

# Supporting Information for A latent capture history model for digital aerial surveys

by

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## 1. Web Appendix A: Derivation of $f_T(t)$

Define the time and forward coordinate at which observer 1 passes over an animal to be 0. The animal's forward coordinate at time  $t$  is  $\sigma W_t$ , where  $W_t$  is a one-dimensional Brownian motion. The forward coordinate of observer 2 at time  $t$  is  $-vl + vt$ . The time at which observer 2 passes over the animal is therefore the minimum  $t$  such that

$$-vl + vt = \sigma W_t \Rightarrow \frac{vt}{\sigma} - W_t = \frac{vl}{\sigma}. \quad (1)$$

The passage time for observer 2 is therefore  $T = \inf\{t : vt/\sigma + B_t = vl/\sigma\}$ , where  $B_t = -W_t$  is also a Brownian motion. Now if a particle follows Brownian motion with drift parameter  $c$ , such that its location at time  $t$  is  $X_t = ct + B_t$ , then the random variable  $T = \inf\{t : X_t = a\}$  is the first passage time to location  $a$ , and has probability density function  $f_T(t) = a \exp\left\{\frac{-(a-ct)^2}{2t}\right\}/(\sqrt{2\pi t^3})$ . Substituting  $c = v/\sigma$  and  $a = vl/\sigma$ , we obtain the probability density of the time  $T$  at which observer 2 passes over the animal as Eqn (??).

## 2. Web Appendix B: Constraint programming for enumerating all $\omega^{(m)}$

For efficient enumeration of the possible pairings within one segment, we define a simple constraint satisfaction problem (CSP) (Russell and Norvig, 2010, Chapter 6). A CSP is a triple  $\mathcal{P} = \langle \mathcal{X}, \mathcal{D}, \mathcal{C} \rangle$ . The CSP  $\mathcal{P}$  has a set of decision variables  $\mathcal{X}$ , each of which has a set of possible values that it may take, called its *domain*, where  $\mathcal{D}(x)$  is the domain of  $x \in \mathcal{X}$ . In addition there is a set of constraints  $\mathcal{C}$  that restrict the combinations of values that may be taken by the variables. A constraint  $c \in \mathcal{C}$  is a relation defined on a set of variables:

$\text{scope}(c) \subseteq \mathcal{X}$ . A *solution* is an assignment of values to variables such that each variable is assigned a value from its domain, and all constraints are satisfied.

We define a CSP for a segment as follows. Two detections by different observers may be paired if and only if the distance between them is less than or equal to  $d_{max}$ . For each set  $\{i, j\}$  of two observations that may be paired, we define one decision variable  $x_{i,j}$  with domain  $\{0, 1\}$ . Variable  $x_{i,j}$  is equal to 1 in a solution if and only if the two observations are paired.  $\mathcal{X}$  is the set of all such decision variables  $x_{i,j}$ .  $\mathcal{D}$  is the function  $\{(x_{i,j}, \{0, 1\}) \mid x_{i,j} \in \mathcal{X}\}$ .

Suppose we have two distinct sets,  $s_1 = \{i, j\}$  and  $s_2 = \{k, l\}$ , where  $i$  may be paired with  $j$ , and  $k$  may be paired with  $l$ , but the two sets are not disjoint: in other words  $s_1 \cap s_2 \neq \emptyset$ . In all such cases we add the constraint  $c_{s_1, s_2} = (x_{i,j} = 0 \vee x_{k,l} = 0)$  to prevent such pairing. The set  $\mathcal{C}$  contains all such  $c_{s_1, s_2}$  and no other constraints. All components of the CSP  $\mathcal{P} = \langle \mathcal{X}, \mathcal{D}, \mathcal{C} \rangle$  have now been defined.

We use a backtracking search procedure with forward checking (Russell and Norvig, 2010, Chapter 6) to enumerate all solutions to the CSP. The set of solutions to the CSP corresponds one-to-one to the set of valid pairings within the segment. When a solution is found, the part of the likelihood pertaining to that pairing is calculated, avoiding the need to store the set of pairings and allowing efficient calculation of  $\sum_{m_r=1}^{M_r} \mathcal{L}(\boldsymbol{\theta}; \mathbf{s}^{(m_r)}, \boldsymbol{\omega}^{(m_r)}, \mathbf{t}^{(m_r)})$ .

### 3. Web Appendix C: The relationship between $\sigma_{palm}$ , $\sigma$ and mean animal speed

The  $\sigma$  of Stevenson et al. (2019), which we call  $\sigma_{palm}$  here, is based on the displacement of animals from the midpoint of their two locations after time  $l$  has elapsed, which is normally distributed with mean zero and variance equal to  $\sigma_{palm}^2$ . If we let the signed distance between the first and second location be  $Y$ , then  $Y/2 \sim N(0, \sigma_{palm}^2)$  and hence  $\sqrt{\{Y/(2\sigma_{palm})\}^2} = |Y|/(2\sigma_{palm}) \sim \chi(1)$ . Using the fact that the expected value of a  $\chi(1)$  random variable is  $\sqrt{2}/\Gamma(0.5)$ , we have that  $E\{|Y|/(2\sigma_{palm})\} = \sqrt{2}/\Gamma(0.5)$ , and hence  $2\sigma_{palm} = E(|Y|)\Gamma(0.5)/\sqrt{2}$ . The distance  $Y$  between the initial location and the location after

$l$  seconds, of an animal following Brownian motion with rate parameter  $\sigma$ , has distribution  $Y \sim N(0, \sigma^2 l)$ , so that  $E\{|Y|/(\sigma\sqrt{l})\} = \sqrt{2}/\Gamma(0.5)$  and  $\sigma\sqrt{l} = E(|Y|)\Gamma(0.5)/\sqrt{2}$ , and hence  $\sigma = 2\sigma_{palm}/\sqrt{l}$ . As the average speed of an animal over a period of  $l$  seconds is  $E(|Y|)/l$ , the average speed over  $l$  seconds of an animal following Brownian motion with rate parameter  $\sigma$  can be written as  $\sigma\sqrt{2}/\{\Gamma(0.5)\sqrt{l}\}$ .

#### 4. Web Appendix C: Code to reproduce results of the paper

Source code for an R package called `LCE_paper` to fit LCE models, and code to fit to the porpoise data and to conduct the simulations described in the paper, is available here: [https://github.com/david-borchers/LCE\\_paper](https://github.com/david-borchers/LCE_paper). The package and code is also available at the Biometrics website on Wiley Online Library.

#### References

- Russell, S. and Norvig, P. (2010). *Artificial Intelligence: A Modern Approach, 3rd Edition*. Pearson.
- Stevenson, B. C., Borchers, D. L., and Fewster, R. M. (2019). Cluster capture-recapture to account for identification uncertainty on aerial surveys of animal populations. *Biometrics* **75**, 326–336.