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I am a mycology curator at National Museum of Nature and Science in Tsukuba, Japan since April 2008. Before that, I got B.S. in Biology from University of the Ryukyus, Okinawa, Japan (1999) and Ph.D. in Botany & Plant Pathology from Oregon State University, Corvallis, Oregon, USA (2005). From 2005 to 2008, I worked as a postdoctoral fellow at the Department of Botany, The Field Museum, Chicago, Illinois, USA.

My major research interests include systematics, phylogeny, taxonomy, biogeography and biodiversity of fungi, especially mushroom-forming fungi. I have been working on phylogenetics of the “gomphoid-phalloid fungi,” which is formally classified as the subclass Phallomycetidae. My study on Phallomycetidae and many other groups of mushroom-forming fungi typically involves global sampling of fruit bodies from all continents, except Antarctica.

Currently, some of my major sampling areas include Japan, Myanmar, Bhutan, and a few countries in the Southern Hemisphere including Australia and New Zealand. Among those countries, the mycological information of Myanmar is especially scarce, and a very basic inventory work is greatly needed. At the AMC Bangkok, I will present my data on Myanmar mushrooms and their potential biogeographical patterns.

I am an active participant of the AMC. I have served as a session chair, invited speaker, and presentation award committee in the past AMC. Although I may only be participating online this time, I am very much excited to be back to the AMC and meet with my long-term friends and many more new people to establish a potential future collaboration.