

1 **A GENERALISED RANDOM ENCOUNTER MODEL FOR ESTIMATING**
2 **ANIMAL DENSITY WITH REMOTE SENSOR DATA**

3 **Running title: A generalised random encounter model for animals.**

4 **Word count:**

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1. ABSTRACT

1: Wildlife monitoring technology has advanced rapidly and the use of remote sensors such as camera traps, and acoustic detectors is becoming common in both the terrestrial and marine environments. Current capture-recapture or distance methods to estimate abundance or density require individual recognition of animals or knowing the distance of the animal from the sensor, which is often difficult. A method without these requirements, the random encounter model (REM), has been successfully applied to estimate animal densities from count data generated from camera traps. However, count data from acoustic detectors do not fit the assumptions of the REM due to the directionality of animal signals.

2: We developed a generalised REM (gREM), to estimate absolute animal density from count data from both camera traps and acoustic detectors. We derived the gREM for different combinations of sensor detection widths and animal signal widths (a measure of directionality). We tested the accuracy and precision of this model using simulations of different combinations of sensor detection widths and animal signal widths, number of captures, and models of animal movement.

3: We find that the gREM produces accurate estimates of absolute animal density for all combinations of sensor detection widths and animal signal widths. However, larger sensor detection and animal signal widths were found to be more precise. While the model is accurate for all capture efforts tested, the precision of the estimate increases with the number of captures. We found no effect of different animal movement models tested on the accuracy and precision of the gREM.

4: We conclude that the gREM provides an effective method to estimate absolute animal densities from remote sensor count data over a range of sensor and animal signal widths. The gREM is applicable for use for count data obtained in both marine and terrestrial environments, visually or acoustically (e.g., big cats, sharks, birds, bats and cetaceans). As sensors such as camera traps and acoustic detectors become more ubiquitous, the gREM will be increasingly useful for monitoring animal populations across broad spatial, temporal and taxonomic scales.

1 1.1. **Keywords.** Acoustic detection, Camera traps, Marine, Population monitor-
2 ing, Simulations, Terrestrial

3 2. INTRODUCTION

4 Animal population density is one of the fundamental measures needed in ecol-
5 ogy and conservation. The density of a population has important implications for
6 a range of issues such as sensitivity to stochastic fluctuations (Richter-Dyn & Goel,
7 1972; Wright & Hubbell, 1983) and risk of extinction (Purvis *et al.*, 2000). Monitor-
8 ing animal population changes in response to anthropogenic pressure is becoming
9 increasingly important as humans modify habitats and change climates as never
10 before (Everatt *et al.*, 2014). Sensor technology, such as camera traps (Rowcliffe &
11 Carbone, 2008; Karanth, 1995) and acoustic detectors (O'Farrell & Gannon, 1999;
12 Clark, 1995; Acevedo & Villanueva-Rivera, 2006) are becoming increasingly used
13 to monitor changes in animal populations (Rowcliffe & Carbone, 2008; Kessel *et al.*,
14 2014), as they are efficient, relatively cheap and non-invasive (Cutler & Swann,
15 1999), allowing for surveys over large areas and long periods. However, the prob-
16 lem of converting sampled count data to estimates of density remains as efforts
17 must be made to account for detectability of the animals (Anderson, 2001).

18 Methods do already exist for estimating animal density if the distance between
19 the animal and the sensor can be estimated (e.g., capture-mark recapture meth-
20 ods (Karanth, 1995) and distance sampling (Harris *et al.*, 2013)). However, these
21 methods often require additional information that may not be available. For exam-
22 ple, capture-mark-recapture methods (Karanth, 1995; Trolle & Kéry, 2003; Soisalo
23 & Cavalcanti, 2006; Trolle *et al.*, 2007) require recognition of individuals; distance
24 methods require a distance estimation of how far away individuals are from the
25 sensor barlow2005estimates, marques2011estimating. The development of the ran-
26 dom encounter model (REM) (a modification of a gas model) enabled animal den-
27 sities to be estimated from unmarked individuals of a known speed, and sensor
28 detection parameters (Rowcliffe *et al.*, 2008). The REM method has been success-
29 fully applied to estimate animal densities from camera trap surveys (Manzo *et al.*,
30 2012; Zero *et al.*, 2013). However, extending the REM method to other types of
31 sensors (for example acoustic detectors) is more problematic, because the original

1 derivation assumes a relatively narrow sensor width (up to $\pi/2$ radians) and that
2 the animal is equally detectable irrespective of its heading (ref).

3 Whilst these restrictions are not problematic for most camera trap makes (e.g.
4 Reconyx, Cuddeback), the REM could not be used to estimate densities from cam-
5 era traps with a wider sensor width (e.g. canopy monitoring with fish eye lens
6 (Brusa & Bunker, 2014)). Additionally, the REM method would not be useful in
7 estimating densities from acoustic survey data as the acoustic detector angles are
8 often wider than $\pi/2$ radians. Acoustic detectors are designed for a range of di-
9 verse tasks and environments (Kessel *et al.*, 2014), which will naturally lead to
10 a wide range of sensor detection widths and detection distances. In addition to
11 this, calls emitted by many animals are directional (breaking the assumption of
12 the REM method).

13 There has been a sharp rise in interest around passive acoustic detectors in re-
14 cent years, with a 10 fold increase in publications in the decade between 2000 and
15 2010 (Kessel *et al.*, 2014). Acoustic monitoring is being developed to study many
16 aspects of ecology, including the interactions of animals and their environments
17 (Blumstein *et al.*, 2011; Rogers *et al.*, 2013), the presence and relative abundances of
18 species (Marcoux *et al.*, 2011), and biodiversity of an area (Depraetere *et al.*, 2012).

19 Acoustic data suffers from many of the problems associated with data from
20 camera trap surveys in that individuals are often unmarked so capture-make-
21 recapture methods cannot be used to estimate densities. In some cases the dis-
22 tance between the animal and the sensor is known, for example when an array of
23 sensors and the position of the animal is estimated by triangulation (Lewis *et al.*,
24 2007). In these situations distance-sampling methods can be applied, a method
25 typically used for marine mammals (Rogers *et al.*, 2013). However, in many cases
26 distance estimation is not possible, for example when single sensors are deployed,
27 a situation typical in the majority of terrestrial acoustic surveys (Elphick, 2008;
28 Buckland *et al.*, 2008). In these cases, only relative measures of local abundance
29 can be calculated, and not absolute densities. This means that comparison of
30 populations between species and sites is problematic without assuming equal de-
31 tectability (Schmidt, 2003). Equality detectability is unlikely because of differences
32 in environmental conditions, sensor type, habitats, species biology.

1 In this study we create a generalised REM (gREM), as an extension to the cam-
 2 era trap model of (Rowcliffe *et al.*, 2008), to estimate absolute density from count
 3 data from acoustic detectors, or camera traps, where the sensor width can vary
 4 from 0 to 2π radians, and the signal given off from the animal can be directional.
 5 We assessed the accuracy and precision of the gREM within a simulated environ-
 6 ment, by varying the sensor detection widths, animal signal widths, number of
 7 captures and models of animal movement. We use the simulation results to rec-
 8 ommend best survey practice for estimating animal densities from remote sensors.

9 3. METHODS

10 **3.1. Analytical Model.** The REM presented by (Rowcliffe *et al.*, 2008) adapts the
 11 gas model to model count data from camera trap surveys. The REM is derived
 12 assuming a stationary sensor with a detection width θ less than $\pi/2$ radians and
 13 detection distance r (Appendix S1 for a list of symbols), giving a circular sector
 14 within which animals can be captured (the detection zone)(Figure 1). However,
 15 in order to apply this approach more generally, and in particular to acoustic de-
 16 tectors, we need both to relax the constraint on sensor detection width, and allow
 17 for animals with directional signals. We therefore model the animal as having
 18 an associated signal width α (Figure 1). Consequently, we derive the gREM for
 19 any detection width, θ , between 0 and 2π and any signal width, α , between 0 and
 20 2π . We start deriving the gREM with the simplest situation, the gas model where
 21 $\theta = 2\pi$ and $\alpha = 2\pi$.

22 **3.1.1. Gas Model.** Following Yapp (1956), we derive the gas model where sensors
 23 can capture animals in any direction and animals give out signals in all directions
 24 ($\theta = 2\pi$ and $\alpha = 2\pi$). We assume that animals are in a homogeneous environment,
 25 and move in straight lines of random direction with velocity v . We allow that
 26 our stationary sensor can capture animals at a detection distance r and that if an
 27 animal moves within this detection zone they are captured with a probability of
 28 one, while animals outside the zone are never captured.

29 For derivation purposes, we consider relative velocity from the reference frame
 30 of the animals. Conceptually, this requires us to imagine that all animals are sta-
 31 tionary and randomly distributed in space, while the sensor moves with velocity

1 v. If we calculate the area covered by the sensor during the survey period we can
 2 estimate the number of animals it should capture. As a circle moving across a
 3 plane, the area covered by the sensor per unit time is $2rv$. The number of expected
 4 captures, z , for a survey period of t , with an animal density of D is $z = 2rvtD$. To
 5 estimate the density, we rearrange to get $D = z/2rvt$.

6 3.1.2. *gREM derivations for different detection and signal widths.* Different combina-
 7 tions of θ and α would be expected to occur (e.g., sensors have different detection
 8 widths and animals have different signal widths). For different combinations θ
 9 and α , the area covered per unit time is no longer given by $2rv$. Instead of the size
 10 of the sensor detection zone having a diameter of $2r$, the size changes with the
 11 approach angle between the sensor and the animal. For any given signal width
 12 and detector width and depending on the angle that the animal approaches the
 13 sensor, the width of the area within which an animal can be detected is called the
 14 profile, p . The size of the profile (averaged across all approach angles) is defined
 15 as the average profile \bar{p} . However, different combinations of θ and α need different
 16 equations to calculate \bar{p} .

17 We have identified the parameter space for the combinations of θ and α for
 18 which the derivation of the equations are the same (defined as sub-models in the
 19 gREM) (Figure 2). For example, the gas model becomes the simplest gREM sub-
 20 model (upper right in (Figure 2) and the REM from (Rowcliffe *et al.*, 2008) is an-
 21 other gREM sub-model where $\theta < \pi/2$ and $\alpha = 2\pi$. We derive one gREM sub-model
 22 SE2 as an example below (where $4\pi - 2\alpha < \theta < 2\pi$, $0 < \alpha < \pi$) (see Appendix S2 for
 23 other gREM sub-models).

24 3.1.3. *Example derivation of SE2.* In order to calculate the size of the average profile,
 25 we have to integrate over the focal angle, x_1 (Figure 3a). This is the angle taken
 26 from the centre line of the sensor. Other focal angles are possible (x_2, x_3, x_4) and
 27 are used in other gREM sub-models (see Appendix S2). As the size of the profile
 28 depends on the approach angle, we present the derivation across all approach
 29 angles. When the sensor is directly approaching the animal $x_1 = \pi/2$.

30 Starting from $x_1 = \pi/2$ the size of profile is $2r \sin \alpha/2$ (Figure 3b). At this point,
 31 the size of α limits the size of the profile. This remains the case until the animal

reaches the right hand side of the sensor where $x_1 = \theta/2 + \pi/2 - \alpha/2$ (Figure 3c). When the sensor is approached from this angle the size of the profile is $r \sin(\alpha/2) + r \cos(x_1 - \theta/2)$ and the size of $\theta/2$ limits the size of the profile. Finally, at $x_1 = 5\pi/2 - \theta/2 - \alpha/2$ an animal can again be detected from the right side of the detector; the approach angle is far enough round to see past the ‘blind spot’ of the sensor. In this region, until $x_1 = 3\pi/2$, the width of the profile is again $2r \sin \alpha/2$ (Figure 3d).

We have therefore characterised the profile width for π radians of rotation (from directly towards the sensor to directly behind the sensor). To find the average profile width for all angles of approach, we integrate these functions over their appropriate intervals of x_1 and divide by π to give:

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{p} &= \frac{1}{\pi} \left(\int_{\frac{\pi}{2}}^{\frac{\pi}{2} + \frac{\theta}{2} - \frac{\alpha}{2}} 2r \sin \frac{\alpha}{2} dx_1 + \int_{\frac{\pi}{2} + \frac{\theta}{2} - \frac{\alpha}{2}}^{\frac{5\pi}{2} - \frac{\theta}{2} - \frac{\alpha}{2}} r \sin \frac{\alpha}{2} + r \cos \left(x_1 - \frac{\theta}{2} \right) dx_1 + \int_{\frac{5\pi}{2} - \frac{\theta}{2} - \frac{\alpha}{2}}^{\frac{3\pi}{2}} 2r \sin \frac{\alpha}{2} dx_1 \right) \\ &= \frac{r}{\pi} \left(\theta \sin \frac{\alpha}{2} - \cos \frac{\alpha}{2} + \cos \left(\frac{\alpha}{2} + \theta \right) \right) \end{aligned} \quad \text{eqn 1}$$

Here the three integrals correspond to Figures 3b, 3c and 3d respectively. Then, as with the gas model, this term is used to calculate density

$$D = z/vt\bar{p} \quad \text{eqn 2}$$

We can also see what causes this model to be discontinuously different to SE3. Examine the profile at $x_1 = \theta/2 + \pi/2$ (the profile is perpendicular to the edge of the blind spot.) We see that there is potentially a case where the left side of the profile is $r \sin \alpha/2$ while the right side is zero. This profile does not exist if we return to the full $2r \sin \alpha/2$ profile before $x_1 = \theta/2 + \pi/2$. Therefore we solve $5\pi/2 - \theta/2 - \alpha/2 < \theta/2 + \pi/2$. We find that this new profile only exists if $\alpha < 4\pi - 2\theta$. This inequality defines the line separating models SE2 and its neighbouring model, SE3.

While specification of the models had to be done by hand, the calculation of the solutions was done using SymPy (SymPy Development Team, 2014) in Python. The models were checked for errors with a number of tests. The models were checked against each other by checking that models which are adjacent in parameter space are equal at the boundary between them (e.g., eqn 1 is equal to $2r$ as in

1 the gas model when $\alpha = \pi$ and $\theta = 2\pi$). Models that border $\alpha = 0$ should have
 2 $p = 0$ when $\alpha = 0$ and this was checked for (e.g., eqn 1 is 0 when $\alpha = 0$ and $\theta = 2\pi$).
 3 We checked that all solutions are between 0 and $2r$ and that each integral, divided
 4 by the range of angles that it is integrated over is between 0 and $2r$. These tests
 5 are included in Appendix S3), and all derivations in full are included in Appendix
 6 S2 with computer algebra scripts in Appendix S3, and the R (R Development Core
 7 Team, 2010) script for the gREM in Appendix S4.

8 **3.2. Simulation Model.** In order to validate the gREM we developed a spatially
 9 explicit simulation of animal movement. By simulating animal movement with
 10 various movement patterns within a continuous space containing sensors we cal-
 11 culated how many animal contacts the sensors would have detected.

12 Each simulation consisted of a 7.5 km by 7.5 km square (with periodic bound-
 13 aries) and was populated with a density of 70 animals km^{-2} to match an expected
 14 maximum density of mammals in the wild (Damuth, 1981), creating a total of 3937
 15 animals per simulation which were placed randomly at the start of the simulation.
 16 Animal movement was simulated with a simple movement model, characterised
 17 by a random movement distance for each discrete time step, at the end of each step
 18 the animal could change direction with a uniform distribution up to a maximum
 19 specified angle. The simulation lasted for N steps of duration T during which the
 20 animals moved with an average speed, v . The distance travelled in each time step,
 21 d , was sampled from a Normal distribution with mean distance, $\mu_d = vT$, and
 22 standard deviation $\sigma_d = vT/10$. An average speed, $v = 40 \text{ km days}^{-1}$, was cho-
 23 sen as this represents the largest day range of terrestrial animals (Carbone *et al.*,
 24 2005), and represents the upper limit of realistic speeds. To reduce computation
 25 effort, a single set of 100 simulations was run for a long duration which could be
 26 subsampled.

27 Animals were counted as they moved in and out of the detection zone of sta-
 28 tionary detectors in the simulation. Multiple detectors were set up in each simula-
 29 tion with varying detection angles with the results recorded separately. The details
 30 of each individual capture event, including the angle between the animals head-
 31 ing and the sensor, were saved from this information the number of capture events

1 can be calculated for a given call angle. The total number of these detections were
 2 summed for each set of parameters in the simulation, the gREM was then applied
 3 in order to estimate the density in the simulation. The difference between the true
 4 input density and density estimated by the gREM were used to evaluate the bias
 5 in the analytical models. If the gREM is correct the mean difference between the
 6 two values were expected to converge to zero as sample size increases. For each
 7 of the 100 simulations we calculate the error (the difference between the known
 8 and estimated density) and so we got a distribution of errors which was approxi-
 9 mately normal. We constructed boxplots of the estimates error to graphically test
 10 for significant differences between the true and estimated densities.

11 All the derived models were tested to demonstrate the accuracy and precision
 12 of the gREM while the assumptions of the analytical models were met. We se-
 13 lected four example models (models NW1, SW1, NE1, and SE3, as in Figure 2) for
 14 demonstrating the accuracy and precision of the gREM with low captures rates,
 15 and the accuracy and precision when movement patterns brake the assumptions
 16 of the gREM. We specifically looked at a non-continuous movement, and a range
 17 of correlated random walks, both of which would be seen in real field conditions.
 18 The four models were chosen as they represent one model from each quadrant of
 19 Figure 4. The accuracy and precision of all the derived models in the gREM follow
 20 the same pattern as the four that have been shown in the main text.

21 4. RESULTS

22 **4.1. Analytical model.** Model results have been derived for each zone with all
 23 models except the gas model and REM being newly derived here. However, many
 24 models, although derived separately, have the same expression for p . Figure 4
 25 shows the expression for p in each case. The general equation for density, using
 26 the correct expression for p is then substituted into eqn 2.

27 Although more thorough checks are performed in Appendix S3, it can be seen
 28 that all adjacent expressions in Figure 4 are equal when expressions for the bound-
 29 aries between them are substituted in.

30 **4.2. Simulation model.** For each model we compared the estimated densities to
 31 the true densities in a simulation. None of the models showed any evidence of any

1 significant differences between the estimated and true density values (Figure 5).
 2 The precision of the models do vary however. The standard deviation of the error
 3 is strongly related to the call and sensor width (Figure 6), such that larger widths
 4 have greater precision. However, even the models with small call and sensor an-
 5 gles have a relatively high level of precision.

6 The precision of the model is dependent on the number of captures during the
 7 survey. In Figure 8 we can see that the model precision gets greater as the num-
 8 ber of captures increase. As the number of captures reaches about 100 then the
 9 coefficient of variation falls below 10% which could be considered negligible.

10 4.2.1. *Use of the gREM when animal movement is not consistent with model assumptions.*

11 Simulating start-stop instead of continuous movement had no effect the accuracy,
 12 or the precision, of the estimates (Figure 10) as long as the true overall speed of
 13 the animal is known. Relaxing straight line movement to allow random or cor-
 14 related random walks did not effect the accuracy of the method (Figure 12). We
 15 allowed animals to change direction up to a maximum value at the end of each
 16 step, picked from a uniform distribution where the maximum angle ranged from
 17 0 to π , which corresponds to straight line movement and random walk respec-
 18 tively. There is no significant difference in the variance for the change, this could
 19 be because of the between the step length of the animal movement, 15 minutes,
 20 means that immediate double counting of the same animal is unlikely. In the case
 21 where large directional changes are likely to occur within short periods of time
 22 leading to double counting of the same animal within a short period of time may
 23 need to be adjusted because of this.

24 5. DISCUSSION

25 We have developed the gREM such that it can be used to estimate density from
 26 acoustic and optical sensors. This has entailed a generalisation of the gas model
 27 and the model in (Rowcliffe *et al.*, 2008) to be applicable to any combination of
 28 sensor width and call directionality. We have used simulations to show, as a proof
 29 of principle, that these models are accurate and precise.

30 The gREM is therefore available for the estimation of density of a number of
 31 taxa of importance to conservation, zoonotic diseases and ecosystem services. The

1 models provided are suitable for certain groups for which there are currently no,
2 or few, effective methods for density estimation. Any species that would be consis-
3 tently recorded at least once when within range of a detector would be a suitable
4 subject for the gREM, such as bats (Kunz *et al.*, 2009), songbirds (Buckland & Han-
5 del, 2006), Cetaceans (Marques *et al.*, 2009) or forest primates (Hassel-Finnegan
6 *et al.*, 2008). Within increasing technological capabilities, this list of species is likely
7 to increase dramatically.

8 Importantly the methods are noninvasive and do not require human marking or
9 naturally identifying marks (as required for mark-recapture models). This makes
10 them suitable for large, continuous monitoring projects with limited human re-
11 sources. It also makes them suitable for species that are under pressure, species
12 that cannot naturally be individually recognised or species that are difficult or
13 dangerous to catch.

14 From our simulations we believe that this method has the potential produce
15 accurate and precise estimates for many different species, using either camera or
16 acoustic detectors. When choosing detectors a researcher should pick the detector
17 with the largest radius and detection angle possible, but whilst a small capture
18 area may reduce precision there is only a limited impact on the overall precision
19 of the model (Figure 6). A range of factors will affect the overall precision of the
20 model, like size of detection zone, speed of animal, density of animals and length
21 of survey which are reflected in the number of captures. Increasing the number of
22 captures leads to more precise estimates, for species which more slower, or have
23 occur at lower densities, then the detection zone and length of survey need to be
24 increased to compensate so that at least 100 captures are collected (Figure 8).

25 Within the simulation we have assumed an equal density across the entire world,
26 however in a field environment the situation would be much more complex, with
27 additional variation coming from local changes in density between camera sites.
28 We also assume perfect knowledge of the average speed of an animal and size of
29 the detection zone, and instant triggering of the camera. All of which may lead to
30 possible bias or decreased precision.

31 Although we have used simulations to validate these models, much more ro-
32 bust testing is needed. Although difficult, proper field test validation would be

1 required before the models could be fully trusted. Note, however, that the REM
2 (Rowcliffe *et al.*, 2008) has been field tested. Both Rowcliffe *et al.* (2008) and Zero
3 *et al.* (2013) both found that the REM were effective manner of estimating animal
4 densities (Rowcliffe *et al.*, 2008; Zero *et al.*, 2013). There was some discrepancies
5 between the REM and the census methodologies found by Rovero and Marshall
6 which may have been down to lack of knowledge of wild animal speed, and an
7 underestimate in census results (Rovero & Marshall, 2009). In some taxa gold stan-
8 dard methods of estimating animal density exist, such as capture mark recapture.
9 Where these gold standard exist, and have been proved to work, a simultaneous
10 gREM study could be completed to test the accuracy under field conditions. An
11 easier way to continue to evaluate the models is to run more extensive simulations
12 which break the assumptions of the analytical models. The main element that
13 cannot be analytically treated is the complex movement of real animals. There-
14 fore testing these methods against true animal traces, or more complex movement
15 models would be useful.

16 There are a number of positive extensions to the gREM which could be devel-
17 oped in the future. The original gas model was formulated for the case where both
18 subjects, either animal and detector, or animal and animal, are moving (Hutchin-
19 son & Waser, 2007). Indeed any of the models with animals that are equally de-
20 tectable in all directions ($\alpha = 2\pi$) can be trivially expanded for moving by sub-
21 stituting the sum of the average animal velocity and the sensor velocity for v as
22 used here. However, when the animal has a directional call, the extension be-
23 comes much less simple. The approach would be to calculate again the mean
24 profile width. However, for each angle of approach, one would have to average
25 the profile width for an animal facing in any direction (i.e. not necessarily moving
26 towards the sensor) weighted by the relative velocity of that direction. There are
27 a number of situations where a moving detector and animal could occur and as
28 such may be advantage to have a method of estimating densities from the data
29 collected, e.g. an acoustic detector based off a boat when studying Cetacea or sea
30 birds (Yack *et al.*, 2013).

31 Another interesting, and so far unstudied problem, is edge effects caused by
32 trigger delays (the delay between sensing an animal and attempting to record the

1 encounter) and time expansion acoustic detectors which repeatedly turn on an off
2 during sampling. Both of these have potential biases as animals can move through
3 the detection zone without being detected. The models herein are formulated as-
4 suming constant surveillance and so the error quickly becomes negligible. For ex-
5 ample, if it takes longer for the recording device to be switched on than the length
6 of some animal calls there could be a systematic underestimation of density.

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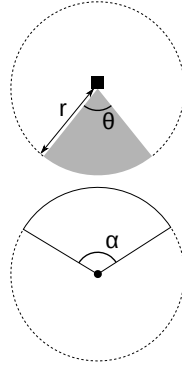


FIGURE 1. Representation of sensor detection width and animal signal width. The filled square and circle represent a sensor and an animal, respectively; θ , sensor detection width (radians); r , sensor detection distance; dark grey shaded area, sensor detection zone; α , animal signal width (radians). Dashed lines around the filled square and circle represents the maximum extent of θ and α , respectively.

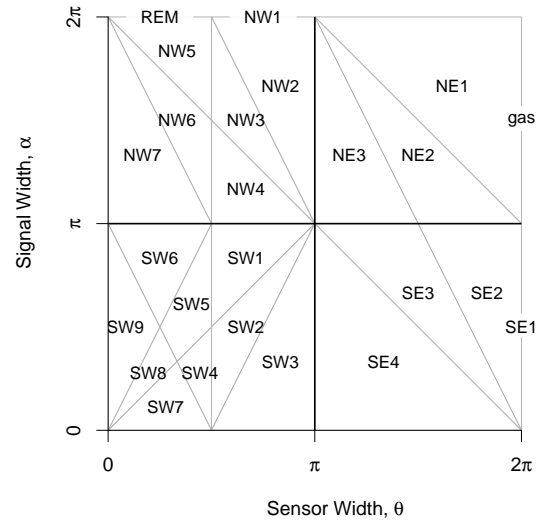


FIGURE 2. The locations of gREM submodels in parameter space. Each polygon shows the parameter space (combination of sensor detection width and animal signal width) for which a given gREM submodel is needed. The submodels are named after the compass point of the quadrant they are in.

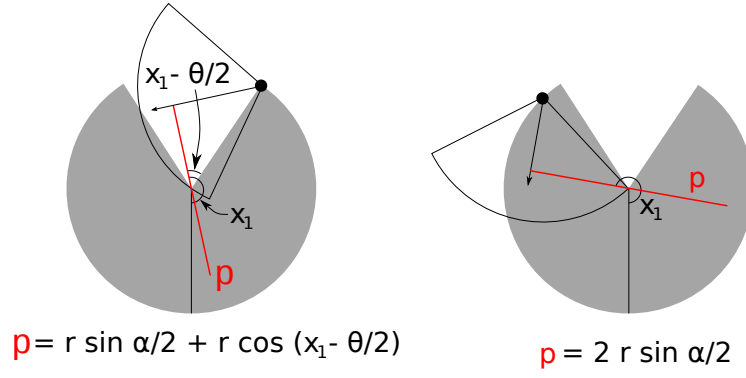
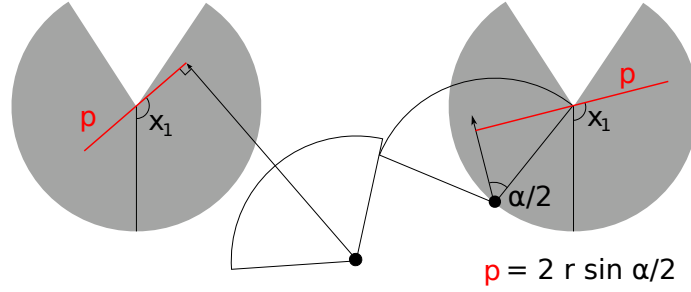


FIGURE 3. Representation of size of the detection zone presented to the animal by the sensor for a focal angle of x_1 for (a) directly approaching blah, (b) blah, and (c) blah. The filled square and circle represent a sensor and an animal, respectively; dark grey shaded area, sensor detection zone; red line, size of the detection zone presented to the animal; x_1 , focal angle; and the dashed arrow represents the movement of the sensor.

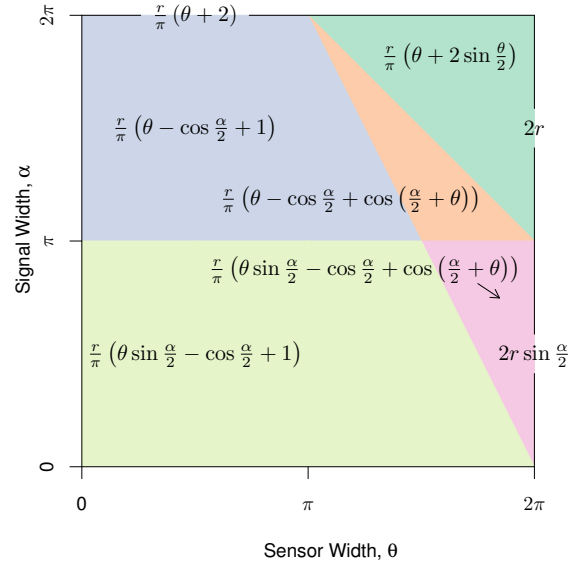


FIGURE 4. Equations for the profile wide, p , given sensor and call widths. Each colour block represents one equation, despite independent derivation within each block, many models result in the same expression. These are collected together and presented as one block of colour.

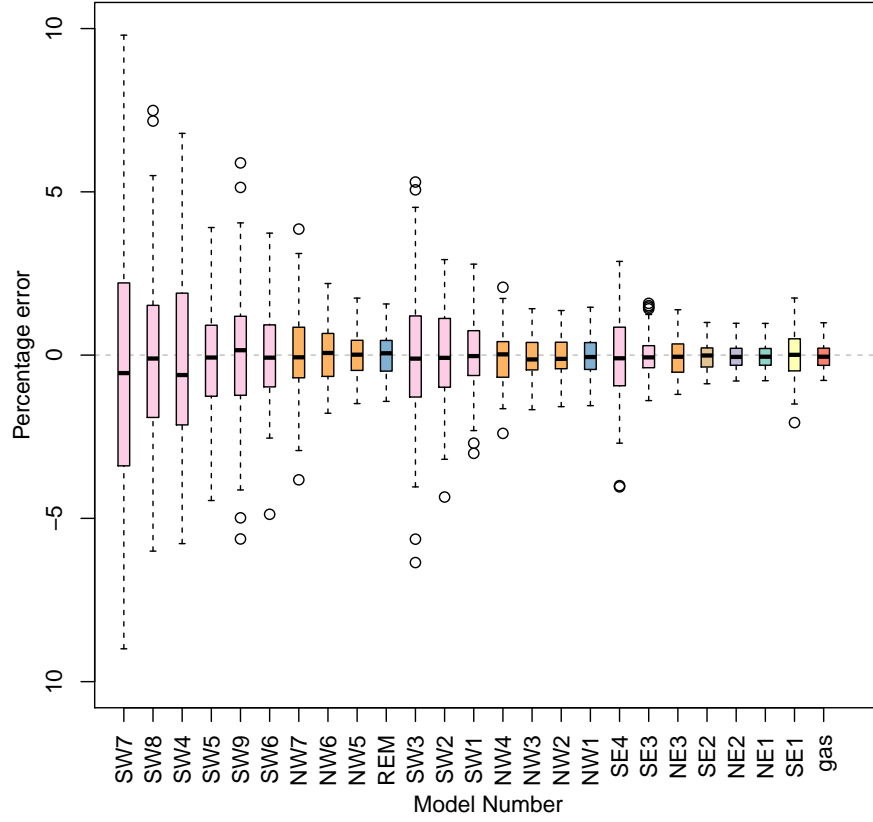


FIGURE 5. Distribution of the bias for each of the derived models. Percentage error of analytical model calculated from the simulation when settings are: $r = 100$ m; $T = 150$ days; $v = 40$ km days⁻¹; $D = 70$ animals km⁻²; and with detection angles varying between models. The numbers referred to here can be found in Figure 1 Appendix S2, and the colour of each box plot match the functional form of the equation as seen in Figure 4.

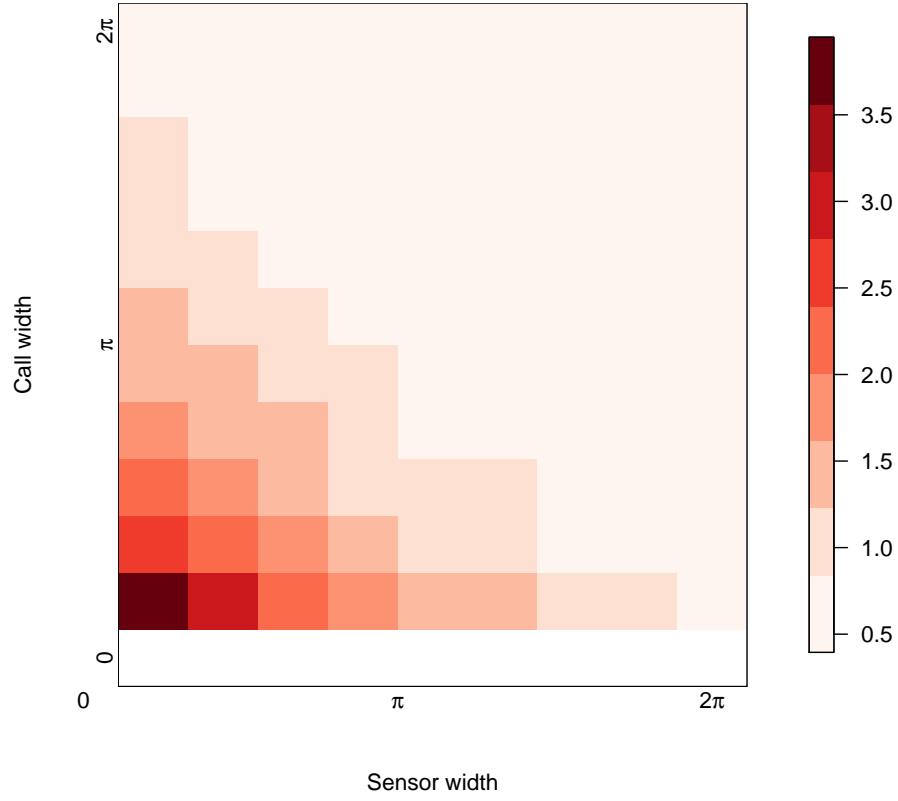


FIGURE 6. Angle of detector

FIGURE 7. The precision of the gREM given a range of detection and call angles. The standard deviation of the percentage error for sensor, and call angles between 0 and 2π where: $r = 100$ m; $T = 150$ days; $v = 40$ km days⁻¹; $D = 70$ animals km⁻²; and with detection angles varying between models. Where red indicates a high standard deviation and blue represents a low standard deviation.

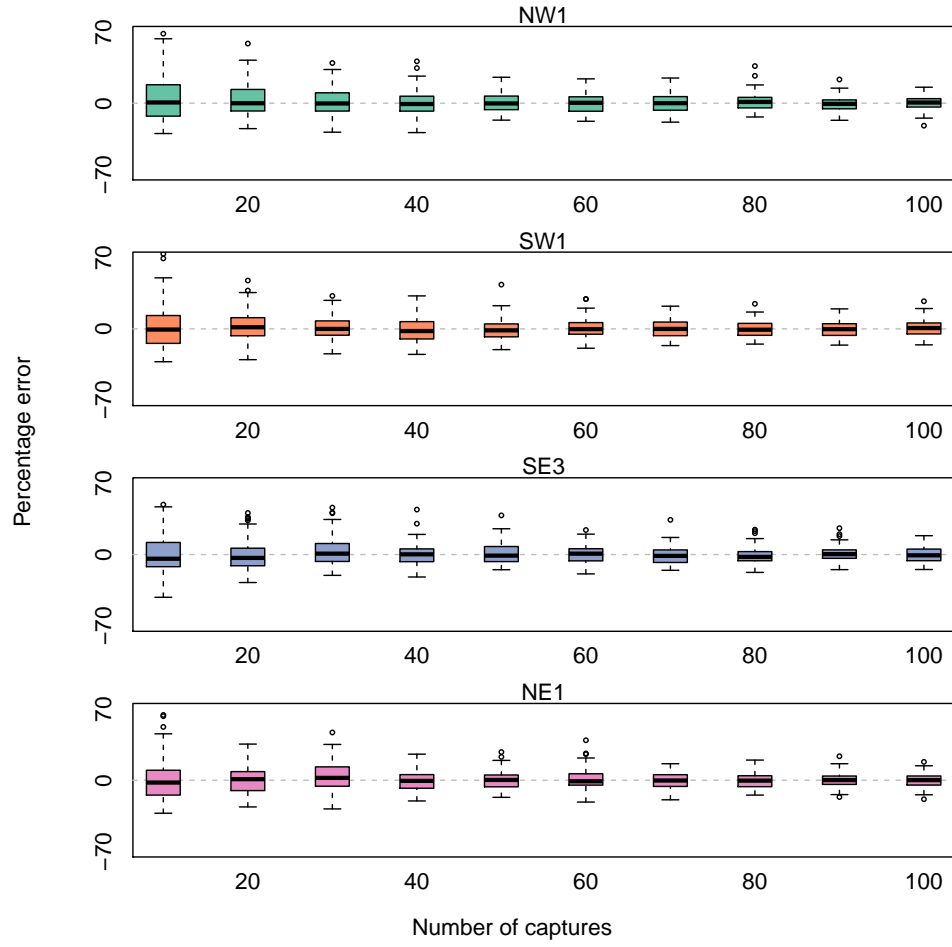


FIGURE 8. Number of captures

FIGURE 9. Accuracy of the gREM reminds unchanged, whilst precision increases, with captures. Boxplots of four test models when given different numbers of captures where: $r = 100$ m; $T = 150$ days; $v = 40$ km days⁻¹; $D = 70$ animals km⁻²; and with angles varying between models. Where the model names refer to Figure 1 in Appendix S2.

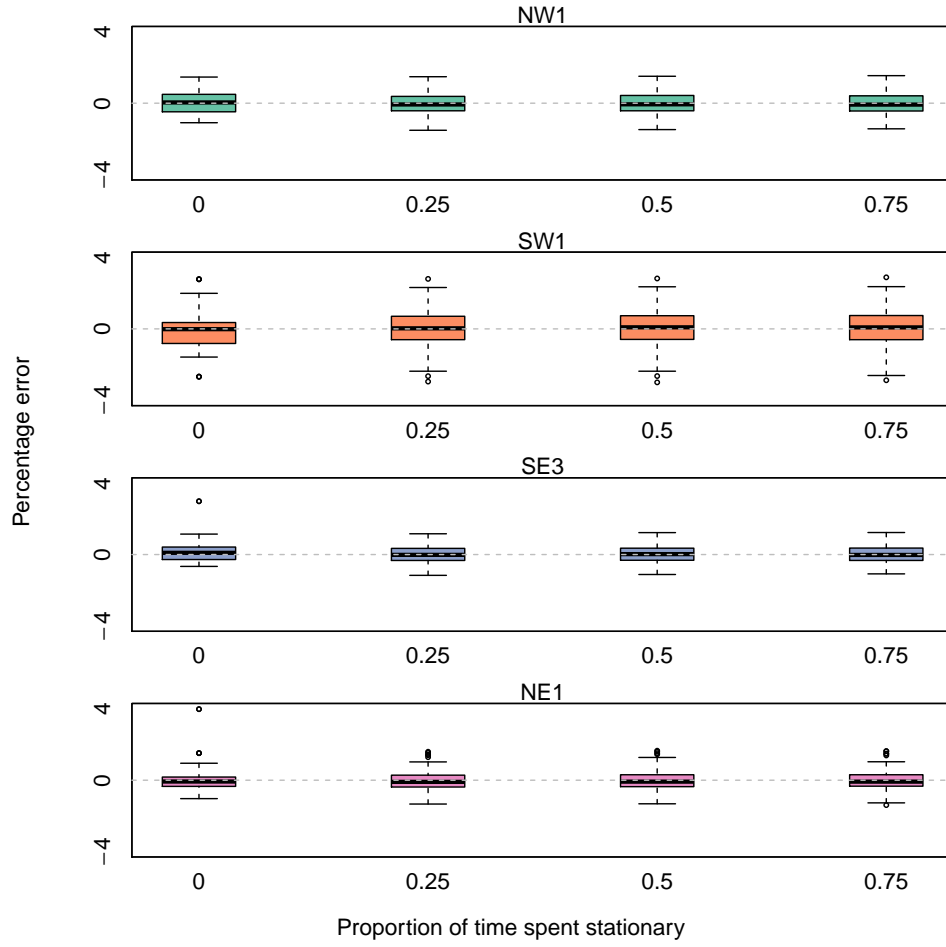


FIGURE 10. Proportion of time spent stationary

FIGURE 11. Accuracy and the precision of the gREM given changes in the amount of time an animal spends stationary on average. Distribution of model error when simulated animals spend increasing proportion of time stationary where: $r = 100$ m; $T = 150$ days; $v = 40$ km days⁻¹; $D = 70$ animals km⁻²; and with detection angles varying between models. Where the model names refer to Figure 1 in Appendix S2.

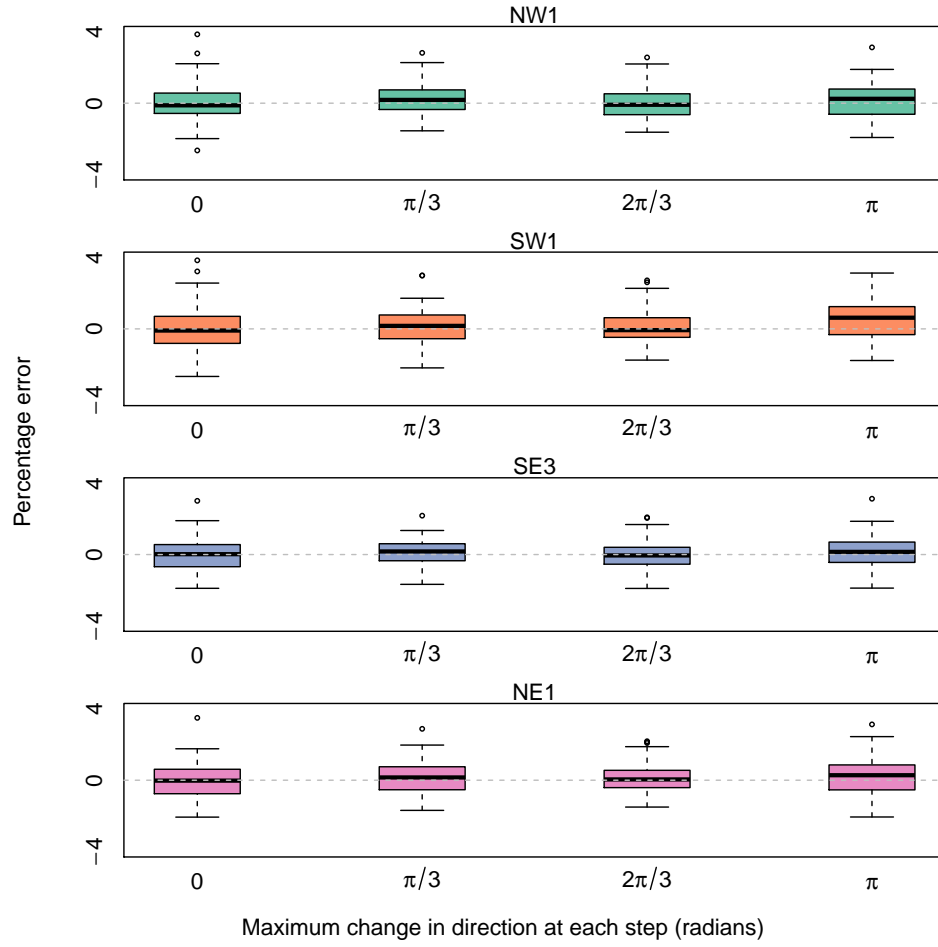


FIGURE 12. Angle of correlated walk

FIGURE 13. Accuracy and the precision of the gREM given different types of correlated walks. Distribution of model error when simulated animals move with different types of correlated walk where: $r = 10$ m; $T = 352$ days; $v = 40$ km days⁻¹; $D = 70$ animals km⁻²; and with angles varying between models. Where the model names refer to Figure 1 in Appendix S2.