What determines dewlap diversity in *Anolis* lizards? An among-island comparison

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Abstract

Animal signalling systems are extremely diverse as they are under different, often conflicting, selective pressures. A classic textbook example of a diverse signal is the anoline dewlap. Both at the inter- and intraspecific levels, dewlap size, colour, shape and pattern vary extensively. Here, we attempt to elucidate the various factors explaining the diversity in dewlap size and pattern among seven Anolis sagrei populations from different islands in the Bahamas. The seven islands differ in the surface area, number and kind of predators, sexual size dimorphism and Anolis species composition. In addition, we investigate whether selective pressures acting on dewlap design differ between males and females. Whereas dewlap pattern appears to serve a role in species recognition in both sexes, our data suggest that relative dewlap size is under natural and/or sexual selection. We find evidence for the role of the dewlap as a pursuit-deterrence signal in both males and females as relative dewlap size is larger on islands where A. sagrei occurs sympatrically with predatory Leiocephalus lizards. Additionally, in males relatively large dewlaps seem to be selected for in a sexual context, whereas in females natural selection, for instance by other predators than Leiocephalus lizards, appears to constrain relative dewlap size.

Introduction

As they are extremely diverse and often conspicuous, animal signals have long intrigued evolutionary biologists (review in Bajema, 1984). A myriad of factors are known to drive the evolution of signalling systems but processes thought to be responsible for signal diversity can generally be classified either as stochastic processes or selective processes. In contrast to stochastic events, selection pressures are continuously acting on natural populations. Natural and sexual selective pressures, however, may pose conflicting demands on the signalling system. For a signal to be effective in a sexual context, it needs to be conspicuous to conspecifics. Large, elaborate signals, however, often also draw the unwanted atten-

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tion of predators and cryptic signals will be favoured in this context. Signal design can thus be seen as the evolutionary balance between natural and sexual selection acting on the system at any given moment (Endler, 1983, 1992; Andersson, 1994; Zuk & Kolluru, 1998).

Besides natural and sexual selection in the strictest sense, a third, nonmutually exclusive hypothesis has often been put forward as driving signal diversity. The species recognition hypothesis suggests that obvious signals are selected for by the need for rapid unambiguous identification of species by conspecifics, thus avoiding costly mating errors (Figuerola & Green, 2000; Seddon, 2005; Ord & Martins, 2006). If so, sympatric species can be expected to possess more distinct and easily distinguishable signals than allopatric species (Butcher & Rohwer, 1989; Price, 1998; Figuerola & Green, 2000). For instance, in antibirds the songs of closely related sympatric pairs of species are more divergent than those of allopatric pairs (Seddon, 2005).

The Anolis dewlap represents a textbook example of a diverse signal. The dewlap is a characteristic feature of Anolis lizards and consists of an extendable flap of skin attached to the lizards' throat. Although the dewlap is suggested to play an important role in male-male interactions, female choice, pursuit-deterrence and/or species recognition (Greenberg & Noble, 1944; Williams & Rand, 1977; Echelle et al., 1978; Fitch & Hillis, 1984; Losos & Chu, 1998; Leal, 1999; Jenssen et al., 2000; Lailvaux & Irschick, 2007; Nicholson et al., 2007), the function and the evolution of the dewlap remain largely a mystery. Among Anolis species, dewlap design, i.e. size, shape, colour and pattern is extremely diverse, with many species having uniquely designed dewlaps that are used to delineate species (Nicholson et al., 2007 and references therein).

In addition to being extremely diverse at the interspecific level, anoline dewlap design also varies greatly within and among different populations of the same species (Echelle et al., 1978; Leal & Fleishman, 2004; Vanhooydonck et al., 2005a). That dewlap design may be as variable within as among species is evidenced by the fact that among the seven Anolis sagrei populations we sampled, four out of the six dewlap pattern categories described for different Anolis species (Nicholson et al., 2007) occur (Fig. 1). As intraspecific, among-population differences may represent incipient stages of speciation (Foster et al., 1998), examining them may reveal mechanisms responsible for the diversity in dewlap design for the entire Anolis radiation. Also, as the strength of selective processes typically varies geographically, the relative contribution of natural and sexual selection to the variation in signal design may be elucidated by population comparisons (Foster, 1999). Studies on a range of taxa corroborate the idea that interpopulational variation in signal design reflects the differential balance between natural and sexual selection pressures (insects: Lewkiewicz & Zuk, 2004; Svensson et al., 2006; fish: Endler, 1992; Moyaho et al., 2004; Hamon & Foote, 2005; Millar *et al.*, 2006; reptiles: Macedonia *et al.*, 2002; Kwiatkowski, 2003; Stuart-Fox et al., 2004; birds: Blondel et al., 2002).

Here, we attempt to disentangle the various causes of variation in dewlap design (i.e. dewlap size and pattern) for seven populations of *A. sagrei* lizards from the Bahamas. In addition, we specifically examine whether selective pressures acting on dewlap design differ among males and females. Surprisingly, previous studies on anoline dewlap diversity have exclusively focused on male dewlap design (e.g. Echelle *et al.*, 1978; Losos & Chu, 1998; Nicholson *et al.*, 2007), yet in most anole species females also possess a dewlap. In nature, females extend and display their dewlaps, although they do so less frequently and in other contexts than males (Jenssen *et al.*, 2000; Lovern & Jenssen, 2001; Orrell & Jenssen, 2003). In addition, the female dewlap is typically smaller and less distinctly coloured than that of males (Jenssen

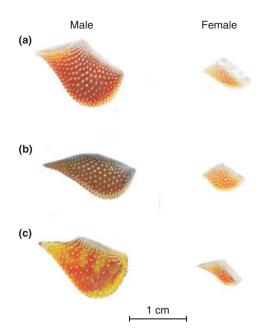


Fig. 1 Example pictures of dewlaps in male (left) and female (right) *Anolis sagrei* from (a) Crooked, (b) Staniel Cay and (c) Andros. Individuals are of similar snout–vent length. Male *A. sagrei* have larger dewlaps than females and *A. sagrei* lizards from Crooked, an island with *Leiocephalus carinatus* present, have relatively larger dewlaps than the ones from Staniel Cay, an island without *L. carinatus* present. Dewlap pattern in *A. sagrei* from Andros, a fourspecies island, is more complex (i.e. striped) than the dewlap patterns in *A. sagrei* from both Crooked, a two-species island, and Staniel Cay, a three-species island. Scale bar represents 1 cm.

et al., 2000). This suggests selective pressures on dewlap design may differ between the sexes (cf. Blanco & De La Puente, 2002; Vanhooydonck et al., 2005a).

To ensure varying degrees of sexual and natural selection and congeneric competition acting on the different *A. sagrei* populations, we sampled each population on a different island in the Bahamas. The seven islands were selected so that they varied greatly in surface area, number and kind of predators, and *Anolis* species composition (Table 1). This work thus follows in the footsteps of other studies of island biogeography that examine how factors that change across different islands (e.g. predator profiles) affect various aspects of the organismal phenotype (reviews in Grant, 1998; Stuessy & Ono, 1998).

The number of sympatric *Anolis* species was used to test the species recognition hypothesis. On the different islands in the Bahamas, the number of sympatric *Anolis* species ranges from one to four (Losos *et al.*, 1994), providing a perfect natural laboratory to examine whether dewlap design is more distinct when more species occur sympatrically and where rapid, unambiguous identification of conspecifics is likely advantageous. As a measure of intensity of sexual selection, we used

Table 1 Data on number of individuals measured, island area, tail break frequency (TBF), presence/absence of Leiocephalus carinatus lizards
(Lc, $0 = absent$, $1 = present$), and number of Anolis lizards per island and sex ($M = male$, $F = female$), where applicable.

Island	Sex	Ν	Island area (km²)	TBF	Lc	No. Anolis	Dewlap size (mm²)	Dewlap pattern	SVL (mm)
Pidgeon Cay	М	17	0.019	0.47	0	2	126.39 ± 10.24	0.92 ± 0.02	48.11 ± 1.13
	F	8		0.25			23.95 ± 1.25	1.00 ± 0.00	40.46 ± 1.04
Staniel Cay	М	27	5.18	0.37	0	3	162.90 ± 11.96	0.90 ± 0.02	52.29 ± 1.18
	F	21		0.33			21.91 ± 1.22	0.97 ± 0.01	39.48 ± 0.61
Chub Cay	М	22	15.76	0.32	1	4	145.61 ± 11.29	0.56 ± 0.03	47.60 ± 1.12
	F	21		0.38			19.86 ± 1.36	0.75 ± 0.03	35.82 ± 0.56
Crooked	М	24	238.28	0.46	1	2	166.66 ± 13.52	0.96 ± 0.01	50.17 ± 1.14
	F	19		0.48			26.07 ± 1.25	0.96 ± 0.02	40.19 ± 0.64
Acklins	М	11	310.8	0.55	1	2	217.77 ± 26.82	0.97 ± 0.01	55.69 ± 2.38
	F	12		0.09			27.63 ± 1.44	0.99 ± 0.01	40.11 ± 0.87
Grand Bahama	М	29	1373	0.54	1	3	131.05 ± 10.26	0.91 ± 0.01	43.38 ± 1.36
	F	23		0.38			16.73 ± 0.79	0.88 ± 0.02	33.88 ± 0.44
Andros	М	25	5957	0.50	0	4	110.23 ± 8.17	0.65 ± 0.03	46.63 ± 0.77
	F	18		0.45			18.25 ± 0.84	0.83 ± 0.03	37.52 ± 0.57

Also shown are the mean ± standard error of dewlap size, dewlap pattern and SVL per island and sex.

sexual size dimorphism. Sexual size dimorphism has been widely used as an indirect measure of sexual selection because there is strong evidence that it is associated with the ability to compete over mates, with mating systems, and with territoriality (Stuart-Fox & Ord, 2004; Ord & Martins, 2006; and references therein).

As a proxy for the strength of natural selection, we examined the following three variables: (i) island size, (ii) the occurrence of Leiocephalus carinatus lizards and (iii) tail break frequency. First, island size is typically correlated with the number of species inhabiting the island (MacArthur & Wilson, 1967; Losos & Schluter, 2000; Ricklefs & Bermingham, 2004), and the number of very large predators, such as raptorial birds, may be disproportionately lower on small islands (Schoener & Schoener, 1978, 1982; McLaughlin & Roughgarden, 1989). Specifically, in the Bahamas, annual survival of Anolis sagrei is lower on large islands with a more diverse avifauna, thus suggesting increased levels of predation, and stronger natural selection on large islands when compared with small islands (Schoener & Schoener, 1978). In addition, the presence of L. carinatus lizards may have both direct (e.g. predation) and indirect (e.g. competition for food) effects on the survival of Anolis lizards in the Bahamas (Schoener et al., 1982, 2002), thus increasing the intensity of natural selection on islands where Leiocephalus and Anolis lizards occur in sympatry. Third, tail autotomy is a common antipredator mechanism among lizards (Pough et al., 2001). Although it has been intensely debated whether it actually reflects the intensity of predation or the inefficiency of predators (Schoener & Schoener, 1980; Turner et al., 1982; Jaksic & Greene, 1984; Fox et al., 1994), tail break frequency has been used as an indicator of predation pressure in other lizard species (Kwiatkowski, 2003).

Specifically, we test whether the among-island variation in two aspects of dewlap design (i.e. size and pattern)

in *A. sagrei* can be best explained by the variation in different selective agents (i.e. natural selection, sexual selection, species recognition), separately or in combination. Second, we test whether similar selective pressures act on dewlap design in male and female *A. sagrei*.

Material and methods

Animals

Between 24 April 2003 and 18 May 2003, we visited seven different islands in the Bahamas (i.e. Andros, Grand Bahama, Chub Cay, Staniel Cay, Pidgeon Cay, Crooked and Acklins) and captured a total of 277 adult *A. sagrei* lizards by hand or noose. We measured snout–vent length (SVL) of all captured individuals to the nearest 0.01 mm using digital callipers (Mitutoyo CD-15DC; Mitutoyo [UK] Ltd., Telford, UK). In addition, we noted the sex of each individual and the condition of its tail (i.e. regenerated or not).

For six of the seven islands we visited, information on island area was readily available from the literature (Losos *et al.*, 1994), or on the world wide web (http://www.geographia.com/bahamas/map.htm). We estimated the area of Pidgeon Cay by comparing its size to the known size of Staniel Cay, which is the neighbouring island, on an aerial image provided by Google Earth. Based on the available literature (Schwartz & Henderson, 1991) and personal observations, we noted whether *L. carinatus* lizards were present (Table 1).

To be able to test the species recognition hypothesis (see Introduction), we also sampled the co-occurring *Anolis* species on each island. Specifically, *Anolis carolinensis* occurs on all seven islands and 167 adult individuals were captured in total. *Anolis distichus* occurs on Andros, Chub Cay, Grand Bahama and Staniel Cay, whereas *Anolis angusticeps* occurs only on the former two. In total,

we captured 78 and 83 adult individuals of each species respectively. Of all these individuals, we noted its sex and took a digital picture of the dewlap (see below).

Dewlap measurements

To obtain a reliable measure of dewlap size, we positioned the lizard sideways and pulled the base of the second ceratobranchial gently forward with a pair of forceps. As the dewlap consists of a skin flap attached to the lizard's throat on the one side and to the hyoid bone on the other, the dewlap becomes maximally extended when the ceratobranchial is pulled forward completely (see Bels, 1990). After positioning the lizard in such a way that its extended dewlap was parallel to the lens of the camera (Nikon Coolpix 4500; Nikon Inc., Chicago, IL, USA), we took a digital picture. We placed a tape measure (accuracy of 1 mm) next to the extended dewlap to provide a scale. Using the program TPSDIG (v. 1.39; J. Rohlf, SUNY, Stonybrook, NY, USA), we digitized the outer edge of the dewlap and calculated total dewlap size for each individual. This method of measuring dewlap size yields highly repeatable results (Vanhooydonck et al., 2005b). For those dewlaps that consisted of two differently coloured parts (i.e. visual to the human eye), we subsequently delineated the part of the dewlap that consisted of the main colour using the same program. If spots or stripes were present, we digitized around their outer edges. As a measure of dewlap patterning, we used the ratio of the area covered by the main colour to the total dewlap size. This measure corresponds to the different categories of dewlap patterns found among Anolis species as described by Nicholson et al. (2007). The highest ratio (i.e. ratio of 1) represents the solid dewlap, the lowest ratio the spotted dewlap. The three ratios in between represent in decreasing order, the marginal, basal and striped dewlap. All A. carolinensis and A. angusticeps we captured possessed a solid dewlap, whereas A. sagrei and A. distichus showed a great diversity in dewlap patterns. We captured A. sagrei individuals possessing solid, marginal, basal and striped dewlaps and A. distichus individuals possessing solid, marginal, basal and spotted dewlaps (cf. Nicholson et al., 2007). Neither in male nor female A. sagrei are dewlap pattern and relative dewlap size significantly correlated (r = 0.26, P = 0.58; P = 0.12, P = 0.79 respectively).

Statistics

We used spss (v 13.0) (SPSS Inc., Chicago, IL, USA) for all statistical analyses. Per island and sex, we calculated the mean dewlap size, dewlap pattern and SVL (Table 1). Sexual size dimorphism was calculated as the mean SVL in males divided by the mean SVL in females per island (cf. Butler *et al.*, 2000; Losos *et al.*, 2003). We calculated the ratio of number of individuals with a regenerated tail to the total number of individ-

uals captured per population and sex to get an estimate of tail break frequency (Table 1). Prior to statistical analyses, the mean dewlap size, mean SVL, sexual size dimorphism and island area were logarithmically (\log_{10}) transformed to make sure that they were normally distributed. We regressed, per sex, the mean dewlap size against mean SVL and calculated the residuals. Residual dewlap size was subsequently used in the analyses. Mean dewlap pattern and tail break frequency were arcsine transformed (Sokal & Rohlf, 1995). None of the bivariate correlations among the five covariates were significant (all r < 0.57, all P > 0.18).

We used an information theoretic approach to the model selection (Burnham & Anderson, 2002) to compare seven different plausible models of selection for both residual dewlap size and dewlap pattern. The first model was based on the sexual selection hypothesis and included sexual size dimorphism. The second model, based on the natural selection hypothesis, included island area, tail break frequency and absence/presence of L. carinatus lizards, as covariates. The third model was based on the species recognition hypothesis and included the number of Anolis lizards as covariate. The four remaining models were based on the combination of the different hypotheses (i.e. model 4: natural selection, sexual selection and species recognition; model 5: natural and sexual selection; model 6: natural selection and species recognition; model 7: sexual selection and species recognition). As our sample size (i.e. seven islands) is too low to include all five covariates in model 4 or four covariates in models 5 and 6, we decided to include only one of the natural selection-related covariates in these analyses. Which covariate was included, was based on the relative importance of each of the three covariates in the natural selection model. We calculated the importance of each covariate by summing the Akaike weights of the complete natural selection model and models including each of the covariates seperately (see also below).

Specifically, we used the Akaike Information Criterion differences (Δ_i) to determine the likelihood that a given model is the best model among the candidate models. The best model has a Δ_i value of zero. Models with Δ_i values up to 2 have substantial empirical support, models with Δ_i values between 4 and 7 have considerably less support, and models with Δ_i values > 10 have essentially no empirical support (Burnham & Anderson, 2002). In addition, we used Akaike weights (w_i) to provide another measure of the strength of evidence for each model. Akaike weights (w_i) indicate the probability that a given model is the best among the whole set of candidate models (Burnham & Anderson, 2002). Thus, the best model has the lowest Δ_i value and highest w_i . We subsequently calculated the importance of the different variables included in the best model(s), by summing the Akaike weights for all models containing that particular variable. The variable with the largest summed weight

 (w_+) is estimated to be the most important; the variable with the smallest sum is estimated to be the least important (Burnham & Anderson, 2004).

Both in males and females, the species recognition model turned out to be the best model of the seven candidate models to explain the variation in dewlap pattern (see Results). Thus, we subsequently compared the frequency distributions with regard to dewlap pattern among the co-occurring Anolis species. This way we aim at testing explicitly whether the changes we find in dewlap pattern in A. sagrei actually occur with respect to the dewlap pattern of the other sympatric *Anolis* species. We did so by performing a nonparametric Kruskal–Wallis test with dewlap patterning (per individual) as dependent and species as factor. Sexes and islands with different numbers of co-occurring Anolis species (i.e. 2, 3 or 4) were analysed separately. By combining the results of these analyses and the results of the model selection analyses outlined above, we get at the issue of character displacement with respect to dewlap patterning in A. sagrei.

Results

Relative dewlap size in males

Based on the summed Akaike weights, the absence/presence of *L. carinatus* lizards appeared to be the most important predictor variable in the natural selection model ($w_+ = 0.99$; island area and tail break frequency: $w_+ = 0.15$). Therefore, in all models combining the natural selection hypothesis with the sexual selection and/or species recognition hypotheses, we used the absence/presence of *L. carinatus* lizards as the sole natural selection-related covariate.

Of the seven alternative models for selection on male residual dewlap size in A. sagrei, the model including both the absence/presence of L. carinatus lizards on the island and degree of sexual size dimorphism has the lowest Δ_i value and highest w_i . The combined natural and sexual selection model has a 41% chance of being the best model (Table 2). Male A. sagrei occurring on islands with L. carinatus lizards have larger relative dewlaps than males occurring on islands without L. carinatus (Fig. 2a). Similarly, the degree of sexual size dimorphism is positively related to relative dewlap size among male A. sagrei (Fig. 2b). Still, the model based on a combination of the species recognition and natural selection hypotheses (i.e. model 6) and the model based on all three hypotheses (i.e. model 4) also have considerable empirical support (Δ_i < 2, Table 2). Summing the Akaike weights for the different covariates in these models shows that the absence/presence of L. carinatus lizards is the most important predictor variable ($w_{+} = 0.99$), followed by sexual size dimorphism ($w_{+} = 0.57$). The number of congeneric species is the least important $(w_+ = 0.45).$

Dewlap pattern in males

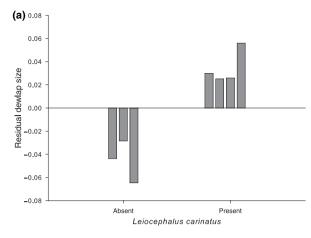
In the natural selection model, tail break frequency appears to be the most important predictor variable $(w_+ = 0.71)$, whereas the absence/presence of *L. carinatus* lizards and island area are the least important $(w_+ = 0.40$ and 0.39 respectively). We therefore introduced tail break frequency as the sole natural selection -elated covariate in all combined models (i.e. models 4, 5 and 6).

Dewlap pattern in male A. sagrei seems to be mainly affected by the number of congeneric (i.e. Anolis)

Table 2 Akaike Information Criteria (AIC), AIC differences (Δ_i) and Akaike weights (w_i) of the seven alternative models explaining the variation in residual dewlap size and pattern among seven populations of male *Anolis sagrei* lizards.

Model	Covariates	AIC	AIC difference (Δ_i)	Akaike weight (w _i)
Residual dewlap size				
(1) Sexual selection	SSD	-22.06	10.96	0.002
(2) Natural selection	Island area, TBF, Lc	-30.84	2.18	0.137
(3) Species recognition	No. Anolis	-18.79	14.23	0.0003
(4) Sexual selection, natural selection and species recognition	SSD, Lc, no. Anolis	-31.20	1.81	0.165
(5) Sexual and natural selection	SSD, Lc	-33.02	0	0.407
(6) Natural selection and species recognition	Lc, no. Anolis	-32.32	0.69	0.288
(7) Sexual selection and species recognition	SSD, no. Anolis	-20.55	12.47	0.0007
Dewlap pattern				
(1) Sexual selection	SSD	3.05	13.50	0.0003
(2) Natural selection	Island area, TBF, Lc	1.88	12.33	0.0006
(3) Species recognition	No. Anolis	-10.45	0	0.283
(4) Sexual selection, natural selection and species recognition	SSD, TBF, no. Anolis	-10.29	0.16	0.261
(5) Sexual and natural selection	SSD, TBF	2.34	12.79	0.0004
(6) Natural selection and species recognition	TBF, no. Anolis	-9.80	0.65	0.205
(7) Sexual selection and species recognition	SSD, no. Anolis	-10.20	0.25	0.250

The model with the lowest Δ_i value and the highest w_i is considered the 'best' model among the candidate models (in bold). SSD, sexual size dimorphism; TBF, tail break frequency; Lc, absence/presence Leiocephalus carinatus lizards.



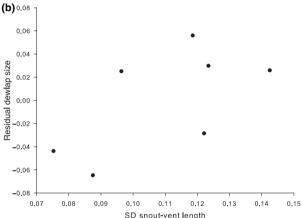
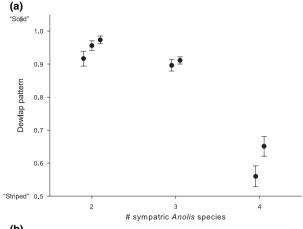


Fig. 2 Plot of male residual dewlap size against the covariates in the model with the lowest Δ_i and highest w_i of all alternative models: (a) absence or presence of *Leiocephalus carinatus* lizards ($w_+ = 0.99$) and (b) degree of sexual size dimorphism ($w_+ = 0.57$). Male residual dewlap size is larger on islands with higher levels of sexual dimorphism and on islands with *L. carinatus* present. Male residual dewlap size thus seems to be affected by both sexual and natural selection, acting in the same direction.

species as the model based on the species recognition hypothesis has the lowest Δ_i value and highest w_i of the seven candidate models. It has a 28% chance of being the best model. The more congeneric species co-occur on the same island, the more complex (i.e. smaller ratio of the area covered by the main colour to the total area) the pattern of the dewlap in male A. sagrei becomes (Fig. 3a). Still, the models combining the species recognition and natural selection hypotheses, the species recognition and sexual selection hypotheses, and all three hypotheses have substantial empirical support (all Δ_i < 2, Table 2). Summing the Akaike weights of the different covariates included in these models, however, shows that the number of congeneric species is the most important predictor variable ($w_{+} = 0.99$), followed by sexual size dimorphism ($w_{+} = 0.51$). Tail break



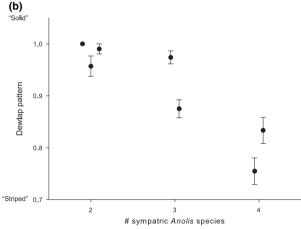


Fig. 3 Plot of dewlap pattern against the number of sympatric *Anolis* species in (a) males (w_+ = 0.99) and (b) females (w_+ = 0.98). Both in males and females, the model based on the species recognition hypothesis has the lowest $Δ_i$ and highest w_i in comparison with the alternative models. Averages and standard error bars are shown per island. Data points are offset for clarity reasons. Dewlap patterns are more complex (i.e. striped pattern) on islands with more *Anolis* species present. Male and female dewlap pattern may thus function as a species recognition trait.

frequency is the least important predictor variable $(w_+ = 0.47)$.

Relative dewlap size in females

Of the three covariates in the natural selection model, the absence/presence of *L. carinatus* lizards is the most important predictor variable (w_+ = 0.99), compared to island area and tail break frequency (both w_+ = 0.98). Therefore, the absence/presence of *L. carinatus* lizards was used as the sole natural selection-related covariate in subsequent combined models.

In female *A. sagrei*, the best model out of the seven alternatives to explain the variation in residual dewlap size was the one based on the natural selection hypo-

Table 3 Akaike Information Criteria (AIC), AIC differences (Δ_i) and Akaike weights (w_i) of the seven alternative models explaining the variation in residual dewlap size and pattern among seven populations of female *Anolis sagrei* lizards.

Model	Covariates	AIC	AIC difference (Δ_i)	Akaike weight (w _i)
Residual dewlap size				
(1) Sexual selection	SSD	-23.32	15.92	0.0003
(2) Natural selection	Island area, TBF, Lc	-39.24	0	0.873
(3) Species recognition	No. Anolis	-22.40	16.84	0.0002
(4) Sexual selection, natural selection and species recognition	SSD, Lc, no. Anolis	-34.10	5.14	0.067
(5) Sexual and natural selection	SSD, Lc	-29.28	9.96	0.006
(6) Natural selection and species recognition	Lc, no. Anolis	-33.62	5.62	0.053
(7) Sexual selection and species recognition	SSD, no. Anolis	-25.34	13.90	0.0008
Dewlap pattern				
(1) Sexual selection	SSD	1.09	10.22	0.002
(2) Natural selection	island area, TBF, Lc	-0.59	8.54	0.005
(3) Species recognition	No. Anolis	-9.13	0	0.323
(4) Sexual selection, natural selection and species recognition	SSD, TBF, no. Anolis	-9.09	0.04	0.316
(5) Sexual and natural selection	SSD, TBF	-3.10	6.03	0.016
(6) Natural selection and species recognition	TBF, no. Anolis	-8.15	0.98	0.197
(7) Sexual selection and species recognition	SSD, no. Anolis	-7.50	1.63	0.143

The model with the lowest Δ_i value and the highest w_i is considered the 'best' model among the candidate models (in bold). SSD, sexual size dimorphism; TBF, tail break frequency; Lc, absence/presence Leiocephalus carinatus lizards.

thesis (i.e. model with the absence/presence of *L. carinatus*, island area and tail break frequency as covariates). It has an 87% chance of being the best model among those considered in the set of candidate models. None of the other six models have substantial empirical support (all $\Delta_i > 4.58$, Table 3). On islands where *A. sagrei* co-occurs with *L. carinatus* lizards, females have larger relative dewlaps than on islands without (Fig. 4a). Residual dewlap size is smaller, however, on larger islands and on islands with a higher incidence of tail autotomy (Figs 4b,c).

Dewlap pattern in females

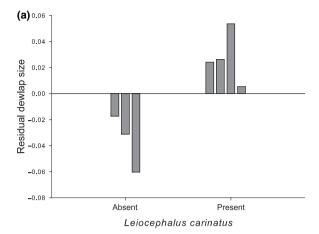
Tail break frequency appears to be the most important predictor variable when comparing the summed Akaike weights ($w_+ = 0.57$) of the three covariates in the natural selection model. The absence/presence of *L. carinatus* lizards ($w_+ = 0.31$) and island area ($w_+ = 0.52$) are less important predictor variables. We, therefore, included only tail break frequency as natural selection-related covariate in the models combining natural selection and sexual selection and/or species recognition hypotheses.

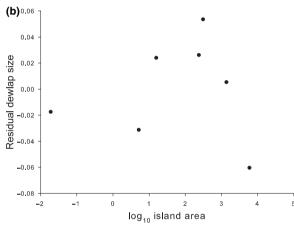
In female *A. sagrei*, the model, with dewlap pattern as a dependent variable, including the number of *Anolis* species as a covariate has the lowest Δ_i value and highest w_i (Table 3). It has a 32% chance of being the best model among the seven candidate models. The dewlap pattern in females is more complex when more *Anolis* species co-occur (Fig. 3b). Still, the models based the species recognition and natural selection hypotheses, the species recognition and sexual selection hypotheses, and all three hypotheses also have considerable

empirical support (Δ_i < 2, Table 3). Summing the Akaike weights of the different covariates included in these models shows that the number of congeneric species is the most important predictor variable (w_+ = 0.98), followed by tail break frequency (w_+ = 0.53). Sexual size dimorphism is the least important predictor variable (w_+ = 0.48).

Comparison of dewlap pattern frequency distributions

As the number of co-occurring *Anolis* species seems to be one of the most important factors explaining the variation in dewlap pattern in both male and female A. sagrei, we subsequently performed Kruskal-Wallis tests and compared the frequency distributions of individual dewlap pattern among the different sympatric species. The frequency distributions with regard to dewlap pattern differ significantly in both males and females of the four sympatric species (A. sagrei, A. carolinensis, A. distichus and A. angusticeps) on four-species islands ($\chi_3^2 = 134.73$, P < 0.0001; $\chi_3^2 = 93.5$, P < 0.0001 respectively), among males and females of A. sagrei, A. carolinensis and A. distichus on three-species islands ($\chi_2^2 = 14.29$, P =0.001; $\chi_2^2 = 22.07$, P < 0.0001 respectively) and among males and females of A. sagrei and A. carolinensis on twospecies islands ($\chi_1^2 = 25.76$, P < 0.0001; $\chi_1^2 = 4.17$, P = 0.04 respectively). The frequency distribution of dewlap patterning in A. sagrei shows an obvious shift to more complex dewlaps (i.e. left on Fig. 5) when comparing two-, three- and four-species islands. In addition, the proportion of A. sagrei individuals with solid dewlaps decreases from two-species, over three-species islands to four-species islands (Fig. 5).





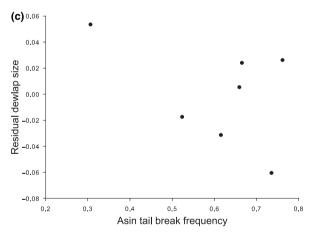


Fig. 4 Plot of female residual dewlap size in seven *A. sagrei* populations from the Bahamas against the covariates in the model with the lowest Δ_i and highest w_i of all alternative models: (a) absence or presence of *Leiocephalus carinatus* lizards ($w_+ = 0.99$), (b) island area (\log_{10} transformed; $w_+ = 0.98$) and (c) tail break frequency (arcsine transformed; $w_+ = 0.98$). Female residual dewlap size is larger on islands with *L. carinatus* lizards present, whereas it is smaller on larger islands with higher levels of predation pressure. Female residual dewlap size thus represents an evolutionary balance between opposing natural selection pressures.

Discussion

Evolution of dewlaps in A. sagrei

Our results suggest that two different aspects (i.e. size and pattern) of the same morphological structure (i.e. the dewlap) are susceptible to different selective pressures. Whereas the diversity in dewlap size seems to be primarily explained by natural selection and to some extent by sexual selection, dewlap pattern seems to play a major role in species recognition. Also, dewlap size and pattern complexity do not appear to co-evolve as they are not significantly correlated. That multiple signals may serve divergent roles has been demonstrated previously. For instance, different structures (e.g. song vs. plumage diversity in finches, Badyaev et al., 2002; belly vs. throat patches in Urosaurus ornatus lizards, Meyers et al., 2006) may convey different kinds of information (e.g. behavioural aggression vs. dominance; Meyers et al., 2006), and/or different aspects of the same structure (e.g. badge colour and size) may undergo divergent sexual selective pressures (e.g. intra- vs. intersexual selection; Andersson et al., 2002; Pryke et al., 2002). However, two closely related features of the same structure serving two divergent functions, and undergoing different kinds of selective pressures (i.e. natural and/or sexual selection vs. species recognition) as has been shown here is unusual.

Evolution of dewlap pattern

Dewlap pattern seems to vary primarily as a function of the number of sympatric Anolis species in both males and females. Not only does the complexity of the pattern change, it changes in relation to the dewlap pattern of the co-existing Anolis species. Although, we do not have data on dewlap characteristics of A. sagrei occurring in absence of congeneric species, these results at least suggest character displacement occurs with respect to dewlap pattern. Possessing distinctively patterned, unique dewlaps when co-occurring with congeneric species may thus facilitate rapid and unambiguous identification of a conspecific (Rand & Williams, 1970; Figuerola & Green, 2000; Seddon, 2005; Ord & Martins, 2006). Although it has been shown experimentally that at least some Anolis species are able to discern conspecifics from heterospecifics based on the display behaviour and dewlap colour (Losos, 1985; Macedonia & Stamps, 1994; Macedonia et al., 1994), Nicholson et al. (2007) only found weak evidence in support of the species recognition hypothesis when comparing dewlap patterns across Anolis species. In Nicholson's comparative analysis, sympatrically occurring Anolis species differ significantly in dewlap configuration in three of four communities. Because of the great diversity in dewlap morphologies, however, they concluded that species from one community may differ in dewlap pattern by chance alone

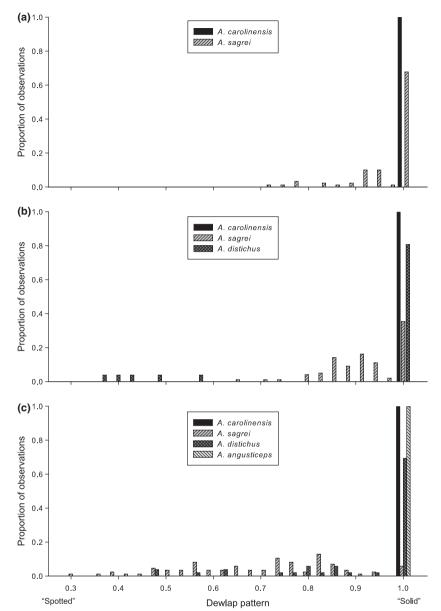


Fig. 5 Prequency distribution, shown as the proportion of observations, of dewlap patterning of sympatrically occurring *Anolis* lizards on (a) two-species islands, (b) threespecies islands and (c) four-species islands. Sympatrically occurring species differ with respect to dewlap pattern. The proportion of *Anolis sagrei* individuals with complex dewlap patterns (i.e. basal and striped) increases with the number of sympatric congeneric species, whereas the proportion of *A. sagrei* individuals with solid dewlaps decreases. Observations on males and females are combined. Bar colours and patterns represent different species.

(Nicholson *et al.*, 2007). Although we cannot rule out this possibility in our system, it seems rather unlikely that these complex patterns arose by chance alone, as the most complex dewlaps only occurred on islands with four sympatric *Anolis* species. This argument is further supported by the observation that this pattern holds for both males and females. In light of the species recognition hypothesis, this is not surprising as avoiding costly mating errors may be advantageous for both sexes.

Evolution of dewlap size

Contrary to dewlap pattern, relative dewlap size does not seem to serve a prominent role in species recognition but

seems to be subjected to a different set of natural and sexual selective pressures. In addition, selective pressures on relative dewlap size seem to differ for males and females. Whereas male dewlap size is under natural selection and sexual selection to some extent, natural selection is the main force driving the evolution of dewlap size in females. Male *A. sagrei* have relatively larger dewlaps when sexual selection, as estimated by the degree of sexual size dimorphism, is stronger. Possibly, dewlap size is determined by intrasexual selection (i.e. male–male competition), as in territorial *Anolis* lizards it acts as an honest signal of bite force and fighting ability (Vanhooydonck *et al.*, 2005a, b; Lailvaux & Irschick, 2007), whereas its role during intersexual interactions

(i.e. female choice) is unclear (Lailvaux & Irschick, 2006). We realize two recent studies (Tokarz et al., 2003; Lailvaux & Irschick, 2007) on the functional role of the dewlap in male A. sagrei that do not corroborate this idea. However, in the first (Tokarz et al., 2003), only males with established territories were used and if dewlap size is important in settling territorial fights, its functional role may be more prominent in young males without established territories. A positive correlation between dewlap size and bite force in small mature males but not large mature males of another Anolis species, A. carolinensis, corroborates this idea (Vanhooydonck et al., 2005a). In the second (Lailvaux & Irschick, 2007), data for an A. sagrei population from the largest, one of the most diverse, Caribbean islands (i.e. Cuba), were combined with data for a population from one of the smaller Bahamian islands, i.e. South Bimini. Thus, the lack of an association between dewlap size and intensity of sexual selection in the study by Lailvaux & Irschick (2007) potentially represents a sampling artefact.

The natural selection hypothesis posits that large, conspicuous sexual signals render the bearer more susceptible to predation (Endler, 1992; Andersson, 1994; Zuk & Kolluru, 1998). Our results, however, do not corroborate this idea as both male and female A. sagrei occurring in sympatry with predatory Leiocephalus lizards have larger relative dewlaps than A. sagrei from islands without. We believe that the association between Leiocephalus lizards and dewlap size in both male and female A. sagrei may be explained by the pursuit deterrence hypothesis. The pursuit deterrence hypothesis is somewhat controversial but examples of pursuit deterrent signals have been described for a number of taxa (review in Caro, 1995; Cooper, 2000). In general, pursuit deterrent displays signal to a predator that it has been detected, which causes the predator to give up its attempt to attack the prey (Caro, 1995). In A. sagrei, the dewlap may function as a pursuit deterrent signal during agonistic encounters with Leiocephalus lizards as some Anolis lizards are known to show extensive display behaviour, including extensions of the dewlap, when confronted with a predator. Even more so, this behaviour seems effective as snake predators have been observed to stop approaching Anolis lizards that start displaying (Leal & Rodriguez-Robles, 1995, 1997; Leal, 1999). In addition, the intensity of display appears to be correlated to locomotor capacity in A. cristatellus and can thus be interpreted as signalling the ability to escape a predatory attack (Leal, 1999). As dewlap size may indicate bite force and fighting ability (see also above), and anoles are known to bite and struggle when captured by predators (Leal & Rodriguez-Robles, 1995), dewlap size may also have evolved to warn predators that anoles have powerful bites and thus deter them from attacking. To corroborate this idea, however, we need observations on display and dewlap behaviour in A. sagrei when confronted with Leiocephalus lizards.

Whereas in males, selective pressures resulting from sexual selection and the presence of *Leiocephalus* lizards thus seem to override the constraining effect of natural selection pressures, this is not true in females. Although the presence of *L. carinatus* lizards is the predictor variable with the highest relative importance (i.e. $w_{+} = 0.99$), island area and tail break frequency are only slightly less important (both $w_+ = 0.98$). Contrary to the effect of the presence of L. carinatus lizards on relative dewlap size in female A. sagrei, an increase in the tail break frequency and greater island size are associated with a decrease in the dewlap size in female A. sagrei, suggesting that natural selection does constrain dewlap size to some degree in female A. sagrei. This finding is in agreement with the natural selection hypothesis that posits that, in high predation environments, conspicuous signals are selected against because they draw the attention of predators (Endler, 1992; Andersson, 1994; Zuk & Kolluru, 1998). Instead of having the opposite effect from sexual selection pressures, the trade-off between the strength of predation pressure and the occurrence of predatory Leiocephalus lizards seems to drive the evolution of female dewlap size in A. sagrei. Female dewlap size thus seems to represent a balance between selective pressures on it being an effective pursuit deterrent signal to Leiocephalus lizards and being cryptic to other predators at the same time.

Alternative hypotheses

An alternative, nonmutually exclusive, hypothesis put forward to explain signal diversity among closely related species is the sensory drive hypothesis (cf. Endler & Théry, 1996; Endler & Basolo, 1998; Boughman, 2002; Leal & Fleishman, 2002, 2004). The sensory drive hypothesis assumes that natural selection acts on signals to be effective under their respective habitat conditions. More specifically, in Anolis lizards, it has been shown that dewlap colouration (i.e. spectral reflectance and transmittance) differs among species and populations occupying habitats with different light intensity and spectral quality (Leal & Fleishman, 2002, 2004). At the moment, we are unable to examine whether and how habitat light conditions influence the variation in dewlap size and pattern in Bahamian A. sagrei. Although, at first sight, A. sagrei seems to occur in similar environmental conditions (i.e. tropical, moist, densely vegetated habitats) on the seven islands under study here, we need spectrophotometric data of both the dewlap and habitat to explicitly test the importance of the sensory drive hypothesis in explaining the diversity in dewlap design in A. sagrei.

Conclusions

Our results suggest that two different aspects (i.e. size and pattern) of the same trait (i.e. dewlap) serve different roles and undergo differential selection pressures in A. sagrei lizards from the Bahamas. In addition, selective pressures acting on dewlap size and pattern vary independently and extensively among islands and populations, causing significant intraspecific diversity in the overall dewlap design. At this point, it remains unclear whether this result is specific for Bahamian *A. sagrei* or whether it can be generalized across all *Anolis* species. It seems plausible to expect though that similar processes underlie the extreme interspecific variation in anoline dewlap design.

In addition to interpopulation differences, selective pressures acting on dewlap design also differ for male and female *A. sagrei* lizards. Whereas male *A. sagrei* have larger relative dewlaps on islands where sexual selection pressure is greater and natural selection by predatory *Leiocephalus* lizards is high, relative dewlap size in females represents an evolutionary balance between the presence of *Leiocephalus* lizards and the presence of other agents of natural selection.

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