vor individuals that delay maturity; in a growing population, it may favor immediate maturity (19). Growing populations are characterized by a high ratio of juveniles to adults while declining populations contain many adults and few juveniles (1). Presumably, a juvenile determines the growth rate of the population by its social interactions with adults and juveniles. If most interactions are with smaller, therefore younger, juveniles, this indicates that the population is growing and maturation is initiated as soon as possible. If, however, most interactions are with adults or larger, therefore older, juveniles, this indicates that the population is declining and maturity is delayed.

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## Natural Selection for Juvenile Lizards Mimicking Noxious Beetles

Abstract. Adult Eremias lugubris in southern Africa are concealingly colored and move with a typical lizard gait, but the jet-black and white juveniles are conspicuous and forage actively with arched backs. In color, gait, and size, juveniles mimic "oogpister" beetles (Carabidae: Anthia) that spray an acidic, pungent fluid when molested. This unique mimicry, which is believed to be the first reported case of a terrestrial vertebrate mimicking an invertebrate, seems to reduce predation on juvenile lizards.

Batesian mimicry, the important evolutionary phenomenon (1, 2) in which selection by predators favors individuals of a palatable or unprotected species (mimic) that deceptively resemble those of an unpalatable or protected species (model), is traditionally established by satisfying several correlative criteria (3) or by manipulative experiments in the field or laboratory (4). Despite widespread interest in the phenomenon, however, natural field evidence of the selective advantage of Batesian mimicry is scant (5). Here we present correlative evidence for a bizarre and apparently unique case of mimetic resemblance, that of a palatable juvenile lizard mimicking a noxious beetle (6, 7), as well as indirect field evidence that this mimicry reduces predation rates.

Adult Eremias lugubris in the Kalahari semidesert of southern Africa are pale red-tan, a color that blends with the Kalahari sand (Fig. 1C). In contrast, juvenile E. lugubris, jet-black above and below with broken whitish lateral and dorsal stripes (tails black basiventrally, thereafter buff to red-yellow), are quite conspicuous (Fig. 1A). Metamorphosis into the adult coloration begins at snout-tovent lengths (SVL's) of about 40 mm and is generally complete at SVL's of 45 to 50 mm. Ontogenetic color shifts are common in Eremias, but one of this magnitude is unparalleled (8).

Adults and juveniles also differ in foraging gait. Adults forage actively (9) with lateral undulations typical of lacertid lizards. Juveniles also forage actively, but walk stiffly and jerkily with strongly arched backs and tails pressed to the substrate. (Bilateral contraction of muscles in the ventral midline apparently produces the arch.) Pronounced bending curves in the body and tail, associated with lateral undulations in the adults (and most lizards), are not apparent in juveniles. The largest juvenile observed walking this way was 49 mm SVL, near the upper size of color metamorphosis. The juvenile gait, which persists in captivity, seems to be unique among lizards.

The evolutionary significance of the conspicuous coloration and arch-walking gait of these juvenile lizards needs evaluation. Metamorphoses in coloration and

gait are unrelated to reproductive maturity, as lizards mature several months later. Black coloration can confer thermoregulatory advantages to insects with insulated elytra (10) but is more likely to be a thermoregulatory disadvantage to a small lizard active only during hot summer and autumn months. Furthermore, because juveniles arch-walk at both high and low body temperatures (11), archwalking cannot be a heat avoidance posture.

We propose that these juvenile lizards are in fact behaviorally and morphologically mimicking abundant, sympatric, noxious "oogpister" (12) beetles [Carabidae: Anthia spp. (13)], which squirt an acidic pungent fluid [5N formic acid plus isovaleraldehyde, acetic acid, tiglic acid, and so forth (14)]. Juveniles resemble oogpisters in aposematic (15) coloration [beetles (Fig. 1B) are black with lateral white stripes on the elytral borders, sometimes also on the thorax and head] (16), in size (beetles range from about 30 to 52 mm in length) (17), and in gait (oogpisters are active foragers) (18). Juvenile lizards metamorphose into the adult coloration and gait at sizes corresponding roughly to the maximum sizes of beetles.

Beetles are generally considerably more abundant than juvenile lizards, are active over broader time periods daily and perhaps seasonally (19), and may have a broader geographic range. These noxious beetles are thus ideal models (3); juvenile lizards have apparently converged on them both in behavior and morphology. Indeed, on occasion we have initially mistaken juvenile lizards for oogpisters!

The arch-walk may have evolved from an arched-back, facing-off posture sometimes used by adult E. lugubris in aggressive encounters. Many African Eremias juveniles are darker than adults (8), and the black coloration of E. lugubris juveniles probably evolved as an exaggeration of this trend. Numerous lizard predators could be selective agents, including birds (several shrikes, secretary birds), mammals (bat-eared foxes, jackals, suricates), and snakes (horned adders, sand snakes).

If juvenile lizards mimic oogpisters,



Fig. 1. (A) Lateral view of arch-walking juvenile E. lugubris (SVL about 35 mm) on beach sand. A normal tail would be concealingly colored on red Kalahari sand (the tip of this individual's tail is regenerated tissue). (B) View of oogpister beetle, Anthia (total length, 37 mm). (C) Adult E. lugubris (SVL about 60 mm). In both (B) and (C), the animals were photographed on Kalahari sand. [Fig. 1A from photograph by J. Hensel]

predation rates on these lizards should be lower than on sympatric nonmimetic Eremias. We cannot measure predation rates directly, but the frequency of broken tails can be used to index relative intensity of predation (20). Despite foraging actively, juvenile E. lugubris have the lowest frequency of broken tails of all sympatric juvenile Eremias in the southern Kalahari (21).

The only quadrupedal lizards previously suspected of being mimics are two terrestrial geckos that sometimes arch their tails over their backs when disturbed and may mimic scorpions (22). Alternatively, this posture may merely divert predators from more vital body parts (23).

Our data (juvenile E. lugubris differ markedly from close relatives in coloration and behavior; juveniles resemble oogpister beetles in color, size, and gait; daily activity periods and probably both seasonal activity period and geographic range of juvenile lizards are entirely contained within those of the beetles; juveniles are less abundant than beetles; and juveniles have a relatively low frequency of broken tails) satisfy traditional criteria

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(3, 24) that strongly suggest Batesian mimicry. The resemblance of juvenile E. lugubris to oogpister beetles represents not only the first substantive case of mimicry involving a quadrupedal lizard, but also, to the best of our knowledge, the first case of a terrestrial vertebrate mimicking an invertebrate [(6, 7), but see also(22, 23)]. More importantly, our indirect evidence that mimicry is associated with reduced predation provides one of the few nonmanipulative examples supporting the hypothesis that natural selection promotes Batesian mimicry (5).

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   See Huheey and Brandon (7) for a discussion of size correlations between mimics and models.
   Details of this beetle-like locomotion are being
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- 25. script; P. Basilewsky for information on identifi-cations and distributions of beetles; S. J. Arnold

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# Chloride Transport Across Isolated Opercular Epithelium of Killifish: A Membrane Rich in Chloride Cells

Abstract. The opercular epithelium of Fundulus heteroclitus contains typical gill chloride-secreting cells at the high density of  $4 \times 10^5$  cells per square centimeter. When isolated, mounted as a membrane, and short-circuited, it actively transports chloride ions from the blood side to the seawater side of the preparation. This preparation offers a useful approach to the study of osmoregulation in bony fishes.

Extrarenal salt secretion is the key to the seawater teleost's ability to maintain an internal salt concentration hypoosmotic to its environment. To date, this osmoregulatory mechanism has been studied either in intact animals or in isolated, perfused gills (1). However, neither of these preparations meets all the criteria necessary for the application of the short-circuit current technique classically used in the study of ion transport across epithelia. The gill and the opercular epithelium have similar electrical and cytological characteristics, but the short-circuited opercular epithelium of the killifish (Fundulus heteroclitus) offers a better biophysical approach to the study of osmoregulation in teleosts. This tissue is a stratified epithelium that includes a small fraction of pavement, mucous, and nondifferentiated cells, and 50 to 70 percent chloride-secreting cells (2-4). The chloride-secreting cells extend from the basal lamina to the external aquatic environment and interrupt the stratification. Each cell has a prominent apical crypt, a rich population of mitochondria, and an extensive, branching tubular system continuous with the basal and lateral plasma membrane; these cells are identical in fine structure to the chloride-secreting cells of the gill (3).

The epithelium lining the pharyngeal cavity of the seawater-adapted killifish (5) was dissected free of the bony operculum and mounted as a flat sheet in a Lucite chamber with an aperture of 0.07 cm<sup>2</sup> (6). When bathed in the appropriate salt solution (7), the transepithelial potential difference initially increased within an hour to between 10 and 40 mv (mean  $\pm$  standard error = 24.0  $\pm$  1.6; N = 32; seawater side negative) and remained relatively constant for several hours. These potential difference values are in good agreement with those measurements made in vivo between the seawater environment and the plasma in several species of teleosts (1), and are somewhat higher than those observed in isolated, perfused flounder gills bathed on both sides with Ringer solution (8). The shortcircuit current ( $I_{sc}$ ) increased in a manner similar to the potential difference and reached steady state levels between 70 and 340  $\mu$ a/cm<sup>2</sup> (mean = 190.1 ± 13.1; N = 32) where it remained constant for several hours. The transepithelial d-c resistance, taken as the ratio  $PD/I_{sc}$  (where PD is the potential difference), ranged from 70 to 330 ohm-cm<sup>2</sup> (mean = 138.5 ± 9.2, N = 32) and had the tendency to increase slightly over the course of several hours. Initial current-voltage relationship studies across this tissue showed a linear response indicating that this tissue behaved as an ohmic resistor and justified the use of this ratio as an indicator of the total transepithelial d-c resistance. The procedure for short-circuiting and the isotope flux measurements used here are described elsewhere (9).

As shown in Fig. 1a and Table 1, nitrogen-induced anoxia caused a significant (P < .01) reduction in the  $I_{sc}$  and potential difference, which was quickly reversed with the reintroduction of oxygen into the system. The substitution of chloride ion with the nonpenetrating methylsulfate anion in the solutions bathing both sides of the epithelium (Fig. 1b and Table 1) caused a rapid and significant (P < .005) decline in both the  $I_{sc}$  and potential difference to near zero values which were readily reversed with the reintroduction of chloride ions into the

Table 1. Chloride ion substitution and the effect of chloride transport inhibitors on the isolated opercular epithelium of F. *heteroclitus*. The data are expressed as means  $\pm$  standard error. Numbers of experiments are in parentheses; R, resistance.

Experiment	Average $I_{\rm sc}$ ( $\mu$ a/cm <sup>2</sup> )	Average PD (mv)	Average R (ohm-cm <sup>2</sup> )	Average time to maximum effect (minutes)	
Control (6) Chloride free Percentage change Chloride rich	$\begin{array}{c} 234.4 \pm 30.5 \\ 8.8 \pm 3.9 \\ 96.3 \\ 224.5 \pm 27.8 \end{array}$	$26.1 \pm 4.0 \\ 1.9 \pm 0.6 \\ 92.7 \\ 23.5 \pm 2.5$	$\begin{array}{c} 122.7 \pm 20.5 \\ 58.5 \pm 40.0 \\ 52.3 \\ 121.3 \pm 28.9 \end{array}$	27 5	
Control (4) Anoxia, N <sub>2</sub> Percentage change Oxygenation	$\begin{array}{rrrr} 236.6 \pm & 4.7 \\ 39.6 \pm & 10.4 \\ 83.3 \\ 233.0 \pm & 14.7 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 26.3\ \pm\ 2.5\\ 8.6\ \pm\ 1.7\\ 67.3\\ 30.8\ \pm\ 2.6\end{array}$	$\begin{array}{rrrr} 110.7 \pm & 9.8 \\ 269.2 \pm 74.7 \\ 143.2 \\ 131.9 \pm & 5.3 \end{array}$	30 11	
Control (4) Furosemide, 10 <sup>-3</sup> M Percentage change	$\begin{array}{r} 186.4 \pm 39.1 \\ 22.9 \pm 13.1 \\ 84.3 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 30.9 \pm 4.0 \\ 3.6 \pm 1.2 \\ 88.3 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 186.3 \ \pm \ 46.2 \\ 173.3 \ \pm \ 69.1 \\ 7.0 \end{array}$	30	
Control (4) Ouabain, 10 <sup>–5</sup> M Percentage change	$\begin{array}{rrr} 139.7\pm40.9\\ 15.9\pm9.9\\ 88.6\end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 18.2\ \pm\ 4.1\\ 1.3\ \pm\ 0.8\\ 92.9\end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 141.6 \ \pm \ 24.2 \\ 79.4 \ \pm \ 10.6 \\ 43.9 \end{array}$	87	
Control (2) Thiocyanate, 10 <sup>-2</sup> M Percentage change	$\begin{array}{rrrr} 115.4 \pm & 8.3 \\ 60.0 \pm & 6.4 \\ 48.0 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 17.7 \pm 6.5 \\ 10.5 \pm 3.9 \\ 40.7 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 150.2 \pm 45.6 \\ 169.1 \pm 47.8 \\ 12.6 \end{array}$	24	

Table 2. Fluxes of Cl<sup>-</sup> across the isolated, short-circuited opercular epithelium of *F*. heteroclitus. The data are expressed as means  $\pm$  standard error. Numbers of experiments are in parentheses. The average unidirectional <sup>36</sup>Cl<sup>-</sup> fluxes across the paired preparations were significantly different from each other (P < .01) while the difference between the average  $I_{sc}$  for the paired preparations was not significant (P > .90).

Fluxes [ $\mu$ eq (cm <sup>2</sup> ) <sup>-1</sup> hour <sup>-1</sup> ]			Not flux	Aver-	
Outflux	Influx	Net flux	$(\mu a/cm^2)$	age $I_{\rm sc}$ ( $\mu a/cm^2$ )	(mM)
$\begin{array}{l} 8.325 \ \pm \ 1.668 \ (6) \\ 3.452 \ \pm \ 0.131 \ (2) \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{l} 1.162 \ \pm \ 0.132 \ (6) \\ 1.929 \ \pm \ 0.009 \ (2) \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 7.163 \ \pm \ 1.739 \\ 1.523 \ \pm \ 0.140 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 191.9 \pm 46.6 \\ 40.8 \pm 3.7 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 183.8 \pm 21.8 \\ 39.0 \pm \ 4.8 \end{array}$	16 4

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