## Estimating spawning interval as the ratio of oocyte growth period to the number of oocytes cohorts

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## Introduction



- Spawning frequency is mainly estimated through the spawning fraction (population parameter), but it faces obstacles (spawning aggregations, oocyte stages occur within short time windows).
- Alternative methods needs to be developed based on the individual parameter (spawning interval)


## Conceptual model of oocyte modality in multiple spawners



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## Estimating spawning interval from OGP and Nc



## Materials and methods



- Sampling -> late summer to winter in the North Aegean Sea, from the local commercial purse seine fishery.



Confocal laser scanning microscopy


## Markers of the onset of the reproductive period

Primary growth oocyte


Early secondary
growth oocyte


Markers of the onset of the spawning period



## Estimating SI from OGP and Nc

OGP= 34


OGP $=34 \mathrm{~d}$
$N c=5$
SI= 7 d
$\boldsymbol{S}=0.14$

| Year | \% inactive | $S$ | $S_{a}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1997 | 25 | 0.07 | 0.09 |
| 1999 | 6 | 0.10 | 0.11 |
| 2002 | 18 | 0.05 | 0.06 |
| 2005 | 14 | 0.08 | 0.09 |
| 2008 | 6 | 0.08 | 0.09 |

Ganias [2011] Mar Coast Fish

## FUTURE PLANNING

Implementation of this method including:
$\Rightarrow$ more species (ongoing work on European anchovy)
$\Rightarrow$ Samples from different years
$\Rightarrow$ Samples from different locations

