Running head: Integrated single-visit occupancy models

Title: Using single visits into integrated occupancy models to make the most of existing

monitoring programs

Authors: Valentin Lauret[1], Hélène Labach[1,2], Matthieu Authier[3,4], Olivier Gimenez[1]

(1) CEFE, Université Montpellier, CNRS, EPHE, IRD, Université Paul Valéry Montpellier 3,

Montpellier, France

(2) MIRACETI, Connaissance et conservation des cétacés, Place des traceurs de pierres, 13500

La Couronne, France

(3) ADERA, 162 avenue Albert Schweitzer, 33608 Pessac Cedex

(4) Observatoire PELAGIS, UMS 3462 CNRS-La Rochelle Université, 5 allée de l'Océan,

17000 La Rochelle

Corresponding author: Valentin Lauret, valentin.lauret@ens-lyon.fr, CEFE 1919 Route de
Mende, 34090 Montpellier, France.

17
18

Abstract

A major challenge in statistical ecology consists of integrating knowledge from different

datasets to produce robust ecological indicators. To estimate species distribution, occupancy

models are a flexible framework that can accommodate several datasets obtained from different

sampling methods. However, repeating visits at sampling sites is a prerequisite for using

standard occupancy models. Occupancy models were recently developed to analyze

detection/non-detection data collected during a single visit. To date, single-visit occupancy

models have never been used to integrate several different datasets. Here, we showcase an

approach that combines two datasets into an integrated single-visit occupancy model. As a case

study, we estimated the distribution of Bottlenose dolphins (*Tursiops truncatus*) over the North-

western Mediterranean Sea by combining 24,624 km of aerial surveys and 21,464 km of at-sea

monitoring. We compared the outputs of single- vs. repeated-visit occupancy models into

integrated occupancy models. Integrated models allowed a better sampling coverage of species

home-range, which provided a better precision for occupancy estimates than occupancy models

using datasets in isolation. Overall, single- and repeated-visit integrated occupancy models

produced similar inference about the distribution of bottlenose dolphins. We suggest that single-

visit occupancy models open promising perspectives for the use of existing ecological datasets.

Keywords

Bottlenose dolphins, Ecological monitoring, Integrated species distribution models, Multi-

method, Occupancy models, Single-visit

Introduction

In large-scale ecological analysis, several parallel monitoring programs are often carried

out to collect ecological data (Zipkin and Saunders 2018). Ecological monitoring programs are

conducted by organizations operating across different time scales, geographic scales and

funding initiatives (Lindenmayer and Likens 2010). A major challenge is integrating

knowledge from different monitoring programs to produce robust ecological indicators that

may be used to inform decision-making (Lindenmayer and Likens 2010, Fletcher et al. 2019).

Recently, modelling tools have emerged to combine multiple data sources to estimate species

distributions (Miller et al. 2019). *Integrated models* refer to the approaches that combine

different data sources (Miller et al. 2019, Isaac et al. 2019). The main purpose of integrated

models is to improve the accuracy of ecological indicators (Fletcher et al. 2019, Zipkin et al.

2019). Species distributed over large areas could particularly benefit from integrated models

because they allow for a global coverage of species occurrence by combining different data

sources collected at different spatial scales (Miller et al. 2019).

To estimate species distribution in the face of uncertainties inherent to data collection,

occupancy models are widely-spread statistical tools (Mackenzie et al., 2002). Occupancy

models have been developed to estimate species distribution while accounting for false

negatives in the observation process (Mackenzie et al. 2002). Estimating occupancy when

species detection is not perfect requires performing *repeated visits* to assess the detection

probability (MacKenzie 2006). However, repeating visits is sometimes unfeasible due to

associated costs and logistical issues. In this context, two relevant developments of occupancy

models have been recently proposed. First, integrated occupancy models combine data from

different monitoring programs to improve the estimation of species distribution (Miller et al.

2019, Fletcher et al. 2019). Second, Lele et al., (2012) used occupancy models to estimate

species distribution and detectability while having only one visit at the sampling site, i.e.

hereafter *single-visit* occupancy models. An increasing number of studies suggest that under

certain conditions, single-visit models produce robust estimates of occupancy without repeating

visits at the sampling sites (Lele et al. 2012, Sólymos and Lele 2016, Peach et al. 2017). Besides,

single-visit occupancy offers the possibility to work with existing datasets that did not carry out

repeated visits, which is relevant to population biology and management.

In this paper, we develop an integrated approach that combines two single-visit

occupancy models and demonstrate that combining several datasets into integrated single-visit

occupancy models leads to accurate ecological parameter estimation. We also investigate the

performance of single-visit vs. repeated-visits occupancy models. As a case study, we focused

on the distribution of Bottlenose dolphins (*Tursiops truncatus*) in the North-Western

Mediterranean Sea. We combined aerial surveys and at-sea monitoring into integrated

occupancy models and we compared the outputs of integrated occupancy models to occupancy

models using each dataset in isolation. Last, we discuss the advantages of integrated single-

visit occupancy models to deal with existing ecological monitoring programs.

Methods

MODEL DESCRIPTION

80
Latent ecological process

Occupancy models estimate spatial distribution while accounting for imperfect species

detection (Mackenzie et al. 2002). The formulation of occupancy models as state-space models

allows distinguishing the latent ecological state process (i.e. species present or absent at a grid-

cell) from the detection process (Royle and Kéry 2007). We denote z_i the latent occupancy of

grid-cell i ($z = 1$, presence; $z = 0$, absence). We assume z_i is drawn from a Bernoulli distribution

with Ψ_i the probability that the species is present at grid-cell i:

88                                      $z_i \sim \text{Bernoulli}(\Psi_i)$

89   We modelled Ψ as a function of some environmental covariate on a logit scale, say habitat.

90                             $\text{logit}(\Psi_i) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \text{ habitat}_i$

where parameters β_0, and β_1 are to be estimated.

Repeated-visit observation process

In standard occupancy designs, each grid-cell is visited J times to estimate the detection

probability. We denote $y_{i,j}$ ($y_{i,j} = 0$, no detection ; $y_{i,j} = 1$, detection) the observations

corresponding to the data collected at grid-cell i during visit j ($j = 1,..,J$). Repeating visits at a

grid-cell allows estimating species detectability, with $p_{i,j}$ being the probability of detecting the

species at visit j given it is present at grid-cell i:

$$y_{i,j} \mid z_i \sim \text{Bernoulli}(z_i\,p_{i,j})$$

Single-visit observation process

The difference with repeated-visit occupancy models lies in the number of sampling

occasions which is $J = 1$ in single-visit occupancy models. The j subscript is dropped and we

denoted y_i the observation corresponding to the data collected at site i. Subsequently, p_i is the

probability of detecting the species during the single visit given it is present at site i:

$$y_i \mid z_i \sim \text{Bernoulli}(z_i\,p_i)$$

Single-visit occupancy models require certain conditions to be fulfilled for estimating

detection probabilities reliably. First, different continuous covariates should be used to estimate

detection and occupancy probabilities (Lele et al. 2012, Peach et al. 2017). Second, the number

of detections is an important parameter that may affect the results in the case of rare or

ubiquitous species (Peach et al. 2017). Third, the use of inappropriate link functions to model

the detection process may lead to model misspecification and biased interpretation (Knape &

Korner-Nievergelt, 2015). Despite these concerns, simulation studies have showed that

situations where single-visit occupancy models fail are rare (Peach et al. 2017) and, in practice,

the conditions for safe application of single-visit occupancy models are often fulfilled (Sólymos

and Lele 2016). Because the number of detections is an important condition to accurately

estimate single-visit occupancy parameters (Peach et al. 2017), we expect that integrated

approaches will be beneficial to single-visit occupancy modelling by increasing the number of

detections (true occupancy) available.

Integrated occupancy models

We developed an integrated occupancy model using data from two independent

monitoring programs, say A and B. The state process driving the latent occupancy state of site

i, z_i, remains unchanged and is drawn from a Bernoulli distribution with probability $\overline{\Psi}$, which

is modeled as a function of environmental covariates. The observation of the targeted species

at site i during occasion j may take four values with $y_{i,j} = 0$ for no detection, $y_{i,j} = 1$ for detection

in dataset A, $y_{i,j} = 2$ for detection in dataset B, and $y_{i,j} = 3$ for detection in both datasets A and

B. For convenience, we drop the subscripts in the notation as the formulation of the integrated

observation process is identical whether we consider single-visit occupancy (i.e. $J = 1$) or

repeated-visit occupancy ($J > 1$). Assuming that detection methods are independent, the

observation process can be written using detection probability by the monitoring program A

(p_A) and detection probability by the monitoring program B (p_B):

130
$$y|z \sim Multinomial(1, z\pi)$$

131   with

132
$$\pi = [p_0, p_1, p_2, p_3] = [pr(y = 0), pr(y = 1), pr(y = 2), pr(y = 3)]$$

133
$$\pi = [1 - p_A - p_B + p_A p_B, p_A(1 - p_B), p_B(1 - p_A), p_A p_B]$$

134   We modeled monitoring-specific detection probabilities as functions of the sampling effort of

135   each monitoring program:

136
$$\text{logit}(p_A) = \alpha_{0A} + \alpha_{1A} \ \log(\text{Seff}_A)$$

137
$$\text{logit}(p_B) = \alpha_{0B} + \alpha_{1B} \ \log(\text{Seff}_B).$$

where the parameters α_{0A}, α_{1A}, α_{0B}, and α_{1B} are to be estimated.

For example, if we assume that the detection history at site i is $y_i = \{2,0,1,2\}$ over $J = 4$ sampling

occasions, i.e. the species was detected by monitoring program B only at sampling occasions j

$= 1$ and $j = 4$, then went undetected at $j = 2$, and was detected by monitoring program A only

at $j = 3$, then for single-visit integrated occupancy we consider $y_i = \{3\}$ because both monitoring

programs detected the species at site i. We ran a simulation study comparing the performance

of single- vs. repeated-visit occupancy over different scenarios affecting occupancy, and

detection probabilities (Appendix S1).

BOTTLENOSE DOLPHINS CASE STUDY

We aimed at estimating bottlenose dolphin (*Tursiops truncatus*) distribution in an area

of 255,000 km^2 covering the North-Western Mediterranean. The protected status of this species

within the French seas led to the development of specific programs to monitor Mediterranean

bottlenose dolphins within the implementation of the European Marine Strategy Framework

Directive (2008/56/EC; MSFD). We considered two large-scale monitoring programs about

bottlenose dolphins. We divided the study area in 4,356 contiguous pixel/grid-cells creating a

5'x5' Mardsen grid (WGS 84).

We used data from at-sea surveys over 21,464 km of the French continental shelf (456

grid-cells sampled, 10.46% of the total number of grid-cells). Observers performed monitoring

aboard small sailing and motor boats to locate and photo-identify bottlenose dolphins all year

long between 2013 and 2015 (Labach et al. 2019). At-sea surveys detected 129 bottlenose

dolphin groups located in 89 different grid-cells. At-sea surveys did not include planned

repeated visits. Some sites have been visited once, and others have been visited 50 times,

making this dataset a relevant candidate for single-visit model implementation.

Besides, we considered data collected during aerial line-transects covering 24,624 km

of the French Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), targeting marine megafauna, and following a

distance sampling protocol. The survey sampled 1336 grid-cells (i.e. 30.67% of the total

number of grid-cells). Aerial surveys produced 130 bottlenose dolphin detections located in 87

grid-cells. Sampling effort for aerial surveys was homogeneous over the studied area with three

or four replicates per line-transect between November 2011 and August 2012 (Laran et al.,

2017).

An important assumption of occupancy models is that the latent ecological state of a

grid-cell (the z_i's) remains unchanged between the repeated visits (MacKenzie 2006). When

monitoring highly mobile species, such as cetaceans, the closure assumption is likely to be

violated because individuals can move into and out of the sampling grid-cell. Occupied

locations are used only temporarily by individuals (MacKenzie 2006; Neilson et al. 2018).

Therefore, the occupancy estimator Ψ_i represents the probability that grid-cell i is *used* by the

target species as opposed to the probability of occupancy (Kendall et al. 2013), and occupancy

was interpreted as *space-use* by bottlenose dolphins. The detection probability now accounts

for both the probability of detecting the species given that the species is available for sampling,

and the probability that the species is using the grid-cell during the sampling, reflecting that the

species might occupy the grid-cell but not during the sampling occasion (MacKenzie 2006). If

individuals' movement in and out of the sampling units is random, then the occupancy estimator

is unbiased (Kendall et al. 2013). Occupancy and space-use refer to different scales of space

selection by a species. Occupancy describes the species home range, while space-use refers to

the use by individuals of the different components of the home range (Johnson 1980).

Because at-sea and aerial surveys were performed during different years, we considered them

as independent. We neglected the seasonal variation in the bottlenose dolphin space-use, and

we assumed that space-use remained unchanged during the monitoring period (i.e. 2011 to

2015). Concerning the ecological process, we used two environmental covariates to estimate

the space-use of bottlenose dolphins: i) bathymetry, which is expected to have a positive effect

on bottlenose dolphins' occurrence (Bearzi et al. 2009, Labach et al. 2019), and ii) sea surface

temperature (SST, AQUA MODIS | NASA 2019, https://neo.sci.gsfc.nasa.gov/), which is

locally related to dolphins' prey abundance and hence expected to affect local distribution of

bottlenose dolphins (Bearzi et al. 2009). We extracted average SST between 2011 and 2015

value in each grid-cell, making SST a cell-specific covariate. Similarly, bathymetry had a single

value per grid-cell. We checked for correlation between the two covariates and the Pearson

coefficient was < 0.3. Then, we modelled Ψ as a function of bathymetry, SST, and the

interaction between bathymetry and SST on a logit scale:

$$\text{logit}(\Psi_i) = \beta_0 + \beta_1\,\text{bathymetry}_i + \beta_2\,\text{SST}_i + \beta_3\,bathymetry_i\,SST_i$$

Regarding the observation process, we calculated the transect length (in km) prospected by each

monitoring protocol within each grid-cell during a time period. Sampling effort was therefore

a grid-cell and time-specific covariate, $Seff_A$ refers to the sampling effort of the aerial

monitoring program while $Seff_S$ refers to the sampling effort of the at-sea monitoring program.

We modeled monitoring-specific detection probabilities as functions of the relevant sampling

effort:

$$\text{logit}(p_a) = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1\,\log(Seff_A)$$

$$\text{logit}(p_s) = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1\,\log(Seff_S)$$

Regarding the repeated-visit occupancy models, we divided the presence-absence datasets into

four sampling occasions ($J = 4$): winter (January, February, March), spring (Avril, May, June),

summer (July, August, September), autumn (October, November, December). For the single-

visit occupancy models, we considered the entire monitoring program in a single occasion. For

example, let us assume that the detection history at site i is $y_i = \{0,1,1,0\}$ in repeated-visit

occupancy, i.e. the species was detected at sampling occasions $j = 2$ and $j = 3$, and went

undetected at $j = 1$, and $j = 4$, then for single-visit occupancy we have $y_i = \{1\}$. In addition, the

single-visit sampling effort in a grid-cell was equal to the sum of the sampling effort over the 4

sampling occasions of the repeated-visit occupancy model.

Performances of integrated models

To assess the added value of combining aerial and at-sea datasets into integrated single-visit

occupancy models, we analyzed 3 datasets: i) the aerial dataset, ii) the at-sea dataset, and iii)

the two datasets together into an integrated occupancy model. For each of these datasets, we

applied repeated-visit and single-visit occupancy models. Besides the case study, we also

carried out a simulation study (Appendix S2).

Bayesian implementation

We ran all models with three Markov Chain Monte Carlo chains with 100,000 iterations

each in JAGS (Plummer and others 2003) called from R (R Core Team, v 3.2.5 2019) using the

r2jags package (Su and Yajima 2015). We checked for convergence calculating the *R-hat*

parameter (Gelman et al. 2013) and reported posterior means and 95% credible intervals (CI)

for each regression coefficient of covariates affecting space-use probability (Fig. 1). Hereafter,

we considered *effect size* of a covariate as the estimate of its regression coefficient. We

discussed the effect of a covariate whenever the 95% CI of its associated parameter did not

include 0. From covariates' effect size, we calculated the predicted space-use by bottlenose

dolphins (i.e. Ψ, Fig. 2). We reported maps of standard deviation of Ψ (Fig. 2B). On the maps,

we displayed mean and standard deviation of Ψ for coastal and pelagic seas according to a 500m

deep boundary that corresponds to the separation of continental shelf from the abysses. Data

and   codes   are   available   on   Data   S1,   and   on   GitHub   at

https://github.com/valentinlauret/IntegratedSingleVisitOccupancy.

Results

All models produced similar predictions of space used by bottlenose dolphins (Fig. 2).

The 95% CI of SST, and of the interaction between SST and bathymetry included 0 in all

models (Fig. 1). The probability of space-use increased with decreasing bathymetry for all

models (Fig. 1). Bathymetry ranges from altitude of 0 m to -3,488 m deep, hence a positive

influence of bathymetry referred to a preference for a high seafloor (e.g. 0-200m depth).

Overall, maps showed greater probabilities of space-use on the continental shelf (mean Ψ =

0.76 SD ± 0.17) than on the high seas (mean Ψ = 0.40 SD ± 0.15), although intensities of Ψ

were different between models (Fig. 2). Bathymetry posterior means were highest for at-sea

occupancy (although the 95% CI of effect size included 0), which resulted in models using only

at-sea survey data predicting the highest contrast between the continental shelf and the high-

seas. Bathymetry effect size was the lowest for aerial occupancy while maps from integrated

occupancy models displayed moderate contrast of space-use between shelf and pelagic waters

(Fig. 2). Single-visit occupancy models exhibited similar covariates estimates to those of

repeated-visit occupancy models (Fig. 1). For aerial occupancy, we noticed similar space-use

prediction between single- and repeated-visit (Fig. 2A). For at-sea, predicted space-use

probabilities were different between single-visit and repeated-visit occupancy models (Fig. 2).

When considering the covariates' effect size (Fig. 1), the widths of the 95% CI were not

smaller for integrated occupancy than for occupancy models using datasets in isolation.

However, when looking at the standard deviation of the predicted probability of space-use,

integrated occupancy models had a better precision than aerial or at-sea occupancy models

separately, (Fig. 2B). The use of integrated single-visit occupancy models also improved

precision in predicted space-use compared to single-visit occupancy built from aerial and at-

sea datasets separately (Fig.2B). Inspecting the simulation results, we found that 1) integrated

occupancy models produced more precise estimates of covariates effect size than occupancy

models fitted to a single dataset (Appendix S2), and 2) single-visit occupancy models produced

similar results to repeated-visit occupancy models (Appendix S1).

Discussion

Integrated single-visit occupancy models provide reliable ecological estimates

Ecological estimates from integrated occupancy models lied within the range of the

estimates obtained with each dataset separately (Fig. 1). Across all occupancy models, the

effects of environmental covariates were similar and consistent with previous studies.

Bottlenose dolphins were more likely to use shallower seas (Bearzi et al. 2009, Labach et al.

2019), and depth had a stronger effect than SST on the use of space by bottlenose dolphins

(Torres et al. 2008). However, we found variations among models in the estimation of the

probability of space-use by dolphins (Fig. 1). In particular, at-sea occupancy models predicted

that dolphins make little use of the pelagic seas compared to the continental shelf, while aerial

occupancy models predict more homogeneous space-use between coasts and pelagic seas.

Predicted space-use was sensitive to the mean value of covariate effect size, which was similar

between occupancy models. Then, variation between predicted space-use maps did not reflect

the uncertainty associated with the occupancy models' estimates. We recommend caution in

interpreting predicted maps of space-use because they were mostly driven by bathymetry effect

size, and did not account for precision associated with space-use prediction. To study the

benefits of single-visit and integrated occupancy models to accommodate existing ecological

datasets, we emphasize standard deviation maps and the credible intervals of covariates effect

size (Fig. 1-2B).

Integrated occupancy models had a better precision in space-use than models using aerial

or at-sea surveys separately (Fig. 2). This result was supported by our simulation study which

demonstrates the better performance of integrated occupancy models at estimating covariate

effect size compared to occupancy models from a single dataset (Appendix S2). Single-visit

occupancy models gave similar estimates to those obtained with repeated-visit occupancy

models, although repeated-visit occupancy models exhibited better precision (Fig. 1-2B), as

well as in our simulations (Appendix S1).

In the bottlenose dolphins case study, we considered two existing monitoring programs

that were not initially designed for occupancy modeling. In the at-sea monitoring, repeated line-

transects were not implemented, nor the high depths were sampled, which made at-sea

occupancy unlikely to exhibit precise estimates at our spatial extent. Besides, while aerial

surveys covered a larger spatial extent than at-sea surveys, at-sea surveys exhibited a better

detection rate. Detection probability was greater for at-sea surveys ($p = 0.18$ SD ± 0.04) than

for aerial surveys ($p = 0.10$ SD ± 0.03). Regarding the aerial dataset, the number of occurrences

was low (i.e. bottlenose dolphins were detected in 6.5% of sampled grid-cells), which might

hinder the implementation of single-visit occupancy (Peach et al. 2017). Combining low-

frequency occurrence data with another dataset into integrated occupancy models increases the

amount of information about the ecological state process and helps mitigating the issue of low

number of occurrences (the at-sea dataset had occurrences in 19.5% of sampled units).

Ecological implications and perspectives

Overall, we illustrate that: i) Integrating datasets into occupancy models improves the

precision of space-use estimates, and ii) Single-visit occupancy models can reliably

accommodate the lack of repeated visits that occurs frequently. Integrated occupancy models

produced more reliable estimates than occupancy models using datasets in isolation in both the

bottlenose dolphin data analyzes and the simulations. Our finding on the bottlenose dolphins

case study is a good illustration of the well-known benefit of combining datasets into integrated

species distribution models to increased precision in ecological estimation and predicted

accuracy (Fletcher et al. 2019). When the species of interest displays a wide range of occurrence

(such as bottlenose dolphins), considering multiple sampling methods is effective to monitor

the entire population making the most of each device (Zipkin and Saunders 2018). In particular,

integrating a large volume of data, such as those that can be leveraged through citizen-science

programs or with dedicated NGOs over the years can make the most of ecological monitoring

programs for the furthering of many applied situations (Zipkin et al. 2019). Although repeated-

visit occupancy models remain statistically more precise, there are clear benefits in using

single-visit occupancy models. One advantage is the ability to relax the closure assumption,

which is often incompatible with the ecological behavior of mobile species (Lele et al. 2012,

Kendall et al. 2013). The closure assumption is unlikely to be valid for bottlenose dolphins over

the four sampling occasions, but also for numerous monitoring programs of animal populations

(Rota et al. 2009, Issaris et al. 2012, Sólymos and Lele 2016). Besides, when financial or

logistical costs are limited, implementing a single-visit monitoring design could provide robust

ecological estimates while explicitly accounting for imperfect species detection (Lele et al.

2012, Dénes et al. 2017).

Overall, increasing quantity and types of biodiversity data are becoming available (Isaac

et al. 2019). Numerous monitoring programs do not rely on protocols implementing repeated

visits like, e.g., historical monitoring programs, or citizen science programs (Tingley and

Beissinger 2009, Zipkin and Saunders 2018). Then, using single-visit occupancy models helps

making efficient use of available data, which is of great interest in many ecological applications

(Nichols and Williams 2006, Sólymos and Lele 2016). In this context, Miller et al. (2019)

encouraged further developments of methods mixing standardized and non-standardized

datasets. To illustrate, we built an integrated occupancy model mixing repeated-visit occupancy

models for aerial surveys and single-visit occupancy models for at-sea surveys (Appendix S3).

One could also extend integrated occupancy models to more than two datasets. However,

caution should be taken when integrating datasets, as combining different sources of

information does not always outperform the analysis of single datasets in isolation (Simmonds

et al. 2020). The flexibility of occupancy models provided a relevant framework to combine

monitoring programs and to accommodate different types of data collection. Integrated and

single-visit occupancy models contribute to widen the scope of possibilities. We emphasize the

usefulness of both integrated and single-visit approaches to deal with existing datasets. We

anticipate that their combination into integrated single-visit approaches will be of most interest

for many parties in ecological research.

References

Bearzi, G., C. Fortuna, and R. Reeves. 2009. Ecology and conservation of common bottlenose

dolphins *Tursiops truncatus* in the Mediterranean Sea. Mammal Review 39:92–123.

Dénes, F. V., P. Sólymos, S. Lele, L. F. Silveira, and S. R. Beissinger. 2017. Biome-scale

signatures of land-use change on raptor abundance: insights from single-visit detection-

based models. Journal of Applied Ecology 54:1268–1278.

Directive 2008/56/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 June 2008

establishing a framework for community action in the field of marine environmental policy

(Marine Strategy Framework Directive) (Text with EEA relevance). 2008. . Page 164.

Fletcher, R. J., T. J. Hefley, E. P. Robertson, B. Zuckerberg, R. A. McCleery, and R. M.

Dorazio. 2019. A practical guide for combining data to model species distributions.

Ecology:e02710.

Gelman, A., J. B. Carlin, H. S. Stern, D. B. Dunson, A. Vehtari, and D. B. Rubin. 2013.

Bayesian data analysis. Chapman and Hall/CRC.

Isaac, N. J. B., M. A. Jarzyna, P. Keil, L. I. Dambly, P. H. Boersch-Supan, E. Browning, S. N.

Freeman, N. Golding, G. Guillera-Arroita, P. A. Henrys, S. Jarvis, J. Lahoz-Monfort, J.

Pagel, O. L. Pescott, R. Schmucki, E. G. Simmonds, and R. B. O'Hara. 2019. Data

Integration for Large-Scale Models of Species Distributions. Trends in Ecology &

Evolution:S0169534719302551.

Issaris, Y., S. Katsanevakis, M. Salomidi, K. Tsiamis, N. Katsiaras, and G. Verriopoulos. 2012.

Occupancy estimation of marine species: dealing with imperfect detectability. Marine

Ecology Progress Series 453:95–106.

Johnson, D. H. 1980. The Comparison of Usage and Availability Measurements for Evaluating

Resource Preference. Ecology 61:65–71.

Kendall, W. L., J. E. Hines, J. D. Nichols, and E. Grant. 2013. Relaxing the closure assumption

in occupancy models: staggered arrival and departure times. Ecology 94:610–617.

Knape, J., and F. Korner-Nievergelt. 2015. Estimates from non-replicated population surveys

rely on critical assumptions. Methods in Ecology and Evolution 6:298–306.

Labach, H., C. Azzinari, M. Barbier, C. Cesarini, B. Daniel, L. David, F. Dhermain, N. Di-

Méglio, B. Guichard, J. Jourdan, N. Robert, M. Roul, N. Tomasi, and O. Gimenez. 2019.

Distribution and abundance of bottlenose dolphin over the French Mediterranean continental

shelf. bioRxiv.

Laran, S., E. Pettex, M. Authier, A. Blanck, L. David, G. Dorémus, H. Falchetto, P. Monestiez,

O. Van Canneyt, and V. Ridoux. 2017. Seasonal distribution and abundance of cetaceans

within French waters- Part I: The North-Western Mediterranean, including the Pelagos

sanctuary. Deep Sea Research Part II: Topical Studies in Oceanography 141:20–30.

Lele, S. R., M. Moreno, and E. Bayne. 2012. Dealing with detection error in site occupancy

surveys: what can we do with a single survey? Journal of Plant Ecology 5:22–31.

Lindenmayer, D. B., and G. E. Likens. 2010. The science and application of ecological

monitoring. Biological Conservation 143:1317–1328.

MacKenzie, D. I., editor. 2006. Occupancy estimation and modeling: inferring patterns and

dynamics of species. Elsevier, Amsterdam ; Boston.

Mackenzie, D. I., J. D. Nichols, G. B. Lachman, S. Droege, J. A. Royle, and C. A. Langtimm.

2002. Estimating site occupancy rates when detection probabilities are less than one 83:8.

Miller, D. A. W., K. Pacifici, J. S. Sanderlin, and B. J. Reich. 2019. The recent past and

promising future for data integration methods to estimate species' distributions. Methods in

Ecology and Evolution 10:22–37.

Neilson, E. W., T. Avgar, A. C. Burton, K. Broadley, and S. Boutin. 2018. Animal movement

affects interpretation of occupancy models from camera-trap surveys of unmarked animals.

Ecosphere 9:e02092.

Nichols, and Williams. 2006. Monitoring for conservation. Trends in Ecology & Evolution

21:668–673.

Peach, M. A., J. B. Cohen, and J. L. Frair. 2017. Single-visit dynamic occupancy models: an

approach to account for imperfect detection with Atlas data. Journal of Applied Ecology

54:2033–2042.

Plummer, M. and others. 2003. JAGS: A program for analysis of Bayesian graphical models

using Gibbs sampling. Page 125 Proceedings of the 3rd international workshop on

distributed statistical computing. Vienna.

R Core Team, v 3.2.5. 2015. R Core Team (2015). R: A language and environment for statistical

computing. R Foundation for Statistical Computing, Vienna, Austria. URL https://www.R-

project.org/. https://www.r-project.org/.

Rota, C. T., R. J. Fletcher Jr, R. M. Dorazio, and M. G. Betts. 2009. Occupancy estimation and

the closure assumption. Journal of Applied Ecology.

Royle, J. A., and M. Kéry. 2007. A bayesian state-space formulation of dynamic occupancy

models. Ecology 88:1813–1823.

Simmonds, E. G., S. G. Jarvis, P. A. Henrys, N. J. B. Isaac, and R. B. O'Hara. 2020. Is more

data always better? A simulation study of benefits and limitations of integrated distribution

models. Ecography:ecog.05146.

Sólymos, P., and S. R. Lele. 2016. Revisiting resource selection probability functions and

single-visit methods: clarification and extensions. Methods in Ecology and Evolution

7:196–205.

Su, Y.-S., and M. Yajima. 2015. R2jags: Using R to Run "JAGS."

Tingley, M. W., and S. R. Beissinger. 2009. Detecting range shifts from historical species

occurrences: new perspectives on old data. Trends in Ecology & Evolution 24:625–633.

Torres, L. G., A. J. Read, and P. Halpin. 2008. Fine-scale habitat modeling of a top marine

predator: do prey data improve predictive capacity. Ecological Applications 18:1702–1717.

Zipkin, E. F., B. D. Inouye, and S. R. Beissinger. 2019. Innovations in data integration for

modeling populations. Ecology:e02713.

Zipkin, E. F., and S. P. Saunders. 2018. Synthesizing multiple data types for biological

conservation using integrated population models. Biological Conservation 217:240–250.

Figure captions

Figure 1: Effect size of bathymetry, sea surface temperature (SST), and interaction between SST and bathymetry on the probability Ψ that a site is used by Bottlenose dolphins (*Tursiops truncatus*). The posterior mean is provided with the associated 95% credible interval. "SV" refers to *single-visit* occupancy models, "RV" to *repeated visit* occupancy models, and "IOM" stands for *integrated* occupancy models, in which aerial surveys and at-sea surveys are combined. Estimates are given on the logit scale.

Figure 2: A. Probability of predicted space-use by Bottlenose dolphins (*Tursiops truncatus*) over the NW Mediterranean Sea. Using the posterior mean of covariates effect size, we estimated the probability that a grid-cell was used by bottlenose dolphins. For each occupancy model, we added the mean space-use probability (Ψ) for coasts (bathymetry < 500 m) and pelagic seas (bathymetry > 500 m)

B. Standard deviation of predicted space-use. Using the posterior standard deviation of covariates effect size, we estimated the standard deviation associated with the space-use probability. For each occupancy model, we added the mean standard-deviation (sd) associated with Ψ for coasts (bathymetry < 500 m) and pelagic seas (bathymetry > 500 m).

"IOM" stands for *integrated* occupancy models, in which aerial surveys and at-sea surveys are combined. Repeated-visit occupancy maps refer to occupancy models with 4 sampling occasions. Single-visit maps refer to occupancy models considering 1 sampling occasion.

443 **Figure 1**

Figure 2