Ben Kawam

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Education

Apr 2022 - *Present*	**Ph.D. in Behavioural Ecology** *German Primate Center* & University of Göttingen, Germany
Sept 2019 - Nov 2021	**M.Sc. Erasmus Mundus Master Programme in Evolutionary Biology** *University of Groningen*, Netherlands; *University of Montpellier*, France
Sept 2016 - Jun 2019	**B.Sc. in Biology, focus on Organismal Biology and Ecology** *University of Namur*, Belgium
Jan 2019 - Jun 2019	**Exchange semester** *Uppsala University*, Sweden

Research Experience

Apr 2022 - *Present*	**Causal inference for animal social networks** *Social Evolution in Primates, German Primate Center; HBEC, MPI-EVA* Development of a causal framework for the drivers of animal social network structure. Supervision: *Daniel J. Redhead, Richard McElreath, Julia Ostner, Oliver Schülke.*
Feb 2021 - Nov 2021	**Consequences of sociality for baboon health** *Department of Anthropology, University College London* Collection, management, and analysis of data from a wild population of chacma baboons. Supervision: *Alecia. J. Carter.*
Sept 2020 - Jan 2021	**Effects of predation risk on stickleback personality** *GELIFES, University of Groningen* Design, implementation and data analysis of a semi-natural behavioural experiment. Supervision: *Franz. J. Weissing, Marion Nicolaus & Antonius Groothuis.*
Mar 2020 - Aug 2020	**Anopheles landscape genetics** *MIVEGEC, University of Montpellier* Analysis of genetic and ecological data for two species of *Anopheles gambiae*. Supervision: *Michael Fontaine & Carlo Costantini.*
Sep 2018 - Dec 2018	**Epigenetics and bet-hedging** *ILEE, University of Namur* Reviewed how epigenetic mechanisms can support a bet-hedging strategy. Supervision: *Frédéric Silvestre.*

Awards and Honours

2021	MSc distinction: *Cum laude*. Best Presentation, 2021 PSGB Winter Meeting. Erasmus+ Traineeship Grant (5000 EUR), funded by the EU.
2019	BSc distinction: *Summa cum laude*. 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. (2024). A causal framework for animal social network structure. *biorXiv*.

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

Kawam, B., Ostner, J., McElreath R., Schülke, O., & Redhead, D. *A causal framework for animal social network structure*.

2024 Conference contribution. *EHBEA 2024, Montpellier, France.*
Invited speaker. *Department of Sociology, University of Groningen.*

2023 Conference contribution. *Behaviour 2023, Bielefeld, Germany.*

Kawam, B., Ostner, J., McElreath R., Schülke, O., & Redhead, D. *Personality and social relationships in animal social networks*.

2023 Colloquium. *BeCog summer colloquium, Göttingen, Germany.*
Invited speaker at the *MARM* group meeting, *GELIFES, University of Groningen.*

Kawam, B., Huchard, E., Cowlishaw, G., & Carter, A. J. *Health costs and benefits of social connectedness for wild baboons*.

2021 Conference contribution. *PSGB 2021 Winter meeting.*

Technical Skills

Inference	Probabilistic 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	*Introduction to Causal Inference and Directed Acyclic Graphs* Invited lecturer to *Linear models and their application in R*, a course for graduate students.
2023	*A Brief Introduction to Causal Inference* Workshop given to PhD students of the *BeCog* programme.
2022	*Getting Started with GitHub* Workshop given to PhD students of the *BeCog* programme.
	Supervision of a M.Sc. student, Lena Lindner, for a 10 weeks project.

References

Dr. Daniel J. Redhead
Assistant Professor in Sociology
Department of Sociology/ICS, University of Groningen
Grote Rozenstraat 31, 9712 TG Groningen, The Netherlands
Relationship to applicant: Co-supervisor of PhD thesis
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Prof. Dr. Richard McElreath
Director
Department of Human Behaviour, Ecology & Culture, Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology
Deutscher Platz 6, 04103 Leipzig, Germany
Relationship to applicant: Co-supervisor of PhD thesis
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Dr. Oliver Schülke
Senior Scientist
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