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Common Metabolic Constraints on Dive Duration in Endothermic and Ectothermic Vertebrates

Running Title: Constraints on Vertebrate Dive Duration

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24

25 **Abstract**

26 Dive duration in air-breathing vertebrates is thought to be constrained by the volume of oxygen
27 stored in the body and the rate at which it is consumed (i.e., “oxygen store/usage hypothesis”).
28 The body mass-dependence of dive duration among endothermic vertebrates is largely
29 supportive of this model, but previous analyses of ectothermic vertebrates show no such body
30 mass-dependence. Here we show that dive duration in both endotherms and ectotherms largely
31 support the oxygen store/usage hypothesis after accounting for the well-established effects of
32 temperature on oxygen consumption rates. Analyses of the body mass and temperature
33 dependence of dive duration in 181 species of endothermic vertebrates and 29 species of
34 ectothermic vertebrates show that dive duration increases as a power law with body mass, and
35 decreases exponentially with increasing temperature. Thus, in the case of ectothermic
36 vertebrates, changes in environmental temperature will likely impact the foraging ecology of
37 divers.

38 **Key Words:** diving behavior, metabolic theory, metabolism, thermal ecology, oxygen storage,
39 allometry, scaling

40

41 Introduction

42 The length of time that air-breathing vertebrate divers can remain submerged is an
43 important constraint on their foraging activities, and perhaps ultimately on their fitness (Butler &
44 Jones 1982; Kooyman 1989; Stephens et al. 2008; Andrews & Enstipp 2016). Consequently,
45 vertebrates display a wide variety of behavioral, morphological, and physiological adaptations to
46 enhance dive capacity. For example, endothermic vertebrates that dive show a relatively high
47 capacity to store oxygen, use anaerobic metabolism, and reduce oxygen demand in non-vital
48 tissues to prolong dive duration (Boyd 1997; Butler & Jones 1997; Kooyman & Ponganis 1998).
49 Despite such specialization, maximum dive duration in endotherms varies somewhat predictably
50 with body mass based on the amount of oxygen stored in the body and the rate at which oxygen
51 is consumed (Butler & Jones 1982; Schreer et al. 1997; Halsey et al. 2006a; Halsey et al. 2006b;
52 Stephens et al. 2008). However, the extent to which dive duration may similarly vary with body
53 mass in ectotherms as predicted by the oxygen store/usage hypothesis is less clear. Recent
54 studies concluded that ectotherms fail to conform to expectations, and attributed this to
55 ectotherms possessing characteristics that weaken any allometric constraints associated with
56 diving (e.g., the ability to use aquatic respiration to supplement oxygen stores, and to enter
57 thermally-induced hypo-metabolic states, to extend dives) (Brischoux et al. 2008; Campbell et al.
58 2010). Yet, the potentially confounding effects of temperature on oxygen consumption rates and
59 thus dive duration have not yet been examined in vertebrate ectotherms.

60 Here we present broad-scale analyses of dive duration in both endothermic and
61 ectothermic vertebrates. We compare the predicted body mass and temperature dependence of
62 dive duration based on the oxygen store/usage hypothesis to analyses of extensive empirical data
63 compiled from the literature. The model and results presented here build on previous work in

64 endotherms (Butler & Jones 1982; Kooyman 1989; Stephens et al. 2008) to examine the
65 relationship in ectotherms, particularly with respect to temperature.

66 We begin by examining the predicted body mass and/or temperature dependence of dive
67 duration based on the oxygen store/usage hypothesis. This hypothesis stipulates that dive
68 duration (t_D) is a function of the total amount of oxygen carried by an organisms on its dive
69 (TO_2) divided by the rate at which that oxygen is used (i.e. its metabolic rate, B) (Butler & Jones
70 1982; Kooyman 1989). Thus,

$$71 \quad t_D = TO_2 / B \quad [1]$$

72 where oxygen storage capacity scales approximately linearly with body mass (M) and is
73 independent of temperature (Lindstedt & Calder 1981; Stephens et al. 2008; Campbell et al.
74 2010) such that:

$$75 \quad TO_2 = aM^1 \quad [2]$$

76 , where a is a constant that describes the amount of oxygen that can be stored per gram of body
77 mass (Lindstedt & Calder 1981; Campbell et al. 2010). Oxygen consumption rate in Eq. 1,
78 however, has both a body mass and temperature dependence such that:

$$79 \quad B = c \cdot M^d \cdot e^{0.12Tc} \quad [3]$$

80 , where c is a constant describing the amount of oxygen consumed per unit body mass, d
81 describes the scaling of oxygen consumption rate with body mass (M), and $e^{0.12Tc}$ describes the
82 exponential temperature dependence of oxygen consumption rate that is roughly equivalent to a

83 Q_{10} of 2.5 (Charnov & Gillooly 2003). Thus, we expect that the oxygen store/usage hypothesis
84 should have both a body mass and temperature dependence such that:

$$85 \quad t_D = a \cdot c^{-1} \cdot M^{b-d} \cdot e^{-0.12Tc} \quad [4]$$

86 Note that the body mass dependence of oxygen consumption rate may differ between
87 endotherms and ectotherms (Gillooly et al. 2016), and thus the body mass dependence of dive
88 duration may also differ. The effect of temperature on oxygen consumption rate, though, appears
89 to be more similar in both groups (Gillooly et al. 2001). We evaluate the body mass and
90 temperature dependence of dive duration from Eq. 4 for a diverse assortment of mammals, birds,
91 reptiles, and amphibians (Appendix 1).

92 **Methods**

93 *Data collection*

94 Data on median and maximum dive duration, body mass, and temperature were obtained
95 from previously published studies for 181 species of endotherms and 29 species of ectotherms
96 (Appendix 1). Leatherback turtles (*Dermochelys coriacea*) were excluded from consideration
97 since they are functionally endothermic (Penick et al. 1998; Southwood et al. 2005; Bostrom &
98 Jones 2007), and direct measures of body temperature were not available. The body temperature
99 of this species may be as much as 18°C higher than ambient temperatures (Frair et al. 1972).

100 For ectotherms, we used direct estimates of body temperature when available, but
101 otherwise we used ambient environmental temperatures as a proxy for body temperatures. For
102 endotherms, we used species-specific estimates of body temperatures for mammals and birds
103 when available, or the mean body temperature of species from the same genus (Clarke & Rothery

104 2008). If both of these estimates were not available, we used the mean body temperatures of
105 birds (41.5 °C) and mammals (37 °C) (Clarke & Rothery 2008)(Appendix 1). For body mass, we
106 used the values of study subjects, or if unavailable, estimates of adult body masses from other
107 sources (Appendix 1).

108 *Analyses*

109 We evaluated the body mass and temperature dependence of median and maximum dive
110 duration using Bayesian generalized linear mixed-models (Lunn et al. 2000; Bolker et al. 2009)
111 implemented in R package *MCMCglmm* (Hadfield 2010). In performing these analyses, we
112 accounted for any non-independence due to shared evolutionary history by including a vertebrate
113 supertree recently constructed by (Gillooly et al. 2016), and by treating species as a random
114 effect. This approach also accounted for effects of species sample sizes. To evaluate statistical
115 models, we calculated conditional R^2 values for each model (Nakagawa & Schielzeth 2013), and
116 assessed model assumptions using diagnostic tests associated with phylogenetic analyses
117 (Paradis et al. 2004; Kembel et al. 2010).

118 To best assess the temperature-dependence of median and maximum dive duration, we
119 first performed analyses on the entire dataset. This dataset includes individuals of the same
120 species measured at different temperatures. To best assess the mass-dependence of dive duration,
121 we performed an additional set of analyses that was largely restricted to one point per species
122 except when body mass differed substantially between males or females of a species, or between
123 juveniles and adults. For this second set of analyses, median and maximum dive durations were
124 normalized to 30°C for all species by assuming a Q_{10} of 2.5 for oxygen consumption rate
125 (Gillooly et al. 2001; White et al. 2006).

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127 **Results and Discussion**

128 Results show support for the body mass and temperature dependence of dive duration
129 predicted by the oxygen store/usage hypothesis ((Butler & Jones 1982; Kooyman 1989); Eq. 4).
130 With respect to body mass, analysis of the full dataset showed that median and maximum dive
131 duration increased as a power law with body mass in both ectothermic and endothermic
132 vertebrates (Table 1). While scaling exponents varied from 0.09-0.42 depending on the group in
133 question, the 95 % confidence intervals of these scaling exponents included the 0.25-0.33 value
134 one would expect or dive duration (Table 1, Eq. 4) based on the linear scaling of oxygen storage
135 and the 2/3-3/4 power scaling of oxygen consumption rate(White et al. 2006; Gillooly et al.
136 2016). Moreover, when the dataset was restricted largely to one point per species, and adjusted to
137 a common temperature, the scaling exponents for median and maximum dive duration ranged
138 from only 0.21 to 0.31, in closer agreement with expectations from the oxygen store/usage
139 hypothesis (Table 2; Eq. 4). With respect to ectotherms, then, our results differ from previous
140 studies showing no body mass dependence of dive duration (Brischoux et al. 2008; Campbell et
141 al. 2010). We speculate that this is because we explicitly accounted for the effects of
142 temperature.

143 A comparison of the body mass-dependence of dive duration in endothermic and
144 ectothermic vertebrates shows both similarities and differences-both of which are qualitatively
145 consistent with the oxygen store/usage hypothesis. First, body mass explained between 63-68 %
146 in temperature-adjusted median and maximum dive duration in both groups. However, the
147 scaling exponents for these relationships in ectotherms (0.21, 0.22) were slightly lower than
148 those of endotherms (0.31, 0.34; Figure 1, Table 2). This observation is consistent with work
149 showing that the body mass scaling of oxygen consumption rate is steeper in ectotherms

150 (exponents: 0.84-0.90) than in endotherms (0.70-0.74)(Gillooly et al. 2016). Similarly, the
151 relatively high intercepts of the dive duration-body mass relationships in ectotherms as compared
152 to endotherms are consistent with well-established differences in the oxygen consumption rates
153 of ectotherms and endotherms. On average, the oxygen consumption rates of endothermic
154 vertebrates are approximately 1-2 orders of magnitude higher than ectotherms (Gillooly et al.
155 2001; Brown et al. 2004). As such, endotherms would be expected to use their oxygen stores
156 more quickly than ectotherms, and have dive durations roughly an order of magnitude lower than
157 ectotherms-as was observed (Fig. 2).

158 Still, perhaps more surprising here is the observation that dive duration varies
159 systematically with temperature. Note that while temperature has previously been shown to
160 affect the dive duration of individual species (Storch et al. 2005) (Priest & Franklin 2002), no
161 broad-scale analysis of temperature on dive duration have been previously undertaken. The
162 temperature dependence of the oxygen store/usage hypothesis described by Eq. 4 has not been
163 fully appreciated since the hypothesis has largely been applied to endotherms. Our results show
164 that, at least in ectotherms, median and maximum dive duration decreases with increasing
165 temperature as $e^{-0.11}$ and $e^{-0.13}$, respectively (Table 1, Figure 2)-similar to that described by Eq. 4.
166 This equates roughly to a Q_{10} of 2.5 such that dive duration will decrease by roughly 2.5-fold for
167 every 10 °C increase in temperature. Thus, increases in environmental temperature could
168 substantially reduce foraging time for ectothermic divers, and thus potentially affect individual
169 fitness and population viability. The effect of any such increase would be most acute at warmer
170 temperatures, where a smaller increase in temperature could have a greater effect on dive
171 duration (see Dillon et al. 2010).

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173 Together, these results point to the utility of the oxygen store/usage hypothesis for
174 explaining some similarities and differences in dive duration among diverse vertebrates. Still, a
175 deliberately simplified model such as this is perhaps most useful as a point of departure for
176 examining species-specific adaptations for diving-both physiological and behavioral. Accounting
177 for the effect of body mass and temperature on dive duration should be helpful in evaluating the
178 benefit of such adaptations. More broadly, the model and results presented here demonstrate how
179 considering the physiological effects of body size and temperature can reveal important insights
180 into behavioral ecology (Hayward, Gillooly, & Kodric-Brown 2012).

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193 **Table 1: Body mass and temperature dependence of dive duration in vertebrates.** Outputs
 194 from generalized linear mixed-models relating dive duration (median or maximum, in minutes)
 195 to body mass (natural log-transformed, in grams) and temperature (°C). Conditional R^2 values
 196 are reported, along with the slopes and intercepts of the relationships, and the sample sizes (N;
 197 with number of species). Results shown here represent the full dataset with multiple individuals
 198 for many species.

Model	Resp. Var.	Intercept (95% CI)	ln(Mass) (95% CI)	Temp. (95% CI)	R^2	N (species)
Ectotherms	Med.	4.00 (1.78,5.83)	0.19 (0.06,0.32)	-0.13 (-0.16,-0.09)	0.72	267 (29)
	Max.	5.88 (3.42,8.21)	0.09 (-0.09,0.26)	-0.11 (-0.13,-0.09)	0.81	267 (29)
Endotherms	Med.	-1.65 (-7.51,3.79)	0.42 (0.35,0.49)	-0.06 (-0.20,0.08)	0.72	738 (181)
	Max.	0.52 (-4.71,6.37)	0.34 (0.30,0.42)	-0.07 (-0.21,0.07)	0.62	738 (181)
All	Med.	2.34 (0.94,3.82)	0.37 (0.31,0.42)	-0.14 (-0.16,-0.11)	0.38	1005 (210)
	Max.	3.34 (1.98,4.56)	0.32 (0.27,0.38)	-0.12 (-0.14,-0.10)	0.28	1005 (210)

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213 **Table 2: Body mass dependence of temperature-adjusted dive duration in vertebrates.**

214 Outputs from generalized linear mixed-models relating temperature-adjusted dive duration
 215 (median or maximum) to body mass (ln-transformed, in grams) for ectothermic (amphibians and
 216 reptiles) and endothermic (mammals and birds) vertebrates. Conditional R^2 values are reported,
 217 along with the slopes and intercepts of the relationships, and sample sizes (N; with number of
 218 species).

Model	Res. Var.	Intercept (95%)	ln(Mass) (95% CI)	R^2	N (species)
Ectotherms	Med.	0.12 (-1.88,2.34)	0.22 (0.02,0.42)	0.68	28 (28)
	Max.	2.05 (-2.26,6.36)	0.21 (-0.08,0.55)	0.67	28 (28)
Endotherms	Med.	-2.49 (-3.94,-0.90)	0.34 (0.23,0.42)	0.63	187 (165)
	Max.	-1.02 (-2.51,0.42)	0.31 (0.24,0.39)	0.68	187 (165)
All	Med.	-1.47 (-2.72,-0.26)	0.30 (-0.21,0.41)	0.33	215 (193)
	Max.	0.02 (-1.30,1.57)	0.31 (0.22,0.42)	0.22	215 (193)

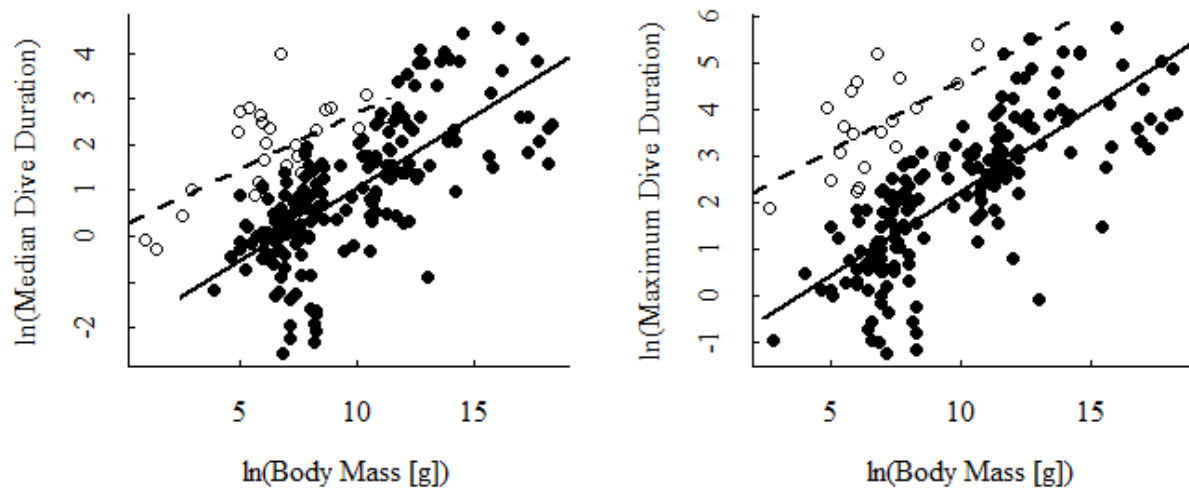
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220 **Figure 1: The body mass dependence of dive duration in vertebrates.** The natural logarithm
221 of median (left) and maximum dive duration (min.; right) as a function of the natural logarithm
222 of body mass (g) for air-breathing endothermic (birds and mammals; closed points, solid line)
223 and ectothermic vertebrates (reptiles and amphibians; open points, dashed line). Data were
224 normalized to 30 °C assuming a Q_{10} of 2.5. Most points represent a single species (see Methods,
225 and Table 2 for statistics).

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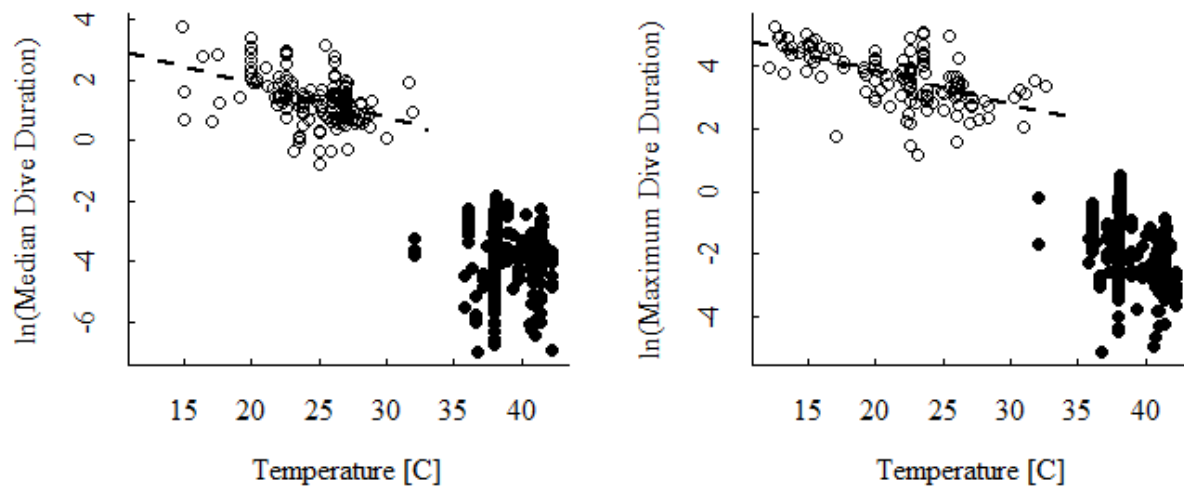
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232 **Figure 2: The temperature dependence of dive duration in vertebrates.** The natural
233 logarithm of body mass-corrected median (left) and maximum (right) dive duration as a function
234 of temperature ($^{\circ}\text{C}$) for endothermic (birds and mammals; closed points) and ectothermic
235 vertebrates (reptiles and amphibians; open points, dashed line). Many species are represented by
236 multiple points, as described in the methods (see Table 1 for statistics).

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249

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