

BEN TOH

2901 SW 13th ST APT 256, Gainesville FL 32608 | 352-283-9875 | kokbent@yahoo.com | www.bentoh.my | linkedin: kokbent

SUMMARY

- Interdisciplinary scientist with skills and experience ecology, epidemiology, statistics and computing
- Managed various research projects, and collaborated with multiple research groups with a number of publications
- Self-motivated, collaborative, problem-solving and in love with data
- Deeply interested in using statistical and machine learning methods in addressing environmental and epidemiological problems

EDUCATION

- PhD, Interdisciplinary Ecology, University of Florida, 2016 - 2020, Expected Graduation: Dec 2020
 - Focus on applied Bayesian statistical methods and spatial and spatio-temporal model of malaria
 - GPA: 3.94
- MS, Statistics, University of Florida, 2017 - 2019
- MS, Biology, National University of Singapore, 2008 - 2010
- BSc (Hons), Life Sciences, National University of Singapore, 2003 - 2007

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Hladish Lab

Graduate Research Assistant

University of Florida

Apr 2020 to present

- Collect, analyze and visualize COVID-19 and demographic data of Florida
- Create synthetic populations of Florida for agent-based model of COVID-19 transmission in Florida
- Collaborate with four other team members and write grants application; One successful application from internal funding

Department of Biological Sciences and Tropical Marine Science Institute

Research Assistant

National University of Singapore

Jan 2011 to July 2016

- Managed and assisted in 3 research projects ranging from modeling climate change impact on biodiversity, biodiversity surveys of malaria, to coral reef restoration
- In charge of data management and analysis, budget management and liaison with government sponsors
- First author or co-author for multiple publications and a book

TEACHING AND MENTORING EXPERIENCE

- Instructor for Environmental Science Lab course for undergraduates and Teaching Assistant for Bayesian Statistics for Life Sciences course for graduates, 2019 - 2020
- Instructor for various two-day software/data carpentry workshops around US institutes, 2017 - 2019
- Part time Teaching Assistant in various undergraduate courses in National University of Singapore, 2008 - 2010
- Mentored five undergraduate students in their honours year projects

AWARDS

- University of Florida College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Scholarship, 2019
- University of Florida School of Natural Resources and Environment Assistantship and Fellowship, 2016
- National University of Singapore Research Scholarship, 2008

LEADERSHIP AND INVOLVEMENTS

- Coordinator of the R Users group in University of Florida, 2017 - Present
- Member and Webmaster of the American Statistical Association LGBTQ+ Inclusion and Diversity working group, 2020
- Executive Board Member and Webmaster of the University of Florida Graduate Student Council, 2018 - 2019

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- Ng CSL, Huang D, **Toh KB** et al. (2020) "Responses of urban reef corals during the 2016 mass bleaching event" Marine Pollution Bulletin, 154:111111.
- Hladish TJ, Pearson CAB, **Toh KB** et al. (2020) "Designing effective control of dengue with combined interventions" Proceedings of National Academy of Science, 117(6):3319-3325.
- **Toh KB** and Todd PA, (2017) "Camouflage that is spot on! Optimization of spot size in prey background matching". Evolutionary Ecology 31(4): 447-461.
- **Toh KB**, Ng CSL, Wu B, et al.(2016) "Spatial variability of epibiotic assemblages on marina pontoons in Singapore". Urban Ecosystems, 20(1): 183-197.

SKILLS

Programming Extensive experience in R and Shiny app development; Competent in Python, Java, C++, SQL, HTML and CSS.
Software JAGS/Nimble for Bayesian statistics. OS: Windows, macOS and Linux. Geographic Information System (via R).
Languages English: professional proficiency; Mandarin and Cantonese: native; Malay: competent.