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Behavioural ecology and evolutionary biologist

Research interests

My main research interests lie in understanding the evolution of social and mating systems in mammals. In particular, my work explores the reproductive and life history strategies of males and females in primate societies, using both observational and experimental data. I am currently focusing on female reproductive competition and on sexual conflict between males and females in a wild population of chacma baboon living in Namibia.

Education

- 2012-2016 PhD in Evolutionary Biology: "Intra- and intersexual reproductive conflicts in a social primate, the chacma baboon (*Papio ursinus*)". Co-supervised by Elise Huchard, Institute of Evolutionary Sciences (ISEM) and Guy Cowlishaw, Zoological Society of London (IoZ).
- 2011-2012 Master's degree in Evolutionary Biology, University of Montpellier 2. Diploma of engineer in agronomy.

Publications

Baniel, A., Cowlishaw,G., Huchard, E. (2016). Stability and strength of male-female associations in a promiscuous primate society. *Behavioral Ecology and Sociobiology*, 70(5): 761-775.

Wystrach, A., Schwarz, S., Schultheiss, P., **Baniel, A.**, & Cheng, K. (2014). Multiple sources of celestial compass information in the central Australian desert ant *Melophorus bagoti*. Journal of Comparative *Physiology A*, 200(6), 591-601

Baniel, A.¹, Huchard, E.¹, Schliehe-Diecks, S., & Kappeler, P. M. (2013). MHC-disassortative mate choice and inbreeding avoidance in a solitary primate. *Molecular Ecology*, *22*(15), 4071–4086. ¹Equal Contribution.

Wystrach, A., Schwarz, S., **Baniel, A.**, & Cheng, K. (2013). Backtracking behaviour in lost ants: an additional strategy in their navigational toolkit. *Proc. R. Soc. B*, 280, 20131677.

Huchard, E., Albrecht, C., Schliehe-Diecks, S., **Baniel, A.**, Roos, C., Kappeler, P. M., & Brameier, M. (2012). Large-scale MHC class II genotyping using next generation sequencing of a wild lemur population. *Immunogenetics*, *64*(12), 895–913

Work in progress

Baniel, A., Cowlishaw,G., Huchard, E. (in prep). Female-female aggression is mediated by reproductive synchrony and access to males in wild chacma baboons.

Baniel, A., Cowlishaw,G., Huchard, E. (in prep). Female intrasexual competition aim at securing sexual and social access to males in a polygynous primate society.

Baniel, A., Cowlishaw,G., Huchard, E. (in prep). Sexual coercion limits female mating decisions in a promiscuous primate society