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Supporting Online Material for

Aging in the Natural World: Comparative Data Reveal Similar Mortality Patterns Across Primates

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Additional Methods

Study Species

Sex-specific life tables including age-specific vectors of deaths and censored individuals were constructed with individual census data that had been collected for seven species of primate. These studies are ongoing longitudinal field studies of individually known animals; life history data are collected for all animals in each study population. Specifically, each study contributed census data, which included births, deaths, immigrations, and permanent disappearances of known individuals (*S1*). The studies are summarized in Table 1. Detailed accounts of each study and the counts of deaths, censored individuals, and entries can be found in the mortality tables below.

For most individuals in each study population, individual ages were known to within a fraction of a year. Exceptions occurred for individuals that were present at the initiation of each study or that immigrated into the study population during the course of the study. Ages for these animals were estimated based on physical characteristics and known aging patterns in these populations. For example, for a female whose initial observation was "adult with a dependent offspring" with no other available information, her age would be estimated as the minimum adult age for that study. Additional contextual information was used for assigning a maximum age. Because the purpose of this report is to assess heterogeneity in age-specific vital rates, we conducted a sensitivity analysis of the impact of uncertainty in age estimates for this small fraction of animals with estimated age. In general, this uncertainty manifests in the assignment of a species-specific maximum lifespan, which is not a focus of this report. Our conclusions are therefore robust to the uncertainty in magnitude of aging rate, young-to-middle-aged adult mortality estimates, and overall shape of survival curves. In addition, the error in age estimates are also likely to be comparable for males and females, and therefore are not likely to impact the result of our analyses of intra- or interspecific sex differences.

Mortality Table Construction

Age-specific survival and instantaneous mortality risk were computed with the actuarial method of estimating vital rates. This method uses the number entering an age class and the number exiting the age class; the difference between the two is due to deaths and to disappearances that are not known to be deaths (right-censored observations). For three species – baboons, capuchins, and sifaka – the predominant dispersing sex (males in all these cases) was highly censored; the fate of individuals that left their natal social group was undetermined, and mortality associated with dispersal was often not separable from successful emigration to a new group. For these three sets of males, we used the age-structure of the population to impute deaths occurring in that age-class (*S2*), reasoning that the numbers of new immigrant males reflected the habitat-specific probability of successful dispersal. Finally, for males in two of these three species - capuchins and baboons – these age-structure ratios were further adjusted for observed growth in the population size. We made adjustments by correcting the age-structure estimates using the observed correlation between age-structure and age-specific survival for the females of these two species (*S2*). These estimated deaths are reported in the life tables along with survival curves.

Estimation and Analysis of Initial Adult Mortality (*IMR***) and Rate of Aging (***RoA***)**

Distributions of deaths and censored observations were analyzed for each species with accelerating failure time analysis in the Program WinModest (*S3*), as described in (*S4*). Briefly, maximum likelihood estimates of the Gompertz model of accelerating mortality were fit to the death distributions (see main text). Once models were fit, a likelihood ratio test was used to identify significant variation in the Gompertz parameters (*IMR* and *RoA*) among species for each sex. For each pair of species, a fully parameterized case (i.e., independently estimated *IMR* and *RoA*) was compared by likelihood ratio tests to models that assume equivalent *IMR*, equivalent *RoA*, or equivalent *IMR* and *RoA* (Table S2).

Species information, Mortality Tables, and Survival Curves

Figures S2 through S8 and Tables S4 through S10 contain detailed information for each primate species (see also Table 1 in main text) as well mortality data and survival curves. For the males of three species two additional columns are included in the mortality table: (1) Deaths* are the imputed deaths based on age-structure of males; in the case of baboon and capuchin males, the estimated numbers of deaths are adjusted for population growth rate, where population growth rate was measured for females and assumed to be the same for males. (2) Censors* indicate the censored individuals used in the final estimation of survival and mortality; this does not apply to the cases where we used the age structure to estimate number of deaths (baboons, capuchins, sifaka). For all species, ages are based on age-estimates described in methods and are therefore a combination of known-age and estimated-age individuals. Plots are point estimates of age-specific survival (L_x) their standard errors (lines).

Figures

Figure S1. Gompertz models of accelerating probability of death with age.

Females (top) and males (bottom) are fit for the distribution of deaths and right-censored observations within each age class, and plotted as the natural logarithm of the age-specific hazard $[Ln(u_x) = Ln(IMR) + (RoA)*x]$. Gompertz parameter *a* (*IMR*) is fit at age of adulthood, which was defined as mean age of first live birth (females) or mean age of first likely or known paternity (males).

Figure S3. Muriqui survival curves

Figure S4. Capuchin survival curves

Figure S5. Baboon survival curves

Figure S7. Chimpanzee survival curves

Tables

Table S1. Model comparisons for Gompertz versus other models.

Model comparison via Maximum Likelihood performed in program WinModest (*S3*).

Males

¹The sifaka female data had a large number of deaths in the $20 - 21$ age-interval that were associated with uncertainty in age-assignment (see Additional Methods), thus we chose to proceed with the Gompertz model fit because it has one less parameter than the Gompertz-Makeham three-parameter model.

²The capuchin male death data were estimated from age $4 - 19$ based on the age-structure of males in the population (see Additional Methods), thus the least parameterized model (Gompertz) was chosen for aging estimation.

Table S2. Differences between species in *IMR* **and** *RoA***.**

 $c²$ test statistics for significant differences in Initial Mortality Rate (*IMR*) and rate-of-aging (*RoA*) in adult females (above the diagonal) and males (below the diagonal) for each species pair. Bold values indicate significance at the $a = 0.05$ level (critical cutoff $c^2 = 3.65$). Values in each cell are c^2 test statistic for: (top) equivalent *IMR* with different *RoA*; (middle) equivalent *RoA* with different *IMR*; (bottom) equivalent *IMR* and equivalent *RoA.* These tests are represented graphically in Figure 2.

Table S3. Differences between males and females in *IMR* **and** *RoA***.**

 $c²$ test statistics for significant differences in Initial Mortality Rate (*IMR*) and rate-of-aging (*RoA*) between adult females and males within each species. Bold values indicate significance (i.e., rejection) at the $a = 0.05$ level (critical cutoff $c^2 = 3.65$). Values in each cell are c^2 test statistic for: (top) equivalent *IMR* with different *RoA*; (middle) equivalent *RoA* with different *IMR*; (bottom) equivalent *IMR* and equivalent *RoA*.

In all species except muriqui, we rejected the hypothesis that males and females have both equivalent *IMR* and *RoA*. For capuchins and gorillas, the difference is due to *IMR*. For sifaka, baboons, and likely chimpanzees, the difference is due to RoA. For humans, the difference between males and females is due to both *IMR* and *RoA*.

 $^{1}P = 0.07$ $^{2}P = 0.18$

Table S4a. Species details for sifaka

Table S4b. Sifaka Mortality Table

Sifaka enter the census at approximately 1-year of age. See section on "Species information, Mortality Tables, and Survival Curves" for information on Deaths* and Censors*.

Table S5a. Species details for muriquis

Table S5b. Muriqui mortality table

Table S6a. Species details for capuchins

Table S6b. Capuchin mortality table

See section on "Species information, Mortality Tables, and Survival Curves" for information on Deaths* and Censors*.

Table S7a. Species details for baboons

Table S7b. Baboon mortality table

See section on "Species information, Mortality Tables, and Survival Curves" for information on Deaths* and Censors*.

Table S8a. Species details for blue monkeys

Table S8b. Blue monkey mortality table

Table S9a. Species details for chimpanzees

Table S9b. Chimpanzee mortality table

Table S10a. Species details for gorillas

Table S10b. Gorilla mortality table

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