

Resume (November 2009)

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ACADEMIC HISTORY:

EDUCATION

- PhD student (current): 2006-2009, Evolutionary Genetics and Systematics, Department of Integrative Biology, University of Guelph, Canada
- M.Sc., 2003-2006: Systematics and Evolution, Dept. of Biological Sciences, University of Alberta, Canada

GRADUATE COURSES

Principles of Systematics (Biol335), Winter 2003, University of Alberta

Medical and Veterinary Entomology (Ent392), Winter 2003, University of Alberta

Survey of Invertebrates (Zool250), Winter 2003, University of Alberta

Mechanisms of Evolution (Biol321), Fall 2003, University of Alberta

Experimental Biology (Biol430), Fall 2003, University of Alberta

Field Botany (Bot304), Fall 2003, University of Alberta

Insect Taxonomy (Zool427), Fall 2003, University of Alberta

Genetic Analysis of Populations (Biol380), Winter 2004, University of Alberta

Systematics and Evolution Forum (Biol506), Winter 2004, University of Alberta

Conservation biology (Biol367), Fall 2004, University of Alberta

Seminar in Systematics and Evolution (Biol507), Fall 2004, University of Alberta

Special topics in biology: Phylogenetic analysis of Molecular Data (Biol595), Winter 2005, University of Alberta

Thesis Research (Thes906), Winter 2005, University of Alberta

Thesis Research (Thes909), Fall 2005, University of Alberta

Evolution (BIOL*3300), Winter 2007, University of Guelph

Molecular Biology and Genetics (MBG*3000), Winter 2007, University of Guelph

Basic French (FREN*1100), Winter 2009, University of Guelph

AWARDS

University of Guelph Registrar's Travel Grants, March 2007

University of Guelph Registrar's Award for Graduate Students, February 2007

Department of biological Sciences, University of Alberta, Travel Grant, May 2005

J. Gordin Kaplan Graduate Student Award, Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research, April 2005

Canacoll foundation curatorial grant, Canadian National Collection, July 2009

SKILLS

- Extensive field experience in collecting and preserving insect specimens, particularly Lepidoptera, for museums as well as for DNA studies
- Curatorial experience in entomology and invertebrate collections; familiar with common techniques and practices
- Working knowledge of Microsoft Access, FileMaker and other databasing programs
- Familiar with several programming languages (Perl, Java, C++)
- Good command on Microsoft Excel, Word, Powerpoint, Adobe software (Photoshop, Illustrator, Acrobat, etc.).
- Molecular lab techniques: Agarose gel electrophoresis, Genomic and plasmid DNA extractions, Exclusion chromatography, Total RNA extraction and formaldehyde gels, Northern Blotting and analysis, Bacterial culturing, Hybridization, Non-radioactive and isotopic detection methods, Primer design, Genomic library construction, Cycle-sequencing and bioinformatics, High-fidelity PCR and co-solvent use, Colony PCR and RT-PCR, Protein expression systems and GST-tag gene products, SDS-PAGE and Western transfer detection, Cloning, Site-directed mutagenesis, Preparation of competent cells, etc.
- High throughput sequencing and handling large amounts of data
- Phylogenetic analysis of molecular or non-molecular data, with various software (PAUP, MacClade, MrBayes, etc.)
- Extensive experience in organizing and holding conferences, workshops, and meetings.
- Languages: Fluent in English, Armenian, Farsi; and also German, French, and Arabic (read, understand)
- Valid Ontario driver's license (class G)

PROFESSIONAL CAREER

2006 – Present Teaching and Research Assistant, University of Guelph

- MBG*3000, Molecular Biology and Genetics
- BIOL*1040, Biology II
- BIOL*3450, Introduction to Aquatic Environments
- ZOO*1500, Humans in the natural world

2003 – 2006 Teaching and Research Assistant, University of Alberta

- BIOL 108, Introduction to Biological Diversity
- BOT 380, Medicinal Plants of the World

1999 – 2002 Executive Secretary, National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP),
UNDP/GEF/Department of Environment (Iran) Joint project; Tehran, Iran

1997 – 1999 English language instructor, Iranian Naval Academy (as part of mandatory military service)

1996 – 1997 Assistant curator (Invertebrates), National Museum of Natural History,
Department of Environment, Tehran, Iran

1993 – 1996 Assistant curator (Lepidoptera), Insect Taxonomy Research Department, Plant

Pests and Diseases Research Institute (PPDRI), Ministry of Agriculture, Tehran, Iran

CROSS APPOINTMENTS

Biodiversity Institute of Ontario (BIO):

- Project manager or collaborator in many DNA barcoding campaigns, including Microlepidoptera of the Palearctic (MPEA), Microlepidoptera of North America (MNAX), Butterflies of Iran (IRANB), etc. (2006-current).
- Contact person for the campaign for updating the checklist of North American Lepidoptera (2006-2007).

Previously involved in several national projects on biodiversity of Iran, namely:

- Conservation of Zagros Mountain Ecosystems (Department of Environment)
- Conservation of the Iranian Cheetah (Department of Environment)
- Conservation of the Siberian Crane population migrating to Iran (Department of Environment)
- Conservation of the Iranian wetlands (Department of Environment)
- Insect Fauna of the Iranian Islands in the Persian Gulf (PPDRI)
- Insect Fauna of Iran (PPDRI)

OCCASIONAL CONSULTANT FOR

The World Conservation Union (IUCN)

Convention on International Trade of Endangered Species (CITES)

Global Environmental Facility (GEF)

Ministry of Foreign Affairs (on Environmental and Conservation issues)

CURRENT INTERESTS

Insect systematics and taxonomy, evolution, speciation, biodiversity, phylogenetic analysis using molecular and morphological characters, gene utility in phylogenetics

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- Society of Systematic Biologists, 2005-present.
- Lepidopterist's Society, 1990-1995, 2003-present.
- Alberta Lepidopterist's Guild, 2003-present.
- Societas Europaea Lepidopterologica (SEL), 2007-present.
- Toronto Entomologists' Association, 2007-present.
- Butterflies of Iran discussion group at Yahoo! Groups; Founder and Moderator, 2004-present

ADDITIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS:

PUBLICATIONS

1. Nazari, V., Lees, D.C., Brattström, O. and Larsen, T.B., [2009]. Out of Madagascar? Molecular phylogeny and historical biogeography of *Colotis* (Lepidoptera: Pieridae). [*In prep.*]
2. Nazari, V. and Larsen, T.B., [2009]. Molecular evidence for the taxonomic status of chromosome races in *Gegenes pumilio* (Lepidoptera: Hesperidae). [*In prep.*].

3. Nazari, V. and Landry, J.F., [2009]. Molecular Insights into Taxonomy of North American Coleophoridae (Insecta: Lepidoptera, Gelechioidea) [*in prep*].
4. Nazari, V. and ten Hagen, W., [2009]. Speciation and divergence of *Tomares* hairstreaks: evidence from DNA barcodes (Lepidoptera: Lycaenidae). [*in prep*].
5. Larsen, T.B., Vane-Wright, R.I., Kunte, K. & Nazari, V., 2009. Case 3448: *Papilio danae* Fabricius, 1775 (currently *Colotis danae*; Insecta, Lepidoptera, Pieridae): proposed conservation of the suppression of *Papilio danae* Hufnagel, 1766. *The Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* 66(3).
6. Nazari, V. 2009. Gnorimoschemini of Yukon (Lepidoptera: Gelechiidae). Department of Environment, Government of Yukon. 23p.
7. Nazari, V., ten Hagen, W., and Bozano, G., 2009. Molecular Systematics and biogeography of *Melanargia* using mitochondrial and nuclear markers. *Systematic Entomology* 34 [*in press*.]
8. Steeves, R. and Nazari, V., 2008. Molecular identification of a larval lepidopteran pre-dispersal seed predator of the Gulf of Saint Lawrence Aster (*Symphyotrichum laurentianum*) (Fernald) Nesom. *Canadian Entomologist*, 140(3): 297-305.
9. Nazari, V. and Sperling, F.A.H., 2007. Mitochondrial DNA variability and phylogeography in western Palaearctic Parnassiinae (Lepidoptera: Papilionidae): How many species are there? *Insect Systematics and Evolution*, 38(2): 121-138.
10. Nazari, V., Zakharov, E.V., and Sperling, F.A.H., 2007. Phylogeny and historical biogeography of Parnassiinae (Lepidoptera: Papilionidae) based on morphology and seven genes: The challenge of taxonomic ranking. *Molecular phylogenetics and Evolution*, 42: 131-156.
11. Nazari, V., 2006. Phylogeny of Parnassiinae: Comparative analysis of DNA and morphology, with implications for the classification of the subfamily. MSc Thesis, University of Alberta.
12. Nazari, V., Sperling, F.A.H. [and Carbonell, F.], 2006. Parnassiinae on Tree of Life. <http://tolweb.org/Parnassiinae>
13. Nazari, V., 2005. Sperling lab DNA Vouchers: Lists, data and images. http://www.biology.ualberta.ca/old_site/uasm//Vouchers/index.html
14. Nazari, V., 2003. Argyresthiidae of Alberta. Strickland Entomological Museum Species pages. http://www.entomology.ualberta.ca/searching_species_results.php?fsn=Argyresthia&fha=&fdi=
15. Nazari, V., 2003. Butterflies of Iran. Department of Environment, Tehran, Iran. 564 pp.
16. National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan Secretariat, 2002. Biodiversity for Decision Makers. (member of the drafting group).
17. National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan Secretariat, 2001. The second National Report for the Convention of Biological Diversity. NBSAP Secretariat, Tehran. 98 pp. (member of the drafting group).
18. National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan Secretariat, 2000. The first National Report for the Convention of Biological Diversity. NBSAP Secretariat, Tehran. 62 pp. (member of the drafting group).
19. Pazuki, A. and Nazari, V., 1995. New butterflies for Iranian fauna (I). Additions and corrections to the list given by Eckweiler & Hofmann (1980). *Journal of Entomological Society of Iran*. 15: 53-63, 25.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

- 2009 3rd International Barcode of Life Conference, Mexico City, Mexico. How has the barcoding paradigm changed taxonomic practices? (Plenary presentation).

- 2009 Societas Europea Lepidopterologica (SEL), Cluj-Napoca, Romania. Molecular Systematic of genus *Melanargia*.
- 2008 Canadian Barcode of Life Science Symposium, Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto, Canada. Molecular insights into taxonomy of Coleophoridae (PhD research project).
- 2007 Societas Europea Lepidopterologica (SEL), Berlin, Germany. Barcoding Microlepidoptera: Enhancing taxonomy (PhD research project).
- 2005 Harvard University, Cambridge. Phylogeny of Parnassiinae (MSc research project).
- 2005 University of Florida, Gainesville. Phylogeny of Parnassiinae (MSc research project).
- 2005 Colorado State University, Fort Collins. Phylogeny of Parnassiinae (MSc research project).
- 2005 Lepidopterists Society annual meeting, Sierra Vista, Arizona. Phylogeny of Parnassiinae (MSc research project).
- 2004 Seminar for Systematic and Evolution forum, University of Alberta. Chromosome evolution in butterflies.
- 2003 Lepidopterists Society annual meeting, Olds, Alberta. Phylogeny of Parnassiinae (MSc Research topic).
- 2002 Societas Europea Lepidopterologica (SEL), Korsor, Denmark. Butterflies of Iran.

GEF/UNDP/NBSAP INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOPS AND SEMINARS (1999-2002):

1. NBSAP project initiation workshop, 6 February 1999, Tehran;
2. Workshop on the Strategies proposed by the NBSAP project, 4-5 July 2000, Tehran;
3. Workshop on Bio-safety protocol, July 2000, Tehran;
4. Workshop on Sustainable Use of Biodiversity Resources, 22-23 February 2001, Shiraz;
5. Workshop on biodiversity in Dry Ecosystems, 2 March 2001, Tehran;
6. Workshop on conservation of Zagros Mountains, May 2001, Karaj;
7. Workshop on Taxonomy, 12 June 2001, Tehran;
8. Country dialogue workshop on GEF, 16-19 June 2001, Tehran;
8. UNOPS workshop on Project design, July 2001, Tehran;
9. Workshop on National Action Plan, September 2001;
10. Workshop on Global Taxonomy initiative, September 2001;
11. Seminar on Taxonomy and Biodiversity, June 2002, Karaj;
12. Workshop on Biodiversity and Traditional Knowledge, October 2002, Tehran.