Behavioral estimates of mating success corroborate genetic evidence for pre-copulatory sexual selection in male *Anolis sagrei* lizards

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1 Abstract

2 In promiscuous species, fitness estimates obtained from genetic parentage may often reflect both pre- and post-copulatory components of sexual selection. Directly observing 3 copulations can help isolate the role of pre-copulatory selection, but such behavioral data are 4 difficult to obtain in the wild and may also overlook post-copulatory factors that alter the 5 relationship between mating success and reproductive success. To overcome these limitations, 6 we combined genetic parentage analysis with behavioral estimates of size-specific mating in a 7 wild population of brown anole lizards (Anolis sagrei). Males of this species are twice as large as 8 9 females and multiple mating among females is common, suggesting the scope for both pre- and post-copulatory processes to shape sexual selection on male body size. Our genetic estimates of 10 reproductive success revealed strong positive directional selection for male size, which was also 11 strongly associated with the number of mates inferred from parentage. In contrast, a male's size 12 was not associated with the fecundity of his mates or his competitive fertilization success. By 13 simultaneously tracking copulations in the wild via the transfer of colored powder to females by 14 15 males from different size quartiles, we independently confirmed that large males were more likely than small males to mate. We conclude that body size is primarily under pre-copulatory 16 sexual selection in brown anoles, and that post-copulatory processes do not substantially alter 17 this pre-copulatory selection. Our study also illustrates the utility of combining both behavioral 18 and genetic methods to estimate mating success to disentangle pre- and post-copulatory 19 20 processes in promiscuous species.

21

23 Introduction

In species where females mate promiscuously with multiple partners, sexual selection on 24 male traits can continue to occur after copulation, through sperm competition and female cryptic 25 choice. These post-copulatory processes can alter the siring success of males and thereby modify 26 the strength of sexual selection on traits linked to mating success (Parker 1970; Kvarnemo and 27 28 Simmons 2013; Simmons et al. 2017; Glaudas et al. 2020). For example, larger males may mate with more females, but this may not translate into strong sexual selection if they are poor sperm 29 competitors. In addition to pre- and post-copulatory sexual selection, the net reproductive fitness 30 31 of a male is also influenced by the fecundity of his mating partners (Wong and Candolin 2005; Venner et al. 2010; Pincheira-Donoso and Hunt 2017). For any given trait, total selection due to 32 variance in reproductive success can thus be partitioned into selection acting through variance in 33 pre-copulatory mating success, post-copulatory fertilization success, and female fecundity 34 (Arnold and Wade 1984; Koenig et al. 1991; Collet et al. 2012; Pélissié et al. 2014). 35 Furthermore, selection mediated through any one of these components of fitness may be 36 reinforced or weakened by selection acting through other components (Arnold and Wade 1984; 37 Shuster et al. 2013). Therefore, a complete understanding of selection on a given trait requires 38 39 estimating phenotypic selection as a function of total reproductive success as well as its underlying components (Arnold and Wade 1984). However, our ability to partition sexual 40 selection in wild populations is hindered by both the cryptic nature of post-copulatory processes 41 42 and the difficulty of independently measuring mating success, mate fecundity, and fertilization success (Droge-Young et al. 2012; Oneal and Knowles 2015; Marie-Orleach et al. 2016). 43 Studies of sexual selection in wild populations have typically measured fitness using 44 45 either genetic estimates of parentage or behavioral observations of mating success. However,

46 either of these approaches can provide an incomplete picture of sexual selection when considered alone (Thompson et al. 2011; Marie-Orleach et al. 2016; Olsson et al. 2019), making it difficult 47 to disentangle pre- and post-copulatory selection (Danielsson 2001; Mobley and Jones 2013; 48 Kamath and Losos 2018; Cramer et al. 2020). Genetic parentage analysis can identify mating 49 50 pairs from shared parentage, thereby providing minimum estimates of the number of mating partners for both males and females (Flanagan and Jones 2019). Such data can be used to 51 52 estimate both pre-copulatory mating success (minimum number of known mates per male) and 53 post-copulatory fertilization success (proportion of offspring sired with females who have multiple known mates) (Rose et al. 2013; Evans and Garcia-Gonzalez 2016). However, many 54 55 copulations may go undetected if females mate with many partners but produce relatively few 56 offspring, potentially leading to mis-estimation of selection via mating success. (Pemberton et al. 57 1992; Flanagan and Jones 2019; Olsson et al. 2019; Baird and York 2021). Direct observations of copulations avoid this problem, but it is usually impossible to comprehensively track all 58 59 copulations in wild populations. For example, animals may copulate in obscure or sheltered locations, the duration of mating may be short, the population density may be too low, or the 60 population size may be too high for comprehensive observations (Candolin 1998; Dunn et al. 61 2012; Johnson et al. 2014; Cramer et al. 2020). Therefore, reliance on either genetic or 62 behavioral methods alone to measure fitness may lead to misestimation of the strength of pre-63 and post-copulatory sexual selection (Pischedda and Rice 2012; Evans and Garcia-Gonzalez 64 65 2016; Baird and York 2021). Consequently, there is increasing emphasis on approaches that measure fitness and its components using a combination of both behavioral observations and 66 67 genetic parentage analyses to help partition pre- and post-copulatory dimensions of sexual

selection (Collet et al. 2012; Pischedda and Rice 2012; Evans and Garcia-Gonzalez 2016;
McDonald et al. 2017; Simmons et al. 2017; Olsson et al. 2019).

We studied the sexually dimorphic brown anole lizard, *Anolis sagrei*, to determine which 70 components of male reproductive success (i.e., mating success, average mate fecundity, or 71 competitive fertilization success) generate selection for larger body size in this species. Adult 72 73 male brown anoles are, on average, two to three times larger than adult females in body mass (Cox and Calsbeek 2010a). Larger males are more likely to succeed in competitive interactions 74 that lead to female encounters and to sire more offspring (Tokarz 1985; Kamath and Losos 75 76 2018). However, female brown anoles produce offspring with multiple sires during the breeding season and can store sperm for several months (Calsbeek et al. 2007; Calsbeek and Bonneaud 77 2008; Duryea et al. 2016; Kamath and Losos 2018; Kahrl et al. 2021). Females may also bias 78 their offspring sex ratio based on the body size or condition of the males with which they mate, 79 suggesting that post-copulatory processes can also shape selection on male body size (Calsbeek 80 and Bonneaud 2008; Cox and Calsbeek 2010b; Cox et al. 2011). Although several studies have 81 detected selection for larger body size in male brown anoles (Cox and Calsbeek 2010a; Duryea 82 et al. 2016; Kamath and Losos 2018), no study to date has assessed the extent to which the 83 higher reproductive success of larger males is due to higher mating success, higher average mate 84 fecundity, higher fertilization success, or a combination of these components of reproductive 85 success (Friesen et al. 2020). 86

Given the scope for both pre- and post-copulatory selection to act on male body size in brown anoles (Calsbeek et al. 2007; Kahrl et al. 2016), we combined genetic parentage and behavioral observations of mating to estimate fitness components in a wild population of this species. Based on the established role of body size in mediating aggressive interactions among

91 males, we hypothesized that body size is primarily subject to pre-copulatory selection (Tokarz

92 1985; Duryea et al. 2016; Kamath and Losos 2018)

Specifically, we predicted that body size would be positively associated with both total 93 reproductive success (number of offspring sired) and mating success (number of mates identified 94 via genetic parentage). Although anoles only lay one egg at a time, larger females produce more 95 offspring compared to smaller females and tend to be more fecund (Andrews & Rand, 1974; Cox 96 & Calsbeek, 2011; Duryea et al., 2016; Warner & Lovern, 2014). Thus, we also explored 97 whether large males preferentially mate with larger and more fecund females. Since post-98 99 copulatory selection could weaken or reinforce pre-copulatory selection (Danielsson 2001; Hosken et al. 2008; Kvarnemo and Simmons 2013; Parker et al. 2013; Turnell and Shaw 2015), 100 we also tested whether competitive fertilization success (i.e., the proportion of offspring sired 101 with females who also produced offspring with other males) differed as a function of male body 102 size. To corroborate our inferences based on genetic parentage with behavioral estimates of 103 mating success, we quantified size-specific mating rates in the wild by tracking the copulatory 104 105 transfer of fluorescent powders from males to females, with different colors of powder corresponding to different quartiles for male body size. We then tested whether larger males 106 obtained a greater number of copulations, whether larger males mated with larger females, and 107 whether female body size and fecundity were positively correlated. Our study design thus 108 allowed us to separate the contributions of pre-copulatory mating success, female fecundity, and 109 110 post-copulatory fertilization success.

111

112 *Methods*

113 Field site and sampling

114 We studied an island population of brown anole lizards (Anolis sagrei) in the Guano Tolomato Matanzas Natural Estuarine Research Reserve in northern Florida (29°37'53" N, 115 81°12′46″ W). Adults begin mating around March (Lee et al. 1989) and females typically lay 116 one egg every 7-14 days from April through October. Juveniles emerge between late May and 117 November, and most do not enter the breeding population as adults until the subsequent year. To 118 assay the reproductive success of males in the wild, we sampled all adults and juveniles of the 119 population at four different times during the breeding season (March, May, July, and October) in 120 2019. We marked each new individual with a unique toe clip and preserved a small (1-2 cm) tail 121 clip in 100% ethanol at -20°C for genotyping. We measured snout-vent length (SVL, nearest 1 122 mm) and body mass (nearest 0.01g) of all individuals prior to releasing them at their site of 123 capture the following day. We captured and measured a total of 920 adults (hatched prior to 124 2019) and 905 juveniles (hatched in 2019) on the island. Most of the adults were first captured as 125 hatchlings in their year of birth and genotyped during previous sampling censuses. 126

127

128 Genotyping and parentage assignment

We extracted DNA by adding 3-5 mg of tail tissue to 150 µl of 10% Chelex^R resin (Bio-129 Rad, Inc.) with 1.4 µl of Proteinase K (20 mg/ml, Qiagen, Chatsworth, CA), incubating at 55°C 130 for 180 min, and denaturing at 99°C for 10 min. If the DNA concentration was not within the 131 desired range of 10-25 $ng/\mu l$, we repeated extractions and modified the above protocol by 132 incubating new tail samples in 40 µl of 10% Chelex^R resin with 1.5 µl of Proteinase K. After 133 centrifugation at 2250 g at 4°C for 15 minutes, we collected 3 µl of supernatant from these 134 extractions to genotype individuals using the Genotyping-in-Thousands by sequencing (GT-seq) 135 136 protocol (Campbell et al. 2015) with a custom panel of primers for 215 biallelic SNP loci that

137 were previously identified from RAD-seq data (HA Seears, unpublished). For all extractions with an average DNA concentration of $<10 \text{ ng/}\mu\text{l}$ (n = 282 of 1319 samples), we carried out an 138 additional purification step on the supernatant using 1.8x volume of AMPure XP beads 139 (Beckman Coulter, Brea, CA, USA) and eluted samples in 20 µl 1x TE (Fisher Bioreagents, Fair 140 Lawns, NJ, USA) to concentrate the DNA to >10 ng/ μ l. After extraction, we shipped DNA 141 samples to GTseek LLC (Twin Falls, ID, USA) for library preparation, sequencing, and data 142 processing to obtain genotypes. Briefly, all 215 loci were simultaneously amplified and tagged 143 with Illumina priming sequences in a multiplexed polymerase chain reaction (PCR). Each 144 145 sample was then tagged with well-specific and plate-specific indices in a second PCR. The PCR products were then standardized to similar concentrations, pooled, cleaned, and then sequenced 146 on an Illumina NextSeq 550 with 1 × 75 bp reads. The raw Illumina reads were checked for 147 quality using FastQC and then de-multiplexed and assigned genotypes following Campbell et al. 148 (2015). 149

150 We used SNPPIT 2.0 (Anderson 2012) to assign genetic parentage. We included all offspring known to have hatched in 2019 that were successfully genotyped at a minimum of 128 151 loci (< 40% missing loci; n = 885 successfully genotyped of 905 total offspring). We included 152 adults as potential parents if they were successfully genotyped at a minimum of 165 loci (< 23% 153 154 missing loci). Since individuals that were present but were not captured in 2019 may have also produced offspring in that year, we included all successfully genotyped individuals captured on 155 the island between 2015 and 2018 as potential parents (n = 7042 individuals genotyped in 156 previous studies). Of these putative parents, 870 individuals were captured as adults in 2019. We 157 158 used a significance threshold of P < 0.05 after correcting for the false discovery rate (FDR) to 159 assign parentage. We successfully assigned 736 offspring (83.2% of 885 genotyped offspring) to

160	a total of 610 parents ($n = 357$ females, 253 males). Of these 610 parents, 479 (78.5%) were
161	among the 870 successfully genotyped adults that we captured in 2019 ($n = 276$ females, 203
162	males) and 131 (21.4% of 610) were only captured in previous sampling years ($n = 81$ females,
163	50 males). Because we did not measure body size for this subset of 50 adult males in 2019, we
164	excluded them from our calculations of relative fitness and our analyses of sexual selection.
165	Among the 870 successfully genotyped adults that we captured in 2019, a total of 391
166	individuals ($n = 213$ females, 178 males, 44.9%) were found to have zero reproductive success,
167	since they were included in the SNPPIT analysis but were not assigned offspring.
168	
169	Partitioning reproductive success and measuring selection
170	All statistical analyses were performed in R v. 4.2.1 (R Core Team 2022) using the
171	RStudio interface (RStudio Team 2022). We conducted univariate selection analyses to test
172	whether body size of males was a predictor of reproductive success (total number of offspring
173	sired in 2019) and its components (i.e., mating success, average mate fecundity, and competitive
174	fertilization success), as estimated by genetic parentage. We measured mating success as the
175	total number of unique females with which a male sired offspring. We measured average mate
176	fecundity as the mean number of offspring produced across all female partners of a male,
177	including offspring sired by other males. We measured competitive fertilization success by
178	calculating the mean proportion of offspring sired by a male with each of his partners. To detect
179	competing males from parentage data, a female must produce at least two offspring that are
180	assigned to at least two mates. Thus, our measure of competitive fertilization success excluded
181	all situations in which females produced either a single offspring or multiple offspring sired by a
182	single male (following Devigili et al. 2015). To account for the fact that the null expectation for

proportional fertilization success decreases with the number of additional males with which afemale has mated, we used the following formula (Devigili et al. 2015):

185 Competitive fertilization success = $\sum_{i=1}^{i=k} \left(\frac{PS_i \cdot (n_i - 1)}{PS_i \cdot (n_i - 2) + 1} \right) / k,$

where PS_i is the proportion of offspring sired for each i^{th} female with which that male mated, *k* is the total number of females with which that male mated that had more than two mates, and *n_i* is the total number of mates of the i^{th} female. Thus, a male that sired 33.3% of the offspring from a female that had three total mates would have a competitive fertilization success score of 0.5, which would be the same as a male that sired 50% of the offspring from a female that had only two mates.

We estimated univariate linear (s) and non-linear (c) selection differentials following 192 Lande and Arnold (1983). We standardized body mass to a mean of 0 and a standard deviation of 193 1. We calculated relative fitness by dividing total reproductive success and each of its 194 components (see above) by the mean value of that fitness component across all males in the 195 population that were included in the analysis. We used ordinary least-squares regressions of each 196 measure of relative fitness on standardized body mass to estimate univariate linear selection 197 differentials, with separate regressions for each fitness component. To estimate s, we included 198 only the linear term for body mass, and to estimate c, we included both the linear and quadratic 199 terms (i.e., $0.5 \times \text{body mass}^2$) (Lande and Arnold 1983; Stinchcombe et al. 2008). We used 200 201 generalized linear models to test the significance of selection estimates. We used a negative binomial distribution for all components of fitness except competitive fertilization success, 202 which had a Gaussian distribution. Non-linear selection differentials were not significant for any 203 fitness component, so we only present visualizations of linear selection differentials. We 204 considered individuals with zero reproductive success to have zero mating success, whereas the 205

remaining fitness components were considered inestimable. This approach assumes that failure to reproduce is due to failure to mate when it could, in principle, also reflect low mate fecundity and/or poor competitive fertilization success. To confirm that including these zero values did not bias our partitioning of selection among components of reproductive success, we repeated the above analyses using only the subset of males that had at least one offspring (Fig. S1).

211

212 Assessing size-specific mating success with fluorescent powders

We directly assessed the relationship between body size and copulation rates at two 213 214 points in the middle of the breeding season: May 12-16 and July 26-Aug 3, 2019. In the first two days of each sampling period, we captured as many adult males on the island as possible and 215 distributed them into size quartiles based on their body mass (May: n = 153; July: n = 128). 216 217 Before releasing each male to its site of capture the following day, we powdered males on their venters with one of four colors of fluorescent powder corresponding to their size quartiles (A/AX 218 Series, DayGlo Color Corp., Ohio). The four colors (orange, yellow, pink and green) were 219 selected after pilot studies confirmed that different colors of powder transferred during 220 successive copulations could be clearly distinguished in the event of multiple mating across 221 different size quartiles. These powders are non-toxic, easily differentiated under ultraviolet (UV) 222 light, and wear off after a few days without negatively affecting the fitness of animals (Holbrook 223 et al. 1970; Rojas-Araya et al. 2020). We switched the colors assigned to each size quartile 224 225 between May and July to ensure that any observed mating patterns were not due to underlying differences in our ability to detect each color. We were not blind to the size quartile associated 226 with the colors during the study. Subsequent studies in the same population using a double-blind 227 228 study design have not uncovered significant biases in estimation of copulation rates (RS Bhave,

229 unpublished). Two days after males were released, we captured as many adult females on the island as possible in a single day in May (n = 132) and across 5 days in July (n = 312; 50%) of 230 these captures occurred on the first day). We noted the color of any powder on or near the cloaca 231 under UV light. Presence of color found on any other part of the body was uncommon and 232 treated as a non-copulation contact. We tested whether observed copulations within each size 233 quartile (as determined by the color of transferred powder) significantly differed from null 234 expectation using a chi-square test with 3 degrees of freedom. The expected number of 235 copulations for each size quartile was a product of the proportion of powdered males that were 236 assigned to each quartile and the total number of copulations detected across all females. 237 We also used data on transfer of fluorescent powder to test whether large males mated 238 239 more frequently with large females, potentially benefiting males through the increased fecundity of larger females. To test this prediction, we conducted an ordinary least square regression of 240 female body mass (continuous dependent variable) on male size quartile (ordinal independent 241 242 variable) and estimated significance with a type II ANOVA using the *car* package (Fox et al. 2019) in R. We tested the underlying assumption that female fecundity is positively correlated 243 244 with body size by regressing the total number of offspring assigned to a female using genetic 245 parentage (continuous response variable) on female body mass (continuous independent 246 variable) using generalized linear models with a negative binomial error distribution and a logit link function. Because female body mass can vary depending on the presence or absence of 247 oviductal eggs, we also repeated the above analyses by considering SVL as an alternate measure 248 249 of female body size. In all cases, we conducted two separate analyses using data from May and July, followed by a third analysis on data combined across May and July. 250

252 Comparing behavioral and genetic approaches

To compare behavioral and genetic approaches, we assessed whether males belonging to 253 larger size quartiles in our powdering experiment (behavioral) also differed in their fitness 254 components as measured by parentage (genetic). We conducted separate generalized linear 255 regressions for males captured in May versus July, with reproductive success (negative 256 binomial), mating success (negative binomial), average mate fecundity (negative binomial) and 257 competitive fertilization success (Gaussian) as response variables. We treated the size quartile 258 that males belonged to in each month as an ordinal predictor variable. In each analysis, we only 259 260 considered males that were powdered in that month and successfully genotyped. To test whether associations between size quartile and fitness components varied across months, we repeated the 261 above analyses on data combined across May and July while also including an effect of month 262 and its interaction with size quartile. A subset of successfully genotyped males that were 263 captured and powdered in May were also captured and powdered in July (n = 37), so these 264 individuals were included twice in our combined analysis. Given that these males constituted 265 only 15% of all individuals that were powdered, and that model results were similar with or 266 without inclusion of these repeated measures across both months, we did not include individual 267 ID as a random effect to simplify the model fit. We obtained effect sizes of all main effects in 268 these models from a type II ANOVA unless the interaction of size quartile × month was 269 significant, in which case we conducted a type III ANOVA. 270

We carried out a chi-square test with 3 degrees of freedom to test whether the number of copulations in each size quartile, as determined by powdering (observed), corresponded to the number of copulations predicted from genetic parentage (expected). To calculate the expected proportion of copulations in each size quartile, we first estimated the number of unique dam-sire pairs from genetic parentage for sires. We assumed that each parental pair indicates at least one copulation with a male belonging to a particular size quartile, then divided the total copulations assigned in each size quartile by the total number of copulations attributable to all males that were measured and powdered in either May or in July. The expected number of copulations was calculated by multiplying this proportion by the total number of copulations observed from the transfer of fluorescent powder in the respective months.

- 281
- 282 Results

283 Partitioning pre- and post-copulatory selection on body size

We found significant directional selection favoring large male body mass when using 284 total reproductive success as a measure of fitness ($s = 0.40 \pm 0.08$, $\gamma^2 = 22.43$, P < 0.001, Fig. 285 1A), and we found similarly strong selection when using only its pre-copulatory component of 286 mating success ($s = 0.33 \pm 0.07$, $\chi^2 = 19.36$, P < 0.001, Fig. 1B). Directional selection favoring 287 large size persisted when we excluded males who did not sire any progeny from our analyses 288 using reproductive success and mating success (Fig. S1). However, neither average mate 289 fecundity (s = -0.03 \pm 0.04, χ^2 = 0.15, P = 0.70, Fig. 1C) nor competitive fertilization success 290 291 (adjusted for number of competing males) generated significant selection on male body mass (s = 0.02 ± 0.02 , $F_{1,115} = 2.18$, P = 0.17, Fig. 1D). There was no significant quadratic (non-linear) 292 selection on male body mass with respect to total reproductive success ($c = 0.30 \pm 0.12$, $\chi^2 =$ 293 2.51, P = 0.11), mating success ($c = 0.30 \pm 0.12$, $\chi^2 = 2.33$, P = 0.13), average mate fecundity (c294 $= 0.19 \pm 0.09$, $\chi^2 = 1.21$, P = 0.27) or competitive fertilization success ($c = -0.0009 \pm 0.02$, $F_{1.115}$ 295 = 0.001, P = 0.97).296

298 Behavioral estimates of size-specific mating success

We powdered a total of 241 males across May and July to test whether actual copulation 299 rates differed across male size quartiles (Fig. 2A-C). Based on detection of transferred powder 300 (Fig. 2D), we found that 38 of 132 (28.8%) females in May and 151 of 312 (48.4%) females in 301 July mated within the five-day collection period, with most of these copulations occurring within 302 three days of the release of powdered males. We also found that 1 of 38 (2.6%) females in May 303 and 10 of 151 (6.6%) females in July mated with males from more than one size quartile during 304 that period. We omitted 2 of 39 and 5 of 161 total copulations in May and July respectively, 305 since we could not accurately resolve the color of fluorescent powder. Omitting these instances 306 from the analyses did not bias the number of copulations for any size quartile. Within each 307 month, observed copulations differed significantly from our null expectation of an equal number 308 of matings across size quartiles (May: $\chi^2 = 8.03$, df = 3, P = 0.045, n = 37 copulations, July: $\chi^2 =$ 309 8.33, df = 3, P = 0.039, n = 156 copulations; Fig. 2E-F). This difference was primarily 310 attributable to the smallest size quartile having consistently fewer copulations than expected in 311 each month. We saw a similar relationship between male size quartile and mating success after 312 pooling data from both months ($\chi^2 = 11.64$, df = 3, P = 0.009, n = 193 copulations). 313

Although there was a weak trend towards positive size-assortative mating, female body mass did not differ significantly across male size quartiles in either May ($F_{3,33} = 2.40$, P = 0.085, Fig. 3A) or July ($F_{1,152} = 2.12$, P = 0.10, Fig. 3B). However, when considering data combined across both months, we found a weak but significant positive correlation between female body mass and the size quartiles of males with which they mated (Size Quartile: $F_{3,185} = 3.24$, P =0.023, Month: $F_{1,185} = 3.71$, P = 0.056, Size Quartile x Month: $F_{3,185} = 0.75$, P = 0.52). Female SVL did not differ significantly across male size quartiles in May ($F_{3,33} = 1.48$, P = 0.22, Fig. 321 3C), July ($F_{1,152} = 2.26$, P = 0.083, Fig. 3D), or when combining both months (Size Quartile: 322 $F_{3,185} = 1.48$, P = 0.22, Month: $F_{1,185} = 1.23$, P = 0.27, Size Quartile x Month: $F_{3,185} = 1.43$, P =323 0.24). The total number of offspring produced by a female in a year tended to increase with her 324 body mass, but this weak relationship was not significant in May ($\chi^2 = 3.50$, P = 0.061) or July 325 ($\chi^2 = 2.54$, P = 0.11). However, when considering SVL as a measure of female size, total number 326 of offspring had a strong positive association with female body size in May ($\chi^2 = 9.91$, P =327 0.002), though not in July ($\chi^2 = 0.11$, P = 0.74).

328

329 *Comparing behavioral and genetic approaches*

Of the 365 males that we successfully genotyped, measured, and included in genetic 330 parentage analysis, 225 were also powdered in either May or July. Total reproductive success 331 estimated from genetic data increased with male size quartile in May ($\chi^2 = 39.83$, P < 0.001, Fig. 332 4A), although this positive relationship was weaker and not significant in July ($\chi^2 = 7.21$, P =333 0.065, Fig. 4B). Combining data across both months confirmed a weak overall relationship 334 between size and reproductive success (Size Quartile: $\chi^2 = 6.93$, P = 0.074), a large effect of 335 month on reproductive success (Month: $\chi^2 = 19.30$, P < 0.001), and a significant difference 336 337 between months in the relationship between size and reproductive success (Size Quartile x Month: $\chi^2 = 14.16$, P = 0.002, Table 1). Likewise, we found that male mating success increased 338 with size quartile in May ($\chi^2 = 32.05$, P <0.001, Fig. 4C), but this relationship was weaker and 339 not significant in July ($\chi^2 = 5.43$, P = 0.14, Fig. 4D). Pooling data confirmed a significant 340 difference between months in the relationship between size and mating success (Size Quartile: χ^2 341 = 5.31, P = 0.15, Month: $\chi^2 = 14.12$, P = 0.002, Size Quartile x Month: $\chi^2 = 10.52$, P = 0.014, 342 Table 1). Average mate fecundity was unrelated to male size quartile in May ($\chi^2 = 4.01$, P =343

344	0.26, Fig. 4E) or July ($\chi^2 = 6.92$, $P = 0.075$, Fig. 4F), and pooling data across months revealed a
345	weak but significant tendency for average mate fecundity to decrease with male size (Size
346	Quartile: $\chi^2 = 9.39$, $P = 0.025$, Month: $\chi^2 = 0.19$, $P = 0.66$, Size Quartile x Month: $\chi^2 = 1.10$, $P =$
347	0.78, Table 1). Competitive fertilization success was unrelated to male size in May ($F_{3,62} = 1.34$,
348	$P = 0.27$, Fig. 4G), in July ($F_{3,65} = 2.17$, $P = 0.099$, Fig. 4H), and when pooling data across
349	months (Size Quartile: $F_{3,127} = 1.73$, $P = 0.17$, Month: $F_{1,127} = 1.87$, $P = 0.35$, Size Quartile x
350	Month: $F_{3,127} = 1.82$, $P = 0.15$, Table 1).

The size distribution of copulation rates inferred from the transfer of fluorescent powder 351 352 was significantly different from the size distribution of copulation rates estimated from genetic parentage in May ($\chi^2 = 8.35$, P = 0.039, Fig. 5A). In particular, males in the second size quartile 353 had more observed copulations than expected from genetic parentage, whereas males in the 354 355 smallest and largest size quartiles had fewer copulations than expected (Fig. 5A). However, our analyses for May are based on substantially fewer observed copulations (n = 37) than our 356 analyses for July (n = 156), in which size-specific mating rates observed in the wild did not 357 significantly differ from rates estimated from parentage ($\chi^2 = 1.41$, df = 3, P = 0.70, Fig. 5B). 358 359

360 **Discussion**

Pre-copulatory and post-copulatory components of sexual selection can be difficult to disentangle in wild populations, especially for promiscuous species that lack parental care or stable mating pairs. In brown anoles, which lack both, genetic parentage data revealed that 65% of females that produced 2 or more offspring (i.e., females for which multiple paternity could be detected) did so with more than one mate (mean = 1.92, range = 1-4 mates), suggesting the potential for post-copulatory processes to modulate pre-copulatory sexual selection. We detected

367 strong positive directional selection on male body size using estimates of total reproductive success from genetic parentage. Partitioning male reproductive success into its components 368 revealed that the higher reproductive success of larger males was primarily mediated by an 369 increase in their mating success. This result was corroborated by our behavioral assay involving 370 the transfer of fluorescent powder from males to females during copulation, which allowed us to 371 372 track copulations in the wild and revealed that larger males indeed mated more frequently. By contrast, neither average mate fecundity nor male competitive fertilization success covaried 373 positively with male body size, suggesting that pre-copulatory sexual selection is largely 374 375 responsible for the strong association between reproductive success and body size in male brown anoles. This was further confirmed by our finding that both behavioral and genetic parentage 376 estimates of mating success were similarly distributed across different male size quartiles. Thus, 377 despite multiple mating by females, post-copulatory processes did not significantly modify pre-378 copulatory sexual selection for large male body size. 379

380

381 *Body size and mating success*

We found that larger body mass is directly associated with greater mating success in the wild (Figs. 1B, 2E-F). This pattern is corroborated by both behavioral and genetic estimates of mating success (Figs. 2E-F, 4C-D). Consequently, larger males sired a greater number of offspring than average throughout the breeding season (Figs. 1A, 4A-B). Our findings are in line with the general consensus that there is strong pre-copulatory sexual selection on male body size in species with extreme male-biased size dimorphism (Stamps et al. 1997; Kingsolver and Pfennig 2004; Fairbairn et al. 2007; Kingsolver and Diamond 2011).

The observed pattern of pre-copulatory sexual selection for large body size is likely due 389 to success in male-male competition (Andersson and Iwasa 1996; Eberhard 1996; Cox et al. 390 2003; Roff and Fairbairn 2007; Janicke and Fromonteil 2021). Previous studies have shown that 391 larger male anoles are more active (Jenssen et al., 2005; Tokarz, 1985), move across larger areas 392 (Stamps et al. 1997; Kamath and Losos 2018), and are more likely to win in aggressive 393 interactions with other males, resulting in more frequent encounters with females (Steffen and 394 Guyer 2014). This is the case in many other species with male-biased size dimorphism or contest 395 competition (Cox et al. 2003; Fairbairn et al. 2007; Emlen 2008; Janicke et al. 2016; Horne et al. 396 397 2020). Although examples of sexual selection via female choice are relatively rare in reptiles (Olsson and Madsen 1995; Tokarz 1995; Cox and Kahrl 2014; Ord et al. 2015; Rosenthal 2017), 398 our study cannot eliminate the role of female choice for large males (Wong and Candolin 2005; 399 Fitze et al. 2008; Karsten et al. 2009; Debelle et al. 2016). Selection due to female choice may 400 occur directly for body size or indirectly through correlated traits such as territory quality, 401 display behaviors, activity levels, and ornaments which signal male aggression and quality 402 (Cooper and Vitt 1993; Censky 1997; Hamilton and Sullivan 2005; Swierk and Langkilde 2013; 403 Flanagan and Bevier 2014; Ord et al. 2015). 404

Although genetic estimates of reproductive success and mating success were strongly
correlated with body size or size quartiles measured early in the breeding season (May, Figs. 1AB; 4A, 4C), they were not strongly correlated with size quartiles measured later in the breeding
season (July, Figs. 4B, 4D; Table 1). Estimates of mating success from both behavioral and
genetic measures were similarly high for males beyond the first size quartile in July (Figs. 2F;
4D). This may indicate that, beyond a certain threshold, the advantage of large size in agonistic
interactions with other males can saturate (Cox and Calsbeek 2010a; Reedy et al. 2017).

412

413 Body size and average mate fecundity

414 Male body mass was mostly unrelated to, or sometimes even negatively correlated with, the average fecundity of female partners (Figs. 1C, 4E-F; Table 1). This may reflect the fact that 415 the relationship between female body mass and male size quartile was weak and nonsignificant 416 417 within each month (Fig. 3A-B), and female mass itself was unrelated to fecundity. Although an alternative measure of female size (SVL) was significantly related to fecundity, consistent with 418 previous work showing that larger female anoles may achieve a higher reproductive output 419 420 (Warner and Lovern 2014; Duryea et al. 2016) by laying eggs more frequently (Cox and Calsbeek 2011), we did not find any association between male size quartile and female SVL 421 (Fig. 3C-D). Thus, neither body mass nor SVL of females provided a strong intermediate linking 422 male size to female fecundity via size-assortative mating. These findings are consistent with the 423 general observation that size-assortative mating is rare, particularly in species with male-biased 424 425 sexual size dimorphism, such as anoles (Shine et al. 2001; Hofmann and Henle 2006; Harrison 2013; Rios Moura et al. 2021). When mate choice has been detected in anoles, males appear to 426 prefer novel females rather than larger females (Tokarz 1992; Orrell and Jenssen 2002). This 427 428 would be expected if males are primarily under selection to mate with a greater number of females, rather than more fecund females. In contrast, larger males often mate with larger and/or 429 more fecund females in species with female-biased sexual size dimorphism (Verrell 1989; 430 Olsson 1993; Whiting and Bateman 1999; Cox et al. 2005; John-Alder et al. 2009; Jiang et al. 431 2013). 432

433

434 Body size and competitive fertilization success

435 Consistent with previous findings in brown anoles, we found that over 50% of the females having at least two genotyped offspring produced these offspring with more than one 436 mate (Calsbeek et al. 2007; Duryea et al. 2016; Kahrl et al. 2021). Moreover, at least 6% of the 437 females in our powdering studies mated with multiple partners within a short 2-5 day span. The 438 actual frequency of multiple mating is likely to be much higher because our powdering method 439 cannot detect instances of multiple mating within size quartiles, and because our ability to detect 440 multiple paternity is limited by the relatively low number of offspring produced by females 441 (mean = 2.06, range = 1.9 offspring). Although multiple mating by females was common, in 442 443 situations where females produced offspring with multiple males, male size was unrelated to fertilization success (Figs. 1D, 4G-H, Table 1). 444

445 Post-copulatory processes can oppose pre-copulatory selection on a given trait if investment in corresponding fitness components is drawn from the same limited resource, or if 446 the genetic covariance among fitness components is negative (Roff and Fairbairn 2007; Parker et 447 448 al. 2013). Accordingly, inter- and intraspecific comparisons across several lineages, including reptiles, have shown that traits typically subjected to pre-copulatory selection trade-off with 449 450 those under post-copulatory selection (Moczek and Nijhout 2004; Fitzpatrick et al. 2012; Dines 451 et al. 2015; Kahrl et al. 2016; Somjee et al. 2018). On the other hand, when there is high mean 452 and variance in resource acquisition, this association is likely to be positive since any increase in 453 resource availability allows for more investment in both pre- and post-copulatory competition, (Saeki et al. 2014; Simmons et al. 2017). Consistent with this idea, several intra-specific studies 454 455 have reported a positive correlation between targets of pre-copulatory sexual selection and ejaculate traits (reviewed in Mautz et al. 2013; Supriya et al. 2019). Although some studies report 456 positive associations between standardized fertilization success and traits such as body size, 457

458 singing effort and/or weapon size (Preston et al. 2001; Hosken et al. 2008; Turnell and Shaw 2015; House et al. 2016), others report negative associations (Danielsson 2001; Evans et al. 459 2003; Kelly and Jennions 2011). However, our findings are consistent with those studies in 460 which male fertilization success is unrelated to body size or ornament size (Keogh et al. 2013; 461 Rose et al. 2013; Flanagan et al. 2014; McDonald et al. 2017). This may indicate that investment 462 in mate acquisition does not trade off with investment in fertilization success, possibly due to the 463 predicted low cost of producing ejaculates when these are distributed across several matings 464 (Hayward and Gillooly 2011; Parker 2016; Kahrl et al. 2021; but see Kahrl and Cox 2015). 465 One caveat is that our measure of competitive fertilization success required us to exclude 466 all instances in which a single male sired all of the offspring produced by a female, potentially 467 468 excluding extremely strong or weak sperm competitors from our analysis (Fig. S2D, S3B). However, failure to account for the number of competing males in this way may result in 469 spurious correlations. This is because the estimated proportion of offspring sired by a male will 470 471 increase, regardless of the focal male's competitive ability, if females produce offspring with fewer mates (Rose et al. 2013; Devigili et al. 2015; McCullough et al. 2018). Indeed, when we 472 473 used unadjusted fertilization success in brown anoles, we found significant, albeit very weak, 474 positive selection on male body size (Fig. S3). Thus, post-copulatory selection on body size may be weaker in natural populations than previously reported by studies using unadjusted measures 475 476 of male fertilization success (Preston et al. 2001; Hosken et al. 2008; Turnell and Shaw 2015; House et al. 2016). Our study suggests that, at least for body size, post-copulatory selection is 477 478 negligible compared to pre-copulatory selection. It is more likely that post-copulatory selection acts primarily on male ejaculate traits, as has been demonstrated in brown anoles (Kahrl and Cox 479 480 2015), and that it may operate independent of male body size (Kahrl et al. 2021).

481

482 *Comparing behavioral and genetic measures of mating success*

We found a close association between measures of size-specific mating success derived 483 484 from genetic parentage and those inferred from copulations in the field, particularly in July (Fig. 485 5B). This highlights the utility of fluorescent powder transfer as a relatively inexpensive and effective method for detecting copulations, particularly in natural populations, and for linking 486 487 mating success to broad categories of phenotypic variance. Our findings are in line with other 488 studies that have found behavioral proxies, such as the frequency of male-female associations in 489 space and time, to be closely predictive of the realized mating and reproductive success of males (Kamath and Losos 2018; Olsson et al. 2019; Baird and York 2021). However, our technique is 490 491 much easier to execute compared to detailed observations of individual copulations or 492 movements, at least in our focal species. Thus, it can be used to uncover associations between mating success and categorical simplifications of continuous traits (as in this study), naturally 493 categorical traits or groups (e.g., morphs), or experimental treatments (e.g., Wittman et al. 2022). 494 It can also be used to uncover mating patterns of secretive or spatially dispersed species that can 495 be difficult to observe in the wild for long hours (Gosden and Svensson 2007; Johnson et al. 496 2014). Nonetheless, behavioral estimates of size-specific mating success based on powder 497 transfer only corresponded closely with genetic mating success when extensive sampling of the 498 499 female population was possible and when mating rate was high (Fig. 5A-B). For example, in 500 May, we only sampled females for 1 day and the inferred mating rate was half of that seen in July, when we sampled for 5 days (Fig. 5A-B). Perhaps as a result, the relatively low number of 501 observed copulations in May differed significantly from our expected distribution of size-502 specific mating success, which was likely more accurate because it was based on a much larger 503

number of inferred copulations from genetic parentage (Fig. 5A). Thus, behavioral observations
or genetic parentage alone may not adequately capture fitness when populations are partially
sampled or if mating is infrequent within a short sampling period.

507

508 **Conclusions**

Overall, our study confirms that large body size is associated with higher reproductive 509 success in brown anoles, and that this is primarily due to the increased mating success of large 510 males. Although previous work has suggested that sexually antagonistic viability selection may 511 favor large male size and promote male-biased sexual size dimorphism in this species (Cox and 512 Calsbeek 2010a; but see Cox and Calsbeek 2015), our results support a parallel body of recent 513 work suggesting that sexual selection also strongly favors large male size (Tokarz 1985; Jenssen 514 515 et al. 2005; Duryea et al. 2016; Kamath and Losos 2018). Importantly, we extend this work by specifically resolving the importance of pre-copulatory sexual selection and linking large male 516 size to both behavioral and genetic measures of mating success. Our results further illustrate that 517 518 strong pre-copulatory sexual selection and extremely male-biased sexual size dimorphism can occur even in promiscuous mating systems in which access to females cannot be monopolized 519 and multiple paternity is common. Finally, our findings emphasize the importance of 520 incorporating both behavioral and genetic methods in the same study to achieve a more robust 521 522 understanding of the roles of pre- and post-copulatory processes in sexual selection.

523

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528 Data Availability

- 529 All code and data needed to reproduce the results presented in this paper will be available on
- 530 Dryad Digital Repository at <u>https://doi.org/10.5061/dryad.c866t1gbb</u>
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833 Figure legends

834

Fig. 1: Linear selection on adult body mass as a function of different components of male fitness, 835 including relative measures of (A) reproductive success (total number of offspring), (B) mating 836 success (total number of mates), (C) average mate fecundity (mean fecundity across all mates), 837 and (D) competitive fertilization success (mean proportion of offspring sired across all mates, 838 adjusted for the number of competing males). For each fitness component estimated from genetic 839 parentage, we divided individual fitness by the population mean to obtain relative measures. 840 Adult body mass was measured at the start of the breeding season in March and standardized to a 841 mean of 0 and standard deviation of 1. Trendlines with 95% confidence intervals (CI) from linear 842 regressions are used to visualize linear selection. Solid lines and asterisks in panels A-B indicate 843 844 significant selection differentials while dotted lines in panels C-D indicate non-significant selection differentials (*** P < 0.001). 845

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847 Fig. 2: Procedure for detecting copulations in the wild. (A) Males were dusted with one of four colors of fluorescent powder based on size quartiles for body mass in (B) May, and (C) July, 848 with colors alternated among size classes between months. Boxplots in B and C depict medians 849 (lines), interquartile ranges (boxes), and minimum and maximum values (whiskers), with the 850 851 number of males in each quartile shown above each boxplot. After males were released and allowed to interact freely with females for two days, females were captured and (D) inspected 852 under UV light for the presence and color of any powder transferred near their cloaca. The 853 proportions of total copulations detected among females that we correctly attributed to males 854 855 from each size category are shown separately for (E) May, and (F) July. The number of females with each color of powder is indicated within each bar. The dotted lines give the expected 856

proportion of copulations in each size quartile if mating is random with respect to male size.Colors of bars and box plots indicate the color of powder used for that size quartile.

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Fig. 3: Tests for size-assortative mating with respect to (A-B) body mass or (C-D) snout-vent length (SVL)) of females that mated with males from each size quartile in May (left panels) and in July (right panels), based on the color of fluorescent powder detected on the female. Small filled circles (light grey) are individual values and larger overlaid symbols are mean \pm SD values for each quartile. Mating was not strongly size assortative in either May (left) or in July (right), as shown by *F* statistics from a type II ANOVA.

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Fig. 4: Distribution of (A-B) reproductive success (total number of offspring), (C-D) mating 867 success (total number of mates), (E-F) average mate fecundity (mean fecundity across all mates), 868 and (G-H) competitive fertilization success (mean proportion of offspring sired across all mates, 869 870 adjusted for the number of competing males), for males powdered in May (left panels) and July 871 (right panels) as a function of their corresponding size quartile. Fitness components were determined using genetic parentage analysis. Small symbols are individual values and larger 872 overlaid symbols are mean \pm SD values for each quartile. Large males had significantly higher 873 reproductive success and mating success than small males in May, but not in July. Average mate 874 fecundity and competitive fertilization success did not differ as a function of size quartile in May 875 876 or in July.

877

Fig. 5: Comparison between behavioral and genetic estimates of male mating success in (A)

879 May and (B) July. Bars represent the proportion of copulations observed for males in each size

- quartile based on transfer of powder, and dotted black lines indicate the expected proportion of
- copulations in each size quartile based on the number of mates inferred from genetic parentage
- data for the same males. Numbers (n) indicate the total number of copulations observed in each
- size quartile. The observed number of copulations based on powder transfer differed
- significantly from the expected number based on genetic parentage in May, but not in July.

885

887 Tables

Table 1: Summary of coefficient estimates from generalized linear regressions, carried out
separately for each measure of fitness as a function of size quartile (ordinal), month (categorical),
and their interaction as predictors, when pooling data from May and July: reproductive success
(total number of offspring), mating success (total number of mates), average mate fecundity
(mean fecundity across all mates), and competitive fertilization success (mean proportion of
offspring sired across all mates, adjusted for the number of competing males).

	Reproductive success	Mating success	Average mate fecundity	Competitive fertilization success
Coefficient	Incidence Rate	Incidence Rate	Incidence Rate	в
	Ratios (95% CI)	Ratios (95% CI)	Ratios (95% CI)	(95% CI)
Intercept	2.87 ***	1.92 ***	2.76	0.51 ***
	(2.38 – 3.47)	(1.63 – 2.25)	(2.51 – 3.03)	(0.48 – 0.54)
Size Quartile	1.56 *	1.44*	0.81*	0.04
(Linear - L)	(1.06 – 2.30)	(1.04-2.00)	(0.67 – 0.98)	(-0.02 – 0.09)
Size Quartile	0.75	0.90	1.12	-0.06 *
(Quadratic - Q)	(0.52 – 1.10)	(0.65 – 1.23)	(0.93 – 1.35)	(-0.11 – -0.005)
Size Quartile	1.02	0.96	1.00	-0.01
(Cubic - C)	(0.71 – 1.47)	(0.70 – 1.30)	(0.83 – 1.21)	(-0.06 – 0.05)
Month [May]	0.54 ***	0.63 ***	0.95	-0.02
	(0.41 – 0.71)	(0.50 – 0.80)	(0.82 – 1.10)	(-0.06 – 0.02)
Size (L) x Month	1.64	1.45	1.09	-0.00
	(0.95 – 2.85)	(0.91 – 2.34)	(0.83 – 1.44)	(-0.08 – 0.08)
Size (Q) x Month	2.20 ***	1.64*	1.12	0.09 *
	(1.27 – 3.82)	(1.01 – 2.65)	(0.83 – 1.50)	(0.01 – 0.17)
Size (C) x Month	1.47	1.46	0.98	0.02
	(0.85 – 2.56)	(0.90 – 2.37)	(0.72 – 1.34)	(-0.06 – 0.10)
n	262	262	176	135
R ²	0.279	0.225	0.090	0.081 / 0.030

Estimates indicate the relative increase (Incident Rate Ratio > 1 or β > 0) or decrease (Incident Rate Ratio < 1 or β < 0) with an increase in size quartile for each predictor variable. Terms are significant if the 95% confidence intervals indicated in brackets do not overlap Incident Rate Ratios at 1 or β at 0 (*** *P* <0.001; **P* <0.05)

895 Figures











899 Fig 3.



Male size quartile

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Male size quartile





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907 Supplementary Figures

908

909	Fig. S1 Linear selection on standardized adult body mass as a function of different components
910	of male fitness, including relative measures of (A) reproductive success (total number of
911	offspring), (B) mating success (total number of mates), (C) average mate fecundity (mean
912	fecundity across all mates), and (D) competitive fertilization success (mean proportion of
913	offspring sired across all mates, adjusted for the number of competing males). Here, individuals
914	that were not assigned offspring in parentage analysis have been excluded from all regressions to
915	avoid inflating the relative contribution of mating success to total reproductive success by
916	assuming that these males failed to mate. Trendlines (with 95% CI) from linear regressions are
917	used to visualize selection. Solid lines and asterisks in panels A-B indicate significant selection
918	differentials (s) while the dotted lines indicate non-significant selection differentials (** $P <$
919	0.01; * $P < 0.05$). Excluding males without any assigned progeny reduces the overall strength of
920	selection on size by 50% (from $s = 0.40$ to 0.20, compare with Figs. 1 or S3), but only slightly
921	reduces the proportion of that selection attributable to variance in mating success (from $s = 0.33$
922	or 82.5% to $s = 0.13$ or 65%, compare with Figs. 1 or S2).





927	Fig. S2 Linear selection on standardized adult body mass as a function of different components
928	of male fitness, including relative measures of (A) reproductive success (total number of
929	offspring), (B) mating success (total number of mates), (C) average mate fecundity (mean
930	fecundity across all mates), and (D) competitive fertilization success (mean proportion of
931	offspring sired across all mates, adjusted for the number of competing males). Here, the y-axis
932	has been scaled to include only the range of data points for each fitness component to clearly
933	visualize the selection differentials estimated in Fig 1. Trendlines (with 95% CI) from linear
934	regressions are used to visualize selection. Solid lines and asterisks in plots A-B indicate
935	significant selection differentials (*** $P < 0.001$) while the dotted lines indicate non-significant
936	selection differentials ($P > 0.05$).



939 Fig. S3 Linear selection on standardized adult body mass as a function of relative siring success of males (not adjusted for competitor males) (A) along the same scale as the y-axis in Fig 1 or 940 (B) with y-axis scaled to include only the range of data points for the fitness component to 941 clearly visualize the same selection differential. Trendlines (with 95% CI) from linear 942 regressions are used to visualize selection. Solid lines and asterisks indicate significant selection 943 differentials (* P < 0.05). Selection due to unadjusted measures of fertilization success on male 944 body mass was significant and three times stronger than that due to competitive fertilization 945 success (from s = 0.02 to 0.07, compare with Figs. 1D or S2D) 946



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