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Short scientific biography of Francesco Potortì

I received my electronic engineering degree from the University of Pisa, Italy, in 1991. I am a senior researcher at the [ISTI-CNR institute](#) in Pisa, Italy, where I have worked since 1989 in the field of satellite communications, fade countermeasure and terrestrial wireless channel modelling as a member of the [Wireless Networking group](#).

After organising the 2011-2013 [EvAAL](#) competitions, I have defined the EvAAL framework, which is the basis for the IPIN indoor localisation competitions. Those are hosted by [IPIN, the Indoor Positioning and Indoor Navigation international conference](#), of which I chaired the [tenth edition](#) in 2019 and of which I am a member of the [Steering Board](#).

I am Executive Editor for ICT Express and Section Editor on "Navigation and Positioning" for MDPI Sensors.

I have participated in the European [COST action 285](#) as Italian representative and I have participated in several European funded research projects as member and task leader.

My research interests have included communications protocols, specifically satellite and terrestrial wireless; Internet technology, specifically TCP/IP on wireless channels; simulation of communications systems. Currently they include RSS-based indoor localisation, interoperability, performance evaluation and standardisation of indoor localisation systems. I was co-inventor of a patent and I co-authored more than eighty peer-reviewed [scientific papers](#).

I have supervised the use of software licenses in some European projects. I encourage the use of [free software](#) licenses in the research community.

I was the real-time software implementer and one of the inventors of the [FODA/IBEA](#) system for satellite communications, which had been [patented](#) in Italy. I wrote, alone or with others, many small-sized [free programs](#), most of which I have used in my research activity.

I [taught](#) computer science and operating systems courses at the [Engineering](#) and [Computer science](#) faculties of the [University of Pisa](#).

Free software (*free as in freedom*)

I ported the [Emacs](#) editor to the Motorola Delta 68k architecture, I wrote some Emacs packages, and the 68020 assembler code of [gzip](#). I made various minor contributions to Emacs and various parts of the [GNU project](#).



On behalf of the [Free Software Foundation \(FSF\)](#) I have volunteered to maintain [etags](#) for about twenty years since 1993. I also wrote [other small free programs](#).

I contributed to the [Italian translation](#) of the [history](#) of the GNU project, and I contribute to discussions, revisions and (few) translations in the [Italian free software translation group](#) and the [Italian translation team of the GNU project documents](#).

I was cofounder of [Associazione Software Libero](#), the only Italian associate of [Free Software Foundation Europe](#), for which I wrote a short [introduction to free software](#) (in Italian).