



Seminar(i)

Qualities, conditions and parasites.

How environment and individual state shape lizard personalities.

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The term animal personality refers to between-individual behavioural differences which are consistent over time and across contexts. The study of such behavioural consistencies became one of the fastest growing fields of behavioural ecology during the last decade.

Although behavioural consistency proved to be a rather common phenomenon across metazoans, there are still a lot of open questions regarding the emergence and evolution of this phenomenon. The main challenge for researchers has been to identify and understand the mechanisms playing role in the emergence and evolution of behavioural variation. Studying these mechanisms becomes more difficult if we take into account the recent notion that behavioural variation is decomposable to several, potentially independent components, such as behavioural type and behavioural predictability. Moreover, correlation between different behaviours, known as behavioural syndromes can emerge. What role do environmental conditions and state-linked traits play during the emergence of behavioural consistency? Are short-term environmental differences able to affect the presence/absence/strength of behavioural consistency and behavioural syndromes? During my doctoral research I aimed to find answers to these questions studying two related species of lacertid lizards, Carpetan rock lizard (*Iberolacerta cyreni*) and European green lizard (*Lacerta viridis*). I will present the results from assays testing those questions and discuss the possible mechanisms behind our findings.

WHERE?

Seminar room ICBiBE - SS6

(lower-ground floor, Institutes building)

WHEN?

Tuesday 14/3/2017 - 12:00 h