



Monitoring the acoustic world

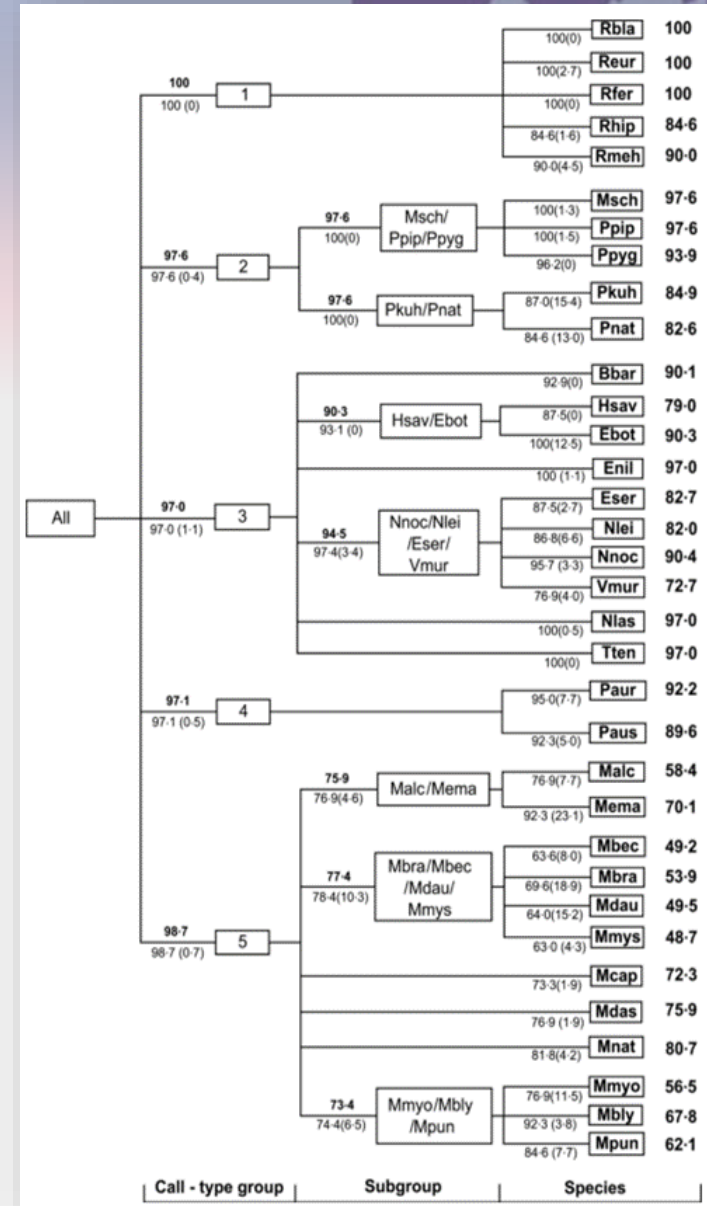
How new technologies are revolutionising bat recording, and implications for other schemes

Dr Katherine Boughey

Affordable acoustic sensors



Automated sound classification software









Challenges – participation

- Inclusivity; options for those without IT expertise, access to the internet or who may struggle to afford equipment.
- Surveyor involvement reduced; how to ensure participation remains rewarding?
- Feedback to surveyors.

Challenges - practical

- Sensor deployment; consider the effects of habitat 'clutter', hard surfaces, background noise.
- Privacy, if recording audible frequencies.
- Data volume
- Improvements in sensor technology and classification algorithms.
- Equipment degradation over time.

Challenges - analytical

- What level of classification error to accept?
- Detection biases between species and habitats.
- What to monitor; occupancy, activity or relative abundance?



www.bats.org.uk/pages/british_bat_survey.html

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