## Self-Control Has a Social Role in Primates, But Not in Other Mammals or Birds

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#### **Electronic Supplementary Material**

## **Supplementary Data**

#### Table S1. Executive function tasks collated by Shultz & Dunbar [1]

Test	Description	Trait tested
Reversed reward	S chooses between two rewards but is rewarded with the one it doesn't choose [i.e. to get the larger reward it must choose the smaller]	Rule learning (inference)
Delayed reward	Reward hidden under one of two cups; S chooses after a 30-sec delay	memory
Reversal learning	S rewarded on one of two stimuli until reaches criterion; then rewarded on the other stimuli	one-trial learning (inference)
Oddity problem	S is rewarded for choosing the odd one out on a 3-stimulus task [shapes in 2 dimensions]	classification/ inference
3D oddity problem	As above, but with physical objects cla	ssification/inference
String	S chooses between multiple strings, only one of which is attached to the reward	pattern recognition (mapping)
Learning set	S has to generalise a learned concept to a new set of stimuli (concept transference)	memory
Displaced reward	S watches reward being placed under a cup; reward is moved to a second cup while occluded from S's view [differs from A-not-B task in that reward moves, but not the cups, and that the move itself is occluded behind a screen]	object permanence/ memory
Detour	S has to remove a reward threaded onto a bent wire	detour

#### Species sampled [number of tasks tested, out of 8]

Ateles geoffrovi	[3]	Lagothrix lagotricha	[3]	Nycticebus coucano	[1]
Callithrix jacchus	[2]	Lemur catta	[4]	Pan paniscus	[4]
Cebus albifrons	[2]	Macaca arctoides	[2]	Pan troglodytes	[8]
Cebus capuchinus	[2]	Macaca fascicularis	[3]	Papio cynocephalus	[2]
Cercocebus atys	[1]	Macaca fuscata	[2]	Papio hamadryas	[1]
Cercocebus torquatus	[3]	Macaca mulatta	[8]	Papio ursinus	[1]
Cercopithecus mona	[1]	Macaca nemestrina	[6]	Pongo pygmaeus	[6]
Cercopithecus nictitans	[3]	Macaca nigra	[2]	Saguinus oedipus	[2]
Chlorocebus aethiops	[1]	Macaca silenus	[2]	Saimiri sciureus	[6]
Eulemur fulvus	[1]	Macaca sylvanus	[1]	Sapajus apella	[3]
Eulemur macacao	[2]	Mandrillus leucophaeus	[1]	Semnopithecus entellus	[1]
Gorilla gorilla	[6]	Mandrillus sphinx	[2]	Varecia variegata	[2]
Hylobates lar	[2]	Miopithecus talapoins	[1]		

All of these tasks have a wide distribution of values across species (Table S2).

#### Table S2. Range in species' performance on the executive function tasks of Table S1.

	Mean %	correct
Task	Minimum	Maximum
Reversed reward	18.7	49.0
Delayed reward	45.0	100.0
Reversal learning	38.0	86.0
Oddity problem	64.0	86.5
3D oddity problem	45.0	79.3
String	79.0	96.0
Learning set	50.8	94.0
Displaced reward	19.0	97.5
Detour	0	98.2



Fig. S1. Relative difficulty of the executive function tasks, indexed as the mean $\pm$ 95%CIs for percent correct trials by 39 primate species from 21 genera (see Table S1). RevRew = reversed reward task; Set = learning set. Sample sizes are (L to R): 11, 19, 11, 8, 12, 17, 9 and 9 species. Source [1]

#### Diet data

We sourced our data on diet from Powell et al. [2] rather than DeCasien et al. [3] because we considered the Powell data compilation more reliable. However, the value of 8.5% that they give for *Macaca mulatta* is based on just one idiosyncratic high altitude study site. Other more typical habitats give much higher values of frugivory for this species. We searched for diet data for this species on GoogleScholar and located a further five studies (Table S3). We use the mean of these studies in our analyses.

Table S3. Diet data for <i>Macaca mulai</i>
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Study site	Country %	fruit in diet	Source
Taihangshan Reserve Nonggang Reserve	China China Pakistan	36.5 30.0	Cui et al. [4] Tang et al. [5] Goldstein & Pichard [6]
Buxta Tiger Reserve Asola-Bhatti Sanctuary	Bangladesh India	8.3 74.9 5.7	Sengupta & Radhakrisha [7] Ganguly & Singh Chauhan [8]
Siwalik Hills	India	63.0	Lindburg [9]
Mean		37.2%	

\* Site on which Powell et al. [2] based their estimate.

Powell et al. [10] do not give a value for percent of fruit in diet for *Saguinus oedipus*. We use the value given for this species by Garber [11].

We did not use Powell et al. [2] as a source of data for day journey length or home range size because, although their values for day journey correlate significantly with those we compiled from Smuts et al. [12] and Campbell et al. [13] (r=0.887, p=0.003), those for range size, in particular, appear to be based on a very selective sampling of study sites. Our sources are based on a wider range of primary sources, and are likely to be more representative.

#### Fission, group size and day journey in *Papio* populations

Index	Definition
0	Group relatively compact during foraging, and always sleeps together; group spread during foraging always <200m
1	Group becomes dispersed during foraging (mean spread >200m), but always sleeps together
2	Group fragments during foraging, with sub-groups moving independently, with subgroups sometimes sleeping at separate sites

#### **Table S4. Fissioning index**

For each study site, index is based on descriptions of foraging patterns given by primary sources

Table S4 gives the data for individual baboon populations, and Table S5 gives the definitions for the fission index categories.

		Day		
Site	Group	journey	Fissioning	Source
	size	(km)	index†	
			_	
*Awash Station, Ethiopia	83.0	6.5	2	Nagel [14]
*ErerGota, Ethiopia	83.0	8.9	2	Sigg & Stolba [15]
*Awash Filoha, Ethiopia	190.0	7.5	2	Swedell [16]
Mt Assirik, Senegal	247.0	7.9	2	Byrne [17]; Sharman [18]
Siminti, Senegal	70.8	4.0	2	Zinner et al. [19]
Gashaka NP, Nigeria	28.4	2.4	0	Sommer & Ross [20]
Metahara, Ethiopia	87.0	5.8	1	Aldrich-Blake et al. [21]
Bole Valley, Ethiopia	19.0	1.2	0	R. Dunbar (unpublished)
Mulu, Ethiopia	22.0	1.1	0	R. Dunbar (unpublished)
Awash Falls, Ethiopia	71.0	5.3	1	Nagel [14]
Budongo Forest, Uganda	37.5	3.8	0	Paterson [22], pers. comm.
Chololo, Kenya ‡	102.0	5.6	1	Barton [23]
Gilgil, Kenya ‡	49.0	4.3	1	Harding [24]
Chololo STT 1986, Kenya	102.0	5.6	1	Barton [23]
Chololo PHG 1995, Kenya	25.0	4.6	0	Kenyatta [25]
Gombe NP, Tanzania	43.0	2.4	0	J. Oliver (pers. comm.)
Amboseli NP, Kenya [Hook]	46.5	6.1	1	D. Post (pers.comm.)
Ruaha NP, Tanzania	72.0	6.8	1	Collins [26]
Mikumi NP (1995), Tanzania	18.0	3.9	0	Hawkins [27]
Giants Castle, S. Africa	11.8	0.9	0	Henzi et al. [28];
				R. Byrne (pers. comm.)
Cape Point, S. Africa	85.0	7.9	2	Davidge [29]
Honnet, S. Africa	77.0	9.0	2	Stoltz & Saayman [30]
Suikerbosrand, S. Africa	78.0	4.1	2	Anderson [31]
R. Kuiseb, Namibia	15.5	4.1	0	Brain [32]
Tsaobis, Namibia	34.3	5.5	0	King et al. [33];
				G. Cowlishaw (pers. comm.)
				ч <i>/</i>

#### Table S5. Group size, day journey length and the fissioning index for a sample of baboon study sites

\* *Papio hamadryas* † see Table S4

‡ based on a comparison of group size and the mean number of individuals within 10m of a focal adult

#### **Exclusions and Anomalous Group Sizes**

*Daubentonia* was omitted from the MacLean et al. [34] dataset because of doubts over the correct group size to use. Although *Daubentonia* (a very rare and difficult to study nocturnal prosimian) has been consistently listed with a group size of N=1 in most comparative datasets because it forages solitarily, in fact field studies have suggested that it actually lives in much larger communities (neighbourhoods) as do all the other nocturnal prosimians [35-37]. However, there are no reliable estimates of what this group size actually is (though values around N=8 have been suggested – i.e. considerably larger than the conventionally cited value of N=1).

*Papio hamadryas* was omitted from the MacLean et al. [34] dataset for related reasons. This species is unusual for a baboon in that it lives in a multilevel society with at least four different grouping levels [38]. It has never been clearly determined which of these grouping levels is the correct one to use in comparatrive studies. Although the band (mean size N=84.5) is commonly cited, there are good cognitive and socio-demographic grounds for considering the clan (mean size N=24.0) as the more appropriate natural grouping [39]. It is important to note that mean band size is 3.3 SDs above the overall mean for the MacLean [34] sample and the species' mean day journey length is 3.5 SDs above the sample mean. It is normally customary to exclude values that lie >2 SDs from the mean. For present purposes, we excluded the species, but give results for separate analyses with the two candidate group sizes in the ESM.

The orang utan (*Pongo*) provides another potentially problematic case: most comparative databases give a group size of N=1 for this species on the grounds that, like *Daubentonia*, it typically forages alone. However, these genus currently occupies a retreat habitat on the limits of its biogeographical range [40-41]. Subfossil orangs on the Chinese mainland occupied woodland rather than forest habitats and were likely much more terrestrial than they are now [42-43] and so almost certainly foraged in much larger groups. In fact, this species is more intensely social than the gorilla and is commonly kept in groups of up to 7 animals in captivity [45-45]. Indeed, some contemporary populations forage in larger groups [46-48]. Recent studies provide compelling evidence that communities of 12-15 are typical [49-50], and this value fits extremely closely with the size we would predict given its neocortex size and the ape social brain relationship [39,51]. As with *Daubentonia*, using the conventional group size of N=1 risks confounding foraging group size with social group size [52]. We use the value of N=14 given by [51].

## Supplementary analyses

#### **Bivariate correlations**

	MacLean. A-not-B	Amici A-not-B	Amici delay	Amici middle	Amici plexy	Amici swing door	Amici social	
MacLean cylinder	0.722	0.538	0.558	0.289	0.918*	0.473	0.540	
MacLean A-not-B		0.756*	0.321	0.177	0.578	0.165	0.037	
Amici A-not-B			0.734*	0.086	0.371	-0.088	0.169	
Amici delayed reward				0.418	0.538	0.056	0.317	
Amici middle cup					0.526	0.366	0.307	
Amici plexy hole						0.454	-0.106	
Amici swing door							0.537	

#### Table S6. Bivariate Pearson correlations for the Amici [53] dataset

**Bold\*** values are significant at p=0.05 1-tailed for a positive correlation

	Diet	Group size	Day journey	Home range
Indifference	r=0.206 p=0.544 N=11	r=0.676 p=0.022 N=11	r=0.866 p=0.001 N=11	r=0.258 p=0.444 N=11
A-not-B	r=-0.072 p=0.758 N=21	r=0.637 p=0.002 N=21	r=0.603 p=0.004 N=21	r=0.461 p=0.041 N=20
Cylinder	0.428 p=0.076 N=18	0.519 p=0.027 N=18	0.512 p=0.030 N=18	0.443 p=0.066 N=18
Diet		-0.086 p=0.695 N=23	-0.197 p=0.366 N=23	-0.06 p=0.769 N=23
Group size			0.813 p<0.001 N=24	0.365 p=0.087 N=23
Day journey				0.242 p=0.265 N=23

#### Table S7. Bivariate Pearson correlations for the Stevens [54] and MacLean et al. [34] tasks



**Figure S2**. Cognition score as predictor of (a) diet (% fruit), (b) mean group size, (c) mean day journey length (km), and (d) mean home range area (ha) for individual species. Unfilled circles, thin solid line: MacLean et al. [34] A-not-B task; grey circles, dashed line: MacLean et al. [34] cylinder task; filled circles, thick line: Stevens [54] Go/No-go task. Lines are OLS regressions.

Factors:	1	2
Inhibition task† (mean) Group size Day journey Diet (% fruit) Range size	0.891 0.921 0.885 -0.024 -0.004	0.048 0.128 -0.403 <b>0.780</b> <b>0.777</b>
Species sampled Variance explained (%)	7 76	.4

## Table S8. PCA factor loadings (with varimax rotation) for the mean value of the social<br/>inhibition task from Amici et al. [55]

Extraction based on  $\lambda = 1.0$ . Bold font indicates variables that have a strong positive load on the same factor.

<sup>†</sup> Average of A-not-B and delayed gratification tasks

	Stevens [54] Indifference task	MacLean et al. [34] A-not-B task only	Amici et al. [53] Inhibition task ‡
Factors:	1 2	1 2	1 2
Inhibition task	<b>0.889</b> 0.318	<b>0.831</b> 0.009	<b>0.864 -</b> 0.156
Group size Day journey Diet (% fruit) Range size	0.934-0.1650.9350.1500.0540.9280.748-0.445	0.9330.1060.923-0.0220.0350.9670.698-0.415	0.9330.3220.859-0.2570.0670.9820.797-0.014
Species sampled Variance explained	12 86.2%	17 80.5%	6 83.1%

## Table S9a. PCA factor loadings (with varimax rotation) for the variables for each of the three datasets, with orang utan (*Pongo*) excluded.

Extraction based on  $\lambda = 1.0$ . Bold font indicates variables that have a strong positive load (>0.700) on the same factor.

‡ mean of two inhibition tasks (A-not-B and delayed gratification tasks)

# Table S9b. PCA factor loadings (with varimax rotation) for the variables for theMacLean et al. [34] dataset, with Papio hamadryas included at two different grouping<br/>levels.

	MacLean [34] A-not-B task					
Grouping level:	Band (1	N=84.5)	Clan (N=24.0)			
Factors:	1	2	1	2		
Inhibition task	0.568	0.535	0.830	0.077		
Group size	0.928	0.059	0.852	0.050		
Day journey	0.947	-0.056	0.735	-0.310		
Diet (% fruit)	-0.275	0.728	0.040	0.969		
Range size	0.414	0.591	0.603	0.075		
Species sampled	2	2		22		
Variance explained	70.0%		67.4%			

Extraction based on  $\lambda = 1.0$ . Bold font indicates variables that have a strong positive load (>0.700) on the same factor.

#### Genus level analysis

Although there is negligible phylogenetic signal in any of the data and analyses of the data with and without phylogenetic control yield identical results [34,54], we nonetheless further checked whether phylogenetic inertia might distort our results by re-analysing the data as genus-level averages. Genus-level analysis removes most of the potential for phylogenetic inertia. In fact, there are only three genera with more than a single species sampled in either of the two datasets. The results are given in Table S9. As before, a factor analysis with  $\lambda=1$ explains 70-74% of the variance, with the Go/No-Go and A-not-B tasks loading with group size and day journey length as before, and the cylinder task loading with diet and home range size. The only difference is that range size loads more strongly with diet on factor 2 in both datasets than was the case with the larger sample.

# Table S10. PCA factor loadings (with varimax rotation and $\lambda>1$ ) for the five variables for each of the two datasets for mean genus-level data. Bold font indicates variables that load together on the same factor.

	Indifference task		A-not-B task		Cylinder task	
Factors:	1	2	1	2	1	2
Cognitive task	0.774	0.583	0.853	0.236	0.225	0.902
Diet	-0.252	0.893	-0.224	0.801	-0.648	0.666
Group size	0.865	-0.170	0.783	-0.333	0.880	0.216
Day journey	0.881	0.106	0.853	-0.188	0.805	0.277
Range size	0.200	0.562	0.517	0.543	0.231	0.581
Variance explained	74.4%		70.5%		73.3%	

	Displacement (memory)		Learning set (memory)		String task (mapping)		3-D Oddity (inference)	
Factors:	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2
Executive task	0.727	0.532	0.570	0.721	-0.315	0.721	0.856	0.429
Group size	-0.130	0.753	0.921	0.224	0.829	-0.356	0.853	0.221
Day journey	0.205	0.895	0.956	0.007	0.942	-0.250	0.970	-0.128
Diet (% fruit)	0.951	0.160	0.062	0.784	-0.817	-0.151	0.125	0.992
Range size	0.844	-0.288	0.062	0.834	0.061	0.857	0.862	0.505
Species sampled	1	9	1	7	1	2		7
Variance explained	80	0.1%	79	9.8%	76	5.2%	9	3.0%

# Table S11. PCA factor loadings (with varimax rotation) for the four additional<br/>executive function tasks (see Table 8)

Extraction based on  $\lambda = 1.0$ 

# Table S12. PCA factor loadings (with varimax rotation) for Reversal Learning andLearning Set tasks combined

Factors:	1	2
Reversal learning Learning set task	<b>0.879</b> 0.461	0.361 <b>0.770</b>
Group size Day journey Diet (% fruit)	<b>0.710</b> <b>0.981</b> 0.176	0.497 0.126 <b>0.959</b>
Range size	0.885	0.433
Species sampled Variance explained	8 89.3%	

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Extraction based on  $\lambda = 1.0$ , with PCA forced to 2-factor solution



**Fig. S3.** Mean scores for Prosimians (unfilled symbols; 7 species), callitrichids (grey symbols; 2 species) and Anthropoids (filled symbols; 30 species) on seven of the executive function tasks from Table S1 for which there are data from two or more of these taxa.

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