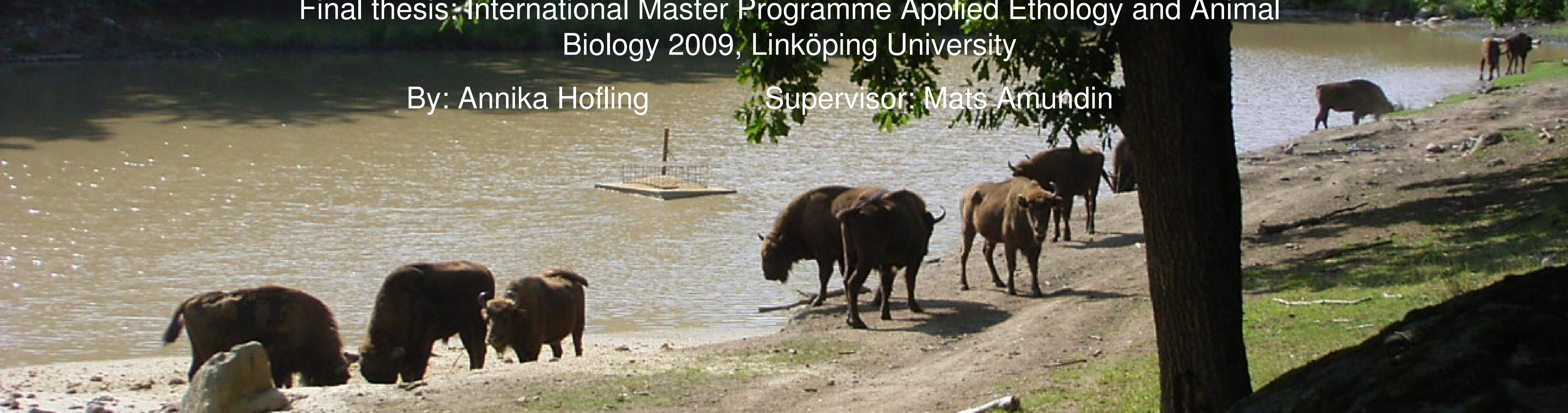


Do enclosure characteristics affect anti-predator behaviour in the European bison (*Bison bonasus*)?

Final thesis: International Master Programme Applied Ethology and Animal Biology 2009, Linköping University

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Aim

- To find out if animals respond differently to stimuli depending on enclosure characteristics

Methods

Animals in 7 enclosures

- 4 naturalistic
- 3 barren

3 types of stimuli

- Olfactory
- Auditory
- Visual

2 Measures

- Time
- Reaction

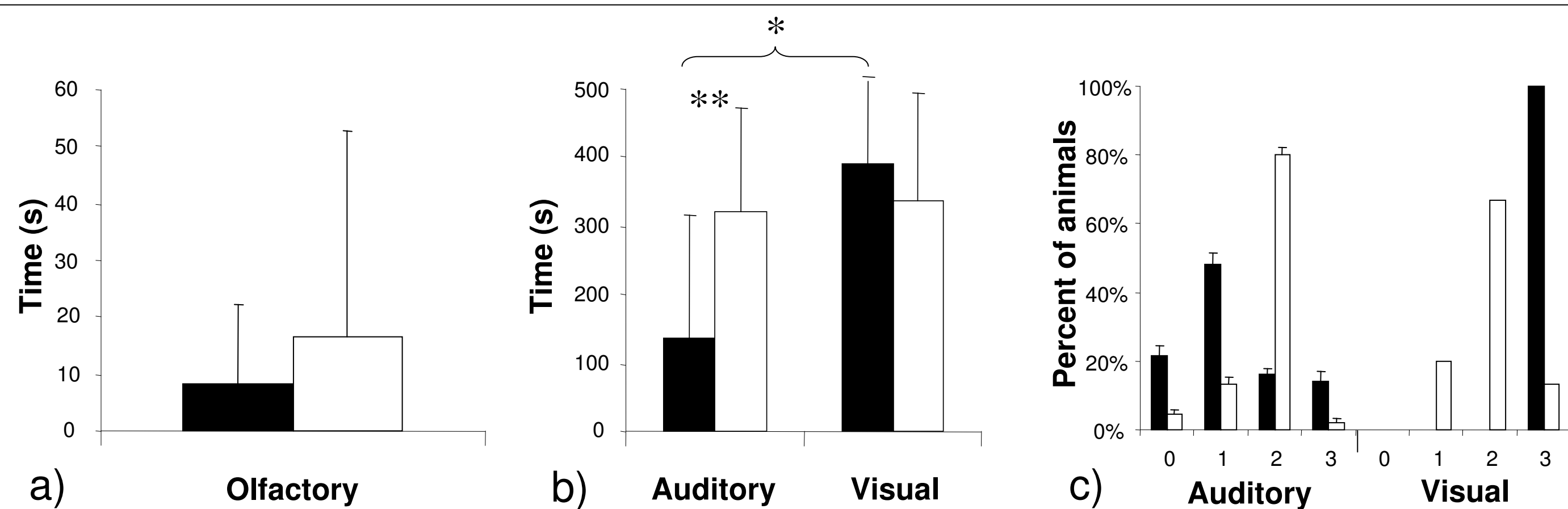


Figure 1. Mean time of interest (\pm S.D.) to a) olfaction and b) auditory and visual and c) percent of animals in each response category (0= no response, 3= most intense response) for animals in naturalistic (black bar) and barren (white bar) enclosures, ** $p \leq 0.01$ * $p \leq 0.05$.

Animals in

- barren enclosures responded stronger than animals in naturalistic to auditory stimuli
- naturalistic enclosures responded stronger than animals in barren to the visual stimulus
- naturalistic enclosures responded stronger to the visual stimulus than auditory stimuli

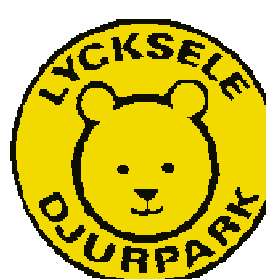


Conclusion

- Enclosure characteristics might have an effect on the anti-predator behaviour



Thanks to:



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