

Székely József - Paul

Curriculum Vitae



Institutional address:

Universidad Técnica Particular de Loja
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Education

- 2010 **Ph.D.** “Cum Laude” in Biology
Faculty of Biology and Geology, Babeş-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca, Romania
- 2004 **M.S.** in Biocenology and Administration of Protected Areas
Faculty of Biology and Geology, Babeş-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca, Romania
- 2003 **B.S.** in Biology
Faculty of Biology and Geology, Babeş-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca, Romania

Spoken languages

English	advanced
Spanish	advanced
Hungarian	native
Romanian	fluent

Professional experience

- 2017 to present Universidad Técnica Particular de Loja, Facultad de Ciencias Exactas y Naturales, Departamento de Ciencias Biológicas y Agropecuarias
Associate Professor; Director of the Zoology Museum (MUTPL - Museo de Zoología, Universidad Técnica Particular de Loja) and curator of the vertebrate collection
- 2021 Universidad Técnica Particular de Loja, Facultad de Ciencias Exactas y Naturales, Departamento de Ciencias Biológicas y Agropecuarias
Project co-manager - "EC-MCSP-Anne Dunne (Anfibios)" (Naturaleza & Cultura Internacional conservation grant, Ecuador)
- 2019–2020 Universidad Técnica Particular de Loja, Facultad de Ciencias Exactas y Naturales, Departamento de Ciencias Biológicas y Agropecuarias
Project co-manager - "Amphibian conservation in the Key Biodiversity Area Abra de Zamora, Ecuador" (Conservation International Foundation conservation grant, U.S.A.)
- 2019 Universidad Técnica Particular de Loja, Facultad de Ciencias Exactas y Naturales, Departamento de Ciencias Biológicas y Agropecuarias
Project manager - "Línea Base Biológica que caracterice el Área de Protección Hídrica del sur del país: Fierro Urco" (Naturaleza & Cultura Internacional conservation grant, Ecuador)
- 2017–2018 Chelonia NGO
Project manager - "Conservation of the Ridge Marsupial Frog (*Gastrotheca psychrophila*) in southern Ecuador" (Mohamed bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund)
- 2011–2016 Ovidius University Constanța, Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences, Department of Natural Sciences
Research fellow - "Is range limited by life history, environmental conditions, or biogeographical barriers? A study case using spadefoot toads (genus *Pelobates*)" (UEFISCDI Grant)
- 2013–2015 Chelonia NGO Romania
Herpetologist - "Improving the conservation status of biodiversity in the protected areas from Constanța County" (POS Mediu Project)
- 2014–2015 Romanian Ornithological Society (SOR)
Management Plan developer - "Development of the Management Plan for ROSPA 0052 Beibugeac Lake" (POS Mediu Project)

2013–2015	Romanian Ornithological Society (SOR) Herpetologist - "Development of the Management Plan for ROSPA 0059 Strachina Lake" (POS Mediu Project)
2013	Romanian Ornithological Society (SOR) Herpetologist - "Development of the Management Plan for the Natura 2000 site Blahnița - Mehedinți" (POS Mediu Project)
2012	Ovidius University Constanța, Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences, Department of Natural Sciences; Caraș-Severin Environmental Protection Agency Herpetologist - "Improving the conservation status for the priority species and habitats in the Iron Gates wetlands" (LIFE+NAT/RO/000740) - responsible for the inventory and monitoring methodology of the amphibian and reptile species from Cursul Dunării - Baziaș - Porțile de Fier SPA
2011–2012	Institute of Biology Bucharest, Romanian Academy Vertebrate specialist - "Monitoring the conservation status of the Romanian species and habitats in accordance with the 17th article of the Habitats Directive" (Sectoral Operational Programme - Environment) - responsible for the monitoring of the Romanian vertebrate fauna (fishes, amphibians, reptiles and mammals)
2005–2010	Romanian Ornithological Society (SOR) Project assistant (2009-2010) - "Developing a monitoring and prompt reaction system for the Important Bird Areas and Special Protected Areas from Romania" (EEA Grant) Project assistant (2009-2010) - "Agriculture for biodiversity in Romania: promoting and ensuring access of farmers at the rural development funds" (EEA Grant) Project assistant (2008-2009) - "Safeguarding wintering feeding grounds for Red-breasted Goose by ensuring access of farmers to financial support under the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development" (IUCN - Sir Peter Scott Fund) Project coordinator (2005-2008) - "Improving wintering conditions for <i>Branta ruficollis</i> at Techirghiol" (LIFE04 NAT/RO/000220) - also responsible for the detailed inventory of the flora and fauna from the Techirghiol Lake Special Protected Area and management plan writing
2004–2005	Ameritrex Romania, Cluj Program assistant
2001–2004	Waldorf School, Cluj

Occasional substituting and teaching, Biology

Grants and Fellowships

- 2014–2016 Universidad Técnica Particular de Loja, Ecuador
Research fellow - "Ecología, distribución e inventario bioacústico de anfibios en el Sur de Ecuador." (Prometeo Project; Secretaría de Educación Superior, Ciencia, Tecnología e Innovación, Ecuador - SENESCYT Grant)
- 2015 Swedish Museum of Natural History, Sweden
Research fellow - "SE-TAF-4807: Access the collection of Ecuadorian amphibians from the Swedish Museum of Natural History (NRM)" (SYNTHESYS Project; European Community - Research Infrastructure Action under the FP7 "Capacities" Specific Programme - SYNTHESYS Grant)
- 2013–2014 Universidad Nacional de Misiones, Argentina - Ovidius University Constanța, Romania
Research fellow - "The impact of global changes on populations at the limit of their ranges" (Romania - Argentina Bilateral Project; Executive Agency for Higher Education, Research, Development and Innovation Funding - UEFISCDI Grant)

Teaching experience

- 2017 to present Universidad Técnica Particular de Loja, Facultad de Ciencias Exactas y Naturales, Departamento de Ciencias Biológicas y Agropecuarias
Zoology, Scientific method and data analysis and Biostatistics courses for undergraduate students
- 2012 Ovidius University Constanța, Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences, Department of Natural Sciences
Biodiversity Conservation - one semester undergraduate course to 3rd year students in Ecology

Research interests

Systematics, biogeography, evolutionary ecology, behaviour, and conservation of amphibians

Membership in professional associations

Societas Europaea Herpetologica (SEH)
Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles (SSAR)
Herpetologists' League (HL)

Relevant scientific publications

Peer-reviewed journal articles (Web of Science, IF)

Székely, P., Székely, D., Armijos-Ojeda, D., Hualpa-Vega, S., Vörös, J., 2023. Molecular and Morphological Assessment of Rain Frogs in the *Pristimantis orestes* Species Group (Amphibia: Anura: Strabomantidae) with the Description of Three New Cryptic Species from Southern Ecuador. *Herpetological Monographs*, 37(1): 41–69. doi: 10.1655/HERPMONOGRAPHS-D-22-00002

Székely, P., Córdova-Díaz, M., Hualpa-Vega, D., Hualpa-Vega, S., Székely, D. 2023. A new glassfrog species of the genus *Centrolene* (Amphibia, Anura, Centrolenidae) from Cordillera del Cóndor, southern Ecuador. *ZooKeys*, 1149: 53–84. doi: 10.3897/zookeys.1149.96134

Loaiza-Lange, A., Székely, D., Torres-Carvajal, O., Tinoco, N., Salazar-Valenzuela, D., **Székely, P.** 2023. Feeding ecology of the Terciopelo pit viper snake (*Bothrops asper*) in Ecuador. *PeerJ*, 11, e14817. doi: 10.7717/peerj.14817

Székely, P., Székely, D., Ordóñez-Delgado, L., Armijos-Ojeda, D., Vörös, J. 2021. Our unknown neighbor: A new species of rain frog of the genus *Pristimantis* (Amphibia: Anura: Strabomantidae) from the city of Loja, southern Ecuador. *PLoS ONE* 16(10): e0258454: 1–24. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0258454

Armijos-Ojeda, D., Székely, D., **Székely, P.**, Cogălniceanu, D., Cisneros-Heredia, D.F., Ordóñez-Delgado, L., Escudero, A., Espinosa, C.I. 2021. Amphibians of the equatorial seasonally dry forests of Ecuador and Peru. *ZooKeys* 1063: 23–48. doi: 10.3897/zookeys.1063.69580

Cogălniceanu, D., Stănescu, F., Székely, D., Topliceanu, T.S., Iosif, R., **Székely, P.** 2021. Age, size and body condition do not equally reflect population response to habitat change in the common spadefoot toad *Pelobates fuscus*. *PeerJ* 9: e11678: 1–22. doi: 10.7717/peerj.11678

Ortega-Andrade, H.M., Rodes-Blanco, M., Cisneros-Heredia, D.F., Guerra-Arévalo, N., López de Vargas-Machuca, K.G., Sánchez-Nivicela, J.C., Armijos-Ojeda, D., Cáceres-Andrade, J.F., Reyes-Puig, C., Quezada-Riera, A.B., **Székely, P.**, Rojas-Soto, O.R., Székely, D., Guayasamin, J.M., Siavichay-Pesántez, F.R., Amador, L., Betancourt, R., Ramírez-Jaramillo, S.M., Timbe-Borja, B., Laporta, M.G., Webster-Bernal, J.F., Oyagata-Cachimuel, L.A., Jácome, D.C., Posse, V., Valle-Piñuela, C., Padilla-Jiménez, D., Reyes-Puig, J.P., Terán-Valdez, A., Coloma, L.A., Ma. Beatriz Pérez-Lara, M.B., Carvajal-Endara, S., Urgilés, M., Yáñez-Muñoz, M.H. 2021. Red List assessment of amphibian species of Ecuador: A multidimensional approach for their conservation. *PLoS ONE* 16(5): e0251027: 1–28. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0251027

Székely, D., Cogălniceanu, D., **Székely, P.**, Denoël, M. 2020. Adult-juvenile interactions and temporal niche partitioning between life-stages in a tropical amphibian. *PLoS ONE* 15(9): e0238949: 1–13. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0238949

Székely, P., Eguiguren, J.S., Ordóñez-Delgado, L., Armijos-Ojeda, Székely, D. 2020. Fifty years after: A taxonomic revision of the amphibian species from the Ecuadorian biodiversity hotspot Abra de Zamora, with description of two new *Pristimantis* species. *PLoS ONE* 15(9): e0238306: 1–59. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0238306

Székely, D., Cogălniceanu, D., **Székely, P.**, Denoël, M. 2020. Adult-juvenile interactions and temporal niche partitioning between life-stages in a tropical amphibian. *PLoS ONE* 15(9): e0238949: 1–13. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0238949

Székely, D., Cogălniceanu, D., **Székely, P.**, Armijos-Ojeda, D., Espinosa-Mogrovejo, V., Denoël, M. 2020. How to recover from a bad start: size at metamorphosis affects growth and survival in a tropical amphibian. *BMC ecology*, 20 (24): 1–8. doi: 10.1186/s12898-020-00291-w

Urgiles, V.L, **Székely, P.**, Székely, D., Christodoulides, N., Sanchez-Nivicela, J.C., Savage, A.E. 2019. Genetic delimitation of *Pristimantis orestes* (Lynch, 1979) and *P. saturninoi* Brito et al., 2017 and description of two new terrestrial frogs from the *Pristimantis orestes* species group (Anura, Strabomantidae). *ZooKeys* (864): 111–146. doi: 10.3897/zookeys.864.35102

Dufresnes, C., Strachinis, I., Suriadna, N., Mykytynets, G., Cogălniceanu, D., **Székely, P.**, Vukov, T., Arntzen, J.W., Wielstra, B., Lymberakis, P., Geffen, E., Gafny, S., Kumlutaş, Y., Ilgaz, C., Candan, K., Mizsei, E., Szabolcs, M., Kolenda, K., Smirnov, N., Géniez, P., Lukanov, S., Crochet, P.-A., Dubey, S., Perrin, N., Litvinchuk, S.N., Denoël, M. 2019. Phylogeography of a cryptic speciation continuum in Eurasian spadefoot toads (*Pelobates*). *Molecular Ecology* 28 (13): 3257–3270. doi: 10.1111/mec.15133

Carvajal-Endara, S., Coloma, L.A., Morales-Mite, M.A., Guayasamin, J.M., **Székely, P.**, Duellman, W.E. 2019. Phylogenetic systematics, ecology, and conservation of marsupial frogs (Anura: Hemiphractidae) from the Andes of southern Ecuador, with descriptions of four new biphasic species. *Zootaxa* 4562 (1): 1-102. doi: 10.11646/zootaxa.4562.1.1

Székely, D., Gaona, F.P., **Székely, P.**, Cogălniceanu, D. 2019. What does a Pacman eat? Macrophagy and necrophagy in a generalist predator (*Ceratophrys stolzmanni*). *PeerJ* 7:e6406 <https://doi.org/10.7717/peerj.6406>

Székely, P., Eguiguren, J.S., Székely, D., Ordóñez-Delgado, L., Armijos-Ojeda, D., Riofrío-Guamán, M.L., Cogălniceanu, D. 2018. A new minute *Pristimantis* (Amphibia: Anura: Strabomantidae) from the Andes of southern Ecuador. *PLoS ONE* 13(8): e0202332. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0202332

Székely, D., Cogălniceanu, D., **Székely, P.**, Denoël, M. 2018. Dryness affects burrowing depth in a semi-fossorial amphibian. *Journal of Arid Environments* 155: 79-81. doi: 10.1016/j.jaridenv.2018.02.003

Székely, D., **Székely, P.**, Denoël, M., Cogălniceanu, D. 2018. Random size-assortative mating despite size-dependent fecundity in a Neotropical amphibian with explosive reproduction. *Ethology* 124: 218-226. doi: 10.1111/eth.12724

Székely, D., **Székely, P.**, Stănescu, F., Cogălniceanu, D., Sinsch, U. 2018. Breed fast, die young: demography of a poorly known fossorial frog from the xeric Neotropics. *Salamandra* 54(1): 37-44.

Bîrsan, C.-C., Iosif, R., **Székely, P.**, Cogălniceanu, D. 2017. Spatio-temporal Bias in the Perceived Distribution of the European Pond Turtle, *Emys orbicularis* (Linnaeus, 1758), in Romania. *Acta Zoologica Bulgarica* Suppl. 10: 37–41.

- Valencia, J. H., Dueñas, M. R., **Székely, P.**, Batallas, D., Pulluquitín, F., Ron, S. R. 2017. A new species of direct-developing frog of the genus *Pristimantis* (Anura: Terrarana: Craugastoridae) from Cordillera del Cóndor, Ecuador, with comments on threats to the anuran fauna of the region. *Zootaxa* 4353 (3): 447-466. doi: 10.11646/zootaxa.4353.3.3
- Stănescu, F., Márquez, R., **Székely, P.**, Cogălniceanu, D. 2017. The advertisement call of *Pristimantis subsigillatus* (Anura, Craugastoridae). *Acta Herpetologica* 12(1): 95-101. doi: 10.13128/Acta_Herpetol-18731
- Székely, D., Denoël, M., **Székely, P.**, Cogălniceanu, D. 2017. Pond drying cues and their effects on growth and metamorphosis in a fast developing amphibian. *Journal of Zoology* 303: 129-135. doi: 10.1111/jzo.12468
- Székely, D., Cogălniceanu, D., **Székely, P.**, Denoël, M. 2017. Out of the ground: Coexisting fossorial species differ in their emergence and movement patterns. *Zoology* 121: 49-55. doi: 10.1016/j.zool.2016.12.003
- Stănescu, F., Székely, D., **Székely, P.**, Topliceanu, S., Cogălniceanu D. 2017. The impact of salinity on early-developmental stages in two sympatric spadefoot toads and implications for amphibian conservation in coastal areas. *Hydrobiologia* 792 (1): 357-366. doi: 10.1007/s10750-016-3074-2
- Buhaciuc, E., **Székely, P.**, Băncilă, R., Cogălniceanu, D. 2017. Food availability influences postmetamorphic growth in two spadefoot toad species (genus *Pelobates*). *Amphibia-Reptilia* 38: 41-48. doi: 10.1163/15685381-00003082
- Székely, P.**, Cogălniceanu, D., Székely, D., Páez, N., Ron, S. R. 2016. A new species of *Pristimantis* from southern Ecuador (Anura, Craugastoridae). *ZooKeys* (606): 77-97. doi: 10.3897/zookeys.606.9121
- Stănescu, F., Iosif, R., **Székely, P.**, Székely, D., Cogălniceanu, D. 2016. Mass migration of *Pelobates syriacus* (Boettger, 1889) metamorphs. *Herpetozoa* 29 (1/2): 87-89.
- Cogălniceanu, D., Roşioru, D., **Székely, P.**, Székely, D., Buhaciuc, E., Stănescu, F., Miaud, C. 2014. Age and body size in populations of two syntopic spadefoot toads (genus *Pelobates*) at the limit of their ranges. *Journal of Herpetology* 48 (4): 537-545. doi: 10.1670/13-101
- Stănescu, F., Buhaciuc, E., **Székely, P.**, Székely, D., Cogălniceanu, D. 2014. Facultative paedomorphosis in a population of Smooth Newt (*Lissotriton vulgaris*, Caudata, Salamandridae) from the Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve (Romania). *Turkish Journal of Zoology* 38: 114-117. doi: 10.3906/zoo-1212-36
- Cogălniceanu, D., **Székely, P.**, Székely, D., Roşioru, D., Băncilă, R.I., Miaud, C. 2013. When Males are Larger than Females in Ectotherms: Reproductive Investment in the Eastern Spadefoot Toad *Pelobates syriacus*. *Copeia* 4: 699-706. doi: 10.1643/CE-12-053
- Cogălniceanu, D., Rozyłowicz, L., **Székely, P.**, Samoilă, C., Stănescu, F., Tudor, M., Székely, D., Iosif, R. 2013. Diversity and distribution of reptiles in Romania. *ZooKeys* 341: 49-76. doi: 10.3897/zookeys.341.5502

Cogălniceanu, D., **Székely, P.**, Samoilă, C., Iosif, R., Tudor, M., Plăiașu, R., Stănescu, F., Rozyłowicz, L. 2013. Diversity and distribution of amphibians in Romania. *ZooKeys* 296: 35-57. doi: 10.3897/zookeys.296.4872

Székely, P., Tudor, M., Cogălniceanu, D. 2010. Effect of habitat drying on the development of the Eastern spadefoot toad (*Pelobates syriacus*) tadpoles. *Amphibia-Reptilia* 31: 425-434. doi: 10.1163/156853810791769536

Székely, P., Plăiașu, R., Tudor, M., Cogălniceanu, D. 2009. The distribution and conservation status of amphibians in Dobrudja (Romania). *Turkish Journal of Zoology* 33: 147-156.

Székely, P., Nemes, Sz. 2003. The incidence of mutilations and malformations in a population of *Pelobates fuscus*. *Russian Journal of Herpetology* 10 (2): 145-148.

Peer-reviewed journal articles (Scopus, CS)

Székely, P., Armijos-Ojeda, D., Ordóñez-Delgado, L., Székely, D., Cogălniceanu, D. 2016. Amphibia, Anura, Bufonidae, *Rhaebo ecuadorensis* Mueses-Cisneros, Cisneros-Heredia & McDiarmid, 2012, and Anura, Hylidae, *Phyllomedusa tarsius* (Cope, 1868): range extensions and first records for Zamora-Chinchipe province, Ecuador. *Check List*, 12(5) 1966: 1-5. doi: 10.15560/12.5.1966

Székely, P., Székely, D., Armijos-Ojeda, D., Jara-Guerrero, A., Cogălniceanu, D. 2016. Anfíbios de un bosque seco tropical: Reserva Ecológica Arenillas, Ecuador. *Revista Ecosistemas*, 25(2): 24-34. doi: 10.7818/ECOS.2016.25-2.04

Torres-Carvajal, O., Gaona, F. P., Zaragoza, C., **Székely, P.** 2015. First record of *Macropholidus ruthveni* Noble 1921 (Squamata: Gymnophthalmidae) from Ecuador. *Herpetology Notes* 8: 25-26.

Székely, D., **Székely, P.**, Cogălniceanu, D. 2015. *PELOBATES SYRIACUS* (Syrian Spadefoot). CANNIBALISM. *Herpetological Review* 46 (1): 76-77.

Székely, P., Iosif, R., Székely, D., Stănescu, F., Cogălniceanu, D. 2013. Range extension for the Eastern spadefoot toad *Pelobates syriacus* (Boettger, 1889) (Anura: Pelobatidae). *Herpetology Notes* 6: 481-484.

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Publons Researcher ID: <https://publons.com/researcher/1996686/paul-szekely/>

ResearchGate: https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Paul_Szekely

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