

Gadget for 9a South (WKPELA 2018)

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1. Model Description

Gadget is an age-length-structured model that integrates different sources of information in order to produce a diagnose of the stock dynamics. It works making forward simulations and minimizing an objective (negative log-likelihood) function that measures the difference between the model and data, the discrepancy is presented as a likelihood score for each time period and model component.

The general Gadget model description and all the options available can be found in Gadget manual (Begley, 2004) and some specific examples can be found in Taylor et al. (2007), Elvarsson et al. (2014) and WKICEMSE assessment for Ling (Elvarsson, 2017). The latest was used as a guide for this document.

The Gadget model implementation consists in three parts, a simulation of biological dynamics of the population (simulation model), a fitting of the model to observed data using a weighted log-likelihood function (observation model) and the optimization of the parameters using different iterative algorithms.

A list of the symbols used and a graph with the Gadget model structure are presented in Table 1 and a prezi canvas available at http://prezi.com/j8rinhq5kstg/?utm_campaign=share&utm_medium=copy, respectively.

1.1. Simulation model

The model consists of one stock component of anchovy (*Engraulis encrasicolus*) in the ICES subdivision, 9.a South-Atlantic Iberian waters, Gulf of Cádiz. Gadget works by keeping track of the number of individuals, $N_{a,l,y,t}$, at age $a = 0, \dots, 3$, at length $l = 3, 3.5, 4, 4.5, \dots, 22$, at year $y = 1989, \dots, 2016$, and each year divided into quarters $t = 1, \dots, 4$. The last time step of a year involves increasing the age by one year, except for the last age group, which its age remains unchanged and the age group next to is added to it, like a 'plus group' including all ages from the oldest age onwards (Taylor et al., 2007).

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21 *Growth*

22 The growth function is a simplified version of the Von Bertalanffy growth equation, defined in Begley (2004)
 23 as the LengthVBSimple Growth Function (*lengthvbsimple*). Length increase for each length group of the stock
 24 is given by the equation below:

$$\Delta l = (l_\infty - l)(1 - e^{-k\Delta t}), \quad (1)$$

25 where Δt is the length of the timestep, $l_\infty = 19 \text{ cm}$ (fixed) is the terminal length and k is the growth rate
 26 parameter.

27 The corresponding increase in weight (in *Kg*) of the stock is given by:

$$\Delta w = a((l + \Delta l)^b - l^b), \quad (2)$$

28 with $a = 3.128958e^{-6}$ and $b = 3.277667619$ set as fixed and extracted from all the samples available in third
 29 and fourth quarters from 2003 to 2017. The growth functions described above calculate the mean growth for
 30 the stock within the model. In a second step the growth is translated into a beta-binomial distribution of actual
 31 growths around that mean with parameters β and n . The first is fitted by the model as described in Taylor et al.
 32 (2007) and the second represents the number of length classes that an individual is allowed to grow in a quarter
 33 and it is fixed and equal to 5.

34 *Initial abundance and recruitment*

Stock population in numbers at the starting point of the simulation is defined as:

$$N_{a,l,1,1} = 10000\nu_a q_{a,l}, \quad a = 0, \dots, 3, l = 3, \dots, 20$$

35 Where ν_a is an age factor to be calculated by the model and $q_{a,l}$ is the proportion at lengthgroup l that is
 36 determined by a normal density with a specified mean length and standard deviation for each age group. Mean
 37 length at age (μ_a) and its standard deviation (σ_a) were extracted from all the data available from 1989 to 2016
 38 including three surveys that are not included in the model: ARSA, ECOCADIZ-RECLUTAS and SAR survey
 39 (See table 1). The mean weight at age for this initial population is calculated by multiplying a reference weight
 40 corresponding to the length by a relative condition factor assumed as 1. This reference weight at length was
 41 calculated using the formula $w = al^b$, with a and b as defined before. In Gadget files this was specified as a
 42 normal condition distribution (*Normalcondfile*).

Similarly to the process of calculate the initial abundance described above, the recruitment specifies how the
 stock will be renewed. Recruits enter to the age 0 population at quarters 2, 3, 4 (because of the Gadget order of
 calculations for each time step this is equivalent to have recruitment one quarter later, i.e. in quarters 3,4 and 1
 of the next year) of all years, respectively, as follows:

$$N_{0,l,y,t} = p_{l,t}R_{y,t}, \quad t = 2, 3, 4, l = 3, \dots, 15,$$

43 where $R_{y,t}$ represents recruitment at year y and quarter t , and $p_{l,t}$ the proportion in lengthgroup l that is recruited
44 at quarter t which is sampled from a normal density with mean (μ) and standard deviation (σ_t) calculated by
45 the model. The mean weight for these recruits is calculated by multiplying the reference weight corresponding
46 to the length by a relative condition factor assumed as 1. Reference weight at age was the same used to calculate
47 the initial population mean weight at age explained above. In Gadget files this was specified also as a normal
48 condition distribution (*Normalcondfile*).

49 *Fleet operations*

50 In the model the fleets act as predators. There are three fleets inside the model: two for surveys (ECOCADIZ
51 acoustic survey and PELAGO acoustic survey) and one for commercial landings including all fleets: Spanish
52 purse-seine, trawlers, Portuguese purse-seine, and others. The main fleet is Spanish purse-seine representing
53 more than a 90 % of all the catches from 2001 to 2016 and more than a 80 % from 1989 to 2000. It is also
54 the only fleet with a length distribution available, then we decide to include all commercial reported data in the
55 same fleet which is mostly the Spanish purse-seine.

56 Surveys fleets are assumed to remove 1 *Kg* in each of the quarters when the surveys take place while the
57 commercial fleet is assumed to remove the reported number of individuals each quarter. This total amount of
58 biomass (for the surveys) or numbers (for the commercial fleet) landed is then split between the length groups
59 according to the equations 3 and 4 respectively, as follows:

$$C_{l,y,t} = \frac{E_{y,t} S_{l,T} N_{l,y,t} W_l}{\sum_l S_{l,T} N_{l,y,t} W_l}, \quad (3)$$

and

$$C_{l,y,t} = \frac{E_{y,t} S_{l,T} N_{l,y,t}}{\sum_l S_{l,T} N_{l,y,t}}, \quad (4)$$

60 where $E_{y,t}$ represents biomass landed (in *Kg*) at year y and quarter t in equation 3 and numbers landed
61 in equation 4, W_l corresponds to weight at length and $S_{l,T}$ represents the suitability function that determines
62 the proportion of prey of length l that the fleet is willing to consume during period T , $T = 1, 2, 3$ where $T = 1$
63 corresponds to the period 1989-2000, $T = 2$ to 2001-2016 and $T = 3$ to 1989-2016.

64 For this model the suitability function chosen for the fleet and surveys is specified in Gadget manual as an
65 ExponentialL50 function (*expsuitfuncl50*), and it is defined as follows:

$$S_{l,T} = \frac{1}{1 + e^{\alpha_T(l-l_{50,T})}} \quad (5)$$

66 where $l_{50,T}$ is the length of the prey with a 50% probability of predation during period T and α_T a parameter
67 related to the shape of the function, both parameters are estimated from the data within the Gadget model. The
68 whole model time period (1989-2016) has been splitted into two different periods for suitability parameters of the
69 commercial fleet because of changes in size regulation for the fishery around 1995 that become effective around
70 2001.

71 *1.2. Observation model*

72 Data are assimilated by Gadget using a weighted log-likelihood function. The model uses as likelihood
 73 components three biomass survey indices: ECOCADIZ acoustic survey, PELAGO acoustic survey and BO-
 74 CADEVA daily-egg-production-survey (DEPM); age - length keys from the commercial fleet (Spanish purse-
 75 seine), PELAGO survey and the ECOCADIZ survey; and length distributions for the commercial fleet, PELAGO
 76 and ECOCADIZ surveys (see Table 1.2 for a detailed description of the likelihood data used in the model).

77 *Biomass Survey indices*

78 The survey indices are defined as the total biomass of fish caught in a survey. The survey index is compared
 79 to the modelled abundance using a log linear regression with slope equal to 1 (*fixedslope loglinearfit*), as follows:

$$\ell = \sum_t (\log(I_{y,t}) - (\alpha + \log(N_{y,t})))^2 \quad (6)$$

80 where $I_{y,t}$ is the observed survey index at year y and quarter t and $N_{y,t}$ is the corresponding population
 81 abundance calculated within the model. Note that the intercept of the log-linear regression, $\alpha = \log(q)$, with q
 82 as the catchability of the fleet (i.e $I_{y,t} = qN_{y,t}$).

83 *Catch distribution*

84 Age-length distributions are compared using l lengthgroup at age a and time-step y, t for both, commercial
 85 and survey fleets with a sum of squares likelihood function (*sumofsquares*):

$$\ell = \sum_y \sum_t \sum_l (P_{a,l,y,t} - \pi_{a,l,y,t})^2 \quad (7)$$

where $P_{a,l,t,y}$ is the proportion of the data sample for that time/age/length combination, while $\pi_{a,l,t,y}$ is the
 proportion of the model sample for the same combination, as follows:

$$P_{a,l,t,y} = \frac{O_{a,l,y,t}}{\sum_a \sum_l O_{a,l,y,t}} \quad (8)$$

and

$$\pi_{a,l,t,y} = \frac{N_{a,l,y,t}}{\sum_a \sum_l N_{a,l,y,t}}, \quad (9)$$

86 where $O_{a,l,y,t}$ corresponds to observed data.

87 When only length or age distribution is available. It is compared using equation 7 described above but
 88 considering all ages or all lengths, respectively.

89 *Understocking*

90 If the total consumption of fish by all the predators (fleets in this case) amounts to more than the biomass
 91 of prey available, then the model runs into "understocking". In this case, the consumption by the predators

92 is adjusted so that no more than 95% of the available prey biomass is consumed, and a penalty, given by the
93 equation 10 below, is applied to the likelihood score obtained from the simulation (Stefansson 2005, sec 4.1.)

$$\ell = \sum_t U_t^2 \quad (10)$$

94 where U_t is the understocking that has occurred in the model for that timestep.

95 *Penalties*

96 The BoundLikelihood likelihood component is used to give a penalty weight to parameters that have moved
97 beyond the bounds in the optimisation process. This component does specify the penalty that is to be applied
98 when these bounds are exceeded.

$$\ell_i = \begin{cases} lw_i(val_i - lb_i)^2 & \text{if } val_i < lb_i \\ uw_i(val_i - ub_i)^2 & \text{if } val_i > ub_i \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

99 Where $lw_i = 10000$ and $uw_i = 10000$ are the weights applied when the parameter exceeds the lower and
100 upper bounds, respectively, val_i is the value of the parameter and, lb_i and ub_i are the lower and upper bounds
101 defined for the parameter.

102 *1.3. Order of calculations*

103 The order of calculations is as follows:

- 104 1. **Printing:** model output at the beginning of the time-step
- 105 2. **Consumption:** by the fleets
- 106 3. **Natural mortality**
- 107 4. **Growth**
- 108 5. **Recruitment:** new individuals enter to the population
- 109 6. **Likelihood comparison:** Comparison of estimated and observed data, a likelihood score is calculated
- 110 7. **Printing:** model output at the end of the time-step
- 111 8. **Ageing:** if this is the end of year the age is increased

112 Because of this order of calculations the time step of indexes, age-length keys and length distributions of the
113 surveys are defined in Gadget a quarter before.

114 *1.4. Implementation, weighting procedure*

115 Input data (Likelihood files) were prepared for Gadget format using the *mfdb* R package (?), running and
116 weighting procedures were implemented in R with the *gadget.iterative* function from *Rgadget* package. This
117 function follows the approach presented in Taylor et al. (2007) and in the appendix of Elvarsson et al. (2014)

118 based on the iterative reweighting scheme of Stefánsson (1998) and Stefansson (2003), which is summarized as
119 follows:

Let \mathbf{w}_r be a vector of length L with the weights of the likelihood components (excluding understocking and penalties) for the run r , and $SS_{i,r}, i = 1, \dots, L$, the likelihood score of component i after run r . First, a Gadget optimization run is performed to get a likelihood score ($SS_{i,1}$) for each likelihood component assuming that all components have a weight equal to one, i.e., $\mathbf{w}_1 = (1, 1, \dots, 1)$. Then, a separated optimization run for each of the components (L optimization runs) is performed using the following weight vectors:

$$\mathbf{w}_{i+1} = (1/SS_{1,1}, \dots, (1/SS_{i,1}) * 10000, 1/SS_{i+1,1}, \dots, 1/SS_{L,1}), i = 1, \dots, L.$$

Resulting likelihood scores $SS_{i,i+1}$ are then used to calculate the residual variance, $\hat{\sigma}_i^2 = SS_{i,i+1}/df^*$ for each component, that is used to define the final weight vector as

$$\mathbf{w} = (1/\hat{\sigma}_1^2, \dots, 1/\hat{\sigma}_L^2).$$

120 Where degrees of freedom df^* are approximated by the number of non-zero data points in the observed data
121 for each component. Finally, the total objective function is the sum of all likelihoods components multiplied by
122 their respective weights according to the vector \mathbf{w} .

123 In order to assign weights to the individual likelihood components (See table 1.2) in the procedure described
124 above, all the survey indices were grouped together.

125 1.5. Initial parameters and optimization

126 Initial parameter values with their boundaries and settings for the optimising algorithms can be found in
127 https://github.com/mmrinconh/gadgetanchovy/blob/master/Anchovybenchmark_allnumbers_59/params.in
128 and https://github.com/mmrinconh/gadgetanchovy/blob/master/Anchovybenchmark_allnumbers_59/optfile.
129 The optimization algorithms converged in individual and weighted runs.

130 2. Remarkable Model Assumptions

- 131 • The model was implemented quarterly from 1989 to 2016
- 132 • All commercial fleets were grouped into only one: The Spanish purse-seine which represents more than a
133 90 % of all the catches from 2001 to 2016 and more than a 80 % from 1989 to 2000. It is also the only fleet
134 with a length distribution available.
- 135 • The parameters for weight-length relationship equation ($w = al^b$), were assumed fixed and defined as
136 $a = 3.128958e^{-6}$ and $b = 3.277667619$. Those values were calculated from all the samples available in third
137 and fourth quarters from 2003 to 2017.
- 138 • Natural mortality at age was also considered fixed with $M_0 = 2.21$ and $M_1, M_2, M_3 = 1.3$.

- There was a size restriction from 1995, that were only effective until 2001. As a consequence it was necessary to define different parameters for two different periods. One from 1989 to 2000, and the other from 2001 to 2016.

3. Natural mortality selection

Natural mortality selection is justified by the following arguments:

- Natural mortality was preferred to be selected from classical indirect formulations based on life history parameters. For it we used the R package *FSA* to obtain empirical estimates of natural mortality.
- For the estimation of the a constant natural mortality natural mortality rate, the Von Bertalanffy growth parameters and the maximum age that the species can live were used. Growth parameters of the Von Bertalanffy function were taken from Bellido et al., (2000) ($L_{inf} = 18.95$; $K = 0.89$, $t_0 = -0.02$), and the maximum observed age (It was explored from age 3 to 5, but finally age 4 was considered adequate). In total 13 estimators were produced using the R package *FSA* and the a value of $M = 1.3$ was undertaken (midway between the median and the mean of the available estimates for $Ag_{max}=4$). See the table below.
- Currently is generally accepted that Natural mortality may decrease with age, as far as it presumed to be particularly greater at the juvenile phase. The group agreed to adopt for the adult ages of anchovy (ages 1 to 4) the constant natural mortality estimated before (1.3), but for the juveniles (age 0) a greater one in proportion to the ratio of natural mortality at ages 0 and 1 (M_0/M_1) resulting from the application of the Gislanson et al.(2010) Modelling of Natural mortality as a function of the growth parameters. For it we used four vectors of length-at-age: derived from the Von Bertalanffy growth function in Bellido et al. (2000) for ages 1-5, from the Ecocadiz survey for ages 0-3, the average of the length-at-age in the catches from 1987 to 2016 and the average of the length-at-age in the catches from 2007 to 2016 (i.e., last 10 years) (see the figure below). There was no major basis to select one or the other, we directly choosed the pattern shown by the Ecocadiz data just because it seemed to be smoothest one (particularly for age 1 onwards as presumed here). The ratio M_0/M_1 is $2.722670 / 1.595922 = 1.7$. Therefore $M_0 = 1.3 * 1.7 = 2.21$
- In summary for anchovy 9a South, the adopted Natural mortality by ages are $M_0=2.21$, $M_1=1.3$ and $M_{2+}=1.3$ (similar at any older age).

	method	M.age3	M.age4	M.age5

	Hoenig02	:1	Max.	:1.836	Max.	:1.5183	Max.	:1.5183	
	(Other)	:7	NA		NA		NA		

165 **4. Fit to data**

166 A summary of likelihood scores is presented in Figure 1 while a comparison of estimated versus observed
 167 data is summarized in the following Figures:

168 *Length distributions*

- 169 – Figure 2: Length distribution of the commercial fleet.
- 170 – Figure 3: Length distribution of the ECOCADIZ acoustic survey.
- 171 – Figure 4: Length distribution of the PELAGO acoustic survey.
- 172 – Figure 5: Summary of residuals for length distributions.

173 *Age distributions*

- 174 – Figure 6: Age distribution of the commercial fleet.
- 175 – Figure 7: Age distribution of the ECOCADIZ acoustic survey.
- 176 – Figure 8: Age distribution of the PELAGO acoustic survey.
- 177 – Figure 12: Summary of residuals for age distributions.

178 *Age-length distributions*

- 179 – Figure 9: Fitted length at age by quarter compared to observed values from the spanish purse-seine
 180 samples
- 181 – Figure 10: Fitted length at age by quarter compared to observed values from the ECOCADIZ acoustic
 182 survey samples
- 183 – Figure 11: Fitted length at age by quarter compared to observed values from the PELAGO acoustic
 184 survey samples

185 *Biomass survey indices fit*

- 186 – Figure 13: Summary of biomass survey indices fit.

187 The following shows the likelihood component scores from the different stages of the iterative reweighting
 188 run normalised with the minimum score for each component

> *fit\$nesTable*

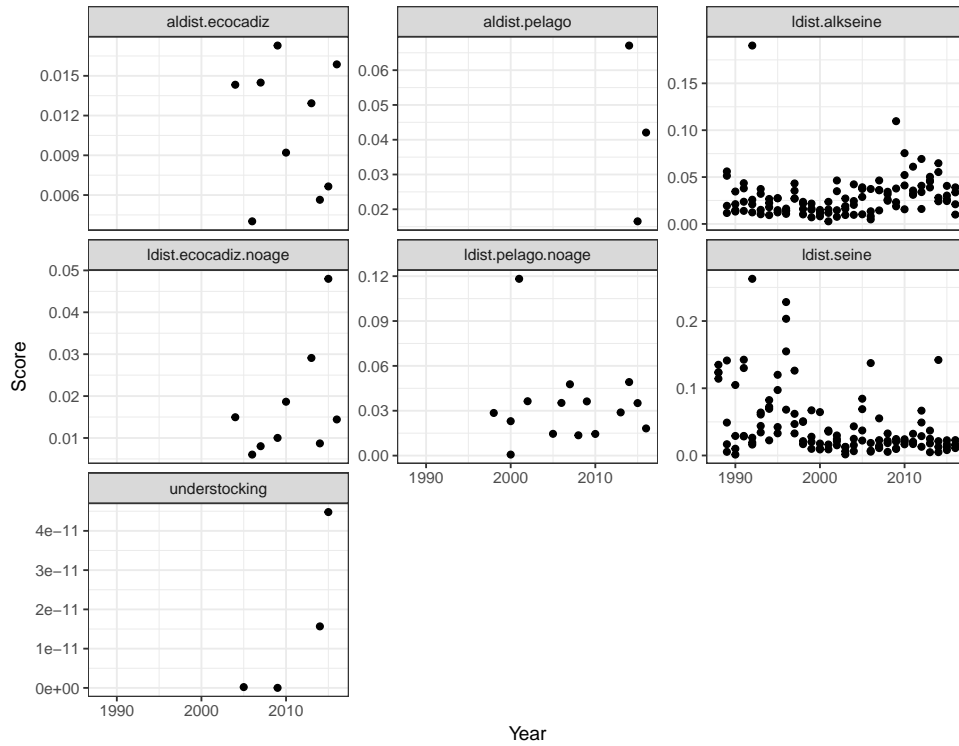


Figure 1: Likelihood scores for age-length key of ECOCADIZ survey, PELAGO survey and commercial landings (Upper panel) and length distribution of ECOCADIZ survey, PELAGO survey and landings. Dots represent the score for each quarter.

aldist.ecocadiz

.id
aldist.ecocadiz

aldist.pelago		aldist.pelago
ldist.ecocadiz.noage		ldist.ecocadiz.noage
ldist.pelago.noage		ldist.pelago.noage
ldist.seine.ldist.alkseine		ldist.seine.ldist.alkseine
pelagonumber.survey.ecocadiz.survey		pelagonumber.survey.ecocadiz.survey
final		final

	aldist.ecocadiz	aldist.pelago
aldist.ecocadiz	1.000000	9.249823
aldist.pelago	9.781997	1.000000
ldist.ecocadiz.noage	52.566807	11.415428
ldist.pelago.noage	12.454290	21.924982
ldist.seine.ldist.alkseine	5.675105	9.087049
pelagonumber.survey.ecocadiz.survey	10.193390	9.391366
final	3.530239	8.895966

	ldist.alkseine	ldist.ecocadiz.noage
aldist.ecocadiz	1.866235	63.903282
aldist.pelago	1.312500	82.009211
ldist.ecocadiz.noage	5.087652	1.000000
ldist.pelago.noage	3.657774	15.359816
ldist.seine.ldist.alkseine	1.000000	10.708117
pelagonumber.survey.ecocadiz.survey	2.502287	8.644214
final	1.233613	4.545193

	ldist.pelago.noage	ldist.seine
aldist.ecocadiz	15.104217	3.743252
aldist.pelago	18.182259	4.119433
ldist.ecocadiz.noage	5.758604	2.376856
ldist.pelago.noage	1.000000	2.270580
ldist.seine.ldist.alkseine	3.735337	1.000000
pelagonumber.survey.ecocadiz.survey	3.891905	1.534244
final	2.423170	0.877193

	ecocadiz.survey	pelagonumber.survey
aldist.ecocadiz	64.17668	28.40055
aldist.pelago	145.24196	37.02763
ldist.ecocadiz.noage	185.06008	130.30592
ldist.pelago.noage	435.53102	206.41473
ldist.seine.ldist.alkseine	206.30075	55.45676

pelagonumber.survey.ecocadiz.survey	1.00000	1.00000
final	89.76941	47.69768
	understocking bounds	
aldist.ecocadiz	0.000e+00	0
aldist.pelago	2.234e-12	0
ldist.ecocadiz.noage	1.251e-12	0
ldist.pelago.noage	4.655e-09	0
ldist.seine.ldist.alkseine	9.752e-11	0
pelagonumber.survey.ecocadiz.survey	5.926e-11	0
final	6.067e-11	0

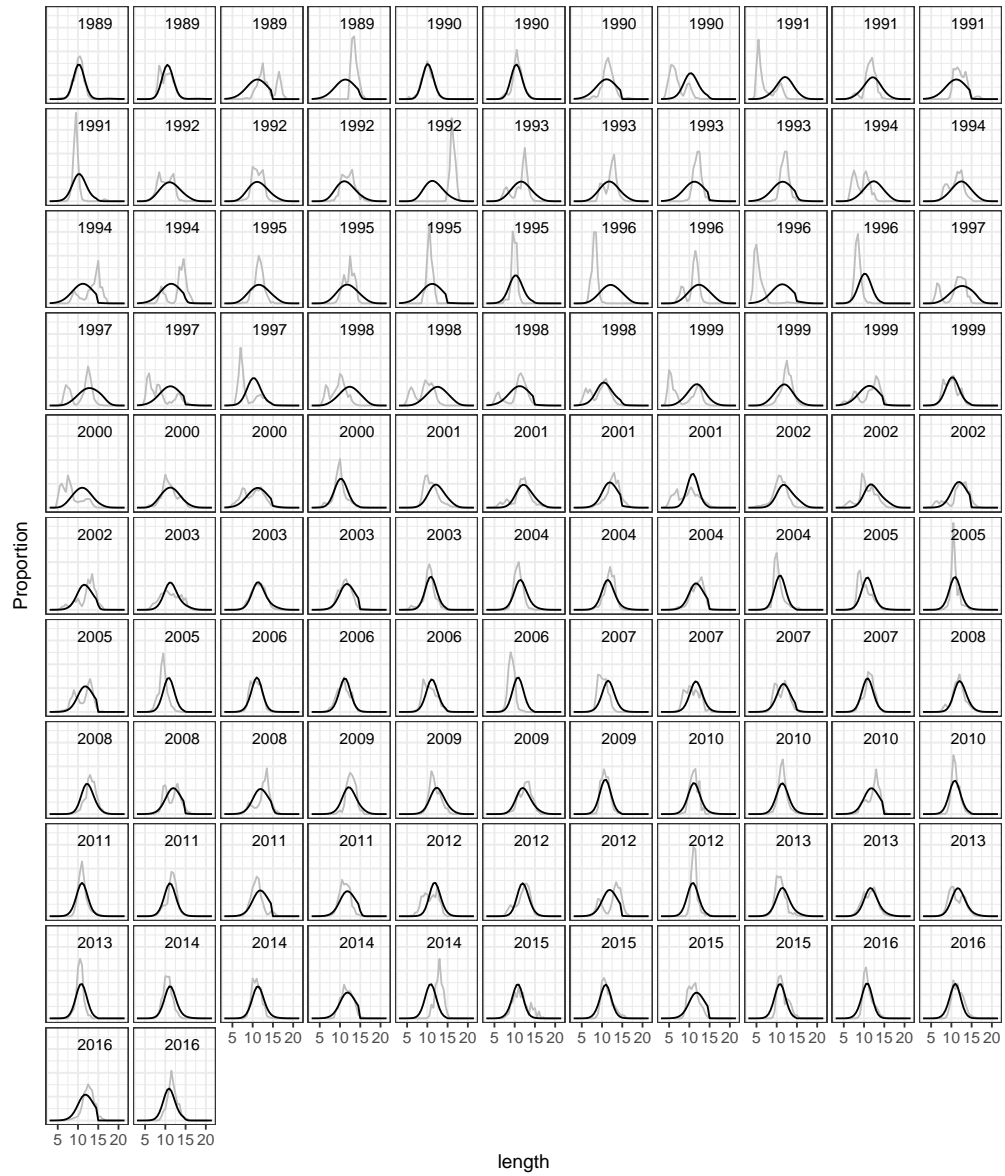


Figure 2: Comparison between observed and estimated catches length distribution. Black lines represent estimated data while gray lines represent observed data

Index	
a	Age, $a = 0, \dots, 3$
l	Length, $l = 3, 3.5, 4, 4.5, \dots, 22$
y	Years, $y = 1989, \dots, 2016$
t	Quartely timestep, $t = 1, \dots, 4$
T	$T = 1$ for period 1989-2000, $T = 2$ for period 2001-2016
Parameters	
<i>Fixed</i>	
a	Parameter of weight-length relationship $w = al^b$, $a = 3.128958 \times 10^{-6}$
b	Parameter of weight-length relationship $w = al^b$, $b = 3.277667619$
μ_a	Initial population mean length at age $\mu_0 = 9.99, \mu_1 = 12.1, \mu_2 = 15.2, \mu_3 = 16.1$
σ_a	Initial population standard deviation for length at age $\sigma_0 = 0.836, \sigma_1 = 0.5, \sigma_2 = 1, \sigma_3 = 1.2$
M_a	Natural mortality, $M_0 = 2.21, M_1 = 1.3, M_2 = 1.3, M_3 = 1.3$
n	Maximum number of length classes that an individual is supposed to grow $n = 5$
<i>Estimated</i>	
l_∞	Asymptotic length, $l_\infty = 30$
k	Annual growth rate, $k = 0.0770501$
β	Beta-binomial parameter, $\beta = 5000$
ν_a	Age factor, $\nu_0 = 120000, \nu_1 = 81000,$ $\nu_2 = 0.125, \nu_3 = 3.3e - 07$
μ	Recruitment mean length, $\mu = 9.91079$
σ_t	Recruitment length standard deviation by quarter, $\sigma_2 = 3.05845, \sigma_3 = 1.64798, \sigma_4 = 4$
$l_{50,T}$	Length with a 50% probability of predation during period T, $l_{50,1}^{seine} = 10.6, l_{50,2}^{seine} = 11, l_{50,3}^{ECO} = 13.7, l_{50,3}^{PEL} = 13.1$
α_T	Shape of function, $\alpha_1^{seine} = 0.385, \alpha_2^{seine} = 0.86, \alpha_3^{ECO} = 1.03, \alpha_3^{PEL} = 0.596$
Observed Data	
$E_{y,t}$	Number or biomass landed at year y and quarter t
W_i	Weight at length
$I_{y,t}$	Observed survey index at year y and quarter t
$P_{a,l,y,t}$	Proportion of the data sample over all ages and lengths for timestep/age/length combination
$O_{a,l,y,t}$	Observed data sample for time/age/length combination
$x_{a,y,t}$	Sample mean weight from the data for the timestep/age combination
Others	
Δl	Length increase
Δw	Weight increase
Δt	Length of timestep
$N_{a,l,y,t}$	Number of individuals of age a , length l in the stock at year and quarter y and t , respectively.
$q_{a,l}$	Proportion in lengthgroup l for each age group
$R_{y,t}$	Recruitment at year y and quarter t
$p_{l,t}$	Proportion in lengthgroup l that is recruited at quarter t
$C_{l,y,t}$	Total amount in biomass landed by surveys and in number landed by commercial fleet
$S_{l,T}$	Proportion of prey of length l that the fleet/predator is willing to consume during period T
$\pi_{a,l,y,t}$	Proportion of the model sample over all ages and lengths for that timestep/age/length combination
$\mu_{a,y,t}$	Mean length at age for the timestep/age combination
U_t	Understocking for timestep t
lw_i and uw_i	Weights applied when the parameter exceeds the lower or upper bound
lb_i and ub_i	Lower and upper bound defined for the parameter
val_i	Value of the parameter

Table 1: List of Symbols used in model specification

Data source	type	Timespan	Likelihood function
Commercial landings	Length distribution	All quarters, 1989-2016	See eq. 7
	Age-length key	All quarters, 1989-2016	See eq. 7
ECOCADIZ acoustic survey	Biomass survey indexes	Second quarter 2004, 2006	see eq. 6
		third quarter 2007, 2009, 2010, 2013-2016	
	Length distribution	Second quarter 2004, 2006	see eq. 7
		third quarter 2007, 2009, 2010, 2013-2016	
Age-length key	Second quarter 2004, 2006	see eq. 7	
	third quarter 2007, 2009, 2010, 2013-2016		
PELAGO acoustic survey	Biomass survey indexes	First quarter 1999, 2001-2003	see eq. 6
		second quarter 2005-2010 and 2013-2016	
	length distribution	First quarter 1999, 2001-2003	see eq. 7
		second quarter 2000, 2005-2010, 2013-2016	
Age-length key	second quarter 2014-2016	see eq. 7	
BOCADEVA DEPM survey	Biomass survey indexes	Second quarter 2005,2008	see eq. 6
		third quarter 2011,2014	

Table 2: Overview of the likelihood data used in the model

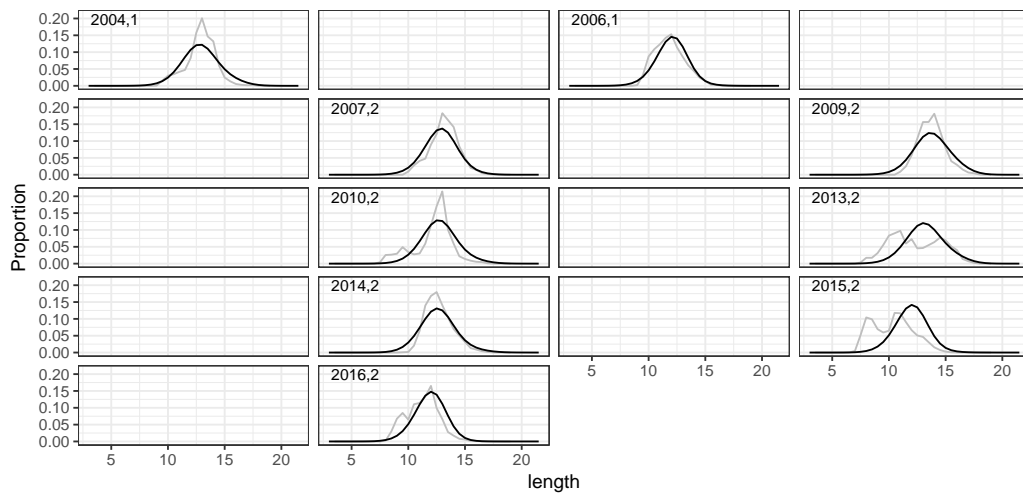


Figure 3: Comparison between observed and estimated catches length distribution for ECOCADIZ survey. Black lines represent estimated data while gray lines represent observed data

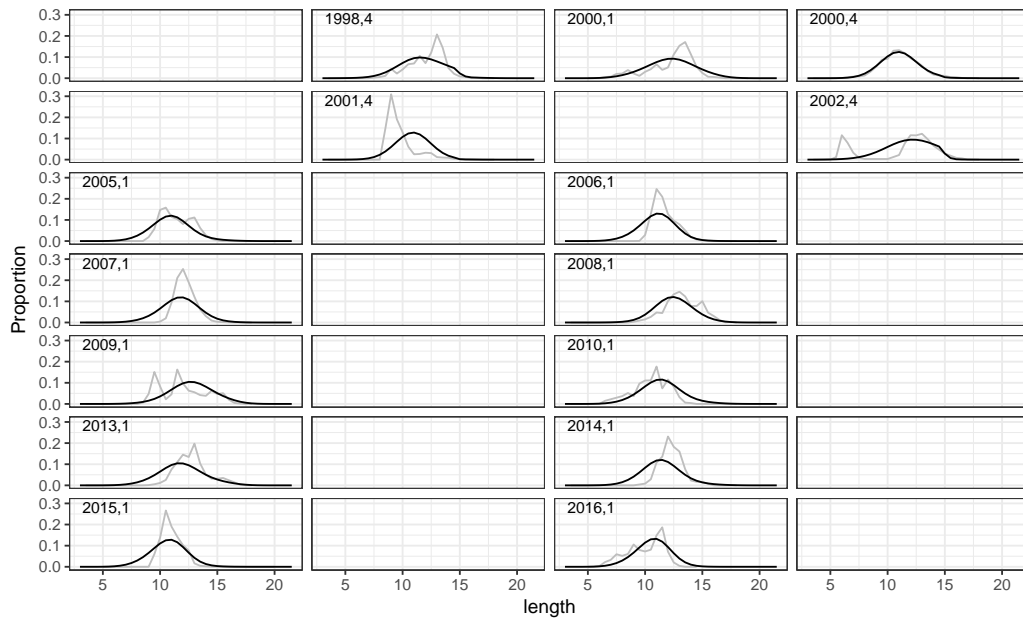


Figure 4: Comparison between observed and estimated catches length distribution for PELAGO survey. Black lines represent estimated data while gray lines represent observed data

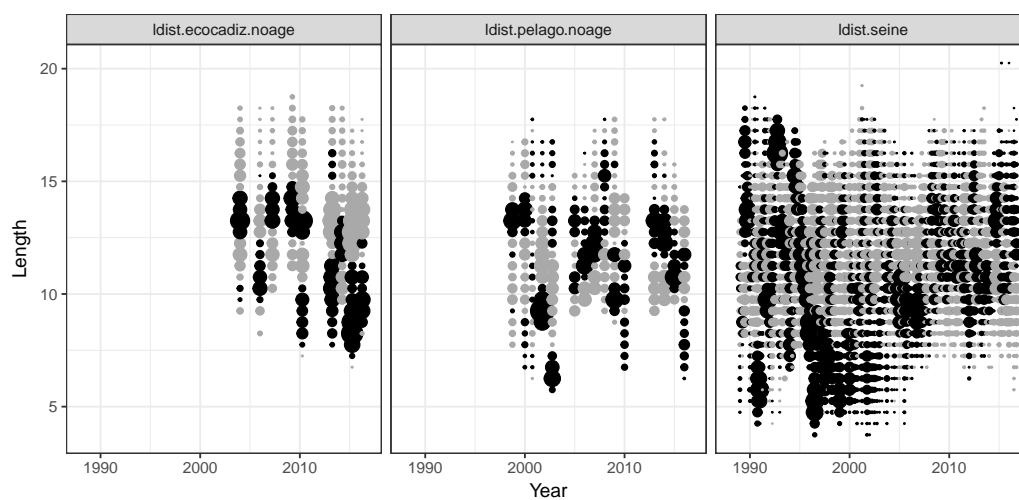


Figure 5: Standardised residual plots for the fitted length distribution from the ECOCADIZ survey, PELAGO survey and commercial landings. Black points denote a model underestimate and gray points an overestimated. The size of the points denote the scale of the standardised residual.

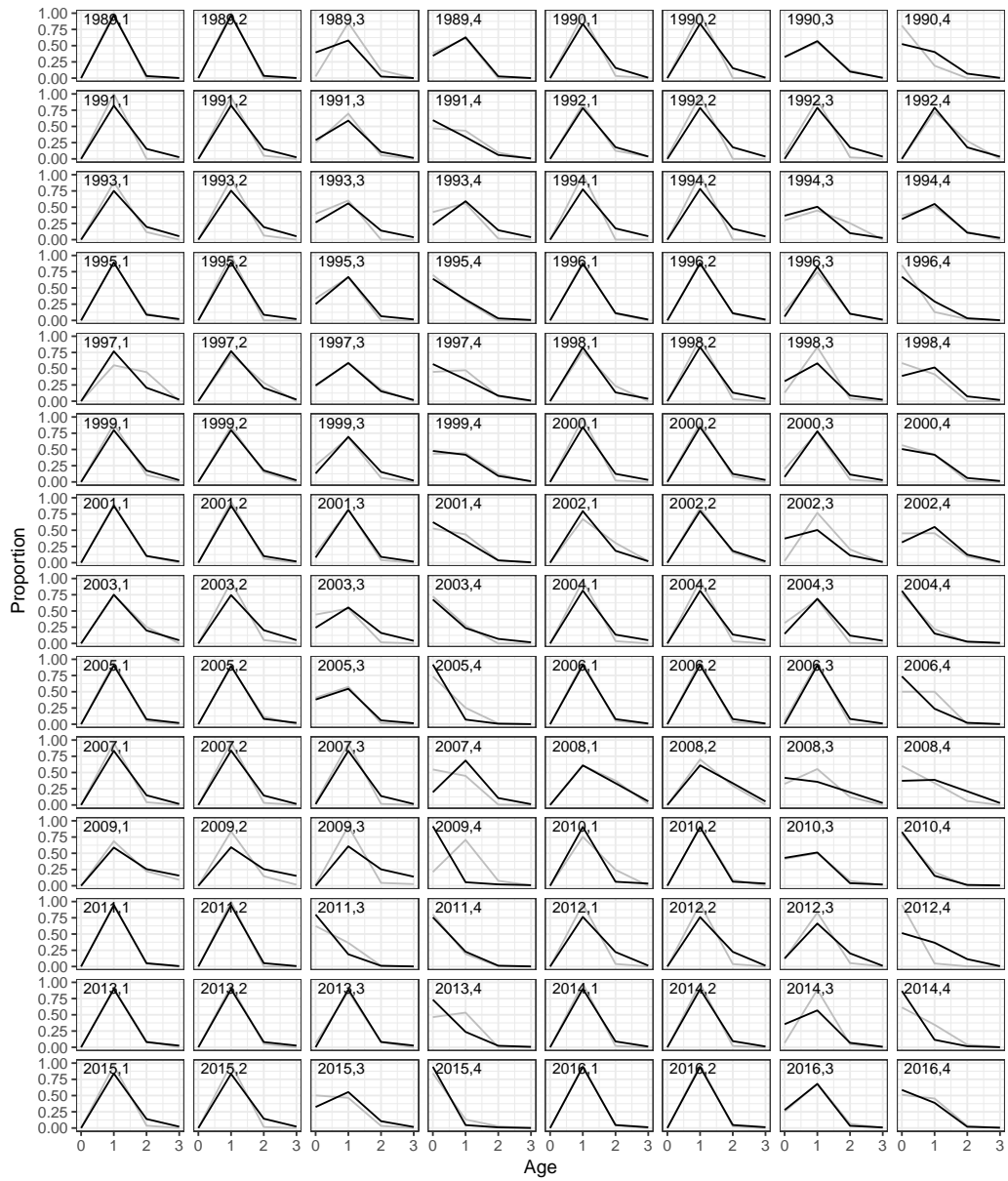


Figure 6: Comparison between observed and estimated catches age distribution. Black lines represent estimated data while gray lines represent observed data.

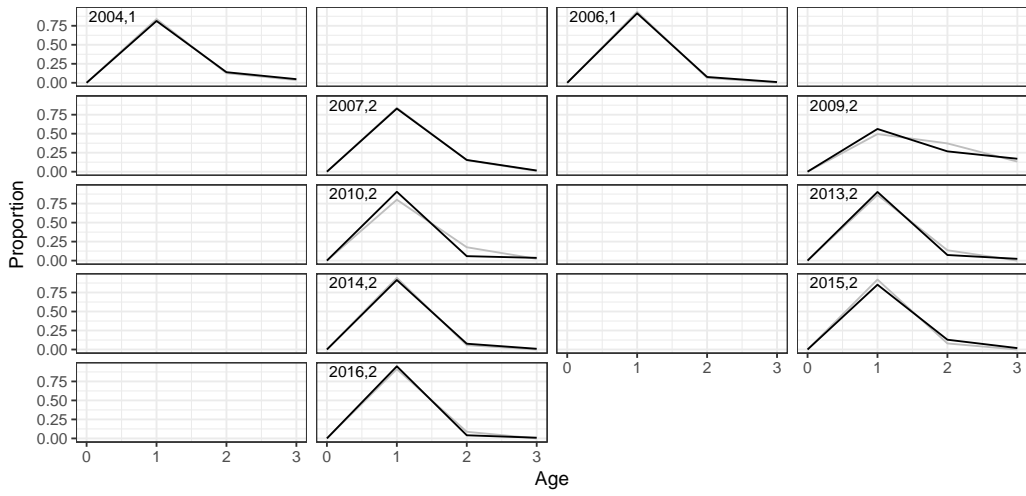


Figure 7: Comparison between observed and estimated ECOCADIZ survey age distribution. Black lines represent estimated data while gray lines represent observed data.

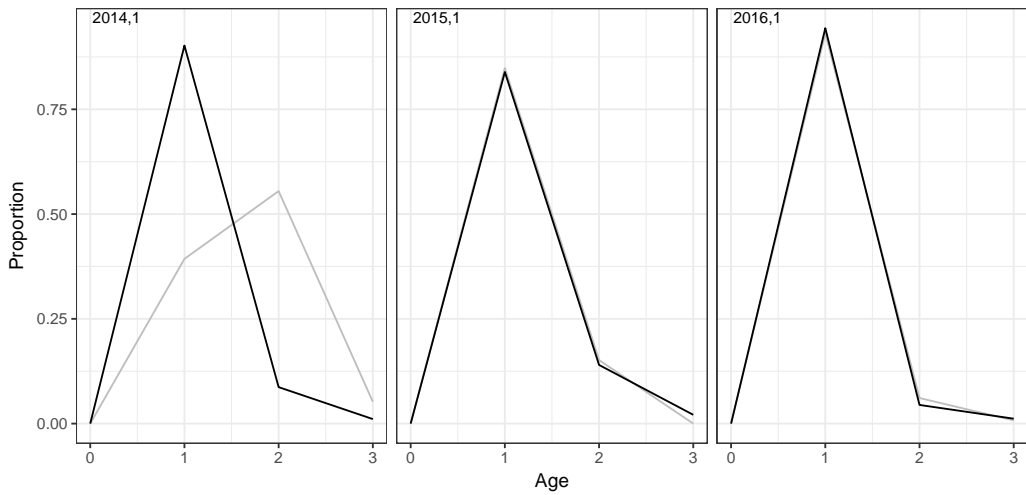


Figure 8: Comparison between observed and estimated PELAGO survey age distribution. Black lines represent estimated data while gray lines represent observed data.

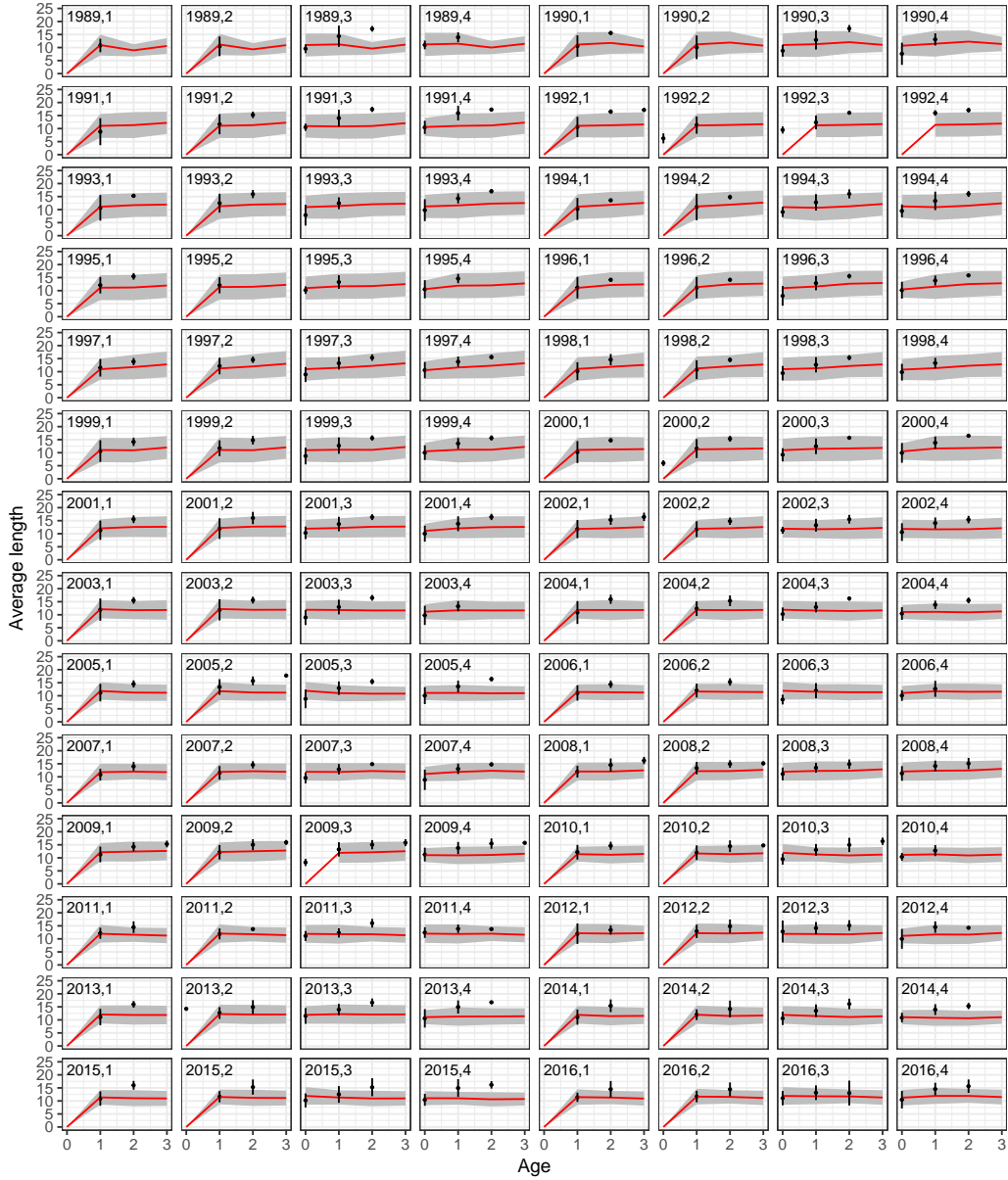


Figure 9: Fitted length at age by quarter compared to observed values from the spanish purse-seine samples. The black point and vertical bar denotes the observed mean and 95% confidence intervals of length at age, while the grey ribbon and red line indicates the model estimates.

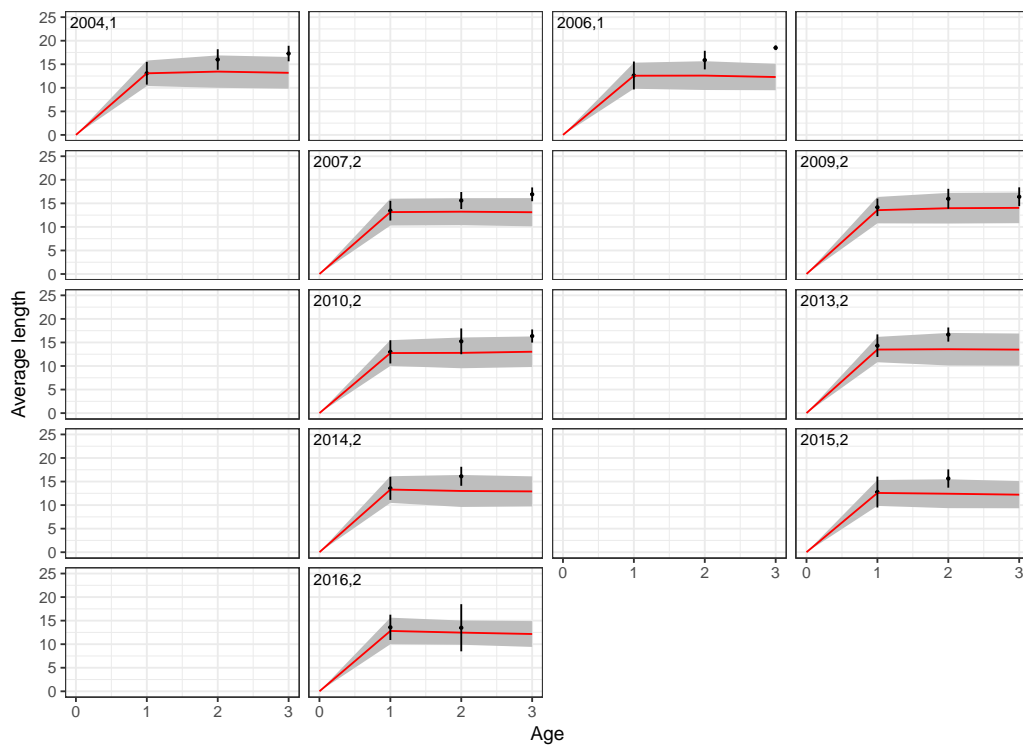


Figure 10: Fitted length at age by quarter compared to observed values from the ECOCADIZ survey samples. The black point and vertical bar denotes the observed mean and 95% confidence intervals of length at age, while the grey ribbon and red line indicates the model estimates.

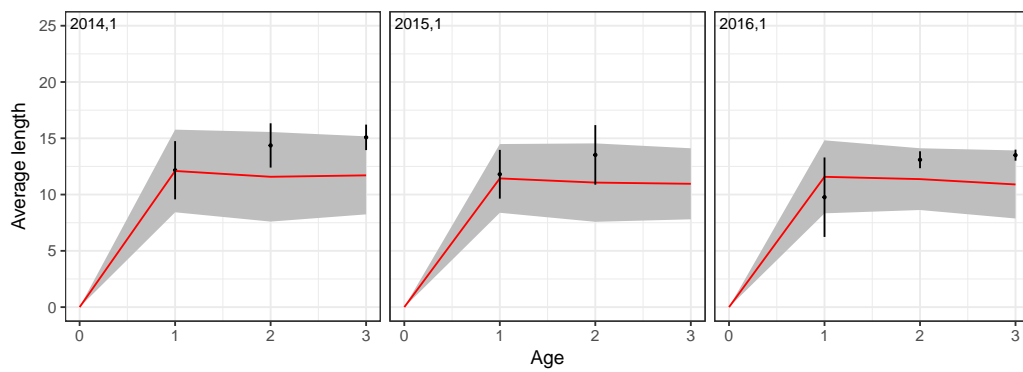


Figure 11: Fitted length at age by quarter compared to observed values from the PELAGO survey samples. The black point and vertical bar denotes the observed mean and 95% confidence intervals of length at age, while the grey ribbon and red line indicates the model estimates.

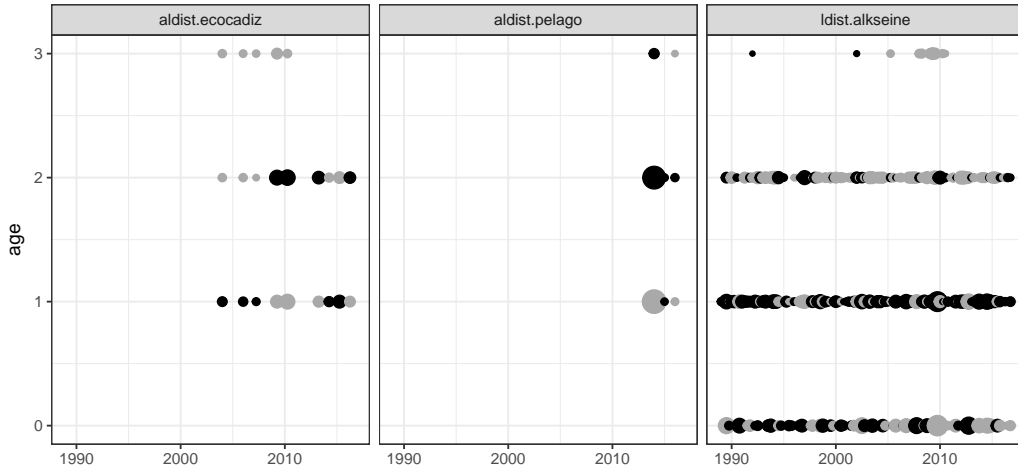


Figure 12: Standardised residual plots for the fitted age distribution from the ECOCADIZ survey, PELAGO survey and commercial fleet. Black points denote a model underestimate and gray points an overestimated. The size of the points denote the scale of the standardised residual.

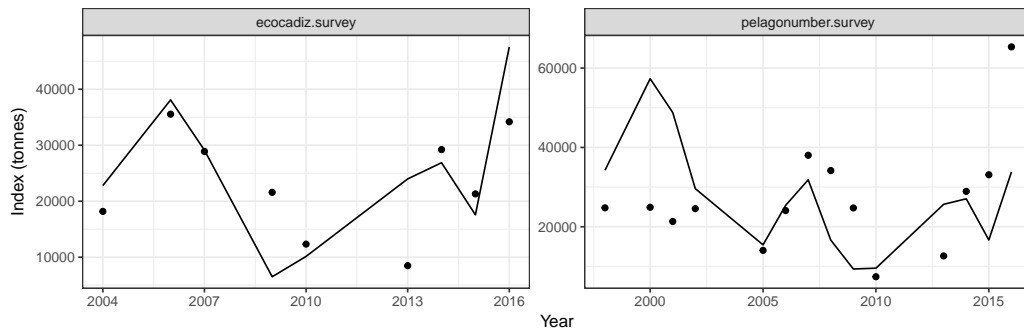


Figure 13: Comparison between observed and estimated survey indices. Black points represent observed data while black line represent estimated data

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5. Model estimates

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Parameter estimates after optimization are presented in Table 1.

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5.1. Catchability

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Figure 14 shows the catchability estimated by the model for the different surveys indices

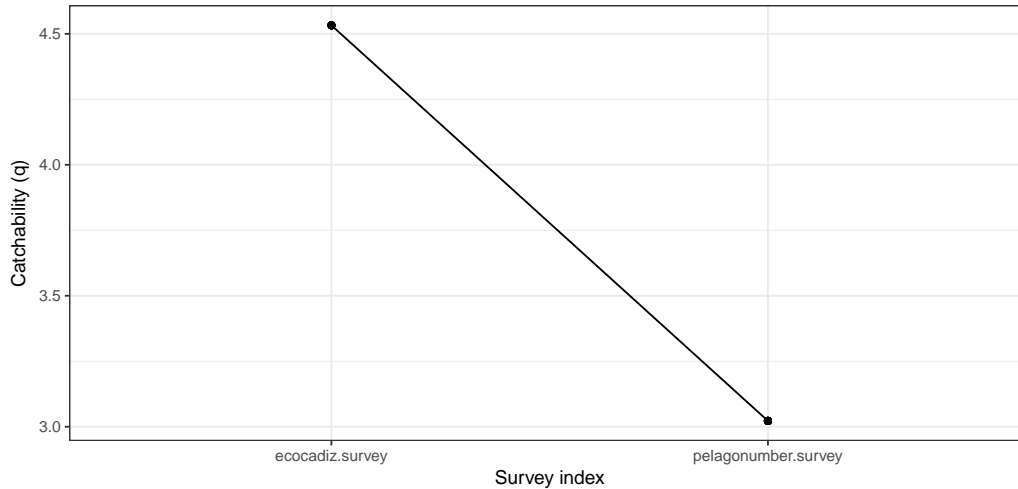


Figure 14: Estimated catchability parameters for the different survey indices

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5.2. Suitability

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Figure 15 shows the fleet suitability functions estimated by the model for the commercial fleet and different surveys

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5.3. Abundance, recruitment and Fishing mortality

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Figure 16 presents model annual estimates for abundance, recruitment, fishing mortality and catches.

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Figure 17 presents a comparison between SSB and recruitment

Total mortality Z was approximated using catch at age data with the following equation:

$$\log\left(\frac{C_1^{y-1}}{C_2^y}\right), y = 1990, \dots, 2016,$$

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where C_a^y denotes catches in numbers at age a during year y . The results are presented in Figure 18.

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Analogously, the same estimation was performed using the age data provided by the ECOCADIZ survey

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and the results are presented in Figure 19. Estimated F for age 1, mean estimated F for Ages 1 and 2 and

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estimated $Z_{1,2}$ are presented in figure 20.

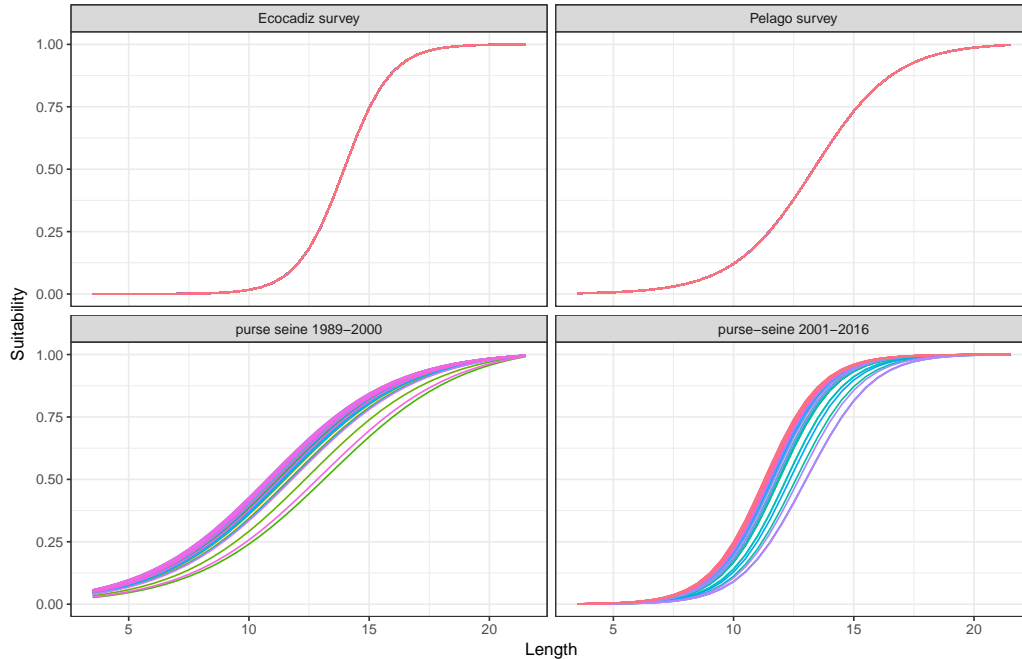


Figure 15: Estimated fleet suitability functions for the commercial fleet and different surveys.

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6. Scenarios to explore

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1. Natural mortality obtained by expert elicitation $M_0 = 1.5, M_1 = 1, M_2 = 1.5, M_3 = 1$: A bad fitting was obtained showing the sensitivity of the model results to this value. Some variations of this scenario should be explored.

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2. Natural mortality at age estimated by the model

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3. Forecast assuming that the advice is provided:

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– In June of year ‘y’ for year ‘y+1’ including the PELAGO survey performed in March/April.

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7. Acknowledgements

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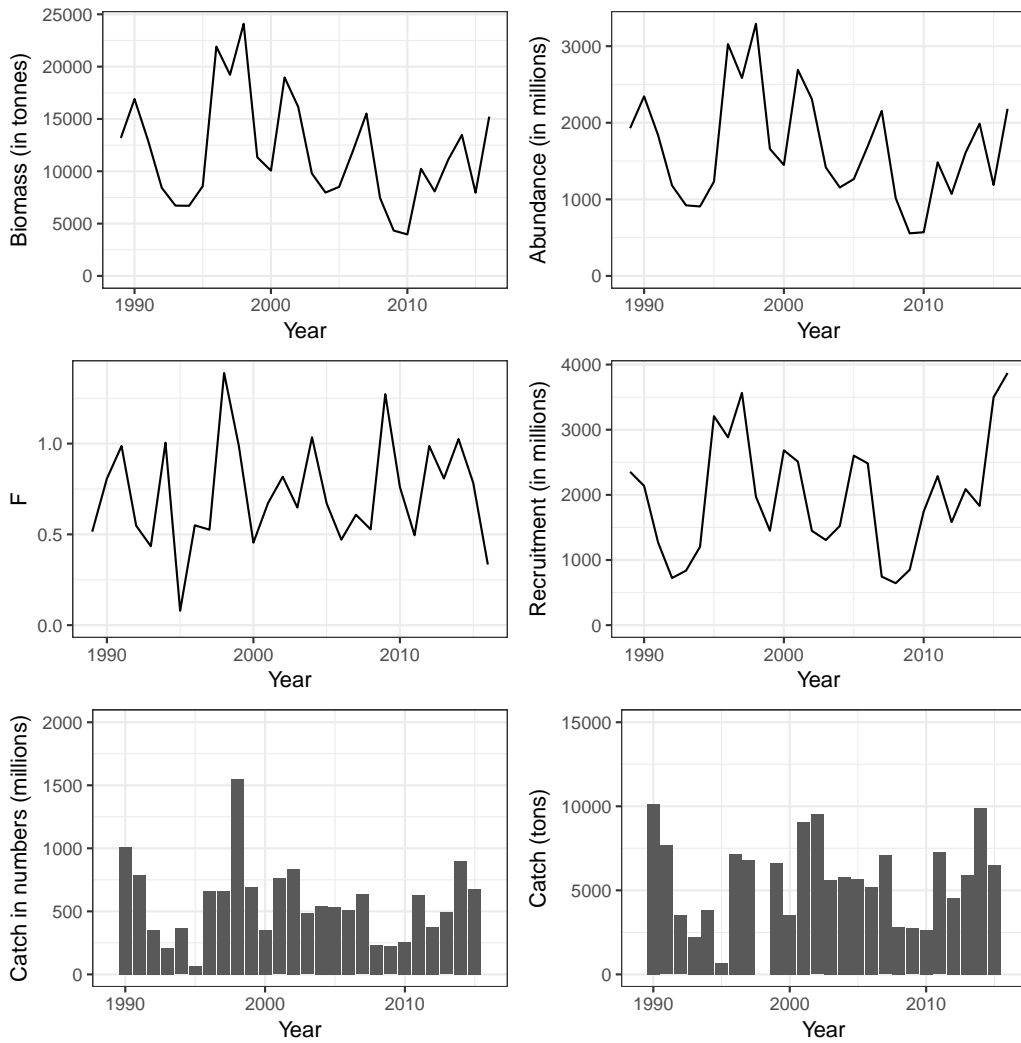


Figure 16: Annual catches time series (in numbers and biomass) compared with annual model estimates for abundance (in numbers and biomass), recruitment and fishing mortality.

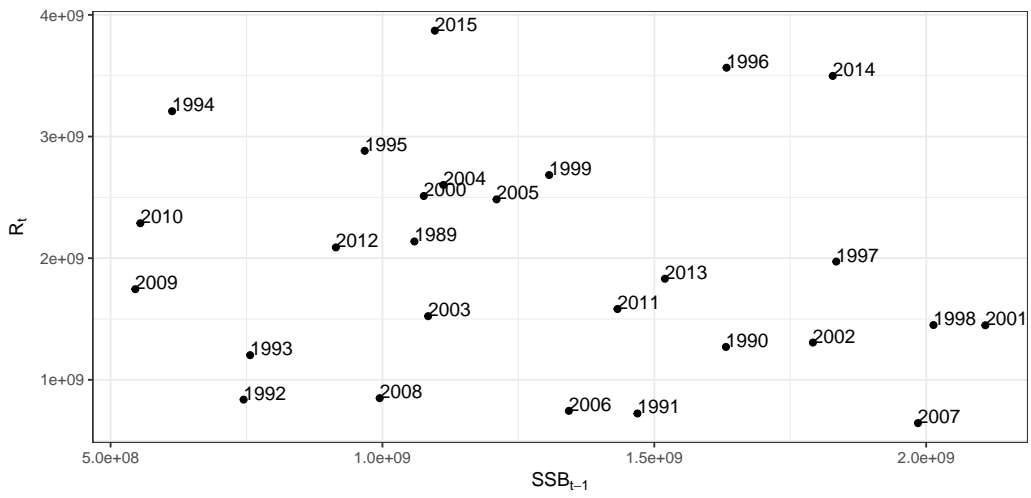


Figure 17: Estimated Stock Spawning biomass (SSB_{t-1}) vs. Recruitment (R_t)

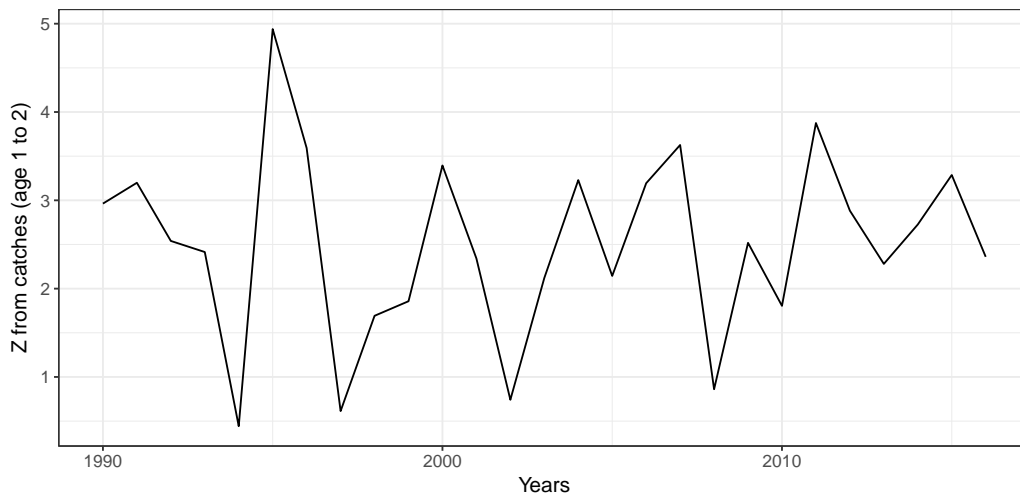


Figure 18: Estimation of Z using information from yearly catch in numbers from individuals of age 1 and 2.

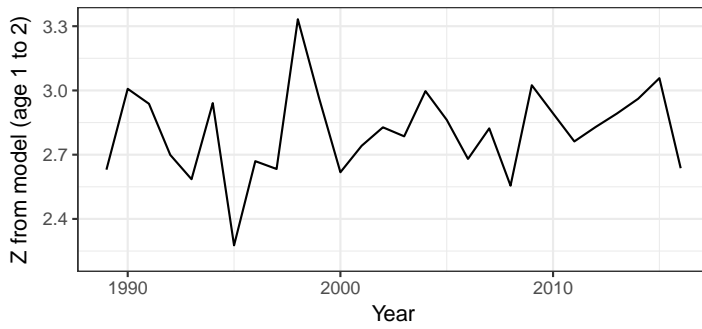
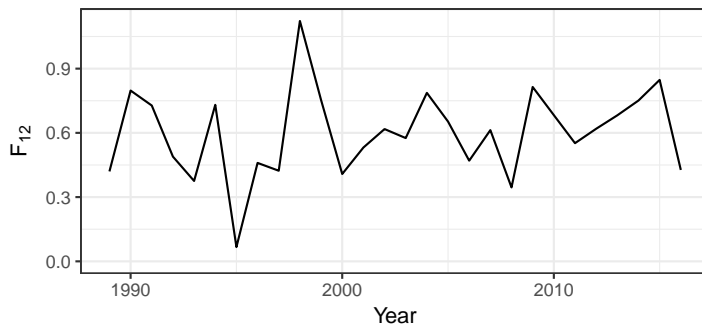
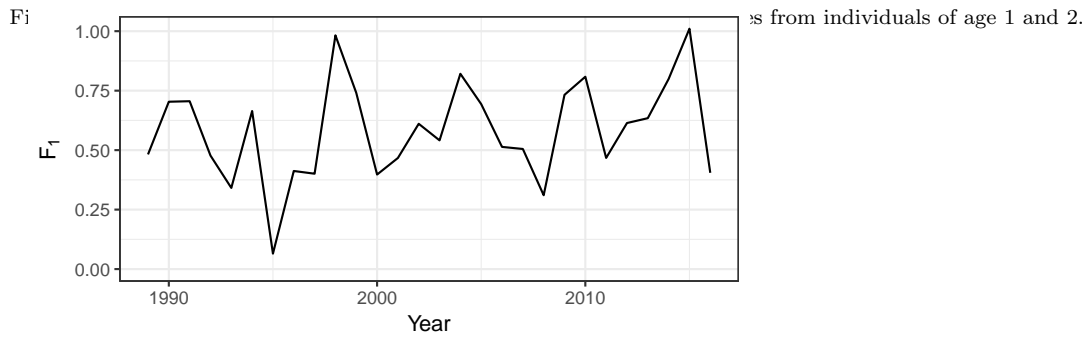
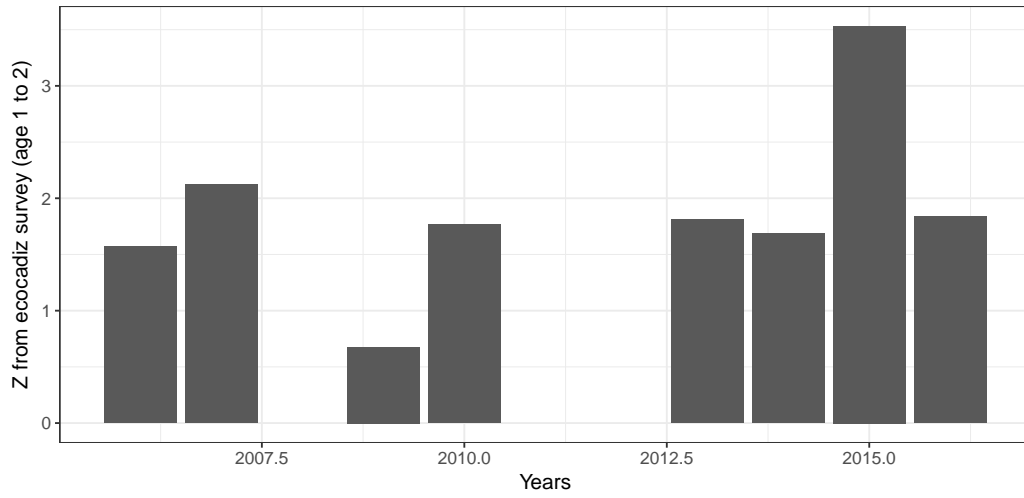


Figure 20: Estimated F for age 1, mean estimated F for Ages 1 and 2 and estimated $Z_{1,2}$

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