NEAR INFRARED SPECTROSCOPY AND THE SEARCH FOR CO EMISSION IN 3 EXTREMELY LUMINOUS IRAS SOURCES

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Rest-frame 0.48–1.1 µm emission line strengths and molecular gas mass (H₂) upper limits for three luminous infrared sources – the hyperluminous infrared galaxies (HyLIGs: $L_{\rm ir} \geq 10^{13}L_{\odot}$ where $L_{\rm ir} \sim L(8-1000\mu{\rm m})$ IRAS F09105+4108 (z = 0.4417), IRAS F15307+3252 (z = 0.926), and the optically-selected QSO PG 1634+706 (z = 1.338) – are presented. Diagnostic emission-line ratios ([O III] λ 5007/H β , [S II] λ 6724/H α , [N II] λ 6583/H α , and [S III] $\lambda\lambda$ 9069+9532/H α) indicate a Seyfert 2-like spectrum for both infrared galaxies, consistent with previously published work. Upper limits on the molecular gas mass for all three sources are $M({\rm H}_2) < 1-3 \times 10^{10} h^{-2} M_{\odot}$ ($q_0 = 0.5, H_0 = 100h {\rm km s}^{-1} {\rm Mpc}^{-1}$), less than the H₂ mass of the most gas-rich infrared galaxies in the local Universe. All three sources have $L_{\rm ir}/L'_{\rm CO} \sim 1300 - 2000$, the most extreme values for extragalactic sources measured to date. Given the relatively warm far-infrared colors for all three objects, much of their infrared luminosity may emanate from a relatively small quantity of hot dust near an AGN.