



# Tao Yang 杨涛

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## Education

2006.9–2010.7, Bachelor student. Hunan University of Science and Technology – Bioengineering

2010.9–2014.1, Master research, with Prof. Caihong Dong. Institute of Microbiology, Chinese Academy of Sciences – Fungi molecular physiology

2014.10–Present, PhD candidate with Prof. P.W. Crous. CBS Fungal Biodiversity Centre, KNAW & Utrecht University, the Netherlands – Systematics and evolution of *Botryosphaeriales*

## Research experiences

### Master projects

1, I worked with Prof Caihong Dong to explore how light regulates the growth of *Cordyceps militaris*. Photoreceptor wc1 was reported to be responsible for sensing light. Therefore, we constructed several wc1 mutants. Compared with wild type, those mutants could not form fruit bodies. Production of carotenoid and cordycepin, two important effective components, were decreased dramatically. Morphologically, the mutants were similar to degenerated strains in continuous cultivation. Further transcriptional analysis indicated that wc1 might switch the vegetative growth state to primordia differentiation by suppressing the expression of related genes.

2, At the same time, I took part in a project to identify fungi community of different cultivated *Vitis* species. I was responsible for sample collecting and isolation.

### **PhD research**

1, In the first year of my PhD research, I worked on the taxonomy of *Botryosphaerales*, a group of important plant and human pathogens. We used both morphological and phylogenetical information to develop a natural classification of *Botryosphaerales* on family, genus and species level. Finally, we found 2 new families, 3 new genera and 18 new species.

## **Skills**

### **Wet-lab**

#### Molecular biology

nucleic acid electrophoresis, DNA/RNA extractions and quantification, PCR, sanger sequencing, RT-PCR, primer design, gene knock-out and molecular cloning

#### Biochemical analysis

carotenoid extraction, thin layer chromatography, silica gel column chromatography and HPLC

#### Microbiology

sample collection, single spore isolation, culturing, preservation, phase contrast microscopy and fluorescence microscopy

### **Computer and statistical skill**

t-tests, ANOVA, Fasttree, RaxML, Bayesian, Mesquite, FigTree, DNA Star, Paup, Clustal, Mafft, T-coffee, NCBI, Adobe Creative Suite (Illustrator, Bridge, Photoshop), GraphPad and Endnote

## **Publications**

1, **T. Yang**, M.M. Guo, H.J. Yang, S.P. Guo, C.H. Dong, 2016. The blue-light receptor CmWC-1 mediates fruit body development and secondary metabolism in *Cordyceps militaris*. ***Applied Microbiology and Biotechnology* 100(2): 743–755.**

- 2, **T. Yang**, C.H. Dong, 2014. Photo morphogenesis and photo response of the blue-light receptor gene Cmwc-1 in different strains of *Cordyceps militaris*. ***FEMS Microbiology Letters* 352(2):190–197.**
- 3, **T. Yang**, J.D. Sun, T.T. Lian, W.Z. Wang , C.H. Dong, 2013. Process optimization for extraction of carotenoids from *Cordyceps militaris*, an edible and medicinal fungus. ***International Journal of Medicinal Mushrooms* 16(2): 125–35.**
- 4, **T. Yang**, W.P. Xiong, C.H. Dong, 2013. Cloning and analysis of the Oswc-1 gene encoding a putative blue light photoreceptor from *Ophiocordyceps sinensis*. ***Mycoscience* 55(4): 241–245.**
- 5, C.H. Dong, **T. Yang**, T.T. Lian, 2014. A comparative study of the antimicrobial, antioxidant, and cytotoxic activities of methanol extracts from fruitbodies and fermented mycelia of caterpillar medicinal mushroom *Cordyceps militaris* (Ascomycetes). ***International Journal of Medicinal Mushrooms* 16(5): 485–495.**
- 6, T.T. Lian, C.H. Dong, **T. Yang**, J.D. Sun, 2014. Three Types of geranylgeranyl diphosphate synthases from the medicinal caterpillar fungus, *Cordyceps militaris* (Ascomycetes). ***International Journal of Medicinal Mushrooms* 16(2):115–24.**
- 7, T.T. Lian, **T. Yang**, J.D. Sun, S.P. Guo, H.J. Yang, C.H. Dong, 2014. Variations of SSU rDNA group I introns in different isolates of *Cordyceps militaris* and the loss of an intron during cross-mating. ***The Journal of Microbiology* 52(8): 659–66.**
- 8, T.T. Lian, **T. Yang**, G.J. Liu, J.D. Sun, C.H. Dong, 2014. Reliable reference gene selection for *Cordyceps militaris* gene expression studies under different developmental stages and media. ***FEMS Microbiology Letter* 356(1): 97–104.**
- 9, Novel species, genus and family in *Botryosphaerales*, 2016. In preparation.

## Patent

C.H. Dong, **T. Yang**, 2012. Synthetic medium for *Sparassis crispa*. Chinese patent application number: 201210370266.6.

## Presentations

1, **Mycology Society of China Annual Meeting, 2012.**

Photoresponses of the edible and medicinal fungi *Cordyceps militaris*.

2, **Medical Fungi Conference of China, 2013.**

Photoresponse of *Cordyceps militaris* and its mechanism.

## Language

English: Good at reading, speaking and writing

Chinese: Native

## Scholarships/ Awards

1, 2006–2007, Outstanding student leaders, Hunan University of Science and Technology

2, 2009, National English Contest for College Students C, the first prize, Ministry of Education of the People's Republic of China

3, 2009, National Scholarship for Encouragement, Hunan University of Science and Technology

4, 2011, Student Merit Award, Chinese Academy of Sciences.

## References

Professor Dr. **Caihong Dong** (Master supervisor)

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Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS)

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Professor Dr. **Xuwei Wang**

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