Supplementary material

Using integrated multispecies occupancy models to map co-occurrence between bottlenose dolphins and fisheries in the Gulf of Lion, French Mediterranean Sea

Comparison of precision between integrated model vs. single-dataset models

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Data and codes are available on Github.

Introduction

In this supplementary document, we want to assess the benefit of the integration process by comparing the precision of ecological estimation associated with each model. Then, we ran multispecies occupancy models using :

- SAMM aerial line-transects data only, *ie* SAMM model.
- GDEGeM boat search-encounter data only, *ie* GDEGeM model.

and compared the precision between the models.

Methods

Model formulation

We used the (Rota et al. 2016) formulation of multispecies occupancy models as described in the manuscript but we only fit one dataset.

Occupancy process

The latent occupancy process is modeled with a linear effect of bathymetry and a GAM on geographical coordinates.

$$\text{logit}(\psi) = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 \text{ depth} + s(\text{X,Y})$$

where $s(.)$ is a smooth function (see Supplementary Information), and α_0 and α_1 are to be estimated.

Detection process

Each species T (for trawlers) and D (for dolphins) has a different detection probability, p_D and p_T, modeled as a logit-function of sampling effort

$$\text{logit}(p_d) = \beta_{0d} + \beta_{1d}\text{sampling effort}$$

where β_0 and β_1 are to be estimated.

Because we now consider only one detection process, 4 observation events can occur :

- 1 for none species detected
- 2 for species A detected
- 3 for species B detected
- 4 for both species detected

From the 4 ecological states and the 4 observation events, we have the observation process with the following 4x4 matrix.

$$t(\theta') = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & (1-p_A) & (1-p_B) & (1-p_B)(1-p_A) \\ 0 & p_A & 0 & p_A(1-p_B) \\ 0 & 0 & p_B & p_B(1-p_A) \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & p_A p_B \end{bmatrix}$$

Run with NIMBLE

We ran each model on NIMBLE with 200 000 iterations. See R codes for model comparison

Model comparison

From parameters α_1, α_0, and $s(.)$, we calculated the predicted space-use probability by bottlenose dolphins ψ_1, by trawlers ψ_2, and predicted co-occurrence probability ψ_3. We reported maps of mean and standard deviation of ψ_3

Results

Co-occurrence probability

Concerning co-occurrence probability ψ_3, integrated model exhibits a higher precision (i.e. lower standard deviation) that multispecies occupancy models using datasets in isolation (Figure 1 & 2).

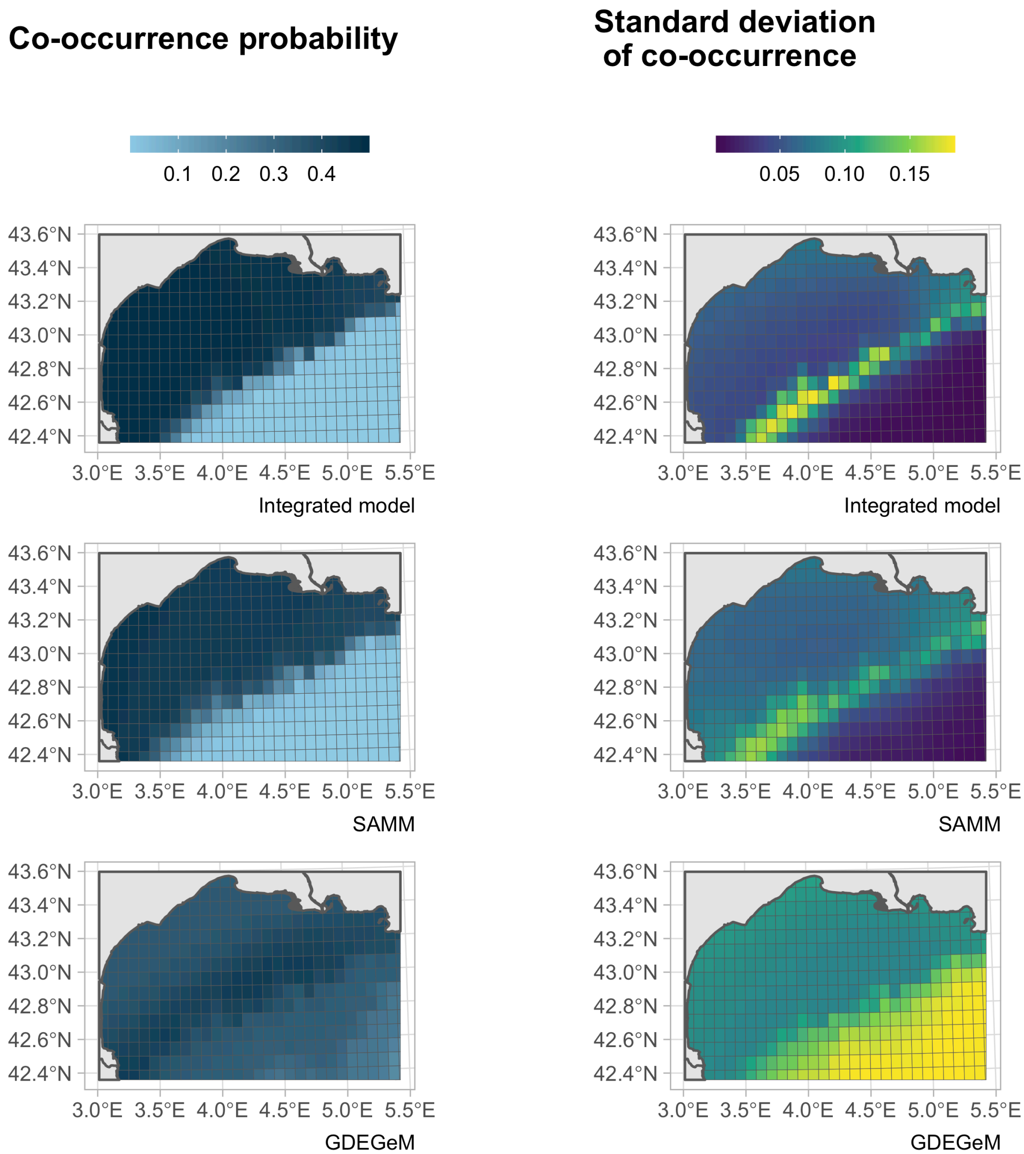

Figure 1: Maps of co-occurrence probability and standard deviation for each model

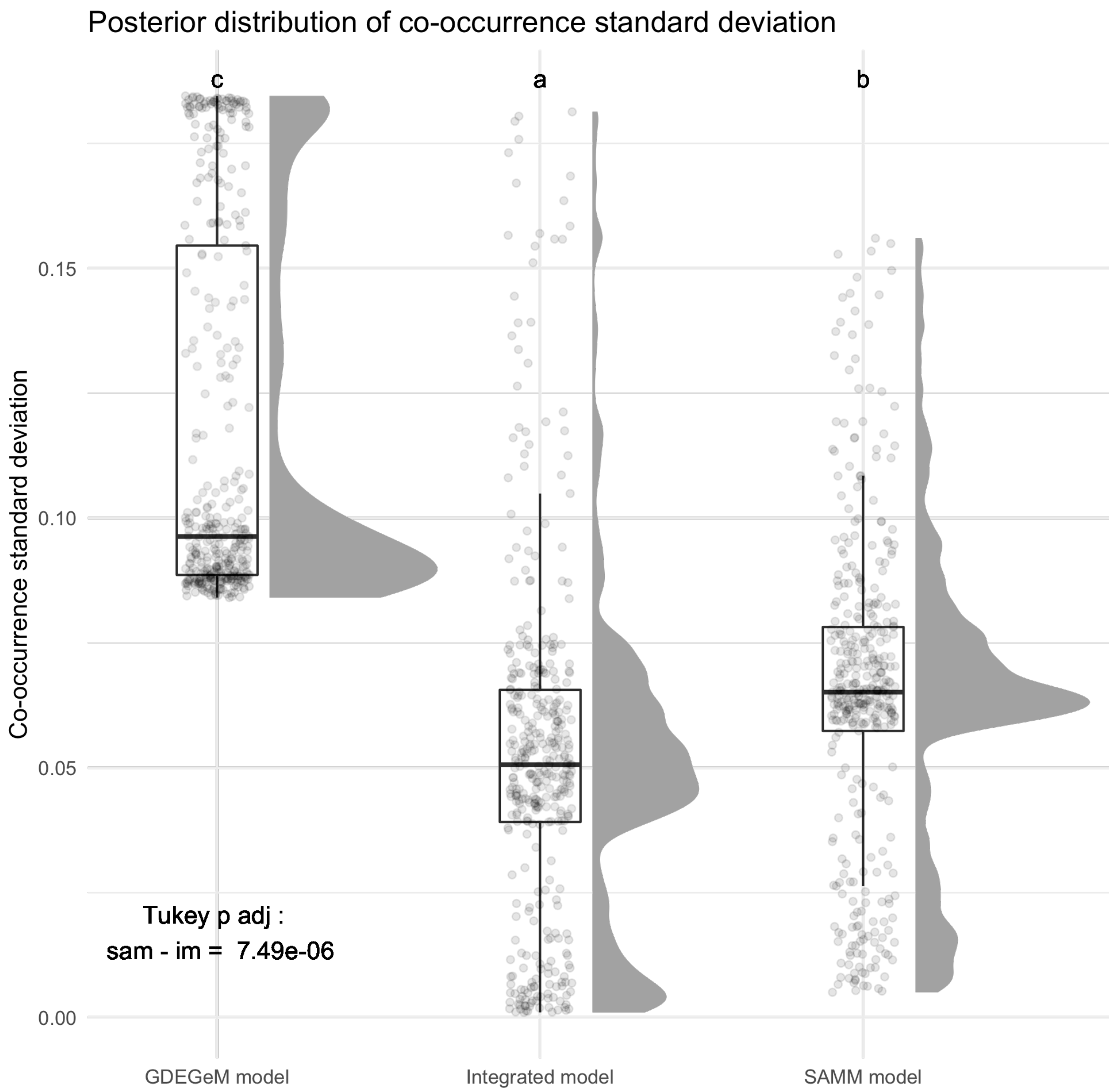

Figure 2: Standard deviation associated with co-occurrence probability. We tested for statistical differences between posterior distribution. 'sam' and 'im' respectively refer to SAMM and integrated model

Concerning parameters ψ_1 and ψ_2, we observed an increase in precision for integrated model but this difference is not significant compared to the SAMM model (Figure).

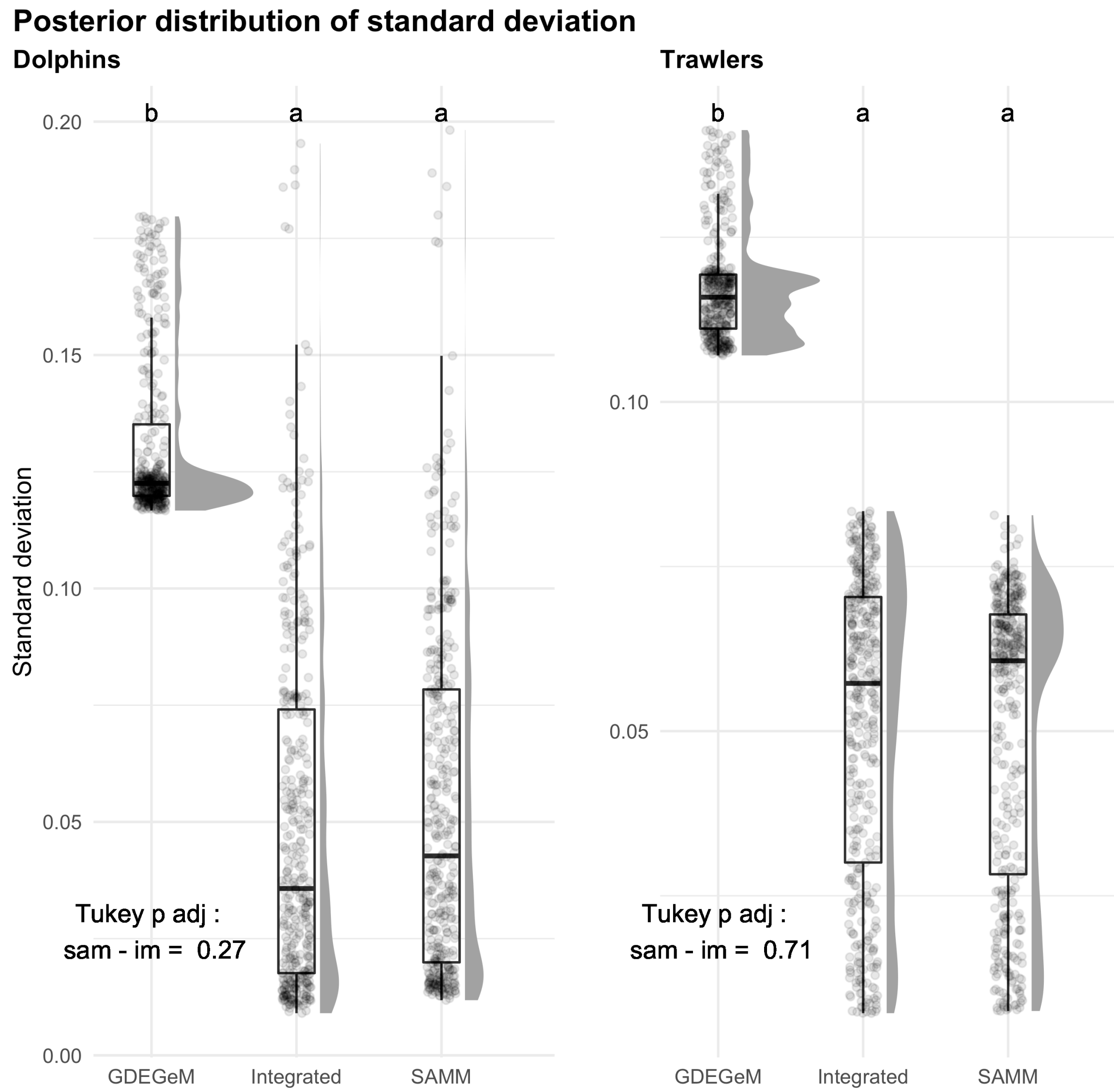

Figure 3: Standard deviation associated with space-use probability for dolphins and trawlers. We tested for statistical differences between posterior distribution. 'sam' and 'im' respectively refer to SAMM and integrated model.

Discussion

Comparing integrated model with other models using datasets in isolation put emphasis on the benefit of integrated approaches to overcome data scarcity (Zipkin et al. 2019). Integrated model exhibits more precise estimated of co-occurrence probability that that of GDEGeM and SAMM model separately. However, our ecological estimations are limited by the small quantity of data available in this case study about bottlenose dolphins.

Nevertheless, we presented a potential illustration of data integration benefit. Integrated models constitute an asset for multispecies occupancy as these models are known to require a substantial amount of data to fit (Clipp et al. 2021). Through our case study on bottlenose dolphins, we provided an promising framework to extend multispecies occupancy models to integrated mutliple datsets.

References

Clipp H L, Evans AL, Kessinger BE, Kellner K, Rota CT (2021) A Penalized Likelihood for Multi-Species Occupancy Models Improves Predictions of Species Interaction. Ecology In press.

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