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1 **Behavioral assay and chemical characters of female sex pheromones in the hermit**  
2 **crab *Pagurus filholi***

3  
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21

22 **Abstract** Males of the hermit crab *Pagurus filholi* perform assessment behavior  
23 toward females, as a preliminary step of precopulatory guarding, during reproductive  
24 season. It is known that such behavior is elicited by female sex pheromones, but the  
25 compounds involved have never been characterized in this species. Several experiments  
26 were conducted to develop a reliable bioassay along with purification procedures to  
27 identify potential compounds with pheromonal activity in *Pagurus filholi*. We  
28 developed a bioassay protocol to assess pheromonal activity by using an empty shell  
29 with cotton containing either artificial seawater (control) or test water. We measured and  
30 compared the time duration of male assessment behavior toward each shell if the test  
31 water contained female sex pheromones. Ultra-filtering of seawater samples potentially  
32 containing pheromones showed that the compounds was < 1kDa in molecular weight.  
33 Males showed precopulatory assessment behavior toward “female conditioned” water  
34 samples treated with open column purification and eluted with MeOH, suggesting that  
35 compounds triggering male behavior were low polar molecules. Molecules with  
36 pheromonal activity were not volatile after freeze drying, effective even after heating to  
37 90°C, and remained active in seawater at 12°C even after 6 days from sample collection,  
38 which suggest a rather stable characteristic of the female sex pheromones of this  
39 species.

40  
41 **Keywords** Bioassay, Hermit crab, Low polar molecule, *Pagurus filholi*, Sex pheromone

## 43 **Introduction**

44

45 Chemical communication is important in many behavioral and ecological interactions.  
46 Many aquatic species use chemical signals in attraction and localization of their partners  
47 (Salmon 1983; Breithaupt and Thiel 2011). The chemical signals that animals release to  
48 communicate with their conspecifics are defined as pheromones, and compounds  
49 functioning as sexual attractants are referred to as sex pheromones (Agosta 1992; Wyatt  
50 2010, 2014). Sex pheromones play important roles in reproductive interactions within  
51 crustaceans (Dunham 1988; Breithaupt and Thiel 2011). It is known that females release  
52 sex pheromones that induce reproductive behavior of mating partners in many  
53 crustaceans, such as in the blue crab *Callinectes sapidus* (Gleeson 1980) and the shore  
54 crab *Carcinus maenas* (Christofferson 1978; Bamber and Naylor 1996), and many  
55 efforts to identify such pheromones have been conducted as well (Kittredge et al. 1971;  
56 Gleeson et al. 1984; Asai et al. 2000; Hardege et al. 2002; Bublitz et al. 2008; Kamio  
57 2009; Hardege et al. 2011; Hardege and Terschak 2011; Kamio et al. 2014; Yano et al.  
58 2016). However, there is no complete identification of sex pheromone candidate  
59 molecules in decapod crustaceans.

60 Establishment of a reliable bioassay is required to identify sex pheromones.  
61 Such bioassay should be devised independently for each species, because male reactions  
62 to pheromones emitted from conspecific females are different among species (Kamio et

63 al. 2000; Hardege et al. 2002; Kamio 2009; Zang et al. 2010; Kamio and Derby 2011).  
64 In many crustaceans, behavior elicited by sex pheromones is usually unclear and  
65 difficult to distinguish from other behavior such as feeding and agonistic behavior. In  
66 addition, visual and tactile cues may also play an important role in reproductive  
67 behavior and pair formation in natural environments (Hazlett and McLay 2000;  
68 Bouwma and Hazlett 2001). Therefore it is difficult to establish reliable bioassay  
69 methods to detect sex pheromones in many crustaceans.

70 Females of the hermit crab *Pagurus filholi* release sex pheromones that induce  
71 males to begin assessment and guarding behavior (Imafuku 1986; Goshima et al. 1998;  
72 Okamura and Goshima 2010; Kawaminami and Goshima 2015). During guarding,  
73 males grasp the shell of a mature female with their left cheliped for up to 5 days before  
74 copulation in the reproductive season, and assessment behavior is considered to be a  
75 preliminary step toward mate guarding (Goshima et al. 1998; Minouchi and Goshima  
76 1998). Male reactions to sex pheromones are distinctive in this species, and exclusion of  
77 other factors such as food cue and odor of predator affecting male behavior is possible;  
78 therefore, hermit crabs are a reliable model for developing a bioassay for sex  
79 pheromone detection based on a 'releaser reactions' approach (Dunham 1978, 1988) to  
80 investigate the chemical character of sex pheromones.

81 The aim of this study was to develop a reliable bioassay method to detect  
82 female sex pheromones in the hermit crab *Pagurus filholi*. Moreover, molecular size,

83 polarity and stability in seawater of potential pheromone compounds are demonstrated  
84 in this study.

85

## 86 **Materials and methods**

87

88 All hermit crabs for the following experiments were collected on a flat rocky intertidal  
89 shore at Kattoshi, Hakodate Bay, Hokkaido, Japan (41°44'34"N, 140°36'08"E). The  
90 breeding season of *Pagurus filholi* ranges from February to August, but was mainly  
91 from March to July at our study site (Goshima et al. 1998). Sampling of guarding pairs  
92 was performed during low tides from March to July in 2005-2009.

93

94 Maturity condition of guarded females

95

96 Guarding pairs were collected haphazardly 8 times at Kattoshi and were brought to the  
97 laboratory. Each pair was separated and maturity condition of the guarded female was  
98 ascertained as non-ovigerous or ovigerous (egg carrying). For the ovigerous females, we  
99 determined the egg developmental stages microscopically and classed the females into  
100 one of the three categories as follows: stage I ovigerous female had newly-deposited  
101 eggs and more than 70% of original yolk volume; stage II ovigerous female had eggs of  
102 less than 70% of original yolk volume and some embryos having incomplete pigmented

103 eyes visible; stage III ovigerous female has pigmented embryo with well-developed  
104 oval eyes visible. Percentages of the guarded females were compared among four  
105 different maturity conditions using repeated measure ANOVA to clarify whether males  
106 in the field frequently guarded any particular maturity stage of the females. As the  
107 sphericity assumption did not hold (Mauchly test,  $W = 0.00026$ ;  $P < 0.0001$ ), the  $P$   
108 value of the  $F$  test was corrected based on the degrees of freedom multiplied by  
109 Greenhouse-Geisser epsilon (0.3403). Multiple comparisons were performed by paired  
110  $t$ -test with separate error terms depending on the two levels being compared. The type I  
111 error rate was corrected by sequential Bonferroni.

112

113 “Female conditioned” water sample collection

114

115 Guarding pairs were collected at Kattoshi and brought to the laboratory. Thirty females  
116 that had been guarded by males in the field were separated from the males and placed in  
117 the same plastic cup (5 cm diameter, 9 cm high) with 100 ml artificial seawater (Perfect  
118 Marine, Nisso Corporation) and kept for 24 h at 12°C. The resulting “female  
119 conditioned” water samples were tested to confirm the presence of sex pheromones  
120 triggering male assessment response (Imafuku 1986; Goshima et al. 1998; Minouchi  
121 and Goshima 1998; Okamura and Goshima 2010). Only females sampled within 2 days  
122 from the field were used to collect “female conditioned” water samples.

123

124 Bioassay procedures

125

126 Solitary males of the hermit crab often show assessment behavior toward mature  
127 females, while no response behavior was observed toward immature females or shells  
128 with no females. The assessment behavior is preliminary to guarding behavior, and it is  
129 elicited by female sex pheromones (Imafuku 1986; Goshima et al. 1998; Minouchi and  
130 Goshima 1998; Okamura and Goshima 2010). The male embraces the female with its  
131 ambulatory legs, and rotates the female into a face-to-face position. The male then  
132 brings the anterior parts of his cephalothorax close to the shell aperture of the female,  
133 and examines it by touch with antennae, walking legs, and chelae on a part of the  
134 female's body just protruding from the shell. We determined whether this assessment  
135 behavior occurred or not as well as duration of the interaction when observed in  
136 experiments to detect sex pheromonal activity in the samples of "female-conditioned"  
137 water as follows.

138         Guarding males from the field were separated off the females, and each male  
139 was placed in a plastic case (10.5 cm diameter, 2 cm high) full of natural seawater. Most  
140 guarded females in Kattoshi were in *Batillaria cumingi* shells (Yoshino et al. 2002).  
141 Two groups of empty *Batillaria* shells which were similar in size were plugged with  
142 cotton containing either artificial seawater ( $n = 17$ ) or "female-conditioned" water ( $n =$

143 17) and then presented, in that order, to the males in the plastic cases. The behavior of  
144 the male was observed initially for 30 s. If assessment was initiated during this time  
145 period, male behavior was observed for 30 s more. The difference in assessment  
146 duration between artificial seawater and “female-conditioned” water shell groups was  
147 analyzed with the Wilcoxon signed-rank test.

148 To verify the assay protocol, the above procedure was repeated, but at this time,  
149 shells plugged with cotton containing “female conditioned” water ( $n = 20$ ) were  
150 presented first, followed by the shells containing artificial seawater ( $n = 20$ ). This was  
151 done specifically to test sample presentation order effect on male assessment behavior.  
152 The behavior of males presented with plugged shells was observed initially for 30 s. If  
153 assessment behavior was initiated during this interval, observation continued for over  
154 30 s. The difference in assessment duration between “female-conditioned” water and  
155 artificial seawater shell groups was analyzed with the Wilcoxon signed-rank test.

156 Only males that performed assessment behavior to the “female-conditioned”  
157 water samples (positive control) were used in Experiments 2 and 3. In the later  
158 experiments, we tested seawater first and then samples because the order of the  
159 treatments had no effects on experimental results (see Results Section for details).

160

161 Experiment 1: “pheromone” molecular size

162

163 We performed ultrafiltration of the “female-conditioned” water samples using YM-1  
164 filters (Amicon ultra, Mollipore) to separate each water sample into two fractions of  
165 different molecular size;  $< 1$  or  $> 1$ kDa. The pheromonal activity of the remaining  
166 fraction on the filter ( $> 1$ kDa) and filtrate ( $< 1$ kDa) was tested for each sample ( $n = 30$ )  
167 by the following procedure.

168           Guarding males from the field were separated off the females, and each male  
169 was placed in a plastic case (10.5 cm diameter, 2 cm high) full of natural seawater to  
170 test “female conditioned” water fractions ( $< 1$  or  $> 1$ kDa) separately, both against  
171 seawater. First, one group of *Batillaria* shells was plugged with cotton containing  
172 artificial seawater ( $n = 30$ ) while another group of shells was plugged with cotton  
173 soaked in unfiltered fraction sample ( $n = 30$ ) or filtrate fraction sample ( $n = 30$ ). The  
174 unfiltered fraction ( $> 1$ kDa) was obtained by rinsing the YM-1 filters membrane with  
175 100 ml distilled water. Artificial seawater and fraction samples were presented  
176 sequentially (one at a time) to the males. The behavior of males was observed initially  
177 for 30 s. If assessment was initiated during this period, we observed male behavior for  
178 30 s more. Difference in assessment duration between artificial seawater and fraction  
179 shell groups was analyzed with the Wilcoxon signed-rank test.

180

181 Experiment 2: “pheromone” polarity

182

183 To reveal the polarity of the compounds with sex pheromones properties, and in order to  
184 remove large amounts of salts from "female conditioned" water samples, ODS resin  
185 fractioning was employed as follows. "Female conditioned" water was passed through  
186 an ODS open column (3.5 cm diameter, 4 cm high, Fuji Silysia Chemical). The column  
187 was washed with distilled water and successively eluted with 30% or 50% MeOH. Each  
188 extract was evaporated in vacuum and dissolved in 10 ml distilled water and used as a  
189 sample. The behavior of males presented sequentially with cotton plugged *Batillaria*  
190 shells, containing column samples eluted with 30% ( $n = 38$ ) and 50% ( $n = 28$ ) MeOH,  
191 was examined separately, both against plugged shells with artificial seawater for each  
192 sample in a bioassay as noted under Bioassay procedures Section.

193

194 Experiment 3: stability

195

196 One of the major concerns during handling of natural chemical products including sex  
197 pheromones is their stability. Herein, we present handling tests and storing procedures  
198 of the pheromone potentially contained within 100 ml of "female conditioned" water  
199 and its effect on male assessment behavior.

200

201 *Freeze-drying:* "Female conditioned" water was freeze-dried and taken up in 10 ml  
202 distilled water. The freeze-drying effect on pheromonal activity was evaluated with the

203 behavioral assay for  $n = 14$  samples, described under Bioassay procedures Section.

204 *Heating:* The effect of high temperature on pheromonal activity of “female  
205 conditioned” water was tested by increasing the sample temperature up to 90°C for 15  
206 min. The behavioral assay described under Bioassay procedures Section was performed  
207 for  $n = 14$  samples.

208 *Stability at ambient temperature:* The objective of the bioassay for this item  
209 was to test the stability of effect of the compound involved in triggering male  
210 assessment behavior at ambient temperature. “Female conditioned” water samples  
211 (made using natural seawater in this experiment) were kept in plastic bottles for 6 days  
212 at 12°C before presentation to the males in an assay as described in the Bioassay  
213 procedures Section for  $n = 22$  samples.

214

## 215 **Results**

216

217 Maturity condition of guarded females

218

219 Figure 1 shows maturity condition of guarded females in the field. Although all stages  
220 were included in the guarded females, there was a significant difference in the  
221 percentage of guarded females among their maturity stages (repeated measure ANOVA,  
222  $F_{1.02, 7.15} = 36.62, P < 0.001$ ), and non-ovigerous females (71.9%) and stage III females

223 (26.7%) were particularly dominant among them ( $P < 0.05$  in all cases except for  
224 between stage I and II,  $P = 0.409$ ).

225

226 “Female conditioned” water sample collection and bioassay procedures

227

228 In both trials where artificial seawater and “female conditioned” water were presented  
229 first, there was a significant difference in the duration of male assessment behavior  
230 between seawater and the “female conditioned” water samples (Fig. 2A, Wilcoxon  
231 signed-rank test,  $T = 7.5$ ,  $P < 0.01$ , Fig. 2B, Wilcoxon signed-rank test,  $T = 3$ ,  $P < 0.01$ ).

232 When presented with the “female conditioned” water samples, males significantly  
233 increased the duration of assessment behavior in this experiment, suggesting that the  
234 “female conditioned” water contained sex pheromones. Furthermore, the order of the  
235 treatments (“female conditioned” water first or second) had no effects on the  
236 experimental results. Therefore, all the later tests were conducted in order of seawater  
237 first and then samples second.

238

239 Experiment 1: “pheromone” molecular size

240

241 There was a significant difference in duration of male assessment behavior between  
242 artificial seawater and the filtered fraction (Fig. 3A, Wilcoxon signed-rank test,  $T = 6.5$ ,

243  $P < 0.01$ ), while no significant difference was observed between artificial seawater and  
244 the unfiltered fraction ( $> 1\text{kDa}$ ) (Fig. 3B, Wilcoxon signed-rank test,  $T = 7$ ,  $P > 0.05$ ).

245

246 Experiment 2: “pheromone” polarity

247

248 A significant difference was found in the duration of male assessment behavior between  
249 seawater and the sample of the fraction adsorbed on ODS resins and eluted with 30%  
250 MeOH (Fig. 4A, Wilcoxon signed-rank test,  $T = 54.5$ ,  $P < 0.05$ ), and between seawater  
251 and the sample of the fraction eluted with 50% MeOH (Fig. 4B, Wilcoxon signed-rank  
252 test,  $T = 18$ ,  $P < 0.01$ ), respectively. It is suggested that the sex pheromone of this  
253 species is a low polar compound.

254

255 Experiment 3: stability

256

257 *Freeze-drying*: Figure 5 shows the duration of male assessment behavior toward  
258 artificial seawater and the freeze-dried “female conditioned” water samples. There was  
259 a significant difference in duration of male assessment behavior between artificial  
260 seawater and the freeze-dried sample (Wilcoxon signed-rank test,  $T = 3$ ,  $P < 0.05$ ).

261 *Heating*: The compound acting as “sex pheromone” in this species was stable  
262 at high temperature. Figure 6 shows the duration of male assessment behavior toward

263 artificial seawater and the sample which was heated at 90°C for 15 min. There was a  
264 significant difference in duration of male assessment behavior between artificial  
265 seawater and the heated sample (Wilcoxon signed-rank test,  $T = 6$ ,  $P < 0.01$ ).

266 *Stability at ambient temperature:* Significant difference was found in the  
267 duration of male assessment behavior between artificial seawater and the “female  
268 conditioned” water samples which were kept for 6 days at 12°C before the assay (Fig. 7,  
269 Wilcoxon signed-rank test,  $T = 5.5$ ,  $P < 0.05$ ). The compound eliciting male assessment  
270 behavior was stable in natural seawater after 6 days from sample collection.

271

## 272 **Discussion**

273

274 Females guarded by males mainly included non-ovigerous and ovigerous ones with  
275 well-developed eggs just prior to hatching, which suggests that the guarded females are  
276 mature and will soon spawn eggs within a few days (about 5 days in Hakodate Bay,  
277 Goshima et al. 1998). Guarding males can recognize such ripe females by sex  
278 pheromones emitted from the females (Imafuku 1986; Goshima et al. 1998; Okamura  
279 and Goshima 2010; Kawaminami and Goshima 2015). Sex pheromones play important  
280 roles in conducting reproductive behaviors in the hermit crabs; females release sex  
281 pheromones that induce male assessment behavior toward females as a preliminary step  
282 of precopulatory guarding.

283           The hermit crab, *Pagurus filholi*, is a good model organism for studies on the  
284 effect of sex pheromones on behavior, because male response is easily detected,  
285 recorded and interpreted (Goshima et al. 1998; Minouchi and Goshima 1998).  
286 Collection methods of “pheromone water” samples from living individuals were  
287 effective, and some characteristics of the compound acting as a sex pheromone were  
288 revealed in the present study. These results provide valuable information for purification  
289 of the substances with pheromonal activity from living individuals that can be used in  
290 further chemical analysis. We determined that the “sex pheromone” is smaller than 1  
291 kDa in molecular weight. This is a key finding in order to narrow the range of potential  
292 molecules with pheromonal activity in the hermit crab for future studies. Compounds  
293 eliciting male assessment behavior in *Pagurus filholi* were not volatile, as the result of  
294 freeze-drying “female conditioned” water samples shows. In addition, the sex  
295 pheromone was stable at high temperature (90°C), and also effective after 6 days from  
296 sample collection when kept at 12°C before the assay. These results suggest that the  
297 pheromonal molecules of the hermit crab may have high stability, which means it is  
298 convenient to treat them for further analysis along with purification procedures to  
299 identify potential compounds, because the compounds could be stored and handled for  
300 several days without any special facilities.

301           The hermit crabs live on intertidal rocky shores where the water movement is  
302 usually variable and complicated; rapid in rough sea conditions while calm during some

303 low tides because of waves, winds, tides, and topography (Raffaelli and Hawkins 1996).  
304 The pheromonal molecules in this species rapidly diluted below detectable levels as a  
305 result of turbulent mixing and molecular diffusion (Atema 1995), particularly in rough  
306 sea conditions, and therefore concentration gradients of the sex pheromone are expected  
307 to be highly temporal. On the other hand, very slow molecular diffusion is expected in  
308 calm sea conditions because the dispersal of chemical stimuli depends on fluid flow  
309 (Dusenbery 1992). Many aquatic benthic animals are known to generate directed water  
310 currents by specialized appendages to acquire and send chemical signals in  
311 environments with stagnant flow conditions (e.g., Breithaupt 2001; Kamio et al. 2008).  
312 When they detect chemical stimulus, they may move upstream. Therefore, creating  
313 water currents in still water, or in water with little movement (such as tide pools or calm  
314 sea conditions) is an effective way to search for mates. Males of *Pagurus filholi*  
315 frequently beat their third maxillipeds, producing forward water currents, and also move  
316 their antennules up and down. These antennules are possible organs for detecting  
317 chemical signals, (Imafuku 1986), probably for acquiring chemical stimuli from  
318 possible mates.

319           As the water movement is usually complicated and non-directional in intertidal  
320 rocky shores of the habitat of the hermit crabs, it would be difficult for males to locate  
321 reproductive females by using only olfactory cue over “long” distances. Indeed,  
322 guarding males often climb up leafy algae to keep female sex pheromons away from

323 rival males beneath (Kawaminami and Goshima 2015), and in the case of the European  
324 shore crab *Carcinus meanas* the pair formation that precedes mating occurs earlier and  
325 the male simply carries the female away from hot spots to ensure single paternity  
326 (Meeren 1994). These male behaviors may indicate that keeping a female odor source a  
327 certain distance away from rival males is effective in preventing them from detecting  
328 receptive females emitting pheromones. Therefore males of the hermit crab may use  
329 multiple cues (e.g. visual or olfactory) in a complementary fashion when searching for  
330 receptive females in the field. It is also possible that males alternate the use of such cues  
331 for locating and accessing females, depending on the distance from the emitting source  
332 and habitat conditions. In our previous studies, males of *Pagurus filholi* were shown to  
333 use both visual and olfactory stimuli to recognize potential mating opportunities  
334 (Okamura and Goshima 2010; Kawaminami and Goshima 2015). A similar case has  
335 been also observed in the blue crab *Callinectes sapidus* (Kamio et al. 2008; Kamio  
336 2009; Baldwin and Johnsen 2009). Males of the blue crab perform courtship in  
337 stationary paddling bouts to deliver his pheromone to inform females of his location  
338 only when females are inaccessible due to location uncertainty from high refuge density  
339 and low visibility. Thus, male blue crabs use both visual and olfactory cues effectively  
340 to adapt their reproductive behavior to the habitat conditions (Kamio et al. 2008).

341           Much effort has been undertaken in the search for sex pheromones in decapod  
342 crustaceans, but only a few compounds have been identified and reported as sex

343 pheromones or potential sex pheromones (Gleeson et al. 1984; Hardege et al. 2002,  
344 2011; Kamio et al. 2000, 2002; Kamio 2009). If candidate substances appear, their  
345 pheromonal activity could be confirmed by using the behavioral bioassay presented here.  
346 However, male behavioral responses in bioassays were not constant but varied  
347 depending on individuals, male condition, and timing of experiments during a  
348 reproductive season (S. Okamura, personal observation). Such response variability was  
349 also reported for the green crab *Carcinus maenas* because of impacts of maturity, social  
350 hierarchy and etc. (Fletcher and Hardege 2009). Although using only males that  
351 performed assessment behavior on the “female-conditioned” water samples solved this  
352 problem (positive control) in this study, we need to control these factors more  
353 effectively.

354         If identification of sex pheromones in the hermit crab is achieved, it may allow  
355 us further studies dealing with tests for different hypotheses on manipulative female  
356 mate choice. For example, which behavior would female hermit crabs adopt: an active  
357 female mate choice in which females release pheromones depending on availability or  
358 quality of potential mates or a passive female mate choice in which females do not  
359 control pheromone release depending on mate availability or quality, but release sex  
360 pheromones while guarded, attracting many rival males and inducing male-male combat,  
361 and high quality males end up mating at high frequency (Yamanoi et al. 2006; Okamura  
362 and Goshima, 2010). In addition, there are still some questions to be solved; the

363 physiological pathway to pheromone synthesis and link in time between pheromone  
364 emission and female molt cycle. More studies will be needed to answer these questions.

365

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367

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373

## 374 **Compliance with ethical standards**

375

376 **Conflict of interest** The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

377

378 **Ethical approval** All applicable international, national, and/or institutional  
379 guidelines for the care and use of animals were followed. This article does not contain  
380 any studies with human participants performed by any of the authors.

381

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485

Figure legends

486

487

488 Fig. 1: Percentages of guarded females with different reproductive conditions in the  
489 field (repeated measure ANOVA,  $F_{1,02, 7,15} = 36.62$ ,  $P < 0.001$ ). *NO* non-ovigerous  
490 females, *OV-1* females with eggs newly-deposited and more than 70% of original yolk  
491 volume; *OV-2* females with eggs less than 70% of original yolk volume and some  
492 embryos having incomplete pigmented eyes visible; *OV-3* females with eggs of  
493 pigmented embryo having well-developed oval eyes visible. *Vertical bars* indicate SD

494

495 Fig. 2: Duration of male assessment behavior toward seawater and “female-conditioned”  
496 water. A: the order of treatment was seawater first and then “female-conditioned” water  
497 (Wilcoxon signed-rank test,  $n = 17$  each,  $T = 7.5$ ,  $P < 0.01$ ), and B: “female-conditioned”  
498 water first and then seawater (Wilcoxon signed-rank test,  $n = 20$  each,  $T = 3$ ,  $P < 0.01$ ).

499

500 Fig. 3: Duration of male assessment behavior. A: Toward seawater and filtrate ( $< 1\text{kDa}$ )  
501 (Wilcoxon signed-rank test,  $n = 30$ ,  $T = 6.5$ ,  $P < 0.01$ ), and B: toward seawater and  
502 unfiltered fraction of ultrafiltration ( $> 1\text{kDa}$ ) (Wilcoxon signed-rank test,  $n = 30$  each,  $T$   
503  $= 7$ ,  $P > 0.05$ )

504

505 Fig. 4: The results of the bioassay showing duration of male assessment behavior. A:

506 Toward seawater and the sample of the fraction adsorbed on ODS resins and eluted with  
507 30% MeOH (Wilcoxon signed-rank test,  $n = 38$  each,  $T = 54.5$ ,  $P < 0.05$ ), and B: toward  
508 seawater and the sample of the fraction adsorbed on ODS resins and eluted with 50%  
509 MeOH (Wilcoxon signed-rank test,  $n = 28$  each,  $T = 18$ ,  $P < 0.01$ )

510

511 Fig. 5: The results of the bioassay showing duration of male assessment behavior  
512 toward seawater and freeze-dried pheromone water (Wilcoxon signed-rank test,  $n = 14$   
513 each,  $T = 3$ ,  $P < 0.05$ )

514

515 Fig. 6 The results of the bioassay showing duration of male assessment behavior  
516 toward seawater and the pheromone water heated at  $90^{\circ}\text{C}$  for 15 min (Wilcoxon  
517 signed-rank test,  $n = 14$  each,  $T = 6$ ,  $P < 0.01$ )

518

519 Fig. 7 The results of the bioassay showing duration of male assessment behavior  
520 toward seawater and the pheromone water kept for 6 days at  $12^{\circ}\text{C}$  (Wilcoxon  
521 signed-rank test,  $n = 22$  each,  $T = 5.5$ ,  $P < 0.05$ )

522

523

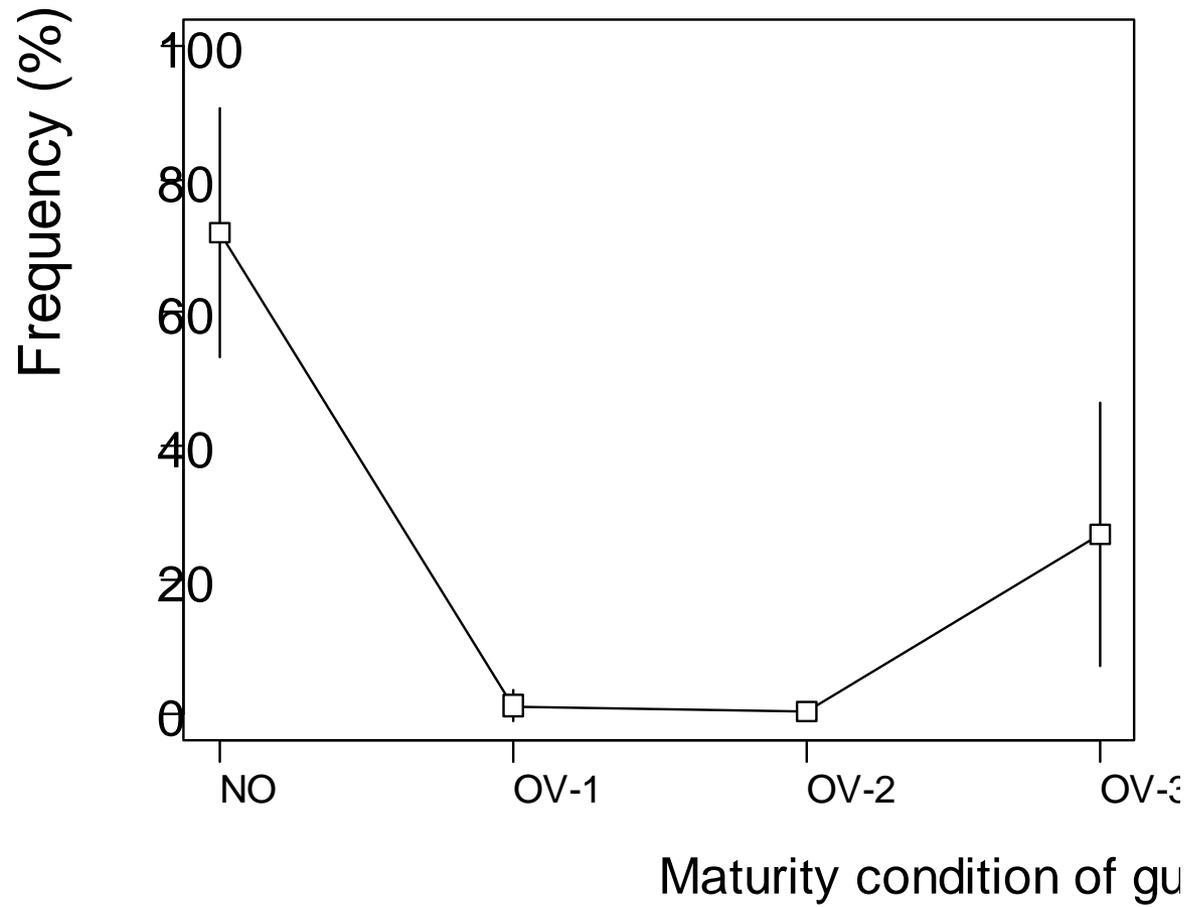
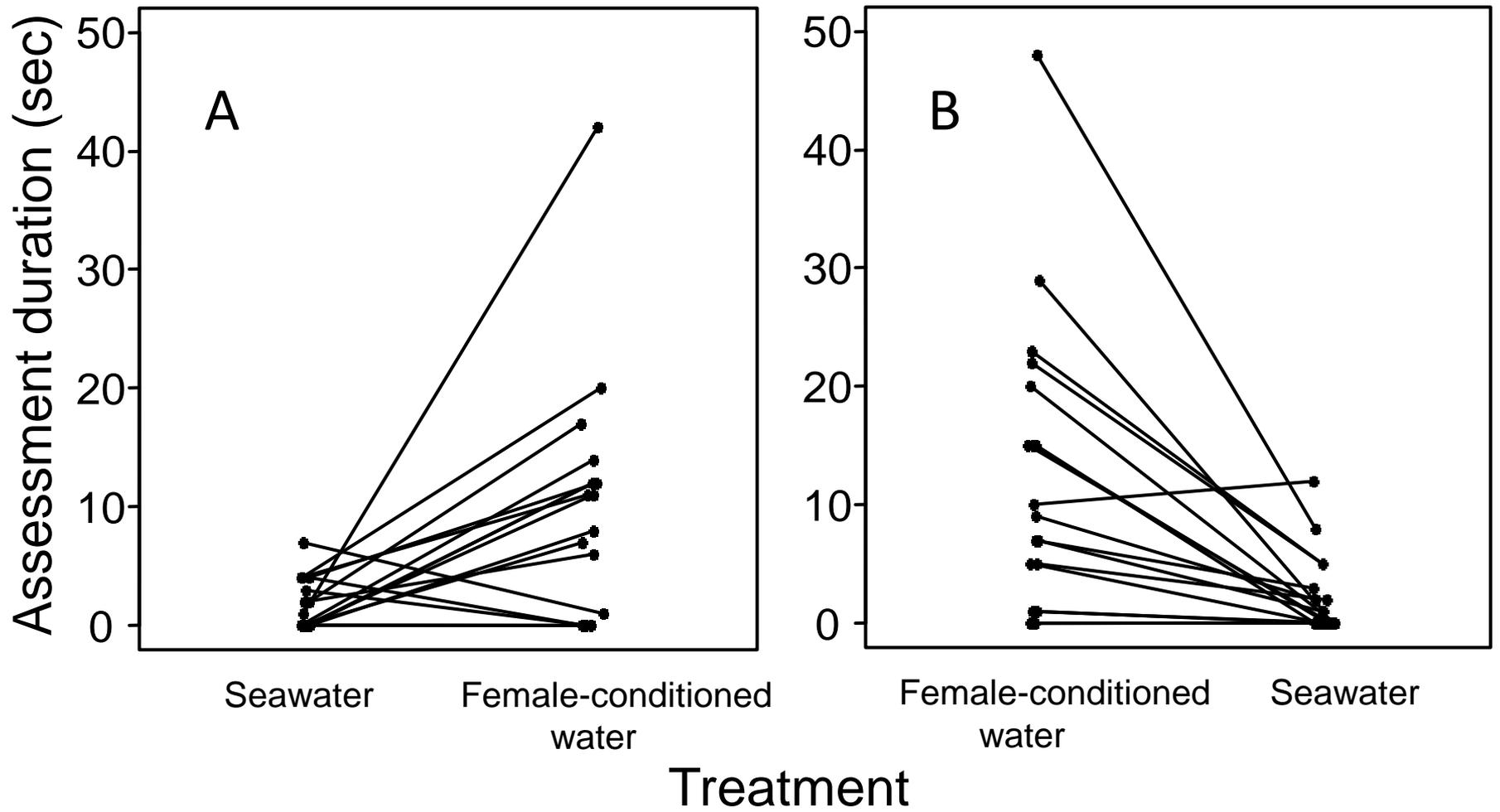


Fig. 1





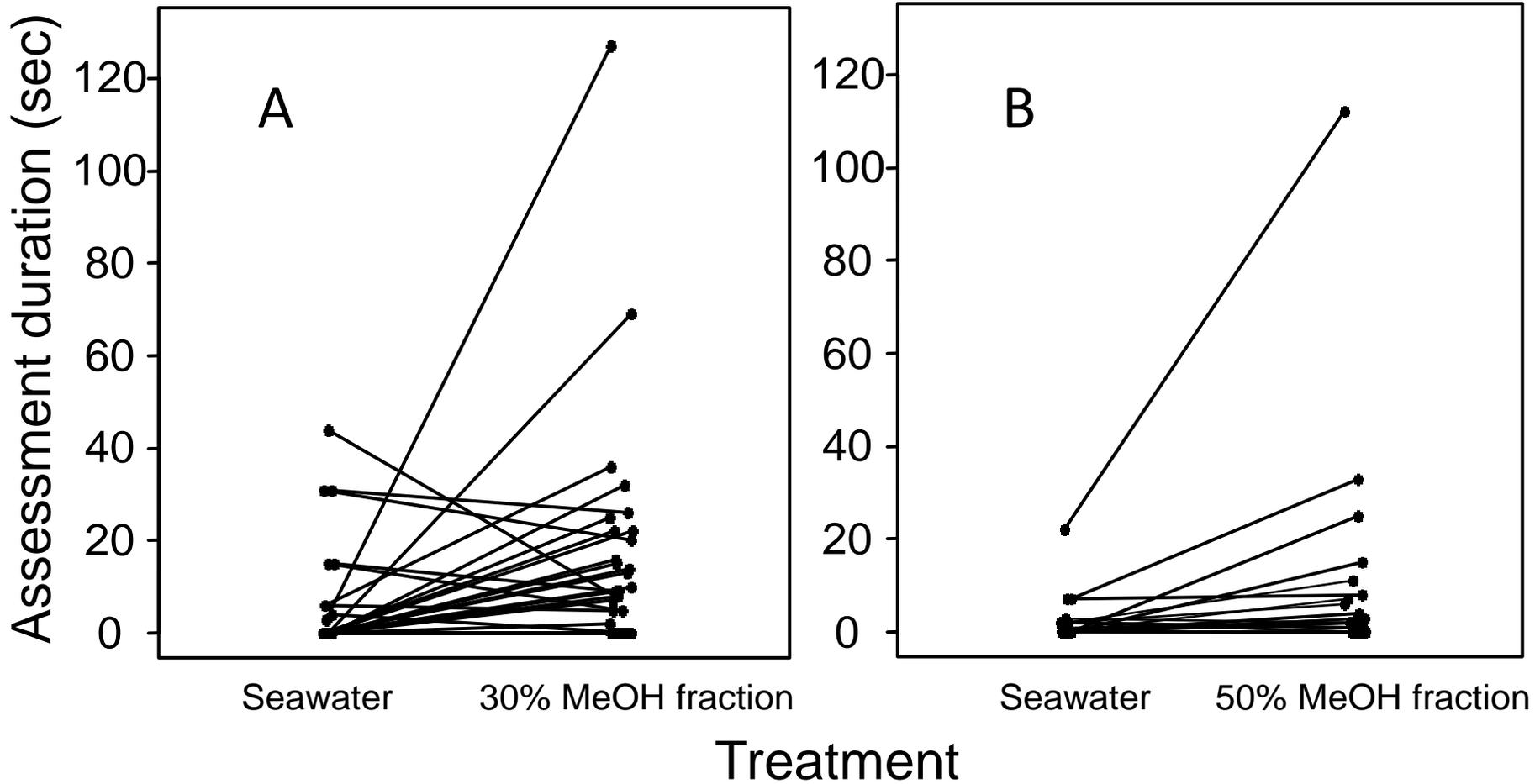


Fig. 4

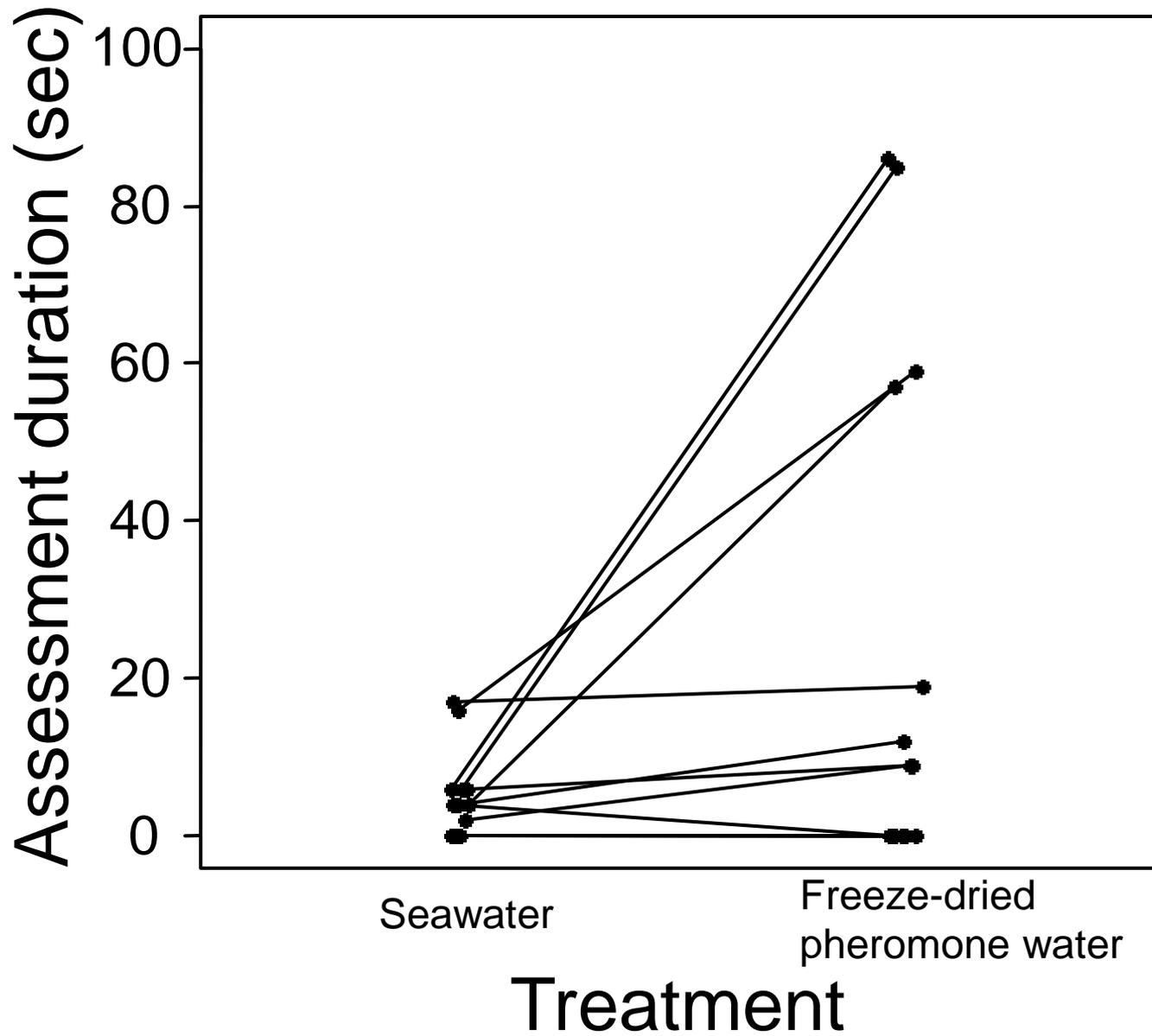


Fig. 5

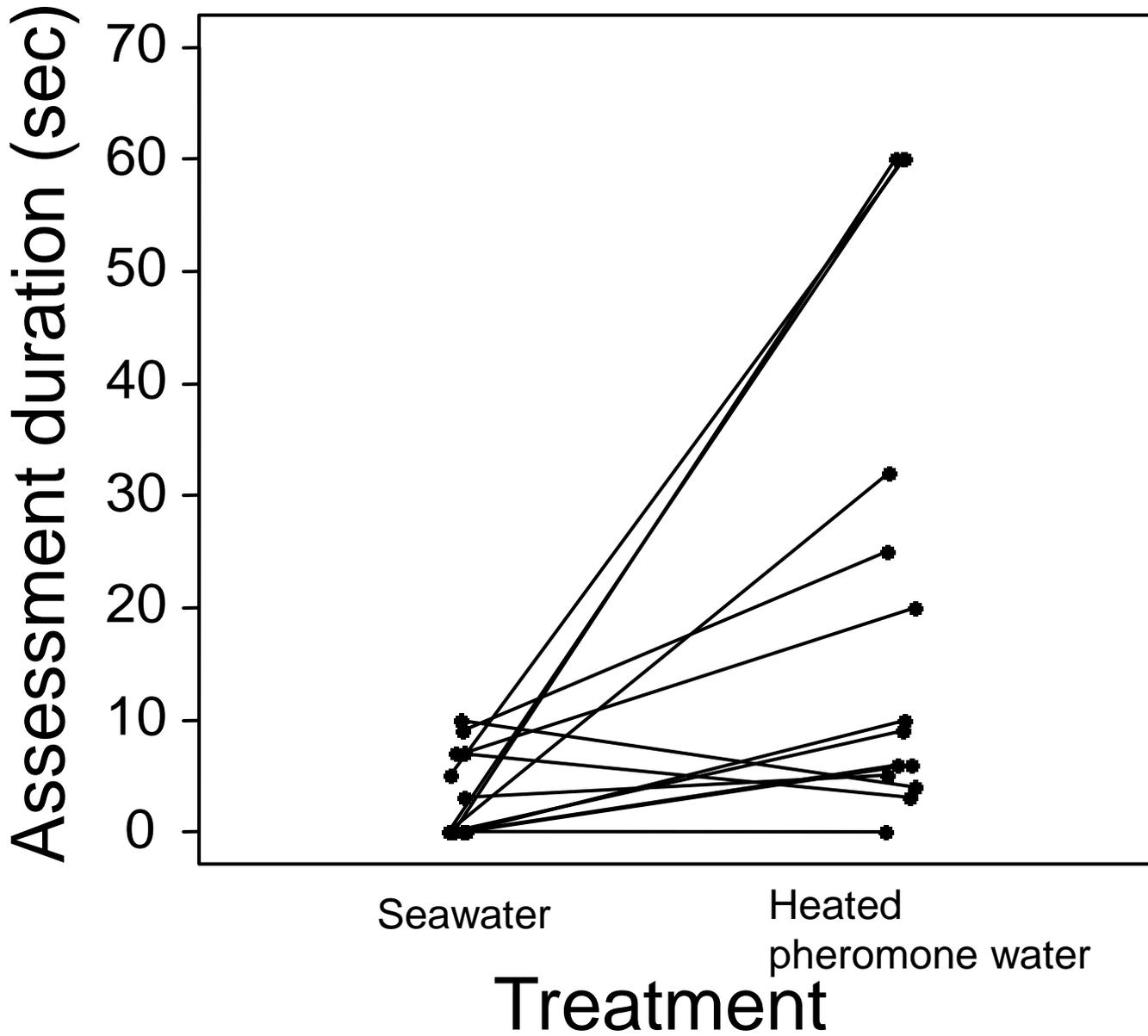


Fig. 6

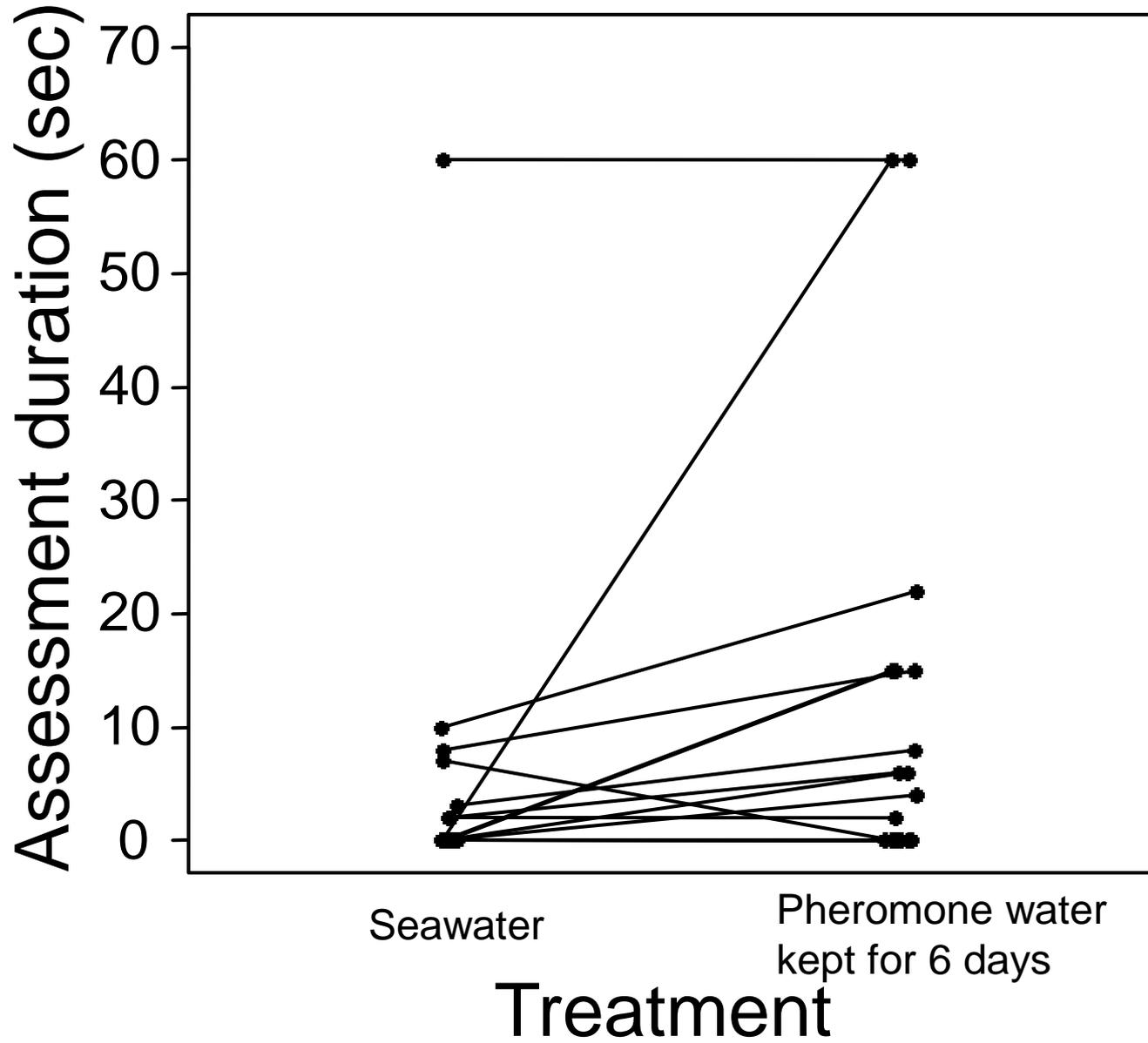


Fig. 7