

## Ant communication through tough times: Video analysis



Ants in a destroyed home.

### Project Description:

We study ants that live in rock crevices in the Pinal Mountains to east of campus. In the lab, we look at how they communicate their food finds or home finds (when their current home is in danger). The ant with the find leads another ant to food or nest, waiting for her follower if she gets lost. We study their communication to find out: what the message is, and how their communication changes depending on how dire the food or home situation is. We record these communication events on video, and so the applicant's role as a researcher would be watching these videos: to score the communication events, and where the leader was headed.

Watching ant communication is fun, but the analysis can be arduous. For this reason, hard work, prolonged vigilance, and attention to detail are required. The student will have opportunity to join Pratt lab meetings to discuss exciting new research, and possibility to assist or work on future projects.

**Preferred Majors:** Biology, interest in animal behavior and watching videos

**Desired Academic year:** freshman – junior

**Location/Campus:** ISTB1, Room 303, Tempe

**Hours Per Week:** 10

### Application Instructions and Contact Information:

Send an email to Yohan Cho ([john.cho@asu.edu](mailto:john.cho@asu.edu)) with

- 1) why you are interested
- 2) a very brief summary of your research experience, if any
- 3) what are your career goals
- 4) any questions you may have
- 5) your CV/resume attached



An ant carefully entering a new home.