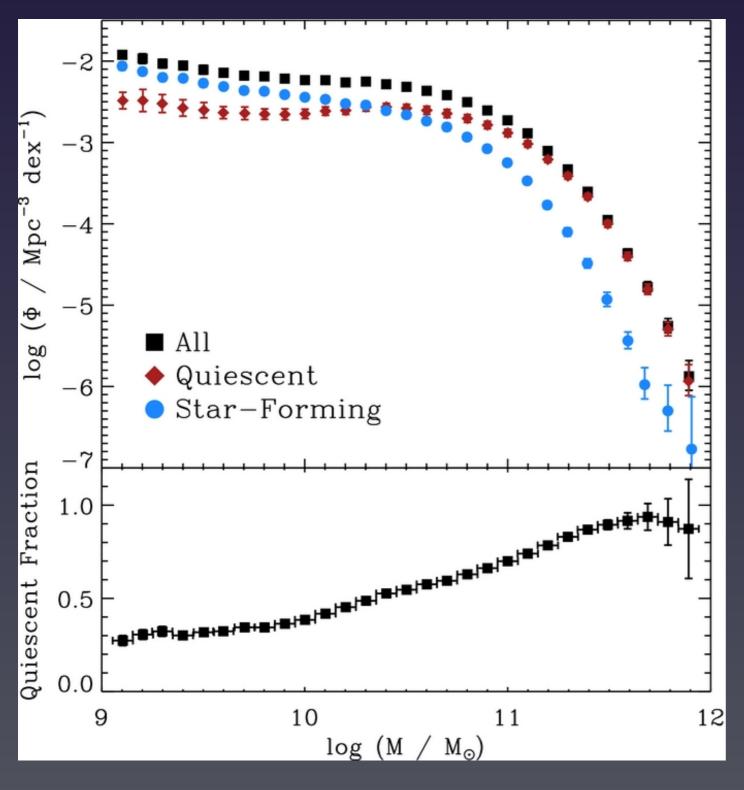


# THE SATELLITE POPULATION AROUND LUMINOUS RED GALAXIES IN THE LEGACY SURVEYS



Mindy Townsend \* University of Kansas PALOOZA 2021 \* 23 Feb. 2021

#### Characteristics of Massive Galaxies

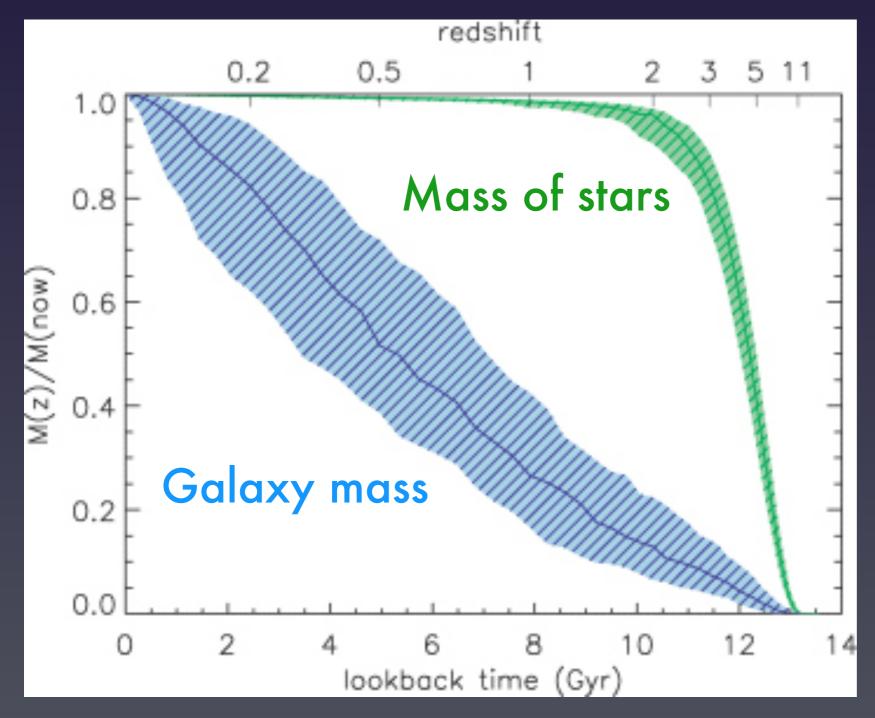


Massive galaxy characteristics:

- 1. Little cold gas
- 2. Old stellar pops
- 3. Very low specific star formation rate

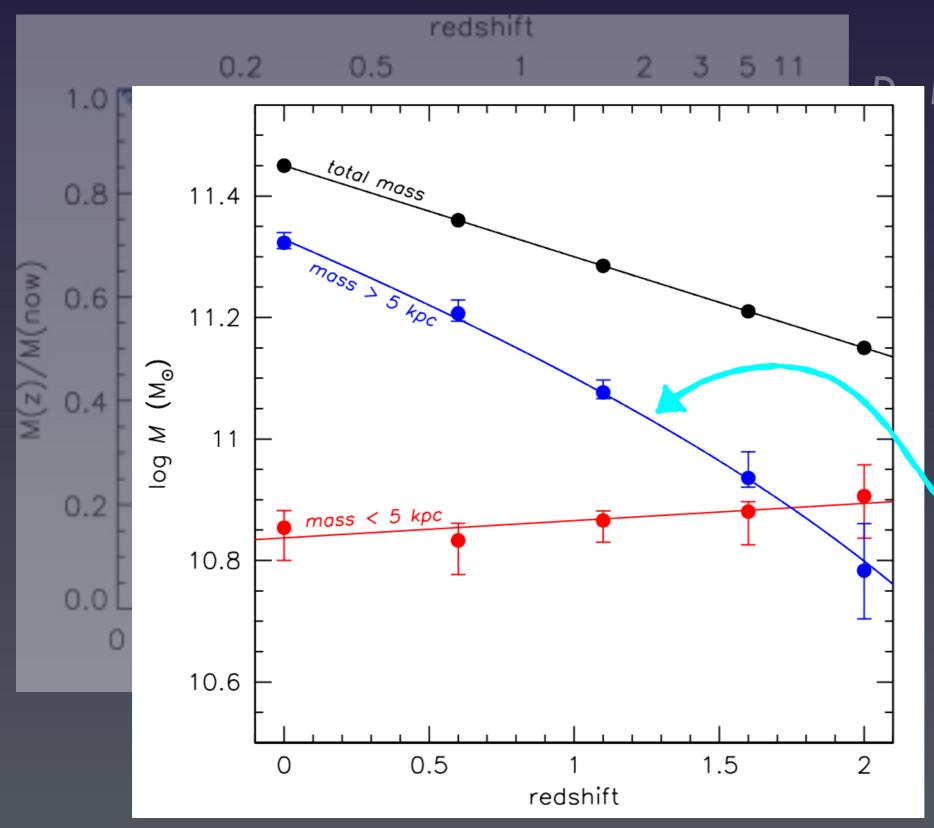
How massive galaxies form is one of the biggest questions in galaxy evolution

# Motivation



De Lucia & Blaizot 2007

## Motivation

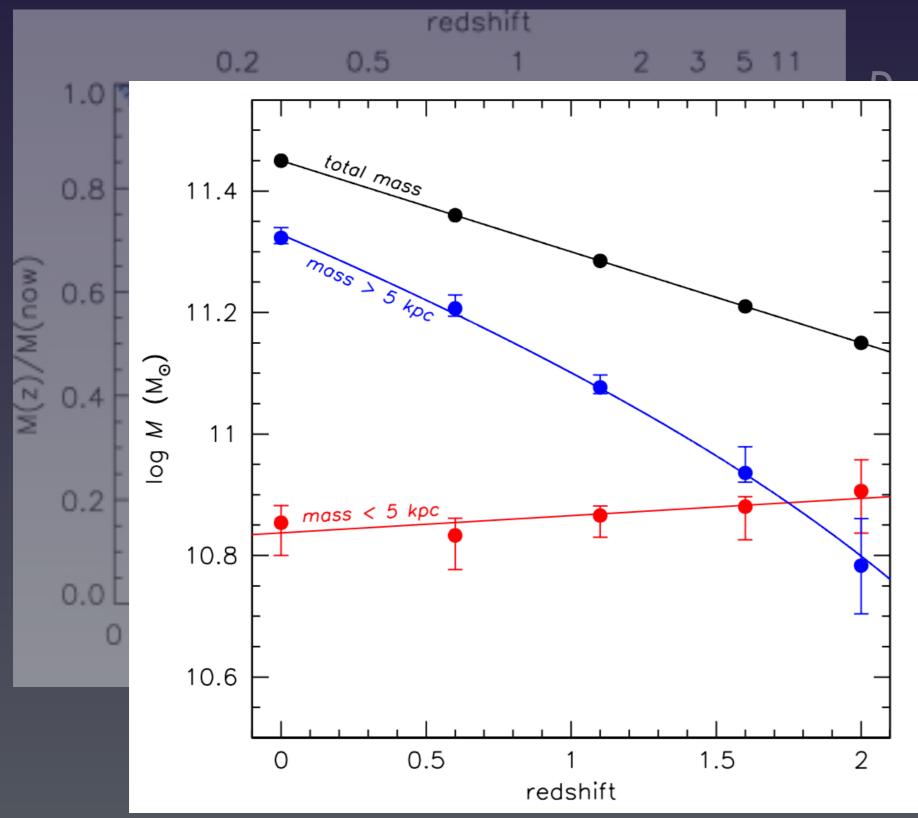


Lucia & Blaizot 2007

van Dokkum+2010

Caused by "dry mergers"

### Motivation

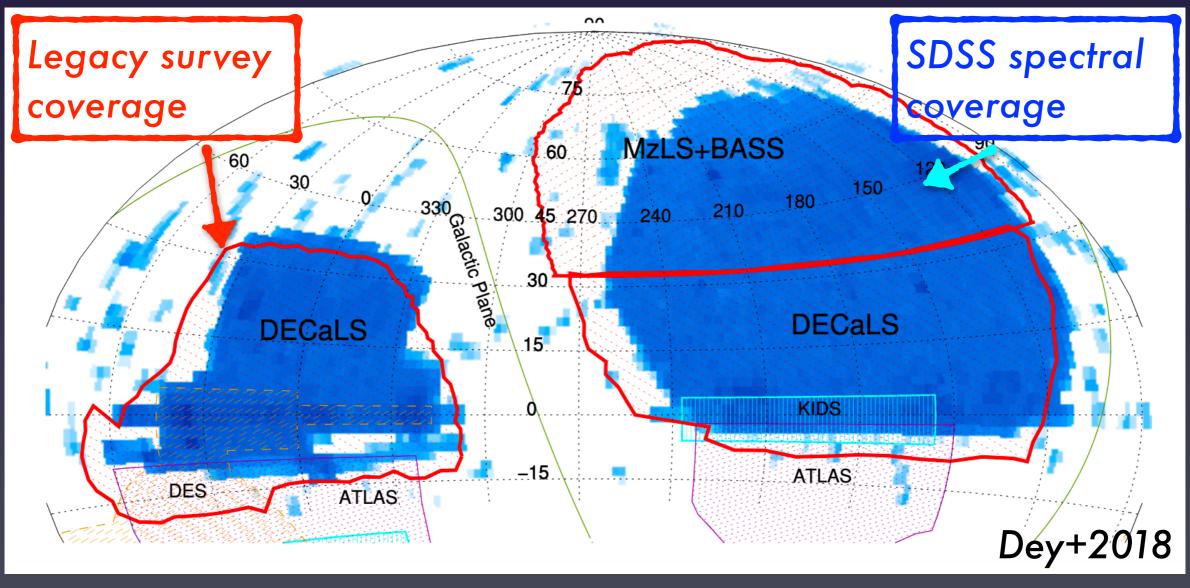


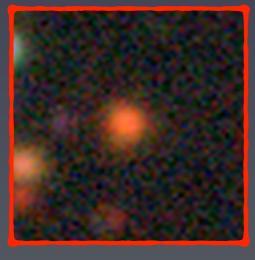
Lucia & Blaizot 2007

van Dokkum+2010

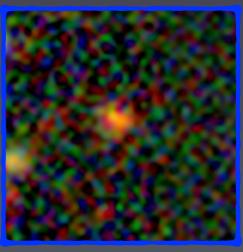
Stars form
early and find
their way into
massive
galaxies via
"dry mergers"

# DESI Legacy Imaging Surveys

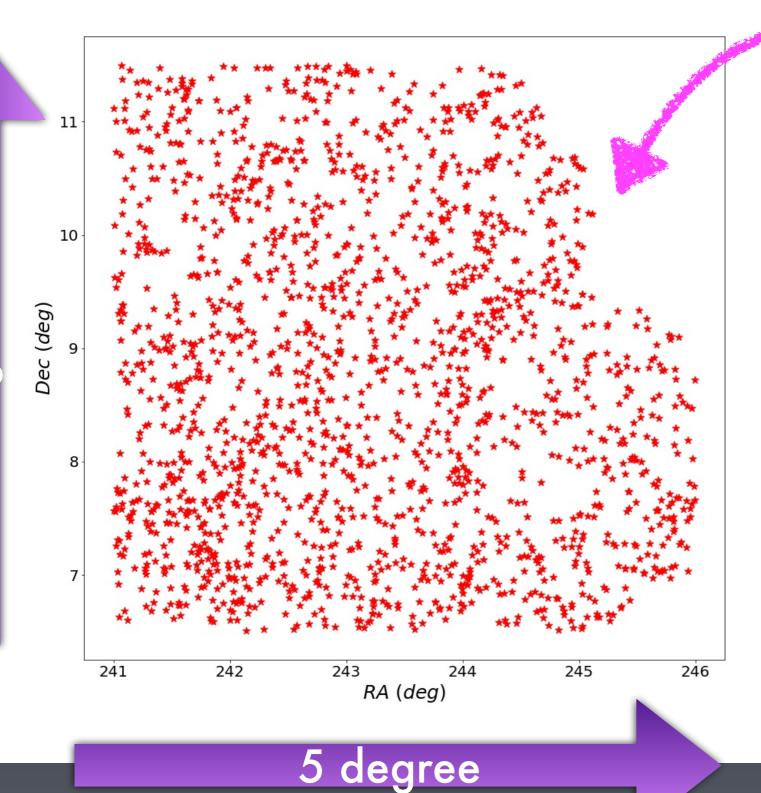




Legacy Survey is about two magnitudes deeper than SDSS



# 5 degree

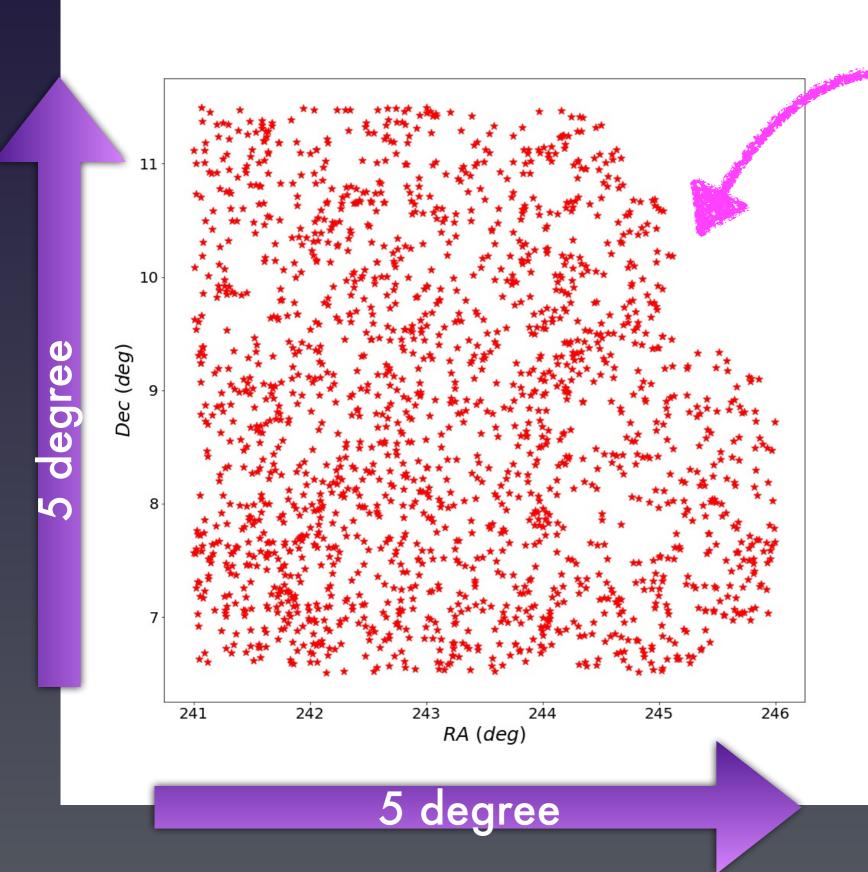


#### Data at a glance:

1823 LRGs

0.2 < z < 0.65

3 Luminosity-complete samples



#### Data at a glance:

1823 LRGs

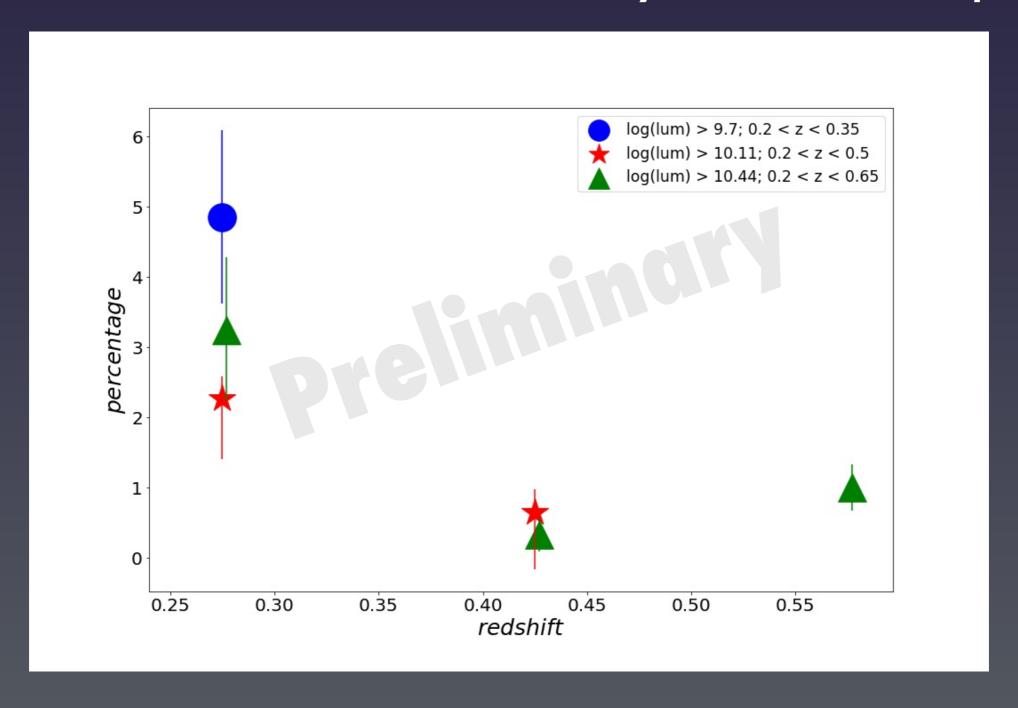
0.2 < z < 0.65

3 Luminosity-complete samples

Science
question: What
percentage of
LRGs have a
significant
satellite
population?

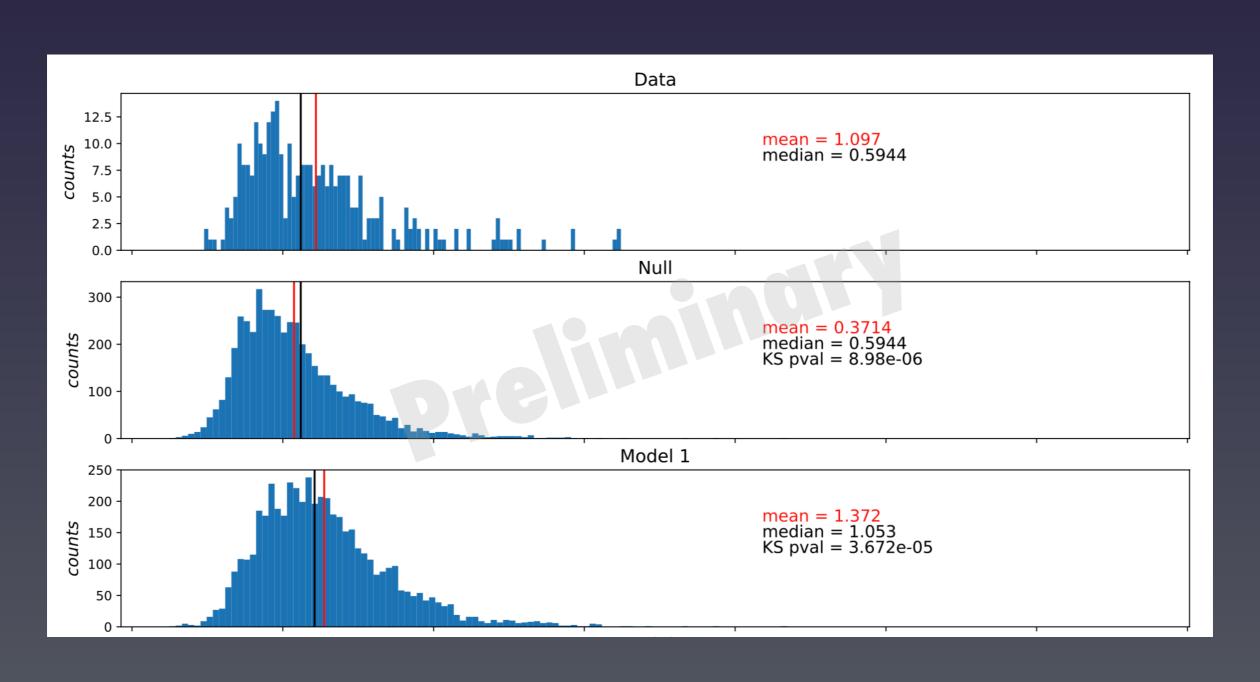
# Preliminary Results

Percent of LRGs with Significant Satellite Population vs Redshift for different luminosity-selected samples



# Next Steps - Modeling

#### Example model result



## Summary

- Main Takeaways:
  - The Legacy Surveys offer a unique opportunity to study the environments of large elliptical galaxies on a large scale
  - The percentage of LRGs with significant satellite populations change with redshift from around 2-3 percent at low redshift to less than 1 percent beyond z~0.35
  - Simple models that assume an intrinsic number of satellites are likely inappropriate

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