

Supplementary Material

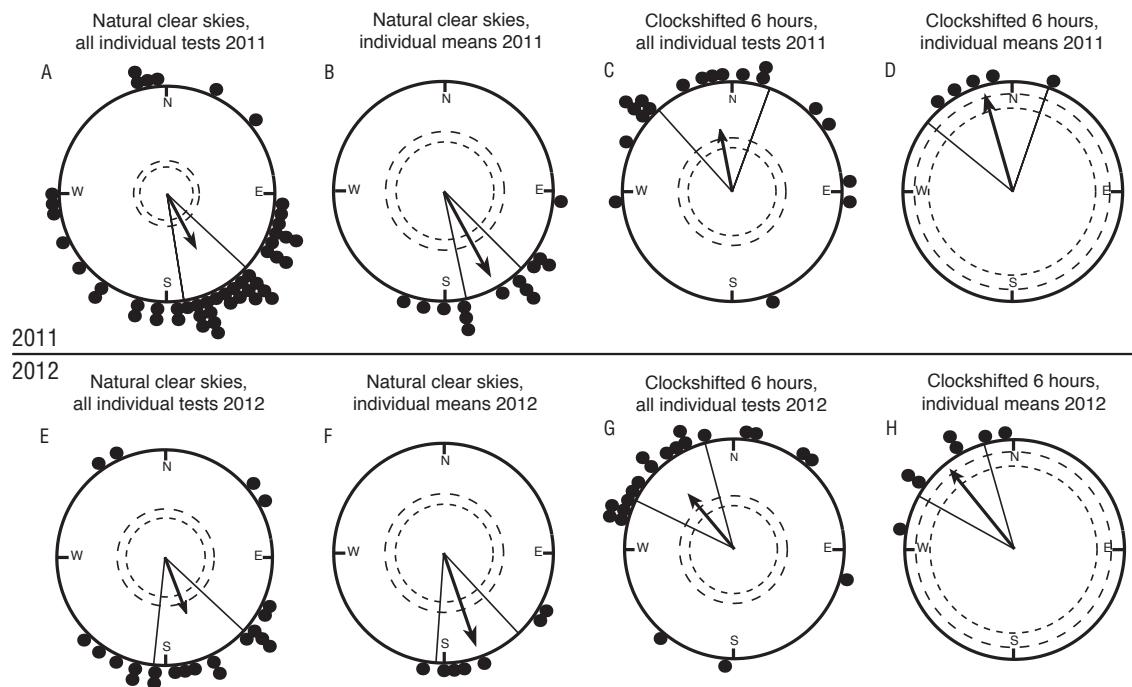


Figure S1. Inter- and intra-individual variation in orientation is similar in our settling stage *Ostorhinchus doederleini*. A: Forty-nine single tests under natural sunny skies with 14 just-settled *O. doederleini* tested in 2011 showed a clear orientation towards SSE, both when all the individual tests were considered (A: mean direction: 162° , $r=0.56$, $n=49$, $p<0.001$) and when only the second order means of each of the tested individuals were considered (B: mean direction: 162° , $r=0.88$, $n=14$, $p<0.001$). When five fish were clock-shifted 6 hours backwards, they turned their orientation by ca. 180° (C: all individual tests, mean direction: 359° , $r=0.58$, $n=19$, $p<0.001$; D: individual second order means, mean direction: 354° , $r=0.94$, $n=5$, $p<0.01$). Twenty-two single tests under natural sunny skies with 7 pre-settlement *O. doederleini* tested in 2012 also showed a clear orientation towards SSE, both when all the individual tests were considered (E: mean direction: 169° , $r=0.57$, $n=22$, $p<0.001$) and when only the second order means of each of the tested individuals were considered (F: mean direction: 171° , $r=0.91$, $n=7$, $p<0.001$). When all 7 fish were clock-shifted 6 hours backwards, they turned their orientation by ca. 180° (G: all individual tests, mean direction: 330° , $r=0.62$, $n=21$, $p<0.001$; H: individual second order means, mean direction: 331° , $r=0.92$, $n=7$, $p<0.001$). Notice that the 95% confidence intervals (lines flanking the group mean vector) in our experiments remained almost identical regardless whether all tests or individual means are depicted (compare Fig. S1A with S1B, S1C with S1D, S1E with S1F, and S1G with S1H). This is only to be expected if the intra- and inter-individual variation in orientation is very similar for our fish. Each dot at the circle periphery indicates the mean orientations observed in each of the individual tests done under the given condition (A, C, E, G) or the mean orientation chosen by each individual fish based on the second order average of all tests of the given fish in the given condition (B, D, F, H). Arrows indicate the group mean vectors. Inner and outer dashed circles indicate the radius of the group mean vector needed for significance according to the Rayleigh Test ($p<0.05$ and $p<0.01$, respectively).

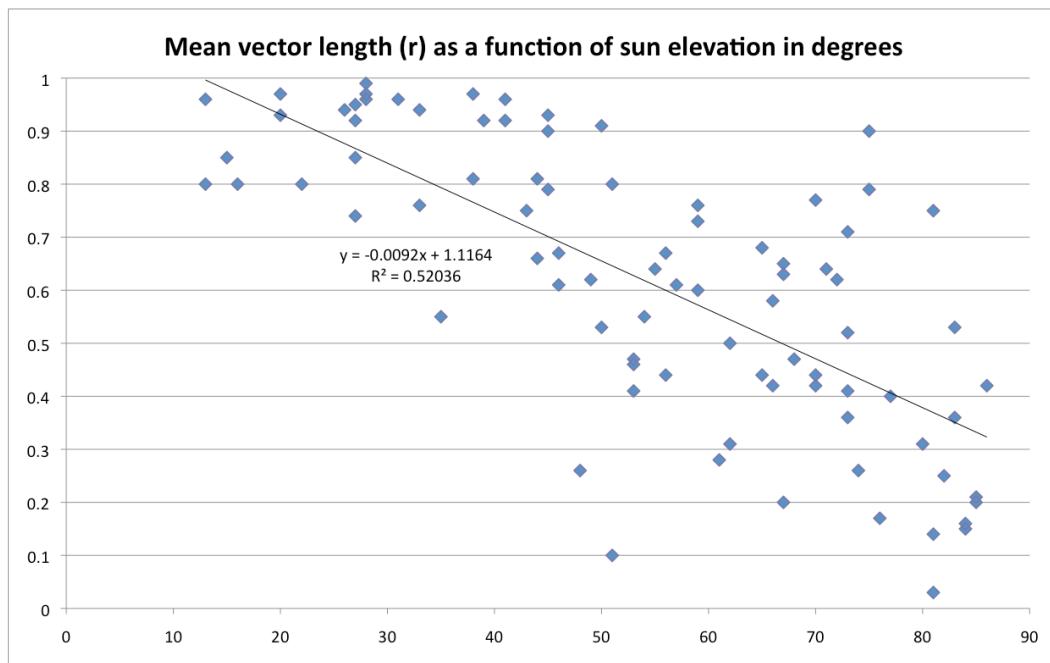


Figure S2. The lower the sun elevation, the better the fish were able to keep their chosen heading. The y-axis indicates the r-value for each individual test (the length of the mean vector of the 40 recorded single direction in a given single test). The x-axis indicates the sun elevation in degrees. There is a highly significant negative correlation between the r-value and the sun elevation, which means that the higher the sun elevation is, the poorer the fish are able to keep a chosen direction.

Orientation of the non-clock-shifted fish relative to the observer

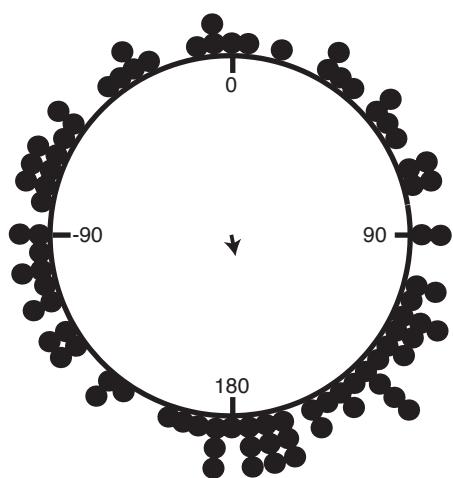


Figure S3. Evidence for no significant observer bias. The observer's position is defined as 0 degrees and the orientation of each individual fish in the non-clock-shifted condition is indicated by the dots at the circle periphery (2011 and 2012 fish combined). Thus, a point in 0 degrees would mean that the fish oriented towards the observer and a point in 180 degrees would mean that the fish oriented away from the observer. The distribution is random (mean direction 169°, $r=0.12$, $n=87$, n.s.). For description of the circular diagram, see legend to Figure S1.

