

Age Comparisons Assignment

Herbst and Marsden (2012) ([reprint is here](#)) compared the precision, bias, and reader uncertainty of scales, dorsal fin rays, and otolith age estimates from 151 lake whitefish (*Coregonus clupeaformis*) from Lake Champlain in 2009. The data for their comparisons were recorded in `WhitefishLC.csv`. This file contains initial age assessments for two readers on three structures (variable names are the structure name with a “1” or “2” appended to denote the reader). In addition, the two readers developed a consensus age (variable name is the structure name with a “C” appended).

```
> setwd("C:/aaaWork/Web/fishR/Courses/MNAFS2013/CourseMaterial")
> wf <- read.csv("WhitefishLC.csv",header=TRUE)
> str(wf)

'data.frame': 151 obs. of 11 variables:
 $ fishID : int 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 ...
 $ tl      : int 345 334 348 300 330 316 508 475 340 173 ...
 $ scale1  : int 3 4 7 4 3 4 6 4 3 1 ...
 $ scale2  : int 3 3 5 3 3 4 7 5 3 1 ...
 $ scaleC  : int 3 4 6 4 3 4 7 5 3 1 ...
 $ finray1 : int 3 3 3 3 4 2 6 9 2 2 ...
 $ finray2 : int 3 3 3 2 3 3 6 9 3 1 ...
 $ finrayC : int 3 3 3 3 4 3 6 9 3 1 ...
 $ otolith1: int 3 3 3 3 3 6 9 11 3 1 ...
 $ otolith2: int 3 3 3 3 3 5 10 12 4 1 ...
 $ otolithC: int 3 3 3 3 3 6 10 11 4 1 ...
```

1. Use a variety of methods (tabular, graphical, and statistical) to describe any apparent bias in *consensus* ages between scales and otoliths.

```
> ac1 <- ageComp(otolithC~scaleC,data=wf,col.lab="Otolith Age",row.lab="Scale Age")
> summary(ac1,what="symmetry",flip.table=TRUE)
```

Raw agreement table (square & flipped)

	Otolith Age																						
Scale Age	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
23	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
10	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
8	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	3	3	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
7	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	6	4	2	2	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
6	-	-	1	1	2	1	3	4	1	2	1	1	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	-	1	-	3	2	5	3	4	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4	-	-	5	7	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3	-	1	10	6	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2	4	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-


```

23 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 1
22 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -
21 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -
20 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -
19 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -
18 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 1 1 1 - - - -
17 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 2 2 - - - - -
16 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 2 - - - - - - -
15 - - - - - - - - - - - - - 1 3 3 - - - - - - -
14 - - - - - - - - - - - 1 2 - - - - - - - - -
13 - - - - - - - - - - 2 4 2 - - - - - - - - -
12 - - - - - - - - 2 5 - - - - - - - - - - -
11 - - - - - - 1 3 3 1 1 - - - - - - - - - - -
10 - - - - - 1 2 4 - - - - - - - - - - - - -
9 - - - - - 1 5 2 - - - - - - - - - - - - -
8 - - - - 1 8 1 2 - - - - - - - - - - - - -
7 - - - - 1 6 2 2 - - - - - - - - - - - - -
6 - - - 2 6 1 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -
5 - - 3 3 3 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -
4 - 3 12 2 1 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -
3 - 3 12 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -
2 - 6 3 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -
1 9 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

```

Bowker's (Hoenig's) Test of Symmetry

```

df chi.sq    p
23  25.4 0.33

```

```
> summary(ac2,what="bias")
```

Summary of Reader 2 by Reader 1

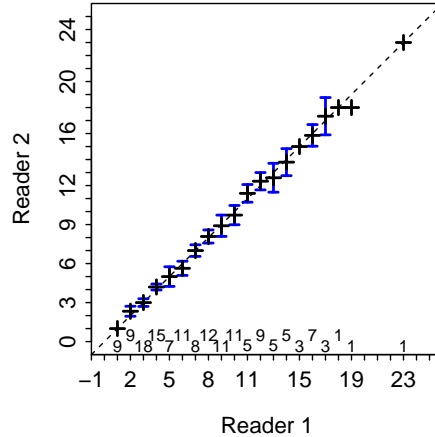
otolith1	n	min	max	mean	SE	t	adj.p	sigDiff
1	9	1	1	1.000	NA	NA	NA	
2	9	2	3	2.333	0.1667	1.9998	1	
3	18	2	4	3.000	0.1400	0.0000	1	
4	15	4	5	4.200	0.1069	1.8710	1	
5	7	4	6	5.000	0.3086	0.0000	1	
6	11	4	7	5.636	0.2439	-1.4906	1	
7	8	6	8	7.000	0.1890	0.0000	1	
8	12	7	10	8.083	0.2289	0.3639	1	
9	11	7	11	8.909	0.3681	-0.2469	1	
10	11	8	11	9.727	0.3328	-0.8195	1	
11	5	11	12	11.400	0.2449	1.6331	1	
12	9	11	14	12.333	0.2887	1.1546	1	
13	5	11	13	12.600	0.4000	-1.0000	1	
14	5	13	15	13.800	0.3742	-0.5345	1	
15	3	15	15	15.000	NA	NA	NA	
16	7	15	17	15.857	0.3401	-0.4202	1	
17	3	17	18	17.333	0.3334	0.9998	1	
18	1	18	18	18.000	NA	NA	NA	
19	1	18	18	18.000	NA	NA	NA	
23	1	23	23	23.000	NA	NA	NA	

```
> plot(ac2,xlim=c(0,25),ylim=c(0,25))
```

```

Warning: no non-missing arguments to min; returning Inf
Warning: no non-missing arguments to max; returning -Inf

```



The age-agreement table appears to be symmetric ($p = 0.3300$) and there is no significant difference in assessed ages at any age between the two readers. The ages are, on average, the same from the two readers.

- Describe precision of age assessment between the two readers for otoliths.

```
> summary(ac2,what="prec.stats")

Percentage by absolute differences in age
      0      1      2
62.25 31.79  5.96

Precision summary statistics
  n agree  APE  CV
151 62.25 3.337 4.719
```

The two readers agreed on age 62.3% of the time and were within one year 94.0% of the time. Using the criterion of Campana(2001), the age assessments from otoliths were precise (i.e., the $CV=4.7<5$.)

- (Time Permitting) Describe any apparent bias in age assessment for scales between the two readers.

```
> ac3 <- ageComp(scale1~scale2,data=wf,col.lab="Reader 1",row.lab="Reader 2")
> summary(ac3,what="symmetry",flip.table=TRUE)

Raw agreement table (square & flipped)
      Reader 1
Reader 2  1  2  3  4  5  6  7  8  9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16
16 - - - - - - - - - - - - - 1 - -
15 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -
14 - - - - - 1 - - - - - - 1 - -
13 - - - - 1 - 1 - - - - 3 - - -
12 - - - - - - - - - 1 - 1 1 -
11 - - - - - - - - 1 1 1 1 - 1 -
10 - - - 1 - - - 3 1 1 1 - - - -
9 - - - - - 1 - - - 1 - - - - -
8 - - - - 3 - 1 5 1 1 - - - - -
7 - - - - 6 5 7 3 1 1 - - - - -
6 - - - 2 1 6 4 1 1 - - - - -
5 - - 1 4 9 5 1 1 - - - - - -
4 - - 2 8 3 1 1 - - - - - - -
3 - 1 14 7 - - - - - - - - -
2 - 3 2 - - 1 - - - - - - - -
1 10 2 1 - - - - - - - - - -
```

Bowker's (Hoenig's) Test of Symmetry

```
df chi.sq      p
33 34.94 0.3761
```

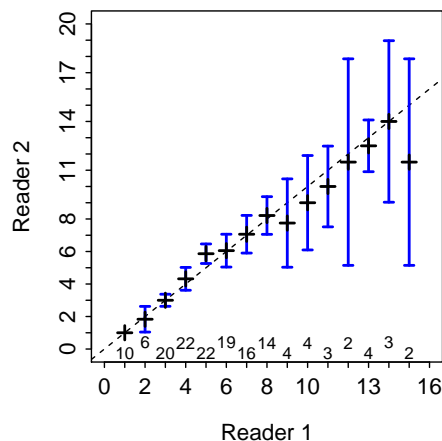
```
> summary(ac3,what="bias")
```

Summary of Reader 2 by Reader 1

scale1	n	min	max	mean	SE	t	adj.p	sigDiff
1	10	1	1	1.000	NA	NA	NA	
2	6	1	3	1.833	0.3073	-0.5424	1.00000	
3	20	1	5	3.000	0.1777	0.0000	1.00000	
4	22	3	10	4.318	0.3380	0.9415	1.00000	
5	22	4	8	5.864	0.2890	2.9881	0.09814	
6	19	2	13	6.053	0.4805	0.1095	1.00000	
7	16	4	14	7.062	0.5437	0.1150	1.00000	
8	14	5	13	8.214	0.5364	0.3995	1.00000	
9	4	6	10	7.750	0.8539	-1.4639	1.00000	
10	4	7	11	9.000	0.9129	-1.0955	1.00000	
11	3	9	11	10.000	0.5774	-1.7321	1.00000	
12	2	11	12	11.500	0.5000	-1.0000	1.00000	
13	4	11	13	12.500	0.5000	-1.0000	1.00000	
14	3	12	16	14.000	1.1547	0.0000	1.00000	
15	2	11	12	11.500	0.5000	-7.0001	1.00000	

```
> plot(ac3,xlim=c(0,16),ylim=c(0,20))
```

Warning: no non-missing arguments to min; returning Inf
Warning: no non-missing arguments to max; returning -Inf



The age-agreement table appears to be symmetric ($p = 0.3761$) and there is no significant difference in assessed ages at any age between the two readers. The ages are, on average, the same from the two readers.

5. (*Time Permitting*) Describe precision of age assessment between the two readers for scales.

```
> summary(ac3,what="prec.stats")
```

Percentage by absolute differences in age

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
45.6954	29.8013	15.2318	5.2980	1.3245	0.6623	0.6623	1.3245

Precision summary statistics

n	agree	APE	CV
151	45.7	8.259	11.68

The two readers agreed on age only 45.7% of the time and were within two years 90.7% of the time. The maximum difference in age assessment was 7. Using the criterion of Campana(2001), the age assessments from scales were NOT precise (i.e., the CV=11.7>5.)

6. (*Time Permitting*) Use a variety of methods (tabular, graphical, and statistical) to describe any apparent bias in *consensus* ages between fin rays and otoliths.

```
> ac4 <- ageComp(otolithC~finrayC,data=wf,col.lab="Otolith Age",row.lab="Fin Ray Age")
> summary(ac4,what="symmetry",flip.table=TRUE)
```

Raw agreement table (square & flipped)

		Otolith Age																						
Fin Ray	Age	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	23	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	2	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	1	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	1	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	7	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	2	4	3	5	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
	6	-	-	-	-	4	4	8	4	4	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	5	-	-	-	-	3	1	3	2	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	4	-	1	1	8	4	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	3	1	1	14	9	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2	2	1	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	1	6	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Bowker's (Hoenig's) Test of Symmetry

```
df chi.sq      p
53 100.4 9.178e-05
```

```
> summary(ac4,what="bias")
```

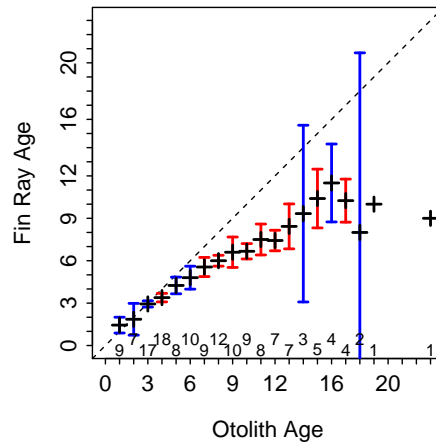
Summary of Fin Ray Age by Otolith Age

otolithC	n	min	max	mean	SE	t	adj.p	sigDiff
1	9	1	3	1.444	0.2422	1.8351	0.33916	
2	7	1	4	1.857	0.4592	-0.3112	1.00000	
3	17	2	4	2.941	0.1040	-0.5655	1.00000	
4	18	2	4	3.389	0.1432	-4.2664	0.00678	yes
5	8	3	5	4.250	0.2500	-3.0000	0.11965	
6	10	3	6	4.800	0.3590	-3.3425	0.06901	
7	9	4	7	5.556	0.2940	-4.9135	0.01174	yes
8	12	5	7	6.000	0.1741	-11.4896	0.00000	yes
9	10	5	10	6.600	0.4761	-5.0412	0.00838	yes
10	9	6	8	6.667	0.2357	-14.1421	0.00001	yes
11	8	5	9	7.500	0.4629	-7.5609	0.00196	yes
12	7	7	9	7.429	0.2974	-15.3721	0.00008	yes
13	7	6	11	8.429	0.6494	-7.0392	0.00575	yes
14	3	7	12	9.333	1.4530	-3.2119	0.33916	

```

15 5 8 12 10.400 0.7483 -6.1471 0.03197 yes
16 4 10 14 11.500 0.8660 -5.1960 0.09694
17 4 9 11 10.250 0.4787 -14.1007 0.00850 yes
18 2 7 9 8.000 1.0000 -10.0001 0.31725
19 1 10 10 10.000 NA NA NA
23 1 9 9 9.000 NA NA NA
> plot(ac4,xlim=c(0,23),ylim=c(0,23))

```



The age-agreement table is significantly asymmetric ($p = 0.0001$). Otolith ages appear to be significantly greater than fin ray age from age 7 on, but also noting that significance is difficult to determine for ages beyond age-14 because of small sample sizes. Also, note that fin ray age for age-4 otoliths were significantly less than 4, indicating that the divergence in ages could begin as early as age-4.

7. (*Time Permitting*) Describe any apparent bias in age assessment for fin rays between the two readers.

```

> ac5 <- ageComp(finray1~finray2,data=wf,col.lab="Reader 1",row.lab="Reader 2")
> summary(ac5,what="symmetry",flip.table=TRUE)

```

Raw agreement table (square & flipped)

		Reader 1													
Reader 2		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
14		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
13		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
12		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
11		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	-	1	-
10		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	1	1	-	-
9		-	-	-	-	2	-	3	2	-	1	-	1	-	-
8		-	-	-	1	-	3	5	3	1	1	-	-	-	-
7		-	-	-	-	2	6	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6		-	-	-	2	9	14	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5		-	-	-	-	4	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4		-	-	1	16	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3		-	4	22	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2		-	5	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1		8	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Bowker's (Hoenig's) Test of Symmetry

```

df chi.sq      p
21 42.33 0.00382

```

```

> summary(ac5,what="bias")

```

Summary of Reader 2 by Reader 1

```

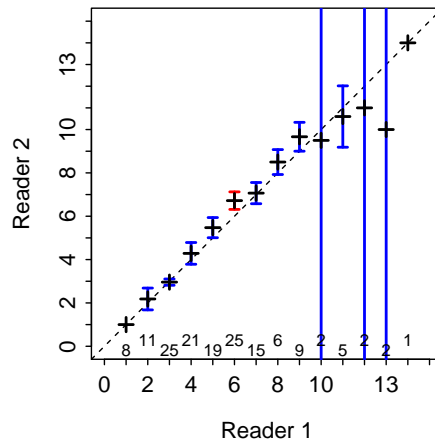
finray1  n min max   mean    SE      t   adj.p sigDiff
      1  8   1   1  1.000    NA     NA     NA     NA
      2 11   1   3  2.182 0.22637  0.8031 1.00000
      3 25   2   4  2.960 0.07024 -0.5695 1.00000
      4 21   3   8  4.286 0.24045  1.1882 1.00000
      5 19   4   7  5.474 0.22123  2.1413 0.50807
      6 25   6   9  6.720 0.19596  3.6742 0.01434      yes
      7 15   5   8  7.067 0.22817  0.2923 1.00000
      8  6   8   9  8.500 0.22360  2.2362 0.68020
      9  9   8  11  9.667 0.28867  2.3096 0.50807
     10  2   8  11  9.500 1.49999 -0.3333 1.00000
     11  5   9  12 10.600 0.50991 -0.7844 1.00000
     12  2  10  12 11.000 0.99999 -1.0000 1.00000
     13  2   9  11 10.000 0.99999 -3.0000 1.00000
     14  1  14  14 14.000    NA     NA     NA     NA

```

```

> plot(ac5,xlim=c(0,15),ylim=c(0,15))

```



The age-agreement table appears to be asymmetric ($p = 0.0038$), with some evidence for slightly greater ages from reader 2 for ages 4 to 9 for reader 1 and slightly younger ages for ages 11-13 for reader 1. The only significant difference was that the mean assessed age for reader 2 was greater than 6 for reader 1's age-6 fish.

8. (*Time Permitting*) Describe precision of age assessment between the two readers for fin rays.

```

> summary(ac5,what="prec.stats")

```

Percentage by absolute differences in age

	0	1	2	3	4
	56.291	32.450	8.609	1.325	1.325

Precision summary statistics

	n	agree	APE	CV
	151	56.29	5.214	7.373

The two readers agreed on age 56.3% of the time and were within one year 88.7% of the time. Using the criterion of Campana(2001), the age assessments from otoliths were somewhat imprecise (i.e., the $CV=7.4>5$.)