Bruidsschatten, liefdespijlen & sekuele selectie

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Faculty of Science

Bacheloropleiding Biologie (www.vu.nl/biologie)



Bruidsschatten, liefdespijlen & sekuele selectie

(introduction to the) Mating Game

Sexual selection

Sex is ambiguous

Love darts and semnal fluids



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"The sight of a feather in a peacock's tail, whenever I gaze at it, makes me sick!"

Charles Darwin, written to a colleague after publishing the Origin of Species (Photo © L. Cassina)

Males and females reproduce in harmony



Males and females reproduce in harmony



Males give 'gifts' to females



Males give 'gifts' to females



Dance Fly *Empis snoddyi* © M.A. Brittain

Tropical house cricket Gryllodes sigillatus © D. Funk

Males and females reproduce in harmony... or do they?



The Mating Game





The players

	" intailee			Female ID
7	1	Α	1	Р
6	2	B,BB	2	Q,QQ
5	4	C,CC,D,DD	4	R,RR,S,SS
4	6	E,EE,F,FF,G,GG	6	T,TT,U,UU,V,VV
3	4	H,HH,I,II,	4	W,WW,X,XX
2	2	J,JJ	2	Y,YY
1	1	K	1	Z
	7 6 5 4 3 2 1	7 1 6 2 5 4 4 6 3 4 2 2 1 1	7 1 A 6 2 B,BB 5 4 C,CC,D,DD 4 6 E,EE,F,FF,G,GG 3 4 H,HH,I,II, 2 2 J,JJ 1 1 K	7 1 A 1 6 2 B,BB 2 5 4 C,CC,D,DD 4 4 6 E,EE,F,FF,G,GG 6 3 4 H,HH,I,II, 4 2 2 J,JJ 2 1 1 K 1

Egg layers (2) and Sperm donors (3)

Each player gets:

- 4 º or many d gametes
- Unique letter (A-K or P-Z)
- Quality score from high (7) to low (1)

The rules

One sperm is donated at a time to fertilise an egg

2 will note down the letters of the sperm donors they accept

After the 'mating season', outcomes are entered into **Excel** for interpretation.

The egg layer

Quality	Score	# Males	Male ID	# Females	Female ID
High	7	1	А	1	Р
	6	2	B,BB	2	Q,QQ
	5	4	C,CC,D,DD	4	R,RR,S,SS
	4	6	E,EE,F,FF,G,GG	6	T,TT,U,UU,V,VV
	3	4	H,HH,I,II,	4	W,WW,X,XX
	2	2	J,JJ	2	Y,YY
Low	1	1	K	1	Z









The egg layer

Quality	Score	# Males	Male ID	# Females	Female ID
High	7	1	А	1	Р
	6	2	B,BB	2	Q,QQ
	5	4	C,CC,D,DD	4	R,RR,S,SS
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Low	1	1	K	1	Z







4

_ _ _ _ _



The egg layer

1

4

_ _ _ _

2.....

3.....

Quality	Score	# Males	Male ID	# Females	Female ID
High	7	1	А	1	Р
	6	2	B,BB	2	Q,QQ
	5	4	C,CC,D,DD	4	R,RR,S,SS
	4	6	E,EE,F,FF,G,GG	6	T,TT,U,UU,V,VV
	3	4	H,HH,I,II,	4	W,WW,X,XX
	2	2	J,JJ	2	Y,YY
Low	1	1	K	1	Z

The sperm donor





Quality	Score	# Males	Male ID	# Females	Female ID
High	7	1	А	1	Р
	6	2	B,BB	2	Q,QQ
	5	4	C,CC,D,DD	4	R,RR,S,SS
	4	6	E,EE,F,FF,G,GG	6	T,TT,U,UU,V,VV
	3	4	H,HH,I,II,	4	W,WW,X,XX
	2	2	J,JJ	2	Y,YY
Low	1	1	K	1	Z

The rules

 $a^{n}a^{n}$ donate to $a^{n}a^{n}$ if both partners agree

One sperm is donated at a time to fertilise an egg

우우 will note down the letters of the sperm donors they accept (max. 4 donors)

After the 'mating season', outcomes are entered into $\underline{\mathsf{Excel}}$ for interpretation.

The Mating Game (entering the results)



Scene from Monty Python's 'The Meaning of Life' Video: <u>https://youtu.be/fUspLVStPbk</u> Lyrics: <u>https://youtu.be/k4mGrNGuJTM</u>



Origin of sexual selection: Anisogamy (sexual reproduction involving 2 gametes that differ in size/form)

Females

Males

Produce few expensive gametes: eggs Produce many cheap gametes: sperm



Origin of sexual selection

Bateman's principle: eggs are expensive, sperm are cheap

Females

Produce few expensive gametes: *eggs* Reproductive success (RS) depends on resources, not mates

Males

Produce many cheap gametes: *sperm* Reproductive success (RS) depends on number of mates, not resources



Origin of sexual selection

Bateman's principle: eggs are expensive, sperm are cheap

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Bateman's principle: eggs are expensive, sperm are cheap

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Males

Produce many cheap gametes: *sperm* Reproductive success (RS) depends on number of mates, not resources



Origin of sexual selection Bateman's principle: consequences

Females

Produce few expensive gametes: eggs

Reproductive success (RS) depends on resources, not mates

RS less variable Weak sexual selection

Invest in offspring and expect resources from mate

Less eager to mate and more choosy

Males

Produce many cheap gametes: sperm

Reproductive success (RS) depends on number of mates, not resources

RS more variable Strong sexual selection

Invest in mate attraction and do not expect resources from mate

More eager to mate and less choosy



Results from Mating Game

Females

Males

Produce few expensive gametes: eggs Produce many cheap gametes: sperm





Competition for fertilisation (Sexual selection)

Male

Costly ejaculates, sperm digestion, sperm storage



Adaptations to increase fertilisation chances

Inhibit remating Influence egg laying Increase sperm storage









Reviewed in Koene 2012; Photos: Rönn, Siva-Jothy, Jaenike, Arnqvist, Han





Seed beetle/Bean weevil *Callosobruchus maculatus*

Damage caused to female by male seed beetle



Crudgington & Siva-Jothy 2000





Seed beetle/Bean weevil *Callosobruchus maculatus*

Damage caused by male reduces female fitness



Den Hollander & Gwynne 2010





Total offspring

Seed beetle/Bean weevil *Callosobruchus maculatus*

Hotzy et al. 2012 Den Hollander & Gwynne 2010

Damage caused by male reduces female fitness & increases male fitness





Competition for fertilisation

Male

Costly ejaculates, sperm digestion, sperm storage



Counteradaptations Adaptations to increase fertilisation chances

Sexual conflict with Female









Reviewed in Koene 2012; Photos: Rönn, Siva-Jothy, Jaenike, Arnqvist, Han



Sex is ambiguous









A maned lioness in Botswana's Okavango Delta © Deon De Villiers





Gulf pipefish Syngnathus scovelli © Kimberly Paczolt



Semicossyphus reticulatus © Tony Wu

Amphiprion ocellaris © Tim Lafferty




Hermaphrodites are everywhere!



Hermaphrodites are everywhere

...and have control issues



DiCristo & Koene 2017 + in prep.

"No sexual selection in simultaneous hermaphrodites"

"With animals belonging to the lower classes, the two sexes are not rarely united in the same individual, and therefore secondary sexual characters cannot be developed.

Moreover, it is almost certain that these animals have too imperfect senses and much too low mental powers, to appreciate each other's beauty or other attractions, or to feel rivalry".

"No sexual selection in simultaneous hermaphrodites"

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Sexual selection, also in simultaneous hermaphrodites

Sexual selection	Pre-copulatory	Post-copulatory
Intrasexual selection	Male-male competition	Sperm competition
Intersexual selection	Mate choice	Cryptic female choice

Darwin 1871, Parker 1970



Separate sexes



Hermaphroditism





Sperm or eggs produced

Sperm and eggs produced

Does this cause fundamental differences in sexual selection?



Sperm <u>or</u> eggs produced 1 Sperm <u>and</u> eggs produced

2

Unidirectional (male donates, female receives)

Female physiology affected

Bidirectional (sperm donor is also recipient)

3 Both sexes' physiology affected

Imagine...



Imagine...



Gynandromorph, G1 (Zhao et al. 2010)



Marlin (Finding Nemo)



Hermaphroditus (Greek god)

Jabba the Hutt (Star Wars)

Competition for fertilisation in simultaneous hermaphrodites

Sperm donor Costly ejaculates, sperm digestion, sperm storage



Adaptations to increase fertilisation chances

Inhibit remating Influence egg laying Increase sperm storage Decrease sperm digestion



saur 1998 (oene & Chase 1998a,b (oene et al. 2013 (oene & Ter Maat 2005 (oene et al. 2002, 2005

Competition for fertilisation in simultaneous hermaphrodites



Sperm donor Costly ejaculates, sperm digestion, sperm storage

Counter-adaptations

Adaptations to increase fertilisation chances

Sexual conflict with Sperm recipient





Tropical hermaphroditic flatworm (*Pseudoceros bifurcus*)



Injection wounds

Michiels & Newman 1998

Tropical hermaphroditic flatworm (*Pseudobiceros bedfordi*)







Sperm transfer is accompanied by accessory gland proteins



Koene et al. 2010, Nakadera et al. 2014, Stewart et al. 2016, Zizzari et al. 2014, Jékely et al. 2018

'Shooting' of love darts in land snails



'Shooting' of love darts in land snails





Koene & Chase 1998a,b







Repeated stab, Euhadra subnimbosa





Both individuals shoot a dart into their partner Dart shooting occurs before exchange of spermatophores

Koene & Chase 1998a,b

Koene & Chiba 2006



Both individuals shoot a dart into their partner Dart shooting occurs before exchange of spermatophores

Koene & Chase 1998a,b

Koene & Chiba 2006

1 mm

Love dart injection reduces sperm digestion and increases paternity



Reviewed in Lodi & Koene 2016a Photos: R. Chase, M. Lodi

Love dart injection reduces sperm digestion and increases paternity





Koene & Chase 1998, Lodi & Koene 2016b, 2017

Love dart injection reduces sperm digestion and increases paternity





Koene & Schulenburg 2005, Koene & Chiba 2006, Reyes Tur & Koene 2007, Reyes Tur et al. 2015, Lodi & Koene, 2016a

LDA

LDA

LDA

LDA

Conclusions, so far

- Love dart allohormone is Buccalin-like neuromodulator
- Counter-adaptive co-evolution between male and female within hermaphrodite
- To do list: Comparative physiology and paternity effects in related species



Are there fundamental differences in accessory gland protein function(s)?

Humboldtiana nuevoleonis (Mollusca: Gastropoda: Humboldtianidae) Koene & Schulenburg 2005



Sperm transfer is accompanied by accessory gland proteins



Koene et al. 2010, Nakadera et al. 2014, Stewart et al. 2016, Zizzari et al. 2014, Jékely et al. 2018

Great pond snail Lymnaea stagnalis



Reproductive system of the great pond snail Lymnaea stagnalis



Reproductive system of the great pond snail Lymnaea stagnalis



reviewed in Jarne, David, Pointier & Koene 2010





Koene et al. 2009, 2010 Van Iersel et al. 2014 (methods video)





Testing the effects of accessory gland product on male reproduction



Nakadera et al. 2014

Testing the effects of accessory gland product on male reproduction



Recently inseminated snails (SFPs=ACPs) transfer half the amount of sperm LyAcp5 (41aa) SPADENDPSKEKLNAFGGADKLLEQIDALGPPMKVKPSGSE

LyAcp8b (55aa) DEGDDDNTETDDYGTGPITYNFPADDETDXFFVEWRMFXDAXWKRYNQAAGRXLD... Nakadera et al. 2014

Testing the effects of accessory gland product on male reproduction


In sum, (hermaphroditic) sex is complicated

- Love dart allohormone is Buccalin-like neuromodulator
- Counter-adaptive co-evolution between male and female within hermaphrodite
- Accessory gland proteins influence female and male function of mating partner
- Fundamental differences between separate sexes and hermaphroditism





KQED Science DeepLook: **PBS** 'Everything You Never Wanted to Know About Snail Sex







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