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He was born in 1951 in Istanbul and educated at the College Saint Joseph. He graduated from the Istanbul Technical University, Mechanical Engineering Faculty in 1974 and obtained his PhD on turbulent combustion at the University of Pierre et Marie Curie (Paris VI) in Paris in 1981. He was appointed assistant professor at the same university from 1979 to 1983 and then senior scientist at the CNRS combustion institute in Orleans. In 2003 he took the direction of this institute and in 2011 he created CAPRYSES.

His main expertise areas are turbulent reactive flows with applications to combustion, gasification and propulsion. He authored 130 papers referenced in SCI and directed 70 PhD theses. He coordinated several EU and national programs and collaborated with several industrial partners in the energy and aerospace propulsion domains.

His present main research interests are new chemical conversion processes for clean and safe energy and propulsion systems.