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Lorenzo Pavesi was born on November 21, 1961. He received the Ph.D. degree in Physics in 1990 from the Ecole Polytechnique Federale of Lausanne, Switzerland. He is a Professor of Experimental Physics and the Head of the Department of Physics, University of Trento, Italy, where he became an Assistant Professor in 1990, an Associate Professor in 1999, and a Full Professor in 2002. He leads the Nanoscience Laboratory (25 people), University of Trento. He founded the research activity in semiconductor optoelectronics at the University of Trento and started several laboratories of photonics, growth and advanced treatment of materials. He was the first President and Founder of the IEEE Italian chapter on Nanotechnology. He is an author or coauthor of more than 280 papers, author of several reviews, Editor of more than ten books, author of two books, and holds six patents. He is Chief Specialist Editor of the section Optics and Photonics of Frontiers in Materials and in the editorial board of Research Letters in Physics.

In 2001, he was awarded the title of Cavaliere by the Italian President for scientific merit. In 2010 and 2011, he was elected distinguished speaker of the IEEE Photonics society. He holds an H-number of 48 according to the web of science.