



Tanya Strydom

PHD STUDENT

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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: Common properties of species interaction networks across space

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

Research Experience

Plant functional trait responses to elevation and fire

V. VANDVIK, PHD AND B.J. ENQUIST, PHD

2020

- Attended the 5th Plants Functional Traits Course in Peru co-hosted by the University of Bergen and Arizona University.
- Theory on plant functional traits and their relationships with broader ecological processes.
- Practical elements include: experimental design, data collection and curation, and report writing.

Plant vital rates along microclimate gradients.

K. HYLANDER, PHD

2019-20

- Masters degree research project.
- Focused on the variation of plant population vital rates along microclimate gradients and the role of historic climatic conditions.

Plant-pollinator interactions in different microsites

J. EHRLÉN, PHD AND A. TACK, PHD

2019

- A Masters level course research project.
- Independently worked on hypothesis formulation and experimental design.

The impact of an encroaching species on vegetation and microclimate

P.C. LE ROUX, PHD

2017

- Honours degree research project.
- Research focused on the concepts of biotic interactions, ecosystem engineering and habitat modification.

Publications

PUBLICATIONS

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*, 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*, 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. *Submitted*. <https://doi.org/10.22541/au.162196147.76797968/v1>

Strydom, T., Catchen, M. D., Banville, F., Caron, D., Dansereau, G., Desjardins-Proulx, P., Forero-Muñoz, N. R., Higinio, G., Mercier, B., Gonzalez, A., Gravel, D., Pollock, L. S., & Poisot, T. (2021). A primer on predicting species interaction networks (across space and time). *Under Revision*. <https://doi.org/10.32942/osf.io/eu7k3>

Strydom, T., Dalla Riva, G. V., & Poisot, T. (2021). SVD entropy reveals the high complexity of ecological networks. *In Press*. <https://doi.org/10.32942/osf.io/q9v85>

Science Communication & Engagement

COMMUNICATION

Cartoonist

FORTNIGHTLY CARTOONIST FOR ECOLOGY 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*.

Presentations

INVITED TALKS

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

Trondheim, Norway

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

Québec, Canada

11TH ANNUAL QCBS SYMPOSIUM

Dec., 2020

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

Technical Skills

Statistical Analysis	generalized and linear mixed-effect models; multivariate analysis; Bayesian analysis; primarily using R
Spatial Analysis	spatial analysis in ecology; ArcGIS; Maxent; GBIF
Image Analysis	ImageJ; Adobe Photoshop
Phylogenetic Analysis	extracting and cleaning samples from GenBank; MEGA
Academic Writing	assessed at various levels; peer-reviewed articles; literature reviews; research proposals; reports; popular articles
Oral Communication	masters level course; presented in various settings
Language Skills	English and Afrikaans as a native speaker; conversational in German

Internships

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

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