

Dear Ambre Salis,

Thank you for your revision. I am prepared to recommend this pre-print after you make a few small edits to improve clarity.

I look forward to seeing the final manuscript.

**** Thank you for these corrections. We rectified all the spelling mistakes, and we changed our Figure 1 as it was displaying former analyses. If this new version is suitable for recommendation in PCI, would you agree that we provide a last version that is formatted like a typical journal (e.g., with two columns, single spaced) ? We believe this should help the reading for researchers that are used to classical journal formatting.

My suggestions follow by line number:

103: "playbacks" should be "playback"
also, "is" should be "in"

**** Mistakes corrected (line 103).

113: insert ")" after "hops"

**** Parenthesis added (line 113).

250: This statement "The two main species, apart from coal and crested tits, were..." is, to me, misleading, since it suggests that both coal and crested tits responded more often than goldcrests, but from fig 1A, it seems that only crested tits were more common responders than goldcrests.

**** We modified this sentence to also add the percentages for the coal and crested tits (lines 251 & 252).

251: Here and elsewhere, I encourage consistency with bird name capitalizations. Given that you do not capitalize coal tit or crested tit, I suggest you not capitalize goldcrest, marsh tit, or others.

**** We suppressed the capital letters for all species cited (with an exception for the name that refer to geographical areas, e.g., "European").

283: could you state the rates of occurrence at playback of coal tits and crested tits relative to goldcrests and chaffinches.

**** We added this information lines 284-286.

Also, I am confused – given the number of crested tits responding was higher than the number of goldcrests (according to Fig 1B), how is it that goldcrests responded 24% of the time and fewer than 25% of trials had any response? This suggests that goldcrests responded in (almost) every case where there was any response from any species – is that correct? Also, does this mean that most of the trials with crested tits responding had multiple individuals responding, and so the percent of trials with crested tits responding was not higher than the percent of trials with goldcrests, even though the total number of trials with goldcrests responding was higher than (or as high as) the number with crested tits?

**** We believe the confusion comes from two sources: first, the sentence “the occurrence of response to any treatment did not reach 25%, compared to almost 50% in winter” was not appropriate anymore and was misleading. We changed it by giving the percentages of tests for which we did not get any mobbing responses from birds in the two seasons, which should be clearer for the reader: In Spring, almost 60% of the 400 tests we ran did not trigger a mobbing behaviour from the bird community.

In addition, we realized that the Figure 1 was showing the percentage of response of birds that responded but with a previous definition of mobbing used in former versions of the manuscript (i.e., approached OR called, and not approached AND called). This led to a mismatch between our different figures. The figure is now changed accordingly: Figure 1 represent the number of tests in which at least one given species responded with mobbing, with colours showing the different playback treatments. Hence, the percentage of tests in which we saw a mobbing goldcrest is $118/400 = 29.5\%$ (first column of Figure 1(A)). Also, the column corresponding to the crested tit Figure 1(A) is a stacked representation of graph (E) of Figure 2. We checked that all the models and other figures were correct.

319: change “per treatment” to “across treatments”

**** Sentence modified (line 325).

334: change to “middle graphs are responses”

***** Sentence modified (line 340).

380: change “modulates” to “modulate”

Also, I don't think we have sampled widely enough across birds to say “usually” here. Maybe say “often”. Or maybe say something like “Where it has been studies, birds usually ...”

**** We modified our sentence with ‘often’ and corrected the mistake (line 386).

427: insert “a” before “community”

**** Word added (line 433).

443: change "explore" to "explored"

**** Word modified (line 449).

483: insert "support for" so that this reads "we found support for different models"

**** Words added (line 489).

Sincerely,

Tim Parker