

Biosketch of ALESSANDRO DE LUCA



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Prof. Alessandro De Luca was born in Roma, Italy, on October 11, 1957. He received the *Laurea* degree in Electronic Engineering and the PhD in Systems Engineering from the University of Rome “La Sapienza” in 1982 and 1987, respectively. Since 2000, he is a Full Professor of Robotics, Automation, and Automatic Control at the Sapienza University of Rome. From September 2005 to April 2006, he spent a sabbatical at the Institute for Robotics and Mechatronics at DLR in Oberpfaffenhofen, Germany. He has been the founding Director of the Sapienza Master course in Control Engineering (2013–19), a two-year M.Sc. program fully taught in English, and a Senior Research Fellow of the *Sapienza School of Advanced Studies (SSAS)* (2017–23). He is the Coordinator of the Group of Experts GEV-09 (areas of Industrial and Information Engineering) in the evaluation of the national research quality (*VQR 2020-24*). His research interests include modeling, motion planning, and control of manipulators with elastic joints, with variable stiffness actuation, and with flexible links; soft robots; physical human-robot interaction; collision detection and isolation; robots in contact with the environment; haptics; kinematically redundant manipulators; wheeled mobile robots; mobile manipulators; visual servoing; cooperating manipulators; underactuated robots; nonholonomic mechanical systems; locomotion platforms; telepresence; fault detection and isolation. He has published over 240 journal and conference papers and book chapters, receiving two best conference paper awards (ICRA 1998, BioRob 2012) and one best application paper award (IROS 2008). He is one of the authors of the PROSE-awarded *Springer Handbook of Robotics* (2008, 2016) and Editor of the book *Advances in Control of Articulated and Mobile Robots* (Springer, 2004). He is one of the four authors of the new textbook *Foundations of Robotics* (Springer, 2025).

For the *IEEE Transactions on Robotics and Automation*, he served as Associate Editor (1994–98), Editor (1998–2003), and Editor-in-Chief (2003–04). He has been the Editor-in-Chief of the renamed *IEEE Transactions on Robotics* from its birth in 2004 until September 2008. He has been a member of the *IEEE Robotics and Automation Society (RAS)* AdCom (2008–10) and has served as RAS Vice-President for Publication Activities in 2012–13. He was General Chair of the *2007 IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation* held in Rome, Program Chair of the *2016 IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation* in Stockholm, and General Chair of the *1st Italian Conference on Robotics and Intelligent Machines* in 2019. He is an *IEEE Fellow* (class of 2007, elevated with the citation: “For contributions to modeling and control of robotic systems”) —*Life Fellow* since 2023. He received the German *Helmholtz-Humboldt Research Award* for foreign scientists in 2005, the *IEEE-RAS Distinguished Service Award* in 2009, and the *IEEE George Saridis Leadership Award in Robotics and Automation* in 2019 (citation: “For contributions to the robotics and automation community through research innovation and education, and for leadership in publication and conference activities in RAS”). Between 2006 and 2012, he has been a member of the Search Committee for Physical Sciences (former Technical Sciences) of the *Körber European Science Award*, granted by the Körber Foundation. He was Chair of Panel PE7 (Systems and Communication Engineering) of the *European Research Council* for Advanced Grants evaluation in 2009, 2011, and 2013, a member of the Scientific Advisory Board of the *Max Planck Institute for Biological Cybernetics* (2015–17), a founding member and a Vice-President of the national *Institute for Robotics and Intelligent Machines (I-RIM)* (2019–25), and a member of the Science Advisory Board of the *Munich Institute of Robotics and Machine Intelligence (MIRMI)* (2022–25). He is in the Advisory Board of the *International Journal of Robotics Research* since 2023.

He has been the national coordinator of the MIUR PRIN project *SICURA* (2008–10) and the scientific coordinator of the FP7 european project *SAPHARI* (2011–15). With the DIAG Robotics group, he has been principal investigator in five European research projects (*PRO-Motion*, *PHRIDOM*, FP6 *CyberWalk*, FP6 *PHRIENDS*, H2020 *SYMPLEXITY*) and in many national projects, and participated as a member also to H2020 *COMANOID*.