

Interactive comment on “Experimental Investigation of Aerodynamic Characteristics of Bat Carcasses after Collision with a Wind Turbine” by Shivendra Prakash and Corey D. Markfort

Anonymous Referee #1

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General comments: Hundreds of thousands of bats are killed every year by spinning wind turbines. And the problem is increasing as the number of turbines increase world-wide. It is important to quantify the species and number of bats hit by the rotor blades to be able to evaluate the conservation aspects and potentially mitigate collisions. To determine the area that should be searched for dead bats under each turbine, this paper calculates the drag coefficient and develop ballistic models for real dead bats dropped from a high building and simultaneously surveyed by high-speed video. By making the first drag coefficient calculations of bats and implement them in models of fall distribution around turbines makes this paper useful and important in estimating the radius that must be searched. However, the experimental design was not optimal and

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some uncertainty in estimating drag coefficients were found. The paper is well written and I have only minor comments.

Abstract and Conclusion: I would recommend to include the fall radius and how the results of this study should be implemented in bat conservation.

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