

My group combines several biological disciplines including behavioural observation, evolutionary genomics, molecular ecology, and bioinformatics, and utilises emergent technologies to identify the genetic basis of migratory traits.

Here we focus on identifying the genes and signaling pathways behind the components shaping the migratory phenotype in the blackcap, a well characterised migratory songbird species. We will complement the sequencing approach with gene expression profiling and characterisation of chromatin modification to investigate the extent of phenotypic variation manifested by expression differences, either through slight genetic differences or epigenetic processes. The key focus of this project is to understand: Which genes harbour coding variation with relevant consequences for migratory traits, and which signalling cascades are involved in shaping the migratory phenotype? Within this project that is funded through a Max Planck Research Group Grant, I am offering a 2 year postdoctoral position with the possibility for extension. The postdoc will assume a central position within this project that is funded through an independent Max Planck Research Group Grant. Project start is January 2015 and the ideal starting date for the postdoc is April 2015. The ideal candidate has a biological training, background in bioinformatics with skills in programming (scripts and analysis pipelines), next generation sequence analysis, genome assembly and annotation. The successful candidate will be involved in fundamental research questions on migratory genomics, and I highly appreciate a creative postdoc who is motivated to contribute to and extends our research agenda to understand the genetic architecture of migratory traits. The core dataset that will be generated includes Illumina sequencing of the blackcap genome from populations with varying migratory phenotypes, some of which will be used for de novo genome assembly. The expected output of the postdoc is to contribute to the genome assembly and to compare the genomic makeup and underlying signaling pathways of different populations with various migratory phenotypes. We offer an English speaking and ambitious working environment at the Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Biology in Plön, Germany. Cutting edge infrastructure is available at all levels, including high-performance computer clusters and next-generation sequencing core facility. The Institutes main fields of work include evolutionary ecology (Prof. Dr. M. Milinski), evolutionary genetics (Prof. Dr. D. Tautz) and evolutionary theory (Prof. Dr. A. Traulsen) and hosts a number of research groups providing ample opportunities for collaborations and interactions. The MPI in Plön further collaborates with the nearby Christian Albrechts University of Kiel in a joint International Max Planck Research School that attracts PhD students from abroad which contributes to a multicultural working atmosphere. The Max Planck Society is committed to also employing handicapped individuals and especially encourages them to apply. The Max Planck Society seeks to increase the number of women in those areas where they are underrepresented and therefore explicitly encourages women to apply. Applications should include 1) a cover letter outlining your motivation to work on this project as well as relevant experience, 2) a detailed curriculum vitae and copies of certificates, and 3) the contact details of three academic referees. Please send the above as a single .pdf file to liedvogel@evolbio.mpg.de. **Review of applications will start on January 1st 2015, but candidates**

will be considered until the position is filled.

For more information, feel free to contact me! Miriam Liedvogel
liedvogel@evolbio.mpg.de

Max Planck Research Group Behavioural Genomics Max-Planck-Institute for Evolutionary
Biology August-Thienemann-Straße 2 24306 Plön, Germany
www.evolbio.mpg.de/3004473/group_behaviouralgenomics

Miriam Liedvogel <
liedvogel@evolbio.mpg.de

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