



# Condor Personality:

## Meet the Birds!

## Repertoire and

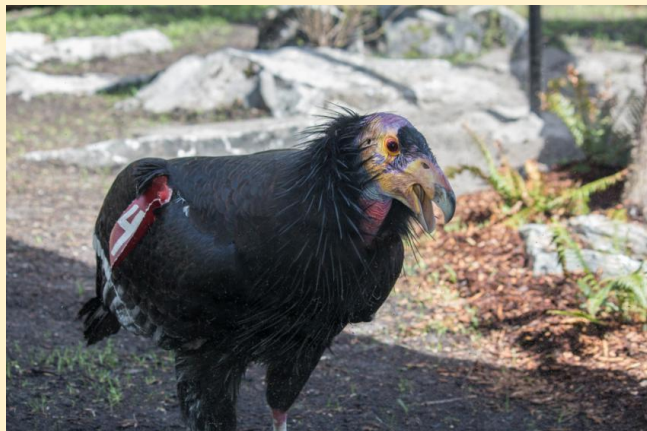
Sammi Goldberg &

- In 1987, the last 22 wild condors were brought into captivity for a breeding program
- The breeding program was successful and the first condors were released into the wild in 1992
- Oregon Zoo is one of few active condor breeding and rehabilitation sites
- Our Goal: to gather preliminary data on behaviors to assist in field research



Condor tag #61

- 17 years old
- Born in captivity



Condor tag #4

- 33 years old
- Born in the wild

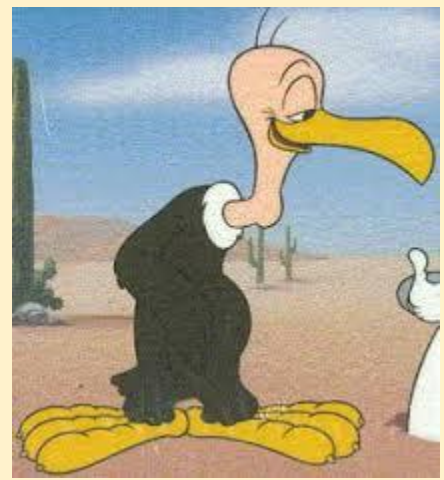


Condor tag #91

- 17 years old
- Born in captivity

# General Behavior

# Dominance Hierarchies



Tyler Boente

## Results

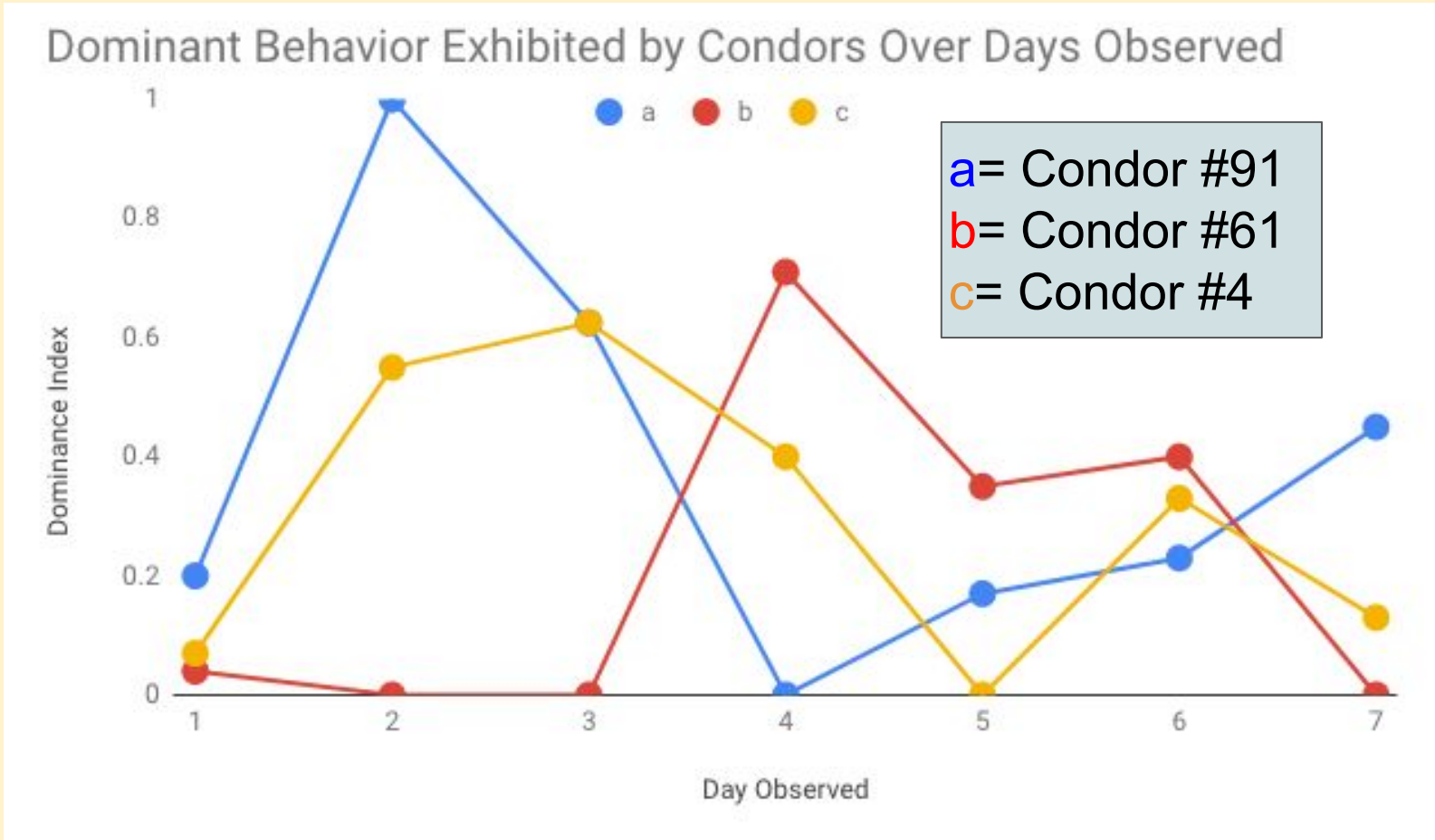


Figure 1. Dominance index was calculated by total aggressive behaviors pecking, or challenging, over total number of behaviors exhibited per observation day (7 total days observed)

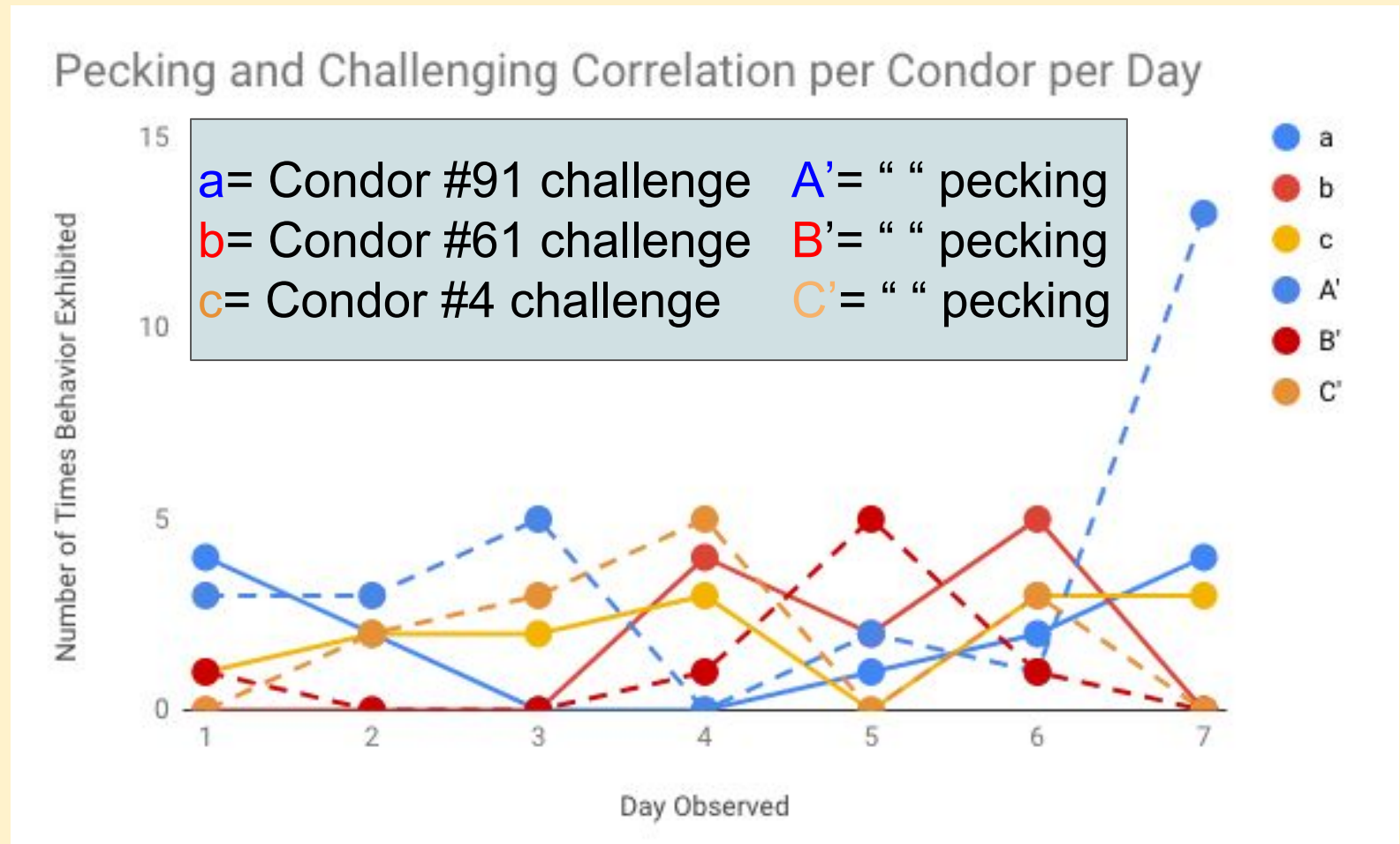


Figure 2. Total amount of times each condor initiated in pecking and challenging per observation day.



# Methods

Ad-libitum sampling (1 hour)

Constructed an Ethogram of six behaviors

Focal sampling of six behaviors for 30 minutes per condor

Behavior	Condor #91	Condor #61	Condor #4
Challenging			
Eating			
Flying			
Pecking			
Wing Beating			
Wing Spreading			

Figure 3. Data sheet used to tally behaviors exhibited by each condor. Additional data was collected on amount of people, weather conditions, obscure behaviors or occurrences etc.



# Conclusions & Future Directions

- There is no correlation in individual condor 'dominant' behaviors
- The eldest condor was the most consistent in exhibiting behaviors over the entire experiment
- This raises question of behavioral differences in condors born in captivity and those that are born in the wild
- Further research could be done at Jonsson creek breeding and 'training' facility to observe condor transitions from captivity to wild



## References

- 1) L. Angeloni, K.R. Crooks, and D.T. Blumstein, "Conservation and Behavior: Introduction," in *Encyclopedia of Animal Behavior* (Elsevier, 2010), 377–81, <https://doi.org/10.1016/B978-0-08-045337-8.00285-0>
- 2) John Byers, *Animal Behavior: A Beginner's Guide* (London: Oneworld Publications, 2013)
- 3) Sarah Levy, California Condor Conservationist, December 2, 2012, <https://www.oregonzoo.org/discover/animals/california-condor>
- 4) Paul Martin and Patrick Bateson, *Measuring Behaviour: An Introductory Guide* (Cambridge University Press, 2007)