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## Evolutionary genetics and dynamics of transitions in sex determination

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Propositions accompanying the PhD thesis:

## **Evolutionary genetics and dynamics of transitions in sex determination**

Martijn A. Schenkel

- I. Science in general, and the field of biology in particular, is pervaded by overcomplicated and often improperly-used jargon (this thesis, chapter II).
- II. Simple models have proven useful to explain the evolution of sex-determining mechanisms in broad strokes; more complex models are now needed to explain it in detail (this thesis, chapters III and IV).
- III. An ultimate explanation for the variation in sex-determining mechanisms in the housefly (*Musca domestica* L.) must take the proximate genetic mechanism into account (this thesis, chapter IV).
- IV. Baby-sex chromosomes are just like baby humans: easy to make, but hard to help achieve their potential (this thesis, chapter V).
- V. Fitness can be estimated but not determined (this thesis, chapter VI).
- VI. Criticism is better than praise.
- VII. A PhD position is a job – no more, no less – and should be treated accordingly.
- VIII. Nicknames are more important than titles.
- IX. Alles te weten maakt niet gelukkig.