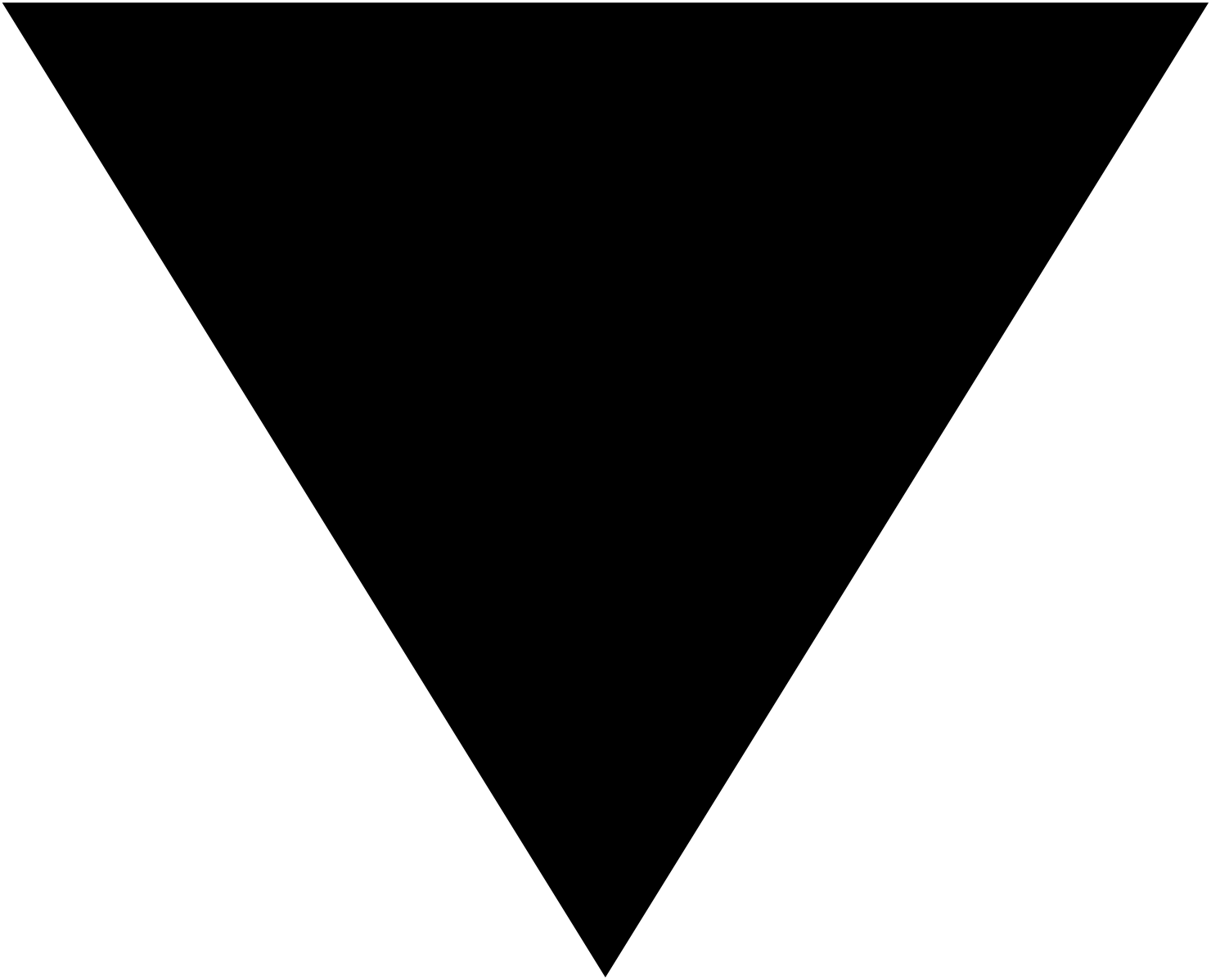


Introduction



- ▶ Background
- ▶ Knowledge gap
- ▶ Study system
- ▶ This study

• *Why does this topic matter?*

• *What is already known about this topic?*

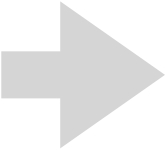
- Summarize previous research at a 'high' level, don't get bogged down in unnecessary details

- Not a full “literature review” - only include what matters for understanding your study objective and value

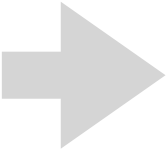
Don't hedge unnecessarily

“Several previous studies have shown evidence that female orangutans are philopatric (Singleton & van Schaik 2001, Arora et al. 2012, van Noordwijk et al. 2012).”

“Female orangutans are philopatric (Singleton & van Schaik 2001, Arora et al. 2012, van Noordwijk et al. 2012).”



"Orangutans have the longest inter birth interval of any mammal (van Noordwijk et al. 2018)."



“Van Noordwijk et al. (2018) showed that orangutans likely have the longest inter birth intervals of any mammal documented so far.”

What does my audience need to know in order to understand, and care about, my study?







hedge

/hedʒ/

verb

verb: **hedge**; 3rd person present: **hedges**; past tense: **hedged**; past participle: **hedged**; gerund or present participle: **hedging**

2. limit or qualify (something) by conditions or exceptions.
"they **hedged** their story **about** with provisos"

Similar:

confine

restrict

limit

hinder

obstruct

impede

constrain

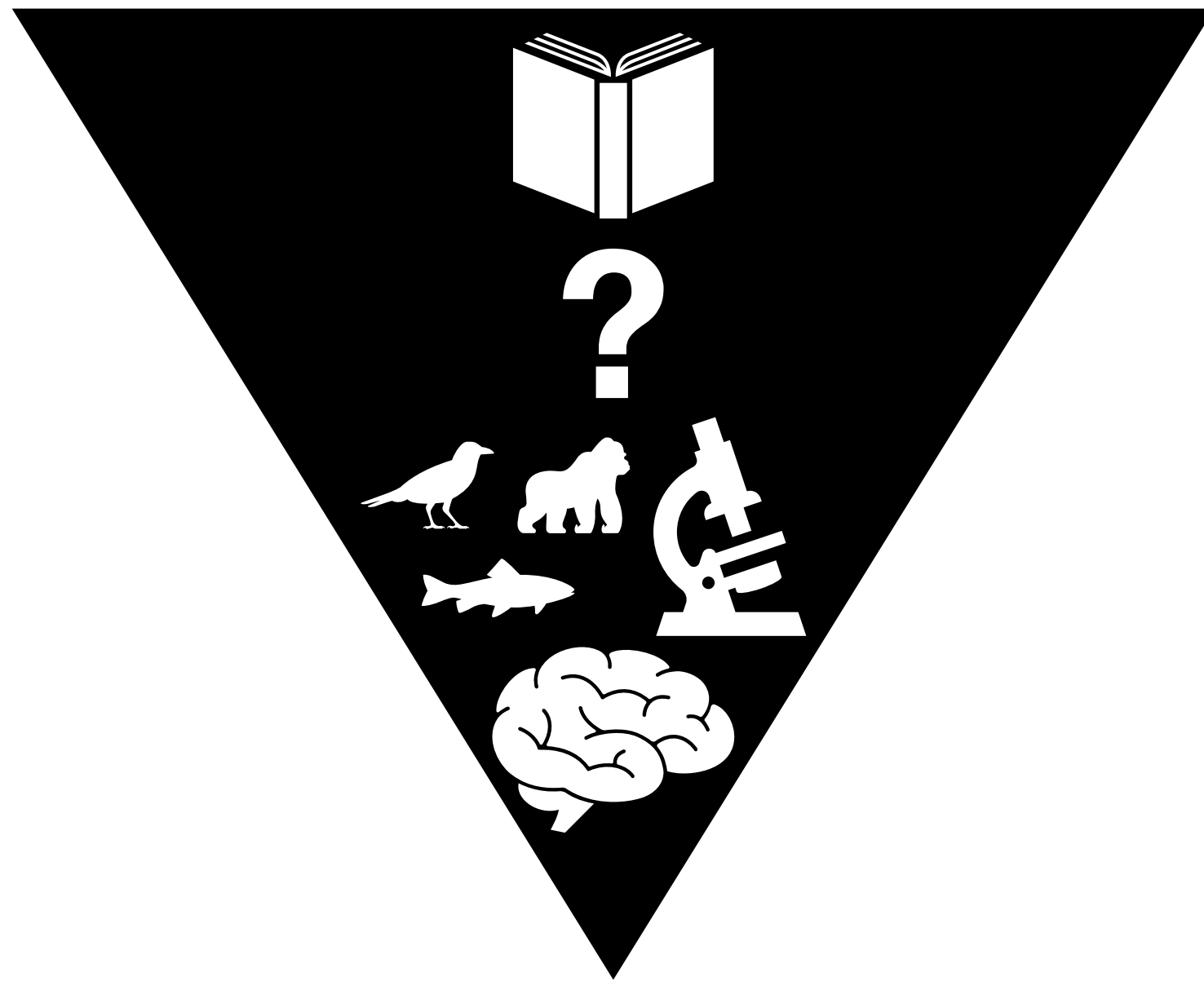


- avoid making a definite statement or commitment.
"he hedged at every new question"

Aison M. Ashbury, 2022-05-30

Introduction

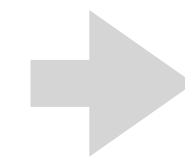
What does my audience need to know in order to understand, and care about, my study?



► Background

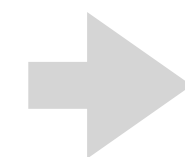
- *Why does this topic matter?*
- *What is already known about this topic?*
- Summarize previous research at a ‘high’ level, don’t get bogged down in unnecessary details
- (• Not a full “literature review” - only include what matters for understanding your study objective and value)
- Do not hedge unnecessarily

“Van Noordwijk et al. (2018) showed that orangutans likely have the longest inter birth intervals of any mammal documented so far.”



“Orangutans have the longest inter birth interval of any mammal (van Noordwijk et al. 2018).”

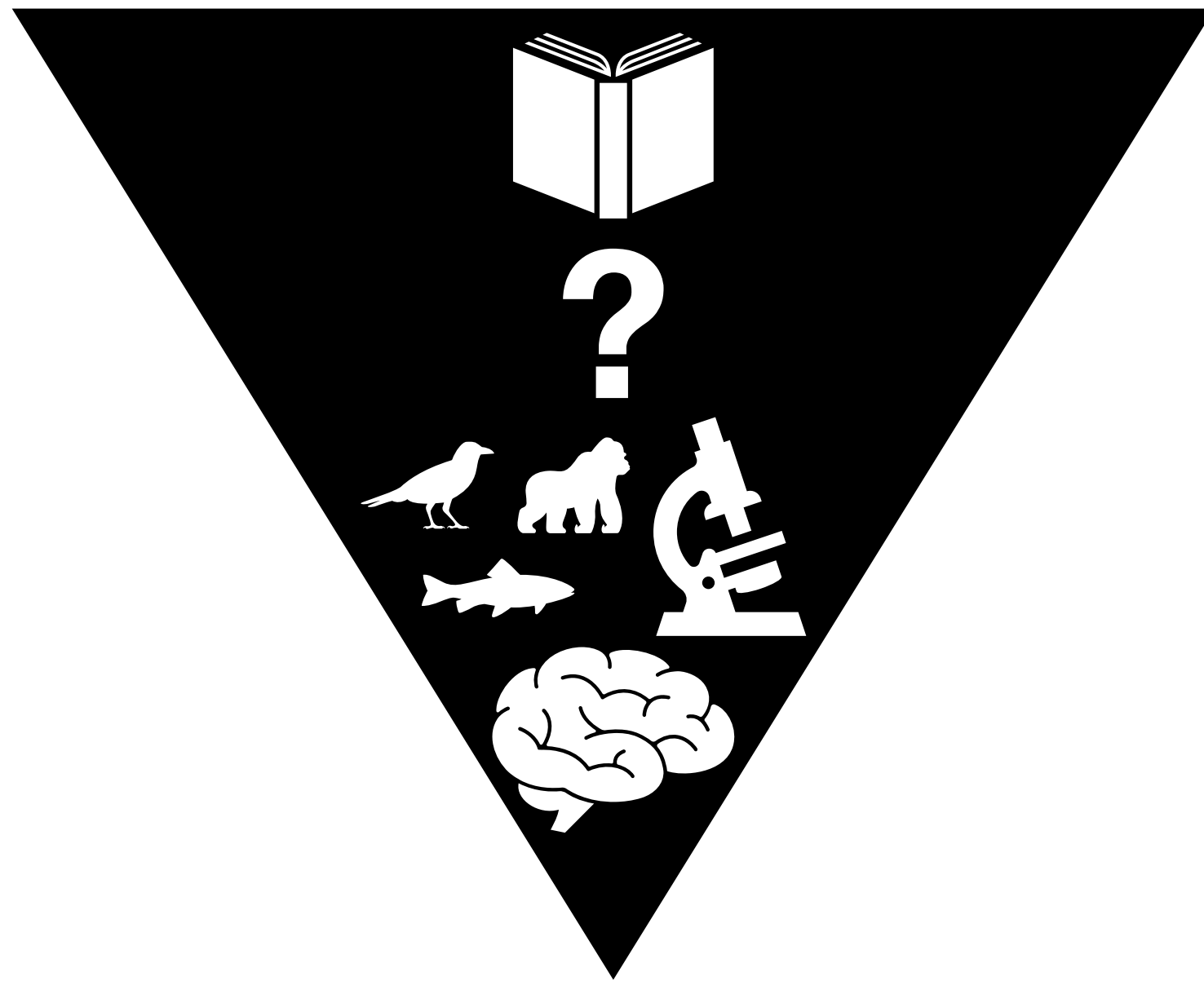
“Several previous studies have shown evidence that female orangutans are philopatric (Singleton & van Schaik 2001, Arora et al. 2012, van Noordwijk et al. 2012).”



“Female orangutans are philopatric (Singleton & van Schaik 2001, Arora et al. 2012, van Noordwijk et al. 2012).”

Introduction

What does my audience need to know in order to understand, and care about, my study?



- Background
- Knowledge gap