

CURRICULUM VITAE

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Born in Altamura (BA) – Italy on February 22, 1968.

Doctor degree in Biochemical Sciences at the University of Bari on July 1994.

Thesis in Inorganic Chemistry: “New method of synthesis of anhydrous alkylammonium tetrphenylborates based on carbon dioxide utilization. Study of their reactivity as inter and intra-molecular proton transfer agents”.

Present position: Associate Professor at the University of Bari, Department of Chemistry.

2009 - : Director of the Interdepartmental Center on Environmental Methodologies and Technologies - METEA

Areas of scientific interest: Carbon dioxide utilization in synthesis of chemicals and fuels, Catalysis, Coordination Chemistry and Organometallic Chemistry, Green Chemistry, Marine biomass from carbon dioxide, Fuels and chemicals from marine biomass.

Author of several scientific papers on carbon dioxide utilization published in international Journals since 1995 and book Chapters (see below).

Invited Speaker at several International Meetings (41st IUPAC World Chemistry Congress **2007**, ICCDU IX **2007**, 234th ACS National Meeting **2007**, XXXVI National Conference of Italian Chemical Society **2008**, 2nd EUCHEMS Chemistry Congress **2008**, EuCOMC XVIII **2009**, CO₂ Forum, Lyon/ France **2010**, 3rd EuCheMS Chemistry Congress **2010**, ICCDU XI **2011**).

Speaker at several International Meetings.

National and International Activities:

1995-1997: Research fellowship within the European Project COST D3/0007/94 (1994-1997) co-ordinated by Prof. R. Larsson, University of Lund, Sweden entitled “Modeling of Selective Energy Transfer, Spatial and Time Coherence in Catalytic Reactions, Tested on Carbon Dioxide Reactions”.

July-September 1997: Teaching activity within the European Project ECEAPU “Environmental Chemistry Education at Polish Universities” TEMPUS 8169, centered at the University of Wroclaw, Poland.

1998-1999: Research activity within the Project POP Regione Puglia entitled: “Data Base on Soil Remediation Technologies: Use of scCO₂ for pollutants extraction”.

1998-2001: Research fellowship within the European Project COST D9/0012/98 (1998-2002) co-ordinated by Prof. R. Larsson, University of Lund, Sweden entitled "Development and Applications of Theoretical Models on Catalysis to Support the Design of Improved Catalysts".

1998-2001: Research fellowship within European Project "RUCADI - Recovery and Utilization of CARbon Dioxide", BRRT-CT98-5089 (1998-2001).

1999-2000: Research fellowship within European Project TEMPUS Ceedes IB 13123 (1999-2000) co-ordinated by Prof. Michele Aresta, University of Bari, entitled "Continuing Education in European Directives and Environmental Standards"

2000: National delegate of Expert Group of IPCC Panel (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) for the creation of a Database on Emission Factors.

2000: Coordinator of a National Programme CNR-Agenzia 2000 on "Application of liquefaction and extraction technologies for the production of biofuels from marine algae".

2005-2010: National delegate for Italian Ministry of University and Research (MIUR) within the EU Project ACENET ERA-NET for Applied Catalysis in Europe (2005-2010) coordinated by Dr Louis Vertegaal - Netherlands Organisation of Scientific Research (NWO).

2005-2010: Research grant within the EU IP Project "TOPCOMBI - Towards Optimized Chemical Processes and New Materials via Combinatorial Science", FP6-2005.

2006-2009: Leader of a Research Regional Project (Strategic Programme of Apulian Region) ACTIBIOMAR.

2008-2009: Research contract with ENI on "Development of new technologies for lipid extraction from micro-algae"

2008-2009: Regional Project – CRP Foundation on "Hydrogen production: the potential for the Apulian Region"

2008-: Coordinator of the METEA Unit within the Regional Project RELA VALBIOR – New Technologies for the Valorization of Residual Biomasses"

2010-: EU Project FP7 - EUROBIOREF "EUROpean multilevel integrated BIOREFinery design for sustainable biomass processing"

2011-: Research Contract- Total on the Synthesis of dialkylcarbonates by reaction between carbon dioxide and alcohols

2011-: National Project – PON "ENERBIOCHEM"

Awards and nominations:

October 2001: Winner of the RUCADI Prize on "Better Carbon Management - An Intelligent Chemical Use of CO₂" given by the network RUCADI EU Project BRRT-CT98-5089 and three European Companies i.e., ACP-Belgium, Carburos Metalicos-Spain and ENIChem-Italy.

April 2001: Nomination for the R. A. Glenn Award at the 221st ACS National Meeting in San Diego, April 1-5, 2001 for the presentation of the paper entitled "Nb₂O₅ as catalyst in the oxidative carboxylation of olefins" .

April 2002: Nomination for the R. A. Glenn Award at the 223rd ACS National Meeting in San Diego, April 7-11, 2002 for the presentation of the paper entitled “Bridging Natural Facts with Industrial Processes for Carbon Dioxide Utilization: Metal Enzymes and Transition Metal Systems” .

August 2010: Finalist for the “European Sustainable Chemistry Award” on “Phosgene-free synthesis of molecular organic carbonates (acyclic and cyclic)”

Member of the Editorial Board of “Environmental Chemistry Letters”

Member of the International Scientific Committee of the ICCDU.

Reviewer for American Chemical Society Petroleum Research Fund.

Evaluator of Projects for the European Commission and other International Agencies.