Tightly Coupled Morpho-kinematic Evolution for Massive Star-forming and Quiescent Galaxies across 7 Gyr of Cosmic Time

Anna de Graaff1, Rachel Bezanson2, Marijn Franx1, Arjen van der Wel1,4, Eric F. Bell5, Francesco D’Eugenio3, Bradford Holden6, Michael V. Maseda1, Adam Muzzin7, Camilla Pacifici8, Jesse van de Sande9,10, David Sobral11, Caroline M. S. Straatman12, and Po-Feng Wu12

1 Leiden Observatory, Leiden University, P.O. Box 9513, NL-2300 AA Leiden, The Netherlands; graaff@strw.leidenuniv.nl
2 Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA 15260, USA
3 Sterrenkundig Observatorium, Universiteit Gent, Krijgslaan 281 S9, B-9000 Gent, Belgium
4 Max-Planck-Institut für Astronomie, Königstuhl 17, D-69117, Heidelberg, Germany
5 University of California, Santa Cruz, CA 95064, USA
6 UCO/Lick Observatory, University of California, 3700 San Martin Drive, Baltimore, MD 21218, USA
7 Department of Astronomy, University of Michigan, 1085 South University Avenue, Ann Arbor, MI 48109, USA
8 Space Telescope Science Institute, 3700 San Martin Drive, Baltimore, MD 21218, USA
9 Sydney Institute for Astronomy, School of Physics, AS28, The University of Sydney, Sydney, NSW, 2066, Australia
10 ARC Centre of Excellence for All Sky Astrophysics in 3 Dimensions (ASTRO 3D), Australia
11 Department of Physics, Lancaster University, Lancaster LA1 4 YB, UK
12 National Astronomical Observatory of Japan, 2-21-1 Osawa, Mitaka, Tokyo 181-8588, Japan

Received 2020 September 30; revised 2020 October 22; accepted 2020 October 23; published 2020 November 6

Abstract

We use the Fundamental Plane (FP) to measure the redshift evolution of the dynamical mass-to-light ratio \( (M_{\text{dyn}}/L) \) and the dynamical-to-stellar mass ratio \( (M_{\text{dyn}}/M_*) \). Although conventionally used to study the properties of early-type galaxies, we here obtain stellar kinematic measurements from the Large Early Galaxy Astrophysics Census (LEGA-C) Survey for a sample of \( \sim 1400 \) massive (\( \log(M_*/M_\odot) > 10.5 \)) galaxies at \( 0.6 < z < 1.0 \) that span a wide range in star formation activity. In line with previous studies, we find a strong evolution in \( M_{\text{dyn}}/L \) with redshift. In contrast, we find only a weak dependence of the mean value of \( M_{\text{dyn}}/M_* \) on the specific star formation rate, and a redshift evolution that likely is explained by systematics. Therefore, we demonstrate that star-forming galaxies lie on the same, stable mass FP across 0-2. These observations suggest that any redshift dependence of \( M_{\text{dyn}}/L \) is caused primarily by evolution in the stellar mass-to-light ratio \( (M_*/L) \), and that changes in the structure-dependent ratio of the total and stellar mass \( (M_{\text{dyn}}/M_*) \) are either minimal, or embedded in the FP.

1. Introduction

Galaxies obey a tight scaling relation between size, velocity dispersion, and surface brightness or stellar mass surface density, known as the Fundamental Plane (FP; e.g., Djorgovski & Davis 1987; Dressler et al. 1987; Jorgensen et al. 1996). The tilt and zero-point of the luminosity FP are directly related to the dynamical mass-to-light ratio \( (M_{\text{dyn}}/L; Faber et al. 1987) \), and therefore the FP has proven to be a valuable tool in studying the evolution in \( M_{\text{dyn}}/L \) of the quiescent galaxy population. The zero-point in particular has been shown to evolve significantly with redshift, which places strong constraints on the formation epoch of massive quiescent galaxies (e.g., van Dokkum & Franx 1996; van der Wel et al. 2005).

However, Saglia et al. (2010, 2016) and Toft et al. (2012) have suggested that evolution in the morphological or kinematic structure may be required to fully account for the observed evolution in the FP. Bezanson et al. (2013), on the other hand, demonstrated that when the surface brightness parameter in the FP is replaced by the stellar mass surface density, there is very little evolution in the resulting mass FP of massive quiescent galaxies to \( z \sim 2 \). These observations suggest that any redshift dependence of \( M_{\text{dyn}}/L \) is caused primarily by evolution in the stellar mass-to-light ratio \( (M_*/L) \), and that changes in the structure-dependent ratio of the total and stellar mass \( (M_{\text{dyn}}/M_*) \) are either minimal, or embedded in the FP.

Thus far, however, high-redshift studies of the FP have been limited in sample size, with selections being biased toward either the densest environments or brightest objects (e.g., Holden et al. 2010; van de Sande et al. 2014; Beifiori et al. 2017; Prichard et al. 2017; Saracco et al. 2020), which populate the FP differently than typical galaxies in the field (see, e.g., Saglia et al. 2010; van de Sande et al. 2014). Therefore, extending these analyses to a more representative sample of the overall galaxy population is crucial for understanding the redshift evolution in \( M_{\text{dyn}}/L \) and \( M_{\text{dyn}}/M_*. \)

At low redshift, Zaritsky et al. (2008) and Bezanson et al. (2015) have shown that star-forming galaxies lie on the same surface as the quiescent galaxies, if both \( M_*/L \) and rotation velocities are taken into account. In A. de Graaff et al. (2020, in preparation) we present the luminosity and mass FP of a large, \( K_s \)-band selected sample of galaxies drawn from the Large Early Galaxy Astrophysics Census (LEGA-C) Survey (van der Wel et al. 2016; Straatman et al. 2018), and find that star-
forming and quiescent galaxies also lie on the same mass FP at \( z \sim 0.8 \).

In this Letter, we constrain the redshift evolution of the luminosity FP and mass FP between \( 0 < z < 1 \), by using our representative sample of massive galaxies from the LEGA-C survey and a reference sample of local galaxies from the Sloan Digital Sky Survey (SDSS).

We assume a flat \( \Lambda \)CDM cosmology throughout, with \( \Omega_m = 0.3 \) and \( H_0 = 70 \text{ km s}^{-1} \text{ Mpc}^{-1} \).

2. Data

2.1. LEGA-C Survey

Our sample is drawn from the third data release of the LEGA-C survey, a deep spectroscopic survey of ~3000 \( K_s \)-band selected galaxies at \( 0.6 < z < 1.0 \) in the COSMOS field (van der Wel et al. 2016; Straatman et al. 2018), which provides accurate absorption line widths for a representative sample of the massive galaxy population at \( z \sim 0.8 \).

We describe the combined data set and our sample selection in detail in A. de Graaff et al. (2020, in preparation). Briefly, we measure integrated stellar velocity dispersions, to which both the intrinsic velocity dispersion and projected rotational motions contribute, from the LEGA-C spectra (see Bezanson et al. 2018; Straatman et al. 2018). We obtain structural parameters by fitting Sérsic profiles to ACS F814W imaging from the Hubble Space Telescope with GALFIT (Peng et al. 2010), and circularize the effective radii (i.e., \( R_e = \sqrt{ab} \)). We derive stellar masses by fitting the galaxy spectral energy distributions (SEDs) with MAGPHYS (da Cunha et al. 2008) and measure rest-frame luminosities with EAZY (Brammer et al. 2008), using the multi-wavelength (0.2–24 \( \mu \)m) photometric catalog by Muzzin et al. (2013a). We correct all masses and luminosities for missing flux using the total luminosity of the best-fit Sérsic profile (e.g., Taylor et al. 2010).

We select galaxies of stellar mass \( \log (M_*/M_\odot) \gtrsim 10.5 \), and require a maximum uncertainty of 15% on the velocity dispersion. Moreover, we require that the GALEFIT fit has converged, and remove galaxies that are significantly morphologically disturbed. Our final sample consists of 1419 galaxies. We use the rest-frame \( U - V \) and \( V - J \) colors and the selection criteria by Muzzin et al. (2013b) to define quiescent and star-forming subsamples.

2.2. SDSS

We obtain a reference sample of galaxies at \( 0.05 < z < 0.07 \) from the seventh data release of the SDSS (Abazajian et al. 2009), matching the selection criteria and observables as closely as possible to the LEGA-C sample. Our selection and aperture corrections are detailed in A. de Graaff et al. (2020, in preparation). Briefly, we require a maximum uncertainty on the stellar velocity dispersion of 15%, and correct the velocity dispersions to an aperture of 1 \( R_e \). We use stellar masses estimated from SED fitting with MAGPHYS (Chang et al. 2015), and structural parameters derived from single Sérsic models in the \( r \)-band (Simard et al. 2011). We circularize the effective radii, and correct all stellar masses using the total luminosity of the best-fit Sérsic profile. Our selection consists of 23,036 massive galaxies (\( \log (M_*/M_\odot) \gtrsim 10.5 \)).

Rest-frame colors and luminosities are calculated using KCORRECT (Blanton & Roweis 2007), and we differentiate between quiescent and star-forming galaxies using the rest-frame \( u-r \) and \( r-z \) colors and the criteria from Holden et al. (2012).

3. Evolution in \( M_{\text{dyn}}/L \)

The FP in luminosity, here taken as the rest-frame \( g \)-band luminosity, has the form

\[
\log R_e = a \log \sigma + b \log I_{e,g} + c, \tag{1}
\]

where \( R_e \) is the effective radius, \( \sigma \) is the integrated stellar velocity dispersion, and \( I_{e,g} = -0.4 \mu_{e,g} \), where \( \mu_{e,g} \) is the mean surface brightness within the effective radius, corrected for cosmological surface brightness dimming (see, e.g., Hyde & Bernardi 2009). The coefficients \( a \) and \( b \) describe the tilt of the plane, and \( c \) is the zero-point.

We assume that the tilt of the FP does not evolve strongly with redshift (as shown in Holden et al. 2010; A. de Graaff et al. 2020, in preparation), and adopt the tilt derived by Hyde & Bernardi (2009) of \( a = 1.404 \) and \( b = -0.761 \), for both the SDSS and LEGA-C samples. We fit the zero-point \( c \) of the FP for the SDSS sample by minimizing the mean absolute orthogonal deviations from the FP,

\[
\Delta_{\text{FP}} = \frac{|\log R_e - a \log \sigma - b \log I_{e,g} - c|}{\sqrt{1 + a^2 + b^2}}. \tag{2}
\]

Next, we determine for each LEGA-C galaxy the difference in \( \log (M_{\text{dyn}}/L_g) \) with respect to the SDSS sample, by first calculating the residual of the FP in \( \log I_{e,g} \):

\[
\Delta \log I_{e,g} = - (\Delta_{\text{FP}} - c_0)/b, \tag{3}
\]

where \( c_0 \) is the best-fit zero-point to the SDSS data, and

\[
\Delta_{\text{FP}} = \log R_e - a \log \sigma - b \log I_{e,g}. \tag{4}
\]

We then make the common assumption that \( \Delta \log I_{e,g} \) is dominated by variations in \( M_{\text{dyn}}/L_g \):

\[
\Delta \log (M_{\text{dyn}}/L_g) = - \Delta \log I_{e,g}. \tag{5}
\]

We perform these calculations separately for the quiescent and star-forming populations, and show the observed redshift evolution of \( M_{\text{dyn}}/L_g \) in Figure 1. Similar to many previous FP studies of quiescent galaxies (e.g., van der Wel et al. 2005; van Dokkum & van der Marel 2007), we find that \( M_{\text{dyn}}/L_g \) decreases with redshift, and show that this is also the case for the star-forming population. We determine the slope of the redshift evolution using a linear least squares fit, weighted by the observational errors, and estimate uncertainties on the fit via bootstrap resampling. The number of SDSS galaxies is significantly larger than the LEGA-C sample size, which effectively causes the fit to be forced through the best-fit zero-point of the SDSS FP (\( \Delta \log (M_{\text{dyn}}/L_g) = 0 \)). Because this omits any potential systematic errors on the SDSS data, we fit to both the combined LEGA-C and SDSS data (solid lines) and the LEGA-C data only (dashed lines).

The results are presented in Table 1; the two different methods agree within 2\( \sigma \) and 1\( \sigma \) for the quiescent and star-forming samples, respectively. Some small systematic discrepancies between the two different estimates for each subsample may be expected, considering that there are substantial differences in the measurements of the effective radii, velocity dispersions, and photometry between the SDSS and LEGA-C data.
Figure 1. Redshift evolution of the dynamical mass-to-light ratio of quiescent (left panel) and star-forming (right panel) galaxies from the SDSS and LEGA-C samples. Linear fits to the LEGA-C data alone (dashed lines) and combined LEGA-C and SDSS sample (solid lines) show that there is a strong evolution in $M_{\text{dyn}}/L_g$ with redshift, with the quiescent population evolving more rapidly than the star-forming population (Table 1).

### Table 1

| Sample | $d \log (M_{\text{dyn}}/L_g)/dz$ | $d \log (M_{\text{dyn}}/M_*)/dz$ |
|--------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| $0.6 < z < 1.0$ Q | $-0.86 \pm 0.07$ | $-0.05 \pm 0.06$ |
| $0.6 < z < 1.0$ SF | $-0.54 \pm 0.11$ | $-0.05 \pm 0.08$ |
| $0.0 < z < 1.0$ Q | $-0.728 \pm 0.011$ | $0.048 \pm 0.009$ |
| $0.0 < z < 1.0$ SF | $-0.604 \pm 0.016$ | $0.097 \pm 0.011$ |

Note. Samples correspond to either the LEGA-C data ($0.6 < z < 1.0$) or combined SDSS and LEGA-C data ($0.0 < z < 1.0$) for the quiescent (Q) and star-forming (SF) populations.

3.1. Quiescent Galaxies

We show a comparison with previous measurements of the redshift evolution in $M_{\text{dyn}}/L$ of quiescent galaxies in Figure 2, where colored markers represent results obtained with the LEGA-C data and black symbols indicate different studies. Our result for the quiescent sample is consistent with the evolution of field galaxies in the rest-frame $B$-band measured by Treu et al. (2005) and Saglia et al. (2010, 2016), and slightly steeper than the bias-corrected measurement by van der Wel et al. (2005).

Other studies (e.g., van de Sande et al. 2014; Beifiori et al. 2017) deviate more significantly (typically 2–3$\sigma$), which can largely be attributed to differences in the sample selection. Our selection generally differs from previous works in (i) the diversity of environment probed, with many studies focusing on galaxy clusters alone, or (ii) the mass range considered, as many studies have been limited to more massive galaxies.

van Dokkum & van der Marel (2007) and Saglia et al. (2010) have shown that the redshift evolution in $M_{\text{dyn}}/L$ differs for cluster and field galaxies. If we restrict our fit to only those LEGA-C galaxies, which are classified as being cluster members (Darvish et al. 2017), we also find a marginally shallower evolution of $\Delta \log (M_{\text{dyn}}/L_g) \propto (-0.83 \pm 0.18)z$ as compared to the full LEGA-C sample.

Moreover, van der Wel et al. (2005) and others (e.g., Holden et al. 2010; Jørgensen & Chiboucas 2013) found evidence for a mass-dependent evolution of $M_{\text{dyn}}/L$, with low-mass galaxies evolving more rapidly than high-mass galaxies. Therefore, we would expect to find a steeper evolution for our sample ($\log (M_*/M_\odot) > 10.5$) as compared with previous studies that typically select galaxies of $\log (M_*/M_\odot) \lesssim 11$. We indeed find a mass dependence within our sample: if we fit only LEGA-C galaxies in the mass range $10.5 < \log (M_*/M_\odot) < 10.8$ or $\log (M_*/M_\odot) > 11.2$, we find $\Delta \log (M_{\text{dyn}}/L_g) \propto (-1.1 \pm 0.2)z$ and $\Delta \log (M_{\text{dyn}}/L_g) \propto (-0.73 \pm 0.11)z$, respectively.

Lastly, we note that the above measurements neglect the role of progenitor bias (van Dokkum et al. 2001): less massive galaxies tend to assemble and quench later than high-mass galaxies, such that galaxies of a fixed stellar mass at $z \sim 0$ will be younger than those at $z \sim 0.8$, and therefore also have a
lower $M_{\text{dyn}}/L_g$. However, a full treatment of this effect on the FP is beyond the scope of this work.

3.2. Star-forming Galaxies

The evolution of the star-forming population is significantly shallower than that of the quiescent population. Although the specific star formation rate (sSFR) decreases sharply toward $z \sim 0$ (Madau & Dickinson 2014), and $M_{\text{dyn}}/L_g$ thus strongly increases, any low level of star formation will reduce the net increase in $M_{\text{dyn}}/L_g$. Moreover, progenitor bias plays a significant role: while young galaxies enter the massive star-forming population toward low redshift, many of the older galaxies become quiescent. The net effect is therefore a shallower observed evolution in $M_{\text{dyn}}/L_g$.

4. Evolution in $M_{\text{dyn}}/M_*$

We obtain the mass FP by replacing the surface brightness ($L_{\text{c,gb}}$) by the stellar mass surface density ($\Sigma_*=M_*/(2\pi R_e^2)$):

$$\log R_e = \alpha \log \sigma + \beta \log \Sigma_* + \gamma,$$

where $\alpha$ and $\beta$ describe the tilt, and $\gamma$ is the zero-point. Following the approach of Section 3, we adopt a fixed tilt of $\alpha = 1.629$ and $\beta = -0.84$ (Hyde & Bernardi 2009). We again fit the zero-point of the SDSS sample ($\gamma_0$) for the star-forming and quiescent population separately, and calculate the residual of the FP in $M_{\text{dyn}}/M_*$ for the LEGA-C galaxies:

$$\Delta \log(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_*) \approx -\Delta \log \Sigma_* = (\Delta_{\text{MFP}} - \gamma_0)/\beta,$$

where

$$\Delta_{\text{MFP}} = \log R_e - \alpha \log \sigma - \beta \log \Sigma_*.$$

In Figure 3 we show $\Delta \log(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_*)$ as a function of redshift for the star-forming (blue) and quiescent (red) LEGA-C and SDSS galaxies. As in Section 3, we perform a linear fit to the two populations separately, using the LEGA-C data only (dashed lines) and the combined LEGA-C and SDSS data (solid lines). The results are presented in Table 1.

For the quiescent galaxies, the two slopes are consistent within $1.6\sigma$, and agree well with the lack of evolution found by Bezanson et al. (2013) for a sample of $\sim 100$ high-redshift quiescent galaxies. Our result demonstrates that the mass FP of the star-forming population also does not undergo a strong evolution.

Furthermore, we demonstrate that this result is not sensitive to the adopted definition of quiescence. The bottom panels of Figure 3 show the dependence of $\Delta \log(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_*)$ on the sSFR obtained from the SED fitting. There is only a weak correlation for both the SDSS and LEGA-C galaxies, as evidenced by linear fits to the data (black solid lines), with galaxies of high sSFR being on average slightly more baryon-dominated within $1 R_e$:

$$d \log(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_*)/d \log(\text{sSFR}) = -0.014 \pm 0.0005 \quad \text{and} \quad d \log(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_*)/d \log(\text{sSFR}) = -0.033 \pm 0.007$$

for the SDSS and LEGA-C samples, respectively.

The LEGA-C data alone suggest that all galaxies lie on the same mass FP, irrespective of star formation activity and redshift. However, both Schecter et al. (2014) and Zahid et al. (2016) found a weak redshift evolution in the zero-point of the mass FP of early-type galaxies, such that $\Delta \log(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_*)$ increases slightly with redshift. We find a similar weak but significant evolution in $M_{\text{dyn}}/M_*$ with redshift for our combined LEGA-C and SDSS data, particularly so for the star-forming galaxies, raising the question of whether the observed evolution to $z \sim 0$ is due to structural evolution or caused by systematic uncertainties.

In Figure 1 we showed that the evolution of the luminosity FP is broadly consistent between the two data sets, suggesting that any systematic effects on the velocity dispersion, size, or luminosity are small. However, the stellar mass is an additional possible source of systematic error. Although we have mitigated potential biases between the SDSS and LEGA-C data by using the same models and software for the SED modeling of all galaxies, we caution that some differences remain, particularly in the photometry used. For instance, the aperture sizes differ systematically, the SED is sampled differently in wavelength space, and there may be systematic uncertainties in the calibration of the photometry. Overall this can lead to a systematic uncertainty of at least 0.05 dex between the SDSS and LEGA-C mass estimates; for example, we find lower stellar masses for our SDSS sample if we use the MPA-JHU catalog (Brinchmann et al. 2004), with a median offset of $-0.05 \text{dex}$ compared to the masses from Chang et al. (2015). This would shift the SDSS data upward in Figure 3, in closer agreement with the LEGA-C data. Therefore, we conclude that the observed weak evolution in the mean value of $\Delta \log(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_*)$ is likely not significant, and caution against interpreting this as evidence for, e.g., evolution in the dark matter fraction or the initial mass function.

Systematics can also explain the discrepancy between our results and those by Bezanson et al. (2015), who found that the mass FP changes by $\Delta \log(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_*) \sim 0.2-0.3 \text{ dex}$ between $0 \lesssim z \lesssim 0.7$. However, the SED modeling differs significantly for their low-redshift and high-redshift data, resulting in a systematic offset: when using the same methods, i.e., stellar masses from the MPA-JHU catalog for the SDSS and masses estimated with FAST (Kriek et al. 2009) for LEGA-C, we also find that $d \log(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_*)/dz \approx 0.3 \text{ dex}$.

Finally, we emphasize that although the residual from the FP in $M_{\text{dyn}}/M_*$ is approximately constant across $0 < z < 1$ (Figure 3), there is significant and systematic variation in $M_{\text{dyn}}/M_*$ within the galaxy population itself. Figure 4 shows a near face-on projection of the mass FP color-coded by the mean value of $\log(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_*)$ in bins of $\log R_e$ and $\log \sigma$, where $\tilde{M}_{\text{dyn}}$ is calculated following Cappellari et al. (2006):

$$\tilde{M}_{\text{dyn}} = \frac{\beta(n) R_e \sigma^2}{G},$$

with $\beta(n) = 8.87 - 0.831n + 0.0241n^2$, where $n$ is the Sersic index and $G$ the gravitational constant. While the zero-point of the mass FP itself remains constant, individual galaxies may change in size and velocity dispersion with time, thus moving along the FP, and vary in $M_{\text{dyn}}/M_*$.

5. Discussion and Conclusions

In this Letter, we have measured the redshift evolution of the luminosity and mass FP of massive ($\log(M_*/M_\odot) \geq 10.5$) galaxies out to $z \sim 1$. Whereas previous studies suffered from significant selection bias, our sample of 1419 galaxies from the LEGA-C survey is highly homogeneous and representative of the massive galaxy population at $z \sim 0.8$ (van der Wel et al. 2016; A. de Graaff et al. 2020, in preparation). We find that the star-forming and quiescent populations follow a steep evolution in $M_{\text{dyn}}/L_g$, yet, their evolution in $M_{\text{dyn}}/M_*$ is remarkably
weak: all massive galaxies lie on the same mass FP across $0 < z < 1$.

The stability of the mass FP implies that the evolution in the luminosity FP, and thus in $M_{\text{dyn}}/L$, is due to a combination of progenitor bias and evolution in the stellar populations alone: $\Delta \log (M_{\text{dyn}}/L) = \Delta \log (M_*/L)$.

There is some room for evolution of the mass FP with redshift, however, if we assume that the weak evolution in Figure 3 is physical, and not caused by systematic uncertainties. In this case, the weak dependence of the residuals from the FP on the sSFR and the different values of $\Delta \log (M_{\text{dyn}}/M_*)/dz$ for the star-forming and quiescent populations reflect structural differences.

In contrast, theoretical predictions (e.g., Hilz et al. 2013) and observations (e.g., van de Sande et al. 2013; Wuyts et al. 2016; Genzel et al. 2017) show that—within the effective radius—galaxies become more baryon-dominated at high redshift, whereas the best-fit evolution of our combined LEGA-C and SDSS data suggests the opposite. We emphasize that systematic observational uncertainties likely contribute to the observed offset between the SDSS and data at higher redshift. Moreover, we note that we have not accounted for baryonic mass in the form of gas, which may become increasingly important toward high redshift. We have also not included the effect of color gradients, which may lead to an underestimation of $M_{\text{dyn}}/M_*$ as mass-weighted sizes can be substantially smaller than the luminosity-weighted sizes used here (e.g., Szomoru et al. 2013; Chan et al. 2016).

The lack of evolution of the mass FP implies that the coupling of morphological and dynamical properties extends over a wide range in time, imposing strong constraints on the possible evolutionary pathways of galaxies. For example,
Figure 4. Variation in $M_{\text{dyn}}/M_*$ along the mass FP. Panels show a near face-on projection of the mass FP, color-coded by the mean value of $\log(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_*)$ in each bin. Although Figure 3 shows no evolution in the mean value of $\Delta \log(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_*)$ with either redshift or sSFR, it is possible for individual galaxies grow with time, and thus undergo a change in $M_{\text{dyn}}/M_*$. quiescent galaxies, which have been shown to undergo significant size growth between $0 < z < 1$ (van der Wel et al. 2014), must evolve dynamically such as to remain on the mass FP (Figure 4).

Moreover, we find that the star-forming progenitors lie on the same scaling relation as their massive, quiescent descendants at low redshift. Therefore, the mass FP offers a tool to study the structural and kinematic evolution of galaxies with minimal impact from progenitor bias, by statistically tracking their trajectories along the plane.

Determining whether the mass FP can be used in a similar fashion at $z > 1$ or at lower mass will require a larger number of stellar kinematic measurements at high redshift. Future studies will help to understand how galaxies settle onto the scaling relation, and whether galaxies become more baryon-dominated at high redshift.

Based on observations made with ESO Telescopes at the La Silla Paranal Observatory under program ID 194-A.2005 (The LEGA-C Public Spectroscopy Survey). This project has received funding from the European Research Council (ERC) under the European Union’s Horizon 2020 research and innovation program (grant agreement No. 683184). We gratefully acknowledge the NWO Spinoza grant. C.P. is supported by the Canadian Space Agency under a contract with NRC Herzberg Astronomy and Astrophysics. J.v.d.S. acknowledges support of an Australian Research Council Discovery Early Career Research Award (project number DE200100461) funded by the Australian Government. P.F.W. acknowledges the support of the fellowship from the East Asian Core Observatories Association.

ORCID iDs

Anna de Graaff https://orcid.org/0000-0002-2380-9801

Rachel Bezanson https://orcid.org/0000-0001-5063-8254
Marjín Franx https://orcid.org/0000-0002-8711-3026
Arjen van der Wel https://orcid.org/0000-0002-5027-0135
Eric F. Bell https://orcid.org/0000-0002-5564-9873
Francesco D’Eugenio https://orcid.org/0000-0003-2388-8172
Bradford Holden https://orcid.org/0000-0002-6153-3076
Michael V. Maseda https://orcid.org/0000-0003-0695-4414
Adam Muzzin https://orcid.org/0000-0002-9330-9108
Camilla Pacifici https://orcid.org/0000-0003-4196-0617
Jesse van de Sande https://orcid.org/0000-0003-2552-0021
David Sobral https://orcid.org/0000-0001-8823-4845
Caroline M. S. Straatman https://orcid.org/0000-0001-5937-4590
Po-Feng Wu https://orcid.org/0000-0002-9665-0440

References

Abazajian, K. N., Adelman-McCarthy, J. K., Agüeros, M. A., et al. 2009, 
ApJS, 182, 543
Beifiori, A., Mendel, J. T., Chan, J. C. C., et al. 2017, 
ApJ, 846, 120
Bezanson, R., Franx, M., & van Dokkum, P. G. 2015, 
ApJ, 799, 148
Bezanson, R., van der Wel, A., Straatman, C., et al. 2018, 
ApJL, 868, L36
Bezanson, R., van Dokkum, P. G., van de Sande, J., et al. 2013, 
ApJL, 779, L21
Blanton, M. R., & Roweis, S. 2007, 
AJ, 133, 734
Brammer, G. B., van Dokkum, P. G., & Coppi, P. 2008, 
ApJ, 686, 1503
Brinchmann, J., Charlot, S., Heckman, T. M., et al. 2004, 
MNRAS, 351, 1151
Cappellari, M., Bacon, R., Bureau, M., et al. 2006, 
MNRAS, 366, 1126
Chan, J. C. C., Beifiori, A., Mendel, J. T., et al. 2016, 
MNRAS, 458, 3181
Chang, Y.-Y., van der Wel, A., da Cunha, E., & Rix, H.-W. 2015, 
ApJS, 219, 8
da Cunha, E., Charlot, S., & Elbaz, D. 2008, 
MNRAS, 388, 1595
Darvish, B., Mobasher, B., Martin, D. C., et al. 2017, 
ApJ, 837, 16
Djorgovski, S., & Davis, M. 1987, 
ApJ, 313, 59
Dressler, A., Lynden-Bell, D., Burstein, D., et al. 1987, 
ApJ, 313, 42
Fabar, S. M., Dressler, A., Davies, R. L., et al. 1987, in Nearly Normal Galaxies. From the Planck Time to the Present, ed. S. M. Faber (New York: Springer), 175
Genzel, R., Schreiber, N. M. F., Übler, H., et al. 2017, 
Natur, 543, 397


