

## Electronic supplementary material

**Table S1.** Estimates of all factor levels from models given in Table 1.

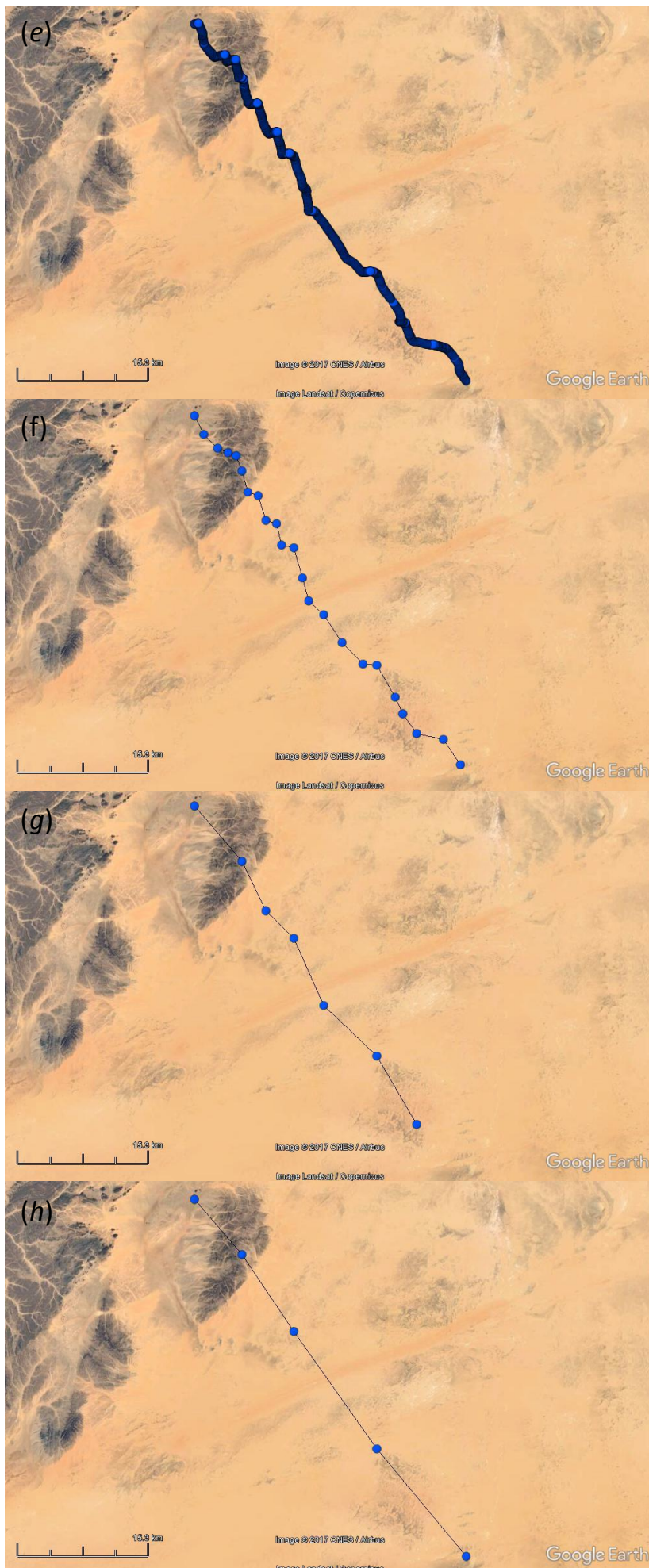
variable	estimate	se	lower	upper
<b>(a) total annual distance (km)</b>				
sex				
female	50978.3	3454.8	43971.6	57985.0
male	60807.5	2250.6	56243.0	65372.0
population				
France	49987.9	3616.8	42652.6	57323.2
Netherlands	59523.8	2364.7	54728.0	64319.5
Denmark	66713.0	5905.9	54735.3	78690.7
<b>(b) mean daily distance (km)</b>				
phase:sex				
breeding-female	113.5	18.6	76.7	150.3
autumn migration-female	320.7	18.6	283.9	357.5
winter-female	125.0	18.6	88.2	161.8
spring migration-female	246.1	18.6	209.3	282.9
breeding-male	212.4	12.0	188.7	236.1
autumn migration-male	285.8	12.0	262.2	309.5
winter-male	116.5	12.0	92.8	140.2
spring migration-male	255.8	12.0	232.1	279.5
phase:population				
breeding-France	111.1	20.0	71.6	150.7
autumn migration-France	285.6	20.0	246.0	325.1
winter-France	125.1	20.0	85.6	164.7
spring migration-France	242.1	20.0	202.6	281.7
breeding-Netherlands	202.1	12.5	177.4	226.8
autumn migration-Netherlands	304.1	12.5	279.3	328.8
winter-Netherlands	115.7	12.5	91.0	140.4
spring migration-Netherlands	255.3	12.5	230.6	280.0
breeding-Denmark	235.8	31.5	173.6	298.0
autumn migration-Denmark	272.8	31.5	210.6	335.0
winter-Denmark	126.0	31.5	63.8	188.2
spring migration-Denmark	264.1	31.5	201.9	326.3
<b>(c) cumulative distance (km)</b>				
phase:sex				
breeding-female	11511.2	1499.2	8547.8	14474.6
autumn migration-female	6954.4	1499.2	3991.0	9917.8
winter-female	23987.7	1499.2	21024.3	26951.1
spring migration-female	8580.2	1499.2	5616.8	11543.5
breeding-male	22883.6	965.5	20975.1	24792.0
autumn migration-male	7177.4	965.5	5269.0	9085.9
winter-male	22054.8	965.5	20146.3	23963.2
spring migration-male	8641.5	965.5	6733.0	10549.9
phase:population				
breeding-France	13443.8	1608.3	10264.8	16622.7
autumn migration-France	6086.7	1608.3	2907.8	9265.7
winter-France	23305.4	1608.3	20126.5	26484.4
spring migration-France	7364.4	1608.3	4185.4	10543.3
breeding-Netherlands	20936.6	1007.6	18945.0	22928.2
autumn migration-Netherlands	7366.8	1007.6	5375.2	9358.4
winter-Netherlands	22209.6	1007.6	20218.0	24201.2
spring migration-Netherlands	8877.9	1007.6	6886.3	10869.5
breeding-Denmark	25021.1	2535.1	20010.3	30031.9
autumn migration-Denmark	8004.0	2535.1	2993.2	13014.8
winter-Denmark	23720.8	2535.1	18710.0	28731.6
spring migration-Denmark	10113.4	2535.1	5102.6	15124.2

**Table S2.** Model output of post-hoc tests on total annual distance between populations, as well as mean daily distance and cumulative distance between annual cycle phases.

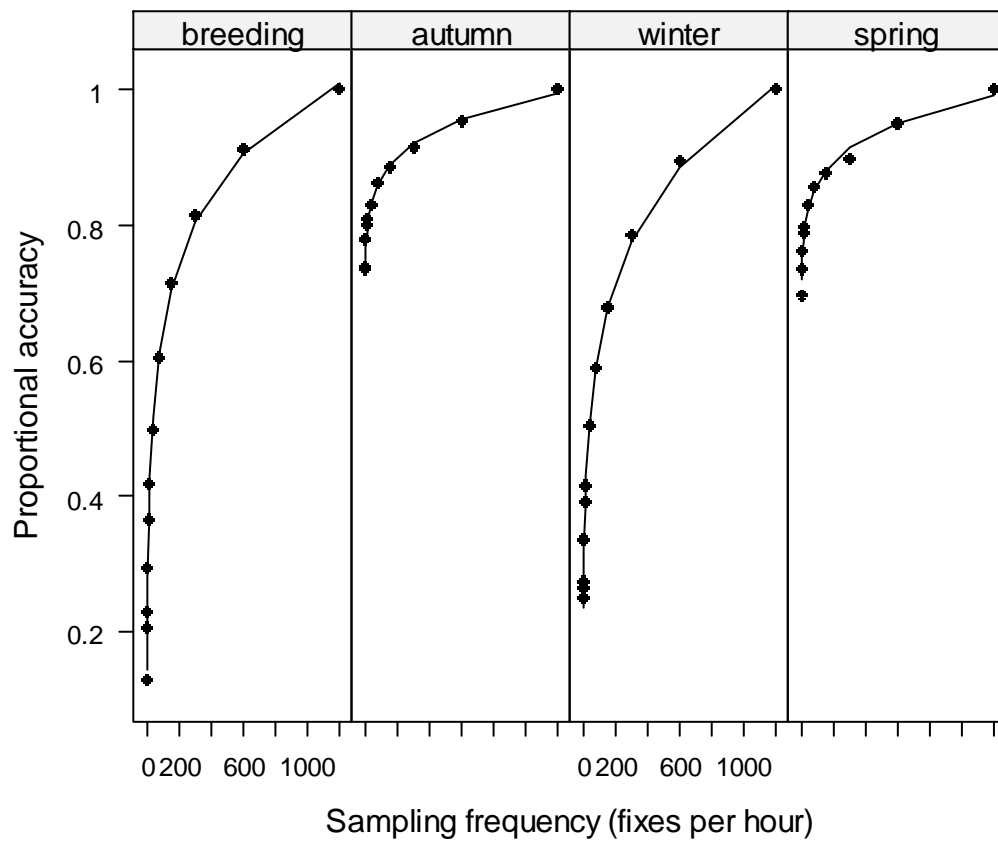
variable	estimate	$\chi^2$ -value	P-value
<b>(a) post-hoc test population differences total annual distance (km)</b>			
F-NL	-9535.8	4.77	0.06
F-DK	-16725.1	5.99	0.04
NL-DK	-7189.3	1.25	0.26
<b>(b) post-hoc test phase differences mean daily distance (km)</b>			
breeding-autumn migration	-131.18	5.96	<0.001
breeding-winter	39.27	5.11	0.03
breeding-spring migration	-88.64	26.01	<0.001
autumn migration-winter	170.46	96.18	<0.001
autumn migration-spring migration	42.54	5.99	0.03
winter-spring migration	-127.92	54.16	<0.001
<b>(c) post-hoc test phase differences cumulative distance (km)</b>			
breeding-autumn migration	10418.1	57.23	<0.001
breeding-winter	-5939.2	18.60	<0.001
breeding-spring migration	8753.1	40.40	<0.001
autumn migration-winter	-16357.3	141.08	<0.001
autumn migration-spring migration	-1665.1	1.46	0.23
winter-spring migration	14692.2	113.82	<0.001



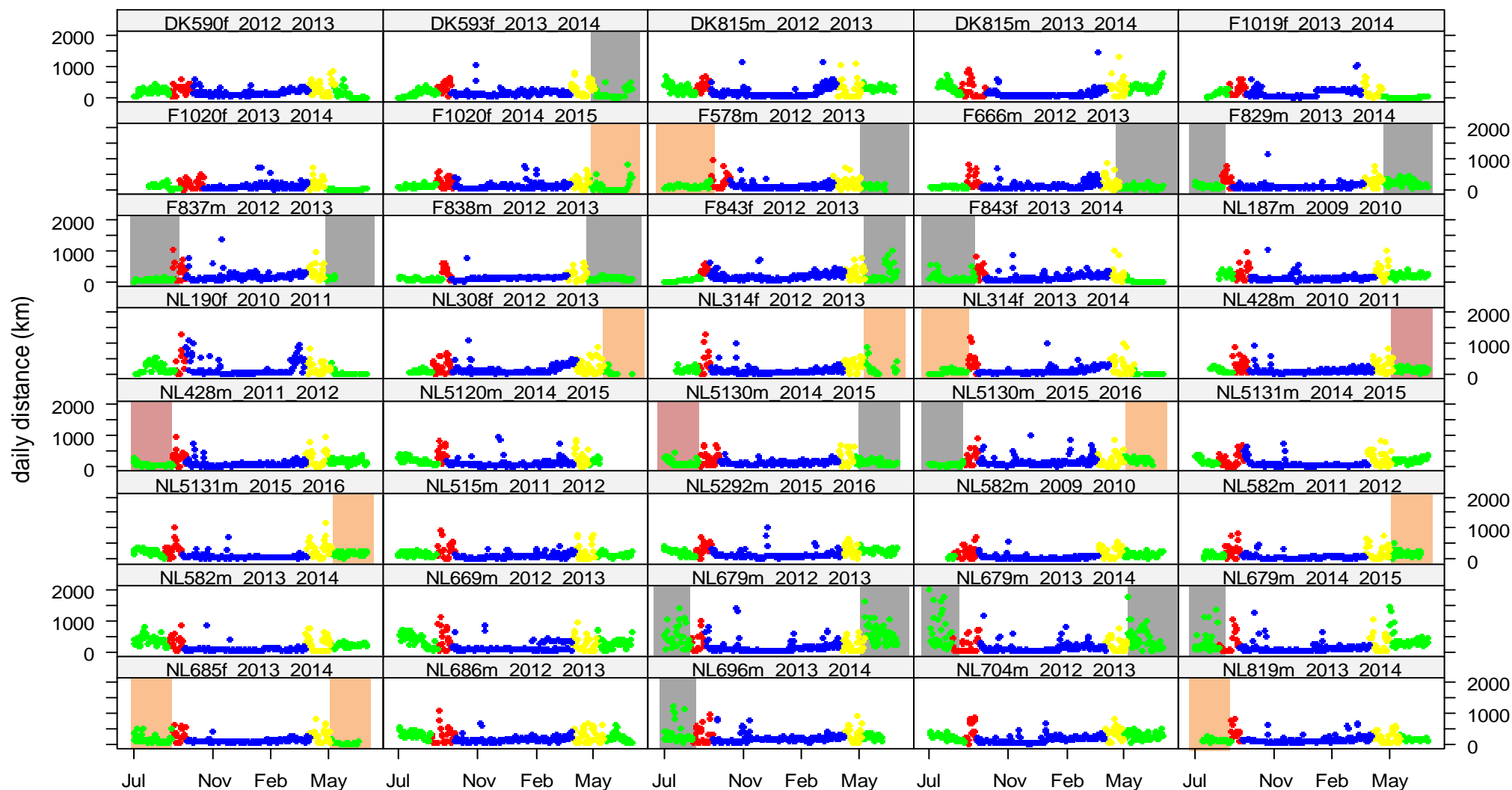
**Figure S1:** (a) Two hours of high-resolution (3 seconds interval) track of male Montagu's harrier Elzo (ID 428) on 24 May 2012 during the breeding season in the Netherlands. Same track subsampled to (b) 5 min, (c) 15 min, and (d) 30 min interval. Distances calculated between consecutive positions: (a) 30.4 km, (b) 10.4 km, (c) 7.7 km, (d) 3.9 km.



**Figure S1 continued:** (e) Two hours of high-resolution (3 seconds interval) track of male Montagu's harrier Elzo (ID 428) on 19 September 2011 during autumn migration crossing the Sahara desert. Same track subsampled to (f) 5 min, (g) 15 min, and (h) 30 min interval. Distances calculated between consecutive positions: (e) 65 km, (f) 56 km, (g) 46 km, (h) 53 km.



**Figure S2:** Proportional accuracy (ratio of apparent to true distance travelled) in relation to sampling frequency for GPS-tracked Montagu's harriers. The nonlinear least-squares estimates of the parameters were estimated fitting a non-linear model ( $y = ax^b + c$ ) using R-function *nls* (breeding:  $y = 330.57x^{0.036} - 324.41$ ; autumn migration:  $y = 27.38x^{0.1} + 43.9$ ; winter:  $y = 47.16x^{0.142} - 28.41$ ; spring migration:  $y = 22.68x^{0.117} + 47.35$ ).



**Figure S3:** Daily distance travelled by Montagu's Harriers tracked by GPS-trackers during a whole annual cycle. Names of individuals are composed of country acronym (DK = Denmark, F = France, NL = Netherlands), the GPS-tracker ID, sex of the bird (f = female, m = male), and the years considered (data from 1 July in year 1 to 30 June in year 2). Colours indicate annual cycle phases (green = breeding, red = autumn migration, blue = winter, yellow = spring migration). Background colours indicate breeding fate (gray = non-breeder, orange = nest failure during egg phase, red = nest failure during chick phase). Distances were corrected according to sampling interval and annual cycle phase.