**Education**

University of Toronto, 2022- PhD in Ecology & Evolutionary Biology, University of Toronto

Supervisors: Drs. Matthew Osmond, Nicole Mideo

* **Research interests:** evolution of recombination; viral evolution & emergence; phylogenetic comparative methods; modifier theory; coalescent theory
* **Teaching:** [EEB313: Quantitative Methods in R for Biologists](http://eeb313.github.io) (co-instructor in F23 and F24)
* **TAing:** EEB319: Population Ecology (F23 and F25), EEB325: Evolutionary Medicine (W25), EEB362: Macroevolution (F22), EEB462: Quantitative Genetics (F22), BIO120: Adaptation and Biodiversity (F22)

University of Idaho, 2018-22 BSc in Mathematics *General & Applied Quant. Modeling Options*

BSc in Statistical Science *General Option*

**Selected publications**

* **Yuksel, M.**, Yang, Q., Osmond, M.\*, Mideo, N.\* (2025). [Host constraints on viral recombination and emergence.](https://www.biorxiv.org/content/10.1101/2025.10.01.679867v1.) In revision at *Proceedings of the Royal Society B*.
* Keefer, M., **Yuksel, M. K.**, & Caudill, C. (2025). [Assessing the role of juvenile life history diversity and adult translocation on cohort productivity in a Chinook Salmon population.](https://academic.oup.com/fisheries/advance-article-abstract/doi/10.1093/fshmag/vuaf110/8325335?redirectedFrom=fulltext) *Fisheries*.
* **Yuksel, M.**, Remien, C., Karki, B., Bull, J., & Krone, S. (2021). [Vector dynamics influence spatially imperfect genetic interventions against disease.](https://academic.oup.com/emph/article/9/1/1/5920238?login=false) *Evolution, Medicine, & Public Health*.

Non-peer reviewed:

* Keefer, M., **Yuksel, M.**, & Caudill, C. (2022). Decision Support Modeling for Outplanting Adult Chinook Salmon in the Santiam River Basin (Technical Report 2022-1 for US Army Corps of Engineers).

**Selected awards**

Awarded >$150,000 CAD in competitive research funding.

2025 NSF APPEX (Analysis and Prediction of Pandemic Expansion) Seed Grant ($10,000 USD)

2024-27 University of Toronto Data Sciences Institute Doctoral Fellowship ($79,500 CAD)

2023-24 University of Toronto Institute for Pandemics Graduate Studentship ($10,000 CAD)

2022-27 Connaught International Doctoral Scholarship ($50,000 CAD)

2022-24 Faculty of Arts & Science Doctoral Recruitment Award ($10,000 CAD)

2022 John B. George Award, awarded to the top graduating senior in the College of Science

**Selected presentations**

2025 Evolution; Society for Theory & Modeling in Population Biology

2024 Evolution; Mathematical Models in Ecology & Evolution

2023 Ecology & Evolution of Infectious Diseases; University of Toronto Atwood Colloquium in EEB

**Selected service**

Ongoing Ad hoc reviewer for *Genetics* (x10), *G3* (x6), *eLife* (x1), *Proc B* (x2), *Evolution* (x1), *JEB* (x1)

2024-25 University of Toronto Atwood Colloquium in Ecology & Evolution Organizing Co-Chair

2024- Member of Society for the Study of Evolution (SSE) Graduate Council

* 1. Member of Ecology & Evolutionary Biology Wellness Committee, EDI Subcommittee

2022-23 CUPE 3902 Steward for Dept. Ecology & Evolutionary Biology