

Ruan van Mazijk, *Curriculum vitae*

MSc candidate, Dept. of Biological Sciences, University of Cape Town

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MSc candidate in Biological Sciences at the [Dept. of Biological Sciences, University of Cape Town](#), South Africa. I have broad interests in plant and animal phylogenetics systematics, community ecology, plant ecophysiology, climate change biology, statistical ecology, and computational and model-based methods. Striving for a career in research, academia and teaching.

@ruanvmazijk on  Twitter and  GitHub

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 LinkedIn  ResearchGate  Mendeley

Education



MSc candidate in Biological Sciences *Cape Town*

2018–present

- Dissertation title: *Genome size effects on plant hydraulic ecophysiology, habitat and phenology in Cape Schoenoid sedges (Cyperaceae: Schoeneae)*
- Principle supervisor: Associate Prof A.M. Muasya
- Co-supervisors: Associate Prof G.A. Verboom and Associate Prof A.G. West

BSc Hons in Biological Sciences *Cape Town*

2017

Graduated with distinction - Dissertation title: *Relating vascular plant species richness and environmental heterogeneity across spatial scales*

in the Greater Cape Floristic Region and the Southwest Australia Floristic Region - Supervisors: Associate Prof M.D. Cramer and Associate Prof G.A. Verboom

BSc in Ecology & Evolution, Applied Biology *Cape Town*

2016

Distinction in both majors and the degree as a whole

National Senior Certificate, Fairmont High School, Durbanville, South Africa

2013

Bachelor's Pass with honours and six distinctions

Publications

Cramer, M.D., van Mazijk, R., Wootton, L.M. and Verboom, G.A. (In prep.). Edaphic diversity in a global biodiversity hotspot.

Van Mazijk, R., Cramer, M.D. and Verboom, G.A. (In prep.). The role of environmental heterogeneity in determining plant species richness in the Greater Cape Floristic Region & the Southwest Australia Floristic Region. To submit to *Journal of Biogeography*.

Van Mazijk, R., Smythe, L.K., Weideman, E.A. and West, A.G. (2018). Isotopic tracing of stormwater in the urban Liesbeek River. *Water SA*, 44(4):1–6. DOI: [10.4314/wsa.v44i4.16](https://doi.org/10.4314/wsa.v44i4.16).

Professional affiliations

Southern African Society for Systematic Biology (SASSB) student member (2018–present).

South African Association of Botanists (SAAB) student member (2017–present).

Golden Key International Honour Society member (2015–present).

Funding & awards

Travel grants

UCT Conference Travel Grant to attend SAAB-AMA-SASSB-IVXV (conditional grant) (R3,819)	2018
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Scholarships & bursaries

South African Association of Botanists (SAAB) MSc Student Bursary (inaugural recipient) (R20,000 p.a.)	2018, 2019
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Dorothy Cameron Scholarship (R20,000)	2018
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UCT Masters Research Scholarship (R25,000)	2018
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DST-NRF Innovation Honours Scholarship (R60,000)	2018
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South African Association of Botanists (SAAB) Honours Scholarship (R10,000)	2017
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UCT Science Faculty Scholarship (R15,000 p.a.)	2015, 2016
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Awards & honours

UCT Once-Off Top Up Award (R5,520)	2018
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Dean's Merit List	2014–2016
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Dick & Dorothy Borchers Prize for the highest standard in 2 nd year biology (R1,000)	2015
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Top of the class for:

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| • 3 rd year evolutionary biology | 2016 |
| • 2 nd year botany | 2015 |
| • 2 nd year zoology | 2015 |
| • 2 nd year marine biology | 2015 |
| • 1 st year biological diversity | 2014 |

Leadership experience

Dept. of Biological Sciences Postgraduate Committee ad-hoc member	October–December 2018
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Departmental Representative for the Dept. of Biological Sciences	2016.
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Class Representative for:

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|---|------|
| • 3 rd year evolutionary biology | 2016 |
| • 3 rd year ecology | 2016 |
| • 2 nd year botany | 2015 |

Teaching

Teaching assistant for angiosperm diversity practicals	October 2018
Lecturer: Associate Prof G.A. Verboom	
Tutor for undergraduate study design and data analysis for scientists	2017–present
Convenor: Associate Prof R. Altwegg	
Assistant tutor for short course <i>SEEC-ACCESS Introduction to statistical modelling & data analysis</i>	18–20 July
Organiser: Associate Prof R. Altwegg	
Assistant tutor undergraduate R practicals	2016–2018
Convenor: Associate Prof R. Altwegg	
Hot-seat tutor for mathematics for biology, earth and environmental sciences undergraduates	2015
Convenor: T. van Heerden	
Hot-seat organiser: Dr R. Moolman	

Research assistance

Field assistant for sampling <i>Schoenus</i> spp. (Cyperaceae: Schoeneae) specimens for genome-size analyses and taxonomic study	2018–present
with Dr T.L. Elliott	
Supervisor: Associate Prof A.M. Muasya	
Data processing assistant for assessing the current available data for the soils of the Greater Cape Floristic Region	June 2016–present
with L.M. Wootton	
Part of “Biodiversity and Environmental Change in the Cape Floristic Region”	
Supervisor: Associate Prof M.D. Cramer	
Field assistant for monitoring <i>Mimetes</i> spp. & <i>Leucospermum</i> spp. (Proteaceae) populations on the Cape Peninsula	January–February 2017
with L.M. Wootton	
Supervisor: Dr J.A. Slingsby (SAEON Fynbos Node, SEEC)	
Laboratory, field and data processing assistant for legume symbiotic rhizobia culturing and field sampling	December 2015
Supervisors: Dr M. Dlodlu and Associate Prof A.M. Muasya	

Workshop & conference attendance

Presenter at <i>Pint of Science Cape Town</i>	16 May 2018
I presented hypotheses concerning the role of genome size in plant water use and ecology	
[pintofsciencesa.wixsite.com]	