

Blunt-nosed Leopard Lizard CEWL Measurement Triplicate Tests

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Packages

```
if (!require("tidyverse")) install.packages("tidyverse")
library("tidyverse")
if (!require("UsingR")) install.packages("UsingR")
library("UsingR")
if (!require("MASS")) install.packages("MASS")
library("MASS")
if (!require("lme4")) install.packages("lme4")
library("lme4")
```

Load in Data

This data was collected during fieldwork with Blunt-nosed Leopard Lizards (*Gambelia sila*) in the Elkhorn Plain of the Carrizo Plain National Monument in California, USA during the 2021 active season (April-August).

This is a preliminary analysis to decide whether CEWL measurements should be taken in triplicate or can be just one measurement.

Load CEWL Data

Only the first weekend is loaded for now, but we can check with other replicates later.

```
# weekend 1
CEWL_April_23_25 <- read.csv("./data/BNLL CEWL 4-23-2021 to 4-25-2021.csv") %>%
  dplyr::mutate(weekend = "1") # add weekend index for throughout season

# weekend 2
# etc etc

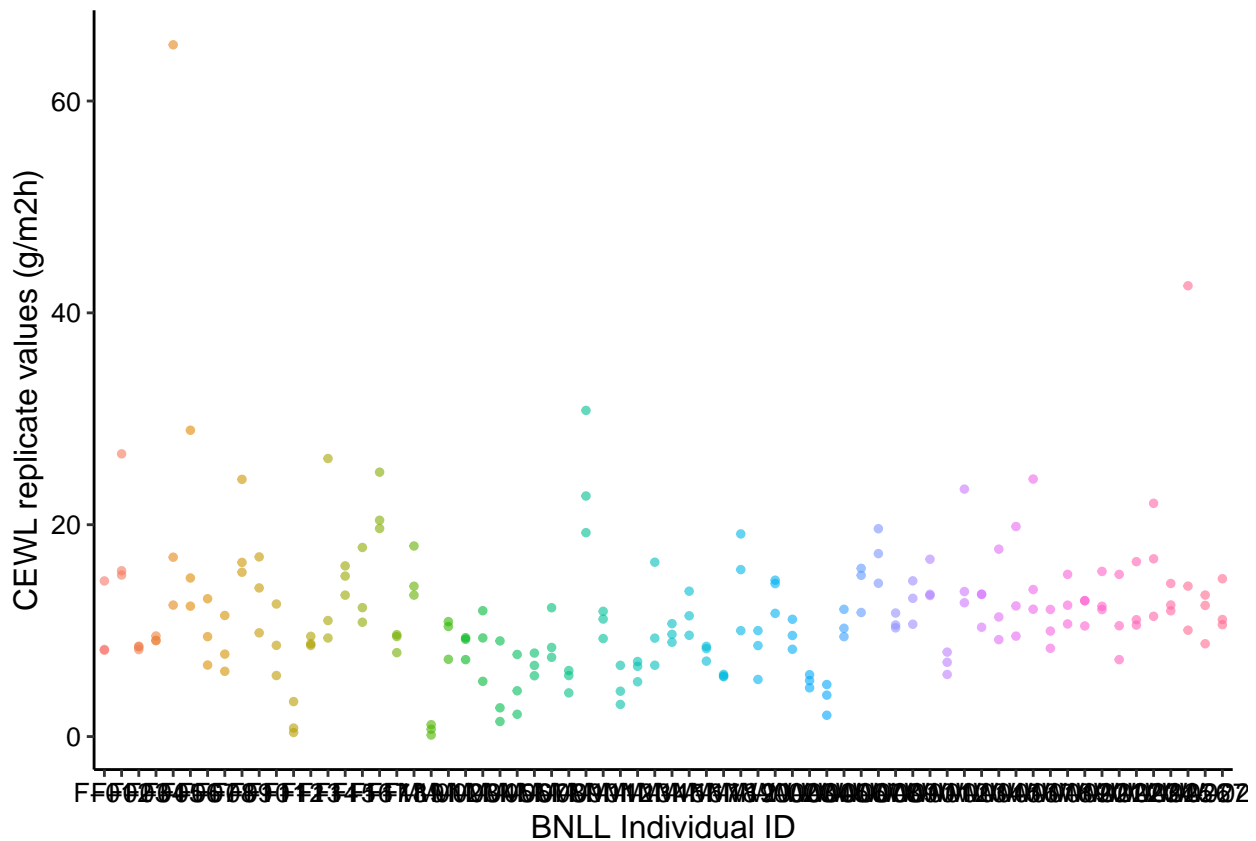
# merge all CEWL datafiles & reformat
CEWL <- CEWL_April_23_25 %>%
  # join
  #rbind(., CEWL_May_xx, CEWL_May_xx, etc
  #      ) %>%
  # reformat data
  dplyr::select(Date, Time,
                ID = Comments,
                TEWL_g_m2h = TEWL..g..m2h.., # rename
                CV = CV...., # rename
                SSWL_g_m2 = SSWL..g..m2.., # rename
                ambient_temp_C = AmbT..C., # rename
                ambient_RH_percent = AmbRH...., # rename
                weekend
                ) %>%
  dplyr::mutate(date_time = as.POSIXct(paste(Date, Time), format = "%m/%d/%y %I:%M:%S %p"),
                # date only
                Date = as.Date(Date, format = "%m/%d/%y"),
                # time with arbitrary date, need to figure out how to remove
                Time = as.POSIXct(Time, format = "%I:%M:%S %p"),
                # get length of current ID for editing
                length_ID = nchar((ID)),
                # extract CEWL replicate number
                replicate = as.numeric(substring(ID, length_ID, length_ID)),
                # extract group (male, female, widespread)
                ID_group = substring(ID, 1, 1),
                # extract ID number within group
                ID_number = substring(ID, 2, (length_ID-2)),
                # merge IDs to match format in other data files
                ID = paste(ID_group, "-", ID_number, sep = ""),
                weekend = as.numeric(weekend)
                ) %>%
  dplyr::select(-length_ID, # remove these since no longer need
                -ID_group,
                -ID_number
                )
summary(CEWL)
```

##	Date	Time	ID
##	Min. :2021-04-23	Min. :2021-05-05 11:37:51	Length:198
##	1st Qu.:2021-04-23	1st Qu.:2021-05-05 13:53:22	Class :character
##	Median :2021-04-24	Median :2021-05-05 14:38:46	Mode :character
##	Mean :2021-04-23	Mean :2021-05-05 15:01:37	
##	3rd Qu.:2021-04-24	3rd Qu.:2021-05-05 15:58:40	

```
## Max.      :2021-04-25    Max.      :2021-05-05 19:56:00
## TEWL_g_m2h      CV      SSWL_g_m2      ambient_temp_C
## Min.      : 0.140    Min.      : 0.1000    Min.      :0.00000    Min.      :18.90
## 1st Qu.: 8.213    1st Qu.: 0.4125    1st Qu.:0.00900    1st Qu.:28.52
## Median :10.615    Median : 0.5900    Median :0.02439    Median :30.50
## Mean      :11.650    Mean      : 1.0383    Mean      :0.03701    Mean      :29.07
## 3rd Qu.:14.150    3rd Qu.: 0.8175    3rd Qu.:0.05147    3rd Qu.:31.60
## Max.      :65.310    Max.      :42.8500    Max.      :0.18780    Max.      :33.70
## ambient_RH_percent weekend      date_time      replicate
## Min.      :11.60    Min.      :1    Min.      :2021-04-23 12:57:55    Min.      :1.000
## 1st Qu.:15.00    1st Qu.:1    1st Qu.:2021-04-23 14:55:45    1st Qu.:1.000
## Median :15.90    Median :1    Median :2021-04-24 12:57:24    Median :2.000
## Mean      :19.31    Mean      :1    Mean      :2021-04-24 07:23:26    Mean      :2.015
## 3rd Qu.:20.98    3rd Qu.:1    3rd Qu.:2021-04-24 15:36:36    3rd Qu.:3.000
## Max.      :37.90    Max.      :1    Max.      :2021-04-25 14:41:17    Max.      :4.000
```

Plot Replicates

```
CEWL %>%
  ggplot(data = .) +
  geom_point(aes(x = ID,
                 y = TEWL_g_m2h,
                 color = ID
                 ),
            size = 1,
            alpha = 0.6) +
  theme_classic() +
  xlab("BNLL Individual ID") +
  ylab("CEWL replicate values (g/m2h)") +
  theme(text = element_text(color = "black",
                             family = "sans",
                             size = 12),
        axis.text = element_text(color = "black",
                                   family = "sans",
                                   size = 10),
        legend.text.align = 0,
        legend.position = "none"
  )
```



It looks like there are two unusually high measurements - one replicate for the fifth lizard listed and one replicate for the third-to-last lizard listed. I think they're both above 40, so I could see how filtering them out affects replicability.

Get mean values for each lizard:

```
CEWL_rep_avg <- CEWL %>%
  group_by(Date, ID, weekend) %>% # put all keeps here
  # summaries
  summarise(mean_TEWL_g_m2h = mean(TEWL_g_m2h),
            sd_TEWL_g_m2h = sd(TEWL_g_m2h),
            mean_CV = mean(CV),
            sd_CV = sd(CV),
            mean_SSWL_g_m2 = mean(SSWL_g_m2),
            sd_SSWL_g_m2 = sd(SSWL_g_m2),
            mean_temp_C = mean(ambient_temp_C),
            sd_temp_C = sd(ambient_temp_C),
            mean_RH_percent = mean(ambient_RH_percent),
            sd_RH_percent = sd(ambient_RH_percent)
  )
```

```
## `summarise()` regrouping output by 'Date', 'ID' (override with `.groups` argument)
```

```
avg_TEWL_sd <- mean(CEWL_rep_avg$sd_TEWL_g_m2h)
avg_TEWL_sd
```

```
## [1] 3.322823
```

Plot means:

)



Model Replicates

make a GLMM to figure out whether replicates have significantly different CEWL values:

```
mod <- lme4::lmer(data = CEWL, TEWL_g_m2h ~ replicate + (1|ID))
mod2 <- nlme::lme(data = CEWL, TEWL_g_m2h ~ replicate, random = ~ 1|ID) # for p-values
summary(mod)
```

```
## Linear mixed model fit by REML ['lmerMod']
## Formula: TEWL_g_m2h ~ replicate + (1 | ID)
## Data: CEWL
##
## REML criterion at convergence: 1270.7
##
## Scaled residuals:
##      Min       1Q   Median       3Q      Max
## -2.3402 -0.3939 -0.0861  0.2671  7.7263
##
## Random effects:
## Groups Name Variance Std.Dev.
## ID      (Intercept) 22.56  4.750
## Residual          23.09  4.805
## Number of obs: 198, groups: ID, 66
##
## Fixed effects:
##              Estimate Std. Error t value
## (Intercept)  16.217      1.079  15.028
## replicate    -2.267      0.417  -5.436
##
## Correlation of Fixed Effects:
##              (Intr)
## replicate -0.779
```

```
summary(mod2)
```

```
## Linear mixed-effects model fit by REML
## Data: CEWL
##      AIC      BIC    logLik
## 1278.673 1291.785 -635.3363
##
## Random effects:
## Formula: ~1 | ID
##      (Intercept) Residual
## StdDev:  4.749645 4.804734
##
## Fixed effects: TEWL_g_m2h ~ replicate
##              Value Std.Error DF   t-value p-value
## (Intercept) 16.21740 1.0791558 131 15.027857     0
## replicate   -2.26668 0.4170131 131 -5.435512     0
## Correlation:
##              (Intr)
## replicate -0.779
##
## Standardized Within-Group Residuals:
##      Min       Q1       Med       Q3      Max
## -2.34017065 -0.39388613 -0.08605866  0.26705911  7.72628368
##
## Number of Observations: 198
```

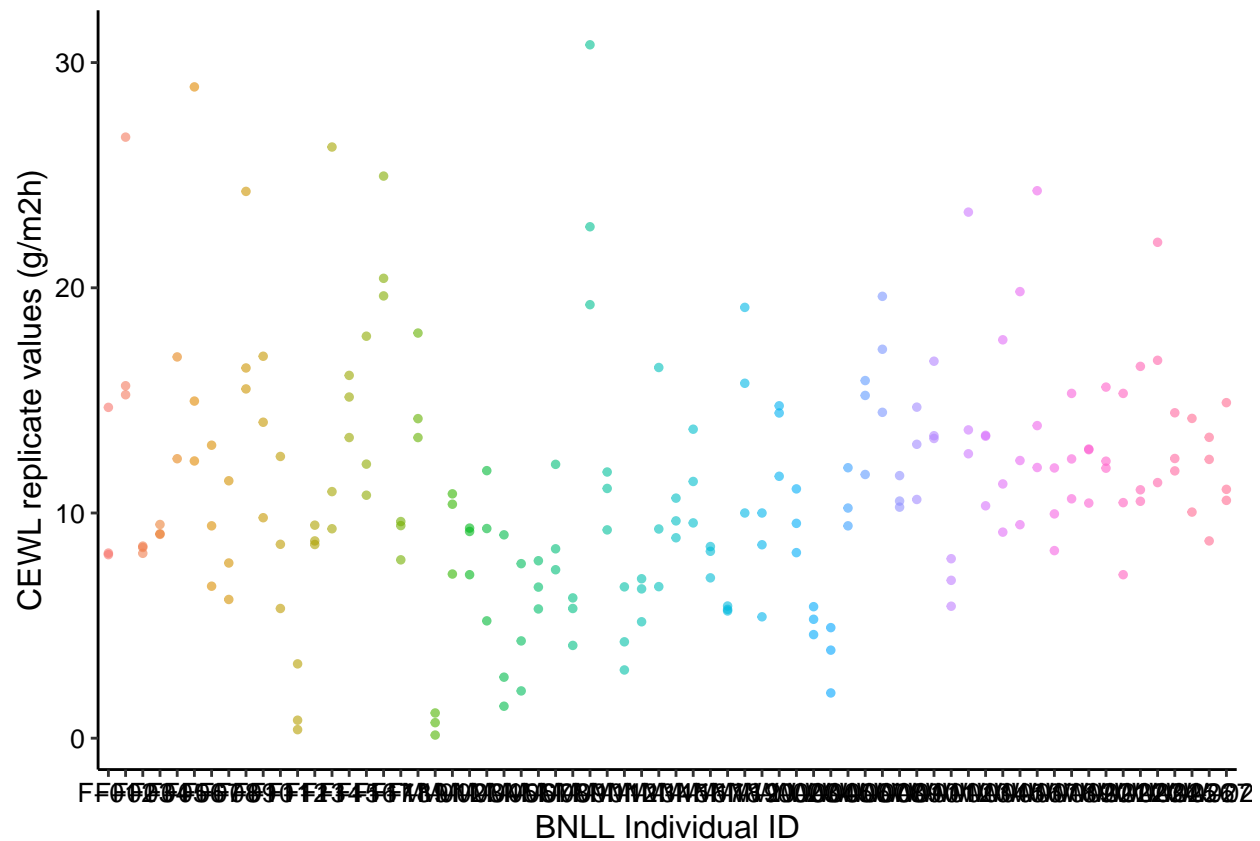
```
## Number of Groups: 66
```

Remove Unusual Points

```
CEWL_sub <- CEWL %>%  
  dplyr::filter(TEWL_g_m2h <= 40)
```

Re-Plot

```
CEWL_sub %>%  
  ggplot(data = .) +  
  geom_point(aes(x = ID,  
                 y = TEWL_g_m2h,  
                 color = ID  
                ),  
            size = 1,  
            alpha = 0.6) +  
  theme_classic() +  
  xlab("BNLL Individual ID") +  
  ylab("CEWL replicate values (g/m2h)") +  
  theme(text = element_text(color = "black",  
                             family = "sans",  
                             size = 12),  
        axis.text = element_text(color = "black",  
                                   family = "sans",  
                                   size = 10),  
        legend.text.align = 0,  
        legend.position = "none"  
  )
```



This looks a lot better....

Re-Model

```
mod3 <- lme4::lmer(data = CEWL_sub, TEWL_g_m2h ~ replicate + (1|ID))
mod4 <- nlme::lme(data = CEWL_sub, TEWL_g_m2h ~ replicate, random = ~ 1|ID) # for p-values
summary(mod3)
```

```
## Linear mixed model fit by REML ['lmerMod']
## Formula: TEWL_g_m2h ~ replicate + (1 | ID)
## Data: CEWL_sub
##
## REML criterion at convergence: 1097.5
##
## Scaled residuals:
##      Min       1Q   Median       3Q      Max
## -2.0156 -0.5504 -0.0698  0.4158  3.3646
##
## Random effects:
## Groups   Name      Variance Std.Dev.
## ID       (Intercept) 18.687   4.323
## Residual                7.935   2.817
## Number of obs: 196, groups: ID, 66
##
## Fixed effects:
##              Estimate Std. Error t value
```



```
## (Intercept) 14.8771    0.7584   19.61
## replicate  -1.7947    0.2472   -7.26
##
## Correlation of Fixed Effects:
##           (Intr)
## replicate -0.661
```

```
summary(mod4)
```

```
## Linear mixed-effects model fit by REML
##   Data: CEWL_sub
##       AIC      BIC    logLik
##  1105.523 1118.594 -548.7614
##
## Random effects:
##   Formula: ~1 | ID
##           (Intercept) Residual
## StdDev:    4.322866 2.816841
##
## Fixed effects: TEWL_g_m2h ~ replicate
##               Value Std.Error DF   t-value p-value
## (Intercept) 14.877077 0.7584422 129 19.615307      0
## replicate  -1.794696 0.2471906 129 -7.260373      0
## Correlation:
##           (Intr)
## replicate -0.661
##
## Standardized Within-Group Residuals:
##           Min           Q1           Med           Q3           Max
## -2.01563852 -0.55038247 -0.06984615  0.41576743  3.36460933
##
## Number of Observations: 196
## Number of Groups: 66
```

The p-values are still 0 even after removing the two unusually high points...

Conclusion

There's definitely a lot of variation among triplicate measurements for a given lizard, and the models show that variation is significant. I would conclude that it is important to take these measurements in triplicate to even out the variation in measurements. Taking measurements in triplicate will also allow us to exclude unusual points like the two in the first weekend's dataset, while still having the other replicates for that lizard for us to analyse.