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Koppl, Manley, Popper, and Fay 2014



What is Animal Communication?







How signal honesty is maintained

TABLE 10.1 Classification of signals based on cost that guarantees honesty

Category	Cost	Signal design	Type of information
HANDICAP SIGNALS			
Quality handicap	Differentially costly to	Graded display, intensity correlated	Condition, health, stamina,
	produce or bear	with sender quality	fighting ability
Signal of need	Differential benefits per	Graded display, intensity correlated	Motivation, need,
	investment cost	with sender need	resource valuation

Handicaps: Quality Handicap (Costs)



See Figure 10.24

Costs lead to honest signaling IF they are affected by individual quality

Blue = benefits Red = costs

Handicaps: Signals of Need (Benefits)



Differential benefits can also lead to honest signaling....





See Figure 10.26

How signal honesty is maintained

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INDEX SIGNALS			
Quality index	Physical/physiological constraint	Discrete or graded display, form linked to sender attribute	Body size, strength, age, natal area
Pointing	Informational constraint	Linked to target of sender's attention	Identify object of sender's attention



How signal honesty is maintained

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CONVENTIONAL SIGNALS

Cost-free signal

No or minimal cost, no conflict of interest

Conflict conventional signal no conflict of interest Socially-imposed cost Low-amplitude signal derived from cue

Arbitrary form, antithetical discrete or graded signal

Coordination of cooperative activities

Status, motivation, willingness to escalate, fighting ability

Conventional Signals



Monotonous rhythm 10 Int1 (PARTIN) Int2 5 Frequency (kHz) **S2** More Aggressive Intermittent rhythm 10 Int1 Int2 5 0 1.0 Time (sec) 0.5 1.5

Fig. 10.33



Signals of need/solicitations

- Interests aligned?
- Benefits to sender/receiver?

Food calls

Interests aligned?

Benefits to sender/receiver?

Alarm signals

Interests aligned?

Benefits to sender/receiver?

Mating signals

Interests aligned?

Benefits to sender/receiver?

Threat/aggression/dominance signals

Interests aligned?

Benefits to sender/receiver?

Movie: signal functions

- List functions of signals shown
- What component of the signaler and receiver's fitness are increased through the use of each signal?

Announcements

• Field trip

• Singing mice!