# The MOSDEF Survey: Dissecting the SFR vs. $M_*$ Relation at $z \sim 2$

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### The MOSDEF\* Survey \*MOSFIRE Deep Evolution Field





- Rest-frame optical spectra of ~ 1500 H-selected galaxies and AGNs
- $1.37 \le z \le 3.80$
- CANDELS fields
- 48.5 nights with MOSFIRE on Keck I (2012-2016)
- Collaboration between UC Berkeley, UCLA, UC San Diego, UC Riverside

## **MOSDEF Recent Results**



MOSDEF Survey: mosdef.astro.berkeley.edu

#### SFR-M\* relation



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 Discrepancy in the literature: slope ~ 0.3 – 1.0







Shivaei+2015b

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- This study: 0.65 ± 0.09
- Dust Correction
- Sample biases
- Absorption Correction



#### The SFR Scatter



Galaxy-to-galaxy variations in:

- Dust attenuation curve
- IMF

#### Galaxy-to-galaxy variations in attenuation curve



### Are H $\alpha$ and H $\beta$ good tracers of SFR?



## Panchromatic SED Modeling







Shivaei+2016



## Is 8µm a good tracer of SFR?



#### Is 8µm a good tracer of SFR?



Strength of 8µm luminosity for a given SFR is metallicity-dependent

Shivaei et al., in prep

## Summary

- Using the MOSDEF Hα and Hβ spectroscopic data, we constrain the slope and scatter of the SFR-M\* relation for star-forming galaxies at z ~ 2 (Shivaei+2015b)
  - demonstrate the effect of various observational biases on the slope
  - slope =  $0.65 \pm 0.09$ , scatter = 0.36 dex (z = 1.37 2.61)
- Even at high SFRs, dust-corrected Hα luminosity, using Balmer decrement, is an accurate tracer of SFR (Shivaei+2016)
  - for star-forming galaxies at  $z\sim2$  with SFRs up to  $\sim200~M_{\odot}\,yr^{-1}$
- Rest-frame 8µm luminosity is strongly dependent on metallicity and should be treated with caution as a SFR and total IR luminosity estimator (Shivaei+, in prep)

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