

1 **Title**

2

3 Causes and consequences of variation in development time in a field cricket

4

5

6

7

8

9

10 **Short Running title**

11

12 Development time and crickets

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21 Susan N. Gershman<sup>1</sup>, Owen G. Miller<sup>2</sup> and Ian M. Hamilton<sup>2,3</sup>

22

23 <sup>1</sup>*Department of Evolution, Ecology and Organismal Biology, 1465 Mount Vernon Ave,*

24 *The Ohio State University at Marion, Marion, OH, 43302 USA*

25 <sup>2</sup>*Department of Evolution, Ecology and Organismal Biology, The Ohio State University*

26 <sup>3</sup>*Department of Mathematics, The Ohio State University*

27

28

29

30

31 **Abstract**

32

33 Variation in development time can affect life history traits that contribute to fitness. In  
34 *Gryllus vocalis*, a non-diapausing cricket with variable development time, we used a path  
35 analysis approach to determine the causative relationships between parental age,  
36 offspring development time and offspring life history traits. Our best-supported path  
37 model included both the effects of parental age and offspring development time on  
38 offspring morphological traits. This result suggests that offspring traits are influenced by  
39 both variation in acquisition of resources and trade-offs between traits. We found that  
40 crickets with longer development times became larger adults with better  
41 phenoloxidase-based immunity. This is consistent with the hypothesis that crickets must  
42 make a trade-off between developing quickly to avoid predation before reproduction  
43 and attaining better immunity and a larger adult body size that provides advantages in  
44 male-male competition, mate choice, and female fecundity. Slower-developing crickets  
45 were also more likely to be short-winged (unable to disperse by flight). Parental age has  
46 opposing direct and indirect effects on the body size of daughters, but when both the  
47 direct and indirect effects of parental age are taken into account, younger parents had  
48 smaller sons and daughters. This pattern may be attributable to a parental trade-off  
49 between the number and size of eggs produced with younger parents producing more  
50 eggs with fewer resources per egg. The relationships between variables in the life  
51 history traits of sons and daughters were similar, suggesting that parental age and  
52 development time had similar causative effects on male and female life history traits.

53

54

55

56 **Keywords**

57

58 Development time, parental effects, parental age, body size, immunity, wing morph,  
59 field cricket, trade-off

60

61 Introduction

62

63 Seasonal variation in temperature and rainfall represents a physiological challenge for  
64 many organisms. Invertebrates have been able to colonize and persist in areas with  
65 seasonally unsurvivable conditions by delaying growth during these times of year. Some  
66 insects diapause (a temporary pause in the growth and development of an organism  
67 due to adverse environmental conditions) as either an obligate or facultative strategy  
68 (Mousseau and Roff 1989) while other insects vary in development time without  
69 diapause (Danks 2007). Optimal development time can depend on both density-  
70 independent abiotic factors (e.g. temperature and availability of food) and density-  
71 dependent biotic factors (e.g. competition, predation risk and parasitism risk) (Danks  
72 1997, Roff 1992). The longer the development time, the more time an individual has to  
73 acquire biomass, but it also has increased opportunity to die before reproducing.  
74 Organisms may vary in development time for two non-mutually-exclusive reasons:  
75 variation in their ability to acquire resources (acquisition) or variation in how resources  
76 are allocated to different traits (trade-offs) (van Noordwijk and de Jong 1986). If  
77 variation in development time is maintained by trade-offs between traits, the benefits  
78 of rapid development are offset by other fitness costs. If differences in acquisition are  
79 maintaining variation in development time, then higher-condition individuals (Clancey  
80 and Byers 2014) that have the ability to acquire or integrate more resources would both  
81 have faster development and also have other trait values associated with higher fitness.

82

83 Variation in resources (acquisition) can be driven by parental contributions. Well-  
84 provisioned offspring may be able to devote resources to multiple traits while poorly-  
85 provisioned offspring may need to make trade-offs between traits (Fox and Dingle  
86 1994). Although many factors affect the quality of parental provisions (Mousseau and  
87 Fox 1998), in this paper, we will focus on the effects of parental age on offspring traits.  
88 In different insect taxa, as adults age, their stores of nutritional resources may either  
89 become depleted (Rivero et al. 2001) or increase (Stachschmidt et al. 2013). Parental  
90 nutritional resources can affect offspring morphological traits like development time  
91 and body size (Bonduriansky and Head 2007). Further, in seasonal species, older parents  
92 may have a shorter window for reproduction than younger parents. In species with  
93 diapause, older parents are more likely to produce diapausing eggs (Danks 1997). In  
94 non-diapausing seasonal species, older parents may produce either faster-growing  
95 offspring (Phelan and Frumhoff 1991, Zehnder et al. 2007) or slower-growing large  
96 offspring (Benton et al. 2008). Parental age can also have a direct effect on offspring  
97 body size (Opit and Throne 2007, Qazi et al 2017), fecundity (Opit and Throne 2007,  
98 Hercus and Hoffmann 2000, Nystrad and Dowling 2014) and immunity (Rossiter et al.  
99 1990). Here, we investigate the effect of field cricket parental age and offspring  
100 development time on four offspring life history traits: adult body size, fecundity,  
101 immunity and wing morphology.

102

103 In crickets, adult males and females with a larger body size are consistently at a fitness  
104 advantage. Larger males are more likely to win fights (Brown et al. 2006, Briffa 2008).

105 Females prefer larger males (Gray 1997, Bertram and Rook 2011, Deb et al. 2012). And  
106 larger males produce more offspring (Zeng et al. 2018). As in most species (Roff 1992,  
107 Honek 1993), larger female crickets lay more eggs (Simmons and García-González 2007).  
108 Larger female crickets are also more likely to mate than smaller females (Brown 2008,  
109 del Castillo 2015). Previous studies on many taxa have found that larger adults have  
110 slower development times (Roff 1992, Roff 2000). Although, in rare instances,  
111 individuals have the ability to both develop rapidly and become large adults (Reznick et  
112 al. 2000). If development time trades off with adult body size, individuals should either  
113 develop quickly into small adults with lower reproductive success or develop slowly into  
114 large adults with higher reproductive success. If variation in development time is  
115 maintained by individual differences in access to resources, high-quality individuals  
116 would be expected to develop quickly into large adults while low-quality individuals  
117 develop slowly into smaller adults.

118  
119 Unlike the relatively straightforward relationship between development time and body  
120 size, the relationship between development time and immunity is contradictory and  
121 complex. Some studies have found a trade-off between development time and  
122 immunity, with individuals either developing rapidly at a cost to immunity or  
123 maintaining immunity through slower growth (Rantala and Roff 2005, van der Most et  
124 al. 2011). In other studies, some individuals have both rapid development time and  
125 superior immunity, while other individuals suffer with slow development time and poor  
126 immunity (Rantala and Roff 2005); this outcome could be explained by variation in  
127 acquisition among individuals (Lee et al. 2008). If development time trades off with  
128 immunity, individuals could either develop quickly into adults with poor immunity or  
129 develop slowly into adults with superior immunity. If variation in development time is  
130 maintained by individual differences in acquisition of resources, high-quality individuals  
131 would be expected to develop quickly and also have superior immunity while low-  
132 quality individuals would develop slowly and have poor standing immunity. However,  
133 because both development time and immunity are correlated with other life history  
134 traits, immunity may be indirectly affected by development time via another trait. For  
135 example, reproductive effort is associated with both immunity (Schwenke et al. 2016)  
136 and development time (Roff 2000). Trade-offs between effort spent on reproduction  
137 and immunity are common (Lochmiller and Deerenberg 2000, Schwenke et al. 2016).  
138 These potentially complex interactions also need to be taken into consideration.

139  
140 In many field crickets, there is variation in the length of male and female hindwings  
141 (wing morph). Individuals with short hindwings cannot fly. However, young long-winged  
142 adults may fly to a new location then re-allocate effort from wing muscle to  
143 reproductive organ mass (Johnson 1969). The long-term persistence of this wing  
144 polymorphism suggests that each wing morph confers equal fitness (Roff and Fairbairn  
145 1991, Roff 1994). Wing morph has a heritable basis (Roff and Fairbairn 2001) but is also  
146 strongly affected by developmental environment (Harrison 1980). The benefits of  
147 dispersal depend on biotic and abiotic factors that vary seasonally, and only young adult  
148 crickets can disperse by flying. Thus, development time, which determines when in the

149 season individuals eclose, may affect how advantageous it would be to be long-winged  
150 versus short-winged. Because little has been published on the relationship between  
151 development time and wing morph (Begin and Roff 2002), in this study, we make no *a*  
152 *priori* predictions about the relationship between development time and wing  
153 morphology.

154

155 Males and females may experience different selection pressures, leading to differences  
156 in life history and life history traits (Roff 1992). In insects, sex-specific differences in  
157 development time and body size are common (Teder 2013). Males and females are also  
158 predicted to differ in their investment in reproduction versus other life history traits like  
159 somatic maintenance (Glass and Stahlschmidt 2019). This can cause males and females  
160 to show differences in immunity (Zuk and McKean 1996). In crickets, there are known  
161 sex-specific differences in immunity, as well as sex-specific trade-offs between immunity  
162 and reproductive effort (Adamo et al. 2001, Gershman 2008, Kerr et al. 2010). In this  
163 study, we will investigate whether there are sex-specific differences in the relationship  
164 between parental age and offspring traits.

165

166 Although crickets are a model system for facultative diapause (Mosseau and Roff 1989,  
167 Bradford and Roff 1993), not all species of cricket diapause (Danks 1997, Masaki 1997).  
168 Non-diapausing cricket species may also respond to environmental stressors by slowing  
169 their development and growth (Lyn et al. 2012, Gutierrez et al. 2020). The consequences  
170 of variation in development time in non-diapausing crickets has received little attention.  
171 In this paper, we examine the causes and consequences of variation in development  
172 time on a non-diapausing cricket: *Gryllus vocalis*, the vocal field cricket (Weissman and  
173 Gray 2019). In the field, although adults are most commonly found in May-July, some  
174 adults can be found year-round. Under laboratory conditions of 12 light : 12 dark and  
175 constant temperature, this species does not diapause (SNG, pers. obs.), but there is  
176 substantial individual variation in the time between hatching and adulthood (2-6  
177 months; SNG, pers. obs.). This combination of lab and field observations suggests that in  
178 the field, individual *G. vocalis* may vary in development time which can affect when they  
179 eclose into adults. Thus, variation in development time can affect the ability of  
180 individuals to survive and reproduce in the field. In this paper, we will explore the  
181 complex causative relationships between parental age, offspring development time and  
182 other offspring life history traits using path analysis. Path analysis is a statistical  
183 approach that evaluates causal models of variables and evaluates which causal  
184 pathways can explain observed patterns of variation in dependent variables (Shipley  
185 2016). Here, we will address three related questions:

186

187 Question 1: Which path model best describes the causative relationships among  
188 parental age, development time, adult body size, immunity, fecundity, and wing morph?  
189

190 Question 2: How do development time and parental age affect offspring body size,  
191 immunity, fecundity, and wing morph? Does the relationship between development

192 time, parental age, and other life history traits suggest trade-offs, or variation in overall  
193 offspring resources?

194

195 Question 3: Are male and female offspring life history traits affected similarly or  
196 differently by parental age and development time?

197

198 Methods

199

200 Colony maintenance

201 The lab colony of *G. vocalis* crickets are descendants of 50 adults collected from the  
202 University of California Riverside Botanic Gardens in May 2014, supplemented by 50  
203 adults collected from the same location in May 2015. Experiments described in this  
204 paper were conducted in 2016. In the laboratory, crickets are maintained on a long day  
205 15:9 light cycle at a constant 25°C. Size cohorts of crickets are maintained in 8 50-L  
206 plastic boxes. Each box contains egg carton flats, *ad libitum* ground (for nymphs) or  
207 whole (for adults) alfalfa pellets, and plastic vials capped with cotton for water. Weekly,  
208 adults are grouped into a box with cotton oviposition substrate. Oviposition cotton is  
209 collected weekly and incubated for 10 days at 25°C until hatching. Monthly, individuals  
210 are size-sorted and sometimes culled for density to ensure that each box contains a  
211 healthy density of nymphs that are of homogeneous size. Size-sorting prevents slow-  
212 developing crickets from being outcompeted for food or cannibalized by faster-  
213 developing crickets and preserves the natural variation in development time.

214

215 Experimental design

216 To create the parental generation, 20 males and 20 females were collected from the  
217 colony (Fig. 1). All individuals had eclosed into adults within 24 hours of collection and  
218 all adults were collected on the same day. Thus, all adults were the same number of  
219 days post-adult eclosion. The length of time that it took each parent to develop from an  
220 egg into an adult is unknown, but reflects the variation in development time within the  
221 colony. These 40 adults were housed together continuously for the duration of their  
222 participation in the experiment on a long day 15:9 light cycle at a constant 25°C with *ad*  
223 *libitum* food (alfalfa pellets) and water. At five days after adult eclosion, *G. vocalis* are  
224 capable of mating. Seven days after adult eclosion, a petri dish filled with moist cotton  
225 was provided as oviposition substrate. Females were given access to this oviposition  
226 substrate for exactly 24 hours, then the oviposition pad was removed and incubated. A  
227 second oviposition pad was provided 14 days after adult eclosion for 24 hours. A third  
228 oviposition pad was provided 21 days after adult eclosion for 24 hours. In the intervals  
229 between oviposition pads, no oviposition substrate was provided and females did not  
230 lay eggs. In crickets, females fertilize eggs as they are oviposited, using stored sperm.  
231 When oviposition substrate is temporarily unavailable, females continue to produce and  
232 provision unfertilized eggs, but lay few eggs (SNG, personal obs.). In summary, three  
233 batches of eggs were collected. Parents of the eggs were 7, 14 or 21 days old. Offspring  
234 shared the same pool of 40 parents. Offspring from each oviposition pad were within 24  
235 hours of the same age. Two replicate blocks of this experiment were performed.

236

237 To measure development time in offspring, oviposition pads were incubated (constant  
238 25°C) until hatching. Hatchlings from each oviposition pad were reared in separate 50-L  
239 boxes on a long day 15:9 light cycle at a constant 25°C with *ad libitum* ground alfalfa  
240 pellets and water. Periodically, crickets were randomly culled to ensure approximately  
241 equal density among boxes. Density and crowding has been found to affect  
242 development, adult body size, wing morph, and overall health in the crickets *Gryllus*  
243 *bimaculatus*, *Allonemobius socius* and *Gryllus integer* (Iba et al. 1995, Olvido et al. 2003,  
244 Niemelä et al. 2012). Boxes were inspected every 24 hours for eclosing adults. Each box  
245 yielded approximately 200 adult crickets. Exact sample sizes are listed in Table S1. As  
246 each cricket eclosed into an adult, it was collected and housed individually. To perform  
247 phenoloxodase (PO) immunity assays, 7 days after adult eclosion, hemolymph was  
248 extracted from a subset of crickets. To ensure that all hemolymph extraction procedures  
249 could be performed at approximately the same time of day, hemolymph was extracted  
250 from 14 or fewer crickets on any given day. So, on days when more than 14 crickets  
251 eclosed, 14 crickets were randomly chosen for hemolymph extraction. Sample sizes are  
252 included in Table S1. We also measured female fecundity on the subset of females that  
253 donated hemolymph. After hemolymph extractions on day 7, two colony adult males  
254 were introduced into each female's home container. The three individuals were housed  
255 together for 7 days (until day 14 after adult eclosion). Also on day 7, moist rolled  
256 cheesecloth for oviposition substrate was added to each female home container. This  
257 oviposition substrate was available continuously for 14 days (day 21 after adult  
258 eclosion). Every 3-4 days, the cheesecloth roll was removed and replaced with a fresh  
259 one. For each female, four cheesecloth oviposition pads were provided and collected.  
260 Methods for counting eggs are described below. All crickets were killed by freezing and  
261 their bodies were stored at -20°C until morphological measurements (pronotum width  
262 and wing length) could be collected.

263

264 Phenoloxidase assay

265 To determine the ability of individual offspring to coat pathogens in melanin, one  
266 component of the insect immune system, we performed an assay of phenoloxidase (PO)  
267 activity. Insect hemolymph contains a precursor of PO, the enzyme that catalyzes the  
268 rate-limiting step in the production of melanin. (Söderhäll and Cerenius 1998) In this  
269 assay, we added the hemolymph of each cricket to dopamine (L-DOPA) to determine  
270 how well each individual can activate the PO in their hemolymph and use it to convert  
271 the L-DOPA to melanin.

272

273 We extracted 3uL of hemolymph from under the pronotum of each live cricket using a  
274 10-ul micropipetter, immediately mixed the hemolymph with 40 uL of 1x PBS in a 1.5 mL  
275 microcentrifuge tube, then froze it at -20°C for at least 2 weeks to lyse cells. We  
276 pipetted 5-uL of the hemolymph-PBS solution into each of 84 wells of a 96-well  
277 spectrophotometer plate, blocked by treatment, block, and sex. One row of 12 wells in  
278 each plate contained 5-uL of PBS alone as a control for variation in spectrophotometer  
279 runs. We added and mixed 90-ul L-DOPA to each well of the 96-well plate, then

280 immediately inserted the plate into the spectrophotometer. Every 10 minutes for 200  
281 minutes, the spectrophotometer agitated the plate then took an optical density (OD)  
282 reading at a wavelength of 490. As L-DOPA in the hemolymph solutions became  
283 melanized, the hemolymph in the wells darkened. For each well of the plate, we  
284 calculated the slope of the regression line of OD readings over time. This slope  
285 represents PO activity over time. We subtracted each insect's PO slope from the average  
286 control slope for that plate. PO activity was not normally distributed. For log  
287 transformation, all values must be positive. We subtracted the minimum PO value (-  
288 0.00011) from all slopes to make them positive, then took the log of these values.

289

#### 290 Female fecundity

291 To determine the fecundity (number of eggs produced) of female offspring, each female  
292 was housed with two colony males for 24 hours. Each female was then returned to her  
293 home container. The water vial in her home container was swapped for a 18 cm x 30 cm  
294 piece of cheesecloth, rolled into a cylinder which provided moisture and oviposition  
295 substrate. Every 2-3 days for 2 weeks, cheesecloth was removed and replaced with a  
296 new piece of cheesecloth. Four cheesecloths per female were collected. Used  
297 cheesecloth was incubated for 7 days and then frozen at -20C. Over the next few  
298 months, these frozen cheesecloths were unrolled over a piece of plexiglass marked with  
299 a graph-paper grid and all eggs were counted.

300

#### 301 Morphological measurements

302 To determine offspring skeletal body size, we measured cricket pronotum width.  
303 Pronotum width is a better proxy for body size than weight because daily and weekly  
304 patterns of hydration and oviposition cause individual weight to have low repeatability  
305 (SNG pers obs.) After crickets were killed by freezing, crickets were thawed, pinned to a  
306 dissection board and photographed through a dissection scope. The magnification was  
307 fixed at 10x and the field of vision fixed at 23 mm. A graticule was photographed to  
308 calibrate the sizes of images in mm. We used ImageJ to measure the length of each  
309 pronotum in pixels, then converted this measurement to mm. For both egg counting  
310 and morphological measurements, all researchers were blind to information about  
311 experimental treatment. All researchers were trained until they achieved statistically  
312 significant repeatability with measurements from previously trained researchers.

313

314



315 Path analysis methods

316

317 To determine which path model best describes the causative relationships among  
318 parental age, offspring development time, and offspring morphological traits (Question  
319 1), we used path analysis to test three *a priori* models that differed in which life history  
320 variables were directly affected by parental age (Fig. 2). We constructed separate  
321 models for males and females because fecundity was only included in the female  
322 models. All models include direct effects of block on all offspring traits (not shown on  
323 Fig. 2). Model 1 (“Acquisition”) tests the hypothesis that offspring life history traits are  
324 causally independent of one another but are causally dependent on parental age. In this  
325 model, parental age directly affects all offspring life history traits except the fecundity of  
326 female offspring. In female models, body size directly affects fecundity (Honek 1993). If  
327 there is a trade-off among life history traits, then this model should be rejected. Model  
328 2 (“Trade-off”) tests the hypothesis that offspring morphological traits are causally  
329 dependent on development time, and that parental age indirectly affects these traits  
330 through development time. If there is a trade-off between development time and other  
331 traits, then we expect that faster development times of offspring result in smaller adult  
332 body size and lower PO activity. If parental age mediates an acquisition effect, for  
333 example, offspring of younger (or older) parents are able to both grow quickly and  
334 attain large size, then this model should be rejected. Model 3 (“Acquisition and trade-  
335 off”) tests the hypothesis that offspring morphological traits are causally dependent on  
336 development time and parental age. In this model, parental age directly affects  
337 development time and the morphological traits of offspring body size or wing  
338 morphology. If there is a trade-off between development time and other traits, then we  
339 expect that faster development times of offspring result in smaller adult body size and  
340 lower PO activity, controlling for the effects of other variables like parental age. If  
341 variation in parental age mediates an acquisition effect, then we expect that this model  
342 will not be rejected. The direct effects of age on life history traits should be such that  
343 younger (or older) parents are able to both grow quickly and attain large size.

344

345 Our models necessarily make several assumptions. First, because parental age and block  
346 precede offspring development, offspring adult body size, offspring wing morphology,  
347 offspring immunity and the fecundity of female offspring, we assume that parental age  
348 and block cause the offspring variables, and not the reverse. Similarly, because offspring  
349 development from egg to adult precedes adulthood, we only test models in which  
350 development time causes variation in adult body size, wing morph, immunity, and  
351 female fecundity, and not the reverse. Finally, because adult body size and wing morph  
352 do not change after adult eclosion, whereas immunity and fecundity can be influenced  
353 by events after adult eclosion, we only test models in which morphological variables  
354 cause variation in immunity and female fecundity, and not the reverse.

355

356 Each model was fit with the *sem* procedure in the R-package *lavaan*, using the “MLR”  
357 estimator. We used the MLR test statistic to test whether the model could be rejected  
358 at an alpha value of 0.05. We also assessed two measures of approximate fit for each

359 model: Bentler's comparative fit index (CFI) and root mean square error of  
360 approximation (RMSEA).

361

362 To further explore the direct and indirect effects of parental age and development time  
363 on offspring life history variables (Question 2), we constructed a 'full' model based on  
364 the general structure of Model 3 "Acquisition and trade-off" (Fig. 3a). In this model,  
365 parental age and block are causal to development time, parental age, block and  
366 development time are causal to the morphological variables of body size and wing  
367 morph, and all of these are causal to immunity and, in females, fecundity. This model  
368 includes all possible direct causal pathways. Female and male models were fit  
369 separately, as fecundity was only measured for females. Models were fit with the *sem*  
370 procedure in the R-package *lavaan*, using the "MLR" estimator. Direct effects of  
371 parental age on other model variables were the standardized regression coefficients of  
372 age on the target variables. Indirect effects were the product of the standardized  
373 regression coefficients along a pathway (e.g. for the path  $A \rightarrow B \rightarrow C$ , the indirect path  
374 estimate would be path estimate  $A \rightarrow B$  x path estimate  $B \rightarrow C$ ). Total effects of age or  
375 development time on a target variable were the sums of all direct and indirect effects  
376 (e.g. the total path estimate for paths between A and C would be path estimate  
377  $A \rightarrow B \rightarrow C$  + path estimate  $A \rightarrow C$ ). Nonparametric bootstrap confidence intervals for  
378 standardized parameter estimates of direct and indirect effects were obtained using the  
379 *boot.ci* procedure in the *boot* package in R. Significance of model parameters was  
380 assessed by inspecting whether the 95% confidence interval for each parameter  
381 overlapped 0.

382

383 To test whether the direct and indirect effects of parental age and block on other model  
384 variables differed between male and female offspring (Question 3), we constructed the  
385 acyclic directed graph in Fig. 3a, excluding fecundity as it was not measured in males.  
386 The model was fit using data from male and female offspring, with sex as a grouping  
387 variable. We initially constrained all model parameters to be equal for males and  
388 females ("fully constrained model"). We then allowed one path coefficient to vary freely  
389 between males and females ("free path model"). To test whether allowing paths to vary  
390 between males and females improved the fit of the model, we compared the goodness  
391 of fit of each free path model with that of the fully constrained model using a likelihood  
392 ratio tests (LRT). We performed eleven separate LRTs, one for each regression  
393 parameter in the model. We adjusted for multiple comparisons by using a Bonferroni  
394 adjusted  $\alpha$ -value of 0.00455. More detailed path analysis methods are included in  
395 supplementary materials.

396

397 Results

398

399 Question 1: Which path model best describes the causative relationship between  
400 parental age, development time, adult body size, immunity, fecundity, and wing morph?

401

402 For both female and male offspring, the best-supported model (Fig. 2, Model 3:  
403 “Acquisition and trade-off”) included a direct causative effect of parental age on  
404 development time, wing morph and adult body size of offspring, the effect of  
405 development time on morphological traits, and the effect of development time and  
406 morphological traits on the other life history traits (immunity and fecundity). We failed  
407 to reject Model 3 for females and for males ( $p > 0.05$ , Table S2). In addition, CFI for  
408 Model 3 was greater than 0.95 and RMSEA less than 0.05 for females and for males,  
409 indicating good approximate fit between data and models. Models 1 and 2 were  
410 rejected for females and for males ( $p < 0.05$ ; Table S2). For Models 1 and 2, CFI was less  
411 than 0.95 and RMSEA greater than 0.05, indicating poor approximate fit between data  
412 and models. Path coefficients are reported in Table S3.

413

414 Question 2: How do development time and parental age affect offspring body size,  
415 immunity, fecundity, and wing morph?

416

417 For both daughters and sons, slower-growing offspring eclose into larger adults (Path  
418 estimate for daughters = 0.11,  $p = 0.021$ ; Path estimate for sons = 0.12,  $p = 0.002$ ).

419

420 Slower-growing daughters and sons had better PO-based immunity. Development time  
421 had a direct effect on PO-based immunity (Path estimate for daughters = 0.25,  $p =$   
422  $0.001$ ; Path estimate for sons = 0.27,  $p < 0.001$ ). Indirect paths from development time  
423 to PO-based immunity (development time  $\rightarrow$  body size  $\rightarrow$  PO; development time  $\rightarrow$   
424 wing morph  $\rightarrow$  PO) were not statistically significant (Table S5). However, the total path  
425 coefficients indicate that overall, slower-growing offspring had higher PO-based  
426 immunity (Total path estimate for daughters = 0.23,  $p = 0.001$ ; Total path estimate for  
427 sons = 0.28,  $p < 0.001$ ).

428

429 Slower-developing daughters and sons were more likely to be short-winged (Path  
430 estimate for daughters = -0.347,  $p < 0.001$ ; Path estimate for sons = -0.221,  $p < 0.001$ ).

431 Development time did not have an effect on the fecundity of daughters, but larger  
432 daughters laid more eggs (Path estimate for daughters = 0.133,  $p = 0.037$ ; Table S5).

433

434 For both female and male offspring, parental age has opposing direct and indirect  
435 effects on adult body size. Following the direct path between parental age and offspring  
436 body size, younger parents have smaller offspring (Path estimate for daughters = 0.150,  
437  $p = 0.0011$ ; Path estimate for sons = 0.165,  $p < 0.001$ ). Following the indirect path from  
438 parental age via offspring development time to offspring body size, (parental age  $\rightarrow$   
439 development time  $\rightarrow$  offspring body size) younger parents had slower-developing  
440 offspring and slower-developing offspring eclosed into larger adults; but this indirect  
441 path was not statistically significant for either daughters or sons (Table S4). The total  
442 path coefficient from parental age to offspring body size is positive, indicating that if  
443 both direct and indirect effects are taken into account, younger parents have smaller  
444 offspring (Total path estimate for daughters = 0.134,  $p = 0.003$ ; Total path estimate for  
445 sons = 0.159,  $p < 0.001$ ).

446

447 For female offspring, there were indirect effects of parental age via offspring  
448 development time on offspring PO-based immunity (parental age → development time  
449 → PO): younger parents had offspring with superior PO-based immunity (Indirect path  
450 estimate for daughters = -0.035,  $p = 0.020$ ), however, the total path effects were not  
451 statistically significant for either daughters or sons (Table S5).

452

453 There were also indirect effects of parental age on the wing morph of daughters  
454 (parental age → development time → wing morph), with younger parents having more  
455 short-winged daughters (Indirect path estimate for daughters = 0.047,  $p = 0.003$ ); the  
456 total path coefficient was also positive (Total path estimate for daughters = 0.105,  $p =$   
457 0.016). Parental age did have a statistically significant effect on the wing morph of sons  
458 (Table S5).

459

460 Question 3: Are male and female offspring life history traits affected similarly or  
461 differently by parental age and development time?

462

463 We reject the null hypothesis of no difference between male and female models (Table  
464 S5). However, allowing path coefficients to vary freely between males and females  
465 significantly improved model fit for only one path: from experimental block to offspring  
466 development time (Table S5). When we allowed free variation in those paths that linked  
467 pairs of life history traits, model fit was not significantly improved (Table S5).

468

469 There was no difference in development time between male and female offspring  
470 (ANOVA  $F_{1,1268} = 3.82$ ,  $P = 0.051$ ). Male offspring were larger than females (ANOVA  
471  $F_{1,1246} = 144.5$ ,  $P < 0.0001$ ). Female offspring had better PO-based immunity than males  
472 (ANOVA  $F_{1,364} = 8.86$ ,  $P = 0.0031$ ), and females had longer wings than males (ANOVA  
473  $F_{1,1244} = 22.6$ ,  $P < 0.0001$ ). As previously indicated, the effect of development time on  
474 body size, immunity and wing morph was similar in male and female offspring. Parental  
475 age had similar direct effects on female and male offspring body size. However, parental  
476 age only affected the development time of daughters, not sons (Table S4).

477

478 Discussion

479

480 Question 1: Which path model best describes the causative relationship between  
481 parental age, development time, adult body size, immunity, fecundity, and wing morph?

482

483 The best-supported model (Model 3: Acquisition and trade-off) included a direct  
484 causative effect of parental age on both development time and offspring morphological  
485 traits. The model (Model 1: Acquisition) that described parental age as directly affecting  
486 all offspring life history traits (except the fecundity of female offspring) did a poor job of  
487 characterizing the causative relationship between variables. The model (Model 2: Trade-  
488 off) that included a direct effect of parental age on development time but not on  
489 offspring morphological traits also was rejected, although fit indices were better than  
490 for Model 1. However, including the effect of both acquisition (parental effects) and  
491 trade-offs between offspring traits best characterized the relationships between  
492 variables. Although many studies examine parental effects, and many studies examine  
493 interactions between development time and morphological traits, few studies of life  
494 history evolution include both parental effects and the effects of variance in  
495 development time on other life history traits. These results highlight the need for more  
496 studies that include both variables to understand the relative impact of each on  
497 downstream life history traits that affect fitness. For example, in studies on flies, rice  
498 weevils, and gypsy moths that found an effect of parental age on offspring body size  
499 (Opit and Throne 2007, Qazi et al 2017), fecundity (Opit and Throne 2007, Hercus and  
500 Hoffmann 2000, Nystrad and Dowling 2014) and immunity (Rossiter et al. 1990), effects  
501 of parental age may be mediated by offspring development time. Further, parental age  
502 alone may explain only a small portion of the variance in offspring traits. Conversely,  
503 most studies that examine the effects of development time on offspring traits (Roff  
504 1992, Roff 2000, van der Most et al 2011) either limit or ignore variation in parental age.  
505 Ignoring the effect of adult age (e.g. blocking for adult age among treatments) may bias  
506 data. Limiting adult age may reduce variation in offspring development time and  
507 downstream offspring traits and represent only a subset of possible offspring  
508 phenotypes.

509

510 Question 2: How do development time and parental age affect offspring body size,  
511 immunity, fecundity, and wing morph?

512

513 In this study, we found that crickets with longer development times became larger  
514 adults. Many previous studies have found a similar relationship between development  
515 time and adult body size (Roff 1992, Roff 2000). Our result is consistent with the  
516 hypothesis that crickets must make a trade-off between developing quickly to avoid  
517 predation before reproduction and attaining a larger adult body size to gain advantages  
518 in male-male competition, female choice, male choice, and female fecundity. We found  
519 that both male and female crickets that develop more slowly become larger adults. This  
520 result is striking because males and females gain fundamentally different advantages  
521 from large adult body size: the advantages of large body size for males are primarily due

522 to inter- and intra-specific sexual selection, while the advantages of large female body  
523 size are primarily due to natural selection for increased fecundity. It seems likely that  
524 covariances between male and female trait values may constrain the ability of either sex  
525 to evolve independently. However, in this instance, rather than creating antagonistic  
526 coevolution between males and females, these covariances creates synergistic positive  
527 effects on the fitness of each sex.

528

529 Although we found a positive relationship between the development time and body size  
530 of female offspring, and a positive relationship between female body size and fecundity,  
531 we did not find a statistically significant relationship between development time and  
532 fecundity. In a meta-analysis of quantitative genetic studies, Roff (2010) found that the  
533 relationship between development time and female fecundity is not predictable:  
534 although development time frequently trades off with adult body size, and body size is  
535 often positively correlated with fecundity, the correlation between development time  
536 and fecundity could be either positive or negative (Roff 2000). Roff also found that in  
537 many studies (similar to our study), the lack of statistically significant correlation  
538 between development time and fecundity could be attributed to the high variances  
539 associated with these two variables (Roff 2000).

540

541 For both male and female offspring, crickets that took longer to develop had superior  
542 PO-based immunity than crickets that developed more quickly. This result confirms  
543 what has been found in some previous results (Rantala and Roff 2005, van der Most et  
544 al. 2011), although not others (Rantala and Roff 2005). Our result suggests that crickets  
545 may be making a trade-off between developing rapidly and investing effort in PO-based  
546 immunity. On a proximate level, crickets that develop slowly have more opportunities  
547 for exposure to pathogens than crickets that develop rapidly. Thus, slower-growing  
548 crickets may also benefit more from investment in immunity than faster-growing  
549 crickets. As components of immunity can interact differently with other morphological  
550 and life history traits (Adamo 2004, Rantala and Roff 2005, Gershman et al. 2010), it  
551 would be valuable to explore the relationship between development time and other  
552 facets of immunocompetence.

553

554 We found that younger parents had smaller sons and daughters. The effect of parental  
555 age on sons was relatively straightforward: parental age had a direct effect on the body  
556 size of sons, but not an indirect effect on body size via development time. In contrast,  
557 parental age had opposing direct (positive) and indirect (negative) effects on the body  
558 size of daughters. However, path analysis indicated that the total effect of parental age  
559 on the body size of daughters was positive: younger parents have smaller daughters.  
560 Proximately, trade-offs and differences in acquisition can explain why younger parents  
561 have smaller offspring. In field crickets, female daily fecundity peaks within the first few  
562 weeks of sexual maturity, and then gradually declines (Lorenz 2007). It is possible that  
563 younger parents have smaller offspring due to a trade-off that parents are making  
564 between the size and number of eggs that they produce (Fox and Czesak 2000); if  
565 younger parents lay more eggs and allocate fewer resources per egg than older parents,

566 this could potentially affect the size that adult offspring are able to achieve. In *Gryllus*  
567 *pennsylvanicus* field crickets, previous studies have documented maternal effects on  
568 cricket egg size and nymphal development: larger eggs develop more quickly into  
569 heavier nymphs (Roff 1992, Roff and Sokolovska 2004). Alternatively, Stachs Schmidt et al.  
570 (2013) found that adult *Gryllus texensis* crickets increased in body condition as they  
571 aged, which suggests that older parents may have the nutritional capacity to lay better  
572 provisioned eggs than younger parents. These better-provisioned eggs may have the  
573 capacity to develop into larger adults. Ultimately, it may be beneficial for adults to  
574 produce offspring that eclose into adults within the short window of time at the  
575 beginning of the reproductive season: in the field, offspring that eclose in May will have  
576 ample access to resources and mates, and a relatively long period of time in which to lay  
577 their own eggs. Our finding that younger parents produce slower-developing daughters  
578 and older parents produce faster-developing daughters reduces variation in when  
579 daughters are likely to eclose into adults, concentrating adult eclosion times within a  
580 relatively short window of time. It is surprising that parental age does not have a similar  
581 effect on the development time of sons. However, previous studies in other taxa have  
582 also found sex-specific parental effects (Lind et al. 2015).

583

584 Although there was not a direct effect of parental age on the wing morph of daughters,  
585 parental age via development time affected wing morph, with younger parents having  
586 more short-winged daughters. This indirect effect was substantial enough that overall  
587 (total path) parental age had a positive effect on the wing morph of daughters. Parental  
588 age did not have an effect on the wing morph of sons, either directly or indirectly. Short-  
589 winged females have a higher lifetime fecundity than long-winged females, primarily  
590 because short-winged females are able to start reproducing immediately, rather than  
591 waiting to disperse by flight and then reallocate their reserves from flight to  
592 reproduction (Roff and Fairbairn 1991). However, long-winged females have the ability  
593 to disperse to new locations if resources are depleted due to overcrowding. It may be  
594 beneficial for young parents to produce short-winged daughters who can immediately  
595 take advantage of the available food and oviposition substrate to maximize egg  
596 production. As older parents produce offspring later in the season, it may be beneficial  
597 to produce daughters who can disperse to areas with more available resources. It is  
598 surprising that parental age does not similarly affect the wing morphs of sons, as sons  
599 make the same trade-offs between devoting their reserves to reproduction versus flight  
600 (Crnokrak and Roff 1995).

601

602 We found block effects on offspring development time, body size, wing morph and  
603 immunity. Although we cannot definitively know why block had an effect, the most  
604 likely biological cause is time of year. The crickets in this study had been reared for 4-8  
605 generations in a temperature- and light- controlled windowless room. However, it is  
606 possible that either parents or offspring had not fully lost their sensitivity to time of  
607 year. As experimental blocks were performed sequentially rather than simultaneously,  
608 seasonality may have influenced our results.

609

610 Question 3: Are male and female offspring life history traits affected similarly or  
611 differently by parental age and development time?

612

613 We found that female offspring had better PO-based immunity than male offspring. This  
614 result is consistent with previous studies on crickets (Gershman 2008, Gershman et al.  
615 2010) and also most other taxa (Zuk and McKean 1996). Female invertebrates are  
616 posited to have superior immunity to males because females gain more benefit more  
617 from investing in immunity than males: males only have to live long enough to mate,  
618 while females need to live long enough to mate, locate appropriate oviposition  
619 substrate, and oviposit. We found that female offspring were more likely to be long-  
620 winged than male offspring. This result has been found in previous studies (Roff 1990).  
621 We also found that although male offspring were larger than female offspring, male and  
622 female offspring did not differ in development time. This result is also logical, as a  
623 mismatch between male and female development times would result in lower  
624 reproductive success for all individuals. There were not differences in the relationships  
625 among biological variables between the male and female path models. This suggests  
626 that life history traits of male and female offspring are similarly affected by variation in  
627 parental age and development time.

628

629 Overall, this path analysis approach has allowed us to identify a sequence of linked  
630 biological causes that contribute to variation in life history traits. Variation in  
631 development time can influence a suite of life history trait values that may be more  
632 beneficial when they occur together. We found that slower-growing offspring are larger,  
633 with better immunity and shorter wings. This combination of traits could be  
634 advantageous to non-dispersing offspring that remain in densely-populated areas where  
635 large body size confers higher sexually-selected fitness and disease transmission is more  
636 likely. Conversely, we found that faster-growing offspring are more likely to have long  
637 wings, with smaller body size and poorer immunity. These dispersing individuals would  
638 likely experience lower population density, thus body size and immunity may be less  
639 important to their fitness. Future field-based studies could provide valuable information  
640 about the fitness consequences of these suites of traits.

641

642 In this study, we measured the effect of parental age and offspring development time  
643 on a limited suite of offspring physical traits. In future studies, it would be valuable to  
644 measure how parental age and development time affect behavioral traits important to  
645 sexual and natural selection, as well as other unmeasured physical traits important to  
646 fitness. A path analysis approach is instrumental in allowing researchers to understand  
647 the causative effects of morphological and behavioral traits over the lifetime of an  
648 individual.



649 Literature cited  
650  
651 Adamo SA 2004. How should behavioural ecologists interpret measurements of  
652 immunity? *Anim. Behav.* 68, 1443–1449. doi:10.1016/j.anbehav.2004.05.005  
653  
654 Adamo SA, Jensen M, Younger M. 2001. Changes in lifetime immunocompetence in  
655 male and female *Gryllus texensis* (formerly *G. integer*): trade-offs between  
656 immunity and reproduction. *Anim Behav.* 62, 417–425. doi 10.1006/anbe.2001.1786  
657  
658 Andersson M. 1994. *Sexual Selection*, Princeton University Press.  
659  
660 Bégin M, Roff DA, Debat V. 2004. The effect of temperature and wing morphology on  
661 quantitative genetic variation in the cricket *Gryllus firmus*, with an appendix examining  
662 the statistical properties of the Jackknife-manova method of matrix comparison. *J. Evol.*  
663 *Biol.* 17, 1255–1267. doi 10.1111/j.1420-9101.2004.00772.x  
664  
665 Bégin M, Roff DA. 2002 The common quantitative genetic basis of wing  
666 morphology and diapause occurrence in the cricket *Gryllus veletis*. *Heredity* 89, 473–  
667 479.  
668  
669 Benton TG, St Clair JJH, Plaistow SJ. 2008. Maternal effects mediated by maternal age:  
670 from life histories to population dynamics. *J. Anim. Ecol.* 77, 1038–1046. doi  
671 10.1111/j.1365-2656.2008.01434.x  
672  
673 Bertram SM, Rook V. 2011. Jamaican field cricket mate attraction signals provide age  
674 cues. *Ethology* 117, 1050–1055. doi 10.1111/j.1439-0310.2011.01958.x  
675  
676 Bonduriansky R, Head M. 2007. Maternal and paternal condition effects on offspring  
677 phenotype in *Telostylinus angusticollis* (Diptera: Neriidae). *J. Evol. Biol.* 20, 2379–2388.  
678 doi 10.1111/j.1420-9101.2007.01419.x  
679  
680 Bradford MJ and Roff DA. 1993. Bet hedging and the diapause strategies of the cricket  
681 *Allonemobius fasciatus*. *Ecology* 74, 1129–1135.  
682  
683 Brown WD, Smith AT, Moskalik B., Gabriel J. 2006. Aggressive contests in house crickets:  
684 size, motivation and the information content of aggressive songs. *Anim. Behav.* 72, 225–  
685 233.  
686  
687 Brown WD. 2008. Size-biased mating in both sexes of the black-horned tree cricket,  
688 *Oecanthus nigricornis* Walker (Orthoptera: Gryllidae: Oecanthinae). *J. Insect Behav.* 21,  
689 130–142.  
690

691 Briffa M. 2008. Decisions during fights in the house cricket, *Acheta domestica*: mutual  
692 or self assessment of energy, weapons and size? *Anim. Behav.* 75, 1053–1062. doi  
693 10.1016/j.anbehav.2007.08.016  
694  
695 Clancey E, Byers JA. 2014. The definition and measurement of individual condition in  
696 evolutionary studies. *Ethology* 120, 845–854. doi 10.1111/eth.12272  
697  
698 Crnokrak P, Roff DA. 1995. Fitness differences associated with calling behaviour in the  
699 two wing morphs of male sand crickets, *Gryllus firmus*. *Anim. Behav.* 50, 1475–1481.  
700  
701 Danks HV 1997. *Insect Dormancy: An Ecological Perspective*. Biological Survey of Canada  
702 (Terrestrial Arthropods), Ottawa. ISBN: 0969272707.  
703  
704 Danks HV 2007. The elements of seasonal adaptations in insects. *Canad. Entomol.* 139,  
705 1–44.  
706  
707 Deb R, Bhattacharya M, Balakrishnan R. 2012. Females of a tree cricket prefer larger  
708 males but not the lower frequency male calls that indicate large body size. *Anim. Behav.*  
709 84, 137–149. doi.org/10.1016/j.anbehav.2012.04.020  
710  
711 del Castillo RC. 2015. Body size, fecundity, and sexual size dimorphism in the neotropical  
712 cricket *Macroanaxipha macilenta* (Saussure) (Orthoptera: Gryllidae). *Neotrop. Entomol.*  
713 44, 116–22. doi 10.1007/s13744-014-0266-1  
714  
715 Fox CW, Dingle H. 1994. Dietary mediation of maternal age effects on offspring  
716 performance in a seed beetle (Coleoptera: Bruchidae). *Funct. Ecol.* 8, 600–606.  
717  
718 Fox CW, Czesak ME. 2000. Evolutionary ecology of progeny size in arthropods. *Annu.*  
719 *Rev. Entomol.* 45, 341–369.  
720  
721 Gershman SN. 2008. Sex-specific differences in immunological costs  
722 of multiple mating in *Gryllus vocalis* field crickets. *Behav. Ecol.* 19, 810–815. doi  
723 10.1093/beheco/arn040.  
724  
725 Gershman SN, Barnett CA, Pettinger AM, Weddle CB, Hunt J, Sakaluk SK. 2010. Give ‘til it  
726 hurts: trade-offs between immunity and male reproductive effort in the decorated  
727 cricket, *Gryllodes sigillatus*. *J. Evol. Biol.* 23, 829–839. [https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1420-](https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1420-9101.2010.01951.x)  
728 9101.2010.01951.x  
729  
730 Glass JR, Stahlschmidt ZR. 2019. Should I stay or should I go? Complex environments  
731 influence the developmental plasticity of flight capacity and flight-related trade-offs.  
732 *Biol. J. Linnean Soc.* 128, 59–69. <https://doi.org/10.1093/biolinnean/blz073>.  
733

734 Gray DA. 1997. Female house crickets, *Acheta domesticus*, prefer the chirps of large  
735 males. *Anim. Behav.*, 54, 1553–1562.  
736  
737 Gutierrez Y, Fresch M, Ott D, Brockmeyer J, Scherber C. 2020. Diet composition and  
738 social environment determine food consumption, phenotype and fecundity in an  
739 omnivorous insect. *R. Soc. Open Sci.* 7, 200100. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1098/rsos.200100>  
740  
741 Harrison RG. 1980. Dispersal polymorphisms in insects. *Ann. Rev. Syst.* 11, 95–118.  
742  
743 Hercus MJ, Hoffmann AA. 2000. Maternal and grandmaternal age influence offspring  
744 fitness in *Drosophila*. *Proc. R. Soc. Lond. B* 267, 2105–2110. doi 10.1098/rspb.2000.1256  
745  
746 Honek A. 1993. Intraspecific variation in body size and fecundity in insects: a general  
747 relationship. *Oikos* 66, 483–492.  
748  
749 Iba M, Nagao T, Urano A. 1995. Effects of population density on growth, behavior and  
750 levels of biogenic amines in the cricket, *Gryllus bimaculatus*. *Zool. Sci.* 12, 695–702. doi  
751 10.2108/zsj.12.695  
752  
753 Johnson CG. 1969. *Migration and Dispersal of Insects by Flight*. London: Methuen.  
754  
755 Kerr AM, Gershman SN, Sakaluk SK. 2010. Experimentally induced spermatophore  
756 production and immune responses reveal a trade-off in crickets. *Behav. Ecol.* 21, 647–  
757 654. doi 10.1093/beheco/arq035  
758  
759 Lee KP, Simpson SJ, Wilson K. 2008. Dietary protein-quality influences melanization and  
760 immune function in an insect. *Funct. Ecol.* 22, 1052–1061.  
761  
762 Lind MI, Berg EC, Alavioon G, Maklakov AA. 2015. Evolution of differential maternal age  
763 effects on male and female offspring development and longevity. *Funct. Ecol.* 29, 104–  
764 111. doi 10.1111/1365-2435.12308  
765  
766 Lochmiller RL and Deerenberg C. 2000 Trade-offs in evolutionary immunology: just what  
767 is the cost of immunity? *Oikos* 88, 87–98.  
768  
769 Lorenz MW. 2007. Oogenesis-flight syndrome in crickets: Age-dependent egg  
770 production, flight performance, and biochemical composition of the flight muscles in  
771 adult female *Gryllus bimaculatus*. *J. Insect Physiol.* 53: 819-832.  
772  
773 Lyn J, Aksenov V, LeBlanc Z, Rollo CD. 2012. Life History Features and Aging Rates:  
774 Insights from intra-specific patterns in the cricket *Acheta domesticus*. *Evol. Biol.* 39, 371–  
775 387. doi 10.1007/s11692-012-9160-0  
776

777 Masaki, S. 1997. Geographical variation of life cycles in crickets (Ensifera: Grylloidea).  
778 *Eur. J. Entomol.* 93, 281–302.  
779  
780 Mousseau TA, Fox CW. 1998. The adaptive significance of maternal effects. *TREE* 13,  
781 403–407.  
782  
783 Mosseau TA, Roff DA. 1989. Adaptation to seasonality in a cricket: patterns of  
784 phenotypic and genotypic variation in body size and diapause expression along a cline in  
785 season length. *Evolution* 43, 1483–1496. doi 10.1111/j.1558-5646.1989.tb02598.x  
786  
787 Niemelä PT, Vainikka A, Lahdenperä S, Kortet R. 2012. Nymphal density, behavioral  
788 development, and life history in a field cricket. *Behav. Ecol. Sociobiol.* 66, 645–652. doi  
789 10.1007/s00265-011-1312-1  
790  
791 Nystrad M, Dowling DK. 2014. Transgenerational interactions involving parental age and  
792 immune status affect female reproductive success in *Drosophila melanogaster*. *Proc. R.*  
793 *Soc. B* 281: 20141242.  
794  
795 Olvido AE, Elvington ES, Mousseau TA. 2003. Relative effects of climate and crowding on  
796 wing polymorphism in the southern ground cricket, *Allonemobius socius* (Orthoptera:  
797 Gryllidae). *Florida Entomol.* 86, 158–164.  
798  
799 Opit GP, Throne JE. 2007. Influence of maternal age on the fitness of progeny in the Rice  
800 Weevil, *Sitophilus oryzae* (Coleoptera: Curculionidae). *Environ. Entomol.* 36, 83–89.  
801  
802 Phelan JP, Frumhoff PC. 1991. Differences in the effects of parental age on offspring  
803 life history between tropical and temperate populations of milkweed bugs (*Oncopeltus*  
804 spp.). *Evol. Ecol.* 5, 160–172.  
805  
806 Qazi MCB, Miller PB, Poeschel PM, Phan MH, Thayer JL, Medrano, CL. 2017.  
807 Transgenerational effects of maternal and grandmaternal age on offspring viability and  
808 performance in *Drosophila melanogaster*. *J. Insect. Physiol.* 100, 43–52.  
809  
810 Rantala MJ, Roff DA. 2005. An analysis of trade-offs in immune function, body size and  
811 development time in the Mediterranean Field Cricket, *Gryllus bimaculatus*. *Funct. Ecol.*  
812 19, 323–330.  
813  
814 Reznick D, Nunney L, Tessier A. 2000. Big houses, big cars, superfleas and the  
815 costs of reproduction. *TREE* 15, 421–425.  
816  
817 Rivero A, Giron D, Casas J. 2001. Lifetime allocation of juvenile and adult nutritional  
818 resources to egg production in a holometabolous insect. *Proc. R. Soc. Lond B* 268,1231-  
819 1237. doi 10.1098/rspb.2001.1645.  
820

821 Roff DA. 1990. Selection for changes in the incidence of wing dimorphism in *Gryllus*  
822 *firmus*. *Heredity* 65, 163–168.

823

824 Roff DA. 1992. *The evolution of life histories: theory and analysis*. Routledge, Chapman  
825 and Hall, New York.

826

827 Roff DA. 1994. Habitat persistence and the evolution of wing dimorphism in insects. *Am.*  
828 *Nat.* 144, 772–798.

829

830 Roff DA. 2000. Trade-offs between growth and reproduction: an analysis  
831 of the quantitative genetic evidence. *J. Evol. Biol.* 13, 434–445.

832

833 Roff DA, Fairbairn DJ. 1991. Wing dimorphisms and the evolution of migratory  
834 polymorphisms among the Insecta. *Amer. Zool.* 31, 243–251.

835

836 Roff DA, Fairbairn DJ. 2001. The genetic basis of dispersal and migration, and its  
837 consequences for the evolution of correlated traits. In: Clobert J, Danchin E, Dhondt AA,  
838 Nichols JD (eds). *Dispersal*, Oxford University Press: Oxford, 191–202.

839

840 Roff DA, Sokolovska N. 2004. Extra-nuclear effects on growth and development in the  
841 sand cricket *Gryllus firmus*. *J. Evol. Biol.* 17, 663–671. doi:10.1046/j.1420-  
842 9101.2003.00673.x

843

844 Rossiter MC, Yendol WG, Dubois, NR. 1990. Resistance to *Bacillus thuringiensis* in gypsy  
845 moth (Lepidoptera: Lymantriidae): genetic and environmental causes. *J Econ. Entomol.*  
846 83, 2211–2218. doi-org.proxy.lib.ohio-state.edu/10.1093/jee/83.6.2211

847

848 Schwenke RA, Lazzaro BP, Wolfner MF. 2016. Reproduction-immunity trade-offs in  
849 insects. *Annu. Rev. Entomol.* 61, 239–256. doi 10.1146/annurev-ento-010715-023924

850

851 Shipley, B. 2016. *Causes and Correlation in Biology: A Users Guide to Path Analysis,*  
852 *Structural Equations and Causal Inference in R.*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edn. Cambridge: Cambridge  
853 University Press.

854

855 Simmons LW, García-González F. 2007. Female crickets trade offspring viability for  
856 fecundity. *J. Evol. Biol.* 20, 1617–1623. doi 10.1111/j.1420-9101.2007.01320.x

857

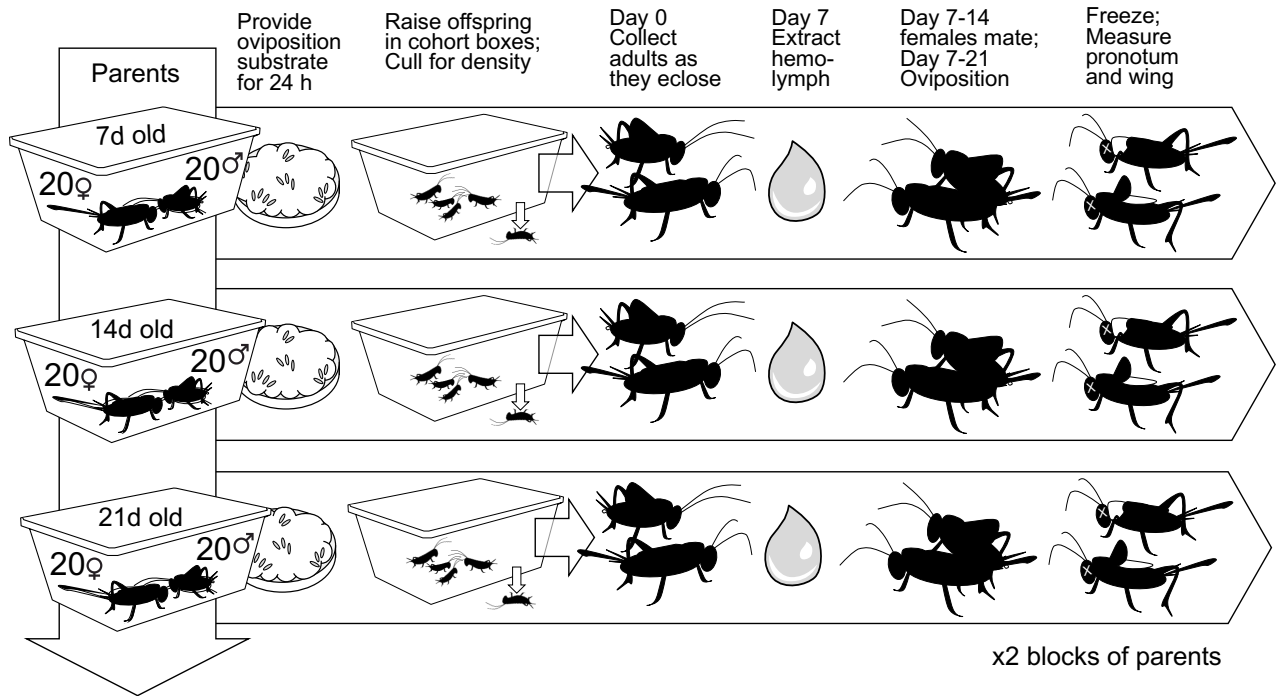
858 Söderhäll K, Cerenius L. 1998. Role of the prophenoloxidase activating system in  
859 invertebrate immunity. *Curr. Opin. Immunol.* 10, 23–28. doi: 10.1016/s0952-  
860 7915(98)80026-5

861

862 Stahlschmidt ZR, Rollinson N, Acker M, Shelley A. 2013. Are all eggs created equal? Food  
863 availability and the fitness trade-off between reproduction and immunity. *Funct. Ecol.*  
864 27, 800–806. doi: 10.1111/1365-2435.12071

865  
866 Teder T. 2013. Sexual size dimorphism requires a corresponding sex difference in  
867 development time: a meta-analysis in insects. *Funct. Ecol.* 28, 479–486. doi:  
868 10.1111/1365-2435.12172  
869  
870 van Noordwijk AJ, de Jong G. 1986. Acquisition and allocation of resources: their  
871 influence on variation in life history tactics. *Am. Nat.* 128, 137–142.  
872  
873 van der Most PJ, de Jong B, Henk K, Parmentier HK, Verhulst S. 2011. Trade-off between  
874 growth and immune function: a meta-analysis of selection experiments. *Funct. Ecol.* 25,  
875 74–80. doi 10.1111/j.1365-2435.2010.01800.x  
876  
877 Weissman DB, Gray DA. 2019. Crickets of the genus *Gryllus* in the United States  
878 (Orthoptera: Gryllidae: Gryllinae). *Zootaxa* 4705, 1–277.  
879  
880 Zehnder CB, Parris, MA, Hunter MD. 2007. Effects of maternal age and environment on  
881 offspring vital rates in the Oleander aphid (Hemiptera: Aphididae). *Environ. Entomol.* 36,  
882 910–917.  
883  
884 Zeng Y, Zhou F-H, Zhu D-H. 2018. Fight outcome briefly affects the reproductive fitness  
885 of male crickets. *Sci. Reports* 8, 9695. doi 10.1038/s41598-018-27866-4  
886  
887 Zera AJ, Denno RF. 1997. Physiology and ecology of dispersal polymorphism in insects.  
888 *Ann. Rev. Entomol.* 42, 207–230.  
889  
890 Zuk M, McKean KA. 1996. Sex differences in parasite infections: Patterns and processes.  
891 *Internat. J. Parasit.* 26, 1009-1023. doi 10.1016/S0020-7519(96)80001-4

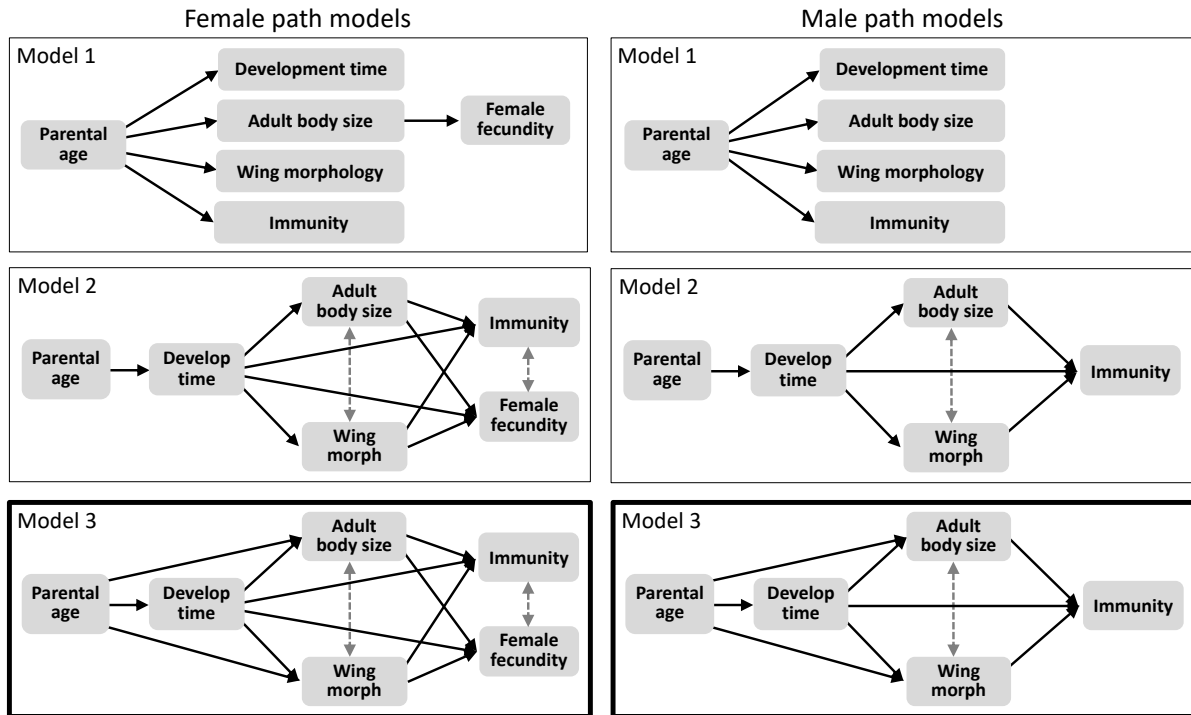
892



893

894 Figure 1. Summary of experimental design.

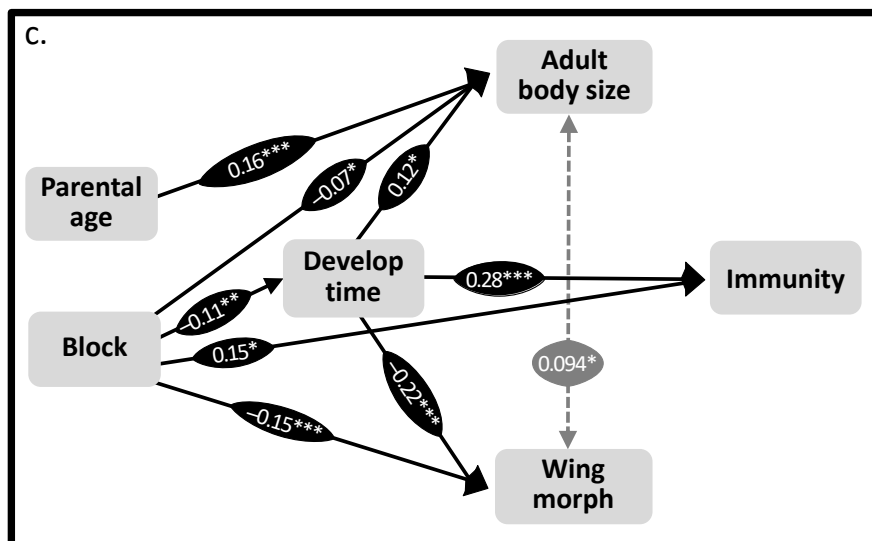
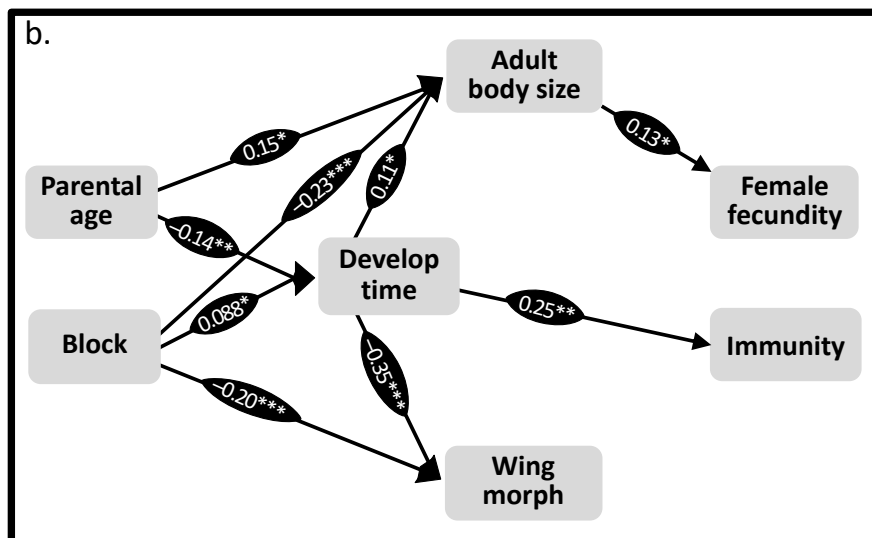
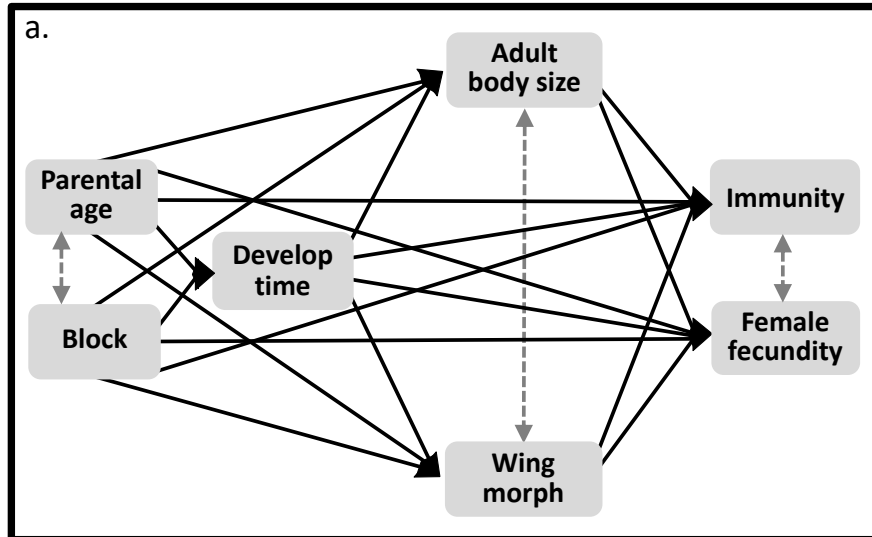
895



896  
897  
898  
899  
900  
901

Figure 2. Path models for female and male offspring. Arrows indicate causal relationships between variables (cause → effect). For both males and females, Model 3: (“Acquisition and trade-offs”), in bold outline, is the best-supported model.





902  
903

904 Figure 3. Analysis of full path model. (a) Path diagram for the full path model.  
905 Regressions are indicated by solid lines, covariances by dotted lines. The model for male  
906 offspring does not include female fecundity. Path analysis results for (b) female  
907 offspring and (c) male offspring. Arrows shown represent causal links (solid lines) and  
908 covariances (dotted lines) with a  $p < 0.05$ . All path coefficients are listed on Table S4 in  
909 the supplementary material. Values represent standardized coefficients. \* $p < 0.05$ , \*\* $p$   
910  $< 0.01$ , \*\*\*  $p < 0.001$ .  
911

912 **Author Contribution**

913

914 SNG and OGM designed the study with feedback from IMH. OGM carried out the  
915 experiments. SNG, with the assistance of many undergraduate students, measured the  
916 morphological traits and assayed immunity. SNG and IMH planned the statistical  
917 approach. IMH researched and performed all of the path analyses. SNG wrote the  
918 manuscript.

919

920

921 **Acknowledgements**

922

923 Thanks to the OSU students who assisted in the laboratory work for this project:  
924 Mitchell Cheung, Ellen Dunkle, Heather Fair, Alejandro Figueroa-Ripoll, Lauren Filippidis,  
925 Kelsi Parson, Abigail Ratcliff. This work was funded by a Theodore J. Cohn Research Fund  
926 grant from the Orthopterists' Society, an OSU Marion Research Development Grant, and  
927 a Regional Campus Faculty Research/Creative Activity grant from The OSU College of  
928 Arts & Sciences.

929