

In Memoriam

Francisco Jose Gomez Lopez

Dear Colleagues

It is with great grief in my heart that I have to bring about the sad news of the passing of Francisco Jose Gomez Lopez on September 21st, 2019.

Francisco received his Bachelor Degree in Computer Science at the University of Girona in 2009. During those years, he combined his studies working as a Software Developer in different companies. He later enrolled in a Master Degree in Industrial Informatics, Control and Automation, completing it in 2012, also at the University of Girona. During these years, again has combined studies with work, in this case working as a Researcher / Software Engineer in different ITEA2 European Projects, called AIMES and IMPONET.

Francisco was an integrative team player which could leverage his knowledge and practical skills on informatics to tackle complex engineering problems. He was my PhD student during my time at KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm, Sweden. Francisco joined my research team in 2013, and successfully defended his PhD thesis in April 2019¹. During that period, while carrying out his coursework and research, he also co-supervised several Master Thesis and Bachelor's studies.

Francisco was a key team member working with my research group in the FP7 iTesla² and ITEA3 OpenCPS.eu³ projects. During the FP7 iTesla project he developed a unique approach for power system model transformation⁴ that has been recognized by the European Network of Transmission Operators for Electricity (ENTSO-E)⁵, which has leveraged these results in European-wide standardization efforts. Expanding upon this work, Francisco worked in the OpenCPS.eu project further developing methods and prototype software tools for semantic information and multi-domain modeling and simulation for power systems⁶. His work contributed to the success of the OpenCPS.eu project, which received the ITEA Award of Excellence September 2019 during the ITEA PO Days 2019⁷.

Francisco, just as I, believe in the transformative power of open source software and open access standards to tackle our world's pressing challenges, and some of his work will remain online as open source software for others to further it⁸. His original PhD research has laid the

¹ <http://urn.kb.se/resolve?urn=urn:nbn:se:kth:diva-247635>

² http://cordis.europa.eu/project/rcn/101320_en.html

³ <https://itea3.org/project/opencps.html>

⁴ <https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/8231176>

⁵ <https://zenodo.org/record/842770#.XZ828ZPYpM8>

⁶ <https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/8540835>

⁷ <https://saabgroup.com/media/stories/stories-listing/2019-09/research-results-leads-to-award-for-new-ene-rgy-efficient-aerial-vehicles-platform-concepts/>

⁸ <https://github.com/ALSETLab/cim2modelica>

foundation for a new research project I am carrying out in the USA with the New York Power Authority⁹, funded by NYSERDA, which will contribute towards addressing our world's electrical power and energy challenges. His ingenious legacy will live on.

While finishing his PhD dissertation, Francisco had the opportunity to join Semantum Oy, in Helsinki, Finland, contributing to cyber-physical system automation projects with his innovative approach to tackle complex engineering problems.

Beyond his academic achievements, his greatest achievement was that of being a formidable human being. He was a humble, generous and warm hearted individual with excellent sense of humor; who I had the privilege to supervise a PhD student and also to have the honor to become his friend.

For those who knew him, I am confident to say that Francisco will be remembered with great esteem, his example will help us to tackle challenges with a warm smile and positive attitude. I share with you below two pictures from many fond memories together.

A ceremony in his remembrance will take place on Saturday October 19 at 11 pm in the Salt Funeral home in Girona, Spain:

Tanatori Funerària Salt - Mémora
Carrer Rocacorba, 2, 17190 Salt, Girona
972 21 03 58
<https://maps.app.goo.gl/Jo8khBfLWYTSmuwv7>

For those that will not be able to attend in person, if you wish to send your condolences to his family, please post your letters to the Funeral home above or to his father in the following address:

Carles Gomez Lopez
Carrer Sant Dionís, 108.
17190 Salt, Girona,
Spain

Goodbye Francis, I will miss you a lot!
(Adios Francis! Te voy a extrañar mucho!)

Luigi Vanfretti
Associate Professor
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Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Troy, NY

⁹ <https://www.nypa.gov/news/press-releases/2019/20190717-rensselaer>

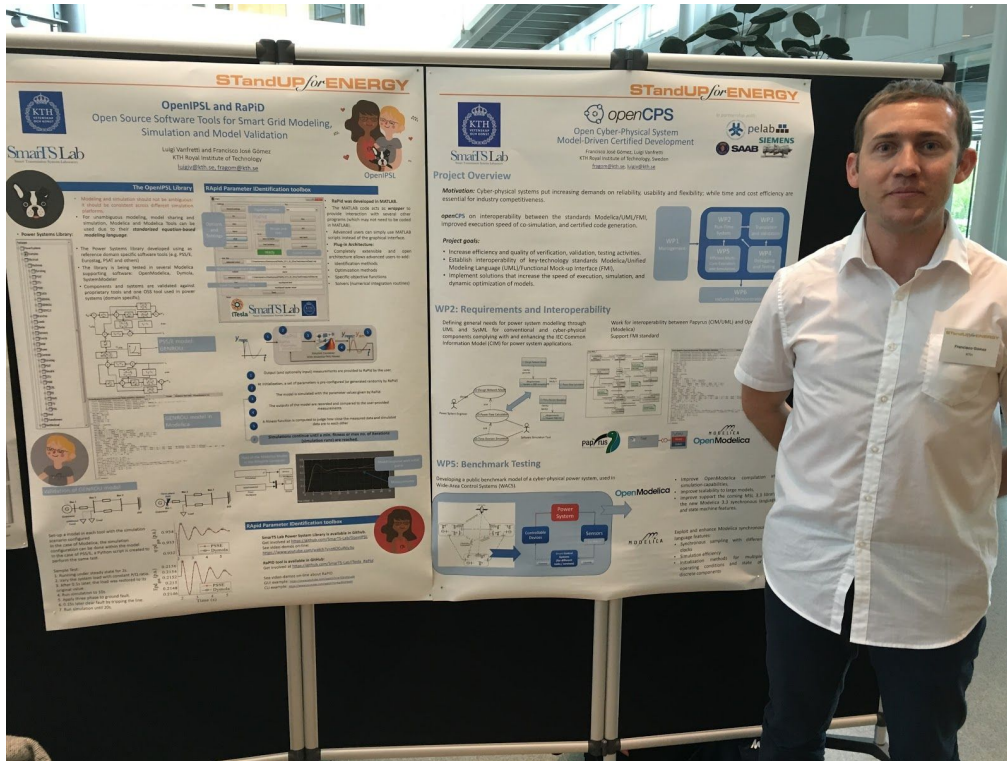


Fig. 1. Francisco presenting our work from the iTesla and OpenCPS.eu projects in the StandUP for Energy meeting in 2016



Fig. 2. Francisco with several members of my research team, with his unique smile and good spirits