PART I GENERAL INFORMATION



Cristiano De Michele

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- http://www.roma1.infn.it/~demichel/
- skype nickname: cridemichel

Spoken Languages: Italian (mother tongue), English (fluent) and French (basic)

PART II EDUCATION

04/11/2024 - 04/11/2035 Abilitazione Scientifica

Abilitazione Scientifica Nazionale (National Scientific Qualification)

come Professore di Prima Fascia (as Full Professor)

in Fisica Teorica della Materia (02/B2 – Theoretical Condensed Matter Physics)

06/11/2024 - 06/11/2035

Abilitazione Scientifica Nazionale (National Scientific Qualification)

come Professore di Prima Fascia (as Full Professor)

in Fisica Applilcata (02/D1- FISICA APPLICATA)

05/12/17

Abilitazione Scientifica Nazionale (National Scientific Qualification)

come Professore di **Prima Fascia** (as Full Professor)

in Fisica Teorica della Materia (02/B2 – Theoretical Condensed Matter Physics)

05/12/17

Abilitazione Scientifica Nazionale (National Scientific Qualification)

come Professore di Seconda Fascia (as Associate Professor)

in Fisica Teorica della Materia (02/B2 – Theoretical Condensed Matter Physics)

11/12/13

Abilitazione Scientifica Nazionale (National Scientific Qualification)

come Professore di Seconda Fascia (as Associate Professor)

in Fisica Teorica della Materia (02/B2 – Theoretical Condensed Matter Physics)

22/12/03

PhD in "Fundamental and Applied Physics"

University of Naples "Federico II"

thesis title "Fragility in Soft Sphere Systems: Role of the Repulsive Potential"

supervisor Prof. Antonio Coniglio

17/03/98 Master in Physics

University of Pisa

final mark 110/110 cum laude supervisor Prof. Dino Leporini

01/07/92 **High School Degree**

Liceo Scientifico "R. Donatelli" - Terni

final mark 60/60

PART III **ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS**

> Associate Professor (Professore di II fascia) March 2020

> > Department of Physics, "Sapienza", University of Rome

Tenure-track Associate Professor (RTDb - art. 24 c.3-b L. 240/10) March 2017-February 2020

Department of Physics, "Sapienza", University of Rome

Non-tenure Assistant Professor part-time (RTDa - art. 24 c.3-a L. 240/10) December 2015 - February 2017

Department of Physics, "Sapienza", University of Rome

December 2015 - present 1 year position as research fellow part-time

Centre de Biophysique Moléculaire (CBM) of CNRS, Orleans, France.

Thanks to an award from Loire Valley Institute for Advanced Studies, Orleans, France

(http://www.lestudium-ias.com/)

December 2012 - November

2015

Non-tenure Assistant Professor (RTDa - art. 24 c.3-a L. 240/10)

Department of Physics, "Sapienza", University of Rome

December 2009 - November 2012

Non-tenure Assistant Professor (RTD - art.1 comma 14 L. 230/05)

Department of Physics, "Sapienza", University of Rome

Postdoctoral Research Fellowship October 2008 - September 2009

Department of Physics, "Sapienza" University of Rome

Supervisor: Prof. Giovanni Ciccotti

Postdoctoral Scholarship May 2008 - September 2008

Department of Physics, "Sapienza" University of Rome

Supervisor: Prof. Francesco Sciortino

Visiting Scientist May 2008 - July 2008

École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL), Lausanne, Switzerland

Supervisor: Prof. Giuseppe Foffi

April 2008 - June 2008 Postdoctoral Scolarship

CNR-INFM Laboratorio Regionale POLYLAB, Pisa

Supervisor: Prof. Dino Leporini

January 2007 - December 2007 Postdoctoral Scolarship

Department of Physics, "Sapienza" University of Rome

Supervisor: Prof. Francesco Sciortino

December 2006 - January 2007 Visiting Scientist

École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL), Lausanne, Switzerland

Supervisor: Prof. Giuseppe Foffi

January 2006 - December 2006 Postdoctoral Scolarship

Department of Physics, "Sapienza" University of Rome

Supervisor: Prof. Francesco Sciortino

January 2004 - December 2005 Postdoctoral Research Fellowship (2 years)

Department of Physics, "Sapienza" University of Rome

Supervisor: Prof. Francesco Sciortino

April 1998 - May 1998 Postgraduate Research Grant

Department of Physics, University of Pisa

Supervisor: Prof. D. Leporini

PART IV TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2024-2025 Lecturer (teacher in charge of the full course)

Course: Computational Statistical Mechanics

60 hours

Laurea Magistrale in Fisica, "Sapienza" Università di Roma

2024-2025 Lecturer (teacher in charge of the full course)

Course: Laboratorio di Calcolo [1035105]

60 hours

Laurea Triennale in Fisica, "Sapienza" Università di Roma

2023-2024 Lecturer (teacher in charge of the full course)

Course: Computing Methods for Physics

60 hours

Laurea Magistrale in Fisica, "Sapienza" Università di Roma

2023-2024 Lecturer (teacher in charge of the full course)

Course: Laboratorio di Calcolo [1035105]

60 hours

Laurea Triennale in Fisica, "Sapienza" Università di Roma

2022-2023 Lecturer (teacher in charge of the full course)

Course: Computing Methods for Physics

60 hours

Laurea Magistrale in Fisica, "Sapienza" Università di Roma

2022-2023 Lecturer (teacher in charge of the full course)

Course: Laboratorio di Calcolo [1035105]

60 hours

2021-2022	Laurea Triennale in Fisica, "Sapienza" Università di Roma Lecturer (teacher in charge of the full course) Course: Computing Methods for Physics 60 hours
2021-2022	Laurea Magistrale in Fisica, "Sapienza" Università di Roma
2020-2021	Laurea Triennale in Fisica, "Sapienza" Università di Roma Lecturer (teacher in charge of the full course) Course: Computing Methods for Physics
2020-2021	60 hours Laurea Magistrale in Fisica, "Sapienza" Università di Roma Lecturer (teacher in charge of the full course) Course: Laboratorio di Calcolo [1035105]
2019-20	60 hours Laurea Triennale in Fisica, "Sapienza" Università di Roma Lecturer (teacher in charge of the full course) Course: Atomistic Simulations
2019-20	60 hours Laurea Magistrale in Fisica, "Sapienza" Università di Roma Lecturer (teacher in charge of the full course) Course: Laboratorio di Calcolo [1035105]
2018-19	60 hours Laurea Triennale in Fisica, "Sapienza" Università di Roma Lecturer (co-teaching) Course: Laboratorio di Fisica Computazionale I [1012086]
2018-19	36 hours Laurea Triennale in Fisica, "Sapienza" Università di Roma Lecturer (co-teaching) Course: Laboratorio di Calcolo [1035105]
2017-18	48 hours Laurea Triennale in Fisica, "Sapienza" Università di Roma Lecturer (teacher in charge of the full course) Course: Simulazioni Atomistiche [1047781]
2017-18	60 hours Laurea Magistrale in Fisica, "Sapienza" Università di Roma Lecturer (laboratory teaching) Course: Laboratorio di Calcolo [1035105]
2016-17	36 hours Laurea Triennale in Fisica, "Sapienza" Università di Roma Lecturer (teacher in charge of the full course) Course: Fisica I [1015377]
	40 hours Laurea Triennale in Ingegneria Meccanica e in Ingegneria per l'Ambiente ed il Territorio, "Sapienza" Università di Roma
2016-17	Lecturer (teacher in charge of the full course) Course: Fisica Generale [1052116] 56 hours Laurea Triennale in Scienze Geologiche, Dipartimento di Scienza della Terra,
2014-15	"Sapienza" Università di Roma Lecturer (teacher in charge of the full course) Course: Fisica Computazionale della Materia [1012139] 60 hours
2013-14	Laurea Magistrale in Fisica, "Sapienza" Università di Roma Lecturer (teacher in charge of the full course) Course: Fisica Computazionale della Materia [1012139]
	60 hours Laurea Magistrale in Fisica, "Sapienza" Università di Roma
2012-13	Lecturer (teacher in charge of the full course) Course: Fisica Computazionale della Materia [1012139] 60 hours Laurea Magistrale in Fisica, "Sapienza" Università di Roma
2011-12	Lecturer (teacher in charge of the full course)

Course: Fisica Computazionale della Materia [1012139]

60 hours

Laurea Magistrale in Fisica, "Sapienza" Università di Roma

2009-10 Teaching Assistant

Course: Fisica dei Liquidi Professor: P. Tartaglia

Laurea Magistrale in Fisica, "Sapienza" Università di Roma

Teaching Assistant

Course: Fisica Computazionale della Materia

Professor: P. Tartaglia

Laurea Magistrale in Fisica, "Sapienza" Università di Roma

2007-2008 Teaching Assistant

Course: Laboratorio di Fisica Computazionale I

Professor: A. Crisanti

Laurea Triennale in Fisica, "Sapienza" Università di Roma

2006-2007 Teaching Assistant

Course: Laboratorio di Fisica Computazionale I

Professor: A. Crisanti

Laurea Triennale in Fisica, "Sapienza" Università di Roma

2005-2006 Teaching Assistant

Course: Laboratorio di Fisica Computazionale I

Professor: A. Crisanti

Laurea Triennale in Fisica, "Sapienza" Università di Roma

PART V AWARDS AND HONORS

09/1992 Scholarship in Physics at the Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa

(posto ordinario nella Classe di Scienze della Scuola Normale)

09/1992 "Elia Rossi Passavanti" award for exceptional marks during high school.

PART VI FUNDING INFORMATION

I partecipated in many national and international projects as Investigator, such as several PRIN from MIUR (http://print.miur.it), n. 1 ERC-Advanced Grant (PI: Prof. Francesco Sciortino), several "Progetti di Ateneo" from "Sapienza" University of Rome and others. My grants as Principal Investigor are the following:

Event-driven simulations of primitive models in biological systems:

antibody-antigen interaction.

Swiss National Science Foundation (SNF) No. IZK022-121268

01/04/2008 - 30/06/2008

CHF 5.930

Principal Investigator: Cristiano De Michele

Phase diagrams of colloidal suspensions: theory and simulations

"Sapienza" Università di Roma

EUR 10.000

01/01/2011-31/12/2011

Principal Investigator: Cristiano De Michele

Progetti di Ricerca 2010

Self-assembly of DNA duplexes into polymers chains: theory, simulations and experiments

"Sapienza" Università di Roma

EUR 12.000

01/01/2012-31/12/2012

Principal Investigator: Cristiano De Michele

Progetti di Ricerca 2011

Self-assembly of DNA duplexes into polymers chains: theory, simulations and

experiments

Jülich Supercomputing Centre (JSC) in Germany 1000 Tflops-hours

01/01/2011 - 31/12/2011

Principal Investigator: Cristiano De Michele

DNA self-assembly

"Sapienza" Università di Roma

EUR 40.000

01/01/2013-31/12/2013

Principal Investigator: Cristiano De Michele

Progetti di Ricerca 2012

Conformation of short DNA duplexes

Jülich Supercomputing Centre (JSC) in Germany

2700 Tflops-hours

01/01/2013 - 31/12/2013

Principal Investigator: Cristiano De Michele

Theoretical models of complex nanostructured materials: ionic liquids from a coarse-grained

<u>perspective</u>

"Sapienza" Università di Roma

EUR 12.000

01/01/2014-31/12/2014

Principal Investigator: Cristiano De Michele

Progetti di Ricerca 2013

Chiral Self-Assembly-Driven Liquid Crystals: Thermodynamic and Elastic Properties

"Sapienza" Università di Roma

EUR 13.800

21/01/2017 - Prot. N. RM11715C639F6A69 Principal Investigator: Cristiano De Michele

Progetti di Ricerca 2017

Nanofabrication of Novel Liquid Crystals via DNA Self-Assembly

"Sapienza" Università di Roma

EUR 4.000

11/12/2020 - Prot. N. RP120172B8851190 Principal Investigator: Cristiano De Michele

Progetti di Ricerca 2020

Investigation of higher-order structures of G-quadruplex multimers through extremely coarse-grained simulations

"Sapienza" Università di Roma

EUR 4.000

12/2022 - Prot. N. RP12218162BCFD82 Principal Investigator: Cristiano De Michele

Progetti di Ricerca 2022

Taming structure, conformation and stability of multimeric G-quadruplex DNA (TAMeQUAD)

Ministero Università e Ricerca (MUR)

EUR 144.704

Progetti di Ricerca di Rilevante Interesse Nazionale (PRIN) 2022

Project N. B53D23004500006

National Principal Investigator: Cristiano De Michele

Demixing of hard sphere mixtures via coarse-grained Neural Network potentials

"Sapienza" Università di Roma

EUR 9655,07

06/2025 - Prot. N. RM124190FDEA491E

Principal Investigator: Cristiano De Michele

Progetti di Ricerca 2024

PART VII RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

Keywords

Monte Carlo Simulations, Molecular Dynamics, Brownian Dynamics, Event-Driven Simulations, Coarse-Graining, Glasses, Supercooled Liquids, Gels, Colloids, Patchy Particles, Self-Assembly, Liquid Crystals, Cholesteric, Lyotropic, Polymers, Elastic Constants, numerical algorithms

Brief Description (cited numbers refer to the full list of publications reported in Part X)

Cristiano De Michele is a **theoretical and computational physicist** working in Condensed Matter Physics. In his work Cristiano develops novel theoretical approaches based on classical statistical mechanics and in-house codes (mostly in C and C++) for performing computer simulations. In the context of complex many-body systems such as glasses, gels, supercooled liquids, colloids and liquid crystals the main interests of his research activity are the development (i) of new theoretical approaches for calculating structural, thermodynamic and transport properties, (ii) of coarse-grained models and (iii) of novel algorithms for carrying out Monte Carlo, molecular dynamics (both event-driven and time-driven) and brownian simulations.

Pisa: June 1997 - March 1998 (Master Degree)

As final graduation project Cristiano has been working at the University of Pisa under the supervision of Prof. Dino Leporini on the development of a molecular dynamics code to study a model molecular glass former (namely rigid dumbbells) [1,2]. The aim of this project was to find for the first time clear evidence of a decoupling between jump dynamics and viscous flow - i.e. of the breakdown of the Stokes-Einstein (SE) and Debye-Stokes-Einstein (DSE) laws - in a molecular glass-former. Relaxation and transport properties of the model were extensively studied for both translational [1] and orientational [2] degrees of freedom through computer simulations providing unambiguous proof of the SE and DSE breakdown. Our study showed that SE and DSE expressions are verified in liquids only if the system is not supercooled.

Naples-Rome: January 1999 - December 2003 (PhD)

At University of Naples, under the supervision of Prof. Antonio Coniglio, Cristiano studied the dependence of the fragility of glass forming supercooled liquids on the softness of their interaction potential. At that time one of the main challenge in the physics of supercooled liquids and glasses was to understand the connection between the fragility and microscopic properties of the constituent particles. With this ambitious aim, Cristiano carried out molecular dynamics simulations of a simple glass-formers (binary mixture of soft spheres with tunable repulsion), showing unexpectedly that dynamic and thermodynamic fragility are both independent of the hard core repulsions between particles and that this independence can not be ascribed to a simple overall rescaling of the potential energy landscape [7].

Rome: January 2004 - December 2007

At University of Rome as a postdoctoral fellow Cristiano carried on with his studies on molecular and simple supercooled liquids. To grasp some understanding of the intriguing phenomenological result, which has been called "universal scaling", Cristiano developed, in collaboration with Prof. Dino Leporini group, a simple theory, which makes a strong connection between the structural relaxation time of glassy systems and the amplitude of the rattling oscillations of particles within the cage formed by their first neighbors [20]. Interestingly, the universal scaling makes no distinction between fragile and strong glasses and between molecular and simple glass-formers, thus providing a surprisingly unifying view to glassy systems. Afterwards, Cristiano attempted a first successful generalization of this universal scaling to colloidal gels as well [35], thus extending universal scaling to low concentration arrested states.

Concerning molecular glasses another open and challenging issue was the existence of a purely orientational glass. Hence, Cristiano further investigated the role of shape anisotropy in molecular glasses focusing on large particle elongations. Through a novel very efficient in-house event-driven code for simulating arbitrary hard convex bodies [30], Cristiano found for the first time evidence of a purely orientational glass transition in a system of uniaxial hard ellipsoids, confirming the theoretical predictions based on the Mode Coupling Theory [18].

Low concentration arrested states, also called gel states, were thought to be intimately connected to glassy states. In collaboration with Prof. Giuseppe Foffi, Cristiano started also working on the study of transport properties of colloidal gel systems. The possibility of having a gel state without any intervening phase separation in short-range attractive colloids generated huge debate in the soft matter community at that time. Cristiano developed a novel algorithm for carrying out brownian

dynamics simulation of short-range attractive colloids interacting via a square-well potential [17]. Latter algorithm was employed to establish that scaling of dynamics in short-range attractive colloids is independent of microscopic dynamics [9], thus providing a first strong numerical evidence that disordered arrested states in short-range attractive colloids can be generated only as a result of a kinetically arrested phase separation [9,10]. To answer if it is possible to obtain a ("ideal") gel state along a reversible (equilibrium) path without any intervening phase separation, Cristiano started working on the quest for an "ideal gel state". Since a limited valence attractive interaction seemed a promising way to obtain such an "ideal gel", Cristiano developed an event-driven code for simulating hard spheres decorated with attractive ("patchy") spots and in a couple of papers, where primitive models of water [13] and silica [14] have been employed, evidence of an arresting mechanism at low concentration without any intervening phase separation was found for the first time.

Rome-Lausanne-Pisa: January 2008 - September 2009

Crowding (excluded volume) effects, which are closely related to structural (glassy) arrest, are expected to impact profoundly on the thermodynamics and kinetics of biological processes *in vivo*. Crowding effects on diffusion-limited reactions, which are commonly found in biochemical processes, such as antibody-antigen binding, enzyme catalysis, protein aggregation, and complexation in cells, had been examined only at low density of diffusing particles or for tracers diffusing in a medium of inert particles. Cristiano, while he was visiting scientist at EPFL in Lausanne, worked on the development of a coarse-grained model of diffusion-limited reactions in a crowded environment building on his past experience on colloidal systems. He performed brownian dynamics simulations using the algorithm developed by himself [17] and he proved the inadequacy of the state-of-the-art theory of diffusion-limited reactions, proposing a suitable generalization [33].

The algorithm developed by Cristiano for studying ideal gels was limited to patchy spheres, although shape anisotropy could have huge consequences on physical properties of patchy colloids. Cristiano generalized the event-driven code for simulating hard convex bodies making possible to arbitrarily decorate particles with attractive sites. This generalized code opened up the way to study transport properties of anisotropic patchy colloids offering a great flexibility in the design of the model to simulate. In Ref. [23] a patchy particle model inspired by stepwise polymerization of an epoxy resin was introduced and studied by this novel event-driven code. In this paper we fully characterized the chemical gelation of this model according to existing theories for step polymerization. In this study we also developed several numerical tools for performing very efficiently the cluster analysis of the gel network, which proved to be very useful also lately [55]. In two successive publications we also connected irreversible to reversible aggregation in this system [27] and we provided an analytical description of the full aggregation kinetics [31]. Recently, we also developed and study through the event-driven code of Cristiano an autocatalytic patchy particle model, which provided, for the first time, a physical understanding of the reaction kinetics of epoxy resins [58].

Rome: December 2009 - present

Having acquired a broad experience in anisotropic patchy colloids, Cristiano's scientific interest was captured by patchy colloidal liquid crystals, where elongated conformation of their constituent particles plays a crucial role in their structural ordering. In particular, as non-tenure assistant professor at University of Rome, Cristiano focused his research activity on self-assembly-driven lyotropic liquid crystals, such as the ones obtained from the self-assembly of short DNA duplexes. While the isotropic-nematic transition in rigid and semi-flexible polymers had been investigated in detail, much less was known for the case a self-assembly-driven transition. The lack of an adequate theoretical description of these systems motivated Cristiano to develop a novel theoretical approach [38], whose predictions were in very good quantitative agreement with experimental results [39]. In addition, an accurate numerical assessment of the validity of this theory had been further provided by utilizing two simple models, i.e. bifunctional polymerizing hard cylinders [46] and bent-cylinders [48], in Monte Carlo simulations. Structural properties, such as radial distribution function and static structure factor, had been also calculated for some model systems finding a remarkable agreement between simulations results and theoretical predictions [43,50].

In concentrated solution of chiral particles, such as short DNA duplexes, G-quadruplexes, cellulose nanocrystals and many others, structural long-range ordering may manifest as a helical rotation of the alignment (nematic) axis. The connection between microscopic chirality of the constituent particles and macroscopic chiral ordering was far from being understood, since it was a challenge both for theory and computations. Cristiano was strongly motivated by the challenging nature of this scientific problem and he started working on the attempt to extend his previous theory of self-assembly-driven nematization to cholesteric lyotropic liquid crystals in collaboration with Prof. Alberta Ferrarini. Eventually, a successful theoretical framework was developed [53]. Theoretical predictions for the magnitude of the cholesteric pitch and its dependence upon both temperature and concentration were

in good agreement with experiments, which had been carried out by Prof. Tommaso Bellini and Dott. Giuliano Zanchetta in Milano. Noticeably, our accurate theoretical treatment allowed us to afford for the first time a deep insight into the physical mechanisms underlying the formation of self-assembly-driven cholesteric liquid crystals out of short DNA duplexes. Our theoretical treatment has been extended to the calculation of all elastic constant [59] and theoretical predictions have been successfully compared to numerical and experimental results. Very recently, in collaboration with the group of Prof. R. Mezzenga at ETH, this theoretical treatment allowed us to gain a deep understanding of the physical mechanisms behind the formation of cholesteric phases of short amyiloid fibrils [61].

The numerical study of chromonics and short DNA duplexes relies on efficient algorithms to simulate hard cylinders. Cristiano developed a novel and very efficient code for simulating hard cylinders [57], which required also the development of a novel algorithm for solving quartic equations. The corresponding paper has been published in ACM Transactions on Mathematical Software.

Among all LC phases observed in self-assembly-driven liquid crystals based on DNA, the smectic one was elusive so far. Building on DNA versatility in creating novel constructs and our former theoretical understanding of self-assembly-driven liquid crystal phases we designed three DNA sequences which self-assemble at room temperature into a nanoparticle about 50 nm long comprising of two double-stranded DNA duplexes linked together by a DNA filament 13 nm long. This nanoparticle resembles a nunchaku which is the traditional weapon of several martial arts, such as kung-fu and ju-jitsu, their size being 30 millions times smaller though. Recently, we have provided unambiguous and clear evidence through experiments and numerical simulations that a water suspension of these synthetic DNA nanonunchakus form smectic phases [56]. In a more recent follow-up of this work we provided experimental and numerical evidence of smectic phases obtained from patchy DNA rods [66].

The scientific interest of Cristiano for crowding effects in biological systems was still rather alive and he found a fertile ground for his ideas on the subject in the problem of antibody-antigen binding. Antibodies play a prominent role in the human immune systems, because they are capable of forming complexes with pathological intruders, not matter their size and shape, thus eliciting an immune response. A fundamental question concerning this biophysical process is: what makes antibodies so effective? To answer this question of paramount importance for biophysics Cristiano developed an extremely "coarse-grained" model of IgG antibodies to better understand their interaction with simple antigens. A careful combined analysis of numerical data from computer simulations and experimental results available in literatures allowed him to develop a very accurate theoretical paradigm, beyond existing frameworks, to interpret experimental profiles of antibodies binding to multivalent surfaces of different sorts and to grasp some understanding of the surprising binding ability of antibodies [54].

Shape anisotropy of colloidal particles may have a role also in the formation of gel as a result of a kinetically arrested phase separation. Prof. Peter Schurtenberger and co-workers after having evidenced in recent novel experiments an unusual dynamics in solution of attractive globular proteins asked Cristiano to develop a suitable extremely coarse-grained model of the globular protein to carry out computer simulations. Numerical results obtained from computer simulations performed by Cristiano contributed to shed light on the experimental observations. Indeed, since static properties of the globular protein were in quantitative agreement with predictions for binary liquid mixtures, the richer and more complex behavior of dynamics could be ascribed to a competition between critical slowing down and dynamical arrest [52]. In collaboration with Prof. Schurtenberger, Cristiano recently investigated numerically through Monte Carlo simulations the role played by particle shape in magnetic-field-assisted assembly of prolate colloids, where a subtle deviation from the ideal ellipsoidal shape of particles dictates the formation of an unusual sequence of field- induced structures, which include an unexpected oblate smectic phase [67].

Since 2018, in collaboration with Prof. Lara Benfatto of University of Rome "Sapienza", in the last year Cristiano attempted to further develop the known analogy between soft matter systems and superconductor. In thin films of type-II semiconductors 2D Abrikosov vortices emerge by applying a suitable transverse magnetic field at low temperatures. These vortices effectively behave like colloidal particles and they can exhibit the rich phase diagram predicted for these systems with a solid, hexatic and liquid phases. He investigated numerically the static and dynamic properties of 2D Abrikosov vortices by means of computer simulations where the evolution of each single vortex was tracked to extract static and dynamical properties of the system. Moreover, concerning the dynamics it was found evidence of a fragile to strong transition on changing the strength of the magnetic field, i.e. the quenched disorder of the system [69]. Another ongoing collaboration within the Department of Physics of "Sapienza" is with Prof. Livia Bove with whom Cristiano is studying both numerically and experimentally hydrogen hydrates, reporting for the first time evidence of their most H2-dense phase (C3 phase) [72].

More recently, in collaboration with Prof. Alessandro Paciaroni (University of Perugia), Dott. Lucia Comez (CNR-IOM Perugia) and Prof. Bruno Pagano (Department of Pharmacy, University of Naples Federico II) Cristiano is investigating non-canonical structures, called G-quadruplexes, which form in the telomeric part of humane genome [71]. These structures may multimerize and give rise to higher-order structures where the different G4 units may interact with each other. In recent years multimeric G4s have been shown to be key in protecting or disrupting the pathogenic cascade of various diseases, such as cancer and neuropathies. However, the large-scale structure, conformation and stability properties of G4 multimers are still a matter of heated debate. The aim of this collaboration is to provide a clear picture of those properties for the paradigmatic case of G4 multimers that form from extended single-stranded human telomere sequences. He is also studying G4 multimers in presence of crowders agents and of benchmark ligands (i.e. potential anticancer drugs).

Finally, over recent years Cristiano fruitfully collaborated with Prof. Giovanni Ciccotti, with whom he tackled fundamental issues in molecular dynamics algorithm. A first achievement of this collaboration has been a novel measure-preserving and reversible algorithm for carrying out isothermal-isobaric molecular dynamisc simulations of molecular systems with constraints [74].

List of Research Activities

- Development of novel brownian dynamics algorithms for stochastic event-driven simulations
- Development of novel algorithms for event-driven molecular dynamics simulation of generic hard rigid bodies decorated with localized stepwise ("patchy") interactions
- Optimization of numerical methods employed in event-driven simulations, like multidimensional root finding and multidimensional minimization of functions
- Multi-scale modeling of biophysical and colloidal systems combining atomistic models, mesoscale (coarse-grained) models and continuum models
- Design of "patchy" models for studying chemical gelation and irreversible aggregation of model systems
- · Coarse-grained models for biophysical and colloidal systems
- Study of static and dynamical properties of simple and molecular supercooled liquids: structure, rheology, diffusivity and relaxation
- Study of the glass transition in simple model systems with potential energy landscape approach
- Investigation of short-range attractive colloids through computer simulations: gel transition, arrested phase separation, aging and viscoelasticity
- Static and dynamic properties of hard ellipsoids: molecular correlation functions and isotropic-nematic (liquid crystal) transition
- Role of reduced valence and directionality in colloidal systems
- Universal scaling for gels, polymers and glassy systems as a unifying view to complex systems
- Self-assembly of DNA duplexes into polymers chains: theory and simulations
- Molecular theory of elasticity for self-assembly-driven cholesteric liquid crystals
- Novel numerical techniques for carrying out molecular dynamics simulations
- Modeling and numerical study of telomeric multimeric G4s.

Scientific Interests

Computational Physics

- Molecular dynamics simulations
- Event-driven simulations
- Monte Carlo simulations
- Stochastic dynamics
- High-performance computing

Soft and Condensed Matter

- Glass transition
- Gelation
- · Theory of simple and molecular liquids
- Colloidal systems
- Reversible Polymers
- Self-Assembly in Colloidal Systems
- Self-assembly-driven Lyotropic Liquid Crystals

PART VIII

SUMMARY OF SCIENTIFIC ACHIEVEMENTS

Number of Publications 83 (Total) 81 (Scopus)

Total Number of Citations 2598 (Scopus)

3328 (Google Scholar)

H-index 32 (Scopus)

34 (Google Scholar)

Research ID C-2345-2015

ORCID orcid.org/0000-0002-8367-0610

PART IX FURTHER INFORMATION

Computer Science Skills

Operating Systems

Linux, BSD, Microsoft Windows e Mac OSX

Software Development

Linux

From 2003 to 1st March 2008 (closing date of the project) I was an OpenMosix developer (home page: http://www.openmosix.org, project leader: Dr. Moshe Bar). OpenMosix was an open source project hosted by Sourceforge providing a linux kernel patch and some user tools for realizing Single System Image (SSI) clusters. I contributed to this project with several extensions both on kernel and user interface side.

Computer Simulations

During my reseatch activity I developed many codes, written in C and C++, to carry out serial and parallel simulations of many-body systems, to analyse data and visualize simulated particles.

High-performance computing

I use SSI clusters based on Mosix which I contribute to administer as well.

Programming Languages

C/C++, Assembly x86, Fortran 77/90, Pascal, Visual Basic, SQL e Python.

Office Tools

LaTex, TeX, OpenOffice, Microsoft Office, Mathematica.

Simulations Packages

GROMACS

Libraries

MPI, System V IPC, openMP, openGL e Gtk+/Gnome.

Development Tools

git, cvs, subversion, make

Full List of Publications

Viscous flow and jump dynamics in molecular supercooled liquids: I Translations
 C. De Michele and D. Leporini
 Physical Review E 63, 036701 (2001)

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C. De Michele

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- Simulation and Theory of Antibody Binding to Crowded Antigen-Covered Surfaces
 C. De Michele, P. De Los Rios, G. Foffi and F. Piazza
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- Anomalous dynamics of intruders in a crowded environment of mobile obstacles
 T. Sentjabrskaja, E. Zaccarelli, C. De Michele, F. Sciortino, P. Tartaglia, T. Voigtmann,
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- Speeding up Monte Carlo Simulation of Patchy Hard Cylinders
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- Exploiting Limited Valence 'Patchy' Particles to Understand Autocatalytic Kinetics
 Corezzi, F. Sciortino and C. De Michele
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- Elastic Constants of Chromonic Liquid Crystals
 E. Romani, A. Ferrarini and C. De Michele
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- Nematic liquid crystals of bifunctional patchy spheres
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- 61. Amyloid Fibrils Length Controls Shape and Structure of Nematic and Cholesteric Tactoids

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63. Theory of self-assembly-driven nematic liquid crystals revised C. De Michele

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M. Romani, D. Azzeri, C. D. Michala, M. Argeri and D. Mozzenga

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66. Self-Assembly of All-DNA Rods with Controlled Patchiness

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Shape Matters in Magnetic-Field-Assisted Assembly of Prolate Colloids
 A. Pal, C. A. De Filippo, T. Ito, Md. A. Kamal, A. V. Petukhov, C. De Michele, and P. Schurtenberger
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68. Remark on Algorithm 1010: Boosting Efficiency in Solving Quartic Equations with No Compromise in Accuracy

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69. Transport signatures of fragile glass dynamics in the melting of the two-dimensional vortex lattice

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 On the role of polydispersity on the phase diagram of colloidal rod
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 B. P. Rosi, V. Libera, L. Bertini, A. Orecchini, S. Corezzi, G. Schirò, P. Pernot, R. Biehl, C. Petrillo, L. Comez, C. De Michele and A. Paciaroni
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74. A correct, reversible Trotter splitting for the evolution operator in molecular dynamics simulations of molecular systems with constraints

C. De Michele and G. Ciccotti

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 M. Trapella, T. Bellini and C. De Michele

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- 78. Giant Splitting of the Hydrogen Rotational Eigenenergies in the Filled Ice Simone Di Cataldo, Maria Rescigno, Lorenzo Monacelli, Umbertoluca Ranieri, Richard Gaal, Stefan Klotz, Jacques Ollivier, Michael Marek Koza, Cristiano De Michele and Livia Eleonora Bove Phys. Rev. Lett. **133**, 236101(2024)
- Dynamical arrest for globular proteins with patchy attractions
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- 80. Polymeric Properties of Telomeric G-Quadruplex Multimers: Effects of Chemically Inert Crowders

Deniz Mostarac, Mattia Trapella, Luca Bertini, Lucia Comez, Alessandro Paciaroni and Cristiano De Michele Biomacromolecules **26** (5), 3128-3138 (2025)

- Destabilizing Interactions in Human Telomeric G-Quadruplex Multimers
 Luca Bertini, Mattia Trapella, Deniz Mostarac, Valeria Libera, Caterina Petrillo, Cristiano De Michele, Lucia Comez and Alessandro Paciaroni
 J. Phys. Chem. Lett. 16, 5435–5440 (2025)
- Relating thermodynamic quantities of convex-hard-body fluids to the body's shape Thomas Franosch, Cristiano De Michele and Rolf Schilling Phys. Rev. Res. 7, 023260 (2025)
- Fragile-to-strong glass transition in two-dimensional vortex liquids
 I. Maccari, L. Benfatto, C. Castellani, J. Lorenzana and C. De Michele Phy. Rev. Res. 7, 013160 (2025)

Selected List of N. 16 Publications

- Stacking Interactions and Flexibility of Human Telomeric Multimers
 B. P. Rosi, V. Libera, L. Bertini, A. Orecchini, S. Corezzi, G. Schirò, P. Pernot, R. Biehl, C. Petrillo, L. Comez, C. De Michele and A. Paciaroni
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- Observation of the most H2-dense filled ice under high pressure
 U. Ranieri, S. Di Cataldo, M. Rescigno, L. Monacelli, R. Gaal, M. Santoro, L. Andriambariarijaona, P. Parisiadis, C. De Michele and L. E. Bove PNAS, 120 (52) e231266512 (2023)
- 3. Shape Matters in Magnetic-Field-Assisted Assembly of Prolate Colloids
 A. Pal, C. A. De Filippo, T. Ito, Md. A. Kamal, A. V. Petukhov, **C. De Michele**, and P. Schurtenberger
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- Self-Assembly of All-DNA Rods with Controlled Patchiness
 K. Gvozden, S. N. Ratajczak, A. G. Orellana, E. Kentzinger, U. Rücker, J. K. G. Dhont,
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 Small 2104510, doi: 10.1002/smll.202104510 (2021)

 Amyloid Fibrils Length Controls Shape and Structure of Nematic and Cholesteric Tactoids

M. Bagnani M., G. Nystrom, **C. De Michele** and R. Mezzenga ACS Nano **13**, 591-600 (2019) – doi: 10.1021/acsnano.8b07557

- Speeding up Monte Carlo Simulation of Patchy Hard Cylinders
 A. Orellana, E. Romani and C. De Michele invited contribution to the European Journal E Special Issue "Advances in Computational Methods for Soft Matter Systems" Eur. Phys. J E 41, 51 (2018); doi: 10.1140/epje/i2018-11657-0
- Exploiting Limited Valence 'Patchy' Particles to Understand Autocatalytic Kinetics S. Corezzi, F. Sciortino and C. De Michele Nature Communications 9, 2647 (2018); doi: 10.1038/s41467-018-04977-0
- Smectic phase in suspensions of gapped DNA duplexes
 M. Salamonczyk, J. Zhang, G. Portale, C. Zhu, E. Kentzinger, J. T. Gleeson, A. Jakli,
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- Hierarchical Propagation of Chirality through Reversible Polymerization: The Cholesteric Phase of DNA Oligomers

C. De Michele, G. Zanchetta, T. Bellini, E. Frezza and A. Ferrarini ACS MacroLetters **5**, 208-212 (2016)

- Anomalous dynamics of intruders in a crowded environment of mobile obstacles
 T. Sentjabrskaja, E. Zaccarelli, C. De Michele, F. Sciortino, P. Tartaglia, T. Voigtmann,
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- Unusual Dynamics of Concentration Fluctuations in Solutions of Weakly Attractive Globular Proteins

S. Bucciarelli, L. Casal-Dujat, **C. De Michele**, F. Sciortino, J. Dhont, J. Bergenholtz, B. Farago, P. Schurtenberger e A. Stradner Journal of Physical Chemistry Letters **6**, 4470-4474 (2015)

- Elastic Constants of Chromonic Liquid Crystals
 E. Romani, A. Ferrarini and C. De Michele
 Macromolecules 51, 5409-5419 (2018); doi: 10.1021/acs.macromol.8b00900
- Simulation and Theory of Antibody Binding to Crowded Antigen-Covered Surfaces
 C. De Michele, P. De Los Rios, G. Foffi and F. Piazza
 PLOS Computational Biology 12 (3): e1004752, doi:10.1371/journal.pcbi.1004752 (2016)
- Self-Assembly-Driven Nematization
 K. T. Nguyen, F. Sciortino and C. De Michele Langmuir 30, 4814-4819 (2014)
- Self-Assembly of mesogenic bent-core DNA nanoduplexes
 K. T. Nguyen, A. Battisti, D. Ancora, F. Sciortino and C. De Michele Soft Matter 11, 2934-2944 (2015)
- A correct, reversible Trotter splitting for the evolution operator in molecular dynamics simulations of molecular systems with constraints
 De Michele and G. Ciccotti Mol. Phys. DOI: 10.1080/00268976.2024.2364834 (2024)

International Conferences 34 oral contributions to international conferences, including 11 invited talks, as detailed below:

15° National Conference - SICL

Sirolo, Ancona, 26-28 May 2024 (invited)

Frontiers in Water Biophysics

Erice, Italia, 19-24 May 2023 (invited)

14° National Conference - SICL

Padova, 22-23 September 2022 (invited)

Frontiers in Water Biophysics

Erice, Italia, 21-26 July 2019 (invited)

International Liquid Crystal Conference 2018 (ILCC2018)

Kyoto, Giappone 22-27 Luglio 2018 (invited)

[747 participants, 52 invited talks out of 179 oral presentations]

Nanoinnovation 2018

Roma, Italia, 11-14 Settembre 2018 (invited)

9th Italian-Japanese Workshop on Liquid Crystals

Pavia, Italia, 17-20 Settembre 2018 (invited)

Italian Soft Days 2018

Padova, Italia, 13-14 Settembre 2018

DIRECTED STRUCTURE AT THE MESO-SCALE (DISTRUC)

Heraklion, Creta 1-2 July 2017 (invited)

TWISTED 2017

Luxembourg, Luxembourg, 10-12 May 2017

ECIS 2016

Rome, Italy, 4 September - 9 September 2016

European Conference on Liquid Crystals (ECLC2015)

Manchester, UK, 7 September - 11 September 2015

IACIS 2015

Mainz, Germany, 24 - 29 May, 2015

International Liquid Crystal Conference 2014 (ILCC2014)

Dublin, Irland, 29 June - 4 July 2014

CECAM Workshop "DNA-based self-assembly: theory, simulations and experiments"

Vienna, Austria, 2 - 5 December 2013

Le Studium Conference "Macromolecular Crowding Effects in Cell Biology: models and experiments"

Orleans, France, 24 - 25 October 2013 (invited)

Conference "Programmable Self-Assembly of Matter"

New York, USA, 30 July - 2 June 2013

CECAM Workshop "Design of Self-Assembling Materials"

Vienna, Austria, 4 - 7 September 2012 (invited)

International Liquid Crystal Conference 2012 (ILCC2012)

Mainz, Germany, 19 - 24 August 2012

XXIII Sitges Conference on Statistical Mechanics

Sitges, Barcelona, Spain, 4 - 8 June 2012

Juelich Soft Matter Days (JSMD2011)

Bonn, Germany, 15 - 18 November 2011

Liquid Matter Conference (LMC2011)

Vienna, Austria, 6 - 10 September 2011

International Soft Matter Conference (ISMC2010)

Granada, Spain, 5 - 8 July 2010

Conference on Computational Physics 2010 (CCP2010)

Trondheim, Norway, 22 - 26 June 2010

CECAM Workshop "New Trends in Simulating Colloids: from Models to Applications"

EPFL Lausanne, Switzerland, 15 - 18 July 2009 (invited)

XI International Workshop on Complex Systems

Andalo, Trento, Italy, 17 - 20 March 2008

5th Workshop on Complex Systems (IWCS2007)

Sendai, Japan, 25 - 28 September 2007

81st Colloid and Surface Symposium

Newark, Delaware, USA, 24 - 27 June 2007

CECAM Workshop "Simulations of Hard Bodies"

Lyon, France, 16-19 April 2007

Meeting on "Computer Simulations of Attractive Colloidal Particles"

organizzato dal Marie Curie Research and Training Network "Dynamical Arrested State of Soft Matter and Colloids"
University of Le Mans, Le Mans, France, 19 - 12 November 2005

Unifying Concepts in Granular Media and Glasses

Capri, Naples, Italy 19 - 20 May 2005

Winter Discussion Workshop on Dynamical Arrest of Soft Matter and Colloids

Bad Gastein, Austria, 22 - 26 January 2005

INFMEETING 2004

Genova, Italy, 8 - 10 June 2004

Workshop on glass and complex systems

Capri, Naples, Italy, 14 - 16 June 2001

Conference Organization

- Co-organization of CECAM workshop: Exploring bio-inspired systems: a synergy between multiscale experimental and computational approaches, Vienna, Austria from 4 to 7 September 2024.
- Co-organization with Prof. Roberto Cerbino and Dr. Elisa Frezza of CECAM workshop: DNA-based self-assembly: theory, simulations and experiments, Vienna, Austria from 2 to 5 December 2013.
- Co-organization with Dr. Antonio Scala of CECAM workshop: Simulations of Hard Bodies, CECAM-Lyon, France from 16 to 19 April 2007

16/04/25

Dipartimento di Fisica, Università di Roma 3, title: "Extremely Coarse-Grained

Invited Seminars

Modeling of Multimeric G-quadruplexes" Invited by **Prof. Laura Lupi**

30/07/18 Institute o

Institute of Industrial Science, Department of Fundamental Engineering

The University of Tokyo, Tokyo, Giappone, title: "Self-Assembly-Driven Colloidal

Liquid Crystals "

Invited by Prof. H. Tanaka

	22/06/16	Juelich Forschungszentrum, Juelich, Germany, title: "Hierarchical propagation of chirality through reversible polymerization: the cholesteric phase of DNA oligomers" Invited by Prof. J. K. G. Dhont
	02/06/16	Loire Valley Institute for Advanced Studies, Orleans , France, title: " <i>Coarse-grained Modeling of Colloidal Suspensions</i> " (http://www.lestudium-ias.com/event/coarse-grained-modeling-colloidal-suspensions)
	09/01/16	Department of Physics - University of Paris Sud , talk title: " <i>Hierarchical propagation of chirality through reversible polymerization: the cholesteric phase of DNA oligomers</i> " Invited by Prof. G. Foffi
	14/10/15	Department of Chemistry, University of Cambridge , UK Hierarchical propagation of chirality through reversible polymerization: the cholesteric phase of DNA oligomers Invited by Prof.ssa E. Eiser
	01/12/06	École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL) a Lausanne, Switzerland Hard ellipsoids: structure and theory Invited byl Prof. Giuseppe Foffi
	25/04/06	Department of Physics, University of Konstanz , Germany <i>Hard ellipsoids: structure and theory</i> Invited by Prof. Matthias Fuchs
Commission of Trust	2003-present	Reviewer for Scientific Journals, such as: Physical Review Letters, Soft Matter, Journal of Chemical Physics, Physical Chemistry Chemical Physics, Journal of Physical Chemistry, Physical Review E, Journal of Non-crystalline Solids, Computational Physics Communications, Journal of Computational Physics, The European Journal E.
	2014-present	Book Proposal Reviewer for John Wiley & Sons Limited
	2014-present	Evaluator for Scientific Agencies: Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (German Research Foundation) and ACS Petroleum Research Fund (USA)
Institutional Responsabilities	2014-2017	Departmental Representative within the Node CECAM-IT-SAPIENZA (http://www.cecam.org/node_sapienza.html)
	2014-2017	Management Committee Member for the Cluster funded by "Progetti Grandi Attrezzature 2013" from "Sapienza" Università di Roma.
	2020-present	Responsible teacher of "Laboratorio di Calcolo" (Computing Lab)
Scientific Visits and Summer Schools	13 - 17 June 2011	Visit at the École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL) Lausanne, Switzerland Invited by Prof. Giuseppe Foffi
	7 - 12 June 2010	Visit at the École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL) Lausanne, Switzerland Invited by Prof. Giuseppe Foffi
	4 - 9 May 2009	Visit at the École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL) Lausanne, Switzerland Invited by Prof. Giuseppe Foffi
	2 - 7 September 2007	Visit at the École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL) Lausanne, Svizzera Invited by Prof. Giuseppe Foffi
	01/12/06- 31/01/07	Visit at the École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL) Lausanne, Svizzera Invited by Prof. Giuseppe Foffi

	8 - 11 August 2006	Visit at the École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL) Lausanne, Svizzera Invited by Prof. Giuseppe Foffi
	24 – 27 April 2006	Visit at the Department of Physics, University of Konstanz, Konstanz, Germany Invited by Prof. Matthias Fuchs
	26/02/06- 03/03/06	Visit at ESRF Grenoble Grenoble, France Invited by Prof. Stefano Mossa
	10 – 21 September 200	Participation to Summer School: 10th Summer school of parallel computing CINECA Bologna, Italy
	1-10 July 2001	Participation to Summer School: "Methods in Molecular Simulations" UMIST, Manchester, UK
	2025	Master in Physics – Flavio Scipione (not yet discussed)
Thesis Supervision	2024	Master in Physics - Tommaso Temperini (110/110)
	2023	Bachelor in Physics - Theodore Manopulo
	2023	Master in Physics - Alessandro Forina (110/110 cum laude)
	2022	Master in Physics - Giorgio Contestabile
	2022	Master in Physics - Mattia Trapella (110/110)
	2021	Master in Physics - Simone Milano
	2021	Bachelor in Physics - Francesco Minati
	2020	Master in Physics – Carlo Andrea De Fiippo (110/110)
	2018	Bachelor in Physics – Paolo Luigi Rinaldi (110/110 cum laude) Title: "Uso delle reti neurali e del deep leaming per la classificazione di strutture locali di particelle di forma sferica o anisotropa"
	2017	Master in Physics - Alberto Giacomo Orellana (110/110 cum laude) Title: "DNA-based liquid crystals: modeling and computer simulations"
		Bachelor in Physics - Francesco De Cunzo Title: "Integrazione Termodinamica Numerica"
		Bachelor in Physics - Carlo Andrea De Filippo Title: "Modellizzazione e simulazione di nanoparticelle di DNA"
		Master in Physics - Emanuele Romani (110/110) Title: "Proprietà elastiche di cristalli liquidi nematici ottenuti tramite autoaggregazione: simulazioni numeriche e teoria"
	2015	Bachelor in Physics - Valerio Di Giulio (110/110 cum laude) Title: " <i>Contributi elettrostatici alla teoria di Onsager nel caso di doppie eliche di DNA</i> "
		Bachelor in Physics - Giulio D'Acunto Title: " <i>Teoria di Parsons-Lee sulla transizione di fase isotropica-nematica</i> "
	2014	Bachelor in Physics - Federico Stramaglia Title: "Wertheim Theory for Sticky Hard Cylinders"
		Bachelor in Physics - Massimiliano Proietti Title: "Onsager Theory of Liquid Crystals"
	2013	Master in Physics - Daniele Ancora (110/110) Title: "Aggregazione di Doppi Filamenti di DNA: Ruolo della Conformazione della Struttura a Doppia Elica"

Supervision of PhD Students	2011 - 2014	Khan Thuy Nguyen Project Title: "Numerical Study of Short DNA Duplexes Self-Assembly"
	2021-2024 2021-2024 2023-present	Carlo Andrea De Fiippo (co-supervised with Prof. B. Capone - UniRoma3) Luca Bertini (co-supervised with A. Paciaroni of UniPg) Mattia Trapella (co-supervised with Prof. A. Paciaroni UniPg)
Supervision of Postdoc	2013 - 2014	Dott. Anna Battisti Project Title: "Full-atom simulations of end-to-end aggragation of DNA and of Beta-lactoglobulin fibrils formation".
	2021 2023 2023	Benedetta Petra Rosi (co-supervised with Prof. A. Paciaroni e Dr. Lucia Comez) Deniz Mostarac Luca Bertini