# A red sequence of massive field galaxies at z~2.3

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#### Is a red sequence already in place beyond z=2?

- Identification of galaxies with quiescent stellar populations beyond z=2
  - (e.g., Franx et al. 2003, Labbe et al. 2005, Daddi et al. 2005, Cimatti et al. 2008)



Kriek et al. 2006

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#### 30 hour spectrum of a massive, quiescent galaxy at z~2.2



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#### **Stellar populations of z~2.3 galaxies**



Kriek et al. 2006

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#### **Stellar populations of z~2.3 galaxies**



Kriek et al. 2006

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- Several studies show that the red sequence disappears at z>1.5
  - (e.g., Conselice et al. 2005, Cirasuolo et al. 2008)

#### The disappearance of the red sequence at z>1.5?



Cirasuolo et al. 2008

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#### **Contradiction?**

#### Is it possible to recover a red sequence with only broadband photometry?



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#### What is needed to recover a possible red sequence at z>2?



### A Public NIR spectroscopic survey for massive galaxies at z~2.5

- Selection:  $2 \le z_{phot} \le 3$ ; K<19.7; MUSYC survey
- Observations: GNIRS X-dispersed spectra; 1–2.5 µm
- Sample: 36 galaxies
  - 10 galaxies at z<2</p>
  - 11 galaxies at 2<z<3 with little or no star formation</p>
  - 5 AGN hosts at 2<z<3, with mainly quiescent stellar populations</p>
  - 10 star burst galaxies at 2<z<3</p>
- Public: <u>www.astro.princeton.edu/~mariska</u>

 Follow-up: Keck/NIRSPEC+NIRC2-A0, VLT/SINFONI, HST/NICMOS, Spitzer/IRAC+MIPS, Magellan/LDSS3

#### A Red Sequence at z~2.3?



Kriek et al. submitted

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#### A Red Sequence at z~2.3?



#### **Red-sequence galaxies at z~2.3**



Kriek et al. submitted

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#### **Red-sequence galaxies at z~2.3**



#### Comparison to low-z spectroscopic masslimited samples



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### **Evolution of the Red Sequence**



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### **Evolution of the Red Sequence**



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### **Growth of the Red Sequence**



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### **Evolution of the Red Sequence**



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### **Evolution of the Red Sequence**



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#### **Red mergers**



Mass

#### **Red mergers**



Mass

### **Evolution of the Red Sequence**



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## Morphologies of massive quiescent galaxies at z~2.3

#### van Dokkum et al. submitted



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#### Sizes and stellar densities of massive quiescent galaxies at z~2.3



van Dokkum et al. submitted

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#### Summary...

- A red sequence of massive field galaxies with quiescent stellar populations was already in place at z~2.3
- The massive end of the red sequence grows by a factor of ~8 from z~2.3 to the present
- The color evolution of the red sequence is more complicated than just aging
- The z~2.3 red-sequence galaxies still experience active evolution in their future

#### Is it possible to recover a red sequence with only broadband photometry?

