



Education

- > MSci Organic Chemistry – University of Strasbourg
- > PhD with Prof. Robert Deschenaux – University of Neuchâtel
- > Postdoc with Prof. Ed Anderson – University of Oxford

Current research

Initially my research focused on the synthesis of biaryl ethers and tetrahydroisoquinoline natural products for the potential treatment of Leishmaniasis and Chagas disease. With the encouraging results that we obtained, I was able to secure a Marie-Curie Individual Fellowship which currently allows me to work on the total synthesis of the natural product (-)-Northalrugosidine for the potential treatment of anti-parasitic diseases.

Questions

> **I chose to study chemistry because** it is a branch of science which involves everything in our life. I find that the most amazing thing about synthetic chemistry is that we can create a molecule which can have a multitude of different applications (pharmaceutical/cosmetics/materials etc...). Chemistry is so fun, useful, creative and logical!

> **I chose to work on the synthesis of natural products** like Northalrugosidine, because they show real potential in the treatment of some parasitic diseases, for instance Leishmania which is the second biggest parasitic killer after malaria (20-30000 deaths/year). The concrete application of this project, as well as our collaboration with another Lab in Brazil, makes me feel really involved and focused on what I do in the lab.

> **In a few months I will be** starting as a Scientist in Chemical Process R&D at Minakem in France, and I hope to continue to work in process chemistry because I think it is the most concrete and complete branch of chemistry. There is a great satisfaction in developing a process for a product and seeing it on store shelves after a couple of months.

> **The main piece of advice I would give to someone considering a career in research** is to work hard and develop critical thinking, but also try to be as efficient and creative as possible in the face of problems.

> **The biggest challenge facing scientists** is pressure of the academic system that requires researchers to publish frequently which can have an impact on the quality of the results published.