

The ultrasonic frog, birds in urban noise and some thoughts on acoustic-based surveys

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When we carry out acoustic surveys on birds, frogs or insects we are faced with problems of detectability and identification. Animals themselves cope with the same problems when sending acoustic messages. I will begin the talk with my own research on a unique family of frogs that resorted to using ultrasound in order to communicate in noise-dense landscapes of rapidly flowing streams. Other authors have addressed the topic of bird vocalizations in urban noise; do birds employ specific adaptations in order to be detected and identified correctly by conspecifics? Finally, when we, as human beings, conduct acoustic surveys, how could we optimize our methodology, particularly with regard to passive monitoring? I will provide some possible ideas to accomplish this.



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