



# Rafael Menezes

Ecology Ph.D. Candidate,  
Physics M.Sc.

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- dos Santos, R. | Menezes, R.
- University of São Paulo, Brazil
- Center for Advanced Systems Understanding, Germany

## Links

- www.rafaelmenezes.com
- ORCID
- Research Gate
- @r-menezes (Github)
- Google Scholar

## Skills

- Movement Ecology
- Community Ecology
- Complex Networks Theory
- Deterministic/Stochastic Modeling
- Statistical Modeling
- Individual Based Modeling
- Spatial Pattern Analysis
- Monte Carlo Simulation
- Python, R, C++

## Summary

I am an ecology Ph.D. Candidate with a physics formation. In my PhD I contribute to bridging the gap between Movement and Population Ecology by exploring the population and community-wide consequences of organism movement.

## Education

- 2023 – present **Exchange Program** Center for Advanced Systems Understanding (CASUS), Germany  
Advisor: *Prof. Dr. Justin Calabrese*  
Co-Advisor: *Prof. Dr. Ricardo Martínez-García*
- 2021 – present **PhD in Ecology** São Paulo University (USP), Brazil  
Advisor: *Prof. Dr. Ricardo Martínez-García*  
Co-Advisor: *Prof. Dr. Paulo Inácio Prado*
- 2017 – 2020 **Master of Science in Physics** Federal University of Bahia (UFBA), Brazil  
Advisor: *Profa. Dra. Suani Pinho*  
Co-Advisors: *Profa. Dra. Flora Bacelar, Prof. Dr. Pedro Meirelles*  
**Master Thesis**  
Exploring Ecological Interactions Using the Generalized Lotka-Volterra Model: Coexistence and Resilience of Populations, defended in December 15th, 2020
- 2012 – 2017 **Bachelor of Science in Physics** Federal University of Bahia (UFBA), Brazil  
Study abroad: 2014 – 2015 at Radboud University, Nijmegen NL,  
Funded by a CAPES Science Without Borders Grant

## Publications

- 2024<sup>1</sup> **Encounters and interactions in ecology. [Review]**  
*Fagan, W., Menezes\*, R., Martinez-Garcia, R., ...*  
in preparation
- 2024<sup>1</sup> **Viral infections dynamics rule zooxanthellae population dynamics.**  
*Campos\*, A., Menezes\*, R., Bacelar, F., Meirelles, P.*  
in preparation
- 2024<sup>1</sup> **Upscaling the consequences of movement to population dynamics: insights from logistic equations with range-resident movement.**  
*Menezes, R., Calabrese, J., Fagan, W., , Prado, P. I., Martinez-Garcia, R.*  
in preparation
- 2024<sup>1</sup> **Testing the limits of population abundance and fluctuations**  
*Cammarota, D., Zeraick Monteiro, N., Menezes, R., ...Segura, A. M.*  
American Naturalist (in review)
- 2024<sup>1</sup> **CPR, the hidden keystones structuring microbial communities.**  
*Ferreira, C.M., Campos, A., Menezes, R., ..., Meirelles, P.M.*  
Science of the Total Environment (in review)
- 2023 **Lotka-Volterra model with Allee effect: Equilibria, coexistence and size scaling of maximum and minimum abundance.**  
*Cammarota\*, D., Zeraick Monteiro\*, N., Menezes\*, R., ..., Segura, A. M.*  
Journal of Mathematical Biology, 87, 82. 🔗
- 2020 **Integrating Computational Methods to Investigate the Macroecology of Microbiomes.**  
*Mascarenhas, R., Ruziska, F. ... dos Santos, R. M., ..., Meirelles, P.M.*  
Frontiers in Genetics, 10, 1344. 🔗
- 2019 **In response to “An allometric tragedy of the commons: Response to the article ‘Evaluation of models capacity to predict size spectra parameters in ecosystems under stress’”.**  
*dos Santos, R. M., Hilbers, J. P., Hendriks, A. J.*  
Ecological Indicators, 96, 747-749. 🔗
- 2017 **Evaluation of models capacity to predict size spectra parameters in ecosystems under stress.**  
*dos Santos, R. M., Hilbers, J. P., Hendriks, A. J.*  
Ecological Indicators, 79, 114-121. 🔗

\* Equal Contribution

## Scholarships and Awards

|                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |          |
|----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| 2023 – present | <b>CAPES Internationalization Scholarship</b><br>Scholarship Grant funded by CAPES (12 months)                                                                                                                                                   | CAPES    |
| 2021 – present | <b>CNPq Ph.D. Scholarship Grant</b><br>Ph.D. Scholarship Grant funded by CNPq (48 months)                                                                                                                                                        | CNPq     |
| 2017 – 2019    | <b>CAPES M.Sc. Scholarship Grant</b><br>M.Sc. Scholarship Grant funded by CAPES (24 months)                                                                                                                                                      | CAPES    |
| 2017           | <b>Honorable Mention at the UFBA 2017 Congress</b><br>Honorable Mention received during the XXXVI Student Research Seminar for the project "Dynamical models of vectorial-borne diseases" conducted under supervision of profa. Dra. Suani Pinho | UFBA     |
| 2016 – 2017    | <b>Dynamical Models of Vector-borne Diseases</b><br>B.Sc. Research Scholarship Grant funded by FAPESB (12 months)                                                                                                                                | FAPESB   |
| 2014 – 2015    | <b>Exchange Student – Radboud University, Nijmegen</b><br>Science Without Borders Exchange Program Grant (12 months)                                                                                                                             | CAPES    |
| 2012 – 2013    | <b>Galilean Relativity: Inertial and Non-Inertial Systems</b><br>B.Sc. Research Scholarship Grant funded by CNPq through the program "Young Talents for Science" (12 months)                                                                     | CNPq     |
| 2010           | <b>Silver Medal at the Brazilian Physics Olympiad</b><br>Awarded by the State Coordination of the Brazilian Physics Olympics                                                                                                                     | SBF - BA |

## Invited Talks

|      |                                                                                                                                                                                   |                   |
|------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 2024 | <b>Applied Stochastic Processes for Encounter Problems</b> <b>University of Maryland</b><br>Upscaling range residency: The range-resident logistic model.                         | Maryland, USA     |
| 2023 | <b>Modeling Coffee</b> <b>Swansea University</b><br>The scaling of individual home ranges and spatial structure and their effects on the carrying capacity of populations.        | Swansea, UK       |
| 2023 | <b>Eco-Encontros</b> <b>University of São Paulo</b><br>Não tão bem misturado: O papel das áreas vitais na capacidade de suporte                                                   | São Paulo, Brazil |
| 2022 | <b>ICTP Huddle - Eco-evolutionary Dynamics of Microbial Communities Across Scales</b><br>Not so well mixed: the role of range residency in the dynamics of ecological communities | Trieste, Italy    |

## Contributed Talks & Posters

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|------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| 2023 | <b>Spatial Ecology Workshop: From animal movement processes to spatial distributions,</b><br><b>University of Sheffield, UK</b><br>Adding realistic movement behavior to spatial models of population growth | Workshop     |
| 2022 | <b>Applications of Nonlinear Systems to Socio-Economic Complexity</b><br>What Is and How do Interactions Determine Resilience?                                                                               | School       |
| 2021 | <b>Brazilian Physics Society Autumn Meeting</b><br>Exploring Ecological Interactions Using the Generalized Lotka-Volterra Model                                                                              | Conference   |
| 2021 | <b>SMB 2021 Annual Meeting, Society for Mathematical Biology</b><br>Feasibility and Resilience in Randomly Assembled Communities                                                                             | Conference   |
| 2020 | <b>School of Community Ecology: from principles to patterns</b><br>Community Interactions: Integrating dynamical systems and network science                                                                 | Student talk |
| 2017 | <b>Congress of Research, Teaching and Outreach at UFBA</b><br>Understanding Epidemics Through Mathematical Modeling: Zika, Dengue and Leishmaniasis                                                          | Congress     |
| 2017 | <b>I Scientific Meeting on Modeling in Ecology and Evolution (ECMEE), Brazil</b><br>Mathematical Modeling of Leishmaniasis: Control Through Collar with Insecticide                                          | Meeting      |
| 2017 | <b>II National Meeting of Statistical Physics (ENFE), Brazil</b><br>Mathematical Modeling of Leishmaniasis: Control Strategies                                                                               | Conference   |
| 2015 | <b>Europhysics Conference of International Research Group on Physics Teaching</b><br>Understanding Entropy: translating the technical into the intuitive                                                     | Conference   |

## Tutoring & Event Organization

|             |                                                                                                                                                  |           |
|-------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| 2023        | <b>IX Southern Summer School of Mathematical Biology</b><br>Organizers: ICTP Saifr, Serrapilheira Institute.                                     | Tutor     |
| 2022        | <b>II Encontro da Pós Graduação IB-USP</b><br>Scientific with the participation of approx. 90 people, at University of São Paulo                 | Organizer |
| 2022        | <b>Escola de Biomatemática da Bahia</b><br>Organizers: Flora Souza Bacelar, Roberto Kraenkel, Paulo Inácio Prado, Gilson Correia de Carvalho     | Tutor     |
| 2019 - 2020 | <b>VIII - IX Southern Summer School of Mathematical Biology</b><br>Organizers: Marcus Aguiar, Marcel Clerc, Roberto Kraenkel, Paulo Inácio Prado | Tutor     |