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Whale Harvest Through Time: Unveiling the Hemispheric Contrasts in Whaling

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Whale Harvest through Time : unveiling the and hemispheric contrasts in Whaling

Laura Mooney, Dr Rachel Bonoan, Dr Peter Rogers

Background

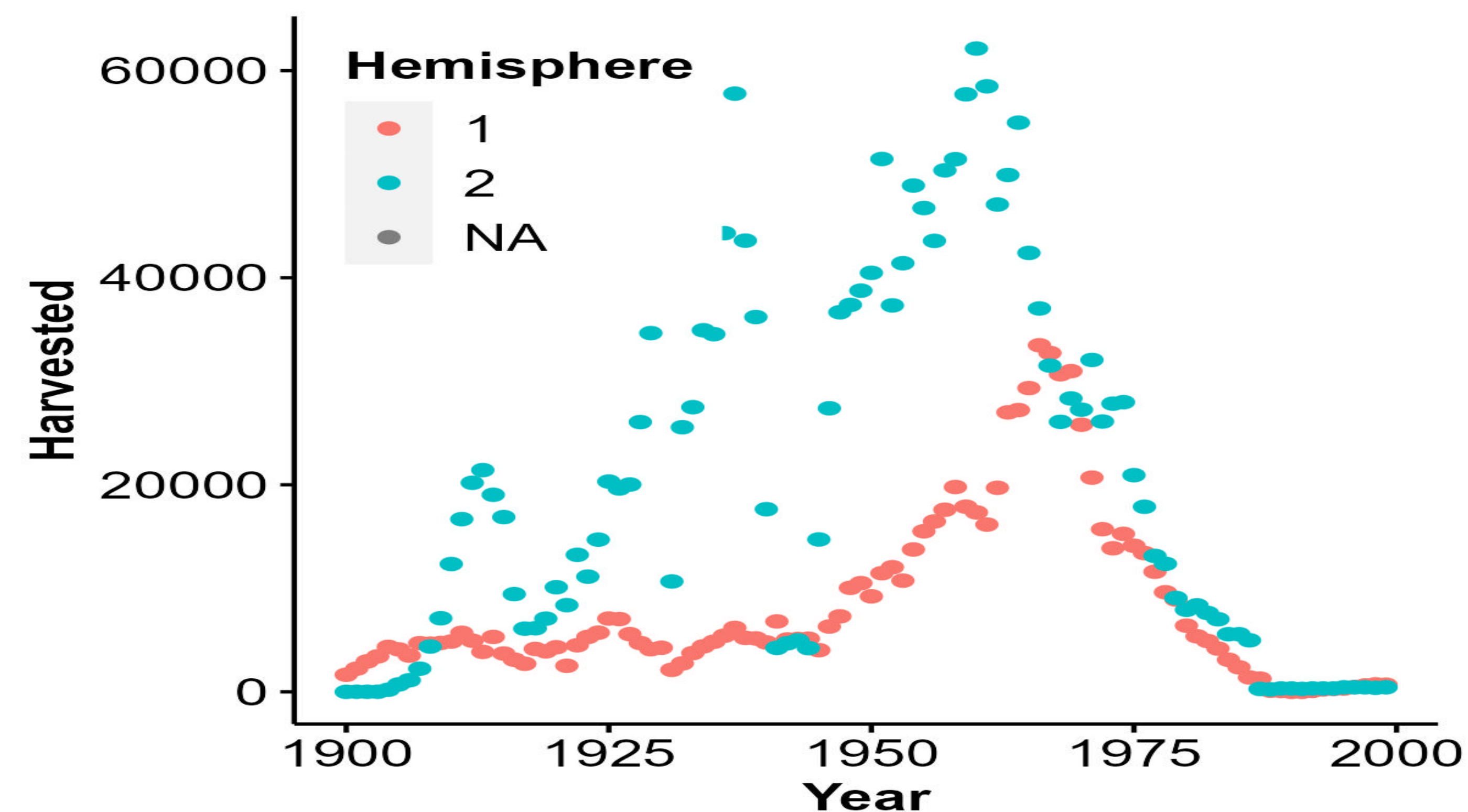
Whales have been long known for their oils and rich blubber which has been a dish in many countries in both the Northern and Southern hemispheres. Some species were being hunted to near extinction. The earliest whaling began in 3000BC by Native American but commercial whaling began by the Basques in the 17th century with a huge increase in the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries(1). This study examines how whale harvest has changed over time in years between 1900 and 1999 in both the Northern and Southern hemispheres. I analysed the data collected by Jr. Robert(2015) and looked to see if whale harvest was affected by hemisphere overtime. (1)

Methods

My report used for this study are used to compile catch totals for whale species. It explains that whales processed at shore whaling stations or floating factory ships were considered killed by industrial methods, while whales caught by non-cannon methods but also processed on shore were included. Catches from subsistence whaling hunts were not included, and specific catches by native operations and aboriginal hunts were excluded. Annual totals from the International Whaling Commission database were tallied, with revised Soviet data and corrections for North Pacific right whales. The report acknowledges limitations, such as incomplete data and potential inaccuracies in catch totals due to falsified or unreliable information. (1) This photo shows how whales were harvested by the Yushin Maru a Japanese Whaling vessel. (3)

Results

There is a significant difference in harvest over time.(Anova on LM, $F = 18.4919$, $df = 1/174$, $p < 0.001$). there is no significant difference in harvest between hemispheres (Anova on LM, $F = 0.8035$, $df = 2/174$, $p > 0.001$). There is a significant interaction effect between hemisphere and year in relation to harvest.. The Southern Hemisphere has significantly more whales harvested than the Northern Hemisphere, which is represented by the blue dots on my graph.(Anova on LM, $F = 5.6084$, $df = 2/174$, $p > 0.001$).



Caption: number of whales harvested each year between northern and southern hemispheres. Northern hemisphere = 1. Southern hemisphere = 2.



Ststopkillingwhales.com

Conclusion(s)

In conclusion whale harvest has changed between years, but no difference between hemispheres. There was a decline during the period of World War 2 in both hemispheres this is because whaling was suspended as shipping lanes were shut down. More military ships were needed so whaling ships were used as military cargo vessels.(2)before 1986 the southern hemisphere had significantly more whales harvested. Antarctic waters were rich with whale species, it was then targeted by commercial whalers(1)

The IWC (International Whaling Commission) was established in 1986. After this year there was a significant decline in whaling in both Hemispheres, it aimed to protect whales and recover their numbers by putting quotas on whaling and trying to stop it.

Acknowledgements

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References

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- 2) Horwitz, J. (2022b, May 12). *The Navy's deadly obsession with whales*. Outside Online.
<https://www.outsideonline.com/outdoor-adventure/environment/navys-deadly-obsession-whales/>
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