



Cover: The tarsal claws of an adult Madagascan hissing cockroach, *Gromphadorhina portentosa*, dwarf those of a juvenile. Claws are excellent tools for climbing, but animals face a trade-off in optimal claw design between sharpness and breakage avoidance. Examining four insect species, Patrick and colleagues (jeb188391) found differing relationships between claw sharpness and body size. Attachment performance measurements in two of these species, hissing cockroaches and leafcutter ants, revealed that although performance declined with increasing body size for both, this effect was magnified in the cockroaches, where claws became blunter quicker with increasing body size. Image credits: David Labonte and Jonathan Patrick.

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