



**NOAA  
FISHERIES**

Alaska Fisheries  
Science Center

# Use of posterior predictive intervals in complex statistical age- structured assessment models

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CAPAM Diagnostics workshop  
Feb 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022

[https://apps-afsc.fisheries.noaa.gov/Plan\\_Team/2021/EBSPollock.pdf](https://apps-afsc.fisheries.noaa.gov/Plan_Team/2021/EBSPollock.pdf)

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# Diagnostics

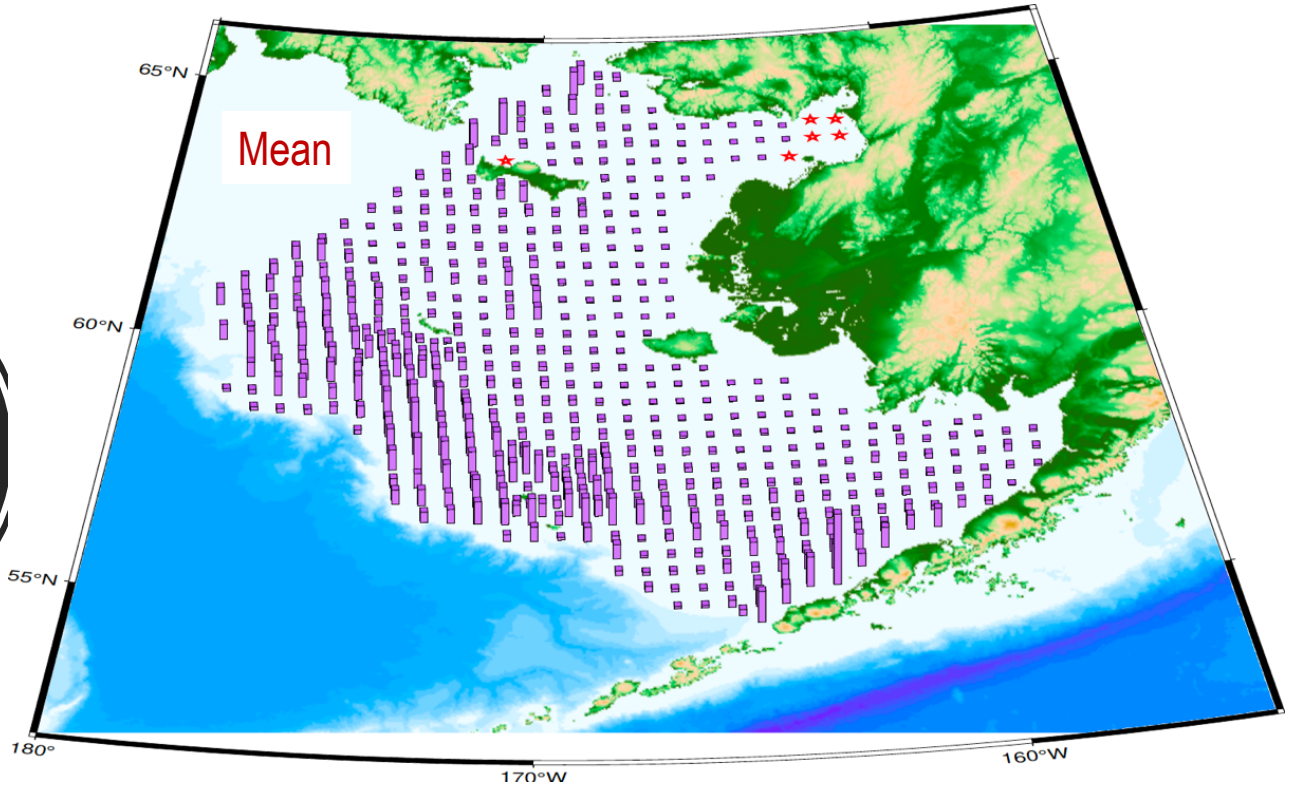
- Some data preview
  - Visual diagnostics
-

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## Survey work

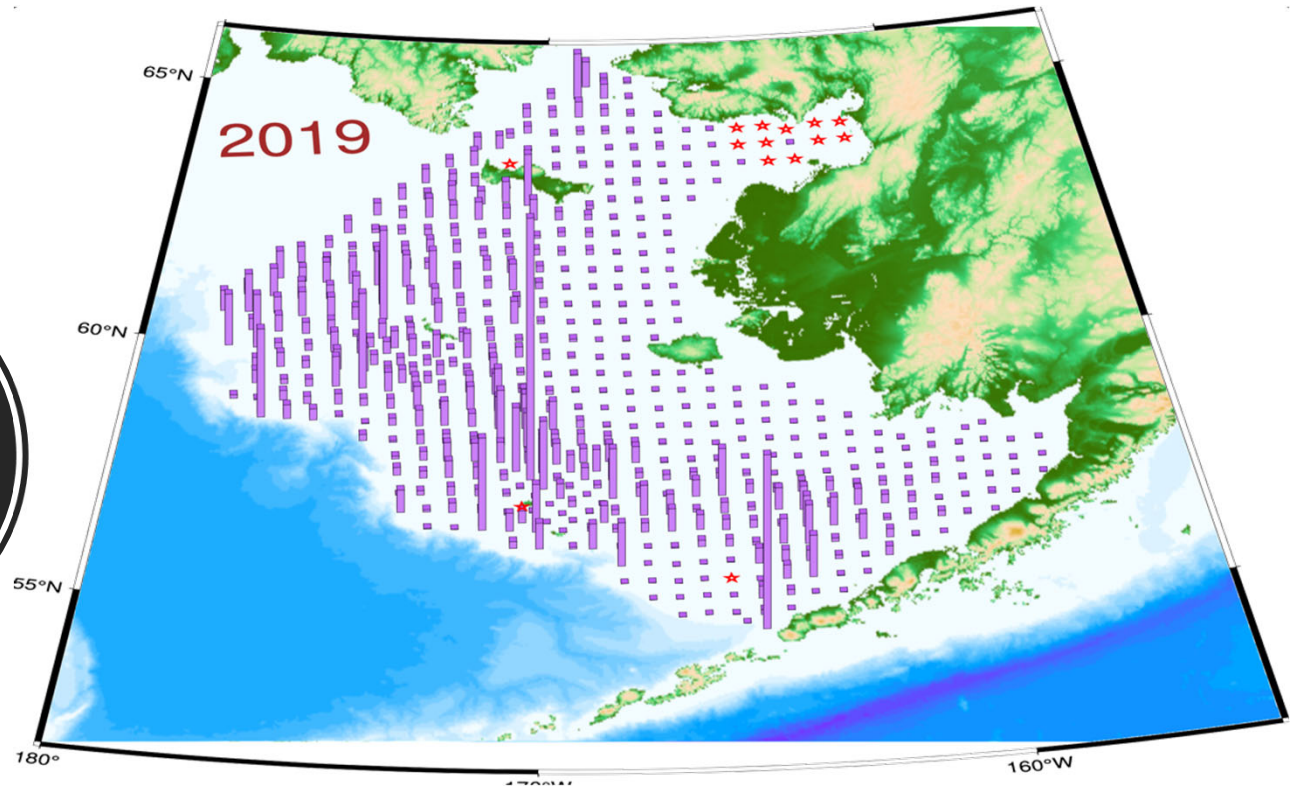
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Pollock  
survey  
mean density  
by station

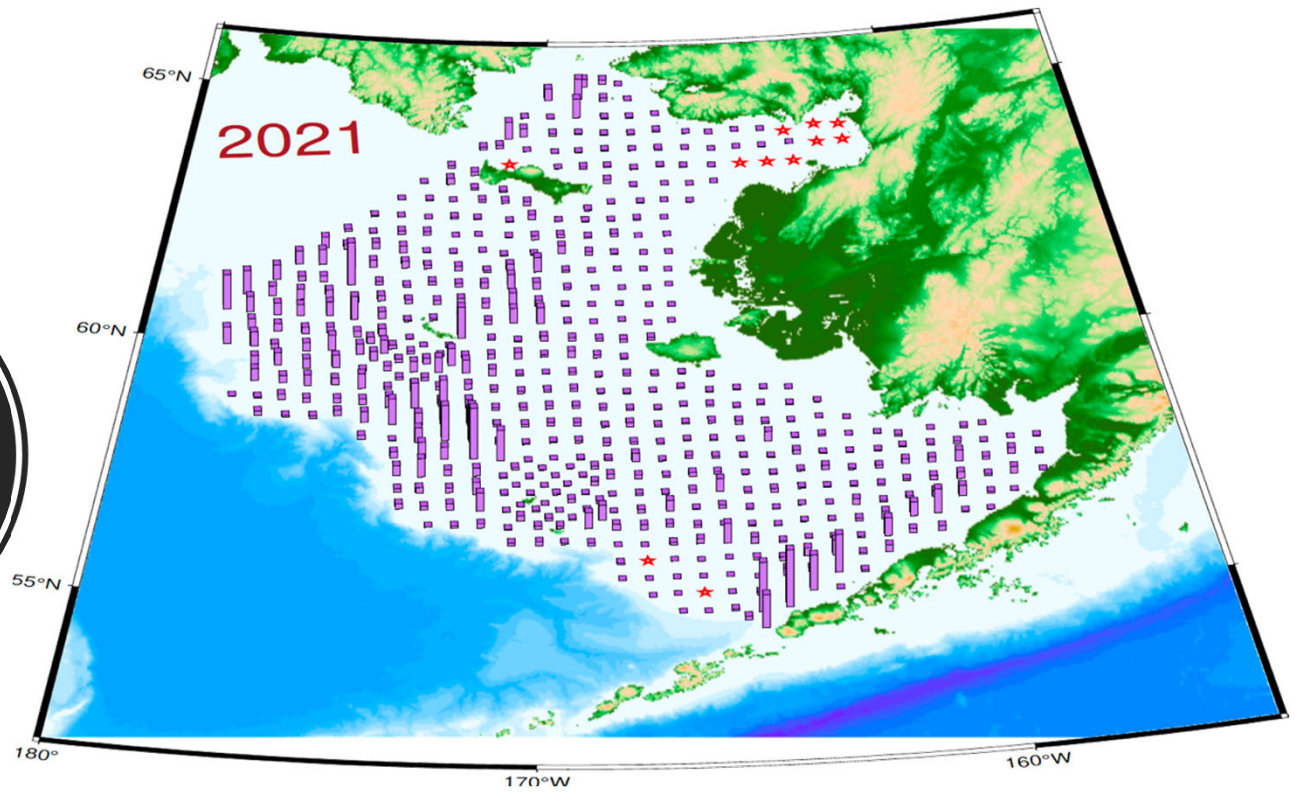




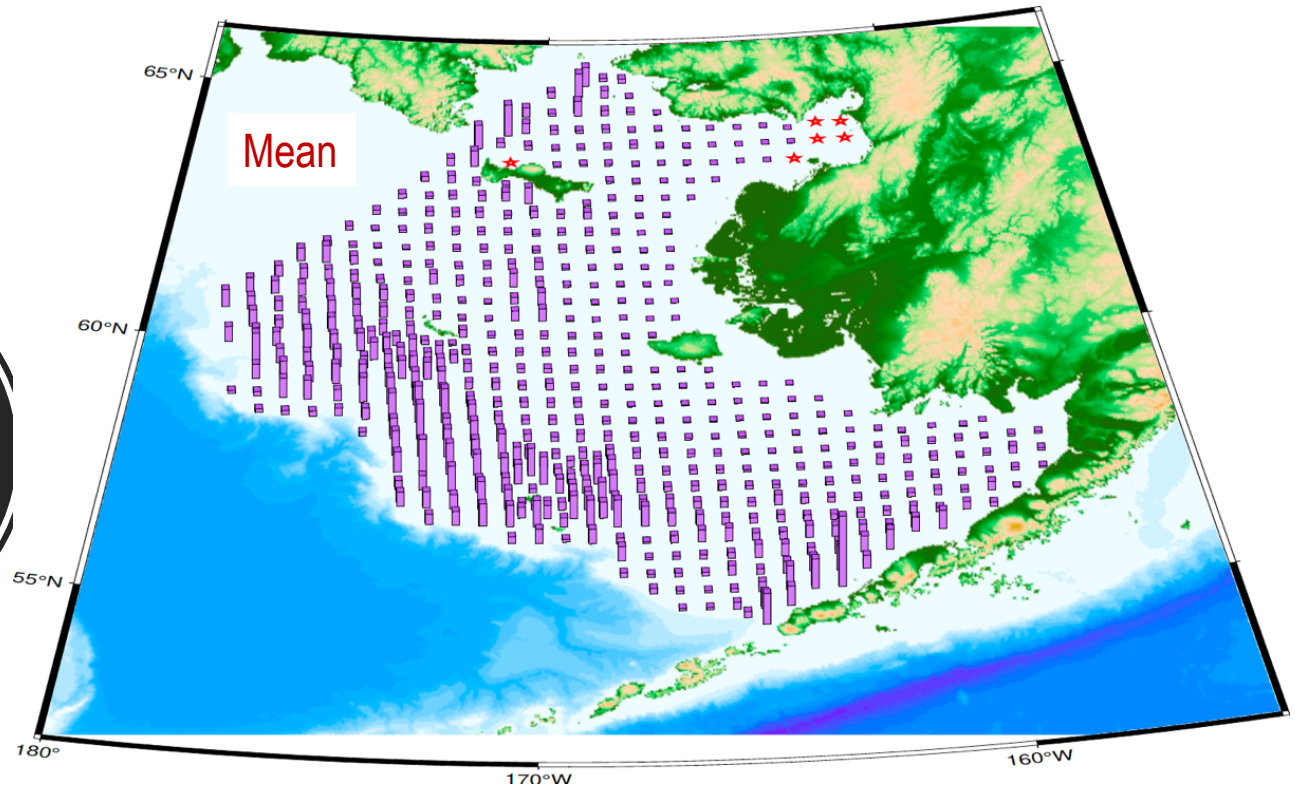
Pollock  
Survey  
2019



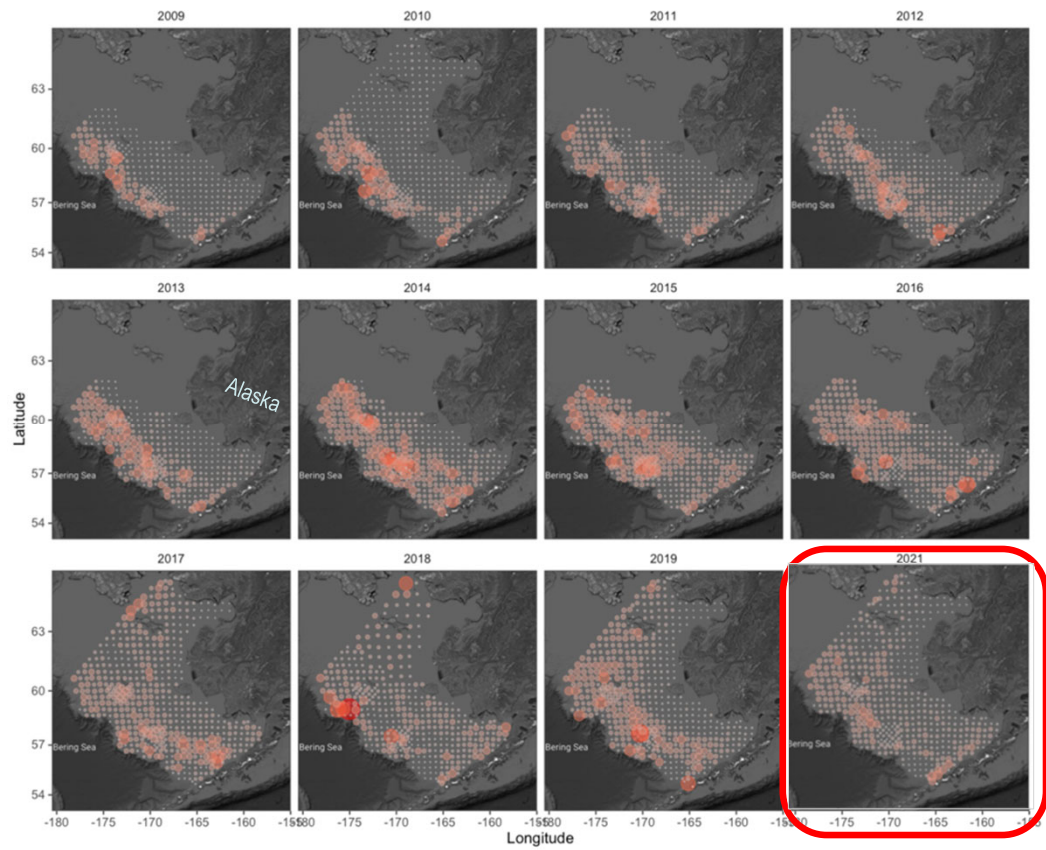
Pollock  
Survey  
2021



Pollock  
survey  
mean density  
by station



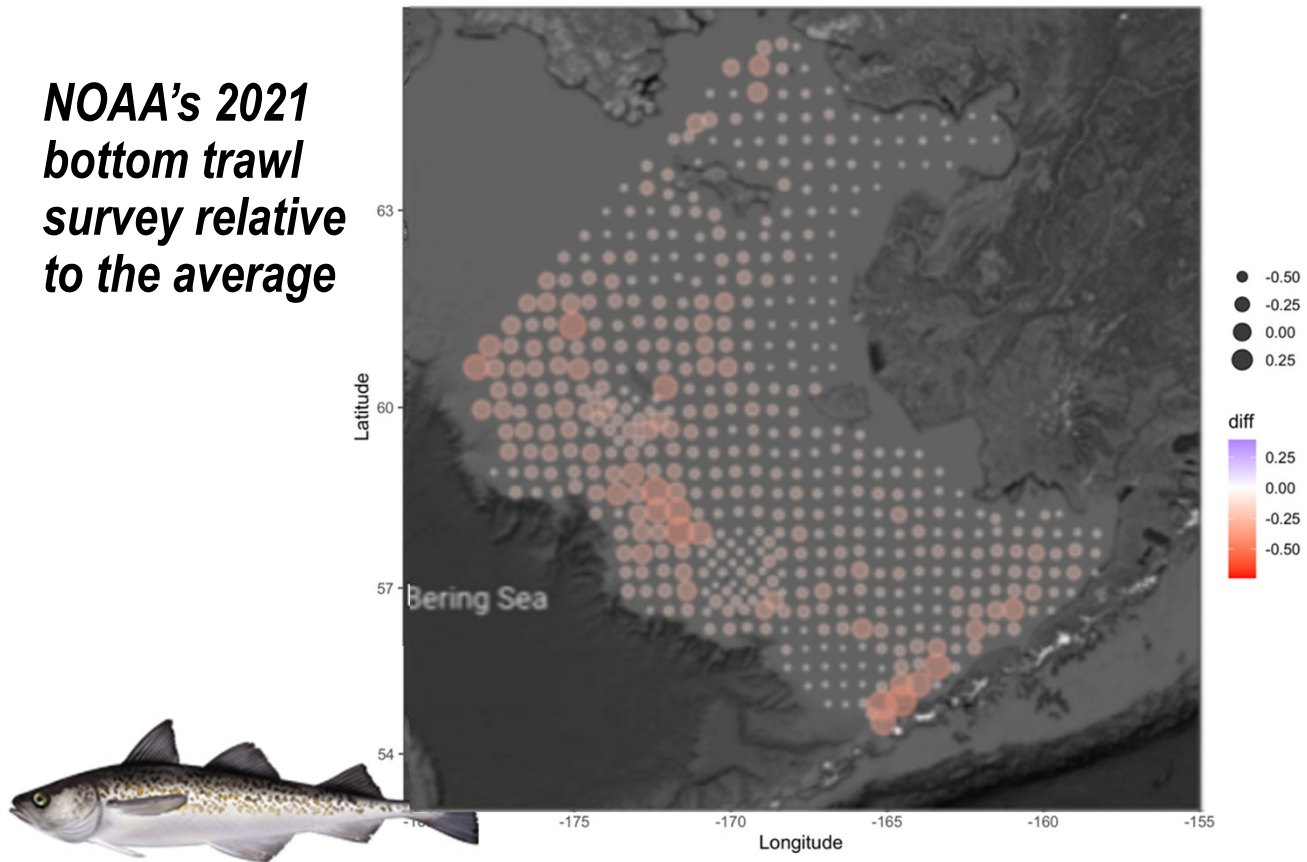
## Recent bottom trawl surveys





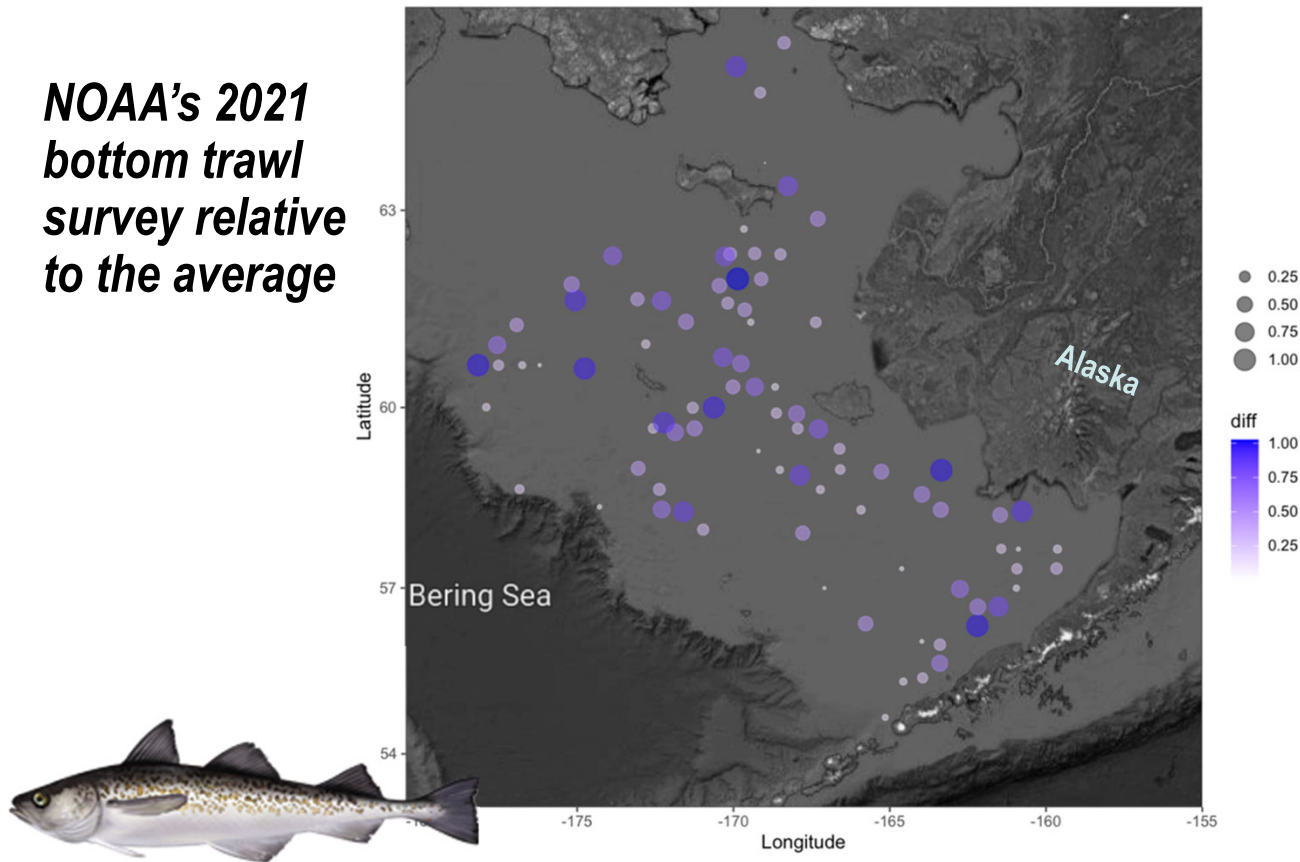
**NOAA's 2021  
bottom trawl  
survey relative  
to the average**

2021 survey catch rate difference from mean



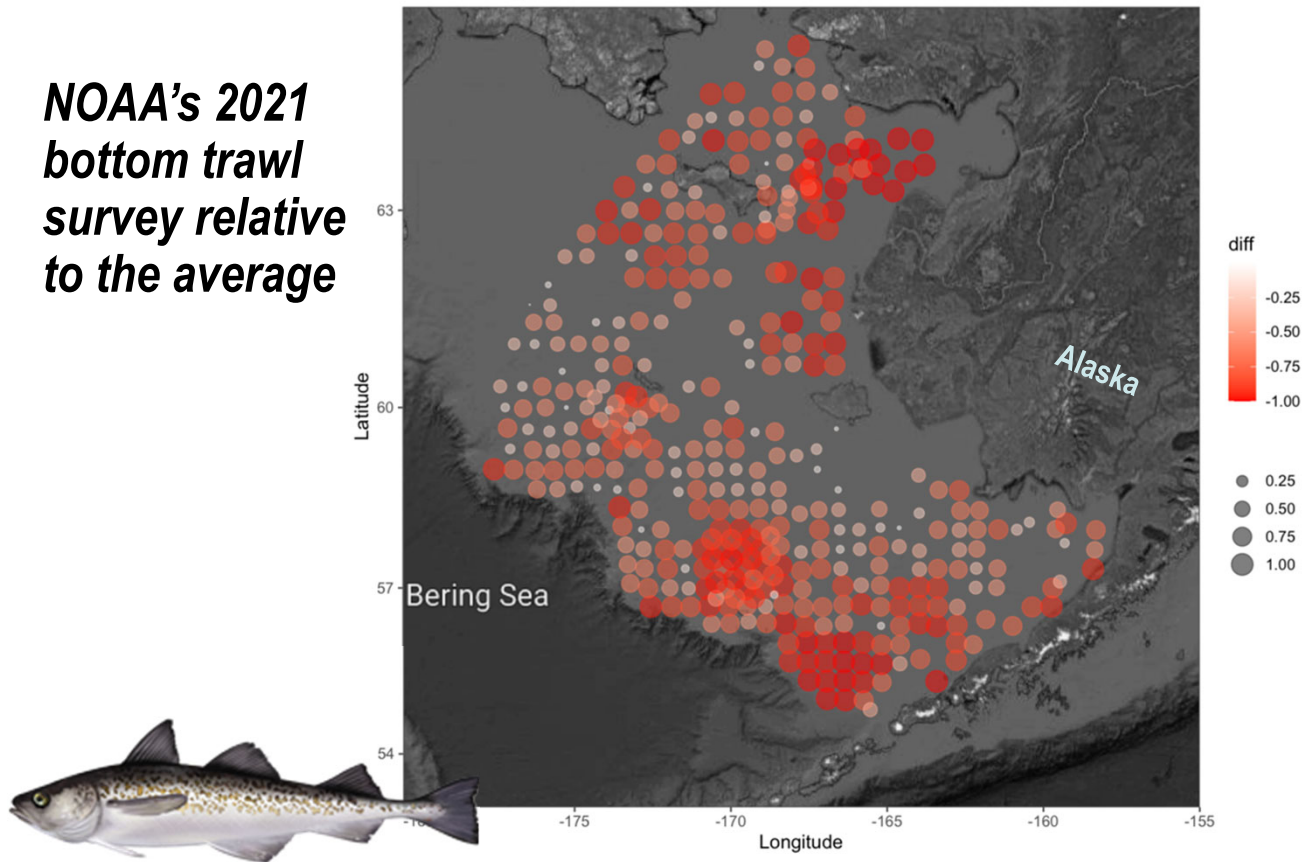
**NOAA's 2021  
bottom trawl  
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2021 survey catch rate difference from mean



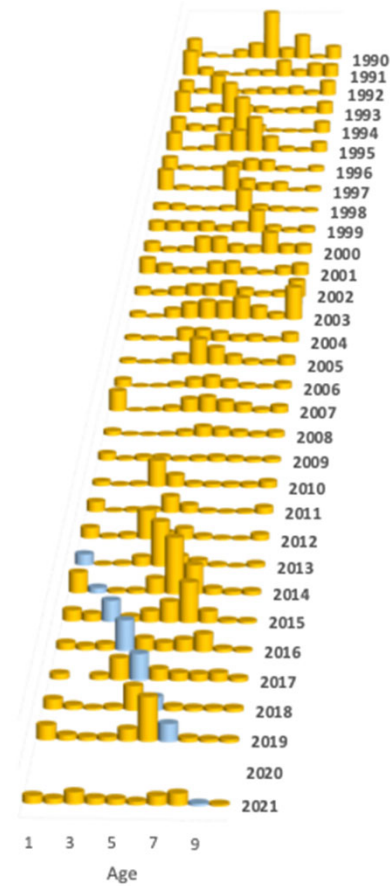
**NOAA's 2021  
bottom trawl  
survey relative  
to the average**

2021 survey catch rate difference from mean



# Age composition

- From NOAA's bottom-trawl survey

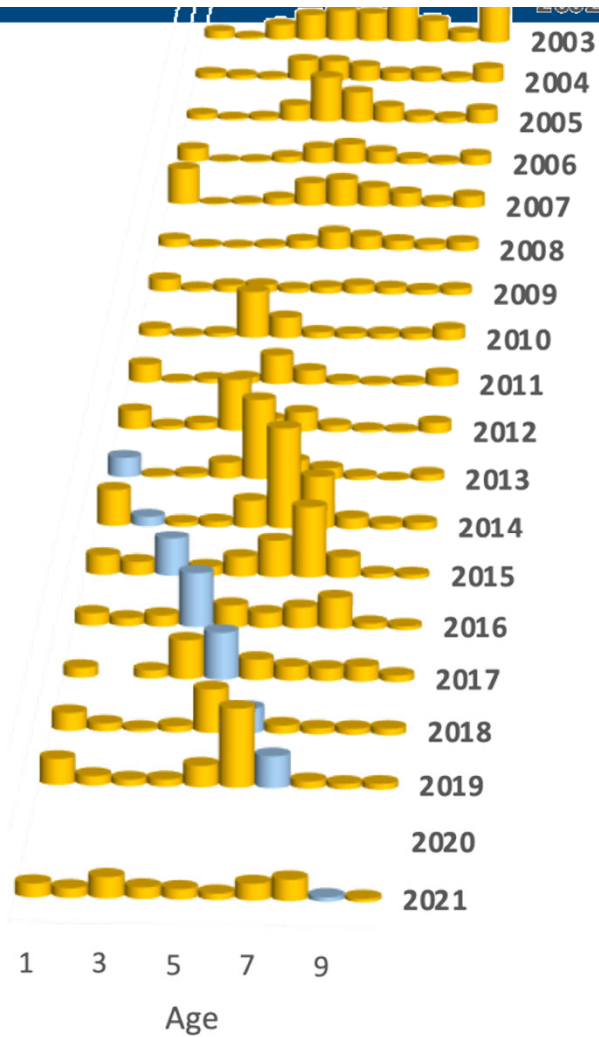


Vertical scale is relative to survey population estimate

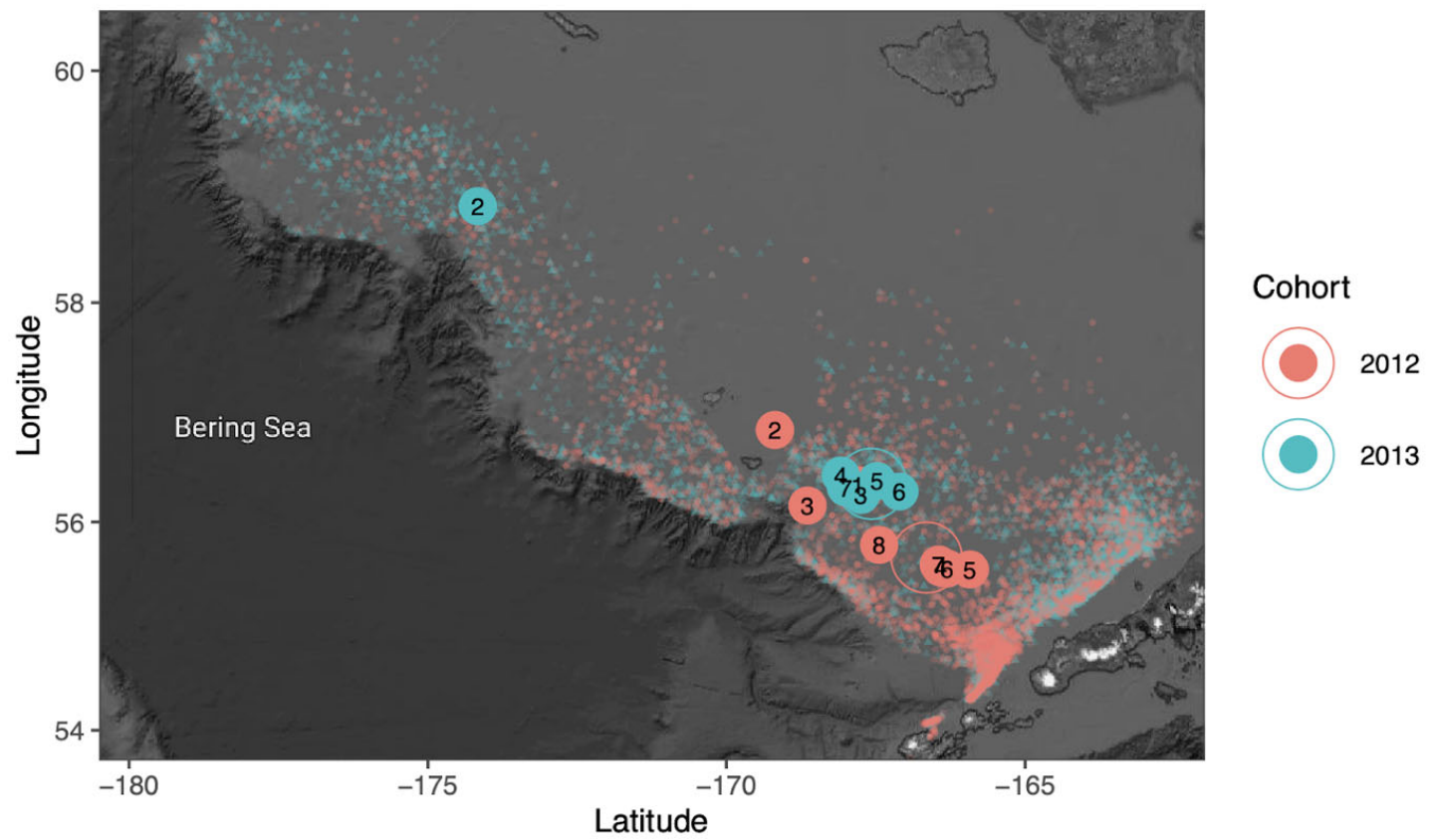


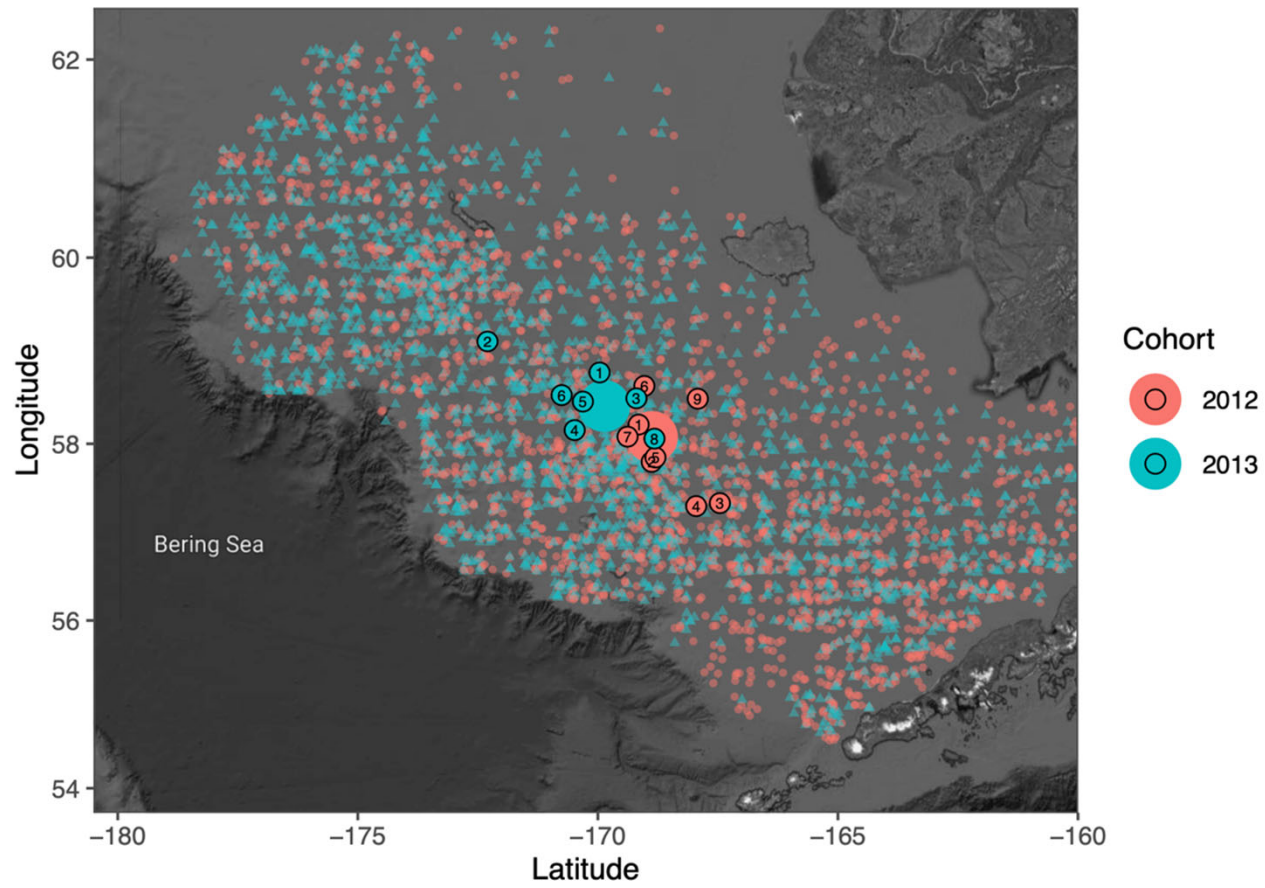
# Age composition

- From NOAA's bottom-trawl survey



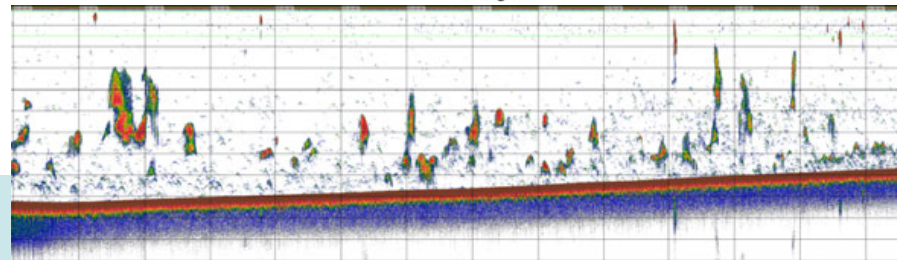
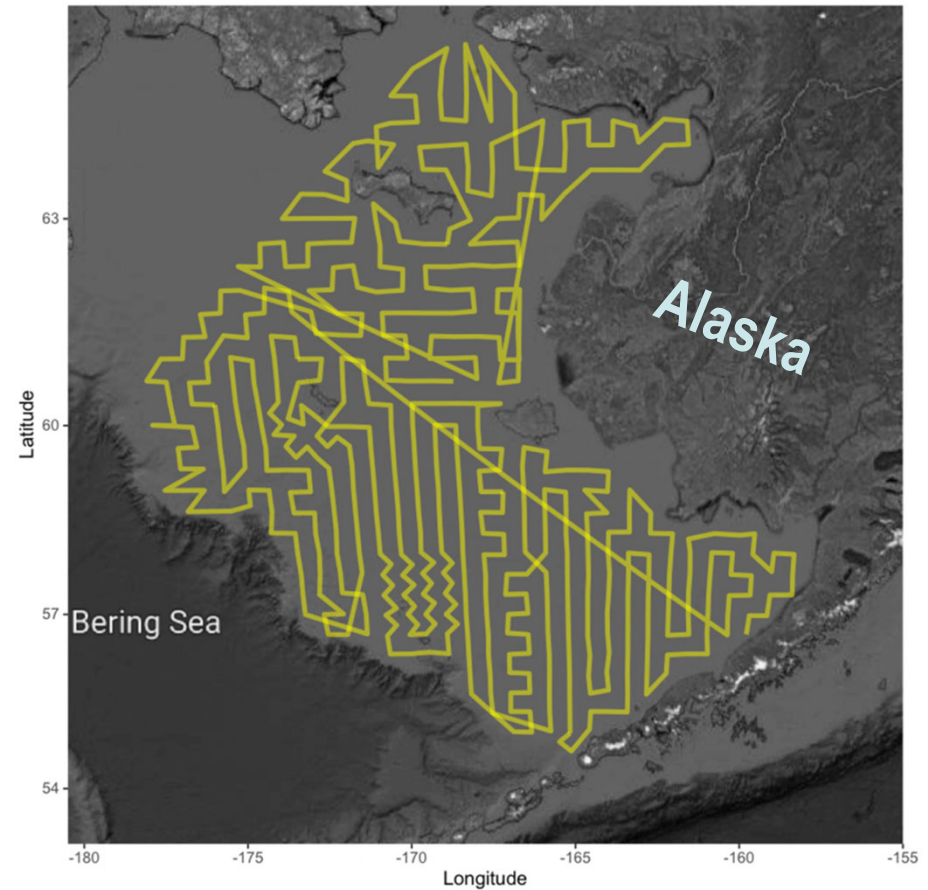
Vertical scale is relative to survey population estimate





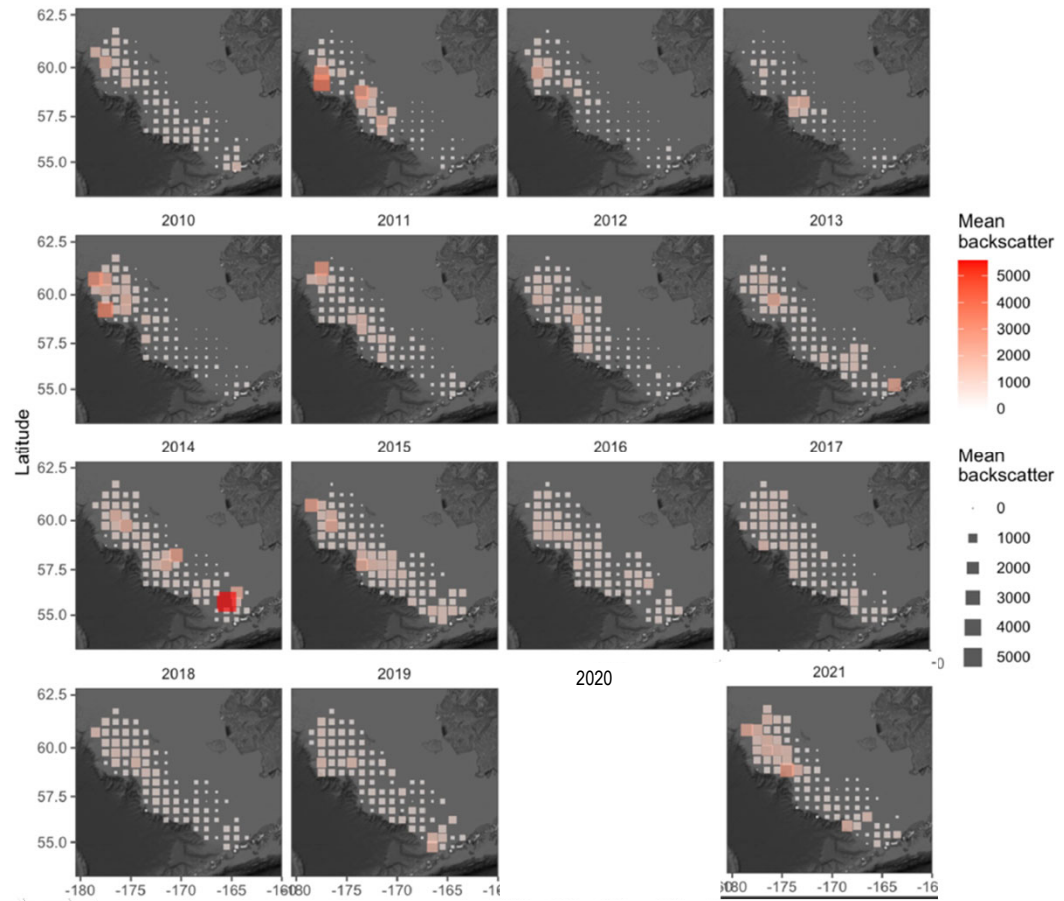
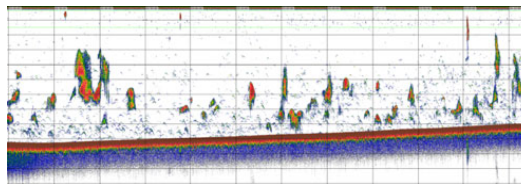
## Survey transit

- Opportunistic acoustic data
- Can show young fish abundance off bottom



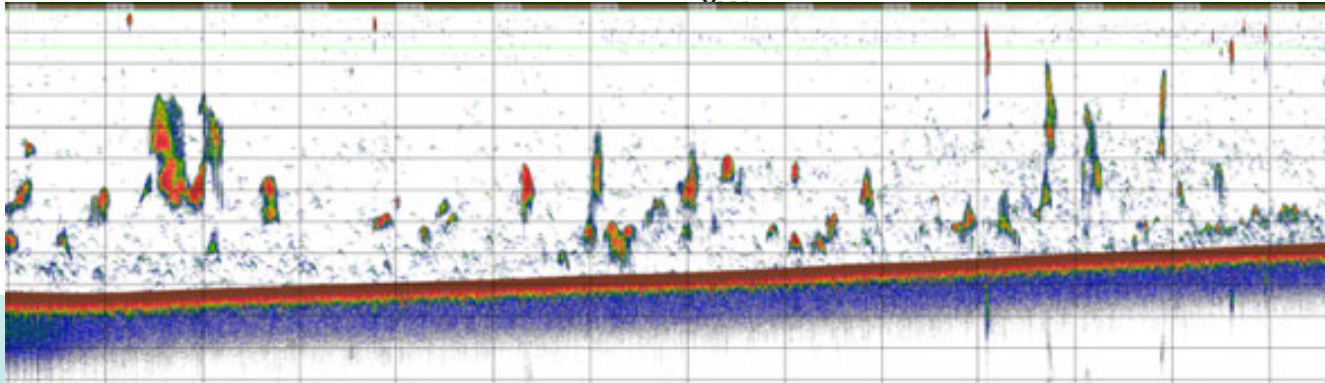
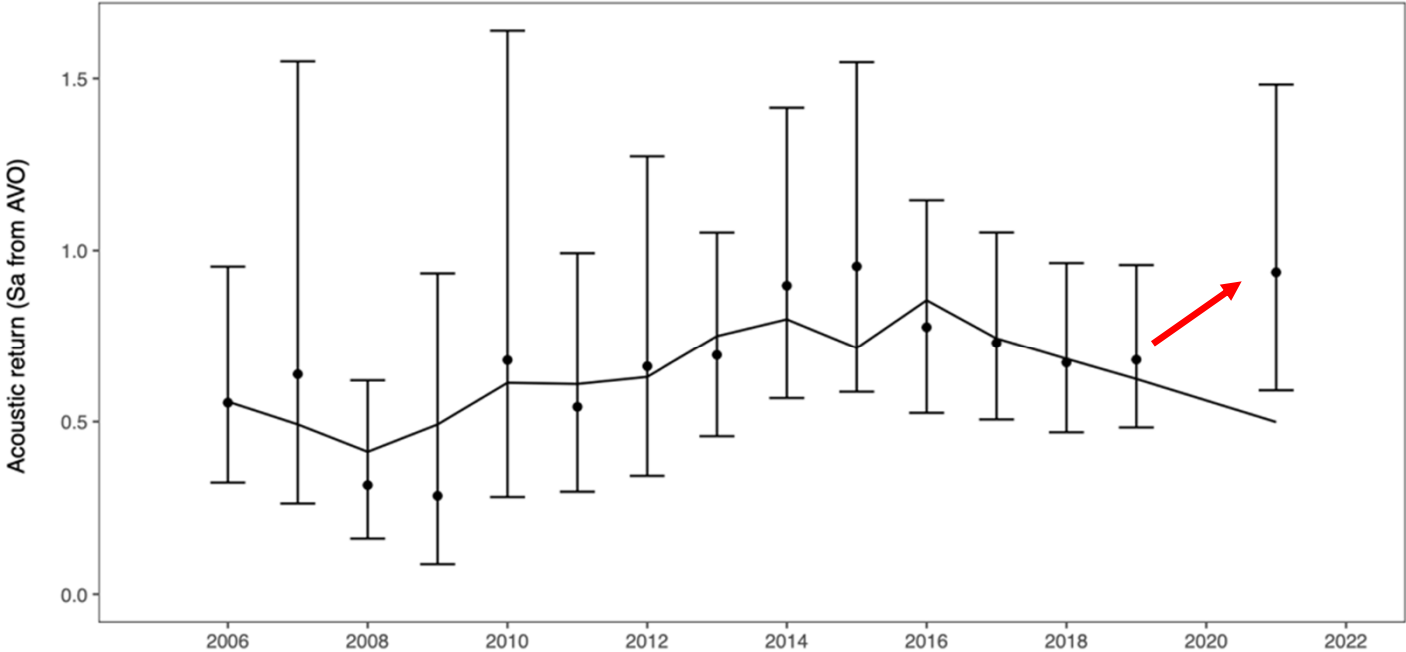
# Acoustic data

Opportunistically  
collected from  
chartered bottom-  
trawl survey boats  
The AVO index





# Acoustic data



## Model details

- Tuning indices
  - Acoustic Trawl survey (even years)
  - Annual fixed-station bottom trawl survey
  - Acoustic vessel of opportunity (AVO index)
  - Foreign trawler CPUE (in 1970s)
- Fishery data
  - Total catch
  - Catch-at-age
  - Mean fishery weights-at-age

## Model details

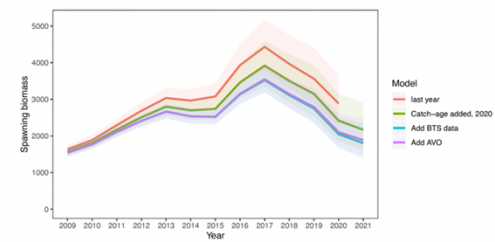
- Age specific schedules
  - Natural mortality
  - Maturity
- Other
  - Conditioned on catch biomass (F's estimated)
  - Selectivity varies in fishery
    - Slightly in surveys
  - Ricker
  - Projection options built in to evaluate policy trade offs
- Complicated?
  - Multiple random-effects models used to process available data

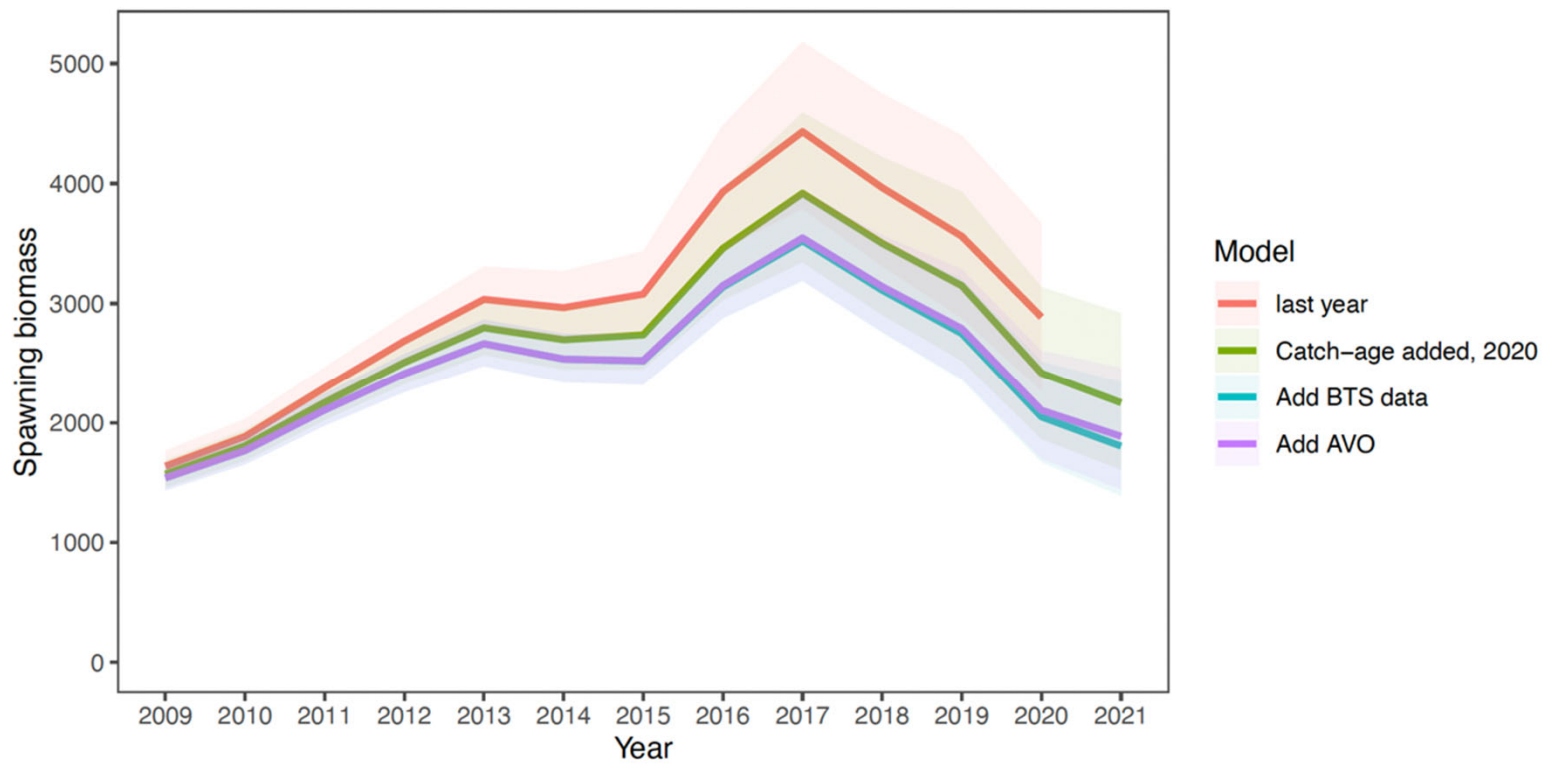


# New data impact on model

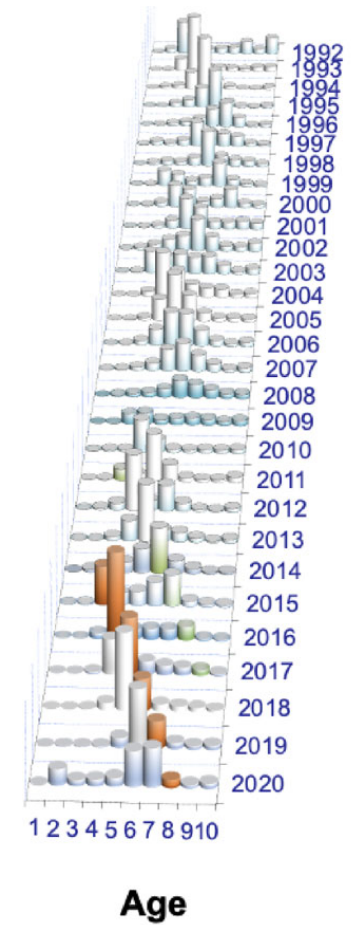
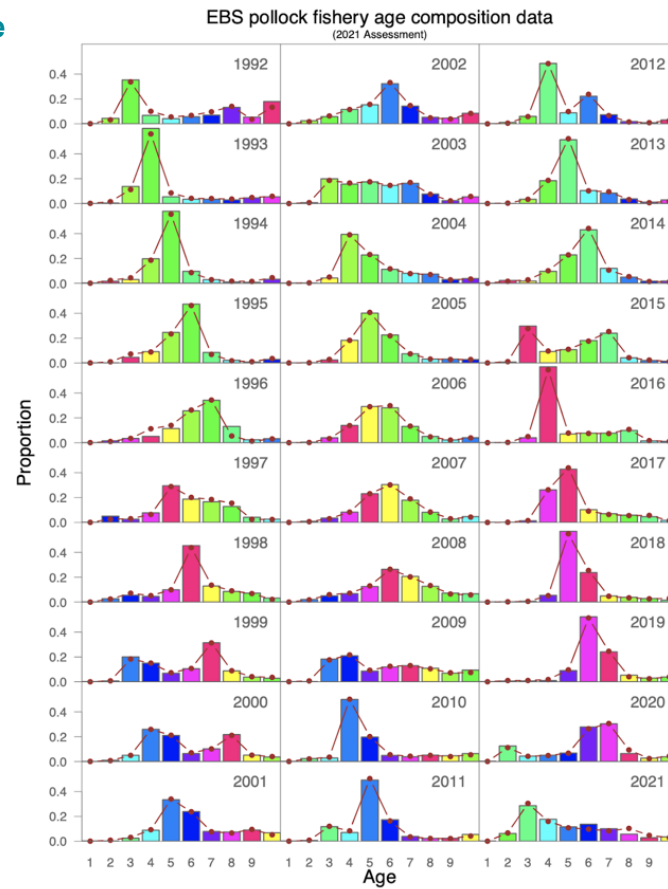
## Data considerations

Name	Updated catch to 2021	2020 fishery age data	Bottom trawl survey	Acoustic from Bottom trawl transits (AVO)
Fishery	X	X		
+ BTS	X	X	X	
+ AVO	X	X	X	X

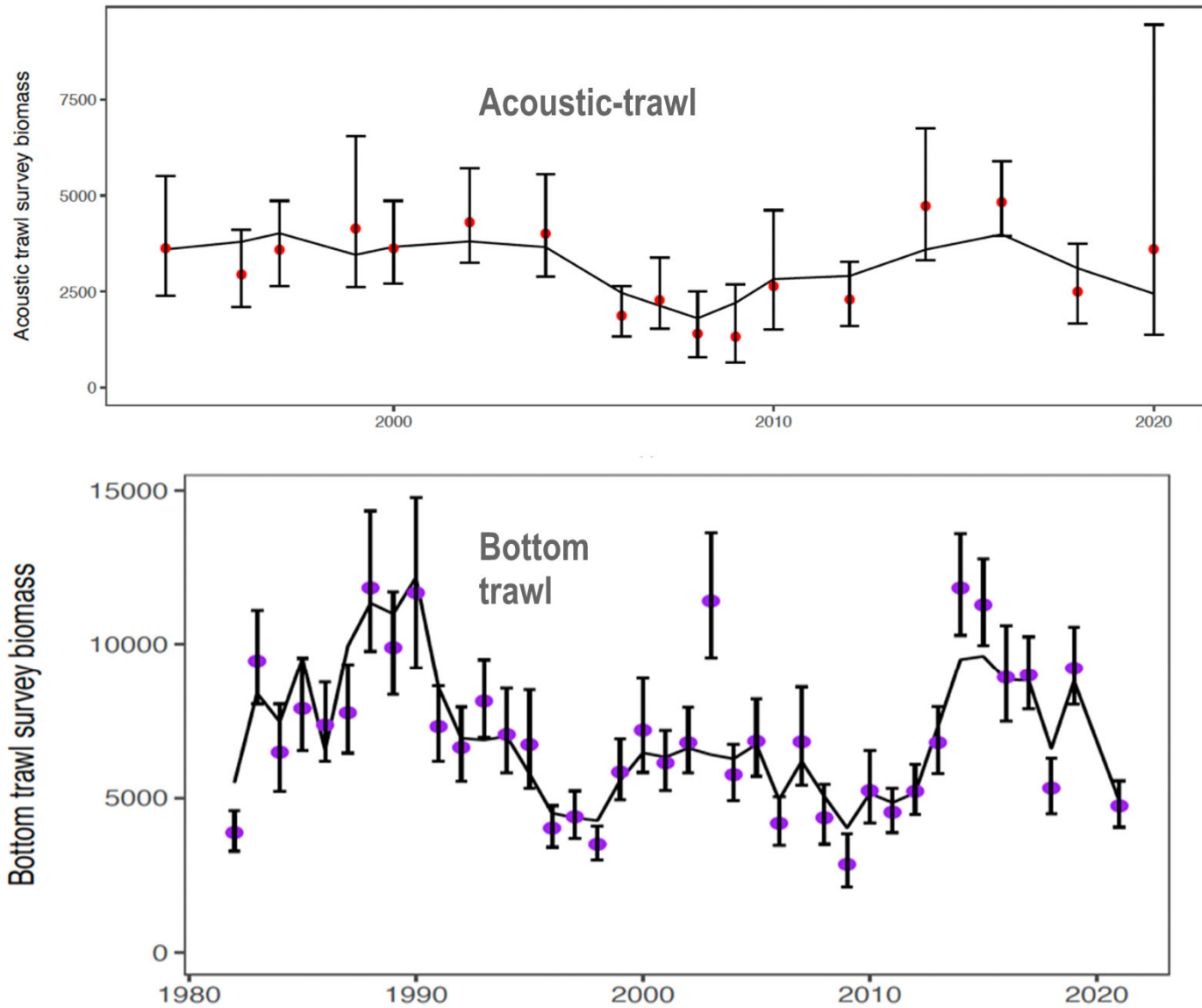




## Fishery catch-age



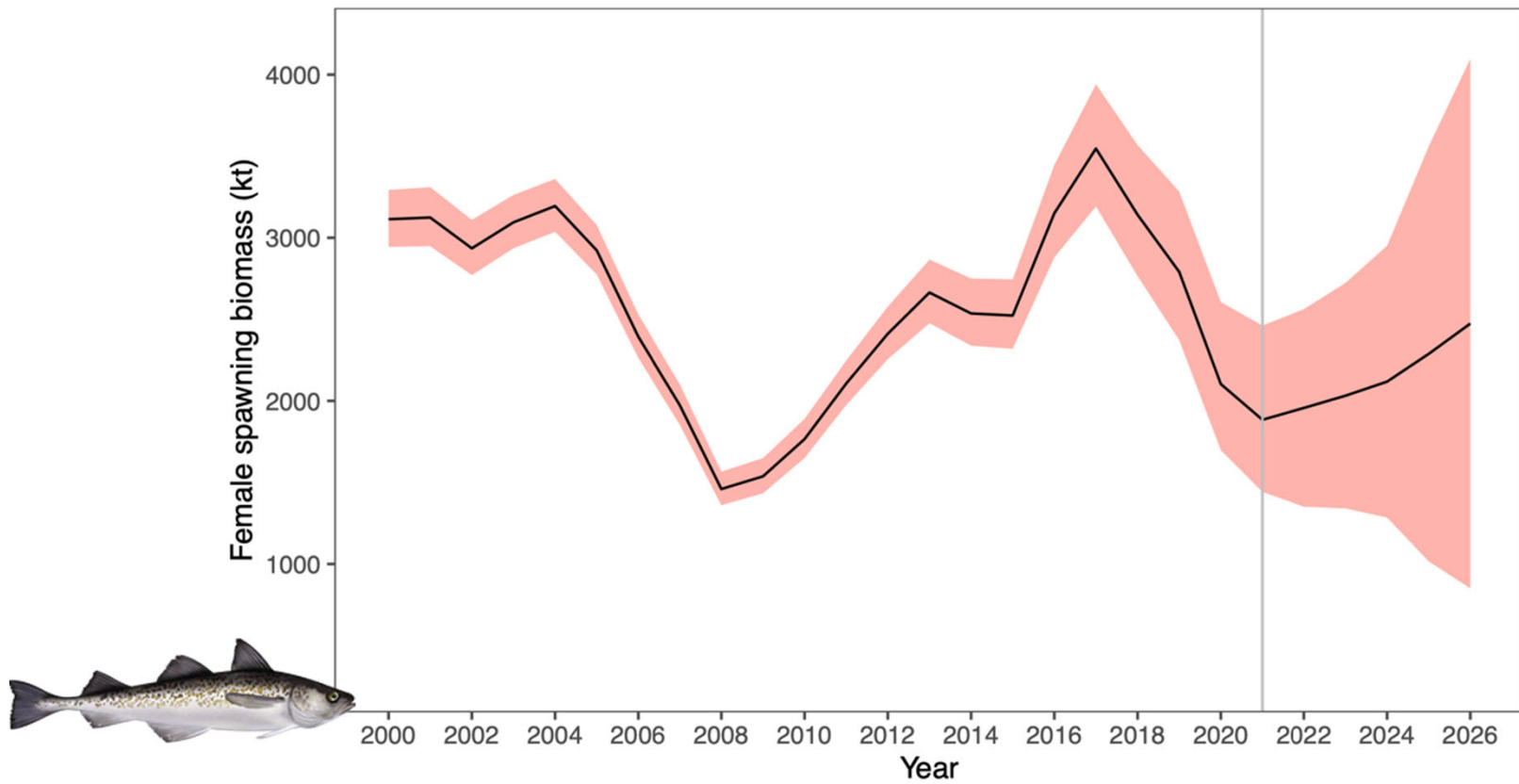
## Fit to survey indices

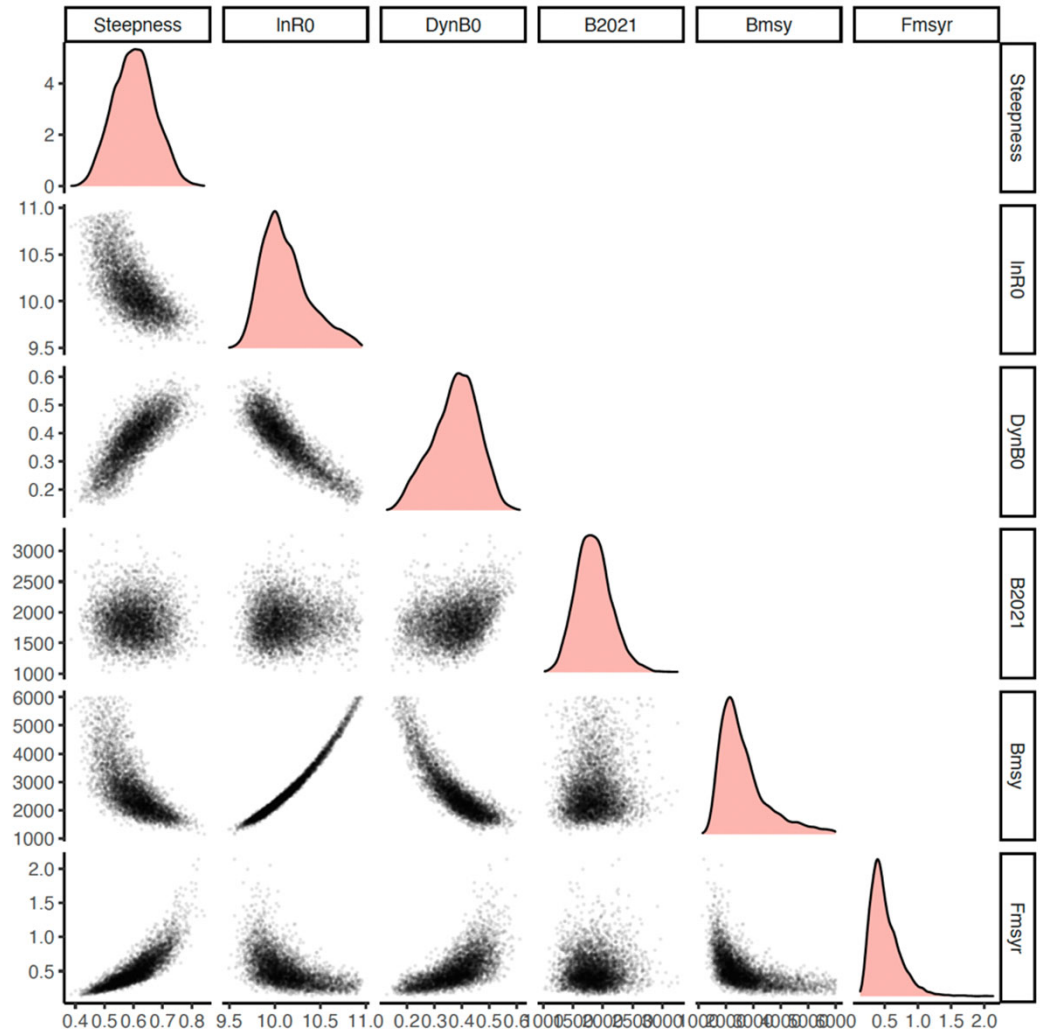


# Fit to survey age compositions



# Biomass trend

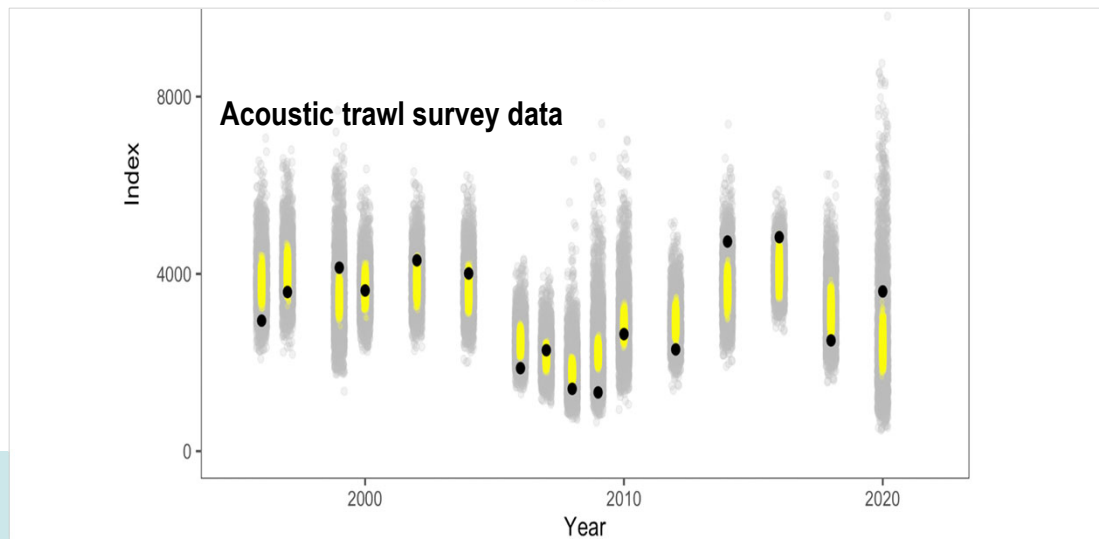
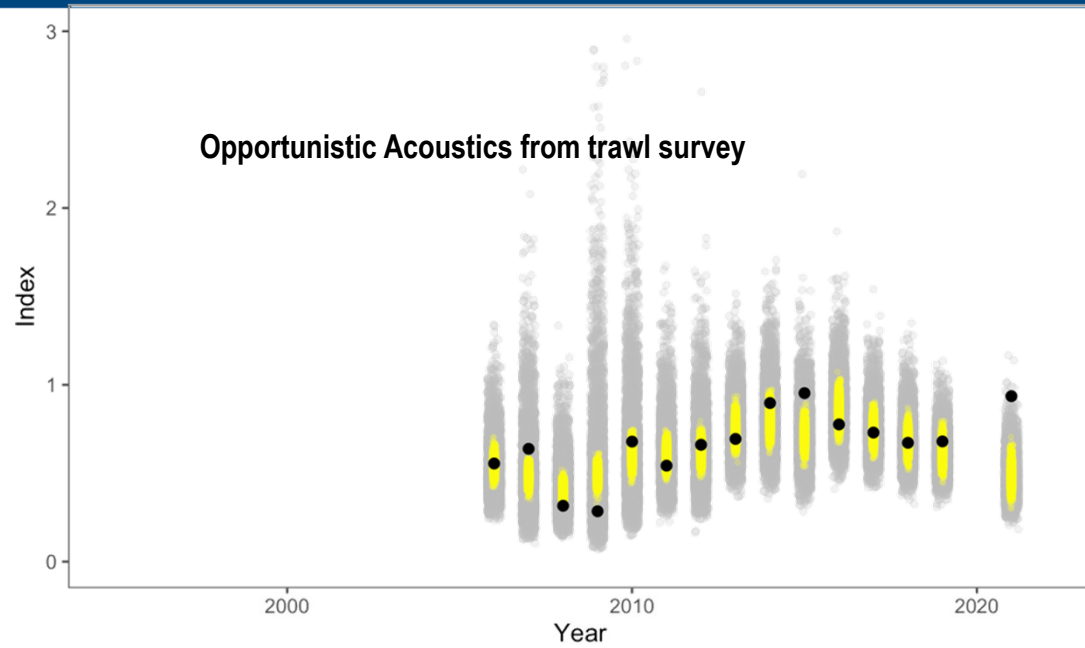




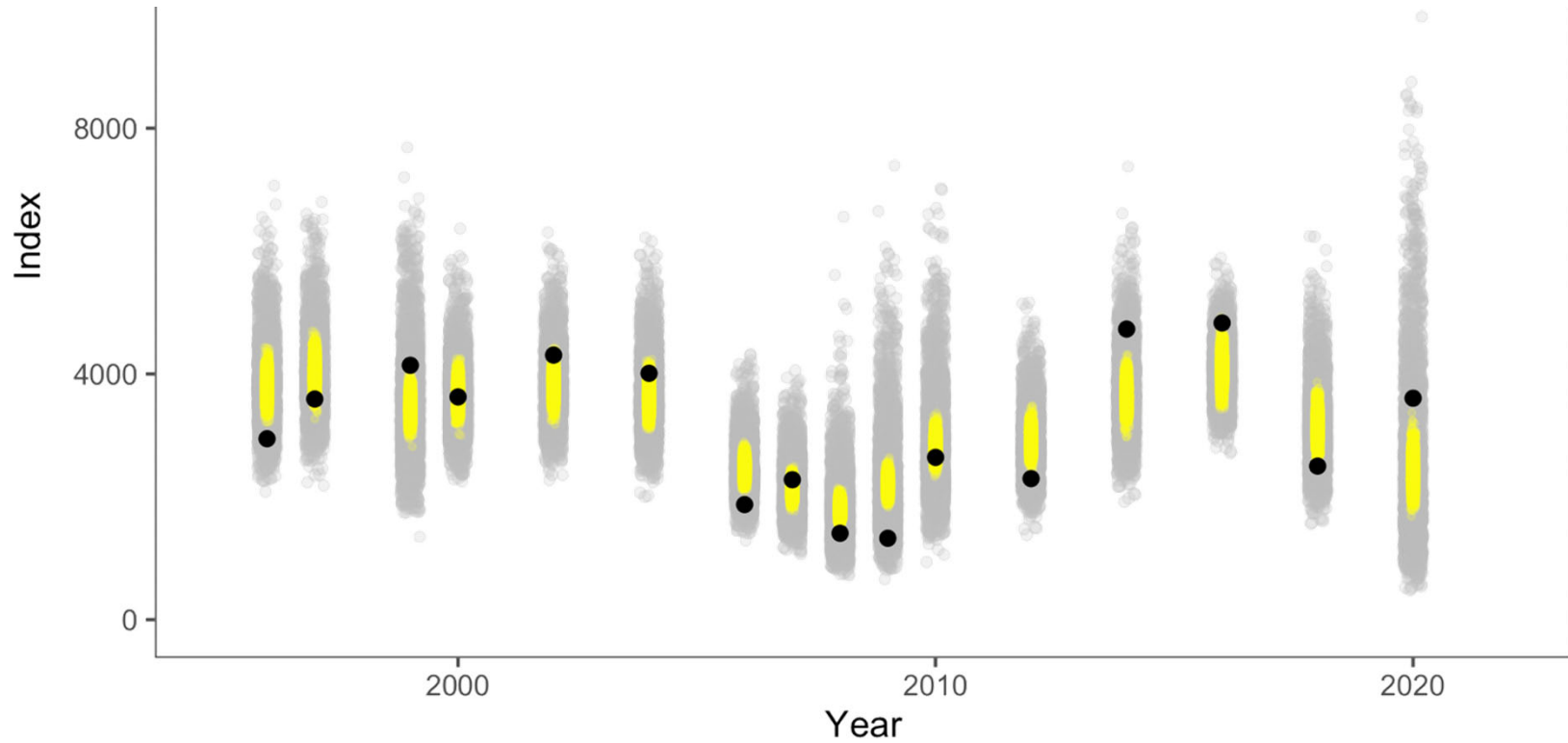
**Diagnostics**

**Posterior  
predictive  
distributions**

**Base  
model**







### **Subsample of posterior (from MCMC)**

Yellow is the model "predictions" from the posterior

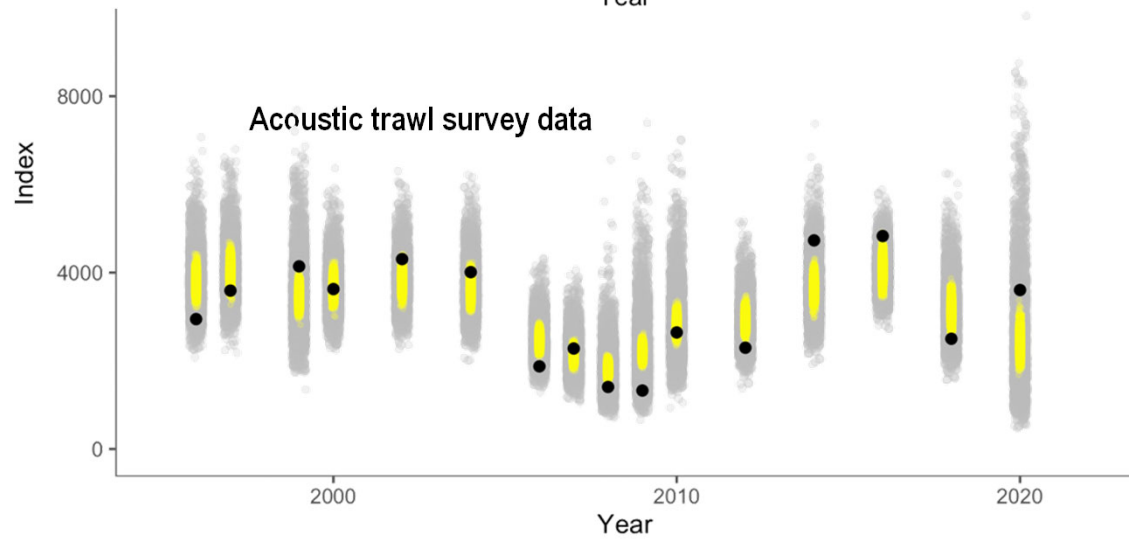
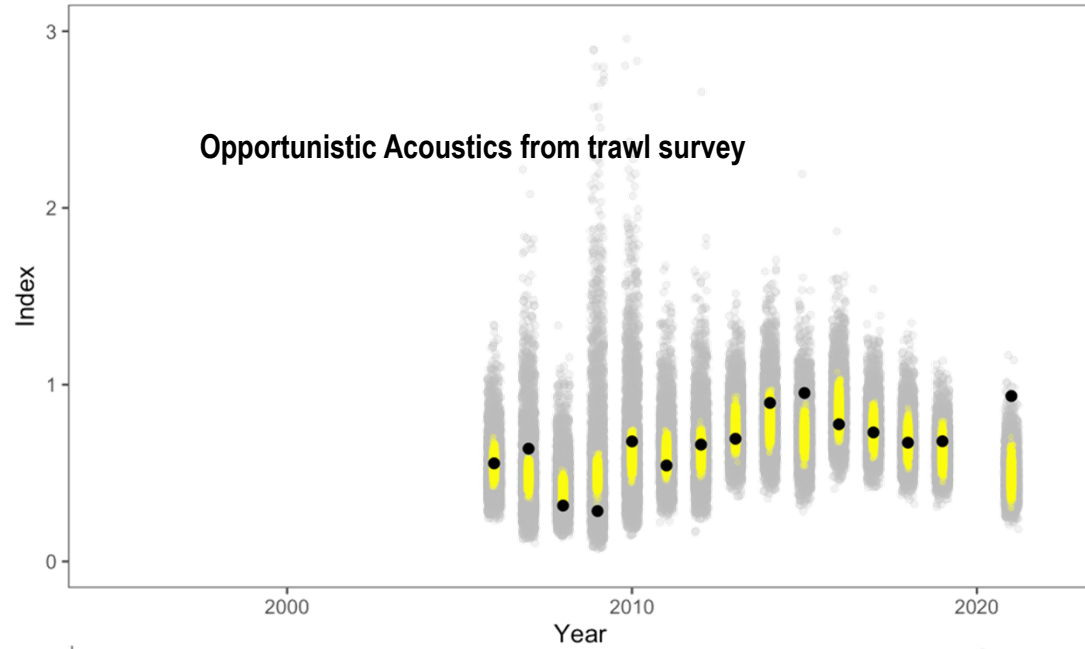
Grey are "simulated" data from posterior (using obs variance)

Black dots are actual observations

**Diagnostics**

**Posterior  
predictive  
distributions**

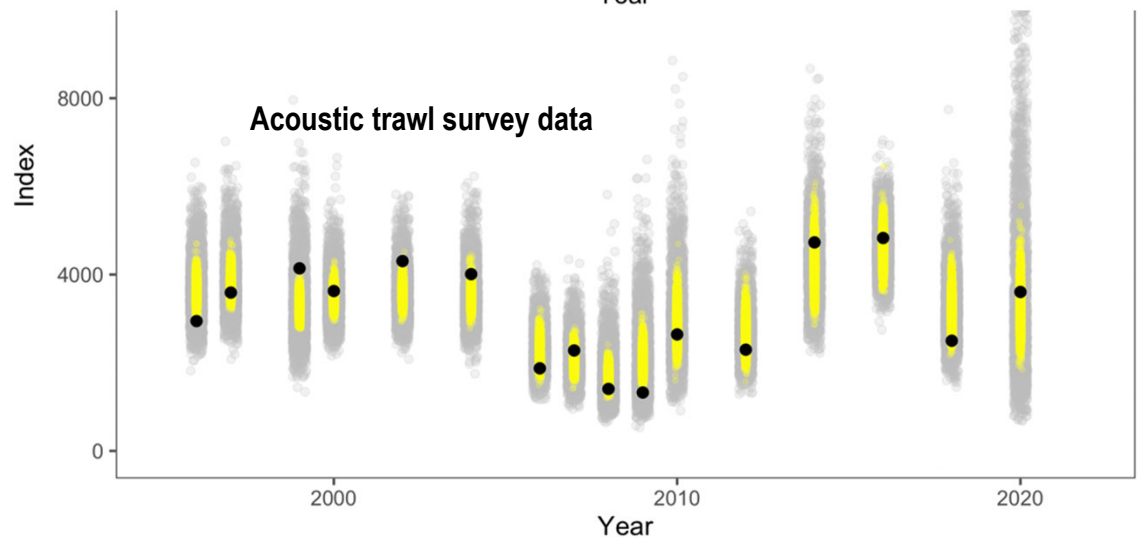
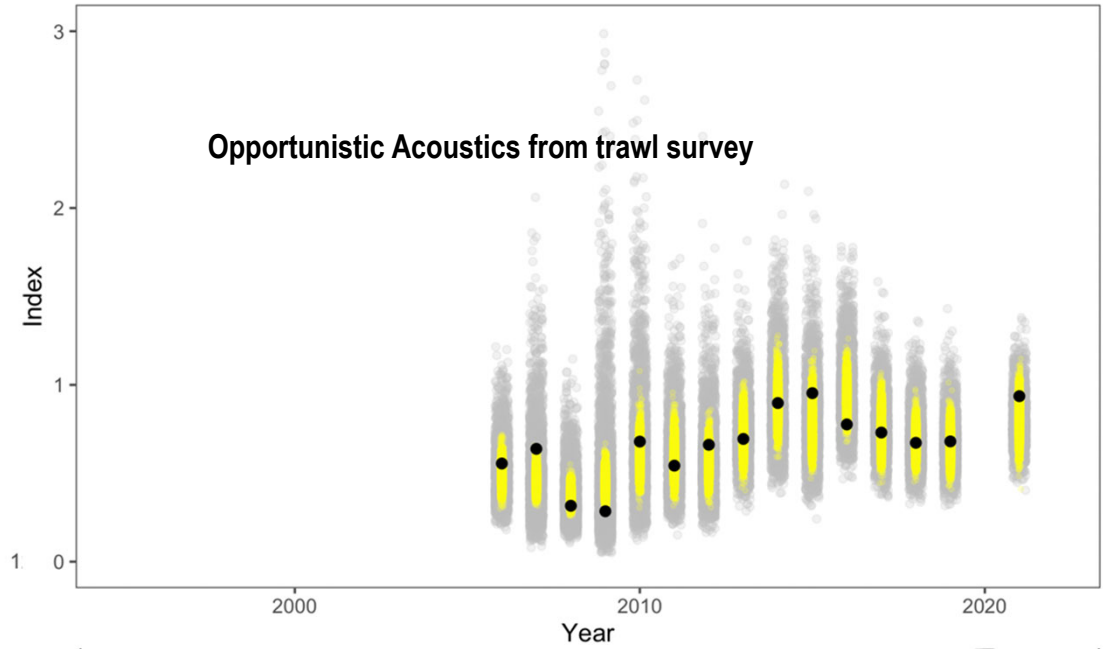
**Base  
model**



**Diagnostics**

**Posterior  
predictive  
distributions**

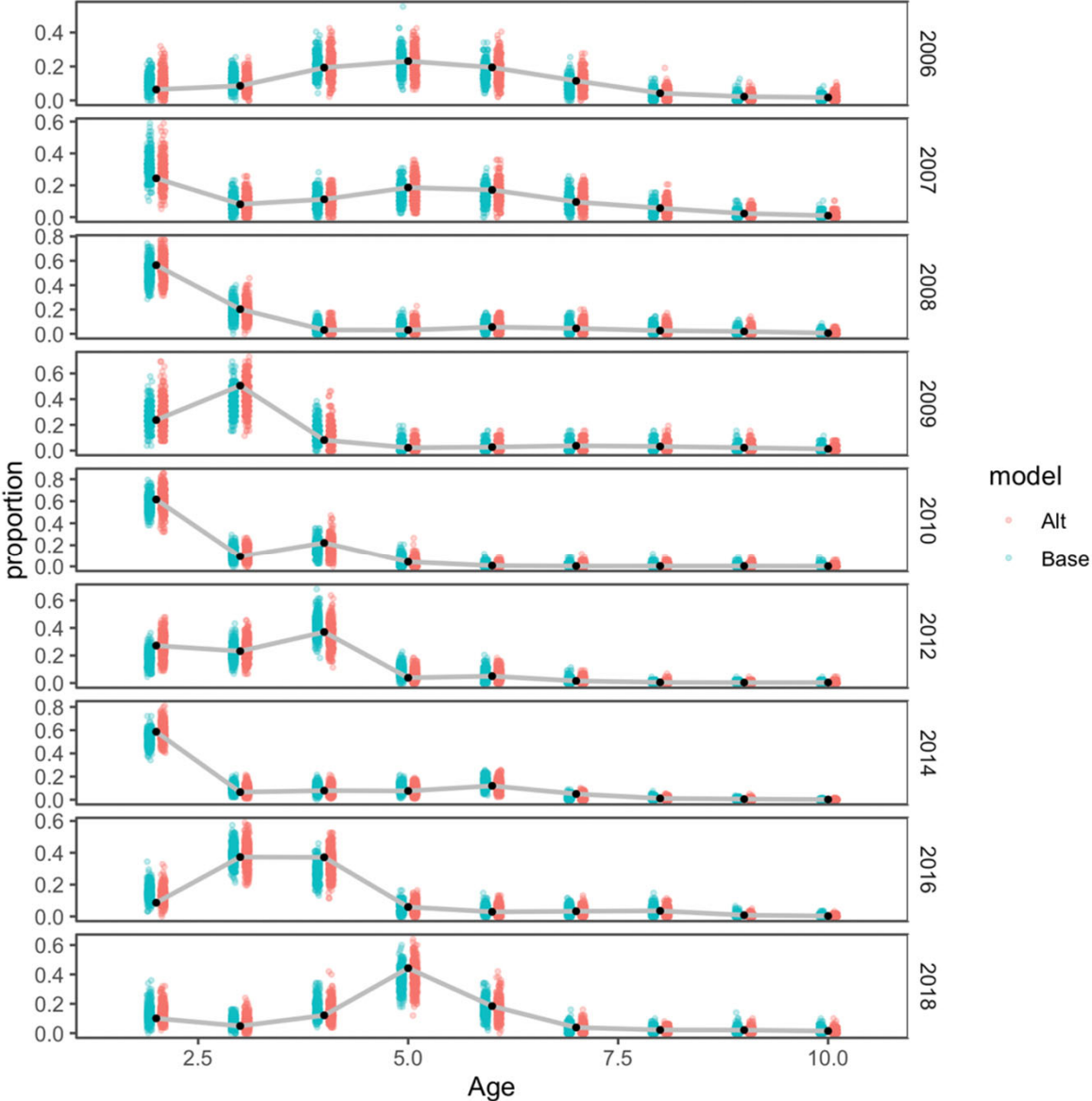
**Alternative  
model**



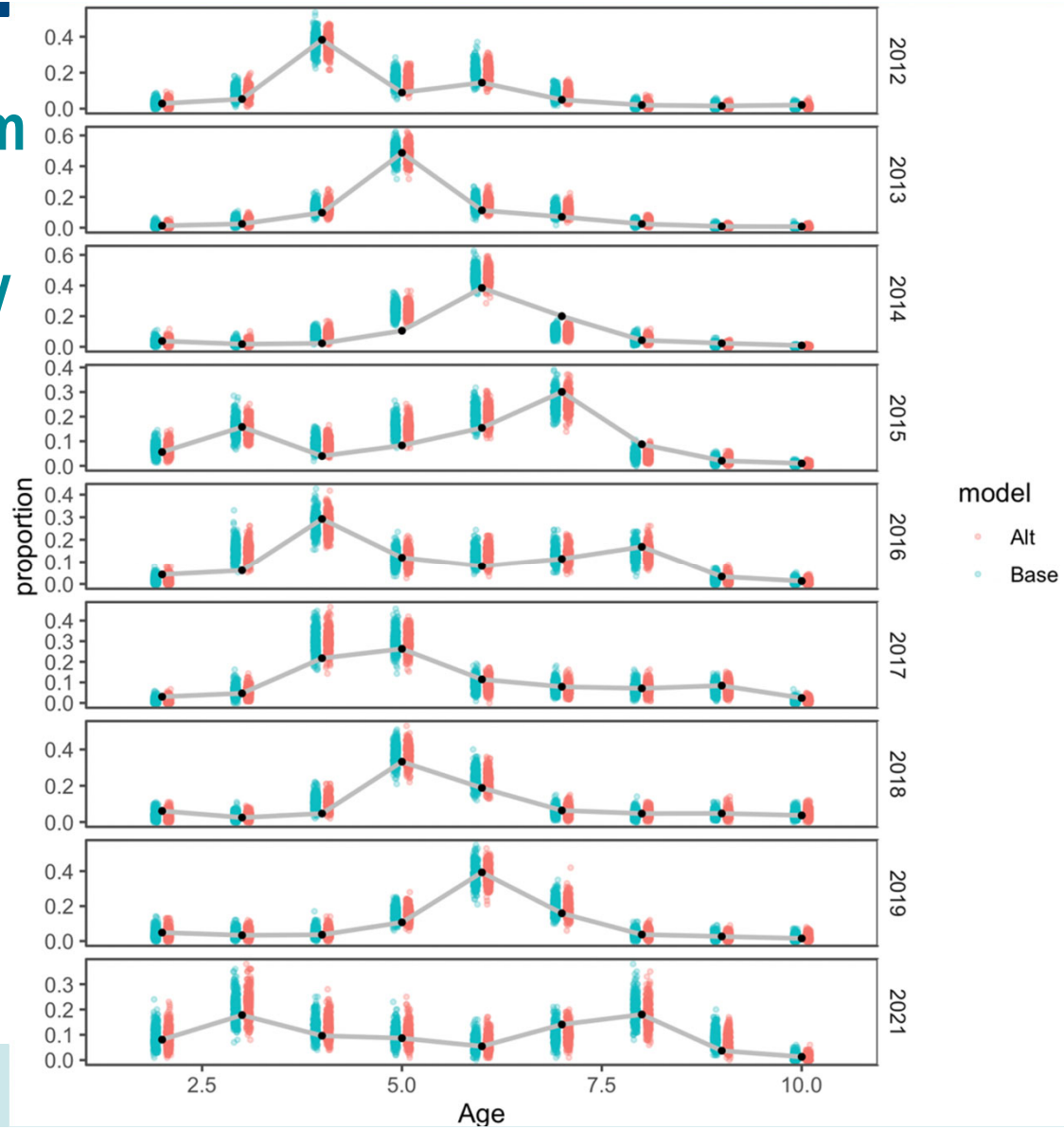




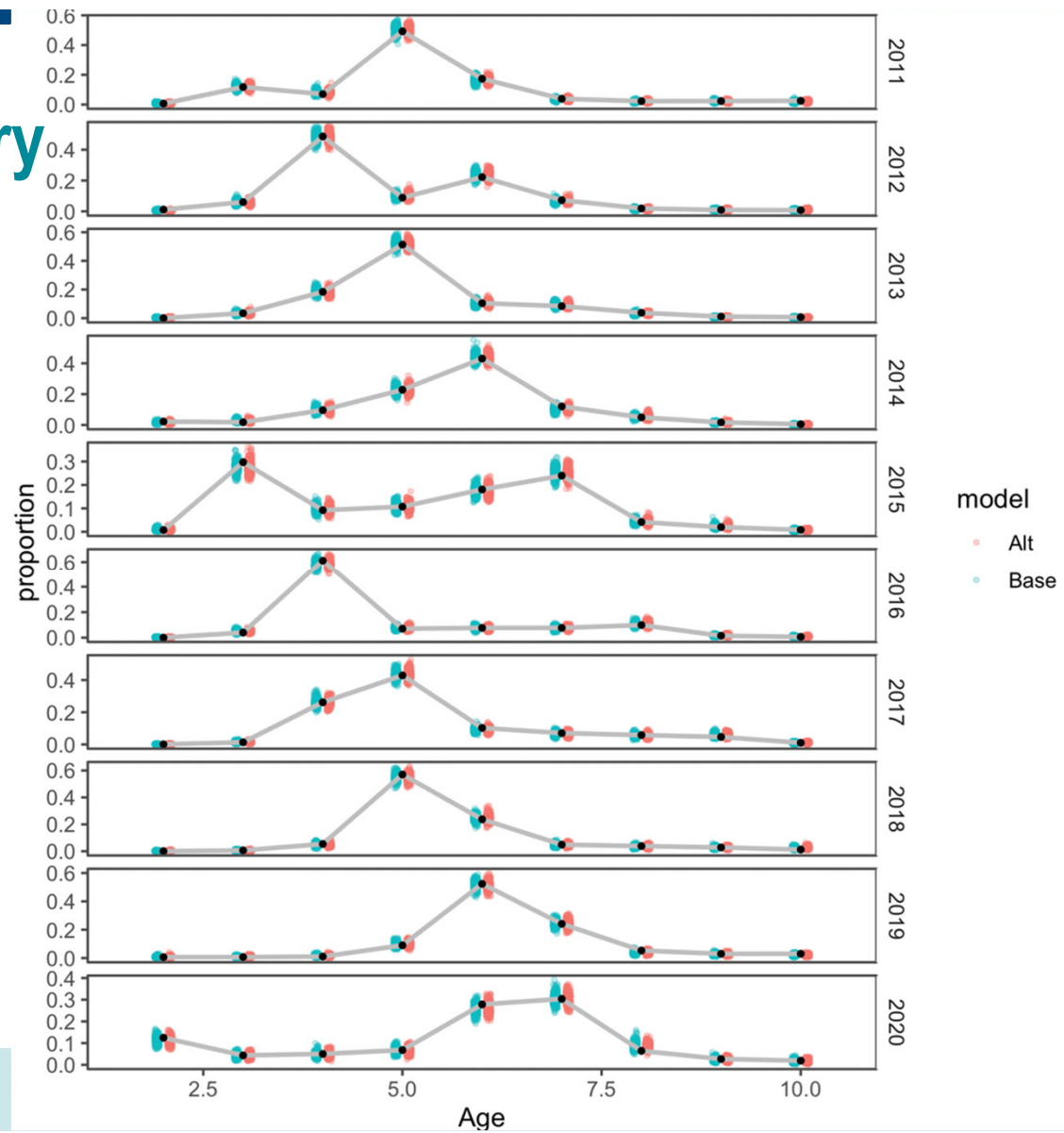
# Acoustic trawl survey



# Bottom trawl survey



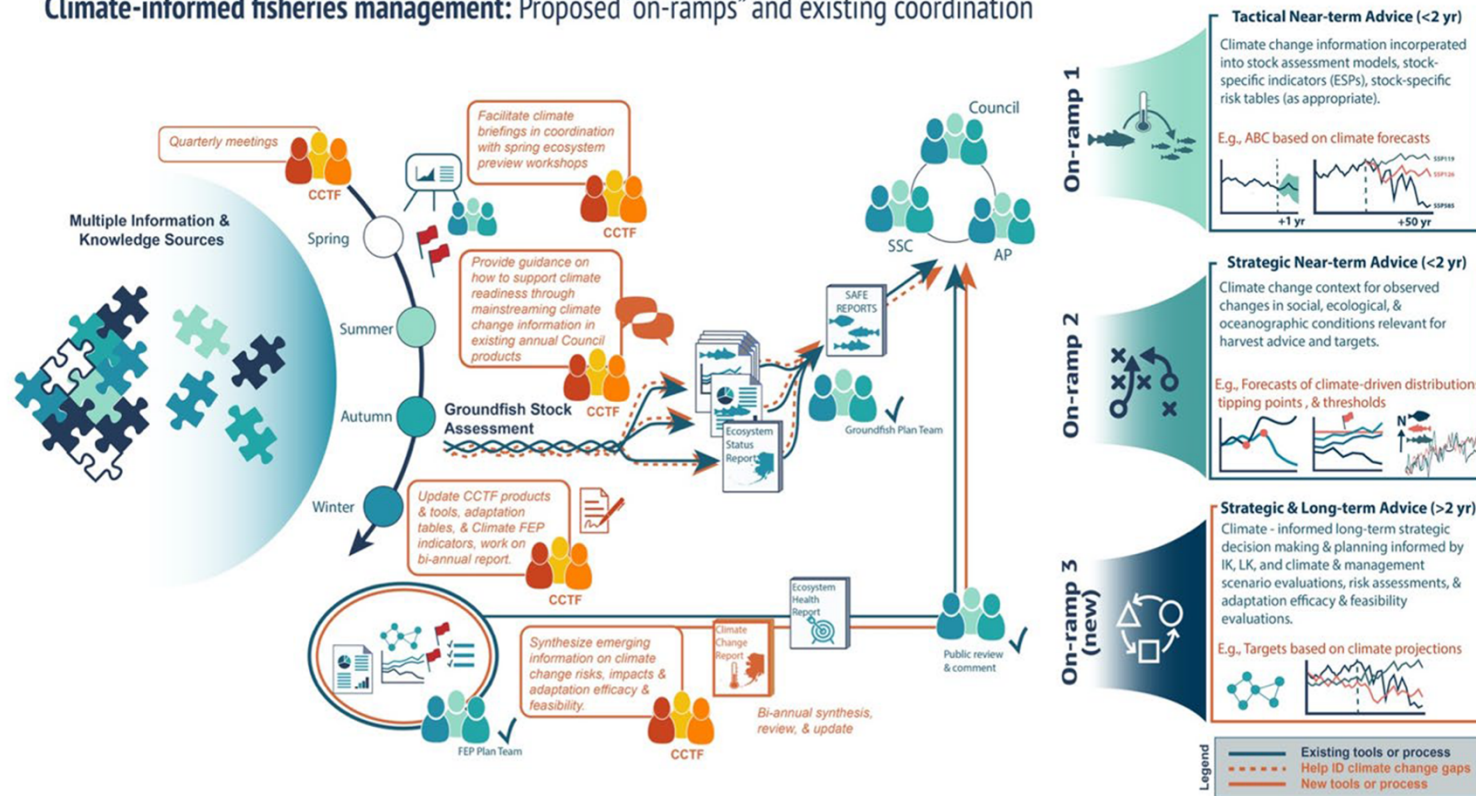
# Fishery



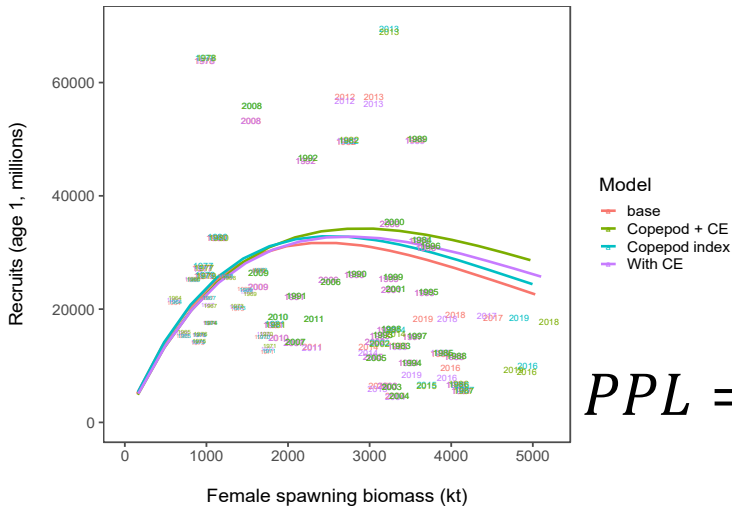


# Steps as part of ACLIM project

## Climate-informed fisheries management: Proposed “on-ramps” and existing coordination



# Model selection and prediction of new data?



Posterior Predictive Loss  
(PPL; Gelfand and Gnosh 1998)

Based on decision theory

$$PPL = \mathcal{L}(\tilde{y}_i, \hat{y}_i) + w\mathcal{L}(y_i, \hat{y}_i)$$

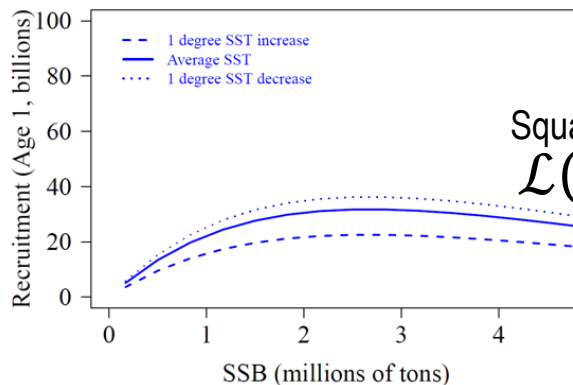
$\tilde{y}_i$  = Replicate data drawn from  
posterior predictive  
distribution of the data

Goodness of fit to  
observed data

Squared error loss function

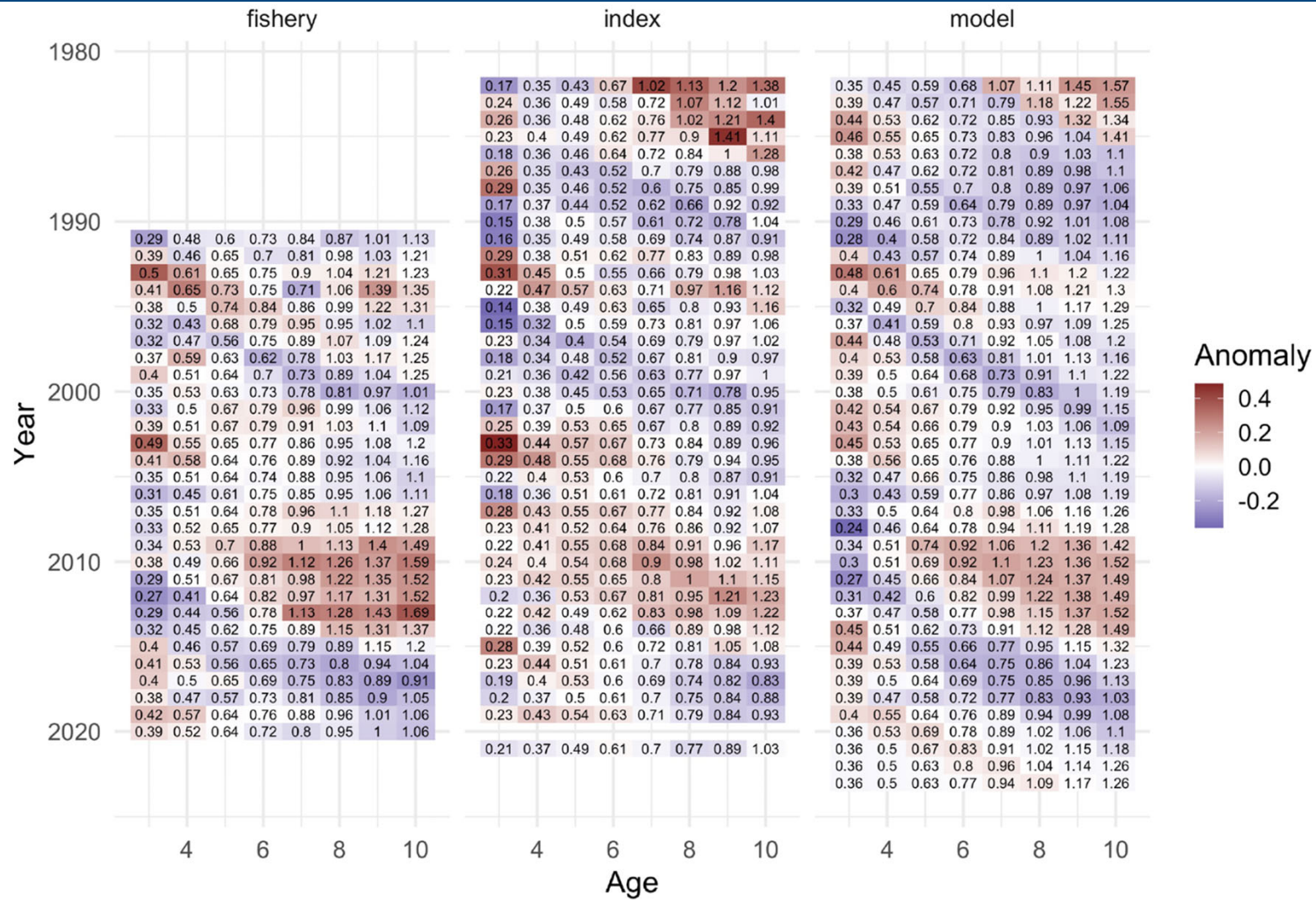
$$\mathcal{L}(x, y) = (x - y)^2$$

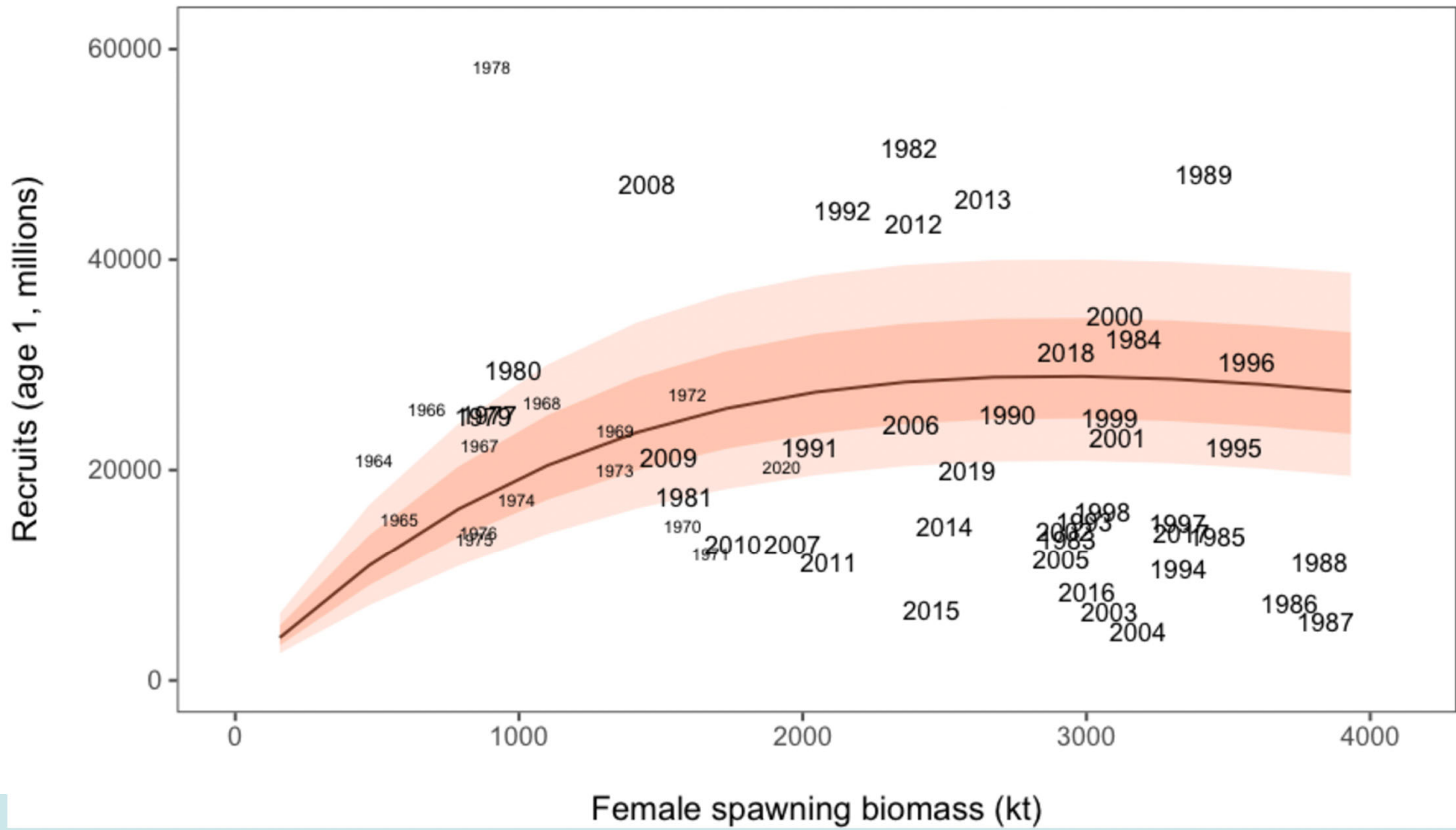
Precision of estimation (i.e., how  
well the model fits new data not  
used in model fitting)



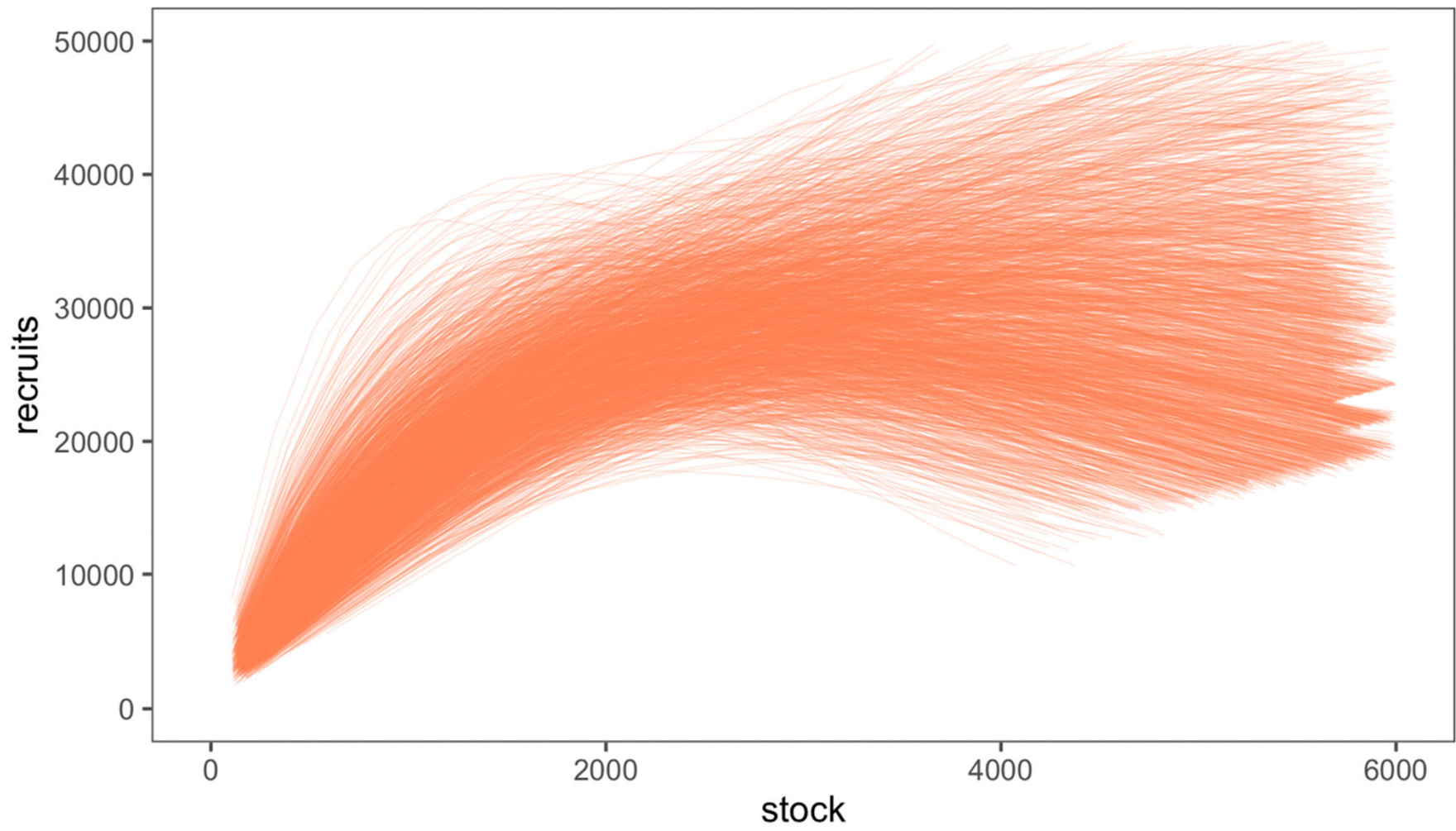
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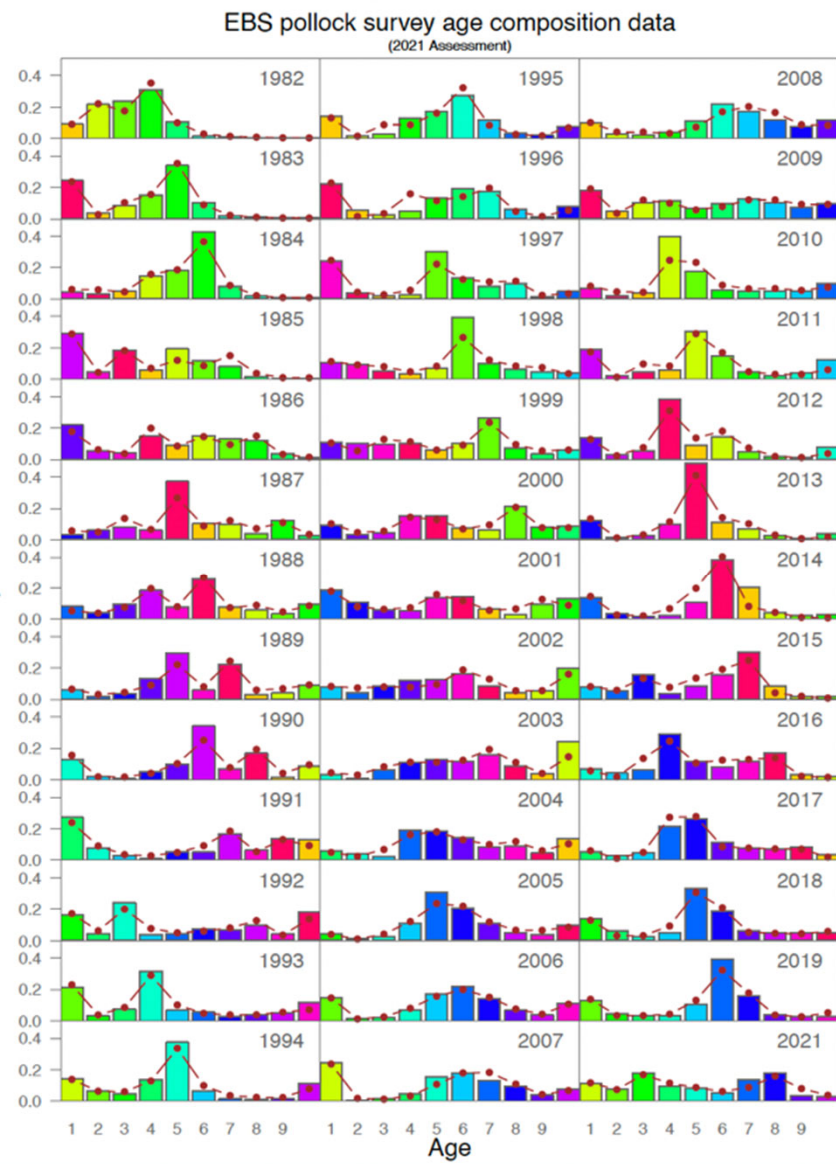
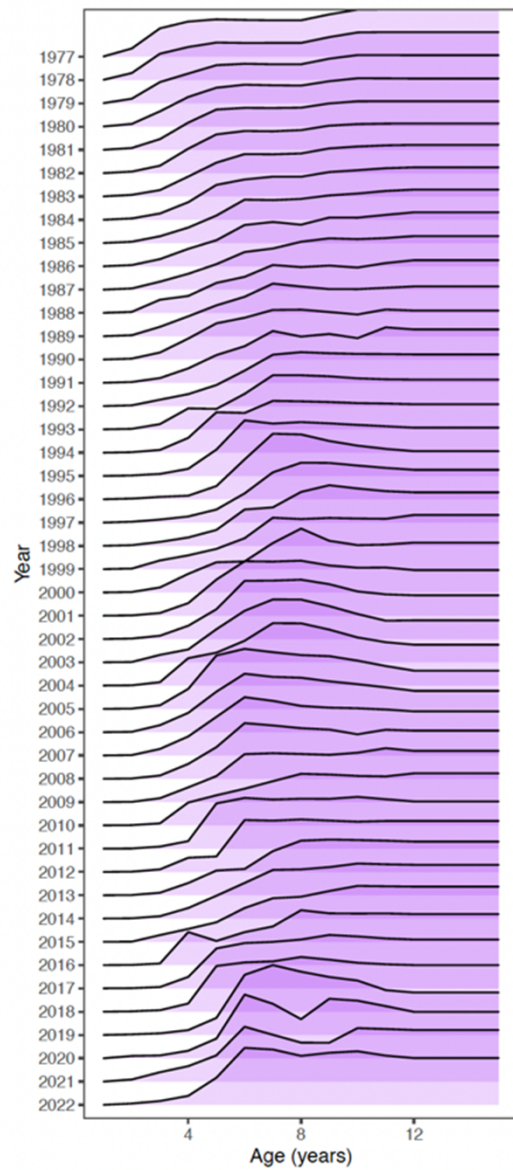
**What things affect FMSY?**

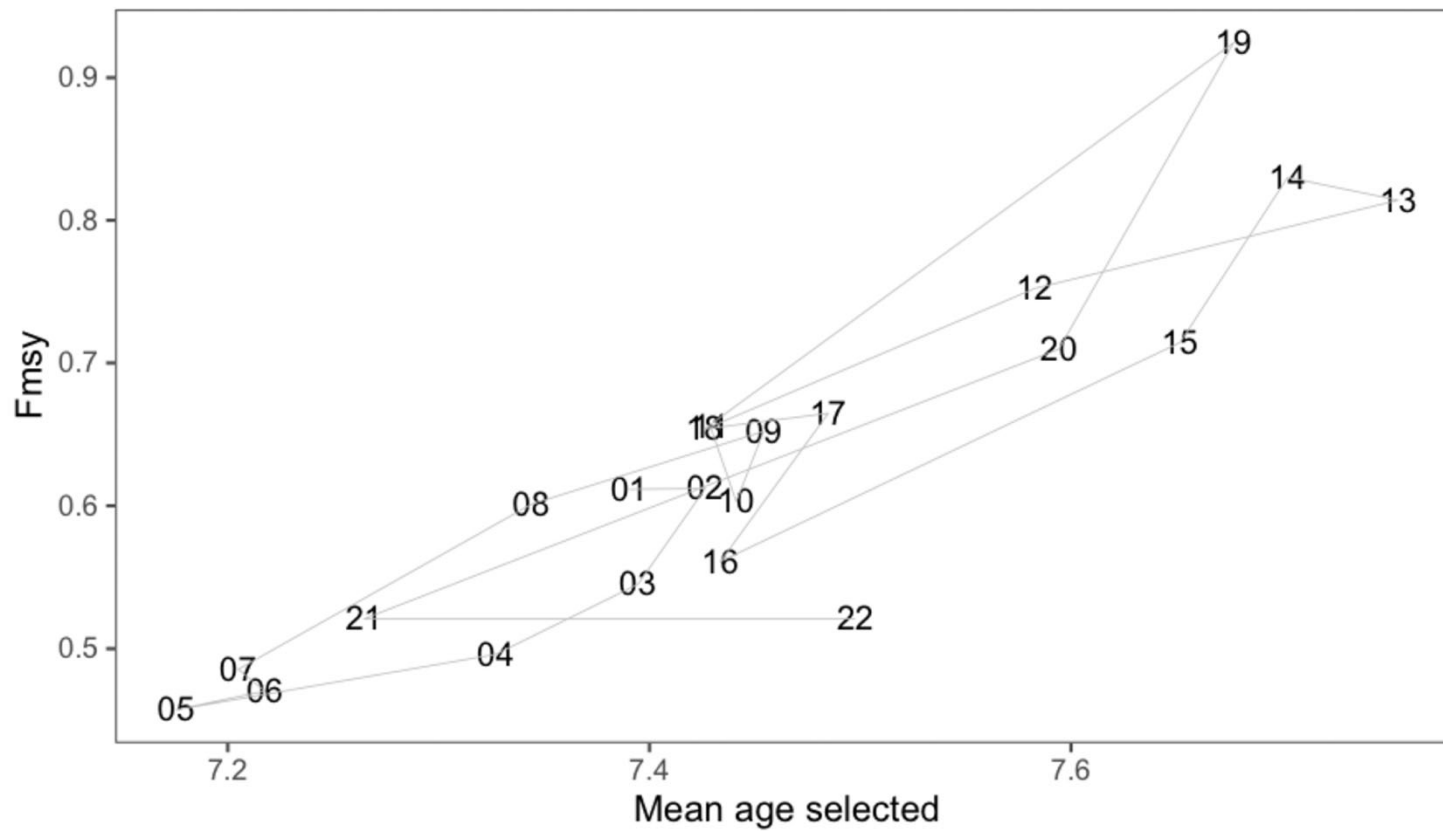














# Contributions

- Argued some aspects of complexity
- Demonstrated some graphical diagnostics
- Offered next steps towards using these approaches for model selection

