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Why Knot?

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Why Knot?

Exploration of Variation in Long-Distance Migration

Eva Marina Anna Kok

1. A very great deal more truth can become known than can be proven.
Physicist and Nobel Laureate Richard Feynman.
2. Individual variation in migratory trajectories cannot be explained by a single underlying factor; they are the outcome of environmental conditions encountered *en route* (Chapters 2 & 3), individual variation in instantaneous physiological adjustments (Chapter 4), and prior migratory experience (Chapter 5 & 6).
3. A reduction in the extent of suitable habitat at major staging areas (i.e. the Wadden Sea and the Yellow Sea) may force typically long-jumping migratory species such as red knots to shift from their usual migratory strategy of long-haul flights and single staging sites to the use of multiple staging sites along the way (Chapter 3).
4. An increasing number of tracking studies reveal extreme feats of migratory performance in terms of total flight distances and call for a revision of the traditional (migratory-)flight cost calculations (*also see Paula's redundant circuitous flight in Chapter 2*).
5. Movement ecologist should carefully distinguish between observed patterns (consequences of movement) from an intentional process (causes of movement).
Based on Jerry A. Hogan, The Study of behavior. Organization, methods and principles, 2017, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.
6. When Linnaeus (1757) argued that “birds migrate to make themselves available to serve as food for people” he confused consequence with cause.
See Chapter 1, based on Jerry A. Hogan, The Study of behavior. Organization, methods and principles, 2017, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.
7. In the scientific field of movement ecology, studies addressing the internal state for movement are spread thinly (*see Nathan et al. 2008*), but studies addressing the cognitive processes related to migration are pretty much absent (*but see Chapter 6*).
8. Exploration is what you do, when you don't know what you're doing. That's what scientists do every day. *Astrophysicist and Science communicator Neil deGrasse Tyson (also see Chapter 5).*
9. Fear of anthropomorphism has undoubtedly constrained behavioural research. Indeed, a scientist who never considers that a non-human animal may exhibit the

kind of complex behaviour that we acknowledge in our own species, misses much of the richness of their study subjects' behaviour.

Based on Bateson and Laland (2013).

10. Well-meant gender-specific compliments should be avoided in a workplace environment as they often come at the expense of professional feedback.
11. Terugkeren naar het 'normaal' van vóór corona is waanzin. We mogen het niet laten gebeuren. (ENG: "Returning to pre-corona 'normal' is madness. We must not let it happen.") *Jelmer Mommers – de Correspondent.*