Call Catalogue for Antarctic Ecotype C Killer Whales



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Very frequent call types (occurred more than 100 times)



This call type consists of three segments. The first part (P1) can be described as a relatively short broadband pulse, followed by a combination of a biphonal low and high frequency component (LFC & HFC). The HFC (P2) starts during the same time as part 1 and decreases over time in frequency. The LFC (P3) typically starts a little bit later than the HFC. This part also decreases slightly in frequency with time. At least five different variants exist of this call type. These variants differ in the extent of frequency modulation of both the HFC and the LFC.

The first variant features a constant and moderate frequency modulation in both the HFC and LFC, is the most abundant variant and is shown above. The second variant features a strong and irregular frequency modulation in its HFC, the third variant features no frequency modulation in its HFC, the fourth variant features no frequency modulation in its LFC and the fifth variant features no frequency modulation in both its HFC and LFC of all variants shows visible harmonics between 2 and 7 kHz (sometimes up to 15 kHz).

Variant	Example	Parts
2		
3		1
4		
5		



Similar to call type 1, call type 2 also consists of three parts. P1, the short and broadband pulse and P3, the LFC are similar to those of call type 1. The LFC most of the time features a constant and moderate extent of frequency modulation. P2, the HFC shows virtually no frequency modulation and exists in two variants. The first variant increases initially in frequency to decrease thereafter continuously till the end of the tone (see above).

The HFC of the second variant does not decrease continuously after reaching the maximum frequency, but decreases until it reaches a plateau, where the tone has a constant frequency till the end of the call (see below). The LFC of both variants features harmonics between 2 and 7 kHz.





Call type 3 is a combination of two also separately existing call types. P1 of this call type is equal to call type 13 and P2 to P4 match with call type 1, but sometimes can also look in some features more like other call types (aberrant forms). Identification of this call type is based on the presence of P1 and P2 and the presence of a HFC and a LFC of variable shapes. P2 starts after a short temporal break and its acoustic parameters (e.g., duration and frequency) match those of P1 of call type 1. P4 always features many tightly spaced harmonics between 2 and 7 kHz.

Frequent call types (occurred between 20 and 99 times)



Call type 4 is a monophonic call type with just two components. P1 is the common short broadband pulse and P2 is a constant in frequency increasing contour. Two variants of P2 exist. The first variant has a constant and moderate frequency modulation pattern (see above).

P2 of the second variant is unmodulated (see below). P2 of both variants often is of relatively long duration and features many harmonics between 2 and 10 kHz.

Variant	Example	Parts
2		2



Call type 5 has a relatively simple contour consisting just of one part and therefore also belongs to the monophonic calls. This call is of relatively short duration and first increases steeply in frequency and then decreases gradually. The start frequency has the highest coefficient of variation, which can be explained by the strongly varying length of the increasing part of the call. Most of the time the first harmonic is visible around 12 kHz.



Call type 6 is a biphonic call type. It is composed of three parts, of which just P1, the short and broadband pulse is the same as in most other call types. P2 decreases first sharply, then continues at constant frequency and finally decreases again. P3 shows a similar shape as P2, but is slightly delayed in onset and decreases less steeply in frequency in the beginning and the end compared to P2. The LFC is featured by harmonics between 2 and 9 kHz, which sometimes causes confusing identifying the actual HFC.



Call type 7 is also a biphonic call type with three parts, starting with P1, the short and broadband pulse. P2 is a downsweeping tone with a moderate and constant frequency modulation pattern. P3 by contrast is characterized by a relatively constant frequency contour without frequency modulation and harmonics concentrated between 2 and 7 kHz. The duration of the whole call is shorter than other call types with similar structure (e.g. call 1 or 2).



Call type 8 is a monophonic call type. The two call parts occur subsequently without any visible gaps. P1 is the short broadband pulse and P2 is a tonal signature with little/no patterns of frequency modulation. It first increases to a peak frequency and thereafter decreases to a contour of relative constant frequency which lasts more than 2/3 of the overall call duration.



Call type 9 is a combination of parts from call type 1 and 6. P1 is the common broadband pulse, P2 is a HFC, which decreases in frequency and features a constant and moderate frequency modulation pattern. P3 is a LFC similar to the LFC of call type 6 (a decreasing tone, followed by a constant tone and a final decline). P3 also features dense harmonics between 2 and 7 kHz. The fundamental frequency of P3 lies on average slightly higher than the fundamental frequency of call type 6. The total duration of this call type is slightly shorter compared to call types with similar segments.



Call type 10 is a monophonic call type containing the common short and broadband pulse as P1 and the HFC of call type 2 as P2. In most calls of this type, only the fundamental frequency is visible as P2 (as in the HFC from call type 2). In some cases however this fundamental frequency is lower in frequency with one or more harmonics visible. The whole call type itself is shorter than call type 2 whereas the pulse is longer.



Call type 11 is a simple monophonic call consisting of only one part. This call type is relatively long and shows a constant and moderate pattern of frequency modulation. However this regular pattern of frequency modulation in some calls is nearly not visible.



Call Type 12 is one of the few call types at really low frequencies. It is a monophonic call type with just one part. This part is a concave tone, which first decreases in frequency and then increases again. Additionally it is characterized by its short duration and tightly spaced harmonics below 2.5 kHz.



Call type 13 is also a monophonic call type at really low frequencies. It also consists of one part. Calls are typically short in duration. The frequency contour increases continuously. However this call type here is defined to be composed of just one part, it actually features a varying number of fundamental frequencies subsequently following each other. Because the differentiation of single contours (sometimes maybe also including harmonics) was difficult due to noise limitations in the lower frequency band, the call type was just defined by its overall presence.



Call type 14 is a biphonic call type consisting of three parts. P1 is the common short and broadband pulse. P2 is a HFC, which first decreases and then increases to a peak frequency, from where the tone decreases with an irregular slope (sometimes also short frequency increases are integrated). The duration of P2 is relatively variable, which is also reflected in the highest coefficient of variation for this parameter. P3 of this call type starts a little bit later than the LFC in other call types and at higher frequencies. P3 is characterized by a constant frequency tone which then decreases sharply or an overall continuously decreasing tone. The LFC features harmonics between 2 and 9 kHz. Call type 14 exists in two different variants. The first variant features no pattern of frequency modulation in its HFC and LFC (see above).

The second variant shows a constant and moderate pattern of frequency modulation in both its HFC and LFC (see below). This variant in most cases exhibits the short and broadband pulse as P1, but in some cases this starting pulse appears to be absent (see below). If P1 is absent the characteristic shapes of P2 and P3 are nevertheless present and then determining for call type recognition.

Variant	Example	Parts
2		1 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 3



Call type 15 is a monophonic call type. It is composed of two parts: a short and broadband pulse (P1) and a HFC (P2). The HFC is a constantly downsweeping tone with a moderate pattern of frequency modulation. The total duration of this call type is comparably long. The FHA of P1 is on average higher than this of the short and broadband pulse in other call types.



Call type 16 is a biphonic call type composed of three parts. P1 is the common short and broadband pulse. P3 is a LFC similar to LFCs of various other call types (i.e. 1 & 2). The fundamental frequency of P3 decreases towards the end of the call, has a constant and moderate pattern of frequency modulation and harmonics between 2 and 9 kHz. Call parts P1 and P3 are similar in parameter values to respective segments occurring in other call types. P2 of this call type has a distinct signature shape, first increasing slowly, then decreasing sharply in frequency, slightly increasing again to finally decrease to the end frequency. This typical signature shape was exhibited by all calls that were assigned to call type 16. This call type is further characterized by a relative short duration.



Call type 17 is a monophonic call type composed of two parts. P1 is the short and broadband pulse. P2 is a LFC first increasing in frequency, then levelling to a constant frequency and then increasing again till the end.

Less frequent call types (occurred between 5 and 20 times)



Call type 18 is a monophonic call type consisting of two parts. It typically starts with the LFC (P1) which is followed by a longer duration broadband burst pulse (P2). The frequency contour of P1 is characterized by a constant decrease in frequency and various harmonics between 2 and 10 kHz. The call type exists in two variants. The first variant distinguishes itself by a constant and moderate pattern of frequency modulation (see above).

The second variant by contrast features no frequency modulation in P1 (see below). In some cases P1 just decreases over a short duration and continuous then with a constant frequency (see below).





Call type 19 is a monophonic call type composed of two parts. P1 is the short and broadband pulse. P2 increases sharply in frequency up to a climax and decreases thereafter also sharply. The overall duration of the call is relatively short compared to other call types. Many parameters for this call type show a relatively high coefficient of variation, indicating the high variability within this call type.



Call type 20 is a biphonic call type composed of three parts, starting with the short and broadband pulse as P1. P2 is a HFC constantly decreasing in frequency and without frequency modulations. P3 is a LFC similar to that from call type 8. Its fundamental frequency increases to a peak frequency and then decreases again to a constant frequency. P3 is also characterized by the presence of harmonics between 2 and 7 kHz.



Call type 21 is a monophonic call type, starting with the short and broadband pulse (P1). P2 is a LFC and is characterized by its typical wave-shaped form. First it decreases to a minimum in frequency, then increases again faintly to a peak frequency and finally decreases to the end frequency.



Call type 22 is a call type at really low frequencies and is composed of only one part. Its contour faintly increases in frequency until it reaches a constant tone. Harmonics are visible between 1 and 7 kHz.



Call type 23 is a monophonic call type composed of two parts, which are not separated by a break and therefore not really single segments (indicated by dotted line and number of parts in brackets). This call type is characterized by its long duration. P1 is z-shaped and starts with a constant frequency, decreases then sharply and then levels to a relatively constant frequency again. P2 decreases faintly in frequency and has a relatively regular pattern of frequency modulation. Harmonics are visible between 1 and 9 kHz.

Call type 24 is a monophonic call type composed of two parts. It starts with the short and broadband pulse (P1). P2 is of convex shape and first increases faintly to a peak frequency and then decreases again down to the end frequency. P2 is defined as a LFC and has harmonics between 2 and 10 kHz.

Call type 25 is again a call type at really low frequencies. The call is composed of a sequence of upsweeps. These 'call parts' are difficult to differentiate due to noise conditions in the lower frequency band, are very closely spaced and occur in varying numbers. Out of that reasons just their overall presence is used to distinguish this call type. The coefficient of variation is highest for the total duration, because this is dependent on the number of segments present in each call.

Call type 26 is a monophonic call consisting of two parts. P1 is again the short and broadband pulse. P2 has a short duration and a faintly increasing frequency contour. In most cases P2 exhibits up to two harmonics between 10 and 15 kHz.

Additionally observed calls

Call type 27 is a biphonic call type. This call type starts with the short and broadband pulse as P1. In some cases the independent HFC P2 is difficult to distinguish from the harmonics of the LFC (P3). It can therefore not be excluded that this call type also occurs in a monophonic variant. The shape of the P2 signature is often w-shaped and sometimes followed by a sharp decrease in frequency. P3 starts always a little bit later than P2, but often has the same w-shaped form as the HFC.

Call 28 is a highly variable biphonic call composed of four parts. The first part is a LFC, which is m-shaped. P2 is the short and broadband pulse. P3 and P4 resembled the HLFC and LFC from call type 1. Sometimes call parts 3 and 4 can have different shapes. The determination of this call is based on the number of parts (4), the shape of the LFC (P1) and the combination of a LFC and a HFC as P3 and P4. Due to the high variability and the relatively small number calls for this call, no measurements were performed.

Call 29 is a monophonic call composed of two LFCs. P1 is a continuously decreasing tone without frequency modulations and P2 is similar to the signature of call type 11. The whole call type has a relatively long duration compared to other call types. P2 typically starts immediately after the end of P1.

Call 30 is a monophonic call and consists of two call parts. P1 is the common short and broadband pulse. P2 increases up to a local maximum, decreases again slightly for short time and finally increases again sharply. Because this call type was only found once in acceptable quality during the two encounters, calculation of means, SD's, C.V.'s, minimum and maximum values for call parameters was unfortunately not possible. The parameter values for the single call are listed in the table.

Call 31 consists of at least three parts. The last part is an isolated short high frequency tone, which sets this call apart from the other types. This call occurred only three times in a sequence. The samples were not of sufficient quality to derive detailed information on signal structure and did not allow parameter measurements.

Call 32 is a biphonic call composed of three parts. P1 is again the short and broadband pulse and P2 is similar to the HFC of call type 1.2. P3 starts with a constant frequency and increases sharply after a while.

Call 33 is also a biphonic call composed of three parts. P1 is the short and broadband pulse. P2 is a HFC decreasing sharply from the start frequency to a relatively constant frequency. The LFC P3 first slightly increases and then levels to a constant frequency contour.

Call 34 is a biphonic call composed of three parts. P1 is the short and broadband pulse and P2 is the HFC similar to that from for example call type 1. P3 is also a HFC and similar to P2, except that it starts later in the call. For P3 the highest visible harmonic was measured. Because this call type was only found once in acceptable quality during the two encounters, calculation of means, SD's, C.V.'s, minimum and maximum values for call parameters was unfortunately not possible. The parameter values for the single call are listed in the table. It is also possible that P3 is actually just the echo of P2, with what this call could be classified as call type 15.

Call 35 is a biphonic call composed of three parts. P1 is the short and broadband pulse and P3 is a LFC similar to the LFC of many other call types. P2 features a sharply decreasing frequency contour with a constant and moderate pattern of frequency modulation. The overall duration of this call is relatively long compared to other call types.

Call 36 is a monophonic call build out of two parts. P1 is the short and broadband pulse. The frequency contour of P2 first decreases sharply from the start frequency, then increases faintly to a local maximum, then decrease again faintly and finally increases again over a short time.

Call 37 is a biphonic call type composed of three parts. Due to the fact, that this call occurred only once in the whole data set it cannot be excluded that this represents an aberrant version of call type 20. P1 and P2 are similar to those of call type 20. P3 is m-shaped. Because this call type was only found present once during the two encounters, calculation of means, SD's, C.V.'s, minimum and maximum values for call parameters was unfortunately not possible. The parameter values for the single call are listed in the table.

Call 38 occurs only once in the whole data set. It therefore cannot be determined, whether call 38 represents an actual independent call type or if it is a variable call type. The structure of the call type signature is not similar to any structure of the other call types and no distinct call parts could be determined for this call type. Based on its distinct acoustic features, this call is still shown in this catalogue.