

# *MixFishSim*: highly resolved spatiotemporal simulations for exploring mixed fishery dynamics

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## Abstract

Most fisheriesFishing<sup>JJ</sup> exploits<sup>JJ</sup> a variety of spatially and temporally heterogeneous fish populations, using species-unselective gear that can result in unintended, unwanted catch of low quota or protected species. Reducing these unwanted catches is crucial for biological and economic sustainability of ‘mixed fisheries’ and implementation of an ecosystem approach to fishing.

If fisheries are to avoid unwanted catchTo implement effective spatial measures to reduce discards<sup>PD</sup> a good understanding of spatiotemporal fishery dynamics is required. However, traditional scientific advice is limited by a lack of highly resolved knowledge of population distributions, movement and how fishers interact with different fish populations. This reflects the fact that data on fish location at high temporal and spatial resolutions is expensive and difficult to collect. Proxies inferred from either scientific surveys or commercial catch data are often used to model distributions, often with sparse data at limited spatial and temporal resolution.

To understand how data resolution impacts inference on mixed fisheries in-

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interactions, we develop a highly resolved spatiotemporal simulation model incorporating: i) delay-difference population dynamics, ii) population movement using Gaussian Random Fields to simulate patchy, heterogeneously distributed populations, and iii) fishery dynamics for multiple fleet characteristics based on species targeting via a mix of correlated random walk movement (for exploration) and learned behaviour (for exploitation) phases of the fisheries.

We simulate 50 years of fishing and use the results from the fisheries catch to draw inference on the underlying population structures. We compare this inference to i) a simulated fixed-site sampling design commonly used for fisheries monitoring purposes, and ii) the true underlying population structures input to the simulation, to establish the potential and limitations of fishery-dependent data - an inherently biased sampling method due to fisher's targeting- to provide a robust picture of spatiotemporal distributions. Finally, we simulate an area closure based on areas defined from the known ("real-population") distribution, commercial catch data and survey data at different temporal and spatial resolutions and assess their effectiveness on reducing catches of a fish population.

We conclude from our simulations that commercial data, while not unbiased, provides a useful tool for managing catches in mixed fisheries if applied at the correct spatiotemporal scale.

[333 words]

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## 1. Introduction

Fishers exploit a variety of fish populations that are heterogeneously distributed in space and time with varying knowledge of species distributions using species-unselective fishing gear. In doing so<sup>PD</sup> fisheries ~~that~~<sup>PD</sup> catch an

5 assemblage of species ~~and<sup>PD</sup>, known as mixed fisheries~~ may, ~~when managed by~~  
6 ~~single-species quotas can end up<sup>JJ</sup>~~ discarding<sup>JJ</sup> overquota catch when man-  
7 aged by single species quotas,<sup>JJ</sup> leading to overexploitation of fish popula-  
8 tions (Ulrich et al., 2011; Batsleer et al., 2015)<sup>JJ</sup>. This discarding of fish in  
9 excess of quota hampers the ability to limit fishing mortality to within sus-  
10 tainable limits (Alverson et al., 1994; Crowder and Murawski, 1998; Rijns-  
11 dorp et al., 2007)<sup>JJ</sup> ~~; reducing discarding is crucial<sup>PD</sup>~~ and ensure biological  
12 and economic sustainability of fisheries ~~and implementation of an ecosystem~~  
13 ~~approach to fisheries<sup>JJ</sup>~~. As such, there is increasing interest in technical solutions  
14 such as gear and spatial closures as ways of ~~reducing unwanted catch~~ ~~avoiding~~  
15 ~~discarding of fish<sup>JJPD</sup>~~ (Kennelly and Broadhurst, 2002; Catchpole and Revill,  
16 2008; Bellido et al., 2011).

17  
18 Changes to spatial fishing patterns have ~~Use of spatial management as a~~  
19 ~~tools<sup>PD</sup>~~ been proposed as a method to reduce discards (Holmes et al., 2011;  
20 Little et al., 2014; Dunn et al., 2014)<sup>PD</sup>. However, ~~its<sup>PD</sup>~~ implementation is  
21 hampered by lack of knowledge of fish and fishery spatiotemporal dynamics and  
22 understanding of the scale at which processes are important for management.  
23 Understanding the correct scale for spatial management is crucial in order to  
24 implement measures at a resolution that ensures effective management (Dunn  
25 et al., 2016) while minimising economic impact. For example, a scale that  
26 promotes species avoidance for vulnerable or low quota species while allowing  
27 continuance of sustainable fisheries for available quota species.

28  
29 ~~Identifying~~ ~~Ensuring measures are implemented at<sup>PD</sup>~~ an appropriate scale  
30 has been a challenge in the past that has led to ineffectual measures with unin-  
31 tended consequences such as limited impact towards the management objective  
32 or increased benthic impact on previously unexploited areas (e.g. the cod clo-  
33 sure in the North Sea (Rijnsdorp et al., 2001; Dinmore et al., 2003)). ~~MSince~~  
34 ~~then in<sup>PD</sup>~~ more refined spatial information has ~~since<sup>PD</sup>~~ become available through  
35 the combination of logbook and Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) data (Lee

et al., 2010; Bastardie et al., 2010; Gerritsen et al., 2012; Mateo et al., 2016)  
 and more real-time spatial management has been possible (e.g. Holmes et al.,  
 2011). Such information is, however, patchy and derived from an inherently  
 biased sampling programme (i.e. targeted fishing). ~~Further, fishers generally~~  
~~only recorded landings (not catch) on a daily basis. This leads to questions~~  
~~about the validity of inference that can be drawn from landings data assigned~~  
~~to VMS activity pings.~~<sup>PD</sup>

In order to understand ~~the consequences of using~~~~challenges that face~~<sup>PD</sup>  
 VMS-linked landings to draw inference on the underlying population structure  
 we develop a simulation model where population dynamics are highly-resolved  
 in space and time. ~~Being and are~~<sup>PD</sup> known ~~directly~~<sup>PD</sup> rather than inferred from  
 sampling or commercial catch, ~~we can use the population model to evaluate how~~  
~~inference from fisheries-dependent and fisheries independent sampling relates to~~  
~~the real population structure~~<sup>PD</sup>. In our model system ~~p~~<sup>PD</sup>opulation move-  
 ment is driven by random (diffusive) and directed (advective) processes and we  
 incorporate characterisation of a number of different fishing ~~fleet dynamics~~<sup>PD</sup>  
 exploiting four fish populations with different spatial and population demo-  
 graphics.

Using our model we simulate ~~5040~~<sup>PD</sup> years of exploitation of the fish popu-  
 lations. ~~We and~~<sup>PD</sup> use the results ~~from the fishing model.~~<sup>PD</sup>

1. to understand how sampling-derived data reflects the underlying popula-  
 tion structures. We compare at different spatial and temporal aggregations  
 of data the real population to:
  - (a) the inferred population from a stratified fixed-site sampling survey  
 design commonly used for fisheries monitoring purposes, otherwise  
 know as a fisheries-independent survey,
  - (b) the inferred population from our fishery-dependent model which in-  
 cludes fishery-induced sampling dynamics.

This comes as  
 a surprise: I  
 thought this  
 was going  
 to be about  
 discards<sup>JJ</sup> Agree,  
 have removed  
 this to avoid  
 confusion<sup>PD</sup>

2. to understand the impact of data aggregation and source on spatial fisheries management measures we simulate a fishery closure to protect a species based on different spatial and temporal data aggregations:

- (a) as if the real spatial population structure were known,
- (b) the fishery-independent inferred population structure
- (c) the fishery-dependent inferred population structure

We evaluate the theoretical "benefit" to the population of the closure(s), the effect on the other three populations and fishery catch. ~~Further, we extend our analysis to a range of spatial and temporal scales to assess the impact of these processes on the success of the management measure.~~<sup>PD</sup>

## 2. Materials and Methods

~~We developed and implemented a simulation model with a~~<sup>PD</sup> modular event-based ~~simulation model was developed with~~<sup>PD</sup> approach, where sub-<sup>PD</sup> modules ~~are~~<sup>PD</sup> implemented on independent time-scales appropriate to capture the characteristic of the ~~different processes~~<sup>PD</sup> process modelled<sup>PD</sup> (Figure 1). The following sub-modules were included to capture the full system: 1) Population dynamics, 2) Recruitment dynamics, 3) Population movement, 4) fishery dynamics.<sup>PD</sup>

~~The fishing model operated on a tow-by-tow basis, while~~<sup>PD</sup> ~~p~~<sup>PD</sup> population dynamics (fishing and natural mortality, growth) operate on a daily time-step, while ~~p~~<sup>PD</sup> population movement occurs on a weekly time-step. ~~R~~<sup>PD</sup>, while ~~r~~<sup>PD</sup> recruitment takes place~~occurs~~<sup>PD</sup> periodically each year for a set time ~~duration~~<sup>PD</sup> period (e.g. 3 weeks)<sup>PD</sup> specified for each population.<sup>PD</sup>, while the fishing module operates on a tow-by-tow basis (i.e. multiple events a day)<sup>PD</sup>. The simulation framework is implemented in the statistical software package R (R Core Team, 2017) and<sup>PD</sup> available as an R package from the authors github site ([www.github.com/pdolder/MixFishSim](http://www.github.com/pdolder/MixFishSim)).

If the paper has two goals this should be clear from the start, but may be better over 2 MSs<sup>JJ</sup> I would like to keep both parts, but have made clearer in how its set out. The closure scenarios form validation of the data aggregation, rather than effectiveness of the closures themselves - so its a continuation of the same question in my eyes<sup>PD</sup>

96 Here we describe each of the model components; 1) Population dynamics, 2)  
 97 Recruitment dynamics, 3) Population movement dynamics, 4) fishery dynamics.<sup>PD</sup>

## 98 2.1. Population dynamics

The basic population level processes are simulated using a modified two-stage Deriso-Schnute delay difference model (Deriso, 1980; Schnute, 1985; Dichmont et al., 2003) occurring at a daily time-step. A daily time-step was chosen as to discretise continuous population processes on a biologically relevant and computationally tractable timescale.<sup>PD</sup> Under the population dynamics module<sup>PD</sup> Here,<sup>PD</sup> population biomass growth and depletion for pre-recruits and fish<sup>PD</sup> recruited fish<sup>PD</sup> to the fishery<sup>PD</sup> are modelled separately as a function of previous recruited biomass, intrinsic population growth and recruitment. Biomass for each cell is incremented each day as follows (the full parameter list is detailed in Table 1):

$$\begin{aligned}
 B_{c,d+1} = & \\
 & (1 + \rho)B_{c,d} \cdot e^{-Z_{c,d}} - \rho \cdot e^{-Z_{c,d}} \quad \times \\
 & (B_{c,d-1} \cdot e^{-Z_{c,d-1}} + Wt_{R-1} \cdot \alpha_{d-1} \cdot R_{\tilde{y}(c,y,d-1)}) \quad + \\
 & Wt_R \cdot \alpha_d \cdot R_{\tilde{y}(c,y,d)}
 \end{aligned}$$

99 where  $\rho$  is Brody's coefficient, shown to be approximately equal to  $e^{-K}$  when  
 100  $K$  is the growth rate from a von Bertalanffy logistic growth model (Schnute,  
 101 1985).  $Wt_{R-1}$  is the weight of fish prior to recruitment, while  $Wt_R$  is the re-  
 102 cruited weight.  $\alpha_d$  represents the proportion of fish recruited during that day  
 103 for the year, while  $R_{c,\tilde{y}}$  is the annual recruits in cell  $c$  for year  $y$ .

104

Mortality  $Z_{c,d}$  can be decomposed to natural mortality,  $M_{c,d}$ , and fishing mortality,  $F_{c,d}$ , where both  $M_{c,d}$  and  $F_{c,d}$  are instantaneous rates with  $M_{c,d}$  fixed and  $F_{c,d}$  calculated by solving the Baranov catch equation (Hilborn and Walters, 1992) for  $F_{c,d}$ :

$$C_{c,d} = \frac{F_{c,d}}{F_{c,d} + M_{c,d}} * (1 - e^{-(F_{c,d} + M_{c,d})}) * B_{c,d}$$

105 where  $C_{c,d}$  is the summed catch from the fishing model across all fleets and  
 106 vessels in cell  $c$  for the population during the day  $d$ , and  $B_{c,d}$  the daily biomass  
 107 for the population in the cell.

## 109 2.2. Recruitment dynamics

Recruitment is modelled through a function relating the mature biomass to recruits at time of recruitment. In *MixFishSim*, it can be modelled either either as a stochastic Beverton-Holt stock-recruit form (Beverton and Holt, 1957):

$$\bar{R}_{c,d} = \frac{(\alpha * B_{c,d})}{(\beta + B_{c,d})}$$

$$R_{c,d} \sim \log N[(\log(\bar{R}_{c,d}), \log(\sigma^2))]$$

Where  $\alpha$  is the maximum recruitment rate,  $\beta$  the spawning stock biomass (SSB) required to produce half the maximum,  $B$  current SSB and  $\sigma^2$  the variability in the recruitment due to stochastic processes, or a stochastic Ricker form (Ricker, 1954):

$$\bar{R}_{c,d} = B_{c,d} * e^{(\alpha - \beta * B_{c,d})}$$

$$R_{c,d} \sim \log N[(\log(\bar{R}_{c,d}), \log(\sigma^2))]$$

110 where  $\alpha$  is the maximum productivity per spawner and  $\beta$  the density dependent  
 111 reduction in productivity as the SSB increases.

## 112 2.3. Population movement dynamics

113 To simulate ~~how~~<sup>JJ</sup> fish populations ~~might be~~<sup>JJ</sup> distributed<sup>JJ</sup> in space and  
 114 time, ~~we employed~~<sup>JJ</sup> a Gaussian spatial process ~~was employed~~<sup>JJ</sup> to model habi-  
 115 tat suitability for each of the populations. ~~An, with an~~<sup>JJ</sup> advection-diffusion  
 116 process ~~to~~<sup>JJ</sup> controlled<sup>JJ</sup> ~~how the~~<sup>JJ</sup> populations<sup>JJ</sup> movement<sup>JJ</sup> over time with  
 117 a moving temperature covariate to capture temporal dependencies. ~~This was~~  
 118 ~~intended to balance realism in population movement, capturing the main directed~~  
 119 ~~and random processes, and practicality of modelling the population rather than~~  
 120 ~~individual fish.~~<sup>JJ</sup>

121

[link  $F$  to effort and catchability - as I think we have  $F$  as an emergent property of the fleets rather than something we solve for (I could be wrong though!) - catch for a vessel is a product of catchability and biomass, i.e.  $C = qB$ , but this catch is summed to solve for  $F$ . So its both really]<sup>CM</sup>

What have a temperature covariate? Could just use time<sup>JJ</sup> Was intended as some biological meaning - species thermal tolerances load onto the temperature effect - so could be different per species<sup>PD</sup>

For ~~the~~<sup>PD</sup> habitat we defined<sup>PD</sup> a Gaussian random field process,  $\{S(c) : c \in \mathbb{R}^2\}$ , ~~that is a stochastic process~~<sup>PD</sup> where ~~for~~<sup>PD</sup> any set of cells  $c_1, \dots, c_n$  ~~where~~<sup>PD</sup> ~~for each  $c_i \in \mathbb{R}^2$~~ <sup>PD</sup>, the joint distribution of  $S = \{S(c_1), \dots, S(c_n)\}$  is multivariate Gaussian. The distribution is specified by its *mean function*,  $\mu(c) = E[S(c)]$  and its *covariance function*,  $\gamma(c, c') = Cov\{S(c), S(c')\}$  (Diggle and Ribeiro, 2007).

Not clear how habitat/GRF affect local abundances, only have  $B_{y,d}$ <sup>JJ</sup> Have included cell reference,  $c$  to make spatial link explicit<sup>PD</sup>

The covariance structure affects the smoothness of the surfaces which the process generates; ~~and~~<sup>PD</sup> we used the *Matérn family of*<sup>PD</sup> covariance structures<sup>PD</sup>, ~~as one where~~<sup>PD</sup> the correlation strength weakens the further the distance apart (i.e. ~~the correlation between  $S(x)$  and  $S(x')$  decreases as the distance  $u = \|x - x'\|$  increases~~)<sup>PD</sup>. The Matérn covariance structure models the spatial autocorrelation, where animal densities are observed to be more similar in nearby locations (Tobler, 1970; F. Dormann et al., 2007)<sup>PD</sup>. It is ~~The~~<sup>PD</sup> *Matérn correlation*<sup>PD</sup> is a two-parameter family where:

Introduce the gamma function, and why this covariance structure? Why correlate values in the random field?<sup>JM</sup> to allow populations to have different aggregation densities: have tried to clarify<sup>PD</sup>

$$\rho(u) = \{2^{\kappa-1} \Gamma \kappa\}^{-1} (u/\phi)^\kappa K_\kappa(u/\phi)$$

$K_\kappa(\cdot)$  is a modified Bessel function of order  $\kappa$ ,  $\phi > 0$  is a scale parameter with the dimensions of distance, and  $\kappa > 0$ , called the order, is a shape parameter which determines the smoothness of the underlying process.

141

~~In the simulation model, the~~<sup>PD</sup> habitat for each of the populations ~~was~~<sup>PD</sup> generated ~~with through~~<sup>PD</sup> the *RFSimulate* function of the *RandomFields* R package (Schlater et al., 2015), implementing different parameter settings to affect the patchiness of the populations. Each population ~~was~~<sup>PD</sup> initialised at a single location, and subsequently ~~move~~<sup>PD</sup> according to a probabilistic distribution based on habitat suitability, temperature and distance from current cell:<sup>PD</sup>

$$Pr(J|I) = \frac{e^{-\lambda * d_{IJ}} \cdot (Hab_{J,p}^2 \cdot Tol_{J,p,wk})}{\sum_{c=1}^C e^{-\lambda * d} \cdot (Hab_{c,p}^2 \cdot Tol_{c,p,wk})} \quad (1)$$

Where  $d_{IJ}$  is the euclidean distance between cell  $I$  and cell  $J$ ,  $\lambda$  is a given rate



143 of decay,  $Hab_{J,p}^2$  is the squared index of habitat suitability for cell  $J$  and popu-  
 144 lation  $p$ , with  $Tol_{J,p,wk}$  the temperature tolerance for cell  $J$  by population  $p$  in  
 145 week  $wk$ .

146  
 147 During specified weeks of the year, the habitat quality  $wasis^{PD}$  modified for  
 148 user-defined<sup>PD</sup> spawning habitats<sup>PD</sup>, resulting in ~~meaning~~<sup>PD</sup> each population  
 149 having~~has~~<sup>PD</sup> a concentrated area where spawning takes place and the popula-  
 150 tion moved<sup>PD</sup> towards these cells~~this~~<sup>PD</sup> in the weeks prior to spawning.

151  
 The temperature field  $wasis^{PD}$  simulated to be on a gradient from a South-  
 Westerly to North-Easterly direction, with temperature in each cell changing  
 gradually on a week-by-week basis so that initially high temperature areas cy-  
 cled<sup>PD</sup> to lower temperatures and low temperature areas vice versa. Each pop-  
 ulation  $p$  was<sup>PD</sup> assigned a thermal tolerance with mean,  $\mu_p^{PD}$  and variance,  
 $\sigma_p^2^{PD}$  so that each cell and population temperature suitability is defined that:

$$Tol_{c,p,wk}^{PD} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{(2\pi \cdot \sigma_p^2)}} \cdot \exp\left(-\frac{(T_{c,wk}^{PD} - \mu_p)^2}{2 \cdot \sigma_p^2}\right) \quad (2)$$

152 Where  $Tol_{c,p,wk}^{PD}$  is the tolerance of population  $p$  for cell  $c$  in week  $wk^{PD}$ ,  
 153  $T_{c,wk}^{PD}$  is the temperature in the cell given the week<sup>PD</sup> and  $\mu_p^{PD}$  and  $\sigma_p^2^{PD}$   
 154 the mean and standard deviation of the population temperature tolerance.

155  
 156 The final process resulted in independent populations structure and move-  
 157 ment patterns, with population movement occurring on a weekly basis. This  
 158 process approximated the demographic shifts in fish populations throughout a  
 159 year with seasonal spawning patterns.<sup>PD</sup>

#### 160 2.4. Fleet dynamics

161 The fleet dynamics can be broadly categorised into three components; fleet  
 162 targeting - which determined<sup>PD</sup> the fleet catch efficiency and preference towards  
 163 a particular species; trip-level decisions, which determined<sup>PD</sup> the initial location

What does  
it mean con-  
cisely? Areas  
are assigned?<sup>JM</sup>  
Yes, the ar-  
eas are pre-  
defined - I have  
amended to re-  
flect and tried  
to clarify.<sup>PD</sup>

164 to be fished at the beginning of a trip; and within-trip decisions, determining  
165 movement from one fishing spot to another within a trip.

#### 166 2.4.1. Fleet targeting

167 Each fleet of  $n$  vessels ~~was~~<sup>PD</sup> characterised by both a general efficiency,  $Q$ ,  
168 and a population specific efficiency,  $Q_p$ . Thus, the product of these parameters  
169 ~~affect~~<sup>PD</sup> the overall catch rates for the fleet and the preferential targeting of  
170 one population over another. This, in combination with the parameter choice  
171 for the step-function ~~defined below~~<sup>PD</sup> (as well as some randomness from the  
172 exploratory fishing process) ~~determines~~<sup>PD</sup> the preference of fishing locations  
173 for the fleet. All species prices ~~were~~<sup>PD</sup> kept the same across fleets ~~and seasons,~~  
174 ~~though can be made to vary seasonally~~<sup>PD</sup>.

#### 175 2.4.2. Trip-level decisions

176 NOTE: THIS IS EXPLORE-EXPLOIT STRATEGY VIZ. BAILEY ET AL  
177 POSEIDON MODEL.

178 Several studies (e.g. Hutton et al., 2004; Tidd et al., 2012; Girardin et al.,  
179 2015) have confirmed past activity and past catch rates are strong predictors  
180 of fishing location choice. For this reason, the fleet dynamics sub-model in-  
181 ~~cluded~~<sup>PD</sup> a learning component, where a vessel's initial fishing location in a  
182 trip ~~was~~<sup>PD</sup> based on selecting from previously successful fishing locations. This  
183 ~~was~~<sup>PD</sup> achieved by ~~calculating an expected profit based on the profit from loca-~~  
184 ~~tions previously fished~~<sup>PD</sup> in the preceding trip as well as the same month periods  
185 in preceding years, and choosing randomly from the top 75 % of fishing events  
186 ~~as defined by the expected profit~~<sup>PD</sup>. Expected profit was estimated  
187 ~~from the revenue achieved in previous fishing events at a location minus the~~  
188 ~~fuel cost of travelling from the currently location to the new location.~~<sup>PD</sup> Simu-  
189 lation testing indicated that this learning increased the mean value of catches  
190 for the vessels, over just relying on the correlated random walk function as de-  
191 scribed for the 'within trip' decisions below<sup>PD</sup> (MIGHT NEED TO INCLUDE  
192 IN SUPPLEMENTARY).

Correlated ran-  
dom walk of  
what<sup>JJ</sup>

### 193 2.4.3. Within-trip decisions

194 Fishing locations within a trip are initially<sup>PD</sup> determined by a modified  
 195 random walk process. As the simulation progresses, the within-trip decision  
 196 become gradually more influenced by past locations fished, based on the same  
 197 process as the initial trip-level location, influenced by expected profit at a fishing  
 198 location.<sup>PD</sup> A random walk was chosen for the exploratory fishing process as it  
 199 is the simplest assumption commonly used in ecology to describe optimal<sup>PD</sup> an-  
 200 imal ~~movement which~~<sup>PD</sup> search ~~strategizing~~<sup>PD</sup> for exploiting<sup>PD</sup> homogeneously  
 201 distributed prey about which there is uncertain knowledge (Viswanathan et al.,  
 202 1999). In a random walk, movement is a stochastic process through a series of  
 203 steps. These steps have a length, and a direction<sup>JJ</sup> that can either be equal in  
 204 length or take some other functional form. The direction of the random walk  
 205 can be correlated, (known as ‘persistence’), providing some overall ~~location of~~<sup>PD</sup>  
 206 directional movement (Codling et al., 2008) ~~or uncorrelated~~<sup>PD</sup>.

207  
 208 A ~~Lévy flight~~<sup>JJ</sup> ~~lévy walk~~<sup>JJ</sup> is a particular form of random walk characterised by  
 209 a heavy-tailed distribution of step-length . The Lévy flight<sup>JJ</sup> has received a  
 210 lot of attention in ecological theory in recent years as having shown to have very  
 211 similar characteristics as those observed by animals in nature, and being a near  
 212 optimum searching strategy for predators pursuing patchily distributed prey  
 213 (Viswanathan et al., 1999; Bartumeus et al., 2005; Sims et al., 2008). Bertrand  
 214 et al. (2007) showed that Peruvian anchovy fishermen have a stochastic search  
 215 pattern similar to that observed with a lévy flight. However, it remains a subject  
 216 of debate (e.g. see Edwards, 2011; Reynolds, 2015)<sup>PD</sup>, with the contention that  
 217 search patterns may be more simply characterised as random walks (Sakiyama  
 218 and Gunji, 2013) with specific patterns related to the characteristics of the prey  
 219 field (Sims et al., 2012).

220

We use a modified random walk where directional change is based on a  
 correlated circular distribution where a favourable fishing ground is likely to be

“fished back over” by the vessel returning in the direction it came from and step length (i.e. the distance travelled from the current to the next fishing location) is determined by relating<sup>JJ</sup> recent fishing success, measured as the summed value of fish caught (revenue,  $Rev$ ),

$$Rev = \sum_{p=1}^P \underline{LC}^{PD}_p \cdot Pr_p \quad (3)$$

where  $\underline{LC}^{PD}_p$  is  $\text{landingscatch}^{PD}$  of a population  $p$ , and  $Pr_p$  price of a population. Here, when fishing is successful vessels remain in a similar location and continue to exploit the local fishing grounds. When unsuccessful, they move some distance away from the current fishing location. The movement distance retains some degree of stochasticity, which can be controlled separately, but is determined by the relationship:

$$StepL = e^{\log(\beta_1) + \log(\beta_2) - (\log(\frac{\beta_1}{\beta_3}))} * Rev$$

Where  $\beta_1$ ,  $\beta_2$  and  $\beta_3$  are parameters determining the shape of the step function in its relation to revenue, so that, a step from  $(x1, y1)$  to  $(x2, y2)$  is defined by:

$$(x2, y2) = x1 + StepL \cdot \cos\left(\frac{\pi \cdot Br}{180}\right),$$

$$y1 + StepL \cdot \sin\left(\frac{\pi \cdot Br}{180}\right)$$

$$with \quad Br_{t-1} < 180, Br_t = 180 + \sim vm[(0, 360), k]$$

$$Br_{t-1} > 180, Br_t = 180 - \sim vm[(0, 360), k]$$

So step length increases with increasingly gross revenue?<sup>JJ</sup> No, the opposite<sup>PD</sup>

221 where  $k$  the concentration parameter from the von  $\text{Mm}^{JJ}$ ises distribution which  
 222 we correlate with the revenue so that  $k = (Rev + 1/RefRev) * max_k$ , where  
 223  $max_k$  is the maximum concentration value,  $k$ , and  $RefRev$  is parametrised as  
 224 for  $\beta_3$  in the step length function.

#### 225 2.4.4. Local population depletion

226 Where several fishing vessels are exploiting the same fish population compe-  
 227 tition is known to play an important role in local distribution of fishing effort  
 228 (Gillis and Peterman, 1998). If several vessels are fishing on the same patch of

fish, local depletion and interference ~~competition~~<sup>JJ</sup> will affect fishing location choice of the fleet as a whole (Rijnsdorp, 2000; Poos and Rijnsdorp, 2007). In order to account for this behaviour, the fishing sub-model operates spatially on a daily time-step so that for future days the biomass available to the fishery is reduced in the areas fished. The cumulative effect is to make heavily fished areas less attractive as future fishing opportunities.

### 2.5. Fisheries independent survey

A fisheries-independent survey is simulated where fishing on a regular grid begins each year at the same time for a given number of stations (a fixed station survey design). Catches of the populations ~~at each station~~<sup>JJ</sup> are recorded but not removed from the population. This provides a fishery independent snapshot of the populations at a regular spatial ~~intervals~~<sup>JJ</sup> each year, similar to scientific surveys undertaken by fisheries research agencies.

## 3. Calculation

### 3.1. Population parametrisation

We parametrised the simulation model for four populations with differing habitat preference, ~~and~~ temperature tolerances (Figures S1, S3, S4, S5, S6, S7), population demographic and recruitment functions. In addition, each of the populations has two defined spawning areas which result in the populations moving towards these areas in given weeks (Figure S2) and population-specific movement rates (Table 4). The realised movement of the populations for a number of weeks is shown in Figure S9 while the realised daily fishing mortality are shown in Figure S10.

### 3.2. Fleet parametrisation

The fleets were parametrised to reflect five different characteristics based on targeting preference and exploitation dynamics (Table 5). ~~Setting a targeting parameter ( $Q$ ) that differed across fleets ensured different spatial dynamics, due to preferential targeting of populations that differ in their spatial~~

distributions. This ensures that different fleets have different spatial dynamics, preferentially targeted different fish populations<sup>PD</sup>. The stochasticity in the random walk process ensures that different vessels within a fleet have slightly different spatial distributions based on individual experience, while the step function was parametrised dynamically so that vessels take smaller steps where the fishing location yields in a top quartile of the value available in that year (as defined per fleet in Table 5).

Each fleet was parametrised so that, after the first year, fishing locations were chosen based on experience built up in the same month from previous years and from past trip fishing success. 'Success' in this context was defined as the locations where the top 75 % of expected profit would be found given previous trips revenue and cost of movement to the new fishing location.

An example of the realised fleet movements for a single vessel during a single trip are given in Figure S11, while Figure S12 shows multiple trips for a single vessel, Figure<sup>PD</sup> S13 the vessel movements for some trips overlaid on the value field, Figure<sup>PD</sup> S14 shows fishing locations for an entire fleet of 20 vessels for a single trip, and Figure<sup>PD</sup> S15 shows an example of the step function realisation and turning angles from the correlated random walk.

### 3.3. Survey settings

The survey simulation was set up with follow a fixed gridded station design with 100 stations fished each year, starting on day 92 and ending on day 112 (5 stations per day)<sup>PD</sup> with same catchability parameters for all populations ( $Q_p = 1$ ).

### 3.4. Simulation settings

To illustrate the capabilities on *MixFishSim*, we investigate the influence of the temporal and spatial resolution of different data sources on the reduction in catches of a population given spatial closures. To do so, we set up a simulation

Move some of the supplementary figures to the manuscript<sup>JJ</sup>

286 to run for 50 years based on a 100 X 100 square grid, with five fleets of 20 vessels  
 287 each and four fish populations. Fishing takes place four times a day per vessel  
 288 and five days a week, while population movement is every week.

289  
 290 We allow the simulation to run unrestricted for 30 years, and subsequently  
 291 close areas for the last 20 years of the simulation based on data (either derived  
 292 from the commercial catches, fisheries-independent survey or the 'real popu-  
 293 lation' - the underlying populations assumed to be known perfectly) used at  
 294 different spatial and temporal scales.

295  
 296 The following steps are undertaken to determine closures:

- 297 1. Extract data source
- 298 2. Aggregate according to resolution
- 299 3. Interpolate across entire area at desired resolution
- 300 4. Close area covering top 5 % of catch

301 In total 56 closure scenarios were run which represent combinations of

- 302 • **data types:** commercial logbook data, survey data and 'real population',
- 303 • **temporal resolutions:** weekly, monthly and yearly closures,
- 304 • **spatial resolutions:** 1 x 1 grid, 5 x 5 grid, 10 x 10 grid and 20 x 20 grid,
- 305 • **closure basis:** high catch rates of protected species, or high ratio of  
 306 protected species v secondary species.

307 Survey closures were on an annual basis only, as this was the most temporally  
 308 resolved survey data available.

#### 309 4. Results

310 The species distribution themselves

311 The consequences of different spatial aggregations of the data are shown in  
 312 Figure 2, which represents the aggregation of catch from each of the data sources

move to start  
of methods  
section<sup>JJ</sup>I think  
ecological mod-  
elling wants  
the 'calcu-  
lations' sec-  
tion here..will  
check<sup>PD</sup>

Is there equi-  
librium after  
5 years or still  
some trend in  
B<sup>JJ</sup>Not at equi-  
librium yet...I  
need to rerun  
until steady  
state, looks  
20 years. Will  
update<sup>PD</sup>

Procedure un-  
clear. Refer  
to symbols in  
methods sec-  
tion or switch  
order starting  
with description  
of data type  
etc..<sup>JJ</sup>Yes, will  
redo<sup>PD</sup>

313 over a year at different spatial resolutions.

314

315 The finer spatial grid for the the real population (top left) and commercial  
316 data (top middle) show similar patterns, though there are unsampled gaps in  
317 the commercial data from a lack of fishing activity (particularly in the lower left  
318 part of the sampling domain). The survey data at this spatial resolution shows  
319 very sparse and uninformative information about the spatial distributions of the  
320 populations. The slightly aggregated data on a 5 x 5 grid shows similar patterns,  
321 and while losing some of the spatial detail there remains good consistency be-  
322 tween the 'real population' and the commercial data. Survey data starts to pick  
323 out some of the similar patterns as the other data sources, but lacks coverage.  
324 The spatial catch information on a 10 x 10 and 20 x 20 grid loses a signifi-  
325 cant amount of information about the spatial resolutions for all data sources,  
326 and some differences between the commercial and 'real population' data emerge.

327

328 Figure 3 shows the consequences of different temporal aggregations of the  
329 data, with 156 weekly (top), 36 monthly (middle) and 3 yearly (bottom) catch  
330 compositions across a 20 x 20 area.

331

332 As can be seen from the 'real population', the monthly aggregation captures  
333 the major patterns seen in the weekly data, albeit missing more subtle differ-  
334 ences. The yearly data results in a constant catch pattern due to the aggregation  
335 process (sometimes known as an aggregation bias). The commercial data on a  
336 weekly basis shows some of the same patterns as the 'real population', though  
337 the first species (in red) is less well represented and some weeks are missing  
338 catches from the area. The monthly data. The monthly data shows some con-  
339 sistency between the 'real population' and commercial data for species 2 - 4,  
340 though species 1 remains underrepresented. On an annual basis, interestingly  
341 the commercial data underrepresents the first species (in red) while the survey  
342 overrepresents species 1. This is likely due to the biases in commercial sampling,  
343 with the fisheries not targeting the areas where species 1 are present, and the



344 biases in the survey sampling from overrepresentation of the spatial distribution.

345

346 We implemented a spatial closure using the different data sources and spatial  
347 and temporal aggregations as outlined in the protocol in Section 3.4. We used  
348 this to assess the efficacy of a closure in reducing fishing mortality on species 1,  
349 given availability of data and its use at different resolutions in order to evaluate  
350 the trade-offs in data sources. Figure 4 shows the trend in fishing mortality  
351 for each species simulated (columns) given the data sources (rows), temporal  
352 aggregations (colour lines) and spatial aggregations (linestyles), while Figure 5  
353 shows the change in fishing mortality from before the closure (average F years  
354 2 - 4) to after the closure (average F years 8 - 10).

355

356 For the closures based on 'real population' (bottom row), the most disag-  
357 gregated data (a weekly timescale and 1 x 1 resolution) was most effective,  
358 reducing fishing mortality on species 1 (left) by  $\sim 60\%$ . Next was the monthly  
359 closures ( $< \sim 30\%$ ). The least effective were the yearly closures (blue lines)  
360 at all spatial resolutions, which resulted in increased fishing mortalities ( $> 30$   
361  $\%$  - N.B. Note though, this is consistent with the increasing trends in F, which  
362 is probably more related to the fact that Fs hadn't stabilised in the simulation  
363 from the fishing vessels "learning" the best locations - I will rerun the sims for  
364 a longer time (20 - 30 years).

365

366 For the survey data, which can only be implemented on a yearly timescale,  
367 the closures had no effect at any data resolution. The results are identical for  
368 the different data resolutions except 20 x 20, which is why you can't see more  
369 than 2 points. This is because of the sparsity of the sampling locations.

370

371 For the commercial data, the most effective closure scenario was based on 1  
372 x 1 data at a monthly temporal resolution. This results in  $\sim 10\%$  reduction  
373 in F for species 1. This was the only closure scenario to have positive effect  
374 according to Figure 5, though looking at the trend in Figure 4 this looks more

375 related to the continued increased in  $F$  trend, as other scenarios had an initial  
376 effect. Interestingly the monthly data scenario was more effective than weekly  
377 data, which I'd posit is due to the increase amount of data available from the  
378 commercial sampling across a month compared to a week.i Commercial data  
379 used at an annual timestep was ineffective in bringing fishing mortality down  
380 for species 1.

381

382       Given the scenarios above, it seems clear that spatial disaggregation is more  
383 important than the temporal disaggregation of the commercial data, except  
384 when its used at an annual timeframe, which is the scenario that gave the worst  
385 results.

386       For the other species in the simulation (population 2 - 4) there was little  
387 difference in fishing mortalities across scenarios.

388       Note: The monthly commercial data scenario is the most effective of the  
389 realistic scenarios, as the 'real population' can only be seen as a baseline com-  
390 parison.

## 391 5. Discussion

## 392 6. Conclusions

## 393 Appendices

## 394 Abbreviations

395       Detail any unusual ones used.

## 396 Acknowledgements

397       those providing help during the research..

## 398 Funding

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400 Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science seedcorn program.

Table 1: Description of variables for population dynamics sub-module

Variable	Meaning	Units
<b>Population dynamics</b>		
<i>Delay-difference model</i>		
$B_{c,d}$	Biomass in cell $c$ and day $d$	kg
$Z_{c,d}$	Total mortality in cell $c$ for day $d$	-
$R_{c,\bar{y}}$	Annually recruited fish in cell	yr <sup>-1</sup>
$\rho$	Brody's growth coefficient	yr <sup>-1</sup>
$Wt_R$	Weight of a fully recruited fish	kg
$Wt_{R-1}$	Weight of a pre-recruit fish	kg
$\alpha_d$	Proportion of annually recruited fish recruited during day $d$	-
<i>Baranov catch equation</i>		
$C_{c,d}$	Catch from cell $c$ for day $d$	kg
$F_{c,d}$	Instantaneous rate of fishing mortality in cell $c$ on day $d$	-
$M_{c,d}$	Instantaneous rate of natural mortality in cell $c$ on day $d$	-
$B_{c,d}$	Biomass in cell $c$ on day $d$	kg
<b>Recruitment dynamics</b>		
$\tilde{R}_{c,d}$	is the recruitment in cell $c$ for day $d$	$d^{-1}$
$B_{c,d}$	is the Biomass in cell $c$ for day $d$	$d^{-1}$
$\alpha$	the maximum recruitment rate	kg
$\beta$	the biomass required to produce half the maximum rate of recruitment	kg

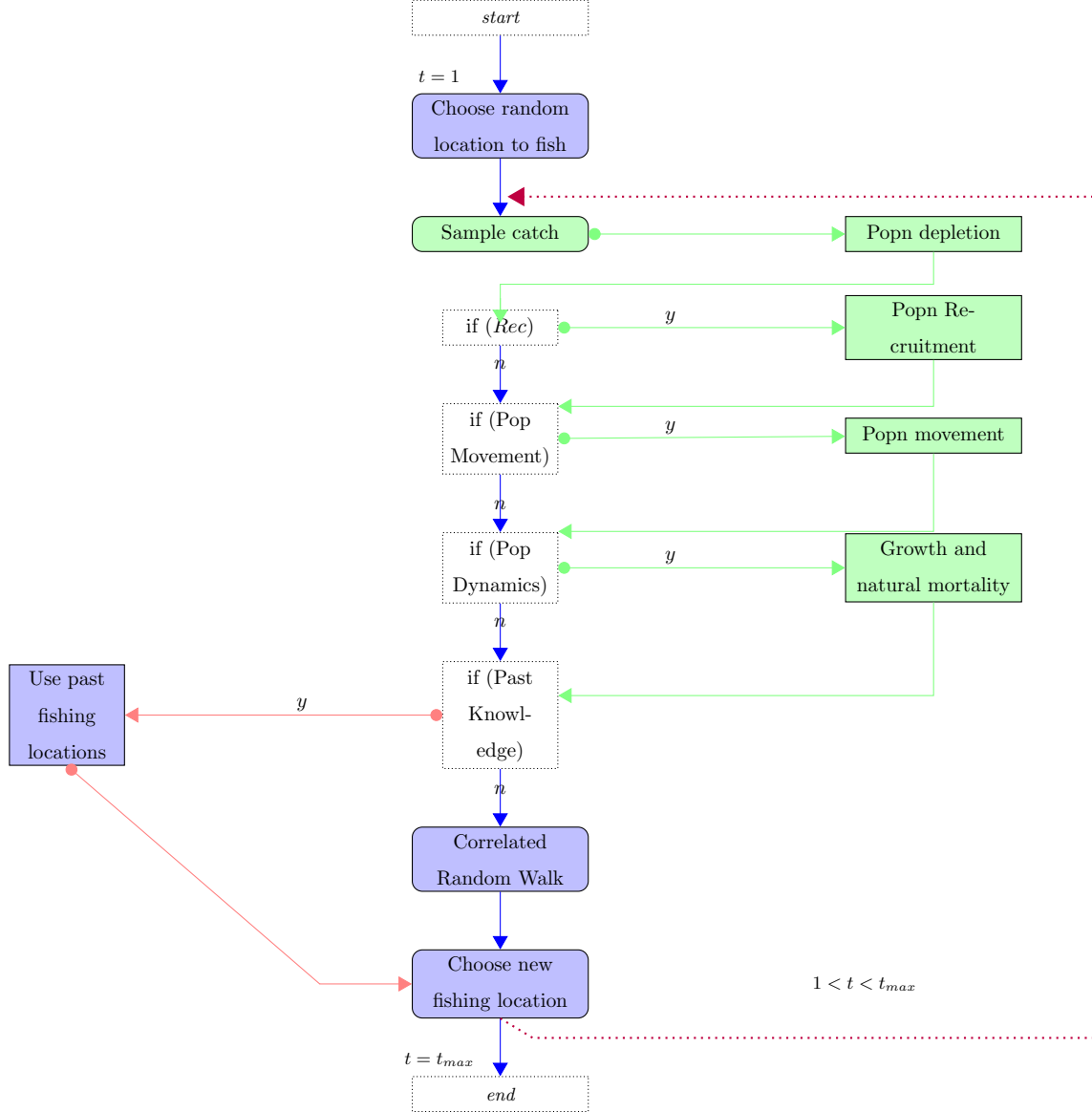


Figure 1: Overview Schematic of simulation model. The blue boxes indicate fleet dynamics processes, the green boxes population dynamics processes while the white boxes are the time steps at which processes occur;  $t = t_{ow}$ ,  $t_{max}$  is the total number of tows; (Rec), (Pop Movement), (Pop Dynamics) logic gates for recruitment periods, population movement and population dynamics for each of the populations, (Past Knowledge) a switch whether to use a random (exploratory) or past knowledge (exploitation) fishing strategy.

Table 2: Description of variables for population movement sub-module

Variable	Meaning	Units
<b>Population movement dynamics</b>		
<i>Habitat model</i>		
a	b	c
<i>Thermal tolerance</i>		
$T_{c,wk}$	Temperature for cell in week	°C
$\mu_p$	Mean of the thermal tolerance for population	°C
$\sigma_p^2$	Standard deviation of thermal tolerance for the population	°C
<i>Population movement model</i>		
$\lambda$	decay rate for population movement	-
$Hab_{c,p}^2$	Square of habitat suitability for cell $c$ and population $p$	-
$Tol_{c,p,wk}$	Thermal tolerance for population $p$ in cell $c$ at week $wk$	-
$d_{IJ}$	euclidean distance between cell $I$ and cell $J$	-

Table 3: Description of variables for fleet dynamics sub-module

Variable	Meaning	Units
<b>Short-term fleet dynamics</b>		
$Rev$	Revenue from fishing tow	€
$L_p$	Landings of population $p$	kg
$Pr_p$	Average price of population $p$	€ kg <sup>-1</sup>
StepL	Step length for vessel	euclidean distance
Br	Bearing	degrees
$k$	Concentration parameter for Von mises distribution	-
$\beta_1$	shape parameter for step function	-
$\beta_2$	shape parameter for step function	-
$\beta_3$	shape parameter for step function	-

Table 4: Population dynamics and movement parameter setting

Parameter	Pop 1	Pop 2	Pop 3	Pop 4
Habitat quality				
Matérn $\nu$	1/0.15	1/0.05	1/0.55	1/0.05
Matérn $\kappa$	1	2	1	1
Anisotropy	1.5,3,-3,4	1,2,-1,2	2.5,1,-1,2	0.1,2,-1,0.2
Spawning areas (bound box)	40,50,40,50; 80,90,60,70	50,60,30,40; 80,90,90,90	30,34,10,20; 60,70,20,30	50,55,80,85; 30,40,30,40
Spawning multiplier	10	10	10	10
Movement $\lambda$	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Population dynamics				
Starting Biomass	1e5	2e5	1e5	1e4
Beverton-Holt Recruit 'a'	60	100	80	2
Beverton-Holt Recruit 'b'	250	250	200	50
Beverton-Holt Recruit $\sigma^2$	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.3
Recruit week	13-16	12-16	14-16	16-20
Spawn week	16-18	16-19	16-18	18-20
$K$	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
$wt$	1	1	1	1
$wt_{d-1}$	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
M (annual)	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1

Table 5: Fleet dynamics parameter setting

Parameter	Fleet 1	Fleet 2	Fleet 3	Fleet 4	Fleet 5
Targeting preferences					
Price Pop1	100	100	100	100	100
Price Pop2	200	200	200	200	200
Price Pop3	600	600	600	600	600
Price Pop4	1600	1600	1600	1600	1600
$Q$ Pop1	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.01
$Q$ Pop2	0.02	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.03
$Q$ Pop3	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.02
$Q$ Pop4	0.02	0.01	0.02	0.05	0.01
Exploitation dynamics					
step function $\beta_1$	1	2	1	2	3
step function $\beta_2$	10	10	8	12	7
step function $\beta_3$	Q90	Q90	Q85	Q90	Q80
step function $rate$	10	20	15	25	10
Past Knowledge	T	T	T	T	T
Past Year & Month	T	T	T	T	T
Past Trip	T	T	T	T	T
Threshold	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75



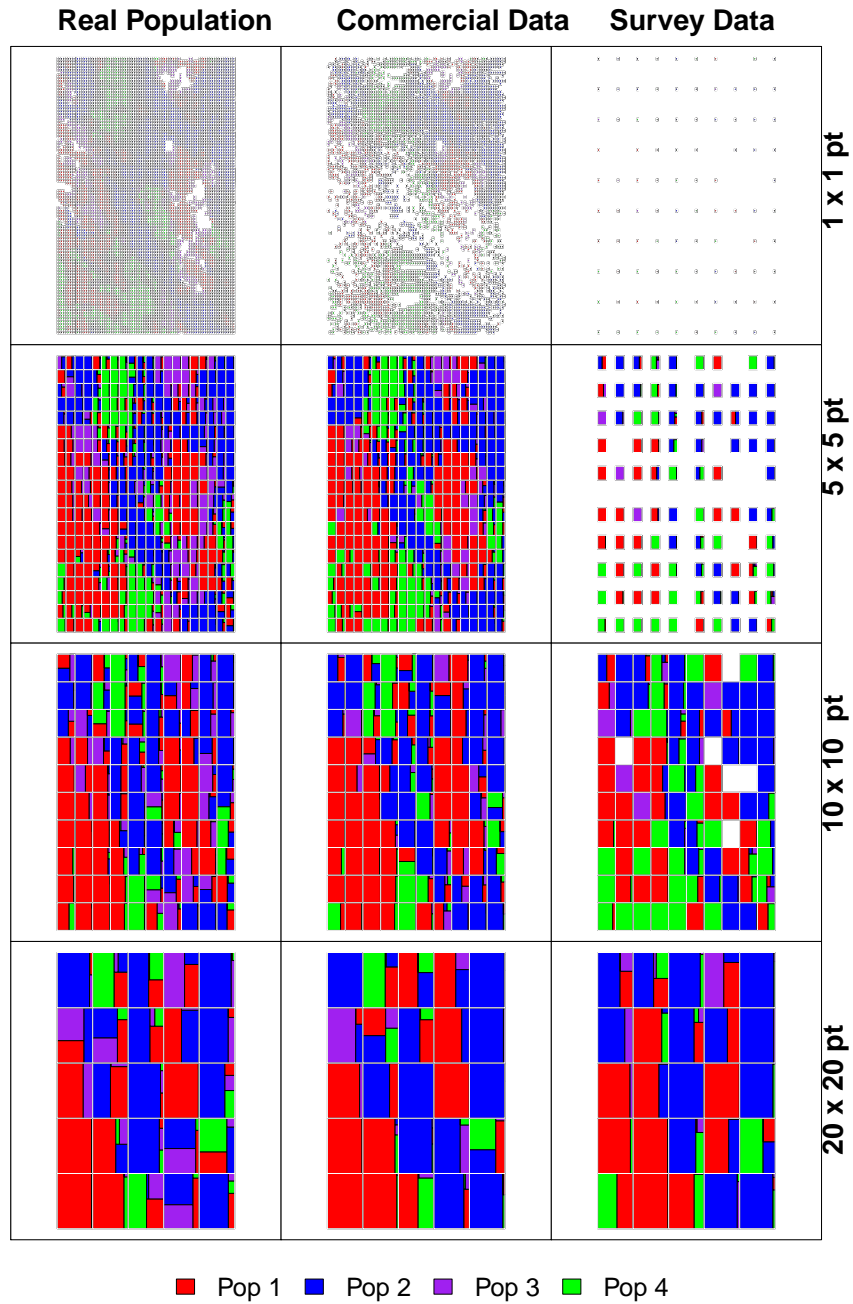


Figure 2: Data aggregation at different spatial resolutions

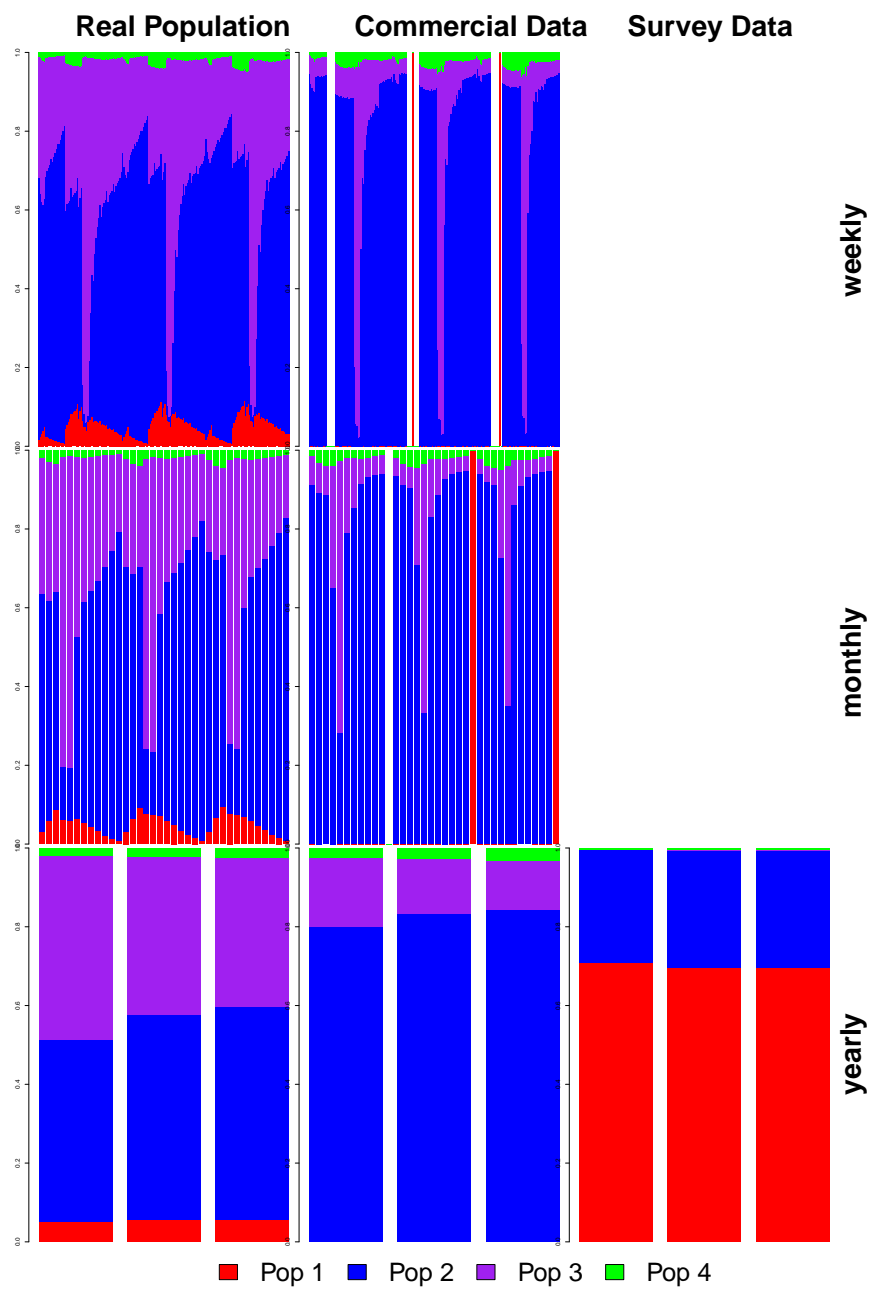


Figure 3: Data aggregation at different temporal resolutions

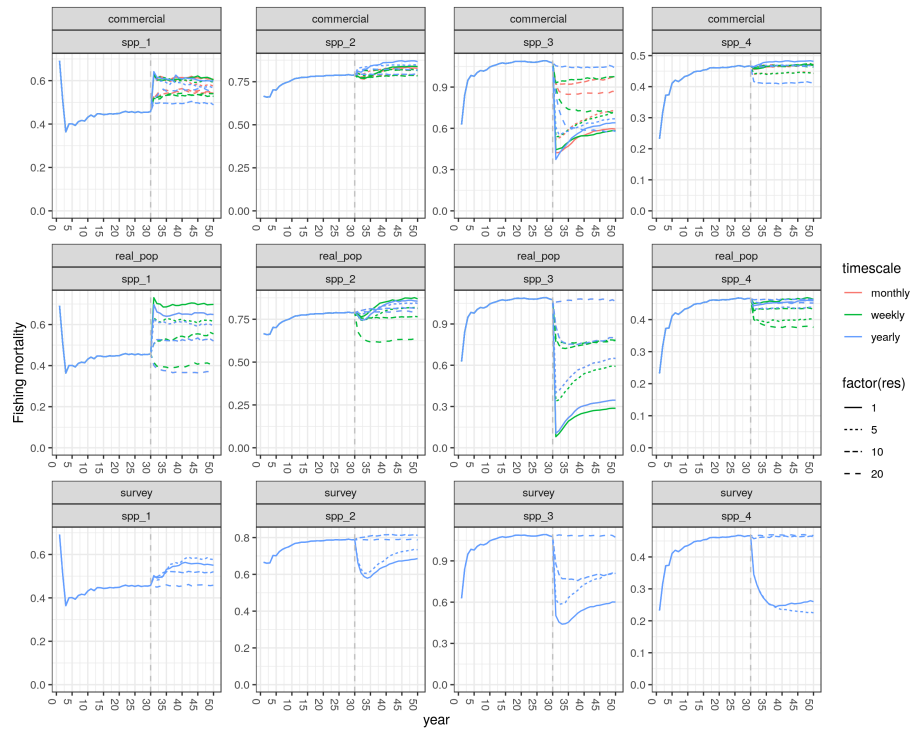


Figure 4: Comparison of closure scenarios - F trends

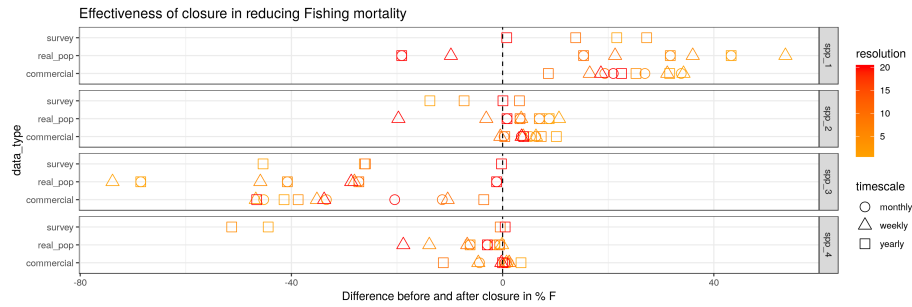


Figure 5: Comparison of closure scenarios

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