Quentin D. Read

Using big open data to understand how humans influence the natural world

SESYNC
1 Park Place, Suite 300
Annapolis, MD 21401 USA

Email: qread@sesync.org
Website/Blog: quentinread.com
GitHub, StackOverflow: qdread

Professional appointments

National Socio-Environmental Synthesis Center (SESYNC), Annapolis, MD 2018–
Data scientist (September 2019-present); *Postdoctoral fellow* (2018-2020)

- Provide data science consulting for socio-environmental research teams, including data analysis, management, and visualization in R and Python
- Support research users of a high-performance computing cluster
- Maintain the R package *rslurm*, and develop new features
- Maintain, update, and write content for SESYNC's cyberhelp website
- Develop lessons for data science curriculum, including modules on git and online data
- Teach data science courses and training modules to students and researchers
- Model impacts of food waste using techniques from environmental science and economics
- Participated in SESYNC's postdoctoral immersion program, receiving training on socio-environmental synthesis research
- Published two first-authored manuscripts and multiple co-authored manuscripts

Michigan State University (MSU), East Lansing, MI 2016-2018
Postdoctoral researcher, Department of Forestry

- Compiled, analyzed, and processed environmental and biodiversity datasets in R
- Fit spatial Bayesian models; did GIS analysis in R and GDAL
- Published three first-authored manuscripts and multiple co-authored manuscripts

Education

University of Tennessee (UT), Knoxville, TN 2011-2016
Ph.D., Ecology & Evolutionary Biology

University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC 2005-2009
B.S., Environmental Science

Skills and languages

- Data processing, visualizing, and analysis in R, including tidyverse and RMarkdown
- Bayesian modeling with Stan
- Spatial analysis and modeling with GDAL and R
- Working knowledge of Python and Julia
- High-performance parallel computing using Linux server
- Website development using Markdown and Jekyll
- Using git/GitHub for version control and remote collaborations

Grants

Macrosystems Biology, NEON-Enabled Science (National Science Foundation; $536,800)
Role: senior personnel, co-writer of grant 2019-2024

Publications, presentations, and software

Publications (for full list see Google Scholar)

- Nine first-authored publications in journals including *Resources Conservation & Recycling, Science of the Total Environment, Ecography,* and *Biology Letters*
- Two publications first-authored by undergraduates whom I mentored, in *Ecology* and *Oecologia*
- Sixteen other co-authored publications in journals including *Science of the Total Environment, Global Ecology and Biogeography,* and *PLoS One*

Invited research talks

- Duke University, University Program in Ecology Seminar Series, Durham, NC 2020
- Commission for Environmental Cooperation, Arlington, VA 2018
- German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research (iDiv), Leipzig, Germany 2017
- National Ecological Observatory Network, Boulder, CO 2017
- MSU Department of Forestry, Hanover Forest Science Seminar Series, East Lansing, MI 2016
- University of Notre Dame biology education seminar, Notre Dame, IN 2015
- Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory seminar, Gothic, CO 2014
- Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Environmental Sciences Division, Oak Ridge, TN 2014

Conference presentations

- U.S. Society for Ecological Economics, Louisville, KY 2019
- International Association of Landscape Ecology, Chicago, IL 2018
- Ecological Society of America, Baltimore, MD ; Portland, OR 2015, 2017

Software

- Lead developer, *Ostats*: R package for trait analysis of ecological communities 2020
- Co-developer, *ggalluvial*: R package adding functionality to ggplot2 2020
- Co-developer, *rslurm*: R package for running R code in parallel 2019

Teaching and mentoring

Teaching and course design

- Designed and led workshop on best practices for collaboration with GitHub 2020
- Co-teacher of day-long whirlwind data science course for postdocs at SESYNC 2020
- Designed graduate teaching module on ecological data at MSU 2018
- Co-instructor of graduate seminar course in ecology at MSU 2017
- Graduate teaching assistant for eight semesters at UT 2011-2016
- Delivered four guest lectures in undergraduate courses at UT 2013-2015
- Served on panel developing and reforming UT undergraduate biology curriculum 2013-2014

Mentoring

- Mentored student team in University of Maryland Data Challenge; team won grand prize in a 75-team competition 2021
- Remotely mentored 2 undergraduates at Bryn Mawr College on an NSF-funded project developing an R package 2020
- Mentored 4 undergraduates through Summer Research Opportunities Program and High Performance Computing Center, MSU 2017-2018
- Mentored 11 summer research undergraduates and laboratory assistants through Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory (RMBL) and UT 2012-2015

Selected honors and awards

- Science Alliance award, for exemplary accomplishments as a graduate student, UT 2015
- Outstanding Outreach and Community Service award, UT 2014
- Dr. Jean H. Langenheim Endowed Graduate Fellowship, RMBL 2013-2014

Professional and public outreach

- Peer reviewer for >40 manuscripts in 32 different journals 2013–
- Peer reviewer for R packages on ROpenSci 2020–
- Review panelist, SESYNC immersion postdoctoral fellowship program 2019
- Gave public research talks on climate change and citizen science 2017, 2018
- Organized Darwin Day, a campus-wide science education event 2014