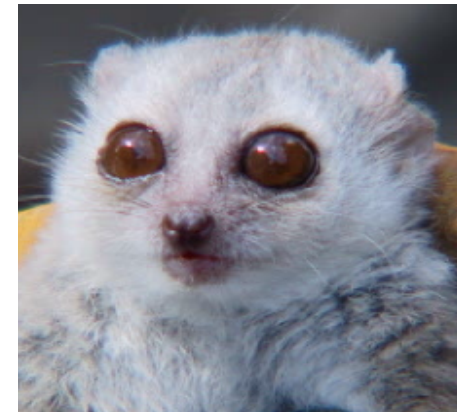
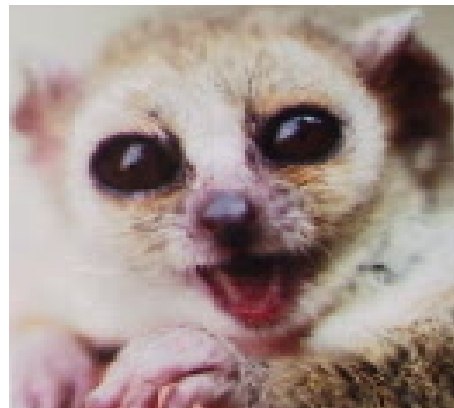
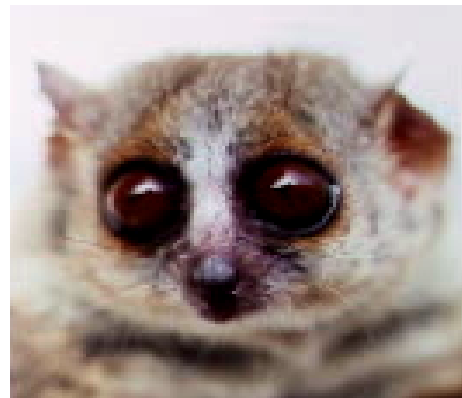
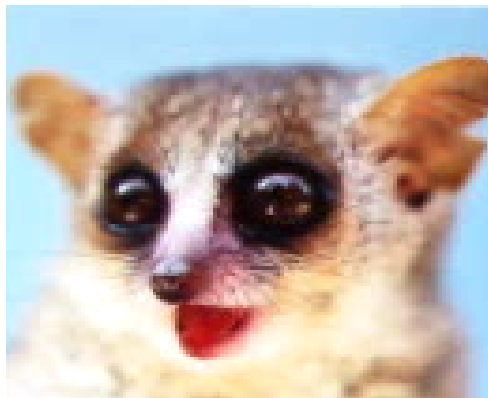


Le microcèbe, modèle émergent du vieillissement cérébral



Fabien Pifferi, Jérémy Terrien, Fabienne Aujard

Adaptive Mechanisms and Evolution Unit, UMR CNRS MNHN 7179

Integrative Biology of Adaptation Team

08 Novembre 2022





Phylogénie des primates



Lorisiformes



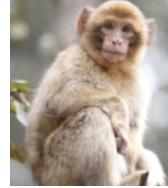
Lémuriformes



Tarsiiformes



Platyrrhiniens



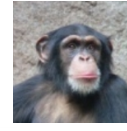
Cercopithécoïdes



Hylobathoïdes



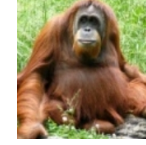
Homininés



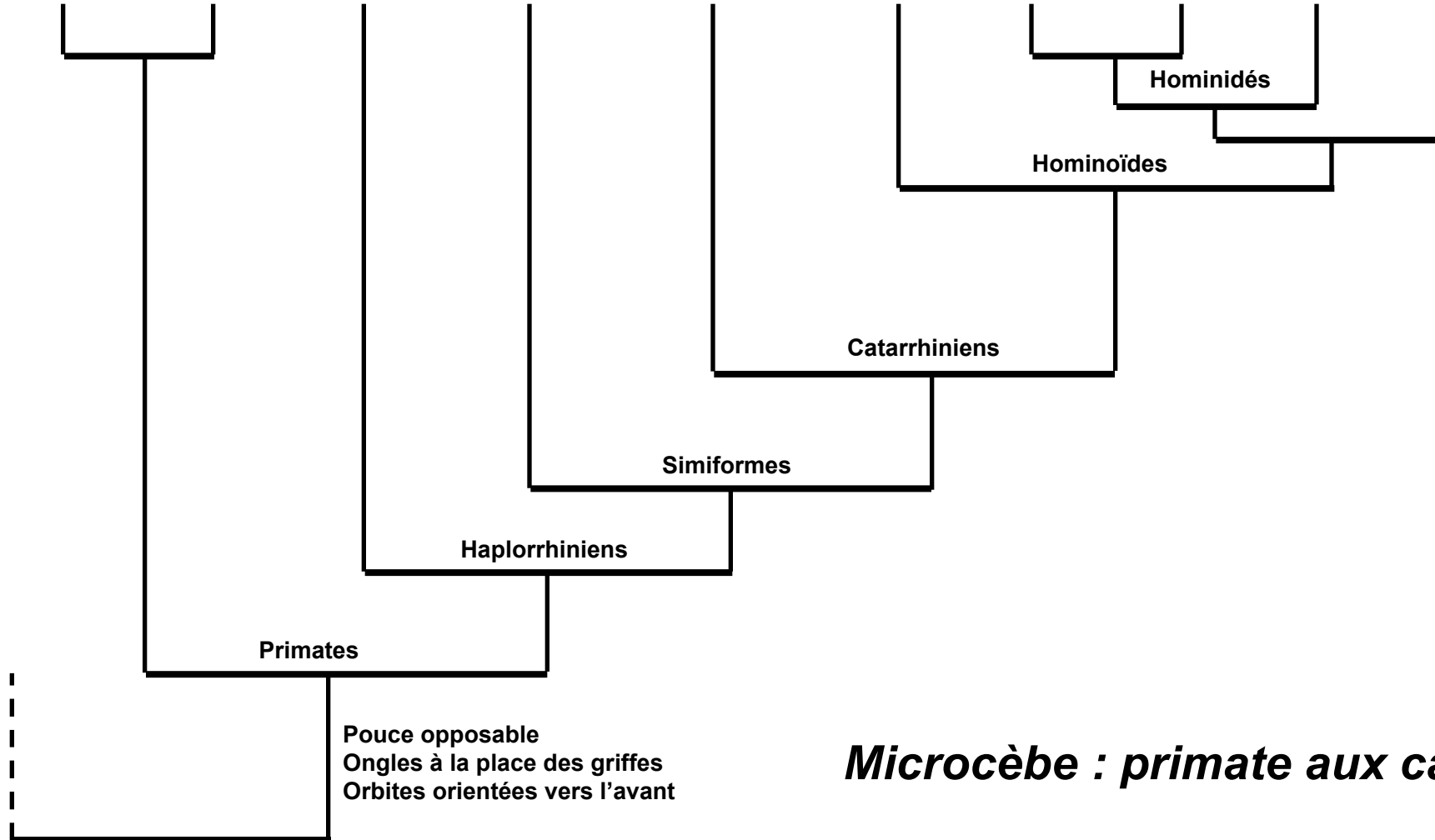
Paninés



Gorillinés



Pongidés



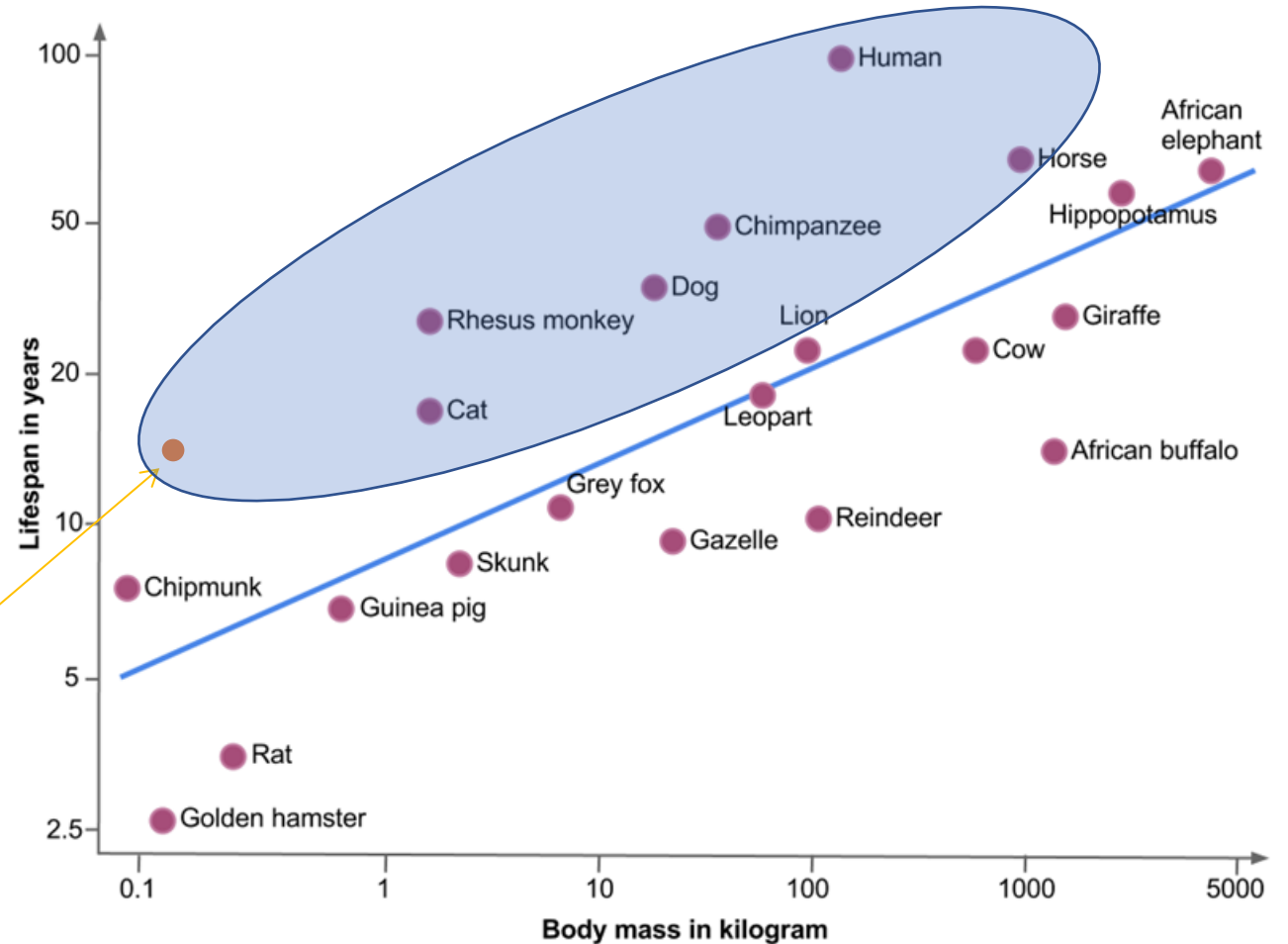
Pouce opposable
 Ongles à la place des griffes
 Orbites orientées vers l'avant

Microcèbe : primate aux caractères ancestraux

The grey mouse lemur (*Microcebus murinus*)

Small prosimian primate, originating from Madagascar

- Nocturnal
- Long lifespan for a small sized species

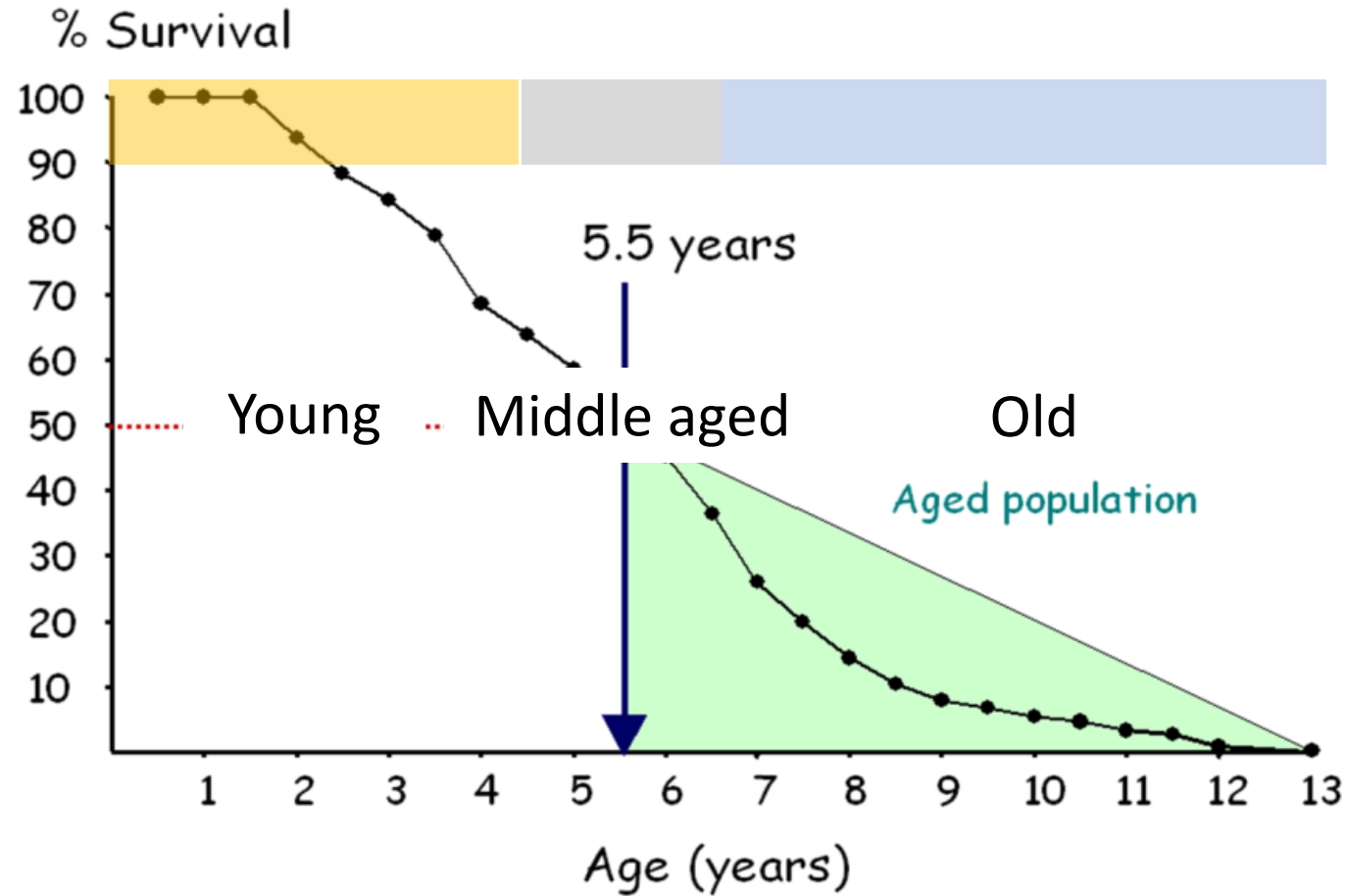


Max. lifespan = 13.8 y. in captivity, <100g, easy breeding

Psychomotor aging in *M. murinus*



Survival and aging of captive mouse lemur

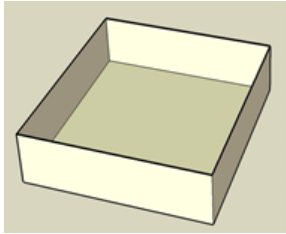


Survival curve of MM in the colony (n=288)

3 sub-populations can be defined: young (<4.5), middle aged (4.5-6.5) and old (>6.5)

Aging of cognitive functions

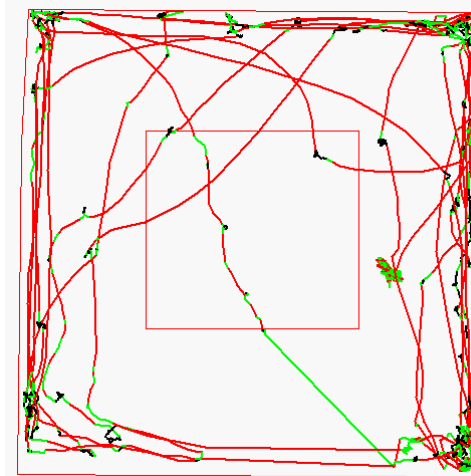
Numerous tests adapted to captive mouse lemurs (spatial, visual, working and emotion memory, anxiety, aggressiveness, visual discrimination, executive functions...and more!)



Anxiety in an open-field task



- High exploratory behavior
- Numerous center crossings
- Short latency of 1st movement

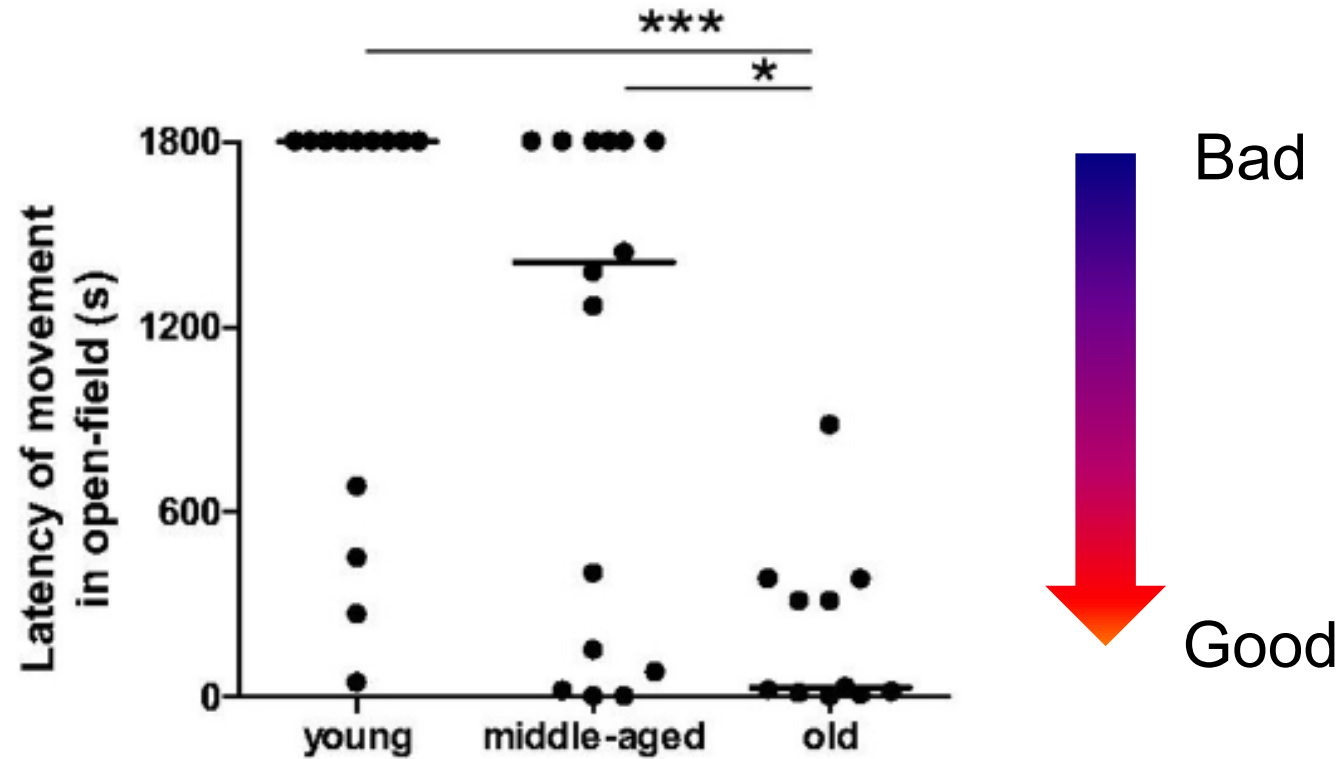


- Low exploratory behavior
- Few center crossings
- Long latency

(Picq 1993-1995-1998-2007-2015; Languille 2015)

Cognitive functions

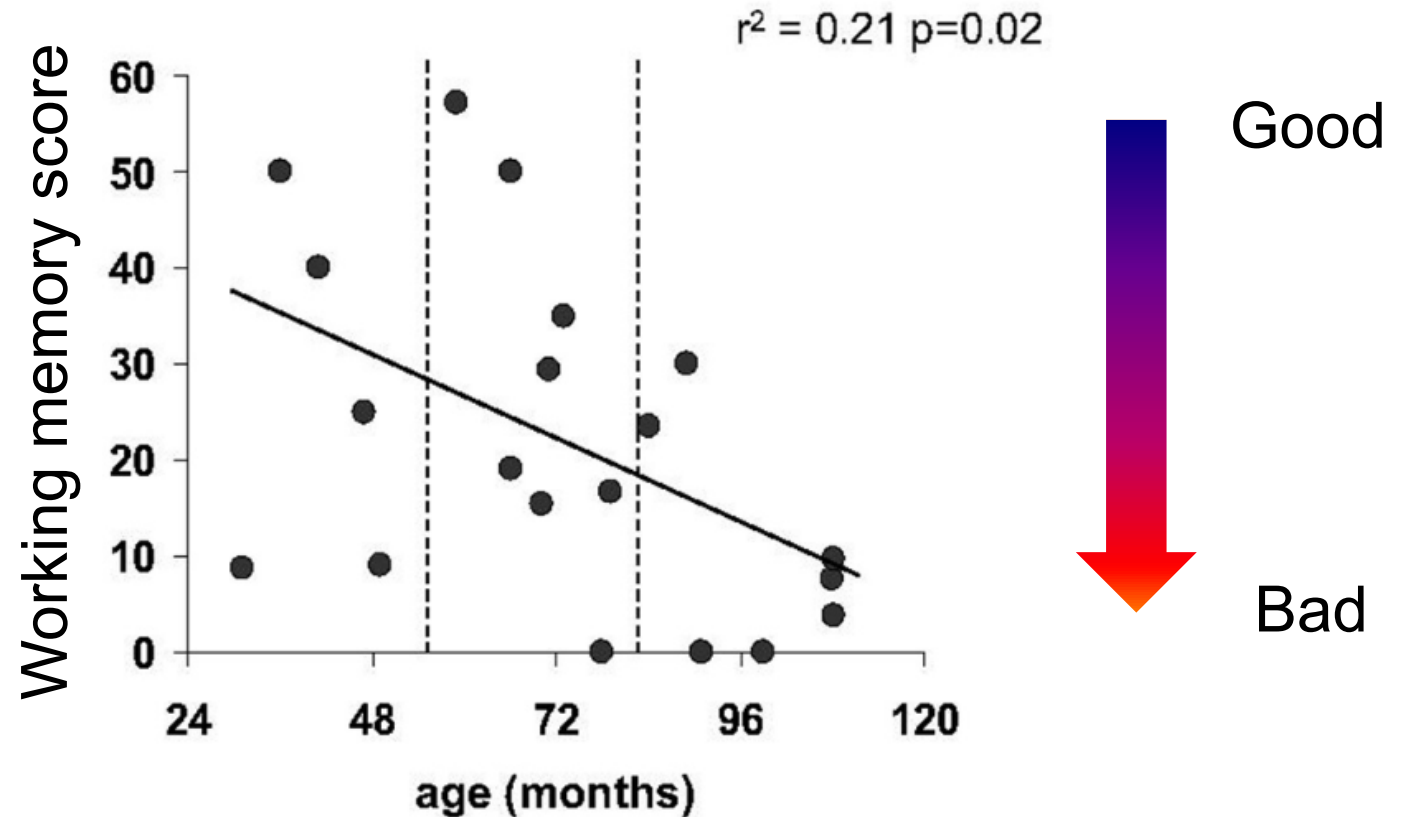
Anxiety in an open-field task



Anxiety decreases with age. Validated in other emotion related tasks.

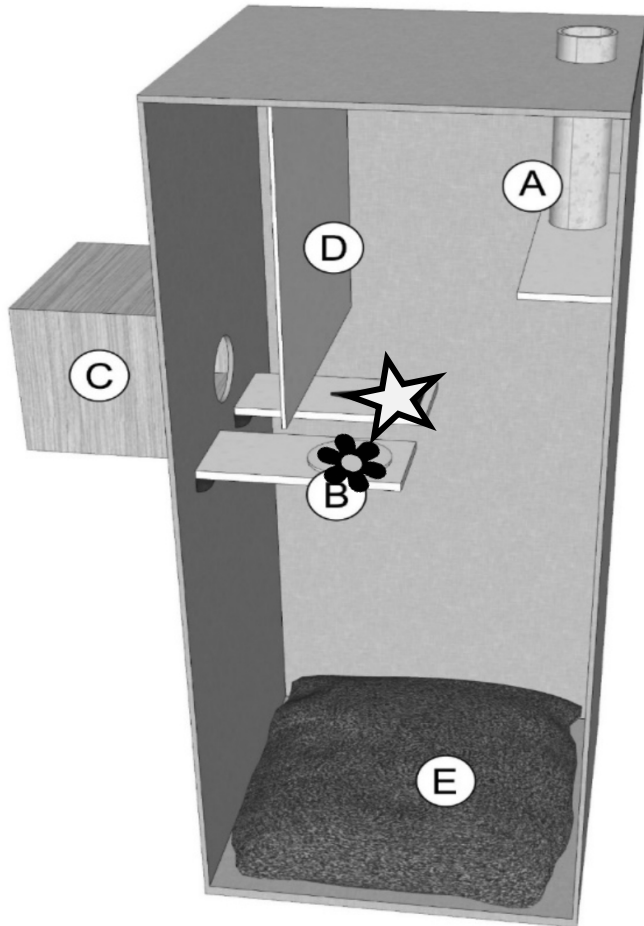
Cognitive functions

Working memory (spontaneous alternation task, executive function)
Animals have to explore the maze, without visiting already visited arms



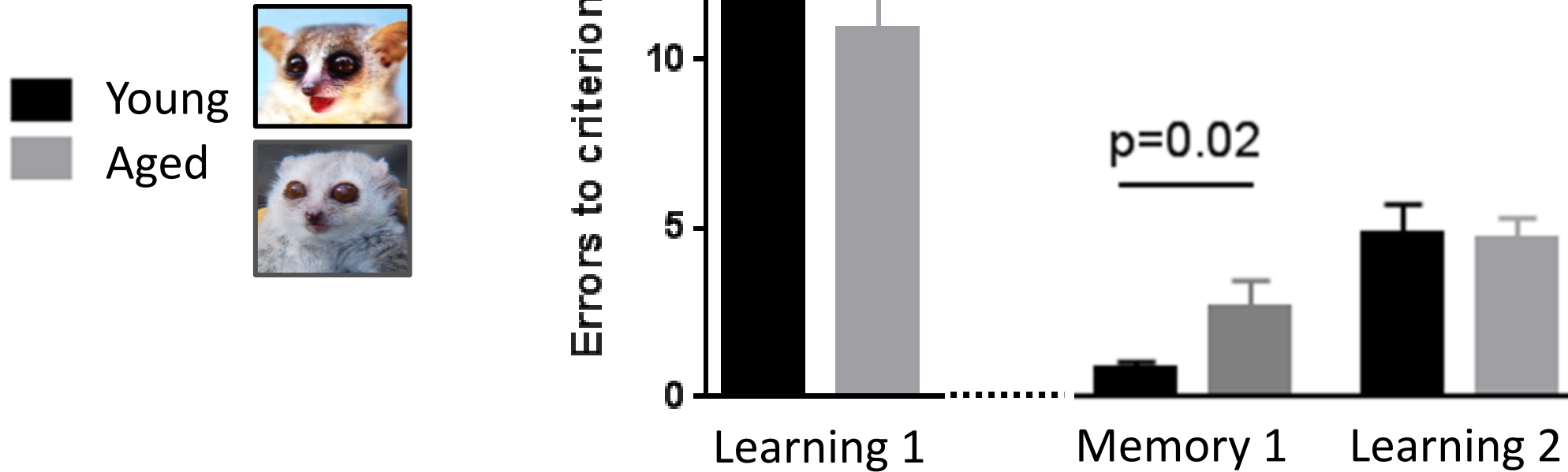
Working memory significantly decreases with age

Visual discrimination task



Learning criterion: 8 successful trials/10 (80% success)

Visual discrimination task

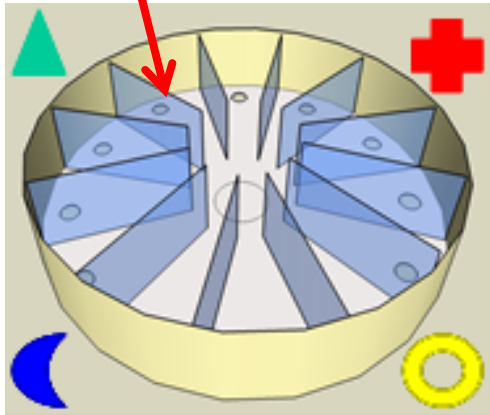


Age affects memory but not learning in the early stages of aging

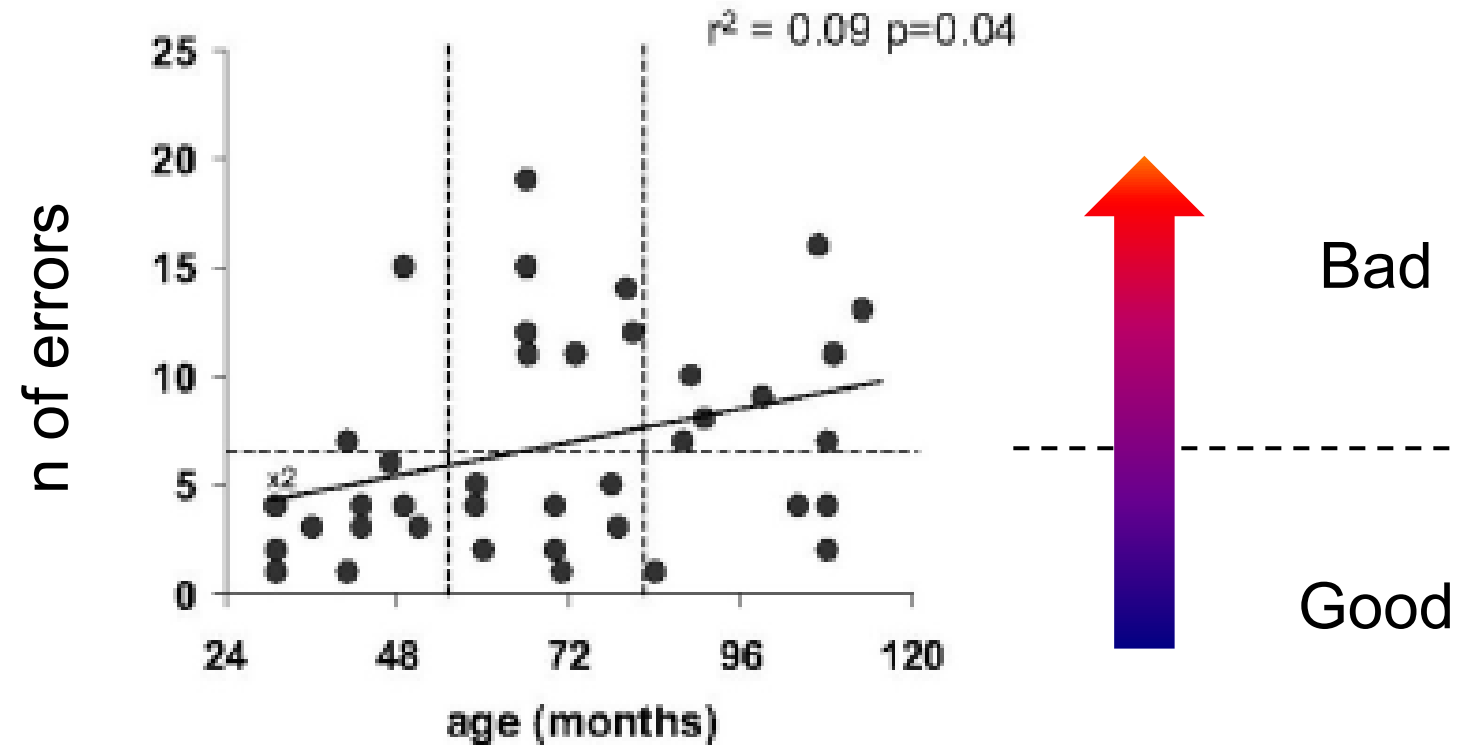
Cognitive functions

Reference spatial memory

Animals have to locate a previously learned exit



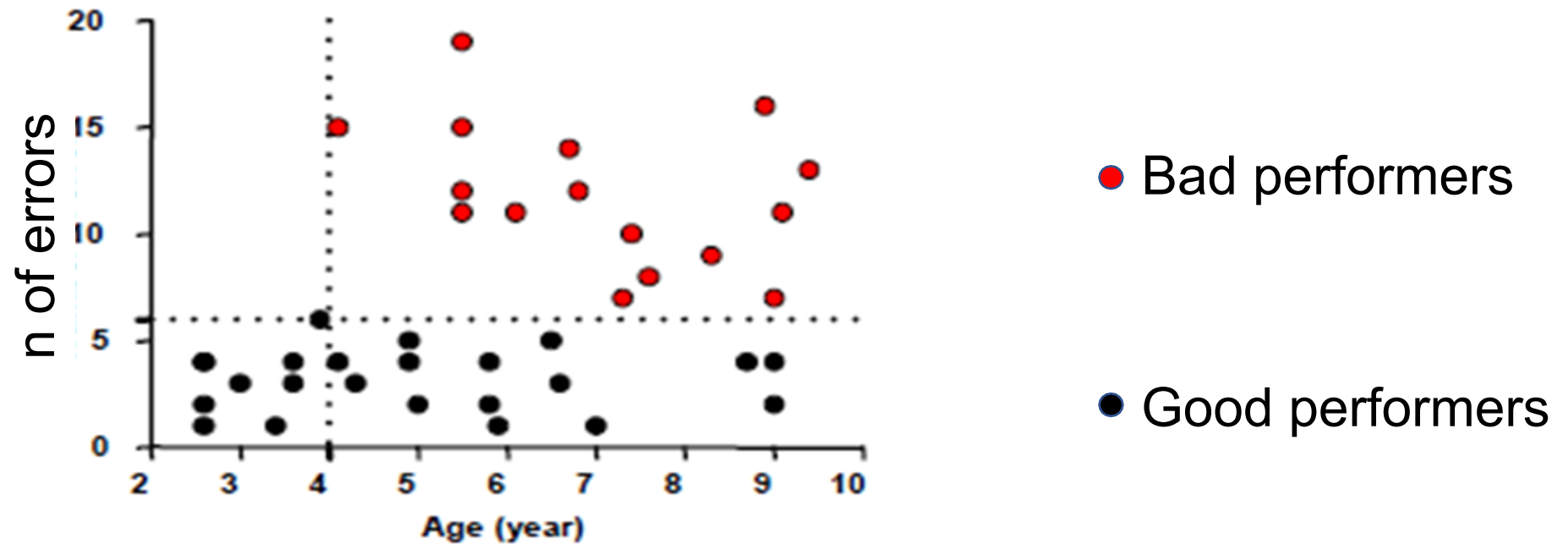
Barnes maze



Number of errors increases with age, but a subset of middle aged and old animals does not seem to be affected

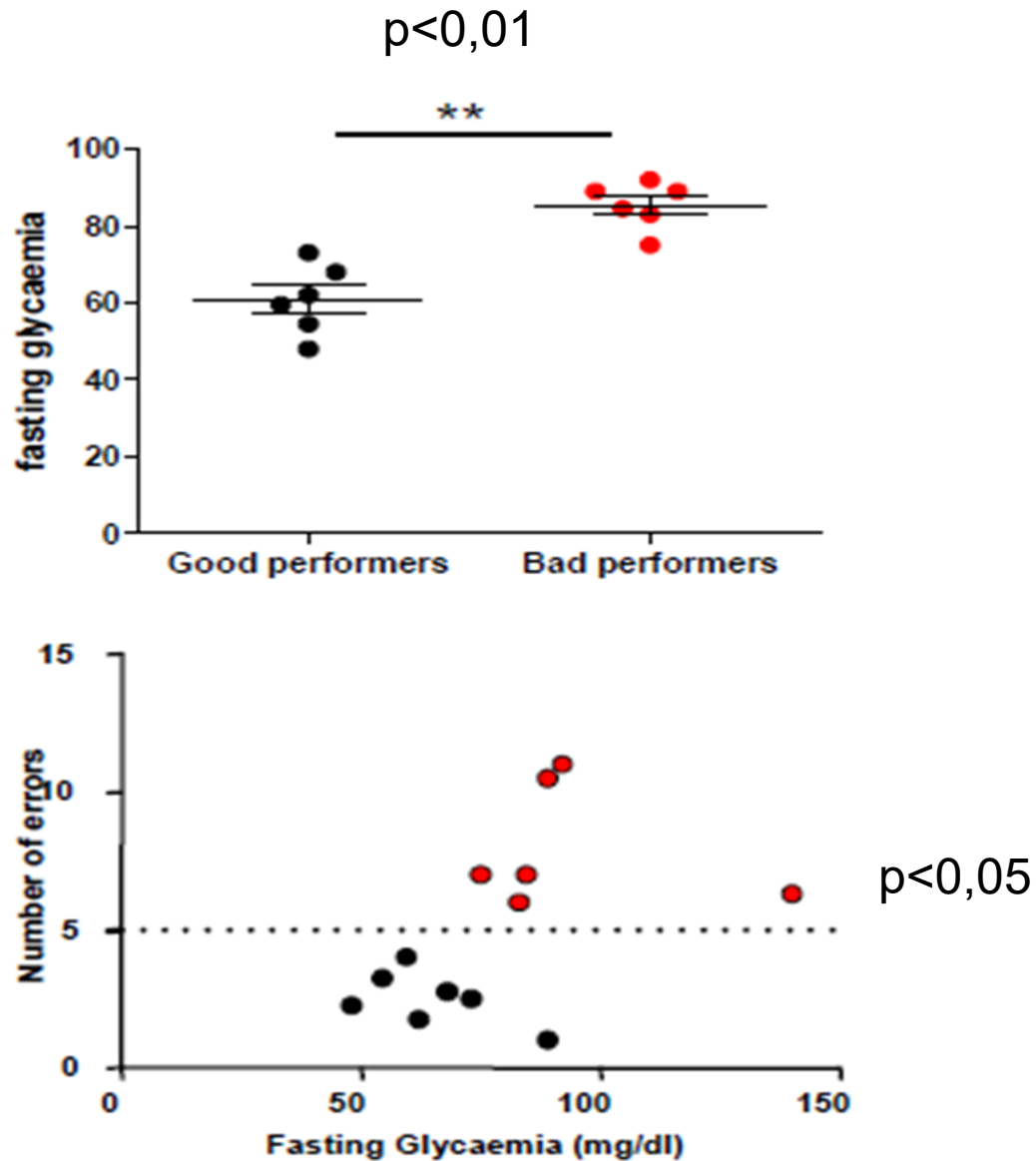
Exploring differences between good and bad performers

Biomarkers of cognitive decline?

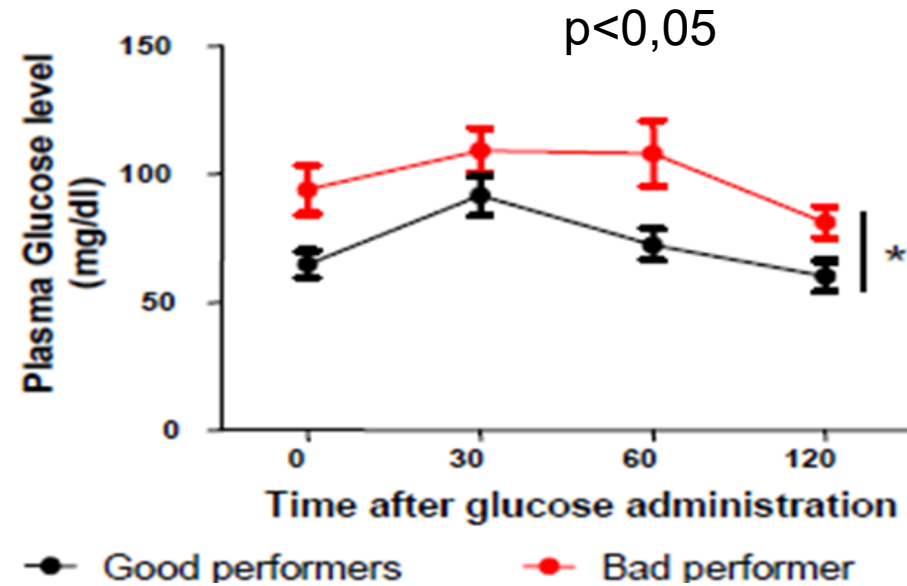


Target biomarker: glucose intolerance

Glucose intolerance and diabetes are strong risk factors of developing dementia in human, these parameters were assessed within groups of good and bad performers



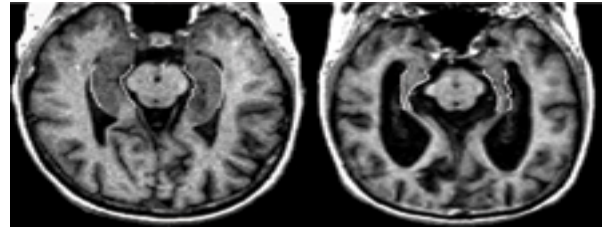
Oral glucose tolerance test



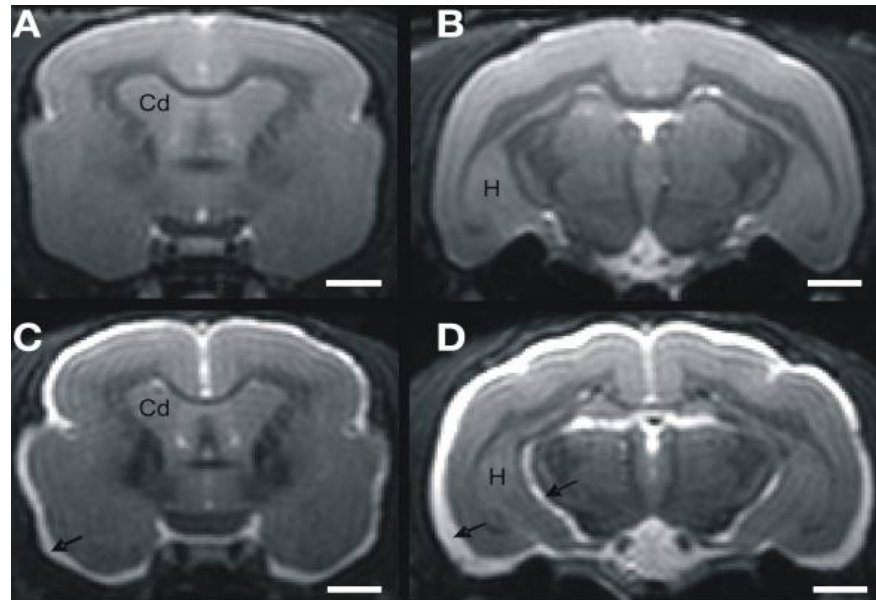
Animals with bad performances in reference memory tests have impaired glucose tolerance and higher fasting glycaemia. Could be good biomarker of neurodegeneration

Brain atrophy

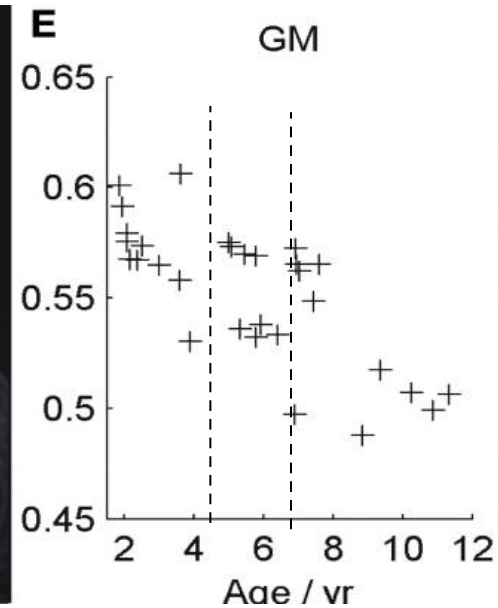
In Human, brain atrophy appears during healthy aging and strongly increases with neurodegeneration



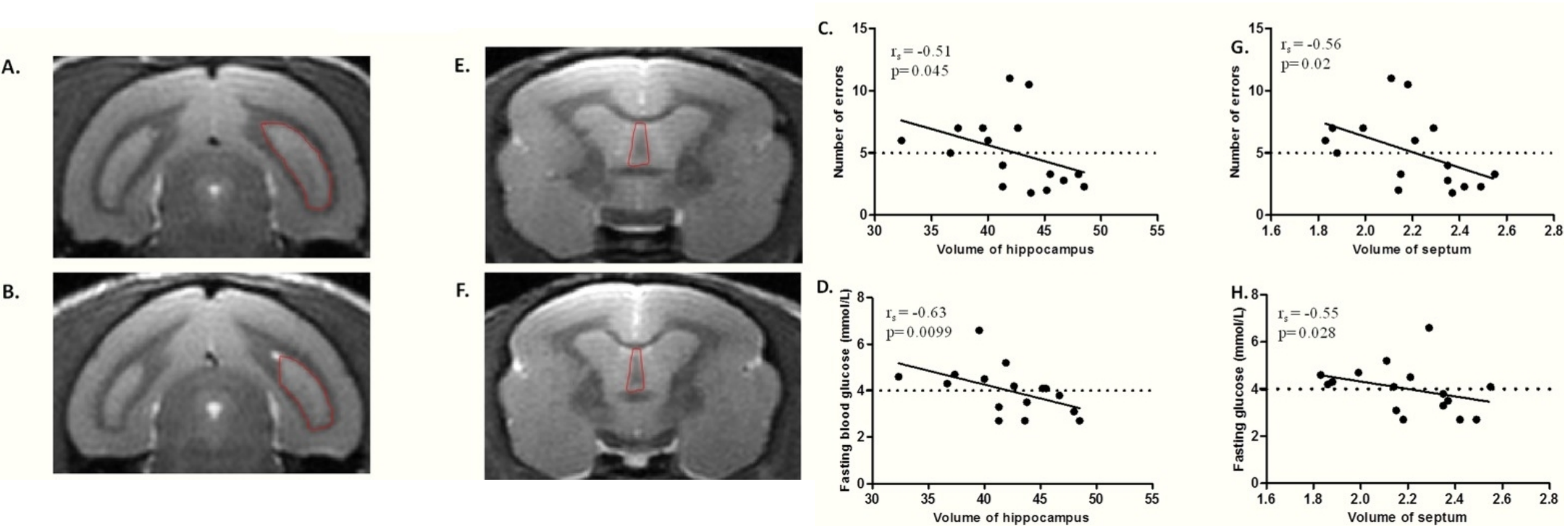
Young



Aged



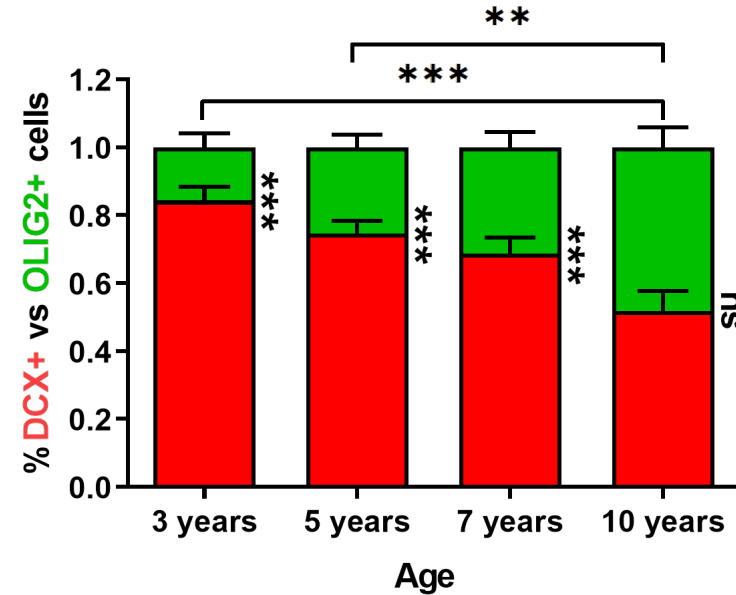
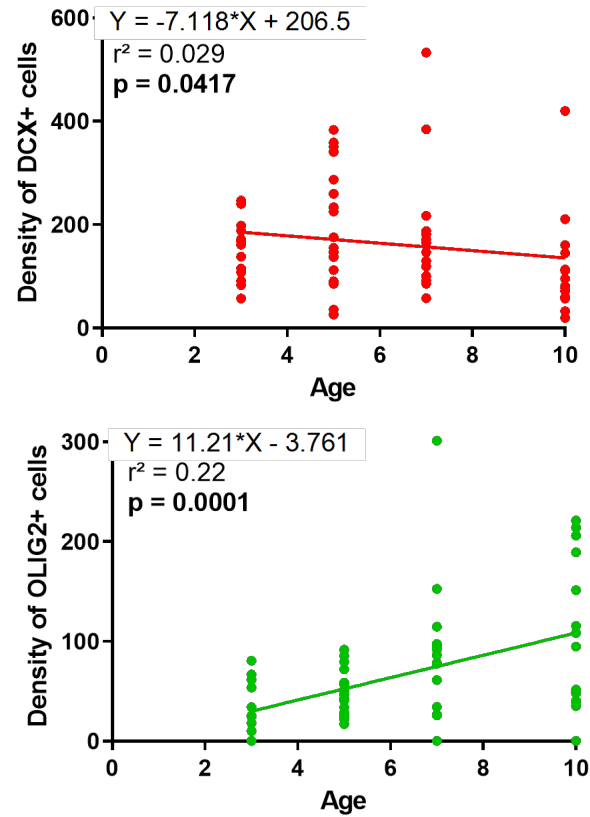
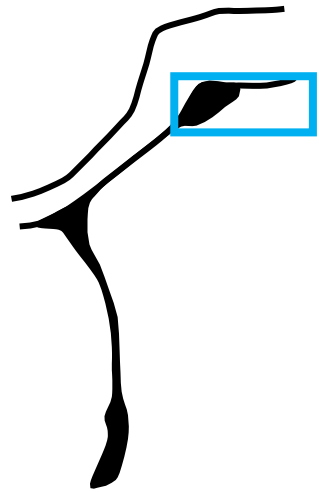
Relation between cognition, brain atrophy and glycaemia



Significant correlation between reference memory (n errors), brain regions volume (atrophy), and fasting blood glucose

Neurogenesis

The neuron/glia balance in hippocampus (distal SVZ)

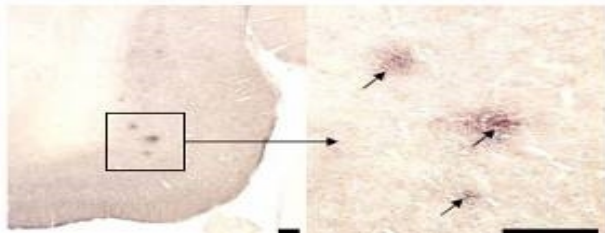
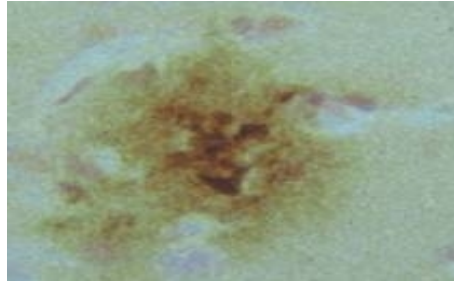
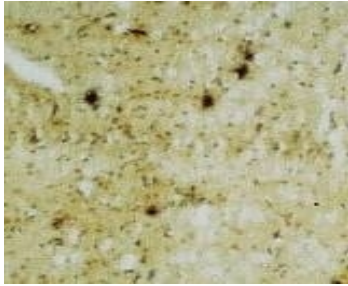


In young animals, in 85% of cases stem cells will generate neural cells, while in aged animals it becomes 50/50 neural/glia cells.
Cell fate is less favorable to neurons during aging

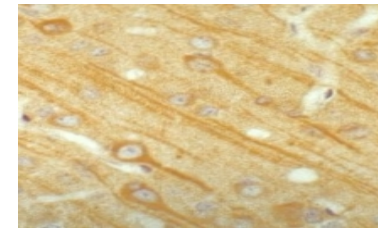
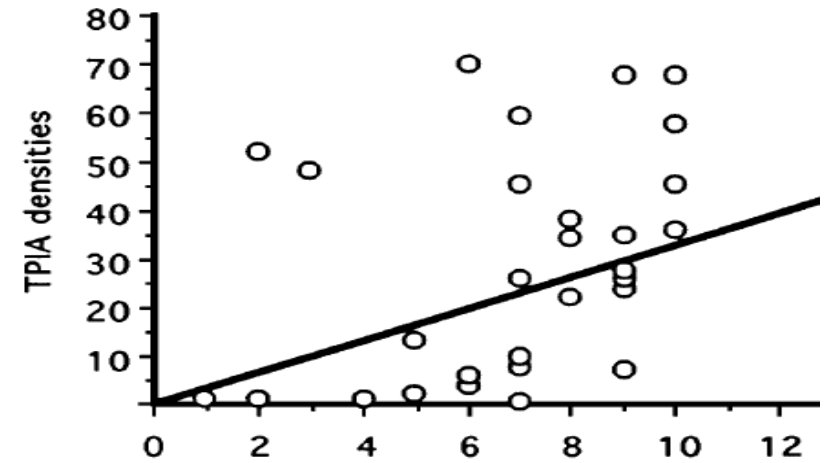
Neurodegeneration

Presence of β -amyloid

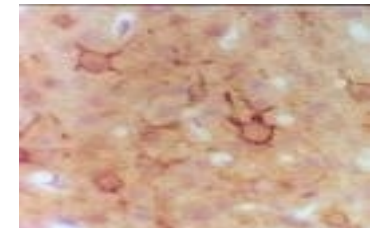
- Intracellular (cortex, hippocampus)
- Extracellular : A β -42 plaques (cortex)



Presence of aggregated Tau protein (frontal cortex)



Normal



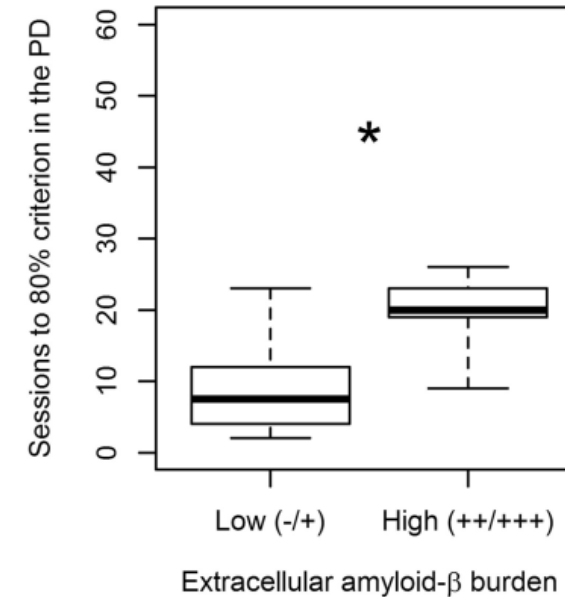
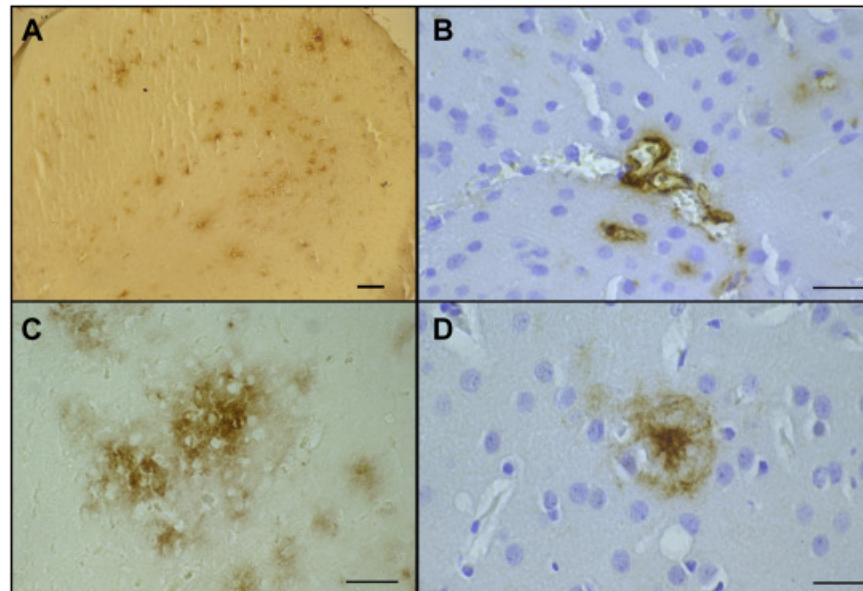
Aggregated

TPIA = Tau protein immunoreactive - accumulations

Regular article

Linking cognition to age and amyloid- β burden in the brain of a nonhuman primate (*Microcebus murinus*)

Daniel Schmidtke ^{a, b}  , Elke Zimmermann ^{a, b}, Stéphanie G. Trouche ^c, Pascaline Fontès ^c, Jean-Michel Verdier ^c, Nadine Mestre-Francés ^c

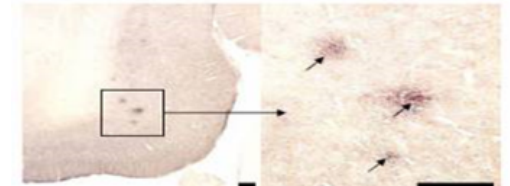


Neurodegeneration

a subpopulation of mouse lemurs (~10%) does not fit the description of normal brain aging:

Severe changes in behavior, and severe impairment in specific memory and cognitive functions.

Correlates very well with brain atrophy but also neuron death, presence of amyloid plaques, and altered glycemc parameters.



Microcebus age-associated neurodegeneration (MAAN) syndrome (Bons et al. *Genes Brain and Behav.* 2006)

Does not perfectly mimics AD, but shows very interesting similarities, and can be considered as one of the rare non-genetic, spontaneous AD model.

Induction of AD-like pathology in mouse lemur

(coll. Dr. M, Dhenain, MIRCEN, CEA Fontenay-aux-Roses)

Gary et al. *Acta Neuropathologica Communications* (2019) 7:126
<https://doi.org/10.1186/s40478-019-0771-x>


Acta Neuropathologica
Communications

RESEARCH

Open Access

Encephalopathy induced by Alzheimer brain inoculation in a non-human primate

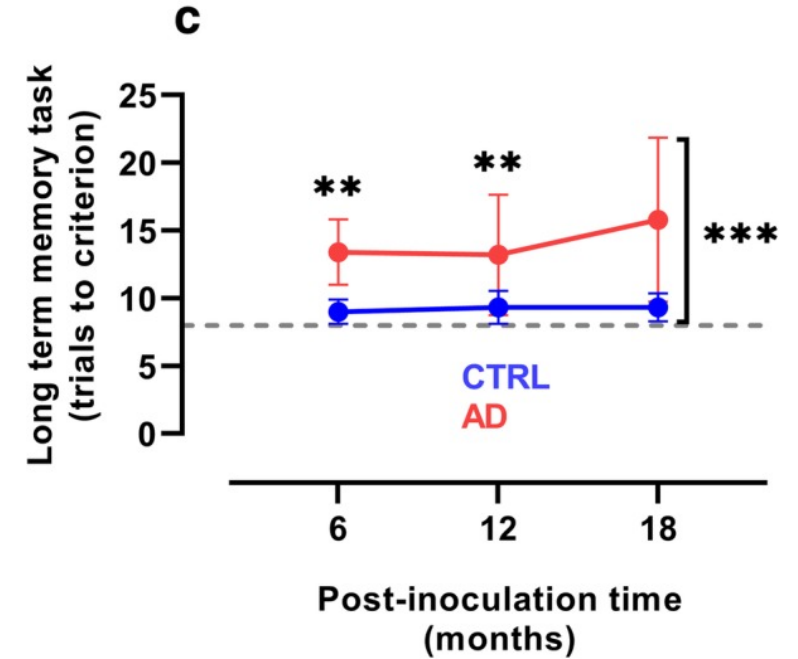
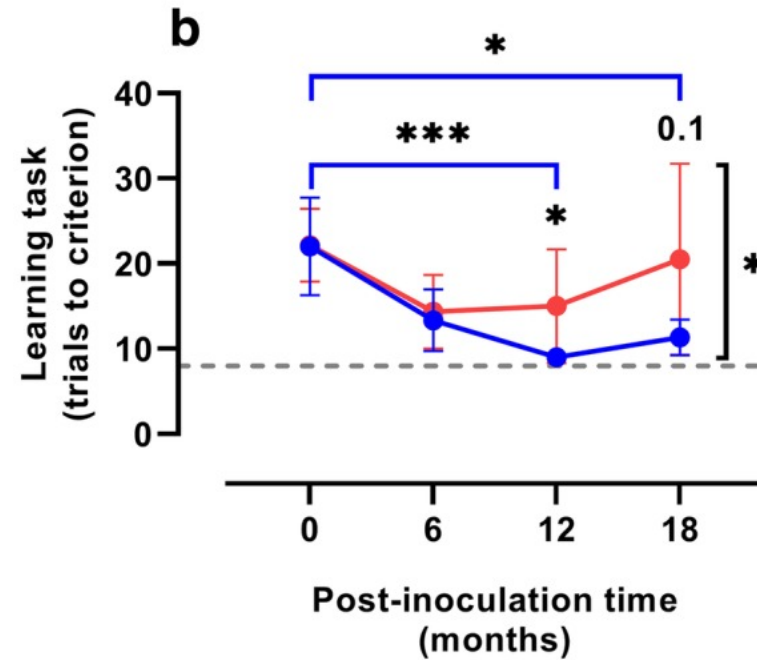
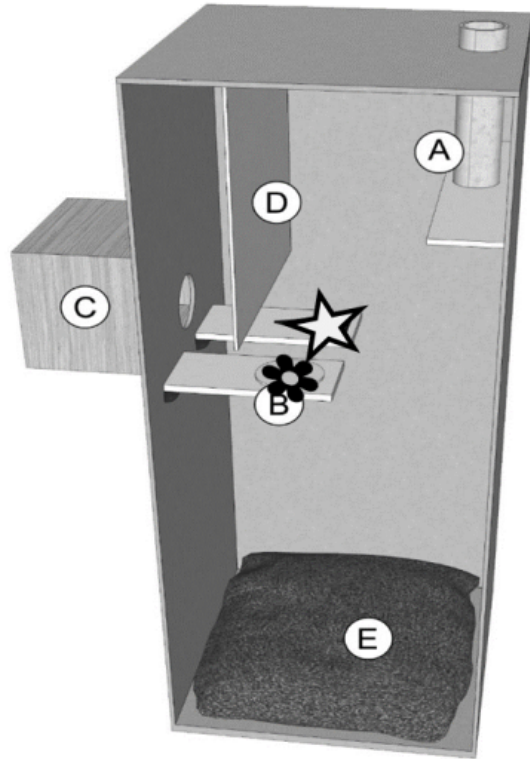


Charlotte Gary^{1,2}, Suzanne Lam^{1,2†}, Anne-Sophie Hérard^{1,2†}, James E. Koch^{1,2,3}, Fanny Petit^{1,2}, Pauline Gipchtein^{1,2}, Stephen J. Sawiak^{4,5}, Raphaëlle Caillierez⁶, Sabiha Eddarkaoui⁶, Morvane Colin⁶, Fabienne Aujard⁷, Jean-Philippe Deslys⁸, French Neuropathology Network⁹, Emmanuel Brouillet^{1,2}, Luc Buée⁶, Emmanuel E. Comoy⁸, Fabien Piffier^{7†}, Jean-Luc Picq^{1,2,10†} and Marc Dhenain^{1,2*} 

Based on the prion hypothesis of AD: experimental transmission of amyloidosis and Tau pathology by brain inoculation of AD human brain homogenates

(AD vs CTL, n=12 young adults, 18 months of follow-up)

Induction of AD-like pathology in mouse lemur



Reliable and fast mimicking of an AD-like pathology (protein aggregates, brain atrophy, cognitive decline)

[< Previous Article](#)[Next Article >](#)

The Mouse Lemur, a Genetic Model Organism for Primate Biology, Behavior, and Health

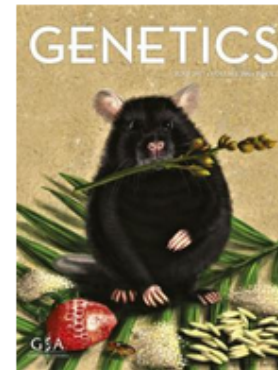
Camille Ezran, Caitlin J. Karanewsky, Joseph L. Pendleton, Alex Sholtz, Maya R. Krasnow, Jason Willick, Andriamahery Razafindrakoto, Sarah Zohdy, Megan A. Albertelli and Mark A. Krasnow

GENETICS June 1, 2017 vol. 206 no. 2 651-664; <https://doi.org/10.1534/genetics.116.199448>

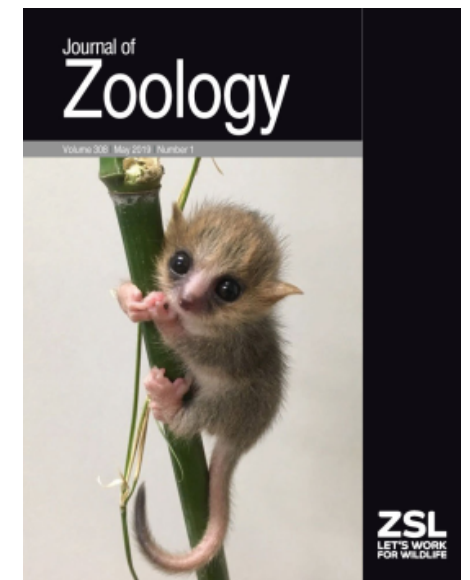
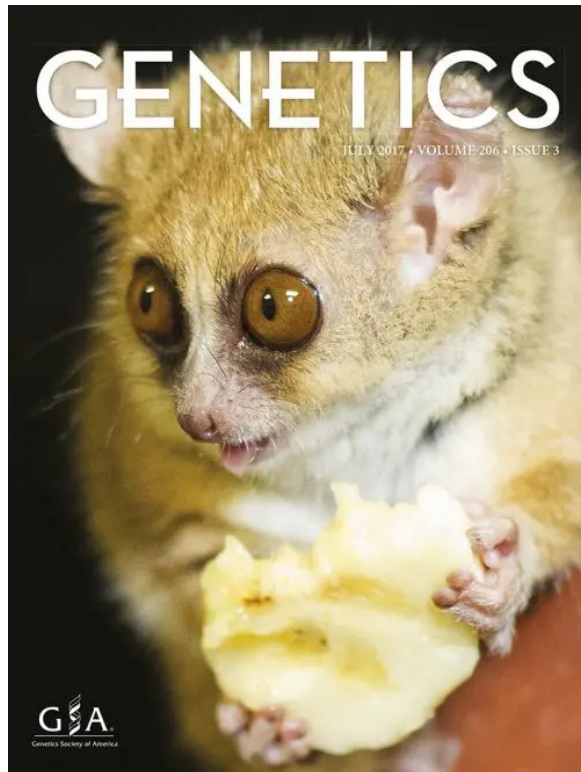
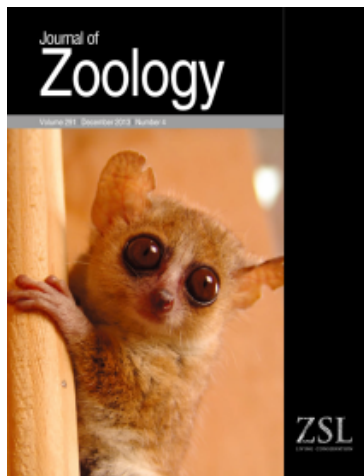
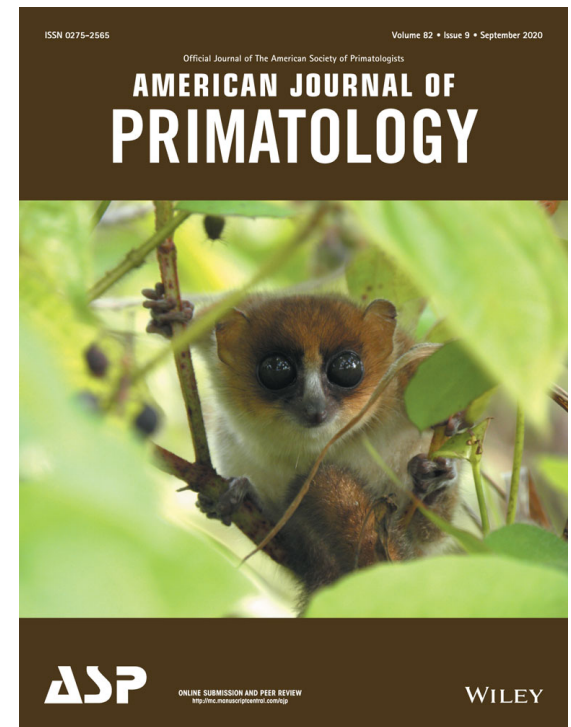
[Article](#)[Figures & Data](#)[Info & Metrics](#)

PUBLICATION INFORMATION

Volume 206 Issue 2, June 2017



Collaboration M. Krasnow, U. Stanford



Merci de votre attention



Le site CNRS-MNHN de Brunoy (91)



**Remerciements :
Marc Dhenain (CEA), Fabienne Aujard, Martine Perret**

Visitez nos sites web / suivez nous sur twitter :

www.mecadev.cnrs.fr

www.ibisa.net



@UMR_MECADEV

Merci de votre attention



Le site CNRS-MNHN de Brunoy (91)



**Remerciements :
Marc Dhenain (CEA), Fabienne Aujard, Martine Perret**

Visitez nos sites web / suivez nous sur twitter :

www.mecadev.cnrs.fr

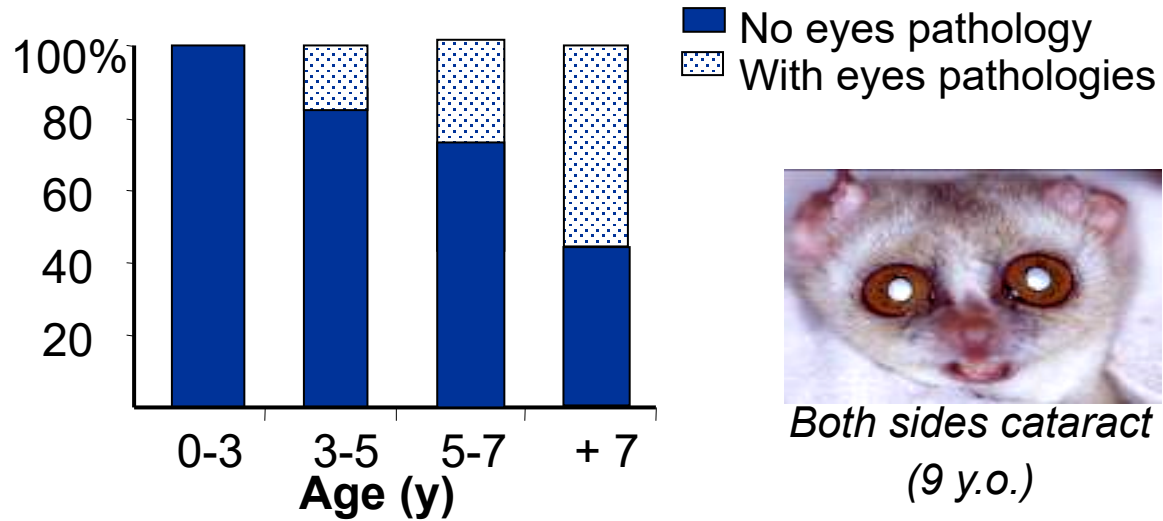
www.ibisa.net



[@UMR_MECADEV](https://twitter.com/UMR_MECADEV)

Aging of sensory-motor functions

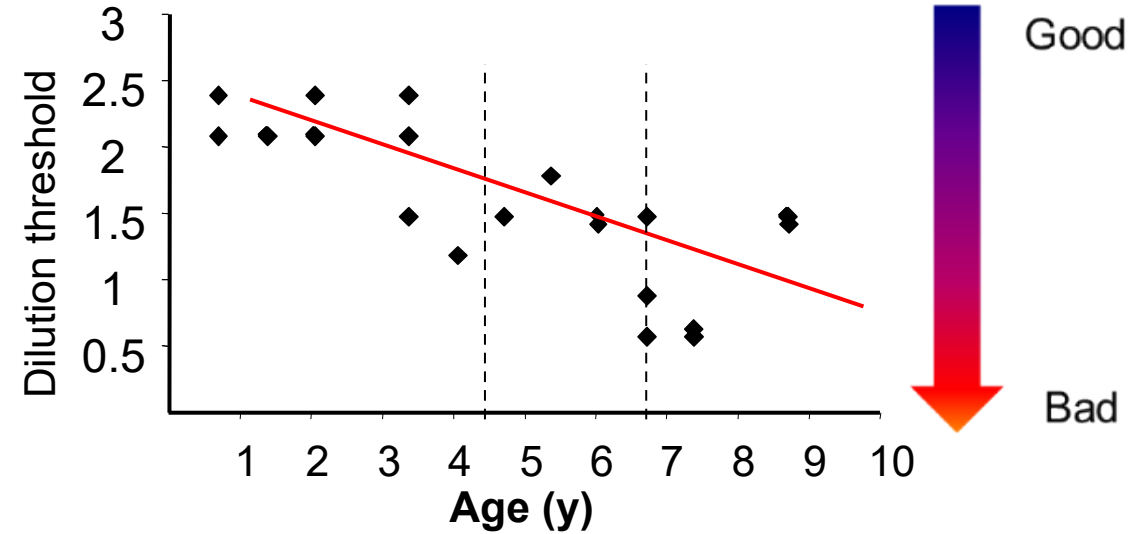
Vision



Vision slowly declines with age. Close to 60% of the more than 7 y.o. animals, exhibit at least an eye pathology

➔ Very similar to humans...what about brain functions?

Olfaction



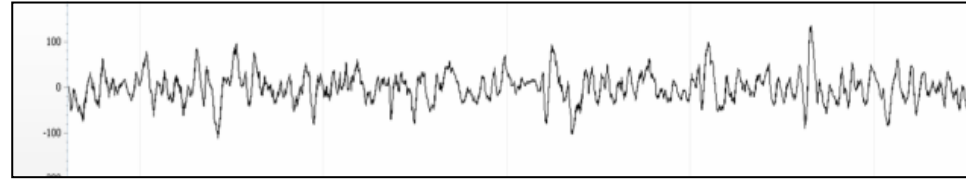
Olfaction is also declining significantly with age
+ declining auditory functions (Schopf, 2014)

2. Exemple de stratégie nutritionnelle anti-vieillessement : la restriction calorique



Tools to study aging in mouse lemur

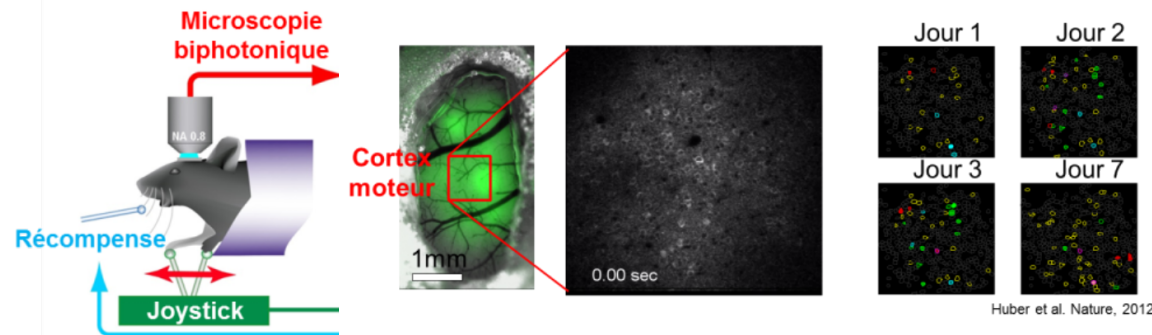
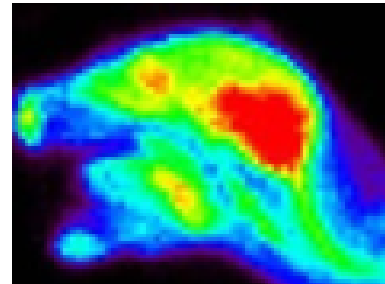
Electrophysiology (EEG/ECG/EMG, sleep-wake cycles)



Metabolism studies: respirometry, indirect calorimetry, MRI (body composition)



Imaging (PET, MRI) collaborative work



In vivo 2-photon imaging
(collaboration D. Huber, U. Geneva)



A 3D population-based brain atlas of the mouse lemur primate with examples of applications in aging studies and comparative anatomy

Nachiket A. Nadkarni^{a,b}, Salma Bougacha^{a,b,c,d}, Clément Garin^{a,b}, Marc Dhenain^{a,b,*}, Jean-Luc Picq^{a,b,e}

^a Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS), Université Paris-Sud, Université Paris-Saclay, UMR 9199, Neurodegenerative Diseases Laboratory, 18 Route du Panorama, F-92265, Fontenay-aux-Roses, France

^b Commissariat à l'Énergie Atomique et aux Énergies Alternatives (CEA), Direction de la Recherche Fondamentale (DRF), Institut François Jacob, MIRCen, 18 Route du Panorama, F-92265, Fontenay-aux-Roses, France

^c Inserm, Inserm UMR-S U1237, Normandie Univ, UNICAEN, GIP Cyceron, Caen, France

^d Normandie University, UNICAEN, EPHE, INSERM, U1077, CHU de Caen, Neuropsychologie et Imagerie de la Mémoire Humaine, 14000, Caen, France

^e Laboratoire de Psychopathologie et de Neuropsychologie, EA 2027, Université Paris 8, 2 Rue de la Liberté, 93000, St Denis, France



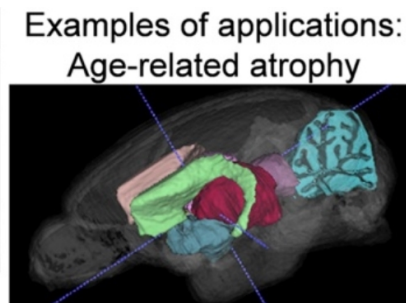
Neuroimaging Tools &
Resources Collaboratory



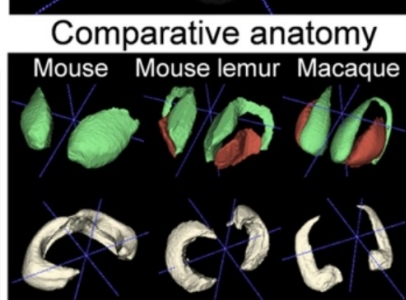
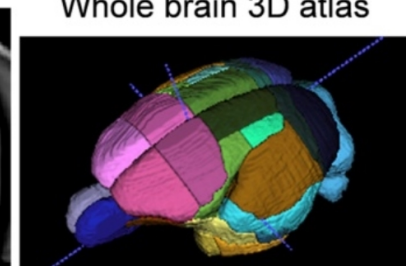
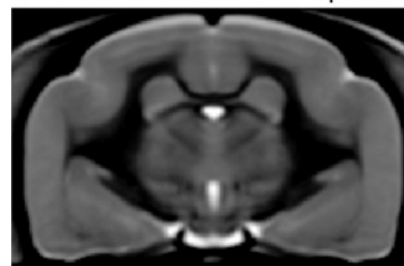
34 mouse lemurs → template



120 structures delineated
Whole brain 3D atlas

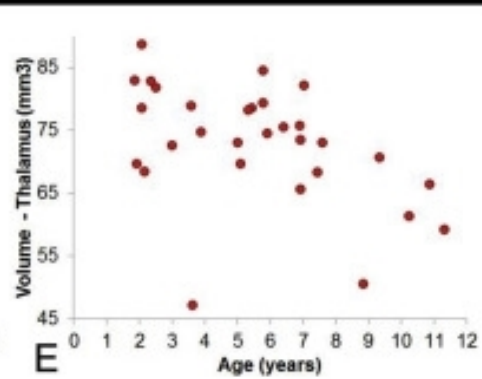
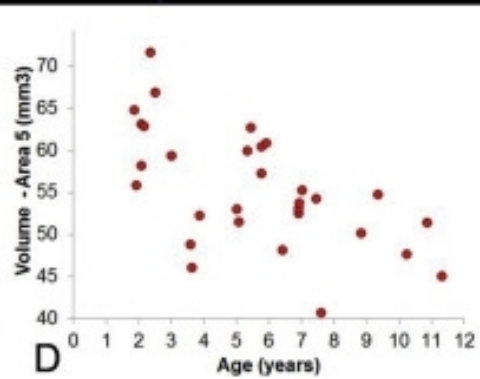
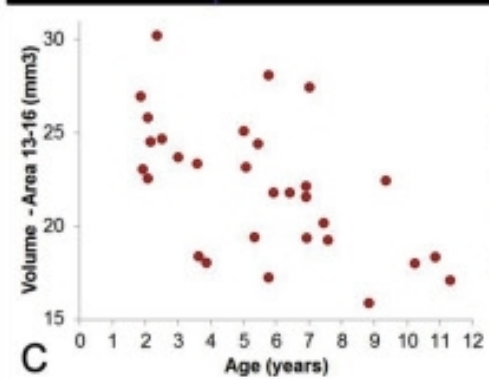
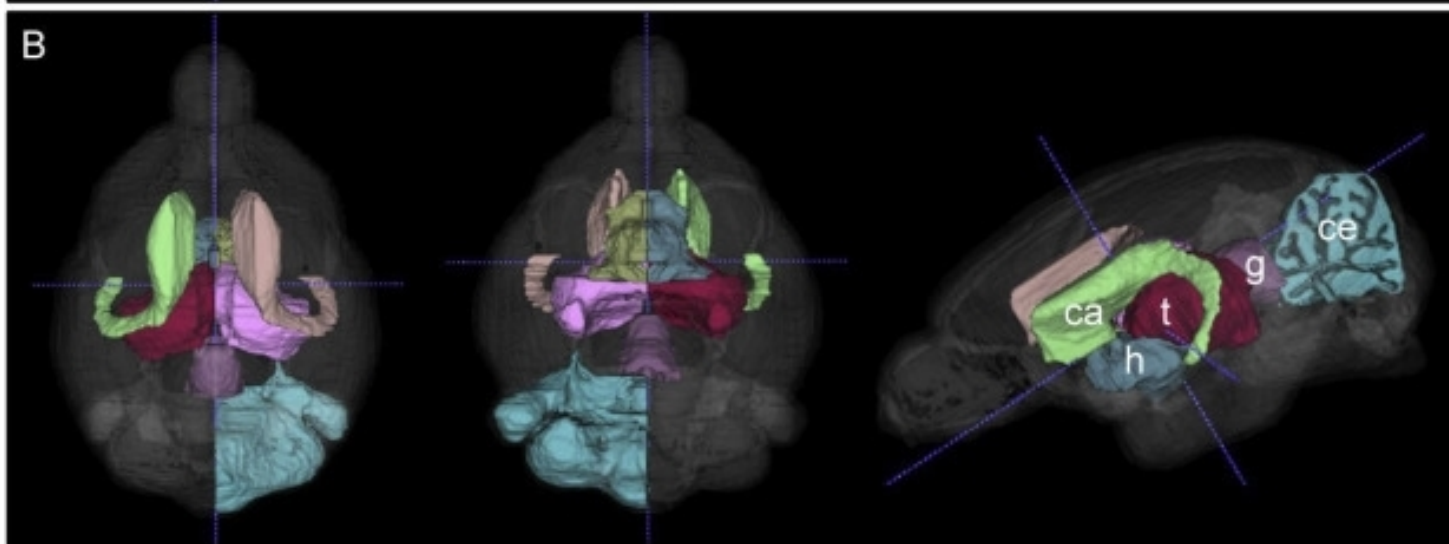
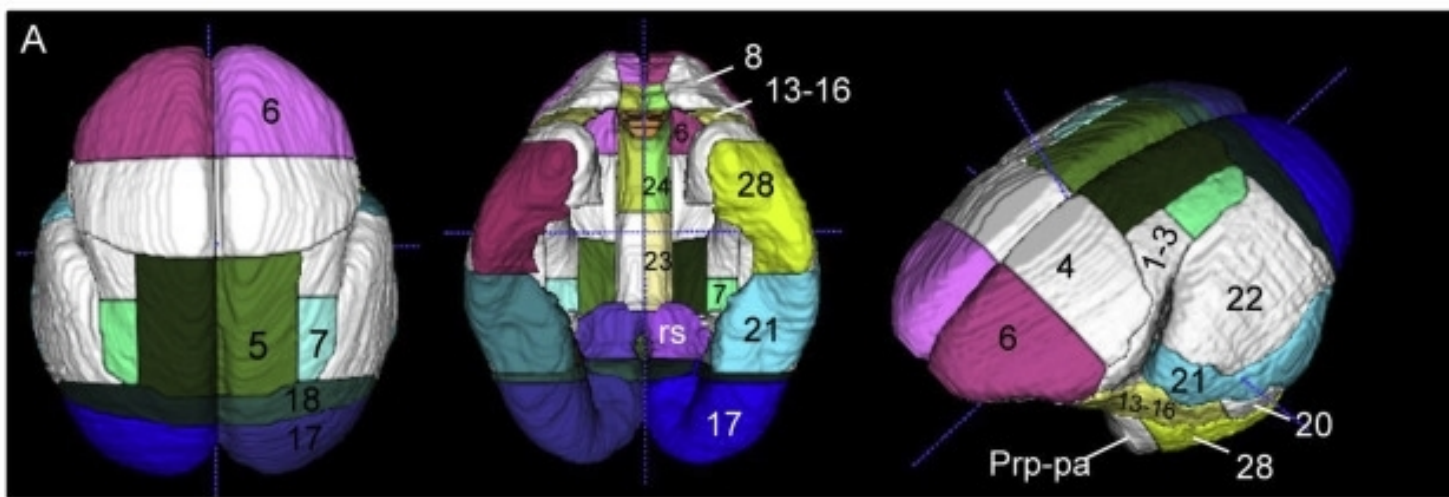


Examples of applications:
Age-related atrophy





Comparative anatomy

Mouse Mouse lemur Macaque



Hybrid de novo genome assembly and centromere characterization of the gray mouse lemur (*Microcebus murinus*)

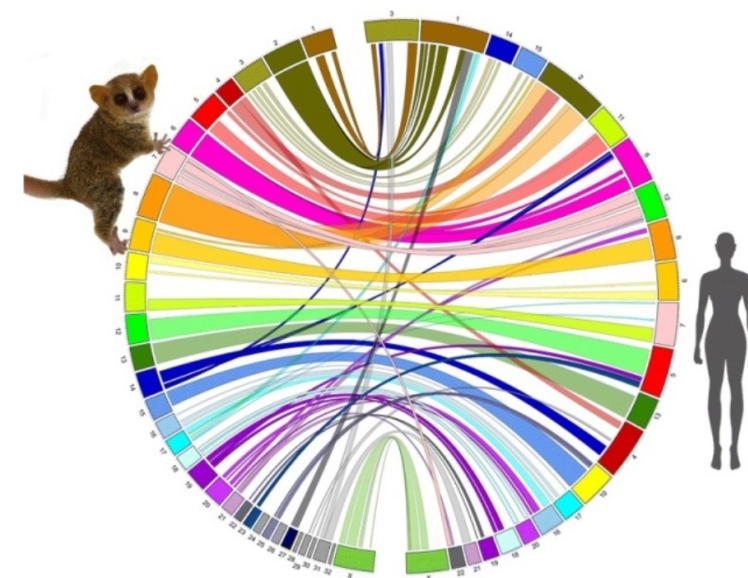
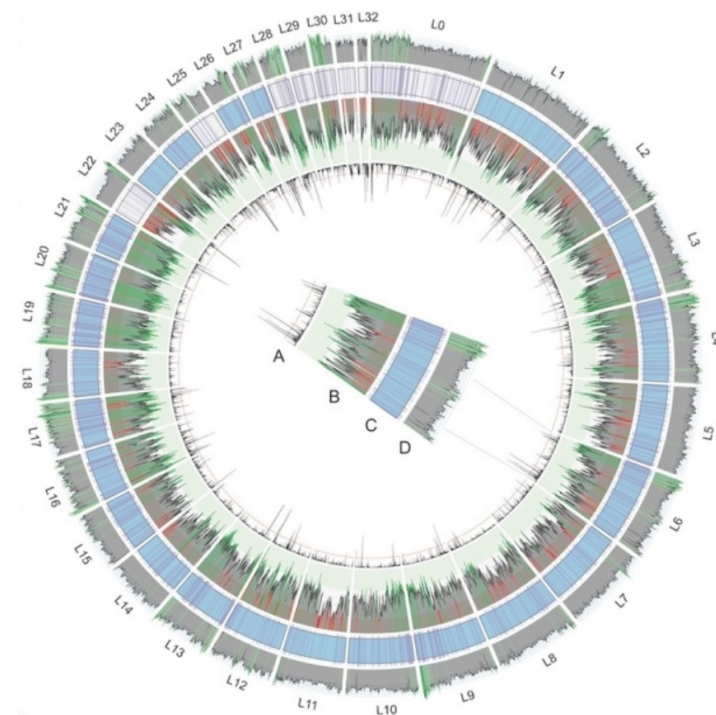
Peter A. Larsen [†]  , R. Alan Harris [†], Yue Liu, Shwetha C. Murali, C. Ryan Campbell, Adam D. Brown, Beth A. Sullivan, Jennifer Shelton, Susan J. Brown, Muthuswamy Raveendran, Olga Dudchenko, Ido Machol, Neva C. Durand, Muhammad S. Shamim, Erez Lieberman Aiden, Donna M. Muzny, Richard A. Gibbs, Anne D. Yoder, Jeffrey Rogers and Kim C. Worley

[†]Contributed equally

BMC Biology 2017 **15**:110

<https://doi.org/10.1186/s12915-017-0439-6> | © Larsen et al. 2017

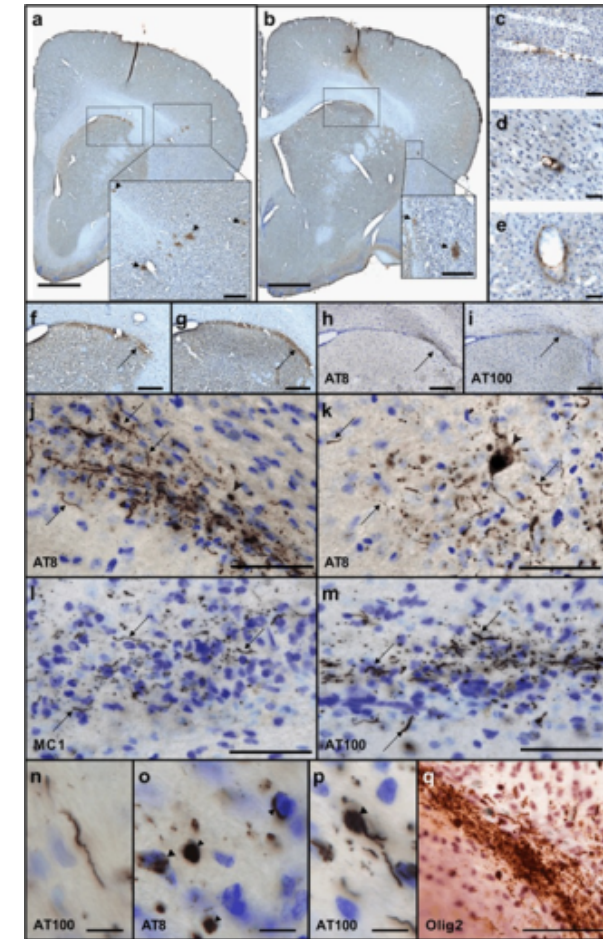
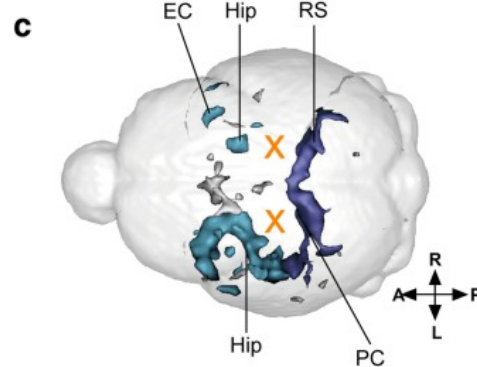
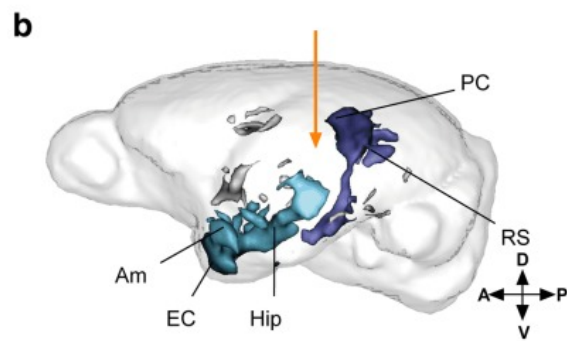
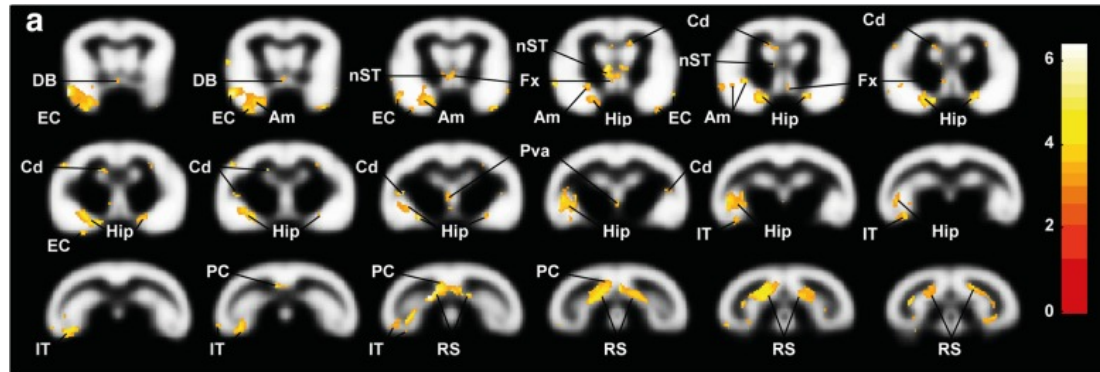
Received: 20 June 2017 | Accepted: 10 October 2017 | Published: 16 November 2017



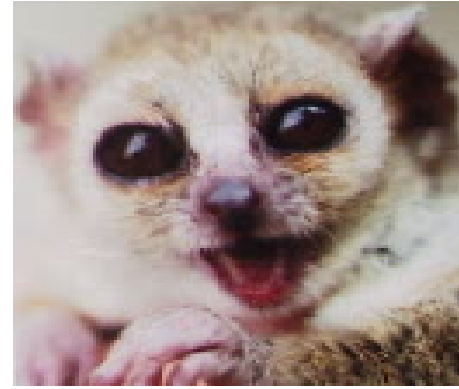
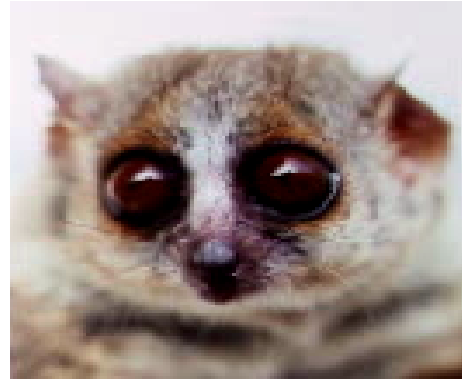
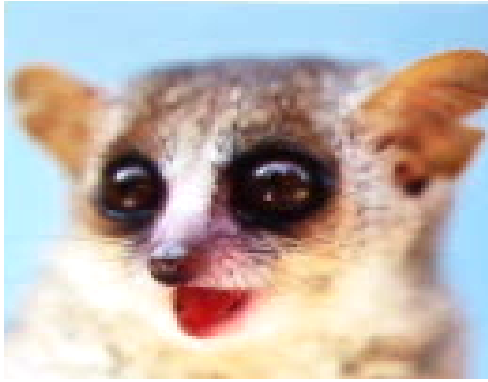
Induction of AD-like pathology in mouse lemur

Apparition of cerebral atrophy (first signs of atrophy 6 months post-inoculation)

Spreading of Ab and Tau protein aggregates in the whole brain after 18 mo.



Nutritional anti-aging strategies



Optimal cognitive functions

Altered cognitive functions

Metabolic alterations



Risk factors

Polyphenols



Calorie Restriction



Omega-3 fatty acids



Physical activity





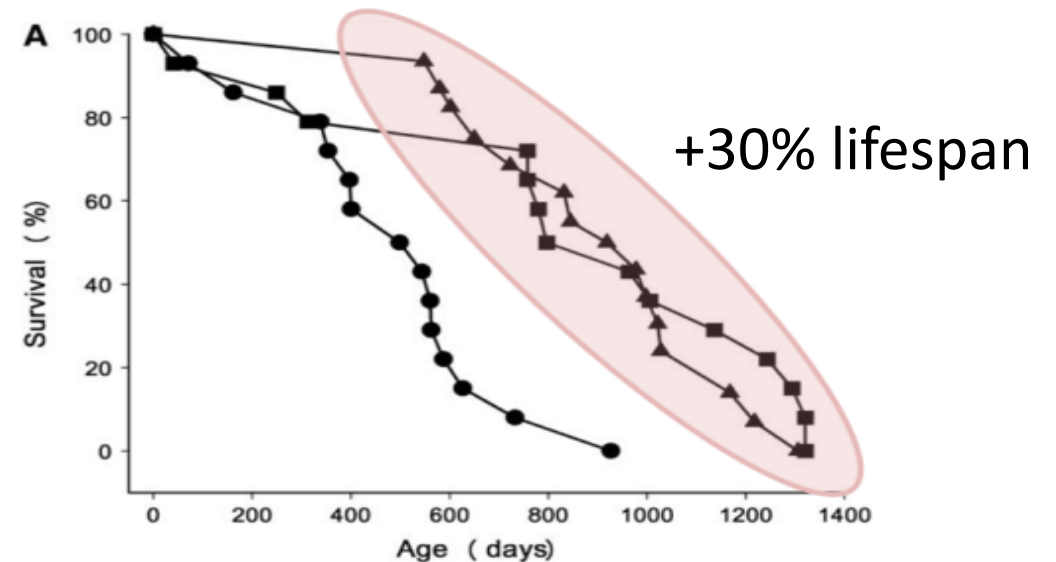
First experimental demonstration of the impact caloric restriction in rats: McCay, J. Nutr. 1935

THE EFFECT OF RETARDED GROWTH UPON THE LENGTH OF LIFE SPAN AND UPON THE ULTIMATE BODY SIZE ¹

C. M. McCAY, MARY F. CROWELL AND L. A. MAYNARD
Animal Nutrition Laboratory, Cornell University, Ithaca

ONE FIGURE

(Received for publication January 18, 1935)



Calorie restriction increases longevity in several species, from yeast to rodents

CR in primates? No consensus...

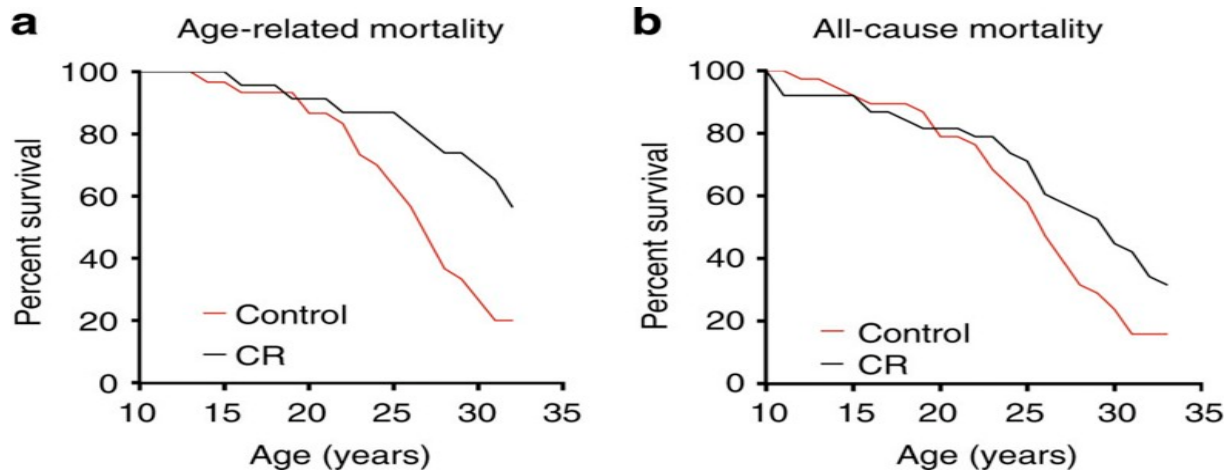
In Humans



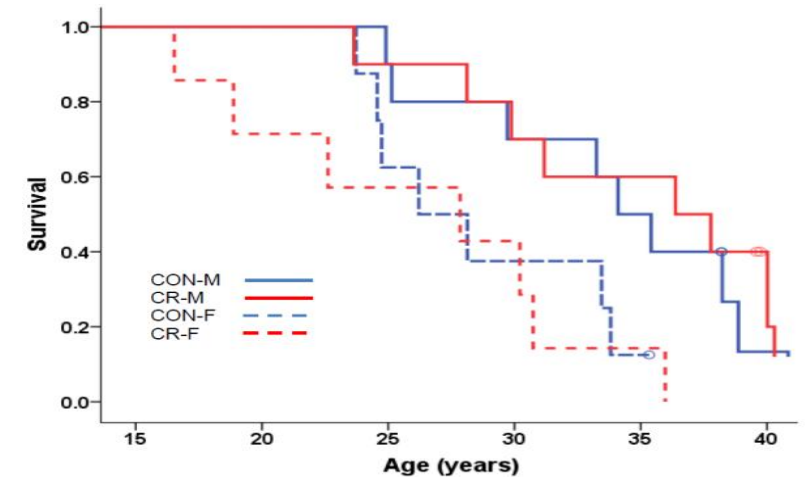
The Okinawa « restricted » diet could be the reason of prolonged longevity, but could also be the cause of low birth weight and malnutrition
(Le Bourg E. Gerontology. 2012)

In macaques, two contradictory studies...

Wisconsin National Primate Research Center Study



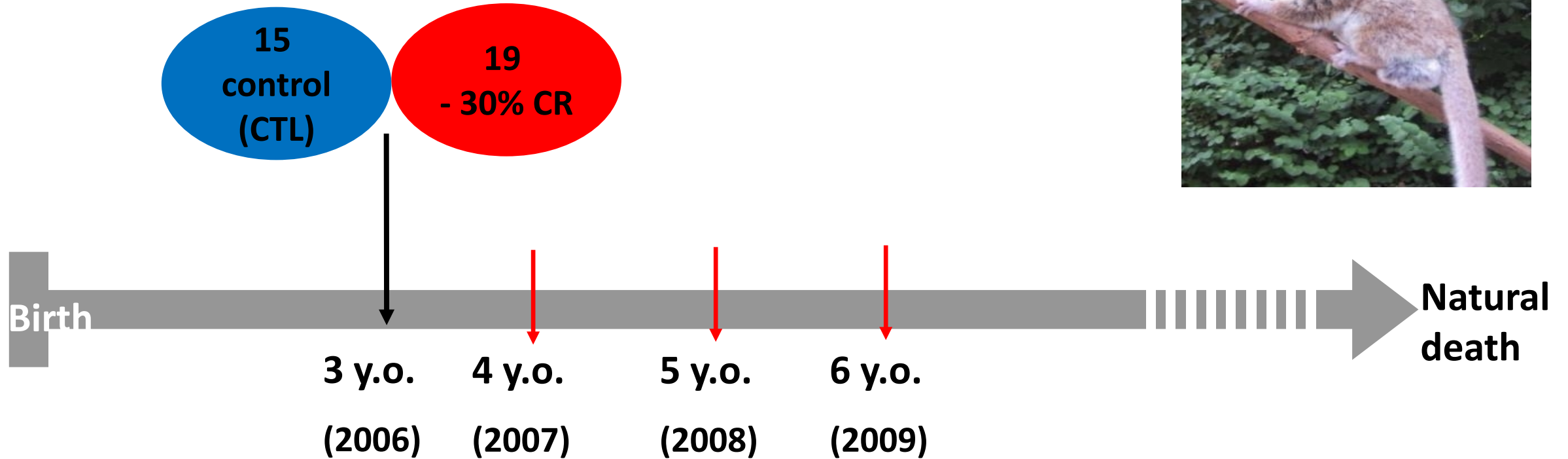
National Institute on Aging Study



Validation in primates still missing and suspected to impair cognition

The RESTRIKAL project

24 males at the beginning of the study (inclusion around 3 y.o.)

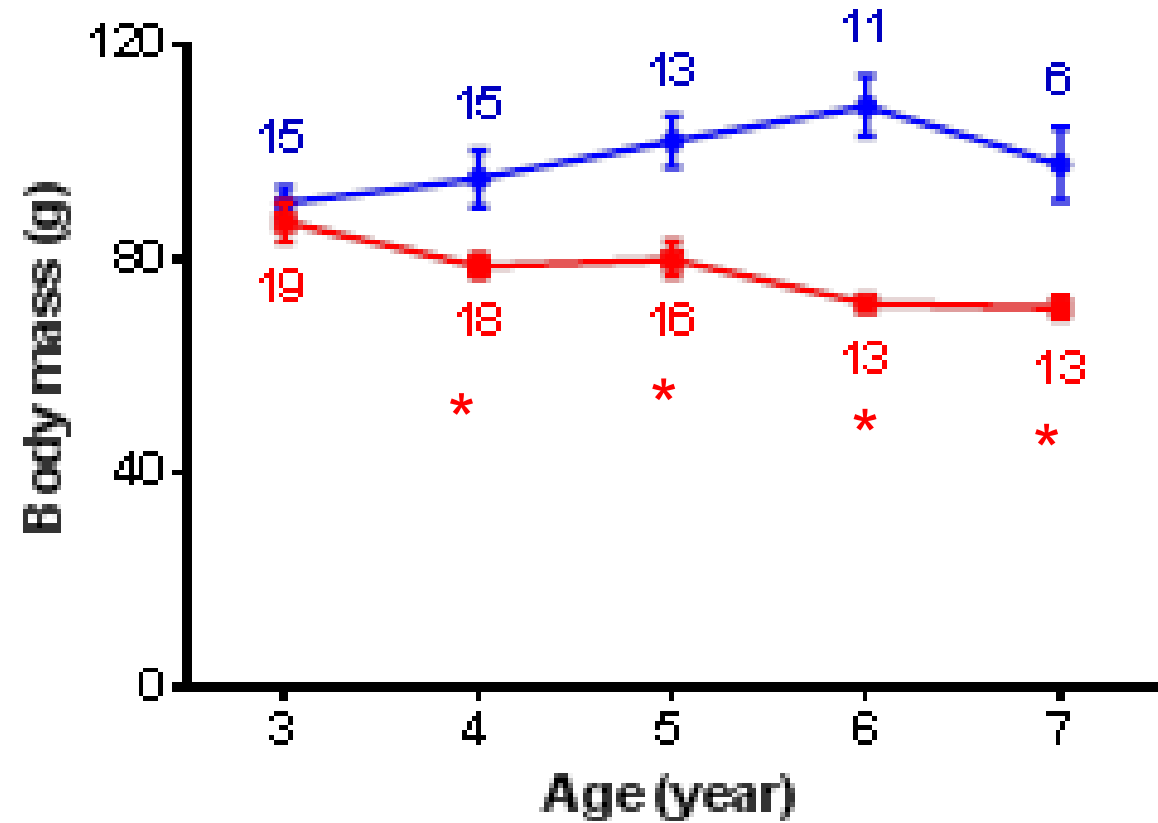


Longitudinal follow-up of age-related markers and lifespan

Apparition of age-related pathologies

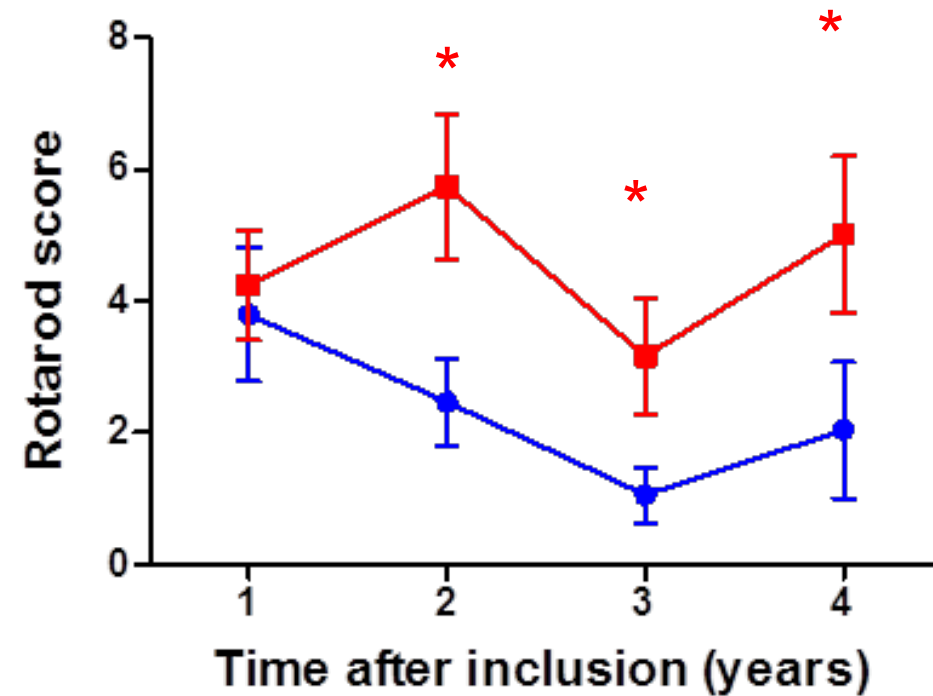
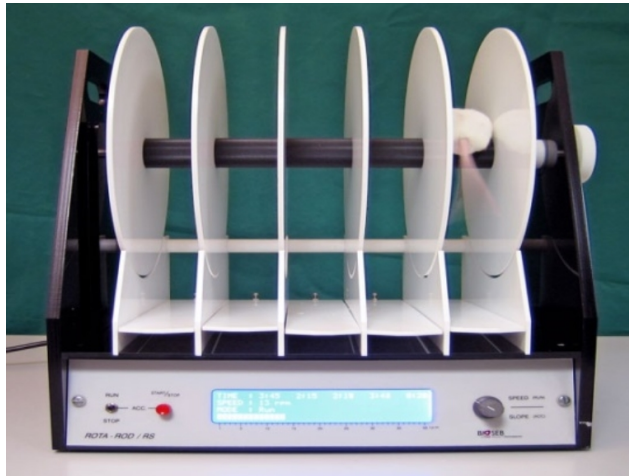


Impact of CR on body weight



Impact of **CR** on sensory-motor functions

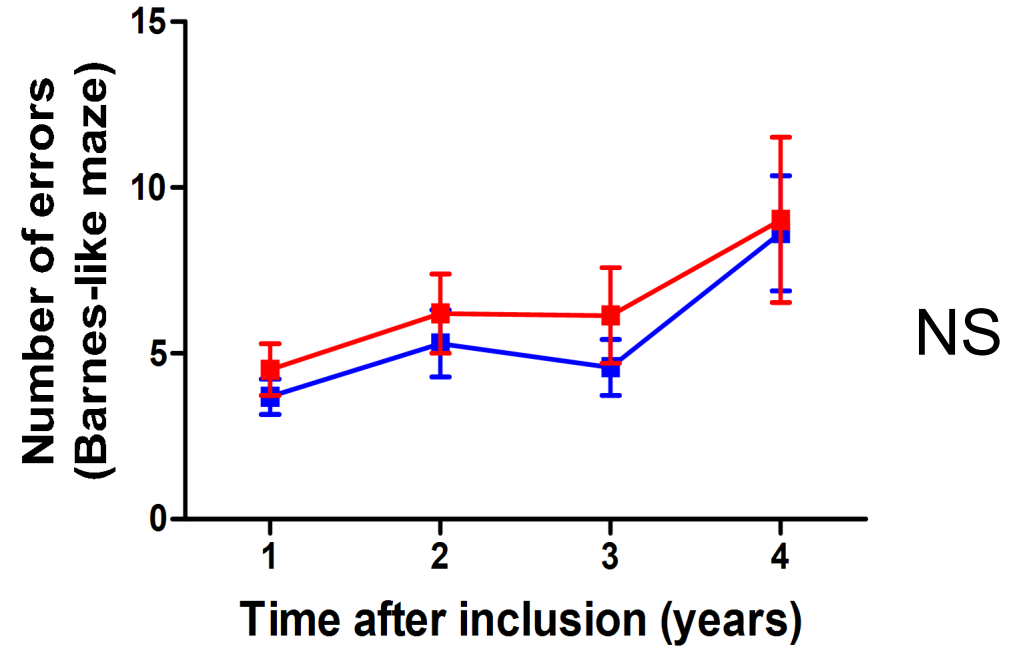
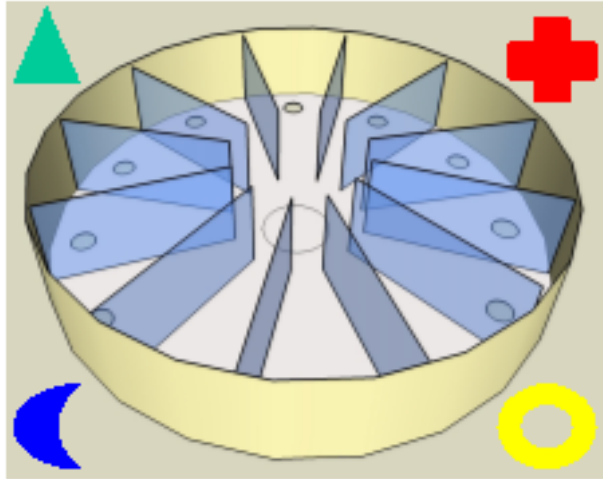
Motor coordination (Rotarod)



Amelioration of motor coordination (rotarod)
Maintained force (measured in a high jump task)

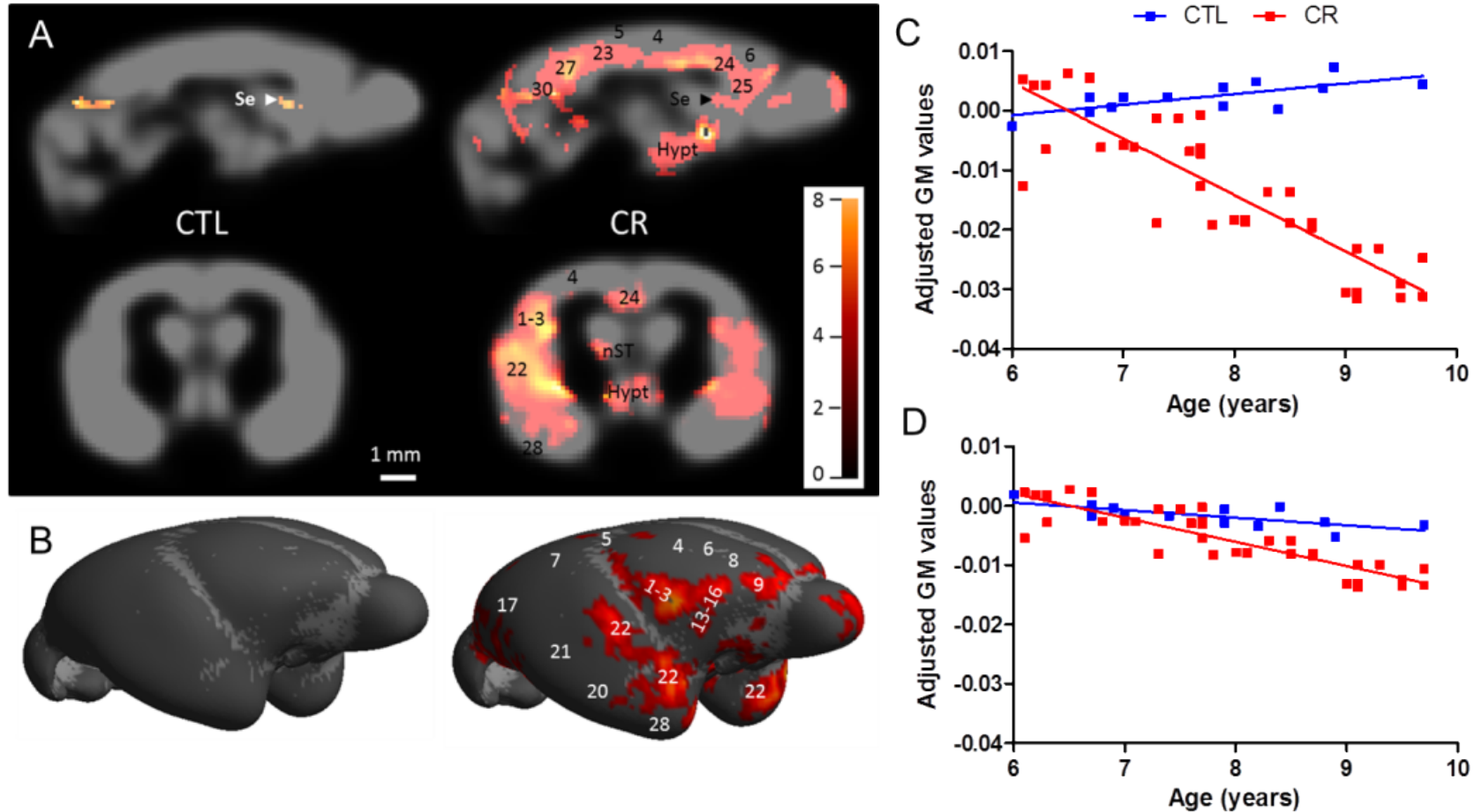
Impact of CR on cognitive functions

Reference memory task



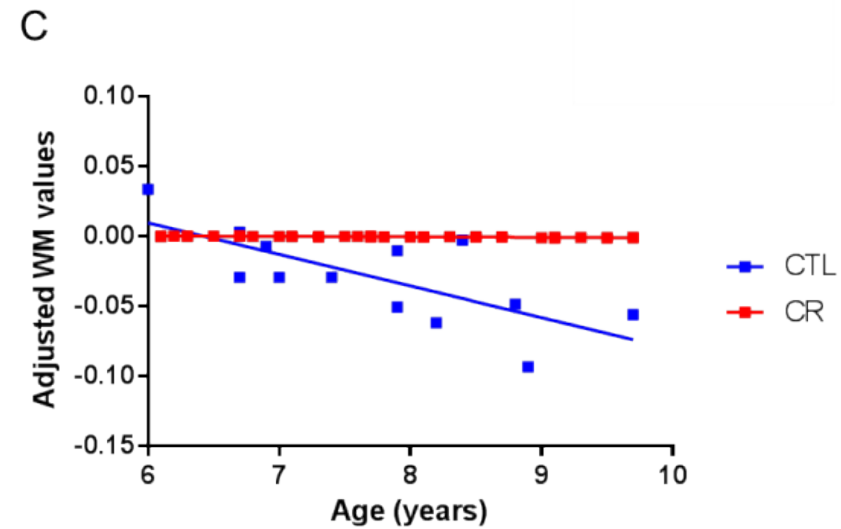
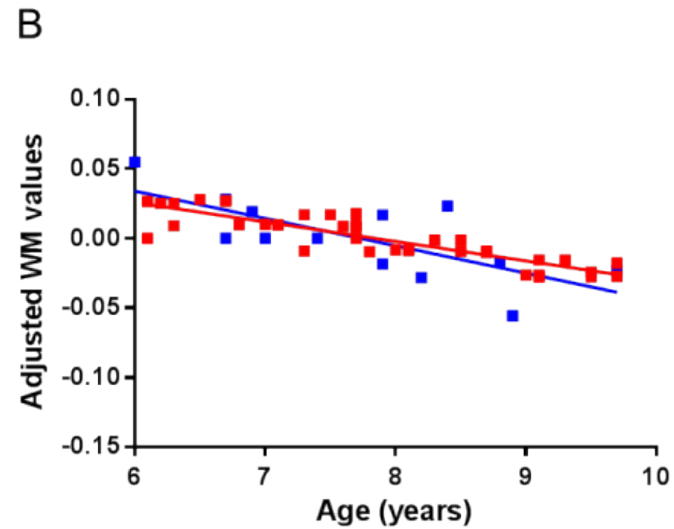
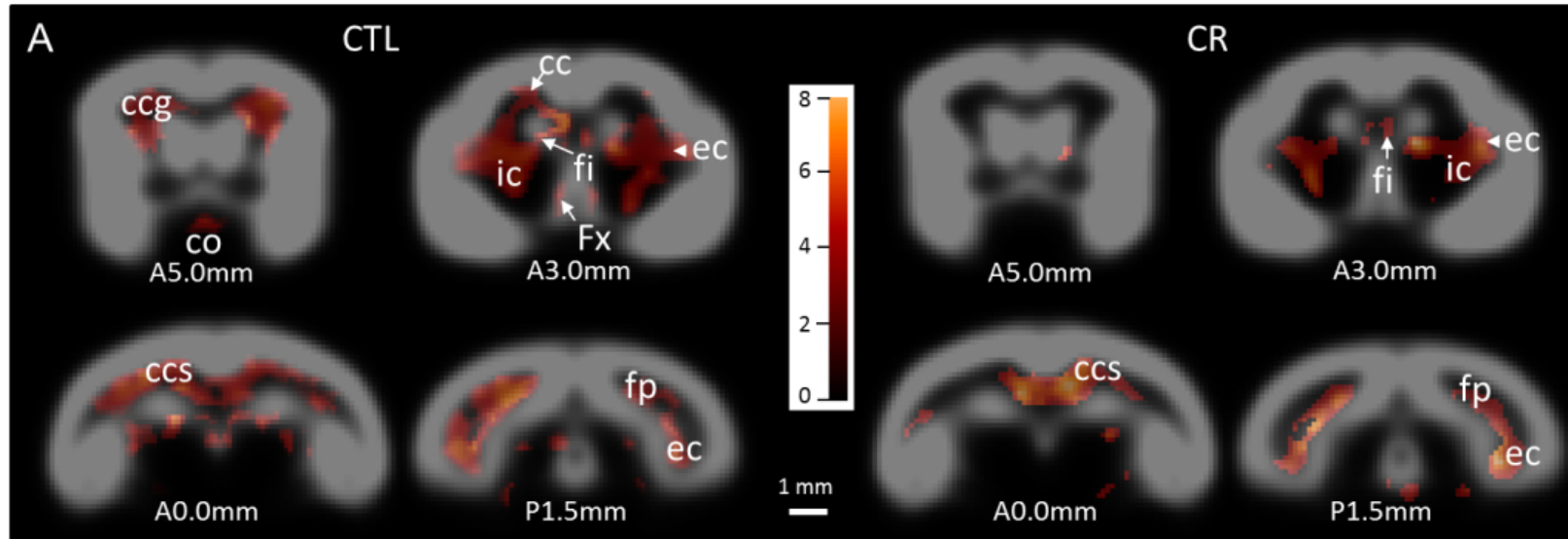
- No alteration of cognitive performances (spatial, working and emotion memory) between CTL and CR animals
- Better glucose tolerance and Insulin response

Impact of CR on age-related brain atrophy



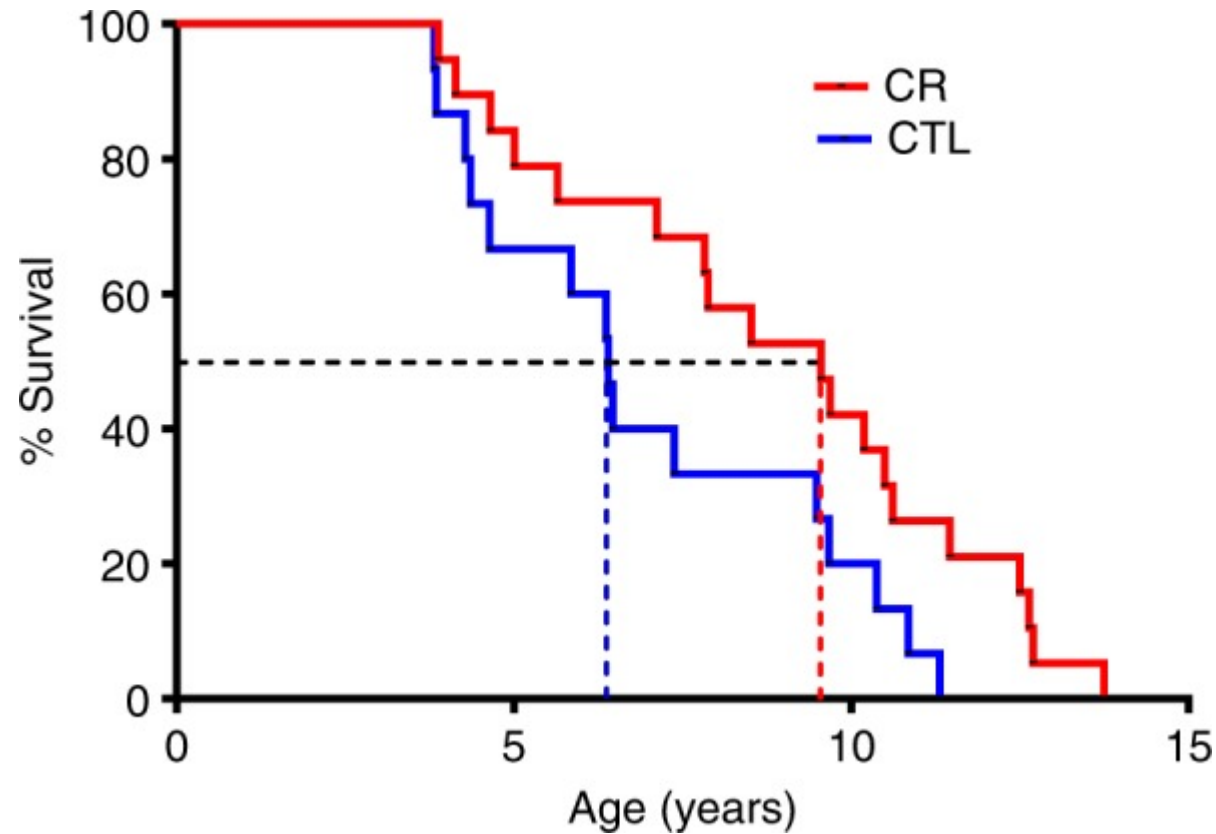
Significant but probably marginal GM atrophy in CR fed animals (no effect on cognition)

Impact of CR on age-related brain atrophy



CR is protecting against white matter atrophy!

Impact of CR on all cause mortality



Median lifespan:
CTL = 6.4 y.
CR = 9.6 y.

CR increases lifespan and maximal observed longevity

History of Brunoy's breeding colony

Funded in 1967 by Dr. Petter in a laboratory of the National Museum of Natural History (Brunoy)



Animal importation from 1967 to 1972 (before the establishment of Washington's Convention)

April/October 1967: 7 males -13 females

September/December 1968: 17 - 56 females

October 1970: 7 males - 35 females

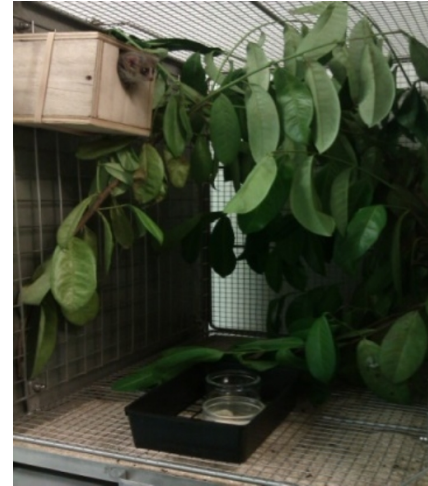
Mars 1972: 18 males - 38 females

After March 1972 no more animals have been imported.



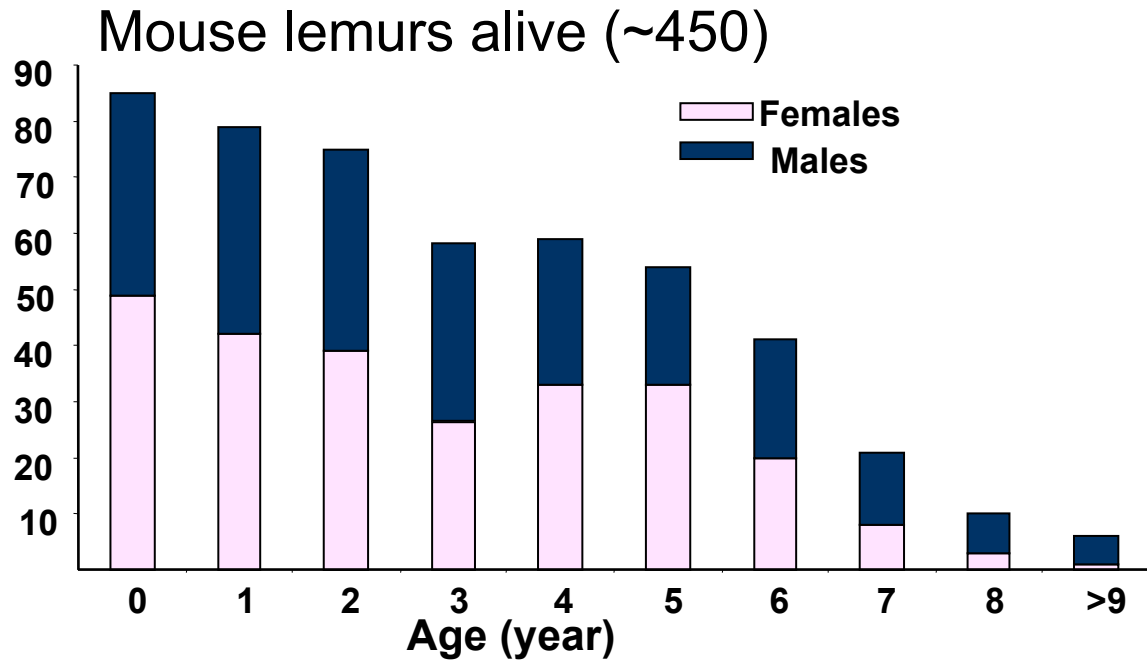
Brunoy's breeding colony

>330 m² of building dedicated to more than 500 animals living in rooms (3m³) and cages (2m³ and 1m³) and 0.5m³ when animals need to be isolated



All cages contain lots of branches, supports and a least two wooden nests

Brunoy's breeding colony



Production: 80 to 100 young individuals per year

Fully dedicated to research (government fundings)



2 days



10 years