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Bayesian songbird flightpath recovery in the presence of errors

Tuesday, 30 May 2017 11:30 (30 minutes)

In this talk I will discuss estimation of the migration flightpath of the songbirds where the daily location of the birds is recovered from small geolocator “backpacks” attached to the birds’ backs. The data collection process produces very particular challenges, with potentially large errors as to the day-by-day locations. We propose to overcome these using Bayesian methodology, where the prior is used to smooth the recovered paths, thereby (hopefully) overcoming the errors within the observed data. The data was provided by the Bridget Stutchbury lab.

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