Curriculum Vitae

PERSONAL INFORMATION



Surname	Fortunato
Name	Marco
Address	Via dell'Annunziatella 33, 00147, Rome, Italy
Telephone	+393291096382
Qualification	PhD
E-mail	marcofortunato.88@gmail.com
Skype	marco.f88
Nationality	Italian
Date of birth	10/24/1988

• Fixed-term Assistant Professor (RTD)	Department of Astronautical, Electrical and Energy Engineering, Sapienza University of Rome
• Title	Development and characterization of graphene-polymer nanocomposites for electromagnetic shielding, sensing and energy harvesting applications
• Date (from – to)	1 April 2020 – today
Name and type of organisation providing education and training	University of Rome La Sapienza, Piazzale Aldo Moro 5, 00185, Rome, Italy

• Post-doc	Department of Astronautical, Electrical and Energy Engineering, Sapienza University of Rome
• Title	Sviluppo di coating piezoresistivi multistrato a base di vernici caricate con grafene con proprietà di schermatura elettromagnetica desiderate
• Date (from – to)	1 December 2018 – 31 March 2020
 Name and type of organisation providing education and training 	University of Rome La Sapienza, Piazzale Aldo Moro 5, 00185, Rome, Italy
Duration of the program of study	1 year and 4 months
Research activity	Development and optimization of the production and characterization processes, trough mechanical, electrical and electro-mechanical measurements of two different piezoresistive sensors:
	 pressure sensors, to develop smart wearable sanitary devices, based on polymeric foam: PDMS and Ecoflex®, loaded with graphene nanoplatelets (GNPs);
	 water-based polyurethane paint strain sensors, for structural health monitoring, modified through the use of graphene nanoplatelets (GNPs).

Teaching

- Master lesson "Rischi ed Opportunità Connessi all'uso delle Nanotecnologie e delle Tecnologie Abilitanti" (cod. 30167) titled "Rischi ed opportunità Connessi all'uso delle Nanotecnologie: Materiali, Processi e Principali Applicazioni" for the academic year 2018-2019.
- Assistant at the Electrotechnics course for the degree in Aerospace Engineering A.A. 2018-2019 through:
 - Student support and tutoring activities;
 - Exercises on single-phase and three-phase circuits in a periodic sinusoidal regime;
 - Support, supervision and surveillance during the written tests.
- Assistant at the "Micro-Nano sensors and actuators laboratory" for the master degree in Engineering of Nanotechnology A.A. 2018-2019 trough:
 - Laboratory experiences on the production of polymer-based piezoresistive pressure sensors loaded with graphene nanoplatelets (GNPs).
- Co-tutor of PhD student Irene Bellagamba, cycle XXXIV, PhD topic
- : "Sviluppo e caratterizzazione di vernici e film polimerici nanostrutturati e metodologie di prevenzione del rischio d'esposizione a nanomateriali ingegnerizzati".

Education and training

• PhD	Electrical, Materials and Nanotechnology Engineering
Title of the thesis	Production and Characterization of ZnO/Graphene Devices for Energy Harvesting
• Date (from – to)	1 November 2015 – 30 November 2018
Name and type of organisation providing education and training	University of Rome La Sapienza, Piazzale Aldo Moro 5, 00185, Rome, Italy
Duration of the program of study	3 years
Qualification date	02/22/2019
Classification	With honors
Supervisor	Prof. Maria Sabrina Sarto
• Thesis Summary	Different types of innovative highly performing piezoelectric nanomaterials and nanocomposites: zinc oxide nanostructures (ZnO-NRs and ZnO-NWs) and polyvinylidene fluoride (PVDF) nanocomposites films have been synthesized and characterized for energy harvesting application. In order to evaluate the piezoelectric properties of the produced materials, a novel approach to quantitatively evaluate the effective piezoelectric coefficient d_{33} , trough Piezoresponse Force Microscopy (PFM), has been developed. PFM is one of the most widely used techniques for the characterization of piezoelectric materials at nanoscale, since it enables the measurement of the piezo-displacement with picometer resolution. In particular, in order to have a quantitative information on the d_{33} a calibration protocol was developed. Flexible nanogenerators were also fabricated based on PVDF and adopting flexible electrodes based on bilayers consisting of graphene-gold layers. The nanogenerators were tested measuring the piezoelectric response using a commercial mini-shaker. The device was successfully operated and a value of 9.00 pm/V was measured.
Courses followed during the PhD	Electric and Electromagnetic Design of Micro-Nano Devices; Micro Electromechanical System and Laboratory; Microscopy and Nanocharacterization techniques; Manufacturing Technologies of Nanostructures and Self-assembly Processes.
• Awards	Winner of the Avvio alla Ricerca project 2017-2018
• Title	Realization and characterization of nanogenerators based on nano-composites polymeric matrix and nanostructures of zinc oxide and graphene nanoplatelets.

Master's degree	Condensed Metter Physics
Title	Development and characterization of photovoltaics devices in Cu₂ZnSnS₄ (CZTS)
• Date (from – to)	March 2012 – February 2015
 Name and type of organisation providing education and training 	Roma Tre University, Via della Vasca Navale 84, 00146, Rome, Italy
Duration of the program of study	2 years
Qualification date	02/18/2015
Final mark obtained	110/110 (summa)
Supervisor	Prof. Gennaro Conte e Dr. Alberto Mittiga (ENEA)
Thesis Summary	The aim of the thesis was to identify the limiting mechanisms for the V_{∞} and then the conversion efficiency of the photovoltaic cells in CZTS. For this purpose, we analyzed the electric properties of the solar cells in CZTS using different experimental techniques: current-voltage measures (J-V) in light and in dark, and as a function of the temperature, external quantum efficiency measurements, capacitance-voltage measurements and as a function of temperature and the admittance measurements as a function of temperature. During this work, we have found that the methods proposed in the literature to identify the dominant recombination mechanisms are of questionable applicability being based on assumptions not always verified by the experimental point of view and not being able to predict with accuracy the trends observed experimentally. For this reason, in order to analyze more accurately the data, we decided to use two numerical simulation programs. This analysis has led to one of the most important results of the thesis: we identified as one of the main limiting factors of the cells made in ENEA to the presence of a high concentration of defects at the interface CdS/CZTS (order of 10^{13} cm^{-2}).

Bachelor's degree	Physics
• Date (from – to)	September 2007 – December 2011
Name and type of organisation providing education and training	University of Rome La Sapienza, Piazzale Aldo Moro 5, 00185, Rome, Italy
Duration of the program of study	3 years
Qualification date	12/20/2011
Final mark obtained	98/110
Title	Solar cells: physics, technology and applications
Supervisor	Prof. Giovanni Vittorio Pallottino
Thesis Summary	The aim of the thesis was to analyze the basic functioning of the photovoltaic devices and the efficiency of the solar cells, highlighting in particular the possibility of improving the efficiency using multijunction solar cells, also called tandem cells. We analyzed the general aspects, focusing on the characteristics of the tandem cells made with III-V semiconductors. In this thesis, we described the p-n junction, which represents the base structure of the solar cells, and the photovoltaic effect. Also, we discussed the photon-electron interaction, the semiconductor doping, essential step to the fabrication of the p-n junction, and the photoelectric effect in the p-n junction. We described a technological solution to increase the efficiency of the solar cells through the fabrication of multijunction structures. In particular, referring to the spectral response, we can see how the introduction of a series of junctions made with different semiconductor materials, with different energy gap, allows to absorb a wide range of the solar spectrum and thus to obtain cells with high efficiency. We described the problematics linked to the tandem solar cells, such as the agreement between the photocurrents generated in the various cells in series and the electric connection between the various cells.

Publications

- **M. Fortunato**, I. Bellagamba, A. Tamburrano, and M.S. Sarto "Flexible Ecoflex®/Graphene Nanoplatelets Foam for Highly Sensitive Low-Pressure Sensor", submitted.
- **M. Fortunato**, D. Cavallini, G. De Bellis, F. Marra, A. Tamburrano, F. Sarto, and M.S. Sarto "Phase Inversion in PVDF Films with Enhanced Piezoresponse Through Spin-Coating and Quenching", Polymers, 11(7), 2019.
- **M. Fortunato**, C.R. Chandraiahgari, G. De Bellis, P. Ballirano F. Sarto, A. Tamburrano and M.S. Sarto "Piezoelectric Effect and Electroactive Phase Nucleation in Self-Standing Films of Unpoled PVDF Nanocomposite Films", Nanomaterials, 8(9), 2018.
- **M. Fortunato**, H.C. Bidsorkhi, C.R. Chandraiahgari, G. De Bellis, F. Sarto and M.S. Sarto "PFM Characterization of PVDF Nanocomposite Films with Enhanced Piezoelectric Response", IEEE Transaction on Nanotechnology, (17(5), 2018.
- **M. Fortunato**, C.R. Chandraiahgari, G. De Bellis, P. Ballirano, P. Soltani, S. Kaciulis, L. Caneve, F, Sarto and M.S. Sarto "Piezoelectric Thin Films of ZnO-Nanorods/ Nanowalls Grown by Chemical Bath Deposition", IEEE Transaction on Nanotechnology, 17(2), 2018.
- **M.Fortunato**, H.C. Bidsorkhi, G. De Bellis, F. Sarto and M.S. Sarto "Piezoelctric Response of Graphene-Filled PVDF Nanocoposites Trought Piezoresponse Force Microscopy (PFM)", Proceedings IEEE Nano 2017, p. 125-129, 2017.
- H.C. Bidsorkhi, A.G. D'Aloia, G. De Bellis, A. Proietti, A. Rinaldi, **M. Fortunato**, P. Ballirano, M.P. Bracciale, M.L. Santarelli and M. S. Sarto "Nucleation effect of unmodified graphene nanoplatelets on PVDF/GNP film composites", *Materials Today Communications*, 11, 2017.
- A. Rinaldi, A. Tamburrano, **M. Fortunato** and M.S. Sarto "A Flexible and Highly Sensitive Pressure Sensor Based on a PDMS Foam Coated with Graphene Nanoplatelets", Sensors, 16 (12), 2016.

Works presented at International Conferences

M.Fortunato, I. Bellagamba, F. Marra, A. Tamburrano, and M.S. Sarto "Development and Characterization of a Piezoresistive Polyurethane/GNP Coating for Strain Sensing Applications", IEEE NANO 2020, Virtual, 29-31 July 2020, accepted as oral presentation.

M.Fortunato, I. Bellagamba, L. R. Ballam, A. Tamburrano, and M.S. Sarto "Piezoresistive Flexible Elastomeric Foams Coated with Graphene-Polymer Nanocomposite Film", Graphene 2019, Rome, 25-28 Jun 2019, oral presentation.

M.Fortunato, F. Marra, I. Bellagamba, L. R. Ballam, A. G. D'aloia, G. De Bellis, A. Tamburrano, and M.S. Sarto "Multifunctional Graphene-based Coatings for Radar Absorbing and Sensing Applications", ET 2019, Viterbo, 20-21 Jun 2019 (poster).

M.Fortunato, A. Rinaldi, A. Tamburrano, T. Dikonimos, G. De Bellis, N.Lisi, and M.S. Sarto "Graphene-Gold Electrodes for Flexible Nanogenerators Based on Porous Piezoelectric PVDF", Nanoinnovation 2018, Rome, 11-14 September 2018, oral presentation.

D. Cavallini, **M. Fortunato**, G.De Bellis and M.S. Sarto "PFM Characterization of Piezoelectric PVDF/ZnO-Nanorod thin films", Nanoinnovation 2018, Rome, 11-14 September 2018, oral presentation.

M.Fortunato, A. Rinaldi, A. Tamburrano, T. Dikonimos, G. De Bellis, N.Lisi, and M.S. Sarto "Graphene-Gold Electrodes for Flexible Nanogenerators Based on Porous Piezoelectric PVDF Films", IEEE NANO 2018, Cork, 23-26 July 2018 (Poster).

D. Cavallini, **M. Fortunato**, G.De Bellis and M.S. Sarto "PFM characterization of PVDF-ZnO hybrid structures for energy harvesting", IEEE NANO 2018, Cork, 23-26 July 2018, oral presentation.

M.Fortunato, A. Rinaldi, A. Tamburrano, T. Dikonimos, G. De Bellis, N.Lisi, and M.S. Sarto "Elettrodi di Grafene-Oro per Nanogeneratori Flessibili Basati su Films di PVDF Piezoelettrici Porosi", ET 2018, Rome, 13-14 Jun 2018 (Poster).

D. Cavallini, **M. Fortunato**, G.De Bellis and M.S. Sarto "Film Polimerici Piezoelettrici in PVDF e nanorod di ZnO e Caratterizzazione Mediante Piezo Force Microscopy", ET 2018, Roma, 13-14 Jun 2018 (Poster), award of best poster.

D.Cavallini, C.R. Chandraiahgari, G. De Bellis, **M. Fortunato**, A. Bregnocchi and M.S. Sarto "Synthesis and characterization of zinc-oxide nanostructures for application in cultural heritage", presented at Nanoinnovation 2017.

M.Fortunato, H.C. Bidsorkhi, G. De Bellis, F. Sarto and M.S. Sarto "Piezoelctric Response of Graphene-Filled PVDF Nanocoposites Trought Piezoresponse Force Microscopy (PFM)", IEEE Nano 2017, oral presentation.

C. Malerba, M. Valentini, **M. Fortunato** and A. Mittiga "Characterization and numerical modelling of CZTS-solar cells", Presented at EMRS Spring Meeting, Symposium on "Earth abundant and emerging solar energy conversion materials", Lille, 11-15 May 2015 (Poster).

Work experience, stages, studies abroad

studies abroad	
Scholarship	
Date (from – to)	1 December 2016 – 31 January 2017
 Name and type of organisation providing education and training 	University of Rome La Sapienza, Piazzale Aldo Moro 5, 00185, Rome, Italy
Title	Development of graphene-based and zinc oxide nanomaterials for the sensorization of cultural heritage and morphological and functional characterization using AFM and PFM techniques.
Type of business or sector	Research
• Project	RESEARCH PROJECT "NANOTECHNOLOGIES AND NANOMATERIALS FOR CULTURAL HERITAGE" -PON03PE_00214_1
Main activities and responsibilities	In this project both zinc oxide (ZnO) nanorods (NRs) and nanowalls (NWs) were grown through hydrothermal process. This process has been optimized in order to grow nanostructures with a high purity. The best results were obtained using a ZnO seed layer, deposited by dip-coating and growing on it the ZnO nanostructures. The morphology of these nanostructures has been characterized by field emission scanning electron microscopy (FE-SEM) and Atomic Force Microscopy (AFM). Using the piezoelectric module of the atomic force microscope (PFM) it was possible to evaluate the piezoelectric coefficient (d_{33}) of the two nanostructures.

Study experience abroad	
• Date (from – to)	July 25th 2016 – August 27th 2016
Name and address of firm/university	Internationalization activities at the University of Bonn, Wegelerstrasse 10, 53115, Bonn, Germany
Objective of the stage	Learn more about the Piezoresponse Force Microscopy (PFM) technique
• Main activities	During the time spent in the group of Dr. Sorgel of the University of Bonn, I was able to deepen the PFM technique. First, I gained the skills to evaluate the background signal that needs to be subtracted from all the measures taken. It was possible to optimize the choice of parameters (such as frequency and phase) for the nano-scale characterization of piezoelectric materials. Such optimization was carried out using periodically poled lithium niobate (PPLN) as a reference sample. Measurements were made on the capacitors of poly (vinylidenfluoruro-cotrifluoroethylene) (P(VDF-TrFE)) made at CNR-IMM Roma Tor Vergata laboratories and commercial polyvinylidene fluoride (PVDF). This work has allowed me to understand the difficulties related to quantitative measurements on samples that have both bottom and top electrodes and how to try to overcome them. In addition, quantitative PFM measurements were

made to evaluate the piezoelectric coefficient (d ₃₃), both nanorods (NRs) and nanowalls (NWs) of
zinc oxide (ZnO). Finally, it was possible to learn the poling technique through the conductive tip
of the PFM. During the last week of my stage in Germany I attended the conference
"ISAF/ECAPD/PFM 2016", where I was able to follow some interesting tutorials on the subject of
PFM and piezoelectric materials in general, and also to meet some colleagues working in the
same area and discuss with them different aspects of the technique.

Personal skills and competences

Acquired in the course of life and career but not necessarily evidenced by formal certificates and diplomas.

Mother tongue	Italian

Other language(s)

	English
• reading	B2
• writing	B2
• speaking	B2

Signature

