

way back to the nesting hole where it would again be chased away. If it went up tree, the defending squirrel would chase it about 10 feet and then return. The squirrel being chased would generally go about 6 feet up tree and then turn around and go down the tree. At times the defending squirrel would leave tree and chase a squirrel on the ground. At one time it chased one approx 50 feet from nesting tree and then returned. When 2 or 3 squirrels were trying to invade territory of the immediate squirrel nest, the defending squirrel would make shorter chases and then return to hole, just in time to ward off another squirrel. During the entire time I observed these squirrels (80 feet away), this defending squirrel was continuously moving in its defense of the hole. The chasing of squirrels up & down the tree was accompanied by considerable noise from ^{tree} bark contact. This action is definitely an important ~~and~~ ^{coaction}. Base of trees completely trampled by squirrel activity. Although this action was initiated and maintained by squirrel activity I did not at any time see acts of copulation nor sustained bodily fighting except momentary contact. I would estimate that 30 per cent of the time was on the ground. It was unusual for these squirrels to maintain this activity in my presence. Usually fox squirrel retreat at twice the distance observed today. The accentuated activity of all squirrels madly chasing each other, or groups chasing one squirrel was cyclic and regulated on approx 6 minute intervals, between periods with a lessening of activity. Noted the defending squirrel with characteristic pose at base of tree with head down and extended out. While watching, one red-bellied woodpecker remained in squirrel area, ^{3 groups of} 2 blue jays flew across area, ^{3 groups of} 2 black-capped chickadees passed thru & stopped to call at me with warning call, these calls attracting 2 titmice. When the warning call was given on back of my hand, the 2 chickadees & titmice stopped calling for 4 seconds and then started and increased the rate of their call by double. The call of these squirrels ^{when chasing one another} is a low, guttural note given at intervals of 5 or 6 seconds. At 11:51, left observation point and