

# Wen-Juan Ma

Assistant Professor  
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## Education

10.2009-12.2014 **Ph.D. Evolutionary Genetics**, University of Groningen, The Netherlands  
09.2006-07.2009 **M.S. Evolutionary Ecology**, *Summa cum laude*  
Xishuangbanna Tropical Botanical Garden, Chinese Academy of Sciences  
09.2002-07.2006 **B.S. Biological Science**, *Summa cum laude*  
Nanyang Normal University, China

## Academic Employment

01.2023- **Assistant Professor**, Biology Department, Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Brussels, Belgium  
08.2020-12.2022 **Postdoctoral research associate**, Department of Molecular Biosciences,  
The University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS, USA  
06.2018-07.2020 **NIH Postdoctoral research associate**, Department of Biology, Amherst College, MA, USA  
08.2018-10.2018 **Visiting scholar**, Department Ecologie Systematics and Evolution,  
Université of Paris-Sud, Orsay, France  
03.2018-05.2018 (Informal) **visiting scholar**, Department of Biology, University of Indiana, IN, USA  
08.2014-02.2018 **SNSF Postdoctoral fellow**, Department of Ecology and Evolution,  
University of Lausanne, Switzerland  
08.2014-01.2018 **Teaching assistant**, Department of Ecology and Evolution  
University of Lausanne, Switzerland  
01.2010-01.2014 **Graduate teaching assistant**, University of Groningen, the Netherlands  
07.2009-08.2009 **Research associate**, Chinese Academy of Science, Xishuangbanna, China  
09.2003-08.2005 **Undergraduate teaching assistant**, Nanyang Normal University, China

## Honors, Awards, Fellowships and Grants

### Pending grants

2025	€265,320	<b>FWO infrastructure grant</b> (co-PI)
2025	€650,000	<b>COST – Tree of sex consortium</b>

### Grant/Fellowship/Honors (in total: €2,416,317; \$27,500; ¥12,000)

2025	€653,117	<b>FWO junior research grant</b> (PI)
2025	€250	ESEB conference aid grant
2025	\$2,000	SMBE aid and gender equality grant
2025	€25,500	<b>VUB-CSC joint PhD grant</b> , co-PI with Qi Zhou, Zhejiang University, China
2024	€55,000	<b>ULB-VUB seed grant for joint PhD</b> , co-PI with Jean-François Flot, Belgium
2023	€500	FWO travel grant
2023-2027	€100,000	<b>VUB startup funding</b> , Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Belgium
2023-2028	€1,499,950	<b>ERC (European Research Council) Starting Grant</b>
05.2022	€500	ESEB2022 conference aid grant
02.2022	\$25,000	<b>K-INBRE Postdoc Awards</b> Year 2022
08.2021	€1,000	ESEB satellite symposium fund, 'The remarkable diversity in the rate and mechanisms of sex chromosome evolution'

05.2018	\$500	Travel grant, Society for the Study of Evolution
06.2016	¥1,000	Team award to fig-fig wasp coevolution, Chinese Academy of Sciences, China
2013	€500	Travel grant, Dutch Uyttenboogaart-Eliassen Foundation
2009-2014	<b>€80,000</b>	<b>PhD Ubbo Emmius faculty fellowship</b> , University of Groningen, The Netherlands
2009	¥2,000	Best master thesis award of DiAo, Chinese Academy of Sciences, China
2009	Top 4%	Outstanding Graduate in Xishuangbanna Tropical Botanical Garden, CAS, Chinese Academy of Sciences, China
2002-2006	¥4,000	First-Class Departmental Scholarship for 4 years, Nanyang Normal University, China
2006	Top 1%	Outstanding Graduate, Nanyang Normal University, China
2004	¥5,000	National Scholarship for Excellent Study (Top 0.1%), Nanyang Normal University, China

### Grant/fellowship passed interview stage but not funded

12.2024	€556,984	<b>FWO junior research grant</b> (PI) (top 25%, the runner up for the funding)
09.2019	£725,397	<b>*Royal Society University Research Fellowship</b> , shortlisted. I wrote the proposal <b>by myself</b> .
03.2018	€195,455	<b>**Maire-Curie Postdoc fellowship</b> ‘Guppy Young Y’ was awarded the ‘Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Seal of Excellence’. I wrote the proposal <b>by myself</b> .

\*Top 20% of proposals from all science domains (life science, physics, chemistry) were shortlisted.

\*\* The proposal was scored 89.5 right below the cutoff of 92 funded score for that round of funding.

## Publications

**Total citations until 12.2025: 951, h-index: 15, i10-index: 20**

A full list of my publications and citation statistics is available at Google Scholar:

[https://scholar.google.com/citations?hl=en&user=D21ZTf0AAAAJ&view\\_op=list\\_works&sortby=pubdate](https://scholar.google.com/citations?hl=en&user=D21ZTf0AAAAJ&view_op=list_works&sortby=pubdate)

ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-2585-6406>

32. JAD Vidal, D Charlesworth, **W-J Ma**, Q Zhou, R Utsunomia, AJB Gomes, AB da Silva, F Porto-Foresti, T Liehr, M de Bello Cioffi. (2025) Investigating the evolution of large meiotic rings of multiple X and Y sex chromosomes in two Leptodactylus frog species (Anura, Leptodactylidae)

- **Communications Biology**, 8, 1636

31. SS Shinde<sup>†</sup>, P Veltsos, **W-J Ma**. (2025) Gene duplication, translocation and molecular evolution of *Dmrt1* and related sex-determining genes in anurans

- **Biomolecules**, 15(9), 1306

30. E.A. Lucotte, P Jay, Q Rougemont, L Boyer, A Cornille, A Snick, A Labat, E Chain, M Duhamel, J Gendelman, **W-J Ma**, R K Hayes, M.H. Berlin M.E. Hood, R.C. Rodriguez de la Vega, T Giraud. (2025). Repeated loss of function at HD mating-type genes and of recombination in anther-smut fungi. doi:

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-025-60222-5>

- **Nature Communications**, 16, 4962 (IF=14.920, citation=5)

29. D Jeffries, C Benvenuto, A Böhne, C Fraise, S Garcia, P Jay, L Kratochvíl, CE McDonough-Goldstein, A Ruiz-Herrera, CG Sotero-Caio, MA. Wilson, **Tree of Sex Consortium**<sup>+</sup>, KS Jaron. (2025). The Tree of Sex consortium: A global initiative for studying the evolution of reproduction in eukaryotes

- **Journal of Evolutionary Biology**, 38(7), 861-886. (IF=2.441, citation=6)

28. B. Augstenová<sup>†</sup>, **W-J Ma**. (2025). Decoding *Dmrt1*: Insights into vertebrate sex determination and gonadal sex differentiation. arXiv: <https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.2407.12060>

- **Journal of Evolutionary Biology**, 38(7), 811-831. (IF=2.441, citation=11)

27. P Veltsos, S Shinde<sup>†</sup>, **W-J Ma**. (2024). Sex chromosome evolution: the classical paradigm and so much beyond.

- **Encyclopedia of Evolutionary Biology**. (citation=3)

26. **W-J Ma**, M. Rovatsos. (2022) Sex chromosome evolution: The remarkable diversity in the evolutionary rates and mechanisms.

- **Journal of Evolutionary Biology** 35: 1581-1588 (IF=2.441, citation=6)

25. **W-J Ma**, K. Brunzell<sup>\*\*</sup>, E. Knoles<sup>##</sup>, MM. Schoaib<sup>##</sup>, RL Unckless (2022). Hoisted with his own petard: how sex-ratio meiotic drive in *Drosophila affinis* creates resistance alleles that limit its spread.

- **Journal of Evolutionary Biology** 35: 1765-1776 (IF=2.441, citation=5)
- 24. **W-J Ma**, P Veltsos (2021). The diversity and evolution of sex chromosomes in frogs.
  - **Genes** 12: 483. (IF=4.096, citation=52)
  - <https://doi.org/10.3390/genes12040483>
- 23. **W-J Ma**, BA Pannebakker, X Li<sup>#</sup>, E Geyverink, SY Anvar, P Veltsos, T Schwander, L van de Zande, LW Beukeboom. (2021). A single QTL with large effect is associated with decay of female functional virginity in an asexual parasitoid wasp.
  - **Molecular Ecology** 30: 1979-1992. (IF=6.131, citation=14)
  - doi: 10.1111/mec.15863.
- 22. **W-J Ma**, F Carpentier<sup>#</sup>, T Giraud, M Hood. (2020). Differential gene expression between fungal mating types is associated with sequence degeneration.
  - **Genome Biology and Evolution** 12: 234-258. (IF=3.726, citation=14)
  - doi: <https://doi.org/10.1093/gbe/evaa028>
- 21. **FE Hartmann**<sup>\*</sup>, **W-J Ma**<sup>\*</sup>. (2020). Digest: Climate plays marginal role for homomorphic sex chromosome differentiation in common frogs.
  - **Evolution** 74: 690-693. (IF=4.201, citation=2)
  - doi : <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/evo.13936>
- 20. P Veltsos, N Rodrigues<sup>#</sup>, T Studer<sup>##</sup>, **W-J Ma**, S Sermier<sup>\*\*</sup>, N Perrin. (2020). No evidence that Y-chromosome differentiation affects male fitness in a Swiss population of common frogs.
  - **Journal of Evolutionary Biology** 33: 401-409. (IF=2.792, citations=17)
  - doi: <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1111/jeb.13573>
- 19. FE Hartmann, RC Rodríguez de la Vega, P Gladieux, **W-J Ma**, J Antonovics, ME Hood, T Giraud. (2019). Higher gene flow in sex-related chromosomes than in autosomes during fungal divergence.
  - **Molecular Biology and Evolution** 37: 668-682. (IF=14.797, citations=25)
  - doi : <https://doi.org/10.1093/molbev/msz252>
- 18. **W-J Ma**, L Santos Del Blanco, JR Pannell. (2019). A new biological species in the *Mercurialis annua* polyploidy complex: functional divergence in inflorescence morphology and hybrid sterility.
  - **Annals of Botany** 124: 165-178. (IF=4.041, citations=5)
  - doi : <https://doi.org/10.1093/aob/mcz058>
- 17. **W-J Ma**, R Sermier<sup>\*\*</sup>, P Veltsos, DJ Parker, N Perrin. (2018). Evolutionary and developmental dynamics of sex-biased gene expression in common frogs with proto-Y chromosomes.
  - **Genome Biology** 19: 156. (IF=13.214, citation=36)
  - doi : <https://doi.org/10.1186/s13059-018-1548-4>
- 16. DL Jeffries, G Lavanchy<sup>##</sup>, R Sermier<sup>\*\*</sup>, MJ Sredl, I Miura, A Borzée, LN Barrow, D Canestrelli, P-A Crochet, C Dufresnes, J Fu, **W-J Ma**, C Macías Garcia, K Ghali<sup>#</sup>, AG Nicieza, RP O'Donnell, N Rodrigues<sup>#</sup>, A Romano, Í Martínez-Solano, I Stepanyan, S Zumbach, A Bresfold, N Perrin. (2018). A rapid rate of sex-chromosome turnover and non-random transitions in true frogs.
  - **Nature Communications** 9 : 4088. (IF=14.920, citation=196)
  - doi : <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-018-06517-2>
- 15. **W-J Ma**, P Veltsos, MA Touns, N Rodrigues<sup>#</sup>, R Sermier<sup>\*\*</sup>, DL Jeffries, N Perrin. (2018). Tissue specificity and dynamics of sex-biased gene expression in a common frog population with differentiated, yet homomorphic, sex chromosomes.
  - **Genes** 9: 294. (IF=4.096, citation=28)
  - doi : <https://doi.org/10.3390/genes9060294>
- 14. N Rodrigues<sup>#</sup>, T Studer<sup>##</sup>, C Dufresnes, **W-J Ma**, P Veltsos, N Perrin. (2017). *Dmrt1* polymorphism and seks chromosome differentiation in *Rana temporaria*.
  - **Molecular Ecology** 26: 4897-4905. (IF=6.131, citation=36)
  - doi: <https://doi.org/10.1111/mec.14222>
- 13. **W-J Ma**, T Schwander. (2017). Patterns and mechanisms in instances of endosymbiont-induced parthenogenesis.
  - **Journal of Evolutionary Biology** 30: 868-888. (IF=2.792, citation=132)
  - doi : <https://doi.org/10.1111/jeb.13069>
- 12. **W-J Ma**, N Rodrigues<sup>#</sup>, R Sermier<sup>\*\*</sup>, A Brelsford, N Perrin. (2016) *Dmrt1* polymorphism covaries with sex-determination patterns in *Rana temporaria*.
  - **Ecology and Evolution** 6: 5107-5117. (IF=2.537, citation=29)
  - doi : <https://doi.org/10.1002/ece3.2209>

11. **W-J Ma**, JR Pannell. (2016). Sex determination: separate sexes are a double turnoff in melons.  
 - **Current Biology** 26: R171-R174. (IF=9.193, citation=15)  
 - doi: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cub.2015.12.026>
10. **W-J Ma**, BA Pannebakker, L van de Zande, T Schwander, B Wertheim, LW Beukeboom. (2015). Diploid males support a two-step mechanism for endosymbiont-induced thelytoky in a parasitoid wasp.  
 - **BMC Evolutionary Biology** 15: 84. (IF=3.027, citation=56)  
 - doi: <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12862-015-0370-9>
9. **W-J Ma**, BA Pannebakker, LW Beukeboom, T Schwander, L van de Zande (2014). Genetics of decayed sexual traits in a parasitoid wasp with endosymbiont-induced parthenogenesis.  
 - **Heredity** 113: 424-431. (IF=3.801, citation=20)  
 - doi: <https://doi.org/10.1038/hdy.2014.43>
8. **W-J Ma**, F Vavre, LW Beukeboom (2014). Manipulation of arthropod sex determination by endosymbionts: diversity and molecular mechanisms.  
 - **Sexual Development** 8: 59-73. (IF=2.250, citation=70)  
 - doi: <https://doi.org/10.1159/000357024>
7. **W-J Ma**, B Kuijper, JG de Boer, L van de Zande, LW Beukeboom, B Wertheim, BA Pannebakker (2013). Absence of complementary sex determination in the parasitoid wasp genus *Asobara* (Hymenoptera: Braconidae).  
 - **PloS ONE** 8: e60458. (IF=2.776, citation=24)  
 - doi: <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0060459>
6. **W-J Ma**, D-R Yang, Y-Q Peng (2009). Disturbance effects on community structure of *Ficus tinctoria* fig wasp in Xishuangbanna, China: implication for the fig/fig wasp mutualism.  
 - **Insect Science** 16: 417-424. (IF=2.71, citation=8)  
 - doi: <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1744-7917.2009.01265.x>
5. **W-J Ma**, Y-Q Peng, D-R Yang, J-M Guan (2009). Coevolution of reproductive characteristics in three dioecious fig species and their pollinator wasps.  
 - **Symbiosis** 49 : 87-94. (IF=2.009, citation=14)  
 - doi: <https://doi.org/10.1007/s13199-009-0018-x>
4. **W-J Ma**, F-P Zhang, Y-Q Peng, D-R Yang (2009). Comparison of style length and reproduction success in *Ficus* of different breeding systems.  
 - **Chinese Journal of Plant Ecology** 33: 911-918. (IF=2.541, citation=5)
3. **W-J Ma**, Y-Q Peng, D-R Yang (2009). Variation of reproduction success in *Ficus tinctoria* and the implication in fig evolution.  
 - **Zoological Research Suppl.**: 139-145.

<sup>+</sup> member of Tree of Sex consortium.

<sup>\*</sup> Equal contribution.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Publications include contribution from supervised technicians.

<sup>†</sup> Publications include contribution from supervised postdocs.

<sup>#</sup> Publications include contribution from informally supervised PhD students.

<sup>##</sup> Publications include contribution from supervised master/undergraduate students.

## PhD thesis and thesis chapter

2. E Geuverink, M van Leussen, **W-J Ma**, LW Beukeboom, L van de Zande. (2017). Identification, seks-specific splicing and maternal provision of *transformer* and *transformer-2* in arrhenotokous and *Wolbachia*-infected thelytokous *Asobara japonica*. Chapter 6. *Parental and Endosymbiont Effects on Seks Determination in Haplodiploid Wasps-Who is in Control?* **PhD thesis** of E. Geuverink. University of Groningen, The Netherlands.

1. **W-J Ma**. 2014. Evolutionary genetics of *Wolbachia*-induced parthenogenesis in the parasitoid *Asobara japonica*: seks determination and sexual decay. **PhD thesis**, University of Groningen, The Netherlands (citation=3)

## Invited talks

In total, I have been invited to give talks for 31 departmental seminars, 5 conferences and 1 workshop.

- 02.2026 **Departmental seminar.** Leibniz Institute for the Analysis of Biodiversity Change, Germany
- 11.2025 **'Tree of Life' Departmental seminar.** Wellcome Sanger Institute, UK
- 04.2025 **Departmental seminar.** Institute of Science and Technology Austria, Austria
- 04.2025 **PopGen Vienna seminar.** Vienna Grad. School of Population Genetics, Austria
- 12.2024 **Departmental seminar.** KU Leuven, Belgium
- 10.2023 **Current Topics in Zoology and Evolution Seminar.** University of Basel, CH
- 10.2023 **IB2 Research Day 2023.** Interuniversity Institute of Bioinformatics in Brussels, Belgium
- 05.2023 **Evolution & Ecology Seminar.** University of Lille, Lille, France
- 03.2023 **Departmental seminar.** Université Libre de Bruxelles, Brussels, Belgium
- 12.2022 **Institute seminar.** KU Center for Genomics early career researcher seminar. University of Kansas, Lawrence KS, USA
- 07.2022 **Departmental seminar.** University of Groningen, Groningen, The Netherlands
- 06.2022 **Departmental seminar.** University of East Anglia, Norwich, UK
- 05.2022 **Departmental seminar.** University of Dublin, Dublin, Ireland
- 04.2022 **Departmental seminar.** Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Brussels, Belgium
- 02.2022 **Institute seminar.** Earlham Institute, Norwich, UK
- 02.2022 **Institute seminar.** The Institute of Functional Genomics of Lyon, Lyon, France
- 07.2021 **Departmental seminar.** School of Life Sciences, University of Essex, Colchester, UK
- 02.2021 **Departmental seminar.** Department of Biology, Southeast Missouri State University, Cape Girardeau, MO, USA
- 09.2020 **EEB Genetics seminar.** Department of Ecology & Evolutionary Biology and Department of Molecular Bioscience, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS, USA
- 06.2020 **Evolutionary Biology Group seminar.** Department of Biology, University of Konstanz, Konstanz, Germany
- 02.2020 **Departmental seminar.** Department of Biology, George Mason University, Fairfax, VA, USA
- 02.2020 **Departmental seminar.** Department of Biological Sciences, University of Arkansas, USA
- 01.2020 **Departmental seminar.** School of Biological Sciences, Illinois State University, USA
- 01.2020 **Conference speaker.** Invited but declined. Symposium 'Emerging frontiers in sex chromosome evolution', 9<sup>th</sup> World Congress of Herpetology, Dunedin, New Zealand.
- 01.2020 **Conference speaker.** 'The International Plant and Animal Genome (PAG) conference', 'Sex Chromosome and Sex Determination' workshop, San Diego, CA, USA.
- 08.2019 **Departmental seminar.** School of Biological Sciences, University of Aberdeen, UK
- 06.2019 **Conference speaker.** 'Evolution 2019, Providence, Rhode Island
- 05.2019 **Departmental seminar.** Institute of Integrative Biology, University of Liverpool, UK
- 04.2019 **Departmental seminar.** Milner Center for Evolution, University of Bath, UK
- 01.2019 **Conference speaker.** Invited but declined. 'The International Plant and Animal Genome (PAG) Conference', San Diego, CA, USA.
- 12.2018 **Departmental seminar.** Seminar for Department of Biology, Amherst College, MA, USA
- 09.2018 **Departmental seminar.** Seminar for Department of Genetic and Ecology Evolution, Université Paris-Sud, Orsay, France
- 06.2016 **Departmental seminar.** Institutional external seminar, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Xishuangbanna, China
- 08.2015 **Conference speaker.** 'Nöthiger insect sex determination' workshop, University of Lausanne, Lausanne, Switzerland
- 07.2014 **Workshop speaker.** 'Evolution of asexual genome' workshop, University of Lausanne, Lausanne, Switzerland
- 10.2013 **Departmental seminar.** Laboratory of Genetics seminar, Wageningen University, NL
- 02.2010 **Departmental seminar.** Lab seminar, Leiden, The Netherlands

## Conference presentations

All as first author presentations: talk at 21 international conferences and poster at 11 conferences.

- 01.2026 (scheduled) **Talk** PopGroup 59 conference, Lille, France
- 08.2025 **Talk** ESEB 2025, Barcelona, Spain

- 07.2025 **Talk** SMBE 2025, Beijing, China
- 09.2023 **Talk** Conferences Jacques-Monod, Sex unfolded: sex, asex, sexes, Roscoff, France
- 08.2022 **Talk** ESEB 2022, Prague, Czech Republic
- 04.2022 **Talk** 63rd Annual *Drosophila* Research Conference, San Diego, CA, USA
- 01.2022 **Talk** 55<sup>th</sup> PopGroup meeting, the Earlham Institute, John Innes Centre, University of East Anglia, UK
- 06.2021 **Talk** virtual Evolution meeting, 2021
- 06.2021 **Talk** ESEB satellite symposium 2021, ‘Genomic signatures and consequences of sex and asexuality’
- 01.2021 **Talk** the virtual 54<sup>th</sup> PopGroup meeting, University of Liverpool, Liverpool, UK
- 01.2020 **Talk** PAG XVIII, San Diego, CA, USA
- 08.2019 **Poster** ESEB, Turku, Finland
- 06.2019 **Poster** Evolution, Providence, USA
- 06.2019 **Talk** Evolution 2019, Providence, Rhode Island, USA
- 08.2018 **Poster** Joint meeting of ESEB and Evolution, Montpellier, France
- 08.2017 **Poster** European Society for Evolutionary Biology, Groningen, The Netherlands
- 01.2017 **Talk** PoPGroup meeting, Cambridge, UK
- 06.2016 **Talk** Evolution of sex det. Workshop, La Sage, Switzerland
- 02.2016 **Poster** Swiss Biology Meeting, Lausanne, Switzerland
- 12.2015 **Talk** PopGroup 49 meeting, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, Scotland
- 08.2015 **Poster** European Society for Evolutionary Biology, Lausanne, Switzerland
- 07.2014 **Talk** ‘Evolution of asexual genome’ workshop, University of Lausanne, Lausanne, Switzerland
- 08.2013 **Poster** European Society for Evolutionary Biology, Lisbon, Portugal
- 06.2013 **Talk** Insect sex determination workshop, Gif-sur-Yvette, Paris, France
- 02.2013 **Talk** Netherlands Annual Ecology meeting, Lunteren, The Netherlands
- 12.2012 **Talk** Entomologen Dag, Ede, The Netherlands
- 12.2011 **Talk** Entomologen Dag, Ede, the Netherlands
- 11.2011 **Talk** NEV herfstvergadering, Groningen, The Netherlands
- 10.2011 **Poster** Sixth International Symposium on Molecular Insect Science, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
- 10.2011 **Poster** European workshop on sex determination in insects, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
- 06.2011 **Poster** Genetics, Epigenetics and Evolution of Sex Chromosomes, Paris, France
- 11.2010 **Talk** Meeting of the Insect Parasitoid Special Interest Group of the Royal Entomological Society, University of York, York, UK
- 11.2010 **Poster** Plant-Insect interaction workshop, Wageningen, The Netherlands
- 11.2007 **Talk** Conference of “Biodiversity—Challenges to the New Century”, Jinghong, China

## Additional training (workshops/conferences, in total 27x)

- 02.2025 **‘How AI helps with ERC grant writing’**, Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Brussels, Belgium
- 07.2024 **Tree of Sex 2.0 workshop**, Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic
- 06.2023 **Tree of Sex 2.0 workshop**, Sanger Institute, Cambridge, UK
- 06.2023 **PhD Supervisor workshop2**, Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Brussels, Belgium
- 04.2023 **PhD Supervisor workshop1**, Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Brussels, Belgium
- 05.2022 **1<sup>st</sup> KU Centre for Genomics Symposium 2022**, University of Kansas, USA
- 12.2021 **ADVANCEGeo “DEI” workshop**, University of Kansas, USA
- 09.2021 **“SafeZone Training”** (allies to the LGBTQ+ students), University of Kansas, KS, USA
- 06.2021 **“Plant Sex Chromosome Evolution”** workshop, virtue, organized by University of Munich
- 06.2018 **“Scientific Programming with Python”**, Amherst College, Amherst, MA, USA
- 04.2018 **“De novo transcriptome assembly”**, University of Indiana, USA
- 02.2018 **“Lausanne Genomic Days”**, University of Lausanne, Switzerland
- 03.2017 **“Python for Life Scientists”**, University of Basel, Basel, Switzerland
- 02.2017 **“Lausanne Genomic Days”**, University of Lausanne, Switzerland
- 10.2016 **“De novo Transcriptome assembly”**, University of Bern, Bern, Switzerland
- 06.2016 **“Evolution of sex determination”**, La Sage, Switzerland
- 02.2016 **“Lausanne Genomic Days”**, University of Lausanne, Switzerland
- 08.2015 **“Nöthiger insect sex determination”**, University of Lausanne, Lausanne, Switzerland

01.2015	“ <b>Introductory Course in Laboratory Animal Science</b> ”, University of Lausanne, Switzerland
12.2014	“ <b>Learning Python for life sciences</b> ”, University of Basel, Basel, Switzerland
07.2014	“ <b>Evolution of asexual genome</b> ”, University of Lausanne, Lausanne, Switzerland
06.2014	“ <b>NGS genome &amp; transcriptome assembly and analysis</b> ”, University of Fribourg, Switzerland
11.2013	“ <b>Writing a Grant Proposal</b> ”, University of Groningen, Groningen, The Netherlands
10.2013	“ <b>RNAseq data analysis workshop</b> ”, University of Groningen, Groningen, The Netherlands
08.2013	“ <b>MGC Next Generation Sequencing data analysis</b> ”, Medical Genetics Centre South-West Netherlands, Leiden, The Netherlands
06.2013	“ <b>Nöthiger Insect sex determination</b> ”, Gif-sur-Yvette, Paris, France
10.2011	“ <b>Nöthiger Insect sex determination</b> ”, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

## Service as reviewer and editor

### Grant Agencies:

Czech Science Foundation (CSF, 5x)

French National Research Agency (ANR, 1x)

### Scientific Journals: (until 12.2025, total = 57)

- Nature
- Genome Biology
- PLoS Biology
- PLoS Genetics
- Molecular Biology and Evolution
- Molecular Ecology
- New Phytologist
- Proceedings of the Royal Society B
- Nature Communications
- Genome Biology and Evolution
- Axios
- Entomologia Experimentalis et Applicata
- Biological Journal of the Linnean Society
- General and Comparative Endocrinology
- Peer Community IN (PCI) EvolBiol
- Evolution
- Journal of Evolutionary Biology
- Heredity
- Genes
- Journal of Heredity
- Ecology and Evolution
- Sexual Development
- Molecular Ecology Resources
- Cells
- Current Opinion in Genetics & Development
- Frontier in Zoology
- International Journal of Molecular Sciences
- PLoS ONE

### Guest editor for *Journal of Evolutionary Biology*:

Special issue on “Sex Chromosome Evolution” (2022)

### Associate Editor at *Journal of Evolutionary Biology*:

02.2023 -

## Teaching activities

### Titular (Molecular Biology of the Cell)

Spring 2025 Bachelor course, Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Belgium

Spring 2024 Bachelor course, Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Belgium

### Co-Titular (Integrative Practical Biology)

Fall 2025 Bachelor course, Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Belgium

Fall 2024 Bachelor course, Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Belgium

Fall 2023 Bachelor course, Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Belgium

### Titular (Evolutionary Genetics and Genomics of Sex)

Fall 2024 Master course, Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Belgium

Fall 2023 Master course, Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Belgium

### Guest lecturer (Evolution)

Fall 2023 Giving guest lecture for 'Evolution' course (2<sup>nd</sup> year bachelor course), Universite Libre Brussel, Brussels, Belgium

**Instructor of record** (Genetics and Genomics of Sex course, 1x)

Fall 2021 Bachelor course, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS, USA

**Teaching assistant experience** (Mol. Genetics course 4x; Zoology course 2x)

09-10.2017 TA, 'Molecular Genetics', master course, University of Lausanne, Switzerland  
 09-10.2016 TA, 'Molecular Genetics', master course, University of Lausanne, Switzerland  
 02-06.2016 TA, 'Zoology', bachelor course, University of Lausanne, Switzerland  
 09-10.2015 TA, 'Molecular Genetics', master course, University of Lausanne, Switzerland  
 02-06.2015 TA, 'Zoology', bachelor course, University of Lausanne, Switzerland  
 09-10.2014 TA, "Molecular Genetics", master course, University of Lausanne, Switzerland

## **Mentoring activities**

### **Postdoc advisor**

2025- Antoine Gradel, Biology Department, VUB, Brussels, Belgium  
 2025- Antoine Houtain, Biology Department, VUB, Brussels, Belgium  
 2024-2025 Fantin Carpentier, Biology Department, VUB, Brussels, Belgium  
 2024-2026 Barbora Augstenová, Biology Department, VUB, Brussels, Belgium  
 2023-2025 Sagar Shinde. Biology Department, VUB, Brussels, Belgium  
 2023-2024 Meriç Erdolu. Biology Department, VUB, Brussels, Belgium  
 01.2023- Paris Veltsos. Biology Department, VUB, Brussels, Belgium

### **PhD student supervision**

01.2026- Peng Zhang. Joint PhD program, Zhejiang University - VUB, Belgium  
 10.2025 Jelter Bekaert, Biology Department, VUB, Brussels, Belgium  
 10.2024- (joined PhD with ULB) Ninon Lecoquierre, Biology Department, VUB, Brussels, Belgium  
 2024-2025 Ramses Moortgat. Biology Department, VUB, Brussels, Belgium  
 02.2024- Ricard Fontserè. Biology Department, VUB, Brussels, Belgium  
 12.2023- Hatice Ezgi Unal. Biology Department, VUB, Brussels, Belgium

### **Supervising/mentoring experience** (5 technicians, 17 undergraduates, 5 master students)

07.2025- **Supervisor of Master thesis project**, Tristan Cornelis, VUB, BL  
 07-08.2025 **Supervisor of master summer internship project**, Deepthi Deepthi, VUB, BL  
 11.2024 **Co-supervisor of an undergraduate project**, Rosalie Van Eeckhaute, VUB, BL  
 11.2024- **Co-supervisor of undergraduate project**, Rehani Allan Ndeze Ndabishoboye, VUB, BL  
 11.2024- **Co-supervisor of an undergraduate project**, Rafaël Kana, VUB, BL  
 10.2023-2024 **Supervisor of an undergraduate project**, Ezel Hahar Balci, VUB, BL  
 10.2023- **Supervisor of an undergraduate project**, Benjamin Aime Allaer, VUB, BL  
 08-09.2023 **Summer internship Master student**, Fanny Kratz, VUB, BL  
 08-09.2023 **Summer internship undergraduate student**, Tristan Cornells, VUB, BL  
 06-11.2023 **Supervisor of animal lab technician**, Marzie Bagheri, VUB, BL  
 04.2023-2024 **Supervisor of an undergraduate project**, Marie Aerts, VUB, BL  
 04.-06.2023 **Supervisor of a first-step Master project**, Marzie Bagheri, VUB, BL  
 04.-09.2023 **Supervisor of lab technician**, Evert Bruyninckx, VUB, BL  
 01.2023- **Supervisor of lab technician**, Ann Pauwels, VUB, BL  
 09.2021-02.2022 **Supervisor of an undergraduate project**, Jordanne Paxton, University of Kansas, USA  
 06.2021-08.2022 **Supervisor of an undergraduate project**, Murtaza Shoaib, University of Kansas, USA  
 06.2021-02.2022 **Supervisor of a lab technician**, Hunter Duke, University of Kansas, KS, USA  
 09.2018 **PhD mid-thesis evaluation**, 'Evolution of mating-type chromosomes in the anther-smut fungi', Fantin Carpentier, University of Paris-Sud, Orsay, France  
 08-09.2015 **Supervisor of internship undergraduate** Anthony Sonrel, University of Lausanne, CH  
 07-08.2015 **Supervisor of internship undergraduate** Sarah Beuvier, University of Lausanne, CH  
 10.2014-03.2016 **Co-supervisor of master project**, Guillaume Lavanchy, University of Lausanne, CH  
 09.2014-01.2018 **Supervisor of lab technician**, Roberto Sermier, University of Lausanne, Switzerland



- 02-06.2014 **Supervisor of undergraduate from NHL Hogeschool**, Kevin Noorman, NL
- 02.2014 **Supervisor of two Master students**, 'Animals meet Microbes', The Netherlands
- 09.2013-01.2014 **Supervisor of one undergraduate student** from NHL Hogeschool, Mathijs Nas, Leeuwarden, The Netherlands
- 02-03.2013 **Supervisor of two Undergraduate students**, Maarten Doornkamp, Heleen Fakkert, 'Evolutionary Genetic research' course, University of Groningen, The Netherlands
- 02-03.2011 **Supervisor of two Undergraduate students**, 'Evolutionary Genetic research' course, University of Groningen, The Netherlands

### **PhD advisory committee member**

- 04.2023 - Sophie Smith, Leibniz Institute for the Analysis of Biodiversity Change, Germany
- 01.2023 - Jie Wang, Max Planck Institute for plant breeding research, Germany
- 12.2025 - Tristan Permentier, ULB, Brussels, Belgium

### **PhD thesis committee service**

- 2024 -2025 Shabnam Zaman, Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Belgium
- 2024 -2025 Edward Mayila, Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Belgium
- 2024 Chenyao Li, Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Belgium

### **Master thesis committee service**

- 10.2023 Erwan Denné, Master thesis 'Diving into genome size variation in Batoidea: from habitat interactions to methodological challenges', VUB, Brussels, BL
- 09.2023 Zoë De Corte, Master thesis 'Genome annotation and transcriptomic underpinning of a genetic wing dimorphism in *Bembidion properans*', ULB, Brussels, BL

### **Bachelor thesis committee service**

- 06.2024 Arielle Ikirezi, 'Unraveling the evolution of Antimicrobial Peptides of the fire bellied toad, *Bombina bombina*: a phylogenomic approach', VUB, Brussels, BL
- 06.2023 Phebe Arnauts, 'From fungi to leather-like materials: how do mycelium materials differ depending on the fungal species', VUB, Brussels, BL
- 06.2023 Nathan van Dam, 'Model reduction of neural induction in ascidian embryo', VUB, Brussels, BL

## **Academic organization/leadership services**

### **Symposium organization:** (total 9x)

- 07.2025 **Main organizer for SMBE symposium** 'Evolution and regulation of sex chromosomes and sex determination', SMBE 2025, Beijing, China
- 08.2022 **Main organizer for ESEB symposium** 'Sex chromosome evolution: the canonical model and so much beyond', ESEB 2022, Charles University, Czech Republic
- 05.2022 **Organizing member** for the 1<sup>st</sup> KU Centre for Genomics Symposium 2022, University of Kansas, KS, USA
- 08.2021 **Main organizer for ESEB satellite symposium** 'The remarkable diversity in the rate and mechanisms of sex chromosome evolution', ESEB satellite symposia 2021
- 08.2021 **Main organizer for AsiaEvo Symposium** "Evolutionary genetics and genomics of sex determination and sex chromosomes", AsiaEvo conference 2021
- 08.2019 **Main organizer for ESEB Open Symposium** sub-theme 'Genome Evolution', ESEB 2019, University of Turku, Turku, Finland
- 08.2015 **ESEB 2015 organizing staff**, ESEB 2015, University of Lausanne, Switzerland
- 02.2013 **Main organizer for symposium**, "Evolutionary Ecology: Genetics of Adaptation to Environmental Shift & Species interactions", Netherlands Annual Ecology meeting (NAEM), Lunteren, The Netherlands
- 07.2006 **Symposium organizing member** for 'the 7th international fig-fig wasp symposium', Chinese Academy of Sciences, Xishuangbanna, China

**Departmental seminar/journal club organization:** (total 4x)

- 2023- **Departmental seminar organizer**, Biology Department, Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Belgium  
 2020-2021 **Journal club discussion founder and organizer**, University of Kansas, KS, USA  
 2014-2016 **Journal club discussion founder and organizer**, University of Lausanne, Switzerland  
 2014-2016 **Topic group seminar organizer**, '*Reproductive System Dynamics*', University of Lausanne, Switzerland  
 10.2012-2013 **Institute PhD colloquia committee member**, organizing monthly-based institute colloquia in Evolution and Ecology, University of Groningen, The Netherlands

**Service on faculty search as postdoc representative:** (total 1x)

- 03.2017 **Member of PhD-Postdoc search committee** for an Assistant/Associate Professor hire, University of Lausanne, Department of Ecology and Evolution, Switzerland

**Contribution to DEIB service and leadership:** (total 8x)

- 12.2021 **ADVANCEGeo "DEI" workshop**, University of Kansas, KS, USA  
 09.2021 **Participating and active engaging in the "SafeZone Training"** (training program to be the allies to the LGBTQ+ students), University of Kansas, KS, USA  
 08.2021- **Written DEIB statement in my course '*Genetics and Genomics of Sex*', led DEIB discussion** in class and implementing the statement throughout my teaching  
 06.2020- **Member of *Journal of Evolutionary Biology* Advisory Group**, including discussion on DEI issues within ESEB society, European Society of Evolutionary Biology  
 2021  
 11.2020 **Active discussion on DEIB issues** in undergraduate researchers working in the lab during lab journal club discussion  
 2018-2020 **Participating in promoting campus-wide minority cultural events**, Indiana University, USA  
 2007-2009 **Organizing bi-monthly cultural diversity events**, Chinese Academy of Sciences, China  
 2002-2006 **Summer internship to help minority girl students** (secondary and high school levels) with study, Nanyang Normal University, China

**Professional membership**

European Society for Evolutionary Biology (**ESEB**): 2013 -  
 Society for the Study of Evolution (**SSE**): 2017 -  
 American Society of Naturalists (**ASN**): 2017 -  
 Genetics Society of America (**GSA**): 2021 -  
 American Genetic Association (**AGA**): 2021 -  
 Royal Belgian Zoological Society (**RBZS**): 2023 -  
 Society for Molecular Biology and Evolution (**SMBE**): 2024 -