Galaxy Evolution: computational challenges



Unveiling the power of the deepest images of the Universe



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Scientific aim: to study the birth and early phase of galaxy evolution.

- When did first stars and galaxies appear?
- How did galaxies build up and assembled?
- Which are the main physical processes involved?



Telescopes are "time machines"



1M.light-year







10G light years





Today we can observe the Universe as it was ~13 Gyrs ago

z = 5.786

A galaxy in the local, "old" Universe



A galaxy in the high redshift, "young" Universe











Methodology: concentrate all the major telescope from space and ground on few selected regions of the sky and observe as long (=as far) as possible

Spitzer (NASA)



Herschel (ESA)



Hubble Space Telescope (NASA+E











The investments in telescope times are huge (each observation 100-1000 hours of telescope time). Equivalent cost of telescope time only: several M€

These efforts are beyond the capacity of any single groups: PUBLIC SURVEYS -> All data are "immediately" public



Public surveys delivers processed "clean" images that are not yet usable for science. Need to be translated into catalogs. This task:

- is time consuming / expensive: a bottleneck that hampers full scientific exploitation of the data;
- is still subject to considerable uncertainties: it presents conceptual challenges that need to be addressed

INAF-OAR is a leader in the exploitation of the deepest multi-frequency data.

- 1.Develop and fully validate new tools for data analysis of ultradeep surveys;
- 2.Analyze all the data from public surveys in a coherent and well characterized way;
- 3.To deliver the final catalogs to the worldwide community;
- 4.To use these data to address some of the hottest question about early galaxy evolution;
- 5.To establish the know-how for the future space missions, most notably EUCLID.





Making Europe the world leader in the exploitation of the deepest multi-frequency data.

EEP

ASTR

FP7 SPACE Program 4yr Program European Coordinator: Adriano Fontana

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+ Dip. Matematica Univ. la Sapienza (M. Falcone) ASTROE TO ESTABLISH THE KNOW-HOW FOR THE FUTURE SPACE missions, most notably EUCLID.



Its deep observations are a 10000x scaled version of the ASTRODEEP data.

Our goal is to use the ASTRODEEP data to simulate the Euclid deep surveys and to test our analysis software on the huge dataset expected from Euclid Euclid Mapping the geometry of the dark Universe



OAR is leader of 2 (out of 9) units for the development of the Euclid Software: OU-NIR (A. Grazian) OU-MER (A. Fontana)







Develop and fully validate new tools for data analysis of ultradeep surveys;



The key unresolved problem is how to cope with the different resolution and depth of the various datasets.

Several solutions have been proposed but never fully explored and characterized.

One of the ASTRODEEP goal is to fully characterize the different approaches and to develop state-of-the-art software that implements them.

Deliverables:

- Scientific publications

- Software will be publicly distributed.







1 Develop and fully validate new tools for data analysis of ultradeep surveys;









The very concept of detection is also poorly defined..





Frontier Fields: Abell 2744



Super-Resolution



Given a set of "LR frames" with sub-pixel shifts between them we can reconstruct an higher resolution image

$$E(\underline{x}_H) = \frac{1}{2}(||\underline{x}_L - K\underline{x}_H||_2^2 + \lambda f(\underline{x}_H))$$

Solution X_H found by minimization of an energy function (requires regularization)

Image Denoising

We can consider an image f as the sum of a structural part (u, with "regular" properties) plus a texture part (v, e.g. the "noise"). It can be shown that the two can be separated by means of "Total Variation" techniques (e.g. Rudin, Osher & Fatemi 1992)



 $\inf_{(u,v)\in BV\times L^2/f=u+v}\left(\int |Du|+\lambda \|v\|_{L^2}^2\right)$

Reference simulated image w/o noise







Level-set image segmentation



Active contours evolving with velocity proportional to the image gradient in each pixel (e.g. Sethian 1996).

object segmentation through border detection



5 To establish the know-how for the future space missions, most notably EUCLID.

F435W to G band

F814W to VIS * band



FI25W to J band



F814W





Internal evaluation of photometric accuracy For each object, compute the r.m.s. of its 10 realization, and then compute the average trend.



 $< F_{vis} > (\mu Jy)$