



EvoLunch

How to evolve to resolve a sexual conflict over body size

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Males and females commonly show pronounced differences in a range of phenotypes, including form, behaviour and physiology. Yet, the mostly shared genome constrains independent evolution in the sexes, generating sexual conflict. The male-limited Y chromosome should be important for mitigating sexual conflict by accumulating sexually antagonistic loci that only benefit males, but the adaptive potential of Y chromosomes is limited by the loss of recombination between the sex chromosomes. We have investigated how sexual body size dimorphism can evolve in a seed beetle *Callosobruchus maculatus*, and what is the role of sex chromosomes, using a combination of artificial selection, quantitative genetics and long-read sequencing. In this seminar I will show how different forms of sex-specific selection affect the evolutionary potential of size dimorphism, and present our recent findings characterizing genetic variation in the Y chromosome associated with size dimorphism.

Wednesday, June 1, 2022 12:30pm - 01:30pm

122 Lakeside View (122.O1.006)



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