

PhD in eco-evolutionary dynamics of communities

We invite prospective candidates for a four-year fully funded **PhD Studentship** to explore exciting questions on the interface of population genetics and community ecology. How is genetic variation maintained within populations? And how do species coexist in diverse communities? These processes are typically studied separately, but likely interact to structure diversity in ecological communities. Our collaborative project utilizes a novel experimental community model system of wild *Drosophila* species and their parasitoids from tropical Australia. Specifically, the candidate could develop individual based eco-evolutionary dynamics models of our study system investigating the interactive effect of genetic variation and species diversity, conduct experimental evolution with the study system, investigate cellular immunity of *Drosophila* species in the community, or take part in field surveys.

The successful applicant will join the Laboratory of Experimental Ecology [<http://lab.hrcek.net>] at the Biology Centre, Czech Academy of Sciences, Ceske Budejovice, Czech Republic, under the supervision of Dr Jan Hrcek. The laboratory is a multinational team of postdocs, PhD students and technicians and the applicant will have the opportunity to work extensively with other team members. The laboratory obtained prestigious high-level funding for five years from 2020 to 2025 (ERC-CZ grant) and therefore can provide substantial resources and support for exceptional research. The laboratory is part of the Department of Ecology, a dynamic international centre for research on interaction networks.

Together with the PhD student we will choose a co-supervisor from current collaborators (listed at the bottom of [<http://lab.hrcek.net/people.html>] page) or start new collaborations. The position includes a research stay abroad and possibility of fieldwork in Australia.

The deadline for applications is **6th May 2021**, with interviews on 10th or 11th May. The position can start from September 2021 onwards. Interested candidates who could only start in spring 2022 are also encouraged to get in touch. The student will receive a salary which comfortably covers living expenses in the Czech Republic. The working language is English and applicants from all countries are eligible. A MSc degree is required to enter PhD in Czech Republic. We are looking for candidates with:

- Experience in eco-evolutionary dynamics or population genetic modelling
- Experience with population genetics
- Research experience with laboratory experiments, insect ecology or molecular ecology
- Driving licence and fieldwork experience

To apply please send one document comprising a CV, contact details for two references, and a motivation letter to Jan Hrcek [janhrcek@gmail.com].