

Curriculum Vitae

February 2024



Marianna Pinzone, PostDoc

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Birth: 16th July 1989
Birthplace: Messina (Italy)
Italian citizen – Belgian Residency

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Wildlife toxicology: Evaluation of biochemical and physiological responses of marine vertebrates exposed to organic and inorganic pollutants. Analysis of the effect of species ecology and global change on animals' health.

PERSONAL INTERESTS

I am interested in many aspects of my field of research and, therefore, I **love to collaborate** in many projects beside my own. I am always trying to **assist or share** my experience with my fellow team members. I am very **committed to science divulgation** for both young students and non-scientific public.

PUBLICATIONS ([See official full list](#))

42 publications of which **16 peer-reviewed** (H-index of 9)

SCIENTIFIC CAREER

- From 02/01/2023*
- FNRS postdoctoral Fellow – University of Liège**
- HgFJORD: Hg dynamics in Arctic fjords marine food webs
 - Supervisor: Krishna Das
- Marine Mammals Expert for OSPAR (Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic)**
- From 15/11/2021*
- Development of a persistent chemicals indicator for marine mammals
 - Employer: ITAW Institute, Büsum, German
 - Supervision: Prof. Prof. h. c. Dr. Ursula Siebert
- FRIA fellowship for PhD project**
- From 01/10/2016
To
30/09/2021*
- SODYMARS project: Sourcing and Dynamic of Mercury in Arctic Seals
 - Employer: Fond National pour la Recherche Scientifique (FNRS)
 - PhD supervisor: F.R.S. - FNRS Sen. Res. Ass. Krishna Das
- Research project with internal scholarship - ULiège**
- From 31/09/2016
To 01/08/2016*
- POPs and trace elements analysis in sperm whales stranded around Europe
 - Project supervisor: F.R.S. - FNRS Sen. Res. Ass. Krishna Das
 - Collaboration: Prof. Prof. h. c. Ursula Siebert - ITAW Institute (Büsum - Germany)
- Research project - German Oceanographic Museum of Stralsund DMM**
- From 31/07/2016
To 01/05/2015*
- Identification of breeding areas and feeding behavior of harbor porpoises (*Phocoena phocoena*) in German Baltic waters, through the use of stable isotopes and stomach content analysis
 - Project supervisors: Dr. Harald Benke
- Master thesis – WWF France**
- From 06/01/2014
To
12/09/2014*
- Ecotoxicological analysis of sperm whales, long-finned pilot whales and fin whales from the North Western Mediterranean Sea
 - Supervisor: F.R.S. - FNRS Sen. Res. Ass. Krishna Das - ULiège
 - Co-supervisor: Prof. Dr. Marleen De Troch - UGent
- Student Internship – Sphere Group UAntwerpen**
- From June 2013
To September 2013*
- Supervisor: Dr. Lieven Bervoets
 - Laboratory assistant: trace elements analysis in freshwater ecosystems

EDUCATION

GENERAL STUDIES AND SPECIALISATIONS

- 08/10/2021
04/10/2021
29/10/2021*
- Data-to-visualization Workshop Series**
- Data visualization in R (Beginners & Advanced) - Cédric Scherer
 - Choosing the right chart for your data - Yan Holtz
 - Organized by the Young Zoology Group of the Belgian Royal Society of Zoology
- From 03/11/2020
To 06/11/2020*
- Biodiversity Data Management: from the field to research**
- Organized by SCAR Antarctic biodiversity portal and Standing Committee of Antarctic Data Managers (SCADM) and expert group on Antarctic Biodiversity Informatics (EG-ABI)
 - Given by: Anton van de Putte, Maxime Sweetlove and Yi-Ming Gan

13/12/2018	<p>Workshop: Scientific writing and Stress Management for PhD students</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Organized by Benelux Society of Zoology - Given by Prof. Reinhart Ceulemans (UAntwerpen) and Make me fly! Association
From 27/11/18 to 29/11/18	<p>SDCT1056-1 - Tekran 2700 Methyl Mercury analysis System</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Organized by TEKRAN – Toronto Canada - Given by Dr. Diana Babi
From 29/01/2018 To 01/02/2018	<p>Doctoral course on Multivariate Statistics in R (SDOC0030-1)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Organized by ULiège - Given by Prof. Gentiane Haesbroeck
From 12/01/2016 To 15/01/2016	<p>Stable Isotope Mixing Models using SIAR, SIBER and MixSIAR (SIMM)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Organized by University of Glasgow (Scotland) - Given by Dr. Andrew Parnell and Dr. Andrew Jackson
From 2012 To 2014	<p>Master Degree in Marine and Lacustrine Sciences and Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Organized by Vrije Universiteit Brussel – Universiteit Gent – Universiteit Antwerp (Belgium) – Master Name: Oceans and Lakes - Specialization: environmental impact and remediation - Ecotoxicology - Graduated with High Distinction (16/20) – 120 SP
From 2008 To 2012	<p>Bachelor Degree in Biological Sciences</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Organized by Roma Tre University - Diploma with marks 106/110 (Highest distinction)
From October 2011 To March 2011	<p>GIS and Cartographic Techniques</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Organized by Roma Tre University - Final grade: 30/30 <i>cum laude</i> (Highest distinction)
From 2003 To 2008	<p>Secondary school Diploma in Classic Studies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - High School “Eugenio Montale” – Rome - Graduated with 68/100 (Pass)

SCIENTIFIC AND ACADEMIC EXPERTISE

SUPERVISION AND CO-SUPERVISION OF BSc AND MSc STUDENTS

Master thesis – co-supervision with Ass. Pr. Krishna Das (main supervisor)

2022 - 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - “True seals as indicators of legacy and emerging pollution in the Northeast Atlantic Ocean” - Programme: Oceanography - ULiège
2021 - 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - “Trace elements pollution in marine mammals from the North Sea” and “Mercury exposure of Antarctic benthic communities” - Programme: Oceanography – Uliège
2020 -2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - “Temporal Trend of Mercury in the Arctic ringed seal (<i>Pusa hispida</i>)” - Programme: Marine Environment and Resources (MER+) Master
2019 – 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - “Ecological shift in Arctic seals: a temporal analysis of carbon, nitrogen and sulphur stable isotope composition” - Programme: SML – Université Bretagne Occidentale
2018 – 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - “The effect of species ecology in Mercury accumulation: a temporal analysis in the Arctic Hooded seal” - Programme: Oceanography - ULiège
2018 – 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - “Hg dynamics in Arctic seals during lactation period”

- Programme: ImbrSea EU Master
- 2017 – 2018
- “Contamination of coastal food webs in German Baltic Sea”
- Programme: biology and ecology of the organisms - ULiège
- Bachelor thesis – Main supervisor**
- 2019 – 2020
- “Ecotoxicology of top predators: Arctic seals and Cephalopods from Martinique”
- Programme: HELMO – Paramedical Technical School

SCIENTIFIC GRANTS AND AWARDS

- September 2021
- “Oceanography and Oceans Protection” Award for outstanding thesis**
- Honor Issuer: Faculty of Science of ULiège (Belgium)
- April 2018
- The Young Scientist Award for best Poster presentation**
- BASIS Conference 2018
- Honor Issuer: Benelux Association of Stable Isotope Scientists
- December 2016
- Best Oral Presentation Award for PhD students**
- Zoology Conference 2016 (Antwerp)
- Honor issuer: Royal Belgian Zoological Society and the Royal Dutch Zoological Society (KNDV)
- December 2014
- Best Oral Presentation Award for M.Sc. students**
- Zoology Conference 2014 (Liege)
- Honor issuer: Royal Belgian Zoological Society and the Royal Dutch Zoological Society (KNDV)
- From 13/01/2021
To 14/04/2021
- IceBio Arctic – Scientific grant**
- Climate change alteration of sea-ICE and marine BIOta coupling in the ARCTIC: implications for mercury accumulation.
- FOCUS Research Credit (Coordinator Dr. Bruno Delille)
- 2019 – 2021
- IsoArctic – Scientific grant**
- Isotopic fingerprint and speciation of Hg as descriptors of contamination sources and fate in Arctic seals.
- F.R.S.-FNRS Research Credit 33654105 (Coordinator Ass. Pr. Krishna Das)
- From May 2015
To July 2016
- Baltic Sea Research Foundation – Scientific grant**
- Detection of food use, migratory behaviour and calving areas of the harbour porpoise *Phocoena phocoena* based on stable isotopes in the German Baltic Sea.
- Coordinator Dr. Harald Benke, Meeresmuseum Stralsund.

TECHNICAL EXPERTISES

Samples collection

From March 2015
To Now

Sampling campaigns in:
North Sea

Baltic Sea (PALAEMON
aquatic service
company)

Greenland Sea
(onboard of the UiT)

Dissection of stranded or hunted marine mammals

- *P. phocoena*, *H. grypus*, *P. vitulina*, *P. microcephalus* (Benelux Stranding Network, Thierry Jauniaux and ITAW Institute, Ursula Siebert);
- *C. cristata*, *P. hispida*, *P. groenlandicus* (Prof. Erling S. Nordøy - UiT, Tore Haug – IMR, Rune Dietz – Aarhus University);
- *B. acutorostrata*, (Prof. Erling S. Nordøy - UiT, Tore Haug – IMR, Rune Dietz – Aarhus University).

Hair and blood sampling from live animals

- *H. grypus*, *P. vitulina* (Benelux Stranding Network, Thierry Jauniaux);

university vessel RV
"Helmer Hanssen")

- *C. cristata*, *P. Groenlandicus* (Prof. Erling S. Nordøy and Lars Folkow - UiT).

Maintenance and sampling from captive animals

- *C.cristata* juveniles (UiT – Mario Acquarone, Lars Folkow)

Fishing and dissection of marine vertebrates and invertebrates

- Fish : Gadiformes, Perciformes, Clupeiformes, Pleuronectiformes, Gasterosteiformes, Cypriniformes
- Invertebrates : Bivalvia, Crustacea, Asteroidea

Software (Level of proficiency)

From 2012

To Now

Statistical programs (Medium-Advanced)

- GraphPad Prism 5, Rstudio

Microsoft Office (Advanced)

- OneNote, PowerPoint, Excel, Access, Word

Modelling (Medium)

- Stable Isotope Bayesian Ellipses in R ([SIBER](#)), Stable Isotope Mixing Models in R ([SIMMR](#)), Stable Isotope Discrimination Estimation In R ([SIDER](#)), Linear Mixing Models, Generalised Additive Models.

Analytical techniques (Level of proficiency)

From 2018

MeHg and IHg concentrations

- Isotope dilution-gas chromatography-inductively coupled plasma-mass spectrometer (ID-GC-ICP-MS) (Medium-Advanced);
- TEKRAN 2700, fluorescence absorption – gas chromatography (Advanced).

Mercury isotopic composition (Medium-Advanced)

- Cold vapor generation (CVG) with multicollector-inductively coupled plasma-mass spectrometer (MC-ICP-MS, Nu Instruments).

From 2016

Trace elements (Advanced)

- Inductively coupled plasma-mass spectrometer (ICP-MS).

From 2014

Stable isotopes of C, N and S (Advanced)

- Isotopic ratio mass spectrometer coupled to an Elemental Analyzer (EA-IRMS).

T-Hg levels (Advanced)

- Atomic absorption spectrometry(DMA 80).

Dioxin-like compounds (Medium)

- Isotopic dilution and GC –HRMS.

Non Dioxin-like compounds (Medium)

- Thermo Quest Trace 2000 Gas Chromatograph with ⁶³Ni ECD detector.

TEACHING AND TRAINING

November 2019

Course "Biology of Marine Mammals" Ass. Pr. Krishna Das (ULiège)

- Lecture title: "Sourcing and Dynamic of Mercury in Arctic seals".

December 2018

October 2017

Course "Biology of Marine Mammals" Ass. Pr. Krishna Das (ULiège)

- Lecture title: "Influence of biological and ecological factors in contamination patters of marine mammals".

October 2019

September 2018

October 2017

Course "Plant Ecology and techniques of Sampling" Pr. Sylvie Gobert (ULiège)

- Lecture title: "Sampling in Cold Ecosystems".

INTERNATIONAL EXPERTISE AND RECOGNITION

Participation to International outreach organizations

From October 2021

APECS Belgium board chair

- Management of APECS Belgium activities and board members.

From October 2020
To September 2021

APECS International: Work Group for Indigenous People

- Development of network and collaboration between APECS and Indigenous People organizations in the Arctic.

From January 2019
To September 2021

Board member of FOCUS PhD Network - ULiège

- Events' organization and advertising.

From October 2018
To Today

APECS Belgium board member

- Responsible for media sharing (Facebook, Wordpress website, Twitter and Instagram);
- Organization Committee for Antarctica Day 2018 and 2019: school visits and RBINS exposition.

From January 2018
To Today

Member of the "Zoology Young Scientists Group" of the Benelux Society of Zoology

- Events and meetings organization;
- Social media outreach and communication.

Review of International Journals

Since 2017

- STOTEN
- Chemosphere
- Journal of Wildlife Diseases

SERVICES TO THE ACADEMIC AND SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY

22/01/2024

Arctic Science meets Policy –

- Invited speaker in a Panel on the importance of Arctic Science in Belgium
- Organized by Egmont Institute, Belspo in Brussels.

19/05 – 22/05/22

Nocturnes on Ice

- Polar Science Photo Exhibition at the Museum of Natural Science of Brussels
- Organization of exhibition and side workshops

From January 2019
To Today

FOCUS PhD Day 2019

- Done as a member of the FOCUS PhD Network;
- Organization of the entire day (presentations and breaks) and event advertising.

December 2019

Antarctica Day 2019

- Responsible for media sharing;
- Organization of an exposition about Polar Research at RBINS Museum, Bruxelles;
- Responsible for "Polar Food Webs" games for adults and children.

December 2018

Antarctica Day 2018

- Responsible for media sharing;
- Organization of two school visits: lectures and practical experiments.

December 2018

PhD Workshops at the Zoology Conference 2018

- Workshops organizer as board member of the "Zoology Young Scientists Group" of the Benelux Society of Zoology;
- Workshop 1: "Introduction to Scientific writing";
- Workshop 2: "Stress management during your PhD".

April 2014

Volunteering at a conference

- European Cetacean society (28th Conference – Liège, Belgium);
- Registration office, help desk, organization.

From September 2014
To September 2019

Alumni representative within the Oceans and Lakes Master Program

- Master Organization Committee.

From 03.12.2013
To 04.12.2013

Student Representative in the Educational Commission for the External Review of the Master in Marine and Lacustrine Sciences and Management

- For the Vrije Universiteit Brussel VUB;
- Interdisciplinary evaluation committee organized every 5 years by the Belgian Government.

From October 2012
To September 2014

Student Representative within the Oceans and Lakes Master Program

- Representing students to all the meeting concerning the Master organization;
- Communication between students and professors/Master secretary;
- Organization of various activities within the Master program (Students meeting, recreational activities, courses organization).

SCIENTIFIC POPULARIZATION

December 2023

Arctic on the APECS Belgium blog

- Title “On the future of the Arctic: The Arctic futures symposium 2023”
- Website: apecsbeglium.com

November 2020

Article on a Science vulgarization website

- Title “Dare to be different: Albinism in marine mammals” ([Here the link](#));
- Co-authorship with Laura Zeppetelli-Bédar;
- Website: whalescientist.com.

September 2020

Article on a Science vulgarization website

- Title “How do Arctic seal pups survive in the cold?” ([here the link](#));
- Website: whalescientist.com.

ADDITIONAL EXPERTISES

LANGUAGES

English and French were
acquired during my
studies

- **Italian:** native proficiency;
- **English:** professional working proficiency;
- **French:** professional working proficiency;
- **German:** basic.

OTHER COMPETENCES

Competences useful to
my work

- **Diving** Certificate: PADI – Advanced Open Water (until 40m);
- **Swimming** certificate: Accademia del Nuoto – Fourth level;
- **Driving** license B+.