

The WiggleZ Dark Energy Survey: small-scale clustering of Lyman-break galaxies at $z < 1$

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ABSTRACT

The WiggleZ Dark Energy Survey is a large-scale structure survey of intermediate-redshift ultraviolet-selected (UV-selected) emission-line galaxies scheduled to cover 1000 deg², spanning a broad redshift range $0.2 < z < 1.0$. The main scientific goal of the survey is the measurement of baryon acoustic oscillations (BAO) in the galaxy clustering pattern at a significantly higher redshift than previous studies. The BAO may be applied as a standard cosmological ruler to constrain dark energy models. Based on the first 20 per cent of the data set, we present initial results concerning the small-scale clustering of the WiggleZ targets, together with survey forecasts. The WiggleZ galaxy population possesses a clustering length $r_0 = 4.40 \pm 0.12 h^{-1}$ Mpc, which is significantly larger than $z = 0$ UV-selected samples, with a slope $\gamma = 1.92 \pm 0.08$. This clustering length is comparable to $z = 3$ Lyman-break galaxies with similar UV luminosities. The clustering strength of the sample increases with optical luminosity, UV luminosity and reddening rest-frame colour. The full survey, scheduled for completion in 2010, will map an effective volume $V_{\text{eff}} \approx 1 \text{ Gpc}^3$ (evaluated at a scale $k = 0.15 h \text{ Mpc}^{-1}$) and will measure the angular diameter distance and Hubble expansion rates in three redshift bins with accuracies of ≈ 5 per cent. We will determine the value of a constant dark energy equation-of-state parameter, w_{cons} , with a higher precision than existing supernovae observations using an entirely independent technique. The WiggleZ and supernova measurements lie in highly complementary directions in the plane of w_{cons} and the matter density Ω_m . The forecast using the full combination of WiggleZ, supernova and cosmic microwave background (CMB) data sets is a marginalized error $\Delta w_{\text{cons}} = 0.07$, providing a robust and precise measurement of the properties of dark energy including cross-checking of systematic errors.

Key words: surveys – galaxies: starburst – cosmology: observations – large-scale structure of Universe.

1 INTRODUCTION

The large-scale structure of the Universe is one of the pillars of our modern understanding of cosmology, encoding information about the contents and evolution of the Universe, the physics of the growth

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of density fluctuations with time, and the formation and evolution of galaxies within the underlying network of dark matter haloes. In particular, the large-scale clustering pattern of galaxies is sensitive to the properties of the cosmic dark energy component which is currently poorly understood. Dark energy influences both the rate of growth of structure and the geometrical distance–redshift relations. One of the cleanest probes of dark energy is to delineate as a function of redshift the apparent tangential and radial size of the baryon acoustic oscillation (BAO) scale, a known ‘standard ruler’ preferred separation imprinted into the galaxy distribution (Cooray et al. 2001; Eisenstein 2002; Blake & Glazebrook 2003; Hu & Haiman 2003; Linder 2003; Seo & Eisenstein 2003; Glazebrook & Blake 2005). This cosmological probe is helping to motivate a new generation of massive spectroscopic galaxy surveys.

Cosmic structure has been mapped out by a succession of galaxy redshift surveys of increasing size and depth. The local Universe (redshifts $z < 0.2$) has been studied in exquisite detail by the two-degree Field Galaxy Redshift Survey (2dFGRS; Colless et al. 2001) and the Sloan Digital Sky Survey (SDSS; York et al. 2000). The SDSS Luminous Red Galaxy component extended this programme to a mean redshift $z \approx 0.35$ using a specific type of tracer galaxy (Eisenstein et al. 2001). Indeed, the cosmological conclusions reached should be independent of the galaxy type used, given that the ‘bias’ with which galaxies trace the underlying dark matter fluctuations is expected to be a simple linear function on large scales (Coles 1993; Scherrer & Weinberg 1998). In this sense, the choice of the ‘tracer population’ of galaxies can be determined by observational considerations, such as telescope exposure times, the availability of input imaging data for target selection and secondary science goals.

The WiggleZ Dark Energy Survey, using the AAOmega multi-object spectrograph at the 3.9-m Anglo-Australian Telescope (AAT), is designed as the next leap forwards in redshift coverage, targeting the range $0.2 < z < 1.0$. The survey is scheduled to cover a sky area of 1000 deg^2 , mapping a cosmic volume $V \sim 1 \text{ Gpc}^3$ sufficient to measure the imprint of baryon oscillations in the clustering pattern at a significantly higher redshift than has been previously achieved by 2dFGRS (Cole et al. 2005; Percival et al. 2007) and SDSS (Eisenstein et al. 2005; Huesti 2006; Percival et al. 2007; Gaztanaga et al. 2008). The survey redshift range is motivated by the optimal redshift location for testing a cosmological constant model in a spatially flat universe (Parkinson et al. 2007), which is the sensible initial hypothesis to reject in the dark energy parameter space. The target galaxy population is bright emission-line galaxies selected from ultraviolet (UV) imaging by the *Galaxy Evolution Explorer* (GALEX) satellite (Martin et al. 2005). This choice is motivated by the short (1-h) exposure times required to obtain redshifts at the AAT. The survey commenced in 2006 August and is scheduled to finish in 2010 July, using the equivalent of 165 clear nights of telescope time (220 awarded nights). Secondary science goals involve the study of star formation and galaxy evolution as a function of redshift and environment.

In this initial study we focus on the small-scale clustering properties of the first 20 per cent of the WiggleZ sample. The clustering strength is an important parameter in the survey design and cosmological parameter forecasts: the signal-to-noise ratio with which we can recover the galaxy power spectrum depends on the bias of the galaxies with respect to the dark matter fluctuations, which affects the balance between sample variance and shot noise in the power spectrum error budget. These initial clustering measurements allow us to determine the bias parameter and complete the survey forecast.

Furthermore, the joint UV–optical selection in the redshift interval $0.2 < z < 1$ places the WiggleZ survey in an interesting location in the parameter space of galaxy evolution. In this context, the clustering strength of a set of galaxies provides a direct indication of the density of the environment or (equivalently) the typical mass of the dark matter haloes hosting the galaxies. The clustering strength of UV-selected samples has been studied at low redshift $z \approx 0$ (Heinis et al. 2007; Milliard et al. 2007) and the corresponding rest-frame samples have been selected at much higher redshift $z \approx 3$ through studies of the clustering of Lyman-break galaxies (LBGs; e.g. Giavalisco & Dickinson 2001; Ouchi et al. 2001; Arnouts et al. 2002; Foucaud et al. 2003; Adelberger et al. 2005; Allen et al. 2005; Ouchi et al. 2005; Lee et al. 2006; Yoshida et al. 2008). The WiggleZ survey samples a redshift range which is intermediate to these previous studies. Moreover, the clustering strength of optically selected star-forming galaxies at high redshift has been studied over small areas by the Deep Extragalactic Evolutionary Probe (DEEP2) project (Coil et al. 2008) and the VIMOS VLT Deep Survey (VVDS; Meneux et al. 2006). WiggleZ is mapping an area ~ 100 times larger, and is therefore able to measure accurately the clustering strength of the most luminous star-forming galaxies, for which these smaller surveys are limited by small-number statistics and sample variance.

The backdrop to these studies is the recent concept of ‘down-sizing’ (Cowie et al. 1996; Glazebrook et al. 2004; van Dokkum et al. 2004) whereby the stars in more massive galaxies appear to have formed earlier, and the typical mass of the most actively star-forming galaxies is expected to decrease with time. A recent study of LBGs (Yoshida et al. 2008) has emphasized the importance of studying the clustering segregation with both UV and optical luminosities, which crudely trace ongoing star formation rate and stellar mass, respectively. WiggleZ is well suited for undertaking such studies over the redshift range $0.2 < z < 1.0$.

The plan of this paper is as follows. In Section 2 we introduce the WiggleZ survey strategy and target selection and describe the data sample used in this paper. In Section 3 we describe the methodology used to produce the small-scale clustering measurement including the generation of random (unclustered) realizations of the data set with the correct selection functions and redshift completeness map. We also explain how we derive the statistical error in the clustering measurement. We present the clustering results in Section 4 (split by redshift, absolute magnitude and rest-frame colour) together with initial comparisons to other studies. Section 5 contains the cosmological parameter forecasts for the full WiggleZ survey, and Section 6 summarizes our conclusions. When converting redshifts to comoving coordinates we assume a spatially flat universe with cosmological parameters $\Omega_m = 0.3$ and $\Omega_\Lambda = 0.7$.

2 DATA

The design and implementation of the WiggleZ Dark Energy Survey will be fully described in a forthcoming ‘survey paper’ (Drinkwater et al., in preparation) which will accompany our mid-term data release. We include a brief outline here both for ease of reference and to emphasize the key points relevant to the small-scale clustering analysis.

2.1 WiggleZ survey strategy

The WiggleZ survey strategy is to harvest low signal-to-noise ratio spectra of a large number of UV-selected emission-line galaxies in relatively short exposure times (1-h integrations at the AAT). The survey tolerates a relatively low-redshift completeness of 70 per cent but generates a large statistical sample of galaxy redshifts. The

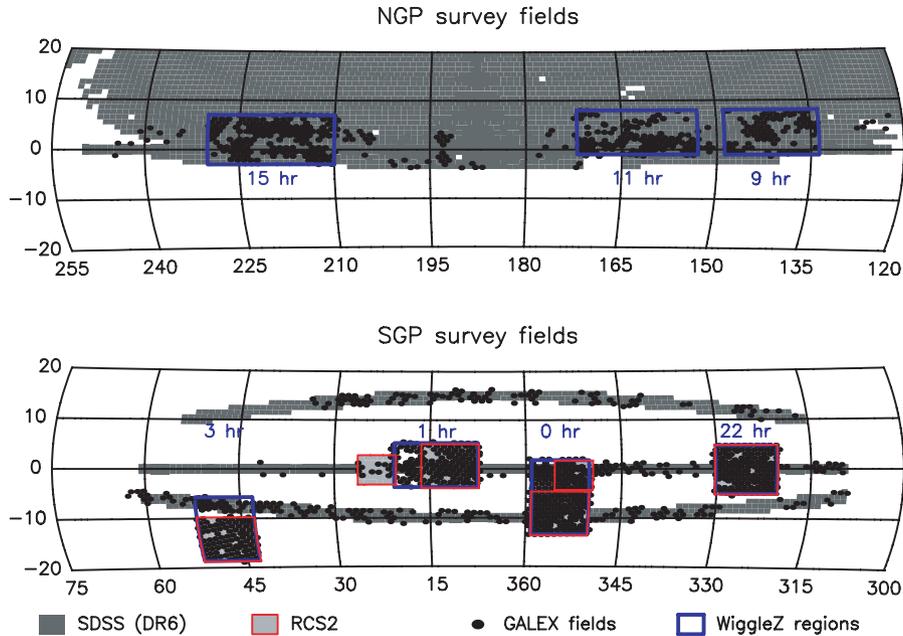


Figure 1. The sky distribution of the seven WiggleZ survey regions compared to the coverage of the SDSS, RCS2 and *GALEX* Medium Imaging Survey at the end of 2008.

survey goal is to cover 1000 deg^2 of the equatorial sky, gathering $\sim 350\,000$ spectra of which $\sim 245\,000$ are expected to yield successful redshifts. The survey was designed such that the average galaxy number density n is related to the amplitude of the galaxy clustering power spectrum P_{gal} on the relevant baryon oscillation scales by $n \sim 1/P_{\text{gal}}$, implying that the contributions of sample variance and shot noise to the clustering error are equal. This is the optimal survey strategy for fixed number of galaxies.

The WiggleZ survey area, illustrated in Fig. 1, is split into seven equatorial regions to facilitate year-round observing. We require that each region should possess a minimum angular dimension of $\sim 10^\circ$, corresponding to a spatial comoving scale that exceeds by at least a factor of 2 the standard ruler preferred scale [which projects to (8:5, 4:6, 3:2, 2:6) at $z = (0.25, 0.5, 0.75, 1.0)$]. The survey coverage within individual regions should also be highly (>70 per cent) contiguous, otherwise the significance of the detection of the acoustic features is degraded by convolution with the survey window function. The survey duration is forecast to be ~ 165 clear nights between 2006 August and 2010 July, using the multi-object capability of the 2dF positioner system coupled to the AAOmega spectrographs (Saunders et al. 2004; Sharp et al. 2006).

Galaxy redshifts are obtained from the bright emission lines associated with star-forming galaxies, in particular redshifted [O II] 3727 \AA , H β 4861 \AA and [O III] $4959, 5007 \text{ \AA}$. Low-resolution (5 \AA FWHM) spectra are obtained spanning the (observed-frame) wavelength range $5500\text{--}9500 \text{ \AA}$, hence the majority of successful redshifts in the range $z < 0.95$ are confirmed by multiple emission lines. Single-line redshifts are almost invariably [O II], for which we usually resolve the doublet in the range $z > 0.8$, increasing our confidence in the line identification. Redshifts are obtained by visual inspection of each spectrum using the interactive software tool ‘runz’, and are classified by a quality flag $1 \leq Q \leq 5$, where the range $Q \geq 3$ denotes a ‘reliable’ redshift (see Colless et al. 2001). The fraction of stellar contamination is very small (<1 per cent) and we find a similarly low fraction of high-redshift quasar interlopers. The galaxy continuum is typically detected with low signal-to-noise ratio (an average of $S/N \sim 1$ per resolution element).

2.2 WiggleZ survey target selection

WiggleZ targets are chosen by a joint UV–optical selection. The primary selection data set is the Medium Imaging Survey undertaken by the *GALEX* UV satellite, which provides typical exposure times of 1500 seconds in two filter bands, *FUV* ($1350\text{--}1750 \text{ \AA}$) and *NUV* ($1750\text{--}2750 \text{ \AA}$). The *GALEX* point spread function is too broad to allow for accurate placement of the spectrograph optical fibres, therefore the UV imaging is cross-matched with optical data. For our NGP regions, the SDSS imaging data are used. For our SGP regions, the SDSS 2:5 stripes are too narrow compared to the preferred baryon oscillation scale hence we use imaging data from the second Red Cluster Sequence (RCS2) project instead (Yee et al. 2007). Sources are cross-matched between the *GALEX* and optical catalogues with a matching tolerance of 2.5 arcsec (which produces a negligible fraction of incorrect matches). In each imaging data set, the majority of galaxies possess relatively low signal-to-noise ratio ($S/N = 3\text{--}5$) but their detection in both data sets ensures a robust sample. We note that acquisition of our eventual requirement of ~ 1250 *GALEX* orbits of data is still ongoing. About 70 per cent of this total had been obtained at the end of 2008.

Targets are chosen from the UV–optical matched sample using a series of magnitude and colour cuts. These cuts are tuned to optimize the fraction of targets lying at high redshift $z > 0.5$. First the galaxy magnitudes are dereddened using standard dust corrections based on the local value of $E(B - V)$ measured from the Schlegel, Finkbeiner & Davis (1998) dust maps. The primary *GALEX* selection criterion is a red *FUV* – *NUV* colour ($FUV - NUV > 1$ or *FUV* dropout), motivated by the Lyman break passing through the *FUV* filter for $z > 0.5$, and tuned by looking at galaxy templates. At the depth of the Medium Imaging Survey this colour is noisy, resulting in a significant amount of contamination by low-redshift ($z < 0.5$) galaxies which are partially removed by the additional cuts described below. We also impose a faint UV magnitude limit $NUV < 22.8$ and an additional signal-to-noise ratio requirement $S/N > 3$ for the detected NUV flux (which becomes relevant for fields with unusually high dust content or low exposure time). The

GALEX field of view is circular with radius ~ 0.6 ; we only select sources within the central 0.55 because of concerns over the photometry at the edge of the field.

Our primary optical selection cuts are derived from SDSS r -band imaging. We require a UV–optical colour in the range $-0.5 < NUV - r < 2$ based on the expected model tracks of star-forming galaxies. We impose a bright r -band limit $20 < r < 22.5$; the UV–optical colour cut implies that the median optical magnitude of our targets is $r \sim 21.5$. Finally we increase the high-redshift efficiency by introducing optical colour cuts. Different cuts are used for the SDSS and RCS2 regions, governed by the available imaging bands and depths. For the SDSS regions analysed in this paper, we apply cuts for those (brighter) galaxies with good detections in the SDSS g and i bands. Specifically, for targets with $g < 22.5$ and $i < 21.5$ we reject galaxies in the colour space defined by $r - i < g - r - 0.1$ and $r - i < 0.4$ which is occupied by low-redshift galaxies both theoretically and empirically (more details will be given in Drinkwater et al., in preparation). The final fraction of $z > 0.5$ galaxies obtained is ≈ 70 per cent. The redshift distribution is displayed in Fig. 2.

An average of three to four pointings of the 2dF spectrograph per patch of sky is required in order to achieve the required target density of 350 deg^{-2} . For any observing run the optimal placement of field centres (based on the current availability of targets) is achieved using the ‘Metropolis’ (simulated annealing) algorithm (Campbell, Saunders & Colless 2004). Galaxies are prioritized for spectroscopic follow-up on the basis of optical r -band magnitude, in the sense that fainter targets are observed first. The motivation for this strategy is to combat the potential inefficiency of ‘mopping up’ residual galaxies in the final pointing for any patch of sky: the brighter remaining galaxies can be observed in a shorter exposure time by configuring fewer fibres.

2.3 WiggleZ 2008 data sample

In this paper we analyse the subset of the WiggleZ sample assembled from our first observations in 2006 August up until the end of the 08A semester (2008 July). At this point we had utilized 108 of our allocated nights, of which the equivalent of 70 nights were clear. The available galaxy data base included $\approx 97\,000$ reliable ($Q \geq 3$) WiggleZ unique galaxy redshifts.

In this analysis we only use those galaxies lying in the SDSS regions of our optical imaging because work is still ongoing on the

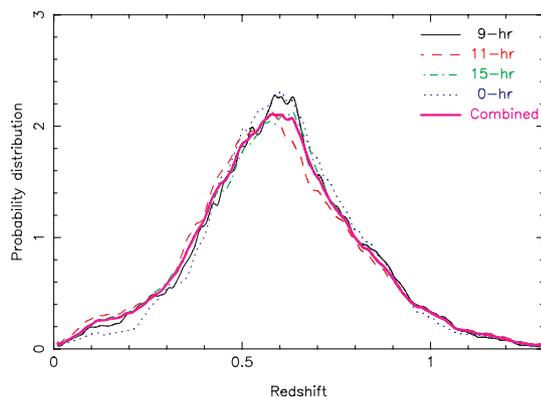


Figure 2. The redshift probability distribution of WiggleZ targets with reliable redshifts in the four survey regions analysed in this paper (normalized such that $\int P(z) dz = 1$). We plot cubic spline fits to the redshift distribution. We also show the result for the combined regions as the thicker line.

RCS2 portion of the angular selection function. Specifically, we include the WiggleZ 9-, 11-, 15- and 0-h (SDSS) regions illustrated in Fig. 1. The number of existing AAOmega pointings in these regions is (42, 98, 140, 48). The numbers of galaxies in each region with reliable redshifts satisfying the final survey selection criteria are (5782, 14873, 21629, 4383), constituting a total sample of $N = 46\,667$ for this initial analysis (about 20 per cent of the final sample).

3 ANALYSIS

3.1 Correlation function estimator

We quantify the small-scale clustering of the galaxy distribution using a standard set of techniques based on the two-point correlation function. This statistic compares the number of observed close galaxy pairs to that expected by random chance, as a function of spatial separation. The key requirement is an ensemble of random (unclustered) realizations of the survey possessing the same selection function as the observed galaxy distribution. With this in place we convert the data (D) and random (R) galaxy angle–redshift distributions into a grid of comoving coordinates (x, y, z) using an assumed cosmological model (we use a flat model with $\Omega_m = 0.3$). We then bin the number of data–data (DD), data–random (DR) and random–random (RR) pairs in the 2D space of separation perpendicular to the line of sight (denoted by σ) and parallel to the line of sight (denoted by π). This decomposition is motivated by the influence of galaxy peculiar velocities (redshift-space distortions) which shift galaxies in π , but not in σ . Each of our random realizations contains the same number of targets as the data sample, and is generated by a method described below. The pair counts DR and RR are determined by averaging over 10 random realizations.

The 2D redshift-space correlation function $\xi_z(\sigma, \pi)$ is derived using the estimator proposed by Landy & Szalay (1993):

$$\xi_z(\sigma, \pi) = \frac{DD(\sigma, \pi) - 2DR(\sigma, \pi) + RR(\sigma, \pi)}{RR(\sigma, \pi)} \quad (1)$$

(where this last equation assumes an equal number of data and random galaxies). We bin galaxy pairs by the absolute value of the line-of-sight separation, i.e. $\pi \equiv |\pi|$. The ‘real-space’ correlation function (independent of the redshift-space distortion) can be obtained by summing equation (1) over π . We first define the projected correlation function $\Xi(\sigma)$ (Davis & Peebles 1983):

$$\Xi(\sigma) = 2 \sum_{\pi=0}^{\infty} \xi_z(\sigma, \pi) \Delta\pi, \quad (2)$$

where the factor of 2 extrapolates the result to the full range $-\infty < \pi < \infty$. If we assume that the real-space correlation function ξ_r is well described by a power law $\xi_r(r) = (r_0/r)^\gamma$, where r_0 is the clustering length, γ is the slope and $r = \sqrt{\sigma^2 + \pi^2}$, and if we neglect the coherent infall velocities described below, we can then derive

$$\xi_r(r) = \frac{\Xi(r)}{r C_\gamma}, \quad (3)$$

where

$$C_\gamma = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (1 + u^2)^{-\gamma/2} du = \frac{\Gamma(\frac{1}{2})\Gamma(\frac{\gamma-1}{2})}{\Gamma(\frac{\gamma}{2})}. \quad (4)$$

The difficulty with this method is that the measurement of $\xi_z(\sigma, \pi)$ becomes noisy for large π and therefore the summation in equation (2) must be truncated at some $\pi = \pi_{\max}$, invalidating

equation (3). We therefore adopted the following approach (similar to the methodology of Coil et al. 2008) to convert a model real-space correlation function $\xi_r(r) = (r_0/r)^\gamma$ into a projected correlation function which may be compared with the data. In the linear regime, the effect of coherent infalling velocities on the correlation function can be modelled by

$$\xi_z(\sigma, \pi) = \xi_0(r)P_0(\mu) + \xi_2(r)P_2(\mu) + \xi_4(r)P_4(\mu), \quad (5)$$

where $P_\ell(\mu)$ are the Legendre polynomials, $\mu = \cos\theta$ and θ is the angle between r and π . For a power-law real-space correlation function,

$$\xi_0(r) = \left(1 + \frac{2\beta}{3} + \frac{\beta^2}{5}\right) \xi_r(r), \quad (6)$$

$$\xi_2(r) = \left(\frac{4\beta}{3} + \frac{4\beta^2}{7}\right) \left(\frac{\gamma}{\gamma-3}\right) \xi_r(r), \quad (7)$$

$$\xi_4(r) = \frac{8\beta^2}{35} \left[\frac{\gamma(2+\gamma)}{(3-\gamma)(5-\gamma)}\right] \xi_r(r), \quad (8)$$

where $\beta \approx \Omega_m(z)^{0.55}/b$ is the redshift-space distortion parameter (Hamilton 1992; Hawkins et al. 2003) and b is the linear galaxy bias parameter. We assumed $\beta = 0.6$ for this model, consistent with our measurements (see Section 4.3), and for each set of trial values (r_0, γ) we employed the above set of equations to calculate $\xi_z(\sigma, \pi)$. For each value of σ we then integrated this function in the π direction up to $\pi = \pi_{\max}$ in order to compare with the correlation function measurements. We assumed $\pi_{\max} = 20 h^{-1}$ Mpc, and we checked that our results did not depend sensitively on the value of π_{\max} .

We treated each of the four survey regions independently, measuring the correlation function and corresponding error. We then constructed the ‘combined’ correlation function by averaging the measurements in the four regions with inverse-variance weighting.

For convenience, we plot projected correlation functions in this paper as $\Xi(\sigma)/(\sigma C_{\gamma,\text{reduced}}) \propto (r_0/\sigma)^\gamma$, where

$$C_{\gamma,\text{reduced}} = \int_{-\sigma/\pi_{\max}}^{\sigma/\pi_{\max}} (1+u^2)^{-1/2} du. \quad (9)$$

3.2 Selection function

We now discuss the generation of the random survey realizations that are required for calculation of the correlation function. This determination of the survey ‘selection function’ will be described fully in a forthcoming paper (Blake et al., in preparation) and we give a brief summary here.

The calculation begins with the angular selection function of the ‘parent’ sample of UV–optical matches. This function is defined firstly by the boundaries of the *GALEX* fields and SDSS coverage map. Secondly, because the UV magnitudes of our sample lie close to the threshold of the *GALEX* MIS observations, there is a significant incompleteness in the *GALEX* imaging that depends on the local dust extinction and *GALEX* exposure time. We used the *GALEX* number counts as a function of dust and exposure time to calibrate the relation between these quantities and the parent WiggleZ target density. This angular completeness function is displayed in Fig. 3 for the four survey regions analysed in this paper. We used this map to produce a series of random realizations of the parent catalogue for each region.

The next step is to process these random parent catalogues into random realizations of the redshift catalogue. The spectroscopic follow-up of the parent catalogue comprises a network of overlapping AAOmega pointings, with field centres optimized by the simulated annealing algorithm and not lying on a regular grid. The fraction of successful redshifts in each pointing varies considerably depending on weather conditions. Furthermore, the redshift completeness within each AAOmega field exhibits a significant radial variation due to acquisition errors at the plate edges.

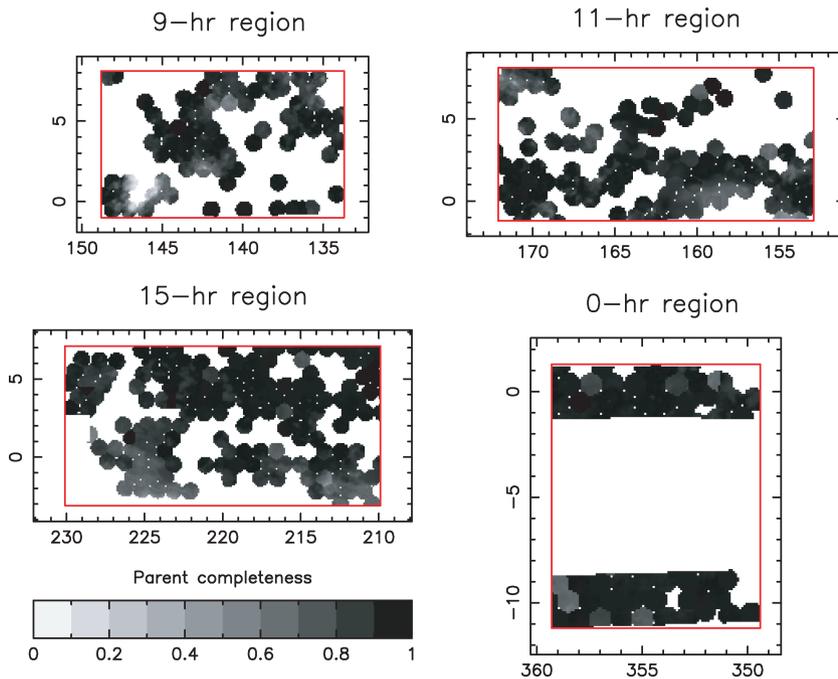


Figure 3. Grey-scale map illustrating the angular completeness of the parent catalogue of SDSS-*GALEX* matches for the four survey regions analysed in this paper. This parent target density varies with dust extinction and *GALEX* exposure time because the UV magnitudes of WiggleZ galaxies lie close to the threshold of the Medium Imaging Survey data. The x - and y -axes of each panel are right ascension and declination, respectively.

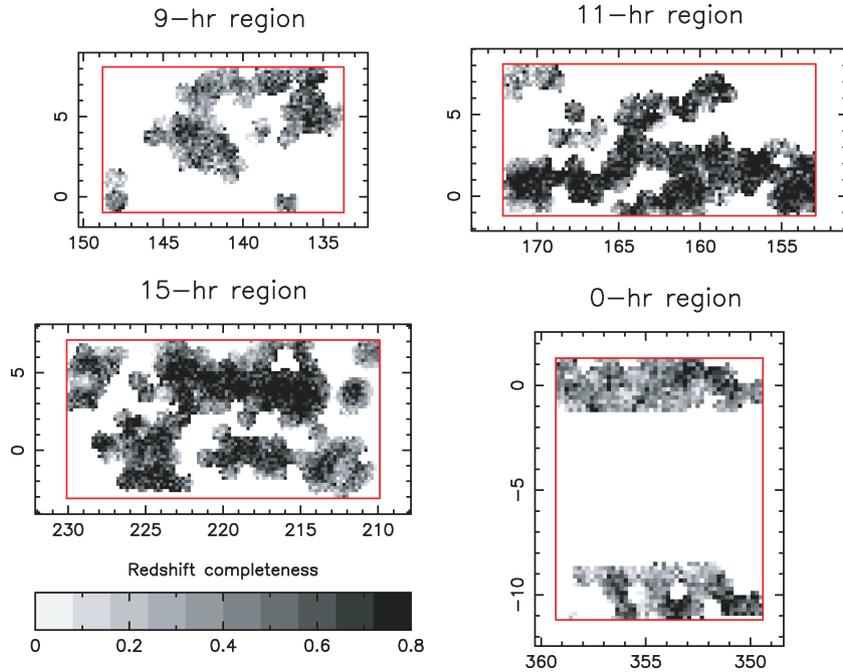


Figure 4. Grey-scale map illustrating the completeness of the spectroscopic follow-up of the WiggleZ targets shown in Fig. 3 for the four survey regions analysed in this paper. This figure is generated by taking the ratio of the galaxy densities in the redshift and parent catalogues in small cells. In our clustering analysis a more accurate approach is adopted in which the full AAOmega pointing sequence is applied to random realizations of the parent catalogue. The x - and y -axes of each panel are right ascension and declination, respectively.

In Fig. 4 we illustrate how the redshift completeness varies across these survey regions by simply taking the ratio of successful redshifts to parent galaxies in each pixel. This is a useful visualization, but in fact the number of unique sectors defined by the overlapping AAOmega fields is so large that this determination of the redshift completeness map is very noisy. Indeed, some unique sectors contain zero parent galaxies.

One possible approach is to smooth this completeness map over larger areas to reduce the Poisson noise at the expense of a diminished sensitivity to small-scale completeness variations between AAOmega pointings. In this analysis we use an alternative approach, which is to apply the AAOmega pointing sequence to each of the random realizations of the parent catalogue, and thereby create an ensemble of random realizations of the redshift catalogue. The AAOmega pointing sequence is defined by the right ascension and declination of the field centre together with the number of successful and unsuccessful redshifts obtained for that pointing. Within each field centre parent galaxies are chosen randomly to create the synthetic redshift catalogue. It is also necessary to track the sky coverage of the *GALEX* data which was contemporaneous with each AAOmega pointing. Because the acquisition of the *GALEX* imaging data is ongoing with the spectroscopic follow-up, the boundaries of the angular mask must be modulated in step with the redshift follow-up. In addition we impose the radial redshift completeness variation across each AAOmega field, measured independently for each observing run.

The redshift distribution $N(z)$ of observed galaxies varies with position in the sky. This is due to the magnitude prioritization described in Section 2.2. Because galaxies with fainter r -band magnitudes are targeted first, the $N(z)$ will be skewed towards higher redshifts for areas of the survey which have been targeted by fewer AAOmega observations. This dependence is accounted for in our random catalogues by measuring the magnitude distribution of targeted galaxies

as a function of sky position and drawing a random redshift from the correctly weighted $N(z)$.

3.3 Fibre collision correction

The optical fibres of the 2dF spectrograph cannot be placed closer together than 0.5 arcmin, and there is a diminishing probability of observing in a single pointing both members of a close pair of parent galaxies separated by an angular distance of less than 2 arcmin [a projected spatial distance of $(0.4, 0.8, 1.1, 1.4) h^{-1}$ Mpc at $z = (0.25, 0.5, 0.75, 1.0)$]. This restriction will eventually be ameliorated by the requirement of observing each patch of sky with three to four AAOmega pointings to build up the number density of the redshift catalogue. At present, however, there is a deficit of close angular pairs in the redshift catalogue, which artificially suppresses the measured value of the galaxy correlation function on small scales. The close angular pair deficit is illustrated in Fig. 5 by plotting the ratio $(1 + w_t)/(1 + w_p)$ as a function of angular separation θ , where w_t and w_p are the angular correlation functions of the targeted catalogue and the parent catalogue, respectively. This ratio provides the fraction of surviving close pairs. In order to correct the galaxy correlation function for the missing close pairs we increased the contribution of each galaxy pair to the DD pair count as a function of angular separation by a factor $(1 + w_p)/(1 + w_t)$ (the inverse of the quantity plotted in Fig. 5) using a two-parameter model $\{1 + \text{erf}[(\log_{10}\theta - \mu)/\sigma]\}/2$ fitted to the data in Fig. 5.

We note that for a survey with a redshift-dependent galaxy number density $n(z)$, the minimum-variance correlation function measurement for separation s is achieved if galaxies are assigned a redshift-dependent weight $w(z) = [1 + 4\pi n(z)J_3(s)]^{-1}$ where $J_3(s) = \int_0^s \xi(x) x^2 dx$ (Efstathiou 1988; Loveday et al. 1995). In our case the galaxy number density is sufficiently low that $w(z) \approx 1$

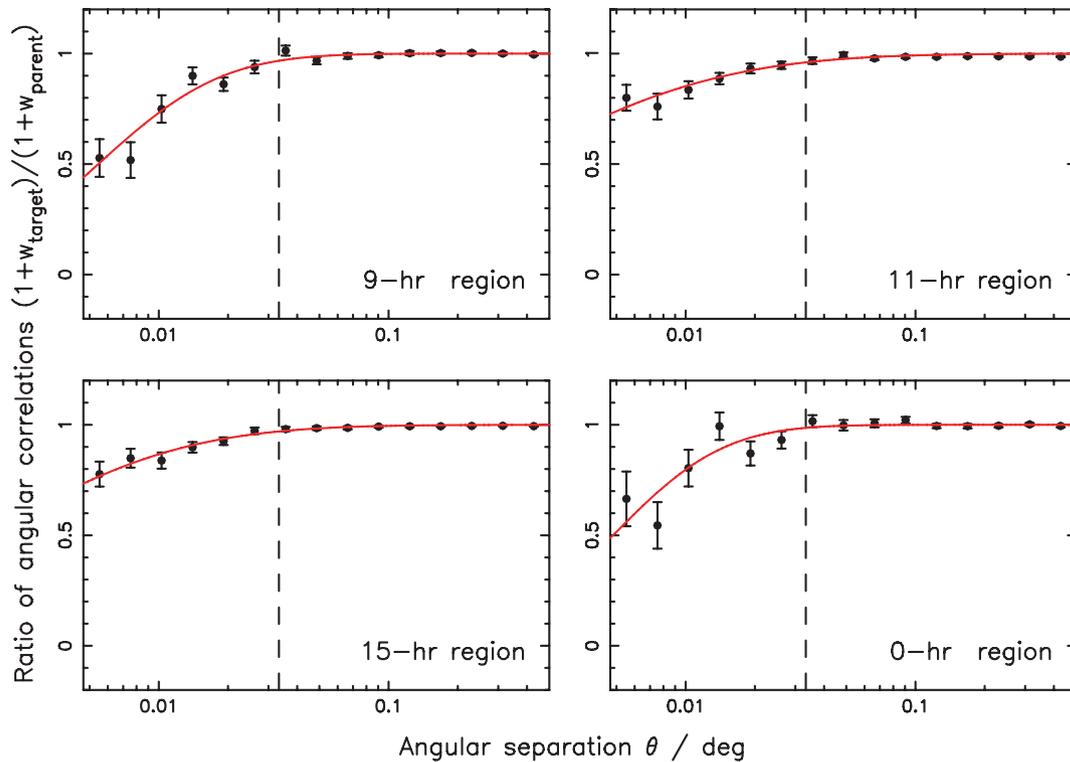


Figure 5. The ratio of the angular correlation functions of the WiggleZ parent catalogue and targeted catalogue for the four survey regions analysed in this paper. This ratio indicates the fraction of close pairs surviving the restrictions of fibre collisions as a function of angular scale; pairs are lost for angular separations less than $\theta = 2$ arcmin which is indicated by the vertical dashed line. The solid curve indicates the best fit of the two-parameter model $\{1 + \text{erf}[(\log_{10}\theta - \mu)/\sigma]\}/2$.

and this weighting makes a negligible difference to the results and we do not use it.

3.4 Redshift blunder correction

The low signal-to-noise ratio spectra obtained by the WiggleZ survey imply that a small but significant fraction of galaxies are assigned a ‘reliable’ ($Q \geq 3$) redshift which proves to be incorrect owing to emission-line misidentification. This is monitored in the survey by allocating a small number of fibres (typically three to five out of 400 per pointing) to re-observe galaxies with existing $Q \geq 3$ redshifts. The fraction of repeat observations producing a discrepant redshift may be used to estimate the redshift ‘blunder’ rate.

There is a significant difference in the reliability of $Q = 3$ redshifts and $Q \geq 4$ redshifts. $Q = 3$ redshifts (which represent a fraction 32 per cent of reliable redshifts) are typically based either on noisy spectra or on a single emission line with no confirming spectral features, whereas $Q \geq 4$ redshifts are based on multiple detected emission lines. Comparing repeat observations consisting of a $Q = 3$ redshift and a $Q \geq 4$ redshift, assuming that the latter provides the correct redshift identification, we conclude that ≈ 17 per cent of $Q = 3$ redshifts are blunders. This agrees with the internal discrepancy rate amongst repeated pairs of $Q = 3$ redshifts (which is 31 per cent, which must be divided by two to obtain the blunder rate per object). Comparing repeat observations consisting of $Q \geq 4$ redshifts we find that only ≈ 1 per cent of these redshifts are blunders.

The blunder rate for $Q = 3$ spectra varies significantly with the true galaxy redshift, which determines how many emission lines

appear in the observed wavelength range. The dependence is displayed in Fig. 6 based on the comparison of $Q = 3$ and $Q \geq 4$ pairs of repeat observations. The total blunder rate for all reliable ($Q \geq 3$) redshifts is below 5 per cent for the range $z < 0.7$, increasing to 20 per cent by $z = 1$. The redshift blunder rate does not depend on galaxy continuum magnitude.

Redshift misidentification reduces the measured value of the galaxy correlation function because a fraction of true close DD pairs are lost as one or both of the redshifts is randomized. If f_{bad} is the redshift blunder rate, the correction to the correlation function

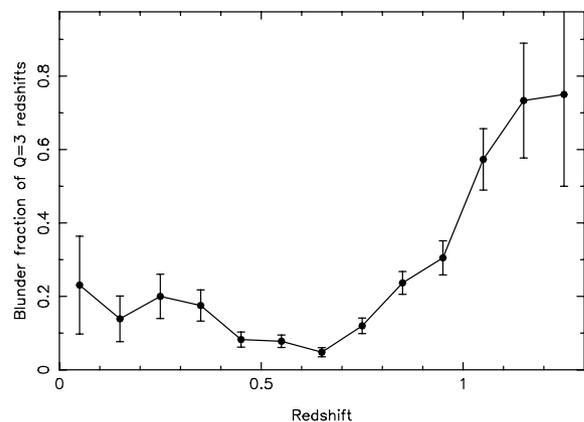


Figure 6. The dependence of the redshift blunder rate of galaxies with $Q = 3$ spectra on the (true) galaxy redshift, determined by comparing repeat observations consisting of pairs of spectra with $Q = 3$ and $Q \geq 4$. Poissonian error bars are shown.

is a constant factor $(1 - f_{\text{bad}})^{-2}$ assuming the blunder redshift is randomly distributed. We applied this correction to the measured correlation function to deduce the final value:

$$\xi_z(\sigma, \pi)_{\text{corrected}} = \xi_z(\sigma, \pi)_{\text{measured}}(1 - f_{\text{bad}})^{-2}. \quad (10)$$

When measuring the galaxy correlation function for a particular redshift or luminosity range, we recalculated the redshift blunder rate for the corresponding sample in each region as explained below. We corrected the correlation function for that region using equation (10), before combining together the correlation functions for the different regions. We determined the redshift blunder rate for each region by weighting the blunder probabilities of the N individual objects in that region:

$$f_{\text{bad}} = \frac{1}{N} \left(\sum_{i=1}^N f_{\text{bad},i} \right). \quad (11)$$

For objects with $Q = 3$ we assigned the probability for each object based on its redshift using Fig. 6. For objects with $Q \geq 4$ we assumed a blunder rate of 1 per cent.

3.5 Jackknife resamples

In order to determine the error in the measured correlation function we must characterize the statistical fluctuations in the data sample. It is well known that these fluctuations are not well described by Poisson statistics, for which the error in the pair count DD in a separation bin would be equal to \sqrt{DD} . Sample variance, geometrical edge effects and the same galaxy participating in pairs in different separation bins cause the statistical variance of the galaxy pair count to exceed the Poisson prediction and induce covariances between the bins.

In this analysis we use jackknife resampling to determine the correlation function error. In this technique the data set is divided into N equal-area subregions on the sky. The correlation function analysis is repeated N times, in each case omitting one of the subregions in turn. Labelling the different correlation function measurements at separation s as $\xi_i(s)$ from $i = 1$ to N , the covariance between separation bins j and k was deduced as

$$C_{jk} \equiv \langle \xi(s_j) \xi(s_k) \rangle - \langle \xi(s_j) \rangle \langle \xi(s_k) \rangle \quad (12)$$

$$\approx (N - 1) \left[\frac{\sum_{i=1}^N \xi_i(s_j) \xi_i(s_k)}{N} - \overline{\xi(s_j) \xi(s_k)} \right], \quad (13)$$

where $\overline{\xi(s_j)} = \sum_{i=1}^N \xi_i(s_j) / N$. The factor $(N - 1)$ in equation (13) is required because the jackknife resamples are not independent, sharing a high fraction of common sources.

We defined the jackknife samples by splitting each survey region into $N = 49$ subregions using constant boundaries of right ascension and declination. We tried the alternative technique of using the *GALEX* tiles to define the jackknife regions; this produced a result that did not differ significantly. Future analyses of the WiggleZ survey clustering will quantify the statistical fluctuations using mock galaxy catalogues constructed from N -body simulations.

4 RESULTS

4.1 2D correlation function

Fig. 7 illustrates the dependence of the 2D redshift-space correlation function $\xi_z(\sigma, \pi)$ of equation (1) on the separations π and

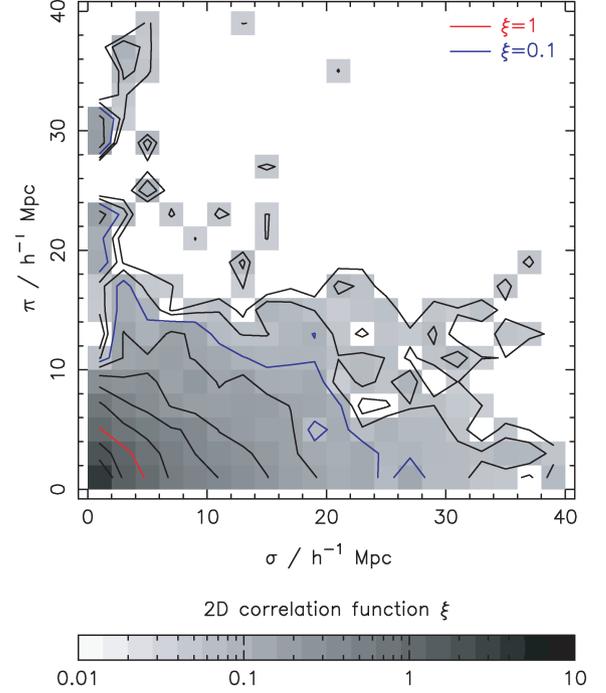


Figure 7. The 2D redshift-space correlation function $\xi_z(\sigma, \pi)$ as a function of separation σ perpendicular to the line of sight and π parallel to the line of sight. The function is represented using both grey-scale and contours. Results for the four survey regions analysed in this paper have been combined for the galaxy redshift range $0.1 < z < 1.3$. The non-circularity of the contours encodes the imprint of galaxy peculiar velocities, as discussed in the text. The red line (third contour from the bottom left-hand side) is the $\xi_z = 1$ contour which lies at approximately $\sqrt{\sigma^2 + \pi^2} \approx 5 h^{-1}$ Mpc; the blue line (eighth contour from the bottom left-hand side) is the $\xi_z = 0.1$ contour.

σ perpendicular and parallel to the line of sight for the sample of WiggleZ galaxies spanning the full redshift range $0.1 < z < 1.3$. We measured the correlation function separately for the four independent survey regions and combined the results using inverse-variance weighting. The non-circularity of the contours of constant ξ_z trace the imprint of galaxy peculiar velocities; we use linear scales of σ and π in this plot to focus on the large-scale distortions. In particular, for scales $> 10 h^{-1}$ Mpc the increase in the value of ξ_z with increasing angle to the line of sight $\theta = \arctan(\sigma/\pi)$ for fixed total separation $\sqrt{\sigma^2 + \pi^2}$ is a signature of coherent galaxy infall and can be quantified to measure the redshift-space distortion parameter β (see Section 4.3). We also detect some evidence for ‘fingers of god’, in the form of elongation of the contours of ξ_z along the π -axis, due to the virialized motions of galaxies in clusters. There is some similarity here with the results of Coil et al. (2008, fig. 7) for luminous blue galaxies, except that our sample size is significantly larger.

4.2 Clustering length of the sample

Galaxy peculiar velocities change values of π but not σ . The real-space clustering properties of the galaxies may therefore be deduced by integrating $\xi_z(\sigma, \pi)$ along the π -axis, as discussed in Section 3.1. We summed the 2D correlation function for the $0.1 < z < 1.3$ sample in five logarithmic bins of π between $\pi_{\text{min}} = 0.5 h^{-1}$ Mpc and $\pi_{\text{max}} = 20 h^{-1}$ Mpc. The result is plotted in Fig. 8 for the projected separation range $1 < \sigma < 100 h^{-1}$ Mpc, with errors obtained from the jackknife resampling. The full covariance matrix \mathbf{C} deduced

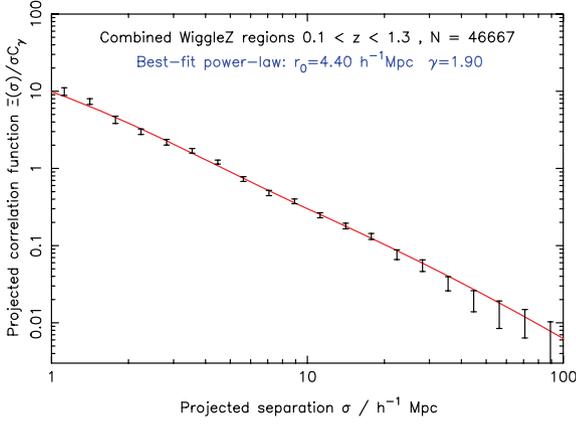


Figure 8. The projected correlation function $\Xi(\sigma)/\sigma C_\gamma$ as a function of projected separation σ for galaxies in the redshift range $0.1 < z < 1.3$, combining the results for the four survey regions analysed in this paper. The solid line is the best-fitting power law for the separation range $1.5 < \sigma < 15 h^{-1}$ Mpc. The y-axis is normalized by a factor which produces numerical results approximating $(r_0/\sigma)^\gamma$.

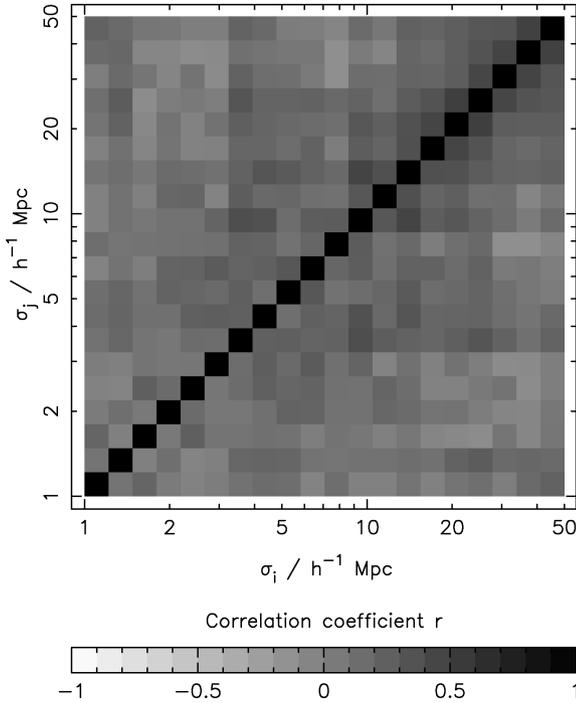


Figure 9. Grey-scale plot of the correlation coefficient r of equation (14), indicating the degree of covariance between different separation bins for each redshift slice.

from the jackknife resamples is displayed in Fig. 9 by plotting in grey-scale the correlation coefficient between two separation bins i and j :

$$r(i, j) = \frac{\mathbf{C}_{ij}}{\sqrt{\mathbf{C}_{ii} \mathbf{C}_{jj}}}. \quad (14)$$

We employed the methodology of Section 3.1 to fit a power-law real-space correlation function $\xi_r = (r_0/r)^\gamma$ to the redshift-space data over the range $1.5 < \sigma < 15 h^{-1}$ Mpc, by minimizing the χ^2 statistic using the covariance matrix:

$$\chi^2 = \sum_{i,j} \delta y_i (\mathbf{C}^{-1})_{ij} \delta y_j, \quad (15)$$

where δy_i is the vector of offsets between the data and the model, and \mathbf{C}^{-1} is the inverse of the covariance matrix. The fitting range was motivated by our wish to estimate the clustering length r_0 for which $\xi(r_0) = 1$. A power law provides a good fit to the data with a best-fitting $\chi^2 = 7.1$ (for eight degrees of freedom). The marginalized measurements of the power-law parameters are $r_0 = 4.40 \pm 0.12 h^{-1}$ Mpc and $\gamma = 1.92 \pm 0.08$ for the $0.1 < z < 1.3$ sample. We compare these measurements to previous studies of UV-selected and optically selected galaxies in Section 4.5.

In Fig. 10 we plot the separate projected correlation function measurements for each of the four survey regions analysed in this paper. The four regions give consistent results.

In order to derive the bias factor of the galaxies with respect to dark matter we generated a model non-linear matter power spectrum at $z = 0$ assuming a flat cosmological model with fiducial parameters $\Omega_m = 0.3$, $\Omega_b/\Omega_m = 0.15$, $h = 0.7$ (where $H_0 = 100 h$ km s $^{-1}$ Mpc $^{-1}$) and $\sigma_8 = 0.9$, using the ‘CAMB’ software package (Lewis, Challinor & Lasenby 2000) including corrections for non-linear growth of structure using the fitting formula of Smith et al. (2003). We used this model power spectrum to determine the non-linear matter correlation function ξ_{DM} at $z = 0$. The resulting correlation function satisfied $\xi_{\text{DM}}(r) = 1$ for $r = 4.7 h^{-1}$ Mpc, which we assumed as our estimate of $r_{0,\text{DM}}(0)$, the clustering length of dark matter at $z = 0$. Given that the overall amplitude of the power spectrum scales with redshift in the linear regime as $D(z)^2$, where $D(z)$ is the linear growth factor, we can approximate

$$r_{0,\text{DM}}(z) \approx (4.7 h^{-1} \text{ Mpc}) D(z)^{2/\gamma}, \quad (16)$$

where $\gamma \approx 1.8$. Hence the linear bias factor b of a population of galaxies with clustering length r_0 can be approximated as

$$b \approx \left(\frac{r_0}{r_{0,\text{DM}}} \right)^{\gamma/2} = \left(\frac{r_0}{4.7 h^{-1} \text{ Mpc}} \right)^{\gamma/2} D(z)^{-1}. \quad (17)$$

Our measured clustering length $r_0 = 4.4 h^{-1}$ Mpc for a sample at median redshift $z \approx 0.6$ is hence equivalent to a linear bias factor $b \approx 1.3$.

4.3 Redshift-space distortions

The peculiar velocities generated by large-scale coherent infall can be parametrized by $\beta \approx \Omega_m(z)^{0.55}/b$ where b is the linear bias parameter (Kaiser 1987). For a flat cosmological constant model with $\Omega_m(0) = 0.3$, $\Omega_m(z = 0.6) = 0.64$, and our real-space clustering measurement $b = 1.3$ hence predicts $\beta = 0.6$ at the median redshift of the sample. The purpose of this section is to demonstrate that our data contain this self-consistent signal of peculiar velocities (we leave detailed fits for β to a further study).

We may quantify the imprint of peculiar velocities by measuring the quadrupole moment, $Q(s)$, of the 2D correlation function (Hamilton 1992). This statistic quantifies the anisotropy evident in Fig. 7. If we define the correlation function moment ξ_ℓ for multipole ℓ as

$$\xi_\ell(s) = \frac{2\ell + 1}{2} \int_{-1}^{+1} \xi_z(s, \mu) P_\ell(\mu) d\mu. \quad (18)$$

We can then show that

$$Q(s) = \frac{\xi_2(s)}{\left[\frac{3}{s^3} \int_0^s \xi_0(x) x^2 dx \right] - \xi_0(s)} = \frac{\frac{4}{3}\beta + \frac{4}{7}\beta}{1 + \frac{2}{3}\beta + \frac{1}{5}\beta^2} \quad (19)$$

which is valid for large scales $s > 10 h^{-1}$ Mpc. Fig. 11 plots the measured quantity $Q(s)$ as a function of separation s , together with the prediction of equation (19) for various values of β . In order to

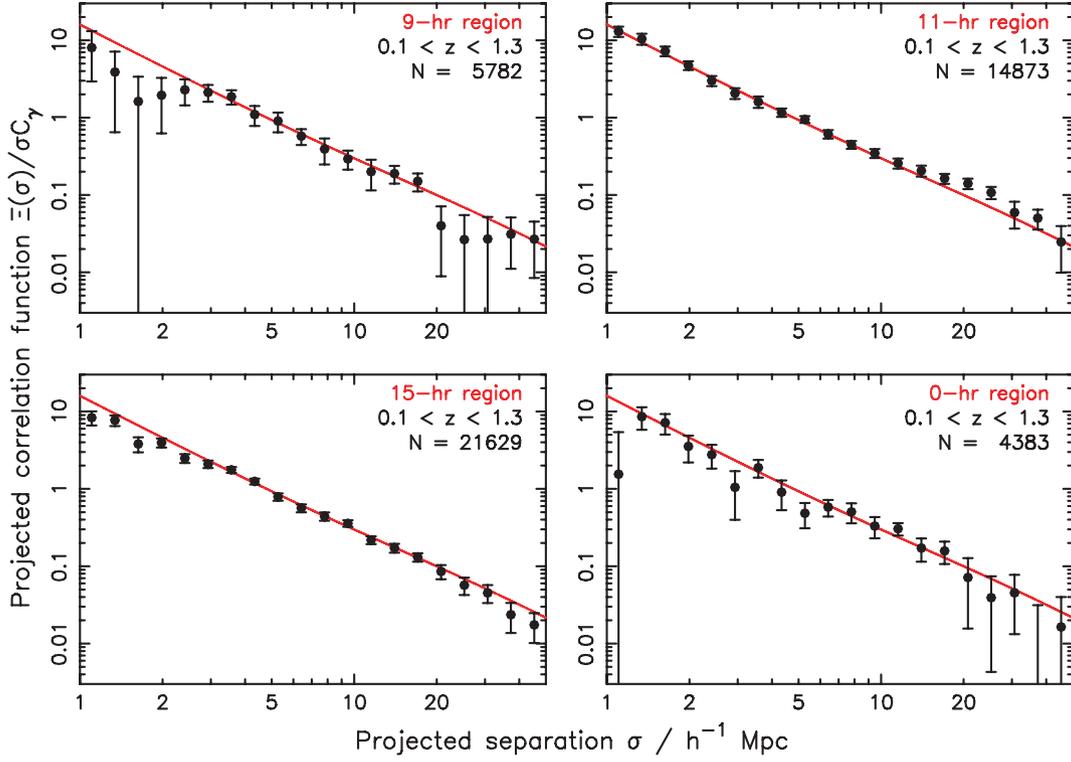


Figure 10. The projected correlation function $\Xi(\sigma)/\sigma C_\gamma$ as a function of projected separation σ for galaxies in the redshift range $0.1 < z < 1.3$, measured for the four survey regions analysed in this paper. The solid line indicates the best-fitting power law for the whole sample, and the number of redshifts N used for each region is displayed. The y-axis is normalized by a factor which produces numerical results approximating $(r_0/\sigma)^\gamma$.

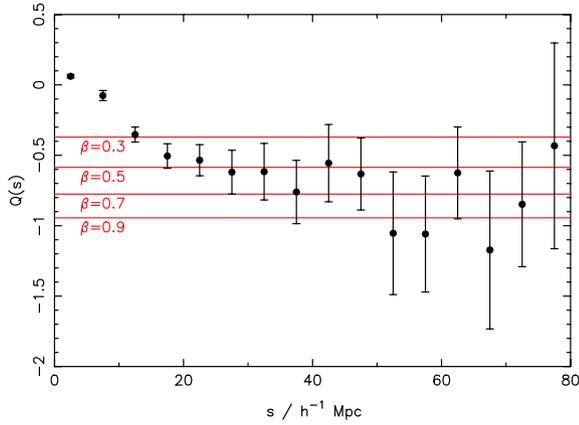


Figure 11. The statistic $Q(s)$, which encodes the anisotropy in the 2D correlation function $\xi(\sigma, \pi)$ induced by redshift-space distortions. The prediction of linear theory on large scales $s > 10 h^{-1}$ Mpc is indicated as a function of the parameter β .

construct the quantity $Q(s)$ we measured the 2D redshift-space correlation function in bins of s and μ , and summed over μ , weighting in accordance with equation (18). The result is consistent with our estimate $\beta \approx 0.6$ and constitutes a statistically significant detection of redshift-space distortions in our sample.

4.4 Redshift and luminosity dependence

Our sample of WiggleZ galaxies is large enough for us to analyse the dependence of the clustering length r_0 on redshift, galaxy

luminosity and colour. The situation is complicated by our joint UV–optical selection and strong luminosity–redshift correlation, but we can make some comparisons with previous studies. We fix the correlation function slope $\gamma = 1.8$ in this section of the analysis.

The variation of the clustering length with redshift is plotted in Fig. 12, dividing all WiggleZ galaxies in the range $0.1 < z < 1.0$ into redshift bins of width $\Delta z = 0.1$. The clustering length is roughly constant with redshift for the range $z > 0.3$, with a trend to a reduced clustering strength at low redshifts. Our interpretation of the overall constancy of $r_0(z)$ is that it is a product of two cancelling effects. Galaxy luminosity increases with redshift, which would tend to increase clustering length, but at redshifts $z > 0.5$ optically red

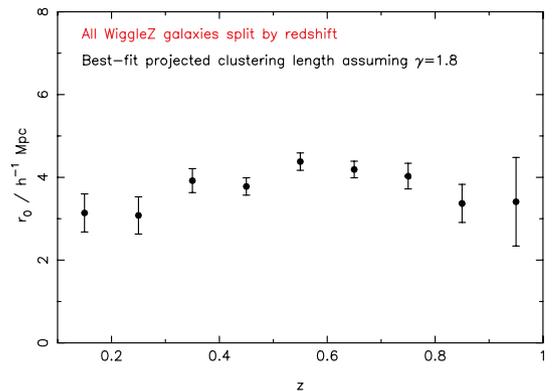


Figure 12. Dependence of the best-fitting clustering length r_0 on redshift for a fit to the power law $(r_0/r)^{1.8}$ to the real-space projected correlation function.

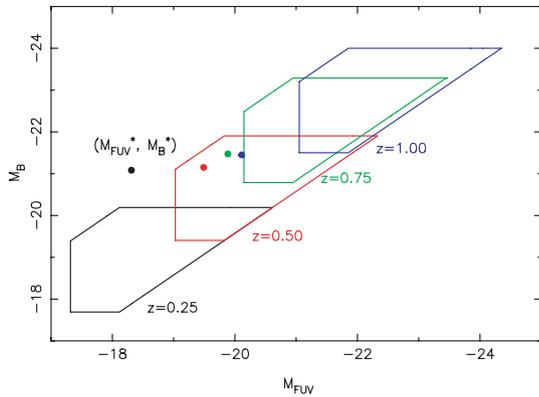


Figure 13. The WigglesZ UV-optical target selection box in the space of B -band absolute magnitude M_B - and FUV -band absolute magnitude M_{FUV} for four different redshifts between $z = 0.25$ and 1 (moving from left-to right-hand side in the figure). These absolute magnitude limits are implied by our apparent magnitude and colour selections $NUV < 22.8$, $20 < r < 22.5$ and $-0.5 < NUV - r < 2$. The values of M_B^* and M_{FUV}^* at each redshift are shown for comparison (taken from Arnouts et al. 2005; Willmer et al. 2006). Absolute magnitudes are calculated assuming $h = 0.7$.

galaxies, which possess enhanced clustering strengths, are removed from the sample by the optical colour cuts described in Section 2.2.

We also analysed the clustering in absolute magnitude and rest-frame colour bins. We considered the clustering as a function of rest-frame FUV - and B -band absolute magnitudes, which are well matched in wavelength (for redshift $z \approx 0.5$) to the observed-frame NUV - and r -band magnitudes which are used to define our target samples. For this initial analysis we assumed redshift-dependent average K -corrections which we applied to all galaxies regardless of colour. These K -corrections were derived using the spectral energy distribution of an LBG including an intrinsic dust contribution $A_V = 0.14$, which produces a very good match to the redshift dependence of the average observed $NUV - r$ colour of the WigglesZ targets.

We note that the FUV - and B -band absolute magnitudes of our target sample correlate strongly with redshift. This is depicted by Fig. 13 which plots the target selection box in (M_{FUV}, M_B) for four different redshifts, also indicating the characteristic absolute magnitudes (M_{FUV}^* , M_B^*) at each redshift obtained from Arnouts et al. (2005) and Willmer et al. (2006). Between $z = 0.25$ and 1 the average value of $M_{FUV} - M_{FUV}^*$ brightens by 2 mag (becoming positive at $z \approx 0.5$) and the average value of $M_B - M_B^*$ brightens by 4 mag (becoming positive at $z \approx 0.7$).

The dependence of the clustering length r_0 of the $0.1 < z < 1.3$ WigglesZ sample on M_B , M_{FUV} and $M_{FUV} - M_B$ is displayed in the panels of Fig. 14. These measurements show that the clustering strength of the sample increases steadily with B -band absolute magnitude, FUV -band absolute magnitude and reddening $M_{FUV} - M_B$ colour. Subsamples have values of r_0 ranging from 2 to $5 h^{-1}$ Mpc.

Fig. 15 plots the variation of r_0 with M_B for the low- and high-redshift halves of the data set, divided at $z = 0.6$. This measurement confirms that at fixed M_B , the clustering length of the sample drops slightly with redshift as the redder galaxies are removed by the colour cuts.

4.5 Comparison to previous studies

Coil et al. (2008) present clustering measurements as a function of galaxy colour and luminosity for the DEEP2 Galaxy Redshift

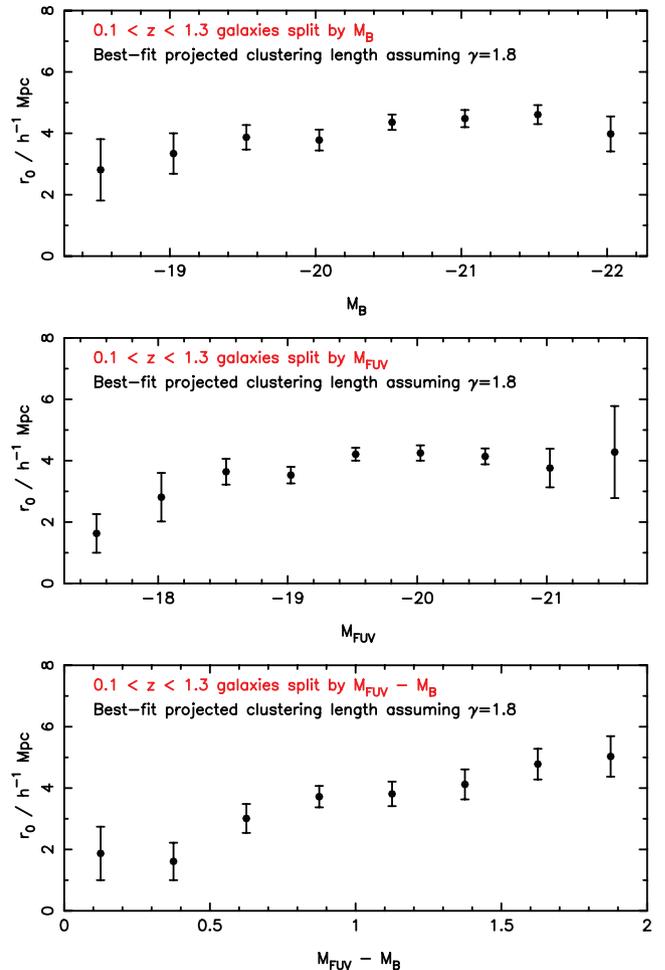


Figure 14. Dependence of the best-fitting clustering length r_0 on B -band absolute magnitude M_B , FUV -band absolute magnitude M_{FUV} and rest-frame colour $M_{FUV} - M_B$, for a fit of the power law $(r_0/r)^{1.8}$ to the real-space projected correlation function. Absolute magnitudes are calculated assuming $h = 0.7$.

Survey, which has measured redshifts for $\approx 30\,000$ galaxies in the range $0.7 < z < 1.5$ over an area of 3 deg^2 . The DEEP2 subset of luminous blue galaxies (Coil et al. table 2, line 5) has best-fitting clustering parameters $r_0 = (4.27 \pm 0.43) h^{-1}$ Mpc and $\gamma = 1.75 \pm 0.13$ at $z = 1$ (for a galaxy density $n = 6 \times 10^{-4} h^3 \text{ Mpc}^{-3}$ and median absolute magnitude $M_B = -22.1$ assuming $h = 0.7$). These results lie in good agreement with ours.

Milliard et al. (2007) and Heinis et al. (2007) present clustering analyses of *GALEX*-selected samples. At low redshift ($z < 0.3$) the clustering strength of the UV-selected sample is $r_0 \approx 3.5 h^{-1}$ Mpc, corresponding to low-density environments, and shows no dependence on UV luminosity (indeed, there is tentative evidence for an anticorrelation between r_0 and luminosity). These results may naturally be compared to clustering measurements of $z \approx 3$ LBGs also selected at rest-frame UV wavelengths (e.g. Giavalisco & Dickinson 2001; Ouchi et al. 2001; Arnouts et al. 2002; Foucaud et al. 2003; Adelberger et al. 2005; Allen et al. 2005; Ouchi et al. 2005; Lee et al. 2006; Yoshida et al. 2008). These results show a qualitatively different conclusion: LBGs are highly clustered and concentrated in overdense regions. Furthermore, the clustering strength for galaxies brighter than M_{FUV}^* increases with FUV luminosity, reaching $r_0 \approx 15 h^{-1}$ Mpc for the most luminous subsamples. Yoshida et al.

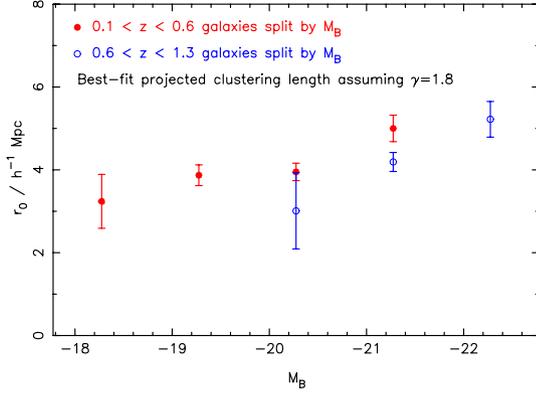


Figure 15. Dependence of the best-fitting clustering length r_0 on B -band absolute magnitude M_B for the upper and lower redshift ranges of our sample, for a fit of the power law $(r_0/r)^{1.8}$ to the real-space projected correlation function. Absolute magnitudes are calculated assuming $h = 0.7$.

(2008) demonstrate that the behaviour of the clustering length r_0 depends on a combination of UV and optical luminosities: galaxies bright in optical magnitudes are strongly clustered irrespective of UV magnitude, whereas galaxies faint in optical magnitude have correlation lengths increasing with UV luminosity (see fig. 15 from Yoshida et al.).

In Fig. 16 we overplot the clustering measurements of the $0.1 < z < 1.3$ WiggleZ sample as a function of FUV absolute magnitude on the compilation of low- and high-redshift clustering measurements presented by Heinis et al. (2007). At low FUV absolute magnitudes $M_{FUV} - M_{FUV}^* > 0.5$ the clustering strengths of the different UV-selected samples agree well. This absolute magnitude range corresponds to low redshifts $z < 0.3$ in the WiggleZ sample (Fig. 13) for which we recover a clustering length $r_0 \approx 3 h^{-1}$ Mpc, similar to samples of low-redshift quiescent star-forming galaxies. At higher FUV luminosities and redshifts, the WiggleZ clustering strength is more comparable to $z = 3$ LBGs rather than $z = 0$ UV-selected galaxies. This is expected as the $FUV - NUV$ WiggleZ selection cut becomes effective for $z > 0.3$ and the nature of the resulting WiggleZ galaxy population changes to merger-induced

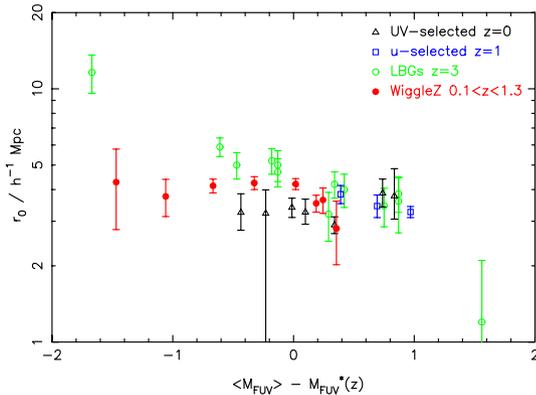


Figure 16. Comparison of the clustering segregation with FUV absolute magnitude observed in the WiggleZ sample with the compilation of low- and high-redshift results presented by Heinis et al. (2007). The WiggleZ targets are more comparable to $z = 3$ LBGs rather than $z = 0$ UV-selected galaxies. The displayed data points are obtained from Giavalisco & Dickinson (2001), Arnouts et al. (2002), Foucaud et al. (2003), Heinis et al. (2004), Adelberger et al. (2005) and Heinis et al. (2007). Absolute magnitudes are calculated assuming $h = 0.7$.

starbursts. The WiggleZ sample does not recover the very high values of r_0 present in very luminous LBGs at $z = 3$; we suggest that this may be a result of the WiggleZ colour cuts selecting against redder galaxies.

5 FORECASTS FOR WIGGLEZ SURVEY

The clustering amplitude of the WiggleZ target sample is a required input for forecasting the accuracy with which the full 1000 deg^2 survey will measure the large-scale galaxy power spectrum. The error in the power spectrum measurement δP_{gal} at a given redshift z and Fourier wavenumber k is determined by the quantity nP_{gal} , where $n(z)$ is the galaxy number density and $P_{\text{gal}}(k, z)$ is the galaxy power spectrum amplitude. This quantity fixes the balance between sample variance and shot noise in the measurement error such that

$$\frac{\delta P_{\text{gal}}}{P_{\text{gal}}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{m}} \left(1 + \frac{1}{nP_{\text{gal}}} \right), \quad (20)$$

where m is the total number of independent Fourier modes contributing towards the measurement (e.g. Feldman, Kaiser & Peacock 1994; Tegmark 1997). The contributions of sample variance and shot noise are equal when $nP_{\text{gal}} = 1$. We model the angle-averaged redshift-space linear galaxy power spectrum as a function of k and z as

$$P_{\text{gal}}(k, z) = P_{\text{DM}}(k, 0) \left[\frac{r_{0,\text{gal}}(z)}{r_{0,\text{DM}}(0)} \right]^\gamma \left(1 + \frac{2\beta}{3} + \frac{\beta^2}{5} \right), \quad (21)$$

where we assume $r_{0,\text{DM}}(0) = 4.7 h^{-1}$ Mpc, $r_{0,\text{gal}}(z) = 4.4 h^{-1}$ Mpc, $\gamma = 1.9$ and $\beta = 0.6$. The second term on the right-hand side of equation (21) describes the boost from the galaxy linear bias factor b (equation 17) using the relation $P_{\text{gal}} = P_{\text{DM}} b^2 D^2$. The third term is the result of redshift-space distortions averaged over angles. We used the cosmological parameters as listed in Section 4.2 to produce the $z = 0$ dark matter power spectrum: $\Omega_m = 0.3$, $\Omega_b/\Omega_m = 0.15$, $h = 0.7$ and $\sigma_8 = 0.9$. In order to incorporate the fraction of redshift blunders f_{bad} we reduced the effective value of the power spectrum by a factor $(1 - f_{\text{bad}})^2$ [i.e. increased the value of $r_{0,\text{DM}}(0)$ by a factor $(1 - f_{\text{bad}})^{-2/\gamma}$].

Fig. 17 plots the dependence of nP_{gal} on redshift for a set of different scales $0.05 < k < 0.2 h \text{ Mpc}^{-1}$ relevant for the detection of BAOs, assuming a source redshift distribution combining the survey regions plotted in Fig. 2. We further assume a total target density of 350 deg^{-2} with a 70 per cent redshift completeness.

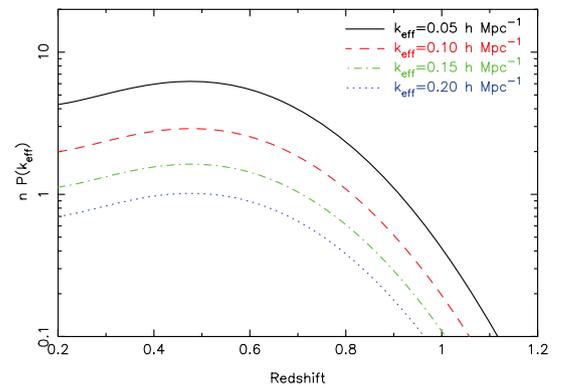


Figure 17. The dependence of nP_{gal} on redshift for four scales k representative of those important for the measurement of BAOs. If $nP_{\text{gal}} = 1$, then the contribution of shot noise to the power spectrum error equals that of sample variance.

We note that over a significant range of redshifts and scales our large-scale power spectrum measurement will be limited by sample variance rather than shot noise, i.e. $nP_{\text{gal}} > 1$.

A useful quantity to describe the survey is the scale-dependent ‘effective volume’ $V_{\text{eff}}(k)$ which is defined by

$$V_{\text{eff}}(k) = \int_0^\infty \left[\frac{n(z)P_{\text{gal}}(k, z)}{1 + n(z)P_{\text{gal}}(k, z)} \right]^2 \frac{dV}{dz} dz, \quad (22)$$

where dV/dz is the comoving volume element. The effective volume represents an optimally weighted stacking of power spectrum measurements at different redshifts (Tegmark 1997). For scales $k = (0.05, 0.1, 0.15, 0.2) h \text{ Mpc}^{-1}$ we find $V_{\text{eff}} = (0.65, 0.41, 0.25, 0.15) h^{-3} \text{ Gpc}^3$. Thus the survey design will achieve the goal of mapping $\sim 1 \text{ Gpc}^3 = 0.34 h^{-3} \text{ Gpc}^3$.

We can use the effective survey volume to forecast the error in the final survey power spectrum $\delta P_{\text{gal}}(k)$ in a Fourier bin of width Δk (Tegmark 1997):

$$\frac{\delta P_{\text{gal}}}{P_{\text{gal}}} = \frac{2\pi}{k\sqrt{V_{\text{eff}}(k)\Delta k}}. \quad (23)$$

This prediction is plotted for bins of width $\Delta k = 0.01 h \text{ Mpc}^{-1}$ in Fig. 18, in which we divide the power spectrum by the ‘no-wiggles’ reference spectrum provided by Eisenstein & Hu (1998) in order to delineate clearly the BAOs.

We also generated 100 Monte Carlo realizations of the final 1000 deg^2 survey using the methods described in Blake & Glazebrook (2003) and Glazebrook & Blake (2005). The scatter in the power spectrum measurements across the realizations was very close to that predicted by equation (23). We used these Monte Carlo realizations to assess the accuracy with which the full WiggleZ survey will measure the tangential and radial standard ruler scale imprinted by the BAOs via the fitting formula described in Blake et al. (2006). Restricting ourselves to the $0.3 < z < 0.9$ subset, and first considering an ‘angle-averaged’ measured power spectrum $P(k)$, we found that the scatter in the fitted acoustic wavescale was 2.8 per cent. Measuring instead a 2D power spectrum $P(k_{\text{tan}}, k_{\text{rad}})$, where k_{tan} and k_{rad} are wavevectors measured perpendicular and parallel to the line of sight, the scatters in the tangential and radial fitted wavescales were 4.6 and 7.2 per cent, respectively. This latter pair of measurements corresponds to the accuracy of determination of the quantities $D_A(z)/s$ and $H(z)^{-1}/s$ at an effective redshift $z \approx 0.6$, where D_A is the angular diameter distance, $H(z)$ is the high-redshift Hubble constant, and s is the sound horizon at recombination, i.e. the standard ruler scale. Dividing the survey into redshift slices

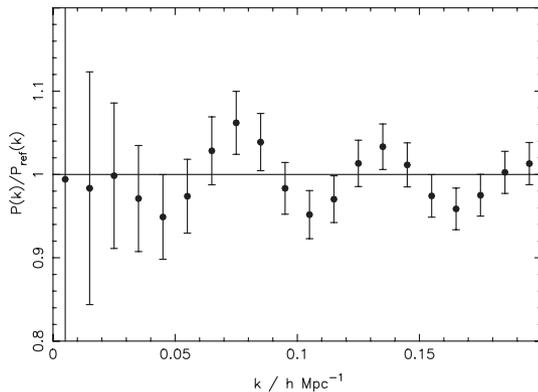


Figure 18. Simulation of the errors in the final WiggleZ survey galaxy power spectrum. We have divided by a smooth ‘reference’ power spectrum to clarify the signature of BAOs.

we find that the angle-averaged wavescale may be measured with accuracy (6.6, 3.7, 6.3 per cent) in redshift slices (0.25–0.5, 0.5–0.75, 0.75–1). The angle-averaged wavescale measures a quantity proportional to $(D_A^2 H^{-1})^{1/3}$, as discussed by Eisenstein et al. (2005).

These forecasts should be considered a pessimistic lower limit on expected performance for two reasons. First, we have neglected the cosmological information contained in the overall shape of the galaxy power spectrum, which is divided out in the above analysis to focus on the ‘standard ruler’ aspect of the acoustic oscillations. This method produces robustness against systematic errors (which are expected to affect the shape of the power spectrum but not the oscillatory signature). The power spectrum shape carries information about Ω_m and H_0 which further breaks the degeneracy in cosmological distances between these two parameters and the dark energy. Secondly, we have neglected the improvement offered by ‘reconstruction’ of the density field, which sharpens the measurement of the acoustic signature by undoing (to first order) the large-scale coherent galaxy motions which smooth out the acoustic peaks (Eisenstein et al. 2007).

We investigated improved forecasts using the methodology of Seo & Eisenstein (2007) which properly incorporates information from the power spectrum shape, redshift-space distortions and density-field reconstruction. The predicted tangential and radial measurement accuracies for the $0.3 < z < 0.9$ sample are 2.7 and 4.3 per cent, respectively (and are correlated with a correlation coefficient $r \approx 0.4$, further enhancing the power to constrain the cosmological model). We assume here that reconstruction can improve the parameters ($\Sigma_\perp, \Sigma_\parallel$) defined by Seo & Eisenstein (2007) by a factor equal to $0.5 - 0.3 \log_{10}(nP_{\text{gal}})$ (Eisenstein, private communication). Dividing the survey into redshift slices we find that the tangential and radial wavescales may be measured with accuracies (5.5, 8.7 per cent) for $0.25 < z < 0.5$ (3.6, 5.8 per cent) for $0.5 < z < 0.75$ and (7.9, 10.9 per cent) for $0.75 < z < 1$. This information is collected in Table 1 for ease of reference.

We used this last set of forecasts with reconstruction in three redshift bins to determine the expected accuracy of measurement of a constant equation of state w_{cons} of dark energy (assuming the measurements of D_A and H^{-1} are correlated with coefficient $r = 0.4$). Confidence ellipses are displayed in Fig. 19 in the space of w_{cons} and the matter density Ω_m for a flat cosmology with fiducial model $w_{\text{cons}} = -1$ and $\Omega_m = 0.27$. Results are shown for each redshift bin separately and for the combination of all three bins. In order to generate this figure we have used the 5-yr *Wilkinson Microwave Anisotropy Probe* (WMAP) measurement of the cosmic microwave background (CMB) acoustic scale $\ell_A = 302.1 \pm 0.9$ (Komatsu et al. 2009) in order to cancel the dependence of the baryon oscillation measurement on the sound horizon at recombination. In Fig. 19 we have not included any further CMB information or other external data sets. The marginalized errors are $\sigma(w_{\text{cons}}) = 0.31$ and $\sigma(\Omega_m) = 0.03$.

In Fig. 20 we add in information from the 5-yr WMAP measurement of the CMB shift parameter $R = 1.71 \pm 0.02$ (Komatsu et al. 2009), including the correlation between R and ℓ_A , together with the latest supernova data from the *Essence*, *SNLS* and *HST* observations (see Astier et al. 2006; Davis et al. 2007; Riess et al. 2007; Wood-Vasey et al. 2007). The marginalized errors in the cosmological model from the full combination of data sets are $\sigma(w_{\text{cons}}) = 0.07$ and $\sigma(\Omega_m) = 0.02$. The forecast performance of the WiggleZ survey exceeds that of the current CMB and supernova data, but the different measurements are also complementary, breaking degeneracies in the $(\Omega_m, w_{\text{cons}})$ plane through independent techniques. Disagreement between any pair of data sets would produce the possibility of

Table 1. Model WiggleZ survey parameters in one and three redshift bins used to forecast cosmological parameter measurements. The bias factor has been multiplied by a factor $1 - f_{\text{bad}}$ to produce an effective value allowing for the redshift blunder rate. The five standard ruler accuracies acc_1 , acc_2 , acc_3 , acc_4 , acc_5 are, respectively, the tangential and radial precision predicted by the Blake et al. (2006) fitting formula, an angle-averaged version of the Blake et al. formula, and the tangential and radial accuracies predicted by the Seo & Eisenstein (2007) fitting formula including density reconstruction. In the Blake et al. formula the effective bias is increased by a factor $\sqrt{1 + (2/3)\beta + (1/5)\beta^2} = 1.21$ to allow for redshift-space effects. Further details are given in the text.

Redshift slice	Number density ($\times 10^{-4} h^3 \text{Mpc}^{-3}$)	$r_{0,\text{gal}}$ ($h^{-1} \text{Mpc}$)	Bias factor b	Blunder rate f_{bad}	acc_1 (per cent)	acc_2 (per cent)	acc_3 (per cent)	acc_4 (per cent)	acc_5 (per cent)
$0.3 < z < 0.9$	2.29	4.3	1.21	0.037	4.6	7.2	2.8	2.7	4.3
$0.25 < z < 0.5$	3.33	4.0	1.01	0.038	–	–	6.6	5.5	8.7
$0.5 < z < 0.75$	2.78	4.4	1.27	0.022	–	–	3.7	3.6	5.8
$0.75 < z < 1$	0.83	4.4	1.27	0.127	–	–	6.3	7.9	10.9

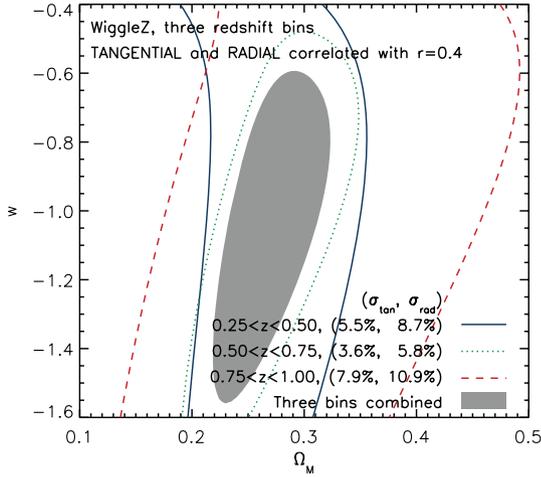


Figure 19. The forecast 68 per cent confidence ellipses for measurements of a constant dark energy equation of state w_{cons} and the matter density Ω_m using standard ruler measurements from the final WiggleZ survey in combination with a CMB prior on the acoustic scale ℓ_A . Results are shown for three redshift bins (the different contours) and for the combination of the redshift bins (the shaded area).

discovering non-standard physics (if it exists) or systematic measurement errors. The final accuracy of w_{cons} constitutes a robust and precise test of the dark energy model.

6 CONCLUSIONS

We have measured the small-scale clustering amplitude of high-redshift bright emission-line galaxies using the first 20 per cent of spectra from the AAT WiggleZ Dark Energy Survey ($\approx 47\,000$ galaxies in the redshift range $0.1 < z < 1.3$). We have successfully developed a methodology to generate random realizations of the survey incorporating the currently sparse selection function and redshift incompleteness. We find the following.

(i) The WiggleZ galaxy sample in the redshift range $0.1 < z < 1.3$ possesses a clustering length $r_0 = 4.40 \pm 0.12 h^{-1} \text{Mpc}$ and slope $\gamma = 1.92 \pm 0.08$. This clustering amplitude significantly exceeds that of UV-selected samples at $z \approx 0$, and agrees well with that of the most luminous blue galaxies observed by the DEEP2 galaxy redshift survey at $z \approx 1$. The clustering amplitude of WiggleZ targets is comparable to that of LBGs at a similar UV luminosity.

(ii) The clustering length of the WiggleZ targets is approximately constant with redshift for the range $z > 0.3$. The value of r_0 increases with B -, FUV -band luminosity and reddening rest-frame colour.

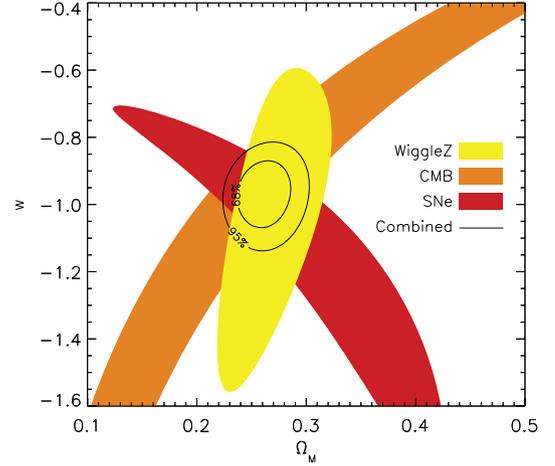


Figure 20. The forecast 68 per cent confidence ellipse for measurement of $(\Omega_m, w_{\text{cons}})$ from the WiggleZ survey plus CMB acoustic scale (the yellow ellipse), compared with existing measurements from the CMB shift parameter (the orange ellipse) and latest supernovae (the red ellipse). The 68 and 95 per cent confidence regions for the combination of all the data sets are displayed as the central contours.

(iii) The redshift-space distortion signature of coherent galaxy motions is detected and its amplitude ($\beta \approx 0.6$) is consistent with that predicted from the galaxy bias. We detect some evidence for ‘fingers of god’ due to the virialized motions of galaxies in clusters.

Using these results, we forecast the performance of the full 1000 deg^2 WiggleZ survey in the measurement of the galaxy power spectrum and cosmological model. We find the following results.

(i) The survey design is well tuned to the ‘optimal’ mean galaxy number density $n \sim P_{\text{gal}}^{-1}$, where P_{gal} is the amplitude of the galaxy power spectrum on the scales of importance for baryon oscillations.

(ii) The survey will delineate the BAOs in the large-scale clustering pattern in three independent redshift slices, providing measurements of the cosmic distance and expansion rate in each redshift slice with accuracies of ≈ 5 per cent.

(iii) The resulting measurement of a constant dark energy equation-of-state parameter w_{cons} from the WiggleZ survey, calibrating the standard ruler using the CMB measurement of the acoustic scale, has a higher precision than provided by current supernova data sets. These independent dark energy probes lie in a highly complementary direction in the parameter space of w_{cons} and Ω_m . The full combination of WiggleZ, supernova and CMB data sets provides a measurement of the equation of state with accuracy $\Delta w_{\text{cons}} = 0.07$, constituting a robust and precise test of the dark

energy model incorporating cross-checking of systematic errors between different probes.

The final survey will enable a wide range of scientific investigations into the cosmological model and galaxy evolution.

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