LOKE HAI XIN

About myself

» Highly motivated in scuba-diving related and coral reef conservation career.

» Caring and helpful.

» Hardworking and cooperative.

» Adaptive and fast learner.

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EXPERIENCE

PhD Postgraduate Student (2025 - present)

Hong Kong Baptist University, Hong Kong SAR.

Enrolled under the supervision of Prof Qiu Jianwen, my study aims to restore degraded coral reef communities at Tolo Channel with outplants from *in situ* coral nursery.

Senior Research Assistant (2022 - 2025)

Hong Kong Baptist University, Hong Kong SAR.

Worked in Prof Qiu Jianwen team and completed various field and lab works for biodiversity survey of Lantau Conservation Fund project. Field works such as SCUBA diving and trawling were conducted. Lab works mostly involve managing samples with morphological identification, DNA barcoding, and photography. Recent research results were presented in two conferences and published two papers. Additionally joined in volunteering conservation works such as Dive Against Debris (as participant) and Hong Kong Reef Check (as team scientist).

Visiting Student (End of 2019 – Early 2020)

South China Sea Institute of Oceanology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, China.

Came in contact with Prof HuangHui and followed her research team for several months. During this short period, I visited the institution in GuangZhou, completed a fieldtrip to the research station in Sanya, and attended a conference in QingYuan.

Unfortunately the Covid pandemic hits and discontinued any study plan

PADI Open Water Scuba Instructor (2017 – 2019)

With various dive operators in Thailand and Malaysia.

Worked live-on board trips to Similan Marine Park (Thailand) and later worked at Scuba Junkie Dive Centre of Mabul Island (Malaysia). Able to conduct PADI courses in both English and Chinese. Have instructor rating for Nitrox, Deep and Wreck specialties. Currently certified over 200 divers.

Research Assistant (2014 – 2016)

Tropical Marine Science Institute, NUS, Singapore.

Participated in research activities of coral transplantation project and coral nursery. Responsible for managing *in-situ* coral nursery, engaged with public volunteers, and frequently *scuba*-dived at sites around southern islands of Singapore.

Post-grad Student (2011 - 2013)

Faculty of Science and Technology, UKM, Malaysia.

Current highest education level. Conducted coral transplantation study with the support and collaboration of Reef Check Malaysia (RCM) at Tioman Island and Pangkor Island.

Master Thesis: Loke, H. X. (2013). Growth study of branching coral *Acropora formosa* (DANA 1846) in Peninsular Malaysia waters. Master of Science (Marine Science), National University of Malaysia (UKM).

Junior Project Officer (2010 - 2011)

Algaetech Sdn Bhd, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Managed and planned for aquaculture projects in Batam and Sentul of Indonesia. Attended a 3-days technical transfer course of marine fish farming and hatchery.

SKILLS

a) *Scuba Diving Skill*

- ♦ PADI OWSI (386049)
- ♦ over 3000 dives
- ♦ Reef Check Ecodiver

b) *Language Skill* – good command of speaking and writing

- ♦ English
- ♦ Chinese (Mandarin and Cantonese)
- ♦ Bahasa (Malay)

c) *Computer Skill*

- ♦ Resourceful usage of internet and Microsoft Office
- ♦ Minitab (for statistic)
- ♦ ImageJ (for image analysis)

REFERENCES

Scholar reference:

ORCID: 0009-0001-4105-9426

Publication reference:

1) Loke, H. X., Adzis, K. A. A., Hyde, J., & Cob, Z. C. (2016). Growth performance of *Acropora formosa* in natural reefs and coral nurseries for reef restoration. *AACL Bioflux*, 9(5).

2) Loke, H. X., Yeung, Y. H., Yiu, S. K. F., Xie, J. Y., & Qiu, J. W. (2024). Coral colony abundances and sizes as indicators of reef health in subtropical Hong Kong waters. *Marine Pollution Bulletin*, *209*, 117268.

3) Loke, H. X., Heung, B. Y. W., Li, Y. X., Lin, Y. T., Hosie, A. M., Wang, Z., McNamaara, M., & Qiu, J. W. (2025). Integrative Phylogenetic and Morphological Analyses Reveal Two New Species of Porcellanid Crabs and Resurrect *Porcellanella picta* Stimpson, 1858 (Decapoda: Porcellanidae). *Ecology and Evolution*. (in press, DOI: 10.1002/ece3.72131)

***Co-author reference*:**

1) Toh, T.C., Soon Lionel Ng, C., Ben Toh, K., Afiq-Rosli, L., Taira, D., Loke, H. & Ming Chou, L., 2016. Mass brooding of the blue octocoral, *Heliopora coerulea* on a sedimented equatorial reef. *Marine and Freshwater Behaviour and Physiology*, *49*(1), pp.69-74.

2) Chou, L. M., Toh, T. C., Toh, K. B., Ng, C. S. L., Cabaitan, P., Tun, K., ... & Loke, H. X. (2016). Differential response of coral assemblages to thermal stress underscores the complexity in predicting bleaching susceptibility. *PloS one*, 11(7), e0159755.

3) Afiq-Rosli, L., Taira, D., Loke, H. X., Toh, T. C., Toh, K. B., Ng, C. S. L., ... & Song, T. (2017). In situ nurseries enhance coral transplant growth in sedimented waters. *Marine Biology Research*, 1-10.

4) Poquita-Du, R. C., Toh, K. B., Toh, T. C., Ng, C. S. L., Taira, D., Loke, H. X., ... & Cabaitan, P. (2017). Effects of nursery table slope orientation on coral survival and growth. *Marine Biology Research*, 1-8.

5) Taira, D., Toh, T. C., Ng, C. S. L., Loke, H. X., Afiq-Rosli, L., Cabaitan, P. C., ... & Song, T. (2017). Relocating bleached *Platygyra sinensis* facilitates recovery from thermal stress during a minor bleaching event. *Marine and Freshwater Behaviour and Physiology*, 1-11.

6) Toh, T. C., Ng, C. S. L., Loke, H. X., Taira, D., Toh, K. B., Afiq-Rosli, L., ... & Chou, L. M. (2017). A cost-effective approach to enhance scleractinian diversity on artificial shorelines. *Ecological Engineering*, *99*, 349-357.

7) Ip, J. C. H., Loke, H. X., Yiu, S. K. F., Zhao, M., Li, Y., Lin, Y., ... & Qiu, J. W. (2024). Bottom Trawling and Multi-Marker eDNA Metabarcoding Surveys Reveal Highly Diverse Vertebrate and Crustacean Communities: A Case Study in an Urbanized Subtropical Estuary. *Environmental DNA*, *6*(6), e70031.

8) Lin, Y. T., Li, Y. X., Loke, H. X., Han, X., & Qiu, J. W. (2024). One becomes three: An integrative morphological and molecular analysis of the windowpane oyster *Placuna* (Bivalvia: Pectinida) reveals new species. *Ecology and Evolution*, *14*(9), e70260.

9) Loo, Y.P., Fong, T. H. W., Chang, T. K. T., Wong, E. L. C., Chan, J. T. C., Kwok, J. C. K., Loke, H. X., Xie, J. Y., Qiu, J. W., Ang, P. O., & Chui, A. P. Y. (2024). Unprecedented 2022 Coral Bleaching in Hong Kong: Hyposalinity-Induced Vulnerability Overwhelms Marginal Corals Heat Stress Resistance, But Not Their Resilience. *SSRN*. (DOI: 10.2139/ssrn.4945524)

10) Fong, T. H. W., Wong, E. L. C., Chang, T. K. T., Chan, J. T. C., Loke, H. X., Yiu, S. K. F., ... & Chui, A. P. Y. (2025). High temperature and hyposalinty triggered the 2022 coral mass bleaching event in Hong Kong. In: *Bulletin Of Marine Science* (Vol. 101, No. 1). 4600 Rickenbacker Causeway, Miami, Fl 33149 USA: Rosenstiel Sch Mar Atmos Sci.

11) Li, Y. X., Ng, J. W. Y., Loke, H. X., Liu, L., & Qiu, J. W. (2025). Hidden in Plain Sight: Integrative Taxonomy Discovers Two New Species of Digitate Soft Corals in the Urban Waters of China's Greater Bay Area. *Ecology and Evolution*. (in press, DOI: 10.1002/ece3.72228)

Conference reference:

1) Loke, H. X., Hyde, J., Cob, Z. C., & Adzis, K. A. A. (2013). Growth study of branching coral *Acropora formosa* between natural reef habitats and in situ coral nurseries. *AIP Conf. Proc.* 1571, 505–511.

2) Chou, L.M., Toh, T.C., Kikuzawa, Y.P., Loke, H.X., Ng, C.S.L., Sam, S.Q., Afiq-Rosli, L., Toh, K.B., Taira, D., Poquita-Du, R.C. (2019). Re-fragmentation of the coral *Echinopora lamellosa* (Esper 1795) for mariculture. *Proceedings of the Asian Conference on Sustainability, Energy & the Environment 2019*, May 20-22 2019, Tokyo. International Academic Forum, Aichi, Japan. pp 9-19.

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4) Loke, H. X., Heung, Y. W., Li, Y. X., Hosie, A., Chan, T. Y., Wang, Z., Mendoza, J. C. E., & Qiu, J. W. (2024). An integrated morphological and molecular study clarifies the identities of cryptic species of porcelain crabs in the genus *Porcellanella* (Anomura: Porcellanidae). *10th International Conference on Marine Pollution and Ecotoxicology*. 3-6 January 2024. City University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong.