

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Antonio Di Franco

 Via A81 n°4, 90136 Palermo (Italy)

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Sex Male | Date of birth 24/10/1983 | Nationality Italian

PRESENT POSITION

Post-doc at University Nice-Sophia Antipolis (France)

Fields of scientific interest

My main fields of scientific interest are: assessing fish population connectivity (dispersal and movement patterns); otolith microchemistry; planning and assessing effective networks of MPAs; fish early life history traits; assessing effectiveness of marine protected areas (MPAs); assessing effect of recreational activities on biological assemblages; investigating artisanal fisheries and their ecological, socio-economical and socio-cultural sustainability

WORK EXPERIENCE

11/07/2014–Present

Research contract

Conisma, Roma (Italy)

Data collection of data on fish assemblage by using underwater visual census at Tavolara MPA, data analysis and support in reporting. Scientific responsible Professor Paolo Guidetti.

01/07/2014–Present

Postdoc researcher

University of Nice

in the framework of the project "Fishing governance in MPAs: potentialities for Blue Economy (FishMPABlue)" funded by the European Territorial Cooperation Programme "MED" 2007-2013, to analyse the different approaches developed to date on the co-existence of artisanal fisheries and MPAs; design an integrated maritime approach supporting the co-management of artisanal fishing within MPAs; propose integrated actions to mitigate environmental risks, with relevance on a transnational scale; develop a "win-win" governance model, where conservation goals and fishing-related blue economy are planned in an integrated and participative way.

15/01/2014–14/02/2014

Research contract

Conisma, Roma (Italy)

Data collection of data on fish assemblage by using underwater visual census at Secche di Tor Paterno MPA, data analysis and support in reporting. Scientific responsible Professor Paolo Guidetti.

01/10/2013–30/12/2013

Postdoc researcher

University of Salento, Lecce (Italy)

Assessing connectivity between local populations of fishes for the implementation of a Marine Protected Areas Network

01/10/2012–30/09/2013

Research scholarship for implementation of marine protected areas network within Marine Strategy Framework Directive

Conisma

Scientific support to 1) preparation of datasets for insertion in standard datasheet, 2) analysis on data about fish fauna within MPAs, with particular reference to network of MPAs within Marine Strategy Framework Directive

01/07/2012–30/06/2013 **Postdoc researcher**
University of Salento
via Provinciale per Monteroni, 73100 Lecce (Italy)
Assessing connectivity between local populations of fishes for the implementation of a Marine Protected Areas Network

01/05/2012–30/05/2012 **Independent contractor**
WWF-European Policy Programme – Branch Office ("WWF-MedPO")
Via Po, 25C, 00198 Roma (Italy)
Medpan South project "Adapting Climate Change" Brochure development. Under the supervision of the Head of MPA Program , whom will coordinate with the Steering Committee - formed by MedPAN Association, WWF MedPO, MedPAN North members (IUCN, Junta de Andalucia, WWF-France)- the consultant took the lead in conducting specific tasks relative to the development of a user-friendly production the form of a brochure to guide MPA managers, policy makers and government officials to begin understanding how climate change is altering our the Mediterranean marine environment measures for management.

01/04/2011–31/03/2012 **Postdoc researcher**
University of Salento
Via Provinciale per Monteroni, 73100 Lecce (Italy)
Assessing connectivity between local populations of fishes for the implementation of a Marine Protected Areas Network

01/04/2011–30/04/2011 **Research contract**
Conisma
Via Isonzo 32, 00198 Roma (Italy)
Preparation and microchemistry analysis of juvenile otoliths of two banded seabream.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

05/03/2008–05/03/2011 **Phd in "Fundamental Ecology"**
University of Salento
Via Provinciale per Monteroni, 73100 Lecce (Italy)
Thesis titled "Spatial connectivity and dispersal patterns to design networks of marine protected areas: the case of the white sea bream *Diplodus sargus sargus* (Linnaeus 1758)"

Visiting researcher at Centro de Estudios Avanzados de Blanes,
Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (CEAB, CSIC) in
Blanes (Spain)

14/12/2010–16/12/2010 **Attendance to the course "Introduction to meta-analysis in ecology"**
Conisma
Via Isonzo 32, 00198 Roma (Italy)
Introduction to meta-analysis in ecology (2010). Instructors: Craig W. Osenberg, Joachim Claudet, Fiorenza Micheli. University of Salento, Lecce, Italy, 14-16 December 2010.

26/02/2009–28/02/2009 **Attendance to the Workshop on multivariate statistics for analysis of ecological data.**

University of Parma

Course hold in Parma (Italy). Professor Michael Greenacre (Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona) and Dr Raul Primicerio (University of Tromsø, Norway).

29/09/2008–03/10/2008 Attendance to course “Ecological Modelling”

University of Lecce

Course hold in Lecce (Italy). Scientific supervisor Prof Sven Erik Jorgensen (University of Copenhagen, Denmark).

03/03/2008–14/03/2008 Attendance to winter School “detecting biological and environmental changes: design and analysis of monitoring and experiments”.

University of Bologna

Hold in Bologna (Italy), March 3rd -14th. School Director Prof Laura Airoidi. Instructors: Prof. Bob Clarke, Prof. Marti Jane Anderson, Prof Lisandro Benedetti-Cecchi.

09/07/2007–17/07/2007 Attendance to "Fish underwater visual census" Summer School

Dipartimento per lo studio del territorio e delle sue risorse (DIPTERIS), Università degli studi di Genova, (Genova)

01/2005–03/2007 MSc in Marine Biological Resources.

 University of Palermo
 90100 Palermo (Italy)

Note: 110/110 cum laude. Master Sc. thesis: Evaluation of scuba divers' behaviour and its effects on biota in a Mediterranean MPA. Supervisor: Prof R. Chemello, Coadvisor: Dott. M. Milazzo, University of Palermo.

10/2001–06/2004 Bachelor in Biological Sciences.

 University of Palermo
 90100 Palermo (Italy)

Note 110/110 cum laude. Master Sc. thesis titled "An application of indirect visual census in impact evaluation of a small marina". Supervisor: Prof R. Chemello; coadvisor: Dott. Marco Milazzo, University of Palermo (Italy).

PERSONAL SKILLS

Mother tongue(s) Italian

Other language(s)	UNDERSTANDING		SPEAKING		WRITING
	Listening	Reading	Spoken interaction	Spoken production	
English	C2	C2	C1	C1	C1
Portuguese	B2	B2	B1	B1	A1
French	C1	C1	B2	B1	B1
Attestation de competence en FLE B1					

 Levels: A1/A2: Basic user - B1/B2: Independent user - C1/C2: Proficient user
[Common European Framework of Reference for Languages](#)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Papers published or accepted for publication on ISI journals with impact factor:

1. Di Franco A., Bussotti S., Navone A., Panzalis P., Guidetti P., 2009. Effects of total and partial restrictions to fishing on Mediterranean rocky-reef fish assemblages. *Marine Ecology Progress Series*, 387: 275-285.
2. Di Franco A., Marchini A., Milazzo M., Baiata P., Chemello R., 2009. "Developing a Scuba Trail Vulnerability Index (STVI): a case study from a Mediterranean MPA.". *Biodiversity and Conservation*, (18): 1201-1207.
3. Di Franco A., Milazzo M., Baiata P., Chemello R., 2009. Evaluation of scuba divers' behaviour and of its effects on the biotic component of a Mediterranean MPA. *Environmental Conservation*, (36): 32-40.
4. Di Franco A., Ferruzza G., Baiata P., Chemello R., Milazzo M., 2010. Can recreational scuba divers alter natural gross sedimentation rate? A case study from a Mediterranean deep cave. *ICES Journal of Marine Science*, 67(5): 871-874.
5. Di Franco A., Guidetti P., 2011. Patterns of variability in early-life traits of fishes depend on spatial scale of analysis. *Biology Letters* 7: 454–456. doi: 10.1098/rsbl.2010.1149.
6. Di Franco A., Graziano M., Franzitta G., Felling S., Chemello R., Milazzo M., 2011. Do small marinas drive habitat specific impacts? A case study from Mediterranean Sea. *Marine Pollution Bulletin* 62: 926–933. doi: 10.1016/j.marpolbul.2011.02.053.
7. Di Franco A., De Benedetto G., De Rinaldis G., Raventos N., Sahyoun R., Guidetti P., 2011. Large scale variability in otolith microstructure and microchemistry: the case study of *Diplodus sargus sargus* (Sparidae) in the Mediterranean Sea. *Italian Journal of Zoology* 78(2): 182–192.
8. Di Franco A., Gillanders B.M., De Benedetto G., Pennetta A., De Leo G.A., Guidetti P., 2012. Dispersal Patterns of Coastal Fish: Implications for Designing Networks of Marine Protected Areas. *PlosONE* 7(2): e31681. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0031681.
9. Sala E., Ballesteros E., Dendrinis E., Di Franco A., Ferretti F., Foley D., Frascchetti S., Friedlander A., Garrabou J., Güçlüsoy H., Guidetti P., Halpern B.S., Hereu B., Karamanlidis A., Kizilkaya K., Macpherson E., Mangialajo L., Mariani S., Micheli F., Riser K., Sales M., Starr R., Selkoe K.A., Tomas F., Zabala M., 2012. The structure of Mediterranean rocky reef ecosystems across environmental and human gradients, and conservation implications. *PlosONE* 7(2): e32742. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0032742.
10. Sahyoun R., Bussotti S., Di Franco A., Navone A., Panzalis P., Guidetti P., 2012. Protection effects on Mediterranean fish assemblages associated with different rocky habitats. *Journal of The Marine Biological Association UK* 93: 425-435. doi: 10.1017/S0025315412000975
11. Di Franco A., Baiata P., Milazzo M., 2013. Effects of recreational scuba diving on Mediterranean fishes: evidence of involuntary feeding? *Mediterranean Marine Science* 14: 15-18.
12. Di Franco A., Di Lorenzo M., Guidetti P., 2013. Spatial patterns of density at multiple life stages in protected and fished conditions: an example from a Mediterranean coastal fish. Submitted to *Journal of Sea Research* 76: 73-81.
13. Di Franco A., Qian K., Calò A., Di Lorenzo M., Planes S., Guidetti P., 2013. Assessing patterns of variability in early life traits: the case study of a Mediterranean coastal fish. Submitted to *Marine Ecology Progress Series* 476: 227-235.
14. Pujolar J.M., Schiavina M., Di Franco A., Melià P., Guidetti P., Gatto M., De Leo G.A., Zane L., 2013. Understanding the effectiveness of marine protected areas using genetic connectivity patterns and Lagrangian simulations. *Diversity and Distributions* 19:1531–1542
15. Di Franco A., Coppini G., Pujolar J.M., De Leo G.A., Gatto M., Lyubartsev V., Melià P., Zane L., Guidetti P., 2013. Assessing Dispersal Patterns of Fish Propagules from an effective Mediterranean Marine Protected Area. *Plos One* 7(12):e52108. DOI:10.1371/journal.pone.0052108
16. Papetti C., Di Franco A., Zane L., Guidetti P., De Simone V., Spizzotin M., Zorica B., Kec V.C., Mazzoldi C., 2013. Single population and common natal origin for Adriatic Scomber scombrus stocks: evidence from an integrated approach. *ICES – Journal of Marine Science* 70: 387-398.
17. Di Carlo G., Di Franco A., Montefalcone M., 2014. Seagrasses: advancing Mediterranean research from genes to seascapes. *Aquatic Botany* 115: 1-2.
18. Guidetti P., Baiata P., Ballesteros E., Di Franco A., Hereu B., Macpherson E., Micheli F., Pais A., Panzalis P., Rosenberg A.A., Zabala M., Sala E., 2014. Large-scale assessment of Mediterranean Marine Protected Areas effects on fish assemblages. Submitted to *Plos One* 9(4): e91841. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0091841
19. Di Franco A., Bulleri F., Pennetta A., De Benedetto G., Clarke K.R., Guidetti P. Within-otolith variability in chemical fingerprints: implications for sampling designs and possible environmental interpretation. *PLoS ONE* 9(7): e101701. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0101701

20. Bussotti S., Di Franco A., Francour P., Guidetti P., in press. Fish assemblages of Mediterranean marine caves PLoS ONE

Scholarship and Awards: Scholarship for participation at 36th Congress of Italian Society of Marine Biology (S.I.B.M.).
Scholarship for young researchers at 16th Congress of Italian Society of Ecology (S.It.E.).
Young researcher award at the LXXI national congress of the Italian Zoological Society.
"Marchetti Prize" as a co-author of poster at Italian Ecological Society (SIte) conference, Palermo (Italy) October 2011.
"Marchetti Prize" as a co-author of poster at Italian Ecological Society (SIte) conference, Palermo (Italy) October 2011.
F1000 travel award.

Reviewer Activity: Biological Conservation, Marine Ecology Progress Series, Biology letters, Aquatic Biology, Aquatic Conservation Marine and Freshwater Ecosystems, Environmental Management, Biodiversity and Conservation, Environmental Biology of Fishes, Marine Biodiversity, Reviews in Fish Biology and Fisheries, Journal of the Marine Biological Association of the UK, The International Journal of Biodiversity Science and Management, Journal of Fish Biology, Fisheries Research, Marine Biology.
Associate faculty members of Faculty of 1000
(<http://f1000.com/thefaculty/member/1961132259250632>)

Participation to research projects: 2008-2009: research project "Monitoring of reserve effects and rocky banks at the Tavolara-Punta Coda Cavallo marine reserve: implications for management and biodiversity conservation" funded by the Tavolara-Punta Coda Cavallo marine reserve and the Ministry of the Environment.
2009-2010: research project "Monitoring of small-scale professional fishery" funded by the Torre Guaceto marine reserve and the Ministry of the Environment
2009-2010: research project "Monitoring of reserve effects and rocky banks at the Tavolara-Punta Coda Cavallo marine reserve: implications for management and biodiversity conservation" funded by the Tavolara-Punta Coda Cavallo marine reserve and the Ministry of the Environment
2010-2011: research project "Monitoring of focal fish species" funded by the Isole Tremiti-Parco del Gargano marine reserve and the Ministry of the Environment.
2010-2011: research project "Monitoring reserve effect and nursery potential of coastal habitats at the Tavolara-Punta Coda Cavallo MPA" funded by the Tavolara-Punta Coda Cavallo marine reserve and the Ministry of the Environment.
2011: research project "Investigating reproductive biology of mugilid fish at the Torre Guaceto MPA aimed at planning a sustainable exploitation" funded by the Torre Guaceto marine reserve and the Ministry of the Environment.
2010-2012: research project "Designing networks of marine protected areas in the Mediterranean context", funded by Total Foundation.
2010-2012: PRIN (projects of relevant national interest) project entitled "The role of spatial connectivity and trophic interactions in the sustainable management of small-scale fisheries through the implementation of networks of Marine Protected Areas", funded by MIUR.

Scientific coordination in research projects 2009: Scientific responsible for the Cooperative Coris of the "Description of 3 caves and benthic and fish associated fauna at Ustica Island Marine Protected Area" research project funded by the management body of the "Ustica Island" MPA.
2009: Scientific responsible for the Cooperative Coris of the "Characterization of 5 diving sites" research project funded by the management body of the "Ustica Island" MPA.