**Name:** Cong Liu **Sex:** Male **Birth:** 18/09/1999 **Nationality**: China

**Education:**

From 2022 PhD candidate in Evolutionary Genomics Unit, Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology, Okinawa, Japan

2021 MRes with Distinction in Computational Methods in Ecology and Evolution, Department of Life Sciences, Imperial College London, London, United Kingdom.

2020 BSc in Biotechnology, School of Life Sciences, Sun Yat-sen University, Guangzhou, China

**Thesis:**

* PhD Thesis: Genome Evolution of Termites

Supervisor: Thomas Bourguignon, Associate Professor, Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology

* MRes Thesis: Metagenomic DNA discoveries after sequencing everything (bacteria, parasites, food, gut) inside a bee

Supervisor: Dr. Peter Graystock, Imperial College London

* BSc Thesis: The evolution and expression analysis of WRKY transcription factor family in *Avicennia marina*, a typical mangrove species

Supervisor: Ziwen He, Associate Professor, Sun Yat-sen University

**Publications:**

1. **Liu, C.**, Aumont, C., Mikhailova, A., Audisio, T., Hellemans, S., Weng, Y. M., ... & Bourguignon, T. (2025). Unravelling termite evolution with 47 high-resolution genome assemblies. *Preprint*. **Under Review in *Nature Communications***. https://doi.org/10.1101/2025.01.20.633303
2. **Liu, C.**, Hellemans, S., Kinjo, Y., Mikhailova, A. A., Aumont, C., Weng, Y. M., ... & Bourguignon, T. (2025). Horizontal gene transfers are widespread across termite genomes but do not confer metabolic innovations. *Preprint*. https://doi.org/10.1101/2025.03.16.643567
3. Jones, A. R., Mikhailova, A. A., Aumont, C., Berger, J., Bornberg-Bauer, E., **Liu, C.**, ... & Harrison, M. C. (2025). *Cryptocercus* genomes expand knowledge of adaptations to xylophagy and termite sociality. *Preprint*. https://doi.org/10.1101/2025.01.24.634722
4. Feng, X., Li, G., Wu, W., Lyu, H., Wang, J., **Liu, C.**, ... & He, Z. (2023). Expansion and adaptive evolution of the WRKY transcription factor family in *Avicennia* mangrove trees. *Marine Life Science & Technology*, *5*(2), 155-168. https://doi.org/10.1007/s42995-023-00177-y
5. **Liu, C.** (April 2025). “The Evolution of Horizontal Gene Transfers in Termites”. Oral presentation in the Wolbachia Conference 2025, Okinawa, Japan.
6. **Liu, C.** (July 2025). “The Diversity and Evolution of Transposons in Termite Genomes”. Poster presentation in the Annual Meeting of the Society for Molecular Biology & Evolution (SMBE 2025), Beijing, China.
7. **Liu, C.** (August 2024). “The Evolution of Horizontal Gene Transfers in Termites”. Oral presentation in the International Congress of Entomology (ICE 2024), Kyoto, Japan.