CORRELATIONS IN THE (SUB)MILLIMETER BACKGROUND FROM ACT $\times$ BLAST

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ABSTRACT

We present measurements of the auto- and cross-frequency correlation power spectra of the cosmic (sub)millimeter background at: 250, 350, and 500 $\mu$m (1200, 860, and 600 GHz) from observations made with the Balloon-borne Large Aperture Submillimeter Telescope, BLAST; and at 1380 and 2030 $\mu$m (218 and 148 GHz) from observations made with the Atacama Cosmology Telescope, ACT. The overlapping observations cover 8.6 deg$^2$ in an area relatively free of Galactic dust near the south ecliptic pole (SEP). The ACT bands are sensitive to radiation from the CMB, the Sunyaev-Zel'dovich (SZ) effect from galaxy clusters, and to emission by radio and dusty star-forming galaxies (DSFGs), while the dominant contribution to the BLAST bands is from DSFGs. We confirm and extend the BLAST analysis of clustering with an independent pipeline, and also detect correlations between the ACT and BLAST maps at over 25σ significance, which we interpret as a detection of the DSFGs in the ACT maps. In addition to a Poisson component in the cross-frequency power spectra, we detect a clustered signal at 4σ, and using a model for the DSFG evolution and number counts, we successfully fit all our spectra with a linear clustering model and a bias that depends only on redshift and not on scale. Finally, the data are compared to, and generally agree with, phenomenological models for the DSFG population. This study represents a first of its kind, and demonstrates the constraining power of the cross-frequency correlation technique to constrain models for the DSFGs. Similar analyses with more data will impose tight constraints on future models.

Subject headings: cosmology: cosmic microwave background, cosmology: cosmology: observations, submillimeter: galaxies - infrared: galaxies - galaxies: evolution - (cosmology:) large-scale structure of universe

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1. INTRODUCTION

Roughly half of all the light in the extragalactic sky which originated from stars is as a nearly uniform cosmic infrared background (CIB; Puget et al. 1996; Fixsen et al. 1998). This background peaks in intensity at around 200 μm (Dole et al. 2006), and results from thermal re-radiation of optical and UV starlight by dust grains, meaning that half of all the light emitted by stars is hidden by a veil of dust.

Following its discovery, stacking analyses have statistically resolved most of the CIB shortward of 500 μm into discrete, dusty star-forming galaxies (DSFG), and to a lesser extent radio galaxies, at z ≤ 3 (e.g., Dole et al. 2006; Devlin et al. 2009; Marsden et al. 2009; Pascale et al. 2009). Longward of 500 μm, the contribution from radio galaxies and higher-redshift DSFG to the CIB increases dramatically with increasing wavelength (e.g., Béthermin et al. 2010), and as a result, the CIB at these wavelengths has yet to be fully resolved into discrete sources (e.g., Zemcov et al. 2010). At wavelengths longward of ~ 1 mm, while both radio sources and DSFGs (e.g., Weiß et al. 2009; Vieira et al. 2010) are still present, signal from the cosmic microwave background (CMB) becomes visible and dominates the power on angular scales larger than ~ 7 arcmin (ℓ ~ 3000) at λ = 2 mm.

To fully realize the cosmological information encoded in the CMB power spectrum, contributions to it from sources must be removed. At current mm-wave detection and resolution levels, the radio sources are primarily discrete (Poisson) while the DSFGs are confusion limited and clustered. For example, at 148 GHz the power spectrum of DSFGs roughly equals the CMB power spectrum at ℓ ≈ 3000. Thus knowledge of DSFGs is important for understanding the scalar spectral index of the primordial fluctuations and other parameters encoded in the high-ℓ CMB power spectrum.

Because CMB maps contain signal from multiple contributors, determining precisely the level at which galaxies contribute to the CMB power spectra is non-trivial. Submillimeter (submm) maps, on the other hand, for the most part contain signal from dusty galaxies, so that cross-frequency correlations of submm and mm-wave maps provide a unique way to isolate the contribution of DSFGs to the CMB maps. However, submm maps of adequate area and depth have until now not existed.

Here we present the first measurement of the cross-frequency power spectra of submm and mm-wave maps. We use mm-wave data from the Atacama Cosmology Telescope (ACT; Fowler et al. 2007; Swetz et al. 2010) at 1380 and 2030 μm (218 and 148 GHz), collected during the 2008 observing season, and submm wave data from the Balloon-borne Large Aperture Submillimeter Telescope (BLAST; Pascale et al. 2008; Devlin et al. 2009) at 250, 350, and 500 μm (1200, 860, and 600 GHz), which were collected during its 11 day flight, at ~ 40 km altitude, in Antarctica in 2006. We use these to measure the power from DSFGs, both Poisson and clustered. These results will complement those anticipated from the Planck mission (Tauber et al. 2010) by extending to higher resolution in the mm-wave regime.

This paper is organized as follows: In § 2 we briefly overview the sources of signal in the submm and mm-wave sky, their spectral signatures, and the models we adopt to describe them. In §§ 3 and 4 we describe the data and detail the techniques used to measure the power spectra. We present our results in § 5, and interpret them in terms of a linear clustering model in § 6. We discuss and conclude in §§ 7 and 8.

2. THE (SUB)MILLIMETER BACKGROUND

The dominant contribution to the cosmic submillimeter and millimeter-wave background, referred to hereafter as the CSB, depends strongly on wavelength and angular scale. One map may have contributions from galaxies, CMB, and the Sunyaev-Zel’dovich (SZ) effect simultaneously.

2.1. Power Spectra

The beam-corrected power spectrum of the sky is a superposition, depending on wavelength, of the following terms:

\[
C^{\text{sky}}_\ell = C^{\text{CSB}}_\ell + C^{\text{CMB}}_\ell + C^{\text{radio}}_\ell + C^{\text{DSFG}}_\ell + C^{\text{IR}}_\ell + N_\ell,
\]

where \(C_\ell\) represents the angular power spectrum in multipole space, ℓ, and \(N_\ell\) is the noise. Here “csrb” refers to emission from Galactic dust (§ 2.6), “ff” refers to free-free emission, and “radio” refers to radio sources, whose flux increases at longer wavelengths (§ 2.4). It is assumed that diffuse synchrotron radiation is negligible. For the purposes of this paper we consider GHz-peaked sources and similar objects as radio sources. Equation 1 assumes that the various components are uncorrelated, when in reality, correlations among various components likely exist. Typically, however, these correlations should be small and can be reasonably neglected. Furthermore, we define the power from the extragalactic sky as

\[C^{\text{CSB}}_\ell = C^{\text{sky}}_\ell - C^{\text{CMB}}_\ell - C^{\text{IR}}_\ell.\]

The \(C^{\text{CMB}}_\ell\) component is negligible for the area of the sky we are dealing with and we ignore it. In what follows we report cross power spectra as both \(C_\ell\) and \(P(k_\theta)\), with \(k_\theta\) the angular wavenumber. To convert from multipole ℓ to \(k_\theta\), or from \(\mu K^2\) to Jy^2 sr^-1, see Appendix A.

In order to isolate the spectra of one or more contributors to the background requires removal, or adequate modeling, of the unwanted power. Since the contributors have distinct spectral signatures (i.e., their flux densities vary from band to band differently), multi-frequency observations make decomposition of the signal possible. For discrete sources, the ratio of flux densities from band to band is

\[
\frac{S_{\nu_1}}{S_{\nu_2}} = \left(\frac{\nu_1}{\nu_2}\right)^{\alpha_{\nu_1} - \alpha_{\nu_2}},
\]

where \(\alpha_{\nu_1} - \alpha_{\nu_2}\) is the “spectral index,” and is a function of the rest-frame spectral energy distributions (SEDs) of the sources that make up the galaxy population, and their redshift distributions. Consequently, measurements of the spectral indices can place powerful constraints on source population models (e.g., Marsden et al. 2010; Béthermin et al. 2010).

2.2. CMB
At wavelengths longer than ~ 1 mm ($\nu = 350$ GHz) the CMB dominates the power spectrum on scales greater than ~ 8'. Multiple peaks in the spectrum have been measured most recently by: Brown et al. (2009); Friedman et al. (2009); Reichardt et al. (2009a,b); Sayers et al. (2009); Lueker et al. (2010); Sharp et al. (2010); Fowler et al. (2010); Das et al. (2010); and Nolta et al. (2009). Secondary anisotropies include: CMB lensing, which acts to smooth out the peaks and add excess power to the damping tail; and the SZ effect, which distorts the primordial CMB signal.

In the present analysis, the CMB power in ACT maps, which dominates on large scales, does not correlate with signal in the BLAST maps; however, it does act to increase the noise on those scales (see Appendix B).

2.3. Dusty Star-Forming Galaxies

DSFGs, as their name implies, are galaxies undergoing vigorous star formation, much of which is optically obscured by dust. They have average flux densities of 5 mJy (at 250 µm; Marsden et al. 2009), star-formation rates (SFRs) of $\sim 100 - 200 \, M_{\odot} \, yr^{-1}$ (Pascale et al. 2009; Moncelsi et al. 2010), number densities of $\sim 2 \times 10^{-4} \, Mpc^{-3}$ (e.g., van Dokkum et al. 2009), and typically lie at redshifts 0 - 4, with the peak in the distribution at $z \sim 2$ (Amblard et al. 2010). They are distinguished from “submillimeter galaxies” (SMGs) discovered by SCUBA (Smail et al. 1997; Hughes et al. 1998; Eales et al. 1999), which are ten times less abundant (Coppin et al. 2006), lie at slightly higher redshifts (Chapman et al. 2005), have SFR ~ 1000 $M_{\odot} \, yr^{-1}$, and are thought to be triggered largely by major mergers (Engel et al. 2010). They are of course related: SMGs comprise the extreme, high-redshift end of the DSFG population. The dust in DSFGs absorbs starlight and re-emits it in the IR/submm, with a spectral energy distribution (SED) phenomenologically well approximated by a modified blackbody,

$$S_{\nu} \propto \nu^{\beta} B(\nu),$$

where $B(\nu)$ is the Planck function, and $\beta$ is the emissivity index (whose value typically spans 1.5 - 2; e.g., Draine & Lee 1984). The SED of a typical DSFG with temperature $\sim 30 \, K$ and $\beta = 2$ (Chapin et al. 2010) peaks at rest-frame $\lambda \sim 100 \, \mu m$ (which redshifts into the submillimeter at $z \sim 1 - 10$). A property of this shape is that with increasing redshifts, observations in the (sub)mm bands continue to sample at a rest-frame wavelength close to the peak of the SED, so that even though sources become more distant, their apparent flux remains roughly constant. This so-called negative K-correction makes observations at longer wavelengths more sensitive to higher redshift sources (Blain et al. 2003). As a result, sources at $z \sim 1$ have a significant impact on the power spectrum at (sub)mm bands.

The cross-power spectrum between frequency bands 1 and 2 arising from unclustered sources is related to the number counts, i.e., the surface density $N$ as a function of flux density ($S$) as follows

$$C_{\ell}^{\text{Poisson}} = \int_{0}^{S_{\text{cut}}} \int_{0}^{S_{\text{cut}}} S_{1} S_{2} d^{2}N \frac{dS_{1} dS_{2}}{dS_{1} dS_{2}} dS_{1} dS_{2},$$

where $dN/dS \Delta S$ is the number of sources per unit solid angle in a flux bin of width $\Delta S$, at frequency bands 1 and 2, and $S_{\text{cut}}$ is the flux density at which the counts are truncated. When the slope of the counts is steeper than $-3$, the power diverges at low flux densities, and the power spectrum is dominated by the contribution to the background from faint sources. In the case of DSFGs, the strong evolution of the source counts with redshift results in a steep slope at the faint end (Devlin et al. 2009), so that after masking local sources (with $S_{\text{cut}} \lesssim 500 \, mJy$) the DSFG component of the CIB at $\lambda > 250 \, \mu m$ is dominated by faint sources and remains finite.

Since galaxies are spatially correlated (being biased tracers of the underlying dark matter field), the DSFG power spectrum has both Poisson and clustered components:

$$C_{\ell}^{\text{DSFG}} = C_{\ell}^{\text{DSFG, Poisson}} + C_{\ell}^{\text{DSFG, clustered}}.$$  

The measured strength of the clustered component is such that it dominates over the Poisson on scales $\gtrsim 3'$ (Viero et al. 2009, hereafter V09) and (Marsden et al. 2009; Hall et al. 2010; Dunkley et al. 2010; Shirokoff et al. 2010), with the exact value depending on frequency and flux cut. How the strengths of the Poisson and clustering terms scale with wavelength, and if they evolve together or independently, remain open questions.

We compare to the models of Béthermin et al. (2010, hereafter B10) and Marsden et al. (2010, hereafter M10) for DSFGs at the BLAST and ACT wavebands. These are phenomenological models which are specifically tailored to constrain the evolution of the rest-frame far-infrared peak of galaxies at redshifts up to $z \sim 4.5$. The models use similar Monte Carlo fitting methods but differ in a few ways, e.g., the B10 model is fit using data (predominantly number counts) from a very wide range of IR wavelengths (15 µm to 1.1 mm) while M10 uses only data that constrains the evolution of the FIR peak and was not fit to any observations with $\lambda \lesssim 70 \, \mu m$. B10 also divides galaxies into two distinct populations based on luminosity and attempts to account for the strong lensing of high-redshift galaxies; M10 does neither of the above.

2.4. Radio Galaxies

Synchrotron and, to a lesser extent free-free emission dominates the SEDs of radio galaxies at rest-frame $\lambda \lesssim 1 \, \text{mm}$. Thus radio galaxies become an increasingly important contribution to the CSB at wavelengths greater than ~ 1.5 mm ($\nu \lesssim 200 \, \text{GHz}$). Their number counts are relatively shallow (e.g., de Zotti et al. 2010), meaning that their contribution to the power spectrum is dominated by the brighter sources, resulting in primarily Poisson noise, with the clustered term being sub-dominant.

While radio sources are a significant source of power at 2030 and 1380 µm, they do not feature prominently in the cross-frequency correlation of ACT and BLAST maps. They only contribute to the uncertainties in the cross-power spectrum, so we do not include them in our models for the cross spectra.
2.5. SZ

The Sunyaev-Zeldovich effect (Sunyaev & Zeldovich 1972) is the distortion of the microwave background due to interaction of CMB photons with free electrons in clusters, and consists of two main physical mechanisms, referred to as “thermal” and “kinetic”. The thermal term (tSZ) is the inverse Compton scattering of CMB photons as they pass through the intra-cluster medium in galaxy clusters. The result is that the intensity of the CMB spectrum longward of 1380 μm (218 GHz) decreases (i.e., a decrement), while that shortward of 1380 μm increases (i.e., an increment), and 1380 μm is the null for the non-relativistic case. The kinetic term (kSZ) is the Doppler shift of scattered CMB photons by the bulk motion of galaxy clusters. The strength of the signal is proportional to the product of the free electron density and line of sight velocity.

2.6. Cirrus

On large angular scales, a significant source of fluctuation power is emission from Galactic cirrus. Although the SEP field is among the least contaminated by cirrus in the sky (\(I_{\text{mean}} = 1.16 \text{ MJy sr}^{-1}\)), contributions from Galactic cirrus must still be accounted for.

The power spectrum of Galactic cirrus has been shown in many studies to exhibit power-law behavior. Its amplitude varies over the sky, but its slope is always between −2.6 and −3 (e.g., Gautier et al. 1992; Boulanger et al. 1996; Miville-Deschênes et al. 2007; Bracco et al. 2010). In the FIR/submm bands, the SED of Galactic cirrus is well described by a modified blackbody (Equation 3), with \(T = 17.5 \text{ K and } \beta \sim 1.9\), peaking at \(\lambda \sim 150\) μm (V09, Bracco et al. 2010). As a result, bands closest to the peak (in our case 250 μm) are most susceptible to contamination.

As one moves far from the SED peak, Finkbeiner et al. (1999) show that the modified blackbody approximation breaks down, and a multi-component fit is a much better description of the data. Therefore, for this analysis we measure the power spectrum at 100 μm for the SEP region, and adopt model 8 of Finkbeiner et al. (1999) to estimate the amplitude of the power in our bands.

3. INSTRUMENTS AND OBSERVATIONS

Below we describe the ACT and BLAST data used for the cross-correlation analysis, as well as the data used for estimating the cirrus power spectrum.

3.1. ACT

ACT is a 6-meter off-axis Gregorian telescope (Fowler et al. 2007) situated at an elevation of 5190 meters on Cerro Toco in the Atacama desert in northern Chile. ACT has three frequency bands centered at 148 GHz (2.0 mm), 218 GHz (1.4 mm) and 277 GHz (1.1 mm) with angular resolutions of roughly 1.4, 1.0 and 0.9, respectively. The high altitude site in the arid desert is excellent for mm observations due to low precipitable water vapor and stability of the atmosphere. The tropical location of ACT permits observations on both the northern and southern celestial hemispheres. Further details on the instrument are presented in Swetz et al. (2010), Fowler et al. (2010) and references therein. The

\footnote{ACT Collaboration papers are archived at http://www.physics.princeton.edu/act/}
ACT maps used in this paper are made from the 2008 observing season data (148 GHz and 218 GHz, or 2030 and 1380 μm, respectively) and are identical to the maps used in Hajian et al. (2010) and Das et al. (2010). The beam full widths at half maxima (FWHM) are 1.4′ and 1.0′ at 148 GHz and 218 GHz, respectively (Hincks et al. 2010). The maps have mean 1σ sensitivities which vary slightly across the maps, ranging from 2.4 – 3.5 mJy beam$^{-1}$ (median ≈ 2.7 mJy beam$^{-1}$), and 3.2 – 5.4 mJy beam$^{-1}$ (median ≈ 3.7 mJy beam$^{-1}$), at 148 GHz and 218 GHz, respectively (Das et al. 2010). The map projection used is cylindrical equal area (CEA) with square pixels, 0.5′ on a side. The ACT data-set is divided into four equal sub-sets in time, such that the four independent maps generated from these subsets cover the same area and have similar depths, we call these “sub-maps”. As described in Hajian et al. (2010), the ACT maps are directly calibrated to WMAP. This results in a 2% fractional temperature uncertainty for the 148 GHz maps. The calibration error for the 218 GHz maps is 7%.

Because the ACT maps have poorly measured modes on the largest angular scales, we filter them using a high-pass filter $F_c(\ell)$ in Fourier space. The high-pass filter is a smooth sine-squared function in Fourier space given by

$$F_c(\ell) = \sin^2\left(\frac{\pi}{2}(\ell - \ell_{\text{min}})/\ell_{\text{max}} - \ell\right) + \Theta(\ell - \ell_{\text{max}}),$$

where $x(\ell) = (\pi/2)(\ell - \ell_{\text{min}})/\ell_{\text{max}} - \ell$ and $\Theta$ is the Heaviside function. We choose $\ell_{\text{min}} = 100$ and $\ell_{\text{max}} = 500$. Moreover, the large-scale CMB in the ACT maps acts as noise in cross-correlations with the BLAST maps, since the CMB is absent in the latter. If not filtered, the large angular scale and CMB noise terms contaminate the real-space cross-frequency correlations described in Section 3.4. Therefore we use a filter with $\ell_{\text{max}} = 2200$ when dealing with real-space cross-frequency correlations. The analyzed power spectra are corrected for this filter as well as for the effects of the beam and pixel window functions.

3.2. BLAST

BLAST flew for 11 days from Antarctica in December of 2006. Operating above most of the atmosphere, BLAST observed in bands which are difficult or not possible to observe from the ground. As a pathfinder for the SPIRE instrument (Griffin et al. 2003), it made observations at 250, 350 and 500 μm, of a number of targets, both Galactic and extragalactic. Its 1.8-m under-illuminated primary resulted in beams with FWHM of 36, 45 and 60 arcseconds. For a detailed description of the instrument see Pascale et al. (2008) and Truch et al. (2009).2

Among the fields BLAST observed is an 8.6 deg$^2$ rectangle near the South Ecliptic Pole (SEP) — chosen because it is a relatively low-circus window through the Galaxy (see § 2.6) — whose corners lie at [5°02′, −52°30′]; [4°57′, −51°35′]; [4°25′, −54°19′]; [4°30′, −55°41′] (see Fig. 1). Further studies of the SEP field, including BLAST catalogs and 24 μm maps, can be found in Valiante et al. (2010) and Scott et al. (2010). The maps have mean 1σ sensitivities of 36.7, 27.2, and 19.1 mJy beam$^{-1}$ at 250, 350, and 500 μm, respectively. Furthermore, confusion noise, due to multiple point sources occupying a single beam element, is estimated to be 7.6, 6.0 and 4.4 mJy beam$^{-1}$ at 250, 350, and 500 μm, respectively. The 1σ uncertainty on the absolute calibration is accurate to 9.5, 8.7, and 9.2% at 250, 350, and 500 μm, respectively.

The BLAST time-ordered data (TODs) are divided into four sets — covering the same region of the sky to the same depth — from which we make four unique sub-maps. The number of subsets is chosen to maximize the number of maps that can be made while maintaining uniformity in hits and providing as much cross-linking as possible. The maps are made with the iterative mapmaker, SANEPIC (Patanchon et al. 2009), resulting in a transfer function of unity on the scales of interest. These sub-maps are unique to this study and are publicly available at http://blastexperiment.info/results.php.

Due to poor cross-linking, however, large scale noise, resembling waves in the map, is present. This noise is easily dealt with by filtering in Fourier space, as described in § 4. Maps are made in tangent-plane projection (TAN), with 10′ pixels. In order to cross-correlate with ACT, BLAST maps are re-binned to ACT resolution and reprojected to cylindrical equal-area projection (CEA) using Montage.3 We confirm the alignment by analyzing the real-space cross-frequency correlation, described in detail in § 3.4.

3.3. IRIS

To estimate the contribution from Galactic cirrus, we use three IRIS (reprocessed IRAS: Miville-Deschenes & Lagage 2005) HCON4 maps at 100 μm. These maps are consistent with the Finkbeiner et al. (1999, FDS) maps used for estimating the Galactic cirrus in Das et al. (2010), but they are at a higher resolution. Since we are most interested in large-scale modes, the power spectrum is measured for a 30 deg$^2$ field surrounding the SEP (see Fig. 2). The three HCONs are from the same region of the sky, with independent noise properties. The power spectrum of the Galactic cirrus is computed from the average cross-spectrum of these three maps. As a last step we correct the power spectra for a window function corresponding to IRAS’s 4.3′ beam.

3.4. Comparing Data sets: Testing Alignment with Real-Space Cross-Correlations

We test that the maps are properly aligned by inspecting their real-space cross-frequency correlations. This is done by inverse Fourier transforming the 2D cross-frequency correlation of the Fourier components of the maps:

$$M_{\ell x}(x) = \sum_\ell a(\ell) b^*(\ell) F_\ell^2(\ell) \exp(i\ell \cdot x),$$

where $\ell$ is a vector in Fourier space, $a(\ell)$ and $b(\ell)$ are the ACT and BLAST maps in Fourier space, respectively,

http://montage.ipac.caltech.edu/

3 HCON refers to each individual observation at three different epochs. For more information, and publicly available maps, see http://www.cita.utoronto.ca/~mand/IRIS/

2 BLAST Results and Publications can be found at http://blastexperiment.info/
FIG. 2.—The full-sky IRIS map at 100 μm scaled logarithmically. The red outline represents the BLAST field in CEA projection which is used for cross-frequency correlating with the ACT maps. The region clearly has low dust contamination. The bigger square area outlined by a green line shows the 30 deg² region used for estimating the IRIS power spectrum. This map is filtered with the high-pass filter of Equation 6.

\[ F_c(t) \] denotes high-pass filtering of Equation 6 in Fourier space. The resulting measured real-space cross-frequency correlation function \( M \) encodes the celestial correlation function between the bands, \( (C(x)) \) as:

\[ M_{\alpha\beta}(x) = C(x) \otimes B(x) + n(x), \quad (8) \]

where \( \otimes \) denotes a convolution in real space, \( B(x) \) is the effective beam between the two maps, and \( n(x) \) is the noise. Perfectly aligned maps would result in a 2D cross-frequency correlation function whose peak lies at \( x = 0 \).

The shape of \( M_{\alpha\beta}(x) \) depends on the correlation length of the field, the high-pass filtering and the beams (See Hajian et al. (2010) for a comparison between measurements of a real-space cross-frequency correlation function and simulations for a related example). As illustrated in Fig. 3, we measure a cross-correlation with a peak at \( x = 0 \) (zero lag), indicating that the maps are correlated and properly aligned.

4. MEASURING AUTO- AND CROSS-FREQUENCY POWER SPECTRA

We examine three distinct types of power spectra: the BLAST auto-band spectra; the BLAST cross-band spectra; and the ACT/BLAST cross-band spectra. We also estimate the auto-band spectrum for the 100 μm IRIS maps. Details of our power spectrum method are given below.

4.1. Power Spectrum Method

We use three distinct types of power spectra: the BLAST auto-band spectra; the BLAST cross-band spectra; and the ACT/BLAST cross-band spectra.

The maps can be represented as

\[ \Delta T(x) = \Delta T_{\text{sky}}(x) \otimes B(x) + N(x), \quad (9) \]

where \( \Delta T_{\text{sky}}(x) \) is the sky temperature signal, \( N \) is the noise, \( B \) is the instrument beam and we use \( \otimes \) to represent a convolution in real-space. Both the ACT and BLAST maps are made with unbiased iterative map-makers, whose transfer functions are approximately unity on the angular scales of interest in this study, and can thus be safely neglected.

All power spectra, both auto- and cross-frequency

![Image of radial profile](image-url)
Correlations in the CSB from ACT × BLAST

Spectra, are computed using cross-correlations of sub-maps (described in § 3.1 and § 3.2), the advantage being that the noise between sub-maps is uncorrelated and thus averages to zero in the cross-spectra. A cross-power spectrum computed this way provides an unbiased estimator of the true underlying power spectrum. The power spectrum methods used in this paper closely follow those used for cross-correlating ACT and WMAP in Hajian et al. (2010).

BLAST × BLAST power spectra are computed using the average of the six cross-correlations between the four BLAST sub-maps (in each band), such that

\[ C_{\ell} = \frac{1}{6} \sum_{\alpha, \beta, \gamma < \beta} C_{\ell}^{\alpha \beta} \]

where \( \alpha \) and \( \beta \) index the four sub-maps. The reason for six cross-correlations, rather than nine, is that cross-frequency cross-correlations of sub-maps made from the same scans are not used, in order to avoid introducing correlated noise or other systematic effects.

Since the noise in all ACT and BLAST sub-maps is uncorrelated, we co-add the sub-maps for each frequency before computing the ACT × BLAST power spectra. The ACT × BLAST power spectra are computed from these maps. This is identical to cross-correlating all ACT sub-maps with all BLAST sub-maps and averaging them.

Several components contribute to the cross-spectrum uncertainties. An analytic approach to computing the uncertainties is described in Appendix B.

4.2. Weights and Masks

We use a flat-sky approximation for computing the power spectra, which are measured from Fourier transforms of the maps. Since the maps are 2D, the power spectra that we obtain are 2D. We adopt several techniques developed in Hajian et al. (2010) in order to isolate and remove or down-weight instrumental and systematic noise. This is done in two stages, in real space and in Fourier space, before reducing the 2D spectrum into the familiar 1D angular power spectrum binned in radius (\( \ell \)). The ACT × BLAST cross-spectra are limited by the area of the BLAST maps, which are 1.5 × 5.7° rectangles (~ 8.6 deg²), rotated by approximately 30°, and with noisy edges (see Fig. 1). To apodize the sharp edges in the maps, we use the first Slepian taper (properties of which are described in Das et al. 2009) defined on the BLAST region. The gradual fall-off of this taper at the edges reduces the mode-mode coupling in the measured power spectrum. Any residual mode coupling caused by this weighting is corrected in the end by deconvolving the window function (i.e. the power spectrum of the taper function) from the measured power spectrum using the algorithm described in Hivon et al. (2002) and Das et al. (2009). Large-scale noisy modes are best treated in Fourier space. The statistical isotropy of the Universe leads to an isotropic 2D power spectrum from extragalactic sources, on average. Anisotropic power in 2D Fourier space is caused by noise and is optimally dealt with using inverse noise weighting. This is done by dividing the 2D spectra by our best estimate of the 2D noise power spectrum for each map. At each frequency band, the noise model is computed from the difference between the average 2D auto- and cross-spectra for each pair of maps as described in Hajian et al. (2010). For every cross-correlation, noise weights are computed from the inverse of the square root of the product of the two noise power spectra corresponding to the two frequency bands. The weights are whitened by dividing by their angular averaged value with a fine binning. Using simulations we confirm that this weighting does not bias the signal power spectrum. Anisotropic, large-scale noise is evident at the center of the 2D power spectrum, as shown in Fig. 4. Noise-weighting down-weights the noisy vertical stripe that passes through the origin, which is predominantly due to large-scale unconstrained modes in the map (see also Fowler et al. 2010). To further ensure that our results are not contaminated by this stripe, we mask a vertical band spanning \( |\ell| < 500 \) before averaging the 2D power spectra in anulus. Our results are invariant under further widening of this mask. In order to be consistent with the V09 analysis, we make a mask to remove all point sources that have a flux greater than 0.5 Jy in the BLAST 250 µm map (six sources). We use that mask for computing BLAST power spectra only. For cross-correlations of ACT and BLAST, we instead mask...
just the brightest source in BLAST maps, which happens to be a local spiral galaxy. Masking more point sources does not have an effect on the cross-spectra. We also mask the known radio galaxies (Marriage et al. 2010) in the ACT 2030 µm map to reduce the uncertainties in the cross-spectra (see Appendix B).

4.3. Estimating Galactic Cirrus Emission

IRIS maps at 100 µm contain three potential sources of power diffuse Galactic emission (or cirrus), as well as the Poisson and clustered terms of the DSFG power spectra. Cirrus dominates the power spectrum on angular scales ℓ ≥ 800, but varies depending on the observed patch of sky. The Poisson level is highly sensitive to the adopted flux cut. Thus, in order to detect the signal from clustering, both the cirrus and Poisson noise must be sufficiently low. This is achieved by observing in a clean patch of sky, and cutting bright point sources. We realize these criteria by considering only the SEP (I_{mean} = 1.16 MJy sr^{−1}), and by cutting sources with S_{cut} > 1 Jy.

Miville-Deschênes et al. (2007) show that the power spectrum of Galactic cirrus can be approximated by a power-law,

\[ P_{\text{cirrus}}(k) = P_0 \left( \frac{k}{k_0} \right)^α , \]

where \( k_0 \) is the angular wavenumber in inverse arcminutes, and \( P_0 \) is the power spectrum value at \( k_0 = 0.01 \) arcmin^{−1}.

We are only concerned with the modes that affect our measurement, and since the cirrus power spectrum falls steeply with increasing \( k_0 \), we focus our attention on the larger-scale modes. In order to probe these modes with maximum resolution in Fourier space, we measure the cirrus component of a ∼ 30 deg^{2} region of the IRIS data surrounding the SEP field as indicated in Fig. 2. We filter the IRIS maps using the high-pass filter of Equation 6. The power spectrum is computed from the mean of the three cross-spectra from the three HCON maps (using one taper at resolution 1; see Das, Hajian, & Spergel 2009, for details).

We attempt to fit the data in two ways, where in both cases we fix the slope of the cirrus power spectrum at \( α = −2.7 \) (adopting the properties of region 5 of Bracco et al. 2010, whose mean flux density most resembles the SEP). The first is a two-parameter fit, where the free variables are the Poisson level and the amplitude of the cirrus power. For this we find \( P_0 = (0.47±0.06) \times 10^6 \) Jy^{2} sr^{−1} and \( χ^2 = 21.9 \) (dof = 29). The measured power spectrum is shown in Fig. 5. The power spectrum uncertainties are calculated in a manner analogous to that described in Appendix B.

The second fitting procedure uses a three-parameter fit in which the free variables are the Poisson amplitude and clustering amplitude of the DSFGs. The shape of the clustering component is simply that of a linear dark matter spectrum. In this case we find cirrus values \( P_0 = (0.19±0.15) \times 10^6 \) Jy^{2} sr^{−1} and a clustering amplitude of ~ 720 Jy^{2} sr^{−1} at ℓ = 3000, with \( χ^2 = 18.1 \) (dof = 28).

The two approaches estimate consistent Poisson levels, but the fit with a clustered component appears to describe the data better than without, with \( Δχ^2 = 3.8 \). While not yet statistically significant, future studies with PACS at 100 µm (Poglitsch et al. 2010) should be able to measure the clustered signal to high significance.

The cirrus power spectrum is assumed to continue to smaller angular scales, and is estimated at the ACT and BLAST bands using the average dust emission color
Correlations in the CSB from ACT × BLAST

FIG. 6. — BLAST × BLAST (250-500 μm) and ACT × BLAST (1380-2030 μm) power spectra in \( P(k) \) with 1σ errorbars. Squares and crosses are the data before and after cirrus removal. Red crosses and red horizontal dotted lines are published power spectra and Poisson noise levels from V09. The dotted blue lines which are horizontal and which are falling with \( k \), are the best-fit Poisson and clustering terms, respectively. The departure from Poisson is the evidence for clustering of DSFGs. Note that the vertical scale is different for each panel. The error bars are described in Appendix B.

\[(I_{\text{sub,mm}}/I_{100})^2,\]

which is estimated using model 8 of Finkbeiner et al. (1999).

5. POWER SPECTRUM RESULTS

The BLAST auto-band and cross-band power spectra and BLAST × ACT cross-frequency power spectra are shown in Fig. 6. Raw data are shown as squares, while cirrus subtracted points are shown as crosses with error bars. The Galactic cirrus spectra, interpolated to our bands as described in § 2.6, are shown as dashed lines in the bottom left corner of each panel (when strong enough to appear at all). Cirrus appears to have a nearly negligible effect on the power in most bands, with only a marginal contribution in the 250 μm auto-spectrum. Note, the cirrus contribution in V09 to the BLAST bands was extrapolated from 100 μm incorrectly; however, properly accounting for cirrus ultimately has little impact on the final result. The cirrus-corrected data are given in Table 2. We describe the models and the fits to these data in § 6.

The figure shows a clear cross-correlation between ACT and BLAST. There is both a significantly correlated Poisson term (horizontal line) and a clear clustering term (rising to low \( k \)). This is the main result of this paper: that the unresolved BLAST background made up of DSFGs is intimately related to the ACT unresolved background. The signal is clearest in the ACT 1380 μm correlation with BLAST 500 and 350 μm, and less significant in the ACT 1380 and 2030 μm correlation with BLAST 250 μm. Additionally, the figure confirms the V09 BLAST power spectrum analysis, and extends it to include the cross-frequency correlation between BLAST bands.

Not shown in Fig. 6 are predictions for the cross-correlation of the SZ increment and decrement, nor that of predictions for the cross-correlations of the SZ decrement and DSFGs. Both of these signals would appear as anti-correlated at the ACT 2030 μm band, and would act to decrease the total sky signal. The former, using templates of Battaglia et al. (2010), was predicted to be negligibly small; and while at some level the latter should exist, we have not yet identified a clear signature (which should appear only in the cross-correlations with the ACT 2030 μm band).

6. LINEAR CLUSTERING MODEL

In this section we estimate the DSFG Poisson power levels, and fit the clustered component using a simple linear model similar to that of V09 and Hall et al. (2010). We assume that the clustered component of the DSFG power spectrum, \( P_{\text{DSFG}} \), is related to the linear dark matter power spectrum, \( P_{\text{DM}} \), through a single bias parameter \( b(z) \):

\[ P_{\text{DSFG}}(k, z) = b(z)^2 P_{\text{DM}}(k, z), \]
so that the angular power spectrum, $P(k_0)$, of DSFGs can be written as

$$P_{1+2}(k_0) = \int dz \left( \frac{dV_c}{dz}(z) \right)^{-1} \beta(z) P_{DM} \left( \frac{x(z_0)}{x(z)} \right) \times \frac{dI}{dz}(z) \frac{dI}{dz}(z),$$

(Bond et al. 1991; Tegmark et al. 2002), where $x(z)$ is the comoving distance, $dV_c/dz = x^2 dx/dz$ the comoving volume element, and $dI/dz$ is the contribution to the intensity from sources at redshift $z$.

We adopt $dI/dz$ from the source model of B10. Fig. 7 shows plots of $dI/dz$ from the model at 250 and 2030 µm for ten randomly chosen realizations provided by the B10 distribution. We adopt the concordance model, a flat ΛCDM cosmology with $\Omega_M = 0.274$, $\Omega_L = 0.726$, $H_0 = 70.5$ km s$^{-1}$ Mpc$^{-1}$, and $\sigma_8 = 0.81$ (Hinshaw et al. 2009).

The linear dark matter power spectrum is calculated as $P_{DM}(k) = P_0(k) D^2(z) T^2(k)$, where $P_0(k_0)$ is the primordial power spectrum, $T(k_0)$ is the matter transfer function with fitting function given in Eisenstein & Hu (1998), and $D(z)$ is the linear density growth function.

We note that our model does not account for non-linear, one halo clustered power. Though likely present, the data are not sufficiently constraining given that the Poisson power dominates over or is degenerate with the one-halo term in the angular scales to which we are sensitive.

6.1. Estimating the bias

In principle the bias, $b$, is a function of scale and redshift, as well as environmental factors such as the host halo mass for the DSFGs. Here we adopt a simple redshift-dependent bias of the form (Bond, Carr, & Hogan 1991; Hui & Parfrey 2008):

$$b(z) = 1 + (b_0 - 1) \frac{D(z_0)}{D(z)},$$

(14)

where $D(z)$ is the linear growth function and $b_0$ is an initial bias at some formation redshift, $z_0$. This parameterization assumes that DSFGs are members of a single population, which formed at the same epoch ($z_0$) and under the same conditions.

Our parameter space consists of the 12 Poisson levels plus $b_0$ and $z_0$. However, just as the Poisson contribution is a sum over the galaxy distribution, weighted by the square of the fluxes, eqn. 4, so is the average bias, though weighted linearly by the flux (e.g., Bond 1993).

Thus, in any physical model for the star forming objects and their bias the two terms would be correlated, but in a model-dependent way, so here we just adopt the independent bias for simplicity. Decoupling the Poisson level and the clustered component means the interpretation of our derived $b$ is not straightforward. We find that moderate changes in $z_0$ (in the range 6 $< z_0 < 10$) have virtually no effect on the quality of the fit or best-fit

5 http://www.ias.u-psud.fr/irgalaxies/model.php
Correlations in the CSB from ACT × BLAST

**Fig. 9.** BLAST × BLAST (250–500 μm) and ACT × BLAST (1380–2030 μm) power spectra in $P^2C_\ell/2\pi$. Data, which have had Galactic cirrus power removed, are shown as blue crosses. Red squares are the same data after removal of the Poisson term, and after logarithmic binning, with $\log(\Delta\ell) = 0.2$, and represent the contribution to the total power spectrum from clustering. Pink exes are the clustered term data from V09. The blue dotted lines rising to larger $\ell$ are the best-fit Poisson terms, and the approximately horizontal blue dotted lines are the best-fit clustering terms, which are determined by the $z$-dependent bias, as described in §6. Also plotted are the phenomenological models of B10 and M10, in green and brown (with shaded error regions), respectively. Poisson levels are calculated after truncating the counts at 300, 250, 170, 20, and 20 mJy at 250, 350, 500, 1380 and 2030 μm, respectively. Error regions are calculated with Monte Carlo.

Both the models agree at some effective wavelengths, but disagree at others, so that neither describes the data fully. The M10 model also somewhat over-predicts the CSB at BLAST wavelengths, which is consistent with the behavior of the model Poisson term here. Note that the vertical scale is different for each panel. The cirrus-corrected data here are given in Table 2.

$b(z)$, and also find that $b_0$ and $z_0$ are almost degenerate, and so we fix $z_0 = 8$. We explore the remaining 13-parameter space using a Markov Chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) method with uniform priors on each parameter. We fit the ACT×BLAST data in the range $\ell = 950$ ($k_\theta = 0.04$ arcmin$^{-1}$). We find a best-fit $b_0 = 18.2^{+3.3}_{-1.7}$ with $\chi^2 = 107$ for 101 degrees of freedom. This corresponds to $b(z = 1) = 5.0^{+0.6}_{-0.4}$ and $b(z = 2) = 6.8^{+0.8}_{-0.5}$. This Poisson plus clustering model is preferred to the null case with no ACT×BLAST correlation at over 25σ. The best-fit clustering and Poisson levels are reported in Table 1, and are plotted as blue dotted lines in Figs. 6 and 9.

We also try fitting just the ACT×BLAST data with no clustering power. In this case we obtain a best-fit $\chi^2 = 64.3$ with 48 degrees of freedom. After adding linear clustering to the model, we find $\chi^2 = 43.6$ with 47 degrees of freedom, corresponding to $\Delta \chi^2 = 20.7$ (with one fewer degree of freedom), so that the model including clustering is preferred to one with only Poisson and cirrus at greater than 4σ. Additionally, the Poisson levels are lower when clustering is included.

Lastly, we try fitting a single-value bias, independent of redshift, to the entire range of power spectra. We find a best-fit single-value bias of $5.0\pm0.4$ with $\chi^2 = 110.8$ for 101 degrees of freedom; worse than a redshift-dependent bias by $\Delta \chi^2 = 3.8$. The single-value bias thus provides a good fit to the ACT×BLAST data, however when we include the measured 2030 μm (AR1) and 1380 μm (AR2) clustered power from Dunkley et al. (2010) in the likelihood calculation, we find the redshift-dependent bias is preferred at $\sim 2\sigma$. The ACT clustering measurements are reproduced well with $b(z)$ (see Fig. 10, right panel) but under-predicted with the single-value bias.

Fig. 8 shows $b(z)$ calculated using Equation 14 for three realizations of the B10 model which span the entire range of results. The bias appears high compared to the linear bias estimates in V09 (who adopted the Lagache et al. 2004, model), although given the spread in $b(z)$ from different realizations of the B10 model, the measurements are not inconsistent.

Our choice of source model and bias parameterization is likely affecting $b(z)$. The B10 model contains two distinct classes of IR sources, "normal" and "starburst," with substantially different luminosities, which is not accounted for in our $b(z)$ parameterization. Also, the B10 model does not match observational constraints equally well across the whole wavelength range probed.
by ACT and BLAST; for instance it under-predicts Poisson power and number counts compared to BLAST and SPT measurements at 500 and 1360 µm (see § 5.6 of Béthermin et al. 2010, as well as Fig. 9 of this paper). An under-prediction of dI/dz would result in a higher bias to compensate.

7. DISCUSSION

We compare the models of B10 and M10 (described in § 2.3.) to our results. Poisson levels are calculated from the number counts using Equation 4, where the values of $S_{\text{cut}}$ are chosen to mimic those used in the analysis, i.e., $S_{\text{cut}} = 500, 250, 170 \text{ mJy at } 250, 350, \text{ and } 500 \mu m$, respectively.

Model predictions of B10 and M10 are shown in Fig. 9 as green and brown lines with shaded error regions, respectively. Both models agree at some effective wavelengths, but disagree at others, so that neither appears to fully describe the data. The M10 model also somewhat over-predicts the CIB at BLAST wavelengths, which is consistent with the behavior we see for the model Poisson term. On the other hand, as already mentioned, the B10 model under-predicts Poisson power and number counts compared to BLAST and SPT measurements at 500 and 1360 µm, which again is consistent with the behavior of the Poisson term of the model in Fig. 9.

The Poisson and clustered power amplitudes are plotted as a function of the effective wavelength, defined as $\lambda_{\text{eff}} = \sqrt{\lambda_1 \lambda_2}$, in Fig. 10. Also included are measurements made by the following experiments: AKARI at 90 µm (Matsura et al. 2010); Spitzer at 160 µm (Lagache et al. 2007); BLAST at 250, 350, and 500 µm (Viero et al. 2009); ACT at 1380, 1673, and 2030 µm (Dunkley et al. 2010); SPT at 1363, 1629, and 1947 µm (Hall et al. 2010); and the FIRAS modified blackbody ($T = 18.5, \beta = 0.64$), which is shown as a dotted line.

The degree of correlation between widely spaced wavelengths is of interest both in determining the redshift distribution of sources, and for modeling the IR source power. To assess the correlation, the geometric means at each effective cross-band wavelength, defined as $\sqrt{C_{ij}^\lambda \cdot C_{jk}^\lambda}$, are shown as a downward pointing arrows. Since we do not measure $C_{ij}^\lambda$ at $\lambda = 1380$ and 2030 µm, we rely on measurements by Dunkley et al. (2010) for those bands when calculating the geometric means. The ratios of the measurements to the geometric means, $C_{ij}^{\lambda_{\text{eff}}}/(C_{ij}^\lambda \cdot C_{jk}^\lambda)^{1/2}$, then represent the levels of cross-correlation between bands. These are shown in Fig. 11 for the Poisson power as a function of both effective wavelength and of distance between bands. Correlation is seen between all the frequencies, and does not fall significantly as a function of increased band separation, suggesting a tight redshift distribution for the overlapping population. This behavior is consistent with the findings of e.g., Hall et al. (2010) and Dunkley et al. (2010): that the 1000 – 2000 µm bands are correlated at close to the 100% level, and extends the range of wavelengths probed.

8. CONCLUSION

We present measurements of the auto- and cross-frequency correlations of BLAST (250, 350 and 500 µm) and ACT (1380 and 2030 µm) maps. We find significant levels of correlation between the two sets of maps, indicating that the same DSFGs that make up the unresolved fluctuations in BLAST maps are also present in ACT maps. Furthermore, we confirm previous BLAST analyses (Viero et al. 2009) for a different field and with an independent pipeline, and extend the analysis by including BLAST × BLAST cross-frequency correlations.

We fit Poisson and clustered terms at each effective wavelength simultaneously, which we achieve by adopting a model for the sources (Béthermin et al. 2010), assuming a parameterized form for the z-dependent bias and using an MCMC to minimize the $\chi^2$. Using this model we detect a clustered signal at 4σ, in addition to a Poisson component. The best-fit bias is one that increases sharply with redshift, and is consistent with what was found by Viero et al. (2009).

We compare phenomenological models by Béthermin et al. (2010) and Marsden et al. (2010) to the data and find rough agreement at numerous effective wavelengths. But we also find that neither model quite reproduces the data faithfully. Thus, we expect this measurement and others like it will ultimately provide powerful constraints for the redshift distribution and SEDs of future versions of the models.

Though we find convincing evidence for correlated Poisson and clustered power from DSFGs, the levels of precision needed to robustly remove these signals from CMB power spectra demand better measurements still. This is particularly true of the clustering term, whose contribution to the power spectrum in $\ell^2 C_\ell$ peaks at $\ell \sim 800 - 1000$, which is also the region in $\ell$-space typically targeted in searches for the SZ power spectrum. Since the clustered term should scale independently of the Poisson term, the measurement becomes increasingly important to determine precisely. Future studies combining Herschel/SPIRE with ACT, SPT, and Planck will go a long way towards solidifying this much needed measurement.

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Fig. 10.— $C_{l}$ versus wavelength for observations and models. From left to right, the actual or effective wavelengths, $\lambda_{\text{eff}} = \sqrt{\lambda_1 \lambda_2}$, (in $\mu$m) are: 2030, 1673, 1380, 1007, 843, 831, 712, 695, 587, 500, 418, 354, 350, 296, 250, 160, 100, and 90. Best-fit Poisson (left panel) and clustered (right panel) $C_{l}$ from measurements are shown as squares (auto-spectra) and diamonds (cross-spectra), respectively, and our measurements of IRIS galaxies are shown as red crosses. Open circles represent the prediction for the clustered power at the ACT wavelengths from the best-fit, redshift-dependent bias model. Uncertainties are omitted for visual clarity, but are generally smaller than the size of the symbols due to the large dynamic range in $C_{l}$. The geometric mean of the cross-band spectra, defined as $\sqrt{C_{l1} C_{l2}}$, are shown as downward-pointing arrows. Measurements from other experiments are: ACT (Dunkley et al. 2010, yellow asterisks); BLAST (Viero et al. 2009, black exes); Spitzer (Lagache et al. 2007, green asterisk); SPT (Hall et al. 2010, yellow triangles); AKARI (Matsumura et al. 2010, black triangle). The FIRAS modified blackbody ($T = 18.5, \beta = 0.64$) is plotted as a dotted line. As was seen in Hall et al. (2010, Fig. 5), FIRAS describes the data short of 500 $\mu$m, but over-predicts the measurements at millimeter wavelengths. The ratio of the measurement (diamonds) to the geometric mean (downward-pointing arrows) represents the level of cross-correlation between bands.

<table>
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<th>350</th>
<th>500</th>
<th>900</th>
<th>1380</th>
<th>2030</th>
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<tr>
<td>250</td>
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<td>(9.1 ± 0.6) x 10^4</td>
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<td>(3.4 ± 0.3) x 10^4</td>
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<td>$C_{l}^{\text{clustering}}$ ($\mu K^2$)</td>
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<td>250</td>
<td>(6.1 ± 1.1) x 10^4</td>
<td>(7.3 ± 1.1) x 10^4</td>
<td>(3.6 ± 0.3) x 10^4</td>
<td>(8.7 ± 1.2) x 10^2</td>
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<td>(2.1 ± 0.3) x 10^4</td>
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Table 1: Best-fit $C_{l}^{\text{Poisson}}$ and $C_{l}^{\text{clustering}}$ ($\ell = 3000$), including predictions for the clustered power at the three effective ACT bands. Predictions for the Poisson power at ACT bands are not provided as the Poisson terms are treated as free parameters when obtaining the best fit (see § 6).

REFERENCES

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<td>$(1.9 \pm 0.9) \times 10^{-4}$</td>
<td>$(2.9 \pm 0.8) \times 10^{-4}$</td>
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<tr>
<td>250 $\times$ 2000</td>
<td>$-\mathrm{--}$</td>
<td>$(3.6 \pm 2.2) \times 10^{2}$</td>
<td>$(1.1 \pm 1.9) \times 10^{2}$</td>
<td>$(1.1 \pm 0.9) \times 10^{2}$</td>
<td>$(3.0 \pm 1.8) \times 10^{2}$</td>
<td>$(4.6 \pm 2.7) \times 10^{2}$</td>
<td>$(2.5 \pm 2.8) \times 10^{2}$</td>
<td>$(6.6 \pm 4.0) \times 10^{2}$</td>
<td>$(1.4 \pm 6.4) \times 10^{2}$</td>
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<td>$(6.8 \pm 3.4) \times 10^{8}$</td>
<td>$(6.7 \pm 2.8) \times 10^{8}$</td>
<td>$(1.0 \pm 0.2) \times 10^{8}$</td>
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<td>$(1.9 \pm 0.2) \times 10^{8}$</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>$(3.9 \pm 1.0) \times 10^{6}$</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>500 $\times$ 1400</td>
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<td>$(2.1 \pm 1.2) \times 10^{4}$</td>
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<td>$(4.9 \pm 2.0) \times 10^{4}$</td>
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<tr>
<td>500 $\times$ 2000</td>
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<td>$(1.5 \pm 0.5) \times 10^{4}$</td>
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<td>$(2.3 \pm 1.6) \times 10^{4}$</td>
<td>$(5.9 \pm 2.7) \times 10^{4}$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Table 2**

Measured $\tilde{\nu}^2 C_{\nu}/2\pi$ (\muK$^2$) from Fig. 9 (blue crosses).
Correlations in the CSB from ACT × BLAST

**FIG. 11.** Left panel: Cross-frequency correlation versus effective wavelength for Poisson. Cross-frequency correlation is defined as $C_{1}^{X}/(C_{1}^{X} - C_{1}^{Y})^{1/2}$, i.e., the ratio of the measurement (diamonds in Fig. 10) to the geometric mean (downward pointing arrows in Fig. 10). From left to right, the actual or effective wavelengths, $\lambda_{eff} = \sqrt{\lambda_{1} \times \lambda_{2}}$, (in $\mu$m) are: 2030, 1673, 1380, 1007, 843, 831, 712, 695, 587, 418, 354, and 296. The horizontal line at unity represents 100% cross-correlation. Right panel: Cross-frequency correlation versus distance between bands. Correlation is seen between all the ACT and BLAST frequencies.
APPENDIX

A. UNIT CONVERSION

The flux density unit of convention for infrared, (sub)millimeter, and radio astronomers is the Jansky, defined as:

\[ Jy = 10^{-26} \frac{W}{m^2 Hz} \tag{A1} \]

and is obtained by integrating over the solid angle of the source. For extended sources, the surface brightness is described in Jy per unit solid angle, for example, Jy sr\(^{-1}\), (as adopted by BLAST), or Jy beam\(^{-1}\) (e.g., SPIRE).

Additionally, the power spectrum unit in this convention is given in Jy\(^2\) sr\(^{-1}\).

CMB unit convention is to report a signal as \(\delta T_{\text{CMB}}\): the deviation from the primordial 2.73 K blackbody. To convert from Jy sr\(^{-1}\) to \(\delta T_{\text{CMB}}\) in \(\mu K\), as a function of frequency:

\[ \delta T_v = \left( \frac{\delta B_v}{\delta T} \right) \tag{A2} \]

\[ \text{where} \quad \frac{\delta B_v}{\delta T} = \frac{2k}{c^2} \left( \frac{kT_{\text{CMB}}}{h} \right)^2 \frac{x^2 e^x}{(e^x - 1)^2} = \frac{98.91 \text{ Jy sr}^{-1}}{\mu K} \frac{x^2 e^x}{(e^x - 1)^2}, \tag{A3} \]

\[ x = \frac{\hbar \nu}{k_v T_{\text{CMB}}} = 56.79 \text{ GHz}^{-1}. \tag{A4} \]

(Fixsen 2009). Because the BLAST bandpasses have widths of \(\sim 30\%\) (Pascale et al. 2008), and because the CMB blackbody at these wavelengths is particularly steep (falling exponentially on the Wien side of the 2.73 K blackbody), the integral of \(\delta B_v/\delta T\) over the bands is weighted towards lower frequencies; an effect that becomes dramatically more pronounced at shorter wavelengths. Thus, the effective BLAST band centers in \(\delta T\) are \(\sim 264, 369,\) and \(510 \mu m\), leading to factors of conversion of nominal of \(\sim 2.46, 1.75,\) and \(1.13\), respectively.

Lastly, the CMB power spectrum is conventionally reported versus multipole \(\ell\), while in the (sub)millimeter the convention is to report it versus angular wavenumber, \(k_0 = 1/\theta\), which is also known as \(\sigma\) in the literature, and is typically expressed in arcmin\(^{-1}\). In the small-angle approximation the two are related by \(\ell = 2\pi k_0\).

B. POWER SPECTRUM UNCERTAINTIES

The contents of each map used for cross-frequency correlations can be considered as a sum of two parts: one with a finite cross-correlation; and the other with vanishing cross-power spectrum. The former contributes to the signal in the cross-power spectrum, while the latter contributes to the uncertainties. Therefore three terms contribute to the power spectrum uncertainties: sample variance in the signal due to limited sky coverage; the noise; and a non-Gaussian term due to the Poisson distributed compact sources and galaxy clusters. The diagonal component of the ACT \(\times\) BLAST cross-spectrum variance can be written as the sum of these terms, in order:

\[ \sigma^2(C_b^{\text{ACT}}) = \frac{2}{n_b} \left( \frac{C_b^{\text{ACT}}}{n_b} \right)^2 + \hat{C}_b(\hat{N}_b^{(1)} + \hat{N}_b^{(2)}) + \hat{N}_b^{(1)} \hat{N}_b^{(2)} f_{\text{sky}}, \tag{B1} \]

where \(\hat{N}_b\) estimates the average power spectrum of the noise; the superscripts \((1)\) and \((2)\) label the maps (1 for ACT, 2 for BLAST); \(n_b\) counts the number of Fourier modes measured in\(b\) (that is, the number of pixels falling in the appropriate annulus of Fourier space); \(f_{\text{sky}}\) is the patch area divided by the full-sky solid angle, \(4\pi\) sr; and \(\hat{C}_b\) is the mean cross-spectrum. The last term, \(\sigma_b^2\), arises from the Poisson-distributed components in the maps (i.e., unresolved compact sources and clusters of galaxies) and is given by the non-Gaussian part of the four-point function as described in Fowler et al. (2010) and Hajian et al. (2010). For purposes of the covariance calculation, we assume that the spatial distribution of these objects is uncorrelated. This term is constant with \(\ell\).

The noise terms in the ACT and BLAST maps are given by

\[ \hat{N}_b^{(1)} = C_b^{\text{CMB}} + C_b^{\text{RG}} + N_b^A, \]

\[ \hat{N}_b^{(2)} = N_b^B, \tag{B2} \]

where \(C_b^{\text{RG}}\) is the power spectrum of the radio galaxies in the ACT maps and \(N_b^A\) and \(N_b^B\) are the noise spectra in ACT and BLAST respectively. The noise terms, \(N_b\), are dominated by the atmospheric noise on large angular scales and by detector noise on the smallest scales (Das et al. 2010). The CMB is a major source of noise for this study out to \(\ell \sim 2500\), especially for the 148 GHz data. Radio galaxies only contribute to the uncertainties through the fourth moment of the field. They do not bias the signal. The effect of the radio galaxies is stronger at 148 GHz and is negligible at 218 GHz. Therefore we mask the brightest radio galaxies in the 148 GHz map to reduce the uncertainty on the cross-power spectra.

The uncertainties on BLAST \(\times\) BLAST power spectra are computed using an similar analytic estimate, given in Eqn.(9) of Fowler et al. (2010) with \(n_w = 6\) cross-spectra per map.
As a sanity check, we compare our analytic estimate of the error bars with the standard deviation of the power spectra computed from patches of the sky. We divide the data into four patches of equal area and with them compute four independent cross-power spectra. We use the variance of the measurements at each $\ell$ bin as a measure of the error on the power spectrum. This method agrees well with the analytic estimate of the errors; however, due to the small area of the sky used in this analysis, both analytic and patch-variance estimates of the error bars have uncertainties which are limited by $f_{\text{sky}}$. Thus, we conservatively use the greater of the analytic and patch-variances as an estimate of the uncertainty of the power spectrum. We test the effect that this choice of error bars has on our results in section 6.1.

When fitting parameters, we take the joint likelihood function to be diagonal as the off-diagonal elements are small (Das et al. 2010).