

# Heng-Xing Zou

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## Education

### Rice University

*Ph.D. in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Rice University*

Sep 2019 – May 2024

*Houston, TX*

- Advisor: Dr. Volker H.W. Rudolf

### The University of Chicago

*B.Sc. in Biological Sciences, Specialization in Ecology and Evolution*

Sep 2015 – Jun 2019

*Chicago, IL*

- Advisors: Dr. Catherine A. Pfister and Dr. Alison E. Anastasio

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## Employment

### Postdoctoral Fellow

*Institute for Global Change Biology, University of Michigan*

May 2024

*Ann Arbor, MI*

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## Publications

\* Corresponding author

### 2024

**Zou, H.-X.\***, X. Yan, and V.H.W. Rudolf. 2024. Time-dependent interaction modification generated from plant-soil feedback. *Ecology Letters*. 27(5):e14432.

Simha, A., A. James, J.D. Monk, **H.-X. Zou**, P.-J. Ke, A. Wright, M.D. Bimler, C.M. Moore, S. Pierre, L.N. Carley, and G.S. Kandlikar. When the window is a mirror: how do dominant theories limit our understanding of nature? (ESA2023 INS23). *Bulletin of Ecological Society of America*, 0(0):e02145

### 2023

**Zou, H.-X.\***, S.J. Schreiber, and V.H.W. Rudolf. 2023. Stage-mediated priority effects and species life history shape long-term competition dynamics. *Proceedings of Royal Society B: Biological Sciences*, 290(2007):20231217.

**Zou, H.-X.\***, and V.H.W. Rudolf. 2023. Bridging theory and experiments of priority effects. *Trends in Ecology and Evolution*. 38(12):1203-1216.

**Zou, H.-X.\***, and V.H.W. Rudolf. 2023. Priority effects determine how dispersal affects biodiversity in seasonal metacommunities. *The American Naturalist*, 202(2):140-151.

### 2021 and Earlier

Liu, J., **H.-X. Zou**, B. Bachelot, T. Dong, Z. Zhu, Y. Liao, A. Plenković-Moraj, and Y. Wu. 2021. Predicting the responses of subalpine forest landscape dynamics to climate change on the southeastern Tibetan Plateau. *Global Change Biology*, 18:4352-4366.

**Zou, H.-X.**, A.E. Anastasio and C.A. Pfister. 2019. Early succession on slag compared to urban soil: A slower recovery. *PLoS ONE*, 14(12):e0224214.

- Featured in PLoS Collections: Urban Ecosystems.

## Selected Presentations

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**Zou, H.-X.,** K. Zhu, and B.C. Weeks. 2025. Functional shifts of North American avian communities over half a century. *ASN Asillomar 2025, American Society of Naturalists*. Pacific Grove, CA.

**Zou, H.-X.,** 2024. Consequences of priority effects change with the number of generations. *2024 Annual Meeting, Ecological Society of America*. Long Beach, CA.

**Zou, H.-X.,** 2023. The temporal dimension of species interactions at multiple scales. *PKU Ecology Seminar, Institute of Ecology, Peking University*. Beijing, China.

- Invited.

**Zou, H.-X.,** 2023. The temporal dimension of species interactions at multiple scales. *School of Ecological and Environmental Sciences, East China Normal University*. Shanghai, China.

- Invited.

**Zou, H.-X.,** and V.H.W. Rudolf. 2023. Bridging theory and practice of priority effects. *2023 Annual Meeting, Ecological Society of America*. Portland, OR.

- Invited. In Inspire Session: When the window is a mirror: How do dominant theories limit our understanding of nature?

**Zou, H.-X.,** X. Yan, and V.H.W. Rudolf. 2023. Time-dependent interaction modifications: Insights from plant-soil feedback. *2023 Annual Meeting, Ecological Society of America*. Portland, OR.

**Zou, H.-X.,** S.J. Schreiber, and V.H.W. Rudolf. 2023. Stage-mediated priority effects and species life history shape long-term competition dynamics. *ASN Asilomar 2023, American Society of Naturalists*. Pacific Grove, CA.

**Zou, H.-X.,** and V. H. W. Rudolf. 2022. Priority effects determine how dispersal affects biodiversity in metacommunities. *2022 Annual Meeting, Ecological Society of America*. Montréal, Canada.

**Zou, H.-X.,** and V. H. W. Rudolf. 2022. Priority effects determine biodiversity patterns in metacommunities. *Ecolunch Seminar Series Spring 2022, University of Texas, Austin (Virtual)*.

## Posters

**Zou, H.-X.,** and V.H.W. Rudolf. 2024. Bridging theory and practice of priority effects. *2024 Unifying Ecology Across Scales, Gordon Research Conference*. Manchester, NH.

**Zou, H.-X.,** and A. E., Anastasio. 2019. Primary succession on slag and uncontaminated soil: A slower recovery. *2019 Annual Meeting, Ecological Society of America*. Louisville, KY.

**Zou, H.-X.** 2019. Primary succession on slag and uncontaminated soil: A comparison. *University of Chicago BSCD Undergraduate Research Symposium*. Chicago, IL.

## Grants and Fellowships

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<b>Postdoctoral Fellowship</b> <i>Institute for Global Change Biology, University of Michigan</i>	<b>\$120,000</b> <i>May 2024</i>
<b>Small Research Grant</b> <i>British Ecological Society</i>	<b>£3,920</b> <i>May 2023</i>
<b>Student Research Award</b> <i>American Society of Naturalists</i>	<b>\$2,000</b> <i>Apr 2023</i>

<b>Inquiry-Based Learning (IBL) Teaching Fellowship</b> <i>Department of BioSciences, Rice University</i>	<b>\$3,000</b> <i>Aug 2020, Aug 2021</i>
<b>East-DeMarco Fellowship for Natural Science</b> <i>Department of BioSciences, Rice University</i>	<b>\$2,500</b> <i>Sep 2019</i>
<b>CSCLF Scholarship for Undergraduates</b> <i>China Soong Ching Ling Foundation</i>	<b>\$12,500</b> <i>Jun 2019</i>
<b>Ecology and Evolution Fellowship</b> <i>Department of Ecology and Evolution, The University of Chicago</i>	<b>\$4,000</b> <i>Apr 2018</i>

#### *Awards and Honors*

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<b>Outstanding Graduate Student Publication</b> <i>Department of BioSciences, Rice University</i>	<i>Apr 2024</i>
<b>Outstanding PhD Thesis</b> <i>Department of BioSciences, Rice University</i>	<i>Apr 2024</i>
<b>Outstanding Research Presentation</b> <i>Department of BioSciences, Rice University</i>	<i>Dec 2023</i>
<b>Leadership Award</b> <i>Department of BioSciences, Rice University</i>	<i>Aug 2023</i>
<b>Best Student Paper Award</b> <i>Sino-Ecologists Association Overseas (Sino-Eco)</i>	<i>Aug 2023</i>
<b>Joe Davies Prize for Excellence in Teaching</b> <i>Department of BioSciences, Rice University</i>	<i>Aug 2021</i>
<b>Phi Beta Kappa</b> <i>University of Chicago Beta Chapter</i>	<i>May 2018, May 2019</i>

#### *Teaching and Employment*

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<b>Teaching Assistant</b> <i>Department of BioSciences, Rice University</i>	Houston, TX
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BIOS 431: Biology of Infectious Diseases; Aug 2020 – Nov 2020, Aug 2021 – Nov 2021, Jan 2024 – Apr 2024</li> <li>• BIOS 341: Cell Biology; Aug 2023 – Nov 2023</li> <li>• EBIO 338/538: Analysis and Visualization of Biological Data; Jan 2020 – Apr 2020</li> </ul>	
<b>Lab Teaching Assistant</b> <i>The University of Chicago</i>	Chicago, IL <i>Oct 2018 – Jun 2019</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BIOS 201: Core Biology</li> </ul>	
<b>Research Assistant</b> <i>Department of Ecology and Evolution, The University of Chicago</i>	Chicago, IL <i>Nov 2016 – Oct 2018</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advisors: Dr. Xuan Zhuang and Dr. Martin Kreitman</li> </ul>	
<b>Research Assistant</b> <i>Paulson Institute</i>	Beijing, China <i>Jun 2017 – Aug 2017</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climate and Sustainable Urbanization Team; Advisors: Cindy Jiang and Dr. Kevin Mo</li> </ul>	

*Community Service*

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**Rice Student Birding Club**

*Member of Governing Board*

Houston, TX  
*Sep 2023 – May 2024*

**Theoretical Ecology Section**

*Ecological Society of America*

- Secretary; Aug 2022 – Aug 2023
- Student Liaison; Aug 2021 – Aug 2022

**Graduate Student Association**

*Program of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Rice University*

Houston, TX

- Co-President, May 2022 – May 2023
- Treasurer; May 2021 – May 2022

**EEB Outreach Program**

*Program of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Rice University*

Houston, TX  
*Jan 2021 – May 2021, Jan 2022 – May 2022*

- Part of BIOS 589: EEB Outreach Development