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He obtained both the BSc (1987) and the PhD (1993) degrees at the University of Aveiro. He joined the Department of Chemistry of the same University in 1987 and was appointed to Auxiliary Professor in 1996, Associate Professor in 1999 and Full Professor in 2001. He published more than 570 SCI papers ($h = 42$), 1 e-book and 41 book chapters, 2 patents and delivered more than 54 lectures in scientific meetings. He supervised 25 PhD students and 35 MSc students; he participated / has participated in 21 financed Portuguese and European projects and in 8 bilateral financed projects with European Research Groups. He belongs to the editorial board of 6 scientific journals. His research interests range over the chemistry of polyphenolic and nitrogen heterocyclic compounds, with special emphasis on the development of new synthetic routes, and also on the organocatalytic and metal-catalysed transformations. The second passion of his research is centred in the isolation and structural characterization of natural products from diverse terrestrial and marine sources. But all these scientific activities are supported in his strong knowledge on NMR spectroscopy. The third axis of their research are focused on the synthesis of biologically active oxygen and nitrogen heterocyclic compounds, as well as on the evaluation of their antioxidant, anti-inflammatory, antitumor and antimicrobial activity in collaborations with other Portuguese and International research groups.

He is the director of the QOPNA research centre (150 researchers), president of the Portuguese Chemical Society, member of the Executive Board of EuCheMS and Fellow of the European Academy of Sciences.