted in the NIR): at least part of the obscuring material has already cleared-up and the AGN broad line regions are visible.

Larger samples expanding also to higher redshift are necessary in order to consolidate such results. Large area X-ray surveys with associated multiwavelength follow-up, such as XXL (Pierre 2012) and Stripe-82 (LaMassa et al. 2013) can be exploited to this end. Moreover, IFU spectroscopy and submm observations are fundamental to study in detail such rare objects and to provide a direct observational proof of quasar feedback through the detection of possible galactic scale outflow and on its effect on the host galaxy star formation by mapping the spatial distribution of the SFR (see e.g. Cano-Diaz et al. 2012).

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