Baryon acoustic peak reconstruction in WiggleZ

Chris Blake (Swinburne)

The WiggleZ Dark Energy Survey



- 1000 sq deg , 0.2 < z < 1.0
- 200,000 redshifts
- blue star-forming galaxies
- Aug 2006 Jan 2011

Survey design

- Follow up UV-selected sources from GALEX imaging
- Colour cuts select highredshift galaxies
- Star-forming galaxies : redshifts from emission lines, SFR 10-100 solar masses per year
- Short I-hr exposures maximize numbers with 70% redshift completeness



Line fluxes

- Mean [OII] line flux
 = 3 x 10⁻¹⁶ erg/s/cm²
- Detect some at the I x 10⁻¹⁶ level



Redshift distribution



Ζ

Standard ruler : baryon acoustic peak



- Preferred co-moving separation of 105 h⁻¹ Mpc between clumps imprinted at recombination
- We observe a preferred angular separation between galaxies at some redshift
- Allows distance determination by simple geometry



BAO Hubble diagram



BAO Hubble diagram



BAO Hubble diagram



WiggleZ cosmology results



Reconstruction of the acoustic peak

- Baryon acoustic peak is blurred by movement of galaxies over the age of the Universe
- Reconstruction uses the observed density field to approximately compute these motions
- Galaxies are shifted to their near-original positions, sharpening peak and improving standard ruler accuracy
- WiggleZ dataset provides an application with relatively low completeness and high shot noise

Reconstruction of the acoustic peak



Padmanabhan et al. (2012)

Reconstruction works for WiggleZ !





Reconstruction works for WiggleZ !



Reconstruction works for WiggleZ !

Kazin et al. (2014)



Mock catalogues

- Determine data covariance (e.g. after reconstruction) using many (hundreds?) realizations
- Test model fits for systematic errors (e.g. due to nonlinear effects)
- End-to-end survey pipelines to calibrate effects from fibre collisions, redshift blunders, etc.
- Very demanding task for full N-body simulations
- Explore approximation techniques (e.g. 2LPT, COLA) for low-mass galaxies

Mock catalogues

Tassev et al. (2013)



Mock catalogues

• Halo clustering matches full N-body and data



Summary

- Baryon acoustic peak measurements will continue to be important for testing the cosmological model
- Reconstruction is now a mature technique offering significant improvements in the results
- WiggleZ analysis demonstrates that reconstruction can be effective in sparse / incomplete samples
- Emission-line galaxy mocks can be constructed using Comoving Lagrangian Acceleration (COLA) methods