

1 Curriculum vitae (24-8-2026)

1.1 Personal details

Name	E. Yağmur Erten
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1.2 Professional details

1.2.1 Employment history

Assistant professor (education profile), University of Groningen	Mar. 2024–present
SNSF postdoctoral fellow, University of Jyväskylä	Feb. 2022–Jan. 2024
Postdoctoral fellow, University of Zurich	Feb.–Dec. 2021

1.2.2 Education

PhD Evolutionary Biology, University of Zurich	2017–2021
• Thesis: "Life History Evolution Under Cancer Risk" (advisor: Prof. Hanna Kokko)	
MSc Evolutionary Biology, University of Groningen, <i>Cum laude</i> & University of Montpellier – Erasmus Mundus Master Programme MEME	2013–2015
• MSc project Groningen: “Cultural evolution in a population with migration: the effect of acculturation preferences and social learning strategies” (advisor Prof. Franz J. Weissing)	
• MSc project Montpellier: “Parasite evolution in heterogeneous contact networks” (advisors Dr. Samuel Alizon & Dr. Sébastien Lion)	
• External semester: Ludwig-Maximilian University of Munich (Spring 2014); small research project: “The effect of personality and perceived predation risk on incubation behaviour of great tit <i>Parus major</i> ” (advisor: Prof. Niels Dingemanse)	
BSc Molecular Biology & Genetics, Istanbul Technical University	2008–2013
• BSc project: “Regulation of SPG4 gene expression by Elk1 transcription factor” (advisor: Prof. Arzu Karabay Korkmaz)	
• Erasmus exchange: University of Strasbourg (2010–2011)	

1.2.3 Professionalization activities

PhD Supervision Excellence, University of Groningen	September 2025
University Teaching Qualification, University of Groningen	July 2025
Dutch language courses, University of Groningen	2024–present
• Current level: B1/B2	

1.2.4 Degrees, awards, and honors

Best student talk (third place), Biology19 Conference	2019
Engineering and Information Technologies Research Scholarship (EITRS), University of Sydney (discontinued)	2016

1.2.5 Active memberships of professional societies

European Society of Evolutionary Biology (ESEB)	2015–
Turkish Society of Evolutionary Biology & Ecology (EkoEvo)	2015–
International Society of Cancer Ecology and Evolution (ISEEC)	2019–
Evolutionary Demography Society	2020–

1.2.6 Languages

Turkish (native), English (fluent), French (advanced), Spanish (advanced), Dutch (intermediate), German (beginner), Finnish (beginner)

1.3 Professional and academic community service

1.3.1 Roles in committees and boards, within the university and externally

Long-term positions:

University of Groningen GELIFES Seminar Committee	Jul. 2025–
Mathematical Models in Ecology and Evolution Conference Scientific Committee	Jan. 2025–
University of Groningen BSc Biology Programme Committee	Nov. 2024–
Evolutionary Demography Society Secretary & Board Member	Oct. 2022–

Temporary or short-term positions:

University of Groningen GELIFES Board Member Selection Committee (vice-chair)	Feb.-Mar. 2026
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1.3.2 Editorships and editorial boards in scientific journals

Guest editor for Journal of Evolutionary Biology Special Issue “Ageing outside of the box: insights from unusual and non-model species”	2026–
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1.3.3 Reviewing activities

Journals: Evolution, Journal of Evolutionary Biology, Journal of Theoretical Biology, Proceedings of the Royal Society B, Biological Reviews, BMC Biology, The American Naturalist, PCI Evolutionary Biology, eLife, Frontiers in Ecology and Evolution, Humanities & Social Sciences Communications, Cancer Control, Evolutionary Applications, Scientific Reports

Grants: Arizona Cancer Evolution Center (ACE), National Research, Development and Innovation Office Hungary (NFKIH), Dutch Research Council (NWO) Open Competition XS.

1.4 Teaching

1.4.1 BSc, MSc and PhD courses taught

*Role: *L* = Lecturing, *T* = Tutorials and practicals, *A* = Assessment, *C* = Coordination, *D* = Design (i.e. new material); ** Upcoming

1.4.1.1 Courses taught at UG

Course	Program	Date	Role*
Skills for Biology 2: Quantitative Skills	MSc. Biology	2026-2027**	D, L, T, A
		2025-2026	D, L, T, A
		2024-2025	D, L, T, A
Evolutionary Theory	MSc. Biology	2026-2027**	L, T, A
		2025-2026	L, T, A
		2024-2025	D, L, T, A
Evolutionary Medicine: Diseases of Affluence	MSc. Biology	2026-2027**	D, L, T, A
		2025-2026	D, L, T, A
		2024-2025	D, L, T, A
Evolutionary Processes	BSc. Biology	2026-2027**	C, L, T, A
		2025-2026	C, D, L, T, A
		2024-2025	C, D, L, T, A
Modelling Life	BSc. Biology	2026-2027**	C, L, T, A
		2025-2026	T
		2024-2025	T
Python Programming for Biologists	BSc. Biology	2026-2027**	D, L, T, A
		2025-2026	D, L, T, A
Programming C++ for Biologists	MSc.-BSc.Biology	2024-2025	L, T, A
Ecological and Evolutionary Modelling	BSc. Biology	2023-2024	T

1.4.1.2 Other teaching experience

Course	Program	Institution	Date	Role*
Philosophy and Ethics of Science	PhD. Biology	University of Jyväskylä	2023-2024	L
Evolutionary Ecology Modelling	MSc. Biology	University of Jyväskylä	2023-2024	L, T, A
Exploitation of Renewable Resources	MSc. Biology	University of Zurich	2019-2020	T, A
Programming in Biology	BSc. Biology	University of Zurich	2017-2018	T, A
Data Analysis in Biology	BSc. Biology	University of Zurich	2016-2017	T
Management of Project Organizations	MSc. Project Management	University of Sydney	2016	T, A
System Dynamics Modelling	MSc. Project Management	University of Sydney	2016	T, A
General Biology II Laboratory	BSc. Mol. Biology & Genetics	Istanbul Technical University	2009-2010	T

1.4.2 Supervision of MSc and BSc students

Name	Project	Role	Date
Inanna Hamati	MSc research	supervisor	Mar. 2026-
Ef Fiotodimitraki	MSc research	supervisor	Mar. 2026-
Azahara Sogo Sánchez	MSc colloquium	supervisor	Aug. 2026-
Thijs Krikken	BSc research	supervisor	Apr.-Jun. 2026
Doeke Medendorp	BSc research	supervisor	Apr.-Jun. 2026
Raymon van Os	BSc research	supervisor	Apr.-Jun. 2026
Niek Wijnberg	BSc research	supervisor	Apr.-Jun. 2026
Niharika Narendranath	MSc colloquium	supervisor	Mar.-Apr. 2026
Ef Fiotodimitraki	MSc colloquium	supervisor	Feb.-Mar. 2026
Arturo Comin Lucio	MSc research	supervisor	Mar.-Jul. 2025
Flora Murekoezy-Kis	BSc research	supervisor	Apr.-Jul. 2025
Shrinath Narayanan	MSc research	co-supervisor	Feb.-Sep. 2021
Miray Yigit	BSc internship	supervisor	Jun.-Jul. 2021

1.4.3 Examination of MSc and BSc students

Name	Project	Role	Date
Pranjal Tiwari	MSc colloquium	second examiner	Jan 2026
Isidora Poblete	MSc colloquium	second examiner	Jan 2026
Roos Turkstra	MSc colloquium	second examiner	Dec 2025

1.5 Research

1.5.1 Presentations

1.5.1.1 Invited talks

Event	Date
12th Annual WZB Conference on Migration and Diversity (invited contribution; upcoming)	24-26 Sep. 2026
University of Bern IEE seminar series	20 May 2025
City, University of London Dept. of Mathematics Seminar Series	31 Jan. 2023
MEME Webinar Series	11 Feb. 2021
Australian National University Ecology & Evolution Webinar Series	24 Sep. 2020
Turkish Society of Ecology & Evolution Webinar Series	24 Jul. 2020

1.5.1.2 Contributed talks

Event	Date
Evolutionary Demography Society Annual Meeting 11	6-18 Jun. 2026
Congress of European Society of Evolutionary Biology (ESEB)	17-22 Aug. 2025
Internal Conflicts STN Workshop	14-15 Oct. 2024
Evolutionary Demography Society Annual Meeting 9	31 Jul.-2 Aug. 2024
Mathematical Models in Ecology and Evolution (MMEE)	15-18 Jul. 2024
MPI Evolutionary Transitions in Individuality Workshop	22-26 May 2023
Wildlife Cancer Workshop	9-10 May 2023
Evolutionary Demography Society Annual Meeting 8	29-31 Mar. 2023
Oikos Finland Conference	14-15 Feb. 2023
Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Symposium Turkey (EEBST)	7-9 Sep. 2022
Evolution Conference	21-25 Jun. 2021
Evolutionary Demography Society Annual Meeting 7	6-11 Oct. 2020
Biology20 Conference	6-7 Feb. 2020
Congress of European Society of Evolutionary Biology (ESEB)	20-24 Aug. 2019
Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Symposium Turkey (EEBST)	10-12 Jul. 2019
Biology19 Conference	Feb. 7-8 2019
Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Symposium Turkey (EEBST)	18-20 Jul. 2018

1.5.1.3 Selected talks in local events (<5 years)

Event	Date
MEME Summer School 2026 (Career talk)	24 Aug. 2026
REACT Online Seminar Series	17 Sep. 2025
University of Groningen GELIFES Seminar Series	7 Nov. 2024
University of Groningen GELIFES Theory Seminar Series	28 May 2024
University of Jyväskylä Dept. of Bio. and Env. Sciences Darwin Meetings	20 May 2022
University of Jyväskylä Dept. of Bio. and Env. Sciences Research Seminar Series	10 Mar. 2022
University of Zurich URPP 9th Annual Retreat	16-17 Sep. 2021

1.5.2 Public engagement

Event	Date
Public Lecture in REACT Workshop “Modern perspectives on the biology of aging”	06 Nov. 2025
Pint of Science Groningen	14 May. 2024
Researchers’ Night Jyväskylä	29 Sep. 2023
Researchers’ Night Jyväskylä	30 Sep. 2022
Scientific speed-dating in Biology20	7 Feb. 2020
Pint of Science Zurich	22 May 2019
Scientific speed-dating in Biology20	14 Feb. 2018
Girls’ Programming Network Sydney Coding & Arduino Workshop	30 Oct. 2016

1.5.3 Organization

1.5.3.1 External events

Event	Date
MMEE mini-symposium “Dynamics and persistence of internal evolutionary conflicts”	23 Jul. 2026
ESEB symposium “Ageing outside of the box: insights from unusual and non-model species”	18 Aug. 2025
MMEE mini-symposium “Expanding theoretical perspectives on senescence”	18 Jul. 2024
ESEB symposium “Aging & cancer through the lens of evolution”	24 Aug. 2019
Modelling Ecology & Evolution Zurich (MEEZ) Conference	27-28 Jun. 2019

1.5.3.2 Local events

Event	Date
GELIFES Evolutionary Ecology Journal Club	Jan. 2026–
Zurich Interaction Seminars	Sep. 2017-Jun. 2018

1.5.4 PhD supervision

Name	Project	Role	Date
Luca Ottonello	“Integrating systems chemistry and evolutionary perspectives on the origin of life”	co-supervisor	expected start: Sep. 2026
Gaurav Athreya	“On the life-histories of facultatively sexual organisms”	co-supervisor	Mar. 2024–

1.5.5 PhD thesis defense committees

Name	Title	Promoter(s)	Date
V.V. Rostovtseva	"Understanding Human Cooperativeness"	Prof. M. Egas & Prof. F.J. Weissing	25 Aug 2026
V. E. Rivera Leon	"Molecular Ecology of Baleen Whales; Past to Present"	Prof. P. J. Palsbøll	3 Nov 2025

1.5.6 Funding acquired

1.5.6.1 Research grants

Title	Funding provider	Year	Amount	Role
"Linking cancer and senescence: evolution of life histories under reproduction-maintenance tradeoffs"	Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF)	2021	CHF 103,020	PI (single applicant)

1.5.6.2 Other grants

Title	Funding provider	Year	Amount	Role
"REACT - Research and Education in Ageing Collaborative Team"	ENLIGHT Thematic Networks	2024	€ 150,000	co-PI (consortium member)
“Modelling Ecology & Evolution Zurich” Conference	University of Zurich GRC	2018	CHF 6601	co-organizer (main applicant)

1.5.7 List of publications

= Equal contributions, * First or co-first author, ** Senior or co-senior author, # Supervised student

[10] Young E.A., **Erten E.Y.**, Postma E., Lummaa V., van der Vegt B., de Bock G.H., & Dugdale H.L. No genome-wide correlations and little shared genetic architecture between reproductive life-history traits and estrogen receptor-positive breast cancer risk. (Accepted) *Molecular Biology and Evolution*. Preprint doi: [10.1101/2025.06.26.661731](https://doi.org/10.1101/2025.06.26.661731)

*[9] **Erten E.Y.**, Tollis M. & Kokko H. (2025). Shrinking to bird size with dinosaur-level cancer defences: Evolution of cancer suppression over macroevolutionary time. *PLOS Computational Biology*. doi: [10.1371/journal.pcbi.1013432](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pcbi.1013432)

*[8] de Vries C.=, **Erten E.Y.**= & Kokko H. (2023). Does symmetry preclude the evolution of senescence? A comment on Pen & Flatt 2021. *Proceedings of the Royal Society B*, 290: 20221101. doi: [10.1098/rspb.2022.1101](https://doi.org/10.1098/rspb.2022.1101)

[7] Majic P., **Erten E.Y.** & Payne J.L. (2022). The adaptive potential of non-heritable somatic mutations. *The American Naturalist*, 200(6), 755–772. doi: [10.1086/721766](https://doi.org/10.1086/721766)

[6] Aubier T.G., Galipaud M., **Erten E.Y.** & Kokko H. (2020). Transmissible cancers and the evolution of sex under the Red Queen hypothesis. *PLOS Biology*, 18(11): e3000916. doi: [10.1371/journal.pbio.3000916](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pbio.3000916)

*[5] **Erten E.Y.** & Kokko H. (2020). From zygote to a multicellular soma: body size affects optimal growth strategies under cancer risk. *Evolutionary Applications*, 13, 1593–1604. doi: [10.1111/eva.12969](https://doi.org/10.1111/eva.12969)

*[4] **Erten E.Y.** & Kokko, H. (2019). Diverse ways to think about cancer: What can we learn about cancer by studying it across the tree of life? *Mètode Science Studies Journal-Annual Review*, (10). doi: [10.7203/metode.10.14593](https://doi.org/10.7203/metode.10.14593)

[3] Cliff O.M., Harding N., Piraveenan M., **Erten E.Y.**, Gambhir M., Prokopenko M. (2018). Investigating spatiotemporal dynamics and synchrony of influenza epidemics in Australia: An agent-based modelling approach. *Simulation Modelling Practice and Theory*, 87, 412–431. doi: [10.1016/j.simpat.-2018.07.005](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.simpat.-2018.07.005)

*[2] **Erten E.Y.**⁼, van den Berg P.⁼, Weissing F.J. (2018). Acculturation orientations affect the evolution of a multicultural society. *Nature Communications*, 9(1), 58. doi: [10.1038/s41467-017-02513-0](https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-017-02513-0)

*[1] **Erten E.Y.**, Lizier J., Piraveenan M., Prokopenko M. (2017). Criticality and information dynamics in epidemiological models. *Entropy*, 19(5), 194. doi: [10.3390/e19050194](https://doi.org/10.3390/e19050194)

1.5.8 Submitted manuscripts

*[3] **Erten E.Y.** & Kokko H. Cancer risk and sexual conflict as constraints to body size evolution. Preprint doi: [10.1101/2021.01.09.425980](https://doi.org/10.1101/2021.01.09.425980) (being revised)

*[2] **Erten E.Y.**, Boddy A., Maley C.C. & Kokko H. Estimating cancer suppression across species: incorporating age-specific patterns by fitting the multi-stage model to demographic data. (under review)

[1] Athreya G.S.[#], Bhat A.S., Agren J.A., **Erten E.Y.**, Keaney T.A. Internal evolutionary conflicts: a mathematical primer. Preprint doi: [10.64898/2026.07.16.739017](https://doi.org/10.64898/2026.07.16.739017) (under review)