

Supplementary information

The adaptive value of camouflage and colour change in a polymorphic prawn

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Table S1. Summary results of seahorse visual modelling. Results of the two-way analyses of variance testing differences in “just-noticeable differences (JND), derived from two visual modelling scenarios (see Methods), according to combinations of *Hippolyte obliquimanus* colour morphs (brown or pink) and seaweed backgrounds (*Galaxaura marginata* and *Sargassum furcatum*) (upper table). The mean JND values and respective 95% confidence intervals (lower and upper bounds) for the different combinations between factors are shown in the lower table. Note that both models resulted in overlapping JND 95% confidence intervals for all factor combinations.

Source of variation	df	Model 1			Model 2		
		MS	F	p	MS	F	p
Prawn morph (M)	1	35.747	21.50	***	26.144	17.25	***
Seaweed habitat (S)	1	86.599	52.08	***	177.966	117.40	***
M x S	1	150.363	90.43	***	165.274	109.02	***
Residual	56	1.663			1.516		

Factor combinations	Model 1			Model 2		
	mean	95% CI		mean	95% CI	
		lower bound	upper bound		lower bound	upper bound
Brown <i>Galaxaura</i>	3.621	2.963	4.279	3.858	2.998	4.718
Brown <i>Sargassum</i>	2.857	1.806	3.908	3.983	3.262	4.704
Pink <i>Galaxaura</i>	1.998	1.623	2.373	1.859	1.477	2.241
Pink <i>Sargassum</i>	7.567	6.964	8.170	8.623	7.947	9.299



Figure S1 – Differential camouflage of *Hippolyte obliquimanus* colour morphs on the seaweeds *Sargassum furcatum* and *Galaxaura marginata* to the vision of the seahorse *Hippocampus subelongatus*. False-colour seahorse images of brown (B) and pink (P) prawns on *Sargassum* (a) and *Galaxaura* (b) seaweeds are made from a combination of the blue, green and red channels (corresponding to the mapped shortwave, mediumwave and longwave images of seahorse receptors, respectively). Here, resulting images were square-root-transformed from linear cone-catch photos only for display purposes only. Average JND values resulting from comparing each prawn to the respective seaweed using the Vorobyev-Osorio model are also shown (see main text).