

CV in italiano

Il filo conduttore della mia ricerca è lo studio delle interazioni tra specie e tra individui di una stessa specie e sono interessata allo studio delle pressioni selettive che favoriscono la cooperazione o la competizione. Gli insetti sociali e gli animali ermafroditi sono modelli animali appropriati per analizzare le interazioni da una prospettiva evolutiva.

Negli insetti sociali (in particolare nelle vespe cartonaie del genere *Polistes*) mi occupo di analizzare le relazioni sociali all'interno delle colonie e la coevoluzione tra le vespe e i loro parassiti, focalizzando l'analisi su comportamento e comunicazione chimica.

Negli ermafroditi studio i conflitti e la cooperazione tra partner in specie che scambiano gameti e analizzo la natura delle pressioni selettive che agiscono sulla funzione riproduttiva maschile e femminile di ciascun individuo, favorendo la reciprocità o la competizione tra partner.

CV in inglese

My research interests are primarily on questions related to interactions among animal species and among individuals within species. I focus on two model systems, social insects and hermaphroditic polychaetes. In social insects I focus primarily on behaviour and chemical communication in the coevolutionary arms race between wasps and their social parasites, a key issue for understanding how natural selection operates. In hermaphroditic outcrossing polychaetes I investigate conflict and cooperation between gamete-trading partners and I study the nature and the strength of selective pressures which favour reciprocation or competition between partners.

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