

# Contents

Preface, xi

Acknowledgements, xiii

## 1 Social evolution, 1

1.1 Origins, 1

1.2 Sociality and mating systems, 11

1.3 Reproductive competition, 13

Between males, 13

Between females, 15

1.4 Mate choice, 17

1.5 Parental care, 20

Males and females, 20

Parent-offspring conflict, 22

Offspring sex ratios, 23

1.6 Cooperation, 24

Definitions, 24

Prestige, 24

Induced assistance, 24

Pseudo-reciprocity, 24

Shared benefits, 25

Reciprocity, 27

Altruistic assistance, 29

Cheats and defectors, 33

1.7 Loaded labels, 34

References, 35

## 2 Female sociality, 47

2.1 Introduction, 47

2.2 Contrasts in female sociality, 47

Solitary foragers, 47

Social foragers, 50

Networks, 52

2.3 Benefits of grouping, 53

Reducing risks of predator attack, 53

Finding and catching food, 57

Reproductive benefits, 59

Fitness of emigrants, 59

Group persistence, 60

Individual differences, 60

2.4 Costs of grouping, 60

Predators and parasites, 60

Resource competition, 62

Reproductive competition, 63

Male infanticide, 63

2.5 Sociality and fitness, 63

2.6 Comparative sociality, 65

Rodents, 65

Primates, 66

Carnivores, 69

Ungulates, 71

Megaherbivores, 72

Cetaceans, 74

Insectivores and bats, 75

Marsupials and monotremes, 77

2.7 The distribution of female sociality, 78

2.8 Group coordination, 79

2.9 Consequences of female sociality, 80

Group cohesion, 80

Reproductive strategies in males, 81

Genetic structure of groups and

populations, 81

Cognitive development and brain size, 82

Population dynamics and demography, 83

References, 85

## 3 Female dispersal and philopatry, 94

3.1 Introduction, 94

3.2 Variation in female philopatry and dispersal, 96

3.3 Benefits of philopatry, 102

Survival, 102

- Reproductive success, 102
- 3.4 Benefits of dispersing, 104
  - Competition avoidance, 104
  - Inbreeding avoidance, 106
    - Inbreeding costs, 106
    - Mechanisms of inbreeding avoidance, 110
- 3.5 Species differences in female philopatry, 111
- 3.6 Social and ecological consequences of female philopatry, 113
- References, 115
- 4 Female mating decisions, 123**
  - 4.1 Introduction, 123
  - 4.2 Direct benefits of mate choice to females, 128
  - 4.3 Genetic benefits of mate choice to females, 128
  - 4.4 Female mating preferences, 130
    - Maturity, 130
    - Dominance, 131
    - Fertility, 132
    - Investment, 132
    - Weaponry, 133
    - Coloration, 134
    - Vocal displays, 137
    - Olfactory displays, 137
    - Relatedness, 138
    - Heterozygosity, genetic dissimilarity and compatibility, 140
  - 4.5 Mate choice copying, 142
  - 4.6 Partner number and post-copulatory mate choice, 142
  - 4.7 Variation in mate choice and partner number, 145
    - Within species, 145
    - Between species, 145
  - 4.8 Consequences of female mating preferences, 146
  - References, 147
- 5 Maternal care, 156**
  - 5.1 Introduction, 156
  - 5.2 The evolution of maternal care, 156
    - Investment and maternal survival, 156
    - Safe harbours and offspring development, 157
    - Allocation of resources to different offspring, 158
    - Conflicts between sibs, 159
    - Parent-offspring conflict, 160
    - Conflicts between carers, 160
  - 5.3 Prenatal investment, 162
    - Gestation, 162
    - Species differences, 165
    - Intraspecific variation, 165
    - Selection for prenatal growth, 166
  - 5.4 Maternal effects, 166
  - 5.5 Lactation and infant care, 170
    - Duration, 170
    - Energetic costs, 171
    - Intraspecific variation, 174
    - Fitness costs, 176
  - 5.6 Post-weaning investment, 176
    - Post-weaning care, 176
    - Inheritance of resources, 178
    - Social support, 178
    - Post-reproductive investment, 179
  - 5.7 Investment strategies, 180
    - Maternal investment and fitness costs, 180
    - Maternal investment and offspring needs, 180
    - Maternal investment and offspring quality, 181
    - Non-offspring nursing, 182
  - 5.8 Relationships between siblings, 182
    - Sibling competition, 182
    - Sibling cooperation, 185
  - 5.9 Parent-offspring conflict, 185
  - 5.10 Consequences of maternal care, 187
  - References, 188
- 6 Social development, 196**
  - 6.1 Introduction, 196
  - 6.2 Social learning, 197

- 6.3 Social development, 203
- 6.4 Play, 204
- 6.5 Social knowledge, 205
- 6.6 Individual differences and personality, 210
- 6.7 Traditions, 212
- References, 219

## 7 Communication, 226

- 7.1 Introduction, 226
  - What's in a grunt?, 226
  - The evolution of signalling systems, 227
  - Signal reliability, 228
  - Signal function, 230
  - Signal complexity, 230
- 7.2 Types of signal, 230
  - Contact calls, 230
  - Moving calls, 232
  - Feeding calls, 233
  - Mother-offspring signals, 233
  - Alarm signals, 234
  - Sentinel calls, 240
  - Sexual signals, 241
  - Copulation calls, 245
  - Threats and reassurance, 246
  - Territorial signals, 246
- 7.3 Signalling in theory and practice, 250
  - Repertoire size and signal variability, 250
  - Honesty and deception, 251
  - Signal reliability, 252

References, 255

## 8 Competition between females, 263

- 8.1 Introduction, 263
- 8.2 Competitive tactics, 267
  - Threats, punishment and harassment, 267
  - Reproductive suppression, 268
  - Infanticide, 269
  - Eviction, 272
- 8.3 Social structure and competition, 273
  - Dominance systems, 273
  - Dominance and reproductive success, 274
  - The acquisition of dominance, 276

Dependent rank, 277

- 8.4 Conflict proliferation and limitation, 282
  - Retaliation, 282
  - Reconciliation and reassurance, 282
  - Consolation and intervention, 284
- 8.5 Consequences of female competition, 285
  - Reproductive skew, 285
  - Sexual dimorphism, 285
  - Regulation of group size, 289

References, 290

## 9 Cooperation between females, 298

- 9.1 Introduction, 298
- 9.2 Cooperation in different contexts, 298
  - Defence against predators, 298
  - Alarm calls and sentinel behaviour, 300
  - Defence against neighbours and immigrants, 303
  - Cooperative hunting, 304
  - Food storage and sharing, 308
  - Communal care of young, 311
  - Allo-lactation, 312
  - Mutual support in competitive interactions, 314
  - Allo-grooming, 315
  - Policing, 320
  - The causal basis of cooperation, 320
- 9.3 Cheating in theory and practice, 322
- 9.4 The evolution of cooperation, 323
- 9.5 Consequences of cooperation, 324
- References, 326

## 10 Mating systems, 333

- 10.1 Introduction, 333
- 10.2 Social monogamy, 335
  - Forms of social monogamy, 335
  - Social monogamy and male care, 336
  - Social polyandry, 338
- 10.3 Polygynous systems, 339
  - Scramble promiscuity, 339
  - Female-guarding polygyny, 340
  - Range-guarding polygyny, 342

- Group-guarding polygyny, 343
  - Permanent harems, 343
  - Seasonal harems, 344
  - Associations of harems, 345
  - Dynamics of harem groups, 346
  - Subordinate males, 346
  - Multi-male groups, 347
- Site-guarding polygyny, 348
  - Resource-based mating territories, 348
  - Leks, 352

- 10.4 Genetic mating systems, 359
- 10.5 Consequences of polygyny, 360
  - Male life histories, 360
  - Variation in male breeding success, 363
  - Selection on male traits, 363
  - Kinship structure, 364
- References, 365

## 11 Association between males, 373

- 11.1 Introduction, 373
- 11.2 Contrasts in the formation and structure of male groups, 373
  - Temporary associations, 373
  - Bachelor groups, 375
  - Residents and satellites, 376
  - Multi-male associations, 377
- 11.3 Costs of association to males, 379
- 11.4 Benefits of association to males, 380
- 11.5 Kinship, familiarity, cooperation and hostility, 384
- 11.6 The size of male associations, 386
- 11.7 Contrasts in reproductive skew, 389
- 11.8 Consequences of male association, 391
- References, 395

## 12 Male dispersal and its consequences, 401

- 12.1 Introduction, 401
- 12.2 Variation in dispersal rates by males, 401
- 12.3 The costs and benefits of dispersal to males, 409
- 12.4 Secondary dispersal by males, 412

- 12.5 Sex differences in philopatry, 414
- 12.6 Dispersal distance, 416
- 12.7 The social and ecological consequences of male dispersal, 418
- References, 421

## 13 Reproductive competition among males, 427

- 13.1 Introduction, 427
- 13.2 The benefits and costs of fighting, 427
- 13.3 Assessment and the evolution of male displays, 434
  - Visual displays, 434
  - Vocal displays, 437
  - Olfactory displays, 440
  - Honesty and deception in male displays, 444
- 13.4 Adaptive fighting tactics, 445
- 13.5 Benefits and costs of mate guarding, 445
- 13.6 Adaptive guarding tactics, 447
- 13.7 Alternative tactics, 452
- 13.8 Sperm competition, 453
  - Morphological adaptations to sperm competition, 453
  - Behavioural adaptations to sperm competition, 454
- 13.9 Consequences of reproductive competition between males, 456
- References, 458

## 14 Relationships between males in multi-male groups, 466

- 14.1 Introduction, 466
- 14.2 The development of dominance, 467
- 14.3 Dominance and breeding success, 470
- 14.4 Reproductive skew in multi-male groups, 474
- 14.5 Dominance, condition and survival, 476
- 14.6 Coalitions and alliances, 477
  - The distribution of coalitions, 477
  - Types of coalitions, 479
  - Evolution of coalitionary behaviour, 480

- 14.7 Market models and the dynamics of supportive relationships, 482
  - 14.8 Punishment, retaliation and reconciliation, 482
  - 14.9 The consequences of male hierarchies, 484
    - Skew, kinship and genetic structure, 484
    - Relationships between females, 485
    - Machiavellian behaviour and brain size, 485
- References, 486

## 15 Males and females, 493

- 15.1 Introduction, 493
  - 15.2 Male mate choice, 494
  - 15.3 Manipulation, 496
  - 15.4 Coercion, 496
    - Forced copulation, 496
    - Harassment, 498
    - Punishment and intimidation, 502
  - 15.5 Female counter-strategies to male coercion, 507
  - 15.6 Male infanticide, 508
  - 15.7 Female counter-strategies to male infanticide, 516
    - Responses to intruders, 516
    - Reproductive adaptations, 518
    - Social adaptations, 520
  - 15.8 Post-copulatory sexual conflict, 521
  - 15.9 Demographic consequences of sexual conflict, 521
- References, 524

## 16 Paternal care, 532

- 16.1 Introduction, 532
- 16.2 The distribution of paternal care, 533
  - Polygynous mammals, 533
  - Monogamous mammals, 538
- 16.3 Control mechanisms, 543
- 16.4 Benefits and costs of paternal care, 545
  - Benefits, 545
  - Costs, 546
- 16.5 Tactical investment, 547

- 16.6 Conflicts between parents, 548
  - 16.7 Male care and the evolution of mating systems, 548
- References, 551

## 17 Cooperative breeding, 557

- 17.1 Introduction, 557
- 17.2 Delayed dispersal, 562
- 17.3 Reproductive suppression, 564
  - Costs and benefits, 564
  - Fertility suppression, 564
  - Induced abortion, 567
  - Female infanticide, 567
  - Eviction, 568
  - Subordinate counter-strategies, 568
  - Reproductive suppression in males, 569
- 17.4 Reproductive skew, 570
  - Measures, 570
  - Models, 570
  - Tests, 572
- 17.5 Benefits and costs of helping, 574
  - Effects of helpers, 574
  - Costs of helping, 577
  - Allo-lactation, 577
- 17.6 Division of labour, 580
  - Age, size and sex, 580
  - Individual differences, 581
  - Kinship, 583
  - Social bonds, 583
  - Cheating and 'false-feeding', 584
- 17.7 Regulation of workload, 584
- 17.8 The evolution of cooperative breeding, 586
- 17.9 Consequences of cooperative breeding, 589
  - Fecundity and longevity in females, 589
  - Male longevity, 589
  - Variance in breeding success, 589
  - Reproductive competition, 590
  - Development, 590
  - Sex ratio biases, 590
  - Brain size, 591
  - Prosocial behaviour, 592

- Group size, 592
- Population dynamics, 592
- References, 594

## 18 Sex differences, 605

- 18.1 Introduction, 605
- 18.2 Body size, 606
- 18.3 Weaponry, 608
- 18.4 Ornaments, 610
- 18.5 Growth, 610
  - Prenatal growth and development, 610
  - Postnatal growth and development, 615
- 18.6 Nursing, 615
  - Sex differences in nursing time and ingestion, 615
  - Rearing costs, 616
- 18.7 Social development, 618
  - Maternal proximity, 618
  - Aggression, 619
  - Play, 620
- 18.8 Feeding ecology, 621
- 18.9 Mortality, 623
  - Adults, 623
  - Juveniles and adolescents, 624
- 18.10 Sex ratios at birth, 626
  - Population averages, 626
  - Variation between females, 628
  - Mechanisms, 629
  - Adaptive significance, 629
- 18.11 Adult sex ratios, 631
- References, 633

## 19 Hominins and humans, 643

- 19.1 Introduction, 643
- 19.2 Human evolution, 644
  - Phylogeny, 644
  - Brain size, 644
  - Technology, 646
  - Human traits, 647
  - Language, 648
- 19.3 Life histories, 649
- 19.4 Sex differences, 653

- Size and growth, 653
- Reproductive traits, 655

### Males, 655

### Females, 657

### Juvenile behaviour, 659

### Aggression, 659

### Cooperation, 662

### Cognition, 662

### Survival, 662

## 19.5 Hominin and human societies, 663

### Early hominins, 663

### Hunter-gatherers and foragers, 664

### Agriculturalists and pastoralists, 668

### Tribes, chiefdoms and states, 670

## 19.6 Why us?, 671

### References, 673

## 20 Human behaviour, 680

### 20.1 Introduction, 680

### 20.2 Mate choice, 681

#### Incest and inbreeding avoidance, 681

#### Female preferences, 682

#### Male preferences, 685

#### Homosexuality, 685

#### Coercion, 686

### 20.3 Parental care, 687

#### Maternal care, 687

#### Paternal care, 689

### 20.4 Allo-parental care, 693

#### Grandmothers and others, 693

#### The evolution of post-reproductive lifespans in women, 695

### 20.5 Cooperation, 698

#### The evolution of human cooperation, 698

#### Cooperative defence and warfare, 702

#### Food sharing, 704

#### Reproductive cooperation, 708

#### Prosociality, 709

### 20.6 The human condition, 713

### References, 714