## Visual presentation

- Colour scheme: visually appealing
  - Use colour and fonts to achieve a consistent and clean layout.
- Images: large enough; easy to understand; include legends
- Blocks of text: don't overcrowd; avoid bullet points; use full sentences
- Word count: ~800-1000 words; clear and to the point
   (800 words minimum -10%; 1000 words maximum +10%)
- Use of numbering, and headlines to make it easy to read.

## Simple layout

- Layout easy to follow
- Text:
  - Maybe a little too small?
  - Maybe a little too much?
- Slightly boring, but does the job

#### AOPA 2016 Poster title goes here, containing strictly only the essential number of words...

#### Author's Name(s) goes here<sup>1</sup>, Author's Name(s) goes here<sup>2</sup>, Author's Name(s) goes here<sup>8</sup>

Nome of institution/workplace goes here Nome of institution/workplace goes here Name of institution/workplace goes here

Introduction	Results		Discussion
First Keep your goster within the following limits: Size: All Orientation: Portrait (vertical) The page size of this poster template is AD (((Ab21) 0cm), portrait (vertical) format. Do not change this page size. Most princers can scale-to-fit a smaller or larger size, when printing.  Introduction - The introduction should present the reasoning behind the project which you are describing/investigating. This means that the readoc, having mad all the introduction, should deal able to predict what your investigation will be. At the same sime your introduction should allow someone who is not an expert so understand why you did this experiment.  Simply highlight this text and replace.  Mictiops	Tigs for making a successful poster  - Re-write your paper into poster formal is, Smolify everything, avoid data overful.  - Viteadings of more than 6 words should be in upper and lower case, not all capitals.  - Viters do whole sentences in capitals or underline to stress your point, use bold characters instead.  - When laying out your poster leave breathing space around your sert. Doo's overcrowd your postes.  - Ty using photospachs or coloured graphs. Avoid long numerical tables.  Importing / Inserting files.  - The best type of image files to insert are IPEG or tills, IPEG is the preferred format:  - Reference the source if image captured from web.  - Be aware of the quality/resolution of the image to avoid published when the image to printed.  - For simple graphs use MS Sixel, or do the graph directly in flower/bots.  - Graphs done in a scientific graphing programs (eg. Signa Plos, Frienc, 1955; Statistical should be severilles and the results of any scatistical times. Clarify is all important, try to report the temptation to interpret the results as you go along.		Printing and Laminating  Once you have completed your pooler, it's a good idea to produce an All side dish print to check it yourself and prior feed if possible, show your prined poster to a colleague/friend/family-member for a look with Tresh eyer. Once you are heapy with the poster, send a vie email to eventuil/sopplorg as by \$100pm Monday 12th September 2016. The ACRA Office will print the poster for you and take it to the Congress.  Discussion - This is the section in which you can interpret the results of the investigation and discuss their meening. It is important that your discussion relates the results not the love discussion in the introduction. The results may not have lied to disect, out attement to the questions raised inttallife, so your discussion might have to suggest further investigations/methods which can answer the initial question. You might also discuss any limitations of the investigation for the printing your reselfs to guess what the further research could possibly be be explicit as to what questions and problems your investigation raised, and how you might answer-fastive them.  Simply highlight this text and neplates.  Conclusion
Now to use this poster template Simply highlight this text and replace it by typing in your own text, or copy and paste your text from a NS World document or a Powerforst slide.			Conclusion - Review the main findings and results, and express them in general terms.  This part is also for bury readers who don't have time to read all of your findings, and for readers.
presentation. The body text / fort size should be between 24 and 32 goints. Arial, redvetice, Califer or equivalent. Keep body seat felt-aligned, do not justify text. The colour of the text, little and poster beckground can be changed to the colour of your choice. Section headings can be moved up and down to	Pigore, table or picture.	Emperior to be set in Plant or Trans, Not Remain of operations with territorial for objects of the settle returned for objects to a figure of the disposed of order to be a figure of the left Copiers came region at the tray object of the partners (quarter to global).	who want to read on overview of the findings before deciding whether to read the findings in detail.  Itimply highlight this text and replace.
accommodate the test boxes.  Mathod - The method section describes in detail the operations performed by the investigator. The method must contain enough information for the reader to be able to repeat the experiment, but it should not include any irrelevant details.  Simply highlight this test and replace.	Eigene, table or picture  Copies to be as in Deep or Disp. For America application table.		References
	Cognition to the size of primar in any (ALS 2) counter of the language of primary for the control of the contro	Figure, table or picture	References — standard referencing, if you have a large number of references, change forcide analise to between 18 and 24. This section should take no store than N of this column.  Simply highlight this text and replace.

## Nice poster





CONCLUSIONS

FCT

## PERSONALITY, SEX DIFFERENCES, AND MATE CHOICE IN THE EUROPEAN SERIN

Ana V. Leitão\* & Paulo G. Mota

CIBIO, Centro de Investigação em Blodiversidade e Recursos Genéticos, Universidade de Coimbra. Departamento Ciências da Vida, Laboratório de Etologia, Coimbra, Portugal.

\*Corresponding Author: anarmieitao@gmail.com

#### **OBJECTIVES** Animals can demonstrate individual behavioural traits that are consistent Study consistent interindividual differences in behaviour in the serin over time and in different contexts, also known as personality traits (Réale et Understand how sexes differ in their behavioural traits. al. Philosophical Transactions B. 2010). Personality has increasingly been the focus of ecological studies to under-Understand how different behavioural contexts are related and differ stand the evolution and maintenance of these and its consequences. While several hypothesis have been considered, sexual selection Explore a possible role of personality traits in has been scarcely studied although it is possible that it may play female mate choice. an important role in the origin and maintenance of personality differences (Schuett et al. Bio Reviews 2010). METHODS Wild serins (30 males and 17 females) were captured, and maintained in an indoor aviary until the end of the experiments. Individuals were subjected to four behavioural tests to assess fear (a), neophobia (b), sociability (c), and exploration (d), and tested for repeatable individual Mate choice tests were performed in an aviary (e) with a random female and a unique combination of two males with similar colouration.

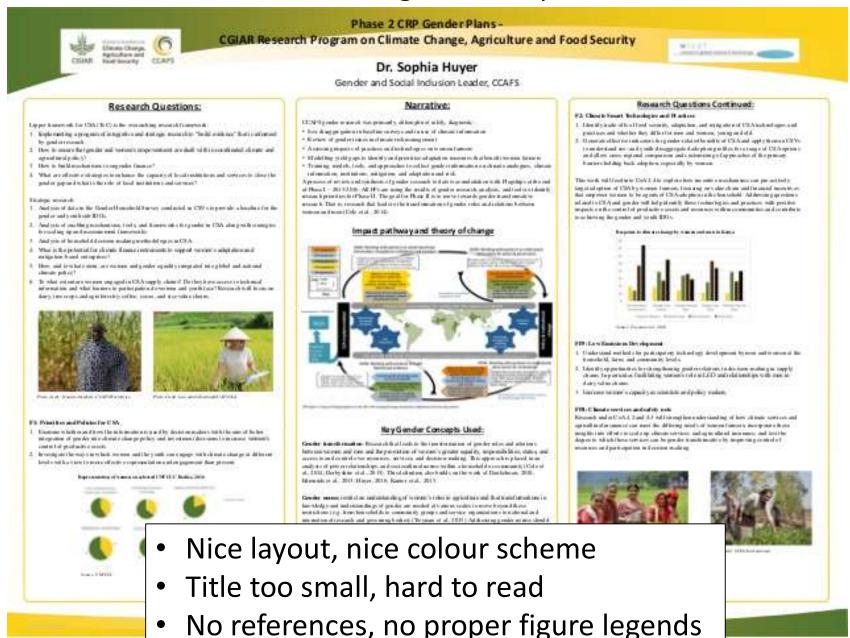
Replace this with References

#### Individuals showed repeatability in Males and females differ in their consistency Males are more sociable than females (t =-2.017, P=0.050) the four behavioural tests. consistency and behavioural responses across the different tests. Behavioural traits were correlated. indicative of a possible behavioural syndrome, but differed between females also more sociable, and females that were more sociable were less fearful Female number of visits to males was related to their own personality trait (sociability: X<sup>2</sup>=10.455, p= 0.001) and marginally less explorative. RELATIONSHIP ACROSS BEHAVIOURAL TRAITS In mate choice tests, female personality was related with its own behavioural performance. Our results stress the importance of looking for sex differences in personality. and for considering the influence of personality in mate choice context.

Acknowledgments:
We there kery one of the Behavioural Ecology Group for the support. This work is funded by FCT, Portugal, Project 5FBV(RD/448)37/2008. We held the necessary Portuguese licenses for conducting this work.

Replace this with Discussion and conclusions

## What's wrong with this poster?





# What's wrong with this poster?

- Confusing layout, hard to follow
- Text hard to see:
  - blue text on blue background
  - font too small
  - white text overlapping images
- Images too small
- No references

#### Seasonal, sex, and age specific variations in immune gene expression profiles underlie cancer progression in Tasmanian devils (Sarcophilus harrisii)

Nynke Raven<sup>1</sup>, Rodrigo Hamade<sup>2</sup>, Marcel Klaassen<sup>1</sup>, Frédérick Thomas<sup>3</sup>, Thomas Madsen<sup>1</sup>, Beata Ujvari<sup>1</sup>

#### **Background**

Tasmanian devil facial tumour disease (DFTD) has reduced devil populations by >85% in the last 20 years. Research has recently discovered devils are showing signs of adaptation to DFTD1, including changes in allele frequency in cancer related genes?, surviving longer once infected with DFTD3 and even regression and clearing of DFTD4, all indicating the importance of the devil immune system in fighting the disease.

However, factors other than disease also affect immune function, and thus can concomitantly impact DFTD progression and outcomes. Such factors are:

- · Seasonal variation: altered immune function and switching between adaptive and innate immune responses across
- · Changes with age: immunosenescence<sup>6</sup>
- Sex differences in immune function and strategies: females tend to mount and maintain stronger immune responses7
- . Impact of co-infection with multiple parasites8
- · Variation in response to overall health and body condition9

Tasmanian devils show sex specific differences in response to DFTD<sup>10</sup>, suffer from immunosenescence<sup>11</sup>, are regularly infected with parasites 12 and show seasonal hormonal variation connected with reproduction 13

Aim: Investigate the factors influencing the Tasmanian devil immune system and consequently, DFTD susceptibility and progression





## Methods



140 Tasmanian devil blood Genes: 3 innate immune genes (CD11, CD16, NKG2D), 7 adaptive immune genes Principal component analysis samples collected seasonally (IgG, IgM, IgE, IgA, CD4, CD8, MHCC2).

from West Pencil Pine forest. Factors: Sex, Season, DFTD infection, Age, Ticks, Head width and Weight. Devils aged between <1 - Interaction between head width and weight as proxy for body condition. Syrs, 40 animals with DFTD, Correlations between variables measured and taken into account when interpreting results.

Gene expression: via RT-qPCR, Normalization using Pfaffl

#### Statistical analysis in R

(ggbiplot) Linear mixed models (Ime4) Model analysis (glmulti) Factors normalized and scaled for comparisons

Results Principal component analyses of 10 · Strongly correlated genes:

- IgA & CD8 · IgM & IgG & NKG2D
- Together, PC1 and PC2 account for 66% of variation in dataset

Key findings of Multi-model analysis model estimates for PC1 and PC2 models in top 2 AIC

- DFTD infection and season in all top 20,000 models
- DFTD\*Sex, all statistically significant
- · Age and DFTD present in all top 20,000 models.
- · Strongest effects for DFTD infection, highly significant

· Strongest effects with DFTD, DFTD\*Head and

Sick female devils display lower IgM gene expression than either healthy females or males

Female devil MHC class 2 immune gene expression is stable throughout

fluctuates, highest in summer, lowest

Devils display immunosenescence, with IgG expression lower when

the year, while male expression

#### Discussion



This study has shown strong correlation between the expression of several immune genes in Tasmanian devils, a result not surprising as many immune genes share common pathways.

The expression of the immune genes was affected by DFTD infection, season and age.

In general, female immune function is stable throughout the year, while male immune function fluctuates in elation to the breeding season. The collapse of the male immune system following the breeding season (when involved in fighting and mate guarding) might make males more susceptible to DFTD infection. The stable immune function of females throughout the year, potentially provides better protection against DFTD. This could explain higher male susceptibility to DFTD, the lack of males surviving to older age and why most of the DFTD regressions have been discovered in females.

Immunosenescence was confirmed in devils, also showing that DFTD accelerates the attenuation of the immune function. The study highlights the complexity of factors driving DFTD progression and susceptibility, and that further studies are needed to better derstand the factors driving the immune system of Tasmanian and hence DFTD epidemiology.



#### Transmissible cancers: Are they rare, or do we just fail to recognise them?

Georgina Bramwell<sup>1</sup>, Aaron Schultz<sup>1</sup>, Craig Sherman<sup>1</sup>, Marcel Klaassen<sup>1</sup>, Rodrigo Hamede<sup>1,2</sup>, Thomas Madsen<sup>1</sup>, Frédéric Thomas<sup>3</sup>, Beata Ujvari<sup>1,2</sup>



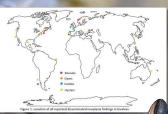
<sup>1</sup>Centre for Integrative Ecology, School of Life and Environmental Sciences, Deakin University, Waurn Ponds, Australia <sup>2</sup>School of Natural Sciences, University of Tasmania, Private Bag 55, Hobart, Tasmania 7001, Australia.
<sup>3</sup>CREEC, MIVEGEC, UMR IRD/CNRS/UM 5290, 34394 Montpellier, France 



#### Introduction

Disseminated neoplasia (DN) has been reported in the literature since the 1960's in 15 different species of bivalves all over the world (Fig. 1). The group of bivalves that have been affected by DN are mussels, cockles, clams and oysters. In all species affected, DN presents as abnormally proliferating cells, particularly haemocytes<sup>2</sup>. A recent study in the USA found that DN has the capability of acting as a transmissible cancer3. Up until this discovery it was believed that transmissible cancers were rare and only affected two mammalian species (Tasmanian devils and dogs)<sup>4</sup> however the recent discovery raises the question, are transmissible cancers actually rare?

Analysing previous research on DN revealed that there are many differences between techniques and study design, indicating the possibility that evidence supporting transmissible cancer could have been missed (Figs 2-3). Based on reviewing the inconsistencies in the literature, here we propose a step-by-step guide to determine the presence/absence of transmissible cancers in bivalves.



#### The Problem

Data collection

- . Most use both haemolymph and solid tissue · Solid tissue ranges from the whole
- individual to the mantle, gill and stomach · Some only use haemolymph or a transverse section of all organs
- Sample location
- · Always mentions but not always exact
- Longitudinal samples Varies between monthly, annually, randomly

or only once

#### Diagnostic techniques







#### Possible outcomes

- · Phenotypic
- One paper mention a size difference<sup>6</sup>
- One paper mentions pale, watery tissue<sup>20</sup> · Bivalve Health
- · Some mention of weakness8 and increased mortality7

The Solution - Systematic/consistent data collection

#### Target key species



Collect samples

### Analysis

Future directions

- Optimal = 20-24°C 40°C = 100% sarcoma cell
- Salinity levels<sup>2</sup>
- Low = 0.5% (100% sarcoma cell death)
- High = 35‰ (50% sarcoma cell

#### Cancer thrives in hypoxic

• 1-2% O² or below in tumours anaerobic oxygen production

· filter feeders and spawning

- Total abundance of DN often
- Min. 100 sample size per location

- . Measure initial weight and size
- Note any mantle recession /watery tissue/discolouration

#### Tissue required for histology

Both haemolymph and transverse section of all organs

#### DNA for analysis

· potential expression of neoplasia specific genes

#### Histological analysis

- · To determine neoplasia Cloning
- host/neoplasia sequences (Fig. 4)
- If transmissible cancer, neoplasia Figure 4. Example sequence will genetic material within a sample match between

## Need multiple genes – (without paralogues and NUMts) • Possible genes include<sup>3:</sup> mtCOI, EF1a, rDNA ITS

#### Phylogenetic analysis

· To identify the lineage PCR/gel screening

#### Revisit museum specimens University of Cambridge

- · Contains approx. 100,000 lots Queensland museum
- Contains approx. 200 species

#### Metagenomic datasets

#### https://jgi.doe.gov/





#### mussels using PCR and qPCR25 sea stars using droplet PCR26 (Fig.

#### · Potential artificial transfer

- · "Just like people often don't realize the benefits of vaccines when the disease becomes rare, evolutionary biologists may not recognize the critical role of transmissible cancers in shaping animal evolution as these cancers are very rare's [Prof James DeGregori].
- Transmissible cancers may not be as rare as originally thought as DN may actually be a transmissible cancer due to inconclusive/inconsistent research. A step-by-step guide can be a solution to detect transmissible cancers.
- If common, similar to other parasites and pathogens, transmissible cancers can/will have a major impact on host-parasite interactions, ecosystem function and animal evolution





## The following links can provide advice on effective poster design:

- http://guides.nyu.edu/posters
- http://www.personal.psu.edu/drs18/postershow/
- https://www.behance.net/gallery/2284120/SCIENTIFIC-POSTER
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AwMFhyH7\_5g