Title:

Brain composition in *Heliconius* butterflies, post-eclosion growth and experience

dependent neuropil plasticity

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ABSTRACT

Behavioral and sensory adaptations are often based in the differential expansion of brain components. These volumetric differences represent differences in investment, processing capacity and/or connectivity, and can be used to investigate functional and evolutionary relationships between different brain regions. Here, we describe the brain composition of two species of *Heliconius* butterflies, a long-standing study system for investigating ecological adaptation and speciation. We confirm a previous report of striking mushroom body expansion, and explore patterns of post-eclosion growth and experience-dependent plasticity in neural development. This analysis uncovers two phases of post-emergence mushroom body growth comparable to those of foraging hymenoptera, but also identifies plasticity in several other neuropil. An interspecific analysis suggests *Heliconius* may display remarkable levels of investment in mushroom bodies for a Lepidopteran, and indeed rank highly compared to other insects. We also describe patterns of adaptive divergence in the volume of both peripheral and central neuropil within *Heliconius*, and across Lepidoptera, that suggest changes in brain composition plays an important role in ecological adaptation. Our analyses lay the foundation for future comparative and experimental analyses that will establish *Heliconius* as a useful case study in evolutionary neurobiology.

 INTRODUCTION

Behavioral adaptations can allow populations to respond to environmental change and

to invade new ecological niches. These behavioral changes are largely based in

adaptive changes in brain function, which may in turn involve changes in the size and

macro-structure of the brain (e.g., Gonda et al., 2009a,b, 2013; Park and Bell, 2010).

For example, a clear signature of adaptive, phylogenetic divergence in brain

composition in response to ecological variation is seen within many invertebrate and

vertebrate species in their sensory neuropil (e.g. Barton et al., 1995; Huber et al.,

1997; Gronenberg and Hölldobler, 1999; O'Donnell et al., 2013; Montgomery and

Ott, 2015). In this case, nocturnal species, or those occupying low light environments,

tend to have larger olfactory neuropil, and smaller visual neuropil (Barton et al., 1995;

Montgomery and Ott, 2015).

Beyond the primary sensory regions, ecological selection pressures may have

diverse effects on higher brain centers. The complexity of the physical (Capaldi et al.,

1999; Safi and Dechmann, 2005; Pollen et al., 2007; Shumway, 2008; Farris and

Schulmeister, 2011) or social environment (Barton and Dunbar, 1997; Burish et al.,

2004; Lihoreau et al., 2012) have a detectable influence in shaping brain size and

structure. For example, in vertebrates, this is clearly manifest in an evolutionary

association between the need for spatial memory and the volume of the hippocampus

(Clayton and Krebs, 1995; Garamszegi and Eens, 2004). In insects a similar

association is found with the mushroom bodies (Farris and Schulmeister, 2011).

Differential expansions of individual brain structures shed light not only on

species-specific biology and neuroecology, but more generally on the functional

relationships between brain components (Barton and Harvey, 2000; Whiting and

Barton, 2003), the relative strength of developmental constraints (Finlay and

Darlington, 1995; Barton and Harvey, 2000), and on how very different brains

produce seemingly similarly complex behavior (Giurfa and Menzel, 2001; Chittka

and Niven, 2009; Farris, 2013).

Given their longstanding role in studies of both adaptation and brain function,

the Lepidoptera are perhaps an underutilized group for integrating these fields to

investigate evolutionary neurobiology. The Neotropical genus *Heliconius*

(Heliconiinae, Nymphalidae) is well known for its diversity of bright warning patterns

that are often involved in Müllerian mimicry, where two or more unpalatable species
converge on the same warning-signal to more efficiently advertise their
distastefulness to predators (Müller, 1879; Mallet & Barton 1989; Merrill et al 2013).
Perhaps as a result these butterflies have been intensively studied, leading to insights
into a range of areas including population and community ecology, evolutionary
genetics and development, as well as more generally contributing to our
understanding of adaptation and speciation (Merrill et al., 2015).

Heliconius display a strong pattern of ecological divergence (Boggs et al.,
1981; Estrada and Jiggins, 2002; Jiggins, 2008), and a number of striking behavioral
adaptations (Gilbert, 1972, 1975; Mallet, 1986). Chief among these is a dietary
adaptation, unique among Lepidoptera; adult pollen feeding (Gilbert, 1972, 1975).
With the exception of four species formerly ascribed to the genus *Neruda* (Beltrán et
al., 2007; Kozak et al., 2015), all *Heliconius* actively collect and ingest pollen as
adults. This provides a rich source of amino acids and permits a greatly extended
lifespan of up to six months without reproductive senescence, and shifts the energetic
costs of chemical defense to larvae (Gilbert, 1972; Benson, 1972; Ehrlich and Gilbert,
1973; Dunlap-Pianka et al., 1977; Cardoso and Gilbert, 2013). Without access to
pollen *Heliconius* suffer a major reduction in longevity and reproductive success
(Gilbert, 1972; Dunlap-Pianka et al., 1977; O'Brien et al., 2003).

Adult *Heliconius* collect pollen from a relatively restricted range of mostly
Cucurbitaceous plants (Estrada and Jiggins, 2002), which are spatially dispersed and
occur at low densities (Gilbert, 1975). Several lines of evidence suggest selection for
pollen feeding has shaped *Heliconius* foraging behavior. Individuals inhabit home
ranges of typically less than 1 km^2, within which individuals repeatedly utilize a small
number of roosting sites that they return to with high fidelity (Turner, 1971; Benson,
1972; Gilbert, 1975; Mallet, 1986; Murawski and Gilbert, 1986; Finkbeiner, 2014).
On leaving the roost individuals visit feeding sites with a level of consistency in time
and space that strongly suggests 'trap-lining' behavior (Ehrlich and Gilbert, 1973;
Gilbert, 1975, 1993; Mallet, 1986), analogous to that observed in foraging bees
(Janzen, 1971; Heinrich, 1979). Roosts themselves are located visually (Jones, 1930;
Gilbert, 1972; Ehrlich and Gilbert, 1973; Mallet, 1986), and older individuals tend to
be more efficient foragers (Boggs et al., 1981; Gilbert, 1993). Together these
observations suggest the evolution of pollen feeding in *Heliconius* was facilitated by

an enhanced, visually-orientated 'circadian memory' that utilizes visual landmarks
(Gilbert, 1975).

The evolution of this behavior must involve "some elaboration of the nervous
system" (Turner, 1981), suggested to lie in the mushroom bodies (Sivinski, 1989).
Sivinski (1989) reported that the percentage of the brain occupied by the mushroom
body in two individuals of *Heliconius charithonia* was 3–4 times larger than in six
other species of butterfly, including two non-pollen feeding Heliconiini. In other
insects, mushroom body expansion has been associated with increased demands for
higher order information processing, either in relation to social ecology or foraging
behavior, both within and between species (Dujardin, 1859; Withers et al., 1993,
2008; Gronenberg et al., 1996; Ehmer and Ron, 1999; Molina and O'Donnell, 2007;
Smith et al., 2010; O'Donnell et al., 2013; Gronenberg et al., 1996; Fahrbach et al.,
2003; Farris and Roberts, 2005; Farris and Schulmeister, 2011).

Mushroom bodies have a variety of roles in olfactory associative learning,
sensory integration, filtering and attention (Zars, 2000; Farris, 2005, 2013; Menzel,
2014). Direct experimental evidence also links mushroom body function with spatial
learning and memory in some, but not all, insects (Mizunami et al., 1998; Neuser et
al., 2008; Ofstad et al., 2011). Comparisons across species suggest that extreme
evolutionary expansion of the mushroom body is commonly associated with changes
in foraging behavior that depend on spatial memory or the complexity of sensory
information utilized by the species (Farris, 2005, 2013). For example, in
Hymenoptera, mushroom body expansion coincides with the origin of parasitoidism
(Farris and Schulmeister, 2011), a dietary adaptation that involves place-centered
foraging and spatial memory for host location (Rosenheim, 1987; van Nouhuys and
Kaartinen, 2008).

Patterns of ontogenetic neuropil plasticity in trap-lining insects, such as the
honeybee, *Apis mellifera*, further link foraging behavior and the mushroom bodies
(Withers et al., 1993; Durst et al., 1994; Capaldi et al., 1999; Farris et al., 2001).
Honeybees show two forms of post-eclosion growth in mushroom body volume; age
dependent growth, which occurs regardless of environmental variation, and
experience dependent growth which increases with foraging or social experience
(Withers et al., 1993; Durst et al., 1994; Fahrbach et al., 1998, 2003; Farris et al.,
2001; Maleszka et al., 2009). A similar pattern is found in other Hymenoptera, and
there is an intriguing correspondence between the rate and timing of mushroom body

growth and the onset of foraging behavior (Gronenberg et al., 1996; Kühn-Bühlmann
and Wehner, 2006; Withers et al., 2008; Jones et al., 2013). These combined growth
processes involve substantial volumetric changes, typically 20–30% increases from
emergence to maturity (Gronenberg et al., 1996; Fahrbach et al., 1998; Jones et al.,
2013), which most probably have strong biological and behavioral significance. Age
and environmental effects on neuropil growth are also found in some other central and
peripheral neuropil (Gronenberg et al., 1996; Jones et al., 2013).Whether *Heliconius*
show similar ontogenetic profiles or experience dependent plasticity in mushroom
body growth, as might be predicted if they are involved in spatial memory, is not
known.

Assessing levels of environment dependent neurological plasticity may provide
insights into the role behavior may have played during the *Heliconius* radiation, and
during speciation in general (Pfennig et al., 2010; Snell-Rood, 2013). Speciation in
Heliconius is thought to frequently mimetic shifts associated with habitat divergence (
Mallet, 1993; Jiggins, 2008). Different mimicry rings represent alternative adaptive
peaks, and may be associated with variation in predator communities, interspecific
competition, habitat structure and/or light environment (Smiley, 1978; Mallet, 1993;
Estrada and Jiggins, 2002; Merrill et al 2013). Consequently, shifts in mimetic
resemblance may impose extensive secondary selection for behavioral adaptations.
Indeed, several parapatric sister-species occur along habitat gradients (Jiggins et al.,
1996; Estrada and Jiggins, 2002; Arias et al., 2008), supporting evidence that different
mimicry rings are ecologically separated (Smiley, 1978; Boggs et al., 1981; Estrada
and Jiggins, 2002). A potential role for neural plasticity is established in some cases
of recent ecological divergence and adaptation (e.g Gonda et al., 2009a; b, 2013; Park
and Bell, 2010). Whether habitat-shifts during the early stages of speciation in
Heliconius are facilitated by behavioral and neurological plasticity is unknown but of
considerable interest (Merrill et al., 2015).

In the current analysis we begin to investigate these topics. We first revisit
Heliconius brain composition to confirm Sivinksi's (1989) observation that they are
greatly expanded. We then compare brain composition between recently emerged
insectary-reared individuals, aged insectary-reared individuals, and wild-caught
individuals to address several key questions: i) how big are *Heliconius* mushroom
bodies? ii) how does their morphology compare with other trap-line foragers? iii) do
they have post-eclosion growth patterns comparable to other trap-line foragers? and

iv) is such environmentally induced plasticity present in, or restricted to, the mushroom bodies? These intra-specific comparisons lay the groundwork for comparative analyses across Heliconiini examining the origin and timing of mushroom body expansion. In the meantime, we compare the relative investment in different neuropil in two species of *Heliconius*, *H. erato* and *H. hecale* to each other, and to other Lepidoptera to explore how selection has shaped overall brain composition.

MATERIALS & METHODS

Animals

We collected individuals of two species of *Heliconius*, *H. hecale melicerta* and *H. erato demophoon*. *H. hecale* is generally found in tall forest throughout central America and the Amazon basin, whilst *H. erato* is a widespread forest edge specialist (Brown, 1981). Wild individuals were collected from Gamboa (9°7.4′ N, 79°42.2′ W, elevation 60 m) and the nearby Soberanía National Park, República de Panamá. At this locality *H. hecale* belongs to the 'tiger pattern' mimicry ring, whilst *H. erato* belongs to the 'postman' mimicry ring which are at least partially segregated by habitat preference (Estrada and Jiggins, 2002). Five males and five females of each species were sampled from the wild. We assume all wild-caught individuals were sexually mature, and that the age range is not biased between species or sexes.

Wild individuals were compared with individuals from first or second-generation insectary-reared stock populations, descended from wild caught parents from the same sampling localities. Stock populations were kept in controlled conditions in cages (approximately $1 \times 2 \times 2$ m) of mixed sex at roughly equal densities. Cages were housed at the *Heliconius* insectaries at the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute's (STRI) facility in Gamboa (see: www.heliconius.org/resources/research-facility). Stocks had access to their preferred host plant (*Passiflora biflora* and *P. vitifolia* respectively for *H. erato* and *H. hecale*), a pollen source (*Psychotria elata*) and feeders containing c. 20% sugar solution with an additional bee-pollen supplement to ensure there was a pollen excess. Larvae were allowed to feed naturally on the host plant.

After emergence from the pupae insectary-reared individuals were collected
for two age groups, a recently emerged 'young' group (1–3 days post emergence) and
an 'old' group (2–3 weeks post emergence). *Heliconius* are generally considered to
undergo a "callow" period of general inactivity immediately after emergence that lasts
about 5 days, during which flight behavior is weak and males are sexually inactive
(Mallet, 1980). These age groups therefore represent behaviorally immature and
mature individuals. In *Bombus impatiens*, which has a comparable lifespan to
Heliconius (Plath, 1934; Benson, 1972; Ehrlich and Gilbert, 1973), age-related
growth plateaus after c. 10 days (Jones et al., 2013). If *Heliconius* have a comparable
developmental trajectory we would expect growth to have reached a plateau in the old
group. For *H. hecale* 5 males and 5 females were sampled for both age groups, in *H.*
erato 4 males and 6 females were sampled for the 'young' group and 5 males and 4
females were sampled for the 'old' group. For samples where it was possible to
measure the exact time of emergence, there is no significant difference between *H.*
hecale and *H. erato* in age structure of the old (*H. erato*: mean = 22.6 days, SD = 8.6;
H. hecale: mean = 26.4 days, SD = 5.5; t_{13} = -0.899, *p* = 0.385) or young (*H. erato*:
mean = 1.7 days, SD = 0.8; *H. hecale*: mean = 1.3 days, SD = 1.1; t_{17} = 0.829, *p* =
0.419) insectary-reared groups.

We took three body size measurements for each individual: body mass,
weighted to 0.01 g using a OHAUS "Gold Pocket" pocket balance (model YA102);
and body length and wingspan, measured using FreeLOGIX 6 inch digital calipers.
Wings were kept as voucher specimens in glassine envelopes. Samples were collected
and exported under permits SEX/A-3-12 and SE/A-7-13 obtained from the Autoridad
Nacional del Ambiente, República de Panamá in conjunction with STRI.

Antibodies and sera for neuropil staining

We used indirect immunofluorescence staining against synapsin to reveal the neuropil
structure of the brain under a confocal microscope (Ott, 2008). This technique
exploits the abundant expression of synapsin, a vesicle-associated protein, at
presynaptic sites. Monoclonal mouse anti-synapsin antibody 3C11 (anti-SYNORF1;
(Klagges et al., 1996) was obtained from the Developmental Studies Hybridoma Bank
(DSHB), University of Iowa, Department of Biological Sciences, Iowa City, IA
52242, USA (RRID: AB_2315424). The 3C11 antibody was raised against a
bacterially expressed fusion protein generated by adding a glutathione S-transferase

(GST)-tag to a cDNA comprising most of the 5′ open reading frame 1 of the

Drosophila melanogaster synapsin gene (*Syn,* CG3985). The binding specificity of

this antibody was characterised in *D. melanogaster* (Klagges et al., 1996). The

epitope was later narrowed down to within LFGGMEVCGL in the C domain

(Hofbauer et al., 2009). Bioinformatic analysis has confirmed the presence of this

motif in Lepidopteran genomes, and demonstrated that it is highly conserved across

Lepidoptera (Montgomery and Ott, 2015). 3C11 immunostaining has been used as an

anatomical marker of synaptic neuropil in a wide range of arthropod species including

several Lepidoptera: *Danaus plexippus* (Heinze and Reppert, 2012), *Godyris zavaleta*

(Montgomery and Ott, 2015) *Heliothis virescens* (Kvello et al., 2009) and *Manduca*

sexta (El Jundi et al., 2009b). The staining pattern obtained with 3C11 in the present

analysis is similar to other Lepidoptera. Cy2-conjugated affinity-purified polyclonal

goat anti-mouse IgG (H+L) antibody (Jackson ImmunoResearch Laboratories, West

Grove, PA) was obtained from Stratech Scientific Ltd., Newmarket, Suffolk, UK

(Jackson ImmunoResearch Cat No. 115-225-146, RRID: AB_2307343).

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Brains were fixed and stained following a published protocol (Ott, 2008) previously

applied to a range of invertebrates including the Monarch butterfly, *D. plexippus*

(Heinze and Reppert, 2012), and the Zavaleta Glasswing, *G.* (Montgomery and Ott,

2015). The protocol was divided into two stages, the first of which was performed at

the STRI Gamboa Field Station. Briefly, the brain was exposed under HEPES-

buffered saline (HBS; 150 mM NaCl; 5 mM KCl; 5 mM $CaCl_2$; 25 mM sucrose;

10 mM HEPES; pH 7.4) and fixed in situ for 16–20 hours at room temperature (RT)

in zinc-formaldehyde solution (ZnFA; 0.25% (18.4 mM) $ZnCl_2$; 0.788% (135 mM)

NaCl; 1.2% (35 mM) sucrose; 1% formaldehyde) under agitation. Fixation with ZnFA

affords considerably better antibody penetration, staining intensity and preservation of

morphology than conventional (para)formaldehyde fixation (Ott, 2008; Heinze and

Reppert, 2012). The brain was subsequently dissected out, under HBS, by removing

the eye cuticle in slices before gently plucking away the main body of the ommatidia

and the basement membrane. After removing any surrounding material, the brain was

lifted from the head capsule, washed 3 × in HBS and placed into 80% methanol/20%

DMSO for a minimum of 2 hours under agitation. The brain was then transferred to

100% methanol and stored at RT. After transportation back to the UK samples were

stored at -20˚C.

In the second stage of the protocol, performed in laboratory conditions in the

UK, the samples were brought to RT and rehydrated in a decreasing methanol series

(90%, 70%, 50%, 30%, 0% in 0.1 M Tris buffer, pH 7.4, 10 minutes each). Normal

goat serum (NGS; New England BioLabs, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, UK) and antibodies

were diluted in 0.1 M phosphate-buffered saline (PBS; pH 7.4) containing 1% DMSO

and 0.005% NaN_3 (PBSd). Non-specific antibody binding was blocked by pre-

incubation in 5% NGS (PBSd-NGS) for 2 hours at RT. Antibody 3C11 was then

applied at a 1:30 dilution in PBSd-NGS for 3.5 days at 4˚C under agitation. The

brains were rinsed in PBSd for 3 × 2 hours before applying the Cy2-conjugated anti-

mouse antibody 1:100 in PBSd-NGS for 2.5 days at 4˚C under agitation. This was

followed by a series of increasing concentrations (1%, 2%, 4% for 2 hours each, 8%,

15%, 30%, 50%, 60%, 70% and 80% for 1 hour each) of glycerol in 0.1 M Tris buffer

with DMSO to 1%. The brains were then passed in a drop of 80% glycerol directly

into 100% ethanol and agitated for 30 minutes; the ethanol was changed three times

with 30-minute incubations. Finally, to clear the tissue, the ethanol was underlain with

methyl salicylate, the brain was allowed to sink, before the methyl salicylate was

refreshed twice with 30 minute incubations.

Confocal imaging

Samples were mounted in fresh methyl salicylate between two round cover slips

separated by a thin metal washer (UK size M8 or M10). All imaging was performed

on a confocal laser-scanning microscope (Leica TCS SP8, Leica Microsystem,

Mannheim, Germany) at the University College London Imaging Facility, using a 10×

dry objective lens with a numerical aperture of 0.4 (Leica Material No. 11506511,

Leica Microsystem, Mannheim, Germany). For each individual brain we captured a

series of overlapping stacks using a mechanical *z*-step of 2 μm with an *x-y* resolution

of 512 × 512 pixels. Imaging the whole brain required 3×2 stacks in the *x-y*

dimensions with an overlap of 20%. Tiled stacks were automatically merged in Leica

Applications Suite Advanced Fluorescence software. Each brain was scanned from

the posterior and anterior side to span the full *z*-dimension of the brain. These two

image stacks were subsequently merged in Amira 3D analysis software 5.5 (FEI

Visualization Sciences Group), using a custom module 'Advanced Merge' which
aligns images using affine registration and subsequently merges to produce the
combined stacks. We manually optimized the re-sampling procedure from anterior
and posterior stacks for each individual. Finally, to correct for the artifactually
shortened z-dimension associated with the 10× air objective, a correction factor of
1.52 was applied to the voxel size in the z-dimension (Heinze and Reppert, 2012a;
Montgomery and Ott, 2015). Images presented in the figures to illustrate key
morphological details were captured separately as single confocal sections with an x-y
resolution of 1024 × 1024 pixels.

Neuropil segmentations and volumetric reconstructions

Neuropils were reconstructed from the confocal image stacks in Amira 5.5. We
assigned image regions to anatomical structures in the Amira *labelfield* module by
defining outlines based on the brightness of the synapsin immunofluorescence. This
process segments the image into regions that are assigned to each particular structure,
and regions that are not. Within each stack, every forth or fifth image was manually
segmented using the outline or magic-wand tool. The segmentation was then
interpolated in the z-dimension across all images that contain the neuropil of interest
before being fine-edited and smoothed in all three dimensions. The *measure statistics*
module was used to determine volumes (in μm^3) for each neuropil. 3D polygonal
surface models of the neuropils were constructed from the smoothed labelfield
outlines using the *SurfaceGen* module. The color code used for the neuropils in the
3D models is consistent with previous neuroanatomical studies of invertebrate brains
(Brandt et al., 2005; Kurylas et al., 2008; El Jundi et al., 2009a, b; Dreyer et al., 2010;
Heinze and Reppert, 2012; Montgomery and Ott, 2015).

The whole-brain composite stacks were used to reconstruct and measure six
paired neuropils in the optic lobes, and seven paired and two unpaired neuropils in the
midbrain. All paired neuropils were measured on both sides of the brain in wild-
caught individuals to permit tests of asymmetry, yielding two paired measurements
per brain (*i.e.,* $N = 10 \times 2$) for each structure. We found no evidence of volumetric
asymmetry for either species (p > 0.05 for each neuropil in a paired t-tests) and
therefore summed the volumes of paired neuropil to calculate the total volume of that
structure. In insectary-reared individuals we therefore subsequently measured the

volume of paired neuropil from one hemisphere, chosen at random, and multiplied the

measured volume by two to obtain an estimate of total volume of that neuropil.

Finally, we measured the total neuropil volume of the midbrain to permit statistical

analyses that control for allometric differences. In keeping with the earlier

Lepidopteran literature, we use the term 'midbrain' for the fused central mass that

comprises of the protocerebral neuromere excluding the optic lobes, the deuto- and

tritocerebral neuromeres, and the sub-esophageal neuromeres. For the following

statistical analyses we analyzed the central body as a single structure, and summed the

volumes of the mushroom body lobes and peduncles as the boundary between these

structures was not always clear.

Intraspecific statistical analyses

In all statistical analyses continuous variables were $\log_{10}$-transformed to meet

assumptions of normality. Unpaired two-tailed two-sample *t*-tests were used to test

for volumetric differences between sexes or groups. We found no robust evidence of

sexual dimorphism in neuropil volume of wild caught individuals that could not be

explained by allometric scaling and therefore combined male and female data.

However, we note that our sample size for each sex is unlikely to be sufficient to

provide conclusive support either for or against sexual dimorphism.

Our analyses focused on two intra-specific comparisons: i) we compared

'young' and 'old' insectary-reared individuals and interpret significant differences as

evidence for post-eclosion growth or delayed maturation; and ii) we compared wild-

caught individuals with 'old' insectary-reared individuals and interpret significant

differences as evidence for environmentally induced, experience dependent plasticity.

These comparisons were made by estimating the allometric relationship with a

measure of overall brain size for each neuropil. The standard allometric scaling

relationship can be modeled as $\log(y) = \beta[\log(x)] + \alpha$. We used standard major axis

regressions in the SMATR 3 package (Warton et al., 2012) to test for significant shifts

in the allometric scaling parameter (β) or the y-intercept (α). To permit comparisons

between neuropil, a consistent independent variable was used throughout the analyses

that accounts for allometric scaling with total brain size. This was the total volume of

the midbrain minus the combined volume of all segmented neuropil in the midbrain,

referred to as 'rest of midbrain' (rMid).

Significant differences in β suggest the proportional increase in the dependent

variable with size differs between groups, i.e. the slopes are significantly different.

The *slope.com* function in SMATR calculates a likelihood ratio statistic for the

absence of a common slope, χ^2 distributed with one degree of freedom. Where we

identified no heterogeneity in the allometric scaling parameter (β) we performed two

further tests. First, we tested for significant differences in α that suggest discrete

'grade-shifts' in the relationship between two variables. The *elev.com* function in

SMATR calculates a Wald statistic for the absence of shifts along the y-axis, χ^2

distributed with one degree of freedom. Second, we tested for major axis-shifts along

a common slope. This is indicative of co-ordinated changes in the size of the

dependent and independent variable between groups. The *shift.com* function in

SMATR calculates a Wald statistic for the absence of a shift along a common axis, χ^2

distributed with one degree of freedom. For this test, when significant, we also report

the fitted axis (FA) mean that describes the mean position of the group on the

common fitted axis. For all statistically significant tests we also present the effect

size, measured by the correlation coefficient (*r*). Effect sizes of $0.1<r<0.3$ are

interpreted as 'small' effects, $0.3<r<0.5$ 'medium' effects, and $r<0.5$ 'large' effects

(Cohen, 1988).

Patterns of brain:body allometry were explored in a similar manner, using

total neuropil volume as the dependent variable (summed volumes of all neuropil in

the optic lobes plus the total midbrain volume), and comparing the results obtained

using alternative body size measurements as the independent variable. Body mass

varies with body condition and reproductive state, we therefore anticipated that body

length may be a more reliable way of assessing the allometric relationship between

brain and body size in wild caught individuals.

We complemented these analyses with a multivariate analysis of all

segmented neuropil volumes and the unsegmented midbrain volume using Discrimant

Function Analysis (DFA) to test how reliably individuals can be assigned to their

respective groups on the basis of their volumetric differences in neuropil. In this

analysis, as well as providing a percentage of correctly assigned individuals, Wilks'

lambda provides a measure of the proportion of total variance not explained by group

differences, and the χ^2 statistic provides a test for significant group differences. All

statistical analyses were performed in R (R Development Core Team, 2008), using the

standard *stats* and *smatr* package, except for the DFA, which was performed in SPSS

v. 22 for OS X (SPSS Inc., Chicago, IL)

Interspecific statistical analyses

An examination of allometric scaling was also applied to interspecific analyses

between *H. hecale* and *H. erato* to test for species differences in brain composition.

We compared both wild-caught and 'old' insectary-reared individuals. Where

significant species differences are found in wild caught individuals but not 'old'

insectary-reared individuals we interpret this as evidence of species-dependent

environmental effects, perhaps associated with differences in habitat or light-

environment preference. Where significant species differences are found for both

comparisons we interpret this as evidence of heritable differences in brain

development.

We collected published data for neuropil volumes of four other Lepidoptera;

the Monarch butterfly (*D. plexippus*; Heinze and Reppert, 2012), the Zavaleta Glass

wing (*Godyris zavaleta*; Montgomery and Ott, 2015), the Giant Sphinx moth

(*Manduca sexta*; El Jundi et al., 2009b) and the Tobacco Budworm moth (*Heliothis*

virescens; Kvello et al., 2009). Data were available for eight neuropils across all four

species. We calculated the relative investment in each neuropil by comparing its

volume to the total neuropil volume of either the whole brain (excluding the lamina,

which was not measure in *Heliothis virescens*), or of only the midbrain. Relative size

was measured by calculating the residuals from a phylogenetically-corrected least

squares (PGLS) linear regression between each structure and the rest of the brain

performed in BayesContinous in BayesTraits (freely available from

www.evolution.rdg.ac.uk; Pagel, 1999). For this analysis, a phylogeny of the six

species was created using data on two loci, *COI* and *EF1a* (GenBank Accession IDs,

COI: EU069042.1, GU365908.1, JQ569251.1, JN798958.1, JQ539220.1,

HM416492.1; *EF1a*: EU069147.1, DQ157894.1, U20135.1, KC893204.1,

AY748017.1, AY748000.1). The data were aligned and concatenated using MUSCLE

(Edgar, 2004), before constructing a maximum likelihood tree in MEGA v.5 (Tamura

et al., 2011). Differences in brain architecture across species were visualised by

multivariate Principal Component Analysis of these data, and visualized as biplots

(Greenacre, 2010) in R package *ggbiplot* (V.Q. Vu, https://github.com/vqv/ggbiplot).

Finally, we extended our phylogenetic analysis across insects using a similar

approach. We restricted this analysis to volumetric data collected with similar

methodology (Rein et al., 2002; Brandt et al., 2005; Kurylas et al., 2008; Dreyer et al.,

2010; Ott and Rogers, 2010; Wei et al., 2010) as it is not known how comparable data

collected with alternative fixing, staining and imaging methods are. The phylogenetic

relationship of these insects was taken from Trautwein et al. (2012).

RESULTS

General layout of the *Heliconius* brain

In general, the overall layout and morphology of the *Heliconius* brain (Fig. 1) is

similar to that of other Lepidoptera (El Jundi et al., 2009; Kvello et al., 2009; Heinze

and Reppert, 2012a; Montgomery and Ott, 2015). The midbrain forms a single medial

mass, containing the supra-esophageal ganglion to which the sub-esophageal ganglion

is fused. Synapsin immunostaining effectively labeled regions of synaptic neuropil,

with minimal fluorescence in fiber tracts and cell bodies, permitting segmentation of

six paired neuropils in the optic lobes, and eight paired and two unpaired neuropils in

the midbrain. Together with the rest of the midbrain (rMid), which lacks distinct

internal boundaries, we measured the volumes of these neuropils in 59 individuals

across both species (Table 1). In the following we briefly describe the main

anatomical features of the sensory neuropils, the central complex and the mushroom

bodies in wild individuals. We then present the results of intra-specific comparisons

between age groups, between wild and insectary-reared individuals, before moving to

an analysis of inter-specific comparisons between *H. hecale* and *H. erato*, and across

a wider taxonomic scale.

Sensory neuropil

As expected for a strongly visual, diurnal butterfly, the optic lobes (OL; Fig. 2A–H)

account for a large proportion of total brain volume (approximately 64%). As is the

case in both *D. plexippus* and *G. zavaleta* the lamina (La), two-layered medulla (Me)

(Fig. 2E), accessory medulla (aMe), lobula (Lob) and lobula plate (Lop) are well

defined and positioned in the OL as nested structures, running lateral to medial

(Fig. 2A). The La has a distinct, brightly stained inner rim (iRim; Fig. 2E), a feature

common to all diurnal butterflies analyzed thus far (Heinze and Reppert, 2012;

Montgomery and Ott, 2015). In common with *D. plexippus* we identify a thin strip of

irregularly shaped neuropil running ventrally from the aME to the Me (Fig. 2G–H).

We also identify a sixth neuropil in the OL that we believe to be homologous

to the optic glomerulus (OG; Fig. 2B,F) identified in *D. plexippus* (Heinze and

Reppert, 2012)*,* which is absent in other Lepidopteran brains described to date and

was postulated to be Monarch-specific. As in *D. plexippus* this neuropil is a multi-

lobed, irregularly shaped structure positioned to the medial margin of the Lob with

which it appears to be connected. In *Heliconius* the OG is not as extended in the

anterior margin as *D. plexippus* and is subsequently confined to the OL, without

protrusion into the optic stalk or midbrain (Fig. 2A,B,F). The position of the OG in

Heliconius is also similar to that of a much smaller neuropil observed in *G. zavaleta*

(Montgomery and Ott, 2015). We suggest these structures may be homologous but

differentially expanded.

The midbrain contains two further neuropils with primary functions in

processing sensory information; the anterior optic tubercule (AOTu), a visual center,

and the antennal lobe (AL), the primary olfactory neuropil. We can identify all four

components of the AOTu previously described in *D. plexippus* and *G. zavaleta*

butterflies (Heinze and Reppert, 2012; Montgomery and Ott, 2015); the small, closely

clustered nodular unit (NU), strap (SP) and lower unit (LU), and the much larger

upper unit (UU) (Fig. 2C). As in other butterflies, the UU is expanded compared with

nocturnal moths (El Jundi et al., 2009; Kvello et al., 2009). The proportion of total

neuropil comprised of the AOTu is, however, larger in *D. plexippus* (0.736%) than

Heliconius (0.400% in *H. hecale* and 0.368% in *H. erato*).

The AL are innervated by the antennal nerves and comprise the central fibrous

neuropil (CFN) around which small, round glomeruli are arranged (Figure 3A,B). In

Heliconius the AL comprises 2% of the total brain neuropil volume, and contains

approximately 68 glomeruli (estimated in one individual of each sex: *H. erato* ♂ = 69,

♀ = 68; *H. hecale* ♂ = 68, ♀ = 67). This is similar to estimates for other Lepidoptera,

which generally range between 60 and 70 (Boeckh and Boeckh, 1979; Rospars, 1983;

Berg et al., 2002; Huetteroth and Schachtner, 2005; Masante-Roca et al., 2005; Skiri

et al., 2005; Kazawa et al., 2009; Heinze and Reppert, 2012; Carlsson et al., 2013;

Montgomery and Ott, 2015), and the number of olfactory receptor genes (70)

identified in the *H. melpomene* genome (Dasmahapatra et al., 2012). We observe no

expanded macro-glomeruli or obvious candidates for sexual dimorphic glomeruli suggesting an absence of any MGC-like structure in *Heliconius*. This is in keeping with all diurnal butterflies described to date (Rospars, 1983; Heinze and Reppert, 2012; Carlsson et al., 2013), with the exception of the more olfactorily orientated *G. zavaleta* in which the AL is 5% of total neuropil volume and a sexually dimorphic MGC is observed (Montgomery and Ott, 2015).

We took advantage of comparable datasets for *H. erato, H. hecale* and *G. zavaleta* to further investigate the significance of changes in AL size by testing whether changes in relative AL volume are due to an increased volume of glomeruli or CFN. The former would reflect heightened olfactory sensitivity, as larger glomeruli receive more projections from sensory neurons, while the latter may indicate changes in the number or complexity of local interneurons. We find evidence for a grade-shift in the allometric relationship between total glomerular volume and midbrain volume when *G. zavaleta* is compared to either *H. erato* (Wald χ^2 = 10.709, p = 0.001) or *H. hecale* (Wald χ^2 = 9.139, p = 0.003) (Fig. 3C, circles). We also identify a grade-shift between CFN volume and midbrain volume in *G. zavaleta* over *H. erato* (Wald $\chi2$ = 30.282, p < 0.001) and *H. hecale* (Wald χ^2 = 26.638, p < 0.001) (Fig. 3C, triangles). Hence, AL expansion in *G. zavaleta* is due to changes in both CFN and glomerular volume. However, when comparing CFN and glomerular volume directly against one another we again find a significant grade-shift in *G. zavaleta* over *H. erato* (Wald χ^2 = 19.680, p < 0.001) and over *H. hecale* (Wald χ^2 = 31.663, p < 0.001) demonstrating greater CFN volume, relative to glomerular volume, in *G. zavaleta* (Fig. 3D). This suggests variation in Lepidopteran AL size may be largely explained by changes in the complexity of olfactory processing, which may in turn explain the consistency in glomerular number across species with contrasting diel patterns (see above).

Central complex

The central complex is a multimodal integration center linked to a range of functions from locomotor control to memory (Pfeiffer and Homberg, 2014). Within the limitations of the current analysis, the anatomy of the *Heliconius* central complex shows strong conservation with *D. plexippus* and *G. zavaleta* (Heinze and Reppert, 2012; Montgomery and Ott, 2015). The central body (CB) is positioned along the midline of the central brain and is formed of two neuropils, the upper (CBU) and lower (CBL) divisions, which are associated with small paired neuropils, the noduli

(No), located ventrally to the CB (Fig. 4A–D,G). Two further paired neuropils, the

protocerebral bridge (PB; Fig. 4A,E) and posterior optic tubercles (POTu; Fig. 4A,F),

are positioned towards the posterior margin of the brain.

Mushroom bodies

The most striking aspect of *Heliconius* brain morphology are the hugely expanded

mushroom bodies, previously noted by Sivinski (1989). These neuropils span the

depth of the brain along the anterior-posterior axis (Fig. 5A–K; Fig. 6A,A'). On the

anterior side, the mushroom body lobes (MB-lo) lie above the AL. As in *D. plexippus*

(Heinze and Reppert, 2012a) the distinct lobe structure observed in moths (El Jundi et

al., 2009; Kvello et al., 2009) is lost, possibly due to extensive expansion. The only

identifiable feature is a lobe curving round the medial margin, likely to be part of the

vertical lobe (Fig. 5D,F). The MB-lo merges with a long cylindrical neuropil, the

pedunculus (MB-pe) that extends to the posterior midbrain and is comprised of

several twisted layers of neuropil. The boundary between the MB-lo and MB-pe is not

distinct. The combined volume of the MBlo+pe accounts for 12.2% of total midbrain

volume in *H. hecale* and 14.6% of total midbrain volume in *H. erato*, at least twice

that reported for other Lepidoptera (Sjöholm et al., 2005; El Jundi et al., 2009; Kvello

et al., 2009; Heinze and Reppert, 2012a; Montgomery and Ott, 2015). At the posterior

end, the MB-pe splits into two roots that are encircled by the mushroom body calyx

(MB-ca; Fig. 5A,H,K). A Y-tract runs parallel to the MB-pe from the posterior

boundary of the MB-lo to the junction between the MB-pe and MB-ca. The Y-tract

ventral loblets seen in other Lepidoptera (El Jundi et al., 2009; Kvello et al., 2009) are

not distinct, presumably having merged with the MB-lo (Fig. 5A,J,N).

The MB-ca is a deeply cupped, un-fused, double-lobe structure (Fig. 5A,C).

Two concentric zones can be identified (Fig. 5E), though the boundary is not distinct

throughout the depth of the neuropil. The MB-ca comprises 20.7% and 23.9% of total

midbrain volume in *H. hecale* and *H. erato* respectively, at least three times greater

than reported in other Lepidoptera (Sjöholm et al., 2005; El Jundi et al., 2009; Kvello

et al., 2009; Heinze and Reppert, 2012a; Montgomery and Ott, 2015). In some

individuals the MB-ca is so large that it protrudes into the OL resulting in a distortion

of shape caused by constriction around the optic stalk (Fig. 5H). We also observe

some degree of pitting in the posterior surface of the MB-ca (Fig. 5I). This pitting is

related to radially arranged columnar domains that are apparent within the calycal

neuropil (Fig. 5J,K,M)

Below the junction between MB-pe and MB-ca is a brightly stained globular

neuropil with a poorly defined anterior margin (Fig. 5M). It is possible this is an

accessory calyx, which has a sporadic phylogenetic distribution across Lepidoptera

and other insects (Farris, 2005). However, accessory calyces are generally positioned

closely to the MB-pe/MB-ca, as is observed in *D. plexippus* (Heinze and Reppert,

2012). This neuropil also lacks the 'spotty' appearance of the accessory calyx in *D.*

plexippus (Heinze and Reppert, 2012). We therefore do not believe this is an

accessory calyx. Similar 'satellite' neuropils that are near, but not directly linked to

the mushroom bodies are observed in other insects, for example *Neuroptera* (Farris,

2005). One potentially interesting observation is that this neuropil lies in a position

roughly equivalent to the anterior end of the OG in *D. plexippus* (Heinze and Reppert,

2012). Although generally unclear, in some individuals it is possible to follow a

narrow, weakly stained fiber tract from the medial margin of the Lob/OG to this

position, via an area of relatively intense staining in the optic stalk (Fig. 5L). It is

possible this neuropil is functionally connected to the OG, and that OG expansion

along the anterior margin in *D. plexippus* occurred along the path of this pre-existing

connection, resulting in a single, elongated neuropil. In other insects the MB-pe also

receives afferent innervation from regions of the protocerebrum other than the MB-ca

(Schürmann, 1970; Li and Strausfeld, 1997, 1999). A pronounced fiber tract

emanating from the AOTu UU clearly runs against the dorsal boundary of the MB-pe

(Figure 5O), but whether or not there is a functional connection, that might suggest

the integration of processed visual information with the MB-pe/lo, is unclear.

Brain:body allometry

The relationship between total neuropil and body mass is not significant at $p > 0.05$

for either wild *H. hecale* (log-log SMA regression, $p = 0.055$) or wild *H. erato* ($p =$

0.863). However, as expected body mass is more variable than either body length or

wingspan (*H. hecale,* relative SD of body mass = 15.32%, body length = 10.43%,

wingspan = 9.08%; *H. erato,* relative SD of body mass = 19.00%, body length =

5.98%, wingspan = 4.59%), most likely due to differences in feeding and reproductive

state. When either body length or wingspan is used as the measure of body size a

significant association is recovered both in *H. hecale* (body length $p = 0.020$,

wingspan $p = 0.019$) and in *H. erato* (body length $p = 0.011$, wingspan $p = 0.010$). We subsequently used body length to compare the relationships between total neuropil volume and body size between groups.

We identified a significant grade-shift, between the young and old groups of both *H. erato* and *H. hecale*, in the scaling relationship between total neuropil and body length (*H. hecale:* Wald $\chi^2 = 5.780$, $p = 0.016$; *H. erato:* Wald $\chi^2 = 10.124$, $p = 0.001$). However, there is no significant difference in body length for either species between old and young insectary-reared individuals (*H. hecale* $t_{18} = -0.918$, $p = 0.371$; *H. erato* $t_{17} = 0.581$, $p = 0.568$) suggesting the effect is primarily driven by an increase in neuropil volume. Indeed, there is a significant difference in total neuropil volume between the young and old insectary-reared age groups in *H. erato* ($t_{17} = 5.153$, $p < 0.001$, $r = 0.708$; Fig. 7A). This difference is observed for both total midbrain volume ($t_{17} = 4.192$, $p = 0.001$, $r = 0.713$) and total OL volume ($t_{17} = 5.076$, $p < 0.001$, $r = 0.776$; Fig. 7A). In *H. hecale* a significant difference between young and old individuals is only observed for midbrain volume ($t_{18} = 3.054$, $p = 0.007$, $r = 0.595$), but not OL volume ($t_{18} = 0.280$, $p = 0.783$) or total neuropil volume ($t_{18} = 1.082$, $p = 0.293$; Fig. 7D).

In *H. hecale*, the total neuropil is also 40% larger in wild caught individuals than in old insectary-reared individuals ($t_{17} = 2.553$, $p = 0.020$, $r = 0.526$) driven by a significant difference in midbrain volume ($t_{17} = 3.658$, $p = 0.002$, $r = 0.664$), but not OL volume ($t_{18} = 1.728$, $p = 0.101$; Fig. 7D). We also do not observe a similar difference in body length between wild and old insectary-reared individuals (*H. hecale* $t_{18} = 0.983$, $p = 0.436$). Although this does not result is a grade-shift between wild and old insectary-reared individuals for body length and total neuropil volume (Wald $\chi^2 = 2.058$, $p = 0.151$), we do observe a grade-shift when midbrain is analysed separately (Wald $\chi^2 = 4.725$, $p = 0.030$) No significant volume or size differences are found between wild and old insectary-reared individuals in *H. erato* (total neuropil: $t_{17} = -0.432$, $p = 0.671$; midbrain: $t_{17} = -0.732$, $p = 0.474$; OL: $t_{17} = -0.123$, $p = 0.904$; body length: $t_{17} = 1.009$, $p = 0.327$; Fig. 7A).

Post-eclosion growth in the volume of individual neuropil regions
Evidence of significant age-effects on volume was uncovered for many neuropil regions in both species, indicating an important role for post-eclosion brain

maturation. In *H. erato* volumetric differences between the age groups are widespread, with only the OG failing to show a significant expansion in old individuals (Table 2A). There is some evidence for age-related differences in the allometric scaling coefficients for aMe and PB, and for grade-shifts in OG and POTu, but these are weak relative to the strong major axis shifts observed for all segmented neuropils (Table 2A). The largest shifts are observed for the POTu (difference in fitted-axis (FA) mean = 0.604), aME (difference in FA mean 0.536), MB-ca (difference in FA mean = 0.496) and MB-lo+ped (difference in FA mean = 0.393; Fig. 6A-C).

In *H. hecale* old insectary-reared individuals have significantly larger absolute midbrain volumes (t_{18} = 3.054, p = 0.007, r = 0.584) but not OL volumes (t_{18} = 1.728, p = 0.101). However, not all segmented midbrain neuropil show the same expansion; the rMid, components of the mushroom body complex, central complex and AL are all significantly larger in old individuals, but the AOTu, POTu and all optic lobe neuropil are not (Table 2B). Neuropil expansion appears to occur in a co-ordinated manner, maintaining the allometric relationship between the segmented neuropil and rMid (Table 2B). The only exceptions are the La, Me and OG, which show significant grade-shifts resulting in a reduced volume of these neuropil relative to rMid volume in old individuals. All other segmented neuropil show major-axis shifts along a common slope towards higher values in old individuals (Table 2B). The largest shifts are observed for the MB-ca (difference in fitted-axis mean = 0.279) and MB-lo+ped (difference in fixed axis mean = 0.250; Fig. 6A'–C').

Experience-dependent plasticity in neuropil volume

The strong contribution of post-emergence growth to brain maturation in *Heliconius* provides a potential window during which the environment could influence the size of different neuropil. We compared wild and old insectary-reared individuals to test for the presence of such environment-dependent neural plasticity. A clear signature of environmentally induced volumetric differences is found in both species, but the pattern differs between them.

In *H. erato* wild individuals do not have significantly larger absolute neuropil volumes for any measured trait (Table 3A). However, several neuropils show evidence of differences in allometric scaling or grade-shifts between wild and old insectary-reared individuals. The neuropil affected by altered scaling coefficients (β)

include the MB-ca, the Lop, and the PB, all of which result shallower scaling
realtionships with rMid volume in wild caught individuals (Table 3A; Figure 7B,C).
The MB-lo+ped is the only neuropil to show an unambiguous grade-shift whilst
maintaining a common slope, and also shows a major axis shift (difference in FA
mean = 0.250; Fig. 6B).

In *H. hecale* wild individuals have significantly larger total midbrains (t_{18} =
3.658, p = 0.002). The only segmented neuropil to reflect this difference are the MB-
ca and MB-lo+ped (Table 3B; Fig. 6A'-C'), while the rMid is also larger in wild
individuals (t_{18} = 3.417, p = 0.003). For example, the average MB-ca volume of old
insectary-reared individuals is only 68.3% of the average wild MB-ca volume, for the
young insectary-reared individuals it is 49.3% (Figure 6A',C'). For MB-lo+pe these
figures are 76.9% and 58.7% respectively (Figure 6A',B'). For comparison, in *H.*
erato the average MB-ca volume of old insectary-reared individuals is 96.2% of the
average wild MB-ca volume, for the young insectary-reared individuals it is 59.7%
(Fig. 6A–C). For MB-lo+pe these figures are 96.9% and 63.9% respectively
(Fig. 6A–C).

The only neuropil in the optic lobes to differ significantly volume in *H. hecale*
is the Me. The allometric relationship between neuropil volumes and rMid differs for
all neuropil either in the allometric scaling coefficient or the intercept, except for the
mushroom body components and aMe.(Table 3A; Figure 7E,F). However, for aME
this pattern is caused by a lack of allometric scaling in insectary-reared individuals
(SMA *p* = 0.552). The mushroom bodies show evidence of a major axis shift along a
common slope (difference in FA mean MB-ca = 0.355, MB-lo+ped = 0.299). Given
all grade-shifts result in smaller neuropil volumes relative to rMid (Fig. 7E,F) volume
we interpret this as indicating the rMid and mushroom bodies show coordinated
environment-dependent increases in volume whilst other neuropil volumes remain
largely constant, but with subsequently altered allometric relationships with rMid.

These results highlight potential differences in the maturation and plasticity of
brain size and structure between *H. hecale* and *H. erato*. Most notably the rMid
appears to have greater amounts of environment-dependent growth in *H. hecale*
which results in altered scaling relationships with other neuropil. In *H. hecale* this is
accompanied by coordinated expansion of the mushroom body components, which, in
volumetric terms is less pronounced in *H. erato*. Instead, the mushroom bodies, along

with PB and LoP, are relatively larger in wild *H. erato* due to a grade-shift in the scaling relationship with rMid.

Divergence in brain composition between *H. hecale* and *H. erato*

H. hecale is significantly larger than *H. erato* for all body size measurements (wild caught: body mass t_{17} = 7.262, p < 0.001; body length t_{17} = 5.442, p < 0.001; wingspan t_{17} = 6.071, p < 0.001). *H. hecale* also have larger midbrain (t_{17} = 2.713, p = 0.014, r = *0.539*) and OL volumes (t_{17} = 2.866, p = 0.010, d =1.351). This difference does not, however, match the body size difference, resulting in a grade-shift in the allometric relationship between body length and total neuropil volume between the species (Wald χ^2 = 5.695, p = 0.017; Fig. 7A). This is predominantly driven by a grade shift in OL:body allometry (Wald χ^2 = 8.257, p = 0.004; Fig. 8B) rather than in midbrain:body allometry (Wald χ^2 = 3.805, p = 0.051; Fig. 8C). Hence, *H. erato* have larger OL volumes relative to body size than *H. hecale*. The same pattern is observed in old insectary-reared individuals suggesting this is not an environmentally induced difference (midbrain: Wald χ^2 = 1.721, p = 0.189; OL Wald χ^2 = 11.131, p < 0.001).

Among segmented neuropils only the La and Me show significant absolute volumetric differences between wild-caught individuals of the two species, both being larger in *H. hecale* (Table 4A). Analyses of allometric relationships imply species differences in neuropil investment (Table 4A). La and Me show strong major-axis shifts and we identify evidence for grade-shifts between rMid and aMe, Lob, LoP and OG, as well as all segmented neuropil in the midbrain except the PB and POTu (Table 4A). In all of these cases the shift is towards larger relative volumes in *H. erato*, and may be partially driven by the differences in rMid volume which is significantly larger in *H. hecale* (t_{17} = 3.582, p = 0.002. r = 0.656). Only one neuropil, the AL, shows evidence for a difference in the allometric coefficient β between species. The AL scales with a significantly higher coefficient in *H. erato* (β = 1.197, 95% C.I. = 0.699–2.05) than *H. hecale* (β = 0.470, 95% C.I. = 0.313–0.705), indicating the ALs of *H. erato* show a greater proportional increase in size as rMid increases than in *H. hecale*.

Species differences between old insectary-reared individuals are notably less widespread (Table 4B). The La is the only neuropil with a significant absolute volumetric difference between species, and notably rMid volume is also not

significantly different (t_{17} = -1.391, p = 0.181). There is no evidence for species

differences in scaling coefficients for AL, and grade-shifts are restricted to Lam, Me,

and OG. However, the direction of the grade-shifts indicates *H. hecale* have relatively

larger component volumes. The difference in results between wild and old insectary-

reared individuals is most probably explained by species differences in environment-

dependent changes in rMid volume. The expanded rMid volume in wild individuals

masks the grade-shifts observed in La and Me in old insectary-reared individuals and,

because other segmented neuropil do not show a similar expansion, lead to the wide-

spread grade-shifts observed between wild caught *H. hecale* and *H. erato*. The effect

is even sufficient to reverse the direction of grade-shift for CB and LoP. These results

imply role for environmentally induced plasticity in contributing to species

differences, but also indicate environment-independent differences exist.

Discrimant Function Analysis (DFA) of component volumes is able to

distinguish wild individuals of the two species along one major axis, correctly

assigning 100% of samples to the correct species (Fig. 8D). Wilks Lambda suggests

group differences explain 90% of total variance between samples, although the formal

statistical test for a group difference does not reach significance (χ^2 = 20.76, 14

degrees of freedom, p = 0.108). To test whether phenotypic differentiation between

species is caused by both environmentally independent and dependent variation we

performed an additional DFA using four data-groups: i) wild *H. erato*, ii) old

insectary-reared *H. erato,* iii) wild *H. hecale*, iv) old insectary-reared *H. hecale*. This

analysis reduced the variation along three axes (Table 5A,B; Fig. 8E,F) which assign

87.2% of individuals to the correct data-group. No individuals were assigned to the

wrong species, incorrect assignment always occurred between wild and old groups of

the same species.

We subsequently performed a MANOVA to test for whether DF1, DF2 and

DF3 are associated with species and/or group (wild vs. old), and to test for significant

species-group interactions (Table 6C). DF1 showed a significant association with both

species and group, DF2 and DF3 were specifically associated with group. Only DF2

showed a significant species by group interaction. Visual inspection of Discrimant

Function plots (Fig. 8E,F) suggests DF2 separates wild and old insectary-reared

individuals more effectively in *H. hecale*.

Divergence in brain composition across Lepidoptera and other insects

Beyond *Heliconius* there is a clear signature of adaptive divergence in the
composition of Lepidoptera brains. We combined the data collected for the present
analysis with comparable volumetric data for eight neuropils from four other species
(as collated in Montgomery and Ott, 2015, Table 3; Fig. 9A). After correcting for
allometric scaling, using phylogenetically-corrected regressions against total neuropil
volume, the six species can be separated along two principal components that together
explain 90.7% of variance. PC1 is heavily loaded by sensory neuropil in the negative
direction, and the MB-ca and MB-lo+ped in the positive direction (Table 6). PC2 is
heavily loaded by the Me in the positive direction and the AL and CB in the negative
direction. This separates the six species into three pairs, representing (i) *H. hecale* and
H. erato; (ii) the other diurnal butterflies, *D. plexippus* and *G. zavaleta*); and (iii) the
night-flying moths, *H. virescens* and *M. sexta* (Fig. 9B). When midbrain neuropil are
analyzed separately, PC1, which explains 68.7% of variance, marks an axis
dominated by the AL, CB and MB components. PC2, which explains an addition
23.3% variance, is strongly loaded by the AOTu (Fig. 9C). This leads to two clusters
grouping (i) *H. hecale* and *H. erato*, which invest heavily in mushroom body neuropil,
and (ii) the night-flying moths and *G. zavaleta*, which invest heavily in olfactory
neuropil; leaving *D. plexippus* isolated by its large AOTu volume. Although this
could be partially explained by the AOTu appearing small in *Heliconius* due to the
expanded mushroom bodies, when the MB volume is removed from total midbrain,
D. plexippus still has the largest residual AOTu size, suggesting this is a genuine
signal of divergence. Whether the larger AOTu volume in *D. plexippus* is derived, or
more typical for diurnal butterflies, is not known.

Finally, we consider the most notable adaptation in *Heliconius* brains, the
increase in mushroom body volume, in a wider phylogenetic context. The combined
volume of the calyx, pedunculus and lobes accounts for 13.7% of total brain neuropil
volume in *H. erato*, and 11.9% in *H. hecale*. This is much larger than reported for any
other Lepidoptera measured with similar methods (range 2.3-5.1%). Expressed as a
percentage of the midbrain, to remove the effects of variation in the large OL, *H.*
erato (38.5%) and *H. hecale* (32.9%) again exceed other Lepidoptera (4.8-13.5%) by
3–7 fold. These figures are also much larger than reported for *H. charithonia* (4.2% of
total brain size) by Sivinski (1989), whose figures for other Lepidoptera are also
much lower suggesting the difference is probably explained by variation in
methodology. However, Sivinski reported the mushroom bodies of *H. charithonia* to

be approximately 4-times larger than those of the other butterflies measured, which is

similar to the fold differences we observe here.

Comparisons beyond Lepidoptera are complicated by differences in the

neuropil measured. For example, the total neuropil volume is not reported for the

Tribolium (Dreyer et al., 2010), *Leucophaea* (Wei et al., 2010) or *Drosophila* (Rein et

al., 2002) brains, which instead report individual neuropil volumes as a percentage of

the sum of all segmented components. The most well matched comparisons are to

Apis mellifera (Brandt et al., 2005) and *Schistocerca gregaria* (Kurylas et al., 2008)

for which mushroom body volume and midbrain volume are reported (Fig. 9D). Even

here, however, the data is not fully comparable, as the SOG is not fused with the

midbrain in *S. gregaria*. In *A. mellifera* the mushroom bodies comprise 65.4% of the

midbrain, (40.6% MB-ca, 24.8% MB-lo+ped) (Brandt et al., 2005), in gregarious-

phase *S. gregaria* they comprise 15.1% (8.2% MB-ca including the accessory calyx,

6.3% MB-lo+ped) (Kurylas et al., 2008). Ott and Rogers (2010) report proportional

calyx volumes in *S. gregaria* of 7.6% and 8.6% in solitarious-phase and gregarious-

phase locusts, respectively (both figures include the accessory calyx), but did not

measure the peduncle. In terms of raw volume our estimates (Table 1) *Heliconius*

mushroom bodies are roughly equal in size to *A. mellifera*.

More general comparisons can be made expressing mushroom body size as a

percentage of segmented neuropil (Me+Lobula system, CB, MB and AL) that were

labeled across a wider range species (Dreyer et al., 2010). In this analyses *A.*

mellifera, *T. castaneum* and *L. madera* all devote a larger proportion of total neuropil

to the mushroom bodies than *Heliconius*. However, they also have substantially

smaller optic lobes. If one instead examines the ratio of percentage mushroom body

volume to the percentage of the two other midbrain neuropil (AL and CB), *Heliconius*

have the largest ratios (*H. erato*: 6.4; *H. hecale*: 6.7) by some way, exceeding even *A.*

mellifera (3.8). Similarly, the residuals from the highly significant ($p < 0.001$) PGLS

regression (Fig. 9E) between percentage OL and percentage MB for *Heliconius* (*H.*

erato +8.2; *H. hecale* +7.5) are only exceeded by *A. mellifera* (+11.9), which both far

exceed the forth-largest residual (*S. gregaria* +2.2). A similar result is found

comparing percentage MB to percentage AL+CB. This fairly crude analysis at least

demonstrates that *Heliconius* rank highly across insects in terms of investment in

mushroom body neuropil.

DISCUSION

We have described the layout and volume of the major neuropils in the brain of two species of *Heliconius* butterflies. We have further demonstrated patterns of variation across age groups of insectary-reared and wild individuals that are consistent with significant post-eclosion growth and experience-dependent plasticity in neuropil volume. Our analyses confirm previous reports of a substantial expansion in mushroom body size during the evolution of *Heliconius* butterflies (Sivinski, 1989). Indeed, our data suggest this previous work underestimated the proportional size of the *Heliconius* mushroom bodies. We further demonstrate levels of plasticity in mushroom body volume comparable to those found in foraging insects known for their capacity to learn spatial information (e.g. Withers et al., 1993, 2008; Gronenberg et al., 1996; Fahrbach et al., 1998, 2003; Maleszka et al., 2009; Jones et al., 2013). However, plasticity is not limited to the mushroom bodies, nor is the signal of adaptive divergence in neuropil structure. In the following, we discuss how and why *Heliconius* may have evolved such large mushroom bodies, what the convergent expansion of the mushroom body in independent insect lineages can tell us about their function and significance, and finally widen our scope to consider how the brains of different Lepidoptera are adapted to their different ecological niches.

Mushroom body expansion in Heliconius

As a percentage of total brain volume, or indeed as a raw volume, *Heliconius* have the largest mushroom body so far reported in Lepidoptera (Sivinski, 1989; Sjöholm et al., 2005; Rø et al., 2007; Kvello et al., 2009; Snell-Rood et al., 2009; Dreyer et al., 2010; Heinze and Reppert, 2012b; Montgomery and Ott, 2015). The expansion affects the calyx, pedunculus and lobes. The calyx has an expanded double-lobe, deeply cupped structure, superficially reminiscent of the mushroom body calyx of *A. mellifera* (Brandt et al., 2005), but structurally quite different from the calyx of *Danaus plexippus* which is composed of a series of concentric sub-structures that are not deeply cupped. As in *D. plexippus* (Heinze and Reppert, 2012) and to a lesser extent *Godyris zavaleta* (Montgomery and Ott, 2015), the lobe system is sufficiently expanded to merge individual lobes that are distinct in *Manduca sexta* and *Heliothis virescens* (Sjöholm et al., 2005; Rø et al., 2007; El Jundi et al., 2009; Kvello et al.,

2009). This precludes an accurate assessment of whether all lobes are equally
expanded with the current data, which would be of interest given their relationship to
different aspects of memory (Krashes et al., 2007; Guven-ozkan and Davis, 2014;
Stopfer, 2014). It appears likely however that both the α'/β' and α/β lobes, which are
responsible for consolidating long-term memory, and for the retrieval and expression
of these memories (Guven-ozkan and Davis, 2014), contribute to the expansion.

Mushroom body expansion suggests the presence of selection for greater
memory capacity during *Heliconius* evolution. The unique pollen-feeding behavior of
adult *Heliconius*, and associated demands of foraging for spatially distributed
resources, provides the most likely source of this selection pressure (Gilbert, 1975;
Sivinski, 1989). Several studies have reported evidence of spatially and temporally
faithful foraging patterns (Ehrlich and Gilbert, 1973; Gilbert, 1975, 1993; Mallet,
1986) comparable with the well described trap-lining behavior of foraging bees
(Janzen, 1971; Heinrich, 1979). In hymenoptera, this behavior involves landmark
based spatial memory (Cartwright and Collett, 1983; Dyer, 1991; Menzel et al.,
2005). Mushroom bodies are implicated in spatial memory both through experimental
manipulation (Mizunami et al., 1998) and comparative neuro-ecological studies
(Farris and Schulmeister, 2011), although the role selection for spatial memory played
in mushroom body expansion in Hymenoptera remains unproven for some authors
(Menzel, 2014).

Comparisons across *Heliconius* and non-pollen feeding genera in the
Heliconiini may provide a test of this hypothesis. Sivinski (1989) reported that two
individuals of *Dione juno* and *Dryas iulia*, both non-pollen feeding allies to
Heliconius, have mushroom bodies within the range of other Lepidoptera. This
provides preliminary support that mushroom body expansion may have occurred co-
incidentally with a single origin of pollen feeding at the base of *Heliconius*. However,
several genera were not sampled, including the specious genus *Euides* which is most
closely related to *Heliconius* (Beltrán et al., 2007; Kozak et al., 2015). As such,
further sampling is required to confirm this conclusion. This work is underway. It is
also conceivable alternative selection pressures may play a role, such as the degree of
host-plant specialization (Brown, 1981) or the evolution of social roosting (Benson,
1972; Mallet, 1986). It is possible these factors are inter-related, as *Passiflora* may be
incorporated into trap-lines between pollen plants (Gilbert, 1975, 1993), and the
sedentary home-range behavior required for trap-lining may predispose *Heliconius* to

sociality (Mallet, 1986). Indeed, Farris and Schulmeister (2010) suggest sociality in
hymenoptera is an exaptation, dependent on the co-option of a pre-existing
elaboration of the mushroom bodies in response to the demands for spatial foraging in
parasitic Euhymenopteran. Similar hypotheses have been proposed in vertebrates, for
example, the initial expansion of the primate brain may have been driven by visual
specialization (Barton, 1998). Social intelligence may therefore be viewed as an
exaptation of this initial expansion that facilitated processing of a greater range and
complexity of information (Barton and Dunbar, 1997).

It is certainly likely that pollen feeding at least plays a role in meeting the
energetic costs of increased neural investment, even if it does not explain its origin.
Increased investment in both the neural tissue required for learning-based foraging
(Aiello et al., 1995; Laughlin et al., 1998; Snell-Rood et al., 2009) and the act of
learning itself (Mery and Kawecki, 2004; Burger et al., 2008; Snell-Rood et al., 2009,
2011) will impose significant energetic costs, potentially resulting in trade-offs
against other traits (Dukas, 1999; Burns et al., 2011; Snell-Rood et al., 2011; Snell-
Rood, 2013). The fitness benefits of pollen-feeding lie in increased longevity without
reproductive senescence (Dunlap-Pianka et al., 1977), facilitating a shift in the
energetic costs of chemical defense to larvae as adults are no longer dependent on
larval fat body stores (Cardoso and Gilbert, 2013), and amino acid transfer to eggs
(O'Brien et al., 2003). These combined effects must outweigh the energetic costs
incurred by greater neuropil investment.

Post-eclosion growth in mushroom body volume
Heliconius are not as robust to environmental perturbation, or as amenable as
experimental subjects, as honeybees and ants. As a result our conditions are perhaps
less controlled than comparable studies in these insects. Nevertheless, there is a clear
effect of age on mushroom body size (Fig. 6). In both species, the mushroom bodies
are significantly larger in aged individuals. These volume differences of 38.0% for the
calyx and 34.0% for the lobe system in *H. erato,* and 27.9% for the calyx and 23.7%
for the lobe system in *H. hecale* are comparable, if not greater than, the effects seen in
Hymenoptera (e.g. c. 30% in *Camponotus floridanus* (Gronenberg et al., 1996); c.
20% in *Bombus impatiens* (Jones et al., 2013)).

Our comparisons between aged insectary-reared individuals and wild caught
individuals also identify experience-dependent plasticity. This 'experience' in the

wild likely includes a greater range of movement as well as a greater complexity of

foraging, and more variable environmental conditions and social interactions. In both

species we see evidence for mushroom body plasticity, however it is notable that the

pattern differs between species. In *H. hecale* a strong volumetric difference is found

between old insectary-reared and wild caught individuals for both the calyx (32%

difference) and lobes (24% difference). Again, this is a result of a major-axis shift in

the unsegmented midbrain. This is not just an effect of increases in total brain size, as

no other neuropil shows a similar increase resulting in widespread grade-shifts

towards smaller relative size in wild caught individuals. This may suggest a

coordinated pattern of growth between the mushroom bodies and unsegmented areas

of the midbrain or alternatively independent plasticity in the two structures. In *H.*

erato the effect of environmental plasticity is somewhat different. Although we find

similar volumes in old insectary-reared individuals and wild caught individuals, both

the mushroom body clayx and lobe system show allometric grade-shifts resulting in

greater volumes relative to the unsegmented midbrain in wild individuals compared to

insectary-reared individuals. It is also notable that this grade-shift is apparent because,

in contrast to *H. hecale*, *H. erato* does not show a concomitant increase in midbrain

volume in wild individuals.

It is currently unclear what causes this species difference. The difference may

reflect changes in connectivity between the mushroom bodies and neuropil housed in

the unsegmented midbrain, or perhaps experience-dependent plasticity in unrelated

midbrain structures. Alternatively, the difference may be a sampling artifact.

Although the ages of the insectary-reared individuals are not significantly different,

we cannot rule out that the age structure of wild-caught individuals is biased. A

further possibility is that *H. erato* and *H. hecale* respond differently to conditions in

captivity, perhaps due to contrasting natural behavior in the wild. Nevertheless, our

observation that *Heliconius* mushroom bodies show similar levels of post-eclosion

growth to Hymenoptera, and a similar two-phase pattern of environmentally

independent and dependent growth, provides further evidence of evolutionary

convergence with *Heliconius*.

These large, volumetric changes in mushroom body size presumably have

some significance on how the mushroom bodies are functioning. Some insight into

the functional significance may be gained from investigating what is causing the

increase in volume. Ongoing proliferation of Kenyon cells seems unlikely, if

neurogenesis is restricted to the larval and pupal stages, as it is in Hymenoptera (Masson, 1970; Fahrbach et al., 1995). Instead the increased volume may indicate changes in dendritic growth, as is suggested for mushroom body plasticity in Hymenoptera (Gronenberg et al., 1996; Farris et al., 2001). Farris et al. (2001) demonstrated age and experience dependent plasticity in dendrite branching. The former reflecting developmentally programmed growth of extrinsic neuron processes into the mushroom bodies, and the latter reflecting an expansion in the complexity of Kenyon cell processes. The resulting changes in dendritic fields may indicate altered neural connectivity.

Finally, although the mushroom bodies show the strongest and most consistent effects, it is also striking that plasticity, and in particularly age related growth, is not restricted to the mushroom bodes. This has been observed in other insects (Kühn-Bühlmann and Wehner, 2006; Snell-Rood et al., 2009; Ott and Rogers, 2010; Smith et al., 2010; Heinze and Florman, 2013; Jones et al., 2013). As in previous examples significant age-dependent effects in *Heliconius* appear to play a role in the development of sensory neuropil involved in the processing of both visual and olfactory information. This may not be unexpected as sensory neuropil do not merely relay information on to the central brain, but also process information *in situ* (Muscedere et al., 2014). Both the medulla and lobula system are implicated in processing different types of visual information (Paulk et al., 2009a; b). Similarly, odor learning may be due to plasticity in the antennal lobes themselves rather than, or as well as, higher order structures (Hammer and Menzel, 1998; Rath et al., 2011). We also find evidence of plasticity in the central complex. In Lepidoptera, the plasticity in central body has been demonstrated in response to experience with novel host plants (Snell-Rood et al., 2009), whilst the protocerebral bridge increases in volume following migratory experience in *D. plexippus* (Heinze et al., 2013). Our results suggest *Heliconius* may provide a useful system within which to explore the behavioral relevance of plasticity in the mushroom bodies, and other structures.

Convergent expansion of mushroom bodies: similarities and differences

Extensive mushroom body expansion is now reported in lineages of four insect orders; Dictyoptera, herbivorous Scarabaeidae, Hymenoptera, and *Heliconius* (Farris, 2013). We see three ecological traits that are shared by at least two of these lineages: dietary adaptations, central place foraging, and sociality. In scarab beetles mushroom

body expansion is associated with a shift from coprophagy to a generalist
phytophagus diet, possibly in response to increased behavioral flexibility in the
context of foraging (Farris and Roberts, 2005). It is conceivable a similar selection
pressure may apply to cockroaches. In contrast, the initial increase in mushroom body
size coincides with the origin of a specialist foraging behavior in Hymenoptera,
parasitoidism (Farris and Schulmeister, 2011). As discussed above, the expansion of
the *Heliconius* mushroom bodies may also be related to a specialist foraging behavior.
In these cases, central place foraging may have facilitated the origin of more social
behavior (Mallet, 1986; Farris and Schulmeister, 2011), which may have secondarily
led to further increases in mushroom body volume (Dujardin, 1859; Withers et al.,
1993; Gronenberg et al., 1996; Ehmer and Ron, 1999). The common theme of these
hypotheses is that mushroom body expansion evolves in response to the need for
parsing a greater complexity of environmental information, facilitating the emergence
of new behaviors (Chittka and Niven, 2009).

Two anatomical traits associated with mushroom body expansion provide
support for this hypothesis: increased complexity of sensory input into the mushroom
bodies, and subdivision of the mushroom body calyx. In addition to olfactory inputs,
the mushroom body calyx receives direct input from the optic lobes in Hymenoptera
and phytophagus Scarab beetles (Gronenberg, 2001; Farris and Roberts, 2005; Farris
and Schulmeister, 2011). This increase in functional inputs is reflected in the
subdivision of the calyx into the lip, which processes olfactory information, and the
collar and basal ring, which process visual information (Gronenberg and Hölldobler,
1999). This suggests mushroom body expansion may be partly caused by the
acquisition of new functions (Farris, 2013).

It is not known whether *Heliconius* receive visual input into the mushroom
bodies. However, this has been demonstrated in species of both butterflies (Snell-
Rood et al., 2009) and moths (Sjöholm et al., 2005), and some anatomical features of
the *Heliconius* brain suggest the possibility that this does occur. It is notable,
however, that *Heliconius* lack clear subdivision of the calyx as seen in Hymenoptera.
In contrast, Heinze and Reppert (2012) described clear structural subdivision, or
zonation, that they postulated may be analogous to the *A. mellifera* lip, collar and
basal ring. We do not interpret the lack of clear zonation in *Heliconius* as evidence
that there is no functional sub-division, as *Spodptera littoralis* displays localization of
visual processing in the mushroom body calyx that is not apparent without labeling

individual neurons. Given the implied role for visual landmark learning in *Heliconius*
foraging behavior (Jones, 1930; Gilbert, 1972, 1975; Mallet, 1986), it seems probable
that there has been some integration of visual information processing with the
mushroom bodies.

In other species the mushroom body also receives input relaying gustatory and
mechanosensory information (Schildberger, 1983; Homberg, 1984; Li and Strausfeld,
1999; Farris, 2008). These may also be of relevance in *Heliconius* given the
importance of gustatory and mechanosensory reception in host-plant identification
(Schoonhoven, 1968; Renwick and Chew, 1994; Briscoe et al., 2013) and pollen
loading (Krenn and Penz, 1998; Penz and Krenn, 2000), although it should be noted
that there is currently no evidence these behaviors are learnt (Kerpel and Moreira,
2005; Salcedo, 2011; Silva et al., 2014).

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Ecological adaptations in Lepidopteran brain composition
The mushroom body is not the only neuropil to display an adaptive signature of
divergence. Our interspecific analysis across Lepidoptera strongly suggest a mosaic
pattern of brain evolution (Barton and Harvey, 2000) in response to a species' specific
ecological needs (Barton et al., 1995; Huber et al., 1997; Gronenberg and Hölldobler,
1999b; Montgomery and Ott, 2015). This pattern is particularly noticeable in the
sensory neuropil (Fig. 9B). The relative volume of the visual neuropil closely reflects
diel activity patters, whilst the size of the antennal lobe also appears to be strongly
associated with activity pattern or a low-light diurnal niche. This is illustrated in a
PCA of midbrain neuropil (Fig. 9C) which clusters the olfactorily driven butterfly *G.*
zavaletta with night-flying moths (Montgomery and Ott, 2015). As expected,
Heliconius are distinguished by their enlarged mushroom bodies, whilst *D. plexippus*
is isolated along an axis of variation heavily loaded by the AOTu. This may reflect
dependence on visual information typical of diurnal butterflies; however, removal of
the mushroom bodies from the analysis does not explain this difference. It is possible
therefore that AOTu expansion is particularly prominent in *D. plexippus* as suggested
by Heinze and Reppert (2012). The AOTu plays a key role in relaying segregated
visual pathways (Pfeiffer et al., 2005; Heinze and Reppert, 2011; Mota et al., 2011;
Pfeiffer and Kinoshita, 2012), suggesting a plausible link between AOTu expansion
and migratory behavior (Heinze and Reppert, 2012a; Heinze et al., 2013).

These macroevolutionary patterns of divergence between genera are mirrored

to some extent in comparisons between *H. erato* and *H. hecale*. In Panama, *H. hecale*

and *H. erato* differ in host-plant use (Merrill et al., 2013), and *H. hecale* are biased

towards collecting large grained pollen whereas *H. erato* collect pollen from plant

species that produce smaller grains (Estrada and Jiggins, 2002). Although this may

reflect foraging differences, it is likely that the difference is largely driven by

competitive exclusion of *H. erato* from a generally preferred pollen source (Estrada

and Jiggins, 2002) as there is no difference in the efficiency of handling different

pollen sizes in captivity (Penz and Krenn, 2000), or evidence that *H. erato*

preferentially collect small pollen grains in other wild populations (Boggs et al., 1981;

Cardoso, 2001). These data suggest *H. erato* and *H. hecale* may be using their

environment differently, and therefore be exposed to contrasting conditions and

selection pressures.

Focusing on wild caught individuals, where variation in neuropil volume may

be most ecologically relevant, *H. hecale* have a significantly larger total brain size.

This is largely due to the optic lobes, and undefined regions of the midbrain. At the

level of specific neuropil only the lamina and medulla differ significantly between

species. However, interpreting allometric grade-shifts between species is complicated

by significant differences in unsegmented midbrain volume, which is used as the

independent variable throughout. In old insectary-reared individuals the significant

difference in lamina volume persists, suggesting this may be a non-plastic species

difference, whilst the effects on midbrain volume may be environment dependent.

This supports recent data showing divergence in corneal facet number and diameter

which suggests visual adaptations in different micro-habitats may play a role in

Heliconius diversification (Seymoure et al., in review).

The behavioral relevance of divergence and plasticity in unsegmented areas of

the midbrain, which lack clear boundaries, is less obvious. Given its role in

controlling the mandibles, proboscis and mouth parts (Rehder, 1989; Bowdan and

Wyse, 2000), all of which are involved in pollen loading (Krenn and Penz, 1998; Penz

and Krenn, 2000), it is possible the effect is largely driven by variation in the sub-

esophageal ganglion caused by species differences in pollen handling in the wild. The

development of phenotypic markers that permit consistent segmentation of different

areas of the midbrain across species (e.g. Heinze and Reppert, 2012) in future studies

will permit a test of this hypothesis.

Interspecific differences between *H. erato* and *H. hecale* in brain component

volumes are sufficient to correctly group individuals by species in a discriminant

function analysis. Further analysis of species and group (wild vs. old insectary-reared)

suggest both environment independent and dependent variation contributes to these

species differences. The potential role of phenotypic plasticity in facilitating

ecological diversification by bridging fitness valleys is attracting renewed and

growing interest (Pfennig et al., 2010; Snell-Rood, 2013). The numerous closely

related sister-species of *Heliconius* that exist along environmental gradients (Jiggins

et al., 1996; Jiggins and Mallet, 2000; Estrada and Jiggins, 2002; Arias et al., 2008)

may provide an opportunity to test the importance of neural phenotypic plasticity in

facilitating ecological shifts during speciation.

1151

Conclusions and future prospects

We have described the layout and size of the major neuropil in two species of

Heliconius butterflies. This has confirmed a previous report that this genus has

dramatically expanded mushroom bodies (Sivinski, 1989). Moreover our estimates of

the percentage of the brain occupied by the mushroom bodies suggest the initial

values underestimated the size of the mushroom body. Indeed, in some comparisons,

Heliconius rank among the top insect species in terms of investment in mushroom

body neuropil. Through comparisons across different age groups, and between wild

and insectary-reared individuals, we further demonstrate levels of plasticity

comparable to hymenoptera, extensively studied models of mushroom body

expansion and plasticity. Our interspecific analysis reveals patterns of divergence in

brain composition between genera, and within *Heliconius*, that suggest a close

correspondence to ecological variables. This analysis lays the groundwork for

comparative and experimental analyses that will seek to dissect the costs, benefits,

behavioral relevance and proximate basis of differential expansion in key neuropil.

1167

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Conflict of interest statement

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

Role of authors

All authors read and approved the final manuscript. Study conception: SHM. Study design and preliminary experiments: SHM, RMM, SRO. Fieldwork and insectary rearing: SHM, RMM. Acquisition of data, analysis, interpretation and initial manuscript draft: SHM. Final interpretation and drafting: SHM, RMM, SRO.

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Abbreviations

AL	antennal lobe
aMe	accessory medulla
AN	antennal nerve
AOTu	anterior optic tubercule
CB	central body
CBL	lower central body
CBU	upper central body
CFN	central fibrous neuropil of *AL*
DMSO	dimethyl suphoxide
Glom	glomeruli
HBS	HEPES-buffered saline
iMe	inner medulla
iRim	inner rim of the lamina
La	lamina
LAL	lateral accessory lobes
Lo	lobula
LoP	lobula plate
LU	lower unit of *AOTu*
MB	mushroom body
MB-ca	mushroom body calyx
MB-lo	mushroom body lobes
MB-pe	mushroom body peduncle
MB-lo+pe	mushroom body lobes and peduncle combined
MBr	midbrain
Me	medulla
MGC	macro-glomeruli complex
NGS	normal goat serum
no	noduli
NU	nodule unit of *AOTu*
oMe	outer medulla
OR	olfactory receptor
OGC	optic glomerular complex
PA	pyrrolizidine alkaloids
PB	protocerebral bridge
PC	principal component
POTu	posterior optic tubercle
rMid	rest of midbrain
SP	strap of *AOTu*
UU	upper unit of *AOTu*
ZnFA	Zinc-Formaldehyde solution

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Figure Legends

 Figure 1: Overview of the anatomy of the *Heliconius* brain.

 3D models of *H. erato* (**A–G**) and *H. hecale* (**A'–G'**). **B–D** and **B'–D':** Volume

 rendering of synapsin immunofluorescence showing the surface morphology of the

 brain neuropil from the anterior (A/A'), posterior (B/B'), and dorsal (C/C') view. **E–G**

 and **E'–G':** Surface reconstructions of the major neuropil compartments from the

 anterior (D), posterior (E), and dorsal (F) view. Neuropil in yellow-orange: visual

 neuropil, green: central complex, blue: antennal lobes, red: mushroom bodies. See

 Figures 2–4 for further anatomical detail. The individuals displayed are male. Images

 in A/A' are from Warren et al. (2013). Scale bars = 25 mm in A/A'; 500 μm in B–

 D/B'–D'.

 Figure 2: Anatomy of the sensory neuropils.

 Images A–H are from male *H. hecale*. **A:** Surface reconstructions of the optic lobe

 neuropils viewed from anterior (left image) and posterior (right image). They

 comprise the lamina (La), the medulla (Me), and accessory medulla (aMe), the lobula

 (Lo), the lobula plate (LoP) and the optic glomerulus (OG). **B:** Surface reconstruction

 of the optic glomerulus (OG) viewed along the anterior-posterior axis (top) and an

 anterior view (bottom)**. C:** Surface reconstruction of the anteriot optic tubercle

 (AOTu)**. D–J:** Synapsin immunofluorescence in single confocal sections of the optic

 lobe of *H. hecale*. **D:** Horizontal section showing all four major optic lobe neuropils

 (La, Me, Lo, LoP). **E:** Frontal section showing the inner rim (iRim) of the lamina, a

 thin layer on its inner surface that is defined by intense synapsin immunofluorescence.

 Synapsin immunostaining also reveals the laminated structure of the medulla with two

 main subdivisions, the outer and inner medulla (oMe, iMe). **F:** The OG is located

 medially to the Lo; frontal section, the midbrain (MBr) occupies the left half of the

 frame. **G,H:** Frontal sections showing a small, irregular neuropil (ir) observed

 running from the anterior-ventral boundary of the aME as in *D. plexippus* (Heinze and

 Reppert, 2012).

Figure 3: Anatomy of the antennal lobe

A: 3D reconstruction of individual antennal lobe (AL) glomeruli superimposed on a volume rendering of the anterior surface of the midbrain. **B:** Synapsin immunofluorescence in a single frontal confocal section showing the glomeruli (Glom) surrounding the central fibrous neuropil (CFN). Images A–B are from male *H. hecale.* **C,D:** Allometric grade-shifts between Glom (circles) or CFN (triangles) volume and unsegmented midbrain volume (C), and between Glom and CFN volume (D) in *G. zavaleta* (solid blue), *H. erato* (black filled with red) and *H. hecale* (orange filled with yellow). Scale bars = 500 μm in A; 50 μm in B,C,G,H; 100 μm in B–F, J; 200 μm in I.

Figure 4: Anatomy of the central complex

A/A': Surface reconstruction of the central complex from an anterolateral (A) and oblique posteroventral (A') view, showing the upper and lower subunit of the central body (CBU, CBL), the noduli (No), the protocerebral bridge (PB) and posterior optic tubercles (POTu). **B–G:** Synapsin immunofluorescence in single confocal sections. **B:** Horizontal section showing the upper and lower subunit of the CB in relation to the antennal lobes (AL) and the calyx (MB-ca) and pedunculus (MB-pe) of the mushroom body. **C,D:** Frontal confocal sections at the level of the CBL (C) and CBU (D); the CB subunits are flanked by the profiles of the vertically running MB-pe on either side. **E:** Frontal section showing the location of the PB ventrally to the MB-ca. **F:** POTu positioned ventrally to the MB-ca in a frontal section. **G:** Frontal section showing position of the paired No ventrally to CBL and CBU. All images are from a male *H. hecale.* Scale bars = 100 μm in B–D, G; 50 μm in E,F.

Figure 5: Anatomy of the mushroom body

A–C: Surface reconstruction of the mushroom body viewed (A), orthogonal to the anterior-posterior axis from a medial vantage point level with the peduncle; (B), from anterior; and (C), from posterior. The main components are the calyx (MB-ca) shown in dark red, and the peduncule (MB-pe) and lobes (MB-lo) shown in bright red. A Y-tract, shown in magenta, runs parallel and slightly medial to the MB-pe. **D–K:** Synapsin immunofluorescence in individual confocal sections. **D:** anterior view of the midbrain showing the MB-lo, an asterik indicates the probably ventral lobe, otherwise the individual lobes and loblets of the MB-lo are fused. **E:** Frontal section at a

posterior level near the end of the MB-pe, showing the profiles of the MB-ca with its

zonation into an outer and a medial ring. **F,G** and **J,K**: Horizontal confocal sections

through the midbrain at increasing depths from dorsal towards ventral, showing MB

structure in relation to neighboring neuropil: the anterior optic tubercle (AOTu in

F,G); the antennal lobe (AL in G,J); and the central body upper division (CBU in K).

H: An example of a female *H. erato* where the MB-ca is deformed due expansion into

the optic lobe and constriction (C) at the optic stalk by the neural sheath surrounding

the brain. **I:** Pitted surface of the MB-ca in a very posterior tangential horizontal

section. The pitting is related to what appear to be columnar domains within the calyx

neuropil (*cf.* MB-ca in J,K,M). **L:** Areas of intense synapsin staining in the optic stalk

(OS*); Lo, lobula; OG, optic glomerulus. **M:** Frontal section near the base of the

calyx (MB-ca) showing a satellite neuropil (sat.) located near to the MB-pe. **N:** A Y-

tract runs parallel with, and dorsally and slightly medially to the MB-pe; both are seen

in profile in this frontal section. **O:** A fiber bundle (fb) connected to the AOTu

running near the junction between the MB-pe and MB-lo. With the exception of I, all

images are from a male *H. hecale.* Scale bars A-G, J-K = 200 μm, H-I, L-O = 100 μm.

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Figure 6: Age and environment dependent growth of the mushroom bodies

Surface reconstruction of the mushroom body viewed along the anterior-posterior axis

for wild-caught, old and young insectary-reared individuals of *H. erato* (**A**) and *H.*

hecale (**A'**). Representative individuals were chosen as those closest to the group

mean volume. Scale bar = 200 μm. **B-C/B'-C':** allometric relationships between MB-

lo+pe (B/B'), or MB-ca (C/C'),and the volume of the unsegmented midbrain (rMid)

for *H. erato* (B/C) and *H. hecale* (B'/C'). Data for wild caught individuals are in

green, data for old insectary-reared individuals in dark blue, and data for young

insectary-reared individuals are in light blue. Allometric slopes for each group are

shown, the slope, intercepts and major-axis means are compared in Table 2, 3.

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Figure 7: Age and environment dependent growth of brain components

A,D: Comparisons of raw volumes of total neuropil, total OL neuropil, total midbrain

neuropil between wild-caught, old and young insectary-reared individuals of *H. erato*

(A) and *H. hecale* (D). Significance of pair-wise comparisons are shown along the x-

axis (young-old = orange; old-wild = dark red; n.s. = $p>0.05$, * = $p<0.05$, ** = p

<0.01, *** = $p < 0.001$). **B:** Allometric scaling of LoP in *H. erato.* **C:** Allometric

scaling of PB in *H. erato*. **E:** Allometric scaling of OG in *H. hecale*. **F:** Allometric scaling of CB in *H. hecale*. Note in E and F the shifts in allometry occur along the x-axis, this is explained by the large difference in unsegmented midbrain volume observed between wild-caught and old insectary-reared individuals in *H. hecale* as displayed in D.

Figure 8: Divergence in brain structure between *H. erato* and *H. hecale*.
A–C: Species differences in brain-body scaling between *H. erato* (red) and *H. hecale* (orange). Grade-shifts towards larger neuropil volume relative to body length are seen for total neuropil (A) but are mainly driven by OL neuropil (B) rather than midbrain neuropil (C). **D:** Discriminant Function analysis of segmented neuropil volumes and the unsegmented midbrain volume separates wild individuals of the two species along a single axis (yellow, orange ring: wild *H. hecale;* red, black ring: wild *H. erato*). **E, F:** DFA including wild and old insectary-reared individuals of both species (solid orange = old insectary-reared *H. hecale*; solid black: old insectary-reared *H. erato*). E displays DF1 vs. DF2 to illustrate that DF1 accounts for the most variation between species, F displays DF2 vs. DF3 to illustrate that these axes separate wild and old insectary-reared individuals of the same species.

Figure 9: Divergence in brain structure across Lepidoptera, and in mushroom body size across insects.
A: Phylogenetic relationships of Lepidoptera (red branches) and other insects (grey branches) for which comparable data are available. Branches are not drawn proportional to divergence dates, numbers refer to labels in panel E. **B,C:** Principal Component analysis of segmented neuropil volumes, corrected for allometric scaling with the unsegmented midbrain and phylogeny. **B:** Analysis using all neuropil. **C:** Analysis excluding the optic lobe neuropil. Species data points are indicated by the first letter of their genus and species name: *D.p = Danaus plexippus*; *H.e = Heliconius erato*; *H.h = H. hecale*; *G.z = Godyris zavaleta*; *H.v = Heliothis virescens*; *M.s = Manduca sexta*. **D:** The proportion of the midbrain occupied by MB-ca (dark red) and MB-lo+pe (light red) in four butterflies, and two other insects with fully comparable data.   **E:** Across a wider sample of insects (shown in A), when expressed as a percentage of total volume of OL, AL, CB and MB, *Apis mellifera* (solid blue) and *Heliconius* (solid red) stand out as having expanded mushroom bodies, correcting for

1740   the size of the optic neuropil, compared to other Lepidoptera (unfilled red circles) and

1741   other insects (unfilled blue circles). The line was fitted by PGLS. All insect images in

1742   A are from Wikimedia commons and were released under the Creative Commons

1743   License, except *Heliconius* (see Fig. 1).

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 Tables

Table 1: Neuropil volumes and body size of A) *H. erato* and B) *H. hecale*

Table 2: Comparisons between old (O) and young (Y) insectary-reared individuals for A) *H. erato* and B) *H. hecale*. *r* is the effect size. DI indicates the group with a higher value of α, β or fitted axis mean.

Table 3: Comparisons between wild caught (W) and old insectary-reared individuals for A) *H. erato* and B) *H. hecale*. *r* is the effect size. DI indicates the group with a higher value of α, β or fitted axis mean.

Table 4: Comparisons between *H. erato* and *H. hecale* for A) wild caught and B) old insectary-reared individuals. *r* is the effect size. DI indicates the species with a higher value of α, β or fitted axis mean.

Table 5: Discriminant function analysis of variation between wild and old insectary-reared *H. erato* and *H. hecale*. A) Canonical discrimant function coefficitions for DF1-3. B) Disrciminant function statistics. C) Results of a MANOVA of DF1-3 to test for associations with species, group, and species-group interactions.

Table 6: Loadings on Principal Components Analysis of the relative size of brain components across six Lepidoptera.

Table 1

A) *H. erato*

	wild caught				old insectary reared		young insectary reared	
	mean (*n* = 10)	SD	Rel. SD (%)	% total Neuropil	mean (*n* = 10)	SD	mean (*n* = 10)	SD
Body mass (g)	0.093	0.017	19.999	-	0.074	0.014	0.088	0.019
Body length (mm)	23.833	1.426	5.983	-	23.095	1.773	22.671	0.951
Wing span (mm)	71.408	3.278	4.591	-	69.744	4.12	68.786	2.55
Lamina	7.409E+07	1.052E+07	14.192	13.459	6.95E+07	1.61E+07	5.49E+07	1.25E+07
Medulla	2.396E+08	3.617E+07	15.094	43.523	2.45E+08	2.76E+07	1.90E+08	3.32E+07
Accessory medulla	1.633E+05	3.609E+04	22.094	0.030	1.59E+05	4.61E+04	9.77E+04	1.93E+04
Inner lobula	2.630E+07	4.203E+06	15.984	4.777	2.79E+07	2.89E+06	2.07E+07	4.32E+06
Lobula plate	1.393E+07	2.083E+06	14.952	2.531	1.35E+07	2.22E+06	1.04E+07	2.07E+06
OG	1.054E+06	2.400E+05	22.769	0.191	1.05E+06	2.42E+05	8.85E+05	2.26E+05
Antennal lobes	1.185E+07	2.450E+06	20.671	2.153	1.19E+07	2.49E+06	7.72E+06	1.10E+06
AOTu	2.199E+06	4.535E+05	20.618	0.400	2.26E+06	3.28E+05	1.52E+06	3.27E+05
MB calyx	4.672E+07	9.290E+06	19.886	8.486	4.50E+07	1.22E+07	2.79E+07	5.75E+06
MB peduncle	6.043E+06	1.109E+06	18.343	1.098	6.15E+06	1.35E+06	5.57E+06	1.58E+06
MB lobes	2.267E+07	5.812E+06	25.641	4.118	2.17E+07	4.26E+06	1.28E+07	2.31E+06
Central body lower	3.017E+05	5.189E+04	17.198	0.055	2.83E+05	6.00E+04	2.24E+05	3.81E+04
Central body upper	1.180E+06	1.788E+05	15.153	0.214	1.17E+06	2.57E+05	8.90E+05	1.36E+05
Noduli	2.966E+04	1.146E+04	38.631	0.005	3.09E+04	1.64E+04	3.16E+04	8.46E+03
Protocerebral bridge	2.120E+05	4.804E+04	22.658	0.039	1.96E+05	5.04E+04	1.39E+05	2.02E+04
POTu	4.213E+04	9.976E+03	23.681	0.008	4.20E+04	1.43E+04	2.73E+04	7.93E+03
Total midbrain	1.954E+08	3.365E+07	17.222	35.490	2.04E+08	2.70E+07	1.39E+08	2.28E+07

Table 1 continued
B) *H. hecale*

	wild caught				*old insectary reared*		*young insectary reared*	
	mean (*n* = 10)	SD	Rel. SD (%)	% total Neuropil	mean (*n* = 9)	SD	mean (*n* = 10)	SD
Body mass (g)	0.163	0.025	15.317	-	0.154	0.046	0.171	0.047
Body length (mm)	29.693	3.097	10.431	-	28.189	3.0631	29.206	2.75
Wing span (mm)	88.129	8.004	9.082	-	80.6	7.134	86.34	8.012
Lamina	9.751E+07	1.826E+07	18.721	13.939	9.39E+07	2.17E+07	9.64E+07	1.50E+07
Medulla	2.986E+08	5.342E+07	17.888	42.689	2.48E+08	3.81E+07	2.42E+08	3.66E+07
Accessory medulla	1.660E+05	2.951E+04	17.782	0.024	1.40E+05	2.80E+04	1.38E+05	3.67E+04
Inner lobula	3.056E+07	5.630E+06	18.422	4.369	2.80E+07	4.64E+06	2.45E+07	5.06E+06
Lobula plate	1.648E+07	2.972E+06	18.031	2.356	1.45E+07	2.45E+06	1.27E+07	2.53E+06
OG	1.099E+06	3.396E+05	30.894	0.157	9.93E+05	2.12E+05	9.24E+05	2.10E+05
Antennal lobes	1.216E+07	2.056E+06	16.905	1.739	1.09E+07	1.34E+06	9.36E+06	1.59E+06
AOTu	2.572E+06	6.144E+05	23.891	0.368	2.30E+06	4.46E+05	2.02E+06	3.76E+05
MB calyx	5.271E+07	1.611E+07	30.569	7.534	3.60E+07	7.49E+06	2.60E+07	7.48E+06
MB peduncle	6.680E+06	1.525E+06	22.834	0.955	5.92E+06	1.30E+06	4.91E+06	1.39E+06
MB lobes	2.421E+07	6.279E+06	25.930	3.461	1.79E+07	3.56E+06	1.32E+07	3.51E+06
Central body lower	3.109E+05	6.362E+04	20.467	0.044	2.91E+05	7.15E+04	2.47E+05	3.74E+04
Central body upper	1.093E+06	2.026E+05	18.541	0.156	1.16E+06	2.05E+05	9.65E+05	1.79E+05
Noduli	4.207E+04	1.713E+04	40.730	0.006	3.34E+04	8.35E+03	3.06E+04	1.28E+04
Protocerebral bridge	2.424E+05	5.657E+04	23.335	0.035	2.00E+05	3.09E+04	1.64E+05	1.75E+04
POTu	4.183E+04	1.257E+04	30.057	0.006	3.74E+04	8.47E+03	3.20E+04	8.27E+03
Total midbrain	2.551E+08	6.253E+07	24.513	36.465	1.82E+08	2.28E+07	1.50E+08	2.25E+07

Table 2

A) *H. erato*

	Volume			Scaling coefficient (β)			Intercept (α)			Major Axis Shift		
	t17	p	r (DI)	Likelihood Ratio	p	r (DI)	Wald χ2	p	r (DI)	Wald χ2	p	r (DI)
Lamina	2.432	0.026	0.508 (O)	2.019	0.155	-	2.895	0.089	-	13.196	0.000	0.833 (O)
Medulla	4.118	0.001	0.707 (O)	0.090	0.765	-	1.127	0.288	-	19.405	0.000	1.000 (O)
Accessory medulla	3.802	0.001	0.678 (O)	3.976	0.046	0.458 (O)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Inner lobula	4.173	0.001	0.711 (O)	0.246	0.620	-	1.587	0.208	-	20.284	0.000	1.000 (O)
Lobula plate	3.266	0.005	0.621 (O)	0.523	0.470	-	3.802	0.051	-	19.034	0.000	1.000 (O)
OG	1.412	0.176	-	0.385	0.535	-	5.694	0.017	0.547 (Y)	10.622	0.001	0.748 (O)
Antennal lobes	5.080	0.000	0.776 (O)	4.169	0.041	-	0.214	0.644	-	27.584	0.000	1.000 (O)
AOT	5.192	0.000	0.783 (O)	0.109	0.741	-	0.123	0.726	-	26.321	0.000	1.000 (O)
MB calyx	4.050	0.001	0.701 (O)	3.679	0.055	-	1.607	0.205	-	19.177	0.000	1.000 (O)
MB lobes+peduncle	4.806	0.000	0.759 (O)	0.963	0.326	-	0.373	0.541	-	23.250	0.000	1.000 (O)
CB L+U	3.272	0.004	0.622 (O)	2.364	0.124	-	1.807	0.179	-	16.530	0.000	0.933 (O)
Protocerebral bridge	3.169	0.006	0.609 (O)	5.996	0.014	0.562 (O)	-	-	-	-	-	-
POTu	2.772	0.013	0.558 (O)	1.539	0.215	-	4.124	0.042	0.466 (Y)	14.953	0.000	0.887 (O)
Total Mid	4.192	0.001	0.713 (O)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
rMid	5.771	0.000	0.814 (O)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total OL	5.076	0.000	0.776 (O)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total neuropil	5.153	0.000	0.781 (O)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

B) *H. hecale*

	Volume			Scaling coefficient (β)			Intercept (α)			Major Axis Shift		
	t18	p	r (DI)	Likelihood Ratio	p	r (DI)	Wald χ2	p	r (DI)	Wald χ2	p	r (DI)
Lamina	-0.424	0.677	-	1.866	0.172	-	11.902	0.001	0.771 (Y)	1.043	0.307	-
Medulla	0.333	0.743	-	0.494	0.482	-	21.674	0.000	1.000 (Y)	1.971	0.160	-
Accessory medulla	0.238	0.814	-	0.094	0.759	-	3.044	0.081	-	3.088	0.079	-
Inner lobula	1.538	0.141	-	0.002	0.961	-	3.544	0.060	-	4.501	0.034	0.474 (O)
Lobula plate	1.683	0.110	-	0.066	0.797	-	1.577	0.209	-	5.031	0.025	0.502 (O)
OG	0.617	0.545	-	0.266	0.606	-	4.408	0.036	0.470 (Y)	3.045	0.081	-
						-						
Antennal lobes	2.418	0.026	-	1.795	0.180	-	2.396	0.122	-	6.451	0.011	0.570 (O)
AOT	1.496	0.152	-	0.101	0.751	-	2.166	0.141	-	4.656	0.031	0.483 (O)
MB calyx	3.177	0.005	0.599 (O)	0.283	0.595	-	0.104	0.747	-	9.166	0.002	0.677 (O)
MB lobes+peduncle	2.707	0.014	0.538 (O)	0.147	0.702	-	0.015	0.902	-	7.594	0.006	0.616 (O)
CB L+U	2.218	0.040	0.463 (O)	3.291	0.070	-	0.859	0.354	-	7.221	0.007	0.601 (O)
Protocerebral bridge	3.291	0.004	0.613 (O)	1.043	0.307	-	0.172	0.678	-	9.448	0.002	0.687 (O)
POTu	1.494	0.153	-	0.078	0.780	-	0.736	0.391	-	6.292	0.012	0.561 (O)
Total Mid	3.054	0.007	0.584 (O)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
rMid	2.854	0.011	0.558 (O)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total OL	0.280	0.783	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total neuropil	1.082	0.293	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Table 3

A) *H. erato*

	Volume			Scaling coefficient (β)			Intercept (α)			Major Axis Shift		
	t17	p	r (DI)	Likelihood Ratio	p	r (DI)	Wald χ2	p	r (DI)	Wald χ2	p	r (DI)
Lamina	0.892	0.385	-	3.685	0.055	-	3.605	0.058	-	0.210	0.646	-
Medulla	-0.426	0.676	-	0.269	0.604	-	2.056	0.152	-	1.269	0.260	-
Accessory medulla	0.359	0.724	-	5.150	0.023	0.521 (O)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Inner lobula	-1.056	0.306	-	0.283	0.595	-	1.004	0.316	-	1.999	0.157	-
Lobula plate	0.430	0.673	-	4.963	0.026	0.511 (O)	-	-	-	-	-	-
OG	0.116	0.909	-	2.148	0.143	-	2.055	0.152	-	0.848	0.357	-
Antennal lobes	-0.035	0.972	-	1.695	0.193	-	2.269	0.132	-	0.899	0.343	-
AOT	-0.490	0.631	-	0.483	0.487	-	1.318	0.251	-	1.456	0.227	-
MB calyx	0.511	0.616	-	5.833	0.016	0.554 (O)	-	-	-	-	-	-
MB lobes+peduncle	0.239	0.814	-	0.714	0.398	-	4.418	0.036	0.482 (W)	7.594	0.006	0.632 (W)
CB L+U	0.394	0.699	-	4.272	0.039	0.474 (O)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Protocerebral bridge	0.845	0.410	-	4.413	0.036	0.482 (O)	-	-	-	-	-	-
POTu	0.196	0.847	-	3.726	0.054	-	2.730	0.098	-	0.905	0.341	-
Total Mid	-0.732	0.474	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
rMid	-1.787	0.092	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total OL	-0.123	0.904	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total neuropil	-0.432	0.671	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

B) *H. hecale*

	Volume			Scaling coefficient (β)			Intercept (α)			Major Axis Shift		
	t18	p	r (DI)	Likelihood Ratio	p	r (DI)	Wald χ2	p	r (DI)	Wald χ2	p	r (DI)
Lamina	0.437	0.667	-	6.725	0.010	0.580 (O)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Medulla	2.293	0.034	0.475 (W)	9.165	0.002	0.677 (O)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Accessory medulla	1.898	0.074	-	3.728	0.054	-	1.463	0.227	-	8.056	0.005	0.688 (W)
Inner lobula	1.017	0.322	-	9.760	0.002	0.699 (O)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lobula plate	1.609	0.125	-	6.081	0.014	0.551 (O)	-	-	-	-	-	-
OG	0.614	0.547	-	4.262	0.039	0.462 (O)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Antennal lobes	1.519	0.146	-	7.095	0.008	0.596 (O)	-	-	-	-	-	-
AOT	1.088	0.291	-	3.938	0.047	0.444 (O)	-	-	-	-	-	-
MB calyx	3.126	0.006	0.593 (W)	1.657	0.198	-	0.395	0.530	-	10.432	0.001	0.722 (W)
MB lobes+peduncle	2.536	0.021	0.513 (W)	3.759	0.053	-	1.603	0.205	-	8.811	0.003	0.664 (W)
CB L+U	-0.446	0.661	-	1.665	0.197	-	11.013	0.001	0.742 (O)	2.385	0.122	-
Protocerebral bridge	1.919	0.071	-	5.043	0.025	0.502 (O)	-	-	-	-	-	-
POTu	0.551	0.588	-	5.420	0.020	0.521 (O)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Mid	3.658	0.002	0.653 (W)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
rMid	3.417	0.003	0.627 (W)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total OL	1.728	0.101	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total neuropil	2.553	0.020	0.516 (W)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Table 4
A) Wild

	Volume			Scaling coefficient (β)			Intercept (α)			Major Axis Shift		
	t18	p	r (DI)	Likelihood Ratio	p	r (DI)	Wald χ2	p	r (DI)	Wald χ2	p	r (DI)
Lamina	3.268	0.004	0.610 (Hh)	0.072	0.789	-	0.095	0.758	-	11.283	0.001	0.751 (Hh)
Medulla	2.713	0.014	0.539 (Hh)	1.256	0.262	-	1.311	0.252	-	9.069	0.003	0.673 (Hh)
Accessory medulla	0.217	0.831	-	1.608	0.205	-	7.737	0.005	0.622 (He)	3.748	0.053	-
Inner lobula	1.817	0.086	-	0.998	0.318	-	4.759	0.029	0.488 (He)	6.704	0.010	0.579 (Hh)
Lobula plate	2.200	0.041	-	1.883	0.170	-	4.924	0.026	0.496 (He)	7.685	0.006	0.620 (Hh)
OG	0.136	0.893	-	0.021	0.886	-	16.729	0.000	0.915 (He)	3.203	0.074	-
Antennal lobes	0.390	0.701	-	7.367	0.007	0.607 (He)	-	-	-	-	-	-
AOT	1.550	0.139	-	1.227	0.268	-	9.657	0.002	0.695 (He)	6.117	0.013	0.553 (Hh)
MB calyx	0.863	0.400	-	0.000	0.995	-	5.405	0.020	0.520 (He)	4.798	0.028	0.490 (Hh)
MB lobes+peduncle	0.683	0.504	-	1.189	0.275	-	6.934	0.008	0.589 (He)	4.608	0.032	0.480 (Hh)
CB L+U	-0.866	0.398	-	0.164	0.686	-	9.685	0.002	0.696 (He)	2.260	0.133	-
Protocerebral bridge	1.262	0.223	-	2.869	0.090	-	1.436	0.231	-	6.571	0.010	0.573 (Hh)
POTu	-0.251	0.804	-	2.952	0.086	-	3.166	0.075	-	4.390	0.036	0.469 (Hh)
Total Mid	2.713	0.014	0.539 (Hh)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
rMid	3.582	0.002	0.645 (Hh)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total OL	2.866	0.010	0.560 (Hh)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total neuropil	2.977	0.008	0.574 (Hh)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

B) Old insectary-reared

	Volume			Scaling coefficient (β)			Intercept (α)			Major Axis Shift		
	t17	p	r (DI)	Likelihood Ratio	p	r (DI)	Wald χ2	p	r (DI)	Wald χ2	p	r (DI)
Lamina	2.949	0.009	0.582 (Hh)	0.015	0.902	-	14.433	0.000	0.872 (Hh)	0.488	0.485	-
Medulla	0.358	0.725	-	0.454	0.501	-	5.089	0.024	0.518 (Hh)	0.561	0.454	-
Accessory medulla	-0.395	0.697	-	1.634	0.201	-	0.167	0.683	-	1.679	0.195	-
Inner lobula	-0.480	0.637	-	1.886	0.170	-	4.099	0.043	-	0.548	0.459	-
Lobula plate	1.162	0.261	-	0.088	0.767	-	7.951	0.005	0.647 (Hh)	0.069	0.793	-
OG	-0.515	0.613	-	0.038	0.846	-	0.564	0.453	-	1.060	0.303	-
Antennal lobes	-1.329	0.201	-	2.557	0.110	-	0.001	0.974	-	1.155	0.283	-
AOT	0.064	0.950	-	0.133	0.715	-	1.112	0.292	-	0.621	0.431	-
MB calyx	-1.567	0.134	-	1.276	0.259	-	0.229	0.633	-	2.724	0.099	-
MB lobes+peduncle	-1.961	0.066	-	0.000	0.991	-	0.195	0.659	-	2.710	0.100	-
CB L+U	-0.378	0.710	-	1.751	0.186	-	3.937	0.047	0.455 (Hh)	0.151	0.698	-
Protocerebral bridge	-0.188	0.853	-	3.341	0.068	-	3.601	0.058	-	0.195	0.659	-
POTu	-0.429	0.673	-	1.532	0.216	-	0.372	0.542	-	1.329	0.249	-
Total Mid	-2.177	0.043	0.467 (He)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
rMid	-1.391	0.181	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total OL	1.158	0.262	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total neuropil	0.145	0.886	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Table 5

A) Canonical discriminant function coefficients

Neuropil	DF 1	DF 2	DF 3
rMid	1.716	0.892	-1.404
aME	-0.177	-0.190	0.093
ME	0.167	2.615	0.356
Lo	-1.906	-0.122	-0.802
LoP	0.000	-2.417	-0.287
OG	-0.224	-0.451	0.412
La	1.626	-0.517	0.591
AOTu	-0.570	-0.232	0.369
AL	-1.117	-0.565	0.296
MB-ca	-0.467	0.238	1.950
MB-lo+pe	-0.074	0.353	-0.935
CB	0.860	-0.619	-0.777
PB	0.755	0.741	0.726
POTu	-0.311	0.472	0.161

B) Discrimant function statistics

Correct group assignment		87%	
Eignevalue	3.090	2.065	0.528
% of variance	54.400	36.300	9.300
Wilks' Lambda	0.052	0.214	0.655
$\chi 2$	70.855	37.047	10.169
p	0.004	0.074	0.601

C) MANOVA statistics

F1(Species)	97.2632***	0.550	1.491
F1(Group)	4.6411*	11.695***	15.546***
F1(Species*Group)	0.000	38.172***	1.184

Table 6
A) Midbrain only

| Neuropil | Loadings | |
| | Residuals | |
	PC1	PC2
Antennal lobe	-0.981	-0.045
CB L+U	-0.798	0.406
MB Calyx	0.962	0.11
MB lobes+peduncle	0.952	0.231
AOTu	-0.047	0.966

B) Whole neuropil

| Neuropil | Loadings | |
| | Residuals | |
	PC1	PC2
Antennal lobe	0.761	0.619
CB L+U	0.671	0.67
MB Calyx	-0.961	0.212
MB lobes+peduncle	-0.942	0.222
AOTu	0.811	0.024
Medulla	0.042	-0.949
Lobula	0.92	-0.354
Lobula plate	0.962	-0.167

A

La
La
LoP
aME
Lo
OG

B

d
a — p
v

d
l — m
v

OG

C

UU
LU
SP
NU

D

La
Lo
LoP
Me

E

Lo
iMe
oMe
La
iRim

F

Lo
MBr
OG
Me

G

aME
ir

H

ir

A

Log₁₀(*total neuropil*)

p-elev = 0.017

Log₁₀(*Body length*)

B

Log₁₀(*optic lobes*)

p-elev = 0.004

Log₁₀(*Body length*)

C

Log₁₀(*total midbrain*)

p-elev = 0.051

Log₁₀(*Body length*)

D

Mean = 2.54
S.D. = 0.84

Mean = -3.77
S.D. = 1.63

Discriminant Function 1

E

Discriminant Function 2

Discriminant Function 1

F

Discriminant Function 2

Discriminant Function 3

A

B

PC2 (24.8%)

PC1 (65.9%)

G.z Me
D.p

Lo
LoP
AOTu

H.h
H.e

MB-ca
MB-lo

AL CB

M.s

H.v

C

PC2 (23.3%)

PC1 (68.7%)

H.h

G.z
M.s *H.v*

MB-ca
H.e
MB-lo

AL
CB AOTu

D.p

D

H. erato   *G. zavaleta*   *A. mellifera*

H. hecale   *D. plexippus*   *S. gregaria*

E

% Mushroom bodies

% Optic neuropil