

MADA: Malagasy Animal trait Data Archive

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METADATA

CLASS I. DATA SET DESCRIPTORS

A. Data set identity

MADA: Malagasy Animal trait Data Archive

B. Data set identification code

(1) BirdTraitData.csv

(2) MamTraitData.csv

C. Data set description

1. Originators

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Queries regarding the datasets should be sent to Onja Razafindratsima (onja@ricealumni.net)

2. Abstract

Species are characterized by their behavioral, physiological and ecological attributes, which determine their role in ecosystems. In turn, ecosystems and their functions are defined by the species that inhabit them. Thus, evaluating the functional diversity and distributions of species is of utmost importance to studies of biogeography, community ecology, macroevolution, and conservation. The functional diversity of species are determined by traits such as diet, foraging strata, trophic level, activity cycle, litter size, generation length, habitat breadth and body mass. While there has been a recent growth of information regarding the vertebrate taxa of Madagascar, this information is not always easy to access (non-digitized), and is often fragmented by taxon, location, trait, or combinations thereof. Here, we present the Malagasy Animal trait Data Archive (MADA), a compilation of these traits and other functional traits, representing the ecological and geographical diversity of all 214 extant mammal and 242 bird species of Madagascar. Data were collected from extensive literature reviews. This Archive is currently limited by select cases of missing data, errors, and uncertainty in the literature; however, it represents the most comprehensive collection of functional trait data of Malagasy mammals and birds to date. The structure of the database allows for different levels of information (and specificity) in each entry and organization by taxon, range, bioclimate and trait. MADA will be continuously updated as new data become available. Potential uses of MADA include ecological research on the trait or trophic structure of communities, inquiries regarding the mechanisms of community assembly, comparative studies of functionally (dis)similar

species, and conservation efforts concerned with the loss of ecosystem function. Madagascar is simultaneously home to one of the most exclusive, diverse, and endangered faunas of the world, making MADA a uniquely valuable resource for biodiversity science and conservation. No copyright restrictions are associated with this dataset. We would appreciate that researchers cite this paper if using all or part of the datasets.

D. Key words

Bird; body size; diet; foraging; function; mammal; mass; niche; stratum; traits; vertebrate; Madagascar

CLASS II. RESEARCH ORIGIN DESCRIPTORS

A. “Overall” project description

1. Identity

The trait data presented here are part of an ongoing project that investigates different aspects of biological diversity for several taxonomic groups across Madagascar.

2. Originator

Onja H. Razafindratsima, Department of Organismic and Evolutionary Biology, Harvard University, 22 Divinity Avenue, Cambridge MA 02138

3. Period of study

Oct 2016 – continuing

4. Objectives

- i. To assemble comprehensive information on functional diversity of multiple vertebrate taxonomic groups across Madagascar;
- ii. To explore patterns of phylogenetic and functional diversity across Madagascar, in order to guide large-scale multi-taxonomic conservation priorities.

5. Sources of funding

Daniel and Sarah Hrdy Fellowship in Conservation Biology at Harvard University to OHR

B. “Specific subproject” description

1. Objectives

To provide resources for studies of species ecology, function, and conservation

2. Site description

Our datasets comprise only species that are native to Madagascar, regardless of their distributions elsewhere. We determined species occurring in Madagascar based on range map distributions from BirdLife International and NatureServe (BirdLife International and

NatureServe 2015) for birds, and using spatial map data developed by IUCN for mammals (<http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/spatial-data>, accessed in August 2016).

3. Taxonomy and systematics

We adopted the most up-to-date bird taxonomic nomenclature in the Handbook of the Birds of the World (<http://www.hbw.com/>, accessed May 2017) and BirdLife International (<http://datazone.birdlife.org/species/results?fam=0&gen=0&cty=126>, accessed August 2016). For mammals, we followed the taxonomic nomenclature provided by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List (<http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/spatial-data>, accessed October 2016). These were checked and updated as appropriate with information from current published information (Schwitzer et al. 2013, Cardiff and Jenkins 2016, Everson et al. 2016, Merson et al. 2017), as well as from the Species Survival Commission Specialist group for the Afrotheria (<http://www.afrotheria.net/systematics.php>, accessed September 2017).

4. Research methods

Experimental design: Data were collected from the literature (public domain & scientific publications), from existing online databases and from OHR's previously collated databases.

Field/laboratory: *n/a*

Data sources: We gathered multiple biological traits whenever available for each species, from both primary and secondary sources. We initially gathered data systematically from relevant databases, review papers, books and primary literature. We then used the Google search engine and Google Scholar to locate further sources for particular individual species and/or variables. Additionally, we incorporated data from relevant field guides and previous data compilations on Malagasy primates held by OHR that were gathered in similar ways. Our data sources are cited below in Class V, Section D.

Data collection: We manually collected biological trait data from the sources described above, from Oct 2016 to Jun 2017. These data were reviewed again in Sept-Dec 2017

Variables: Data were gathered for the following traits:

- For birds: Adult Body Mass, Diet Breadth, Diet type, Trophic level, Activity Cycle, Foraging Stratum, Migratory Status, Clutch size, Egg size (length, width and mass), Incubation time, Nesting Habit, Maximum Longevity
- For mammals: Adult Body Mass, Cranial Capacity, Diet Breadth, Diet type, Trophic level, Activity Cycle, Foraging Stratum, Habitat Breadth, Gestation length, Litter size, Inter-birth Interval, Home Range, Population density, Social Group Size, Maximum Longevity

We did not have the same trait variables for birds and mammals because i) some traits are not directly comparable between the groups, and ii) it was often not possible to get enough data for a specific trait variable for either one of the groups. Given that direct comparisons between birds and animals are not our goal, we believe it is acceptable to have different variable categories for the two groups. Those interested in bird-mammal comparisons may find it useful to disregard trait data not present for both taxonomic groups. Missing values in the dataset are represented by the code “-999”. We also included information on presence-absence in each of the administrative divisions and bioclimatic zones. Madagascar is comprised of 6 provinces (Antananarivo, Antsiranana, Fianarantsoa, Mahajanga, Toamasina, and Toliara) and 22 regions within them (Sava, Itasy, Analamanga, Vakinankaratra, Bongolava, Sofia, Boeny, Betsiboka, Melaky, Alaotra-Mangoro, Atsinanana, Analanjirofo, Amoron'i Mania, Matsiatra Ambony, Vatovavy-Fitovinany, Atsimo-Atsinanana, Ihorombe, Menabe, Atsimo-Andrefana, Androy, and Anosy). Madagascar also comprises 5 distinct bioclimatic zones; humid, subhumid, montane, dry, and subarid (Cornet 1974). We determined the presence of each taxon in these administrative divisions and bioclimatic zones based on species range maps described above.

5. Limitations

Given that this Archive is based on review of published information in both peer-reviewed publications and public domain, any errors and uncertainties in the original sources of the data may not be apparent, including spatial, temporal, and intraspecific variation.

6. Project personnel

Onja H. Razafindratsima, Daniel S. Park, Yasmin Yacoby

CLASS III. DATA SET STATUS AND ACCESSIBILITY

A. Status

1. Latest update

Dec 2017

2. Latest archive date

n/a

3. Metadata status

Latest Update: Dec 2017.

4. Data verification

All data were checked by Onja Razafindratsima; however, these datasets will definitely benefit from further quality control and curation. We aim to facilitate this process by sharing our current data and any future updates and/or revisions in the Dryad Digital Repository (<https://doi.org/10.5061/dryad.44tt0>).

B. Accessibility

1. Storage locations and medium

The current datasets are available as part of this *Ecology* Data Paper. These datasets are also archived in the Dryad Digital Repository (<https://doi.org/10.5061/dryad.44tt0>) for future updates.

2. Contact person

Onja H. Razafindratsima (onja@ricealumni.net)

3. Copyright restrictions

None

4. Proprietary restrictions

None

5. Costs

None. We would appreciate that researchers cite this paper if using all or part of the datasets.

CLASS IV. DATA STRUCTURED DESCRIPTORS

A. Date set file

1. Identity

(1) BirdTraitData.csv, (2) MamTraitData.csv

2. Size

(1) 243 records (including header) and 60 fields. Total file size is 65KB.

(2) 215 records (including header) and 61 fields. Total file size is 67KB.

3. Format and storage mode

Comma delimited, not compressed

4. Other information

Header: the first row of the file contains variable names (see tables below).

Row: Each row represents data for a single species.

Alphanumeric attributes: Mixed.

Special characters/fields: NA.

5. Authentication procedures

The following are the sums of the numeric columns (excluding missing values):

BirdTraitData.csv: AdultBodyMass = 89923.49; IncubationTime = 3,812.65; ClutchSize = 672.15; EggLength = 4,742.42; EggWidth = 3642.23; EggMass = 4,761.18; Longevity = 19,498.76

MamTraitData.csv: AdultBodyMass = 149,820.10; CranialCapacity = 810.67; GestationLength = 10,173.85; LitterSize = 174.34; InterbirthInterval = 32,419.48; HomeRange = 90.64; PopulationDensity = 6924.69; SocialGrpSize = 1,086.20; Longevity = 16,061.70

B. Variable definitions

Table 1. Summary of variable information for file (1) – bird trait data

Variable	Description	Type
Order	Taxonomic order	Character
Family	Taxonomic family	Character
Genus	Taxonomic genus	Character
Species	Scientific name	Character
Authority	Taxonomic authorities	Character
CommonName	Species English common name	Character
AdultBodyMass	Body mass, in grams. We used an average of male and female body mass, from one or multiple localities, whenever possible (Smith et al. 2003). Midpoints of ranges were used if averages are not available.	Floating point
DietBreadth	Number of dietary categories spanned among: vertebrate, invertebrate, fruit, flower/nectar/pollen/gum, seeds, other plant materials, other food items (scavenge, insect secretions etc.)	Integer
Diet: invertebrates	Presence of invertebrates in diet	Binary (yes, no)
Diet: vertebrates	Presence of vertebrates in diet	Binary (yes, no)
Diet: fruits	Presence of fruits in diet	Binary (yes, no)
Diet: flower/nectar/pollen/gums	Presence of flower/nectar/pollen/gum in diet	Binary (yes, no)
Diet: seeds	Presence of seeds in diet	Binary (yes, no)
Diet: other plant materials	Presence of other plant materials in diet	Binary (yes, no)
Diet: scavenge, garbage, carrion, carcasses	Presence of other food items in diet	Binary (yes, no)
TrophicLevel	Based on diet: (1) herbivore (not vertebrate and/or invertebrate); (2) omnivore (vertebrate and/or	Integer

	invertebrate plus any other category); (3) carnivore (invertebrates and/or vertebrates only)	
ActivityCycle	Activity cycle of each species measured for non-captive populations (following Jones et al. (2009). Species were defined as (1) nocturnal only, (2) nocturnal/crepuscular, cathemeral, crepuscular or diurnal/crepuscular and (3) diurnal only.	Integer
ForagingStratum	Stratum where the species typically forage, according to Wilman et al. (2014): 1- ground level (in/near water, understory, tidal, forest floor); 2: scansorial; 3: arboreal (mid-high canopy); 4: aerial	Integer
MigratoryStatus	Whether the species migrate or not	Binary (yes, no)
IncubationTime	Average incubation time, in days	Floating point
ClutchSize	Average number of eggs produced per clutch, or midpoints of ranges if averages are not available	Floating number
EggLength	Average egg length, in mm	Floating point
EggWidth	Average egg width, taken at the widest area, in mm	Floating point
EggMass	Average egg mass, in grams	Floating point
NestingHabit	Layer where the species typically nest: aquatic, arboreal, manmade structure, none, parasitic, terrestrial	Character
Longevity	Maximum adult longevity, in months	Floating Number
Dry; humid; montane, subarid; subhumid	Presence of species in each of these five bioclimatic zones. Data extracted by overlaying species range distributions (source: BirdLife International and NatureServe 2015) on the shapefiles of the bioclimatic zones (source: http://www.mobot.org/mobot/gazetteer/bioclm5.zip), as described in Class II, section B.2.	Binary (yes: 1, no: 0)
Alaotra.Mangoro; Amoron.i.Mania ; Analamanga ; Analanjirofo ; Androy ; Anosy ;	Presence of species in each of these 22 administrative regions. Data extracted by overlaying species range distributions on the shapefiles of the regions, as described in Class II, section B.2.	Binary (yes: 1, no: 0)

Atsimo.Andrefana; Atsimo.Atsinanana; Atsinanana; Betsiboka; Boeny; Bongolava; DIANA; Haute.Matsiatra; Ihorombe; Itasy; Melaky; Menabe; SAVA; Sofia; Vakinankaratra; Vatovavy.Fitovinany;		
Antananarivo; Antsiranana; Fianarantsoa; Mahajanga; Toamasina; Toliara	Presence of species in each of these six administrative provinces. Data extracted by overlaying species range distributions on the shapefiles of the provinces, as described in Class II, section B.2.	Binary (yes: 1, no: 0)
References	Index numbers referring to the sources of trait data for each species, following the list of references provided in Class V, section D.	

Table 2. Summary of variable information for file 2 – mammal trait data

Variable	Description	Type
Order	Taxonomic order	Character
Family	Taxonomic family	Character
Genus	Taxonomic genus	Character
Species	Scientific name	Character
Authority	Taxonomic authorities	Character
CommonName	Species English common name	Character
AdultBodyMass	Body mass (g) We used an average of male and female body mass, from one or multiple localities, whenever possible (Smith et al. 2003). Midpoints of ranges were used if averages are not available.	Floating point
CranialCapacity	Estimates of the cranial capacity of each species (cm ³). These were based in measures of brain mass; as 1 g of brain mass equals 1 cm ³ of volume (Catlett et al. 2010).	Floating number
DietBreadth	Number of dietary categories spanned among: vertebrate, invertebrate, fruit, flower/nectar/pollen/gum, seeds, other plant materials, other food items (scavenge, insect secretions etc.)	Integer

Diet: invertebrates	Presence of invertebrates in diet	Binary (yes, no)
Diet: vertebrates	Presence of vertebrates in diet	Binary (yes, no)
Diet: fruits	Presence of fruits in diet	Binary (yes, no)
Diet: flower/nectar/pollen/g ums	Presence of flower/nectar/pollen/gum in diet	Binary (yes, no)
Diet: seeds	Presence of seeds in diet	Binary (yes, no)
Diet: other plant materials	Presence of other plant materials in diet	Binary (yes, no)
Diet: scavenge, garbage, carrion, carcasses	Presence of other food items in diet	Binary (yes, no)
TrophicLevel	Based on diet: (1) herbivore (not vertebrate and/or invertebrate); (2) omnivore (vertebrate and/or invertebrate plus any other category); (3) carnivore (invertebrates and/or vertebrates only)	Integer
HabitatBreadth	Following Jones et al. (2009): “Number of habitat layers used by each species measured using any qualitative or quantitative time measure, for non-captive populations; adult or age unspecified individuals, male, female, or sex unspecified individuals; primary, secondary, or extrapolated sources; all measures of central tendency; in all localities. Categories were defined as above-ground dwelling, aquatic, fossorial and ground dwelling.”	Integer
ActivityCycle	Activity cycle of each species measured for non-captive populations (following Jones et al. (2009). Species were defined as (1) nocturnal only, (2) nocturnal/crepuscular, cathemeral, crepuscular or diurnal/crepuscular and (3) diurnal only.	Integer
ForagingStratum	Stratum where the species typically forage, according to Wilman et al. (2014): 1- ground level (in/near water, understory, tidal, forest floor); 2: scansorial; 3: arboreal (mid-high canopy); 4: aerial	Integer
GestationLength	Defined as average “length of time of non-inactive fetal	Floating

	growth” from conception to birth (Jones et al. 2009); average from one or multiple localities. Midpoints of ranges are used if averages are not available. Unit: days	number
LitterSize	Average number of offspring per female per litter, or midpoints of ranges if averages are not available.	Floating point
InterbirthInterval	Following Jones et al. (2009): “The length of time between successive births of the same female(s) after a successful or unspecified litter using non-captive, wild, provisioned, or unspecified populations; primary, secondary, or extrapolated sources; all measures of central tendency; in all localities.” Unit: days	Floating number
HomeRange	Following Jones et al. (2009): “Size of the area within which everyday activities of individuals or groups (of any type) are typically restricted, estimated by either direct observation, radio telemetry, trapping or unspecified methods over any duration of time, using non-captive populations; male, female, or sex unspecified individuals; primary, secondary, or extrapolated sources; all measures of central tendency; in all localities.” Unit: km ²	Floating number
PopulationDensity	Following Jones et al. (2009): “Number of individuals per square kilometer, estimated with either direct, indirect or unspecified counts, measured in any area size within a human, ecological or unspecified boundary, over any duration of time, using non-captive, non-provisioned populations; male, female, or sex unspecified individuals; primary, secondary, or extrapolated sources”. Measures are as average across studies in all localities. Unit: individuals / km ²	Floating point
SocialGrpSize	Following Jones et al. (2009): “Number of individuals, adults or definition unspecified in a group that spends the majority of their time in a 24 hour cycle together where there is some indication that these individuals form a social cohesive unit, measured over any duration of time, using non-captive populations; male, female, or sex unspecified individuals; primary, secondary, or extrapolated sources; all measures of central tendency; in all localities.” Unit: individuals	Floating point

Longevity	Maximum adult longevity, in months	Floating point
Dry; Humid; Montane, Subarid; Subhumid	Presence of species in each of these five bioclimatic zones. Data extracted by overlaying species range distributions (source: http://www.iucnredlist.org/) on the shapefiles of the bioclimatic zones (source: http://www.mobot.org/mobot/gazetteer/bioclm5.zip), as described in Class II, section B.2.	Binary (yes: 1, no: 0)
Alaotra.Mangoro; Amoron.i.Mania ; Analamanga ; Analanjirofo ; Androy ; Anosy ; Atsimo.Andrefana; Atsimo.Atsinanana; Atsinanana; Betsiboka; Boeny; Bongolava; DIANA; Haute.Matsiatra; Ihorombe; Itasy; Melaky; Menabe; SAVA; Sofia; Vakinankaratra; Vatovavy.Fitovinany;	Presence of species in each of these 22 administrative regions. Data extracted by overlaying species range distributions on the shapefiles of the regions, as described in Class II, section B.2.	Binary (yes: 1, no: 0)
Antananarivo; Antsiranana; Fianarantsoa; Mahajanga; Toamasina; Toliara	Presence of species in each of these six administrative provinces. Data extracted by overlaying species range distributions on the shapefiles of the provinces, as described in Class II, section B.2.	Binary (yes: 1, no: 0)
References	Index numbers referring to sources of the trait data for each species, following the list of references provided in Class V, section D.	

CLASS V. SUPPLEMENTAL DESCRIPTION

A. Data acquisition

See Class II, Section B.

B. Quality assurance/quality control procedure

See Class II, Section B and Class III, Section A

C. Archiving

We aim to update data files and metadata periodically at the Dryad Digital Repository (<https://doi.org/10.5061/dryad.44tt0>).

D. Reference list for the datasets

References are given in the dataset as indexed values following the reference list below:

1. Acuna, J. 2015. "*Eulemur cinereiceps*" (Online), Animal Diversity Web. Accessed Dec 07, 2017 at http://animaldiversity.org/accounts/Eulemur_cinereiceps/
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3. Alvarado, D. 2000. "*Microcebus murinus*" (Online), Animal Diversity Web. Accessed Dec 07, 2017 at http://animaldiversity.org/accounts/Microcebus_murinus/
4. AnAge <http://genomics.senescence.info/species/> accessed Dec 2017
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6. Andriaholinirina, N., Baden, A., Blanco, M., Chikhi, L., Cooke, A., Davies, N., Dolch, R., Donati, G., Ganzhorn, J., Golden, C., Groeneveld, L.F., Hapke, A., Irwin, M., Johnson, S., Kappeler, P., King, T., Lewis, R., Louis, E.E., Markolf, M., Mass, V., Mittermeier, R.A., Nichols, R., Patel, E., Rabarivola, C.J., Raharivololona, B., Rajaobelina, S., Ralison, J., Ramahaleo, T., Ranaivoarisoa, J.F., Randrianahaleo, S.I., Randrianambinina, B., Randrianarimanana, L., Randrianasolo, H., Randriatahina, G., Rasamimananana, H., Rasolofoharivelo, T., Rasoloharijaona, S., Ratelolahy, F., Ratsimbazafy, J., Ratsimbazafy, N., Razafindraibe, H., Razafindramanana, J., Rowe, N., Salmona, J., Seiler, M., Volampeno, S., Wright, P., Youssouf, J., Zaonarivelo, J. & Zaramody, A. 2014. *Avahi meridionalis*. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2014: e.T136369A16115032. <http://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2014-1.RLTS.T136369A16115032.en>. Downloaded on Dec 5, 2017.
7. Andriaholinirina, N., Baden, A., Blanco, M., Chikhi, L., Cooke, A., Davies, N., Dolch, R., Donati, G., Ganzhorn, J., Golden, C., Groeneveld, L.F., Hapke, A., Irwin, M., Johnson, S., Kappeler, P., King, T., Lewis, R., Louis, E.E., Markolf, M., Mass, V., Mittermeier, R.A., Nichols, R., Patel, E., Rabarivola, C.J., Raharivololona, B., Rajaobelina, S., Rakotoarisoa, G., Rakotomanga, B., Rakotonanahary, J., Rakotondrainibe, H., Rakotondratsimba, G., Rakotondratsimba, M., Rakotonirina, L., Ralainasolo, F.B., Ralison, J., Ramahaleo, T., Ranaivoarisoa, J.F., Randrianahaleo, S.I., Randrianambinina, B., Randrianarimanana, L., Randrianasolo, H., Randriatahina, G., Rasamimananana, H., Rasolofoharivelo, T., Rasoloharijaona, S., Ratelolahy, F., Ratsimbazafy, J., Ratsimbazafy, N., Razafindraibe, H., Razafindramanana, J., Rowe, N., Salmona, J., Seiler, M., Volampeno, S., Wright, P.,

- Youssouf, J., Zaonarivelo, J. & Zaramody, A. 2014. *Allocebus trichotis*. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2014: e.T868A16111169. <http://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2014-1.RLTS.T868A16111169.en>. Downloaded on Dec 5, 2017.
8. Andriaholinirina, N., Baden, A., Blanco, M., Chikhi, L., Cooke, A., Davies, N., Dolch, R., Donati, G., Ganzhorn, J., Golden, C., Groeneveld, L.F., Hapke, A., Irwin, M., Johnson, S., Kappeler, P., King, T., Lewis, R., Louis, E.E., Markolf, M., Mass, V., Mittermeier, R.A., Nichols, R., Patel, E., Rabarivola, C.J., Raharivololona, B., Rajaobelina, S., Rakotoarisoa, G., Rakotomanga, B., Rakotonanahary, J., Rakotondrainibe, H., Rakotondratsimba, G., Rakotondratsimba, M., Rakotonirina, L., Ralainasolo, F.B., Ralison, J., Ramahaleo, T., Ranaivoarisoa, J.F., Randrianahaleo, S.I., Randrianambinina, B., Randrianarimanana, L., Randrianasolo, H., Randriatahina, G., Rasamimanana, H., Rasolofoharivelo, T., Rasoloharijaona, S., Ratelolahy, F., Ratsimbazafy, J., Ratsimbazafy, N., Razafindraibe, H., Razafindramanana, J., Rowe, N., Salmona, J., Seiler, M., Volampeno, S., Wright, P., Youssouf, J., Zaonarivelo, J. & Zaramody, A. 2014. *Eulemur collaris*. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2014: e.T8206A16117045. <http://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2014-1.RLTS.T8206A16117045.en>. Downloaded on Nov 30, 2017.
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E. Publications citing this dataset

None to date

F. History and data usage

Date request history: N/A

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