nature portfolio

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Reporting Summary

Nature Portfolio wishes to improve the reproducibility of the work that we publish. This form provides structure for consistency and transparency in reporting. For further information on Nature Portfolio policies, see our Editorial Policies and the Editorial Policy Checklist.

For all statistical analyses, confirm that the following items are present in the figure legend, table legend, main text, or Methods section

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n/a	Confirmed
	$\fbox{\textbf{x}}$ The exact sample size (n) for each experimental group/condition, given as a discrete number and unit of measurement
	🕱 A statement on whether measurements were taken from distinct samples or whether the same sample was measured repeatedly
	The statistical test(s) used AND whether they are one- or two-sided Only common tests should be described solely by name; describe more complex techniques in the Methods section.
x	A description of all covariates tested
x	A description of any assumptions or corrections, such as tests of normality and adjustment for multiple comparisons
	A full description of the statistical parameters including central tendency (e.g. means) or other basic estimates (e.g. regression coefficient) AND variation (e.g. standard deviation) or associated estimates of uncertainty (e.g. confidence intervals)
	For null hypothesis testing, the test statistic (e.g. <i>F</i> , <i>t</i> , <i>r</i>) with confidence intervals, effect sizes, degrees of freedom and <i>P</i> value noted Give <i>P</i> values as exact values whenever suitable.
x	For Bayesian analysis, information on the choice of priors and Markov chain Monte Carlo settings
x	For hierarchical and complex designs, identification of the appropriate level for tests and full reporting of outcomes
x	Estimates of effect sizes (e.g. Cohen's d, Pearson's r), indicating how they were calculated
	Our web collection on statistics for biologists contains articles on many of the points above.
Sof	ftware and code

Policy information about <u>availability of computer code</u>

Data collection No code was used for data collection.

Data analysis We used an open-source software R (R Developmental Team) for data analysis. All codes are available in Figshare.

For manuscripts utilizing custom algorithms or software that are central to the research but not yet described in published literature, software must be made available to editors and reviewers. We strongly encourage code deposition in a community repository (e.g. GitHub). See the Nature Portfolio guidelines for submitting code & software for further information.

Data

Policy information about availability of data

All manuscripts must include a <u>data availability statement</u>. This statement should provide the following information, where applicable:

- Accession codes, unique identifiers, or web links for publicly available datasets
- A description of any restrictions on data availability
- For clinical datasets or third party data, please ensure that the statement adheres to our policy

All data and analysis codes have been deposited at Figshare (available at https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.28435067.v1).

Research involving human participants, their data, or biological material

Policy information about stu I <mark>nd sexual orientation</mark> and <u>r</u>	idies with <u>human participants or human data</u> . See also policy information about <u>sex, gender (identity/presentation),</u> race, ethnicity and racism.		
Reporting on sex and gender			
Reporting on race, ethnicity, other socially relevant groupi			
Population characteristics	This study does not involve human participants.		
Recruitment	This study does not involve human participants.		
Ethics oversight	This study does not involve human participants.		
	e approval of the study protocol must also be provided in the manuscript.		
ield-specific			
Please select the one below	that is the best fit for your research. If you are not sure, read the appropriate sections before making your selection.		
Life sciences	Behavioural & social sciences Ecological, evolutionary & environmental sciences		
Il studies must disclose on	these points even when the disclosure is negative. We examine the patterns of anti-predator colour evolution in snakes using comparative phylogenetic analysis. We used online		
	database for data gathering.		
·	Individual data point represents species trait of a snake species, namely anti-predator coloration and the defensive behaviour. We analysed the family Elapidae, the most colour-diverse family in snakes.		
. 0 0,	We tried to include as many species as possible for our comparative analysis. The final analysed species were those that images and behaviour information was available.		
Data collection	We collected images and behaviour data from online sources.		
Timing and spatial scale	Online images and behavioural data were collected from 2022 to 2023.		
Data exclusions	Species with no information on their anti-predator coloration or defensive behaviours were excluded from the analysis.		
Reproducibility	No experiments were done, so reproducibility section does not apply to our study.		
Randomization	No experiments were done, so randomization section does not apply to our study.		
Blinding	No experiments were done, so Blinding section does not apply to our study.		
Did the study involve field	work? Yes X No		

Reporting for specific materials, systems and methods

We require information from authors about some types of materials, experimental systems and methods used in many studies. Here, indicate whether each material, system or method listed is relevant to your study. If you are not sure if a list item applies to your research, read the appropriate section before selecting a response.

Materials & experime	ntal systems Methods	
n/a Involved in the study	n/a Involved in the study	
X Antibodies	ChIP-seq	
x Eukaryotic cell lines	Flow cytometry	
Palaeontology and a	rchaeology MRI-based neuroimaging	
Animals and other o	rganisms	
X Clinical data		
Dual use research of	f concern	
X Plants		
Animals and othe	r research organisms	
Policy information about st	udies involving animals; ARRIVE guidelines recommended for reporting animal research, and Sex and Gender in	
Research		
Laboratory animals	No animals were used for the study	
Wild animals	No animals were used for the study	
Reporting on sex	No animals were used for the study	
Field-collected samples	No animals were used for the study	
Ethics oversight	No animals were used for the study	
Note that full information on t	ne approval of the study protocol must also be provided in the manuscript.	
Plants		
Seed stocks	No plants were used for the study.	
Novel plant genotypes	No plants were used for the study.	
Authentication	No plants were used for the study.	