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### Article

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1 **Title:** Listening and watching: do camera traps or acoustic sensors more efficiently detect wild  
2 chimpanzees in an open habitat?

3

4 **Authors:** Anne-Sophie Crunchant<sup>1</sup>, David Borchers<sup>2</sup>, Hjalmar Kühl<sup>3</sup>, Alex Piel<sup>1</sup>

5

6 **Affiliations:** <sup>1</sup>Liverpool John Moores University, Byrom Street, L33AF, Liverpool, UK,

7 <sup>2</sup>Centre for Research into Ecological and Environmental Modelling, University of St Andrews,

8 The Observatory, Buchanan Gardens, St Andrews Fife KY16 9LZ, UK, <sup>3</sup>Max Planck Institute

9 for Evolutionary Anthropology, Deutscher Platz 6, 04103 Leipzig, Germany

10

11 **Correspondence author:** Anne-Sophie Crunchant, Email: [as.crunchant@gmail.com](mailto:as.crunchant@gmail.com).

12

13 **Running headline:** Acoustic and visual chimpanzee detectability

14 **Abstract**

15 **1.** With one million animal species at risk of extinction, there is an urgent need to regularly  
16 monitor threatened species. However, in practice this is challenging, especially with wide-  
17 ranging, elusive and cryptic species or those that occur at low density.

18 **2.** Here we compare two non-invasive methods, passive acoustic monitoring (n=12) and camera  
19 trapping (n=53), to detect chimpanzees (*Pan troglodytes*) in a savanna-woodland mosaic habitat  
20 at the Issa Valley, Tanzania. With occupancy modelling we evaluate the efficacy of each  
21 method, using the estimated number of sampling days needed to establish chimpanzee absence  
22 with 95% probability, as our measure of efficacy.

23 **3.** Passive acoustic monitoring was more efficient than camera trapping in detecting wild  
24 chimpanzees. Detectability varied over seasons, likely due to social and ecological factors that  
25 influence party size and vocalisation rate. The acoustic method can infer chimpanzee absence  
26 with less than ten days of recordings in the field during the late dry season, the period of highest  
27 detectability, which was five times faster than the visual method.

28 **4. *Synthesis and applications:*** Despite some technical limitations, we demonstrate that passive  
29 acoustic monitoring is a powerful tool for species monitoring. Its applicability in evaluating  
30 presence/absence, especially but not exclusively for loud call species, such as cetaceans,  
31 elephants, gibbons or chimpanzees provides a more efficient way of monitoring populations  
32 and inform conservation plans to mediate species-loss.

33

34 **Keywords:** chimpanzee; occupancy modelling; passive acoustic monitoring; Tanzania;  
35 savanna-woodland mosaic habitat; seasonality; videos; vocalisations

36

## 37 **Introduction**

38 With the sixth extinction crisis ongoing, triggered and exacerbated by anthropogenic  
39 disturbance (Barnosky et al., 2011; Ceballos et al., 2015; Johnson et al., 2017), there is an urgent  
40 need to prioritize conservation actions to monitor and ultimately, mediate species-loss.  
41 Typically, conservation planners focus efforts on the most diverse or vulnerable species or else  
42 those suffering from intense human activity. To provide critical data that reveal patterns of  
43 species distribution over time, systematic monitoring is necessary to assess the impacts of  
44 management decisions and evaluate wildlife recovery (Akçakaya et al., 2018; Martin et al.,  
45 2018). However, in practice, wildlife monitors must overcome numerous challenges, especially  
46 when direct observations are nearly impossible, e.g. when studying nocturnal, cryptic, elusive  
47 or hunted species that have changed their activity pattern/behaviour. Consequently, innovative  
48 biomonitoring methods are revolutionising the way, the speed, and the reliability of providing  
49 the necessary data on not only the threats, but also how animals distribute themselves in ever-  
50 changing landscapes.

51 Detecting species presence is the first and fundamental step for population monitoring.  
52 Occupancy is the proportion of an area used by a species (MacKenzie et al., 2006). Occupancy  
53 statistical models then use detection/non detection data from multiple visits of a given area to  
54 infer the probability of species presence. Occupancy modelling provides a useful tool to assess  
55 the population status i.e. declining, stable or increasing, of any species and can be applied to  
56 numerous species. It has been successfully used with diverse taxa, including tiger (*Panthera*  
57 *tigris*) monitoring (Karanth et al., 2011) and Antarctic sperm whale (*Physeter macrocephalus*)  
58 occupancy and diel behaviour (Miller & Miller, 2018). In long-term monitoring programs,  
59 occupancy modelling can further reveal the effect of disturbance on animal presence by  
60 providing data that reveal landscape-use changes and site colonization and extinction, as well  
61 as reveal multi-species interactions as disturbance levels oscillate (Mackenzie et al., 2002;

62 MacKenzie, Nichols, Hines, Knutson, & Franklin, 2003). Occupancy modelling allows us to  
63 refine species distribution models in conservation planning and adjust policy priorities. Whilst  
64 these models offer valuable information on species presence and the probability of occupancy,  
65 challenges remain to control for detection bias.

66 Detection probability is the likelihood to detect a species when it is present. Imperfect  
67 detection is a common issue and a challenge for species monitoring (MacKenzie et al., 2002),  
68 as it can lead to underestimates of occupancy, e.g. type II errors. Occupancy models account  
69 for imperfect detection (MacKenzie et al., 2002), which can arise from a variety of causes,  
70 including a sensor's placement (Cusack et al., 2015) and detection zone (i.e. closed forest or  
71 open area), habitat characteristics, use of baits (Comer et al., 2018), timing and duration of  
72 sampling, or animal density and behaviour (Neilson, Avgar, Burton, Broadley, & Boutin, 2018)  
73 among others.

74 Autonomous methods such as passive acoustic methods (PAM) and camera trap (CT)  
75 monitoring are two ways to remotely monitor wildlife presence, distribution, and behaviour  
76 (Rowcliffe & Carbone, 2008; Burton et al., 2015; Sugai, Silva, Ribeiro Jr, & Llusia, 2019), and  
77 both provide data for occupancy models. These methods are non-invasive and for both methods,  
78 sensors can be deployed for significantly longer periods (months or years) than time typically  
79 used in e.g. traditional approaches like point count surveys (Alquezar & Machado, 2015).  
80 Furthermore, multiple locations that may be difficult to access by researchers can be monitored  
81 simultaneously by autonomous recording units. This is particularly useful for detecting species  
82 that occur at low density.

83 CT is widely used among conservationists and researchers to study birds and medium to  
84 large mammals (Rovero, Tobler, & Sanderson, 2010). Originally, PAM was developed for use  
85 with marine mammals (Spiesberger & Fristrup, 1990) and continues to be widely employed for  
86 studies of cetacean ranging and abundance (Mellinger, Stafford, Moore, Dziak, & Matsumo,

87 2007; Sugai, Silva, Ribeirao Jr & Llusia, 2019). However, recent advances in bioacoustics have  
88 expanded the applications of acoustic sensors for terrestrial species (Blumstein et al., 2011;  
89 Wrege, Rowland, Keen, & Shiu, 2017). More recently applications include study of gibbons  
90 (*Nomascus gabriellae*) (Vu & Tran, 2019), and wolves (*Canis lupus*) (Papin, Pichenot,  
91 Guéroul, & Germain, 2018), among others. Both methods allow for diverse applications  
92 (Burton et al., 2015; Gibb, Browning, Glover-Kapfer, & Jones, 2019; Sugai, Silva, Ribeiro Jr  
93 & Llusia, 2019), ranging from revealing occurrence and occupancy (Rovero, Collett, Ricci,  
94 Martin, & Spitale, 2013; Campos-Cerqueira & Aide, 2016), population size and density (e.g.  
95 Marques, Munger, Thomas, Wiggins, & Hildebrand, 2011), demography (e.g. McCarthy et al.,  
96 2018), activity patterns (e.g. Oberosler, Groff, Iemma, Pedrini, & Rovero, 2017) and behaviour  
97 (e.g. Tsutsumi et al., 2006).

98 With numerous studies reporting the dramatic, global decline of chimpanzees over the past  
99 decades (e.g. Campbell, Kuehl, N’Goran Kouamé, & Boesch, 2008; Junker et al., 2012; Kühl  
100 et al., 2017), we need reliable, efficient, and affordable methods to monitor their population  
101 status. Like cetaceans, chimpanzees have wide ranges, and rely on loud calls to communicate.  
102 Seasonality influences activity patterns, ranging and feeding behaviour of chimpanzees (Doran,  
103 1997), and may consequently influence chimpanzee detectability with CT and PAM. CT studies  
104 on chimpanzees have been conducted to study uncommon behaviour, e.g. stone throwing (Kühl  
105 et al., 2016) and crab-hunting (Koops et al., 2019), but also for abundance and density  
106 estimation (Després-Einspenner, Howe, Drapeau, & Kühl, 2017; Cappelle, Després-  
107 Einspenner, Howe, Boesch, & Kühl, 2019) among others. Only a few studies have employed  
108 PAM with chimpanzees; those have focused on group ranging and territory use (Kalan et al.,  
109 2015, 2016) and temporal patterns of vocalisations (Piel, 2018).

110 What conservation planners most need, however, is information on the reliability of these  
111 methods for application into understanding chimpanzee presence and distribution. Thus, the

112 primary aim of the study was to compare the efficacy in chimpanzee detection from these two  
113 non-invasive methods, namely PAM and CT. Specifically, we had three objectives and for both  
114 PAM and CT we sought to: (1) estimate chimpanzee detection probabilities from occupancy  
115 modelling; (2) identify the parameters that influence the detectability and more specifically to  
116 what extent seasonality plays a role in detectability; and (3) estimate and compare the sampling  
117 effort needed to produce precise occupancy estimates and make recommendations for wildlife  
118 managers regarding which is the more suitable appropriate method for wildlife surveys. We  
119 hypothesized that chimpanzee detectability would be higher with PAM compared to CT, given  
120 the larger area covered by the acoustic sensors.

121

## 122 **Method**

### 123 1) Study site

124 The study was conducted between March and December 2018, in the Issa Valley, western  
125 Tanzania (Fig. 1). The area is comprised of a series of valleys separated by steep mountains and  
126 flat plateaus, with an altitudinal gradient ranging from 1050 to 1650 m above sea level.  
127 Vegetation is dominated by miombo woodland and also includes grassland, swamp and riverine  
128 forest. For analyses, we collapsed these categories into just two: 'open' (woodland, grassland,  
129 swamp) and 'closed' (riparian forest). It hosts eight primate and four large carnivore species  
130 (spotted hyena, lion, leopard, wild dog), and over 260 species of birds (Moyer et al., 2006). The  
131 region is one of the driest and most open habitat inhabited by chimpanzees (Moore, 1992). At  
132 the time of data collection, the mean monthly rainfall was  $118.4 \pm 92$ mm during the wet season  
133 (mid-October to mid-May) and  $0.6 \pm 0.9$ mm during the dry season. Mean minimum and  
134 maximum temperatures per day were  $16.6 \pm 1.7^{\circ}\text{C}$  and  $27.7 \pm 2^{\circ}\text{C}$ , respectively for the dry  
135 season and  $16.9 \pm 1^{\circ}\text{C}$  and  $25.7 \pm 2.2^{\circ}\text{C}$  for the wet season. Data points were measured every  
136 five minutes by a weather station (HOBO model RX3000, Onset Corp., Bourne, MA) situated



137 near the research station. The study site covers the territory of at least one chimpanzee  
138 community.

139

## 140 2) Study design

### 141 a. Camera trap deployment

142 For nine months, we deployed twenty-one camera traps (Bushnell Trophy Cam) in a systematic  
143 layout (henceforth 'systematic' cameras), in grid cells of 1.67km x 1.67km. We deployed thirty-  
144 two additional camera traps (Bushnell Trophy Cam) at targeted locations, i.e. animal paths or  
145 termite mounds (seven of them) (henceforth 'targeted' cameras, Fig. 1). We attached cameras  
146 to trees 90cm above the ground and were triggered by movement, which activated a 60s  
147 recording, followed by a minimum 1s break before another recording began. For technical  
148 reasons, some cameras recorded 15s videos instead of 60s and videos recorded within the same  
149 minute have been combined into one video for the analyses. Cameras monitored continuously  
150 and were checked once or twice a month to change batteries and SD cards.

151

### 152 b. PAM deployment

153 We deployed twelve acoustic sensors (SM2, Wildlife Acoustics) for the same nine-month  
154 period that were secured on trees at a height of approximately 1.65m, at the top of the valleys  
155 to maximize the chance of recording calls. We recorded sounds at a 16kHz sample rate and 16  
156 bit/s in uncompressed .wav format. We scheduled the sensors to record for 30 minutes of every  
157 hour from 6:00 to 19:30 (7h/day) to maximize capturing calls when chimpanzees are the most  
158 vocally active. We set up the sensors in three clusters of four sensors/cluster, two sensors on  
159 each side of a valley (Fig. 2), with inter-sensor distance ~500m to allow for later sound  
160 localization. We drew a 500m buffer around each acoustic sensor, corresponding to the area  
161 within which a call could reliably be detected (Piel, unpublished data). We rotated the clusters

162 to new locations within the study area every two weeks (four arrays, Fig. 2). We replaced  
163 batteries and SD cards every two weeks.

164 We manually processed acoustic recordings by visualizing spectrograms and aurally  
165 confirming any detection, with the aid of the acoustic software Raven (Bioacoustics Research  
166 Program, 2014). Duplicate detections were controlled for by pooling detections from the four  
167 sensors belonging to the same cluster into one detection.

168

### 169 3) Occupancy modelling

#### 170 a. Modelling framework

171 Occupancy modelling estimates two parameters:  $\Psi$ , the probability that a species is present  
172 within a site, i.e. probability of occupancy, and  $p$ , the probability that a species present is  
173 detected within a site, i.e., probability of detection (MacKenzie et al., 2006). For a discussion  
174 of assumptions, see (MacKenzie et al., 2006; Kalan et al., 2015).

175 For both datasets, we divided the sampling period into sampling occasions (SO) of eight days  
176 each, resulting in 34 and 35 occasions per site, for PAM and CT respectively. Detection  
177 histories were compiled into a matrix containing two different values: (0) non detection and (1)  
178 detection. When no survey was conducted during a SO (e.g. due to camera or audio recorder  
179 malfunctioning or not deployed), a value of NA was assigned. To estimate the occupancy and  
180 detection probabilities, we used a single-season model. We applied the “occu” function from  
181 the “unmarked” package in R (Fiske & Chandler, 2011).

182

#### 183 b. Covariates

184 To account for imperfect detection and heterogeneity in occupancy as well as detection  
185 probabilities across sampling sites and occasions, we incorporated covariates into the model.

186 To explain the variability in chimpanzee occupancy, we created six vegetation/topography

187 combination categories: A- closed/slope, B- closed/valley, C- closed/plateau, D- open/plateau,  
188 E- open/slope and F- open/valley. We did not include site covariates for PAM, as acoustic  
189 sensors were only deployed in one type of location.

190 For the CT dataset, variables that could influence the detectability were the number of camera-  
191 trap days a camera was functioning during a SO (henceforth 'days'), and whether the camera  
192 was set-up on a systematic or targeted deployment (henceforth 'method'). For the PAM dataset,  
193 variable that could influence the detectability was the number of 30-min occasions the sensors  
194 were recording (henceforth 'hours'). For both datasets, we included the seasons (early and late  
195 wet, early and late dry) as a covariate. We defined the beginning of the dry season as the first  
196 week with no rain (i.e. from 16<sup>th</sup> of May) and the beginning of the wet season the first week  
197 with rain (i.e. from 14<sup>th</sup> October).

198 Camera trap days and acoustic sensor hours covariates were z-transformed to a mean of 0 and  
199 standard deviation of 1 before running the models.

200

### 201 c. Model selection

202 To determine the factors that best explained chimpanzee detection, we compared all possible  
203 combinations of covariates that can influence the detection probability,  $p$ . Akaike weights were  
204 used to evaluate the weight of evidence for each model and were summed for all models  
205 containing each predictor variable. Variables resulting in high summed model weights were  
206 considered more important in explaining heterogeneity in detection. For CT we first considered  
207 covariates for chimpanzee detectability ( $p$ ) while keeping occupancy ( $\Psi$ ) constant and  
208 evaluated the best model. We included season, camera placement and days as covariates. Then  
209 we evaluated the effect of the vegetation and topography on chimpanzee occupancy. For PAM,  
210 we evaluated the effect of seasonality on chimpanzee detectability ( $p$ ), by evaluating the best  
211 model based on the AIC values.

212 'occu' models produce estimates with lower and upper bounds for both occupancy and  
213 detection probability on the logit scale. Hence, values were transformed to the original scale  
214 using the functions 'predict' of the package "Unmarked" (Fiske & Chandler, 2011).

215 To assess goodness-of-fit of the models, we used the parametric bootstrap procedure  
216 (MacKenzie & Bailey, 2004) with the function 'parboot' from "unmarked" package (Fiske &  
217 Chandler, 2011), using 1000 simulations. We found no indication of lack of fit for our best  
218 models ( $P > 0.05$ ).

219 With the estimation of the detection probability ( $p$ ), it is possible to estimate the necessary  
220 number of sampling visits ( $N$ ) to infer chimpanzee absence (Kéry, 2002). The probability  $\alpha$  to  
221 not detect a chimpanzee after  $N$  visits is:  $\alpha = (1-p)^N$  (McArdle, 1990; Kéry, 2002).

222 Thus, for  $\alpha=0.05$ , corresponding to a confidence level of 95%, the minimum number of  
223 sampling visits  $N_{min}$  is:  $N_{min} = \log(0.05)/\log(1 - p)$  (Kéry, 2002).

224 We estimated the number of trap days corresponding, by multiplying  $N_{min}$  by eight for CT and  
225 PAM given that one visit corresponds to eight CT days.

226 All analyses were conducted in R studio version 1.2.1335; R Core Team, 2018; available online  
227 at: <https://www.r-project.org>) and maps were created in QGIS version 3.6.2 Noosa; QGIS  
228 Development team, 2018; available online at: <http://www.qgis.org>).

229

## 230 **Results**

### 231 1) Visual vs acoustic detections

232 For the total duration of the study, the cameras were functional for 11,342 camera days across 21  
233 systematic CT and 32 targeted CT. It resulted in 3349 chimpanzee videos. 125 videos were recorded on  
234 12 systematic cameras and 3224 on 32 targeted cameras (table 1). The acoustic sensors recorded for 5316  
235 cluster hours (15344 sensors hours). Of the 10632 30-min occasions analysed, at least one detection has  
236 been detected in 1024 occasions (9.6%) and detections have been made on all sites surveyed. Calls have

237 been made at each hour of the day with a higher proportion early morning (6am and 7am). Both methods  
238 reveal a similar strict pattern of seasonal detection with a peak in detections during the late dry and early  
239 wet seasons (Fig. 3).

240

## 241 2) Factors influencing detectability

242 The best model to predict chimpanzee detectability for PAM comprised season as a covariate  
243 (Table 2). The best model to predict chimpanzee detectability for CT comprised all covariates:  
244 days, season and camera placement (Table 2) and was strongly supported ( $\Sigma w > 0.95$ ;  $\Delta AIC <$   
245  $2$ ) (Burnham & Anderson, 2002) and ranked higher than the constant model ( $\Delta AIC = 148.64$ ).  
246 Vegetation/topography had no significant effect on chimpanzee occupancy.

247 Detection probabilities were lower during the late wet and early dry seasons and higher during  
248 the late dry and early wet seasons (Fig. 4). Detection probabilities were higher for the targeted  
249 placement compared to the systematic placement.

250 To infer chimpanzee absence with a confidence level of 95%, the number of trap days required  
251 was lower for PAM during the late dry and early wet seasons (Fig. 5).

252

## 253 Discussion

254 CT and PAM methods revealed similar patterns of chimpanzee spatiotemporal  
255 distribution, with peaks of detections by both methods occurring in the same valleys in function  
256 of the seasons. However, when we compared the deployment duration required of each method  
257 to infer chimpanzee absence at a confidence level of 95%, PAM was superior, with only ten  
258 and fifteen days needed during the late dry and early wet seasons, respectively. Alternatively,  
259 CT required up to five times longer (e.g. 51 and 33 days for the late dry and early wet seasons,  
260 respectively, in an area of known for chimpanzee presence – ‘targeted placement’) at the same  
261 times of year. Detection probabilities varied as a function of season, with higher vocal and

262 visual detections during the late dry and early wet seasons. We first discuss the efficiency of  
263 both methods, explore the ecological and social factors that can explain seasonal variability of  
264 detection, and then evaluate the advantages and limitations of these methods.

265

### 266 3) Efficacy of PAM and CT in chimpanzee detection

267 If we define efficacy as the shortest amount of time needed to detect a chimpanzee, PAM was  
268 more efficacious and acoustic detection rates were higher. The finding is similar to other studies  
269 comparing acoustic and visual methods in detecting southern right whales (*Eubalaena*  
270 *australis*), sika deer (*Cervus nippon*) and Japanese macaques (*Macaca fuscata*) (Rayment,  
271 Webster, Brough, Jowett, & Dawson, 2018; Enari, Enari, Okuda, Maruyama, & Okuda, 2019).  
272 This is likely due to the detection area with PAM being far larger than with CT, estimated to be  
273 up to 7000 times greater than those for CT in the study from Enari, Enari, Okuda, Maruyama  
274 & Okuda (2019).

275 Detection probabilities were higher on a targeted camera trap placement compared to a random  
276 placement, as expected. This suggests that when using the CT method, a pre-survey to find any  
277 feeding trees or animal paths will maximise the chance to capture an animal.

278

### 279 4) Ecological and social factors influencing detectability

280 We can assume that acoustic and visual detectability are influenced by party size. Indeed,  
281 parties with more chimpanzees call more often (Fedurek, Schel, & Slocombe, 2013). Likewise,  
282 there is a greater likelihood of chimpanzees being visually recorded on the cameras as party  
283 size increases. The variation in detection probabilities across seasons is likely due to seasonal  
284 differences in social grouping and ranging patterns.

285 At Issa, for example, mean dry season party size is nearly twice that of the wet season  
286 (unpublished data). In our study, we found higher detectability during the late dry and early wet

287 seasons. Fruit availability itself might not explain party size fluctuation but rather the interaction  
288 of food availability and food distribution.

289 The presence of females showing full swellings is another important factor that  
290 influences party size, with parties larger when a swollen female is present (Sakura, 1994;  
291 Wallis, 1995; Mitani, Watts, & Lwanga, 2002). Furthermore, male chimpanzees become more  
292 aggressive when they are in a party with oestrous females (Sobolewski, Brown, & Mitani, 2013)  
293 and are therefore more vocal (i.e. more vocalisations because fighting) (Fedurek, Donnellan, &  
294 Slocombe, 2014). At both Issa and Gombe National Park, females show full swellings more  
295 often during the late dry season (Gombe: Wallis, 1995; Issa, unpublished data). Consequently,  
296 these extrinsic factors may explain the higher detection probability during the late dry season,  
297 both by PAM because of the increased calling behaviour and CT, because parties are larger  
298 overall.

299

### 300 5) Potential applicability to other studies, advantages and limitations

301 This study confirms the applicability and potential of PAM compared to CT to detect  
302 chimpanzees. The methods used here are highly applicable to other loud-calling species, such  
303 as elephants (Wrege, Rowland, Keen & Shiu, 2017), gibbons (Kidney et al., 2016), howler  
304 monkeys (Aide et al., 2013), and could also be applied to insects or frogs (Aide et al., 2013).  
305 Species behaviour plays an important role in detection and should be taken into consideration  
306 during study design. For instance, deer detectability will be higher during the rutting season  
307 (Enari, Enari, Okuda, Maruyama & Okuda, 2019), just as we might be seeing for chimpanzees  
308 as well.

309 Despite PAM requiring less deployment time to confirm chimpanzee absence in this study, the  
310 limitations of the method are significant. In contrast to camera traps that record only when a  
311 detection is made, acoustic sensors record all sounds, continuously or on a pre-determined

312 schedule. This generates enormous datasets and sophisticated, big data processing and analyses  
313 are required to post-process (e.g. filter) sounds of interest (See below; Knight et al., 2017). Data  
314 storage can be problematic as well for both methods. Another challenge is power, with regular  
315 visits needed to maintain the system. However, with only a few days required to detect a  
316 chimpanzee combined with the development of new low cost sensors that can be recharged with  
317 solar panels (e.g. Beason, Riesch, & Koricheva, 2018; Hill et al., 2018; Nazir et al., 2017; Sethi,  
318 Ewers, Jones, Orme, & Picinali, 2018), current challenges are already being overcome. Lastly,  
319 without automated detection, analyses of PAM and CT data are extremely time-consuming and  
320 so not advisable when conducting regular surveys. For instance, in this study with 10 days  
321 required for PAM to infer chimpanzee absence, this correspond to 1120min of manual  
322 processing ( $10 \text{ (days)} * 14 \text{ (audio files per day)} * 2 \text{ (minutes to process one audio file)} * 4$   
323 (sensors)). In the past few years, major improvements in automated species detection algorithms  
324 have transformed the way big data are analysed (e.g. Clink, Crofoot, & Marshall, 2019; Knight  
325 et al., 2017; Wrege, Rowland, Keen, & Shiu, 2017). Different methods of machine learning  
326 (e.g. neural networks) are available, see the review from Bianco and colleagues (2019) for more  
327 details. A manual validation to clean false positives is, however, necessary (e.g. Campos-  
328 Cerqueira, Aide, & Jones 2016; Crunchant et al., 2017; Enari, Enari, Okuda, Maruyama &  
329 Okuda 2019; Kalan et al., 2015) to control for false positives. With species with high call  
330 variabilities, like chimpanzees, developing an algorithm is more challenging but as technology  
331 improves rapidly, we can expect the development of a detection algorithm in the near future.  
332 Lastly, these two approaches offer complementary information, and methods should be used in  
333 accordance with particular objectives. For instance, CT allows for individual identification,  
334 necessary to extract information on population abundance (e.g. Després-Einspenner et al.,  
335 2017).



336 Similar to PAM, new technologies such as drones can offer an aerial perspective and provide  
337 real-time feedback for rapid surveys (Wich & Koh, 2018). By combining these two promising  
338 technologies, otherwise labour and time intensive species monitoring is on the cusp of being  
339 revolutionised by remotely recorded sounds with drone-mounted microphones. If the major  
340 drawback for using UAV in acoustic biomonitoring is the excessive UAV noise that can mask  
341 the targeted sound, new methods are already in progress, such as the development of signal  
342 processing algorithms that reduce noise in recording (Hioka, Kingan, Schmid, McKay, & Stol,  
343 2019).

344

### 345 **Conservation applications**

346 Regular surveys and monitoring are crucial for evaluating conservation efforts aimed at  
347 impeding the global decline of great apes and overall biodiversity. Developing an accurate and  
348 time-effective method of surveying animals especially in remote areas is critical. Here we  
349 demonstrated the usefulness of PAM compared to CT to evaluate the absence of an endangered  
350 species. The continuing development of new technologies and the increasing inter-disciplinary  
351 collaboration between engineers, field ecologists and bioinformaticians are driving new  
352 affordable and effective biomonitoring methods. The dramatic improvements in biomonitoring  
353 techniques over the last decade are altering the way we remotely study wildlife distribution by  
354 helping to plan surveys (e.g. Hodgson et al., 2018), identify hotspots and prioritize patrols (e.g.  
355 Hambrecht, Brown, Piel, & Wich, 2019), and how we monitor the wildlife response to ever-  
356 increasing anthropogenic disturbance to their environments (e.g. Buxton, Lendrum, Crooks, &  
357 Wittemyer, 2018).

358

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370 **Data accessibility:** all acoustic and video data are accessible upon request to the authors.

371 **Author contribution:** ASC, DB, HK, AP conceived the ideas and designed methodology; ASC  
372 collected and analysed the data; ASC and AP wrote the manuscript, and all authors contributed  
373 critically to the drafts and gave final approval for publication.

374

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- 603
- 604

605 **Tables**

606

607 Table 1: Summary of the visual and acoustic deployments

	CT		PAM
	systematic	targeted	
Number of sensors	21	32	12
Detection distance/sensor (m)	Max. 29	Max. 29	500
Trap days (per CT or acoustic cluster)	217.1 [147-260]	211.9 [66-280]	68.2 [55-75]
Number of sites with detections (CT or acoustic cluster)	12	32	12
Total detections (videos or 30min audio files)	125	3224	1024
Average trap days with a detection (% per CT or acoustic cluster)	1.94 [0-13.8]	8.33 [0.4-22.1]	38.9 [24.6-52.8]

608

609

610 Table 2: Summary of occupancy modelling for the best models

Models	# Parameters	AIC	$\Delta$	AIC weight
<i>PAM</i>				
p(season+hours) $\Psi(\cdot)$	6	135.17	0.00	1
p(season) $\Psi(\cdot)$	5	161.64	26.47	$1.8 \cdot 10^{-6}$
p(hours) $\Psi(\cdot)$	3	173.15	37.98	$5.7 \cdot 10^{-9}$
p( $\cdot$ ) $\Psi(\cdot)$	2	188.68	53.51	$2.4 \cdot 10^{-12}$
<i>CT</i>				
p(season+method+days) $\Psi(\text{vegetation/topography})$	12	1507.38	0.00	0.95
p(season+method+days) $\Psi(\cdot)$	7	1513.33	5.95	0.049

611

612

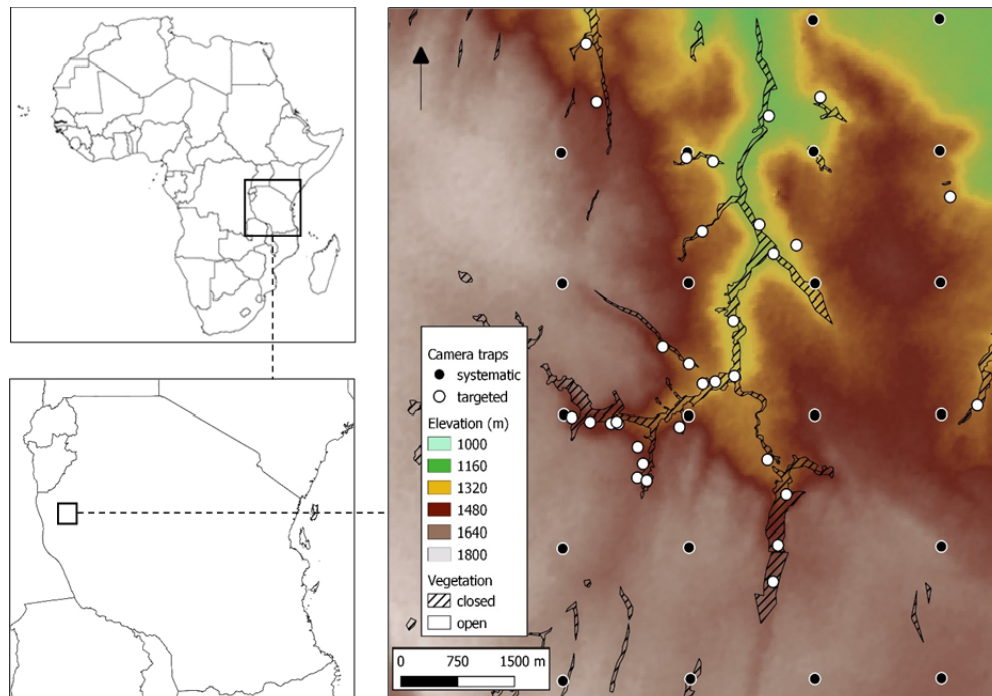


Figure 1: Study site and camera trap locations (targeted and systematic placements) in Issa Valley, Western Tanzania.

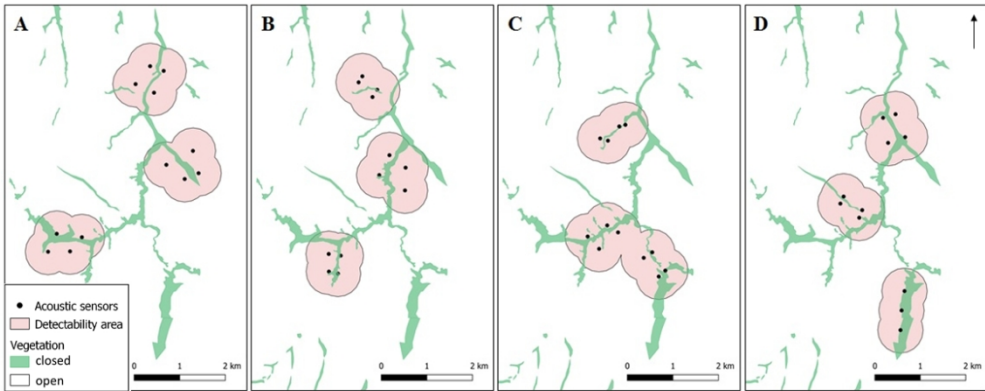


Figure 2: Location of acoustic sensors: each set-up (A, B, C, D) remained two weeks before being rotated to another one. Detectability is the area where a call can reach a sensor, defined as a 500m buffer around a sensor.

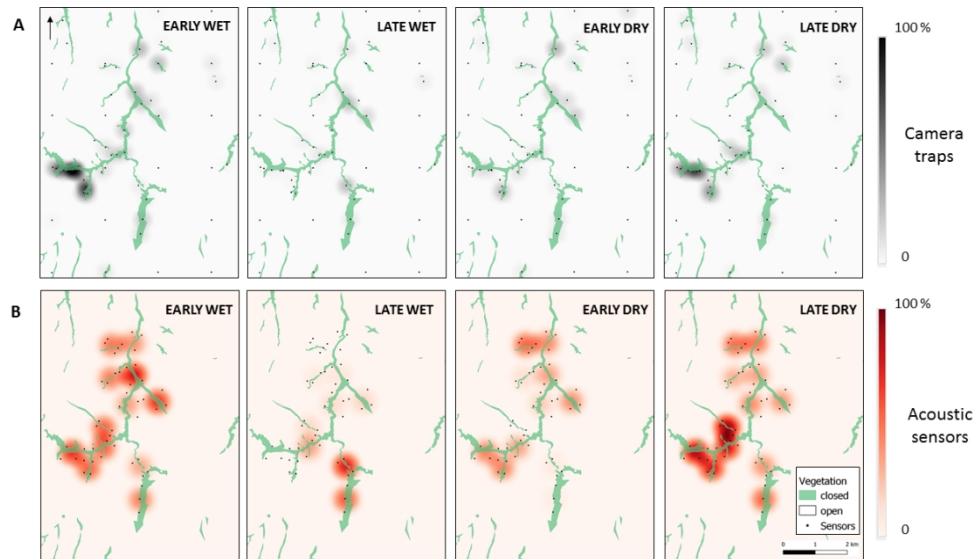


Figure 3: Heatmap of chimpanzee detections (proportion of recording days with at least one detection, call or video) for the CT (A) and PAM (B) datasets, in function of the four seasons, early/late wet and early/late dry.

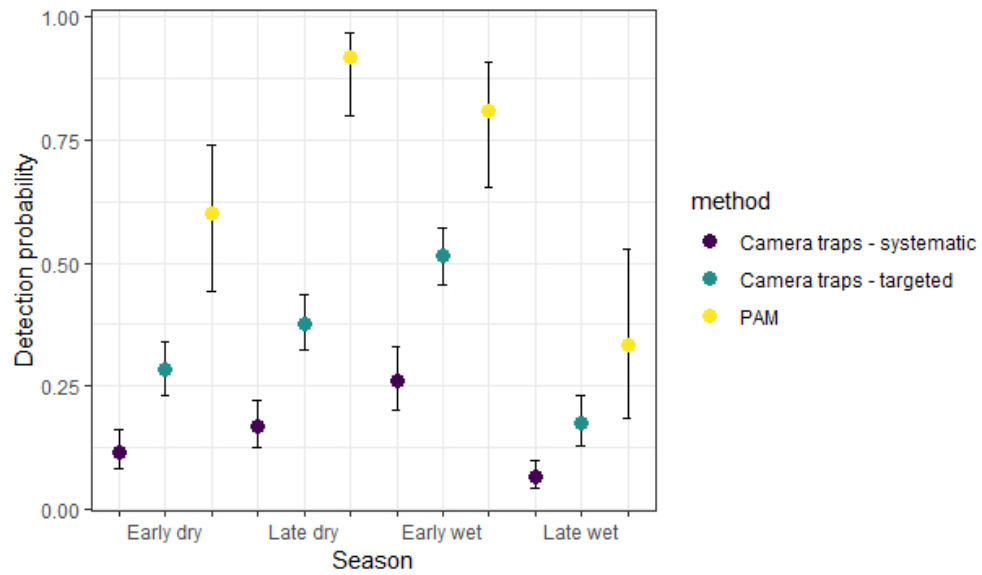


Figure 4: Detection probabilities for each method (PAM, systematic and targeted CT) depending on the season. Error bars represent upper and lower bounds.



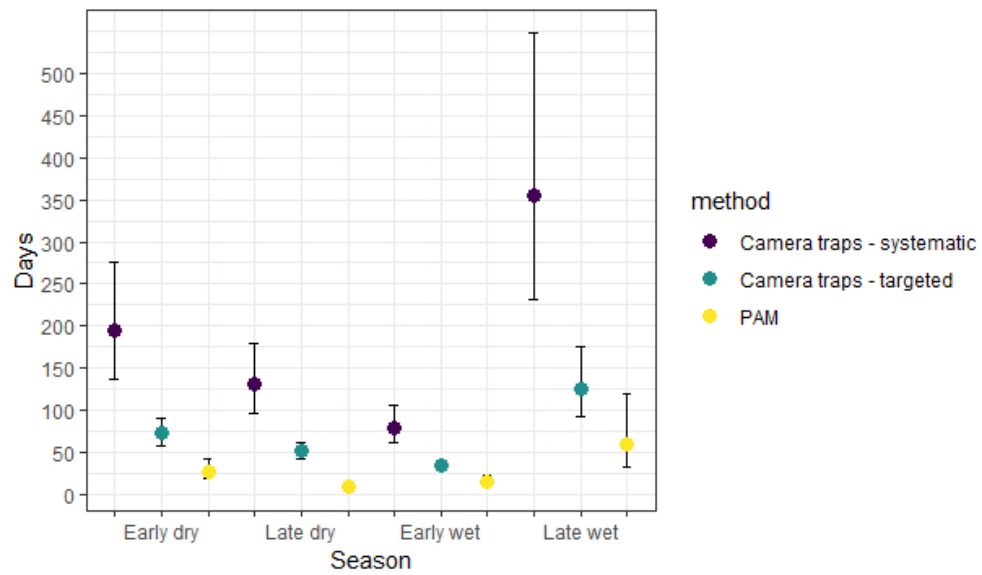


Figure 5: Number of trap days necessary to infer chimpanzee absence at a confidence level of 95% in function of seasons and methods. Error bars represent upper and lower bounds.