Avoidance-Attraction Ratios in R.

Avoidance-Attraction Ratios were first developed by Parsons et al. 2016 to investigate the effects of humans and their favorite companion, dogs, on wildlife. Since then Avoidance-Attraction Ratios have grown in popularity due to their ability to gain insights into species interactions at a fine temporal scale.

This guide will implement the functions in the AvoidAttract package and perform an analysis of species interactions using Avoidance-Attraction Ratios having bobcat (*Lynx rufus*), coyotes (*Canis latrans*), and swift fox (*Vulpes velox*) as the predator species. The data that we will use is integrated in the package and is from a camera trapping project in western Kansas, source: Palomo-Munoz et al. 2023.

Lets get started.

Package Install

```
# Install the package
# If needed install.package("devtools")
devtools::install_github("dpearcetamu/AvoidAttract", quiet = TRUE)
# Load the package
library(AvoidAttract)
```

Now that the package is installed and loaded, let's take a look at the data.

Exploring the Data

```
\# If you want to take a closer look use this code to read the dataset documentation, \# ?KScams_dat
```

Okay, now that we've seen the details of the camera trapping data, lets load it into the environment and take a closer look.

```
# Reading in the data
data("KScams_dat")
# Let's take a look
head(KScams_dat)
    General\_project
                       Class
                                    Order
                                              Family
                                                       Genus Species
                                                                          Binomial
                                                                                       Common_name
#> 1
       Wkansas_2019 Mammalia
                                Carnivora Mustelidae Taxidea
                                                               taxus Taxidea taxus American badger
#> 2
       Wkansas_2019 Mammalia Artiodactyla
                                             Bovidae Bison
                                                               bison Bison bison American bison
#> 3
       Wkansas_2019 Mammalia Artiodactyla
                                             Bovidae Bison
                                                               bison
                                                                     Bison bison American bison
#> 4
       Wkansas_2019 Mammalia Artiodactyla
                                             Bovidae
                                                      Bison
                                                               bison
                                                                      Bison bison American bison
#> 5
       Wkansas_2019 Mammalia Artiodactyla
                                             Bovidae
                                                       Bison
                                                               bison
                                                                       Bison bison American bison
#> 6
       Wkansas_2019 Mammalia Artiodactyla
                                             Bovidae
                                                       Bison
                                                               bison
                                                                       Bison bison American bison
```

```
Year Site DateTime Date Time Timezone Latitude Longitude SetVisitDate
#> 1 2019
           0 9/1/2019 5:30:38 9/1/2019 5:30:38 America/Chicago 37.24655 -99.98253
                                                                                     8/7/2019
#> 2 2019
            0 9/3/2019 2:20:50 9/3/2019 2:20:50 America/Chicago 37.24655 -99.98253
                                                                                     8/7/2019
#> 3 2019
            0 9/3/2019 2:21:32 9/3/2019 2:21:32 America/Chicago 37.24655 -99.98253
                                                                                     8/7/2019
            0 9/3/2019 2:22:09 9/3/2019 2:22:09 America/Chicago 37.24655 -99.98253
#> 4 2019
                                                                                     8/7/2019
#> 5 2019
            0 9/3/2019 2:25:44 9/3/2019 2:25:44 America/Chicago 37.24655 -99.98253
                                                                                     8/7/2019
#> 6 2019
            0 9/3/2019 2:26:45 9/3/2019 2:26:45 America/Chicago 37.24655 -99.98253
                                                                                     8/7/2019
```

Great! We can see that the data has detection's of species at certain sites with a specific date and time for that observation. Let's see how many different species were found.

```
# Let's see what the column names are
names(KScams dat)
#> [1] "General_project" "Class"
                                             "Order"
                                                                                  "Genus"
                                                               "Family"
#> [6] "Species"
                          "Binomial"
                                             "Common name"
                                                               "Year"
                                                                                  "Site"
#> [11] "DateTime"
                          "Date"
                                             "Time"
                                                               "Timezone"
                                                                                  "Latitude"
#> [16] "Longitude"
                          "SetVisitDate"
# What were the unique species using the "Common_name" column
unique(KScams_dat$Common_name)
#> [1] "American badger"
                                          "American bison"
  [3] "Black-tailed jackrabbit"
                                          "Coyote"
   [5] "Raccoon"
                                          "Norway rat"
#> [7] "Striped Skunk"
                                          "White-Tailed Deer"
#> [9] "Bobcat"
                                          "Cat"
#> [11] "Eastern cottontail rabbit"
                                          "Mouse"
                                          "Ord's kangaroo rat"
#> [13] "Virginia opossum"
#> [15] "Mule Deer"
                                          "Dog"
#> [17] "Swift Fox"
                                          "Pronghorn"
                                          "Thirteen-lined ground squirrel"
#> [19] "Long-tailed weasel"
#> [21] "Black-tailed Prarie Dog"
                                          "Elk"
#> [23] "Nine-banded armadillo"
                                          "North American porcupine"
```

Looking to see how many observations of each species there are in the data set using the spp_sum function from the package.

```
# spp_sum requires the data input and a name column and provides a frequency table of observations
spp_sum(KScams_dat, name_col = "Common_name")
#>
                                Name Observations
#> 1
                     American badger
#> 2
                      American bison
                                                45
#> 3
             Black-tailed jackrabbit
                                              3423
#> 4
             Black-tailed Prarie Dog
                                               881
#> 5
                              Bobcat
                                               113
#> 6
                                  Cat
                                                54
#> 7
                              Coyote
                                              3624
#> 8
                                  Dog
                                                85
#> 9
                                              3635
           Eastern cottontail rabbit
#> 10
                                  Elk
                                                 2
#> 11
                  Long-tailed weasel
                                                 5
#> 12
                                               706
                               Mouse
#> 13
                           Mule Deer
                                              2440
               Nine-banded armadillo
```

18

#> 14

```
#> 15
      North American porcupine
                                            32
#> 16
                                            659
                       Norway rat
#> 17
                 Ord's kangaroo rat
                                            788
#> 18
                        Pronghorn
                                            130
#> 19
                           Raccoon
                                           3965
#> 20
                      Striped Skunk
                                           2455
#> 21
                         Swift Fox
                                            341
#> 22 Thirteen-lined ground squirrel
                                            63
#> 23
                  Virginia opossum
                                            204
                  White-Tailed Deer
#> 24
                                           5884
```

That's a lot of observations! Let's take a look at a few of the species that had a lot of observations and their interactions with coyotes using the AAR function.

Avoidance-Attraction Ratios

```
# First we have to format the DateTime column from a character string to a date time
# This is an important step since the function won't know how to read the date and time
# Make sure to modify the format if you are using a different dataset!!!
KScams_dat$DateTime <- as.POSIXct(KScams_dat$DateTime ,</pre>
                                  tryFormats = "%m/%d/%Y %H:%M:%OS")
# Let's look at some of these species!
#
#
      Bobcats as predators
#
# Starting with the Black-tailed jackrabbit
jrabbit_bobcat <- AAR(data = KScams_dat,</pre>
                  speciesA = "Black-tailed jackrabbit", speciesB = "Bobcat",
                  species col = "Common name", datetime col = "DateTime",
                  site_col ="Site", unitTime = "hours")
# The AAR function outputs several results. Let's take a look at just the total summary.
print(jrabbit bobcat$total summary)
         T1
                                         T4
               T2 T3
                                                 T2/T1
                                                             T4/T3
#> 90.162963 115.546358 21.326252 69.744259 1.281528 3.270348
# Okay we can see that this outputs the mean values
# for all interaction events and the interaction ratios
# The AAR function also returns a list of how many times those interactions occurred.
print(jrabbit_bobcat$event_count)
#> T1 T2 T3 T4
#> 12
        9 3139
# That's quite a few counts for each interaction.
# Lets save just the ratios to use later on.
```

```
# Saving only the T2/T1 and T4/T3 ratios
jrabbit_bobcat_ratios <- jrabbit_bobcat$total_summary[c(5,6)]</pre>
# Now the other species
# Black-tailed Prarie Dog
pdog_bobcat <- AAR(data = KScams_dat,</pre>
                speciesA = "Black-tailed Prarie Dog", speciesB = "Bobcat",
                species_col = "Common_name", datetime_col = "DateTime",
                site_col ="Site", unitTime = "hours")
#> Warning in AAR(data = KScams_dat, speciesA = "Black-tailed Prarie Dog", : No T2 interaction events
#> occurred. Cannot calculate a mean for this event.
#> Warning in AAR(data = KScams_dat, speciesA = "Black-tailed Prarie Dog", : No T4 interaction events
#> occurred. Cannot calculate a mean for this event.
#> Warning in AAR(data = KScams_dat, speciesA = "Black-tailed Prarie Dog", : Unable to calculate site
#> summary Avoidance-Attraction Ratios due to lack of event occurances.
#> Warning in AAR(data = KScams_dat, speciesA = "Black-tailed Prarie Dog", : Unable to calculate total
#> summary Avoidance-Attraction Ratios due to lack of event occurances.
# Okay there weren't enough time events to calculate ratios.
# Let's take a closer look.
print(pdog_bobcat$event_count)
#> T1 T2 T3 T4
#> 1 0 869 0
\# There were no T2 or T4 events and only one T1 event for the prarie dog
# and bobcat interaction. Since we are trying to compare differences between
# predator species we won't look into prairie dog's interactions with
# coyote and swift fox.
# Eastern cottontail rabbit
crabbit_bobcat <- AAR(data = KScams_dat,</pre>
                  speciesA = "Eastern cottontail rabbit", speciesB = "Bobcat",
                  species_col = "Common_name", datetime_col = "DateTime",
                  site_col ="Site", unitTime = "hours")
crabbit_bobcat_ratios <- crabbit_bobcat$total_summary[c(5,6)]</pre>
# White-tailed Deer
wtd_bobcat <- AAR(data = KScams_dat,</pre>
               speciesA = "White-Tailed Deer", speciesB = "Bobcat",
               species_col = "Common_name", datetime_col = "DateTime",
               site_col ="Site", unitTime = "hours")
wtd_bobcat_ratios <- wtd_bobcat$total_summary[c(5,6)]</pre>
#
#
        Coyote as predators
```

```
# Starting with the Black-tailed jackrabbit
jrabbit_coyote <- AAR(data = KScams_dat,</pre>
                   speciesA = "Black-tailed jackrabbit", speciesB = "Coyote",
                   species_col = "Common_name", datetime_col = "DateTime",
                   site_col ="Site", unitTime = "hours")
# Saving only the T2/T1 and T4/T3 ratios
jrabbit_coyote_ratios <- jrabbit_coyote$total_summary[c(5,6)]</pre>
# Eastern cottontail rabbit
crabbit_coyote <- AAR(data = KScams_dat,</pre>
                  speciesA = "Eastern cottontail rabbit", speciesB = "Coyote",
                  species_col = "Common_name", datetime_col = "DateTime",
                  site_col ="Site", unitTime = "hours")
crabbit_coyote_ratios <- crabbit_coyote$total_summary[c(5,6)]</pre>
# White-tailed Deer
wtd_coyote <- AAR(data = KScams_dat,</pre>
               speciesA = "White-Tailed Deer", speciesB = "Coyote",
               species_col = "Common_name", datetime_col = "DateTime",
               site_col ="Site", unitTime = "hours")
wtd_coyote_ratios <- wtd_coyote$total_summary[c(5,6)]</pre>
      Swift fox as predators
# -----
# Starting with the Black-tailed jackrabbit
jrabbit fox <- AAR(data = KScams dat,</pre>
                   speciesA = "Black-tailed jackrabbit", speciesB = "Swift Fox",
                   species_col = "Common_name", datetime_col = "DateTime",
                   site_col ="Site", unitTime = "hours")
# Saving only the T2/T1 and T4/T3 ratios
jrabbit_fox_ratios <- jrabbit_fox$total_summary[c(5,6)]</pre>
# Eastern cottontail rabbit
crabbit_fox <- AAR(data = KScams_dat,</pre>
                  speciesA = "Eastern cottontail rabbit", speciesB = "Swift Fox",
                  species_col = "Common_name", datetime_col = "DateTime",
                  site_col ="Site", unitTime = "hours")
crabbit_fox_ratios <- crabbit_fox$total_summary[c(5,6)]</pre>
```

Data Wrangling

Okay, we need to organize the ratios for each prey species into one dataframe for analysis.

```
# Load libraries
# If needed install.packages("tidyverse")
options(tidyverse.quiet = TRUE)
library(tidyverse)
# Combining jack rabbit ratio data
jrabbit_ratios <- t(data.frame(</pre>
                    # T2/T1 ratios
                    bobcat_T2_T1 = jrabbit_bobcat_ratios["T2/T1"],
                    coyote_T2_T1 = jrabbit_coyote_ratios["T2/T1"],
                    fox_T2_T1 = jrabbit_fox_ratios["T2/T1"],
                    # T4/T3 ratios
                    bobcat_T4_T3 = jrabbit_bobcat_ratios["T4/T3"],
                    coyote_T4_T3 = jrabbit_coyote_ratios["T4/T3"],
                    fox_T4_T3 = jrabbit_fox_ratios["T4/T3"]))
# Convert the matrix to a data frame
jrabbit_ratios <- as.data.frame(jrabbit_ratios)</pre>
# Change row names to a new column
jrabbit_ratios <- tibble::rownames_to_column(jrabbit_ratios, var = "RowName")</pre>
# We have to rename the columns to match the values correctly
colnames(jrabbit_ratios) <- c("Interaction", "Value")</pre>
# Adding a ratio column
jrabbit_ratios$Ratio <- c("T2/T1", "T2/T1", "T2/T1",</pre>
                          "T4/T3", "T4/T3", "T4/T3")
# Checking to make sure the Ratios are named correctly with current interaction
# names
print(jrabbit_ratios)
#> Interaction
                    Value Ratio
#> 1 bobcat_T2_T1 1.281528 T2/T1
#> 2 coyote_T2_T1 1.296791 T2/T1
#> 3 fox_T2_T1 1.081683 T2/T1
#> 4 bobcat_T4_T3 3.270348 T4/T3
```

```
#> 5 coyote_T4_T3 3.875231 T4/T3
#> 6
       fox_T4_T3 3.194342 T4/T3
# Naming interactions by predator
jrabbit_ratios$Interaction <- c("Bobcat", "Coyote", "Swift Fox",</pre>
                                 "Bobcat", "Coyote", "Swift Fox")
# Checking to see if it looks correct
print(jrabbit_ratios)
#> Interaction
                   Value Ratio
#> 1
       Bobcat 1.281528 T2/T1
#> 2
        Coyote 1.296791 T2/T1
#> 3 Swift Fox 1.081683 T2/T1
#> 4 Bobcat 3.270348 T4/T3
#> 5
        Coyote 3.875231 T4/T3
#> 6 Swift Fox 3.194342 T4/T3
# Combining cottontail rabbit
crabbit_ratios <- t(data.frame(</pre>
                  # T2/T1 ratios
                  bobcate_T2_T1 = crabbit_bobcat_ratios["T2/T1"],
                  coyote_T2_T1 = crabbit_coyote_ratios["T2/T1"],
                  fox_T2_T1 = crabbit_fox_ratios["T2/T1"],
                  # Column for T4/T3 ratios
                  bobcate_T4_T3 = crabbit_bobcat_ratios["T4/T3"],
                  coyote_T4_T3 = crabbit_coyote_ratios["T4/T3"],
                  fox_T4_T3 = crabbit_fox_ratios["T4/T3"]))
# Convert the matrix to a data frame
crabbit_ratios <- as.data.frame(crabbit_ratios)</pre>
# Change row names to a new column
crabbit_ratios <- tibble::rownames_to_column(crabbit_ratios, var = "RowName")</pre>
# We have to rename the columns to match the values correctly
colnames(crabbit_ratios) <- c("Interaction", "Value")</pre>
# Adding a ratio column
crabbit_ratios$Ratio <- c("T2/T1", "T2/T1", "T2/T1",</pre>
                         "T4/T3", "T4/T3", "T4/T3")
# Naming interactions by predator
crabbit_ratios$Interaction <- c("Bobcat", "Coyote", "Swift Fox",</pre>
                                "Bobcat", "Coyote", "Swift Fox")
# Combining cottontail rabbit
wtd_ratios <- t(data.frame(</pre>
                # T2/T1 ratios
                bobcate_T2_T1 = wtd_bobcat_ratios ["T2/T1"],
                coyote_T2_T1 = wtd_coyote_ratios["T2/T1"],
                fox_T2_T1 = wtd_fox_ratios["T2/T1"],
```

```
# Column for T4/T3 ratios
                bobcate_T4_T3 = wtd_bobcat_ratios ["T4/T3"],
                coyote_T4_T3 = wtd_coyote_ratios["T4/T3"],
                fox_T4_T3 = wtd_fox_ratios["T4/T3"]))
# Convert the matrix to a data frame
wtd_ratios <- as.data.frame(wtd_ratios)</pre>
# Change row names to a new column
wtd_ratios <- tibble::rownames_to_column(wtd_ratios, var = "RowName")</pre>
# We have to rename the columns to match the values correctly
colnames(wtd_ratios) <- c("Interaction", "Value")</pre>
# Adding a ratio column
wtd_ratios$Ratio <- c("T2/T1", "T2/T1", "T2/T1",
                       "T4/T3", "T4/T3", "T4/T3")
# Naming interactions by predator
wtd_ratios$Interaction <- c("Bobcat", "Coyote", "Swift Fox",</pre>
                            "Bobcat", "Coyote", "Swift Fox")
```

Statistical Analysis

Let's follow the analysis laid out by Parsons (2016) using a Wilcoxon test for each of our prey species and their interactions with the predator species and our prey species.

```
# Jack rabbit
# Separate the data into two data frames for T2/T1 and T4/T3
jrabbit_t2t1 <- subset(jrabbit_ratios, Ratio == "T2/T1")</pre>
jrabbit_t4t3 <- subset(jrabbit_ratios, Ratio == "T4/T3")</pre>
# Run Wilcoxon pairwise tests for T2/T1
jrabbit_wilcox_t2t1 <- pairwise.wilcox.test(jrabbit_t2t1$Value,</pre>
                                             jrabbit t2t1$Interaction,
                                             p.adjust.method = "bonferroni")
# Run Wilcoxon pairwise tests for T4/T3
jrabbit_wilcox_t4t3 <- pairwise.wilcox.test(jrabbit_t4t3$Value,</pre>
                                             jrabbit_t4t3$Interaction,
                                             p.adjust.method = "bonferroni")
# Print the results
print("Jack rabbit Wilcoxon Pairwise Test Results for T2/T1:")
#> [1] "Jack rabbit Wilcoxon Pairwise Test Results for T2/T1:"
print(jrabbit_wilcox_t2t1)
#>
#> Pairwise comparisons using Wilcoxon rank sum exact test
#>
#> data: jrabbit_t2t1$Value and jrabbit_t2t1$Interaction
#>
             Bobcat Coyote
#>
```

```
#> Coyote
#> Swift Fox 1
#> P value adjustment method: bonferroni
print("Jack rabbit Wilcoxon Pairwise Test Results for T4/T3:")
#> [1] "Jack rabbit Wilcoxon Pairwise Test Results for T4/T3:"
print(jrabbit_wilcox_t4t3)
#>
#> Pairwise comparisons using Wilcoxon rank sum exact test
#> data: jrabbit_t4t3$Value and jrabbit_t4t3$Interaction
#>
            Bobcat Coyote
#> Coyote
            1
#> Swift Fox 1
#> P value adjustment method: bonferroni
# Cottontail rabbit
# Separate the data into two data frames for T2/T1 and T4/T3
crabbit_t2t1 <- subset(crabbit_ratios, Ratio == "T2/T1")</pre>
crabbit_t4t3 <- subset(crabbit_ratios, Ratio == "T4/T3")</pre>
# Run Wilcoxon pairwise tests for T2/T1
crabbit_wilcox_t2t1 <- pairwise.wilcox.test(crabbit_t2t1$Value,</pre>
                                    crabbit_t2t1$Interaction,
                                    p.adjust.method = "bonferroni")
# Run Wilcoxon pairwise tests for T4/T3
crabbit_wilcox_t4t3 <- pairwise.wilcox.test(crabbit_t4t3$Value,</pre>
                                    crabbit_t4t3$Interaction,
                                    p.adjust.method = "bonferroni")
# Print the results
print("Cottontail rabbit Wilcoxon Pairwise Test Results for T2/T1:")
#> [1] "Cottontail rabbit Wilcoxon Pairwise Test Results for T2/T1:"
print(crabbit_wilcox_t2t1)
#> Pairwise comparisons using Wilcoxon rank sum exact test
#> data: crabbit_t2t1$Value and crabbit_t2t1$Interaction
#>
            Bobcat Coyote
#>
#> Coyote
            1
                   1
#> Swift Fox 1
#> P value adjustment method: bonferroni
print("Cottontail rabbit Wilcoxon Pairwise Test Results for T4/T3:")
#> [1] "Cottontail rabbit Wilcoxon Pairwise Test Results for T4/T3:"
print(crabbit_wilcox_t4t3)
```

```
#>
#> Pairwise comparisons using Wilcoxon rank sum exact test
#> data: crabbit_t4t3$Value and crabbit_t4t3$Interaction
#>
            Bobcat Coyote
#> Coyote
           1
#> Swift Fox 1
#>
#> P value adjustment method: bonferroni
# White-tailed Deer
# Separate the data into two data frames for T2/T1 and T4/T3
wtd_t2t1 <- subset(wtd_ratios, Ratio == "T2/T1")</pre>
wtd_t4t3 <- subset(wtd_ratios, Ratio == "T4/T3")</pre>
# Run Wilcoxon pairwise tests for T2/T1
wilcox_t2t1 <- pairwise.wilcox.test(wtd_t2t1$Value,</pre>
                                    wtd_t2t1$Interaction,
                                    p.adjust.method = "bonferroni")
# Run Wilcoxon pairwise tests for T4/T3
wilcox_t4t3 <- pairwise.wilcox.test(wtd_t4t3$Value,</pre>
                                    wtd_t4t3$Interaction,
                                    p.adjust.method = "bonferroni")
# Print the results
print("White-tailed Deer Wilcoxon Pairwise Test Results for T2/T1:")
#> [1] "White-tailed Deer Wilcoxon Pairwise Test Results for T2/T1:"
print(wilcox_t2t1)
#>
#> Pairwise comparisons using Wilcoxon rank sum exact test
#> data: wtd_t2t1$Value and wtd_t2t1$Interaction
#>
           Bobcat Coyote
#>
#> Coyote
           1
#> Swift Fox 1
#> P value adjustment method: bonferroni
print("White-tailed Deer Wilcoxon Pairwise Test Results for T4/T3:")
#> [1] "White-tailed Deer Wilcoxon Pairwise Test Results for T4/T3:"
print(wilcox_t4t3)
#>
#> Pairwise comparisons using Wilcoxon rank sum exact test
#> data: wtd_t4t3$Value and wtd_t4t3$Interaction
#>
           Bobcat Coyote
#> Coyote
            1
#> Swift Fox 1
                  1
```

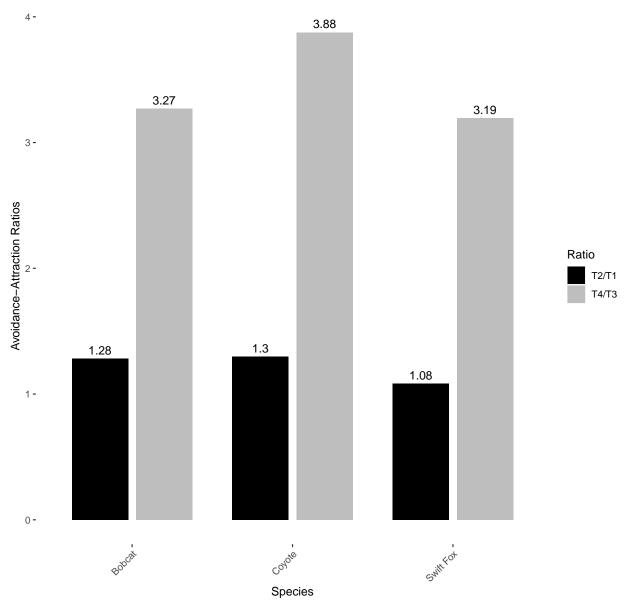
```
#>
#> P value adjustment method: bonferroni
```

The results of the Wilcoxon test show that none of the ratios were statistically significant. But that doesn't mean that there isn't a response in attraction or avoidance, only that it wasn't statistically significant. We know that values >1 suggest nonrandom movement between the two species which suggests that there is an interaction. We also know that attraction of species B to species A would result in high T2/T1 ratios, but lower T4/T3 ratios. Avoidance of species A from species B would result in higher ratios of T4/T3.

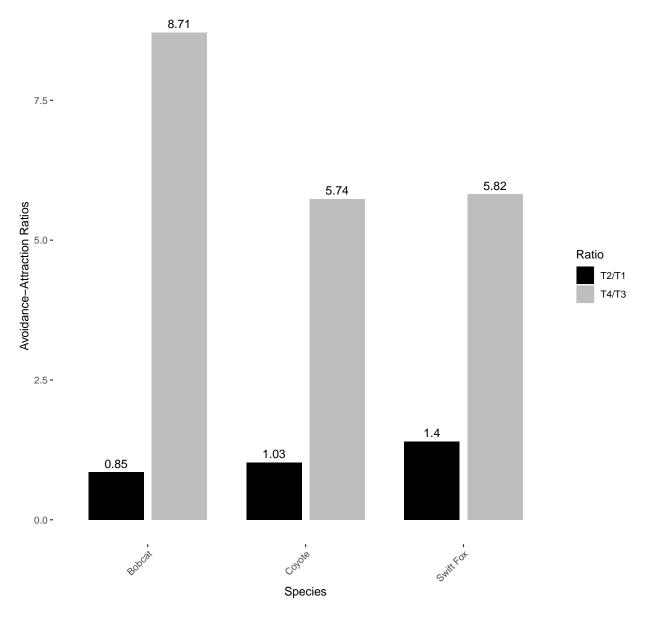
Plotting

Let's plot both of the ratios and take a look.

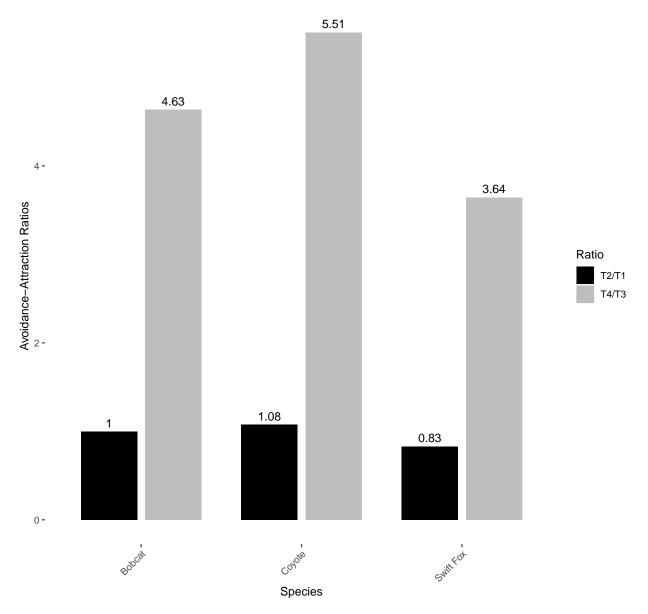
Jack Rabbit Avoidance and Predator Attraction



Cottontail Rabbit Avoidance and Predator Attraction



White-tailed Deer Avoidance and Predator Attraction



We can see from the plots that none of the T2/T1 values are >1. This suggests that none of the predator species are actively seeking out the prey species. But all of the T4/T3 values were >1 which suggests that the prey are avoiding the predator.

References:

Parsons, A. W., C. Bland, T. Forrester, M. C. Baker-Whatton, S. G. Schuttler, W. J. McShea, R. Costello, and R. Kays. 2016. The ecological impact of humans and dogs on wildlife in protected areas in eastern North America. Biological Conservation 203:75–88. URL: https://doi.org/10.1016/j.biocon.2016.09.001

Palomo-Munoz, G., T. J. Werdel, C. W. Piper, M. S. Peek, A. M. Ricketts, and A. A. Ahlers. 2023. Spatiotemporal distributions of mammals occurring in an agro-prairie ecosystem. Ecology 104:e3945 URL: https://esajournals.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1002/ecy.3945