



Tanya Strydom

PHD STUDENT

Département de sciences biologiques, Université de Montréal, Pavillon Marie-Victorin, PO Box 6128
Centre-ville Stn, Montréal, QC, H3C 3J7 Canada

✉ tanya.strydom@umontreal.ca | 🏠 tanyadoesscience.com | 📱 TanyaS08 | 📞 0000-0001-6067-1349 |

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Research Interests

computational ecology; functional traits; ecological networks; species interactions; FAIR and open science

Education

Doctor of Philosophy: Biological Sciences

Montréal, Canada

UNIVERSITÉ DE MONTRÉAL

2020 - Present

- Advisor: T. Poisot, PhD
- Thesis: Decoding Ecological Networks (in terms of the information from within)

Master of Science: Ecology and Biodiversity

Stockholm, Sweden

STOCKHOLMS UNIVERSITET

2018-20

- Advisor: K. Hylander, PhD
- Thesis: Declines and increases in northern and southern plant populations after changes in the microclimate

Bachelor of Science (Honours): Plant Sciences

Pretoria, South Africa

UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA

2017

- Advisor: P.C. le Roux, PhD
- Thesis: Bush encroachment in South Africa's montane grasslands: the impact of *Leucosidea sericea* on microclimate and vegetation

Bachelor of Science: Ecology

Pretoria, South Africa

UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA

2014-16

Fellowships and Internships

BIOS² Fellow

COMPUTATIONAL BIODIVERSITY SCIENCE AND SERVICES (BIOS²) TRAINING PROGRAM

2021 - present

UiB Internship

UNIVERSITY OF BERGEN

2020

- Website development for the Plants Functional Courses website. This included content creation as well as some front end development

3rd year Undergraduate Mentorship Program

UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA

2016

- Worked as an assistant within the M. Robertson lab. This included the sorting and identification of pitfall trap samples as well as extracting information from databases

International Collaboration and Working Groups

Canadian metaweb construction working group

PIs: T. POISOT (UNIVERSITÉ DE MONTRÉAL) AND L.J. POLLOCK, (MCGILL UNIVERSITY)

2021

- Leader of one of the sub-projects focused on using machine learning for prediction

Network prediction synthesis working group

PIs: T. POISOT (UNIVERSITÉ DE MONTRÉAL) AND L.J. POLLOCK, (MCGILL UNIVERSITY)

2020

- Co-lead author of resulting publication

Plant Functional Trait Course 5 in Peru

PIs: V. VANDVIK (UNIVERSITY OF BERGEN) AND B.J. ENQUIST, (UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA)

2020

- Plant functional responses to fire

* Indicates co-lead author

PUBLICATIONS

- Strydom*, T.**, Catchen*, M. D., Banville, F., Caron, D., Dansereau, G., Desjardins-Proulx, P., Forero-Muñoz, N. R., Higino, G., Mercier, B., Gonzalez, A., Gravel, D., Pollock, L. S., & Poisot, T. (2021). A roadmap toward predicting species interaction networks (across space and time). *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B*, 376(20210063). <https://doi.org/10.1098/rstb.2021.0063>
- Strydom, T.**, Dalla Riva, G. V., & Poisot, T. (2021). SVD entropy reveals the high complexity of ecological networks. *Frontiers in Ecology and Evolution*, 9. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fevo.2021.623141>
- Chacón-Labela, J., Boakye, M., Enquist, B. J., Farfan-Rios, W., Gya, R., Halbritter, A. H., Middleton, S. L., von Oppen, J., Pastor-Ploskonka, S., **Strydom, T.**, Vandvik, V., & Geange, S. R. (2021). From a crisis to an opportunity: Eight insights for doing science in the COVID-19 era and beyond. *Ecology and Evolution: Academic Practice in Ecology and Evolution*, 11(8), 3588–3596. <https://doi.org/10.1002/ece3.7026>
- Geange*, S. R., von Oppen*, J., **Strydom*, T.**, Boakye, M., Gauthier, T.-L. J., Gya, R., Halbritter, A. H., Jessup, L. H., Middleton, S. L., Navarro, J., Pierfederici, M. E., Chacón-Labela, J., Cotner, S., Farfan-Rios, W., Maitner, B. S., Michaletz, S. T., Telford, R. J., Enquist, B. J., & Vandvik, V. (2021). Next-generation field courses: Integrating Open Science and online learning. *Ecology and Evolution: Academic Practice in Ecology and Evolution*, 11(8), 3577–3587. <https://doi.org/10.1002/ece3.7009>
- Kattge, J., Boenisch, G., Diaz, S., Lavorel, S., Prentice, C., Leadley, P., Wirth, C., & the TRY Consortium. (2020). *Global Change Biology*, 26(1), 119–188. <https://doi.org/10.1111/gcb.14904>

PREPRINTS

- Maitner, B. S., Halbritter, A. H., Telford, R. J., **Strydom, T.**, Chacón-Labela, J., Henderson, A. N., Lamanna, C., Sloat, L. L., Kerkhoff, A. J., Messier, J., Rasmussen, N. L., Pomati, F., Merz, E., Vandvik, V., & Enquist, B. J. (2021). On estimating the shape and dynamics of phenotypic distributions in ecology and evolution. *Preprint*. <https://doi.org/10.22541/au.162196147.76797968/v1>
- Strydom*, T.**, Bouskila*, S., Banville, F., Barros, C., Caron, D., Farrell, M. J., Fortin, M.-J., Hemming, V., Mercier, B., Pollock, L. S., Runghen, R., Dalla Riva, G. V., & Poisot, T. (2021). Food web reconstruction through phylogenetic transfer of low-rank network representation. *Preprint*. <https://doi.org/10.32942/osf.io/y7sdz>

Presentations

INVITED TALKS

Taking FAIR and open science to the field: The evolution of the PFTC field course

Virtual

LIVING NORWAY COLLOQUIUM 2020: TOWARDS OPENESS AND TRANSPARENCY IN APPLIED ECOLOGY

Oct., 2020

- Presented as part of the education and open science workshop
- **Tanya Strydom** alongside Aud H. Halbritter, 109 PFTC Participants
- [Link to slides](#)

TALKS

Exploring the complexity of ecological networks using SVD entropy

Virtual

11TH ANNUAL QCBS SYMPOSIUM

Dec., 2020

- **Tanya Strydom**, Giulio V. Dalla Riva and Timothée Poisot
- [Link to slides](#)

SHORT PRESENTATIONS

Reconstructing food webs using transfer learning

Virtual

CSEE-SCEE 2021 ANNUAL MEETING

Aug., 2021

- **Tanya Strydom**, Salomé Bouskila and Timothée Poisot

WORKSHOPS

Designing a collective prototype of future tropical and subtropical science

Virtual

ATBC ANNUAL MEETING

Jul., 2021

- Gracielle Higino, Mickey Boakye, Norma Forero, **Tanya Strydom**
- [Link to webpage](#)

Science Communication & Engagement

COMMUNICATION

Cartoonist

FORTNIGHTLY CARTOONIST FOR ÉCOLOGY FOR THE MASSES BLOG

2020 - present

POPULAR ARTICLES

von Oppen, J., Gya, R., Geange, S., **Strydom, T.**, Middleton, S., & Maitner, B. S. (2021). Next generation field courses: Enhancing ECR development through open science and online learning. In *Ecology for the Masses*.

Cotner, S., Enquist, B. J., Chacon, J., Maitner, B. S., Farfan-Rios, W., Michaletz, S., Garen, J., Gauthier, T.-L. J., Vandvik, V., Gya, R., Halbritter, A. H., Hošková, K., Pierfederici, M. E., Quinteros-Casaverde, N. L., Diaz, E. S., Jessup, L. H., **Strydom, T.**, & von Oppen, J. (2020). International scientists need better support during global emergencies. In *Times Higher Education*.

Academic Service

Society for Open, Reliable, and Transparent Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

MEMBER

2021 - Present

Québec Centre for Biodiversity Sciences

STUDENT MEMBER

2020 - Present

Reviewed Journals

PLANT ECOLOGY, PLoS ONE

Funding and Awards

Qualified for the UP Postgraduate Masters Research Bursary

AWARDED BY: UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA

2018

Awarded the 3rd year Undergraduate Mentorship Bursary

AWARDED BY: UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA

2016