

29 October 2018

Stephen,

Josh Lyons, a Senior at Northland College, and I are reviewing metrics used to measure precision of (or variability among) estimated ages of fish from multiple readings of calcified structures (e.g., percent agreement, CV). In the first part of our work, we are reviewing ~175 published papers (since about 1990) to identify various characteristics of how these metrics have been used in the literature. In a second part of our work, we hope to re-analyze data from published papers to calculate precision metrics that were not used and perform other analyses that were not conducted in the original paper. With results from these two pieces of work, we hope to make recommendations regarding the use and analysis of precision metrics that will address some common issues we have identified in their use.

If possible, could you make the original raw data from your paper listed below available to us for the second part of our study? [*We are primarily interested in the independent readings of scales and otoliths by the three readers for each fish, with information about what lake/year they were sampled. Other information about the fish would be useful if it is convenient for you to include.*]

**Tyszko, S. M., and J. J. Pritt. 2017. Comparing otoliths and scales as structures used to estimate ages of Largemouth Bass: Consequences of biased age estimates. North American Journal of Fisheries Management 37:1075–1082.**

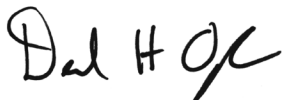
It is not our intent to verify your results (though we will likely recalculate your results, among other calculations), nor will we specifically discuss/critique your paper in our review. Rather, our intent is to analyze these data to provide results that will feed into a synthetic summary. If we ultimately pursue publication of our review, we would like to make all of our data, including your raw data, publicly available so that others can replicate or further our analyses. If you would like us to NOT make your raw data publicly available, then let us know and we will honor that request.

We understand that there may be many reasons for not providing us your original raw data. Please do not feel like you need to explain why to us. However, please send us a short note saying that you will not provide your data to us so that we will not contact you again.

If you can provide us your original raw data, we can handle a variety of file types, but will likely need some sort of meta-data description (i.e., at least an explanation of your variables). Let us know if you have any questions.

Thank you in advance for considering this request.

Respectfully,



Dr. Derek H. Ogle  
Professor of Mathematical Sciences and Natural Resources