

# YUJING YAN, PhD

Harvard University Herbaria, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, U.S.

E-mail: [yujingyan@fas.harvard.edu](mailto:yujingyan@fas.harvard.edu); [africanugu@gmail.com](mailto:africanugu@gmail.com)

[Google Scholar](#); [Personal website](#)

## Education

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- 2020 **Ph.D. in Biodiversity**, Center for Macroecology, Evolution and Climate, Faculty of Science, University of Copenhagen, Denmark. Advisors: Prof. Carsten Rahbek and Dr. Michael Krabbe Borregaard. Thesis title: “Phylogeny, biogeography and diversification of the tea family (Theaceae)”
- 2016 **M.Sc. Ecology**, College of Urban and Environmental Sciences, Peking University, China.
- 2013 **B.Sc. Ecology**, College of Urban and Environmental Sciences, Peking University, China.

## Current & Most Recent Employment

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- 2021 - 2023 HUH Research Fellow. Harvard University Herbaria, Harvard University, U.S.
- 2021 (6 mo.) Research assistant, College of Urban and Environmental Sciences. Peking University, China.
- 2020 (9 mo.) Research assistant, Center for Macroecology, Evolution and Climate, University of Copenhagen, Denmark.
- 2018 -2021 Research associate, Department of Organismic and Evolutionary Biology, Harvard University, U.S.
- 2018 (9 mo.) Visiting PhD scholar, Department of Organismic and Evolutionary Biology, Harvard University, U.S. Advisor: Prof. Charles C. Davis.
- 2016 (3 mo.) Research assistant, College of Urban and Environmental Sciences. Peking University, China.

## Scientific Focus Areas

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biodiversity patterns, macroevolution, phylogenomics, climate change impact, conservation assessment

## Academic Awards and Scholarships

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- 2022 The Arnold Arboretum Genomics Initiative and Sequencing Award
- 2021 Harvard University Herbaria Research Fellowship, Harvard University
- 2019 Danish representative of GBIF Young Researcher Award
- 2016 - 2020 CSC Scholarship, the Ministry of Education of China
- 2015 Kwang-Hua Scholarship, Peking University
- 2014 Graduate School Scholarship, Peking University
- 2013 - 2015 Academic Scholarship, Peking University
- 2013 Second Prize in the 21st Challenge Cup Academic Contest, Peking University
- 2012 The Okamatsu Scholarship, Peking University
- 2012 First Prize in the Undergraduate Research Program, College of Urban and Environmental Sciences, Peking University
- 2012 Poster Prize, 31st IUBS General Assembly and Conference of Biological Sciences and Bioindustry
- 2012 Maoyugang Undergraduate Research Grants, Peking University

## Publications

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(Google Scholar [August 2022]: Total citations = 272; \* = co-first authorship)

### Peer-reviewed articles

**Yan, Y.**, Davis, C., Wang, Z.-H., Dimitrov, D., Rahbek, C., & Borregaard, M. (2021). Uncovering the origin of amphipacific disjunct distributions using a high-resolution phylogeny and fossils of Theaceae. *Systematic Biology*. <https://doi.org/10.1093/sysbio/syab042>

Li, Y.\*, **Yan, Y.\***, He J.-S., Wang, K., Tang, Z., & Yao, Y.-J. (2020) Global warming and conservation of the Chinese Caterpillar Fungus. *Biodiversity and Conservation*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10531-020-02109-z>

**Yan Y.**, Tang Z. (2019) Protecting endemic seed plants on the Tibetan Plateau under future climate change: migration matters. *Journal of Plant Ecology*, **6**, 962-971. [cover article]

**Yan, Y.\***, Li, Y.\*, Wang, W.-J., He, J.-S., Yang, R.-H., Wu, H.-J., Wang, X.-L., Jiao, L., Tang, Z., & Yao, Y.-J. (2017) Range shifts in response to climate change of *Ophiocordyceps sinensis*, a fungus endemic to the Tibetan Plateau. *Biological Conservation*, **206**, 143–150.

**Yan, Y.**, Yang, X., & Tang, Z. (2013) Patterns of species diversity and phylogenetic structure of vascular plants on the Qinghai-Tibetan Plateau. *Ecology and evolution*, **3**, 4584–95.

Zhang, Z., **Yan, Y.**, Tian, Y., Li, J., He, J.-S., & Tang, Z. (2015) Distribution and conservation of orchid species richness in China. *Biological Conservation*, **181**, 64–72.

Li, Y., Tang, Z., **Yan, Y.**, Wang, K., Cai L., He J.-S., Gu S., & Yao, Y.-J. (2020) Incorporating species distribution modelling into the red list assessment and conservation of macrofungi: A case study with *Ophiocordyceps sinensis*. *Biodiversity Science*, **28** (1), 99-106 (in Chinese). [Highly cited paper of 2021, F5000 China top academic papers database]

Li, Y., Jiang, L., Wang, K., H.-J., Yang, R.-H., **Yan, Y.**, Bushley K., & Wu Z. (2020) RIP mutated ITS pseudogenes in population of *Ophiocordyceps sinensis*. *IMA Fungus*, **11**(1).

Zhang, H., **Yan, Y.**, Guo, Q., Guo, Y., Sheremetiev, S. N., & Tang, Z. (2022). Environment shapes tree community traits in China's forests. *Journal of Vegetation Science*. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jvs.13146>

### Manuscript and book chapter in preparation

**Yan, Y.**, Davis, C., da Fonseca, R., Rahbek, C., & Borregaard, M. Multiple incomplete lineage sorting uncovered by phylogenomics highlights rapid radiation in the history of Theaceae. (90% complete in preparation).

**Yan, Y.** (2022) Climate change impact on medicinal resources. In Chi, X., Huang, L., et al. (Eds), Diversity and conservation of Chinese medicinal resources. Chinese Academy of Chinese Medical Sciences, Beijing.

### Popular science article

**Yan, Y.** (2016) Chinese caterpillar fungus: the mysterious fungus of the Tibetan Plateau. *Life World*, **6**, 36-42. (in Chinese).

## Major Projects

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**2021 onwards** *The role of recent climate change in plant species extinction: a test case examining the Franklin tree (Franklinia alatamaha Bartr. ex Marshall)*

**2016-2021** *Phylogeny, biogeography and diversification of the tea family (Theaceae)*, PhD thesis

**2014-2021** *Conservation of the Chinese caterpillar fungus under global warming*, long-term collaboration with the Institute of Microbiology, Chinese Academy of Sciences and Yangzhou University, China

**2011-2016** *Diversity patterns and conservation of vascular plants on the Tibetan Plateau*, Bachelor and Master thesis

## Presentations

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2022 Invited seminar, “Climate change impact on medicinal resources”, Chinese Academy of Chinese Medical Sciences, virtual

- 2022 Selected oral presentation, “Integrating fossils and phylogenies reveals a boreotropical origin of the tea family (Theaceae)”, Biennial Conference of the International Biogeography Society, Vancouver, Canada
- 2022 Poster presentation, “The draft genome of the Franklin tree (*Franklinia alatamaha* Bartr. Ex Marshall)”, The 16th Annual Plant Biology Initiative Symposium, Boston, U.S.
- 2021 Invited virtual seminar, “The effect of fossil data in exploring the biogeographical history of the tea family (Theaceae)”, Department of Biology and Environment, Nanjing Forestry University, China.
- 2021 Harvard University Herbaria & Arnold Arboretum joint seminar, “The evolution and biogeography of the tea family (Theaceae): From the past to the future”, Harvard University, U.S.
- 2020 Invited seminar, “Phylogeny, biogeography, and diversification of the tea family (Theaceae)”, Yangzhou University, China
- 2020 Oral presentation, “A new nuclear phylogeny unravels fast-moving radiations in the tea family (Theaceae)”, Botany Conference of the Botanical Society of America. Virtual.
- 2018 Poster presentation, “Phylogeny and historical biogeography of tea family (Theaceae)”, Botany Conference of the Botanical Society of America, Rochester, U.S.
- 2017 Selected poster presentation, “Range shifts in response to climate change of *Ophiocordyceps sinensis*, a fungus endemic to the Tibetan Plateau”, the 8<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference of the International Biogeography Society, Tucson, U.S.
- 2016 Selected poster presentation, “Assessing the impact of future climate change on the distribution patterns of endemic vascular plants of Tibetan Plateau”, Conference of the International Biogeography Society, Beijing, China
- 2015 Selected poster presentation, “Assessing the impact of future climate change on the distribution patterns of endemic vascular plants of Tibetan Plateau”, the 58<sup>th</sup> Annual Symposium of the International Association for Vegetation Science, Brno, Czech Republic
- 2012 Selected poster presentation, “Patterns and determinants of vascular plants richness on the Tibetan Plateau”, the 31<sup>st</sup> IUBS General Assembly and Conference of Biological Sciences and Bioindustry, Suzhou, China

## Teaching Experiences

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- Teaching assistant. The First Nine Months, General Education Program, Harvard University. 2022.
- Teaching assistant. Introduction to Ecological Data Analysis with R, University of Copenhagen, Denmark. 2020.
- Teaching assistant. Remote Sensing in Ecology, Peking University, China. 2014.
- Teaching assistant. Human Sex, Reproduction and Health, Peking University, China. 2013-2016.

## Field Experiences

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Forest, grassland, and wetland vegetation survey in various regions in China from north to south, from east to west, and as high as 5000m: Shanxi, Jiangxi, Qinghai, Tibet, Sichuan, Gansu, Inner Mongolia

Fungi investigation in Himalaya Mountain region and Heng-duan Mountain region in China: Tibet and Yunnan

Population survey of *Gordonia lasianthus* in North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, U.S

## Professional Service

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### Peer Reviewer

*Journal of Systematics and Evolution*, *Landscape Ecology*, *Journal of Biogeography*, *Ecology and Evolution*, *Chinese Journal of Plant Ecology* (in Chinese), *Biodiversity Science* (in Chinese)

### Professional Affiliation

2020 - Society of Systematic Biologists

2018 - Botanical Society of America (serving on the Graduate Research Awards committee from 2022 onwards)

2016 - The International Biogeography Society

## Training

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- 2022 Science Mentoring Undergraduates Workshop, Harvard University, Cambridge, U.S.
- 2018 Transcriptome Workshop, Botany Conference, Minnesota, U.S.
- 2015 LiDAR Workshop, Institute of Botany, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing, China
- 2014 Advanced Workshop in Ecology and Conservation, Xishuangbanna Tropical Botanical Garden, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Xishuangbanna, China

## Skills

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### Analysis Skills

- Spatial analysis (including species distribution models), phylogenetic analysis, biogeographic analysis, diversification analysis, bioinformatics (i.e., *de novo* whole genome assembly using long read data and NGS data, *de novo* plastid genome assembly, *de novo* transcriptome assembly, genome annotation), statistics

### Computer Skills

- Proficient in R, Python and Shell, knowledge of SQL and Julia
- Proficient in working on HPC (Slurm system and multi-thread computing)
- Proficient in ArcGIS, QGIS and Adobe suites. Familiar with various bioinformatic tools and ENVI

### Wet Lab Skills

- DNA extraction from historical plant specimens; DNA extraction for Nanopore long-read sequencing; total RNA extraction from different plant tissues
- NGS library preparation and target enrichment sample preparation