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## The maintenance of variation in avian personality

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**The maintenance of variation in avian personality:  
*the role of the social environment***

***Eva Fucikova***

1. Variation in avian personality in the wild is affected by several selection mechanisms of which negative-frequency dependent selection only plays a minor role.

*This thesis*

2. Theoretical models which identify negative-frequency dependent selection as a major mechanism maintaining variability in personality in the wild are too simplistic.

3. The phenotype and its environment interact throughout life and therefore behavioural responses are not consistent over an animal's lifetime.

Boissy A. (1995). Fear and Fearfulness in Animals *Q. Rev. Biol.*, 70, 165-191.

4. Testing an individual once in its lifetime for a single life history trait will lead to misleading results as behaviour is strongly context dependent.

Reale D., Reader S.M., Sol D., McDougall P.T. & Dingemanse N.J. (2007). Integrating animal temperament within ecology and evolution. *Biol. Rev.*, 82, 291-318.

Sih A. & Watters J.V. (2005). The mix matters: behavioural types and group dynamics in water striders. *Behaviour*, 142, 1417-1431.

van Oers K., Klunder M. & Drent P.J. (2005). Context dependence of personalities: risk-taking behavior in a social and a nonsocial situation. *Behav. Ecol.*, 16, 716-723.

*This thesis*

5. Personality is a phenomenon which underlies physiological and behavioural reactions, thereby causing their consistency over contexts and time.

6. A species' ability to persist in an unpredictable changing environment is determined by the variability in personality types in the population.

Dall S.R.X., Houston A.I. & McNamara J.M. (2004). The behavioural ecology of personality: consistent individual differences from an adaptive perspective. *Ecol. Lett.*, 7, 734-739.

7. Programs to reintroduce locally extinct species should use individuals that vary in personality.

McDougall P.T., Reale D., Sol D. & Reader S.M. (2006). Wildlife conservation and animal temperament: causes and consequences of evolutionary change for captive, reintroduced, and wild populations. *Anim. Conserv.*, 9, 39-48.

*This thesis*

8. "Every solution breeds new problems."

Murphy's Law

9. "*Nejsou jen principy - jsou události. A o člověku rozhoduje náhoda.*"

"One cannot always follow principles, since decisions are often based on major events and coincidence thereby determines faith.

Kantůrková E. (1979). *Pán Věže* (Master of the tower)