

# Elita Baldridge

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Utah State University, Logan UT; 2015

*Ph.D. Ecology* Dissertation title: A data-intensive assessment of the species-abundance distribution

<https://github.com/weecology/sad-comparison>

Advisor: Dr. Ethan White

Fort Hays State University, Hays, KS; 2010

*M.S., Biology*

Thesis title: Nested subsets, scale, and the distribution of abundance: A macroecological approach.

Advisor: Dr. Rob Channell

Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS; 2007

*B.S., Wildlife Ecology and Management*

## Professional Experience

Fall 2012- Fall 2014 *Graduate teaching assistant*  
Utah State University, Logan UT.

Summer 2011- 2012 *Graduate research assistant*  
Utah State University, Logan UT.

Fall 2010-Spring 2011 *Graduate teaching assistant*  
Utah State University, Logan UT.

Fall 2009-Spring 2010 *Flehart Fellow*  
Fort Hays State University, Hays, KS.

Summer 2009 *Kansas Wetlands Education Center assistant*  
Kansas Wetlands Education Center, Cheyenne Bottoms, KS.

Fall 2008-Spring 2009 *Graduate teaching assistant*  
Fort Hays State University, Hays KS

## Summary of Courses Taught

### Utah State University, Logan, UT

***Introductory Biology Laboratory, Biology 1610 and 1620, one credit hour (Fall 2010, 2012, 2014 Spring 2011, 2013)***

Taught introductory biology course for biology majors, covering evolution, basic genetics, diversity of life, and ecology.

### Fort Hays State University, Hays, KS

***Ecology Laboratory, one credit hour (Spring 2009)***

Taught ecology laboratory for majors, covering diversity indices, life tables, foraging, distributions, and mark/recapture.

***Microbiology for Allied Health Laboratory, one credit hour (Fall 2008, Spring 2009)***

Assisted with laboratory preparation for non-majors course, making microbiological media and culturing bacteria, as well as assisting student with laboratory activities.

## **Laboratory Experiences in Biology, one credit hour (Fall 2008)**

Taught introductory biology course for non-majors, covering evolution, basic genetics, diversity of life, and ecology.

## **Research**

### **Research Interests**

Commonness and rarity  
Community ecology  
Macroecology  
Ecoinformatics

### **Publication and Research Product Impacts:**

[Impact Story](#)

[Google Scholar](#)

### **Publications**

[OA]: The published paper is open access (or at least free to read) [OA version]: Link to an open or free version of the paper if the published version is not open access. Myhrvold, N.P., *E. Baldrige*, B. Chan, D. Sivam, D.L. Freeman, S.K.M. Ernest. In Press. An Amniote Life History Database to Perform Comparative Analyses with Birds, Mammals, and Reptiles. Ecology (Ecological Archives Data Paper) [OA]

*E. Baldrige*, X. Xiao, E.P. White. 2015. An extensive comparison of species-abundance distribution models. [OA] *preprint, bioRxiv* <http://dx.doi.org/10.1101/024802>

White, E.P, *E. Baldrige*+, Z.T. Brym+, K.J. Locey+, D.J. McGlinn+, S.R. Supp+. 2013. Nine simple ways to make it easier to (re)use your data. *Ideas in Ecology and Evolution*. 6(2): 1–10. [OA] <http://library.queensu.ca/ojs/index.php/IEE/article/view/4608/4898>

(+: *Authors contributed equally to the work.*)

*E. Baldrige*. 2010. Nested subsets, scale, and the distribution of abundance: A macroecological approach. Master's thesis, Fort Hays State University. [OA version][http://files.figshare.com/1701415/Nested\\_Subsets\\_Master\\_s\\_Thesis.pdf](http://files.figshare.com/1701415/Nested_Subsets_Master_s_Thesis.pdf)

### **Presentations**

Doctoral defense 2015, Logan UT *Elita Baldrige* "A data-intensive assessment of the species-abundance distribution." <http://www.slideshare.net/embaldrige/a-dataintensive-assessment-of-the-species-abundance-distribution>  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tkXUD0MSRCo>

Ecological Society of America 2013 Meeting, Minneapolis MN  
*Elita Baldrige* & Ethan White, organizers. Ignite session "Constraints in Ecology".

Ecological Society of America 2011 Meeting, Austin TX  
*Elita Baldrige* & Rob Channell. Testing the assumptions of the nested subset pattern.

Southwestern Association of Naturalists 2010 Meeting, Junction TX  
*Elita Baldrige* & Rob Channell. Nested subset analysis: Examining geographic scale and abundance.

Kansas Ornithological Society 2009 Meeting, Hutchison KS  
*Elita Baldrige* & Rob Channell. Effects of environmental conditions and distance from the geographic range center on the abundance of avian species.

## Posters

Ecological Society of America 2015 Meeting, Baltimore MD *Elita Baldrige* & Ethan White. Ecologist in silico: Facilitating access for chronically ill/disabled ecologists. [OA] [http://files.figshare.com/2201245/ESA\\_2015.pdf](http://files.figshare.com/2201245/ESA_2015.pdf)

Gordon Research Conference 2014 "Unifying Ecology Across Scales", Boston MA  
Nathan Myrhvold, *Elita Baldrige*, Benjamin Chan, Dan Freeman, and Morgan Ernest. An Amniote Life History Database to Perform Comparative Analyses with Birds, Mammals, and Reptiles. Presented by Morgan Ernest [OA] [http://files.figshare.com/1587021/Ernest\\_Gordon\\_2014.pptx](http://files.figshare.com/1587021/Ernest_Gordon_2014.pptx)

Ecological Society of America 2012 Meeting, Portland OR  
*Elita Baldrige*, Nathan Myrhvold, and Morgan Ernest. Macroecological life-history trait database for birds, mammals, and reptiles. [OA] [http://files.figshare.com/98378/BaldrigeESA2012\\_poster.pdf](http://files.figshare.com/98378/BaldrigeESA2012_poster.pdf)

Research & Creative Activities Week 2010, Fort Hays State University, Hays KS  
*Elita Baldrige*. Niche position, range position, and the distribution of abundance.

Research & Creative Activities Week 2009, Fort Hays State University, Hays KS  
*Elita Baldrige*. Nested Subsets: A pattern of community assembly.

## Service

Outreach Coordinator, Ecological Society of American Open Science section, 2015-2016.

## Science Communication

Guest post, Jabberwocky Ecology, <http://jabberwocky.weecology.org/> *Elita Baldrige*. External challenges of chronic illness (in graduate school). Jabberwocky Ecology, 6 July 2015. <http://jabberwocky.weecology.org/2015/07/06/external-challenges-of-chronic-illness-in-graduate-school/>

Guest post, Jabberwocky Ecology, <http://jabberwocky.weecology.org/> *Elita Baldrige*. Successfully completing a dissertation with a chronic illness. Jabberwocky Ecology, 25 May 2015. <http://jabberwocky.weecology.org/2015/05/25/successfully-completing-a-dissertation-with-a-chronic-illness/>

Guest post, Jabberwocky Ecology, <http://jabberwocky.weecology.org/> *Elita Baldrige*. How technology can help scientists with chronic illnesses (or Technology FTW!) Jabberwocky Ecology, 13 October 2014. <http://jabberwocky.weecology.org/2014/10/13/how-technology-can-help-scientists-with-chronic-illnesses-or-technology-ftw/>

Guest post, Jabberwocky Ecology, <http://jabberwocky.weecology.org/> *Elita Baldrige*. I am a graduate student. I have fibromyalgia. Jabberwocky Ecology, 13 January 2014. <http://jabberwocky.weecology.org/2014/01/13/i-am-a-graduate-student-i-have-fibromyalgia/>

Guest post, PhD(isabled), <http://phdisabled.wordpress.com/> *Elita Baldrige*. Developing a mystery illness in grad school. PhD(isabled), 5 November 2013. <http://phdisabled.wordpress.com/2013/11/05/developing-a-mystery-illness-in-grad-school/>

Guest post, Jabberwocky Ecology, <http://jabberwocky.weecology.org/> *Elita Baldrige*. Four basic skills areas for a macroecologist. Jabberwocky Ecology, 19 August 2013. <http://jabberwocky.weecology.org/2013/08/19/four-basic-skill-areas-for-a-macroecologist-guest-post/>

## Data

**MiscAbundanceDB: Community abundance data for a variety of mostly vertebrate taxa.**

Available on figshare at the following links:

Metadata: <http://dx.doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.95841>  
Sites table: <http://dx.doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.95842x>  
Main data table: <http://dx.doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.95843x>  
Citations table: <http://dx.doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.95844>

## **Code**

GitHub repositories at <https://github.com/embaldrige>

## **Awards & Honors**

Flehart Fellowship, Department of Biological Sciences, Fort Hays State University, \$7,000

## **Skills**

### **Database**

SQL- SQLite & postgres

### **Programming**

Python (primary language)  
Git  
Markdown  
LaTeX  
Bash  
R  
Visual Basic