



Nabil Majdi

My research could be summarized in three words: Nematodes are awesome! They are diverse, everywhere, and they perform important functions like linking microbes to macroscopic animals in food webs. Hence, they are good models to feed and test ecological theories. I obtained my PhD in 2011, studying the ecology of nematodes dwelling river biofilms. Then I further taught two-years and studied functional ecology topics @Toulouse University, EcoLab UMR 5245 (in France). From 2014 to 2016 I was an Alexander von Humboldt fellow @Bielefeld University, Dpt. of Animal Ecology (in Germany), to better understand the role of nematodes (and that of other minute and ugly benthic invertebrates coined “the meiofauna”) in stream ecosystems. Currently, I’m assistant professor in Bielefeld, and PI of a French-German research project (RivEcoThermS) examining the effects of heat waves and thermal pollution on comprehensive assemblages (from bacteria to fishes), food web structure and ecosystem functions.

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Zeynep Ersoy

I completed my Bsc. in Biology (2012) and Msc. in Limnology (2015) at Middle East Technical University (Turkey). I worked in both national and international projects (REFRESH, EU-FP7-ENV-2009) investigating the effects of global climate change on submerged macrophytes in shallow lakes and took part in field

studies.

Currently, I am a PhD student in Aquatic Ecology Group at University of Vic-Central University of Catalonia (Spain), interested in biotic and environmental factors shaping size distributions in freshwater food webs across interacting trophic levels. My study includes different approaches from mesocosm experiments to environmental monitoring in order to investigate prey-predator interactions, energy transfer and ecosystem functioning in aquatic ecosystems.

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Fred Windsor

I am a community ecologist interested in the response of aquatic food webs to multiple stressors, including those derived from climate change and chemical mixtures. I was lucky enough to start my research career at the University of Birmingham, characterising the aquatic macroinvertebrate communities in groundwater-fed streams across interior Alaska (MSc 2014-15). This study demonstrated the importance of groundwater-fed streams for generating hotspots of aquatic and terrestrial biodiversity across para-glacial zones. In 2015 I started by PhD, based within the School of Bioscience at Cardiff University (U.K), investigating the effects of endocrine disrupting pollutants on the structure and function of riverine food webs. This project is primarily interested in tracing the transfer of xenobiotic pollutants through food webs, and identifying resultant trophic cascades. At Cardiff University, I am also an active early career committee member in the Water University Research Institute (Water URI), responsible for coordinating interdisciplinary research within freshwater ecosystems.

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Clara Mendoza-Lera

Currently a postdoctoral researcher at IRSTEA (France), after finishing my studies in Spain, I did PhD at the BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg (Germany). My work focuses on understanding the interactions between the hydromorphological characteristics of the streambed and the microbial communities inhabiting it, and their significance for stream metabolism and nutrient cycling. I am also involved in other projects related to river biogeochemistry such as the FreshProject EuroRun (<https://freshproject-eurorun.jimdo.com>), SMIRES (<http://www.smires.eu>) or 1000 Intermittent Rivers Projects (https://1000_intermittent_rivers_project.irstea.fr).

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