

Home: Viale Muratori, 277
41124 Modena
Italy

Work: Université de Strasbourg &
Ethologie évolutive
CNRS, Dept. d'Ecologie,
Physiologie et Ethologie
23 rue Becquerel
67087 Strasbourg, France

Field: Loskop Dam Nature Reserve
Applied Behavioural Ecology
and Ecosystem Research Unit, UNISA
Private Bag X606x
Private Bag X606
South Africa

Tel. IT +39 333 269 264 0
FR +33 6370 9192 0

e-mail: r.pansini@gmail.com
Web: <http://rpansini.altervista.org/>

RICCARDO PANSINI

Nationality: Italian

Date of birth: 5th December 1979

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Evolutionary Biology
- Animal Welfare
- Social Evolution of Parasites

EDUCATION

- 2007-2011** [CNRS, DEPE, Éthologie évolutive](#), Strasbourg, France PhD in Evolutionary Biology
[Université de Strasbourg, Ecole Doctorale Vie et Santé](#), Strasbourg, France and
[University of South Africa, Applied Behavioural Ecology and Ecosystem Research Unit](#)
Employed at the French National Research Centre to conduct research on the economical dynamics of primate cooperative behaviour at the Loskop Dam Nature Reserve, South Africa. I investigated the sociology and biological market theories in vervet monkeys. General supervision was obtained from [Prof. Ronald Noë](#) (CNRS and Université de Strasbourg, France) and [Prof. Samuel Bowles](#) (Santa Fè Institute, USA, and Università di Siena, Italy). Thesis title "[Cooperation and economics behaviour of wild vervet monkeys: an experimental approach](#)".
- 2007-2011** [European Doctoral College](#), Strasbourg, France [European Multicultural Programme Certificate](#)
I attended a cycle of lectures organised in collaboration with the Council of Europe. Main themes of the programme were: (1) Knowledge of European institutions; (2) European cultures and societies; (3) European economy and future; and (4) European geopolitics.
- 2006** [IAL Institute](#), Modena, Italy [Master in Environmental Management](#)
Graduated from a one-year taught master course. The main topics developed have been: land use and management, fauna protection, sustainable development, environmental certification (EMAS and ISO 14001), environmental communication, and health and safety. During the three summer months, I have been employed by the nature reserve [Parco del Frignano](#) where I did (1) surveying of local populations of wolves sedentary of an area (150 km²) of the mountain range Appennini (through methods of wolf howling, faecal collection and strip transect), (2) working on the park's ISO 14001 certification, and (3) updating the database of mountain paths (through the use of geographical software GIS ArcView).
- 2005-2007** [University of Durham, Anthropology Dept.](#), UK Master by Research in Biological Anthropology
Graduated from a Master by Research to study captive primate animal stress assessment at [Chester Zoo](#) (UK). The title of the thesis was 'Assessing Animal Welfare in a Captive Primate: an analysis of stress related behaviour in *Mandrillus sphinx*'. This study has been able to show a highly significant correlation between large affluence of visitors at the zoo and visitor-directed aggressive behaviours and stereotypes performed by a group of mandrills. In additions one mandrill was also observed and video recorded performing a rather peculiar behaviour of tool manufacture for hygienic purposes. Statistical analyses performed were: multilevel linear models, general linear models and fractal analysis of continuous behaviour to estimate decrease in complexity in relation to stress. Following the results obtained, Chester Zoo acknowledged the necessity of a permanent modification of the enclosure that was completed in July 2005 and subsequently awarded with an UFAW award. This has appeared on the medias: [BBC](#), [Reuters](#), [Metro](#), [ScienceDaily](#), etc.
- 2003-2004** [Università degli studi di Modena e Reggio Emilia](#), Italy Laurea in Biological Sciences ≈ [Taught MSc](#)
Graduated from the final year of the Biological Sciences five-year course with emphasis on Ecology. The degree is internationally equivalent to a taught MSc in Biology and Ecology. Thesis' title "*Evoluzione sociale dei parassiti della malaria: la natura della competizione intra-ospite.*"
- 2001-2003** [University of Edinburgh](#), Scotland, UK Bachelor in Biological Sciences, [Zoology Honours](#)
My calling towards Zoology within the Biology area prompted me to transfer from my Italian university to attend the Zoology Honours programme in Edinburgh. The Zoology subjects have greatly widened my biological knowledge from a vocabulary of English scientific terms, to personal and critical appreciation of research papers, from assessing simple tutorial problems to my final year project. The latter, undertaken in one of the most advanced laboratories in the field ([Read Group](#)), concerned the study of the ecology of mixed infections of malaria parasites (*Plasmodium chabaudi*) in mice. Using molecular PCR protocols and GLM statistics, different strains of parasites sensitive and non-sensitive to drugs were tracked throughout the infections. In Edinburgh my practical skills greatly developed, conferring me the necessary bases to work in a research environment. The thesis (titled "Social evolution of malaria parasites: the nature of in-host competition") project was eventually part of a publication in [PNAS](#).
- 2000-2001** [University of Ulster](#), Northern Ireland, UK [Biological Sciences faculty](#)
Socrates-Erasmus exchange student from Italy. Attended an intensive program of modules leading to the full academic recognition of 7 biological modules from the third and fourth year program in Biology.
- 1997-2001** [Università degli studi di Modena e Reggio Emilia](#), Italy [Facoltà di Scienze Biologiche](#)
I completed the first three years of an extensive 5-year degree in Biological Science. I will finish it in 2004.

GRANTS AND AWARDS

- 2010 [Società Italiana di Etologia](#) conference bursary (€100)
- 2010 [European Doctoral College bridge scholarship](#) (€8,400)
- 2007-2009 Employed through [GEBACO](#) - toward the GENetic BASIS of COoperation (FP6-NEST-028696) from the EC (€203,990).
- 2008 International Primatological Society [Conservation grant](#) for a conservation project on vervet monkeys (US\$1,440).
- 2007-2008 Selected for a scientific research grant from the French government and the Italian Foreigner Ministry (€6,900).
- 2007 Commendation certificate in the Best Research Project section of [BIAZA 2007 awards](#).
- 2007 [UFAW Wild Animal Welfare Award 2007](#) for the best innovations for zoo animal welfare.
- 2005 [Leonardo da Vinci Programme](#) (I-O3-A-PL-154353) from the European Commission (€3,025).
- 2004-2005 [Ustinov College Accommodation Grant](#), University of Durham, UK (£3,600).
- 2001-2003 [Tuition Fees Grant](#) from the [Student Awards Agency for Scotland](#), UK (£2,150).
- 2000-2001 [Socrates-Erasmus Grant](#) from the European Commission (Lit1,800,000).

PUBLICATIONS

- Pansini R & Poulin N. (in prep) The need of cooperation partners induces wild vervet monkeys to act according to supply and demand.
- Pansini R. (in press) Hierarchical societies of primates: comments on love, war and cultures. *Journal of Bioeconomics*
- Pansini R. (2011) Induced cooperation to access a sharable reward increases the hierarchical segregation of wild vervet monkeys. [PLoS ONE DOI: 10.1371/journal.pone.0021993](#)
- Pansini R & de Ruiter JR. (2011) Observation of tool use and modification for apparent hygiene purposes in a mandrill. [Behavioural Processes DOI: 10.1016/j.beproc.2011.06.003](#)
- In the news: [BBC](#), [The Telegraph](#), [Daily Mail](#), [El Mundo](#), [Folha](#), etc. (see a [press review in PDF](#)). And at the radio: [BBC radio 4](#)
- Pansini R & Noë R. (2009) Economics and cooperation dynamics in free-ranging vervet monkeys. *Folia Primatologica* 80(6):376.
- de Roode JC, Pansini R, Cheesman SJ, Helinski MEH, Bell AS, Chan BHK, Walliker D & Read AF. (2005) Virulence and competitive ability in genetically diverse malaria infections. [PNAS 102\(21\):7624-7628](#).
- Didactic:*
- Pansini R. (2005) *Introductory photography and video recording: effective data collection in the field*. Anthropology Dept., University of Durham, UK.
- Pansini R. (2005) *Fractals: a guide for understanding fractal theory and analysis*. Anthropology Dept., University of Durham, UK.

CONFERENCES, MEETINGS, ABSTRACTS

- 6-9 Dec 2011: Participation at the Göttinger Freilandtage titled Behavioral Constraints and Flexibility held at the German Primate Centre, Göttingen, Germany.
- 14-17 Sep 2011: Talk titled *Cooperation behavior of wild vervet monkeys follows the law of supply and demand* at the [IV congress of the European Federation for Primatology](#), Almada, Portugal.
- 17-20 Apr 2011: Talk titled *The need of cooperation partners induces wild vervet monkeys to act according to supply and demand* at the conference Social Decision Making, bridging Economics and Biology, at Monte Verita, Ascona, Switzerland.
- 17-18 Sep 2010: Participation to the [INCORE conference](#) titled *Cooperation: an Interdisciplinary Dialogue*, Collegium Budapest, Budapest, Hungary.
- 15-17 Sep 2010: Participation to the TECT (The Evolution of Cooperation and Trading) final conference, Collegium Budapest, Budapest, Hungary.
- 11-15 Sep 2010: Participation to the [TECT-INCORE Summer School titled Cooperation since life began](#), Dobogókő, Hungary. Given a talk titled "A cooperation experiment with wild vervet monkeys – cooperation at its onset".
- 16-18 Jul 2010: Talk titled *Increase in social differentiation in wild vervet monkeys cooperating experimentally* given at the [Fifth European Conference on Behavioural Biology](#), Ferrara, Italy.
- 10-13 Dec 2009: Talk titled *Economics and cooperation dynamics in free-ranging vervet monkeys* given at the [Darwin Bicentenary conference titled "Evolution: intersecting natural and social sciences"](#), Scuola Superiore Santa Chiara, Università di Siena, Italy.
- 26-27 Jun 2009: Talk titled *Economics and cooperation dynamics in free-ranging vervet monkeys* given at the PEGG Primate Ecology and Genetics Group, [The South African Primatology Association Annual Meeting](#), National Zoological Park, Pretoria, South Africa.
- 20-22 Apr 2009: Participation to the [PhD school titled "Social Interaction"](#) held at the Université de Neuchâtel, Switzerland.
- 26-28 Feb 2009: Participation to the [INCORE meeting titled "Feathered apes meet furry crows – a comparison of cooperation in corvids and primates"](#) in Strasbourg, France.

20-23 Nov 2008: Meeting of the EUROCORES program TECT, [INCORE EU FP6 grant](#), and [NYAS conference titled "Values and Empathy across Social Barriers: A Neurocognitive Approach to Fairness"](#), Barcelona, Spain.

12 Nov 2008: Invited talk titled *Economics and cooperation dynamics in free-ranging vervet monkeys*, at Department of Zoology of the Università di Modena e Reggio Emilia, Modena, Italy.

30 Aug – 6 Sep 2008: Participation to the TECT-INCORE summer school titled *Tools of the trade in cooperation research*, Obernai, France. Given a talk titled *Competition between malaria parasites and cooperation between members of two trader classes of vervet monkeys*.

4-9 Aug 2008: Talk titled [Cooperation between members of two artificially formed trader classes in free-ranging vervet monkeys](#) and poster titled [Assessing Animal Welfare in a Captive Primate: an analysis of stress related behaviour in Mandrillus sphinx](#) presented at the [International Primatological Society conference 2008](#) in Edinburgh, Scotland, UK.

21-22 Jun 2008: Attendance of the [conference](#) organised by the Primate Ecology and Genetics Group of South Africa, Crystal Springs, South Africa.

18 Feb 2008: Poster titled *Observation of tool use and modification for hygiene purposes in the mandrill* shown at the conference ["The Neurobiology of Umwelt"](#), IPSEN Foundation, Paris, France.

25 May 2007: Invited seminar titled *Biological Markets* presented to the PhD school at the Dipartimento di Economia Politica of Università di Siena, Siena, Italy.

16-18 May 2007: Attendance of the [XVIII Associazione Italiana di Primatologia Conference](#), hosted by the Università di Pisa, Pisa, Italy.

30 Mar 2007: Invited talk titled *Moving from Competition in Protozoa to Cooperation into Primates: a lesson for behavioural ecologists from the parasite world* given at Institut de Biologie, Université de Neuchâtel, Switzerland.

22-25 Feb 2007: Poster titled *Observation of tool use and modification for hygiene purposes in the mandrill* at the conference "Social Organization and Cognitive Tools: General Patterns in Vertebrates?" Konrad Lorenz Forschungsstelle, Grünau, Austria.

12 Nov 2005: Organisation of the meeting "The LEMUR project" for the submission of a Marie Curie proposal, Zurich, Switzerland.

WORK EXPERIENCE AND SKILLS

- 2009-2010** • *Paid PhD position* [Université de Strasbourg](#), Strasbourg, France.
- 2007-2009** • *Paid PhD position* [CNRS, DEPE, Éthologie évolutive](#), Strasbourg, France.
- 2008-2011** • [Honorary Research Associate](#) [Anthropology Dept.](#), University of Durham, UK.
Position conferred in acknowledgement of the publication work carried on following the Master by Research. I am a member of the [Durham Evolutionary Anthropology Research Group](#).
- 2006** • *Environmental management internship* [Parco del Frignano](#), Italy.
Three months experience in a nature reserve park working on topics such as surveying of sedentary populations of wolves, the environmental certification ISO 14001 of the park and the updating the database of mountain paths also through Arcview. Supervision was given by Dr. D. Pagliai, researcher in ecology at the park.
- 2005** • *Handbook production* [Anthropology Dept.](#), University of Durham, UK.
Production of two 50-pages handbooks (see above). These handbooks form the bulk of two tutorials for the Anthropology course financed by a Durham University teaching development fund.
- 2005** • *Leonardo da Vinci internship* [Chester Zoo](#), UK.
Three months employment funded by the EU community to assess stress in a group of captive primates. The work has allowed me to gain experience in captive animal husbandry and behavioural data collection under advice from the Zoo's Research Officer S. Hill and the primatologist [Dr J. de Ruiter](#).
- 2003** • *Laboratory assistant* Former [I.C.A.P.B.](#), University of Edinburgh, UK.
Thanks to particularly successful undergraduate thesis project, I was employed to carry out analyses of data on malaria infections at the Institute of Cell, Animal and Population Biology with supervision from [Dr. J. de Roode](#), and [Prof. A. Read](#).

Languages: *Italian* native speaker; *English* fluent; *French* intermediate.

Communication: The decision to study for several undergraduate and postgraduate degrees in foreign countries has greatly improved my communication abilities, not only at the level of learning new languages (English and French), but also for improving my oral and written scientific knowledge. Scientific presentations both at a departmental and conference level have improved my ability of stand up and talk to groups of people.

In 2005 I have supervised Miss M. Hargreaves with her undergraduate final year project at University of Durham. In 2007 I have supervised Miss Yaelle Bouquet, from Neuchatel University, Switzerland, with her MSc in Biology both in South Africa with fieldwork and in Switzerland for her thesis preparation. In 2008 I have supervised Miss Laura Walther from Basel University and Miss Josephine Hula from Zurich University,

Switzerland, with their MSc and fieldwork in South Africa. In 2009 it was the time of Mr. Michele Mignini and Misses Emilie and Virginia Tournier with fieldwork still in South Africa.

From 2003 until 2007, I have been involved for the **funding** of a project in drafting a Marie Curie proposal, personally putting together a team of seven supervisors based in as many different European universities and research institutes. This project should have looked at researching animal welfare and stress in several European zoos focusing on two primate model species. From there on I was successful in grant applications, including a major FP6 STREP which employed me in Strasbourg, France for 4 years at the CNRS.

On the artistic side, I have been involved in photography, one of my passions. I have been a committee member of the [Edinburgh University Photographic Society](#) (2002-2003). In 2010 I have had a photographic exhibition titled *Township - South Africa: portraits of Denilnton* at the Espace Insight, Strasbourg, France, 30 June - 28 August, which was advertised on [20 minutes](#). In the same year I had some photos with a title *Portraits de singe* at the [Fête de la Science](#), Illkirch-Graffenstaden, France.

In 2009 I published a photo book titled *Portraits of Denilnton, South Africa* available at [Blurb](#).

I.T.: Computer experience of over 15 years based on **OS** Windows 95/98/2000/XP/Vista/7 and lately Linux Ubuntu. I have an extensive knowledge of the **Office** package, in particular Word, Excel, and PowerPoint. Extensive use of **statistical** software like Minitab, SPSS and some R. Basic knowledge of **GIS software** ESRI ArcGIS and ArcPad. Frequent searching of scientific literature through the Web of Science, Google Scholar, PubMed and archiving of papers with EndNote and Mendeley Desktop. Three years' experience with Noldus The Observer and Pendragon Forms for **ethological data collection** in the field with WM Pocket PC's. Use of social **network analysis** software namely SOCPROG for Matlab. I have intermediary knowledge of **graphic** software (Photoshop), **video editing** (Adobe Premiere Pro) and of **web site** production (Adobe Dreamweaver). Deep insights into Adobe Lightroom for **photography**.

Scientific techniques: I am familiar with and have used the following techniques/procedures: Real-time quantitative PCR, red blood cells staining and counting (flow cytometry), making agar plates, and obviously light microscopy. Performed EnzymeImmunoAssays for extraction of hormones from faecal samples of primates. Ethological methodologies: focal animal sampling, scan sampling (see software above), use of video camera, fractal analysis of behaviour. Ecological: surveying of wolves (wolf howling), faecal samples collection in the field, strip transect. I have some knowledge in mechanics and electronics which served during the actuation of my PhD experiments. I have built from scratch automated boxes that served as feeders given to the monkeys involved in the feeding experiments. I designed these devices from portable and light containers which hosted an activation system (radio-controlled and activated by incorporated push/pull levers) of engines and brushes for the serial release of food.