What makes us so?

This is no longer a question for philosophers. Evolutionary biologists also dwell upon it. Manuel Massot from Laboratoire Ecologie & Evolution, CNRS-UPMC, France, and Pedro Aragón from Departamento de Biogeografia y Cambio Global, Museo Nacional de Ciencias Naturales, Madrid, Spain, looked into how small life events can have long-term consequences. If you are a lizard, the future depends on the first meal you eat. Vibha Varshney decodes the findings published in *Current Biology* on July 3

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