

Background and Research Interests of Dr. Patricia Menéndez

Dr Patricia Menéndez is a mathematical statistician working at the Australian Institute of Marine Science in Townsville and an adjunct lecturer at the School of Mathematics and Physics at the University of Queensland. Patricia discovered her passion for research during her research fellowship at Okayama University in Japan granted by the Japanese government which later led her to pursue her doctoral studies. After completing her PhD in 2009 at the ETH, Zurich in Switzerland, she went to Wageningen University (The Netherlands) as a postdoctoral fellow and after that held a visiting professorship at the Public University of Navarre in Spain. In 2012 Patricia moved to Australia to work as a visiting researcher at the UNSW, after which she became a lecturer in the School of Mathematics and Physics at the University of Queensland. Wanting to have more hands-on experience, Patricia moved on to the government sector and worked at the Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research in Sydney before coming to Townsville.

Patricia has experience developing and applying statistical methodology and computational methods in multidisciplinary projects to answer research and policy-making questions in the fields of ecology, palaeo ecology, environmental sciences as well as in crime, social research and genetic modelling. She also has expertise providing statistical and computing training to statisticians and non statisticians.

Her research interests are in the application and development of statistical methodology to solve real life problems and bringing statistical knowledge closer to other disciplines. In particular, Patricia is interested in research questions including time series data and has experience working with time series smoothing methods, structural time series and state space modelling as well as machine learning and network reconstruction.

Education:

- 2009 PhD Mathematical Statistics, ETH, Zurich (Switzerland).
- 2002 MSc Mathematics, University of Valladolid (Spain).