THE KPNO INTERNATIONAL SPECTROSCOPIC SURVEY. V. Hα-SELECTED SURVEY LIST 3

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ABSTRACT

The KPNO International Spectroscopic Survey (KISS) is an objective-prism survey designed to detect extragalactic emission-line objects. It combines many of the features of previous slitless spectroscopic surveys with the advantages of modern CCD detectors and is the first purely digital objective-prism survey for emission-line galaxies (ELGs). Here we present the third list of ELG candidates selected from our red spectral data, which cover the wavelength range 6400–7200 Å. In most cases, the detected emission line is Hα. The current survey list covers the region of the NOAO Deep Wide Field Survey (NDWFS). This survey covers two fields; the first is $3\times3'$ and located at R.A. = 14h30m, $\delta = 34\degree30'$(B1950.0), and the second is $2\times4'$ and centered at R.A. = 2h7m30', $\delta = -4\degree44'$. A total area of 19.65 deg$^2$ is covered by the KISS data. A total of 261 candidate emission-line objects have been selected for inclusion in the survey list (13.3 deg$^{-2}$). We tabulate accurate coordinates and photometry for each source, as well as estimates of the redshift, emission-line flux, and line equivalent width based on measurements of the digital objective-prism spectra. The properties of the KISS ELGs are examined using the available observational data. When combined with the wealth of multiwavelength data already available for the NDWFS fields, the current list of KISS ELGs should provide a valuable tool for studying star formation and nuclear activity in galaxies in the local universe.

Key words: galaxies: Seyfert — galaxies: starburst — surveys — techniques: spectroscopic

Online material: machine-readable tables, tar files

1. INTRODUCTION

Surveys for galaxies containing active galactic nuclei (AGNs) or strong star formation activity have been an important area of extragalactic astronomy for decades. Many fruitful surveys have been carried out with wide-field Schmidt telescopes used in conjunction with objective prisms. An overview of previous surveys is given in Salzer et al. (2000), along with a sampling of the types of applications that such surveys have for the study of the extragalactic universe.

We have been carrying out a modern objective-prism survey for the past several years. Called the KPNO International Spectroscopic Survey (KISS), it combines many of the advantages of older surveys with the use of state-of-the-art CCD detectors, providing superior depth and data quality. The digital nature of KISS has many advantages over the older photographic surveys of this type (e.g., Markarian 1967; Smith et al. 1976; MacAlpine et al. 1977; Pesch & Sanduleak 1983; Wasilewski 1983; Markarian et al. 1983; Zamorano et al. 1994; Popescu et al. 1996; Surace & Comte 1998; Ugrumov et al. 1999). Besides the obvious factors of higher sensitivity and speed, we stress the importance of being able to measure the completeness limits and selection function of the survey directly from the data used to derive the catalogs of KISS emission-line galaxies (ELGs). This is not possible with photographic survey material, and makes KISS particularly useful for statistical studies of galaxian activity in the nearby universe.

The current survey lists cover the area of the sky included in the NOAO Deep Wide Field Survey (NDWFS; Jannuzi & Dey 1999; B. T. Jannuzi et al. 2005, in preparation; A. Dey et al. 2005, in preparation). NDWFS is a deep optical and near-IR imaging survey carried out in two well-separated fields. All optical data were taken on the NOAO 4 m telescopes in the BRI bandpasses, while JHK imaging was carried out on the Kitt Peak National Observatory (KPNO) 2.1 m telescope. The fields were both covered to a uniform depth of $B \approx 26.6$ (and correspondingly deep in the other five bands). We chose to observe these fields as part of KISS because of the expectation that they would become well observed at many wavelengths as various groups studied the properties of the NDWFS galaxies. While the primary science goals of the NDWFS focus on galaxies at redshifts well beyond the filter-imposed redshift limit of KISS ($z \lesssim 0.095$), the volume covered by our survey is sufficiently large to provide a good-sized sample of star-forming galaxies and AGNs. Bolstered by the large amount of data becoming available for the galaxies in the NDWFS area at radio, far-IR, near-IR, UV, X-ray, and optical wavelengths, the KISS ELGs should allow for a number of detailed statistical
studies of activity in galaxies in the local universe. While the KISS data are completely independent of the NDWFS data, they can be used to complement and extend the usefulness of the latter.

This is the fifth paper in the KISS series. The first presents a complete description of the survey method, including a discussion of the survey data and the associated uncertainties (Salzer et al. 2000, hereafter Paper I). The first and second survey lists of Hα-selected ELGs, informally referred to as the red survey, are given in Salzer et al. (2001, hereafter KR1) and Gronwall et al. (2004, hereafter KR2), while the first list of [O ii]-selected galaxies (the blue survey) is found in Salzer et al. (2002, hereafter KB1). The current paper follows a format similar to KR1 and KR2; for the sake of brevity, the reader is referred to KR1, KR2, and Paper I for many details. The observational data and image processing are described in § 2, while the new list of ELG candidates is presented in § 3. The properties of the new list of Hα-selected ELGs are described in § 4, while our results are summarized in § 5.

2. OBSERVATIONS AND REDUCTIONS

All survey data were acquired using the 0.61 m Burrell Schmidt telescope. The detector used for all data reported here was a 2048 × 4096 pixel SITe CCD. The CCD is identical to the one used for the KR2 list; however, this is not the same CCD that was used for KR1 or KB1, giving a different image scale and field of view. The CCD has 15 μm pixels, yielding an image scale of 1.43 pixel−1 at the Newtonian focus of the telescope. The overall field of view was 50′ × 100′, and each image covered 1.37 deg2. The long dimension of the CCD was oriented north-south during our survey observations. The red survey spectral data were obtained with a 4° prism, which provided a reciprocal dispersion of 17 Å pixel−1 at Hα. The spectral data were obtained through a special filter designed for the survey, which covered the spectral range 6400−7200 Å (see Fig. 1 of Paper I for the filter transmission curve).

The two NDWFS fields each cover an area of 9 deg2. The spring (Boötes) field is centered at R.A. = 14h30m, decl. = +34°30′ (B1950.0). It consists of a 3′ × 3′ field. The fall (Cetus) field is a 2′3 × 4′0 area centered at R.A. = 28°30′, decl. = −4°44′ (B1950.0). The layout of the Boötes field allowed us to cover the NDWFS area with two rows of KISS fields, with four fields per row. There is essentially zero overlap in declination between the two rows of fields. In addition, due to larger than normal pointing offsets between the direct and spectral fields (see below), there are modest gaps between some of the fields within a given row. The net result is that the KISS data for the Boötes field only cover 8.08 deg2 rather than the full 9 deg2. For the Cetus fields, we again used two rows of KISS fields. However, in this case there is substantial overlap between the upper and lower rows, due to the fact that the declination extent of this NDWFS region is smaller. Furthermore, we needed six KISS fields per row to cover the full 4′0 of right ascension. Despite the declination overlap, the Cetus KISS fields cover a total area of 11.57 deg2, substantially larger than the area of the NDWFS fields. The total area covered by the KISS observations is 19.65 deg2.

As with our previous survey strips, we obtained images of each survey field both with and without the objective prism on the telescope. The images taken without the prism (referred to as direct images) were obtained through standard B and V filters. The direct images were photometrically calibrated and provided accurate astrometry and photometry for all sources in the survey fields. We used uniform exposure times for all survey fields: 4 × 720 s for the objective-prism (spectral) data, and 2 × 300 s for V and 1 × 600 s in B for the direct images. The telescope was dithered by a small amount (∼10″) between exposures.

Table 1 lists the observing runs during which the current set of survey fields were observed. Column (1) gives the UT dates of the run, while column (2) indicates the number of nights on which observations were obtained. At least some data were obtained on 12 of 14 scheduled nights (86%). Columns (3) and (4) indicate the number of direct and spectral images, respectively, obtained during each run. It was common practice to observe in both direct and spectral modes during parts of each run, although it was not always the case that the direct and spectral images of a given field were obtained during the same run.

All data reduction took place using the Image Reduction and Analysis Facility (IRAF) software. A special package of IRAF-based routines that were written by members of the KISS team was used for most of the data analysis. Full details of the observing procedures and data reduction methods are given in Paper I and KR1.

3. LIST 3 OF THE KPNO INTERNATIONAL SPECTROSCOPIC SURVEY

3.1. Selection Criteria

The selection of the third red (Hα) list of ELG candidates was carried out in precisely the same fashion as the first and second red lists (KR1 and KR2). Full details are presented in Paper I and KR1.

The primary selection criterion of the survey and was arrived at following the initial automated selection, all candidates are visually examined, and spurious sources are removed from the sample. Finally, the objective-prism images are scanned visually for sources that might have been missed by the software. These tend to be objects for which the emission line is redshifted to the red end of the objective-prism spectrum so that the software cannot detect continuum on both sides of the line. The combination of our automated selection process and our careful visual checking helps to ensure there is a high degree of reliability that

5 Observations made with the Burrell Schmidt telescope of the Warner and Swasey Observatory, Case Western Reserve University.

6 IRAF is distributed by the National Optical Astronomy Observatory, which is operated by the Association of Universities for Research in Astronomy (AURA), Inc., under cooperative agreement with the National Science Foundation.
the KISS ELG candidates are real and that the sample is largely complete for all objects with 5 $\sigma$ emission lines.

As described in KR1, we also flag objects that have emission lines between 4 and 5 $\sigma$ during our selection process. These 4 $\sigma$ detections represent objects with somewhat weaker emission lines than the main KISS sample, but that are nonetheless valid ELG candidates. However, these objects do not constitute a statistically complete sample in the same sense as the main (c>5 $\sigma$) list. We report the 4–5 $\sigma$ sources in a secondary list of ELG candidates (see the Appendix), which should be thought of as a supplement to the main KISS catalog. This list of “extra” (or KISSR) objects likely includes a number of interesting sources.

3.2. The Survey

The list of ELG candidates selected in the third red survey is presented in Table 2. Because the survey data include both spectral images and photometrically calibrated direct images, we are able to include a great deal of useful information about each source, such as accurate photometry and astrometry and estimates of the redshift, emission-line flux, and equivalent width (EW). Only a portion of the table is printed here; the complete table is available in the electronic version of this paper.

The contents of the survey table are as follows. Column (1) gives a running number for each object in the survey with the designation KISSR, where KISSR stands for “KISS red” survey. This is to distinguish it from the blue KISS survey (KB1). The KR1 and KR2 survey lists included KISSR objects 1–2157, and here we present KISSR objects 2158–2418. Columns (2) and (3) give the object identification from the KISS database tables, where column (2) indicates the survey field and column (3) is the identification number within the field table for that galaxy. This identifier is necessary for locating the KISS ELGs within the survey database tables. Columns (4) and (5) list the right ascension and declination of each object (J2000.0). The formal uncertainties in the coordinates are $0^\prime.25$ in right ascension and $0^\prime.20$ in declination. Column (6) gives the $B$ magnitude, while column (7) lists the $B - V$ color. For brighter objects, the magnitude estimates typically have uncertainties of 0.05 mag, increasing to ~0.10 mag at $B = 20$. Paper I includes a complete discussion of the precision of both the astrometry and the photometry of the KISS objects. An estimate of the redshift of each galaxy, based on its objective-prism spectrum, is given in column (8). This estimate assumes that the emission line seen in the objective-prism spectrum is H$\alpha$. Follow-up spectra for >1600 ELG candidates from the two red survey lists (KR1, KR2, and the current list) show that this assumption is correct in the vast majority of cases. Only four ELGs in the current list that possess follow-up spectra (3%) are high-redshift objects for which a different line (typically [O III] and/or H$\beta$) appears in the objective-prism spectrum. The formal uncertainty in the redshift estimates is $\sigma_z = 0.0028$ (see 4.1.3).

Columns (9) and (10) list the emission-line flux (in units of $10^{-16}$ ergs s$^{-1}$ cm$^{-2}$) and EW (in angstroms) measured from the
Fig. 1.—Example of finder charts for the KISS ELG candidates. Each image is 3/2 × 2/9, with north up and east to the left. These finders are created from a composite of the B- and F-band direct images obtained as part of the survey. In all cases the ELG candidate is located in the center of the image section displayed and is indicated by horizontal bars.
Fig. 2.—Objective-prism spectra for 24 KISS ELG candidates. The spectral information displayed represents the extracted spectra present in the KISS database tables. The location of the putative emission line is indicated.
objective-prism spectra. The calibration of the fluxes is discussed in § 4.1.2. These quantities should be taken as representative estimates only. A simple estimate of the reliability of each source, the quality flag (QFLAG), is given in column (11). This quantity, assigned during the line measurement step of the data processing, is given a value of 1 for high-quality sources, 2 for lower quality but still reliable objects, and 3 for somewhat less reliable sources. Column (12) gives alternate identifications for KISS ELGs that have been cataloged previously. This is not an exhaustive cross-referencing but focuses on previous objective-prism surveys that overlap part or all of the current survey area, namely, the Markarian (1967) and Case (Pesch & Sanduleak 1983) surveys. The Markarian survey overlaps both the Boötes and Cetus fields, while the Case survey only overlaps the Boötes field. Also included are objects in common with the Uppsala General Catalogue of Galaxies (UGC; Nilson 1973).

A total of 261 ELG candidates are included in this third list of H$\alpha$-selected KISS galaxies. The total area covered by the third red survey strip is 19.65 deg$^2$, meaning that there are 13.3 KISS ELGs deg$^{-2}$. For the first, second, and third red lists combined, the surface density is 16.4 galaxies deg$^{-2}$, and if the lower significance KISSR objects are included the density is 20.7 ELGs deg$^{-2}$. This compares to the surface density of 0.1 galaxies deg$^{-2}$ from the Markarian (1967) survey and 0.56 galaxies deg$^{-2}$ from the H$\alpha$-selected Universidad Complutense de Madrid (UCM) survey (Zamorano et al. 1994); the present survey is much deeper despite the redshift limit inherent in our detection method. It is interesting to note that the fraction of 4–5 $\sigma$ KISSR ELG candidates is substantially higher for the sample presented here than for the first and second red survey areas. As discussed below, we believe that this difference is caused by the somewhat different noise characteristics of the CCD used for the current survey. For example, ELGs that would have been 5.0 $\sigma$ objects when observed with the previous CCD might be detected as 4.8 $\sigma$ sources in the current data. The net effect would be to lower the number of objects in the main survey list and to shift some of them into the KISSR list. If both the lower significance KISSR objects and the bona fide KISSR objects are combined, the surface density of ELG candidates is essentially constant for all three red survey lists.

Of the 261 objects cataloged, 167 were assigned quality values of QFLAG = 1 (64%), 74 have QFLAG = 2 (28%), and 20 have QFLAG = 3 (8%). Based on our follow-up spectra to date, 99% (87 of 88) of the sources with QFLAG = 1 are bona fide emission-line galaxies, compared to 83% (24 of 29) with QFLAG = 2 and 78% (7 of 9) with QFLAG = 3. Overall, 94% of the objects with follow-up spectra are bona fide ELGs. The properties of the KISS galaxy sample are described in § 4.

Figure 1 shows an example of the finder charts for the KISS ELGs. These are generated from the direct images obtained as part of the survey and represent a composite of the B- and V-band images. Figure 2 displays the extracted spectra derived from the objective-prism images for the first 24 ELGs in Table 2. Finder charts and spectral plots for all 261 objects in the current survey list, along with finder charts for the KISSR objects, are available in the electronic version of this paper as gzipped tar files.

A supplementary table (Table 4) containing an additional 158 ELG candidates with 4–5 $\sigma$ emission lines is included in the Appendix. These additional galaxies do not constitute a statistically complete sample and should therefore be used with caution. However, there are likely many interesting objects contained in this supplementary list. Hence, following the precedent established in KR1 and KR2, we list these objects in order to give a full accounting of the ELGs in the area surveyed.

4. PROPERTIES OF THE KISS ELGS

Due to the manner in which the survey is carried out, a great deal of observational data are available for all the KISS ELG candidates cataloged in the current paper. This includes accurate astrometry and B and V photometry for each source, as well as estimates of the redshift, H$\alpha + [N\,ii]$ line fluxes, and EWs. The combination of these data allows us to acquire a fairly complete picture of the make-up of the KISS sample. However, the quantities derived from the objective-prism spectra are inadequate for detailed analyses. First, the low resolution of the spectra limits the accuracy of the redshifts measured (see below). Furthermore, the combination of low resolution and limited spectral coverage prevents us from using the survey data to ascertain the activity type of the ELGs (e.g., AGN vs. star-forming). Hence, follow-up spectra obtained with a higher dispersion spectrograph are required for a complete understanding of the KISS ELGs. Nonetheless, much can be gleaned about the survey constituents with the data currently available. We present an overview of the properties of our new sample of KISS ELGs below.

4.1. Observed Properties

4.1.1. Magnitude and Color Distributions

The B-band apparent magnitude distribution for the 261 KISS ELGs in the current survey list is shown in Figure 3a. The median apparent B magnitude is 17.91. This value is somewhat brighter than those of the KR1 and KR2 survey lists, which have median apparent magnitudes of $B = 18.08$ and $18.13$, respectively. However, it is clear that KISS still probes substantially deeper than previous objective-prism surveys: the median apparent magnitude for the H$\alpha$-selected UCM survey (Pérez-González et al. 2000) is $B \approx 16.1$, and the [O iii]-selected Michigan (UM) survey (Salzer et al. 1989) has a median apparent magnitude of $B = 16.9$. Indicated in the figure is the completeness limit of the Markarian survey, $B = 15.2$ (Mazzarella & Balzano 1986).

The distribution of the $B - V$ colors of the third red survey list is shown in Figure 3b. The median color is 0.67, which is identical to that of the first red survey list and very close to that of the KR2 survey list ($B - V = 0.69$). This color is representative of an Sb galaxy (Roberts & Haynes 1994). The UCM survey shows a similar color distribution and has a median color of $B - r = 0.71$ (Pérez-González et al. 2000). In contrast, the [O iii]-selected KB1 and UM surveys have color distributions that are significantly shifted to the blue, with median $B - V$ colors of 0.50 and 0.55, respectively (KB1; Salzer et al. 1989). This is a selection effect caused by the use of different emission lines for detection in the different surveys. The H$\alpha$-selected samples include a broader spectrum of ELGs, including many more luminous star-forming galaxies and LINERS, which tend to be dominated by older, redder stellar populations. In addition, they are able to detect galaxies with higher levels of intrinsic reddening. The [O iii]-selected samples are dominated by lower luminosity, lower metallicity galaxies, which are dominated by younger stellar populations and have lower levels of internal absorption and reddening. While the H$\alpha$-selected surveys tend to include both types of ELGs, they are dominated by the more luminous galaxies. In contrast, the blue-selected surveys tend to not select the redder galaxies at all.

4.1.2. Line Strength Distributions and Survey Completeness

The distribution of EWs for the third red survey list is shown in Figure 4. We assume that the line we measure in the survey spectra is H$\alpha$ blended with the [N ii] λ6584, 6548 lines. Based on follow-up observations obtained to date, we know this...
The three lines are blended at the resolution of the objective-prism spectra. The \([S\text{II}](6731, 6717)\) doublet is well resolved from the blended \(H\alpha + [N\text{II}]\) lines and is often seen in survey spectra from strong-lined objects. The EW distribution peaks in the 40–50 Å bin, which indicates that KISS is fairly complete for objects with EWs greater than \(\sim50\) Å. The median EW of \(H\alpha + [N\text{II}]\) is \(50.5\) Å, with the majority of ELGs having EWs of less than 100 Å. This median EW is approximately 25% higher for this sample than for the two previous red survey lists. The noise level in the third red survey list data is slightly higher than for the first and second red survey list. We attribute this to the use of a different CCD for the newer sample, which had somewhat worse noise characteristics than the previous CCD. This shift in noise characteristics results in a selection of 5 \(\sigma\) ELG candidates that have relatively stronger lines. As we mention above, the fraction of 4–5 \(\sigma\) objects is higher for the survey list presented here than for the two previous red survey lists, which is what we expect due to a higher noise level.

The calibration of the flux scale is a two-step process. The objective-prism spectra for each field are first corrected for throughput variations and atmospheric extinction. This places all line fluxes on the same relative flux scale. The fluxes are then calibrated on an absolute scale, using information obtained from the follow-up spectra. From a sample of 126 follow-up observations, we selected 49 objects that were classified as star-forming galaxies located in the Boötes field. Since the fluxes measured from the objective-prism spectra are a combination of the \(H\alpha\) and \([N\text{II}]\) lines, we use the fluxes from our slit spectra for the sum of these three lines. Figure 5 shows the ratio of objective-prism flux (in counts) to spectroscopic flux versus the EW measured from the follow-up spectra. The major portion of all the \(H\alpha\) emission from these sources, they tend to have large flux ratios. We restricted the calibration sample to those galaxies with an objective prism–to–spectroscopic flux ratio of 20 and an EW greater than 40 Å, which left 25 galaxies. The emission regions of these galaxies are essentially point sources. The median flux ratio of the calibration sample is 12.61; the mean is 12.92, with a standard deviation of 4.19 and an error in the mean of 0.84. We adopted the reciprocal of the median value as our calibration value, or \(0.0793 \times 10^{-16}\) ergs s\(^{-1}\) cm\(^{-2}\) count\(^{-1}\).

The calibration value is applied to the measured objective-prism line fluxes to convert their instrumental fluxes (in counts) to calibrated fluxes (in ergs s\(^{-1}\) cm\(^{-2}\)). In Figure 6 we show the distribution of observed \(H\alpha + [N\text{II}]\) line flux values for the 261 KISS ELGs. The median value is \(1.05 \times 10^{-14}\) ergs s\(^{-1}\) cm\(^{-2}\), which is \(\sim30\%\) higher than the values found for the first two red survey lists, suggesting that the data used for the current survey are less sensitive than those used for the first and second red
As we mention above, this difference is likely due to the slightly higher noise level in the KR3 data. However, the median line flux of the third red survey list is substantially fainter than that of the UCM sample, which is $2.9 \times 10^{-14}$ ergs s$^{-1}$ cm$^{-2}$ (based on the follow-up spectra of Gallego et al. 1996).

As mentioned earlier, one of the strengths of KISS is that the selection function and completeness limit can be derived using the survey data directly, rather than relying on secondary information (e.g., line strengths measured from follow-up spectra). The calibrated objective-prism line fluxes are used to determine the completeness limit of the survey, following the procedure described in C. Gronwall et al. (2005, in preparation). Briefly, we convert the line fluxes into pseudomagnitudes—the line magnitude $m_L$—and then apply a $V/V_{\text{max}}$ analysis (e.g., Schmidt 1968; Huchra & Sargent 1973) to the complete sample of 261 galaxies. The results are presented in Table 3. Column (1) lists the value of $m_L$ for which $V/V_{\text{max}}$ is being computed. Column (2) lists the total number of ELGs brighter than that $m_L$ level, while columns (3) and (4) give the numbers of objects in the volume-limited and flux-limited subsamples, respectively (see below). Note that some objects may start out in the flux-limited sample at brighter values of $m_L$ then move into the volume-limited sample at fainter values of $m_L$. Column (5) lists the mean

![Graph showing distribution of Hα + [N ii] line fluxes for the 261 KISS ELGs included in the current survey list. The median flux levels of both the KISS and UCM samples are indicated.]

**Table 3**

| $m_L$ | Total No. | Flux Limited | Volume Limited | $V/V_{\text{max}}$ | Added |
|------|-----------|--------------|----------------|-------------------|-------|
|      | (1)       | (2)          | (3)            | (4)               | (5)   |
| 13.0 | 4         | 4            | 0              | 0.5922            | 0     |
| 13.1 | 5         | 5            | 0              | 0.5900            | 0     |
| 13.2 | 5         | 5            | 0              | 0.5139            | 0     |
| 13.3 | 7         | 7            | 0              | 0.5889            | 0     |
| 13.4 | 8         | 8            | 0              | 0.5688            | 0     |
| 13.5 | 9         | 9            | 0              | 0.5468            | 0     |
| 13.6 | 12        | 12           | 0              | 0.5928            | 0     |
| 13.7 | 16        | 16           | 0              | 0.6271            | 0     |
| 13.8 | 20        | 20           | 0              | 0.6256            | 0     |
| 13.9 | 22        | 20           | 2              | 0.5666            | 0     |
| 14.0 | 28        | 24           | 4              | 0.6046            | 0     |
| 14.1 | 35        | 28           | 7              | 0.6352            | 0     |
| 14.2 | 38        | 31           | 7              | 0.5891            | 0     |
| 14.3 | 44        | 36           | 8              | 0.5833            | 0     |
| 14.4 | 54        | 42           | 12             | 0.5818            | 0     |
| 14.5 | 67        | 50           | 17             | 0.5946            | 0     |
| 14.6 | 81        | 56           | 25             | 0.6012            | 0     |
| 14.7 | 98        | 67           | 31             | 0.6173            | 0     |
| 14.8 | 108       | 69           | 39             | 0.5764            | 0     |
| 14.9 | 120       | 76           | 44             | 0.5646            | 0     |
| 15.0 | 139       | 87           | 52             | 0.5642            | 0     |
| 15.1 | 154       | 93           | 61             | 0.5480            | 0     |
| 15.2 | 166       | 99           | 67             | 0.5251            | 0     |
| 15.3 | 184       | 106          | 78             | 0.5122            | 0     |
| 15.4 | 195       | 107          | 88             | 0.4822            | 0     |
| 15.5 | 206       | 114          | 92             | 0.4612            | 0     |
| 15.6 | 216       | 117          | 99             | 0.4330            | 9     |
| 15.7 | 225       | 120          | 105            | 0.4104            | 10    |
| 15.8 | 231       | 119          | 112            | 0.3821            | 13    |
| 15.9 | 238       | 117          | 121            | 0.3761            | 10    |
| 16.0 | 244       | 110          | 134            | 0.3417            | 17    |
| 16.1 | 253       | 104          | 149            | 0.3333            | 13    |
| 16.2 | 257       | 94           | 163            | 0.3116            | 16    |
| 16.3 | 259       | 88           | 171            | 0.2757            | 21    |
| 16.4 | 260       | 83           | 177            | 0.2521            | 22    |
| 16.5 | 261       | 76           | 185            | 0.2258            | 24    |

Note: Some objects may start out in the flux-limited sample at brighter values of $m_L$ then move into the volume-limited sample at fainter values of $m_L$. Column (5) lists the mean.
We also derive redshifts from the objective-prism spectra. For objects with follow-up observations, we can compare the survey redshifts to the redshifts derived from the long-slit spectra (Fig. 8). In general the agreement between \( z_{\text{KISS}} \) (objective-prism redshift) and \( z_{\text{spec}} \) (follow-up redshift) is excellent. Only four objects deviate substantially from the equality line. Two of these are active galaxies at \( z > 0.35 \) that are not shown in the diagram. They were detected due to their [O iii] \( \lambda 5007 \) and H\( \beta \) lines, respectively. The remaining two objects are KISSR 2336 and KISSR 2320: two relatively large, well-resolved disk galaxies that both have emission regions offset from the center of the galaxy. Because the dispersion of the objective-prism spectra is in the north-south direction, a spectrum of an object that has an emission region spatially offset north or south of the center will yield an incorrect estimate of the redshift of the emission line. Only a small minority of KISS objects are affected by this.

For the first red survey list (KR1) the survey redshifts above \( z_{\text{KISS}} = 0.07 \) showed a systematic offset from the redshifts determined from follow-up spectroscopy. The reason for the offset is that as the H\( \alpha \) + [N ii] emission and their redshift. Objects with sufficiently strong lines will have values of \( V_{\text{max}} \) that exceed the effective volume of the survey set by the redshift limit. Such objects are volume-limited. As the limiting line flux decreases, a given object may actually switch from the flux-limited category to the volume-limited category. As seen in the table, for faint limiting line fluxes (fainter \( m_L \)) the majority of the KISS ELGs are in the volume-limited subsample. This is illustrated by the dashed line in Figure 7. We see that the KISS sample is 100% complete to \( m_L = 15.3 \), which is very similar to the results for the KR1 and KR2 samples (Gronwall et al. 2004; C. Gronwall et al. 2005, in preparation). This completeness limit includes 184 KISS ELGs, or 70.5% of the full sample. As is often done, one can construct a "correctably complete" sample by extending the line flux limit down to even lower values. For example, at \( m_L = 15.9 \) the sample is still 69.2% complete but now includes 91.2% of the sample.

4.1.3. Redshift Comparison and Distributions

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The interpretation of the results of the \( V/V_{\text{max}} \) test follows exactly the discussion found in C. Gronwall et al. (2005, in preparation) for the KR1 sample. Rather than repeating that discussion here, we simply summarize the main results. It is important to realize that because of the redshift limit imposed by the survey filter, objects in the sample can be either line-flux-limited or volume-limited objects, depending on the strength of their H\( \alpha \) + [N ii] emission and their redshift. Objects with sufficiently strong lines will have values of \( V_{\text{max}} \) that exceed the effective volume of the survey set by the redshift limit. Such objects are volume-limited. As the limiting line flux decreases, a given object may actually switch from the flux-limited category to the volume-limited category. As seen in the table, for faint limiting line fluxes (fainter \( m_L \)) the majority of the KISS ELGs are in the volume-limited subsample. This is illustrated by the dashed line in Figure 7. We see that the KISS sample is 100% complete to \( m_L = 15.3 \), which is very similar to the results for the KR1 and KR2 samples (Gronwall et al. 2004; C. Gronwall et al. 2005, in preparation). This completeness limit includes 184 KISS ELGs, or 70.5% of the full sample. As is often done, one can construct a "correctably complete" sample by extending the line flux limit down to even lower values. For example, at \( m_L = 15.9 \) the sample is still 69.2% complete but now includes 91.2% of the sample.

4.1.3. Redshift Comparison and Distributions

Fig. 7.—Completeness percentage as a function of \( m_L \) for the current sample (solid line). The catalog is 100% complete to \( m_L = 15.3 \) and is "correctably complete" to \( m_L = 15.9 \). The dashed line shows the fraction of the sample contained in the flux-limited subsample as a function of \( m_L \). At the completeness limit, roughly half the KISS ELGs are in the flux-limited portion of the sample.

Fig. 8.—Comparison between objective-prism redshifts \( z_{\text{KISS}} \) obtained from our survey data and slit spectra redshifts \( z_{\text{spec}} \) obtained from follow-up spectra. The solid line denotes \( z_{\text{KISS}} = z_{\text{spec}} \). The objective-prism redshifts provide reasonable estimates of the true redshifts over the full range covered by the survey. The formal uncertainty in \( z_{\text{KISS}} \) is 0.0032 (950 km s\(^{-1}\)).
field is located far to the south of the nominal void center, the impact of the void is unmistakable in the redshift distribution. There is a significant density enhancement seen at redshifts between 0.0275 and 0.0375, just in front of the void. This is most likely associated with the Hercules supercluster.

The redshift distribution for the Cetus field (Fig. 9c) is dominated by a low-density region at low redshifts that reaches out to $z = 0.035$. This is part of the large void that dominates the foreground in the southern Galactic cap. There is no hint of the Pisces-Perseus supercluster at $z \approx 0.020$; the Cetus field is far enough south to miss the supercluster. There is a strong density enhancement at $z = 0.040$. Beyond this point, the KISS redshift distribution is again fairly flat out to the point at which the survey filter starts to exclude the H$\alpha$ line. Note that the location of the Cetus field is such that only very sparse redshift information of the “normal” galaxies exists. Hence, we do not have a suitable comparison sample as we do with the Boötes field. The median redshifts of the two NDWFS KISS samples are quite similar to the values found for KR1 (median $z = 0.063$) and KR2 (median $z = 0.061$).

4.2. Luminosity Distributions

The availability of both an accurate apparent magnitude and a redshift estimate allows us to compute the absolute magnitude for each source. Using the values listed in Table 2 for the $B$ magnitude and objective-prism redshift, we compute $M_B$ for all ELG candidates in the current list. We adopt $H_0 = 75$ km s$^{-1}$ Mpc$^{-1}$, and a correction for Galactic absorption is applied using the values for $A_B$ compiled by Schlegel et al. (1998). In both fields the Galactic absorption is small, with typical values of 0.04–0.06 mag in the Boötes field and 0.09–0.11 mag in the Cetus region. An explicit assumption is made that the line seen in the objective-prism spectrum is in fact H$\alpha$. Previous observations of KR1 and KR2 ELGs suggest that for roughly 2.5% of the KISS ELG candidates the line seen in the objective-prism spectrum is some other line (usually [O $\ii$] 3300$\AA$). Hence, we might expect six to seven of the ELG candidates in Table 2 to fall in this category.

A histogram showing the distribution of $M_B$ for the KISS ELGs in the current survey list is shown in Figure 10a. For comparison, in Figure 10b we plot the absolute magnitude distribution for the 97 CGCG galaxies used in the redshift distribution comparison in § 4.1. Note that for this presentation we have combined the two portions of the KISS NDWFS sample into a single histogram. The median absolute magnitudes of the KISS and CGCG galaxies differ significantly: while the CGCG has a median $M_B = -19.78$ (i.e., close to $M_*$), the KISS ELGs have a median absolute magnitude fully 2 mag fainter. This is consistent with our previous survey lists. That is, KISS is especially sensitive to intermediate- and low-luminosity galaxies when compared to a magnitude-limited sample such as the CGCG.

Despite the fact that the current sample of KISS ELGs have systematically lower luminosities than the CGCG galaxies located in the same area of the sky, they are on average higher in luminosity than the ELG candidates in Table 2 to fall in this category.
luminosity than either of the previous two $\text{H} \alpha$-selected KISS lists. The median $M_B$ values for KR1 and KR2 are $-18.96$ and $-18.64$, respectively. The apparent reason for the differences between the three lists is the relative paucity of lower redshift galaxies in the current survey. As mentioned above, the Cetus and Boötes fields of the NDWFS exhibit very low numbers of galaxies at redshifts below 0.035 and 0.025, respectively. This is precisely where KISS is most sensitive to dwarf ELGs. To be sure, there are still plenty of low-luminosity galaxies present in the current survey list. However, the fraction of the survey with $M_B > -18$ is less than in both KR1 and KR2.

At the high-luminosity end, the KISS ELGs appear to be deficient in galaxies with luminosities above $M_*$ ($M_B < -20$). While the KISS ELGs cover the same absolute magnitude range as the magnitude-limited CGCG galaxies, the proportion of higher luminosity galaxies is much lower among the KISS galaxies. This most likely occurs for two reasons. First, the KISS sample is redshift-limited at high luminosities, meaning that it does not probe arbitrarily large volumes of space for the highest luminosity objects as magnitude-limited samples do. Second, the detection of any galaxy by KISS requires that the emission line observed be bright enough to stand out against the stellar continuum of the galaxy in the objective-prism spectrum. That is, there must be a minimum contrast between the continuum and the line. This is effectively an EW limit. For luminous galaxies, a larger star-forming event or a stronger level of AGN activity is needed for the emission lines to exceed this implicit EW threshold. Since these intense activity levels are fairly rare, there are fewer detected ELGs among the higher luminosity host galaxies. The combination of these two effects means that there are fewer KISS ELGs at luminosities above $M_*$.  

4.3. Comparison with Previous Surveys

Table 2 lists cross-references for KISS ELGs that are also cataloged in previous photographic surveys for active and star-forming galaxies, and we note the UGC numbers for the objects that are listed in the UGC (Nilson 1973). The first red survey area overlapped with four major active galaxy surveys: Markarian (1967), Case (Pesch & Sanduleak 1983), Wasilewski (1983), and UCM (Zamorano et al. 1994). The third red survey area, like KR2, overlaps with only the Markarian and Case surveys.

The Markarian survey overlaps both the Boötes and Cetus fields. There are, however, no Markarian galaxies in either field. This is not too surprising, since the surface density of Markarian galaxies is small ($0.1 \text{deg}^{-2}$). The Case survey overlaps only with the Boötes field, and there are 18 Case objects in this area. However, two of them lie just outside the area covered by the KISS objective-prism images. They are both included in the KISS direct images, but as we mention in § 2, the spectral and direct images do not always cover the exact same area. Two additional Case objects (459 and 460) are emission regions within the same galaxy, and we choose to count them as one object for the purpose of the comparison with KISS. Of the resulting 15 Case objects, 13 (87%) are recovered by KISS in the main survey (i.e., Table 2). This fraction of recovered objects is somewhat higher than was found for the first two red surveys (73% and 72%, respectively). Both of the two Case galaxies that KISS does not recover are listed as color selected in the Case survey papers. Neither one is listed in the secondary KISS survey list with $4-5 \sigma$ ELG candidates. A large fraction of Case galaxies have $\text{H} \alpha$ lines with EWs less than 30 $\AA$ (Salzer et al. 1995), and KISS is not as sensitive to this type of object.

The UGC catalog overlaps with the Boötes field, and there are eight UGC galaxies in this area. Four of them are also KISS galaxies. Weak emission lines appear to be present in the objective-prism spectra of the remaining four galaxies but only at the $\sim 3 \sigma$ level.

5. DISCUSSION AND SUMMARY

We present the third list of $\text{H} \alpha$-selected emission-line galaxy candidates (and the fourth list overall) from the KPNO International Spectroscopic Survey (KISS). All data presented here were obtained with the 0.61 m Burrell Schmidt telescope. KISS is an objective-prism survey but differs from older such surveys by virtue of the fact that it uses a CCD as the detector. While we sacrifice areal coverage relative to classical photographic surveys, we benefit from the enormous gain in sensitivity that CCDs provide over plates. We readily detect strong-lined ELGs as faint as $B = 21$. In addition, the panchromatic nature of CCDs allows us greater wavelength agility compared to photographic surveys. Even with the use of our survey filter, which restricts the detection of ELGs to $z < 0.095$, we are sensitive to a broader range of galaxian redshifts than the older photographic objective-prism surveys (Paper I). The combination of higher sensitivity, lower noise, and larger volumes surveyed yields huge improvements in the depth of the resulting survey. With the KISSRx objects included, KISS finds $> 200$ times more AGNs and starburst galaxy candidates per unit area than did the Markarian (1967) survey, and $\sim 37$ times more than the UCM survey (Zamorano et al. 1994).

The current installment of KISS includes 261 ELG candidates selected from 20 red survey fields covering a total of 19.65 $\text{deg}^2$. This yields a surface density of 13.3 galaxies $\text{deg}^{-2}$. We are sensitive to the $\text{H} \alpha$ emission line with redshifts up to $z \sim 0.10$. The survey fields presented here are located at $\text{R.A.} = 14^h30^m 00^s$, decl. = $34\degr30\arcmin$ (B1950.0), and at $\text{R.A.} = 2h7m30s$, decl. = $-4\degr44\arcmin$. These fields were chosen to coincide with the location of the NOAO Deep Wide Field Survey (Jannuzi & Dey 1999). For each object in the catalog we tabulate accurate equatorial coordinates, $B$ and $V$ photometry, and estimates of the redshift and line strength measured from the objective-prism spectra. We also provide finder charts and extracted spectral plots for all objects. In addition to the main survey list, we include a supplementary list of 158 ELG candidates with weaker (lower significance) emission lines.

This newest list brings the total of $\text{H} \alpha$-selected KISSR ELGs to 2418 objects present in three survey regions. In addition, we have cataloged another 638 “extra” KISSRx candidates that are detected in the survey with a lower significance level. The total number of cataloged ELGs is 3056, contained in a survey area of just 147.6 $\text{deg}^2$. The overall surface density of KISS ELGs is thus 20.7 $\text{deg}^{-2}$.

One of the advantages of our survey method is the large amount of basic data that we acquire for each object. This in turn allows us to parameterize the constituents of the survey and to develop a fairly complete picture of the overall sample without the need for extensive follow-up observations. We present an overview of the survey properties for the current list of ELG candidates. The median apparent magnitude of the current sample is $B = 17.91$. This is somewhat brighter than the values found for KR1 and KR2 ($B = 18.08$ and 18.13, respectively) but still substantially fainter than previous ELG surveys. Objects fainter than $B = 20$ are routinely cataloged. Line strengths measured from the objective-prism spectra show that KISS is sensitive to objects with $\text{H} \alpha + [\text{N} \text{II}]$ EWs of less than 20 $\AA$, and that most objects with $\text{EW} > 40 \AA$ are detected. The median emission-line flux of the KISS sample is nearly 3 times lower than that of the UCM survey (Gallego et al. 1996). The luminosity distribution of the KISS ELGs is heavily weighted toward intermediate- and low-luminosity galaxies, although we are still sensitive to luminous AGN and starbursting galaxies. The median absolute magnitude of $M_B = -19.11$ underscores the fact that strong-lined galaxies of the
studies currently underway in the mid- and far-IR (IRAS and the Spitzer Space Telescope) and near-IR (Two Micron All Sky Survey), as well as ongoing studies of the metal abundances in KISS star-forming galaxies (e.g., Lee et al. 2004; Salzer et al. 2005).

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APPENDIX

SUPPLEMENTARY TABLE OF 4 σ OBJECTS

As we explained in § 3, the main survey objects are selected based on the presence of a 5 σ emission feature in their spectra. Because of the high sensitivity of the survey data, many objects were detected that have apparent emission lines with strengths that are only

| KISSRx No. | Field | ID (J2000.0) | R.A. (J2000.0) | Decl. (J2000.0) | B | B – V | zKISS | Flux[^][8] | EW[^][8] | Quality | Comments |
|------------|-------|-------------|---------------|----------------|---|-------|-------|----------|--------|---------|----------|
| 481......... | G0202  | 5949 | 2 01 17.5 | -3 54 59.0 | 18.12 | 0.57 | 0.0396 | 43 | 19 | 2 |
| 482......... | G0202  | 5213 | 2 01 41.7 | -4 16 42.6 | 21.07 | 1.88 | 0.0816 | 79 | 116 | 3 |
| 483......... | G0202  | 4890 | 2 01 49.8 | -3 46 50.7 | 18.98 | 0.77 | 0.0729 | 92 | 71 | 2 |
| 484......... | G0202  | 4563 | 2 01 57.6 | -3 17 19.8 | 19.27 | 0.76 | 0.0407 | 29 | 43 | 3 |
| 485......... | G0202  | 4294 | 2 02 07.1 | -4 05 04.2 | 19.13 | 1.05 | 0.0597 | 59 | 32 | 2 |
| 486......... | G0202  | 4158 | 2 02 11.2 | -4 07 33.9 | 17.76 | 1.03 | 0.0849 | 50 | 19 | 3 |
| 487......... | G0202  | 2393 | 2 03 04.4 | -4 28 15.8 | 17.89 | 1.03 | 0.0370 | 51 | 18 | 2 |
| 488......... | G0202  | 2057 | 2 03 13.9 | -3 19 42.6 | 20.58 | 0.57 | 0.0767 | 49 | 228 | 3 |
| 489......... | G0202  | 1608 | 2 03 27.2 | -3 17 14.9 | 17.74 | 0.15 | 0.0375 | 46 | 32 | 2 |
| 490......... | G0202  | 1499 | 2 03 31.6 | -3 46 56.4 | 19.07 | 0.70 | 0.0873 | 39 | 33 | 3 |
| 491......... | H0202  | 1892 | 2 03 32.0 | -4 21 50.5 | 20.42 | 1.16 | 0.0515 | 64 | 105 | 2 |
| 492......... | H0202  | 1443 | 2 03 46.9 | -4 35 15.3 | 19.10 | 0.82 | 0.0546 | 43 | 6 | 3 |
| 493......... | H0202  | 749  | 2 04 09.5 | -4 28 19.8 | 18.34 | 0.75 | 0.0733 | 121 | 69 | 2 |
| 494......... | G0205  | 4694 | 2 04 53.7 | -4 00 57.6 | 19.44 | 0.24 | 0.0135 | 31 | 111 | 3 |
| 495......... | G0205  | 4052 | 2 05 12.1 | -3 28 55.0 | 19.35 | 0.74 | 0.0674 | 93 | 50 | 2 |
| 496......... | G0205  | 3412 | 2 05 33.2 | -3 57 25.3 | 18.78 | 0.65 | 0.0926 | 44 | 54 | 2 |
| 497......... | G0205  | 3002 | 2 05 45.8 | -3 15 37.4 | 23.42 | 3.92 | 0.0713 | 67 | 84 | 3 |
| 498......... | G0205  | 2790 | 2 05 52.7 | -3 23 46.0 | 18.30 | 0.82 | 0.0827 | 20 | 11 | 3 |
| 499......... | H0202  | 3297 | 2 06 00.2 | -4 40 31.8 | 23.69 | 3.69 | 0.0673 | 40 | 322 | 3 |
| 500......... | H0202  | 3071 | 2 06 08.5 | -5 20 22.8 | 19.37 | 0.73 | 0.0744 | 32 | 35 | 2 |
| 501......... | H0202  | 2173 | 2 06 14.5 | -4 28 14.9 | 18.16 | 0.13 | 0.0341 | 53 | 45 | 2 |
| 502......... | H0202  | 1969 | 2 06 21.7 | -4 13 34.2 | 16.73 | 0.67 | 0.0346 | 75 | 11 | 2 |
| 503......... | H0202  | 1809 | 2 06 25.4 | -3 29 24.8 | 21.11 | 1.16 | 0.0684 | 28 | 57 | 2 |
| 504......... | H0202  | 1512 | 2 06 35.9 | -3 38 17.3 | 16.35 | 0.27 | 0.0284 | 115 | 12 | 3 |
| 505......... | G0205  | 1496 | 2 06 37.6 | -4 19 43.9 | 19.82 | 1.48 | 0.0388 | 30 | 19 | 3 |
| 506......... | H0205  | 1656 | 2 06 50.8 | -5 32 50.7 | 18.52 | 0.84 | 0.0245 | 32 | 19 | 3 |
| 507......... | G0205  | 943  | 2 06 54.0 | -3 35 21.2 | 19.68 | 1.20 | 0.0682 | 40 | 28 | 2 |
| 508......... | H0205  | 1333 | 2 07 01.1 | -5 47 59.0 | 18.66 | 0.66 | 0.0345 | 44 | 32 | 2 |
| 509......... | G0205  | 417  | 2 07 10.9 | -3 30 36.5 | 19.50 | 0.89 | 0.0763 | 84 | 362 | 2 |
| 510......... | G0205  | 52  | 2 07 21.7 | -3 15 56.5 | 19.89 | 0.81 | 0.0091 | 52 | 64 | 3 |

Note.—Units of right ascension are hours, minutes, and seconds, and units of declination are degrees, arcminutes, and arcseconds. Table 4 is published in its entirety in the electronic edition of the Astronomical Journal. A portion is shown here for guidance regarding its form and content.

[^][8] Units of 10^{-10} ergs s^{-1} cm^{-2}.
slightly weaker than the 5σ limit. We decided to exclude such objects from the main survey list, since one of the primary goals of the KISS project is to construct a deep but statistically complete sample of ELGs. Early tests involving follow-up spectroscopy carried out on fields in which objects were selected to lower thresholds showed that 5σ detections were nearly always real sources, while objects between 4 and 5σ tended to be real but also included a fair number (∼25%) of spurious sources. However, these objects are nonetheless valid ELG candidates and this list of objects likely includes a number of interesting objects. Therefore, rather than ignore these weaker lined ELG candidates entirely we publish them in Table 4.

Listed in Table 4 are 158 ELG candidates that have emission lines detected at between the 4 and 5σ level. The format of Table 4 is the same as for Table 2 except that the objects are now labeled with KISSRx numbers (“x” for extra). The KISSRx numbers start at 481, since we presented 480 KISSRx objects in KR1 and KR2. The full version of the table, as well as finder charts for all 158 KISSRx galaxies, are available in the electronic version of the paper.

The supplementary ELG sample has characteristics similar to those of the main survey ELGs, although with some notable differences. The median Hα EW is 40.9 ± 8, roughly 20% lower than the value for the main sample. The KISSRx galaxies are somewhat fainter (median B magnitude of 18.65) and significantly redder (median B−V = 0.81). Their median redshift is slightly higher than those of either the Boötes or Cetus fields (0.067), and their median luminosity is nearly 1 mag fainter (−18.23). Hence, the supplementary ELG list appears to be dominated by intermediate-luminosity galaxies with somewhat lower rates of star formation activity (lower EWs and redder colors) than the ELGs in the main sample. The differences between the KISSR and KISSRx objects in the current paper are similar to those seen between the two samples in KR1 and KR2.

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