

YUSAN YANG

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EDUCATION

2015-Present	Ph.D. University of Pittsburgh	Advisor: Dr. Cori Richards-Zawacki
2009-2013	B.S. National Taiwan University	Advisor: Dr. Yu-Teh Kirk Lin

PUBLICATIONS

**undergraduate and master's student coauthors are underlined*

Yang, Y., S. Blomenkamp, M. B. Dugas, C. L. Richards-Zawacki and H. Pröhl. Mate choice vs mate preference: inferences about color assortative mating differ between field and lab assays of poison frog behavior. *In press in American Naturalist*.

Yang, Y., M. B. Dugas, H. J. Sudekum, S. Murphy and C. L. Richards-Zawacki. 2018. Male-male aggression is unlikely to stabilize a poison frog polymorphism. *Journal of Evolutionary Biology* 31(3): 457–468. (link to [Smithsonian documentary](#))

Pruitt, J. N., K. A. Howell, S. J. Gladney, **Y. Yang**, J. L. L. Lichtenstein, M. E. Spicer, S. A. Echeverri, N. Pinter-Wollman. 2017. Behavioral hypervolumes of predator groups and predator-predator interactions shape prey survival rates and selection on prey behavior. *American Naturalist* 189(3): 254-266.

Yang, Y., C. L. Richards-Zawacki, A. Devar and M. B. Dugas. 2016. Poison frog color morphs express assortative mate preferences in allopatry but not sympatry. *Evolution* 70(12): 2778–2788. (link to [Evolution Digest](#))

Li, C.-Y., **Yang, Y.**, Lee, P.-Y. & Hsu, Y. 2014. Opponent familiarity and contest experience jointly influence contest decisions in *Kryptolebias marmoratus*. *Front. Zool.* 11: 92.

Forthcoming

Yang, Y., M. R. Servedio and C. L. Richards-Zawacki. Imprinting sets the stage for speciation. *In revision*.

Li, C.-Y., Y.-C. Tseng, Y.-J. Chen, **Y. Yang** and Y. Hsu. Behavioural and physiological traits are both important to contest interactions in *Kryptolebias marmoratus*. *In revision*.

GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

2018	Elizabeth Dillon Award, Dept. of Biological Sciences, U. of Pittsburgh
2018	Diversity Travel Award, Animal Behavior Society
2018	Graduate student travel award, Animal Behavior Society
2018	Best Poster Presentation, U. of Pittsburgh Women in STEM conference
2018	Travel Grant, U. of Pittsburgh Graduate & Professional Student Government
2018	Travel Grant, U. of Pittsburgh A&S Graduate Student Organization
2017	Travel Grant, U. of Pittsburgh A&S Graduate Student Organization
2017 - 2018	Andrew Mellon Predoctoral Fellowship, University of Pittsburgh (\$60,522)
2016	Travel Stipend, Society for the Study of Evolution
2015	A. Stanley Rand Fellowship, Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute (\$5,100)
2015	Tulane EEB Graduate Grant, Tulane University (\$2,000)
2014	Tulane EEB Departmental Award, Tulane University (\$1,000)
2013	Best Poster Award, Annual poster competition, National Taiwan University
2012 - 2013	Undergraduate Research Grant, National Science Council, Taiwan (\$1,550)
2012	NIGINTERN Program fellowship, National Institute of Genetics, Japan (\$ 2,260)
2011 - 2012	Undergraduate Research Grant, National Science Council, Taiwan (\$1,550)
2011	Best oral presentation, Taiwan Field Biology Course Workshop
2009	Presidential Award for academic performance, National Taiwan University
2007	Second prize, Student poster competition, Asian Science Camp

PRESENTATIONS

Invited talks

- 2018 Dept. of Biol. Sci., National Taiwan Sun Yat-Sen University, Kaohsiung, Taiwan
- 2018 Dept. of Biol. Sci., Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN, USA
- 2017 Dept. of Biology, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC, USA.
- 2017 Dept. of Life Science, National Taiwan Normal University, Taipei, Taiwan.

Contributed conference talks

- 2019 Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology Meeting, Tampa, FL, USA
Can male contest limit assortative female preference in a polymorphic poison frog?
- 2018 Three Rivers Evolution Event, Pittsburgh, PA, USA
Priority effects, not color, determine success in poison frog male-male territorial competition.
- 2018 Animal Behavior Society Meeting, Milwaukee, WI, USA
Priority effects, not color, determine success in poison frog male-male territorial competition.

- 2017 Three Rivers Evolution Event, Pittsburgh, USA
Learned color bias in a polymorphic poison frog: implications for trait evolution and speciation.
- 2017 ESA Annual Meeting, Portland, OR, USA
Male-male competition and its role in phenotypic divergence in a polymorphic poison frog
- 2017 Evolution Annual Meeting, Portland, OR, USA. [Video](#)
Male-male competition and its role in phenotypic divergence in a polymorphic poison frog
- 2016 World Congress of Herpetology, Hangzhou, China.
Poison frog males bias aggression towards a similar color morph when in allopatry but not in sympatry
- 2016 Evolution Meeting, Austin, TX, USA.
Diverged female preferences and male aggression patterns are not sufficient to drive behavioral isolation

Posters

- 2018 Pitt Annual Women in STEM Conference, Pittsburgh, PA, USA. *Best Poster Award
Learned color bias in a polymorphic poison frog: implications for trait evolution and speciation
- 2018 Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology Meeting, San Francisco, CA, USA.
Learned color bias in a polymorphic poison frog: implications for trait evolution and speciation.
- 2013 NTU Life Sciences Annual Poster Competition, Taipei, Taiwan *Best Poster Award
*Anti-predator Behavior of *Macrophthalmus banzai*: Variation in Hiding Time.*
- 2013 Symposium on Animal Behavior and Ecology. Hualien, Taiwan.
*Anti-predator Behavior of *Macrophthalmus banzai*: Variation in Hiding Time.*
- 2012 Symposium on Animal Behavior, Ecology and Global Change. Taipei, Taiwan.
*Anti-predator Behavior of *Macrophthalmus banzai* and *Uca arcuata*.*

RESEARCH POSITIONS

- 2014 – present **Ph.D student**, University of Pittsburgh
*transferred from Tulane University to U. of Pittsburgh in 2015
Advisor: Dr. Cori Richards-Zawacki
Project: Sexual selection and phenotypic divergence in the polymorphic strawberry poison dart frog (*Oophaga pumilio*)
- 2013-2014 **Research Assistant**, National Taiwan Normal University
Advisor: Dr. Yuying Hsu
Project: Integrating information of fighting ability in contests in mangrove killifish (*Kryptolebias marmoratus*).
- 2012 Summer **Intern**, National Institute of Genetics, Japan
Advisor: Dr. Koide Tsuyoshi
Project: Genetic analysis of strain differences in bitter taste sensitivity in mice (*Mus musculus*).

- 2011 Summer **Student Fellow**, Taiwan Field Biology Workshop, Lien-Hwa-Chih Research Center, Taiwan.
Project: Microhabitat complexity on the effectiveness of disruptive coloration in the polymorphic Indian rice frog (*Fejervarya limnocharis*).
- 2011-2013 **Undergraduate Research Fellow**, National Taiwan University
Advisor: Dr. Yu-Teh Kirk Lin
Project: Variations in Hiding Time of a burrowing Mud Crab (*Macrophthalmus banzai*): environmental factors, personality or individual strategies?

ACADEMIC SERVICE

- Reviewer** for *Evolution*, *Biol. J. Linn. Soc.*, *PLOS One* and *J. Nat. Hist.*
[Publon profile](#)
- 2016-2019 **Events Coordinator** in the Ecology and Evolution Departmental Weekly Seminar, University of Pittsburgh
Role: Coordinate nomination, invitation and hosting invited speakers (22 total)
- 2018-2019 **Executive board & Public Relations**, Pitt Women In Science & Engineering (WISE) Graduate Student Organization

TEACHING AND OUTREACH

Teaching

- 2019 **Evolution**, U. of Pittsburgh BIOSC 1130 (Spring) *In progress*
Role: Teaching assistant, conduct 3 recitations per week (co-design many recitation activities), grade exams, hold office hours
- 2019 Guest lecture in “Meet a scientist” project
U. of Pittsburgh BIOSC 0160: Foundations of biology II
Role: Gave a ~20 min research talk, and lead discussion for ~30min
- 2015 **Diversity of Life Lab**, Tulane University EBIO 1050 (Spring)
Role: Lab Instructor, gave a ~15-minute lecture, followed by leading a ~2h lab and discussion each lab in two 18-people class each week.
- 2014 **Diversity of Life Lab**, Tulane University EBIO 1050 (Fall)
Role: Lab Instructor, gave a ~15-minute lecture, followed by leading a ~2h lab and discussion each lab in two 18-people class each week.

Mentoring

- 2015-present Mentored 6 undergraduate and master's students: M. Dye, H. Sudekum, S. Blomenkamp, S. Murphy, V. Prémel, L. Wolf, E. Piechowicz
*These students are co-authors on two publications so far.

Outreach

- 2018 **Activity instructor**, ABS outreach fair, Milwaukee Urban Ecology Center
2018 **Speaker**, Scientific method and Ecology & Evolution Research, National Tainan Girl's Senior High School, Tainan, Taiwan
2017 **Activity instructor**, "Learning party: Slime Time!", Assemble Pittsburgh
2016 **Workshop presenter**, High School teacher training workshop at Bocas del Toro, Panama, Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute
2015-2018 **Presenter**, Outreach tours for visitors at the Bocas Station of Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute (during field seasons), including a visit from the US ambassador to Panama
2014 **Volunteer judge**, STEM Science Fair, New Orleans Charter Science and Mathematics High School