Using cosmic variance to constrain the dark matter halo mass of Lyman-alpha emitting galaxies at z=3.1

Jaime E. Forero-Romero¹ and Julian Mejía²

¹ Departamento de Física, Universidad de los Andes, Cra. 1 No. 18A-10, Edificio Ip, Bogotá, Colombia

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ABSTRACT

We use cosmological N-body simulations to find the characteristic mass of dark matter halos hosting Lyman-Alpha Emitting (LAE) galaxies at a redshift of z=3.1. The method is based on matching the statistics for the number density between mock and observed fields. The mock catalogs are constructed using a simple model where a dark matter halo can only host one LAE with a probability $f_{\rm occ}$ if its mass is found withing a certain range mass range delimited by two threshold values, M_{\min} and M_{\max} . We find that the most of the models that are consistent the observed cosmic variance statistics are those with halo masses in the range $10.5 < \log_{10} M_{\min}/hMsun < 11.5$ and $\log_{10} M_{\rm max}/h^{-1}{\rm M}_{\odot} < 13.5$ with and occupation fraction that scales as $f_{\rm occ} =$. We explore three additional constraints to narrow down these range: the number of mocks consistent with observations, observational constraints on the occupation fraction and the angular correlation function. The first two conditions narrow down the space parameter to $M_{\min} = \text{and } M_{\max}, f_{\text{occ}}$. The angular correlation function does not add a significant constraint due to the cosmic variance in the small angular fields where this statistics has been computed so far. We make available the mock data for the best models in a public repository. Implications for galaxy formation models?

Key words: galaxies: kinematics and dynamics, Local Group, methods:numerical

1 INTRODUCTION

Lyman- α emitting galaxies (LAEs) have become in the last decade a central topic in studies of structure formation in the Universe. They are helpful in a diverse range of fields. LAEs can be used as probes of reionization (Dijkstra et al. 2011), tracers of large scale structure (Koehler et al. 2007), signposts for low metallicity stellar populations and markers of the the galaxy formation process through cosmic history (Forero-Romero et al. 2012).

At the same time, theoretical and observational developments have contributed to the emergence of a paradigm to describe structure formation in a cosmological context. In this context it is considered that dominant matter content of the Universe is to be found in dark matter, whereby each galaxy is hosted by larger dark matter structure known as a halo.

Most models of galaxy formation find that the mass of the halo can be used to predict properties of the galaxy such as its stellar mass and star formation rate (Behroozi et al. 2012). Processes that regulate the star formation cycle are also though to be strongly dependent on its mass. Furthermore, the spatial clustering of galaxies on large scales is entirely dictated by the halo distribution. For the reasons mentioned above, finding the typical dark matter halo mass hosting LAEs represents a significant step forward to understand the nature of this population in the context of Lambda Cold Dark Matter (Λ CDM) paradigm.

Some theoretical approaches to this problem have been based on a forward modeling. Starting from the DM halo population, the corresponding intrinsic star formation properties are infered and statistics such as the luminosity function, the correlation function and the equivalent width distributions. Such modelling has been implemented from analytic considerations, semi-analytic models and full N-body hidrodynamical simulations (Dayal et al. 2009; Forero-Romero et al. 2011; Yajima et al. 2012; Forero-Romero et al. 2012) .

Added to the uncertainties in the astrophysical processeses describing star formation in galactic populations, a highly debated steps in this approach is the calculation of the fraction of Lyman- α photons that escape the galaxy to the observer. Given the resonance nature of the line, the radiative transfer of Lyman- α is sensitive to the density, temperature, topology and kinematics of the neutral Hydrogen in the interstellar medium (ISM) (Neufeld 1991; Forero-Romero et al. 2011; Laursen et al. 2013).

This complexity makes the use of monte-carlo simulations for the radiative transfer a required tool to obtain physically sound results, although the degeneracy in the physical parameters involved in the problem makes it difficult to achieve a robust consensus on what is the theoretical expected value for the Lyman-alpha escape fraction in high redshift.

Throughout this paper we assume a Λ CDM cosmology with the following values for the cosmological parameters, $\Omega_m = 0.27$, $\Omega_{\Lambda} = 0.73$ and h = 0.70, corresponding to the matter density, vacuum density and the Hubble constant in units of 100 km s⁻¹ Mpc⁻¹.

2 METHODOLOGY

Our method to constrain the typical mass of a dark matter halos hosting LAEs at z=3.1 is based on the comparison of observational results on the surface number density and the predictions of a simple model that uses the outputs from cosmological N-body simulations.

In the next subsections we describe in detail the four key elements of this workflow. First, we present the observations we take as a benchmark. Second, the N-body simulation and the halo catalogs we use. Third, the simplified model that allows us to translated halo catalogs into mock LAE observations. Fourth, the statistics we use to compare observational results against our theoretical predictions.

2.1 Observational Constraints

The observational benchamark we use in this paper is the LAE number density information at z=3.1 obtained by the panoramic narrow-band survey presented by Yamada et al. (2012) from a survey conducted with the Subaru 8.2m telescope and the Subaru Prime Focus Camera, which has a field of view covering 34×27 arcmin, corresponding to a comoving scale of 46×35 Mpc h^{-1} at z=3.09. The narrow band filter is centered at 4977 Åwith a 77Åwidth, corresponding to the redshift range z=3.062-3.125 and 41 Mpc h^{-1} comoving scale for the detection of the Lyman- α line centered at z=3.09. The authors report a total of 2161 LAEs with an observed equivalent width larger than 190Åover a total survey area of 2.42 deg², this corresponds to an averaga surface number density of 0.20 ± 0.01 arcmin⁻².

The survey covered four independent fields. The first is the SSA22 field of $1.38~\rm deg^2$ with $1394~\rm detected$ LAEs, this field has been known to harbor a region with a large density excess of galaxies. The second observed region is composed by the fields Subaru/XMM-Newton Deep Survey (SXDS)-North, -Center and -South, with a total of $0.58~\rm deg^2$ and $386~\rm LAEs$. The third and fourth fields are the Subaru Deep Field (SDF) with $0.22~\rm deg^2$ and $196~\rm LAEs$, and the fild arotund the Great Observatory Optical Deep Survey North (GOODS-N) with $0.24~\rm deg^2$ and $185~\rm LAEs$.

There is abundant observational work done on LAEs at redshift z=3.1 (Kudritzki et al. 2000; Matsuda et al. 2005; Gawiser et al. 2007; Nilsson et al. 2007; Ouchi et al. 2008). However, we decide to focus on the data from Yamada et al. (2012) because it has the largest covered area with homogeneous intrumentational conditions (telescope, narrow band filter), data reduction pipeline and conditions

to construct the LAE catalog. This ensures that the number density variations among fields are due only to astrophysical reasons and not different observational conditions or criteria to construct the catalogs.

2.2 Simulation and Halo Catalogs

The Bolshoi simulation (Klypin et al. 2011) we use in this paper was performed in a cubic volume of 250 h^{-1} Mpc on a side. It includes dark matter distribution is sampled using 2048^3 particles, which translates into a particle mass of $m_{\rm p}=1.35\times 10^8~h^{-1}~{\rm M}_{\odot}$. The cosmological parameters are consistent with a WMAP5 and WMAP7 data with a density $\Omega_{\rm m}=0.27$, cosmological $\Omega_{\Lambda}=0.73$, dimensionless Hubble constant h=0.70, slope of the power spectrum n=0.95 and normalization of the power spectrum $\sigma_8=0.82$ (Komatsu et al. 2009; Jarosik et al. 2011).

We use halo catalogs constructed with a Friend-of-Friends (FOF) algorithm with a linking lenght of 0.17 times the interparticle distance. The minimum halo mass in the models we construct in this paper correspond to groups of ~ 75 particles. The catalogs were obtained from the publicly available Multidark database 1 (Riebe et al. 2011). We focus our work on halos more massive than $1\times 10^{10}h^{-1}{\rm M}_{\odot}$ that are resolved with at least 70 particles.

2.3 A Model to Populate Halos with LAEs

In our model a dark matter halo can only host one or zero LAE. There are three parameters in the model that decide whether a halo can host a galaxy or not: the lower and upper bouds for the mass range $M_{\rm min} < M_{\rm halo} < M_{\rm max}$ where LAEs reside and the fraction $f_{\rm occ}$ of such halos that effectively host a LAE. We do not assign a luminosity to each each LAE. We are primaraly interested in constraining the halo mass range hosting detectable LAEs under the conditions defined by Yamada et al. (2012). In what follows will describe by the letter $\mathcal M$ a model defined by an specific choice of the three scalar parameters $M_{\rm min}$, $M_{\rm max}$ y $f_{\rm occ}$.

For each model \mathcal{M} we create a set of mock fields from disjoint volumes in the simulation. Each volume has the same geometry probed by Suprime-CAM and the narrow band filter, namely rectangular cuboids of dimensions $46\times35\times41~h^{-3}\mathrm{Mpc^3}$ where the last dinemsion goes in the redshift direction. This corresponds to a total area of 880 arcmin² in each mock field. We construct a total $5\times7\times6=210$ of such volumes from a snapshot in the Bolshoi simulation.

Next we construct mock surveys by making groups of 11 mock fields out of the 210 available volumes. In total 15 mock surveys are constructed for each model \mathcal{M} . The grouping is done in two different ways. In the first way, called match, we follow the clustering of the observed fields. From the 11 mock fields, 7 are constructed from contigous fields in the simulation to mimic the SSA22 region, 3 are also contiguous between them but not to the first 7 fields to mimic the SXDS fields and finally 2 non-contigous fields to imitate the SDF and GOODS-North field. Our main goal with this selection is to test the impact on the final statistics

¹ http://www.multidark.org/MultiDark/

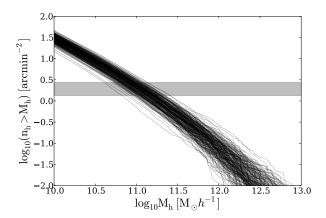


Figure 1. Cumulative mass function of dark matter haloes in the 210 sub-volumes of $46 \times 35 \times 41~h^{-3}Mpc^3$. The variation in the total number of dark matter halos per sub-volume evidences the effect of cosmic variance at such sub-volume scale. It is also appreciable the low population $\lesssim 10^{-3}h^2Mpc^{-2}$ of halos with $log(M/M_{\odot}) > 12.0$

of having 7 clustered fields. The second way to group the mock fields is called random, whereby all the 11 fields are selected in such a way as to avoid that any two volumes are contigous.

2.4 Model Sampling and Selection

We generate a series of models \mathcal{M} with different input parameters $\{M_{\min}, M_{\max}, f_{\text{occ}}\}$ as follows. M_{\min} and M_{\max} are allowed to take 30 different values evenly spaced by 0.1 dex, M_{\min} ranges from $\log_{10} M_{\min} = 10.0$ up to $\log_{10} M_{\min} = 12.9$, while M_{\max} range from $\log_{10} M_{\min} = 10.1$ up to $\log_{10} M_{\min} = 13.0$. The occupation fraction f_{occ} takes 100 different values from 0.01 to 1.00 regularly spaced by 0.01. In total the number of different sets of input parameters to be explored is $30 \times 30 \times 100 = 9 \times 10^4$.

For each model \mathcal{M} we compute the LAE surface density distributions for the three different ways of grouping the mock fields, as described in the previous section. For each sub-volume we project the positions of the LAE hosting halos along the z direction and calculate its surface number density in units of sources per arcmin². For each number density distribution we perform a Kolmogorov-Smirnov against the 12 surface density observational values. From this test we obtain the value 0 < P < 1 to reject the null hypothesis, namely that the two data sets come from the same distribution. In this paper we use values of P > 0.1 to consider that the simulated and observed number densities come from the same distribution.

3 RESULTS

3.1 Dark Matter Halo Number Density

In Figure ?? we present the results for the integrated dark matter halo surface density as a function of halos mass. Each line corresponds to one of the 210 sub-volumes in the Bolshoi

simulation. The shadowed area indicates the surface density values for LAEs allowed by the observations.

This result allows us to better understand the expected trends for the LAEs' preferred mass and the occupation fraction. From this Figure we can read which models do not have a chance reproduce the observations. Regions in the plot where the halo surface density values are below the observational constraint correspond to high masses halo masses. For a LAE model $\mathcal M$ with a minimum mass $M_{\rm min} > 3 \times 10^{11} h^{-1} {\rm M}_{\odot} {\rm located}$ in that mass range, the surface density is too low compared with observations.

Conversely, there are regions in the plot where the halo surface density is always higher than the observational constraints correspond to models \mathcal{M} with a minimum mass below $M_{\rm min} < 3 \times 10^{10} h^{-1} {\rm M}_{\odot}$. Models with this minimum mass hava a chance for successfuly reproducing observations if the occupation fraction $f_{\rm occ} < 1$ is tuned as to lower the halo number density down to the observed value.

3.2 Kolmogorov-Smirnov Tests

Figure presents the regions in the parameter space $M_{\rm min}$ $M_{\rm max}$ where the KS test yields values of P>0.05. We consider that for those models it is not possible to rule out the null hypothesis, namely that the number density in simulated data and the observations come from the same parent distribution. Each panel corresponds to the three different ways of grouping the mock fields. In the case of the methods Match and Random the color code indicates the fraction of these 15 mock surveys with with P>0.1. The third panel shows the result for the method Full, in this case the color code correspond to the value maximum value of $100 \times P$ for a model with those mass ranges.

These results clearly distinguish three mass regimes. In the first regime, at high mass values, we find that LAE models with minimum mass of $M_{\rm min} > 10^{11.5} h^{-1} \rm M_{\odot}$ are not compatible with observations. There is a second regime for masses below $M_{\rm min} = 3 \times 10^{10}$ any values for $M_{\rm min}$ and $M_{\rm max}$ can be made compatible with observations, provided that $f_{\rm occ}$ is fine tuned to do it. In an intermediate mass regime, for minimum mass values $3 \times 10^{10} h^{-1} \rm M_{\odot} < M_{\rm min} < 3 \times 10^{11} h^{-1} \rm M_{\odot}$ only a limited range of models with $M_{\rm max}$ with occupation fraction $f_{\rm occ} \sim 1$ is able to reproduce observations.

In these three different mass regimes the occupation monotonically decreases as a function of the minimum halo mass $M_{\rm min}$. In Figure XXX we show this treend in three panels following the same correspondence as Figure XXX. From these results we interpret that the different mass regimes that were identified correspond to best fit models with $f_{\rm occ} \sim 1$, $0 < f_{\rm occ} < 1$ and $f_{\rm occ} \sim 0$, respectively.

The two match and random methods present the highest number of matching mock surveys in the medium mass regime. However, it is important to keep in mind that not all the mock surveys for a successful model M present a high value P>0.1, only a modest fraction seems to be consistent with observations. This shows that the cosmic variance is still present on the physical scales probed by observations. This will be considered in more detail in the discussion seccion.

To illustrate this point, in Figure ?? we present the results for two mock fields for the Match method for a model

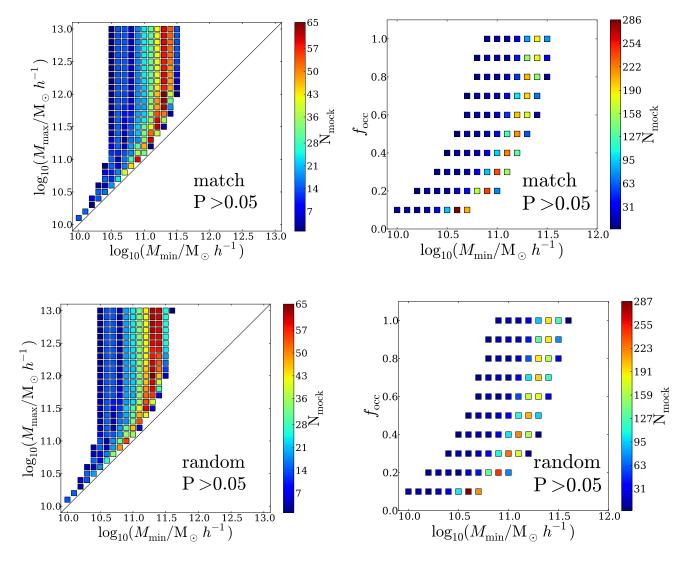


Figure 2. M_{min} - M_{max} plane for all models with P > 0.05 in the three different of grouping the mock fields. In the case of the match and random methods the color code corresponds to the number of mock surveys that are found to be compatible with observations. For the full method the colour code corresponds to the results of 100 times the maximum P value resulting from the KS test. .

with the same parameters, but two extreme values for the KS test.

Conversely there are different models where the KS test yield values of $P \sim 1$. To illustrate the kind of success represented by these models, we have selected these best ones in the case of the method MatchObs. Figure XXX shows in the main panel the spatial distribution of the mock surveys, the smaller panel shows the corresponding surface density distribution and the observational constraint.

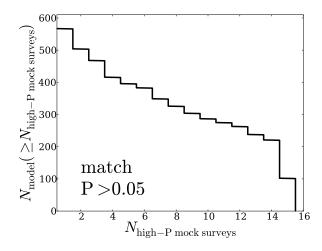
In what follows we will focus our discussion on the mocks constructed with the Match and Random methods.

3.3 Additional Constraints

The raw results of our experiments yield a prefered range for halo masses hosting LAES bounded by a minimum mass $10^{10}h^{-1}\mathrm{M}_{\odot} < M_{\mathrm{min}} < 10^{11.5}h^{-1}\mathrm{M}_{\odot}$ and without any limitation on the maximum mass. In this regime the average occupation fraction varies with an approximate dependence

of the kind $f_{occ} \approx 0.1 (M_{\rm min}/10^{10})^{XX}$. These results discard models that were nevertheless disfavored from the very beginning based on the results of the mass functions (see Figure 1.).

In this section we consider three different ways to impose tighter constraints on this mass range by making use of the results we have derived so far together with additional statistical and astrophysical constraints. In the first constraint we select the models where all the mock surveys present KS-test values consistent with observations. The second constraints uses recent observational results on the average occupation fraction for LAEs at high-z. The third exploits the information in the Angular Correlation Function (ACF).



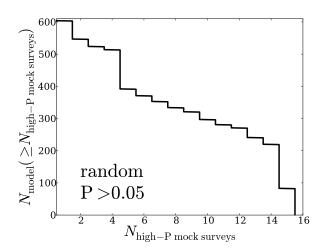


Figure 3. Number of models with a minimum number of mock survey realizations that are consistent with observations.

3.3.1 Models with the highest success rates

For each model there are 15 different mock survey realizations. In the previous section we presented the models that had at least one (1) mock survey realization with P > 0.05.

In Figure 3 we show the number of models that have at least n realizations with P>0.05 for the match and random methods. This shows that there are around 550 to 600 different models that have at leaset one mock survey realization consistent with observations. At the other extreme, there are 80 to 100 models with all the 15 realizations with P>0.05. Here we focuse on the latter models. The best models represent $\sim 15\%$ of the number of initially considered good models.

In Figure XX we present the locii of these models in the parameter space $M_{\rm min}-M_{\rm max}$ and $M_{\rm min}-f_{\rm occ}$. In Figure XX we show the spatial distribution for two mock surveys corresponding to one of such models.

3.3.2 Observational constraints on the occupation fraction

We now impose a different restriction using the observational results by Hayes et al. (2010). These authors constrained the value of $f_{\rm occ}$ at z=2.2 to be $f_{\rm occ}=0.10$. This estimation was based on blind surveys of the H α and Lyman alpha line with the European Southern Observatorio (ESO) Very Large Telescope (VLT). Using corrections by extinction to obtain an estimate for the intrinsic $H\alpha$ luminosity, and using values for the theoretical expectation of the ratio Lyman $\alpha/H\alpha$ they derive an bulk escape fraction for the Lyman α radiation of $f_{\rm esc} = (5.3 \pm 3.8)\%$ or $f_{\rm esc} = (10.7 \pm 2.8)$ if a different dust correction is used. The authors show that the luminosity function for LAEs at z = 2.2 is consistent with the escape fraction being constant for every galaxy regardless of its luminosity. From this results they derive that almost 90% of the star forming galaxies emit insufficient Lyman-alpha to be detected, effectively setting the occupation fraction to be $f_{\rm occ} = 0.10$.

For the cosmological parameters used in this paper the age of the universe between z=3.1 and z=2.2 has changed by ~ 1 Gyr. We assume that the physical conditions that

determine the escape fraction $f_{\rm esc}$ and the occupation fraction $f_{\rm occ}$ remain constant over that time scale. This assumption allows us to further pick models that have an occupation fraction of $f_{\rm occ}=0.10$. Under this selection only 18 models can be selected. Considering an occupation fraction $f_{\rm occ}=0.20$ another 39 models can be considered. This constraint help us to select $\sim 10\%$ of the original models that were considered as consistent with observations in the previous section.

Figure XX shows the preferred models in the planes $M_{\rm min}-M_{\rm max}$ and $M_{\rm min}-f_{\rm occ}$ for the match and random methods. The list for the model parameters is found in the appendix in Table XX.

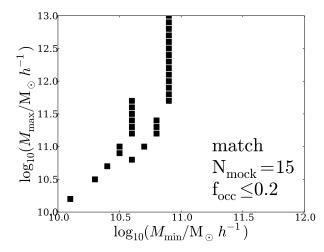
In terms of the constraints done in the previous subsection, we find that the models in this region of parameter space have an average number of XX mock catalogs consistent with observations.

3.3.3 Constraints from the Angular Correlation Function

We calculate the mean angular correlation function (ACF) only for the models that showed that all of the 15 mock surveys are consistent at the P>0.05 level with observations. The ACF is computed only the denseset subfield in all the 15 mock surveys corresponding to the SSA22 region. These results are compared against the observations reported by Hayashino et al in 2004 over the same region, which were also performed on the densest field.

Figure ?? (match) and Figure ?? (random) present such comparison. The error bars in these figures represent the standard deviation of the ACF over all the sub-fields. In general, we observe that the standard deviation of the computed ACF in the subfields increases with M_{min} following the same trend as in Figure 1, as a direct consequence of cosmic variance.

The comparison between the simulated and observed ACFs is also done using a \mathbb{R}^2 statistic which includes the information on measurement uncertainties



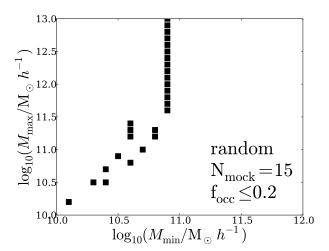


Figure 4. Favored models when the constraints on the maximal number of consistent mocks and the observational constrain on the occupation fraction are included.

$$R^{2} = \sum_{\theta_{i}} \frac{(\xi_{\text{obs}}(\theta_{i}) - \xi_{\text{sim}}(\theta_{i}))^{2}}{\sigma_{\text{obs}}^{2}(\theta_{i}) + \sigma_{\text{sim}}^{2}(\theta_{i})}, \tag{1}$$

where the sum is done over all the angle values θ_i where the ACF has been computed. In Figure XX we plot the integrated distributions for this R^2 statistics

Given that the ACF reported by Hayashino et al en 2004 is taken over the densest field oserved in the SSA22 region by Yamada et el in 2012 it is expected that the predicted ACF in the SSA22 region should reproduce this observation. In the left panel of figure ?? we can see the predicted ACFs an their corresponding standard deviation over the seven fields that mock the SSA22 region. It can be seen that the model with $M_min=10.6$ seems to better reproduce the Hayashino's ACF and that the corresponding field is in fact an overdense field in the SSA22 region covered by Yamada et al.

From these tests we conclude that the ACF on small fields does not provide additional constraints to further select models for halos hosting LAEs. The reason is that cosmic variance is large and the statistical uncertainties on the ACF render almost any model compatible with the observational constraints.

We also present the ACF in the case of the full SSA22 region which has been homogeneously observed by (Yamada et al. 2012). To this date the observational ACF has not been reported in the litereature, therefore our calculations can be considered as predictions.

In Figure X we present the results for the models. The full list of these correlation functions can be found in the the data repository for this paper in github.

We also present the results for the angular correlation function in therms of the correlation length obtained by fitting the following function

$$\xi(r) = \left(\frac{r}{r_0}\right)^{-\gamma} \tag{2}$$

The results are shown in Figure in a $r_0 - \gamma$ plane where

the average and standard deviation for each mock are shown in comparison with the result derived from observations.

4 DISCUSSION

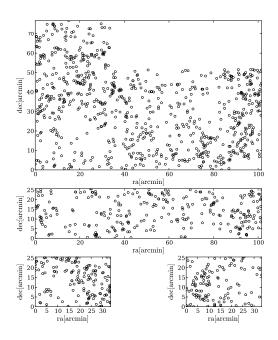
When we include the tightest constraints on the mock catalogs, we find that there are 30 set of parameters of our model, out of the original 90000 initial models, that are consistent with the observational constraints at redshift 3.1: the distribution of the number density, the inferred values for the average occupation fraction. The consistency with the angular correlation, in terms of the χ^2 statistics did not help to discard any additional models with a significant degree of confidence.

These 30 models can be classified into two families of the same size. The first, where the range $M_{\rm min}-M_{\rm max}$ is narrow, typically of less than < 1.0 dex. While in the second familiy the extent > 1.0 dex. In the first case the minimum halo mass is found to be in a wide range $10^{10}h^{-1}{\rm M}_{\odot} < M_{\rm min} < 10^{11.5}h^{-1}{\rm M}_{\odot}$ while in the second case, only models with $M_{\rm min} \sim 10^{10.9}h^{-1}{\rm M}_{\odot}$ are compatible with the observational contraints. In what follows we discuss the implications of the existence of these two families of models.

4.1 Implications for galaxy formation models

In the case of a narrow of masses to host LAEs the upper masses are bound to be $M_{\rm max} < 10^{11.5} h^{-1} {\rm M}_{\odot}$ as it is show in Figure 4. For halos more massive than this bound it is naturally expected that the galaxies can be observed as Lyman Break Galaxies (LBGs). This would imply that not all the bright LBGs can detected as a LAE.

We have the opposite situation in the second familiy of models. If we have a wide range in halo masses, where the upper end of the halo masses can be considered as observed LAEs, one can expect that bright LBGs will have a correspondence as observed LAEs. The most interesting aspect is that there is a clear cut in the minimal mass that can be attained by observed LAEs $M_{\rm min} > 10^{11} h^{-1} {\rm M}_{\odot}$. This puts



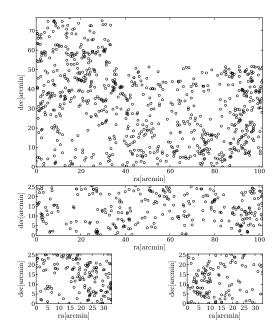


Figure 5. Spatial distribution for two mocks corresponding to the model $M_{\min} = M_{\max} = \text{and } f_{\text{occ}} = 0.4$. All the 15 different mock surveys for this model in the match configuration are consistent with observations at the P > 0.05 level. The full data for all the mocks can be found in the github repository for this paper.

a tight constraint on the relationship between the minimum star formation rate required to be observed as a LAE and this minimal halo mass.

- ... Intrinsic emission and escape fraction.
- ... Star formation rate efficiency at this redshift.
- ... Mass dependence of the escape fraction.

4.2 Implications for large LAEs surveys

... The bias for the preferred halo mass.

- ... The scale at which cosmic variance drops.
- ... This can be observationally tested with HETDEX.

4.3 On the reproducibility of our results

 \dots All the software to produce the results in this paper is publicly available.

... The raw catalogs can be obtained from the MultiDark database but can also be obtained in the repository of this paper on github.

5 CONCLUSIONS

In this paper we constrain the preferred mass for dark matter halos hosting Lyman Alpha Emitters at a redshift z=3.1. We use a method that matches the cosmic variance in the surface density number of LAEs between mock and real observations. The mock catalogs are based on a simplified model with three basic parameters: the halo mass range where LAEs can be found, $M_{\rm min} < M_{\rm h} < M_{\rm max}$, and the fraction of the halos in this range that are actully occupied, $f_{\rm occ}$. After a thorugh exploration of the parameter space we are able to constrain the mass range of dark matter halos hosting LAEs to be in the range $< M_h <$ and a corresponding occupation fraction that escales as $f_{occ} = M_{min}$.

We use three additional constraints to reduce the allowed range of models. The first imposes a tighter criterion to consider a model successful, namely that all the mock surveys for a given model must be consistent with observations. This restriction narrows down the allowed range of models to be.

The second constraint is based on the observational results that high redshift LAEs have a bulk Lyman alpha escape fraction of XX which can be also interepreted as an average occupation fraction of XX.

Including additional observational constraints on the occupation fraction allows us to reduce the range of allowed halo masses to be in a narrower range of $< M_{\rm h} <$. Including the information from the angular correlation function (ACF) does not allows us to impose further constraints. This is due to the scatter in the ACF due to the cosmic variance on the field observed by XXX

We simulation allows us to extract 210 sub-boxes each of which has a comparable volume to the individual fields of view observed by Yamada et al. (2012). The comparison of the observed number density distribution against the results from our model is based on three different ways of constructing mock surveys. The first reproduces the spatial correlation between the 12 observational fields (match), the second breaks this spatial correlation while keeping the number of fields (random) and the third one simply includes all the 210 sub-boxes (full). We find that the methods match and random allow a larger set of models than the random method. We do not find a significant difference between the two first methods.

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