

MSc candidate in Biological Sciences (UCT)

Principal supervisor: Prof A.M. Muasya
Co-supervisors: Prof G.A. Verboom & Prof A.G. West

BSc Hons in Biological Sciences (UCT) With distinction 2017

BSc in Ecology & Evolution, Applied Biology (UCT) 2016 With distinction in both majors & the degree

Skills

Strong speaker, design, data visualisation

Languages

English, Afrikaans, R, bash

Tools

R Markdown, L^AT_EX, git, GitHub, MS Office

Methods

Statistical modelling, data manipulation,
GIS (in R), functional programming

Publications

Van Mazijk , Cramer, & Verboom. Environmental heterogeneity explains contrasting plant species richness between the South African Cape & southwestern Australia. <i>Journal of Biogeography</i> 48:1875–1888.	2021
DOI: 10.1111/jbi.14118.	
Elliott, van Mazijk , Barrett, Bruhl, Joly, Muthaphuli, Wilson, & Muasya. Global dispersal & diversification of the genus <i>Schoenus</i> (Cyperaceae) from the Western Australian biodiversity hotspot. <i>Journal of Systematics & Evolution</i> 59(4):791–808. DOI: 10.1111/jse.12742	2021
Elliott, Laidler, Muasya, Muthaphuli & van Mazijk . Solving the sedge mystery. <i>Veld & Flora</i> 105(3):20–25.	2019
Cramer, Wootton, van Mazijk & Verboom. New regionally-modelled soil layers improve prediction of vegetation type relative to that based on global soil models. <i>Diversity & Distributions</i> 25(11):1736–1750.	2019
DOI: 10.1111/ddi.12973.	
Van Mazijk , Smyth, Weideman & West. Isotopic tracing of stormwater in the urban Liesbeek River. <i>Water SA</i> 44(4):674–679. DOI: 10.4314/wsa.v44i4.16.	2018

Funding & awards

NRF Innovation Masters Scholarship	2019
SAAB MSc Student Bursary (inaugural recipient)	2018, 2019
UCT Once-Off Award	2018
UCT Dorothy Cameron Scholarship	2018
UCT Masters Research Scholarship	2018
NRF Innovation Honours Scholarship	2017
SAAB Honours Scholarship	2017
UCT Science Faculty Scholarship	2015, 2016

Workshop instruction

Postgraduate

Data wrangling & manipulation in R (Organiser, lead, for Dept. Biological Sciences, UCT)	2019
Teaching Biodiversity for High School Life Science Teachers (Speaker, for SDU ⁶)	2019
Scientific study design & data analysis in R (Tutor, for SEEC ⁷ -ACCESS ⁸)	2018, 2019

Teaching assistance

Undergraduate

Angiosperm diversity	2018, 2019, 2022
Principles of ecology & evolution	2019, 2020
Scientific study design & data analysis in R	2017–2020
Introductory statistics in R	2016–2018

References

All Dept. Biological Sciences, UCT

Prof G. Anthony Verboom
Prof Michael D. Cramer
Prof A. Muthama Muasya

tony.verboom@uct.ac.za
michael.cramer@uct.ac.za
muthama.muasya@uct.ac.za

Conferences, talks & press

SAAB Postgraduate Virtual Symposium	2022
MEDECOS XVII (NRF sponsored virtual attendance)	2022
IBS ¹ Early Career Biogeographers Conference	2021
iDiv ² Joint Recruitment Symposium	2020
SAAB ³ -AMA ⁴ -SASSB ⁵ IVXV Joint Congress Best Systematics MSc Presentation (tied) (UCT Travel Grant for attendance)	2019
The John Maytham Show, CapeTalk (Interview) Harvesting Storm Water	2018
Pint of Science Cape Town	2018

Professional affiliations

SAAB 2017–
SASSB 2018–
(Student rep. 2019–2021)



¹International Biogeography Society

²German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research, Halle-Jena-Leipzig

³South African Association of Botanists

⁴African Mycological Association

⁵Southern African Society for Systematic Biology

⁶Schools Development Unit, UCT

⁷Centre for Statistics in Ecology, the Environment & Conservation, UCT

⁸Applied Centre for Climate & Earth Systems, NRF

Research assistance

<i>Schoenus</i> (Cyperaceae) field assistance, collections & hydroponics for Dr T.L. Elliott & Prof A.M. Muasya (UCT)	2018
<i>Mimetes</i> & <i>Leucospermum</i> (Proteaceae) population monitoring for Dr J.A. Slingsby (UCT, SAEON)	2017
Legume symbiotic rhizobia collections & culturing for Dr M. Dludlu (University of Swaziland)	2015