Integrative biology of acoustic communication in Neotropical singing mice
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**VOCAL ONTOGENY**
Both male & female pups produce precursors of the adult trill when isolated from their mothers. Vocalizations decrease in dominant frequency & become more stereotyped with age. Compared to males, females rarely vocalize after 45 days.

**FEMALE PREFERENCE**
The ability of females to perceive variation in male motor performance is likely a common mechanism underlying mate choice in animals.

**INDIVIDUAL VARIATION**
As adults, a mechanical trade-off exists between how fast notes are repeated & the frequency bandwidth of each note, resulting in a performance limit. Some males (filled dots) are better performers than others.

**GEOGRAPHIC VARIATION**
Acoustic, genetic, & geographic distance are highly correlated, suggesting that population differentiation in vocalizations is largely shaped by genetic drift.

**SOUND PROPAGATION & PERCEPTION**
We are currently investigating how animals perceive vocalizations that are severely degraded after traveling through the cloud forest understory.

*Please visit http://people-biology.ufl.edu/adults.php for audio & video.*

Major funding provided by NSF & The American Society of Mammalogists.