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## **Climate change erodes competitive hierarchies among native, alien and range-extending crabs**

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1 **Climate change erodes competitive hierarchies among native, alien and range-**  
2 **extending crabs**

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14 **Abstract**

15

16 Global warming and ocean acidification alter a wide range of animal behaviours, yet the effect on  
17 resource competition among species is poorly understood. We tested whether the combination of  
18 moderate levels of ocean acidification and warming altered the feeding success of co-occurring  
19 native, alien, and range-extending crab species, and how these changes affected their hierarchical  
20 dominance. Under contemporary conditions the range-extending species spent more time feeding,  
21 than the alien and the native species. Under conditions simulating future climate there was no  
22 difference in the proportion of time spent feeding among the three species. These behavioural  
23 changes translated to alterations in their dominance hierarchy (based on feeding success) with the  
24 most dominant species under present day conditions becoming less dominant under future  
25 conditions, and vice versa for the least dominant species. While empirical studies have predicted  
26 either reversal or strengthening of hierarchical dominance in animal species, we suggest that even  
27 moderate increases in ocean temperature and acidification can drive a homogenisation in  
28 behavioural competitiveness, eroding dominance differences among species that are linked to  
29 fitness-related traits in nature and hence important for their population persistence.

30

31 **Keywords:**

32 competition, species interactions, invasive species

33

34 **Summary:**

35 Exposure to moderate ocean warming and acidification resulted in the degradation of competitive  
36 hierarchies of a native, a range-extending, and an alien crab species, driving a homogenisation in  
37 behavioural competitiveness.

## 38 **Introduction**

39

40           As global temperatures increase, species can respond through shifting their native ranges,  
41 typically in a poleward direction (Chen et al., 2011). This phenomenon can result in novel species  
42 interactions and communities, often with negative consequences for recipient ecosystems (Vergés  
43 et al., 2016). At the same time, the number of emerging alien species is increasing globally, due to  
44 the concomitant increases in global transport and trade (Seebens et al., 2018). Like species range  
45 shifts, alien invasions produce novel species interactions and community assemblages, and can lead  
46 to biotic homogenisation.

47           Biotic homogenisation of communities occurs when genetic, taxonomic or functional  
48 similarities increase, and differences decrease (Clavel et al., 2011; Olden et al., 2016). The  
49 consequences of biotic homogenisation include increased vulnerability to invasion and disease, and  
50 reduced community or ecosystem resilience to stressors and disturbances (Olden et al., 2004). In  
51 marine environments, biotic homogenisation has been observed as temperate community  
52 compositions become more tropicalised (Magurran et al., 2015), where habitat-modifying species  
53 expand their ranges (Ling, 2008), and when non-native species are introduced (Villegger et al., 2014).  
54 Globally, marine alien species have resulted in rapid declines in localised abundances of native  
55 species, with invasive crustaceans resulting in an overall decrease in the abundance of native marine  
56 taxa (Anton et al., 2019). Biotic homogenisation is facilitated by changing species interactions,  
57 including competition.

58           Species interactions, much like environmental stressors, affect the persistence and fitness of  
59 individuals. Novel community structures, which can result from climate change, will expose species  
60 to new competitors for resources. Concerns have been raised about the effects that novel  
61 competitors may have on biodiversity and local extinctions, as some studies have shown  
62 competition to intensify under climate change (Milazzo et al., 2013). Furthermore, empirical studies  
63 have predicted either reversal or strengthening of dominance in species under climate change

64 (Milazzo et al., 2013; Van de Waal et al., 2011). How these changes in competition will affect  
65 community assemblages and community functioning is poorly understood, particularly when  
66 combined with the abiotic impacts of climate change.

67         How species behaviours change in the future will be highly dependent on the rate and  
68 extent of climate change. Current climate projections suggest the likely climate pathway for 2081-  
69 2100 will fall within the medium emissions scenarios, being the Intergovernmental Panel for Climate  
70 Change's (IPCC) RCP4.5 or RCP6.0 climate scenarios (Allen, 2018). The global mean sea surface  
71 temperature changes projected for 2081-2100 in scenarios RCP4.5 and RCP6.0 are a mean increase  
72 of 1.8 °C and 2.2 °C, respectively (IPCC, 2014). Concurrently are increases in the partial pressure of  
73 CO<sub>2</sub> in sea water, commonly referred to as ocean acidification, more easily measured by a decrease  
74 in ocean pH. In RCP4.5 a decrease in pH of 0.13 is projected, and in RCP6.0 the projected decrease in  
75 pH is 0.2 units (IPCC, 2014). Few studies have looked at how medium emissions scenarios will affect  
76 competitive behaviours in marine taxa, as the majority of studies use the RCP8.5 scenario in their  
77 experimental designs (+3.7 °C and -0.31 pH units).

78         Hierarchies among competitors are important for ecosystem maintenance and functioning,  
79 for example, by regulating population sizes and their distributions, and partitioning of resources  
80 (Case and Gilpin, 1974; Merkle et al., 2009; Savolainen and Vepsäläinen, 1988). These hierarchies  
81 can be linear, with a clear order of dominance, or homogenous, where there is no single best  
82 competitor (Chase and Seitz, 2011). When an alien species enters a new community, native species  
83 will respond through behavioural changes, often resulting in decreased dominance within the  
84 community (Anton et al., 2019). In response to competition from alien species, native species have  
85 been observed reducing their use of shelter (Grabowska et al., 2016), being displaced out of invaded  
86 areas (Holway, 1999; O'Dowd et al., 2003), and being outcompeted for resources such as food  
87 (Grosholz et al., 2000; Kenward and Holm, 1993). Alien species can also facilitate potential native  
88 competitors through mechanisms such as competitive release, habitat modification, and predatory

89 release (Grosholz et al., 2000). Regardless of whether the alien species impedes or facilitates the  
90 native species, the presence of an alien species can alter the dominance hierarchy in a community.

91 Here, we tested the combined effects of moderate ocean warming and acidification on  
92 species resource competition, using a native, range-extending, and an alien crab species with  
93 different, but currently overlapping latitudinal distributions. We tested whether a range-extending  
94 species can mitigate the negative competitive impacts of alien invaders on local species threatened  
95 by climate change, and as such test whether species range extensions can provide benefits to  
96 recipient communities.

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98

## 99 **Methods**

100

### 101 **Study organisms and experimental seawater manipulation**

102 Our study used three consumer species, consisting of a native, range-extending, and an alien  
103 crab species with different latitudinal distributions. Crabs were chosen as the model organism for  
104 this experiment due to their distinct competitive behaviours, a pre-existing population of the alien  
105 species in our study area, thereby easing the logistics of keeping them in captivity, and due to the  
106 lack of studies that quantify direct interactions between native and non-native crabs (Howard et al.,  
107 2017). The native crab species was the common sand crab (*Ovalipes australiensis*) which has a  
108 southern distribution, stretching along the southern Australian coast from Perth, Western Australia  
109 to Wide Bay, Queensland. The range-extending species was the blue swimmer crab (*Portunus*  
110 *armatus*; previously *Portunus pelagicus*; Lai et al., 2010) which has a more northern distribution from  
111 Perth, Western Australia through the tropical coastal waters of the Western Indian Ocean and the  
112 Eastern Pacific, down through to southern Victoria, with well-established populations occurring  
113 along the southern tip of its distribution on the South Australian coast (Noell et al., 2014). In South  
114 Australia the blue swimmer crab has only been commercially harvested since the 1980's, so there is

115 very limited information about its presence in the area prior to this time. The alien species was the  
116 serial invader, the European green crab (*Carcinus maenas*). Outside of its native Europe, it has  
117 successfully invaded Atlantic North America, South Africa, Japan, Pacific North America, and  
118 Australia (Carlton and Cohen, 2003). In Australia the European green crab is distributed along the  
119 south-eastern coast from Gulf St Vincent in South Australia through to southern New South Wales,  
120 and Tasmania (Thresher et al., 2003). It is believed to have been first introduced Australia in the late  
121 1800's, with established populations first appearing in Port Phillip Bay, Victoria in 1900 (Carlton and  
122 Cohen, 2003). In South Australia, where we collected, the first population of European green crabs  
123 were identified in 1976 (Thresher et al., 2003). All three species co-occur in shallow waters <5m on  
124 sand and mudflats, including mangrove and seagrass habitats, along the southern Australian  
125 coastline, where they consume molluscs and small fish (Figure 1; Gowlett-Holmes, 2008).

126 Blue swimmer, common sand, and European green crabs were caught using baited traps and  
127 physical raking along the eastern coast of Gulf St Vincent, South Australia in November 2016. A total  
128 of 18 crabs were used in the experiment, with three replicates per species per treatment of either  
129 ambient seawater temperature and  $p\text{CO}_2$ , based on local environmental conditions, or elevated  
130 values. Individuals were size matched as closely as possible prior to the acclimation period; however,  
131 prior to filming the trials, after four weeks in captivity, four of the crabs had moulted and grown  
132 (Figure S1). Crabs were kept individually in 52 L tanks containing 18 L of natural filtered seawater  
133 which was partially exchanged with pre-treated water approximately every 3 days, and 1-2 cm of  
134 sand at the bottom of the tank. The crabs were acclimatised over a period of seven days during  
135 which temperature was increased by 2 °C, at a rate of approximately 0.5 °C every second day, and  
136 pH was decreased by 0.25 units, equivalent to a  $p\text{CO}_2$  decrease of 320  $\mu\text{atm}$ , at a rate of  
137 approximately 0.05 units every second day. The crabs were maintained during three weeks in either  
138 ambient (control) conditions, with a temperature of 17.43°C ( $\pm$  0.05) and  $p\text{CO}_2$  of 552  $\mu\text{atm}$  ( $\pm$  17), or  
139 in a future climate, based on RCP 6.0 projections for 2090-2099 (IPCC, 2014), where elevated  
140 temperature was 19.71°C ( $\pm$  0.07) and elevated  $p\text{CO}_2$  was 870  $\mu\text{atm}$  ( $\pm$  41) (Table 2). Temperature

141 was maintained by placing the tanks in water baths heated with heater-chiller units (TR15 Aquarium  
142 chillers), and 1000 W titanium heaters. Pumps were connected to the chiller units which ensured an  
143 even temperature distribution throughout the water baths. Elevated CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations in the  
144 seawater were maintained using a PEGAS 4000 MF Gas Mixer (Columbus Instruments, Columbus,  
145 Ohio) that mixed pure CO<sub>2</sub> with ambient air. The CO<sub>2</sub>-enriched air was then bubbled into each tank  
146 separately. pH<sub>NIST</sub>, temperature and salinity were measured daily in each tank using a pH (Ionix pH5)  
147 and salinity meter (Ohaus ST10S; Figure S2). Total alkalinity of seawater from each tank was  
148 estimated weekly by Gran titration. Alkalinity standards were accurate within 1% of certified  
149 reference material from Dr. A. Dickson (Scripps Institution of Oceanography). Average seawater  
150 pCO<sub>2</sub> was calculated using CO2SYS using already established constants (Dickson and Millero, 1987;  
151 Mehrbach et al., 1973)

152

### 153 **Behavioural observations**

154 After three weeks of exposure to ambient and future seawater climate conditions,  
155 competitive behaviours were quantified. Trials were conducted in an arena (59 × 44 cm) filled with  
156 27 L of water pre-treated to the respective climate treatment. Crabs were starved for a minimum of  
157 36 hours prior to the first feeding trial. Each trial consisted of three crabs inside the arena, one of  
158 each species, competing for a defrosted bivalve mollusc (*Plebidonax deltoids*). Crabs were given a 5-  
159 minute acclimation period together where they were free to roam around the arena prior to the  
160 addition of the food item. The food item was dropped from a height of approximately one metre to  
161 minimise observer interference with the crabs, after which each trial was filmed for 5 min from  
162 above with a GoPro camera (Hero 4 Silver). Video recorders were used to avoid potential bias in  
163 behaviour due to presence of an observer. In order to minimise stress and fatigue, individual crabs  
164 were not used in consecutive trials within one day, and after 2 days of trials a rest day was given. All  
165 possible combinations of individual crabs were trialled (n = 48 tests), with the exception of two trials,



166 where one individual died before they could occur. Trials where feeding did not occur ( $n = 4$ ) were  
167 also excluded from the analysis as feeding was the response variable tested.

168 Behaviours were analysed from the video recordings using the behavioural coding program  
169 Solomon Coder (Péter, 2017). The behaviours recorded were: the individual that was the first to  
170 reach the food ('first to food'), the number of seconds spent feeding per individual, the number of  
171 seconds spent threatening per individual, the number of times that an individual attacked another of  
172 the two species, and the number of times that an individual fled from an attack by another species  
173 (Table 1). None of the behaviours described were mutually exclusive.

174

## 175 **Statistical analysis**

### 176 *Mixed models*

177 We conducted all of our analyses in the R software environment version 3.4.4 (R Core Team,  
178 2018). We constructed a series of general linear mixed effects models (GLMMs) within the package  
179 glmmADMB (Fournier et al., 2012; Skaug, 2016) to examine the effect of increased seawater  
180 temperature and  $p\text{CO}_2$  on the relationship between three competitive behaviours and feeding  
181 success. We set individual as a varying intercept random effect. Feeding success was recorded as a  
182 ratio of time spent feeding by the focal species relative to total time feeding by all individuals in the  
183 match and was analysed using a beta distribution with a logit link function. Trials where no feeding  
184 occurred within the five min recording were excluded from the analysis (two trials out of 25 for  
185 current climate, and two out of 23 from the future climate treatment).

186 Initially, we analysed the data to determine if there was a difference in feeding success  
187 among species and between treatments. Then we analysed what was driving differences in feeding  
188 success between species, with each analysis repeated with a different species ( $k = 3$ ) as the focal  
189 species (Table S1). The three independent explanatory variables were: (i) threatening, recorded as a  
190 ratio of time spent threatening by the focal species relative to total time threatening by all  
191 individuals in the match; (ii) fleeing, which was the number of times the focal species retreated

192 relative to the number of attacks against it by the competing species; and (iii) first to food, a binary  
193 categorical variable (yes, no) for the focal species (Table 1). The best model was selected with the  
194 dredge function in the package *MuMin* (Barton, 2016) based on the Akaike's information criterion  
195 corrected for small samples (AICc). Mean Estimates were calculated for model averaged effects from  
196 the 95% confidence best model set (Anderson and Burnham, 2002; Gruber, 2011).

197

#### 198 *Hierarchy methods*

199 A competitive-outcomes matrix was constructed using the outcomes of each trial to  
200 determine whether there was a linear or intransitive competition hierarchy. Linear competition, also  
201 known as transitive competition, is defined as competitors having a clear order of rank, whereas  
202 intransitive competition is defined as those in which there is no single best competitor, or  
203 homogenisation of the hierarchy (Chase and Seitz, 2011). The matrix was adapted from Laird and  
204 Schamp (2008) to incorporate a third co-occurring species (Table S2). Individuals were allocated a  
205 value to represent number of feeding 'wins' in each trial. Each position in the matrix was filled with  
206 either a 1, 0, or 0.5. A '1' was assigned to the individual with the highest proportion of time feeding  
207 in the trial, a '0' was assigned to the individual with the least time feeding, and a '0.5' was assigned  
208 for the remaining individuals (intermediate time feeding). Where only one individual fed in a trial the  
209 other two individuals were allocated a '0'. Similar to the GLMMs, trials with no feeding results were  
210 excluded from the analysis. The values for the wins were summed for each focal individual across all  
211 trials and used to determine their individual position within the hierarchy. Similarly, values were  
212 summed for all individuals of the same species in order to determine the rank of the three species  
213 under the different experimental conditions.

214 The feeding success values were then used to generate an individual and species level  
215 relative intransitivity index score using the method described in Laird and Schamp (2006). The  
216 relative intransitivity index score is a measure of how equally distributed wins are amongst  
217 individuals. Communities where wins are distributed unequally have low scores, a minimum of 0.25

218 in our matrix, indicating that they have a linear hierarchy, while communities where wins are  
219 distributed equally have high scores, a maximum of 1 in our matrix, indicating that they are  
220 intransitive or homogenous. To determine whether the outcome of this matrix was the result of  
221 biological drivers or more likely produced by chance we performed a bespoke randomisation test.  
222 We randomly generated a distribution using 10,000 iterations, and overlaid each species mean rank.

223

224

## 225 **Results**

226

227 When all three species were compared simultaneously there was a significant effect of species, but  
228 no effect of future climate (i.e., ocean warming and acidification combined) or the interaction  
229 between species and climate treatment, on time spent feeding (Table 3). Under current conditions,  
230 the alien and native species spent significantly less time feeding than the range-extending species  
231 (Figure 2 and Table 4). Under future conditions, however, the three species no longer differed in  
232 their proportion of time spent feeding. When a focal species was selected, the top-weighted models  
233 for all three species included 'first to food' as an important predictor of a higher proportion of time  
234 feeding (Table 3). The top-weighted model for the alien species also included threatening as a  
235 predictor variable of significantly decreasing feeding time.

236 The competitive-outcomes matrix showed a hierarchical structure among the three species  
237 under present day conditions, where the range-extending was the most dominant species, followed  
238 by the alien species, then the native species (Figure 3). However, under future climate conditions the  
239 hierarchical structure weakened and became more homogenous, with the range-extending species  
240 becoming less dominant and the native species gaining dominance (Figure 3). The change in  
241 hierarchy was based on a change in the number of 'wins' (i.e. the individual with the highest  
242 proportion of time feeding), with the native species increasing the number of wins they had, the  
243 number of wins for the range-extending species decreased, and the alien species maintained the

244 same number of wins. This shift in the number of feeding wins for each species resulted in the  
245 relative intransitivity score increasing under future climate conditions. At an individual level the  
246 relative intransitivity score was 0.53 for current conditions and 0.71 in future conditions, where 0.25  
247 is a linear hierarchy and 1.0 is a homogeneous hierarchy.

248

249

## 250 **Discussion**

251

252           Competitive hierarchies among species can erode under climate change. Previous studies  
253 found a strengthening or reversal in competitive hierarchies under elevated  $p\text{CO}_2$  and/or  
254 temperature (McCormick et al., 2013; Van de Waal et al., 2011). However, we show that a moderate  
255 increase in seawater temperature and  $p\text{CO}_2$  resulted in homogenisation of animal competitive  
256 hierarchies, demonstrating that climate change can also weaken competitive hierarchies. Likewise,  
257 species community structures are being increasingly homogenised by climate change, globalisation  
258 and species invasions (Clavel et al., 2011). This results in increased similarities in genetic, taxonomic  
259 and/or functional diversity among species communities, which can lead to a loss of ecosystem  
260 resilience (Clavel et al., 2011). Competitive hierarchies play an important role in community  
261 structuring by influencing aspects of an individual's life such as stress, growth rate, and ability to  
262 raise viable offspring (Chase and Seitz, 2011). Loss of a structured hierarchy can result in significant  
263 long-term impacts on community composition, particularly if they result in changes in species  
264 abundances (Vergés et al., 2016).

265           The best predictor of whether a crab would spend the greatest proportion of time feeding  
266 was first to food. The other competitive behaviours, threatening and fleeing, were not important  
267 predictors for feeding success (except for the alien species). While these aggressive behaviours did  
268 not change under the future climate conditions, the species which was first to food – applied as a  
269 proxy for boldness in this study – did. The native species became bolder, increasing the number of

270 wins they had, the number of wins for the range-extending species decreased, and the alien species  
271 maintained the same number of wins. While an increase in aggressiveness due to climate change has  
272 been observed in many species (Nagelkerken and Munday, 2015), we found that when aggression  
273 was an important predictor for feeding success, as in the case of the alien species, it was due to a  
274 decrease in aggressive behaviour.

275           In the current conditions we found that the range-extending species outperformed both the  
276 alien and native crab species. While we know that range-extending and alien species can  
277 independently both have a profound affect on ecosystems through habitat modification, predation,  
278 and competition, there is little research on the combination of the two on native species and  
279 communities (Anton et al., 2019; Ling, 2008). The ability of the range-extending species to  
280 outcompete the alien species suggests that species expanding their ranges as a result of climate  
281 change may be able to slow down the establishment of alien populations through direct  
282 competition.

283           Due to the varying rate of climate change and based on our understanding of how species  
284 evolve and adapt, there is always the possibility that what we observed will not be realised in the  
285 future. With longer exposure periods and a slower rate of change, any one of the species may adapt  
286 or acclimate to future conditions like those tested, thereby changing the ultimate outcome.  
287 Similarly, this study is constrained by the limited number of replicates, using repeated measures,  
288 rather than a larger number of new individuals, across trials. Our results therefore provide an  
289 insight, and prediction, into possible future scenarios.

290           The potential distribution of species under future climate conditions is largely inferred from  
291 their niches in their current distribution, based predominately on abiotic stressors, but this may not  
292 apply to their performance in novel environments. It has been postulated that species with higher  
293 thermal tolerances or broader thermal realised niches, such as range-extending and alien species,  
294 respectively, will likely perform better in a future climate than many native species that resist or are  
295 unable to keep pace with our changing climate (Bates et al., 2013; Stuart-Smith et al., 2017).

296 However, we found that in a multi-species scenario, current distribution range was not a good  
297 indicator of feeding success under climate change. Under present-day climate, the range-extending  
298 species dominated the hierarchy; however, when faced with future levels of warming and ocean  
299 acidification all three species performed equally. Climate change eroded dominance differences  
300 among species that are linked to fitness-related traits in nature and hence are important for their  
301 population persistence. We show that species success in a future climate depends heavily on species  
302 interactions, with indirect behavioural changes in dominance structures having a significant effect on  
303 their feeding success.

304

305 **Ethics.** No permit was required.

306

307 **Data accessibility.** The dataset supporting this article has been uploaded as electronic  
308 supplementary material.

309

310 **Authors' contributions.** S.S.L. and I.N. conceived the study. S.S.L. and G.B. carried out data  
311 collection, S.S.L analysed the data, and drafted the manuscript; P.C. helped with data analysis; I.N.  
312 and P.C. contributed to writing the manuscript. All authors gave final approval for publication.

313 **Competing interests.** We have no competing interests.

314

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452 **Table 1- Ethogram of behaviours.**

Behaviour	Definition	Recorded as	Analysed as
Feeding	Handling and/or consumption of food with one or both claws	Number of seconds	Ratio of time spent feeding by the focal species relative to total time feeding by all individuals in the match
Threatening	Raising one or both claws open $\geq 90^\circ$	Number of seconds	Ratio of time spent threatening by the focal species relative to total time threatening by all individuals in the match
Retreat	Avoiding or retreating from a competitor's attack	Number of occurrences	Fleeing, which was the number of times the focal species retreated relative to the number of attacks against it by the competing species
Attack	Pushing, grasping or climbing over competitor	Number of occurrences	
First to food	First to grasp bait with claw/s	Yes or No	Yes or No

453

454 **Table 2 -Summary of the seawater chemistry parameters (mean  $\pm$  SE) measured in ambient and**  
 455 **future climate (elevated) treatments.  $n$  is the number of samples analysed, with some parameters,**  
 456 **such as temperature and pH of measured multiple times a day.**

Treatment	Temperature ( $^{\circ}$ C)	$n$	pH <sub>NIST</sub>	$n$	TA ( $\mu$ mol.kg <sup>-1</sup> SW)	$p$ CO <sub>2</sub> ( $\mu$ atm)*	$n$
Ambient	17.43 ( $\pm$ 0.05)	162	7.84 ( $\pm$ 0.02)	171	1720 ( $\pm$ 68)	552 ( $\pm$ 17)	27
Elevated	19.71 ( $\pm$ 0.07)	162	7.59 ( $\pm$ 0.01)	171	1654 ( $\pm$ 48)	870 ( $\pm$ 41)	27

457 TA total alkalinity

458 \* $p$ CO<sub>2</sub> calculated using CO2SYS

459 **Table 3- General liner mixed-effects models (GLMMs) for the proportion of time feeding. The first model compares all three species, while the following**  
 460 **three models consider each species separately as a focal species.**

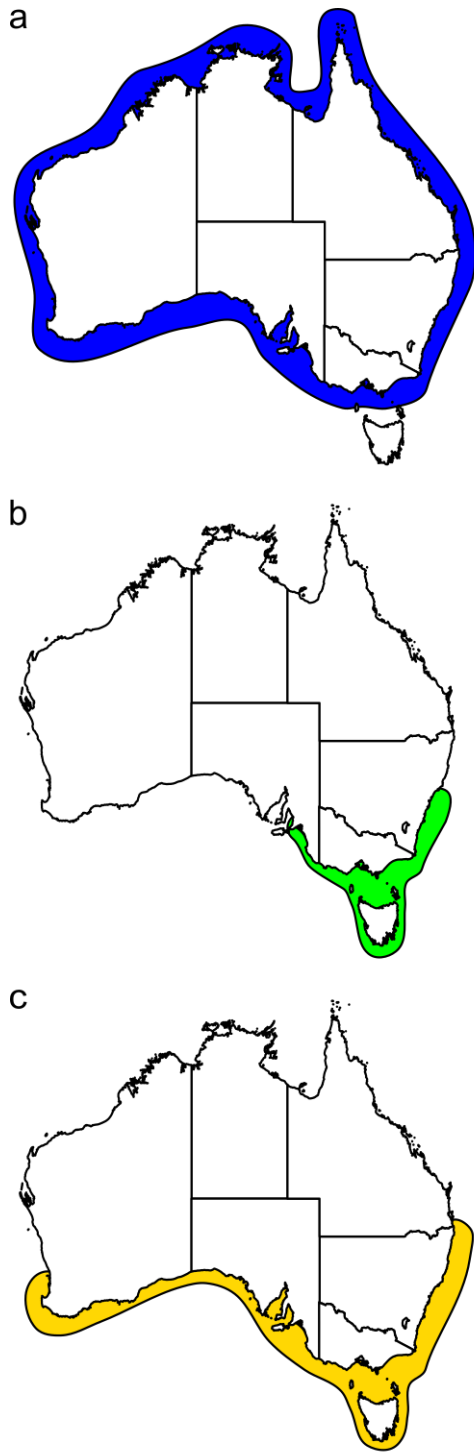
Proportion of time feeding	Intercept	Species Alien	Species Native	Treatment Future	Species Alien x Treatment Future	Species Native x Treatment Future			$\Delta AIC_c$	wAIC <sub>c</sub>
<b>Comparing all three species</b>										
	-0.02 (-0.68, 0.64)	<b>-0.75 (-1.48, -0.01)</b>	<b>-1.03 (-1.76, -0.29)</b>	-0.03 (-0.62, 0.56)	-	-			2.17	0.529
Proportion of time feeding	Intercept	First to Food Yes	Threatening	Fleeing	Treatment Future	First to food Yes x Treatment Future	Threatening x Treatment Future	Fleeing x Treatment Future	$\Delta AIC_c$	wAIC <sub>c</sub>
<b>Range-extending species</b> blue swimmer crab										
	-0.70 (-2.15, 0.01)	<b>2.69 (1.80, 3.58)</b>	-0.74 (-2.70, 1.22)	0.13 (-1.02, 1.27)	-0.15 (-1.20, 0.90)	0.55 (-0.86, 1.95)	1.29 (-2.46, 5.04)	-	1.94	0.390
<b>Alien species</b> European green crab										
	-1.00 (-1.95, -0.05)	<b>2.11 (1.22, 3.00)</b>	<b>-2.26 (-4.52, -0.001)</b>	-1.03 (-4.70, 2.63)	0.20 (-0.91, 1.32)	-0.06 (-1.72, 1.61)	-0.86 (-4.86, 3.14)	-	1.80	0.363
<b>Native species</b> common sand crab										
	<b>-1.72 (-2.36, -1.09)</b>	<b>1.89 (0.64, 3.15)</b>	-1.37 (-6.09, 3.35)	-0.48 (-2.49, 1.52)	-0.002 (-0.79, 0.78)	1.42 (-0.65, 3.49)	-	-	2.13	0.355

461  
 462 All models include each individual (ID) as a random effect. All explanatory variables have been included (see Table 1 for definitions). Results show the mean  
 463 estimates with the 95% confidence intervals in parentheses. Results are **bold** if the 95% confidence interval around the mean estimate does not include  
 464 zero, and in *italics* if retained in the top weighted model. The  $\Delta AIC_c$  is the difference between the first and second top weighted models, and the wAIC<sub>c</sub> is  
 465 provided for the top weighted model. Terms without mean estimates, denoted by '-', were excluded from the top 95% confidence model set.

466 **Table 4. Mean and confidence interval (CI) estimates calculated from the General liner mixed-**  
 467 **effects model (GLMM) comparing all three species.**

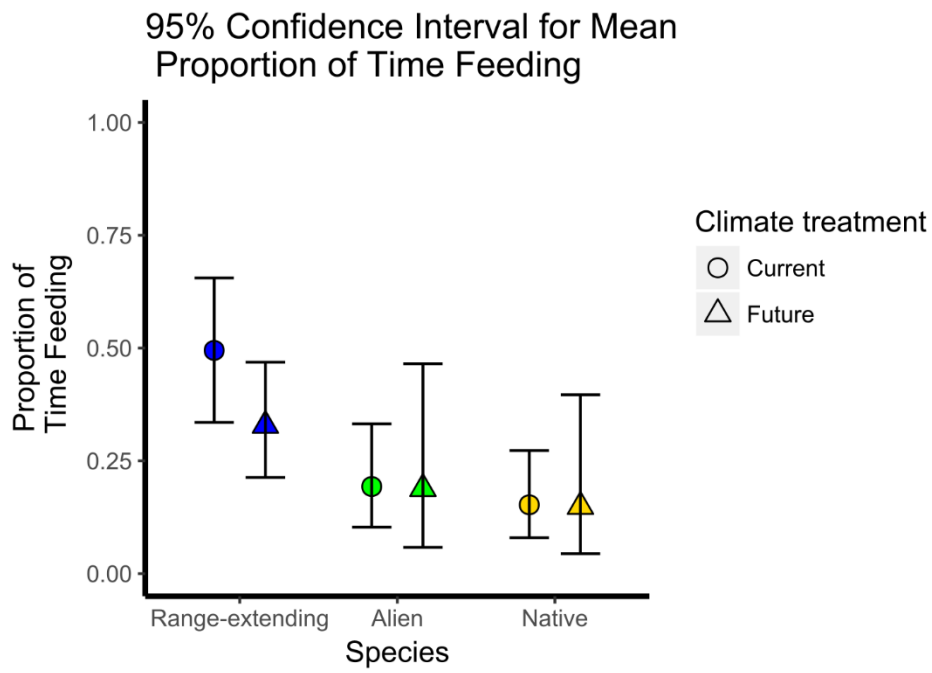
<b>Treatment</b>	<b>Species</b>	<b>2.5% CI</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>97.5% CI</b>
Current climate	Range-extending	0.34	0.49	0.66
	Alien	0.10	0.19	0.33
	Native	0.08	0.15	0.27
Future climate	Range-extending	0.21	0.33	0.47
	Alien	0.06	0.19	0.47
	Native	0.04	0.15	0.40

468



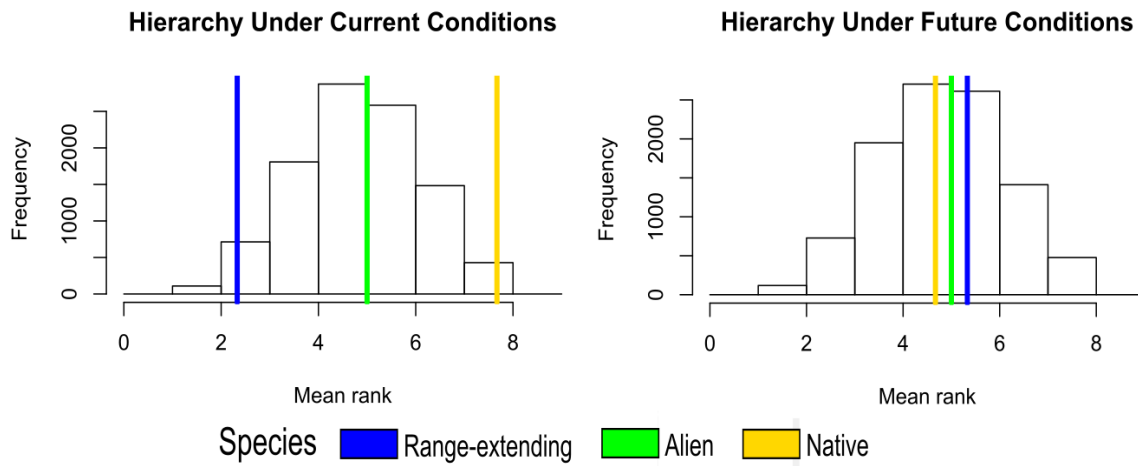
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**Figure 1. The distribution of (a) the range-extending species, *Portunus armatus* (previously *Portunus pelagicus*), (b) the alien species, *Carcinus maenas*, and (c) the native species *Ovalipes australiensis*, in Australia. Distributions are based on Gowlett-Holmes (2008) and Atlas of Living Australia website <http://www.ala.org.au> Accessed 28 March 2019**



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**Figure 2. The effect of climate treatment on the proportion of time feeding by crab species.**



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**Figure 3. Difference in positioning of individuals from each crab species within the hierarchy under the different climate conditions.** The bars are the bespoke randomization values, while the coloured bars are the mean rank of each species.