Dear Editor,

On behalf of all co-authors, I am submitting a manuscript entitled “*How important is host migration for parasite-host dynamics? Using bird haemosporidians as a model to estimate migration effect in parasite-host system*” for publication in Ecography.

Migration has an important impact on the transmission of pathogens. Certainly, migratory birds disperse parasites through their routes and may consequently introduce them to new areas and hosts. Indeed, haemosporidian parasites are among the most prevalent, diverse, and important bird pathogens and we hypothesize that (1) migratory birds spread parasite lineages along their routes, and (2) localities crossed by more migratory routes have greater prevalence and richness of haemosporidians. Thus, we combined a dataset on 13200 bird samples with data from the MalAvi database and used Bayesian multi-level and mixed models to test our hypotheses. In this study, we confirm that migrants can contribute to parasites dispersal, however, bird migration and visiting migrants do not raise local prevalence and decrease richness of avian haemosporidian parasites.

We believe that our findings will be of great interest to investigators of avian malaria and other parasitic diseases, as well as ecologists. Indeed, this article fulfill an important gap about pathogens spread dynamics and biogeography. Therefore, Ecopgraphy is an ideal journal for reaching these investigators.

I would like to provide the following possible reviewers for our manuscript:

* Boris Krasnov, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel:
* [krasnov@bgu.ac.il](mailto:krasnov@bgu.ac.il)
* Martina Ferraguti, Universidad deExtremadura, Spain:

[mferraguti@unex.es](mailto:mferraguti@unex.es%20)

* Vinzenzo Ellis, University of Delaware, United States:
* [vaellis@udel.edu](mailto:vaellis@udel.edu)
* Knud Andreas Jønsson, Natural History Museum of Denmark, Denmark:
* [kajonsson@snm.ku.dk](mailto:kajonsson@snm.ku.dk)

We ensure that this manuscript describes an original work and is not under consideration by any other journal.

Sincerely yours,

Daniela de Angeli Dutra