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In 1999, he joined ICAR-CNR, the Institute of High Performance Computing and Networking of the Italian National Research Council, supported by an INFN – National Institute of Nuclear Physics – fellowship. Since 2001, he worked as a senior researcher at ICAR-CNR.

He is also a lecturer at the University of Calabria and at the University Magna Graecia of Catanzaro. He has been advisor of several master theses and was advisor of PhD thesis in computer engineering at University of Calabria.

His research interests focus on applications of distributed computing in the area of data mining, bio-inspired algorithms (particularly genetic programming and swarm intelligence), big data, and bioinformatics.

Within ICAR-CNR, he has been contributor of several national and international research/industrial projects, and since 2013 is coordinator of the project “Cyber Security – Digital and electronic payment services protection”.

He was visiting researcher at University of Nottingham (United Kingdom) in 2007 and in 2009, at Radboud University, Nijmegen (Netherlands), in 2008 and 2009 and at University of California (UCLA), Los Angeles, in 2013.

He is in the Editorial Board of Applied Soft Computing, Elsevier, since 2017.

He was chair for the special session “Multi-Agent and Bio-Inspired Algorithms and Applications for Distributed Systems” at IEEE PDP 2007 and for the workshop on Bio-Inspired Algorithms for Distributed Systems (BADS 2009, 2010 and 2011) at ICAC conference and guest editor for Future Generation Computer Systems, Elsevier, 2010, New Generation Computing Systems, Springer, 2011 and Natural Computing, Springer, 2013.

He published many papers in international conferences and journals among which IEEE Transactions on Evolutionary Computation, IEEE Transactions on Knowledge and Data Engineering, IEEE Transactions on Geoscience and Remote Sensing, Information Fusion, Information Sciences and Bioinformatics.

He took the habilitation as Full Professor in Computer Science Engineering (9/H1, Sistemi di Elaborazione delle Informazioni) and as Associate Professor in Computer Science (01/B1, Informatica).