

Mario Damiano

Ph.D. in Astrophysics

4800 Oak Grove Dr, M/S 169-237
91109, Pasadena, CA
United States
☎ +1 (818) 928 9338
✉ mario.damiano@jpl.nasa.gov
🌐 <https://mdamiano.github.io>

Professional experience

- 2018 - present** **JPL Postdoctoral Fellow**, National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) - Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) – California Institute of Technology, CA, United States.
- 2015 - 2020** **Research Associate**, National Institute for Astrophysics – Observatory of Palermo (INAF–OAPa), Palermo, Italy.

Education

2019

Ph.D. in Astrophysics, *University College London (UCL), London, England, UK*,
Advisors: Prof. Giovanna Tinetti, Dr. Giuseppina Micela, and Dr. Ingo Waldmann.
Thesis title: *Data analysis of space and ground observations of exoplanetary atmosphere using Machine Learning algorithms*.

2015

MSc Physics (Astrophysics), *University of Palermo (UNIPA), Palermo, Italy.*,
Advisors: Prof. Giovanni Peres and Dr. Giuseppina Micela.
Thesis title: *Exoplanetary atmosphere: high-resolution spectrum with instruments iLocater and HIRES*.

2013

BSc Physics Science, *University of Palermo (UNIPA), Palermo, Italy.*,
Advisors: Prof. Giovanni Peres and Dr. Giuseppina Micela.
Thesis title: *Exoplanets and stellar activity in the IR-band*.

Research interests

- Composition and dynamic of exoplanetary atmospheres;
- Spectroscopic data analysis of observations recorded by space and ground facilities;
- Spectral interpretation through Bayesian information retrieval processes;
- Machine and deep learning algorithms for data analysis.

Awards, grants, and fellowships

- JPL Postdoctoral Fellowship, NASA/JPL, 2018
- Ph.D. studentship, European Research Council (ERC) and National Institute for Astrophysics (INAF), 2015

IT Skills

Coding Python, C, Matlab

OS MacOS (preferred), Linux, Windows

Text editing L^AT_EX, Microsoft Office, Apple Softwares

Invited colloquia and seminar talks

- 2020** 'EXOPLANETARY CHARACTERIZATION THROUGH REFLECTION SPECTROSCOPY', JPL Postdoc Seminar Series, Jet Propulsion Laboratory, CA, US.
- 2019** 'TWO LENSES FOR GLASSES: LOW- AND HIGH-RESOLUTION SPECTROSCOPIC OBSERVATIONS OF EXOPLANETARY ATMOSPHERES', Yuk luncheon seminar, California Institute of Technology, CA, US.

- 2019** 'TWO LENSES FOR GLASSES: LOW- AND HIGH-RESOLUTION SPECTROSCOPIC OBSERVATIONS OF EXOPLANETARY ATMOSPHERES', JPL luncheon seminar, Jet Propulsion Laboratory, CA, US.
- 2017** 'SPECTROSCOPIC OBSERVATIONS OF HOT-JUPITERS WITH THE HUBBLE WFC3 CAMERA', INAF-OAPa seminar series, INAF-Astronomical Observatory of Palermo (INAF-OAPa), Palermo, Italy.

Conference Presentations

- 2020** 'EXOPLANETARY CHARACTERIZATION THROUGH REFLECTION SPECTROSCOPY', 2nd Starshade Science Industry Partnership (SIP) forum, Boulder, CO, United States.
- 2020** 'EXOPLANETARY CHARACTERIZATION THROUGH REFLECTION SPECTROSCOPY', 235th American Astronomical Society (AAS) meeting, Honolulu, HI, United States.
- 2019** 'EXOPLANET REFLECTED LIGHT RETRIEVAL: WHAT CAN WE LEARN?', Division Planetary Science (DPS) 51 / European Planetary Science Congress (EPSC) 14, Geneva, Switzerland.
- 2018** 'PLANETARY SIGNAL EXTRACTION VIA HIGH-RESOLUTION SPECTROSCOPY', Centre for Planetary Science (CPS) meeting, Mullard Space Science Laboratory (MSSL), England, UK.
- 2018** 'PLANETARY SIGNAL EXTRACTION VIA HIGH-RESOLUTION SPECTROSCOPY', Workshop for collaboration with Indian science community, University College London, London, England, UK.
- 2017** 'NEAR-IR TRANSMISSION SPECTRUM OF HAT-P-32B USING WFC3 CAMERA ON BOARD HST', European Planetary Science Congress (EPSC) 12, Riga, Latvia.
- 2017** 'PLANETARY SIGNAL EXTRACTION VIA HIGH-RESOLUTION SPECTROSCOPY: WORK IN PROGRESS', 10th GAPS2.0 meeting, Palermo, Italy.
- 2016** 'SPECTROSCOPIC OBSERVATIONS OF HOT-JUPITERS WITH THE HUBBLE WFC3 CAMERA', Division for Planetary Sciences (DPS) 48 / European Planetary Science Congress (EPSC) 11, Pasadena, CA, US.

Competitively awarded observing time

- 2021-present** 14.4 primary JWST hours awarded in Cycle 1. PI of GO-02334: *"Exploring the nature of a temperate exoplanet in the Fulton gap"*
- 2021-present** 67.9 primary JWST hours awarded in Cycle 1. Co-I of GO-02372: *"Deep Characterization of the Atmosphere of a Temperate Sub-Neptune"*
- 2021-present** 15.4 primary JWST hours awarded in Cycle 1. Co-I of GO-01952: *"Determining the Atmospheric Composition of the Super-Earth 55 Cancri e"*
- 2020-present** 8 primary HST orbits awarded in mid Cycle 28. Co-I of GO-16448: *"Confirming a tentative detection of an atmosphere around a potentially rocky planet"*

Academic service

- 2021-present** Referee for Nature Astronomy, NatAstron.

Student advising

- 2017** Co-advised UNIPA master student for an internship on data analysis of high-resolution spectroscopic observations.
Palermo, Italy.

Publications

First author peer-reviewed manuscripts

4. *Multi-orbital-phase and multi-band characterization of exoplanetary atmospheres with reflected light spectra*
Damiano, M., Hu, R., Hildebrandt, S. R., AJ, 160, 206, Nov 2020.
DOI: 10.3847/1538-3881/abb76a
3. *ExoReL³: A Bayesian Inverse Retrieval Framework For Exoplanetary Reflected Light Spectra*
Damiano, M. & Hu, R., AJ, 159, 175, Mar 2020.
DOI: 10.3847/1538-3881/ab79a5
2. *A Principal Component Analysis-based Method to Analyze High-resolution Spectroscopic Data on Exoplanets*
Damiano, M., Micela, G., Tinetti, G., ApJ, 878, 153, June 2019.
DOI: 10.3847/1538-4357/ab22b2
1. *Near-IR transmission spectrum of HAT-P-32 b using HST/WFC3.*
Damiano, M., Morello, G., Tsiras, A., Zingales, T., Tinetti, G., AJ, 154, 39, Jul 2017.
DOI: 10.3847/1538-3881/aa738b

Co-Author

6. *Starshade Exoplanet Data Challenge,*
Hu, R., Hildebrandt, S. R., **Damiano, M.**, Shaklan, S., Martin, S., Lisman, D., JATIS, 7(2), 021216, Mar 2021.
DOI: 10.1117/1.JATIS.7.2.021216
5. *A Population Study of Gaseous Exoplanets,*
Tsiras, A., Waldmann, I.P., Zingales, T., Rocchetto, M., Morello, G., **Damiano, M.**, Karpouzas, K., Tinetti, G., McKemmish, L.K., Tennyson, J., and Yurchenko, S.N., AJ, 155, 156, Mar 2018.
DOI: 10.3847/1538-3881/aaaf75
4. *A New Approach to Analyzing HST Spatial Scans: The Transmission Spectrum of HD 209458 b,*
Tsiras, A., Waldmann, I.P., Rocchetto, M., Varley, R., Morello, G., **Damiano, M.**, Tinetti, G., ApJ, 832, 202, Dec 2016.
DOI: 10.3847/0004-637X/832/2/202
3. *Detection of an Atmosphere Around the Super-Earth 55 Cancri e,*
Tsiras, A., Rocchetto, M., Waldmann, I.P., Venot, O., Varley, R., Morello, G., **Damiano, M.**, Tinetti, G., Barton, E.J., Yurchenko, S.N., Tennyson, J., ApJ, 820, 99, Apr 2016.
DOI: 10.3847/0004-637X/820/2/99
2. *A chemical survey of exoplanets with ARIEL,*
Tinetti, G., plus 242 co-authors, Exp Astron 46, 135, Sep 2018.
DOI: 10.1007/s10686-018-9598-x
1. *The Transiting Exoplanet Community Early Release Science Program for JWST,*
Bean, J.L., plus 96 co-authors, PASP 130k4402, Nov 2018.
DOI: 10.1088/1538-3873/aadbf3