

Individual identity of ultrasonic calls along ontogeny in the yellow steppe lemming (*Eolagurus luteus*)

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HYPOTHESIS

Individual identity of ultrasonic calls (USV) will increase with age.

For mobile adolescents and adults is more important to be individualistic than for neonate pups falling out of the nest

METHODS

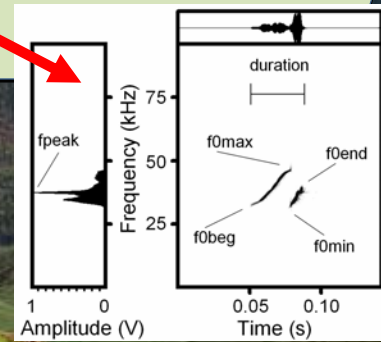
12 post-natal-day (PND) age-classes:

PND (1-4)	PND (25-28)	10 individuals per age-class
PND (5-8)	PND (29-32)	
PND (9-12)	PND (33-36)	120 individuals in total.
PND (13-16)	PND (37-40)	
PND (17-24)	PND (41-60/adolescents)	
	PND (60+/adults)	

Each individual was recorded for **2 min** at 22° C using a recorder Pettersson D1000X (384 kHz, 16 bit). After this — measurement and weighing.

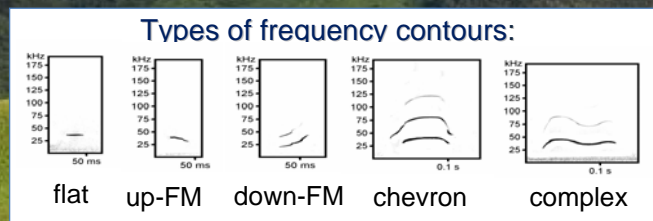
Up to **10** USV calls per individual were analyzed using Avisoft SASLab Pro software (**1176 USV calls** in total).

DFA 6 variables:

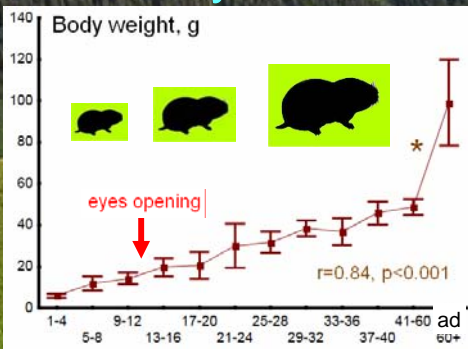


RESULTS

Ultrasonic call acoustics



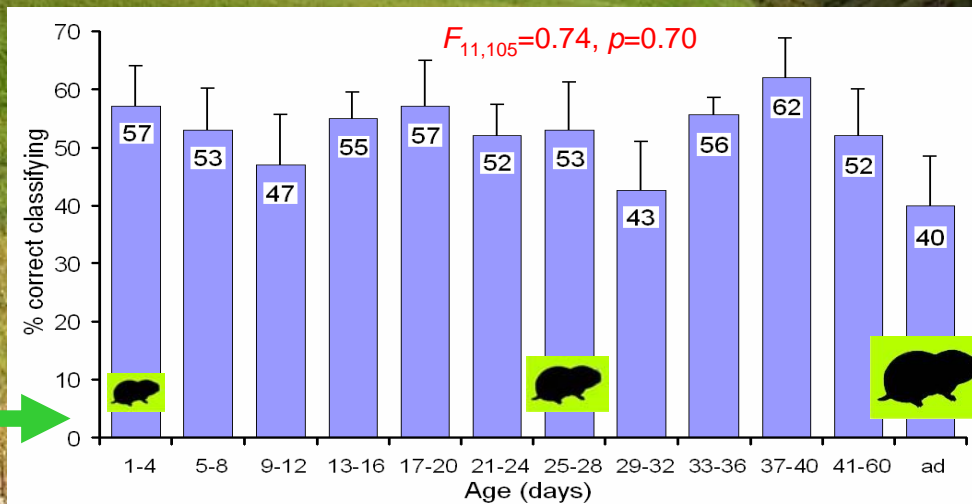
Body size



CONCLUSION

Against expectations, vocal individuality of USV calls in yellow steppe lemmings did not increase with age, remaining at the same level in pups and adults

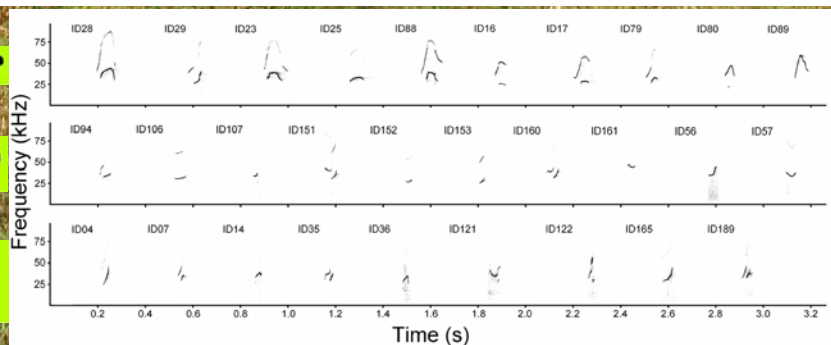
Discriminant Function Analysis



Age 1-4 d

Age 25-28 d

Adult



Support: RSF grant 19-14-00037