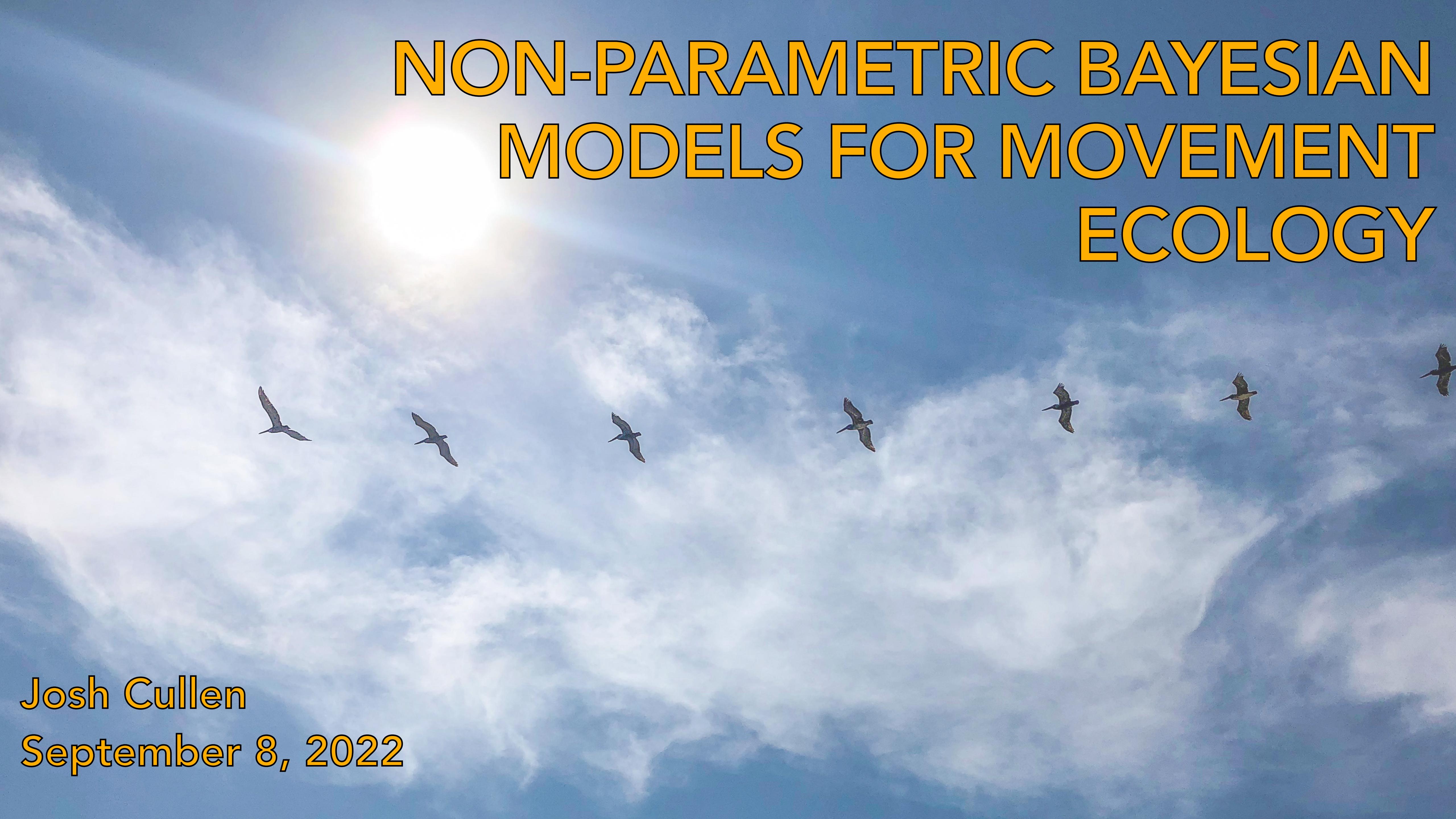


# NON-PARAMETRIC BAYESIAN MODELS FOR MOVEMENT ECOLOGY

A photograph of a large flock of birds, likely pelicans, flying in a vast, cloudy blue sky. The birds are scattered across the frame, some in the foreground and others further back, all captured in flight against a backdrop of white and grey clouds.

Josh Cullen  
September 8, 2022

# What are non-parametric Bayesian movement models?

**Table 1.** Summary table of four broad categories of behavioural movement analysis methods. The four methods implemented in this paper and the most directly relevant references are bold faced. All of the entries in the last category can be considered multistate random walks, hidden Markov models or state space models

Category	Method	References
Metric-based	Fractal analysis	Fritz, Said & Weimerskirch (2003), Laidre <i>et al.</i> (2004)
	Tortuosity measures	Nams & Bourgeois (2004); Tremblay, Roberts & Costa (2007)
	<b>First passage time (FPT)</b>	Bovet & Benhamou (1988); Benhamou (2004)
	<b>Residence time (RT)</b>	<b>Fauchald &amp; Tveraa (2003)</b> Barraquand & Benhamou (2008)
Classification and segmentation	Penalized contrasts	Lavielle (2005), Calenge (2006)
	<b>Bayesian partitioning (BPMM)</b>	<b>Calenge (2006)</b>
	k-clustering	van Moorter <i>et al.</i> (2010)
	RT (segmentation step)	Barraquand & Benhamou (2008)
Phenomenological time-series analysis	Autocorrelation functions	Boyce <i>et al.</i> (2010)
	<b>Change point analysis (BCPA)</b>	<b>Gurarie, Andrews &amp; Laidre (2009), Gurarie (2013)</b> Kranstauber <i>et al.</i> (2012)
	Wavelet	Polansky <i>et al.</i> (2010)
Mechanistic movement modelling	<b>Multistate random walk (MRW)</b>	<b>Morales <i>et al.</i> (2004)</b>
	Ignoring location error	Forester <i>et al.</i> (2007), Langrock <i>et al.</i> (2012)
	Accounting for error	Patterson <i>et al.</i> (2008), McClintock <i>et al.</i> (2012) Jonsen <i>et al.</i> (2013), Breed <i>et al.</i> (2012)

Gurarie et al., 2016

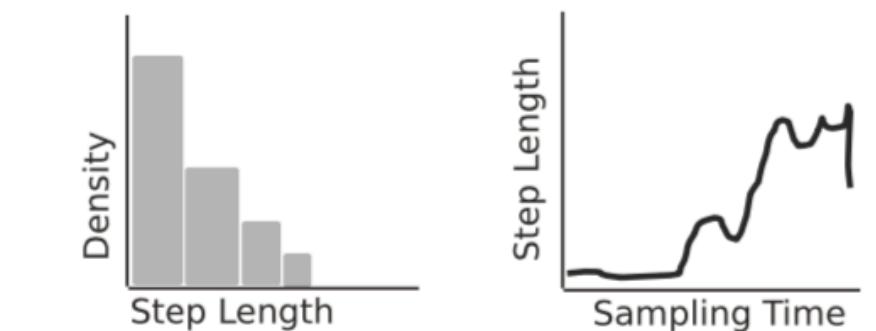
Actual Movement Path:



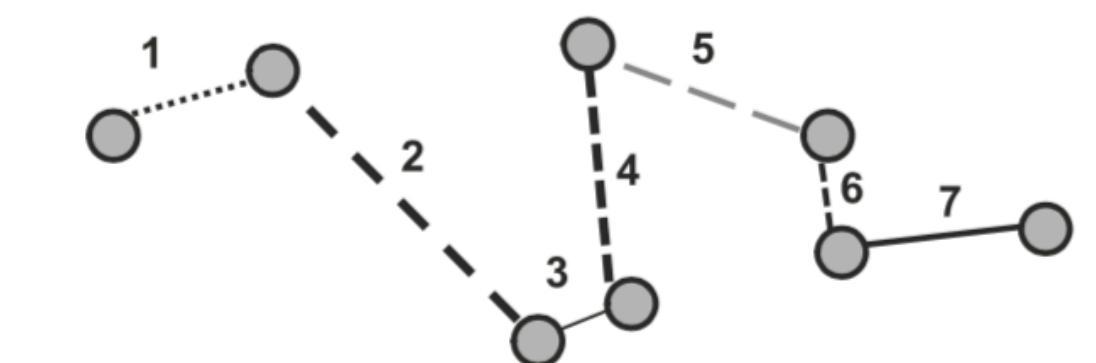
Step 1:



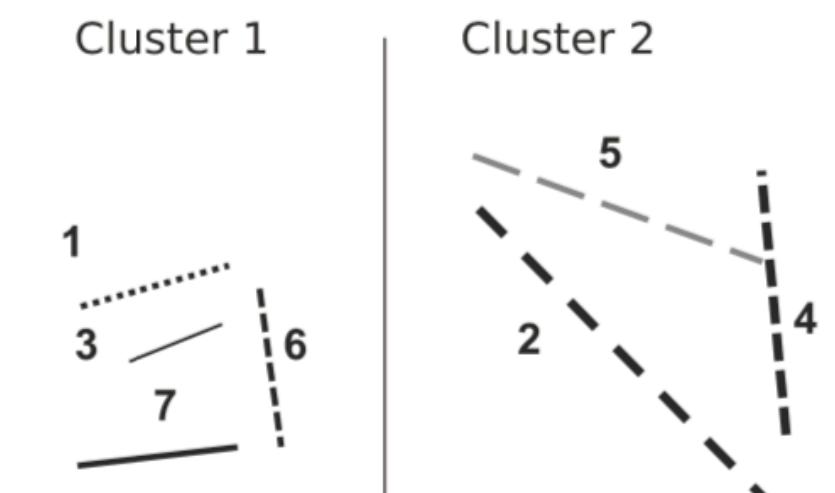
Step 2:



Step 3:



Step 4:

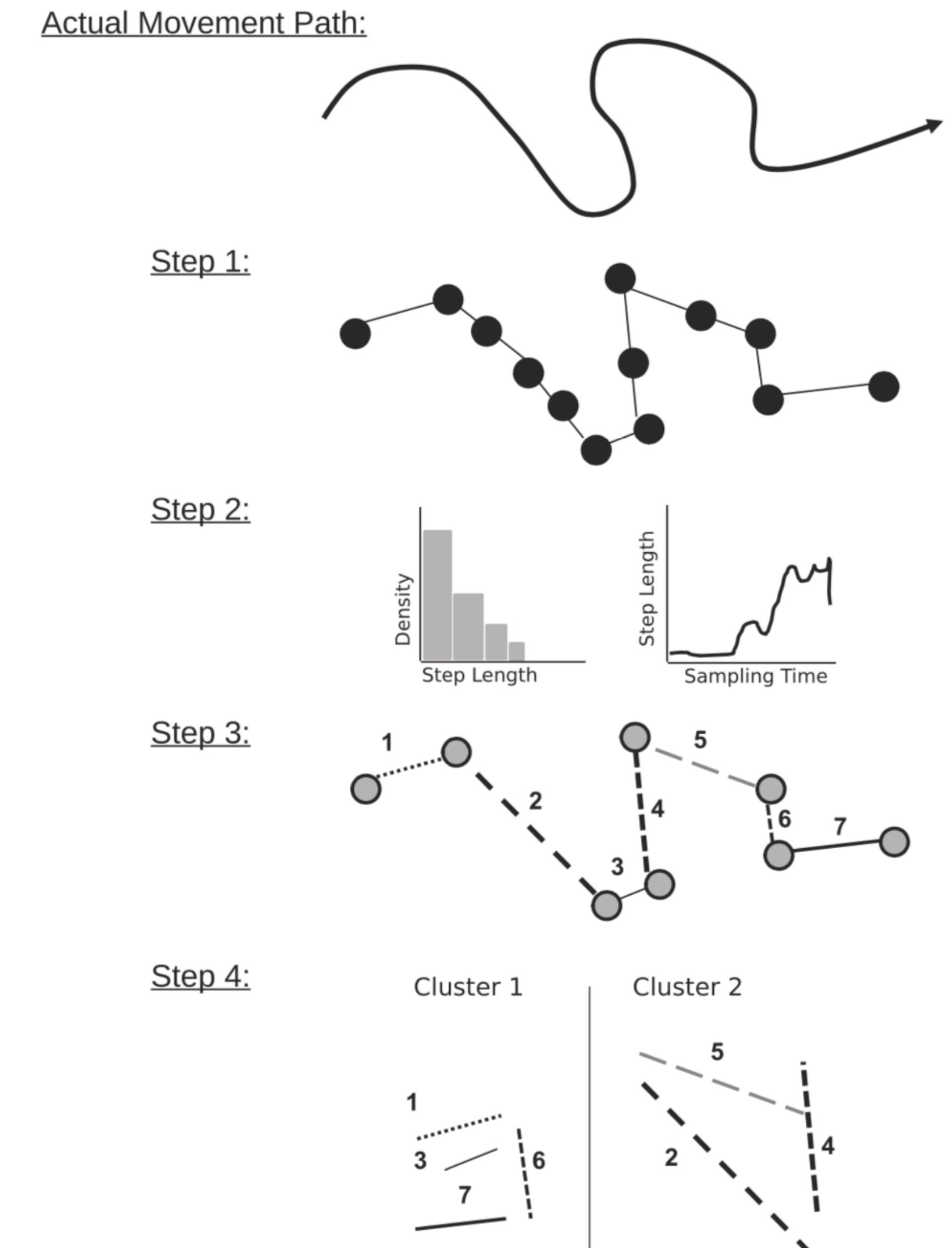


Edelhoff et al., 2016

# What are non-parametric Bayesian movement models?

## 2 main types

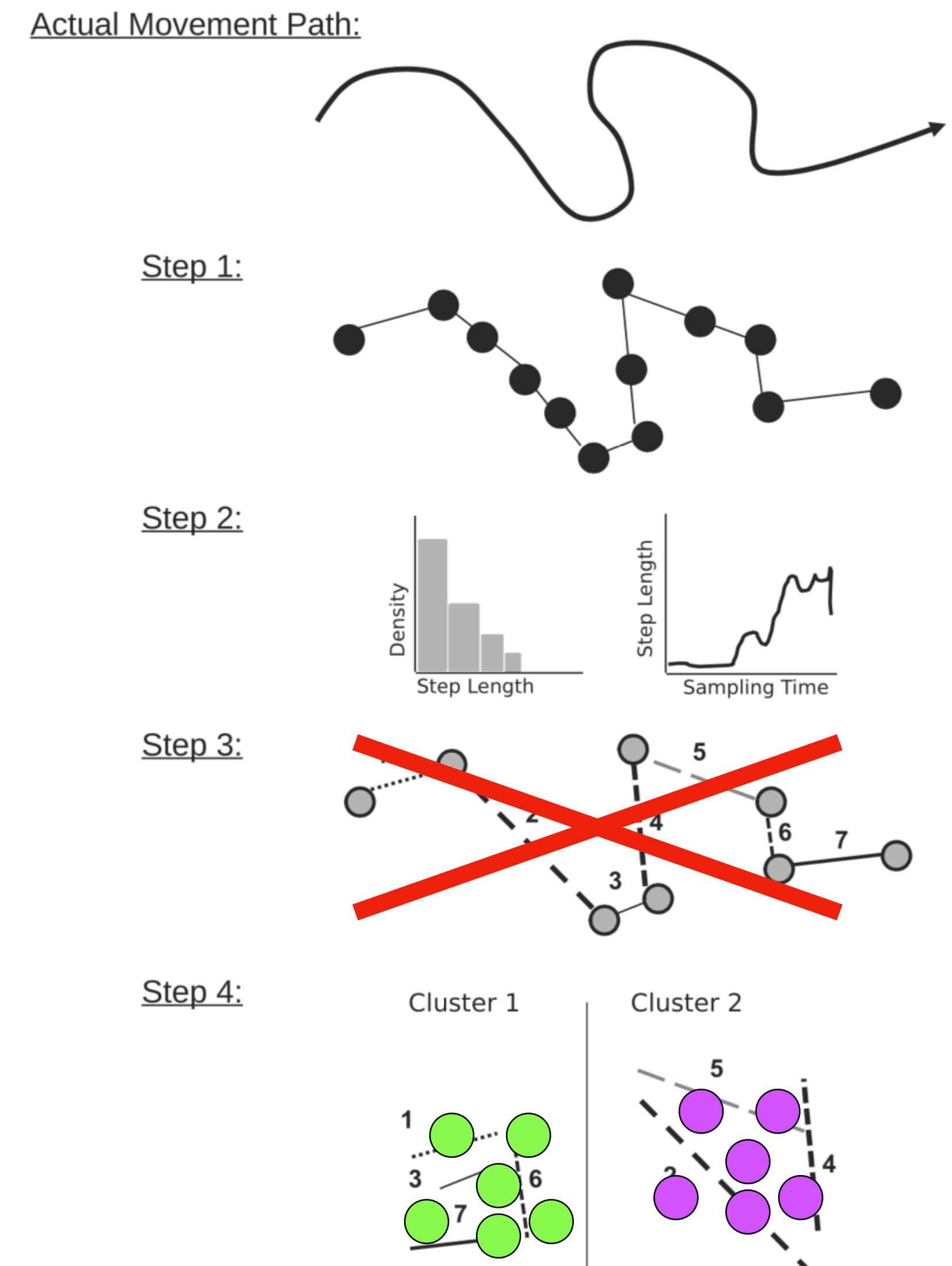
1. Mixture model for movement (M3[?])
  2. Mixed-membership method for movement (M4)
- Both models:
    - a) Accommodate multiple movement variables
    - b) Don't assume movement variables are well characterized by standard PDFs
    - c) Estimate the likely number of behavioral states



# What are non-parametric Bayesian movement models?

## 2 main types

1. Mixture model for movement (M3[?])
2. Mixed-membership method for movement (M4)



# What are non-parametric Bayesian movement models?

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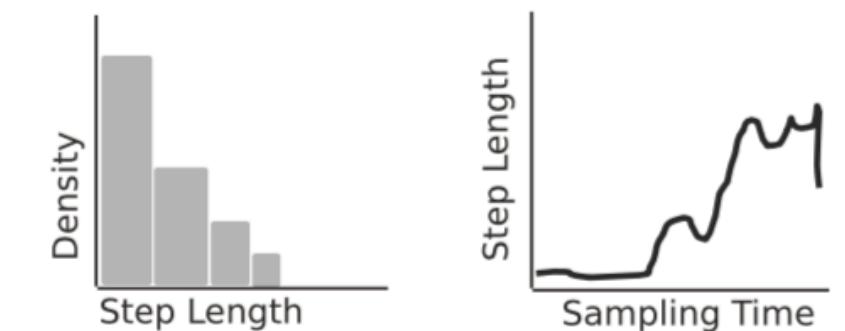
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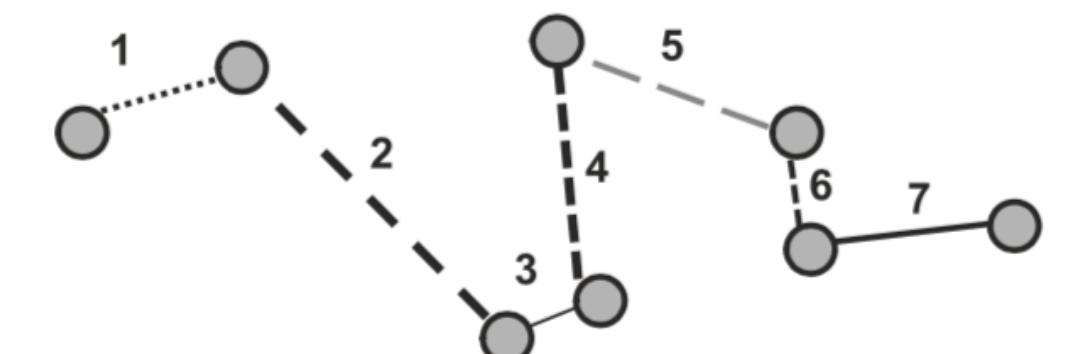
Step 1:



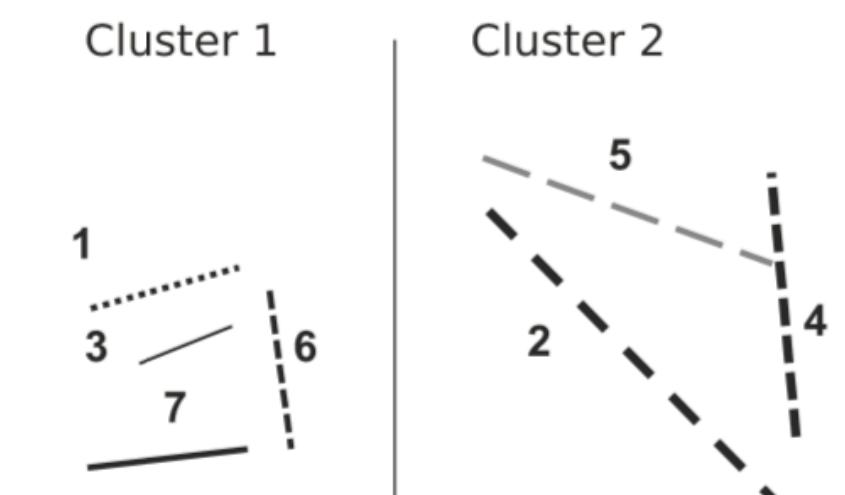
Step 2:



Step 3:

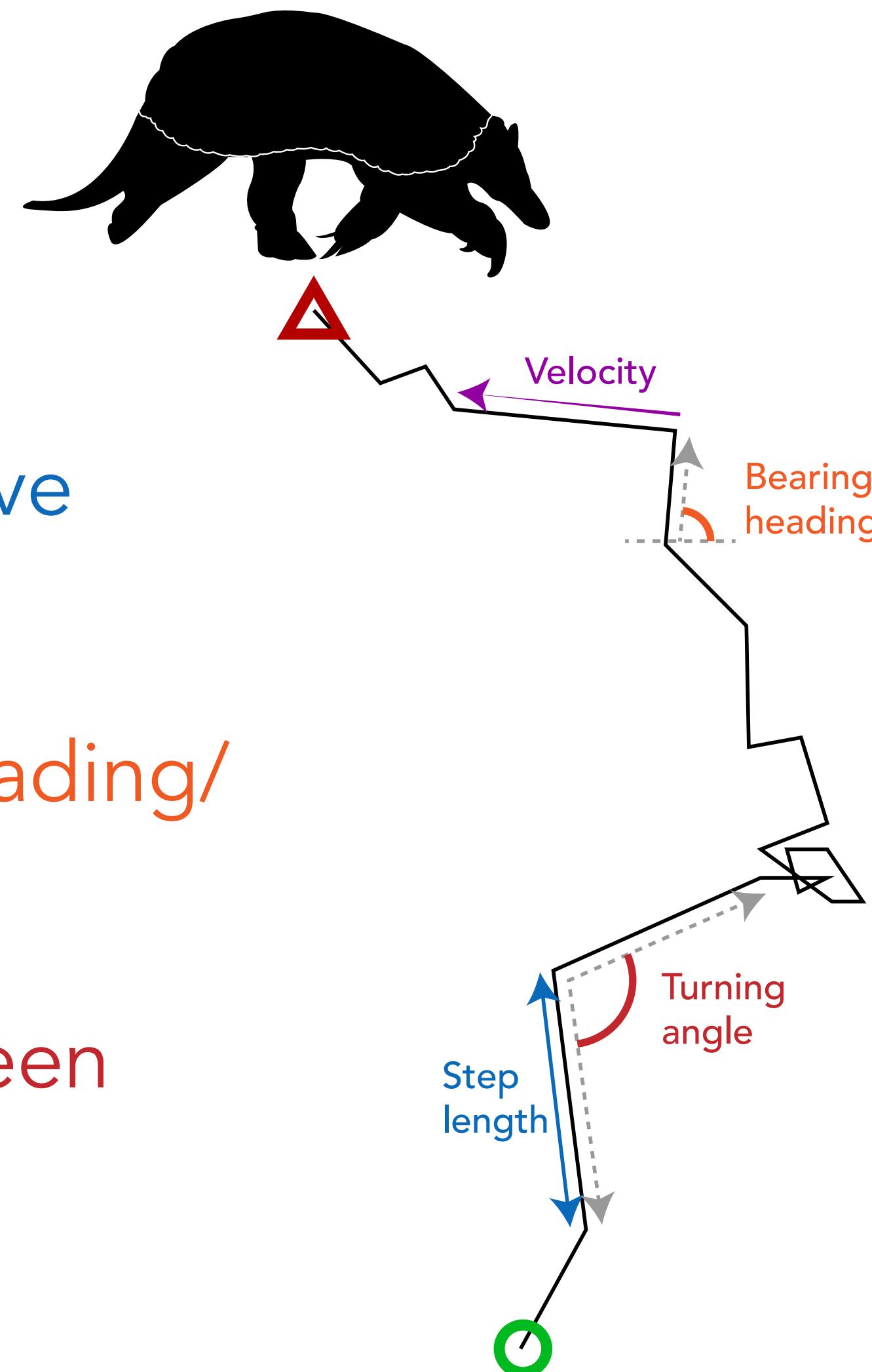


Step 4:



# Movement metrics analyzed by M3/M4

- Bivariate positions or their increments
- Distance between successive observations
- Compass direction (i.e., heading/bearing)
- Changes in direction between successive relocations
- Distance to nearest feature of interest
- Displacement from initial location
- Accelerometer data
- Ancillary environmental data
- Much more!



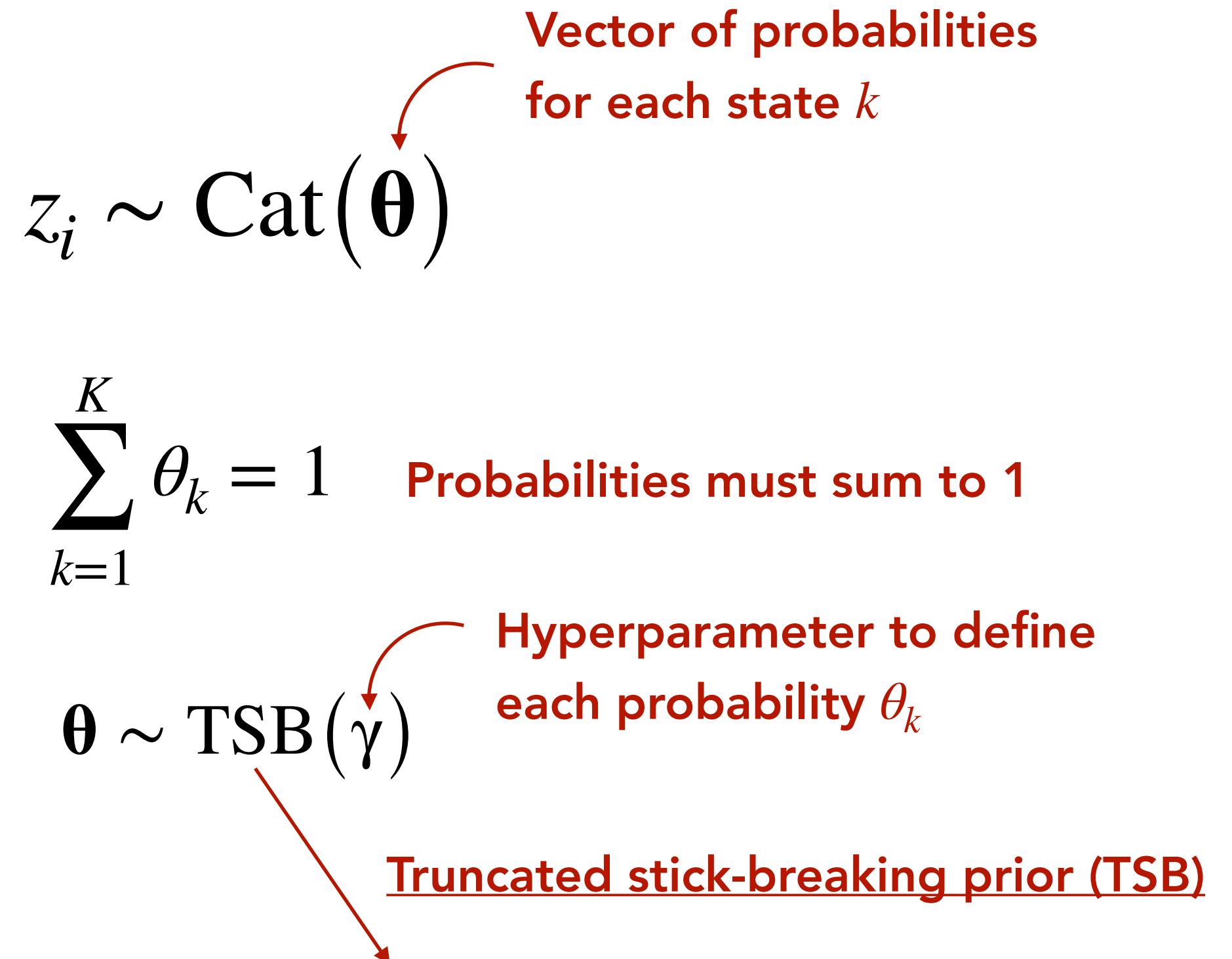
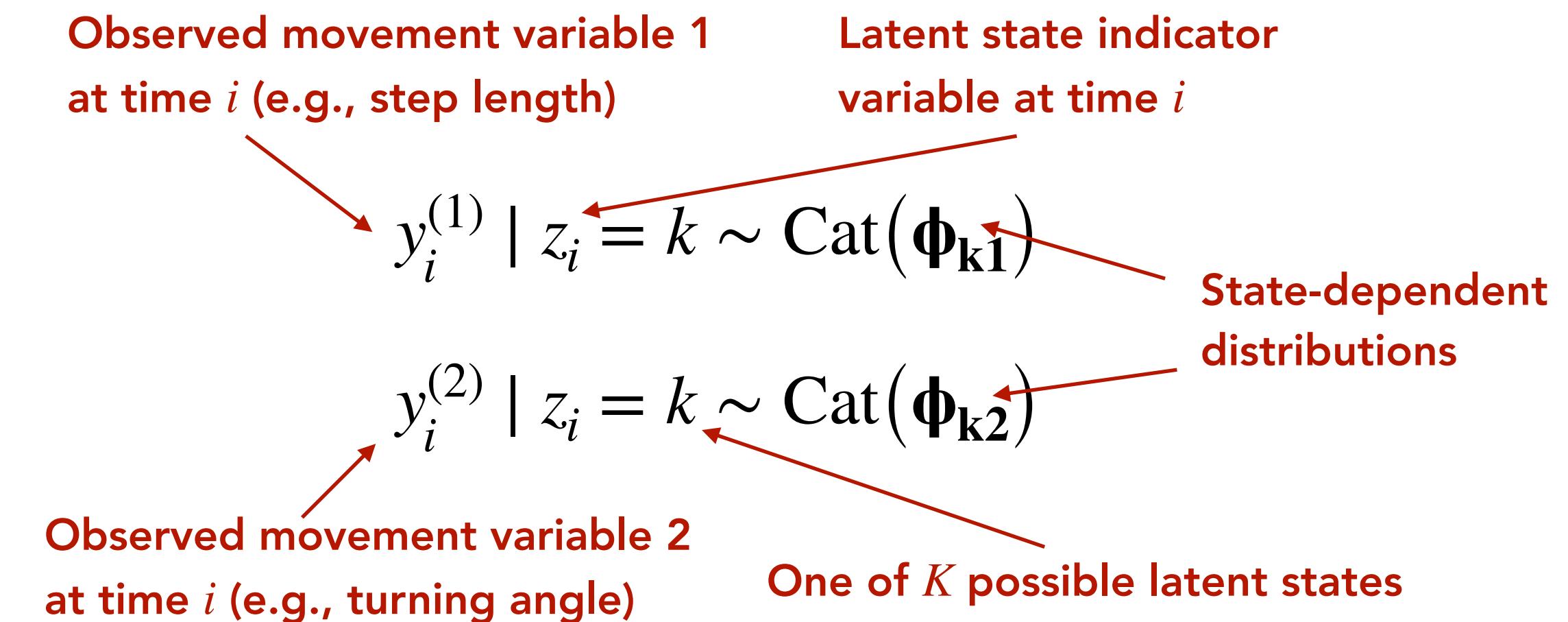
# Framework for M3

## Cluster observations directly

- Similar to HMMs, this model:
  - 1) Estimates discrete behavioral states
  - 2) Doesn't account for location error
- Unlike HMMs, this model:
  - 1) Is not a mechanistic movement model
  - 2) Doesn't include a Markovian assumption
  - 3) Doesn't use parametric PDFs for movement variables
  - 4) Estimates the likely number of behavioral states

# Framework for M3

## Cluster observations directly



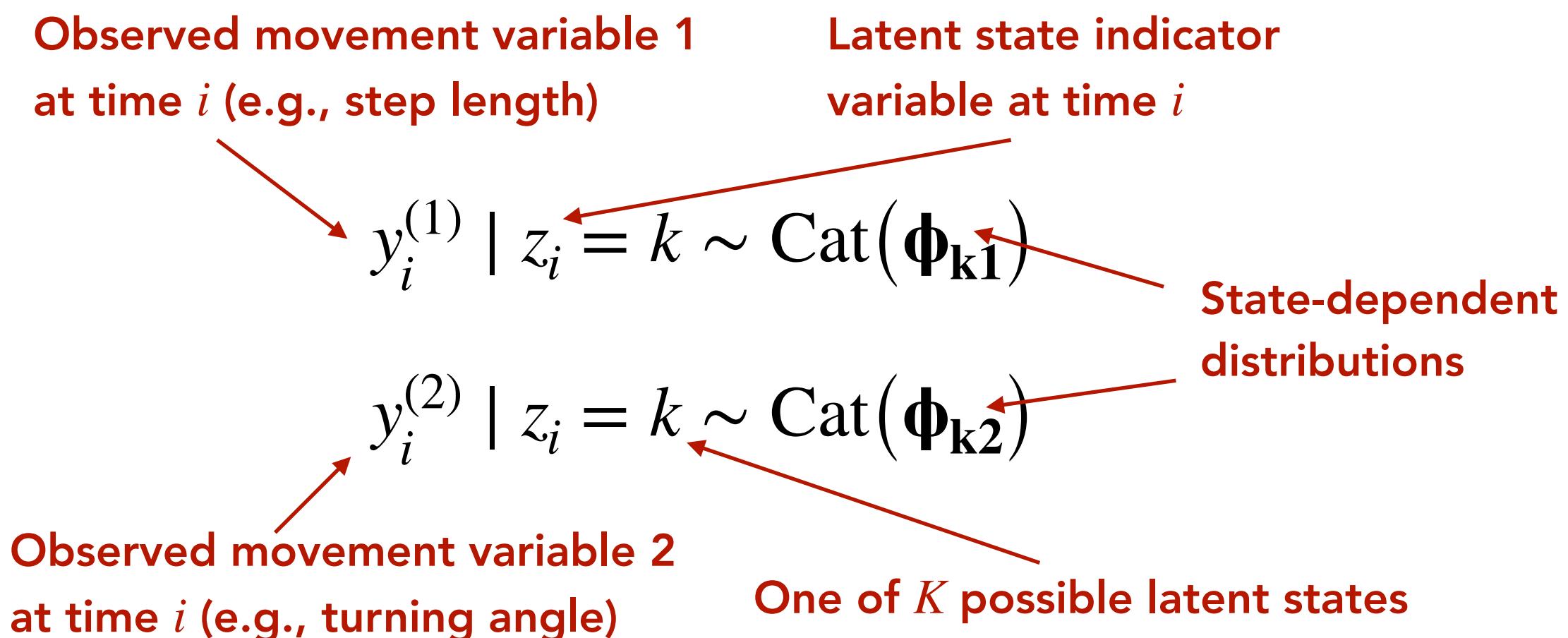
Where:

Time  $1 \leq i \leq N$  Max # of observations

State  $k \in 1, \dots, K$  Max # of states

# Framework for M3

## Cluster observations directly



Where:

Time  $1 \leq i \leq N$  Max # of observations

State  $k \in 1, \dots, K$  Max # of states

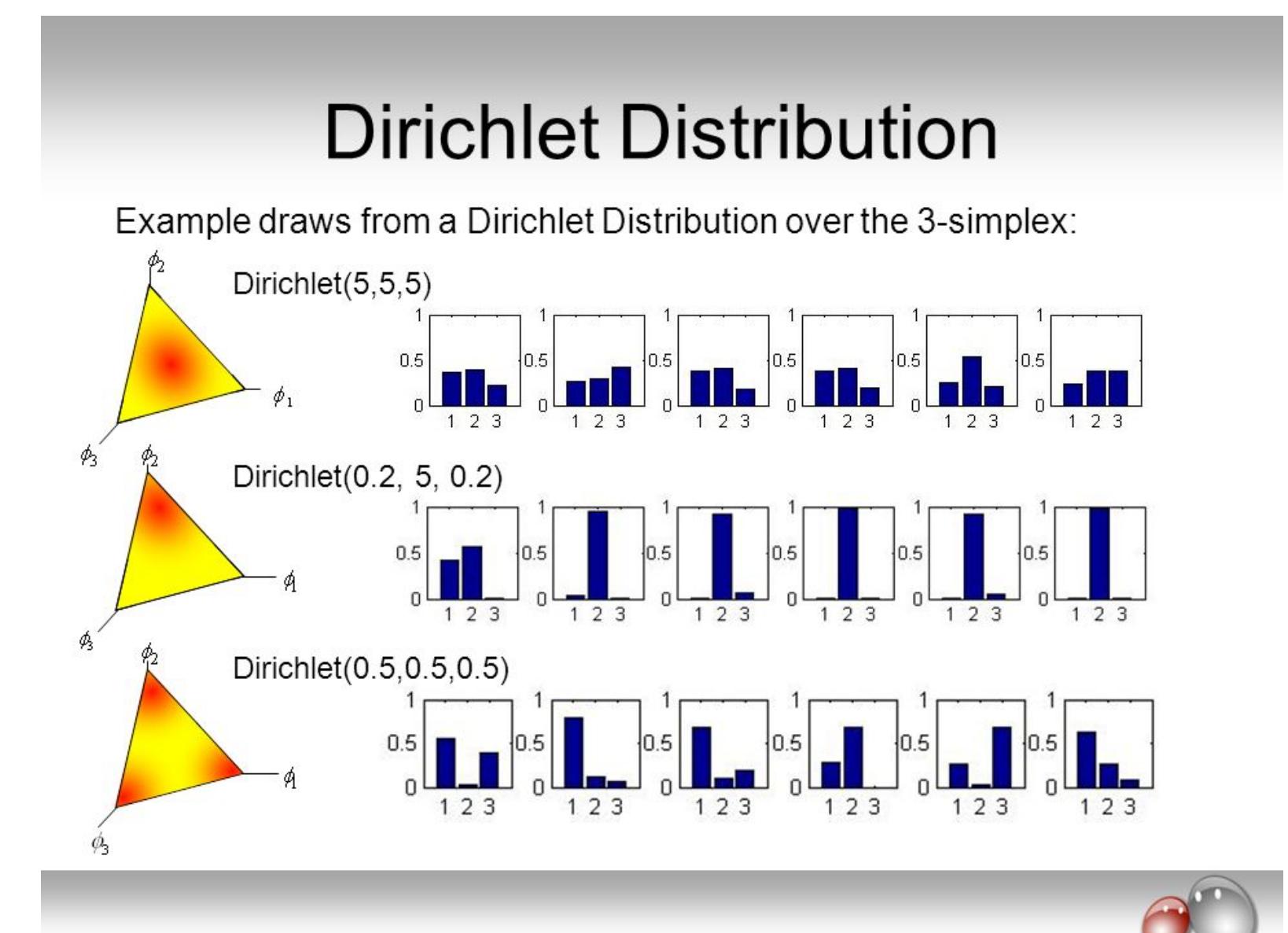
State-dependent distributions for step length

$$\Phi_{k1} \sim \text{Dirichlet}(a)$$

$$\Phi_{k2} \sim \text{Dirichlet}(a)$$

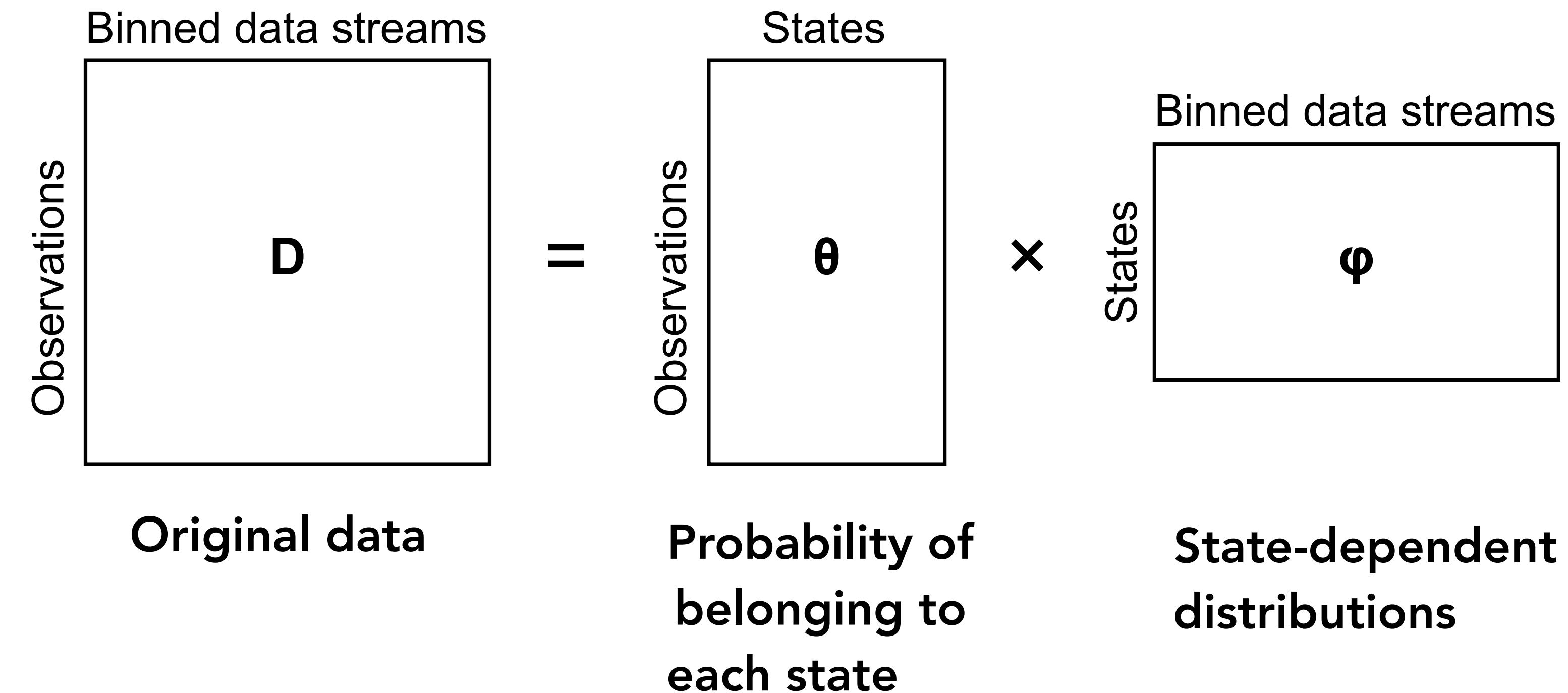
State-dependent distributions for turning angle

Hyperparameter to define the probability of each bin of the discretized variable



# Framework for M3

## Cluster observations directly



# Framework for M4

## Segment tracks, then cluster segments

- Similar to HMMs, this model:
  - 1) Estimates discrete behavioral states
  - 2) Doesn't account for location error
  - 3) Accounts for temporal autocorrelation
- Unlike HMMs, this model:
  - 1) Is not a mechanistic movement model
  - 2) Doesn't include a Markovian assumption
  - 3) Doesn't use parametric PDFs for movement variables
  - 4) Estimates segment-level behavioral state probabilities
  - 5) Estimates the likely number of behavioral states

# Framework for M4

## Segment tracks, then cluster segments

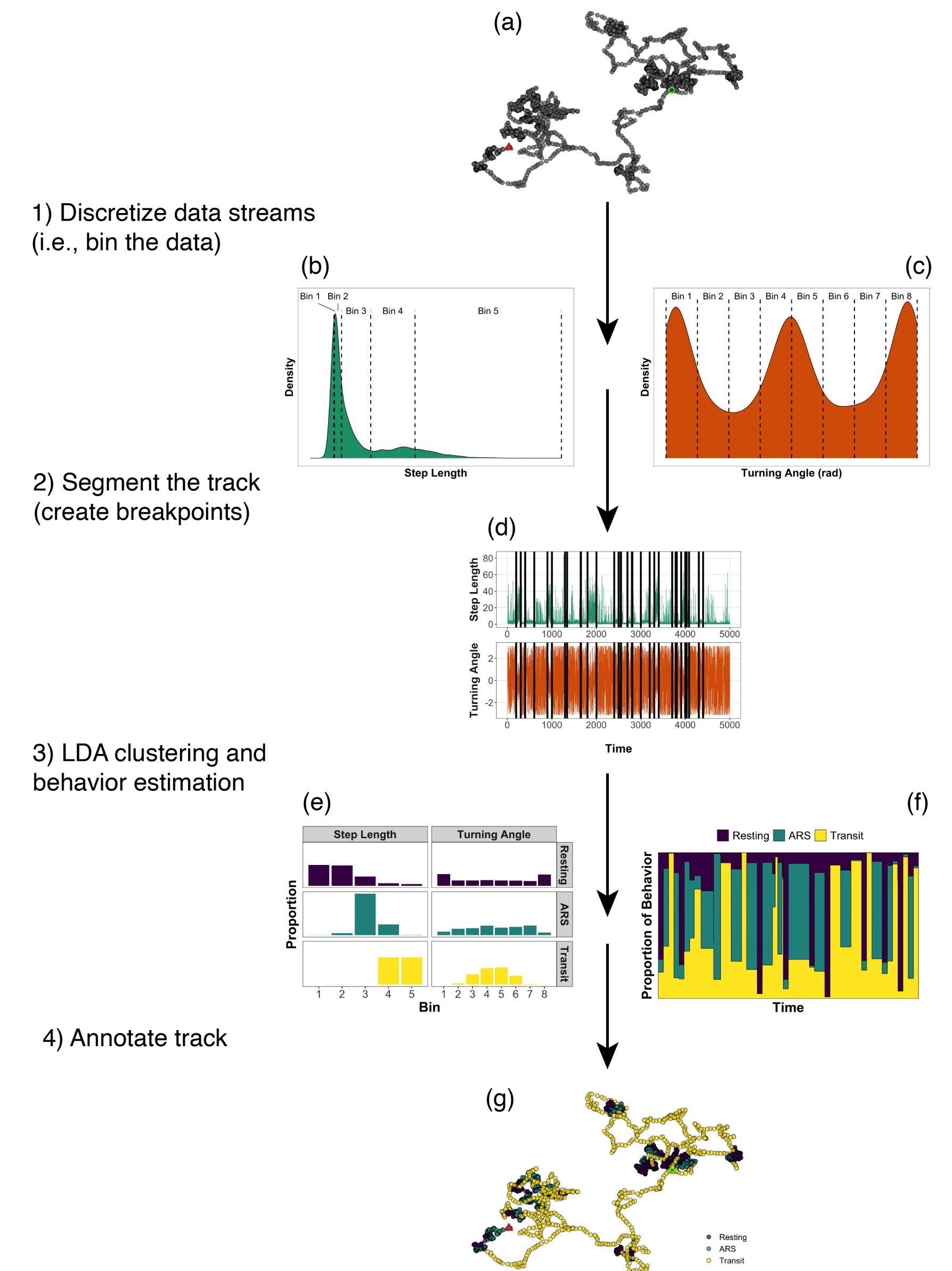
### 2-stage model

#### 1. Estimate breakpoints to segment the tracks

- Using Bayesian reversible-jump Markov chain Monte Carlo (RJMCMC) algorithm

#### 2. Cluster the segments into states

- Using Bayesian Latent Dirichlet Allocation (LDA) model



# Framework for M4

## Segment tracks, then cluster segments

### 2-stage model

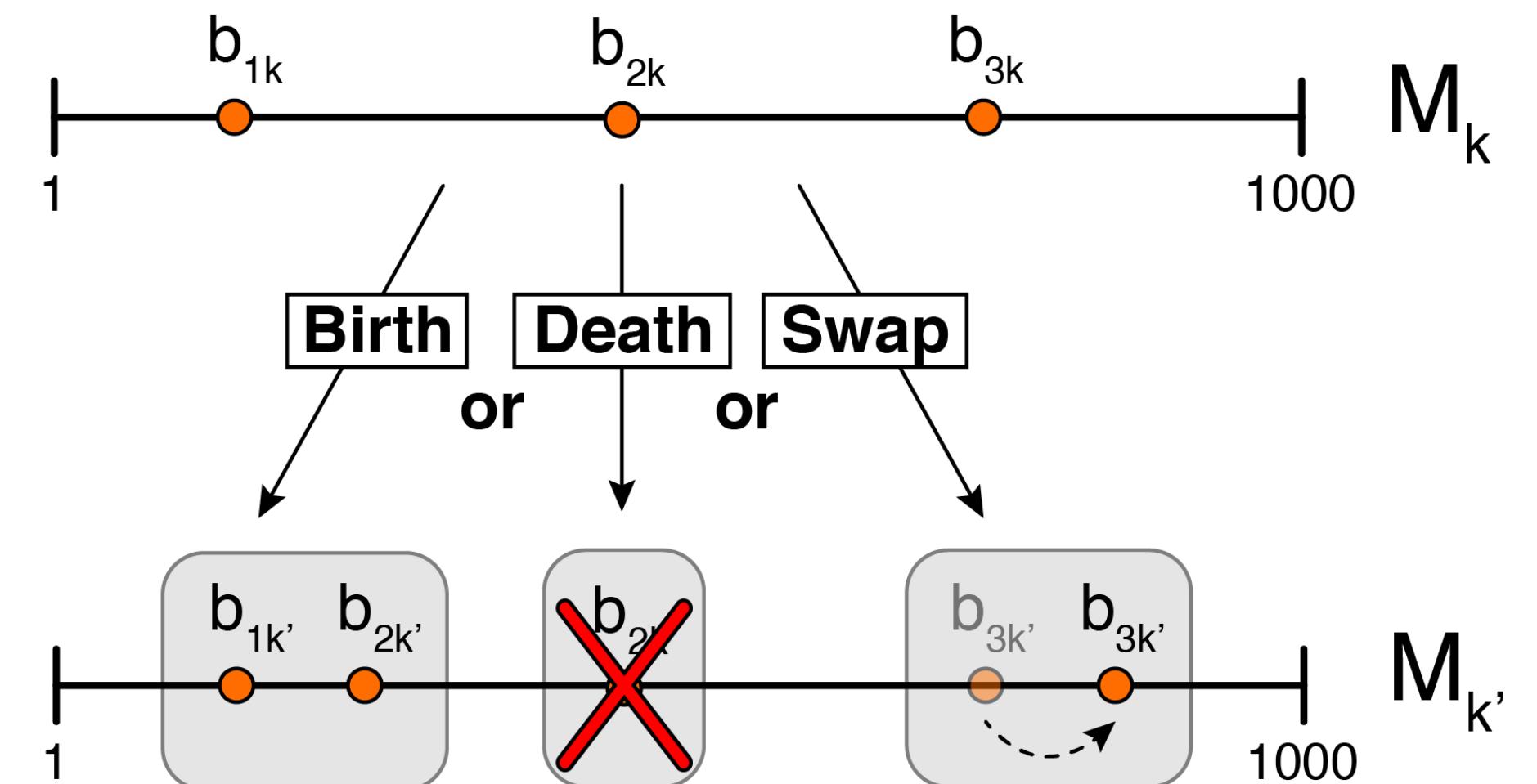
1. Estimate breakpoints to segment the tracks

- Using Bayesian reversible-jump Markov chain Monte Carlo (RJMCMC) algorithm

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- Using Bayesian Latent Dirichlet Allocation (LDA) model

### Reversible-jump MCMC



```
if (M_{k'}/M_k > runif(1)) accept proposal  
else reject proposal
```

# Framework for M4

## Segment tracks, then cluster segments

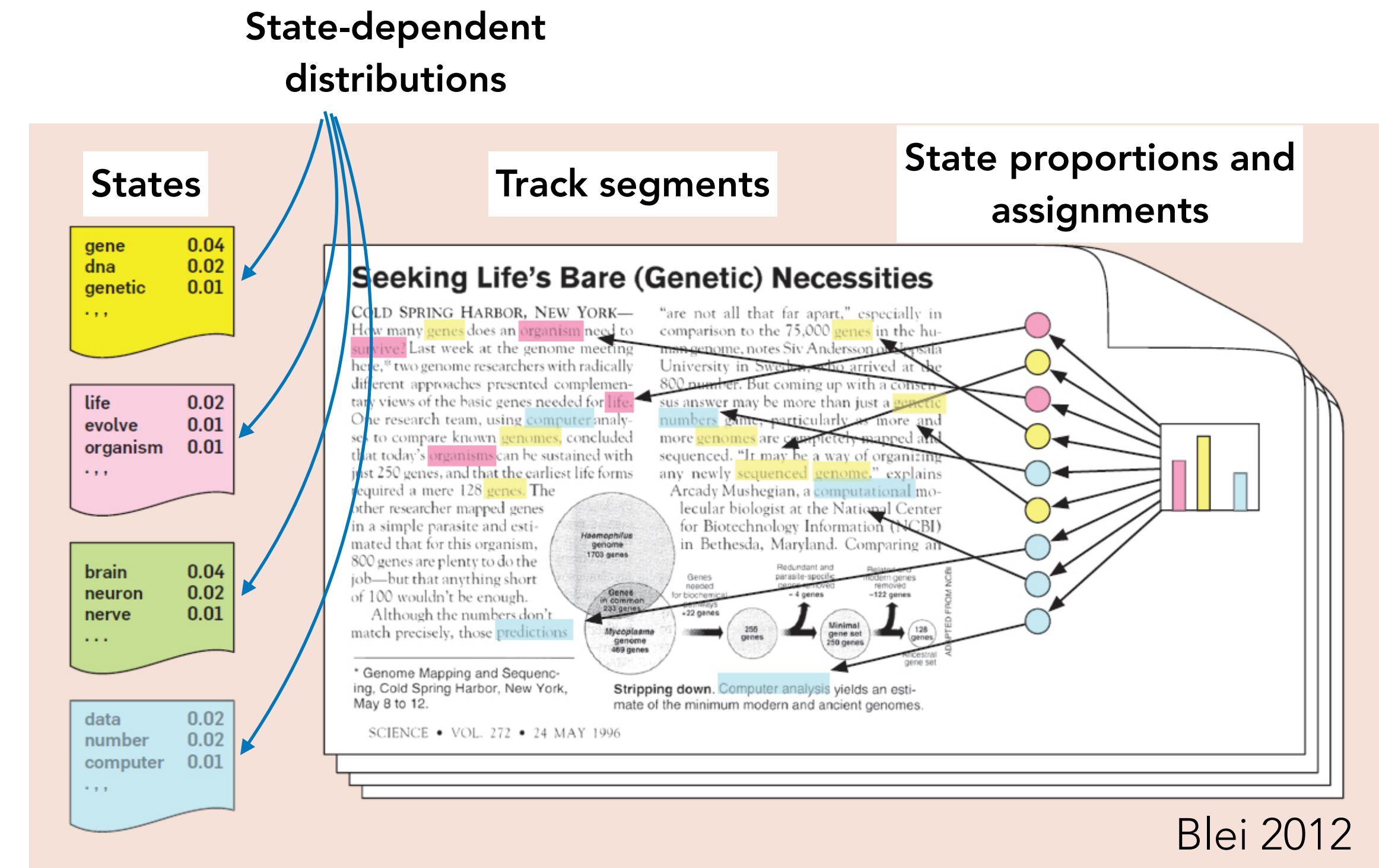
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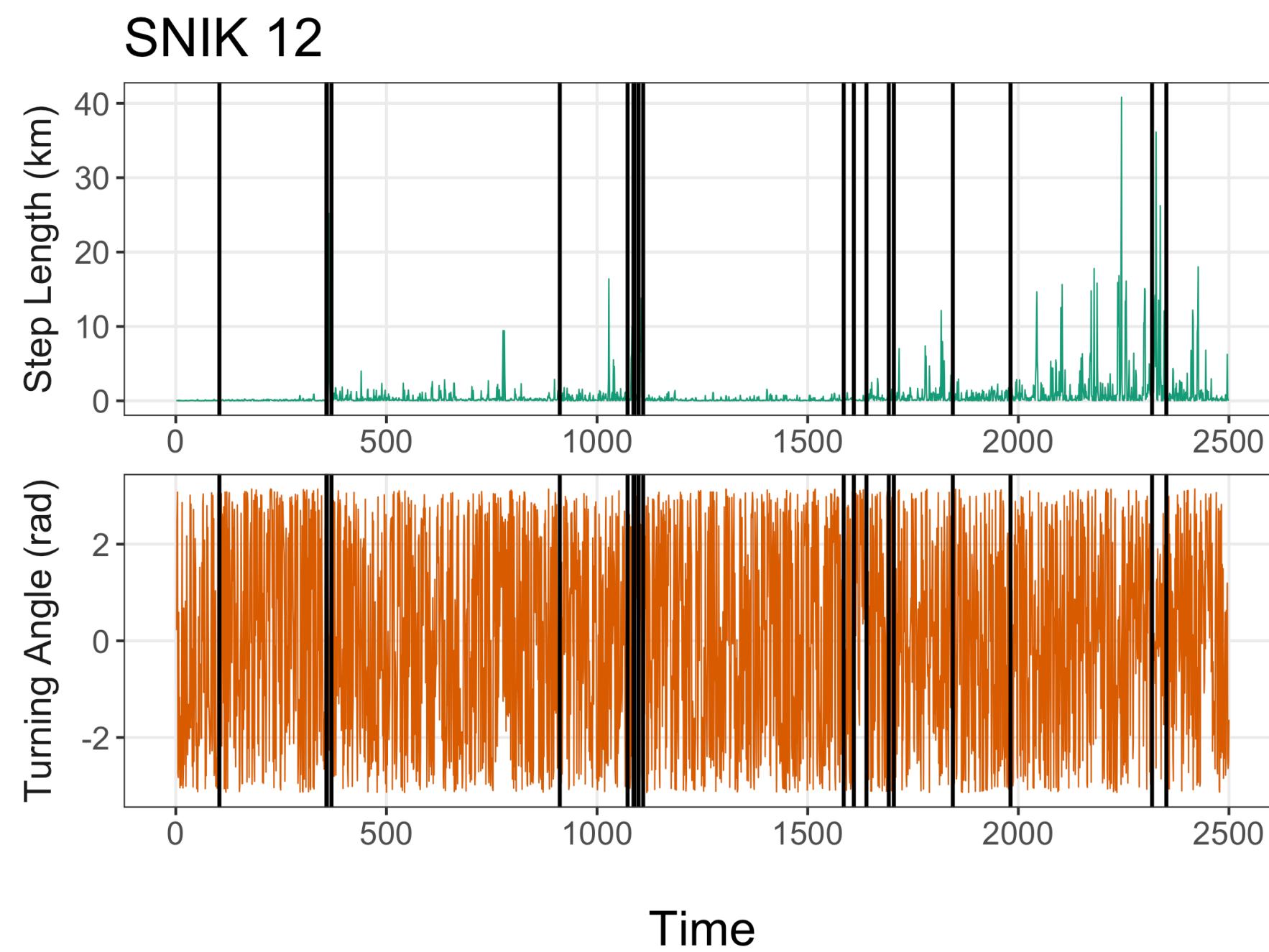


Blei 2012

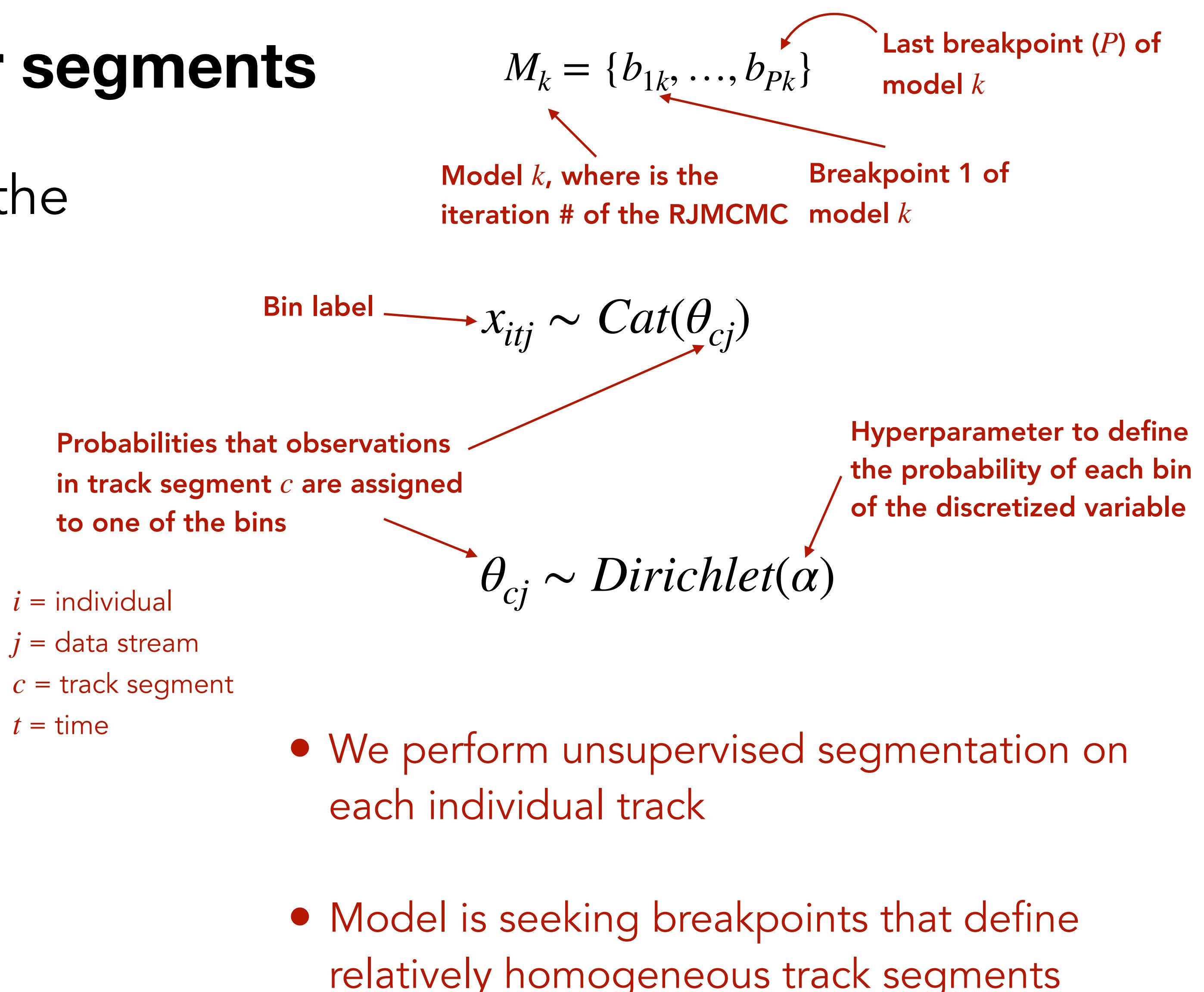
# Framework for M4

## Segment tracks, then cluster segments

1. Estimate breakpoints to segment the tracks



Cullen et al. 2022

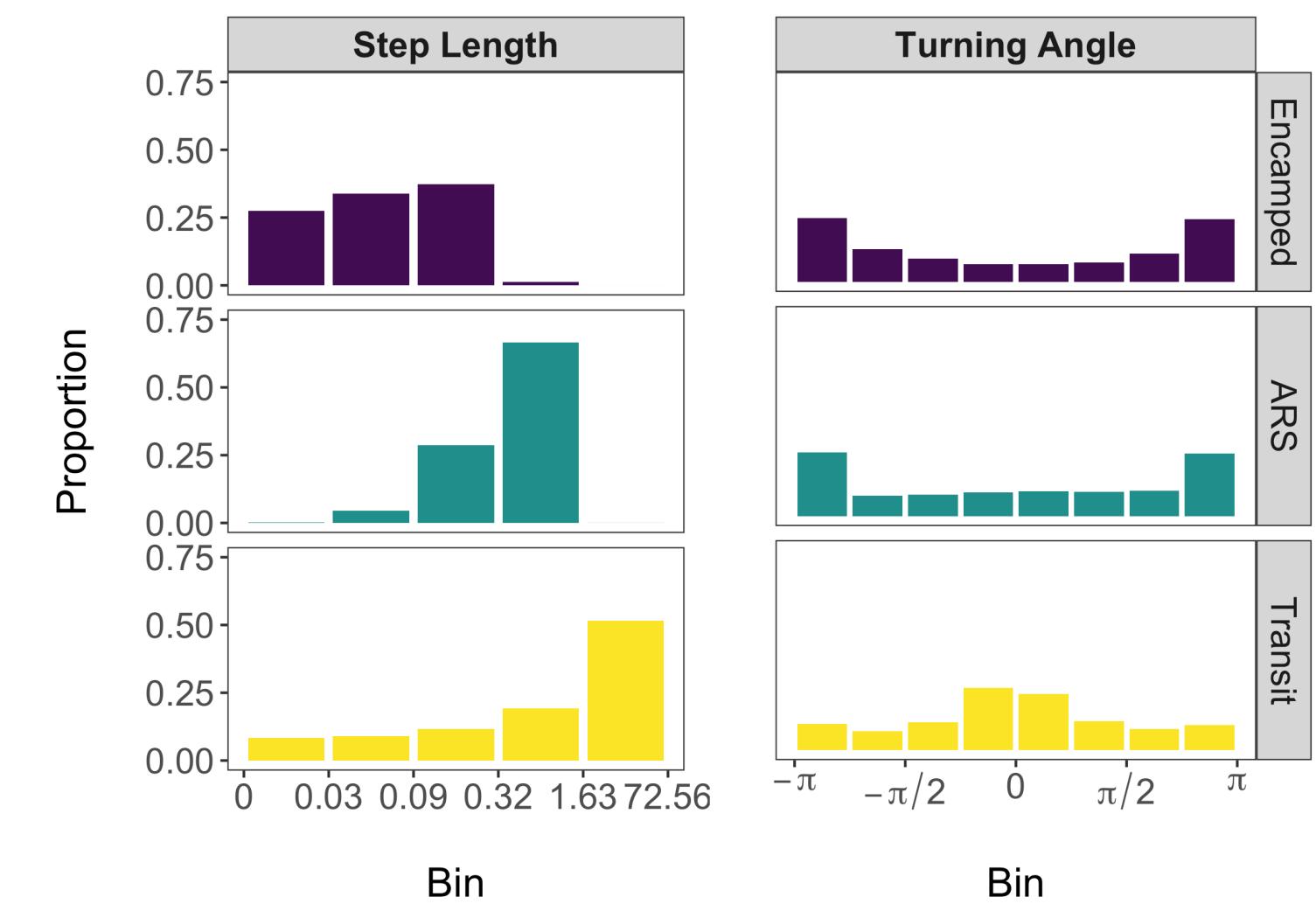
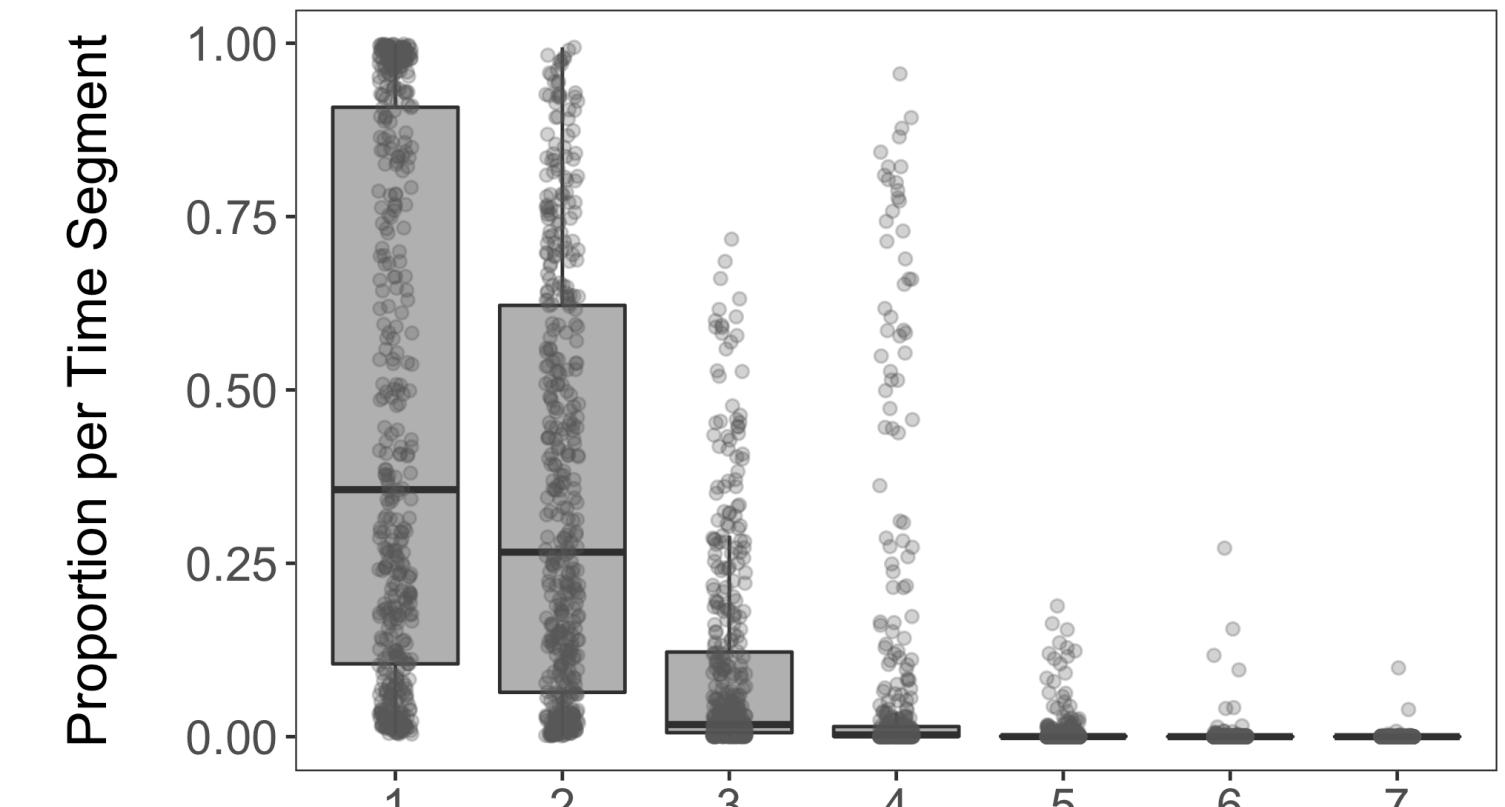
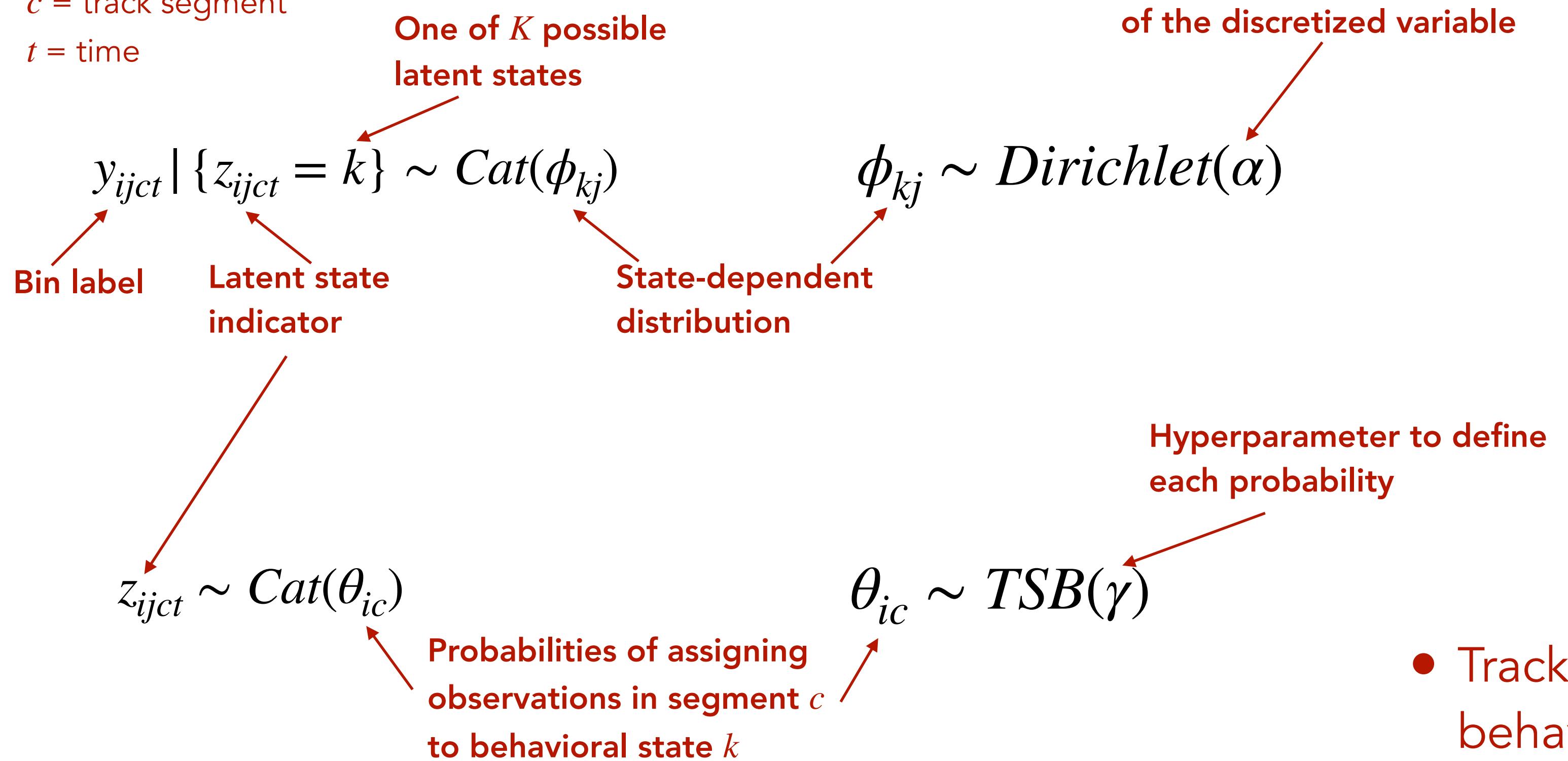


# Framework for M4

## Segment tracks, then cluster segments

### 2. Cluster the segments into states

$i$  = individual  
 $j$  = data stream  
 $c$  = track segment  
 $t$  = time

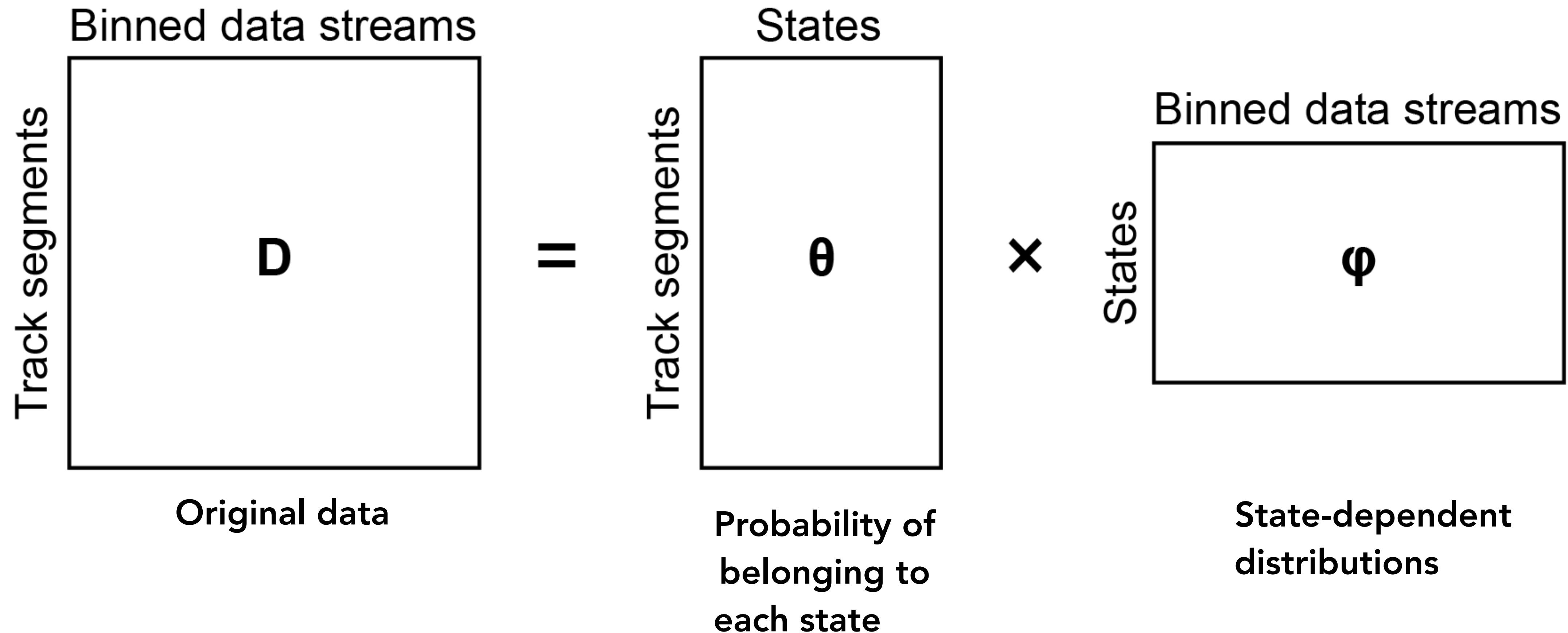


Cullen et al. 2022

- Track segments can be comprised of multiple behavioral states (as determined by model)

# Framework for M4

## Segment tracks, then cluster segments

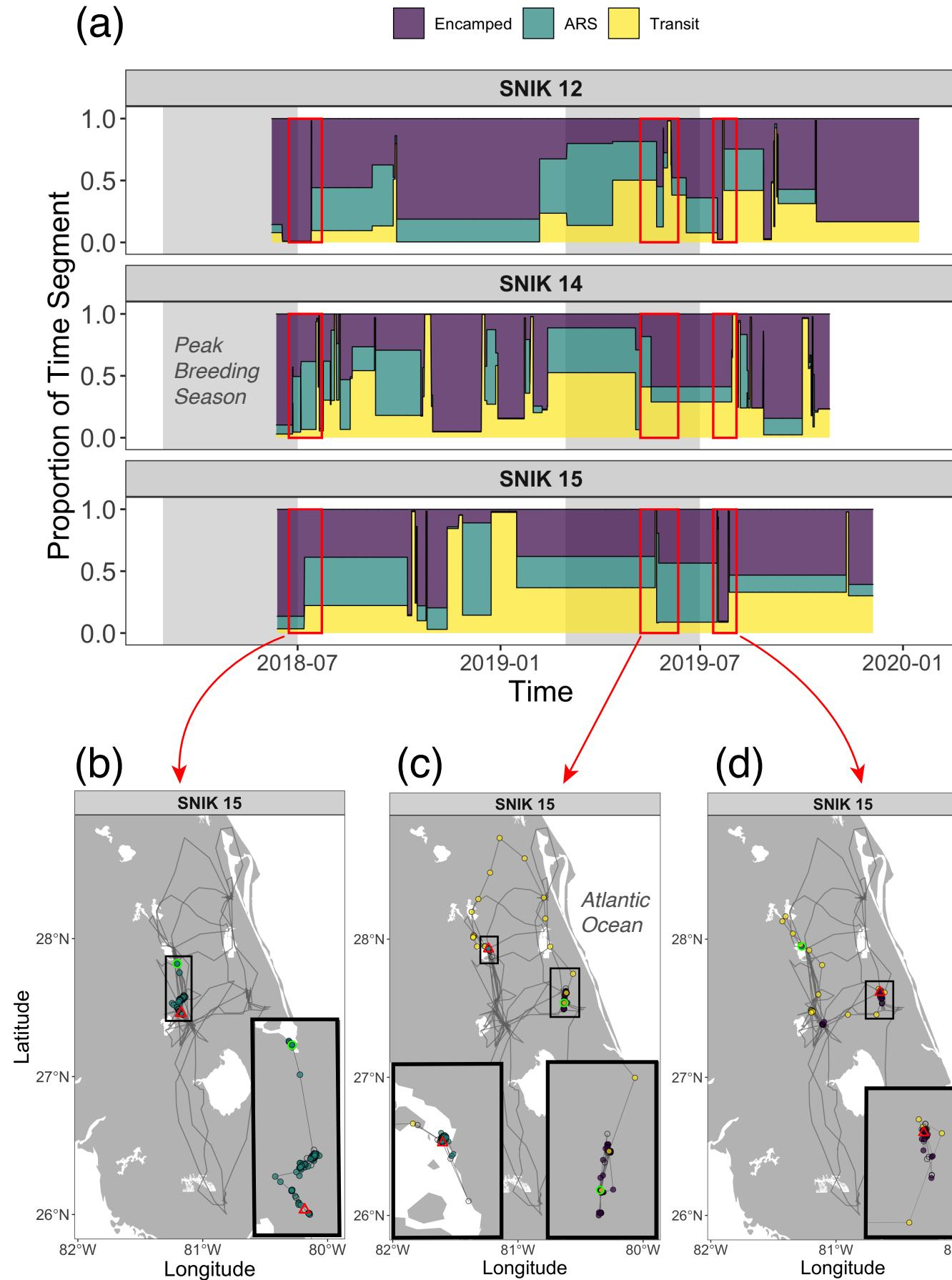


# Methods to fit M3/M4

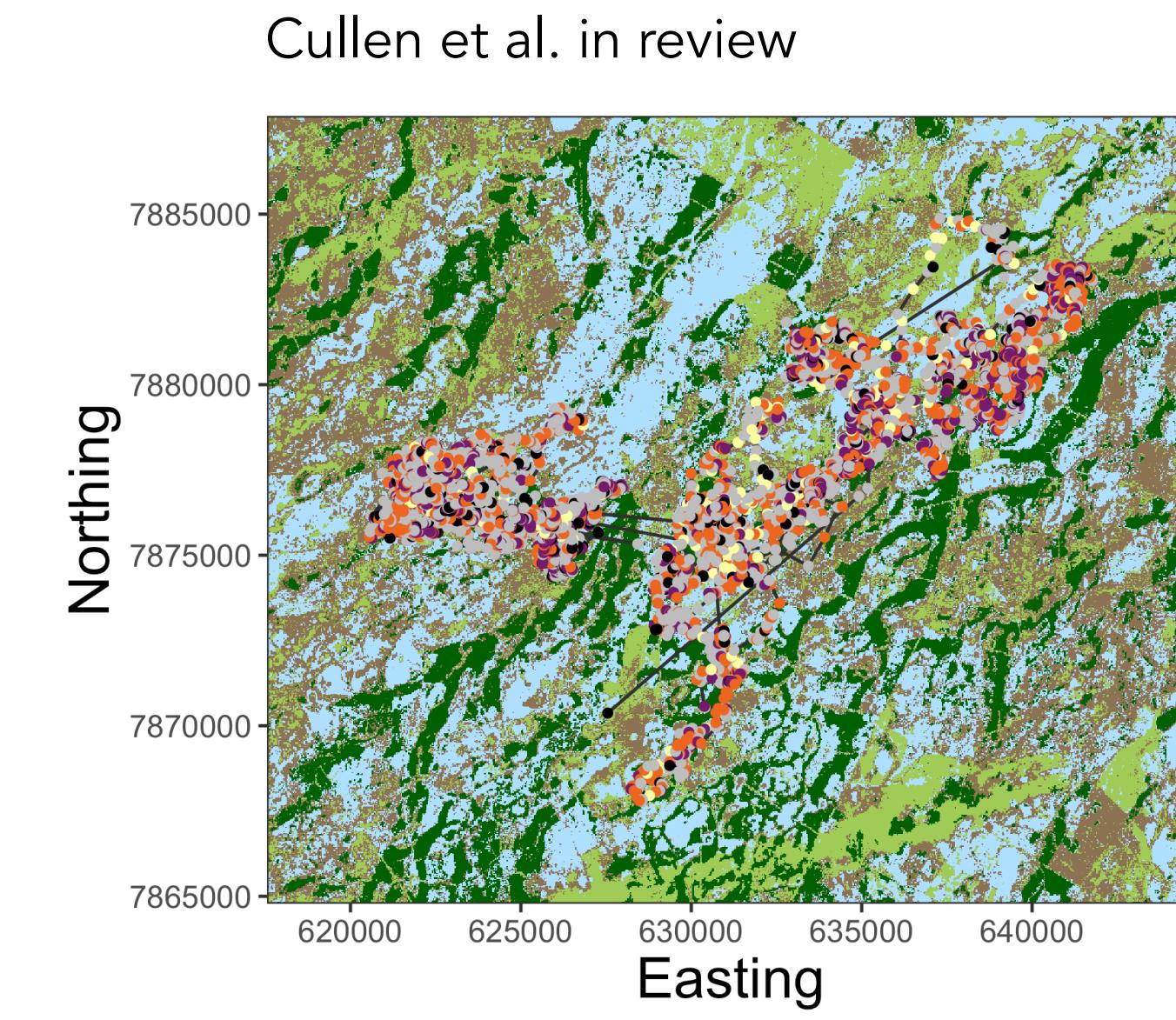
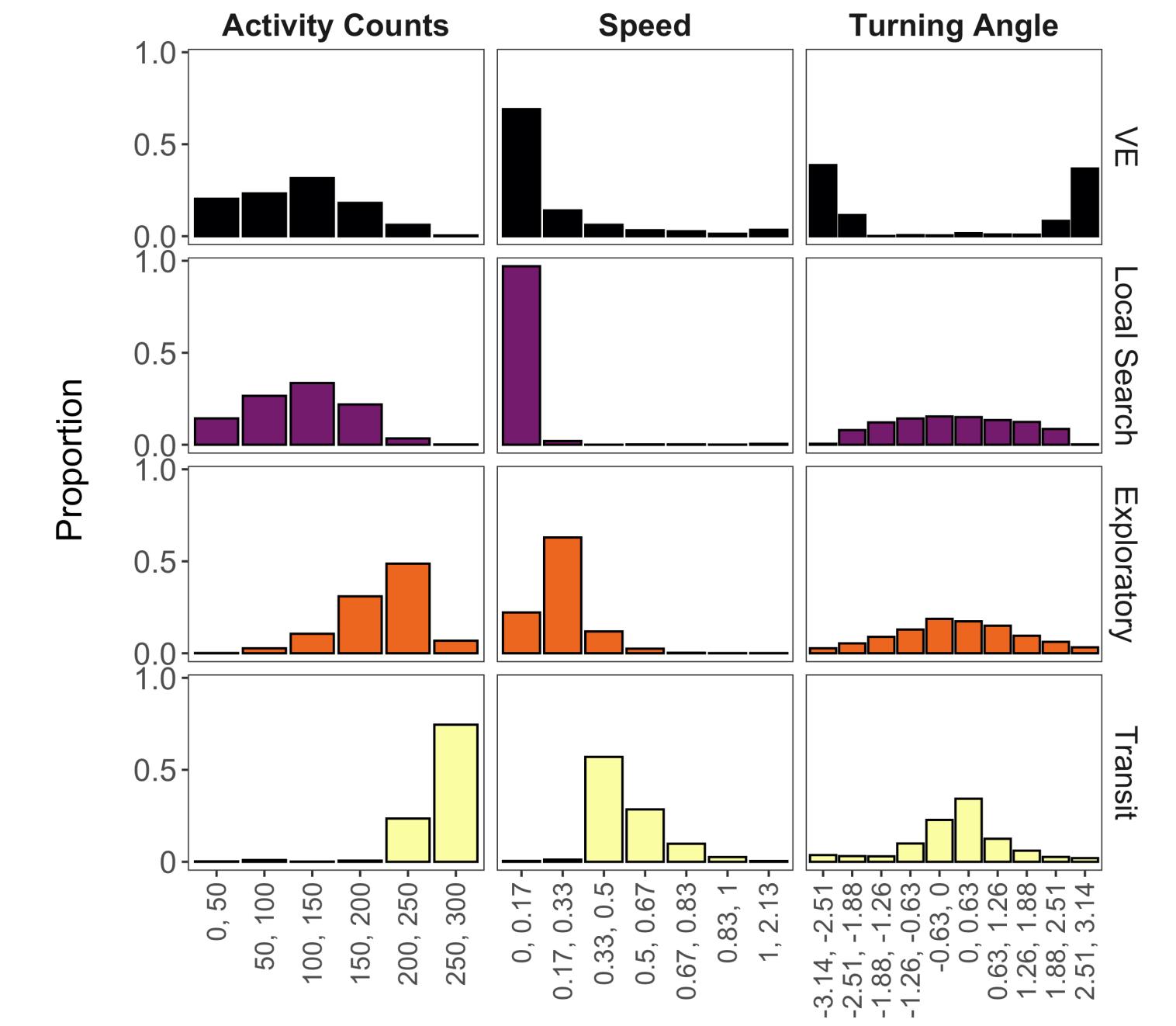
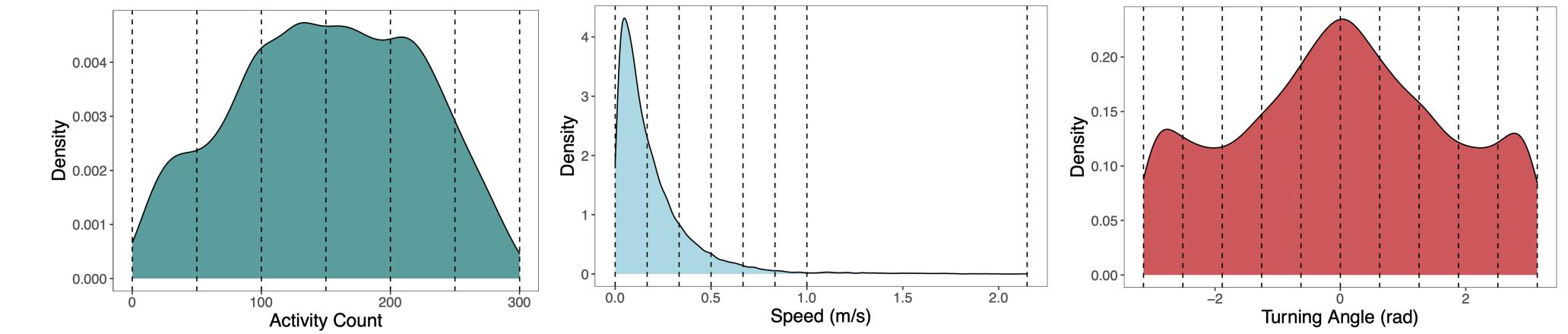
- Since using Bayesian non-parametric approach, only available in Bayesian implementation
- Readily available functions to fit models using the `bayesmove` R package
- If interested in further details or information, please refer to Cullen et al. (2022) for M4 and Valle et al. (2022) for M3



# Motivating examples



Cullen et al. 2022



# Let's do some modeling!



# References

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