

# Théo Michelot

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## EDUCATION

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- PhD in Statistics** 2016-2019  
University of Sheffield, UK  
*Stochastic models of animal movement and habitat selection*
- MSc in Mathematical and Software Engineering** 2010-2015  
INSA de Rouen, France

## EMPLOYMENT

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- Assistant professor in Statistics** Since August 2022  
Dalhousie University, Halifax, Canada
- Lecturer in Statistics** January-July 2022  
University of St Andrews, UK
- Postdoctoral research fellow** 2019-2021  
University of St Andrews, UK  
*Development of flexible continuous-time stochastic processes with applications in ecology*

## OTHER RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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- Research placement** July-December 2015  
University of St Andrews, UK  
*Development of an R package for the analysis of ecological data with hidden Markov models*
- Research placement** June-September 2013  
University of St Andrews, UK  
*Analysis of ecological and financial data with hidden Markov models*

## PUBLICATIONS

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19. Glennie, R., Adam, T., Leos-Barajas, V., **Michelot, T.**, Photopoulou, T., & McClintock, B.T. (in press). Hidden Markov models: pitfalls and opportunities in ecology. *Methods in Ecology and Evolution*. DOI: 10.1111/2041-210X.13801.
18. Klappstein, N.J., Potts, J.R., **Michelot, T.**, Pilfold, N.W., Börger, L., Lewis, M.A., Derocher, A.E. (2022) Energy-based step selection analysis: modelling the energetic drivers of animal movement and habitat use. *Journal of Animal Ecology*, 91 (5), pp. 946–957.
17. **Michelot, T.**, Glennie, R., Harris, C., Thomas, L. (2021). Varying-coefficient stochastic differential equations with applications in ecology. *Journal of Agricultural, Biological and Environmental Statistics*, 26 (3), pp. 446-463.  
**Best 2020 paper in JABES.**
16. Connors, M., **Michelot, T.**, Heywood, E., Orben, R.A., Phillips, R., Vyssotski, A., Shaffer, S.A., Thorne, L. (2021). Hidden Markov models reveal major animal movement modes from multi-sensor tags: a case study of four albatross species. *Movement Ecology*, 9 (7), DOI: 10.1186/s40462-021-00243-z.

15. Runde, B.J., **Michélot, T.**, Bacheler, N.M., Shertzer, K.W. and Buckel, J.A. (2020). Assigning fates in telemetry studies using hidden Markov models: an application to deepwater groupers released with descender devices. *North American Journal of Fisheries Management*, 40, pp. 1417–1434.
14. **Michélot, T.**, Blackwell, P.G., Chamaillé-Jammes, S., Matthiopoulos, J. (2020). Inference in MCMC step selection models. *Biometrics*, 76, pp. 438–447.  
**Selected for Young Biometrician Award 2021 (honourable mention).**
13. Farhadinia, M.S., **Michélot, T.**, Johnson, P.J., Hunter, L.T.B., MacDonald, D.W. (2020). Understanding decision making in a food-caching predator using hidden Markov models. *Movement Ecology*, 8 (9), DOI: 10.1186/s40462-020-0195-z.
12. Spangenberg, M., Serrouya, R., Dickie, M., DeMars, C., **Michélot, T.**, Boutin, S., Wittmann, M.J. (2019). Slowing down wolves to protect boreal caribou populations: a spatial simulation model of linear feature restoration. *Ecosphere*, 10 (10), DOI: 10.1002/ecs2.2904.
11. **Michélot, T.**, Gloaguen, P., Blackwell, P.G., Étienne, M.P. (2019). The Langevin diffusion as a continuous-time model of animal movement and habitat selection. *Methods in Ecology and Evolution*, 10 (11), pp. 1894–1907.
10. Bacheler, N. M., **Michélot, T.**, Cheshire, R. T., Shertzer, K. W. (2019). Fine-scale movement patterns and behavioral states of gray triggerfish *Balistes capriscus* determined from acoustic telemetry and hidden Markov models. *Fisheries Research*, 215, pp. 76–89.
9. **Michélot, T.**, Blackwell, P.G. (2019). State-switching continuous-time correlated random walks. *Methods in Ecology and Evolution*, 10 (5), pp. 637–649.
8. **Michélot, T.**, Blackwell, P.G., Matthiopoulos, J. (2019). Linking resource selection and step selection models for habitat preferences in animals. *Ecology*, 100 (1), DOI: 10.1002/ecy.2452.
7. Grecian, W.J., Lane, J., **Michélot, T.**, Wade, H., Hamer, K.C. (2018). Understanding the ontogeny of foraging behaviour: insights from combining marine predator bio-logging with satellite-derived oceanography in hidden Markov models. *Journal of the Royal Society Interface*, 15 (143), DOI: 10.1098/rsif.2018.0084.
6. McClintock, B., **Michélot, T.** (2018). momentuHMM: R package for generalized hidden Markov models of animal movement. *Methods in Ecology and Evolution*, 9 (6), pp. 1518–1530.
5. **Michélot, T.**, Langrock, R., Bestley, S., Jonsen, I.D., Photopoulou, T., Patterson, T.A. (2017). Estimation and simulation of foraging trips in land-based marine predators. *Ecology*. 98 (7), pp. 1932–1944.
4. Langrock, R., Kneib, T., Glennie, R., **Michélot, T.** (2017). Markov-switching generalized additive models. *Statistics and Computing*. 27 (1), pp. 259–270.
3. **Michélot, T.**, Langrock, R., Patterson, T.A. (2016). moveHMM: An R package for analysing animal movement data using hidden Markov models. *Methods in Ecology and Evolution*, 7 (11), pp. 1308–1315.
2. **Michélot, T.**, Langrock, R., Kneib, T., King, R. (2016). Maximum penalized likelihood estimation in semiparametric capture-recapture models. *Biometrical Journal*, 58, pp. 223–239.
1. Langrock, R., **Michélot, T.**, Sohn, A., Kneib, T. (2015). Semiparametric stochastic volatility modelling using penalized splines. *Computational Statistics*, 30, pp. 517–537.

## PREPRINTS

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**Michelot, T.** (2022). hmmTMB: hidden Markov models with flexible covariate effects in R. *arXiv preprint*. arXiv:2211.14139.

**Michelot, T.**, Glennie, R., Quick, N., Thomas, L., Harris, C.M. Continuous-time modelling of behavioural responses in animal movement. *arXiv preprint*. arXiv:2212.09574.

Klappstein, N.J., Thomas, L., **Michelot, T.** Flexible hidden Markov models for behaviour-dependent habitat selection. *bioRxiv preprint*. DOI: 10.1101/2022.11.30.518554.

## IN PREPARATION

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Invernizzi, E., **Michelot, T.**, Ng, N., Macqueen, E., Rouviere, A. and Sasaki, T. Using hidden Markov models to study ant collective behaviour: self-organised building activity regulated through a feedback loop.

Chance, A.M., Demarais, S., Strickland, B.K., Street, G.M., McKinley, W., **Michelot, T.** Mortality or mating: what drives male white-tailed deer movements during breeding season?

## SOFTWARE

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I have developed several software packages for the R programming language, including:

- **moveHMM**: Analysis of animal movement data with hidden Markov models. Available on CRAN: [cran.r-project.org/package=moveHMM](https://cran.r-project.org/package=moveHMM). Lead developer and maintainer.
- **momentuHMM**: Analysis of multivariate ecological data with hidden Markov models (extension of moveHMM). Available on CRAN: [cran.r-project.org/package=momentuHMM](https://cran.r-project.org/package=momentuHMM). Co-developer.
- **hmmTMB**: Hidden Markov models with non-parametric and random effects. Available on Github: [github.com/TheoMichelot/hmmTMB](https://github.com/TheoMichelot/hmmTMB). Lead developer and maintainer.
- **smoothSDE**: Varying-coefficient stochastic differential equations. Available on Github: [github.com/TheoMichelot/smoothSDE](https://github.com/TheoMichelot/smoothSDE). Lead developer and maintainer.

## BOOK CHAPTERS

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Antinori P., **Michelot T.**, Lescuyer P., Müller M., Acosta-Martin A.E. (2019)  
Detection of unknown chemical adduct modifications on proteins: from wet to dry laboratory  
In: Evans C., Wright P., Noirel J. (eds), Mass Spectrometry of Proteins  
*Methods in Molecular Biology*, vol 1977. Humana Press, New York, NY.

## TEACHING

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### Lead instructor

- MT5758 Multivariate Analysis, University of St Andrews *Spring 2022*

### Guest lecturer

- MT4113 Computing in Statistics, University of St Andrews *Fall 2019*
- Ecological Modelling, University of Lisbon *Fall 2019*

### Teaching training

Academic Staff Development Programme, University of St Andrews

- Assessment and feedback (half-day workshop)
- Effective lecturing (half-day workshop)

*Fall 2019*

## Workshop lecturer and demonstrator

*Hidden Markov models for animal movement and other ecological data*

- One-day workshop in Cape Town, South Africa. *June 2022*
- Two-day workshop in St Andrews, UK. *August 2017*
- Three-day workshop in Mossel Bay, South Africa. *March 2016*

## Tutorial demonstrator and marker

*2016-2018*

University of Sheffield

- MAS113 Introduction to Probability and Statistics (first year)
- MAS275 Probability Modelling (second year)
- MAS223 Statistical Inference and Modelling (second year)
- MAS6002 Statistical Laboratory (MSc)

## STUDENT SUPERVISION

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### MSc dissertations

Emma Storey (U. of St Andrews)

*May-August 2022*

Topic: *Scale dependence in hidden Markov models of animal movement*

Tom Morgan (U. of St Andrews)

*May-August 2022*

Topic: *Modelling the effect of financial market on bitcoin volatility*

### MSc research placements

Carlina Feldmann (U. of St Andrews, with Theoni Photopoulou)

*October-November 2019*

Topic: *Spatially-explicit models of animal movement for acoustic detection data*

Hugo Hervé (U. of St Andrews, with Len Thomas and Richard Glennie)

*June-August 2019*

Topic: *Simulation study of multiple imputation techniques for the application of hidden Markov models to irregular and noisy telemetry data*

### Honours projects

Mairi McHale (U. of St Andrews, with David Borchers)

*2019-2020*

Topic: *Analysis of snow leopard movement data using hidden Markov models*

### Student examination

Bantu Halam (U. of Cape Town, Department of Statistical Sciences)

*September 2019*

External examiner for MSc thesis: *Mining a large shopping database to predict where, when, and what consumers will buy next*

## AWARDS

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### Best 2020 paper in JABES

For “*Varying-coefficient stochastic differential equations with applications in ecology*” (Michelot et al., 2021)

### Young Biometrician Award – honourable mention

*2021*

For “*Inference in MCMC step selection models*” (Michelot et al., 2020)

International Biometric Society (British and Irish Region) and Fisher Memorial Trust

### Best student talk award

*2016*

International Statistical Ecology Conference

## PRESENTATIONS

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*Varying-coefficient stochastic differential equations*

Invited talk at the Joint Statistical Meeting, online. August 2022.

Invited talk at the JABES showcase of the International Biometric Conference, online. October 2022.

*Detecting behavioural responses from movement data using stochastic differential equations*

Talk at the International Statistical Ecology Conference, online. June 2022.

*Multiscale models of animal movement and space use*

Seminar at Dalhousie University, Halifax, Canada. February 2022.

*Introduction to analysing animal movement data in R*

Webinar of Ecological Forecasting Initiative & Ecological Society of America. February 2022.

Recording available online.

*hmmTMB: hidden Markov models with non-parametric and random effects*

Talk at the meeting of the National Centre for Statistical Ecology, online. June 2021.

*Time-varying diffusion processes in movement ecology*

Talk at the virtual International Statistical Ecology Conference, online. June 2020.

*Linking scales of animal movement using statistical samplers*

Invited seminar at the University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada. March 2020.

*Behavioural response studies of beaked whales using accelerometer data and diffusion models*

Talk at the British Ecological Society conference, Belfast, UK. December 2019.

*Spline-based diffusion models and application to accelerometer data*

Invited seminar at the University of Glasgow, UK. November 2019.

Seminar at the University of St Andrews, UK. November 2019.

*Hidden Markov models of animal movement and behaviour*

Invited seminar at the University of Lisbon, Portugal. November 2019.

Invited talk at the congress of Soc. Portuguesa de Estatística, Amarante, Portugal. November 2019.

*Modelling animal movement and habitat selection across scales*

Invited talk at the annual meeting of the BES movement ecology group, Sheffield, UK. July 2019.

*The Langevin diffusion as a model of animal movement and habitat selection*

Talk at the meeting of the National Centre for Statistical Ecology, Edinburgh, UK. June 2019.

*Modelling animal movement and habitat selection across scales*

Invited seminar at the School of Biosciences of the University of Cardiff, UK. March 2019.

*Analysing telemetry data with hidden Markov models*

Invited seminar at the Duke University Marine Lab, Beaufort, USA. March 2019.

*Do animals move like statistical samplers?*

Talk at the Research Students' Conference in Statistics and Probability, Sheffield, UK. July 2018.

*Markov chain Monte Carlo as a model of animal movement and space use*

Talk at the International Statistical Ecology Conference, St Andrews, UK. July 2018.

*moveHMM and momentuHMM – Analysing animal movement in R*

Invited tutorial at the moving2gather meeting, Montpellier, France. December 2017.

*Can animals do MCMC? Linking resource selection and step selection models*

Poster at the Bio-logging symposium, Konstanz, Germany. September 2017.

*From movement to space use*

Flash talk at the BES movement ecology group meeting, London, UK. July 2017.

*momentuHMM: an R package for the analysis of general telemetry data using hidden Markov models*

Talk at the EURING meeting, Barcelona, Spain. July 2017.

*Can animals do MCMC? Integrating resource selection and step selection*

Talk at the meeting of the National Centre for Statistical Ecology, Canterbury, UK. June 2017.

*Analysing animal movement data with moveHMM – Conservation action plan for the wild haggis*

Talk at the International Statistical Ecology Conference, Seattle, USA. June 2016.

### **Best student talk award**

*Multistate Ornstein-Uhlenbeck processes for modelling animal movement*

Talk at the Research Students' Conference in Probability and Statistics, Dublin, Ireland. June 2016.

*moveHMM: an R package for modelling animal movement with hidden Markov models*

Seminar at the Australian Antarctic Division, Hobart, Australia. June 2016.

Seminar at the Sea Mammal Research Unit, St Andrews, UK. November 2015.

*A statistical introduction to animal movement modelling*

Talk at the German Statistical Week, Hamburg, Germany. September 2015.

## **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

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### **Associate Editor**

*Since 2021*

*Journal of Statistical Theory and Practice*

### **Reviewer**

*Advances in Statistical Analysis* (2020), *Animals* (2019), *Ecography* (2018), *Ecological Applications* (2017), *Ecological Monographs* (2019), *Ecology and Evolution* (2016, 2017), *Ecology Letters* (2019), *Emu - Austral Ornithology* (2018), *Fish and Fisheries* (2021), *Journal of Agricultural, Biological, and Ecological Statistics* (2017, 2018), *Journal of Animal Ecology* (2019, 2022), *Journal of Mammalogy* (2018), *Journal of Statistical Theory and Practice* (2022), *Journal of Zoology* (2019), *Marine Ecology Progress Series* (2022), *Methods in Ecology and Evolution* (2016, 2017×3, 2018, 2021, 2022), *Movement Ecology* (2016×3, 2019, 2020×3, 2022×2), *Nature Ecology & Evolution* (2020), *Oikos* (2022), *Plos One* (2018), *Scientific Reports* (2018, 2019), *Sensors* (2021).

### **Early career researcher representative**

*Since 2019*

Executive committee of the National Centre for Statistical Ecology, UK

### **Seminar organiser**

*Since 2021*

National Centre for Statistical Ecology seminar series

## **OTHER SKILLS**

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### **Programming**

R (including Repp, Stan, TMB), C++, Python

### **Tools**

git, Latex, R development tools (devtools, unit testing, profiling, documentation)

### **Languages**

French, English