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Title: Star Formation History of Early Type Galaxies

Abstract: *I will summarise current knowledge about the history of star formation of early-type galaxies. I will focus on knowledge gained from determination of the mean properties (ages and chemical abundances) of their stellar populations from integrated light studies of galaxies in a range of redshifts. I will conclude by making brief considerations on how first-light E-ELT instrumentation can contribute to the field.*