**Introduction to the Aquatic Foods Composition Database**

Welcome to the Aquatic Foods Composition Database! This repository synthesizes existing nutrient composition data for aquatic food species. These data originate from disparate sources, including national food composition tables (FCT), international datasets from FAO, and other peer reviewed published sources of nutrient composition. New FCT are dynamically added to this comprehensive database.

\*\*Note that “AFCD\_live.csv” is dynamic and is updated any time I run the script that merges all the datasets, so if we want to make any modifications to the actual dataset, they will need to be completed in R. otherwise they will be lost every time the script is run.\*\*

**Method**

“AFCD\_live.csv” is created by merging all the FCT data, as well as the peer review data, that were cleaned (only changing the variable names as well as converting nutrients to FAO standards) using scripts (each individual dataset has its own script). All the scripts are also on github - if you want to collaborate with me in R, just let me know and I can add you to the repository. We probably won’t need to look at them, but if you’re curious about the workflow you can find those scripts at:

*aquatic\_foods\_nutrient\_database/****scripts***

**Important notes**

* This database is still in development and is currently undergoing quality checks, keep this in mind during analyses and let us know if you see any potentially erroneous observations
* Note that many of the species have *multiple* rows. To use this dataset at the species level, I would recommend aggregating at the species level, rather than just extracting the first row with the species name. The reason is that aggregation can help with coverage (not all rows have the same nutrient coverage).