Effect of climate state on variation in nutritional value for small pelagic species

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adapted from Machovsky-Capuska & Raubenheimer, 2020

OCEANTRESH MARKET We price by % lipids, % protein, energy density!

- % Lipid, % Protein (+ dry matter & ash)
- Energy density



Nutritional quality is influenced by environment



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% Lipids

- Year
- Season
- Sea surface temp.
- Upwelling
- Geographic location Deng et al., 1976; Fisher et al., 2020; Hellessey et al. 2018; Litz et al., 2010; McKinstry et al., 2013; Miller et al., 2017

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% Lipids

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... But detailed information on the response of body composition to climate variation is limited

Aim

to understand influence of environment and nutritional value on foraging decisions

Key Questions:

How does nutritional composition of albacore prey species vary?

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Can variation be linked with environmental conditions?

Albacore as the lense

- commercially important
- pelagic
- apex predator

- + albacore prey
- diverse, range of niches

Species with high and low lipid content variability

Pelagic Species Trait Database

oi:10.5683/SP3/0YEJED

ALBERTA

Pacific Dataset \rightarrow few species with all metrics

LIPID		
Scientific Name	Common Name	n
Clupea pallasii	Pacific herring	69
Thaleichthys pacificus	Eulachon	57
Euphausia pacifica	North pacific krill	44
Cololabis saira	Pacific saury	35
Sardinops sagax	Pacific sardine	23
Atherinopsis californiensis	Jacksmelt	20
Cymatogaster aggregata	Shiner perch	19
Oncorhynchus keta	Chum salmon	18
Ammodytes hexapterus	Pacific sand lance	16
Diaphus theta	California headlightfish	12
Microgadus proximus	Pacific tomcod	12
Thysanoessa spinifera	Krill	10
Thetys vagina	Twin tailed salp	7

PROTEIN		
Scientific Name	Common Name	n
Thaleichthys pacificus	Eulachon	47
Clupea pallasii	Pacific herring	45
Euphausia pacifica	North pacific krill	10

ENERGY DENSITY		
Scientific Name	Common Name	n
Clupea pallasii	Pacific herring	101
Thaleichthys pacificus	Eulachon	43
Anoplopoma fimbria	Sablefish	20
Sebastes spp.	Rockfish	12
Onychoteuthis borealijaponica	Boreal clubhook squid	11
Gonatopsis borealis	Boreopacific gonate squid	6

Makes it complicated to isolate drivers of variation

The California Current Large Marine Ecosystem

- a diverse and productive marine ecoregion
- has a natural environmental gradient
- experiencing strong climate change pressures (Cannizzo, 2021; Poloczanska et al., 2016)

Adapted from Jacox et al., 2019

California Current Focus Species

Doryteuthis opalescens
Onychoteuthis borealijaponica
Symbolophorus californiensis
Engraulis mordax
Pyrosoma atlanticum

From the 2021 Summer CPS Survey

Market Squid n North = 7 n South = 18

Pyrosome n North = 2 n South = 3

Anchovy n North = 12

n North = 12n South = 10 **Bigfin Lanternfish** n North = 17 n South = 15

Boreal Clubhook Squid n North = 7 n South = 16

Measured % lipids, % protein, energy density

Next Steps

Mixed Effects Modelling

- Nutritional metrics as response variables
- Control for species, size class, sex, maturity, haul
- Region and then specific environmental metrics as drivers

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The Tuna Team

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Bomb calorimetry

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Proximate composition

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