

Inshore fisheries for the northern shrimp *Pandalus borealis* in Iceland: do multispecies linkages and temperature improve management advice?



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Important historically

- Almost 1 century of shrimp fishing in the west fjords.
- Peak landings were ~850 tonnes in Arnafjörður in 1994 and ~ 3000 tonnes in Ísafjörður in 1990.
- Surveys date back to the mid-1960s.



Still important locally

- Can use a small boat.
- But, recent decades marked by decreased biomass indices & fishery closures.
- This is despite consistent surveys and management.





From Marine and Freshwater Research Institute Status of the Stocks 2017: https://www.hafogvatn.is/en/harvesting-advice

Within-fjord shrimp management

- Survey indices calculated from two annual surveys
- Generally, an advisory rule is applied to a reference biomass index to determine catch, but may be modified according to ICES guidelines.
 - Ísafjörður: Survey biomass_{year} x 0.5 = TAC_{year + 1}
 - Arnarfjörður: Survey biomassyear x 0.346 = TACyear + 1
- No biomass estimates.
- Not popular.

This is a precautionary tale about the intertwining nature of

- Estimation of biomass & catchability
- Environmental effects on growth and mortality
- Optimization difficulties

Problems (a.k.a. #\$%! invertebrates...)

- No quantitative age data
- Growth by molting
- Growth sensitive to temperature
- Connectedness to offshore populations unclear
- Aggregate
- Food for everything

Aggregation prevents CPUE from or www.captainatlantic.ca dropping



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Cod stocks are doing great...



Þorskur. Afli eftir veiðarfærum, nýliðun 3 ára, veiðihlutfall og veiðidánartala, stærð viðmiðunarstofns (4 ára og eldri) og hrygningarstofns.

Cod. Catch by gear type, recruitment at age 3, fishing mortality and harvest rate, reference stock biomass (B4+) and spawning stock biomass (SSB).

... and they love eating shrimp.



Temperature changes may affect growth



Motivation.

- What is causing shrimp declines?
- Is the advisory rule sufficient and not overly conservative?

Motivation.

- What is causing shrimp declines?
- Is the advisory rule sufficient and not overly conservative or lax?
- Can biomass be estimated?
- What effect do environmental variables have?
- [How do the advisory rules perform under uncertain biomass levels?]

Overview

- 1. Operational model & data
- 2. Find 'best' model from an overparameterized state. Likelihood profiles:
 - 1. M / predation effort
 - 2. Recruitment upper bounds / catchability
 - 3. Stock-recruitment relationships
- 3. Describe the upcoming management strategy evaluation

I. Operational model

Size- and age-structured model Gadget

- Lengths 0.3-2.50 cm in 0.05 cm bins
- Ages 0-8
- No stock-recruitment relationship recruitment estimated each year
- Predator fleets:
 - Cod (0 44 cm, 45 74 cm, > 75 cm)
 - Haddock (0 44 cm, 45 74 cm, > 75 cm)
 - Whiting Haddock (0 44 cm, 45 75 cm)
- Positive linear effect of temperature on k
 - in length-based Von Bertalanffy growth
 - 2 measures of temperature: surface and bottom from shrimp survey













I. Data

- Survey data from 2 surveys 1990 2017
 - Survey indices (6 slices)
 - Proportion at length
 - Proportion mature at length (single survey)
 - Mean temperature across survey readings for a given year, both bottom & surface
- Commercial/other samples: proportion at length
- Relative predation effort represented by predator biomass
 - composed of cod, haddock, whiting in 3 size categories each
 - Scaled by a single estimated scalar
- Landings incorporated directly
- Fit using:
 - Sum of squares (resulting in 'likelihood score')
 - Iterative reweighting to scale likelihood components
 - Mainly simulated annealing, followed by Hooke & Jeeves

II. Best model?

1. Preliminary model based on only Arnafjörður

2. Developed model with both Arnafjörður and Ísafjörður

II. Best model? Properties of the Prelim. model

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II. Best model? Properties of the Prelim. model



II. Best model? Properties of the Prelim. model



Recruitment upper bound (millions)

II. Best model? Properties of the Prelim. model



Recruitment upper bound (millions)

II. Best model? Recruitment upper bounds & catchability



II. Best model? SR relationships



Commercial

Predator

II. Best model? SR relationships



II. Best Developed model so fare (motination can final)

II. Best Developed model so fare (motinatiantic.ca



II. Best Developed model so far (motinatlantic.ca final)



II. Best Developed model so far (motinatlantic.ca final)





3.mynd. Meðallengd rækju (mm) eftir aldri og árgöngum í Arnarfirði og Ísafjarðardjúpi. Neðri myndin sýnir meðallengd allra árganga eftir aldri í Arnarfirði (heil lína) og Ísafjarðardjúpi (brotin lína).

Figure 3. Mean length (mm) of shrimp by age and year classes in Arnarfjörður and Ísafjarðardjúp. The lower graph shows the mean length of all year classes by age in Arnarfjörður (solid line) and Ísafjarðardjúp (broken line).

II. Best model? M ^s, predation effort





Figure 4. Shrimp in Arnarfjörður. Stock biomass index, fishable biomass index, female biomass index and juvenile biomass index of shrimp. The horizontal line indicates a value where the state of the stock is considered to be critical (20% of the mean of the three highest indices).

Mynd 4. Rækja í Arnarfirði. Heildarstofnsvísitala, veiðistofnsvísitala, kvendýravísitala og vísitala ungrækju. Lárétt lína sýnir viðmiðunargildi fyrir ástand stofnsins (20% af meðaltali þriggja hæstu vísitalna).

II. Best model? M & predation effort













Figure 4. Shrimp in İsafjarðardjúp. Stock biomass index, fishable biomass index, female biomass index and juvenile biomass index of shrimp. The horizontal line indicates a value where the state of the stock is considered to be critical (20% of the mean of the three highest indices).

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II. Best model? M & predation effort



II. Best Developed model so far (motinatlantic.ca final)



III. Management Strategy Evaluation



Conclusions

True ecology = overparameterization
Care should be taken in how model choices can constrain belief in ecological states

•Useful exercise despite difficulties in estimating catchability

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II. Best model? SR relationships

year