# Standard length of individuals from an experiment in Moorea, French Polynesia from May to June 2012 (CDD_in_Reef_Fish project)

**Website**: https://www.bco-dmo.org/dataset/727043
**Data Type**: experimental
**Version**: 1
**Version Date**: 2017-10-05

**Project**
» Cryptic density dependence: the effects of spatial, ontogenetic, and individual variation in reef fish (CDD_in_Reef_Fish)

| Contributors | Affiliation | Role |
|---|---|---|
| Geange, Shane | Department of Conservation - Wellington, New Zealand | Principal Investigator, Contact |
| Shima, Jeffrey | Victoria University of Wellington | Co-Principal Investigator |
| Stier, Adrian | University of California-Santa Barbara (UCSB) | Co-Principal Investigator |
| Biddle, Mathew | Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (WHOI BCO-DMO) | BCO-DMO Data Manager |

**Abstract**
Standard length of individuals from an experiment in Moorea, French Polynesia from May to June 2012. This dataset is from a manipulative experiment the relative competitive abilities of juveniles of three closely related species of reef fish (bird wrasse, Gomphosus varius; fivestripe wrasse, T. quinquevittatum; and the sixbar wrasse, Thalassoma hardwicke.

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## Coverage

**Spatial Extent**: **Lat**:-17.5 **Lon**:-149.8333333
**Temporal Extent**: 2012-05-26 - 2012-06-06

## Dataset Description

This dataset is from a manipulative experiment the relative competitive abilities of juveniles of three closely related species of reef fish (bird wrasse, Gomphosus varius; fivestripe wrasse, T. quinquevittatum; and the sixbar wrasse, Thalassoma hardwicke). This research was conducted in 2008 at the Gump Biological Research Station, Moorea, French Polynesia.

Data within this file contain information on the standard length of individuals used in the experiment. For additional experimental data, please see the Related Datasets section.

**Related Datasets:**

- Geange_et_al_2013 Competitive Hierarchies: https://www.bco-dmo.org/dataset/727026

- Geange_et_al_2013 Competitive Hierarchies Background Community: https://www.bco-dmo.org/dataset/727058
- Geange_et_al_2013 Competitive Hierarchies Lengths: https://www.bco-dmo.org/dataset/727043 (current page)
- Geange_et_al_2013 Competitive Hierarchies Spatial Covariance: https://www.bco-dmo.org/dataset/727076

### Methods & Sampling

This datasets records the standard length of individuals used in this experiment.

We constructed an array of 30 live-coral patch reefs and used these to conduct a field experiment that examined competitive asymmetry between bird wrasse, fivestripe wrasse and sixbar wrasse. On our constructed reefs, we aimed to minimize habitat variation by standardizing the reefs' size, rugosity and water depth. To achieve this, we selected natural reefs (based upon a set of morphological attributes that included a base of live *Porites lobata* coral with a surface area [mean ± SD] of 2.23 ± 0.56 m2, and a height of 0.59 ± 0.10 m) from a nearby location and transplanted them to our study site (17°29.010' S, 149° 50.346'W), an open sand flat 2 to 4 m deep. Each reef was separated from its nearest neighbor and other non-experimental reefs by a minimum of 10 m. To each reef we attached 3 similar-sized colonies (colony surface area = 0.2 ± 0.07 m2) of the branching coral *Pocillopora verrucosa* using Z-Spar Splash Zone Com- pound (Kopcoat).

Prior to starting the experiment, we removed all bird wrasse, fivestripe wrasse and sixbar wrasse from the reefs and manipulated the relative abundances of other resident fish species via selective removals and additions so that the relative abundance of all species was similar among the 30 reefs. To each reef, we randomly assigned 1 of 6 treatments: (1) 6 bird wrasses; (2) 6 fivestripe wrasses; (3) 6 sixbar wrasses; (4) 3 bird wrasses and 3 fivestripe wrasses; (5) 3 bird wrasses and 3 sixbar wrasses; or (6) 3 fivestripe wrasses and 3 sixbar wrasses.

We ran the experiment in 2 temporal blocks (21 to 25 May 2008 and 2 to 6 June 2008), yielding 10 replicates for each of the 6 treatments, with treatments randomly assigned in each temporal block. We surveyed reefs twice daily (approximately 08:00 and 16:00 h) for 5 d after the introduction of fishes. During surveys, we searched neighboring non-experimental reefs for tagged immigrants. We found no immigrants or emigrants.

### Data Processing Description

**BCO-DMO Processing:**

- added conventional header with dataset name, PI name, version date
- modified parameter names to conform with BCO-DMO naming conventions
- converted date format from dd-mon-yy to yyyymmdd.

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## Data Files

| File | |
|---|---|
| **Geangeetal_2013_CompetitiveHierarchies_Lengths.csv** | (Comma Separated Values (.csv), 6.60 KB) MD5:940a530e5b19ecd1497e664c8d31ef69 |
| Primary data file for dataset ID 727043 | |

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## Related Publications

Geange, S., Stier, A., & Shima, J. (2013). Competitive hierarchies among three species of juvenile coral reef fishes. Marine Ecology Progress Series, 472, 239–248. doi:10.3354/meps10015

*General*

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## Parameters

| Parameter | Description | Units |
|---|---|---|
| date | start date of experimental run (in yyyymmdd format) | unitless |
| run | experimental run identifier | unitless |
| species | Identity of focal individual. Thha *(Thalassoma hardwicke),* Thqu *(Thalassoma quinquevittatum),* Gova *(Gomphosus varius).* | unitless |
| size | Standard length of nearest mm | millimeters (mm) |

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## Deployments

**Osenberg_et_al_Moorea**

| | |
|---|---|
| **Website** | https://www.bco-dmo.org/deployment/644752 |
| **Platform** | Osenberg et al Moorea |
| **Start Date** | 2003-05-19 |
| **End Date** | 2015-07-12 |

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## Project Information

**Cryptic density dependence: the effects of spatial, ontogenetic, and individual variation in reef fish (CDD_in_Reef_Fish)**

**Coverage**: Moorea, French Polynesia (-17.48, -149.82)

*Description from NSF award abstract:*
Ecologists have long been interested in the factors that drive spatial and temporal variability in population density and structure. In marine reef systems, attention has focused on the role of settlement-the transition of pelagic larvae to a benthic stage-and on density-dependent processes affecting recently settled juveniles. Recent data suggest that co-variance in settlement and subsequent density-dependent survival can obscure the patterns of density dependence at larger scales, a phenomenon called cryptic density dependence. This research will explore the mechanisms that underlie the spatial covariance of settlement and site quality - a process that has received little attention in the standard paradigm. These mechanistic studies of cryptic density dependence will facilitate the development of new frameworks for fish population dynamics that incorporate larval ecology, habitat quality, density dependence, life history, and the patterns and implications of spatial covariance among these factors. More generally, the work provides a specific empirical context, and a general theoretical treatment, of cryptic heterogeneity (hidden individual variation in demographic rates).

**Note:** Drs. Craig W. Osenberg and Ben Bolker were at the University of Florida at the time the NSF award was granted. Dr. Osenberg moved to the University of Georgia during the summer of 2014 (current contact information). Dr. Bolker moved to McMaster University in 2010 (current contact information).

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## Funding


| Funding Source | Award |
|---|---|
| NSF Division of Ocean Sciences (NSF OCE) | OCE-0242312 |


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