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Functional Ecology



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Towards a functional understanding of species coexistence: ecomorphological variation in relation to whole-organism performance in two sympatric lizards

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Towards a functional understanding of species coexistence: ecomorphological variation in relation to whole-organism performance in two sympatric lizards

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In this context, the main aim of this work is to understand the functional relationships between morphology and factors involved in interspecific interactions that occur in cases of syntopy (coexistence) in studied sympatric lizards. Specifically, we focus on the functional traits promoting higher success in potential agonistic encounters. Firstly, in bite force we predict that if both species differ in bite force, the one previously known to have the dominant position over the other in agonistic encounters (*P. muralis*) is expected to have stronger bites. If coexisting occurrence (syntopy) is facilitated by differential microhabitat use, we should observe variation in morphological and performance traits that can enhance the use of various microhabitats in the study area. In particular, we would expect interspecific differences in climbing and running abilities and limb dimensions correlated with the use of different substrates and variability in head height, if head height determines the minimal size of the crevices accessible as refuges (e.g. Carretero *et al.* 2006). Using smaller refuges may also enhance escape from the most specialized common predator – saurophagous snakes for the flatter species. Thus, the studied species potentially differ in their ability to escape common predators, which is expected to have an indirect effect on their coexistence (Holt 1977). Finally, we also consider the variation between sexes to account for intraspecific differences.

Project: (None) ▾

02. PCM data preparation.R × 5.3. Showcase.R × data ×

Filter

	CODE	SP	SEX	MAXBITE	MAXRUN	MAXCLIMB	SVL	TRL	HL	PL	HW	HH	MO	FLL	HLL
1	20	IHOR	F	1.0260	161.8281	137.7114	60.4	39.8	19.2	12.2	7.3	4.8	10.5	18.6	28.4
2	21	IHOR	F	0.9120	132.1550	120.6082	58.9	41.0	18.9	12.4	7.5	4.9	10.7	19.1	26.6
3	22	IHOR	F	1.1020	150.2851	117.6548	64.3	42.9	19.4	12.6	7.7	4.8	10.9	19.4	29.2
4	23	IHOR	F	1.0355	158.3828	161.1837	62.6	44.6	19.7	13.0	7.4	4.7	10.8	19.2	27.1
5	24	IHOR	F	1.2255	293.2537	146.8594	66.1	47.9	20.5	12.7	7.7	5.4	10.3	19.0	29.2
6	26	IHOR	F	0.7220	1521.5744	112.8859	57.6	41.1	18.9	11.9	7.3	4.8	10.5	20.3	23.4
7	28	IHOR	F	0.8550	138.1386	125.5674	58.5	41.9	17.8	11.5	7.3	4.6	9.7	18.6	28.0
8	30	IHOR	F	1.3110	163.4215	163.4215	61.7	34.1	20.0	12.4	7.5	4.7	10.5	20.0	26.4
9	31	IHOR	F	0.7695	127.2870	114.0817	51.1	36.9	16.6	11.3	6.9	4.5	9.6	16.7	26.1
10	32	IHOR	F	0.7505	155.4925	132.4839	59.3	42.2	18.1	11.6	7.7	5.1	10.5	18.5	27.0
11	33	IHOR	F	1.3395	165.4863	128.8085	64.0	45.8	18.6	12.5	7.6	5.6	11.0	19.4	25.2
12	34	IHOR	F	0.2755	133.8815	143.0790	52.1	37.1	15.9	10.7	6.3	4.3	9.3	17.0	23.0
13	35	IHOR	F	0.7315	133.5465	119.6905	66.1	44.7	20.4	12.8	8.2	4.7	12.6	19.4	30.0
14	36	IHOR	F	0.8075	193.2613	150.3532	53.9	37.1	15.1	10.9	6.8	4.1	10.0	17.5	24.2

Showing 1 to 14 of 103 entries

Environment History

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Zoom Export

Console ~/antigua/Collaborations/Anamarija/Ihor_Pmur_performance/

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 Type 'license()' or 'licence()' for distribution details.

Natural language support but running in an English locale

R is a collaborative project with many contributors.
 Type 'contributors()' for more information and
 'citation()' on how to cite R or R packages in publications.

Type 'demo()' for some demos, 'help()' for on-line help, or
 'help.start()' for an HTML browser interface to help.
 Type 'q()' to quit R.

```
> setwd("/home/antigoni/antigua/Collaborations/Anamarija/Ihor_Pmur_performance/")
Error in setwd("/home/antigoni/antigua/Collaborations/Anamarija/Ihor_Pmur_performance/") :
  cannot change working directory
> setwd("/Users/antigoni/antigua/Collaborations/Anamarija/Ihor_Pmur_performance/")
> data <- read.table("data.csv", sep=",", header=T, na.strings="NA")
> data <- data[!is.na(data$MAXBITE),]
> colnames(data)[14:15] <- c("FLL", "HLL")
> View(data)
> |
```

Project: (None) ▾

02. PCM data preparation.R * 5.3. Showcase.R* * data *

Source on Save Run Source Environment History

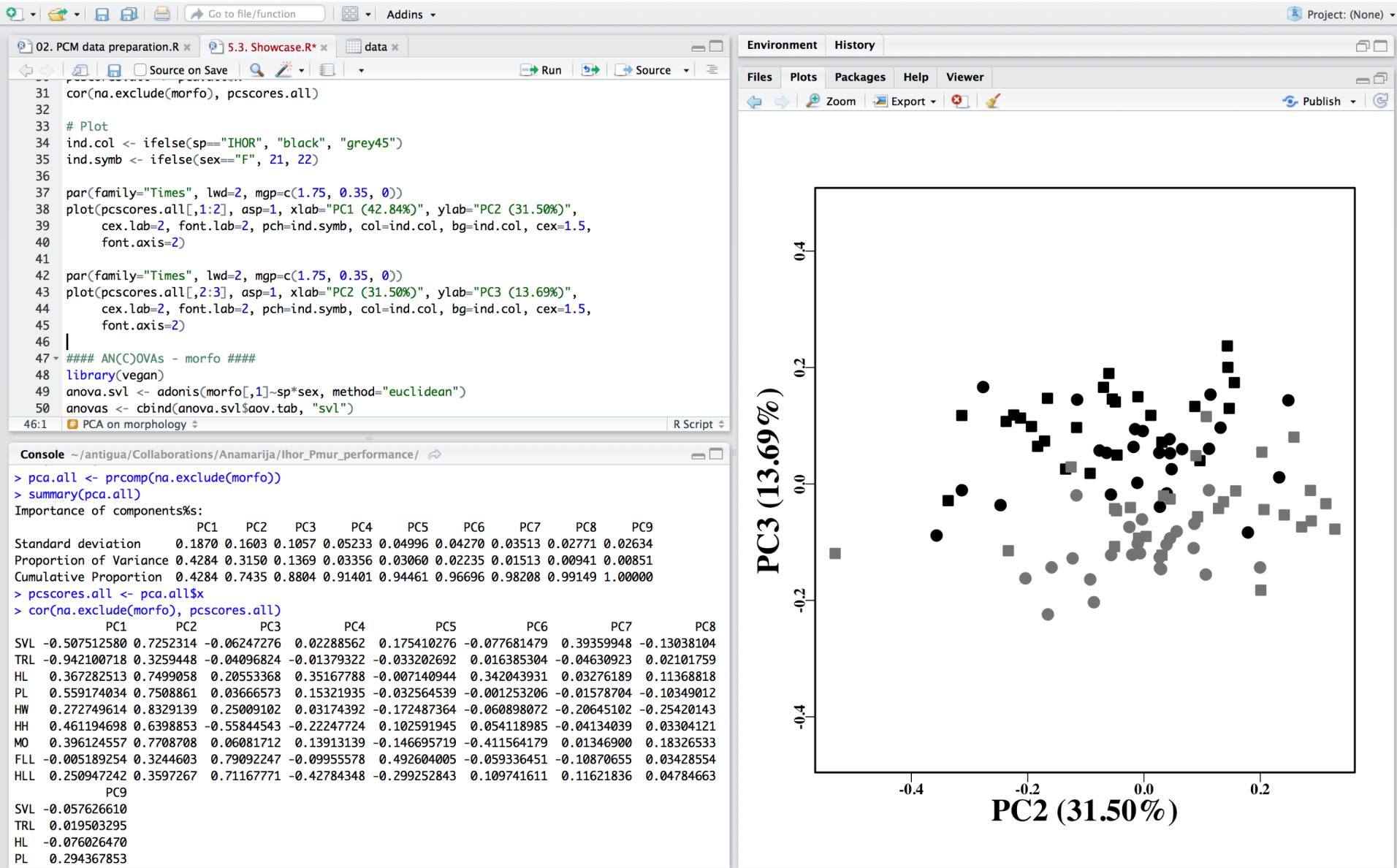
```

6 View(data)
7
8
9 ##### Replace missing values for morphology by group mean
10 for (m in 7:15){
11   md <- which(is.na(data[,m]))
12   for (i in md){
13     data[i,m] <- mean(na.exclude(data[data$SP==data$SP[i] & data$SEX==data$SEX[i], m]))
14   }
15 }
16
17 data[,4:15] <- log(data[,4:15])
18 morfo <- as.matrix(data[,7:15])
19 HS <- apply(data[,10:12], 1, mean)
20 names(HS) <- data$CODE
21 sp <- data$SP
22 sex <- data$SEX
23 table(sp, sex)
24
25
26:1 PCA on morphology ▾ R Script ▾
```

Console ~/antigua/Collaborations/Anamarija/Ihor_Pmur_performance/ ▾

```

cannot change working directory
> setwd("/Users/antigoni/antigua/Collaborations/Anamarija/Ihor_Pmur_performance/")
> data <- read.table("data.csv", sep=",", header=T, na.strings="NA")
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+   for (i in md){
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+   }
+ }
> data[,4:15] <- log(data[,4:15])
> morfo <- as.matrix(data[,7:15])
> HS <- apply(data[,10:12], 1, mean)
> names(HS) <- data$CODE
> sp <- data$SP
> sex <- data$SEX
> table(sp, sex)
  sex
sp      F   M
IHOR 25 26
PMUR 24 28
> |
```



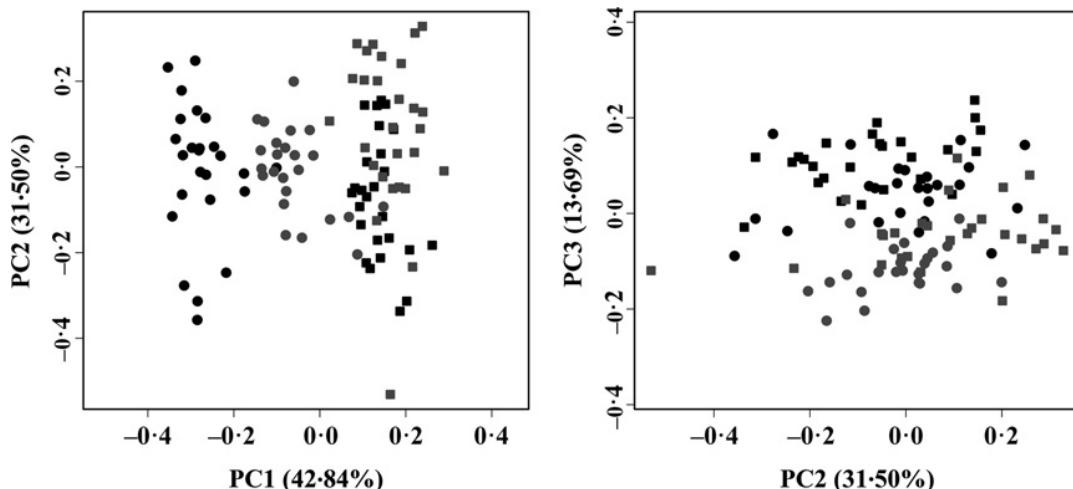


Fig. 2. Variation across species and sexes in morphological traits represented as principal component scores. Black: *Iberolacerta horvathi*, grey: *Podarcis muralis*, circles: females, squares: males.

Table 1. Variance explained by the three principal component axes (% exp.) and correlations of each to the measured morphological traits

	PC1	PC2	PC3
% exp.	0.428	0.315	0.137
SVL	-0.508	0.725	-0.062
TRL	-0.942	0.326	-0.041
HL	0.367	0.750	0.206
PL	0.559	0.751	0.037
HW	0.273	0.833	0.250
HH	0.461	0.640	-0.558
MO	0.396	0.771	0.061
FLL	-0.005	0.324	0.791
HLL	0.251	0.360	0.712

Correlations >0.5 are highlighted in bold.

SVL, snout-vent length; TRL, trunk length; HL, head length; PL, pileus length; HW, head width; HH, head height; FLL, fore limb length; HLL, hind limb length; MO, mouth opening.

absolute terms and relative to body size (Table 4). Remarkably, the interaction between species and sex was also significant in this case, where climbing speed differed between sexes in *I. horvathi*, but not in *P. muralis*. This resulted in a pattern where females of *I. horvathi* exhibited lower climbing speeds than respective males, or individuals of *P. muralis* of either sex (Fig. 4).

The observed variation across groups in whole-organism performance was in part attributable to their morphological differences. Interestingly, though, differences across species and sexes in biting and climbing performance remained after accounting for variation in head size and body size, respectively. As revealed by partial least squares analysis, once size effects are taken into account, there was still a significant association between morphology and performance. Specifically, we found a significant PLS vector of association between size-corrected bite force and relative head dimensions ($r_{PLS} = 0.42$, $P = 0.002$). This association

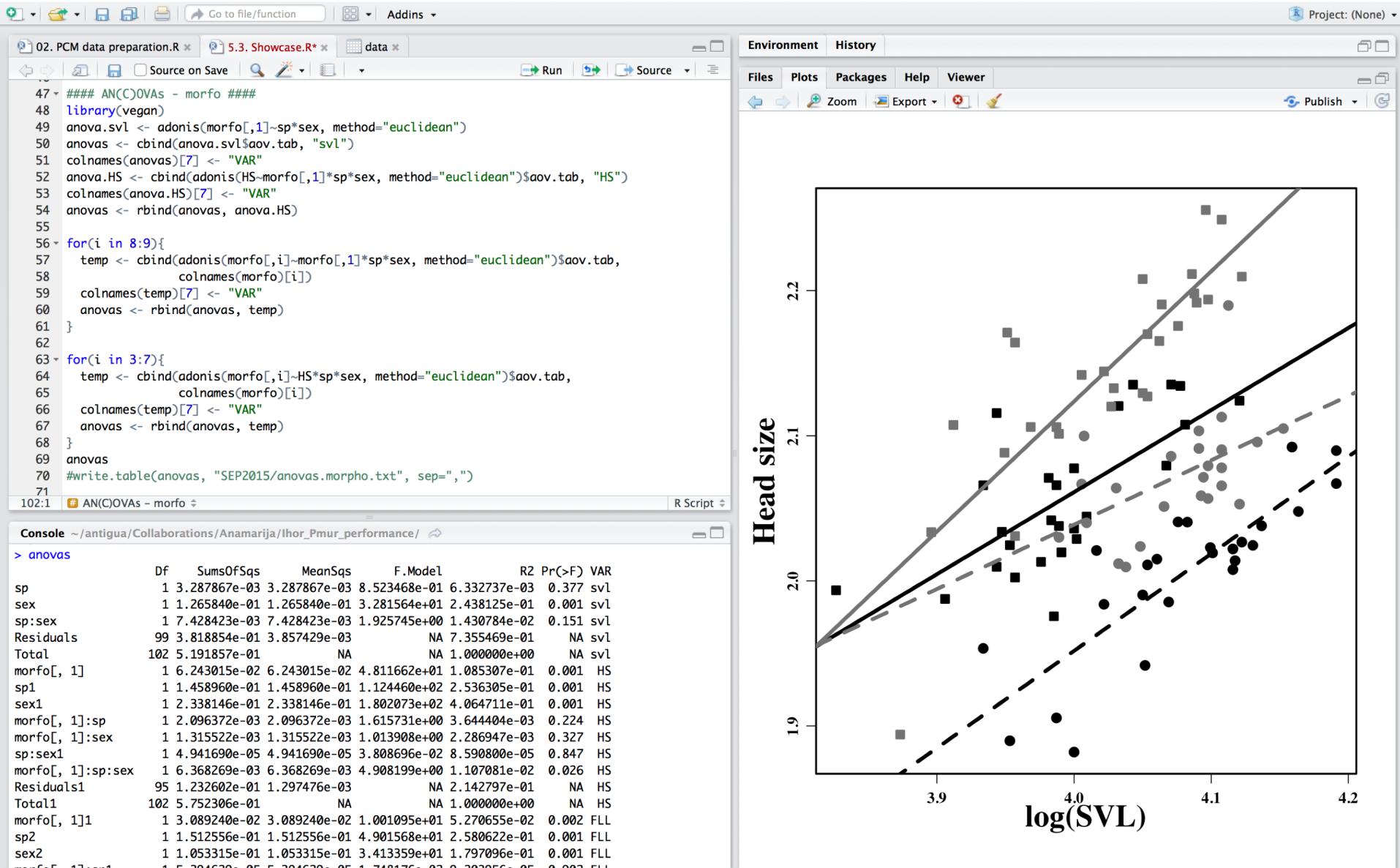


Table 2. Results of AN(C)OVA comparisons on SVL (top), body parts in relation to SVL (middle) and head dimensions relative to head size (bottom), considering the effect of species (sp), sex and their interaction

		SVL							
		d.f.		F				P	
sp		1				0.85			0.362
Sex		1				32.82			0.001
sp × sex		1				1.93			0.174
Residuals		99							
Total		102							
		HS		TRL		FLL		HLL	
		d.f.	F	P	F	P	F	P	
SVL		1	48.12	0.001	396.47	0.001	10.01	0.002	0.59
sp		1	112.45	0.001	57.54	0.001	49.02	0.001	21.80
Sex		1	180.21	0.001	210.35	0.001	34.13	0.001	65.08
SVL × sp		1	1.62	0.209	7.75	0.010	0.02	0.906	0.03
SVL × sex		1	1.01	0.319	0.06	0.827	1.37	0.247	1.83
sp × sex		1	0.04	0.859	70.54	0.001	0.28	0.588	0.56
SVL × sp × sex		1	4.91	0.038	0.93	0.325	0.11	0.747	0.11
Residuals		95							
Total		102							
		HL		PL		HW		HH	
		d.f.	F	P	F	P	F	P	
HS		1	163.94	0.001	683.07	0.001	487.43	0.001	717.13
sp		1	27.00	0.001	6.85	0.022	132.67	0.001	94.06
Sex		1	1.58	0.207	30.03	0.001	5.33	0.026	4.97
HS × sp		1	0.13	0.702	2.41	0.122	9.98	0.003	10.49
HS × sex		1	5.35	0.020	0.14	0.725	0.43	0.516	0.49
sp × sex		1	7.45	0.012	1.20	0.266	0.95	0.291	0.472
HS × sp × sex		1	3.15	0.075	2.33	0.123	0.01	0.905	0.99
Residuals		95							
		MO							
		d.f.	F	P	F	P	F	P	

Significant effects are marked in bold.

d.f., degrees of freedom; F, F-statistic; P, corresponding P-value; PL, pileus length; SVL, snout-vent length; HL, head length; HW, head width; HH, head height; FLL, fore limb length; HLL, hind limb length; TRL, trunk length; HS, head shape; MO, mouth opening.

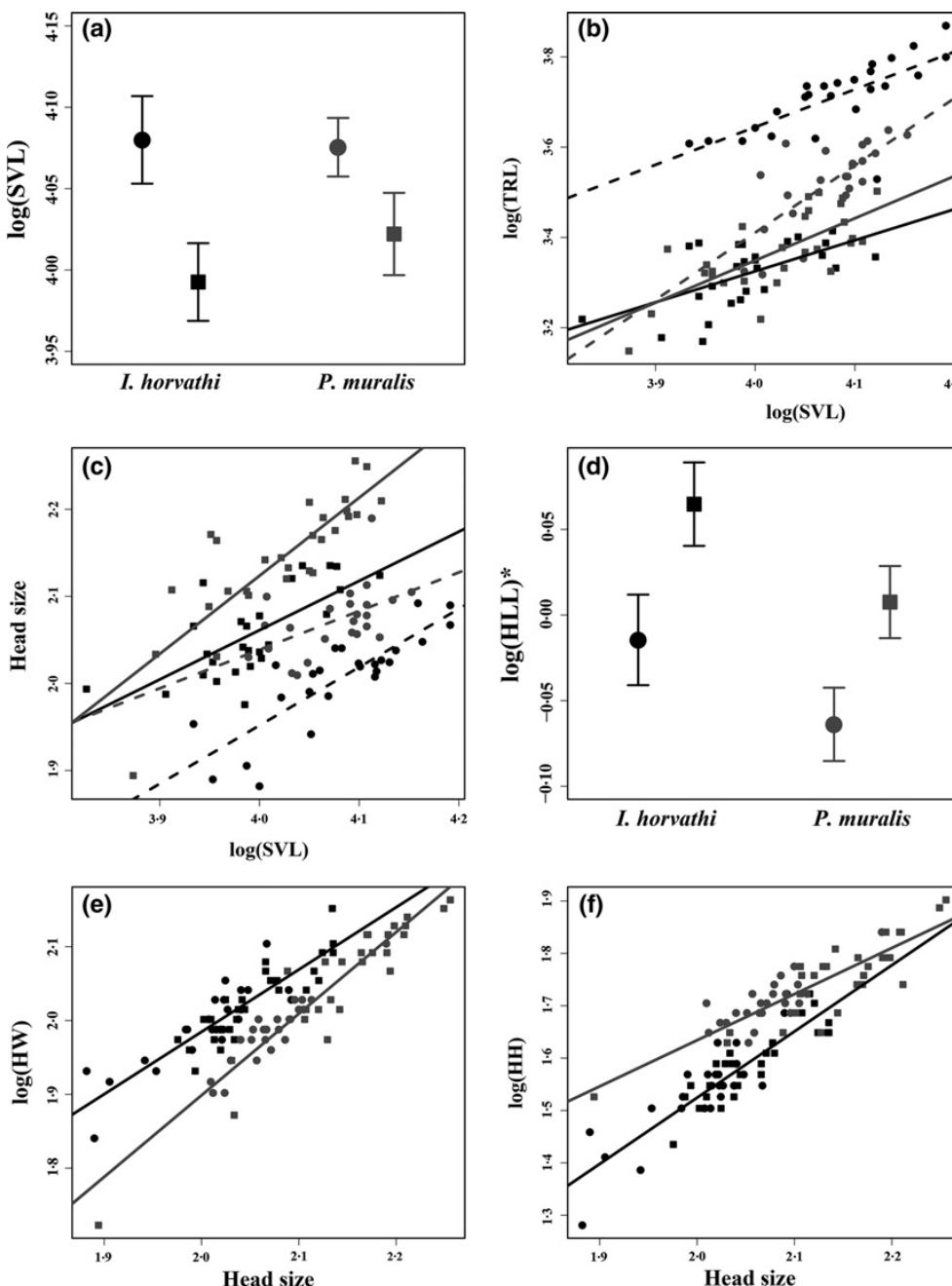


Fig. 3. Variation across species and sexes in morphological traits. (a) Means and 95% confidence intervals for snout-vent length (SVL); (b, c) Relationship of trunk length (TRL) and head size with SVL in different groups; (d) Means and 95% confidence intervals for hind limb length, after correction for SVL effects; (e, f) Relationship of head width (HW) and head height (HH) with head size in different groups; Black: *Iberolacerta horvathi*, grey: *Podarcis muralis*, circles: females, squares: males.

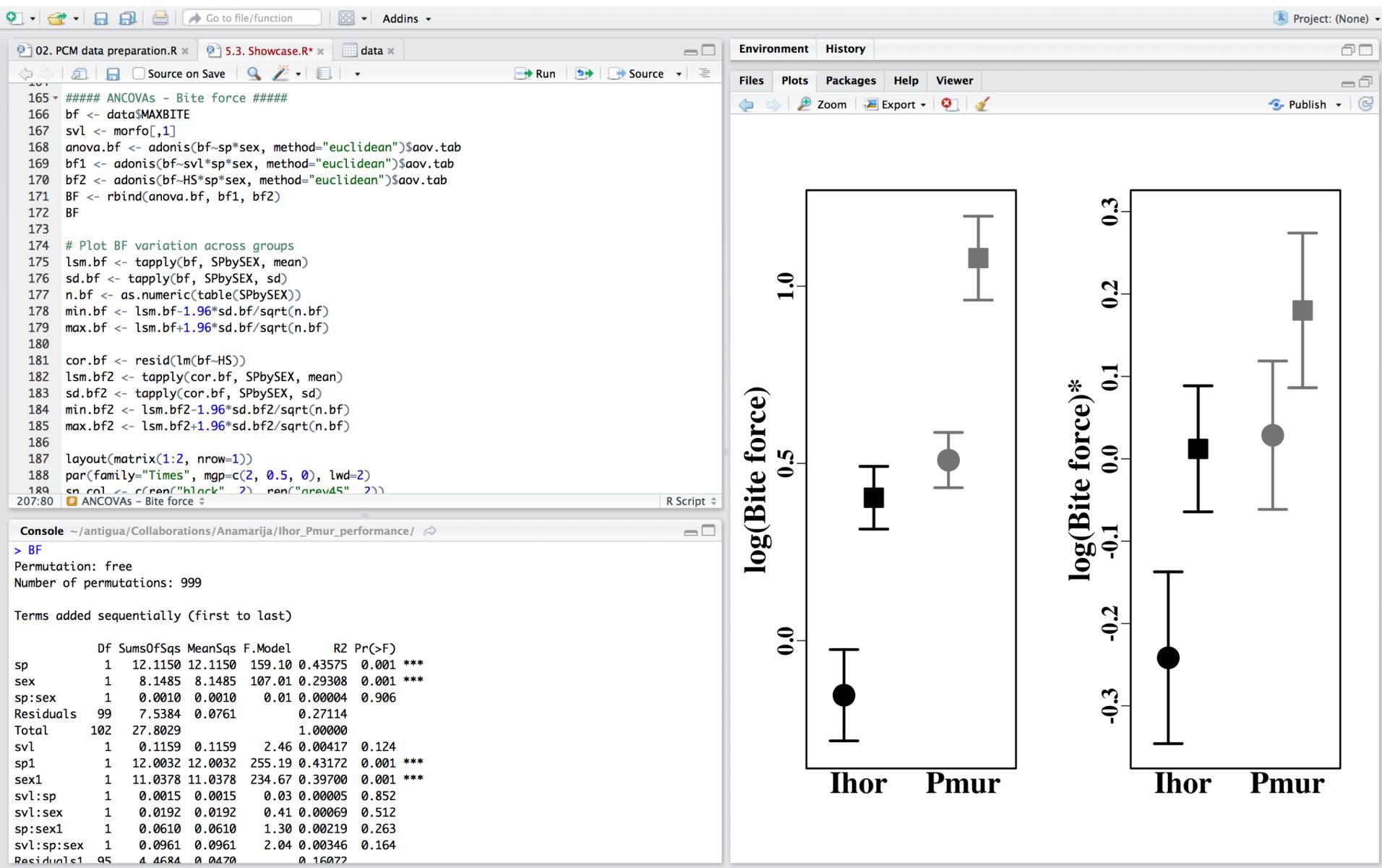


Table 3. Results of AN(C)OVA comparisons on bite force considering the effect of species (sp), sex and their interaction, using SVL (middle) or head size (bottom) as a covariate

BITE FORCE			
	d.f.	F	P
sp	1	159.10	0.001
Sex	1	107.01	0.001
sp × sex	1	0.01	0.906
Residuals	99		
Total	102		
	d.f.	F	P
SVL	1	2.46	0.116
sp	1	255.19	0.001
sex	1	234.67	0.001
SVL × sp	1	0.03	0.874
SVL × sex	1	0.41	0.545
sp × sex	1	1.30	0.266
SVL × sp × sex	1	2.04	0.161
Residuals	95		
Total	102		
	d.f.	F	P
HS	1	510.54	0.001
sp	1	45.53	0.001
Sex	1	62.65	0.001
HS × sp	1	0.76	0.421
HS × sex	1	0.03	0.880
sp × sex	1	0.20	0.652
HS × sp × sex	1	1.43	0.233
Residuals	95		
Total	102		

Significant effects are marked in bold.

d.f., degrees of freedom; F, F-statistic; P, corresponding P-value; SVL, snout-vent length; HS, head shape.

locomotor abilities, i.e. negatively influence the climbing speed. Ecological implication of lower performance in climbing ability is that it may lower anti-predator escape abilities on steep surfaces, but on the other hand allow

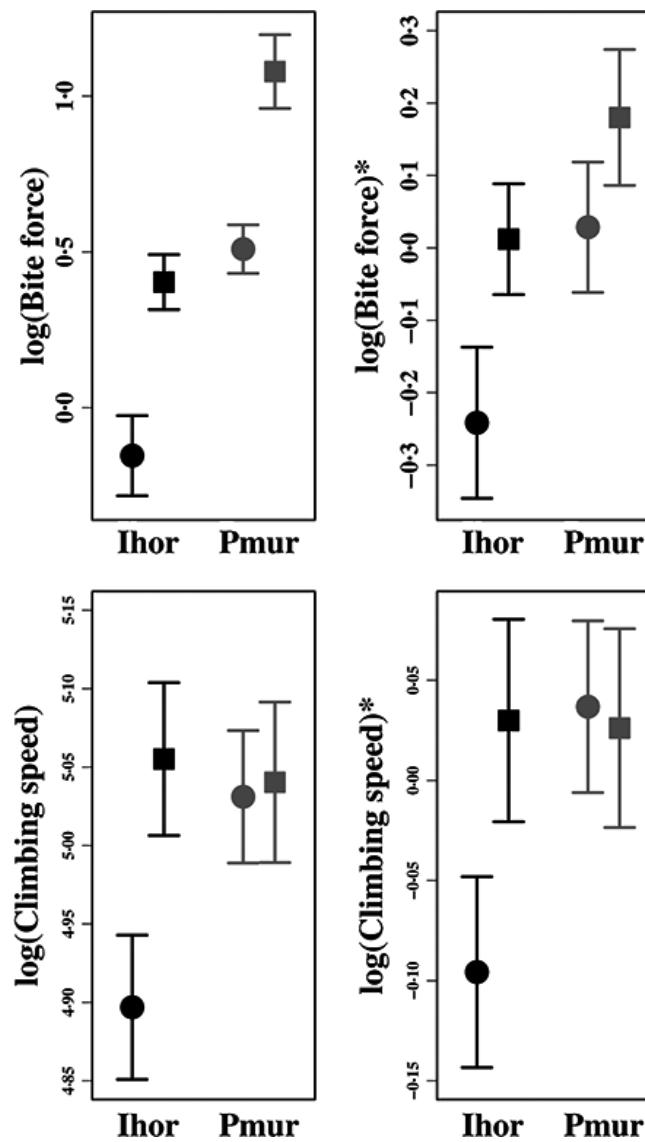
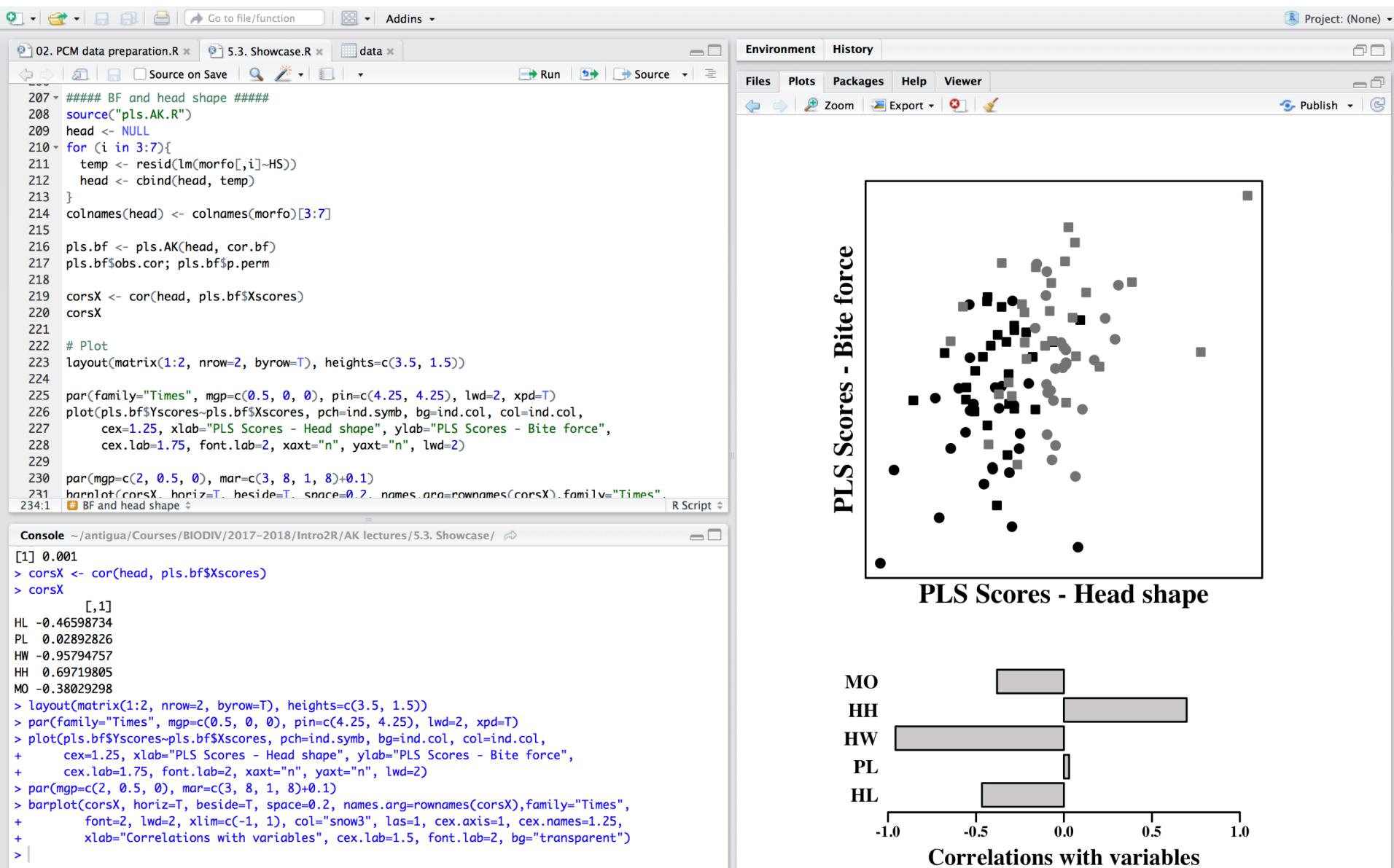


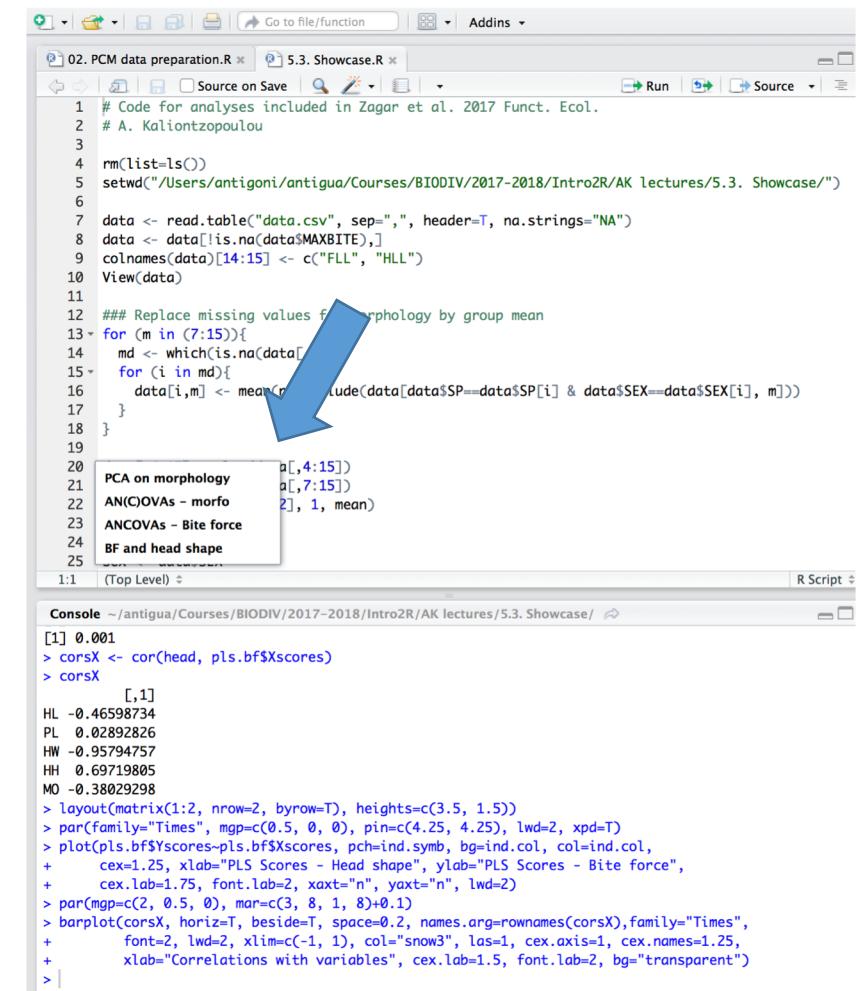
Fig. 4. Variation across species and sexes in bite force (top) and climbing speed (bottom) before (left) and after (right) correction for effects of the covariate (head size in the case of bite force and snout-vent length in the case of climbing speed). Black: *Iberolacerta horvathi*, grey: *Podarcis muralis*, circles: females, squares: males.



STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

To obtain a general view of morphological variation in our dataset we first performed a principal components analysis (PCA) of all morphological measurements (Klingenberg & Monteiro 2005; Mitteroecker & Bookstein 2011). To examine whether both species differed in their morphological properties and in whole-organism performance traits, we first conducted AN(C)OVA comparisons with species, sex and their interaction as categorical predictors. Two-way ANOVA comparisons were conducted in the case of total body size, as represented by SVL. To examine variation across both species and sexes in relative head size, TRL and fore and hind limb length, we performed ANCOVA comparisons using SVL as the covariate. Furthermore, we examined differences across species \times sex groups in relative head dimensions using ANCOVA comparisons where head size was treated as the covariate. For bite force, we examined AN(C)OVA models with species, sex and their interaction as categorical predictors, and in addition including either SVL or head size as covariates. Finally, to investigate variation across species and sexes in locomotor performance, we performed AN(C)OVA comparisons with or without SVL as a covariate.

To investigate the association between morphological and performance traits, and examine how differences in morphology between species and sexes may translate into differences in whole-organism performance, we used two-block partial least squares (PLS). Specifically, we examined the association of maximal bite force with relative head dimensions, after correcting both blocks of traits for the effect of head size variation. In terms of locomotor performance, we only investigated climbing speed and examined its association to trunk and limb length, after correcting both sets of traits for variation due to SVL. As a measure of the association between blocks of traits we used the Pearson correlation between individual scores of the PLS vectors, and we tested the significance of this association using a permutation procedure with 1000 permutations (Rohlf & Corti 2000).



```
1 # Code for analyses included in Zagar et al. 2017 Funct. Ecol.
2 # A. Kalontzopoulou
3
4 rm(list=ls())
5 setwd("/Users/antigoni/antigua/Courses/BIODIV/2017-2018/Intro2R/AK lectures/5.3. Showcase/")
6
7 data <- read.table("data.csv", sep=",", header=T, na.strings="NA")
8 data <- data[is.na(data$MAXBITE),]
9 colnames(data)[14:15] <- c("FLL", "HLL")
10 View(data)
11
12 ### Replace missing values for morphology by group mean
13 for (m in (7:15)){
14   md <- which(is.na(data[,m]))
15   for (i in md){
16     data[i,m] <- mean(data[,m][!is.na(data[,m])])
17   }
18 }
19
20 PCA on morphology
21 AN(C)OVAs - morfo
22 ANCOVAs - Bite force
23 BF and head shape
24
25
```

1:1 (Top Level) ▾

Console ~/antigua/Courses/BIODIV/2017-2018/Intro2R/AK lectures/5.3. Showcase/

```
[1] 0.001
> corsX <- cor(head, pls.bf$Xscores)
> corsX
 [,1]
HL -0.46598734
PL 0.02892826
HW -0.95794757
HH 0.69719805
MO -0.38029298
> layout(matrix(1:2, nrow=2, byrow=T), heights=c(3.5, 1.5))
> par(family="Times", mgp=c(0.5, 0, 0), pin=c(4.25, 4.25), lwd=2, xpd=T)
> plot(pls.bf$Yscores-pls.bf$Xscores, pch=ind.symb, bg=ind.col, col=ind.col,
+ cex=1.25, xlab="PLS Scores - Head shape", ylab="PLS Scores - Bite force",
+ cex.lab=1.75, font.lab=2, xaxt="n", yaxt="n", lwd=2)
> par(mgp=c(2, 0.5, 0), mar=c(3, 8, 1, 8)+0.1)
> barplot(corsX, horiz=T, beside=T, space=0.2, names.arg=rownames(corsX), family="Times",
+ font=2, lwd=2, xlim=c(-1, 1), col="snow3", las=1, cex.axis=1, cex.names=1.25,
+ xlab="Correlations with variables", cex.lab=1.5, font.lab=2, bg="transparent")
```