Sexual coercion in a natural mandrill population

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Authors

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Abstract

Increasing evidence indicates that sexual coercion is widespread. While some coercive strategies are conspicuous, such as forced copulation or sexual harassment, less is known about the ecology and evolution of intimidation, where repeated male aggression promotes future rather than immediate mating success with targeted females. Although known in humans, intimidation was recently reported in chimpanzees and chacma baboons, where males are regularly violent against females. Here, we investigate the nature of male coercive strategies in wild mandrills (Mandrillus sphinx), a primate living in large polygynandrous groups where severe male aggression towards females is rare and females can exert mate choice. Yet, we found support for all three predictions of the sexual coercion hypothesis, namely that male aggression (1) specifically targets sexually receptive females, (2) inflicts costs to these females, and (3) increases male mating success in the long-term. These results hold true when considering only non-physical threats, or only severe aggression. Finally, we show that high-ranking females are most targeted by males, probably because of their higher reproductive performances. These results indicate that sexual intimidation is widespread in sexually dimorphic and group-living mammals, can co-occur with female mate choice, and is most costly to the most attractive females.

Introduction

The diverging evolutionary interests of males and females often lead to sexual conflict. While female reproductive success is typically limited by the elevated costs of reproduction, e.g. gestation and lactation in mammals, male reproductive success is primarily determined by the number of mating partners [1]. In some species, males use sexual coercion towards females, defined as "the use by a male of force, or threat of force, that functions to increase the chances that a female will

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mate with him at a time when she is likely to be fertile, and to decrease the chances that she will mate with other males, at some cost to the female" [2], to improve their mating success [2, 3].

Behavioural ecologists have traditionally documented coercive strategies that are immediately visible, such as forced copulation (when a female is physically restrained by a male to mate with him), sexual harassment (when aggression immediately precedes copulation and is directed until the female cedes; [2]) and coercive mate-guarding (when a male aggressively herds females and enforce close proximity to prevent them to copulate with rival males; [4, 5]). These forms of sexual coercion have been reported from insects [6, 7] to vertebrates [8, 9, 10, 11, 12]. In contrast, long-term forms of sexual coercion – when aggression does not translate immediately but subsequently into mating benefits for the aggressor – are more elusive and have been less studied outside of human societies. Sexual intimidation, when repeated male aggression aims at enforcing future female sexual compliance, has only been documented in two primate societies characterized by severe male aggression to females (chimpanzees (*Pan troglodytes*): [13]; chacma baboons (*Papio ursinus*): [14]). Similarly, males of different taxa (e.g. birds and primates including humans) can also punish females following copulations with rival males to prevent cuckoldry in the future [15, 16, 17, 18].

Sexual coercion is increasingly recognized as a driving force influencing the evolution of mating and social systems in animals [19, 2, 20], including humans [21, 22]. In mammals, male coercive tactics appear most common in polygynous and polygynandrous species, where males compete intensively over mating opportunities and a substantial fraction of males fails to secure copulations, and where sexual size dimorphism is pronounced, allowing males to threaten or harass females at low costs [23, 24]. In these species, female impediment to male copulation attempts has been associated with an increased risk of severe injury or even death [25]. The forms of coercion used by males

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65 are then likely to vary according to the stability of male-female associations and male dominance

66 status. Short-term strategies such as sexual harassment and forced copulations may be frequently

67 used in solitary species, where males and females only encounter each other for mating [3]. By

68 contrast, long-term term strategies, such as intimidation and punishment are more likely to evolve

69 in species living in stable bisexual groups where males and females maintain medium- to long-term

70 social relationships. Furthermore, in polygynous groups, harassment and forced copulations might

71 be used more frequently by subordinate males that are excluded from mating opportunities [26, 27]

72 while long-term male coercive strategies might be used more often by dominant males to constrain

73 female promiscuity and impose closer proximity (e.g. [28]).

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75 Primates are good candidates to study sexual coercion because the diversity of their social and

76 mating systems may promote various male and female sexual strategies, while their extensive cog-

77 nitive abilities, including individual recognition and long-term memory, may facilitate the use of

78 long-term male coercive strategies [22]. Such strategies are also promoted by the fact that many

79 primates live in stable bisexual groups where males and females maintain differentiated relation-

80 ships, and by a widespread male-biased sexual dimorphism associated with polygynous or some

81 polygynandrous mating systems.

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83 In this study, we examine whether males exert sexual coercion in a large natural, polygynandrous

84 group of mandrills (Mandrillus sphinx), an Old World primate characterized by an extreme sex-

85 ual dimorphism in body size (males are 3.4 times heavier than females; [29]) and canine length

86 [30]. Mandrills are seasonal breeders and most males immigrate in the social group at the onset

87 of the mating season (April-September; [31]), resulting in intense male-male mating competition

88 [32]. Male reproductive skew is high, since the alpha male monopolizes 60-70% of reproductions

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[33, 34]. Female mandrills develop perineal swellings during fertility that grow in size as they approach ovulation and dominant males focus their mate-guarding efforts on maximally swollen females [35]. Yet, both sexes mate promiscuously and females exhibit some form of mate choice [36], for example by avoiding males' attempts to copulate or interrupting copulation before ejaculation (MJEC personal observation). Severe male aggression towards females occurs but appears relatively infrequent for human observers. Female relatives form tight social relationships [33], including aggressive coalitions against males that can lead to male's death (in captivity: [37]). Studying male sexual coercion in this species, where most males are temporary residents in the group during the mating season, females can retaliate against males, severe male aggression against females is inconspicuous and females display some choice over their mating partners, appears thus highly relevant.

We test the three key predictions of the sexual coercion hypothesis [2], namely that male aggression (i) targets sexually receptive females more than females in other reproductive states, (ii) is costly to females in the form of a greater exposure to injuries, and (iii) increases male mating success with the victim. For this last prediction, we further investigate different forms of coercion by testing if aggression by a male towards a female increases his chances to mate with her within the following minutes (harassment) or within a longer time-window (intimidation). We also test whether a female that has just copulated with a given male receives immediate aggression from other male(s) as a punishment. Finally, we test an alternative hypothesis to sexual coercion ("aggressive male phenotype" hypothesis) stating that the correlation between male aggression and mating is observed because females prefer to copulate with aggressive males due to direct (e.g. better infanticide protection) or indirect (i.e. better genes for their offspring; [38, 39]) fitness benefits of these male traits to females [40, 41].

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Methods

(a) Study system

We studied a natural population of mandrills established in 2002 by the release of 36 captive individuals followed by the release of another 29 individuals in 2006, in the Lékédi park, a private park located in Southern Gabon [42]. Starting in 2003, wild males joined the group to reproduce. In early 2012, the Mandrillus Project was set-up to study this population, benefiting from an initial habituation of these captive-born individuals to human presence. In early 2020, only 8 adult females from ca. 210 individuals were captive-born. All individuals were individually-recognized, daily monitored and censused.

(b) Female reproductive state and sex ratio

The reproductive state of each adult female was recorded on a near-daily basis, as well as the size of sexual swelling during periods of fertility (on a scale from 0 to 3; see electronic supplementary material). Each female was classified as: "non-swollen" (i.e. non-fertile phase of the cycle that does not fall within the following three categories), "swollen" (i.e. with a perineal sexual swelling), "pregnant" (i.e. with a characteristic pregnancy swelling and/or if she gave birth 163-190 days afterwards; average gestation length: mean±SD: 175.0±4.7 days; [43]) or "lactating" (i.e. nursing a ≤ 6 month-old infant without having resumed cycling). Finally, females were considered as nulliparous until their first parturition, and parous afterwards. We calculated monthly group sex ratio (SR) or group operational sex ratio (OSR) as the number of adult females (for SR) or adult females with inflating sexual swelling or swelling of maximal size (for OSR) divided by the number of subadult and adult males that were censused in the group that month (and were ≥ 9 yrs).

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(c) Behavioural data

Trained observers, blind to the topic of this study, collected daily ad libitum behavioural observations and performed 5-min focal sampling on all study individuals [44]. In this study, we used 2182 hours of focal data collected on 81 adult females aged $\geq$4 yrs (mean$\pm$SD: 26.9$\pm$39.3h per female) and 670 hours collected on 34 subadult and adult males aged $\geq$9 yrs (19.7$\pm$29.2h per male), collected from August 2012 to March 2020 (see electronic supplementary material). During focal sampling, sexual and agonistic interactions between a focal individual and its groupmates were recorded. Male aggressive events towards females included grasping/hitting (n=401), biting (n=18), chasing (n=65), lunging (n=383), slapping the ground (n=138) and head bobbing (n=567). For the analyses below, we ran the models including all these behaviours and we also replicated the analyses using only severe aggression (grasping/hitting, biting and chasing) or only threats (lunging, slapping the ground and head bobbing) because both categories produce different female behavioural reactions (see discussion). Dominance ranks were calculated separately for each sex using the outcomes of approach–avoidance interactions on a yearly basis (for females) or on a monthly basis (for males; see electronic supplementary material).

(d) Injuries

We recorded the occurrence, type of wound, freshness and body location of any injury on a near-daily basis on all subjects [45]. A total of 90 injuries (limping n=15, puncture of the skin n=11, bleeding or swollen skin n=48, other n=16) were recorded on 43 adult females over the study period. For most injuries, we did not witness the interaction and the cause but in the three cases with a known context the injury was inflicted by an adult male.

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(e) Statistical Analyses

To test whether male aggression targets swollen females preferentially (first prediction), we ran a binomial GLMM with a logit link function to study the relationship between the probability that a female received aggression by any adult male during that female focal observation (0/1; response variable) and her reproductive state at the time of observation (non-swollen, swollen, pregnant and lactating; for sample sizes, see table S1). We further controlled for the following fixed effects: female dominance rank (high-, medium- or low-ranking), parity (nulliparous or parous) and SR. The duration of focal observation ($\leq$5min) was log-transformed and fitted as an offset variable. Female identity and the year of focal observation were fitted as random factors. Second, we ran a similar model (same structure of fixed and random effects) with the response variable corresponding to the probability that a female received aggression by groupmates other than adult males. By doing so, we tested if swollen females were generally more targeted than any other female, regardless of the age-sex group of the aggressor.

To test whether swollen females were more injured than females in other states (second prediction), we ran a binomial GLMM with a logit link function to study the relationship between the probability that a female got injured on a given day (0/1; response variable) and her reproductive state that same day. As above, we further controlled for the following variables: female dominance rank and parity, and SR. Female identity and the year of focal observation were fitted as random factors (table S1).

We then tested whether males who were more aggressive also benefited from higher mating success with their victim (third prediction). To study intimidation, we performed a binomial GLMM with

a logit link function to test whether the rate of aggression received by a female from a given male (continuous fixed effect) before the next estrous cycle of the female increased the probability of copulation of that heterosexual dyad during the female's swollen period (0/1; response variable). The "aggression window" before the swollen period was defined as the time elapsed between the onset of the mating season (for resident males; see electronic supplementary material) or a male's arrival in the group a given year (for immigrant males) and until the beginning of the swollen period of the female (spanning from the first day of a female's sexual swelling to the last day where swelling size was maximal: mean±SD: 10.6±5.1 days; figure S1). We pooled focal observations from adult females and males (table S1). We controlled for the following fixed effects in our model: female dominance rank and parity, OSR in the month corresponding to the first day of maximal swelling and male dominance rank (alpha or non-alpha) that same month in interaction with the rate of male aggression (to test whether the aggression of alpha males had a greater impact on their mating success than the aggression of subordinate males). Female identity, male identity and year of observation were fitted as random factors. The total focal observation time of the studied heterosexual dyads (during the swollen period) was log-transformed and fitted as an offset variable. We restricted our analyses to those heterosexual dyads that were observed at least for 30 minutes of focal time during the studied period (aggression window and swollen period) to avoid biases due to under-sampling. We further ran the same model but restricting the swollen period to the few days of the cycle during which the female was maximally swollen (i.e. where the probability of conception is the highest; mean±SD: 2.9±2.9 days). To test for immediate effects of male aggression, we ran the same model as above considering the rate of aggression received by a female from a given male during her swollen period only (figure S1, top line).

To test for sexual harassment, we assessed for each female and male focal observation with an

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aggressive event recorded from a male to a swollen female whether a copulation occurred or not between that same heterosexual dyad in the next 150 seconds following the aggression (see electronic supplementary material; figure S2a). To test for male punishment, we assessed for each female and male focal observation with a copulation event recorded between a male and a swollen female whether an aggression from a different male occurred towards the copulating female in the 150 following seconds (figure S2b; table S1).

We explored an alternative scenario to sexual coercion, the "aggressive male phenotype" hypothesis, to test whether males with aggressive phenotypes have higher mating success than less aggressive males, solely because aggression may act as a sexual trait chosen by females. We reran the GLMM used for testing the occurrence of intimidation, including as an explanatory variable the overall rate of aggression directed towards any groupmate (except for adult females) during the corresponding mating season.

We ran all the above statistical tests in R version 4.0.3. For generalized linear mixed models (GLMMs; summarized in table S1) we used the glmer function of the lme4 package ([46]; see electronic supplementary material for technical details).

Results

(a) Prediction 1: Male aggression targets swollen females

Swollen females received significantly more aggression from adult males (mean±SD: 0.613±1.070 bouts per hour) than females in any other reproductive state (non-swollen: 0.331±0.661, pregnant: 0.309±0.528 and lactating: 0.288±0.562; figure 1a, table 1). Such pattern was found for both severe

224 aggression (rate towards swollen females: 0.349 ± 0.948 bouts/hour, Chisq=12.539, p-value=0.006)

225 and threats (0.260 ± 0.390 bouts/hour, Chisq=8.660, p-value=0.034). By contrast, swollen females

226 were not more targeted by other groupmates (figure S3, table S2). In addition, high-ranking females

227 received more male aggression than lower-ranking females (high-ranking females: 0.461 ± 0.328

228 bouts/hour, medium-ranking females: 0.216 ± 0.240, low-ranking females: 0.148 ± 0.149, table 1).

(b) Prediction 2: Swollen females are more injured

230 Swollen females were, on average, about five times more likely to become injured (mean$\pm$SD:

231 0.005 ± 0.016 injuries per day) than females in any other reproductive state (non-swollen: 0.001 ± 0.004,

232 pregnant: 0.001 ± 0.002 and lactating: 0.001 ± 0.002; figure 1b). None of the other fixed factors,

233 including female rank, parity and the group sex-ratio were significantly correlated with the prob-

234 ability of injury (table 2).

(c) Prediction 3: Aggressive males have higher mating success with their victim

236 We found support for sexual intimidation in mandrills: the rate of male aggression received by

237 a female during the time window preceding her swollen period (starting at the onset of a given

238 mating season for resident males or a male's arrival in the group a given year for immigrant males)

239 positively influenced the probability of copulation of the dyad during that swollen period (figure

240 1c, table 3). Namely, in dyads that did copulate, the rate of male-to-female aggression before the

241 swollen period was 0.083 ± 0.419 (mean$\pm$SD) times per hour, while in dyads that did not copu-

242 late, this rate fell to 0.030 ± 0.110. Alpha males copulated more than subordinate males, while

243 female rank, parity, OSR and the interaction between male rank and aggression (Chisq=0.030,

244 p-value=0.862) were not significantly correlated with the probability of copulation (table 3). The

245 correlation between male aggression and mating within dyads remained significant when restricting

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246 the swollen period to the few days where a female was maximally swollen (i.e. close to ovulation,

247 Chisq=4.574, p-value=0.032). However, the rate of male aggression calculated during the swollen

248 period of the female (instead of before) did not significantly predicted the probability of copulation

249 during that same swollen period (table S3a). This indicates that immediate aggression (i.e. during

250 the swollen period) did not strongly influence female mating pattern, while previous aggressive

251 interactions over a longer period (i.e. before the swollen period) did. The pattern of correlation

252 between aggression and subsequent mating holds when only including severe aggression (table S3b)

253 and become marginally non-significant when only including threats (table S3c), while the rate of

254 severe aggression and the rate of threats a female receives from a male were moderately correlated

255 (Kendall's tau=0.28, p-value$<10^{-3}$). Lastly, we failed to find evidence for a female preference for

256 aggressive male phenotypes, as females were not more likely to mate with the most aggressive

257 males in the group (see electronic supplementary material).

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259 We did not find support for sexual harassment and punishment. Females copulated immediately

260 (i.e. within 150 seconds) after aggression with their aggressor in only three out of 38 total cases

261 of aggression observed between a male and a swollen female. Similarly, males were never observed

262 directing aggression to a female in the 150 seconds after she copulated with a rival male (out

263 of 173 observed copulations). Those sample sizes precluded any further formal testing of those

264 hypotheses.

Discussion

266 We found support for all three core predictions of the sexual coercion hypothesis in mandrills.

267 First, swollen females received significantly more male aggression than other females. Elevated

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aggression towards females around ovulation has been observed frequently in mammals, even in species where females dominate males socially (e.g. spotted hyena (*Crocuta crocuta*): [47]), suggesting that sexual coercion is widespread. Second, swollen female mandrills were significantly more injured than females in other reproductive states. Such injuries are most likely caused by males because aggression from other groupmates did not intensify during female sexually receptivity. Male aggression thus potentially causes important fitness costs in female mandrills, as shown in other mammals exhibiting sexual coercion (e.g. feral sheep (*Ovis aries*): [48]; bottlenose dolphins (*Tursiops cf. aduncus*): [49], chacma baboons: [14], chimpanzees: [50]). These fitness costs may push females to comply and copulate more with aggressive males to avoid conflict escalation and the associated risk of injury [51, 52]. Third, we showed that increased and repeated male aggression before the receptive period improves male mating success with the targeted female at times where she is most likely fertile. This correlation holds true both with severe aggression and non-physical threats, which are only moderately correlated. Most studies on sexual coercion have focused exclusively on severe aggression [13, 14] but our results indicate that male mandrills use a wide aggressive repertoire, including threats, to coerce females. In this species, male threats (such as head-bob or ground-slap) typically produce little immediate behavioural reactions in females, but could increase their sexual compliance with the aggressor when exerted repeatedly [28], especially when male-female power asymmetry is high, like in mandrills which display one of the largest sexual dimorphism in primates.

The observed correlation between male aggression and mating success does not seem well-explained by alternative interpretations to sexual coercion, as we failed to find evidence supporting a female preference for particularly aggressive males. Females could potentially use male aggression as a badge of status [13, 53] to infer male competitive abilities, which may provide females with direct

292 or indirect benefits [40, 41]. However, in our data, variation in aggression rates among heterosexual

293 dyads explain male mating success better than male general aggressiveness, suggesting that male

294 mating success reflects relational properties more than male aggressive phenotype.

295

296 Our analyses reveal important aspects of the ecology of sexual coercion in mandrill societies.

297 While we failed to find evidence for sexual harassment, repeated aggression over extended periods

298 increases female propensity to accept mating attempts from their aggressors once they become

299 fertile, and may further encourage them to stay around males who mate-guard them, as observed

300 in hamadryas baboons (*Papio hamadryas*; [28]). Sexual intimidation has previously been shown

301 in chimpanzees and chacma baboons [13, 14], two species characterized by relatively high male

302 violence towards females. We found that male mandrills use severe aggression towards swollen

303 females more often than chacma baboons (mean±SD: 0.350±0.950 vs 0.130±0.190 times per hr;

304 [14]) and at a rate that lies high within the chimpanzee's reported range [13, 50]. Such frequent

305 use of coercion by mandrill males may relate to the fact that - unlike chimpanzees and chacma

306 baboons - they breed seasonally, thus have a limited time window to achieve matings. Yet, swollen

307 female mandrills are injured ca. three times less than chacma baboons (mean±SD: 0.005±0.016

308 vs 0.014±0.022 injuries per day; [14]). Hence, although male to female aggression is more frequent

309 in mandrills than in chacma baboons, violent aggression resulting in serious injuries is probably

310 less common.

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312 Moreover, the fact that we did not find any evidence of punishment, likely reflects the absence of

313 exclusive mating bonds in mandrills (outside mate-guarding episodes) and the ability of females

314 to sneakily escape male monopolization strategies in their dense habitat. Punishment by males in

315 response to female sexual activity with a rival has, for instance, been reported in geladas (*Thero-*

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316 *pithecus gelada*) which live in more open habitat [17] and where one leader male can aggressively

317 defend sexual access to females from his family unit [54]. To sum-up, our results are generally

318 consistent with expectations based on the socio-ecology of mandrills, who (i) are highly dimorphic

319 thus where males pay low costs of inter-sexual aggression, (ii) breed seasonally, and where males

320 face high pressure to mate in a relatively short period, and (iii) live in a polygynandrous mating

321 system, and where males and females form differentiated social bonds - allowing intimidation to

322 function - but no exclusive mating bonds, preventing the use of punishment by males.

323

324 Our analyses further highlight that all females are not equally targeted by males. High-ranking

325 females specifically receive more male aggression than low-ranking females, which may reflect male

326 mating preferences because dominant females show better reproductive performances than sub-

327 ordinates [55, 43]. Similarly, male hyenas mate preferentially with high-ranking females [56, 57]

328 while male chimpanzees direct more aggression towards parous than nulliparous females [13] and

329 prefer old females [58], who have a higher rank and reproductive success than younger ones [59].

330 This result indicates that the highest costs of coercion are born by the most attractive females, as

331 found in chimpanzees [13] and humans [60].

332

333 An important question remains whether and how female mandrills may navigate such a coercive

334 landscape while still expressing some mate choice [32]. Chimpanzee studies have raised contrasting

335 results, with sexual coercion in some populations [13, 50] versus female mate choice in other pop-

336 ulations [61, 62]. While differences across populations may explain these divergent findings, our

337 work indicates that sexual coercion can co-occur with female mate choice, as reported in humans

338 and some other species [62, 63, 64, 65]. Several mechanisms may help females to mitigate the

339 constraints set by male coercion on their own reproductive strategies. They may form alliances

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340 with other females to defend themselves [3, 66] or heterosexual bonds with males who protect them

341 [67]. They may also appease male aggressors to limit the risk of escalation and injuries [28, 52],

342 fight-back against aggressors, flee, hide or close their genitals [68, 69]. Female mandrills may use

343 some of these strategies, as their behavioural repertoire includes avoiding male approaches, laying

344 down when males attempt to copulate with them, refusing some mating attempts [32, 36], inter-

345 rupting copulation by fleeing away, seeking support from subordinate males against dominant ones

346 (MJEC personal observation) or even forming violent coalitions against high-ranking males ([37],

347 NS personal observation). In addition, previous studies on primates have demonstrated that female

348 reproductive synchrony and large group sizes limit female monopolization by males (across species:

349 [70]; in mandrills: [34]) and increase the potential for females to express their strategies, including

350 mate choice or promiscuity [71, 72]. Therefore, the extreme size of mandrill social groups along

351 with female reproductive synchrony, may facilitate the expression of female reproductive strategies

352 and reduce male coercion.

353

354 Here we report new evidence for sexual intimidation in a species where males, despite being much

355 larger than females, are not conspicuously aggressive towards them (at least from a human ob-

356 server perspective). The temporal uncoupling between male aggression and copulation explains

357 why sexual intimidation may have long been overlooked, while it increasingly appears influential at

358 shaping the social structure and mating system of polygynandrous mammals. Our results further

359 add to a growing body of evidence that underlines the possible coexistence of male coercion and

360 female mate choice.

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Ethics: All applicable international, national, and/or institutional guidelines for the care and use of animals were followed. This study was approved by the CENAREST institute (permit number, AR003/20/MESRSTT/CENAREST/CG/CST/CSAR) and adhered to the legal requirements of Gabon for the ethical treatment of non-human primates.

Data accessibility: The datasets and scripts necessary to replicate analyses included in this paper are deposited in the public depository: https://gitlab.com/nksmt/mandrills

Authors' contributions: N.S., M.J.E.C., and E.H. designed the study; B.R.T. and P.A.R collected behavioural data; N.S. performed the statistical analyses; N.S., M.J.E.C., E.H. wrote the original draft and all authors critically contributed to the draft and approved submission.

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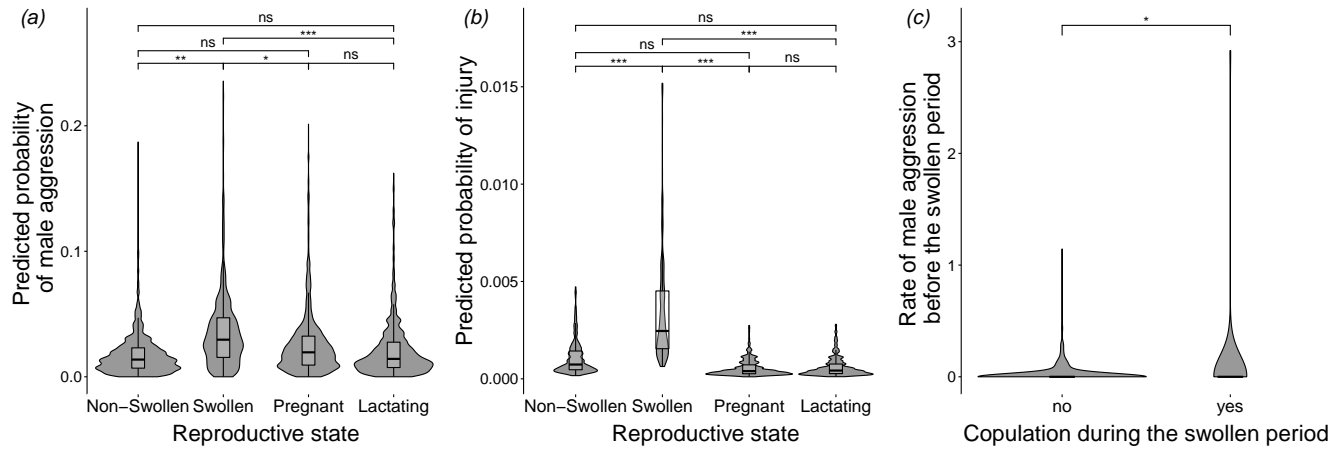
Figure 1: Results of the tests of the three predictions of the sexual coercion hypothesis. (a) Predicted probability of male aggression received by adult females as a function of their reproductive state. (b) Predicted probability for females to be injured as a function of their reproductive state. (c) Rates of male aggression (number of events per hour) received by adult females before their swollen period for heterosexual dyads who mated versus dyads that did not mate during the swollen period. The fitted values of the GLMMs are shown on the y-axis of panels a and b. The violin plots show the predicted probabilities (for a and b) or the raw rates (for c). Pairwise comparisons across female reproductive states and corresponding p-values are shown. 'ns': not significant ($p > 0.05$); *: $p < 0.05$; **: $p < 0.01$; ***: $p < 0.001$.

Table 1: Male aggression in relation to female reproductive state. Significant p-values and confidence intervals that did not cross zero appear in bold. The significance of each variable was assessed using chi-square tests (Chisq), while the significance of each level of a categorical variable was evaluated against a reference level (noted 'Ref') according to whether their confidence intervals (CI) overlap or not.

Fixed Factor	Level	Estimate	CI 95%	Chisq	P-value
	Response variable: Probability of receiving aggression from adult males (0/1)				
Reproductive State	Swollen (Ref: Non-Swollen)	0.463	**[0.186;0.74]**	15.744	**0.001**
	Pregnant (Ref: Non-Swollen)	0.066	[-0.141;0.272]		
	Lactating (Ref: Non-Swollen)	-0.075	[-0.293;0.142]		
	Swollen (Ref: Lactating)	0.539	**[0.266;0.812]**		
	Pregnant (Ref: Lactating)	0.141	[-0.054;0.337]		
	Swollen (Ref: Pregnant)	0.398	**[0.137;0.659]**		
Female Rank	Low Rank (Ref: High Rank)	-0.740	**[-1.015;-0.466]**	29.450	**<0.001**
	Medium Rank (Ref: High Rank)	-0.515	**[-0.878;-0.153]**		
Female Parity	Parous (Ref: Nulliparous)	0.040	[-0.350;0.429]	0.040	0.842
Group Sex Ratio		-0.038	[-0.083;0.007]	2.697	0.101

Table 2: Injuries in relation to female reproductive state. Significant p-values and confidence intervals that did not cross zero appear in bold. The significance of each variable was assessed using chi-square tests (Chisq), while the significance of each level of a categorical variable was evaluated against a reference level (noted 'Ref') according to whether their confidence intervals (CI) overlap or not.

Fixed Factor	Level	Estimate	CI 95%	Chisq	P-value
	Response variable: Probability of having an injury (0/1)				
Reproductive State	Swollen (Ref: Non-Swollen)	1.183	**[0.579;1.787]**	34.535	**<0.001**
	Pregnant (Ref: Non-Swollen)	-0.452	[-1.026;0.123]		
	Lactating (Ref: Non-Swollen)	-0.507	[-1.076;0.061]		
	Swollen (Ref: Lactating)	1.656	**[1.013;2.299]**		
	Pregnant (Ref: Lactating)	0.100	[-0.503;0.704]		
	Swollen (Ref: Pregnant)	1.556	**[0.943;2.169]**		
Female Rank	Low Rank (Ref: High Rank)	0.203	[-0.396;0.802]	2.812	0.245
	Medium Rank (Ref: High Rank)	-0.418	[-1.146;0.310]		
Female Parity	Parous (Ref: Nulliparous)	0.132	[-0.826;1.090]	0.073	0.787
Group Sex Ratio		-0.013	[-0.109;0.083]	0.071	0.789

Table 3: Male aggression and mating success. Probability of copulation of an heterosexual dyad during a female's swollen period in relation to the rate of male aggression received before that swollen period. Significant p-values and confidence intervals that did not cross zero appear in bold. The significance of each variable was assessed using chi-square tests (Chisq), while the significance of each level of a categorical variable was evaluated against a reference level (noted 'Ref') according to whether their confidence intervals (CI) overlap or not.

Response variable: Mating during the swollen period (0/1)					
Fixed Factor	Level	Estimate	CI 95%	Chisq	P-value
Aggression Rate		1.622	**[0.174;3.069]**	4.823	**0.028**
Male Rank	Alpha (Ref: Non-alpha)	1.229	**[0.483;1.976]**	10.420	**0.001**
Female Rank	Low Rank (Ref: High Rank)	0.646	[-0.206;1.498]	2.464	0.292
	Medium Rank (Ref: High Rank)	0.665	[-0.657;1.986]		
Female Parity	Parous (Ref: Nulliparous)	-0.461	[-2.797;1.876]	0.149	0.699
Operational Sex Ratio		-0.001	[-0.514;0.511]	0.000	0.996