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Life with others

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Propositions accompanying the PhD thesis:

Life with others: function and mechanisms of social modulation of behaviour and physiology in *Drosophila melanogaster*

Tiphaine Bailly

1. Group living intensifies two opposing forces between group members: conflict and cooperation (this thesis, Frank, 2007). Evolutionary mechanisms of both conflict and cooperation pervade all of biology (Frank, 1998).
2. Social modulation of reproductive physiology can be found in rather solitary species such as *D. melanogaster*, questioning the validity of the term “solitary” and making the concept of solitary vs social species a bit artificial (this thesis).
3. Neural and hormonal circuits that regulates an individual’s response to non-social environmental stimuli seem to be modulated by neurons sensing social cues, suggesting that many – if not all – pathways are modulated by social input (this thesis).
4. The onset of egg-laying of fruit fly females is determined by their genetic background, by the presence of a group, and the interaction between the two (this thesis).
5. There is the existence of a sociability spectrum in *D. melanogaster*, making this species a valuable model to investigate the underpinnings of sociability and sociality (this thesis).
6. All of life is social (Frank in 2007). My study gives new insights on the strong influence of the social environment on any animal’s life and may advance research in understanding the origins of sociality and its evolution (this thesis).
7. "Research is to see what everybody else has seen and to think what nobody else has thought." Albert Szent-Gyorgyi.
8. "Without data, you're just another person with an opinion." W. Edwards Deming.