



## 普通昆虫学(一)General Entomology

#### 一昆虫形态学 Insect Morphology

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# Lecture 5 Wings of Insects 第五讲 昆虫的翅

Insects are the earliest group that evolved the flight ability in animals, which is the most important key innovation in the evolution.

It opened up a whole new realm for feeding, escape, and dispersal.





**Pterygota insects (green rectangle).** Ephemeroptera (mayflies, in orange) are within Paleoptera. Number of gene gains (in green) and core gene gains (in blue)



Phylogenomic tree of a resolved Polyneoptera (red), reflecting a **terrestrial origin of insect flight.** 

#### **1. Development and General Structure** 翅的发生与构造

#### Hypotheses about the origin of the wings:

- I. Pleuron hypothesis 侧板翅源说 (Kukalova-Peck, 1983)
- II. Paranotal lobe hypothesis 侧背叶翅源说 (Packard, 1898) III. Tracheal gill hypothesis 气管腮翅源说 (Gegenbaur, 1870)





#### Paranotal theory 侧背叶翅源说

- The wing was developed from paranotal lobes (侧背叶)
  - paranota are lobes postulated to have been derived from thoracic terga.
     随进化发展,背、腹面表皮互相贴紧、融合,形成膜质翅面
  - 部分形成空腔(翅脉),以容纳神经和气管



#### Structure of wings and its variation

- Structure 构造
  - epicuticle 上表皮, cuticle 表皮, basement
     membrane 底膜, veins 空腔(翅脉)
  - Slipcover of wings
    - Setae / hairs
    - microtrichia
    - scales, the flattened setae found on

butterflies and moths



- Usually triangle in shape, three margins and three angles and three folds, four regions
  - Costal margin 前缘— Outer margin 外缘— Inner margin 后(内)缘
  - Humeral angle 肩角— Apical angle 顶角— Anal angle 臀角
  - Basal fold 基褶, Vannal fold 臀褶, Jugal fold 轭褶



Vein 翅脉: 翅的两层薄壁间纵横分布的条纹,由气管部位加厚形成。

- Some groups also with
  - Alula 翅瓣 Calypter 腋瓣
  - Pterostigma 翅痣 an opaque or pigmented spot anteriorly near the apex of the wing



## 2. Variations and modifications of wings

#### (1) Primitively and secondarily wingless

- In Apterygota, the wings are never present, primitively wingless, such as silverfish and springtails.
- In Pterygota, some insects lost their wings, but their ancestors ever possess wings, secondary wingless, such as bedbugs, lice, and fleas.



#### I. Apterogota 无翅亚纲: without wing 原生无翅







#### II. Pterogota有翅亚纲 – with or without wing

- The complete absence of wings is secondarily as in all lice and which is a secondary condition and associated with the habits
  - soil-dwelling
  - endoparasitism
    - Lice, Flea





#### (2) Size and shape

- Macropterous 长翅型:
- Brachypterous 短翅型:
- Apterous 无翅型:
  - Parasites, such as fleas, lice, bedbugs, are often wingless;
  - Ecological adaptation: polymorphism, such as aphids, planthoppers.



Solitary phase(left)v/s Gregaria phase(right)



#### 4-Vinylanisole (4VA, 4-乙烯基苯甲醚) is an aggregation pheromone in locusts



#### Guo et al. 2020 Nature





#### **Texture** 质地 – degree of sclerotization

- **Typically membranous and transparent**
- However, from this basic pattern are derived many other conditions





 In Diptera, Strepsiptera the hind and fore wings are reduced and modified as stabilizers, haltere平衡棒, and do not function as wings.



 In beetles, the fore wings are hardened and serve as protective covering for membranous hind wings, called elytra鞘翅 (sl. elytron).







• In bugs, the basal part of fore wings is thickened and the apical part is membranous, called hemelytra半鞘翅.



- In grasshopper, the fore wings are thickened and leathery, called tegmen 覆翅(pl. tegmina).
- In some insects, wings are used to make sounds, e.g. in crickets, katydids, grasshoppers.



• In wasps, dragonflies, and mayflies etc., wings are membranous and clear, called membranous wing膜翅



• In thrips, slender front and hind wings with long fringes of hair along the margin, called fringed wing 缨翅.



 In Lepidoptera (moths and butterflies), front and hind wings are covered with flattened setae or scales, called lepidotic wing鳞翅





#### 翼蛾总科Alucitoidea



 In Trichoptera (caddisflies), the long, silky hairs that cover most of the body and wings (piliferous wing).

- **3. Functions of wings** 
  - Flight 飞行
    - The two-winged condition is aerodynamically more efficient than the four-winged condition
  - **Protection**保护
  - Sound making 发声
  - Air conditioning 空调









#### biological strategy Nanopillars vs. Bacteria

Bacteria

As more and more of the bacterial membrane wall adheres to the nanopillar ...

On the surface of the clanger cicada wings, there are tiny cone-like structures known as nanopillars. These structures are spaced out evenly and protrude upward from the wings' surface. the portion between nanopillars is stretched, eventually reaching a breaking point which kills the bacteria.



Male hindwing scent scales of *Heliconius* f—fringes, p—pedicel, cs—cuticular socket, and mb main body or blade Ochlodes sylvanus sex brand highlighted

#### Moths with longer hindwings escape an increasing proportion of bat attacks



## **Summary**





#### The diversity of wing patterns across insect orders



## Assignment

• To discuss the evolutionary and function of insect wings.

## **Further reading**

- Zhang CX, et al. (2019) Molecular mechanisms of wing polymorphism in insects. Annual Review of Entomology. 64: 297-314.
- Ross A, (2017) Insect Evolution: The origin of wings. *Current Biology*. 27(3): 113-115.
- Ohde T, *et al.* (2013) Insect morphological diversification through the modification of wing serial homologs. *Science*, 340:495-498.
- Misof B, et al. (2014) Phylogenomics resolves the timing and pattern of insect evolution. *Science*, 346: 763-767

# Lecture 5 Veins and Venation of Insects 第五讲 昆虫的翅脉

#### 1. Veins 翅脉



Solid arrows indicate points of tracheal division, dashed arrows indicate fusions of veins with multiple tracheae present; course of tracheae indicated by green lines

## 2. Type of veins 翅脉类型

- convex vein 凸脉 +
- concave vein 凹脉 -
- longitudinal vein 纵脉:
   capital letters
- cross vein 横脉: lowercase letters





consistent within groups (especially in families and orders)

often differ between groups

provide major features used in insect classification and

identification.

the basic pattern is the same

器 hypothetical primitive pattern of wing venation 假想原始脉序





Jugal veins (1J, 2J) 轭脉

Radius (R) – third longitudinal vein, one to five branches reach the wing margin
 Media (M) – fourth longitudinal vein, one to four branches reach the wing margin
 Cubitus (Cu) – fifth longitudinal vein, one to three branches reach the wing margin
 Anal veins (A1, A2, A3) – unbranched veins behind the cubitus

	横脉名称	简写	连接的纵脉
6	humeral crossvein 肩横脉	h	C 和 Sc
	radial crossvein 径横脉	r	$R_1$ 和 $R_2$
杀	sectorial crossvein 分横脉	S	R <sub>3</sub> 和R <sub>4</sub> 或 R <sub>2+3</sub> 和R <sub>4+5</sub>
横	radiomedial crossvein 径中横脉	r-m	R <sub>4+5</sub> 和M <sub>1+2</sub>
脉	medial crossvein 中横脉	m	$M_2$ 和 $M_3$
	mediocubital crossvein 中肘横脉	m-cu	M <sub>3+4</sub> 和Cu <sub>1</sub>

h cross-veins – run between the costa and subcosta
r cross-veins – run between the first and second branches of the radius
s cross-veins – run between adjacent branches of the radius
r-m cross-veins – run between the radius and media
m cross-veins – run between adjacent branches of the media
m-cu cross-veins – run between the media and cubitus



#### Coleoptera



**Costa (C), Subcosta posterior (ScP)** – at the leading wing marginal, fused for most of the length.

**Radius anterior (RA)** – divided into two branches beyond the middle of the wing.

Radius posterior (RP) – basal connection is lost.

Media posterior (MP) - branches, long and strong vein.

Cubitus anterior (CuA)

Anal veins (AA, AP) – veins behind the cubitus, separated by anal fold.

#### **Odonata**



**Costa (C)** – at the leading edge of the wing, strong and marginal, extends to the apex of the wing. **Subcosta (Sc)** – second longitudinal vein, it is unbranched, joins C at nodus.

**Radius and Media (R+M)** – third and fourth longitudinal vein, the strongest vein on the wing, with branches, R1-R4, reach the wing margin, the media anterior (MA) are also reach the wing margin. IR2 and IR3 are intercalary veins behind R2 and R3 respectively.

**Cubitus (Cu)** – fifth longitudinal vein, cubitus posterior (CuP) is unbranched and reach the wing margin.

Anal veins (A1) – unbranched veins behind the cubitus.

#### The diversity of wing patterns across insect orders





Inflated wing veins contribute to butterfly hearing

#### 4. Modifications of venation patterns 翅脉的变化

#### 1) Increasing 增多

- accessory veins 副脉
  - occur by the branching of existing veins
  - 标记时在原有纵脉之后加上小写字母a,
     b, c等,如R<sub>1a</sub>, R<sub>1b</sub>
- intercalary veins 闰脉(加插脉)
  - development of additional veins between the original ones
  - 标记时在其前一纵脉简写前加一大写的"Ⅰ",如IM<sub>1</sub>





#### 2) Reducing 减少

#### - fuse 合并: two veins fused together

- 以"+"连接原来的纵脉名称表示
- lost 消失







## Closed/Enclosed cell 闭室 Open cell 开室



- Cell nomenclature 翅室的命名
  - The cells are named after the longitudinal vein which forms their anterior edge 以 其前缘的纵脉简写命名
    - Sc后的翅室即亚前缘室,记作cell Sc
    - 如两个翅室之间的翅脉消失,如R<sub>3</sub>消失,则R<sub>2</sub>后的翅室应被记作cell R<sub>2+3</sub>



## 6. Articulation 翅的关节

- Pteralia 翅基片: 翅基部膜质区中所有骨片的总称
  - In all winged insects the axillary area contains the movable articular sclerites
     (pteralia) via which the wing articulates on the thorax
  - Humeral plate 肩片
  - Axillaries 腋片: 一般3~4片
  - Median plates 中片: 被基褶分为内外两片
- 💿 Tegula 肩板
- 💿 Axillary cord 腋索



#### **Folding mechanism**

- Paleopteran are not able to fold the wings
- Neoptera are able to fold the wings back over their abdomen.
  - the third axillary sclerite and pleural wing-folding muscle.





## 7. wing-coupling mechanism 翅的连锁机制

## 1) 双动类

Groups with fore and hind

wings both developed have no

- wing-coupling apparatus
  - 器 dragonflies 蜻蜓
  - **器 mayflies** 蜉蝣
  - **器 termites** 白蚁
  - 器 lacewings 革蛉







- 直翅目、革翅目、鞘翅目、双翅目
  - With fore or hind wings modified have no

wing-coupling apparatus

- 鳞翅目、同翅目、半翅目、膜翅目等
  - Wing-coupling mechanism have evolved

that link together the fore and hind wings

- 前翅发达,是主要的飞行器官;后翅不发
  - 达,飞行时须以连锁器官钩连在前翅上





### A. amplexi form 翅抱型

- Butterflies and some huge moths
   (枯叶蛾、蚕蛾)
- An enlarged humeral area of the hindwing is broadly overlapped by the forewing.
- The power stroke of the forewing pushes down the hindwing in unison.





## B. jugate form 翅轭型

- some primitive moths have enlarged lobe-like area near the basal posterior margin at the base of the forewing, called jugum, that folds under the hindwing in flight
- mecopteran insects





#### C. frenate form 翅缰型

- Most moths
- a hook like or hard brush structure
   (retinaculum 翅缰钩) in radial vein

or cubital vein of fore wing

the hind wing has spine like or long
 hard spinous structure called
 frenulum 翅缰(雄蛾一根,雌蛾
 数根) which is locked into

retinaculum



radial vei

cubital ve

#### D. fold form 翅褶型

#### **\*\*** the wing-coupling apparatus consisting of a long,

#### downturned fold on the forewing and a short, upturned lobe

### on the hind wing • fold-hook form 褶钩型 • Wasps, Aphids • fold-fold form 褶褶型 • Cicadas

#### **Summary**



## Assignment

• To illustrate the hypothetical primitive pattern of wing venation.

## **Further reading**

- Ross A, (2017) Insect evolution: the origin of wings. *Current Biology*. 27(3): 113-115.
- Shimmi O, et al. (2014) Insights into the molecular mechanisms underlying diversified wing venation among insects. *Proc. R. Soc. B.* 281: 20140264. <a href="http://dx.doi.org/10.1098/rspb.2014.0264">http://dx.doi.org/10.1098/rspb.2014.0264</a>.
- Misof B, et al. (2014) Phylogenomics resolves the timing and pattern of insect evolution. *Science*, 346: 763-767.