Love and War What We Can Learn From Chimpanzees

Dr. Aaron Sandel & Isabelle Clark







What you will learn tonight

Chimps 101

Why study chimpanzees?

How to study chimpanzees

Chimps 201

Behavior

Social life

Chimps 301

The split at Ngogo

Post-Grad

What can chimpanzees teach us about war and peace?

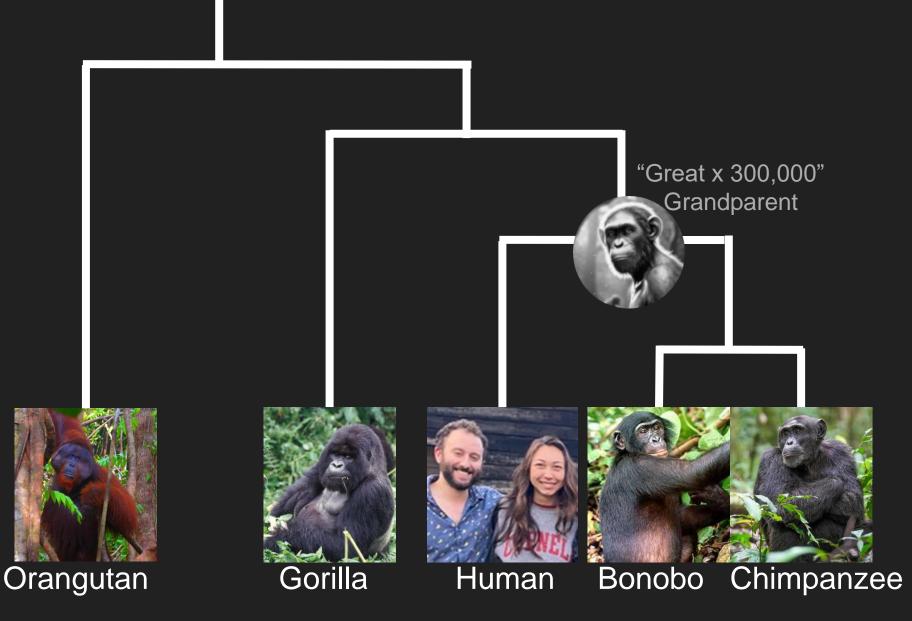
Science of love and war?

Chimps 101

Why study chimpanzees?

How to study chimpanzees

The Great Ape Family Tree

















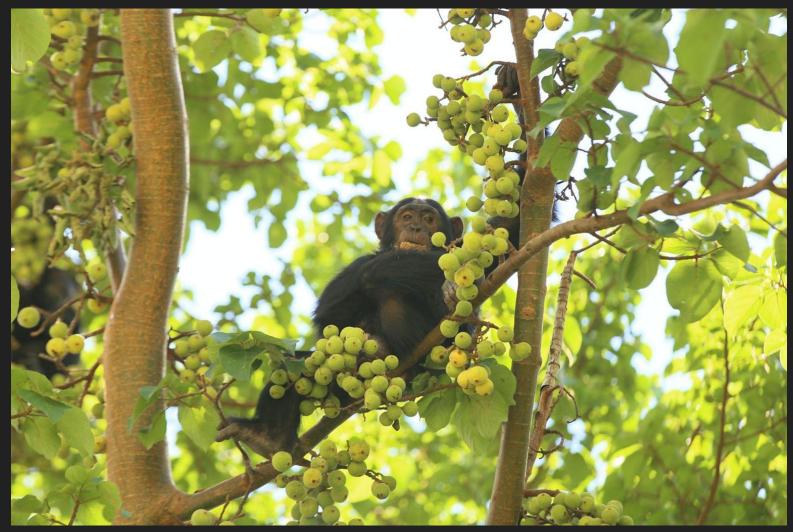




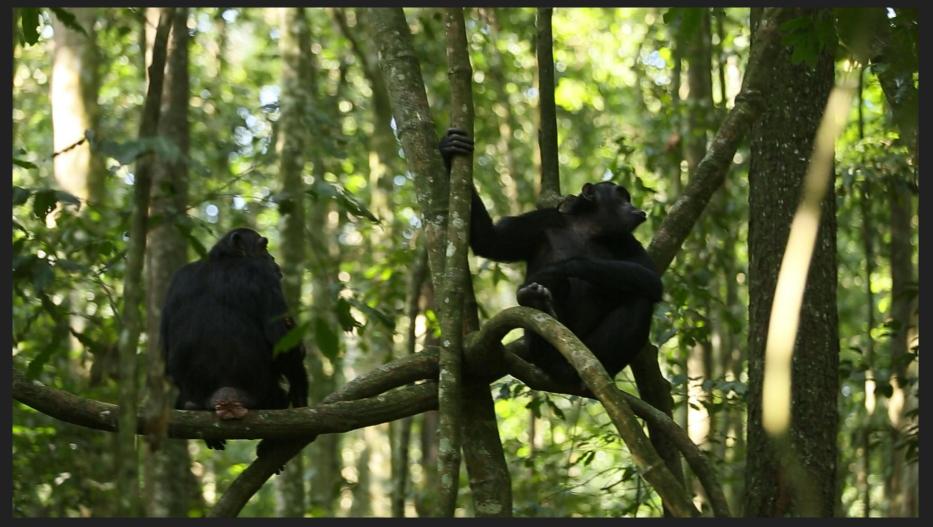
How to study chimpanzees

Find
Follow
Identify
Record

Ngogo territory



Chimpanzees gather at a fig tree for breakfast



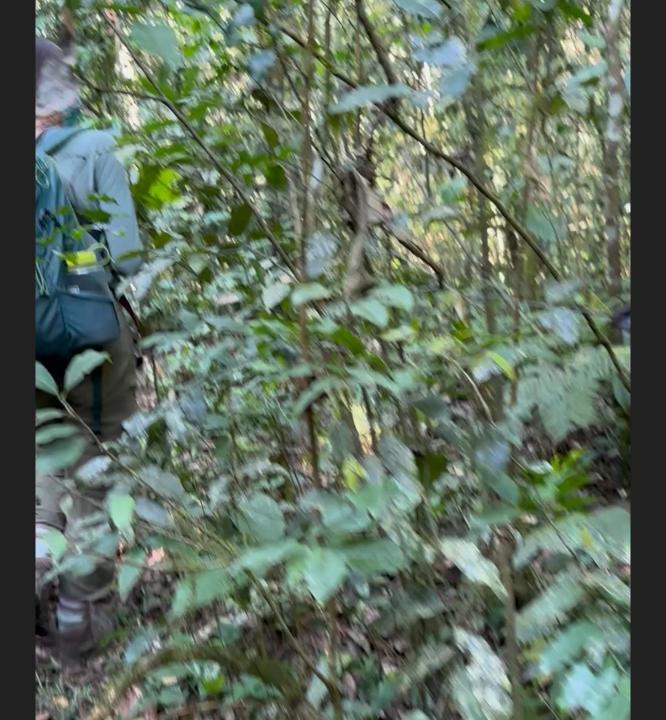
Chimpanzees make loud "pant hoot" calls to communicate with other chimpanzees

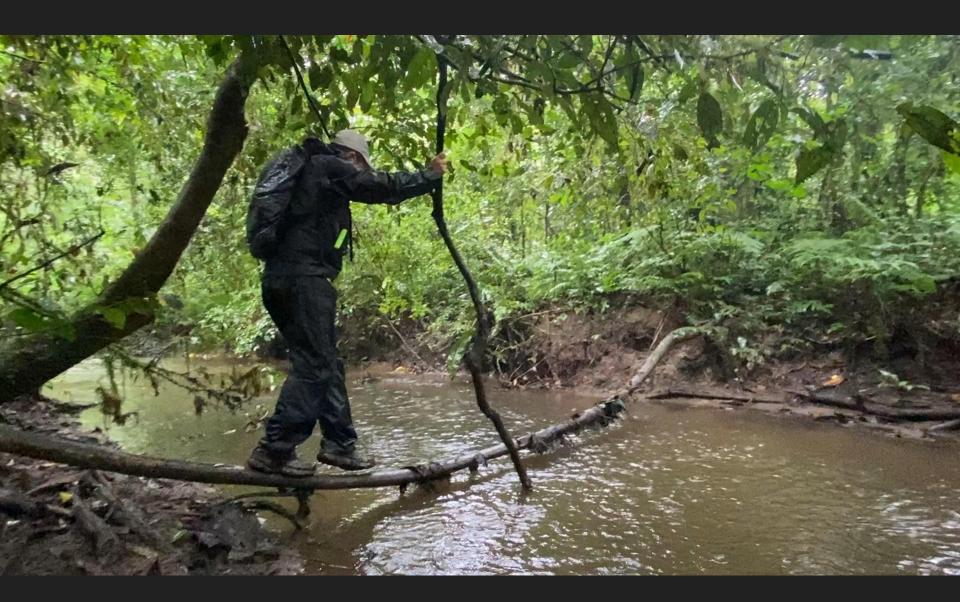


Knuckle prints

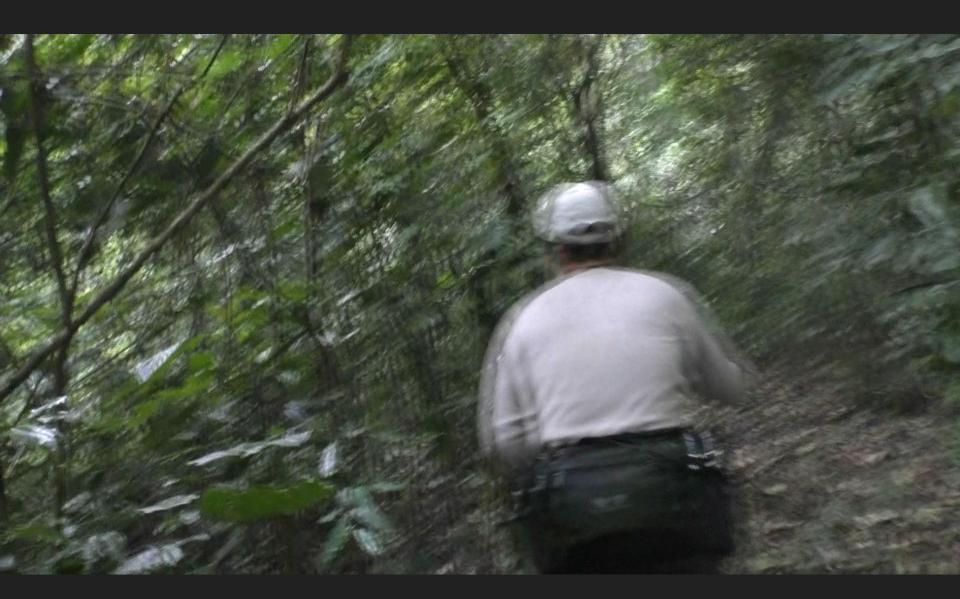


Dung





Step 2: Follow the chimps



Step 2: Follow the chimps

Step 3: Identify the chimps

Miles

Aaron

Jackson

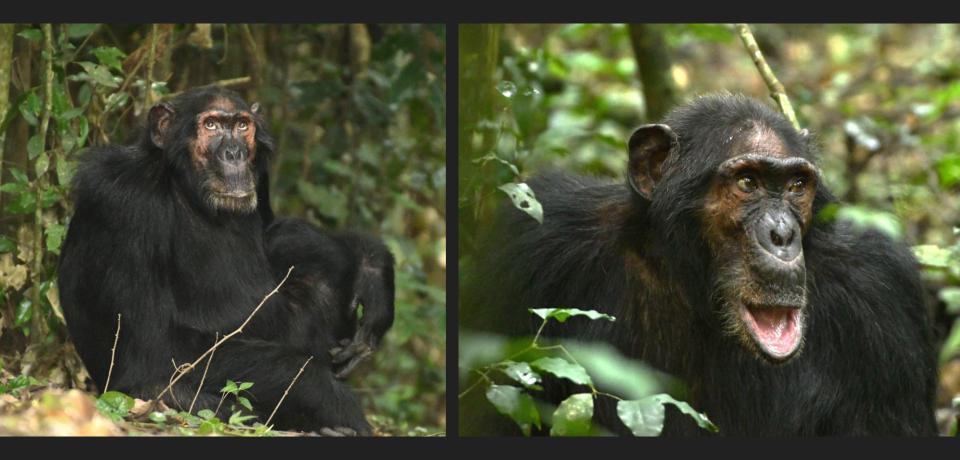
Chimp Quiz

Jackson





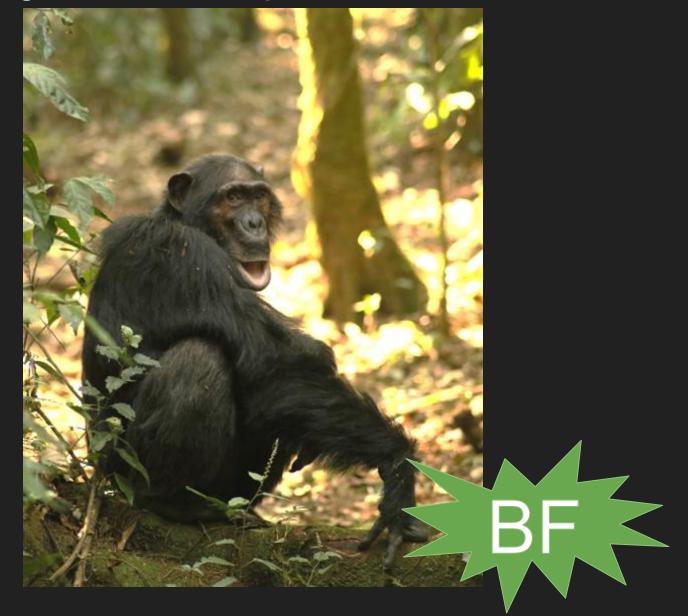




Basie



Do you recognize this chimpanzee?



Chimps 101

Why study chimpanzees?

How to study chimpanzees

Chimps 201

Behavior

Social life



Hutcherson

1. Association

Hutcherson

1. Association

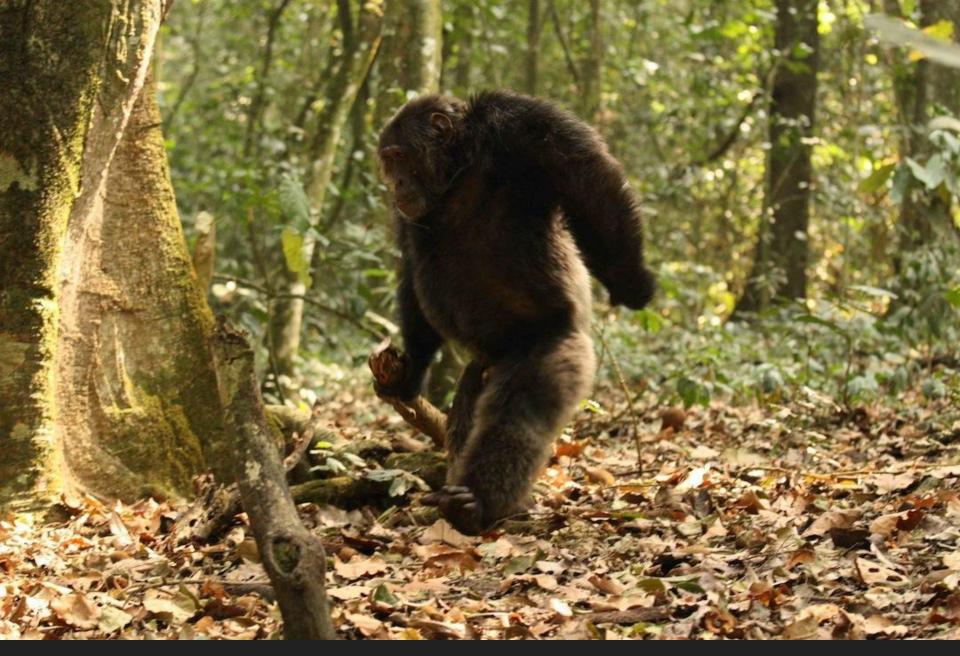
Hutcherson

2. Proximity

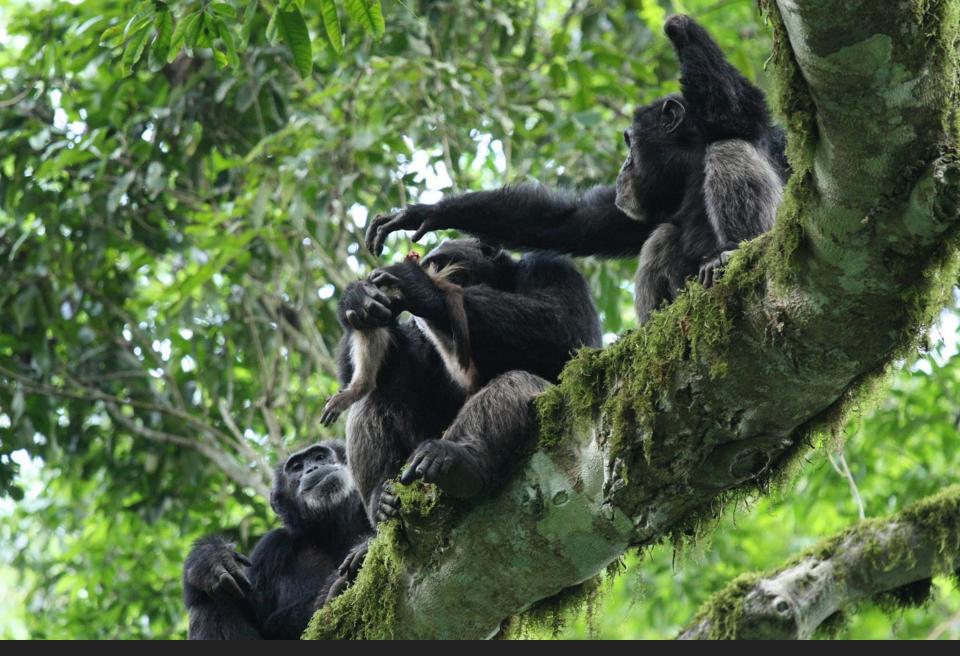
3. Social interactions

Chimpanzee life





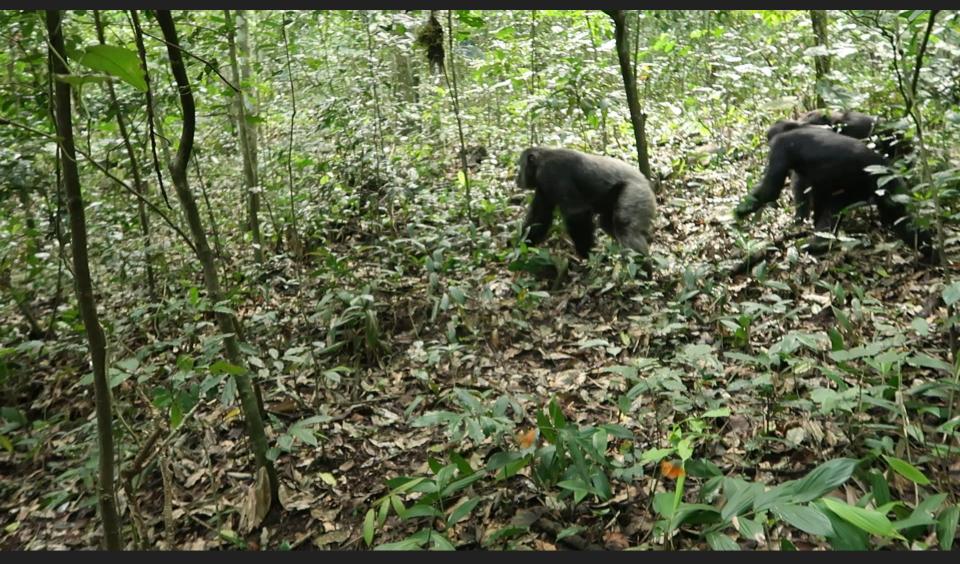
Male chimpanzees compete in the dominance hierarchy



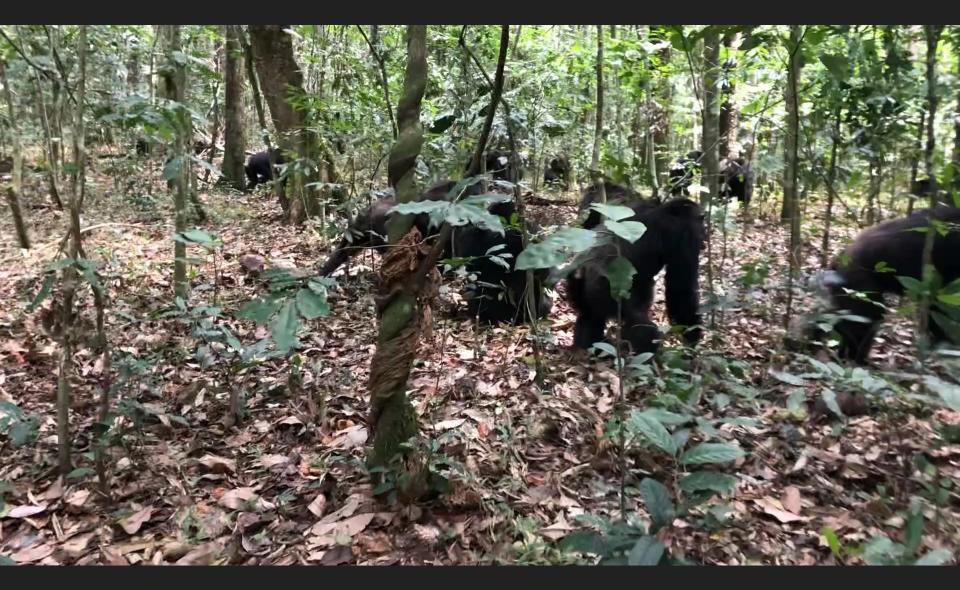
Male chimpanzees cooperate to hunt and share meat



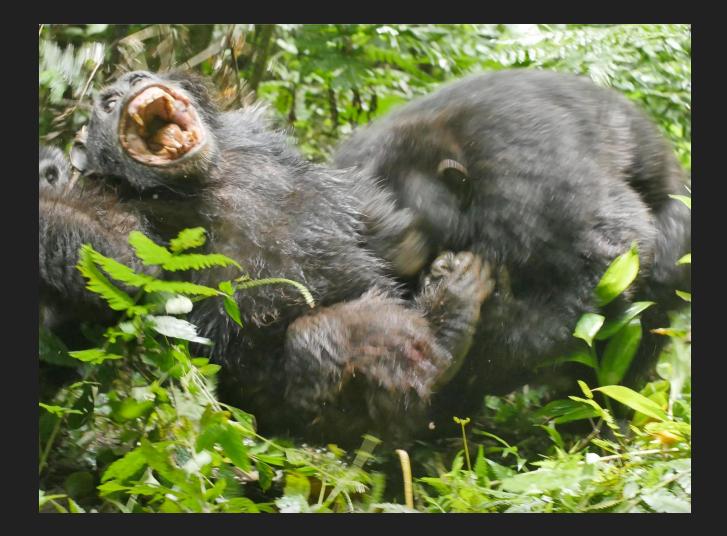
Adult males form some of the strongest relationships



Chimpanzees cooperate on territorial "patrols"



"Battle lines" form in an encounter between chimp groups



Chimpanzees can kill outsider male chimpanzees

Ngogo territory 1999-2008



Ngogo territory 2009



How chimps maintain community

• Resilient during food scarcity

- Temporarily spend time alone/in small groups
- Return to mom's neighborhood
- Forgo favorite foods

• Solidarity is important

- Friends and allies
- Territorial defense

• Stakes are high

Groups split only every 200-2,000 years

The Split

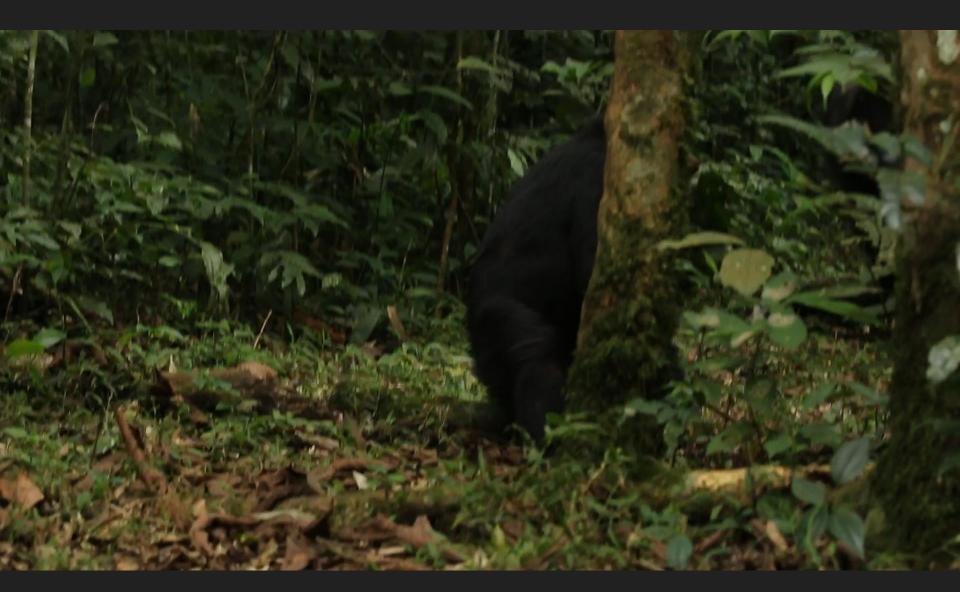


Central neighborhood

0

Eastern neighborhood





Jackson rises in the ranks, seeking alpha position

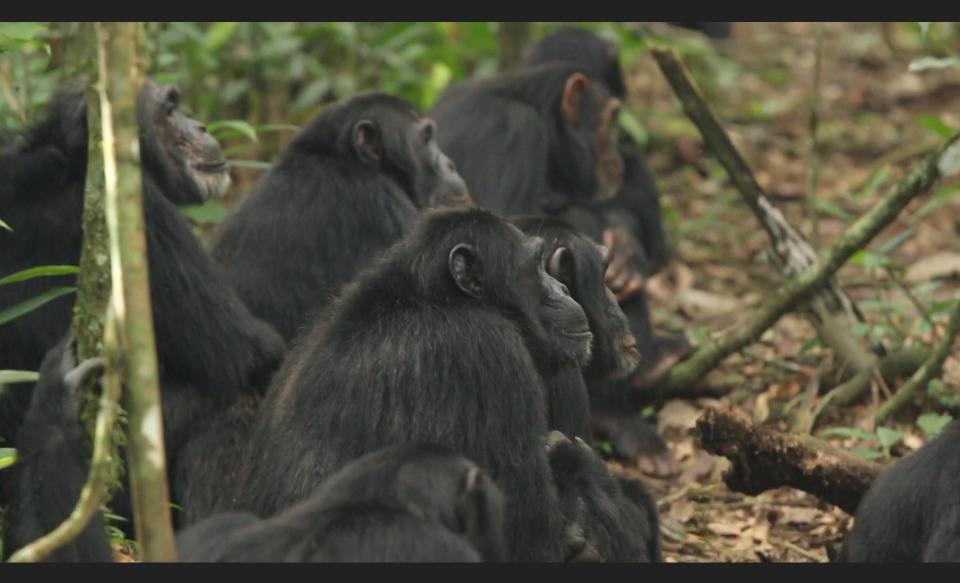




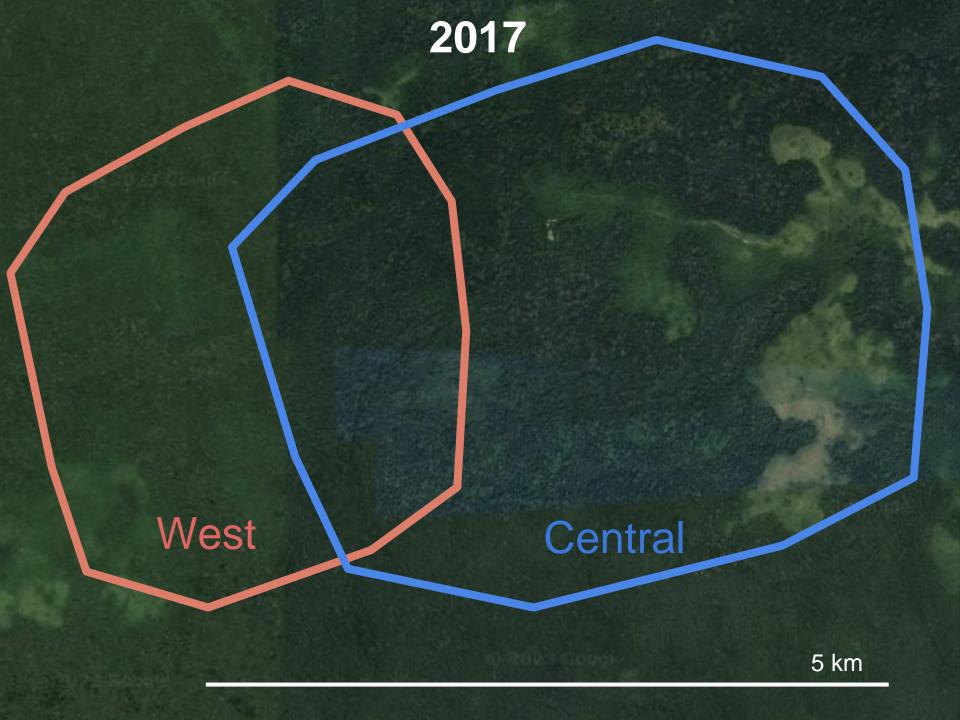


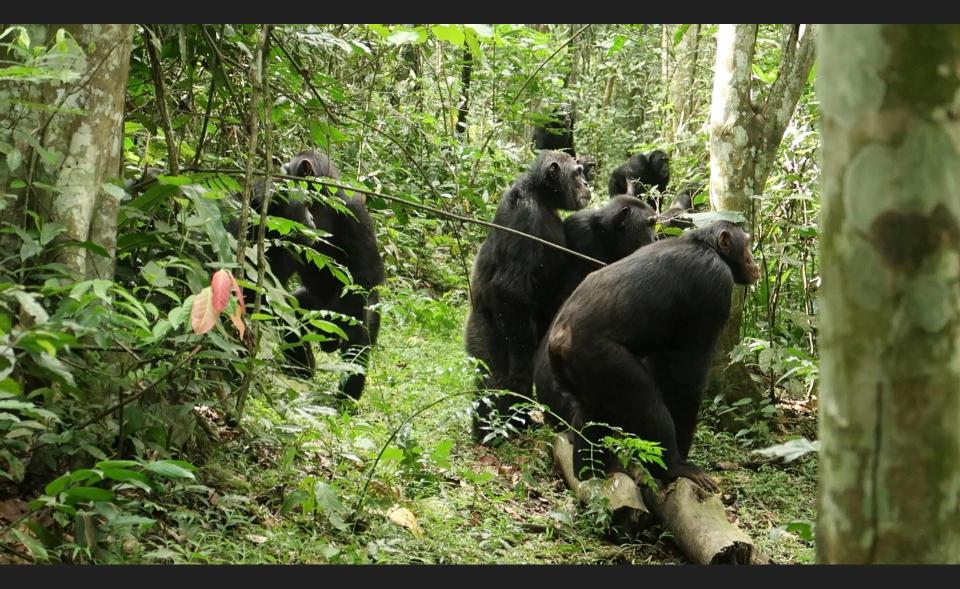
Jackson

Miles

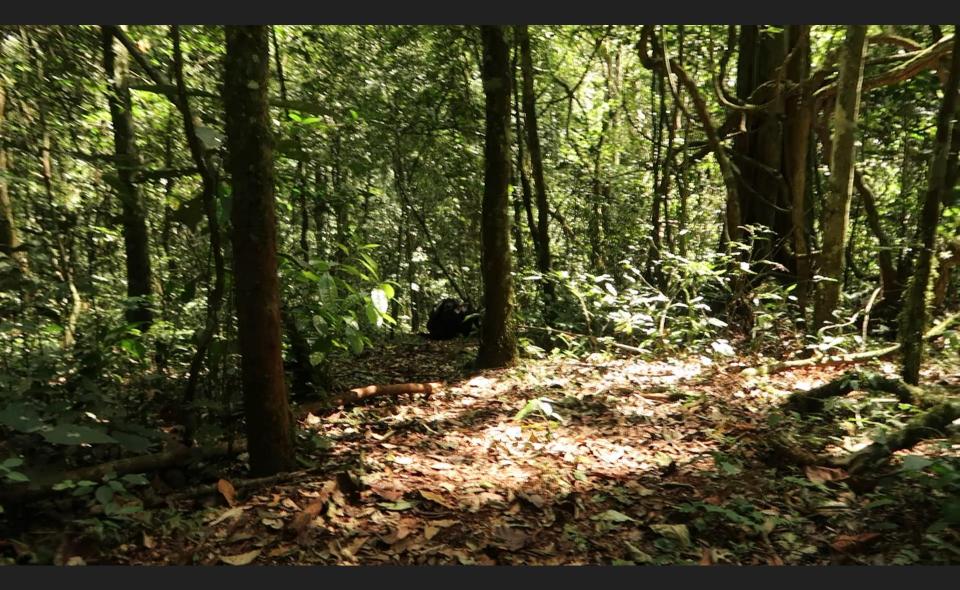


Neighborhoods reunite, cooperate in territorial patrol





Western and Central chimps exhibit "inter-group" behavior



An encounter between Western and Central chimps in 2017.







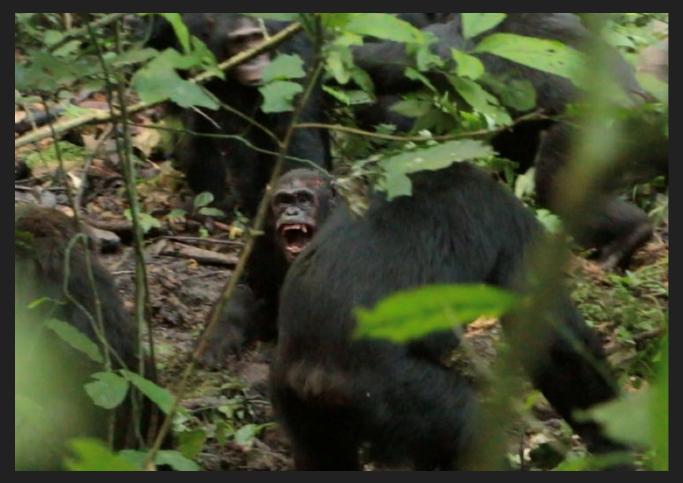




West territory

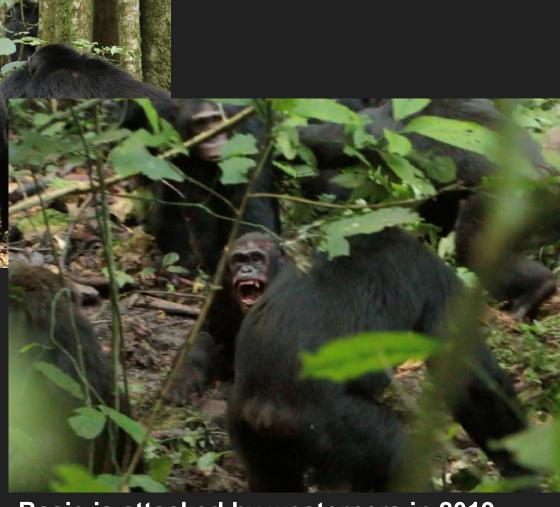
Central territory





Basie is attacked by westerners in 2019

Basie embraces westerners in 2015



Basie is attacked by westerners in 2019



Basie, mortally wounded, walks out of valley and meets BF



BF paces near Basie, but Basie cannot move.

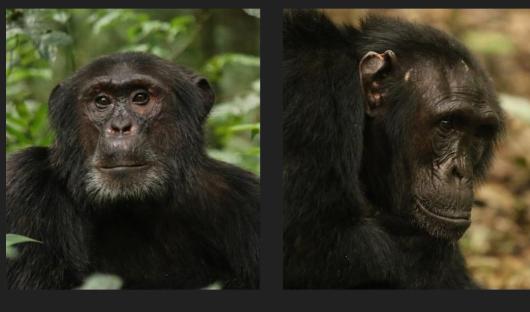




West territory

Central territory

5 km



Since 2020

5 more adult male chimps killed





13 have died

4 suspected to have been killed by Western chimps

The conflict at Ngogo

- 1. Cohesion to polarization
- 2. Permanent fission ("the split")
- 3. Territorial disputes
- 4. Lethal attacks

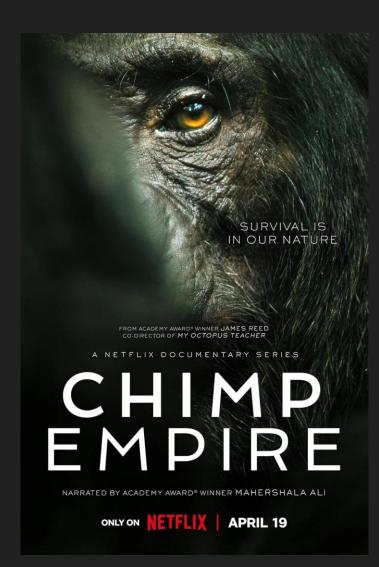
Chimps 301

The split at Ngogo

Post-Grad

What can chimpanzees teach us about war and peace?

Science of love and war



The origins of human war

• <u>The cultural marker hypothesis</u>

 Religion, ethnicity, language, as basis for group identity and conflict

- <u>The relational dynamics hypothesis</u>
 - Interpersonal relationships are the basis of both community and conflict

Kalunga Davis

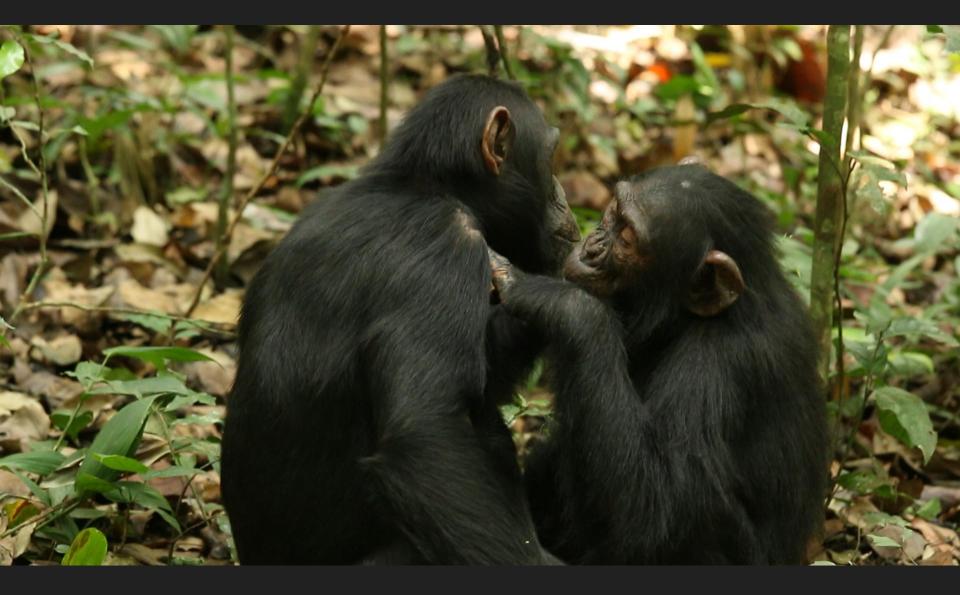


Sigourney protects her son against Westerners' attack

What are these relationships?



Science of ape emotions?



Thank you

Thank you

