Decreasing trends of chinstrap penguin breeding colonies in a region of major and ongoing environmental change: a statistical critique and reanalysis of Krüger (2023)

30-year population change at 91 sites with at least two counts (with accuracy < 5)

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2023-10-05

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1 Context

This script provides a reanalysis of chinstrap penguin population trends, in the context of Krüger (2023) (Citation: Krüger, L. (2023). Decreasing Trends of Chinstrap Penguin Breeding Colonies in a Region of Major and Ongoing Rapid Environmental Changes Suggest Population Level Vulnerability. Diversity, 15(3), 327.).

- To reduce extrapolation beyond the range of observed data, this revised analysis restricted predictions of population trends between 1980 and 2019.
- This script evaluated the 30-year population change between 1990 and 2019 at all sites (n = 91) with at least two counts (with accuracy < 5) between 1980 and 2019

2 Load packages and set plotting theme

```
# Load packages
library(tidyverse)
library(MCMCglmm)
library(scales)
library(ggforce)
library(colorspace)
library(scales)
library(patchwork)
library(broom.mixed)
```

3 Load and process MAPPPD data for area 48.1 and 48.2:

```
# Humphries et al. (2017) Mapping Application for Penguin Populations
# and Projected Dynamics (MAPPPD): data and tools for dynamic management
# and decision support. Polar Record 53 (269): 160-166 doi:10.1017/S0032247417000055
df <- read.csv(here::here("./data/mapppd AllCounts_V_4_0.csv"))</pre>
# subset data to chinstrap penguins only
chins<-subset(df,common_name=="chinstrap penguin")</pre>
# subset to use only nest counts
nests <- subset(chins,count_type=="nests")</pre>
# subset to cammlr_region 48.1 and 48.2
nests <- subset(nests,cammlr_region =="48.1" | cammlr_region =="48.2")</pre>
# remove the most uncertain counts (could be very inaccurate - an order of magnitude)
# This is a choice we made for the current analysis.
# Comment this line of code out to run analysis including uncertain counts
nests <- subset(nests, accuracy < 5)</pre>
nests = subset(nests, nests$season_starting> 1979)
which(colSums(is.na(nests))>0)
##
     day month
       7
```

3.1 Processed data summary

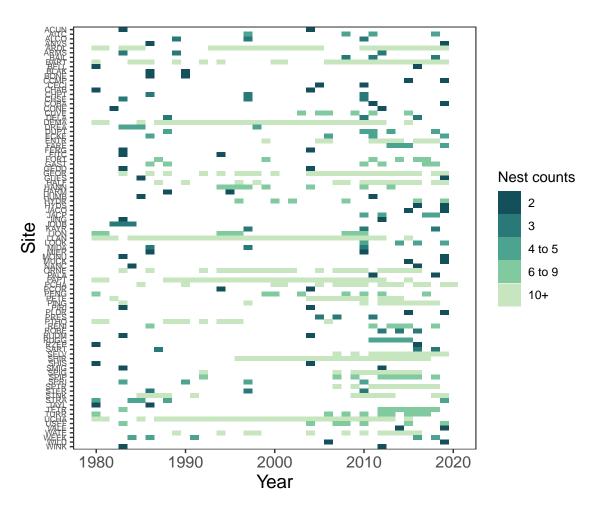
```
# summarizing number of populations and number of counts
countsN <- plyr::ddply(nestM, c("site_id","Lat","Lon"), summarise,</pre>
               ncounts=length(nests),
               minseason=(min(season starting)),
               maxseason=(max(season_starting)),
                interval=(max(season starting)-min(season starting)))
summary(as.factor(countsN$ncounts)) # most populations are only counted once
                            7
                                8
                                    9 10 11 12 15 16 22 23
                                                                   24 28 30 31
            3
## 152
       35 13
                                        5
                                            2
##
  33
##
npops=length(countsN$ncounts[countsN$ncounts>1])
npops # number of populations with more than 2 counts
## [1] 91
nestM2 <- merge(nestM,countsN) # add number of counts for each population to nestM2
# Subset to sites with more than 1 count:
nestm3 = subset(nestM2, ncounts>1)
# Subset to sites with counts at least 10 years apart
# nestm3 = subset(nestm3, nestm3$interval > 9)
nestM3 <- nestm3
countspersite = nestM3 %>%
     group_by(site_id) %>%
      summarise(counts = mean(ncounts))
summary(countspersite$counts)
##
     Min. 1st Qu. Median
                             Mean 3rd Qu.
                                             Max.
     2.000
           2.000
                   3.000
                            6.725
                                    8.000 33.000
##
```

3.2 Data distribution figures

```
samplesize = nestM3 %>% group_by(site_id, ncounts) %>% tally()
length(unique(nestM3$site_id))
```

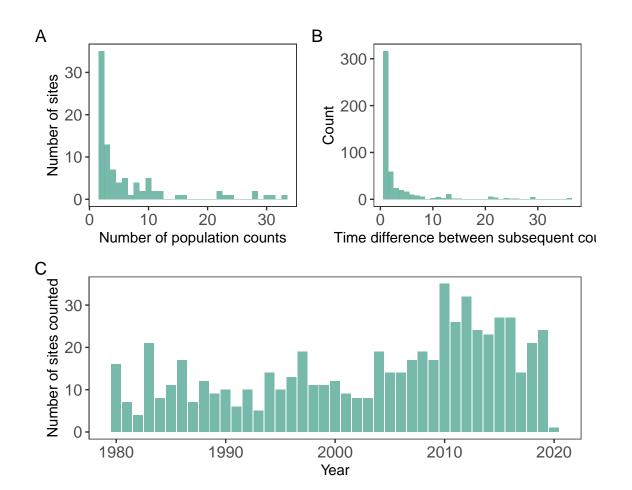
[1] 91

```
samplesize.plot <- samplesize %>%
  ggplot(aes(x=n)) +
  geom_histogram(binwidth=1, fill="#69b3a2", alpha=0.9) +
  theme bw()+
  ylab("Number of sites")+
  xlab("Number of population counts") +
  theme(axis.text=element_text(size=12),
        panel.grid.major = element blank(),
        panel.grid.minor = element_blank())
# samplesize.plot
samplesizeYear = nestM3 %>% group_by(season_starting) %>% tally()
samplesizeYear.plot = samplesizeYear %>%
  ggplot(aes(x=season_starting, y = n)) +
  geom_bar(stat = "identity", fill="#69b3a2", alpha=0.9) +
  theme_bw() +
  ylab("Number of sites counted")+
 xlab("Year") +
  theme(axis.text=element text(size=12),
        panel.grid.major = element_blank(),
       panel.grid.minor = element blank())+
  scale_x_continuous(breaks = seq(1960, 2020, by = 10))
# samplesizeYear.plot
# time between counts per site
diff = nestm3 %>%
  dplyr::arrange(site_id, season_starting) %>%
  dplyr::group_by(site_id) %>%
  dplyr::mutate(time.difference = season_starting - lag(season_starting))
#diff
diff.plot = diff %>%
  ggplot(aes(x=time.difference)) +
  geom_histogram(binwidth=1, fill="#69b3a2", alpha=0.9) +
 theme bw()+
 ylab("Count")+
  xlab("Time difference between subsequent counts") +
  theme(axis.text=element_text(size=12),
       panel.grid.major = element_blank(),
        panel.grid.minor = element blank())+
  scale_x_continuous(breaks = seq(0, 50, by = 10))
# diff.plot
nestm3$countbreaks = cut(nestm3$ncounts, c(0, 2, 3, 5, 9, Inf))
heat = ggplot(nestm3, aes(x = as.numeric(season_starting),
                   y = site_id,
                   fill= cut(ncounts, c(0, 2, 3, 5, 9, Inf),
                             labels = c('2', '3', '4 \text{ to } 5', '6 \text{ to } 9', '10+')))) +
```



```
combinedfig = (samplesize.plot | diff.plot) / samplesizeYear.plot +
  plot_layout(nrow = 2, widths = c(1, 3)) +
  plot_annotation(tag_levels = 'A')

combinedfig
```



4 Fit revised GLMM

rcov=~units,

```
family="poisson", mev=NULL,
data=nestM3,start=NULL, nodes="ALL", scale=TRUE,
nitt=50000, thin=10, burnin=20000, pr=T,
pl=FALSE, verbose=F, DIC=TRUE, singular.ok=FALSE, saveX=TRUE,
prior=prior, saveZ=TRUE, saveXL=TRUE, slice=FALSE,
ginverse=NULL, trunc=FALSE)
```

summary(mc2)

```
##
##
   Iterations = 20001:49991
   Thinning interval = 10
   Sample size = 3000
##
##
## DIC: 5610.681
##
##
   G-structure: ~us(1 + Zseason_starting):site_id
##
##
                                            post.mean 1-95% CI u-95% CI eff.samp
## (Intercept):(Intercept).site_id
                                                                 11.128
                                                                           533.0
                                                8.2880
                                                        5.6874
## Zseason_starting:(Intercept).site_id
                                                1.9550
                                                        1.0842
                                                                  2.977
                                                                           323.2
## (Intercept):Zseason_starting.site_id
                                                1.9550
                                                        1.0842
                                                                  2.977
                                                                           323.2
## Zseason_starting:Zseason_starting.site_id
                                               0.9873
                                                        0.6036
                                                                  1.444
                                                                           337.8
##
##
   R-structure: ~units
##
         post.mean 1-95% CI u-95% CI eff.samp
                              0.137
## units
           0.1153 0.09509
                                        1525
##
  Location effects: nests ~ Zseason_starting * ZLat
##
##
##
                        post.mean 1-95% CI u-95% CI eff.samp pMCMC
## (Intercept)
                          5.148480 4.575457 5.760095
                                                          3000 <3e-04 ***
## Zseason_starting
                        -0.450026 -0.680357 -0.221427
                                                          1445 <3e-04 ***
## ZLat
                          1.561350 1.063017 2.105240
                                                          2518 <3e-04 ***
## Zseason_starting:ZLat -0.187548 -0.391298 -0.001564
                                                          1431 0.0627 .
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
```

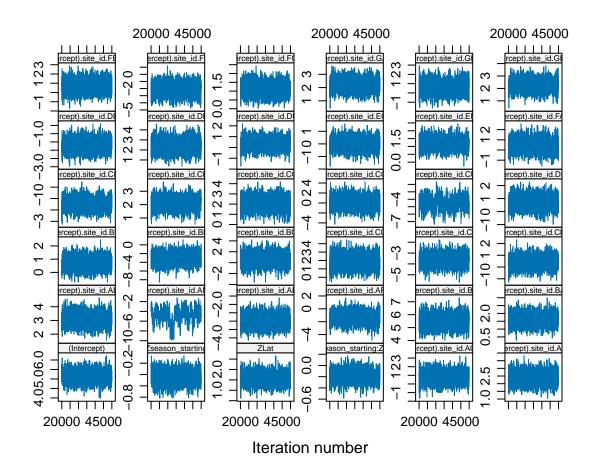
4.1 MCMCglmm diagnostics for mc2

```
# Assessing model convergence. We do this separately for both fixed
# and random effects. The trace plot should look like a fuzzy caterpillar
# effective sample size
coda::effectiveSize(mc2$VCV)
```

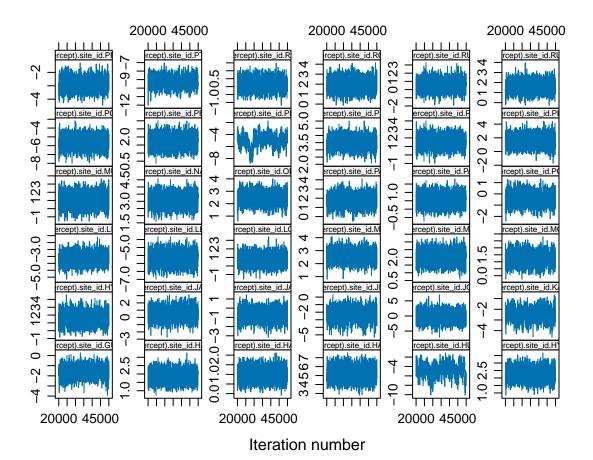
```
## (Intercept):(Intercept).site_id
## 533.0215
## Zseason_starting:(Intercept).site_id
## 323.2184
```

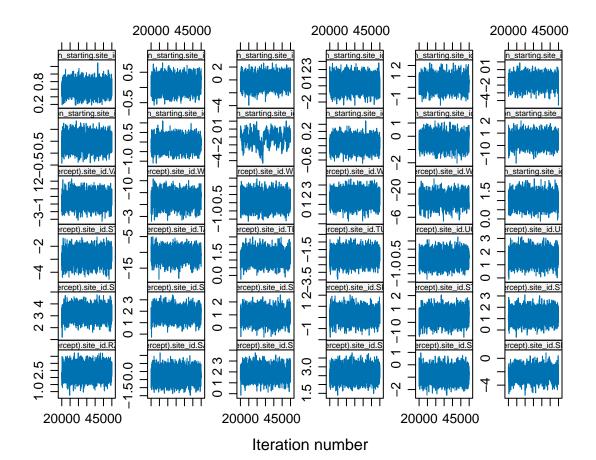
```
## (Intercept):Zseason_starting.site_id
## 323.2184
## Zseason_starting:Zseason_starting.site_id
## 337.8122
## units
## 1525.0693
```

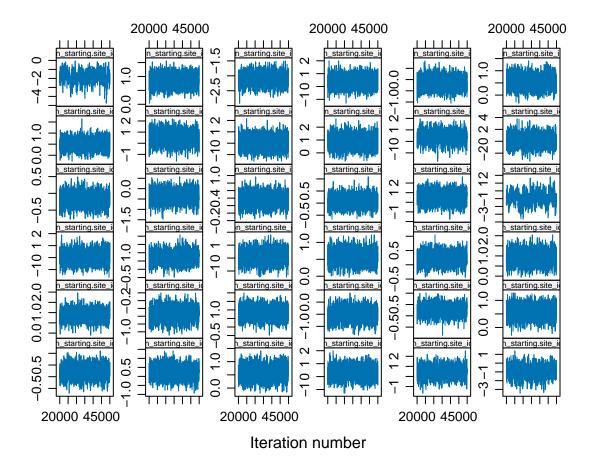
```
# check that the mcmc chain is mixing well - should be "white noise"
lattice::xyplot(as.mcmc(mc2$Sol), layout=c(6,6), par.strip.text=list(cex=0.5))
```

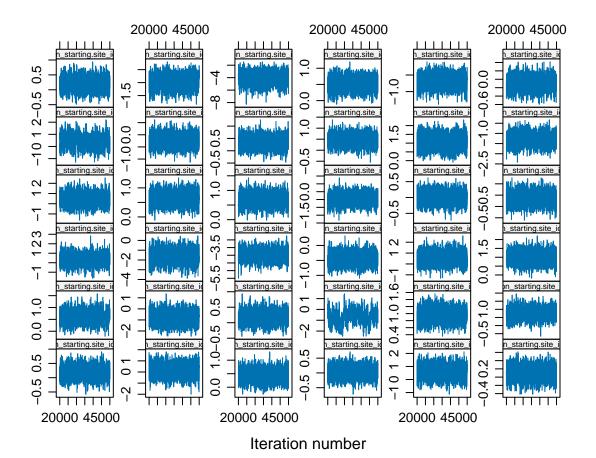


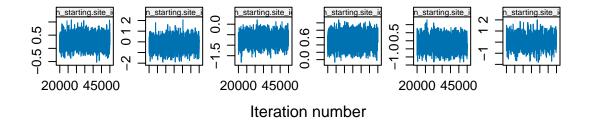
8



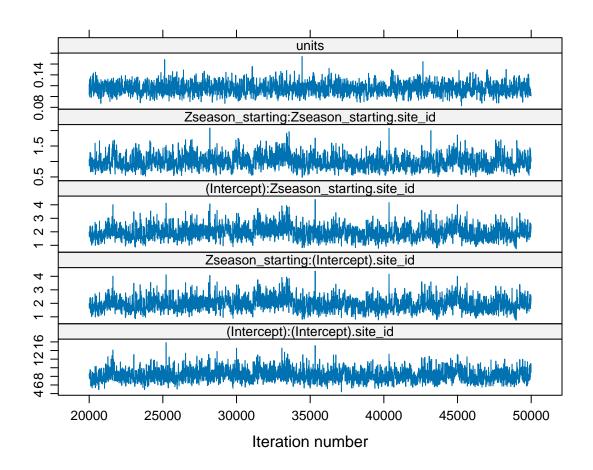








the variance components
lattice::xyplot(as.mcmc(mc2\$VCV), par.strip.text=list(cex=0.8))



```
# from MCMC Course notes (page 60):
diag(autocorr(mc2$VCV)[2, , ])  # low autocorrelation
```

```
(Intercept):(Intercept).site_id
##
##
                                     0.1189048
##
        Zseason_starting:(Intercept).site_id
##
                                     0.2208492
##
        (Intercept): Zseason_starting.site_id
##
                                     0.2208492
##
   Zseason_starting:Zseason_starting.site_id
##
                                     0.2605555
##
                                         units
##
                                     0.2095699
```

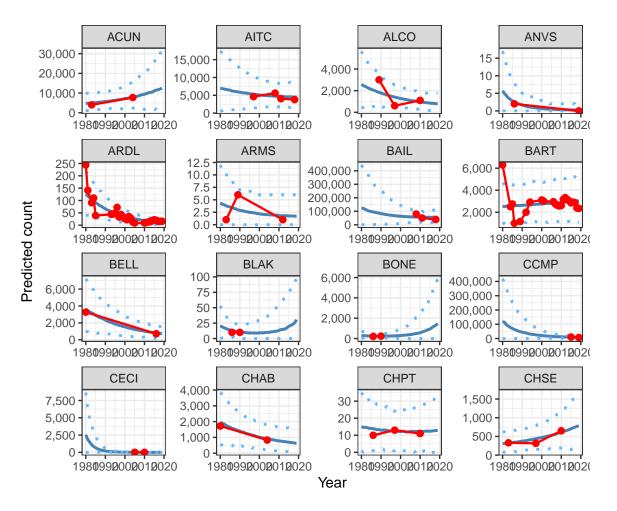
5 Predict counts for every year

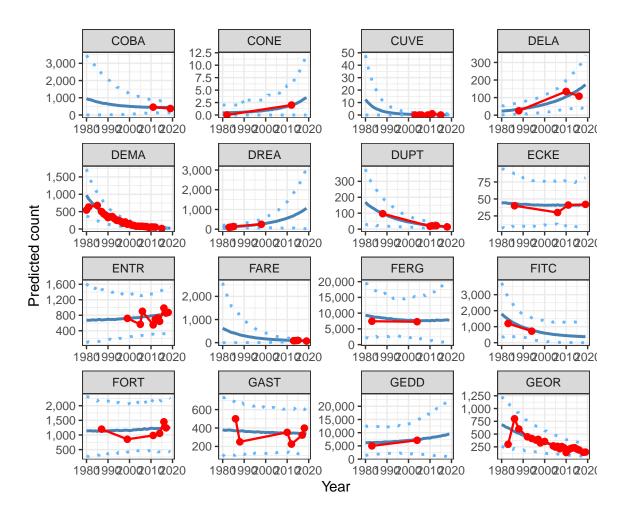
```
# construct dataframe to predict to
# need to predict to z-standardized variables
Z1 = dplyr::select(nestM3, season_starting, Lat)
```

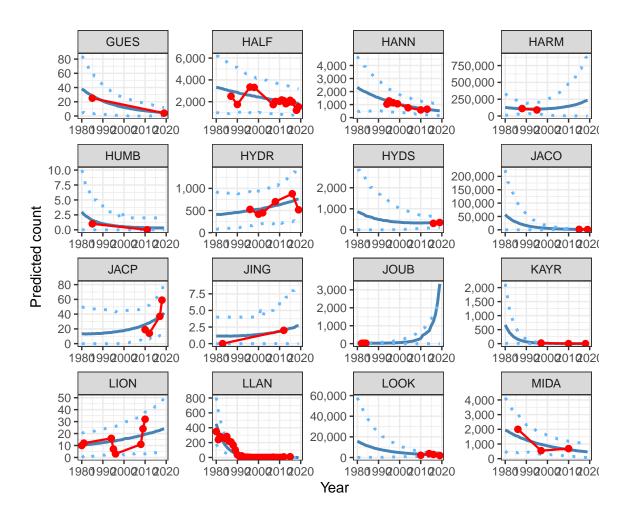
```
Z2 <- scale(Z1)</pre>
attr(Z2, "scaled:center")
## season_starting
                               Lat.
##
        2003.25817
                         -63.15355
attr(Z2, "scaled:scale")
## season starting
                               Lat
##
         11.628821
                          1.291479
ave_ss = attr(Z2, "scaled:center")[[1]]
ave_lat = attr(Z2, "scaled:center")[[2]]
sd_ss = attr(Z2, "scaled:scale")[[1]]
sd_lat = attr(Z2, "scaled:scale")[[2]]
years<-data.frame(season_starting=c(1980:2019)) # extrapolate to 1980</pre>
pops<-data.frame(site_id=countsN\$site_id[countsN\$ncounts>1],
                 Lat=countsN$Lat[countsN$ncounts>1])
popy<-merge(pops,years)</pre>
popy$nests<-c(0) ### MCMCglmm needs a column with the response variable
popy$Zseason_starting = (popy$season_starting - ave_ss)/sd_ss
popy$ZLat = (popy$Lat - ave_lat)/sd_lat
head(popy)
     site_id
                 Lat season_starting nests Zseason_starting
## 1
        ACUN -60.761
                                1980
                                         0
                                                   -2.000045 1.8525633
        AITC -62.407
## 2
                                1980
                                         0
                                                   -2.000045 0.5780551
## 3
        ALCO -64.240
                                1980
                                         0
                                                  -2.000045 -0.8412484
        ANVS -64.661
                                1980
                                         0
                                                  -2.000045 -1.1672314
        ARDL -62.213
## 5
                                1980
                                         0
                                                   -2.000045 0.7282705
## 6
        ARMS -65.884
                                1980
                                                  -2.000045 -2.1142080
# Don't extrapolate more than X years
first_last_season = nestM3 %>%
        dplyr::group_by(site_id) %>%
        dplyr::summarise(minyear = min(season_starting),
                         maxyear = max(season_starting)) %>%
        dplyr::arrange(minyear)
first_last_season
## # A tibble: 91 x 3
      site_id minyear maxyear
##
##
      <chr>
              <int>
                        <int>
                 1980
                         2019
## 1 ARDL
## 2 BART
                1980
                         2019
## 3 BELL
                 1980
                         2016
```

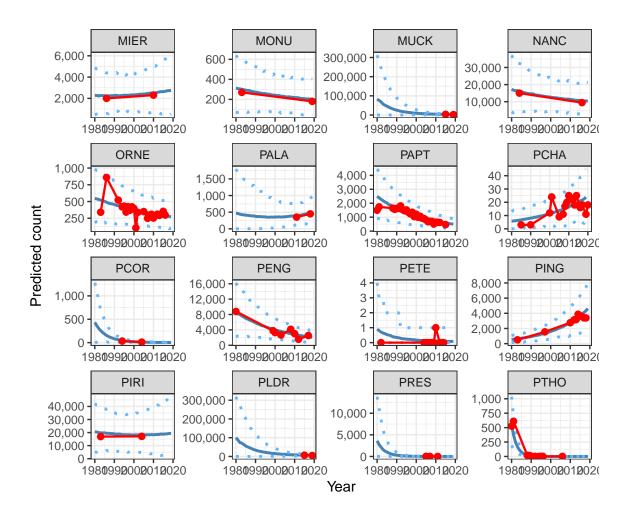
```
## 4 CHAB
                         2004
                 1980
## 5 DEMA
                 1980
                         2015
                         2010
## 6 LION
                 1980
## 7 LLAN
                 1980
                         2015
## 8 PAPT
                 1980
                         2015
## 9 PENG
                 1980
                         2017
## 10 PTHO
                 1980
                         2006
## # i 81 more rows
popy = merge(popy, first_last_season)
length(unique(popy$site_id))
## [1] 91
popypred <- data.frame(predict(mc2,</pre>
                             newdata=popy,
                             type="response",
                                                 # crucial, and not default code.
                             marginal=NULL,
                          # marginal=~us(1 + Zseason_starting):site_id,
                           interval="prediction",
                             posterior="all"))
head(popypred)
##
           fit lwr
                      upr
## 1 4728.206 1099 9828
## 2 5096.327 1532 10310
## 3 5455.859 1786 10579
## 4 5887.719 2095 10997
## 5 6283.527 2123 11570
## 6 12067.976 1054 30207
popy$Zfit = popypred$fit
popy$Zlwr = popypred$lwr
popy$Zupr = popypred$upr
```

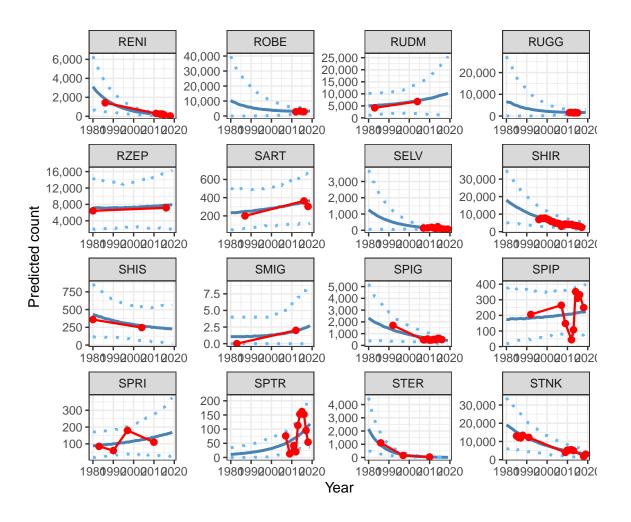
5.1 Conditional model predictions

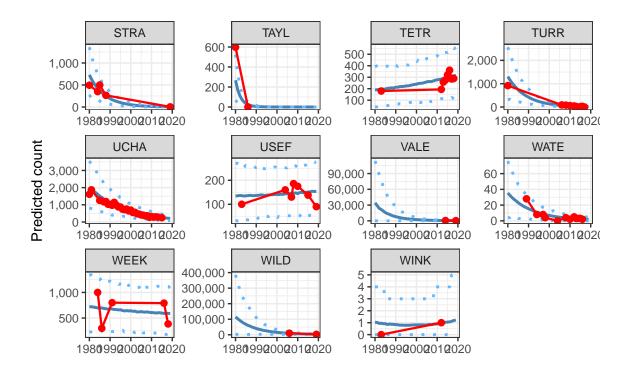








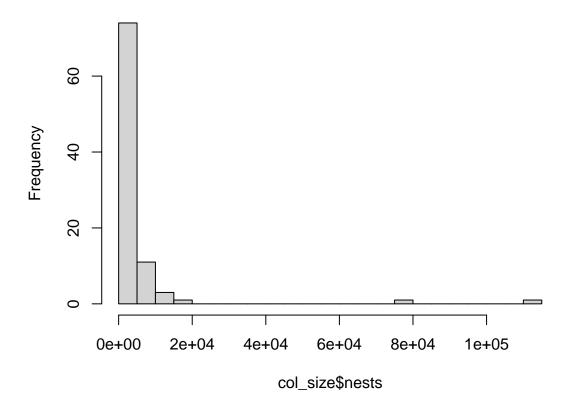




Year

```
# Predictions are generally good
# Look at some sites with temporally sparse data and strong extrapolation
nestM3 %>% dplyr::filter(site_id == "MUCK")
##
     site_id
                 Lat
                        {\tt Lon\ season\_starting\ nests\ ncounts\ minseason\ maxseason}
## 1
        MUCK -61.157 -54.86
                                        2015 3438
                                                          2
                                                                 2015
                                                                            2019
        MUCK -61.157 -54.86
                                        2019 2114
                                                          2
                                                                 2015
                                                                            2019
## 2
     interval Zseason_starting
## 1
            4
                      1.009718 1.545938
            4
## 2
                      1.353691 1.545938
# some unreasonably high values:
col_size = nestM3 %>%
          group_by(site_id) %>%
          slice(which.max(nests))
hist(col_size$nests, breaks = 30)
```

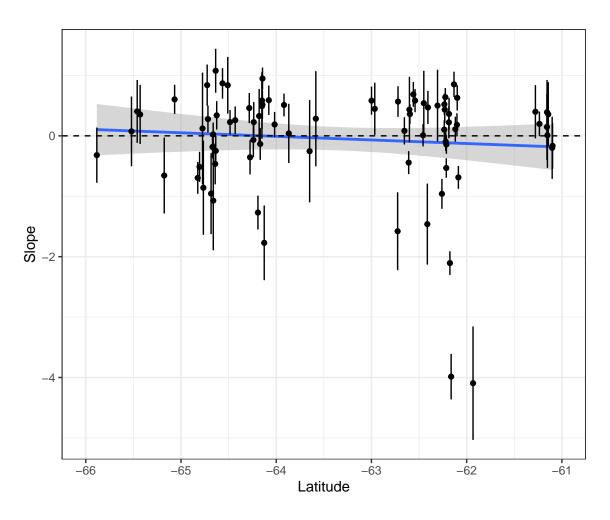
Histogram of col_size\$nests



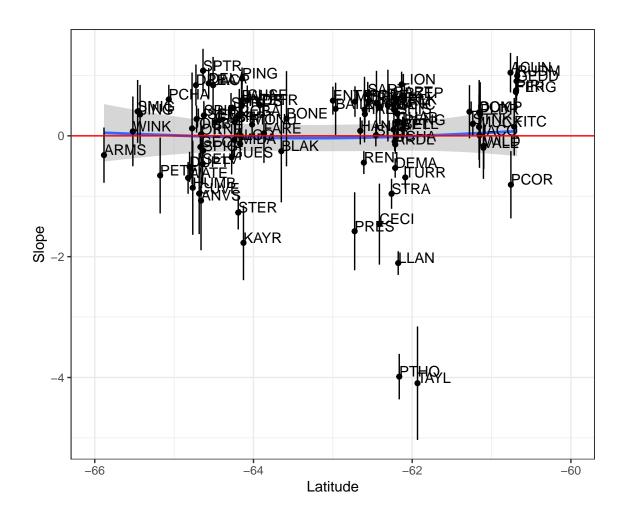
```
# extract random effects from MCMCglmm
{\it \# https://stackoverflow.com/questions/64562052/extract-random-effects-from-mcmcglmm}
re = tidy(mc2, effects="ran_vals")
unique(re$group)
## [1] "site_id"
re = re %>%
    dplyr::select(-group, -effect) %>%
    pivot_wider(names_from = term, values_from = c(estimate, std.error))
head(re)
## # A tibble: 6 x 5
     level 'estimate_(Intercept)' estimate_Zseason_starting 'std.error_(Intercept)'
     <chr>>
                             <dbl>
                                                        <dbl>
                                                                                 <dbl>
                             0.798
## 1 ACUN
                                                       1.05
                                                                                 0.650
## 2 AITC
                             2.37
                                                       0.470
                                                                                 0.394
## 3 ALCO
                                                      -0.0677
                                                                                 0.448
                             3.15
## 4 ANVS
                            -4.59
                                                      -1.07
                                                                                 1.51
## 5 ARDL
                            -2.98
                                                      -0.142
                                                                                 0.369
```

```
## 6 ARMS -1.33 -0.320 0.867
## # i 1 more variable: std.error_Zseason_starting <dbl>
```

```
# estimate_(Intercept) is related to the initial population size
# estimate_Zseason_starting is the slope of population increase (+)
# or decrease (-)
names(re) = c("site_id", "est_int", "estZss",
              "se_int", "seZss")
# add latitude
nestM3_lat = dplyr::select(nestM3, Lat, site_id) %>%
             dplyr::distinct(site_id, Lat)
re = left_join(re, nestM3_lat, by = "site_id")
# plot relationship between slope and latitude
lat_plot = ggplot(data = re, aes(x = Lat, y = estZss))+
  stat_smooth(method="gam",formula=y~s(x,k=2))+
  \# geom\_smooth(method='lm', formula= y~x)+
  geom_point()+
  geom_errorbar(aes(ymin=estZss-seZss,
                    ymax=estZss+seZss))+
  theme_bw()+
  ylab("Slope")+
  scale_x_continuous(lim = c(-66, -61), breaks = seq(-66, -61, by = 1))+
  xlab("Latitude")+
  geom_hline(yintercept=0,
             color = "black", lty = 2)
lat_plot
```



```
## Save Plot
# pdf("./figures/MS_Latitude.pdf",
       useDingbats = FALSE, width = 5, height = 4)
# plot(lat_plot)
# dev.off()
ggplot(data = re, aes(x = Lat, y = estZss, label = site_id))+
  stat_smooth(method="gam",formula=y~s(x,k=2))+
  \# geom\_smooth(method='lm', formula= y~x)+
  geom_point()+
  geom_text(hjust=0, vjust=0) +
  geom_errorbar(aes(ymin=estZss-seZss,
                    ymax=estZss+seZss))+
  theme bw()+
  ylab("Slope")+xlim(-66,-60)+
  xlab("Latitude")+
  geom_hline(yintercept=0,
             color = "red")
```



6 Estimate 30-year population change from entire posterior distribution

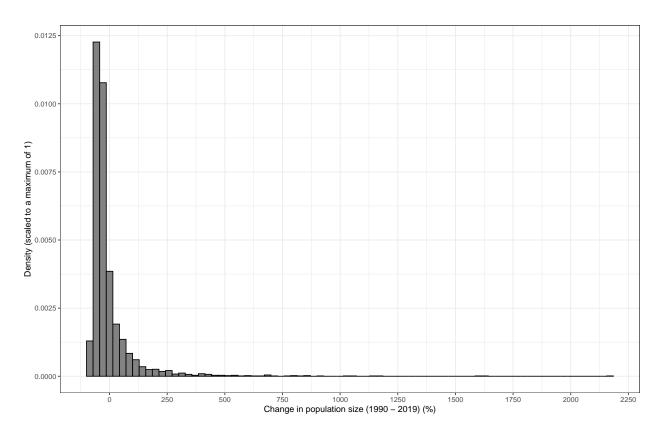
```
# extract posterior draws of fixed effects and random effects
posterior <- as.matrix(mc2$Sol)

# collect site-level information
site_and_lat <- nestM3 %>%
   as_tibble() %>%
   select(site_id, ZLat) %>%
   distinct()
site_and_lat
```

```
## # A tibble: 91 x 2
## site_id ZLat[,1]
## <chr> <dbl>
## 1 ACUN 1.85
## 2 AITC 0.578
```

```
## 3 ALCO
                -0.841
## 4 ANVS
                -1.17
## 5 ARDL
                0.728
## 6 ARMS
                -2.11
## 7 BAIL
                 0.146
## 8 BART
                 0.720
## 9 BELL
                 0.801
## 10 BLAK
                -0.384
## # i 81 more rows
# map years which to predict to (standardised scale)
# Here, the first year is 1990 and the last year is 2020 (30 year change)
year1 = 1990
year2 = 2019
first_year <- (year1 - mean(nestM3\season_starting)) / sd(nestM3\season_starting)
last_year <- (year2 - mean(nestM3$season_starting)) / sd(nestM3$season_starting)</pre>
# define function to predict with or without random effects
get_predictions <- function(posterior,</pre>
                             site_and_lat,
                             first year,
                             last_year,
                             use_random_effects = FALSE) {
  # matrices for predictions at each site in year 1 (1990) and year 2 (2020)
  # each row is a prediction from a different posterior sample, each column is a site
  pred_pop_per_site.first <- matrix(NA, nrow = nrow(posterior), ncol = nrow(site_and_lat))</pre>
  pred_pop_per_site.last <- matrix(NA, nrow = nrow(posterior), ncol = nrow(site_and_lat))</pre>
  for (s in 1:nrow(posterior)) {
    theta <- posterior[s,]</pre>
    for (j in 1:nrow(site_and_lat)) {
      site_id <- site_and_lat$site_id[j]</pre>
      ZLat <- site_and_lat$ZLat[j]</pre>
      # predict pop at site j in first year
      lin_pred <- theta["(Intercept)"] +</pre>
        theta["Zseason_starting"] * first_year +
        theta["ZLat"] * ZLat +
        theta["Zseason_starting:ZLat"] * first_year * ZLat
      if (use_random_effects) {
        lin_pred <- lin_pred +</pre>
          theta[ str_c("(Intercept).site_id.",site_id) ] +
          theta[ str_c("Zseason_starting.site_id.",site_id) ] * first_year
      pred_pop_per_site.first[s,j] <- exp( lin_pred )</pre>
      # predict pop at site j in last year
      lin_pred <- theta["(Intercept)"] +</pre>
        theta["Zseason_starting"] * last_year +
        theta["ZLat"] * ZLat +
        theta["Zseason_starting:ZLat"] * last_year * ZLat
```

```
if (use_random_effects) {
        lin_pred <- lin_pred +</pre>
          theta[ str_c("(Intercept).site_id.",site_id) ] +
          theta[ str_c("Zseason_starting.site_id.",site_id) ] * last_year
      pred_pop_per_site.last[s,j] <- exp( lin_pred )</pre>
    }
  }
  # sum over sites for population level predictions
  pred_pop.first <- rowSums(pred_pop_per_site.first)</pre>
  pred_pop.last <- rowSums(pred_pop_per_site.last)</pre>
  # percent change from year1 to year2
  pred_pop_change <- 100 * ( pred_pop.last - pred_pop.first ) / pred_pop.first</pre>
  # outputs
  predictions <- list(pop_per_site.first = pred_pop_per_site.first,</pre>
                       pop_per_site.last = pred_pop_per_site.last,
                       pop.first = pred_pop.first,
                       pop.last = pred_pop.last,
                       pop_change = pred_pop_change)
 predictions
}
# Make predictions with and without random effects
pred_re <- get_predictions(posterior, site_and_lat, first_year, last_year,</pre>
                            use_random_effects = TRUE)
# Plot histogram of population change using random effects in prediction:
hist_growth =
  ggplot(data = data.frame(pred_re$pop_change), aes(x = pred_re.pop_change,
                                                       after_stat(density)))+
  geom_histogram(bins = 80, colour = "black", fill = "grey51")+
  theme_bw()+
  scale_x_continuous(n.breaks = 10)+
  labs(y= "Density (scaled to a maximum of 1)",
       x = "Change in population size (1990 - 2019) (%)")
hist_growth
```



```
# can calculate the probability that the population has decreased by
# at least thirty percent with
sum(pred_re$pop_change < -30)/2000 # McElreath Chapter 3</pre>
```

[1] 0.8495

```
mean(pred_re$pop_change < -30)</pre>
```

[1] 0.5663333

```
mean(pred_re$pop_change < 0)</pre>
```

[1] 0.761

```
quantile(pred_re$pop_change,c(0.05,0.95))
```

```
## 5% 95%
## -69.26077 162.44233
```

```
length(unique(nestm3$site_id))
```

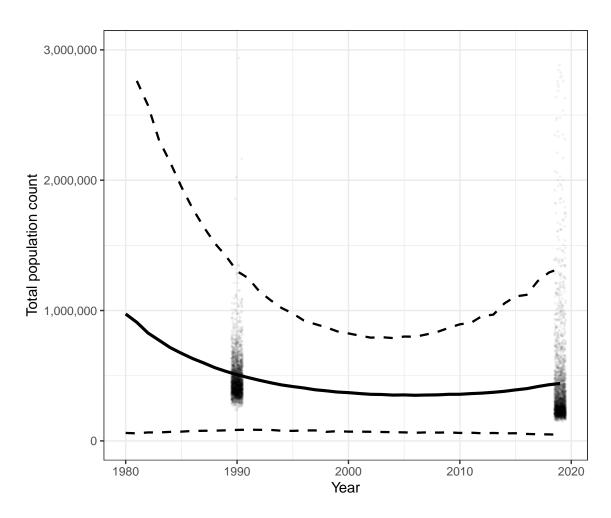
[1] 91

```
# estimated population size in year1 (with random effects)
pred_first = as.data.frame(pred_re$pop.first)
names(pred_first) = "pred_first"

# estimated population size in year2 (with random effects)
pred_last = as.data.frame(pred_re$pop.last)
names(pred_last) = "pred_last"
```

6.1 Plot overall population trend

```
# How many penguins were there, per year, across all sites?
# We don't know, as we only have intermittent counts.
pop_predict = popy %>%
            dplyr::filter(site_id != "HARM") %>%
              dplyr::group by(season starting) %>%
              dplyr::summarise(total_pred = sum(Zfit),
                       min_pred = sum(Zlwr),
                       max_pred = sum(Zupr))
pop_predict.p = ggplot(data = pop_predict) +
geom_line(aes(x = season_starting, y = total_pred),
           lty = 1, linewidth = 1.1)+
  geom_line(aes(x = season_starting, y = min_pred), lty = 2, linewidth = 0.8)+
  geom_line(aes(x = season_starting, y = max_pred), lty = 2, linewidth = 0.8)+
 labs(x = "Year", y = "Total population count") +
 theme bw()+
  scale_y_continuous(label = comma)
#pop_predict.p
pop_predict.p = pop_predict.p +
  geom_jitter(data = pred_first, aes(x = year1, y = pred_first),
             col = "black", size = 1, height = 0, width = 0.5,
              alpha = 0.05, stroke = NA) +
  geom_jitter(data = pred_last, aes(x = year2, y = pred_last),
             col = "black", size = 1, height = 0, width = 0.5,
              alpha = 0.05, stroke = NA) +
   scale_y_continuous(lim = c(0, 3000000), labels = scales::comma)
## Scale for y is already present.
## Adding another scale for y, which will replace the existing scale.
pop_predict.p
## Warning: Removed 1 row containing missing values ('geom_line()').
## Warning: Removed 1 rows containing missing values ('geom_point()').
## Warning: Removed 19 rows containing missing values ('geom_point()').
```



```
## Save Plot
# pdf("./figures/MS_Population_change.pdf",
# useDingbats = FALSE, width = 10, height = 4)
# cowplot::plot_grid(pop_predict.p, hist_growth, labels = c('A', 'B'), ncol = 2, label_size = 12)
# dev.off()
```