

# Stellar Mass Growth of Massive Central Galaxies

John Moustakas

Siena College

Department of Physics & Astronomy

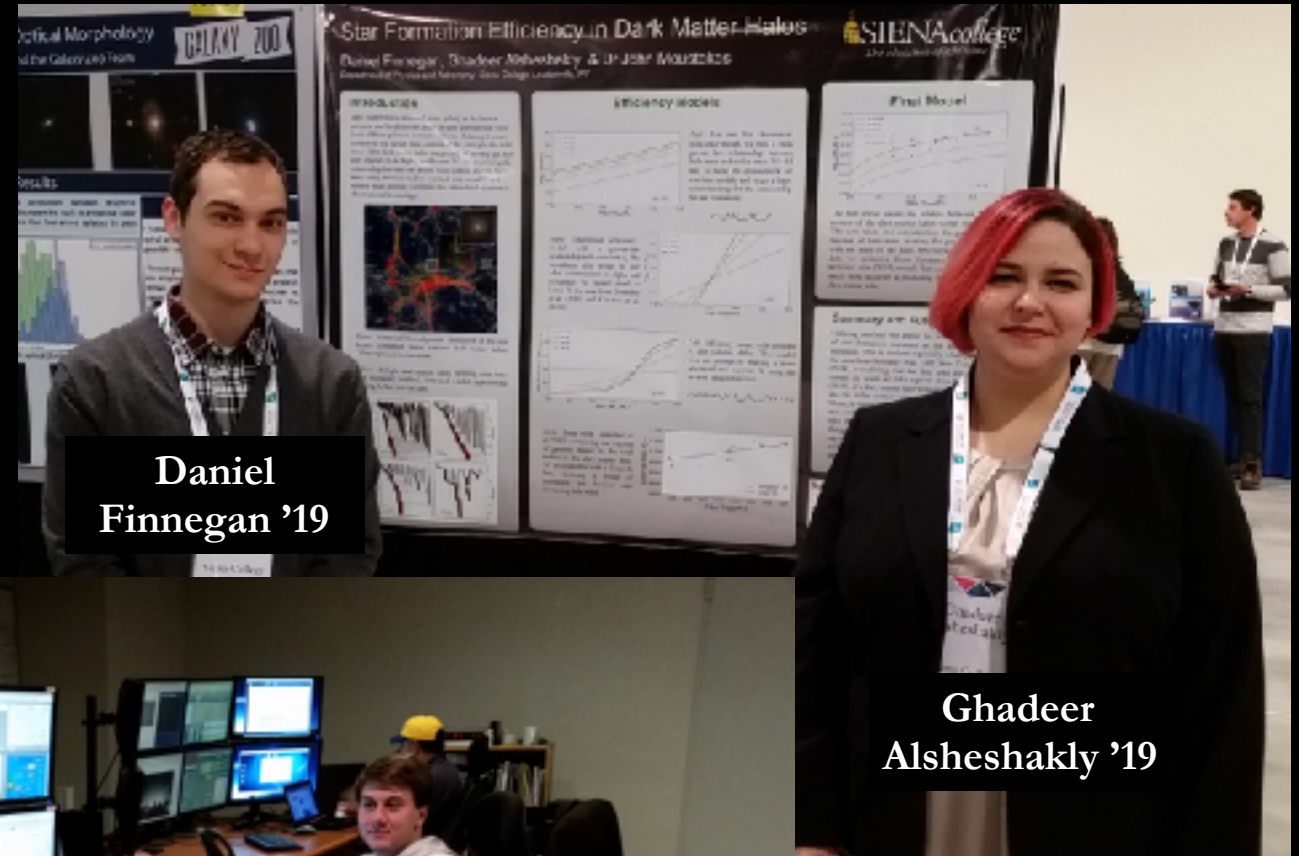
*with* Dustin Lang (Toronto), **Arjun Dey (NOAO)**, **Eduardo Rozo (Arizona)**,  
Eli Rykoff (Stanford), **David Schlegel (LBNL)** & Risa Wechsler (Stanford)



Siena College





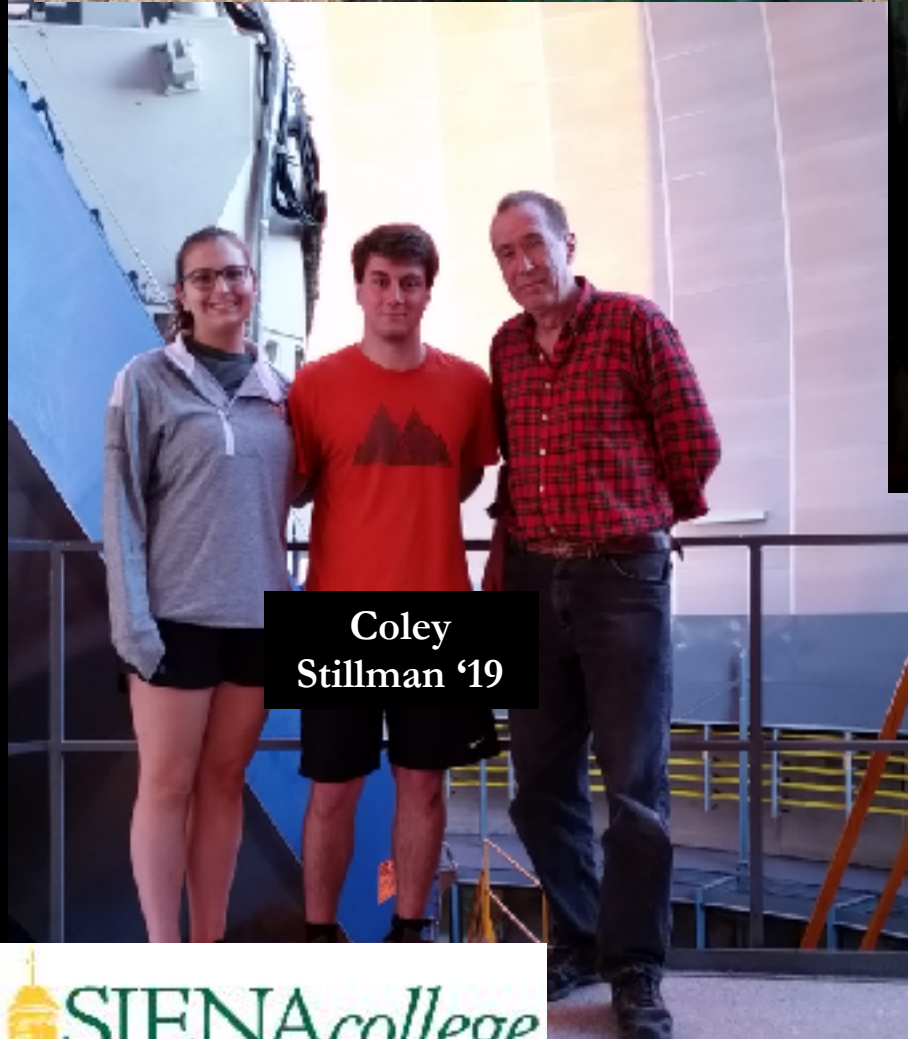


Daniel Finnegan '19

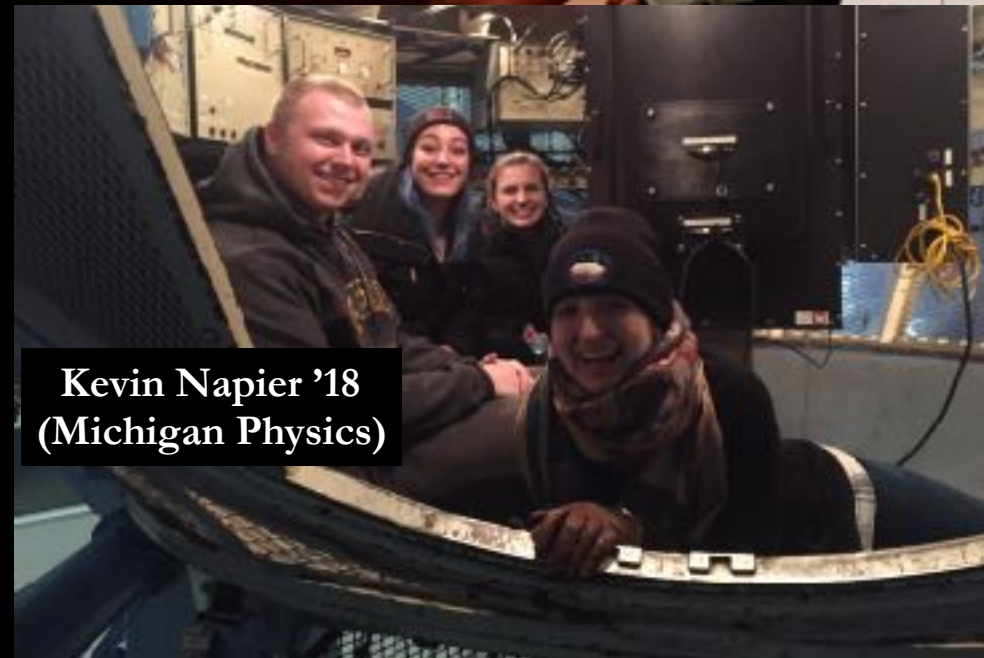
Ghadeer Alsheshakly '19



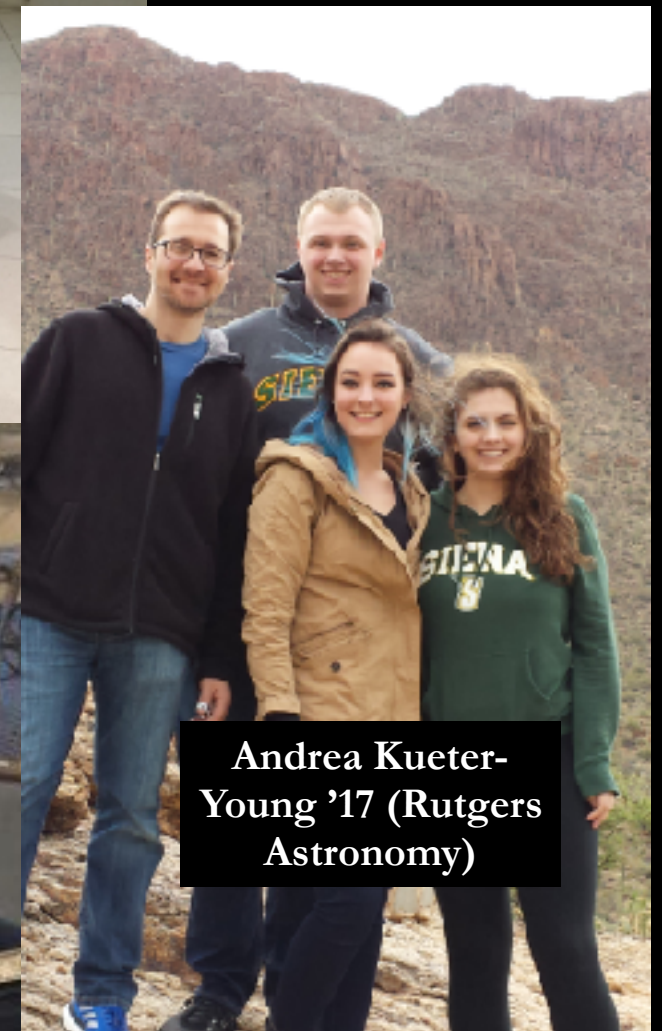
Megan Poremba '20



Coley Stillman '19



Kevin Napier '18  
(Michigan Physics)

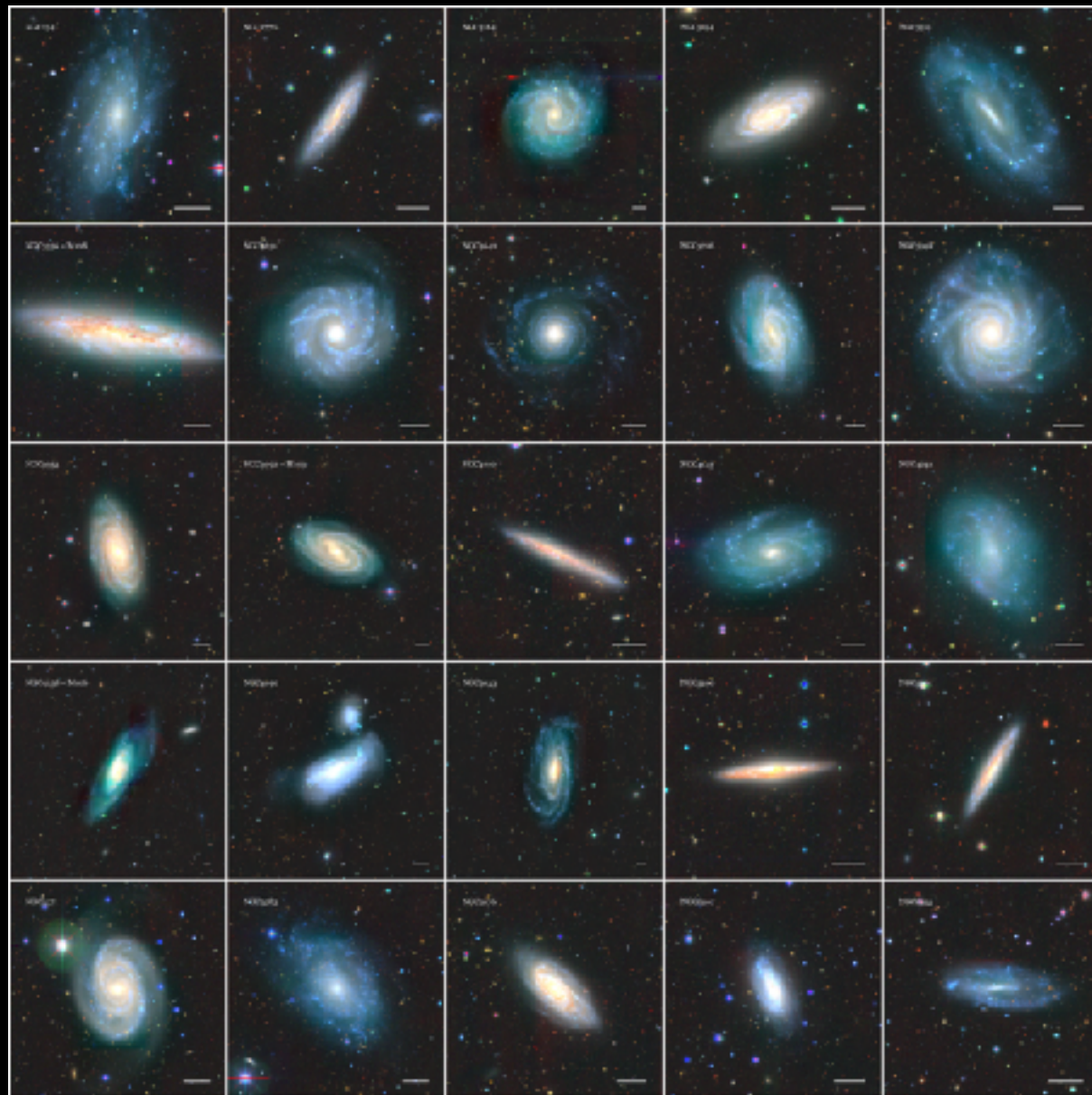


Andrea Kueter-Young '17 (Rutgers Astronomy)



Approximately 60% of the stellar mass in galaxies at  $z \sim 0$  resides in massive, spheroidal galaxies.

Spiral galaxies



[legacysurvey.org](http://legacysurvey.org)

Blanton & Moustakas 2009



Spheroidal (elliptical) galaxies

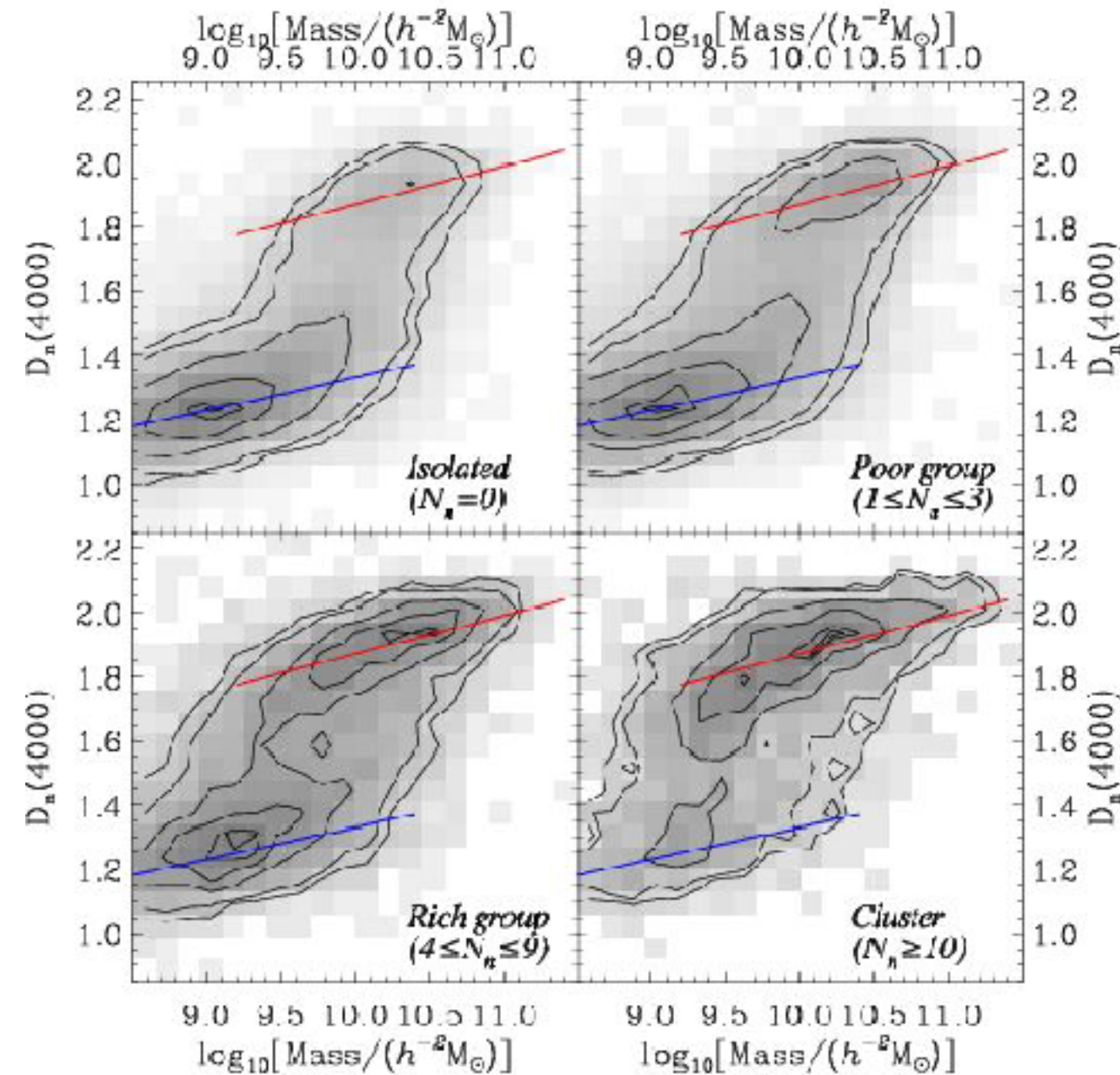
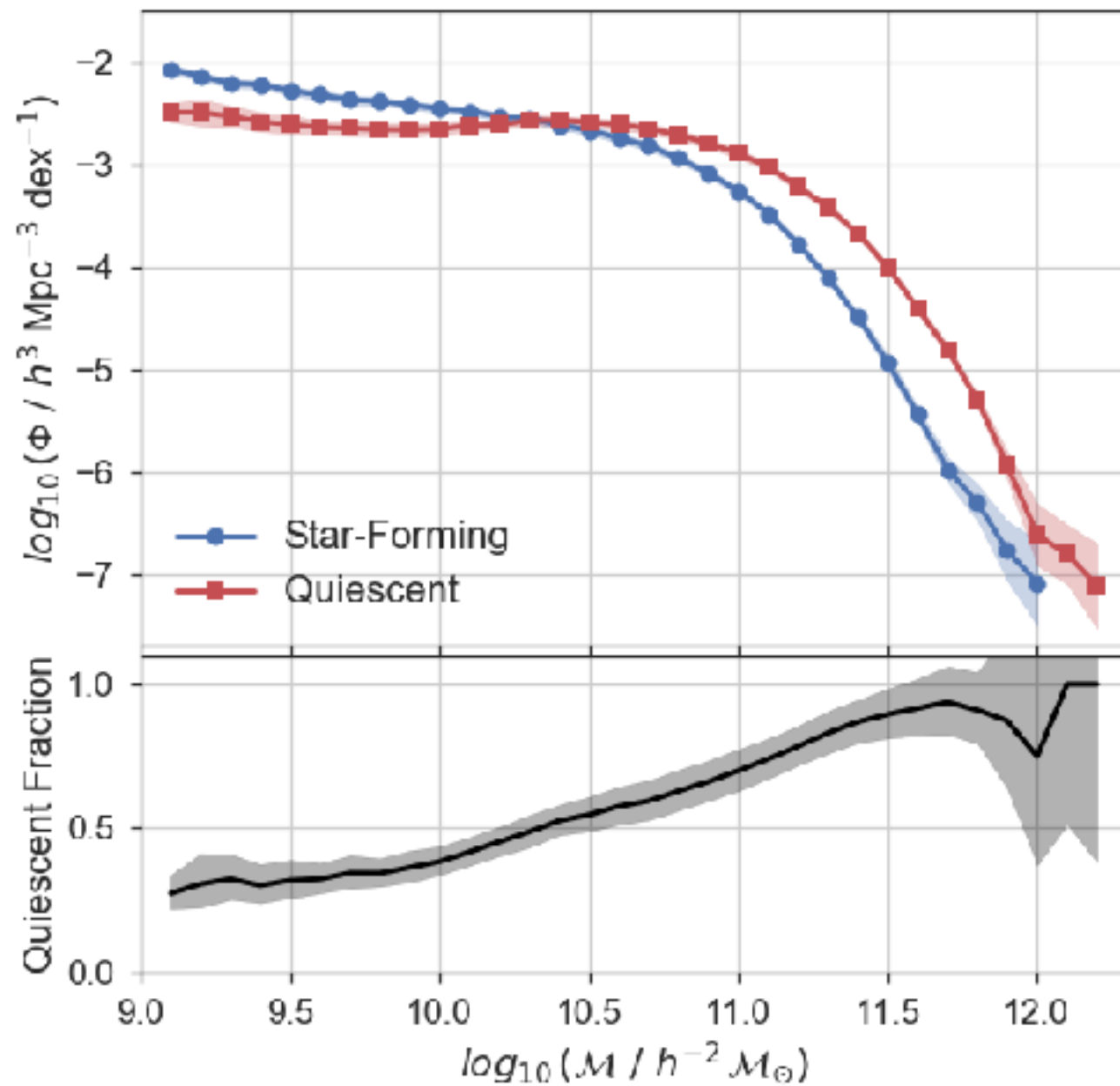


# Tracing the stellar mass growth of massive central galaxies.

- Observed properties of massive spheroidal galaxies—
- Tension with hierarchical galaxy assembly models—
- Detailed stellar masses for  $>100,000$  central galaxies—



Spheroidal galaxies tend to be massive, quiescent, and to be found in dense environments.



Blanton & Moustakas 2009

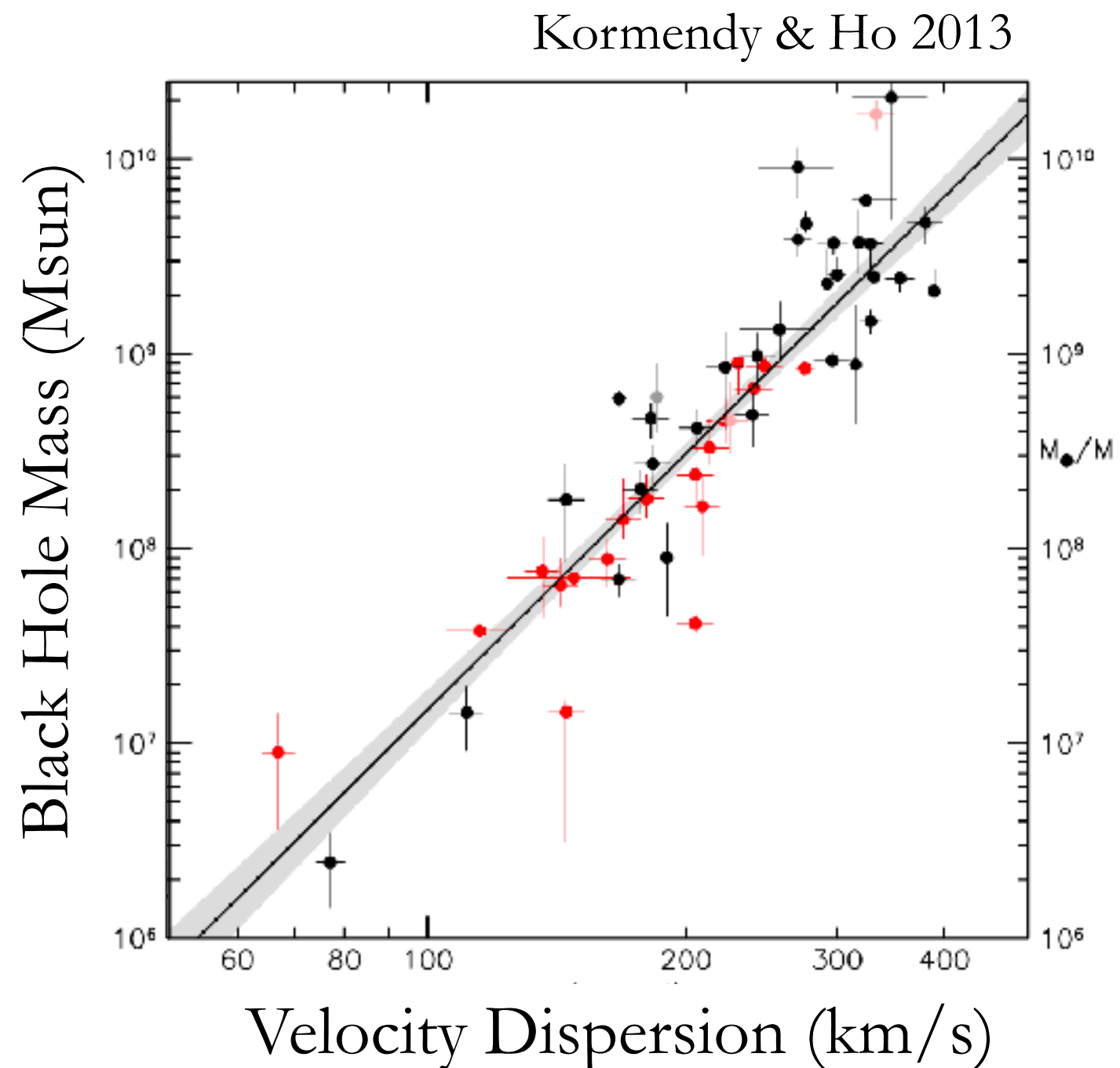
Moustakas et al. 2013



Many spheroidal galaxies show evidence of past interactions and (all?) host supermassive black holes.

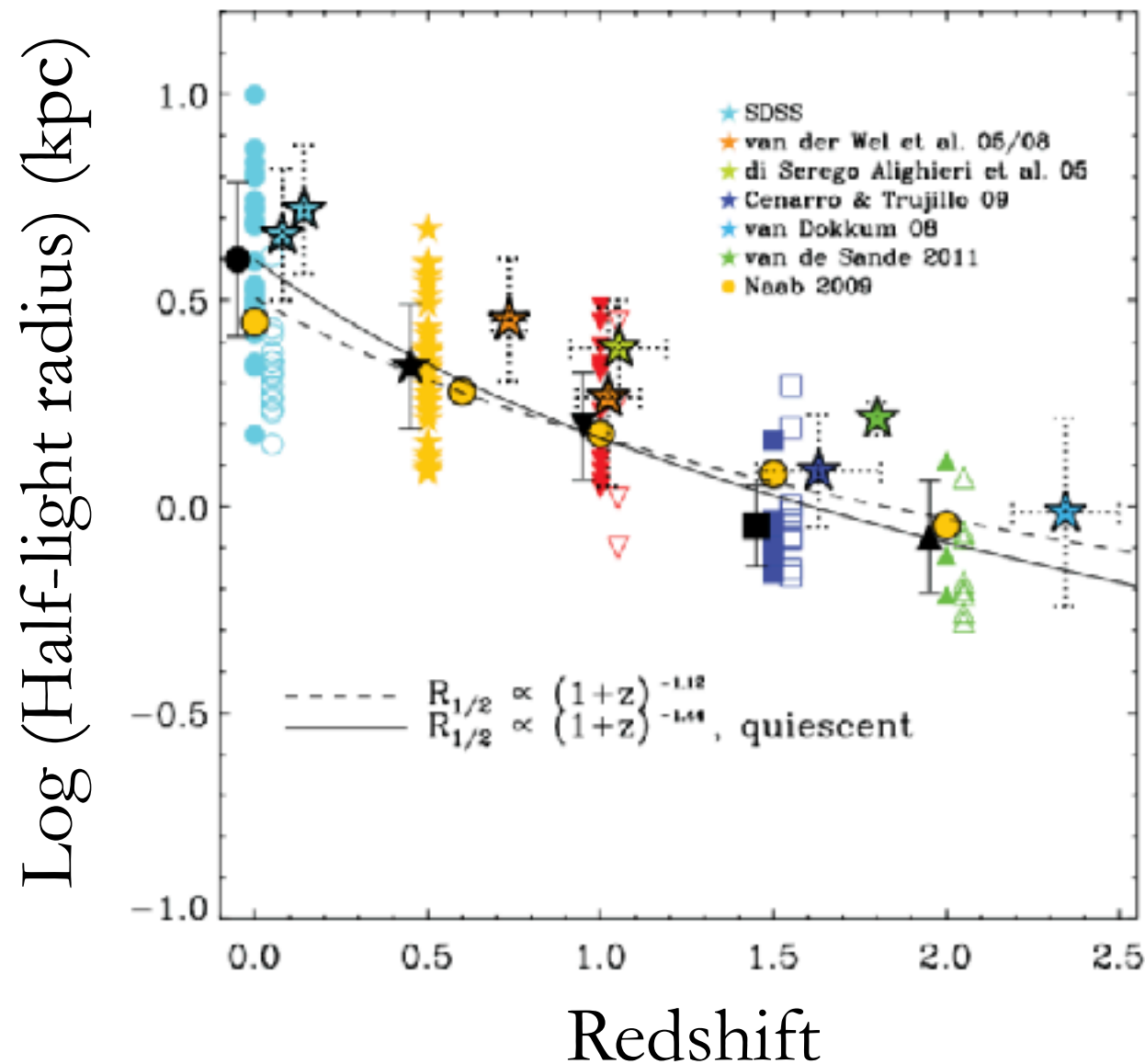


Duc et al. 2015

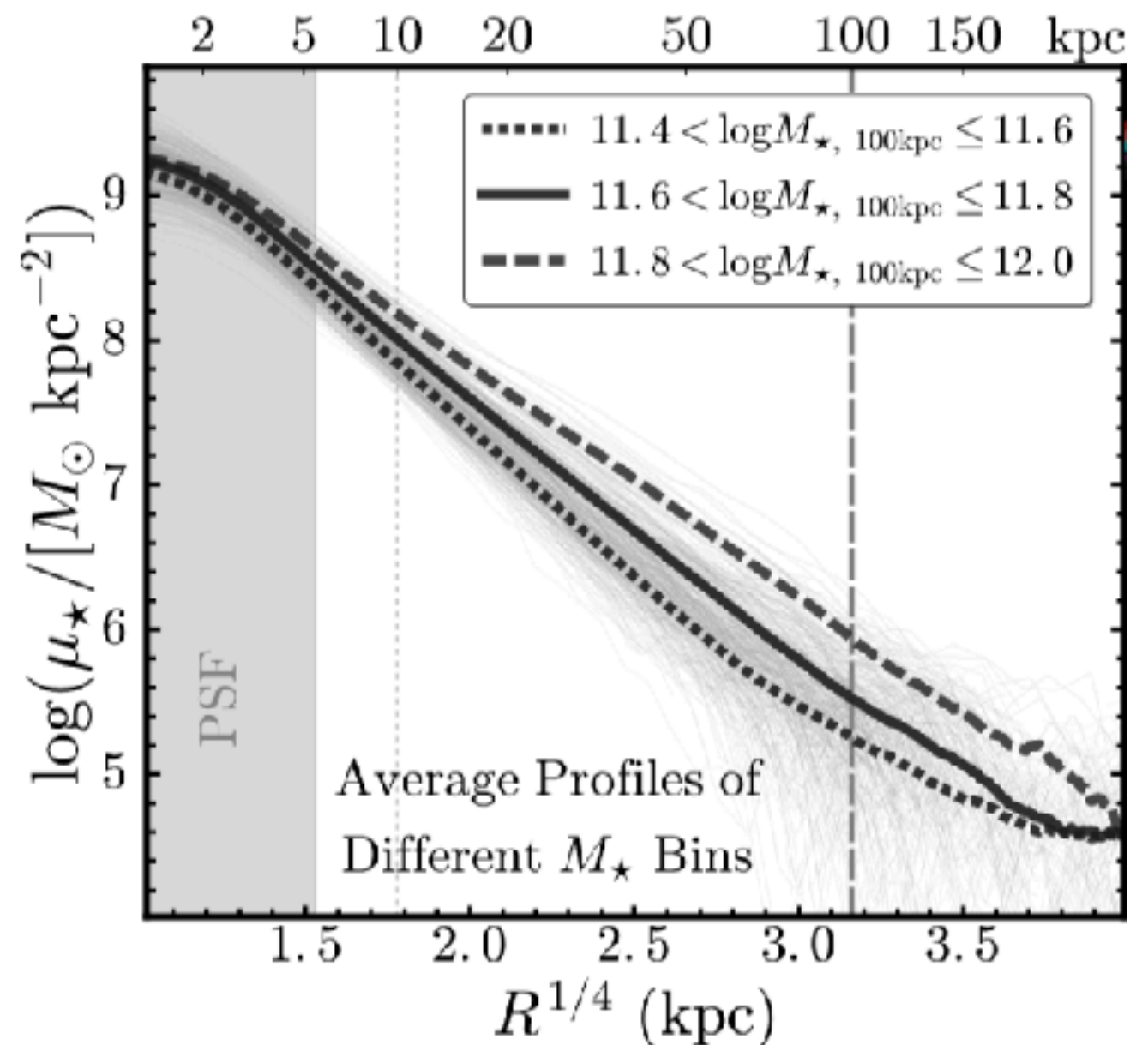




Massive, quiescent galaxies have grown in size by a factor of 4-5 since  $z \sim 3$ , largely *inside, out*.



Huang et al. 2018





# Tracing the stellar mass growth of massive central galaxies.

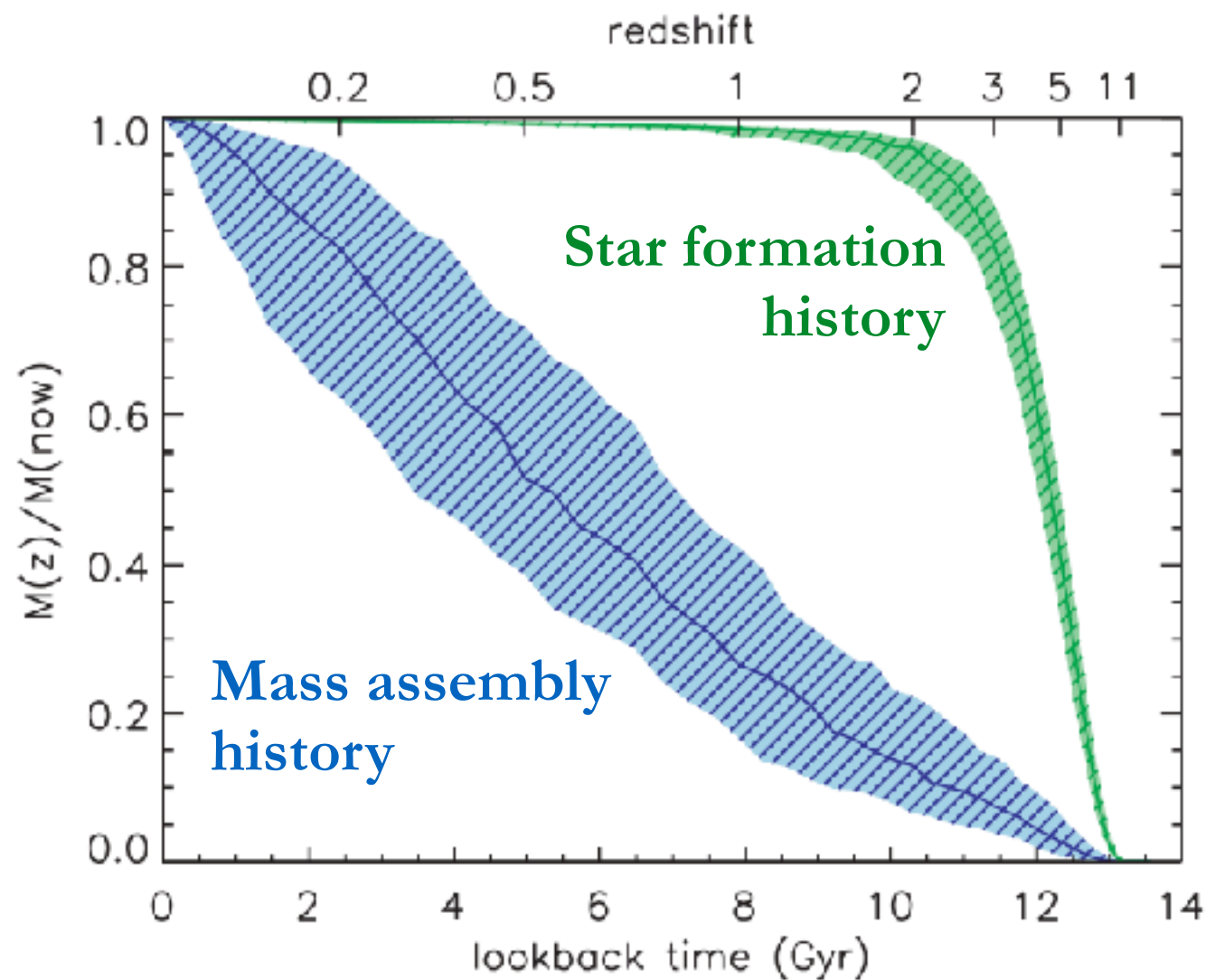
- Observed properties of massive spheroidal galaxies—
  - ▶ Little or no star formation; prevalent in dense environments.
  - ▶ Signs of past interactions;  $M_{\text{BH}}$ -sigma relation.
- Tension with hierarchical galaxy assembly models—
- Detailed stellar masses for  $>100,000$  central galaxies—



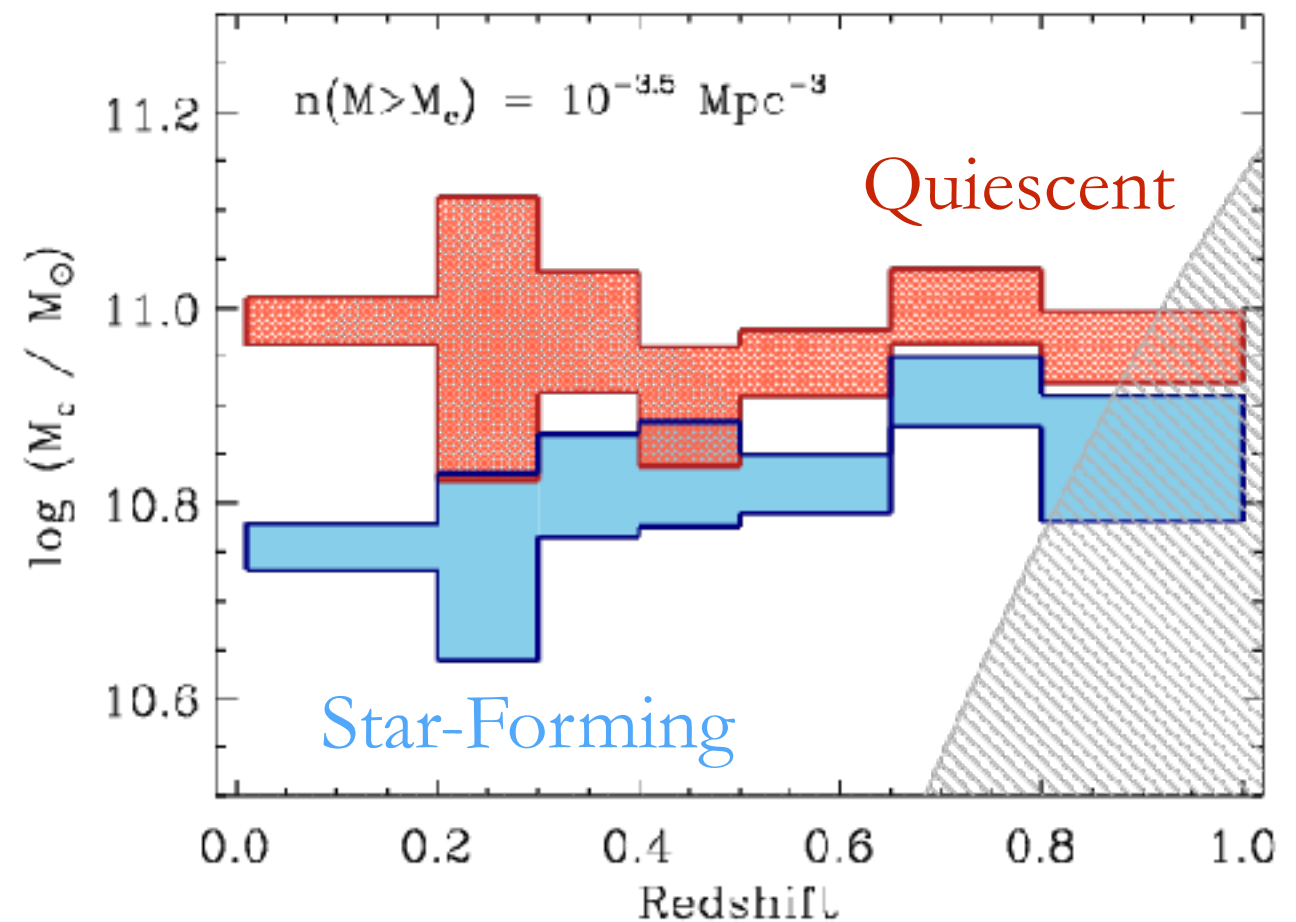
# Tracing the stellar mass growth of massive central galaxies.

- Observed properties of massive spheroidal galaxies—
  - ▶ Little or no star formation; prevalent in dense environments.
  - ▶ Signs of past interactions;  $M_{\text{BH}}$ -sigma relation.
- Tension with hierarchical galaxy assembly models—
- Detailed stellar masses for  $>100,000$  central galaxies—

Many/most/all hierarchical galaxy growth models for massive galaxies are in tension with observations.



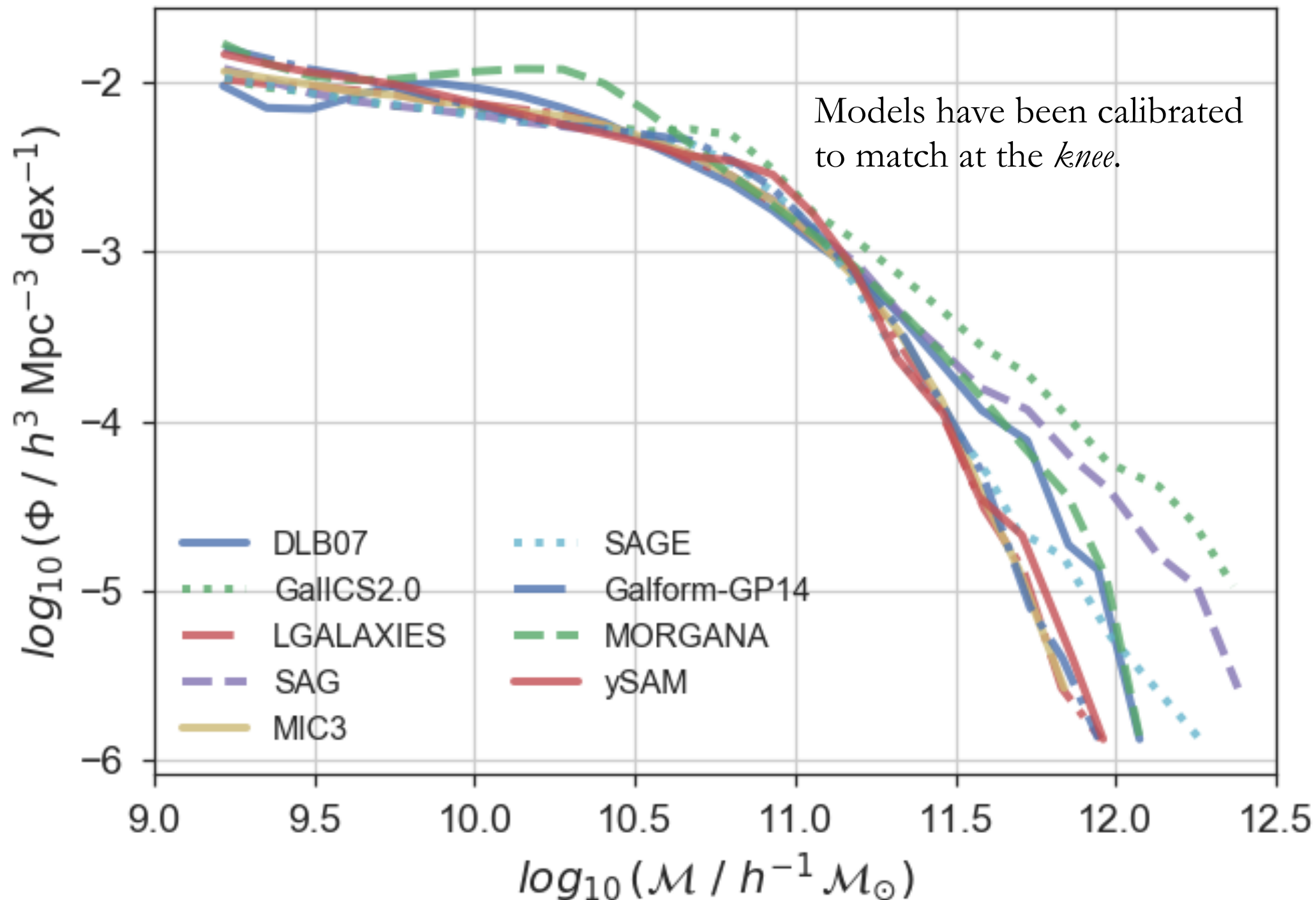
De Lucia & Blaizot 2007



Moustakas et al. 2013

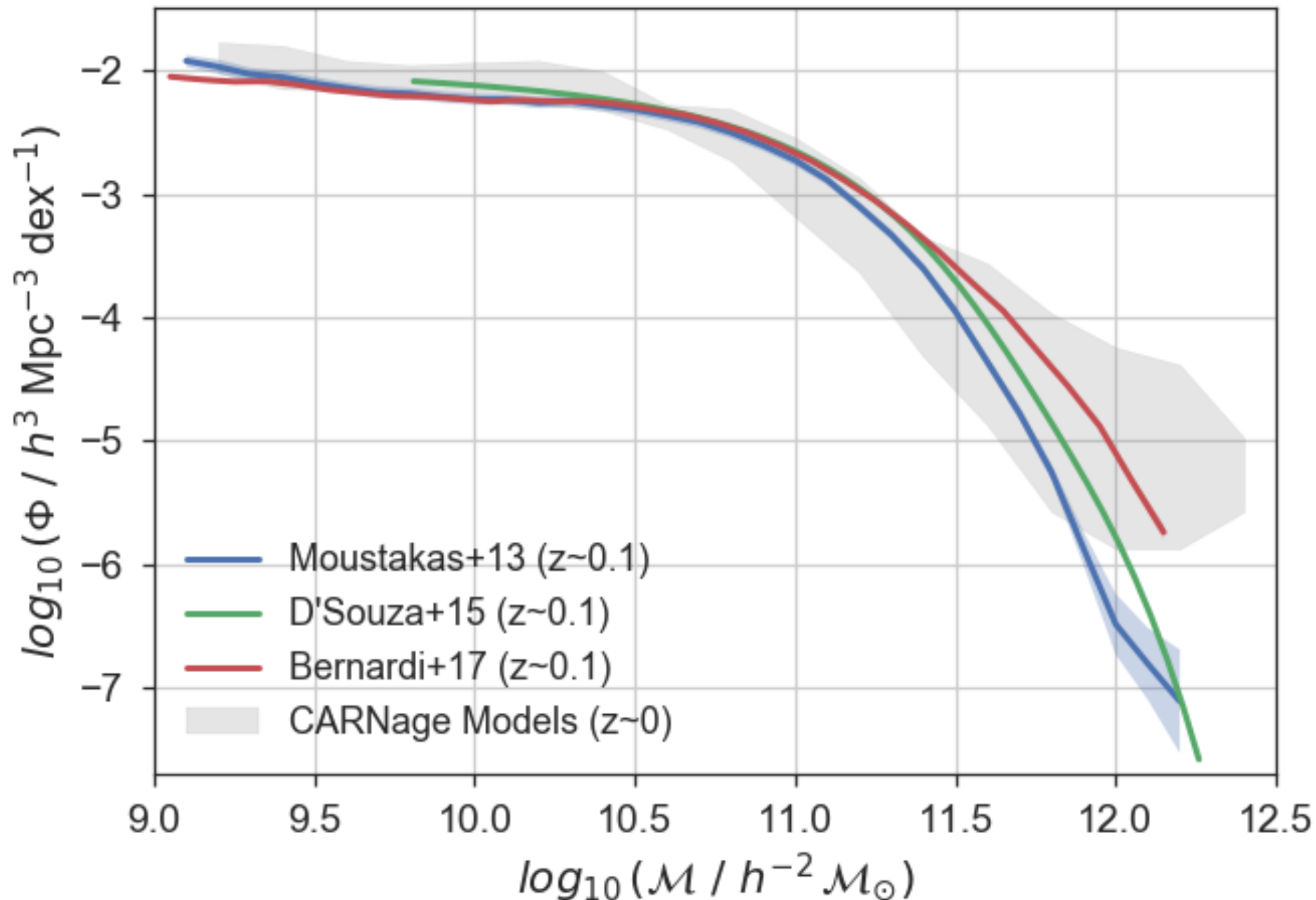


Theoretical models differ widely, especially at the massive end of the  $z \sim 0$  stellar mass function.



Cosmic CARNage:  
Knebe et al. 2018

Measurements of the massive end of the stellar mass function are also discrepant, even at  $z \sim 0$ .





# Tracing the stellar mass growth of massive central galaxies.

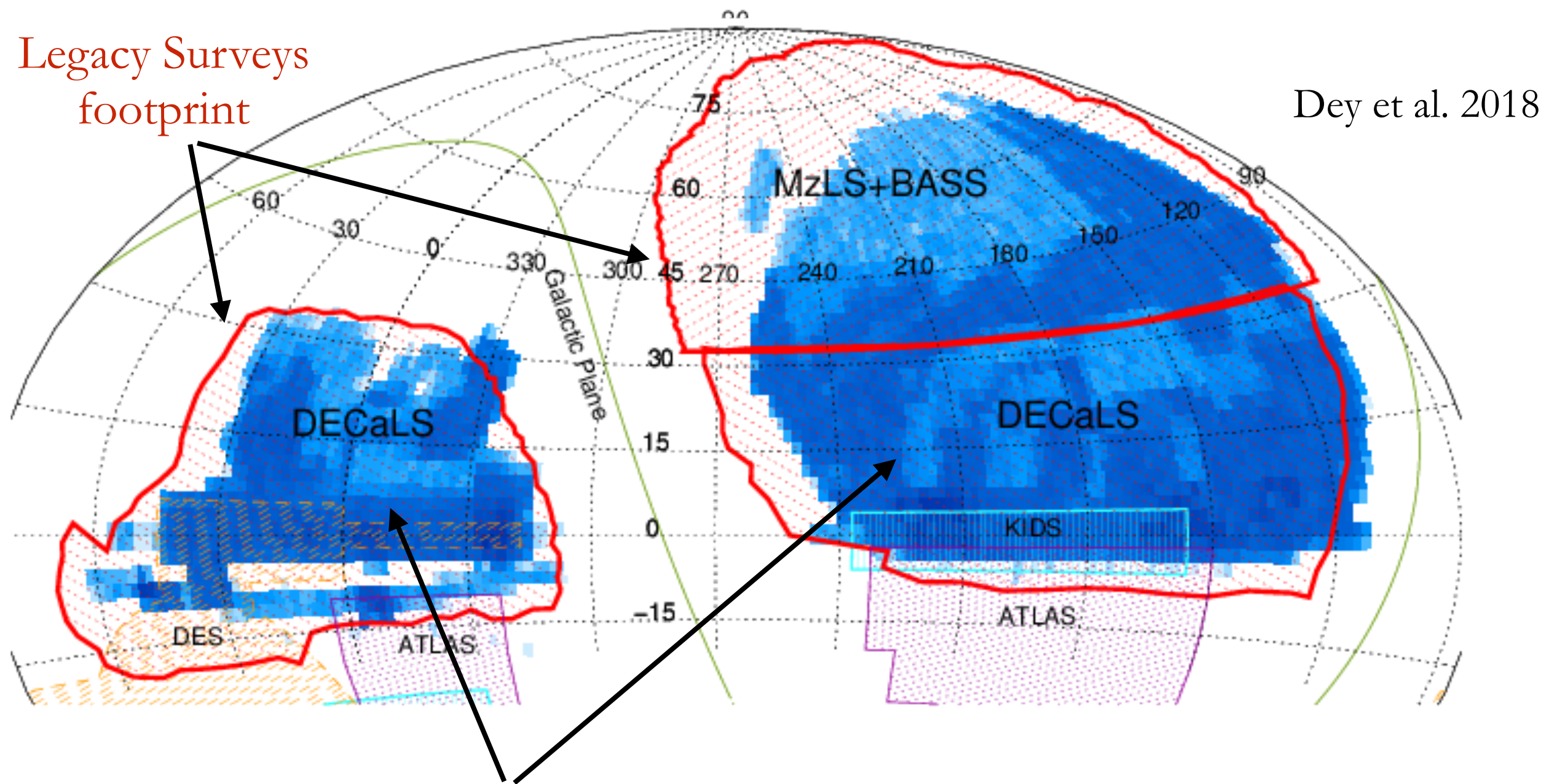
- Observed properties of massive spheroidal galaxies—
  - ▶ Little or no star formation; prevalent in dense environments.
  - ▶ Signs of past interactions;  $M_{\text{BH}}$ -sigma relation.
- Tension with hierarchical galaxy assembly models—
  - ▶ Tension between observed and expected stellar mass growth.
  - ▶ Significant uncertainty in measured stellar mass function
  - ▶ Physics of star formation and feedback remain uncertain.
- Detailed stellar masses for  $>100,000$  central galaxies—

# Tracing the stellar mass growth of massive central galaxies.

- Observed properties of massive spheroidal galaxies—
  - ▶ Little or no star formation; prevalent in dense environments.
  - ▶ Signs of past interactions;  $M_{\text{BH}}$ -sigma relation.
- Tension with hierarchical galaxy assembly models—
  - ▶ Tension between observed and expected stellar mass growth.
  - ▶ Significant uncertainty in measured stellar mass function
  - ▶ Physics of star formation and feedback remain uncertain.
- Detailed stellar masses for  $>100,000$  central galaxies—



The Legacy Surveys are delivering deep optical & mid-IR imaging over 14,000 deg<sup>2</sup> of the extragalactic sky.

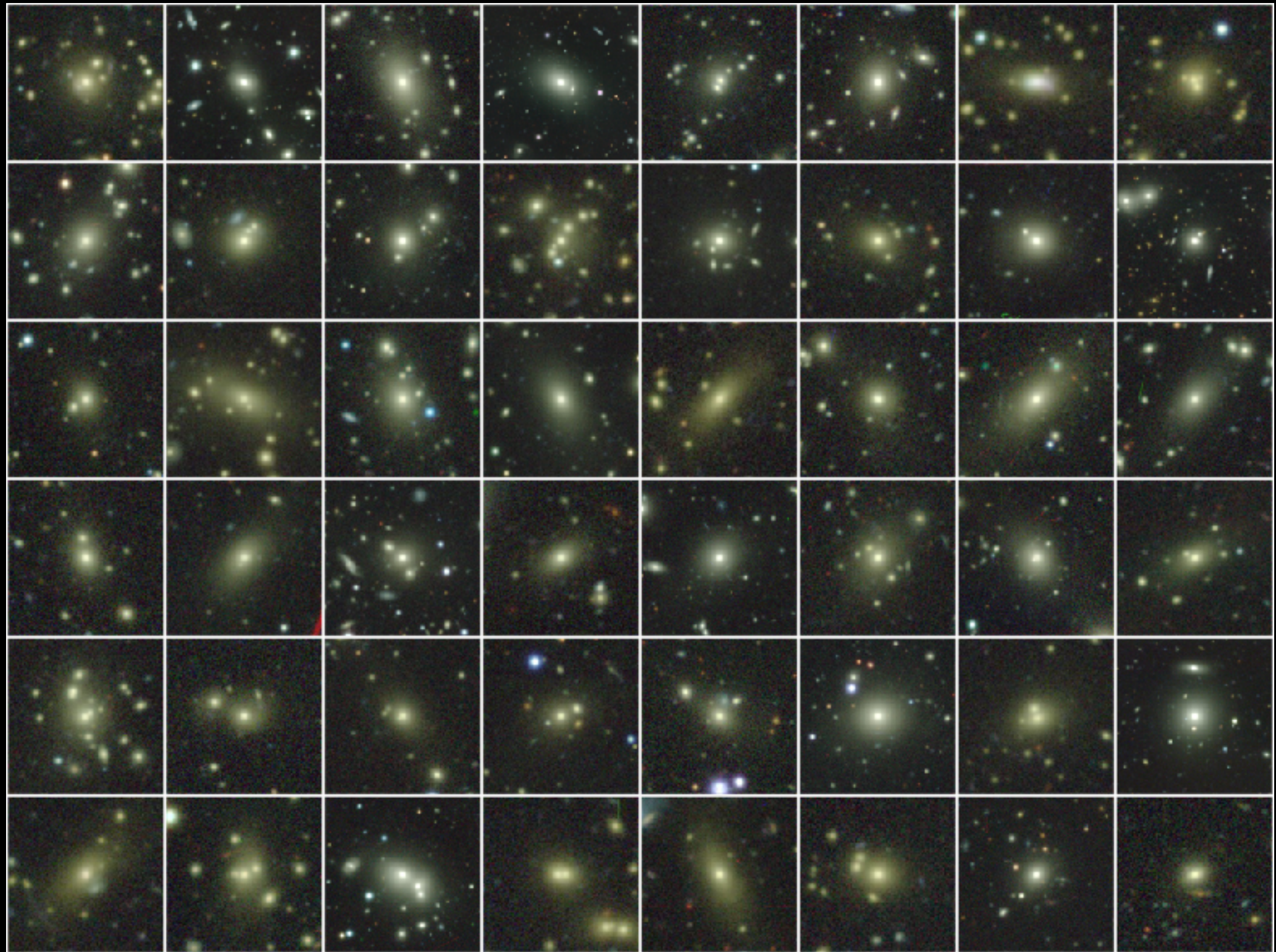


Existing spectroscopy  
from SDSS/(e)BOSS

[legacysurvey.org](http://legacysurvey.org)

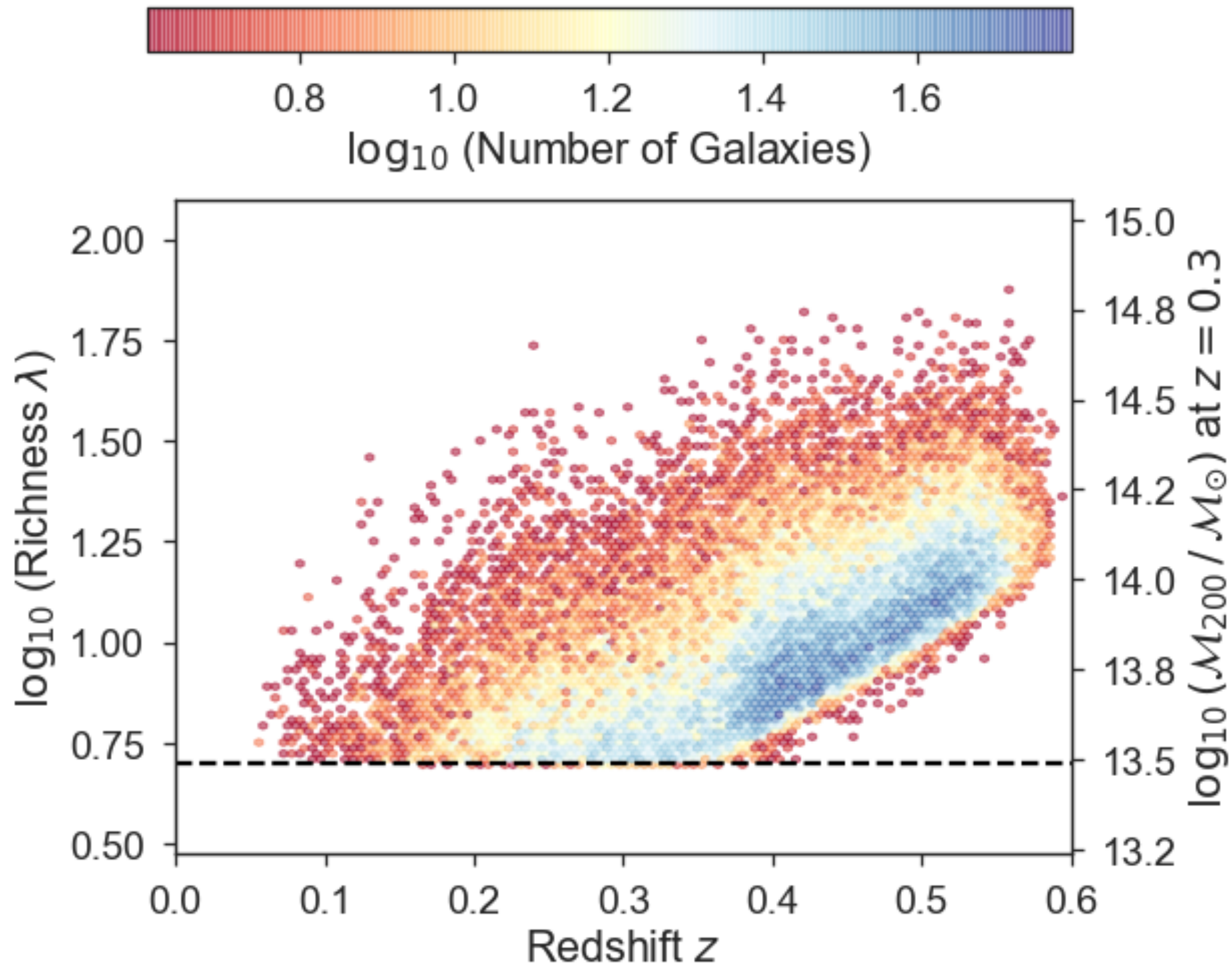


We have assembled a sample of  $\sim 100,000$  central galaxies at  $z < 0.6$  with Legacy Surveys imaging.





Our central-galaxy sample spans a wide range of halo mass, redshift, and cosmological volume.

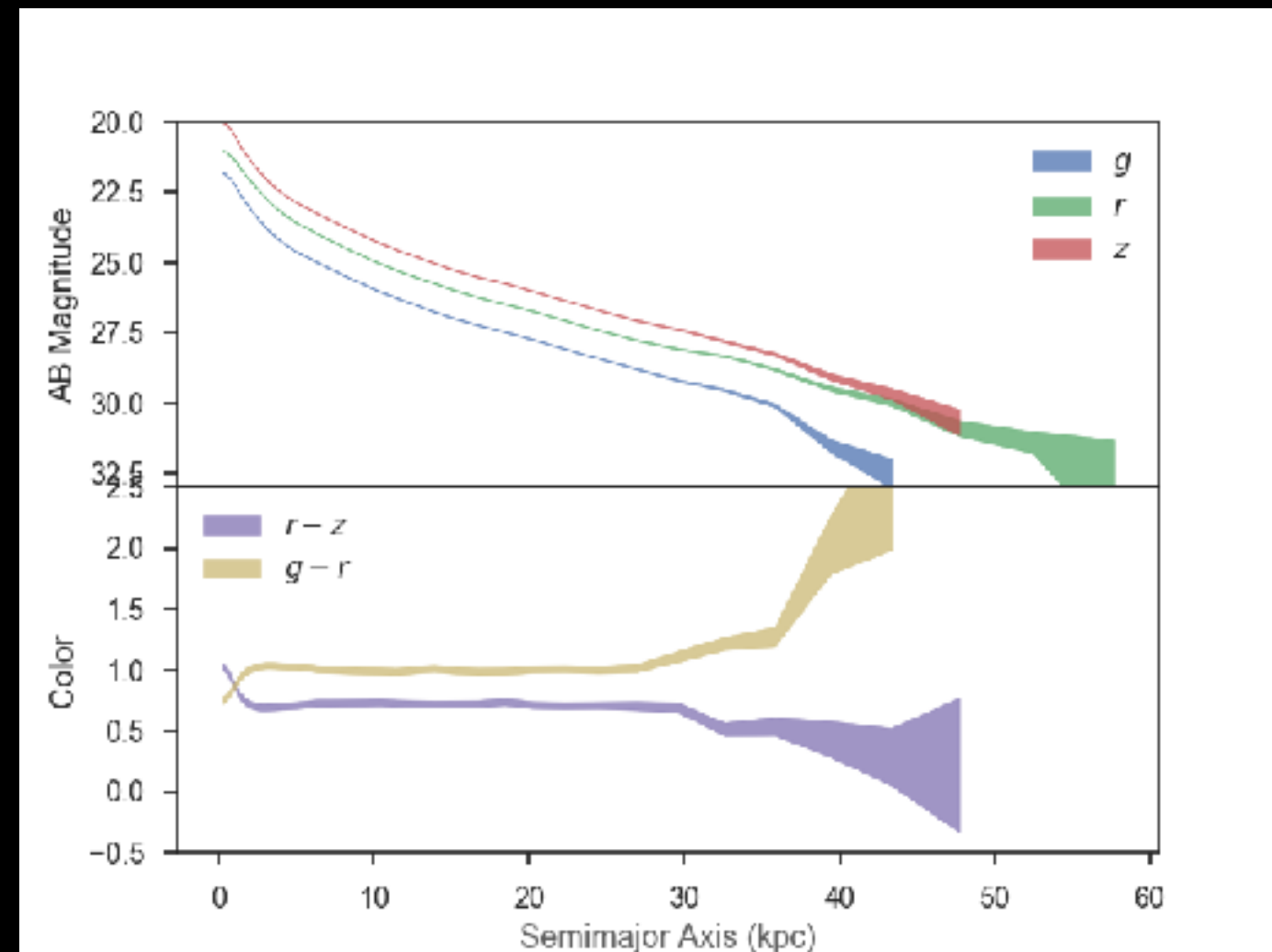


Rykoff et al. 2014

We use *the Tractor* to isolate the light of the central galaxy, and measure its surface brightness profile.

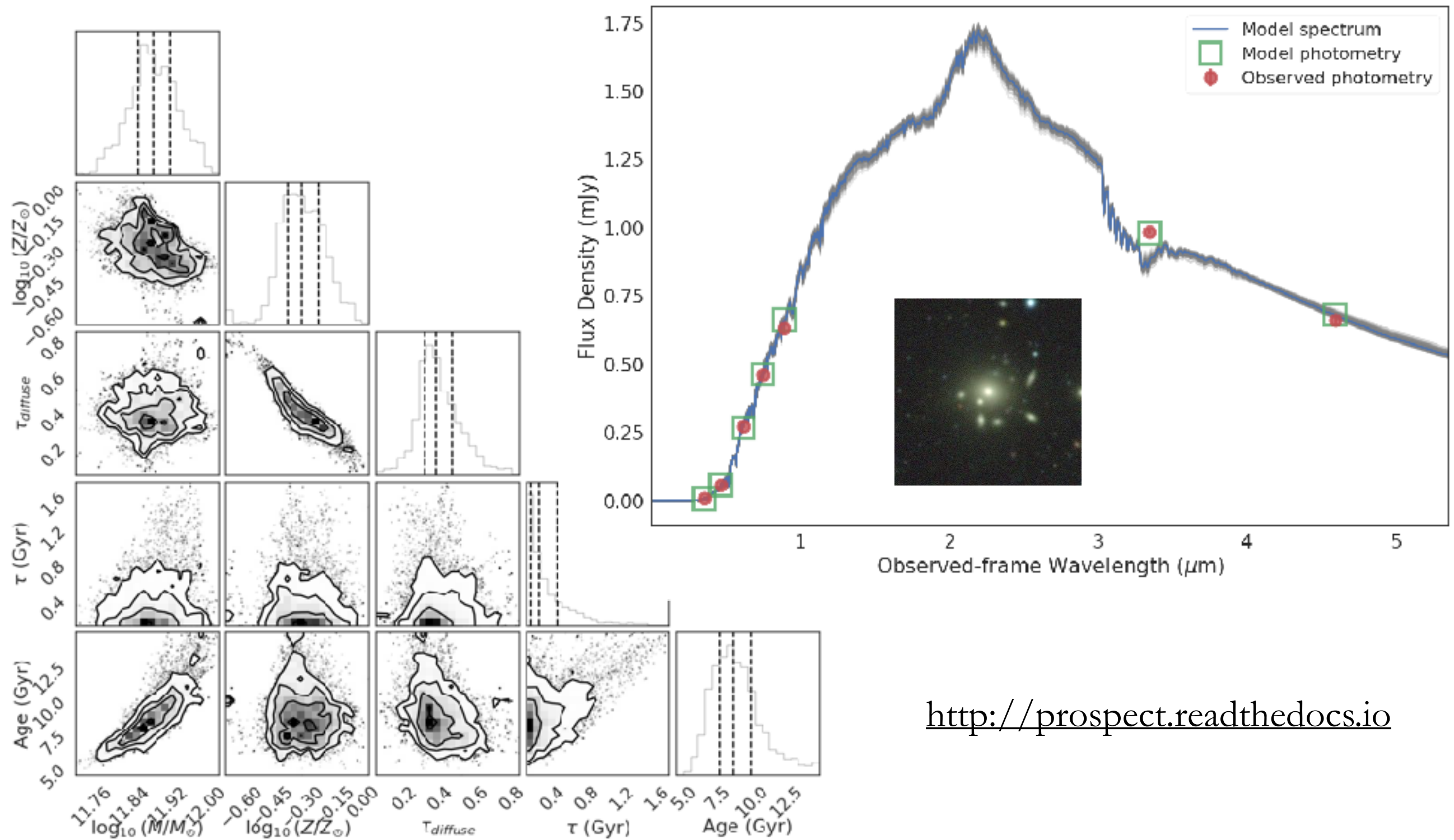


100 kpc





We use state-of-the-art stellar population synthesis modeling to infer the stellar mass content.

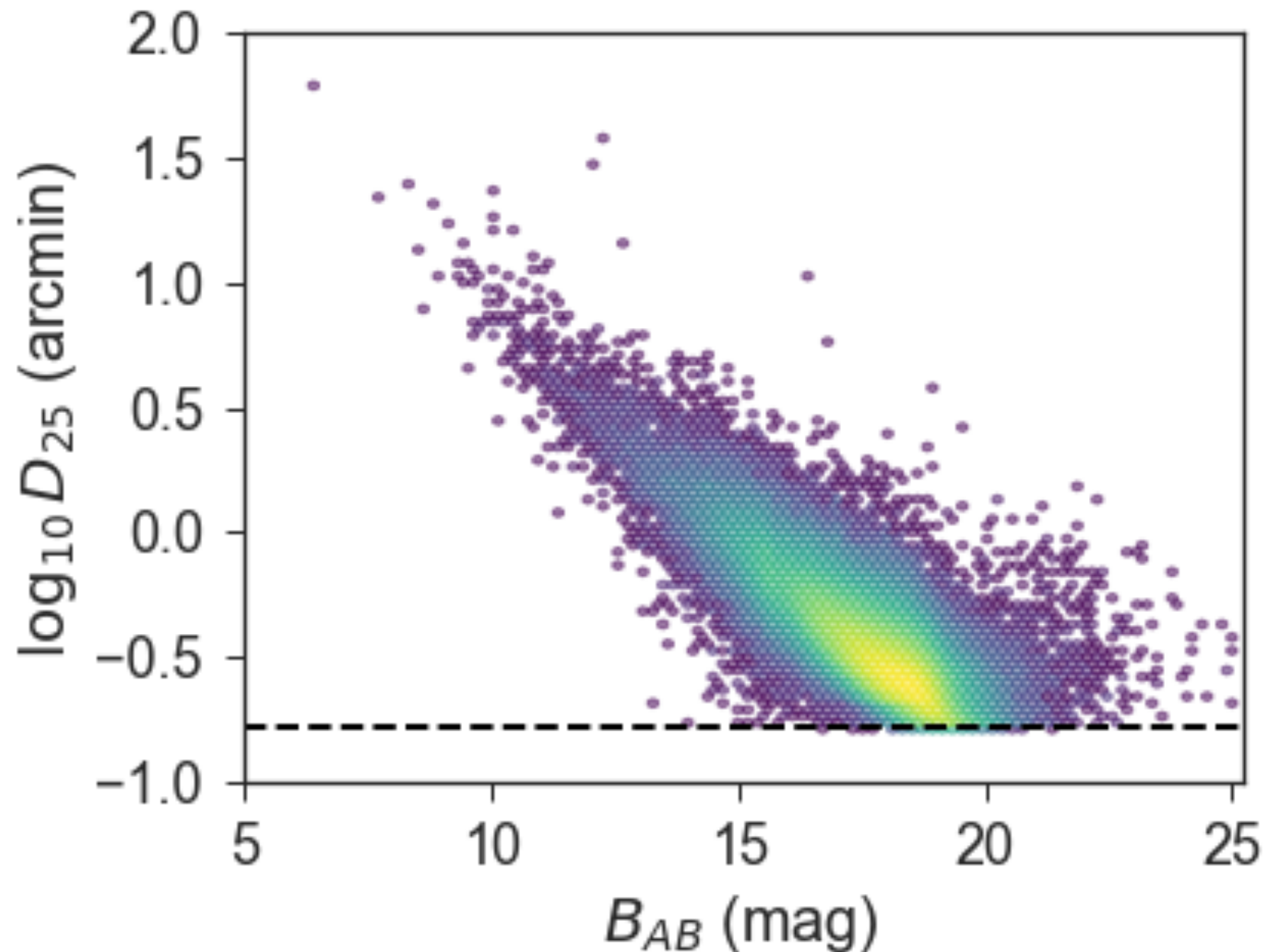


# Tracing the stellar mass growth of massive central galaxies.

- Observed properties of massive spheroidal galaxies—
  - ▶ Little or no star formation; prevalent in dense environments.
  - ▶ Signs of past interactions;  $M_{\text{BH}}$ -sigma relation.
- Tension with hierarchical galaxy assembly models—
  - ▶ Tension between observed and expected stellar mass growth.
  - ▶ Significant uncertainty in measured stellar mass function.
  - ▶ Physics of star formation and feedback remain uncertain.
- Detailed stellar masses for  $>100,000$  central galaxies—
  - ▶ Stay tuned for results on: stellar mass function; stellar mass density profiles; scatter in stellar mass at fixed halo mass; baryon budget; etc.

# NASA Legacy Surveys Galaxy Atlas

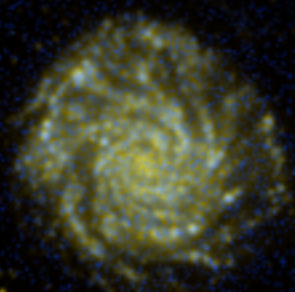
*with Lang, Dey, Schlegel, Blanton, & Schiminovich*



- $\sim 1$ M galaxies with  $D_{25} > 10$  arcsec
- GALEX+LS+WISE from 0.1-22  $\mu\text{m}$

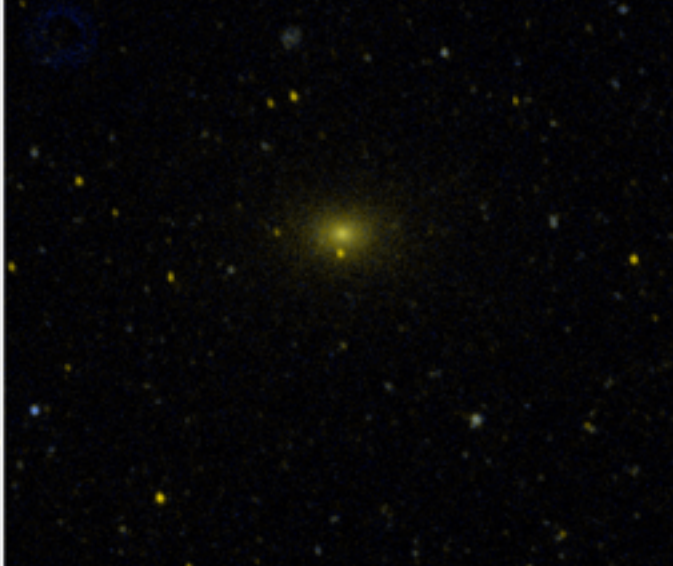


NGC3938



FUV/NUV

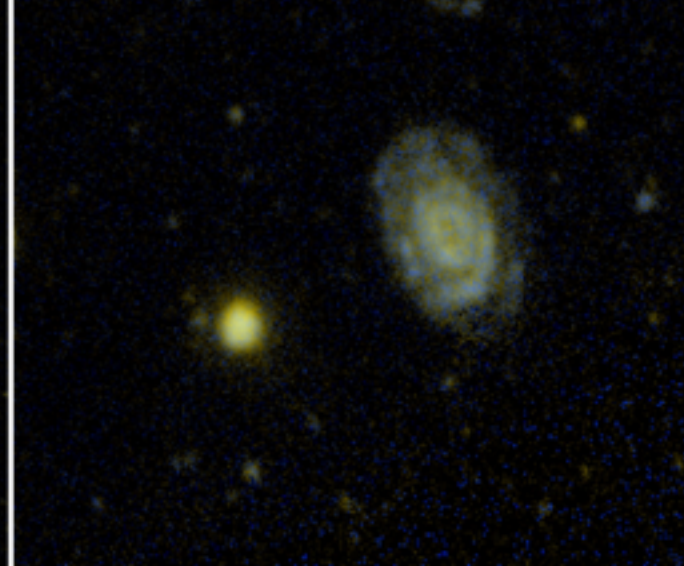
NGC5322



IC4182



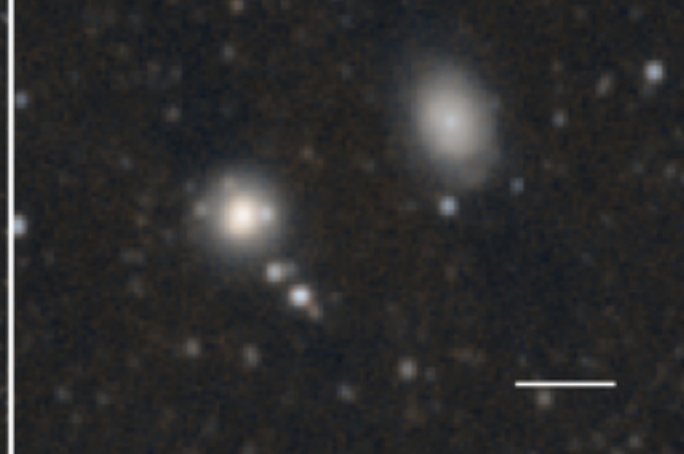
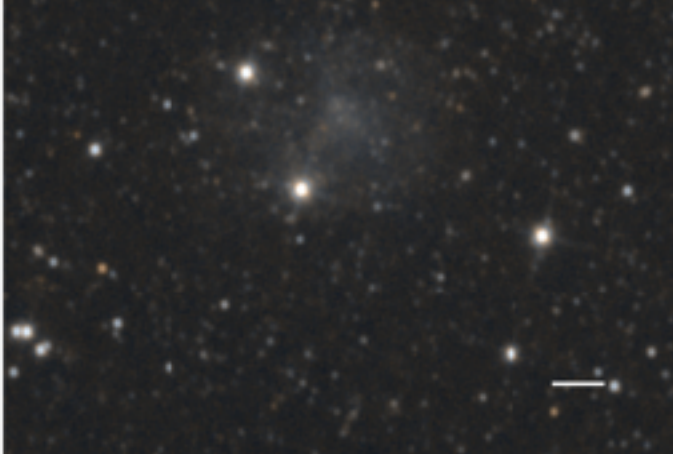
NGC3719 / NGC3720 Group



grz

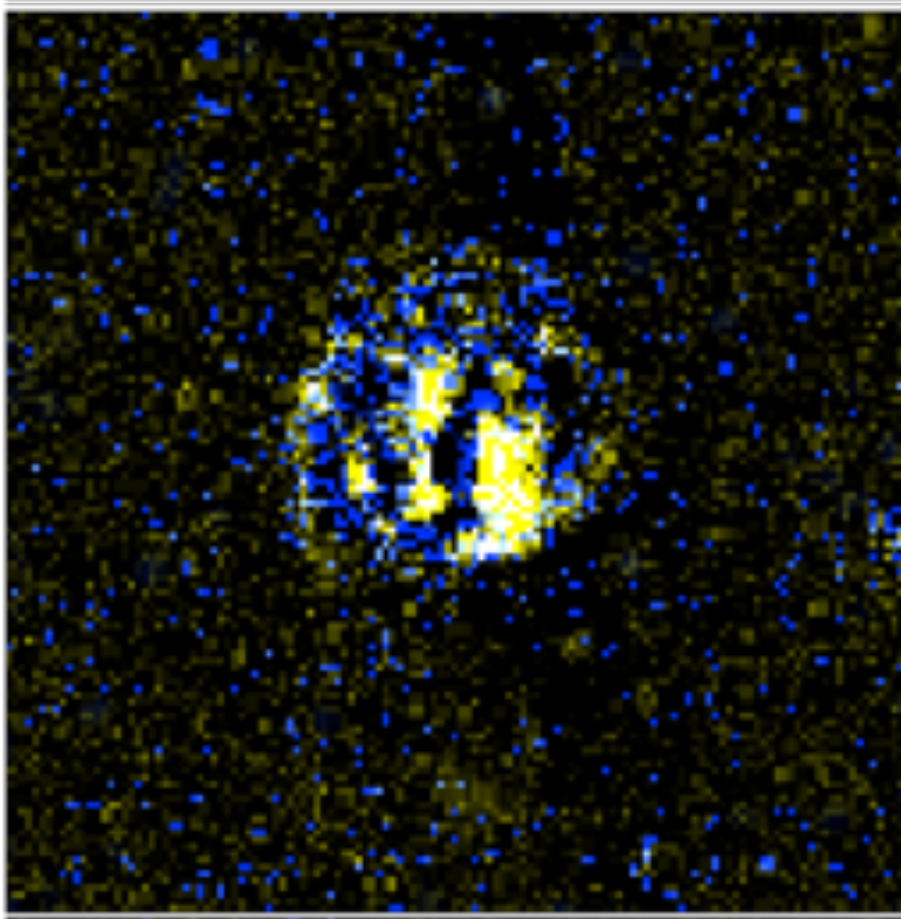


W1/W2

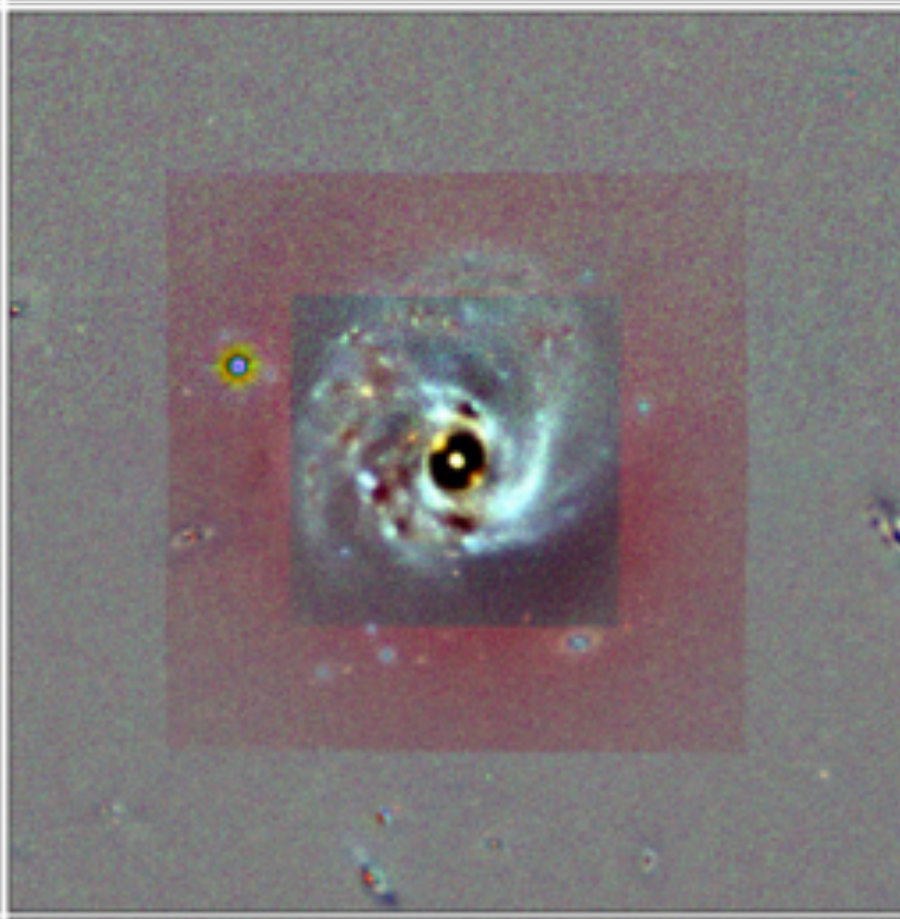




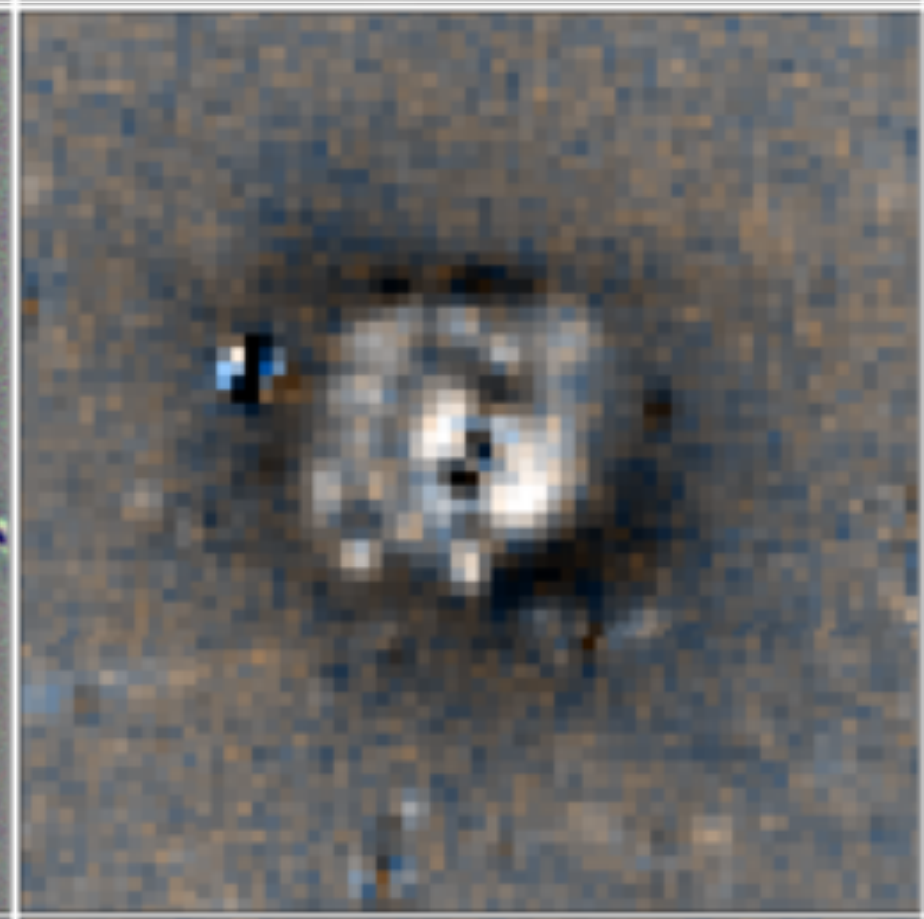
FUV/NUV



$grz$



W1/W2



# Tracing the stellar mass growth of massive central galaxies.

- Observed properties of massive spheroidal galaxies—
  - ▶ Little or no star formation; prevalent in dense environments.
  - ▶ Signs of past interactions;  $M_{\text{BH}}$ -sigma relation.
- Tension with hierarchical galaxy assembly models—
  - ▶ Tension between observed and expected stellar mass growth.
  - ▶ Significant uncertainty in measured stellar mass function.
  - ▶ Physics of star formation and feedback remain uncertain.
- Detailed stellar masses for  $>100,000$  central galaxies—
  - ▶ Stay tuned for results on: stellar mass function; stellar mass density profiles; scatter in stellar mass at fixed halo mass; baryon budget; etc.
- NASA Legacy Surveys Galaxy Atlas