

# Sungsik Kong

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## Academic Appointments

2023                      **Postdoctoral Scholar**  
Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering  
University of California San Diego  
PI: Dr. Siavash Mir Arabbayi

## Education

2018–Present	<b>Ph.D.</b>	Evolution, Ecology, and Organismal Biology (EEOB) Presidential Fellowship Awardee Advisor: Dr. Laura Kubatko	The Ohio State University
2015	<b>M.Sc.</b>	Ecology and Evolutionary Biology (EEB) Advisor: Dr. Robert Murphy	University of Toronto
2012	<b>B.Sc.</b>	Ecology and Evolutionary Biology and Zoology Advisors: Drs. Deborah McLennan and Robert Murphy	University of Toronto

## Publications

### Manuscripts in Progress

6. Peng J, **Kong S**, and Kubatko LS. (In Preparation) A likelihood ratio test for hybridization under the multispecies coalescent.
5. Fonseca EM, Camurugi F, Magalhães FM, **Kong S**, Colli GR, Werneck FP, and Carstens BC. (In Preparation) Geographic distance, rivers, and historical climate explain genetic structure and differentiation in a widely distributed lizard in South America.
4. **Kong S**, Swofford DL, and Kubatko LS. (In Review) Inference of phylogenetic networks from sequence data using composite likelihood.
3. Fu M, Eimes JA, **Kong S**, Lamichhaney S, and Waldman B. (In Review) Chytrid-resistant genotypes arise from multiple mutations.
2. **Kong S**, Sánchez-Pacheco SJ, and Murphy RW. (In Review) Topological incongruence between median-joining networks and Bayesian inference phylogenies. Available on *bioRxiv* 10.1101/2022.10.01.510440

1. Glon H, Häussermann V, Brewin P, Brickle P, **Kong S**, Smith M, and Daly M. (In Review) There and back again: The unexpected journeys of *Metridium* de Blainville, 1824 between the old oceans and throughout the modern world.

## Peer-reviewed Journal Articles

<sup>‡</sup>Co-correspondence; <sup>†</sup>Equal contribution

15. Nguyen HQ, Ho P-T, **Kong S**, Bae Y, Pham TH, and Jang Y. (In Press) A time-calibrated mitogenomic phylogeny suggests that Korean *Hyalessa fuscata* is a bridge between Chinese and Japanese *H. maculaticollis*. *Journal of Genetics* 101
14. **Kong S** (2022) Digest: Frequent hybridization in *Darevskia* rarely leads to the evolution of asexuality. *Evolution* 76:9 2216–2217 doi: 10.1111/evo.14587
13. Nguyen HQ, Kim E, Bae Y, Chae S, Ji S, Heo J, **Kong S**, Nguyen TK, Pham TH, and Jang Y. (2022) An effective method for accurate life-stage delimitation of cicadas. *Journal of Asia-Pacific Entomology* 101952 doi: 10.1016/j.aspen.2022.101952
  - Featured in Donga Science magazine (Korean), 2022 Issue 15, pp. 16–23
12. **Kong S**<sup>†</sup>, Pons JC<sup>†</sup>, Kubatko LS, and Wicke K. (2022) Classes of phylogenetic networks and their mathematical and biological significance. *Journal of Mathematical Biology* 84:47 doi: 10.1007/s00285-022-01746-y
11. Glon MG, Broe MB, Crandall KA, Daly M, **Kong S**, Thoma RF, and Freudenstein JV. (2022) Anchored hybrid enrichment resolves the *Lacunicambarus* (Decapoda: Cambaridae) phylogeny. *Journal of Crustacean Biology* 42:1 ruab073 doi: 10.1093/jcbiol/ruab073
10. **Kong S** and Kubatko LS. (2021) Comparative performance of popular methods for hybrid detection using genomic data. *Systematic Biology* 70:5 891–907 doi: 10.1093/sysbio/syaa092
9. Sánchez-Pacheco SJ<sup>‡</sup>, **Kong S**<sup>†</sup>, Pulido-Santacruz P, Murphy RW, and Kubatko L. (2020) Median-joining network analysis of SARS-CoV-2 genomes is neither phylogenetic nor evolutionary. *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A* 117:23 12518–12519 doi: 10.1073/pnas.2007062117
  - In the 98th percentile of all research outputs tracked by Altmetric (as of August 2022)
  - Scoring higher Altmetric Attention Score than 97% of all research outputs of similar age
8. Kim M, Nguyen HQ, Yi Y, Ahn J, Kim YE, Jang S, Kim S, **Kong S**, and Borzée A. (2020) Policy recommendation on whaling, trade and watching of cetaceans in the Republic of Korea. *Biodiversity Journal* 11: 255–258 doi: <https://doi.org/10.31396/Biodiv.Jour.2020.11.1.255.258>
7. Weiriga JG, Boot MR, Dantas-Queiroz MV, Duckett D, Fonseca EM, Glon H, Hamilton N, **Kong S**, Lanna FM, Mattingly KZ, Parsons DJ, Smith ML, Stone BW, Thompson C, Zuo L, and Carstens BC. (2020) Does habitat stability structure intraspecific genetic diversity? It’s complicated... *Frontiers in Biogeography* e45377 doi:10.21425/F5FBG45377
6. Borzée A, Purevdorj Z, Kim YI, **Kong S**, Choe M, Yi Y, Kim K, Kim A, and Jang Y. (2020) Breeding preferences in the Treefrogs *Dryophytes japonicus* (Hylidae) in Mongolia, the northern limit of their range. *Journal of Natural History* 53: 2685–2698 doi:10.1080/00222933.2019.1704458
5. Groffen J, **Kong S**, Jang Y, and Borzée A. (2019) The invasive American bullfrog (*Lithobates catesbeianus*) in the Republic of Korea: history and recommendation for population control. *Management of Biological Invasions* 10:3 517–535 doi: 10.3391/mbi.2019.10.3.08

4. Bae Y, **Kong S**, Yi Y, Jang Y, and Borzée A. (2019) Additional new type of threat to *Hynobius* salamander eggs: predation by loaches (*Misgurnus* sp.) in agricultural wetlands. *Animal Biology* 69:4 451–461 doi: 10.1163/15707563-20191070
3. Borzée A, **Kong S**, Didinger C, Nguyen HQ, and Jang Y. (2018) A ring-species or a ring of species? Phylogenetic relationship between two treefrog species around the Yellow Sea: *Dryophytes suweonensis* and *D. immaculatus*. *The Herpetological Journal* 28: 160–170
2. Kim K, **Kong S**, Kim YI, Borzée A, Bae Y, and Jang Y. (2018) Japanese hard ticks (*Ixodes nipponensis*) parasitizing on the endangered leopard cat (*Prionailurus bengalensis euptilura*) in the Republic of Korea. *Animal Systematics, Evolution and Diversity* 34:1 23–26 doi: 10.5635/ASED.2018.34.1.032
1. **Kong S**<sup>†</sup>, Sánchez-Pacheco S<sup>†</sup>, and Murphy RW. (2016) On the use of Median-Joining Networks in evolutionary biology. *Cladistics* 32: 691–699 doi: 10.1111/cla.12147

## Policy Recommendations

1. Borzée A, Nguyen HQ, Ahn J, Kim M, Kim S, Jang S, **Kong S**, Kim YE, and Yi Y. (2017) Policy recommendation on the negative impact of infrastructure development on the population of endangered Long-Tailed Goral in Oseck-Kkeutchong. *Society for Conservation Biology Korean Chapter*

## Other Writings for a Popular Audience

2. **Kong S** (2019) The giving tree: how the branching pattern of a tree is used in evolutionary biology. Available on <http://eeobcourseblogwolfestudents.blogspot.com/2019/11/the-giving-tree-how-branching-pattern.html>
1. **Kong S** and Fonseca EM. (2019) So far and yet so similar: Convergent evolution in helicopter damselflies. Available on <https://sungsko.github.io/posts/2019/01/blog-post-1/>

## Presentations

### Invited Talks

2022	Algorithms and Complexity in Phylogenetics, virtual
2022	Indiana University, Bloomington, IN., USA
2022	University of California San Diego, CA., USA, virtual
2022	Society of Systematic Biologists (SSB) Mayr award competition, Evolution, Cleveland, OH., USA
2022	Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA., USA
2021, 2022	EEOB Recruitment Speed Talk, The Ohio State University, OH., USA, virtual
2021	Annual Conference of the Korean Association of Biological Sciences, Seoul, South Korea, virtual
2021	Workshop in Mathematical and Computational Biology, virtual
2021	Misericordia University, PA., USA, virtual
2019	The Stone Laboratory, Gibraltar Island, OH., USA
2013, 2016	Ewha Womans University, Seoul, South Korea

### Regular Talks

2021	Evolution, virtual
2021	EEOB Annual Darwin Series, The Ohio State University, OH., USA, virtual
2019, 2020	Evolution & Ecology (E&E) Club, The Ohio State University, OH., USA
2020	SSB Standalone Meeting, Gainesville, FL., USA

2017 Animal Communication Symposium, Ewha Womans University, Seoul, South Korea

## Posters

2022 **[Best Poster Award Winner]** Intelligent Systems for Molecular Biology (ISMB), the International Society for Computational Biology (ISCB), Madison, WI., USA  
2019 Evolution, Providence, RI., USA  
2019 EEOB Recruitment Weekend, The Ohio State University, OH., USA  
2017 Annual Conference of the Korean Association of Biological Sciences, Yong-In, South Korea  
2014 Korean-American Scientists and Engineers Association Young Generation Technical and Leadership Conference, Houston, TX., USA  
2012 University of Toronto EEB Undergraduate Research Fair, Toronto, ON., Canada

## Additional Academic Experiences

### Academic Service

2019–Present **Journal reviewer for:** *Systematic Biology*; *Molecular Biology and Evolution*; *Genome Biology and Evolution*; *Frontiers of Biogeography*; *Infection, Genetics and Evolution*; *PeerJ*  
2015–Present **Society Memberships:** SSB; Society for Study of Evolution (SSE); ISCB  
2020–2021 **Graduate Studies Committee** Department of EEOB, The Ohio State University, OH., USA  
2019–2020 **Admissions Committee** Department of EEOB, The Ohio State University, OH., USA  
2016–2017 **Communication Officer** Society for Conservation Biology (SCB), Korean Chapter

### Work Experience

2022 **Visiting Scholar** University of Wisconsin (PI: Claudia Solís-Lemus), Madison, WI., USA  
2022 **Visiting Scholar** Louisiana State University (PI: Dr. Jeremy Brown), Baton Rouge, LA., USA  
2018–2021 **Graduate Associate** The Ohio State University, OH., USA  
2016–2017 **Researcher** Ewha Womans University, Division of Eco-science, Seoul, South Korea  
2013–2015 **Graduate Associate** University of Toronto, ON., Canada  
2013 **Researcher** Ewha Womans University, Division of Eco-science, Seoul, South Korea  
2011–2013 **Biodiversity Technician** Faculty of Forestry, University of Toronto, ON., Canada  
2012 **Student Researcher** Centre for Biodiversity and Conservation Biology, Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto, ON., Canada  
2011–2012 **Student Researcher** McLennan Laboratory, University of Toronto, Toronto, ON., Canada  
2011 **Work-Study Student** Faculty of Forestry, University of Toronto, ON., Canada

### Fieldwork Experience

2017 Field expeditions to South Korea, Mongolia, and China (Resulted in publications #4, 5, and 6)  
2016 Field expeditions to Indonesia, Laos, and South Korea (Resulted in publication #2)  
2011–2013 Fieldwork in Greater Toronto Area (GTA), Urban Biodiversity and Forestry Laboratory, University of Toronto, Canada  
2010 Fieldwork in GTA, Cities Centre, University of Toronto, Canada

## Undergraduate Students Advising

2020 Summer	Shelby Jansens and Kimberly Wiles, co-advised with Dr. Laura Kubatko, Mathematical Biosciences Institute Research Experiences for Undergraduates program. “Detecting shifts in the evolutionary process in SARS-CoV-2 genomes”
2014–2015	Tulio Soares and Ellen Southam, co-advised with Dr. Pedro Bernardo, University of Toronto and Royal Ontario Museum
2014 Summer	Shreeram Senthivasan, co-advised with Drs. Pedro Bernardo, Santiago Sánchez-Pacheco, and Robert Murphy, University of Toronto and Royal Ontario Museum

## Conference/Workshop Participation

Bolds state particular role in the event; participant if unstated.

2022	<b>Technical Moderator</b> ISMB, ISCB, Madison, WI., USA
2022	Evolution Meeting, Cleveland, OH., USA
2022	<b>Symposium Organizer</b> (co-organized with Md Rejuan Haque) Towards the network of life: Phylogenetic networks as a tool to understand complex evolutionary histories, Evolution Meeting, Cleveland, OH., USA
2022	Workshop in Mathematical and Computational Biology, virtual
2021	Annual Conference of the Korean Association of Biological Sciences, Ewha Womans University, South Korea, virtual
2021	iEvoBio, Evolution Meeting, virtual
2021	<b>Chair/Moderator</b> in multiple Faux-Live Sessions, Evolution Meeting, virtual
2021	Workshop in Mathematical and Computational Biology, virtual
2021	SMRT Leiden 2021 – Young Investigator Virtual Conference, hosted by Pacific Biosciences and Leiden University Medical Center, virtual
2021	Preparing Future Faculty Zoom Workshop, Workshop #1: From Graduate School to Full Professor: The Road Less Traveled, The Ohio State University, virtual
2021	Virtual Asilomar 2021, American Society of Naturalists, virtual
2020	Future of Systematics Workshop, SSB Meeting, funded by NSF, hosted by Dr. Emily Sessa, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL., USA
2020	SSB Standalone Meeting, Gainesville, FL., USA
2019	Evolution Meeting, Providence, RI., USA
2019	Midwest Phylogenetics Workshop, Itasca Biological Station, funded by NSF, hosted by Dr. Emma Goldberg, University of Minnesota, MN., USA
2017	Annual Conference of the Korean Association of Biological Sciences, Yong-In, South Korea
2017	SCB Asia Section Workshop on Conservation policy, funded by SCB, Bangkok, Thailand
2016	World Congress of Herpetology, Hangzhou and Tonglu, China
2015	Phylogenomics Symposium and Software School, funded by NSF, hosted by Dr. Tandy Warnow, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI., USA
2015	SSB Standalone Meeting, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI., USA

## Diversity and Inclusion Activities

2022	International Mixer, Evolution Meeting, Cleveland, OH., USA
2021	<b>Moderator</b> International Mixer, Evolution Meeting, virtual
2021	<b>Moderator</b> Decolonizing Evolution Workshop, Evolution Meeting, virtual
2021	Transformative Justice within Academia: A radical institutional reflection, The Centre for Criminology and Sociolegal Studies Graduate Student Conference, University of Toronto, virtual

2020	<b>Moderator</b> Strategies for Responding to Harassment and Bullying: Improving Workplace Climate, Evolution Community Resources for Early Career Researchers 2020 (ECR <sup>2</sup> ), virtual
2020	<b>Moderator</b> Fireside ECR Chat, ECR <sup>2</sup> , virtual

## Outreach

2022	<b>Awardee</b> Graduate School Awards Ceremony, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH., USA
2021–2022	<b>Mentor</b> Woodsworth Mentorship Program, University of Toronto, Canada [⇒]Mentee: Alanna Kong, University of Toronto (2021-2022)
2020–2022	<b>Mentor</b> Graduate Student Mentorship Initiative Mentor, Científico Latino [⇒]Mentee: Devansh Pandey, University of Texas at Austin (2021-2022)
2019–2021	<b>Mentor</b> Department of EEOB Graduate Mentoring, The Ohio State University, OH., USA [⇒]Mentee: McKenna Molnar, The Ohio State University (2020-2021)
2020	<b>Invited Panelist</b> EEOB 8894: EEOB Graduate Seminar, The Ohio State University, virtual
2020	<b>Invited Guest</b> Translational Data Analytics Institute Kickoff Event, College of Arts and Sciences, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH., USA
2019	<b>Volunteer</b> Museum of Biological Diversity's Open House, The Ohio State University, OH., USA
2016	<b>Volunteer Biologist</b> Kuang Si Butterfly Park, Ban Thapene, Luang Prabang District, Laos

## Skills

Programming	UNIX, R, Python, Julia, HTML, JavaScript
Typesetting	L <sup>A</sup> T <sub>E</sub> X and Overleaf, R Markdown, Jupyter Notebook
OS	Mac OS X, Microsoft Windows
Others	Geneious Prime, Adobe Illustrator, Microsoft Offices, iWorks, iMovie
Languages	English (Fluent), Korean (Native), Japanese (Intermediate)

## Grants and Awards

All in US Dollars unless stated. †Canadian Dollar; ‡Approximately converted from South Korean Won

2022	EvolCompGen Best Poster Award, ISMB, ISCB	\$100
2022	EEOB Graduate Development Grant, The Ohio State University	Funded
2022	EEOB Graduate Evolution & Ecology Student Organization (GEES) Career Development Grant, The Ohio State University	\$200
2022	Council of Graduate Students (CGS) Career Development Grant, The Ohio State University	\$350
2022	The Presidential Fellowship, The Ohio State University	\$36,500
2021	SSB Ad Hoc Funds	\$3,000
2021	EEOB Darwin Talk Society Membership Grant, The Ohio State University	\$70
2021	EEOB Graduate Development Grant, The Ohio State University	Funded
2020	SSE Graduate Research Excellence Grant – R.C. Lewontin Award competition	\$1,800
2020	Funding for participation in Future of Systematics Workshop, SSB Standalone Meeting (NSF)	\$500
2019	Funding for participation in Midwest Phylogenetics Workshop (NSF)	Funded
2019	EEOB Graduate Development Grant, The Ohio State University	Funded

2017	Major contribution to successful grant application to National Research Foundation of Korea (2-2017-0410-001-1) PI: Dr. Yikweon Jang, Ewha Womans University, Seoul, South Korea	‡\$500,000
2013–2015	University of Toronto Graduate Fellowship	Funded
2014	E.M. Walker Graduate Award in Biodiversity, University of Toronto	†\$2,615
2010–2012	University of Toronto Undergraduate Bursaries	†≈\$3,000

## Teaching Experiences

### Teaching Assistantship

#### *The Ohio State University*

2021 Fall	<i>EEOB 3310</i> Evolution
2021 Summer	<i>EEOB 2520</i> Human Physiology
2021 Spring	<i>EEOB 3310</i> Evolution
2020 Fall	<i>EEOB 3310</i> Evolution
2020 Summer	<i>EEOB 3310</i> Evolution
2020 Spring	<i>EEOB 3310</i> Evolution
2019 Fall	<i>EEOB 3310</i> Evolution
2019 Summer	<i>EEOB 1930</i> Introduction to Biological Studies–Aquatic Biology
2019 Spring	<i>EEOB 3310</i> Evolution
2018 Fall	<i>BIOL 1113</i> Energy Transformation and Development

#### *University of Toronto*

2015 Summer	<i>BIO 120</i> Adaptation and Biodiversity
2015 Spring	<i>BIO 220</i> From Genomics to Ecosystems in a Changing World
2014 Fall	<i>EEB 362</i> Macroevolution
2014 Summer	<i>BIO 120</i> Adaptation and Biodiversity
2014 Spring	<i>EEB 386</i> Avian Biology
2013 Fall	<i>BIO 120</i> Adaptation and Biodiversity

#### *Miscellaneous*

2016 Spring	Daruma Eco-Farm, Bang Phra, Si Racha District, Chon Buri, Thailand
2009 Summer	Cheong-Shim International English Camp, Ga-Pyeong, South Korea

## References

1. Prof. Dr. Laura S. Kubatko  
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2. Prof. Dr. Robert W. Murphy  
Sr. Curator, Herpetology  
Centre for Biodiversity and Conservation Biology  
Department of Natural History-Royal Ontario Museum  
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