PERSONAL INFORMATION

Adriano Fontana



NAF Osservatorio Astronomico di Roma, Via di Frascati 33, 00078, Rome, Italy

+39 06 942 864 56 **=** +39 337 1090 857

adriano.fontana@.inaf.it

http://www.oa-roma.inaf.it/fontana

Skype: AdrianoFontana

ORCID: 0000-0003-3820-2823

Sex Male (he/him/his) | Date of birth 29/11/1962 | Nationality Italian

WORK EXPERIENCE Active positions

Aug 1, 2016 - now Oct, 2013 - now "Dirigente di Ricerca" (Research Director) at INAF – Osservatorio di Roma President of the LBT Corporation

WORK EXPERIENCE PREVIOUS POSITIONS

Nov, 2010 – Nov 2019 Jan 2004 – Jul 2016 Apr 1998 – Jun 1998

Jun 1995- Jul 1995 Jan 1994 – Dec 2004

Nov 1993

Professor of "Astrofisica Extragalattica" at the Rome University La Sapienza

"Astronomo Associato" (Associate Astronomer) at INAF - Osservatorio di Roma

Visiting Astronomer at ESO- Garching Unpaid associate at ESO - Garching

"Ricercatore Astronomo" (Researcher) at INAF - Osservatorio di Roma

3 Visiting Astronomer at ESO - Garching

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Training course on Project Management (Profingest, Bologna)
 PhD in Physics and Astrophysics – University of Rome La Sapienza

1989 Master Degree 110/110 cum laude in Physics – University of Rome La Sapienza

PERSONAL SKILLS Mother tongue

Other language(s)

Italian

English (Excellent, both written and oral)

Digital competence

SELF-ASSESSMENT

Information processingCommunicationContent creationSafetyProblem solvingProficientIndependentIndependentBasicIndependent

Programming languages: Fortran, C, python

· Astronomical software: Midas, IRAF, SM

CURRENT MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITIES

Feb 2022 - now

Coordinator of the STILES funding programme

I have proposed and I am currently leading a **70M€** funding program dubbed STILES ("STrengthening the Italian Leadership in Elt and Ska"), which is an ambitious, comprehensive, and transformational program coordinated by INAF and participated by 7 collaborating Universities. STILES' ultimate goal is establishing a firm Italian leadership in the technological developments and scientific exploitation of ELT, SKA - and of their precursors on the path. The program, that is scheduled to run until late 2025, will transform the capability of Italian laboratories, develop innovative innovative instrumentation for ELT and SKA, and train a new generation of scientists and engineers.

June, 2016 - now

Head of the INAF Division for Optical-NIR astronomy

This INAF Division (establish in 2016 under my direction) directly supervises and manages all the Italian participations to to Optical-NIR astronomical projects from ground (mainly ESO, LBT and TNG) and space (GAIA, Euclid, CHEOPS, PLATO among the others). In this capacity, I oversee *a*) all the institutional relations with the relevant governing bodies, *b*) the development of instrumentation for all these facilities; *c*) The execution of major scientific projects with a leading Italian role. The overall budget of the Division (that does not include the ESO yearly contribution) is about **10M€/yr**.

Oct . 2013 - now

President of the LBT Corporation

The LBT Corp. is an independent legal entity, based in Tucson (AZ, USA) that manages all the activities related to the Large Binocular Telescope. In my capacity of President, I oversee the general management of the affairs of the Corporation, with the direct responsibility of signing all the financial transactions of the Corporation, and implement all the policies and directives of the Board, in particular overseeing the activity of the Telescope Director. The overall budget of the Corporation is about 13M\$/year.

Oct , 2012 - now

Chair of LBT Board of Directors

As a Chair of the Board of Directors of the LBT Corporation, (that is different from the President) I preside at all meetings of the Board and I am responsible that all policies of the Board are carried out. My main role is here is acting as an interface with all the Board Directors and Institutional Members from MPGs, INAF and several US universities.

Membership of International Project/Institutional Boards

INAF delegate at ESO Council (2019-2022)

LSST Corporation Executive Board (2019-now)

WST Steering Committee (2022-now)

ANDES@ELT Steering Committee (2022-now)

MORFEO@ELT Steering Committee (2018-now)

WEAVE Project Board (2016-now)

ASDC Board (2009-2014)

ASTRONET Executive Board (2005-2007)

PREVIOUS MANAGEMENT **RESPONSIBILITIES**

2013 - 2016

European Coordinator of the FP7 European project ASTRODEEP

I led ASTRODEEP, a collaborative project among 4 institutes (INAF, CEA, UEdin, CDS) funded for a total of 2MEuro within the FP7-SPACE framework. It is a co-ordinated and comprehensive program of algorithm/software development and testing, data reduction/release, and scientific data validation/analysis aimed at making Europe the world leader in the exploitation of the deepest multifrequency data from the major space and ground-based observatories.

2011 - 2017 Lead of the Organization Unit "MER" of the Euclid mission

The ESA mission Euclid is a major flagship of European astronomy. I have the responsibility of MER, a trans-national unit of the Ground Segment that is charged to design and develop the core of the data processing system, i.e. the part that collects data from Euclid and ground based surveys and prepares the final multiwavelength catalogue. The collaboration involves ~20 scientists and software engineers mainly from Italy, Germany and France.

2005-2007 President of the INAF Science Council

I have been President of the INAF Science Council, the first established soon after the constitution of INAF itself. I led the preparation of the first Long Term Plan of Italian Astronomy. This document presents a unified vision of the main topics in astronomy and astrophysics in the foreseeable future, and identifies the scientific and technological areas where INAF should focus its efforts during the next decade.

2005-2007 Coordinator of INAF activities in the ASI Space Data Centre

During the first period of the ASI-INAF agreement for the operations of ASDC I have acted as Coordinator of the INAF staff to perform scientific operations and to cooperate with INAF Institutes. I supervised the activities of INAF personnel, operating in support of space missions (mainly AGILE, GLAST, SWIFT, GAIA)

MANAGEMENT OF MAJOR SCIENTIFIC PROJECTS

2022-now

2014-2017

2014-2021

2012-2017

2010-now

2010-2014

2008-2010

2005-2008 2005-now Co-I of the JWST GLASS ERS program - responsible for the analysis and release of the NIRCAM data. Principal Investigator of the ESO-VLT KMOS Large Program, "The formation and evolution of galaxies from cosmic dawn to high-noon under a magnifying GLASS"

European coordinator of the FP7-SPACE project ASTRODEEP

Executive Board of the ESO public survey VANDELS

Executive Board of the HST survey CANDELS

Principal Investigator of the HUGS survey, based on the ESO-VLT Large Program "A complete view of the first 2 billion years of galaxy formation"

Principal Investigator of the ESO-VLT Large Program ESO VLT, "A deep infrared view of the early Universe: exploiting the unique capabilities of HAWK-I to explore the reionization epoch"

Coordinator of the GOODS-MUSIC survey

Coordinator of the research Group of Observational Cosmology and Galaxy Evolution at the INAF -Rome Observatory, which has several leading responsibilities in projects using ESO, LBT, ALMA HST, Spitzer and other world-class instrumentation.

SCIENTIFIC ACHIEVEMENTS General description

My main research field is the study of Galaxies, AGNs, IGM and their co-evolution, primarily as obtained from deep imaging and multiwavelength surveys with ground based and space telescopes.

I have been Principal Investigator of 3 Large Programs with ESO VLT instrumentation.

I am PI of many accepted proposals at TNG, LBT, NTT, VLT, ALMA, HST.

I led the HUGS survey, executed with Hawk-I@VLT, delivering the deepest view on IR-selected galaxies ever obtained.

I am a main participant to several extragalactic surveys (K20, GOODS, CANDELS, VUDS VANDELS, Frontier Fields, CEERS, GLASS, GLASS-JWST, PRIMER) executed with VLT, HST, Spitzer, Webb and other world-class facility instruments.

I have been among the very first astronomers to use VLT, both as part of the Science Verification Team and as one of the very first observer of the normal programs.

Publications

- I am author of about 450 scientific publications (based on ADS).
- A full list of refereed papers is available at: https://ui.adsabs.harvard.edu/user/libraries/8Svli4ZrS6uRMmDSlyzeTA
- Of these, about 330 are published in peer-reviewed journals (as of Feb 27, 2023), for a total of more than 27500 citations.
- I am first author in 13 of them, and among the first three authors in 57 of them.
- 65 papers of mine have more than 100 citations; I am among the three first authors in 17 of them.
- I am author of 5 letters to Nature, 1 to Science, and 41 to ApJL.

Impact factor

- As of 26 March 19, my impact factor h-index is 86 (based on ADS, computed on refereed papers).
- Based on a survey conducted in 2013, I am leading author in 2 of the 25 most important papers
 produced by VLT in its first 15 years (http://sciencewatch.com/articles/very-large-telescope-first-fifteen-years-discovery)

Main Results

My research activity tries to address a simple yet difficult question: how galaxies formed and evolved, especially in the first Gyrs of the Universe's life. Answering this question implies working on a number of inter-connected aspects, like:

- -High redshift galaxies, stellar mass assembly, luminosity and mass functions, galaxy morphological evolution, clustering and large scale structures, obscured AGNs and their feedback on galaxy evolution.
- Spectral evolution of galaxies and link with stellar astrophysics.
- Wide field imaging and spectroscopic surveys.
- Development of theoretical models of galaxy formation and evolution.
- Intergalactic medium at high redshift, ionization and metal content of Lyman□ forest and metal systems, connection with high redshift galaxies.
- Development of software for astronomical data processing, Data Grid.
- Development of optical/IR instrumentation at large telescopes.

My main results have been obtained using wide extragalactic surveys with the most advanced instrumentation available: from ground-based instruments like VLT and space missions like HST, Spitzer and more recently JWSTR. The topics I have most contributed to are:

- The assembly of massive galaxies at high redshift. In a number of seminal and recent papers (e.g.. Fontana+2003, 04, 06, Santini 2009, 2012, Grazian+2015) I have depicted the evolution of massive galaxies at z>2; I have shown that the growth of massive galaxies occurs at fast pace in the first 2-3 Gyrs of the Universe, such that about 50% of present-day mass of massive galaxies is already assembled at z~1.5. In recent years, using first HST and recently JWST, I have characterized the growth of red, quiescent and massive galaxies and shown that they exist at all redshifts up to at least 4 (Grazian+07, Fontana+09, Grazian+15, Merlin+19, Santini+22)
- The search for the highest redshift galaxies. Thanks to a combination of deep imaging surveys and spectroscopic follow-up I have progressively identified galaxies at the greatest distances ever recorded (e.g. Fontana+95, Vanzella+11 Finkelstein+15) and studied the general properties of high-z galaxies in several aspects, including the comparison with theoretical models developed at the purpose (e.g. Fontana+1999, Grazian+2011). Recent results with JWST expanded this search to z~12 and beyond (Castellano, Fontana+ 2022, 2023).
- Tracing the reionization of the Universe. Using extended spectroscopic programs that I led (based on VLT-FORS2 first and VLT-KMOS) I have for the first time shown direct evidence of an increasingly neutral Inter Galactic Medium at z>6.5, as shown by the decrease in the density of Ly emitting galaxies at z>6.5 (Fontana+10, Pentericci+11, 14, Mason+19). This sets a sharp constraint for the timing of reionization after the Dark Ages.
- Advanced methods for data analysis. During my whole career I have also developed and made public several new approaches to data analysis. Starting first with the spectroscopic FITLYMAN code originally installed in Midas (Fontana, Ballester 1995) I have developed methods for photometric redshifts since the early definition of the technique (Fontana+1998) and recently for de-blended photometry in deep extragalactic surveys (CONVPHOT, DeSantis+2007, T-PHOT and A-PHOT Merlin+2015-2018). Thanks to this experience I had been P.I of the FP7-SPACE project ASTRODEEP and of the Euclid Organizational Unit named MER, which is in charge of preparing the Euclid pipeline for the photometric measurements.

MAIN PARTICIPATIONS TO SCIENTIFIC COMMETTEES AND APPROVED INSTRUMENT TEAM

MOS@E-ELT

2015

2012 2012	Hubble Deep Fields Initiative 2012 Science Working Group (NASA/STScI) Project Scientist for the extragalactic case of MOONS (ESO)
2010	DIORAMAS@E-ELT Member of the ESO OPC / Chair of Extragalactic panel
2008-2009 2008	Euclid
2006	DUNE
2004-2008	LBC Commissioning team
2005-2006	LBC Science Demonstration Time Committee (LBT)
2004-2007	Chairman of the Hawk-I Instrument Team (ESO)
2003	Italian Committee on Surveys
2002	Italian Committee on Databases in Astronomy
2001	LBC@LBT - Project Scientist of the Instrument SW
2001-2002	TAC for the Telescopio Nazionale Galileo
2000	UVES – SW development and characterization
1999	SUSI2@NTT - ESO. Responsible of science commissioning
1998	ESO VLT-UT1 Science Verification Team
2005-now	Coordinator of the research Group of Observational Cosmology and Galaxy Evolution at the INAF - Rome Observatory, which has several leading responsibilities in projects using ESO, LBT, ALMA HST, Spitzer and other world-class instrumentation.

TEACHING	_
TEACHING University/PhD Courses	
Oniversity/Prib Courses	
2010-2019	Professor at Università La Sapienza di Roma, teaching "Astrofisica Extragalattica" (48hr course) for the Master Course on Astronomy and Astrophysics.
2006	Professor of Database in astrofisics for PhD students at l'Università di Tor Vergata - Roma
2002	Professor of Cosmic structures at high redshifts for PhD students at l'Università di Tor Vergata -
2001	Professor of "High redshift galaxies: theory and observations" at the Università di Roma 3
Supervisor of master and PhD dissertation:	
2023	PhD in Astronomy&Astrophysics- Università Tor Vergata- Lavanya Nemani
2022	PhD in Astronomy&Astrophysics – Università La Sapienza – Flaminia Fortuni
2021	PhD in Astronomy&Astrophysics – Università La Sapienza – Marianna Torelli
2018	Master degree in Astronomy&Astrophysics – Università La Sapienza – Flaminia Fortuni
2018	Master degree in Astronomy&Astrophysics – Università La Sapienza – Michael Romano
2015	Master degree in Astronomy&Astrophysics – Università La Sapienza – Antonello Calabro'
2015	Master degree in Astronomy&Astrophysics – <i>Università La Sapienza</i> – Graziano Ucci
2013	Master degree in Astronomy&Astrophysics – Università La Sapienza – Paola Di Mauro
2012	Master degree in Physics – <i>Università La Sapienza</i> - Stefano Pilo
2009	Master degree Magistrale in Astronomy&Astrophysics – <i>Università La Sapienza</i> – Tiziana Trombetti
2009	PhD in Astronomy&Astrophysics – Università La Sapienza – Paola Santini
2007	PhD in Astronomy&Astrophysics – Università di Tor Vergata – Immacolata Donnarumma
2004	Master degree in Physics – Università La Sapienza - Davide Ceccarelli
Member of PhD Thesis Commissions:	
2019	University of Edinburgh – Tom Kemp
2018	Université de Paris 7 – Stefania Amodeo
2017	University of Edinburgh – Derek Mc Leod
2017	Université de Paris 7 – Gael Noirot
2016	Università di Trieste – Emanuele Pomante
2016	SISSA - Emanuele Sobacchi

Strasbourg University – Audrey Galametz

2010

2010 SISSA – Pratika Dayal

CONFERENCES	
1998-2022	Invited speaker to many international conferences
1996-2019	Invited Seminars at International Institutes like ESO (Munich joint colloquim) Laboratoire d'Astrophysique de Marseille (LAM), Leiden Observatory, Heidelbrg Steinwarte, Edinburgh Observatory, UCLA
2023	SOC of the International conference "STEM65"
2023	SOC of the International conference "The James Webb Space Telescope turns one: the birth and growth of galaxies"
2023	SOC Chair of the International conference "The early growth of galaxies VIII"
2022	SOC of the International conference "LSST@Europe 3"
2021	SOC Chair of the International conference "The early growth of galaxies VII"
2020	SOC Chair of the International conference "The early growth of galaxies VI"
2019	SOC Chair of the Conference "Euclid and Beyond: the many faces of modern cosmology"
2019	SOC member of the series of 3 International conferences "Extremely Big Eyes on the Early Universe", held in Los Angeles, Tokyo, Rome
2019	SOC Chair of the International conference "The early growth of galaxies V"
2018	SOC Member of the International conference "Birth, life and fate of massive galaxies and their central beating heart"
2018	SOC Chair of the International conference "The early growth of galaxies IV"
2017	SOC Chair of the International conference "The early growth of galaxies III"
2016	SOC Chair of the International conference "The HST, Spitzer and Herschel joint legacy"
2015	SOC Member of the international conference "Science with MOS: towards the E-ELT" – Cefalu'
2015	SOC Chair of the International conference "The Spectral Energy Distribution of high redshift galaxies: lessons learned and open questions" Sesto Val Pusteria
2014	Chair of Workshop Nazionale LBT - Padova
2013	SOC Member of the international conference "Star Formation Through Cosmic Time" Sexten
2012	Chair of Workshop Nazionale LBT - Padova
2011	SOC Member of the international conference "CANDELS in the high redshift Universe
2008	SOC Member of the international conference "Probing Stellar Populations" out to the Distant Universe
2007	SOC Member of the international conference "Galaxy Growth in a Dark Universe", Heidelberg, lu
PRIZES	
2006	Premio "Tartufari" dell'Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei
2001	Premio Ing. Franco Pietrandrea from Rotary Club Roma Castelli Romani: "Nascita ed evoluzione delle galassie: quale scenario?"
Research Funds	
International projects 2013-2016	Coordinator of the FP7-SPACE "ASTRODEEP: unveiling the full power of deep extragalactic surveys"
2011	-1,968,710€ Foreign Minister funds for LBT – ITA-USA collaboration. 30,000€
Large scale Italian projects	
2022-now	P.I. of STILES ("STrengthening the Italian Leadership in Elt and Ska") – 69.999.999€
2013-2018	National Coordinator of the ASI funds for Euclid OU-MER. 600,000 €
2013	National Coordinator of the Project Premiale MIUR "Sensori Strategici per LBT: dal laser all'origine
0040	dell'Universo." 2,794,041.85€
2012	National Coordinator of the Project Premiale MIUR "Sensori Strategici per LBT: dal laser all'origine dell'Universo." 2,490,000 €
2007	dell Universo. 2,490,000 € WP Leader "Survey ed osservazioni multibanda:" of the contract ASI "Cosmologia e Fisica
2007	Fondamentale dallo Spazio" 800,000 €

Small scale Italian projects (PRIN INAF e MIUR) 2012 National Coordinator of the PRIN INAF "A complete view of the first 2 billion years of galaxy formation" -154,000€ 2010 National Coordinator of the project "CANDELS: Tracing the history of the Universe with the largest HST program" 86,000 € 2008 Local Coordinator of the PRIN INAF "Feasibility and cost assessment of an extremely large Field of View spectrograph" (PI R. Ragazzoni). 82,000 € 2008 Local Coordinator of the PRIN MIUR "Survey infrarosse dell'Universo Primordiale: Galassie e AGN nel vicino IR. " (PI A. Franceschini) -48.131€ 2007 National Coordinator of the PRIN INAF "A deep VLT and LBT view of the early Universe: the physics of high redshift galaxies". 160,000€ 2006 Local Coordinator of the PRIN MIUR "Imaging Survey multicolore e ultraprofonde: galassie ed AGN fino all'epoca della reionizzazione " (PI B. Marano) 62,000 € 2003 Local Coordinator of the PRIN MIUR "Data Grid per la ricerca astrofisica in Italia: Strumenti per Analisi Dati LBC" - (PI F. Pasian) 55.200 € **OUTREACH** I have a very active outreach activity. I perform public lectures (also in English), publish educational articles on magazine and I often get interviewd on national TV to comment astronomical discoveries. and other outreach activities, both at the Observatory and in other Institutes – also abroad, in English. with 3 TV interviews and several lectures at the most important scientific events. I have also organized an ESA event for the presentation of the very first Webb data on July 14, 2022. Since July 2022 I write a monthly article on "Focus", one of the most important scientific magazines, to describe the wonderful discoveries made by JWST International Press Releases NASA: "NASA's Webb Draws Back Curtain on Universe's Early Galaxies", 2022 https://webbtelescope.org/contents/news-releases/2022/news-2022-044 ESO: "ALMA Witnesses Assembly of Galaxies in the Early Universe for the First Time", 2015 http://www.eso.org/public/news/eso1530/ HST: "Hubble Sees Supernova Split into Four Images by Cosmic Lens", 2015 http://hubblesite.org/newscenter/archive/releases/2015/08/image/a/ HST: "Galaxy Found in Hubble Survey Has Farthest Confirmed Distance:", 2013 http://hubblesite.org/newscenter/archive/releases/2013/39/ 2011 ESO: "Distant Galaxies Reveal The Clearing of the Cosmic Fog", http://www.eso.org/public/news/eso1138/ ESO: "Old Galaxies in the Young Universe", http://www.eso.org/public/news/eso0422/ 2004 ESO: "Into the Epoch of Galaxy Formation": http://www.eso.org/public/news/eso0006/ 2000 ESO: "First Results from the UT1 Science Verification Programme", 1998 http://www.eso.org/public/news/eso9858/ ESO: "DEEP SKY DIVING WITH THE ESO NEW TECHNOLOGY TELESCOPE", 1998 http://www.eso.org/public/news/eso9801/ ESO: "ESO Astronomers Detect a Galaxy at the Edge of the Universe", 1995 http://www.eso.org/public/news/eso9526/ I have appeared in many (28 at the moment) Press Releases in Italian media – full list available at INAF https://www.oa-roma.inaf.it/fontana/press-releases Public lectures Live Interview at "PHOTOANSA 2022: Le immagini e I protagonisti dell'anno trascorso", Torino 2023 Public Lecture at "Giornata Nazionale della Spazio", organized by Italian Embassy in Berlin, "Universo 2022 primordiale, stelle in formazione e buchi neri: nuovi risultati da nuovi telescopi" Public Lecture at Focus Event Live 2022: "Le meraviglie del James Webb Space Telescope" 2022 Public Lecture at Rome Science Festival: "Le meraviglie del James Webb Space Telescope" 2022 Public Lecture at Genova Science Festival: "Le meraviglie del James Webb Space Telescope" 2022 2022 Public Lecture at CERN (CH): "Webb, the most advanced space telescope" Public Lecture at Catania Science Festival: "Cosa e'il James Webb Space Telescope" 2022 Public Lecture at Rome University La Sapienza, organized by ESA, "Webb first data" 2022 Public Lecture at AESA Torino, Politecnico di Torino, "Il Cielo Sostenibile" 2022 Public Lecture at Focus Event Live 2021: "Webb: il piu' grande telescopio spaziale mai costruito" 2021

Public Lecture at the Festival "ProMemoria", Mirandola, Bo., entitled "Memoria del Cosmo e Nascita

2021

	dell'Universo"
2021	Public conference "Studiare il cielocon i piedi per terra", Rome IX municipio
2017	Public Lecture in Brugherio (Mi), entitled :"Sistemi ordination e sistemi caotici nell'Universo di ieri e di oggi"
2017	Public Lecture at the Festival "ProMemoria", Mirandola, Bo., entitled "Memoria del Cosmo e Nascita dell'Universo"
2016	Public Lecture at the Aerospace Faculty of the Rome University La Sapienza, entitled "Astronomy toward 2020"
2015	Public Lecture at the "SpaceUp!" workshop – Rome
2014	Public Lecture at the Italian Embassy in Washington (USA), entitled "From Galileo to giant telescopes: a journey through space and time", to celebrate the 450 from Galileo's birth.
2014	Public Lecture at Scuola Normale di Pisa: "La galassia più distante mai osservata (the farthest galaxy ever observed)"
Papers on popular science	
magazines	
2023 Apr.	Focus, "Il mare in cui nuotano le galassie"
2023 Feb.	Focus, "Gli asili nido delle stelle"
2023 Jan.	Focus, "Vista sul passato piu' remoto"
2022, Dec	Focus, "Il mistero nel cuore delle galassie"
2022, Oct	Focus, "La prima vera sorpresa del Webb
2022, Sep.	Focus, "Ai confini dell'Universo"
2022, Jul	Focus, "Tutti pronti per le prime foto del telescopio spaziale Webb"
2011, Sep	Scientific American (Italian version)"Le prime sorgenti dell'Universo"