

Université

de Strasbourg

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# International Doctoral Programme

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## 2019' cohort

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*Programme doctoral international*  
*International doctoral programme*





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## Laciel ALONSO LLANES

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COTUTELLE PHD STUDENT

CUBAN

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Doctoral school: ED 413 (Earth and Environment Sciences)

Research unit: UMR 7516 - Institut de Physique du Globe de Strasbourg (IPGS)

Supervisors: Dr. Renaud TOUSSAINT (Unistra), Prof. Ernesto ALTSULER (Universidad de la Habana, Cuba).

Laciel Alonso comes from Cuba, he began his university studies in 2010 at the Faculty of Physics of the University of Havana (UH) from which he graduated in 2015 as a physics engineer. Later he was granted an assistant professor position at the same faculty while doing his master's degree in physical sciences.

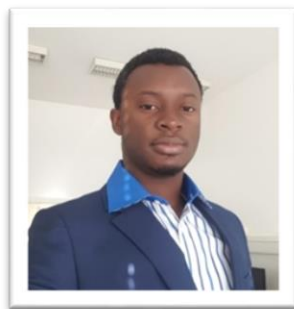
His scientific career has been related to the physics of so-called complex systems, particularly with granular matter. His research focuses on understanding, through experimentation and / or numerical simulations, some of the various phenomena that this type of matter shows under certain conditions. Some of his results have been published in refereed journals. In September 2018, he began his PhD in geophysics under joint supervision between the UH and the Unistra. He was accepted in the PDI program in September 2019.

## Iréné AMIEHE ESSOMBA

IDEX PHD STUDENT

CAMEROONIAN

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Doctoral school: ED 182 (Physics and Physical Chemistry)

Research unit: UMR 7504 – Institut de physique et chimie des matériaux de Strasbourg (IPCMS)

Supervisor: Dr. Mauro BOERO

Iréné AMIEHE ESSOMBA born 16 April 1994 in CAMEROON, is a student researcher who started his university studies in Cameroon. Holder of a master's degree in physics specialty: materials sciences, obtained at the university of Yaoundé1 in Cameroon in 2018. He continues his studies as a researcher in France at the Strasbourg university where he obtains a master's degree in physics specialty: condensed matter and nanophysics in 2019, during the same year he becomes a member of the international doctoral program (PDI) under IDEX contract, where he started a doctoral thesis with as research theme: «atomic-scale modelling of complex organic-inorganic interfaces» at the physics and chemistry institute of materials of Strasbourg (IPCMS).

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## Wissal BELAYACHI

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MOROCCAN

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Doctoral School: ED 182 (Physics and Physical Chemistry)

Research unit: UMR 7504 - Institut de Physique et Chimie des Matériaux de Strasbourg (IPCMS)

Supervisors: Prof. Aziz Dinis (Unistra), Prof. Mohammed Abd-Lefdil (Université Mohammed V de Rabat, Morocco)

They say children follow in the footsteps of their parents and in my case, it might be true. I was born in Paris; at the time my family was leaving there while my father finished his PhD in physics. Not only was I intrigued and interested in science, but I was also drawn to the study of languages, literature and history. I took science major during my High School education, which allowed me to pursue all my interests. I obtained my High School diploma in 2010. I completed my bachelor's degree in physics at the University of Mohammed V in Rabat in 2016 and then started my master's on Renewable Energy.

During the second year of my master's studies the opportunity of an internship at the CNRS – Cronenbourg, and more precisely at the IPCMS, presented itself. This internship offered me my first real approach towards research. It also gave me the chance to participate in the JNES 2018 conference and to present to the French scientific community the work related to photovoltaics that we had been working on in the lab.

After obtaining my Master of Science on Renewable Energies with honors, I started my PhD on the elaboration and characterization of different doped and undoped N type materials for perovskite solar cells. The aim of my PhD project is to develop stable, well performing perovskite solar cells.

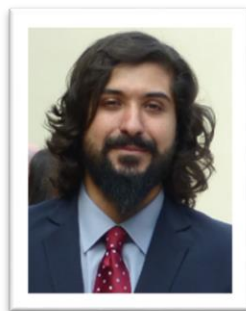
Other than science, my main interests include literature, history, art, music, movies, cooking and travelling. I had the chance to encounter people from different countries during my studies and on my arrival at Strasbourg, I was positively surprised to be able to work with people from different horizons. Furthermore, being in France gave me the opportunity not only to stay in contact with my friends that are scattered around Europe but also to meet new people during my travels.

## Stefano CIACO

COTUTELLE STUDENT

ITALIAN

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Doctoral School: ED 414 (Health and Life Science)

Research unit: UMR 7021 – Laboratoire de bioimagerie et pathologies (LBP)

Supervisors: Prof. Yves MELY (Unistra), Dr. Mattia MORI (Università di Siena, Italy)

My name is Stefano Ciaco, born in Vico Equense (Napoli), Italy in August 28<sup>th</sup> 1992. I'm always interested in the sciences, especially biology and chemistry, indeed in my high school I joined the scientific high school with PNI, a special study course in which there are much more hours of math, physics, computer science, biology and chemistry than standard high school courses. In 2011 I joined the bachelor degree in Health Biotechnology at University of Napoli "Federico II" and graduated in 2014 with 106/110 with a thesis about synthesis and purification of peptide nucleic acid(PNA), the aim of my thesis was to build a more stable G-quadruplex aptamer with a peptide scaffolds. Next I joined the master degree in Pharmaceutical Biotechnology, I was first class and graduated in 2016 with 110/110 summa cum laude with a thesis about effect of site specific replacement of a nucleoside with a dibenzil linker in the anticoagulant activity of thrombin binding aptamer (TBA), the aim of my thesis was to test different kind of TBA on HeLa cells and on ex vivo organs (aorta and carotid artery) from mice and rats, looking for more potent anticoagulant aptamer. Soon after degree I started a profession master in Drug Design and Synthesis to increase my knowledge in Computational chemistry and Synthetic chemistry at University of Siena, moreover I carried out the thesis abroad at Laboratory of Bioimaging and Pathologies UMR CNRS 7021 in Strasbourg for 6 months, the thesis was about identification and development of inhibitors able to inhibit NCP7, a very important protein for HIV life cycle, by biophysical and pharmacologic assays and in 2018 I graduated with 110/110 summa cum laude. The results of this project are being published. In the middle of 2018 I applied for a Ph.D. position in Strasbourg and I got the scholarship, currently I'm a second year Ph.D. student in Sciences de la Vie et de la Santé at University of Strasbourg in cotutelle in Chemical and Pharmaceutical Science at University of Siena. The Ph.D. project is about UHRF1, an essential component in cells for DNA methylation that can mediate epigenetic silencing of tumor suppressor and cancer protective genes. Loss of UHRF1 function can lead to demethylation and re-expression of epigenetically silenced tumor suppressor genes and can reduce cancer cell growth and survival, so the aim of my project is to identify and characterize compounds able to inhibit UHRF1 by multidisciplinary approach; In Siena I identify and characterize by Molecular Modelling, Molecular Dynamic and Computational Chemistry the hypothetical compounds able to inhibit UHRF1 and In Strasbourg I screen and test these compounds by physical, chemical and biological assays.

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## Ludovico COCCO

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COTUTELLE STUDENT

ITALIAN

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Doctoral school: ED 221 (Economics)

Research unit: EA 2364 – Laboratoire de recherche en gestion et économie (LARGE)

Supervisors: Prof. Régis BLAZY (Unistra), Prof. Ugo RIGONI (Università Ca' Foscari Venezia, Italy)

I am Italian and I am 27. My current research focuses on firm's restructuring and financial distress; my two ongoing works study, respectively, how causes of business failure and how the profile of bankruptcy practitioners affect business' restructuring chances. I thus operate in Corporate finance and Law & economics. I am performing the cotutelle PhD between Ca' Foscari University of Venice and University of Strasbourg; my two supervisors are, respectively, Pr. Ugo Rigoni and Pr. Régis Blazy. I previously engaged with Strasbourg, as I did a double Master programme between Ca' Foscari and EM Strasbourg Business School, graduating in Entrepreneurial development and in Finance, respectively. In that context I met Pr. Blazy, who became my master thesis' supervisor.

In the master thesis I explored how the features of bankruptcy law affect firms' restructuring chances, using a comparative approach between French, Italian, English and Spanish bankruptcy law. I thus decided to deepen my research through the doctoral path. I did my bachelor in Economics and Management at University of Padua, and in my bachelor thesis I explored the relationship between fiscal multipliers and the business cycle. I had teaching experiences in Ca' Foscari.

I love cultural contamination, having sojourned and worked in more countries (as Mexico, Ireland, U.K., Montenegro), and I really enjoy exchanging ideas with new people!

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## Theresa EHRET

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IDEX STUDENT

GERMAN

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Doctoral School: ED 519 (Human and social sciences – European perspectives)

Research unit: EA 3400 - Arts, civilisation et l'histoire de l'Europe (ARCHE)

Supervisors: Prof. Catherine Maurer (Unistra), Prof. Sylvia Paletschek (Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg i. Br., Germany)

Having grown up in a small village near the Franco-German border, I have always been interested in the varied history of France and Germany. Therefore, I decided to study history and French at the University of Freiburg, Germany, and at the University of Lorraine in Nancy, France. In 2017, I passed the final exam (first state examination, necessary to become a teacher in Germany and equivalent to a master's degree). From 2018 to 2019, I did a traineeship as a teacher at a high school (« Gymnasium ») in the region of Freiburg.

During my studies, I discovered a great fascination for historical research, especially the history of National Socialism on a local, national and European respectively transnational stage. I am particularly interested in the experiences and everyday life of people in the occupied regions in Europe during World War II. In my PhD-project, I am studying the different forms of interactions between the Nazi occupiers and the occupied population in Alsace (1940-1944).



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## David ELSER

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IDEX STUDENT

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Doctoral School: ED 414 (Health and Life Science)

Research unit: UPR 2357 - Institut de biologie moléculaire des plantes (IBMP)

Supervisor: Prof. Emmanuel GAQUEREL

My name is David Elser and I am from Austria. I did all my previous studies in Vienna, first I did my Bachelor in Biology where I already started to get interested in Phytochemistry. During my Master in Botany I got fascinated by the world of plant secondary metabolites and I did my thesis on the chemodiversity of glandular trichomes in different alpine primrose species. After graduating I also got about three years of work experience, mainly in liquid chromatography-mass spectrometry based analytical chemistry. For my PhD I will continue to work on glandular trichomes but now I will work mainly on three species of tobacco. They can produce a special kind of nicotine in their glands, which is much more toxic to insects than regular nicotine. We would like to learn more about the evolution of these compounds, their biosynthesis and the mode of action in the herbivore insects like the tobacco hornworm.

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## **Benoît FERRARI**

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IDEX PHD STUDENT

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Doctoral Schools: ED 269 (Engineering) and ED 221 (Economics)

Research units: UMR 7357 – Laboratoire des sciences de l'ingénieur, de l'informatique et de l'imagerie (ICUBE), UMR 7522 – Bureau d'économie théorique et appliquée (BETA)

Supervisors: Prof. Erik SAULEAU, Prof. Julien PENIN

After finishing High School, I had no clear idea what I really wanted to do in the future. Therefore, I decided to join a preparatory class for business schools, which is a training that covers a wide range of subjects. During these two years, it became increasingly clear that I wanted to tackle economic issues in depth, which is why I decided to join the “Magistère Génie Economique” at the faculty of Strasbourg. This degree adds research classes to the classical bachelor and master’s path. I also spent a year at the University of Fudan in Shanghai, which definitely contributed to my desire to pursue an international formation. I am now a PhD candidate in the IDEX framework at the University of Strasbourg and I am working on an interdisciplinary subject, which combines economics and health sciences. In fact, I am studying the incentives to contribute to biomedical databases and in particular the potential interactions between monetary and non-monetary incentives. I am really looking forward to discovering a whole new field and the multiple possibilities offered by the interdisciplinarity.

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## Charlotte HARDION

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IDEX PHD STUDENT

FRENCH

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Doctoral School: ED 414 (Health and Life Science)

Research unit: UMR 7104 (IGBMC) - Institut de génétique et de biologie moléculaire et cellulaire

Supervisor: Dr. Juliette GODIN

As a first step in molecular biology, I graduated with a Master degree in Biology at the University Grenoble Alpes (France) where I studied translational regulation by small non-coding RNAs. After graduation in 2017, I moved to Italy for 2 years as a research fellow in the Armenise-Harvard laboratory of axonal neurobiology of Dr. Marie-Laure Baudet (CIBIO, Trento) to work on an exciting project to investigate axonal translational dynamics.

My fascination for RNA biology and neuroscience and the desire to pursue my cursus joining an international PhD program motivated me to join the PDI at Strasbourg University. I will thus join the laboratory of Dr. Juliette Godin at the IGBMC to work on an inspiring PhD project to unravel how tRNA pools regulate cell fate acquisition during mammalian corticogenesis. I am captivated by the study of mechanisms by which a cell with the same genomic template can become thousand different cells upon precise and dynamic regulation in space and time. Few modifications on this regulatory network, like on tRNAs regulation could lead to a local and highly dynamic mRNA repertoire switch and thus to dramatic developmental pathologies and neurodegenerative diseases. For that reason I am convinced that we should better understand whom these key actors are and how they control how a cell migrate, differentiate and create connections to build this complex brain network.

## Li-Yun LIN

IDEX PHD STUDENT  
TAIWANESE



Doctoral School: ED 414 (Health and Life Science)  
Research unit: UMR\_S1109 - ImmunoRhumatologie Moléculaire (IRM)  
Supervisor: Dr. Christiane MOOG

I am Li-Yun Lin (a.k.a Jamie). I graduated from a Medical Laboratory and Biotechnology undergraduate program in Taiwan.

When it comes to master, I attended a global joint master degree program in which I have been rotated my study in Japan, Taiwan and France during the past two years. Also, in these six years, I had internships in pharmacy, biotech company and research institute. In addition to school engagement, I devote myself as a board member of Wikimedia Taiwan since 2016. I participate in several projects and play an important role on international communication, strategy and regulation setting, conferences and events preparations.

These experiences and internships allow me to build up excellent research foundation and correct attitude and inspire me to use different approaches to evaluate research and learn how to collaborate with people from different countries and backgrounds. In University of Strasbourg, my research topic is "Role of early functional antibody responses in the evolution of Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) physiopathology"; in short, it is about the HIV vaccine.

If you want to know more details about me, please feel free to click my personal website: <http://li-yun-lin.mystrikingly.com/> and leave a message to me.

## Iryna MAKARCHUK

IDEX PHD STUDENT

UKRAINIAN

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Doctoral School: ED 222 (Chemistry)

Research unit: UMR 7140 - Chimie de la matière complexe (CMC)

Supervisor: Prof. Petra HELLWIG

Greetings to the scientific community of Strasbourg!

My name is Iryna and I am a young researcher from Ukraine who is enormously excited about starting the PhD program on the basis of the University of Strasbourg.

From the very beginning of the high school, I discovered the beauty and complexity of the natural sciences which probably led me to the Chemistry Department of my alma mater in Kyiv. In 2017 I graduated with a master's degree and gained profound knowledge of organic, analytical, polymer and material chemistry. In order to achieve more practical skills in cutting-edge technologies and modern analytical technics, I started my job in the leading research company Enamine Ltd which deals with the early investigation of newly synthesized pharmaceuticals and the development of drug discovery approaches. After two years of working in the industry, I gained valuable experience, but my thirst for scientific research induced me to come back to Academia.

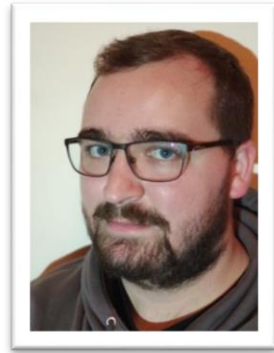
Joining the IDEX program is a great opportunity to make a contribution in science and enhance knowledge through collaborations with international researchers. My project will be devoted to the investigation of catalytic function of enzyme cytochrome *bd*-oxidase taken from pathogenic bacteria by means of electrochemical and spectroscopic methods. This work will help to understand the mechanisms of electron transfer in membrane proteins, identify inhibitors, and, as a result, develop a new generation of antimicrobial drugs.

## Cyril MEYER

IDEX PHD STUDENT

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Doctoral Schools: ED 269 (Engineering) and ED 414 (Health and Life Sciences)

Research units: UMR 7357 – Laboratoire des sciences de l'ingénieur, de l'informatique et de l'imagerie (ICUBE), UMR 7104– Institut de Génétique et de Biologie Moléculaire et Cellulaire (IGBMC)

Supervisors: Dr. Benoît NAEGEL, Dr. Patrick SCHULTZ

My name is Cyril, I am 24 years old and I study computer science. My thesis topic concerns electron microscopy image analysis, using deep learning methods and mathematical morphology. I am passionate about my PhD topic, and generally about image processing, machine learning and applied research.

I am from Alsace, more precisely from Haut Rhin but I did all of my higher education at the University of Strasbourg, more specifically at the mathematics and computer science faculty.

My hobbies are very varied, engineering sciences and especially electronics, music creation, video games, climbing, hiking, and much more.

Finally, I like to learn, discuss, debate and interact with people of different cultures, opinions or perspective.

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## Michael OKAFOR

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IDEX PHD STUDENT

NIGERIAN

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Doctoral Schools: ED 222 (Chemistry) and ED 414 (Health and Life sciences)

Research units: UMR 7177 – Institut de Chimie (IC), UMR 3212 – Institut des Neurosciences Cellulaires et Intégratives (INCI)

Supervisors: Prof. Peter FALLER, Dr. Nicolas VITALE

Michael Okafor born in Lagos, Nigeria. He has pursued his studies in Neurosciences at the Université Paris Descartes, where he obtained both his bachelor's and Master degrees. Through out the years, he developed an interest in neurosciences. For his Master 1 thesis, he was able to validate a novel candidate drug to treat the cognitive symptoms of schizophrenia. In his Master 2 thesis, he worked on neuroinflammatory diseases such as Multiple sclerosis where he used an electrophysiological approach.

Presently he is working on the IDEX funded interdisciplinary program led by Professor Peter Faller and Dr. Nicolas Vitale, the study is focused on designing copper selective peptidic transporters to prevent amyloid-beta toxicity.

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## Jean-Baptiste ORTLIEB

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Doctoral School: ED 519 (Human and social sciences – European perspectives)

Research unit: EA 3400 - Arts, civilisation et histoire de l'Europe (ARCHE)

Supervisor: Prof. Isabelle LABOULAIS (Unistra), Prof. Tim SOENS (Université d'Anvers, Belgium)

I am a contractual PhD student in history since 2018 (ED 519, Humanities and Social Sciences - European Perspectives).

I completed my studies at the Faculty of Historical Sciences at the University of Strasbourg. Following a research Master, supported in 2015, and after having passed the education competitive examinations, I began a thesis in environmental history.

Under the direction of Mrs. Isabelle Laboulais and Mr. Tim Soens, my thesis is about the environmental history of the southern Vosges summits, between the thirteenth century and the eighteenth century. My joint PhD is signed between the University of Strasbourg (EA 3400 Arche) and the University of Antwerp. I propose to study the environmental changes, which took place between the end of the medieval period and the modern era, on the highest Vosges summits. Environmental history encourages me to foster an interdisciplinary dialogue. At the University of Strasbourg, I take part in programs that promote this interdisciplinarity. I was also elected PhD student representative of my Research Unit (EA 3400).



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## Emmanuel OUOBA

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COTUTELLE PHD STUDENT

BURKINABE

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Doctoral School: ED 519 (Human and social sciences – European perspectives)  
Research unit: EA 2310 - Laboratoire interuniversitaire des sciences de l'éducation et de la communication (LISEC)  
Supervisors: Dr. Marc TRESTINI (Unistra), Prof. Afsata PARE-KABORE (Université Norbert Zongo, Burkina Faso)

After graduating from École Normale Supérieure, I taught computer science in high school for several years. I then became interested in distance learning devices. I successively obtained a master's degree in e-learning engineering at University Paris 3 and a master's degree in educational technology at University of Cergy-Pontoise. These diplomas allowed me to obtain a tutoring position at the Senghor University of Alexandria and Paris 3 University. Currently, I hold a techno-pedagogue position at the virtual university of Burkina Faso. Digital learning environments have naturally taken over in the thesis project I am developing. The learning process as well as the production of disability is manifested by an interaction with the environment. To learn, you have to interact with a system (Basque & Doré, 2007). This is why I am wondering about the means of digital facilitation on learning and inclusive education for deafblind students.

We have a particular look at the emotional and sentimental influence that a digital learning environment can generate. Factors related to motivation, persistence, confidence and self-esteem are indices that are exploited because according to the OECD (2006, Chapter 6) in the indices of well-being, we find the feeling of belonging to a group, the development of self-esteem and trust. These clues manifest themselves in emotional and sentimental form. Also, "emotions accompany (...) students within the class and can interfere with learning or facilitate" (Denervaud & Franchini, 2017, 21)

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## Alejandro PALACIOS

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COTUTELLE PHD STUDENT

COLOMBIAN

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Doctoral School: ED 269 (Engineering)

Research unit: UMR 7357 (ICUBE) – Laboratoire des sciences de l'ingénieur, de l'informatique et de l'imagerie

Supervisors: Prof. Vincent LE HOUEROU (Unistra), Prof. Thomas SPECK (Universität Freiburg, Germany)

I was born and raised in Colombia. I graduated as a chemical engineer in 2010 at the National University of Colombia in Bogotá D.C.. I worked as an engineering during 4 years in a flexible packaging company in Bogotá, where I carried out different tasks related to material specifications, production conditions, quality and production modelling. Between 2015 and 2017, I did my master in polymer science in the international program offered by the Universities of Strasbourg (France) and Freiburg (Germany). In October 2018, I started my PhD with prof. Vincent Le Houerou at the ICube Lab from Unistra; the project deals with the study of material responses when changing environmental conditions (humidity/temperature/light).

This research is a collaboration between Icube and the Botanical Garden from the University of Freiburg. A few months ago, the project was changed to a cotutelle agreement between both universities.

## Han PENG



IDEX PHD STUDENT

CHINESE

Doctoral School: ED 222 (Chemistry)

Research unit: UMR 7042 - Laboratoire d'innovation moléculaire et applications (LIMA)

Supervisor: Dr. Vincent RITLENG

### Education Background :

#### Changsha University of Science & Technology, China

- School of Chemistry and Biological Engineering(09/2010-07/2014)
- Bachelor of Engineering(Applied Chemistry)
- School of Economics & Management (03/2012-07/2014)
- Bachelor of Science in Management(Accounting)

#### Lanzhou University, China

- College of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering(09/2015-06/2018)
- Organic Chemistry (first year)
- Polymer Chemistry and Physics(Joined research in Prof. Hua Wei's group)

### Research Engaged in :

- Design and Preparation of Novel Reduction-Sensitive Anti-Cancer Drug Delivery Systems(The whole process of researching consists of two parts including synthesis of polymers utilizing ROP or ATRP techniques and characterizations of synthesized materials to evaluate their properties)
- Discovery and Application of Novel Photo Catalysts in Synthetic Methodology(Synthesized CdS quantum dots to accomplish catalysis of specific reactions)

### Work Experience :

- Half-year time of working experience as a researcher of chemical synthesis in Bioduro(<https://bioduro.com/>)(During work, a long synthetic route has to be accomplished within limited time so that compound products will deliver to customers under a tight timeline)

### Current Research Topic:

- Polyurethane open cell foams coated by polydopamine as structured supports for nickel photoredox dual catalysis

## Chaima SAF

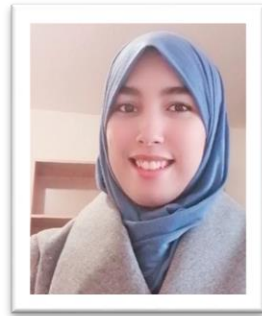
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MAROCCAN

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Doctoral School: ED 222 (Chemistry)

Research unit: UMR 7178 - Institut pluridisciplinaire Hubert Curien (IPHC)

Supervisors: Prof. Dominique TREBOUET (Unistra), Prof. Naaila OUAZZANI (Université Cadi Ayyad, Morocco)



Hi! I am Chaima Saf, I'm from Agadir, a coastal city located in the south of Morocco. I did my university studies at Cadi Ayyad University in Marrakesh. I followed the option bio environmental analysis to prepare the degree of license, and as the field interested me, I completed my career by obtaining the master's degree in "management of ecosystems and conservation biology".

Now I am a PhD student in the second year between 2 universities; the University Cadi Ayyad and the University of Strasbourg, in the framework of a project entitled "Valorisation of the liquid effluents of the olive industry for sustainable olive growing respectful of the environment». Oil Mill Wastewater is considered as a toxic industrial effluent because of their high content of organic matter and phenolic compounds. This project is therefore aimed at mitigating the environmental and ecological impacts of the liquid effluents of the olive industry through the valorisation phenolic compounds and the recycling of these by-products into fertigation.

I am so fascinated by the vast field of the environment and more particularly by the processes of wastewater treatment. The thesis will introduce me to the application of accumulated know-how and the deepening of my knowledge in this field. I would like during my thesis to be an effective actor in the agri-food sector at national and international level by presenting an applicable, profitable and above all sustainable know-how for the treatment of effluents and the valorization of by-products.

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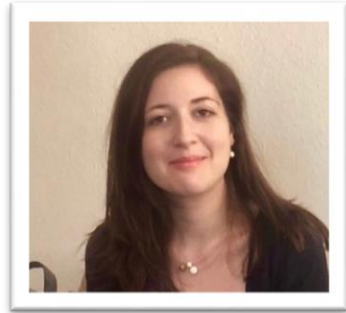
## Charlène WALTHER

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COTUTELLE PHD STUDENT

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Doctoral School: ED 520 (Humanities)

Research unit: EA 1337 - Configurations littéraires (CL)

Supervisor: Prof. Anthony MANGEON (Unistra), Prof. Olga HEL-BONGO (Université Laval, Canada)

My name is Charlène. I apologize for not being here today, and I hope that this brief presentation will help to introduce me a little. I am from France and my whole academic education took place here, in Strasbourg. I am now in the second year of my PHD thesis, and I am doing a joint PHD between Strasbourg University and Laval University, in Québec. I will go to Québec in January for the first time, and I am very much looking forward to it.

I am a PHD student in literature, and my work is about francophone authors in Quebec, France, Antilles and Subsaharian Africa. More specifically, I work focuses on what I have called "childhood fictions" (*fictions d'enfance*): I study how francophone authors can create obvious fake childhoods, by means of language, to manifest their own ideas about poetics and politics; and to tackle forms, old and new, of colonization. Therefore, I am in Literature, but I am also interested in sociology, history, politics, linguistics and psychoanalysis. I would be happy to discuss these subjects and to organize manifestations with international PHD students who are more specialized in these areas and share a commun interest in interdisciplinary approaches.