Dear Prof. Dr. Wolf Blanckenhorn,

We wish to resubmit an original research article (newly) entitled “Coupling between tolerance and resistance differs between related *Eimeria* parasite species: implications for co-evolution with their mouse hosts” for consideration by Journal of Evolutionary Biology. We build on previous research showing that resistance and tolerance should be studied jointly, and show that coupling of the two can differ between closely related parasite taxa.

Testing whether closely related parasite species could show differences in coupling between tolerance and resistance, we found a trade-off between resistance and tolerance to one, *E. falciformis*, but not to its close relative *E. ferrisi*. Our work has direct implications for the evolutionary question of effects of parasites in hybrid zones. Moreover, we argue that the framework of resistance-tolerance coupling allows to prioritize research questions to be addressed with different parasites: broad questions of relevance for the host species as a whole with parasites showing no coupling, questions of local adaptation and host-parasite co-evolution with parasites showing coupling.

We think that this work will be of both general interest for evolutionary biologists working on parasites, and for specialised research on the house mouse hybrid zone.

This work is original and has not been published elsewhere, nor is it currently under consideration for publication elsewhere, we have no conflicts of interest to disclose, its submission for publication has been approved by all relevant authors and institutions, all persons entitled to authorship have been so named, all authors have seen and agreed to the submitted version of the manuscript. The full text (excluding abstract, references, tables and figure legends) contains 4242 words.

Thank you for your consideration of this manuscript.

Sincerely,

The authors