# Baryon Acoustic Oscillations and Dark Energy

### Bruce Bassett (AIMS/SAAO/UCT)



# How far have we come since my first cosmology school?





Evolution of the Hubble Diagram 1996-2009





## THE CMB



L(l+1) C<sub>l</sub>



L(l+1) C<sub>l</sub>







L(l+1) C



## COBE QMASK BOOMERanG MAXIMA 9 P 6 ф ቅ 10 100 1000 2

L(l+1) C



L(l+1) C





L((+1) C

COBE QMASK BOOMERanG MAXIMA **CBI 03** WMAP-5 10 2 100 1000

Did not show **SPT** ACT BICEP TOCO ACBAR VSA **SASKATOON ARCHEOPS** DASI **PYTHON** FIRS Tenerife **OVRO SUZIE** AMI ATCA etc...







Ocular Trauma - by Wade Clarke ©2005



## Overview of this lecture

- Power spectra
- Origins, uses & measurements of BAO
- Statistical Standard Rulers
- Targets for BAO surveys
- Some Complications
- Photometric vs spectroscopic BAO surveys



## The power spectrum

•  $P(k) = \langle |\delta_k|^2 \rangle$  where  $\delta_k$  is the Fourier transform of the density contrast

$$\boldsymbol{\delta}_{k} = \boldsymbol{\delta}_{k} | \boldsymbol{\cdot} e^{i\boldsymbol{\theta}_{k}}$$

- Note there is no phase information,  $\theta_k$ , in the power spectrum
- P(k) contains all information about  $\delta(x,t)$  if it is Gaussian distributed

## Where is the information?

- The power spectrum actually contains relatively little information in our everyday life...
- Most of the information is in the phases,  $\theta_{k}$ ...
- (Except in cosmology where the power spectrum is much more important)



M.S. Bartlett, J. R. Movellan, T. J. Sejnowski, IEEE 2002

## Some examples of images and their P(k)







# On small (nonlinear) scales phase is important though...



*Figure 1.* Numerical simulation of galaxy clustering (left) together with a version generated randomly reshuffling the phases between Fourier modes of the original picture (right).

#### Coles 2002

## We will look for the BAO in P(k)

# ...but what is the origin of the BAO?

Bruce Bassett (SAAO/UCT)

## 3D Green's Function for $\Phi$



Bashinsky and Bertschinger, 2001



## Real Space Transfer Function



Bruce Bassett (SAAO/UCT)

## Evolution of a Spherical Overdensity

White, Eisenstein, Seo

### **Baryon Density**

#### Photon Density

#### Mass Profiles



### Baryon Density

### Photon Density

#### Mass Profiles







#### Baryon Density Photon Density Mass Profiles 200 - 200 1 1 4 4 1 1 4 4 1 1 100 150 200 - 200 100 -200 -100 100 -100 200 2103 0 0 •

#### Baryon Density Photon Density Mass Profiles 200 0.8 0 -200 - 700 -200 100 -200 -100 100 -100 a 700 0 700 50 150 200 100 • ٠ ۰

## Baryon Acoustic Peak



Bruce Bassett (SAAO/UCT)



# 2-point Correlation function $\xi$

So we expect to see an increase in  $\xi(r)$  at  $r \sim 150 Mpc$ 



WiggleZ, Blake et al, 2011


2 minute Exercise: Compute the size of the BAO scale today

• i.e. Derive the BAO scale of 150 Mpc to within a factor of two



Bruce Bassett (SAAO/UCT)

BAO













#### Statistical Standard Rulers



#### Where are the oscillations in BAO?



Eisenstein et al.

Tegmark et al.



# BAP Detection Is Hard!

- Consider a typical Luminous Red Galaxy (LRG). How many LRGs do we expect in a BAP shell around it?
- $n \sim 10^{-4} h^3 Mpc^{-3}$
- Volume = 20 Mpc x 100<sup>2</sup> Mpc<sup>2</sup> x 5 ~ 10<sup>6</sup> h<sup>-3</sup> Mpc<sup>3</sup>
  → 100 LRGs from purely uniform distribution
- BAP in  $\xi(r)$  gives ~1% excess probability
- So gives a *single extra LRG* on average.
- Need lots of volume and large numbers of galaxies...so we can see the extra galaxy on average!

#### Power Spectrum Errors



*m* = number of Fourier modes measured in the survey *n* = mean galaxy number density in the survey





#### Shot Noise



#### Shot Noise











2200 x Volume Fixed 50k points

# Optimal Survey Design

- What is the optimal sampling of a page of text?
- Depends what information you want.
- E.g. what language it is written in...
- E.g. what page layout is being used...
- Trade-off between the two...
- $nP \sim 1-5$  is typically optimal
- Chat to Marina!





## Fun Exercise



- In groups of 2 or alone write pseudo-code to compute the spherically averaged  $\xi(r)$  for the original SDSS DR3 data (available from me)
- Data is RA, DEC, z, weights
- Easiest to use the simple estimator  $1 + \xi = DD/RR$
- The random catalogue is big ( $\sim 10^6$  points)

#### Thanks to Dan Eisenstein

#### DATA From Dan Eisenstein

- <u>http://dl.dropbox.com/u/8961705/SDSS\_LRG\_BAO\_exercise/</u> readme\_SDSS\_LRG\_BAO (http://tinyurl.com/4ypwsvq)
- <u>http://dl.dropbox.com/u/8961705/SDSS\_LRG\_BAO\_exercise/</u> readme.LRG (http://tinyurl.com/3k4mbrs)
- <u>http://dl.dropbox.com/u/8961705/SDSS\_LRG\_BAO\_exercise/</u> <u>Random\_sample14.212\_232.z16\_47.gz</u> (http://tinyurl.com/3sbf5ot)
- <u>http://dl.dropbox.com/u/8961705/SDSS\_LRG\_BAO\_exercise/</u> <u>lrg\_sample14.212\_232.z16\_47.gz</u> (http://tinyurl.com/3wo6945)

What choice of target should one use for BAO?

#### Luminous Red Galaxies (LRGs)





# (Statistical) Standard Rulers



# Beyond spherical averaging

- In the SDSS exercise you computed the spherical average of  $\xi(r)$  to give an average distance  $D_{V}$ .
- With enough data we can do much better than that however...

### The Beauty of Standard Volumes



## BAO and AP

- If we *only* know the volume is *spherical*, then we constrain the product *H(z) d<sub>A</sub>(z)* (the Alcock-Paczynski (AP) test)
- If we also know the *absolute* sizes in both radial and tangential directions (like with BAO), we constrain both  $d_A(z)$  and H(z) separately.
- BAO thus provide an *absolute* AP test.

$$d_A(z) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{-\Omega_k}(1+z)} \sin\left(\sqrt{-\Omega_k} \int_0^z \frac{H_0}{H(z')} dz'\right)$$

Bruce Bassett (SAAO/UCT)

BAO





# "Standard" is a Crucial Ingredient of Standard Rulers

# BAO have provided the *first* ever low-z cosmic distance measure based on *linear* physics


# Complications

A man falls from a window and on the way down someone asks...``*how's it going*''?

The man replies: "So far so good!"

Cosmological Methods are similar – they have a free-fall zone and a hard, systematic "floor" where things get tough

# BAO and Nonlinearity

Linear Prediction



Bruce Bassett (AIMS/SAAO/UCT)











# Calibrating Nonlinearity

- Although it is (weakly) nonlinear, gravity is still quite clean (compare turbulent MHD in strong gravitational field)
- Good reasons to believe the nonlinear effects can be calibrated at the 1% level for BAO/BAP
- Still needs more theoretical and numerical study

#### Photometric BAO Surveys

It is tempting to want to just do an imaging survey instead of taking spectra

Photometric BAO surveys primarily sacrifice H(z) information and need much larger volume to compete.

#### Photometric surveys

- Do we have to take spectra? This is slow and expensive...
- If we don't need accurate redshifts we can do multi-band imaging and compute photometric redshifts instead
- This works by learning how the colours depend on redshift (as emission/absorption features move through the filters)



Flux (arbitrary units) For an LRG spectrum And SDSS Filter Transmission curves



















#### 5 minute exercise: photometric redshifts

- Given two non-overlapping, but contiguous tophat filters of width Δλ and perfect transmission, covering the range 5000-9000Å, work out the ratio of fluxes in the two bands as a function of z, for a crude approximation to an LRG spectrum consisting of two flat continuum regions with flux f<sub>1</sub>, f<sub>2</sub> separated by a step at 4000Å.
- How does the width of the filter determine the photo-z accuracy?

### BAO and photo-z errors



Bruce Bassett (SAAO/UCT)

# Increasing Photo-z Error



Bruce Bassett (AIMS/SAAO/UCT)

BAO

# Increasing Photo-z Error



Bruce Bassett (AIMS/SAAO/UCT)

BAO

# Increasing Photo-z Error



Bruce Bassett (AIMS/SAAO/UCT)

BAO



#### Benitez et al



#### The Future for BAO

- DES
- BOSS
- BigBOSS
- LSST
- EUCLID
- WFIRST
- SKA and other 21cm

## Conclusions

- BAO/BAP measurements are arguably the cleanest probe of cosmic expansion we have
- They can provide both distance,  $d_A(z)$  and expansion rate, H(z)
- There is a systematic floor beyond which nonlinearities, nonlinear bias, redshift distortions etc... must be carefully included but these also provide exciting opportunities if we can understand them fully...