

Francesco G.B. De Natale

Prof. Francesco De Natale received the Masters in Electronic Engineering in 1990 and the PhD in Telecommunications in 1994, both from the University of Genova, Italy. He has been Assistant Professor at University of Cagliari (Italy) from 1996 to 1999, and in the same year moved to the University of Trento, where he is currently full Professor in Telecommunications. From 2007 to 2010 he has been the Dean of the Department of Information Engineering and Computer Science (DISI), where he currently leads the Multimedia Technologies Laboratory (MMLab), a research group of around 15 people.

He is a member of the National Group of Information Technologies (GTTI) and of the Consortium of Telecommunications (CNIT), also as a member of the Board of Directors in 2016-2019.

The research interests of Prof. De Natale focus on the various aspects of multimedia signal processing, analysis and communications. In particular, he worked for many years on image compression and transmission technologies, and more recently moved his interests towards the areas of image analysis with applications in problems such as semantic multimedia data retrieval, image forensics and smart multisensory environments. In the last field, a recent remarkable experience is the direction of an important project for the creation of an in-hospital living lab (AUSILIA) developed within the Villa Rosa rehabilitation hospital in Pergine Valsugana (Trento), where a large, dedicated infrastructure has been built to assess the weaknesses of elderly and disabled patients, and design adequate solutions for homecare and rehabilitation.

Prof. De Natale has published more than 250 scientific works published on the main journals and international conference in the area of signal and image processing and artificial intelligence. He also contributed, also with coordination roles, to numerous research and development projects, funded by different national and international agencies (PRIN, MISE, EU, DARPA). He was also an evaluator for various international bodies (UE, NSF of USA and Ireland, QNRF, as well as different Italian agencies).

He was a co-founder of the university spin-off XTensa Srl, specialized in advanced multimodal interfaces for disabled people and ambient intelligence applications.

In 2005 he was Technical Program Co-Chair of the IEEE International Conference on Image Processing (ICIP), the major international forum in the field, and of the IEEE Int. Conf. on Multimedia Service Access Networks (MSAN). In 2001 he was co-founder and General Chair of the ACM International Conference on Multimedia Retrieval (ICMR). He was also Associate Editor of the Wireless Networks Journal, the IEEE Transactions on Multimedia, and the IEEE Transactions on Circuits and Systems for Video Technologies, and is currently Associate Editor of the IEEE Transactions on Image Processing, main international journal on image processing research. He was also member of the IEEE Technical Committee on Multimedia Signal Processing (MMSP), coordinating the Technical Directions group.

Prof. De Natale is a Senior Member of the IEEE and a member of ACM and CVPL.