

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](#).

Statistics

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

n/a	Confirmed
☐	☒ The exact sample size (<i>n</i>) 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 <i>Only common tests should be described solely by name; describe more complex techniques in the Methods section.</i>
☒	☐ A description of all covariates tested
☒	☐ 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 <i>Give P values as exact values whenever suitable.</i>
☒	☐ For Bayesian analysis, information on the choice of priors and Markov chain Monte Carlo settings
☒	☐ For hierarchical and complex designs, identification of the appropriate level for tests and full reporting of outcomes
☐	☒ Estimates of effect sizes (e.g. Cohen's <i>d</i> , Pearson's <i>r</i>), indicating how they were calculated

Our web collection on [statistics for biologists](#) contains articles on many of the points above.

Software and code

Policy information about [availability of computer code](#)

Data collection	No software was used for data collection in this study. We obtained videos from camera traps. The authors coded the videos to extract behavioural data.
Data analysis	We performed all statistical analyses using open-source packages in R version 4.1.3 (R Core Team, 2022). The scripts used to conduct these analyses are available in Zenodo at https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.13973581 .

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 [data availability statement](#). 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](#)

The datasets used in this study are available as Supplementary Data.

Research involving human participants, their data, or biological material

Policy information about studies with [human participants or human data](#). See also policy information about [sex, gender \(identity/presentation\), and sexual orientation](#) and [race, ethnicity and racism](#).

Reporting on sex and gender	NA
Reporting on race, ethnicity, or other socially relevant groupings	NA
Population characteristics	NA
Recruitment	NA
Ethics oversight	NA

Note that full information on the approval of the study protocol must also be provided in the manuscript.

Field-specific reporting

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

For a reference copy of the document with all sections, see [nature.com/documents/nr-reporting-summary-flat.pdf](https://www.nature.com/documents/nr-reporting-summary-flat.pdf)

Behavioural & social sciences study design

All studies must disclose on these points even when the disclosure is negative.

Study description	This is an observational study based on quantitative data obtained from videos recorded in the field.
Research sample	We analysed all visits of wild chimpanzees (<i>Pan troglodytes verus</i>) to four army ant (<i>Dorylus</i> sp.) nests monitored using camera traps between 2018 and 2022 in Dindefelo, Senegal. We identified 34 adult chimpanzee individuals visiting army ant nest locations. We did not individually identify infants or juveniles. We opportunistically collected 85 fresh (<24 h) chimpanzee faecal samples non-invasively and macroscopically analysed them.
Sampling strategy	NA
Data collection	We obtained camera trap recordings using Browning BTC-7-4K Edge, Bushnell Trophy Cam HD Essential E3, and Wimius H6 16MP for a total of 1474 days from four army ant nest site and for a total of 1516 days from four sites without ant nests.
Timing	We collected data between 2018 and 2022. See Table S4 for the specific number of days in which camera traps were placed in each location, as well as the dates in which we recorded chimpanzee visits to each location.
Data exclusions	NA
Non-participation	NA
Randomization	NA

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 & experimental systems

Methods

n/a	Involved in the study
☒	☐ Antibodies
☒	☐ Eukaryotic cell lines
☒	☐ Palaeontology and archaeology
☐	☒ Animals and other organisms
☒	☐ Clinical data
☒	☐ Dual use research of concern
☒	☐ Plants

n/a	Involved in the study
☒	☐ ChIP-seq
☒	☐ Flow cytometry
☒	☐ MRI-based neuroimaging

Animals and other research organisms

Policy information about [studies involving animals](#); [ARRIVE guidelines](#) recommended for reporting animal research, and [Sex and Gender in Research](#)

Laboratory animals	NA
Wild animals	The study involved non-invasive behavioural data collection of wild chimpanzees (<i>Pan troglodytes verus</i>) in Dindefelo, Senegal.
Reporting on sex	NA
Field-collected samples	The study involved the macroscopical analysis of fresh (<24-h) chimpanzee faeces collected in the field and brought to the Dindefelo biological station, where they were analysed macroscopically in search of army ant remains. All steps complied with biological sampling security protocols, involving the use of face masks, gloves, and utensils (wire mesh, tweezers, recipients) to properly process the faecal samples.
Ethics oversight	All data analysed in this study were collected non-invasively, without any disturbance to the chimpanzees. The study was aproved by our home institutions (Faculty of Psychology of the University of Barcelona, Jane Goodall Institute Spain) and complied with the regulations of the Direction des Eaux, Forêts, Chasse et de la Conservations des Sols of the Republic of Senegal and the International Primatological Society Codes of Best Practices for Field Primatology.

Note that full information on the approval of the study protocol must also be provided in the manuscript.

Plants

Seed stocks	NA
Novel plant genotypes	NA
Authentication	NA