



Research Article

# Standardisation of bioacoustic terminology for insects

Edward Baker<sup>‡</sup>, David Chesmore<sup>‡</sup>

<sup>‡</sup> University of York, York, United Kingdom

Corresponding author: Edward Baker ([edwbaker@gmail.com](mailto:edwbaker@gmail.com))

Academic editor: Therese Catanach

Received: 12 May 2020 | Accepted: 22 Jul 2020 | Published: 04 Aug 2020

Citation: Baker E, Chesmore D (2020) Standardisation of bioacoustic terminology for insects. Biodiversity Data Journal 8: e54222. <https://doi.org/10.3897/BDJ.8.e54222>

## Abstract

After reviewing the published literature on sound production in insects, a standardised terminology and controlled vocabularies have been created. This combined terminology has potential for use in automated identification systems, evolutionary studies, and other use cases where the synthesis of bioacoustic traits from the literature is required. An example implementation has been developed for the BioAcoustica platform. It is hoped that future development of controlled vocabularies will become a community effort.

## Keywords

insect, sound production, vocabulary, bioacoustics

## Introduction

*"Two dangers face the student seeking to rationalize and codify a terminology that has grown up empirically and that is beginning to differentiate regionally or according to faculty or in other ways - as must always tend to happen. One danger is that of legislating prematurely and clumsily for hypothetical future requirements; the other is a too easy-going and long-sustained attitude of laissez-faire arising from wishing to let the mud settle before trying to penetrate the shadows of often chaotic and obscure usages. If the former danger*

*must always be borne in mind, the latter is more insidious; while we wait for the mud to settle, divergence may be increasing, and we may be faced with the need to cure what we might have prevented."* - Broughton (1963)

The stereotypical songs of the singing insects (particularly Orthoptera and Hemiptera: Cicadidae) have been used to describe species (Heller and Baker 2017), undertake population surveys (Brock 2017) and to estimate biodiversity (Sueur et al. 2014). While these are the best-known of the audible insects, many other species can produce sound, and examples are found in orders including Lepidoptera (Brehm et al. 2015, Travassos and Pierce 2000), Diptera (Sueur et al. 2005, Cator et al. 2009), Coleoptera (Lyal and King 1996, Buchler et al. 1981), Phasmida (Henry 1922, Bragg 1992), Blattodea (Hunsinger et al. 2018) and Neuroptera (Price et al. 2015). The acoustic behaviour of the Orthoptera has been comprehensively reviewed (Robinson and Hall 2002), and although these authors noted the lack of conformity in structural descriptions of songs, they did not suggest a solution to this issue.

Several acoustic libraries have significant volumes of insect recordings, such as BioAcoustica (Baker et al. 2015b) which contains the Library of Recorded Insect Sounds from the Natural History Museum, London as well as contributions from numerous other individuals. A list of sound archives with significant Orthoptera holdings is given in Riede 2018. The Global Cicada Sound Collection is a project to collate worldwide cicada sound collections within BioAcoustica (Baker et al. 2015a, Baker 2016a). In addition a large amount of literature has been published on the acoustics of insects, but often without deposition of accompanying recordings (Baker and Vincent 2019).

Information about the sounds produced by insects is essential for work on automated acoustic monitoring (e.g. Bennet et al. 2015) and taxonomy (e.g. Ragge 1990). Large scale studies need to synthesise data both from published literature and from analysis of recorded sounds. Automated extraction of acoustic characters from recordings is becoming increasingly feasible (Riede et al. 2006) and increasingly desirable with large scale acoustic monitoring becoming more common (Truskinger et al. 2018, Sethi et al. 2018). Insects are a prime, though underused, candidate for automated identification: "A rigid determinism governs, in most cases, sound production among arthropods" (Dumortier 1963).

Despite the plentiful data from recordings and published works, comparison of species across these datasets is complicated by the lack of a single terminology. This work proposes a formalised terminology for describing insect song, as well as controlled vocabularies for types of call and methods of sound production. Together these components can be used to collate published acoustic traits from the literature and analyses performed on sound libraries, as well as providing a clear and concise framework for publishing and sharing new findings. While at present limited to the deliberate production of sound by insects, the terminology and vocabularies are openly published and so may be extended to other taxonomic groups by future researchers.

Automated identification of species using acoustics is the aim of several projects (e.g. the New Forest Cicada Project: <http://www.newforestcicada.info>). The accuracy of such systems could be improved with knowledge not just of the calls themselves, but the environmental and temporal conditions that may influence the calls. For this reason, this terminology allows the recording of properties such as the minimum environmental temperature at which a species will produce a call, and temporal (daily and yearly) calling patterns.

Methods for integrating this terminology with others, such as DarwinCore (Wieczorek et al. 2012) are suggested. DarwinCore archives are already used to link multiple data providers to global aggregators such as the Global Biodiversity Informatics Facility and the Encyclopedia of Life (Baker et al. 2014), and some sound collections already use DarwinCore archives to share their data (e.g. Baker et al. 2015a).

## **Example use cases**

### **Acoustic Keys**

Many authors provide keys to acoustic identification of small groups of insect species in their papers (REF), and there are a smaller number of comprehensive regional identification keys (e.g. Ragge and Reynolds 1998). A comprehensive database of acoustic traits would allow for automated generation of dichotomous or matrix-based keys. The increased accessibility of species distribution data via GBIF, combined with terms proposed here recording the time of year and time of day of calls, would allow for the automatic generation of keys that are both geographically localised and temporally relevant.

### **Automated identification**

While there are many large datasets available for bird song (see for example those used in the Bird Audio Detection Challenge: Stowell et al. 2016) there are no such comparably large datasets for insect sounds. Many studies of machine learning methods in insects, by necessity, use datasets that are orders of magnitude smaller in size (e.g. Chesmore and Ohya 2007). Therefore while the reliable classification of broad categories of insect song should be possible with machine learning methods, reliable identification of species beyond a small taxonomic or geographic scope is not. Machine-readable datasets of sound parameters may, therefore, provide a useful intermediate, particularly when combined with other datasets. For well-studied orthopteran faunas, such as the United Kingdom, many species can be distinguished solely on the peak frequency of their song. A route to a reliable automated identification system may, therefore, be a hierarchical classifier where the identification of 'Orthoptera' is made by machine learning, and a database of known acoustic traits is used to provide a species identification. Combined with other datasets (e.g. distribution, habitat, phenology) such identifications could be further refined.

### **Evolution of song**

Combined with an appropriate phylogeny, well defined acoustic traits could be easily used to make inferences about the evolution of sound production. A number of previous studies

have used acoustic traits to study evolution (e.g. Robillard et al. 2007, Nattier et al. 2011). The creation of a database of traits would make the data collection for such studies easier.

## Material and methods

While collecting literature data about the songs of Orthoptera, the terminologies used to describe song structure and traits were collected. In order to allow comparison between terminologies a formalised vocabulary was developed that eliminates synonymous terms and allows for suitable levels of precision to be identified (e.g. differentiating between 'peak frequency' and 'frequency range').

This paper describes the terms used in the description vocabulary as well as documenting the decisions made when choosing between alternative representations and terms.

### Units

Units for each proposed term are generally SI units unless prevailing usage is otherwise. Units are only given in the text when SI units are not proposed.

## "Bag of terms": ontology or vocabulary

The creation of a formal ontology for describing insect song was rejected by the authors, despite the potential personal intellectual reward for doing so. Instead, the scheme proposed here is a set of defined terms used to describe insect song, as well as some proposed lists of values (controlled vocabularies). This "bag of terms" approach has seen success in the development of DarwinCore (Wieczorek et al. 2012) and other related systems such as AudubonCore (Morris et al. 2013).

With the aim of future community involvement in the development of this vocabulary, and with the authors having watched closely the development of DarwinCore this approach appears to give the most flexibility. Much has been written on the development of standards, and this quote is one of many that could summarise the approach taken here: "*Notice I said 'vocabulary' and not 'ontology'. The less ontology there is in the shared Core, the easier it will be for people to build on it to suit their needs. But a lack of ontology does not imply a lack of semantics*" (Sachs 2013).

## Data resources

The ontology and controlled vocabularies are presented here, and are available online at <https://vocab.audioblast.org>.

It is hoped that other interested parties will become involved in the development of the ontology. Contributions can be made via the project's GitHub page at <https://github.com/audioblast/vocabularies>.

## Results

The terms and controlled vocabularies developed are presented here in categories. An alphabetical list of terms is available at <https://vocab.audioblast.org>. Terms in the text are followed by their identifier Uniform Resource Identifier (URI); terms in the tables are hyperlinked to the URI.

### Types of call

Presented is a controlled vocabulary (Table 1) of the different call types produced by insects. Synonymous terms are presented in the table, and definitions are provided below. Only actively produced sounds are listed (i.e. those that are deliberately produced and have a biological function, and also involuntary sounds produced by the organism such as flight buzzes). Passive sounds, such as scuttling or rustling of the substrate, have been excluded at this stage.

Table 1.

Controlled vocabulary for types of calls in insects. The references for synonymous terms are only for indication of use. <https://vocab.audioblast.org/cv/callType>

Call Type	Notes
<a href="#">CallingSong</a>	= Spontaneous song = Proclamation song = Advertisement song = Common song = Ordinary song = Solitary song = Usual song = Wonted song = Indifferent song
<a href="#">CongregationalSong</a>	= Aggregating song
<a href="#">ResponseCall</a>	
<a href="#">PrematingSong</a>	Broader category than CourtshipSong, AgreementSong, and JumpingSong
<a href="#">CourtshipSong</a>	= Serenade song
<a href="#">AgreementSong</a>	= Attraction song = Invitation call
<a href="#">JumpingSong</a>	Shout of triumph (Dumortier 1963)
<a href="#">RivalryCall</a>	= Aggressive song
<a href="#">PostcopulatoryCall</a>	
<a href="#">DefensiveCall</a>	= Alarm call = Protest sound = Disturbance song
<a href="#">FlightNoise</a>	

## **Types of call and their function(s)**

While this controlled vocabulary is for call type, a possible use case is to compare calls with the same or similar function. Some gomphocerine grasshoppers, for example, have multiple distinct types of call between the successful attraction of a mate and mating. These call types can be grouped together using a higher-level term (in this case PrematingSong) to facilitate analysis by call function.

**CallType** <http://vocab.audioblast.org/CallType>

This term is used to specify a type of call or song, recommended practise is to use the controlled vocabulary presented here.

## **Calling Song**

The calling song is produced by a male in order to attract a female (in species which also have a separate song for courtship the calling song is used to bring a pair together before the courtship rituals). Multiple males may join together to form a chorus, either synchronising or alternating their calling songs. This is the most commonly produced sound by male orthopterans and cicadas.

## **Response Song**

Female response to the male's call during the mate-attraction phase (i.e. male-female duets for phonotaxis).

## **Congregating Song**

Dumortier (1963) discusses differences between the congregating song and the calling song: "the congregational song does not only attract the opposite sex whereas the calling song does. The congregational song produces the grouping of males, females or larvae."

## **Courtship Song**

A special courtship song may be produced by the male when in close proximity to the female. Along with Response Song considered a 'Premating Song' by Dumortier (1963).

## **Agreement Song**

The female's response to the male song when she is receptive to mating and at close proximity. This is rarely heard in the field, but unmated females in the laboratory may sing spontaneously (Ragge and Reynolds 1998). Along with Courtship Song and Jumping Song considered a 'Premating Song' by Dumortier (1963).

## Jumping Song

Characteristic of the Orthoptera: Acridinae, stridulation produced directly before the male mounts the female.

## Post-copulatory Call

This post-mating call may function in mate-guarding and is present in some genera of the Gryllidae (Robinson and Hall 2002).

## Rivalry Song

The calling song of the male may attract other males, and when in close proximity they may produce a modified song known as a rivalry song - often faster or abbreviated versions of the calling song (Ragge and Reynolds 1998).

## Defensive Call

A call made to deter against perceived threats. The bush cricket *Anyclecha fenestrata* has defensive calls in both sexes (Greven et al. 2013) as do representatives of the beetle family Lamiinae (Finn et al. 1972).

## Flight Noise

A distinction is made between 'Flight Noise' as the 'buzzing' sound made by many insects during any flight due to the movement of the wings, and crepitation where the sound is made by a different method. Crepitation in some species is facultative (occurring only in special display flights) whereas in others it occurs in all flights. Flight Noise is considered to be a type of call in some species (e.g. the mosquito *Aedes aegypti* (Linnaeus 1762) described in Cator et al. 2009), whereas crepitation is a method of sound production that functions as a Calling Song in many species.

## Sound Production Method

The classification of sound production mechanisms has been addressed by a number of previous authors. Ewing (1989) devised a categorisation based entirely on the physical mechanism of sound production (percussion, air expulsion, vibration, tymbal mechanisms and stridulation). Most insect sounds can be neatly placed into these categories, with the possible exception of crepitation. Crepitation, a snapping sound made by the wings, may be considered to be a form of tymbalisation, albeit not always under direct muscular control as it may be a by-product of flight. A broad interpretation of tymbalisation would include the crepitation of the Orthoptera. Crepitation is here retained as a separate term, but may in the broadest sense be treated as synonymous with tymbalisation.

The air expulsion of Ewing (1989) is here expanded to fluid expulsion, in recognition of the fact many insects are aquatic for at least part of their lives, and while freshwater acoustic

studies of insects are presently limited, noise created by the expulsion of water would be analogous with the expulsion of air in terrestrial environments.

For each of these broad categories, a number of different body parts have evolved to become the apparatus of sound production. These are considered as subcategories of the main methods. Table 2 gives a controlled vocabulary of sound production mechanisms.

Table 2. Controlled vocabulary for sound production method. <a href="https://vocab.audioblast.org/cv/spm">https://vocab.audioblast.org/cv/spm</a>		
Method	Example Taxon	Notes
<a href="#">Stridulation</a>		
<a href="#">Abdomino-alaryStridulation</a>	Coleoptera (Wessel 2006)	
<a href="#">Abdomino-elytralStridulation</a>	Coleoptera (Wessel 2006)	
<a href="#">Abdomino-femoralStridulation</a>	Coleoptera (Wessel 2006)	
<a href="#">Alary-abdominalStridulation</a>	Coleoptera (Wessel 2006)	
<a href="#">Alary-elytralStridulation</a>	Coleoptera (Wessel 2006)	
<a href="#">AntennalStridulation</a>	Phylliidae (Delfosse 1999)	
<a href="#">Coxo-metasternalStridulation</a>	Coleoptera (Wessel 2006)	
<a href="#">Cranio-prothoracicStridulation</a>	Coleoptera (Wessel 2006)	
<a href="#">ElytralStridulation</a>	Ensifera (Ragge and Reynolds 1998)	
<a href="#">Elytro-abdominalStridulation</a>	Coleoptera (Wessel 2006)	
<a href="#">Elyto-femoralStridulation</a>	Coleoptera (Wessel 2006) Orthoptera (Ragge and Reynolds 1998)	Otte (1972) makes a distinction between Ordinary stridulation and Vibratory stridulation, however the only difference appears to be the speed of the movement and not the production method.
<a href="#">FemoralStridulation</a>	Coleoptera (Wessel 2006)	
<a href="#">Maxillo-mandibularStridulation</a>	Coleoptera (Wessel 2006)	
<a href="#">MesothoracicScutellum-elytralStridulation</a>	Cicadidae (Moulds 2005)	

Method	Example Taxon	Notes
<a href="#">Mesonoto-elytralStridulation</a>	Cicadidae (Moulds 2005)	
<a href="#">Mesonoto-pronotalStridulation</a>	Coleoptera (Wessel 2006)	
<a href="#">Pronoto-femoralStridulation</a>	Coleoptera (Wessel 2006)	
<a href="#">Prosterno-mesosternalStridulation</a>	Coleoptera (Wessel 2006)	
<a href="#">Crepitation</a>	Acrididae (Lorier et al. 2012)	
<a href="#">Percussion</a>		
<a href="#">Elytro-tibialPercussion</a>	<i>Stethophyma grossum</i>	The form of elytro-femoral stridulation in this species appears to be unique. The hind tibia are flicked at the flexed fore wing (Ragge and Reynolds 1998). This behaviour seems to be consistent with the Ticking described by Otte (1972).
<a href="#">Hindleg-substratePercussion</a>	<i>Meconema</i> (Benton 2012)	
<a href="#">Head-susbsratePercussion</a>	Termitoidea (Connétable et al. 1999)	
<a href="#">Vibration</a>		
<a href="#">WingVibration</a>	<i>Heteropteryx</i> (Delfosse 1999)	
<a href="#">FluidExpulsion</a>		
<a href="#">PharyngealAirExpulsion</a>	Sphingidae (Brehm et al. 2015)	
<a href="#">SpiracularAirExpulsion</a>	Gromphadorhinini (Clark and Moore 1995)	
<a href="#">Tremulation</a>		
<a href="#">AbdominalTremulation</a>	Coleoptera (Shestakov and Kasparson 2019)	
<a href="#">BodyTremulation</a>	Orthoptera (Morris 1980)	
<a href="#">Tymbalisation</a>	Cicadidae (Boulard 2013)	

## Stridulation

Stridulation has evolved multiple times within the insects, and further mechanisms may be discovered. The controlled vocabulary for Sound Production Method (Table 2) contains separate entries for each type of stridulation known.

In some cases distinction needs to be made between which of the two body parts has the file. Following Wessel (2006) the part which has the file (pars stridens) is given first, so there is a distinction made between Abdomino-alary and Alary-abdominal methods.

**StridulationInFlight** <https://vocab.audioblast.org/StridulationInFlight>

The bush crickets *Oxyecous lesnei* and *Debrona cervina* are able to stridulate in flight (Naskrecki and Guta 2019). Recommended values are 'Present', 'Absent'.

## Vibration and Tremulation

Vibratory motions are classified into two types. Those where vibration of the body (or part thereof) transmits an acoustic signal through a fluid (air or water) are considered vibrations. Those where vibration is transmitted through a solid substrate, such as vegetation, are termed tremulation.

## Tymbalisation

In most cicadas, sound production is primarily through the process of tymbalisation: the deformation of the paired tymbals at a high rate. In cicadas, the tymbals are modified sections of abdominal tegumen strengthened by ridges that can be deformed by muscles (Pringle 1954).

## Crepitation

Crepitation is a noise made by the snapping of wings as they extend, sometimes occurring facultatively as part of a special crepitation display flight, otherwise obligate and occurs in all flights.

A second definition is the sharp sound produced by rapid fluid discharge, e.g. in bombardier beetles (Gordh and Headrick 2001), although not for the hissing sound made by hissing cockroaches which is a rapid discharge of air through modified spiracles. Given the etymology comes from the Latin *crepito* suggesting a crackling sound reserving the definition to the first given seems logical. The second definition is covered in this vocabulary under FluidExpulsion.

## Fluid Expulsion

The forced expulsion of air through modified spiracles creates the distinctive hiss in the hissing cockroaches (Blattodea: Blaberidae: Gromphadorhini; Hunsinger et al. 2018). The

hawkmoth *Acherontia sphinx* makes a defensive sound by passing air through the pharynx (Brehm et al. 2015).

## Percussion

Percussive noises are generated by the impact between body parts, or between part of the body and the substrate. Ewing (1989) notes that the exoskeleton of arthropods makes percussion an efficient communication method.

Moths of the genus *Hecatesia* have hardened sections of the fore wing called castanets that strike together in flight to produce sound, leading to their common name of 'whistling moths' Bailey (1978).

## Sound Propagation

**SoundPropagationMedium** <https://vocab.audioblast.org/SoundPropagationMedium>

The medium through which the sound propagates. A controlled vocabulary is provided (<https://vocab.audioblast.org/cv/medium>) with values 'air', 'freshwater' and 'substrate'. This vocabulary is open to expansion, particularly in more precise terms for varying substrates.

**SoundPropagationDistance** <https://vocab.audioblast.org/SoundPropagationDistance>

The literature contains many references to the distance at which insect sound remains perceptible to the human ear. While this information is of considerable use to the field naturalist, for rigorous acoustic analysis it is recommended that more precise definitions are defined in future.

## Descriptions of call structure

### Syllables

The Orthoptera are the best known stridulatory organisms and are the focus of most attempts at describing biological stridulation. The terminology used by European (following, e.g. Broughton 1976, Ragge and Reynolds 1998) and North American workers (following, e.g. Walker and Dew 1972) is divergent although broadly the terms can be reconciled. The use of the term syllable to refer to a single complete stridulatory movement (the opening and closing of the elytra in Ensifera, the up and down motion of the femora against the elytra in some Acrididae) is supported by Ragge and Reynolds (1998) as the basic unit of stridulatory calls due to its precise biological definition. The definition is expanded to include diposyllables (e.g. distinct opening and closing stridulation of the elytra in some Ensifera) and hemisyllables (where only one of these motions produces sound). Such terminology can easily be expanded to many other stridulatory mechanisms, and may also be expanded to other sound production methods involving a to-and-fro movement such as tymbalisation.

Each (hemi-)syllable is comprised of one or more tooth impacts. While each tooth impact can produce a pulse of sound, the terminology of pulses and pulse trains is inconsistent amongst workers (in particular Cole 2010). While tooth impacts have a biological meaning related to the stridulatory structures, there is a possibility that rapid impacts in succession may not be acoustically resolved at a distance, particularly if the sound-producing apparatus are highly resonant. The term pulse as used in other bioacoustics fields (e.g. anurans Köhler et al. 2017) to describe an indivisible unit of sound seems appropriate for use as the most basic unit of stridulatory sounds, although the term does come with with "epistemological problems" (Appleby 1987): "Pulse is surely the most ill-used term ever taken over by the bio-acoustician" (Broughton 1963).

**SyllableGapNumber** <https://vocab.audioblast.org/SyllableGapNumber>

Identifying the number of silent periods, or gaps, within a syllable can be diagnostic to some species of Orthoptera (Ragge and Reynolds 1998).

### **Echemes and Echeme-Sequences**

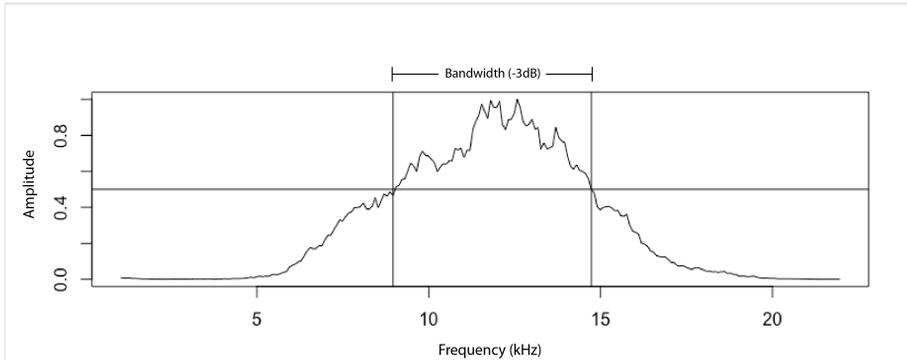
While Broughton (1976) replaced the term 'chirp' with 'echeme', there are additional terminologies that have been applied to what is considered here to be an echeme. Sakaguchi and Gray (2011) touch on this confusion between chirps and trills in crickets of the genus *Gryllus*, while introducing a new term 'stutter-trill'. While such terms may be of use in casual descriptions of songs, and indeed do convey meaning (particularly for human identification by ear), they are not useful in a rigorous analysis without being decomposed into a standardised terminology. Both chirps and trills are a first-order assemblage of syllables, and are therefore echemes differing in their number of syllables.

Similarly, the term 'bout' as used by Hedrick (1986) and others is an echeme-sequence (a first-order assemblage of echemes).

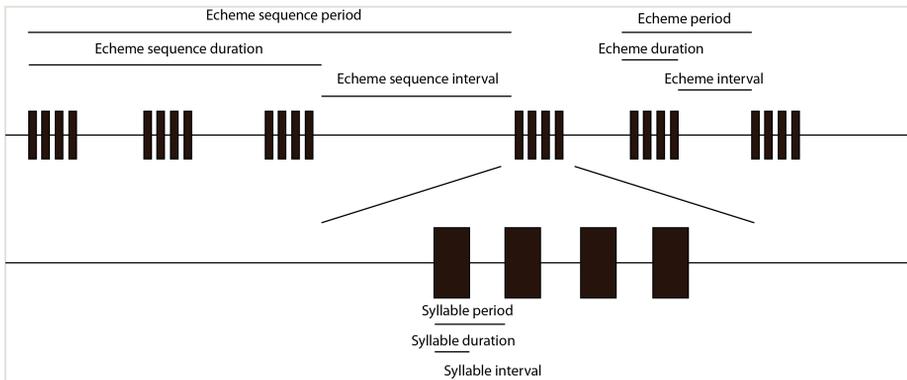
For convenience, an echeme-sequence may include syllables that are produced in association with an echeme, e.g. the song of *Arcyptera fascia* consists of a dense echeme preceded and followed by individual syllables.

### **Interval, duration and spacing**

Various authors use different terms for describing the space between elements of a song. The gap between syllables may various take the form of syllable spacing, syllable interval and 'intersyllable duration'. The terms adopted here are illustrated in Fig. 2.

Figure 1. [doi](#)

The -3dB bandwidth.

Figure 2. [doi](#)

Relationship of period, duration and interval.

## Standard Descriptive Units

Various terms are used to describe individual components of insect song in the published literature. While they are not strictly needed by the method for describing songs using this ontology, the inclusion of terms that have a defined meaning is useful (e.g. comparison of echeme length in a group of related species, or with temperature). The controlled vocabulary in Table 3 is proposed. Figure 2 provides an outline of the *major* components (syllable, echeme and echeme sequence), the extra terms in the table are modifications of these basic structures.

Table 3.  
Controlled vocabulary for call components. <https://vocab.audioblast.org/cv/components>

Component	Related properties
<a href="#">Pulse</a>	<a href="#">PulseDuration</a> <a href="#">PulseInterval</a> <a href="#">PulsePeriod</a> <a href="#">PulseRepetitionRate</a>
<a href="#">Syllable</a>	<a href="#">SyllableDuration</a> <a href="#">SyllableInterval</a> <a href="#">SyllablePeriod</a> <a href="#">SyllableRepetitionRate</a>
	<a href="#">SyllableDurationInEcheme</a> <a href="#">SyllableDurationFinal</a> <a href="#">SyllableDurationFirst</a> <a href="#">SyllableDurationIsolatedSyllable</a> <a href="#">SyllablePeriodIsolatedSyllable</a> <a href="#">SyllableRepetitionRateInEcheme</a>
	<a href="#">PulsesPerSyllable</a>
<a href="#">Diplosyllable</a>	
<a href="#">Hemisyllable</a> <a href="#">ClosingHemisyllable</a> <a href="#">OpeningHemisyllable</a>	<a href="#">HemisyllableDuration</a>
	<a href="#">HemisyllableDurationDownstroke</a> <a href="#">HemisyllableDurationFinal</a> <a href="#">HemisyllableDurationFirst</a> <a href="#">HemisyllableDurationUpstroke</a>
<a href="#">Echeme</a>	<a href="#">EchemeDuration</a> <a href="#">EchemeInterval</a> <a href="#">EchemePeriod</a> <a href="#">EchemeRepetitionRate</a>
	<a href="#">EchemeDurationFirstEcheme</a> <a href="#">EchemeDurationFinalEcheme</a>
	<a href="#">SyllablesPerEcheme</a>
<a href="#">EchemeSequence</a>	<a href="#">EchemeSequenceDuration</a> <a href="#">EchemeSequenceInterval</a>
	<a href="#">EchemesPerEchemeSequence</a>
<a href="#">Call</a>	<a href="#">CallDuration</a> <a href="#">CallInterval</a>

**Wing-beatFrequency** <https://vocab.audioblast.org/Wing-beatFrequency>

The frequency at which the wings beat during flight producing a 'buzz' noise.

**CallStructure** <https://vocab.audioblast.org/CallStructure>

Highest unit of call structure, e.g. 'Syllable' or 'Echeme Sequence'.

**CreptitationRate** <https://vocab.audioblast.org/CreptitationRate>

The number of creptitation sounds made per second (Hz).

**CreptitationDuration** <https://vocab.audioblast.org/CreptitationDuration>

The duration of one creptitation sound.

**CreptitationInterval** <https://vocab.audioblast.org/CreptitationInterval>

The time between individual creptitation sounds.

**CrepitationIsFaculative** <https://vocab.audioblast.org/CrepitationIsFaculative>

'True' or 'False'. In some species, crepitation is controlled and only used in crepitation displays; in others it is uncontrolled and occurs during any flight (Ragge and Reynolds 1998).

**PercussionImpactRate** <https://vocab.audioblast.org/PercussionImpactRate>

The number of percussive impacts per second (Hz).

**PercussionImpactsPerCall** <https://vocab.audioblast.org/PercussionImpactsPerCall>

## Call Properties

### Amplitude

<https://vocab.audioblast.org/AmplitudeUnit: dB>

While the concept of call amplitude is easily understood, it can be measured in a wide variety of ways. The distance from the subject is of clear importance. The property 'Amplitude' has been included in the ontology, however, it is hoped that more specific sub-properties can be agreed upon in the future. These should include a standardised unit of measure and distance from the subject.

**AmplitudeWithBaffle:** <https://vocab.audioblast.org/AmplitudeWithBaffle>

A baffle may be used to amplify the song (see below, External resonators).

### Frequency

<https://vocab.audioblast.org/Frequency>

In published works, the method of calculating the frequency or frequency range is not always given. The sub-properties of this property allow for precise definitions to be attributed where possible.

**FundamentalFrequency** <https://vocab.audioblast.org/FundamentalFrequency>**PeakFrequency** <https://vocab.audioblast.org/PeakFrequency>

This is the frequency with the highest amplitude. It is often the same as the fundamental frequency in resonant songs, however, the resonators may make one of the harmonics have a greater amplitude than the fundamental.

**Bandwidth** <https://vocab.audioblast.org/Bandwidth>

The bandwidth is usually defined as the range of frequencies around the peak frequency with an amplitude greater than half (-3dB) of the peak frequency (Fig. 1), although -10dB may also be used, for discussion see Bennet-Clark (1999).

**Bandwidth -10dB** <https://vocab.audioblast.org/Bandwidth-10dB>

**CentreFrequency** <https://vocab.audioblast.org/CentreFrequency>

This is the middle point of the bandwidth.

**Q-factor** <https://vocab.audioblast.org/Qfactor>

The Q-factor (quality factor) is the ratio of the resonant frequency of a system to the bandwidth at which the power is over half of the maximum (-3dB). Other methods of calculating Q exist (Bennet-Clark 1999). In the case of cricket wings, these have shown to be similar (Nocke 1971).

The distinction between Q and  $Q_{10dB}$  has previously caused confusion in the bioacoustics literature (Bennet-Clark 1999). Outside of bioacoustics Q is generally calculated with a -3dB bandwidth as defined here.

**DominantHarmonic** <https://vocab.audioblast.org/DominantHarmonic>

The harmonic with the largest amplitude (1st, 2nd, etc.)

**FirstHarmonicFrequency** <https://vocab.audioblast.org/FirstHarmonicFrequency>

The frequency of the first harmonic, in kHz.

**FirstHarmonicAttenuation** <https://vocab.audioblast.org/FirstHarmonicAttenuation>

The difference in amplitude between the fundamental and first harmonic amplitude (dB).

**SecondHarmonicFrequency** <https://vocab.audioblast.org/SecondHarmonicFrequency>

The frequency of the second harmonic, in kHz.

**SecondHarmonicAttenuation** <https://vocab.audioblast.org/SecondHarmonicAttenuation>

The difference in amplitude between the fundamental and second harmonic amplitude (dB).

## Duty Cycle

<https://vocab.audioblast.org/DutyCycle>

The duty cycle is the percentage of a cycle for which a signal is present. When the song has a higher-order structure (e.g. echemes), there will be multiple duty cycles (e.g. for syllables within an echeme and for the entire song).

## Calling Conditions

### Temporal

While some species will sing throughout the day and night, others make their Calling Songs mostly, or only, at certain times of the day. The data property time of day of call allows these data to be recorded. While some literature gives the timing in hours (in which case it should be recorded as, e.g. 1100-1500) others use terms such as 'late afternoon' or 'evening'. While it may appear that giving actual times may be more precise than these looser terms, that may not always be the case. The timing of evening as an example will vary both with latitude and potentially the time of year. In the case of an automated recognition system that is aware of both its time and location, and can, therefore, calculate when it is likely to be evening on any given day, the looser time may provide a more helpful hint at identification. In addition to diel patterns in Calling Song, there may also be yearly cycles in call production, particularly in temperate regions. The time of year of call property allows this to be recorded (e.g. Late June-September).

**TimeOfDayOfCall** <https://vocab.audioblast.org/TimeOfDayOfCall>

**TimeOfDayOfHighestAcousticActivity** <https://vocab.audioblast.org/TimeOfDayOfHighestAcousticActivity>

**TimeofYearOfCall** <https://vocab.audioblast.org/TimeOfYearOfCall>

### Environmental

**MinimumCallingTemperature** <https://vocab.audioblast.org/MinimumCallingTemperature>

Many species will not produce a calling song below a particular temperature (e.g. *Ephippiger ephippiger* will not stridulate below 15-17°C (Stiedl and Bickmeyer 1991).

**CallingHeight** <https://vocab.audioblast.org/CallingHeight>

Many insects call from a specific height within the environment.

### Call Participants

#### Male-female duets

In most species, the male calls and the female remains silent while approaching her potential mate. However, in a few groups of Orthoptera and Cicadidae, the female signals acoustically to the male, who may modify his call rate in response. This female Response Song occurs during the mate location stage and is therefore different from the Agreement Song, which occurs when the male and female are within close proximity. Response songs are currently only known from three unrelated lineages in the Tettigoniidae (Robinson and Hall 2002) and some cicadas.

In some species the female moves towards the male (female phonotaxis), in others the male towards the female (male phonotaxis). In other species, the male and/or female will perform phonotaxis. The recommended values for the mating location method data property are given in Table 4.

Table 4. Controlled vocabulary for mate location method. <a href="https://vocab.audioblast.org/cv/mlm">https://vocab.audioblast.org/cv/mlm</a>
<b>Mate-location Method</b>
<a href="#">MalePhonotaxis</a>
<a href="#">FemalePhonotaxis</a>
<a href="#">MaleAndFemalePhonotaxis</a>
<a href="#">MaleOrFemalePhonotaxis</a>

### **FemaleResponseDelay** <https://vocab.audioblast.org/FemaleResponseDelay>

Some species have a very narrow window in which the female must reply to maintain phonotaxis, notably the common European species *Leptophyes punctatissima* has a response window of only 20-50ms (Robinson and Hall 2002). Similar female responses that are dependant on signal timing are found in some cicada species (Marshall and Cooley 2001). The data property female response window can be used to store this data, although there are few studies in the literature.

### **CallParticipants** <https://vocab.audioblast.org/CallParticipants>

One of 'Male', 'Female', 'MaleAndFemale'.

### **Male response to male Calling Song**

The presence of a conspecific Calling Song may change the acoustic behaviour of a male. A controlled vocabulary of these behaviour modifications is given in Table 5.

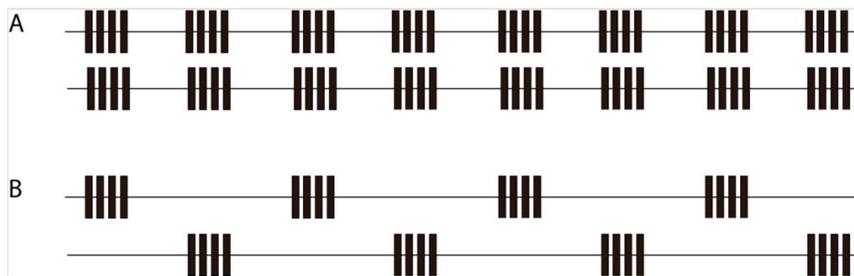
Table 5. Controlled vocabulary for male behaviour modifications to conspecific Calling Song. <a href="https://vocab.audioblast.org/cv/maleres">https://vocab.audioblast.org/cv/maleres</a>
<b>Male response to conspecific song</b>
<a href="#">PhysicalSpacing</a>
<a href="#">Chorusing</a>
<a href="#">SynchronousChorusing</a>
<a href="#">AlternateChorusing</a>

**Male response to conspecific song**[UnynchronousChorusing](#)

**Physical spacing** The Calling Song of a conspecific male may be an agonistic signal. The reaction of males to conspecific Calling Songs can vary, some such as *Tettigonia viridissima* try to maximise their distance from other males (Physical Spacing) (Arak et al. 1990) (but the spacing may be limited by habitat features, such as suitable singing perches: Arak and Eiriksson 1992). Species that sing at the same time of day but do not modify their acoustic behaviour in response to conspecific song should not be included (e.g. those species which sing at dusk each evening).

**IndividualSpacingWhileCalling** <https://vocab.audioblast.org/IndividualSpacingWhileCalling>

**Chorusing** In Synchronous Chorusing conspecific males synchronise their songs to begin almost simultaneously. In Alternating Chorusing males (such as *Pterophylla camellifolia*; Shaw 1968) do not overlap the repeating units of their song. In both types of chorusing, the rhythm of the song may be more uniformly periodic than the same male singing in isolation. The different types of chorusing are shown in Fig. 3.

Figure 3. [doi](#)

A: Synchronous Chorusing; B: Alternating Chorusing

Unynchronous chorusing occurs when groups of individuals produce a call, but no relationship appears to occur between the calls of individuals (Ewing 1989).

Chorusing males may sing more frequently and more often than solitary males of the same species (Alexander 1967).

**Alternatives to acoustic communication**

**AlternateMateAttractionMethod** <https://vocab.audioblast.org/AlternateMateAttractionMethod>

Often acoustic signalling is combined with other signalling methods, such as 'Visual'.

## Sound production morphology

### Stridulatory apparatus

A stridulatory apparatus consists of a plectrum (often a raised vein on a wing) and a file, a series of raised protrusions. The stridulatory files of two closely related species of bush cricket are shown in Fig. 4, demonstrating the variation in stimulatory apparatus even within a single genus.



Figure 4. [doi](#)

The stridulatory files of two closely related species of *Horatosphaga* (Heller and Baker 2017).

Both the length of the stridulatory file and the number of teeth on the file can be diagnostic to species and are included in this ontology.

**StridulatoryFileLength** <https://vocab.audioblast.org/StridulatoryFileLength>

Unit: mm

**StridulatoryFileToothNumber** <https://vocab.audioblast.org/StridulatoryFileToothNumber>

**StridulatoryFileToothDensity** <https://vocab.audioblast.org/StridulatoryFileToothDensity>

Unit: teeth per mm

**StridulatoryFileWidth** <https://vocab.audioblast.org/StridulatoryFileWidth>

Unit: mm

**StridulatoryFileToothWidth** <https://vocab.audioblast.org/StridulatoryFileToothWidth>

Unit:  $\mu\text{m}$

**StridulatoryFileImpactsPerSyllable** <https://vocab.audioblast.org/StridulatoryFileImpactsPerSyllable>

## Tymbalisation apparatus

The tymbalisation apparatus consists of a rigid membrane that produces sound as it is buckled. The sound produced may be altered by the presence of ribs that cause the deformation to happen in distinct stages.

**TymbalRibNumber** <https://vocab.audioblast.org/TymbalRibNumber>

## Resonators

<https://vocab.audioblast.org/Resonator>

Resonators are often used to tune and amplify the songs of insects. Multiple resonators may be used, such as the 'harp' and 'mirror' in crickets.

**PrimaryResonator** <https://vocab.audioblast.org/PrimaryResonator>

**SecondaryResonator** <https://vocab.audioblast.org/SecondaryResonator>

## External resonators

### Acoustic burrows

Various species of Orthoptera use burrows as external resonators to amplify their calls (Fig. 5), this behaviour is most obvious in the mole crickets (Orthoptera: Gryllotalpidae). The acoustic properties of acoustic burrows have been discussed by Bennet-Clark, a descriptive terminology has been proposed by Baker (2016b). The Natural History Museum holds a burrow cast made by the holotype of *Gryllotalpa vineae* and has made 3D models available (Baker and Broom 2015).

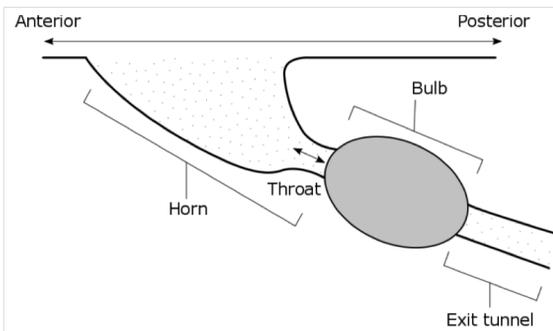


Figure 5. [doi](https://doi.org/10.1093/bioacoust/bbaw015)

Acoustic burrow of *Gryllotalpa major* from Baker (2016b).

*Trachops cirrhosus* (Spix, 1823)

Overview Descriptions Media Literature Maps Specimens Translate Revisions

**NOMENCLATURE**

Family: *Phyllostomidae*  
Genus: *Trachops*

**VERNACULAR NAMES**

English	Fringe-lipped bat
English	Frog-eating bat

**SOUND RECORDINGS**

**ECOLOGICAL INTERACTIONS**

Species A	Interaction	Species B	Link
<i>Trachops cirrhosus</i>	acoustically-orientating predator of	<i>Physalaemus pustulosus</i>	<a href="#">view</a>

Figure 6. [doi](#)

Acoustic ecological interaction implemented within the BioAcoustica platform.

## Baffles

Some tree crickets of the genus *Oecanthus* use baffles made of leaves to amplify their sound (Mhatre 2018).

**BaffleMaterial** <https://vocab.audioblast.org/BaffleMaterial>

## Hearing

Insects hear through modified tympanal organs, but they vary in their location on the body. In the Tettigoniidae the hearing organs are located on the foreleg tibia, whereas in the Acrididae they are located on the 1st abdominal segment. The hearing organ location property is used to record this information. The location of hearing organs has been summarised by Hoy and Fay (1998).

**HearingOrgan** <https://vocab.audioblast.org/HearingOrgan>

Currently one of 'SubgenualOrgan', 'TripartiteOrgan', 'Typanum'. A proposed controlled vocabulary is provided at <https://vocab.audioblast.org/cv/hearing>.

**HearingOrganLocation** <https://vocab.audioblast.org/HearingOrganLocation>

E.g. 'Tibia', 'Abdomen'. A proposed controlled vocabulary is provided at <https://vocab.audioblast.org/cv/hol>.

**Hearing Frequency** <https://vocab.audioblast.org/HearingFrequency>

The frequency range in kHz that the insect hears.

**Hearing Peak Frequency** <https://vocab.audioblast.org/HearingPeakFrequency>

The frequency (in KHz) at which the hearing is most sensitive.

## Data Models

The "bag of terms" approach used here leaves data models to the user, unless a future community effort is made towards standardisation. The models here provide some examples of how the terms may be used to describe sound production in insects. All of the examples here are taken from the literature.

### Basic facts about a call

**"A rapid succession of loud, sonorous chirps, almost always of three syllables. *Gryllus campestris*."** (Bellman 1988: Table 6)

Table 6. Coding for <i>Gryllus campestris</i> from the key in Bellman (1988)		
Species	Property	Value
<i>Gryllus campestris</i>	Call structure	EchemeSequence
<i>Gryllus campestris</i>	Syllables per echeme	3

The term chirp is here deprecated following Broughton (1976) so the highest level of structure is the echeme sequence (the chirp is an echeme, the song is comprised of an echeme sequence).

**"Soft buzzing chirps of c. 1 sec. duration ('trrrt'), separated by intervals of about equal length. *Platycleis montana*."** (Bellman 1988: Table 7)

Table 7. Coding for <i>Platycleis montana</i> from the key in Bellman (1988).			
Species	Property	Value	Reference
<i>Platycleis montana</i>	CallStructure	EchemeSequence	Bellman (1988)
<i>Platycleis montana</i>	EchemeDuration	1	Bellman (1988)
<i>Platycleis montana</i>	EchemeInterval	1	Bellman (1988)

This example is expanded to include a reference. The units of the Value column are defined above (as SI units) so there is no need to indicate them here.

**"Output energy in the 1996 specimen was centred at 124.8 kHz, with 126.5 and 122.2 kHz in each of the specimens collected in 2013 respectively, for an average of 124.5±2.17 kHz (n = 4, [Fig. 7H](#))"** (Sarria-S et al. 2014: Table 8)

Table 8.

Coding for frequency of *Supersonus piercei* from Sarria-S et al. (2014).

Species	Property	Value	Ref
<i>Supersonus piercei</i>	CentreFrequency	124.5±2.17	Sarria-S et al., 2014

### Basic facts about morphology

"The left and right files are equal in length and bear the same number of teeth. The right file has a mean length of  $0.48\pm 0.02$ mm ( $N=13$ ) and the left file has a mean length of  $0.48\pm 0.03$  mm ( $N=14$ ). The number of teeth was  $36\pm 2$  ( $N=13$ ) on the right file and  $36\pm 3$  ( $N=14$ ) on the left file." (Dambach and Gras 1995: Table 9)

Table 9.

Coding for morphological features of *Cycloptiloides canariensis* from Dambach and Gras (1995).

Species	Property	Value	Reference
<i>Cycloptiloides canariensis</i>	StridulatoryFileLength	0.48±0.03	Dambach and Gras (1995)
<i>Cycloptiloides canariensis</i>	StridulatoryFileToothNumber	36±3	Dambach and Gras (1995)

### Mutliple calls per taxon

"The calling song of male *G. integer* consists of chirps with two or three sound pulses each (carrier frequency of approximately 4.2 kHz). ... By contrast to calling song, courtship song in *G. integer* consists of 4.2 kHz sound pulses interspersed with higher amplitude, higher frequency (13 kHz) single sound pulses." (Leonard and Hedrick (2010): Table 10)

Table 10.

Coding for different songs in *Gryllus integer* from Leonard and Hedrick (2010).

Species	CallType	Property	Value	Reference
<i>Gryllus integer</i>	CallingSong	PeakFrequency	4.2	Leonard & Hedrick (2010)
<i>Gryllus integer</i>	CourtshipSong	PeakFrequency	4.2; 13	Leonard & Hedrick (2010)

### Hemisyllables

"*Artiotonus artius* ... At 24 °C, the song of this species is an un- broken wave train (a quite short very sinusoidal pulse) of  $3.78 \pm 0.14$  ms duration ( $n = 7$ ), produced by a single continuous closing stroke." (MONTEALEGRE-Z et al. 2011: Table 11).

Table 11.

Coding for song structure from MONTEALEGRE-Z et al. (2011).

Species	Property	Value	Temperature	Reference
<i>Artiotonus atius</i>	CallStructure	ClosingHemisyllable	24	Montealegre-Z et al, 2011

This example also records the temperature, as many properties of insect songs are temperature dependant.

## Example implementation on BioAcoustica

As an example of the usage of this standardised terminology it has been implemented on the [BioAcoustica](#) website (Baker et al. 2015b). So far over 5,500 individual items of acoustic trait data have been added. BioAcoustica is built on top of the Scratchpads virtual research environment (VRE) (Smith et al. 2012). The terms proposed here are stored as a classification within the VRE, and a new bioacoustics\_traits content type allows the linking of terms to species, temperature, sex and a published literature reference. An example from the user interface is given in Fig. 7

Ontology Term	Value	Reference	Edit link
<b>Time Of Day Of Highest Acoustic Activity</b> <a href="https://vocab.audiolabst.org/TimeOfDayOfHighestAcousticActivity">https://vocab.audiolabst.org/TimeOfDayOfHighestAcousticActivity</a>	Sunrise-sunset	<a href="#">View</a>	<a href="#">edit</a>
<b>Number Of Teeth On Stridulatory File</b> <a href="https://vocab.audiolabst.org/StridulatoryFileToothNumber">https://vocab.audiolabst.org/StridulatoryFileToothNumber</a>	46 Male,	<a href="#">View</a>	<a href="#">edit</a>
<b>Length Of Stridulatory File</b> <a href="https://vocab.audiolabst.org/StridulatoryFileLength">https://vocab.audiolabst.org/StridulatoryFileLength</a>	1.5 Male,	<a href="#">View</a>	<a href="#">edit</a>
<b>Sound Production Method</b> <a href="https://vocab.audiolabst.org/SoundProductionMethod">https://vocab.audiolabst.org/SoundProductionMethod</a> Inferred by inference_bot from value assigned to Gryllidae	Elytral Stridulation		<a href="#">edit</a>
<b>Crepitation (Presence)</b> <a href="https://vocab.audiolabst.org/CrepitationPresence">https://vocab.audiolabst.org/CrepitationPresence</a> Inferred by inference_bot from value assigned to Ensifera	Absent Male; Female,		<a href="#">edit</a>

Ontology Term	Value	Reference	Edit link
<b>Time Of Day Of Call</b> <a href="https://vocab.audiolabst.org/TimeOfDayOfCall">https://vocab.audiolabst.org/TimeOfDayOfCall</a>	AfterDark Male,	<a href="#">View</a>	<a href="#">edit</a>
<b>Frequency (kHz)</b> <a href="http://vocab.audiolabst.org/Frequency">http://vocab.audiolabst.org/Frequency</a>	2.5-3.5 Male,	<a href="#">View</a>	<a href="#">edit</a>
<b>Time Of Day Of Call</b> <a href="https://vocab.audiolabst.org/TimeOfDayOfCall">https://vocab.audiolabst.org/TimeOfDayOfCall</a>	Evening; Night Male,	<a href="#">View</a>	<a href="#">edit</a>
<b>Song Structure</b> <a href="https://vocab.audiolabst.org/SongStructure">https://vocab.audiolabst.org/SongStructure</a>	Echemes Male,	<a href="#">View</a>	<a href="#">edit</a>
<b>Echeme Repetition Rate (Hz)</b> <a href="https://vocab.audiolabst.org/EchemeRepetitionRate">https://vocab.audiolabst.org/EchemeRepetitionRate</a>	0.5-1.0 Sex: Male, Temp:	<a href="#">View</a>	<a href="#">edit</a>
<b>Echeme Repetition Rate (Hz)</b> <a href="https://vocab.audiolabst.org/EchemeRepetitionRate">https://vocab.audiolabst.org/EchemeRepetitionRate</a>	1.0-1.5 Sex: Male, Temp: 20-25	<a href="#">View</a>	<a href="#">edit</a>

Figure 7. [doi](#)

User interface for bioacoustic traits in the BioAcoustica platform.

## Acoustic Ecological Interactions

The Global Biotic Interactions project (GloBI; Poelen et al. 2014) has driven the recent increase in the accessibility of ecological interaction data on the web.

The recent integration of ecological interactions into the Scratchpads VRE (Baker et al. 2019) has provided the opportunity for integration of some acoustic ecology terms into the BioAcoustica project (Fig. 6). While the current term list is small and based solely upon papers already in the BioAcoustica system, the future development of such a list seems appropriate to be done within the broader scope of the project outlined here. A list of terms is at <https://vocab.audioblast.org/cv/eoint>.

## Discussion

The proposals made here address many of the issues the authors have faced in consolidating acoustic trait datasets for their own research purposes. It is anticipated that they will, in general, be of broader use, and with expansion, or modification be applicable to other scientists, or other taxonomic groups. As an example, it can reasonably be anticipated that terms relating to frequency and times of calls when applied to all acoustically active species in an area may provide useful information in the partition of the acoustic space between species.

The authors are willing, and interested in, collaborating with others to develop the proposed vocabulary for additional use cases. While this paper addresses only terminology associated with insects, every effort has been made to make the vocabulary itself taxon-neutral. Suggestions on improvements and additions are welcomed via GitHub (<https://github.com/audioblast/vocabularies/issues>) or by email.

## Future Work

Besides the general development of the terminology and associated vocabularies presented here, two main themes of work are currently planned.

The first is a centralised database of acoustic trait data that will harvest trait data from BioAcoustica and in future other data sources. This database will be searchable via a web-based API (Application Programming Interface) that will be used to power a website for end users and be accessible via an R package for scripted querying. This API will be publically available and documented for integration with other projects.

Work is underway on internationalisation of the vocabulary. This includes incorporating non-English terms into the controlled vocabularies and providing non-English translations of the term definitions.

## Acknowledgements

The authors would like to thank David Marshall, Klaus Riede, and Benjamin Price for constructive criticism of the manuscript.

## Funding program

Leverhulme Trust

## Grant title

Automated Acoustic Observatories (RPG-2016-201).

## Hosting institution

University of York

## References

- Alexander R (1967) Acoustical Communication in Arthropods. Annual Review of Entomology 12 (1): 495-526. <https://doi.org/10.1146/annurev.en.12.010167.002431>
- Appleby H (1987) The need to know. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NX45hc0aZt0>. Accessed on: 2019-4-01.
- Arak A, Eiriksson T, Radessäter T (1990) The adaptive significance of acoustic spacing in male bushcrickets *Tettigonia viridissima*: a perturbation experiment. Behavioral Ecology and Sociobiology 26: 1-7. <https://doi.org/10.1007/bf00174019>
- Arak A, Eiriksson T (1992) Choice of singing sites by male bushcrickets (*Tettigonia viridissima*) in relation to signal propagation. Behavioral Ecology and Sociobiology 30 (6). <https://doi.org/10.1007/bf00176170>
- Bailey W (1978) Resonant wing systems in the Australian whistling moth *Hecatesia* (Agarasidae, Lepidoptera). Nature 272 (5652): 444-446. <https://doi.org/10.1038/272444a0>
- Baker E, Rycroft S, Smith V (2014) Linking multiple biodiversity informatics platforms with Darwin Core Archives. Biodiversity Data Journal 2: e1039. <https://doi.org/10.3897/bdj.2.e1039>
- Baker E, Broom Y (2015) Natural History Museum Sound Archive I: Orthoptera: Gryllotalpidae Leach, 1815, including 3D scans of burrow casts of *Gryllotalpa gryllotalpa* (Linnaeus, 1758) and *Gryllotalpa vineae* Bennet-Clark, 1970. Biodiversity Data Journal 3: e7442. <https://doi.org/10.3897/bdj.3.e7442>
- Baker E, Price B, Rycroft S, Villet M (2015a) Global Cicada Sound Collection I: Recordings from South Africa and Malawi by B. W. Price & M. H. Villet and harvesting of BioAcoustica data by GBIF. Biodiversity Data Journal 3: e5792. <https://doi.org/10.3897/bdj.3.e5792>
- Baker E, Price BW, Rycroft SD, Hill J, Smith VS (2015b) BioAcoustica: a free and open repository and analysis platform for bioacoustics. Database : the journal of biological databases and curation 2015: bav054. <https://doi.org/10.1093/database/bav054>
- Baker E (2016a) Saving Waves: BioAcoustica progress report 1. PeerJ Preprints <https://doi.org/10.7287/peerj.preprints.1948v2>

- Baker E (2016b) The burrow morphology of mole crickets (Orthoptera: Gryllotalpidae): terminology and comparisons. PeerJ Preprints <https://doi.org/10.7287/peerj.preprints.2664v1>
- Baker E, Vincent S (2019) A deafening silence: a lack of reproducibility in published bioacoustics research? Biodiversity Data Journal 7: e36783. <https://doi.org/10.3897/BDJ.7.e36783>
- Baker E, Dupont S, Smith V (2019) Ecological interactions in the Scratchpads virtual research environment. Biodiversity Data Journal 7: e47043. <https://doi.org/10.3897/bdj.7.e47043>
- Bellman H (1988) A Field Guide to the Grasshoppers and Crickets of Britain and Northern Europe. Collins, 213 pp. [ISBN 0002198525]
- Bennet-Clark HC (1999) Which Qs to choose: questions of quality in bioacoustics? Bioacoustics 9 (4): 351-359. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09524622.1999.9753408>
- Bennet W, Chesmore D, Baker E (2015) Speckled Bush Cricket Data Logger - Project Report. Figshare <https://doi.org/10.6084/M9.FIGSHARE.1430094>
- Benton T (2012) Grasshoppers & crickets. Collins, 544 pp. [ISBN 978-000727230]
- Boulard M (2013) Cicadas of Thailand. Volume 2: Taxonomy and sonic ethology. Siri Scientific Press
- Bragg PE (1992) The use of stick insects in schools. School Science Review 73: 49-58.
- Brehm G, Fischer M, Gorb S, Kleinteich T, Kühn B, Neubert D, Pohl H, Wipfler B, Wurdinger S (2015) The unique sound production of the Death's-head hawkmoth (*Acherontia atropos* (Linnaeus, 1758)) revisited. Die Naturwissenschaften 102 (7-8): 43. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00114-015-1292-5>
- Brock P (2017) Mole cricket *Gryllotalpa gryllotalpa* (L.) in the New Forest, Hampshire. Atropos 27-33.
- Broughton WB (1963) Method in bio-acoustic terminology. In: Busnel R-G (Ed.) Acoustic Behaviour of Animals. Elsevier
- Broughton WB (1976) Proposal for a new term echeme to replace chirp in animal acoustics. Physiological Entomology 1 (2): 103-106. <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1365-3032.1976.tb00896.x>
- Buchler ER, Wright TB, Brown ED (1981) On the functions of stridulation by the passalid beetle *Odontotaenius disjunctus* (Coleoptera: Passalidae). Animal Behaviour 29: 483-486. [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0003-3472\(81\)80108-X](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0003-3472(81)80108-X)
- Cator LJ, Arthur BJ, Harrington LC, Hoy RR (2009) Harmonic convergence in the love songs of the dengue vector mosquito. Science 323 (5917): 1077-1079. <https://doi.org/10.1126/science.1166541>
- Chesmore ED, Ohya E (2007) Automated identification of field-recorded songs of four British grasshoppers using bioacoustic signal recognition. Bulletin of Entomological Research 94 (4): 319-330. <https://doi.org/10.1079/ber2004306>
- Clark D, Moore A (1995) Social communication in the Madagascar hissing cockroach: Features of male courtship hisses and a comparison of courtship and agonistic hisses. Behaviour 132: 401-417. <https://doi.org/10.1163/156853995x00630>
- Cole J (2010) Clinal variation explains taxonomic discrepancy in the calling songs of shield-back katydids (Orthoptera: Tettigoniidae: Tettigoniinae: Aglaothorax). Biological Journal of the Linnean Society 101: 910-910. <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1095-8312.2010.01532.x>

- Connétable S, Robert A, Bouffault F, Bordereau C (1999) Vibratory alarm signals in two sympatric higher termite species: *Pseudacanthotermes spiniger* and *P. militaris* (Termitidae, Macrotermitinae). *Journal of Insect Behavior* 12 (3): 329-342. <https://doi.org/10.1023/a:1020887421551>
- Dambach M, Gras A (1995) Bioacoustics of a miniature cricket, *Cycloptiloides canariensis* (Orthoptera: Gryllidae: Mogoplistinae). *The Journal of experimental biology* 198 (Pt 3): 721-8.
- Delfosse E (1999) Observations sur la stridulation et la défense chez deux Espèces de Phasmes: *Heteropteryx dilatata* (Parkinson, 1798) et *Phyllium bioculatum* Gray, 1832. *Bulletin de l'Association Phyllie* 1: 8-9.
- Dumortier B (1963) Ethological and physiological study of sound emissions in Arthropoda . In: Busnel R-G (Ed.) *Acoustic Behaviour of Animals*. Elsevier
- Ewing A (1989) *Arthropod bioacoustics*. Comstock Publishing, Ithaca, New York. [ISBN 0-8014-2478-X]
- Finn WE, Mastro VC, Payne TL (1972) Stridulatory apparatus and analysis of the acoustics of four species of the subfamily Lamiinae (Coleoptera: Cerambycidae). *Annals of the Entomological Society of America* 65: 644-647. <https://doi.org/10.1093/aesa/65.3.644>
- Gordh G, Headrick DH (2001) *A dictionary of entomology*. CABI Publishing
- Grevén H, Braatz S, Schulten D (2013) Comments on the Malaysian katydid *Ancylecha fenestrata* (Fabricius, 1793) (Orthoptera: Tettigoniidae). *Entomologie Heute* 25: 57-75.
- Hedrick A (1986) Female preferences for male calling bout duration in a field cricket. *Behavioral Ecology and Sociobiology* 19 (1): 73-77. <https://doi.org/10.1007/bf00303845>
- Heller K-, Baker E (2017) From an old sound recording to a new species in the genus *Horatosphaga* (Orthoptera: Tettigoniidae: Phaneropterinae: Acrometopini). *Zootaxa* 4323 (3): 430-434. <https://doi.org/10.11646/zootaxa.4323.3.10>
- Henry GM (1922) Stridulation in the leaf Insect. *Spolia Zeylanica* (B) 12: 217-219.
- Hoy R, Fay R (1998) *Comparative hearing: Insects*. Springer Handbook of Auditory Research <https://doi.org/10.1007/978-1-4612-0585-2>
- Hunsinger E, Root-Gutteridge H, Cusano D, Parks S (2018) A description of defensive hiss types in the flat horned hissing cockroach (*Aeluropoda insignis*). *Bioacoustics* 27 (3): 261-271. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09524622.2017.1327371>
- Köhler J, Jansen M, Rodríguez A, Kok PJR, Toledo LF, Emmrich M, Glaw F, Haddad CFB, Rödel M, Vences M (2017) The use of bioacoustics in anuran taxonomy: theory, terminology, methods and recommendations for best practice. *Zootaxa* 4251 (1): 1-124. <https://doi.org/10.11646/zootaxa.4251.1.1>
- Leonard A, Hedrick A (2010) Long-distance signals influence assessment of close range mating displays in the field cricket, *Gryllus integer* . *Biological Journal of the Linnean Society* 100 (4): 856-865. <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1095-8312.2010.01472.x>
- Linnaeus C (1762) Zweyter Theil, enthält Beschreibungen verschiedener wichtiger Naturalien. In: Hasselquist DF (Ed.) *Reise nach Palästina in den Jahren von 1749 bis 1752*. J.C. Koppe, Rostock, Germany.
- Lorier E, García MD, Clemente ME, Presa JJ (2012) Acoustic behavior of *Metaleptea adspersa* (Orthoptera: Acrididae). *The Canadian Entomologist* 134 (1): 113-123. <https://doi.org/10.4039/ent134113-1>

- Lyal CH, King T (1996) Elytro-tergal stridulation in weevils (Insecta: Coleoptera: Curculionoidea). *Journal of Natural History* 30 (5): 703-773. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00222939600770391>
- Marshall D, Cooley J (2001) Sexual Signaling in Periodical Cicadas, *Magicicada* spp. (Hemiptera: Cicadidae). *Behaviour* 138 (7): 827-855. <https://doi.org/10.1163/156853901753172674>
- Mhatre N (2018) Tree cricket baffles are manufactured tools. *Ethology* 124 (9): 691-693. <https://doi.org/10.1111/eth.12773>
- MONTEALEGRE-Z F, MORRIS G, SARRIA-S F, MASON A (2011) Quality calls: phylogeny and biogeography of a new genus of neotropical katydid (Orthoptera: Tettigoniidae) with ultra pure-tone ultrasonics. *Systematics and Biodiversity* 9 (1): 77-94. <https://doi.org/10.1080/14772000.2011.560209>
- Morris G (1980) Calling display and mating behaviour of *Copiphora rhinoceros* Pictet (Orthoptera: Tettigoniidae). *Animal Behaviour* 28 (1). [https://doi.org/10.1016/s0003-3472\(80\)80006-6](https://doi.org/10.1016/s0003-3472(80)80006-6)
- Morris RA, Barve V, Carausu M, Chavan V, Cuadra J, Freeland C, Hagedorn G, Leary P, Mozzherin D, Olson A, Riccardi G, Teage I, Whitbread G (2013) Discovery and publishing of primary biodiversity data associated with multimedia resources: The Audubon Core strategies and approaches. *Biodiversity Informatics* 8 (2). <https://doi.org/10.17161/bi.v8i2.4117>
- Moulds MS (2005) An appraisal of the higher classification of cicadas (Hemiptera: Cicadoidea) with special reference to the Australian fauna. *Records of the Australian Museum* 57 (3): 375-446. <https://doi.org/10.3853/j.0067-1975.57.2005.1447>
- Naskrecki P, Guta R (2019) Katydids (Orthoptera: Tettigoniidae) of Gorongosa National Park and Central Mozambique. *Zootaxa* 4682 (1): 1-119. <https://doi.org/10.11646/zootaxa.4682.1.1>
- Nattier R, Robillard T, Amedegnato C, Couloux A, Cruaud C, Desutter-Grandcolas L (2011) Evolution of acoustic communication in the Gomphocerinae (Orthoptera: Caelifera: Acrididae). *Zoologica Scripta* 40 (5): 479-497. <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1463-6409.2011.00485.x>
- Nocke H (1971) Biophysik der Schallerzeugung durch die Vorderflügel der Grillen. *Zeitschrift für Vergleichende Physiologie* 74 (3): 272-314. <https://doi.org/10.1007/bf00297730>
- Otte D (1972) Communicative aspects of reproductive behaviour in Australian grasshoppers (Oedipodinae and Gomphocerinae). *Australian Journal of Zoology* 20 (2). <https://doi.org/10.1071/zo9720139>
- Poelen J, Simons J, Mungall C (2014) Global biotic interactions: An open infrastructure to share and analyze species-interaction datasets. *Ecological Informatics* 24: 148-159. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecoinf.2014.08.005>
- Price BW, Henry CS, Hall AC, Mochizuki A, Duelli P, Brooks SJ (2015) Singing from the grave: DNA from a 180 year old type specimen confirms the identity of *Chrysoperla carnea* (Stephens). *PLOS One* 10 (4): e0121127. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0121127>
- Pringle JWS (1954) A physiological analysis of cicada song. *Journal of Experimental Biology* 31: 525-525.
- Ragge D, Reynolds W (1998) The songs of the grasshoppers and crickets of Western Europe. Harley Books

- Ragge DR (1990) The songs of the western European bush-crickets of the genus *Platycleis* in relation to their taxonomy (Orthoptera: Tettigoniidae). *Bulletin of British Museum Natural History (Entomology)* 59: 1 – 35-1 – 35.
- Riede K, Nischk F, Dietrich C, Thiel C, Schwenker F (2006) Automated annotation of Orthoptera songs: first results from analysing the DORSA sound repository. *Journal of Orthoptera Research* 15 (1): 105-113. [https://doi.org/10.1665/1082-6467\(2006\)15\[105:aaosf\]2.0.co;2](https://doi.org/10.1665/1082-6467(2006)15[105:aaosf]2.0.co;2)
- Riede K (2018) Acoustic profiling of Orthoptera: present state and future needs. *Journal of Orthoptera Research* 27 (2): 203-215. <https://doi.org/10.3897/jor.27.23700>
- Robillard T, Grandcolas P, Desutter-Grandcolas L (2007) A shift toward harmonics for high-frequency calling shown with phylogenetic study of frequency spectra in Eneopterinae crickets (Orthoptera, Grylloidea, Eneopteridae). *Canadian Journal of Zoology* 85 (12): 1264-1275. <https://doi.org/10.1139/z07-106>
- Robinson DJ, Hall M (2002) Sound signalling in Orthoptera. *Advances in Insect Physiology* 29: 151 – 178-151 – 178.
- Sachs J (2013) A less radical proposal for Darwin Core. <http://lists.tdwg.org/pipermail/tdwg-content/2013-June/003049.html>. Accessed on: 2018-12-25.
- Sakaguchi K, Gray D (2011) Host song selection by an acoustically orienting parasitoid fly exploiting a multispecies assemblage of cricket hosts. *Animal Behaviour* 81 (4): 851-858. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.anbehav.2011.01.024>
- Sarria-S F, Morris G, Windmill JC, Jackson J, Montealegre-Z F (2014) Shrinking Wings for Ultrasonic Pitch Production: Hyperintense Ultra-Short-Wavelength Calls in a New Genus of Neotropical Katydid (Orthoptera: Tettigoniidae). *PLoS ONE* 9 (6). <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0098708>
- Sethi S, Ewers R, Jones N, Orme C, Picinali L (2018) Robust, real-time and autonomous monitoring of ecosystems with an open, low-cost, networked device. *Methods in Ecology and Evolution* 9 (12): 2383-2387. <https://doi.org/10.1111/2041-210x.13089>
- Shaw K (1968) An Analysis of the Phonoresponse of Males of the True Katydid, *Pterophylla Camellifolia* (Fabricius) (Orthoptera: Tettigoniidae). *Behaviour* 31: 203-259. <https://doi.org/10.1163/156853968x00270>
- Shestakov LS, Kasparson AA (2019) New data on vibrational communication in the beetle *Acanthoscelides obtectus* (Coleoptera, Bruchidae). *Entomological Review* 99 (4): 456-462. <https://doi.org/10.1134/s0013873819040043>
- Smith VS, Rycroft S, Scott B, Baker E, Livermore L, Heaton A, Bouton K, Koureas DN, Roberts D (2012) Scratchpads 2.0: a virtual research environment infrastructure for biodiversity data. <http://scratchpads.eu>
- Stiedl O, Bickmeyer U (1991) Acoustic behaviour of *Ephippiger ephippiger* Fiebiger (Orthoptera, Tettigoniidae) within a habitat of Southern France. *Behavioural Processes* 23 (2): 125-135. [https://doi.org/10.1016/0376-6357\(91\)90063-6](https://doi.org/10.1016/0376-6357(91)90063-6)
- Stowell D, Wood M, Stylianou Y, Glotin H (2016) Bird detection in audio: A survey and a challenge. 2016 IEEE 26th International Workshop on Machine Learning for Signal Processing (MLSP) <https://doi.org/10.1109/mlsp.2016.7738875>
- Sueur J, Tuck EJ, Robert D (2005) Sound radiation around a flying fly. *The Journal of the Acoustical Society of America* 118 (1): 530-8. <https://doi.org/10.1121/1.1932227>

- Sueur J, Farina A, Gasc A, Pieretti N, Pavoine S (2014) Acoustic Indices for biodiversity assessment and landscape investigation. *Acta Acustica united with Acustica* 100: 772-772. <https://doi.org/10.3813/AAA.918757>
- Travassos MA, Pierce NE (2000) Acoustics, context and function of vibrational signalling in a lycaenid butterfly–ant mutualism. *Animal Behaviour* 60 (1): 13-26. <https://doi.org/10.1006/anbe.1999.1364>
- Truskinger A, Brereton M, Roe P (2018) Visualizing five decades of environmental acoustic data. 2018 IEEE 14th International Conference on e-Science (e-Science) <https://doi.org/10.1109/escience.2018.00140>
- Walker TJ, Dew D (1972) Wing movements of calling katydids: Fiddling finesse. *Science* 178 (4057): 174-176. <https://doi.org/10.1126/science.178.4057.174>
- Wessel A (2006) Stridulation in the Coleoptera - An Overview. *Insect Sounds and Communication* 397-403. <https://doi.org/10.1201/9781420039337.ch30>
- Wieczorek J, Bloom D, Guralnick R, Blum S, Doering M, Giovanni R, Robertson T, Vieglais D (2012) Darwin Core: An evolving community-developed Biodiversity Data Standard. *PLOS One* 7: e29715. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0029715>