

LUCAS P. MEDEIROS

Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution

Biology Department - Redfield Building, Room 116

<https://lucaspdmedeiros.com> | lucas.medeiros@whoi.edu

Last updated on December 1, 2024

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution

2024 - present

Postdoctoral Investigator

Supervisors: [Heidi Sosik](#) and [Michael Neubert](#)

University of California Santa Cruz

2022 - 2024

Postdoctoral Scholar

Supervisors: [Stephan Munch](#) and [Eric Palkovacs](#)

EDUCATION

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

2018 - 2022

Ph.D. in Civil and Environmental Engineering

Advisor: [Serguei Saavedra](#)

Thesis: *[Understanding and predicting responses of ecological communities to perturbations](#)*

University of São Paulo

2015 - 2017

M.S. in Ecology

Advisor: [Paulo Guimarães Jr](#)

Thesis: *[Coevolution in mutualistic networks: gene flow and selection mosaics](#)*

University of São Paulo

2014 - 2017

B.S. in Applied and Computational Mathematics

University of São Paulo

2009 - 2013

B.S. in Biological Sciences

Advisor: [Paulo Guimarães Jr](#)

PUBLICATIONS

Papers can be accessed from [my website](#).

Submitted:

2. Medeiros, L. P., Sorenson, D. K., Johnson, B. J., Palkovacs, E. P., and Munch, S. B. (Under review at *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*). Revealing unseen dynamical regimes of ecosystems from population time-series data. <https://www.biorxiv.org/content/10.1101/2024.08.07.607005v1>

1. Lerm, R., **Medeiros, L. P.**, Thompson, D., Ehlers Smith, D., and Downs, C. (Submitted to *Biological Conservation*). Bird communities show resilience to an extreme weather event, drought, across a savanna protected area.

Published:

10. **Medeiros, L. P.** and Saavedra, S. (2023). Understanding the state-dependent impact of species correlated responses on community sensitivity to perturbations. *Ecology*, 104(8), e4115. <https://doi.org/10.1002/ecy.4115>
9. Camacho, L. A., Andreazzi, C. S., **Medeiros, L. P.**, Birskis-Barros, I., Emer, C., Reigada, C., and Guimarães Jr, P. R. (2023). Cheating interactions favor modularity in mutualistic networks. *Oikos*, 2023(3), e09176. <https://doi.org/10.1111/oik.09176>
8. **Medeiros, L. P.**, Allesina, S., Dakos, V., Sugihara, G., and Saavedra, S. (2023). Ranking species based on sensitivity to perturbations under non-equilibrium community dynamics. *Ecology Letters*, 26(1), 170-183. <https://doi.org/10.1111/ele.14131>
MIT News Article: [A better way to tell which species are vulnerable](#).
7. **Medeiros, L. P.***, Song, C.*, and Saavedra, S. (2021). Merging dynamical and structural indicators to measure resilience in multispecies systems. *Journal of Animal Ecology*, 90(9), 2027–2040. <https://doi.org/10.1111/1365-2656.13421> (*equal contribution)
6. **Medeiros, L. P.**, Boege, K., Del-Val, E., Zaldívar-Riverón, A., and Saavedra, S. (2021). Observed ecological communities are formed by species combinations that are among the most likely to persist under changing environments. *The American Naturalist*, 197(1), E17–E29. <https://doi.org/10.1086/711663>
5. Saavedra, S., **Medeiros, L. P.**, and AlAdwani, M. (2020). Structural forecasting of species persistence under changing environments. *Ecology Letters*, 23(10), 1511-1521. <https://doi.org/10.1111/ele.13582>
4. Pires, M. M., O'Donnell, J. L., Burkle, L. A., Diaz-Castelazo, C., Hembry, D. H., Yeakel, J. D., Newman, E. A., **Medeiros, L. P.**, De Aguiar, M. A. M., and Guimarães Jr, P. R. (2020). The indirect paths to cascading effects of extinctions in mutualistic networks. *Ecology*, 101(7), e03080. <https://doi.org/10.1002/ecy.3080>
3. Cenci, S., **Medeiros, L. P.**, Sugihara, G., and Saavedra, S. (2020). Assessing the predictability of nonlinear dynamics under smooth parameter changes. *Journal of the Royal Society Interface*, 17(162), 20190627. <https://doi.org/10.1098/rsif.2019.0627>
2. **Medeiros, L. P.**, Garcia, G., Thompson, J. N., and Guimarães Jr, P. R. (2018). The geographic mosaic of coevolution in mutualistic networks. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 115(47), 12017-12022. <https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.1809088115>
1. Dáttilo, W., Lara-Rodríguez, N., Jordano, P., Guimarães Jr, P. R., Thompson, J. N., Marquis, R. J., **Medeiros, L. P.**, Ortiz-Pulido, R., Marcos-García, M. A. and Rico-Gray, V. (2016). Unraveling Darwin's entangled bank: architecture and robustness of mutualistic networks with multiple interaction types. *Proceedings of the Royal Society B*, 283(1843), 20161564. <https://doi.org/10.1098/rspb.2016.1564>

AWARDS

Principles of Community Award -
Fisheries Collaborative Program (UC Santa Cruz)

2024

Vito Volterra Award for Best Student Oral Presentation -
Theoretical Ecology Section of the ESA 2021 Conference

2021

Best M.S. Thesis of the year in Ecology -
University of São Paulo

2017

FELLOWSHIPS

Ph.D. Fellowship - [Martin Family Society of Fellows for Sustainability](#)
(MIT Environmental Solutions Initiative)

2021 - 2022

Ippen Fellowship for Travel Support - Massachusetts Institute of Technology

2020 and 2021

Ph.D. Scholarship - Swiss Government Excellence Scholarship (declined)

2018

Laboratory Technician Scholarship - São Paulo Research Foundation

2017 - 2018

M.S. Scholarship - São Paulo Research Foundation

2015 - 2017

Scientific Initiation Scholarship - São Paulo Research Foundation

2014

M.S. Scholarship - National Council for Scientific and Technological Development -
(For the 1st place in the M.S. admissions in Ecology at the University of São Paulo)

2015

TEACHING

Instructor for Modeling for Conservation and Management of Natural Populations -
BIOE-215 (UC Santa Cruz)

Spring 2024

Created lecture and homework material, lectured, and graded assignments

Instructor for Instituto Serrapilheira's Quantitative Ecology Field Course
(Brazilian Amazon)

July 2023

Supervised graduate student's field projects

TA for Probability and Causal Inference - 1.010
(Massachusetts Institute of Technology)

Fall 2021

Planned and conducted recitations

TA for Ecological Dynamics and Modeling - 1.873
(Massachusetts Institute of Technology)

Spring 2021

Conducted tutorials/discussions and graded problem sets

TA for Probability and Causal Inference - 1.010
(Massachusetts Institute of Technology)

Fall 2020

Graded problem sets

TA for Ecological Dynamics and Modeling - 1.873
(Massachusetts Institute of Technology)

Spring 2020

Conducted tutorials/discussions and graded problem sets

TA for Probability and Causal Inference - 1.010
(Massachusetts Institute of Technology) *Fall 2019*
Graded problem sets

TA for EcoEscola Field Course
(University of São Paulo) *January 2017*
Supervised undergraduate student's field projects

TA for Southern-Summer School on Mathematical Biology
(ICTP-SAIFR) *January 2016*
Supervised graduate student's modeling projects

TA for Diversity, Natural History and Conservation of South American Vertebrates
(University of São Paulo) *Fall 2015*
Moderated discussions and graded problem sets

TA for R Language for Data Analysis in Ecology
(University of São Paulo) *March 2014*
Moderated tutorials and graded problem sets

MENTORING

Loreane Dias (University of São Paulo)
Co-advisor of PhD thesis (Advisor: Paulo Inácio Prado) *January 2024 - present*

Thomas Meerwijk (Wageningen University)
Co-advisor of Master's thesis (Advisor: Masha van der Sande) *January 2024 - July 2024*

Participated in the mentoring program of the
ESA Theoretical Ecology Section *2023 - 2024*

PRESENTATIONS

Invited talk - Review of the Cooperative Institute for Marine Ecosystems and Climate
(Scripps Institution of Oceanography) *May 2024*

Conference talk - Ecological Society of America
(Portland, OR) *August 2023*

Invited talk - Emerging Scholars in Integrative Biology
(Boston University) *March 2023*

Conference talk - American Society of Naturalists
(Pacific Grove, CA) *January 2023*

Workshop talk - 20th Annual UCSC & Stanford Species Interactions Workshop
(UC Santa Cruz) *December 2022*

Invited talk - Symposium on market squid (NOAA Southwest Fisheries Science Center)	<i>November 2022</i>
Ph.D. thesis defense - Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering (Massachusetts Institute of Technology)	<i>May 2022</i>
Invited talk - Physics of Living Systems (Massachusetts Institute of Technology)	<i>May 2022</i>
Invited talk - EcoEncontros at University of São Paulo (Virtual)	<i>December 2021</i>
Invited talk - Ecological Resilience Webinar of the British Ecological Society (Virtual)	<i>September 2021</i>
Conference talk - Ecological Society of America (Virtual)	<i>August 2021</i>
Invited talk - Evolutionary and Ecological Systems Biology talks (Massachusetts Institute of Technology)	<i>September 2020</i>
Poster presentation - MIT Quantitative Ecology Meeting (Massachusetts Institute of Technology)	<i>January 2020</i>
Conference talk - American Society of Naturalists (Pacific Grove, CA)	<i>January 2020</i>
Invited talk - Simple Person's Applied Math Seminar (Massachusetts Institute of Technology)	<i>September 2019</i>
Invited talk - Opening lectures of the Graduate Program in Ecology (University of São Paulo)	<i>March 2018</i>
Invited talk - EcoEscola (University of São Paulo)	<i>January 2017</i>
Poster presentation - Evolution (Austin, TX)	<i>June 2016</i>

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Subject Editor at <i>Oikos</i>	<i>2024 - present</i>
--------------------------------	-----------------------

Reviewed manuscripts for the following journals ([Web of Science](#)):

<i>Ecology</i> (1), <i>Ecological Complexity</i> (1), <i>Ecology Letters</i> (5), <i>Journal of Animal Ecology</i> (1), <i>Methods in Ecology and Evolution</i> (1), <i>Nature Communications</i> (1), <i>Oikos</i> (4), <i>PLOS Computational Biology</i> (1)	<i>2018 - present</i>
--	-----------------------

Main organizer of symposium on Population Fluctuations in Ecology
at the ESA 2023 Conference (Portland, OR)

Speakers: Karen Abbott, Jeff Gore, Tanya Rogers, and Daniel Wieczynski

August 2023

Conducted and presented modeling/data analyses for the
Squid Fishery Advisory Committee in collaboration
with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife

February 2023 - May 2024

Conducted modeling/data analyses for Covid-19 BR Observatory
in collaboration with several Brazilian researchers
(<https://covid19br.github.io>)

March - May 2020

Judged talks/posters for prizes at 2 ASN and 1 ESA conference

2020 - 2023

Helped organizing the annual Fritz Muller Seminar Series
(University of São Paulo, <https://fritzmuller.weebly.com>)

2014 - 2018

COMPUTATIONAL SKILLS

Codes can be accessed from [my GitHub](#).

R (advanced)
Python (basic)
C (basic)
Git and GitHub
LaTeX
Microsoft Office

LANGUAGES

English (fluent)
Portuguese (native)
Spanish (basic)