

Vocalization library of the Zebra finch

This vocalization library was collected between 2011 and 2014 at the University of California Berkeley by Julie E Elie using birds bred in the colony of the Theunissen Lab.

Citations

Please cite the following papers when using data from this collection:

Elie JE and Theunissen FE. *The vocal repertoire of the domesticated zebra finch: a data driven approach to decipher the information-bearing acoustic features of communication signals*. **Animal Cognition**. 2016. 19(2) 285-315 DOI 10.1007/s10071-015-0933-6 [OA eScholarship]

Elie JE and Theunissen FE. *Zebra Finches identify individuals using vocal signatures unique to each call type*. **Nature communication**. 2018. 9:4026. doi: 10.1038/s41467-018-06394-9 [OA]

Annotations of vocalizations in the database

The database contains vocalizations both from adult and juvenile (around 30 days old) zebra finches. The sounds are organized in two zip folders according to the age of the vocalizer. The sex of adults is known. Each vocalization or sequence of vocalizations is saved as a wav file which name indicate the name of the individual (ColColxxxx), the type of vocalization (VT) and the recording date (yymmdd) using the following scheme:

ColColxxxx_yymmdd-VT-zz.wav

Example: GraLbI0457_110411-TetC-12.wav

ColColxxxx : The name of the individual is always a string of 10 letters and digits, e.g.: GraLbI0457

yymmdd : The recording date always follows the first underscore as 6 digits, e.g.: 110411

VT: The type of vocalization VT always follows the first hyphen and can be of various length but the first 2 letters always code the type of vocalization as described in Animal Cognition 2016 along 11 categories:

Ag -> Wsst or aggressive call

Be -> Begging calls

DC -> Distance call

Di -> Distress call

LT -> Long Tonal call

Ne -> Nest call

So -> Song

Te -> Tet call

Th -> Thuk call

Tu -> Tuck call

Wh -> Whine call

zz: the rendition number always follows the last hyphen.

Note that some discrepancies in the naming of files are known to exist and somewhat expected since all of these 3433 files were manually annotated.

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