

Photometric Redshift Calibration of the Dark Energy Survey

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The Dark Energy Survey

- Survey project using 4 complementary techniques:
 - I. Cluster Counts
 - II. Weak Lensing
 - III. Large-scale Structure
 - IV. Supernovae
- Two multiband imaging surveys: 5000 deg² grizY to 24th mag 30 deg² time-domain griz (SNe)
- New 3 deg² FOV, 570 Megapixel camera on the Blanco 4m
 Survey 2012 2018 (525 pights)

Survey 2013-2018 (525 nights) Premiere facility instrument for astronomy community



DECam on the Blanco 4m at CTIO



DES photometric redshifts

- DES will rely on photometric redshifts (photo-z's), i.e., redshifts determined from photometric imaging data, in primarily the 5 DES filters grizY (plus u band and near-IR JHK as available)
- Photo-z's are needed for both the 5000 deg² DES main survey area, as well as the deeper 30 deg² DES supernova (SN) survey area
- Well understood photo-z's and photo-z errors are vital for deriving accurate cosmology constraints from the different DES dark energy probes
- Large and deep samples of galaxies with spectroscopic redshifts, combined with DES photometry, are used to train and calibrate DES photo-z measurements



DES Science Verification (SV) spectroscopic redshift training set fields

- ugrizY imaging was obtained during DES Science Verification (SV; Nov 2012 Feb 2013) on 4 fields with deep spectroscopic redshift training set data
- VVDS Deep 02hr (in DES supernova X3 deep field)
 - VVDS Deep redshift sample to I_{AB} < 24
- CDFS (in DES supernova C3 deep field)
 - VVDS Deep redshift sample to I_{AB} < 24
 - ACES redshift sample to i <≈ 23
 - OzDES Deep redshift sample to i < 21
- VVDS Wide 14hr
 - VVDS Wide redshift sample to I_{AB} < 22.5
- COSMOS (courtesy of DECam community program, PI A. Dey)
 - zCOSMOS Bright redshift sample to I_{AB} < 22.5
 - VVDS Wide 10hr redshift sample to I_{AB} < 22.5
- Plus additional bright redshift samples in above fields from SDSS-I/II, SDSS-III/ BOSS, and 2dFGRS



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DECam focal plane shown by g,r,i color composite, coadded image of DES supernova X3 deep field taken during science verification





Photo-z comparison tests on DES SV data: Standardized redshift samples

- Goal to compare, test, and optimize photo-z codes used in the DES Photo-z Working Group
- "Standardized" training and validation galaxy redshift data sets assembled for use by all codes
 - "Main": DES main survey depth photometry
 - 5859 (training set) + 6381 (validation set) high-confidence redshifts
 - "Deep": typically 3x exposure of single supernova deep field visit
 - 7249 (training set) + 8358 (validation set) high-confidence redshifts
- Standardized set of DECam system throughput curves also assembled for use



Photo-z comparison tests on DES SV data: Comparison test metrics

- Comparison tests of photo-z codes based on a set of metrics, primarily the following (with DES science requirements in parentheses):
 - Mean bias z(phot) z(spec)
 - Scatter σ and σ_{68} (< 0.12)
 - 2σ (< 10%) and 3σ (< 1.5%) outlier fractions
 - Bias and σ of z(phot) z(spec) normalized by the photo-z error
 - N_{Poisson}: rms difference between photo-z and true z distributions, normalized by Poisson fluctuations
- Metrics applied after culling 10% of galaxies in each method with largest photo-z errors, per science requirements
- Metrics also weighted to account for incompleteness of redshift samples, in order to be appropriate for an i < 24 DES galaxy sample



Photo-z comparison tests on DES SV data: Photo-z codes

- 19 different entries have been submitted from within the DES Photo-z Working Group
- 3 broad categories of methods
 - Training-based methods: e.g., ANNz, TPZ
 - Template-fitting methods: e.g., BPZ, LePhare, HyperZ, ZEBRA, EAZY
 - P(z) methods: e.g., LePhare P(z), ZEBRA P(z), BPZ P(z), ArborZ
- Comparison tests still ongoing and iterating, so following slides will just show preliminary summary results without specific methods named, except for one example method
- Results shown are for tests using "Main" sample, using DES main survey depth grizY photometry, though other tests (e.g., "Deep" samples and photometry) are also ongoing



Example photo-z results, for DESDM neural network method





Example photo-z statistics, for DESDM neural network method



Photo-z scatter σ_{68} vs. mean bias





Error-normalized σ vs. error-normalized bias



Redshift distribution metric N_{Poisson} vs. mean bias





Photo-z comparison tests on DES SV data: Summary of preliminary results

- Most methods meet DES photo-z scatter requirement σ_{68} < 0.12
- All methods meet requirement that 2σ outlier fraction < 10%, and a few methods also meet 3σ outlier fraction < 1.5%, though most methods are close at < 2%
- Nearly all methods underestimate the photo-z error, with most methods within a factor < 2
- Performance of training-based methods show more uniformity among entries, compared to template-fitting and P(z) methods
 - Further debugging/optimization of some methods needed



DES photo-z calibrations: next steps

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- Finish comparison tests of SV data, choose a few optimal methods, and compute photo-z's for full DES SV photometric data set
- First DES observing season begins Aug 31, and will cover larger sky areas useful for photo-z calibrations, in particular
 - SDSS Stripe 82: much larger area overlap with SDSS-I/II, SDSS-III/BOSS, and eBOSS, enabling cross-correlation techniques to estimate redshift distributions
 - Overlap with more deep samples, including VIPERS, DEEP2, CNOC2, WiggleZ
- Spectroscopic redshift follow-up programs also in progress or planned, including
 - OzDES Deep observations on AAT of 30 deg² DES SN fields, including photo-z targets: magnitude limited i < 21 galaxies, LRGs, and ELGs
 - Magellan/IMACS pilot program to improve completeness of VVDS Deep sample
 - ESO's recent call for public spectroscopic surveys on VLT/VIMOS
- Combine optical DES photometry with near-IR VHS photometry to improve photo-z's at redshifts z ~ 1 and above



- DECam imaging obtained during DES Science Verification (SV) period
 - 4 fields observed with deep spectroscopic redshift training set data
 - Photometry for 15,000 galaxies with high-confidence redshifts for photo-z calibration and testing purposes
- Photo-z code comparison and testing project being carried out by DES Photo-z Working Group using this SV data set
 - Preliminary results show that codes can meet DES requirements on photo-z scatter and outlier fractions
 - Test still ongoing and codes continue to be optimized on the real SV data
- Upcoming first season of DES, plus ongoing and planned spectroscopic follow-up observations, will provide data to further improve DES photo-z calibrations