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CURRICULUM VITAE

PERSONAL

- *Languages* (speak/read/write)- English, Hindi, Marathi (Spanish *un poquito*)
- Current address- The Hormiga Lab, Bell Hall, Department of Biological Sciences, The George Washington University, Washington DC 20052, USA.

EDUCATION

- Aug 2016 onwards* The George Washington University, Doctoral Study
Thesis: Phylogenomics and systematics of spiders using transcriptomic and target-enrichment methods and strategies of handling the missing data problem.
- May-July 2017* Course: Tropical Biology: An Ecological Approach, Organization of Tropical Studies, Costa Rica.
- Jul 2012 – Jun 2014* Yashavantrao Chavan Institute of Science, Satara, India.
M.Sc., Zoology. **First class with Distinction**
- Jul 2009- Jun 2012* Yashavantrao Chavan Institute of Science, Satara, India.
B.Sc., Zoology. **First class**

SKILLS

- Next Generation Sequencing and Analyses
- Coding in Python and Bash
- Algorithm designing for Machine Learning
- Systematics and Taxonomy

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- Nov. 2017 onwards* **Research student-** Smithsonian Institution, National Museum of Natural History, Washington DC, USA.
Project: **Target enrichment of ultra-conserved elements in spiders.**
- July–Aug 2017* **Visiting student-** Giribet Lab, Organismic and Evolutionary Biology, Harvard University, Cambridge, USA.
Project: **Transcriptomes for building the Spider Tree of Life.**
- Aug 2016- Aug 2017* **Research student-** Smithsonian Institution, National Museum of Natural History, Washington DC, USA.

Project: **Systematics of the spider genera *Orsinome* and *Tylorida* (Araneae, Tetragnathidae).**

Mar 2016 **Visiting Student:** National Institute of Fundamental Studies (NIFS), Kandy, Sri Lanka with Dr. Suresh Benjamin.

Project: **Systematics of leucaugine spiders (Araneae, Tetragnathidae) of Sri Lanka.**

Feb 2016-present **Member** of the IUCN Spider & Scorpion Specialist Group working for assessing spiders from India.

Feb-Mar 2015 **Visiting student-** Jeremy Miller lab, Naturalis Biodiversity Center, Leiden, The Netherlands.

Project: **Systematics of the black widow spider genus *Latrodectus* Walckenaer, 1805 (Araneae, Theridiidae).**

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

| Year | Subject | Institute |
|---------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| 2018 | Methods of Study of Evolution BISC 6210 (2 lectures) | George Washington University, Washington, D.C. |
| 2016-18 | Introduction to Biology BISC 1111, 1112, 1125, 1126 for Biology Majors | George Washington University, Washington, D.C. |

ONGOING PROJECTS

(at the Hormiga Lab, George Washington University in collaboration with the Giribet Lab, Harvard University and Wood Lab, Smithsonian Institution)

- Evolution and phylogeny of the miniature orb-weaving spiders (Araneae, Araneoidea, “symphytognathoids”) using target-enrichment and transcriptomic methods
- Analyzing the missing data problem for morphology using the Maximum Entropy principle
- Systematics of the leucaugine spider genus *Orsinome* Thorell, 1890 (Araneae, Tetragnathidae)

SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS

(Phylogenomics, Systematics, Biogeography, Methods, Taxonomy, Biodiversity policy making)

Christopher John Thorpe, Todd Lewis, **Siddharth Kulkarni**, Aparna Watve, David Pryce, Lewis Davies, Nikhil Gaitonde, David Bilton, Mairi Knight (2018) Micro-habitat distribution drives patch quality for sub-tropical rocky plateau amphibians in the northern Western Ghats, India. PLOS ONE 13:3 e0194810.

Christopher John Thorpe, Todd Lewis, Matthew Fisher, Claudia Wierzbicki, **Siddharth Kulkarni**, Lewis Davies, David Pryce, Aparna Watve, Mairi Knight. (2018) Climate structuring of *Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis* infection in the threatened amphibians of the northern Western Ghats, India. Royal Society Open Science 5: 180211. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1098/rsos.180211>

Christopher John Thorpe, David Bilton, **Siddharth Kulkarni**, Jane Akerman, Aparna Watve, Mairi Knight (in press) Biogeographic patterns in the distribution of aquatic Coleoptera on the rocky plateaus in Western Maharashtra, India. *Hydrobiologia*.

Siddharth Kulkarni, Sameer Padhye (communicated). Biodiversity checklists and associated problems. *Current Science*.

Siddharth Kulkarni, Atul Vartak, Vishwas Deshpande, Dheeraj Halali (2017) The spiny theridiid genus *Meotipa* Simon, 1895 in India, with description of a strange new species with translucent abdomen and a phylogenetic analysis about the genus placement (Araneae, Theridiidae). *Zootaxa* 4291 (3): 504-520.

Hemant Ghate, **Siddharth Kulkarni**, Vijay Anand Ismvael (2017). Illustrated redescriptions of two large coreid bugs from Assam including the first Indian record of *Schroederia feana* (Distant, 1902) (Coreidae, Coreinae, Mictini). *Entomon* 42(2): 165-172.

Siddharth Kulkarni, Hemant Ghate (2016). A new cavernicolous assassin bug of the genus *Bagauda* Bergroth (Reduviidae, Emesinae) from Western Ghats, India. *Zootaxa*. 4127(2): 365-275.

David Pryce, C. John Thorpe, **Siddharth Kulkarni**, Todd Lewis (2016) *Amphiesma stolatum* (striped keelback): Habitat and reproduction. *The Herpetological Bulletin*. 136: 37-38.

Peter Jäger, **Siddharth Kulkarni** (2016) An unexpected new species of the genus *Pseudopoda* (Araneae, Sparassidae, Heteropodinae) from the Western Ghats in India. *ZooKeys* 577: 55-62. doi: 10.3897/zookeys.577.7848

Siddharth Kulkarni, Hemant Ghate (2016) First record of the thread-legged assassin bug *Myiophanes greeni* Distant, 1903 (Heteroptera: Reduviidae: Emesinae) from India. *Biodiversity Data Journal* 4: e7949. doi: 10.3897/BDJ.4.e7949

Sameer Padhye, **Siddharth Kulkarni** (2016). Regulated animal dissections in Indian academia as a measure to control invasive species. *Current Science*. 110 (2): 129-130.

Conference report

Siddharth Kulkarni, Peter Jäger (2016). 3rd Asian Society of Arachnology conference held at Amravati, India during Nov. 2015. *Newsletter of the British Arachnological Society*. 136: 3-6.

Presentations

Siddharth Kulkarni, Hannah Wood, Michael Lloyd & Gustavo Hormiga: Big data, small spiders: analysis of ultra-conserved elements give new perspectives on spider phylogeny and evolution of miniature orb-weavers. 21st International Congress of Arachnology, Christchurch, New Zealand.

Siddharth Kulkarni: Spider systematics and citizen science. 2nd SpiderIndia meet, Gibbon Wildlife Sanctuary, Assam India, December, 2017.

Siddharth Kulkarni: Indian Arachnology: What do we know, what do we lack, what to do?, 1st SpiderIndia meet, Kolkata (online talk), March, 2017.

Siddharth Kulkarni, Atul Vartak: Araneofauna Sahyadri: A taxonomic initiative. 3rd Asian Society of Arachnology, Amravati, Maharashtra, India; November, 2015.

Siddharth Kulkarni: Spider fauna of rocky outcrops in northern Western Ghats, India. 2nd Asian Society of Arachnology, Chiang Mai, Thailand; July, 2014.

Reviewer for Zootaxa, ZooKeys, Checklist, and Biodiversity Data Journal.

AWARD/ GRANT/ PRIZE DETAILS

- November 2018 (USD 9,484) National Geographic Early Career Grant. Project: Trans-Pacific colonization, diversification and web evolution of miniature anapid spiders.
- November 2018 (USD 1,300) Lakeside Grants, California Academy of Sciences, California, USA. Project: Systematics of the miniature orb-weaving spiders (Araneae, Araneoidea, “symphytognathoids”)
- November 2018 (USD 600) International Society of Arachnology Student Grant to participate in the International Congress of Arachnology for the year 2019 organized in New Zealand.
- August 2018 (USD 24,000) Weintraub Fellowship, The George Washington University, USA.
- May 2018 (USD 7000) Harlan Summer Research Funding, The George Washington University, USA.
- May 2017 (USD 7,000) Harlan Summer Research Funding, The George Washington University, USA.
- August 2016- May 2018 (USD 24,000/ year) Scholarship and Teaching Assistantship (four semesters) at the George Washington University, USA.
- November 2014 (USD 1500) Grant: Ernst Mayr Travel Grant, Harvard University, USA, visited the Miller lab, Naturalis Biodiversity Center, Lieden to study systematics of black-widow spider genus *Latrodectus* (Araneae, Theridiidae).
- June 2014 (INR 57,000) Grant: Salim Ali Nature Conservation Fund (SANCF) by Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS), Mumbai, India to study spider diversity in northern Western Ghats.

- May 2014 Silver medal: Rayat Best Student, awarded by the organization Rayat Shikshan Sanstha.
- March 2014 (INR 98,000) Grant: India Biodiversity Portal, The French Institute of Pondicherry, India.
- April 2012 Award: Best Student Award, by Yashavantrao Chavan Institute of Science, Satara.
- March 2012 Prize: First rank at the Shivaji University, Kolhapur, India for the play titled “Hostel: A host’s tale” published in the college magazine ‘*Parijatak* 2011-12’.
- April 2010 Prize: Third rank at the Shivaji University, Kolhapur, India for the play titled “Hide and Seek” published in the college magazine ‘*Parivartan* 2009-10’.

SCIENTIFIC MEMBERSHIPS

International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)- Species Survival Commission (2015-2020)

World Spider Catalog Association (2015 onwards)

American Arachnological Society (2015 onwards)

Asian Society of Arachnology (2015 onwards)

International Society for Zoological Sciences (2015 onwards)

Interests Networking spider enthusiasts to monitor patterns of spider diversity and distribution