



Alžbeta Šujanová

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EDUCATION AND TRAINING

09/2018 – 03/2023

DOCTORAL DEGREE (PHD.) Slovak Academy of Sciences, Institute of Zoology

My doctoral study was focused on the research of haemosporidian blood parasites in migratory and resident bird species in Slovakia. I deal with molecular analyzes, which determine the composition of the parasitofauna, but also various ecological aspects and phylogeny.

Supervision: Mgr. Radovan Václav, PhD.

Thesis Host potential of bird species for the local genetic structure of avian haemosporidian parasites

Link <https://opac.crzp.sk/?fn=detailBiblioFormChildUTN0&sid=EBBDF002F09272399347EB0AF3C8&seo=CRZP-detail-kniha>

09/2016 – 06/2018

MASTER DEGREE (MGR.) Comenius University in Bratislava, Faculty of Natural Sciences

The aim of the master's thesis was to analyze the helminth fauna in *Sorex araneus* from three locations in southern Slovakia and assess whether the helminth fauna is dependent on the host's habitat type. The results indicated that the host's habitat was a significant factor influencing the helminth fauna.

Supervision: Mgr. Peter Miklós, PhD.

Co-supervision: Dr. András Gubányi, Curator of Parasitological Collection at Hungarian Natural History Museum

Field of study Zoology | **Thesis** Comparison of helminth fauna of *Sorex araneus* living in different habitats

Link <http://opac.crzp.sk/?fn=detailBiblioForm&sid=752BE197E3AE405D4487F079404B&seo=CRZP-detail-kniha>

09/2014 – 06/2016

BACHELOR DEGREE (BC.) Comenius University in Bratislava, Faculty of Natural Sciences

The work was a review of the available literature on the helminth-fauna of *Sorex araneus*.

Supervision: Mgr. Peter Miklós, PhD.

Field of study Biology | **Thesis** Endoparasites of genus *Sorex* in different types of habitats

Link <https://opac.crzp.sk/?fn=detailBiblioFormChildU127E&sid=394581B55BAE63AC62A5B56F4926&seo=CRZP-detail-kniha>

● ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

PUBLICATIONS

[**The Infection Rate of Bird-Feeding *Ixodes ricinus* Ticks with *Borrelia garinii* and *B. valaisiana* Varies with Host Haemosporidian Infection Status**](#)

– 2023

[**Phylogeographic Patterns of Haemoproteid Assemblages of Selected Avian Hosts: Ecological and Evolutionary Implications**](#)

– 2022

[**Seasonal Dynamics and Diversity of Haemosporidians in a Natural Woodland Bird Community in Slovakia**](#)

– 2021

[**Local Population Structure and Seasonal Variability of *Borrelia garinii* Genotypes in *Ixodes ricinus* Ticks, Slovakia**](#)

– 2020

CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS

26/04/2023 – Comenius University in Bratislava, Faculty of Natural Sciences

Student Scientific Conference 2023 (Oral presentation) Avian blood parasites of the order Haemosporida and their possible impact to physiology stress of host

02/10/2022 – 05/10/2022 – Six-Fours-les-Plages, France

New frontiers in host-parasite interactions, from cell to organism (Poster) Ecological diversity and climate preferences of Haemoproteus parasites in the Eurasian blackcap (*Sylvia atricapilla*)

05/09/2022 – 08/09/2022 – Hosted by the Department of Animal Behaviour Bielefeld University, Germany

Fifth International Conference on Malaria and Related Haemosporidian Parasites of Wildlife (Poster) Phylogeny of Haemoproteus parasites in a local songbird community in Slovakia with emphasis on SYAT3 and TURDUS2 intra-lineage variation

09/05/2022 – 13/05/2022 – Czech Republic

Czech and Slovak parasitological days (Oral presentation) Phylogenetic and ecological diversity of SYAT lineages of Haemoproteus parasites in the Eurasian blackcap (*Sylvia atricapilla*)

21/04/2021 – Comenius University in Bratislava, Faculty of Natural Sciences

Student Scientific Conference 2021 (Oral presentation) Influence of seasonality on intensity of infection and prevalence in avian haemosporidia

18/11/2020 – Comenius University in Bratislava, Faculty of Natural Sciences

Student Scientific Conference 2020 (Oral presentation) Detection of avian blood parasites Haemosporida in Drienovec

08/09/2019 – 11/09/2019 – Under the auspices of the Austrian Society for Hygiene, Microbiology and Preventive Medicine

International Symposium on Tick-Borne Pathogens and Disease 2019 Vienna (Poster) Rickettsiae and haemosporidians in migratory and non-migratory birds in Slovakia

PROJECTS

2023 – 2027

Wildlife Malaria Network This project is dedicated to fostering collaboration among scientists engaged in haemosporidia research while providing valuable support and opportunities for students and researchers. This initiative facilitates the exchange of knowledge and expertise, ultimately contributing to advancements in our understanding of wildlife malaria and its impact on ecosystems.

Main leader: Dr Jenny Dunn

This project is funded by the **European Cooperation in Science and Technology (COST)**, no. OC-2022-1-25745

07/2023 – 12/2027

INFOTICK - Getting the right info on ticks The INFOTICK project aims to monitor ticks in the Bratislava region, Slovakia, with the goal of developing a user-friendly application for tick identification and reporting, serving the general public.

I am a **scientific researcher** on this project.

Project leader: Ing. Gatial Emil PhD.

This project is funded by the **Slovak Research and Development Agency (APVV)**, no. APVV-22-0372

01/2020 – 12/2023

Importance of interaction between ectoparasites for vector-borne pathogens The project's primary objective is to investigate how interactions between a host and vector-borne parasites are influenced by the complexity of interactions among ectoparasites. Specifically, we aim to determine if these interactions among multiple blood-feeding dipteran ectoparasites can impact the host's susceptibility to ectoparasites and pathogens they transmit, examining potential factors such as ectoparasite interference and modulation of host immunity.

I am a **scientific researcher** on this project.

Project principal investigator: Mgr. Radovan Václav, PhD.

This project is funded by the **Scientific Grant Agency of the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic and the Slovak Academy of Sciences (VEGA)**. Grant no.: 2/0023/20.

09/2018 – 12/2021

Ecology of host specificity of vector-transmitted parasites The project focused on two parasitic systems: 1. haemosporidia-birds, and 2. Borrelia-ticks-birds. The project's objectives included screening parasites in Slovakia, exploring their ecological associations, and elucidating resulting evolutionary consequences. The primary aim was to determine whether these two distinct parasite groups exhibited any form of interaction, and it was revealed that they did. The project's findings have been published in several peer-reviewed publications, with me being the first author of three of them.

I was a **scientific researcher** on this project.

Project leader: MVDr. Markéta Derdáková, PhD.

This project is funded by the **Slovak Research and Development Agency (APVV)**, no. APVV-16-0463

INTERNSHIPS

01/02/2023 – 30/04/2023

Research Stay under the Supervision of Prof. Herbert Weissenböck in Vienna, Austria

The aim of the internship was to receive training in new methodological procedures for analyzing blood parasites, such as the preparation and microscopic analysis of histological bird samples, in situ hybridization, and the design of specific probes.

The internship was funded by the Slovakia-Austria Action project and took place at the University of Veterinary Medicine Vienna.

01/2023

Research Stay under the Supervision of Dr. Milena Svobodová at Charles University in Prague, Czech Republic

The goal of the internship was to analyze microscopic blood samples from Sylvia atricapilla.

The internship was funded by the European Erasmus project and took place in the Department of Parasitology, Charles University in Prague.

01/06/2022 – 14/06/2022

Research Stay under the Supervision of Dr. Carolina Chagas in Vilnius, Lithuania

During the internship, I received training in the collection and analysis of biting midges (Ceratopogonidae), vectors of blood parasites of the genus Haemoproteus.

The internship was funded by the European Erasmus project and took place in the Parasitology Laboratory of the Natural Research Center in Lithuania.

15/02/2022 – 15/04/2022

Research Stay under the Supervision of Prof. Gediminas Valkiūnas in Vilnius, Lithuania

The internship focused on training in microscopic techniques and the analysis of blood parasites of the order Haemosporidia. During the internship, I completed a two-week field practice, gaining knowledge in bird blood sampling and the preparation of blood smears for microscopic analysis.

The internship was funded by the European Erasmus+ project and took place in the Parasitology Laboratory of the Natural Research Center in Lithuania.

2017 – 2018

Research Stays under the Supervision of Dr. András Gubányi in Budapest, Hungary

During my master's studies, I completed several short-term internships in Dr. Gubányi's laboratory, as he served as my co-supervisor for my thesis. These internships were focused on acquiring laboratory techniques essential for helminthological research and the analysis of samples and data.

SUPERVISION AND CO-SUPERVISION OF STUDENTS

09/2023 – CURRENT

Supervision of master student Bc. Eva Chrappová

Genetic and morphological variability of Haemosporidian blood parasites in selected bird species

09/2022 – 06/2023

Supervision of bachelor student Eva Chrappová

Avian blood parasites of the order Haemosporida and their possible impact to physiology stress of host

09/2019 – 06/2021

Co-supervision of master student Bc. Soňa Brestovičová

Intraspecific variation in the fauna of blood parasites (Apicomplexa: Haemosporida) in the Eurasian blackcap, *Sylvia atricapilla*

09/2018 – 06/2019

Co-supervision of bachelor student Soňa Brestovičová

Avian blood parasites (Apicomplexa: Haemosporida) and their vectors (Insecta: Diptera) in Europe

ACHIEVEMENTS

Contributed to the organization of the "Slovak and Czech Parasitological Days 2024" conference

As part of the organizing team, I contribute to the organization of an international conference.

2023

Hosting lecture in Seminar of parasitology

Masaryk University, Czech Republic

Haemosporidia research from laboratory in Bratislava

2022

Second best oral presentation at Czech and Slovak Parasitological days

The Czech Parasitological Society awarded me second place for the best PhD oral presentation.

2023

The opponent of the dissertation thesis of Tengyue Zhang

Comenius University in Bratislava, Slovakia

Diversity and phylogeny of ciliates associated with mollusks

VOLUNTEERING

The festival of science - European Researchers' Night is an annually organized event in Europe

Science popularization at European Researchers' Night I regularly participate in popularization activities organized by our institute and department, including events like the Researchers' Night, where we engage with the general public to introduce them to the parasites we study and explain the significance of our research.

08/2020 – 02/2021 Medirex laboratory

Diagnostic of SARS-CoV-2 During the pandemic, I conducted laboratory analyses on samples that had tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 at the private laboratory Medirex.

HOBBIES AND INTERESTS

Joga

Horse riding

Reading of facts books

Declaration: I certify that all the information provided on this CV is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Bratislava , 20/09/2023



Alžbeta Šujanová