# Advertisement call of *Brachycephalus albolineatus* (Anura: Brachycephalidae) (#22296)

First revision

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# Advertisement call of *Brachycephalus albolineatus* (Anura: Brachycephalidae)

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**Background.** Brachycephalus are among the smallest terrestrial vertebrates in the world. The genus encompasses 34 species endemic to the Brazilian Atlantic Rainforest, occurring mostly in montane forests, with many species showing microendemic distributions to single mountaintops. It includes diurnal species living in the leaf litter and calling during the day, mainly during the warmer months of the year. The natural history of the vast majority of the species is unknown, such as their advertisement call, which has been described only for seven species of the genus. In the present study, we describe the advertisement call of *Brachycephalus albolineatus*, a recently described microendemic species from Santa Catarina, southern Brazil. Methods. We analyzed 34 advertisement calls from 20 individuals of B. albolineatus, recorded between 5-6 February 2016 in the type locality of the species, Morro Boa Vista, on the border between the municipalities of Jaraguá do Sul and Massaranduba, Santa Catarina, southern Brazil. We collected five individuals as vouchers (they are from the type series of the species). We used the notecentered approach sensu Köhler et al. (2017) to describe the advertisement calls of the species. **Results.** Brachycephalus albolineatus have a long advertisement call of 40-191 s (mean of 88 s) composed of 7-26 notes (mean of 14 notes) emitted at a rate of 6-13 notes per minute (mean of 9 notes per minute) and at a note dominant frequency of 5-7 kHz (mean of 6 kHz). Advertisement calls are composed of isolated notes and note groups (two notes involved in each particular note group); the former is composed by one to three pulses (mean of 2.0) and the note groups by two or three pulses in each note (mean of 2.7). Most advertisement calls present both isolated notes and note groups, with a few cases showing only the former. Note groups are emitted invariably in the last third of the advertisement call. Most isolated notes escalate their number of pulses along the

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advertisement call (1 to 2, 1 to 3 or 2 to 3). Note duration of isolated notes varies from 0.002–0.037 s (mean of 0.020 s) and duration of note group vary from 0.360–0.578 s (mean of 0.465 s). **Discussion.** Individuals increase the complexity of their calls as is proceeds, incorporating note groups and pulses per note. Intra-individual variation analysis also demonstrated that less structured advertisement calls (i.e. with notes with fewer pulses) are not stereotyped. It is possible that isolated notes and note groups could have distinct function, perhaps territorial defense and mating, respectively. We believe that using a note-centered approach facilitates comparisons with calls of congeners, as well as underscores the considerable differences in call structure between species in a single group and among species groups.



1	Advertisement call of Brachycephalus albolineatus (Anura: Brachycephalidae)
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16	
17	Running headline: Advertisement call of B. albolineatus
18	
19	Abstract
20	Background. Brachycephalus are among the smallest terrestrial vertebrates in the world. The
21	genus encompasses 34 species endemic to the Brazilian Atlantic Rainforest, occurring mostly in
22	montane forests, with many species showing microendemic distributions to single mountaintops.
23	It includes diurnal species living in the leaf litter and calling during the day, mainly during the
24	warmer months of the year. The natural history of the vast majority of the species is unknown,
25	such as their advertisement call, which has been described only for seven species of the genus. In
26	the present study, we describe the advertisement call of Brachycephalus albolineatus, a recently
27	described microendemic species from Santa Catarina, southern Brazil.
28	Methods. We analyzed 34 advertisement calls from 20 individuals of B. albolineatus, recorded
29	between 5-6 February 2016 in the type locality of the species, Morro Boa Vista, on the border
30	between the municipalities of Jaraguá do Sul and Massaranduba, Santa Catarina, southern Brazil.
31	We collected five individuals as vouchers (they are from the type series of the species). We used





02	the note-centered approach sensu Komer et al. (2017) to describe the advertisement cans of the
33	species.
34	Results. Brachycephalus albolineatus have a long advertisement call of 40–191 s (mean of 88 s)
35	composed of 7-26 notes (mean of 14 notes) emitted at a rate of 6-13 notes per minute (mean of
36	9 notes per minute) and at a note dominant frequency of 5-7 kHz (mean of 6 kHz).
37	Advertisement calls are composed of isolated notes and note groups (two notes involved in each
38	particular note group); the former is composed by one to three pulses (mean of 2.0) and the note
39	groups by two or three pulses in each note (mean of 2.7). Most advertisement calls present both
40	isolated notes and note groups, with a few cases showing only the former. Note groups are
11	emitted invariably in the last third of the advertisement call. Most isolated notes escalate their
12	number of pulses along the advertisement call (1 to 2, 1 to 3 or 2 to 3). Note duration of isolated
13	notes varies from $0.002-0.037~s$ (mean of $0.020~s$ ) and duration of note group vary from $0.360-$
14	0.578 s (mean of 0.465 s).
<del>1</del> 5	<b>Discussion.</b> Individuals increase the complexity of their calls as is proceeds, incorporating note
<del>1</del> 6	groups and pulses per note. Intra-individual variation analysis also demonstrated that less
17	structured advertisement calls (i.e. with notes with fewer pulses) are not stereotyped. It is
48	possible that isolated notes and note groups could have distinct function, perhaps territorial
19	defense and mating, respectively. We believe that using a note-centered approach facilitates
50	comparisons with calls of congeners, as well as underscores the considerable differences in call
51	structure between species in a single group and among species groups.
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53	
54	Introduction
55	Brachycephalus are among the smallest terrestrial vertebrates in the world (Rittmeyer et al.
56	2012), with most species not exceeding 2.5 cm in body length. The genus includes 34 species
57	(Frost 2017), occurring from the southern Bahia to northeastern Santa Catarina, Brazil
58	(Bornschein et al. 2016a; see also Pie et al. 2013). Most Brachycephalus species, particularly in
59	the B. pernix species group (see below), are microendemic, occurring in one or a few adjacent
30	mountaintops, with total extents of occurrence comparable to the smallest ranges of species
31	around world (Bornschein et al. 2016a). Species are diurnal, living in the leaf litter in forests of
62	the Atlantic Rainforest domain (Bornschein et al. 2016a and compilation therein). Direct



63 development, with a reduced number of eggs laid on the soil (Pombal Jr. 1999), was demonstrated for B. ephippium (Heyer et al. 1990, Pombal Jr. 1999), and this is assumed as the 64 65 reproductive pattern for the genus. *Brachycephalus* is characterized by extreme miniaturization, with is possible related to a reduced number and size of digits (Hanken & Wake 1993, Yeh 2002, 66 Clemente-Carvalho et al. 2009) and loss of some morphological features of the auditory 67 apparatus (Silva, Campos & Sebben 2007). Some species are brightly colored, with neurotoxins 68 found in the skin of two aposematic species (Sebben et al. 1986, Pires Jr. et al. 2002, 2003, 2005, 69 Schwartz et al. 2007), possibly originated from intestinal bacteria (Schwartz et al. 2007). The 70 species of the genus have been segregated into three phenetic groups, namely the B. ephippium, 71 B. didactylus, and B. pernix species groups (Ribeiro et al. 2015). Possibly due to historical 72 73 evolutionary processes (Bornschein et al. 2016a, Firkowski et al. 2016), Brachycephalus species are almost exclusively allopatric or parapatric, with few cases of syntopy (Bornschein et al. 74 75 2016a). There has been a recent increase in the description of new species within *Brachycephalus*, 76 with 20 species described in the last 10 years (Frost 2017). However, the natural history of the 77 78 vast majority of the species is unknown (see review of ecological studies in Bornschein et al. [2016a]). Call descriptions of the species are scarce, which is surprising, given that individuals of 79 80 the species are usually located by their calls, often emitted at locally high male densities (one 81 person might hear dozens of males from a single hearing spot). Advertisement calls were 82 described for B. ephippium (Pombal Jr., Sazima & Haddad 1994, Goutte et al. 2017), B. 83 hermogenesi (Verdade et al. 2008), B. pitanga (Araújo et al. 2012, Tandel et al. 2014, Goutte et 84 al. 2017), B. tridactylus (Garey et al. 2012), B. crispus (Condez et al. 2014), B. sulfuratus 85 (Condez et al. 2016), and B. darkside (Guimarães et al. 2017). 86 Given that *Brachycephalus* is a group with mostly allopatric species, it is of great interest to investigate the evolution pattern of their calls. In allopatry, one could expect great similarity 87 88 between the call of different species (Bornschein et al. 2007, Maurício et al. 2014), due to a lack 89 of selective pressure to avoid hybridization of closely-related species. However, this needs to be 90 tested for *Brachycephalus*. In the present study, we describe the advertisement call of B. 91 albolineatus, a member of the B. pernix group (Bornschein et al. 2016b). Brachycephalus albolineatus was recently described based on a series of eight specimens collected at the type 92 93 locality, Morro Boa Vista, Santa Catarina, southern Brazil (Bornschein et al. 2016b).

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95	Methods
96	We recorded individuals of Brachycephalus albolineatus on 25 October 2012 and on 5-6
97	February 2016 at the type locality of the species, i.e. Morro Boa Vista (26°30'58" S, 49°03'14"
98	W; 820-835 m above sea level), on the border between the municipalities of Jaraguá do Sul and
99	Massaranduba, state of Santa Catarina, southern Brazil. We collected vouchers according to
100	permits issued by ICMBIO - SISBIO (no. 20416-2). Vouchers belong to the type material of the
101	species, which was deposited in Museu de História Natural Capão da Imbuia (MHNCI), Curitiba
102	Paraná state and Museu Nacional (MNRJ), Rio de Janeiro, Rio de Janeiro state, Brazil. Analyzed
103	recordings were carried out on 5-6 February 2016 from 9:00-12:00 a.m. and from 15:00-18:00
104	p.m. Climatic conditions during recordings were characterized by air temperature = 20.8–21.4
105	$^{\circ}$ C, soil temperature = 19.4–20.0 $^{\circ}$ C, and relative air humidity = 86–100%. We made numbered
106	markings on the vegetation above the recorded individuals in the field to determine whether new
107	recordings were from the same individuals, in order to build up the dataset both in terms of more
108	individuals as well as intra-individual variation, with more than one recording from the same
109	individual. Calls were recorded using the digital recorders Sony PCM-D50 and PCM-M10, both
110	with sampling frequency rate of 44.1 kHz and 16-bit resolution, and Sennheiser ME 66
111	microphones. Recordings were deposited in MHNCI. Sound samples were analyzed with Raven
112	Pro 1.5 (Bioacoustics Research Program 2012). Time domain variables were measured from
113	oscillograms and frequency domain variables were measured from spectrograms. Spectrogram
114	features were defined with a 128-point (2.9 ms) Fast Fourier Transform (FFT), a 3-dB Filter
115	bandwidth of 492 Hz, Hann window, 50% overlap, and a spectrogram color scheme of Standard
116	Gamma II in Raven Pro and Jet in Raven Lite. Final spectrograms, as well as diagnostic plots,
117	were generated using the Seewave package, v. 2.0.5 (Sueur, Aubin & Simonis 2008) of the R
118	environment, v. 3.2.2 (R Core Team 2015) using the same window size and overlap settings as in
119	Raven Pro, but resampling the audio files at 22.05 kHz.
120	We used the note-centered approach sensu Köhler et al. (2017) to define the
121	advertisement call of the species. We determined the end of a given call and the beginning of the
122	next one by the long period of silence between them (Köhler et al. 2017), which might last for
123	several minutes and thus is considerably longer than the call itself. We described the
124	advertisement calls following features and criteria of Köhler et al. (2017). We took the liberty of



describing the general features of Köhler et al. (2017) also for parts of the call, in order to clarify
the distinctions observed in particular parts of the advertisement calls of Brachycephalus
albolineatus. We used the following features, which can be seen in Fig. 1: 1) call duration (s); 2)
duration of the call including only isolated notes (s); 3) duration of the call including only note
groups (s); 4) note rate (notes per minute); 5) note rate of the call including only isolated notes
(notes per minute); 6) note rate of the call including only note groups (notes per minute); 7)
number of notes per call; 8) number of isolated notes per call; 9) number of note groups per call;
10) number of pulses per isolated notes; 11) number of pulses in each note groups; 12) note
duration of isolated notes (s); 13) duration of note group (s); 14) inter-note interval in isolated
notes (s), defined as the time from the end of one isolated note to the beginning of the next note
isolated note; 15) inter-note group interval (s), defined as the time from the end of one note
group to the beginning of the next note group; 16) inter-note interval within note groups (s),
defined as the time from the end of the first note to the beginning of the next note of the same
note group; 17) note dominant frequency (kHz); 18) highest frequency (kHz); and 19) lowest
frequency (kHz). The note rate was calculated taking into account the time from the beginning of
the first note to the beginning of the last note of the calls (or call intervals) and the number of
notes included in this counted time (the last note is not included; Köhler et al. [2017]; see also
Cocroft & Ryan [1995]). The dominant frequency across all notes in a call sample was calculated
with the function dfreq from the R package seewave. This function brings as an output a plot
with all dominant frequencies in a specific file or file segment. Alternatively, the output can be a
vector of dominant frequency values. All the default arguments of the function were followed,
with the exception of the overlap, for which we chose the value of 90% and the amplitude
threshold of signal detection, whose value we determined as of 5%. The highest and lowest
frequencies represent the frequency range of each pulse and was calculated considering the
longest continuous interval of the green color of the "Standard Gamma II" color type from the
Color Map of Raven Pro. We measured the highest and lowest frequencies from pulses in notes
with one or more pulses, but when they had more than one pulse we considered the measures
only from the first and second pulses.

### Results

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       We recorded calls from 29 individuals of Brachycephalus albolineatus but analyzed 34
      advertisement calls from 20 individuals, five of which were collected as vouchers (MHNCI
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       10296–9, MNRJ 90349). We recorded eight individuals 2–4 times (\bar{x} = 2.75 times per
      individual). The calls we deposited resulted in 34 separate recordings (MHNCI 001–34).
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              Brachycephalus albolineatus emitted a relatively long advertisement call, between 39.93–
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       191.14 \text{ s} (\bar{x} = 88.37 \pm 35.73 \text{ s}; \text{ Table 1}; \text{ see feature } \#1 \text{ in Fig. 1}). \text{ Thereafter, the individual}
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      remains silent for several minutes, occasionally for more than 35 min, when it emits a new
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      advertisement call. A graphical representation of the temporal sequence of notes in each call is
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      shown in Fig. 2. The note rate was 5.89–13.00 notes per minute (\bar{x} = 9.15 \pm 1.71 notes per
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      minute: Table 1; see feature #4 in Fig. 1). Advertisement calls included 7–26 notes (\bar{x} = 14.08 \pm
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      4.70 notes; Table 1; see feature #7 in Fig. 1).
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              The advertisement calls of the species included both isolated notes and note groups (in
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      this case, with two notes involved in each particular note group; Fig. 3). Advertisement calls
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      could be composed only by isolated notes (21% of complete recordings of advertisement calls),
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      but usually included both isolated notes and note groups (Table 2). Every advertisement call with
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      isolated notes and note groups began with the former and then changed to note groups (Table 2,
      Fig. 2). The part of the advertisement call composed only by note groups contains, on average,
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      29% of the notes of the entire advertisement call (\pm 15.4%; range of 10–61%; see feature #9 in
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      Fig. 1) and span, on average, 24.44 s (\pm 19.85 s; range of 0.41–76.37 s; see feature #3 in Fig. 1)
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      as opposed to a mean of 53.71 s (\pm 25.38 s; range of 18.39–98.90 s; Table 1; see feature #2 in
      Fig. 1) of the part of the advertisement calls with only isolated notes. The part of the
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      advertisement call with only note groups also had a slower note rate, with 7.80 notes issued per
      minute, on average (\pm 1.65 note per minute; range of 4.74–11.73 notes per minute; see feature #6
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      in Fig. 1), against 10.29 notes per minute on average (\pm 1.59 note per minute; range of 7.28–
      13.62 notes per minute; Table 1) in the part of the call with isolated notes (when note groups
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      occurs; see feature #5 in Fig. 1).
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              The number of pulses per isolated notes varies from 1–3 (\bar{x} = 2.00 \pm 0.60; Table 1; Fig. 3;
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      see feature #10 in Fig. 1). The isolated notes that initiate the advertisement call do it with one
      pulse (8 advertisement calls) or two pulses (16 advertisement calls; Table 2). However, most of
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      isolated notes along the advertisement call escalated the number of pulses (1 to 2, 1 to 3 or 2 to
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      3; 18 advertisement calls), whereas the isolated notes maintained a constant number of pulses
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186 only in six of the advertisement calls (2 to 2: Table 2). The number of pulses in each note groups varied from 2–3 ( $\bar{x} = 2.70 \pm 0.46$ ; Table 1; Fig. 3; see feature #11 in Fig. 1). The total number of 187 188 pulses in note groups varied from 4–6 ( $\bar{x} = 5.40 \pm 0.82$ ; Table 1). Occurred four combinations of number of pulses in note groups (2–2 to 3–3), being more common the combination of 3–3 189 pulses (62%; Table 1 and 2). All pulses both in isolated notes and note groups are interrupted 190 units of the subsequent pulses, isolated by short moment of silence. 191 Note duration of isolated notes varies from 0.002-0.037 s ( $\bar{x} = 0.020 \pm 0.007$  s) and 192 duration of note groups varies from 0.360–0.578 s ( $\bar{x} = 0.465 \pm 0.053$  s; Table 1; see features #12 193 and #13 in Fig. 1). The inter-note interval in isolated notes is, on average, 6.663 s (4.092–12.248 194  $\pm$  1.705 s; see feature #14 in Fig. 1) and the inter-note group interval is, on average, 6.871 s 195  $(4.322-10.678 \pm 1.768 \text{ s}; \text{ Table 1}; \text{ see features } \#15 \text{ in Fig. 1})$ . The inter-note interval within note 196 groups is, on average,  $0.412 \text{ s} (0.319-0.526 \pm 0.050 \text{ s}; \text{ Table 1}; \text{ see feature } \#16 \text{ in Fig. 1})$ . The 197 note dominant frequency varies from 5.34–7.32 kHz ( $\bar{x} = 6.38 \pm 0.30$  kHz; Table 1). Two 198 199 individuals presented calls with note dominant frequency below the mean (MHNCI 026-7) and two other from the mean upward (MHNCI 001 and 003), while the remaining showed note 200 201 dominant frequency crossing the mean in both directions. Finally, the highest frequency spans from 6.686–10.552 kHz ( $\bar{x} = 7.98 \pm 0.47$  kHz) while the lowest frequency span from 3.130– 202 6.087 kHz ( $\bar{x} = 4.53 \pm 0.52 \text{ kHz}$ ; Table 1). 203 204 205 **Discussion** 206 In this study we used a note-centered approach (sensu Köhler et al. [2017]) to describe the 207 advertisement call of *Brachycephalus albolineatus*. We believe that there are two advantages for a note-centered approach to describe the calls of species of the B. pernix group. First, it is 208 209 consistent with descriptions of calls of the species of the B. ephippium and B. didactylus groups (Table 3). For instance, in the *B. ephippium* group, the advertisement call of *B. crispus* has been 210 described as "a long and low-intensity buzz with a regular repetition of notes" (Condez et al. 211 2014); the call of B. darkside "is characterized by pulsed notes emitted in extremely long 212 213 sequences" (Guimarães et al. 2017), whereas the call of B. pitanga "[...] consists of low-intensity 214 pulsed notes uttered in a long series" (Araújo et al. [2012]; see Pombal Jr., Sazima & Haddad [1994] for a similar description in the case of B. ephippium). Likewise, in the B. didactylus 215

group, the call of B. hermogenesi "may be simple, constituted by a single note, or complex,

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217 composed of groups of two to seven similar notes" (Verdade et al. 2008), whereas the call of B. sulfuratus is "long, composed of a set of 4–7 high-frequency notes [...] repeated regularly" 218 219 (Condez et al. 2016). In all those cases, the call was considered as the entire sequence of notes. On the other hand, Garey et al. (2012) considered single notes as calls and largely overlooked 220 any patterns over longer periods of time. Second, using a note-centered approach facilitates 221 222 comparisons with calls of congeners, as well as underscores the considerable differences in call 223 structure between species in a single group and among species groups. 224 There are only a few species of *Brachycephalus* with described advertisement calls. In Table 3 we summarize all data and features used in those descriptions. It is striking the extent to 225 which descriptions vary in the number of features used and in how often they lacked important 226 details, such as methodological procedures and sample size. These issues make it difficult to 227 conduct a more precise comparison with the call of B. albolineatus. Nevertheless, B. albolineatus 228 229 is the only known species with an advertisement call that is structurally modified along its 230 emission, i.e. more structured (with notes with increasingly more pulses and with note groups). However, as stated above, we do not rule out the possibility that the advertisement call of B. 231 232 tridactylus indeed exhibits some level of structuring such as that of B. albolineatus. Another striking difference is how much the note of B. albolineatus is shorter than that of B. tridactylus 233 (Garey et al. 2012), both of the B. pernix group (average of 0.020 s and 0.11 s, respectively). 234 Brachycephalus albolineatus have a very reduced number of pulses in isolated notes in 235 236 comparison with the species of the B. ephippium and B. didactylus groups, i.e. a mean of two 237 pulses against means of 6.3 pulses in B. darkside (Guimarães et al. 2017), 10.0 pulses in B. 238 crispus (Condez et al. 2014), 10.9 and 11.1 pulses in B. pitanga (Araújo et al. 2012, Tandel et al. 2014), and 12 pulses in B. ephippium (Pombal Jr., Sazima & Haddad 1994; Table 3), in species 239 240 of the B. ephippium group, and against a mean of 8.8 pulses in B. sulfuratus, of the B. didactylus group (Condez et al. 2016; Table 3). Brachycephalus albolineatus has the highest interval in the 241 range of note dominant frequency, that include a variation of 2 kHz, only slightly comparable to 242 the range variation of 1.2 kHz of B. pitanga (Tandel et al. 2014; Table 3). Meanwhile it is 243 244 premature to provide a discussion about this variation, given that most of the available data of 245 dominant frequency in *Brachycephalus* only report their average values (Table 3). It should be noted that the large frequency range of the "dominant frequency" for B. darkside presented by 246 247 Guimarães et al. (2017), including a variation of 3.3 kHz, is not comparable to the variation in B.



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of B. albolineatus may represent "warming notes" (sensu Bornschein et al. 2007), which refers 249 250 to notes beginning a call and that are attenuated (e.g. less intense [less audible]), although one-251 pulse notes also appear along the call in some advertisement calls. Apparently there is a trend of individuals to invest progressively more energy along the 252 emission of each particular advertisement calls. There are three sources of evidence for this: 1) 253 254 advertisement calls normally escalated, incorporating note groups at the last third part of the call (76%) and 2) pulses per note increased during the emission of isolated notes (up to three; 62%); 255 and 3) note groups usually had 3–3 pulses per note (62%), which is the combination of the 256 groups with highest number of pulses (Table 2). Intra-individual variation analysis also 257 demonstrated that less structured advertisement calls (i.e. with notes with less pulses) are not 258 fixed individually and can vary in the course of an hour. In the only species of the 259 Brachycephalus pernix group with its advertisement calls described to date, B. tridactylus (Garey 260 261 et al. 2012), there was no evidence of escalation in structure. It is possible that the advertisement 262 calls with isolated notes and note groups could have distinct functions, perhaps territorial defense 263 when composed only by the former and territorial defense plus mating when composed by isolated notes and note groups. There is a parallel between the differences of isolates notes 264 versus note groups of B. albolineatus and the "territorial call" / "aggressive call" versus 265 266 advertisement call of B. pitanga (Araújo et al. 2012) and B. darkside (Guimarães et al. 2017). In 267 both of these territorial / aggressive calls there are shorter notes with reduced number of pulses 268 that in the advertisement calls, like the isolated notes of B. albolineatus that span 0.002–0.037 s (  $\bar{x} = 0.020$  s) and have 1–3 pulses ( $\bar{x} = 2.0$  pulses) whereas note groups span 0.360–0.578 s ( $\bar{x} =$ 269 0.465 s) and have 4–6 pulses ( $\bar{x} = 5.4$  pulses). 270 271 In a recent study, Goutte et al. (2017) suggested that Brachycephalus ephippium and B. 272 pitanga are insensitive to the sound of their own calls. This raises some questions about the 273 validity of discussions about the possible reproductive and behavioral use of calls in the case of B. albolineatus, as well as for the use of calls in the taxonomy of the group. Goutte et al. (2017) 274 275 suggest that calls may have been maintained in the studied species because of the call side effects 276 (e.g. vocal sac movement) or by evolutionary inertia, for example. The relevant issue to be discussed here is that B. ephippium and B. pitanga, both members of the B. ephippium group, 277 278 present vocal and visual behavioral (vocal sac movements) above the leaf litter (Goutte et al.

albolineatus because the measurement refers to a frequency range (Table 3). The one-pulse notes



279	2017), unlike B. albolineatus and all other species of the B. pernix group (MRB et al., per. obs.)
280	which call exclusively under the leaf litter and vocal sac movements are not visible. We do not
281	abandon the hypothesis that species of the B. pernix and B. didactylus groups have a more
282	complete auditory system than B. ephippium and B. pitanga and the ability to perceive their ow
283	calls. This is an interesting subject brought only now to the fore and open to further discussion.
284	
285	Conclusions
286	Brachycephalus albolineatus is the first species in the genus whose advertisement call has been
287	recognized as increasing in complexity over the course of its emission. Its advertisement call is
288	long and composed by isolated notes and note groups, which tend to be emitted during the last
289	third of the call. Intra-individual variation demonstrates that calls can be composed only by
290	isolated notes or by isolated notes and note groups in a subsequent call. Number of pulses per
291	notes escalates along the call. These results underscore how a note-centered approach is able to
292	reveal important aspects of the temporal dynamics of the advertisement call of the studied
293	species
294	
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299	
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## Manuscript to be reviewed

400	Table 1. Measurements of advertisement call (AC) features of <i>Brachycephalus albolineatus</i> and some parameters. Number between
401	brackets represent the number of the feature in Fig. 1.
402	
403 404	Table 2. Distribution of the number of pulses per note (separated by ",") along the advertisement calls (AC) of <i>Brachycephalus</i>
405	albolineatus (see features 10 and 11 in Fig. 1). Pulses per note groups are indicated between parenthesis, but indicating separately by
406	"—" the number of pulses in each particular note of the group (see Figs. 1 and 3).
407	
408	
409	Table 3. Comparison of the features used to describe the advertisement call of <i>Brachycephalus</i> . Values are expressed by: range (mean
410	± SD) [sample/individuals].
411	
412	



413	FIGURES
414	
415	
416	Figure 1. Representation of some features considered in the description of the advertisement call
417	of Brachycephalus albolineatus on a schematic call. Numbers correspond with the order of
418	descriptions in the methods. 1) Call duration (s); 2) duration of the call including only isolated
419	notes (s); 3) duration of the call including only note groups (s); 4) note rate (notes per minute); 5)
420	note rate of the call including only isolated notes (notes per minute); 6) note rate of the call
421	including only note groups (notes per minute); 7) number of notes per call (10 notes in the
422	example); 8) number of isolated notes per call (seven notes in the example); 9) number of note
423	groups per call (three notes in the example); 10) number of pulses per isolated notes (three in the
424	example); 11) number of pulses in each note groups (3-3 in the example); 12) note duration of
425	isolated notes (s); 13) duration of note group (s); 14) inter-note interval in isolated notes (s); 15)
426	inter-note group interval (s); and 16) inter-note interval within note groups (s).
427	
428	
429	Figure 2. Graphical representation of the emission of isolated notes and note groups of the
430	advertisement calls (AC) of Brachycephalus albolineatus (only AC recorded from the beginning
431	were considered). Note the individual variation. The number of pulses of each note can be
432	observed in Table 2. Abbreviation: MHNCI = Museu de História Natural Capão da Imbuia.
433	
434	
435	Figure 3. Example of an entire advertisement call and also notes of other advertisement calls of
436	Brachycephalus albolineatus. A) Entire advertisement call (MHNCI 006; individual collected
437	and housed at MHNCI 10296). B, D, F) All examples observed of isolated notes, with one pulse
438	(B: MHNCI 008), two pulses (D = MHNCI 022), and three pulses (F = MHNCI 026). C, E, G)
439	Examples of note groups, with 3–3 pulses (C: MHNCI 026), 3–2 pulses (E = MHNCI 027;
440	individual collected and housed at MNRJ 90349), and 2–3 pulses (G = MHNCI 026).
441	Abbreviations: MHNCI = Museu de História Natural Capão da Imbuia; MNRJ = Museu
442	Nacional, Rio de Janeiro. Spectrograms produced with a FFT size of 4096 points, Hann window,
443	and overlap of 90% in A and FFT 128 points, Hann window, and overlap of 90% in B-G.

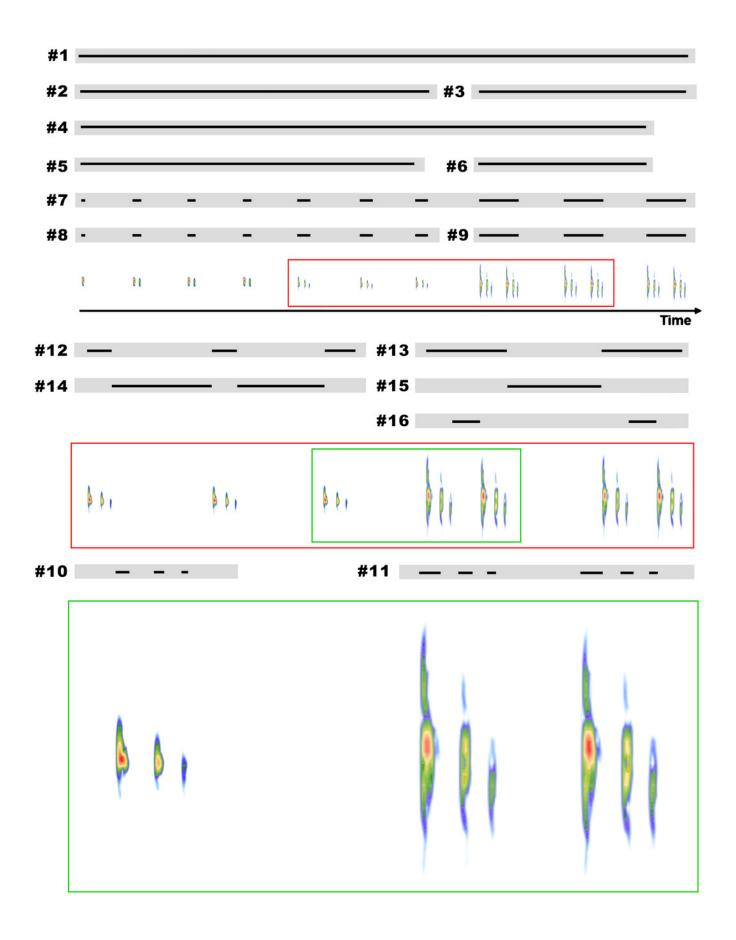


## Figure 1

Representation of some features considered in the description of the advertisement call of *Brachycephalus albolineatus* on a schematic call.

Numbers correspond with the order of descriptions in the methods. 1) Call duration (s); 2) duration of the call including only isolated notes (s); 3) duration of the call including only note groups (s); 4) note rate (notes per minute); 5) note rate of the call including only isolated notes (notes per minute); 6) note rate of the call including only note groups (notes per minute); 7) number of notes per call (10 notes in the example); 8) number of isolated notes per call (seven notes in the example); 9) number of note groups per call (three notes in the example); 10) number of pulses per isolated notes (three in the example); 11) number of pulses in each note groups (3–3 in the example); 12) note duration of isolated notes (s); 13) duration of note group (s); 14) inter-note interval in isolated notes (s).







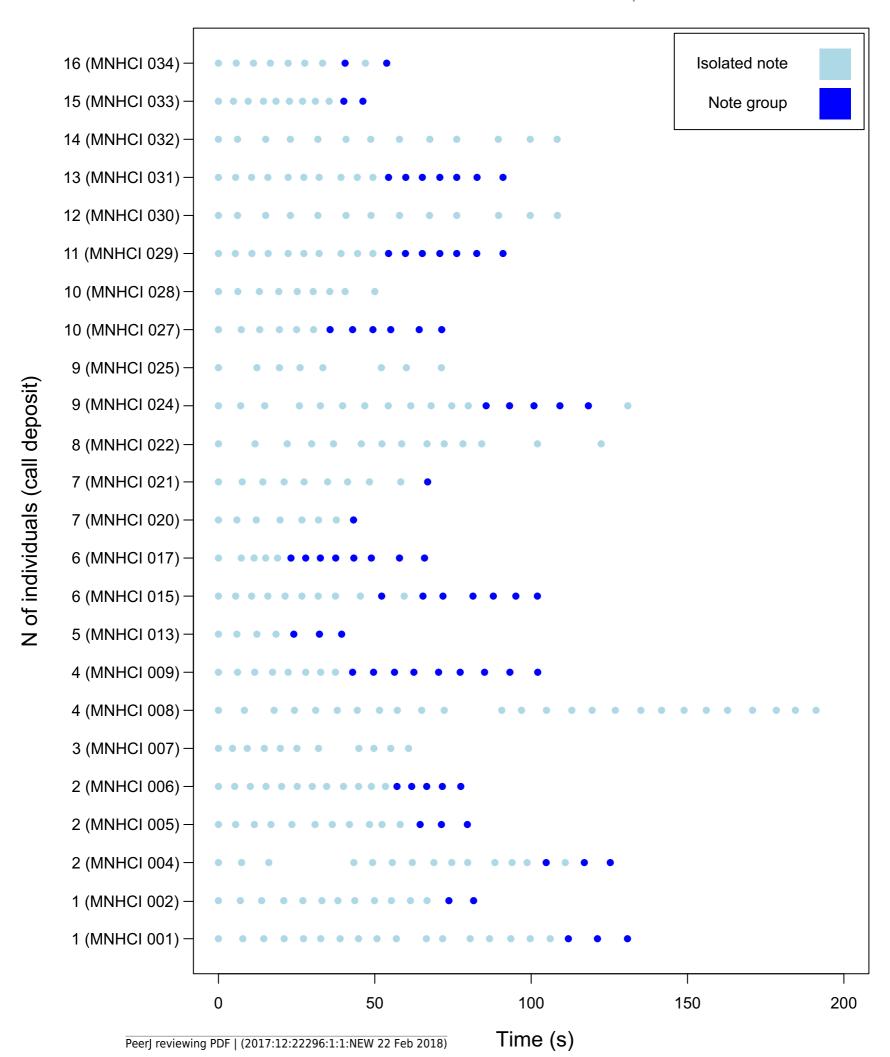
### Figure 2(on next page)

Graphical representation of the emission of isolated notes and note groups of the advertisement calls (AC) of *Brachycephalus albolineatus* (only AC recorded from the beginning were considered).

Note the individual variation. The number of pulses of each note can be observed in Table 2.

Abbreviation: MHNCI = Museu de História Natural Capão da Imbuia.





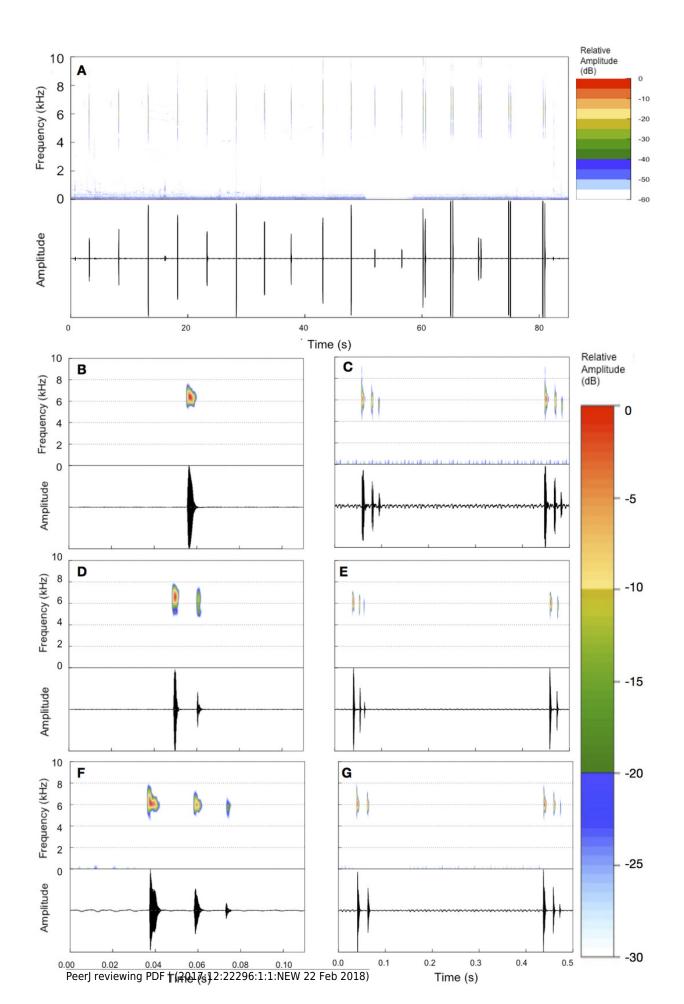


## Figure 3

Example of an entire advertisement call and also notes of other advertisement calls of *Brachycephalus albolineatus*.

A) Entire advertisement call (MHNCI 006; individual collected and housed at MHNCI 10296). B, D, F) All examples observed of isolated notes, with one pulse (B: MHNCI 008), two pulses (D = MHNCI 022), and three pulses (F = MHNCI 026). C, E, G) Examples of note groups, with 3–3 pulses (C: MHNCI 026), 3–2 pulses (E = MHNCI 027; individual collected and housed at MNRJ 90349), and 2–3 pulses (G = MHNCI 026). Abbreviations: MHNCI = Museu de História Natural Capão da Imbuia; MNRJ = Museu Nacional, Rio de Janeiro. Spectrograms produced with a FFT size of 4096 points, Hann window, and overlap of 90% in A and FFT 128 points, Hann window, and overlap of 90% in B-G.







## Table 1(on next page)

Measurements of advertisement call (AC) features of *Brachycephalus albolineatus* and some parameters.

Number between brackets represent the number of the feature in Fig. 1.

- 1 Table 1. Measurements of advertisement call (AC) features of *Brachycephalus albolineatus* and some parameters. Number between
- 2 brackets represent the number of the feature in Fig. 1.

Facture / [Analysis]	Range	Mean	SD	N	
Feature / [Analysis]				Sample	Individuals
Call duration (s) (1) (entire call)	39.933–191.141	88.368	35.733	24	16
Duration of the call including only isolated notes (s) (2) when	49.971–191.141	100.675	52.423	6	6
note groups is absent					
Duration of the call including only isolated notes (s) (2) when	18.387–98.896	53.709	25.380	18	13
note groups occurs					
Duration of the call including only note groups (s) (3)	0.408-76.375	24.438	19.846	25	16
Note rate (notes per minute) (4) (entire call)	5.891-12.997	9.146	1.714	24	16
Note rate of the call including only isolated notes (notes per	5.891-9.879	7.707	1.707	6	6
minute) (5) when note groups is absent					
Note rate of the call including only isolated notes (notes per	7.282–13.619	10.288	1.593	18	13
minute) (5) when note groups occurs					
Note rate of the call including only note groups (notes per	4.741-11.727	7.804	1.655	20	14
minute) (6)					
Number of notes per call (7)	7.00-26.00	14.08	4.70	24	16
Number of isolated notes per call (8)	4.00-26.00	10.96	4.70	24	16
Number of note groups per call (9)	0.00-9.00	3.13	2.77	24	16
[Percentage of number of notes of the entire AC that is	0.00-61.54	21.87	18.58	24	16
composed by note groups in each AC]					

Facture / [Analysis]	Range	Mean	SD	N	
Feature / [Analysis]				Sample	Individuals
Number of pulses per isolated notes (10)	1.00-3.00	2.00	0.601	324	20
[Number of isolated notes with one pulse]	26.00			324	20
[Number of isolated notes with two pulses]	188.00			324	20
[Number of isolated notes with three pulses]	110.00			324	20
Number of pulses in each note groups (11)	2.00-3.00	2.70	0.459	230	16
[Number of notes of note groups with 2–2 pules]	25.00			115	16
[Number of notes of note groups with 2–3 pules]	5.00			115	16
[Number of notes of note groups with 3–3 pules]	71.00			115	16
[Number of notes of note groups with 3–2 pules]	14.00			115	16
[Total number of pulses in note groups]	4.00-6.00	5.40	0.825	115	16
Note duration of isolated notes (s) (12)	0.002 – 0.037	0.020	0.007	96	19
Duration of note groups (s) (13)	0.360-0.578	0.465	0.053	62	16
Inter-note interval in isolated notes (s) (14)	4.092-12.248	6.663	1.705	62	15
Inter-note group interval (s) (15)	4.322-10.678	6.871	1.768	32	13
Inter-note interval within note groups (s) (16)	0.319-0.526	0.412	0.050	55	16
Note dominant frequency (kHz)	5.340-7.321	6.376	0.304	256	10
Highest frequency (kHz)	6.686–10.552	7.980	0.468	326	19
Lowest frequency (kHz)	3.130-6.087	4.531	0.517	326	19



### Table 2(on next page)

Distribution of the number of pulses per note (separated by ",") along the advertisement calls (AC) of *Brachycephalus albolineatus* (see features 10 and 11 in Fig. 1).

Pulses per note groups are indicated between parenthesis, but indicating separately by "-" the number of pulses in each particular note of the group (see Figs. 1 and 3).

- 1 Table 2. Distribution of the number of pulses per note (separated by ",") along the advertisement calls (AC) of *Brachycephalus*
- 2 albolineatus (see features 10 and 11 in Fig. 1). Pulses per note groups are indicated between parenthesis, but indicating separately by
- 3 "-" the number of pulses in each particular note of the group (see Figs. 1 and 3).

N of individuals	Number of pulses per note	Number of notes we hear being emitted
(call deposit)		before recording the AC
1 (MHNCI 001)	1, 2, 2, 2, 2, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, (3–3), (3–3), (3–3)	0
1 (MHNCI 002)	1, 1, 2, 2, 3, 2, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, (3–3), (3–3)	0
2 (MHNCI 003)	3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, (3–3)	?
3 (MHNCI 004)	2, 2, 2, 1, 1, 2, 2, 2, 3, 3, 2, 2, 3, (3–2), 3, (3–3), (2–2)	0
3 (MHNCI 005)	1, 2, 2, 2, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, (2–2), (3–3), (3–3)	0
3 (MHNCI 006)	2, 2, 2, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, (3–3), (3–3), (3–3), (3–3), (3–3)	0
4 (MHNCI 007)	1, 1, 2, 2, 2, 2, 3, 3, 3, 3	0
5 (MHNCI 008)	1,1,1,2,2,2,2,2,2,1,1,2,2,2,2,2,2,2,2,2,2,1,2,2,2,2	0
5 (MHNCI 009)	2, 2, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, (3–3), (3–3), (3–3), (3–3), (3–3), (3–3), (3–3), (2–3)	0
5 (MHNCI 010)	2, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, (3–3), (3–3), (3–3), (3–3), (3–3), (3–3)	?
6 (MHNCI 011)	2, 1, 1, 2, 1, 2, 2, 1, 2, 1, 2, 2, 1	3
6 (MHNCI 012)	2, 2, 2, 2, (3–2)	2
6 (MHNCI 013)	2, 2, 2, 2, (2–2), (2–2), (2–2)	0
7 (MHNCI 014)	2, (3–2), (3–2), (2–2)	?
8 (MHNCI 015)	2, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 2, (3–3), 2, (3–3), (3–3), (3–3), (3–2), (3–3), (3–2)	0
8 (MHNCI 016)	2, 2, 2, 2, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, (3–3), 3, (3–3), (3–3), (3–3), (3–3), (3–3), (3–2)	3
8 (MHNCI 017)	2, 2, 3, 2, 3, (3–2), (3–3), (3–3), (3–2), (3–3), (3–3), (3–3), (2–3)	0

N of individuals	Number of nulses nor note	Number of notes we hear being emitted
(call deposit)	Number of pulses per note	before recording the AC
8 (MHNCI 018)	(3-2), (3-3), (3-3), (3-2), (3-3), (3-3), (3-3), (3-3)	?
9 (MHNCI 019)	2, 2, 2, (2–2), 2, (2–2), (2–2), (2–2, (2–2)	?
9 (MHNCI 020)	2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, (2–2)	0
9 (MHNCI 021)	2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 3, (2–2)	0
10 (MHNCI 022)	2, 2, 2, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 2, 2	0
11 (MHNCI 023)	2, 2, 2, 2, 2	?
12 (MHNCI 024)	2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 3, 2, 2, (3–3), (3–3), (2–3), (3–3), (3–3), 2	0
12 (MHNCI 025)	2, 2, 3, 3, 3, 2, 3, 3	0
13 (MHNCI 026)	2, 3, 3, 3, 2, 3, (3–2), (3–3), (2–3), (3–3), (3–3), (3–3), (2–3)	?
14 (MHNCI 027)	2, 2, 2, 3, 3, 3, (3–2), (3–3), (3–3), (3–3), (3–3), (3–3)	0
14 (MHNCI 028)	1, 2, 2, 2, 3, 3, 3, 2	0
15 (MHNCI 029)	2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, (2–2), (2–2), (2–2), (2–2)	0
16 (MHNCI 030)	1, 1, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2,	0
17 (MHNCI 031)	2, 2, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, (3-3), (3-3), (3-3), (3-3), (3-3), (3-3)	0
18 (MHNCI 032)	2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2	0
19 (MHNCI 033)	1, 1, 2, 1, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, (2–2), (2–2)	0
20 (MHNCI 034)	2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, (2–2), 2, (2–2)	0



## Table 3(on next page)

Comparison of the features used to describe the advertisement call of *Brachycephalus*.

Values are expressed by: range (mean  $\pm$  SD) [sample/individuals].

### 1 Table 3. Comparison of the features used to describe the advertisement call of *Brachycephalus*. Values are expressed by: range (mean

### $2 \pm SD$ ) [sample/individuals].

Feature	B. pernix group		B. ephippium group							B. didactylus group	
	B. albolineatus	B. tridactylus	B. crispus	B. darkside	B. ephippium	B. ephippium	B. pitanga	B. pitanga	B. pitanga	B. hermogenesi	B. sulfuratus
Call duration (s)	39.933–191.141	?-? (0.11 ±	?-300 (? ± ?)	2.9-66.2	120-360 (? ±					0.2-1.9 (? ± ?)	1.5-2.3 (1.8
	$(88.368 \pm 35.733$	0.02) [?/17]1	[5/?]	$(30.4 \pm 25.3)$	?) [?/?]					$[?/?]^2$	$\pm 0.2)$
	[24/16]			[7/5]							[95/11]
Call rate (calls per										?-? (0.19 ± ?)	
second)										[?/?] <sup>2</sup>	
Interval between				6.2, 11.2							3.1-7.4 (5.1
calls (s)				[2/?]							± 1.4)
											[95/11]
Note rate (notes per	5.891-12.997			186.4-243.4			?–? (159 ±				
minute)	$(9.146 \pm 1.714)$			$(211.4 \pm$			11) [?/2]				
	[24/16]			25.6) [5/?]							
Note rate (notes per		?–? $(0.16 \pm$	?–? (1.67 $\pm$							?-? (1.09 ± ?)	0.1-0.3 (0.2
second)		0.03) [11/?]	0.09) [5/?]							$[?/?]^2$	$\pm 0.0$ )
											[485/11]
Pulse rate (pulses			?-? (17.4 ±	36.8-78.4			?–? (62 $\pm$				6.1–12.3 (9.3
per second)			2.12) [5/?]	$(56.9 \pm 4.9)$			8) [?/2] <sup>3</sup>				$\pm$ 1.8) [?/11]
				[790/5]							
Number of notes per	7–26 (14.08 $\pm$	1		9–253 (114 ±						$1-7 \ (? \pm ?) \ [?/?]^2$	$4-7 (5.3 \pm$
call	4.70) [24/16]			97.1) [7/5]							0.9) [485/11]
Number of pulses	$1-3 \ (2.00 \pm 0.601)$	0	7–12 (10 $\pm$	$5-8$ (6.3 $\pm$	5–15 (12 $\pm$		?-? (11.1	6.90-			7–11 (8.8 $\pm$
per isolated notes	[324/20]		1.19) [100/5]	0.7) [790/5]	1.96) [57/?]		$\pm 1.2$ )	14.30			1.3) [?/11]
							[?/2]	$(10.86 \pm$			
								1.62) [?/?]			
Number of pulses in	$2-3 \ (2.70 \pm 0.459)$										
each note groups	[230/16]										

Feature	B. pernix group				B. eph	B. didactylus group					
	B. albolineatus	B. tridactylus	B. crispus	B. darkside	B. ephippium	B. ephippium	B. pitanga	B. pitanga	B. pitanga	B. hermogenesi	B. sulfuratus
Note duration of	0.002-0.037 (0.020	?-? (0.11 ±	?-? (0.28 ±	0.083-0.163	0.093-0.125		?-? (0.170	0.15-0.25			0.131-0.233
isolated notes (s)	$\pm$ 0.007) [96/19]	0.02) [?/17]	0.02) [100/5]	$(0.111 \pm$	$(0.112 \pm$		$\pm 0.013)$	$(0.19 \pm$			$(0.195 \pm$
				0.014)	0.006) [19/?]		[?/2]	0.03)			0.013)
				[790/5]				[400/40]			[485/11]
Duration of note	0.360-0.578 (0.465										
groups (s)	$\pm 0.053) [62/16]$										
Pulse duration (s)			?? (0.027 ±								0.02-0.03
			0.004)								$(0.024 \pm$
			[517/5]								0.005) [?/11]
Inter-note interval in	4.092-12.248		?–? (0.35 $\pm$	0.122-0.215	0.123-0.149			0,20-0.43			•
isolated notes (s)	$(6.663 \pm 1.705)$		0.02) [100/5]	$(0.159 \pm$	$(0.134 \pm$			$(0.28 \pm$			
	[62/15]			0.014)	0.007) [18/?]			0.05)			1
				[783/5]				[400/40]			
Inter-note group	4.322-10.678										•
interval (s) (15)	$(6.871 \pm 1.768)$										!
	[32/13]										
Inter-note interval	0.319-0.526 (0.412										•
within note groups	$\pm 0.050)$ [55/16]										•
(s)											
Note dominant	5.340-7.321 (6.376	?–? (4.8 $\pm$	?–? (4.6 $\pm$	2.856-3.797		?-? (3.94 ±	?? (4.9 ±	4.311-	?-? (5.43 ±		6.2-7.2 (6.7
frequency (kHz)	± 0.304) [256/10]	0.2) [?/17]	0.19) [100/5]	$(3.382 \pm$		0.24) [?/5]	0.2) [?/2]	5.550	0.30) [?/8]		± 0.3) [?/11]
				0.185)				$(4.816 \pm$			1
				[790/5]4				0.414)			•
								[400/40]			
Call dominant										?-? $(6.8 \pm 0.8)$	
frequency (kHz)										[5/?] <sup>5</sup>	!
Highest frequency	6.686-10.552	6.4 (? ± ?)	?-? (5.7 ±		5.3 (? ± ?)						8.2-10.3 (9.3

Feature	B. pernix group				B. didactylus group						
	B. albolineatus	B. tridactylus	B. crispus	B. darkside	B. ephippium	B. ephippium	B. pitanga	B. pitanga	B. pitanga	B. hermogenesi	B. sulfuratus
(kHz)	$(7.980 \pm 0.468)$	[?/17]6	0.17)		[?/?]6						± 0.3) [?/11] <sup>6</sup>
			$[100/5]^6$								
Lowest frequency	3.130-6.087 (4.531	$3.2~(?\pm?)$	?–? (3.5 $\pm$		$3.4~(?\pm?)$						4.5-5.5 (4.9
(kHz)	$\pm 0.517$ )	$[?/17]^6$	0.19)		$[?/?]^6$						$\pm 0.3) [?/11]^6$
			$[100/5]^6$								
5%–95% frequency <sup>7</sup>				2.484-5.766							
				(? ± ?) [?/?]							
"Highest sound		?-? (110 ±				?–? (47.0 $\pm$	56-66 (?		?-? (57.6 ±		
pressure" (dB)		5.6) [?/17]				5.7) [3/?]	± ?) [4/?]		1.8) [8/?]		
Approach (sensu	note-centered	call-centered	note-centered	note-centered	note-centered	not applicable	note-	note-	not	note-centered <sup>2</sup>	note-centered
Köhler et al. 2017)							centered <sup>2</sup>	centered	applicable		
Source	This study	Garey et al.	Condez et al.	Guimarães et	Pombal Jr.,	Goutte et al.	Araújo et	Tandel et	Goutte et	Verdade et al.	Condez et al.
		(2012)	(2014)	al. (2017)	Sazima &	(2017)	al. (2012)	al. (2014)	al. (2017)	(2008)	(2016)
					Haddad						
					(1994)						

- 3 <sup>1</sup>Represents note duration under note-centered approach.
- 4 <sup>2</sup>Note-centered approach and call-centered approach probably mixed in this measurement.
- 5 The unit of measure was erroneously cited as Hz.
- 6 <sup>4</sup>Feature cited as "peak frequency" by Guimarães *et al.* (2017) but refers to our dominant frequency.
- 7 <sup>5</sup>We are not sure if in the measurement was not mixed with note dominant frequency.
- 8 <sup>6</sup>The measurement procedure has not been explained and data may be not comparable.
- 9 <sup>7</sup>Feature cited as "dominant frequency" by Guimarães *et al.* (2017).

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