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**Department of Integrative Biology, University of Guelph**

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## **EDUCATION**

**PhD.** in Computational Sciences, University of Guelph 2016-2022  
Co-Advisors: Dr. Daniel Gillis and Dr. Robert Hanner

**Master of Bioinformatics (MBinf.)**, University of Guelph 2013-2014  
Co-Advisors: Dr. Robert Hanner and Dr. Daniel Ashlock

**BSc. (Hons.)** in Biological Science, University of Guelph 2009-2013

## **RELEVANT COURSEWORK**

**An Introduction to Interactive Programming in Python** 2014  
Rice University

- Online course through Coursera on the development of interactive applications in Python

**Introduction to DNA Barcoding** 2013  
University of Guelph

- Online course through Open Learning and Education Support (OpenEd)

**RESEARCH EXPERIENCE****Postdoctoral Fellow**

University of Guelph

Gillis Lab, School of Computer Science

Hanner Lab, Department of Integrative Biology

- Developed a Bayesian hierarchical binary logistic time-series regression model of seafood fraud in the Canadian supply chain

**Postdoctoral Fellow**

2022

University of Guelph

Hanner Lab, Department of Integrative Biology

Supervisor: Dr. Robert Hanner

- Mentored and supervised a Master of Bioinformatics (MBINF.) student on research project
- Participated in conceptualization and drafting of various manuscripts

**Summer Research Assistant**

2016

Algoma University

Plant and Soil Ecology Lab, Department of Biology

Invasive Species Research Institute (ISRI)

Supervisor: Dr. Pedro Antunes

- Offered bioinformatics and statistical analysis support in R
- Assisted Principal Investigator and undergraduate thesis student with initial drafting of a manuscript on invasive plant root lesion quantification

**Lab Assistant Volunteer**

2014-2016

Algoma University

Plant and Soil Ecology Lab, Department of Biology

Invasive Species Research Institute (ISRI)

Supervisor: Dr. Pedro Antunes

- Offered bioinformatics and statistical analysis support in R
- Assisted with collaborative and outreach initiatives for the Terrestrial Invasive Plant Species (TIPS) Network Project through drafting communication letters to public and private conservation agencies across Canada and the USA seeking volunteers to collect invasive plant species for root lesion quantification

**Undergraduate Research Assistant**

2013

University of Guelph

Vaccine Discovery Research Group

Supervisor: Dr. Mario Monteiro

- Performed various experimental techniques (gas chromatography-mass spectrometry (GC-MS) and Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR)) on bacterial polysaccharide samples for vaccine synthesis and development under the supervision of qualified graduate students

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE****Graduate Teaching Assistant (GTA)**

2016-2020

University of Guelph

**CIS\*3130 – System Modelling and Simulation**

2020

~ 30 students · Python

**CIS\*1910 – Discrete Structures in Computing I**

2017

~ 300 students (~ 40 students per section)

**CIS\*2460 – Modelling of Computer Systems**

2016-2019

~ 60 students · R, Excel, Java

**STUDENT SUPERVISION AND MENTORSHIP**

I have directly supervised and mentored several undergraduate students in the School of Computer Science and the Department of Integrative Biology, all of whom are, or will be, coauthors on my publications. My primary role has been to guide students through the entire scientific process (*i.e.*, formulating research questions, designing and setting up experiments to test hypotheses, collecting data and analyzing results and writing the manuscript drafts). Students completed research both as part of a course and as lab volunteers.

**Finn De Vuono-Fraser (with Dan Gillis)**

2023

University of Guelph

BINF\*6999 · Bayesian Modelling of Seafood Fraud in the Canadian Supply Chains

**Amina Asif (with Bob Hanner)**

2022

University of Guelph

BINF\*6999 · DNA barcode gap analysis of Canadian disease vectors and agricultural pests

**Navdeep Singh (with Dan Gillis)**

2021

University of Guelph

CIS\*4900 · HACSim RShiny web application

**Maya Persram (with Bob Hanner)**

2020-present

University of Guelph

Hanner Lab volunteer <b>Ashley Chen</b> (with Bob Hanner) University of Guelph Hanner Lab volunteer	2020-present
<b>Olivia Friesen Kroeker</b> (with Bob Hanner) University of Guelph Hanner Lab volunteer	2020-present
<b>Scarlett Bootsma</b> (with Dan Gillis) University of Guelph CIS*4900/4910 · HACSim simulation study	2020-2021
<b>Christina Fragel</b> (with Bob Hanner) University of Guelph BINF*6999 · DNA barcode sequence classification with machine learning	2018-2019
<b>Jiaojia (Paula) Yu</b> (with Bob Hanner) University of Guelph BINF*6999 · MDMAPR qPCR R Shiny app	2018-2019
<b>Steven French</b> (with Dan Gillis) University of Guelph CIS*4900/4910 · HACSim R package	2018
<b>Julia Harvie</b> (with Bob Hanner) University of Guelph MCB*4500/4510 · Data mining GenBank and BOLD	2018-2019
<b>Ankita Bhanderi</b> (with Bob Hanner) University of Guelph BINF*6999 · Data mining GenBank and BOLD	2018

### ASSISTANTSHIPS, SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS

<b>Graduate Teaching Assistantships</b> University of Guelph	2017-2020 \$34,506.00-35,148.00 CAD
<b>Graduate Research Assistantships</b> University of Guelph	2017-2019 \$11,000.00 CAD
<b>CPES Graduate Dean's Scholarship</b> University of Guelph	2017 \$3500.00 CAD
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Awarded in recognition of achieving over 85% in Master's coursework</li> </ul>	
<b>CPES Graduate Excellence Entrance (GEE) Scholarship</b> University of Guelph	2016 \$30000.00 CAD
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Awarded in recognition of achieving over 85% in Master's coursework</li> </ul>	
<b>Arthur D. Latornell Graduate Travel Grant</b> University of Guelph	2019 \$500.00 CAD
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Awarded for first-class academic standing in PhD. coursework</li> </ul>	

- Supported travel to the 8<sup>th</sup> International Barcode of Life Conference in Trondheim, Norway to present work related to resource management and conservation

**SoCS Travel Grant** 2019

University of Guelph \$1000.00 CAD

- Supported travel to the 8<sup>th</sup> International Barcode of Life Conference in Trondheim, Norway

**Food from Thought Advancing Research Impact (ARIF) Fund** 2022

University of Guelph \$30000.00 CAD

- Postdoctoral funding to develop a Bayesian hierarchical binary logistic time-series regression model of seafood fraud in the Canadian supply chain

### ACADEMIC SERVICE

**School of Computer Science (SoCS) Search Committee** 2018

University of Guelph

- Associate Professor position in cybersecurity

**School of Computer Science (SoCS) Search Committee** 2017-2018

University of Guelph

- Two-year contractually-limited Assistant Professor position in cybersecurity

### ACADEMIC PEER REVIEW SERVICE

I have served as a reviewer for 14 manuscripts in 7 different journals, both alone or under the guidance of my PhD. supervisors.

*Ecology and Evolution* (2) 2021-2022

*F1000 Research* (1) 2022

*Frontiers in Ecology and Evolution* (2) 2022

*Lifestyle Genomics* (2) 2022

*Molecular Ecology Resources* (5) 2019-2022

*Molecular Biology Reports* (1) 2020

*Methods in Ecology and Evolution* (1) 2020

I have served as Guest Editor on various journal special issues:

*International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health* 2022-2023

Mobile Applications for Environment and Health Monitoring

## PROCEEDINGS

I have presented graduate research at 3 international conferences, including both oral presentations and posters.

<b>8<sup>th</sup> International Barcode of Life Conference</b>	2019
NTNU University Museum and Norwegian Biodiversity Information Centre	
<b>7<sup>th</sup> International Barcode of Life Conference</b>	2017
University of Johannesburg	
<b>6<sup>th</sup> International Barcode of Life Conference</b>	2015
University of Guelph	

## RELEVANT SKILLS

### **Programming Languages and IDEs**

Google Colab · Julia · Python · PyCharm · R · RStudio · TeX

### **Document Preparation Software, Spreadsheet Applications, Software Management and Version Control**

Excel · Git · GitHub · HTML · LaTeX · RMarkdown

### **Other**

JAGS · R Shiny · Stan

## SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT

HACSim (**H**aplotype **A**ccumulation **C**urve **S**imulator) · R package · R Shiny web app

- A novel nonparametric stochastic (Monte Carlo) local search optimization method of iteratively generating species' haplotype accumulation curves through extrapolation to assess within-species sampling completeness
- R package and Shiny app respectively available for download through the Comprehensive R Archive Network ([CRAN](https://cran.r-project.org/)) package repository or at [shinyappps.io](https://shinyappps.io)
- Publication in *PeerJ Computer Science* was one of the top five most viewed papers in the category *Optimization Theory and Computation*
- Has been downloaded over 19000 times (c. 632 times per month) since being published in May 2019

VLF (**V**ery **L**ow **F**requency) · R package

- A tool to assess PCR errors, sequencing errors, *etc.* in the form of very low frequency variants, within DNA sequences using a sliding window approach

- R package available for download through [CRAN](#)
- Manuscript accepted for publication in the *Biodiversity Data Journal*

## **REFEREED WORK**

### **Journal Articles**

Citations: 107 · H-index: 4 (According to Google Scholar, as of January 2023)

\*Indicates students under my direct mentorship or supervision

### **Published or Accepted**

6. **Phillips, J.D.**, Athey, T.B.T., Hanner, R.H. and McNicholas, P.D. VLF: An R package for the analysis of very low frequency variants in DNA sequences. *Biodiversity Data Journal*.
5. **Phillips, J.D.**, Gillis, D.J. and Hanner, R.H. (2022). Lack of statistical rigor in DNA barcoding likely invalidates the presence of a true species' barcode gap. *Frontiers in Ecology and Evolution*, 10: 859099. DOI: [10.3389/fevo.2022.859099](https://doi.org/10.3389/fevo.2022.859099).
4. D'Ercole, J., Dincă, V., Opler, P.A., Kondla, N.G., Schmidt, C.B., **Phillips, J.D.**, Robbins, R., Burns, J.M., Miller, S.E., Grishin, N., Zakharov, E.V., deWaard, J.R., Ratnasingham, S. and Hebert, P.D.N. (2020). A DNA barcode library for the butterflies of North America. *PeerJ*, 9: e11157. DOI: [10.7717/peerj.11157](https://doi.org/10.7717/peerj.11157).
3. **Phillips, J.D.**, \*French, S.H., Hanner, R.H. and Gillis, D.J. (2020). HACSIm: An R package to estimate intraspecific sample sizes for genetic diversity assessment using haplotype accumulation curves. *PeerJ Computer Science*, 6(192): 1-37. DOI: [10.7717/peerj-cs.243](https://doi.org/10.7717/peerj-cs.243).
2. **Phillips, J.D.**, Gillis, D.J. and Hanner, R.H. (2019). Incomplete estimates of genetic diversity within species: Implications for DNA barcoding. *Ecology and Evolution*, 9(5): 2996-3010. DOI: [10.1002/ece3.4757](https://doi.org/10.1002/ece3.4757).
1. **Phillips, J.D.**, Gwiazdowski, R.A., Ashlock, D. and Hanner, R. (2015). An exploration of sufficient sampling effort to describe intraspecific DNA barcode haplotype diversity: examples from the ray-finned fishes (Chordata: Actinopterygii). *DNA Barcodes*, 3: 66-73. DOI: [10.1515/dna-2015-0008](https://doi.org/10.1515/dna-2015-0008).

### **Submitted or Under Revision**

1. Young, R.G., \*Persram, M., \*Friesen, O., \*Chen, A., \*Yu, J. **Phillips, J.D.** and Hanner, R.H. (Under review). Incomplete and irregular reporting of the R statistical and computing environment highlights the need for citation guidelines to support scientific reproducibility. *PeerJ Computer Science*.

*In Preparation or To Be Submitted*

3. D’Ercole, J., Dapporto, L., **Phillips, J.D.**, Dincă, V.E., Vila, R., Talavera, G. and Hebert, P.D.N. Macrogenetics of North American butterflies—The impact of Quaternary climatic fluctuations.
2. **Phillips, J.D.**, \*Singh, N., Hanner, R.H. and Gillis, D.J. The HACSim R Shiny app: A web interface to estimate specimen sampling sufficiency for species genetic diversity assessment with DNA sequence data. Targeted for *Bioinformatics*.
1. **Phillips, J.D.**, \*Bootsma, S.E., Hanner, R.H. and Gillis, D.J. Solving the genetic specimen sample size problem with a local search optimization algorithm. Targeted for *Methods in Ecology and Evolution*.

**Book Chapters**

4. **Phillips, J.D.**, Griswold, C.K., Hubert, N. and Hanner, R.H. A measure of the DNA barcode gap for applied and basic research.

**Conference Proceedings**

3. **Phillips, J.D.**, Gillis, D. and Hanner, R. (2019). HACSim: Iterative extrapolation of haplotype accumulation curves for assessment of intraspecific COI DNA barcode sampling completeness. Scientific abstracts from the 8th International Barcode of Life Conference, Trondheim, Norway (ed. Torbjørn Ekrem), *Genome*, 62(6): 349-453.
2. **Phillips, J.D.**, Gillis, D. and Hanner, R. (2017). Intraspecific sample size estimation for DNA barcoding: Are current sampling levels enough? Scientific abstracts from the 7th International Barcode of Life Conference, Johannesburg, South Africa (ed. M. van der Bank), *Genome*, 60(11): 881-1019.
1. **Phillips, J.D.**, Gwiazdowski, R.A., Ashlock, D. and Hanner, R. (2015). An exploration of sufficient sampling effort to describe intraspecific haplotype diversity in the ray-finned fishes (Chordata: Actinopterygii). Scientific abstracts from the 6th International Barcode of Life Conference, Guelph, ON., Canada (ed. S.J. Adamowicz), *Genome*, 58(5): 163-303.

**NON-REFEREED WORK**

I have communicated aspects of my research to non-technical audiences through various online media.

**Blog posts**

6. **Phillips, J.D.** (2022) Mind the Gap — The DNA Barcode Gap, That is. Contributed CEPS Research Highlights article (<https://www.uoguelph.ca/ceps/news/2022/08/mind-gap—dna-barcode-gap>).
5. **Phillips, J.D.** (2020). Barcode Cracking. Contributed CEPS Research Highlights article (<https://www.uoguelph.ca/ceps/news/2020/02/barcode-cracking>).



4. **Phillips, J.D.** (2020). Protecting Biodiversity Through the Lens of Genetic Diversity. Contributed guest post to the blog of Dr. Daniel Gillis (<https://danielgillis.wordpress.com/2020/01/30/protecting-biodiversity-through-the-lens-of-genetic-diversity/>).
3. **Phillips, J.D.** (2019). IBOL8 and the Midnight Sun. Contributed guest post to the blog of Dr. Daniel Gillis (<https://danielgillis.wordpress.com/2019/07/02/reflections-ibol8-and-the-midnight-sun/>).
2. **Phillips, J.D.** (2017). The Big Five and IBOL7. Contributed guest post to the blog of Dr. Daniel Gillis (<https://danielgillis.wordpress.com/2017/12/06/reflections-the-big-five-and-ibol7/>).
1. **Phillips, J.D.** (2016). Sample size estimation for DNA barcoding: Are current sampling levels enough? Contributed guest post to the DNA Barcoding Blog (<http://dna-barcoding.blogspot.com/2016/01/guest-post-sample-size-estimation-for.html>).

### **Newsletters**

1. **Phillips, J.D.** (2016). Sample size estimation for DNA barcoding of ray-finned fishes: Are current sampling levels enough? Contributed newsletter article to the Barcode Bulletin, 7(1).

### **VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE**

1. Wireframing session volunteer 2021  
University of Guelph
  - Participated in student-led use case app prototype demonstrations for CIS\*3750 – System Analysis and Design in Applications
  - Graded students based on several factors via Qualtrics surveys

**REFERENCES**

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