

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

Employment

Postdoctoral Fellow

Institute for Global Change Biology, University of Michigan

May 2024

Ann Arbor, MI

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 the 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

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

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

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

Awards and Honors

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

Teaching and Employment

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

Community Service

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