NATURE OF HARD X-RAY (3–24 KEV) DETECTED LUMINOUS INFRARED GALAXIES IN THE COSMOS FIELD

KENTA MATSUOKA1,2,3,4 AND YOSHIHIRO UEDA1

ABSTRACT

We investigate the nature of far-infrared (70 μm) and hard X-ray (3–24 keV) selected galaxies in the COSMOS field detected with both Spitzer and Nuclear Spectroscopic Telescope Array (NuSTAR). By matching the Spitzer-COSMOS catalog against the NuSTAR-COSMOS catalog, we obtain a sample consisting of a hyperluminous infrared galaxy with log(LIR/L⊙) ≥ 13, 12 ultraluminous infrared galaxies with 12 ≤ log(LIR/L⊙) ≤ 13, and 10 luminous infrared galaxies with 11 ≤ log(LIR/L⊙) ≤ 12, i.e., 23 Hy/U/LIRGs in total. Using their X-ray hardness ratios, we find that 12 sources are obscured active galactic nuclei (AGNs) with absorption column densities of N_H > 10^{22} cm^{-2}, including several Compton-thick (N_H ∼ 10^{24} cm^{-2}) AGN candidates. On the basis of the infrared (60 μm) and intrinsic X-ray luminosities, we examine the relation between star-formation (SF) and AGN luminosities of the 23 Hy/U/LIRGs. We find that the correlation is similar to that of optically-selected AGNs reported by Netzer (2009), whereas local, far-infrared selected U/LIRGs show higher SF-to-AGN luminosity ratios than the average of our sample. This result suggests that our Hy/U/LIRGs detected both with Spitzer and NuSTAR are likely situated in a transition epoch between AGN-rising and cold-gas diminishing phases in SF-AGN evolutionary sequences. The nature of a Compton-thick AGN candidate newly detected above 8 keV with NuSTAR (ID 245 in Civano et al. 2015) is briefly discussed.

Subject headings: galaxies: active — galaxies: evolution — infrared: galaxies

1. INTRODUCTION

The coevolution of galaxies and supermassive black holes (SMBHs) is one of the most crucial issues in modern extragalactic researches. This idea originated from observational results of a tight correlation between bulge velocity dispersions (σ) and black hole masses (M_BH) in the local universe (e.g., Magorrian et al. 1998; Marconi & Hunt 2003; Gültekin et al. 2009; Woo et al. 2013). However, we have no definite scenario how galaxies have coevolved with SMBHs through the cosmic history. To unveil this mechanism, the galaxy merger would be an important clue. Sanders et al. (1988) proposed that a major-merger evolutionary scenario in which galaxy mergers induce a rapid starburst and an obscured BH growth, followed by an unobscured epoch after the gas is consumed or expelled from the galaxy by a feedback (see Fig. 6 in Alexander & Hickox 2012). Furthermore, from the theoretical point of view, we have some frameworks that are able to produce the local M_BH-σ relation (e.g., Robertson et al. 2006; Blecha et al. 2011).

In addition to cumulative results, i.e., the M_BH-σ relation, the connection between star formation (SF) and active galactic nucleus (AGN) is also a key phenomenon in revealing the on-going interaction between galaxies and SMBHs. Blecha et al. (2011) showed simultaneous bursts of SF and BH growth based on N-body simulations of galaxy mergers (see also Hopkins & Quataert 2010). Such theoretical results expect a positive correlation between SF and AGN luminosities. In fact, Netzer (2009) reported a positive linear trend between SF and AGN luminosities by using local type-2 AGNs and high-z quasars (see also Netzer et al. 2007; Karouzos et al. 2014; Matsuoka & Woo 2015). However, these studies were mainly based on moderately matured AGNs in the “unobscured” epoch. Furthermore, recent studies have shown that the relation between SF and AGN luminosities of distant X-ray detected AGNs is flat (i.e., there is no significant correlation) if the sample is divided in redshift bins (e.g., Rosario et al. 2012; Stanley et al. 2013). In order to understand the SF-AGN connection correctly, it is crucial to focus on heavily-obscured AGNs, which would show violent star formation with buried BH growth.

In the major-merger scenario, dusty populations, like ultraluminous infrared galaxies (ULIRGs) and submillimeter galaxies (SMGs), are considered to be in an explosive evolutionary phase just after a merger. Unfortunately, we cannot investigate their AGN activities in optical or ultraviolet (UV) wavelengths since such populations usually conceal their nuclear activities with dense gas. Although re-emitted lights from heated dust in infrared (IR) wavelength may be used to estimate their AGN activities, separation from SF activities is often non-trivial. An alternative, very efficient way to unveil the AGN activities is X-ray observations. Especially, high energy X-ray emission above ~ 10 keV allow us to detect even heavily-obscured, even Compton-thick AGNs with absorption column densities of N_H ∼ 10^{24} cm^{-2}, thanks to its strong penetrating power against photoelectric absorption. Therefore, hard X-ray observations are one of the most suitable tools to investigate the hidden SF-AGN connection in dusty populations.

In this paper, we focus on IR-luminous galaxies at 0 <
$\Omega M = (0.3, 0.7)$ and $H_0 = 70$ km s$^{-1}$ Mpc$^{-1}$. All the attached errors correspond to 1σ.

### 2. SAMPLE

In this study, we utilize a large galaxy sample constructed by Kartaltepe et al. (2010) mainly based on the Spitzer-COSMOS survey (S-COSMOS: Sanders et al. 2007), a Spitzer legacy survey designed to cover the entire COSMOS field with the Multiband Imaging Photometer on Spitzer (MIPS; Rieke et al. 2004). The MIPS data were obtained with 5σ sensitivities of 0.08, 8.5, and 65 mJy at 24, 70, and 160 μm, respectively. By using the deep MIPS imaging data and multiwavelength dataset of the COSMOS, Kartaltepe et al. (2010) obtained 1503 unconfused 70μm-selected sources. Thanks to the wide area and deep photometries in the COSMOS, they cover a wide IR luminosity ($L_{IR}$, integrated from 8 to 1000 μm) range from 10$^8$ to 10$^{12}$ in units of solar luminosity at 0 < z < 3 (grey-open circles in Figure 1). Note that 602 objects of them (∼40%) have spectroscopic redshifts.

In order to obtain hard X-ray properties of these IR galaxies, we match them against the NuSTAR-COSMOS catalog (Civano et al. 2015). The NuSTAR catalog contains 91 sources detected in the 3–24, 3–8, and/or 8–24 keV bands with sensitivities of 5.9, 2.9, and 6.4 × 10$^{-14}$ erg cm$^{-2}$ s$^{-1}$, respectively. The survey covers $\approx 1.7$ deg$^2$ of the COSMOS field, overlapping both with the Chandra and XMM-Newton data. Four out of the 91 sources are associated with neither Chandra nor XMM-

### TABLE 1

Properties of 23 Hy/U/LIRGs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ID$_{Sp}^a$</th>
<th>ID$_{Nu}^b$</th>
<th>$z^c$</th>
<th>log($L_{IR}/L_\odot$)$^d$</th>
<th>log $\lambda L_{0.01\mu m}^e$</th>
<th>log $N_H^f$</th>
<th>log $L_X^g$</th>
<th>log $L_{AGN}^h$</th>
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<tr>
<td>1190</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>0.520</td>
<td>11.83 ±0.04</td>
<td>45.01 ±0.10</td>
<td>23.4</td>
<td>44.21</td>
<td>45.80</td>
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<tr>
<td>1224</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>0.694</td>
<td>12.09 ±0.27</td>
<td>45.25 ±0.10</td>
<td>23.8</td>
<td>44.75</td>
<td>45.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1222</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>0.500</td>
<td>11.65 ±0.22</td>
<td>45.13 ±0.07</td>
<td>20.6</td>
<td>44.17</td>
<td>45.74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1563</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>0.787</td>
<td>12.02 ±0.29</td>
<td>45.13 ±0.11</td>
<td>23.8</td>
<td>44.74</td>
<td>45.52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1928</td>
<td>145</td>
<td>0.445</td>
<td>11.29 ±0.26</td>
<td>44.43 ±0.10</td>
<td>22.2</td>
<td>43.97</td>
<td>45.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2613</td>
<td>188</td>
<td>0.560</td>
<td>11.94 ±0.06</td>
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<td>22.5</td>
<td>44.12</td>
<td>45.68</td>
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<tr>
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<td>192</td>
<td>0.360</td>
<td>11.61 ±0.26</td>
<td>44.54 ±0.27</td>
<td>20.9</td>
<td>43.66</td>
<td>45.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2872</td>
<td>194</td>
<td>1.156</td>
<td>12.53 ±0.31</td>
<td>45.27 ±0.22</td>
<td>22.1</td>
<td>43.56</td>
<td>47.24</td>
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<tr>
<td>3064</td>
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<td>1.024</td>
<td>12.36 ±0.27</td>
<td>45.35 ±0.17</td>
<td>21.9</td>
<td>44.29</td>
<td>47.25</td>
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<tr>
<td>3180</td>
<td>216</td>
<td>0.760</td>
<td>12.11 ±0.28</td>
<td>45.26 ±0.07</td>
<td>23.8</td>
<td>44.86</td>
<td>46.68</td>
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<tr>
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<td>45.10 ±0.18</td>
<td>23.4</td>
<td>44.77</td>
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<tr>
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<td>46.30 ±0.21</td>
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<tr>
<td>5074</td>
<td>251</td>
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<tr>
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<td>44.69</td>
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<tr>
<td>4644</td>
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<td>0.260</td>
<td>11.38 ±0.03</td>
<td>44.44 ±0.08</td>
<td>20.6</td>
<td>43.38</td>
<td>44.71</td>
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<tr>
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<td>12.05 ±0.25</td>
<td>45.13 ±0.09</td>
<td>20.0</td>
<td>44.40</td>
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<tr>
<td>3756</td>
<td>296</td>
<td>1.108</td>
<td>12.36 ±0.23</td>
<td>45.72 ±0.16</td>
<td>21.5</td>
<td>44.95</td>
<td>48.81</td>
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<tr>
<td>4017</td>
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<td>0.345</td>
<td>11.29 ±0.26</td>
<td>44.38 ±0.07</td>
<td>20.9</td>
<td>43.74</td>
<td>45.18</td>
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<tr>
<td>3967</td>
<td>311</td>
<td>0.688</td>
<td>12.37 ±0.03</td>
<td>45.60 ±0.04</td>
<td>22.9</td>
<td>43.38</td>
<td>46.03</td>
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<tr>
<td>3827</td>
<td>320</td>
<td>0.690</td>
<td>12.07 ±0.26</td>
<td>45.17 ±0.12</td>
<td>20.0</td>
<td>43.36</td>
<td>46.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3654</td>
<td>322</td>
<td>0.356</td>
<td>11.45 ±0.04</td>
<td>44.56 ±0.12</td>
<td>21.9</td>
<td>43.84</td>
<td>45.31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3424</td>
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<td>1.454</td>
<td>12.87 ±0.33</td>
<td>45.75 ±0.29</td>
<td>21.4</td>
<td>45.01</td>
<td>46.89</td>
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<td>3638</td>
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<td>1.845</td>
<td>13.03 ±0.09</td>
<td>46.52 ±0.32</td>
<td>23.3</td>
<td>45.57</td>
<td>47.68</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Note. — All the errors are 1σ.

$^a$ Identification number in the Spitzer-COSMOS catalog (Kartaltepe et al. 2010).

$^b$ NuSTAR source number from Civano et al. (2015).

$^c$ Redshift provided by Kartaltepe et al. (2010).

$^d$ IR luminosity integrated from 8 μm to 1000 μm in the Spitzer-COSMOS catalog (Kartaltepe et al. 2010).

$^e$ FIR luminosity at 60 μm (rest-frame) estimated by using Spitzer/MIPS data at 24, 70, and 160 μm (observed frame) bands (see Section 4.3).

$^f$ Absorption hydrogen column density estimated by using the HR value (see Section 3 for more details).

We adopt log $N_H = 20.0$ as a dummy lower limit.

$^g$ Intrinsic (de-absorbed) luminosity in the rest-frame 2–10 keV band.

$^h$ Bolometric AGN luminosity converted from the 2–10 keV luminosity by adopting a conversion factors given in Rigby et al. (2009).
11 is 2.3%; those in each subsample are 3.9% for \( \mu \) Chandra objects without minosity) are listed in Table 1. The \( \leq 12 \) Chandra NuSTAR Newton circles in red and blue, respectively. ID 245 and 111 in Civano et al. 2015) are marked with large-open log(\( L \)) luminosities for LIRGs, ULIRGs, and HyLIRGs, corresponding to as grey-small circles. Three horizontal lines represent the dividing luminosities for LIRGs, ULIRGs, and HyLIRGs, corresponding to \( \log(L_{IR}/L_{\odot}) \) = 11, 12, and 13, respectively. \( \mu \) NuSTAR-detected objects without Chandra and/or XMM-Newton detections (i.e., ID 245 and 111 in Civano et al. 2013) are marked with large-open circles in red and blue, respectively. Newton point-like counterparts. To best estimate the \( \mu \) NuSTAR-source positions, we basically refer to the coordinates of the Chandra counterparts, or to those of the XMM-Newton ones in the case of no Chandra detection. Matching radii of 1\( '' \) and 3\( '' \) are adopted for Chandra and XMM-Newton, respectively (e.g., Civano et al. 2012; Brusa et al. 2007). Regarding the four sources without Chandra or XMM-Newton counterparts, we conservatively adopt matching radius of 25\( '' \), which is smaller than that (30\( '' \)) used by Civano et al. (2013), in order to reduce the probability of chance coincidence. As the result, we obtain 27 \( \mu \) NuSTAR-detected IR galaxies denoted with filled circles in Figure 1 including two objects detected only with \( \mu \) NuSTAR. In this paper, we focus on 23 sources at \( \log(L_{IR}/L_{\odot}) \) \( \geq \) 11, since we aim to investigate IR-luminous galaxies. Among them, 18 objects (78\%) have spectroscopic redshifts. The averaged number density of 70 \( \mu \) sources at \( \log(L_{IR}/L_{\odot}) \) \( \geq \) 11 is 514 deg\(^{-2} \), and thus the expected number of Spitzer sources found by chance around a \( \mu \) NuSTAR source in 1\( '' \), 3\( '' \), and 25\( '' \) radii is 0.00012, 0.0011, and 0.078, respectively. The contamination fraction is small enough to discuss the overall statistical properties of our sample even for the sources detected only with \( \mu \) NuSTAR.

3. RESULTS

Our sample contains a hyperluminous IR galaxy, 12 ULIRGs, and 10 luminous IR galaxies, i.e., 23 \( \mu \) Hy/U/LIRGs, divided by criteria of \( \log(L_{IR}/L_{\odot}) \) \( \geq \) 13, 12 \( \leq \) \( \log(L_{IR}/L_{\odot}) \) \( < \) 13, and 11 \( \leq \) \( \log(L_{IR}/L_{\odot}) \) \( < \) 12, respectively. Source properties (e.g., redshift and IR luminosity) are listed in Table 1. The \( \mu \) NuSTAR detection rate in the 70\( \mu \)-selected sample at \( \log(L_{IR}/L_{\odot}) \) \( \geq \) 11 is 2.3%; those in each subsample are 3.9% for HyLIRGs, 4.7% for ULIRGs, and 1.7% for LIRGs. This trend seems to be inconsistent with previous studies that more IR-luminous galaxies show higher AGN fractions (e.g., Veilleux et al. 1995, 1999; Yuan et al. 2010; Ichikawa et al. 2014), although these numbers strongly depend on \( \mu \) NuSTAR detection limits.

As described in Section 3, two of our \( \mu \) NuSTAR-detected IR galaxies have no lower energy X-ray counterparts detected with Chandra and/or XMM-Newton (i.e., sources ID 111 and ID 245 in Civano et al. 2013), which are marked with blue and red large open circles in Figure 1, respectively. These may be either variable objects and/or heavily obscured AGNs only detectable in hard X-rays above 8 keV. In our matching, the former source is assigned as a LIRG at a photometric redshift of 0.5 with an offset of \( \approx 20'' \) from the \( \mu \) NuSTAR position, although Civano et al. (2015) mentioned that this source is coincident with an extended Chandra and XMM-Newton source at \( z = 0.220 \) located about 24'' from the center. The latter source (ID 245) was reported as two bright spectroscopically identified galaxies at \( z = 1.277 \) and 0.358 with positional offsets of 11'' and 15'' in Civano et al. (2015), respectively. By using the IR selection criterion, the object at \( z = 1.277 \) is identified as an AGN in Donley et al. (2012). Civano et al. (2015) confirmed that the \( z = 1.277 \) object is the counterpart of the \( \mu \) NuSTAR source ID 245 by checking the relation between 12 \( \mu \)m and intrinsic X-ray luminosities (e.g., Fiore et al. 2009; Gandhi et al. 2000). Our matching result indicates that this source is a ULIRG at a photometric redshift of 1.25 with an offset of \( \approx 20'' \) from the \( \mu \) NuSTAR position, which is probably the counterpart of the \( z = 1.277 \) object in Donley et al. (2012).

To examine X-ray obscuration of the \( \mu \) NuSTAR-detected \( \mu \) Hy/U/LIRGs, firstly we utilize the hardness ratio defined by Civano et al. (2013), \( HR = (H-S)/(H+S) \), where \( H \) and \( S \) are vignetting-corrected count rates in the 8–24 keV and 3–8 keV bands, respectively. In our sample, three out of 23 sources are not detected in

![Fig. 1.— Redshift versus IR (8–1000 \( \mu \)) luminosity plot of the COSMOS sample. Filled circles denote \( \mu \)NuSTAR-detected IR galaxies, color-coded according to the \( \log(L_{IR}/L_{\odot}) \) value (bluer and redder for lower and higher IR luminosity objects, respectively). Objects with \( \log(L_{IR}/L_{\odot}) < 11 \) are shown in black. The remaining undetected objects in Kartaltepe et al. (2010) are shown as grey-small circles. Three horizontal lines represent the dividing luminosities for LIRGs, ULIRGs, and HyLIRGs, corresponding to \( \log(L_{IR}/L_{\odot}) \) = 11, 12, and 13, respectively. \( \mu \) NuSTAR-detected objects without Chandra and/or XMM-Newton detections (i.e., ID 245 and 111 in Civano et al. 2013) are marked with large-open circles in red and blue, respectively.](image1)

![Fig. 2.— Absorption hydrogen column-density versus IR (8–1000 \( \mu \)) luminosity plot for the Hy/U/LIRGs, shown as filled circles color-coded according to the \( \log(L_{IR}/L_{\odot}) \) value (same as Figure 1). Four orange horizontal lines denote column densities of \( N_H = 10^{21}, 10^{22}, 10^{23}, 10^{24} \text{ cm}^{-2} \). Unobscured objects are plotted on an arbitrary line at \( \log N_H = 20 \). Sources ID 245 and 111 are marked with red and blue open circles.](image2)
the 8–24 keV band and hence have only upper limits of HR. Using the HR value, we estimate the corresponding absorption hydrogen column density at the source redshift (N_H). Following Ueda et al. (2003), we assume a cutoff power law with a photon index of \( \Gamma = 1.9 \) and an e-folding energy of 500 keV, plus its reflection component from cold matter with a solid angle of 2\( \pi \) (calculated with the pexrav model in XSPEC), as the intrinsic spectrum, both of which are subject to same absorption. An unabsorbed scattered component with a fraction of 1\%, a median value of hard X-ray selected local AGNs (1%, a median value of hard X-ray selected local AGNs). Using the HR value, we estimate the corresponding column densities of our sample. From the count rates, both of which are subject to same absorption.

As shown in Figure 2, on the basis of the best-fit \( N_H \), we find that 12 (7) out of the 23 Hy/U/LIRGs are consistent with being obscured (heavily obscured) objects with \( N_H \geq 10^{22} \, (10^{23}) \) cm\(^{-2} \), but please acknowledge the uncertainty of this result given to the large errors in \( N_H \). Notably, several objects including source ID 245 are Compton-thick AGN candidates whose absorptions reach \( \log N_H \sim 24 \) within the uncertainties. The remaining four objects indicate no absorption and are plotted on an arbitrary line (\( \log N_H = 20 \) ) in Figure 2. Because source ID 111 apparently shows no absorption, we infer that this object would be a variable AGN that was fainter in the Chandra or XMM-Newton observations than in the NuSTAR ones. Another possibility is that ID 111 is a heavily obscured AGN but contaminated by the soft, extended source at \( z = 0.22 \) detected with Chandra and XMM-Newton (Civano et al. 2015).

4. DISCUSSION

Using the NuSTAR and Spitzer catalogs in the COSMOS field, we have constructed a new Hy/U/LIRG sample at \( z \sim 0–3 \) detected in both the hard X-ray band in the 3–24 keV and the far-infrared (FIR) band. They are expected to be a key population in understanding the co-evolution of galaxies and SMBHs when the Universe was the most active. On the basis of a relation between their IR and X-ray luminosities, we examine a hidden connection between SF and AGN activities in these galaxies.

4.1. Relations between IR and AGN Luminosities

Figures 3(a) and (b) plot the relations between AGN and IR (8–1000 \( \mu \)m) luminosities of our Hy/U/LIRGs and IR (8–1000 \( \mu \)m) luminosities of our Hy/U/LIRGs. In Figure 3(a) we use the absorption-corrected 2–10 keV AGN luminosities (\( L_X \)) derived in Section 3, while in Figure 3(b) we have converted them into bolometric AGN luminosities (\( L_{\text{AGN}} \)) by adopting luminosity-dependent conversion factors (\( L_{\text{AGN}}/L_X \)) given by Rigby et al. (2009). As shown in Figure 3(a), the X-ray to IR luminosity ratio of our sample is \( \log(L_X/L_{\text{IR}}) \sim -1 \) with a scatter of \( \sim 0.5 \) dex. These ratios are much larger than those of the majority of local ULIRGs (\( -4.5 < \log(L_X/L_{\text{IR}}) < -1.5 \); Teng & Veilleux 2010), and are even larger than the average value of PG QSOs (\( \log(L_X/L_{\text{IR}}) \sim -1.5 \)); Teng & Veilleux 2010) plotted as the grey line in Figure 3(a). This indicates that our Hy/U/LIRG sample are very “X-ray luminous” populations, which are different from typical local ULIRGs. In Figure 3(b), we see that the relation between \( L_{\text{IR}} \) and \( L_{\text{AGN}} \) flattens at high \( L_{\text{AGN}} \), although the trend is not
evident in Figure 3(a). This is mainly because the bolometric correction factor in Rigby et al. (2009) rapidly increases with $L_X$.

The infrared luminosity in the 8–1000 µm band should contain contributions both from relatively cool and hot dust from the SF and AGN activities, respectively, even though these $L_{IR}$ values were derived by Kartaltepe et al. (2010) on the basis of spectral energy distribution (SED) fit with star-forming galaxy templates. Particularly in luminous AGNs, AGN components can significantly contribute to the IR SED even at $\lambda > 8$ µm (e.g., Berta et al. 2003; Vega et al. 2008). Using a 3D Monte-Carlo radiative transfer code with a two-phase clumpy dusty-torus model, Stalevski et al. (2016) calculated the ratio between the predicted IR 1–100 µm luminosity from the torus and the intrinsic AGN luminosity, $L_{torus}/L_{AGN}$, as a function of torus covering factor. According to the AGN population synthesis model by Ueda et al. (2014), the torus covering factor at $z = 1$ is 0.65 and 0.46 for $\log L_{AGN} = 46$ and $\log L_{AGN} = 47$, respectively (see Stalevski et al. 2016). In moderately optically-thick tori ($\tau = 5$ at 9.7 µm), Stalevski et al. (2016) predict that the $L_{torus}/L_{AGN}$ ratio is 0.6 (0.2) and 0.3 (0.1) at $\log L_{AGN} = 46$ and $\log L_{AGN} = 47$, respectively, for type-1 (type-2) AGNs. Considering that about half of $L_{torus}$ is emitted at $\lambda > 8$ µm (Stalevski et al. 2016), the observed $L_{IR}/L_{AGN}$ values of the Hy/U/LIRGs with $\log L_{AGN} \sim 47$ are reasonably consistent with these predictions (i.e., $L_{IR}/L_{AGN} \sim 0.05$–0.15). This means that the AGN contribution to the 8–1000 µm luminosity is significant in these X-ray luminous objects. Accurate separation of the SF and AGN contributions and study of the broadband AGN spectrum requires a detailed analysis of the IR SED, which is beyond the scope of this paper. In the next subsection, we use the FIR luminosity at 60 µm to roughly estimate the SF contribution.

4.2. Relation between SF and AGN Luminosities

In this subsection, we investigate a relation between FIR and AGN bolometric luminosities of our Hy/U/LIRGs to understand their SF-AGN link. As a reliable indicator of SF luminosities, we derive FIR luminosities at 60 µm (source-frame) by inter/extrapolating their IR spectral energy distributions obtained with Spitzer/MIPS at 24, 70, and 160 µm bands (observed frame) compiled by Kartaltepe et al. (2010). Figure 4 plots the relation between 60 µm and AGN luminosities of our sample. As noticed, there is a positive correlation between $L_{60\mu m}$ and $L_{AGN}$. To compare our result with previous studies of optical-selected AGNs, we also plot the $L_{SF}$–$L_{AGN}$ relation of Netzer (2009) in the black line, which was obtained from local Seyfert 2 galaxies and quasars at $2 < z < 3$. We find that the correlation of our Hy/U/LIRGs is similar to that of these optically-selected AGNs.

Netzer (2009) suggested a SF-AGN evolution sequence that is divided into three phases, i.e., a long star-forming phase, an AGN-rising phase, and a cold-gas diminishing phase. In the first phase, the SF activity increases with a low AGN luminosity. This appears as a shift from bottom to top on the $L_{SF}$–$L_{AGN}$ plane. Next, this SF activity causes more fuelling of cold gas onto the central SMBH, and the AGN activity is enhanced by keeping the high SF luminosity. This phase corresponds to a shift from left to right in the plot. As cold gas is consumed with SF and accretion onto the SMBH, both SF and AGN luminosities gradually decrease along the unobscured-AGN relation. We show these schematic sequences as three dotted lines in Figure 3.

According to this scenario, a majority of IR-luminous galaxies would be located above the unobscured-AGN relation of Netzer (2009). In fact, Ichikawa et al. (2014) reported, on the basis of IR spectroscopy, that local U/LIRGs exhibit higher SF luminosities than optically selected Seyfert galaxies with the same AGN luminosities, as shown in open circles in Figure 4. Their result supports that U/LIRGs are situated at the SF-dominated epoch in a SF-AGN evolutionary scenario. By contrast, however, most of our Hy/U/LIRGs follow the same relation of Netzer (2009) and no such SF-dominant objects are detected on the top-left side of the black line in Figure 3.

We suggest that this apparent inconsistency can be explained by selection effects of our sample. In Figure 4, we show the sensitivity limits in terms of 60 µm and AGN luminosities at $z = 0.5$, 1.0, and 1.5, with blue-colored rectangle areas. Here we adopt the MIPS 5σ sensitivities and the NuSTAR detection limit, $5.9 \times 10^{-14}$ erg cm$^{-2}$ s$^{-1}$ in the 3–24 keV band, by assuming an absorption of $\log N_H = 23$. It is seen that the “cross points” of the two sensitivities in the FIR and X-ray bands are coincidently located close to the Netzer (2009) limit. For example, the evolutionary track a in Figure 3 denotes an evolution of a SF-dominant LIRG at $z = 0.5$. Because of the NuSTAR detection limit, $\log L_{AGN} = 45.3$ at $z = 0.5$, we cannot detect LIRGs with fainter X-ray luminosities; undetectable parts are plotted with white dotted lines. Similarly, evolutionary tracks for ULIRGs at
z = 1.0 and HyLIRGs at z = 1.5 are shown as tracks b and c, respectively. On the other hand, while more IR-luminous galaxies with the same AGN luminosities are detectable in terms of the FIR sensitivity, their number density should be smaller and hence it is more difficult to find them within a limited survey volume. Due to these reasons, we are not able to find SF-dominant IR-luminous galaxies as reported by Ichikawa et al. (2014) in our sample. Note that such observational limits can produce an artificial correlation between the AGN and SF luminosities. In order to reveal whether the L_{AGN} - L_{SF} relation is real or not, we need X-ray and IR data with sufficient depths and areas.

As we mentioned in Section 6 source ID 245 has no soft X-ray counterpart with Chandra and XMM-Newton, and shows a high column density of log N_{H} \sim 24. Thus, this is a Compton-thick AGN candidate that was detectable only by using hard X-rays above 8 keV. Although the IR luminosity of this object is relatively low (see Figure 3), the 60 \mu m luminosity is not that low, i.e., log(\lambda L_{60\mu m}/L_{IR}) = 0.64 \pm 0.37. This ratio seems to be higher than the mean ratio (-0.42 \pm 0.21) of the rest of objects, all of which show log(\lambda L_{60\mu m}/L_{IR}) < 0. Note that source ID 245 is detected with MIPS only in the observed frame 24 and 70 \mu m bands, and only has a loose upper limit on the 160 \mu m flux, which is important to constrain the peak luminosity of the FIR dust components around (rest frame) 60 \mu m. Thus, there might be large uncertainties in the estimates of L_{60\mu m} (based on extrapolation from the 24 and 70 \mu m fluxes) and L_{IR} (based on SED fit). Nevertheless, we point out that the slope in the rest frame 11-31 \mu m range is very steep, log(L_{31\mu m}/L_{11\mu m}) \sim 1.2, implying that cool dust is abundant in this galaxy. Therefore, we claim that source ID 245 would be an obscured AGN with violent star formation, in which a huge amount of galactic gas and dust is responsible for the obscuration.

Our result indicates that at least some populations of Hy/U/LIRGs are distributed on the same relation of L_{60\mu m} vs. L_{AGN} plane. We suggest that these Hy/U/LIRGs are possibly in a transition phase where obscured AGNs have been just unveiled to become unobscured ones, corresponding to a stage between the AGN-rising and cold-gas diminishing phases in the SF-AGN evolution scenario. This evolutionary stage would be important to understand the negative feedback from AGN to SF activities.

5. CONCLUSION

To understand the hidden SF-AGN connection of obscured AGNs, we matched Spitzer-selected galaxies against NaSTAR sources in the COSMOS field. As the result, we obtain 23 Hy/U/LIRGs (i.e., a HyLIRG, 12 ULIRGs, and 10 LIRGs) with hard X-ray (3-24 keV) detections. By using their X-ray hardness ratios, we estimate their absorption column densities and intrinsic AGN luminosities. Then, we investigated their relation between SF and AGN luminosities. The main results are summarized as follows.

1. We found that our Hy/U/LIRGs are intrinsically quiescent X-ray luminous with respect to the IR (8-1000 \mu m) luminosity, log(L_{X}/L_{IR}) \sim -1, as compared with local ULIRGs and PG QSOs. The contribution from AGN-heated hot dust to the IR luminosity is significant in the luminous AGNs.

2. We found an apparent positive trend between SF and AGN luminosities of our Hy/U/LIRGs, which is similar to that of optically-selected AGNs (Netzer 2009). This implies that our X-ray detected Hy/U/LIRGs are likely in a transition phase between obscured and unobscured AGNs.

To investigate heavily-obscured Hy/U/LIRGs in a SF-rising epoch at distant universe, which should be crucial to understand the whole picture of SF-AGN relation, deeper hard X-ray survey data covering above 8 keV would be required.

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