

Adulis and the transshipment of baboons during classical antiquity

Franziska Grathwol¹, Christian Roos², Dietmar Zinner^{3,4,5}, Benjamin Hume^{1,6}, Stéphanie M Porcier⁷, Didier Berthet⁸, Jacques Cuisin⁹, Stefan Merker¹⁰, Claudio Ottoni¹¹, Wim Van Neer^{12,13}, Nathaniel J Dominy^{14,15}, Gisela H Kopp^{1,15,16,17}*

¹Department of Biology, University of Konstanz, Konstanz, Germany; ²Gene Bank of Primates and Primate Genetics Laboratory, German Primate Center, Leibniz Institute for Primate Research, Göttingen, Germany; ³Cognitive Ethology Laboratory, German Primate Center, Leibniz Institute for Primate Research, Göttingen, Germany; ⁴Department of Primate Cognition, Georg-August-University of Göttingen, Göttingen, Germany; ⁵Leibniz-ScienceCampus Primate Cognition, Göttingen, Germany; ⁶SequAna – Sequencing Analysis Core Facility, University of Konstanz, Konstanz, Germany; ⁷Laboratoire CNRS ASM « Archéologie des Sociétés Méditerranéennes » (UMR 5140), Université Paul-Valéry, LabEx Archimede, Montpellier, France; ⁸Musée des Confluences, Lyon, France; ⁹Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris, France; ¹⁰Department of Zoology, State Museum of Natural History Stuttgart, Stuttgart, Germany; ¹¹Centre of Molecular Anthropology for Ancient DNA Studies, Department of Biology, University of Rome Tor Vergata, Rome, Italy; ¹²Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences, Brussels, Belgium; ¹³Department of Biology, KU Leuven, Leuven, Belgium; ¹⁴Departments of Anthropology and Biological Sciences, Dartmouth College, Hanover, United States; ¹⁵Zukunftskolleg, University of Konstanz, Konstanz, Germany; ¹⁶Department of Migration, Max Planck Institute of Animal Behavior, Konstanz, Germany; ¹⁷Centre for the Advanced Study of Collective Behaviour, University of Konstanz, Konstanz, Germany

*For correspondence: gisela.kopp@uni-konstanz.de

Competing interest: The authors declare that no competing interests exist.

Funding: See page 17

Preprinted: 01 March 2023 Received: 07 March 2023 Accepted: 27 September 2023 Published: 28 September 2023

Reviewing Editor: Ammie K Kalan, University of Victoria, Canada

© Copyright Grathwol et al. This article is distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License, which permits unrestricted use and redistribution provided that the original author and source are credited.

Abstract Adulis, located on the Red Sea coast in present-day Eritrea, was a bustling trading centre between the first and seventh centuries CE. Several classical geographers—Agatharchides of Cnidus, Pliny the Elder, Strabo-noted the value of Adulis to Greco-Roman Egypt, particularly as an emporium for living animals, including baboons (Papio spp.). Though fragmentary, these accounts predict the Adulite origins of mummified baboons in Ptolemaic catacombs, while inviting questions on the geoprovenance of older (Late Period) baboons recovered from Gabbanat el-Qurud ('Valley of the Monkeys'), Egypt. Dated to ca. 800-540 BCE, these animals could extend the antiquity of Egyptian-Adulite trade by as much as five centuries. Previously, Dominy et al. (2020) used stable isotope analysis to show that two New Kingdom specimens of Papio hamadryas originate from the Horn of Africa. Here, we report the complete mitochondrial genomes from a mummified baboon from Gabbanat el-Qurud and 14 museum specimens with known provenance together with published georeferenced mitochondrial sequence data. Phylogenetic assignment connects the mummified baboon to modern populations of P. hamadryas in Eritrea, Ethiopia, and eastern Sudan. This result, assuming geographical stability of phylogenetic clades, corroborates Greco-Roman historiographies by pointing toward present-day Eritrea, and by extension Adulis, as a source of baboons for Late Period Egyptians. It also establishes geographic continuity with baboons from the fabled Land of Punt (Dominy et al., 2020), giving weight to speculation that

CC

Punt and Adulis were essentially the same trading centres separated by a thousand years of history.

Editor's evaluation

This fundamental Research Advance sheds new light on the ancient baboon trade in the Red Sea. Combining ancient DNA methods from a mummified baboon with historical accounts, this work provides compelling evidence connecting the ancient Egyptian trade of baboons with the ancient port city of Adulis. The results will be of significance to a broad range of scholars interested in applying ancient DNA to improve our knowledge of historical events.

Introduction

Adulis, on the coast of present-day Eritrea, was an important hub during the rise of cross-ocean maritime trade, connecting ships, cargoes, and ideas from Egypt, Arabia, and India (*Burstein, 2002*; *Munro-Hay, 1982*; *Seland, 2008*). Trade peaked between the fourth and seventh centuries CE, propelling the rise and expansion of the Aksumite kingdom, but its occupation history extends, at minimum, to the first millennium BCE (*Zazzaro et al., 2014*). Corroborating this archaeological record are written accounts that draw attention to the importance of Adulis as one of the foremost sources of African animals or animal products during the Hellenistic period (323–31 BCE). In *Topographia Christiana*, a sixth-century text, the Nestorian merchant Cosmas Indicopleustes recounts his own visit to Adulis in 518 CE (*Fauvelle-Aymar, 2009*; *Hatke, 2013*). There he copied the text of a stele inscribed in Greek and known today as the *Monumentum Adulitanum I*. The text celebrates the military conquests of Ptolemy III Euergetes (reign: 246–222 BCE) and notes the local availability of war elephants for himself and his predecessor, Ptolemy II Philadelphus (reign: 284–246 BCE) (*Bowersock, 2013*).

Echoing this account is the first-century *Periplus Maris Erythraei*, an anonymous text focused on maritime trade across the Red Sea Basin: 'practically the whole number of elephants and rhinoceros that are killed live in the places inland, although at rare intervals they are hunted on the seacoast even near Adulis' (*Casson, 1989; Casson, 1993*). Pliny the Elder described Adulis as a thriving emporium in his *Naturalis Historia*, another first-century text, and commented on the availability of ivory, rhinoceros horn, hippopotamus hides, tortoise shell, and *sphingia*—or 'sphinx monkeys,' a term that probably refers to the gelada, *Theropithecus gelada* (*Jolly and Ucko, 1969*). Pliny's account relied heavily on the writings of Agatharchides of Cnidus (ca. 145 BCE), who described 'Aithiopia' (meaning the Red Sea coast and African hinterlands) as a source of sphinx monkeys, *cepi* (probably patas monkeys, *Erythrocebus patas; Burstein, 1989*), and *cynocephali*—or 'dog-heads.' Strabo's Geographica references the worship of *cynocephali* at Hermopolis (Egypt), making it clear that the animal in question is the hamadryas baboon (*Papio hamadryas*), the traditional sacred animal of the Egyptian god Thoth (*Figure 1*). The source of baboons in ancient Egypt is an enduring question (*Dominy et al., 2020*) as the current distribution of baboons excludes Egypt (*Figure 2*) and there is no prehistoric evidence of baboons occurring in Egypt naturally (*Geraads, 1987*).

Though fragmentary, this historiography points to Adulis as a commercial source of mummified baboons in Ptolemaic catacombs, such as those at Saqqara and Tuna el-Gebel (**Goudsmit and Brandon-Jones, 1999; Peters, 2020**) [or those of their progenitors if Ptolemaic Egyptians maintained captive breeding programs; (von den Driesch et al., 2004)]. At the same time, these accounts invite questions focused on the source of pre-Ptolemaic baboons recovered from Gabbanat el-Qurud, Egypt (Lortet and Gaillard, 1907) and dated to ca. 800–540 BCE (Richardin et al., 2017), a span that corresponds to the 25th Dynasty and Late Period of Egyptian antiquity. If these older specimens can be traced to Eritrea, and by extension Adulis, then they have the potential to extend the time depth of Egyptian–Adulite trade by as much as five centuries.

Mummified baboons have been investigated morphologically, revealing species-level taxonomic assignments as well as individual details, such as age, sex, and pathological condition (*Boessneck,* **1987**; *Brandon-Jones and Goudsmit, 2022*; *Goudsmit and Brandon-Jones, 1999*; *Peters, 2020*). Such data are telling, but insufficient for determining fine-scale geographic origins. Recent oxygen and strontium stable isotope evidence suggests that mummified hamadryas baboons were imported from a region encompassing northern Somalia, Eritrea, and Ethiopia (*Dominy et al., 2020*), a level of



Figure 1. Strabo's reference (17.1.40) to the worship of cynocephali at Hermopolis Magna makes clear that the animal in question is the hamadryas baboon (*Papio hamadryas*). The sanctuary and temple complex featured several 35-tonne statues of *P. hamadryas* as the embodiment of Thoth. One of the oldest deities in the Egyptian pantheon, Thoth is best known as a god of writing and wisdom, a lunar deity, and vizier of the gods, but also as a cosmic deity, creator god, and warrior (*Stadler, 2012*). The quartzite statues were erected by Amenhotep III, 18th Dynasty, New Kingdom, 1390–1353 BCE. Photograph by N.J. Dominy.



Figure 2. Present-day distributions of the six baboon species, major mitochondrial clades, and provenance of samples analysed in this study. (a) Overview of species distributions according to the IUCN (2020) and coloured by species (red: *P. papio*; brown: *P. ursinus*; yellow: *P. cynocephalus*; orange: *P. kindae*; green: *P. anubis*; purple: *P. hamadryas*). Colour-patterned regions reflect main mitochondrial clade attribution resulting from phylogenetic reconstructions and are denoted with capital letters A–K (*Figure 8*). Squares and circles represent geoprovenance of mitogenomes and partial mtDNA datasets (e.g. D-loop, cytochrome b), respectively, and are coloured by species. Note that introgressive hybridization has led to discordances between species assignment and mitochondrial clades. (b) Detailed view of the distribution of mitochondrial subclades G3-X, G3-Y, and G3-Z in the northeastern distribution of baboons. Samples attributed to G3-Y, the subclade assigned to the mummified baboon in phylogenetic reconstructions and haplotype networks, are highlighted with asterisks. The locations of the excavation site of the mummified baboon, Gabbanat el-Qurud, and Adulis are marked with magenta triangles. Male baboon drawings by Stephen Nash, used with permission.

geographic precision with limited practical value. Another limitation concerns the captive breeding of some animals. For instance, stable isotopes can reveal a lifetime in Egypt but not the geoprovenance of the source population, as shown for olive baboons from the Ptolemaic catacombs of North Saqqara (*Dominy et al., 2020*). The analysis of ancient DNA (aDNA) recovered from baboon mummies and compared to the current distribution of baboon genetic diversity has the potential to provide more detailed insights on the geographic origin of baboons in ancient Egypt. To explore this possibility, we sequenced the mitochondrial genome (mitogenome) of a mummified baboon to infer its geographic origin through phylogenetic assignment.

Gabbanat el-Qurud

In Topography of Thebes, Wilkinson, 1853 noted a site called Gabbanat el-Qurud ('Valley of the Monkeys') located ca. 2.5 km north-northwest of Medinet Habu, the mortuary temple of Ramses III. Intrigued by this observation, French Egyptologists Louis Lortet and Claude Gaillard sought and found the site in February 1905, along with the remains of mummified baboons. They recovered '17 skulls and a large quantity of bones,' which they attributed to *Papio anubis* and *P. hamadryas* (Lortet and Gaillard, 1907). The assemblage includes juvenile and adult males and females buried in jars, sarcophagi, or wooden coffins. Now accessioned in the Musée des Confluences, Lyon, France, the linen wrapping of one mummified individual (MHNL 90001206) was dated radiometrically to 803–544 cal. BC (95.4%) (Richardin et al., 2017).

Ottoni et al., 2019 sampled dental calculus from 16 individuals in this same assemblage and reported the preservation of ancient microbial DNA in a subset of six. Their success motivated us to

extract DNA from the remaining tooth material of ten individuals (**Table 1**, **Supplementary file 1**). In addition, we obtained samples (skin, bone, or tooth) from 21 modern historic specimens of baboons available in museum collections and representing the northeast African distribution of *Papio* (**Table 1**, **Figure 2**). These specimens were collected between 1855 and 1978, and we denote them 'historic samples' in the remainder of the article to distinguish them both from the older mummified specimens ('mummified samples') and recently collected material ('modern samples'). Latitude–longitude information on the origin of the specimens was either derived from the respective museum database or assigned based on the listed provenance (**Table 1**).

Results

Mitogenomes from mummified and historic specimens

We discarded seven historic samples and nine mummified samples from our analysis due to insufficient DNA content, sequencing failure, or low coverage and sequencing depth (*Supplementary file* 1). Thus, our results are based on the newly generated mitogenomes of 14 historic and 1 mummified individual (*Table* 1). In total, we obtained 896,025,770 raw sequence reads, with a mean of 34,462,530 (± SD 27,945,321) raw sequence reads per sample. On average, 95.5% of reads survived trimming and a median of 9934 (range: 244–2,722,354) reads per sample mapped to the reference mitogenome. After removal of duplicates (duplication level median: 25.1%; range: 2.5–92.6%), a median of 7398 (range: 237–497,458) mapped reads per sample resulted in the median final sequencing depth of 26× (range: 0.21–2952×). After exclusion of samples with low quality, the final dataset had a median final sequencing depth of 37× (range: 16–2952×), with a median of 0.4% undetermined sites (range: 0–1.7%) and a median breadth of coverage of at least 3× of 99.3% (range: 97.4–100%) (*Supplementary file* 1). All these metrics differed considerably depending on sample age (historic versus mummified) and DNA concentration (*Figures 3 and 4*). Capture enrichment strongly increased the number of mapped reads and final mean coverage compared to the shotgun approach (*Figures 3 and 4*). GC content of sequences was 40–50% (*Figure 5*) in the same range as the reference genomes.

The sequencing reads of the mummified sample (MHNL51000172) exhibit C to T and G to A misincorporations at 5' and 3' ends, reaching frequencies of 3.3 and 1.6% at the first/last position of the read (*Figure 6*). Mapped reads of the mummified sample agreed to median of 99.2% (IQR 1.6%) when focussing on the 125 sites that exhibited fixed differences between subclades and differed at three sites from the variant found in its subclade (*Figure 7a*). When focussing on the 37 sites that are fixed in the subclade of attribution of the mummified baboon but differed in its consensus sequence, mapped reads agreed to a median of 97.3% (IQR 3.1%) (*Figure 7b*).

Phylogenetic mapping

Phylogenetic trees inferred from maximum likelihood (ML) and Bayesian inference (BI) revealed identical topologies with generally strong node support (100% bootstrap support [BS] and posterior probability [PP] 1.0) and clearly defined geographic clades (*Figure 8, Figure 8—figure supplement* 1). These mitochondrial clades did not directly mirror species assignments. Within the northeastern baboons, the central olive baboon clade J from Democratic Republic of the Congo, Tanzania, South Sudan, and southern Sudan diverged first, followed by northern yellow baboons of clade G1 including a sample from Somalia. Hamadryas baboons formed clade G3, which also included olive baboons from the region. Clade G3 contained three subclades: subclade G3-Z comprised hamadryas baboons from Ethiopia and Djibouti; subclade G3-X comprised hamadryas and olive baboons from Ethiopia, Eritrea, and Somalia; and subclade G3-Y comprised hamadryas and olive baboons from northeastern Sudan and Eritrea. The mummified baboon from Gabbanat el-Qurud (MHNL 51000172) was located in subclade G3-Y, closely related to samples from Eritrea and northeastern Sudan.

The median-joining haplotype networks differentiated samples within clade G3 in greater detail and in a more precise geographic context (*Figure 9, Figure 9—figure supplement 1*). They revealed the same three subclades within the G3 clade. The HVRI and the cyt *b* networks were concordant both with each other and with the phylogenetic reconstructions in the attribution of samples to the different subclades, but exhibited slight discrepancies in the relation of clades to each other and the positioning of samples within the clades. Subclade G3-X contained hamadryas baboons from Ethiopia, Somalia, and Eritrea. Subclade G3-Z contained samples from Ethiopia, Somalia, Djibouti,

eLife Research advance

 Table 1. Information on samples analysed in this study.

Taxon	Origin	Museum ID	Country	Latitude	Longitude	MitoClade	AccNo	Reference
P. hamadryas	MNHN	MO-1972–357	ETH	9.320	42.119	G3-X	00538080	This study
P. hamadryas	SMNS	SMNS-Z-MAM-001034*	ETH	11.500	39.300	G3-X	OQ538076	This study
P. hamadryas	MfN	ZMB_Mam_025647_(2)	ETH	14.164	38.891	G3-X	OQ538079	This study
P. hamadryas	SMNS	SMNS-Z-MAM-000960	ERI	15.783	38.453	G3-X	00538078	This study
P. hamadryas	NHMUK	ZD.1910.10.3.1	SOM	9.933	45.200	G3-X	MT279063	Roos et al., 2021
P. hamadryas	MfN	ZMB_Mam_012808	ETH	9.314	42.118	G3-X	OQ538089	this study
P. anubis	Wild		ETH	8.968	38.571	G3-X	JX946196	Zinner et al., 2013
P. hamadryas	MfN	ZMB_Mam_042543_(1)	ETH	9.593	41.866	G3-Z	0Q538084	this study
P. hamadryas	MfN	ZMB_Mam_074849	DJI	11.589	43.129	G3-Z	00538085	this study
P. hamadryas	MNHN	MO-1972-359	ETH	6.998	40.478	G3-Z	OQ538086	this study
P. hamadryas	SMNS	SMNS-Z-MAM-001288	SDN	19.110	37.327	G3-Y	OQ538081	this study
P. hamadryas	Wild		ERI	15.011	38.971	G3-Y	JX946201	Zinner et al., 2013
P. hamadryas	SMNS	SMNS-Z-MAM-007509 [†]	-	-	-	G3-Y	OQ538082	this study
P. hamadryas	MHNL	51000172	EGY	-	-	G3-Y	OQ538083	this study
P. anubis	SMNS	SMNS-Z-MAM-000584 [‡]	SDN	13.460	33.780	G3-Y	OQ538075	this study
P. cynocephalus	Wild		TNZ	7.347	37.165	G1	JX946199	Zinner et al., 2013
P. cynocephalus	MNHN	ZM-MO-1977-5	SOM	3.243	45.471	G1	OQ538088	this study
P. anubis	NHMUK	ZD1929.4.27.2	COD	0.800	26.633	J	MT279061	Roos et al., 2021
P. anubis	NHMUK	ZD1929.4.27.1	COD	1.183	27.650	J	MT279062	Roos et al., 2021
P. anubis	Wild	19GNM2220916	TNZ	4.679	29.621	J	MG787545	Roos et al., 2018
P. anubis	SMNS	SMNS-Z-MAM-032128	SSD	4.281	33.555	J	OQ538087	this study
P. anubis	SMNS	SMNS-Z-MAM-000583	SDN	13.333	32.729	J	OQ538077	this study
P. anubis	MfN	ZMB_Mam_074869	CMR	5.533	12.317	F	0Q538071	Kopp et al. in prep
P. anubis	Wild		NGA	7.317	11.583	F	JX946198	Zinner et al., 2013
P. anubis	MfN	ZMB_Mam_074887	CMR	9.328	12.946	F	00538069	Kopp et al. in prep
P. anubis	MfN	ZMB_Mam_074885	NGA	7.298	10.318	F	00538064	Kopp et al. in prep
P. anubis	MfN	ZMB_Mam_074883	CMR	6.334	9.961	F	OQ538072	Kopp et al. in prep
P. papio	Wild		SEN	12.883	12.767	E	JX946203	Zinner et al., 2013
P. anubis	NHMUK	ZD.1947.586	SLE	8.917	11.817	E	MT279064	Roos et al., 2021
P. anubis	MfN	ZMB_Mam_075043	TGO	9.260	0.781	D	00538066	Kopp et al. in prep

Table 1 continued on next page

eLife Research advance

Table 1 continued

Taxon	Origin	Museum ID	Country	Latitude	Longitude	MitoClade	AccNo	Reference
P. anubis	MfN	ZMB_Mam_011198	TGO	6.228	1.478	D	00538067	Kopp et al. in prep
P. anubis	Wild		CIV	8.800	3.790	D	JX946197	Zinner et al., 2013
P. anubis	MfN	ZMB_Mam_007396_(1)	TGO	6.950	0.585	D	OQ538065	Kopp et al. in prep
P. anubis	NHMUK	ZD.1939.1022	NER	17.000	7.933	D	MT279065	Roos et al., 2021
P. anubis	NHMUK	ZD.1939.1020	NER	17.683	8.483	D	MT279066	Roos et al., 2021
P. anubis	MNHN	ZM-MO-1960-476	TCD	20.344	16.786	К	MT279067	Roos et al., 2021
P. anubis	MNHN	MO-1996-2511	CAF	3.905	17.922	К	00538068	Kopp et al. in prep
P. anubis	NHMUK	ZD.1907.7.8.11	CAF	8.000	20.000	К	MT279068	Roos et al., 2021
P. anubis	MNHN	MO-1996-2510	CAF	4.966	18.701	К	OQ538070	Kopp et al. in prep
P.ursinus	Wild		ZAF	24.680	30.790	В	JX946205	Zinner et al., 2013
P. cynocephalus	Wild		TNZ	11.261	37.514	В	JX946200	Zinner et al., 2013
P. kindae			ZMB	12.591	30.252	С	JX946202	Zinner et al., 2013
P. cynocephalus	Wild	04MNM1300916	TNZ	6.119	29.730	н	MT279069	Roos et al., 2021
P. ursinus	Wild		ZAF	34.456	20.407	А	JX946204	Zinner et al., 2013
P. cynocephalus	Wild	24UNF1150317	TNZ	7.815	36.895		MT279060	Roos et al., 2021
Theropithecus gelada FJ785426 et							Hodgson et al., 2009	

AccNo, GenBank accession number; NHMUK, Natural History Museum, London; MNHN, Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris; MfN, Museum für Naturkunde, Berlin; SMNS, State Museum of Natural History Stuttgart; MdC, Musée des Confluences, Lyon

*Mislabelled in museum records as T. gelada.

[†]Unclear provenance 'Somaliland' (not equal to present-day Somaliland).

[‡]Misidentified provenance 'Abyssinia' as Ethiopia in museum records.

from the southern tip of Eritrea, and the Arabian Peninsula. Subclade G3-Y contained samples from Eritrea, eastern Sudan, the Arabian Peninsula, and the mummified sample MHNL 51000172. Individuals closely related to this mummified baboon in the cyt *b* network were those from Sudan (on the Red Sea coast and in Senaar), Eritrea (between 14.3–16.0N 36.7–39.0E), and the Arabian Peninsula (*Figure 9—figure supplement 1*), and in the HVRI network samples from location 'Bbr' (Barka Bridge, 15.6N 38.0E) in Eritrea (*Figure 9*).

Discussion

We succeeded in sequencing the mitogenomes of 14 historic baboons from northeastern Africa and a mummified baboon recovered from Gabbanat el-Qurud, presenting the first genetic data of a mummified baboon from ancient Egypt to date. DNA of the mummified baboon shows *post-mortem*





damage, which is, however, relatively low compared to what can be expected for samples of similar age (**Dabney et al., 2013b**, **Kistler et al., 2017**). Low frequencies of *post-mortem* damage were observed for aDNA from mummified specimens and have been attributed to the water deprivation during the mummification process, which may prevent hydrolytic deamination (**Rossi et al., 2021**). *Post-mortem* damage observed here is within the range previously reported for aDNA derived from mummified Egyptians (**Schuenemann et al., 2017**) and sheep recovered from an Iranian saltmine (**Rossi et al., 2021**), which supports the authentic origin of our ancient sequence data and tends to rule out the possibility of contamination with modern DNA. The very low frequency of mismatches in the mapped reads from the mummified sample and its unique sequence are further evidence against the concern of contamination from other baboon samples.

Our phylogenetic analysis of the newly generated mitogenomes in combination with published mitochondrial sequence data produced tree topologies in agreement with those of prior studies, with three well-supported clades across the northeastern distribution of *Papio* (*Roos et al., 2021*). As previously described, introgressive hybridization has led to discordances between species assignment and mitochondrial clades (*Rogers et al., 2019; Sørensen et al., 2023; Zinner et al., 2009; Zinner et al., 2011*). Our findings are notable for including specimens from previously unsampled or underrepresented regions, filling gaps in our knowledge of the distribution of mitochondrial clades. For instance, we report mitochondrial sequence data of baboons from regions previously unstudied, namely South Sudan and Sudan. We show that samples from South and southern Sudan, east of the White Nile, nest within the central olive baboon clade J, whereas samples from the coastal region of Sudan and east of the Blue Nile nest within the hamadryas clade G3. These findings expand the northern distributions of both clade J and clade G3 significantly, while also highlighting a strong geographic affinity between clade J and the Albertine Rift and (White) Nile Valley. Taxonomically, this clade corresponds with two subspecies recognized by *Hill, 1970: P. a. heuglini* and *P. a. tesselatum*.

A mummified hamadryas baboon from Gabbanat el-Qurud (MHNL 51000172) yielded sufficient aDNA to produce a complete mitogenome, which fell unequivocally in subclade G3-Y (cf. *Kopp*



Figure 4. Overview of sequencing success for museum and mummy specimens. Mean (\pm SD) final coverage of the mitogenome is shown for each sample (with abbreviated museum ID). Circles and triangles depict the different sequencing approaches, enrichment and shotgun, respectively; colours represent the different sample types and sequencing approaches (yellow: shotgun sequencing of mummy sample; blue: shotgun sequencing of historic sample; purple: capture enrichment of historic sample; green: capture enrichment of mummy sample). Dashed line shows the cut-off limit 10× for mean final coverage; samples below were excluded from final analyses.

et al., 2014b). Haplotype networks allowed us to further refine subclade G3-Y, which consists of P. hamadryas and P. anubis samples from Eritrea and P. anubis samples from neighbouring regions in Sudan. G3-Y also includes samples from the southern-most distribution of P. hamadryas on the Arabian Peninsula. Geographic stability of phylogenetic clades over millennia has been shown for other baboon populations (Mathieson et al., 2020), leading us to infer that MHNL 51000172 (or its maternal ancestor) originated in the region where clade G3-Y exists today. We cannot completely rule out an Arabian origin for MHNL 51000172, as our data does not cover the entire historic and present haplotype diversity there, but the tight clustering of the currently available Arabian sequences and distances in the HVRI network make an Arabian origin of MHNL 51000172 unlikely. Similarly, the close relationship with a sample of P. anubis from Sudan east of the Blue Nile (SMNS-Z-MAM-000584) could indicate trafficking of baboons along the Nile, as suggested for specimens of P. anubis recovered from Ptolemaic catacombs (Brandon-Jones and Goudsmit, 2022; Peters, 2020) and the Predynastic site of Hierakonpolis (Van Neer et al., 2004). However, MHNL 51000172 was identified phenotypically as P. hamadryas (Lortet and Gaillard, 1907), and the distribution of hamadryas baboons is restricted to more eastern regions (Figure 2). If the distributions of baboons in northeastern Africa have remained roughly stable within the last 2500 y (as supported by ecological niche modelling; Chala et al., 2019), the region in Sudan east of the Blue Nile and west of the Atbarah River could not have served as a source region for hamadryas baboons. Thus, it stands to reason that MHNL 51000172 (or its maternal ancestor) was captured in present-day Eritrea (or close neighbouring regions) and trafficked to Egypt. The value of this finding is twofold. First, it connects the mummified baboon to populations that live today in Eritrea and eastern Sudan, between 13° and 20° latitude. Second, it corroborates the reports



Figure 5. Distribution of GC content in historic samples and mummified samples.

of Greco-Roman historians, who described Eritrea, and specifically Adulis, as the sole source of *P. hamadryas* for Ptolemaic Egyptians.

Yet, this baboon predates the reign of Ptolemy I by centuries, presuming it is contemporaneous with another baboon (MHNL 90001206) in the same assemblage, ca. 800–540 BCE (*Richardin et al., 2017*). Thus, our findings raise the possibility that Adulis already existed as a trading centre or entrepôt during the 25th and 26th dynasties of Egypt. Although speculative, and expressed with due caution, our reasoning would extend the antiquity of Egyptian–Adulite trade by as much as five centuries.

Arguing for pre-Ptolemaic contact between Egypt and Adulis is fraught in the absence of corroborating material evidence—but even so, the archaeological record is not entirely silent on the prospect. *Manzo, 2010* and others (*Zazzaro et al., 2014*) reassessed the ceramic tradition at Adulis and developed a chronology that stretches to the early second millennium BCE, the deepest levels of which contained a fragment of blue glass with yellow inlays similar to Egyptian glass from the New



Figure 6. DNA damage plot for the sample of the mummified baboon MHNL 51000172 from 5' and 3' read ends, showing mean frequencies of C to T substitutions (red), G to A substitutions (blue), deletions (grey), and insertions (yellow) over the first/last 25 positions.



Figure 7. Barplots showing the bases of mapped reads for the sample of the mummified baboon MHNL 51000172 at sites that (**a**) exhibit fixed differences among northeastern subclades and (**b**) are fixed in subclade G3-Y but differ in the consensus sequence of the mummified baboon. Sites are named according to their position and the base in the G3-Y consensus sequence and coloured by base. Bases are colour-coded (A: red; C: blue; G: yellow, T: green).

Kingdom (*Fattovich, 2018*). In Egypt, contact with the Eritrean lowlands is attested by trade goods dating to ca. 1800–1650 BCE or earlier, including potsherds, obsidian, and fragments of carbonized ebony (*Fattovich, 2018*; *Lucarini et al., 2020*). Discovered at Mersa Gawasis, a Middle Kingdom harbour, these artefacts appear to align the prehistory of Adulis with the fabled Land of Punt (*Bard and Fattovich, 2018*; *Manzo, 2010*; *Manzo, 2012*), an enigmatic toponym scattered across scant and disconnected records (*Cooper, 2020*).

Punt existed in a region south and east of Egypt, and was accessible by land or sea. For Egyptians, Punt was a source of 'marvels,' particularly incense, but also baboons, that drove bidirectional trade for 1300 y (ca. 2500–1170 BCE) (*Tallet, 2013*). Some scholars have described this enterprise as the beginning of economic globalization (*Fattovich, 2012*), whereas others view it as the earliest maritime leg of the spice route (*Keay, 2006*), a trade network that would shape geopolitical fortunes for millennia. The global historical importance of Punt is therefore considerable, but there is a problem—its location is uncertain, in part because the toponym fades from view. From the early first millennium BCE, there are no further records of Egyptians in Punt or of Puntites visiting Egypt. There are, however, two incomplete inscriptions that mention Punt in a narrative context, and both are attributed to the 26th (Saite) Dynasty (*Betrò, 1996; Cavasin, 2019*). One of these, the Defenneh stele, describes



Figure 8. Phylogeny of baboons based on complete mitochondrial genomes as inferred from maximum likelihood analysis. *P. cynocephalus* from the Udzungwa Mountains and outgroup *T. gelada* were omitted from visualization for clarity. The analysed baboon mummy sample MHNL 51000172 (in bold) falls into clade G3-Y. Clade names (A–K) according to **Roos et al., 2021**, subclades X–Z according to **Kopp et al., 2014b**; sample IDs include putative species (P.ham, *P. hamadryas*; P.anu, *P. anubis*; P.cyn, *P. cynocephalus*; P.urs, *P. ursinus*; P.pap, *P. papio*), country of origin code (CAF, Central African Republic; CMR, Cameroon; COD, Democratic Republic of Congo; DJI, Djibouti; ERI, Eritrea; ETH, Ethiopia; NGA, Nigeria; SDN, Sudar; SSD, South Sudar; SEN, Senegal; SLE, Sierra Leone; SOM, Somalia; TGO, Togo; note that sample SMNS7509 is of unclear geoprovenance), and abbreviated museum code. Nodes with a branch support below 95% are marked with a grey dot. Mitochondrial genomes generated in this study are marked with an asterisk.

Figure 8 continued on next page



Figure 8 continued

The online version of this article includes the following figure supplement(s) for figure 8:

Figure supplement 1. Phylogeny of baboons based on complete mitochondrial genomes under Bayesian inference.



Figure 9. Median-joining haplotype network of northeastern baboons based on 644 HVRI sequences (176 bp). The analysed baboon mummy sample resolves in clade G3-Y (depicted in red, black arrow). Circle colour reflects species and country of origin ('Arabia'' comprises samples from Yemen and Saudi Arabia, 'Strait' comprises samples from near the Bab-el-Mandab Strait, i.e. southern Eritrea, Djibouti, northern Somalia).

The online version of this article includes the following figure supplement(s) for figure 9:

Figure supplement 1. Median-joining haplotype network of northeastern baboons based on 137 cyt b sequences (1140 bp).

an expedition to Punt that was saved from dying thirst by unexpected rainfall on 'the mountains of Punt' (*Meeks, 2003*). The Defenneh stele is a testament to the efforts of Saitic pharaohs to revive maritime commerce on the Red Sea (*Lloyd, 1977*), while also raising the possibility of renewed trade with Punt. It is perhaps no coincidence that the Saite dynasty (664–525 BCE) exists squarely within the radiometric date range of hamadryas baboons from Gabbanat el-Qurud.

Punt, like Adulis, was a source of baboons for Egyptians, a history that raises the possibility of using baboons as a tool for testing geographic hypotheses. Recently, **Dominy et al., 2020** used stable isotope mapping methods to determine the geoprovenance of mummified baboons from Thebes (modern-day Luxor) and dated to the (late) New Kingdom. Their results pointed to present-day Ethiopia, Eritrea, or Djibouti, as well as portions of Somalia, an area that corroborates most scholarly views on the location of Punt (**Breyer, 2016; Kitchen, 2004**), but see **Meeks, 2002; Meeks, 2003; Tallet, 2013**. Here, we used aDNA to show that at least one baboon from the 25th Dynasty or Late Period of Egyptian history—a span that coincides with the last known expeditions to Punt, but predates Greco-Roman accounts of Adulis as a source of baboons—can be traced to Eritrea. Thus, our findings appear to establish primatological continuity between Punt and Adulis. Such a conclusion must be viewed with caution, but it bolsters recurrent conjecture among some historical archaeologists: that Punt and Adulis were essentially the same trading centre from different eras of Egyptian antiquity (**Doresse, 1959; Fattovich, 2018; Kitchen, 2004; Massa, 2021; Phillips, 1997; Sleeswyk, 1983**).

At minimum, our results reinforce the view that ancient Egyptian mariners travelled great distances to acquire living baboons. A great strength of this conclusion is that it is based on distinct but complementary methods, but of course, the sample size is paltry and limited to *P. hamadryas*, one of two baboon species recovered from Gabbanat el-Qurud. Moving forward, it would be desirable to expand the sample size, examine specimens of *P. anubis* as well as nuclear genomic data for increased precision, and include different time intervals of baboon mummification.

Future directions

Direct radiocarbon dating of MHNL 51000172 and other baboons from Gabbanat el-Qurud is an urgent priority, in part because doing so would put these specimens into conversation with those from the catacombs of Tuna el-Gebel. The oldest gallery at Tuna el-Gebel, Gallery D, is dated to the 26th Dynasty and contains a single species of baboon: *P. anubis*. Some scholars (*Peters, 2020; von den Driesch et al., 2004*) have argued that these olive baboons, as well as *Chlorocebus aethiops* (also found in Gallery D), were sourced from the Sudanese Nile Valley and adjacent areas, which predicts membership in clade G3-Y, although clade J is also plausible. Construction of Gallery C began during the first period of Persian rule in Egypt (524–404 BCE) and continued through the 30th and Ptolemaic dynasties. As every phase of Gallery C contains mummified specimens of both *P. anubis* and *P. hamadryas*, there is rich opportunity to explore diachronic changes in trade routes using phylogeographic methods. Uniform membership in clade G3-Y, for example, would affirm that Late Period Egyptians were sourcing *P. hamadryas* from Eritrea as early as the sixth century BCE. Testing this hypothesis may prove rewarding.

Materials and methods DNA extraction and sequencing

DNA damage and degradation is expected from ancient (mummified) and nineteenth/early twentiethcentury museum specimens. We therefore analysed mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA), which is available in higher copy numbers than nuclear DNA and holds greater potential for success when sample quality is poor. We analysed complete mitogenomes because they are effective for reconstructing robust mitochondrial phylogenies of modern baboons and have proven to indicate the geographic origin of the corresponding sample reliably (**Roos et al., 2021; Zinner et al., 2013**). Recent advances in sequencing technologies allow the successful sequencing of mitogenomes either with a shotgun sequencing approach or, for samples with very low DNA quality and quantity, with a capture enrichment approach (**Schuenemann et al., 2017; Shapiro and Hofreiter, 2012**).

We extracted DNA with a specific column-based method aimed at the recovery of short DNA fragments following established protocols and necessary precautions for the analysis of aDNA (Dabney et al., 2013a; Rohland et al., 2004; Roos et al., 2021). In particular, samples from

mummified specimens were extracted separately and in a dedicated aDNA laboratory to prevent cross-contamination. Concentration of DNA extracts was measured on a Qubit fluorometer (Life Technologies, Singapore) and quality checked on a Bioanalyzer (Agilent, Santa Clara, USA) or Tapestation 2200 (Agilent). All samples were initially sequenced with a shotgun approach. Samples with DNA extract concentrations below 4.5 ng/ μ l or final mitogenome sequencing depth below 10×, and with enough remaining DNA extract, were enriched for mtDNA with a capture approach.

For the shotgun approach, sequencing libraries were prepared with the NEBNext Ultra II DNA Library Prep Kit (New England BioLabs, Frankfurt, Germany) according to the manufacturer's instructions without prior fragmentation. Library concentration and quality were assessed with the Qubit Fluorometer and Bioanalyzer and molarity was estimated via qPCR with the NEBNext Library Quant Kit (New England BioLabs). Libraries were single indexed with NEBNext Multiplex Oligos (New England BioLabs) with 5–11 PCR cycles and cleaned up with the kit's beads.

For the capture enrichment approach, RNA baits (myBaits custom Kit, Arbor Biosciences, Ann Arbor, USA) were designed for the mitogenome of *P. anubis* East (GenBank Acc. No. JX946196; **Zinner et al., 2013**). We prepared libraries with the Accel-NGS 1S Plus DNA Library Kit and the 1S Plus Dual Indexing Kit (Swift Biosciences, Ann Arbor, USA) according to the manufacturer's instructions for small fragment retention. Hybridization capture was performed with a 48 hr incubation step according to the manufacturer's instructions for highly degraded DNA. After library amplification with 14 PCR cycles, libraries were cleaned with SPRIselect beads (Beckmann Coulter, Krefeld, Germany).

Sequencing was performed with 24 libraries per lane (23 samples + pooled negative control to monitor contamination) on an Illumina HiSeq4000 (50 bp, single-end read) at the NGS Integrative Genomics core unit of the University Medical Center Göttingen, Göttingen, Germany, or on a NovaSeq6000 SP flow cell (100 bp, paired-end read) at the Max Planck Institute for Molecular Genetics, Berlin, Germany. Capture enrichment libraries were reloaded and sequenced a second time to increase the number of reads.

Mitogenome assembly

Raw sequencing reads were demultiplexed and adapters trimmed at the sequencing facilities. We performed subsequent sequence processing on the central high-performance computing cluster bwForCluster BinAC. We checked read guality with FastQC 0.11.8 (Andrews, 2010), trimmed and filtered reads with Trimmomatic 0.39 (Bolger et al., 2014) using the settings ILLUMINACLIP:TruSeg3-PE.fa:2:30:10 MINLEN:30 SLIDINGWINDOW:4:20 LEADING:20 TRAILING:20, AVGQUAL:30, and confirmed adequate quality of trimmed reads again with FastQC. Reads were mapped with Burrows Wheeler Aligner (BWA) backtrack 0.7.17 (Li and Durbin, 2009) using default settings independently to each of the seven different mitogenomes of representatives of the northern baboon clades (P. anubis East JX946196; P. anubis Gombe MG787545; P. anubis West1 JX946197; P. anubis West 2JX946198; P. cynocephalus North JX946199; P. hamadryas JX946201; P. papio JX946203). We chose this approach to avoid biases in downstream analyses introduced through the choice of the reference genome and used the consensus sequence resulting from the best mapping results in downstream analyses. We did not adjust the settings as usually recommended to improve mapping results for aDNA (Schubert et al., 2012) but were stringent in mapping and filtering of reads to avoid the inclusion of nuclear mitochondrial DNA segments (NUMTs). Alignments were indexed with SAMtools 1.10 'index' and filtered with 'view' for mapped and (in the case of paired-end data) properly paired reads with a mapping quality of at least MAPQ 30. Library complexity was estimated with the 'EstimateLibraryComplexity' from the Picard Toolkit 2.20.4 (Broad Institute, 2019). We merged BAM files of the same samples with 'MergeSamFiles' and removed duplicates with 'MarkDuplicates' from the Picard Toolkit. DNA damage was estimated calculating the frequency of base substitutions, insertions, and deletions at the 5' and 3' end, respectively, with DamageProfiler 1.0 (Neukamm et al., 2021). We calculated average sequencing depth with SAMtools 1.10 'depth' (Li et al., 2009) as the sum of reads covering each position divided by the number of bases in the reference genome, and estimated GC-bias with 'CollectGCBiasMetrics' from the Picard Toolkit. We created a consensus sequence for each sample with the 'doFasta' option in ANGSD (Korneliussen et al., 2014) using the base with the highest effective depth (EBD) and setting positions with coverage below 2 to undetermined. We only retained mitogenomes for further analyses for which at least 80% of the sequence were covered at $3 \times$.

We augmented our dataset with published mitogenomes of baboons (**Roos et al., 2021**) and *T. gelada* as outgroup (**Table 1**) and aligned sequences with MUSCLE 3.8.81 (**Edgar, 2004**) as implemented in the package msa 1.28.0 (**Bodenhofer et al., 2015**) in R 4.2.1 (**R Development Core Team, 2022**) using standard settings with a maximum number of 16 iterations.

For a more fine-scale geographic representation, we further included published sequence data from the northeastern part of the baboon distribution of two different mitochondrial markers with differing resolution: the cytochrome *b* gene (cyt *b*) (*Zinner et al., 2009; Zinner et al., 2015*) and a fragment of the hypervariable region I (HVRI) of the D-loop (*Hapke et al., 2001; Kopp et al., 2014a; Kopp et al., 2014b; Städele et al., 2015; Winney et al., 2004*). We extracted the corresponding regions from the mitogenome alignment and again removed sequences with more than 10% undetermined sites.

We assessed contamination by checking mismatches of the mapped reads from the mummified sample at sites in the mitogenome that (i) are distinct between northeastern subclades (125 fixed differences) and (ii) are fixed in subclade G3-Y (considering all samples but the mummified baboon) but differ in the consensus sequence of the mummified sample (37 sites).

Phylogenetic reconstruction

To identify the phylogenetic affiliation of the newly investigated samples, we reconstructed phylogenetic trees based on the final dataset of 46 mitogenomes (alignment length: 16,628 bp) using ML and BI methods with W-IQ-Tree 1.6.12 (**Nguyen et al., 2015**; **Trifinopoulos et al., 2016**) and MrBayes 3.2.7 (**Huelsenbeck and Ronquist, 2001**; **Ronquist and Huelsenbeck, 2003**), respectively. We treated the mitogenome as a single partition, the optimal substitution model for phylogenetic reconstructions was detected to be TN + F + I + G4 (**Tamura and Nei, 1993**) under the Bayesian information criterion and GTR + F + I + G4 (**Tavaré, 1986**) under the Corrected Akaike Information Criterion with Modelfinder (**Kalyaanamoorthy et al., 2017**) as implemented in W-IQ-Tree. The ML tree was reconstructed with 10,000 ultrafast bootstrap replications (**Hoang et al., 2018**) applying the TN + F + I + G4 model. The BI tree was reconstructed applying the GTR + I + G model and using four independent Markov chain Monte Carlo runs with 1 million generations, a burn-in of 25%, and sampling every 100 generations. To ensure convergence, the Potential Scale Reduction Factor was checked to be close to 1 for all parameters. We visualized phylogenetic trees with the R package ggtree 3.4.2 (**Yu et al., 2017**) and adopted clade nomination of **Roos et al., 2021** and **Kopp et al., 2014b**.

Haplotype networks

To determine the mitochondrial clade of origin of the analysed samples more precisely, we reconstructed median-joining haplotype networks (**Bandelt et al., 1999**) with Popart 1.7 (*Leigh and Bryant, 2015*) for both the HVRI (n = 644, 176 bp) and the cyt b (n = 137, 1140 bp) dataset.

Geographic maps

Geographic maps were created in R. We obtained species distribution shapefiles from IUCN (*Gippoliti*, 2019; *Sithaldeen*, 2019; *Wallis*, 2020a; *Wallis*, 2020b; *Wallis* et al., 2020; *Wallis* et al., 2021), river, lake and coastlines from Natural Earth (https://www.naturalearthdata.com) via rnaturalearth 0.1.0 (*Massicotte and South*, 2023).

Acknowledgements

We thank Frieder Mayer and Christiane Funk from MfN Berlin for sharing baboon samples with us for genetic analyses. We thank Christiane Schwarz for assistance in DNA extraction and library preparation and Bernd Timmermann and Stefan Börno for advice and facilitation of sequencing. We are grateful to Salima Ikram and Julien Cooper for energizing discussion on the topics of Egyptian mummification and toponyms, and thank Laura Epp for advice on aDNA analyses. Research carried out on the mummies curated at the Musée des Confluences (Lyon, France) is supported by the SIMoS Program funded by LabEx ARCHIMEDE from 'Investir L'Avenir' program ANR-11-LABX-0032-01 to SP. We acknowledge the Service des Musées de France, Mme Dominique Dupuis-Labbé and the Ministère de la Culture et de la Communication (France) for their ongoing support to the research carried out on the mummies. We acknowledge the support by the High Performance and Cloud Computing Group at the Zentrum für Datenverarbeitung of the University of Tübingen, the state of Baden-Württemberg through bwHPC and the German Research Foundation (DFG) through grant no INST 37/935-1 FUGG. We acknowledge the University of Konstanz Sequencing Analysis (SequAna) Core Facility for bioinformatic assistance. This study was funded by the Young Scholar Fund and the Zukunftskolleg, University of Konstanz (funded by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) and the Baden-Württemberg Ministry of Science as part of the Excellence Strategy of the German Federal and State Governments), and the Junge Akademie at the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities and the German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina. NJD received support through a Senior Fellowship at the Zukunftskolleg, GHK was supported by the Hector Pioneer Fellowship of Hector Stiftung II and the Zukunftskolleg. Some of the views in this paper were developed during a workshop titled, "Animating Ancient Trade Routes Through Primate Lifeways," funded by the Wenner-Gren Foundation and Zukunftskolleg. Finally, we thank the handling editors, Julien Cooper, and an anonymous reviewer for their thoughtful suggestions.

Additional information

Funding

runung		
Funder	Grant reference number	Author
Universität Konstanz	Young Scholar Fund	Gisela H Kopp
Universität Konstanz	Zukunftskolleg	Nathaniel J Dominy Gisela H Kopp
Max-Planck-Gesellschaft	Open Access Fund	Gisela H Kopp
Hector Stiftung II	Hector Pioneer Fellowship	Gisela H Kopp
Deutsche Akademie der Naturforscher Leopoldina - Nationale Akademie der Wissenschaften	Die Junge Akademie	Gisela H Kopp
Bundesministerium für Bildung und Forschung	Excellence Strategy of the German Federal and State Governments	Benjamin Hume Gisela H Kopp
Ministerium für Wissenschaft, Forschung und Kunst Baden- Württemberg	bwHPC	Franziska Grathwol Benjamin Hume Gisela H Kopp
Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft	INST 37/935- 1 FUGG	Franziska Grathwol Benjamin Hume Gisela H Kopp
Agence Nationale de la Recherche	ANR-11-LABX-0032-01	Stéphanie M Porcier
Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft	Centre of Excellence 2117 "Centre for the Advanced Study of Collective Behaviour" ID: 422037984	Gisela H Kopp
	Benaviour 10. 422007704	

The funders had no role in study design, data collection and interpretation, or the decision to submit the work for publication. Open access funding provided by Max Planck Society.

Author contributions

Franziska Grathwol, Data curation, Formal analysis, Investigation, Visualization, Methodology, Writing - original draft, Project administration; Christian Roos, Resources, Data curation, Supervision, Methodology, Writing - review and editing; Dietmar Zinner, Data curation, Writing - review and editing; Benjamin Hume, Software, Formal analysis, Writing - review and editing; Stéphanie M Porcier, Didier Berthet, Jacques Cuisin, Stefan Merker, Resources, Data curation, Writing - review and editing; Claudio Ottoni, Resources, Formal analysis, Methodology, Writing - review and editing; Wim Van Neer, Writing - review and editing; Nathaniel J Dominy, Conceptualization, Investigation, Writing - review and editing; Gisela H Kopp, Conceptualization, Resources, Data curation, Software, Formal analysis, Supervision, Funding acquisition, Investigation, Visualization, Methodology, Writing - original draft, Project administration, Writing - review and editing

Author ORCIDs

Christian Roos (b) http://orcid.org/0000-0003-0190-4266 Dietmar Zinner (b) http://orcid.org/0000-0003-3967-8014 Wim Van Neer (b) http://orcid.org/0000-0003-1710-3623 Nathaniel J Dominy (b) http://orcid.org/0000-0001-5916-418X Gisela H Kopp (b) http://orcid.org/0000-0001-8396-3264

Decision letter and Author response

Decision letter https://doi.org/10.7554/eLife.87513.sa1 Author response https://doi.org/10.7554/eLife.87513.sa2

Additional files

Supplementary files

- Supplementary file 1. Overview of analysed samples and sequencing results (provided as .csv).
- MDAR checklist

Data availability

Raw sequencing data are deposited in the European Nucleotide Archive (ENA, project accession no. PRJEB60261), mitochondrial genomes on Genbank (accession numbers: OQ538075-OQ538089). Code used for data processing and analysis is available on OSF via https://doi.org/10.17605/OSF.IO/D5GX3.

The following datasets were generated:

Author(s)	Year	Dataset title	Dataset URL	Database and Identifier
Корр GH	2023	Adulis and the transshipment of baboons during classical antiquity	https://doi.org/10. 17605/OSF.IO/D5GX3	Open Science Framework, 10.17605/OSF.IO/D5GX3
Корр GH	2023	Adulis and the transshipment of baboons during classical antiquity	https://www.ebi.ac. uk/ena/browser/view/ PRJEB60261	European Nucleotide Archive, PRJEB60261
Grathwol F, Roos C, Zinner D, Hume B, Porcier SM, Berthet D, Cuisin J, Merker S, Ottoni C, Van Neer W, Dominy NJ, Kopp GH	2023	Papio anubis isolate mitoclade G3-Y voucher Z-MAM-000584 mitochondrion, complete genome	https://www.ncbi. nlm.nih.gov/nuccore/ OQ538075	NCBI GenBank, OQ538075
Grathwol F, Roos C, Zinner D, Hume B, Porcier SM, Berthet D, Cuisin J, Merker S, Ottoni C, Van Neer W, Dominy NJ, Kopp GH	2023	Papio hamadryas isolate mitoclade G3-X voucher Z-MAM-001034 mitochondrion, complete genome	https://www.ncbi. nlm.nih.gov/nuccore/ OQ538076	NCBI GenBank, OQ538076
Grathwol F, Roos C, Zinner D, Hume B, Porcier SM, Berthet D, Cuisin J, Merker S, Ottoni C, Van Neer W, Dominy NJ, Kopp GH	2023	Papio anubis isolate mitoclade J voucher Z-MAM-000583 mitochondrion, complete genome	https://www.ncbi. nlm.nih.gov/nuccore/ OQ538077	NCBI GenBank, OQ538077

Continued on next page

Continued				
Author(s)	Year	Dataset title	Dataset URL	Database and Identifier
Grathwol F, Roos C, Zinner D, Hume B, Porcier SM, Berthet D, Cuisin J, Merker S, Ottoni C, Van Neer Z, Dominy NJ, Kopp GH	2023	Papio hamadryas isolate mitoclade G3-X voucher Z-MAM-000960 mitochondrion, complete genome	https://www.ncbi. nlm.nih.gov/nuccore/ OQ538078	NCBI GenBank, OQ538078
Grathwol F, Roos C, Zinner D, Hume B, Porcier SM, Berthet D, Cuisin J, Merker S, Ottoni C, Van Neer W, Dominy NJ, Kopp GH	2023	Papio hamadryas isolate mitoclade G3-X voucher ZMB_Mam-025647 mitochondrion, complete genome	https://www.ncbi. nlm.nih.gov/nuccore/ OQ538079	NCBI GenBank, OQ538079
Grathwol F, Roos C, Zinner D, Hume B, Porcier SM, Berthet D, Cuisin J, Merker S, Ottoni C, Van Neer W, Dominy NJ, Kopp GH	2023	Papio hamadryas isolate mitoclade G3-X voucher MO-1972-357 mitochondrion, complete genome	https://www.ncbi. nlm.nih.gov/nuccore/ OQ538080	NCBI GenBank, OQ538080
Grathwol F, Roos C, Zinner D, Hume B, Porcier SM, Berthet D, Cuisin J, Merker S, Ottoni C, Van Neer W, Dominy NJ, Kopp GH	2023	Papio hamadryas isolate mitoclade G3-Y voucher Z-MAM-001288 mitochondrion, complete genome	https://www.ncbi. nlm.nih.gov/nuccore/ OQ538081	NCBI GenBank, OQ538081
Grathwol F, Roos C, Zinner D, Hume B, Porcier SM, Berthet D, Cuisin J, Merker S, Ottoni C, Van Neer W, Dominy NJ, Kopp GH	2023	Papio hamadryas isolate mitoclade G3-Y voucher Z-MAM-007509 mitochondrion, complete genome	https://www.ncbi. nlm.nih.gov/nuccore/ OQ538082	NCBI GenBank, OQ538082
Grathwol F, Roos C, Zinner D, Hume B, Porcier SM, Berthet D, Cuisin J, Merker S, Ottoni C, Van Neer W, Dominy NJ, Kopp GH	2023	Papio hamadryas voucher 51000172 mitochondrion, complete genome	https://www.ncbi. nlm.nih.gov/nuccore/ OQ538083	NCBI GenBank, OQ538083
Grathwol F, Roos C, Zinner D, Hume B, Porcier SM, Berthet D, Cuisin J, Merker S, Ottoni C, Van Neer W, Dominy NJ, Kopp GH	2023	Papio hamadryas isolate mitoclade G3-Z voucher ZMB_Mam-042543 mitochondrion, complete genome	https://www.ncbi. nlm.nih.gov/nuccore/ OQ538084	NCBI GenBank, OQ538084
Grathwol F, Roos C, Zinner D, Hume B, Porcier SM, Berthet D, Cuisin J, Merker S, Ottoni C, Van Neer W, Dominy NJ, Kopp GH	2023	Papio hamadryas isolate mitoclade G3-Z voucher ZMB_Mam-074849 mitochondrion, complete genome	https://www.ncbi. nlm.nih.gov/nuccore/ OQ538085	NCBI GenBank, OQ538085

Continued on next page

Author(s)	Year	Dataset title	Dataset URL	Database and Identifier
Grathwol F, Roos C, Zinner D, Hume B, Porcier SM, Berthet D, Cuisin J, Merker S, Ottoni C, Van Neer W, Dominy NJ, Kopp GH	2023	Papio hamadryas isolate mitoclade G3-Z voucher MO-1972-359 mitochondrion, complete genome	https://www.ncbi. nlm.nih.gov/nuccore/ OQ538086	NCBI GenBank, OQ538086
Grathwol F, Roos C, Zinner D, Hume B, Porcier SM, Berthet D, Cuisin J, Merker S, Ottoni C, Van Neer W, Dominy NJ, Kopp GH	2023	Papio anubis isolate mitoclade J voucher Z-MAM-032128 mitochondrion, complete genome	https://www.ncbi. nlm.nih.gov/nuccore/ OQ538087	NCBI GenBank, OQ538087
Grathwol F, Roos C, Zinner D, Hume B, Porcier SM, Berthet D, Cuisin J, Merker S, Ottoni C, Van Neer W, Dominy NJ, Kopp GH	2023	Papio cynocephalus voucher ZM-MO-1977-5 mitochondrion, partial genome	https://www.ncbi. nlm.nih.gov/nuccore/ OQ538088	NCBI GenBank, OQ538088
Grathwol F, Roos C, Zinner D, Hume B, Porcier SM, Berthet D, Cuisin J, Merker S, Ottoni C, Van Neer W, Dominy NJ, Kopp GH	2023	Papio hamadryas isolate mitoclade G3-X voucher ZMB_Mam_012808 mitochondrion, complete genome	https://www.ncbi. nlm.nih.gov/nuccore/ OQ538089	NCBI GenBank, OQ538089

References

Continued

- Andrews S. 2010. Fastqc: A quality control tool for high throughput sequence data. Babraham Bioinformatics. FastQC. https://www.bioinformatics.babraham.ac.uk/projects/fastqc/
- Bandelt HJ, Forster P, Röhl A. 1999. Median-joining networks for inferring intraspecific phylogenies. Molecular Biology and Evolution 16:37–48. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.molbev.a026036, PMID: 10331250
- Bard KA, Fattovich R. 2018. Seafaring Expeditions to Punt in the Middle Kingdom: Excavations at Mersa/Wadi Gawasis, Egypt Leiden: Brill. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1163/9789004379602
- Betrò M. 1996. Punt, la XXVI dinastia e il frammento di statua del Museo Pushkin I.1.B 1025. Egitto e Vicino Oriente **19**:41–49.

Bodenhofer U, Bonatesta E, Horejš-Kainrath C, Hochreiter S. 2015. msa: an R package for multiple sequence alignment. *Bioinformatics* 31:3997–3999. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1093/bioinformatics/btv494, PMID: 26315911
 Boessneck J. 1987. *Tuna El-Gebel I: Die Tiergalerien* Hildesheim: Gerstenberg Verlag.

Bolger AM, Lohse M, Usadel B. 2014. Trimmomatic: a flexible trimmer for Illumina sequence data. *Bioinformatics* **30**:2114–2120. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1093/bioinformatics/btu170, PMID: 24695404

Bowersock GW. 2013. The Throne of Adulis: Red Sea Wars on the Eve of Islam Oxford: Oxford University Press. Brandon-Jones D, Goudsmit J. 2022. The nonhuman Primate remains from the baboon Catacomb at Saqqara in

Egypt. Urbani B, Youlatos D, Antczak A (Eds). World Archaeoprimatology: Interconnections of Humans and Nonhuman Primates in the Past Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. p. 311–353. DOI: https://doi.org/10. 1017/9781108766500

Breyer F. 2016. Punt: Die Suche Nach Dem "Gottesland" Leiden: Brill. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1163/ 9789004322615

Broad Institute. 2019. Picard Toolkit. Picard. http://broadinstitute.github.io/picard/

Burstein SM. 1989. Agatharchides of Cnidus: On the Erythraean Sea London: Hakluyt Society.

Burstein SM. 2002. Kush, Axum and the ancient Indian ocean trade. Bács TA (Ed). A Tribute to Excellence: Studies Offered in Honor of Ernö GaáL, Ulrich Luft, and Lásló Török Budapest: Chaire d'Egyptologie de l'Université Eotvos Lorand. p. 127–137.

Casson L. 1989. The Periplus Maris Erythraei: Text with Introduction, Translation, and Commentary Princeton: Princeton University Press.

Casson L. 1993. Ptolemy II and the hunting of African elephants. *Transactions of the American Philological* Association **123**:247–260. DOI: https://doi.org/10.2307/284331

Cavasin R. 2019. Tell Defenneh et la route de l'encens. Égypte Nilotique et Méditerranéenne 12:1-24.

- Chala D, Roos C, Svenning JC, Zinner D. 2019. Species-specific effects of climate change on the distribution of suitable baboon habitats – ecological niche modeling of current and last glacial maximum conditions. *Journal* of Human Evolution **132**:215–226. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jhevol.2019.05.003, PMID: 31203848
- **Cooper JC**. 2020. Toponymy on the Periphery: Placenames of the Eastern Desert, Red Sea, and South Sinai in Egyptian Documents from the Early Dynastic until the End of the New Kingdom Leiden: Brill. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1163/9789004422216
- Dabney J, Knapp M, Glocke I, Gansauge MT, Weihmann A, Nickel B, Valdiosera C, García N, Pääbo S, Arsuaga JL, Meyer M. 2013a. Complete mitochondrial genome sequence of a Middle Pleistocene cave bear reconstructed from ultrashort DNA fragments. PNAS 110:15758–15763. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas. 1314445110

Dabney J, Meyer M, Pääbo S. 2013b. Ancient DNA damage. Cold Spring Harbor Perspectives in Biology 5:a012567. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1101/cshperspect.a012567, PMID: 23729639

- **Dominy NJ**, Ikram S, Moritz GL, Wheatley PV, Christensen JN, Chipman JW, Koch PL. 2020. Mummified baboons reveal the far reach of early Egyptian mariners. *eLife* **9**:e60860. DOI: https://doi.org/10.7554/eLife.60860, PMID: 33319742
- Doresse J. 1959. Ethiopia London: Elek Books.
- Edgar RC. 2004. MUSCLE: multiple sequence alignment with high accuracy and high throughput. Nucleic Acids Research 32:1792–1797. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1093/nar/gkh340, PMID: 15034147
- Fattovich. 2012. Egypt's trade with Punt: new discoveries on the Red Sea coast. British Museum Studies in Ancient Egypt and Sudan **18**:1–59.
- Fattovich R. 2018. The archaeology of Punt. Journal of Egyptian Archaeology 104:205–209. DOI: https://doi. org/10.1177/0307513319858321
- **Fauvelle-Aymar FX**. 2009. Les inscriptions d'Adoulis (Érythrée): fragments d'un royaume d'influence Hellénistique et Gréco-Romaine sur la côte Africaine de la mer Rouge. *Bulletin de l'Institut Français* D'Archéologie Orientale **109**:135–160.
- Geraads D. 1987. Dating the northern African cercopithecid fossil record. Human Evolution 2:19–27. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1007/BF02436528
- Gippoliti S. 2019. Papio hamadryas (e.T16019A17953082). The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. https:// doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2019-3.RLTS.T16019A17953082.en [Accessed August 23, 2022].
- **Goudsmit J**, Brandon-Jones D. 1999. Mummies of olive baboons and barbary macaques in the Baboon Catacomb of the sacred animal necropolis at North Saqqara. *Journal of Egyptian Archaeology* **85**:45. DOI: https://doi.org/10.2307/3822426
- Hapke A, Zinner D, Zischler H. 2001. Mitochondrial DNA variation in Eritrean hamadryas baboons (Papio hamadryas hamadryas): life history influences population genetic structure. Behavioral Ecology and Sociobiology 50:483–492. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1007/s002650100393
- Hatke G. 2013. Aksum and Nubia: Warfare, Commerce, and Political Fictions in Ancient Northeast Africa New York: New York University Press.
- Hill WCO. 1970. Primates: Comparative Anatomy and Taxonomy VIII. Cynopithecinae: Papio, Mandrillus, Theropithecus Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press.
- Hoang DT, Chernomor O, von Haeseler A, Minh BQ, Vinh LS. 2018. UFBoot2: improving the ultrafast bootstrap approximation. *Molecular Biology and Evolution* 35:518–522. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1093/molbev/msx281, PMID: 29077904
- Hodgson JA, Sterner KN, Matthews LJ, Burrell AS, Jani RA, Raaum RL, Stewart CB, Disotell TR. 2009. Successive radiations, not stasis, in the South American primate fauna. PNAS 106:5534–5539. DOI: https://doi.org/10. 1073/pnas.0810346106, PMID: 19321426
- Huelsenbeck JP, Ronquist F. 2001. MRBAYES: Bayesian inference of phylogenetic trees. *Bioinformatics* **17**:754–755. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1093/bioinformatics/17.8.754, PMID: 11524383
- Jolly CJ, Ucko PJ. 1969. The riddle of the sphinx-monkey. Douglas M, Kaberry PM (Eds). *Man in Africa* London: Tavistock. p. 319–335.
- Kalyaanamoorthy S, Minh BQ, Wong TKF, von Haeseler A, Jermiin LS. 2017. ModelFinder: fast model selection for accurate phylogenetic estimates. *Nature Methods* 14:587–589. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1038/nmeth.4285, PMID: 28481363
- Keay J. 2006. The Spice Route: A History Berkeley: University of California Press.
- Kistler L, Ware R, Smith O, Collins M, Allaby RG. 2017. A new model for ancient DNA decay based on paleogenomic meta-analysis. *Nucleic Acids Research* 45:6310–6320. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1093/nar/gkx361, PMID: 28486705
- Kitchen KA. 2004. The elusive land of punt Revisited. Lunde P, Porter A (Eds). *Trade and Travel in the Red Sea Region* Oxford: Argentum Press. p. 25–31.
- Kopp GH, Ferreira da Silva MJ, Fischer J, Brito JC, Regnaut S, Roos C, Zinner D. 2014a. The influence of social systems on patterns of mitochondrial DNA variation in baboons. *International Journal of Primatology* 35:210– 225. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1007/s10764-013-9725-5, PMID: 24523566
- Kopp GH, Roos C, Butynski TM, Wildman DE, Alagaili AN, Groeneveld LF, Zinner D. 2014b. Out of Africa, but how and when? The case of hamadryas baboons (*Papio hamadryas*). Journal of Human Evolution 76:154–164. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jhevol.2014.08.003, PMID: 25257698
- Korneliussen TS, Albrechtsen A, Nielsen R. 2014. ANGSD: analysis of next generation sequencing data. BMC Bioinformatics 15:356. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1186/s12859-014-0356-4, PMID: 25420514

- Leigh JW, Bryant D. 2015. POPART: full-feature software for haplotype network construction. Methods in Ecology and Evolution 6:1110–1116. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1111/2041-210X.12410
- Li H, Durbin R. 2009. Fast and accurate short read alignment with Burrows-Wheeler transform. *Bioinformatics* 25:1754–1760. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1093/bioinformatics/btp324, PMID: 19451168
- Li H, Handsaker B, Wysoker A, Fennell T, Ruan J, Homer N, Marth G, Abecasis G, Durbin R, 1000 Genome Project Data Processing Subgroup. 2009. The Sequence Alignment/Map format and SAMtools. *Bioinformatics* 25:2078–2079. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1093/bioinformatics/btp352, PMID: 19505943

Lloyd AB. 1977. Necho and the Red Sea: some considerations. *Journal of Egyptian Archaeology* **63**:142–155. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1177/030751337706300122

- Lortet LCE, Gaillard C. 1907. La faune momifiée de l'ancienne Egypte (deuxième série). Archives Du Muséum d'histoire Naturelle de Lyon **9**:1–130. DOI: https://doi.org/10.3406/mhnly.1907.961
- Lucarini G, Barca D, Manzo A. 2020. The provenance of obsidian artefacts from the Middle Kingdom harbour of Mersa/Wadi Gawasis, Egypt, and its implications for Red Sea trade routes in the 2nd millennium BC. *Quaternary International* **555**:85–95. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1016/j.quaint.2020.03.015
- Manzo A. 2010. Adulis before Aksum? Possible 2nd and 1st millenium BC evidence from the site of the ancient port. Lusini G (Ed). *Current Trends in Eritrean Studies* Naples: Università degli Studi di Napoli "L'Orientale". p. 29–42.
- Manzo A. 2012. Nubians and the others on the Red sea: an update on the exotic ceramic materials from the Middle Kingdom harbour of Mersa/Wadi Gawasis, Red Sea, Egypt. Agius DA, Cooper JP, Trakadas A, Zazzaro C (Eds). Navigated Spaces, Connected Places Oxford: Archaeopress. p. 47–58.

Massa S. 2021. Emotion: Eritrean mobility and cultural heritage. New frontiers of the horn of Africa. Bortolotto S,

- Cheli F (Eds). Eritrean Heritage: Ancient Routes and Settlements Florence: Altralinea Edizioni. p. 47–61. Massicotte P, South A. 2023. rnaturalearth: World Map Data from Natural Earth. R Package Version 0.1.0. https://docs.ropensci.org/rnaturalearth/https://github.com/ropensci/rnaturalearth
- Mathieson I, Abascal F, Vinner L, Skoglund P, Pomilla C, Mitchell P, Arthur C, Gurdasani D, Willerslev E, Sandhu MS, Dewar G. 2020. An ancient baboon genome demonstrates long-term population continuity in southern Africa. Genome Biology and Evolution 12:407–412. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1093/gbe/evaa019, PMID: 32022848
- Meeks D. 2002. Coptos et le chemin de Pount. Topoi 3:267-334.
- Meeks D. 2003. Locating Punt. O'Connor D, Quirke S (Eds). Mysterious Lands London: UCL Press. p. 53–80. DOI: https://doi.org/10.4324/9781843147626-4/locating-punt-dimitri-meeks
- Munro-Hay S. 1982. The foreign trade of the Aksumite port of Adulis. Azania 17:107–125. DOI: https://doi.org/ 10.1080/00672708209511302
- **Neukamm J**, Peltzer A, Nieselt K. 2021. DamageProfiler: fast damage pattern calculation for ancient DNA. *Bioinformatics* **37**:3652–3653. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1093/bioinformatics/btab190, PMID: 33890614
- Nguyen L-T, Schmidt HA, von Haeseler A, Minh BQ. 2015. IQ-TREE: a fast and effective stochastic algorithm for estimating maximum-likelihood phylogenies. *Molecular Biology and Evolution* **32**:268–274. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1093/molbev/msu300, PMID: 25371430
- Ottoni C, Guellil M, Ozga AT, Stone AC, Kersten O, Bramanti B, Porcier S, Van Neer W. 2019. Metagenomic analysis of dental calculus in ancient Egyptian baboons. *Scientific Reports* **9**:19637. DOI: https://doi.org/10. 1038/s41598-019-56074-x, PMID: 31873124
- Peters J. 2020. The allochthonous fauna of Tuna El-Gebel and its cultural implications. Flossmann-Schütze MC, Hoffmann F (Eds). Tuna El-Gebel — Eine Ferne Welt: Tagungsband Zur Konferenz Der Graduate School "Distant Worlds" Vom 16. Bis 19.1.2014 in München Vaterstetten: Patrick Brose. p. 253–267.
- Phillips J. 1997. Punt and Aksum: Egypt and the Horn of Africa. Journal of African History 38:423–457. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1017/S0021853797007068
- **R Development Core Team**. 2022. R: A language and environment for statistical computing. Vienna, Austria. R foundation for statistical computing. https://www.R-project.org/
- Richardin P, Porcier S, Ikram S, Louarn G, Berthet D. 2017. Cats, crocodiles, cattle, and more: Initial steps toward establishing a chronology of ancient Egyptian animal mummies. *Radiocarbon* **59**:595–607. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1017/RDC.2016.102
- **Rogers J**, Raveendran M, Harris RA, Mailund T, Leppälä K, Athanasiadis G, Schierup MH, Cheng J, Munch K, Walker JA, Konkel MK, Jordan V, Steely CJ, Beckstrom TO, Bergey C, Burrell A, Schrempf D, Noll A, Kothe M, Kopp GH, et al. 2019. The comparative genomics and complex population history of *Papio* baboons. *Science Advances* **5**:eaau6947. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1126/sciadv.aau6947, PMID: 30854422
- Rohland N, Siedel H, Hofreiter M. 2004. Nondestructive DNA extraction method for mitochondrial DNA analyses of museum specimens. *BioTechniques* 36:814–816, . DOI: https://doi.org/10.2144/04365ST05, PMID: 15152601
- Ronquist F, Huelsenbeck JP. 2003. MrBayes 3: Bayesian phylogenetic inference under mixed models. Bioinformatics 19:1572–1574. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1093/bioinformatics/btg180, PMID: 12912839
- Roos C, Chuma IS, Collins DA, Knauf S, Zinner D. 2018. Complete mitochondrial genome of an olive baboon (*Papio anubis*) from Gombe National Park, Tanzania. *Mitochondrial DNA. Part B, Resources* **3**:177–178. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1080/23802359.2018.1437813, PMID: 33474109
- Roos C, Knauf S, Chuma IS, Maille A, Callou C, Sabin R, Portela Miguez R, Zinner D. 2021. New mitogenomic lineages in *Papio* baboons and their phylogeographic implications. *American Journal of Physical Anthropology* 174:407–417. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1002/ajpa.24186, PMID: 33244782

- Rossi C, Ruß-Popa G, Mattiangeli V, McDaid F, Hare AJ, Davoudi H, Laleh H, Lorzadeh Z, Khazaeli R, Fathi H, Teasdale MD, A'ali A, Stöllner T, Mashkour M, Daly KG. 2021. Exceptional ancient DNA preservation and fibre remains of a Sasanian saltmine sheep mummy in Chehrābād, Iran. *Biology Letters* 17:20210222. DOI: https:// doi.org/10.1098/rsbl.2021.0222, PMID: 34256582
- Schubert M, Ginolhac A, Lindgreen S, Thompson JF, Al-Rasheid KAS, Willerslev E, Krogh A, Orlando L. 2012. Improving ancient DNA read mapping against modern reference genomes. *BMC Genomics* **13**:178. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1186/1471-2164-13-178, PMID: 22574660
- Schuenemann VJ, Peltzer A, Welte B, van Pelt WP, Molak M, Wang C-C, Furtwängler A, Urban C, Reiter E, Nieselt K, Teßmann B, Francken M, Harvati K, Haak W, Schiffels S, Krause J. 2017. Ancient Egyptian mummy genomes suggest an increase of Sub-Saharan African ancestry in post-Roman periods. *Nature Communications* 8:15694. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1038/ncomms15694, PMID: 28556824
- Seland EH. 2008. The Indian Ocean and the globalisation of the ancient world. Ancient West & East 7:67–79. DOI: https://doi.org/10.2143/AWE.7.0.2033253
- Shapiro B, Hofreiter M. 2012. Ancient DNA: Methods and Protocols New York: Springer. DOI: https://doi.org/10. 1007/978-1-61779-516-9
- Sithaldeen R. 2019. Papio ursinus (e.T16022A168568698). The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. https://doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2019-3.RLTS.T16022A168568698.en [Accessed August 23, 2022].
- Sleeswyk AW. 1983. On the location of the land of Pwnt on two Renaissance maps. International Journal of Nautical Archaeology 12:279–291. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1095-9270.1983.tb01161.x
- Sørensen EF, Harris RA, Zhang L, Raveendran M, Kuderna LFK, Walker JA, Storer JM, Kuhlwilm M, Fontsere C, Seshadri L, Bergey CM, Burrell AS, Bergman J, Phillips-Conroy JE, Shiferaw F, Chiou KL, Chuma IS, Keyyu JD, Fischer J, Gingras MC, et al. 2023. Genome-wide coancestry reveals details of ancient and recent male-driven reticulation in baboons. *Science* 380:eabn8153. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1126/science.abn8153
- Städele V, Van Doren V, Pines M, Swedell L, Vigilant L. 2015. Fine-scale genetic assessment of sex-specific dispersal patterns in a multilevel primate society. *Journal of Human Evolution* 78:103–113. DOI: https://doi. org/10.1016/j.jhevol.2014.10.019, PMID: 25466516
- Stadler MA. 2012. Thoth. UCLA Encyclopedia of Egyptology 1:1.
- Tallet P. 2013. Deux notes sur les expéditions au pays de Pount à la lumière de nouvelles données archéologiques. *Revue d'Égyptologie* **64**:189–209.
- Tamura K, Nei M. 1993. Estimation of the number of nucleotide substitutions in the control region of mitochondrial DNA in humans and chimpanzees. *Molecular Biology and Evolution* **10**:512–526. DOI: https:// doi.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.molbev.a040023, PMID: 8336541
- Tavaré S. 1986. Some probabilistic and statistical problems in the analysis of DNA sequences. *Lectures on Mathematics in the Life Sciences* **17**:57–86.
- Trifinopoulos J, Nguyen L-T, von Haeseler A, Minh BQ. 2016. W-IQ-TREE: a fast online phylogenetic tool for maximum likelihood analysis. Nucleic Acids Research 44:W232–W235. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1093/nar/ gkw256, PMID: 27084950
- Van Neer W, Linseele V, Friedman RF. 2004. Animal burials and food offerings at the Elite Cemetery Hk6 of Hierakonpolis. Hendrickx S, Friedman RF, Cialowicz KM, Chlodnicki M (Eds). Egypt at Its Origins: Studies in Memory of Barbara Adams Leuven: Peeters. p. 67–129.
- von den Driesch A, Kessler D, Peters J. 2004. Mummified Baboons and other primates from the Saitic-Ptolemaic animal necropolis of Tuna el-Gebel, Middle Egypt. Grupe G, Peters J (Eds). Documenta Archaeobiologiae 2: Conservation Policy and Current Research Rahden: Verlag Marie Leidorf. p. 231–278.
- Wallis J, Alonso C, Silva MJ, Hernansaiz G, Vale C, Zinner D. 2020. Papio papio (e.T16018A17952926). The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. https://doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2020-2.RLTS.T16018A17952926.en [Accessed August 23, 2022].
- Wallis J. 2020a. Papio anubis (e.T40647A17953200). The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. https://doi.org/ 10.2305/IUCN.UK.2020-2.RLTS.T40647A17953200.en [Accessed August 23, 2022].
- Wallis J. 2020b. Papio cynocephalus (e.T92250442A92251260). The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. https://doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2020-2.RLTS.T92250442A92251260.en [Accessed August 23, 2022].
- Wallis J, Petersdorf M, Weyher AH, Jolly CJ. 2021. Papio kindae (e.T136848A190319676). The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. https://doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2021-1.RLTS.T136848A190319676.en [Accessed August 23, 2022].
- Wilkinson JG. 1853. Topography of Thebes, and General View of Egypt: Being a Short Account of the Principal Objects Worthy of Notice in the Valley of the Nile London: Murray. DOI: https://doi.org/10.11588/diglit.1035
- Winney BJ, Hammond RL, Macasero W, Flores B, Boug A, Biquand V, Biquand S, Bruford MW. 2004. Crossing the Red Sea: phylogeography of the hamadryas baboon, *Papio hamadryas hamadryas. Molecular Ecology* 13:2819–2827. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1365-294X.2004.02288.x, PMID: 15315692
- Yu G, Smith DK, Zhu H, Guan Y, Lam TTY. 2017. GGTREE: an R package for visualization and annotation of phylogenetic trees with their covariates and other associated data. *Methods in Ecology and Evolution* **8**:28–36. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1111/2041-210X.12628
- Zazzaro C, Cocca E, Manzo A. 2014. Towards a chronology of the Eritrean Red Sea port of Adulis (1st early 7th century AD). Journal of African Archaeology 12:43–73. DOI: https://doi.org/10.3213/2191-5784-10253
- Zinner D, Groeneveld LF, Keller C, Roos C. 2009. Mitochondrial phylogeography of baboons (*Papio* spp.): indication for introgressive hybridization? *BMC Evolutionary Biology* **9**:83. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1186/1471-2148-9-83, PMID: 19389236

- Zinner D, Buba U, Roos C. 2011. Pan-African voyagers: the phylogeography of baboons. Sommer V, Roos C (Eds). Primates of Gashaka: Socioecology and Conservation in Nigeria's Biodiversity Hotspot New York: Springer. p. 267–307. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1007/978-1-4419-7403-7
- Zinner D, Wertheimer J, Liedigk R, Groeneveld LF, Roos C. 2013. Baboon phylogeny as inferred from complete mitochondrial genomes. *American Journal of Physical Anthropology* **150**:133–140. DOI: https://doi.org/10. 1002/ajpa.22185, PMID: 23180628
- Zinner D, Keller C, Nyahongo JW, Butynski TM, Jong YA, Pozzi L, Knauf S, Liedigk R, Roos C. 2015. Distribution of mitochondrial clades and morphotypes of baboons *Papio* spp. *Journal of East African Natural History* **104**:143–168. DOI: https://doi.org/10.2982/028.104.0111