

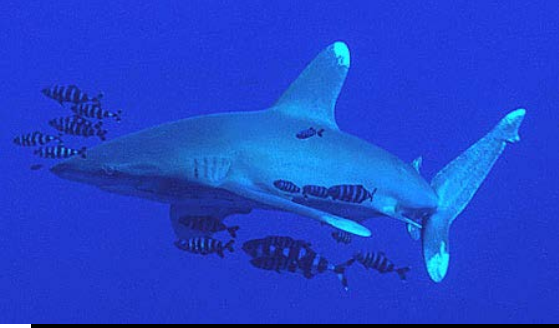
Changes in exploited marine systems – From the open ocean to Hudson River

Ransom A. Myers (RAM)
Dalhousie University



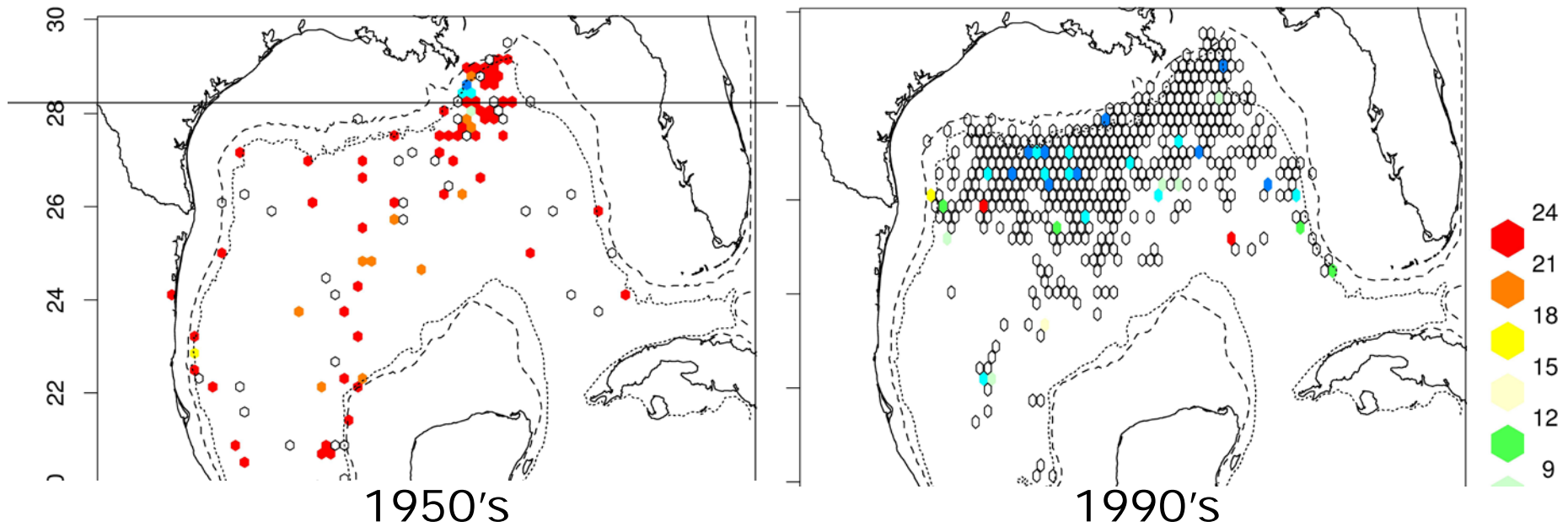
What was the most common large animal (>40 Kg) in the world? (perhaps this one was)





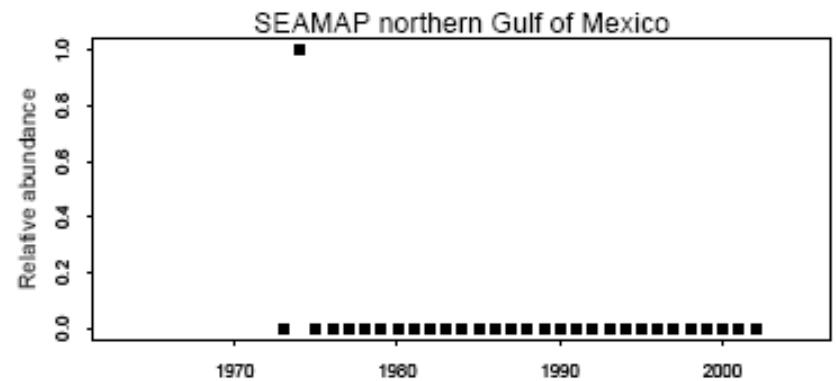
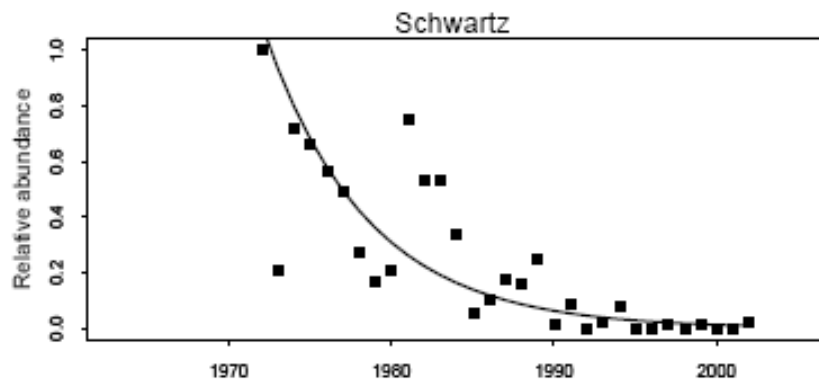
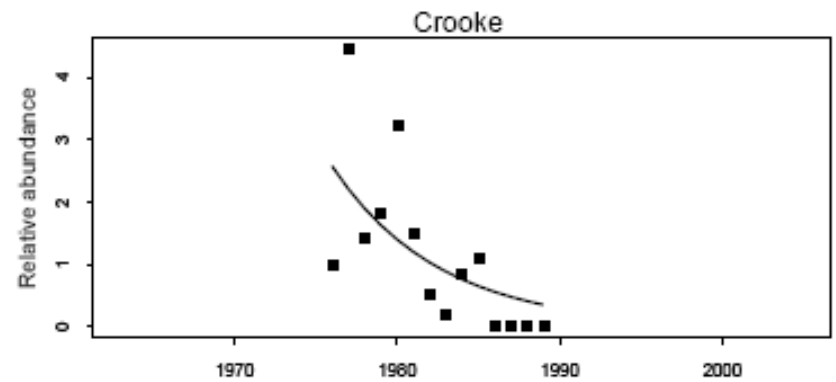
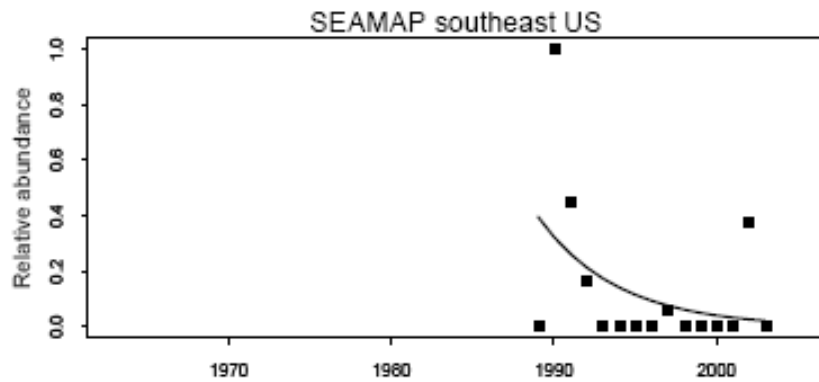
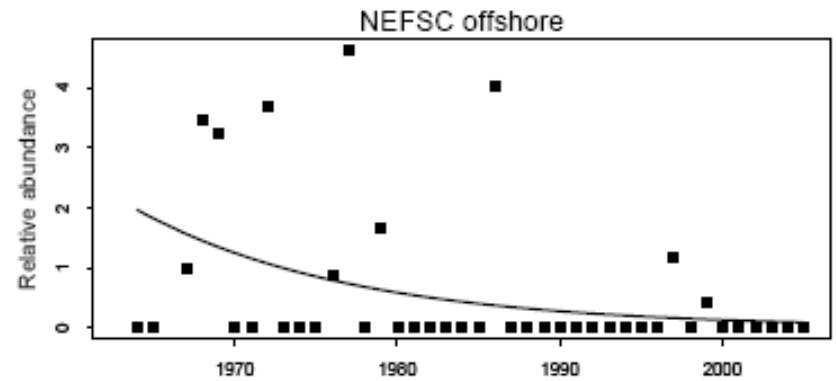
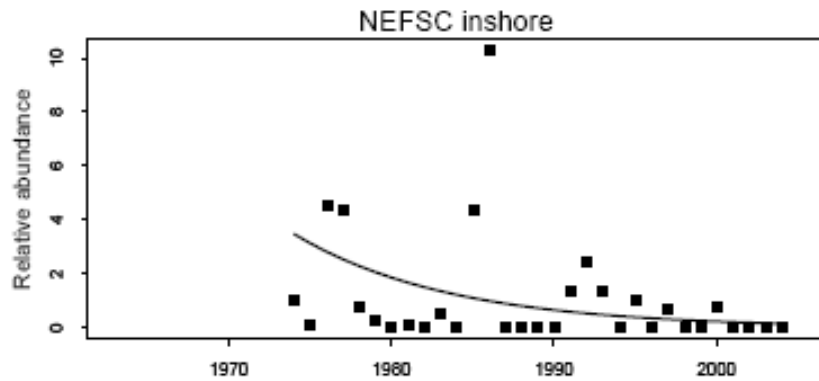
Loss of sharks in the Gulf of Mexico

300 fold decline – no one noticed

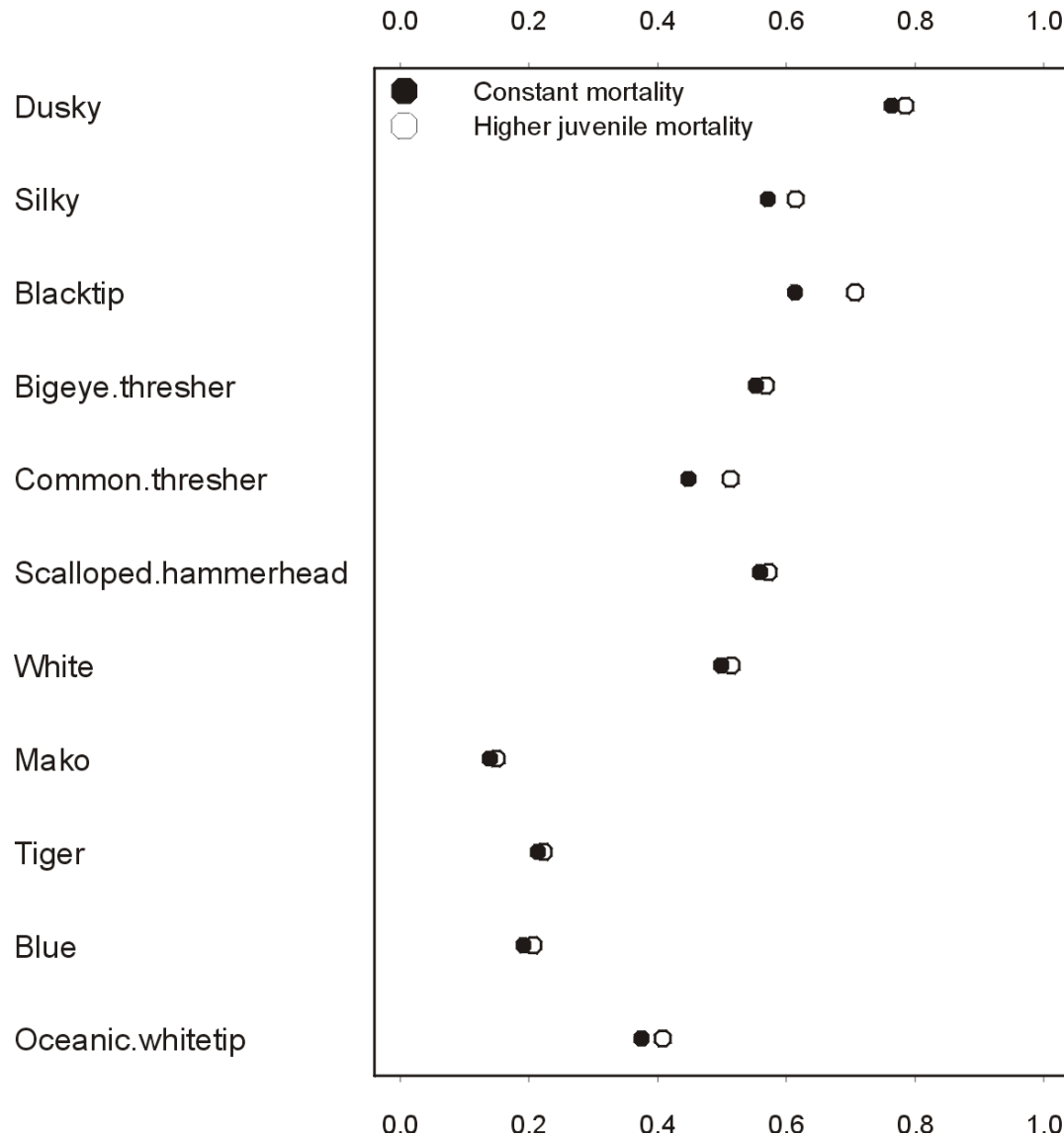


Oceanic Whitetip captures per 10,000 hooks

Loss of Dusky Sharks in the Eastern US

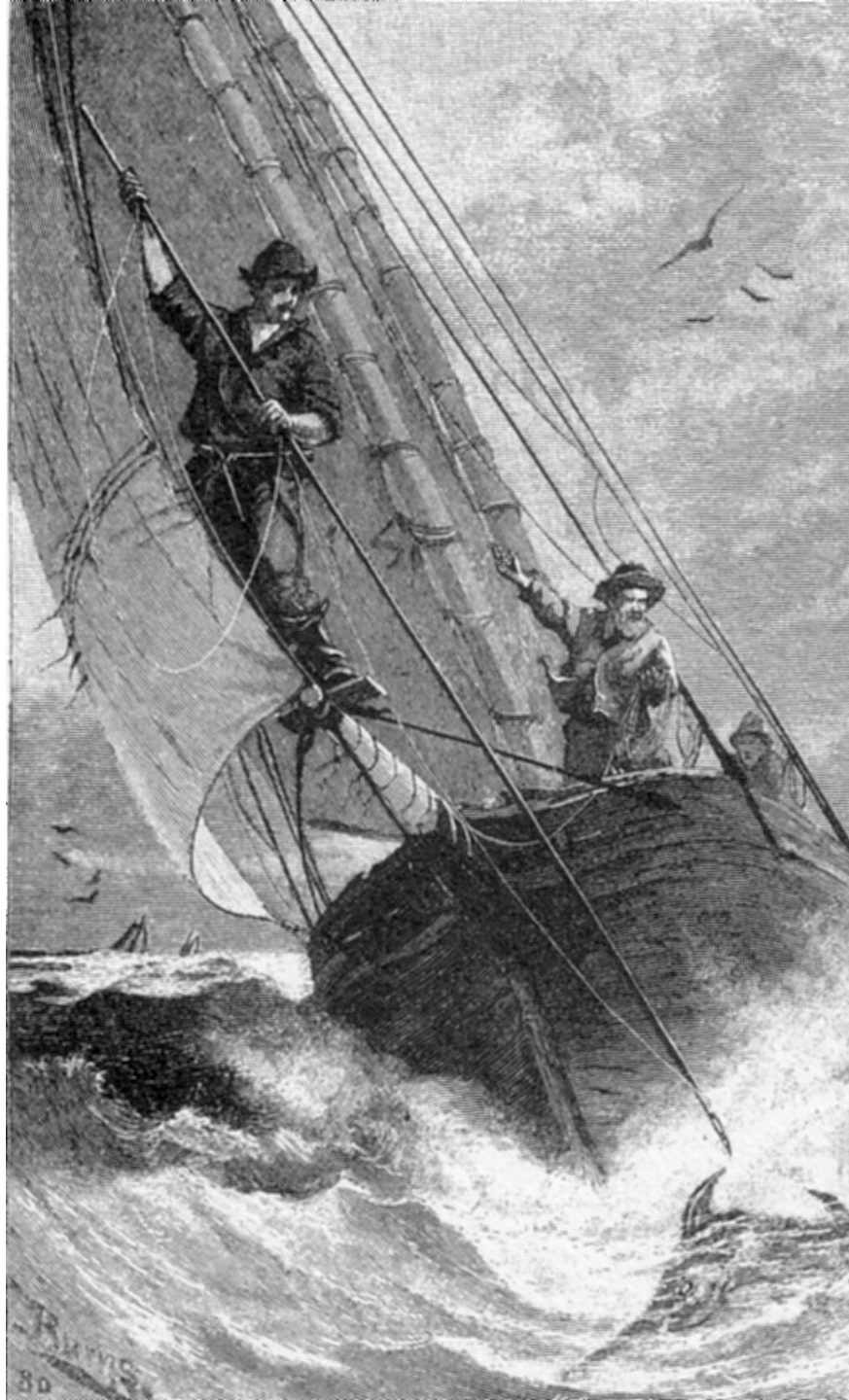


Proportional reduction in current fishing mortality needed to ensure survival of shark populations



What does this imply:

- It is not possible to think about ecosystems without thinking about history.





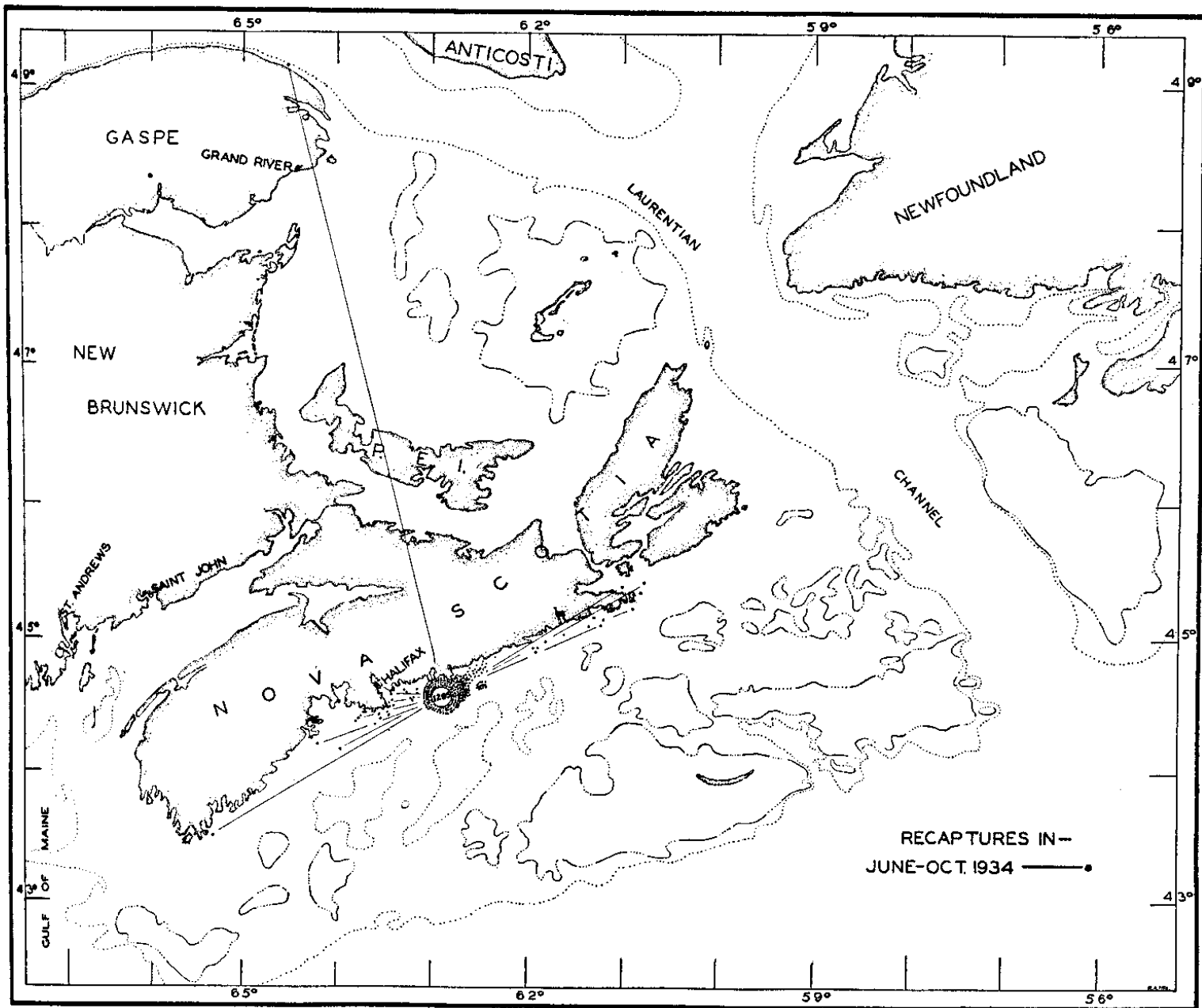


FIG. 21.—Recaptures to October, 1934, of cod tagged in the Jeddore Rock to Egg Island area, N.S., in May, 1934.

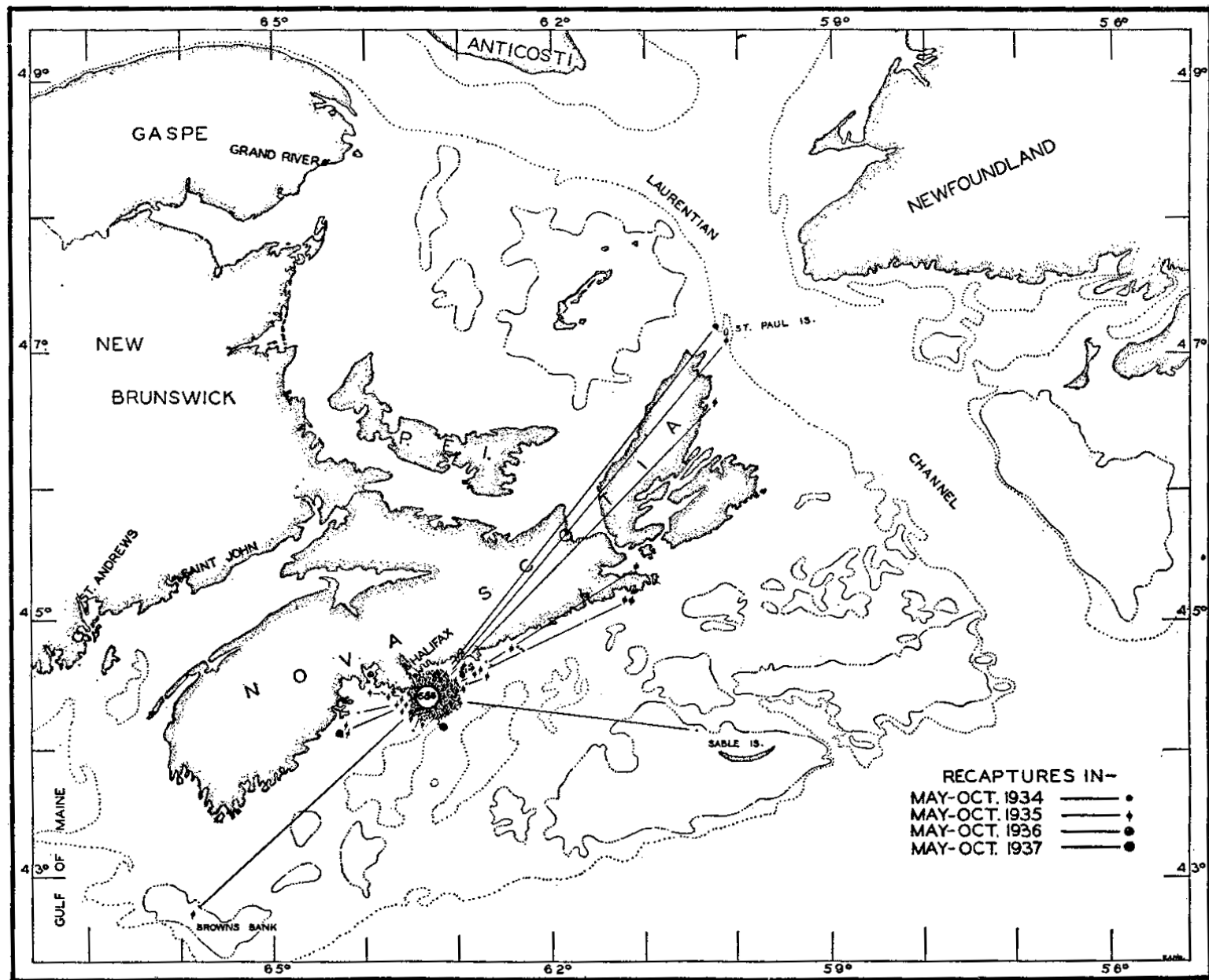


FIG. 18.—Recaptures in May to October, 1934, 1935, 1936 and 1937, of cod tagged near Halifax in June, 1934.

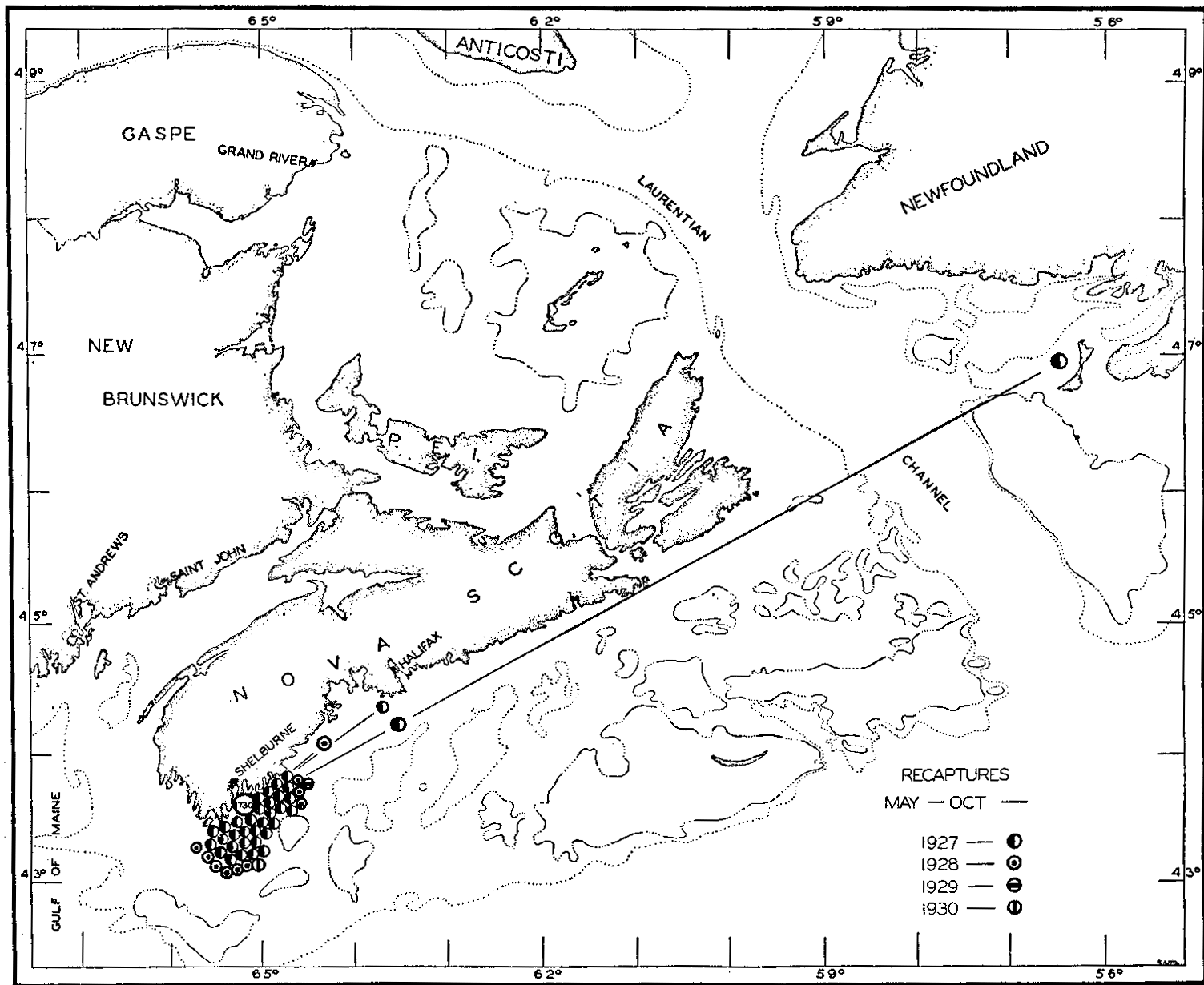


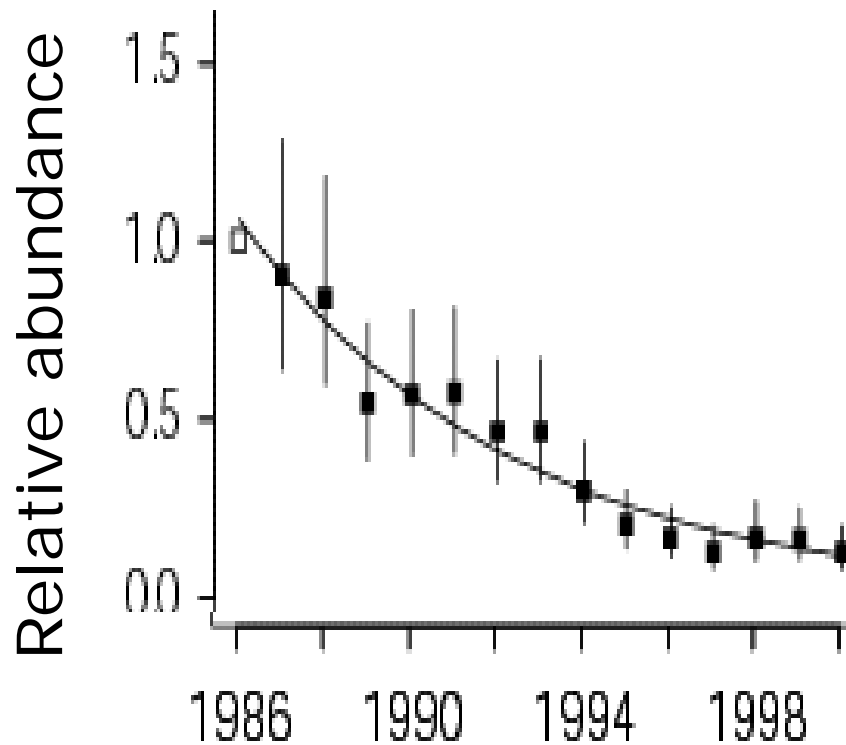
FIG. 15.—Recaptures during “summers” of 1927, 1928, 1929 and 1930 of cod tagged off Shelburne, N.S., during September and the first day of October, 1926.

What does this imply:

- Loss of populations is one of the most important consequences to overfishing.

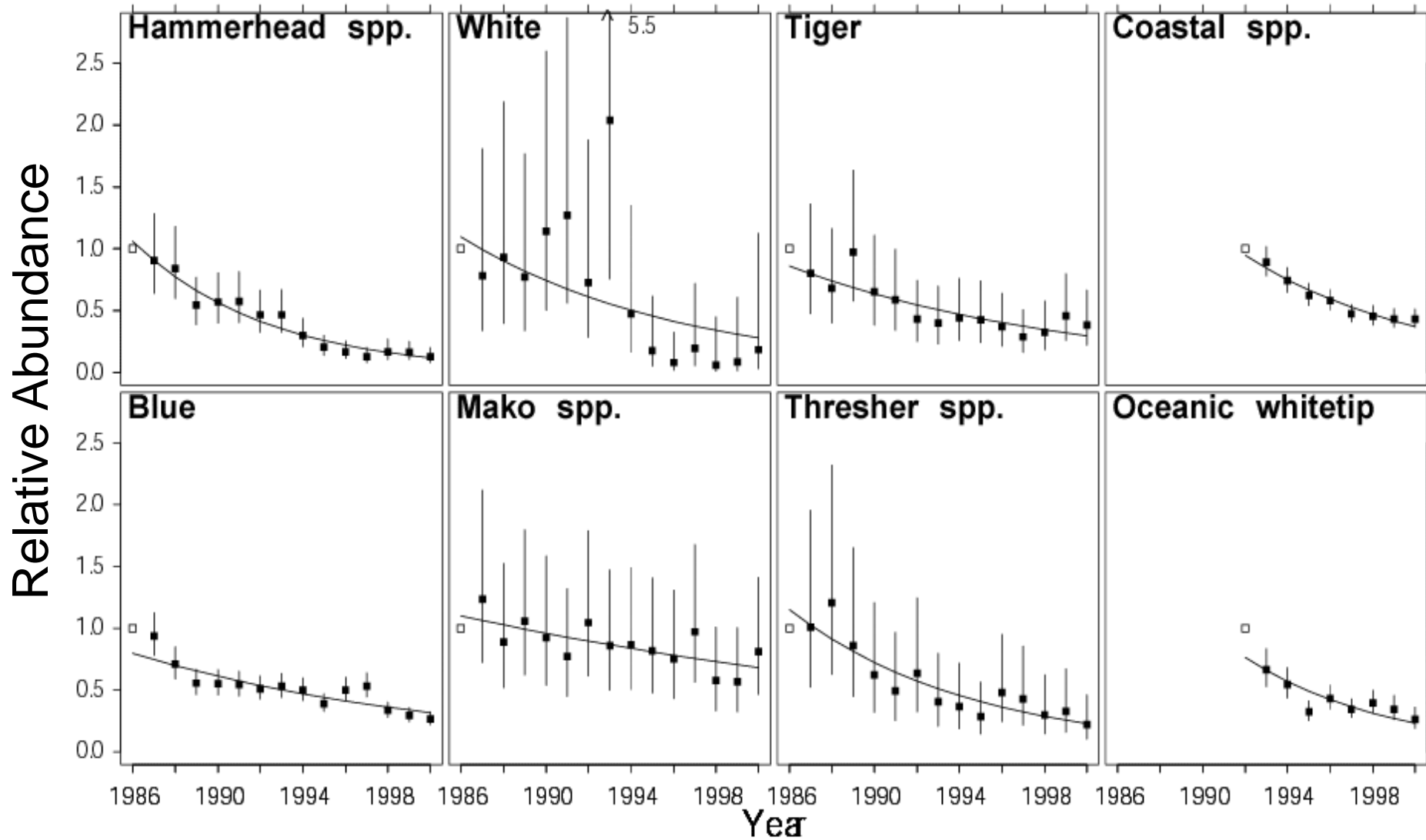
Hammerhead sharks

Sphyrna lewini



Science. Jan. 2003. J.K. Baum, R.A. Myers, D.G. Kehler, B. Worm, S.J. Harley, P.A. Doherty

Results



Decline of Mediterranean Sharks

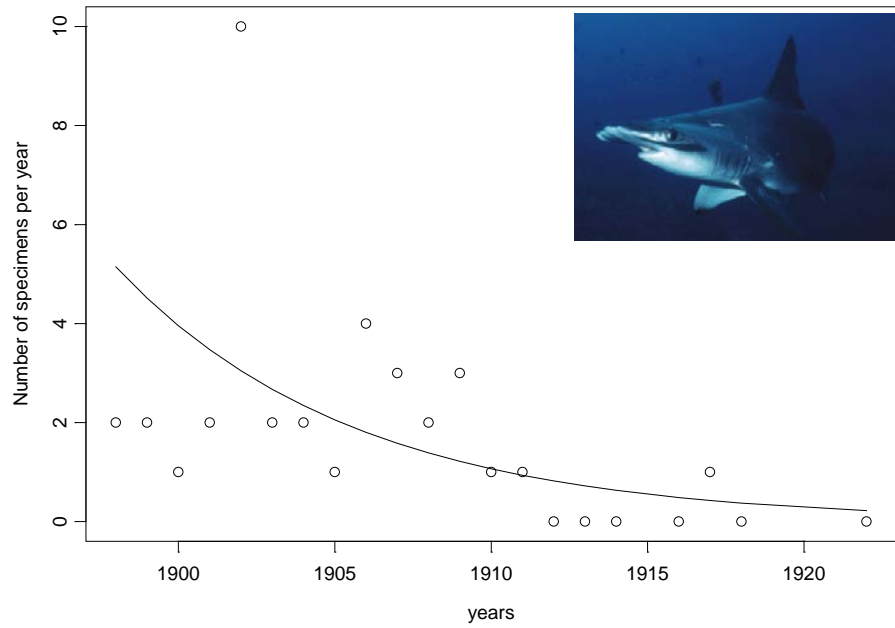
By catch associated with a Tuna Trap
In Tirrenian Sea



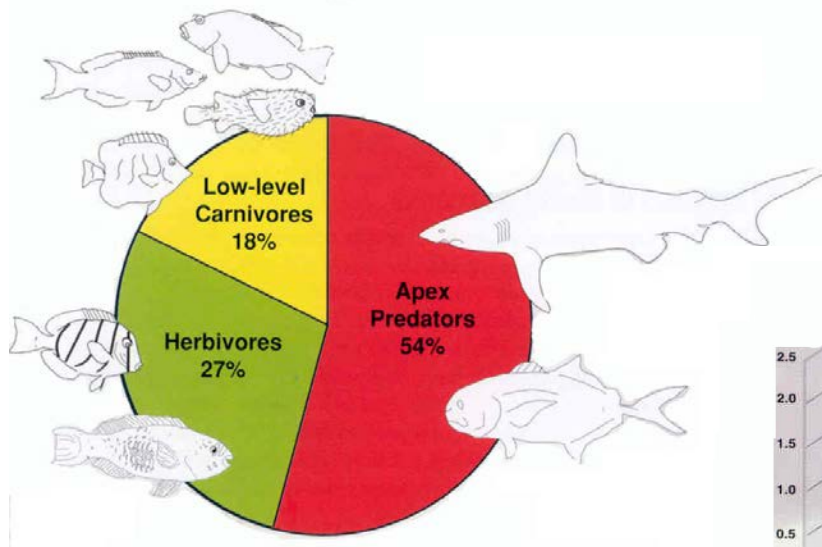
“Tonnarella di Baratti”



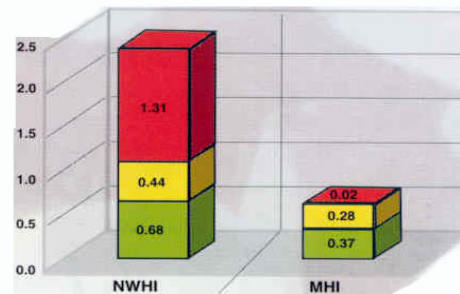
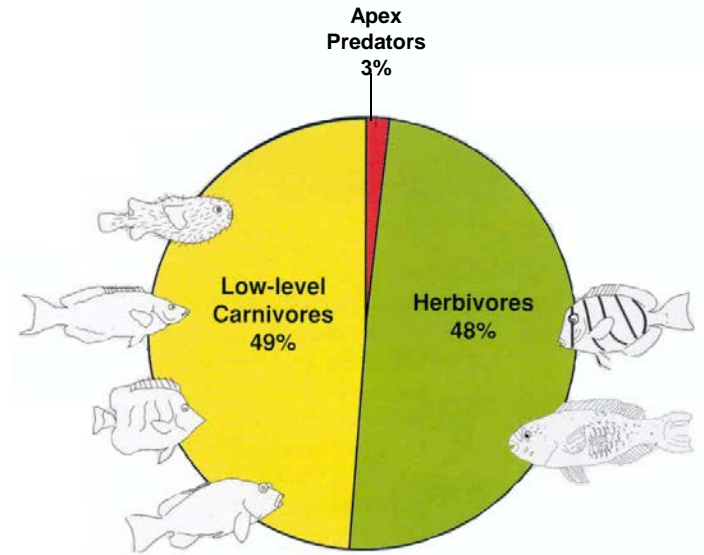
Hammerhead shark



NW Hawaiian Islands



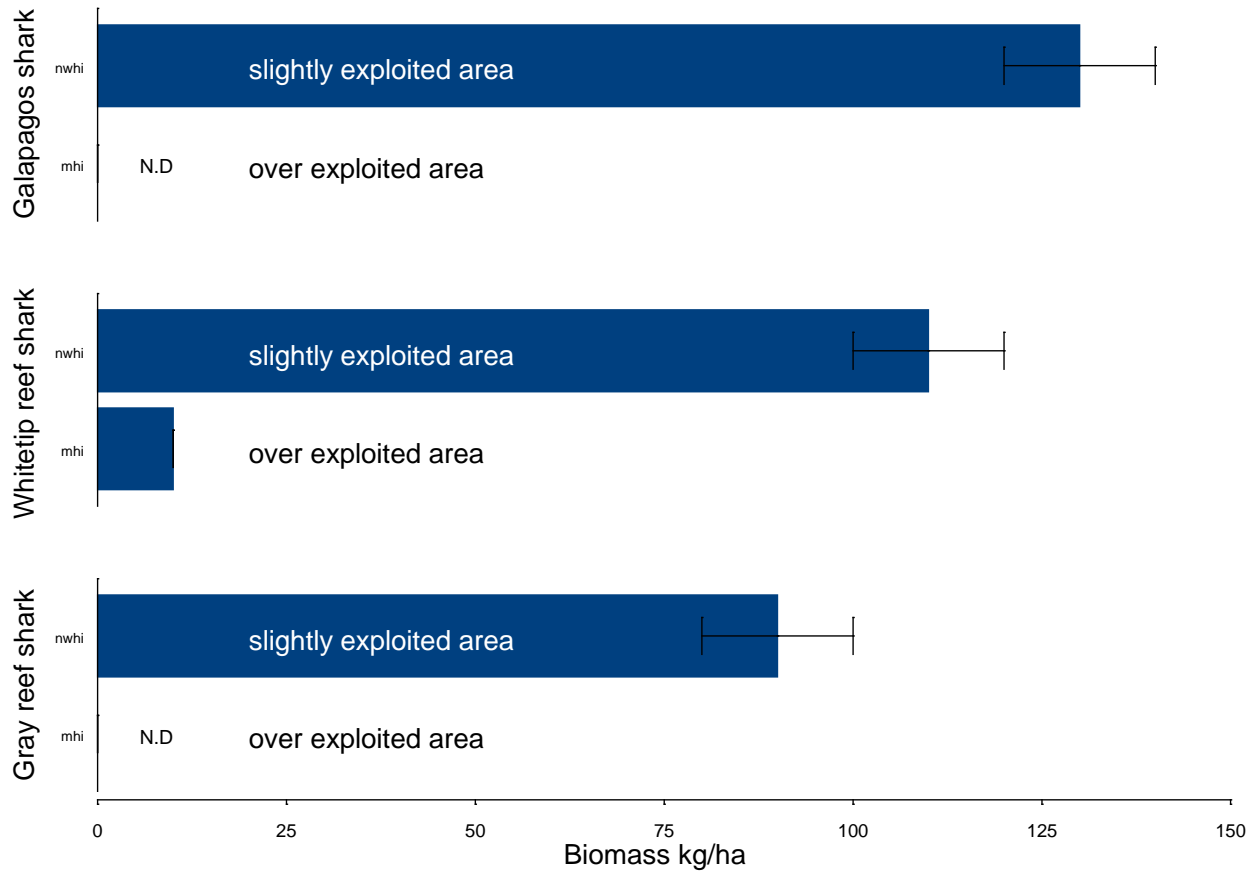
Main Hawaiian Islands



Comparative fish biomass (mT/ha)

Loss of Reef Sharks in the Hawaiian Islands

N.W.Hawaiian Islands vs Main Hawaiian Islands

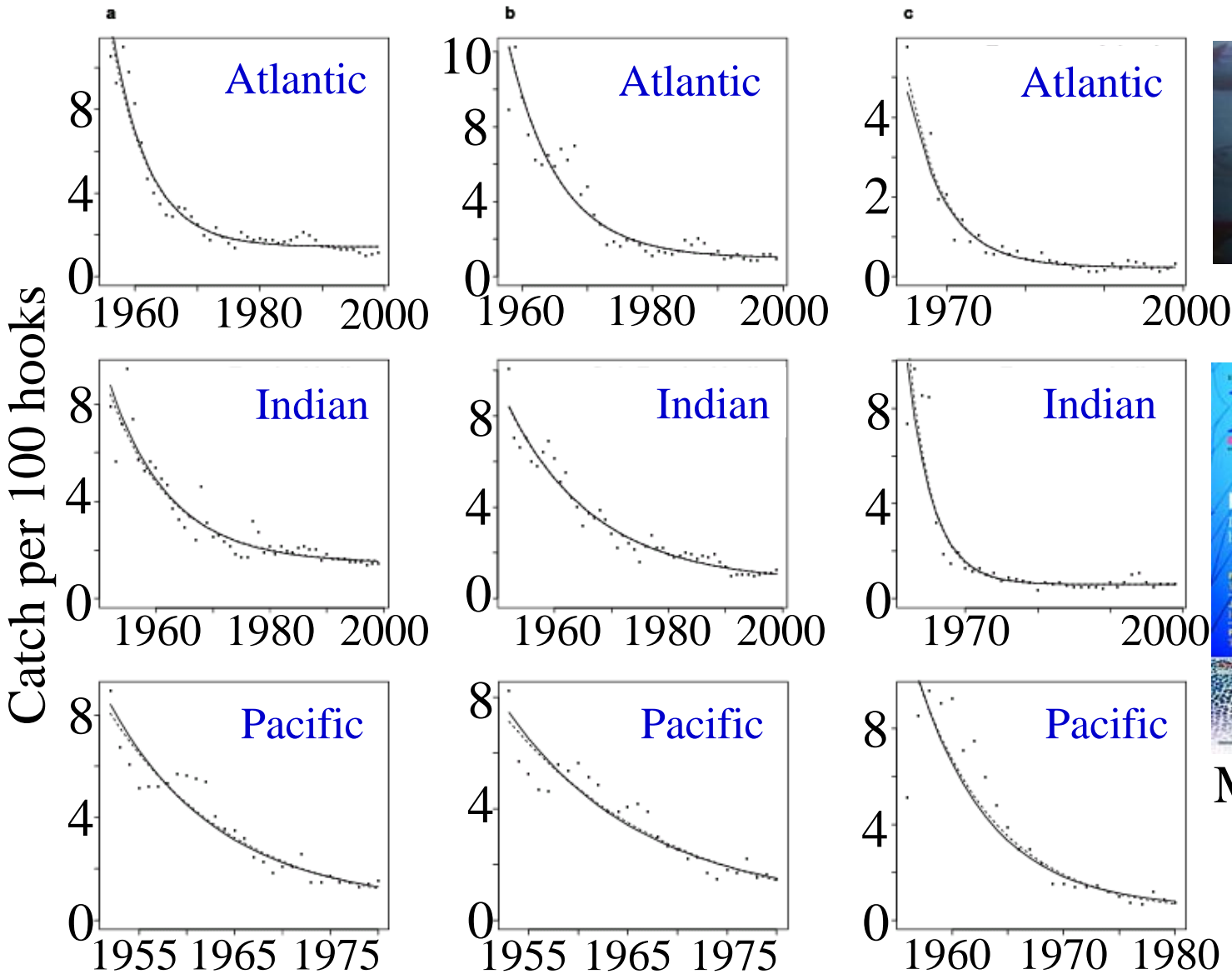




555
lbs.
Cabo Blanco

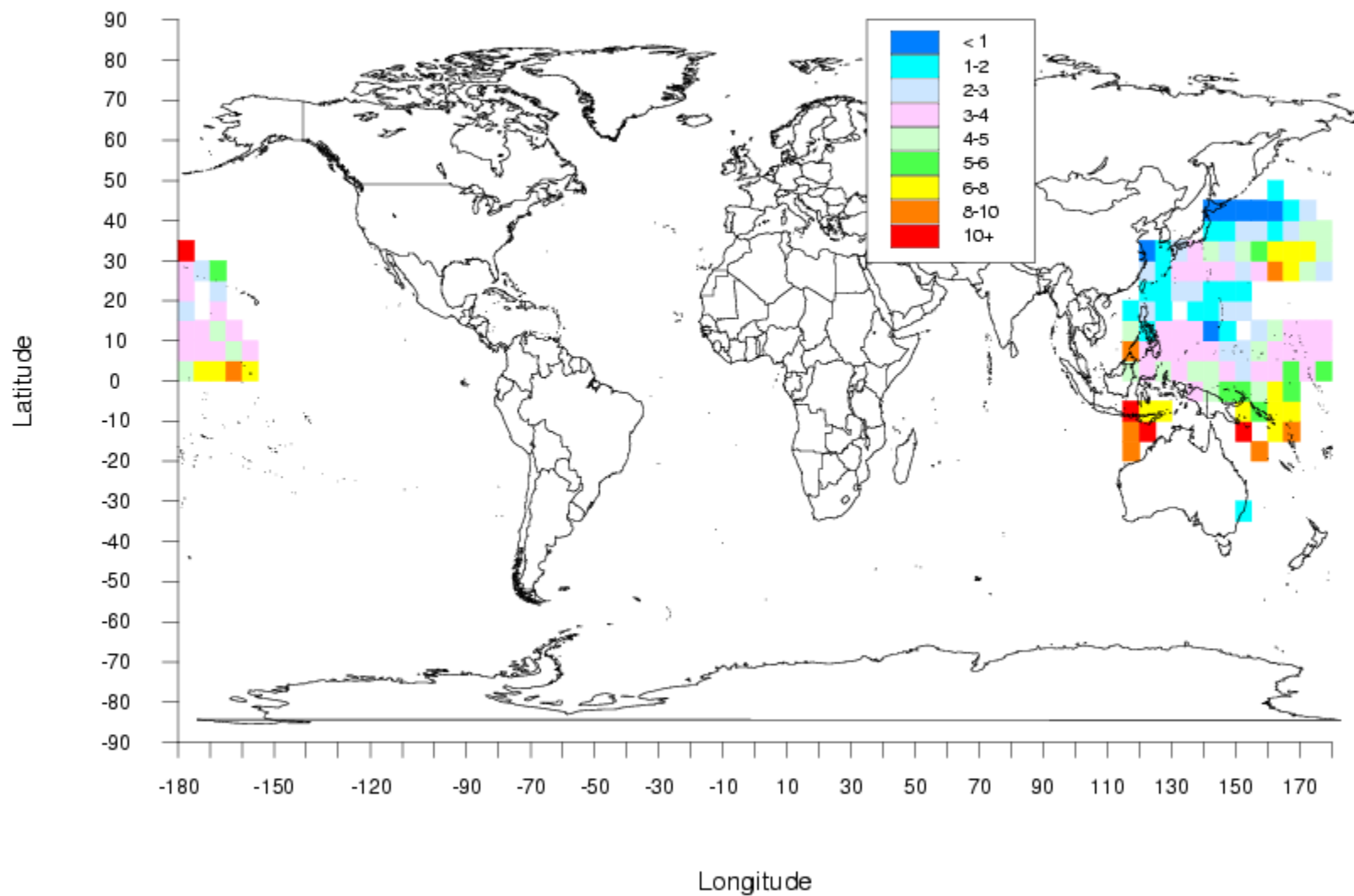
LBS.
1135
CABO
BLANCO

Common patterns of decline

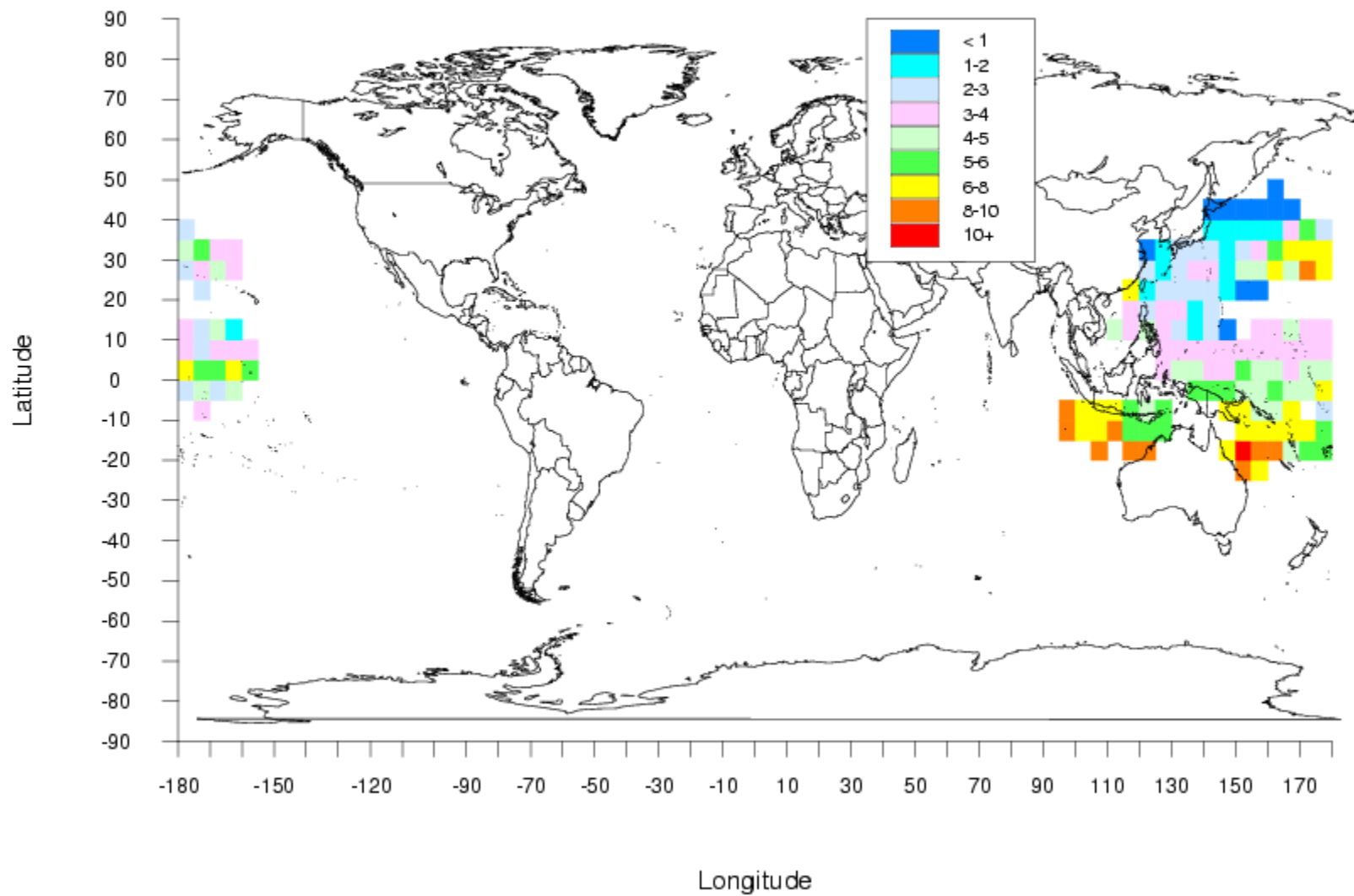


Myers and Worm (2003)

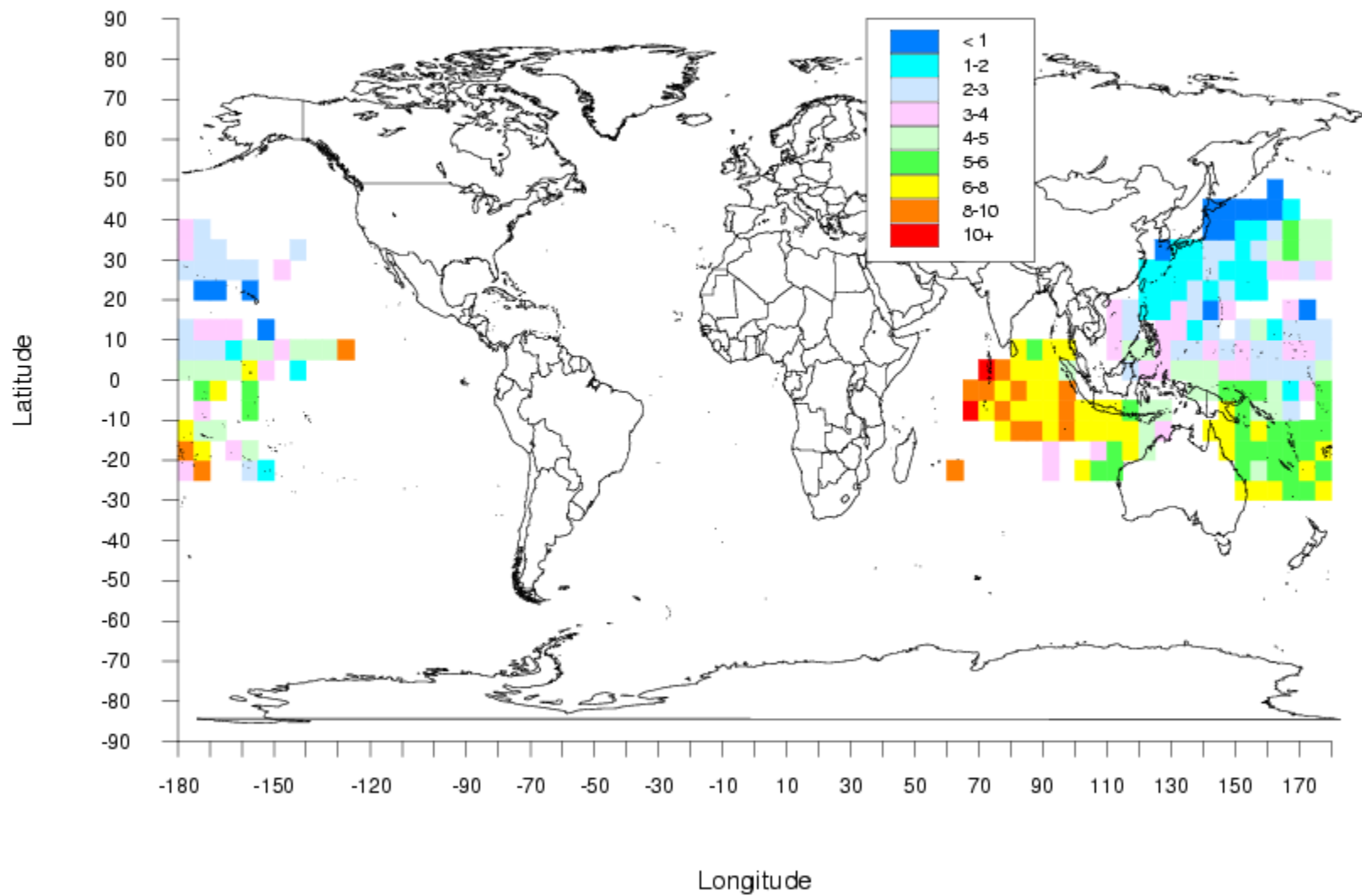
Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1952



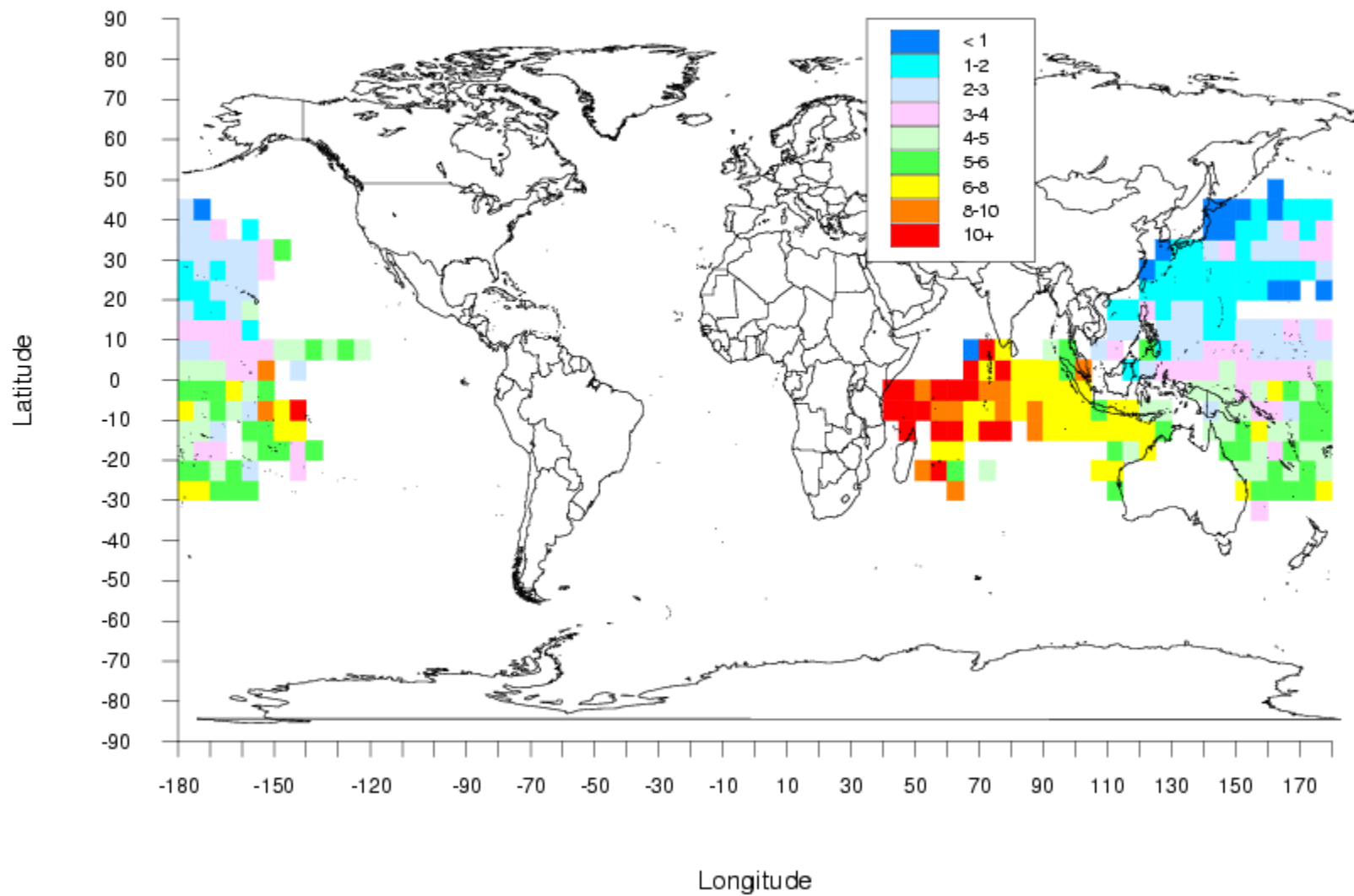
Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1953



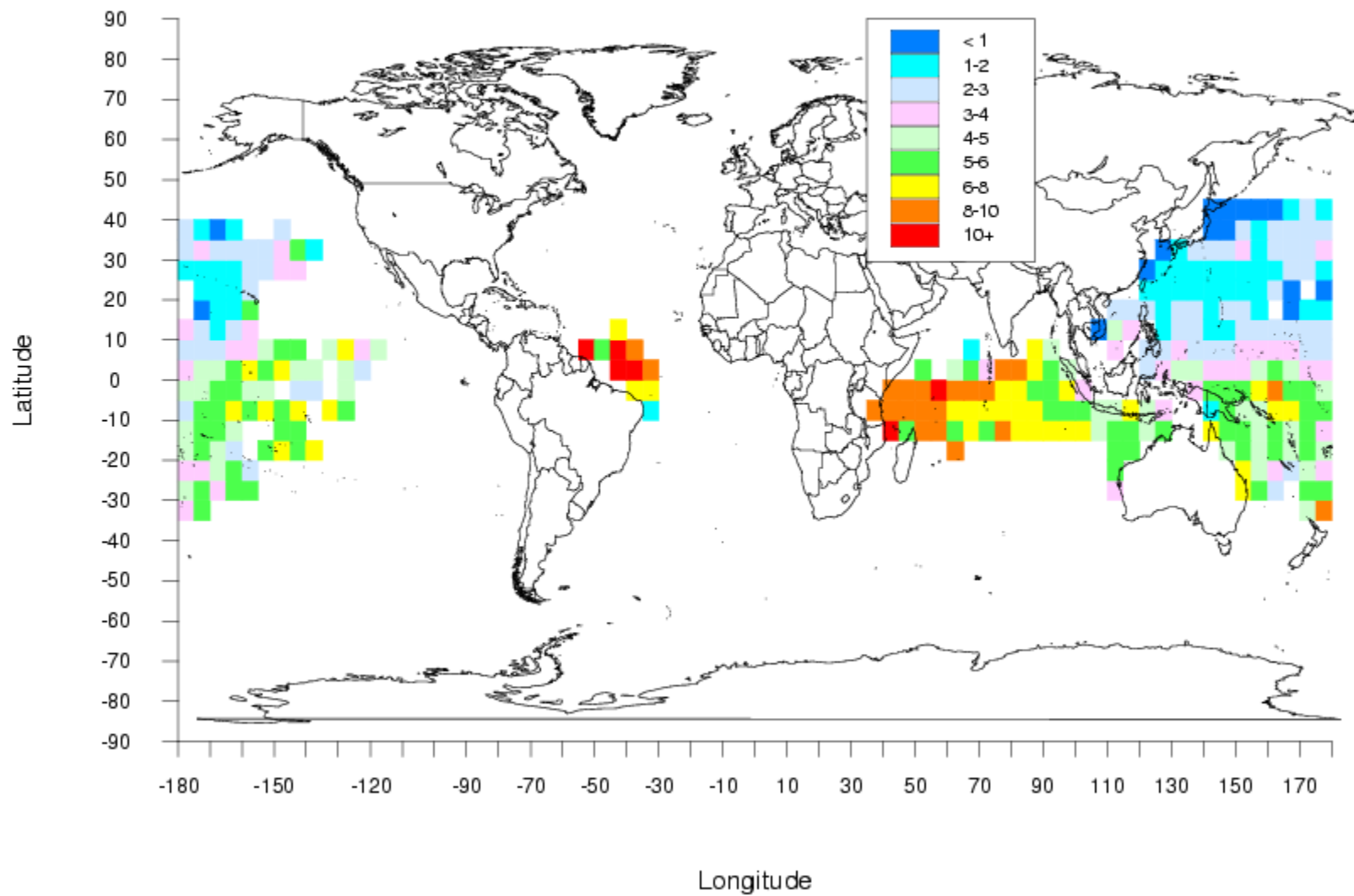
Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1954



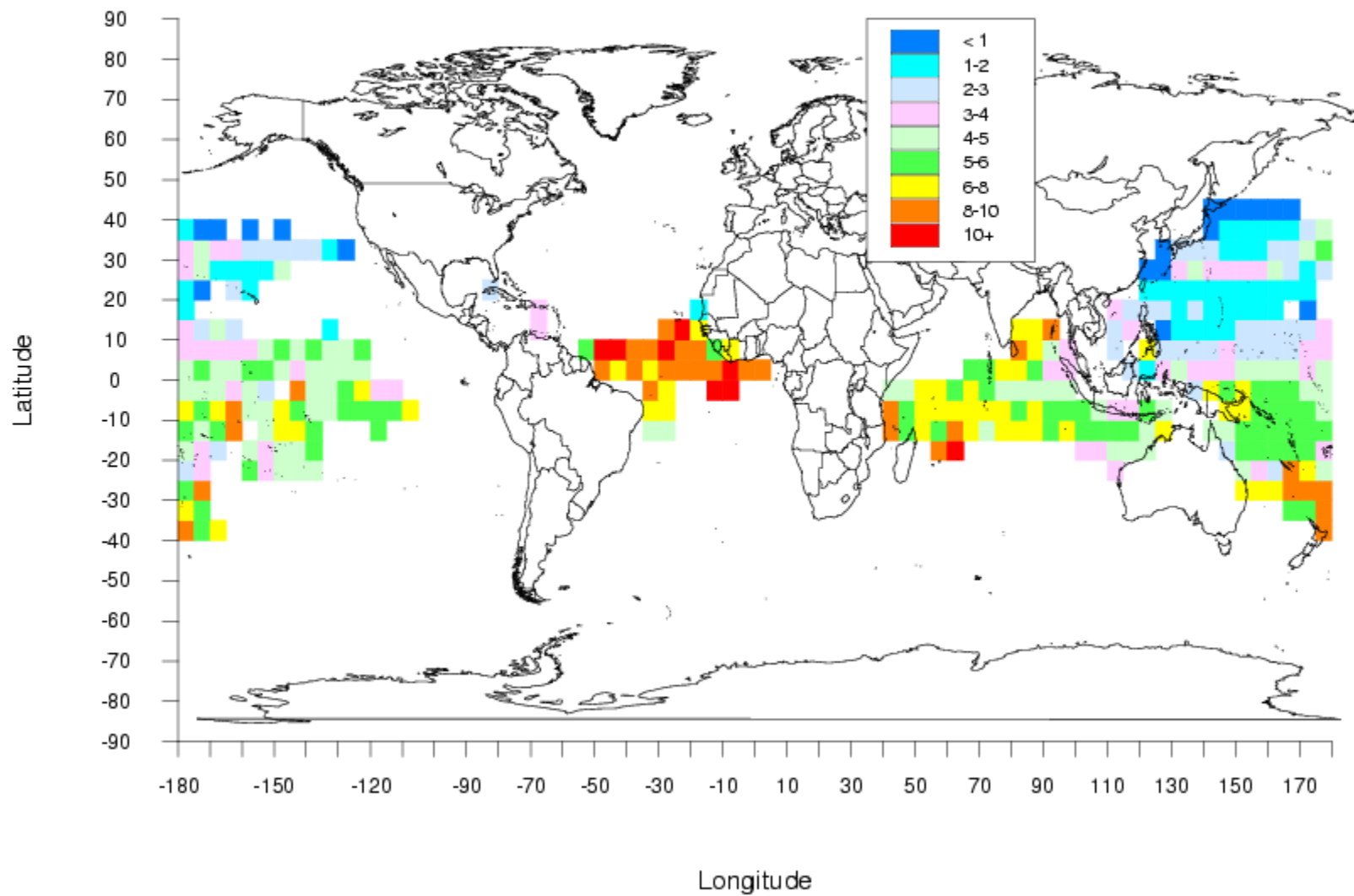
Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1955



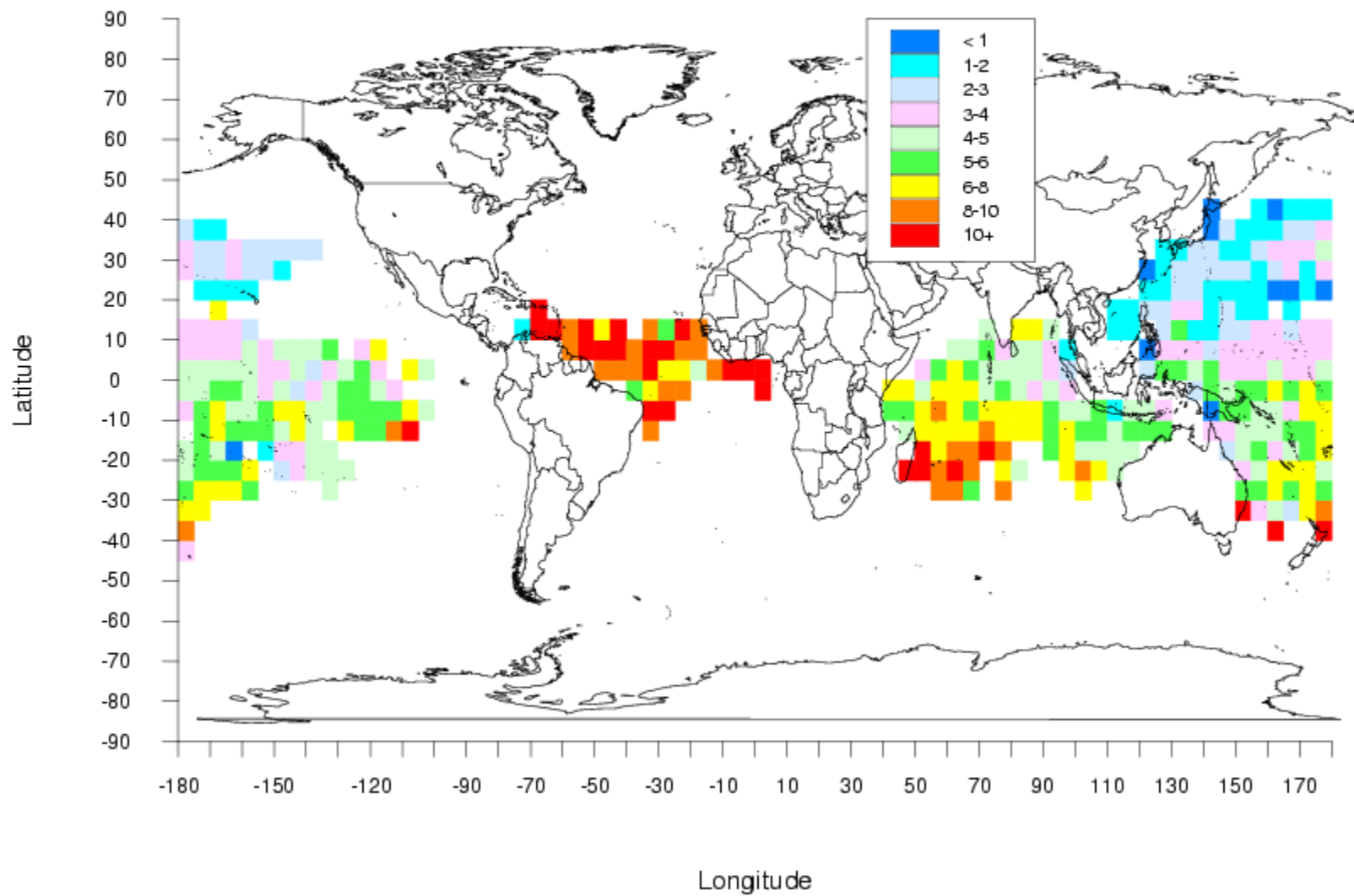
Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1956



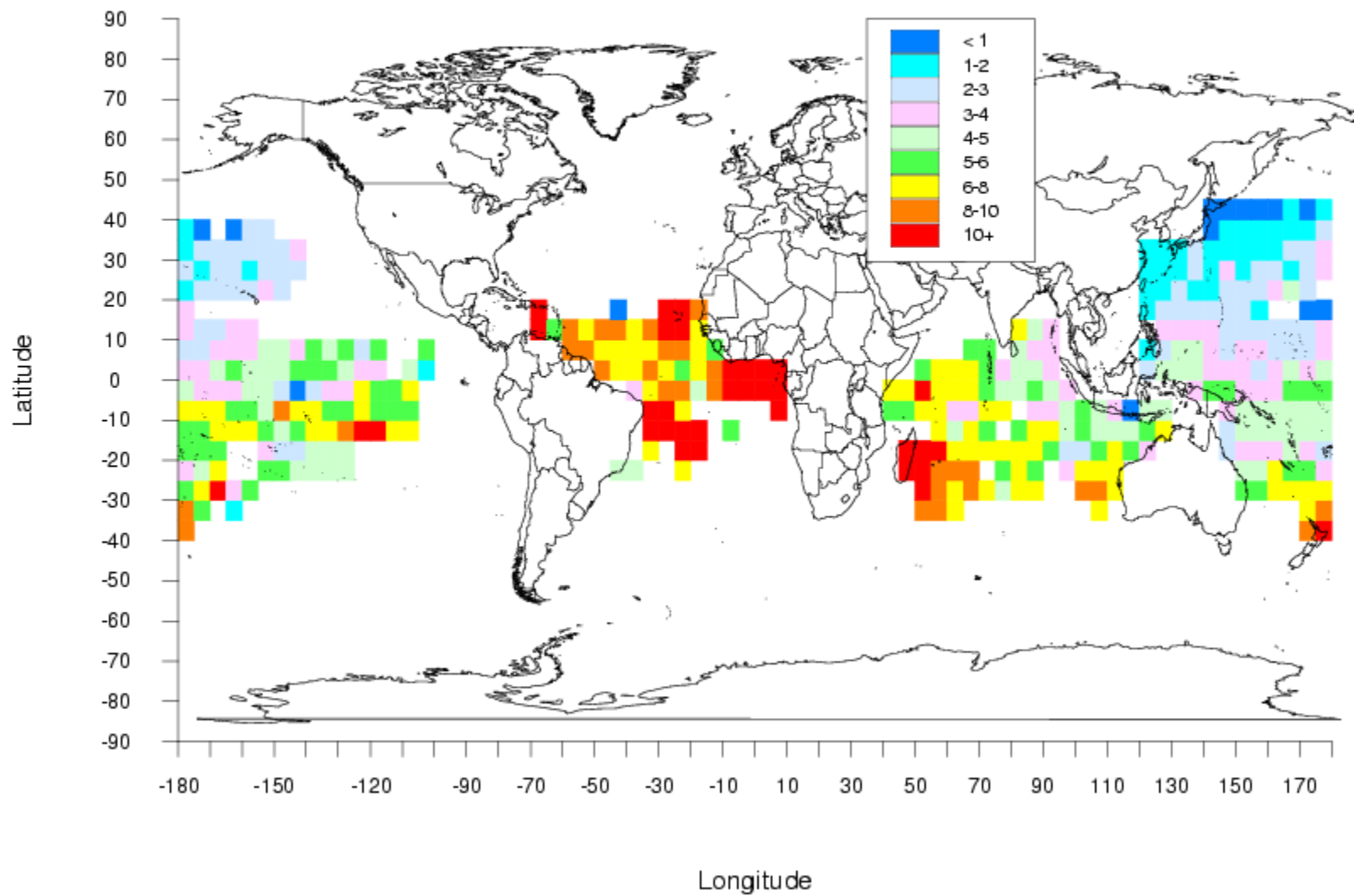
Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1957



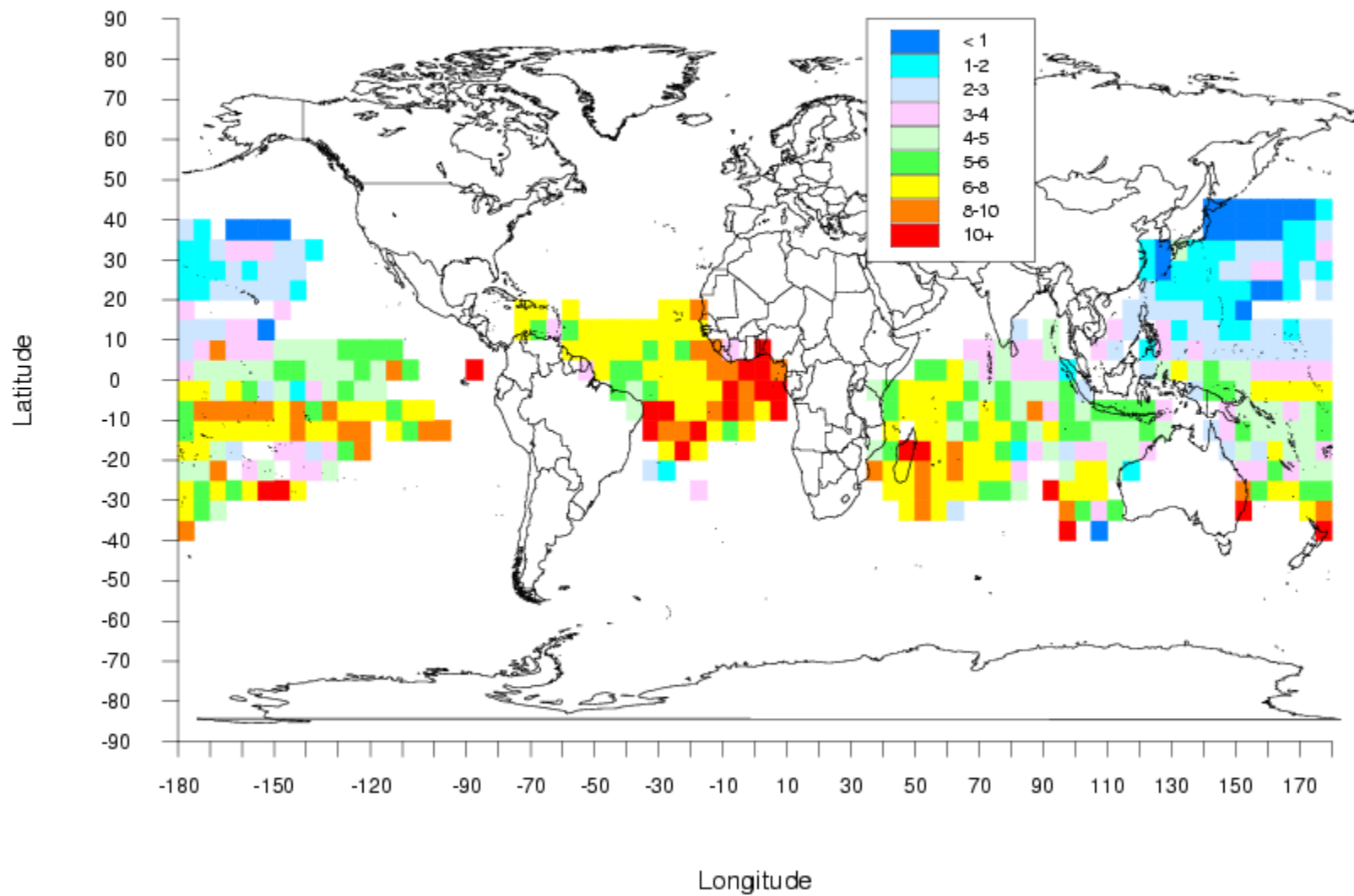
Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1958



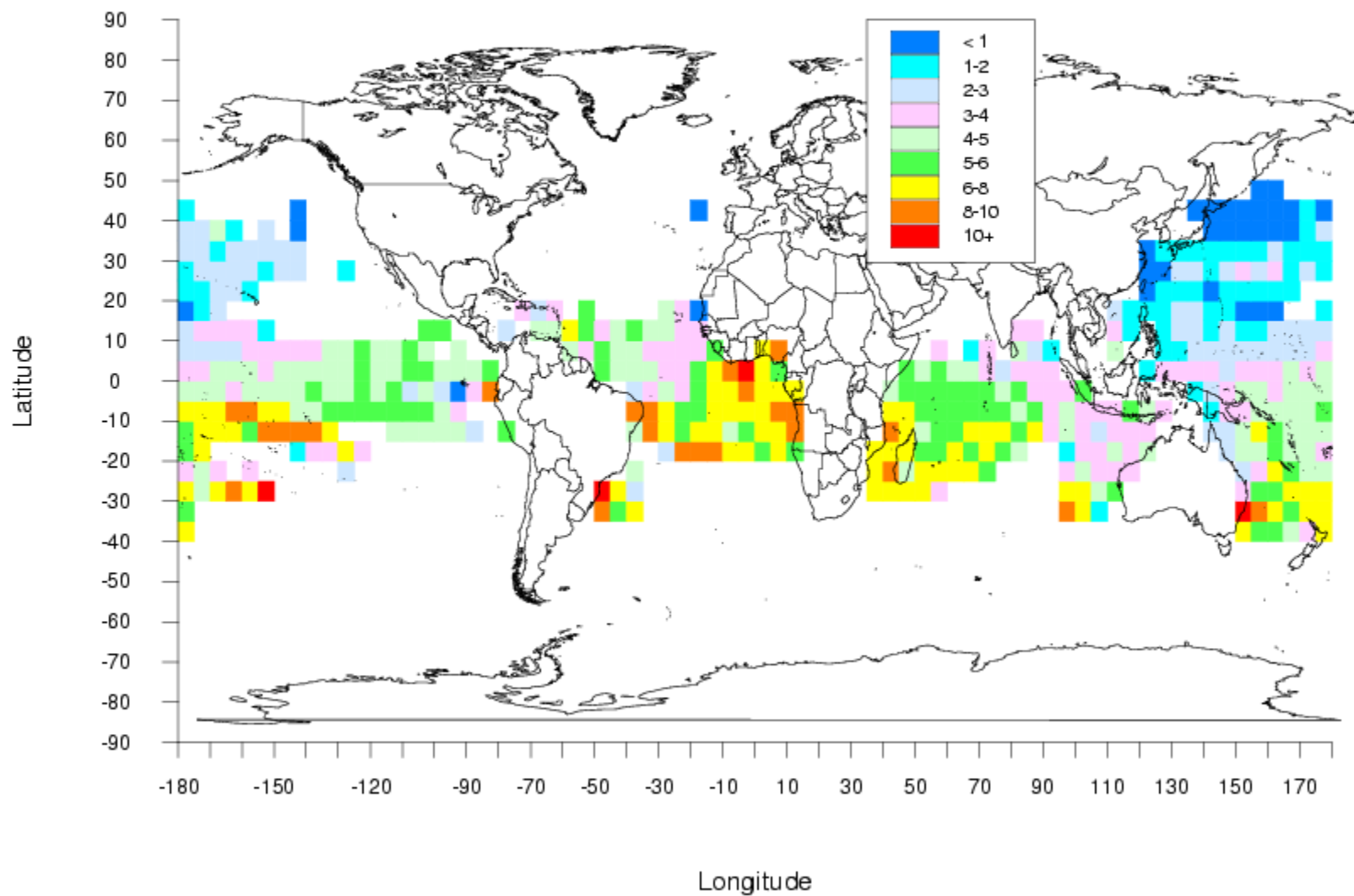
Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1959



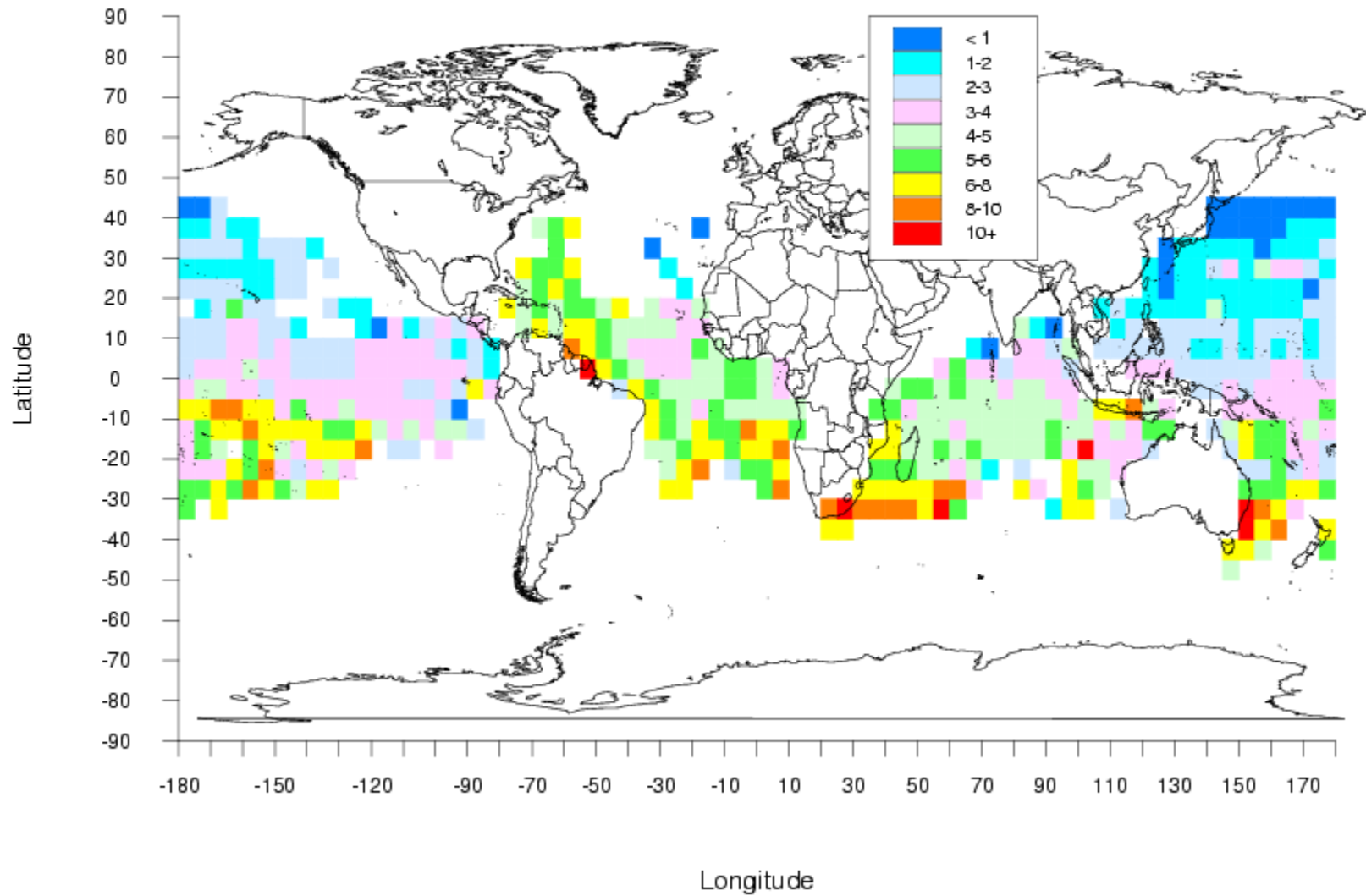
Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1960



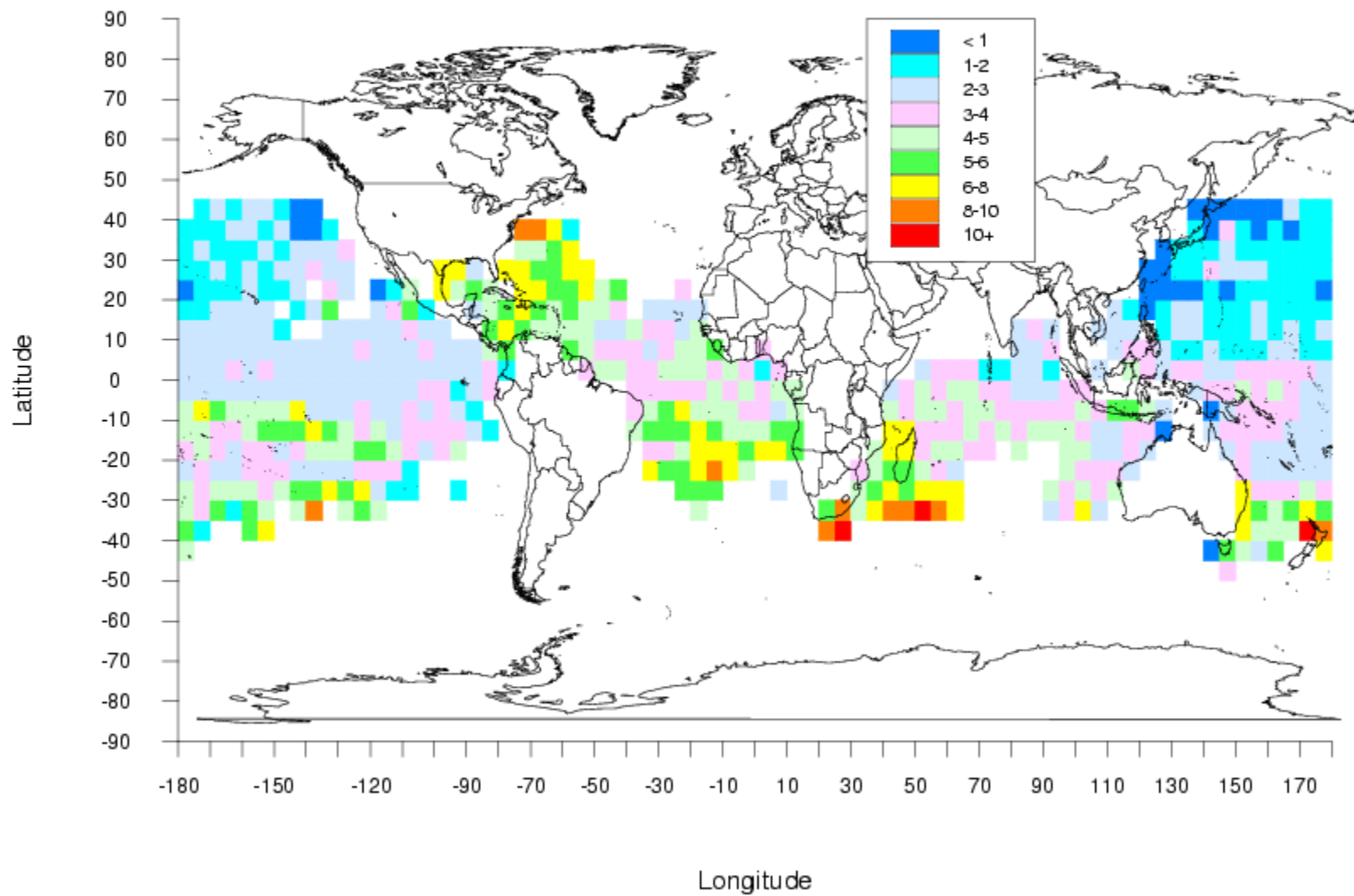
Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1961



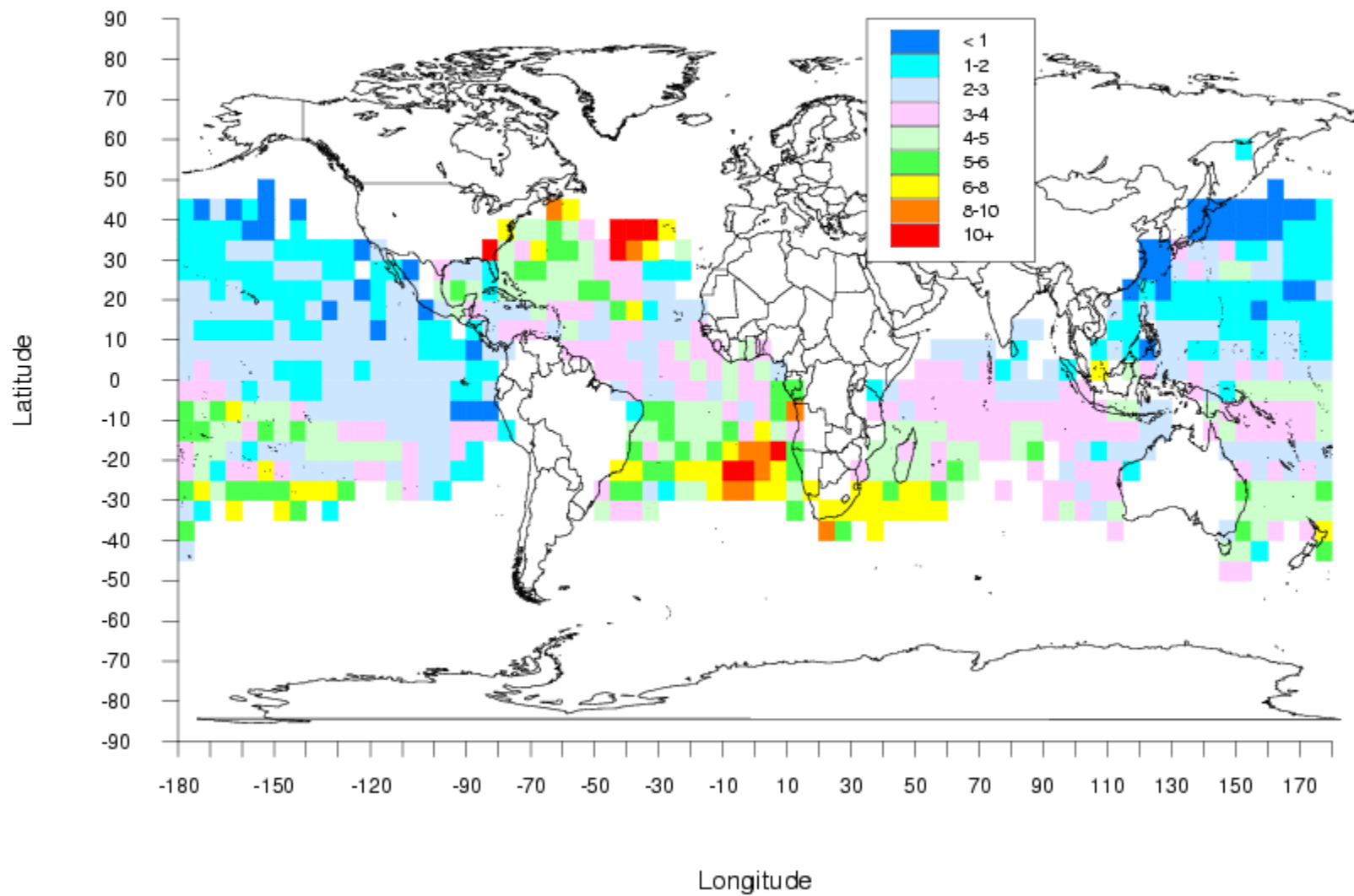
Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1962



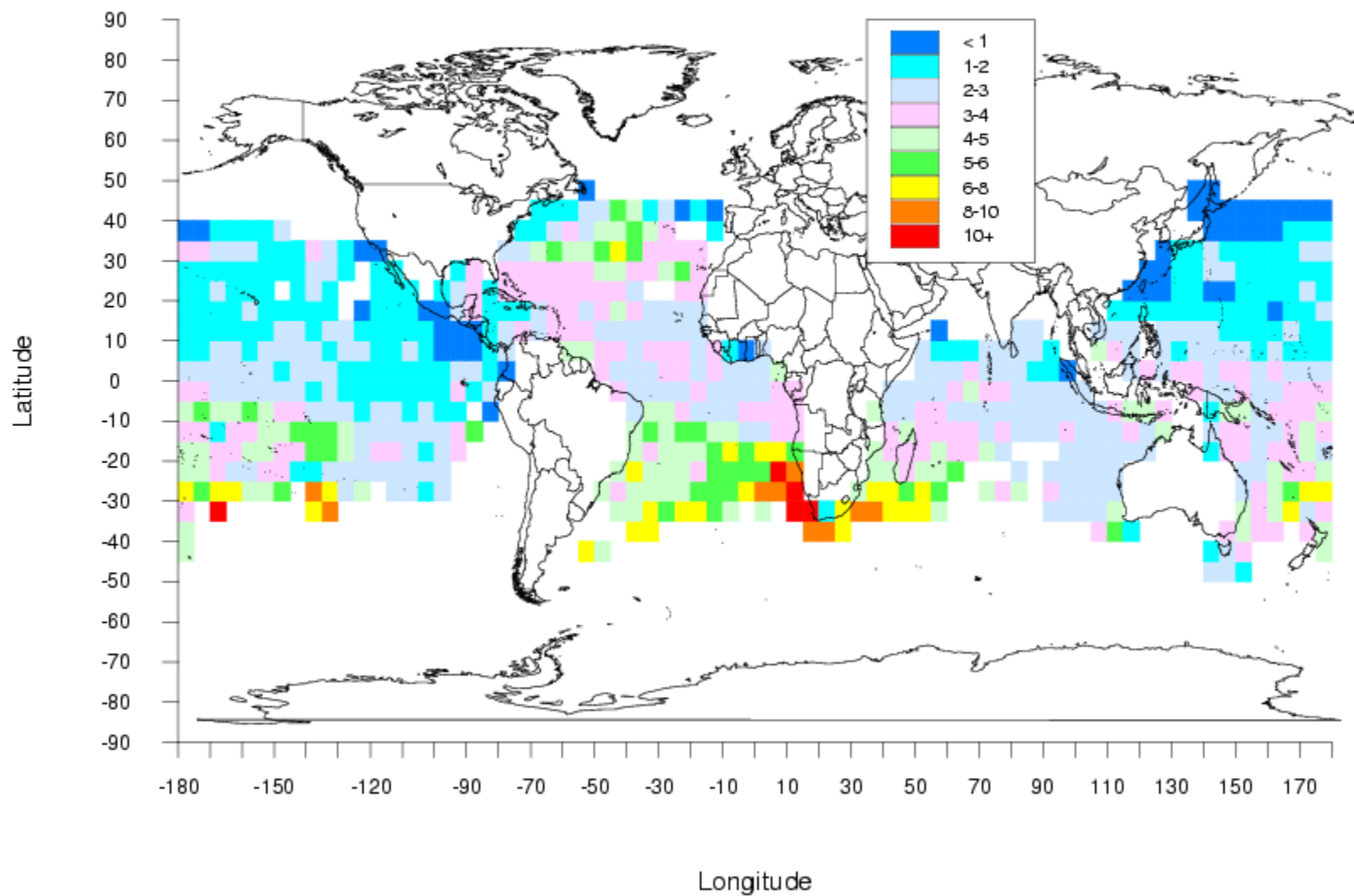
Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1963



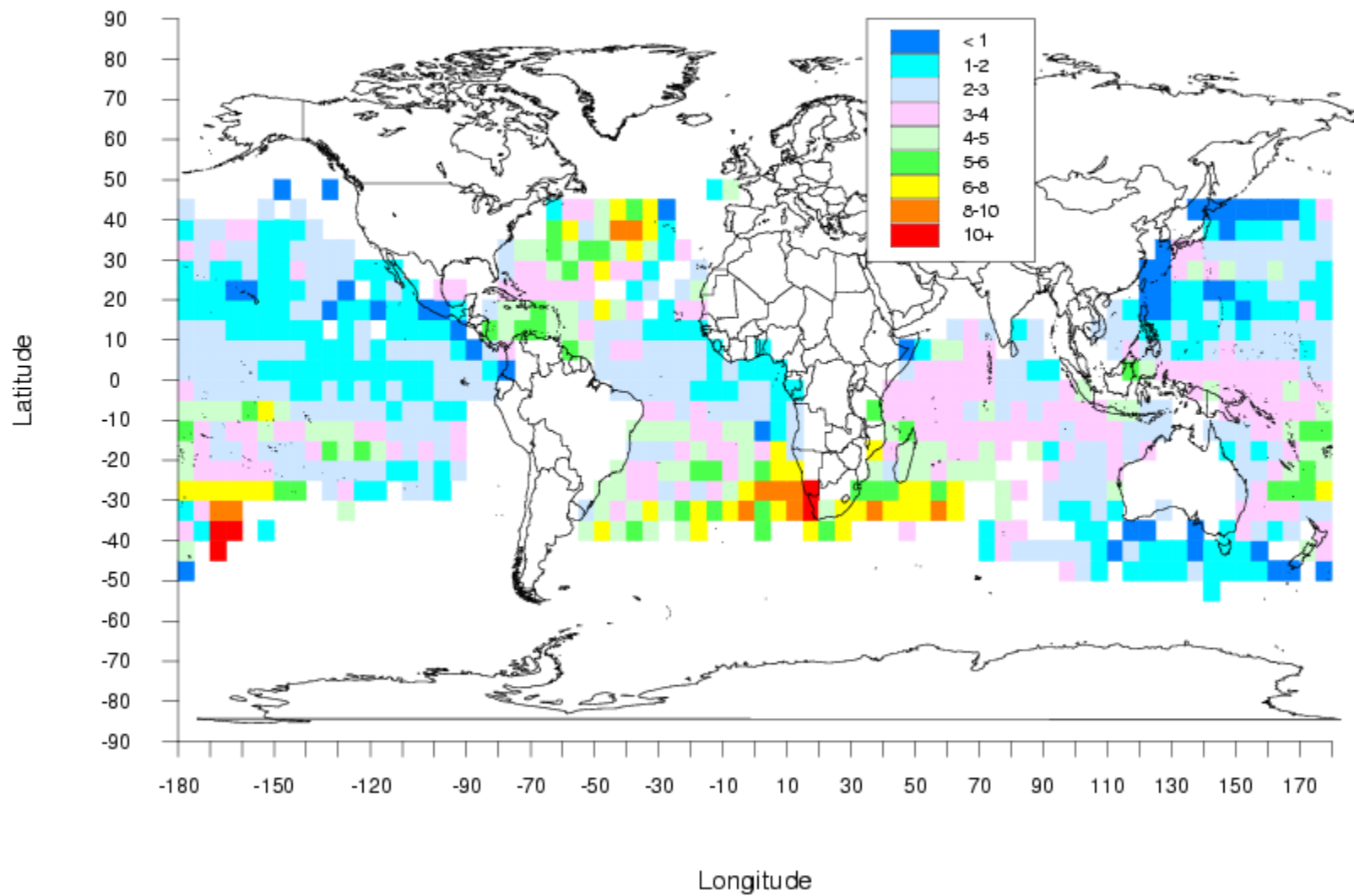
Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1964



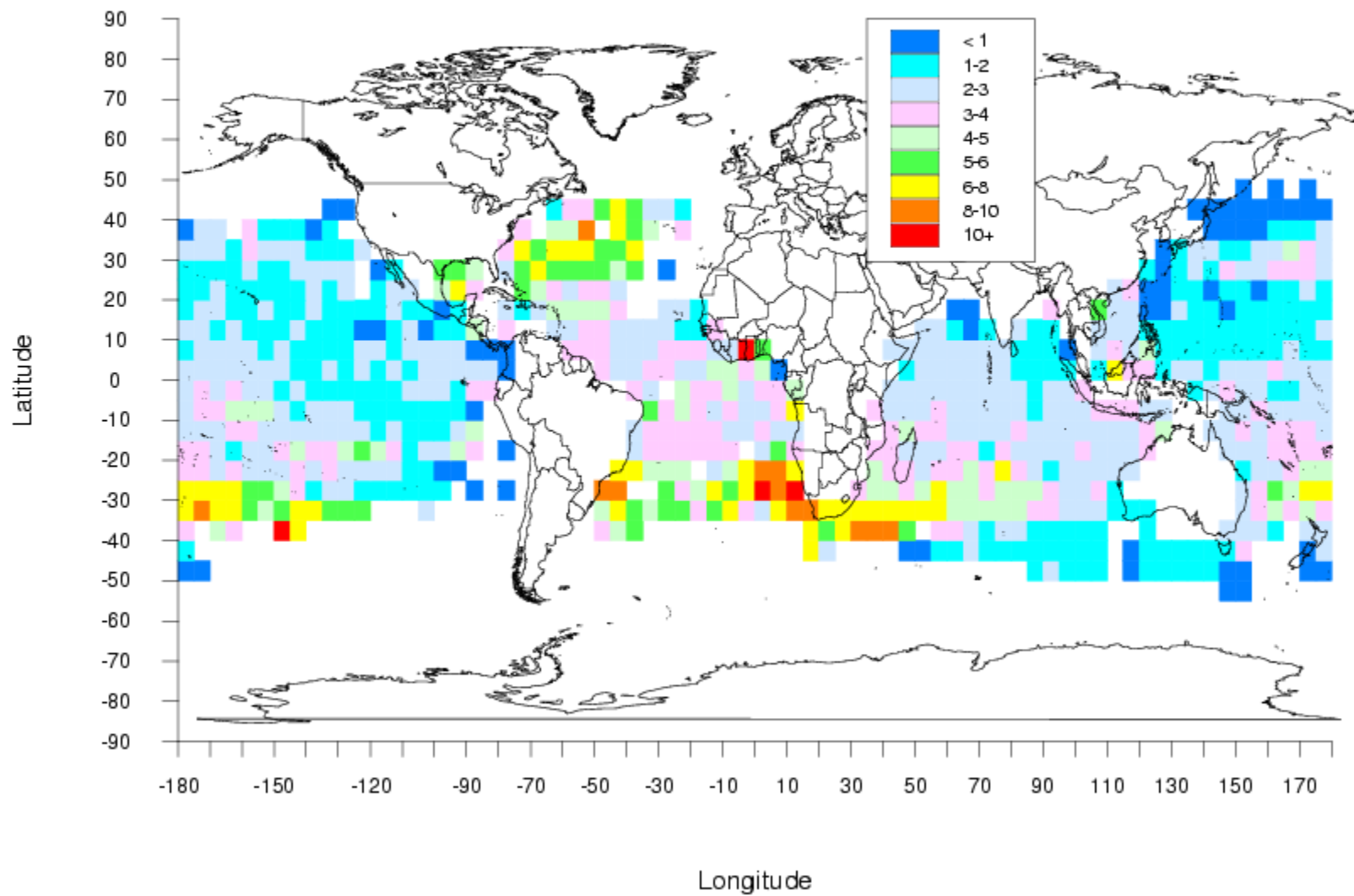
Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1965



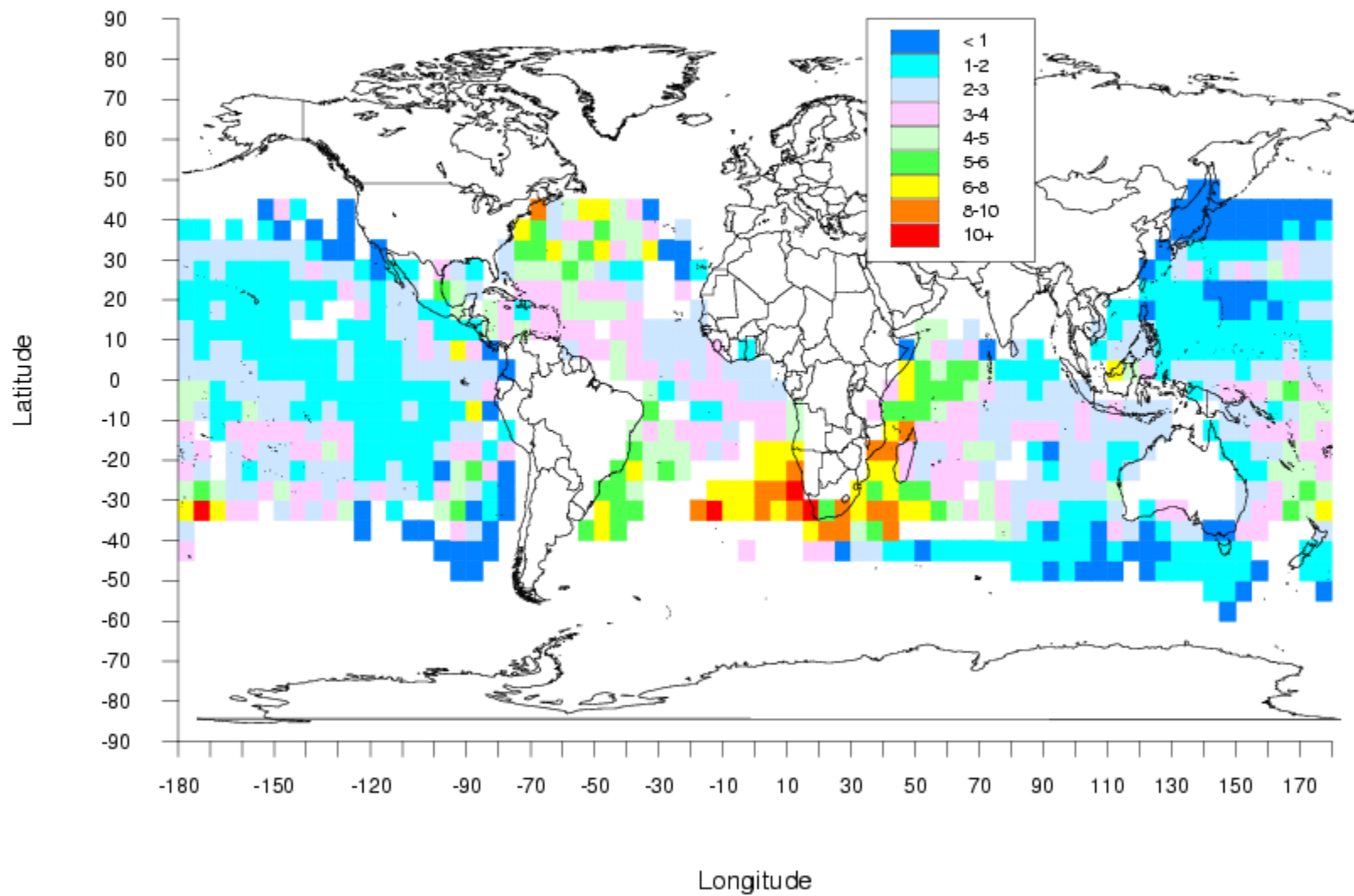
Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1966



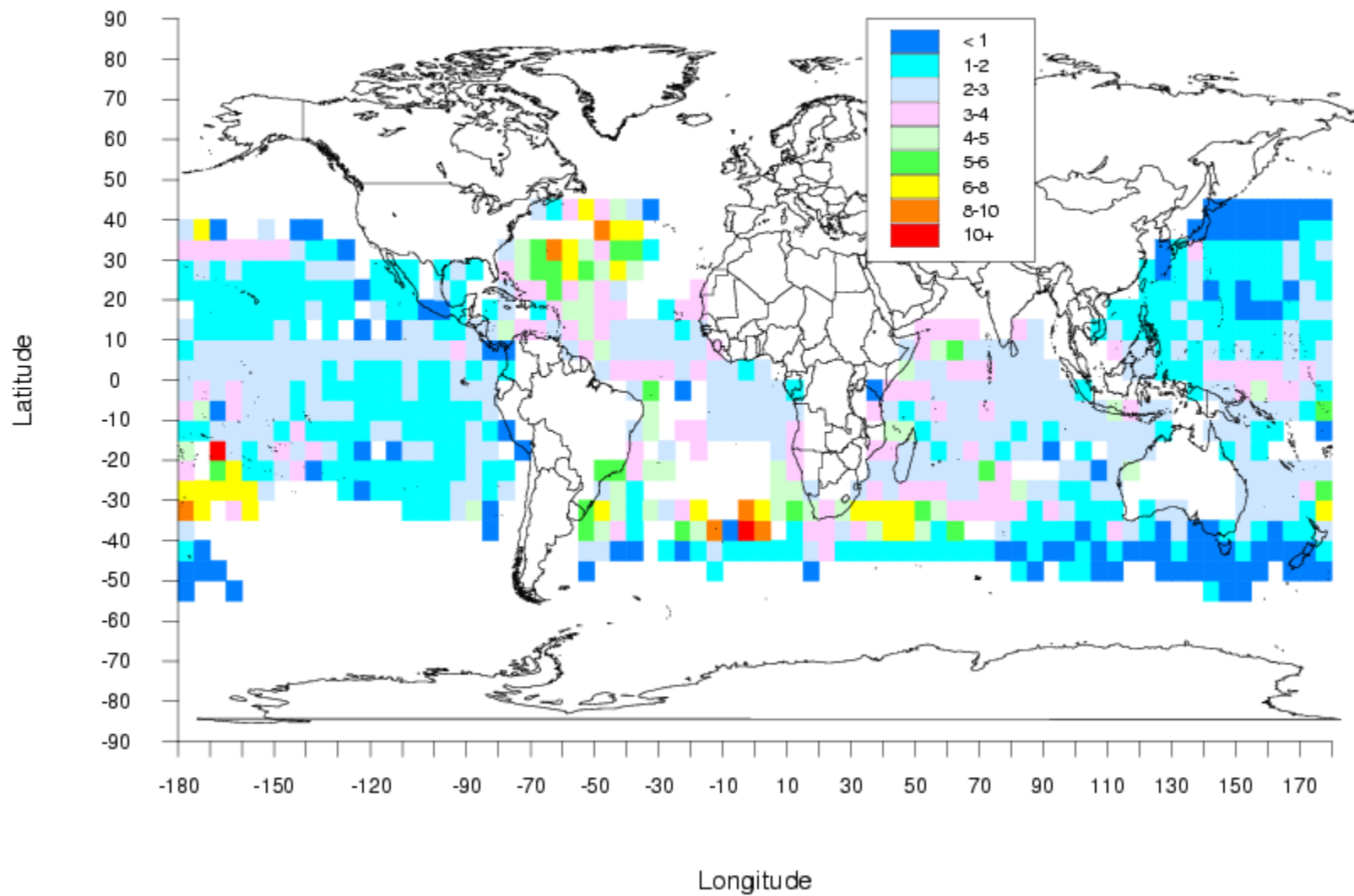
Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1967



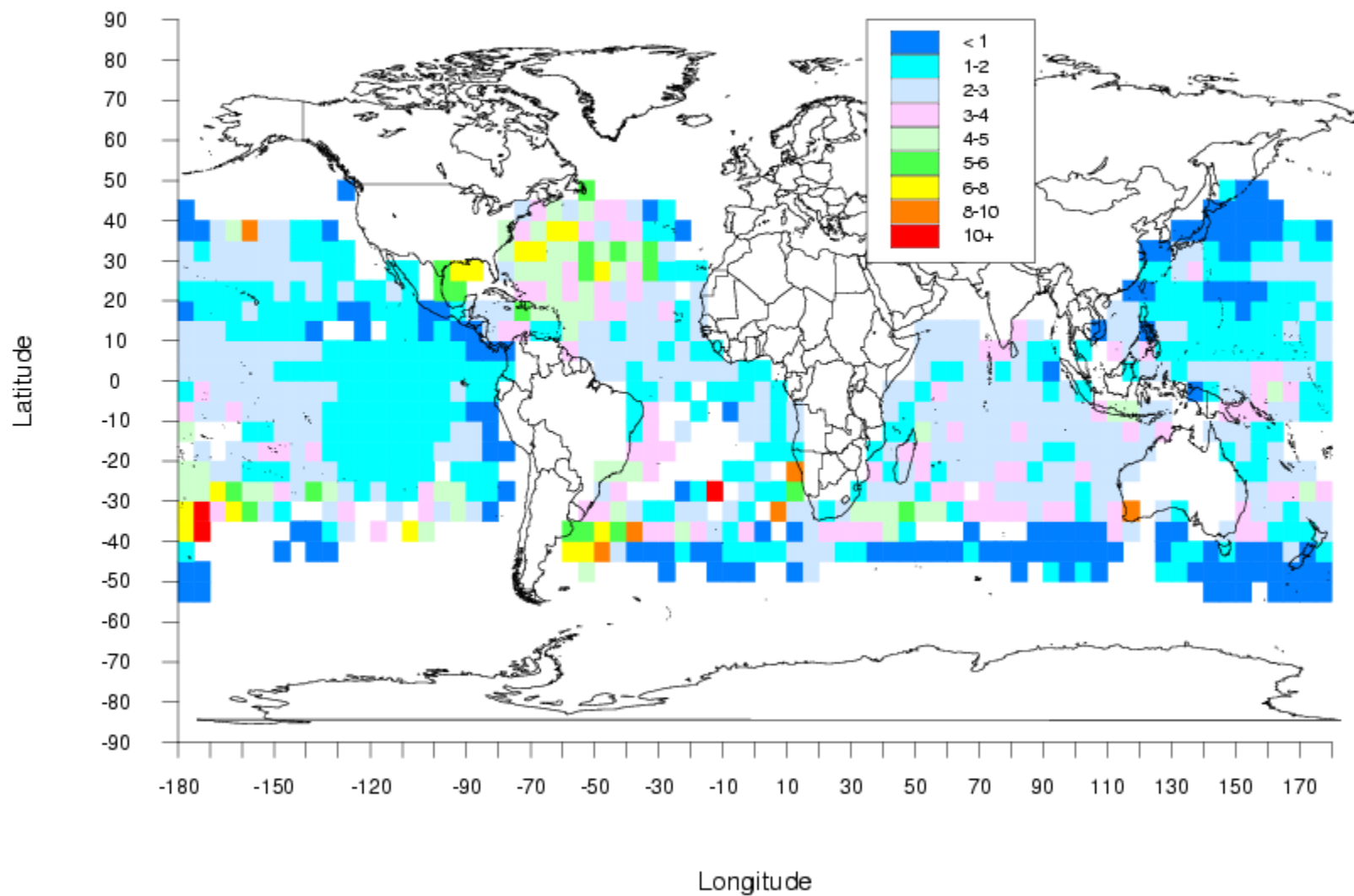
Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1968



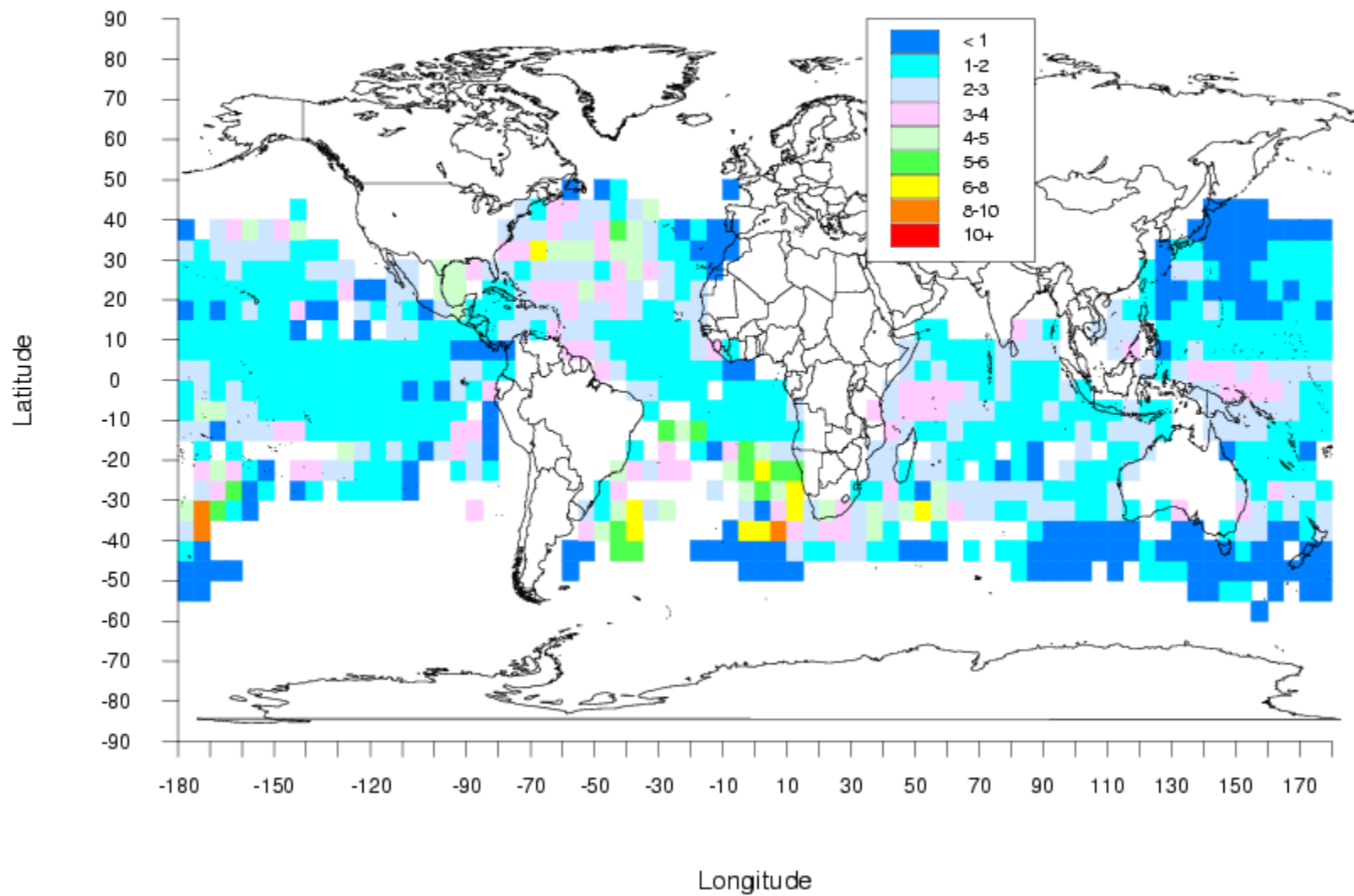
Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1969



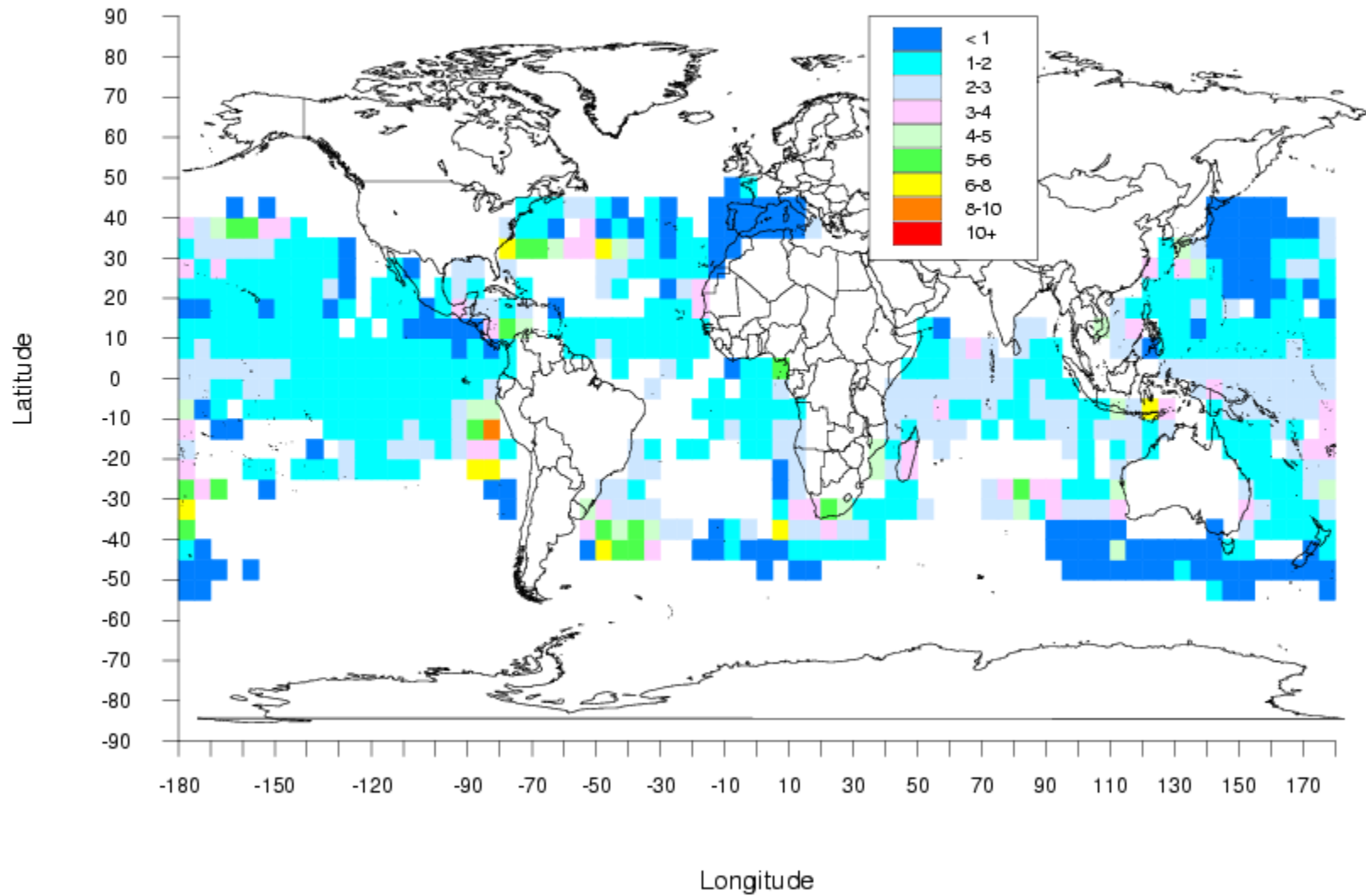
Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1970



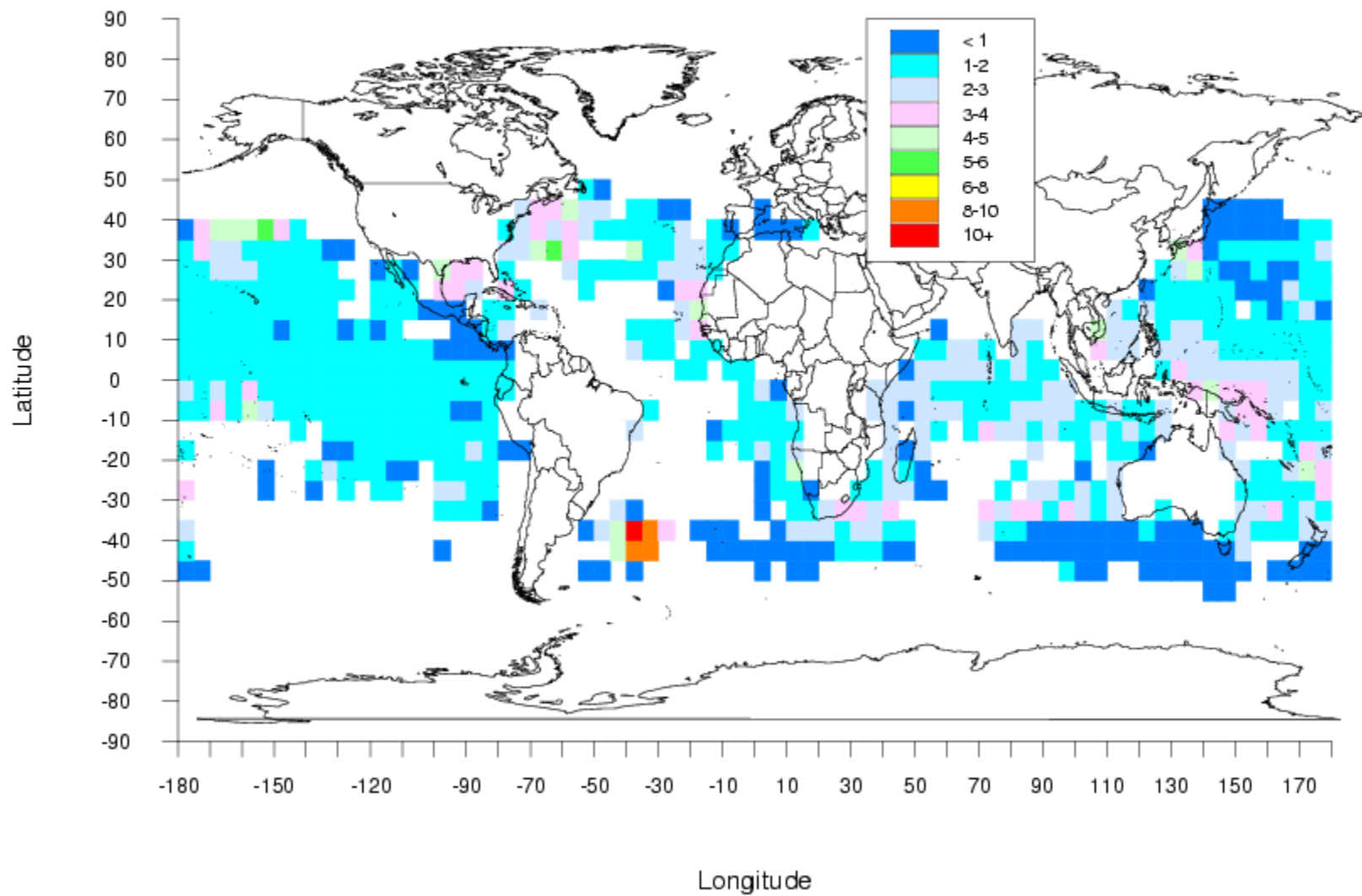
Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1971



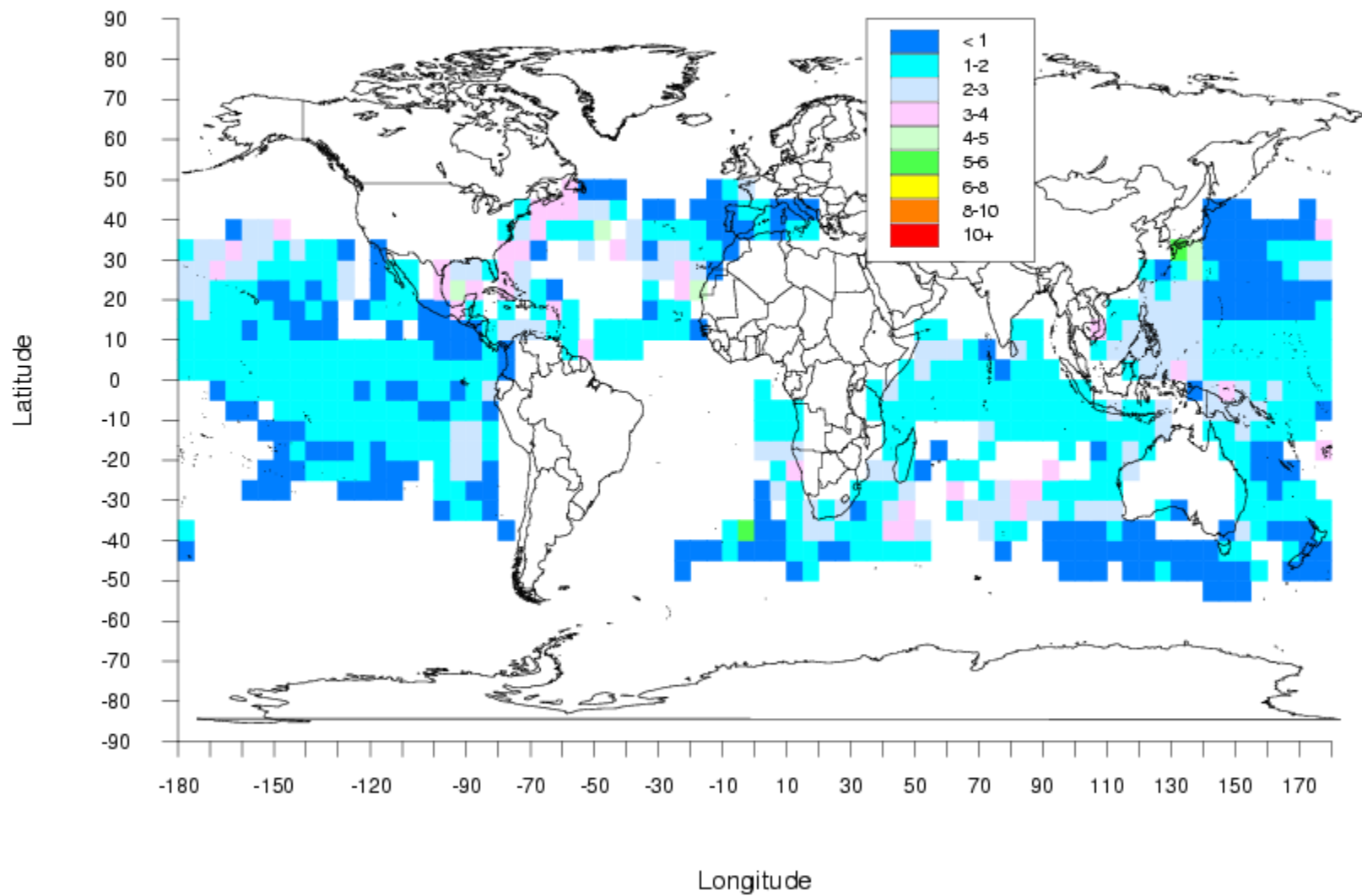
Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1972



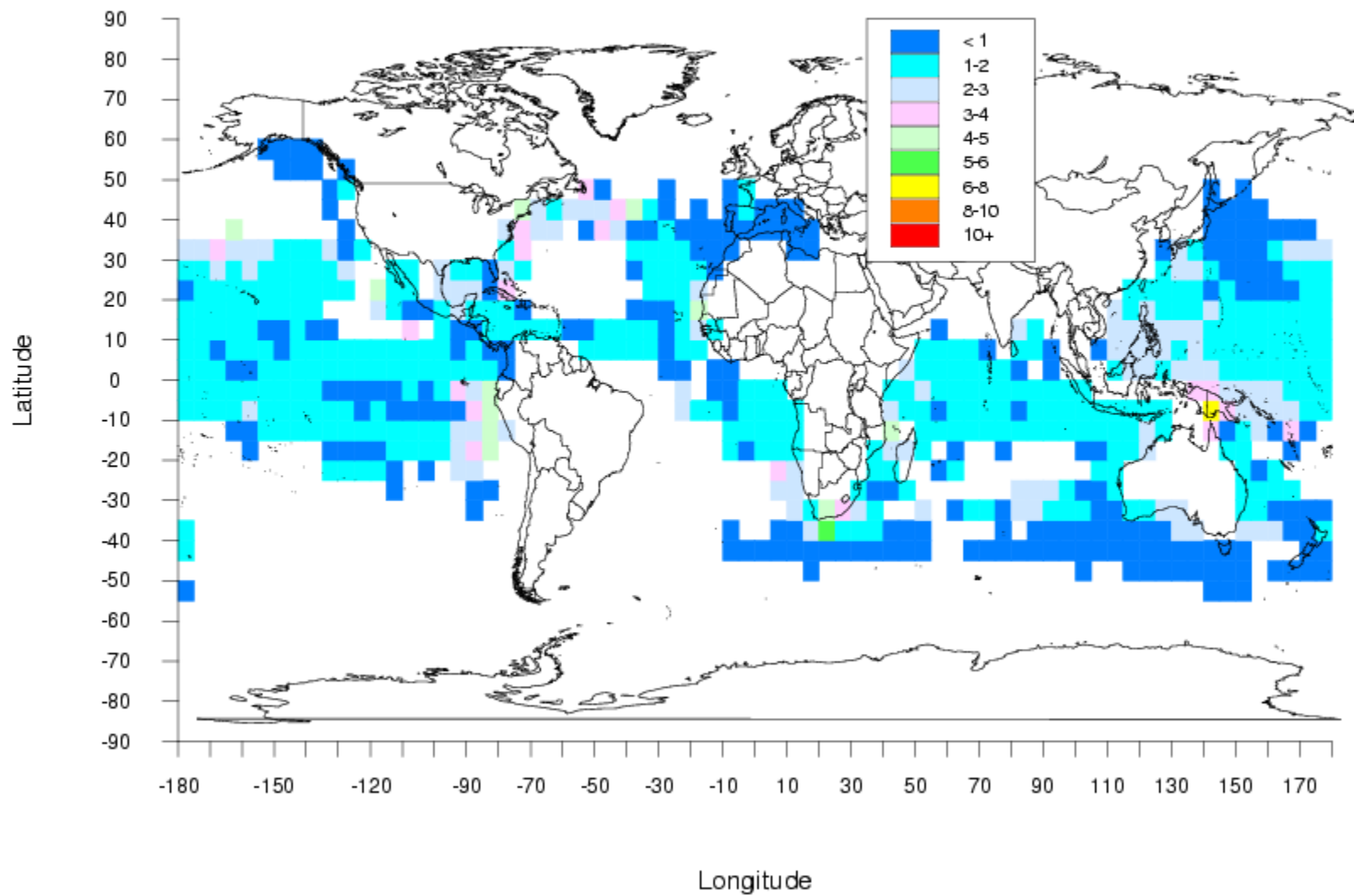
Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1973



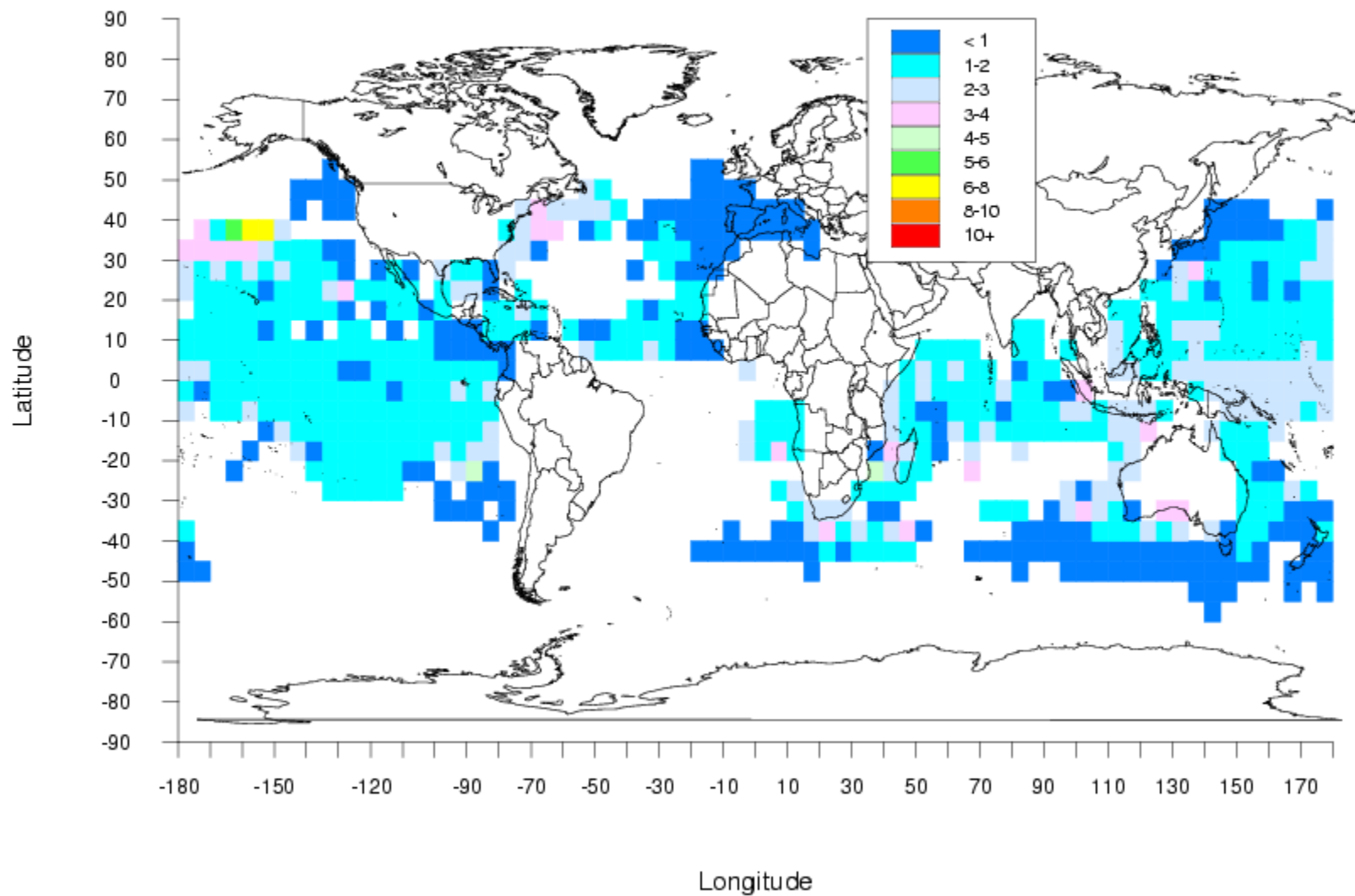
Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1974



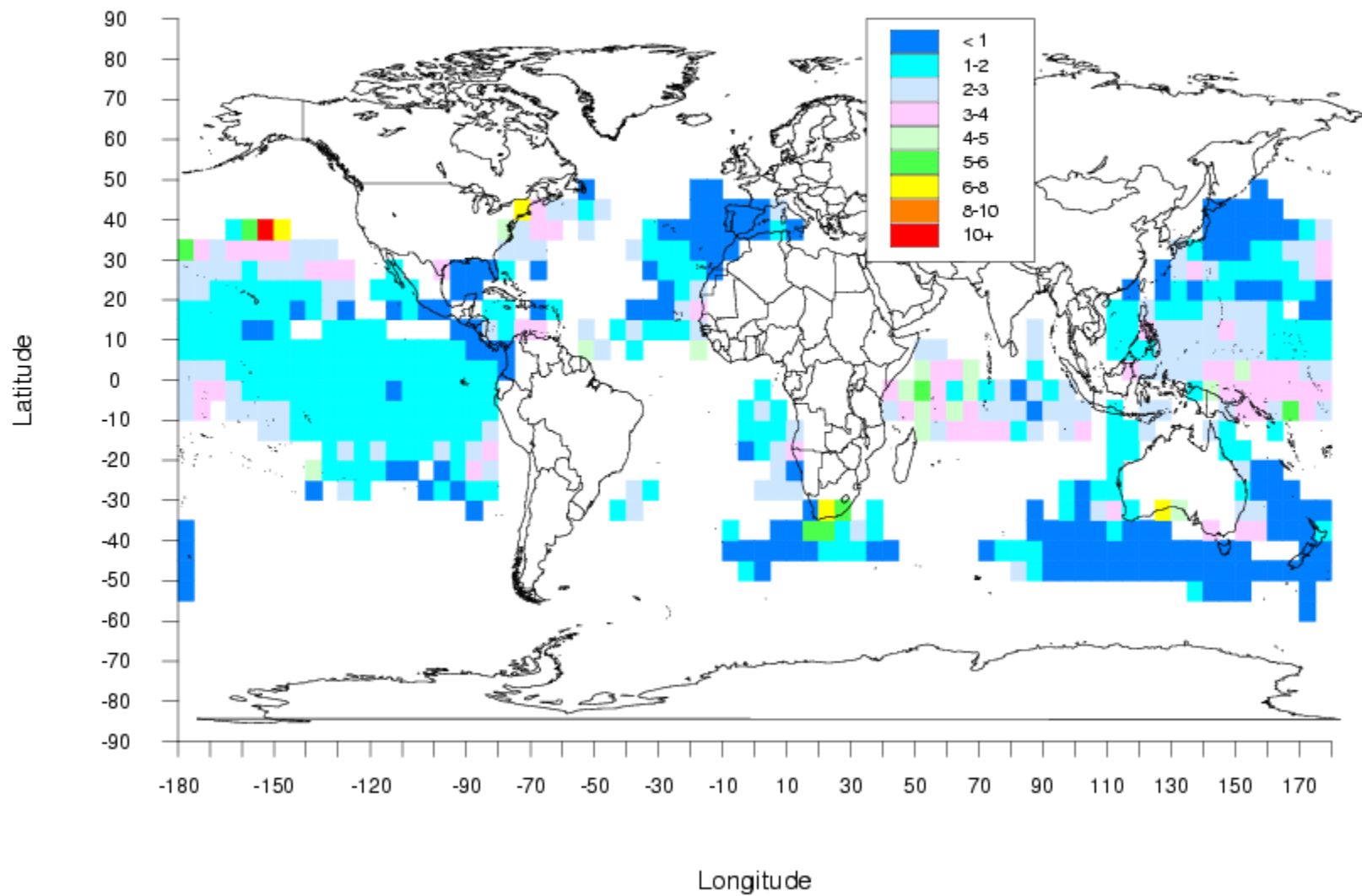
Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1975



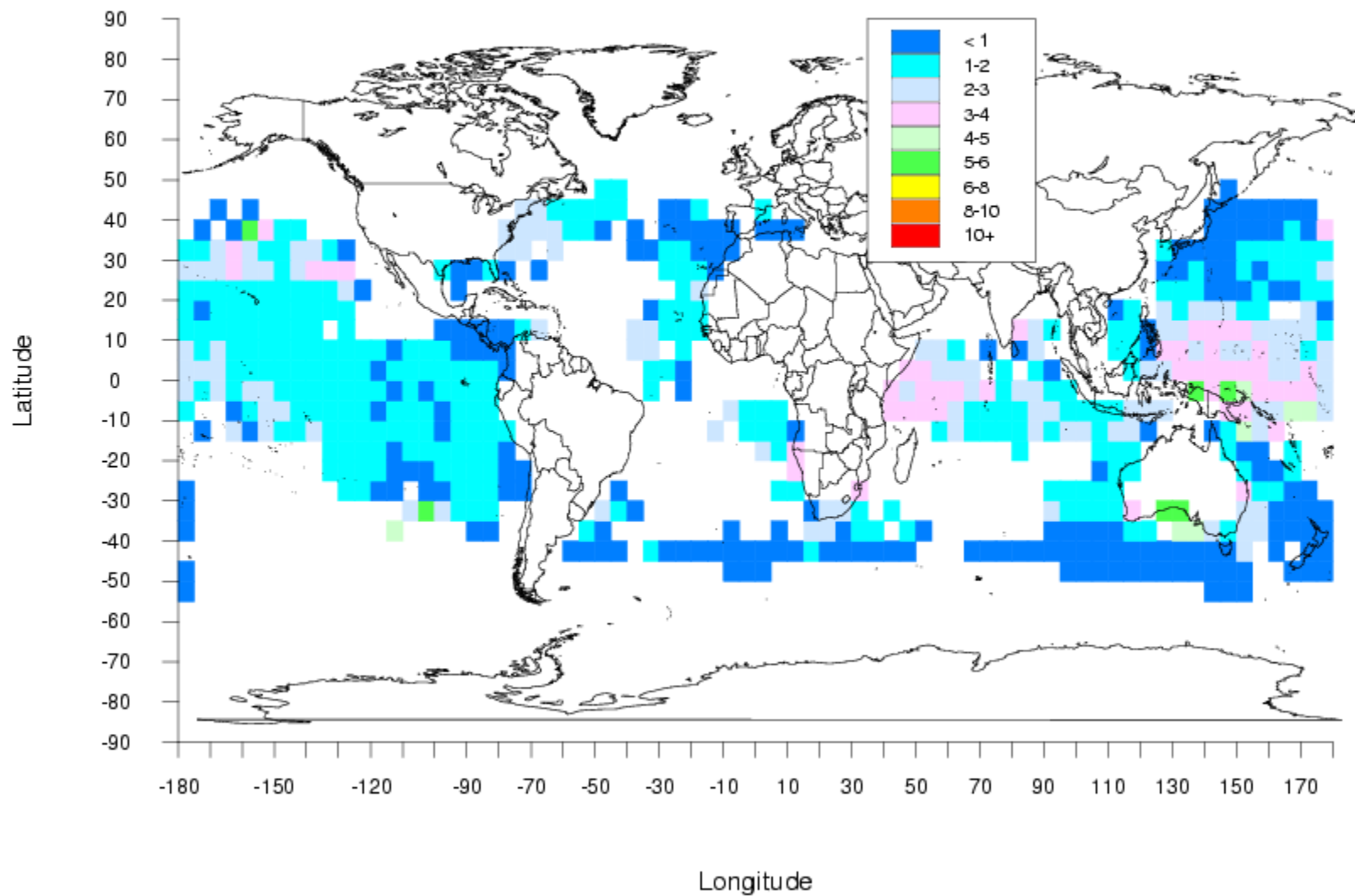
Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1976



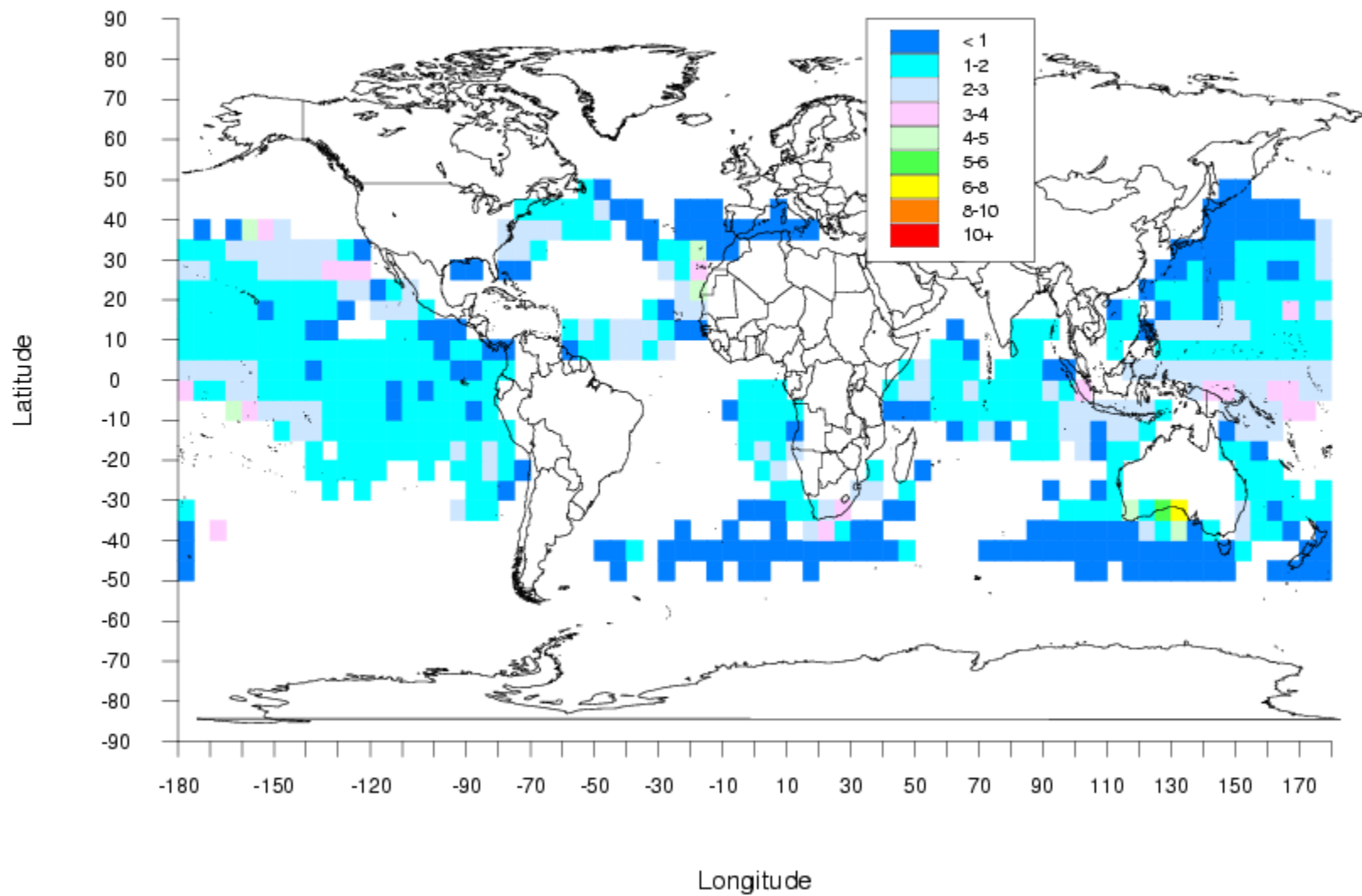
Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1977



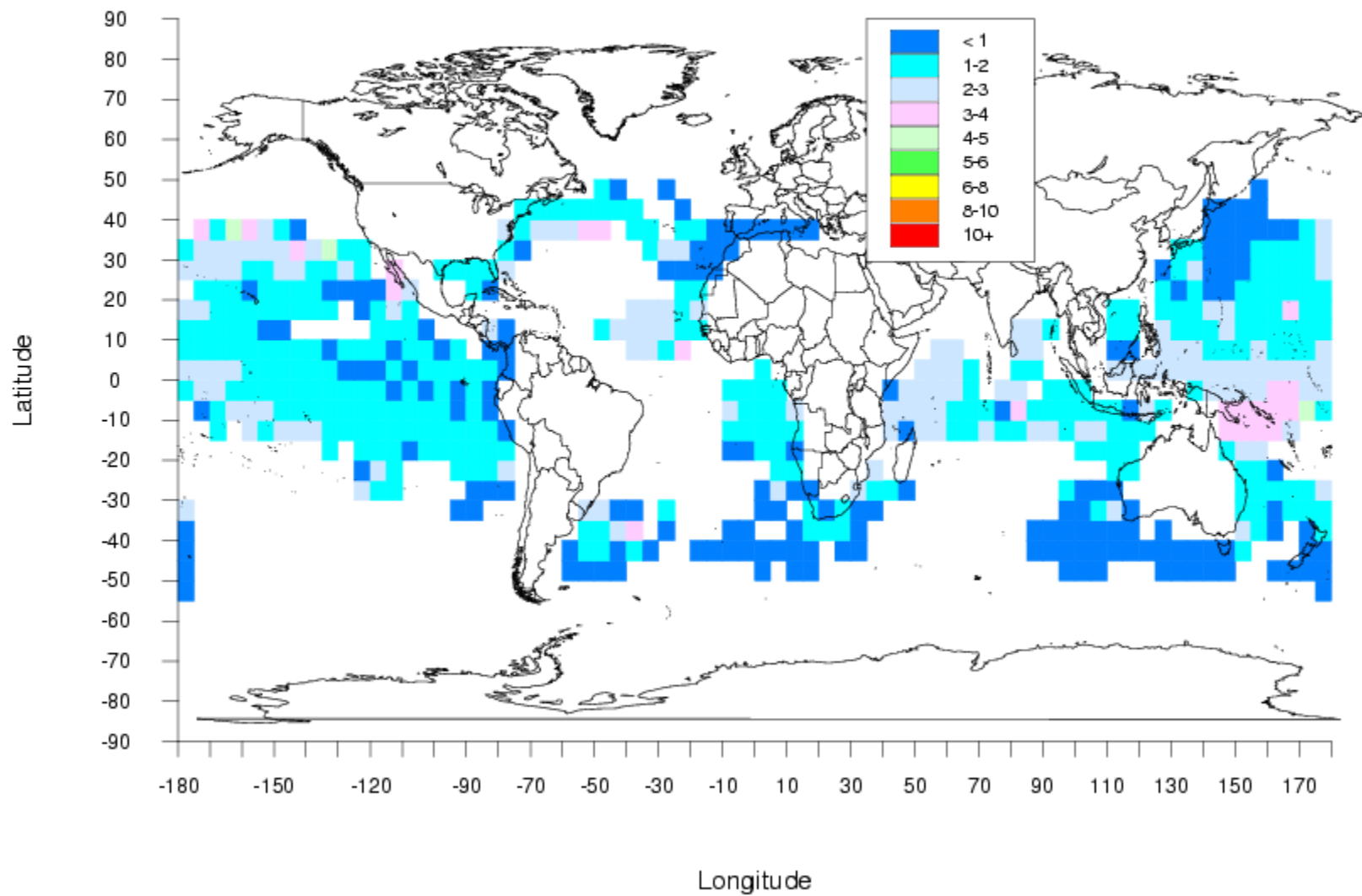
Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1978



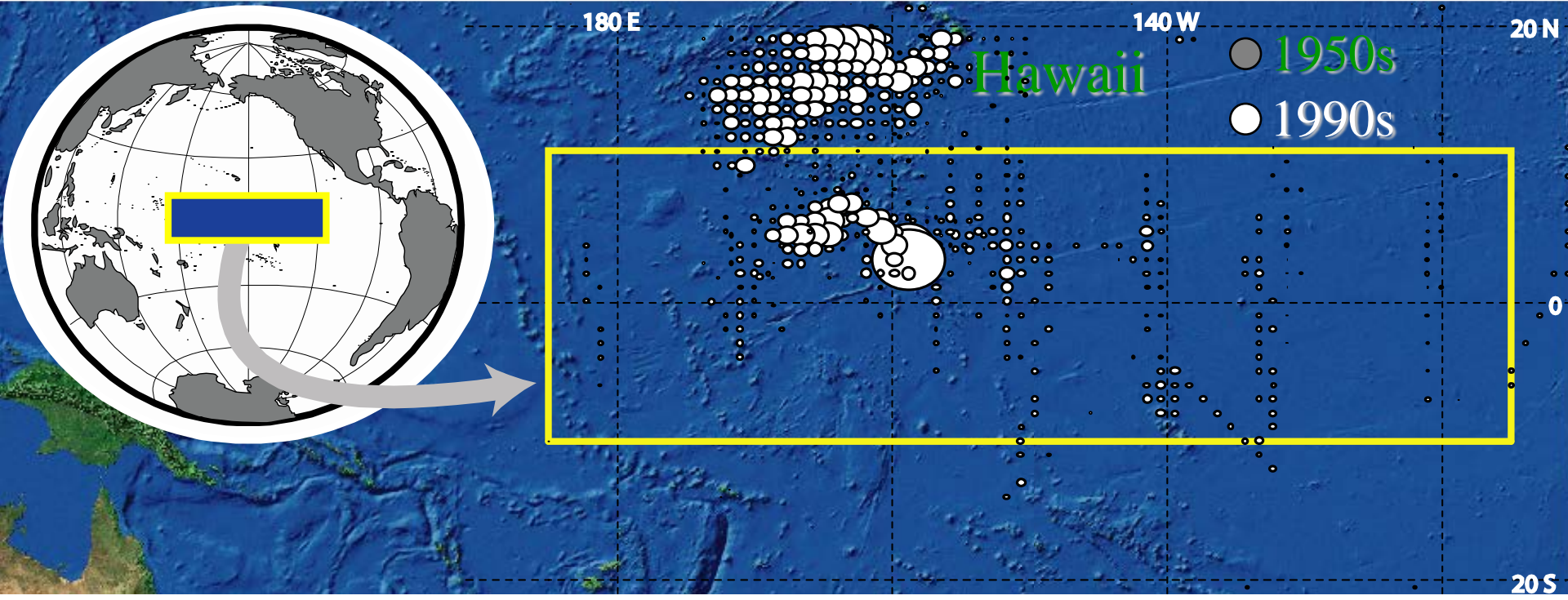
Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1979



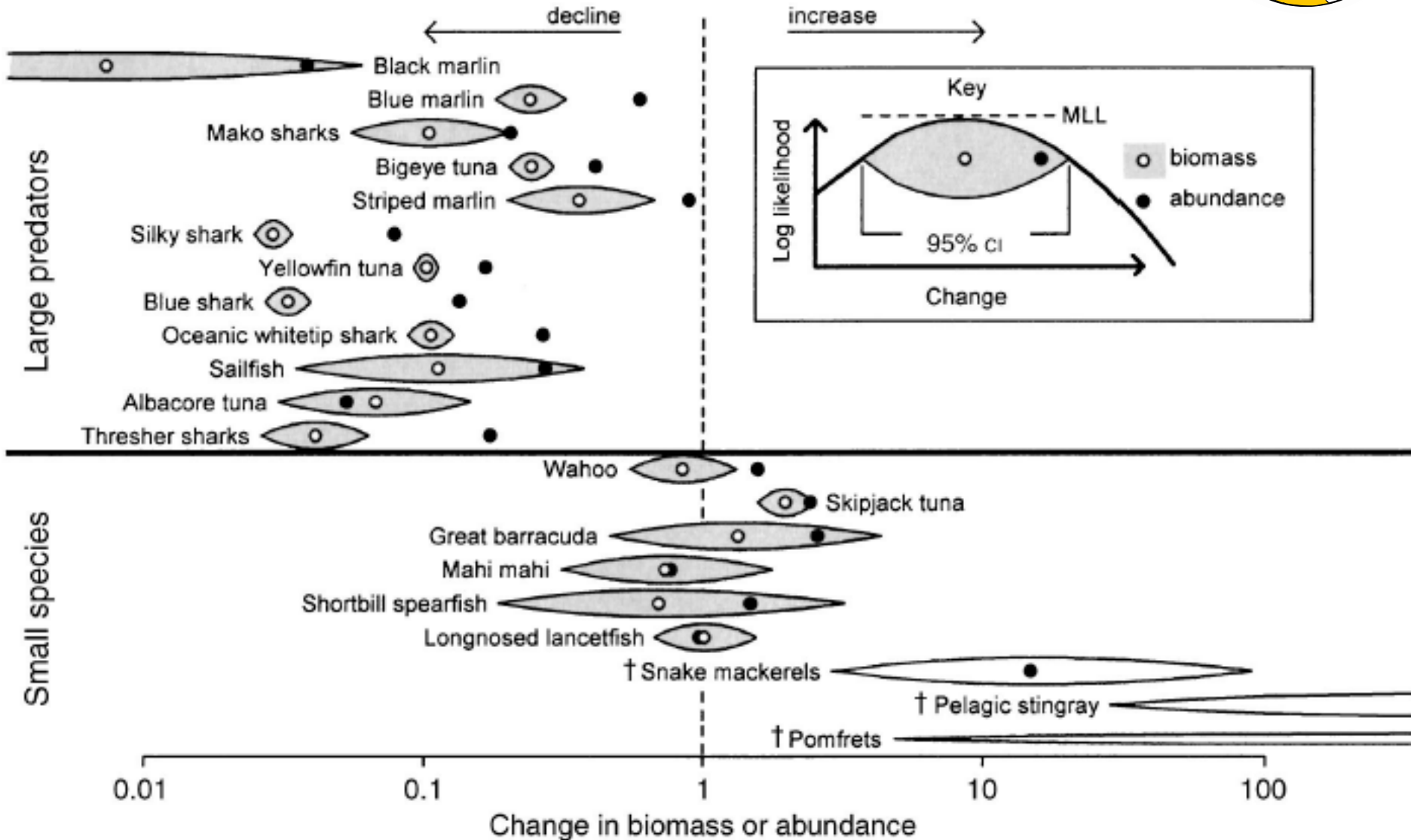
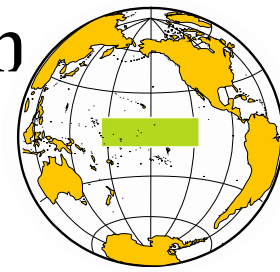
Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1980



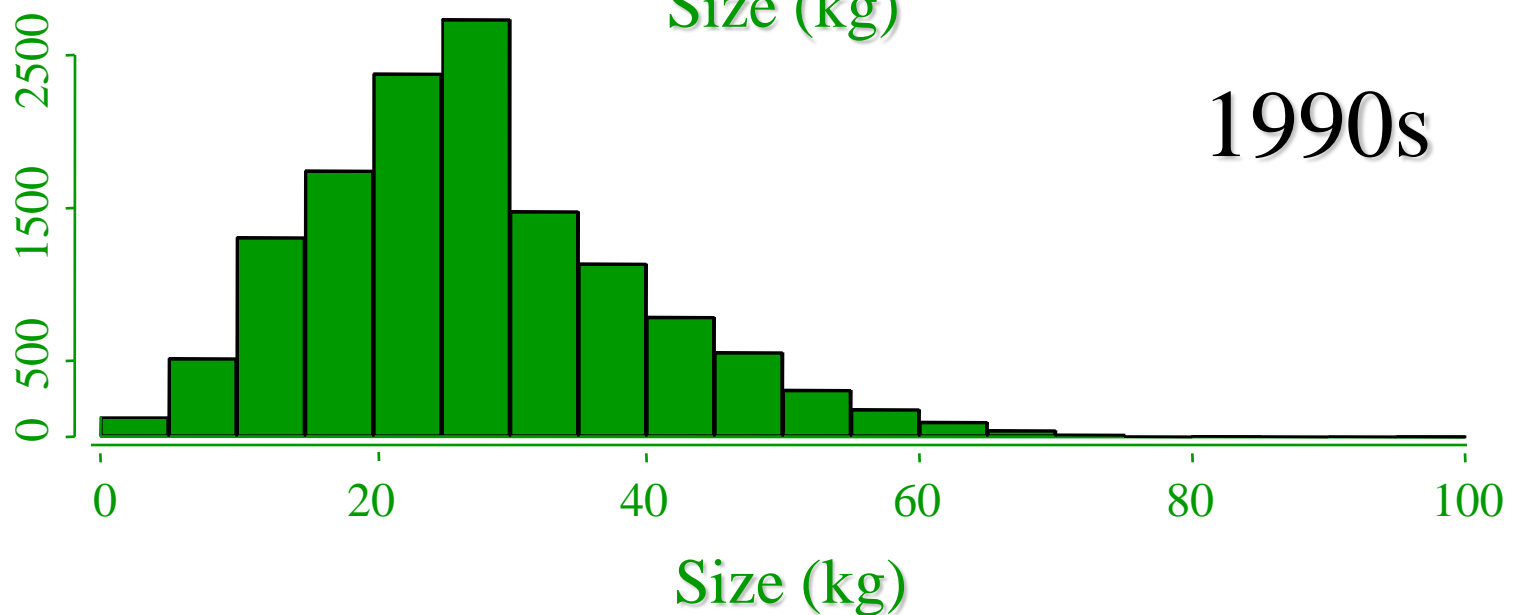
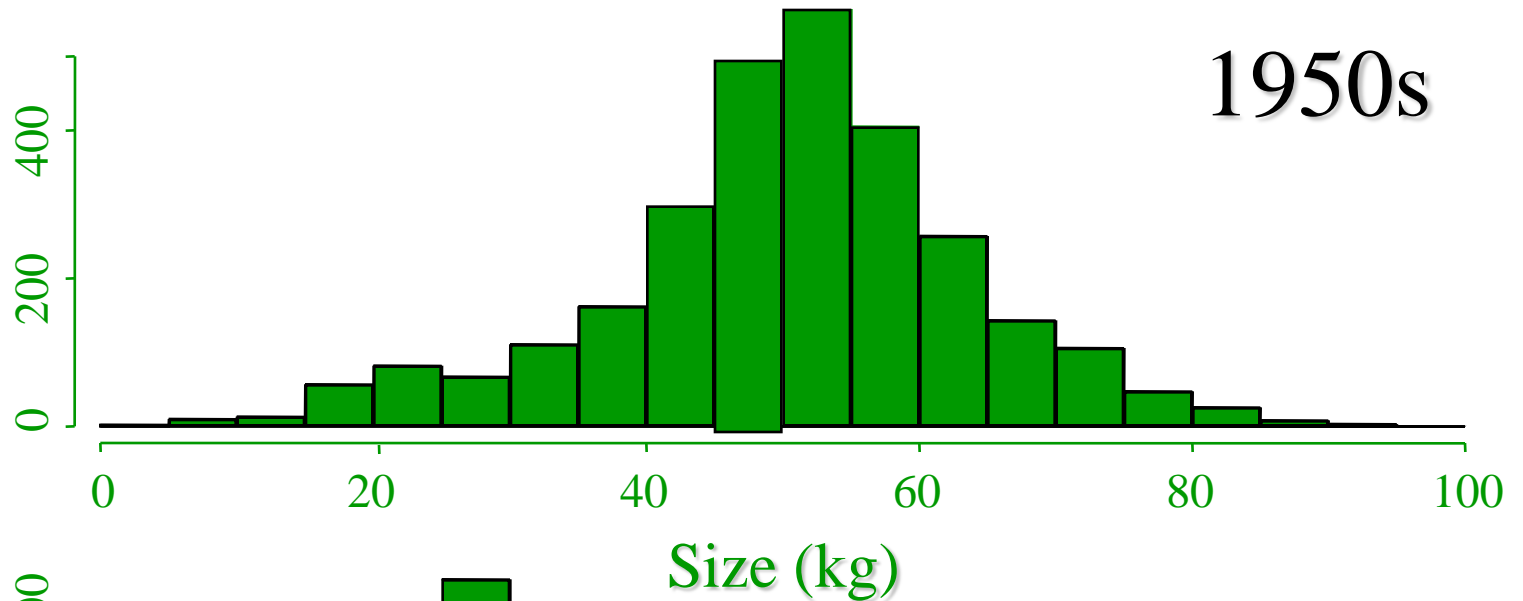
Study area



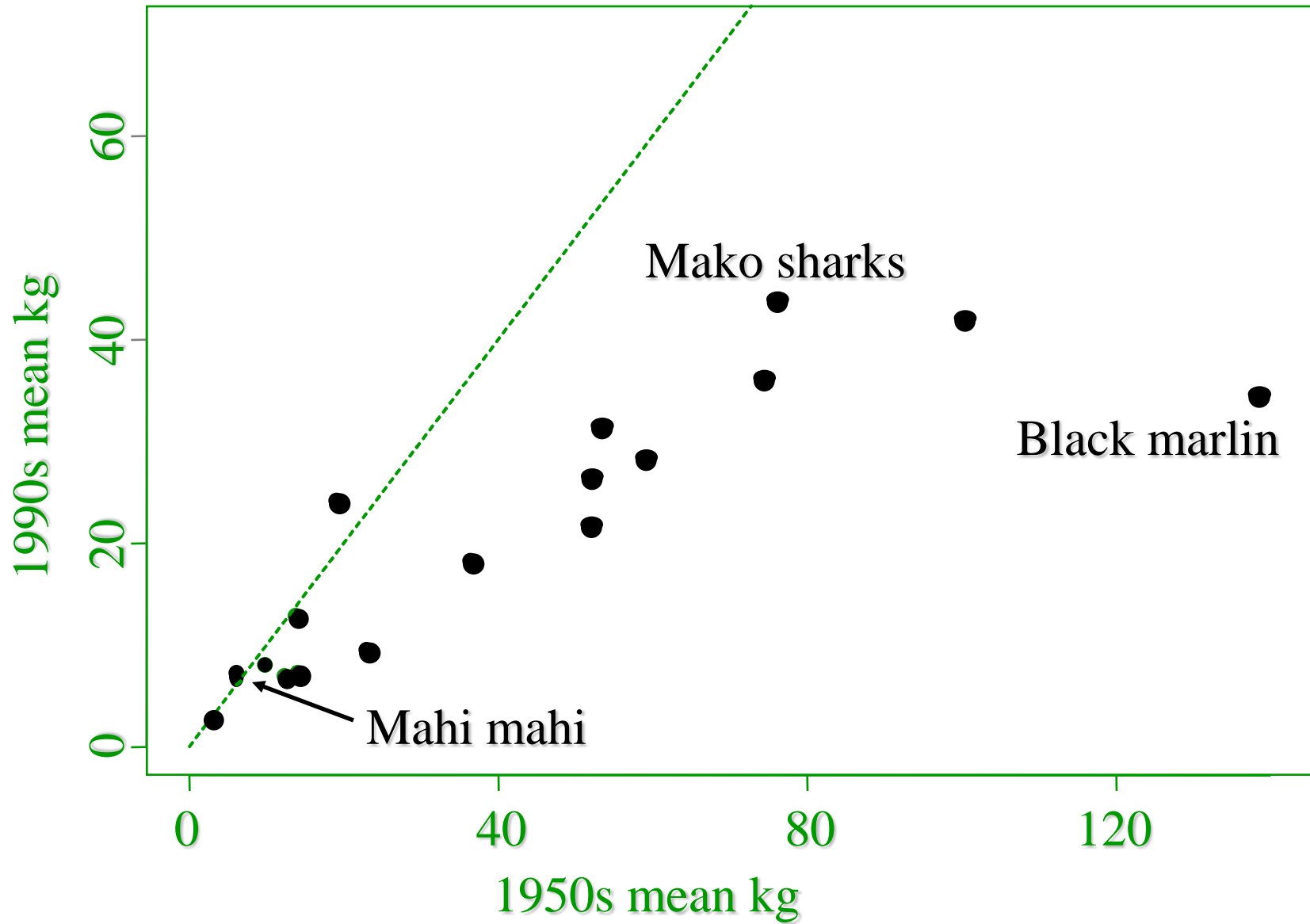
Analysis repeated using independent research data

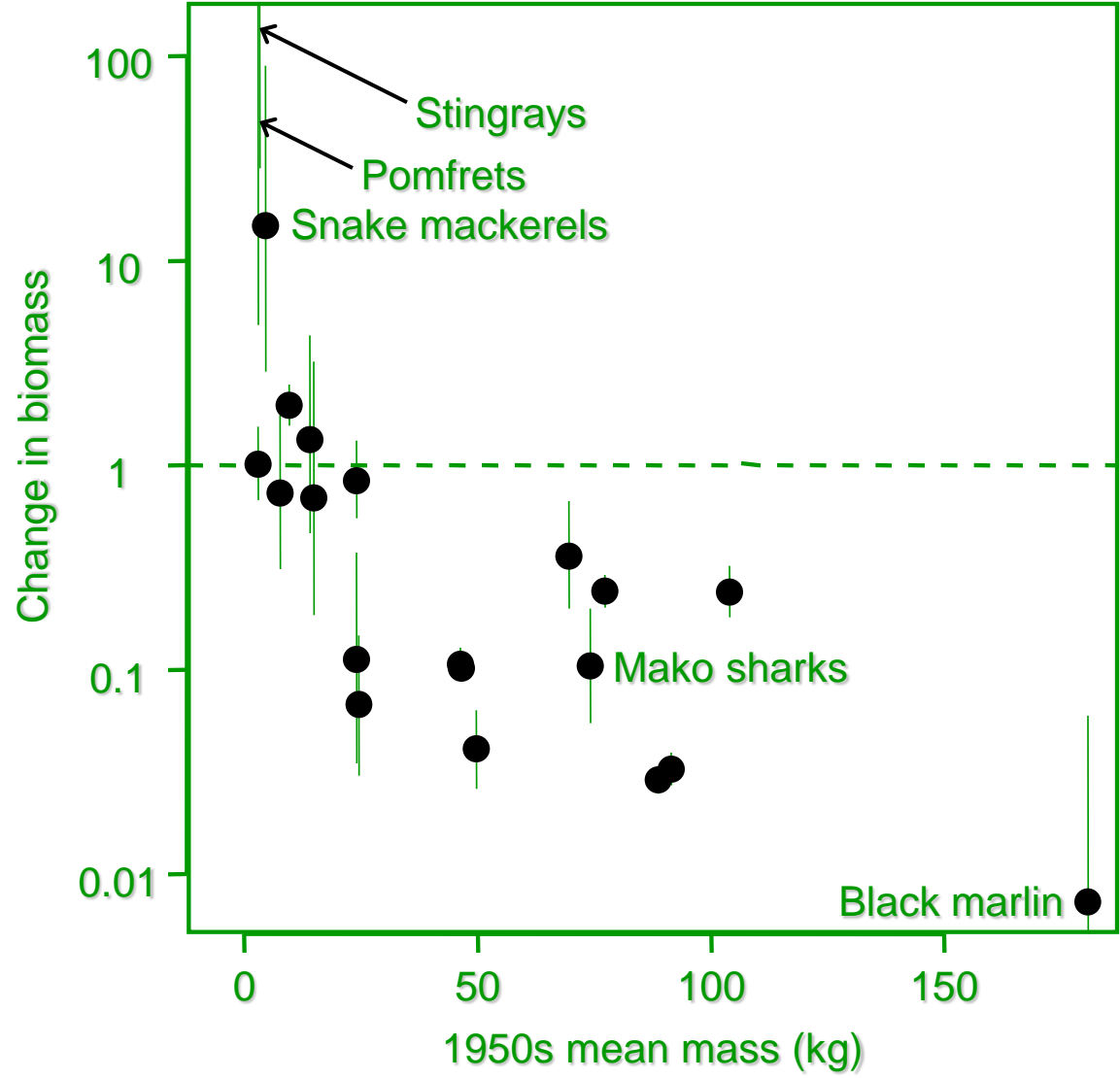


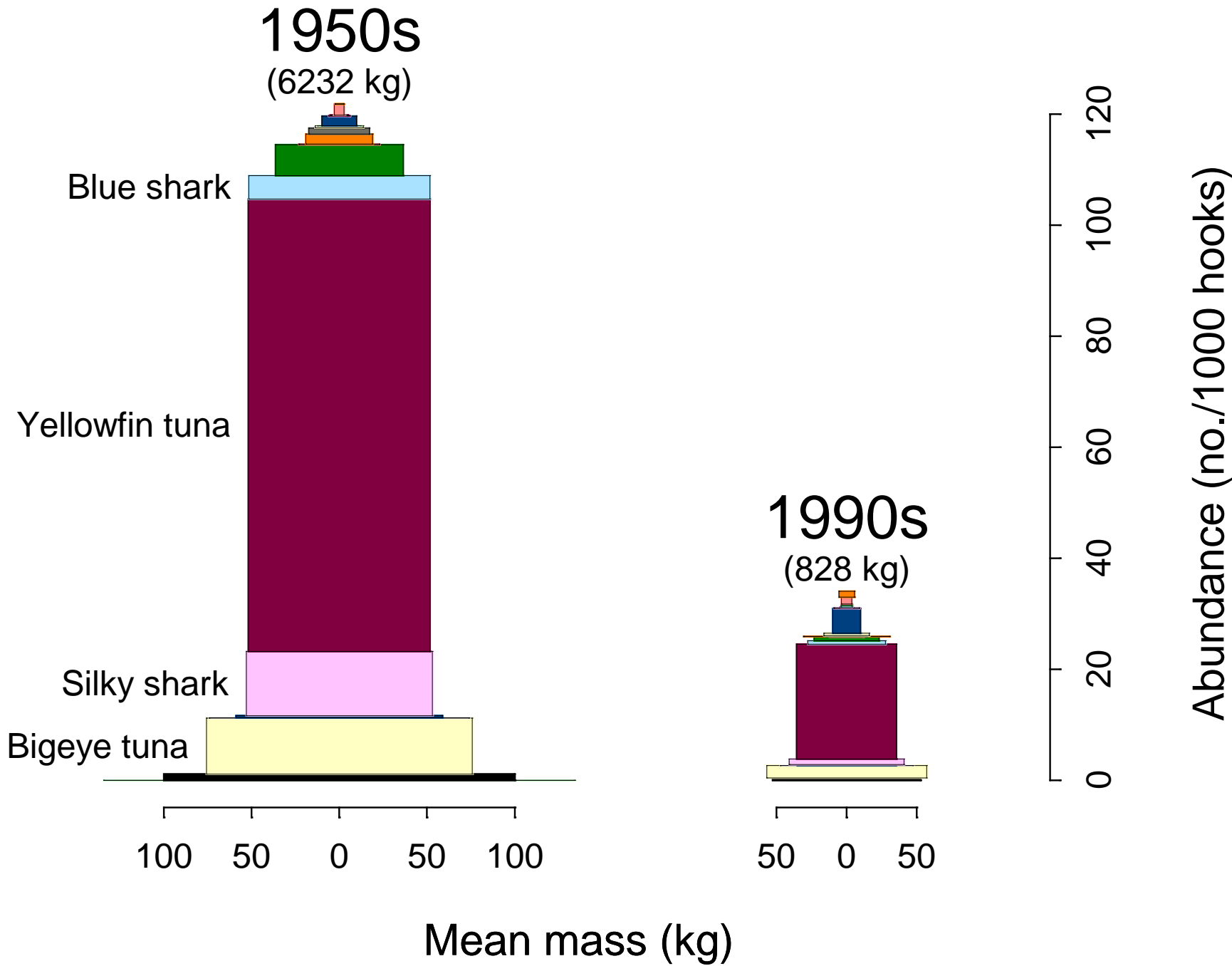
These estimates are conservative: 2 (fish are smaller)



Change in body size





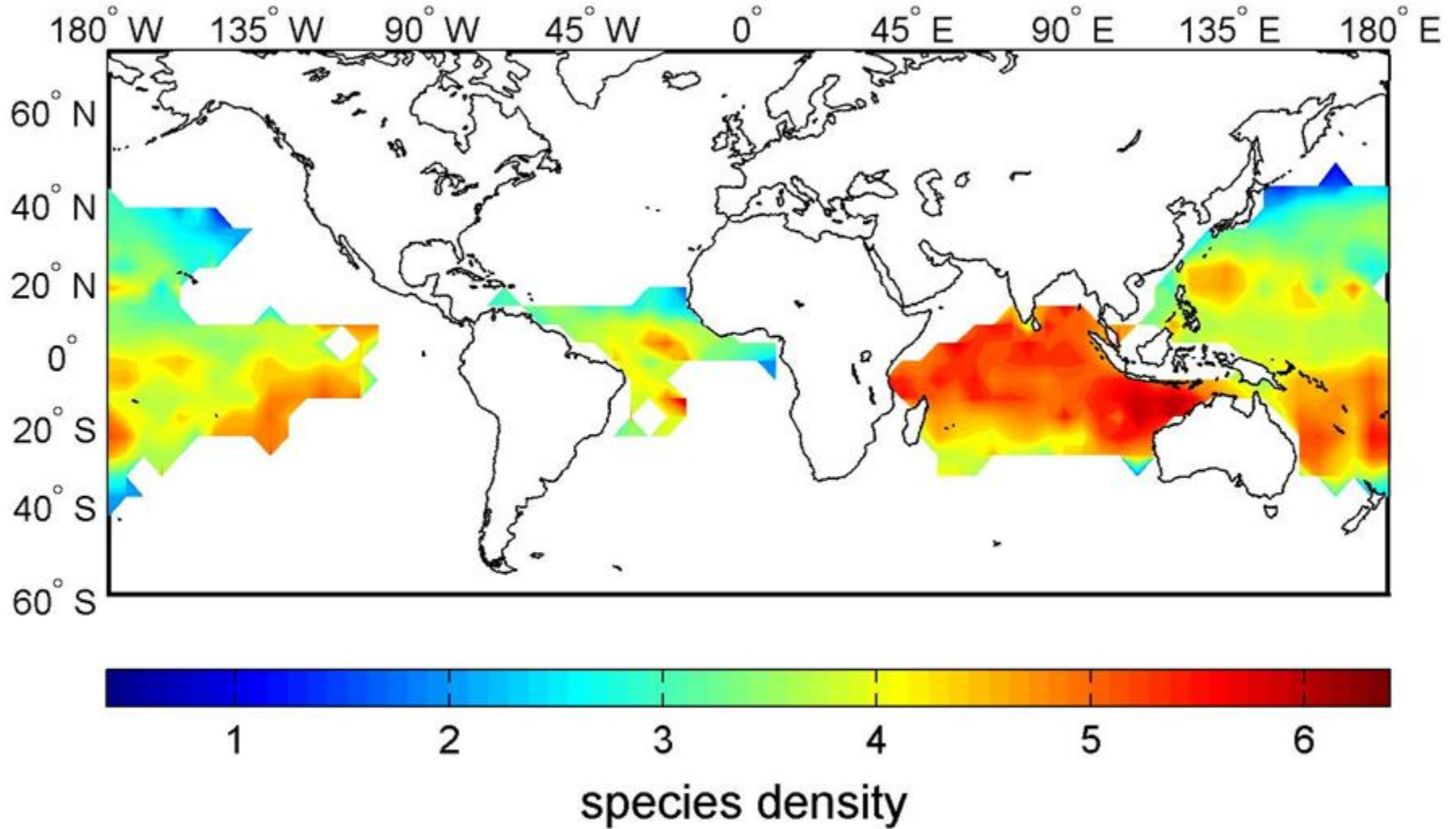


Loss of species density per decade

- Displayed is the number of tuna and billfish species that are found on a standard longline with 1000 hooks
- The time series runs from 1952-1999
- It shows how large hotspots are disappearing over time and how few concentrations of diversity remain today

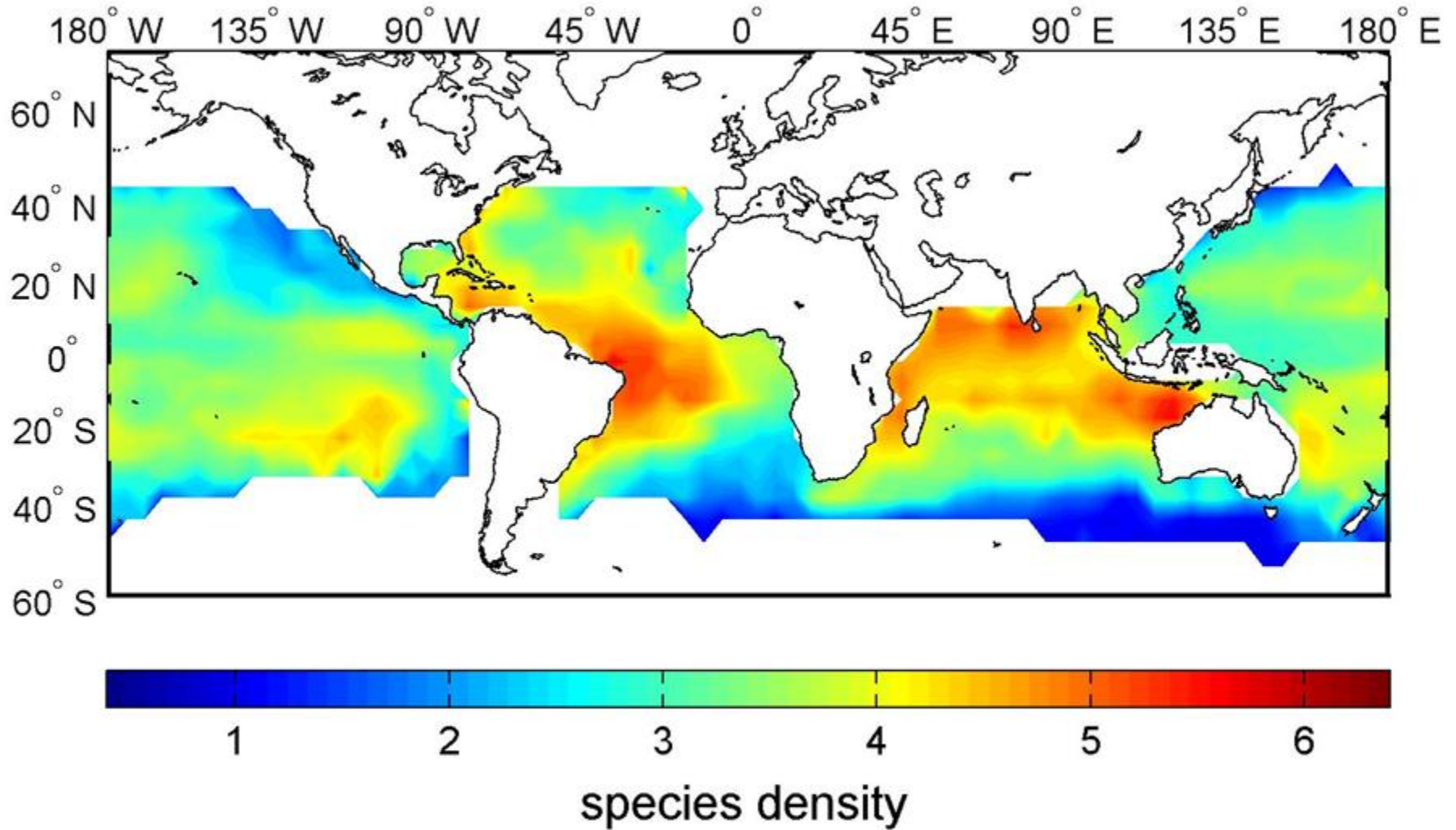
After data from: Worm B, Sandow M, Oschlies A, Lotze HK, Myers RA (2005) Global patterns of predator diversity in the open oceans. **Science** Aug. 2005.

1950s



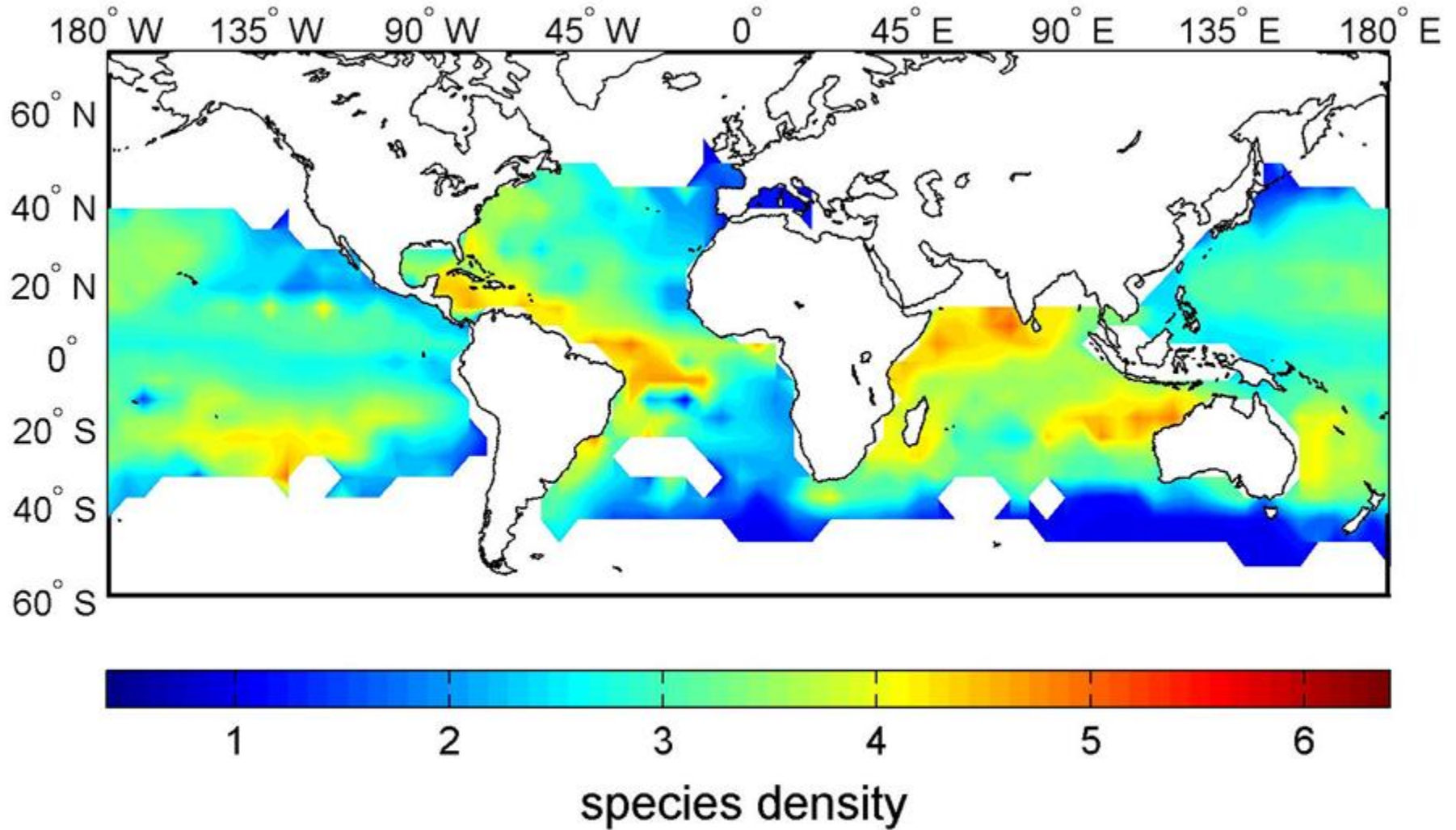
Worm B, Sandow M, Oschlies A, Lotze HK, Myers RA (Science Aug. 2005)

1960s



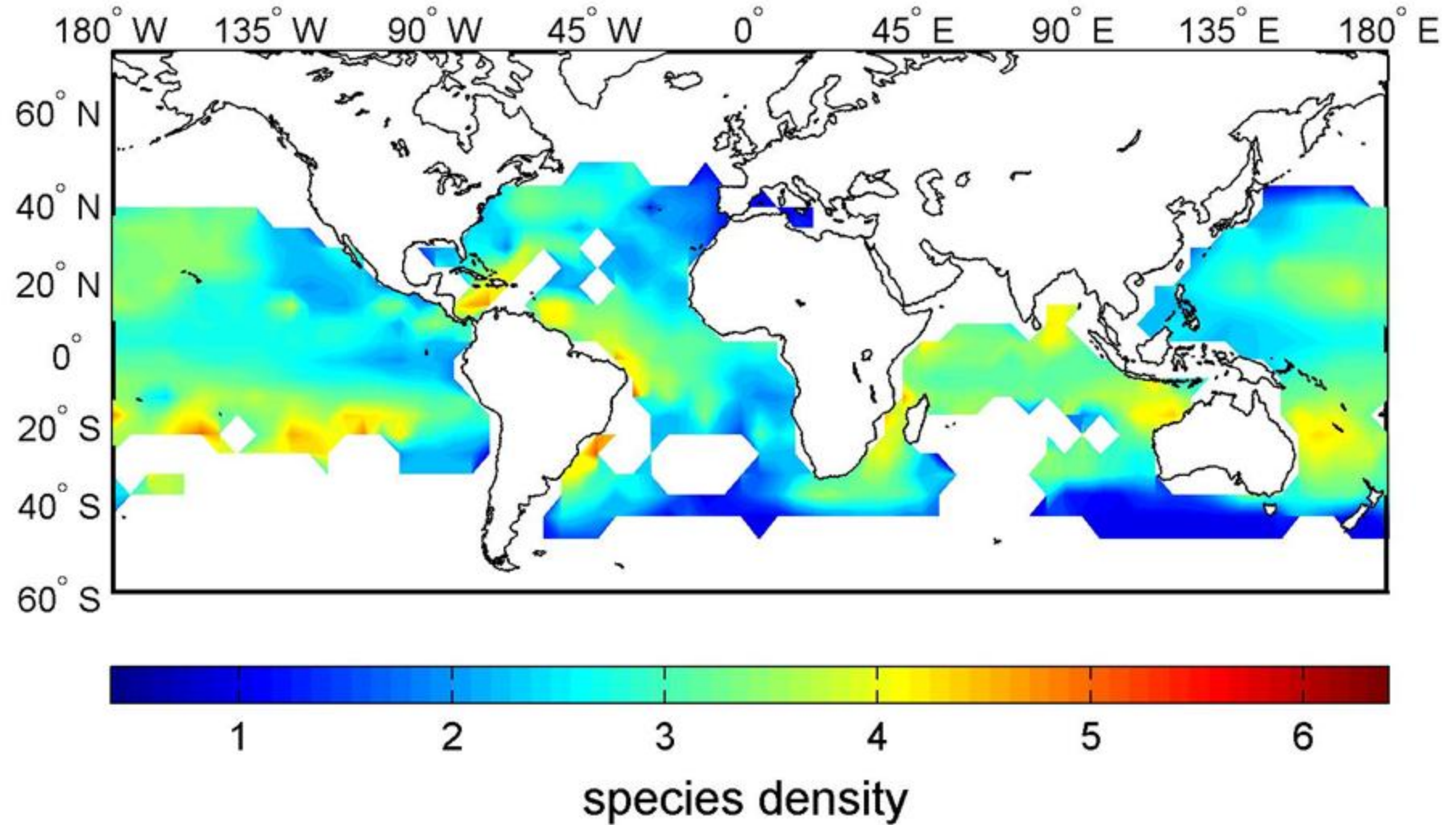
Worm B, Sandow M, Oschlies A, Lotze HK, Myers RA (Science Aug. 2005)

1970s



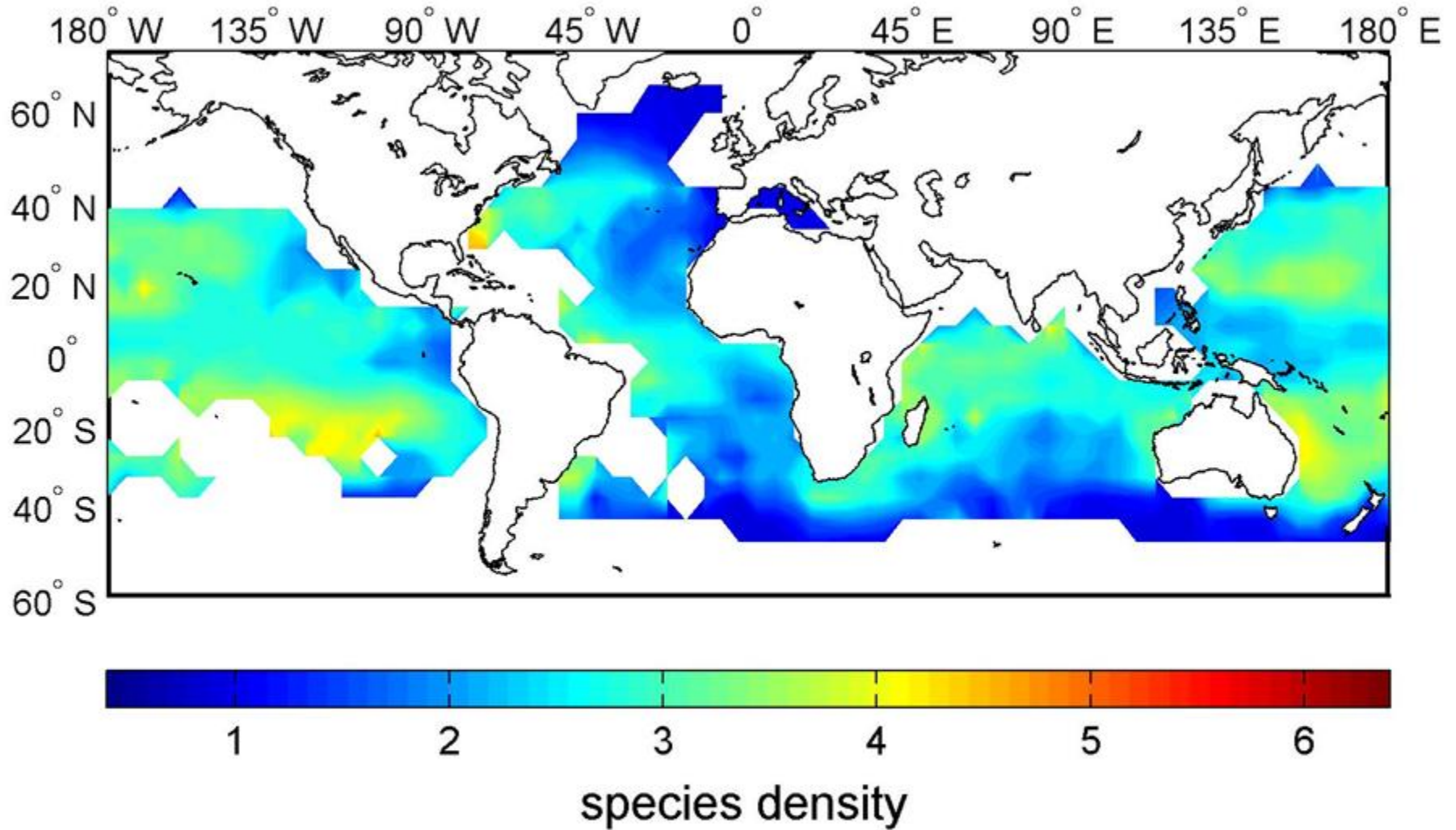
Worm B, Sandow M, Oschlies A, Lotze HK, Myers RA (Science Aug. 2005)

1980s



Worm B, Sandow M, Oschlies A, Lotze HK, Myers RA (Science Aug. 2005)

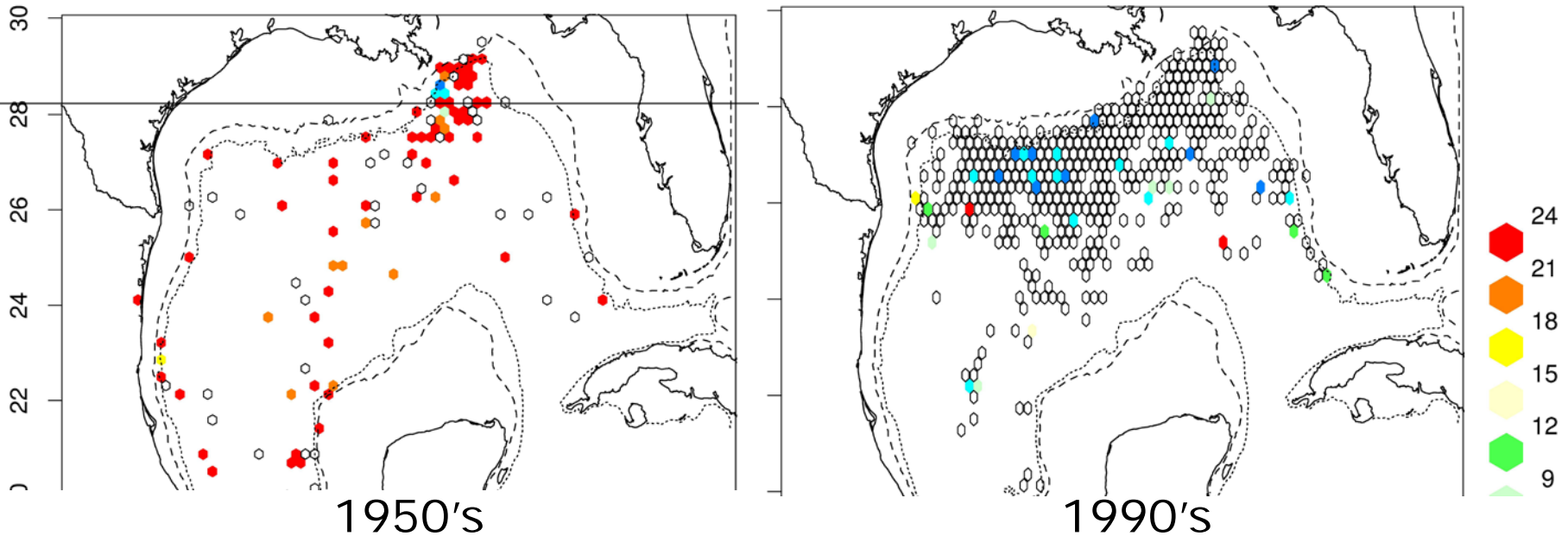
1990s



Worm B, Sandow M, Oschlies A, Lotze HK, Myers RA (Science Aug. 2005)

Loss of sharks in the Gulf of Mexico

300 fold decline – no one noticed

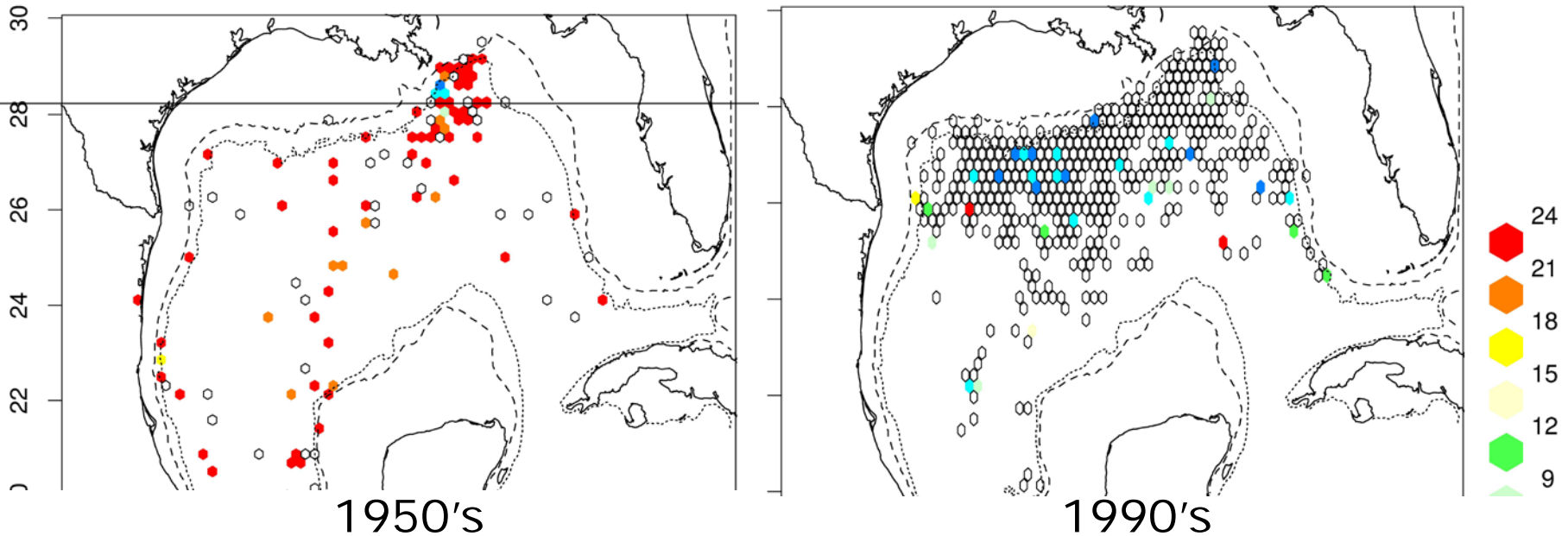


Oceanic Whitetip captures per 10,000 hooks

Many thanks to NMFS for data and advice

Loss of sharks in the Gulf of Mexico

300 fold decline – no one noticed



Oceanic Whitetip captures per 10,000 hooks

Many thanks to NMFS for data and advice

What about prey fish?

Brama brama
Atlantic pomfret

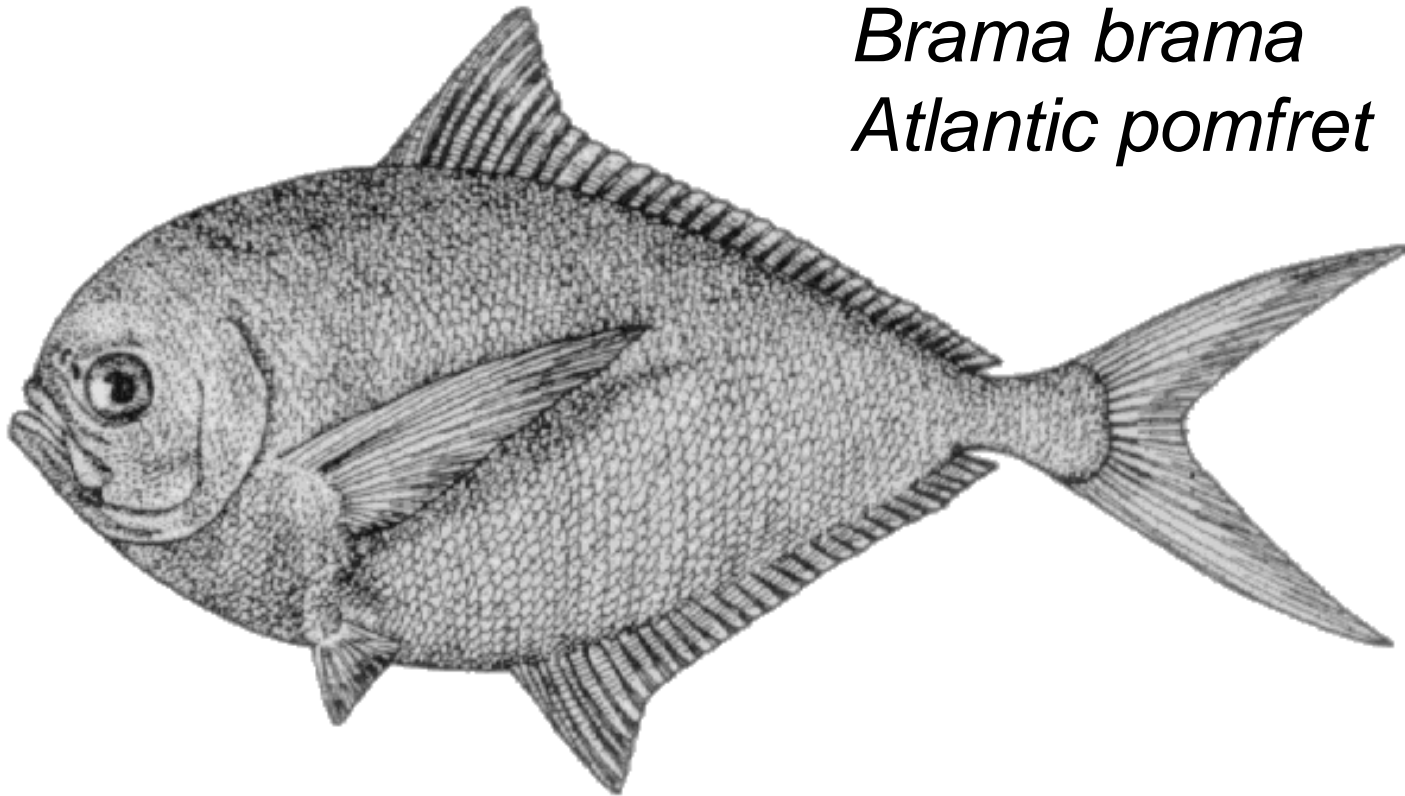
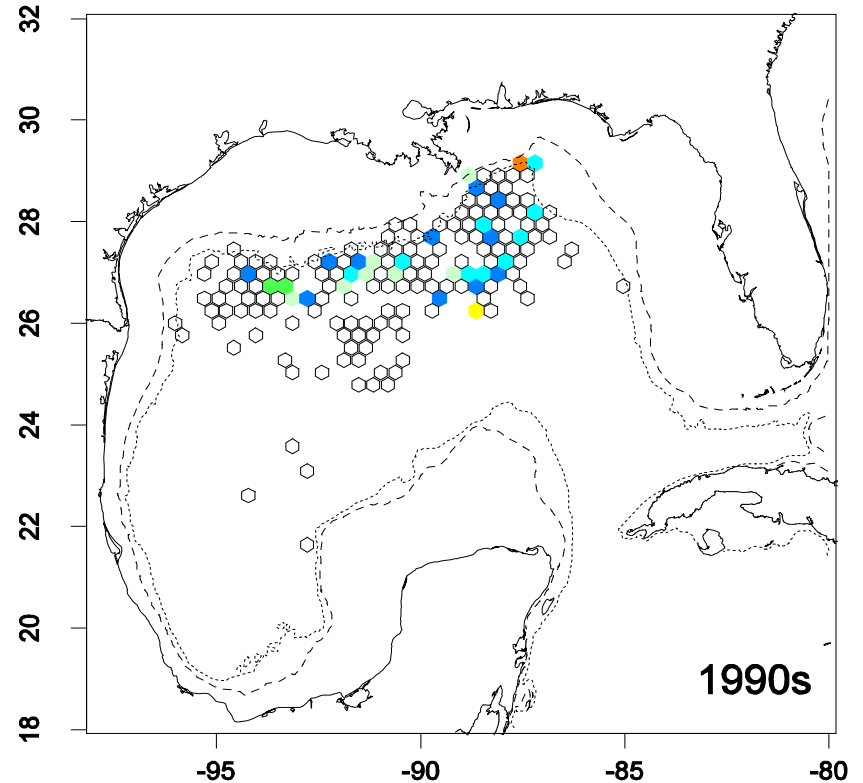
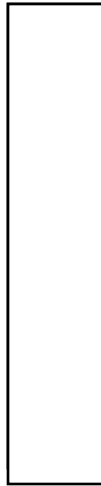
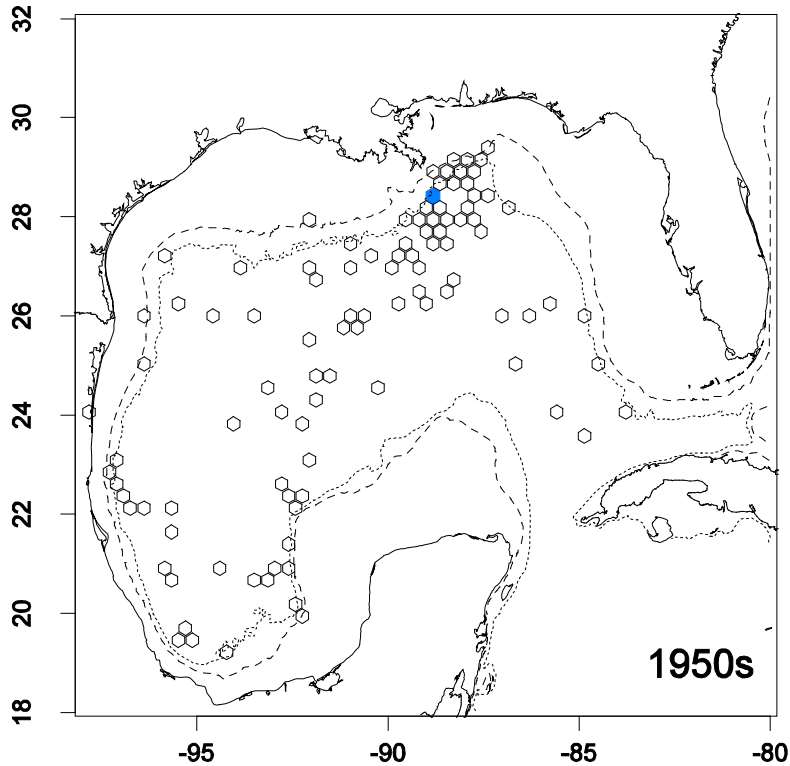


Illustration taken from the book "Encyclopedia of Canadian Fishes" by Brian W. Coad with Henry Waszczuk and Italo Labignan, 1995,

Explosion of Pomfrets in the Gulf of Mexico ~ 1000 fold increase – no one noticed



1950's

1990's

Pomfret captures per 10,000 hooks

Many thanks to NMFS for data and advice

The Rise of the Marine Mesopredators

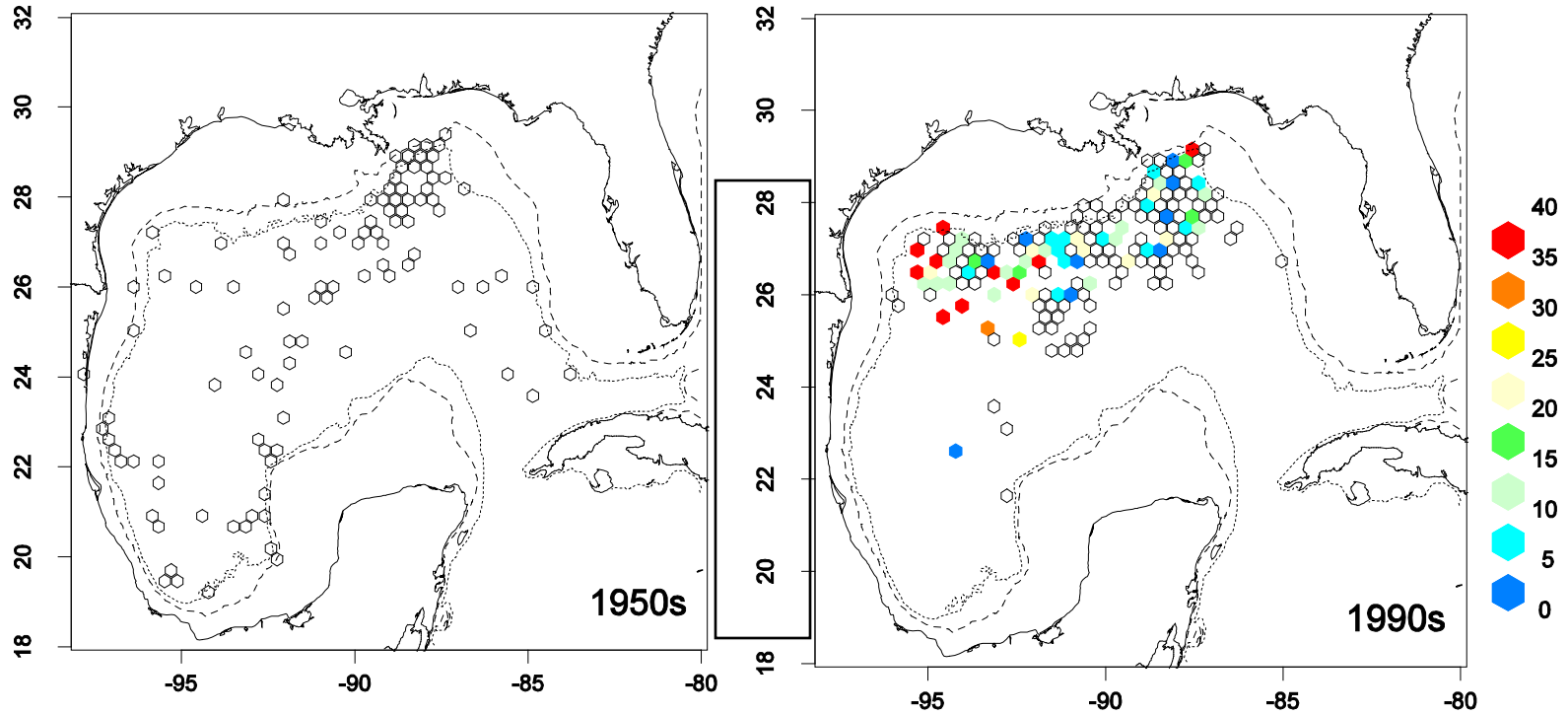


Pelagic Sting Ray
Pteroplatytrygon violacea



Photos from Phillip Colla, photography

Explosion of Pelagic Stingrays in the Gulf of Mexico ~ 1000 fold increase – no one noticed

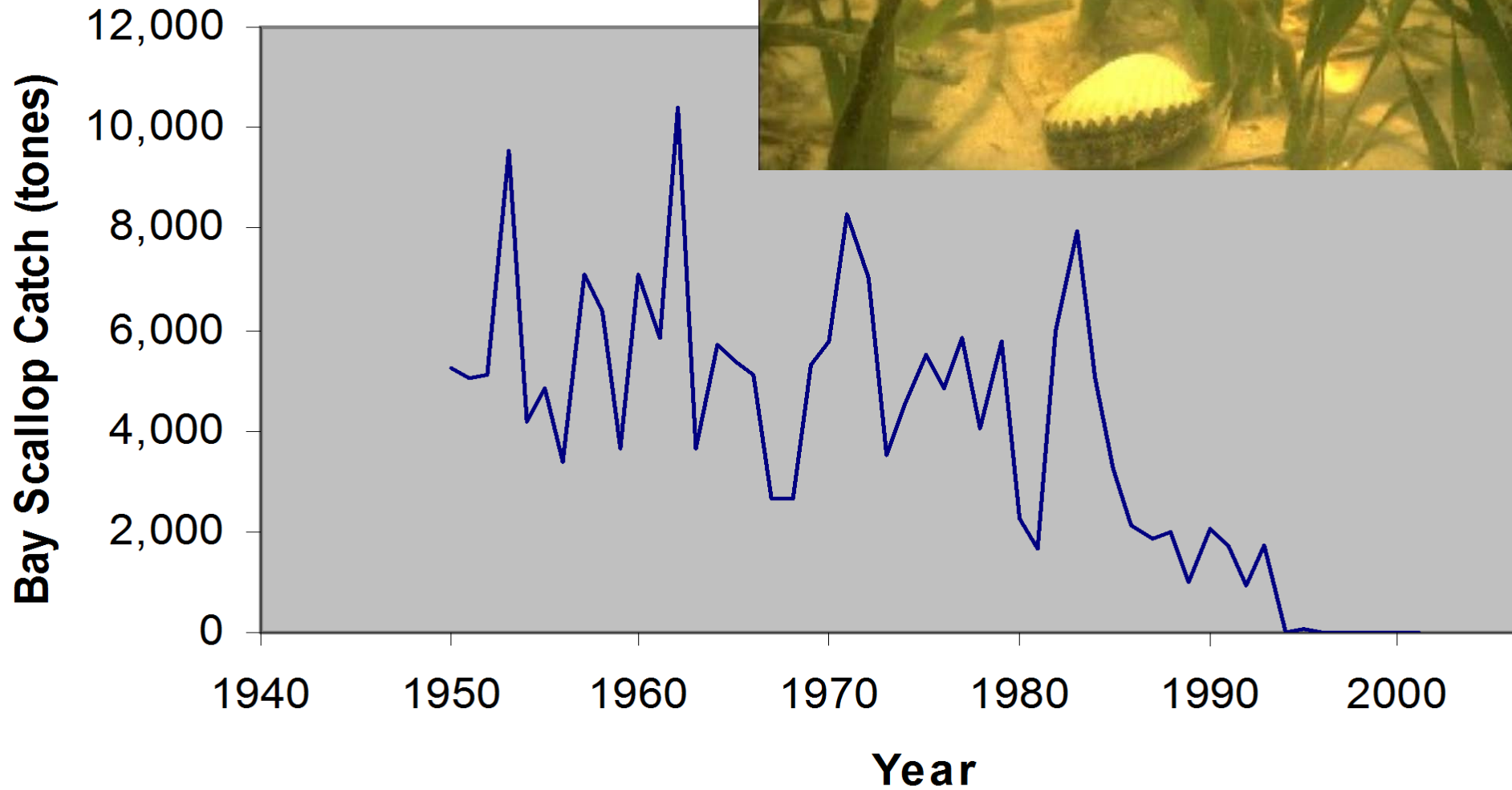


1950's

1990's

Pelagic stingray captures per 10,000 hooks

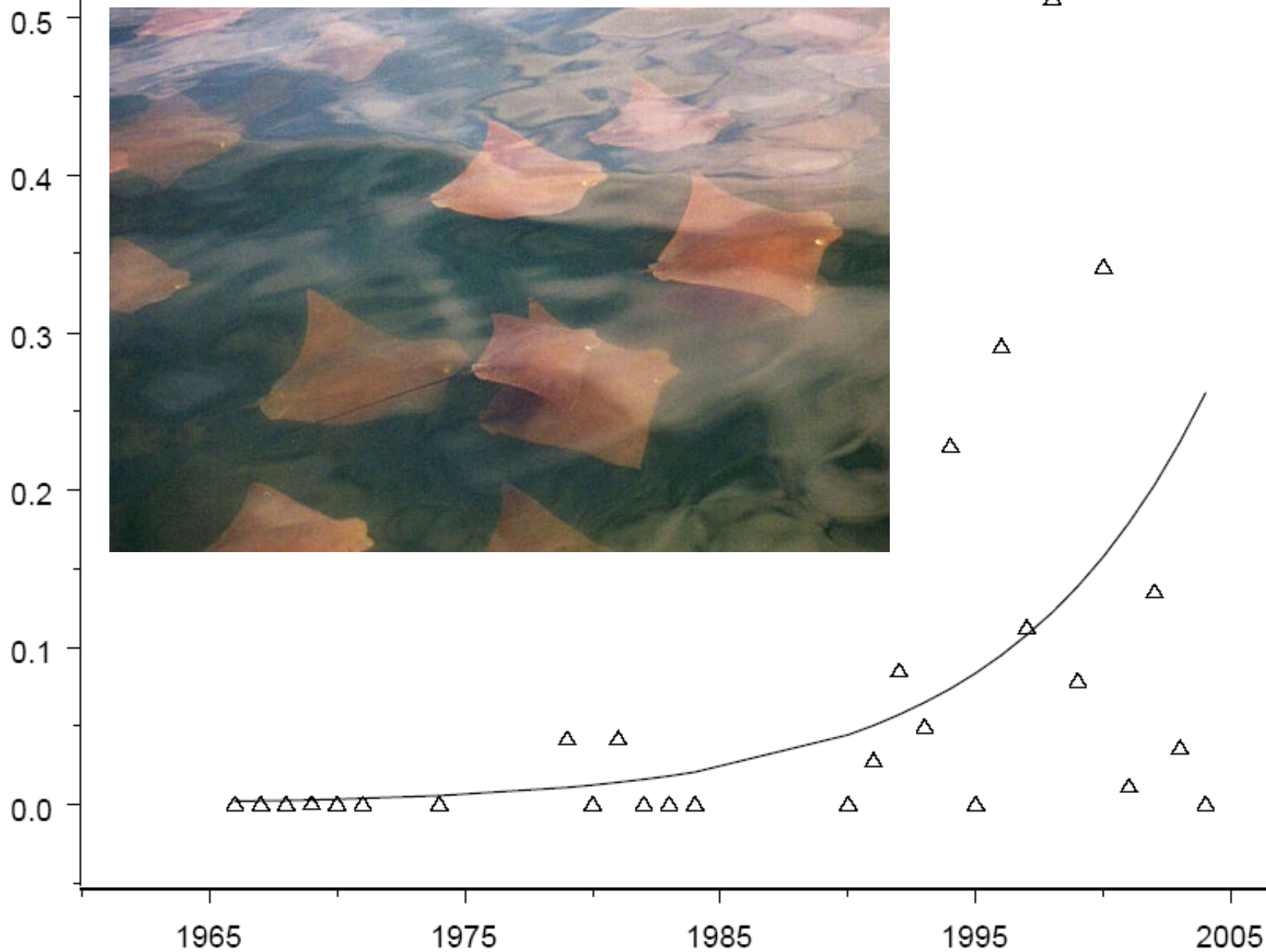
Bay Scallops Northeast US



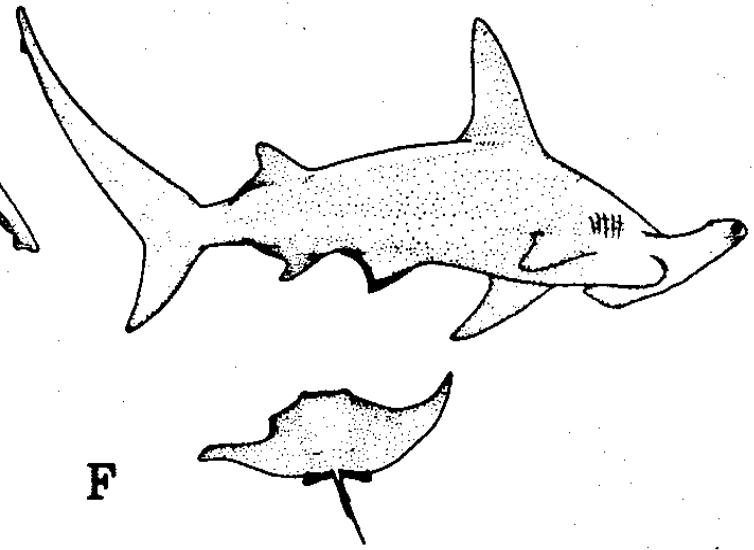
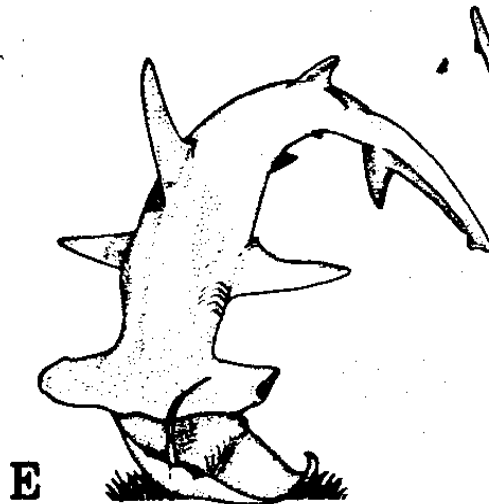
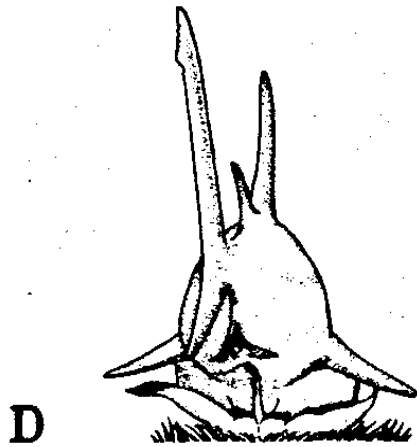
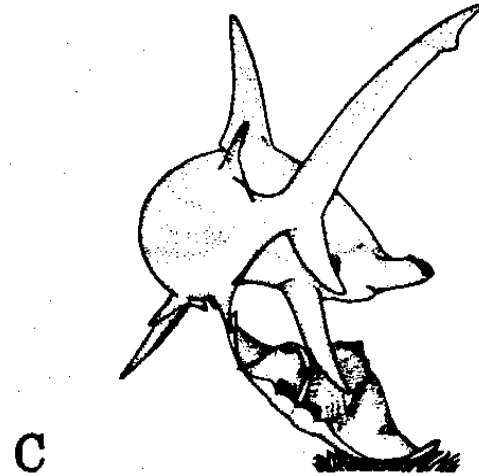
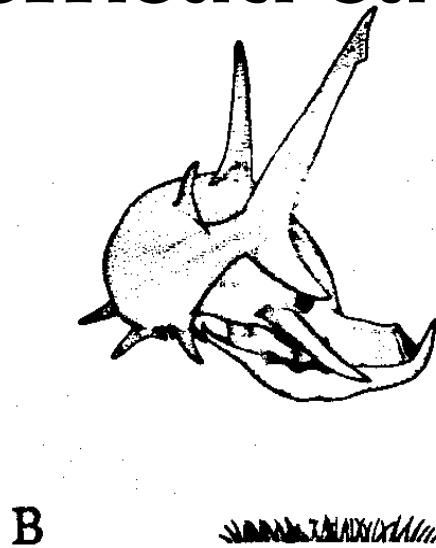
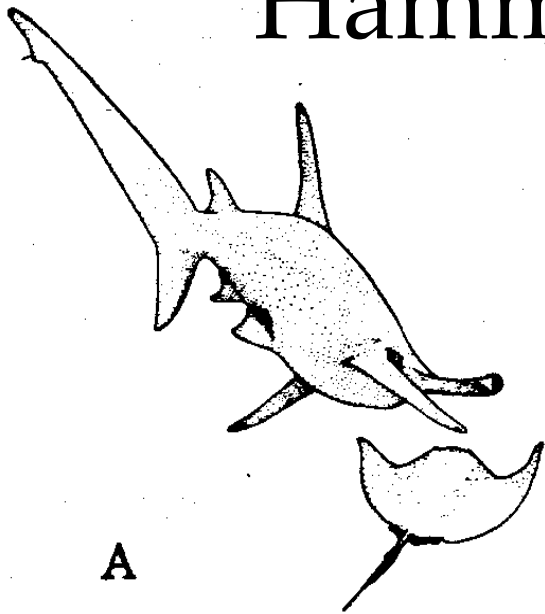
Cownose Ray - Delaware Bay



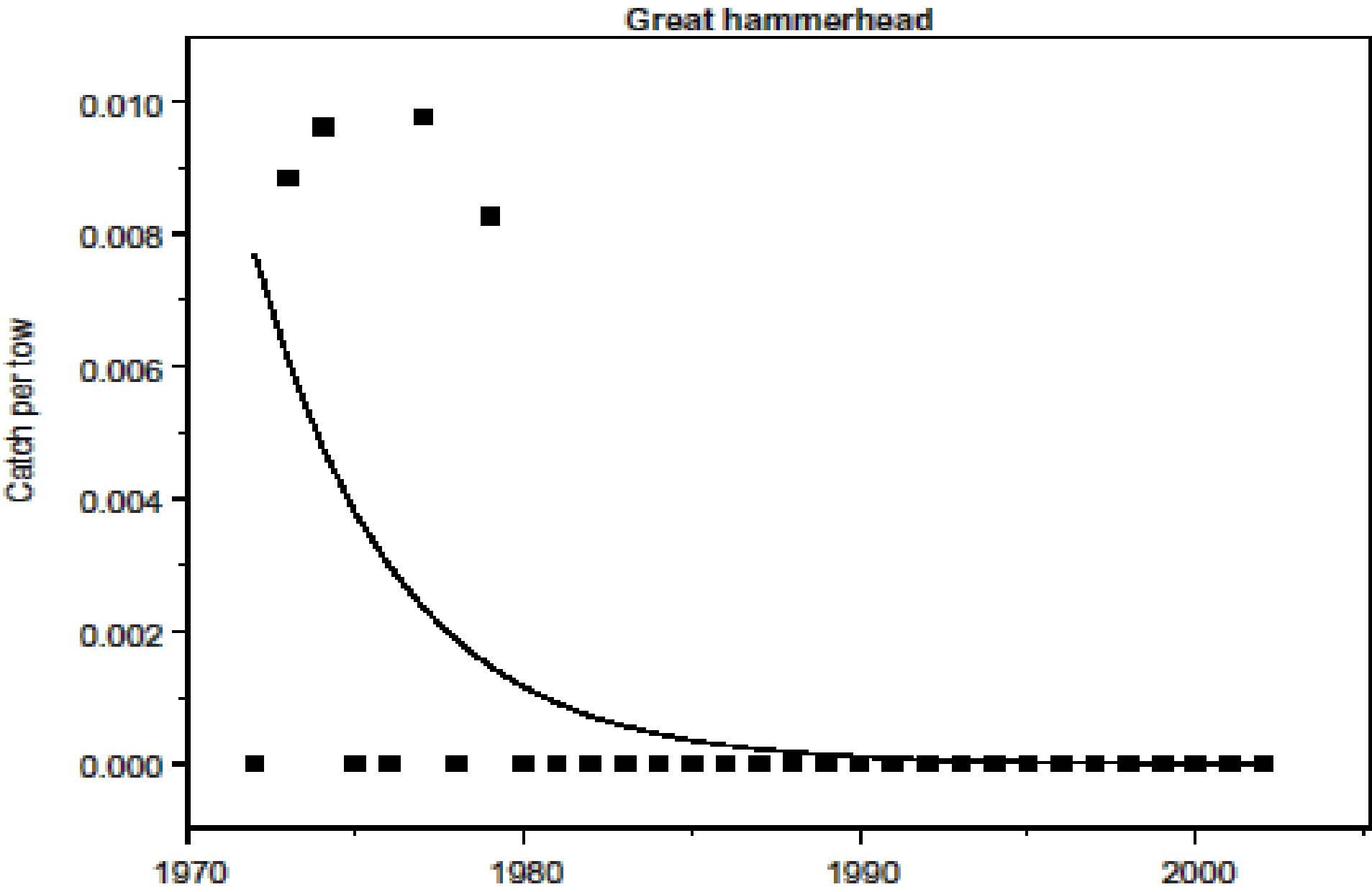
Mean standardized catch per tow



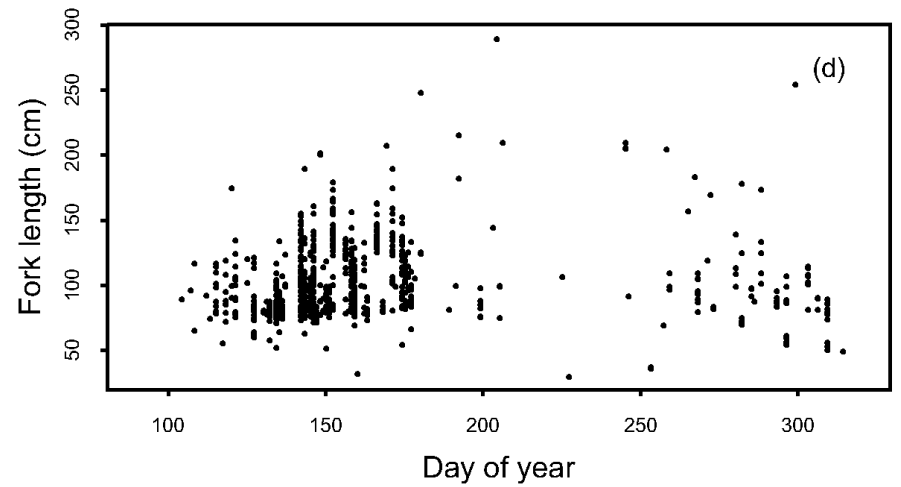
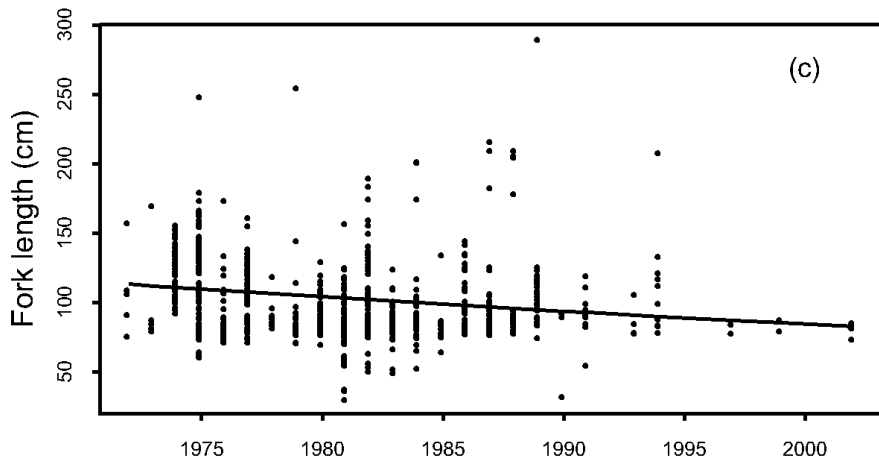
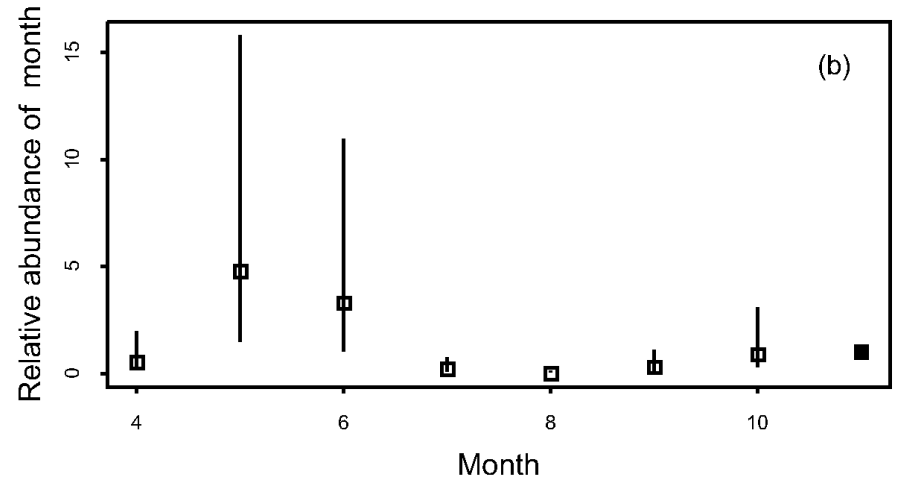
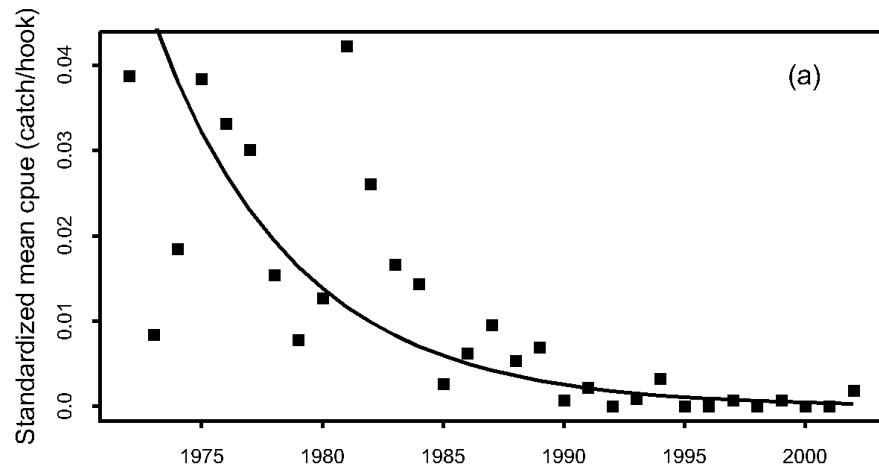
Hammerhead eating stingray



Loss of hammerheads from surveys



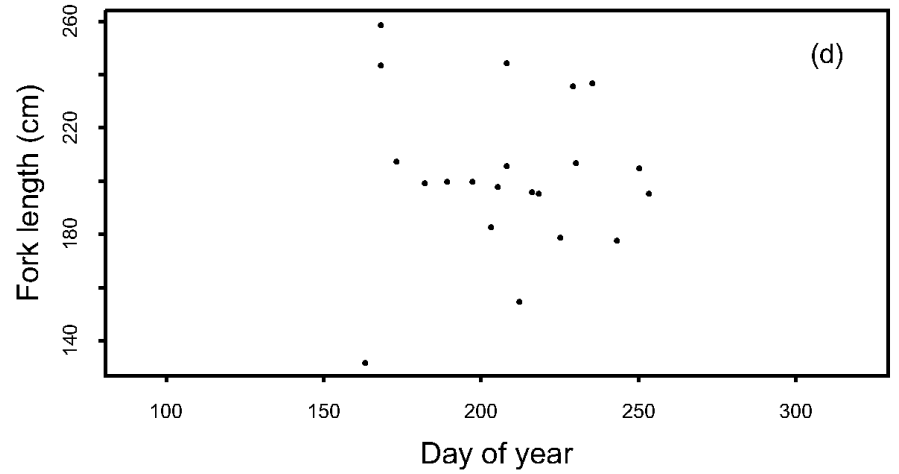
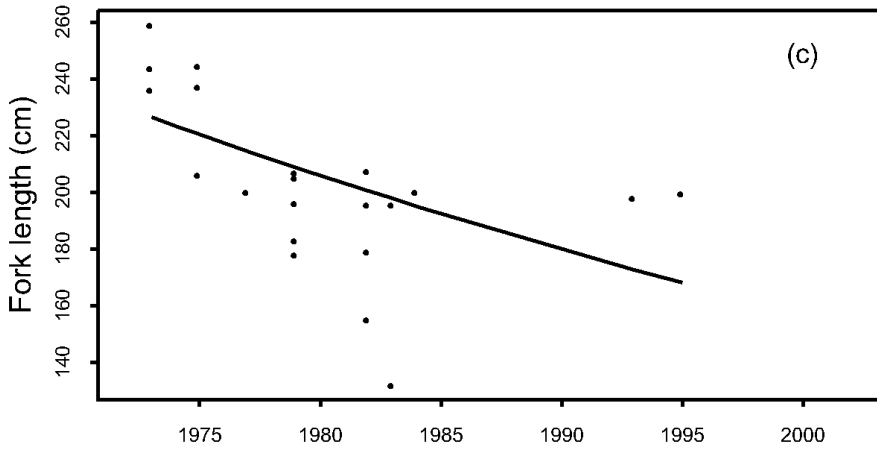
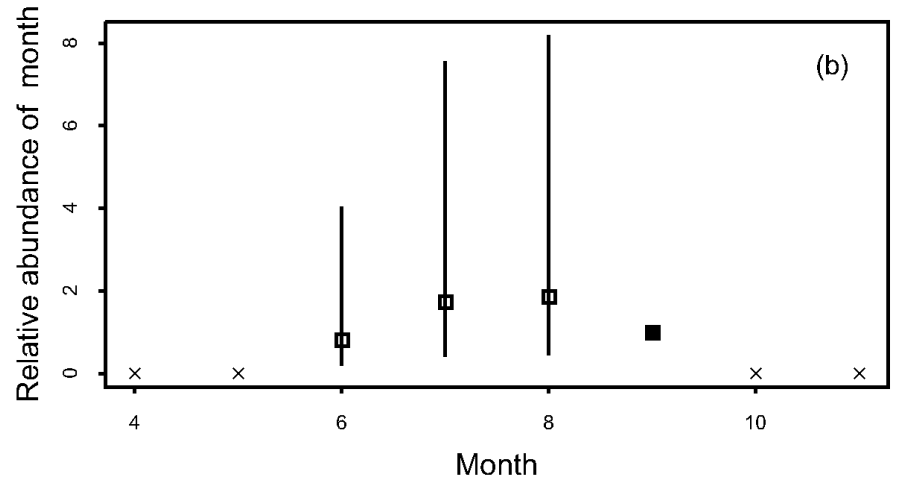
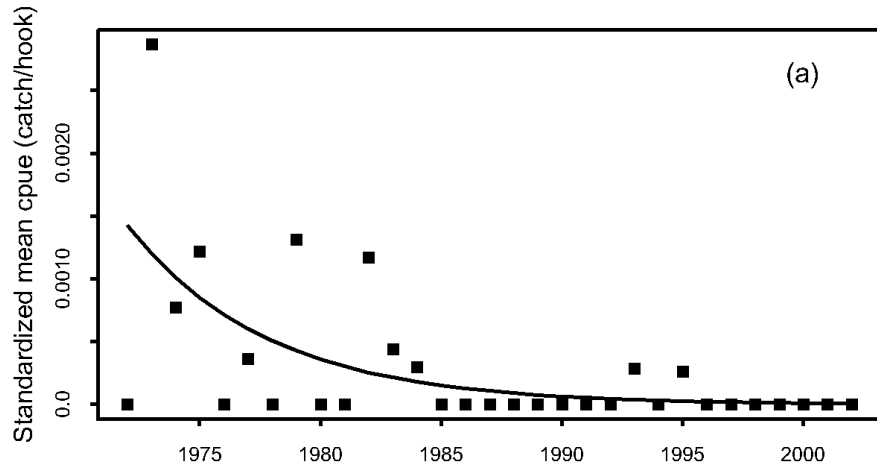
Dusky shark



Generalized linear model results

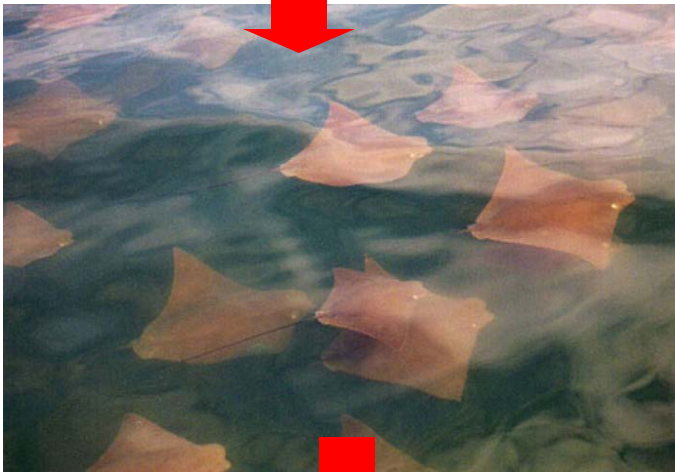
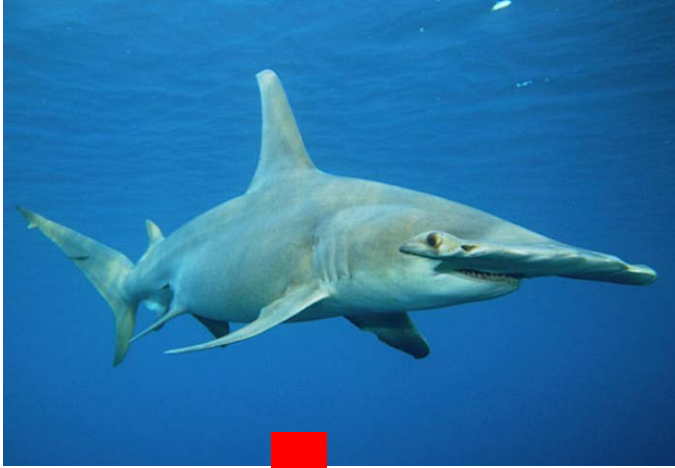
	Estimate	StdErr	p	k/scale
Abundance	-0.169	0.0171	5.67e-23	4.28
Length	-0.0105	1.4e-3	8.85e-14	18.8

Bull shark

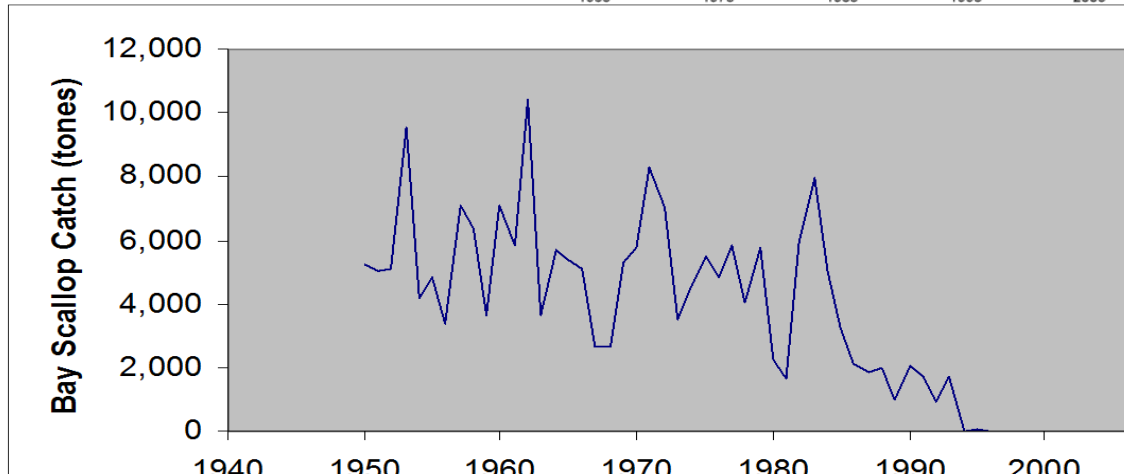
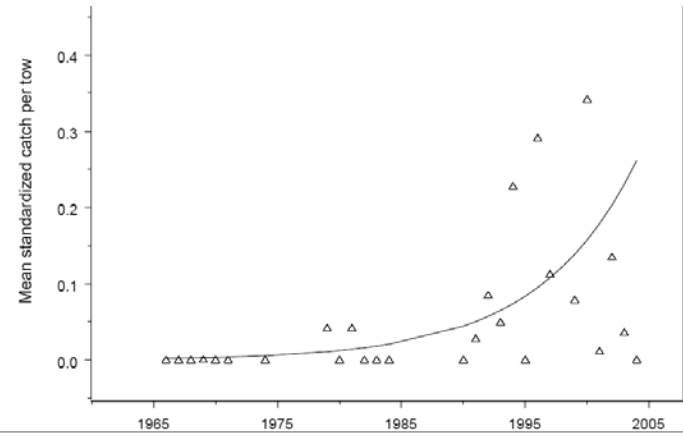
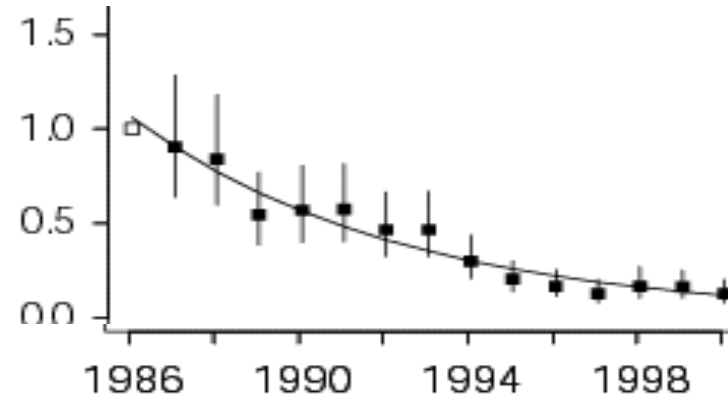


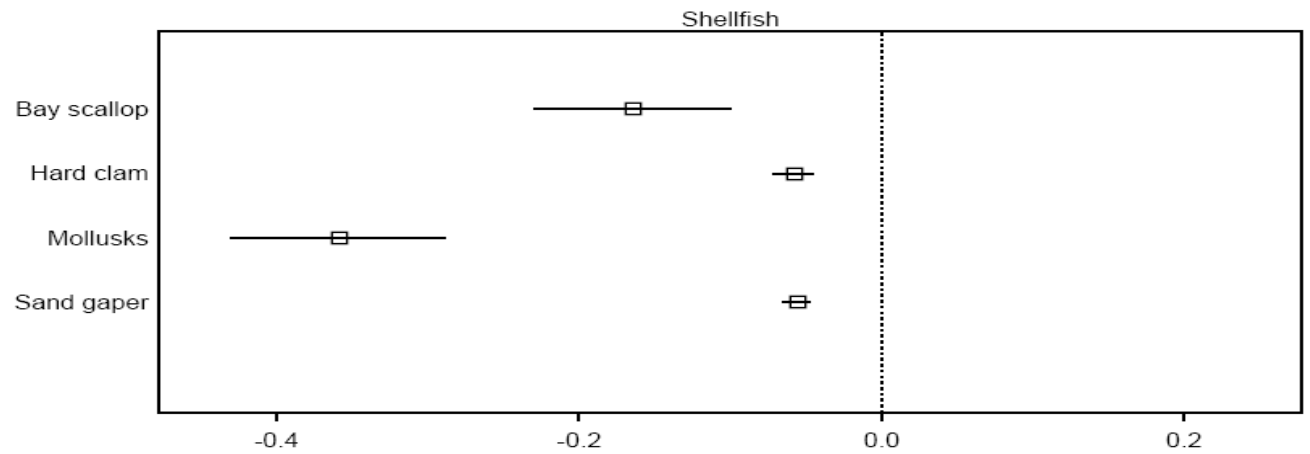
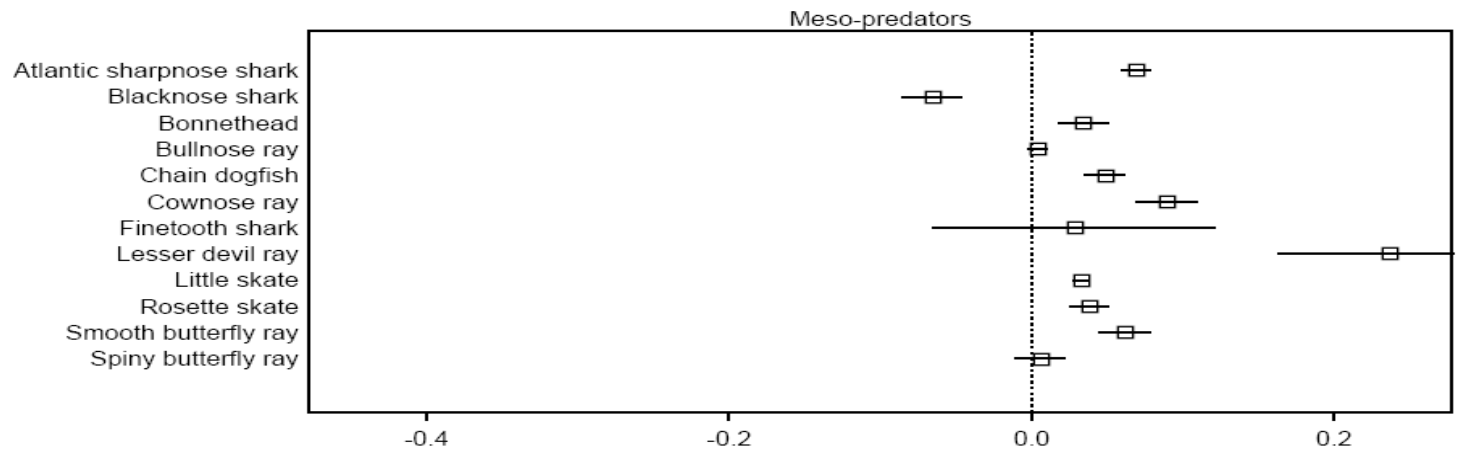
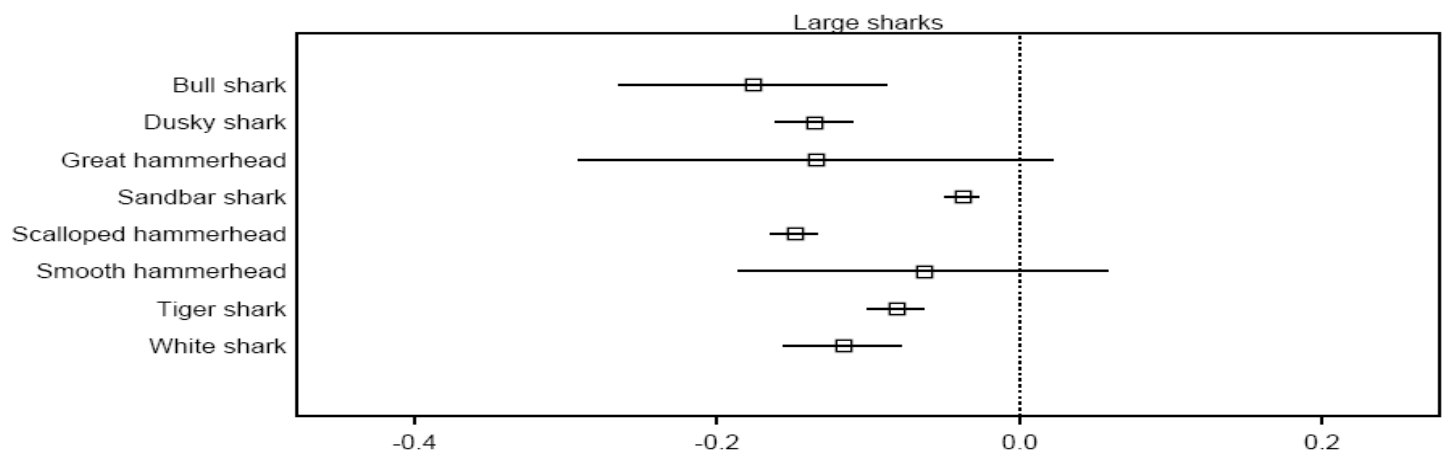
Generalized linear model results

	Estimate	StdErr	p	k/scale
Abundance	-0.172	0.0443	9.99e-5	4.28
Length	-0.0136	5.e-3	6.69e-3	63.2

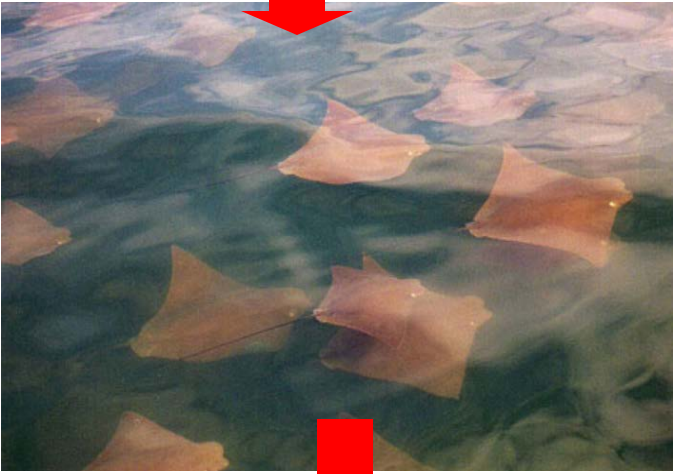
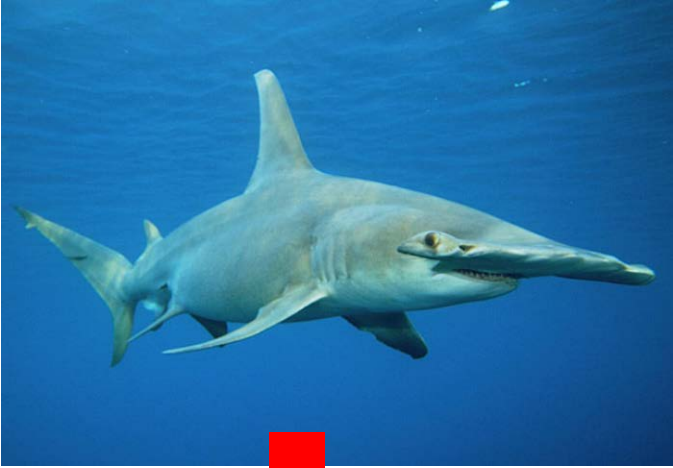


Relative abundance





Instantaneous rate of change in abundance with time



Trophic Cascades:
Consequences of the
loss of top predators
may be greater than
we think

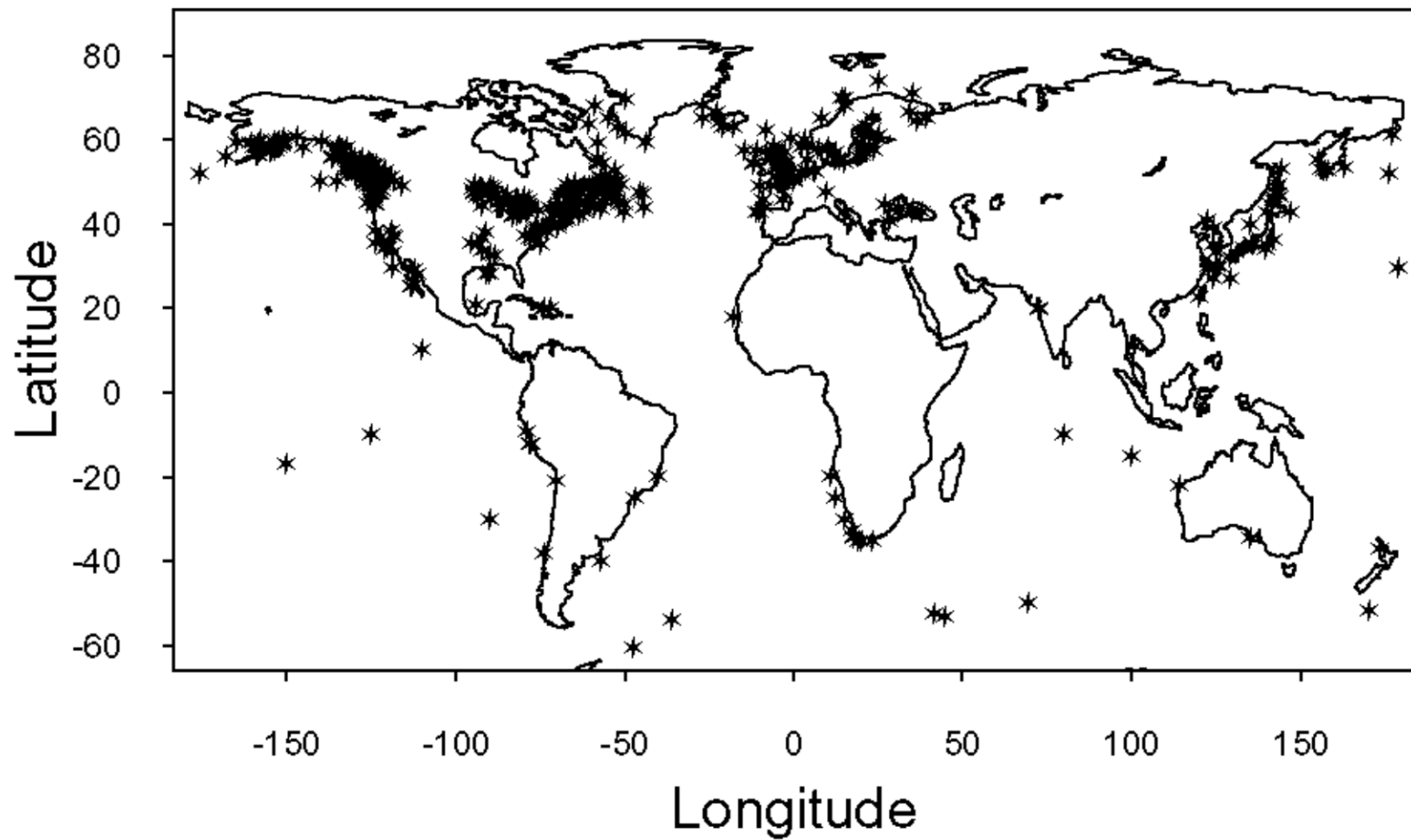
Why is estimating density-dependence such a hard thing to do?

- Large estimation error
- Complex nonlinear process
- The issue is primarily one about creation and elimination of variability, it is simply not possible to think about these processes without models

Solutions

- Collect all the data in the world
- Analyze it in the right way

All Species



General result 1:

➤ More Egg \Rightarrow More Fish

Three simple questions

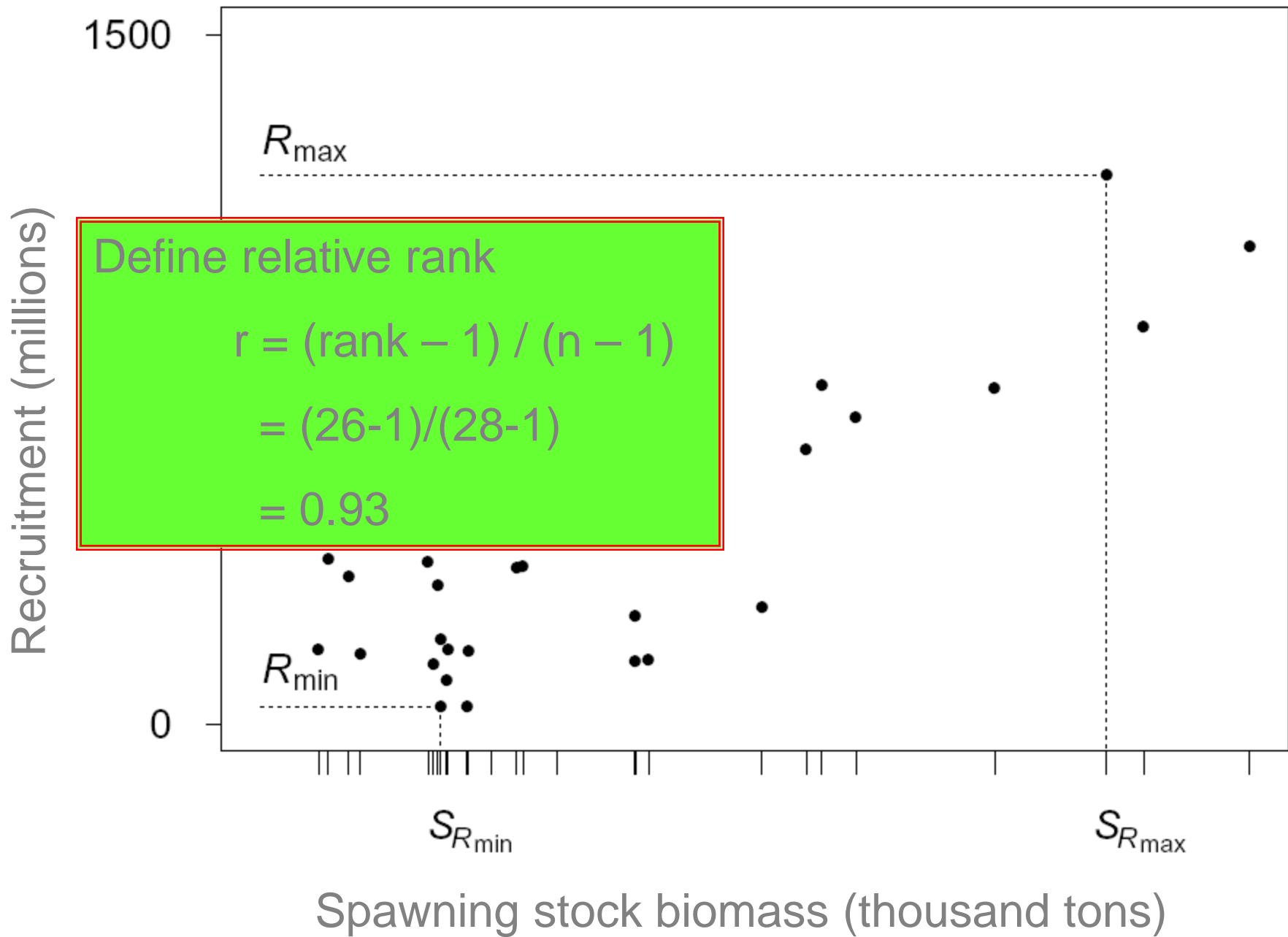
1. Does the largest recruitment occur when the spawner abundance is high?

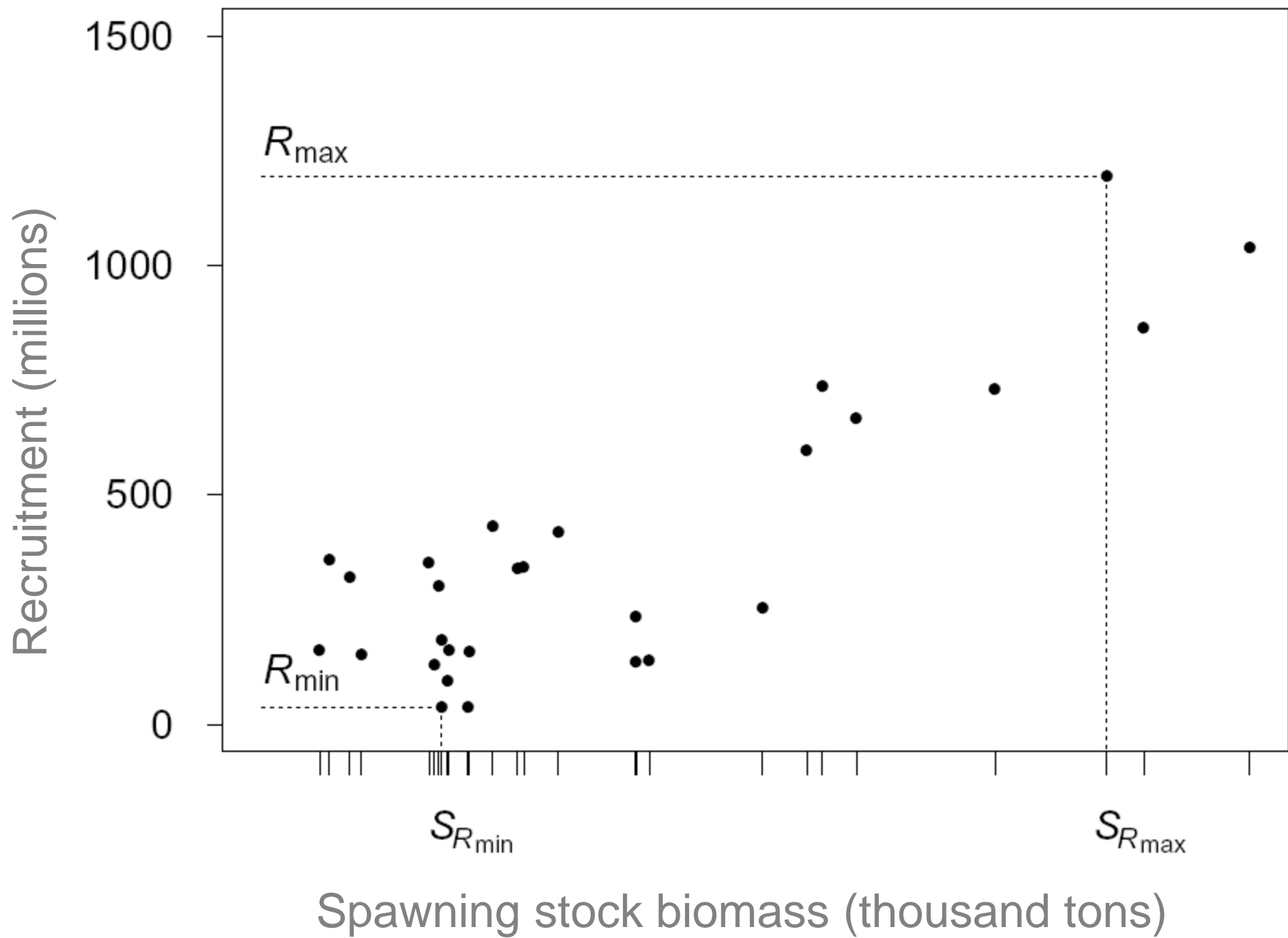
Three simple questions

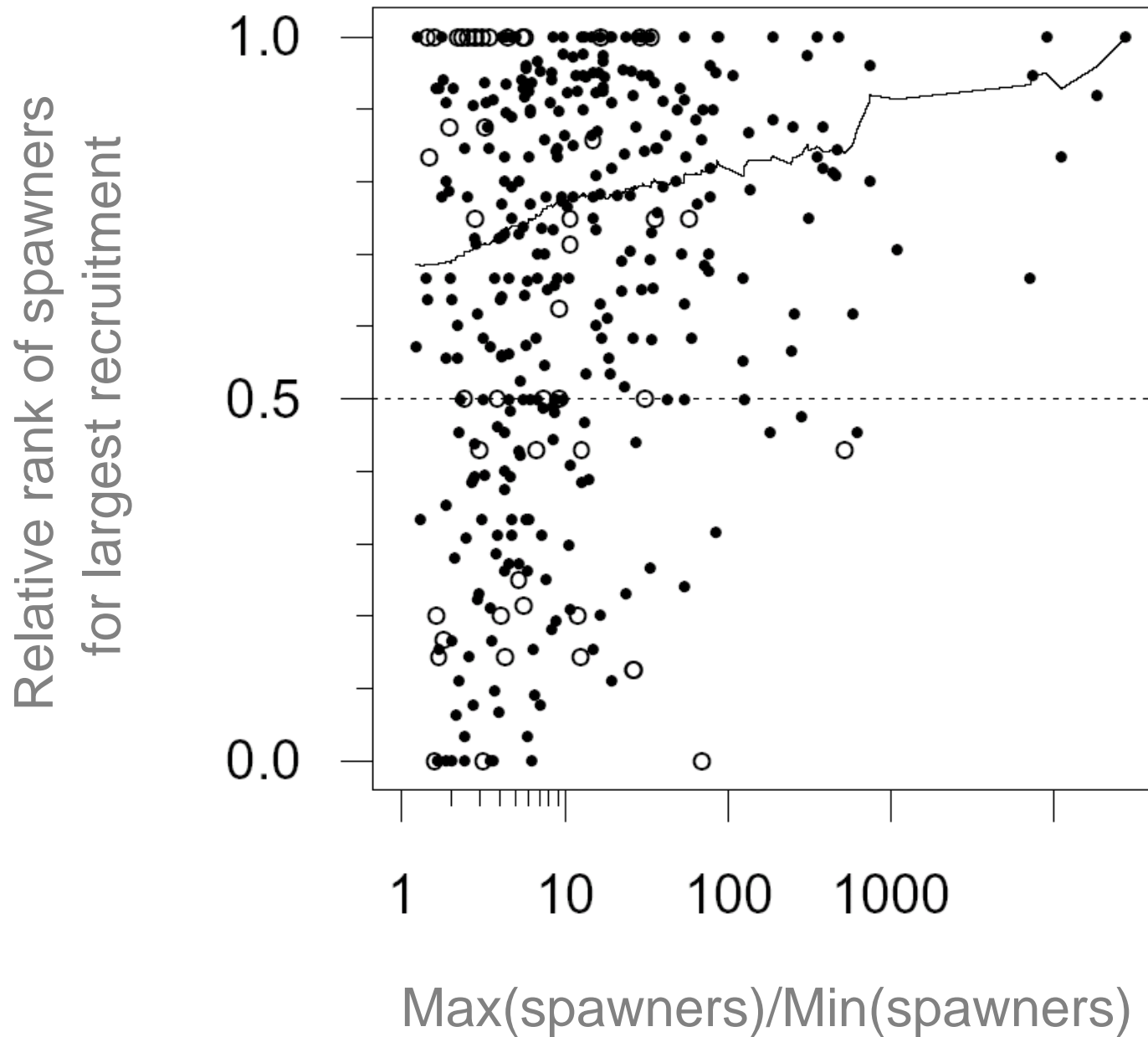
1. Does the largest recruitment occur when the spawner abundance is high?
2. Does the smallest recruitment occur when spawner abundance is low?

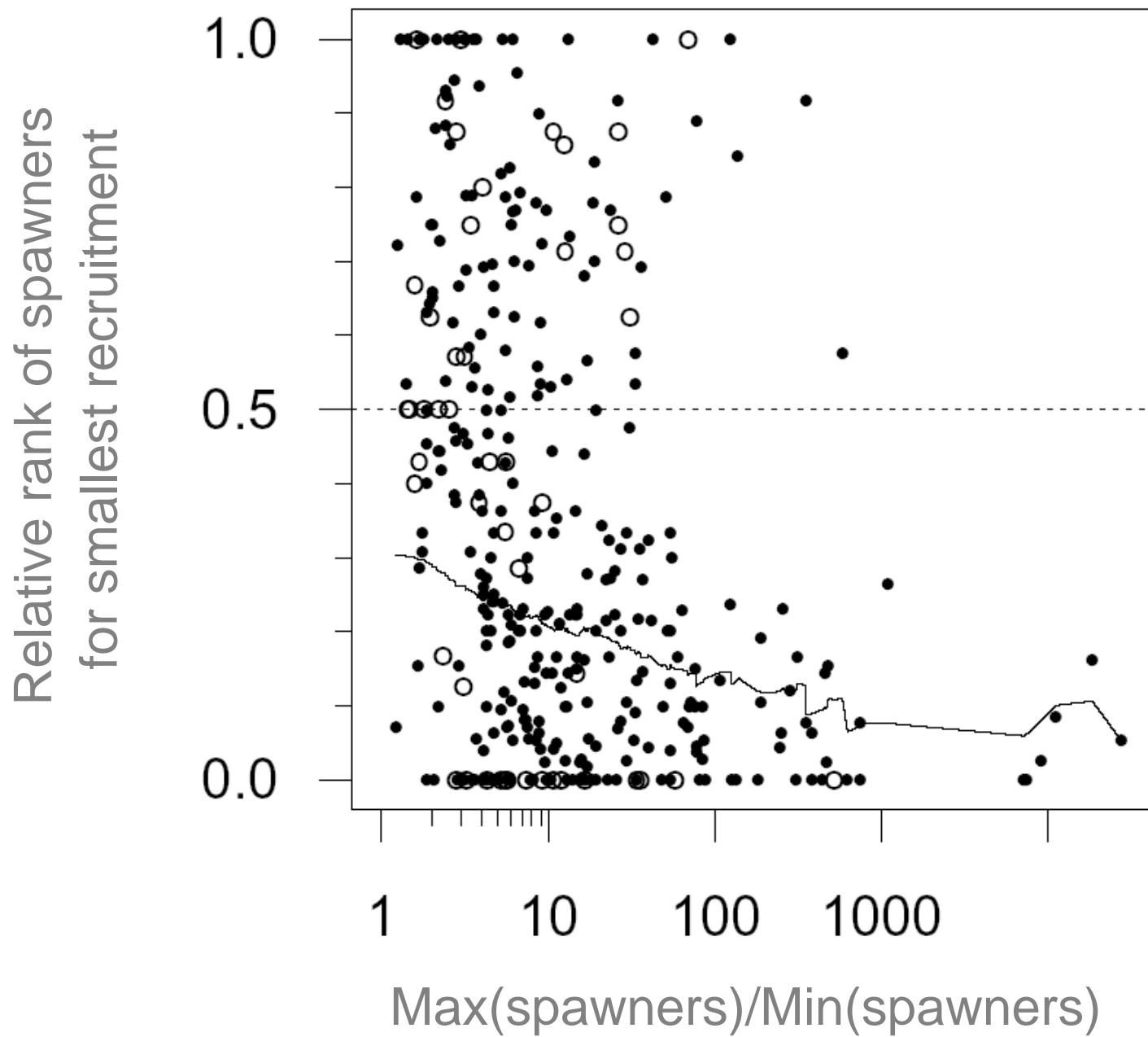
Three simple questions

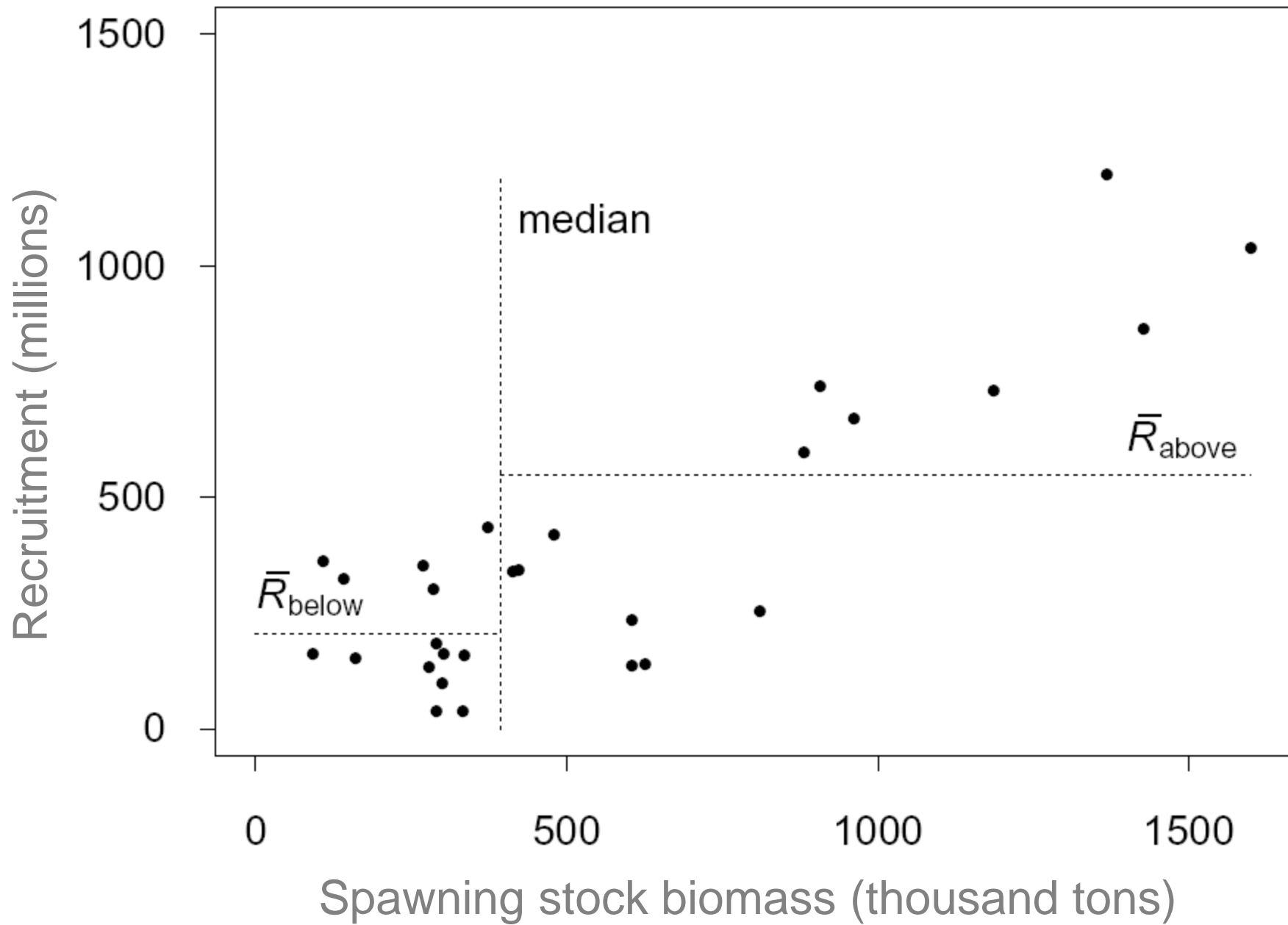
1. Does the largest recruitment occur when the spawner abundance is high?
2. Does the smallest recruitment occur when spawner abundance is low?
3. Is the mean recruitment higher if the spawner abundance is above rather than below the median?



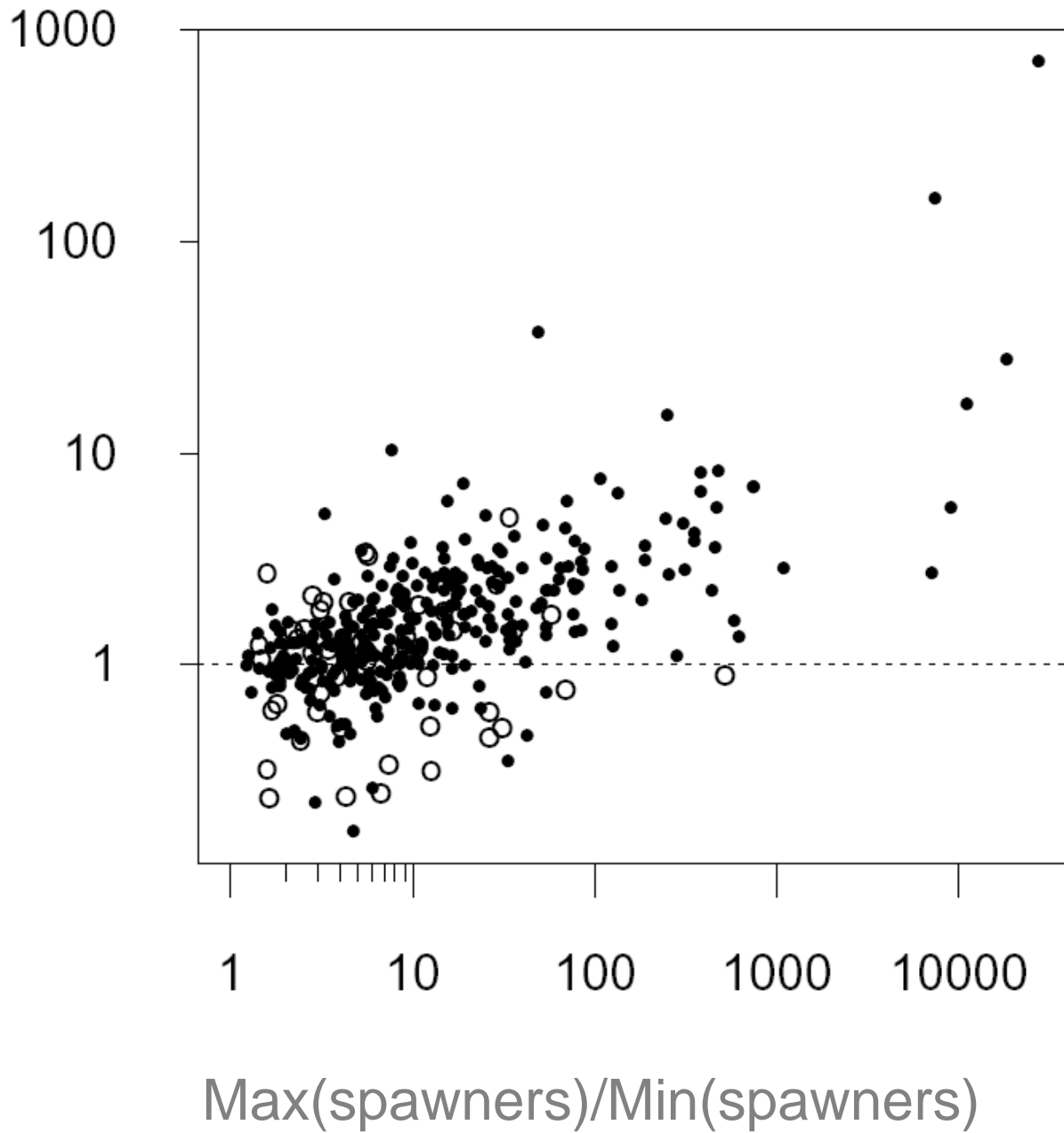








Mean recruitment above median spawners /
Mean recruitment below median spawners

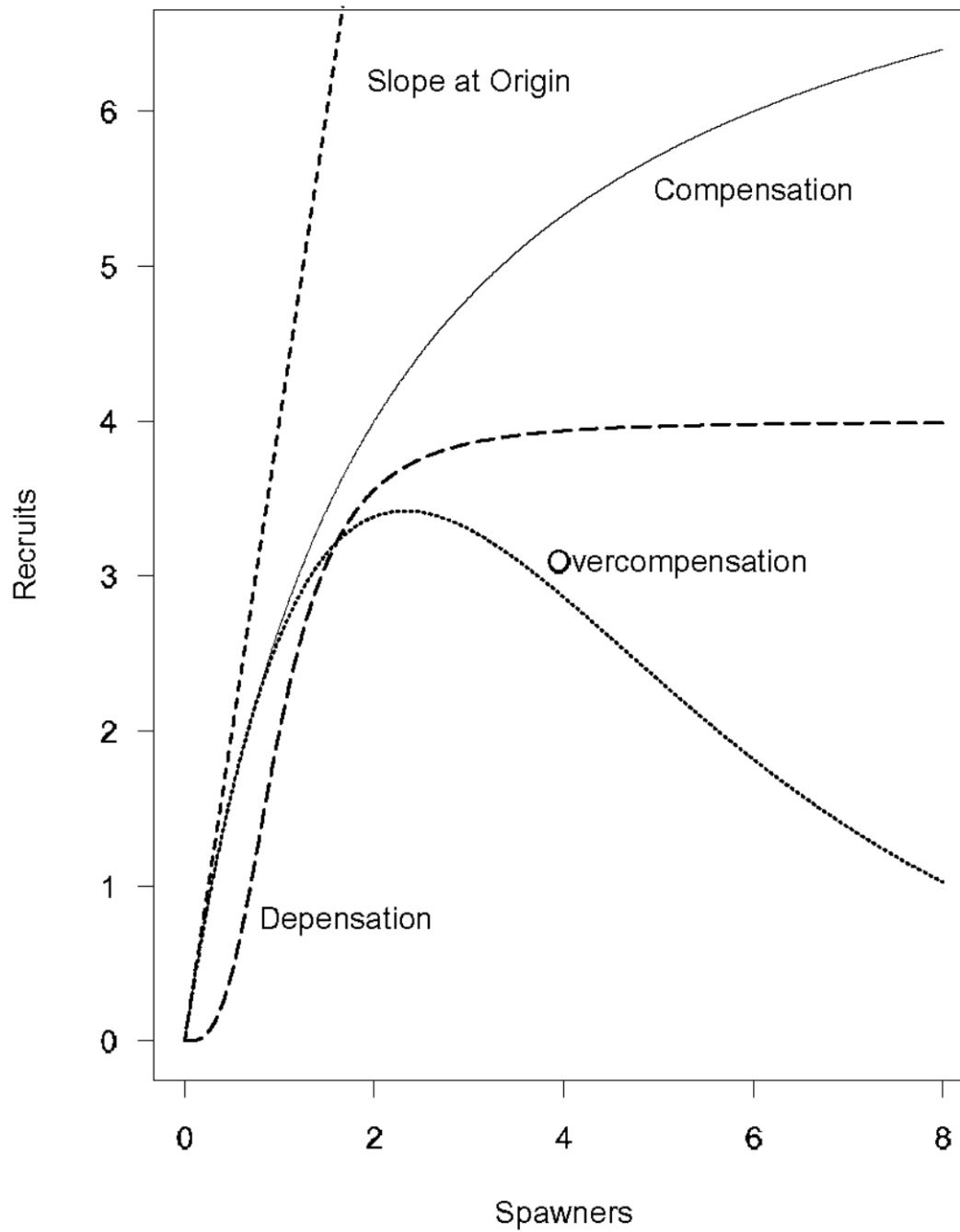


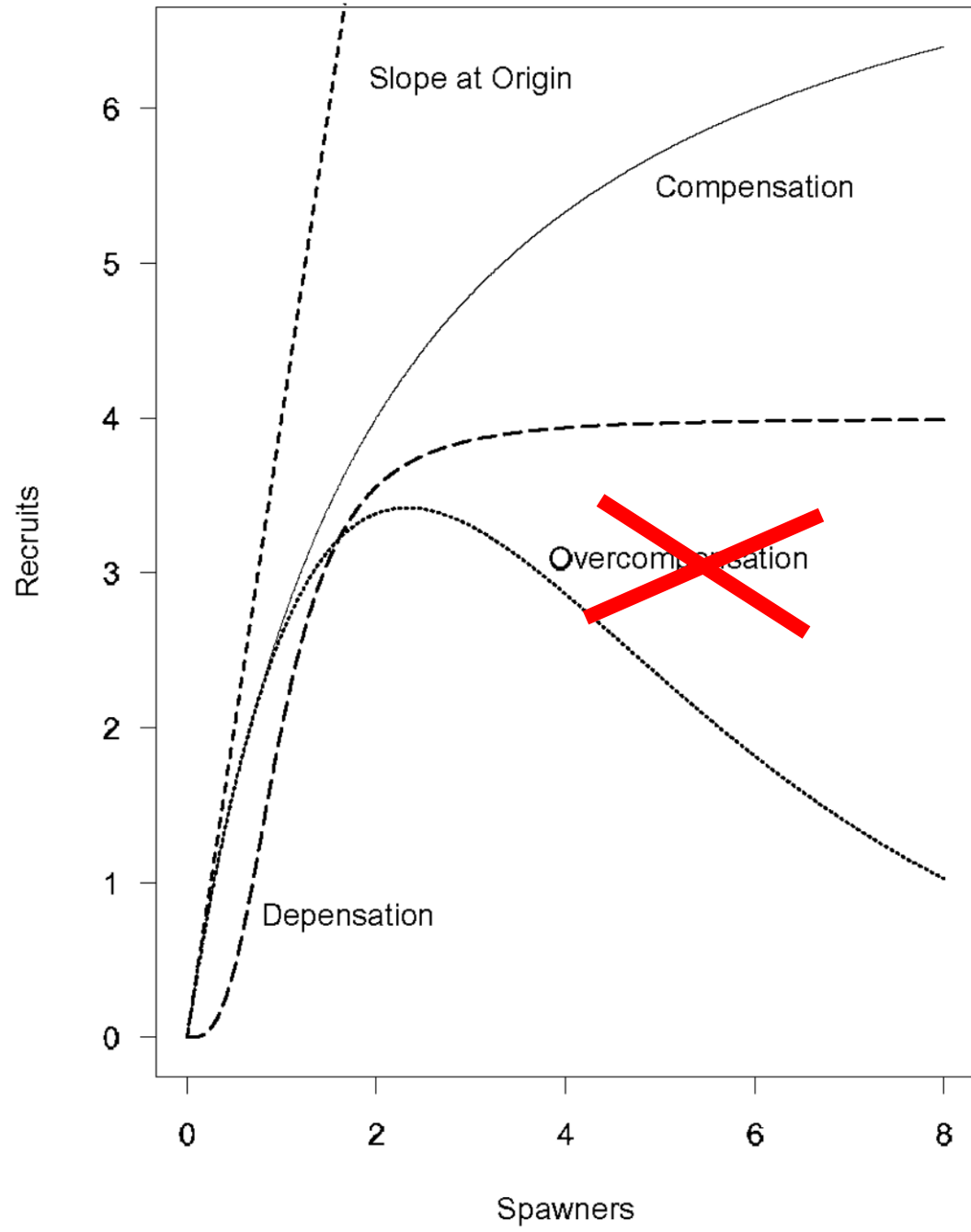
What does this imply 1:

- Compensation is not infinite.

What does this imply 2:

Ricker type recruitment is very rare, at least in the range of spawner abundances usually observed in exploited populations (it is not good for the fish to kill a lot of them).

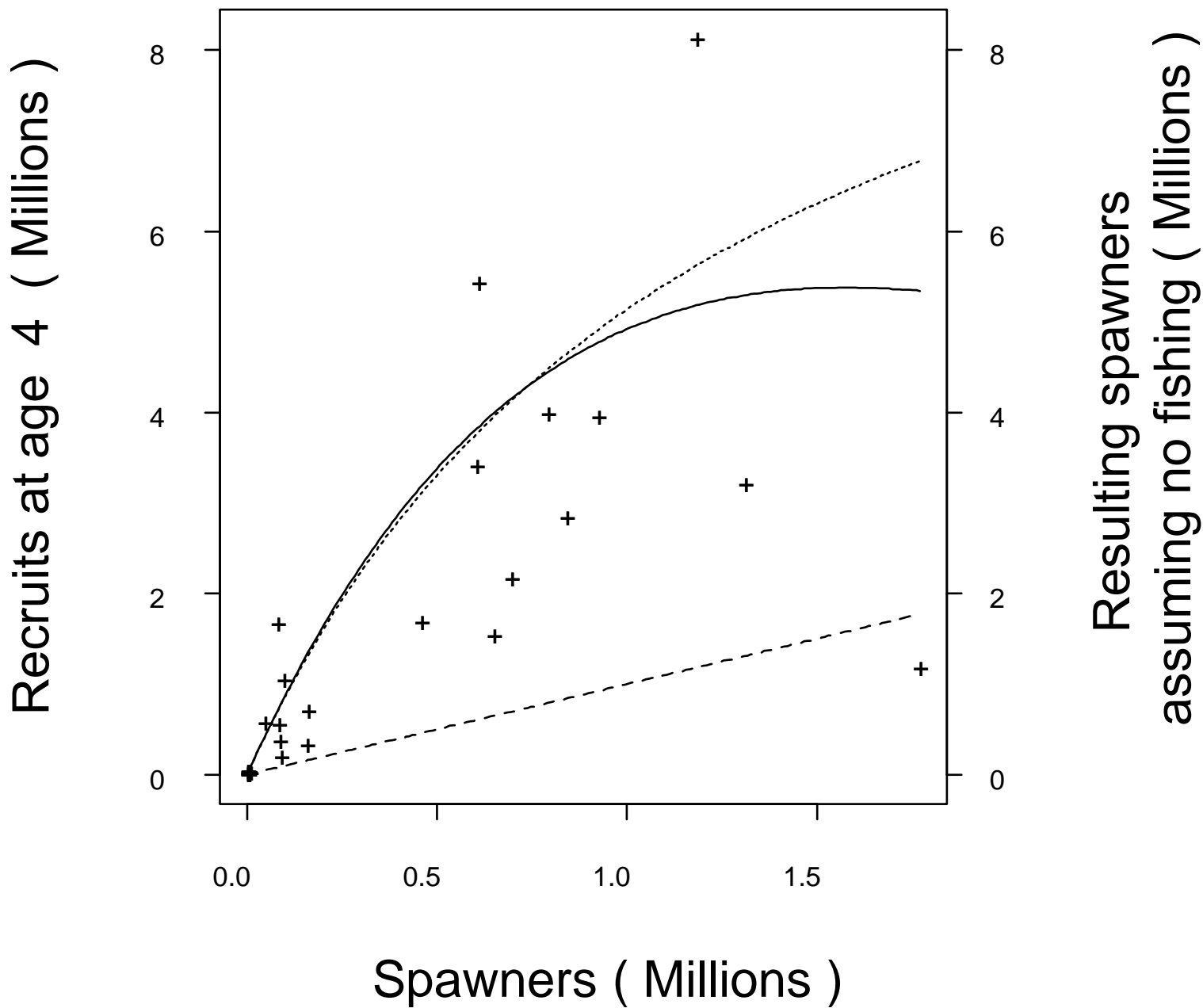




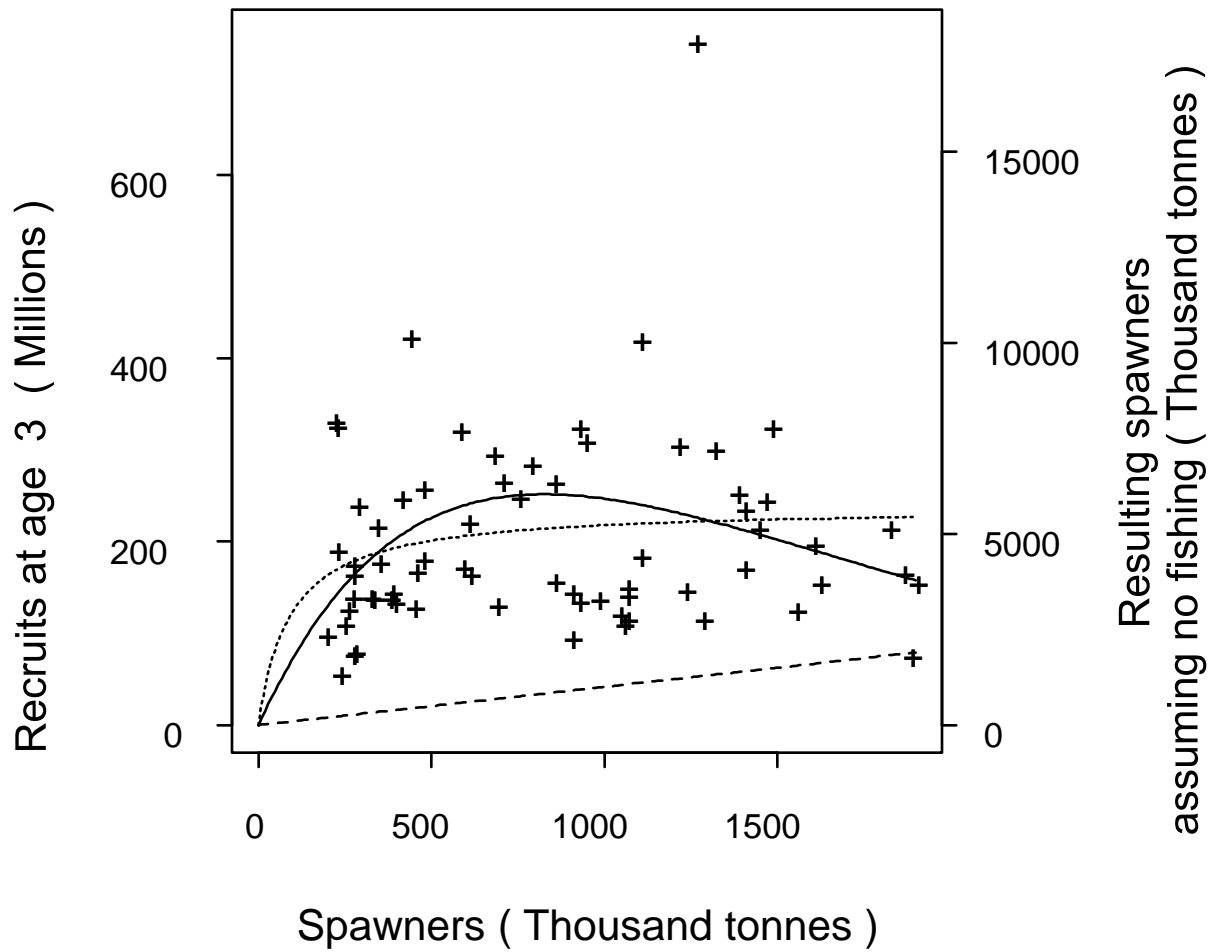
General Result 2:

- The level of compensation (the scope for the reduction in density-dependent mortality to allow a population increase) is relative constant among almost all fish species

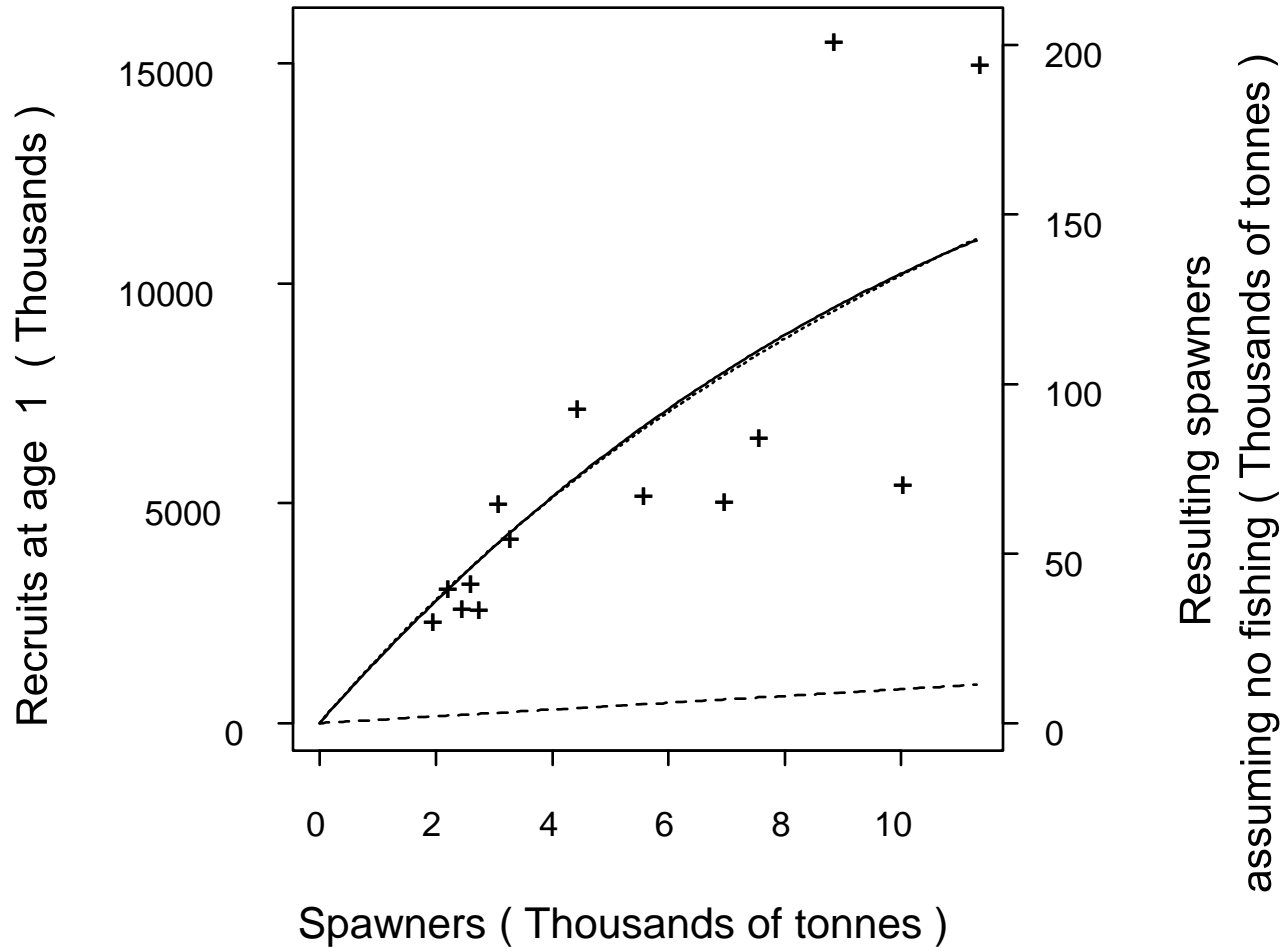
Sockeye salmon - Adams Complex, B.C.

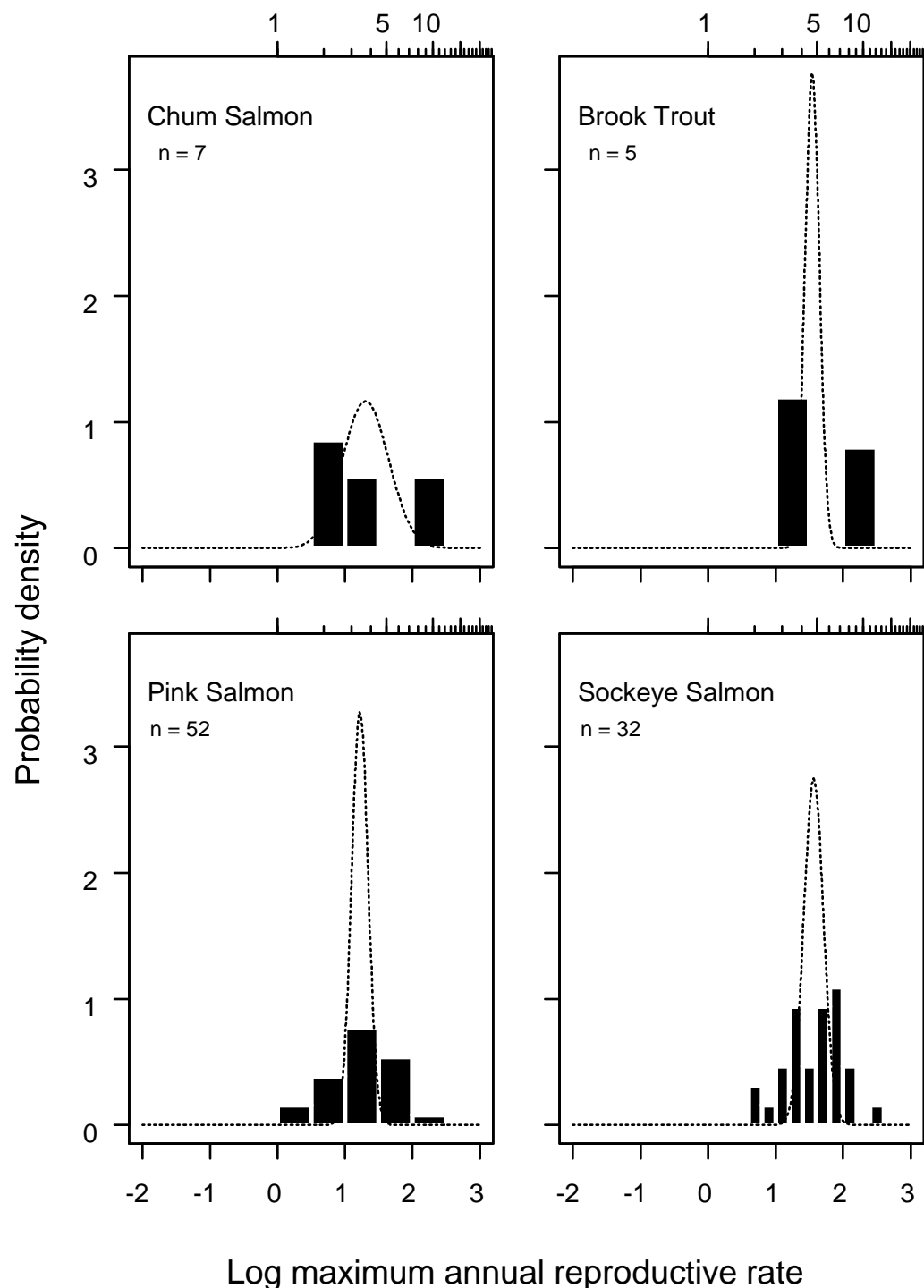


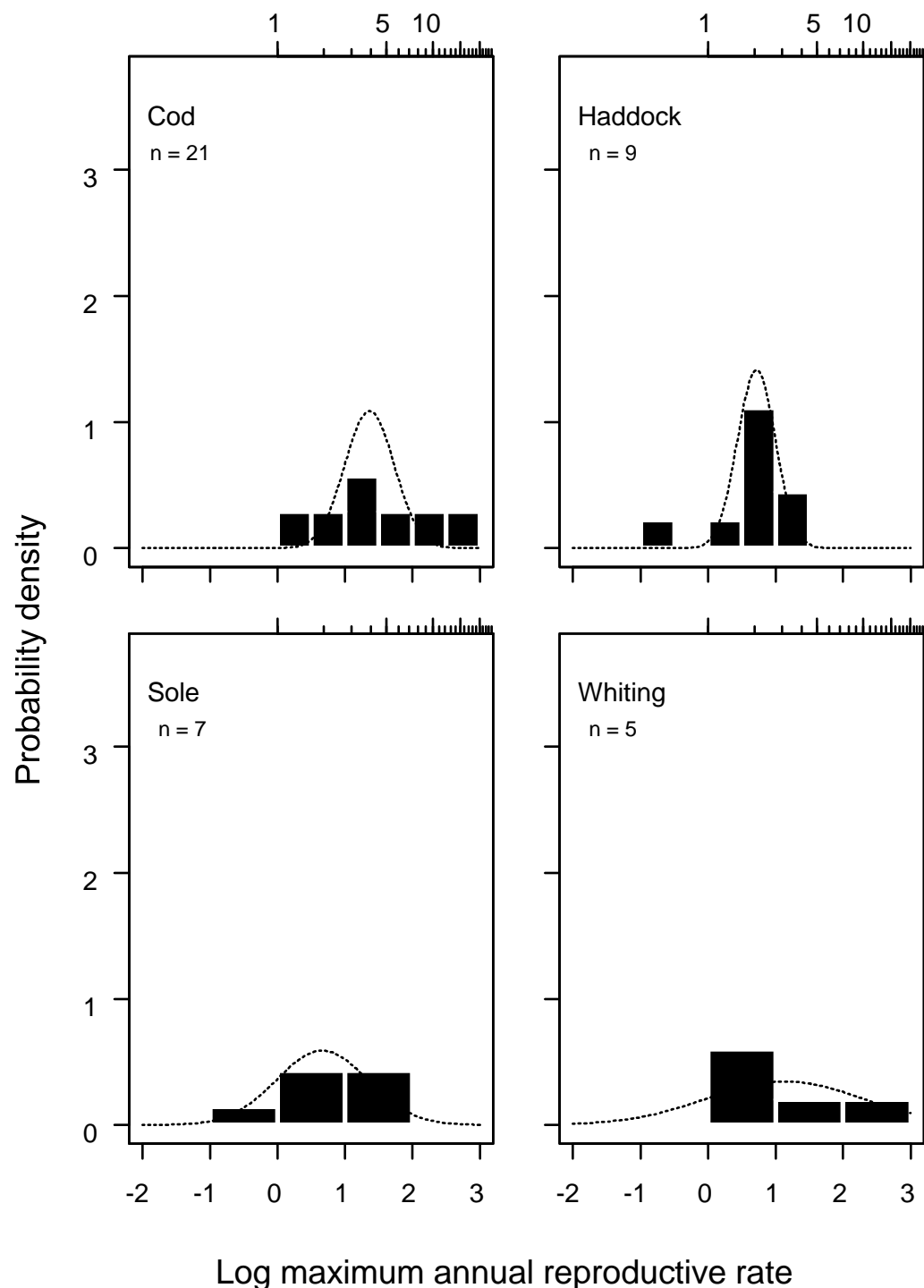
Cod - Iceland



Striped bass - East Coast, USA

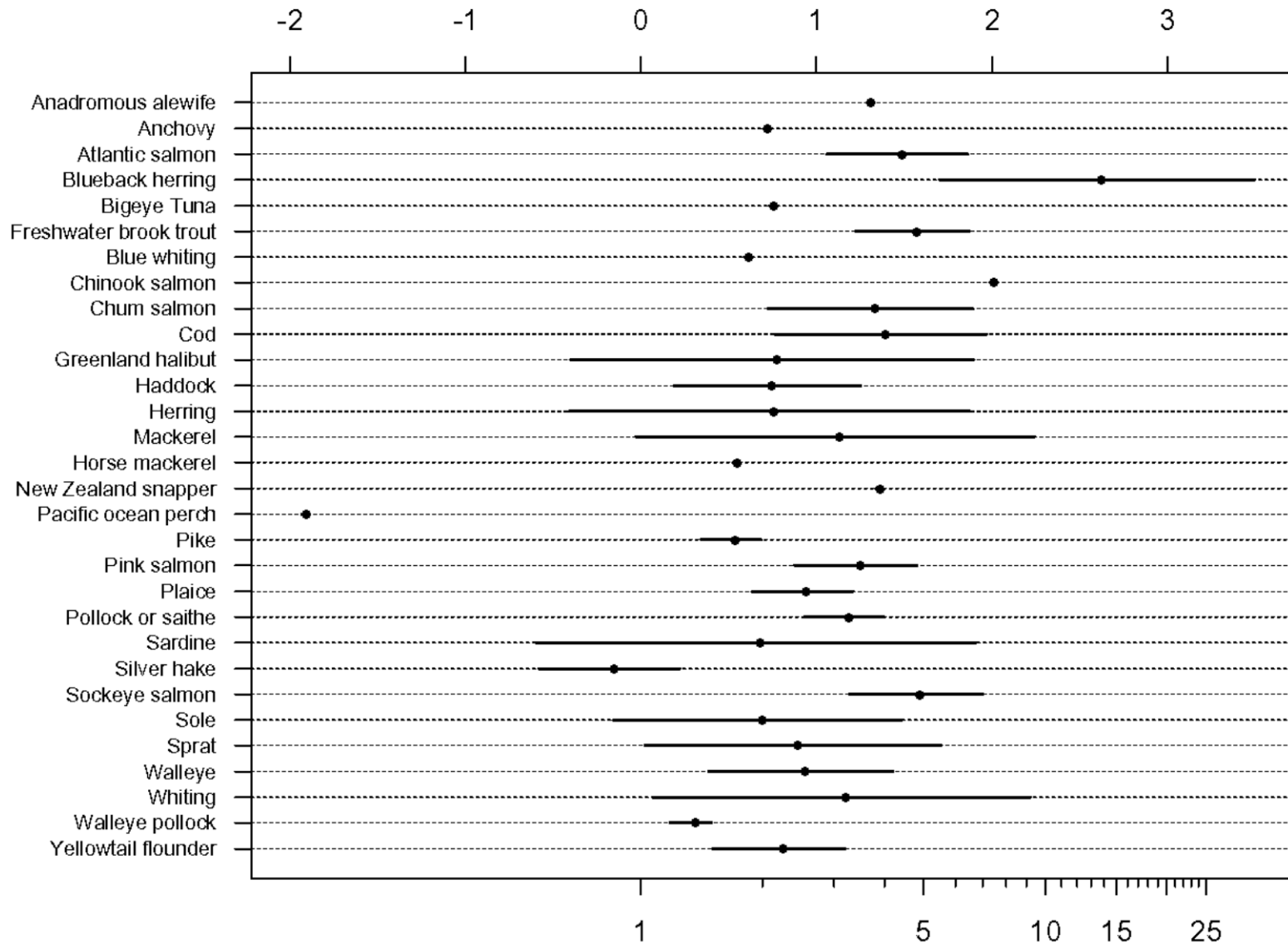






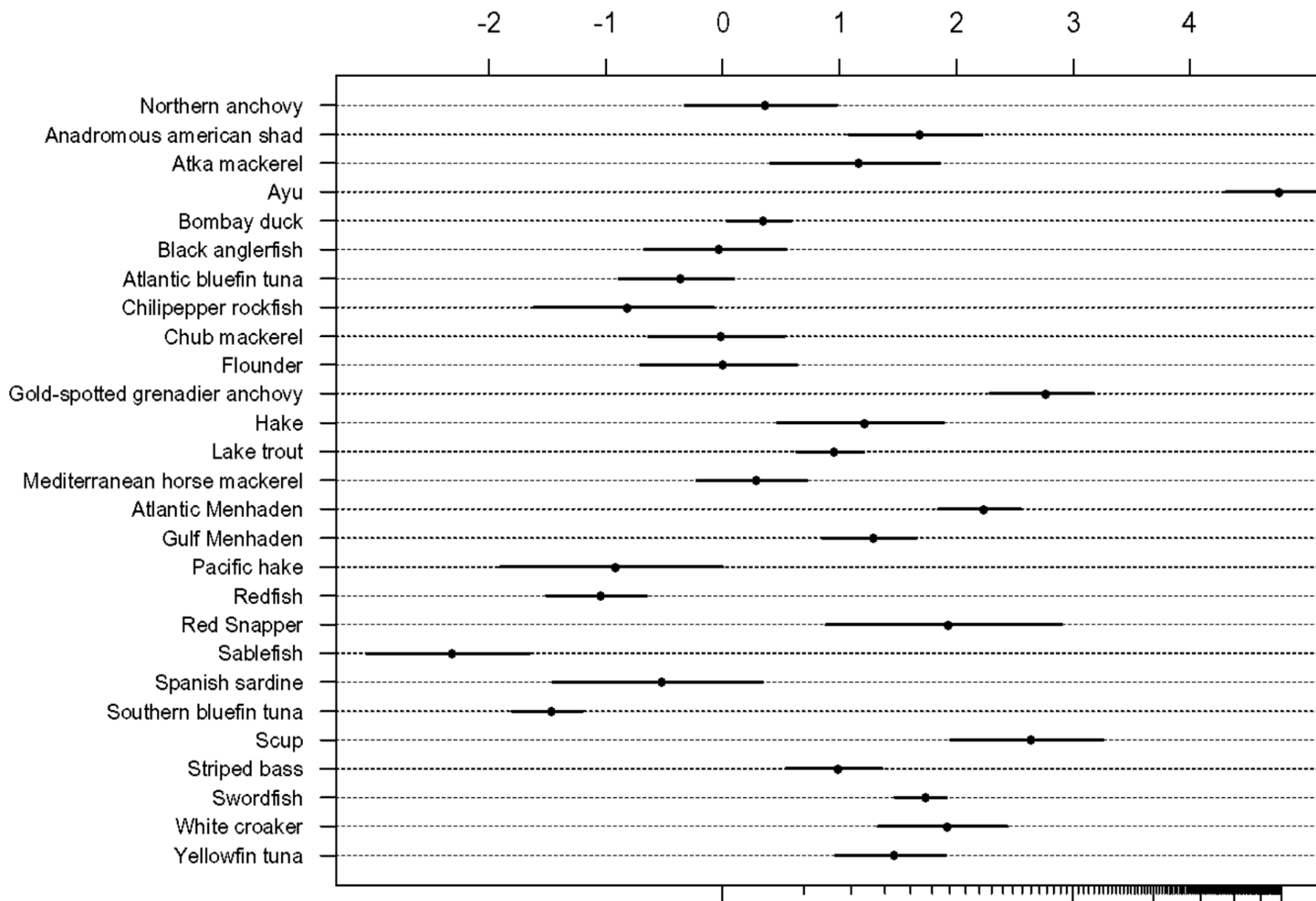
a)

Log Maximum Annual Reproductive Rate



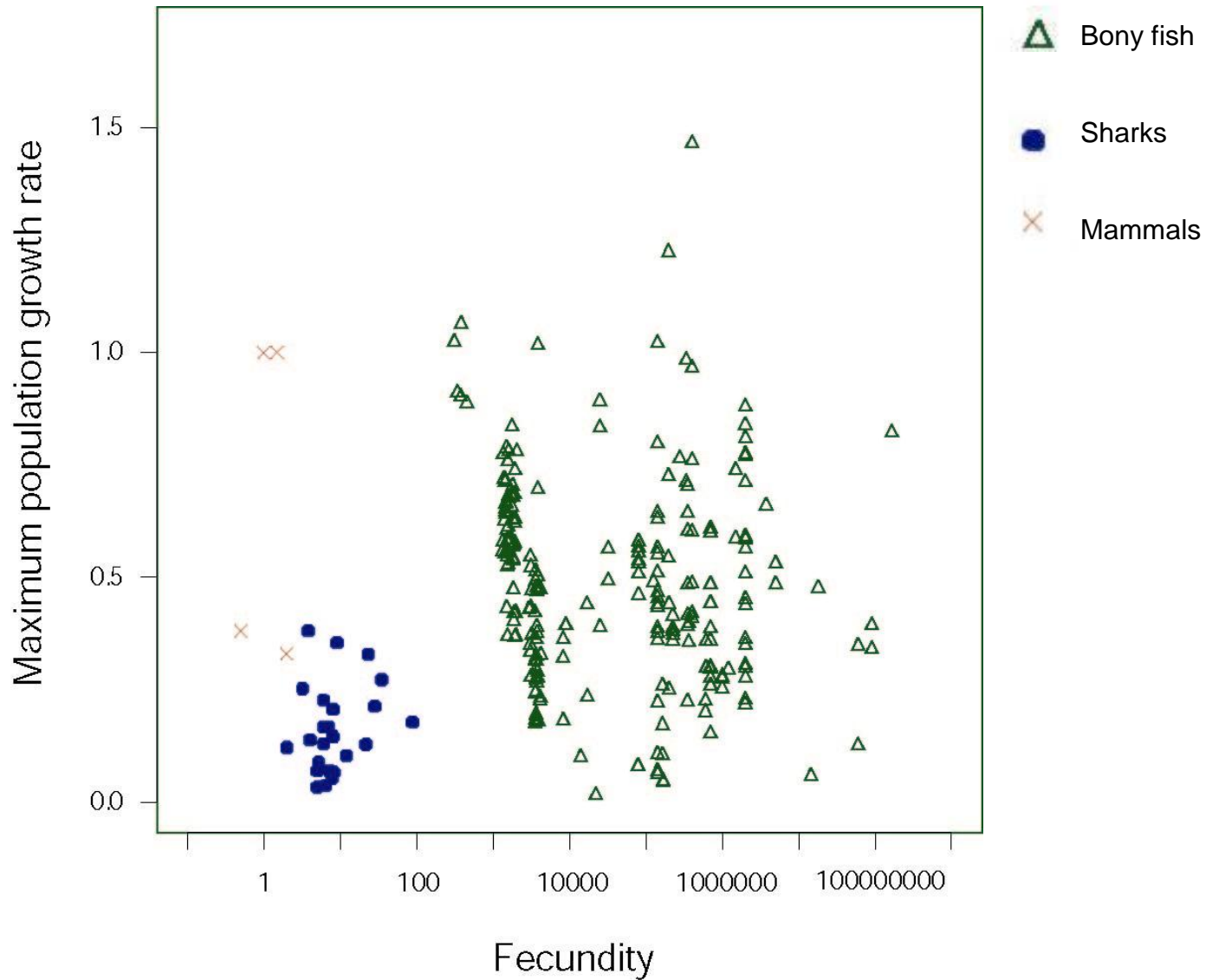
Maximum average rate that spawners can produce replacement spawners per year

Log Maximum Annual Reproductive Rate



Maximum average rate that spawners can produce replacement spawners per year

Are fish different from mammals?



Approach

- Separate data into two parts: one for hypothesis generation, one for hypothesis testing (this keeps me from “cheating”).

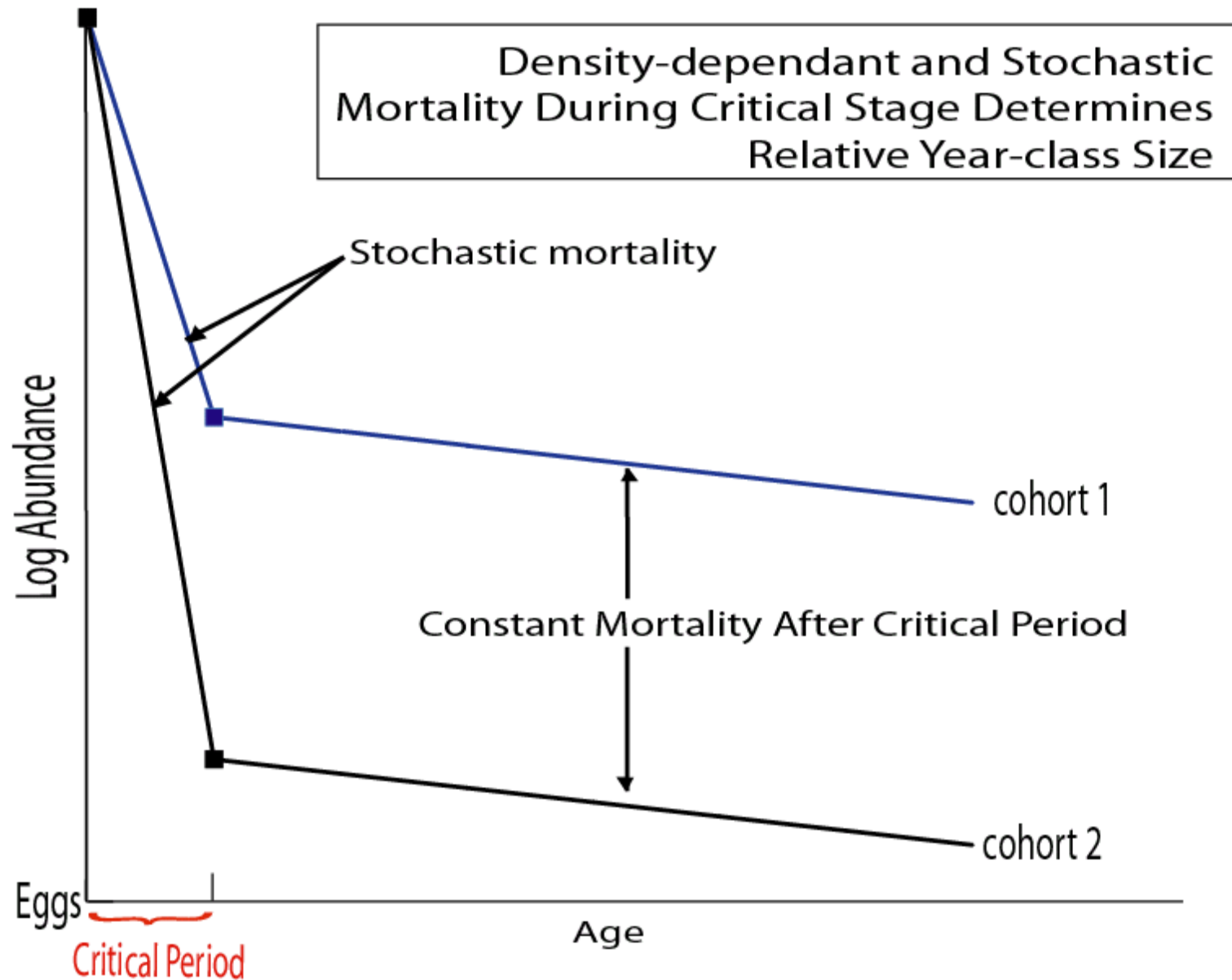
Four Ways to Look at Density-dependent Mortality

- Use Virtual Population Analysis to obtain an estimate of scope of compensation (we just did this)
- Use Linear State Space Models using the Analysis of Covariance Structure
- Use Generalized Linear Mixed Effects Models
- Use Meta-analytic nonlinear, non-Gaussian state space models.

Hjort's (1914) critical period hypothesis

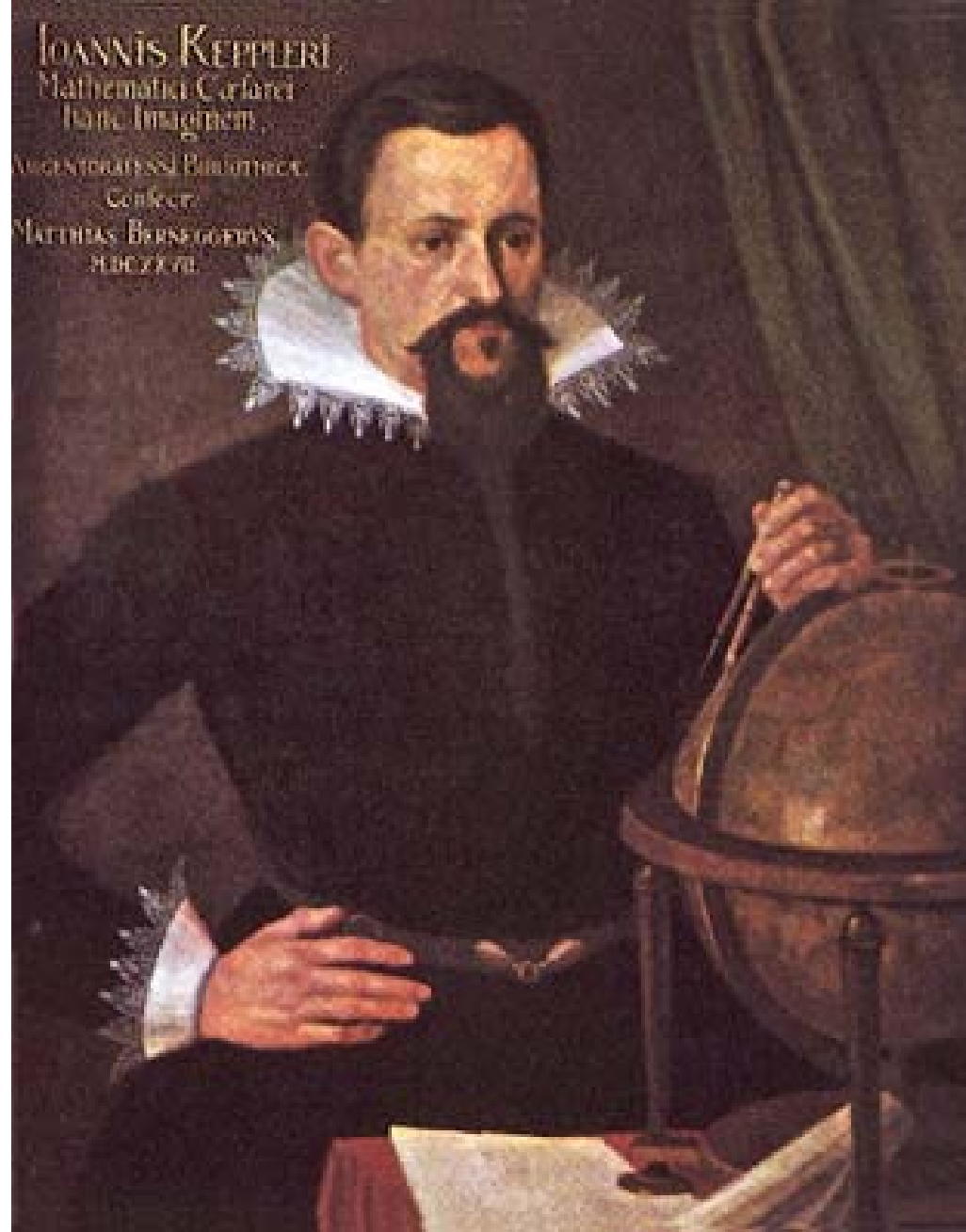
- ‘the numerical value of a year class is apparently stated at a very early age, and continues in approximately the same relation to that of other year classes throughout the life of the individuals’
- This is the fundamental issue in population regulation and ecology of fish.

Hjort's Hypothesis: Strong Version



Why we need new methods to analyze
marine data

What can we learn from the history of
physics.



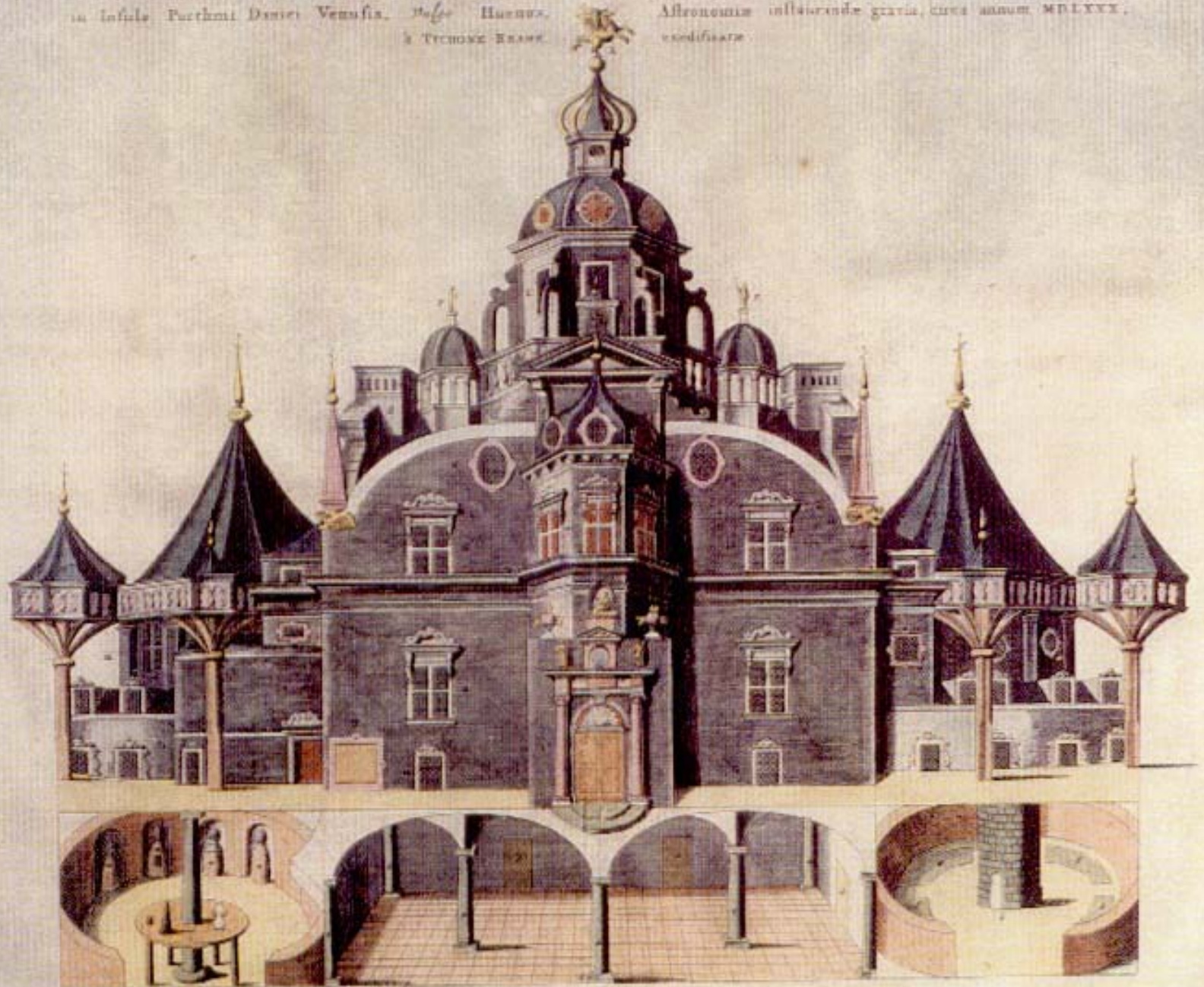
Imperial Mathematician

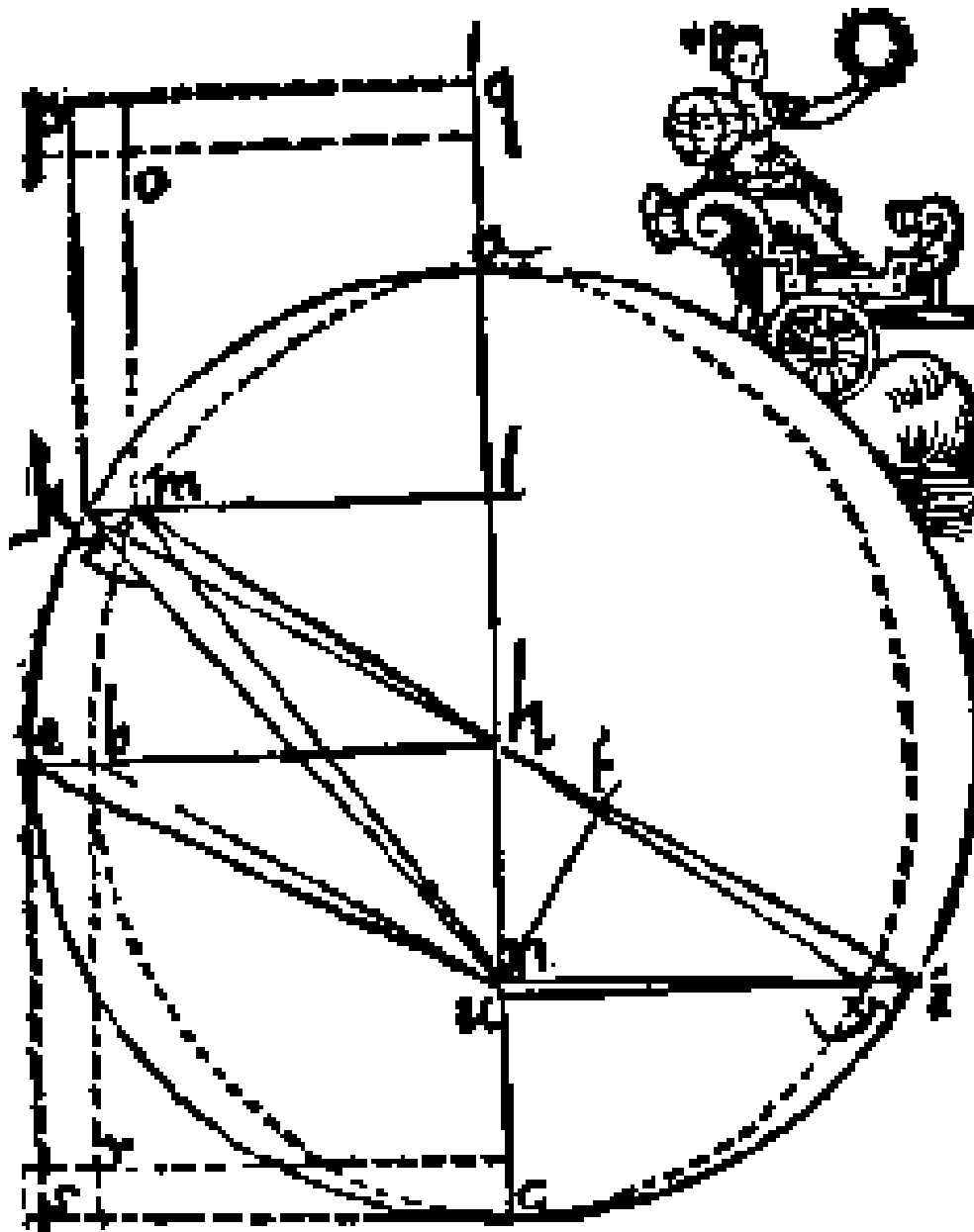


ORTHOGRAPHIA PRÆCIPVÆ DOMVS ARCIS VRANIBV RGI

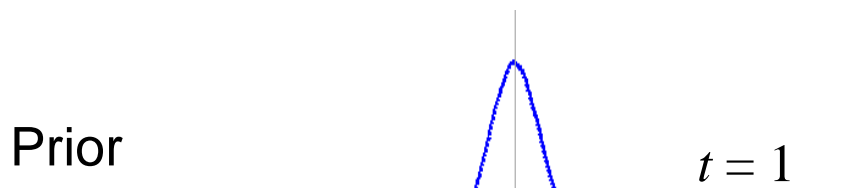
in Insula Pomerani Dantis Veneris. *Stylus* HUGONIS.
& TICHONIS ERANNI.

Astronomis illusterrime gratia, circa annum MDLXXX.
recondita.





Kepler's elliptical orbit for Mars.



Previous abundance estimates



Apply dynamics (transition eqn)



Observe a location with error



Integrate over predicted & observed densities
(Bayes Rule)



Updated prediction becomes prior for next time step

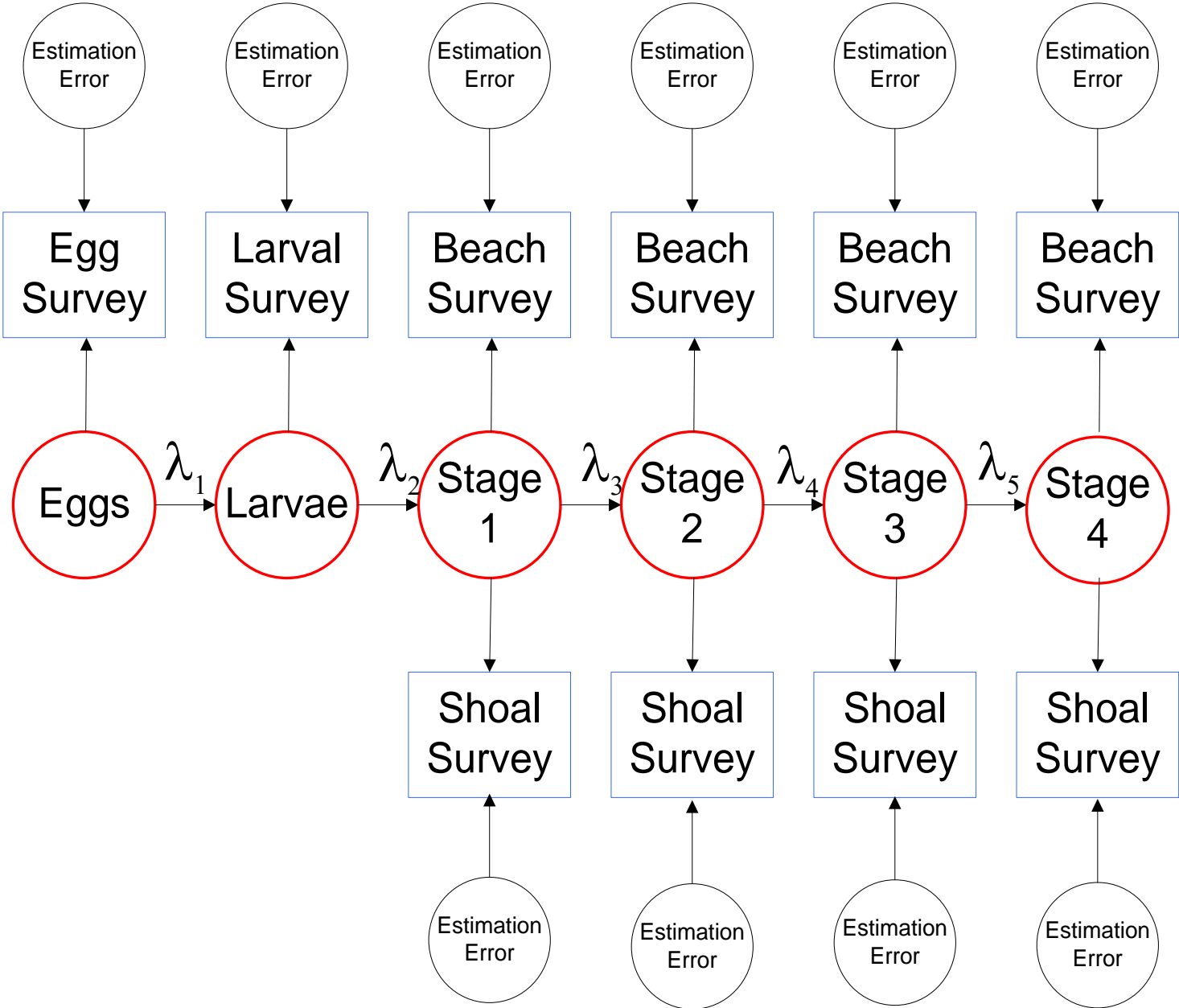
Estimate parameters by Bayesian or Likelihood Analysis

Bayes Rule

$$p(\mathbf{x}_t | Y_t; \gamma) = \frac{p_y(\mathbf{y}_t | \mathbf{x}_t) p(\mathbf{x}_t | Y_{t-1}; \gamma)}{\int p_y(\mathbf{y}_t | \mathbf{x}_t) p(\mathbf{x}_t | Y_{t-1}; \gamma) d\mathbf{x}_t}$$

Innovation Likelihood of Observe Population Trajectories

Stage-based data for striped bass from Hudson Estuary:



Egg production is a Lognormal Random Variable

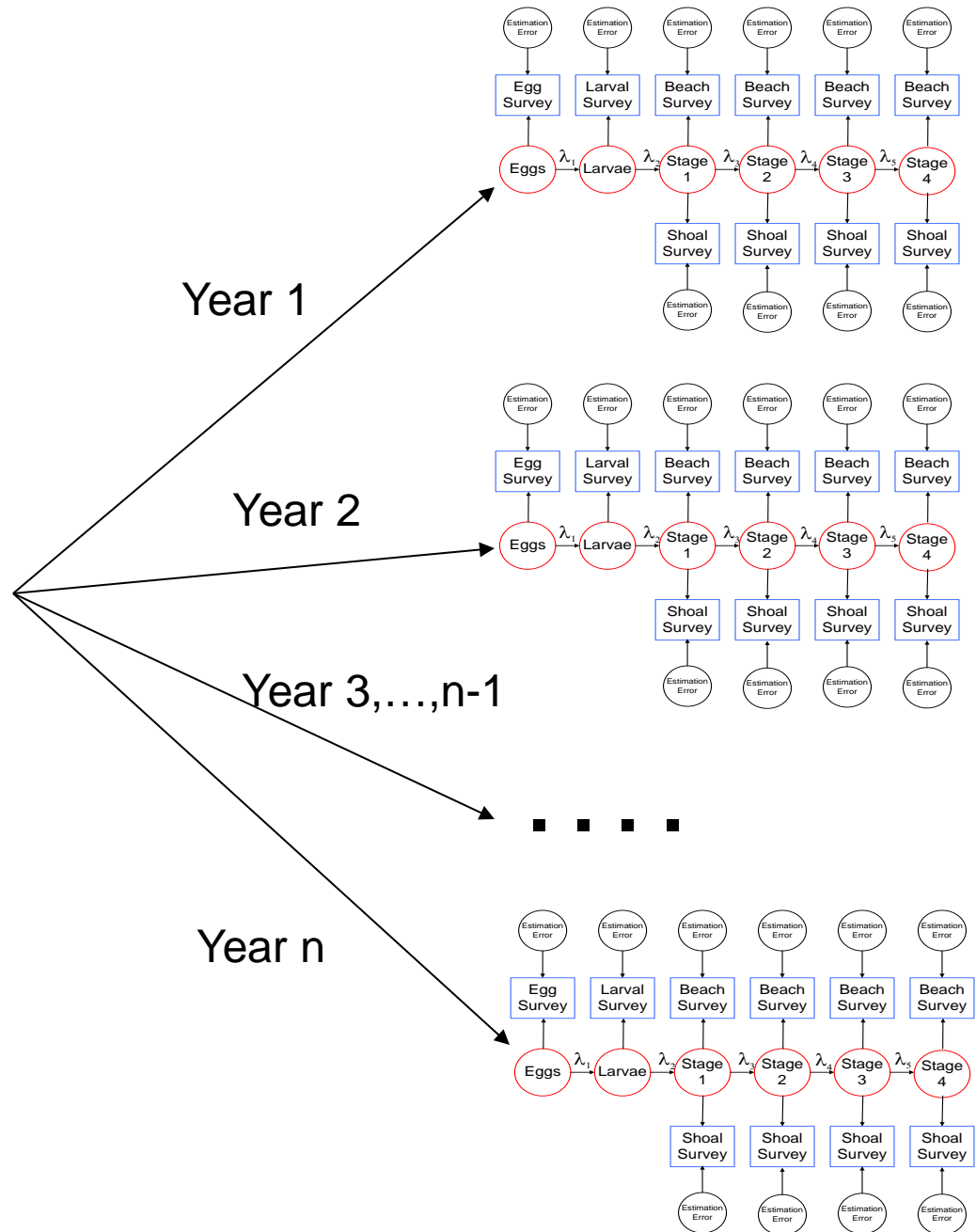


TABLE 1. Data for the North Sea cod stock from VPA in millions of fish, IYFS in numbers per hour fished, and EGFS in numbers per hour fished.

Year class	VPA 1-yr-olds	IYFS 1-yr-olds	IYFS 2-yr-olds	EGFS 0-yr-olds	EGFS 1-yr-olds	EGFS 2-yr-olds
1970	847	98.30	34.50			
1971	159	4.10	10.60			
1972	289	38.00	9.50			
1973	232	14.70	6.20			
1974	426	40.30	19.90			
1975	196	7.90	3.20			4.50
1976	726	36.70	29.30		62.70	12.50
1977	426	12.90	9.30	13.90	22.80	5.80
1978	449	9.90	14.80	12.60	24.20	6.70
1979	800	16.90	25.50	18.60	50.80	13.90
1980	271	2.90	6.70	10.20	11.40	2.90
1981	557	9.20	16.60	74.20	32.40	11.00
1982	269	3.90	8.00	2.50	15.40	4.70
1983	534	15.20	17.60	95.10	61.20	11.90
1984	108	0.90	3.60	0.40	4.30	1.20
1985	581	17.00	28.80	8.30	34.40	10.70
1986	257	8.80	6.10	1.20	14.20	4.10
1987	201	3.60	6.30	0.40	8.40	2.50
1988	324	13.10	15.20	16.80	22.80	5.10
1989		3.30		6.0	6.10	
1990				3.90		

Abundance

1-Compensation

Dynamical Equation:

$$N_{t,1} = N_{t,0} e^{-m - (1-\lambda) \log N_{t,0}} + \varepsilon_t$$

Cohort Age

Log Abundance

Log Transformation:

$$L_{t,a} = \log N_{t,a}$$

Abundance

Background Mean Mortality

Stochastic Mortality

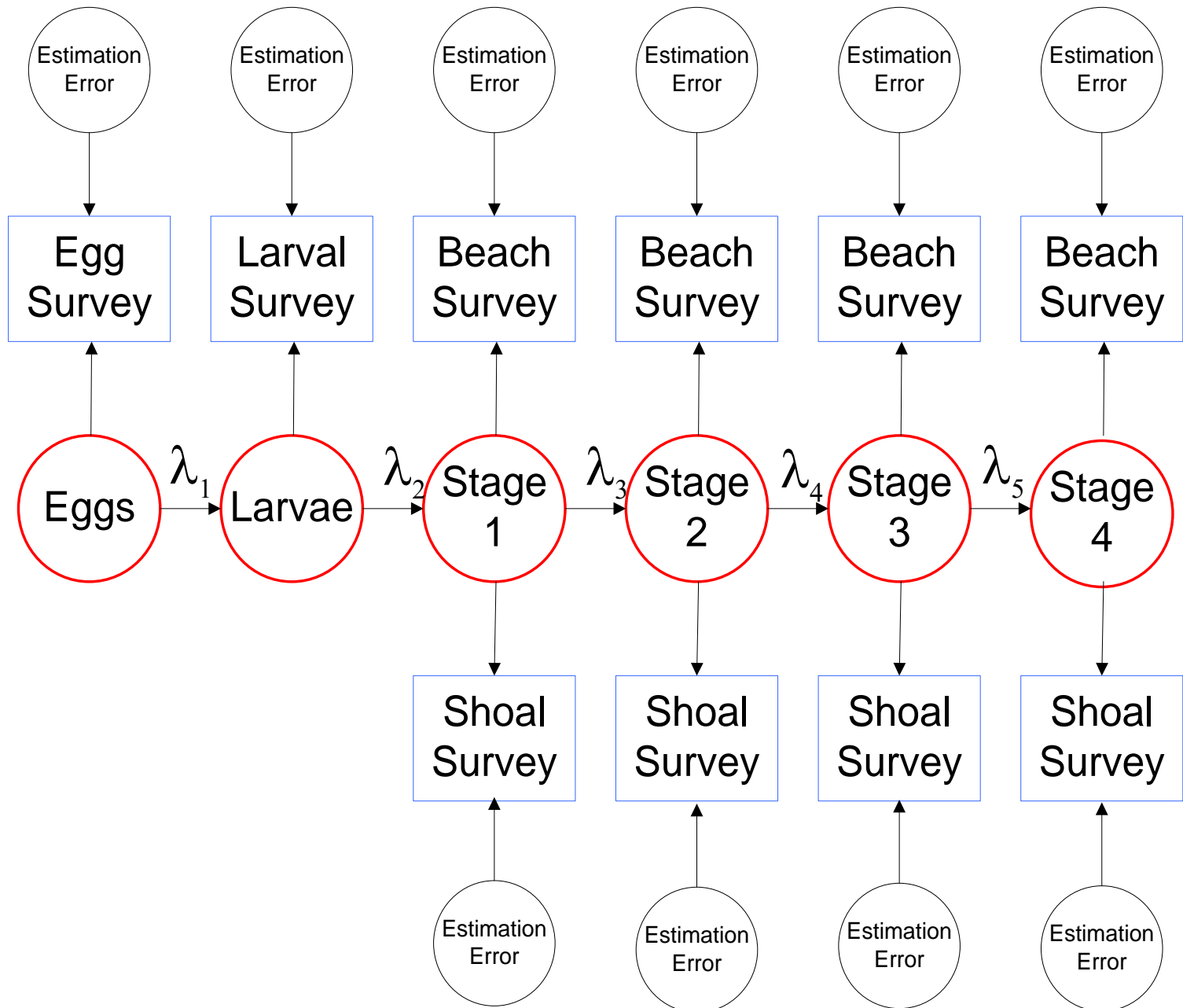
Dynamical Equation for Log Abundance:

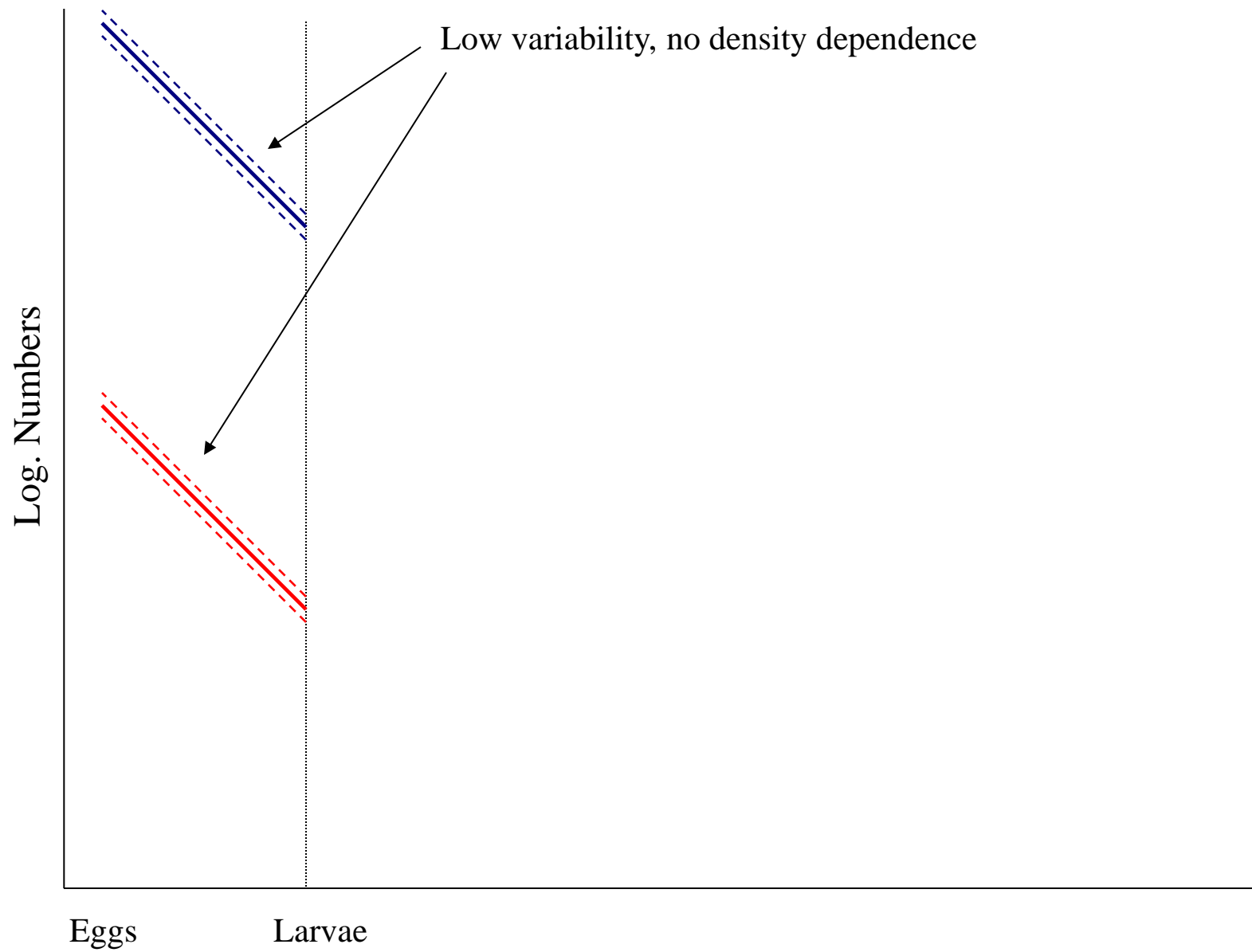
$$L_{t,1} = -m + \lambda L_{t,0} + \varepsilon_t$$

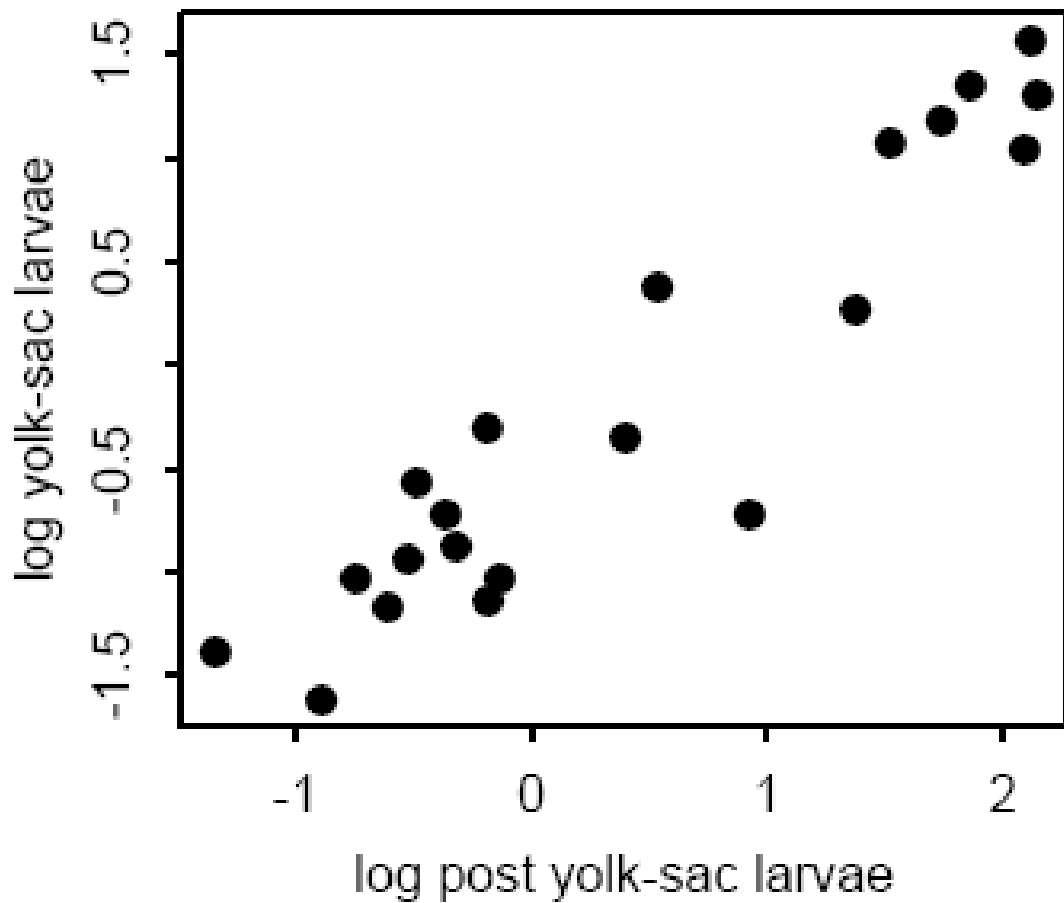
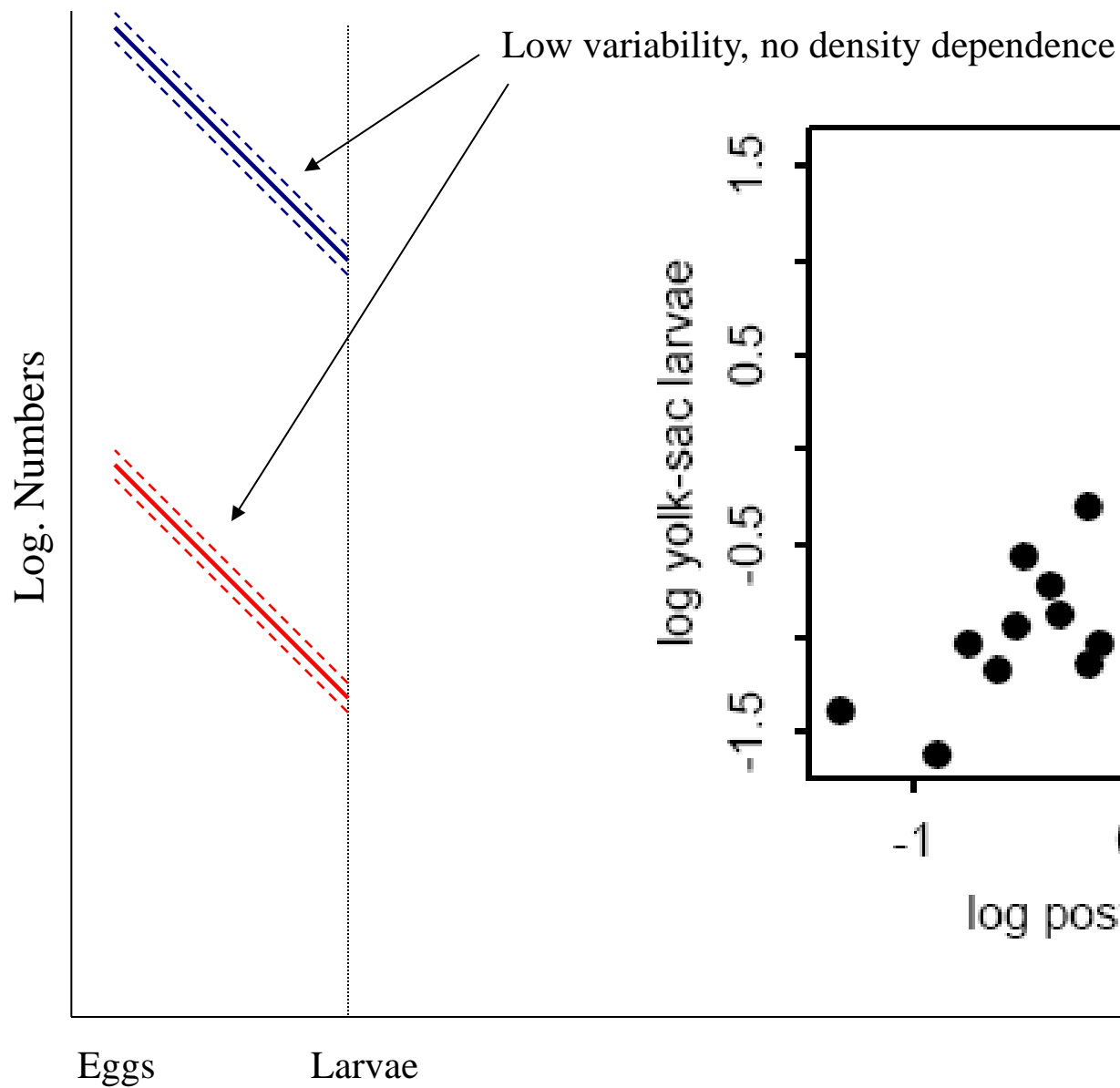
Analysis of Covariance Structures

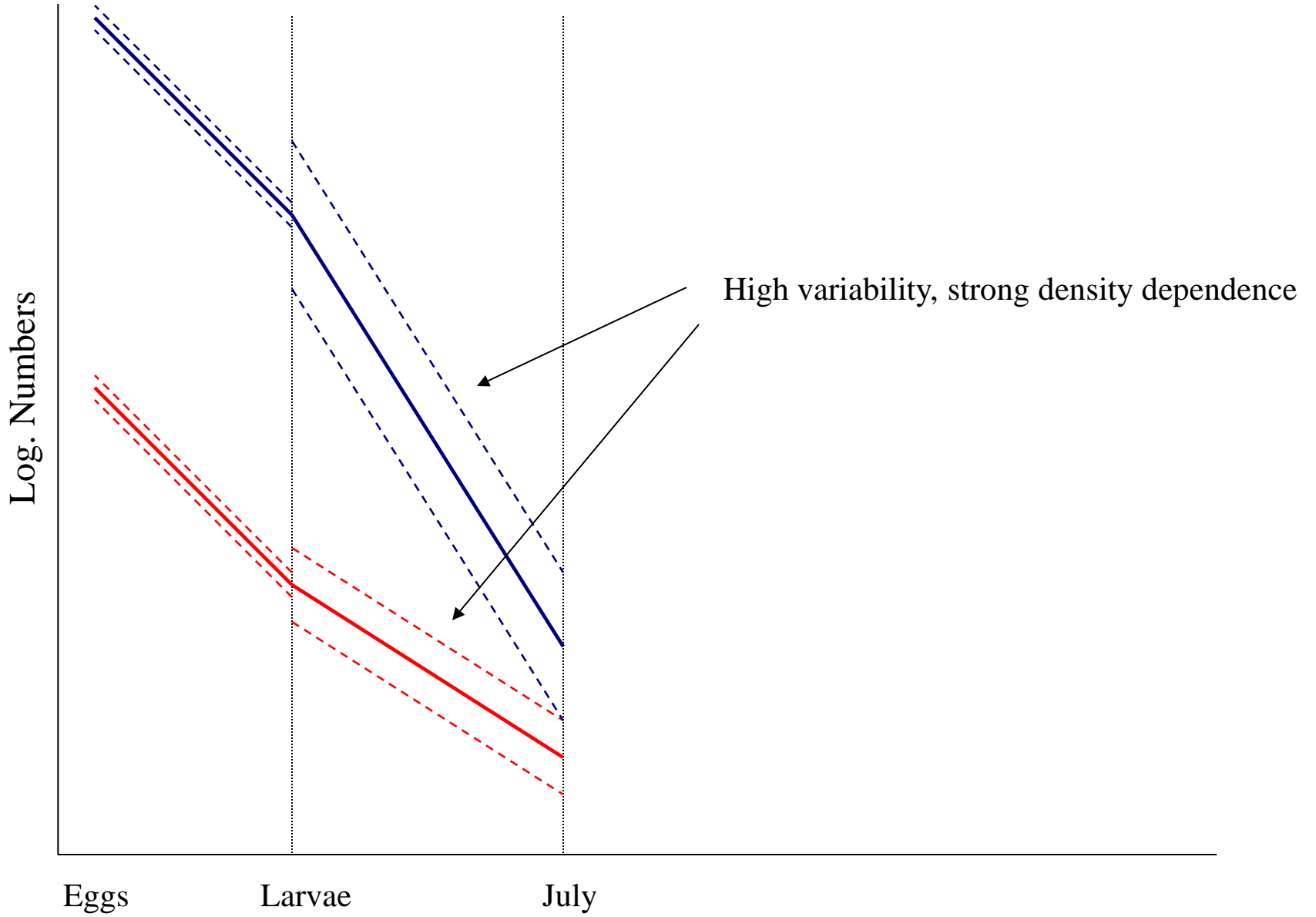
$$\begin{bmatrix}
 \text{VAR}(l_{t,0,1}) & \text{COV}(l_{t,0,1}, l_{t,0,2}) & \text{COV}(l_{t,0,1}, l_{t,1,1}) & \text{COV}(l_{t,0,1}, l_{t,1,2}) \\
 & \text{VAR}(l_{t,0,2}) & \text{COV}(l_{t,0,2}, l_{t,1,1}) & \text{COV}(l_{t,0,2}, l_{t,1,2}) \\
 & & \text{VAR}(l_{t,1,1}) & \text{COV}(l_{t,1,1}, l_{t,1,2}) \\
 & & & \text{VAR}(l_{t,1,2})
 \end{bmatrix}$$

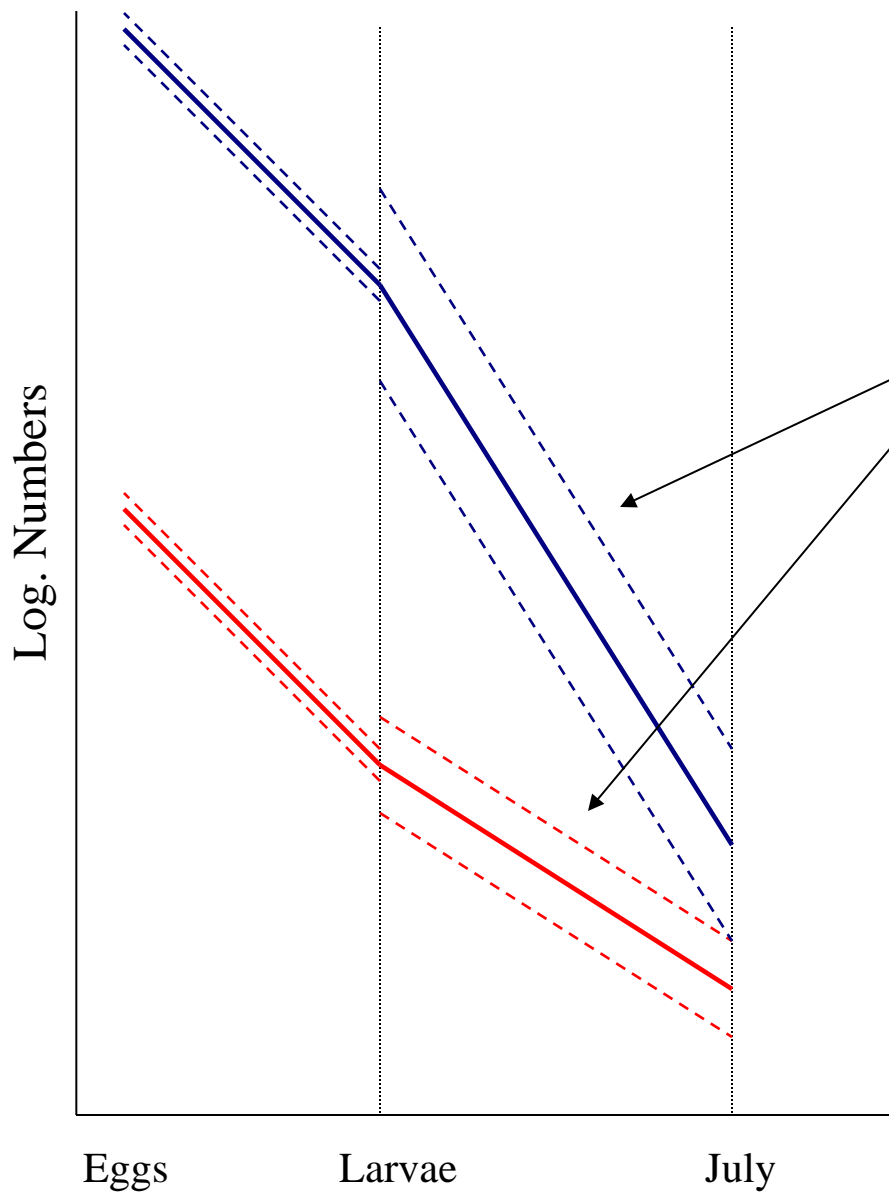
$$= \begin{bmatrix}
 \phi + \theta_{0,1} & \phi & \lambda\phi & \lambda\phi \\
 & \phi + \theta_{0,2} & \lambda\phi & \lambda\phi \\
 & & \lambda^2\phi + \psi + \theta_{1,1} & \lambda^2\phi + \psi \\
 & & & \lambda^2\phi + \psi + \theta_{1,2}
 \end{bmatrix}$$



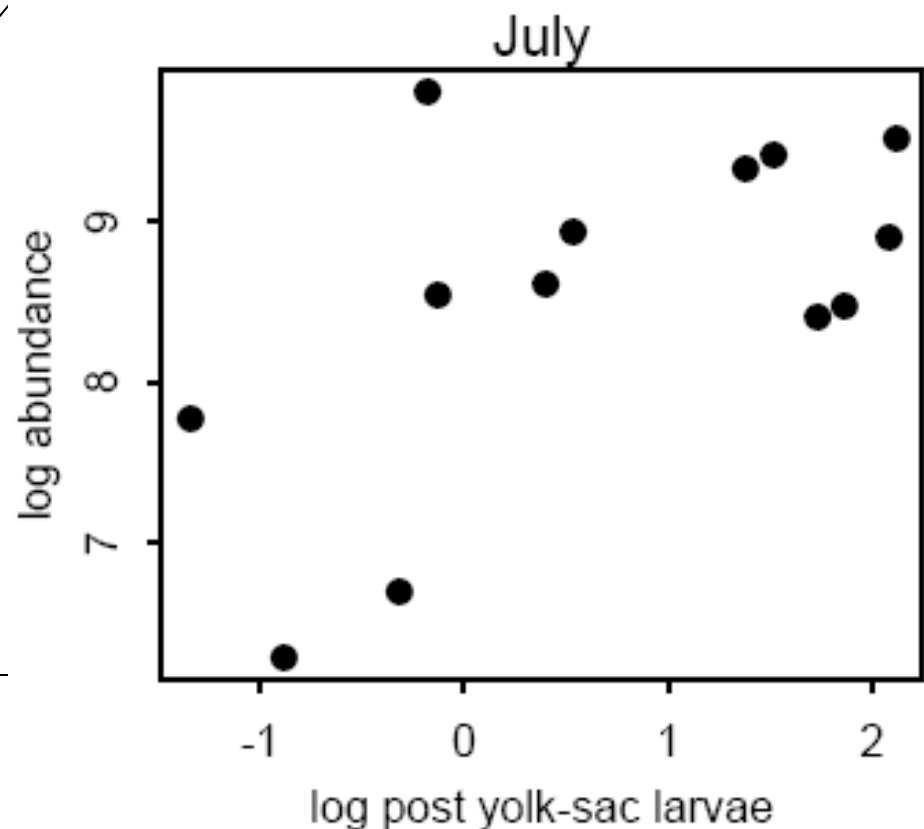








High variability, strong density dependence



The greatest part of density-dependent mortality occurs around June

- This density dependent mortality is large, and is described by the equation

$$N_{t,1} = N_{t,0} e^{-m - (1-\lambda) \log N_{t,0} + \varepsilon_t}$$

Variation in larvae =
1.2

DDM = 0.75
(se.e = 0.2)

Variation in
mortality = 0.8

The greatest part of density-dependent mortality occurs around June

- This density dependent mortality is large, and is described by the equation

$$N_{t,1} = N_{t,0} e^{-m - (1-\lambda) \log N_{t,0} + \varepsilon_t}$$

Variance in larvae =
1.14

DDM = 0.75
(se = 0.2)

Variance in
mortality = 0.67

$$\text{Variation due to larvae} = 1.14 * (.25^2) = 0.75$$

That is, by July a round 10% of the variance in relative abundance is due to egg/larval abundance.

The greatest part of density-dependent mortality occurs around June

- This density dependent mortality is large, and is described by the equation

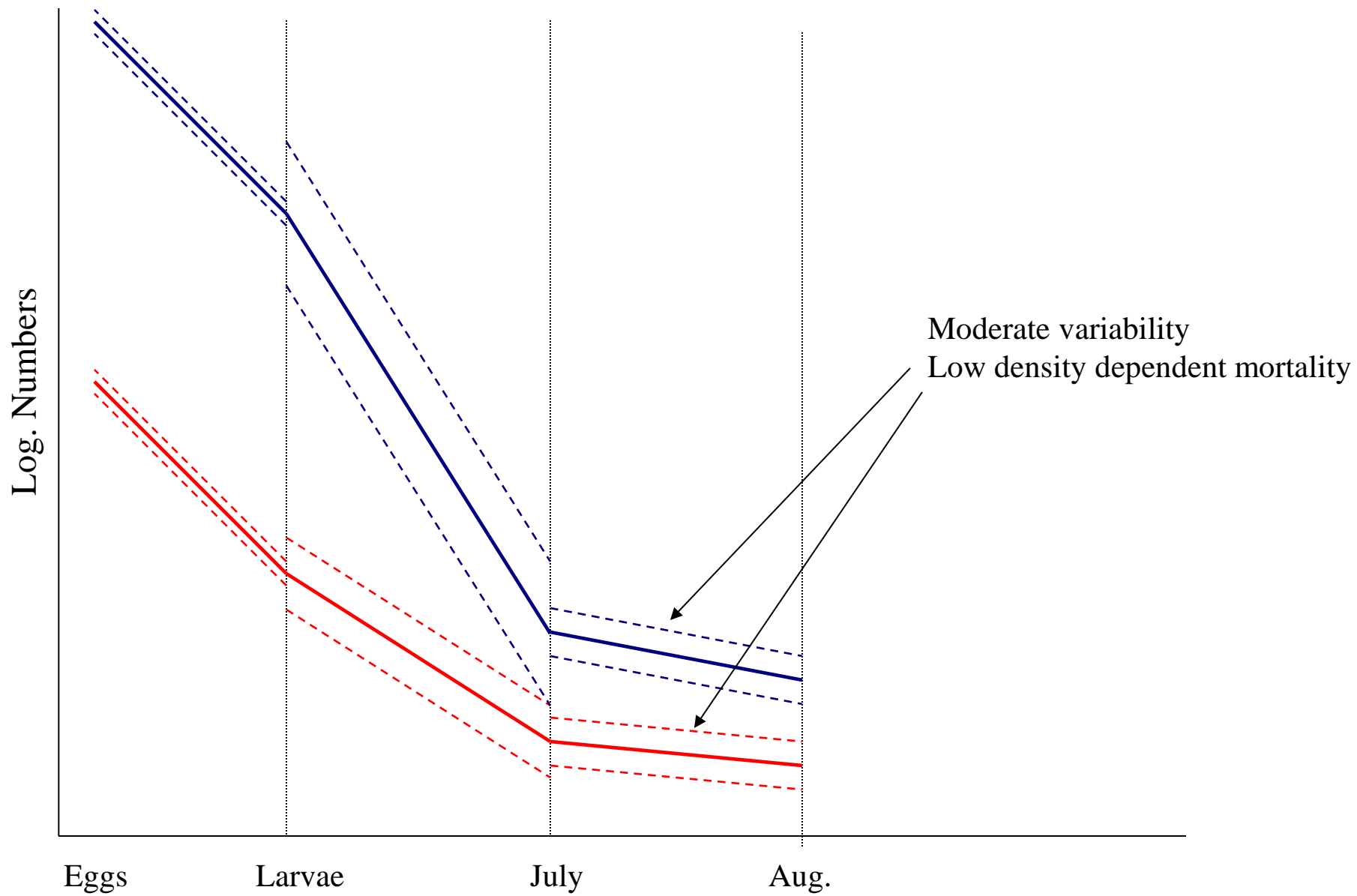
$$N_{t,1} = N_{t,0} e^{-m - (1-\lambda) \log N_{t,0} + \varepsilon_t}$$

Variance in larvae =
1.14

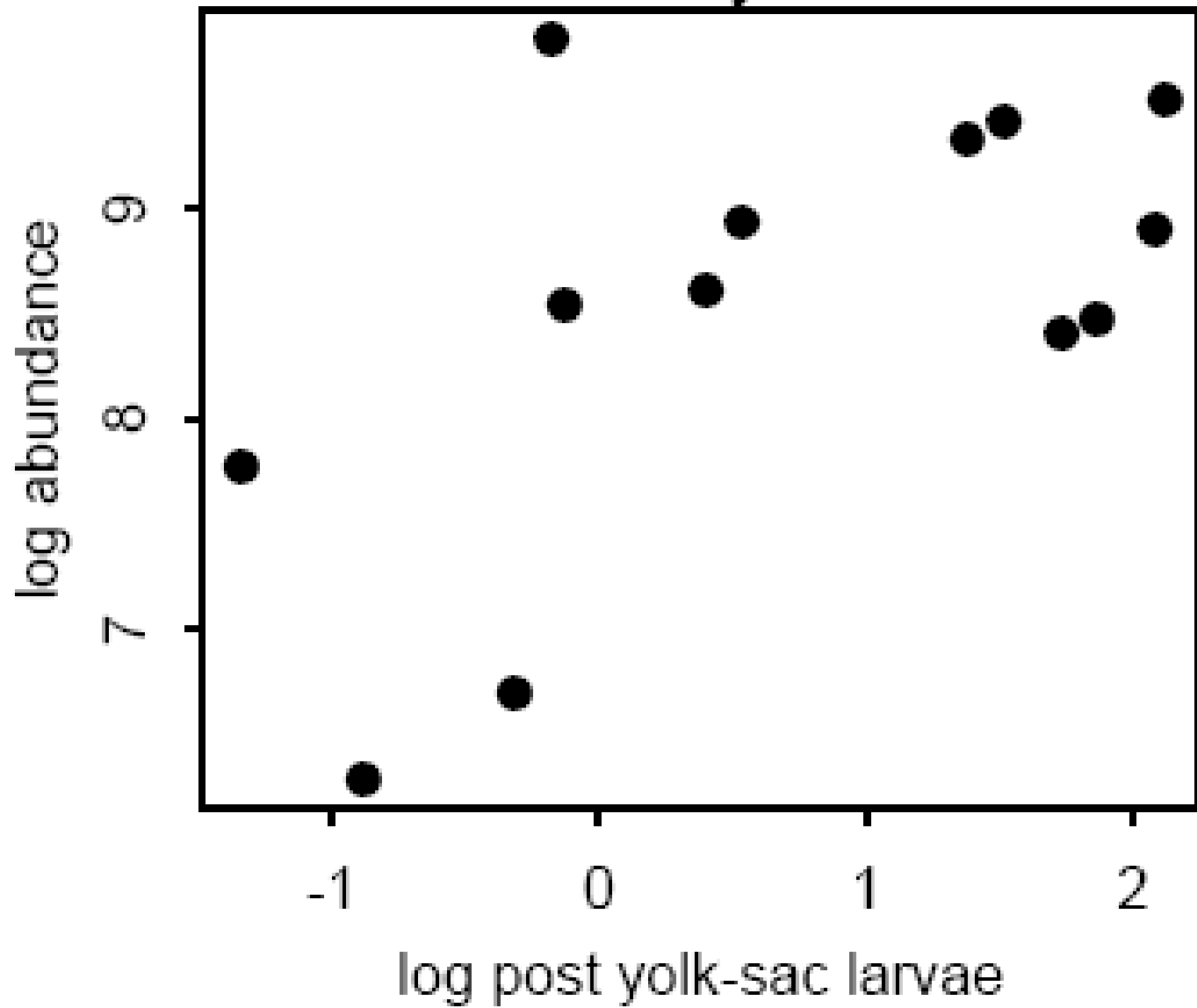
DDM = 0.75
(se = 0.2)

Variance in
mortality = 0.67

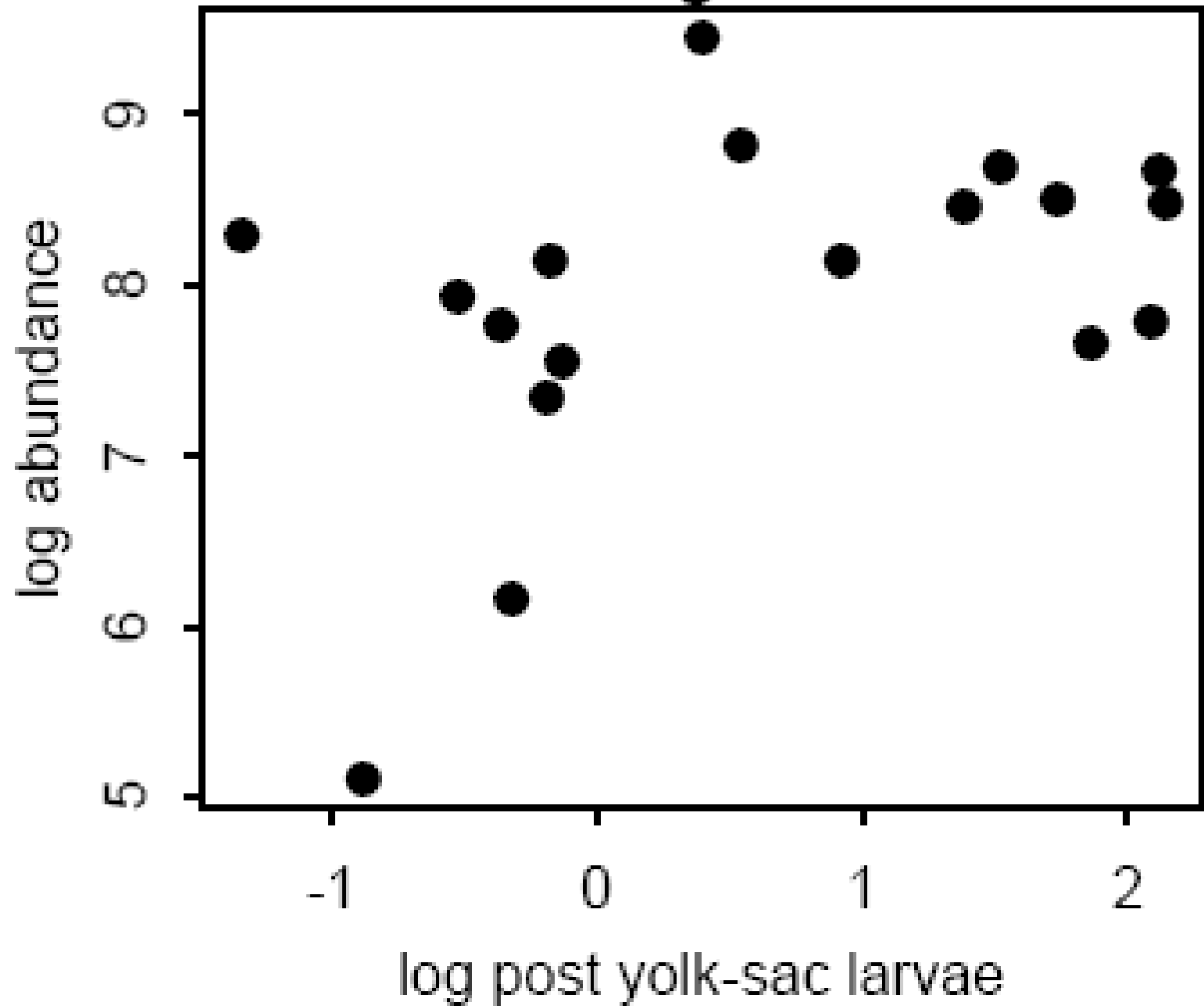
Results confirmed from beach and shoal surveys.

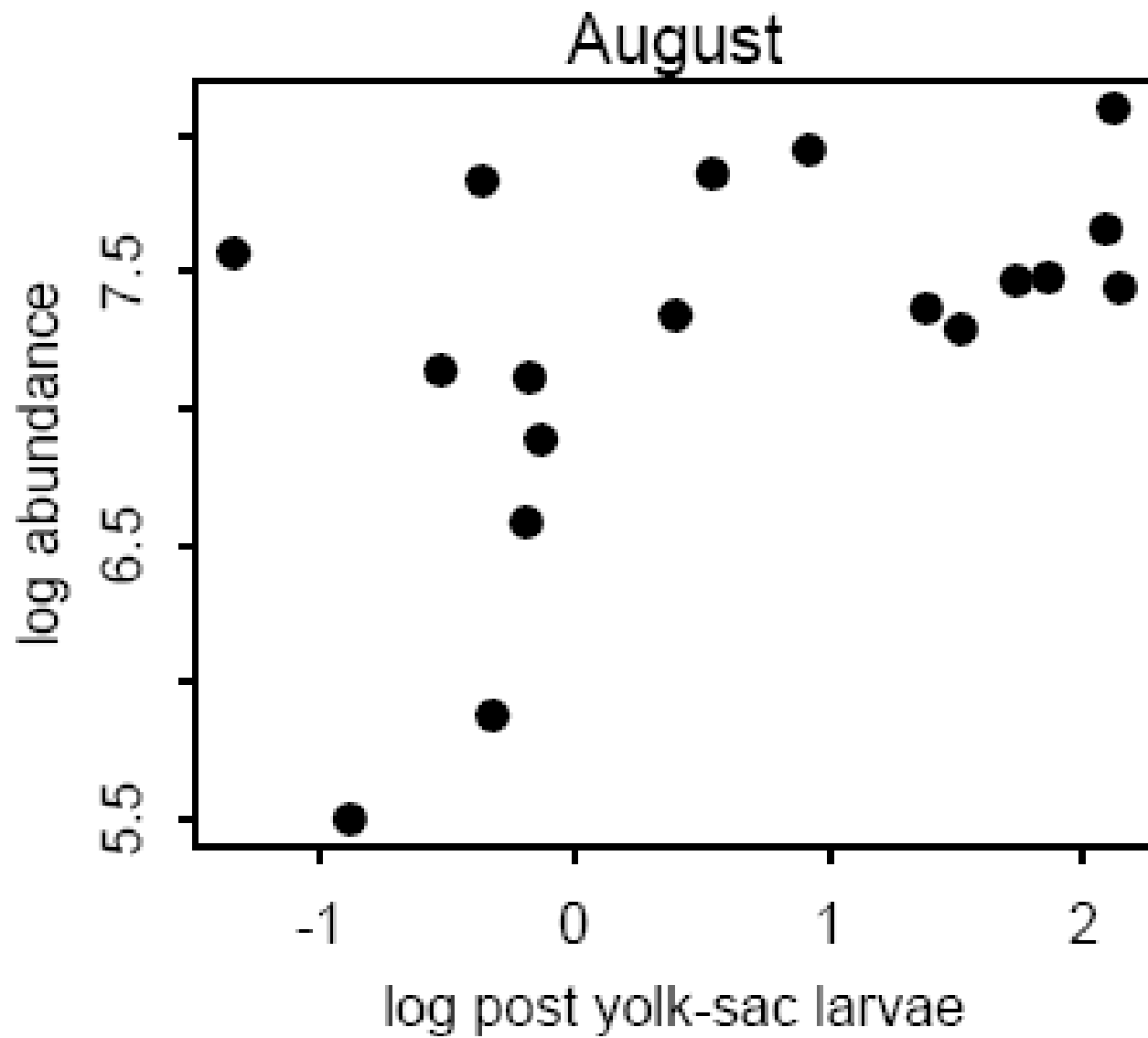


July

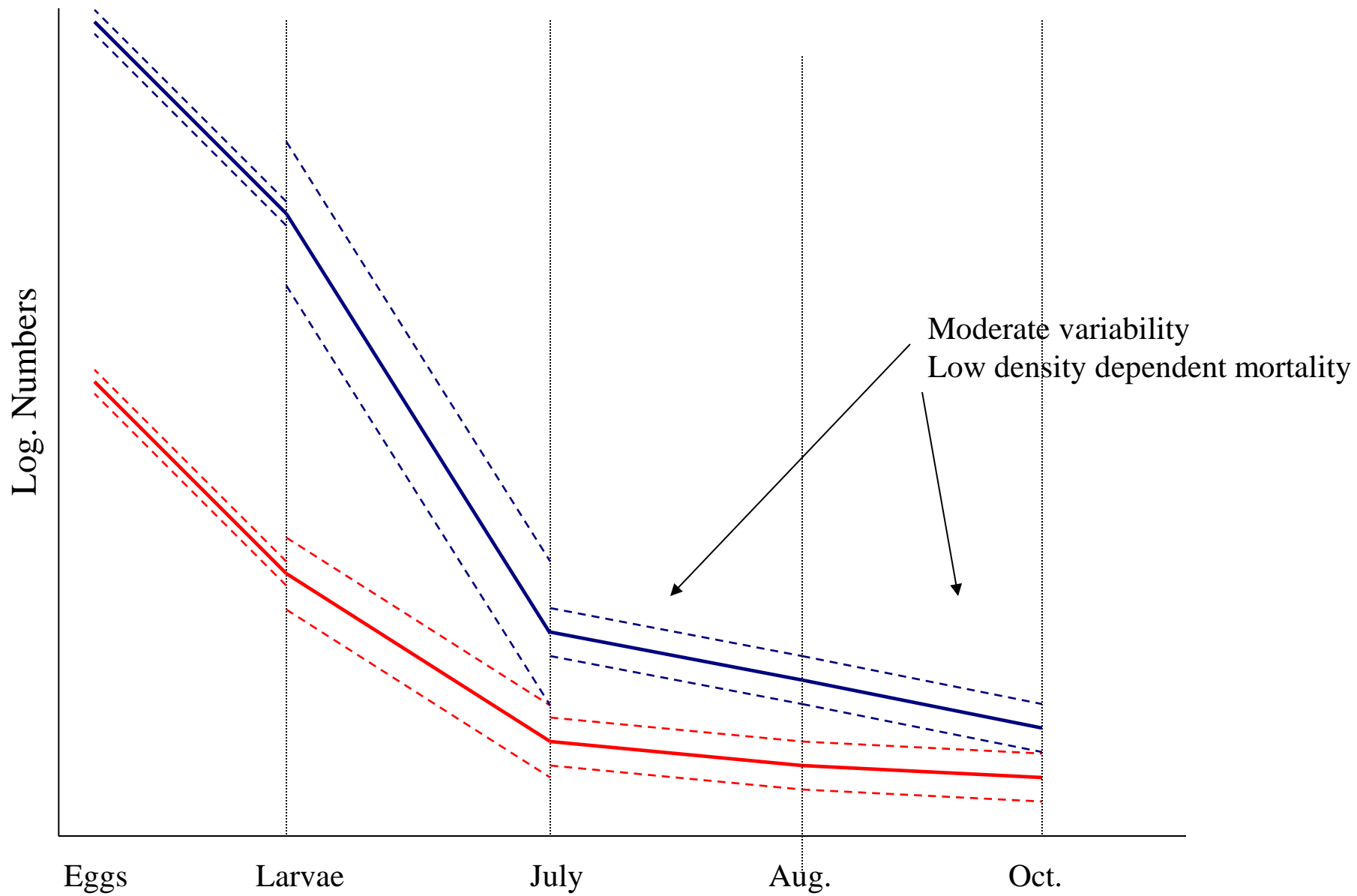


August





Industry Beach Survey



The density dependent mortality after June is weak

- This density dependent mortality is large, and is described by the equation

$$N_{t,1} = N_{t,0} e^{-m - (1-\lambda) \log N_{t,0} + \varepsilon_t}$$

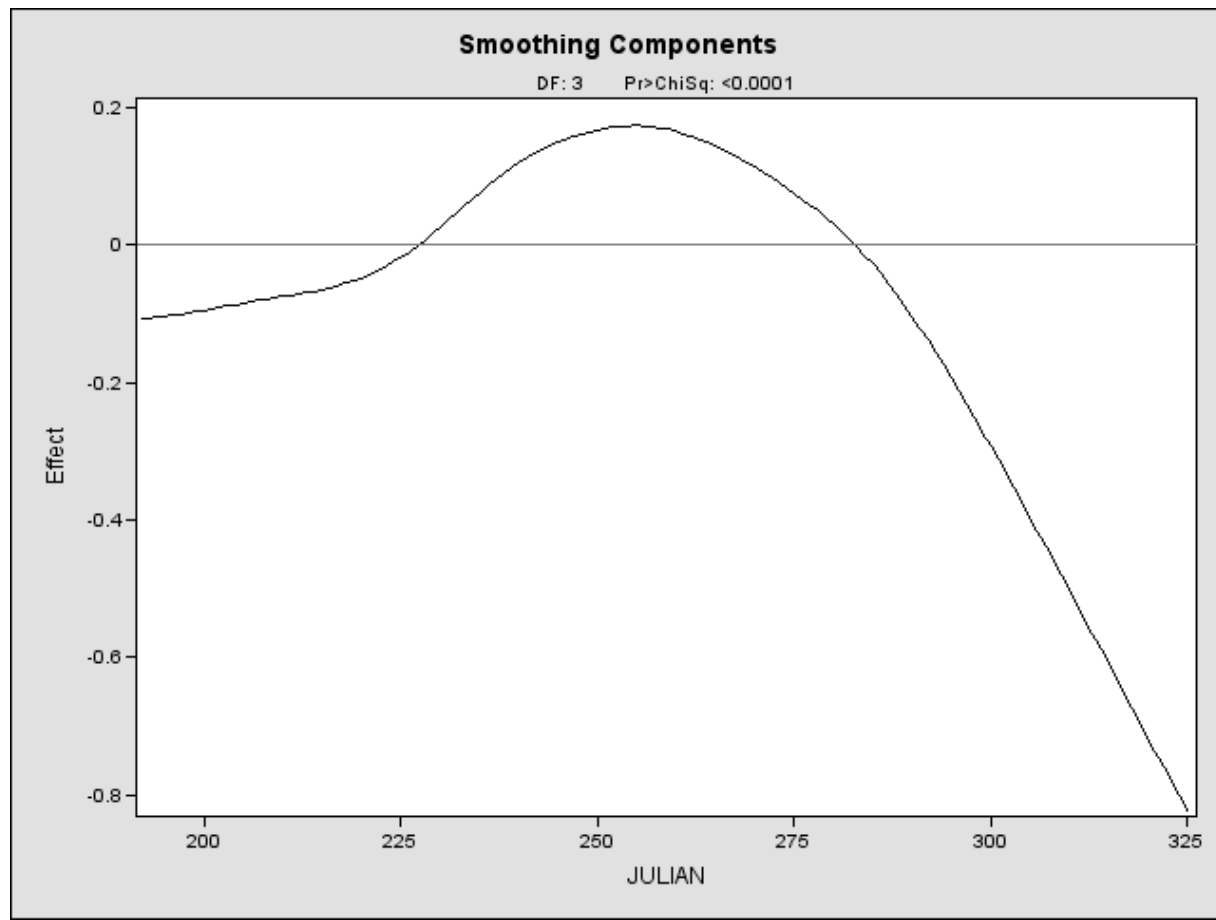
DDM = 0.82
(se = 0.16)

Variance in
mortality = 0.05

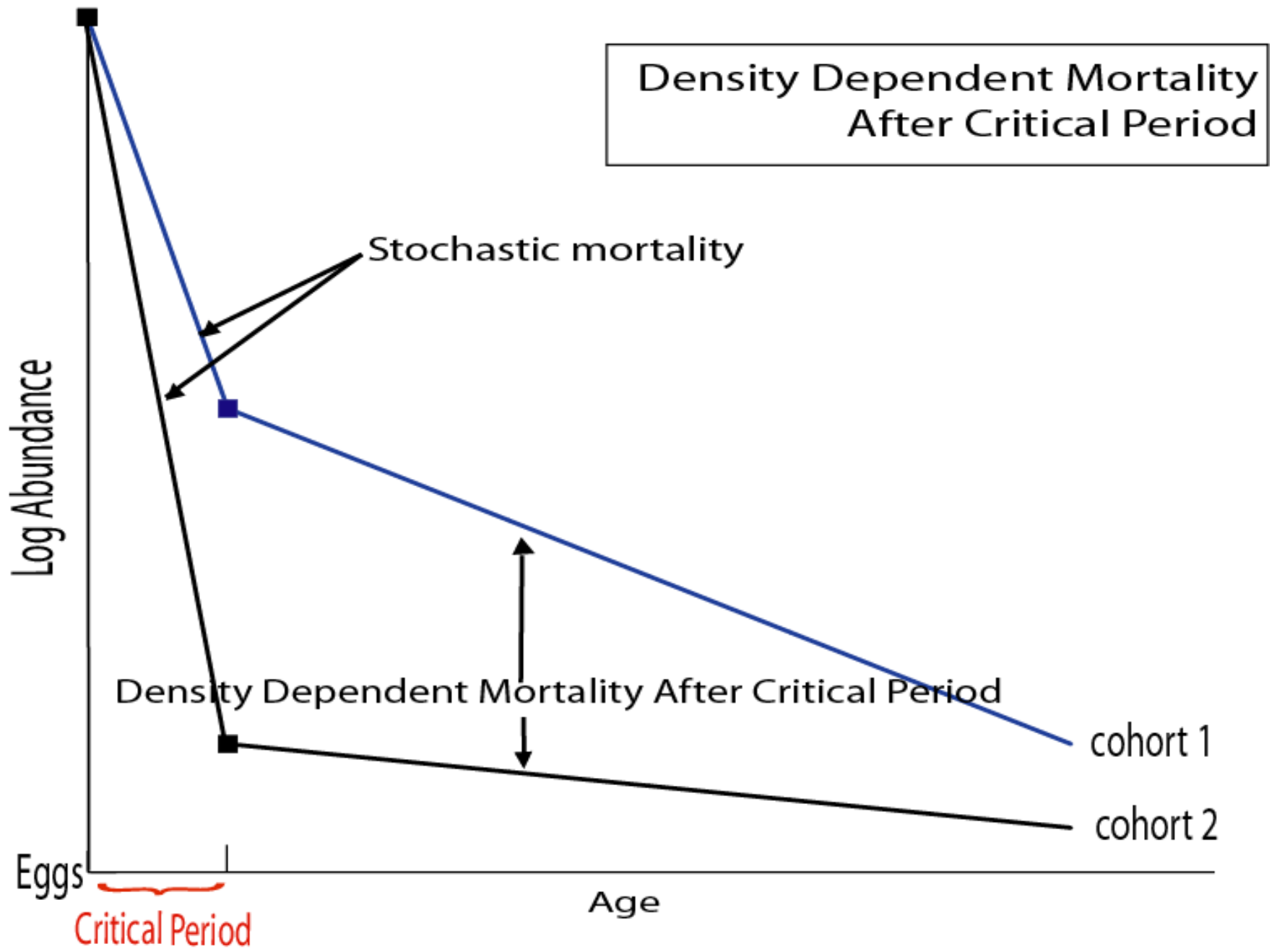
Results confirmed from beach, shoal and DEC surveys, and from alternative methods.

Alternative approach: Generalized linear mixed effects model

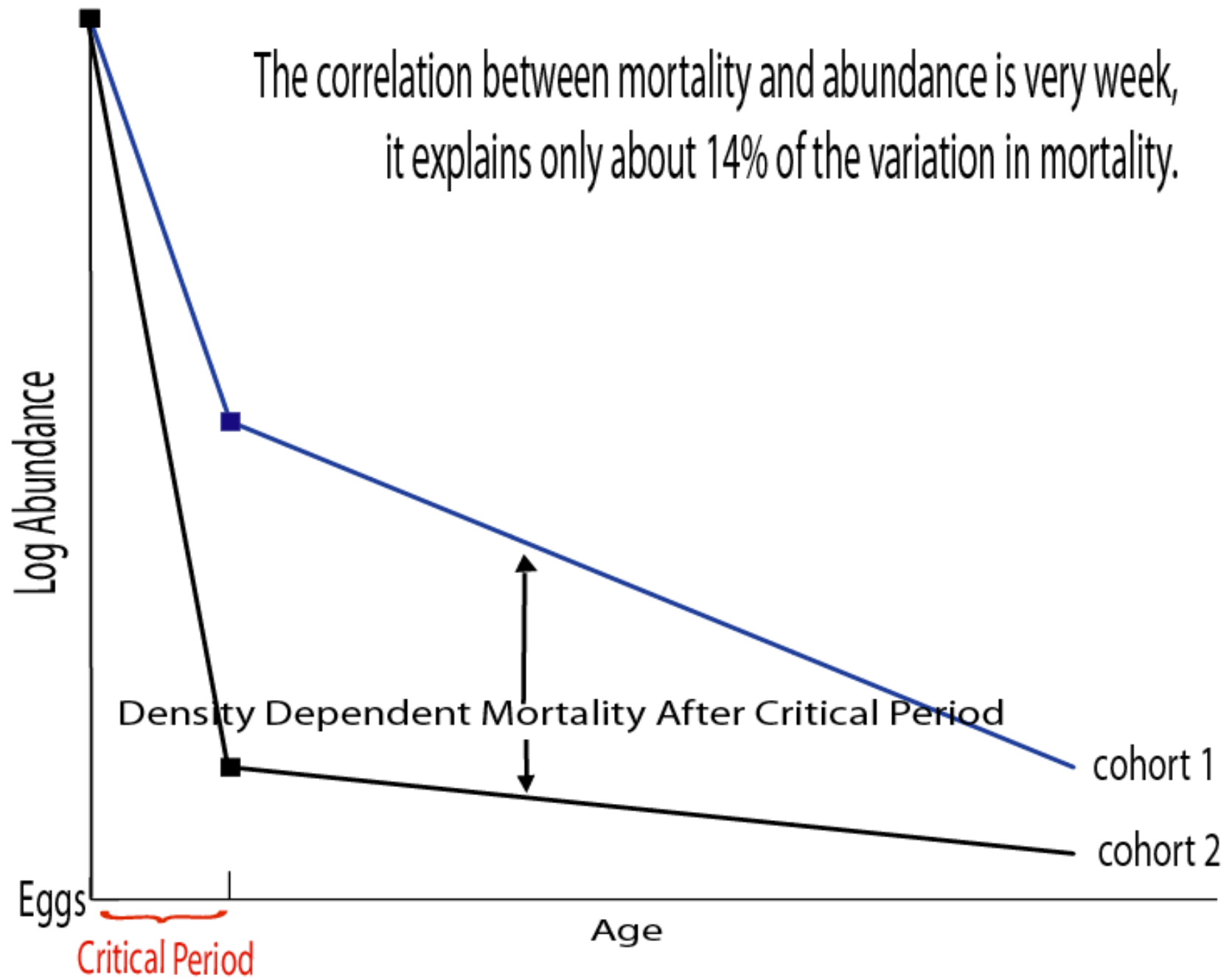
- Model that accounts for year, sample station, variation in catchability through the year



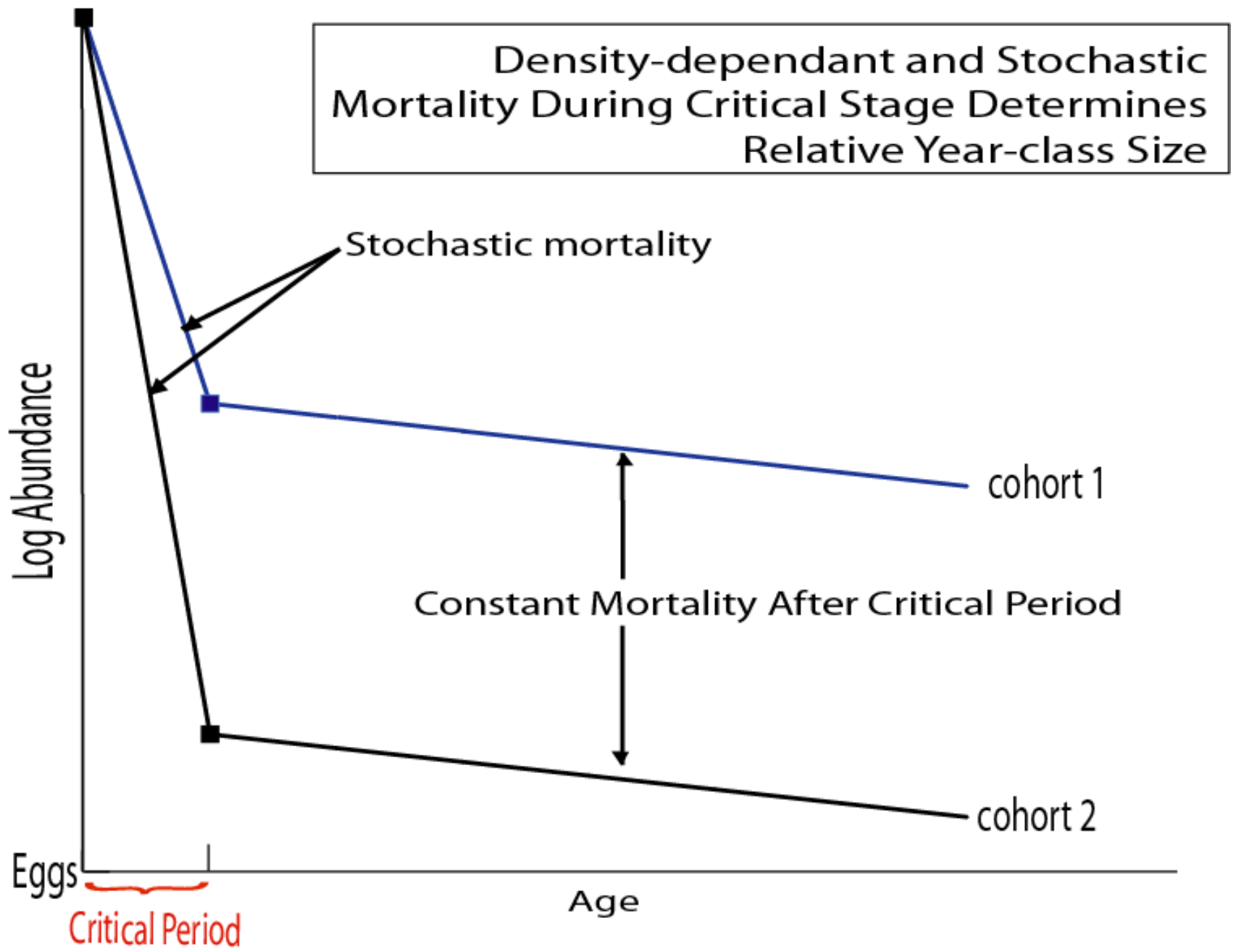
Does density dependent mortality occur after July?



Does density dependent mortality occur after July?



After July, this closer to the truth



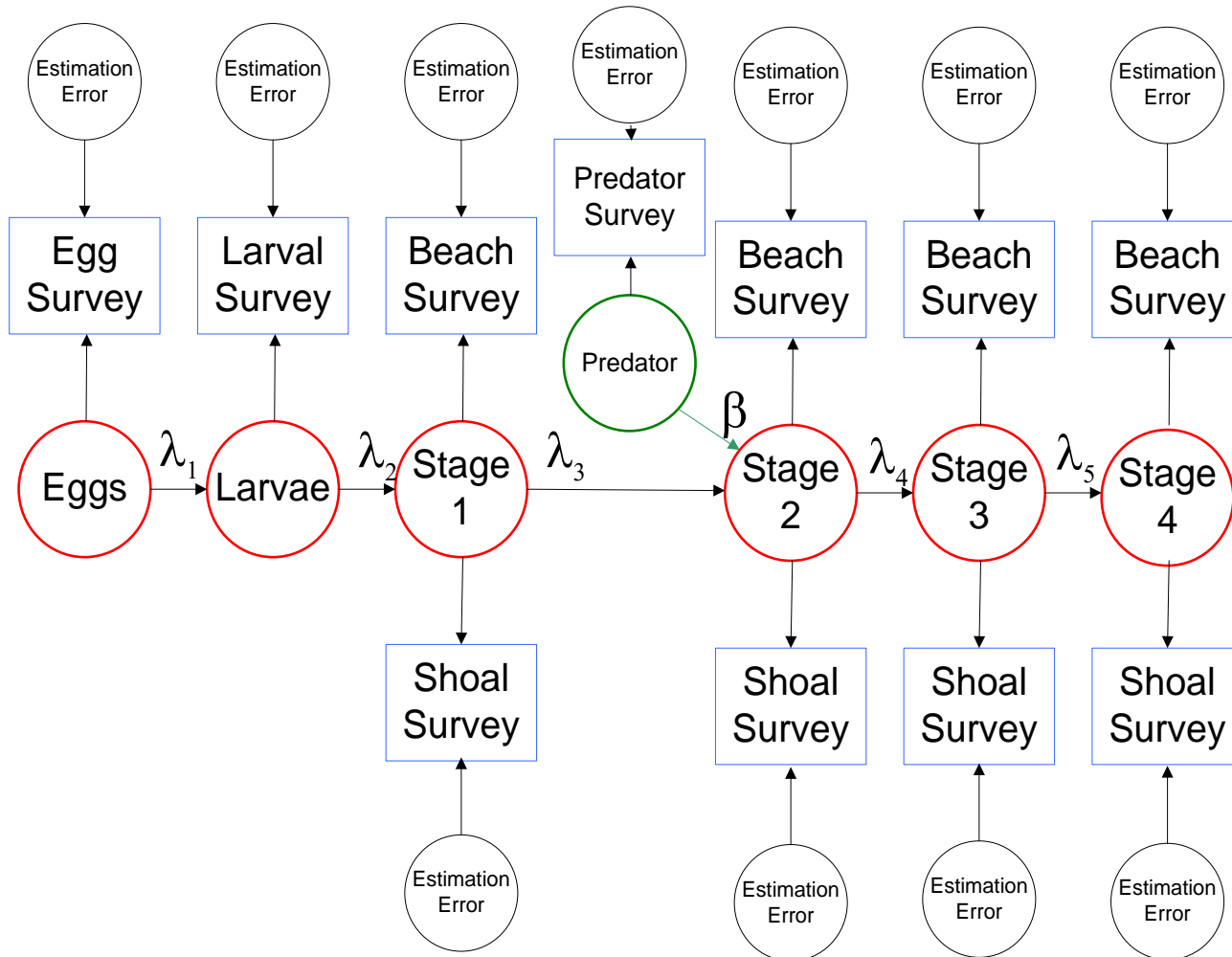
Hjort's (1914) critical period hypothesis

- ‘the numerical value of a year class is apparently stated at a very early age, and continues in approximately the same relation to that of other year classes throughout the life of the individuals’
- June (soon after the larval period) is the critical period for Hudson River Striped bass.

Questions

- How do we include species interactions?
- How do we include more general functional forms (we assumed mortality is proportional to log (numbers)).
- How do we include more general error distribution, e.g. discrete distribution.
- How do we include more general random effects distribution?

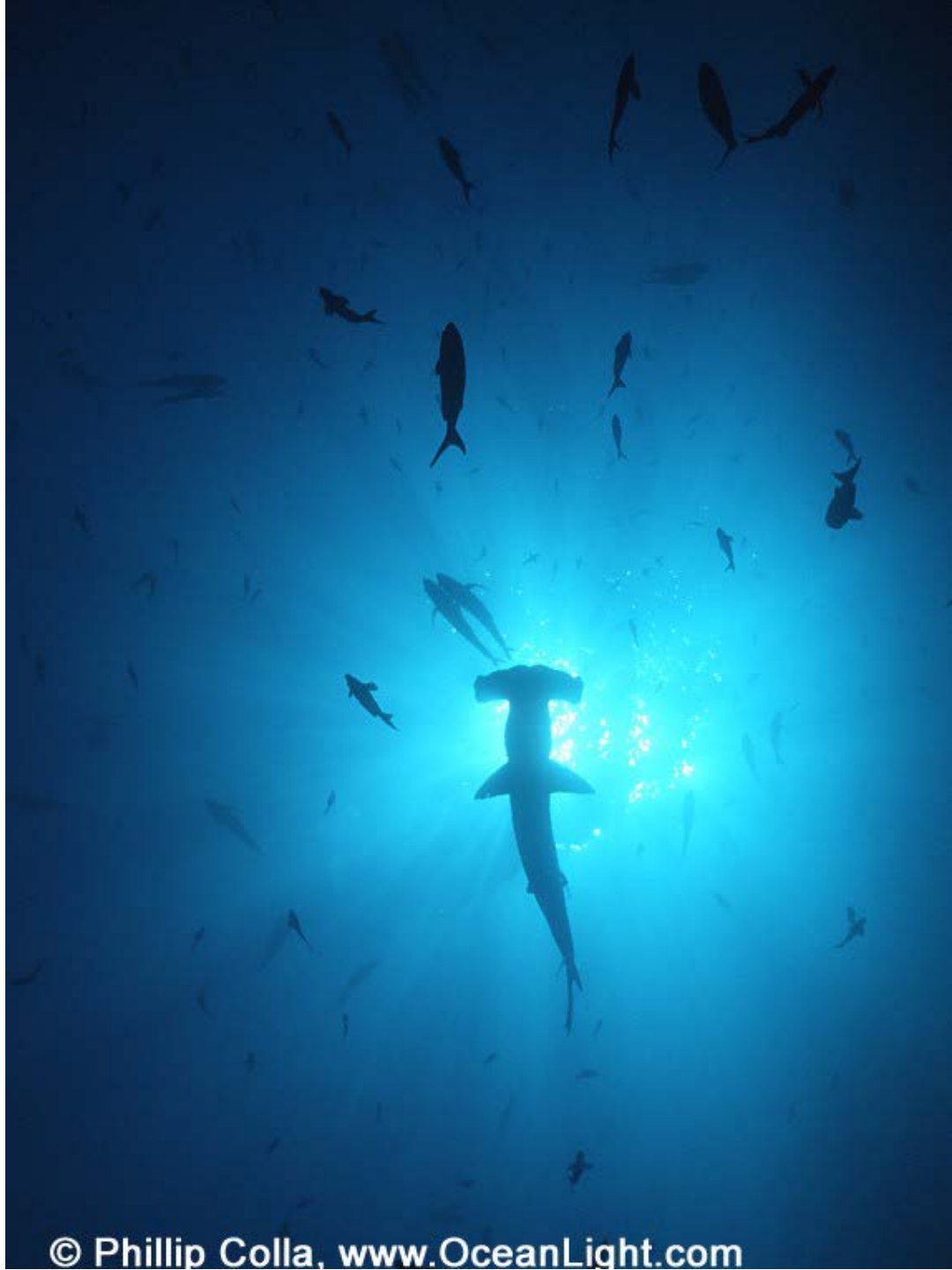
Extension: Includes species interactions



***The First Collective Act of
Humanity was to save the
great whales –***

despite massive denial

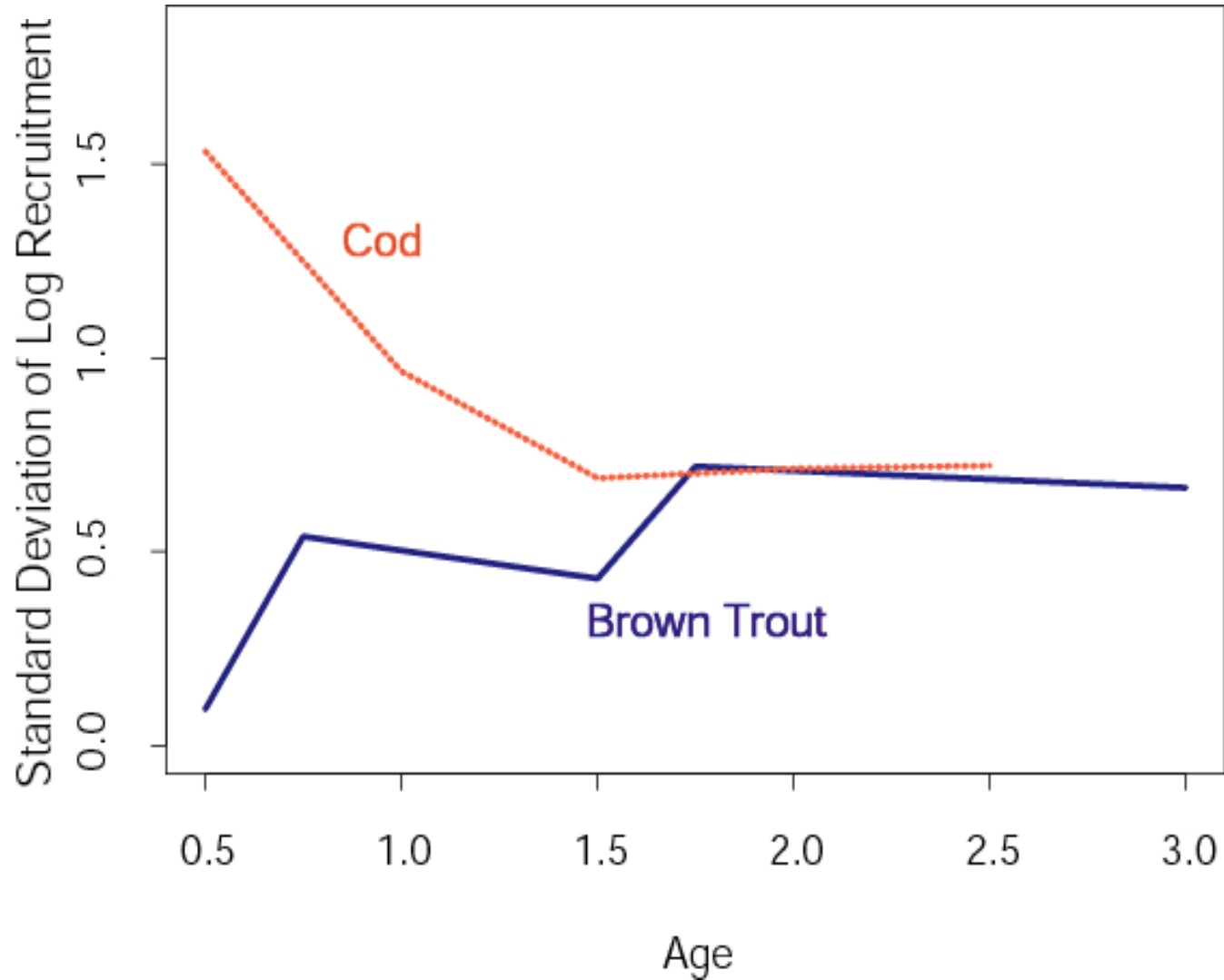
***– we can do
the same for the remaining
virgin areas of the oceans
and for the great sharks.***



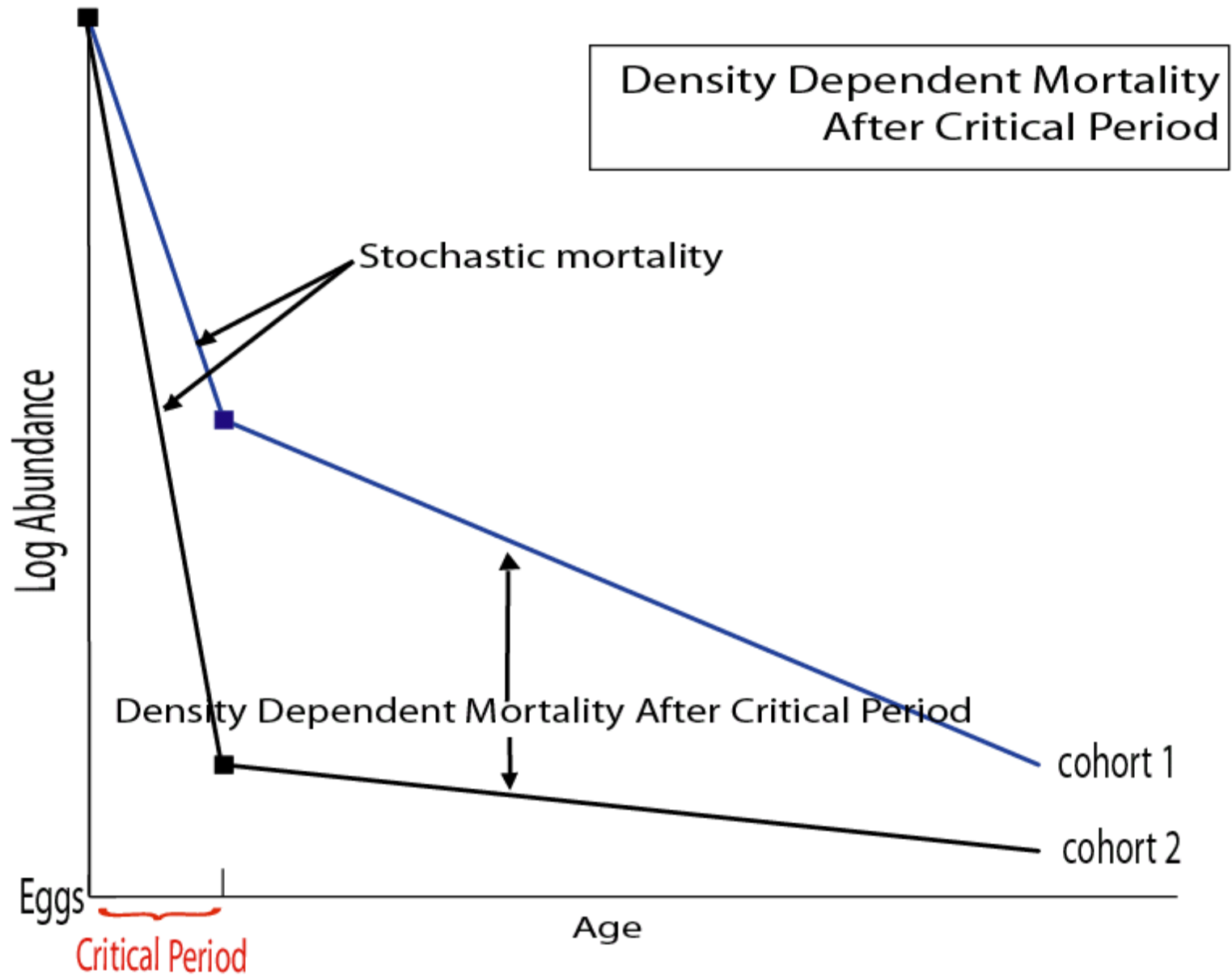
Critical period hypothesis: strong version

- $\text{Var}(\text{mortality}_{\text{age} < \text{critical}}) \gg \text{Var}(\text{mortality}_{\text{age} > \text{critical}})$
- Density dependent mortality ≈ 0 for age $>$ critical age
- We know of no cases where this is even approximately true.

Variability in recruitment increase with age for cod and decreases for trout.



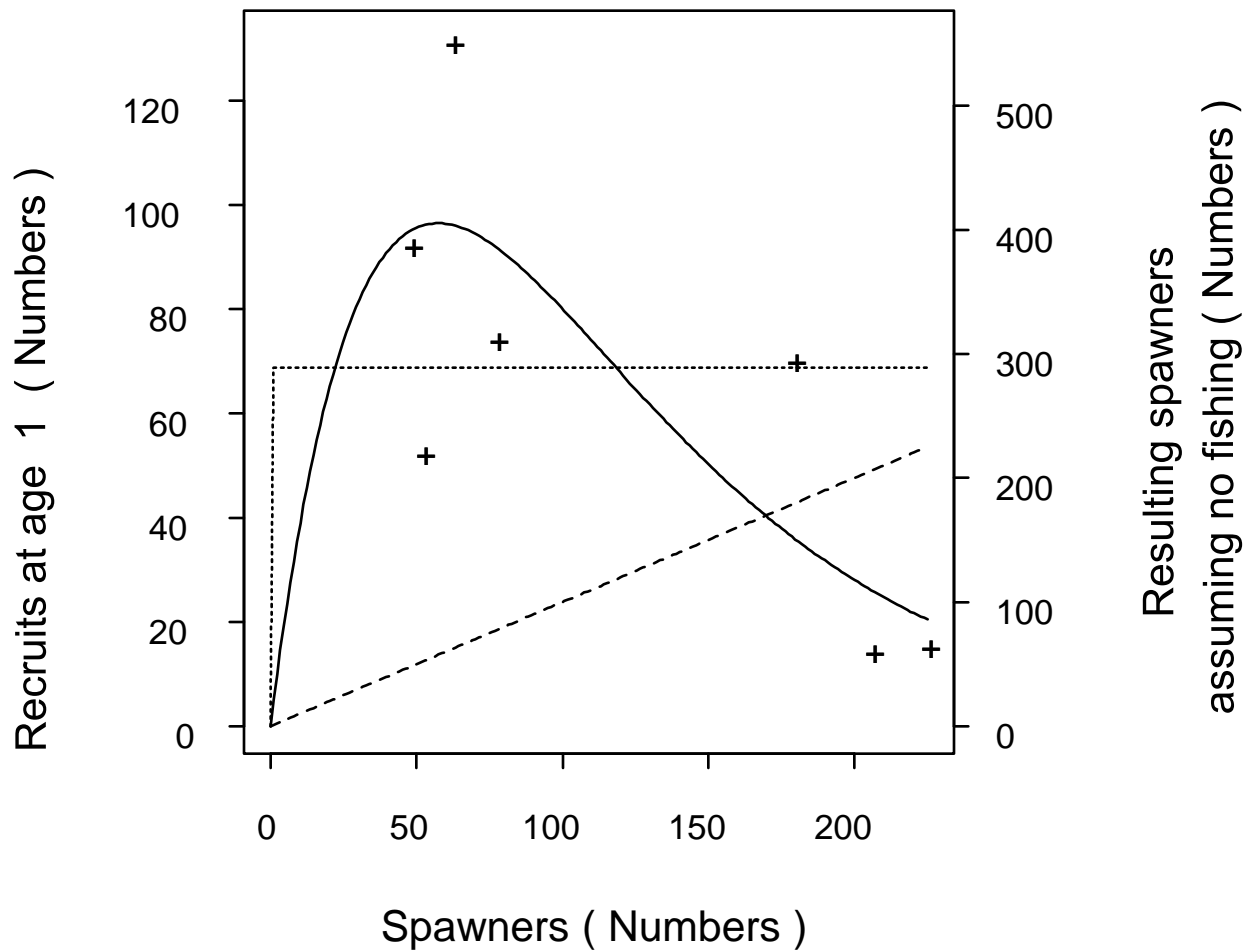
Hjort's Hypothesis: Weak Version



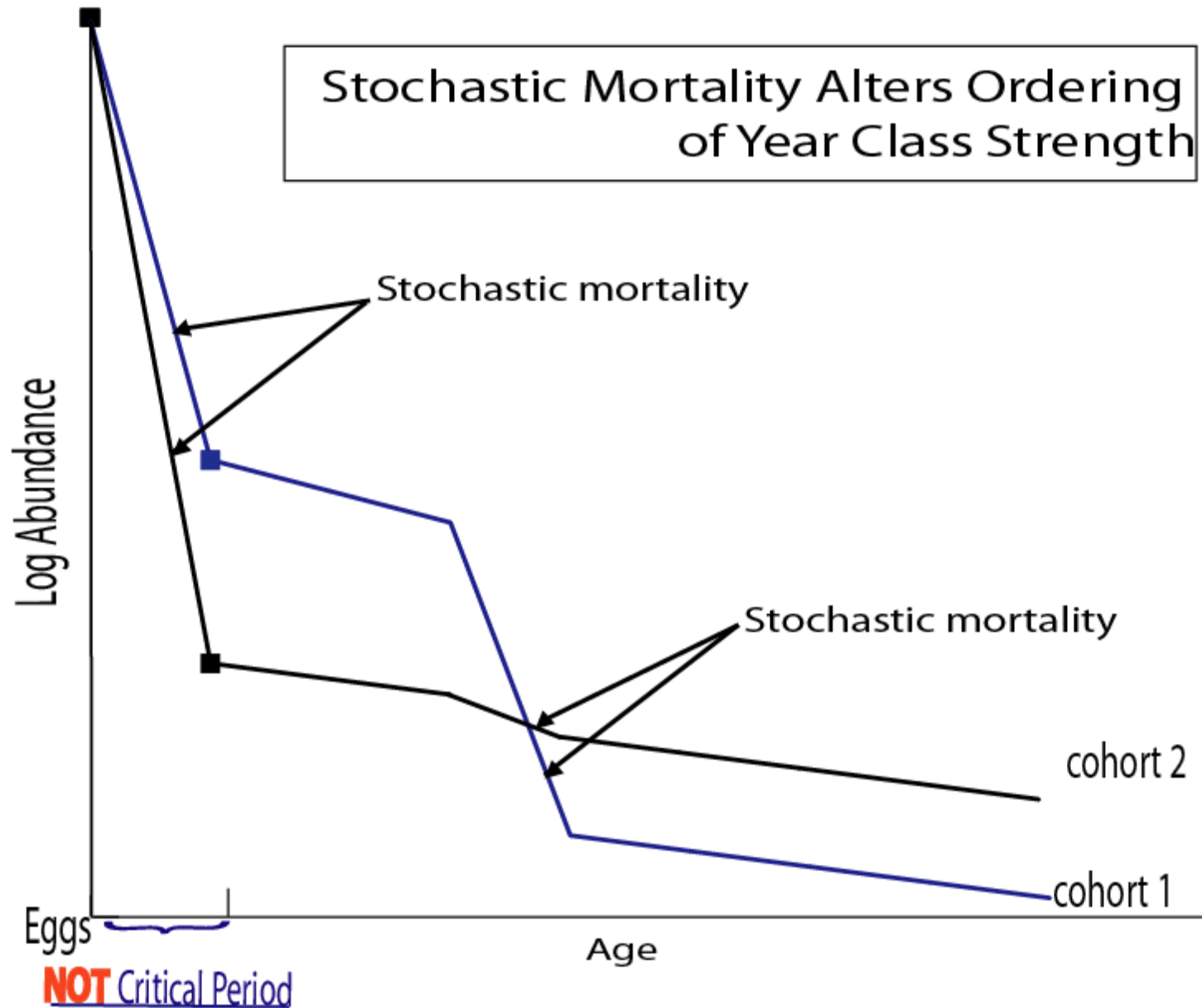
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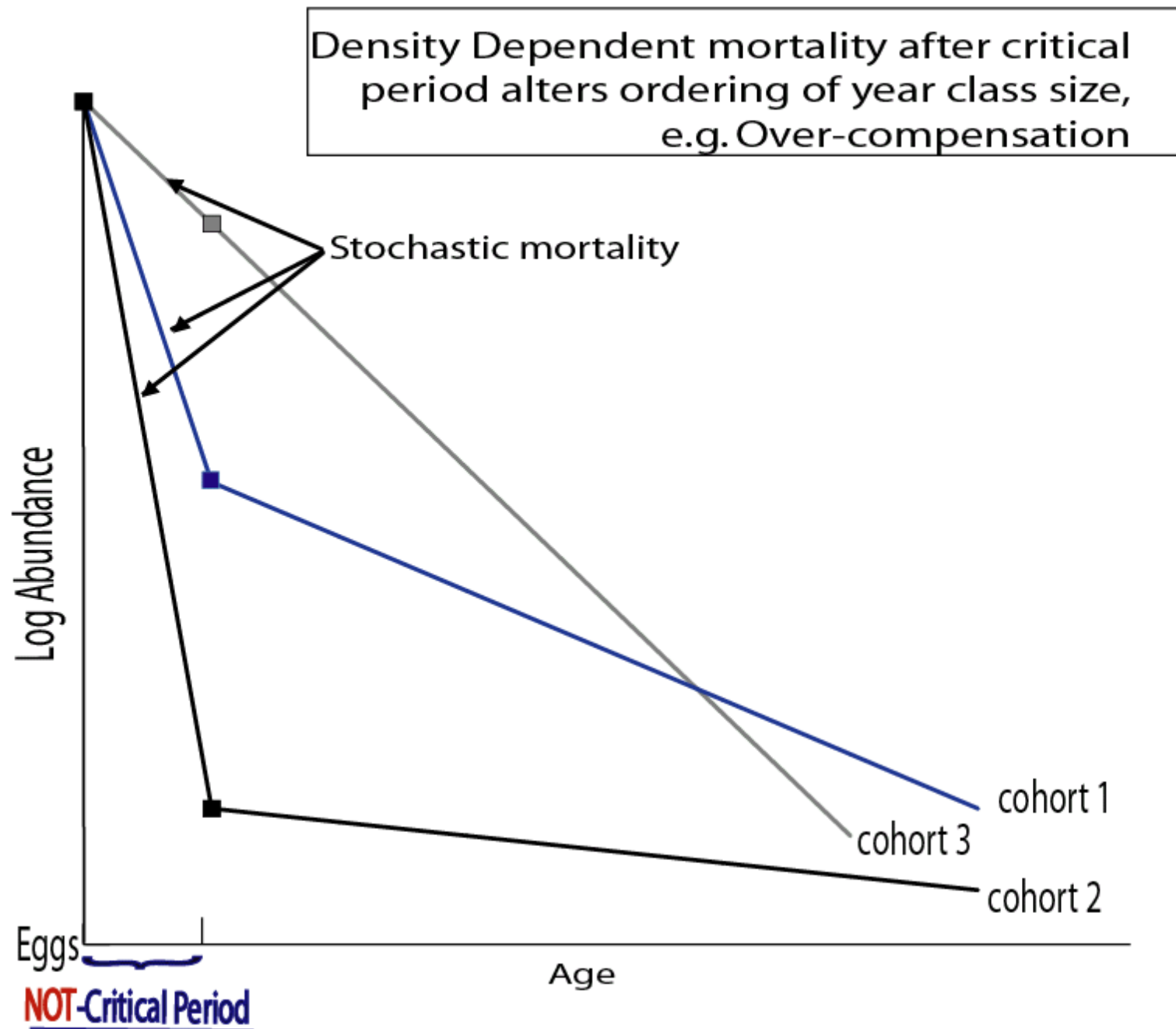
Freshwater brook trout - Hell Diver 3 Lake, Sierra Nevada



Hjort's Hypothesis: **NOT** Stochastic Mortality



Hjort's Hypothesis: NOT



To test Hjort's hypothesis we need a model which:

- Use research surveys which estimate abundance at different ages of the same cohort.
- Estimate the variance in mortality.
- Estimate density-dependent mortality.

- Treat cohorts as random effects.
- Include measurement error.
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The state of the art until now:

- Myers and Cadigan (1993a and b) developed method to estimate density-dependent mortality and the variance in mortality in the presence of measurement error.
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- Can. J. Fish Aquat. Sci. 50: 1576—1590.
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Hudson River – using meta-analytic state space models

- Each cohort is examined multiple times from different surveys.
- Egg, larval, seine, and trawl surveys are included.
- Data is divided into two parts: (1) one part used for model generation and (2) one part used for model testing.

Results for Hudson River – using meta-analytic state space models

- Very strong density-dependent mortality, the functional form of density dependent mortality is identified.
- Strong density-dependent mortality occurs early, i.e. in June.

Next stage

- Modeling species interaction on each life-history stage.
- Modeling density-dependent habitat expansion
- Management implications.

Prime difficulty:

- Estimation of fish abundance is hard, and even the best surveys have large estimation error (you cannot carry out a simple, controlled experiment).
-

Solution to estimation error problems

- Use methods that optimally account for estimation error.
- Use independent data sets (i.e. the beach and shoal surveys).
- Break data into parts: generate hypotheses using one data set, and test with other.
- Use meta-analysis of multiple populations.

Behaviour of Biological Communities

Loss of species density per decade

- Displayed is the number of tuna and billfish species that are found on a standard longline with 1000 hooks
- The time series runs from 1952-1999
- It shows how large hotspots are disappearing over time and how few concentrations of diversity remain today

After data from: Worm B, Sandow M, Oschlies A, Lotze HK, Myers RA (2005) Global patterns of predator diversity in the open oceans. **Science** Aug. 2005.

What do we know from previous studies?

- Collect all the data in the world
- Analyze it in the right way.

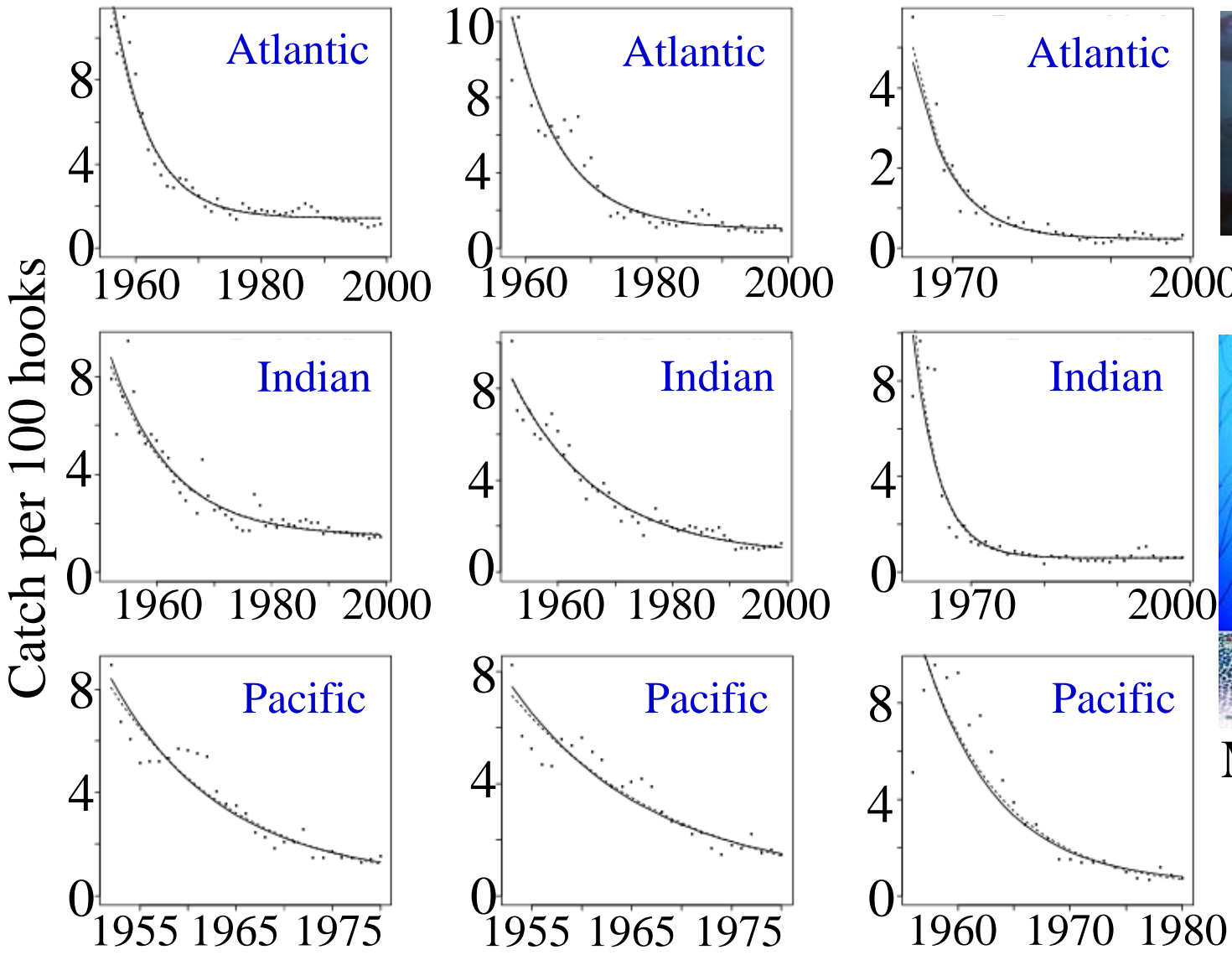
What is consistent with the Hudson River Data,
with virtually all other data in the world:

- Higher spawner abundance => higher recruitment
- Strong density dependence, similar levels to all commercial cod and flatfish in the world
- Higher variability in survival at low spawner abundances,
- Lower variability in survival at high spawner abundances

What is unique about Hudson River striped bass?

- Density dependent mortality occurs in a very short life-history stage, during first settlement to the beach areas around June. This is also the most important time for variability in survival.

Common patterns of decline

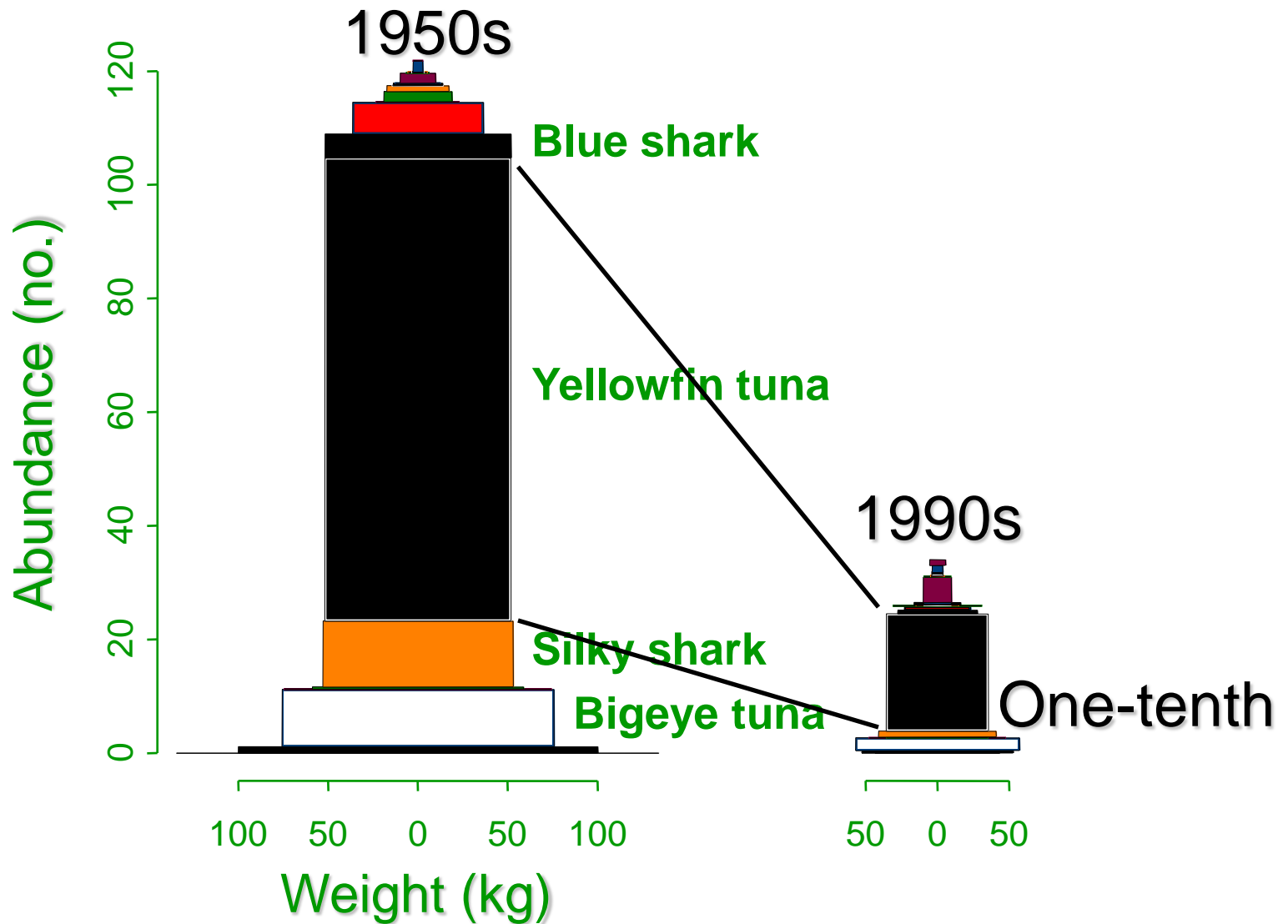


Myers and Worm (2003)

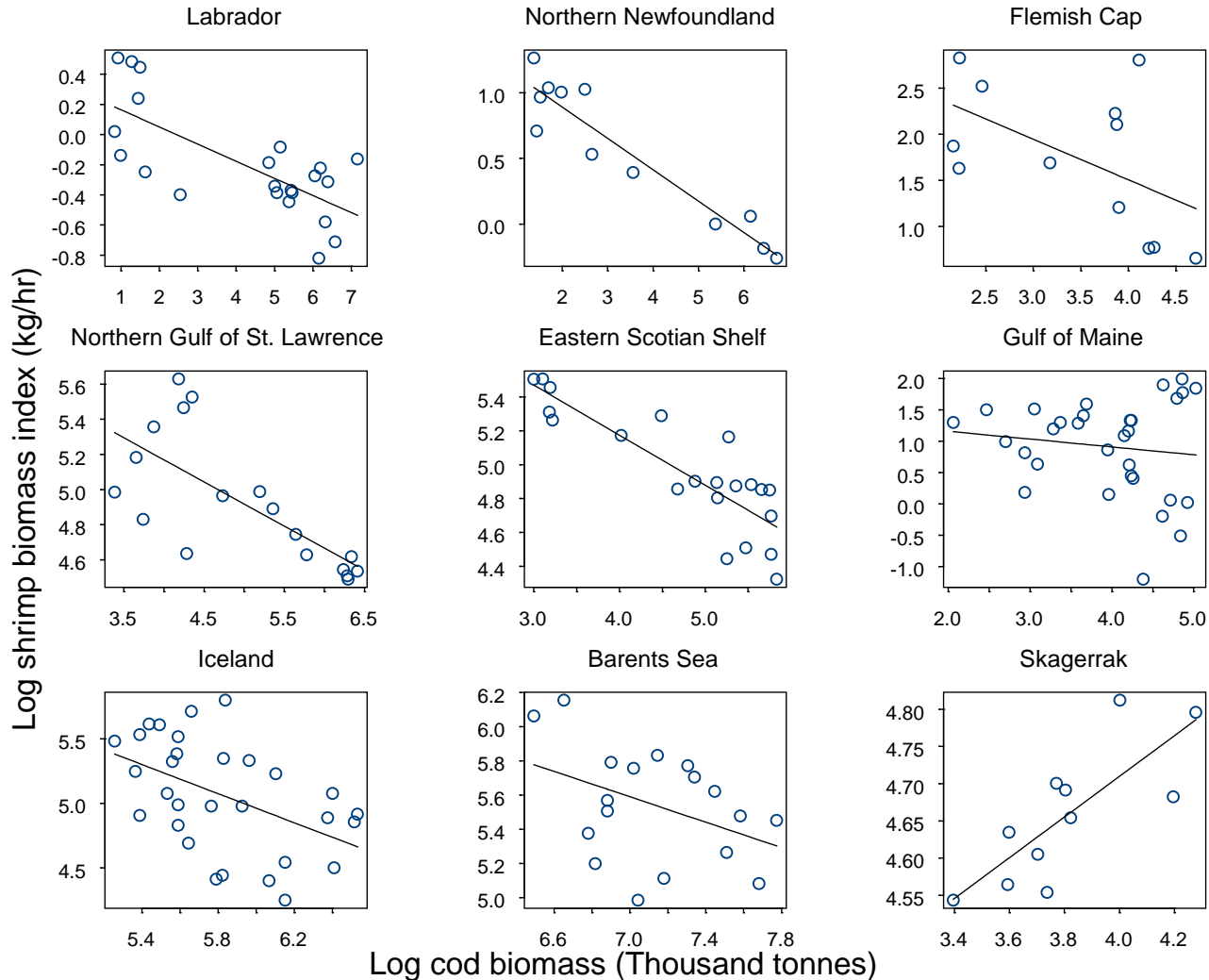




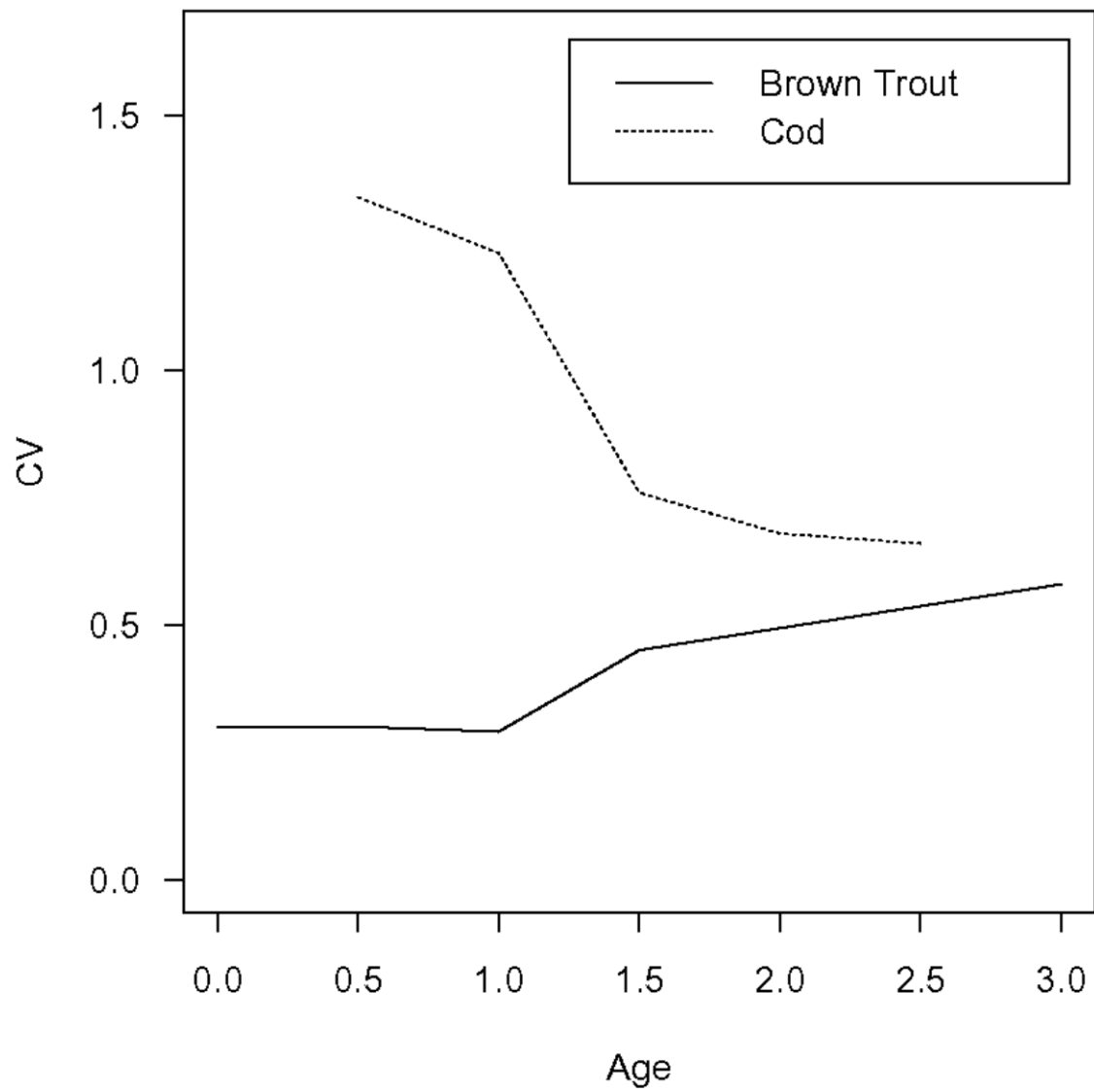
Change in total biomass

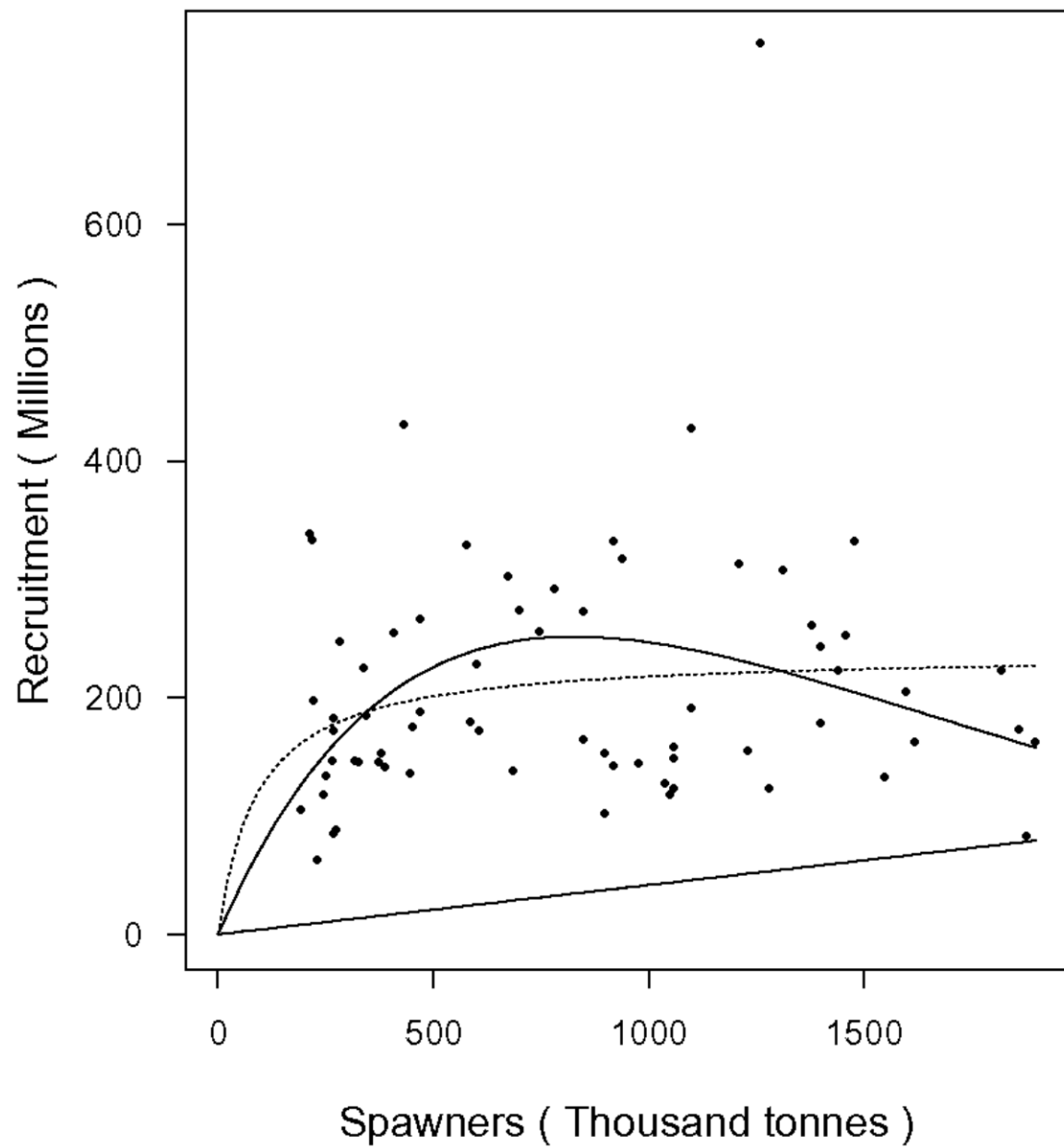


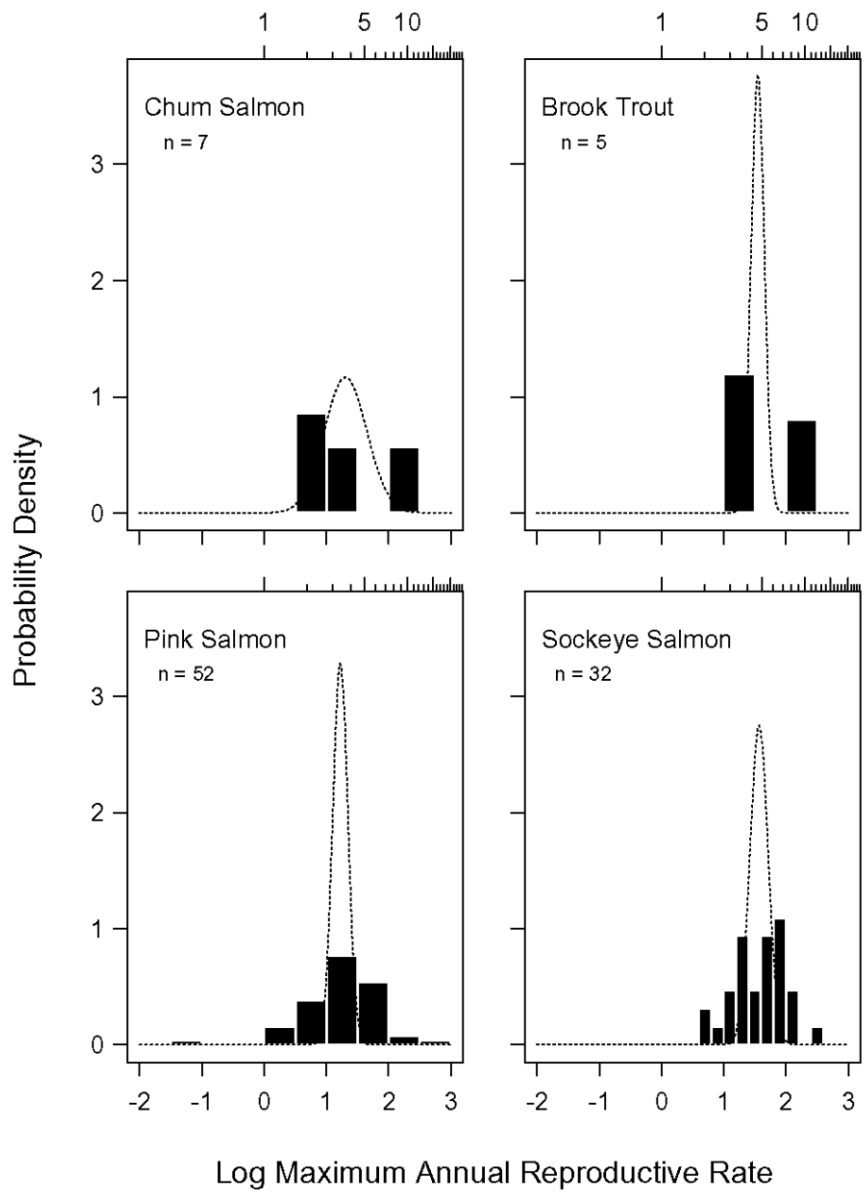
Cod and shrimp biomass in the North Atlantic: correlations

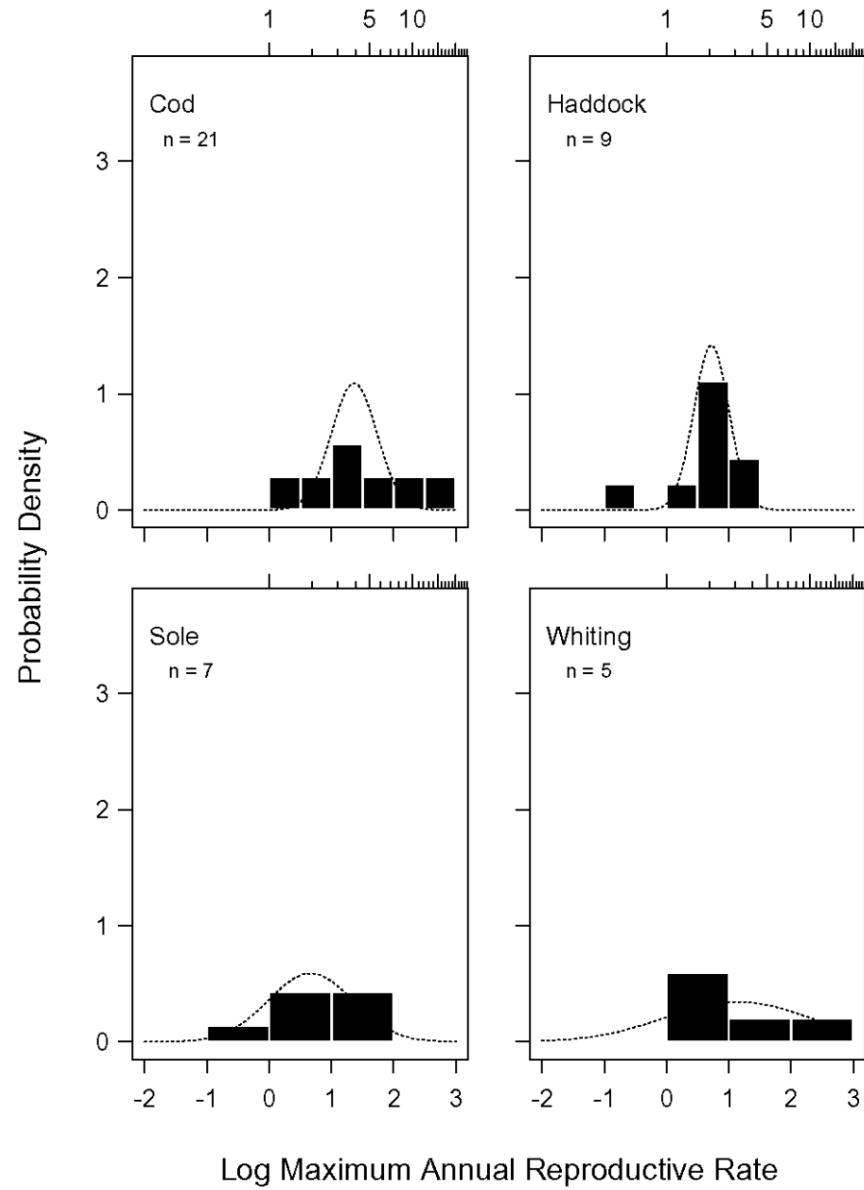


Brown Trout vs Cod









Behaviour of Ecological Communities

Marine data
Communities are
Claimed to be
Very complex:
Link, MEPS. 2002.

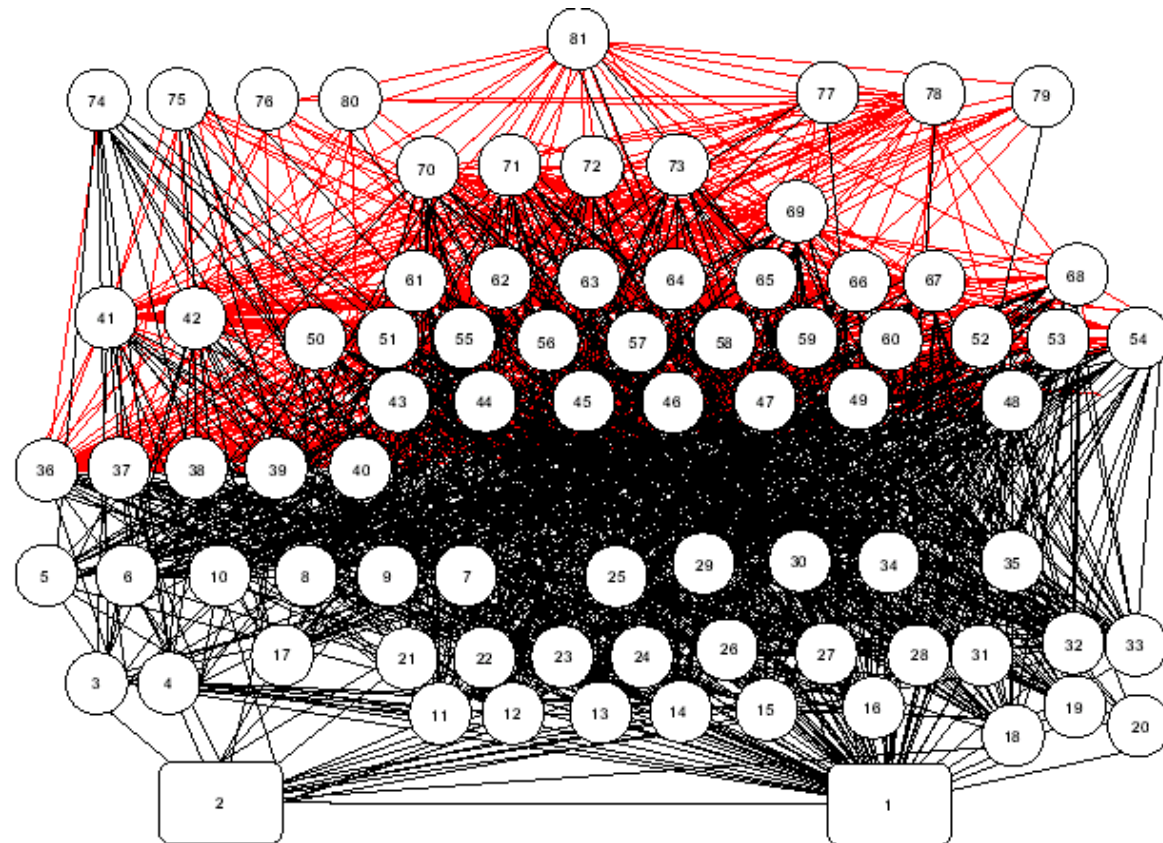


Fig. 1. Species and links of the northwest Atlantic food web. This tangled 'bird's nest' represents interactions at the approximate trophic level of each species, with increasing trophic level towards the top of the web. The left side of the web generally typifies pelagic organisms, and the right to middle represents more benthic/demersally oriented organisms. Red lines indicate predation on fish. 1 = detritus, 2 = phytoplankton, 3 = *Calanus* sp., 4 = other copepods, 5 = ctenophores, 6 = chaetognaths (i.e. arrow worms), 7 = jellyfish, 8 = euphasiids, 9 = *Crangon* sp., 10 = mysids, 11 = pandalids, 12 = other decapods, 13 = gammarids, 14 = hyperiids, 15 = caprellids, 16 = isopods, 17 = pteropods, 18 = cumaceans, 19 = mantis shrimps, 20 = turricates, 21 = porifera, 22 = cancer crabs, 23 = other crabs, 24 = lobster, 25 = hydroids, 26 = corals and anemones, 27 = polychaetes, 28 = other worms, 29 = starfish, 30 = brittle stars, 31 = sea cucumbers, 32 = scallops, 33 = clams and mussels, 34 = snails, 35 = urchins, 36 = sand lance, 37 = Atlantic herring, 38 = alewife, 39 = Atlantic mackerel, 40 = butterfish, 41 = loligo, 42 = illex, 43 = pollock, 44 = silver hake, 45 = spotted hake, 46 = white hake, 47 = red hake, 48 = Atlantic cod, 49 = haddock, 50 = sea raven, 51 = longhorn sculpin, 52 = little skate, 53 = winter skate, 54 = thorny skate, 55 = ocean pout, 56 = cusk, 57 = wolfish, 58 = cunner, 59 = sea robins, 60 = redfish, 61 = yellowtail flounder, 62 = windowpane flounder, 63 = summer flounder, 64 = witch flounder, 65 = four-spot flounder, 66 = winter flounder, 67 = American plaice, 68 = American halibut, 69 = smooth dogfish, 70 = spiny dogfish, 71 = goosefish, 72 = weakfish, 73 = bluefish, 74 = baleen whales, 75 = toothed whales and porpoises, 76 = seals, 77 = migratory scombrids, 78 = migratory sharks, 79 = migratory billfish, 80 = birds, 81 = humans

**Hjort's critical period hypothesis;
When does density-dependent and
stochastic mortality occur?**

Models, Analysis and Meta-Analysis

Ransom A. Myers

Biology Department, Dalhousie University

Halifax, Canada

Implications for Hudson Estuary

- Where do striped bass fit in the ecosystem in a historical context?
- Was it the top predator? – in the river, perhaps so, but in the ocean no.
- Look at traditional

Ecologists have often looked at the complexity

Show link diagram

Say that the complexity exists, but we can understand much more if we look at general principles

Hjort's (1914) critical period hypothesis

- ‘the numerical value of a year class is apparently stated at a very early age, and continues in approximately the same relation to that of other year classes throughout the life of the individuals’
- This is the fundamental issue in population regulation and ecology of fish.

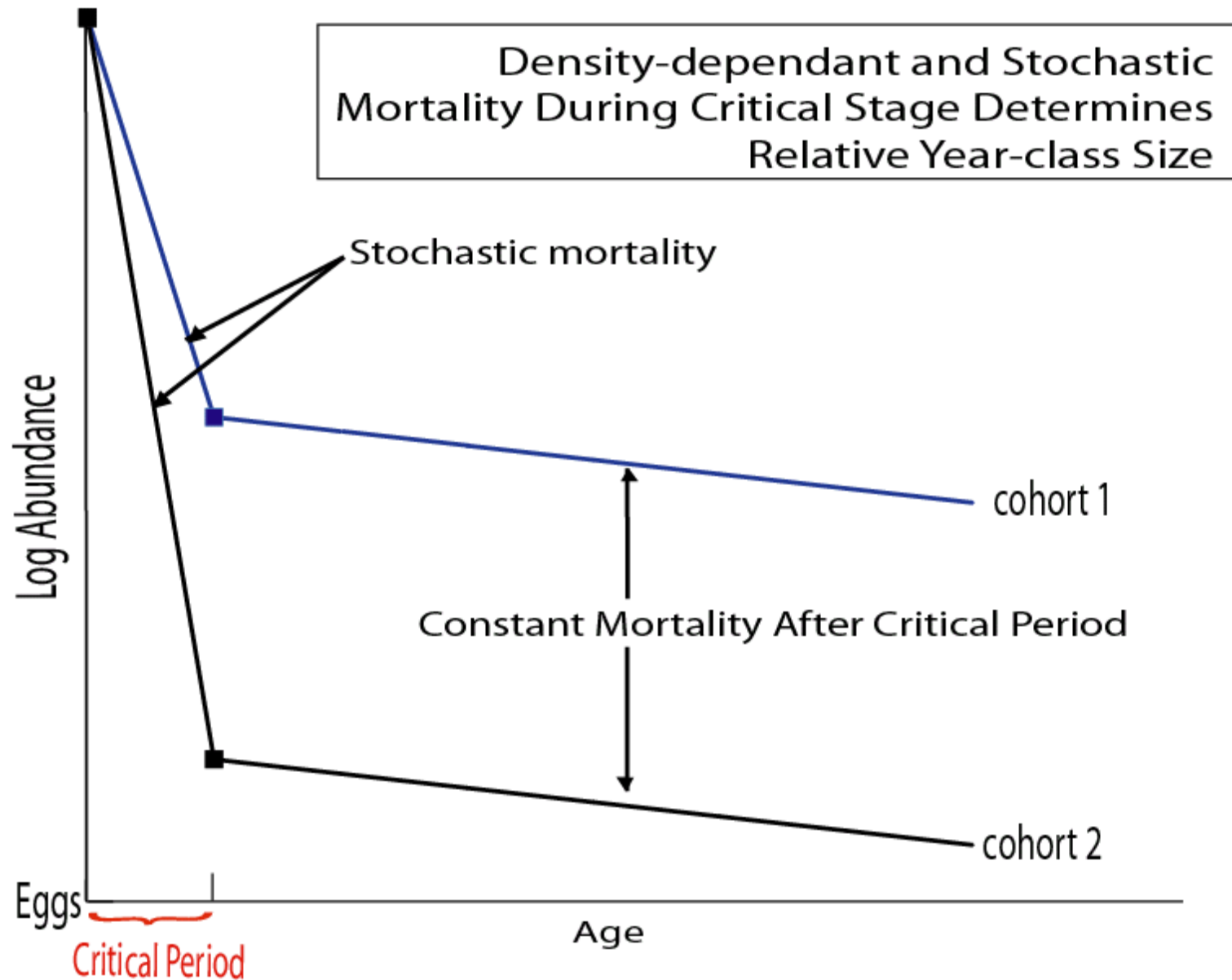
Fundamental Limitation of Statistics

- We only really understand linear models with Gaussian errors.
- We start with these models, and modify them.

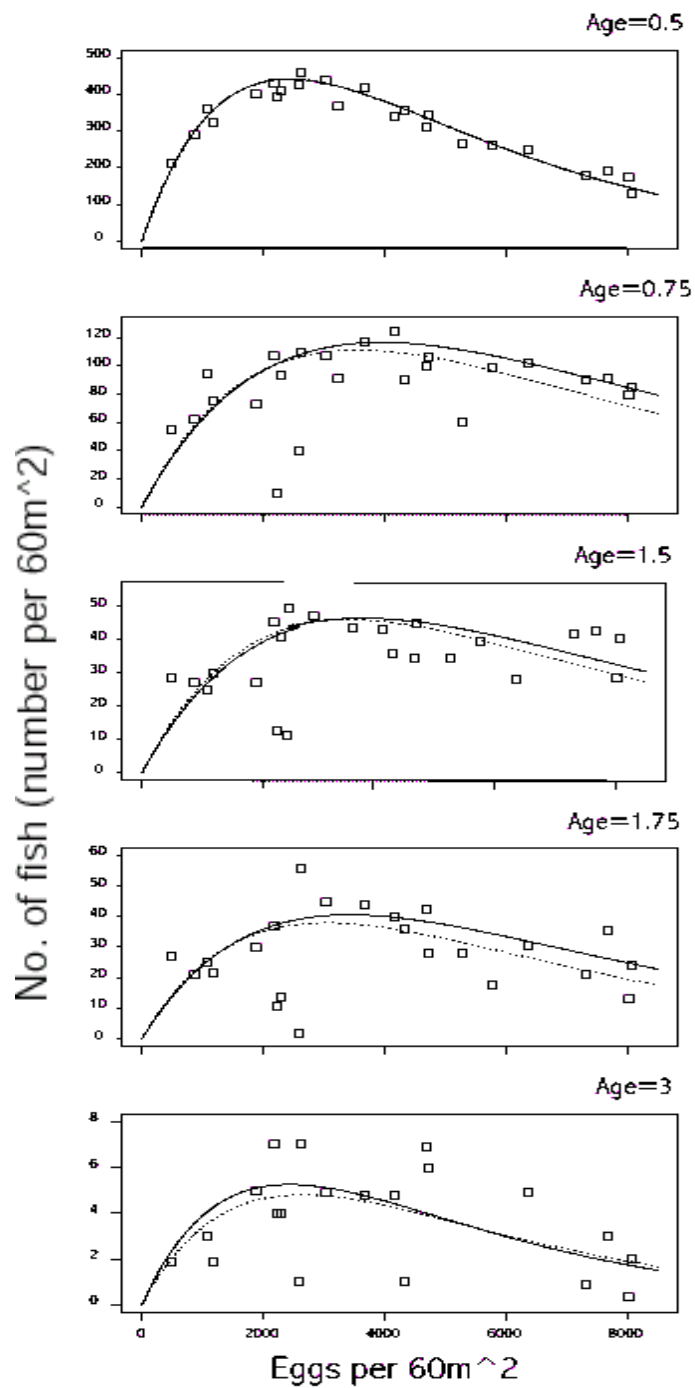
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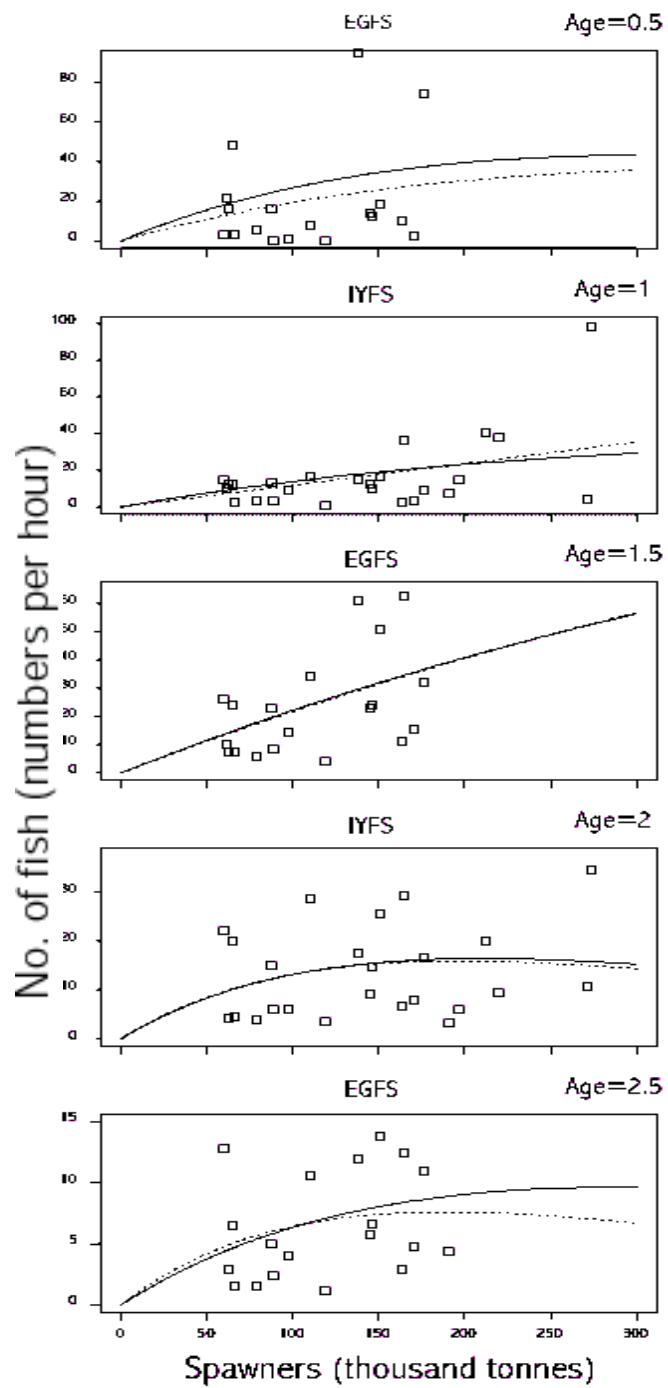
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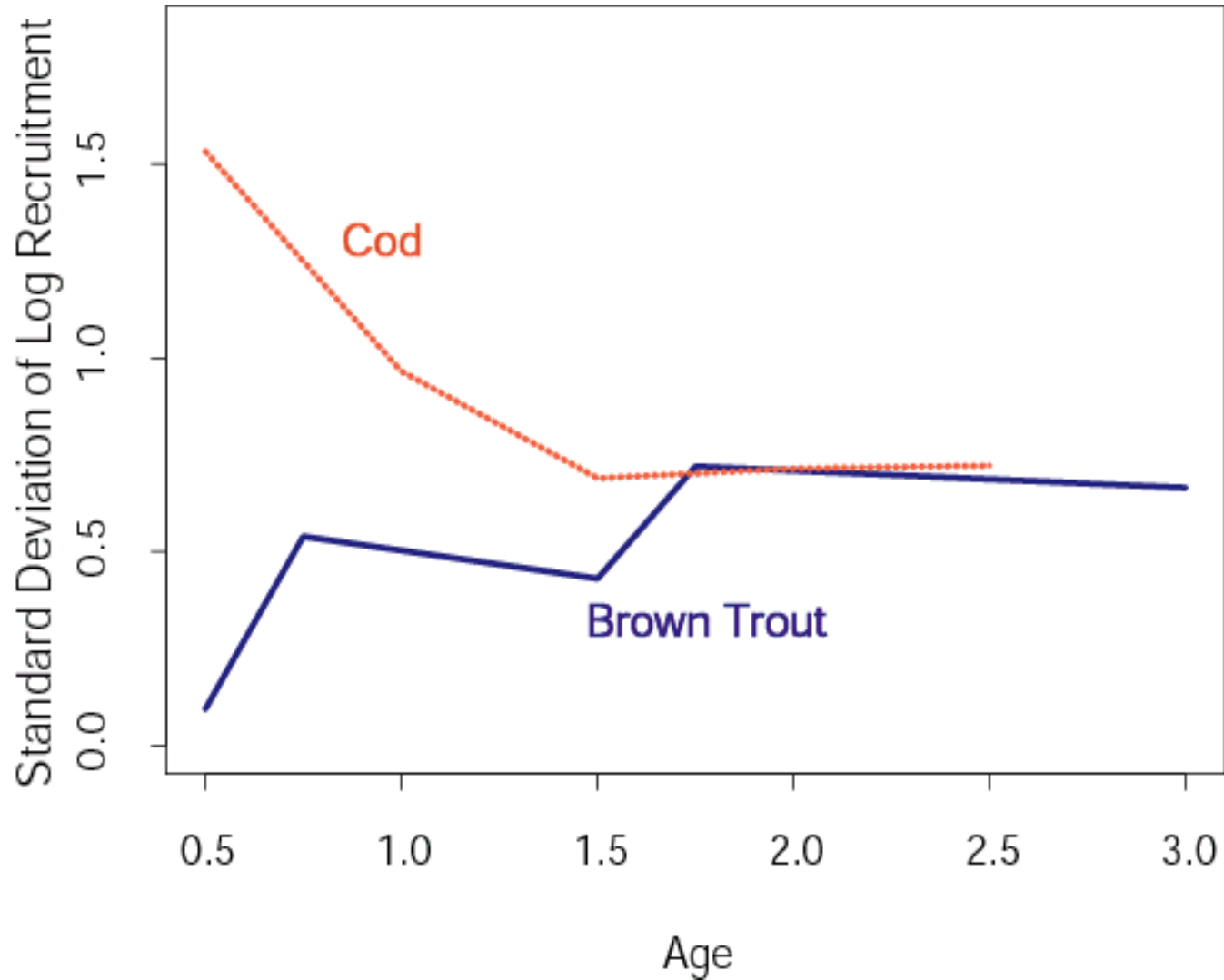
Brown Trout



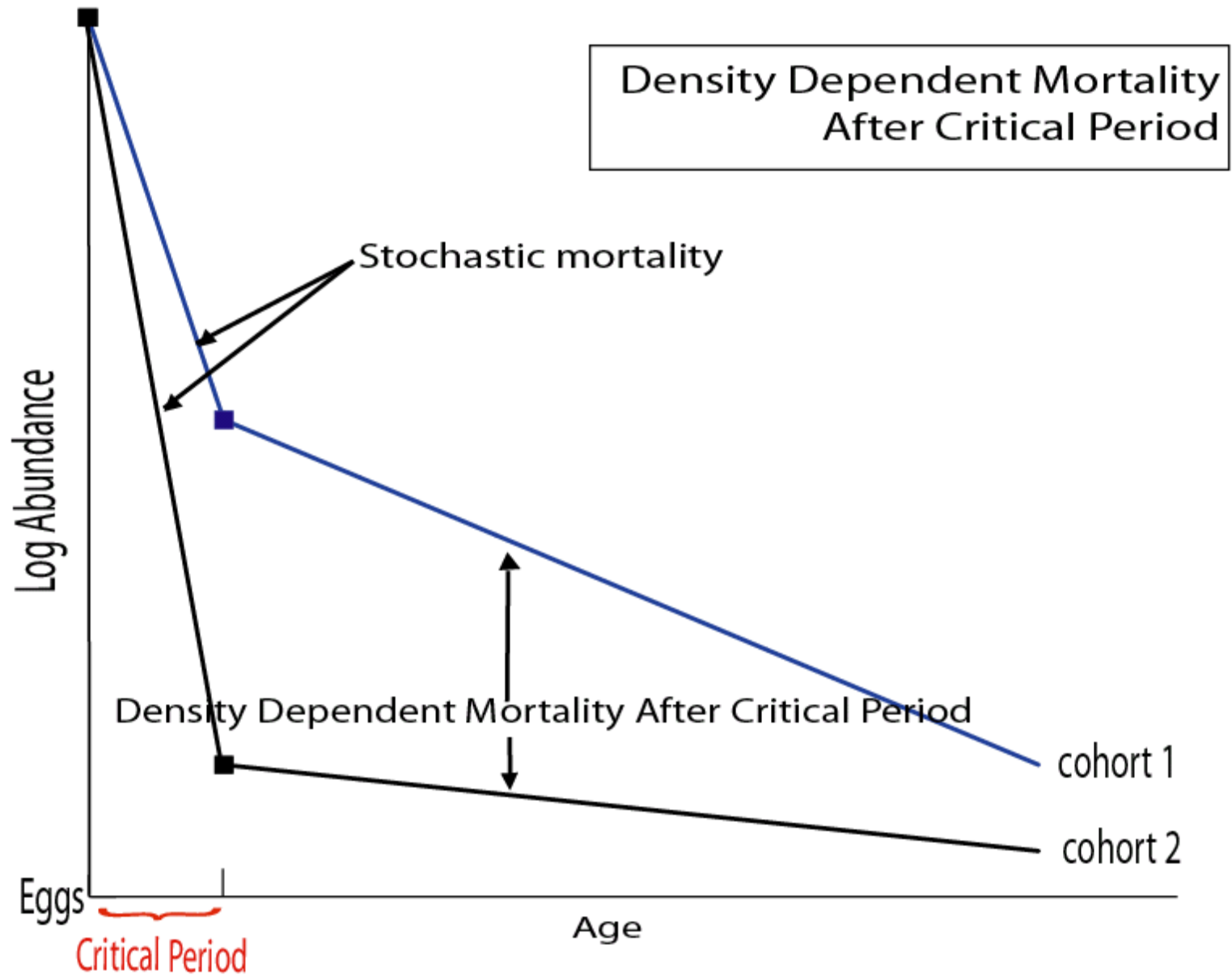
Cod



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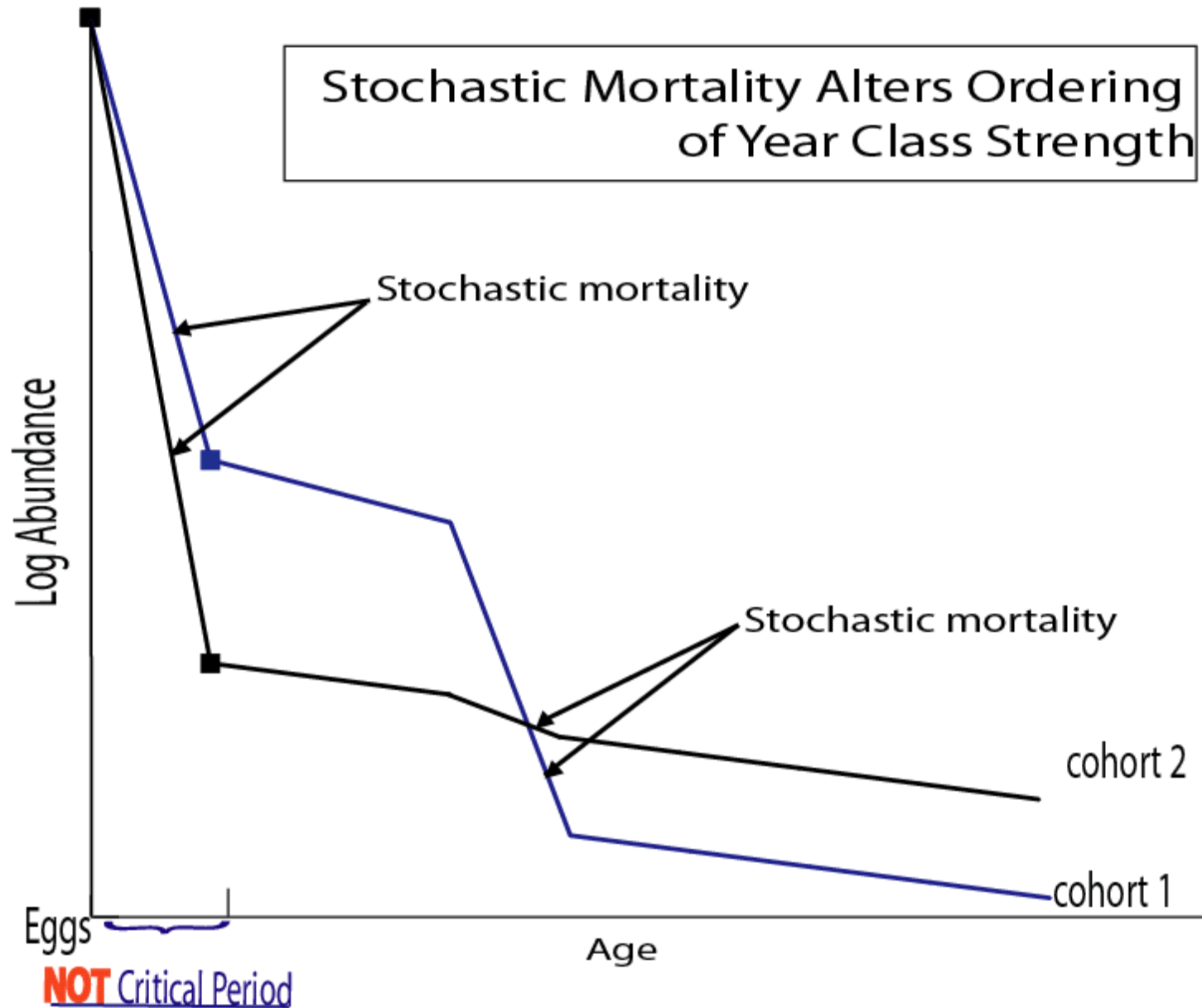
Hjort's Hypothesis: Weak Version



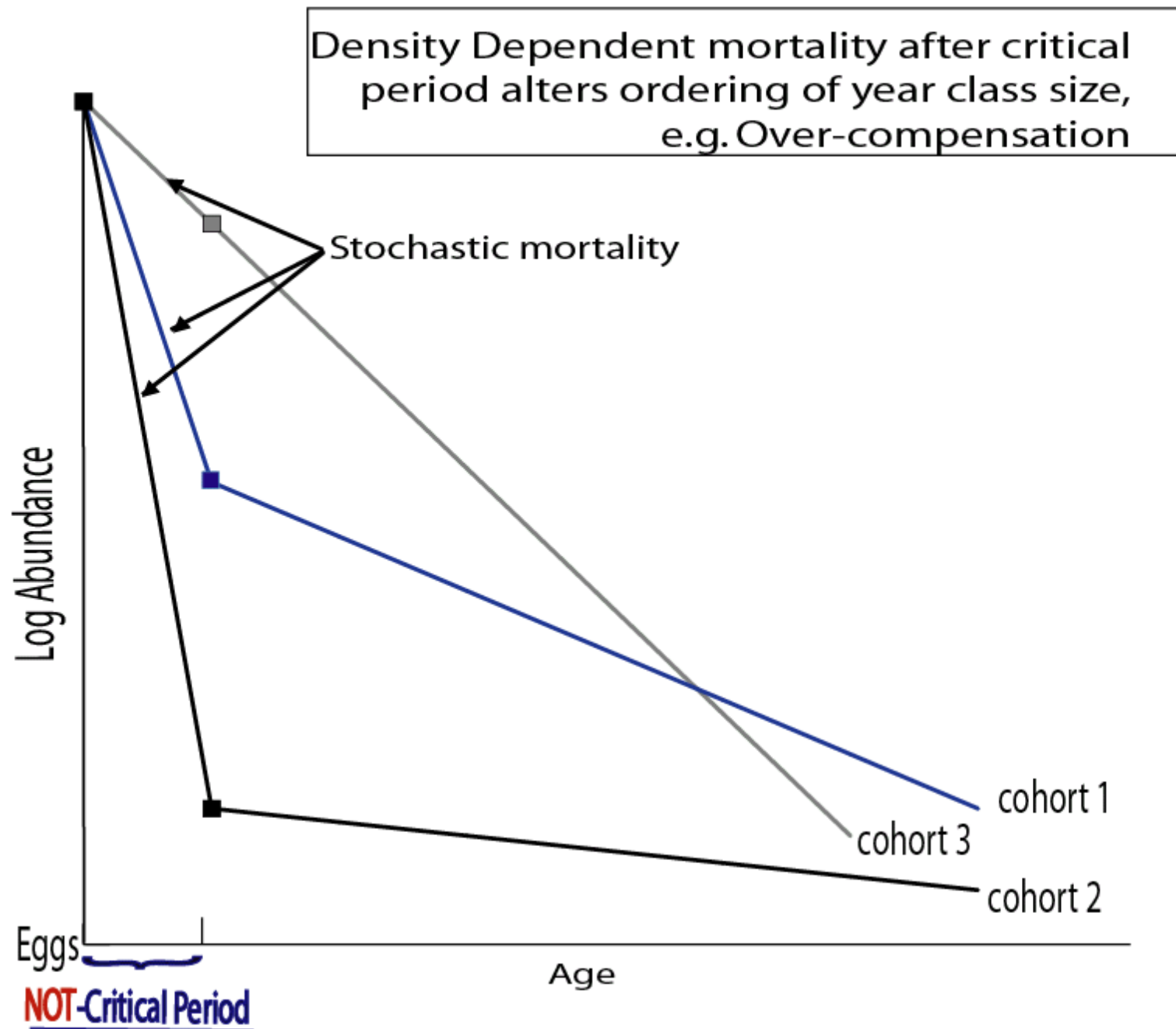
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FIG.1. Survival index versus abundance index for the EGFS of North Sea cod. The index of survival is the difference between the log index of numbers at age 2 and 0. The index of abundance is the log numbers at age 1. The correlation is -0.65 (p -value = 0.0054).

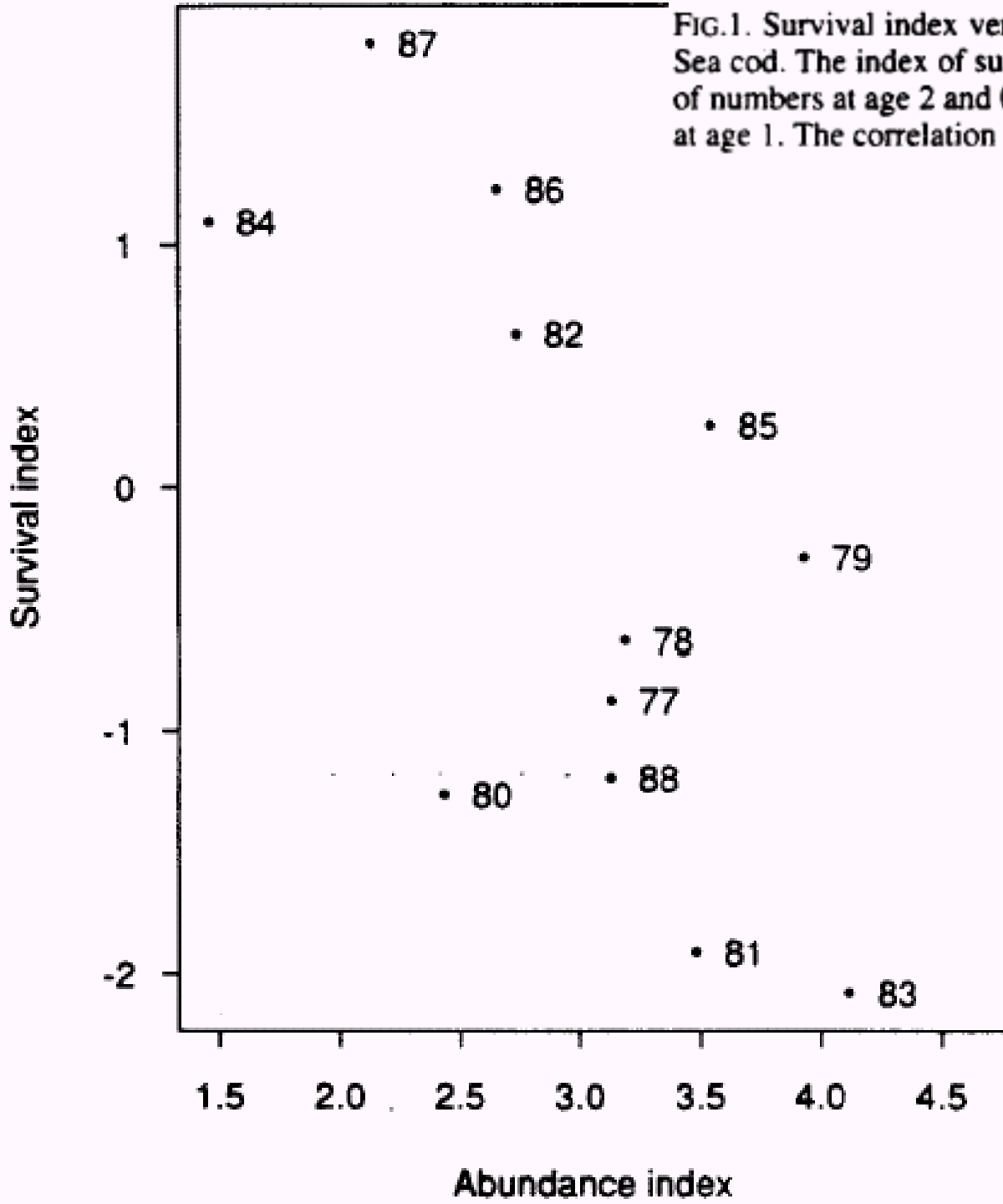


TABLE 1. Data for the North Sea cod stock from VPA in millions of fish, IYFS in numbers per hour fished, and EGFS in numbers per hour fished.

Year class	VPA 1-yr-olds	IYFS 1-yr-olds	IYFS 2-yr-olds	EGFS 0-yr-olds	EGFS 1-yr-olds	EGFS 2-yr-olds
1970	847	98.30	34.50			
1971	159	4.10	10.60			
1972	289	38.00	9.50			
1973	232	14.70	6.20			
1974	426	40.30	19.90			
1975	196	7.90	3.20			4.50
1976	726	36.70	29.30		62.70	12.50
1977	426	12.90	9.30	13.90	22.80	5.80
1978	449	9.90	14.80	12.60	24.20	6.70
1979	800	16.90	25.50	18.60	50.80	13.90
1980	271	2.90	6.70	10.20	11.40	2.90
1981	557	9.20	16.60	74.20	32.40	11.00
1982	269	3.90	8.00	2.50	15.40	4.70
1983	534	15.20	17.60	95.10	61.20	11.90
1984	108	0.90	3.60	0.40	4.30	1.20
1985	581	17.00	28.80	8.30	34.40	10.70
1986	257	8.80	6.10	1.20	14.20	4.10
1987	201	3.60	6.30	0.40	8.40	2.50
1988	324	13.10	15.20	16.80	22.80	5.10
1989		3.30		6.0	6.10	
1990				3.90		

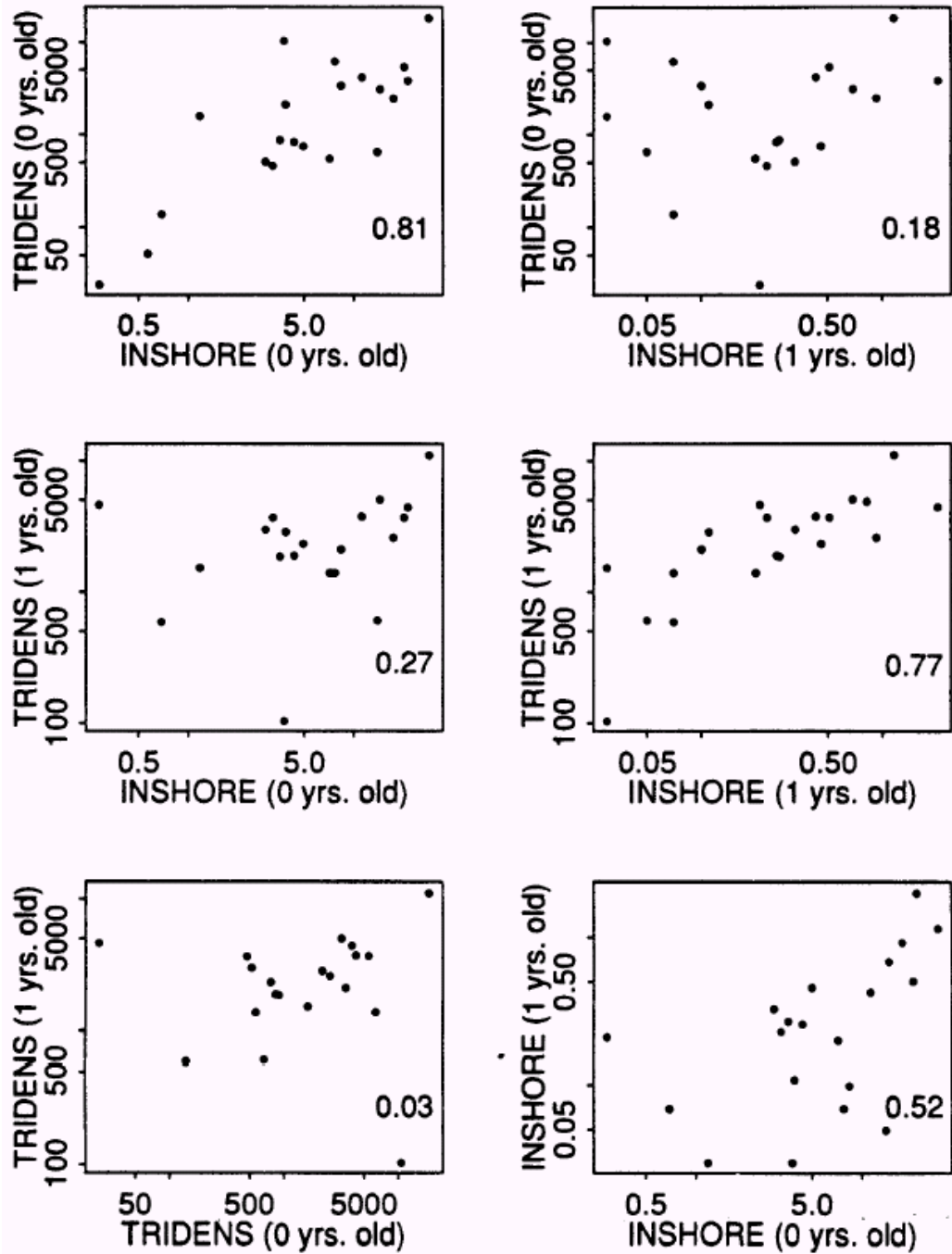
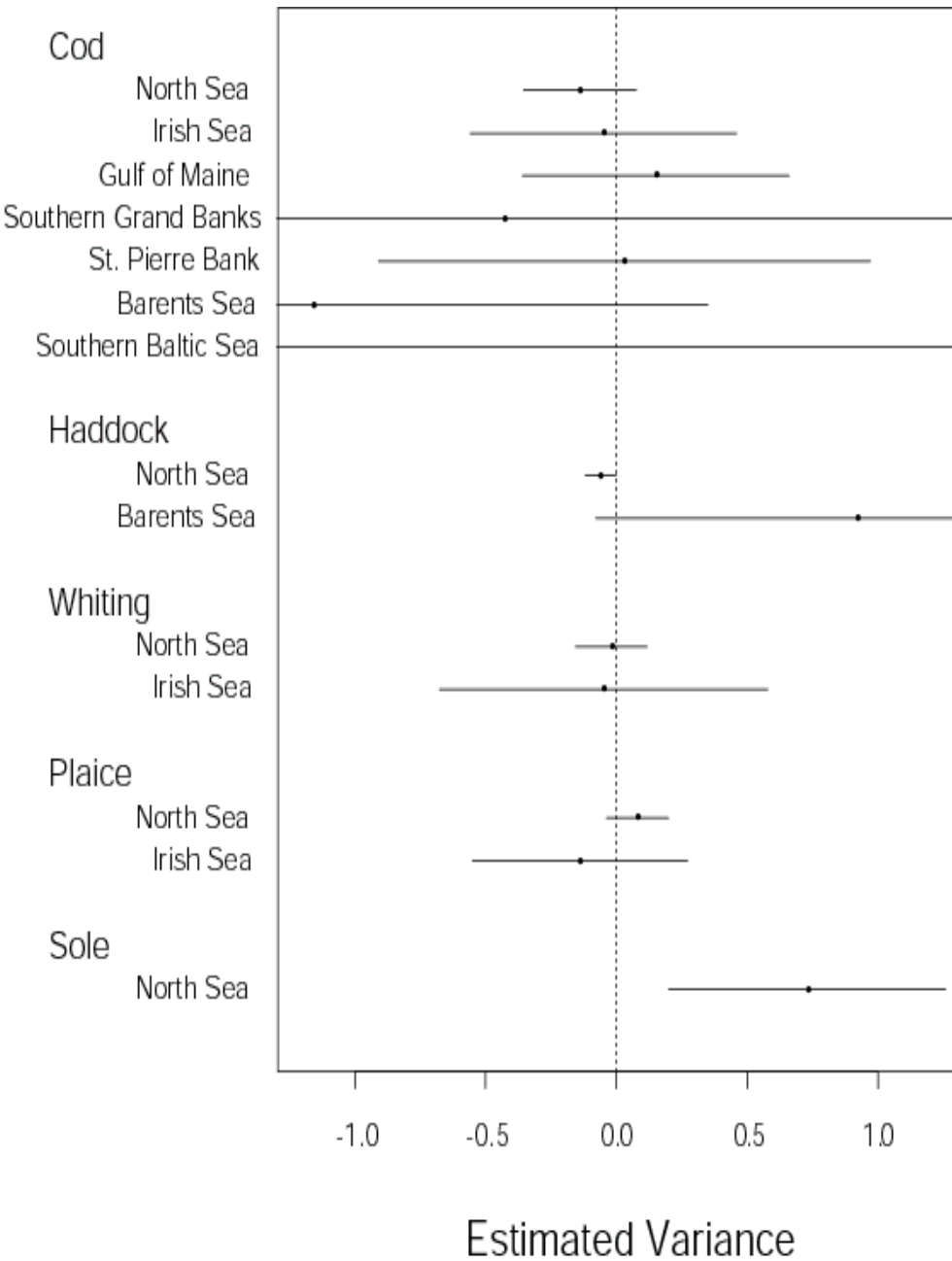


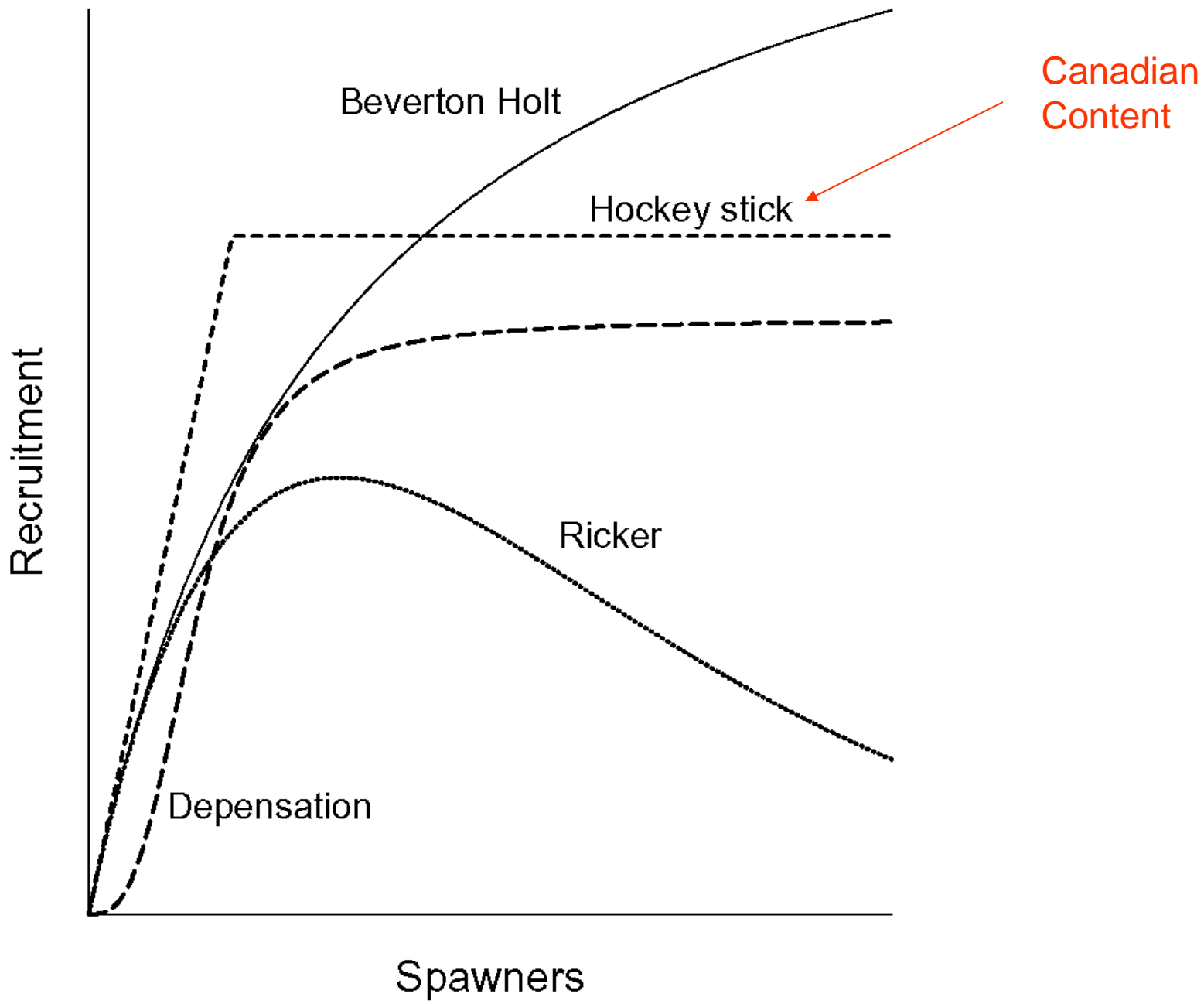
FIG. 1. Pairwise plots of abundance estimates for North Sea sole (Table 1). The estimates are log transformed. The correlation coefficient is presented in the lower right corner.

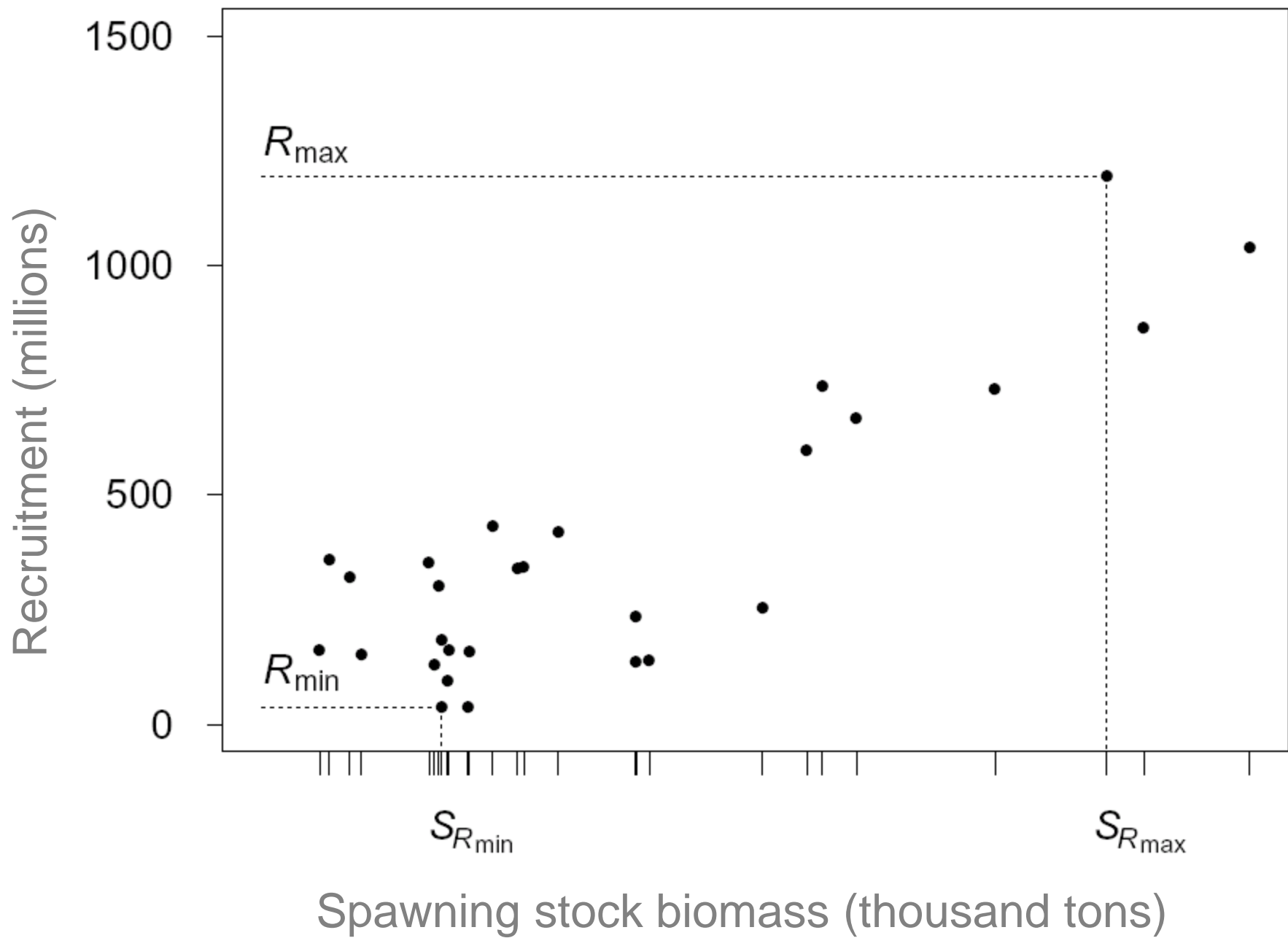
$$\begin{bmatrix} \text{VAR}(l_{t,0,1}) & \text{COV}(l_{t,0,1}, l_{t,0,2}) & \text{COV}(l_{t,0,1}, l_{t,1,1}) & \text{COV}(l_{t,0,1}, l_{t,1,2}) \\ & \text{VAR}(l_{t,0,2}) & \text{COV}(l_{t,0,2}, l_{t,1,1}) & \text{COV}(l_{t,0,2}, l_{t,1,2}) \\ & & \text{VAR}(l_{t,1,1}) & \text{COV}(l_{t,1,1}, l_{t,1,2}) \\ & & & \text{VAR}(l_{t,1,2}) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} \phi + \theta_{0,1} & \phi & \lambda\phi & \lambda\phi \\ & \phi + \theta_{0,2} & \lambda\phi & \lambda\phi \\ & & \lambda^2\phi + \psi + \theta_{1,1} & \lambda^2\phi + \psi \\ & & & \lambda^2\phi + \psi + \theta_{1,2} \end{bmatrix}$$

Variance in mortality after critical period low for gadoids and flatfish.







Summarizing information from more than one population

- Weighted mean of relative ranks

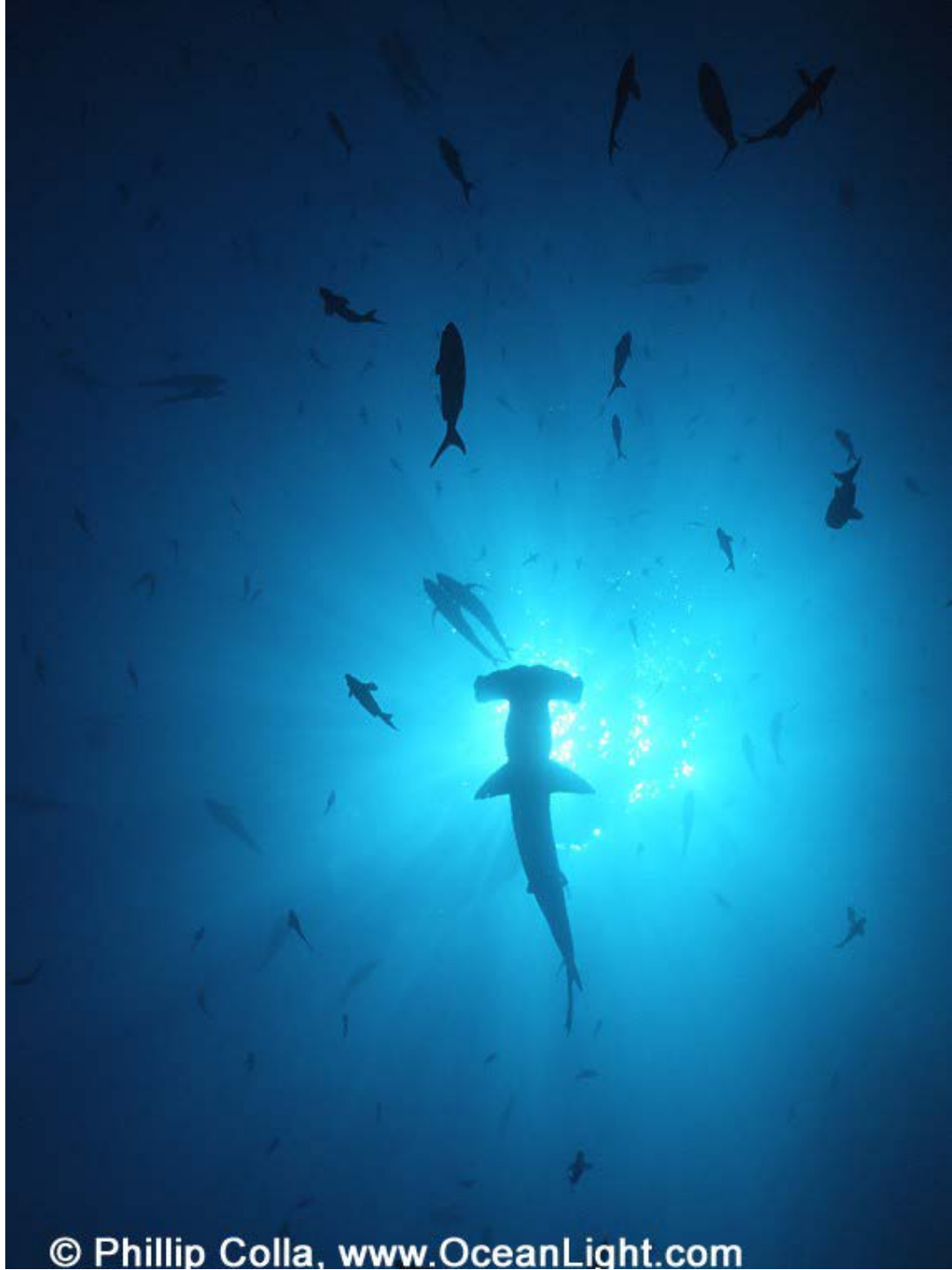
$$\frac{\sum_{i=1}^k n_i r_{\max,i}}{\sum_{i=1}^k n_i}$$

- If spawner abundance and recruitment were independent, the expected value of $r_{\max,i}$ would be 0.5

***The First Collective Act of
Humanity was to save the
great whales –***

despite massive denial

***– we can do
the same for the remaining
virgin areas of the oceans
and for the great sharks.***

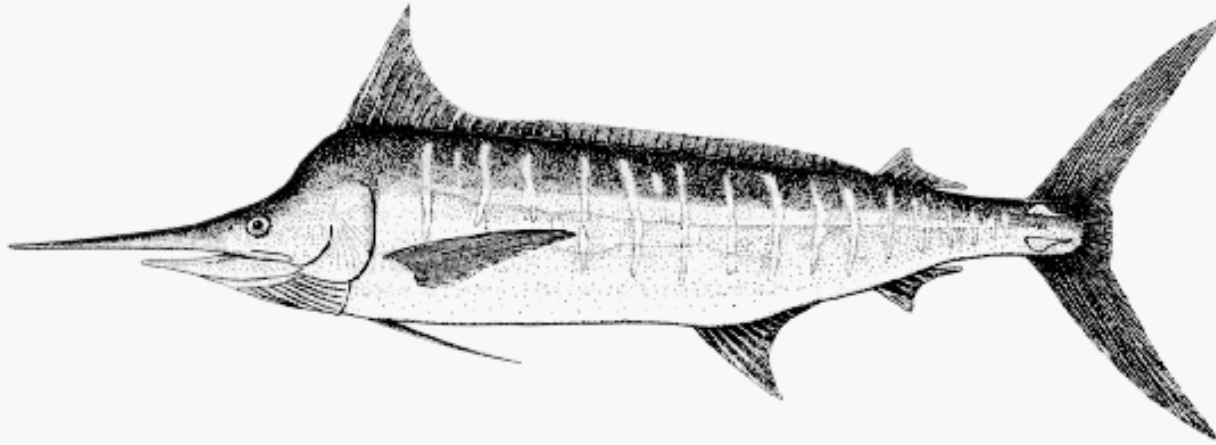


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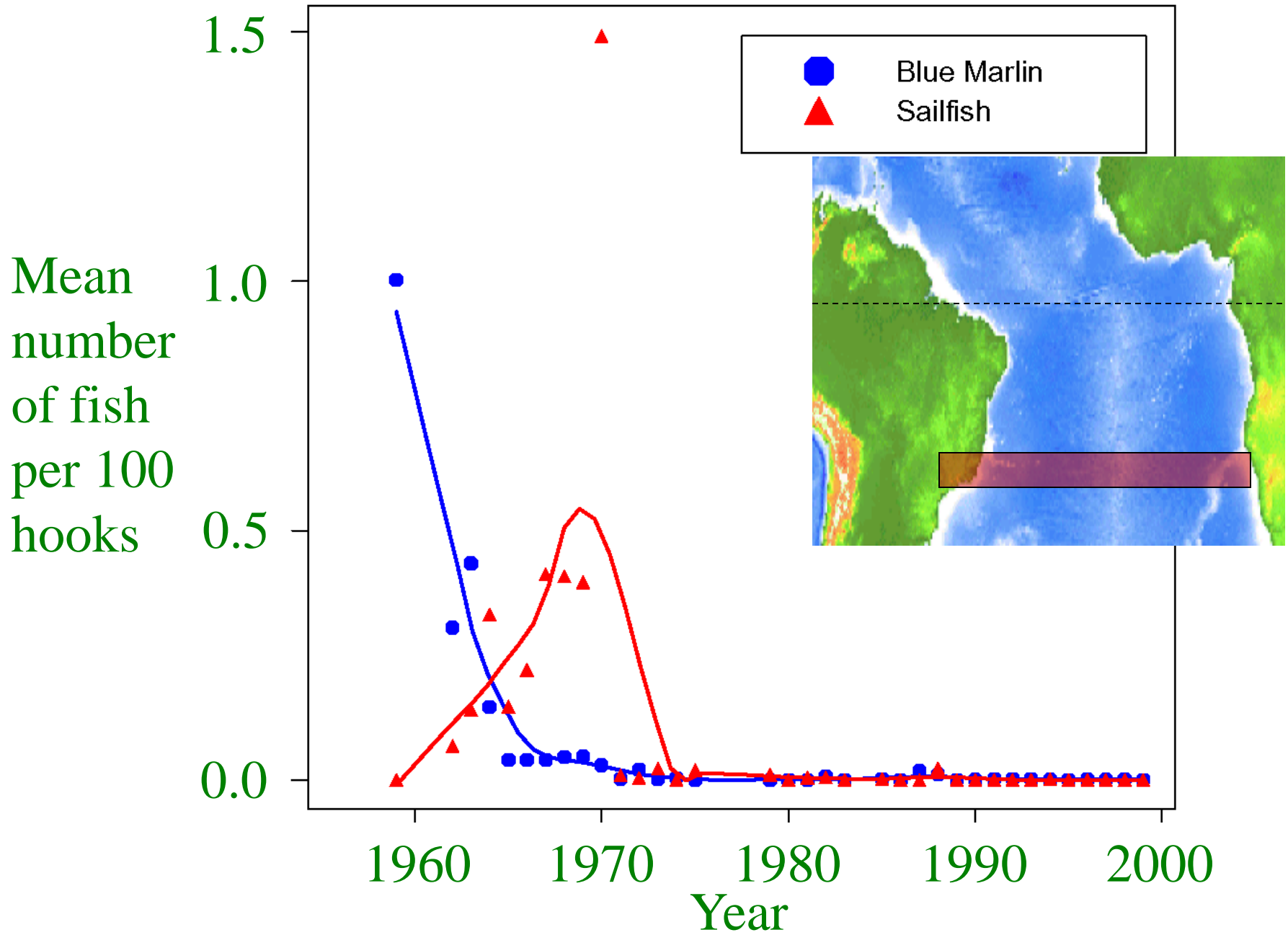




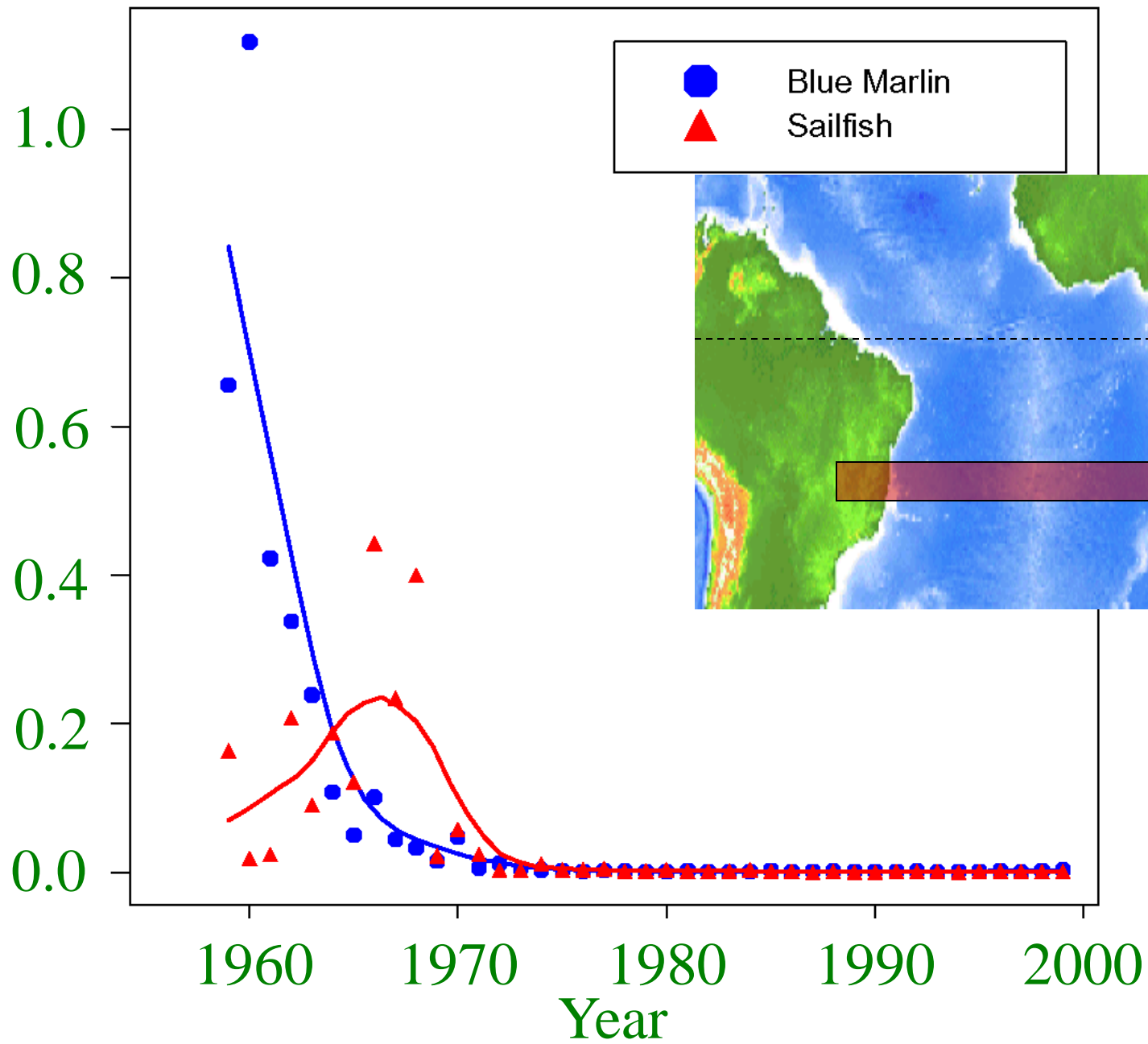
Blue marlin
(*Makaira nigricans*)

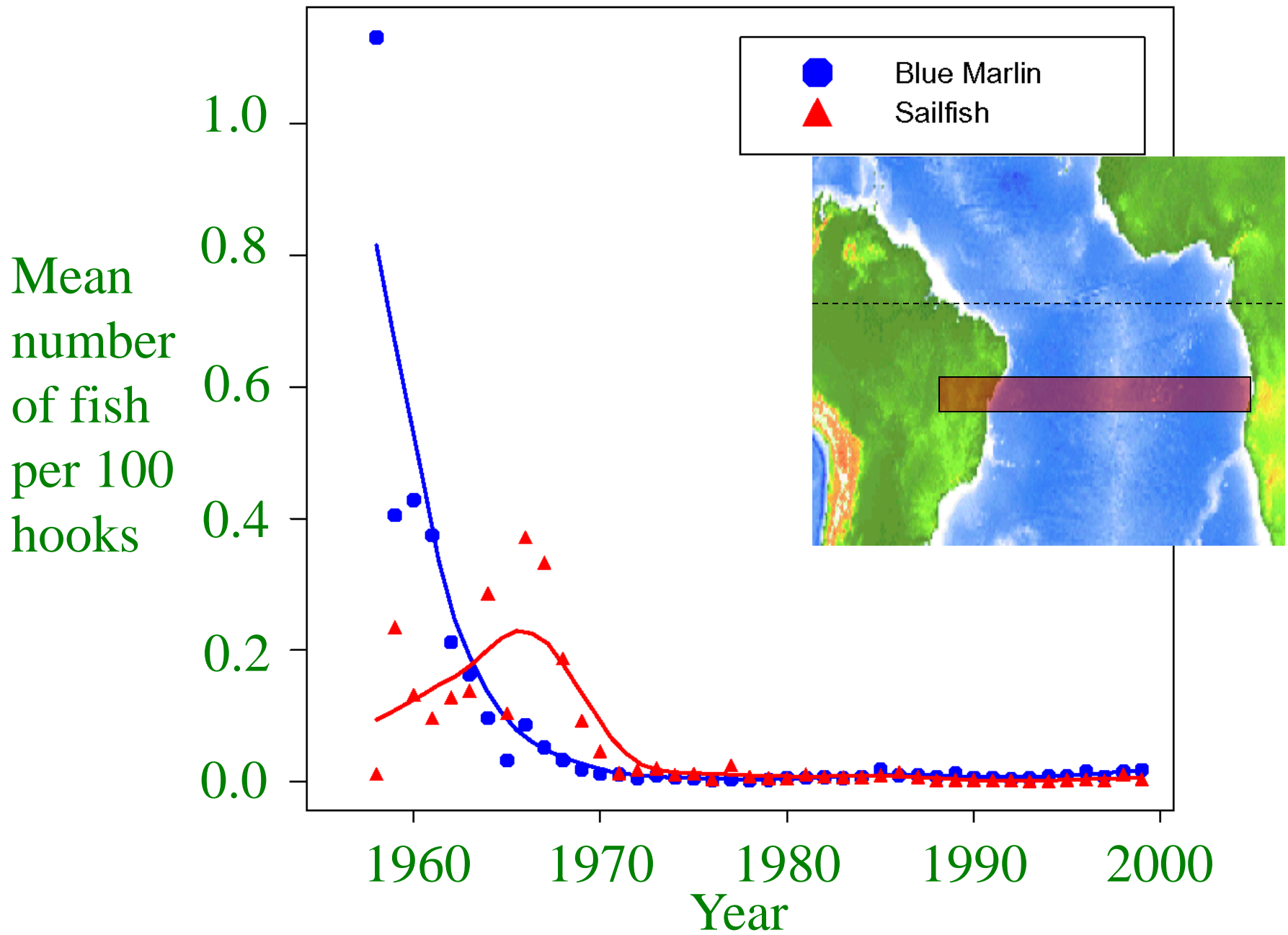


Sailfish
(*Istiophorus albicans*)

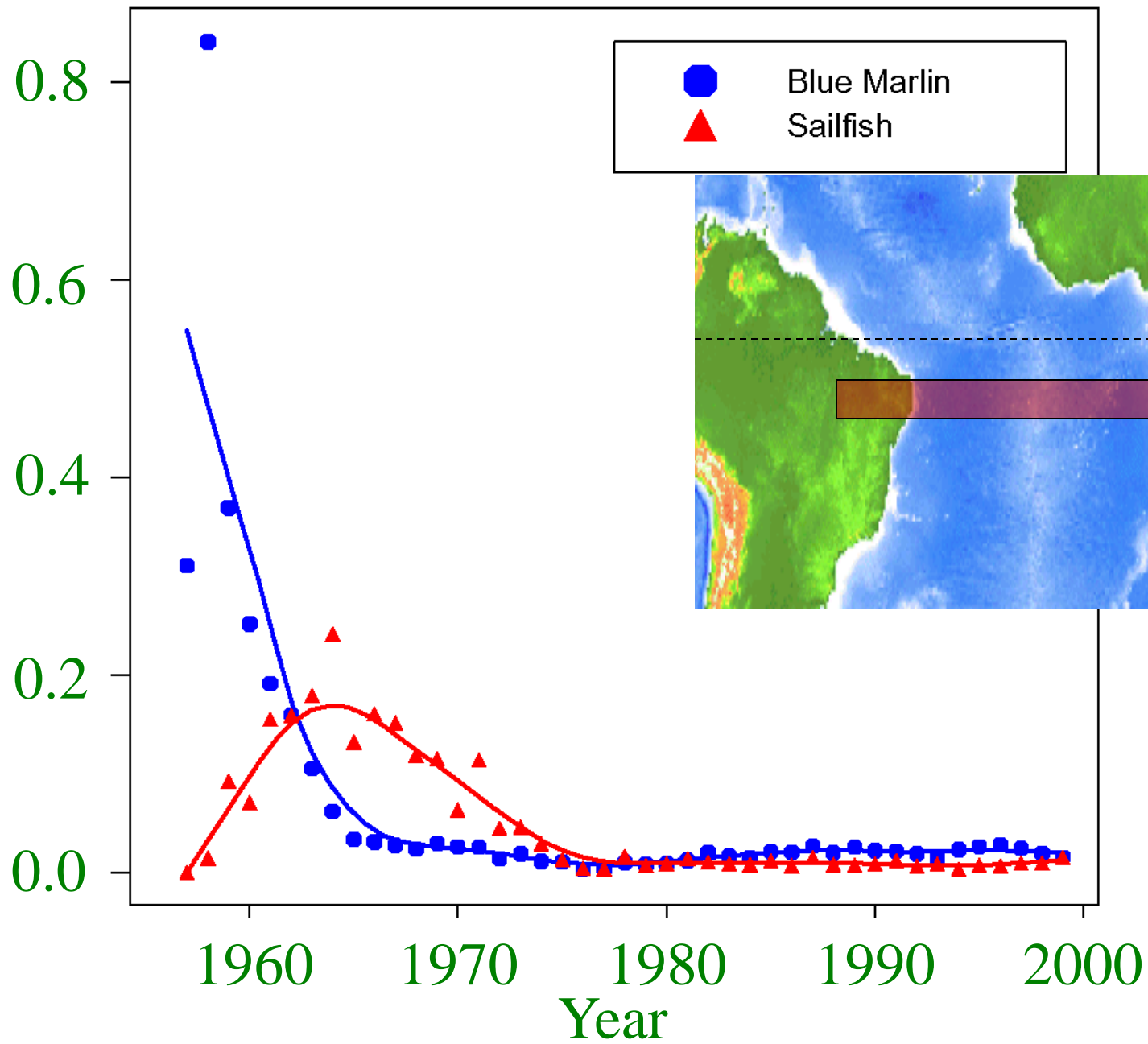


Mean
number
of fish
per 100
hooks

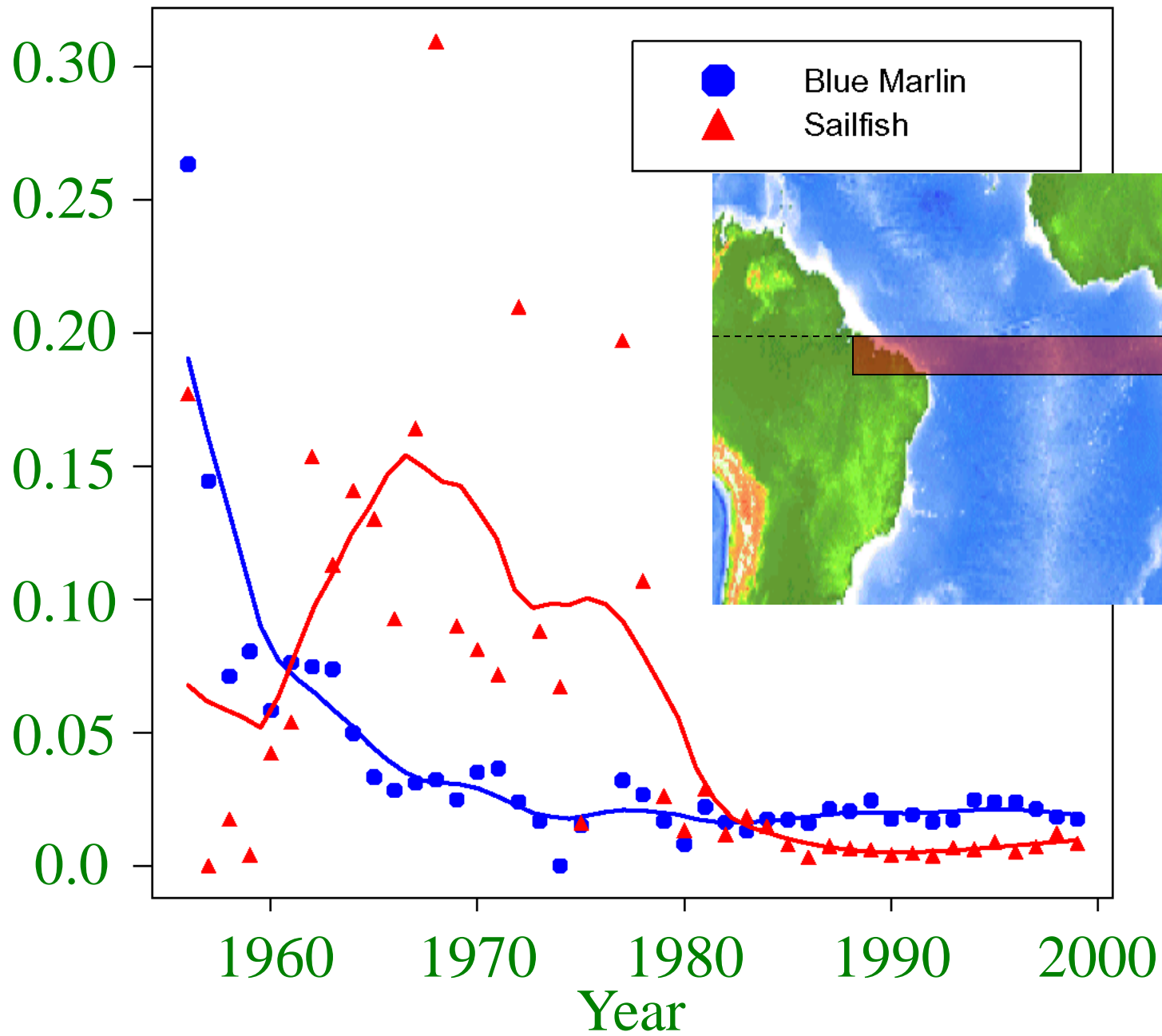




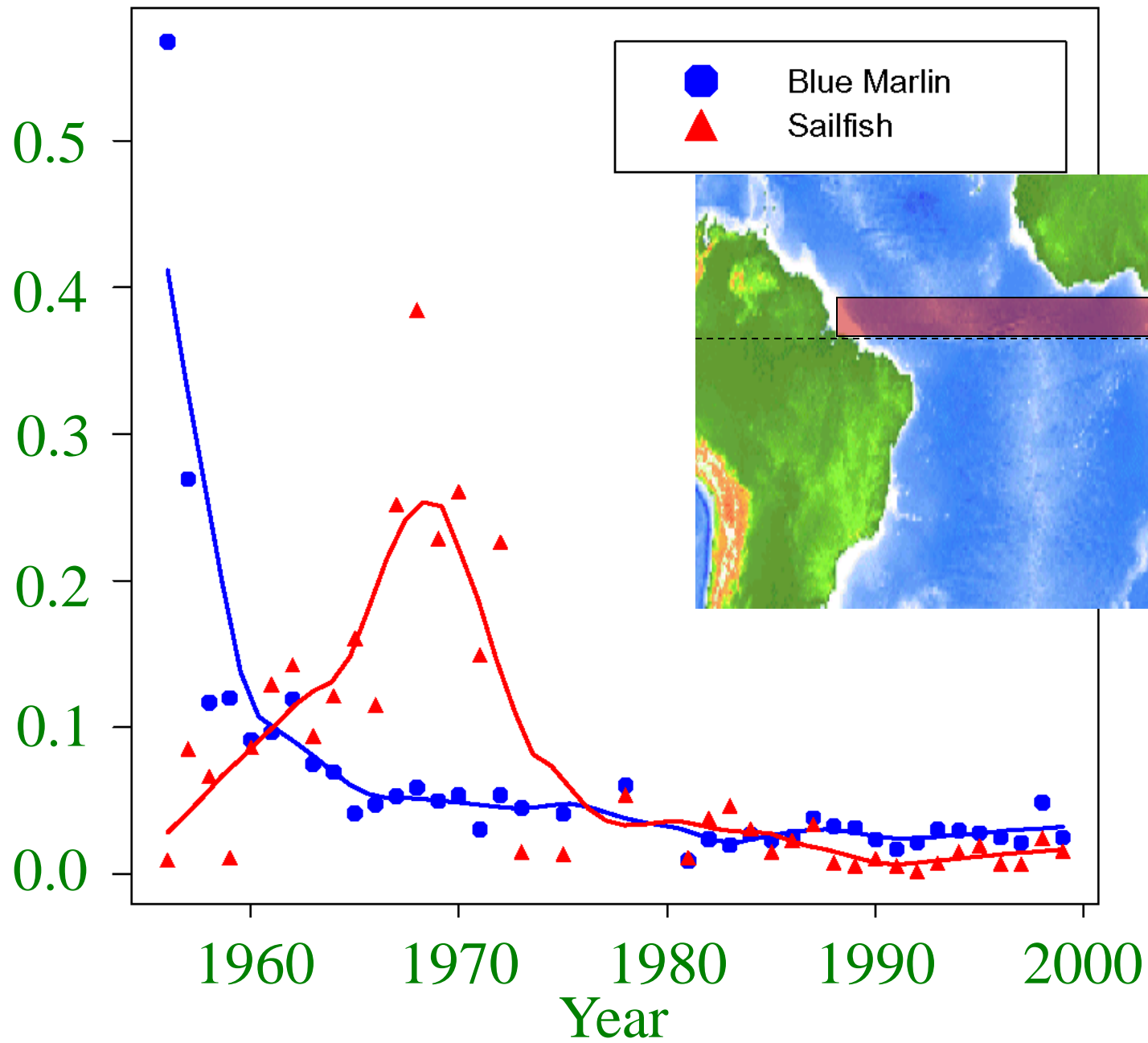
Mean
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of fish
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Mean
number
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Mean
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Not only have large predators declined by at least a factor of 10, but mesopredators have often increased by at least a factor of 10.



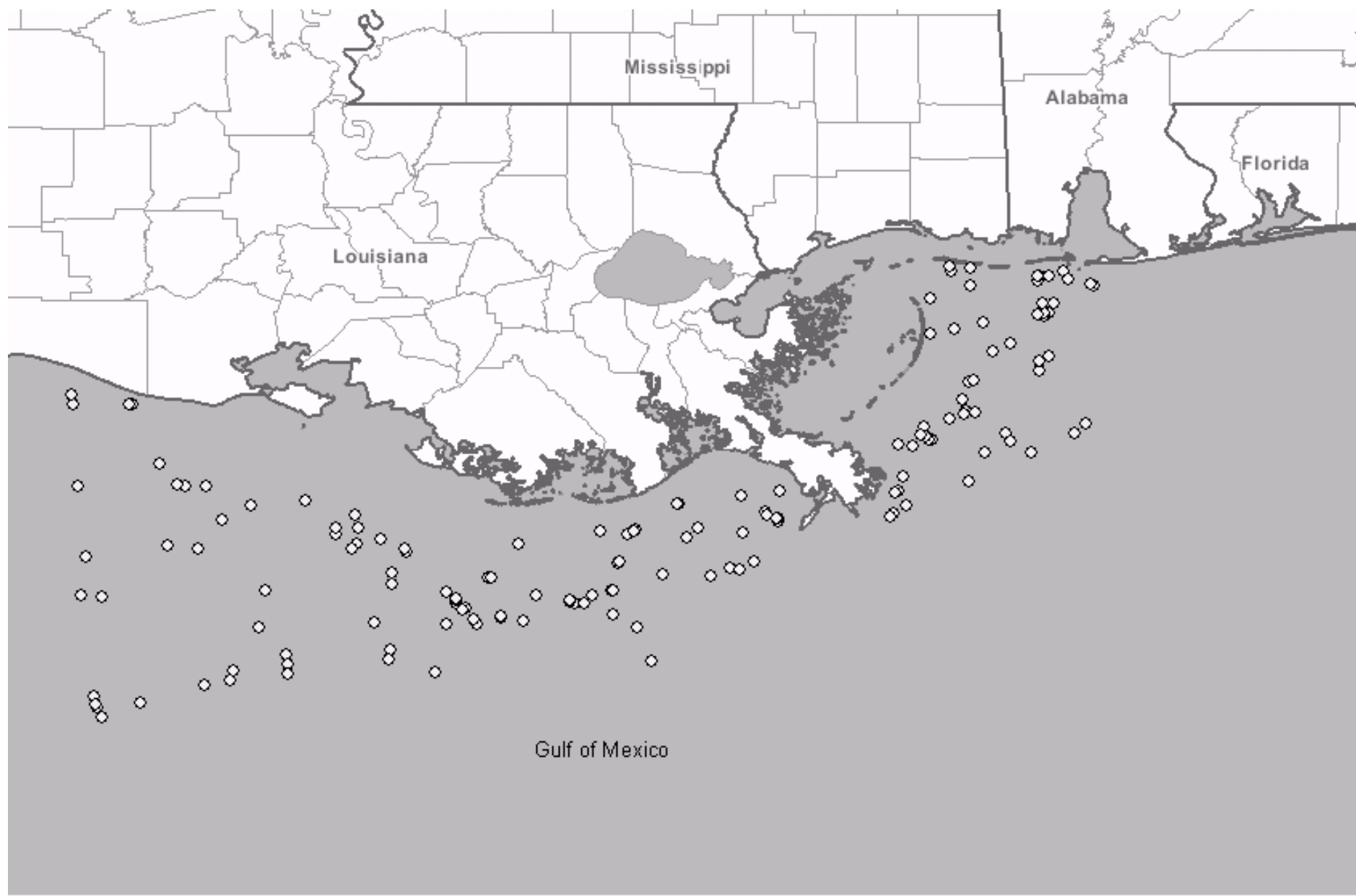
FMAP (Future of Marine Animal Populations)

part of the Sloan Census of Life <http://www.fmap.ca>

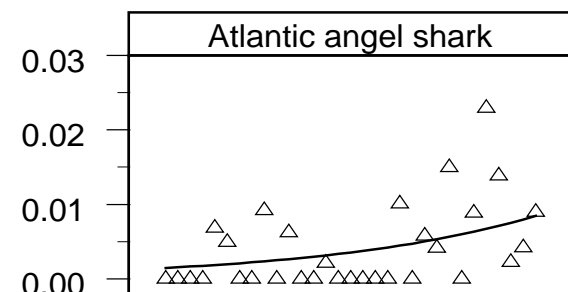
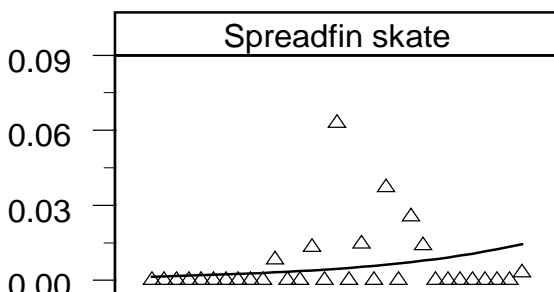
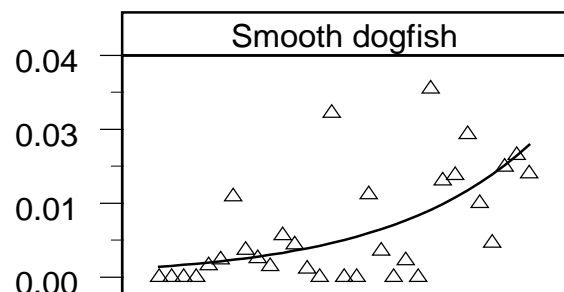
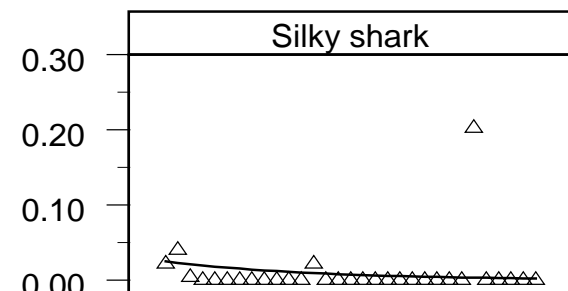
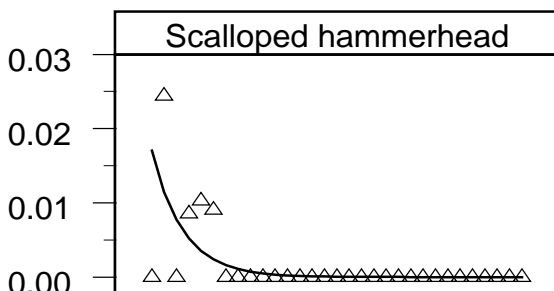
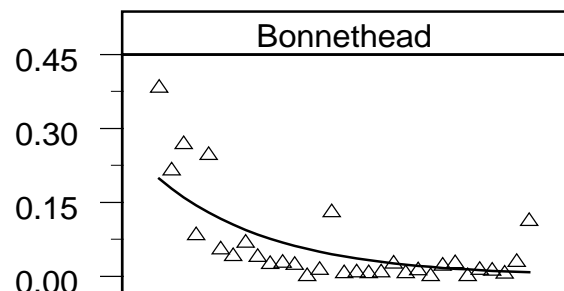
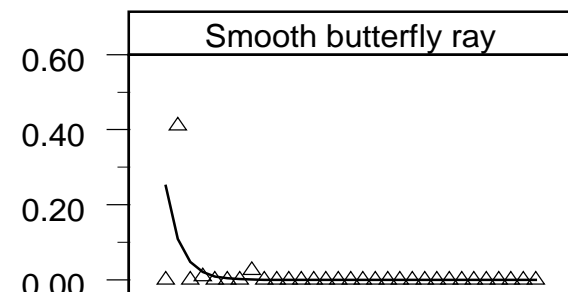
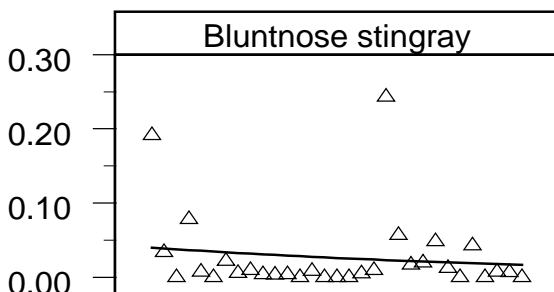
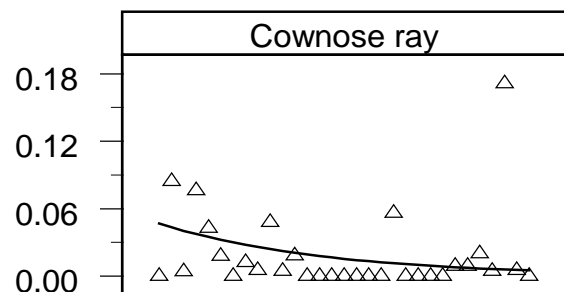
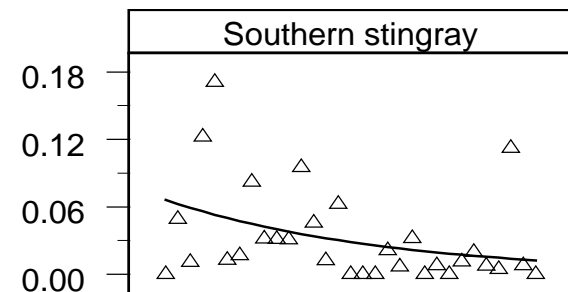
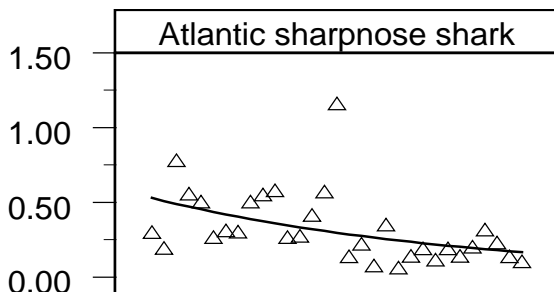
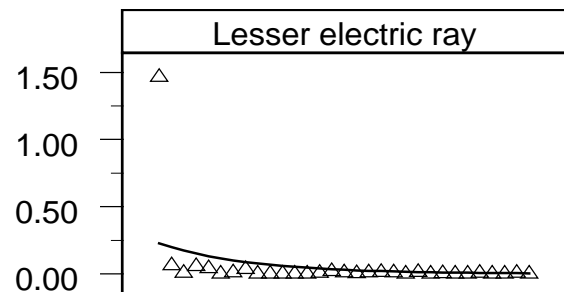
Pew Global Sharks Assessment

<http://www.globalsharks.ca>

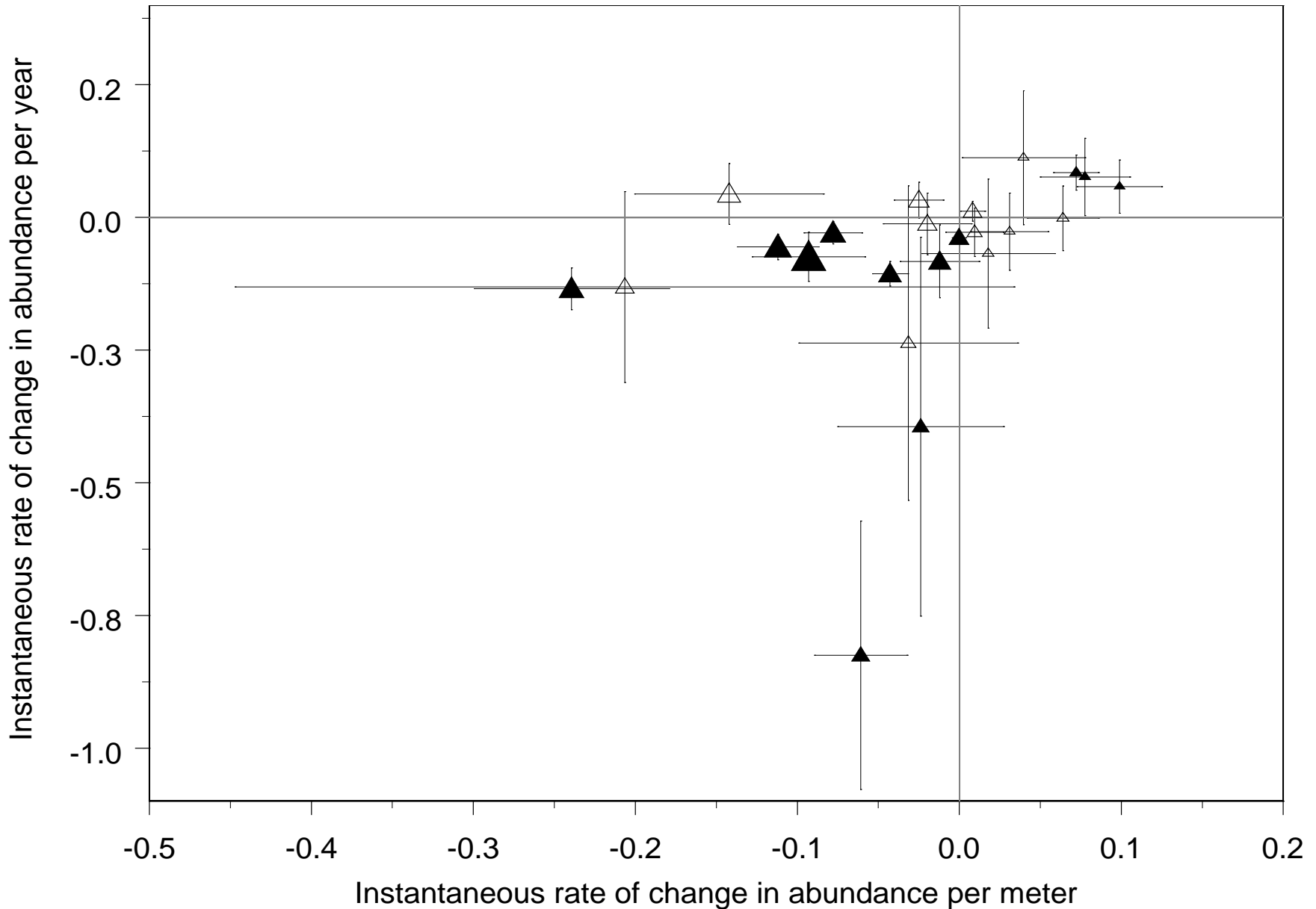
Is shrimp trawling driving sharks and rays extinct?

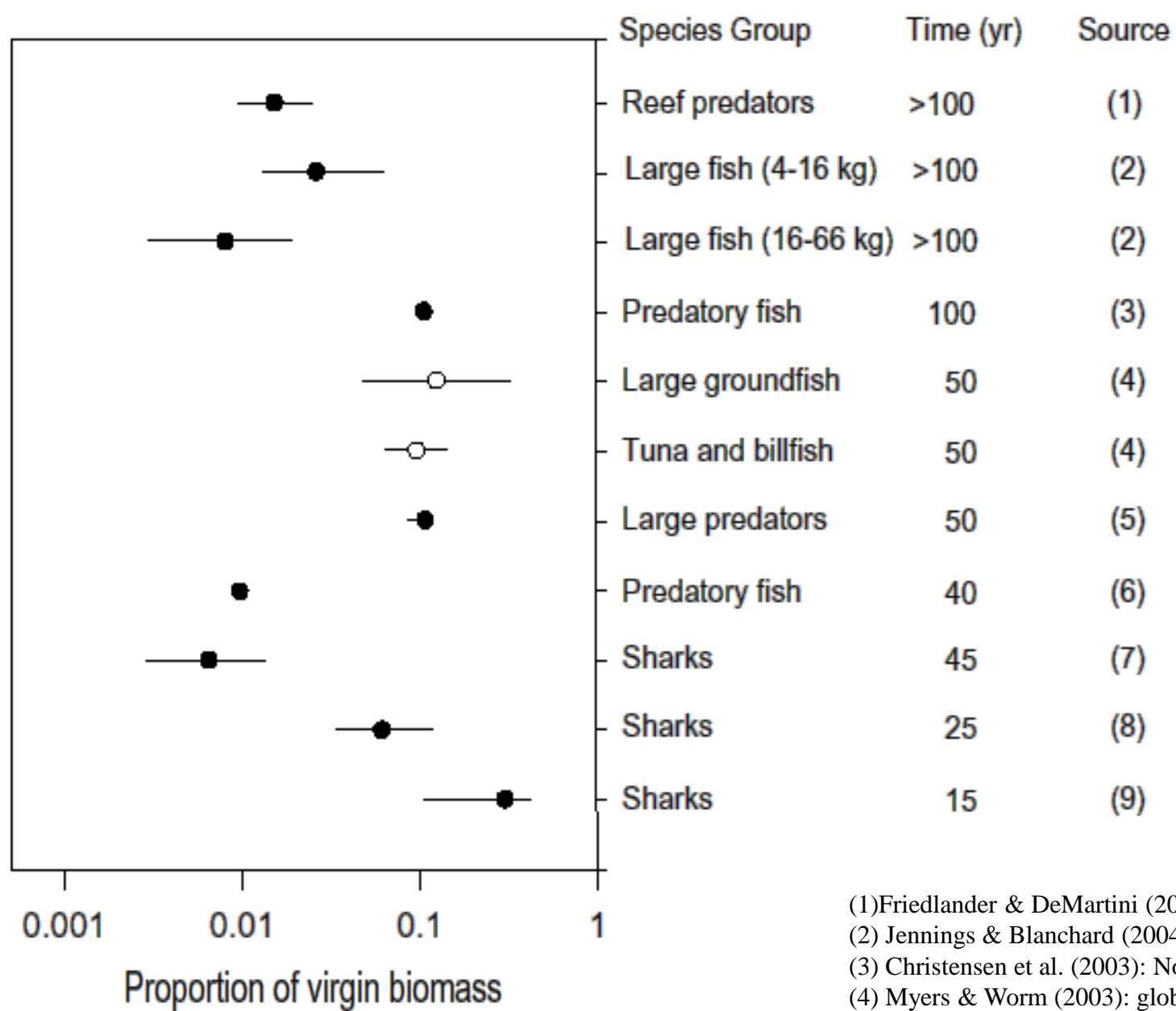


Mean standardized catch per tow



Shallow species are going extinct
Deep species are increasing





- (1) Friedlander & DeMartini (2002): Hawaiian reefs;
 (2) Jennings & Blanchard (2004): North Sea;
 (3) Christensen et al. (2003): North Atlantic;
 (4) Myers & Worm (2003): global;
 (5) Ward & Myers (2003): North Pacific;
 (6) Tang et al. (2003): Bohai Sea;
 (7) Baum & Myers (2004): Gulf of Mexico;
 (8) Vacchi et al. (2000): Mediterranean Sea;
 (9) Baum et al. (2003): Northwest Atlantic.

Source: Myers and Worm 2005.

Proc. R. Soc. Lond. B (2005)

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FMAP (Future of Marine Animal Populations)

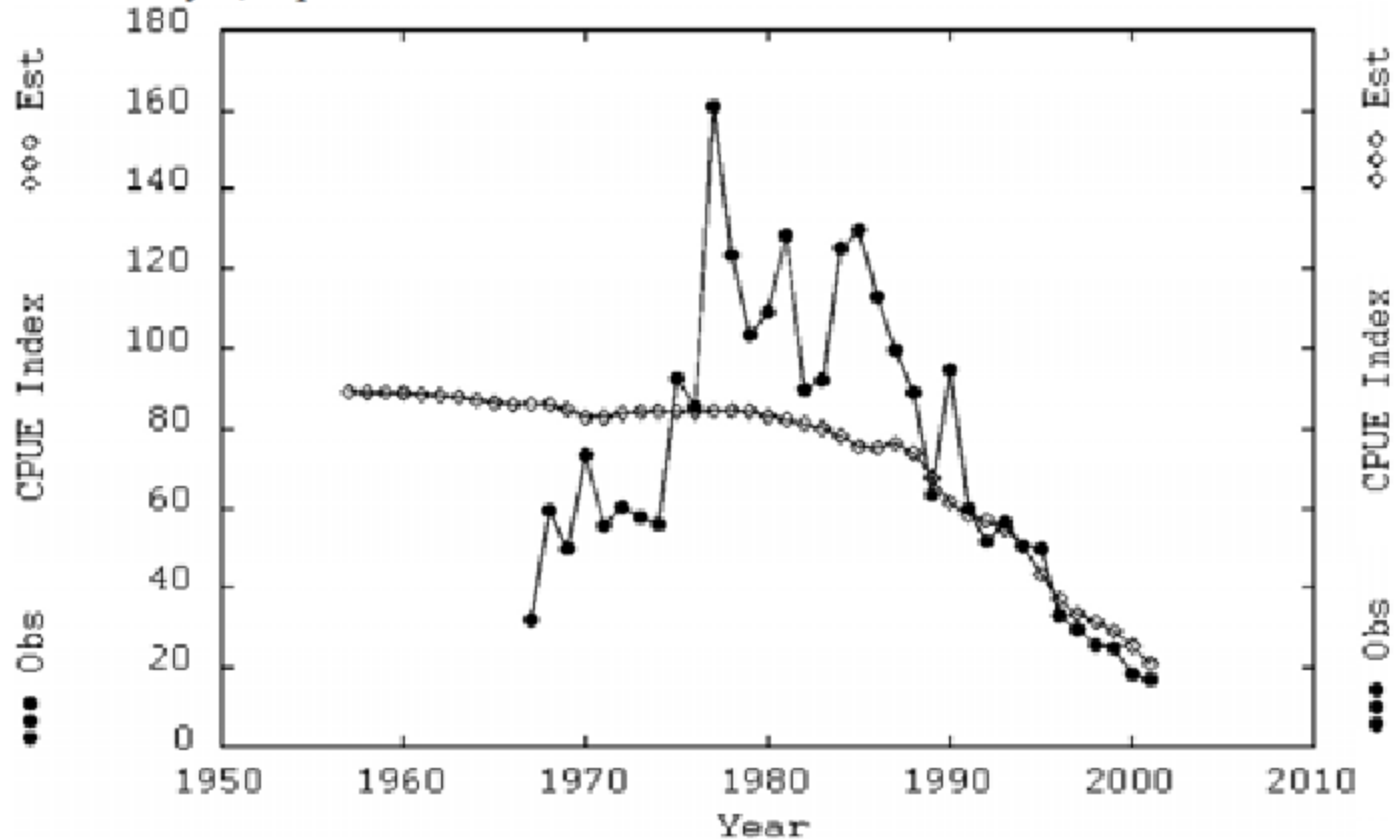
part of the Sloan Census of Life <http://www.fmap.ca>

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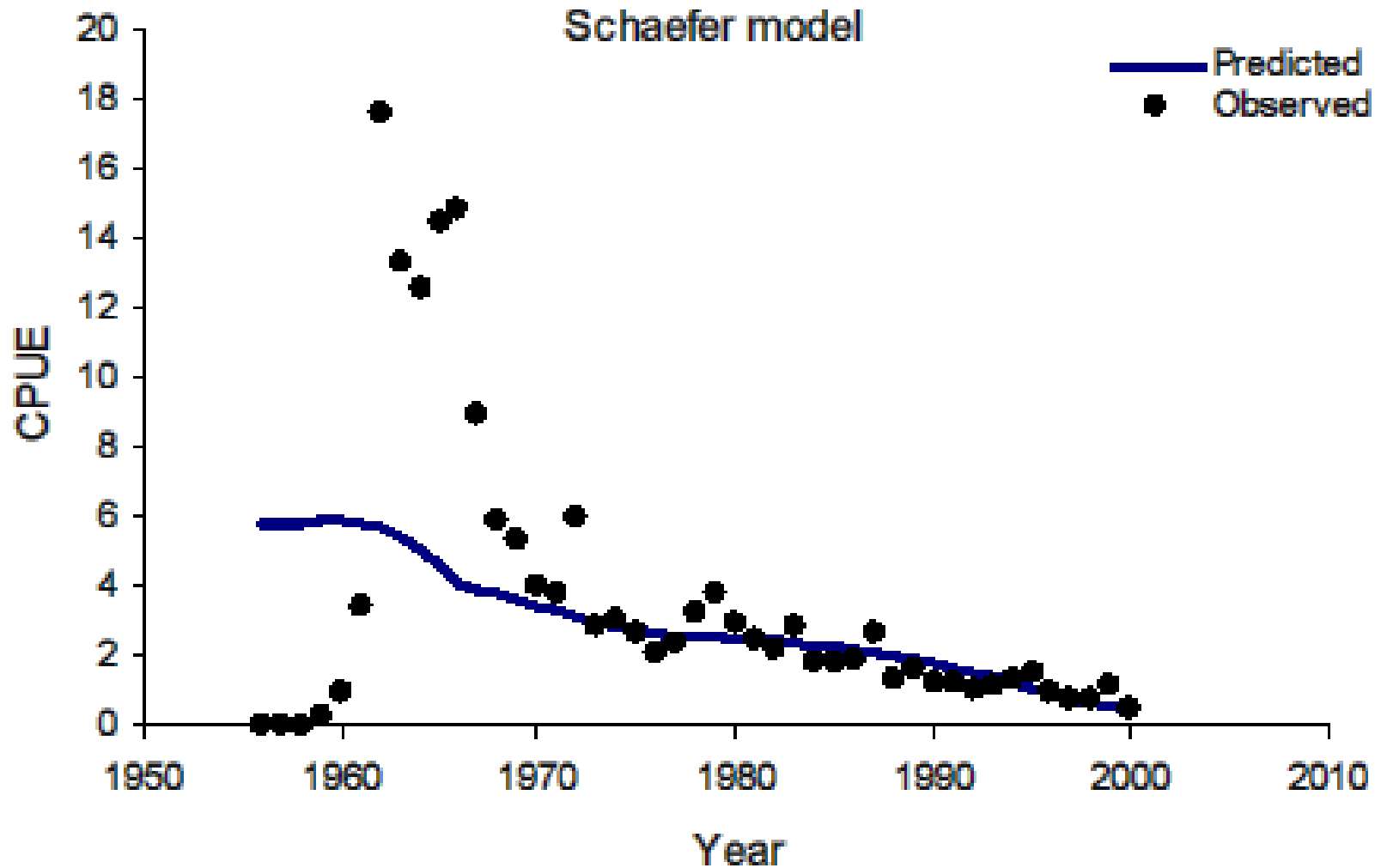
<http://www.globalsharks.ca>

Single species models are not even remotely consistent with the data, e.g. Swordfish from the South Atlantic

Sensitivity 4, Japanese index



White Marlin: Atlantic, single species models do not work
Very well.



ICCAT shark assessments in the Atlantic don't even remotely fit reliable data:
Similar pattern for US government research surveys.

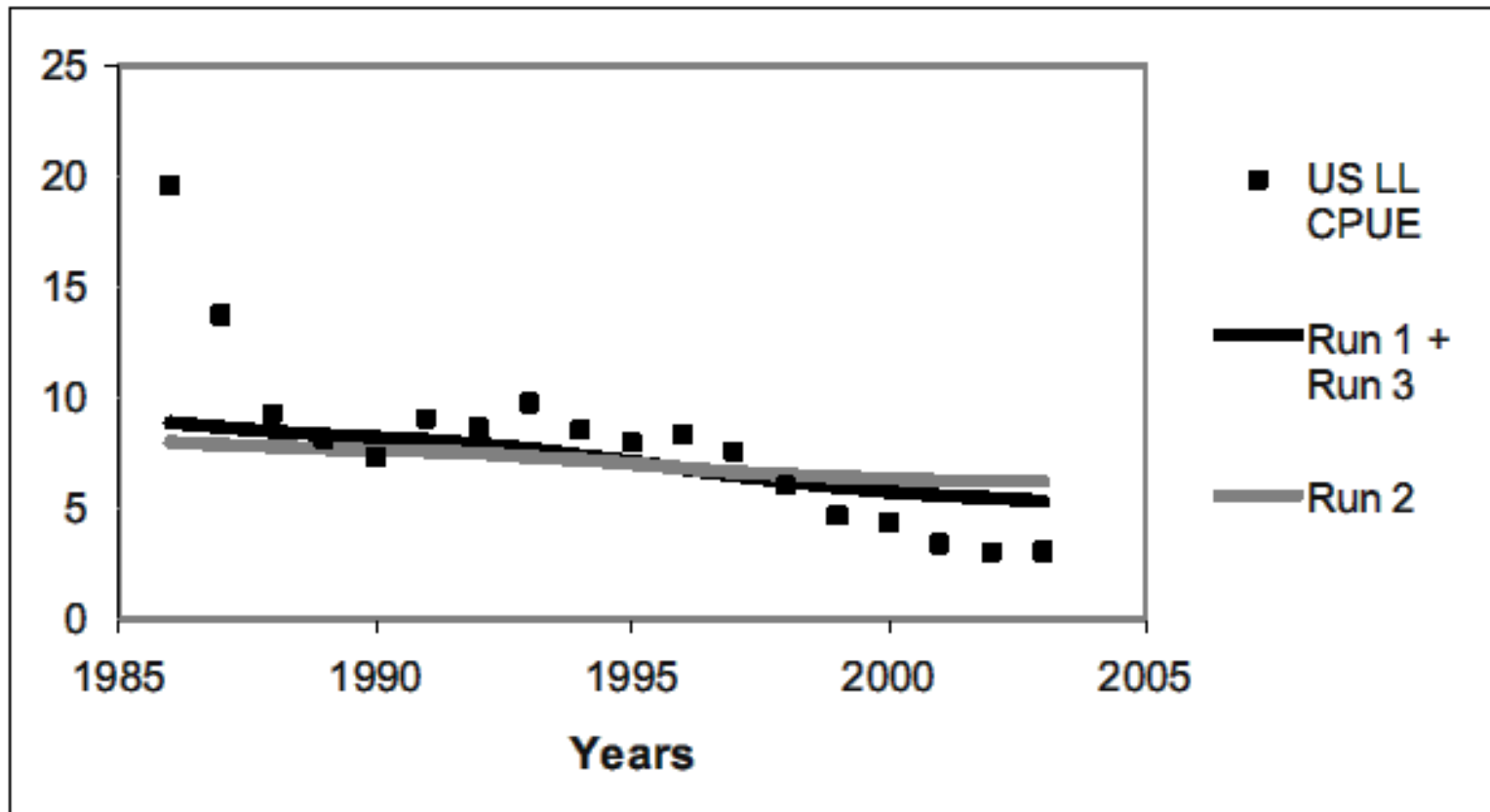
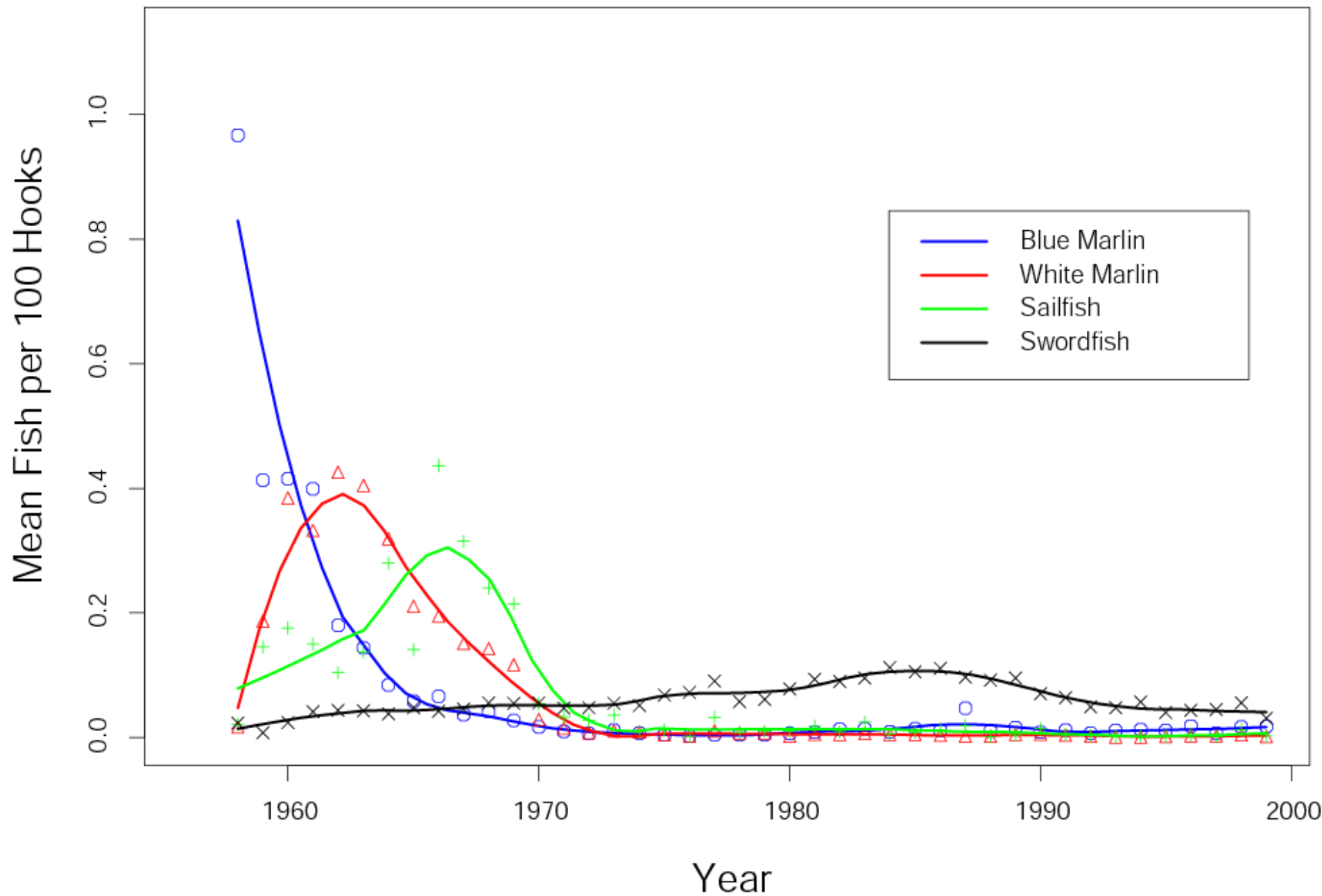
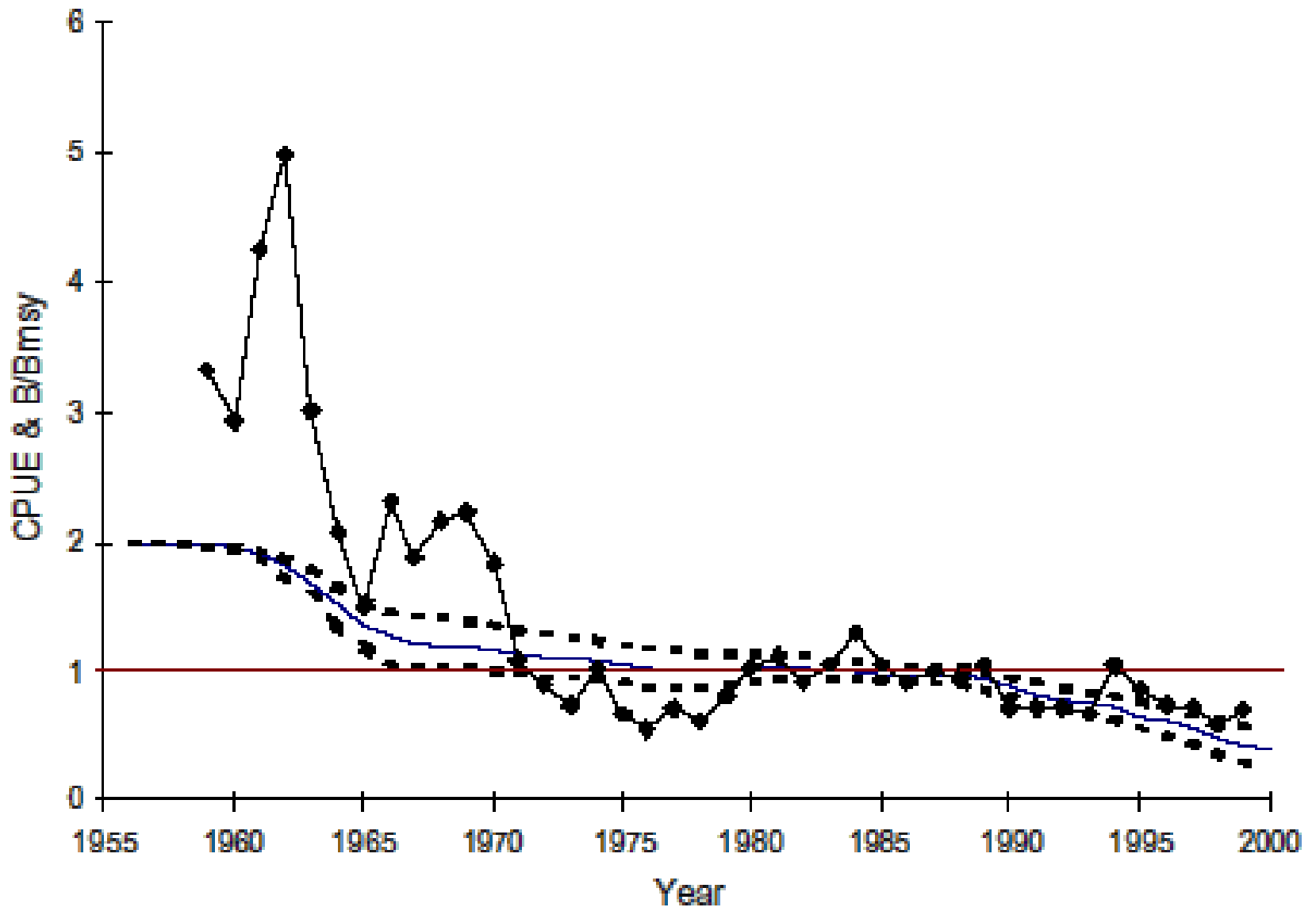


Figure 10 (above). Fit of the model to the North Atlantic blue shark CPUE data for each of the runs considered.

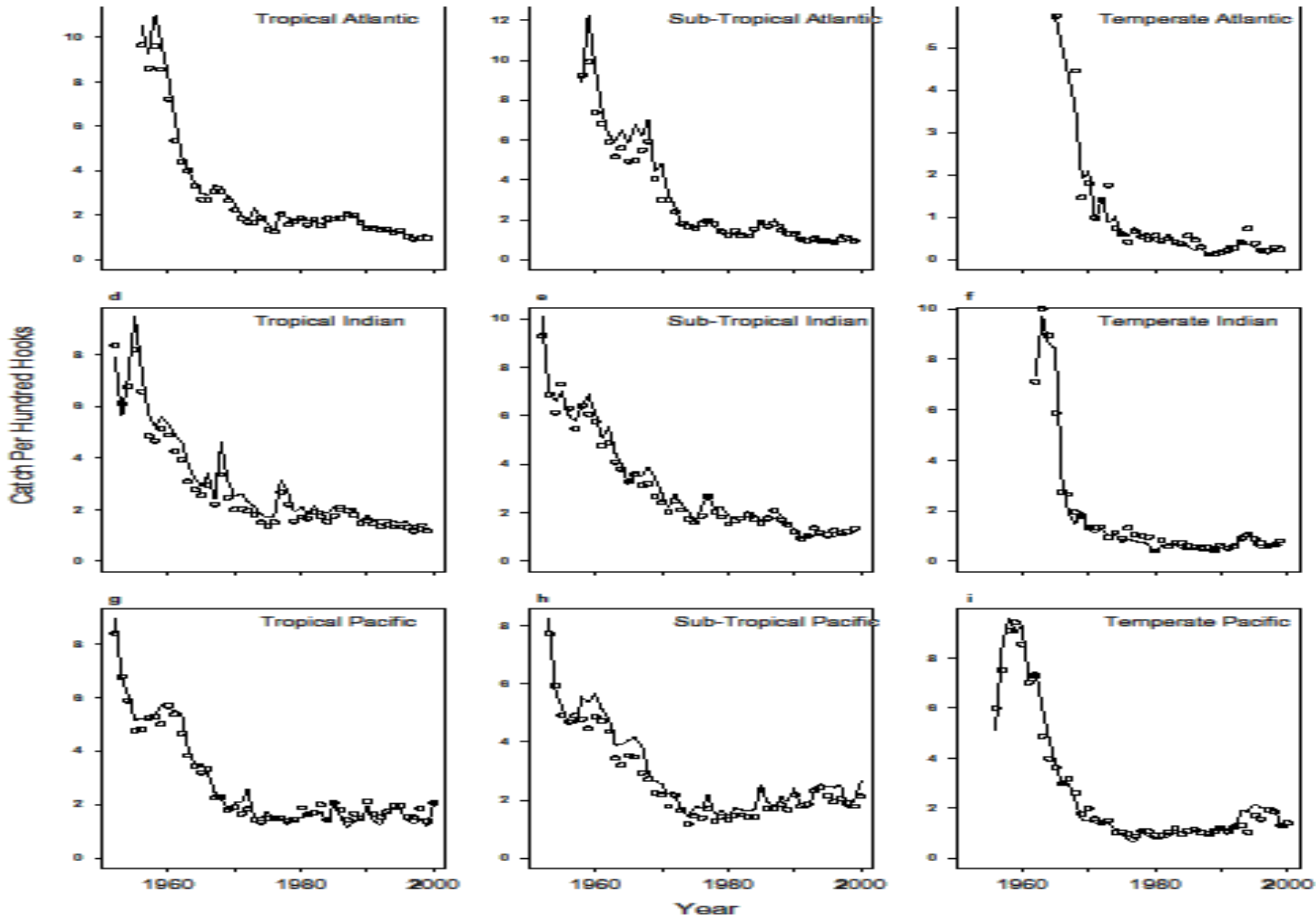
Atlantic, Latitude = -15 to -10



Bluefine tuna (observed diamonds) and modeled – not a very good fit.

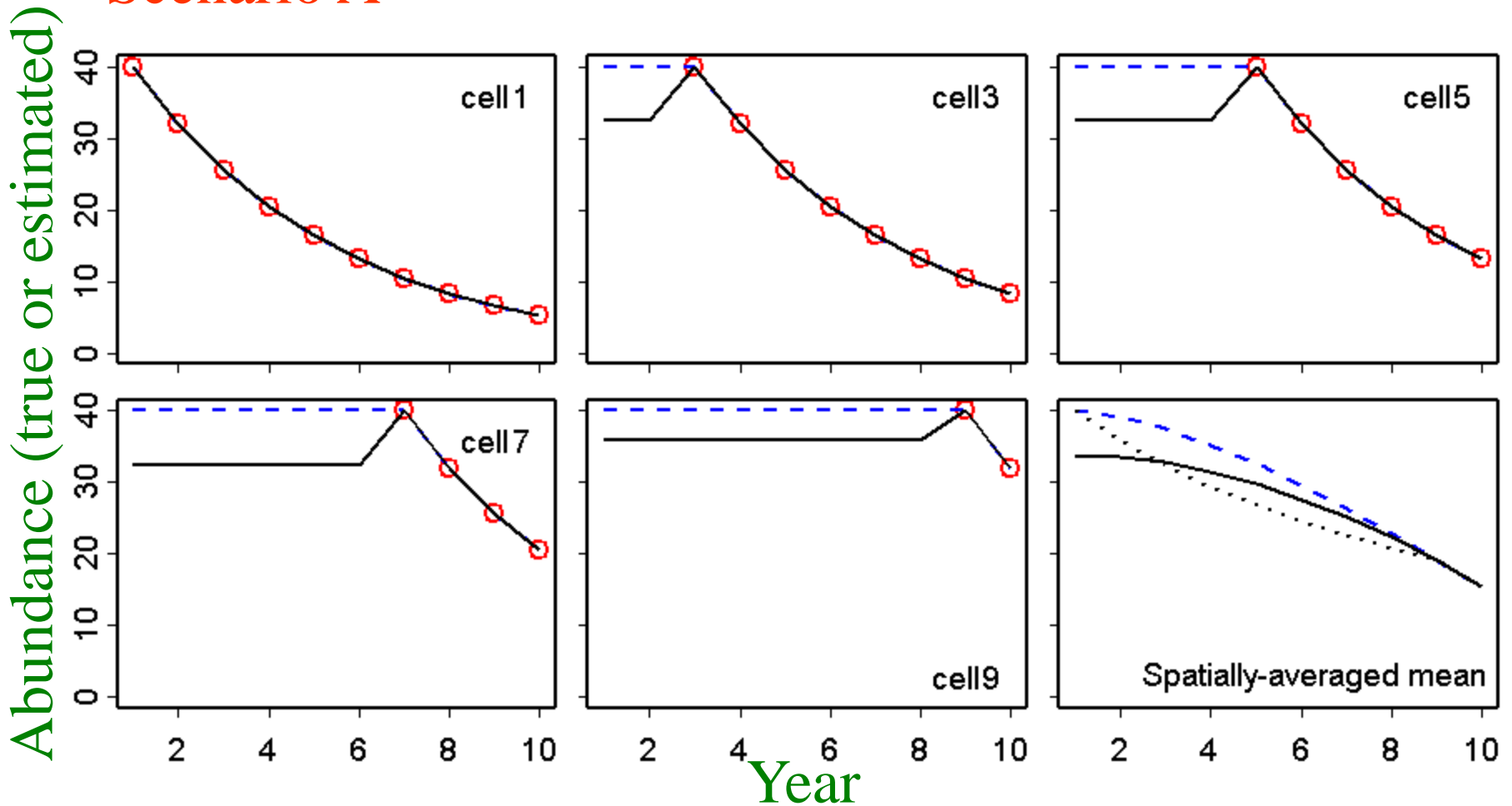


RED HERRING 1: RATIO ESTIMATION



RED HERRING 2: SPATIAL ESTIMATION

Scenario A



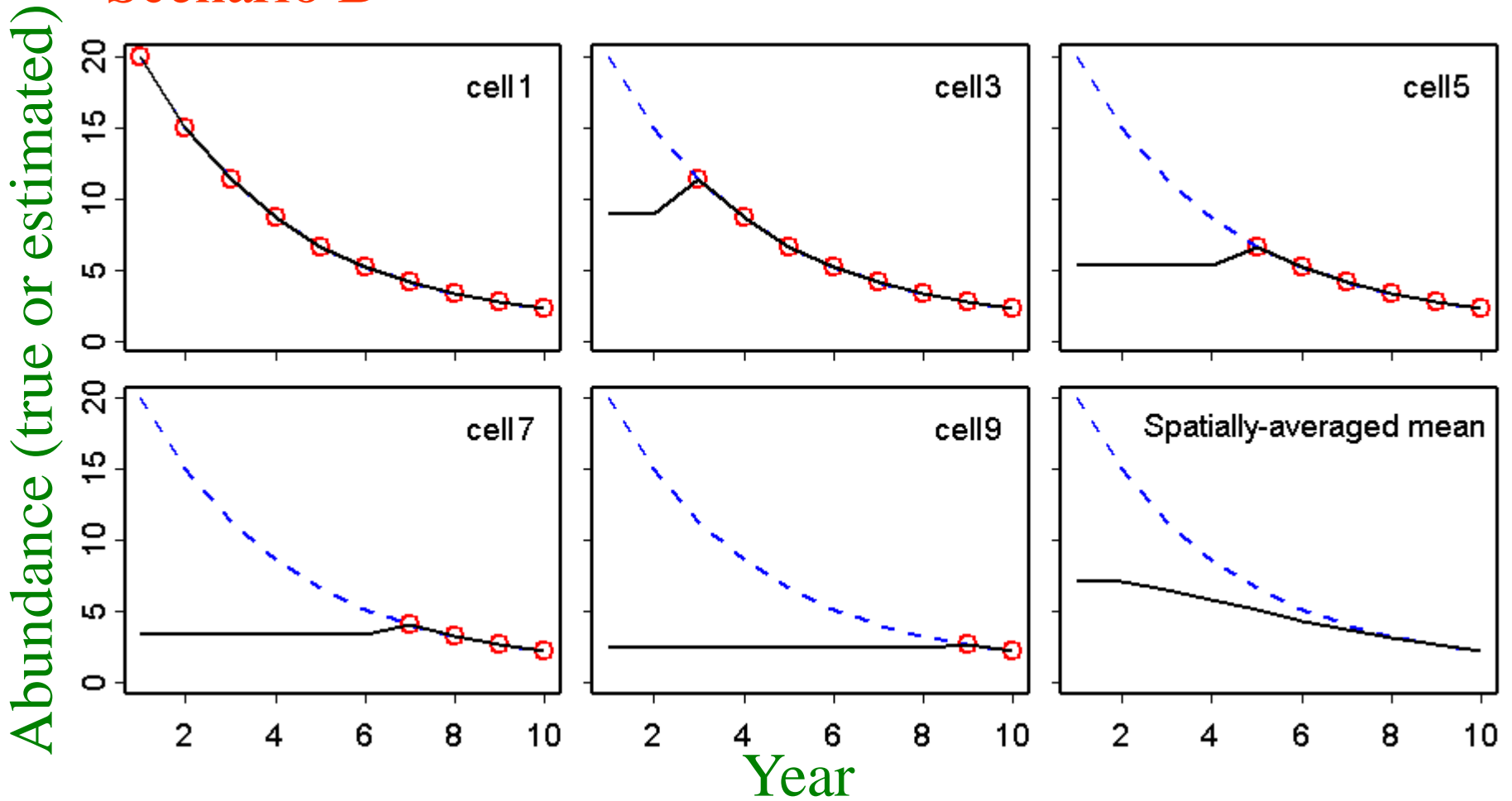
----- True population

○ Abundance estimate from CPUE

———— Abundance estimate, Walters' method

..... Spatial estimate, Myers and Worm's method

Scenario B



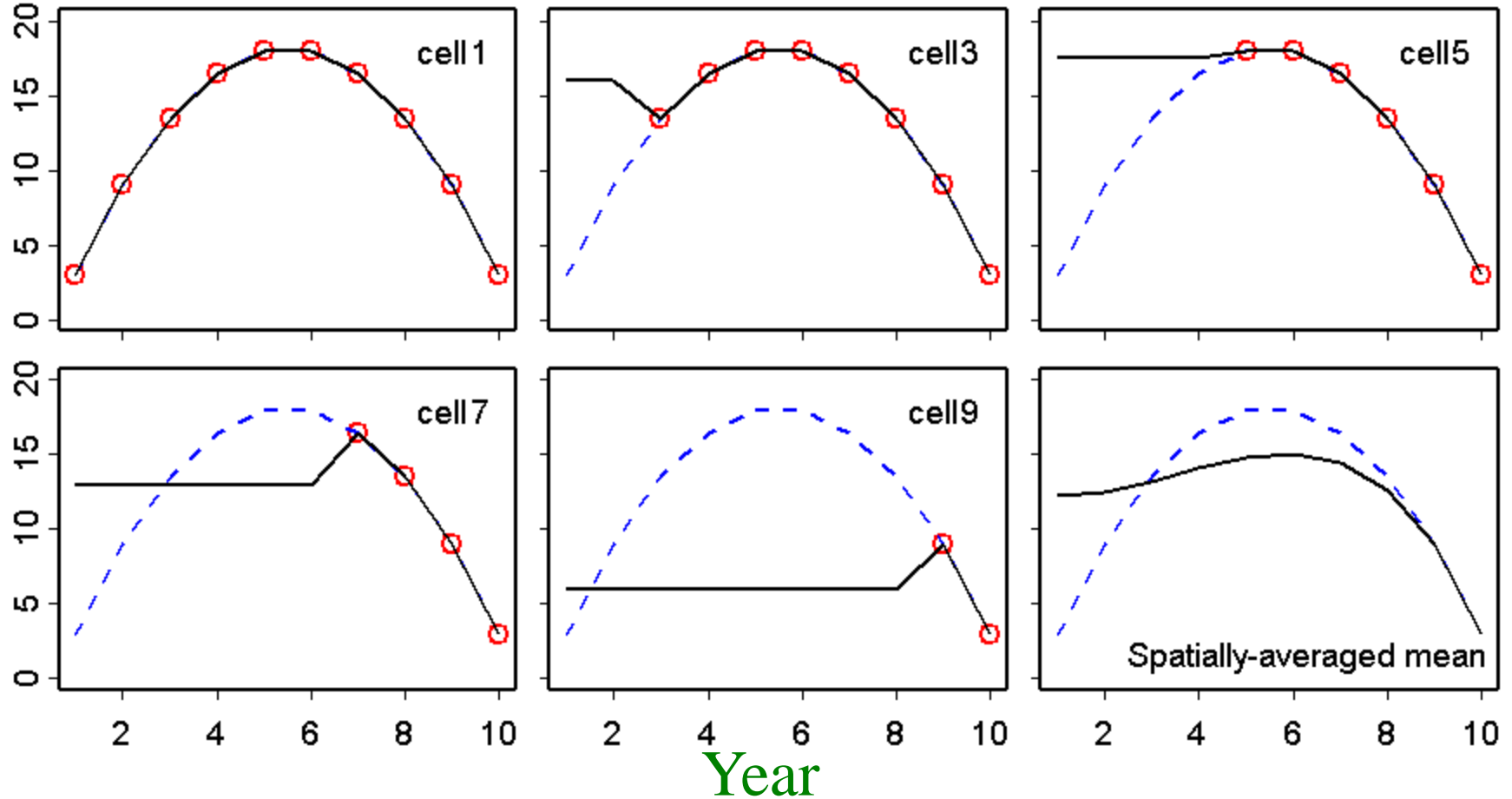
----- True population

○ Abundance estimate from CPUE

———— Abundance estimate, Walters' method

Scenario C

Abundance (true or estimated)



----- True population

○ Abundance estimate from CPUE

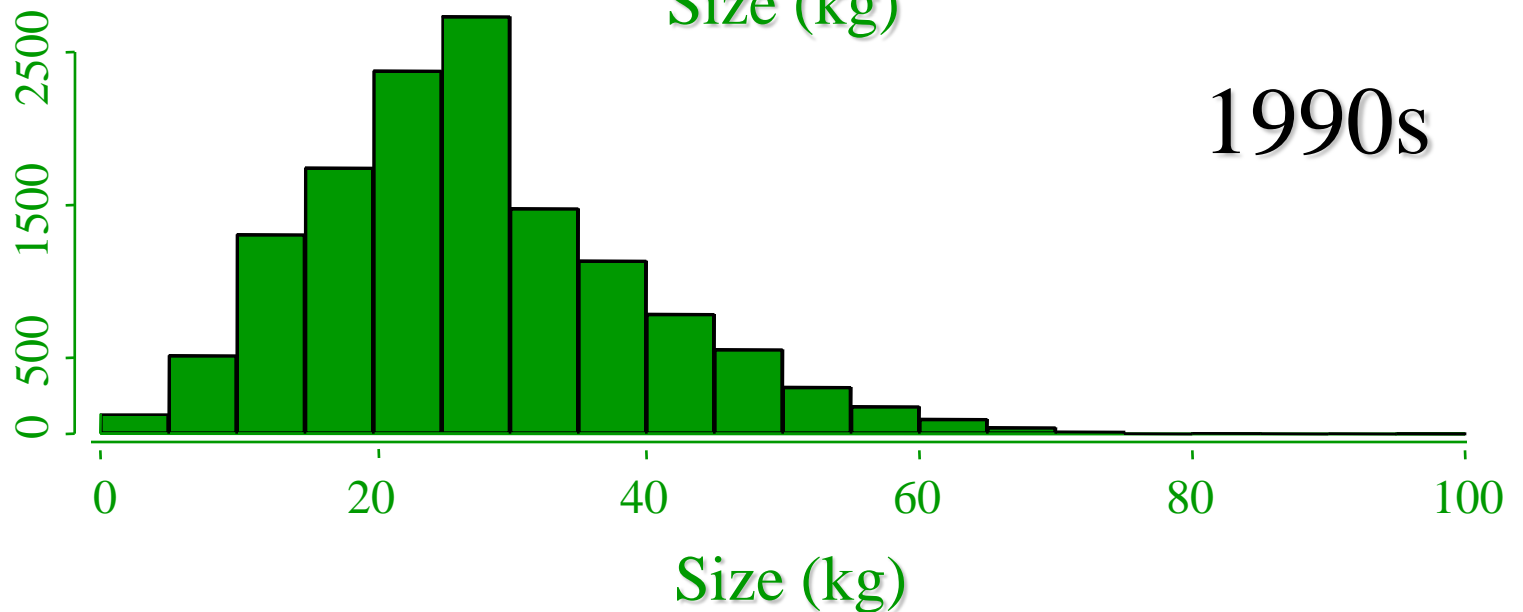
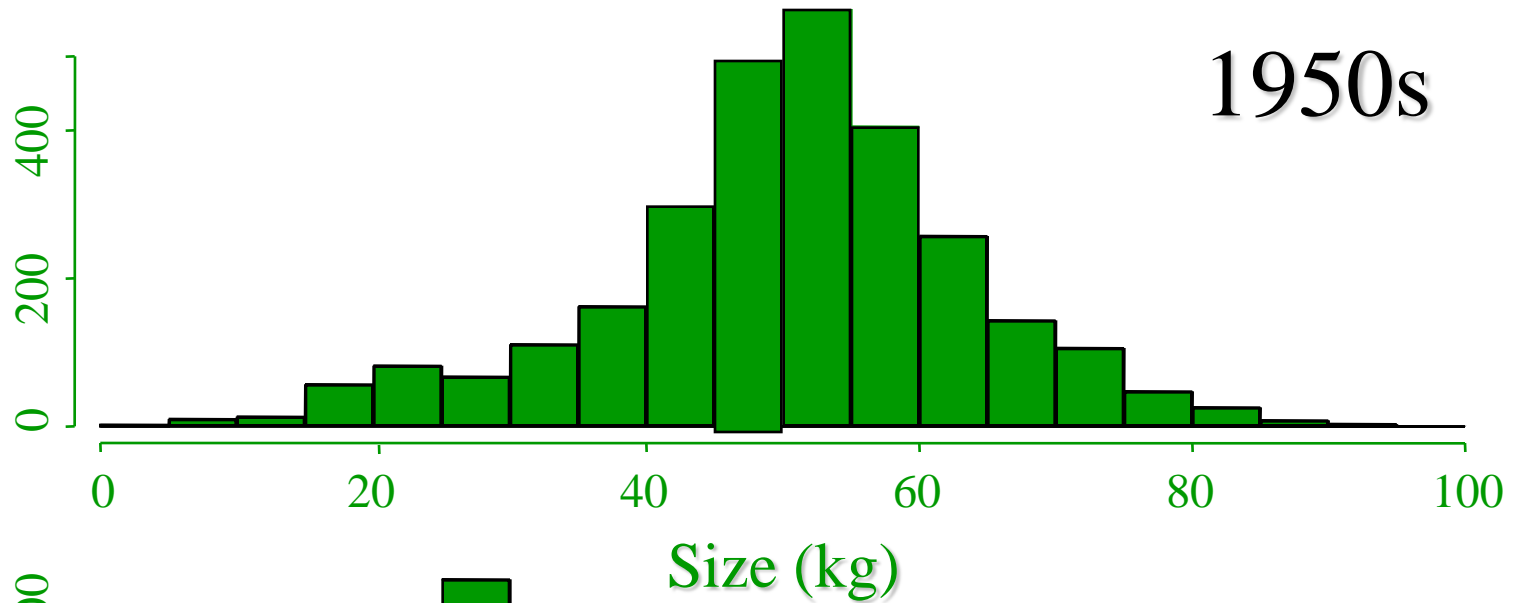
———— Abundance estimate, Walters' method

These estimates are conservative: 1.

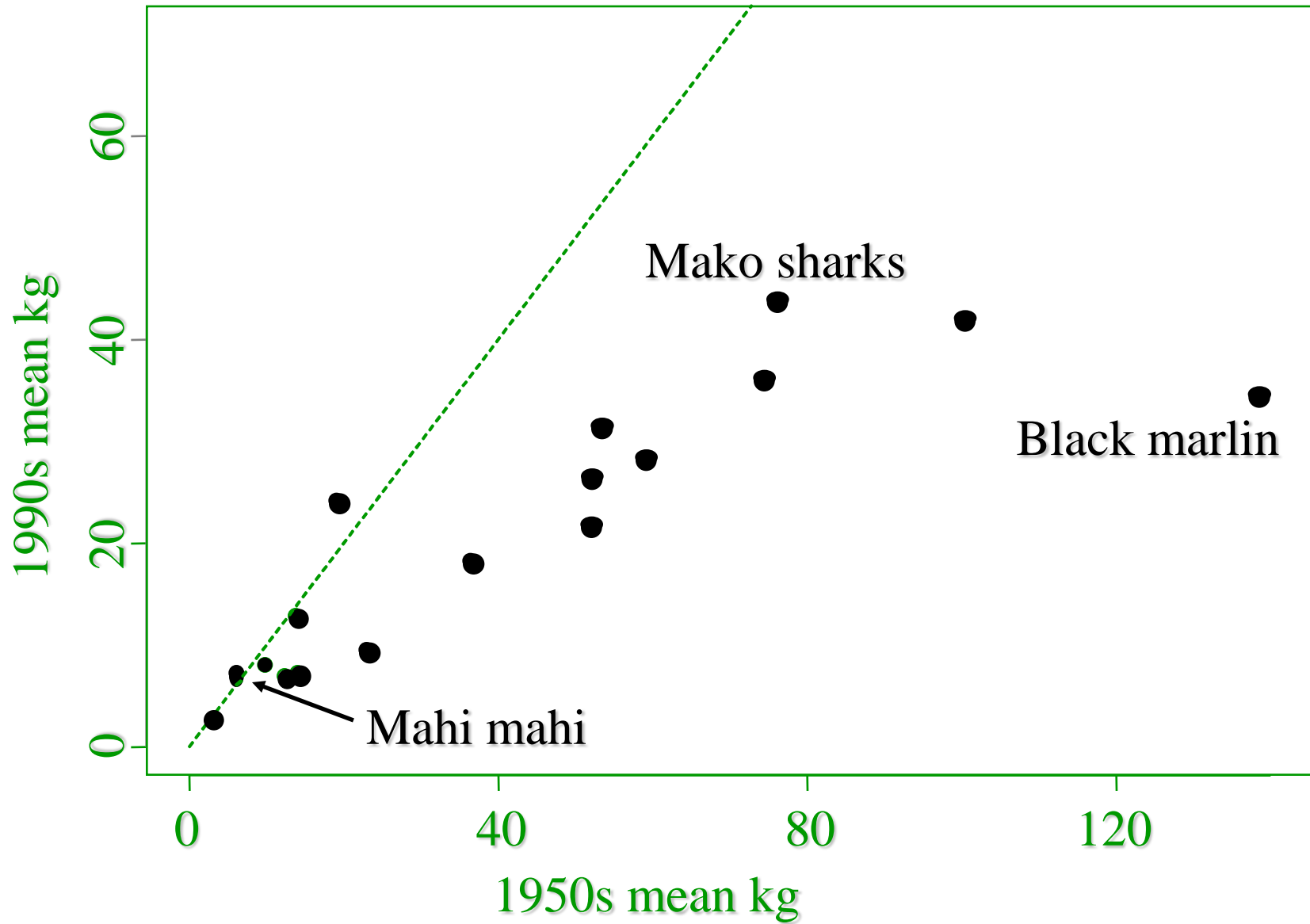
Bits of tuna did not count;
~25-30% of tropical tunas were initially not counted because of shark damage.



These estimates are conservative: 2 (fish are smaller)

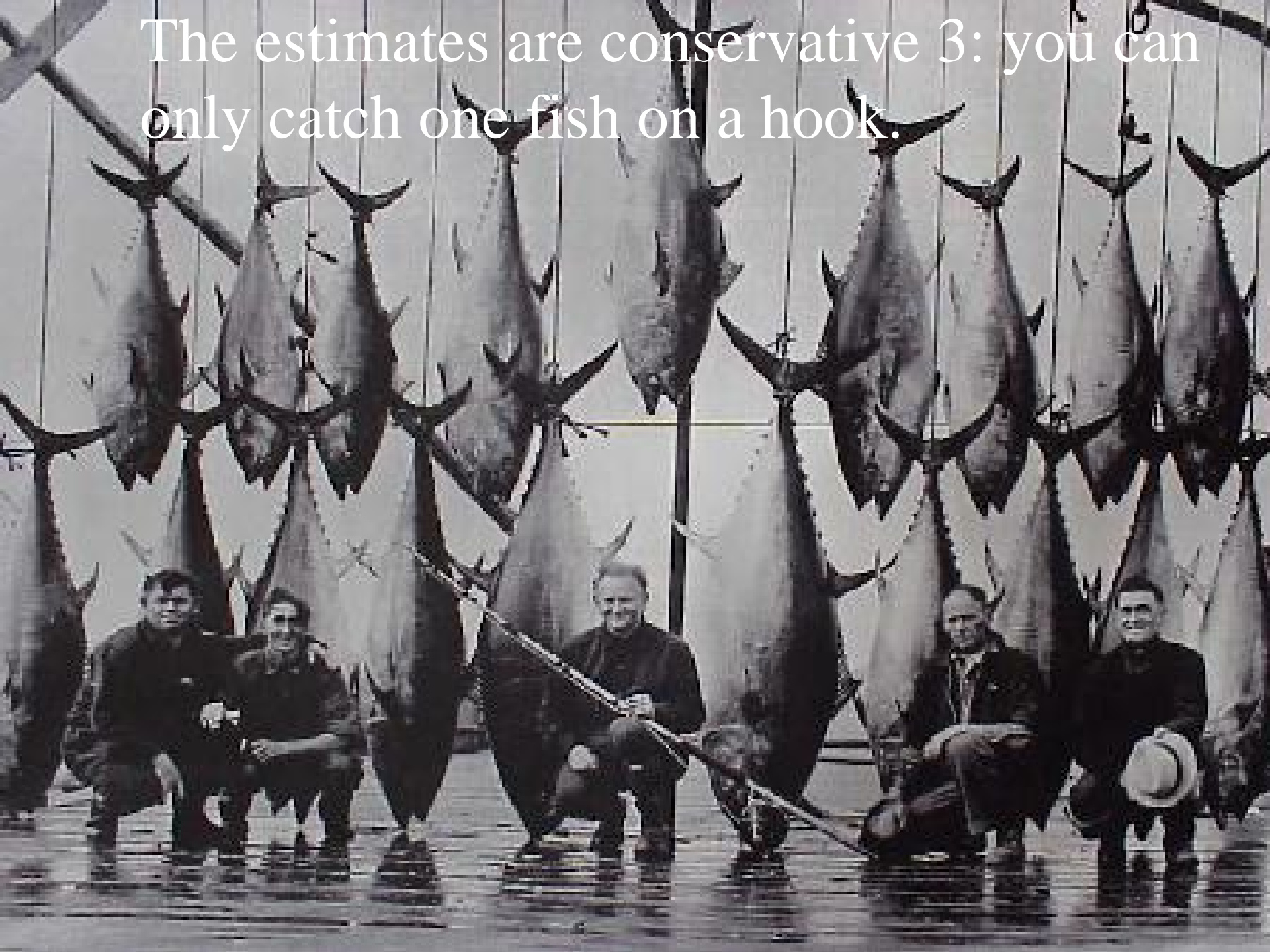


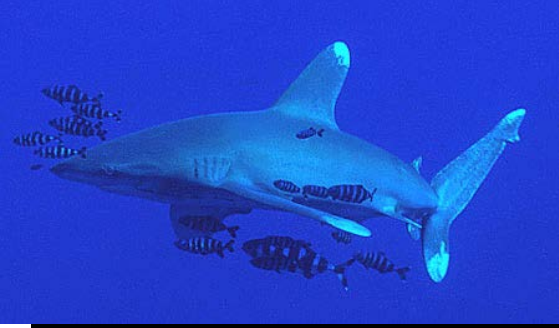
Change in body size



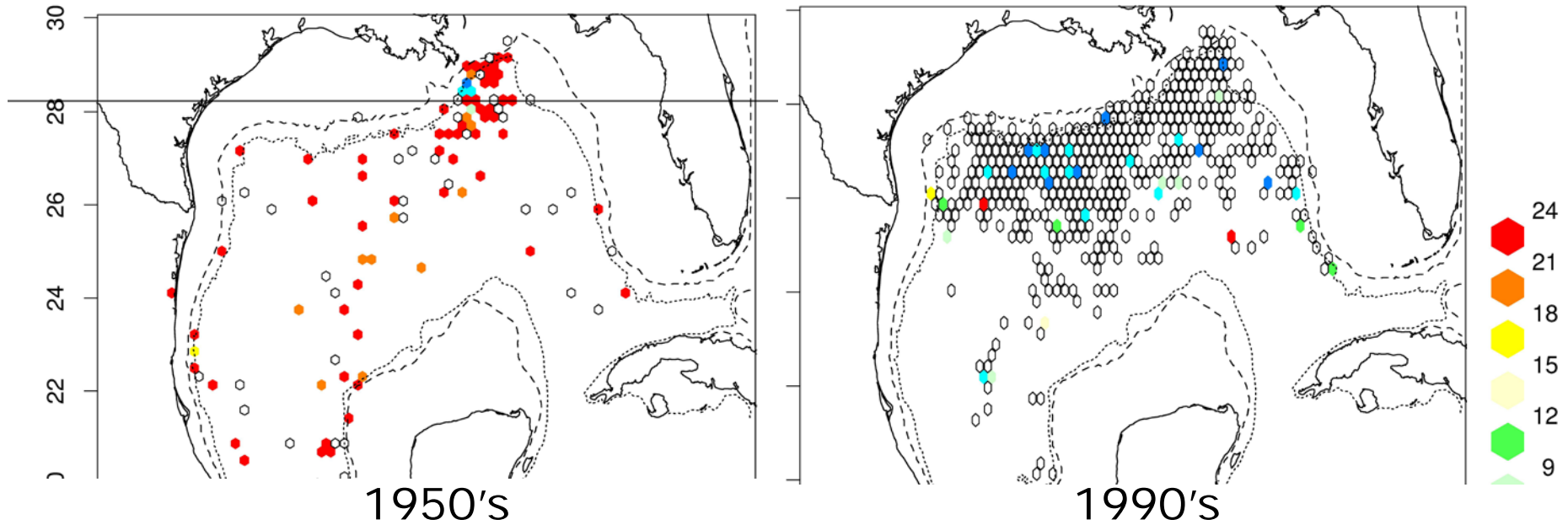


The estimates are conservative 3: you can only catch one fish on a hook.





These estimates are conservative
4: The sharks probably declined
more.

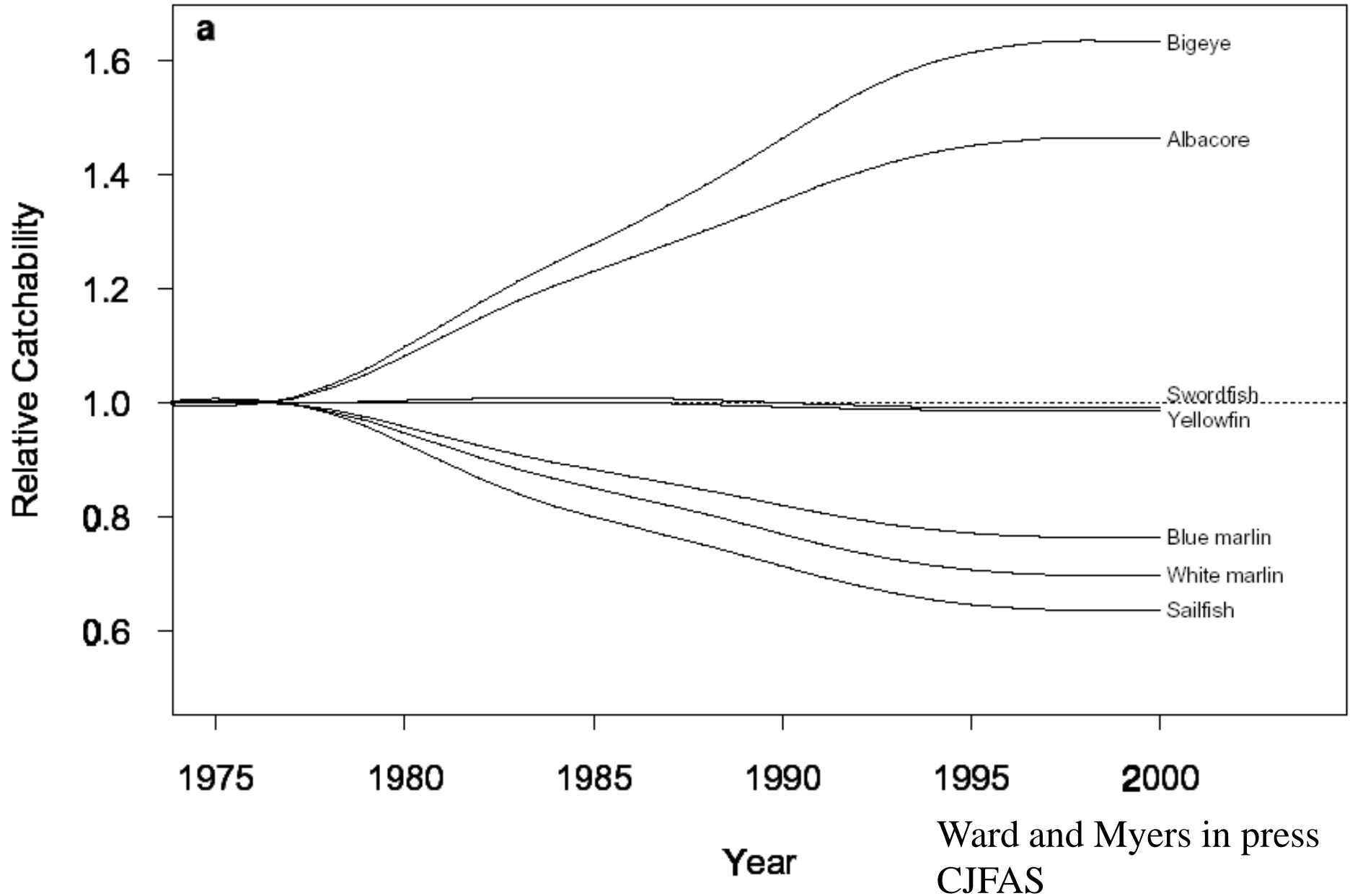


Oceanic Whitetip captures per 10,000 hooks

These estimates are conservative 5: The oceans were not virgin.

- Japan harvested ~1,000,000 tons of tuna and marlin in the 5 years before WWII.
- In 1950 the US harvested ~170,000 tons.
- The 1950 harvest of albacore by Spain was greater than the total recent harvest in the North Atlantic.
- Species that migrate long distances (e.g. southern bluefin tuna, northern bluefin tuna, and albacore) would have reduced by these harvests.

These estimates are conservative 7:
changes in depth increases overall efficiency.

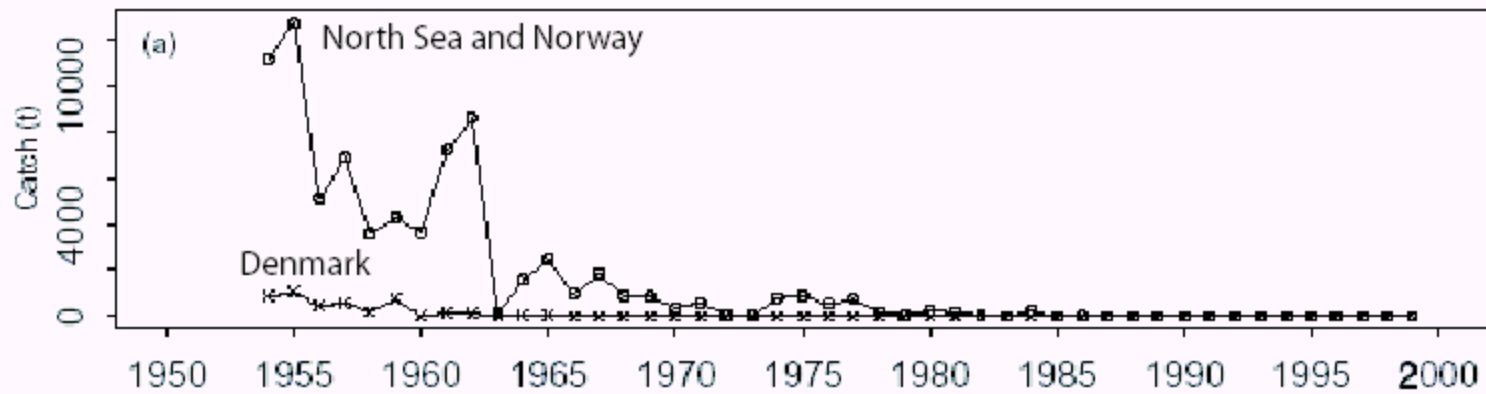


Declines confirmed by independent data:

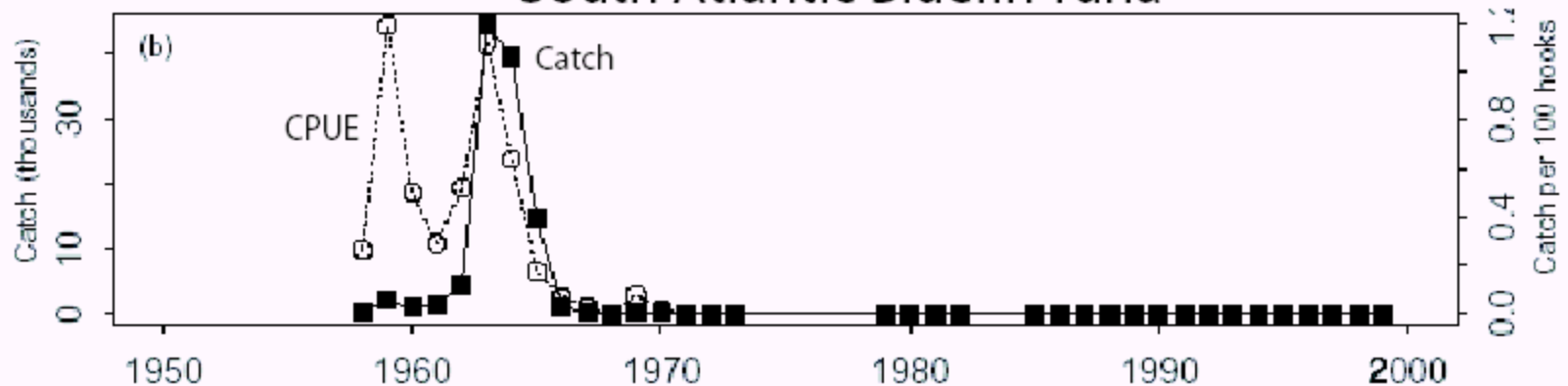
- The initial high catch rates were seen in early research surveys by Japan and US.
- Declines seen in harpoon fisheries for swordfish and tuna.
- Most tuna traps in the Mediterranean have largely been abandoned, Italy there is a decline from 100 to 3 tuna traps.
- Complete loss of species in some areas.

Loss of Bluefin Tuna Populations in the Atlantic

North Sea Bluefin Tuna



South Atlantic Bluefin Tuna

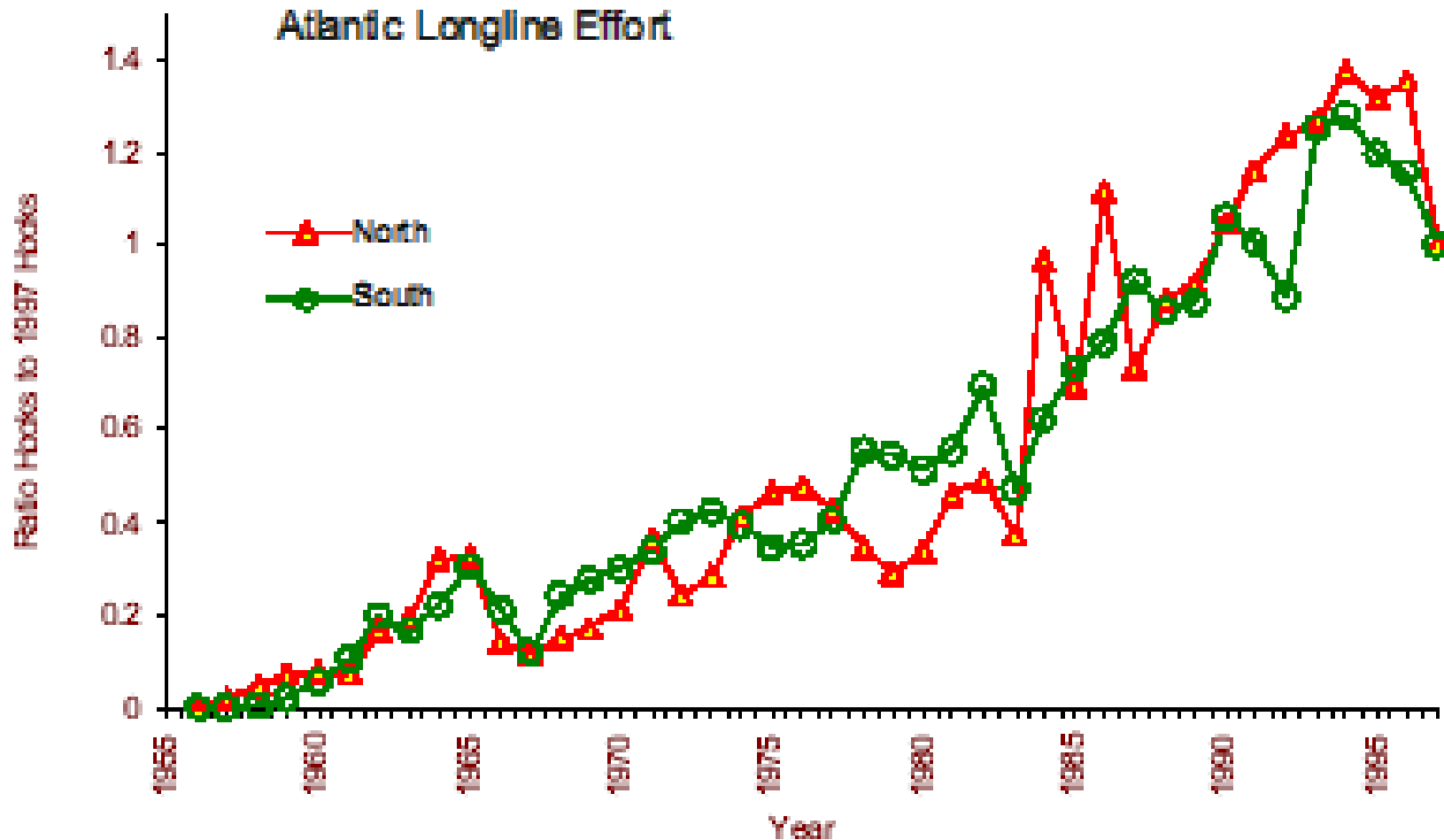


Perceived Contradiction in Initial Rapid Decline in CPUE

- 1. Large declines occurred when effort was relatively small

Perceived Contradiction in Initial Rapid Decline in CPUE

2. Present effort is much higher.



Perceived Contradiction in Initial Rapid Decline in CPUE

3. Present fishing mortality due to longlines is
around 0.6

Perceived Contradiction in Initial Rapid Decline in CPUE

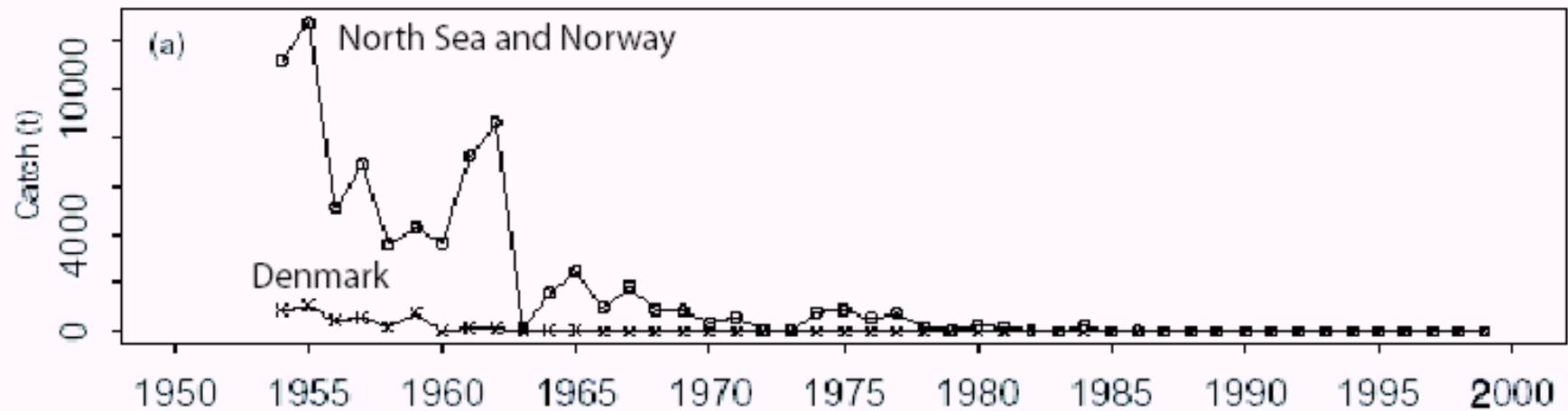
IF catchability is constant

THEN the population dynamics are impossible.

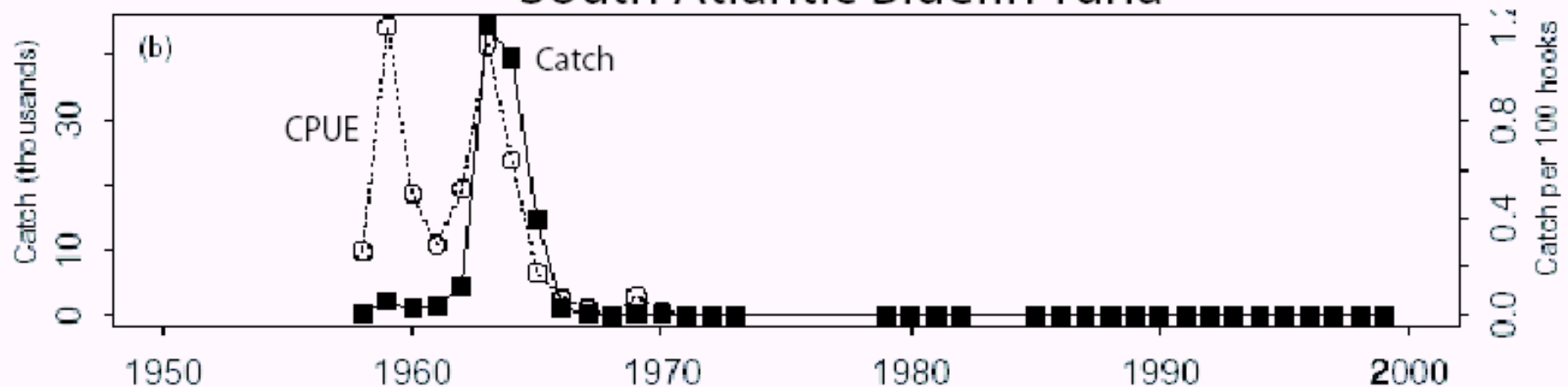
However, catchability decreases with size and size
has declined

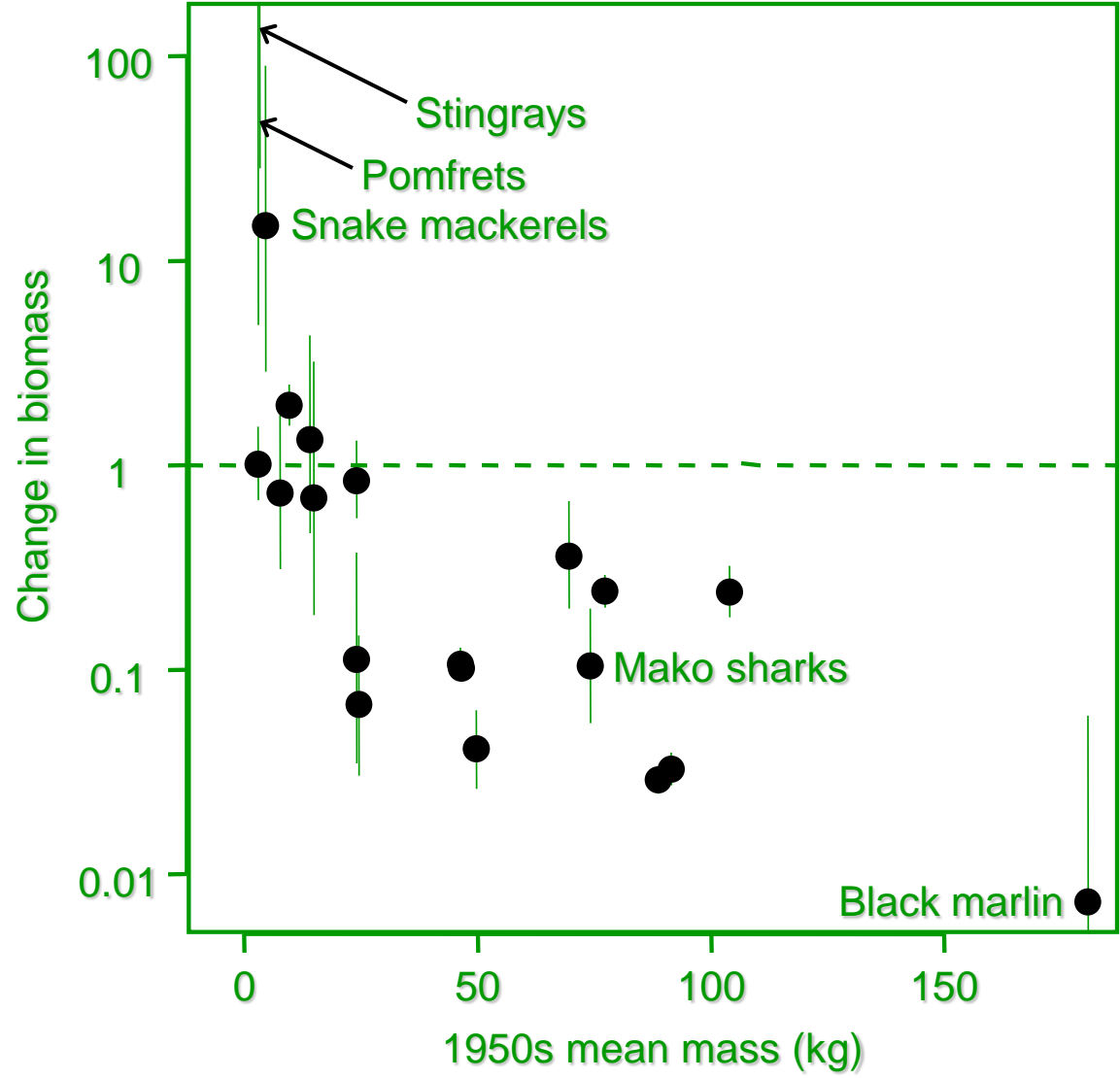
Loss of Bluefin Tuna Populations in the Atlantic

North Sea Bluefin Tuna



South Atlantic Bluefin Tuna







A Toy Model

- Recruitment constant
- Longline effort increases linearly over 35 years
- Catchability is proportional to the product of: (a) a cumulative normal and (b) food intake (respiration is proportional to the $2/3$'s power of mass)
- Present fishing mortality is around 0.6.

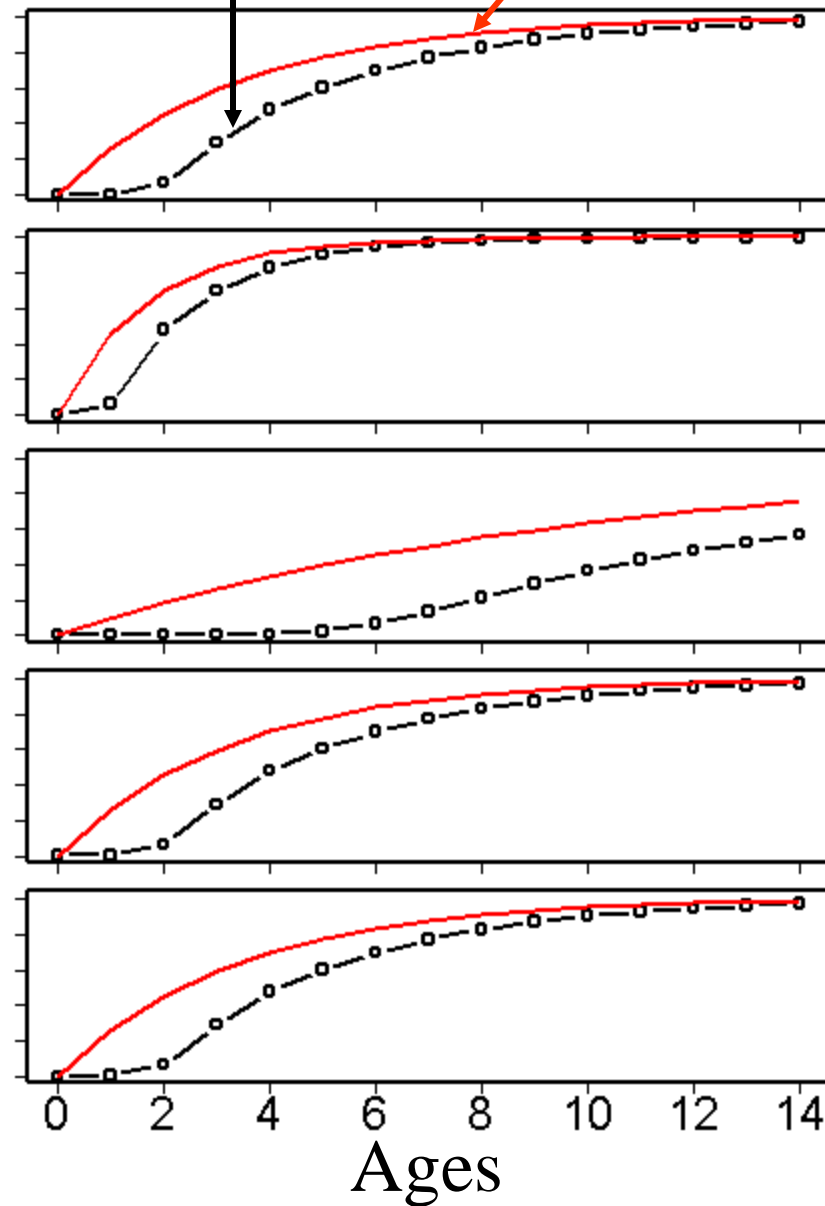
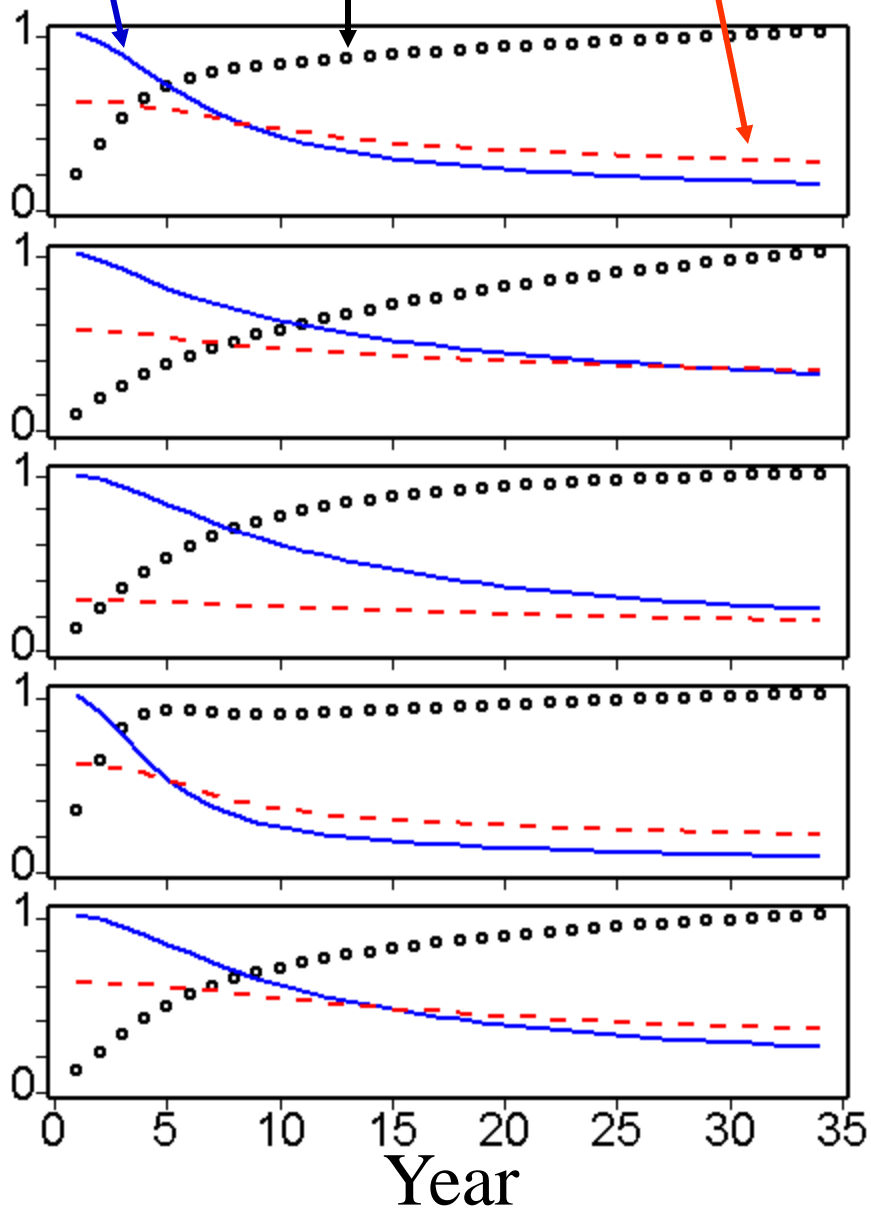
CPUE

Catch

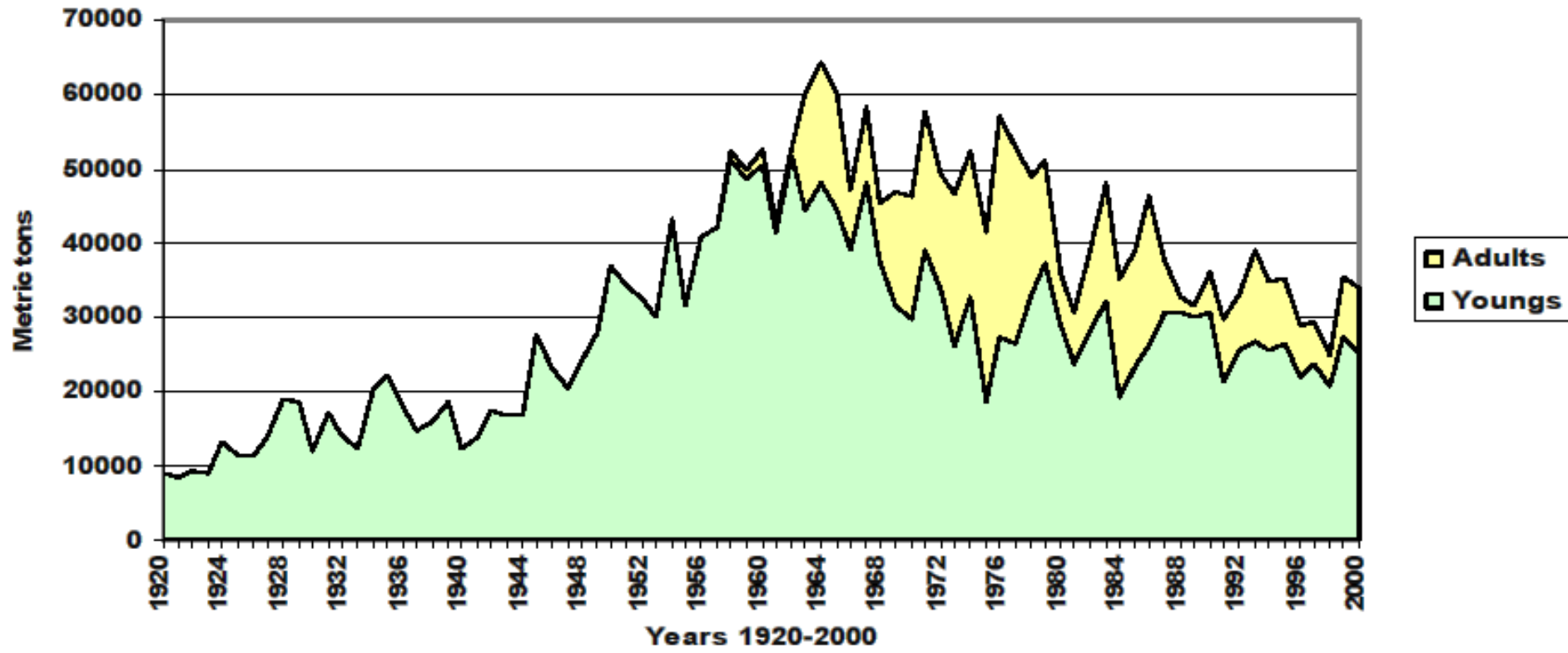
Avg wt

Selectivity

Length




North Atlantic albacore cumulated catches of youngs and adults fish



Conclusion

- Immediate action needed to protect some sharks, leatherbacks, loggerheads, and some tuna (Atlantic northern bluefin)
- Productivity (juvenile survival) has increased with exploitation.
- Rapid declines in CPUE reflect real declines in large fish
- Reduced effort is needed to achieve greater economic yield

Acknowledgements

- **Boris Worm, Peter Ward, Leah Gerber, Julia Baum, Dan Kehler, Francesco Ferretti**
 - **Pew Charitable Trusts**
 - **Sloan Foundation – Census of Marine Life, Future of Marine Animal Populations (FMAP)**
 - **NSERC**
 - **Pelagic Fisheries Research Program**
 - **German Research Council**
 - **Killam Foundation**
 - **Numerous colleagues who shared data**
- 
- A blue marlin is captured in mid-leap, its long, pointed snout and dorsal fin cutting through the deep blue water. The fish is angled upwards and to the right, with its tail still submerged. The background is a vast expanse of blue ocean under a clear sky.

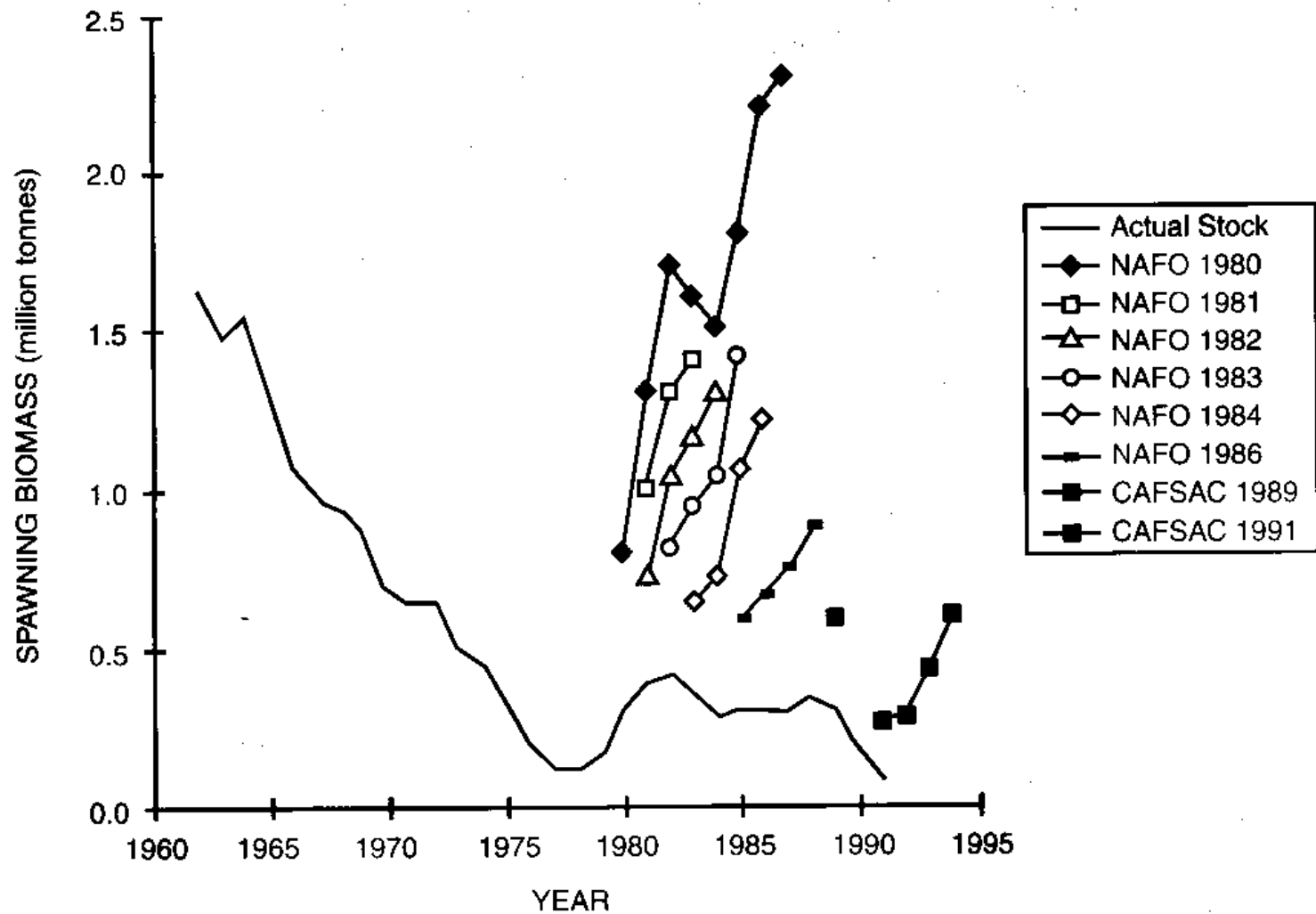


Fig. 3. Recent reconstruction, using virtual population analysis, of the Newfoundland northern cod decline, compared with estimates and projections published in various years after Canada took over the fishery under extended jurisdiction. VPA estimates based on data in Baird *et al.* (1992) (see also Hutchings and Myers, 1994). NAFO estimates from annual reports for years indicated of North Atlantic Fisheries Organization Scientific Council Reports, Dartmouth, NS. CAFSAC estimates from Canadian Atlantic Fisheries Scientific Advisory Committee Advisory Documents 89/1 and 91/1.

Rapid decline in older albacore.

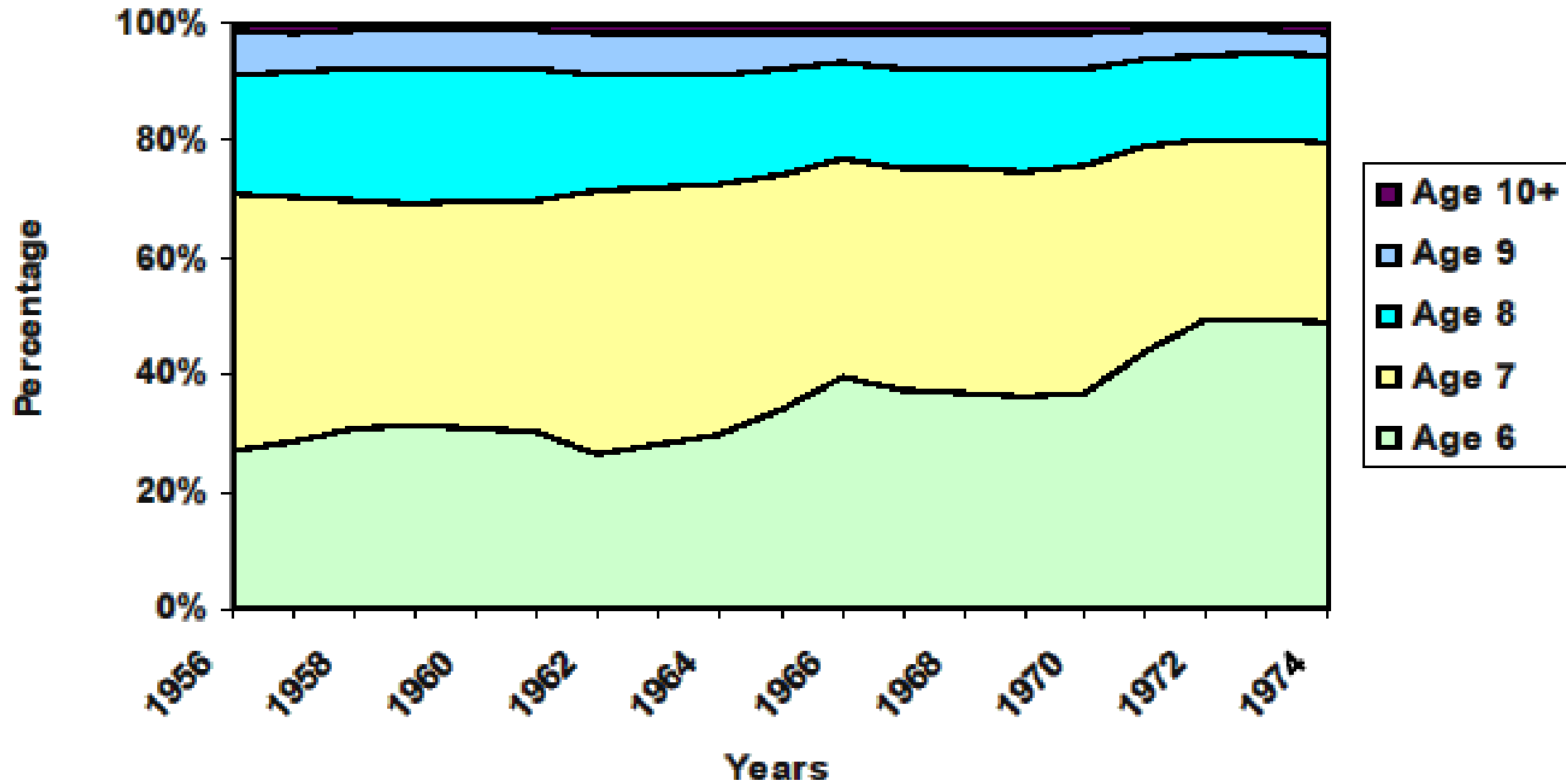
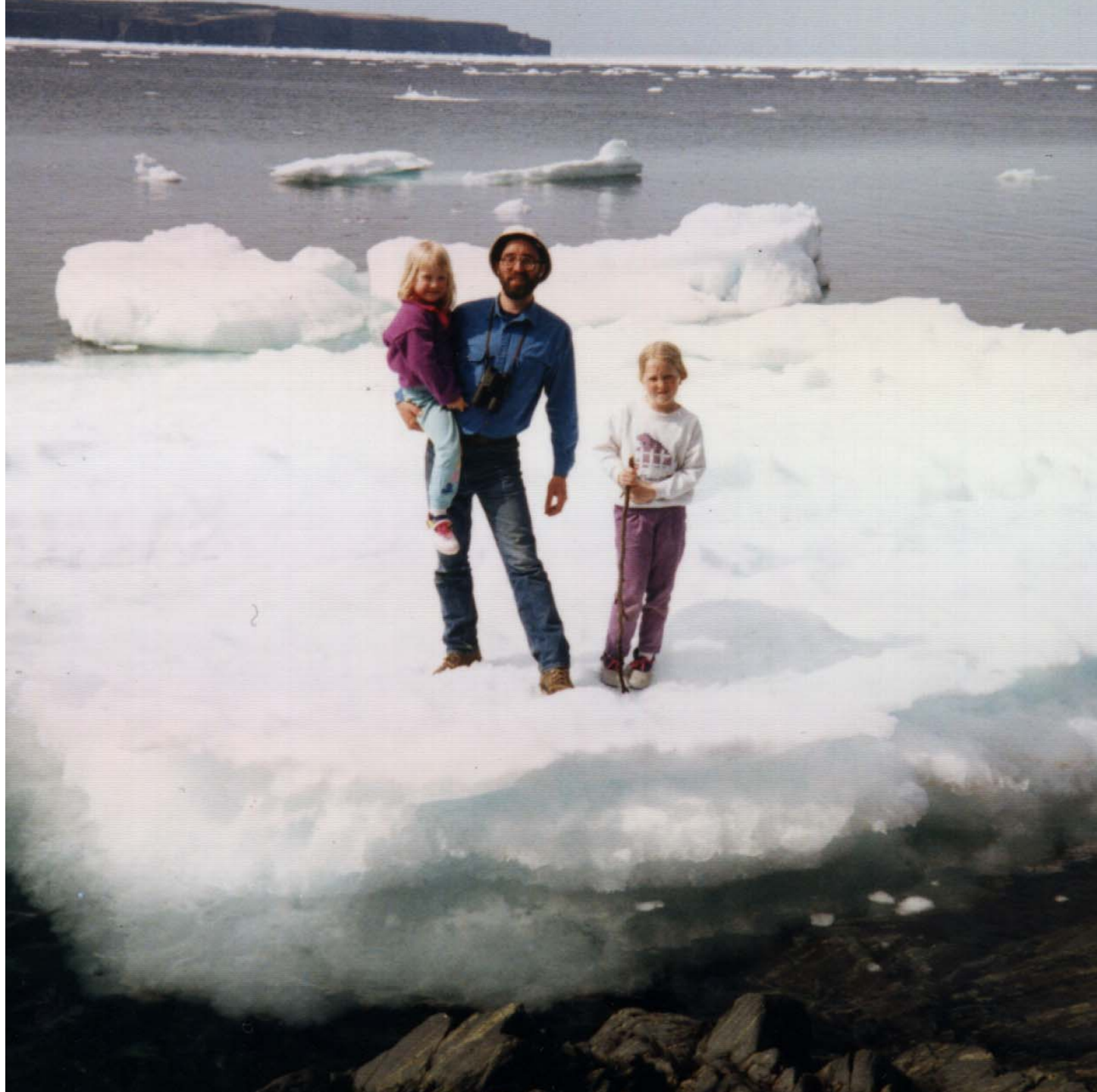


Figure 7 : Evolution of contribution of age classes 6 to 10+ computed by Morita (1977) in longliners albacore catches, 1956-1974.



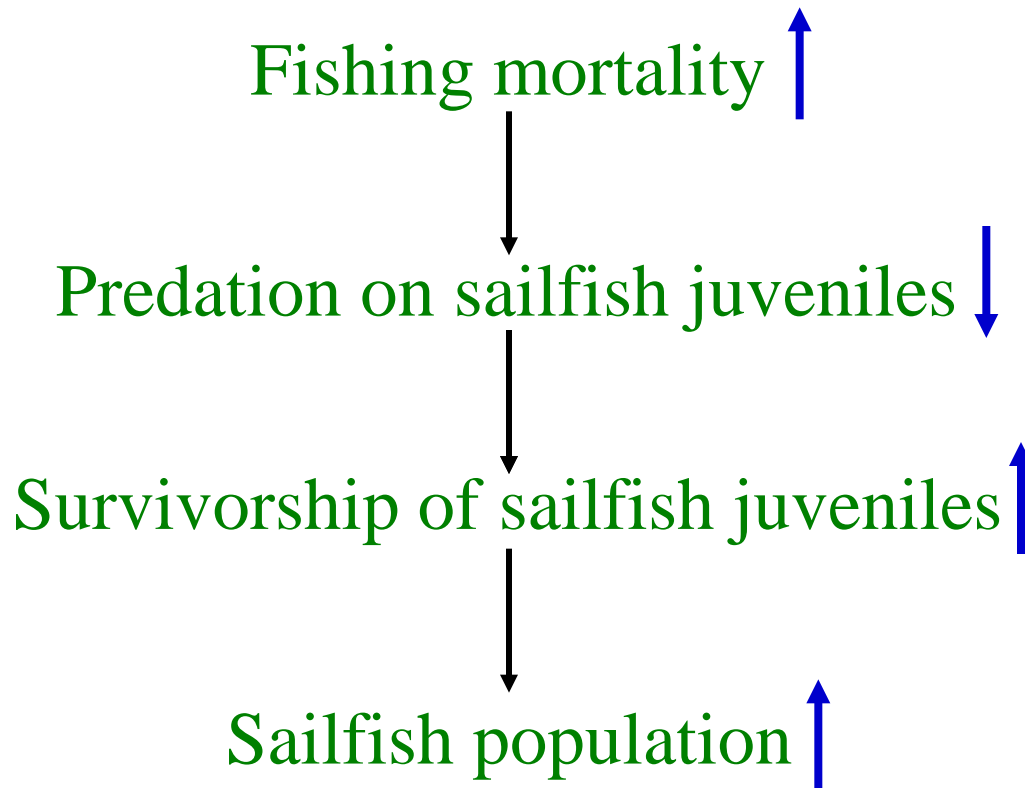
A large school of fish swimming in a circular pattern against a blue background. The fish are dark and silhouetted against the lighter blue water, creating a dense, swirling vortex effect. The background is a gradient of blue, darker at the edges and lighter in the center.

Marine ecosystem robustness and the collapse of marine fisheries

Ransom A. Myers (RAM)

**Dalhousie University, Halifax,
Canada**

One hypothesis:

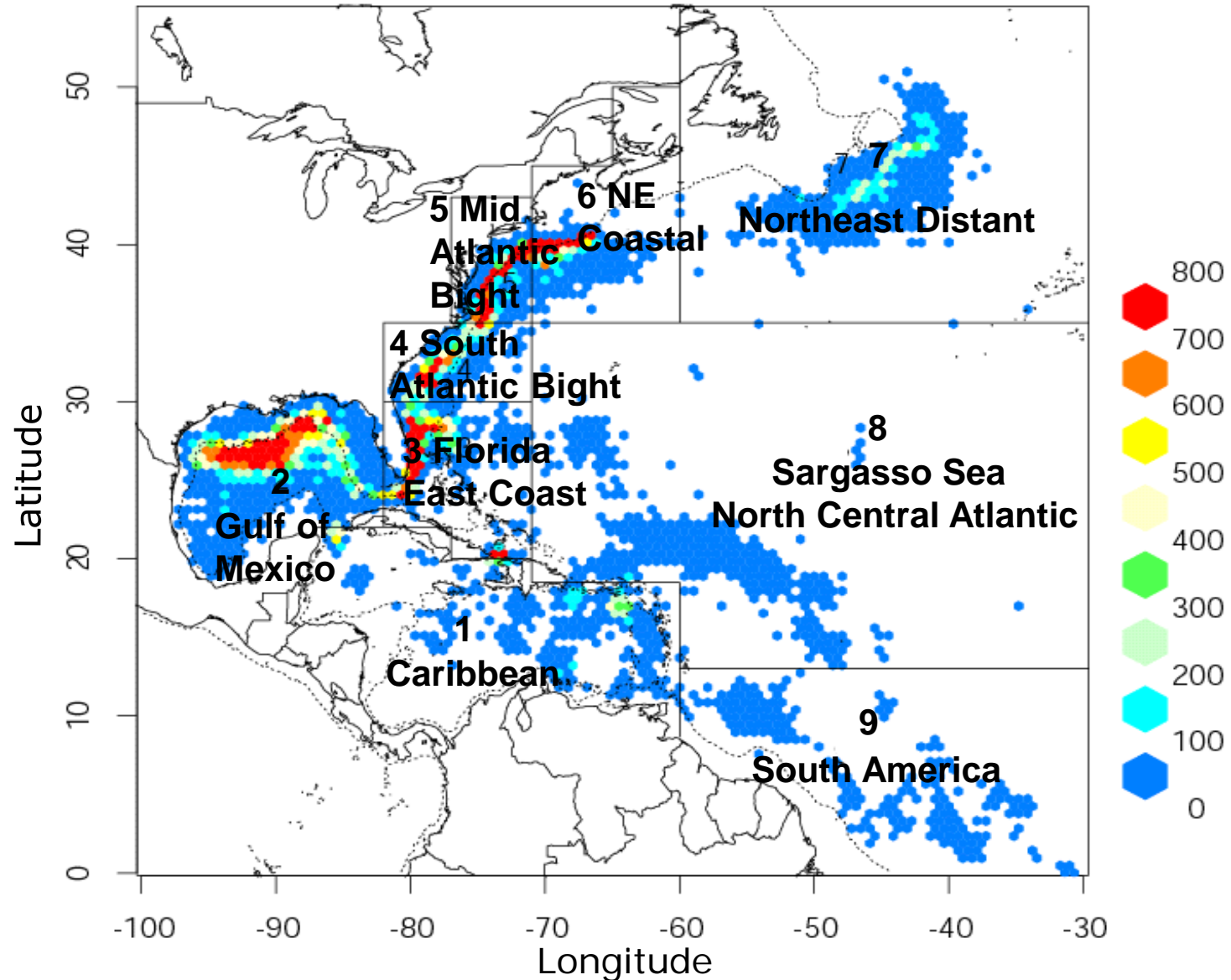


Collapse and Conservation of Shark Populations in the Northwest Atlantic



Science. Jan. 2003. J.K. Baum, R.A. Myers, D.G. Kehler, B. Worm, S.J. Harley, P.A. Doherty

U.S. Atlantic pelagic longline sets 1986-2000

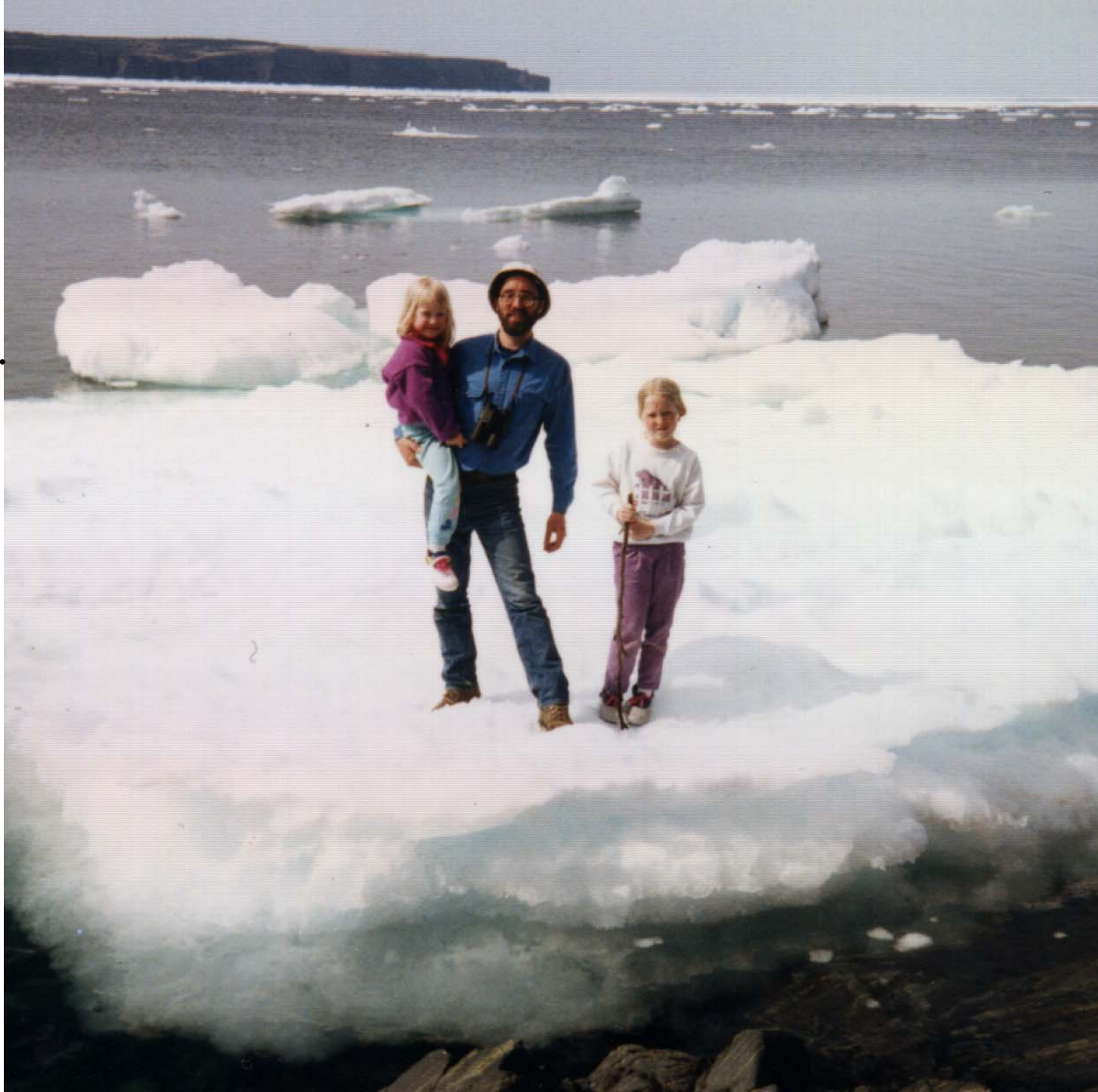


Political action is
costly for any
scientist.

However, it also
has great benefits.

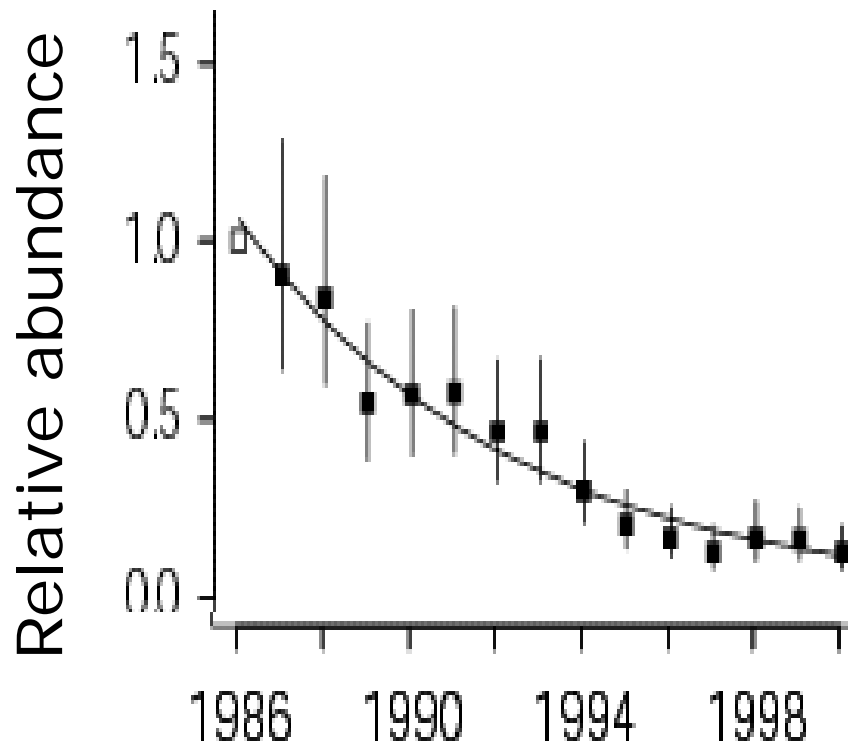
To act is to live.

To be suppressed
is to die.



Hammerhead sharks

Sphyrna lewini

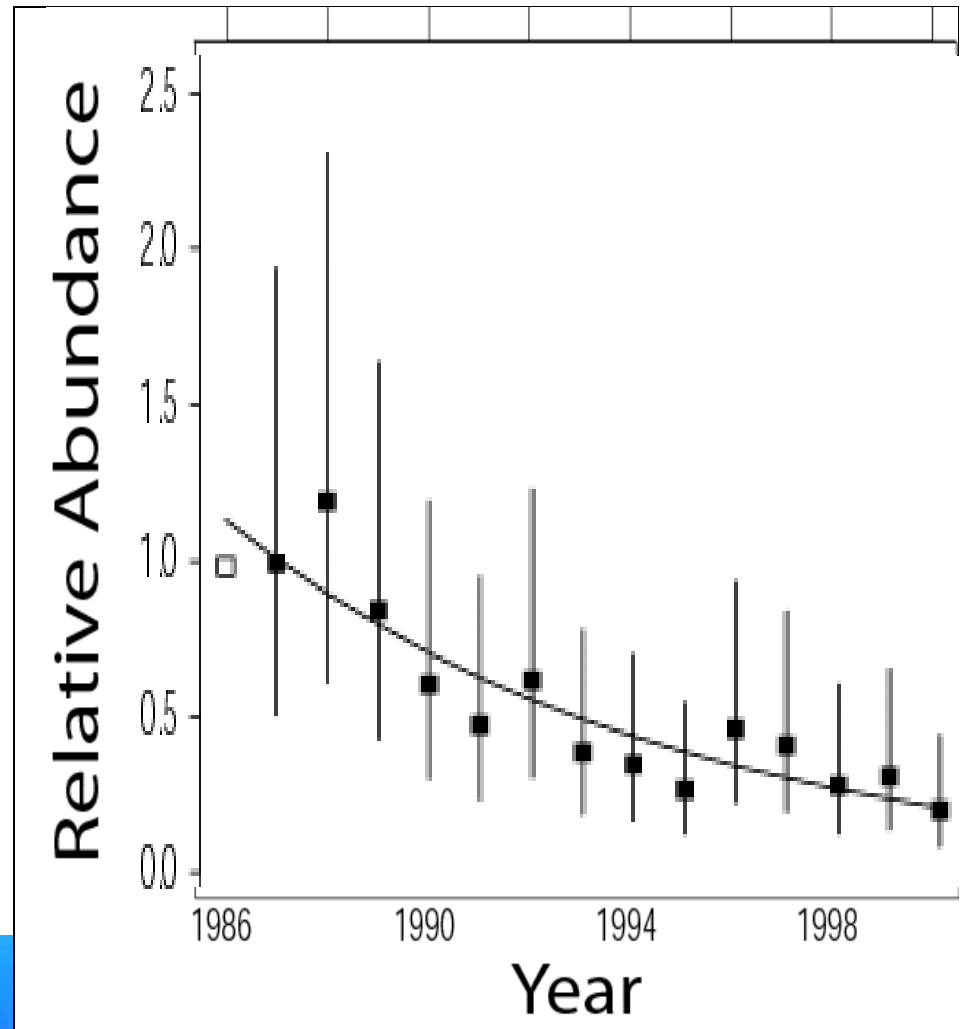


The rest of the slides are back up.



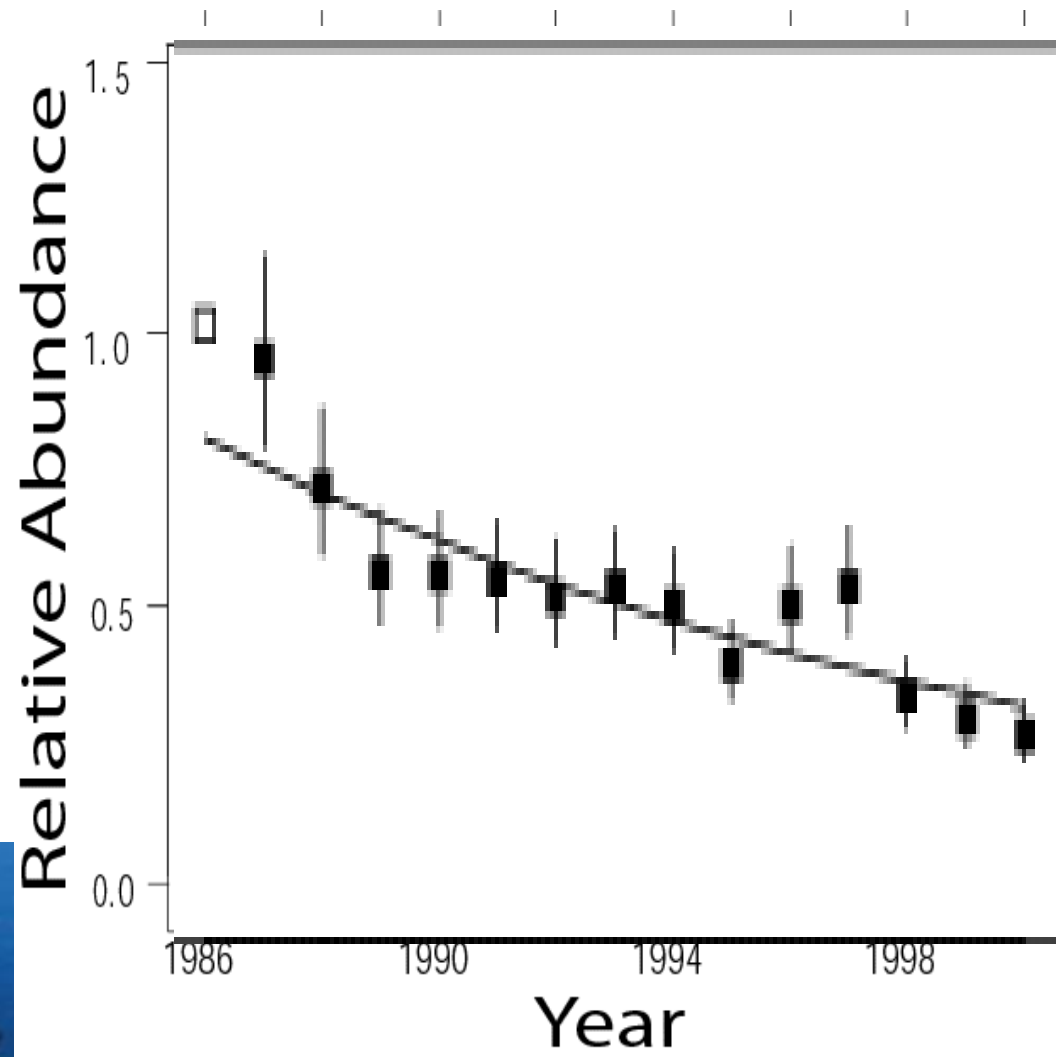
Thresher sharks

Alopias spp.

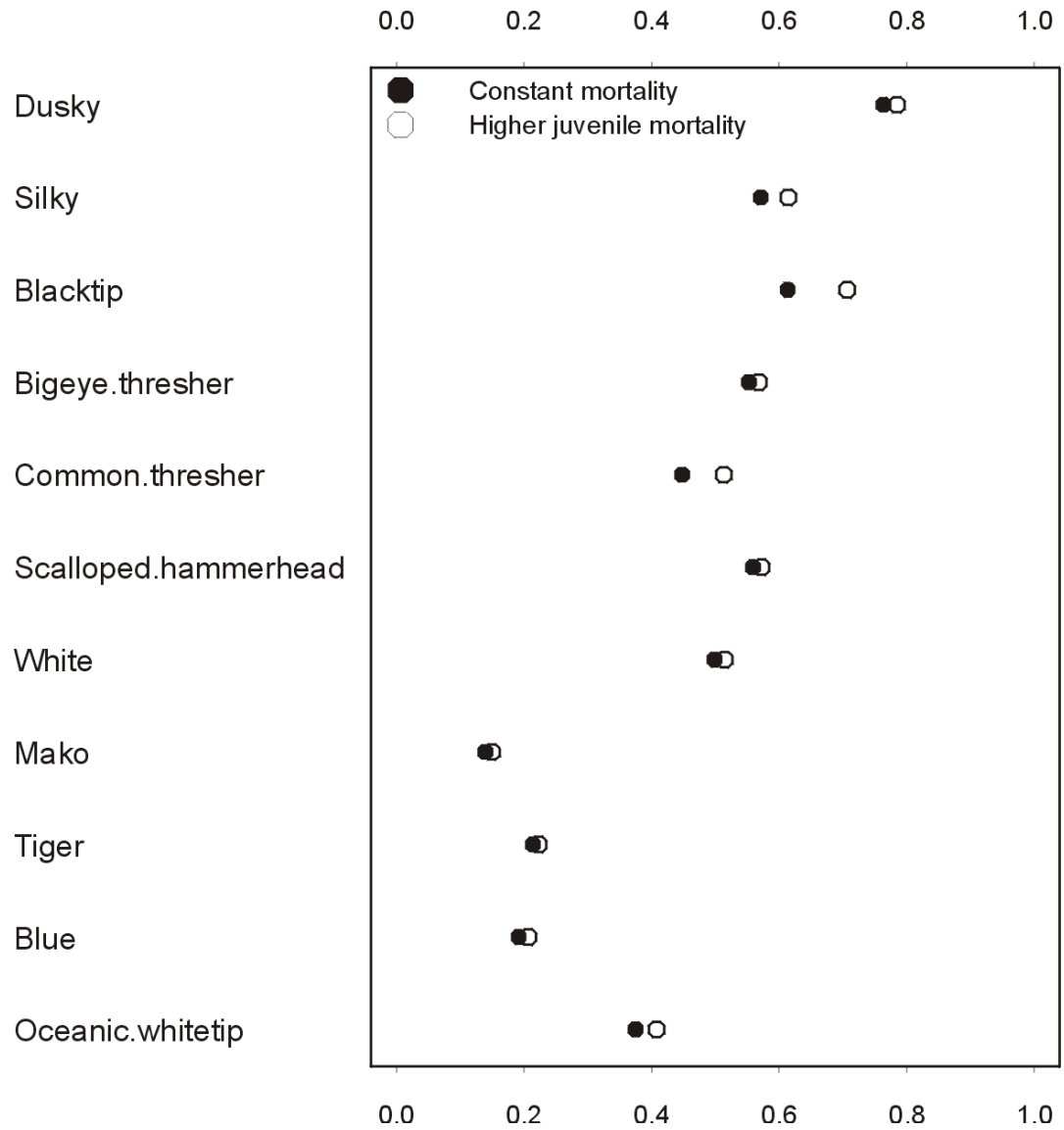


Blue sharks

Prionace glauca

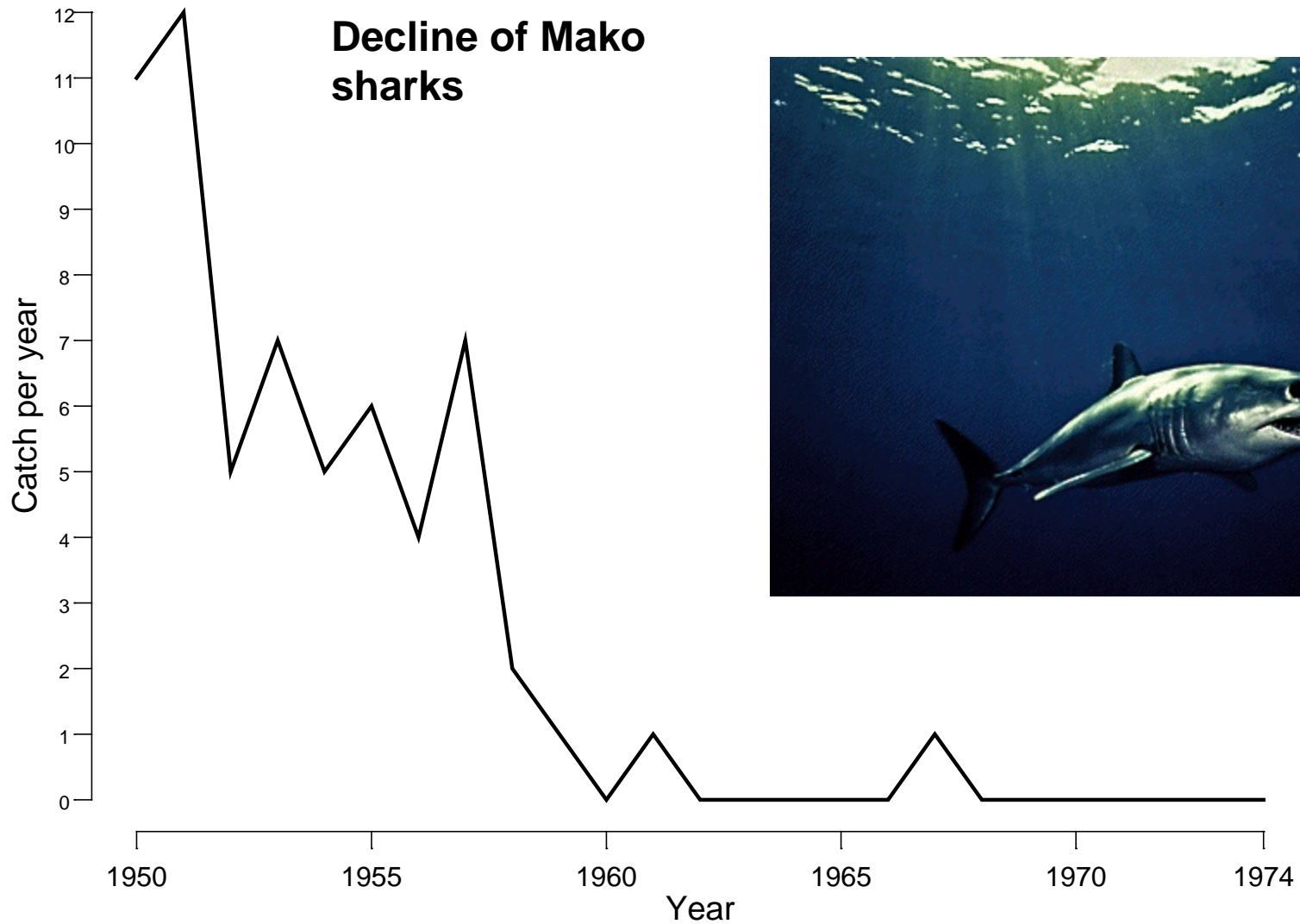


Proportional reduction in current fishing mortality needed to ensure survival of shark populations



Letter from senate

Put in cod

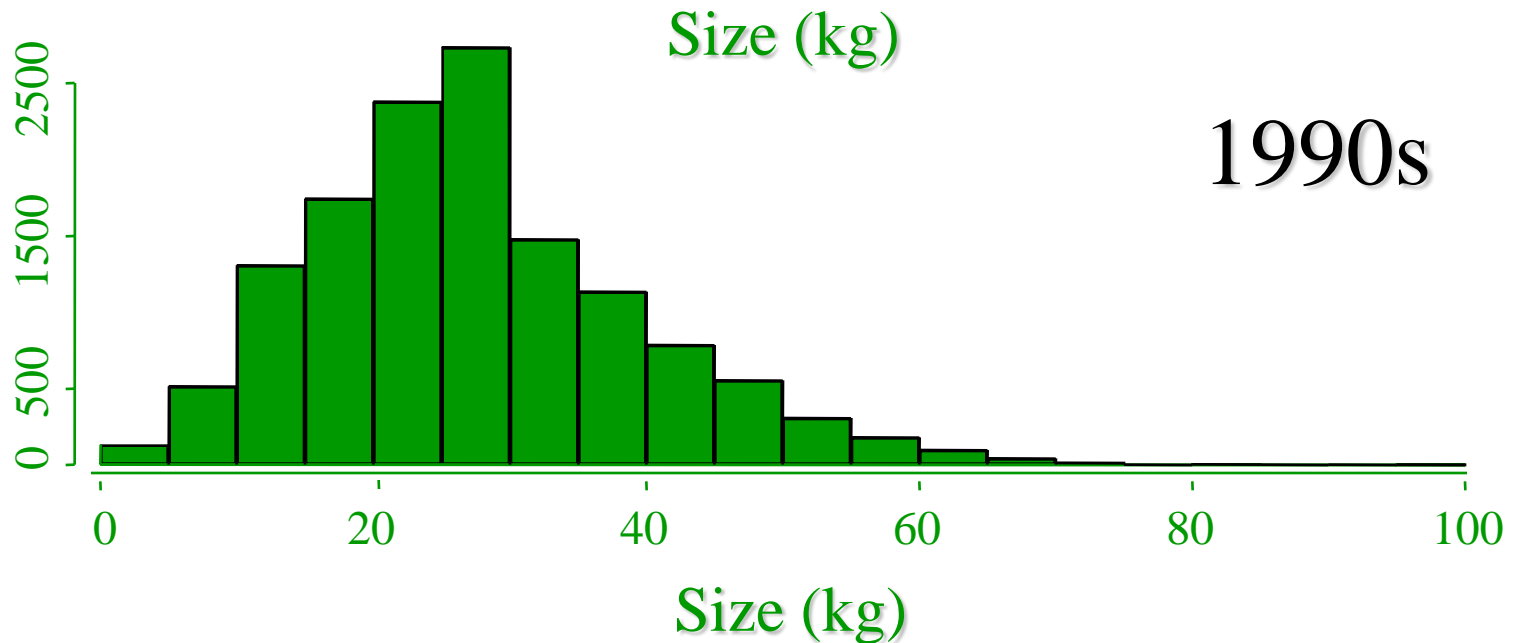
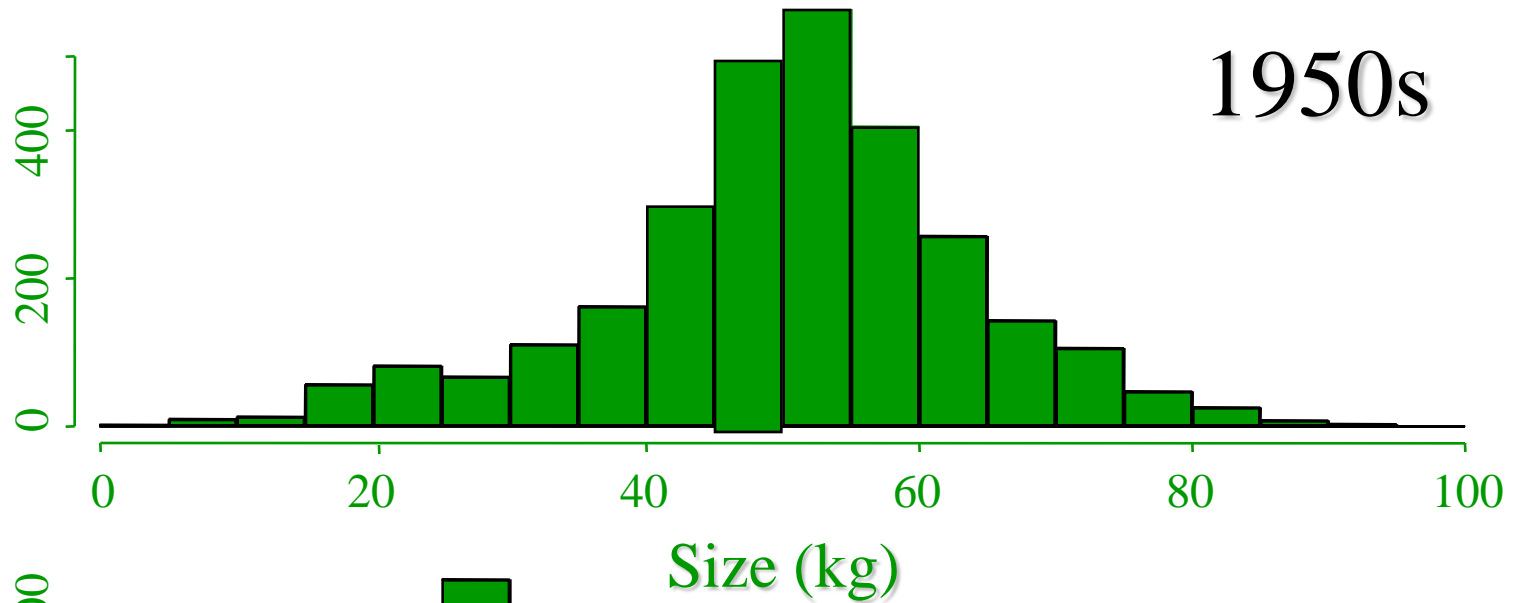


These estimates are conservative: 1.

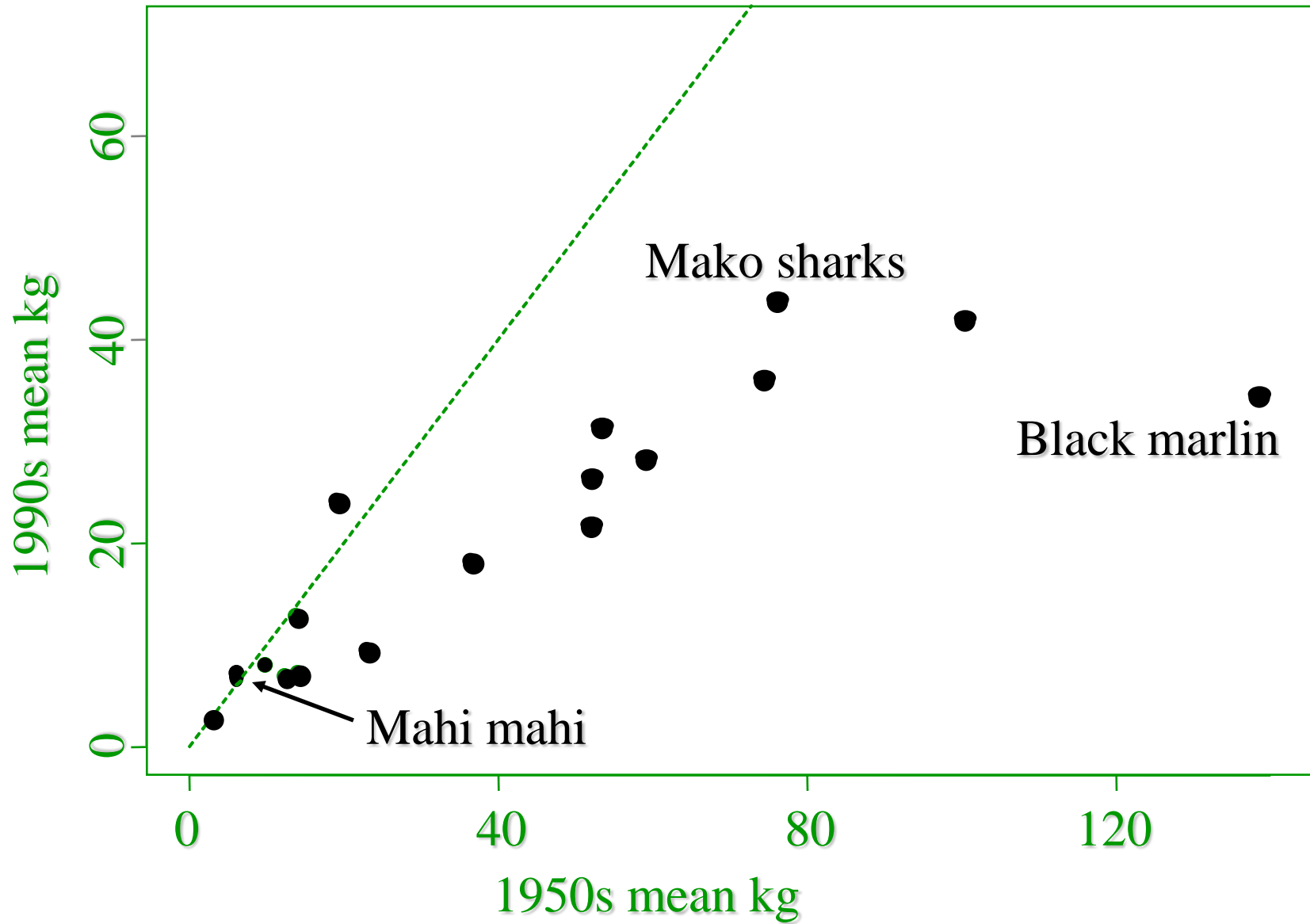
Bits of tuna did not count;
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not counted because of shark damage.



These estimates are conservative: 2 (fish are smaller)



Change in body size

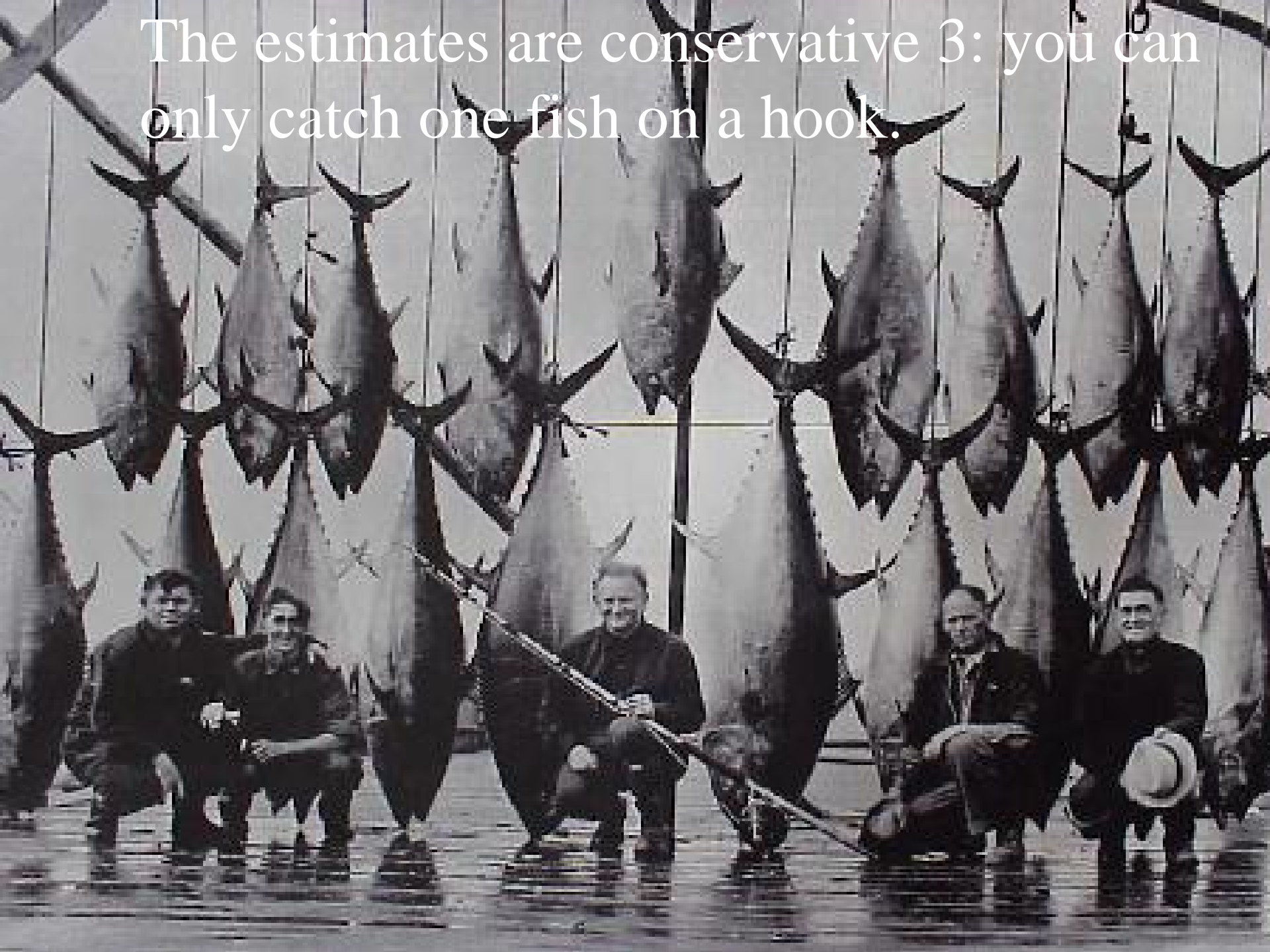




555
lbs.
Cabo Blanco

LBS.
1135
CABO
BLANCO

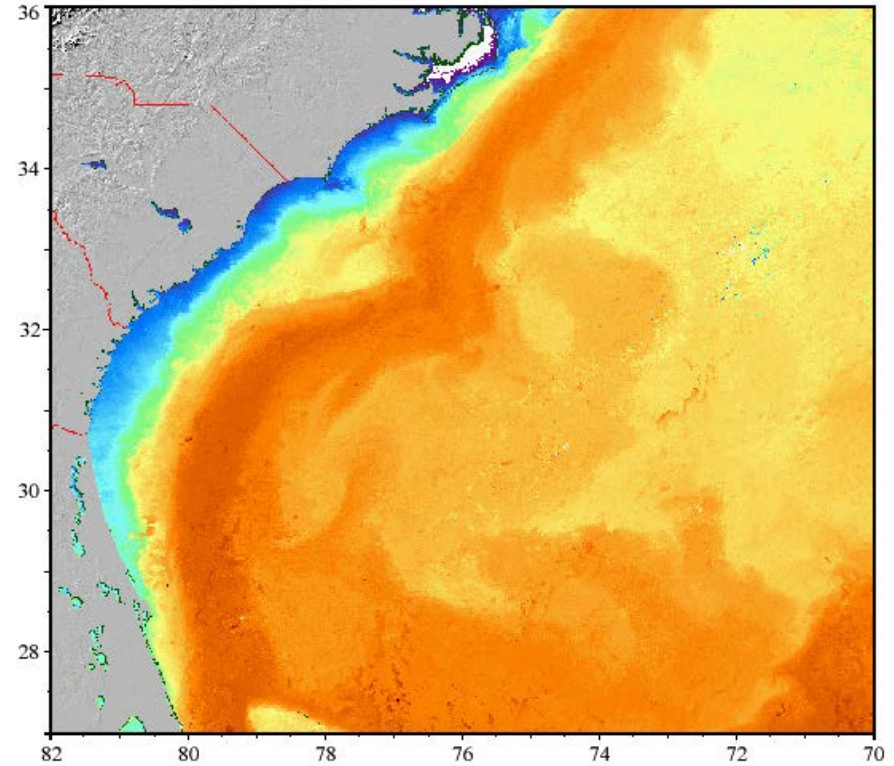
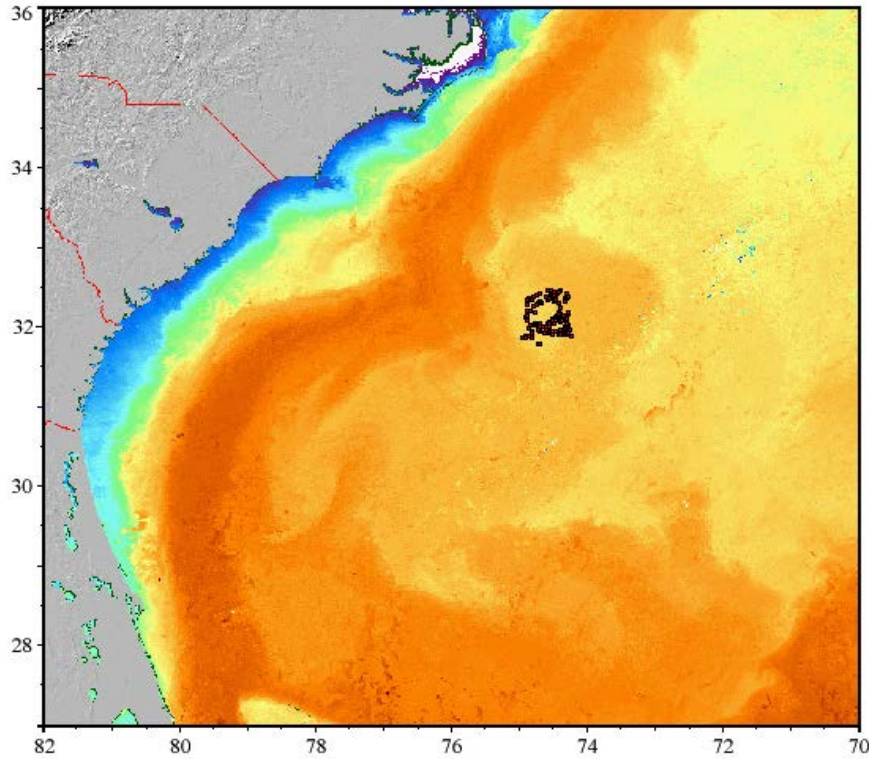
The estimates are conservative 3: you can only catch one fish on a hook.



These estimates are conservative 5: The oceans were not virgin.

- Japan harvested ~1,000,000 tons of tuna and marlin in the 5 years before WWII.
- In 1950 the US harvested ~170,000 tons.
- The 1950 harvest of albacore by Spain was greater than the total recent harvest in the North Atlantic.
- Species that migrate long distances (e.g. southern bluefin tuna, northern bluefin tuna, and albacore) would have reduced by these harvests.

These estimates are conservative: 6 Fishermen are smarter (gps, satellite information, **ACDP** (Acoustic Current Doppler Profiler)).



Locations of a leatherback turtle over a two week period tagged by my student Mike James that maintains its position within a cold core ring (somehow).

However, fish may be a lot smarter too (the stupid ones were caught).

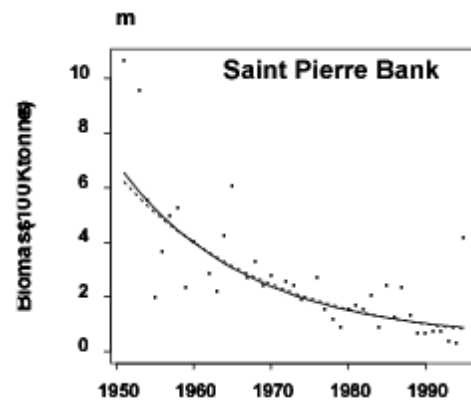
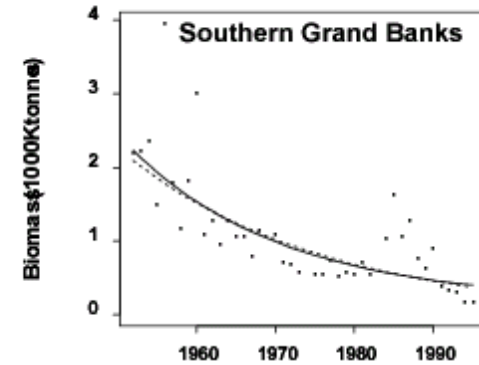
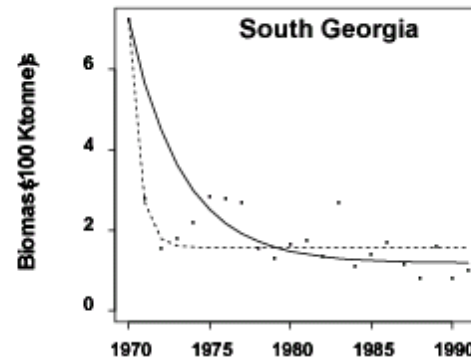
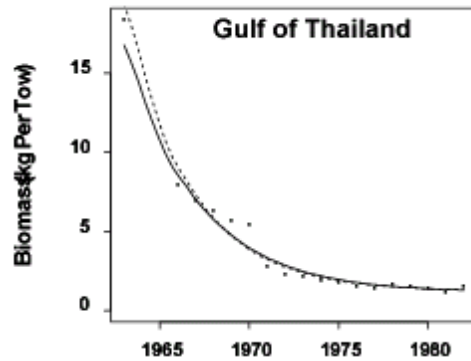
Step 8: You need emotional support. Support from colleagues and family is essential. You cannot do it (for long) by yourself.



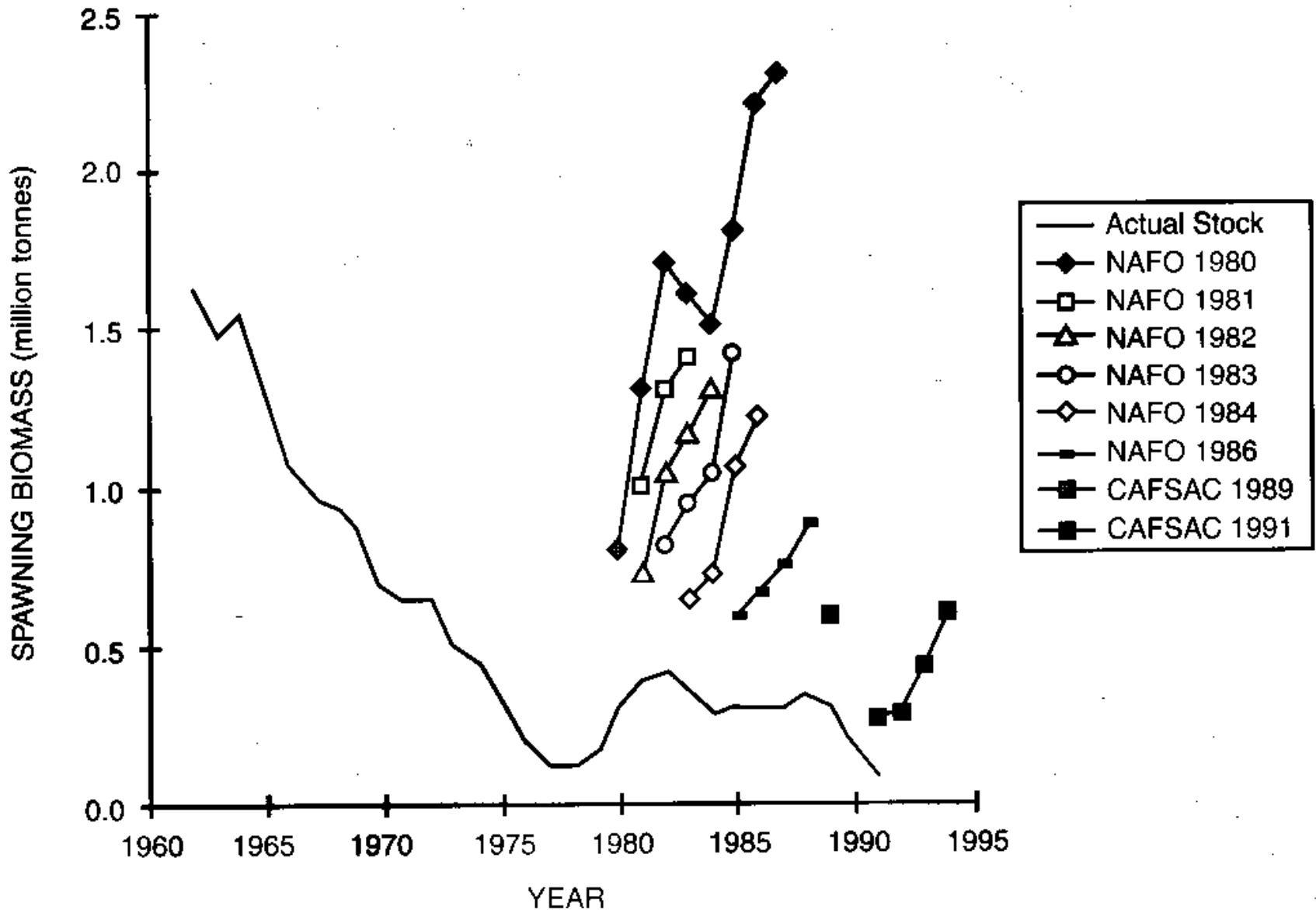
Why is it so important.

What makes them work.

Shelf seas



Government science was consistently wrong, and there was no effective voice from universities.



Lessons I Learned from the Cod Disaster:

- Government constrained scientists may consistently ignore what the data tells them.
- Independence is key.
- Multiple, independent analyses are crucial; or else you will be dismissed.
- Speak clearly and honestly to the press, the politicians must know that someone is watching.
- Be proactive, once an animal is ecologically extinct it is too late.

15 May 2003

International weekly journal of science

nature

ISSN 0028-0836

www.nature.com/nature

Net losses

Industrialized fishing
hits fish stocks

Financial markets

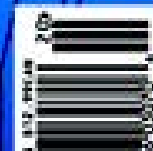
You can't buck the physics

Jupiter's moons

Headed for a hundred

Functional genomics

The power of comparison



RAM's 12 step plan: From hard core math weenie
to passionate conservationist: A PERSONAL
ODYSSEY.



Reaching the heart through mathematics.

Final point: keep fighting, keep hoping!

This happened last week: Oceanic Whitetip declared critically endangered by ICUN

- Last year it was “species of least concern”.
- This change was not because we published one paper in Science, but papers based upon 3 independent datasets (plus 2 math/stats technical papers).
- Skeptics remain – more analyses are in prep from scuba surveys of jellyfish (one notices large sharks while diving in the clear open ocean.



Conclusion: The Factor of 10 Hypothesis

- Scientific investigations of marine fish stocks almost always begin after the fact.
- Here we compile data from which the size of the community of large predatory fishes can be estimated.
- New fisheries tend to deplete the biomass of large predators by at least a factor of 10 .
- These declines happen very rapidly, usually in a decade or less.

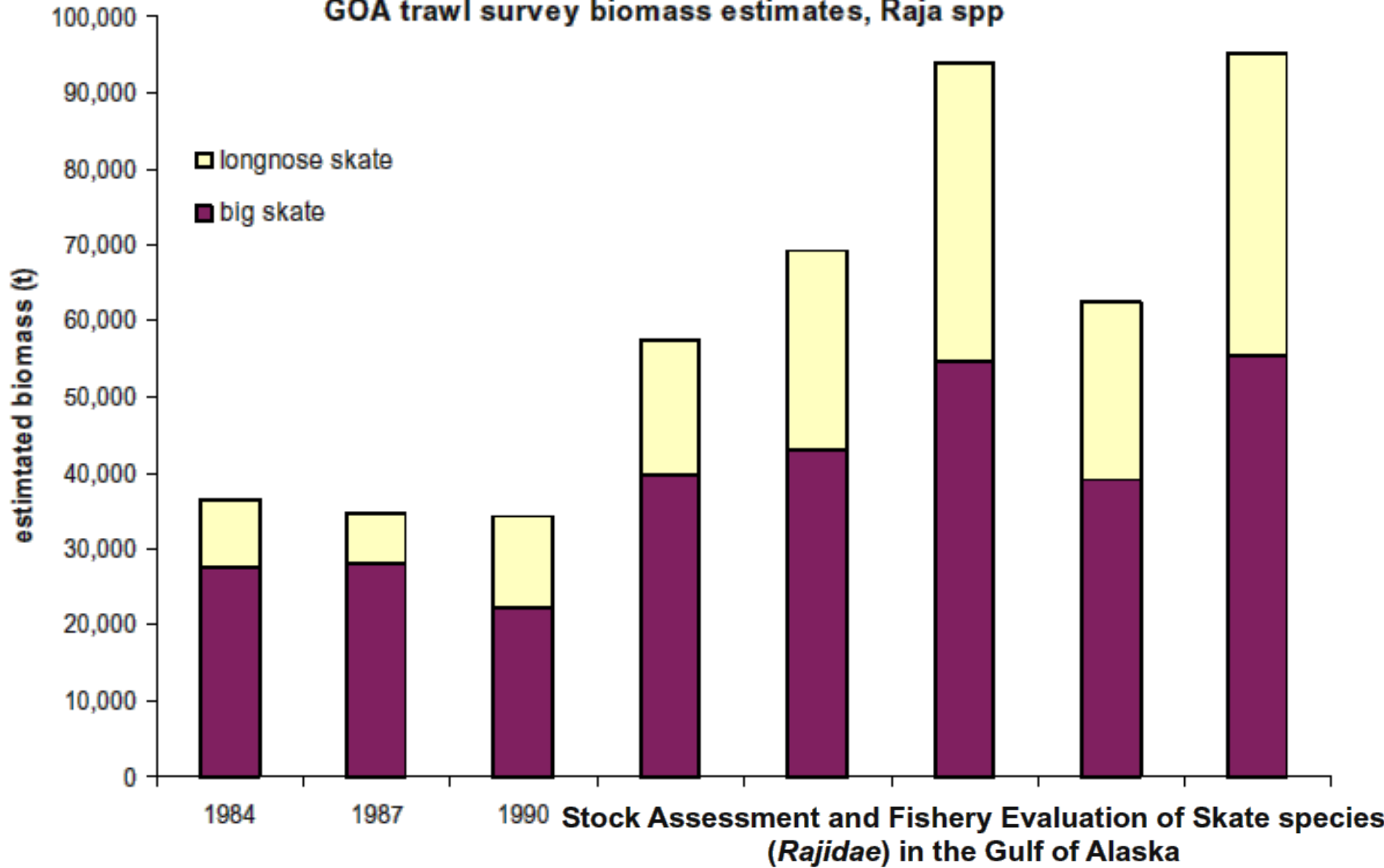


**Long - Term Changes In
The Gulf Of Alaska
Marine Ecosystem**

Figure stolen from Paul Anderson

- The Good -
 - Ban directed fisheries on sharks.
 - Control fishing on skates.
 - Keep a watch on bycatch.
-
- The Alaska Board of Fisheries prohibited all directed fisheries for sharks in 1998. In Southeast the bycatch rate for sharks and skates taken during other longline fisheries is 35% of the target species.

GOA trawl survey biomass estimates, Raja spp



by
Sarah Gaichas¹, Michael Ruccio², Duane Stevenson¹, and Rob Swanson³

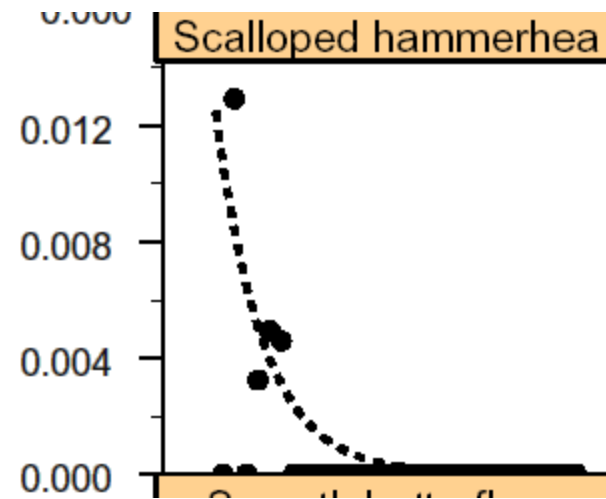
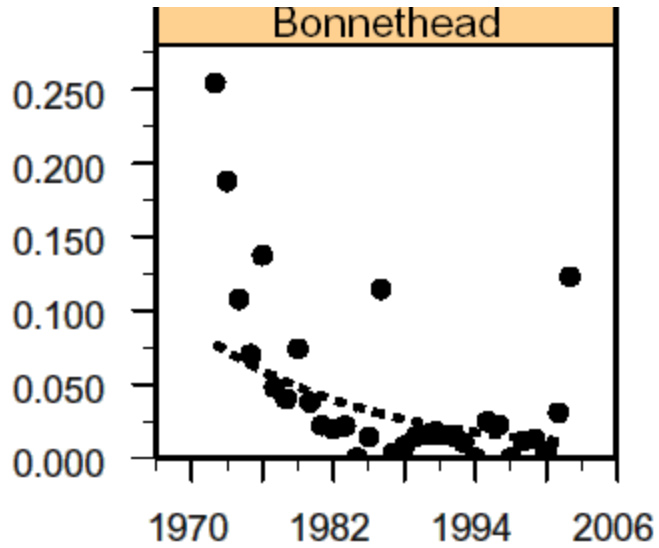


Figure 1. Big skate, *Raja binoculata*, with stock assessment author for scale.

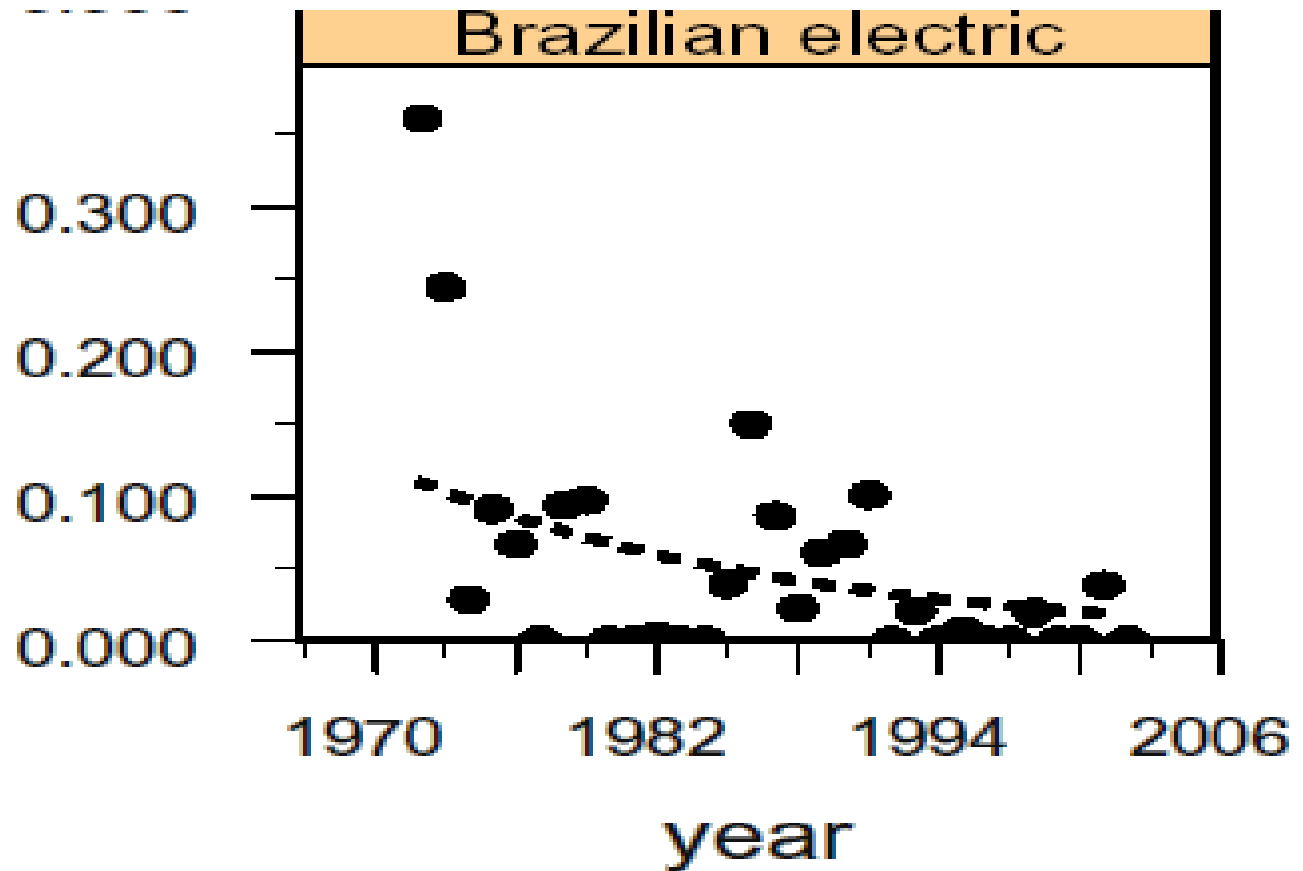
**Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation of Skate species
(*Rajidae*) in the Gulf of Alaska**

by
Sarah Gaichas¹, Michael Ruccio², Duane Stevenson¹, and Rob Swanson³

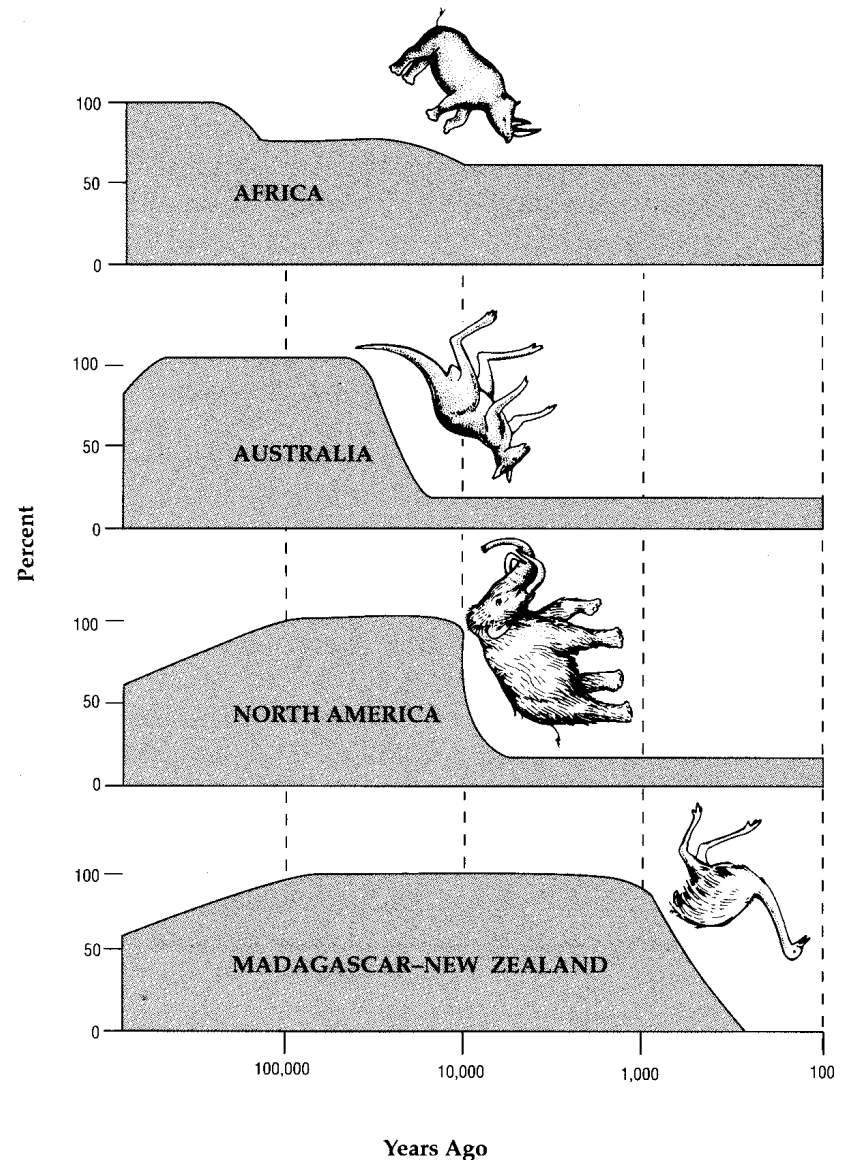
All large sharks declined



Shallow water species that do not survive discarding: large declines:



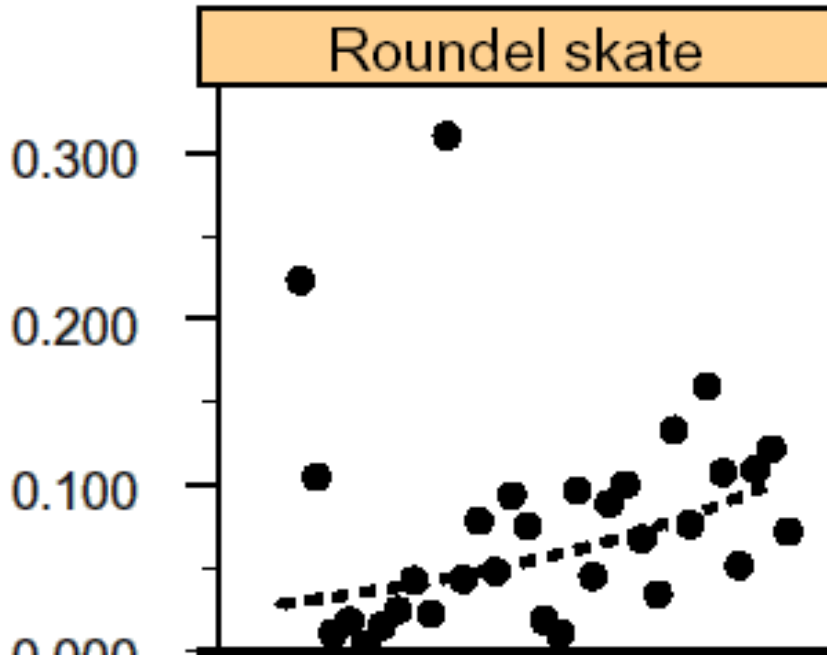
Are the pleistocene extinctions* going to be repeated in the ocean?

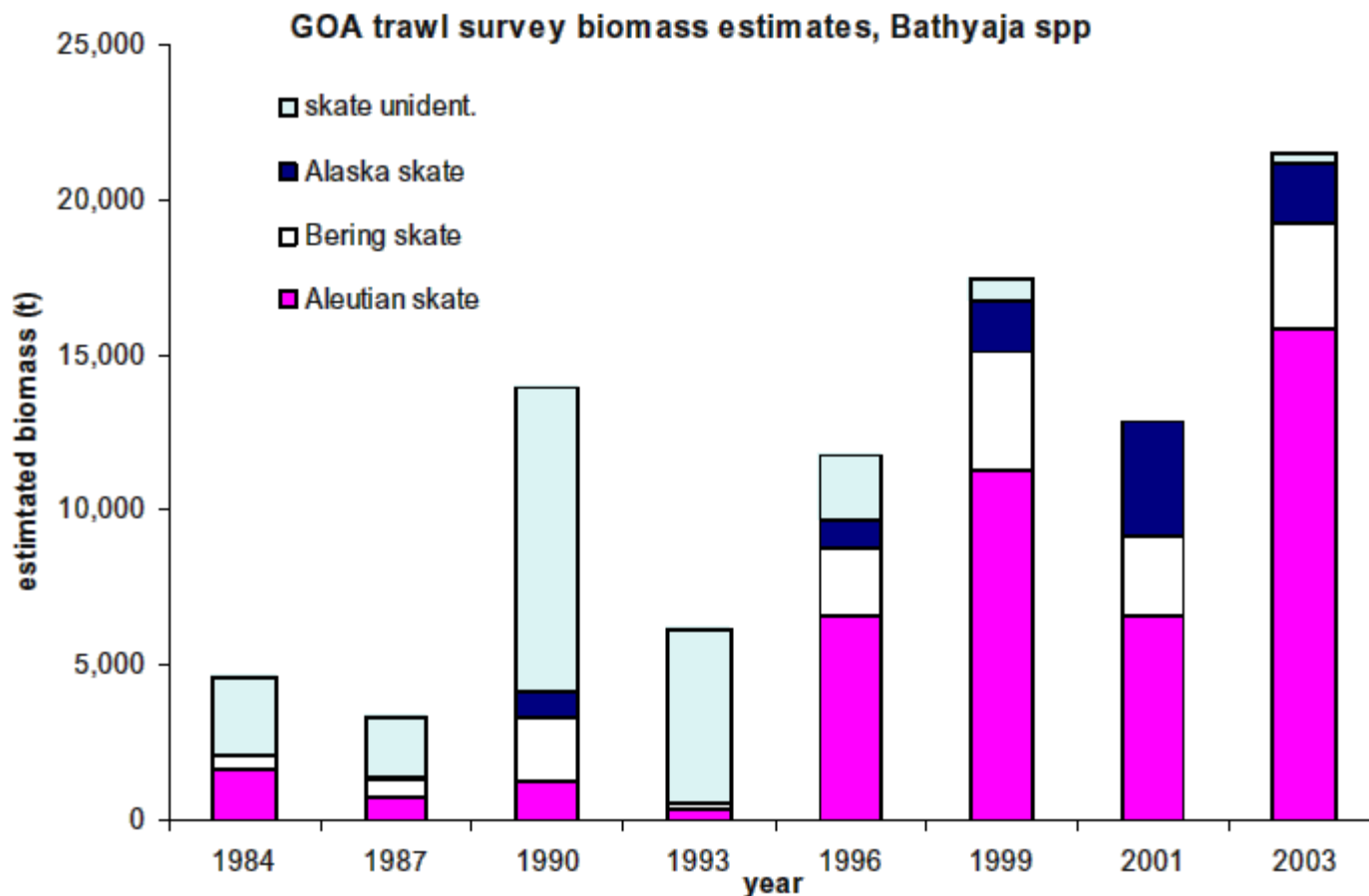


*Present North American biota has lost almost all large species – We have no mammoths, mastodons, giant ground sloths, giant beavers, and 65 other species that weighted more than 100 kilograms.

The extinction of large mammals and flightless birds coincided closely with the arrival of humans in North America, Madagascar, and New Zealand, and less decisively earlier in Australia. In Africa, where humans and animals evolved together for millions of years, the damage was less severe.

Deeper skate species that survive discarding increased

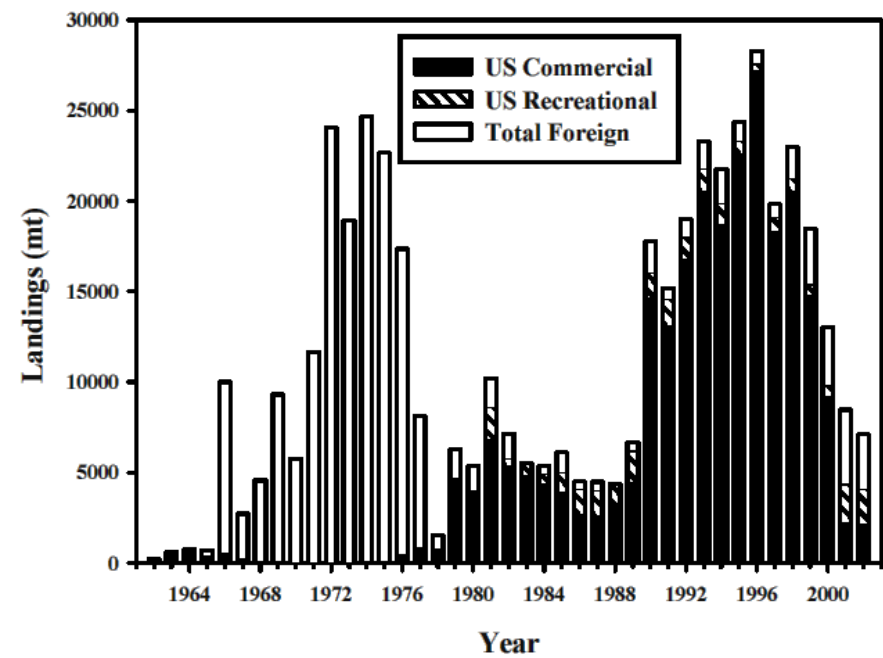
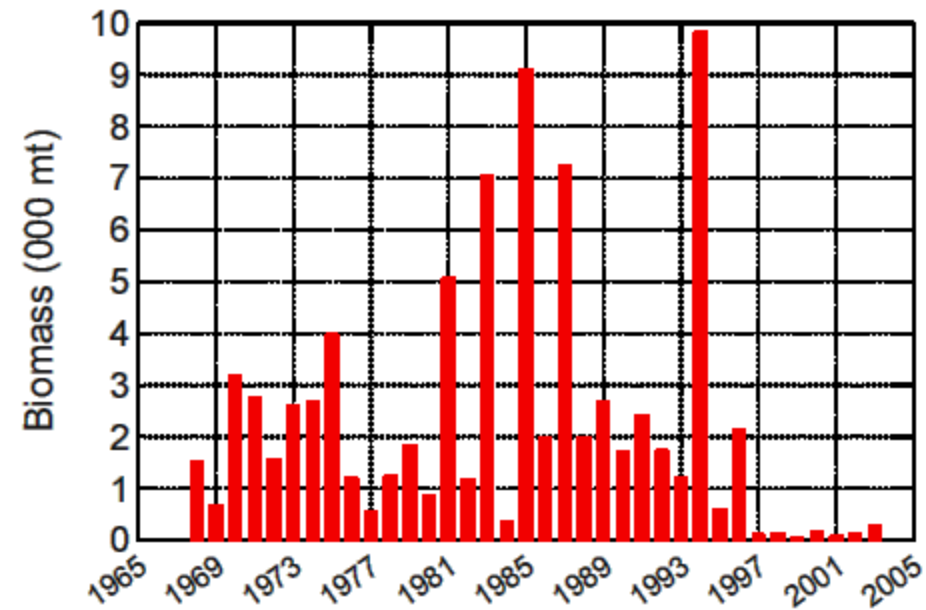




**Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation of Skate species
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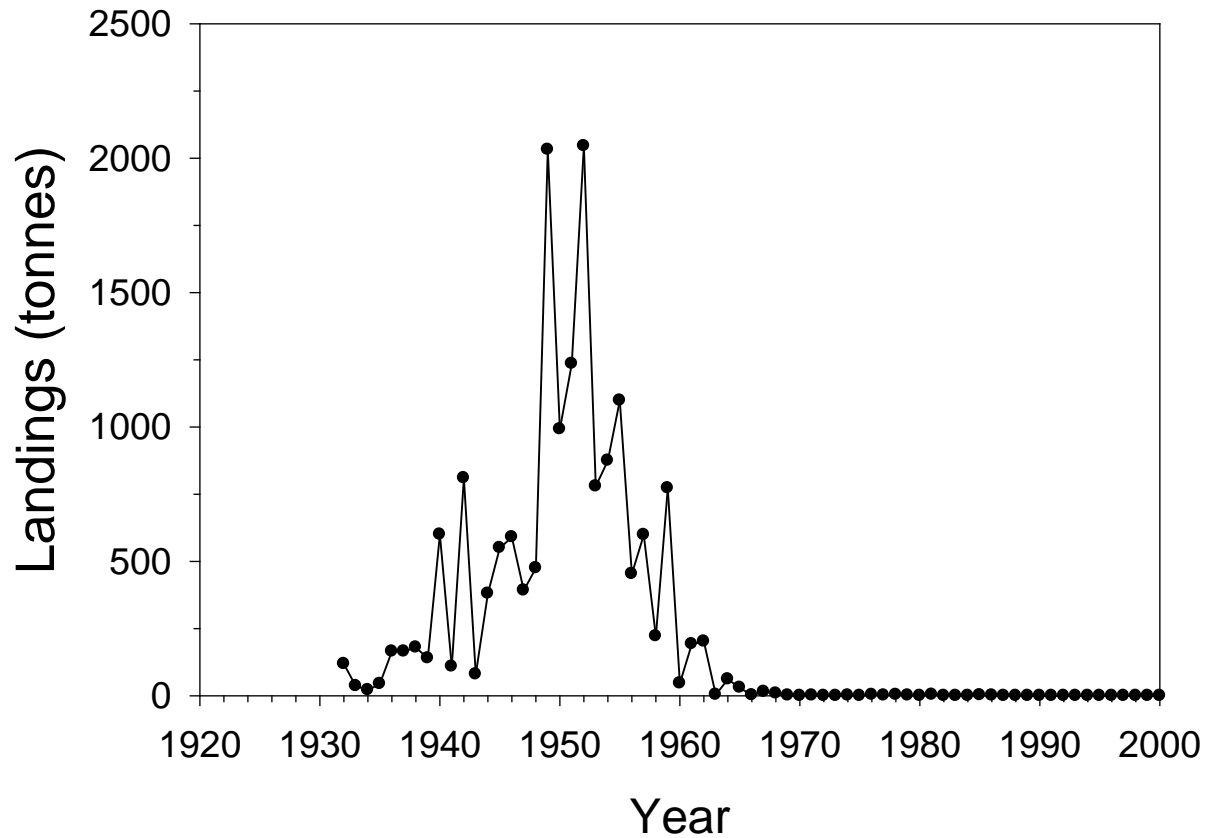
by
Sarah Gaichas¹, Michael Ruccio², Duane Stevenson¹, and Rob Swanson³

Spiny Dogfish, Northwest Atlantic: Good Science – Ugly Decisions



Danish Landings of Bluefin Tuna

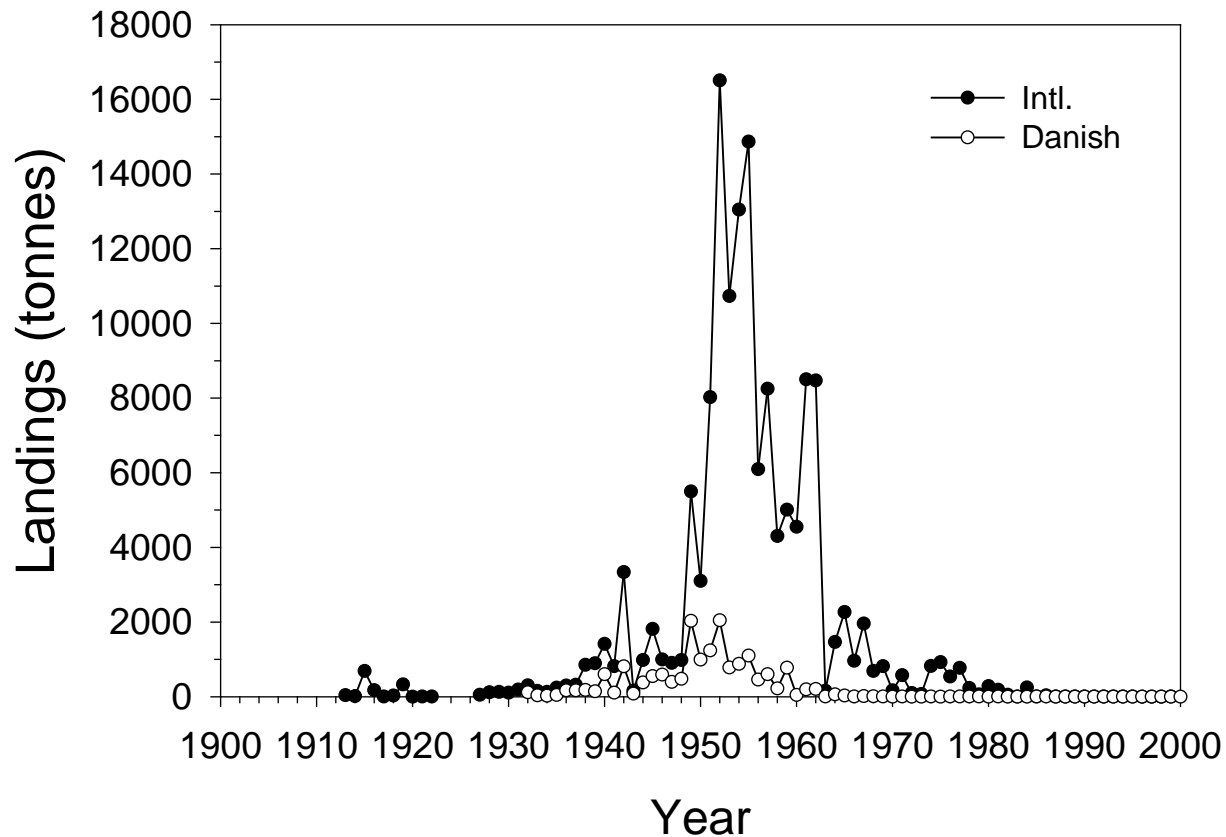
Thunnus thynnus



Data source: DIFRES, ICES, FAO

Landings of Bluefin Tuna

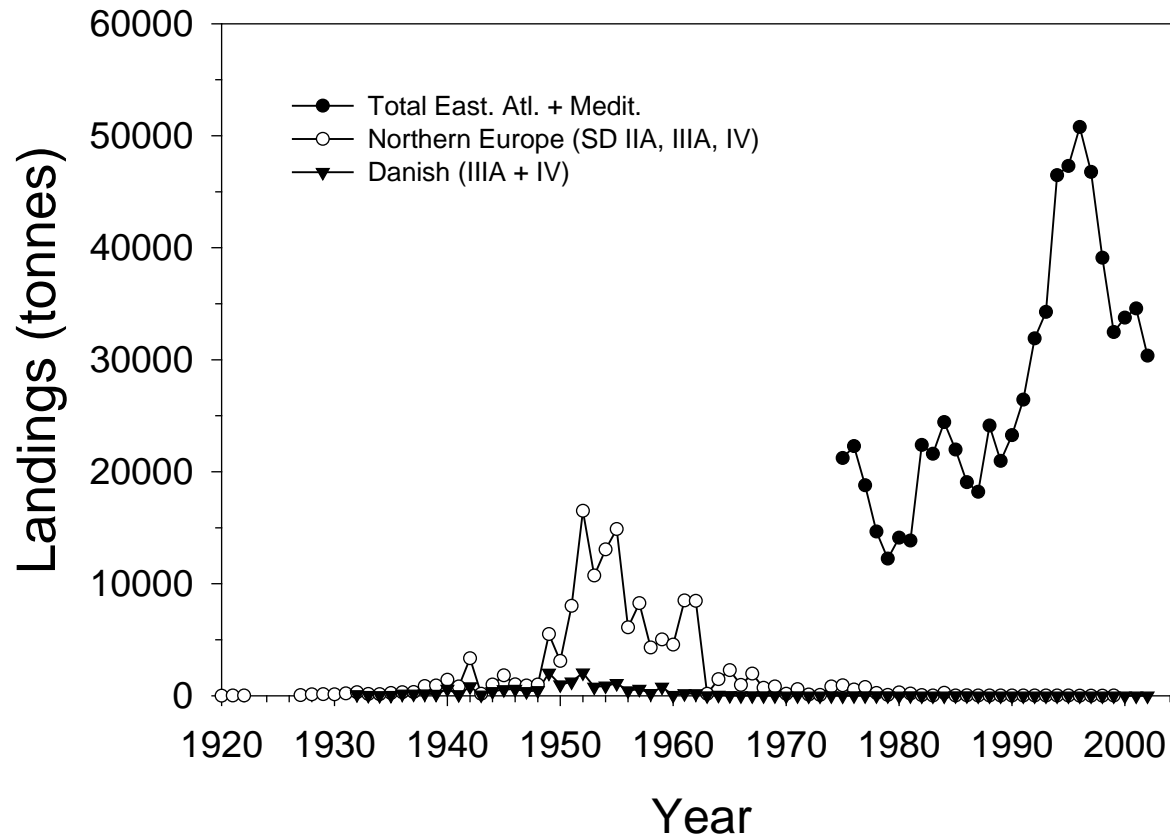
Thunnus thynnus in Northern Europe*

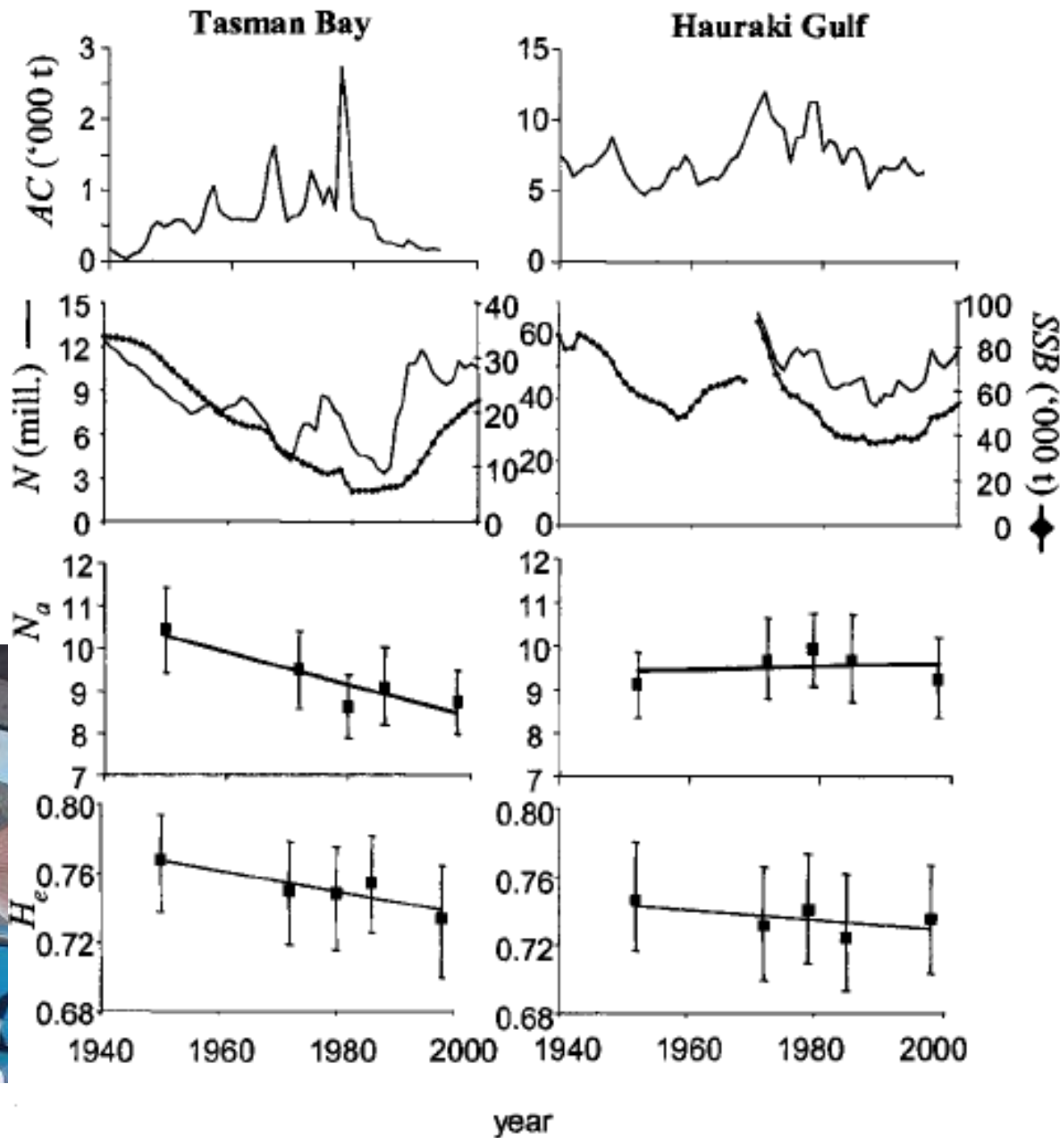


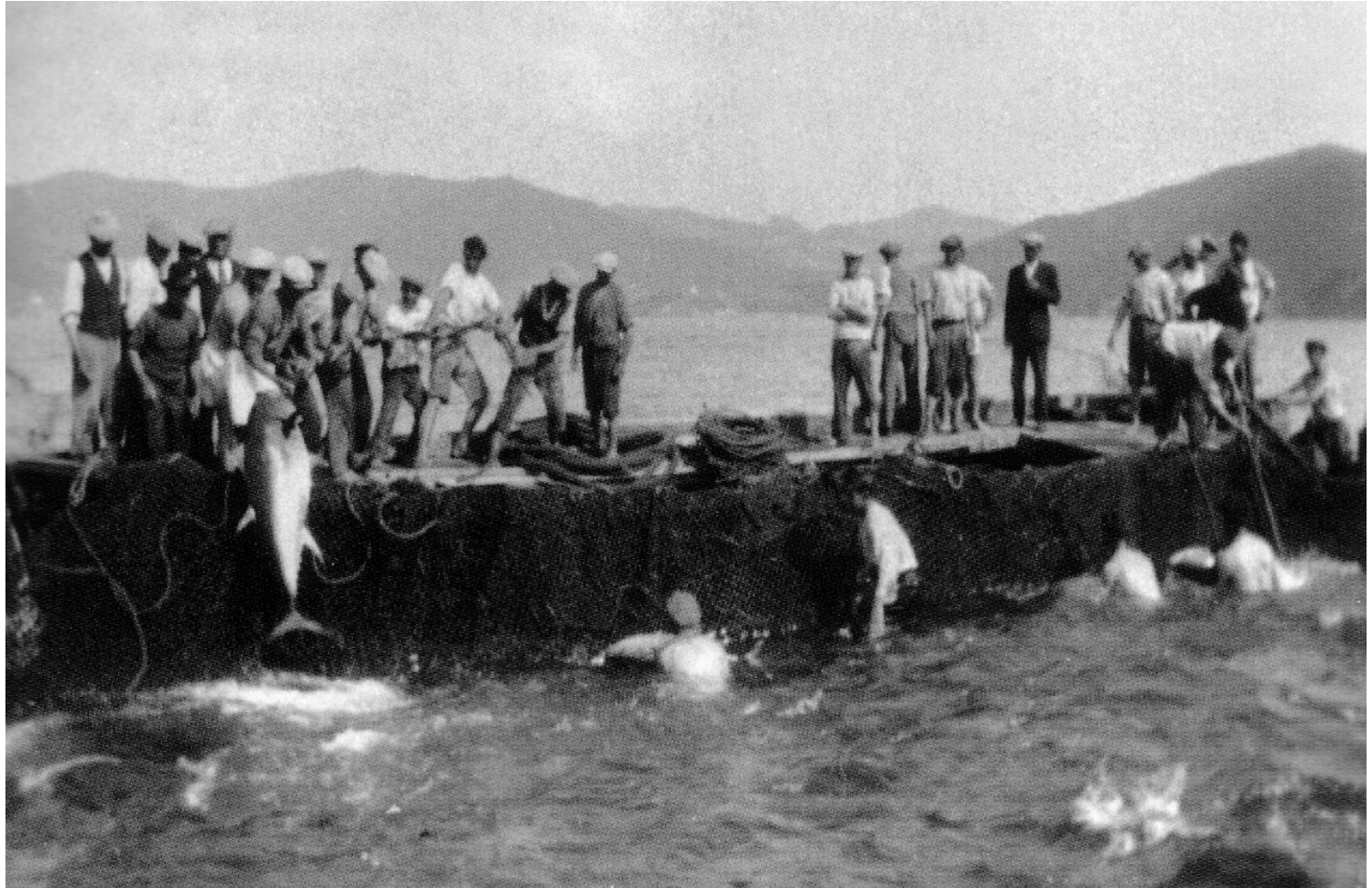
* = Norwegian Sea, North Sea, Skagerrak, Kattegat, Øresund

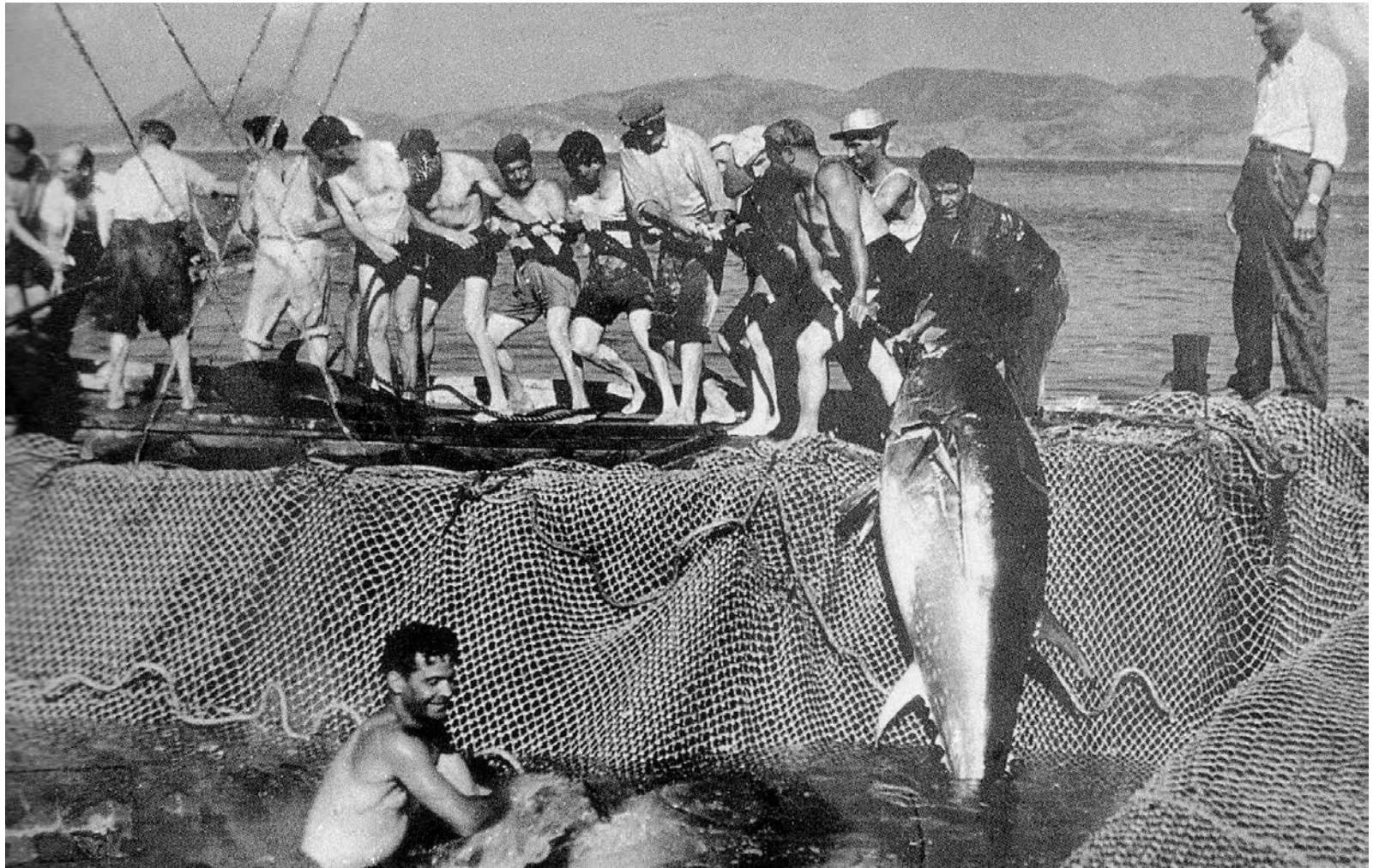
Landings of Bluefin Tuna

Thunnus thynnus in Northeast Atlantic









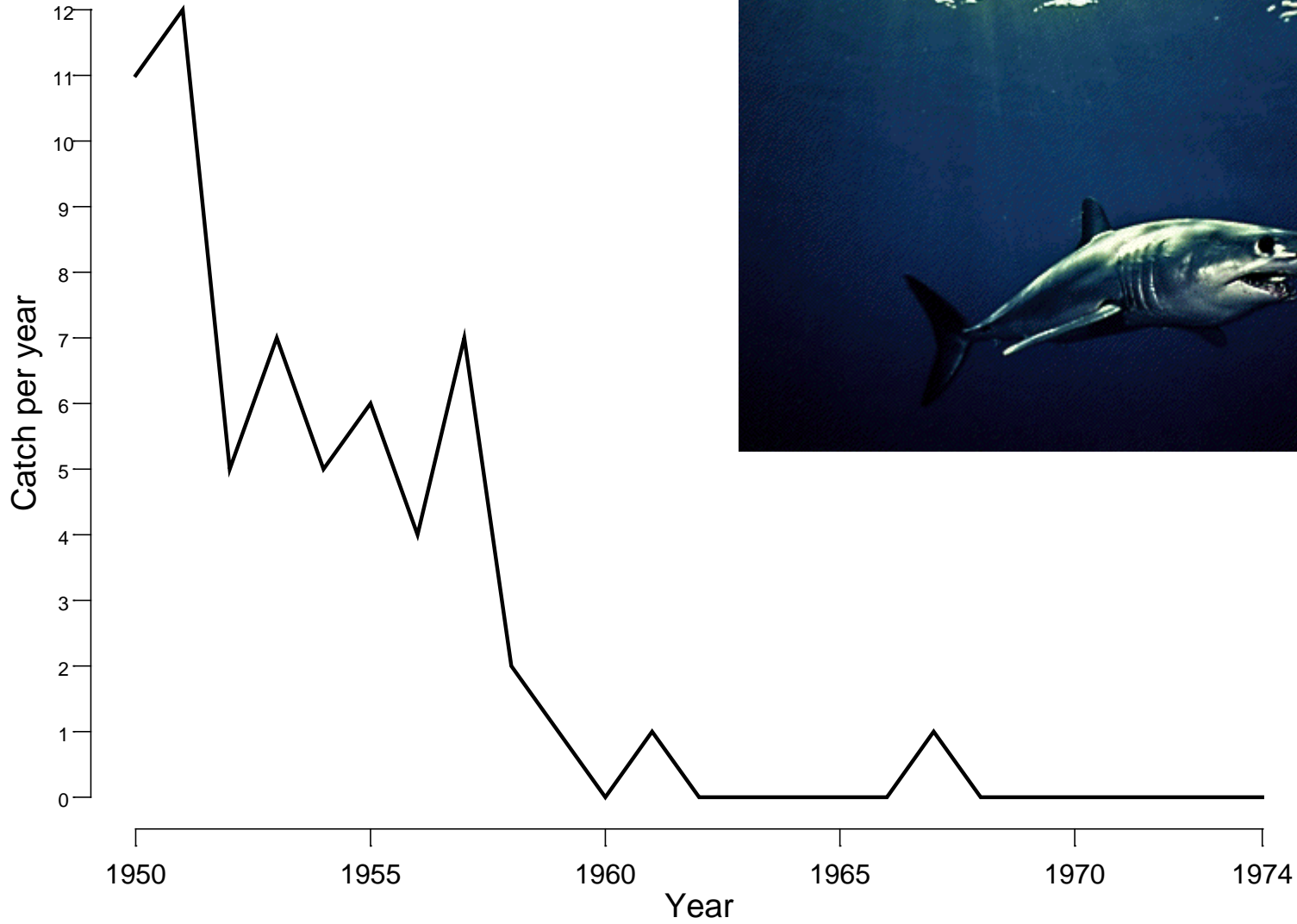


We Cannot Imagine the Loss of Life in the Ocean: We have to look at data.

Ransom A. Myers (RAM)
Dalhousie University, Halifax,
Canada

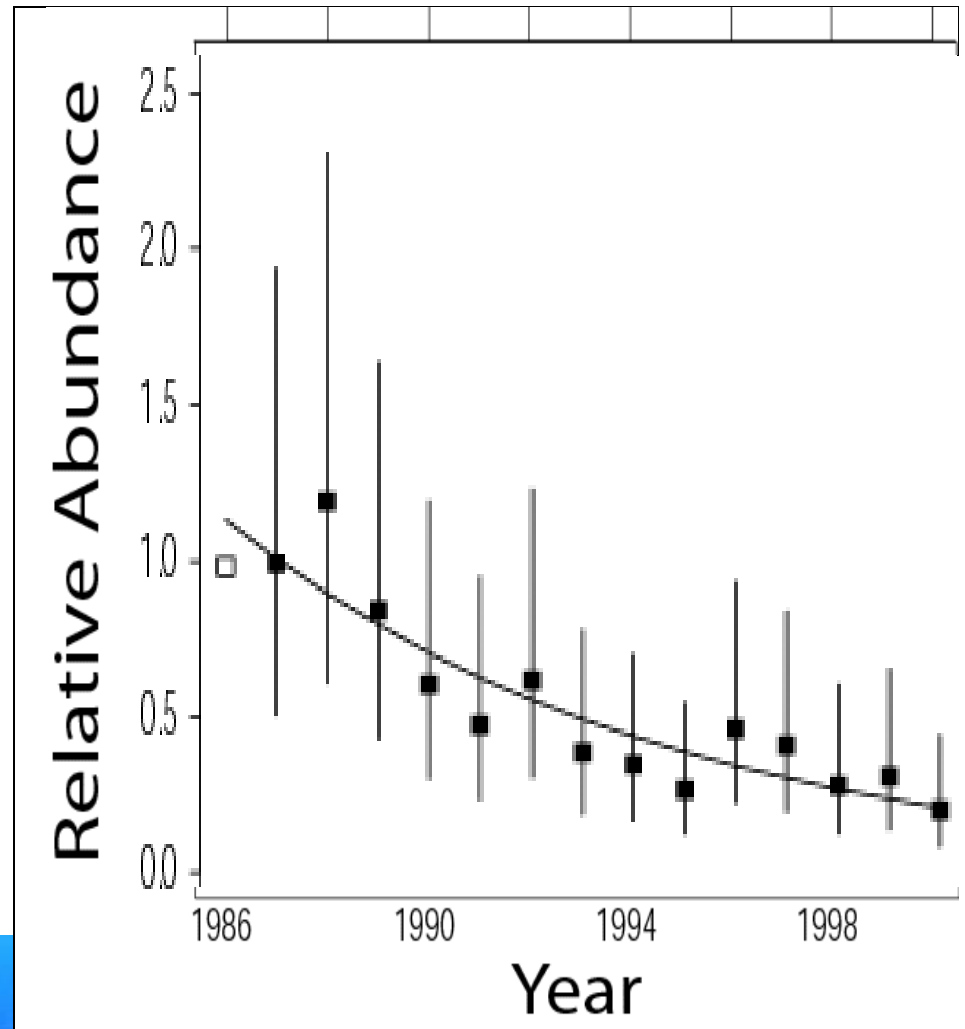


Decline of Mako sharks



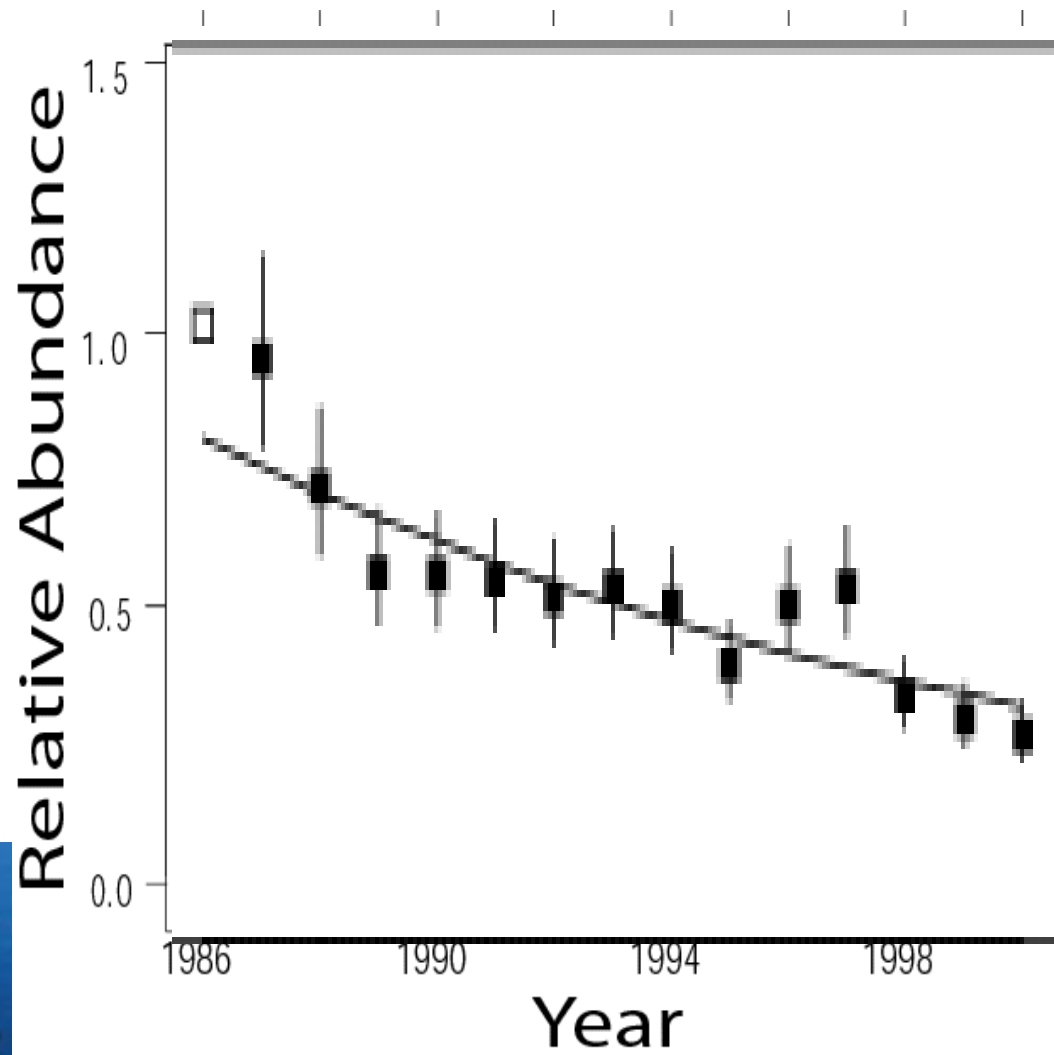
Thresher sharks

Alopias spp.

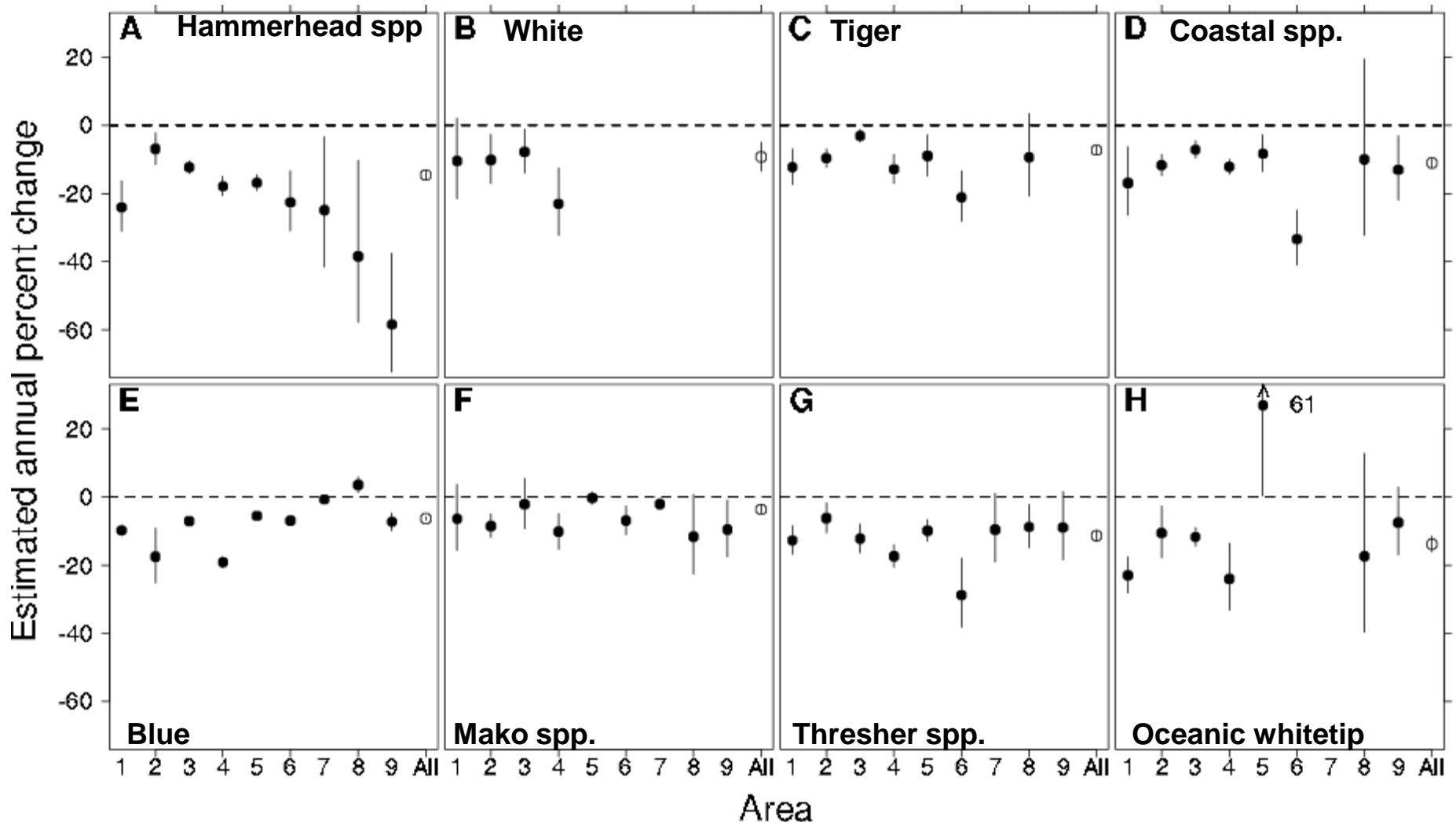


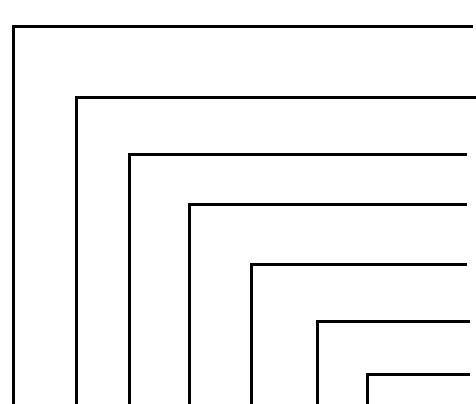
Blue sharks

Prionace glauca

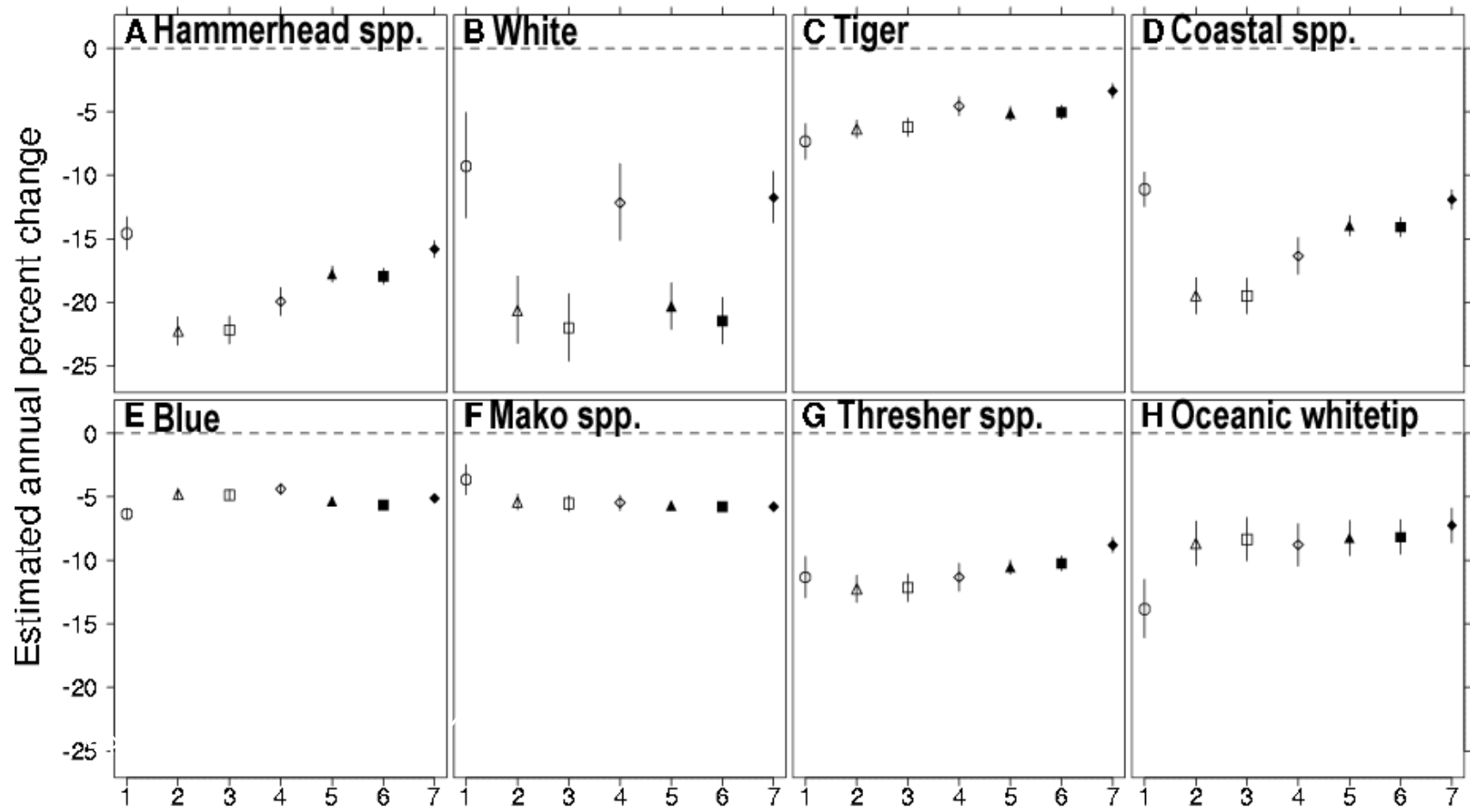


- 1 Caribbean
- 2 Gulf of Mexico
- 3 Florida
- 4 S Atlantic Bight
- 5 Mid Atlantic Bight
- 6 NE Coastal
- 7 NE Distant
- 8 Sargasso
- 9 S America

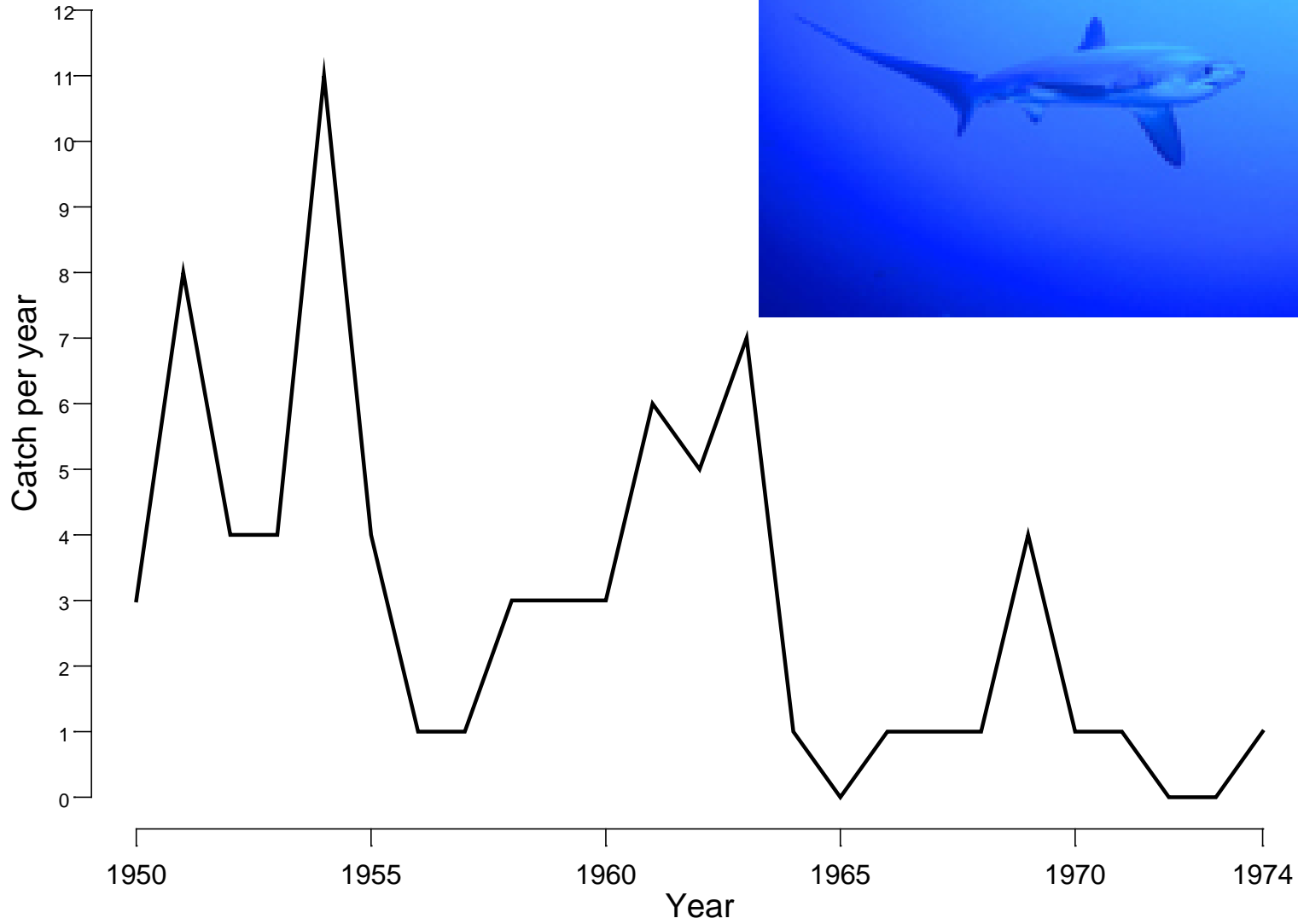




TNB
NB - all data
NB - vessels recorded species once
NB - vessels recorded species every year
DL - all data
DL - vessels recorded species once
DL - vessels recorded species every year

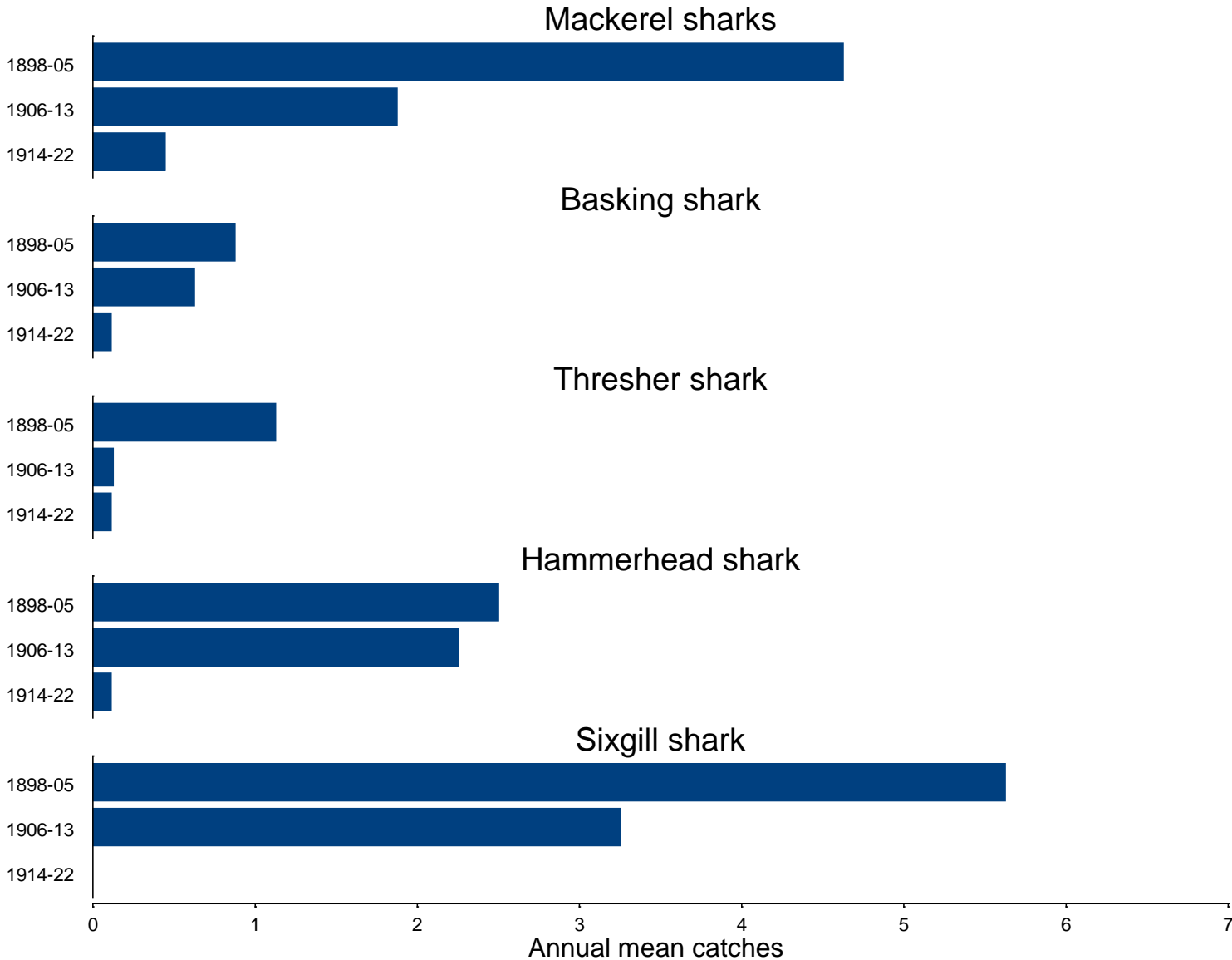


Decline of Thresher sharks



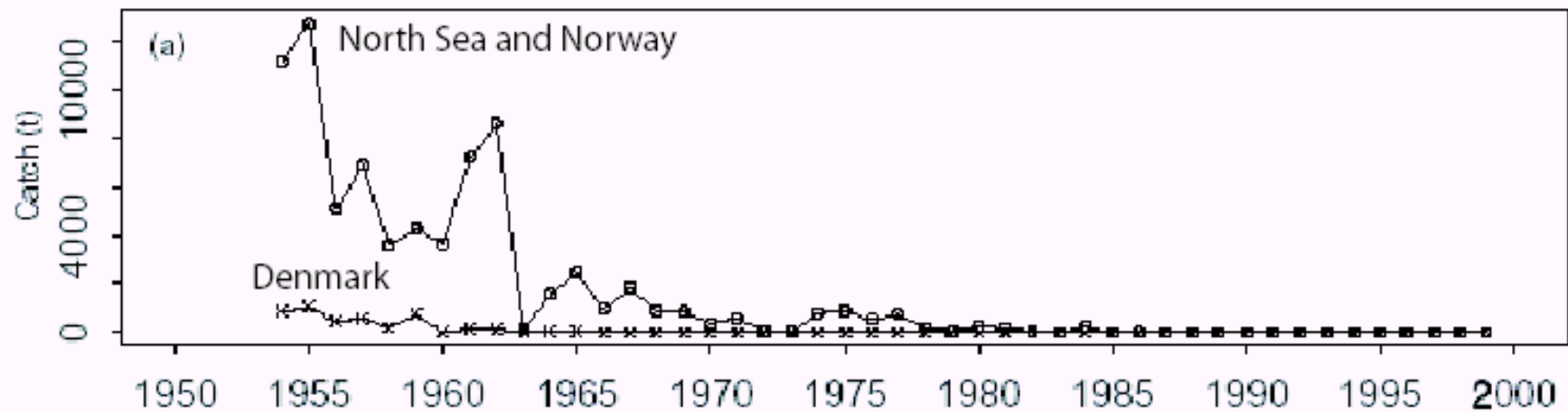
Decline in Large Sharks's Catches by an Italian Tuna Trap

Baratti's "Tonnarella"

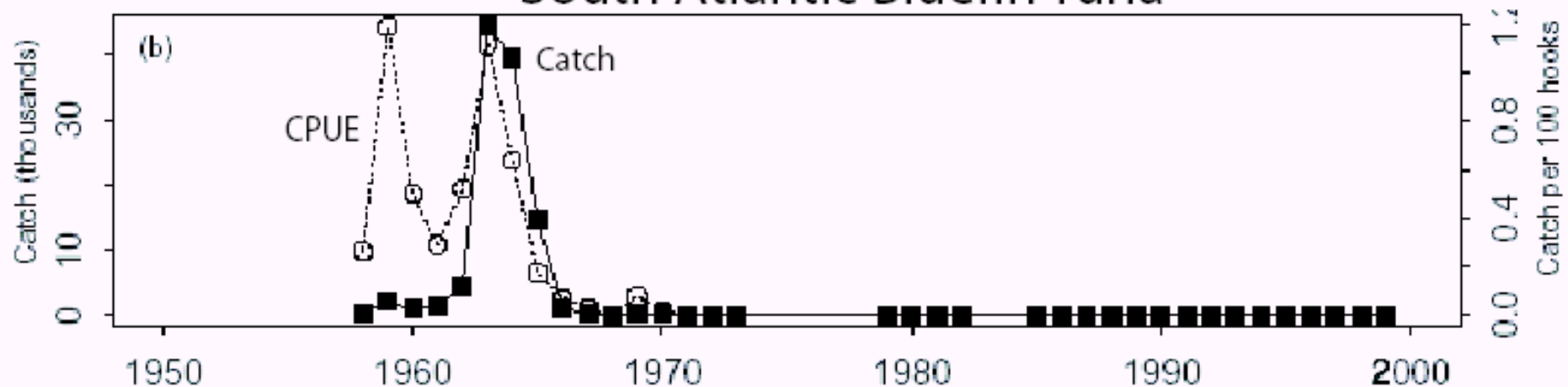


Loss of Bluefin Tuna Populations in the Atlantic

North Sea Bluefin Tuna



South Atlantic Bluefin Tuna

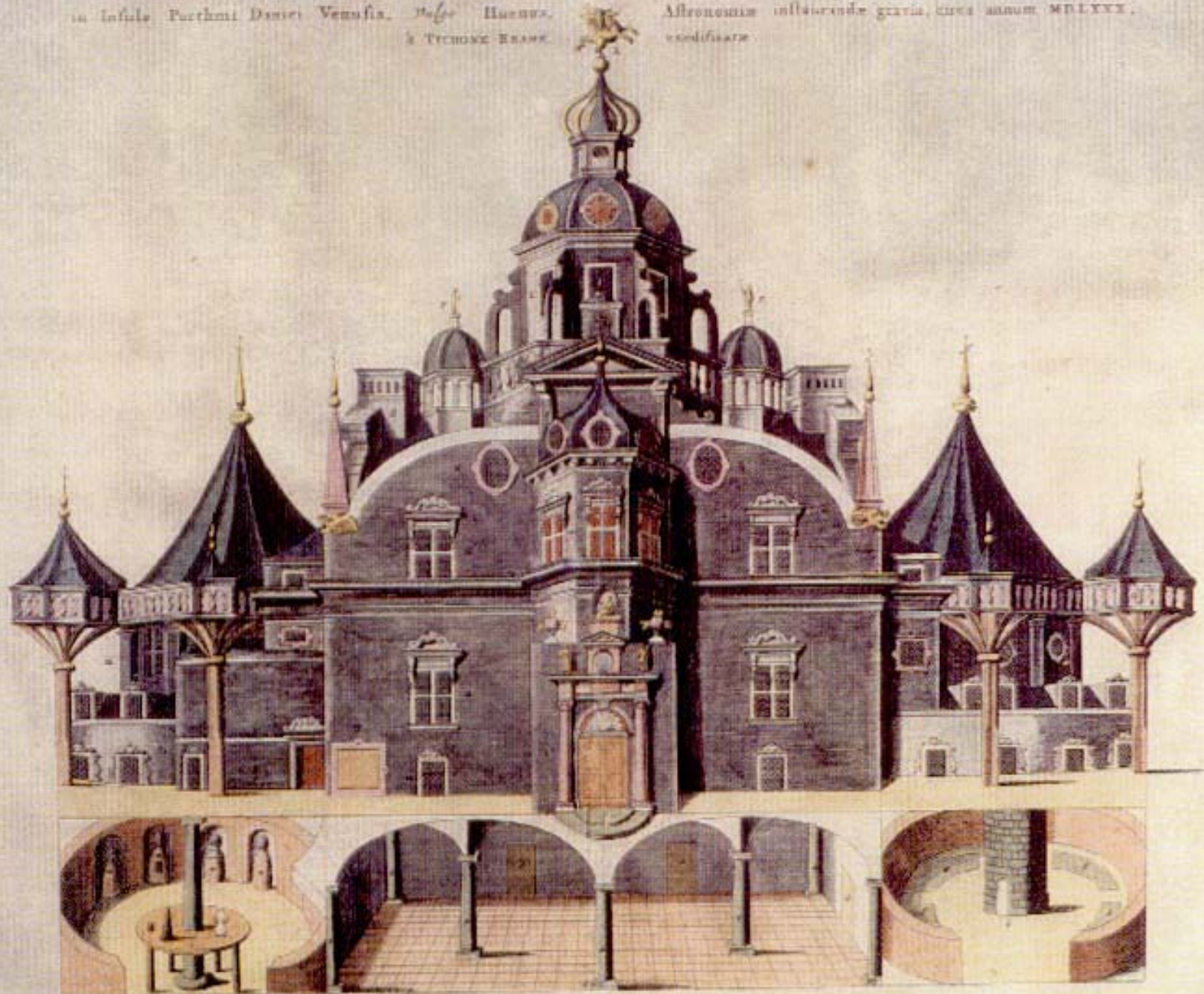




ORTHOGRAPHIA PRÆCIPVÆ DOMVS ARCIS VRANIBV RGI

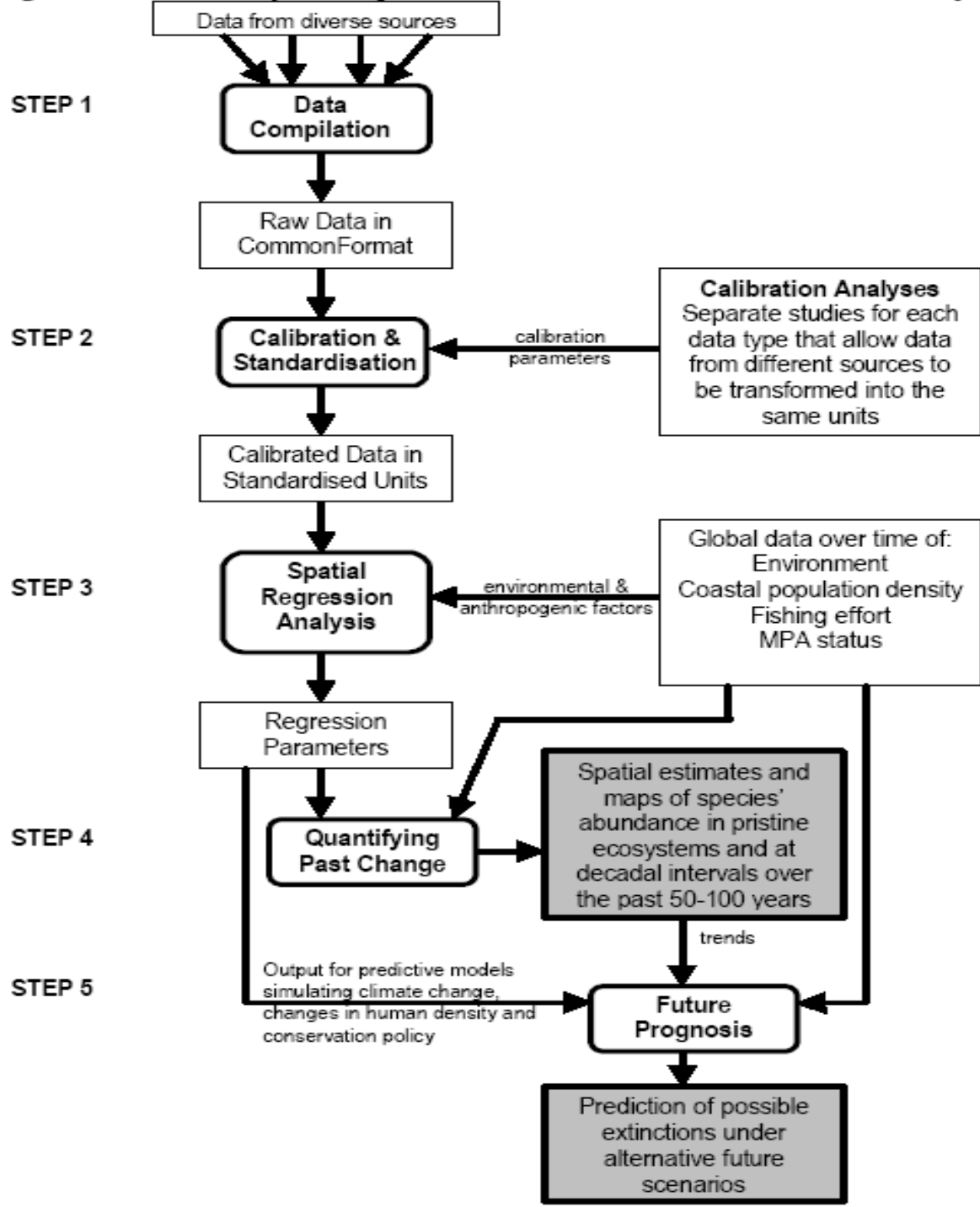
in Insula Pomerani Dantis Veneris. *Stylus* HUGONIS.
& TICHONIS ERANNI.

Astronomis illusterrime gratia, circa annum MDLXXX.
restituta.



Strategy:

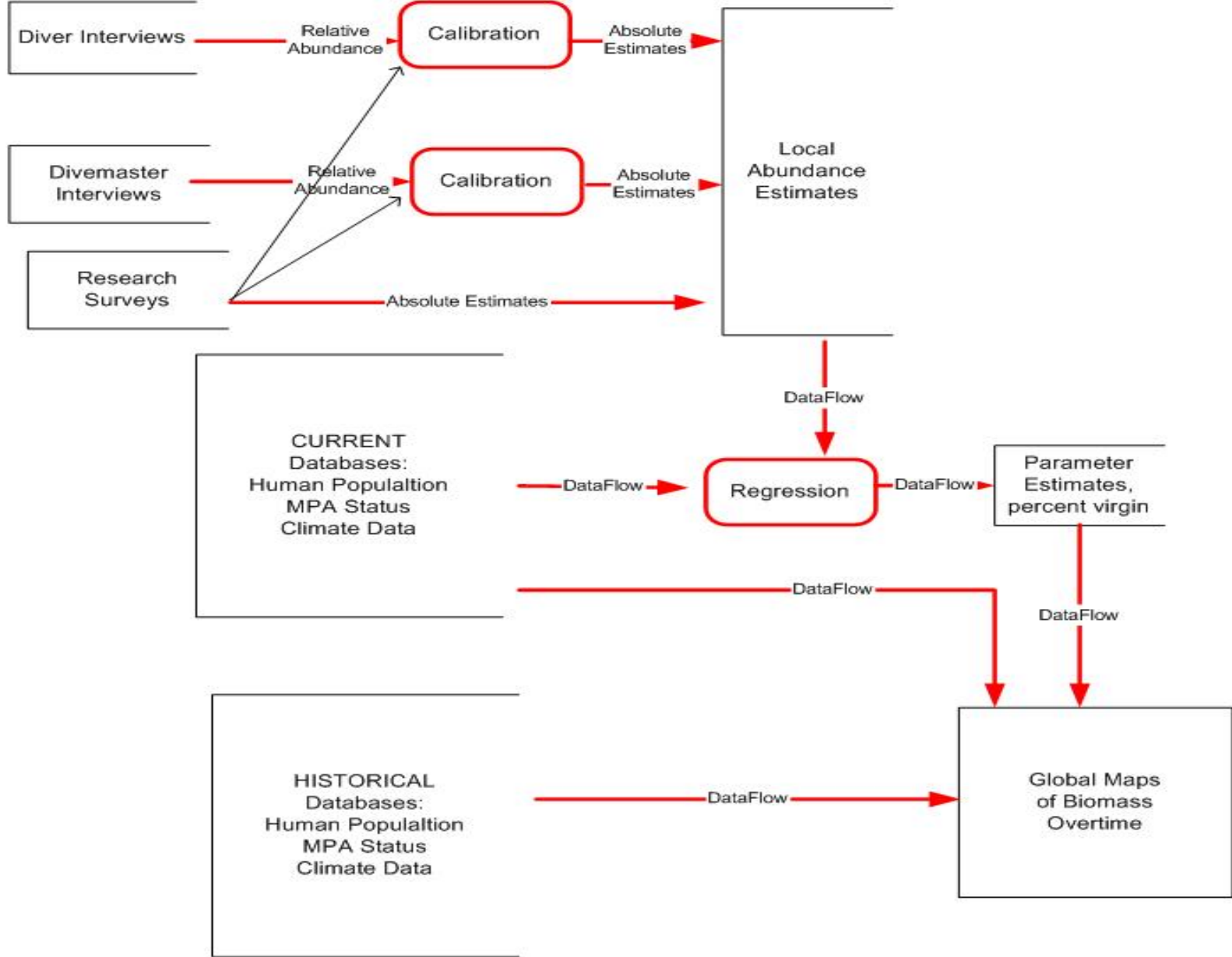
- Formulate the most important problem in terms of a critical model where in terms of a few parameters that can be well estimated.
- Compile all data in the world on the issue
- Analyze it the right way



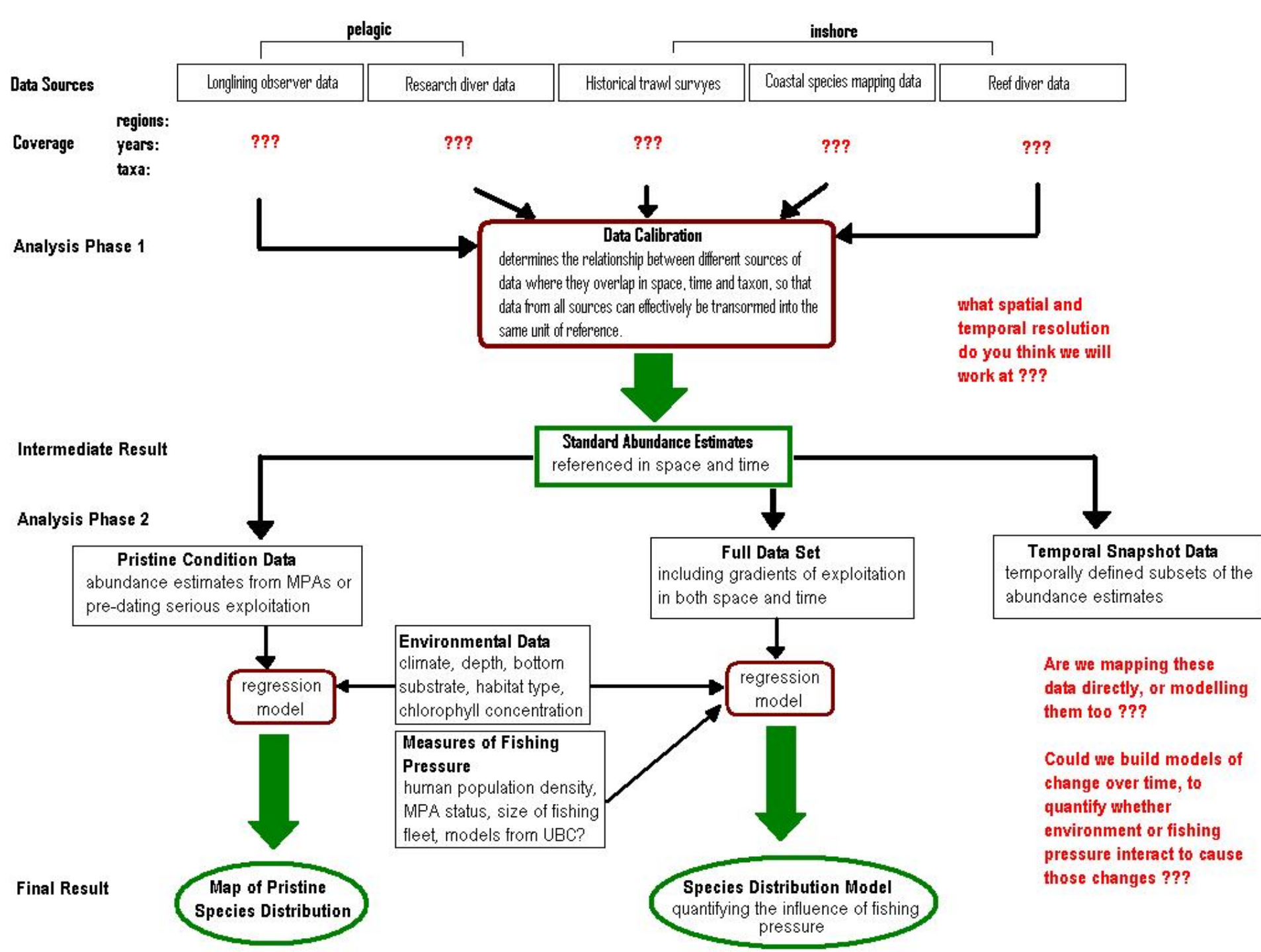




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Outline of data flow to produce global maps of abundance for reef species. The goal is produce maps for species that are of interest to divers over time, and estimate the “pristine” abundances and biomass, and the time trends over time to the present. This will be critical to estimating extinction probability.



Raw data on paper:

- old Japan data from Pacific
- old Japan data from Atlantic (one publication from equatorial Atlantic)
- old California Department of Fish and Game reports
- recent Japan data ICCAT documents (at least 5)
- old Canadian data
- old US east coast reports (we have a few on hand, others may be hidden at NMFS Gloester lab or in Miami)
- US expedition to the Indian Ocean in 1960 (Andy Bakum)
- Uruguay (p. 825 in Swordfish white books)
- Dave Long does longline surveys at NOAA La Jolla

Raw data in digital form:

- updates on Canadian data
- updates on US data
- observer data from the Mediterranean
- South Pacific Commission (we have much of this and could get more)
- Indian Ocean Commission?
- data sources in supplement to Lewison: Ecology Letters (2004) 7: 221-231
- Costa Rica
- cooperative shark tagging in RI
- NE US, Simpendorfer 2002
- Bolten's data from Azores

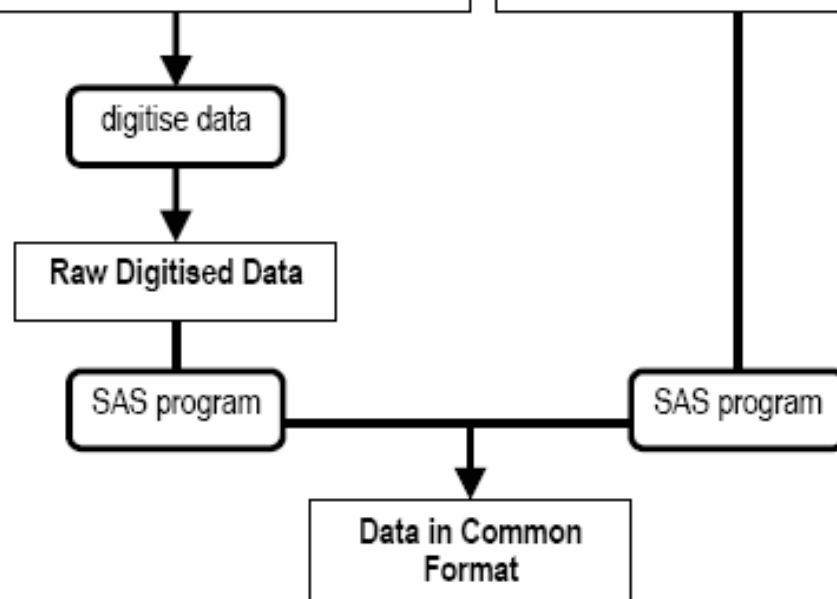


Figure 3. Calibration of data gathered from professional and amateur divers.

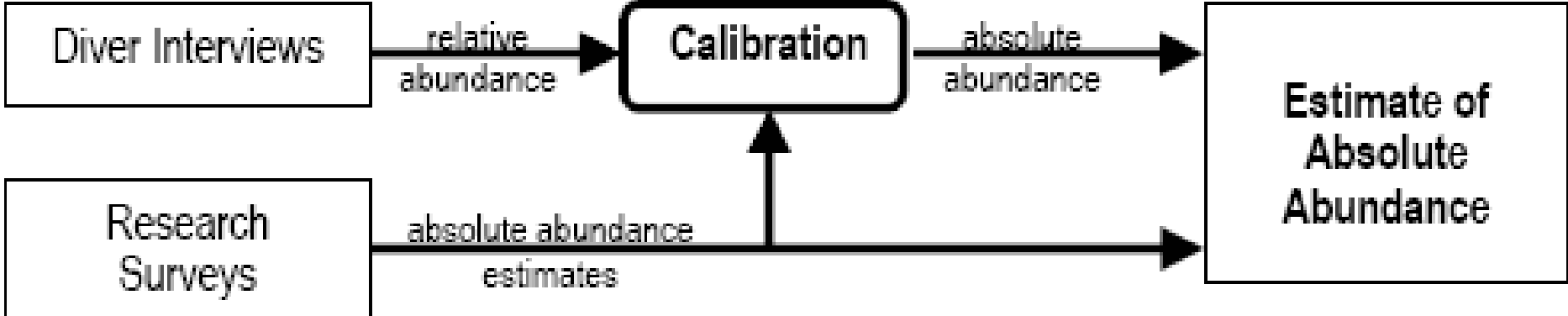
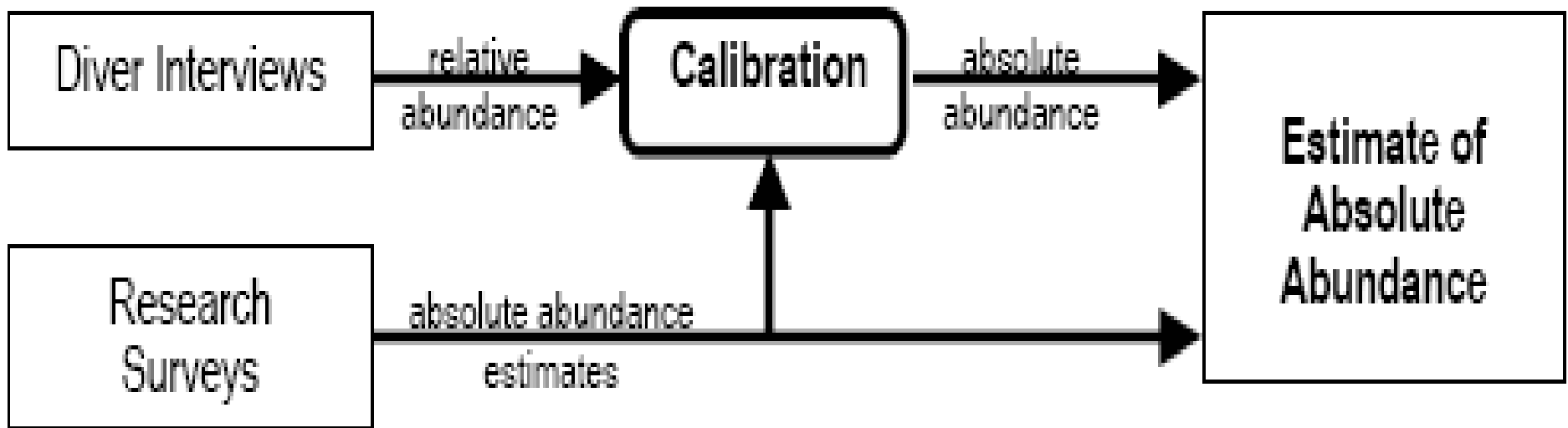


Figure 3. Calibration of data gathered from professional and amateur divers.





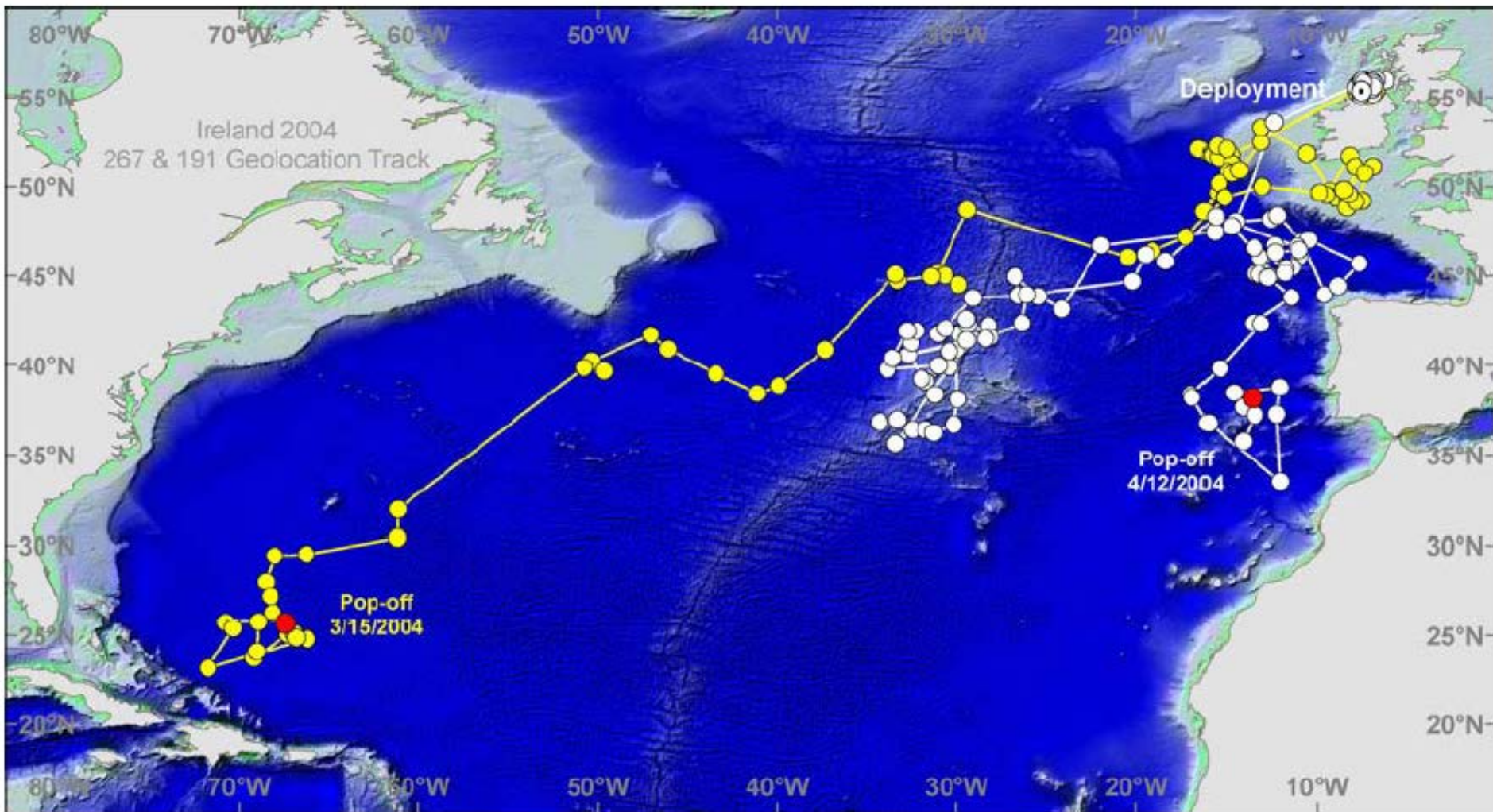




Photo by Matthew Godfrey

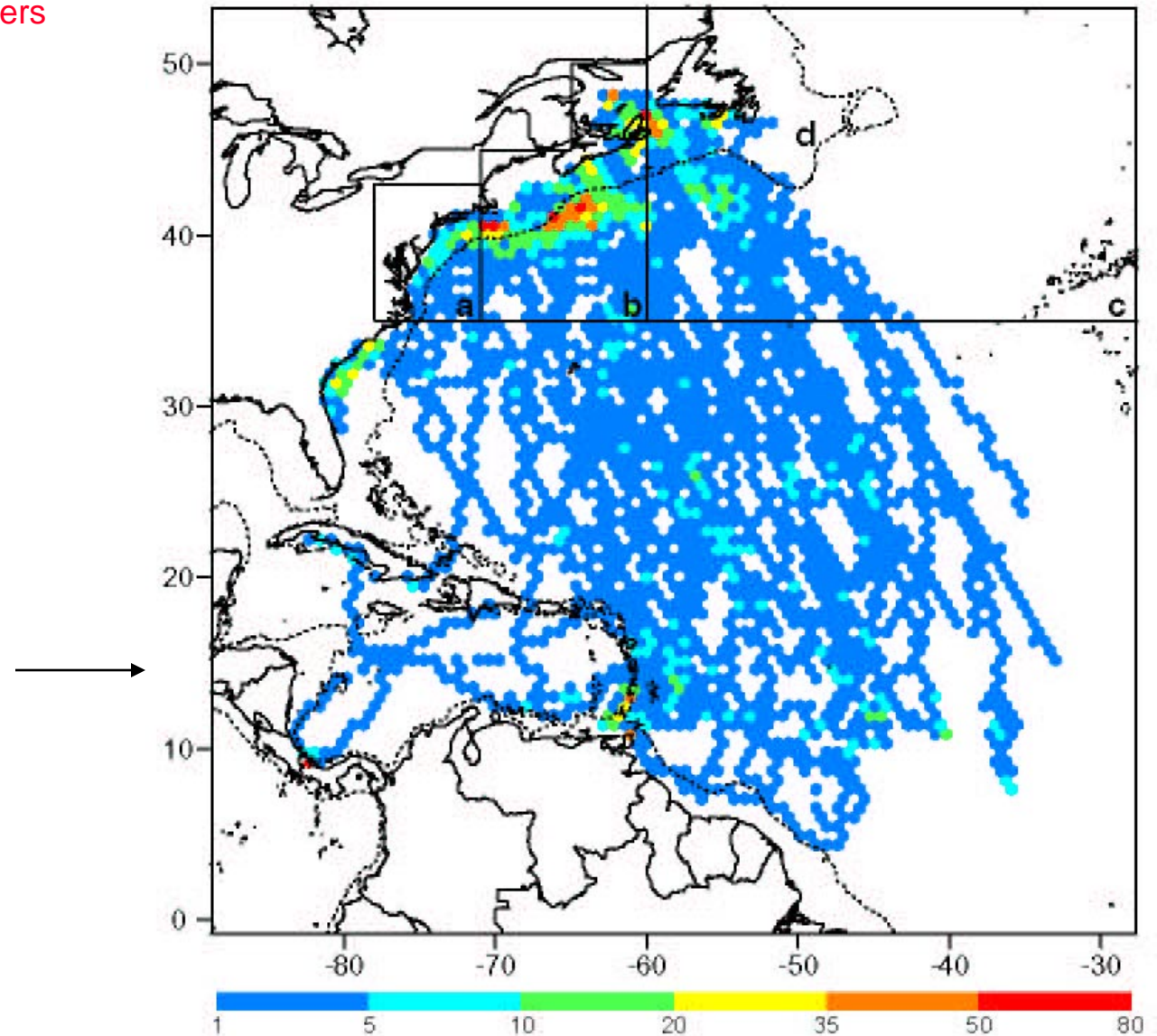


Mike James
Andrea Ottensmeyer

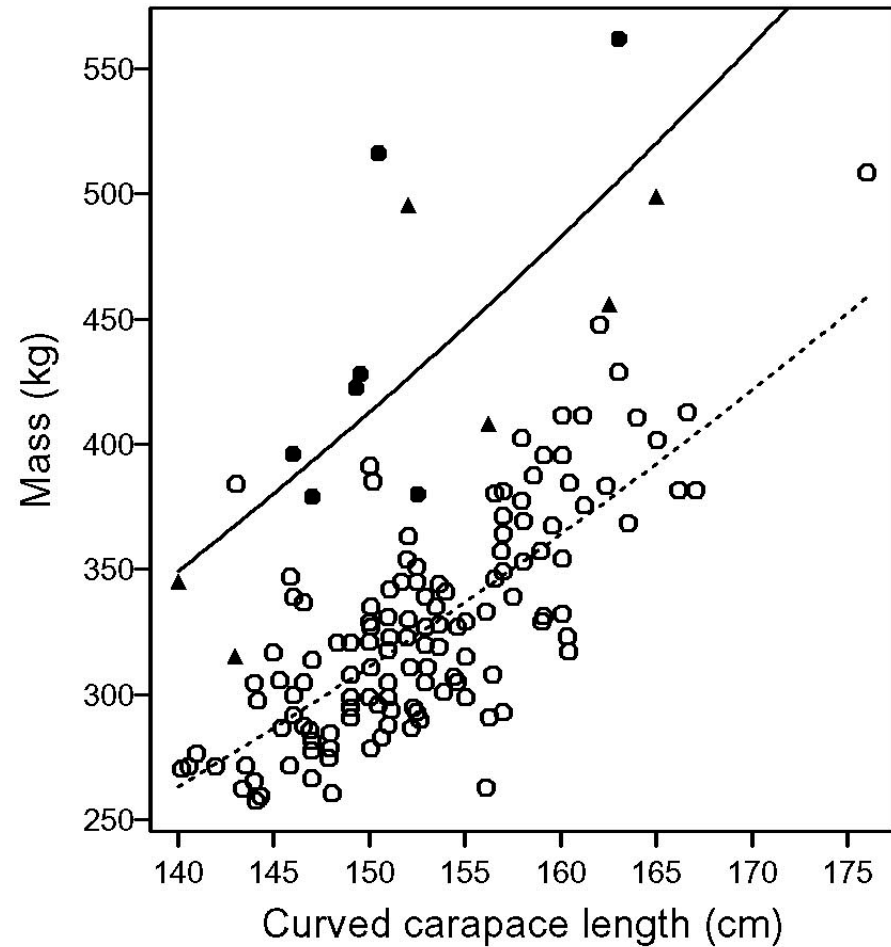


Identification of high-use areas and threats to leatherback sea turtles in northern waters

James, Ottensmeyer and Myers
Ecology Letters (2005)



Weights in Canadian waters



Turtles are
33% heavier in Canadian coastal
areas versus on the nesting
beach

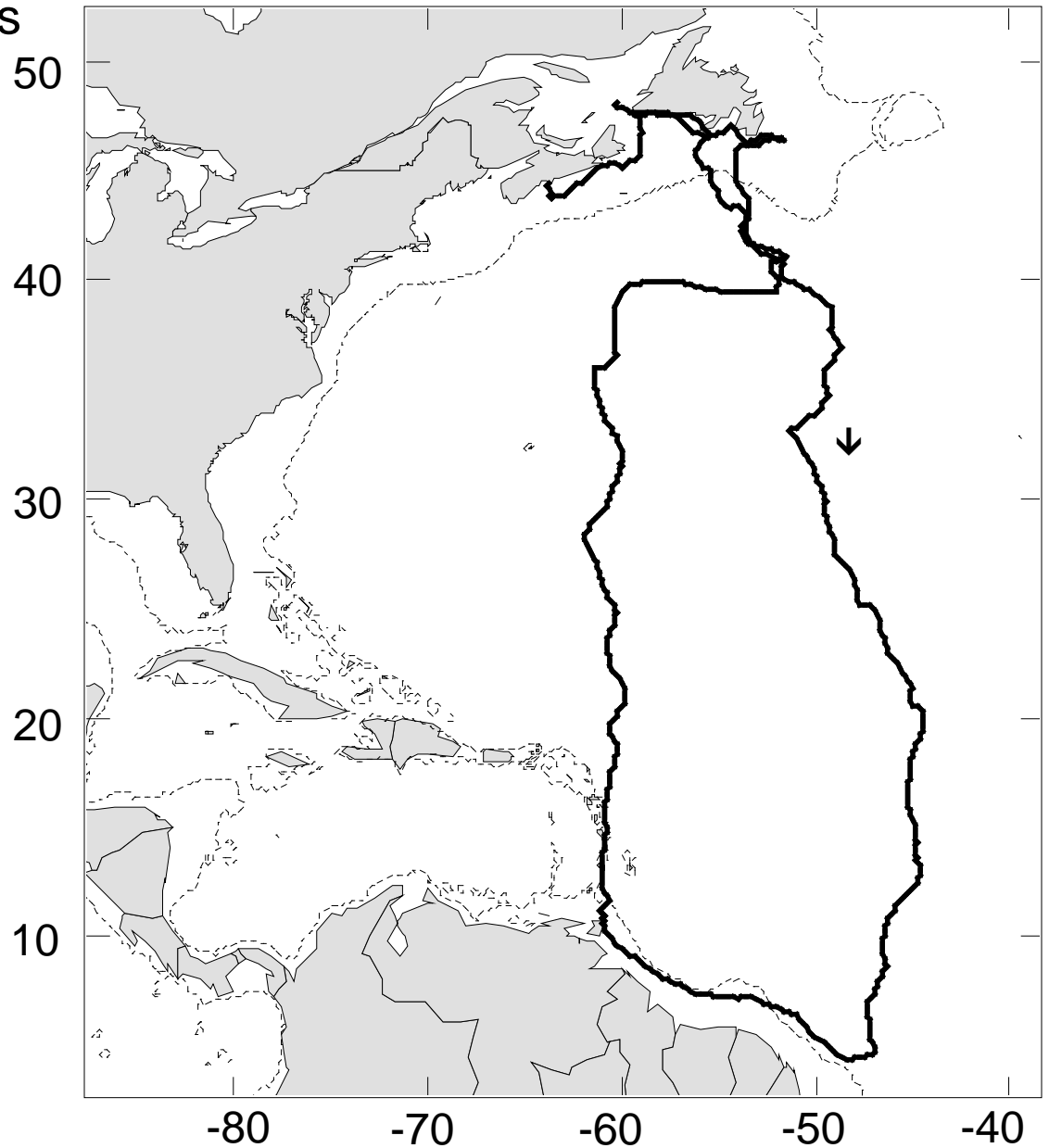


Nesting female morphometrics: St. Croix, U.S.V.I.
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Lines fit by constant slope analysis of covariance after log transformation.

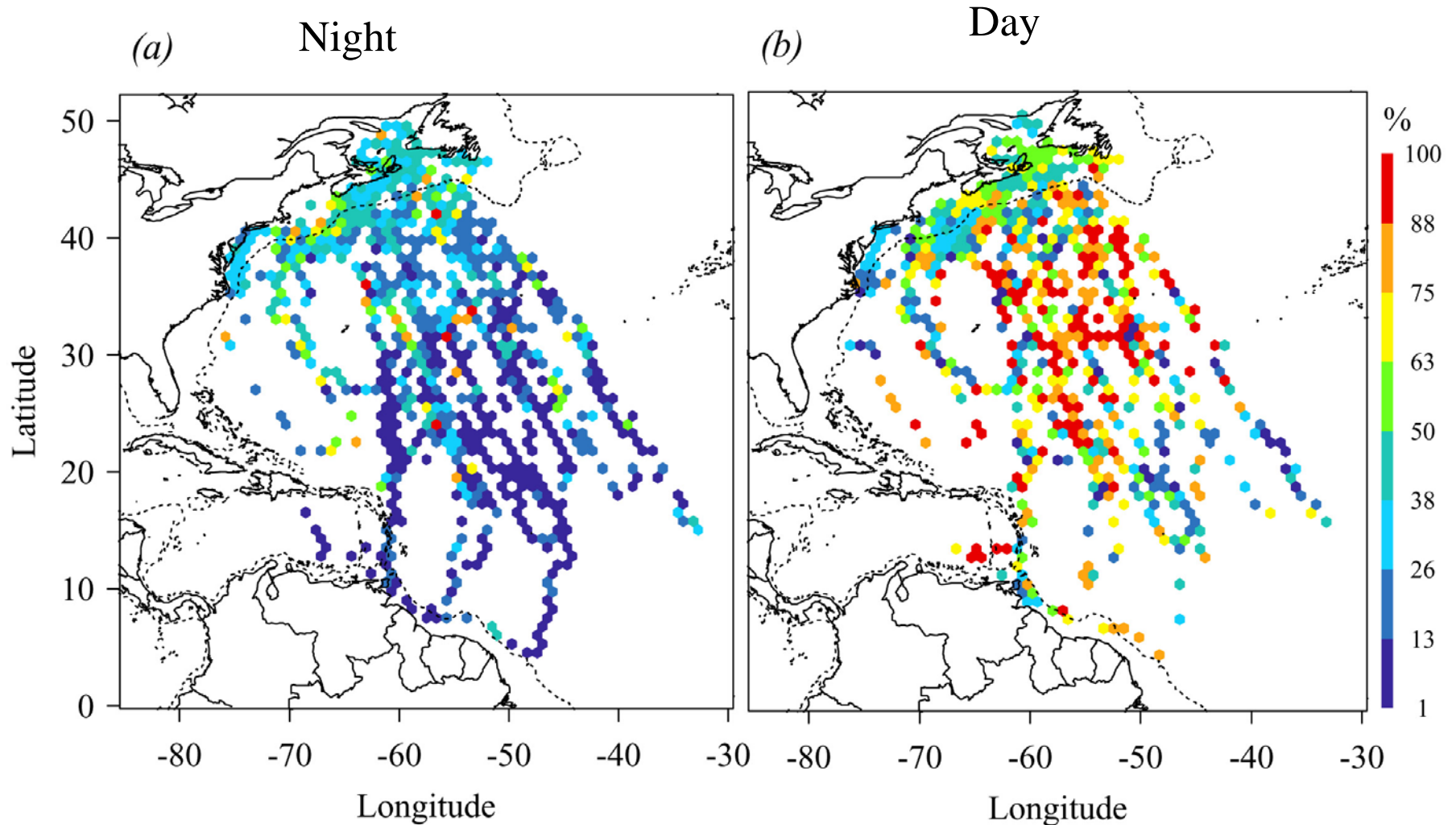
Male leatherback movements

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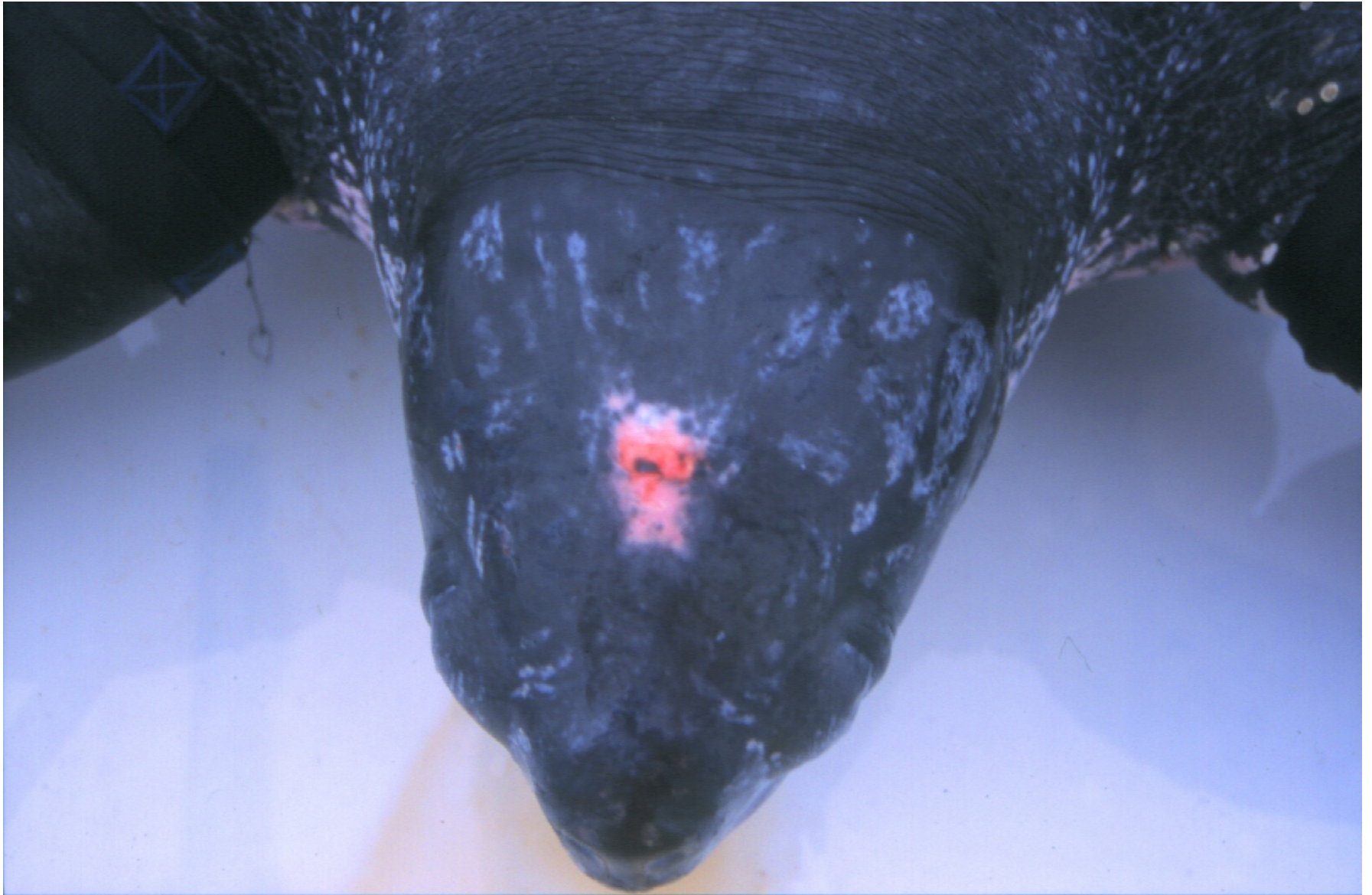
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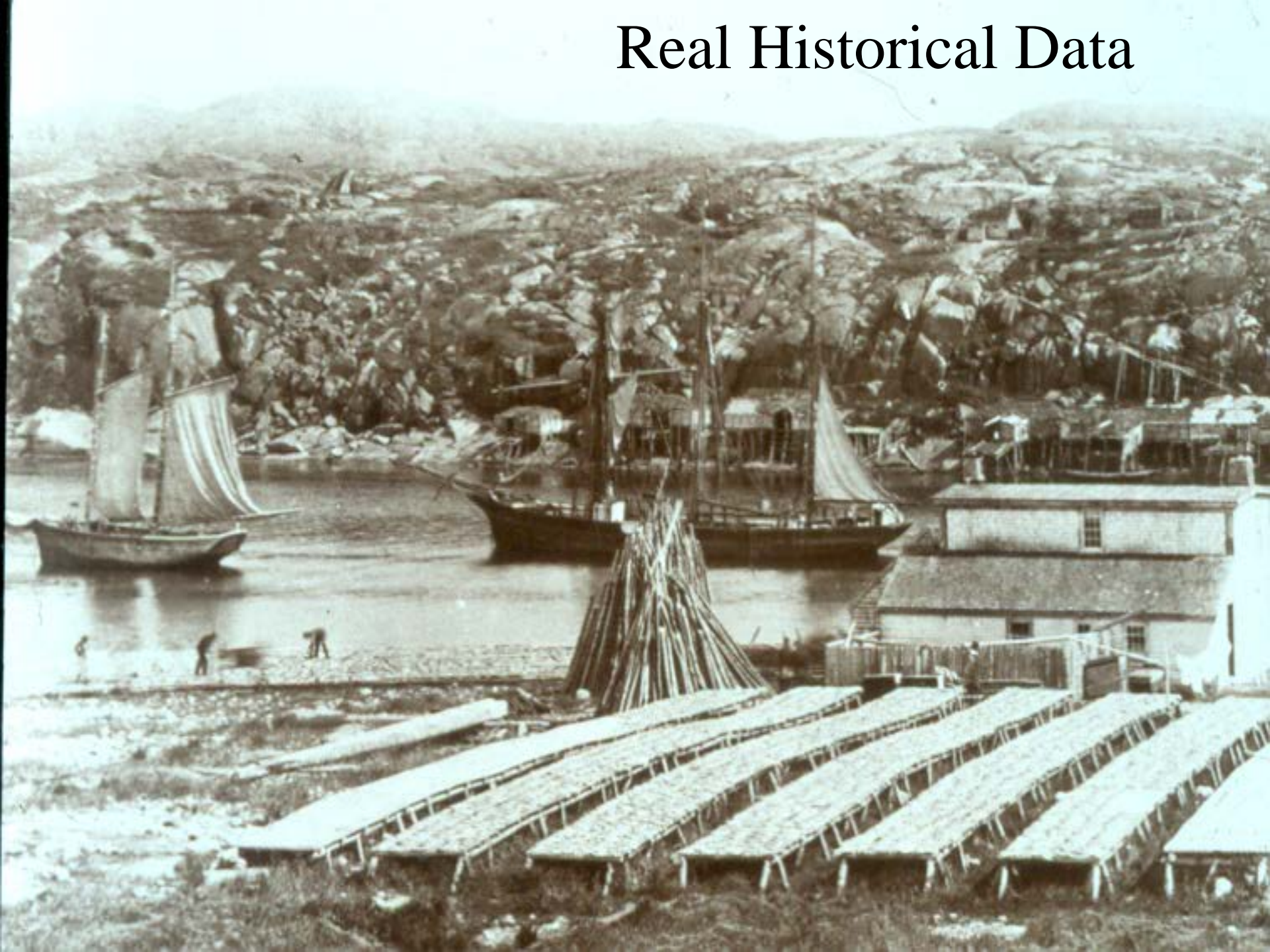
Turtles are close to the surface during the day during migration



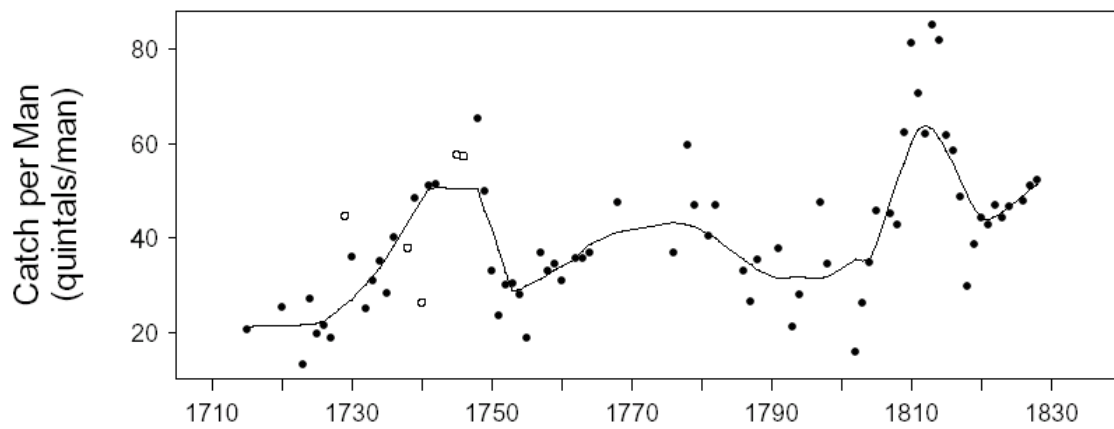
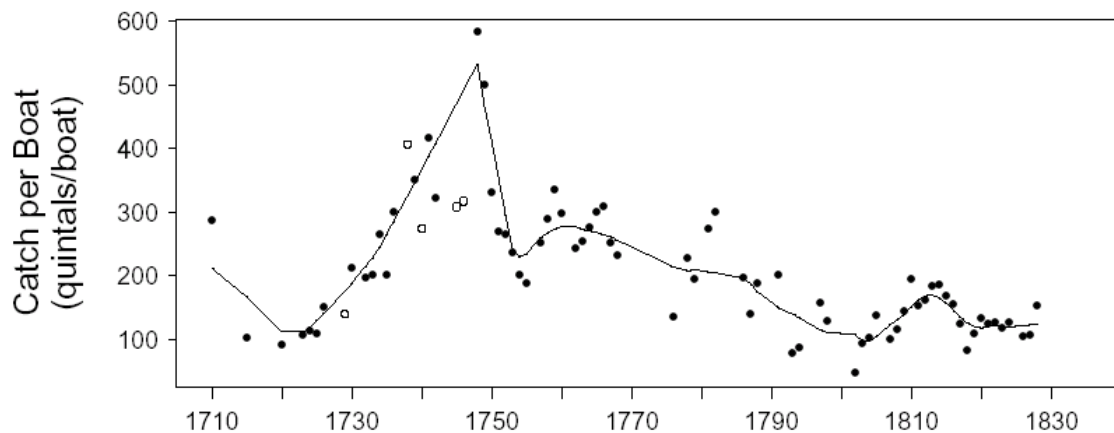
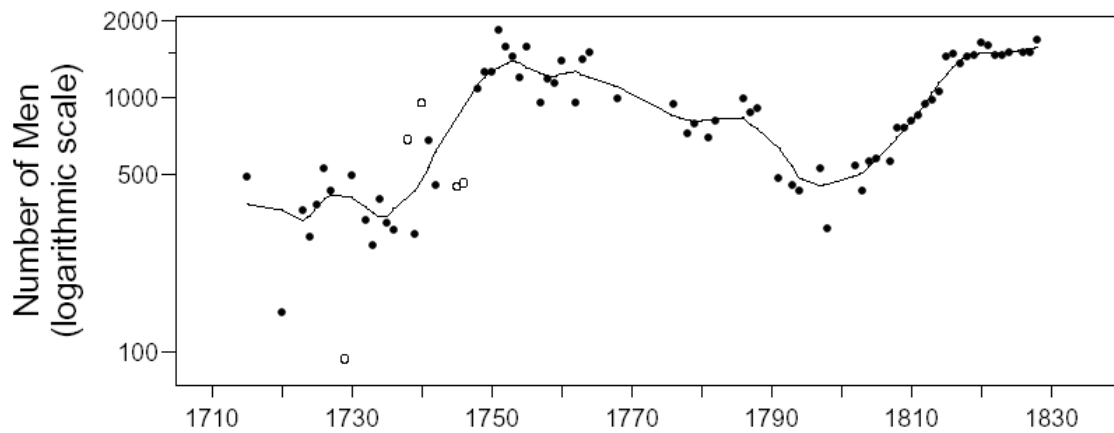
Leatherback turtles are unique in that they expose their pineal spot to sunlight.



Real Historical Data

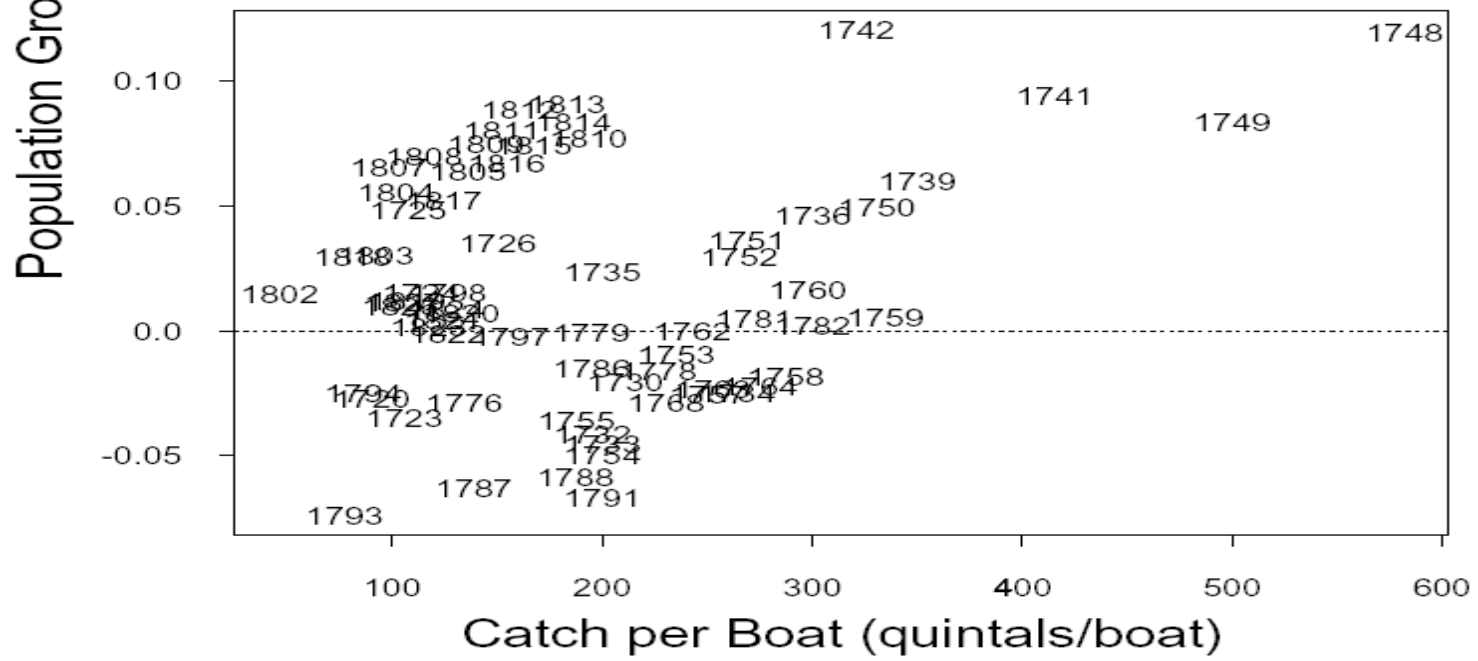
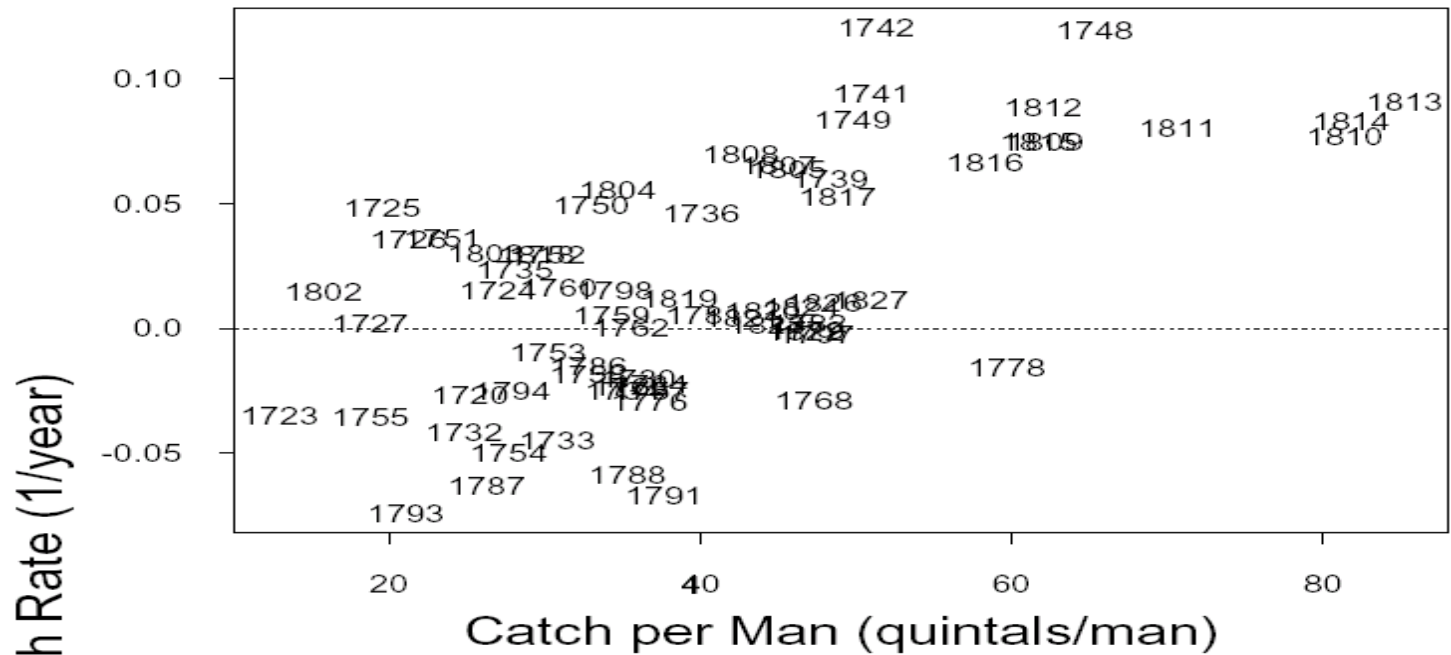


Trinity Bay

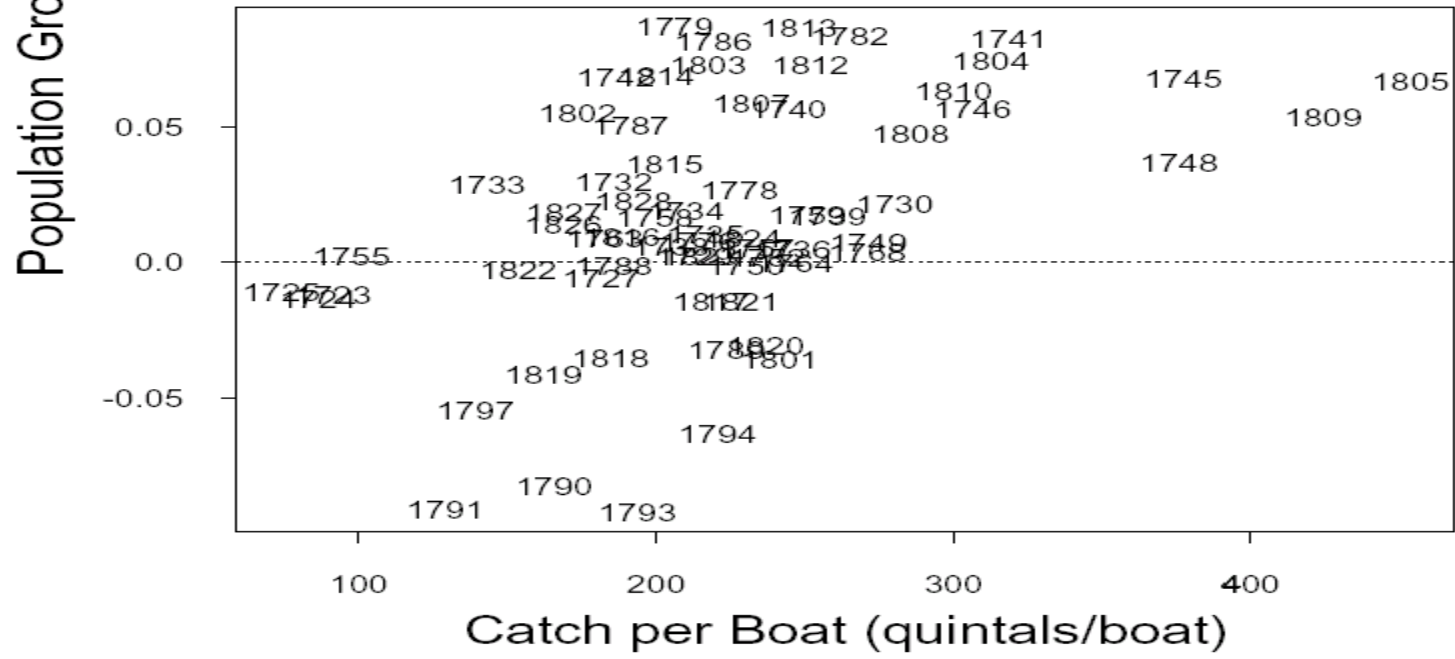
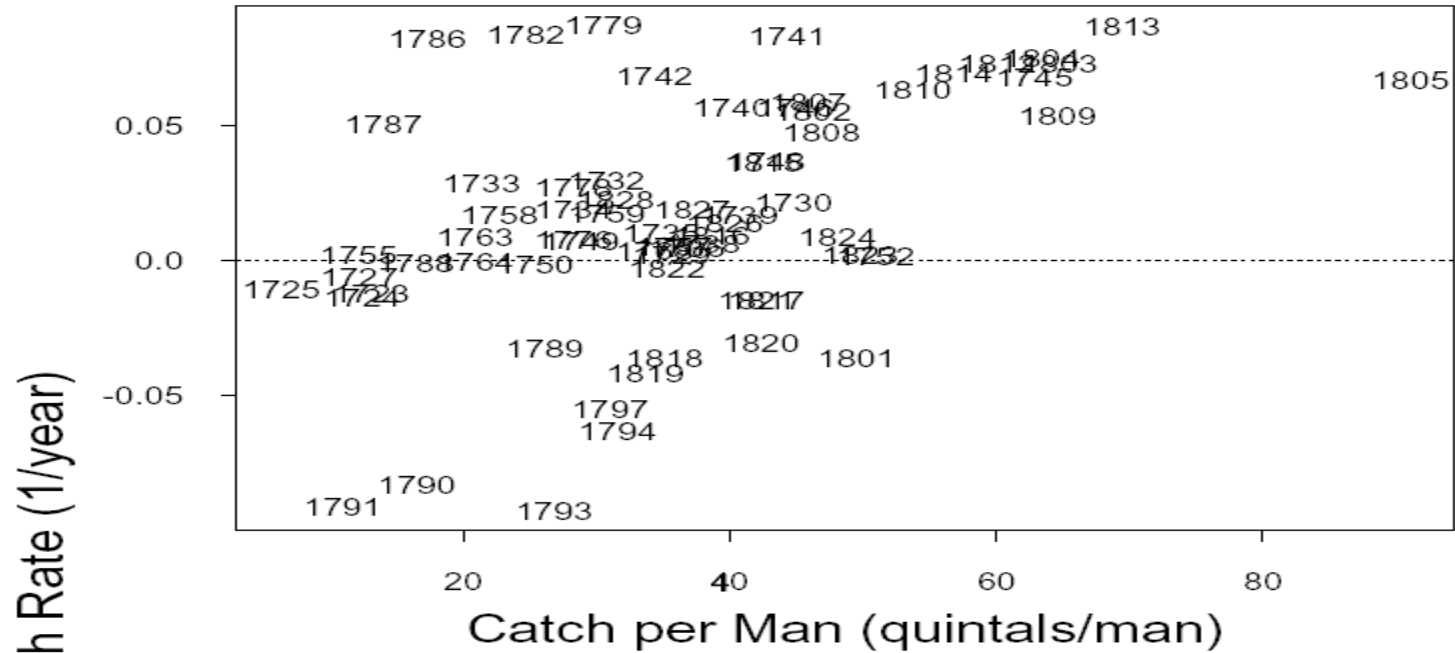


Year

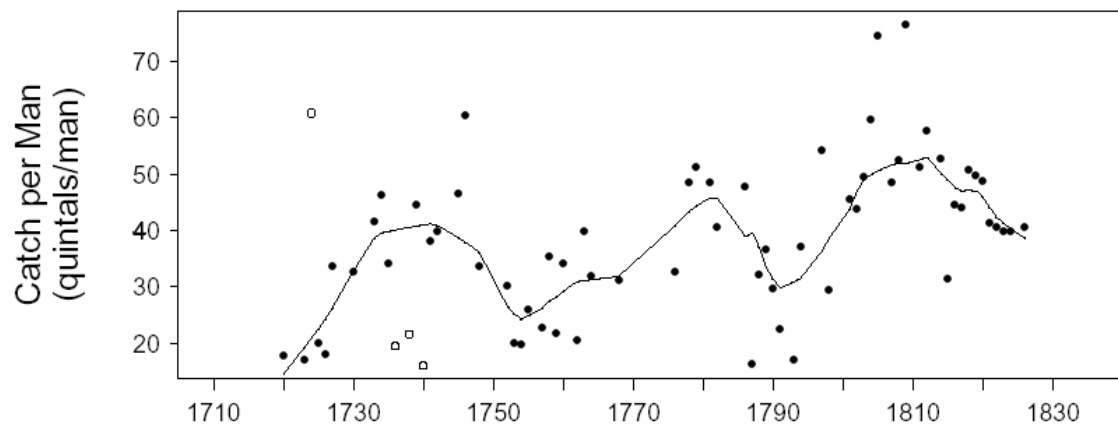
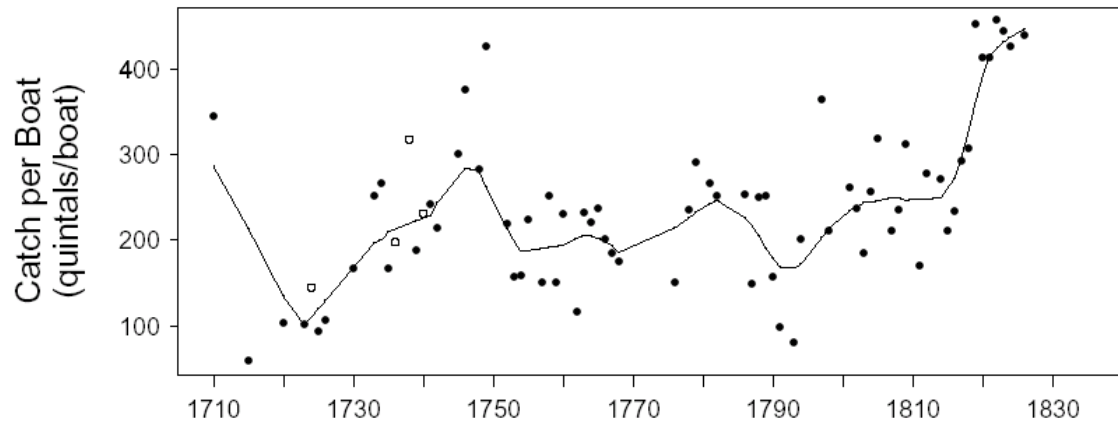
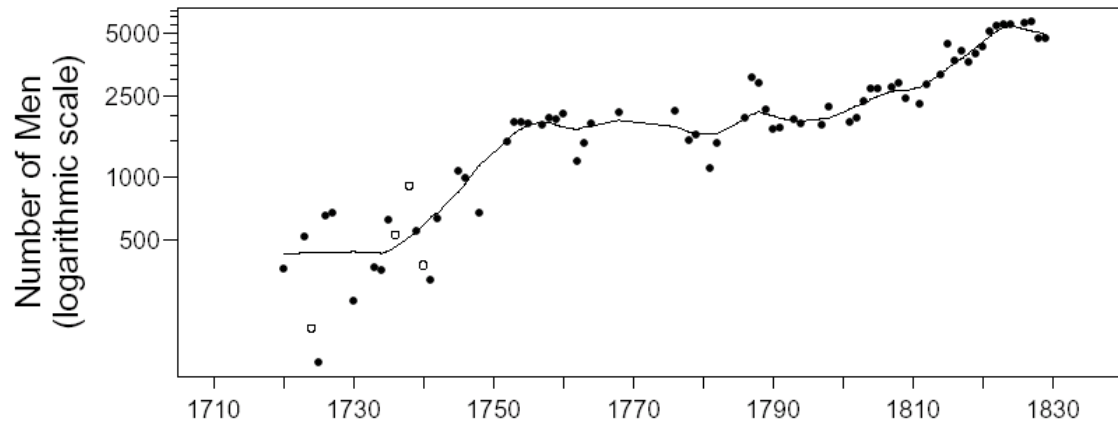
Trinity Bay



St. John's to Cape Race



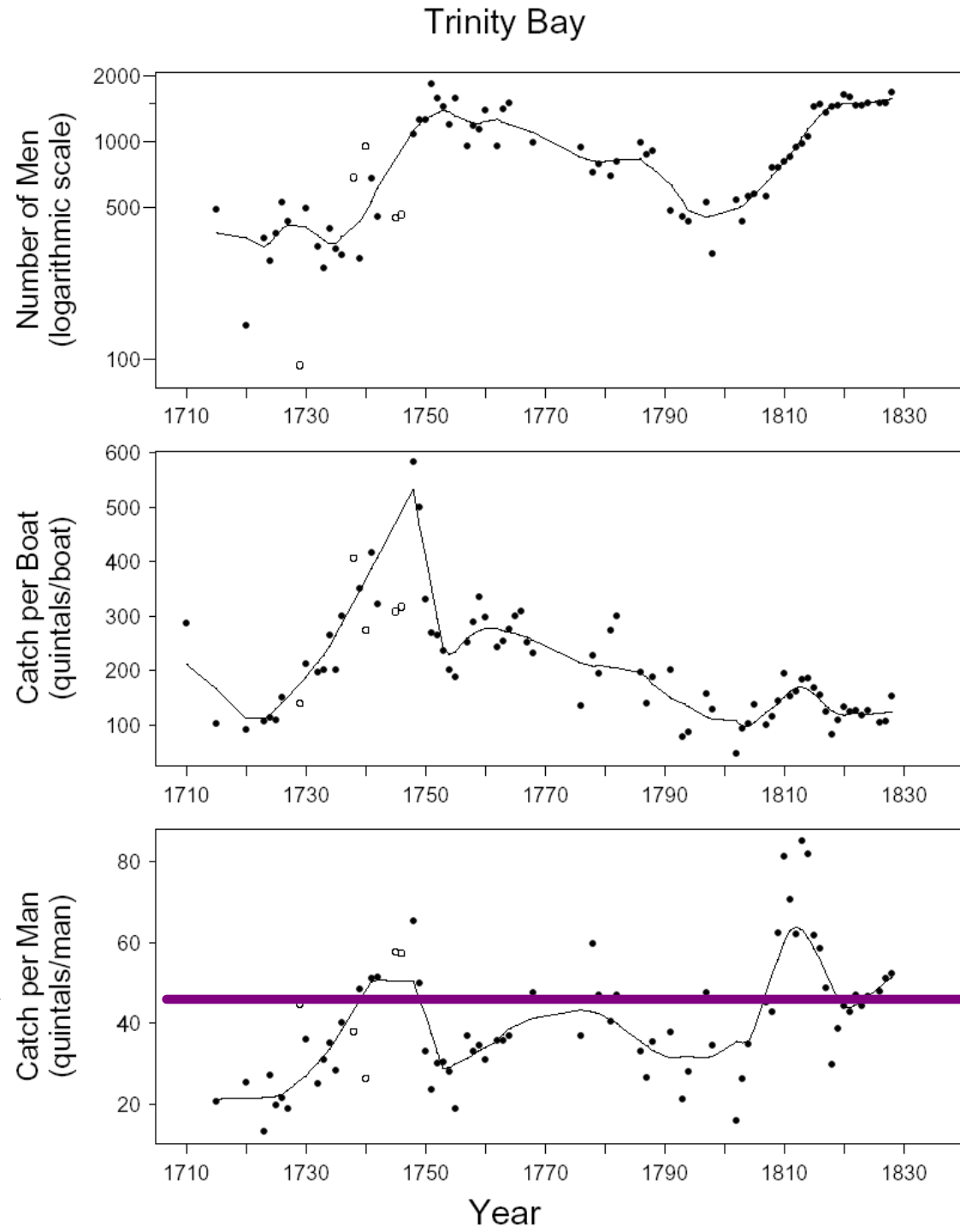
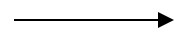
Conception Bay



The efficiency of the Newfoundland cod fishery had not changed in 4 centuries.

The only bioeconomic equilibrium of a highly subsidized fishery is zero fish.

Catch rates in the 1980's per person (20,000 fishers who caught ~200,000 metric tonnes of cod).



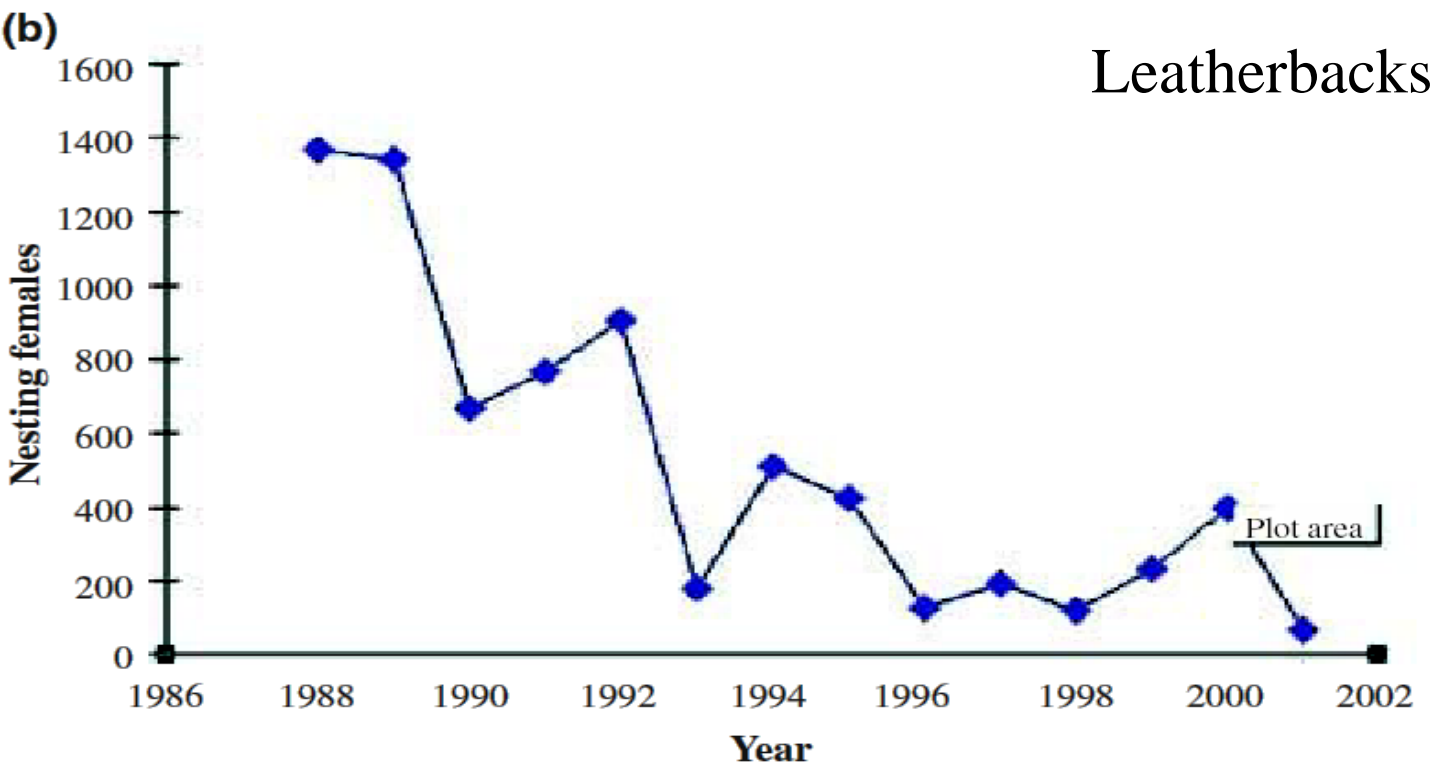
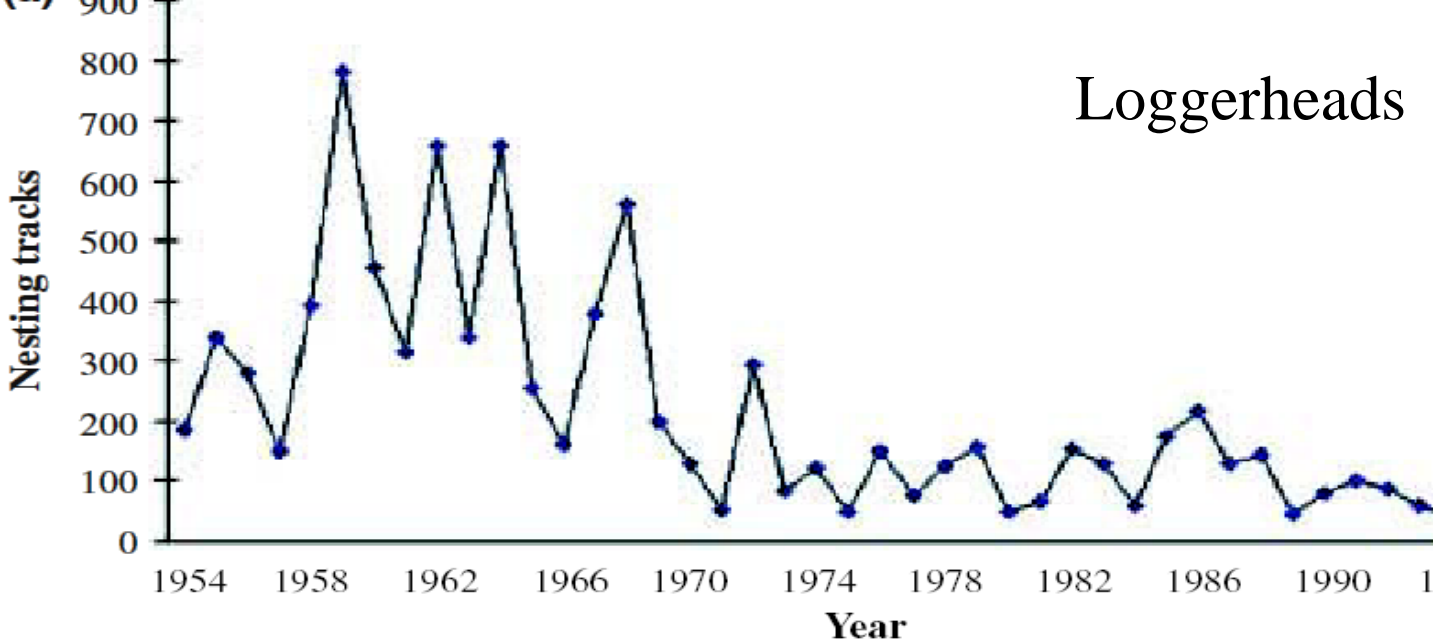




Photo by Matthew Godfrey





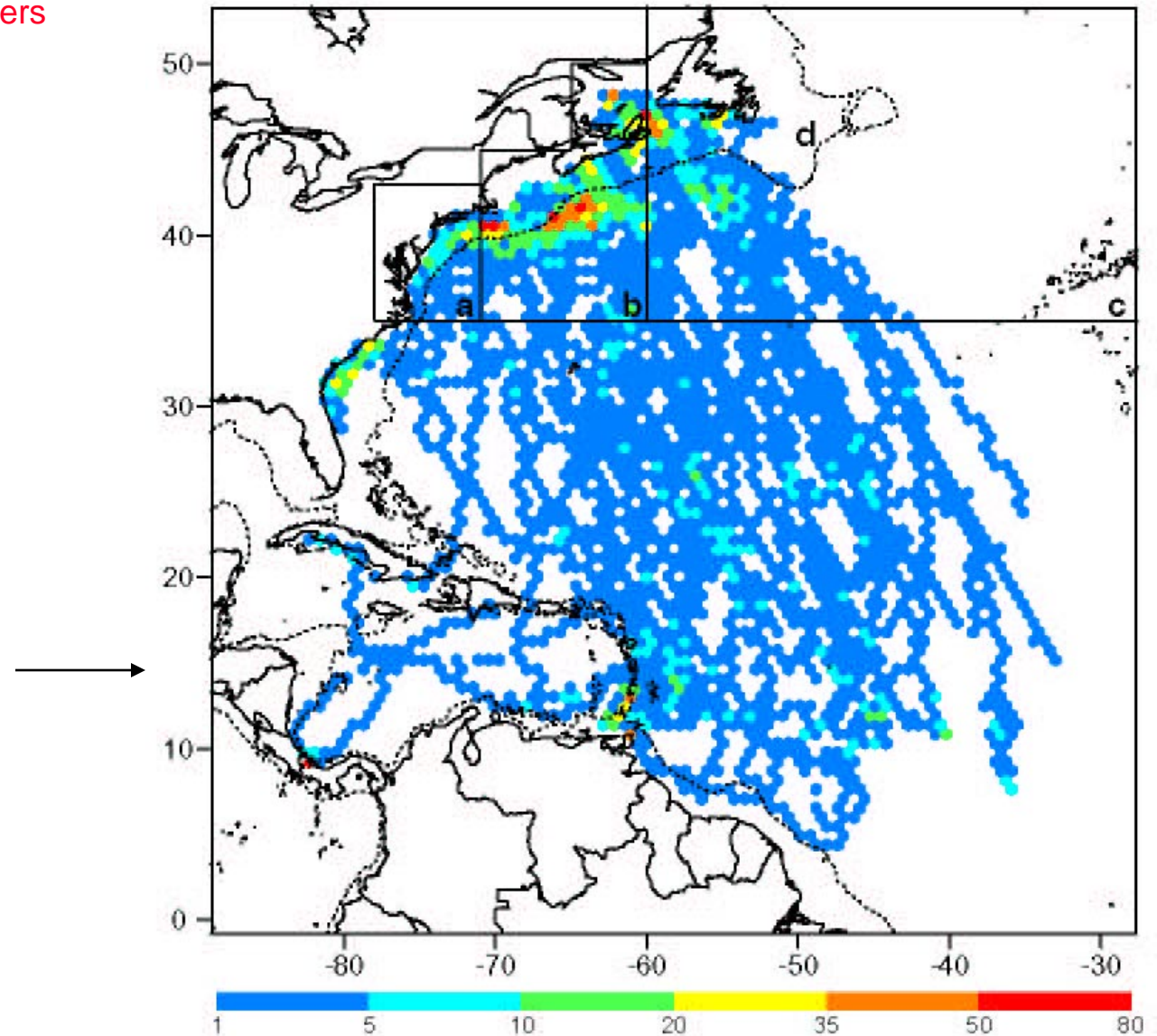
Swordfishing fleet at anchor, Neils Harbour, Cape Breton.—13.

Mike James
Andrea Ottensmeyer

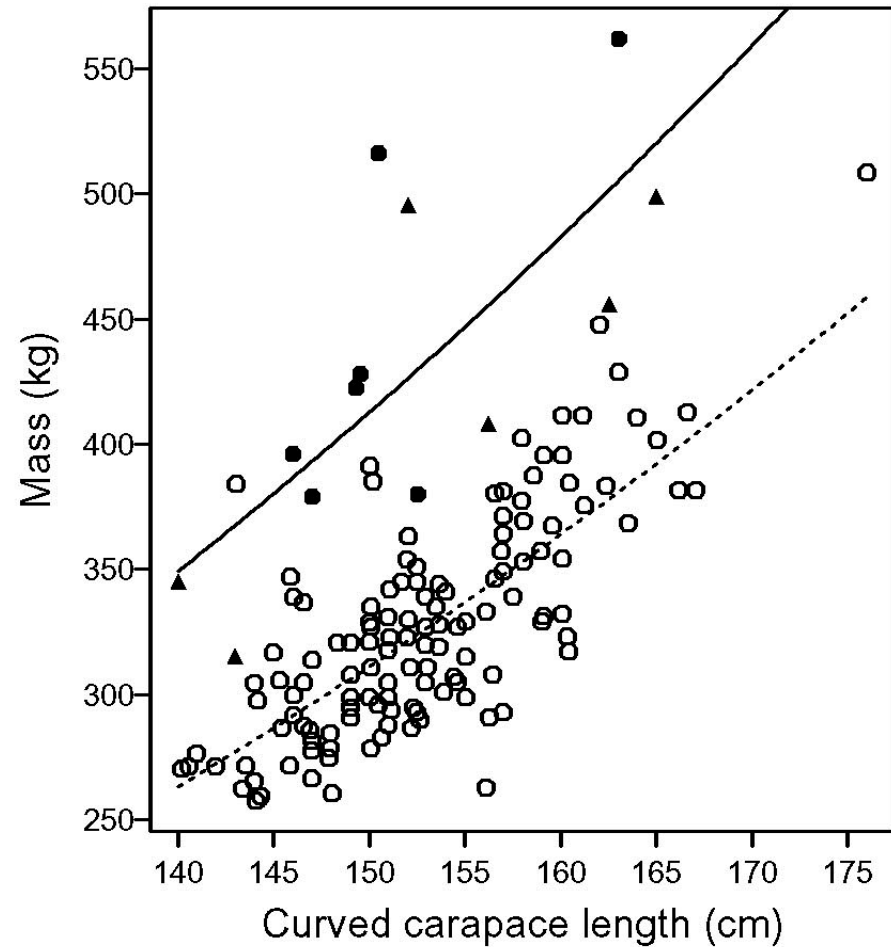


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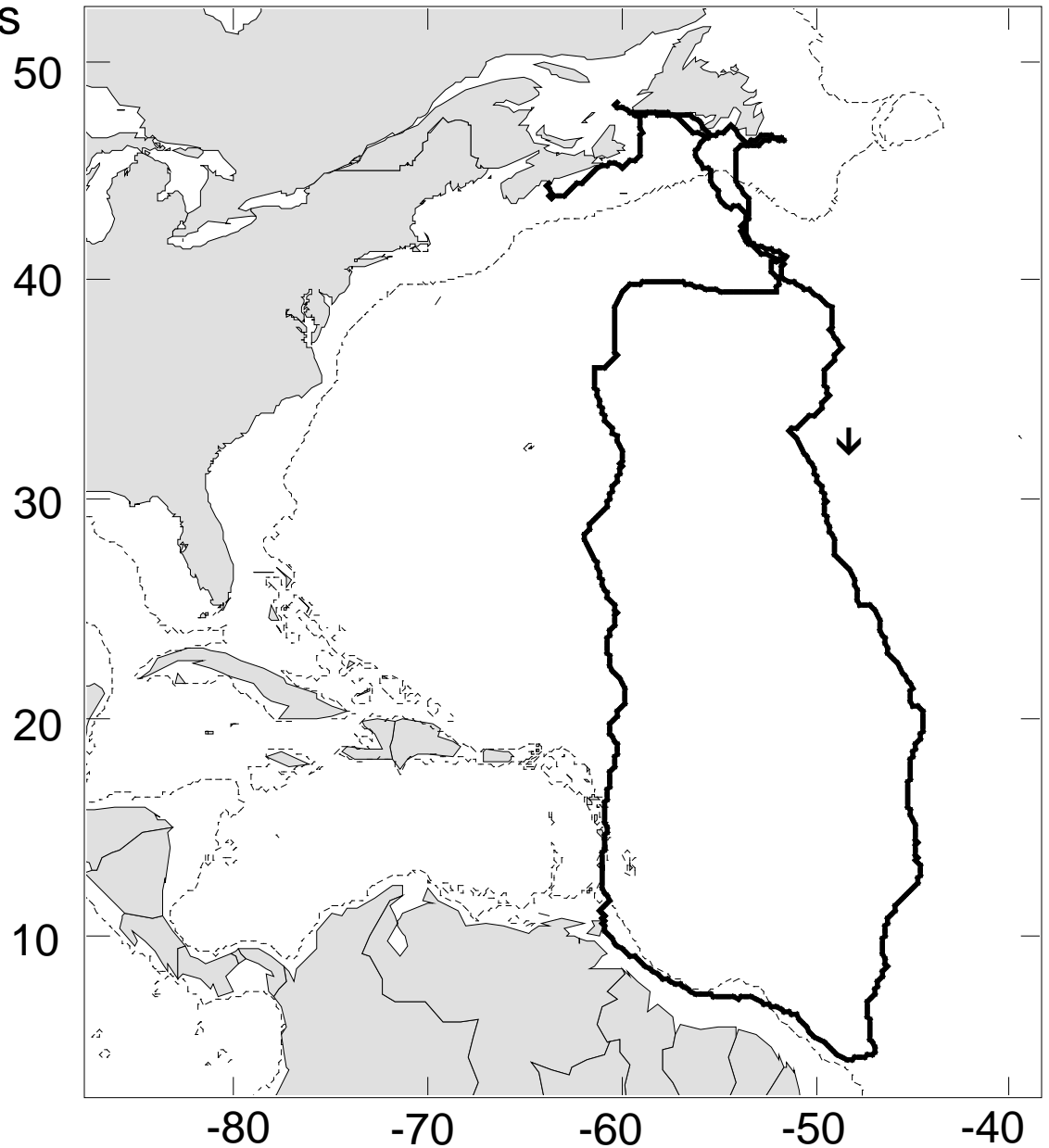


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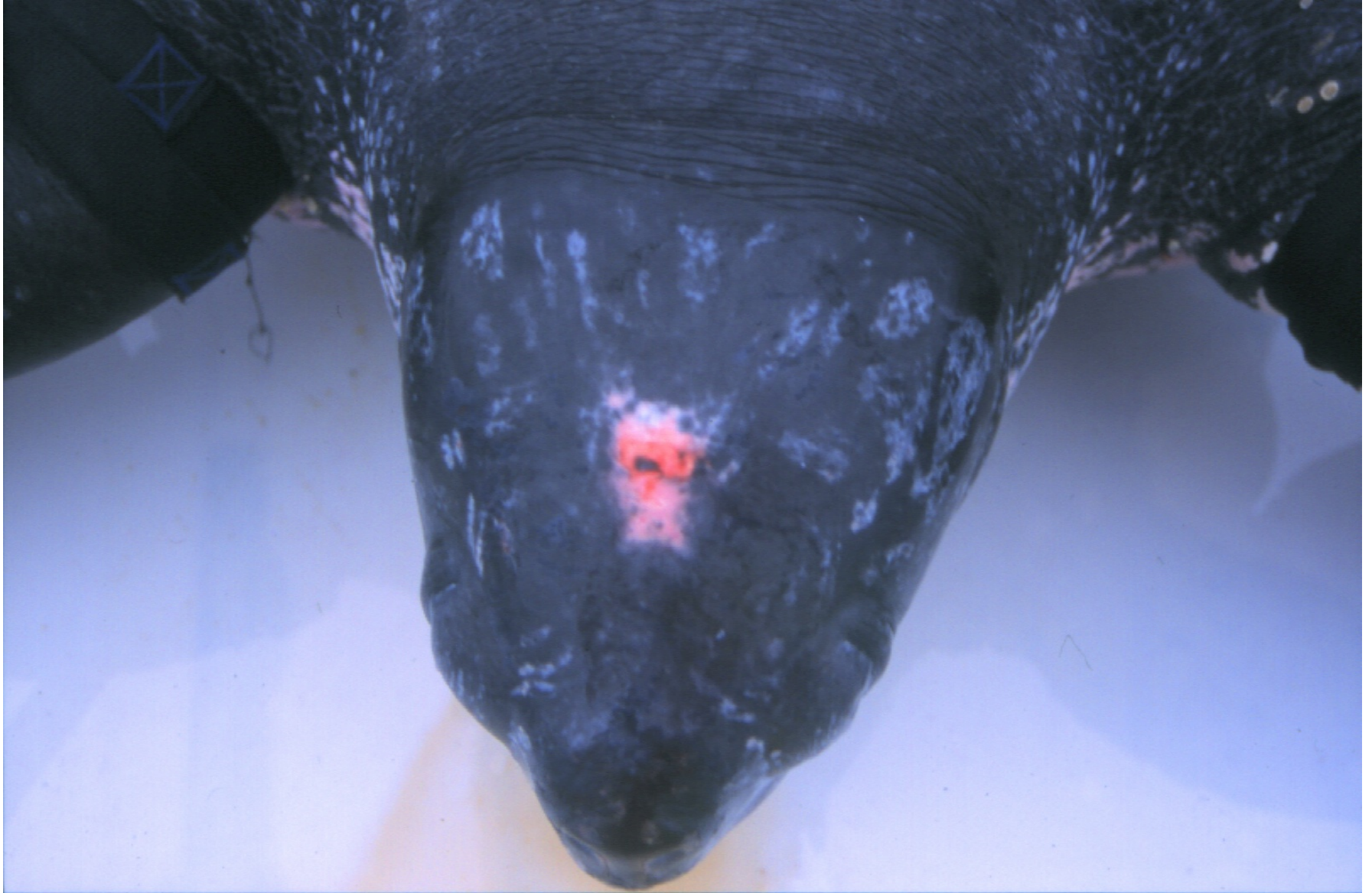
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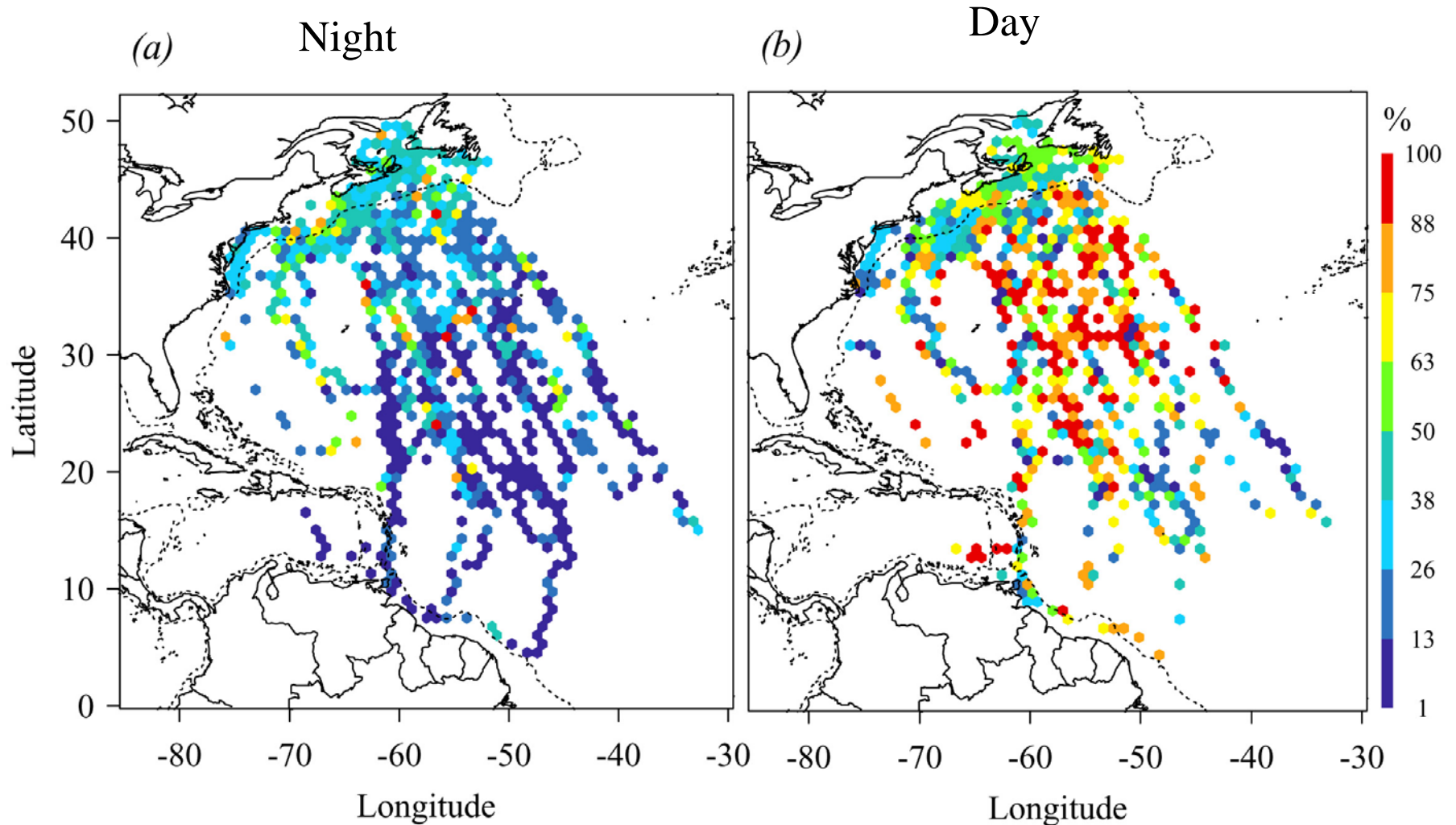
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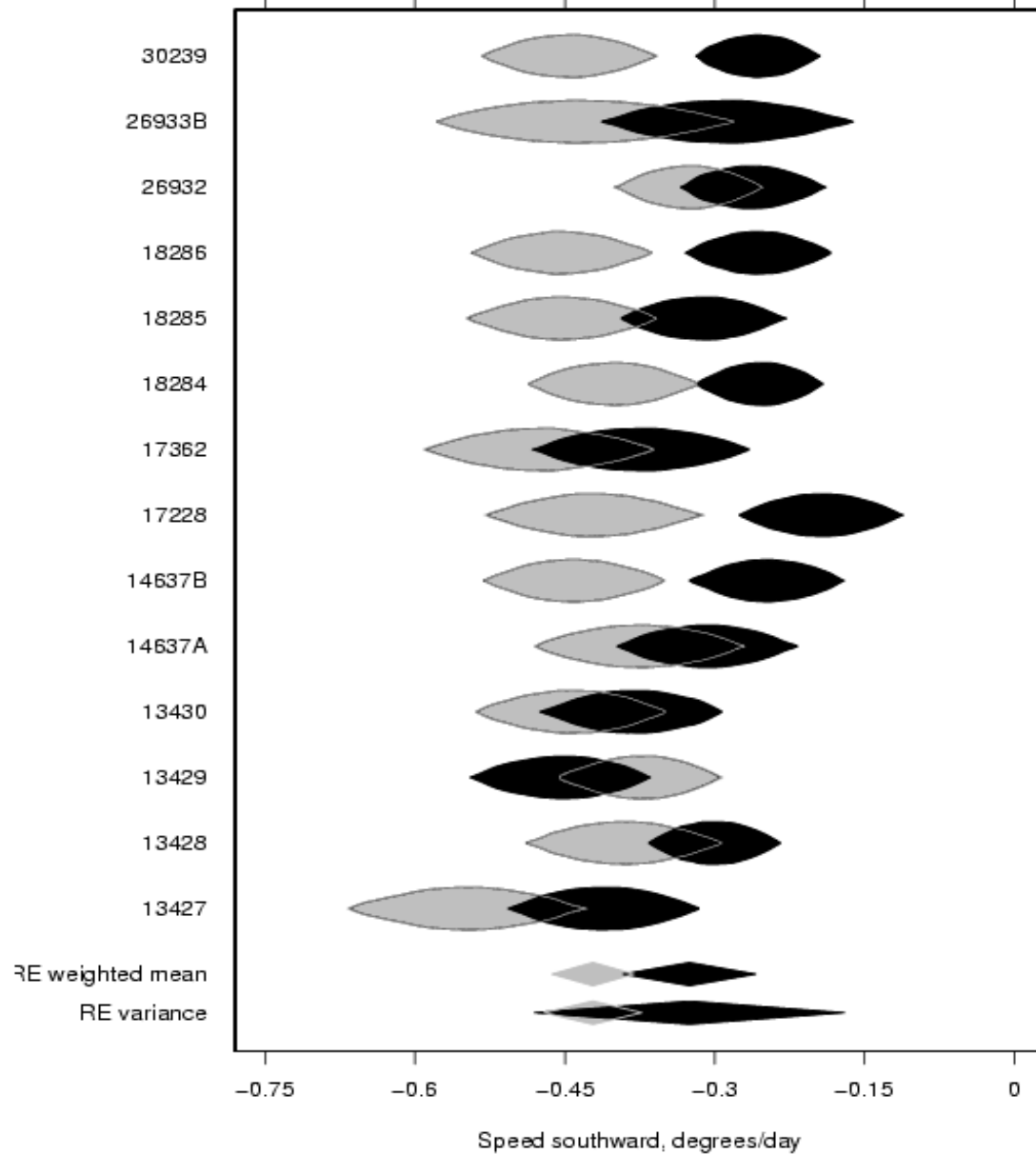
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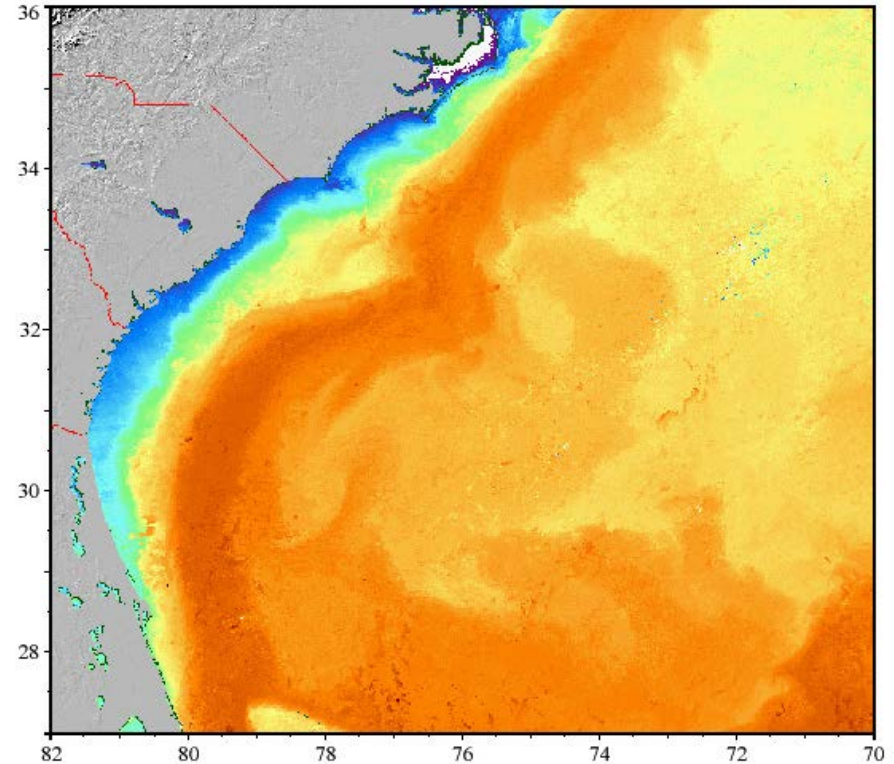
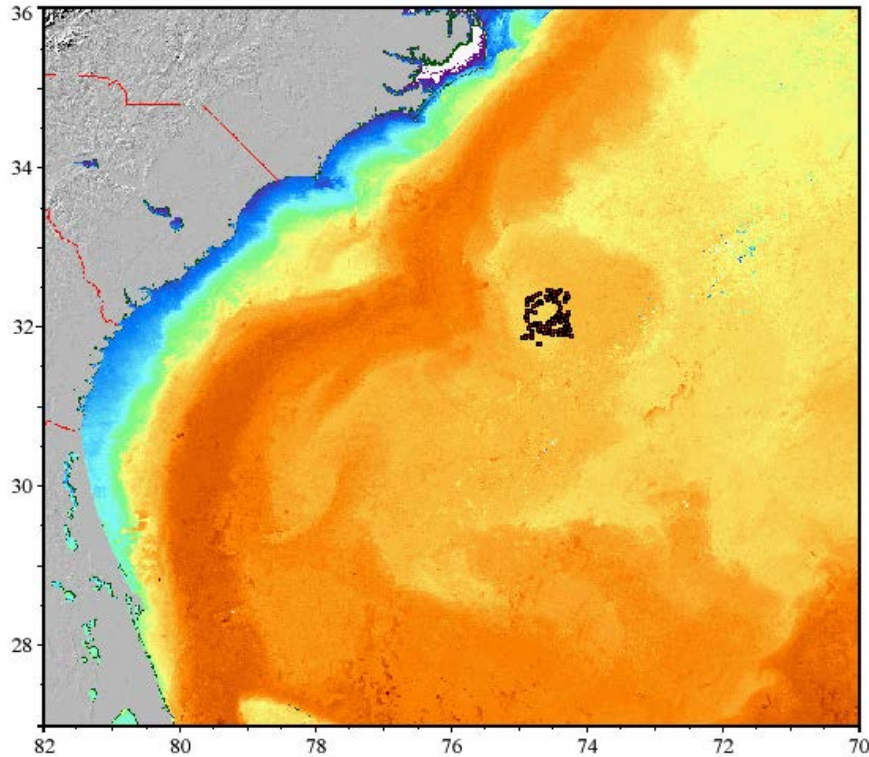
Turtles make more progress south during the day



Totally Stupid Reasons for not Believing the Obvious

- You ignore research surveys.
- Removing Large Predators Couldn't Possibly Affect Survival of Other Fish.
- Fishing Couldn't Possibly Affect the Size of Tuna.
- Fishermen are so stupid they cannot use satellite data to find tuna.
- Fishermen are so stupid that they don't improve their gear.

These estimates are conservative: 6 Fishermen are smarter (gps, satellite information, **ACDP** (Acoustic Current Doppler Profiler)).



Locations of a leatherback turtle over a two week period tagged by my student Mike James that maintains its position within a cold core ring (somehow).

However, fish may be a lot smarter too (the stupid ones were caught).

New Materials for Fishing Gear

Double Efficiency

Results from paired experiment

M – Monofilament

B – Multifilament (old gear)

Design, every other gangion was monofilament

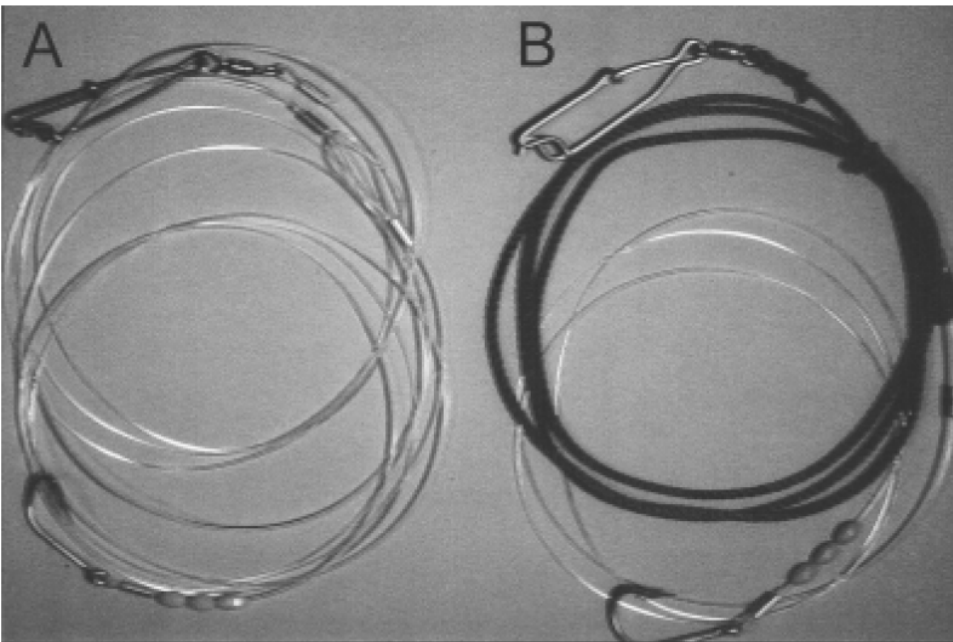
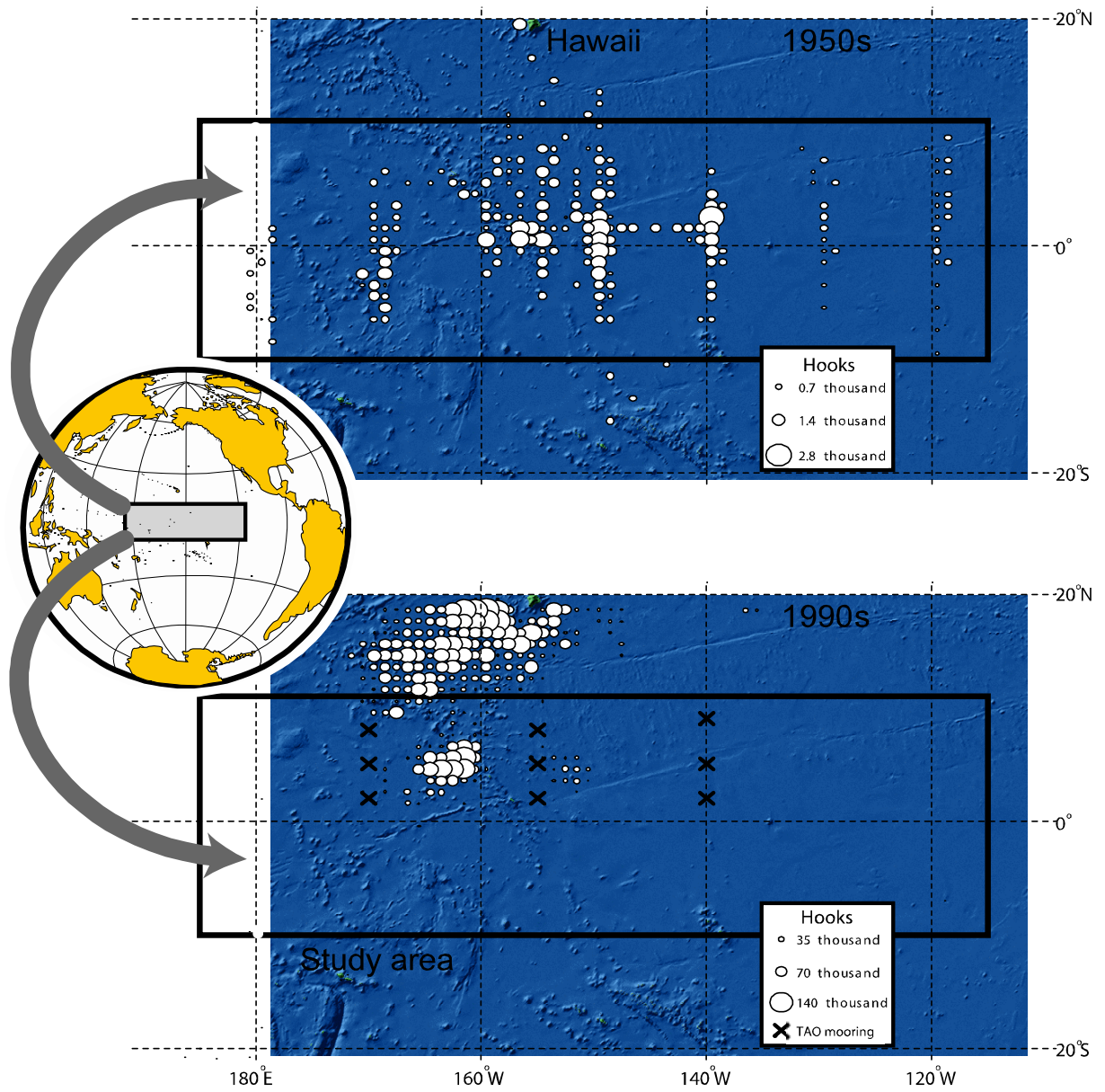
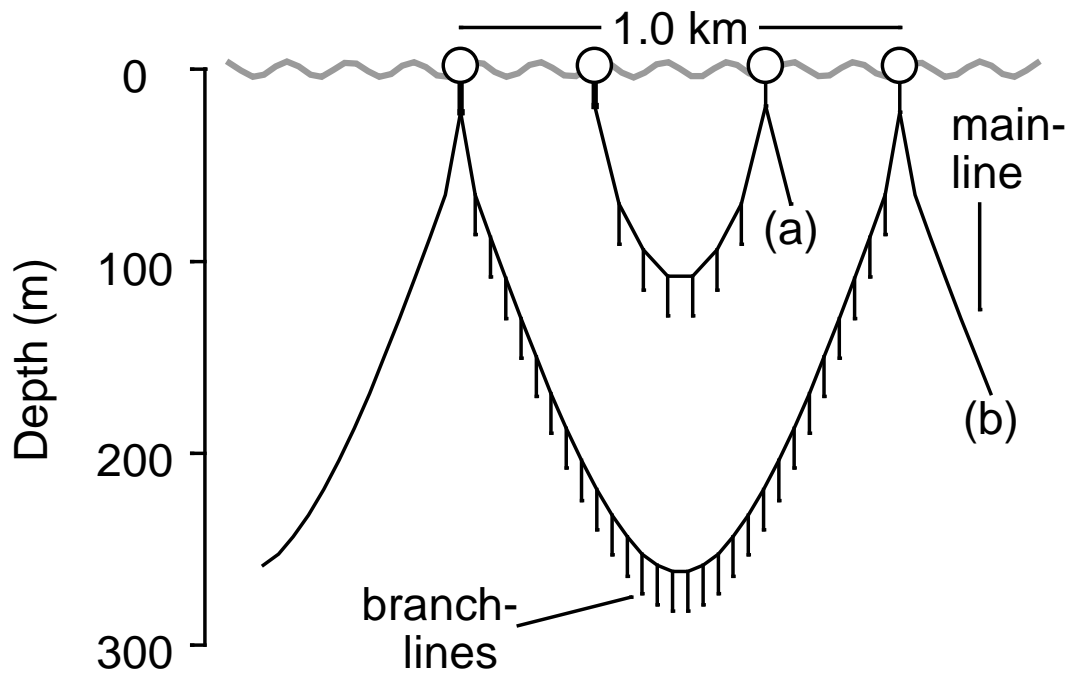


Figure 3

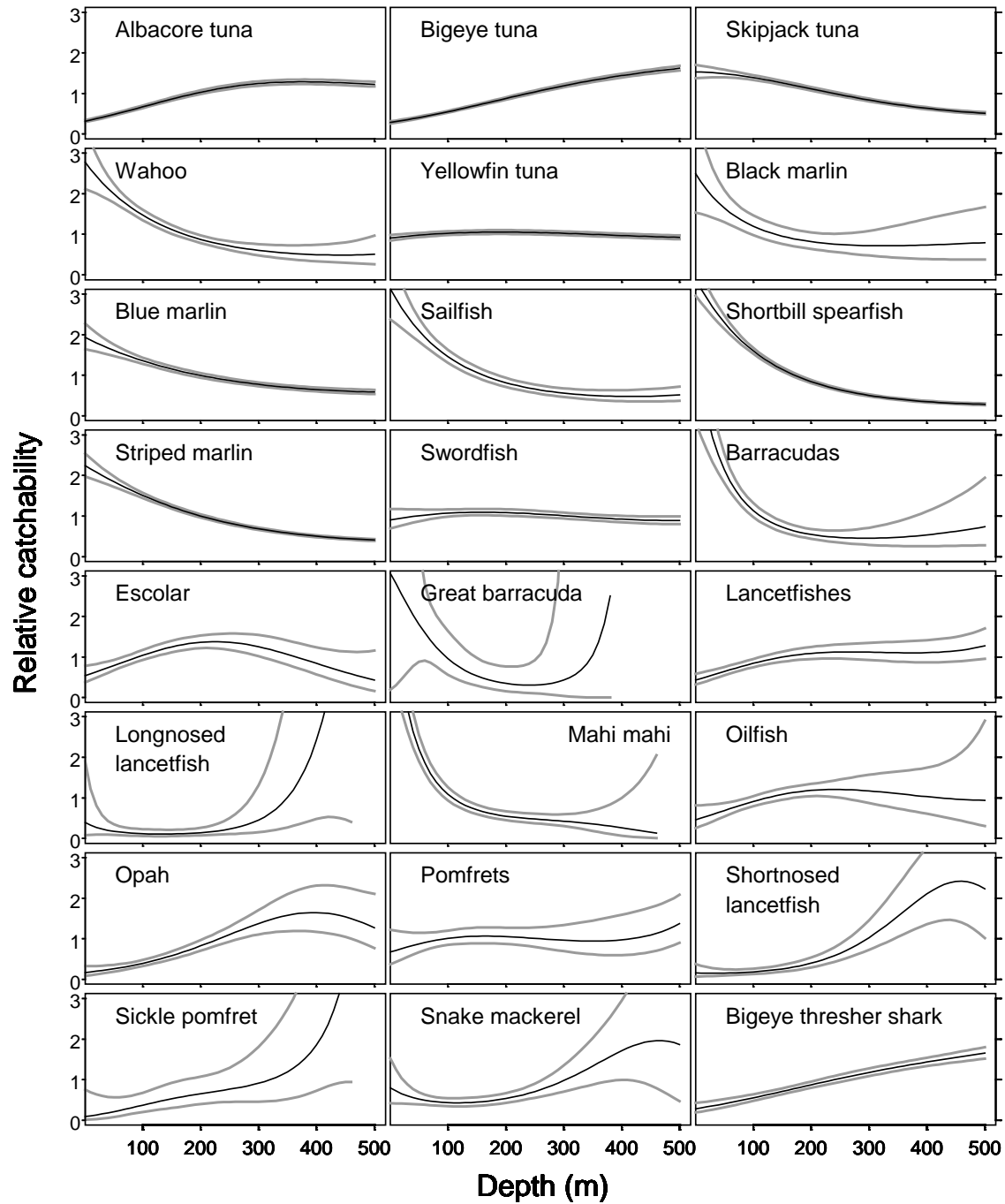
Monofilament nylon (A) and tared multifilament nylon (B) gangions used for ten pelagic longline sets conducted off Georges Bank from 22 July to 2 August 1999.

Species	Gangion	<i>n</i>
Swordfish	M	260
	B	128
Yellowfin tuna	M	9
	B	1
Mako shark	M	58
	B	39
Blue shark	M	225
	B	116
White marlin	M	47
	B	13
Dolphinfish	M	27
	B	10
Stingray	M	63
	B	31
Loggerhead turtle	M	40
	B	26
Total	M	729
	B	364





(a) Day Operations



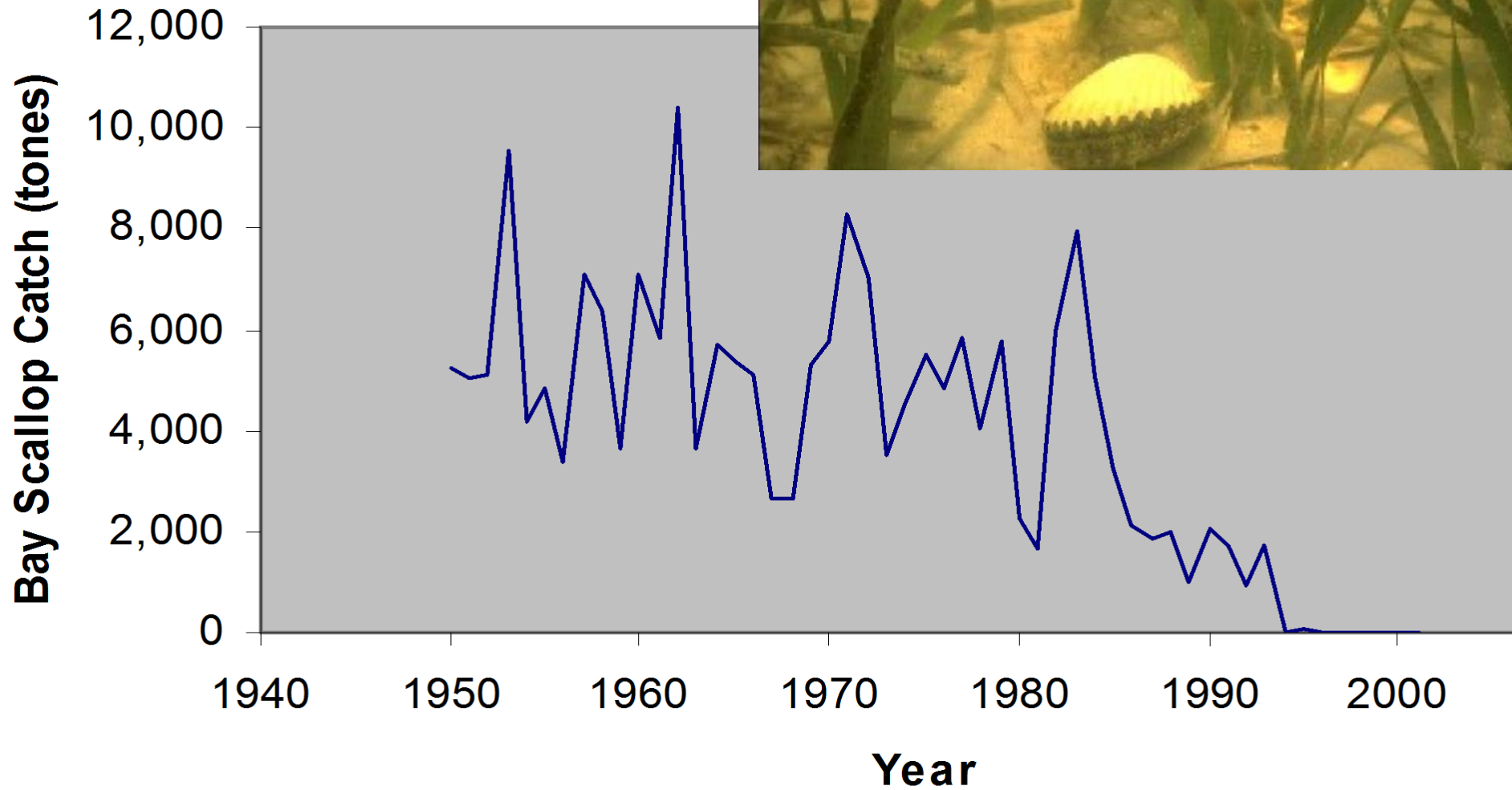
Ecosystem changes are consistent with a 10 fold decline in predation

➤ Key prey species would be predicted to increase by the changes in predation rate

Table 7. The occurrence of bramidae and gempylidae in tuna and billfish stomach contents in other studies.

species	Bramidae	Gempylidae	Literature	Region
Bigeye tuna	High	low	Moteki <i>et al.</i> (2001)	Pacific
	High	no	Mattews <i>et al.</i> (1977)	Atlantic
Yellowfin tuna	High	low	Moteki <i>et al.</i> (2001)	Pacific
	High	low	Mattews <i>et al.</i> (1977)	Atlantic
Albacore	High	High	Mattews <i>et al.</i> (1977)	Atlantic
Sword fish	High	low	Moteki <i>et al.</i> (2001)	Pacific

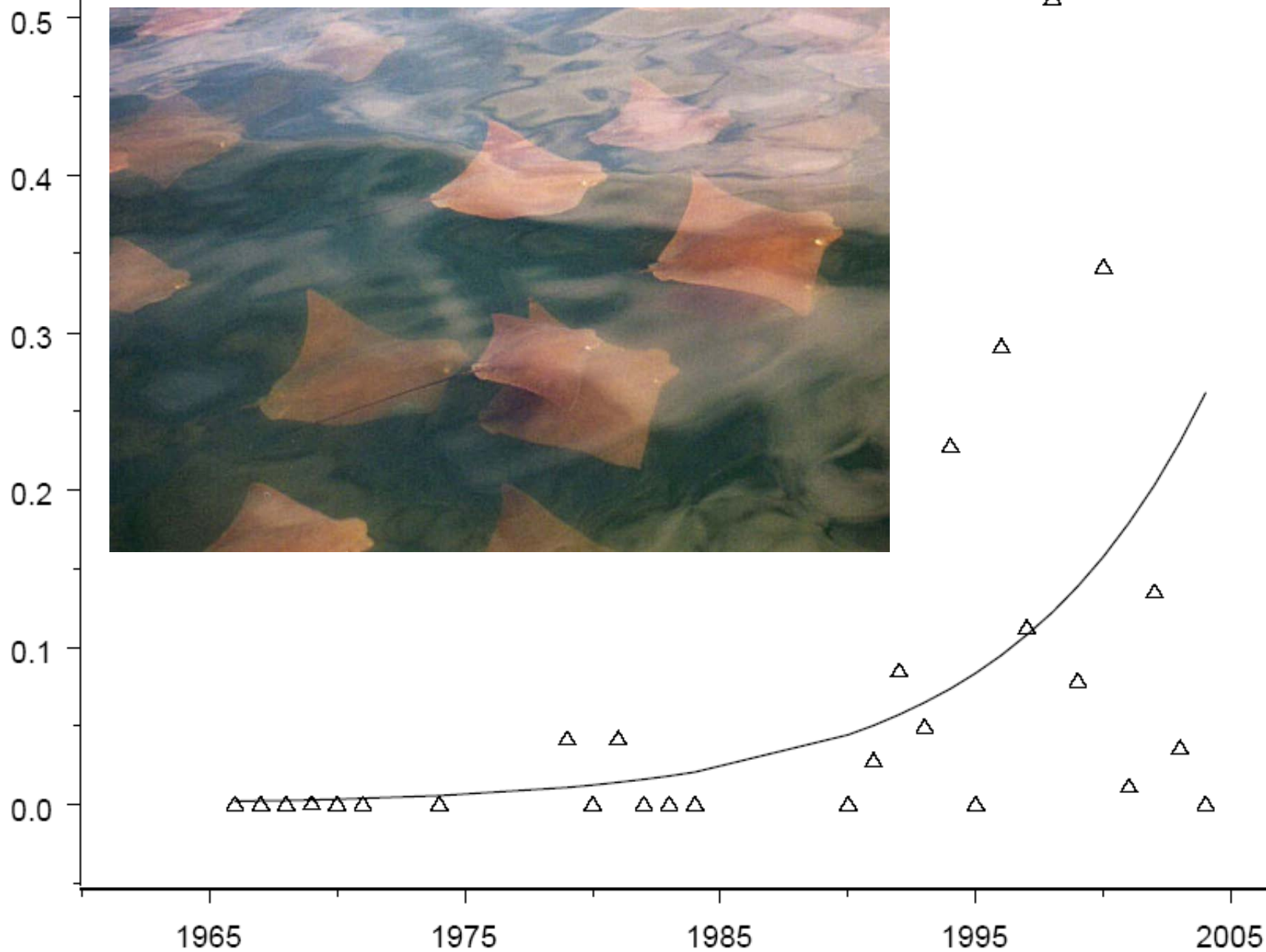
Bay Scallops Northeast US



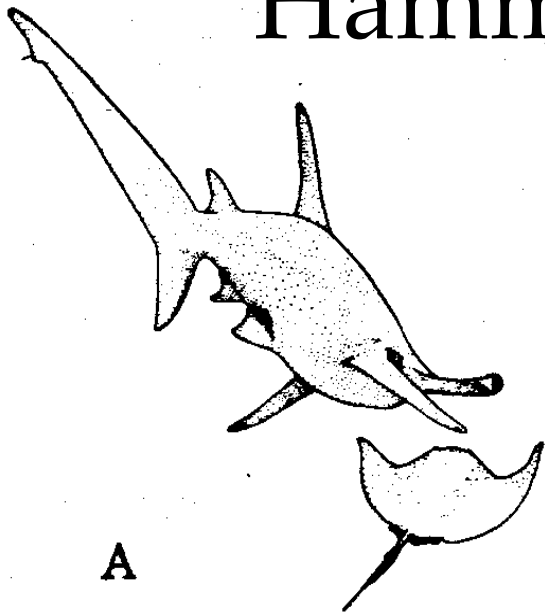
Cownose Ray - Delaware Bay



Mean standardized catch per tow



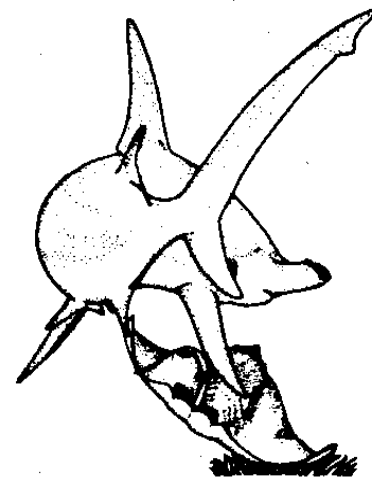
Hammerhead eating stingray



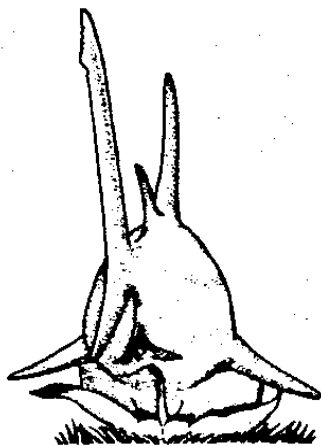
A



B



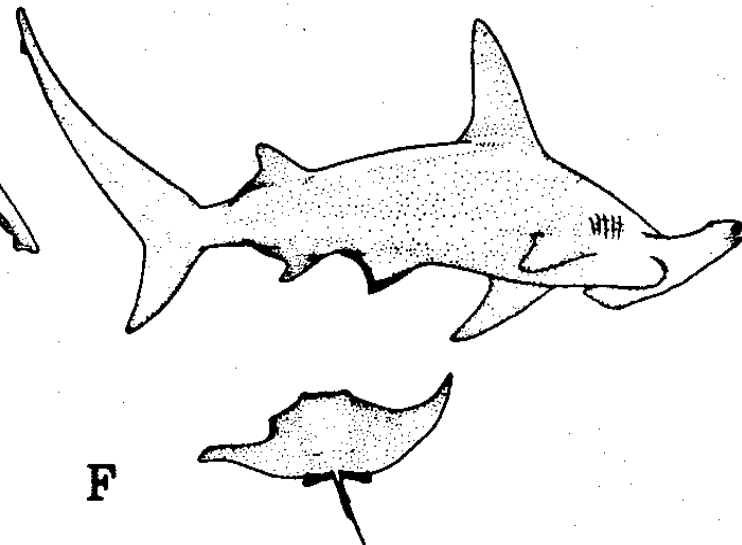
C



D

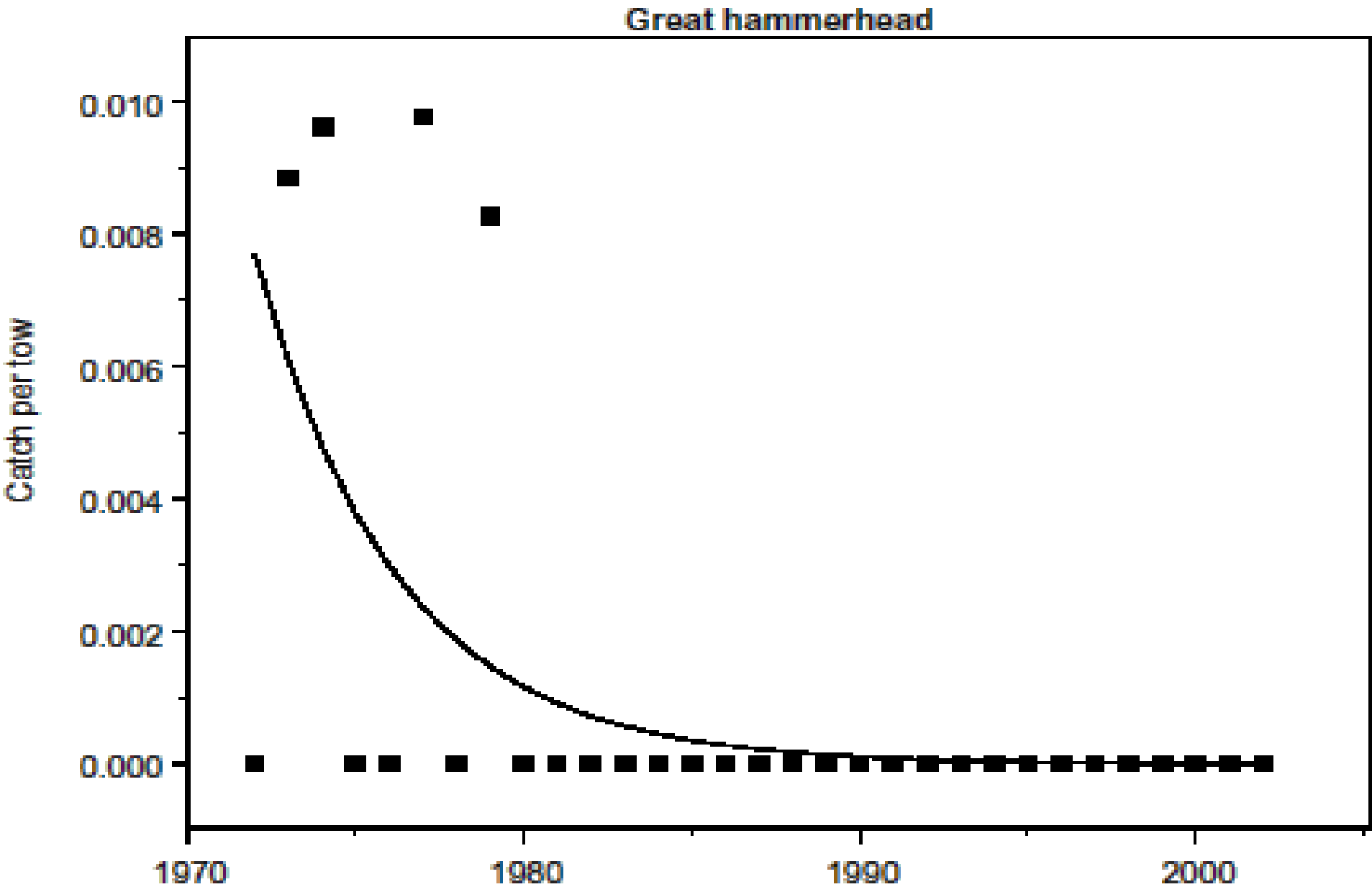


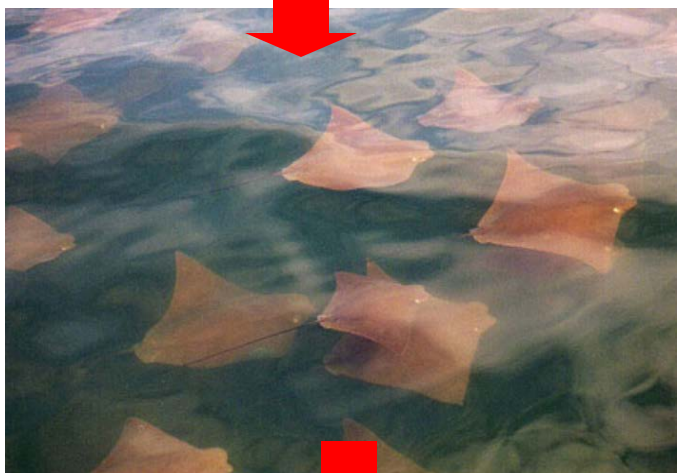
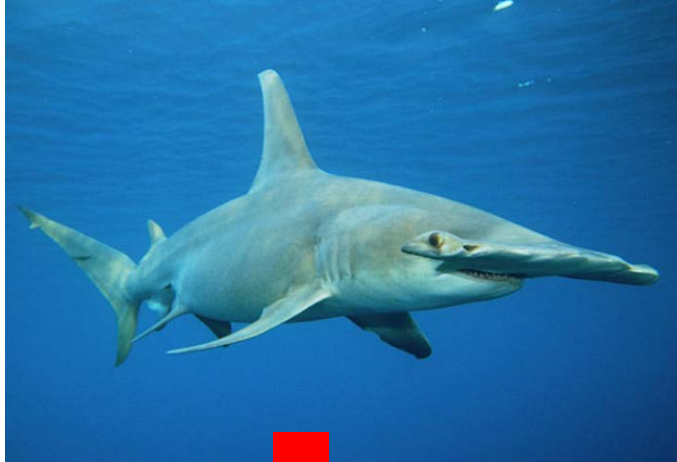
E



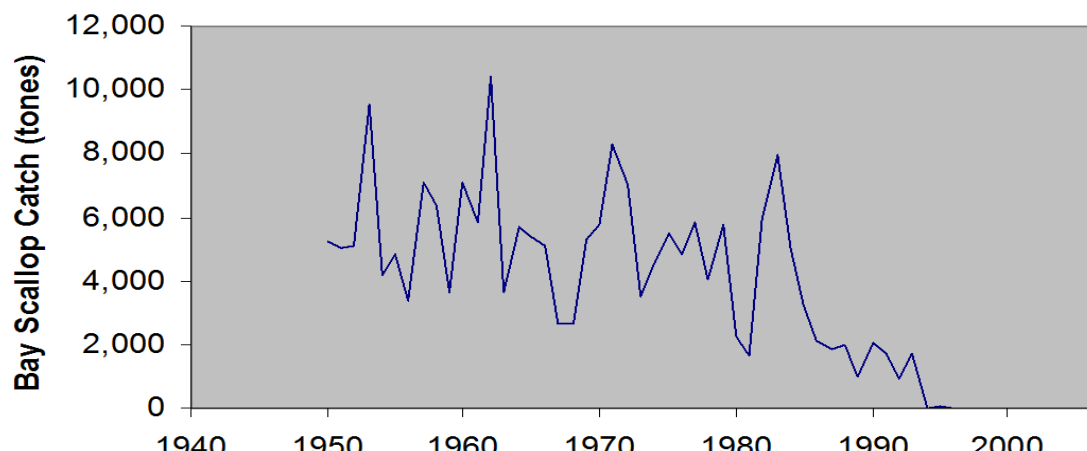
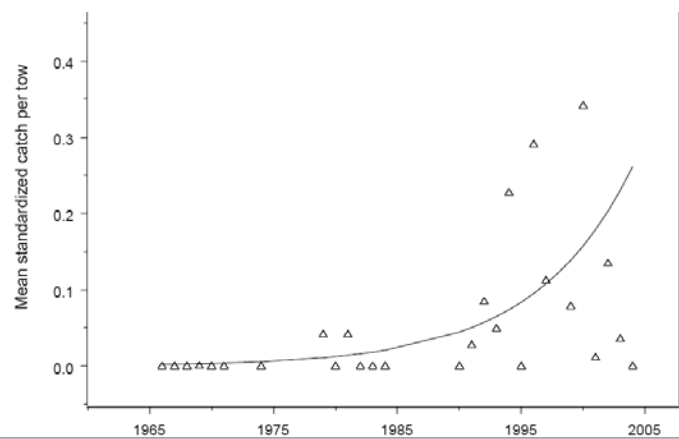
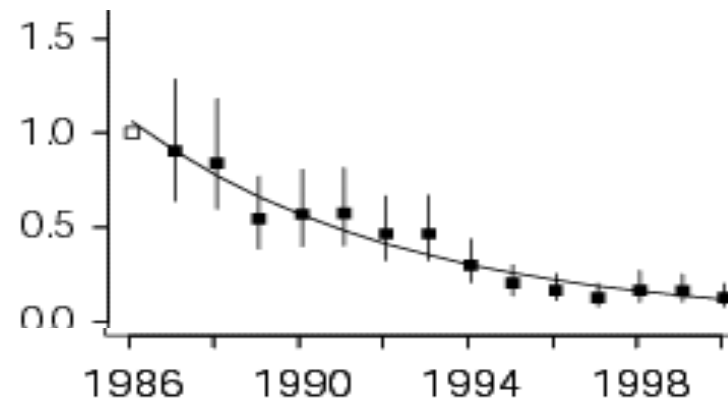
F

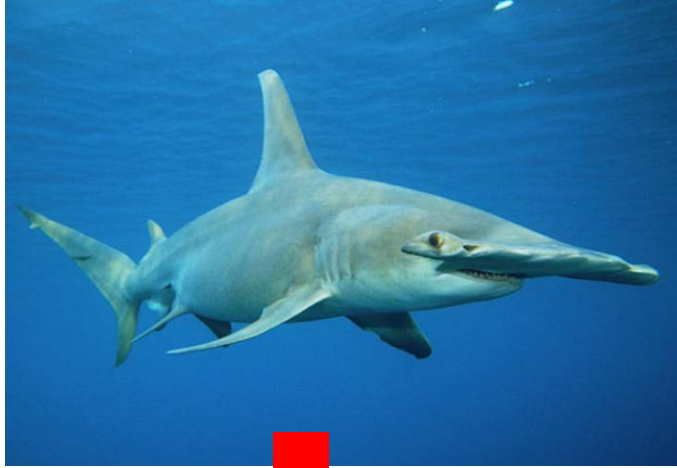
Loss of hammerheads from surveys





Relative abundance

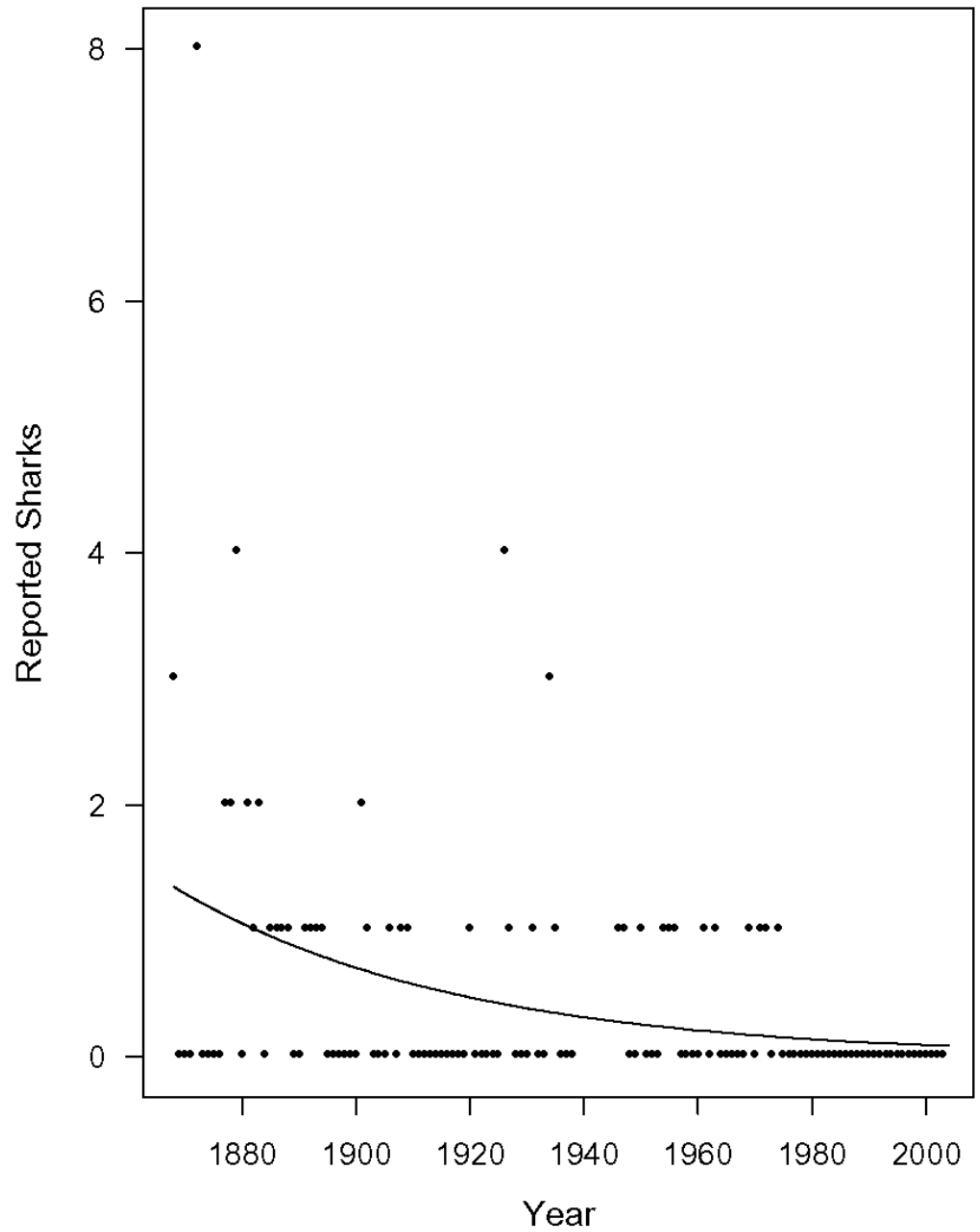




Trophic Cascades:
Consequences of the
loss of top predators
may be greater than
we think

Fitting a simple model to crazy data can yield reliable, and very powerful conclusions

Newspaper reports of sharks in Croatia



With training, “experts” can ignore the most obvious of data:

1872 - Man's head and leg and dolphin in stomach

1872 – 8 Great White Sharks reported caught

1888 - Woman's body and lamb in stomach

1894 - Preserved at Zagreb Nat. Hist. Mus.

1926 - Woman's shoes, laundry in stomach

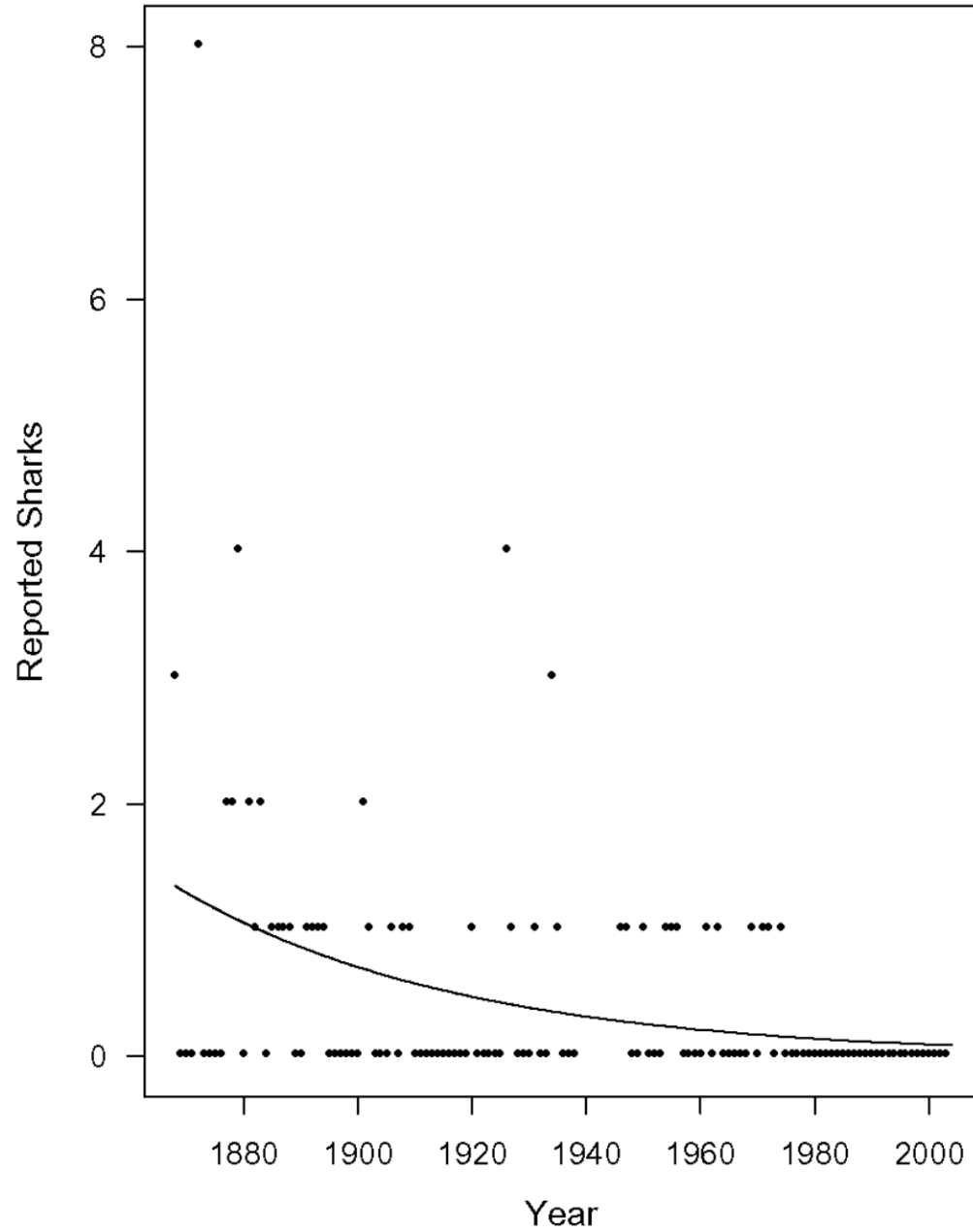
1946 - Pig of 10 kg in stomach

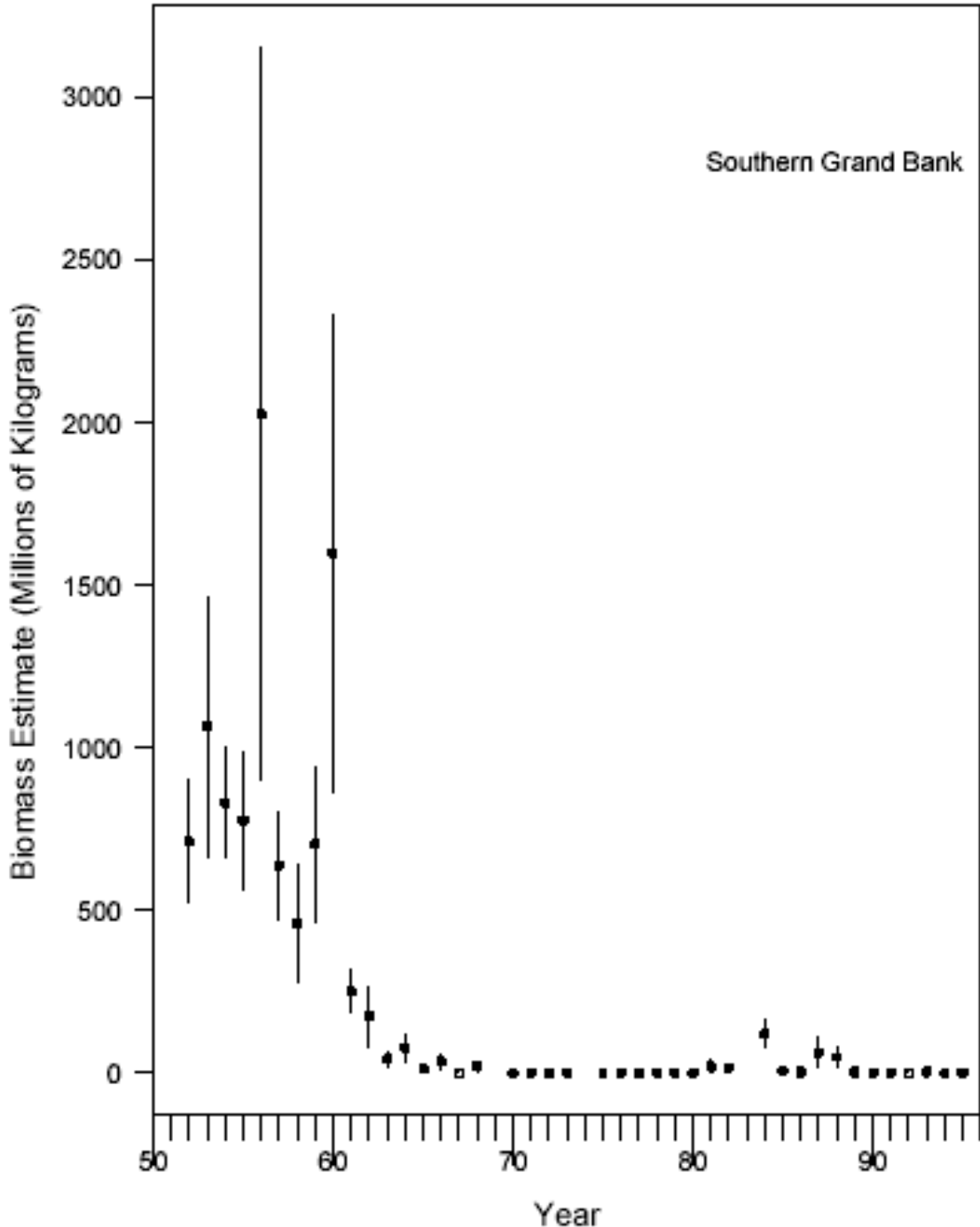
1950 - Encounter during eating a dead calf

1954 - Attack on boat

1975+ -**No sightings.**

Newspaper reports of sharks in Croatia





Southern Grand Bank

Loss of haddock on the Grand Banks – data from research surveys