

**Curriculum vitae** **MARCO PLEBANI****Personal information**

Family name Plebani  
 First name Marco  
 Date of birth October 21<sup>st</sup>, 1985  
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**Education and professional positions**

May 2016 - present PostDoc researcher. Project: *"Does the plant-pollinator community context affect the intra-population variability of floral traits?"* Prof. S.D. Johnson's research group. University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa. Three-year project financed jointly by the Claude Leon Foundation and the Swiss National Science Foundation.

From May 2011 to September 2015 PhD degree. Project: *"Effects of temperature on the population dynamics, biotic interactions, and diversity of freshwater protists"*. Institute of Evolutionary Biology and Environmental Studies, University of Zurich, Switzerland. Supervisors: Prof. Owen L. Petchey and Dr. Dennis M. Hansen. Thesis defended successfully on September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

June 2010 Master degree in Marine Biology.  
 Thesis: *"Impact of seawater spray with different intensities and spatial patterns on the distribution of sand dune vegetation along the seashore"*. University of Pisa, Lungarno Pacinotti, 43, 56126, Pisa, Italy. Supervisors: Prof. L. Benedetti-Cecchi and Dr. E. Balestri  
 Score: 110/110 *cum laude* (honors)

February 2008 Bachelor degree in Ecological Sciences and Biodiversity.  
 Thesis: *"STR variability in human M267-derived Y-chromosomes of arab origins: implications about the origin and spread of J1 haplogroup"*. University of Pisa, Lungarno Pacinotti, 43, 56126, Pisa, Italy. Supervisors: Prof. G. Paoli and Dr. S. Tofanelli.  
 Score: 110/110 *cum laude* (honors)

July 2004 High School Diploma. Secondary School (classical studies). Liceo Classico "Simone Weil", Via Galvani 7, 24047 Treviglio (BG) Italy. Score: 92/100

**Additional Field and Lab experience**

November 2012 Attendance of a field course in Tropical Ecology held by the Tropical Biology Association in the Kirindy National Park, Madagascar. I carried out a study on the pollination ecology of two species of vines of the genus *Dalechampia*, together with prof. Scott Armbruster, Olive Izabayo and Dr. Dennis Hansen. This resulted in a scientific, peer-reviewed paper (see "Publications", reference 2).

14 July-24 August 2010 Collaboration with Fair Isle Birds Observatory (FIBO), Fair Isle, Shetland ZE29JU, UK. Field assistant with FIBO staff and visiting researchers.

October-December 2010 Ecotoxicology training in prof. Nigro's laboratory (University of Pisa). Research topics examined: effects of environmental contaminants on organisms and food chains in sea and freshwater. Techniques used: Comet assay, Micronucleus test.

2008-2010 Field assistant in Prof. Benedetti-Cecchi's research group. Focus on intertidal coastal rocky systems, also joining several research campaigns on the island of Tuscanian Archipelago.

## Skills and competences

<b>Languages</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Italian (mother tongue).</li><li>▪ English (full professional proficiency). Certificates: PET; FCE; TOEFL (score: 107/120; gained in November 2010).</li><li>▪ French (elementary knowledge).</li></ul>
<b>Technical skills</b>	Ecological research on the field in various environments including: temperate sea shores (Mediterranean sea); tropical dry forests (Madagascar); subpolar freshwater systems (Iceland). Ecological research in microcosms using ciliate protists and bacteria. Extensive experience with the software R for statistics and modelling. Optical microscopy and microphotography. Basic experience with common molecular analysis procedures used in population genetics (gel electrophoresis, PCR).
<b>Other skills and competences</b>	Rock climbing and mountaineering. Speleology, speleoglaciology, ropework. PADI first level SCUBA diving licence. Swimming Pool Lifeguard licence (expired). Scientific and travel writing. Photography (my portfolio: <a href="http://www.ipernity.com/doc/marco_plebani">http://www.ipernity.com/doc/marco_plebani</a> ). European driving licence for vehicles of category "A" and "B" (cars and motorbikes).

## LIST OF PUBLICATIONS

### Published peer-reviewed scientific articles

- **Plebani M**, Fussmann K, Hansen DM, O' Gorman E, Stewart RIA, Woodward G, and Petchey OL (2015). Substratum-dependent responses of ciliate assemblages to temperature: a natural experiment in Icelandic streams. *Freshwater Biology* 60: 1561–1570.
- **Plebani M**, Imanizabayo O, Hansen D, and Armbruster S (2015). Pollination ecology and circadian patterns of inflorescence opening of the Madagascan climber *Dalechampia aff. bernieri* (Euphorbiaceae). *Journal of Tropical Ecology* 31 (01): 99–101.
- Florian Altermatt F, Fronhofer EA, Garnier A, Giometto A, Hammes F, Klecka J, Legrand D, Mächler E, Massie TM, Pennekamp F, **Plebani M**, Pontarp M, Schtickzelle N, Thuillier V, and Petchey OL (2015). Big answers from small worlds: a user's guide for protist microcosms as a model system in ecology and evolution. *Methods in Ecology and Evolution*, 6: 218–231.
- Palamara GM, Childs DZ, Clements CF, Petchey OL, **Plebani M**, and Smith MJ (2014). Inferring the temperature dependence of population parameters: the effects of experimental design and inference algorithm. *Ecology and Evolution*, 4(24): 4736–4750.
- O'Gorman EJ, Pichler DE, Adams G, Benstead JP, Cohen H, Craig N, Cross WF, Demars BOL, Friberg N, Gíslason GM, Guðmundsdóttir R, Hawczak A, Hood JM, Hudson LN, Johansson LS, Johansson M, Junker JR, Laurila A, Manson JR, Mavromati E, Nelson D, Ólafsson JS, Perkins DM, Petchey OL, **Plebani M**, Reuman DC, Rall BC, Stewart R, Thompson MSA, and Woodward G (2012). Impacts of warming on the structure and functioning of aquatic communities: individual- to ecosystem-level responses. *Advances in Ecological Research* 47: 81–176.
- Mori E, **Plebani M** (2012). First records of Moorish gecko *Tarentola mauritanica* and Turkish gecko *Hemidactylus turcicus* (Squamata, Gekkonidae) in the Southern Metalliferous Hills, Tuscany, Italy. *Atti della Società Toscana di Scienze Naturali, Serie B* 119: 51–54.

### In preparation:

- **Plebani M**, Hansen DM, Petchey OL (in prep.). Interactive effects of temperature and habitat size on population dynamics and competition in experimental microbial communities.
- **Plebani M**, Hansen DM, Petchey OL (in prep.). Pre-exposure to low or high temperatures change the way species respond to a temperature gradient.
- **Plebani M**, Hansen DM, Fussmann K, O'Gorman E, Hood J, Petchey OL (in prep.). Effects of a temperature gradient on the body size of freshwater invertebrates: an experiment in Icelandic streams.

### Selected conference talks and posters

- **Plebani M**, Fussmann K, Stewart RIA, Hansen DM, Petchey OL. Poster: "Protist diversity along temperature gradients: a study in a subarctic geothermal stream network." ProClim 15<sup>th</sup> Swiss Global Change Day, 2 April 2014, Bern (CH). **IGBP Poster Award**.
- **Plebani M**, Izabayo O, Armbruster S. Talk: "Structural specialization and pollination ecology in two Madagascar species of *Dalechampia* (Euphorbiaceae)" XX<sup>th</sup> AETFAT meeting, 13 – 17 January 2014, Stellenbosch (South Africa).
- **Plebani M**, Fussmann K, Stewart RIA, Hansen DM, Petchey OL. Talk: "Microbial diversity, temperature, and habitat associations in a naturally heated subarctic geothermal stream network". INTECOL 2013, 18 – 23 August, London (UK).
- **Plebani M**, Hansen DM, Petchey OL. Talk: "Some like it hot – others not. Population and community effects of temperature and habitat size in protist microcosms". BES Annual Meeting 2012, 17 – 20 December, Birmingham (UK).