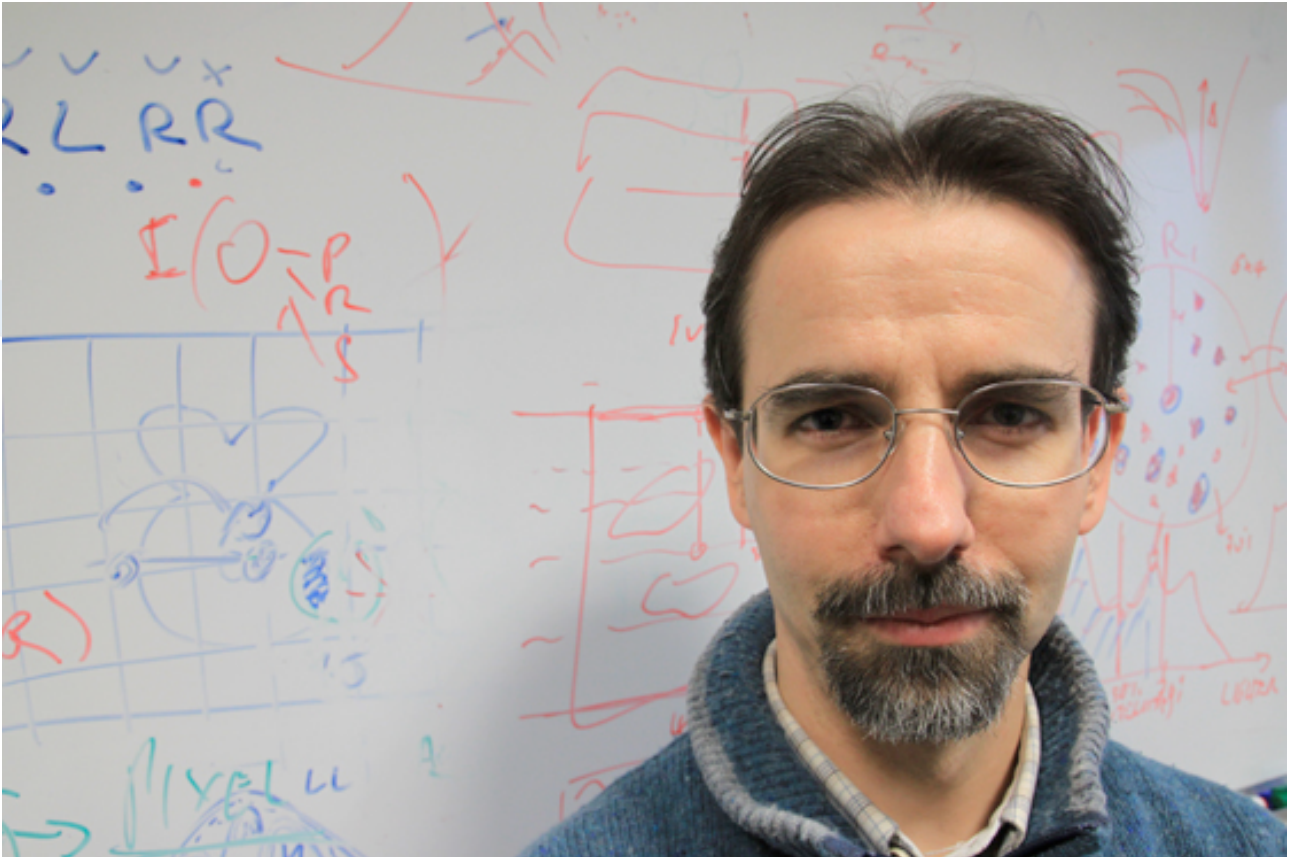




A European grant to study vision



Two million euro to Davide Zoccolan, a neuroscientist at SISSA

20 January 2014

The International School for Advanced Studies (SISSA) of Trieste has obtained a major grant from the European Research Council (ERC) to study the visual system. This is the eleventh ERC grant awarded to SISSA, which once again confirms its position among the Italian research centres that have won the largest number of these grants.

Two million euro over a period of five years: this is the amount of the European Research Council (ERC) grant just obtained by Davide Zoccolan, a neuroscientist at the International School for Advanced Studies (SISSA) of Trieste. The award demonstrates once more the value of the research carried out by Zoccolan and his team at SISSA, as well as acknowledging the importance of the research project presented on this occasion: "We will study a specific aspect of the visual



system, that is, how it succeeds in recognising visual objects under the most diverse conditions”, explains Zoccolan. “As we look around, the point of view, the distance, and the lighting change all the time and yet we have no trouble identifying known objects, an ability that proves extremely difficult for artificial vision systems”.

“Thanks to the multidisciplinary expertise we will harness over the next five years, we intend to reveal how the neuronal circuits underlying this extraordinary cognitive process develop, by testing the most appealing theoretical models devised within the field of computational neurosciences”, continues Zoccolan.

The ERC grant awarded to Zoccolan adds to the numerous others won by the School. SISSA has in fact obtained no less than eleven, a number that confirms it to be among the most active research centres and one capable of effectively locating resources even at this time of international economic crisis.

IMAGE:

- Davide Zoccolan – *credits: SISSA*

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