ABSTRACT

The title of this thesis is "Ranging Patterns and Group Kinship Composition of Wild Malaysian Slow Loris (*Nycticebus coucang coucang*): Using Radio Telemetry and Mitochondrial DNA Analysis." This study focused on the ranging patterns of five groups of Loris and analyzed their home range size and kinship relatedness. Initially, the triangulation method was used, followed by visual monitoring and radio-telemetry studies whereby 12 individuals were tracked from June 2006 to January 2007.

Results obtained for the mean daily path lengths of resident animals was 1,562.48 m. The three estimators used to analyze home ranges were the MCP 100% estimator, the KDE h_{ref} (Kernel 95 %) estimators and the KDE LCSV estimator, which produced variable results for all categories of age-groups and contrasting males and females ranging patterns as well as core area sizes. It is concluded that KDE 95% (h_{ref}) performed better than MCP which portrayed in almost 80% of the cases biologically unrealistic ranges. The biotopes covered included Belukar (secondary forests), Forest-High Orchards, Rubber Plantation, Scrub Grass Land, Grass, Main/Small Roads, Cemetery, Mosque, Shrubs and Open Areas. The Belukar forest was the most common biotope type, having an average observed use of 47% by all study individuals. Individuals used structural types such as main wires, house electrical wires, trees along ponds and bamboos as their movement corridors. Based on the observations for five groups within the two study areas, the group size was 3-4 individuals, and the population density was 13 individuals /km². *Nycticebus c. coucang* mainly (49%) utilized the lower strata (0-10m) of the forest while fruit feeding occurred at all heights.

Kinship or relatedness was confirmed by mitochondrial DNA D-loop haplotype analyses. A total of 466bp nucleotide sequences in the polymorphic D-loop region of matrilineal inherited mitochondrial DNA were compared in samples from 26 individuals. From the 30 polymorphic sites, 18 haplotypes were detected within 26 individuals. Five cases were presented in order to demonstrate the inheritance of maternal mitochondrial DNA. More interestingly, this method also managed to prove a unique case of infant adoption from another locality by an adult female.

ABSTRAK

Tajuk tesis ini ialah "Ranging Patterns and Group Kinship Composition of Wild Malaysian Slow Loris (*Nycticebus coucang coucang*): Using Radio Telemetry and Mitochondrial DNA Analysis." Penyelidikan ini memfokus kepada corak pergerakan lima kumpulan kongkang dan perkaitan kerabat (kin). Permulaannya, kaedah triangulasi digunapakai, diikuti dengan pengawasan visual dan kajian radio-telemetri di mana 12 individu dijejak daripada bulan Jun 2006 sehingga bulan Januari 2007.

Keputusan yang didapati dari purata jarak jejak harian haiwan residen adalah 1,562.48 m. Tiga estimator yang diguna untuk analisa julat kawsan kediaman adalah MCP 100% estimator, KDE h_{ref} (Kernel 95 %) dan KDE LCSV yang menghasilkan keputusan pelbagai dalam kategori kumpulan umur dan ada perbezaan di antara jantan dan betina untuk corak pergerakan dan sais kawasan utama. Dapat dirumuskan bahawa KDE 95% (h_{ref}) adalah perkiraan lebih baik daripada MCP yang mempamerkan sehingga 80% kes, julat yang tidak tepat mengikut pengamatan biologi.

Biotop meliputi Belukar (hutan sekunder), Ladang Buah, Ladang Getah, Kawasan Renek, Rumput, Jalan Utama/Jejak, Tanah Perkuburan, Masjid dan Kawasan Lapang. Jenis biotop Belukar adalah paling digemari (47%). Individu haiwan telah mengunakan jenis infrastruktur seperti dawai utama, tali letrik rumah, pokok dipinggiran kolam dan pokok buluh sebagai koridor gerakalih. Berdasarkan pengamatan keatas lima kumpulan dalam dua tapak kajian, saiz kumpulan adalah 3-4 individu dan kepadatan populasi adalah 13 individu/km². *Nycticebus c. coucang* banyak (49%) mengunakan strata bawahan hutan (0-10 m), manakala semua strata dieksploitasi untuk memakan buah.

Perkaitan kerabat telah dibuktikan dengan analisis mitokondria DNA D-loop haplotip. Sejumlah 466bp sekuen nukleotid didalam kawasan polimorfik D-loop dari mitokondria DNA warisan bersaudara dibandingkan untuk sampel dari 26 individu. Dari 30 lokasi polimorfik, 18 haplotip telah dikesan dalam 26 individu. Lima kes dipaparkan bagi menjelaskan warisan bersaudara mitokondria DNA. Lebih menarik lagi, kaedah ini telah dapat membuktikan satu kes unik yang mana betina dewasa memperagakan aksi mengambil anak angkat, yang hidup dilokasi berbeza.

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Jaime C. G. A Manual Review of How to Handle Slow Loris in Captivity [A copy submitted to Malaysian Wildlife Department for their Reference-not Enclosed in this Thesis Owing to the Number of Pages.

ABBREVIATIONS

Most of the abbreviations used are standard. However, attention is drawn to the following:-

| °C | degree Celsius |
|--------------------------|--|
| % | percent |
| [α- ³³ P]dATP | deoxyadenosine 5'-[α - ³³ P]-triphosphate |
| [γ- ³³ Ρ]ΑΤΡ | adenosine 5'-[7- ³³ P]-triphosphate |
| bp | base-pair |
| cm ² | centimeter square |
| сМ | centi-Morgan |
| CsCl | cesium chloride |
| dATP | 2'-deoxyadenosine 5'-triphosphate |
| dCTP | 2'-deoxycytidine 5'-triphosphate |
| dGTP | 2'-deoxyguanosine 5'-triphosphate |
| dH ₂ O | distilled water |
| DMSO | dimethyl sulfoxide |
| DNA | deoxyribonucleic acid |
| dNTP | deoxynucleotide triphosphate |
| dsDNA | double-stranded DNA |
| dTTP | 2'-deoxythymidine 5'-triphosphate |
| EDTA | ethylenediamine-tetraacetic acid |
| e.g. | for example |
| EtBr | ethidium bromide |
| g | gram |
| i. e. | that is |
| kbp | kilo-base pair |
| L | liter (litre) |
| М | molar |
| μg | microgram |
| mg | milligram |
| MgCl ₂ | magnesium chloride |
| min | minute |
| μΙ | microliter |
| ml | milliliter |

| μm | micrometer |
|---------|---|
| mm | millimeter |
| mM | millimolar |
| Ν | normal |
| N/A | not available |
| ng | nanogram |
| nm | nanometer |
| rpm | revolution per minute |
| ssDNA | single-stranded DNA |
| SDS | sodium dodecyl sulphate |
| TBE | Tris-borate-EDTA |
| TE | Tris-EDTA |
| UV | ultraviolet |
| V | volt |
| V/cm | volt per centimeter |
| v/v | volume per volume |
| w/v | weight per volume |
| GPS | Global Positioning System (GPS) |
| ARCVIEW | Software for visualizing and analyzing geographic data |
| GIS | Geographic Information System. |
| MCP % | Minimum Convex Polygon |
| KDE | Kernel Density Estimation |
| h | smoothing parameter |
| lcsv | least squares cross validation |
| AMAE | Animal Movement Analyst Extension program |
| UPGMA | Unweighted Pair Group Method with Arithmetic Mean |
| ML | Maximum Composite Likelihood |
| nj | neighbor-joining |
| PAUP | (Phylogenetic Analysis Using Parsimony) |
| MEGA | Molecular Evolutionary Genetics Analysis |
| BLAST | Basic Local Alignment Search Tool |
| Chelex | Chelating material to purify compounds via ion exchange |
| GenBank | Genetic Sequence Data Bank |
| D-loop | Displacement Loop |

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