

A new Amazonian species of *Allobates* Zimmermann & Zimmermann, 1988 (Aromobatidae) with a trilled advertisement call-pattern

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Abstract

Background. Currently, 57 species are assigned to the genus *Allobates*, with 70% of which were this diversity described just in the last two decades. However, while many more species are still unnamed await formal description, and the continuous description of these new species is a fundamental step for the taxonomic resolution and conservation of the genus.

Methods. Based on molecular, acoustic, and morphological evidences, herein we describe a new species of *Allobates* from Teles Pires River region, southern Amazonia, Teles Pires River, and provide accounts on a sympatric putative new species a-cryptic lineage of *A. tapajos* found sympatrically with this new species.

Results. The *Allobates paleei* sp. nov. new species is distinguished from its congeners by the coloration of thighs, venter, dorsum, and ventrolateral stripe. It has four types of calls, with advertisement calls formed by relatively long trills with a mean duration of 2.29 ± 0.65 , mean of $39.93 \text{ notes} \pm 11.18$ emitted at a mean rate of 17.49 ± 0.68 notes per second, and mean dominant frequency of $5,717 \text{ Hz} \pm 220.81$. The minimum genetic distance between the new species and other its *Allobates* congeners species in a fragment of the 16S mitochondrial gene ranges is from 11.8% (compared to *A. carajas*) to 18.3% (*A. niputidea*) in the 16S mitochondrial fragment. The sympatric putative lineage new species associated cryptic to with *A. tapajos* found in the present study has overlapping features in morphology and calls with when compared to the nominal species *A. tapajos*, but presents a relatively high genetic distance of nearly 6.5% in the 16S, suggesting that this case it might may in fact represent be representing until now an example of a classic case of cryptic diversification.

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Introduction

The number of species of *Allobates* Zimmermann & Zimmermann, 1988 has ~~continuously~~ increased ~~continuously~~ along the last two decades (e.g. Simões et al., 2018; Moraes, Pavan & Lima, 2019; Simões, Rojas & Lima, 2019; Souza et al., 2020; Jaramillo et al., 2021), but several ~~phenotypically and molecularly distinct unnamed~~ lineages remain ~~unnamed~~ (see Simões, Lima & Farias, 2010; Grant et al., 2017; Fouquet, Vidal & Dewynter, 2019; Lima, Ferrão & Silva, 2020; Réjaud et al., 2020). Currently, the genus includes 57 species allocated into ~~four informal groups~~: the Atlantic Forest group [~~one species~~ ~~spp.~~, *A. olfersioides* (Lutz, 1925)], the trans-Andean group [~~two~~ ~~species~~ ~~spp.~~, *A. niputidea* Grant, Acosta & Rada, 2007 and *A. talamancae* (Cope, 1875)], the colorful *A. femoralis* group [~~four~~ ~~spp~~ ~~four species~~ ~~spp.~~, *A. femoralis* (Boulenger, 1884), *A. hodli* Simões, Lima & Farias, 2010, *A. myersi* (Pyburn, 1981), and *A. zaparo* (Silverstone, 1976)], and the most diverse group, which presumably ~~only~~ includes species with $2n = 22$ chromosomes [~~50~~ ~~spp~~ ~~species~~ ~~spp.~~, e.g. *A. brunneus* (Cope, 1887), *A. carajas* Simões, Rojas & Lima, 2019, *A. crombiei* (Morales, 2002), *A. grillisimilis* Simões, Sturaro, Peloso & Lima, 2013, and *A. tapajos* Lima, Simões & Kaefer, 2015 (Grant et al., 2017)].

Allobates tapajos was described based on individuals collected at Parque Nacional da Amazônia, Itaituba ~~Municipality~~ ~~municipality~~, Pará State, Brazil (Lima, Simões & Kaefer, 2015). This species is ~~also~~ known from ~~areas~~ ~~other localities~~ ~~adjacent~~ ~~close~~ to the type locality, ~~on the right and left banks of the middle and low Tapajós River and its complete distribution covers both banks of the middle and lower Tapajós River and the limits of, in different sites of the other two municipalities of (Aveiro and Belterra), and Itaituba~~, all in Pará State (Lima, Simões & Kaefer, 2015; Maia, Lima & Kaefer, 2017). Recently, the existence of unnamed ~~lineages~~ ~~species~~ associated with ~~this~~ nominal *A. tapajos* ~~species~~ has been proposed based on the ~~molecular evidence (Réjaud et al., 2020) and large geographic distances among the populations of the putative new species and the known range of the nominal species, representing possible allopatric distributions~~ ~~large geographical distances between newly reported populations and the previously known range of the species~~ (Fouquet, Vidal & Dewynter, 2019; Réjaud et al., 2020). ~~and molecular evidence (Réjaud et al., 2020).~~

Recent studies highlighted the conservative morphology of *Allobates* species (e.g. Carvalho, Martins & Giaretta, 2016; Moraes & Lima, 2021), and taxonomic decisions considering pluralistic lines of evidence are therefore crucial to accurately describe the ~~biodiversity within the~~ genus ~~diversity~~ (Carvalho, Martins & Giaretta, 2016; Grant et al., 2017; Simões et al., 2018; Moraes, Pavan & Lima, 2019; Simões, Rojas & Lima, 2019). During field-work ~~s~~ along the ~~banks of the~~ Teles Pires River, southern Amazonia, we found two sympatric, cryptically colored and ~~similar lineages~~ of *Allobates*. Analyzing their ~~morphology~~, advertisement calls, ~~and fragments of the gene 16S from mitochondrial DNA, and morphology~~, we diagnosed both ~~lineages~~ as ~~representing~~ unnamed species. One corresponds to a ~~previously reported cryptic lineage~~ ~~new species related-cryptic~~ to *A. tapajos*, ~~previously reported in the literature~~ (Réjaud et al., 2020), whereas the second represents ~~a newly sampled lineage, which is also phenotypically~~

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Comentado [r2]: similar lineages in what sense? Please explain

83 ~~diagnosable from its congeners an unknown lineage. Therefore, here, which~~ we describe
84 ~~the latter lineage~~ as a new species of *Allobates*, ~~and~~ ~~We also~~ provide accounts on the
85 ~~sympatric~~ cryptic ~~lineage new species~~ related to *A. tapajos*.

87 Material and Methods

88 Study area and sampling

89 We performed field-work on both ~~right and left~~ banks of the Teles Pires River, in
90 Jacareacanga municipality (hereafter JAR), southern Pará State, and in Paranaíba
91 ~~M~~municipality (hereafter PAR), northern Mato Grosso State, all in Brazil, between
92 November 2015 and November 2019 (Figure 1). During diurnal surveys at different
93 sites, we collected 24 specimens of *Allobates*, ~~10 ten of them assigned representing to~~
94 the ~~lineage new species~~ described below and ~~15 specimens of representing the new~~
95 ~~species~~ cryptic ~~lineage related to the nominal~~ *A. tapajos* (hereafter *A. aff. tapajos*). We
96 ~~killed-euthanized~~ specimens using a liquid solution of 2% lidocaine chlorhydrate,
97 preserved them in 10% formalin, and posteriorly stored ~~specimens them in~~ 70% ethanol.
98 Tissue samples ~~{from muscles}~~ were taken before specimen preservation, preserved in
99 100% ethanol and stored at -20°C. Collect permit was issued by Instituto Chico Mendes
100 de Conservação da Biodiversidade (ICMBio/SISBIO #79127-1). We deposited
101 specimens in Coleção Zoológica da Universidade Federal de Mato Grosso do Sul
102 (ZUFMS-AMP), Campo Grande, MS, and in Coleção Herpetológica da Universidade
103 Federal da Paraíba, João Pessoa, PB (UFPB). Specimens analyzed are listed in
104 Appendix 1.

106 Bioacoustics Analysis

107 We recorded calls from nine males of the new species from JAR, and eight males
108 of *Allobates A. aff. tapajos* from JAR (n = 7) and PAR (n = 1). All calls were recorded
109 using a Tascam DR-40 digital recorder with built in microphones at 44.1 kHz with a 16-
110 bit resolution. The recordings were made between 7:30 and 18:00 h, air temperature
111 range was 24–30°C and air humidity 80–90%. We analyzed calls in Raven Pro v. 1.5
112 (Bioacoustics Research Program 2014). Temporal parameters were measured from
113 oscillograms, whereas spectral parameters were measured from spectrograms.
114 Remaining sets were: Hann window type, FFT size = 256, brightness 67%, and contrast
115 70%; to reduce background noise we applied a 2500-Hz high-pass filter before acoustic
116 analyses.

117 We describe four call types for the new species: i) calls composed of single notes
118 (voucher CHUFPB30245 [field number: AAGARDA12596], three calls); ii) warming-
119 up short calls (3–15 notes; nine males, 72 calls and 216 notes); iii) advertisement calls
120 (17–61 notes; nine males, 61 calls and 549 notes); and iv) singular multipulsed notes
121 (16–33 pulses; voucher CHUFPB30256 [AAGARDA12595], six calls). For single note
122 ~~calls,~~ we measured the following temporal and spectral parameters: call duration, silent
123 interval between calls and dominant, minimum, and maximum frequencies of the call.
124 Because warming-up and advertisement calls presented a multi-note structure, we
125 sampled a subset of notes to describe ~~the micro~~temporal and spectral parameters of ~~the~~
126 calls. For warming-up calls, we measured the following parameters of the whole call

Comentado [r3]: It seems that the fieldwork was almost continuous along this 4 years? If not, please make more explicit how many field campaigns

Comentado [r4]: Note that throughout my correction I avoided using the term lineage, which can be a bit confusing in a taxonomic study.

Comentado [r5]: or 14? You cited 24 specimens

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and of the first, most central, and last notes of each call (i.e. $n = 3$ notes per call): Temporal parameters – call duration, silent interval between advertisement calls, number of notes per call, duration of the first three notes, silent interval between the first three notes, duration of the most central three notes, silent interval between the three most central notes, duration of last three notes, silent interval between the last three notes, and note repetition rate. Spectral parameters – dominant, minimum and maximum frequencies of the whole call, first three notes, most central three notes, and last three notes.

For advertisement calls, we measured the following parameters of the whole call and of the first three, three most central, and last three notes of each call (i.e. $n = 9$ notes per call). Temporal parameters – call duration, silent interval between the advertisement calls, number of notes per call, duration of first three notes, silent interval between the first three notes, duration of the most central three notes, silent interval between the three most central notes, duration of last three notes, silent interval between the three last notes, and note repetition rate. Spectral parameters - dominant, minimum and maximum frequencies of the whole call, first three notes, most central three notes, and last three notes. For calls composed of multipulsed singular notes, we measured the call duration, silent interval between the multipulsed singular notes, number of pulses per call, and dominant, minimum and maximum frequencies of each call. For calls consisting in single notes, we measured call duration, silent interval between calls, and dominant, minimum and maximum frequencies of the call.

We adapted the methodology proposed by Lima et al., (2015) for the call description of *Allobates A. aff. tapajos*. From each recording, we selected a section with uninterrupted calls around the middle length of the recording. In this section we analyzed 20–24 calls and 34–52 notes per recording, from which we measured both temporal and spectral parameters: duration, dominant, minimum and maximum frequencies, silent interval between the calls, and silent interval between notes in all recordings. We also estimated the rate of note emission (number of notes/seconds) from these sections in all recordings.

Morphology

We measured specimens using a digital caliper to the nearest 0.1 mm. We followed Fabrezi & Alberch, (1996), Grant et al., (2006), Lima et al., (2007), and Barrio-Amorós & Santos, (2009) for morphometric measurements and terminology: snout-to-vent length, head length from tip of snout to posterior edge of maxilla articulation, head width at the level of maxilla articulation, snout length from tip of snout to the center of nostril, eye-to-nostril distance from anterior corner of the eye to the center of nostril, internarial distance, eye diameter from anterior to posterior corner, interorbital distance, maximum diameter of tympanum, forearm length from proximal edge of palmar tubercle to outer edge of flexed elbow, upper arm length from anterior corner of arm insertion to the outer edge of flexed elbow, lengths from proximal edge of palmar tubercle to tips of fingers II, III, IV and V; width of disc on Finger III, width of Finger III's third phalanx, diameter of palmar tubercle, diameter of thenar tubercle, leg length from the posterior extremity of the urostyle region to the outer edge of flexed

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knee, tibia length from outer edge of flexed knee to heel, foot length from proximal edge of outer metatarsal tubercle to tip of Toe IV, and width of disc on Toe IV (WTD).

Molecular Analysis

We extracted DNA from ~~muscle tissue~~ samples using the sodium-chloride salt precipitation method (Bruford et al., 1992). For the polymerase chain reaction (PCR) amplification, we used 7.5 µl of Taq DNA Polymerase Master Mix (Ampliqon S/A, Denmark), 0.4 µl of either primer (forward/backward), and 1–2 µl of DNA, then we complemented with Mili Q water for a final volume reaction of 15 µl. Then, we amplified ~~a fragment of the mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) 16S fragments-gene 16S~~ using primers 16Sar and 16Sbr of Palumbi, (1996). The PCR protocol was configured with one initial cycle of 94 °C for 3 min, followed by 35 cycles of 94 °C for 20 s, 48 °C for 20 s, 68 °C for 40 s, and a final extension cycle of 68 °C for 5 min. The purification of PCR products and sequencing were performed by MacroGen Inc. (Seoul, South Korea).

To assist our diagnosis evaluation and ~~enlighten~~ the phylogenetic ~~position~~ ~~relationships~~ of the two ~~sympatric species of~~ *Allobates* ~~lineages~~ herein addressed, we compared their ~~newly generated~~ 16S ~~fragment sequences with homologous sequences with of all other~~ ~~XX~~ *Allobates* ~~species species with compatible fragment~~ deposited in the online repository GenBank. ~~Sequences of the closely related~~ *Anomaloglossus stepheni* (Martins, 1989), also obtained from GenBank, were included as outgroup. We aligned ~~this~~ 16S mtDNA ~~gene fragments-dataset~~ using MAFFT algorithm (Katoh et al., 2002) in Geneious v 9.0.5 with default settings. ~~We aligned our 16S sequences with 16S sequences of other species of Allobates and with the outgroup Anomaloglossus stepheni (Martins, 1989), which were available in GenBank (Supplemental Figure S1).~~ Due to the immense ~~quantity-amount~~ of 16S sequences available (> 850 sequences), many of them from the same species, we chose, when available, up to three sequences from each species and candidate/non-described species identified in previous works (e.g. Simões, Lima & Farias, 2010; Grant et al., 2017; Fouquet, Vidal & Dewynter, 2019; Lima, Ferrão & Silva, 2020). The final dataset ~~used in all analyses~~ comprised 187 sequences of a 387 base pairs (bp) fragment of ~~the~~ 16S (Supplemental Document S1). All GenBank accession numbers and genetic vouchers used here are listed in the Supplemental Table S1.

~~To infer a phylogenetic tree,~~ ~~We~~ we used the Bayesian Information Criterion in jModelTest (Darriba et al., 2012) to select the best model of nucleotide substitution (GTR+I+G) ~~for our dataset.~~

~~The tree was inferred~~ ~~We~~ under a Bayesian framework using ~~inged~~ BEAST v.2.6.3 (Bouckaert et al., 2019) with 50 million generations, sampling every 5,000 steps using a Yule Process tree prior ~~to conduct a bayesian phylogenetic analysis.~~ We checked for stationarity ~~of parameters~~ by visually inspecting trace plots and ensuring that all values for effective sample size were above 200 in Tracer v1.7.1 (Rambaut et al., 2018). The first 10% ~~of the~~ genealogies sampled were discarded as burn-in, and a maximum clade credibility tree with median node ages ~~was~~ constructed in TreeAnnotator v.2.6.3

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(Bouckaert et al., 2019). We also calculated sequence divergences (uncorrected p-distances) among species/individuals using MEGA v10.1.1 (Kumar et al., 2018).

Interspecific comparisons

The new species described here is only known to occur in ombrophilous forests from southern Brazilian Amazonia, in the boundary of the southern Pará sState with northern Mato Grosso state, Brazil, in the ombrophilous forests of the medium Teles Pires River. Herein Based on this restricted distribution and molecular phylogenetic affinities, here, we phenotypically compare ~~it~~ the new species with all 31 Brazilian congeners (~~XX% of the genus diversity~~) distributed throughout Brazil (Fig. 1): *Allobates bacurau* Simões, 2016, *A. brunneus*, *Allobates A.-caeruleodactylus* (Lima & Caldwell, 2001), *Allobates A.-caldwellae* Lima, Ferrão & Silva, 2020, *A. carajas*, *Allobates A.-conspicuus* (Morales, 2002), *A. crombiei*, *A. femoralis*, *Allobates A.-flaviventris* Melo-Sampaio, Souza & Peloso, 2013, *Allobates A.-fuscellus* (Morales, 2002), *Allobates A.-gasconi* (Morales, 2002), *Allobates A.-goianus* (Bokermann, 1975), *Allobates A.-grillcantus* (Moraes & Lima, 2021), *A. grillisimilis*, *A. hodli*, *Allobates A.-magnussoni* Lima, Simões & Kaefer, 2014, *Allobates A.-marchesianus* (Melin, 1941), *Allobates A.-masniger* (Morales, 2002), *A. myersi*, *Allobates A.-nidicola* (Caldwell & Lima, 2003), *Allobates A.-nunciatus* Moraes, Pavan & Lima, 2019, *A. olfersioides*, *Allobates A.-pacaas* Melo-Sampaio et al., 2020, *Allobates A.-paleovarzensis* Lima et al., 2010, *Allobates A.-subfolionidificans* (Lima, Sanchez & Souza, 2007), *Allobates A.-sumtuosus* (Morales, 2002), *A. tapajos*, *Allobates A.-tinae* Melo-Sampaio, Oliveira & Prates, 2018, *Allobates A.-trilineatus* (Boulenger, 1884), *Allobates A.-vanzolinus* (Morales, 2002), and *Allobates A.-velocicantus* Souza, Ferrão, Hanken & Lima, 2020.

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Nomenclatural acts

The electronic edition of this article conforms to the requirements of the amended International Code of Zoological Nomenclature, and hence the new names contained herein are available under that Code of this article. This published work and the nomenclatural acts it contains have been registered in ZooBank, the online registration system for the ICZN. The LSID (Life Science Identifier) for this publication is: urn:lsid:zoobank.org:pub:6B0FDB3B-30B2-471E-9E06-8B7F296F454F. The electronic edition of this work was published in a journal with an ISSN, has been archived, and is available from the following digital repository: www.peerj.com/.

Results

Allobates paleci sp. nov.

Figure 2, Figure 3, Figure 4, Figure 7, Table 1.

Holotype. CHUFPB30253. Adult male collected by L.A. Silva and H. Folly, on 17 February 2019, on the right bank of the Teles Pires River, Jacareacanga municipality, Pará state, Brazil (-9.258367°, -56.805723°; datum = WGS84).

Paratopotypes. Eight adult males: CHUFPB30244–45, CHUFPB30248,

CHUFPB30251–52, CHUFPB30256, CHUFPB30281, CHUFPB30306; one adult

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female CHUFPB30242; ~~all collected by~~ L.A. Silva and H. Folly ~~collected all specimens~~ between 16–17 February 2019 ~~at the same locality of the holotype~~.

Etymology. Indigenous populations of the Apiaká ethnic group historically inhabited areas along the major tributaries of the Tapajós, Jurueña, Teles Pires, and Arinos ~~Rivers~~~~rivers~~. Different familiar groups of the Apiaká ~~who live spread throughout this area can are be named called~~ according to their residence ~~regions~~~~regions~~, and ~~The families inhabiting the middle~~~~medium~~ Teles Pires River are ~~called known as~~ Paleci. The specific epithet “paleci” is a noun in apposition referring to these families ~~of the Apiaká ethnic group who inhabit the medium Teles Pires River, who live~~ on the vicinities of the ~~new species~~ type locality. We ~~also~~ suggest the ~~following~~ Portuguese vernacular names ~~for the new species~~: “sapinho-foguete-dos-paleci” or “rãzinha-dos-paleci”.

Generic placement. The new species is assigned to the genus *Allobates* based on molecular evidence (mtDNA 16S, Figure 5) and by presence of the following morphological characteristics: Finger V length not reaching the distal subarticular tubercle of Finger IV, basal webbing with lateral fringe on the preaxial side of Toe IV, presence of pale paracloacal marks, presence of a pale ventrolateral stripe, and the presence of a diffuse oblique lateral stripe (Grant et al., 2017).

Diagnosis. *Allobates paleci* sp. nov. can be distinguished from the other species of the genus ~~occurring in the Brazil~~ by the following ~~combination of set of~~ characters: (1) ~~dorsum light brown, with a dark brown hourglass mark ranging from the interorbital level to the urostyle region~~~~dorsal surface of thigh light brown, abdomen immaculate yellowish in life~~; (2) ~~(2) abdomen immaculate yellowish in life~~ ~~dorsum light brown with dark brown hourglass mark ranging from the interorbital level to the urostyle region~~; (3) gular region of males yellowish in life, lacking obvious melanophores; (4) dorsal surface of thighs ~~light brown~~ lacking dark brown transversal bars; (5) in life, presence of a light golden interrupted ventrolateral stripe; (6) advertisement calls formed by trills with a duration of 0.97–3.57 s (2.29 ± 0.65), 17–61 notes (39.93 ± 11.18) emitted at a rate of 16.32–19.10 notes per second (17.49 ± 0.68), and dominant frequency ranging between 5,168–6,202 Hz ($5,717 \pm 220.81$); ~~(7) molecular data~~.

Morphological comparisons. ~~The new species is known only for two sites in southern Amazonia, in the Tapajós center of endemism. Therefore, we compared the morphology of the new species with all other valid Allobates species ranging along Brazil (i.e. 31 spp., Segalla et al., 2021; Moraes, Pavan & Lima, 2019; Lima, Ferrão & Silva, 2020; Melo-Sampaio et al., 2020; Souza et al., 2020).~~ The character states of the compared species are given in parentheses.

Allobates paleci sp. nov. can be easily distinguished from *A. femoralis*, *A. hodli*, and *A. myersi* by having dorsal surface of the thigh light brown, abdomen immaculate and yellowish in life (red or yellow flash mark on dorsal surface of thigh, and black and white marbling on the abdomen) (Boulenger, 1884; Pyburn, 1981; Simões, Lima & Farias, 2010).

From *A. bacurau*, *A. caeruleodactylus*, *A. caldwellae*, *A. conspicuus*, *A. fuscellus*, *A. grillicantus*, *A. grillisimilis*, *A. juami*, *A. marchesianus*, *A. masniger*, *A. nidicola*, *A. nunciatus*, *A. paleovarzensis*, *A. subfolionidificans*, *A. sumtuosus*, *A. tinae*, *A. vanzolinius*, and *A. velocicantus*, *A. paleci* sp. nov. can be distinguished by have a light

Comentado [r9]: A striking character of this species, which from what I have noticed to occur in all specimens, is that its dark lateral stripe, generally well-marked and continuous in other *Allobates*, is here quite interrupted. Note that this is even different from *A. tapajos*, whose dark stripe seems longer and fades after approximately the middle of the body. The only species that have such a condition of a widely interrupted lateral stripe would be *A. magnussoni*, *A. flaviventris*, *A. brunneus* and *A. goianus*, but it still looks different from the one found here. The condition in this species is as if the “diffuse clear oblique line” that cross the dark stripe of the *Allobates* has extended until there is almost no space for the dark band. I don't know if I was able to explain it well, but I think that this character is very unique of this species and it must be mentioned and used as a diagnosis. Or at least cite this as an “absence of a continuous and well-marked dark lateral stripe from the snout to groin” or something similar

Comentado [r10R9]: Also remember to cite the absence of a dorsolateral light stripe, a character often used in *Allobates* taxonomy

Comentado [r11]: Other recommendation is that you include here in the diagnosis data about the male and female SVL (range and mean). These may not be very strong diagnostic characters for this species, but it is important to be comparable with the literature.

Comentado [r12]: I think you can drop it. If it is not going to detail every character of the molecular data that diagnoses the species, better omit.

Comentado [r13]: According to what reference? Consider removing that. These centers of endemism are very much focused for birds and primates. In fact, this entire paragraph has already been said in the methodology

~~brown~~ dorsum ~~light brown~~ with dark brown hourglass mark ranging from the interorbital level to the urostyle region (dorsum without ~~large dark contrasting patches or marks~~) (Melin, 1941; Lima & Caldwell, 2001; Morales, 2002; Caldwell & Lima, 2003; Lima, Sanchez & Souza, 2007; Lima et al., 2010; Simões et al., 2013a; Simões et al., 2013b; Simões, 2016; Melo-Sampaio, Oliveira & Prates, 2018; Simões et al., 2018; Moraes, Pavan & Lima, 2019; Lima, Ferrão & Silva, 2020; Souza et al., 2020). *Allobates paleci* sp. nov. is distinguished from *A. flaviventris*, *A. gasconi*, *A. magnussoni*, *A. pacaas*, and *A. trilineatus* by presenting yellowish throat in live males, free of obvious melanophores (throat light gray to dark grey) (Boulenger, 1884; Morales, 2002; Melo-Sampaio, Souza & Peloso, 2013; Lima, Simões & Kaefer, 2014; Melo-Sampaio et al., 2020). *Allobates paleci* sp. nov. presents dorsal surface of thighs lacking dark brown transversal bars and thus is distinguished from *A. brunneus*, *A. carajas*, *A. crombiei*, *A. goianus*, and *A. olfersioides* (dark brown transverse bands/blotches on thigh) (Cope, 1887; Lutz, 1925; Bokermann, 1975; Morales, 2002; Lima, Caldwell & Strüßmann, 2009; Simões, Rojas & Lima, 2019). *Allobates tapajos* is the most morphologically/chromatically similar species, but the new species presents a light golden ventrolateral stripe interrupted in life (ventrolateral stripe absent) (Lima, Simões & Kaefer, 2015). Furthermore, these two species are acoustically and molecularly very distinct (see ~~sessions~~ below).

Call description. Advertisement calls ($n = 61$, nine males) of *Allobates paleci* sp. nov. (Figure 6A, Table 2) are characterized by relatively long trills of 17–61 notes (mean 39.9 notes ± 11.9) ~~notes~~ emitted at a rate of 16.3–19.1 pulses per second (mean 17.49 pulses per second ± 0.68), and call duration ranging between 0.97–3.57 s (mean 2.29 s ± 0.649). The call ~~was is~~ irregularly emitted at-between intervals ~~between-lasting~~ 8.06–55.83 s (mean 16.36 s ± 9.88). The durations of the first, central and last notes ~~were are~~ similar: 13.00–41.10 ms (mean 27.79 ms ± 6.86), 14.50–48.20 ms (mean 29.08 ms ± 7.58), and 15.20–50.20 ms (mean 30.23 ms ± 8.56), respectively. The intervals of pulses from begin, middle and final portion of the call ~~were are~~ also similar: 12.60–37.40 ms (mean 24.28 ms ± 6.01), 14.60–48.40 ms (mean 29.02 ms ± 7.77), and 15.10–56.10 ms (mean 33.35 ms ± 8.41), respectively. Furthermore, each note was composed of two or three visible pulses. The amplitude modulation along the call ~~was is~~ homogeneous. The dominant frequency of the call ranged between 5,168–6,202 Hz (mean 5,717 Hz ± 221). As observed for the call amplitude modulation, the frequency ~~was is~~ also maintained through the entire call, with the first, central and last notes similar in dominant frequencies: 4,996–6,202 Hz (mean 5,669 Hz ± 239), 5,168–6,202 Hz (mean 5,715 Hz ± 215), and 4,996–6,202 Hz (mean 5,700 Hz ± 223), respectively.

Warming-up calls ($n = 72$, nine males) of *Allobates paleci* sp. nov. (Figure 6B and Table 3) are composed of ~~small-short~~ trills of 3–15 notes (mean 6.65 notes ± 2.35) ~~notes~~ emitted at a rate of 17.35–23.00 pulses per second (mean 20.06 pulses per second ± 1.29), and call duration ranging between 0.14–0.79 s (mean 0.34 s ± 0.14). The call ~~was is~~ irregularly emitted between intervals lasting at intervals between 0.21–22.73 s (mean 4.72 s ± 5.26). The durations of the first, central and last notes ~~were are~~ similar, 23.40–48.50 ms (mean 33.15 ms ± 5.98), 15.20–55.10 ms (mean 30.18 ms ± 7.20), and 17.60–51.20 ms (mean 30.48 ms ± 9.08), respectively. The interval of pulses from begin,

Comentado [r14]: *A. marchesianus* have hourglass marks, no?

Comentado [r15]: *A. trilineatus* could it be part of the first compared group? This species has a uniform dorsum. Please check on the redescription

Jaramillo-Martinez, A. F., L. A. G. Gagliardi-Urrutia, P. I. Simões, and S. Castroviejo-Fisher. 2021. Redescription and phylogenetics of *Allobates trilineatus* (Boulenger 1884 "1883") (Anura: Aromobatidae) based on topotypic specimens. *Zootaxa* 4951: 201–235 (<https://doi.org/10.11646/zootaxa.4951.2.1>).

middle and final portion of the call were also similar, 10.70–33.50 ms (mean 22.84 ms \pm 5.08), 11.40–36.60 ms (mean 25.05 ms \pm 5.30), and 21.10–44.70 ms (mean 32.79 ms \pm 4.96), respectively. Each note ~~was is~~ composed of two or three ~~visible~~ pulses. The amplitude modulation along the call ~~was is~~ homogeneous. The dominant frequency of warming-up calls ranged between 4,996–6,029 Hz (mean 5,663 Hz \pm 243.51). As observed for the call amplitude modulation, the frequency ~~is was~~ also maintained through the entire call, with the first, central and last notes ~~showing having~~ similar dominant frequencies: 4,996–6,029 Hz (mean 5,641 Hz \pm 256.57), 4,996–6,202 Hz (mean 5,669 Hz \pm 240.74), and 4,996–6,029 (mean 5,638 Hz \pm 235.75), respectively.

Additionally, we recorded the male CHUFPB30245 (field number AAGARDA12596) emitting three consecutive calls composed of a single unpulsed note before the emission of a warming-up call (Figure 6C and Table 4). These calls ~~presented a duration of last for~~ 15.30–26.10 ms (mean 21.97 ms \pm 5.83), ~~are~~ emitted at a rate of 196.90–215.30 calls per ms (mean 206.10 calls per ms \pm 9.20) and ~~have a~~ dominant frequency of 4,996 Hz. We also recorded the male CHUFPB30256 (field number AAGARDA12595) emitting six calls composed of single multipulsed notes at the end of an advertisement call emission series (Figure 6D and Table 5). ~~Each of these calls presented a duration of last for~~ 0.18–0.34 s (mean 0.24 s \pm 0.06), ~~are~~ emitted at a rate of 0.36–2.56 calls per second (mean 0.93 calls per second \pm 0.93), ~~having~~ between 16–33 pulses (mean 22.00 pulses \pm 6.26) and ~~a~~ dominant frequency of 5,513–6,029 Hz (mean 5,828 Hz \pm 169.37). ~~During field sampling, we~~ We observed two other males (both unvouchered) emitting this ~~last~~ call type just before moving through the leaf litter (one of them can be ~~watched seen herein the following footage~~:

<https://youtu.be/WvngJ1tEMYI>). Although no other individual (~~male or female~~) of *Allobates paleci* sp. nov. ~~the same species was~~ was observed around the calling males ~~who emitted emitting these solitary~~ multipulsed notes, ~~we suggest that this call type were emitted in a courtship or territorial context, this call type may correspond to a courtship or territorial call. In fact, the~~ acoustic envelope of ~~this call type described herein~~ resembles both the courtship call described for *A. hodli* (Simões, Lima & Farias, 2010) ~~as and~~ the aggressive call ~~described for of~~ *A. olfersioides* (Forti, Silva & Toledo, 2017). Further field observations are needed to clarify the social context of this call type.

Bioacoustic comparison. *Allobates paleci* sp. nov. has a unique combination of the following acoustic parameters: advertisement calls formed by trills lasting 0.97–3.57 s (mean 2.27 s \pm 0.65) with 17–61 notes (mean 39.93 notes \pm 11.18) emitted at 16.32–19.10 notes/s (mean 17.49 notes/s \pm 0.68), and dominant frequency ranging between 5,168–6,202 Hz (mean 5,717 Hz \pm 221). ~~Five of the 31 species compared here with A. paleci sp. nov. have no information regarding their advertisement calls: A. conspicuus, A. fuscillus, A. gasconi, A. pacaas, and A. vanzolinius (Morales, 2002; Melo-Sampaio et al., 2020). Nevertheless, as mentioned above, the new species is easily distinguished from them based on morphology.~~

~~While the advertisement call of Allobates paleci sp. nov. is always arranged in trills of 17–61 notes, with a duration of 0.970–3.574 s, This call structure differs from the calls of six compared species, which compared here have calls consisting of single notes emitted continuously: A. caeruleodactylus, A. magnussoni, A. masniger, A. nidicola, A.~~

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Comentado [r16]:

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389 *olfersioides*, and *A. subfolionidificans* (Lima & Caldwell, 2001; Caldwell & Lima,
 390 2003; Lima, Sanchez & Souza, 2007; Tsuji-Nishikido et al., 2012; Lima, Simões &
 391 Kaefer, 2014; Simões, 2016; Forti, Silva & Toledo, 2017). ~~Three other species also~~
 392 ~~have a, in addition to a~~ call type consisting of single notes emitted continuously, but
 393 ~~may may also emit produce~~ trills ~~of notes~~: *A. marchesianus*: trills of 21–24 notes and
 394 duration of 3.39–4.40 s (Caldwell, Lima & Keller, 2002); *A. sumtuosus*: trills of 23–35
 395 notes and duration of 3.949–5.878 s (Simões et al., 2013b); and *A. brunneus*: trills of 6–
 396 11 notes and duration of 1.68–4.18 s (Lima, Caldwell & Strüßmann, 2009). Two
 397 species, *A. carajas* and *A. tapajos*, have at least four different temporal call
 398 arrangements, also including a trilled call type ~~with a trilled structure~~: *A. carajas* –
 399 continuous emission of notes separated by regular silent intervals, continuous emission
 400 of notes separated by irregular silent intervals, emission of discrete note trills, and
 401 sporadic emission of single notes (Simões, Rojas & Lima, 2019); when emitting trills,
 402 they reach longer durations (up to 7.05 s) but with a lower note number (up to 22 notes)
 403 when compared to *A. paleci* sp. nov.; *A. tapajos* possess note pairs (most common
 404 arrangement), single notes emitted between note pairs, and note trios (rarest
 405 arrangement); just one male emitted trills similar in duration to the calls of *A. paleci* sp.
 406 nov. (2.46–3.37 s), but with fewer notes per trill (10–14) (Lima, Simões & Kaefer,
 407 2015).

Comentado [r17]: It is not clear how the call of the new species differs from trills of these species.

408 The 15 remaining species ~~produce emit~~ only trills ~~in~~ advertisement calls, with a
 409 general temporal pattern of note emission shared with *Allobates paleci* sp. nov. Nine of
 410 these species ~~emit presented~~ shorter trills ~~– durations~~ and fewer notes/call when compared
 411 to *A. paleci* (call duration 0.970–3.574 s and 17–61 notes): *A. caldwella* has calls
 412 ranging between 0.259–1.255 s and 3–7 notes (Lima, Ferrão & Silva, 2020); *A.*
 413 *femoralis* has calls composed of groups of one, three or four notes, with 2–4 notes,
 414 lasting between 0.183–0.528 s (Amézquita et al., 2009; Simões, Lima & Farias, 2010);
 415 *A. flaviventris* has 2–10 notes within each trill and presumably a shorter call duration
 416 (not informed in the original description, Melo-Sampaio, Souza & Peloso, 2013); *A.*
 417 *grillcantus* has trills lasting 0.151–0.507 s with 3–15 notes (Moraes & Lima, 2021); *A.*
 418 *grillisimilis* has trills ranging 0.122–0.305 s with 3–15 notes (Simões et al., 2013a;
 419 Simões, 2016); *A. hodli* has short trills ranging 0.140–0.198 s with two whistle-like
 420 notes (Simões, Lima & Farias, 2010); *A. myersi* has three different temporal
 421 arrangements: short trills (mean 0.35 ± 0.02 s) of two, three, or four notes (Simões &
 422 Lima, 2011); *A. nunciatus* has trills of up to 0.357 s and of four notes (Moraes, Pavan &
 423 Lima, 2019); and *A. trilineatus* has trills of 0.97–1.55 s with 9–13 notes (Grant &
 424 Rodríguez, 2001).

Comentado [r18]: This paragraph is confusing. I don't know if all of these species can be considered as having a trilled call. *A. femoralis*, *A. nunciatus*, *A. hodli*, *A. myersi* emit some regular group of notes, but they are not strictly sequential. I now that there's a bit of subjectivism here, but I suggest rephrase this paragraph considering these species as another acoustic group, followed by a final paragraph comparing *A. paleci* with only with species with strictly-trilled calls.

Comentado [r19R18]: In fact, this section seemed to me the most confusing so far in the text. I think it's worth trying to improve her fluidity in general. Maybe better separating these acoustic groups is enough

425 Four species presented trills with similar durations and number of notes, but with
 426 smaller note repetition rates (note repetition rate of 16.32–19.10, mean of 17.49 ± 0.68
 427 in *Allobates paleci* sp. nov.): *A. goianus* calls have trills with a mean duration of 3.9 s
 428 and 2–41 notes emitted at 3.1–3.9 notes per second (Carvalho, Martins & Giaretta,
 429 2016); *A. paleovarzensis* trills of 0.72–3.02 s with 3–21 notes emitted at 6.97 notes/s
 430 (Lima et al., 2010); *A. tinae* trills last 0.285–2.27 s (1.50 ± 0.45) with 2–9 notes (mode
 431 = 8; n = 45) emitted at 5.34 notes/s (Melo-Sampaio, Oliveira & Prates, 2018). Finally,
 432 *A. velocicantus* presented a similar trill duration of 1.87–2.89 s (2.49 ± 0.22), with 66–

Comentado [r20]: I don't consider this structure as a trill.

138 notes emitted at 51.2 ± 5.8 (38.4–56.8) notes/s (Souza et al., 2020). Two species presented longer trills with more notes: *A. bacurau* has trills of 7–11 s with 60–81 notes (Simões, 2016); and *A. juami* has trills of 2.5–5.09 s (4.51 ± 0.37) with 60–73 notes (65 ± 4) (Simões et al., 2018).

Allobates crombiei shows the most similar trill regarding the calls emitted by *A. paleci* sp. nov. (Lima, Erdtmann & Amézquita, 2012). *Allobates crombiei* presents trills with mean duration of 3.52 ± 0.49 s (1.91–4.53) with 43 ± 6.38 notes (25–59), and, being the main distinction compared to the advertisement call of *A. paleci* sp. nov., showed a lower note repetition rate of about 12.21 notes per second (call duration of 0.970–3.574 s [2.286 ± 0.649], 17–61 notes [39.934 ± 11.183], and note repetition rate of 16.32–19.10 [17.49 ± 0.68] in *A. paleci* sp. nov.). In respect to spectral parameters, *A. crombiei* has an ascendant but quick frequency modulation, while *A. paleci* sp. nov. lacks frequency modulation.

The remaining five of the 31 compared species have no information regarding their advertisement calls: *A. conspicuus*, *A. fuscellus*, *A. gasconi*, *A. pacaas*, and *A. vanzolinus* (Morales, 2002; Melo-Sampaio et al., 2020). Nevertheless, the new species is easily distinguished from them based on morphological variation (see above).

Description of the holotype. Adult male, CHUFPB 30253, SVL = 13.4 mm (Figure 2 and Figure 3). ~~other. All holotype~~ measurements ~~are~~ detailed in Table 1. Skin texture slightly granular on dorsum and limbs, smooth on venter. Head wider than longer; head length 77% of head width; head width and head length 40% and 27.7% of SVL, respectively. Interorbital distance 71% of head width. Eye diameter 1.2 times longer than eye-nostril distance; eye diameter 49% of head length. Tympanum round with smooth margins, barely visible to the naked eye. Snout slightly rounded in dorsal view, nearly truncate; snout rounded in lateral view; snout length (eye–nostril distance + nostril–snout distance) 49% of head length. Nostrils located laterally at the tip of the snout; internostril distance 44% of head width. *Canthus rostralis* from the tip of the snout to the anterior corner of the eye, barely defined. Loreal region vertical. Vocal sac single and subgular. Vomerine teeth absent; maxillary teeth visible under 50X magnification. Choanae located laterally, anterior to eye bulge. Vocal slits conspicuous, laterally located ~~laterally~~. Tongue longer than wider, attached in the anterior portion of the jaw. Cloacal tubercles absent.

Upper arm length 22% of SVL ~~size~~; forearm length 21% of SVL ~~size~~; upper arm slightly thicker than forearm. Hand without fringes or webbing. Palmar tubercle conspicuous, round to slightly elliptical. Thenar tubercle present, elliptical, less conspicuous than palmar tubercle and half of its size. Subarticular tubercles of fingers III and IV smaller than the width of the finger; subarticular tubercles of fingers II and III round and protuberant. Distal subarticular tubercle present on finger V, small and round. Supernumerary tubercles and accessory palmar tubercles absent. Metacarpal fold absent. Fingers III and V do not reach the distal subarticular tubercle of finger IV when fingers are ~~ap~~ pressed; relative fingers length: IV > II > III > V. Finger IV not swollen. Discs of fingers II–V moderately expanded; width of finger IV disc 75% the size of finger IV third phalanx.

Thigh length and tibia length of similar size, 51% of SVL size each. Tarsal keel present, tubercle-like, softly curved. Inner metatarsal tubercle present, elliptical and conspicuous. Subarticular tubercle of toe I slightly smaller than inner metatarsal tubercle, similar in size to the width of toe I; subarticular tubercles of toes II–IV round and protuberant. Tip of toe I not reaching mid-level of subarticular tubercle of toe II when toes are ~~appressed~~adpressed; tip of toe III reaching past the proximal subarticular tubercle of toe IV; tip of toe V reaching past one third of the third phalange of toe IV. Metatarsal fold absent. Basal webbing present between toes II–III and III–IV. Basal webbing absent between other toes. Relative toe length: IV > III > V > II > I. Discs of toes II–V moderately expanded.

~~The specimen in preservative, shows the~~ dorsum ~~of the body~~ cream, with small dark brown granules from the tip of the snout to the vent region, ~~with presence of~~ a dark brown hourglass mark ~~in an hourglass shape~~ at the center ~~of dorsum~~. Dorsolateral light stripe absent. Dark brown lateral stripe present but discontinuous, strongly pigmented at snout and behind eyes, fading ~~towards~~towards the lateral of the body, and becoming pigmented again in the inguinal region. Ventrolateral stripe indistinct. Arms and legs cream, as pigmented as the dorsum background; legs more pigmented than arms. In dorsal view, inguinal region, anterior and posterior region of thigh with dark brown ~~patches~~markings. Gular region, chest, belly, upper arms, and thigh cream in ventral view, ~~with~~ only few melanophores ~~in around~~ the jaw; forearm, tibia and tarsal region cream with melanophores ~~present~~ in ventral view, except at anterior and posterior margins. Palmar and thenar surfaces dark brown.

Type series & Variation. The single collected female (SVL = 16.2 mm) is larger than 90% of all males of the type series, suggesting the existence of sexual dimorphism in body proportions-SVL, but larger samples are needed to explicitly test this hypothesis. ~~Complete~~ morphometric variation ~~of~~ the type series is presented in Table 1. Regarding coloration, variation is more evident~~Most of the variation was in on~~ coloration in preserved specimens (Figure 4). The concentration of small dark brown granules ~~varied~~vary, as only the holotype and three other males showed cream coloration on dorsum, while the remaining specimens show more concentration of these granules, resembling having a brownish coloration; the female ~~has have~~ the dark dorsum typical of other specimens in the type series. Beside the holotype, five other males ~~showed~~have a well-defined pigmented hourglass-shaped mark~~spot~~ at the center of dorsum. In contrast, ~~Other~~ three males and the female ~~showed~~have this dark hourglass shape mark not so indistinct-defined, as because their remaining dorsum background ~~was are~~ also darker. Three specimens ~~have~~showed thighs cream with sparse melanophores in ventral view (immaculate cream in the remaining specimens)~~ventral portion of thighs of all other specimens show immaculate cream coloration~~. Tibia coloration in ventral view is cream at the center and the margins range from almost no pigmentation to highly pigmented with melanophores. The dark brown lateral stripe is well defined at snout and from behind eyes until the arm line, then fades in different degrees toward the inguinal region in each specimen.

Arms are less pigmented in dorsal view in all specimens, with irregular blotches on the forearm near the elbow and near the hand. Hands in dorsal view are as pigmented

as the arms. All specimens presented dark brown patches at the anterior and posterior region of thigh. Patches in thigh are of irregular shape, either restricted as a stripe on the anterior portion of the thigh or extending towards the posterior portion of the thigh. Small blotches of dark coloration are observed in tibia, tarsus, and foot in dorsal view.

The only specimen from the type series photographed in life was the male CHUFPB 30252 (Figure 7). Nevertheless, the remaining type series was generally concordant with the coloration pattern observed for this individual. In life, the specimen CHUFPB 30252 (SVL = 14.3 mm) had the dorsum of the body light brown, with a dark brown hourglass mark at the center. Dorsolateral stripe absent. Dark brown lateral stripe present, strongly pigmented at snout and behind eyes, fading towards the inguinal region. Light golden ventrolateral stripe interrupted, more evident at the medial portion of the body towards the inguinal region. Arms and legs light brown as pigmented on the dorsum. Anterior and posterior region of thigh with longitudinal dark brown patches. Gular region yellow without obvious melanophores, chest yellowish, belly yellowish with a white subjacent peritoneum. Upper arms in ventral view yellowish. Thigh in ventral view yellowish at distal portion becoming whitish towards the insertion of legs; few iridophores along the lower margin of the thigh's ventral surfaces; forearm, tibia and tarsal regions light yellowish in ventral view with melanophores, except at anterior and posterior margins. Ventral surface of foot dark brown; ventral surface of hand with a dark brown pigmentation on the palmar region and around tubercles, fingers light brown scattered with few melanophores.

Geographic distribution and Natural-natural history and geographic distribution.

Allobates paleci sp. nov. is known to occur only at from the type locality, in the right bank of the Teles Pires River, Jacareacanga municipality, southern Pará state, Brazil. In this locality, the new species was only found recorded only inside dense ombrophilous forests. During the rainy season (specially between November and February), several males of the new species were found calling from the moist leaf litter. Despite being recorded in very close sites and after a considerable sampling effort, *Allobates paleci* sp. nov. and *A. aff. tapajos* (see more details below) were never found calling at the same sites in topically in any of the field expeditions. Furthermore, *A. paleci* sp. nov. was less abundant at the type locality, whereas when compared to the sympatric *A. aff. tapajos* was commonly observed during diurnal surveys. *Allobates paleci* sp. nov. is known to occur only at the type locality, in the right bank of the Teles Pires River, Jacareacanga municipality, southern Pará state, Brazil.

Remarks **Molecular relationships.** Our The inferred gene tree from a fragment of the mtDNA gene 16S tree (Figure 5) confidently recovered *Allobates paleci* sp. nov. nested as part within of the genus *Allobates*. However, the molecular affinities of the new species in relation to the compared congeners are more uncertain some nodes presented lower posterior probabilities (Supplemental Figure S1). In our analysis Considering the tree topology, *A. paleci* sp. nov. was recovered as the sister taxon of *A.*

caeruleodactylus, with a low although with a low branch support posterior probability. Considering genetic distances, the sequence from *A. paleci* sp. nov. was recovered as more similar to the ones pertaining to *A. carajas*. Average sequence divergence between

Comentado [r21]: Please mention the activity period if you have, maybe also calling period. Any data about the spawning clutches, tadpoles?

the new species and ~~its the described compared~~ congeners was 14.3%, ranging from 11.8% (~~A. carajasA. carajas~~) to 18.3% (*A. niputidea*) (Supplemental Table S1). **Remarks on the sympatric *Allobates*.** The coloration pattern and ~~morphology~~ **measurements** (mean SVL 14.4 ± 1.7 , range 12.2–16.8 mm; n = 15 males) of the ~~putative new species of *Allobates* related to *A. tapajos* lineage~~ found in sympatry with *A. paleci* sp. nov. ~~agrees with~~ fitted in the ~~variation of original description of *A. tapajos* the nominal species~~ (Lima, Simões & Kaefer, 2015) (Figure 8). Acoustic parameters of this ~~species population also often overlapped~~ with those ~~of the original description of *A. tapajos* described for the nominal *A. tapajos*~~, except for number of notes, which range from 1–4 but most commonly presents three notes (calls ranging from 1–3 notes for *A. tapajos*, most common pattern described includes calls with two notes, Lima, Simões & Kaefer, 2015) (Figure 8, Table 6). ~~A footage of this species calling can be seen in~~ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0fu2JJLRhHo&ab>). Recently, Réjaud et al., (2020) reported three undescribed lineages ~~attributed-related~~ to *A. tapajos*. Our gene tree recovered the population from Teles Pires River as ~~thea~~ sister taxon of *A. aff. tapajos* 3 ~~from sensu~~ Réjaud et al., (2020). ~~In fact, s~~ Sequence divergence between the Teles Pires River population ~~reach up to 4.8% when compared to and t he~~ *A. aff. tapajos* 3 ~~recovered by sensu~~ Réjaud et al., (2020), ~~and was 4.8% and nearly up to 6.5% to when compared to *A. tapajos* from its type locality (Supplemental Table S1). For these reasons we refer to this population from the Teles Pires River as *A. aff. tapajos*.~~

Discussion

The type and number of molecular markers, as well as different sources of morphological evidence used to infer phylogenetic relationships **among organisms** have direct impacts on the topology recovered, despite ~~the phylogenetic~~ method employed. (e.g. Mott & Vieites, 2009; de Sá et al., 2014). **This is also the case for phylogenetic relationships within the genus** ~~For *Allobates*, this is not different~~ (Grant et al., 2017), **which slightly differ in the different studies focused on this theme**. Nevertheless, the use of molecular evidence derived from single-locus comparisons within an integrative taxonomy framework has proven useful to help identify, diagnose and describe morphologically similar species of *Allobates* (e.g. Simões et al., 2018; Lima, Ferrão & Silva, 2020; Jaramillo et al., 2021). **It is noteworthy that, a** ~~Although the cryptic-new species lineage cryptic to *A. tapajos* reported here related to *A. tapajos* recorded was already previously reported in the literature elsewhere~~ (Réjaud et al., 2020), *A. paleci* sp. nov. ~~remained was never unrecovered sampled~~ in all of the previous phylogenetic/taxonomic appraisals of the genus. ~~This case reinforce. This underscores~~ the tremendous **underestimated and unknown diversity number of yet to be described species of *Allobates* of this genus in Amazonia (Reference).**

We also provide, for the first time, morphological and acoustic data on a previously recognized cryptic lineage related to *A. tapajos* (Réjaud et al., 2020). The high genetic distance between the Teles Pires River population and *A. tapajos* suggests ~~first that this~~ population may **in fact represent** an undescribed species. However, our morphological and acoustic data does not unequivocally separate it from **the nominal** *A. tapajos*, suggesting either a case of cryptic speciation or ~~hidden a higher~~ genetic

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diversity across a larger geographic range than previously thought. In cases of cryptic species, ~~the real challenge faced by the~~ taxonomists are frequently challenged ~~sometimes is~~ to accurately ~~establish~~ identify the species limits (not necessarily their validity) between the involved taxa (e.g. Silva et al., 2020). To solve ~~this the~~ taxonomic issue of *A. tapajos* and its molecularly divergent lineages, further studies should focus on compare these ~~different~~ populations ~~currently assigned to *A. tapajos*~~ in a more comprehensive framework, ~~exploring with a greater amount and comprehensiveness of~~ different molecular markers, and morphological ~~data~~ evidence of adults and tadpoles, and acoustic data.

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We further stress the need of an objective standardization for advertisement call description for *Allobates*, especially for when trilled calls with high rates of note repetition are present. For example, based on the oscillograms, the same acoustic structure periodically emitted (repetition unity) by cryptic species is considered either as notes (*A. grillisimilis*, Simões et al., 2013a) or pulses (*A. grillicantus*, Moraes & Lima, 2021). The current lack of an objective framework for advertisement call descriptions hampers comparisons and may even cause noise in the taxonomy of the genus. Because *A. paleci* sp. nov. shows an advertisement call with complete amplitude modulation, including a clear but short silent interval between consecutive repetition units, we refer to them as notes (Köhler et al., 2017). Finally, recent studies have proposed such standardization for other anuran groups, as the review of acoustic traits for *Physalaemus* (Hepp & Pombal Jr., 2020), which may represent a useful example of what could be proposed for *Allobates*.

Comentado [r22]: I agree with you, call descriptions need for standardization, but it's easier to define this structure as composed of notes in long trills. In the case of supershort trills, the intervals between call elements are so short that even measurements become imprecise, and so these elements are better referred to as 'pulses' (the case of the *grillisimilis-grillicantus* species pair). By seeing these animals calling you also notice that the vocal sac extends several times in the long trill of *A. paleci*, indicating breathing between notes...while the *A. grillicantus* seems to breathe just to initiate the call.

In addition to *Ameerega munduruku* Neves, Silva, Akieda, Cabrera, Koroiva & Santana 2017, *Pristimantis pictus* Oliveira, Silva, Guimarães, Penhacek, Martínez, Rodrigues, Santana, & Hernández-Ruz, 2020 and *P. pluvian* Oliveira, Silva, Guimarães, Penhacek, Martínez, Rodrigues, Santana, & Hernández-Ruz, 2020, *Allobates paleci* sp. nov. represents the fourth species of amphibian described for the Teles Pires River region in the last five years. These findings reinforce the high levels of hidden diversity ~~of in this study area river basin. Unfortunately, this river basin has also, which in turn~~ has been severely impacted by anthropic pressure in the last two decades, mainly by the establishment of large hydroelectric power plants and livestock farms (Fearnside, 2005; Fearnside & Pueyo, 2012). The maintenance of long-term studies and the consideration of this high species richness concentration of type localities in the elaboration of public policies is crucial to preserve ~~the its~~ remarkable regional biodiversity.

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