

Macro- and microevolutionary insights into the evolution of foraging behavior and life history traits

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Oral comprehensive exam

Evolutionary Biology PhD Program
School of Life Sciences
July 18, 2023



Outline

- ▶ Chapter 1: Macroclimatic and maternal effects on the evolution of reproductive traits in lizards

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- ▶ Chapter 3: Foraging efficiency of rover and sitter larvae of *Drosophila melanogaster*
- ▶ Chapter 4: Geographic variation of the *for* gene revealed signatures of local adaptation in *Drosophila melanogaster*

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Chapter 2:
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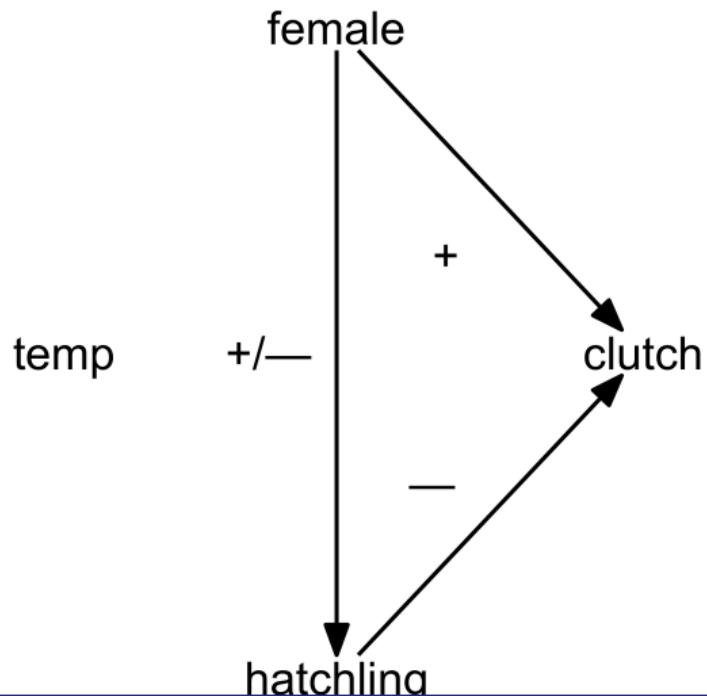
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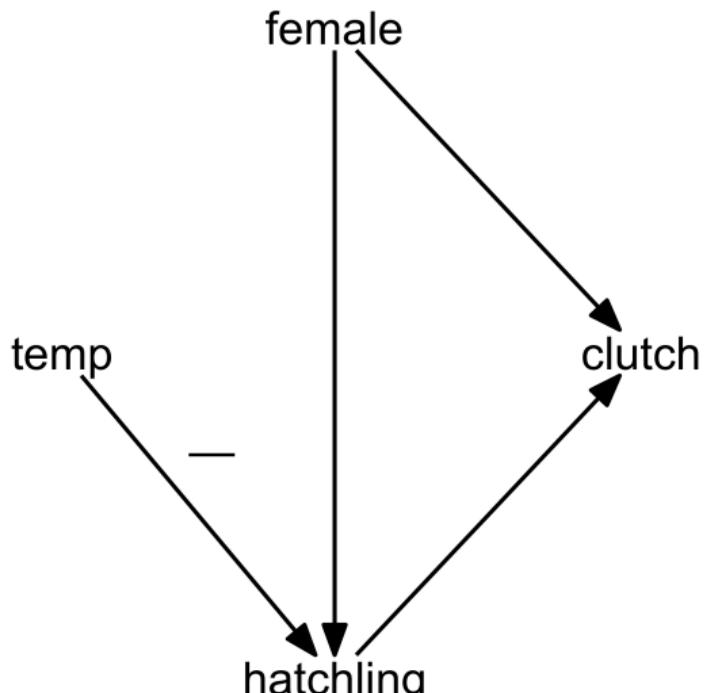
What is life history theory?



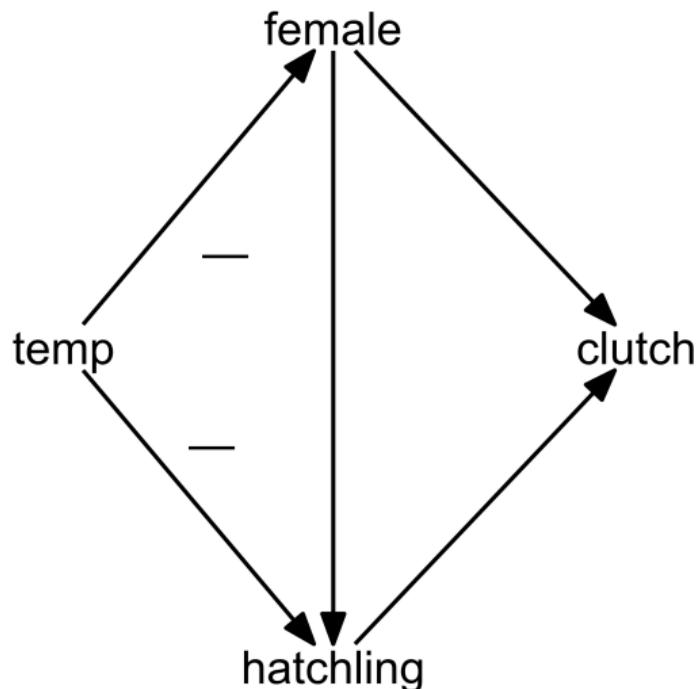
Optimal reproductive tactics



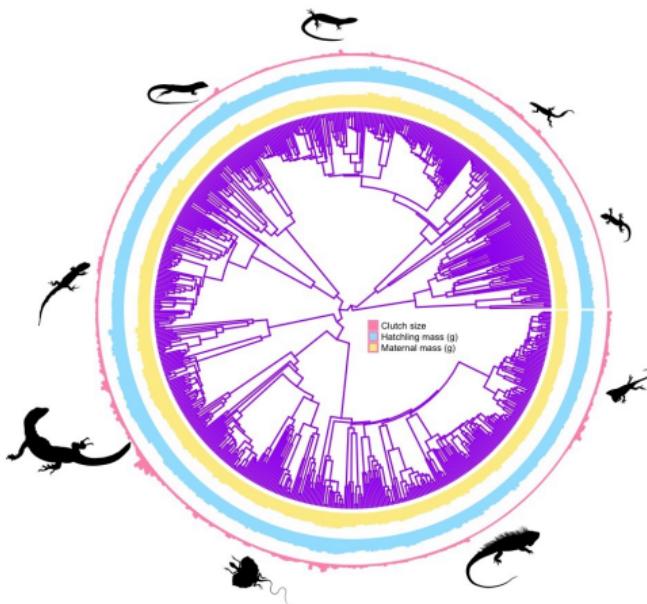
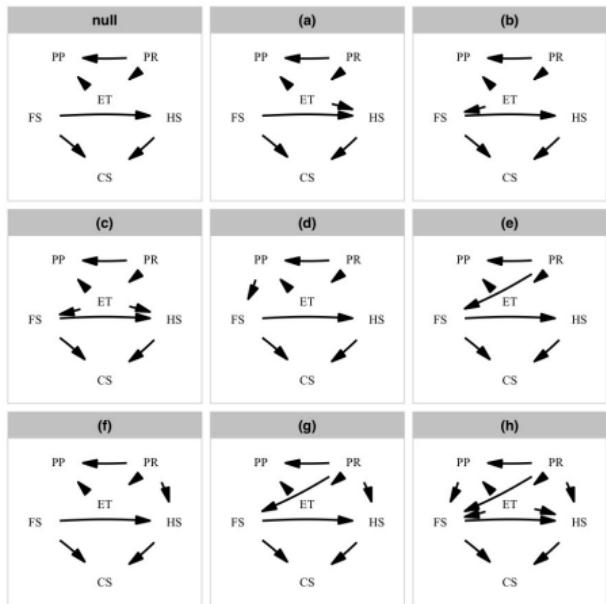
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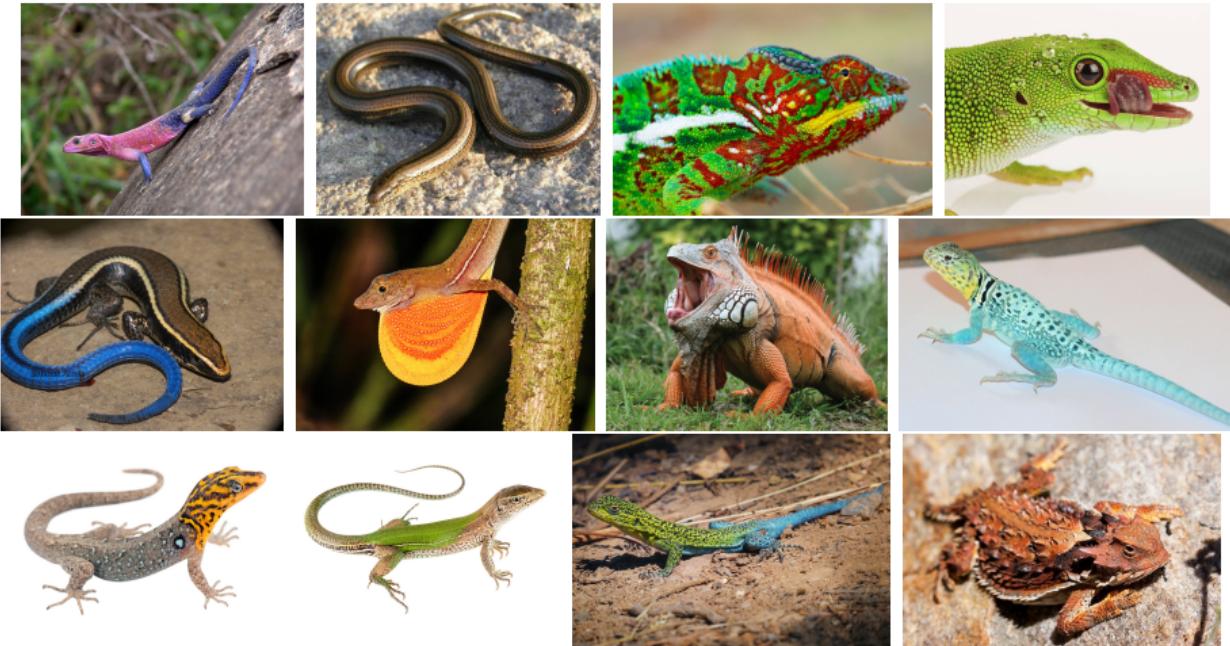


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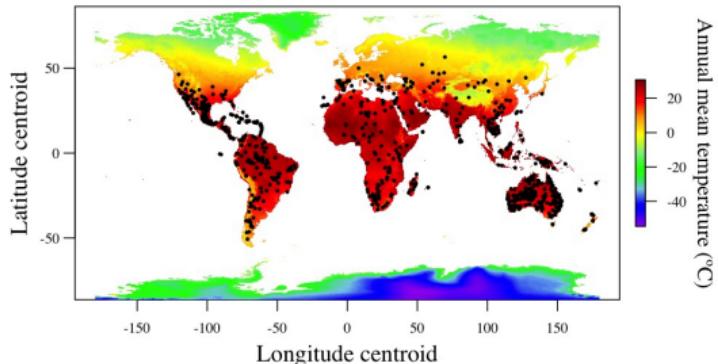
Relationships among environmental/body temperature and life-history traits





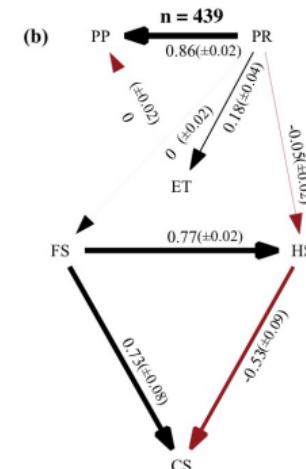
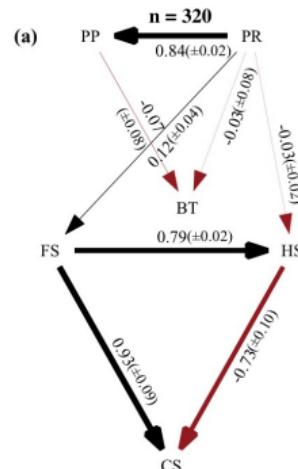
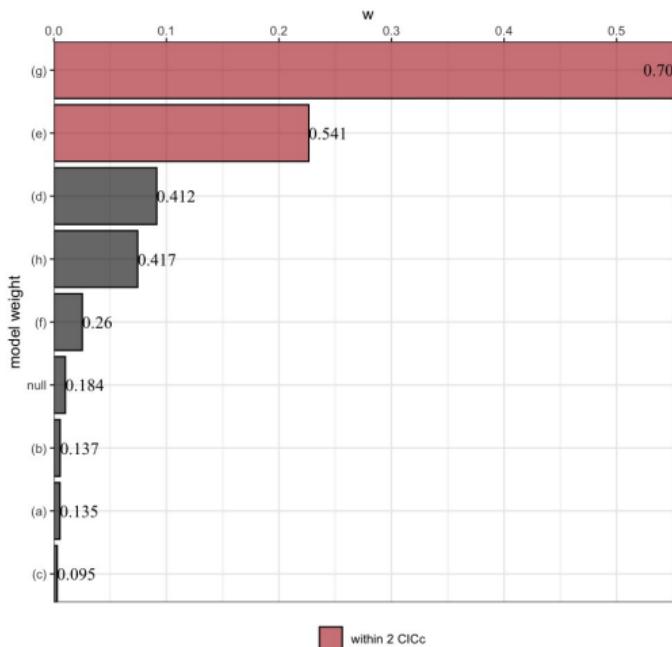
WorldClim - Global Climate Data

Free climate data for ecological modeling and GIS



Phylogenetic path analysis, package *phylopath* in R

A model describing a direct and an indirect effect of precipitation on the evolution of reproductive traits was strongly supported



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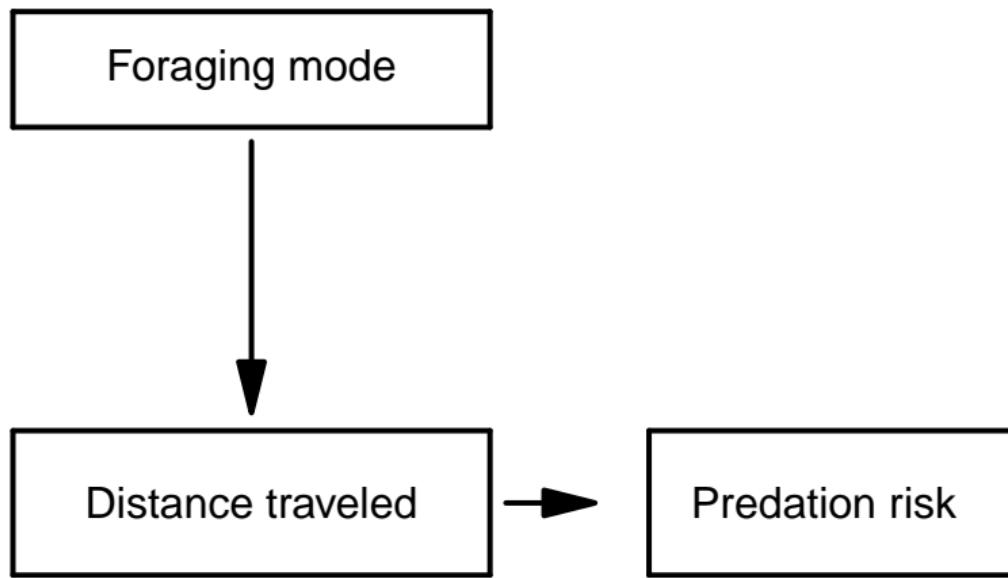
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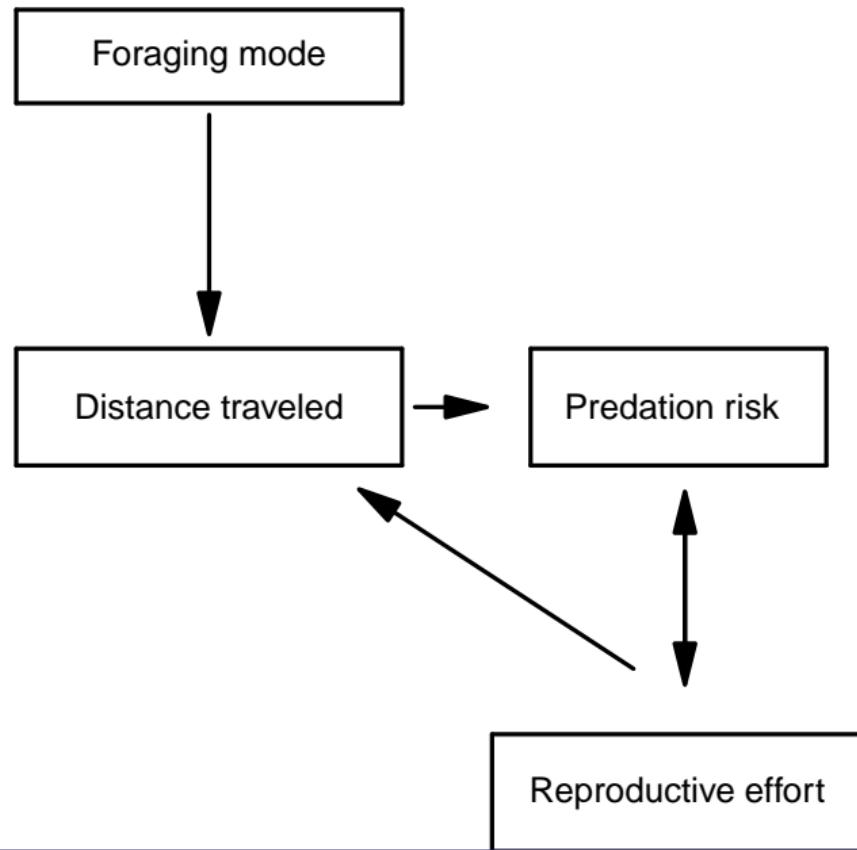
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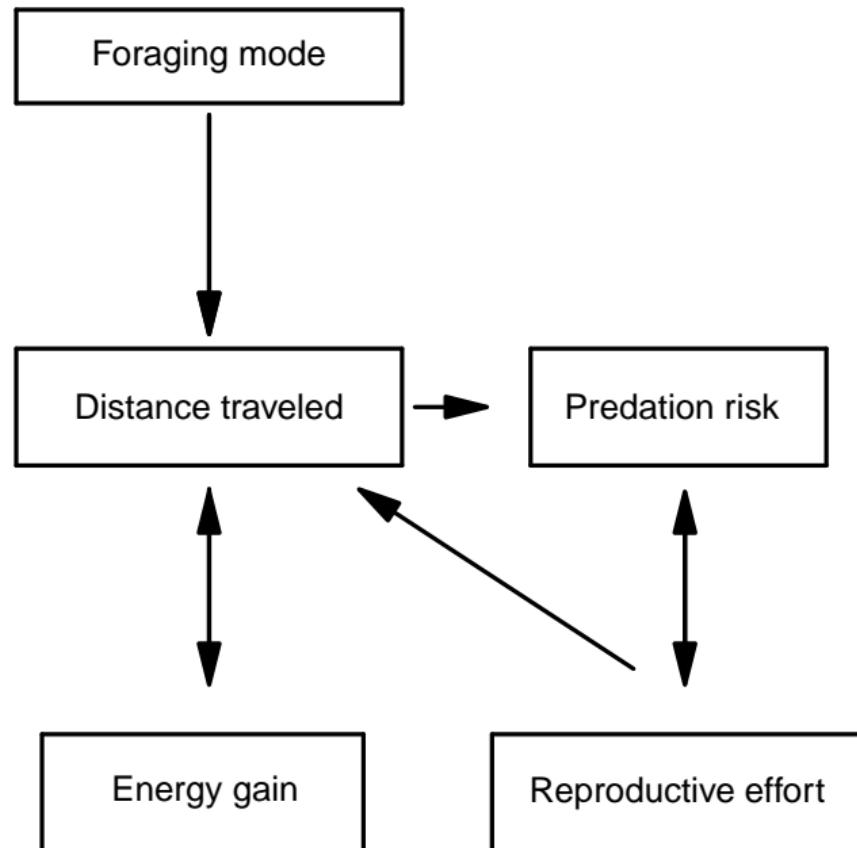
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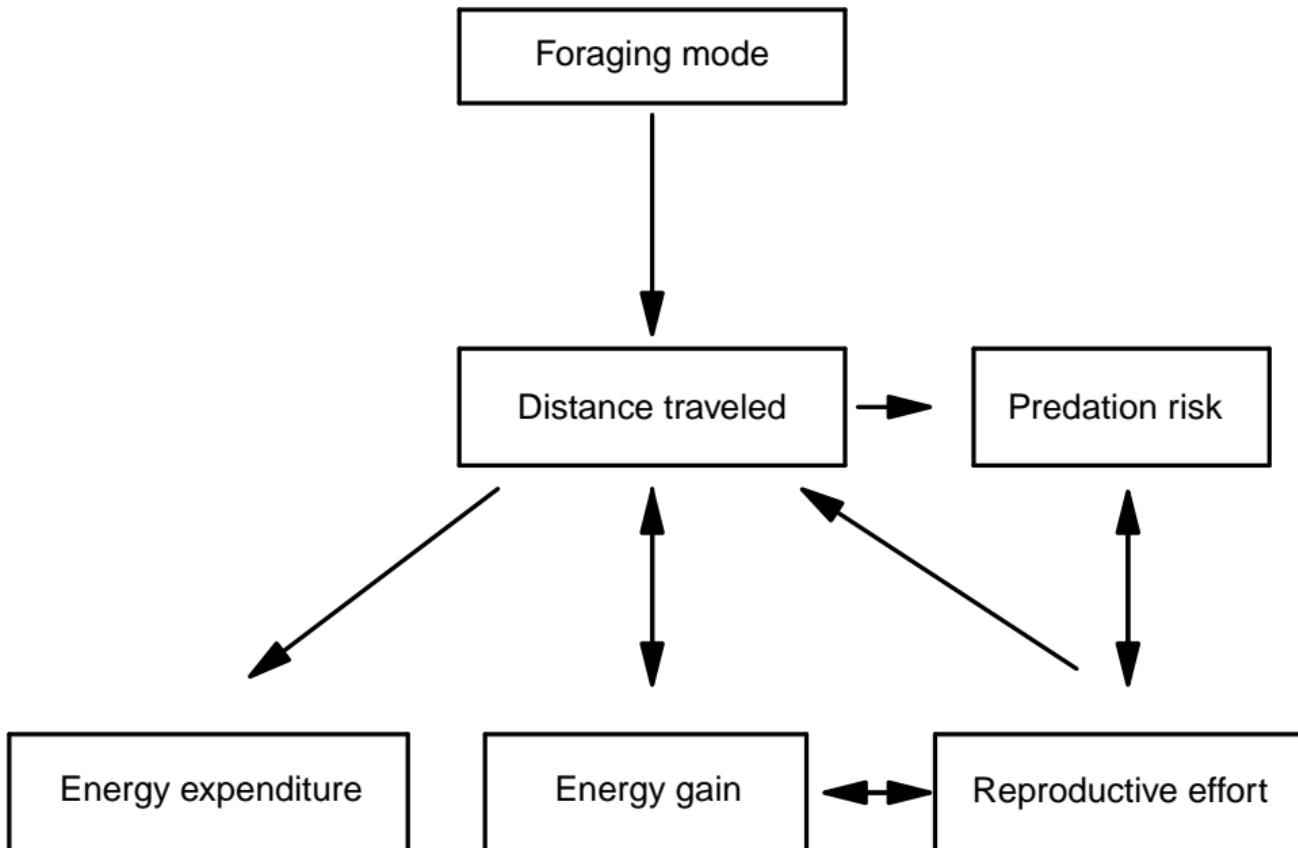
The foraging-mode paradigm



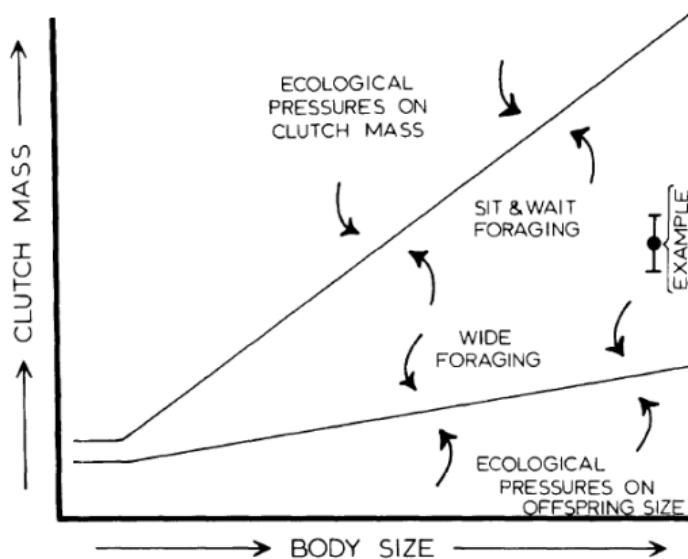








Functional reproductive volume



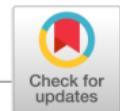
Data source and description of variables

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DOI: 10.1111/geb.12773

**RESEARCH PAPER****WILEY****Global Ecology
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Macroecology

Traits of lizards of the world: Variation around a successful evolutionary design

Shai Meiri^{1,2}

- ▶ Hatchling mass

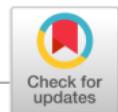
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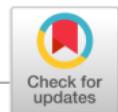
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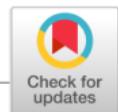
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- ▶ We selected the most likely model of evolution based on the Akaike information criterion (AIC)

Effects of maternal mass and foraging mode on reproductive output

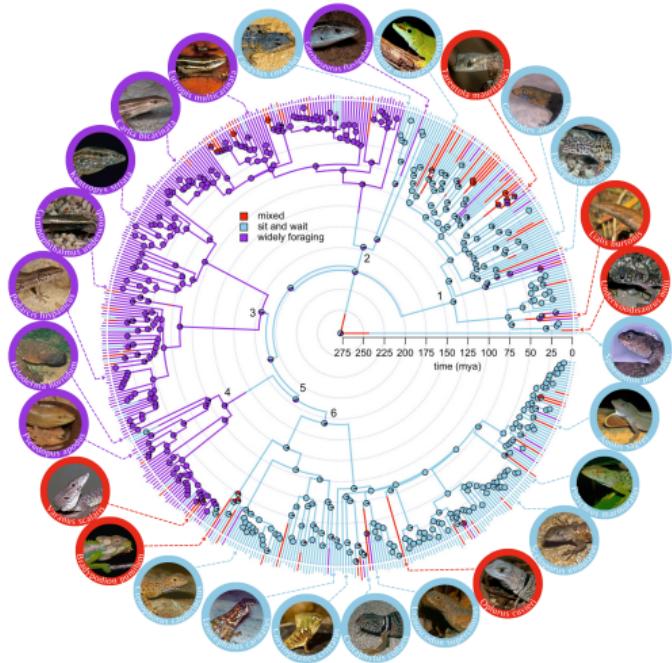
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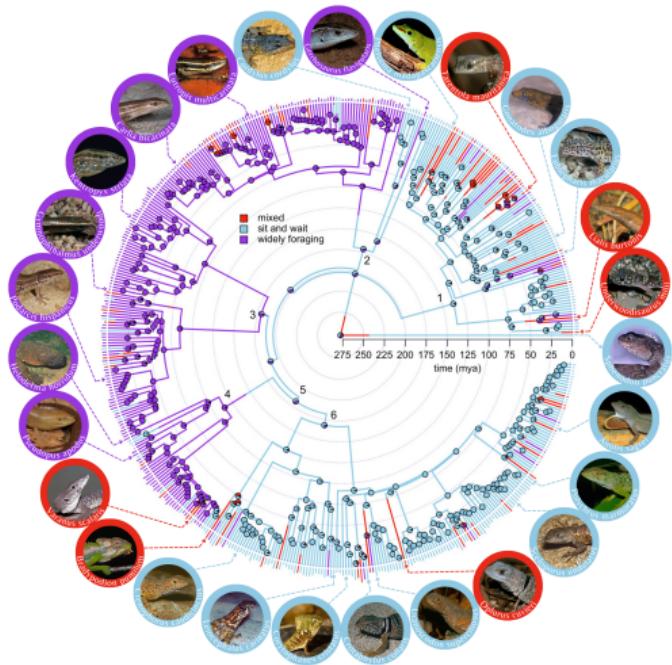
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- ▶ The slope of the linear relationship can be interpreted as reproductive effort—proportion of mass allocated to reproduction—which enabled us to avoid statistical issues associated with the analysis of ratios
- ▶ Models in which maternal mass was standardized (M) enabled us to deal with outliers, thus increasing the robustness of our conclusions

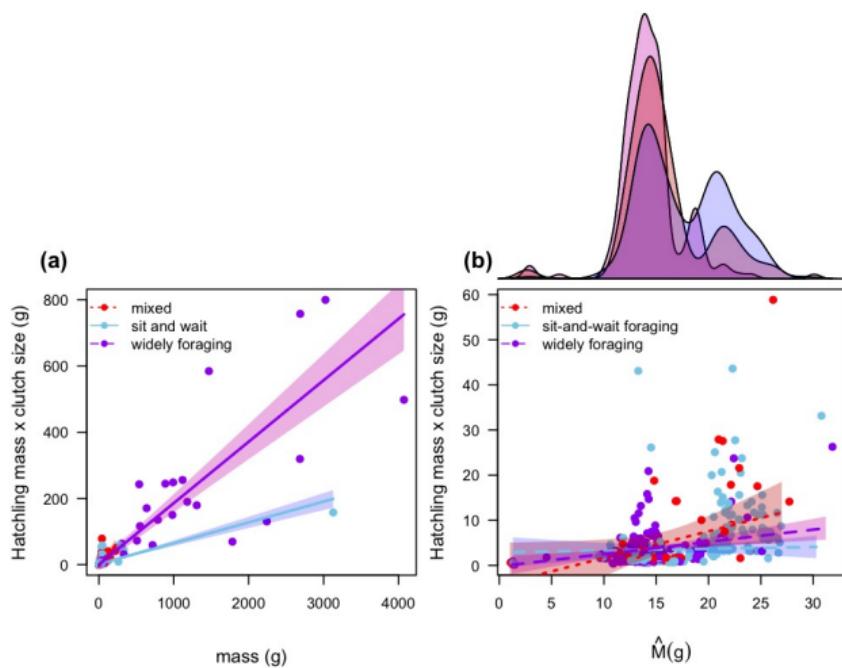


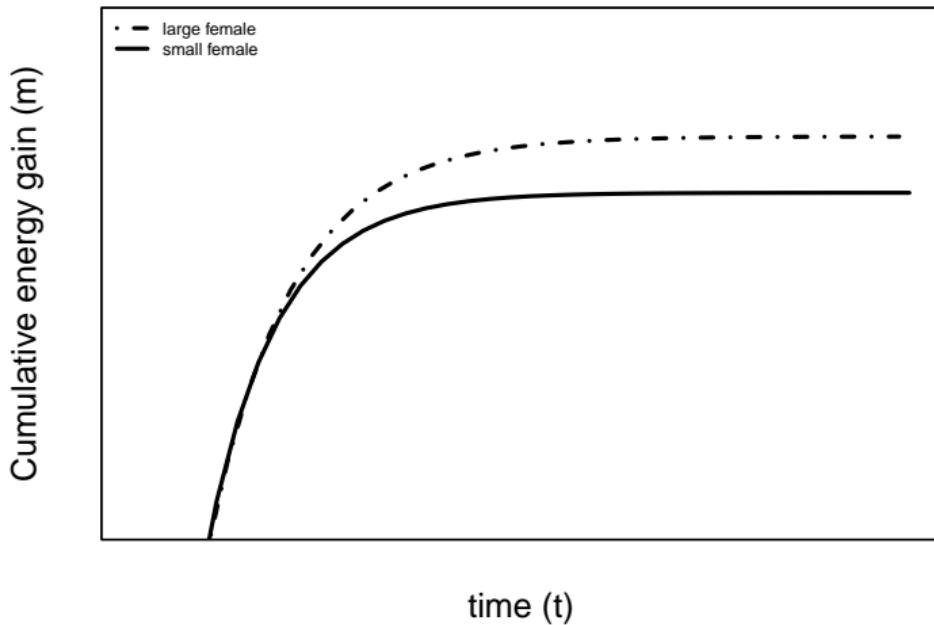
1. Sit-and-wait foraging is the most likely ancestral state

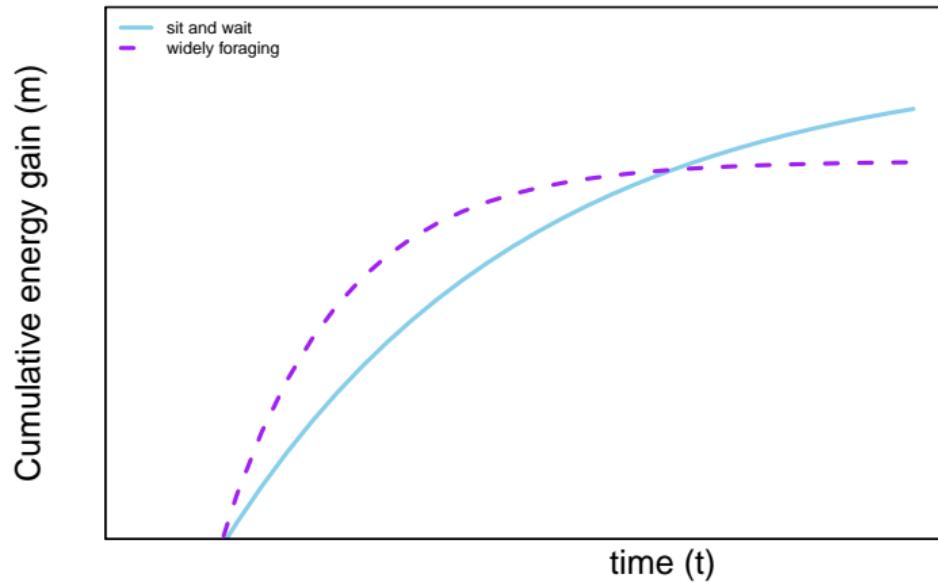


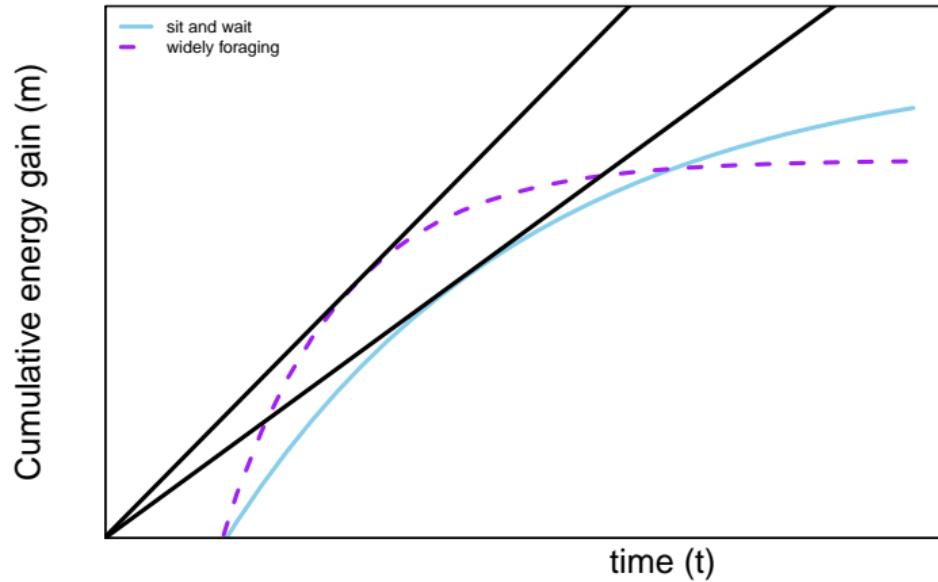
1. Sit-and-wait foraging is the most likely ancestral state
2. Foraging mode is conserved among lizards

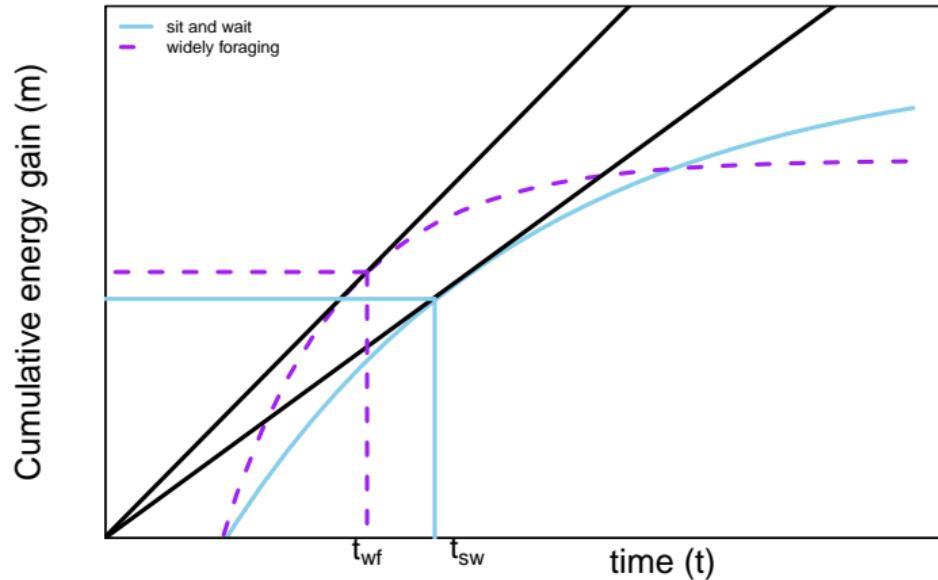
The evolution of reproductive effort in lizards was driven by an interaction between maternal mass and foraging mode

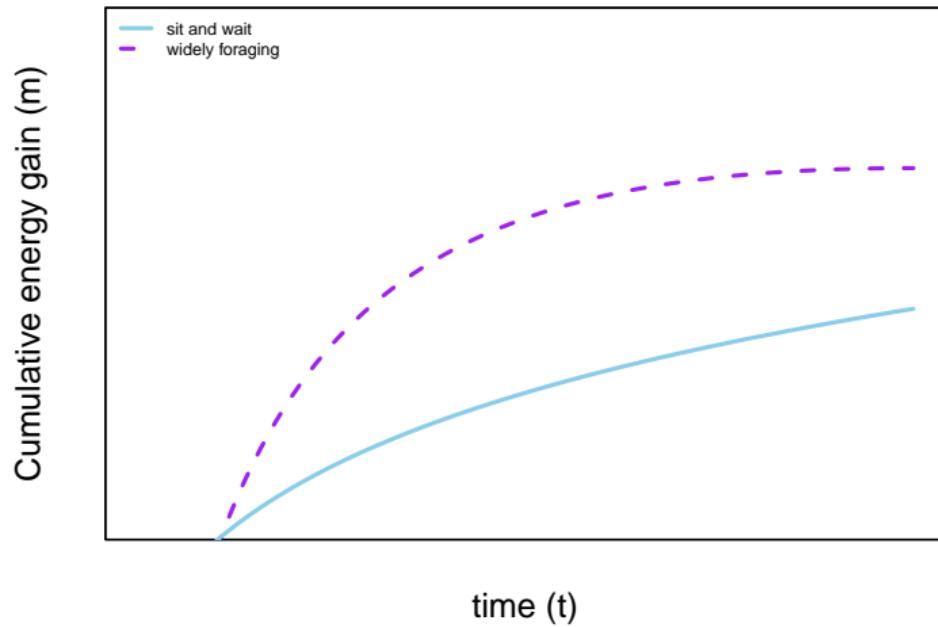












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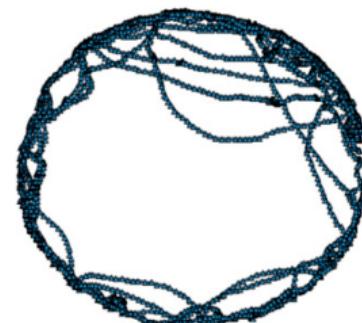
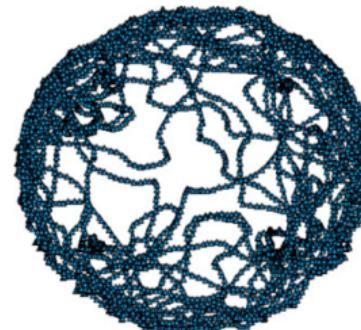
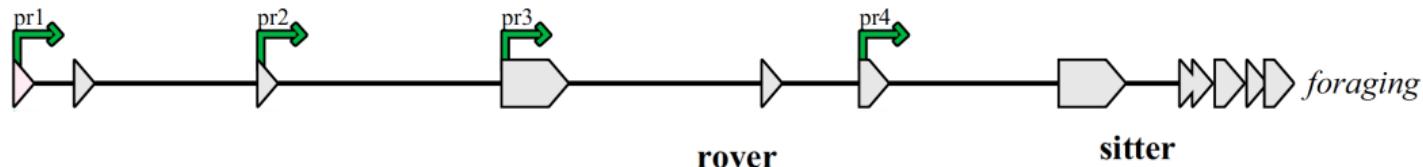
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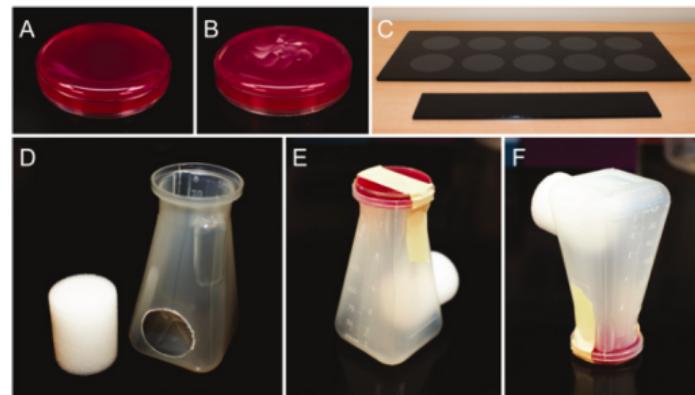
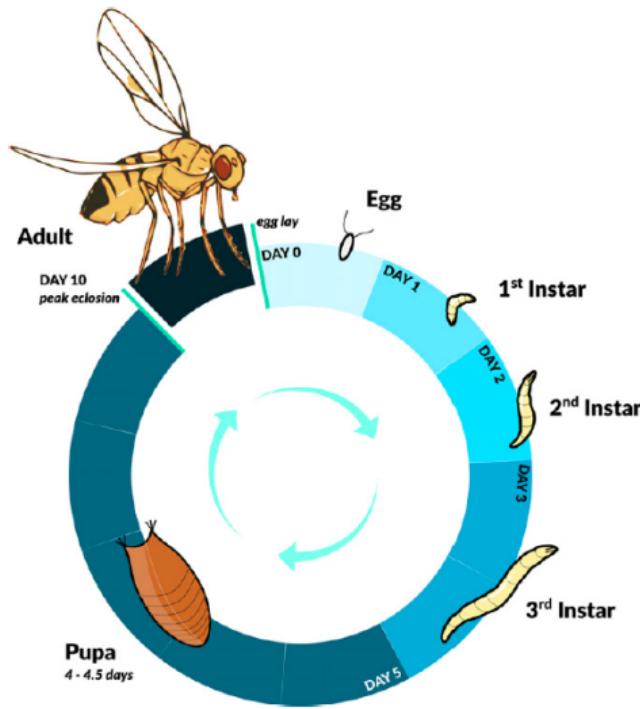
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Drosophila melanogaster foraging behavior



Experimental design



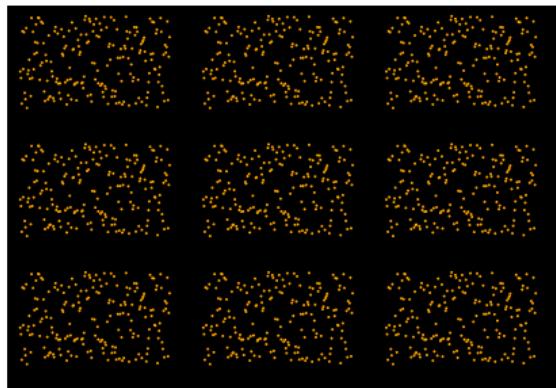


Figure 1: Schematic representation of an arena with a multi-patch distribution of resources.

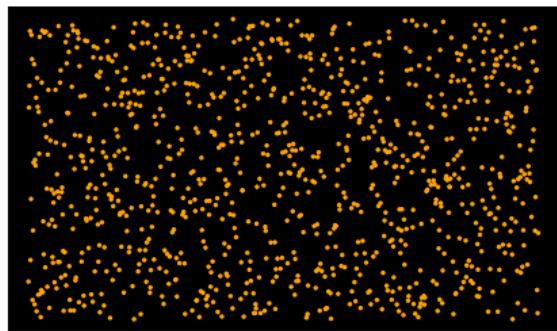
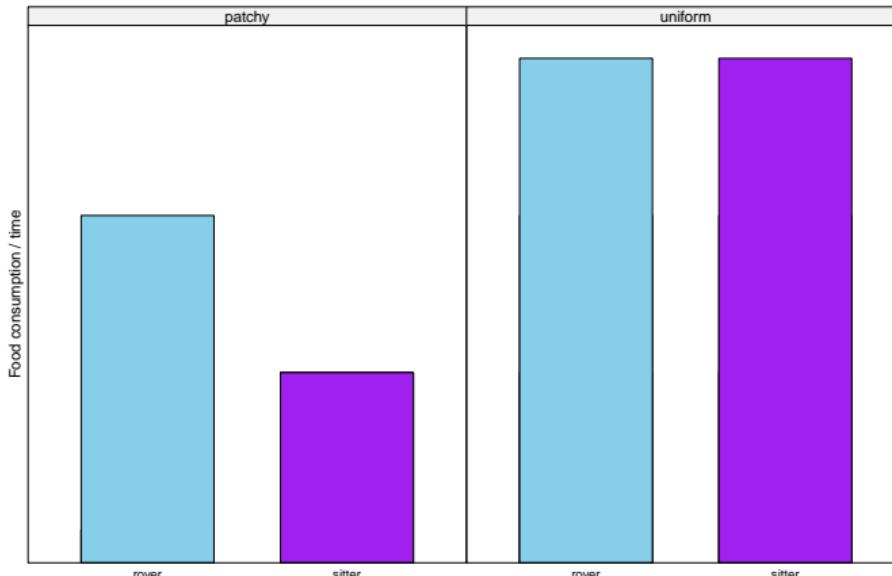


Figure 2: Schematic representation of an arena with a hypothetical uniform distribution of resources.

Predictions



Assuming there is a GxE interaction, two possible outcomes are expected: In the left pannel, a rover genotype would comsume more food than a sitter genotype. In the right pannel, however, both rovers and sitters would consume the same amount of food

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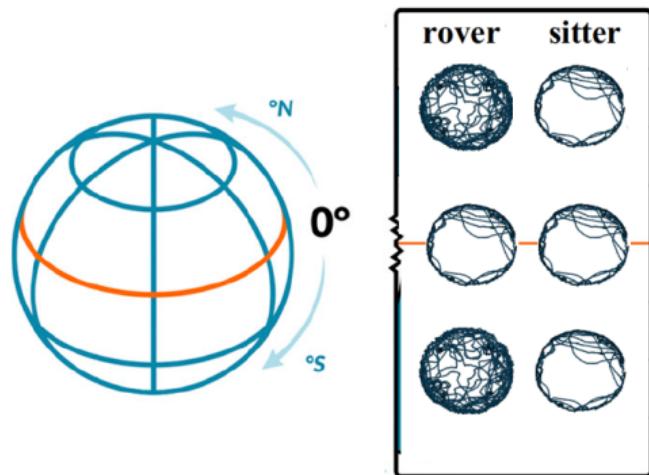
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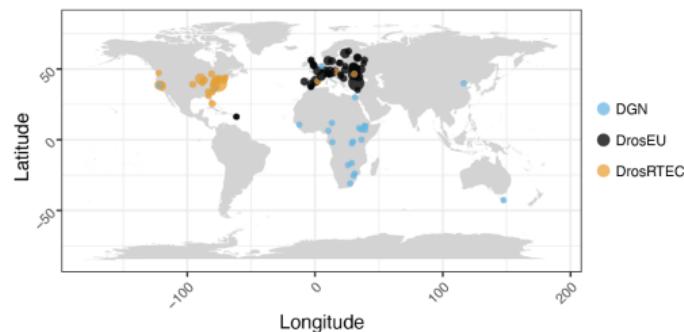
The *Drosophila foraging* gene provides an opportunity to understand the mechanisms underlying evolutionary responses to environmental variation

- Given its allelic variants, one should expect geographic variation of the *for* gene among populations

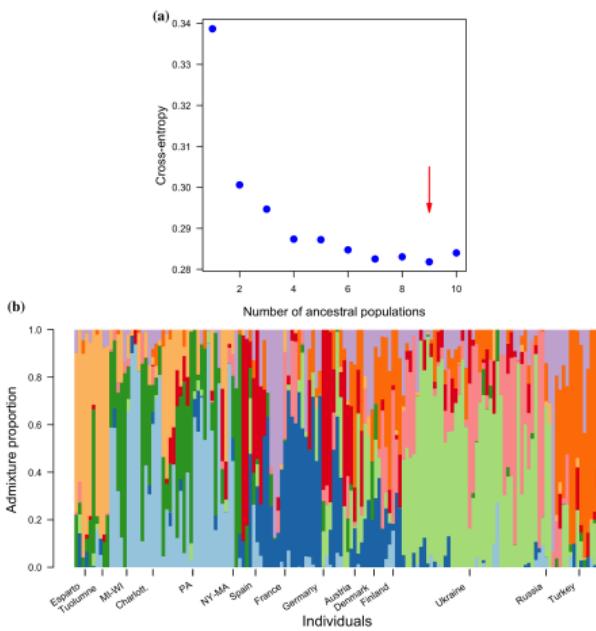
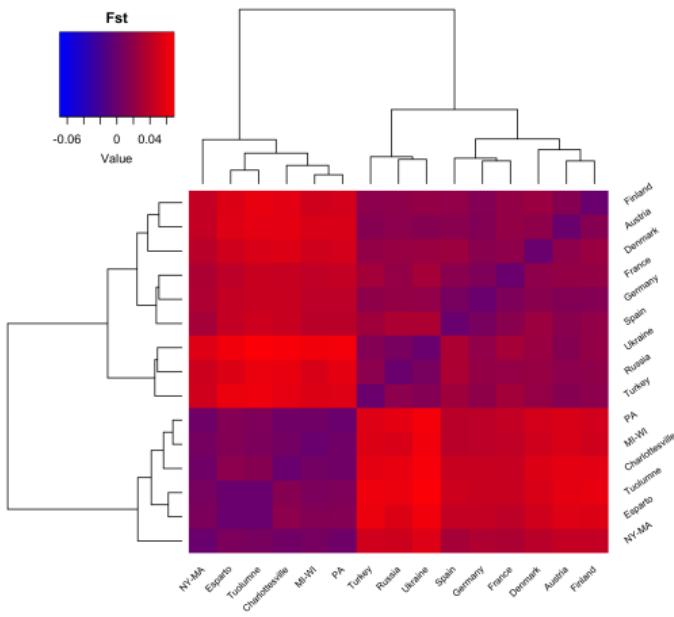


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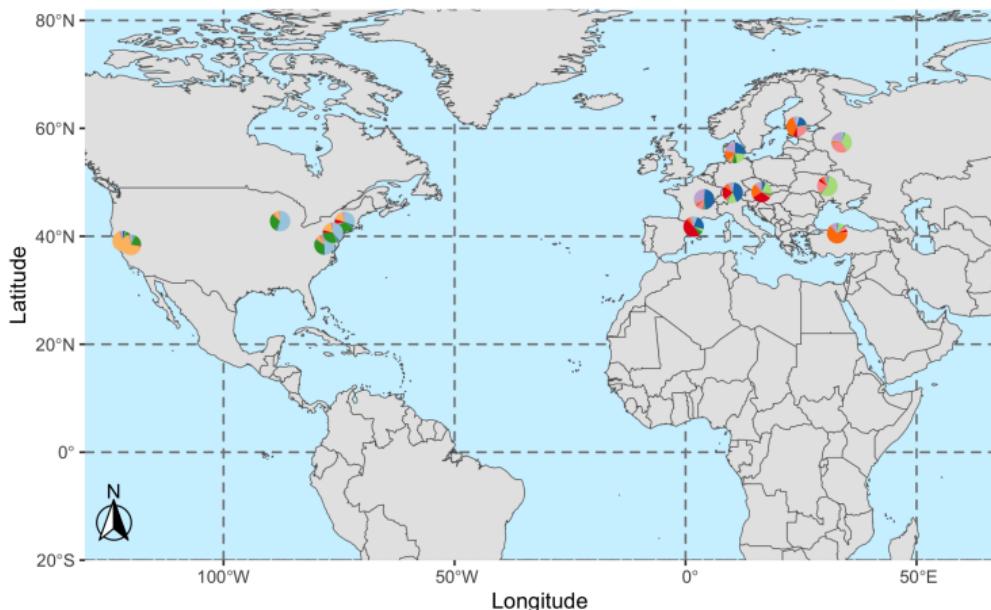
2. The DEST dataset enables one to study genetic variation across populations spanning America and Europe



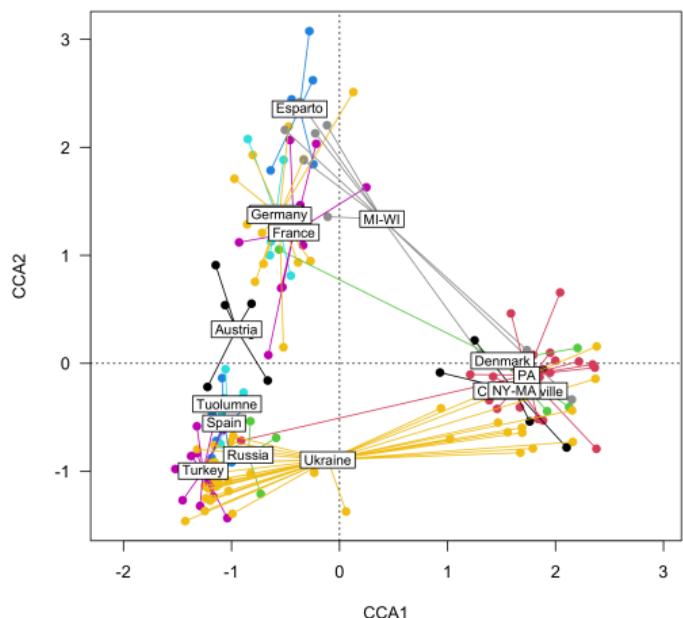
A genetic differentiation test, and an analysis of population structure revealed an east-west gradient in allele frequency



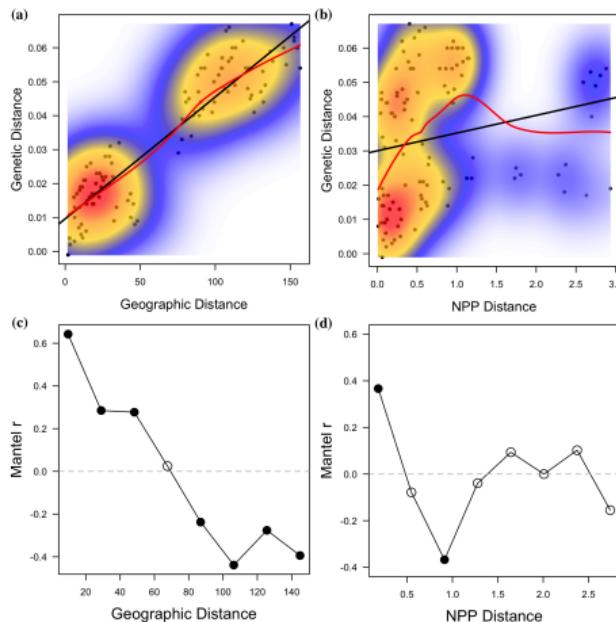
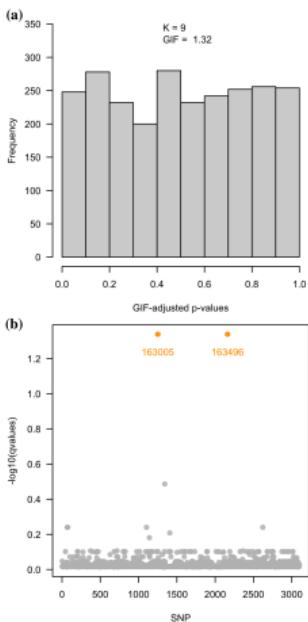
Stronger structure in populations collected in America than those collected in Europe, although the structure of pools from Ukraine, Turkey, and Russia stands out



Spatially varying selection driven by the seasonality of net primary production



Models of isolation by environment and isolation by distance are likely driving genetic differentiation among populations



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RESEARCH ARTICLE

Ecology and Evolution

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Macroclimatic and maternal effects on the evolution of reproductive traits in lizards

Dylan J. Padilla Perez  | Michael J. Angilletta Jr.

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The correlated evolution of foraging mode and reproductive effort in lizards

Dylan J. Padilla Perez, Dale F. DeNardo and Michael J. Angilletta Jr

School of Life Sciences, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ 85287, USA

 DOI: 10.1002/ece3.8885 | EID: 2020-0001-7276-1217 | PDF: [2020-0001-7276-0267](#)



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Geographic variation of the *for* gene reveals signatures of local adaptation in *Drosophila melanogaster*

Journal:	<i>Journal of Evolutionary Biology</i>
Manuscript ID	JEB-2023-00177
Manuscript Type:	Research Article
Keywords:	foraging mode, landscape genetics, polymorphism, heterogeneous environments, path length

Time for discussion!