



FOREST ACOUSTICS: COMMUNICATION IN THE CACOPHONY



Rohini Balakrishnan Centre for Ecological Sciences Indian Institute of Science



The structure, diversity, perception, function, ecology and evolution of acoustic communication signals



CRICKETS AND GRASSHOPPERS



SOUND PRODUCTION









3.0kU X500 50µm

SOUND RECEPTION



MALE CRICKETS SING TO ATTRACT FEMALES





Roesel von Rosenhof, 1705-1759 (In: Weber & Thorson, 1989)



ACOUSTIC CUES ARE SUFFICIENT TO ATTRACT FEMALES

SPECIES-SPECIFIC SONGS







Itaropsis sp.

Gryllus bimaculatus



 $\langle \rangle 0_{0}$

COMMUNICATION



Masking





















SOLUTIONS TO ACOUSTIC INTERFERENCE

SENDER STRATEGIES

The call structures and spatio-temporal signalling patterns

of species in acoustic communities may result from the need

to minimise acoustic interference

TEMPORAL PARTITIONING



SPATIAL PARTITIONING



PARTITIONING IN ACOUSTIC SPACE





KUDREMUKH NATIONAL PARK

Twenty species of crickets were found and calls analysed



Ensifera (Crickets)



Grylloidea (True crickets) 10 genera, 10 species Tettigonioidea (Katydids) 7 genera, 9 species Gryllacridoidea (Raspy Crickets) 1 genus, 1 species



Landreva sp. (Log cricket)







Mecopoda sp. "Two-part" (Mecopodinae)







Katydid (Ground)

"Whiner" (Podoscirtinae)







True cricket (Understorey)









False leaf katydid (Understorey)

"Whistler" Onomarchus uninotatus (Pseudophyllinae) 🐗







False leaf katydid (Canopy)

Gryllacropsis sp. (Gryllacridoidea)



TEMPORAL PARTITIONING



DIEL CALLING PATTERNS ACOUSTIC SPOT SAMPLING

- Two transects of 500 m length were laid at each site.
- In the 500 m transect, 10 spots were marked that were 50 m apart from each other.



50 m

Transects sampled in 3-hour periods around the clock

The number of call types and calling individuals noted in a 5 minute period at each spot

Ambient noise recordings made using a recorder



CALLING PATTERNS OF INDIVIDUAL SPECIES









(Diwakar & Balakrishnan, 2007)

DIEL PATTERNING: SUMMARY

Dusk chorus starts abruptly and dies off slowly after midnight

No dawn chorus of crickets

No temporal partitioning of calling between cricket species on a diel scale

CALLING PATTERNS OF INDIVIDUAL SPECIES









(Diwakar & Balakrishnan, 2007)

MATRIX OF TEMPORAL MASKING PROBABILITY

code	Sc	La	Ph	Wh	Xa	Or	Mic	Pi	Phy	15k	EI	On	Gry	Me2	MeT	MeH
Sc		0.17	0.42	0.67	0	1	0.75	0.92	0.92	0.25	0.25	0.17	0	0.25	0.25	0
La	0.03		0.31	0.83	0.16	0.55	0.55	0.84	0.75	0.27	0.41	0.27	0.06	0.64	0.08	0.05
Ph	0.07	0.26		0.76	0.09	0.72	0.79	0.86	0.83	0.04	0.13	0.09	0.05	0.42	0.07	0.03
Wh	0.04	0.29	0.31		0.15	0.71	0.66	0.84	0.80	0.18	0.24	0.23	0.09	0.49	0.06	0.04
Xa	0	0.26	0.18	0.74		0.68	0.63	0.79	0.71	0.16	0.13	0.08	0	0.34	0.05	0
Or	0.07	0.20	0.32	0.76	0.15		0.72	0.79	0.74	0.15	0.19	0.19	0.05	0.38	0.07	0.04
Mic	0.06	0.22	0.38	0.78	0.15	0.79		0.80	0.73	0.15	0.20	0.18	0.06	0.36	0.05	0.04
Pi	0.06	0.28	0.33	0.79	0.15	0.69	0.64		0.76	0.15	0.22	0.23	0.08	0.48	0.06	0.05
Phy	0.06	0.27	0.35	0.82	0.15	0.71	0.64	0.82		0.17	0.20	0.23	0.07	0.56	0.07	0.05
15k	0.08	0.43	0.08	0.83	0.15	0.65	0.60	0.75	0.75		0.45	0.30	0.10	0.53	0.05	0.03
EI	0.06	0.52	0.20	0.90	0.10	0.66	0.62	0.88	0.72	0.36		0.22	0.06	0.50	0.10	0
On	0.04	0.32	0.13	0.81	0.06	0.62	0.53	0.87	0.79	0.23	0.21		0.15	0.66	0	0.06
Gry	0	0.22	0.22	0.94	0	0.50	0.56	0.83	0.72	0.22	0.17	0.44		0.67	0.06	0.06
Me2	0.03	0.36	0.28	0.79	0.11	0.58	0.49	0.83	0.89	0.18	0.22	0.31	0.11		0.04	0.06
MeT	0.23	0.38	0.38	0.92	0.15	0.92	0.62	0.92	1	0.15	0.38	0	0.08	0.31		0.08
MeH	0	0.27	0.18	0.73	0	0.64	0.64	0.82	0.82	0.09	0	0.27	0.09	0.64	0.09	

Five minute time windows

FINE TEMPORAL PARTITIONING







MATRIX OF FINE TEMPORAL MASKING PROBABILITY

code	So	La	Ph	Wh	Xa	Or	Мic	Pi	Phy	15 k	EI	On	Gry	Me2	MeT	MeH
Sc		0.08	0.59	0.08	0.69	0.06	0.07	0.05	0.28	0.00	0.04	0.12	0.06	0.73	1.00	0.87
La	0.35		0.55	0.10	0.69	0.06	0.07	0.06	0.27	0.00	0.04	0.11	0.05	0.74	1.00	0.87
Ph	0.36	0.08		0.14	0.67	0.05	0.07	0.05	0.25	0.00	0.03	0.11	0.05	0.73	1.00	0.90
Wh	0.36	0.08	0.69		0.66	0.07	0.09	0.08	0.19	0.00	80.0	0.11	0.06	0.78	1.00	0.92
Xa	0.34	0.08	0.56	0.10		0.06	0.08	0.05	0.27	0.00	0.04	0.10	0.05	0.73	1.00	0.88
Or	0.34	0.07	0.48	0.10	0.68		0.03	0.07	0.27	0.00	0.03	0.11	0.06	0.73	1.00	0.85
Mic	0.30	0.08	0.60	0.12	0.69	0.02		0.03	0.09	0.00	0.02	0.11	0.05	0.74	1.00	0.88
Pi	0.38	0.09	0.49	0.07	0.66	0.07	0.05		0.32	0.01	0.15	0.04	0.06	0.79	1.00	0.81
Phy	0.31	0.08	0.64	0.11	0.69	0.06	0.33	0.04		0.01	0.02	0.11	0.05	0.73	1.00	0.88
15k	0.38	0.08	0.59	0.07	0.72	0.06	0.07	0.12	0.18		0.03	80.0	0.05	0.73	1.00	0.88
El	0.37	0.07	0.55	0.10	0.64	0.06	0.04	0.09	0.10	0.00		0.16	0.07	0.68	1.00	0.76
On	0.31	0.08	0.59	0.10	0.70	0.06	0.08	0.16	0.24	0.01	0.04		0.07	0.74	1.00	0.87
Gry	024	0.07	0.53	0.07	0.69	0.06	0.07	0.09	0.26	0.01	0.06	0.10		0.69	1.00	0.86
Me2	0.35	0.08	0.58	0.10	0.68	0.06	0.08	0.05	0.26	0.00	0.05	0.11	0.05		1.00	0.88
MeT	0.34	0.08	0.57	0.10	0.68	0.06	0.07	0.06	0.26	0.00	0.04	0.11	0.05	0.74		0.88
MeH	0.34	0.08	0.58	0.11	0.68	0.06	0.08	0.06	0.27	0.00	0.04	0.11	0.05	0.74	1.00	

TEMPORAL OVERLAP

Probability of calling together in 5 min windows (Gross Temporal Overlap)



Temporal pattern

Seconds

(Fine Temporal Overlap)

Product of GTO and FTO (Effective Temporal Overlap) Median ETO = 0.04



(Jain et al., 2014)

TEMPORALACOUSTIC INTERFERENCE

A significant negative correlation between GTO and FTO:



Species pairs that experience high temporal overlap may avoid calling together



(Jain et al., 2014)

SPECTRAL OVERLAP



SPECTRAL OVERLAP







(Jain et al. Evol. Ecol. 2014)

HABITAT ACOUSTICS AND VERTICAL STRATIFICATION



3.2 kHz

11 kHz

Broadband

4.86 kHz
VERTICAL STRATIFICATION





TRANSMISSION EXPERIMENTS



ATTENUATION





Ground dwelling field cricket

Understorey false leaf katydid

(Jain & Balakrishnan, 2012)

SPATIAL MASKING

Pirmeda rosetta

Landreva sp.

'Whiner'

Mecopoda 'Two-Part'

Phaloria sp.







4.8 kHz

12 – 30 kHz

-40.0

20.0







SPATIAL MASKING





(Jain et al. 2014)





SPATIOTEMPORAL MASKING IN NATURAL CHORUSES



Masking probability

(Jain et al., 2014)

CACOPHONY OR SOUNDS OF SILENCE?

When all axes of separation are taken into account,

Median Masking Probabilities are close to zero!

(Jain et al. 2014)

THE ACOUSTIC COMMUNITY: CHANCE OR NECESSITY? OPTIMALITY IN THE COMMUNICATION NETWORK?









COMMUNICATION



Masking

RECEIVER AUDITORY TUNING









"Whistler" (Onomarchus)



(Rajaraman et al., 2013)



THE EARDRUM: A MECHANICAL LOW PASS FILTER!



(Rajaraman et al., 2013)

SIGNAL EVOLUTION

0.0

-20.0



Sexual selection

Predation



-40.0 -60.0 -90.0 -100.0 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14

5 kHz

Katydid

True cricket 3-9 kHz



Katydid

Habitat acoustics

Masking interference

Phylogenetic constraints





BATS OF KUDREMUKH

20 SPECIES











(Raghuram et al., 2014)



Rhinolophus lepidus Rhinolophus beddomei

Rhinolophus rouxii

Pipistrellus affinis Pipistrellus ceylonicus Pipistrellus coromandra Pipistrellus mimus Myotis horsfieldii Harpiocephalus harpia Tylonycteris pachypus Hesperotenus tickelli Scotophilus kuhlii Murina cyclotis Megaderma lyra Megaderma spasma

















Megaderma spasma



Diet composition of *M. spasma* at different roosts



ORTHOPTERA

Tettigoniidae: 98%

Gryllidae:

2%



(Raghuram et al. 2015)

Are male katydids, who call, preyed upon more heavily than females, who are silent?

Katydids

Females : MalesOvipositors: Forewings with stridulatory apparatus1.8

Female forewings : Male forewings **1.85**









No, female katydids are preyed upon

in significantly higher numbers than males

Raghuram et al., Proc. R. Soc. B (2015)

PLAYBACK EXPERIMENT









MEGADERMA SPASMA: PLAYBACK EXPERIMENTS IN OUTDOOR FLIGHT TENT



Duty cycle

FLYING FEMALES ARE 2-3 TIMES MORE LIKELY TO BE CAPTURED THAN CALLING MALES!

FEMALE MOVEMENT





A NOVEL MULTIMODAL DUET



(Rajaraman et al. 2015)



PREDATOR-PREY INTERACTIONS: CRICKETS AND BATS



Onomarchus uninotatus (False leaf katydid of KNP)





A novel communication system and predator evasion response Female katydids respond to male acoustic signals with silent vibrational signals rather than risky flight Megaderma spasma preys upon katydids especially females



Female response (Vibrational signal)

Male call (Acoustic signal)



SIGNAL EVOLUTION

0.0

-20.0



Sexual selection

Predation



-40.0 -60.0 -90.0 -100.0 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14

5 kHz

Katydid

True cricket 3-9 kHz



Katydid

Habitat acoustics

Masking interference

Phylogenetic constraints

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS



Swati Diwakar

Manjari Jain, Jimmy Bahuleyan

Rittik Deb, Diptarup Nandi

Vamsy Godthi, Rudra Pratap

Sudhakar Gowda



H. Raghuram



Daniel Robert Kaveri Rajaraman







THE DUSK CHORUS: SYMPHONY





Finite Element Analysis of the Harp



Vamsy Godthi & Rudra Pratap



Are male katydids, who call, preyed upon

more heavily than females, who are silent?

Katydids

243 ovipositors = Females (64%)

137 forewings with stridulatory apparatus = Males (36%)









in significantly higher numbers than males



MALE VIBROTAXIS

TO

TREMULATING FEMALE





(Rajaraman et al. 2015)

VIBROTAXIS PLAYBACK SET-UP







ACOUSTIC BUFFERING

















































(Balakrishnan et al. 2014)
NO SIGNIFICANT NEGATIVE CORRELATIONS IN CALLING ACTIVITY

1	0.82	0.92	0.66	0.71	0.67	0.87	0.72	0.9	0.74	0.75	0.89	0.96	0.64	0.68
0.82	1	0.96	0.84	0.69	0.71	0.83	0.876	0.89	0.93	0.67	0.96	0.83	0.64	0.62
0.92	0.96	1	0.86	0.79	0.74	0.83	0.872	0.95	0.9	0.79	0.98	0.9	0.61	0.75
0.66	0.84	0.86	1	0.71	0.55	0.44	0.74	0.74	0.81	0.88	0.82	0.61	0.43	0.79
0.71	0.69	0.79	0.71	1	0.94	0.57	0.91	0.91	0.61	0.58	0.85	0.7	0	0.96
0.67	0.71	0.74	0.55	0.94	1	0.7	0.95	0.91	0.6	0.34	0.85	0.71	0	0.8
0.87	0.83	0.83	0.44	0.57	0.7	1	0.75	0.85	0.73	0.38	0.85	0.91	0.64	0.41
0.72	0.88	0.87	0.74	0.91	0.95	0.75	1	0.95	0.77	0.49	0.94	0.77	0.22	0.79
0.9	0.89	0.95	0.74	0.91	0.91	0.85	0.949	1	0.8	0.63	0.98	0.9	0.38	0.82
0.74	0.93	0.9	0.81	0.61	0.6	0.73	0.773	0.8	1	0.64	0.87	0.66	0.63	0.57
0.75	0.67	0.79	0.88	0.58	0.34	0.38	0.492	0.63	0.64	1	0.69	0.64	0.54	0.73
0.89	0.96	0.98	0.82	0.85	0.85	0.85	0.942	0.98	0.87	0.69	1	0.9	0.5	0.78
0.96	0.83	0.9	0.61	0.7	0.71	0.91	0.767	0.9	0.66	0.64	0.9	1	0.61	0.62
0.64	0.64	0.61	0.43	0	0	0.64	0.218	0.38	0.63	0.54	0.5	0.61	1	0
0.68	0.62	0.75	0.79	0.96	0.8	0.41	0.792	0.82	0.57	0.73	0.78	0.62	0	1
-0.4	-0.3	-0.3	-0	0.01	-0.1	-0.53	-0.19	-0.3	-0	-0.12	-0.3	-0.6	-0.53	0.12



SPECIES DOMINANCE AND MASKING

0.8

0.6

0.4

0.2

0

2 3 5 6























0.8

0.6

0.4

0.2

0

1 2 3

5 6

4



















Composition

Landreva



ACOUSTIC BUFFERING

















































(Balakrishnan et al. 2014)

MALE VIBROTAXIS TO DUET PLAYBACK



SOUND ONLY

VIBRATION ONLY

(Rajaraman et al. 2015)



CONCLUSIONS

A novel multimodal duetting communication system

Female tremulation response has a fixed timing relation with respect to the male acoustic signal

Female tremulation response is specific to conspecific male call

Males approach female tremulation signals but only if

Both acoustic and vibratory components of the duet are present