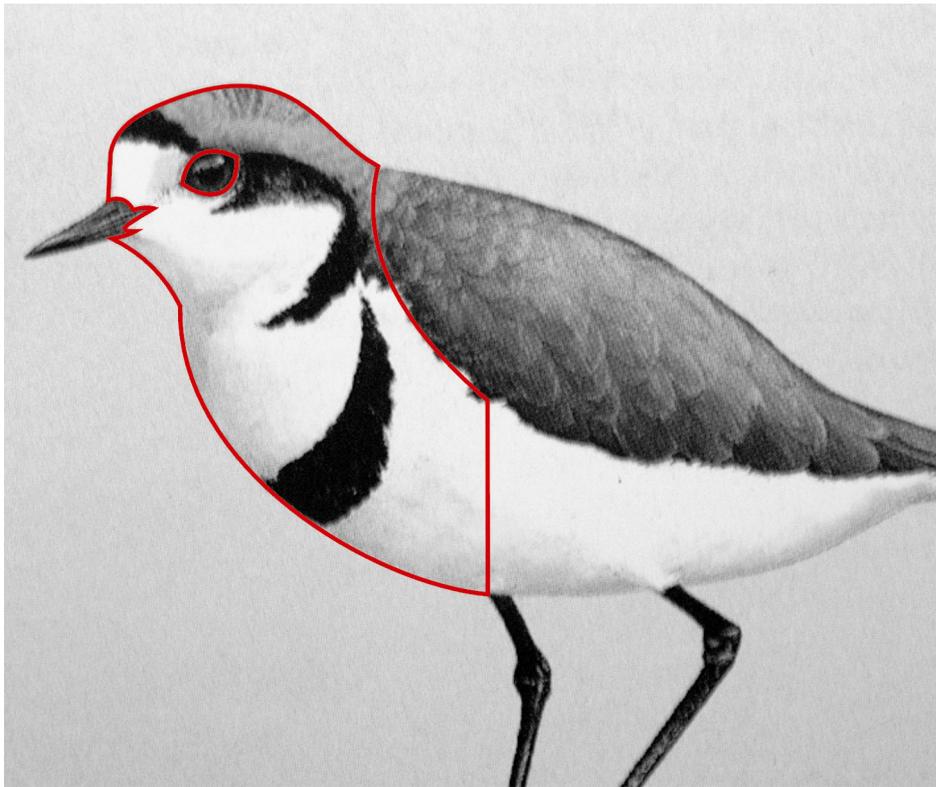


These are electronic appendices to the paper by Bókony *et al.* 2003 Melanin-based plumage colouration and flight displays in plovers and allies. *Proc. R. Soc. Lond. B* **270**, 2491–2497. (DOI 10.1098/rspb.2003.2506.)

Electronic appendices are refereed with the text. However, no attempt is made to impose a uniform editorial style on the electronic appendices.

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**Electronic Appendix A.** Definition of the frontal body region on colour plate images and photographs. Melanisation was measured as the proportion of black area relative to the total area of the frontal body (i.e. head, neck and breast bordered by the lower edge of the wing and a vertical line drawn from the base of the leg; as indicated by the red line).



**Electronic Appendix B.** Data used in the analyses and data sources. See text for explanations of the scores of male display, breeding density, substrate colour and vegetation cover.

Species	Melanisation		Male display	Breeding density	Substrate colour	Vegetation cover	References <sup>1</sup>	
	Male	Female					Image	Data
<i>Anarhynchus frontalis</i>	0.078	0.061	1	1	3	1	6	5, 6, 9
<i>Burhinus bistriatus</i>	0.040	0.040		1	2	4	5	5, 9
<i>Burhinus capensis</i>	0.000	0.000		1	2	4	9	5, 8, 9
<i>Burhinus giganteus</i>	0.107	0.107		1	2	2	9	5, 9
<i>Burhinus grallarius</i>	0.000	0.000	1	1	3	4	5	5, 6, 9, 11
<i>Burhinus oediconemus</i>	0.000	0.000	1	1	2	2	5	5, 9, 10
<i>Burhinus recurvirostris</i>	0.090	0.090		2	3	2	9	5, 9
<i>Burhinus senegalensis</i>	0.000	0.000	1	2	1	1	5	5, 9, 10
<i>Burhinus superciliaris</i>	0.016	0.016		1	4	2	9	5, 9
<i>Burhinus vermiculatus</i>	0.000	0.000		1	2	4	9	5, 8, 9
<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>	0.104	0.000	2	2	1	1	5	9, 10, 11
<i>Charadrius alticola</i>	0.076	0.026		1	2	2	5	5, 9
<i>Charadrius asiaticus</i>	0.015	0.000	2	2	2	2	5	9, 10
<i>Charadrius bicinctus</i>	0.101	0.057	2	1	3	2	5	5, 6, 9
<i>Charadrius collaris</i>	0.160	0.092			1	1	5	5, 9, 10, 11
<i>Charadrius dubius</i>	0.239	0.239	2	2	3	1	5	11
<i>Charadrius falklandicus</i>	0.212	0.155	3	1	2	2	5	5, 9
<i>Charadrius forbesi</i>	0.099	0.099		1	3	1	9	5, 9
<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>	0.288	0.206	2	2	3	1	5	5, 7, 9, 10
<i>Charadrius javanicus</i>	0.014	0.000					9	10, 9
<i>Charadrius leschenaultii</i>	0.086	0.025	2	1	1	2	5	5, 8, 9
<i>Charadrius marginatus</i>	0.029	0.000		1	1	1	9	5, 9
<i>Charadrius melodus</i>	0.152	0.000		2	2	2	5	9
<i>Charadrius modestus</i>	0.093	0.093		1	3	2	5	9
<i>Charadrius mongolus</i>	0.143	0.000			3	1	5	5, 9
<i>Charadrius montanus</i>	0.024	0.024	1	2	3	2	5	2, 5, 7, 9
<i>Charadrius novaeseelandiae</i>	0.333	0.260	3		3	5	5	6, 9
<i>Charadrius obscurus</i>	0.000	0.000	1	1	2	2	5	5, 6, 9
<i>Charadrius pallidus</i>	0.026	0.000		1	1	1	5	9, 10
<i>Charadrius pecuarius</i>	0.110	0.110	1	2	2	1	5	5, 9
<i>Charadrius peronii</i>	0.108	0.000		1	1	1	9	5, 9
<i>Charadrius placidus</i>	0.126	0.126			3	1	5	5, 9
<i>Charadrius rubricollis</i>	0.383	0.383	1	1	2	1	5	5, 6
<i>Charadrius ruficapillus</i>	0.061	0.061	2	2	2	1	5	5, 6, 9
<i>Charadrius sanctaehelenae</i>	0.068	0.068		1	2	3	5	9, 10
<i>Charadrius semipalmatus</i>	0.294	0.293		2	3	1	5	5, 9
<i>Charadrius thoracicus</i>	0.161	0.161		2	2	2	9	5, 8, 9
<i>Charadrius tricollaris</i>	0.153	0.153		1	3	1	9	6, 9
<i>Charadrius veredus</i>	0.026	0.000		1	2	2	5	5, 9, 10
<i>Charadrius vociferus</i>	0.160	0.060			3	2	9	5, 9
<i>Charadrius wilsonia</i>	0.170	0.000		3	2	2	5	9
<i>Chionis alba</i>	0.000	0.000	1	1	2	5	9	6, 9, 11
<i>Chionis minor</i>	0.000	0.000	1	1	2	5	9	6, 9
<i>Cladorhynchus leucocephalus</i>	0.038	0.038	1	5	1	1	5	5, 6
<i>Dromas ardeola</i>	0.000	0.000	1	5	1	5	5	5, 9, 11
<i>Elseyornis melanops</i>	0.194	0.194	2	1	3	1	5	5, 6, 9

<i>Erythrogonys cinctus</i>	0.676	0.676	2	2	1	5	5	5, 6, 9
<i>Eudromias morinellus</i>	0.042	0.078		1	3	2	9	9, 10, 11
<i>Haematopus ater</i>	1.000	1.000			3	1	5	5, 9
<i>Haematopus bachmani</i>	1.000	1.000		2	5	1	5	5, 9
<i>Haematopus finschi</i>	0.639	0.639	3		3	2	5	5, 6
<i>Haematopus fuliginosus</i>	1.000	1.000	3		3	1	5	5, 6, 9
<i>Haematopus leucopodus</i>	0.635	0.635	1		2	2	5	5, 9
<i>Haematopus longirostris</i>	0.527	0.527	3		3	2	5	5, 6, 9
<i>Haematopus maedewaldoi</i>	1.000	1.000					5	5, 9
<i>Haematopus moquini</i>	1.000	1.000	3	5	3	1	5	5, 9
<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>	0.681	0.681	3	1	3	2	5	5, 9, 10, 11
<i>Haematopus palliatus</i>	0.635	0.635			2	1	5	5, 9
<i>Haematopus unicolor</i>	1.000	1.000			2	1	9	5, 6, 9
<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>	0.000	0.010	2	3	2	2	5	5, 6, 9, 10, 11
<i>Himantopus leucocephalus</i>	0.060	0.060		3	2	2	9	9
<i>Himantopus melanurus</i>	0.122	0.186		3	2	2	5	9
<i>Himantopus mexicanus</i>	0.265	0.269		3	2	2	9	9
<i>Himantopus novaezelandiae</i>	1.000	1.000		1	3	4	9	5, 9
<i>Ibidorhyncha struthersii</i>	0.213	0.213	1	1	3	1	5	5, 9
<i>Oreopholus ruficollis</i>	0.012	0.012			1	1	5	6, 9
<i>Peltohyas australis</i>	0.155	0.155		2	2	2	5	6, 9
<i>Phegornis mitchellii</i>	0.410	0.410		1	3	3	5	6, 9
<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>	0.263	0.064	2	1	3	3	9	4, 5, 10, 11
<i>Pluvialis dominica</i>	0.687	0.687			4	2	5	1, 9, 10
<i>Pluvialis fulva</i>	0.490	0.490			4	3	5	9, 10
<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>	0.430	0.181	2	1	4	2	9	1, 9, 10
<i>Pluvianus aegyptius</i>	0.352	0.352		1	1	1	9	5, 9
<i>Recurvirostra americana</i>	0.000	0.000	1	4	3	2	5	9, 10
<i>Recurvirostra andina</i>	0.000	0.000			2	2	5	9
<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>	0.153	0.153	1	3	2	1	5	9, 10, 11
<i>Recurvirostra novaehollandiae</i>	0.000	0.000	1	2	2	2	5	6, 9
<i>Vanellus albiceps</i>	0.015	0.015		1	2	1	5	8, 9
<i>Vanellus armatus</i>	0.773	0.773	2	1	2	2	5	5, 9, 10
<i>Vanellus cayanus</i>	0.359	0.359			1	1	5	9
<i>Vanellus chilensis</i>	0.397	0.397		3	3	3	5	3, 5, 9
<i>Vanellus cinereus</i>	0.072	0.072			4	4	5	5, 9
<i>Vanellus coronatus</i>	0.153	0.153	3	3	3	4	5	5, 8, 9
<i>Vanellus crassirostris</i>	0.490	0.490		1	4	3	5	5, 8, 9
<i>Vanellus duvaucelii</i>	0.189	0.189			2	1	5	5
<i>Vanellus gregarius</i>	0.356	0.171		3	2	3	5	5, 9, 10
<i>Vanellus indicus</i>	0.436	0.436	3	1	4	4	5	5, 10
<i>Vanellus leucurus</i>	0.000	0.000		3	3	3	5	5, 9, 10
<i>Vanellus lugubris</i>	0.033	0.033	2	3	4	4	5	5, 8, 9
<i>Vanellus macropterus</i>	0.420	0.420					9	9
<i>Vanellus malabaricus</i>	0.145	0.145			2	3	5	5, 9
<i>Vanellus melanocephalus</i>	0.184	0.184			2	4	9	5, 9
<i>Vanellus melanopterus</i>	0.065	0.065		1	3	2	5	5, 8, 9
<i>Vanellus miles</i>	0.280	0.280	2	1	3	3	5	5, 6, 9
<i>Vanellus resplendens</i>	0.000	0.000			3	3	5	5, 9

<i>Vanellus senegallus</i>	0.039	0.039		1	2	3	5	8, 9
<i>Vanellus spinosus</i>	0.645	0.645	2	2	2	2	5	5, 9, 10, 11
<i>Vanellus superciliosus</i>	0.053	0.053	1		3	2	5	5, 9
<i>Vanellus tectus</i>	0.311	0.311		2	2	4	5	9, 10
<i>Vanellus tricolor</i>	0.486	0.486	2	1	2	3	5	5, 6, 9
<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	0.402	0.323	3	3	3	3	9	9, 10, 11

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**Electronic Appendix C.** Taxon-pairs that differ in (a) male display, (b) breeding density, (c) substrate colouration, and (d) vegetation cover of the nest site.

(a)	Ground display	Aerial display
	<i>Charadrius obscurus</i>	<i>Charadrius leschenaultii</i>
	<i>Charadrius pecuarius</i>	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>
	<i>Charadrius montanus</i>	<i>Charadrius falklandicus</i>
	<i>Charadrius rubricollis</i>	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>
	<i>Anarhynchus frontalis</i>	<i>Pluvialis apricaria, P. squatarola</i>
	<i>Vanellus superciliosus</i>	<i>Erythrogonys cinctus</i>
	<i>Cladorhynchus leucocephalus</i>	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>
	<i>Haematopus leucopus</i>	<i>Haematopus fuliginosus</i>
	<i>Ibidorhyncha struthersii</i>	<i>Haematopus longirostris</i>
	<i>Chionis alba, Chionis minor</i>	<i>Charadrius novaeseelandiae</i>

(b)	Less colonial	More colonial
	<i>Charadrius falklandicus</i>	<i>Charadrius montanus</i>
	<i>Charadrius bicinctus</i>	<i>Charadrius asiaticus</i>
	<i>Charadrius veredus, C. alticola, C. palliatus</i>	<i>Peltohyas australis</i>
	<i>Charadrius tricollaris</i>	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>
	<i>Charadrius rubricollis</i>	<i>Charadrius pecuarius</i>
	<i>Charadrius peronii</i>	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>
	<i>Charadrius modestus</i>	<i>Charadrius wilsonia</i>
	<i>Anarhynchus frontalis</i>	<i>Erythrogonys cinctus</i>
	<i>Vanellus armatus</i>	<i>Vanellus spinosus</i>
	<i>Vanellus indicus</i>	<i>Vanellus leucurus</i>
	<i>Vanellus albiceps</i>	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>
	<i>Vanellus senegallus</i>	<i>Vanellus coronatus</i>
	<i>Vanellus tricolor</i>	<i>Vanellus tectus</i>
	<i>Recurvirostra novaehollandiae</i>	<i>Recurvirostra avocetta</i>
	<i>Recurvirostra americana</i>	<i>Cladorhynchus leucocephalus</i>
	<i>Ibidorhyncha struthersii</i>	<i>Himantopus mexicanus</i>
	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>	<i>Haematopus moquini</i>
	<i>Burhinus oedicephalus</i>	<i>Burhinus senegalensis</i>
	<i>Himantopus novaezelandiae</i>	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>
	<i>Burhinus capensis</i>	<i>Burhinus recurvirostris</i>
	<i>Chionis alba, Chionis minor</i>	<i>Dromas ardeola</i>

(c)	Lighter substrate	Darker substrate
	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>	<i>Charadrius ruficapillus</i>
	<i>Charadrius asiaticus</i>	<i>Charadrius bicinctus</i>
	<i>Charadrius collaris</i>	<i>Charadrius rubricollis</i>
	<i>Charadrius falklandicus</i>	<i>Charadrius montanus</i>
	<i>Charadrius leschenaultii</i>	<i>Charadrius obscurus</i>

*Charadrius marginatus*  
*Charadrius melodus*  
*Charadrius palliatus*  
*Charadrius thoracicus*  
*Charadrius sanctahelenae*  
*Charadrius peronii*  
*Charadrius wilsonia*  
*Erythrogonys cinctus*  
*Oreopholus ruficollis*  
*Peltohyas australis*  
*Pluvialis apricaria*  
*Vanellus albiceps*  
*Vanellus armatus, V. spinosus*  
*Vanellus cayanus*  
*Vanellus gregarius*  
*Vanellus malabricus*  
*Vanellus miles*  
*Vanellus senegallus*  
*Burhinus giganteus*  
*Burhinus bistriatus*  
*Burhinus senegalensis*  
*Haematopus ater*  
*Haematopus leucopodus*  
*Haematopus palliatus*  
*Haematopus unicolor*  
*Himantopus mexicanus*  
*Recurvirostra andina*  
*Himantopus himantopus*  
*Dromas ardeola*

*Charadrius tricollaris*  
*Charadrius semipalmatus*  
*Charadrius alticola*  
*Charadrius hiaticula*  
*Charadrius vociferus*  
*Charadrius dubius*  
*Charadrius modestus*  
*Anarhynchus frontalis*  
*Elsayornis melanops*  
*Charadrius forbesi*  
*Pluvialis squatarola*  
*Vanellus vanellus*  
*Vanellus cinereus*  
*Vanellus superciliosus*  
*Vanellus lugubris*  
*Vanellus melanopterus*  
*Vanellus crassirostris*  
*Vanellus coronatus*  
*Burhinus superciliaris*  
*Burhinus recurvirostris*  
*Burhinus oedicephalus*  
*Haematopus bachmani*  
*Haematopus fuliginosus*  
*Haematopus finschi*  
*Haematopus ostralegus*  
*Ibidorhyncha struthersii*  
*Recurvirostra americana*  
*Himantopus novaeseelandiae*  
*Chionis alba, Chionis minor*

(d) More open nest site

More covered nest site

*Charadrius mongolus*  
*Charadrius alexandrinus, C. ruficapillus*  
*Charadrius palliatus*  
*Charadrius placidus*  
*Charadrius marginatus*  
*Charadrius hiaticula*  
*Charadrius vociferus*  
*Charadrius semipalmatus*  
*Charadrius dubius*  
*Eudromias morinellus*  
*Anarhynchus frontalis*  
*Oreopholus ruficollis*  
*Vanellus melanopterus*

*Charadrius bicinctus*  
*Charadrius falklandicus, C. montanus*  
*Charadrius veredus*  
*Charadrius obscurus*  
*Charadrius leschenaultii*  
*Charadrius thoracicus*  
*Charadrius sanctahelenae*  
*Charadrius melodus*  
*Charadrius wilsonia*  
*Phegornis mitchelli*  
*Charadrius modestus*  
*Erythrogonys cinctus*  
*Vanellus malabricus*

*Vanellus gregarius*  
*Vanellus armatus, V. spinosus*  
*Vanellus leucurus*  
*Vanellus albiceps*  
*Vanellus senegallus*  
*Vanellus tricolor*  
*Vanellus cayanus*  
*Pluvialis dominica*  
*Pluvialis squatarola*  
*Elseyornis melanops*  
*Himantopus himantopus*  
*Recurvirostra avocetta*  
*Himantopus mexicanus*  
*Ibidorhyncha struthersii*  
*Haematopus unicolor*  
*Haematopus palliatus*  
*Haematopus fuliginosus*  
*Burhinus senegalensis*  
*Burhinus recurvirostris*  
*Burhinus superciliaris, B. giganteus*  
*Pluvianus aegyptius*

*Vanellus lugubris*  
*Vanellus cinereus*  
*Vanellus indicus*  
*Vanellus vanellus*  
*Vanellus coronatus*  
*Vanellus tectus*  
*Vanellus superciliosus*  
*Pluvialis fulva*  
*Pluvialis apricaria*  
*Charadrius novaeseelandiae*  
*Himantopus novaezelandiae*  
*Recurvirostra novaehollandiae*  
*Cladorhynchus leucocephalus*  
*Haematopus longirostris*  
*Haematopus ostralegus*  
*Haematopus finschi*  
*Haematopus leucopodus*  
*Burhinus oedicephalus*  
*Burhinus capensis*  
*Burhinus bistriatus*  
*Chionis alba, Chionis minor*

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