

Newts in time and space: the evolutionary history of Triturus newts at different temporal and spatial scales

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Although the name on the cover is mine, this thesis is the product of collaboration. This is reflected in the co-authorships of the chapters. Others have affected the ultimate shape of this thesis.

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Gonçalo Espregueira Cruz Themudo was born on November 25, 1979, in Vila Nova de Gaia, Portugal. Although he was always a city-dweller, he decided to become a biologist early on, because he wanted to understand Nature (because he didn't).

In 2001, he finished his *Licenciatura* (licentiate degree) in Biology from the University of Porto, Portugal, and immediately started working in CIBIO (Centro de Investigação em Biodiversidade e Recursos Genéticos) in Vairão, Portugal, with a research stipendium on a project with Dr. J. W. [Pim] Arntzen and Prof. Dr. Nuno Ferrand. This three years' work culminated with the completion of his MSc in Applied Ecology in 2005 from the University of Porto. During this period he also visited Leiden, The Netherlands, for the first time, thanks to a grant of the Jan Joost ter Pelkwijk Fund.

In April 2005, he moved to Leiden, to start working on his PhD in Biology in Naturalis, continuing his work with Dr. Arntzen. For two months in 2005, he visited Dr. Wieslaw Babik at the UFZ laboratory in Halle, Germany, within the scope of an Alexander von Humboldt Foundation grant.

He is now living in Copenhagen, Denmark, where he works as a post-doctoral researcher at the Faculty of Life Sciences, University of Copenhagen.

Publications in peer-reviewed journals

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