

EDUCATION

- since 2020 **PhD Student – University of Würzburg**
Research focus: Attraction of spectral properties of artificial light sources: Investigating the influence of light pollution on the behavior of moths by combining field and laboratory experiments.
Supervisor: Dr. Jacqueline Degen
- 2014 – 2019 **M.Sc. Environmental Earth Sciences – Freie Universität Berlin**
Master's thesis: "Development of the light environment under different environmental circumstances and their (potential) impact on the flight behavior of moths"
Supervisors: Prof. Dr. Bernd Wünnemann, Dr. Jacqueline Degen
- 2011 – 2018 **M.Sc. Biodiversity, Evolution and Ecology – Freie Universität Berlin**
Master's thesis: "Attractive Force of Artificial Light at Night on Coleoptera Families in a Rural Area in Brandenburg, Germany"
Supervisor: PD Dr. Franz Hölker
- 2008 – 2011 **B.Sc. Biologie – Freie Universität Berlin**
Bachelor's thesis: „Der Orientierungsflug der Jungbienen (*Apis mellifera*) -Wettereinflüsse und Lernprozesse-,
Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. R. Menzel
- 2002 – 2005 **Apprenticeship as bank clerk – Kreissparkasse Bad Neuenahr - Ahrweiler**

SCIENTIFIC WORKING EXPERIENCE

- 06/2019 – 10/2020 **University of Würzburg - Faculty of Biology**
Research assistant at the Chair of Zoology II
Preparation, execution and evaluation of field experiments as well as writing the accompanying manuscript for publication; Maintenance of a breeding (*Sphinx ligustri*)
- 05/2018 – 04/2019 **Museum für Naturkunde Berlin**
Student assistant in the Department of Evolution and Geoprocesses
DFG-Project: „Die Evolution von Knochenzellen in der Tiefenzeit und die Implikationen für den Knochenstoffwechsel in der Geschichte der Wirbeltiere“.
Acquisition and digitization of historical bone thin sections; production and cataloging of new thin sections of fossil bones; photographing and measuring thin sections under polarizing microscope
- 12/2017 – 11/2018 **Museum für Naturkunde Berlin**
Student assistant in the Department of Evolutionary Morphology
Project: "Nischendifferenzierung bei Herbivoren und die Intensivierung der Konkurrenz in afrikanischen Savannen".
Biomonitoring in the mammal collection; determination of mammal skulls; cleaning, repair, mounting, labeling and cataloging of antlers; supervision of visiting scientists

- since 02/2014 **Freie Universität Berlin – Botanic Garden and Botanical Museum**
Working student in Department II, Herbarium Berolinense
Assembling and archiving of herbarium specimens
- 11/2011 – 04/2012 **Freie Universität Berlin**
Student assistant in the Department of Biology/ Genetics
Workgroup: Prof. Dr. S. Sigrist
Preparation of *Drosophila melanogaster* for experiments
- 02/2011 – 02/2012 **Freie Universität Berlin**
05/2012 – 12/2014 Workgroup Dr. M. Schwärzel: Biological memory systems – Neurogenetics
Stem maintenance and care of *Drosophila melanogaster*, crossbreeding experiments,
organization of laboratory supplies
- 06/2010 – 11/2010 **Freie Universität Berlin**
Student assistant in the Department of Biology/ Neurobiology
Workgroup: Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. R. Menzel
Assistance in the organization of the outdoor season, Driver for international experiments
on poppies

CONTINUING EDUCATION IN UNIVERSITY DIDACTICS

- 03/2019 – 05/2020 Certificate program for qualification in higher education didactics (SUPPORT für die
Lehre – Freie Universität Berlin)
- 05/2020 Advanced module: Work with scientific texts in the seminar
- 05/2020 Advanced module: Designing gender and diversity aware teaching
(digital)
- 03/2020 Advanced module: Voice and speech training
- 01/2020 Advanced module: Supervision of final theses
- 11/2019 Advanced module: Diversity is the normal case - dealing with
different learning requirements
- 03/2019 – 06/2019 Basic module in university didactics

TEACHING

- since 2019 **Freie Universität Berlin** – Department of Earth Sciences
2nd semester bachelor students: Practical course in the field: “Theory and practice of the
physical-geographical methodology”

STAYS ABROAD

- 07/2007 – 10/2007 Camino de Santiago, Spain
- 02/2015 – 07/2015 Study at Nanjing University, China

FIELD RESEARCH STAYS

- 07/2022 – 08/2022 **Fabrikschleichach, Germany (6 weeks)**
Experiment leader of own experiments for obtaining the Ph.D. degree with the topic "The attraction of spectral properties of artificial light sources: Using field experiments and flight simulator to illuminate the influence of light pollution on the behavior of moths".
- 06/2021 – 08/2021 **Fabrikschleichach, Germany (8 weeks)**
Experiment leader of own experiments for obtaining the Ph.D. degree with the topic "The attraction of spectral properties of artificial light sources: Using field experiments and flight simulator to illuminate the influence of light pollution on the behavior of moths".
- 06/2019 – 08/2019 **Amöneburg, Germany (7 weeks)**
Research assistant in the project: „Moths and light at night“.
Assistance in flight experiments; moths breeding; measuring and photographing experiment animals, harmonic radar monitoring
- 06/2018 – 08/2018 **Amöneburg, Germany (6 weeks)**
Field assistant in the project „Moths and light at night“.
Light trap monitoring; light trap experiments with moths on wind direction and distance; establishing a moth breeding (*Sphinx ligustri*); harmonic radar monitoring; construction of transponders detected by the harmonic radar
- 06/2015 **NE Tibetan Plateau, China (2 weeks)**
Field assistant in the project “Interplay between Lake and Catchment Processes in Kuhai Lake Basin, NE Tibetan Plateau, China, during Late Holocene”.
Assistance in soil profiling, sediment coring, sediment surface sampling, algae collection
- 08/2011 – 09/2011 **Klein Lüben, Germany (3 weeks)**
Field assistant in the project „Exploratory behavior and landmark learning in the honeybee (*Apis mellifera*)”.
Assistance with displacement experiments of bees
- 08/2010 – 09/2010 **Klein Lüben, Germany (4 weeks)**
Field assistant in the project „Exploratory behavior and landmark learning in the honeybee (*Apis mellifera*)”.
Monitoring of bees, Numbering of young bees

PUBLICATIONS

- 2022 **Storms, M.,** Jakhar, A., Mitesser, O., Jechow, A., Hölker, F., Degen, T., Hovestadt, T., and Degen, J. (2022) The rising moon promotes mate finding in moths, *Communications Biology* 5, 393
- 2019 Schroer, S., Weiß, N.S., Grubisic, M., Manfrin, A. van Grunsven, R.H.A., **Storms M.,** Berger, A., Voigt, C.C., Klenke, R. & Hölker, F. (2019): Analyse der Auswirkungen künstlichen Lichts auf die Biodiversität. *Naturschutz und Biologische Vielfalt* 168
- 2018 Degen, J., Hovestadt, T., **Storms, M.,** and Menzel, R. (2018) Exploratory behavior of re-orienting foragers differs from other flight patterns of honeybees, *PLoS ONE* 13(8): e0202171
- 2016 Degen, J., Kirbach, A., Reiter, L., Lehmann, K., Norton, P., **Storms, M.,** Koblofsky, M., Winter, S., Georgieva, P. B., Nguyen, H., Chamkhi, H., Meyer, H., Singh, P. K., Manz, G., Greggers, U., and Menzel, R. (2016) Honeybees Learn Landscape Features during Exploratory Orientation Flights, *Current Biology* 26, 2800-2804

- 2015 Degen, J., Kirbach, A., Reiter, L., Lehmann, K., Norton, P., **Storms, M.**, Koblofsky, M., Winter, S., Georgieva, P. B., Nguyen, H., Chamkhi, H., Greggers, U., and Menzel, R. (2015) Exploratory behaviour of honeybees during orientation flights, *Animal Behaviour* 102, 45 - 57

CONFERENCE CONTRIBUTIONS

- 2021 **Mona Storms**, Andreas Jechow, Franz Hölker, Aryan Jakhar, Tobias Degen and Jacqueline Degen
Poster: Moth matchmaking in moonlight: For male moths the quest to find mates is influenced by the position of the moon
7th International Conference on Artificial Light at Night (ALAN), eALAN online
- 2019 **Mona Storms**, Andreas Jechow, Franz Hölker and Jacqueline Degen
Poster: Quantification of the light environment to assess its impact on the flight behavior of moths
6th International Conference on Artificial Light at Night (ALAN), eALAN online
- 2018 Jacqueline Degen, Andreas Jechow, **Mona Storms** and Franz Hölker
Poster: Combining radar technology and all-sky imagery to study flight to light behavior of moths
5th International Conference on Artificial Light at Night (ALAN), Utah

FUNDING

- 2021 – 2023 PhD Scholarship from Deutsche Bundesstiftung Umwelt (64.500€)

COOPERATION PARTNERS

Franz Hölker (Leibniz Institute of Freshwater Ecology and Inland Fisheries, Germany)
Andreas Jechow (Leibniz Institute of Freshwater Ecology and Inland Fisheries, Germany)
Keram Pfeiffer (University of Würzburg, Germany)
Anna Stöckl (University of Würzburg, Germany)