

Ruan van Mazijk

Curriculum vitae



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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

Professional memberships

South Afr. Association of Botanists	2017–
Southern Afr. Society for Systematic Biology	2018–
→ Council student representative	2019–2021

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

Data wrangling & manipulation in R (Organiser, lead, for Dept. Biological Sciences, UCT)	Postgraduate 2019
Teaching Biodiversity for High School Life Science Teachers (Speaker, for SDU ¹)	2019
Scientific study design & data analysis in R (Tutor, for SEEC ² -ACCESS ³)	2018, 2019

Conferences, talks & press

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

Teaching assistance

Angiosperm diversity	Undergraduate 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	tony.verboom@uct.ac.za
Prof Michael D. Cramer	michael.cramer@uct.ac.za
Prof A. Muthama Muasya	muthama.muasya@uct.ac.za

Research assistance

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

¹SDU: Schools Development Unit, UCT

²SEEC: Centre for Statistics in Ecology, the Environment & Conservation, UCT

³ACCESS: Applied Centre for Climate & Earth Systems, NRF

⁴IBS: International Biogeography Society

⁵iDiv: German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research, Halle-Jena-Leipzig