

# Data from: Sex-based population structure of ectoparasites from Neotropical bats

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## Abstract

The structure and composition of populations may be molded by multiple evolutionary and ecological mechanisms, with natural selection affecting sex ratios, as well as the distributions of each sex throughout the environment. To address sex-based aspects of population structure, I evaluated sex ratios, co-occurrence of the sexes, correlations of abundance of the sexes, and dispersion of individuals of each sex for each of 34 host-ectoparasite associations from Paraguayan bats. Of the 34 host-ectoparasite associations, 23 exhibited positive co-occurrence, 27 exhibited positive correlation of abundances, 4 exhibited male sex bias, 1 exhibited female sex bias, 27 had clumped distributions of males, and 26 had clumped distributions of females. No associations exhibited negative co-occurrence, negative correlation of abundance, or hyper-dispersed males or females. There was no evidence for sexual segregation, sex-based niche partitioning, or intrasexual selection in any host-ectoparasite association. Previously proposed mechanisms (e.g. pre-partum sex bias, local mate competition, or mortality from host grooming) fail to explain observed patterns of sex bias. For ectoparasites of hosts that occupy permanent roost sites, sex-specific behaviour related to reproduction may make females more susceptible to off-host predation and less likely to be present in samples from bats captured away from the roost.

## Usage Notes

## Ischnopsyllidae

Number of male and female fleas collected from Paraguayan bats

## Nycteribiidae

Number of male and female nycteribiid bat flies collected from Paraguayan bats

## Polyctenidae

Number of male and female polyctenid bat bugs collected from Paraguayan bats

## Spinturnicidae

Number of male and female spinturnicid mites collected from Paraguayan bats

## Streblidae

Number of male and female streblid bat flies collected from Paraguayan bats

## References

This dataset is supplement to <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1095-8312.2012.01924.x>

## Location

 Paraguay

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## Keywords

sex bias, Polyctenidae, Nycteribiidae, Streblidae, sexual selection, Spinturnicidae, local mate competition, aggregation of individuals, local resource competition, sex allocation, Ischnopsyllidae

## Files

5 files for this dataset

Ischnopsyllidae.xls	15.36 kB	application/vnd.ms-excel
Nycteribiidae.xls	24.06 kB	application/vnd.ms-excel
Polyctenidae.xls	47.10 kB	application/vnd.ms-excel
Spinturnicidae.xls	90.62 kB	application/vnd.ms-excel
Streblidae.xls	136.70 kB	application/vnd.ms-excel

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