

Ben KAWAM

Social Evolution in Primates, German Primate Center, Göttingen, Kellnerweg 4, 37077 Göttingen, Germany.

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EDUCATION

APR 2022 - Present	Ph.D. in Behavioural Ecology <i>German Primate Center & University of Göttingen, Germany</i>
SEPT 2019 - NOV 2021	M.Sc. Erasmus Mundus Master Programme in Evolutionary Biology <i>University of Groningen, Netherlands; University of Montpellier, France</i>
SEPT 2016 - JUN 2019	B.Sc. in Biology, focus on Organismal Biology and Ecology <i>University of Namur, Belgium</i>
JAN 2019 - JUN 2019	Exchange semester <i>Uppsala University, Sweden</i>

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

APR 2022 - Present	Causal inference in animal social networks <i>Social Evolution in Primates, German Primate Center; HBEC, MPI-EVA</i> Development of a causal framework for the drivers of animal social network structure. SUPERVISION: <i>Daniel J. Redhead, Richard McElreath, Julia Ostner, Oliver Schülke.</i>
FEB 2021 - NOV 2021	Consequences of sociality for baboon health <i>Department of Anthropology, University College London</i> Collection, management, and analysis of data from a wild population of chacma baboons. SUPERVISION: <i>Alecia J. Carter.</i>
SEPT 2020 - JAN 2021	Effects of predation risk on stickleback personality <i>GELIFES, University of Groningen</i> Design, implementation and data analysis of a semi-natural behavioural experiment. SUPERVISION: <i>Franz J. Weissing, Marion Nicolaus & Antonius Grootuis.</i>
MAR 2020 - AUG 2020	Anopheles landscape genetics <i>MIVEGEC, University of Montpellier</i> Analysis of SNP and ecological data for two species of <i>Anopheles gambiae</i> . SUPERVISION: <i>Michael Fontaine & Carlo Costantini.</i>
SEP 2018 - DEC 2018	Epigenetics and bet-hedging <i>ILEE, University of Namur</i> Reviewed how epigenetic mechanisms can support a bet-hedging strategy. SUPERVISION: <i>Frédéric Silvestre.</i>

AWARDS AND HONOURS

2021	MSc distinction: <i>Cum laude</i> . Best Presentation, 2021 PSGB Winter Meeting. Erasmus+ Traineeship Grant (5000 EUR), funded by the EU.
2019	BSc distinction: <i>Summa cum laude</i> . Erasmus+ Mobility Grant (2000 EUR), funded by the EU.

PUBLICATIONS

* indicates joint first authorship.

- 2024 **Kawam, B.**, Ostner, J., McElreath R., Schülke, O., & Redhead, D. (*in prep.*). A causal framework to study the drivers of animal social network structure.
- 2020 Biwer, C.*, **Kawam, B.***, Chapelle, V., & Silvestre, F. (2020). The role of stochasticity in the origin of epigenetic variation in animal populations. *Integrative and Comparative Biology*, 60(6), 1544-1557.

TALKS

- 2024 **Kawam, B.**, Ostner, J., McElreath R., Schülke, O., & Redhead, D. A causal framework to study the drivers of animal social network structure.
Invited speaker. *Department of Sociology, University of Groningen.*
- 2023 **Kawam, B.**, Ostner, J., McElreath R., Schülke, O., & Redhead, D. *Personality and social relationships in animal social networks.*
Colloquium. *BeCog summer colloquium, Göttingen, Germany.*
Invited speaker at the *Modelling Adaptive Response Mechanisms (MARM)* group meeting, *GELIFES, University of Groningen.*
- 2021 **Kawam, B.**, Huchard, E., Cowlshaw, G., & Carter, A. J. *Health costs and benefits of social connectedness for wild baboons.*
Conference contribution. *Primate Society of Great Britain 2021 Winter meeting.*

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- INFERENCE Bayesian multilevel modelling; Causal graphs; Structural Causal Models.
- PROGRAMMING R, Stan, GitHub, HTML & CSS.
- FIELDWORK Sampling of behavioural, ecological, and spatial data; basic field management.
- ILLUSTRATION Adobe Illustrator, TikZ.
- WRITING LaTeX, Quarto/R Markdown, Microsoft Office.

RELATED EXPERIENCE

- MAR 2022 - Present **Web Designer at Evolutionary Biology Crash Course**
Co-responsible for Web Design, Graphic Design and Outreach.
- 2019 - Present **Scientific Illustrator**
Creation of scientific illustrations and logos. Examples [here](#).
- JUL 2018 - AUG 2018 **Intern at Tacugama Chimpanzee Sanctuary, Sierra Leone**
Behavioural observations; animal care; logistic support; outreach.
- JUL 2017 - AUG 2017 **Intern at Cikananga Wildlife Sanctuary, Indonesia**
Behavioural observations; animal care; logistic support; outreach.
- OCT 2015 - JAN 2016 **Volunteer at Gibbon Rehabilitation Center, Thailand**
Outreach; animal care; gibbon tracking.

REVIEWER EXPERIENCE

Scientific Journals
Biological Reviews

TEACHING AND SUPERVISION

2024	<i>Introduction to Causal Inference and Directed Acyclic Graphs</i> Invited lecturer to <i>Linear models and their application in R</i> , a 3-weeks course for PhD students, organised—and otherwise instructed by—Roger Mundry.
2023	<i>A Brief Introduction to Causal Inference</i> Workshop given to PhD students of the <i>BeCog</i> programme.
2022	<i>Getting Started with GitHub</i> Workshop given to PhD students of the <i>BeCog</i> programme. Supervision of a M.Sc. student, Lena Lindner, for a 10 weeks project.