

Çağlar Akçay

Research Scientist
 Department of Biological Sciences
 Virginia Tech
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[Google Scholar page](#)
[ResearchGate page](#)

Education

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| 2011 | PhD, Animal Behavior
Department of Psychology, University of Washington, Seattle, WA |
| 2006 | MA, Cognition and Perception
Department of Psychology, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA |
| 2004 | BS, Psychology and Biology
Middle East Technical University, Ankara, Turkey |

Employment

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| 2014- | Postdoctoral Associate/Research Scientist
Department of Biological Sciences, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA |
| 2014 | Research Scientist and Lecturer
Department of Psychology, University of Washington, Seattle, WA |
| 2011- 2013 | Postdoctoral Associate
Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY |

Publications (all publications are available to download on my website).

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| 2016 | Akçay, Ç.* , Lendvai, Á. Z.*, Stanback, M., Hausmann, M., Moore, I. T., Bonier, F. Strategic adjustment of parental care: life-history trade-offs and the role of glucocorticoids. <i>Royal Society Open Science</i> (*co-first authors) |
| 2016 | Akçay, Ç. , Arnold, J. A., Hambury, K. L., Dickinson, J. L. Age-based discrimination of rivals in western bluebirds. <i>Animal Cognition</i> DOI 10.1007/s10071-016-1004-3 |
| 2016 | Dickinson, J.L., Akçay, Ç. , Ferree, E., Stern, C.A. Hierarchical incest avoidance in a cooperative breeder. <i>Behavioral Ecology</i> 10.1093/beheco/arw020 |
| 2016 | Akçay, Ç. , Clay, A., Campbell S. E., Beecher, M. D. The sparrow and the hawk: aggressive signaling under risk of predation. <i>Behavioral Ecology</i> doi:10.1093/beheco/arv196 |
| 2015 | Akçay, Ç. , Campbell S. E., Beecher, M. D. The fitness consequences of honesty: under-signalers have a survival advantage in song sparrows. <i>Evolution</i> doi: 10.1111/evo.12818 |
| 2015 | Lendvai, Á. Z., Akçay, Ç. , Ouyang, J. Q. ; Dakin, R. ; Domalik A.; St John, P. S.*; Stanback M.; Moore, I. T. ; Bonier, F. Analysis of the optimal duration of behavioral observations based on an automated continuous monitoring system in tree swallows (<i>Tachycineta bicolor</i>): is one hour good enough? <i>Plos ONE</i> 10:e0141194 |
| 2015 | Akçay, Ç. and Beecher, M. D. Team of rivals in chipping sparrows? <i>Biology Letters</i> . 11: 20141043. |
| 2015 | Lendvai, Á. Z., Akçay, Ç. , Weiss, T., Hausmann, M., Moore, I. T., Bonier, F. Low cost audiovisual playback and recording triggered by radio-frequency identification using Raspberry Pi. <i>PeerJ</i> . 3, e877 (OA) |

- 2015 **Akçay, Ç.**, Anderson, R. C.; Beecher, M. D.; Nowicki, S.; Searcy, W. A. Quiet threats: soft song as an aggressive signal in birds. *Animal Behaviour*. doi:10.1016/j.anbehav.2015.03.009
- 2014 Kershenbaum, A., Blumstein, D. T., Roch, M. A., **Akçay, Ç.**, et al. (42 authors) Acoustic sequences in non-human animals: a tutorial review and prospectus. *Biological Reviews* doi: 10.1111/brv.12160
- 2014 **Akçay, Ç.**, Reed, V. A., Campbell, S. E., Beecher, M. D. Song sparrows do not learn more songs from aggressive tutors. *Animal Behaviour*, 94. 151-159
- 2014 Searcy, W. A., **Akçay, Ç.**, Nowicki, S., Beecher, M. D. Aggressive signaling in song sparrows and other songbirds. *Advances in the Study of Behavior*, 46. 89-125
- 2014 **Akçay, Ç.**, Hambury, K. L., Arnold, J. A., Nevins, A. M., Dickinson, J. L. Song sharing with neighbours and relatives in a cooperatively breeding songbird. *Animal Behaviour*, 92, 55-62
- 2014 **Akçay, Ç.**, Campbell, S. E., Beecher, M. D. Individual differences affect honest signaling in a songbird. *Proceedings of Royal Society, B*, 281: 20132496 featured in [Nature News](#), [The Scientist](#), [UW News](#)
- 2013 **Akçay, Ç.**, Swift, R. J., Reed, V. A. , Dickinson, J. L.. Vocal kin recognition in kin neighborhoods of western bluebirds. *Behavioral Ecology*. 24, 828-905
- 2013 **Akçay, Ç.**, Tom, M. E., Campbell, S. E., Beecher, M. D. Song type matching is an honest early threat signal in a hierarchical communication system. *Proceedings of Royal Society, B*, 280: 20122517. featured in [UW News](#), [Popular Science](#), [Daily Mail \(UK\)](#), [KUOW](#),
- 2012 Templeton, C. N., **Akçay, Ç.**, Campbell, S. E., Beecher, M. D. Soft song is a reliable signal of aggressive intent in song sparrows. *Behavioral Ecology & Sociobiology*, 66, 1503-1509
- 2012 **Akçay, Ç.**, Beecher, M. D. Signaling while fighting: further comments on soft song. *Animal Behaviour*, 83, e1-e3.
- 2012 **Akçay, Ç.**, Searcy, W. A., Campbell, S. E., Reed, V. A., Templeton, C. N., Hardwick, K. M.* & Beecher, M. D. Who initiates extra-pair mating in song sparrows? *Behavioral Ecology*. 23, 44-50.
- 2011 **Akçay, Ç.**, Tom, M. E., Holmes, D., Campbell, S. E., Beecher, M. D. Sing softly and carry a big stick: signals of aggressive intent in song sparrows. *Animal Behaviour*. 82, 377-382
- 2011 Hill, C. E, **Akçay, Ç***, Campbell, S. E., Beecher, M. D. Extra-pair paternity, song and genetic quality in the song sparrow. *Behavioral Ecology*. 22, 73-81 (*corresponding author)
- 2011 **Akçay, Ç.**, Hazeltine, E. Is conflict monitoring local? *Psychonomic Bulletin and Review*, 18, 505-511
- 2010 **Akçay, Ç.**, Reed, V. A., Campbell, S. E., Templeton, C. N. & Beecher, M. D. Indirect reciprocity: song sparrows distrust aggressive neighbours based on reputation. *Animal Behaviour*. 80, 1041-1047 featured in: [BBC Earth News](#)
- 2010 Hazeltine, E., **Akçay, Ç.**, Mordkoff, J. T. Keeping Simon simple: Examining the relationship between sequential modulations and feature repetitions with two stimuli, two locations and two responses. *Acta Psychologica*, 136, 245-252
- 2010 Nulty, B. B., Burt, J. M., **Akçay, Ç.**, Templeton, C. N., Campbell, S. E., Beecher, M. D. Song learning in song sparrows: relative importance of autumn vs. spring tutoring. *Ethology* 116, 653-661

- 2010 Templeton, C. N., **Akçay, Ç.**, Campbell, S. E., Beecher, M. D., Juvenile sparrows preferentially eavesdrop on song contests. *Proceedings of Royal Society of London, B*, 277, 447-453 featured in: [Daily Telegraph](#), [BBC](#)
- 2009 **Akçay, Ç.**, Wood, W. E., Searcy, W. A., Templeton, C. N., Campbell, S. E., Beecher, M. D. Good neighbour, bad neighbour: song sparrows retaliate against aggressive rivals, *Animal Behaviour*, 78. 97-102
- 2008 **Akçay, Ç.**; Hazeltine, E. Conflict adaptation depends on task structure, *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Human Perception and Performance*, 34, 958-073
- 2007 **Akçay, Ç.**; Hazeltine, E. Feature-overlap and conflict monitoring: Two sources of sequential modulations, *Psychonomic Bulletin and Review*, 14, 742-748

Book Chapters

- 2016 Dickinson, J.L., **Akçay, Ç.**, Ferree, E.D., Stern, C.A. Western bluebirds: lessons from a marginal cooperative breeder. in Koenig, W.D. and J.L. Dickinson (eds), *Cooperative breeding in vertebrates: Long-term studies*. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, UK
- 2014 Beecher, M. D. and **Akçay, Ç.**, Friends and enemies: How social dynamics shape communication and song learning in song sparrows. in Yakusawa, K. (ed.) *Animal Behavior*, Preager, Santa Barbara, CA

Grants & Fellowships

- 2014 International Society for Behavioral Ecology (ISBE) Travel Award, \$900
- 2014 Royalty Research Fund Grant, University of Washington, \$28,230
- 2011 Earl and Mary Lou Hunt Fellowship, University of Washington
- 2010 NSF IOS Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant, \$14,249
- 2010 Animal Behavior Society Research Grant, \$800
- 2009 Frank Chapman Award, American Museum of Natural History, \$1,560
- 2009 Alcor Graduate Fellowship, Department of Psychology, University of Washington
- 2008 Royalty Research Fund Grant, University of Washington, \$25,937

Teaching

Lecturer/Instructor experience

Department of Fish and Wildlife Conservation, Virginia Tech

- 2017 Wildlife Biology (Animal Physiology)-sophomore level class of ~50 students

Department of Psychology, University of Washington

- 2015 Animal Behavior (undergraduate class of ~200 students)
wrote and taught ½ of the lectures in Winter 2015 quarter, wrote exams
- 2014 Core Concepts in Behavioral Genetics (graduate-level class)
designed and taught class that consisted of lectures and student-led discussions
- 2011 Seminar in Animal Behavior
co-organized seminar on Animal Cognition, designed the syllabus, led discussions

Teaching assistant experience

Department of Psychology, University of Washington

- 2007,2009 Comparative Animal Behavior (for non-majors)
taught discussion sections, mentored students in designing field projects
- 2008 Animal Behavior (for majors)
taught discussion sections, mentored students in writing research papers.
- 2007 Cognitive Psychology
taught discussion sections, supervised labs and writing lab reports
- 2006 Introduction to Psychology

Professional activities

- Grant reviewer National Science Foundation (USA) –ad hoc reviewer for Animal Behavior Panel
Agence Nationale de la Recherche (National Research Agency, France)
Animal Behavior Society
Sigma Xi
- Reviewer *ca. 15 reviews per year* *American Naturalist, Animal Behaviour, Animal Cognition, Auk, Avian Research, Behavioral Ecology, Behavioral Ecology and Sociobiology, Behaviour, Biology Letters, Ethology, Frontiers in Zoology, Ibis, Journal of Applied Ecology, Journal of Field Ornithology, Journal of Avian Biology, Methods in Ecology and Evolution, Naturwissenschaften, Oecologia, Proceedings of Royal Society, B*
- Participant Workshop on Animal Vocal Sequences (see Kerschenbaum et al. 2014, Biol. Rev.)
National Institute for Mathematical and Biological Synthesis (NIMBioS)
University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN, 21-23 October 2013

Invited talks

- 2016 Department of Biology, Old Dominion University, Norfolk, VA
- 2016 Department of Biology, Davidson College, Davidson, NC
- 2016 Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN
- 2016 Department of Wildlife Biology and Fisheries, TAMU, College Station, TX
- 2016 Department of Psychology, University of Washington, Seattle, WA
- 2014 Department of Biology, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA
- 2014 Invited symposium, Animal Behavior Society Meeting, Princeton, NJ
- 2013 Department of Psychology, Koç University, Istanbul, Turkey
- 2011 Department of Neurobiology and Behavior, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY
- 2011 Max Planck Institute of Ornithology, Seewiesen, Germany
- 2011 Max Planck Institute of Ornithology, Radolfzell, Germany

Conference presentations

- 2016 Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology Meeting, Portland, OR (poster)
- 2015 Symposium on Ecology and Evolution, Ankara, Turkey
- 2015 Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology Meeting, West Palm Beach, FL
- 2008-2014 Animal Behavior Society Meetings
- 2014 International Society for Behavioral Ecology 2014 Meeting, New York, NY
- 2010 Evolution 2010, Portland, OR
- 2009 Workshop on Ecology & Evolution, Istanbul, Turkey
- 2008 Acoustic Communication in Animals Conference, Cornwallis, OR

References

Michael D. Beecher, PhD (PhD Advisor)
Professor of Psychology and Biology
Department of Psychology
University of Washington
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beecher@uw.edu

Janis L. Dickinson, PhD (Postdoctoral Advisor)
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