

# Understanding the effects of climate warming on food webs via individual-level physiology

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GMRI May 2021 Seminar

# Acknowledgements

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- Viktor Thunell (SLU)
- Romain Forrester (UTAS)
- Jonatan Reum (NOAA)

... And others!

# Impacts of warming on individuals and food webs

Predicted responses of animal communities to climate change:

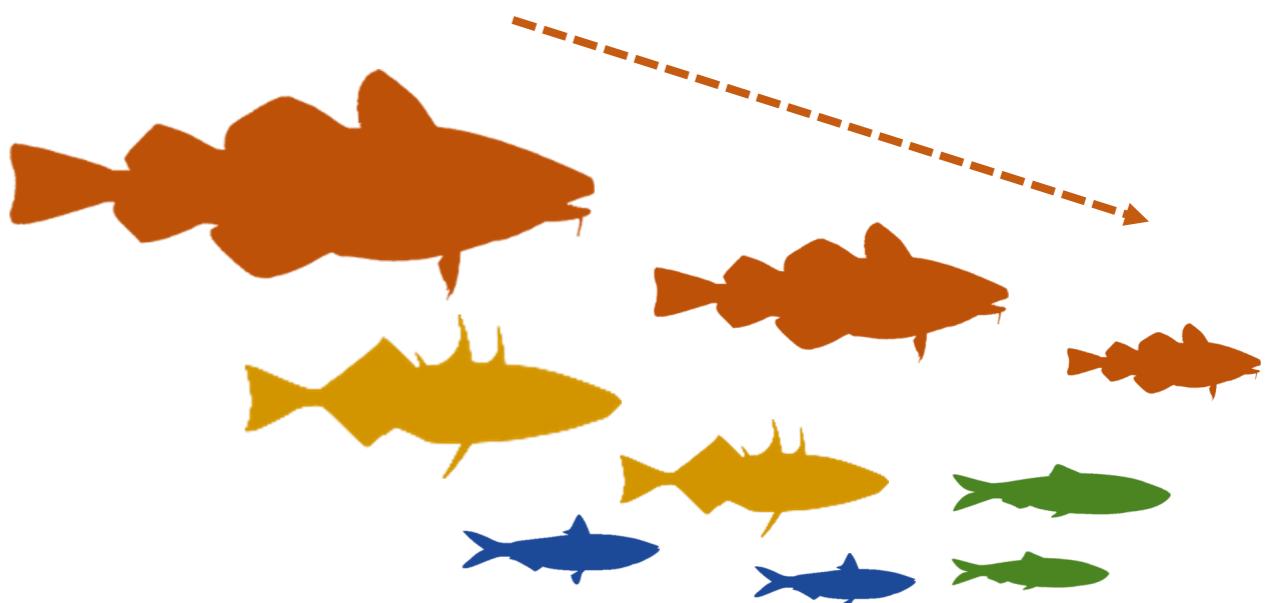
- Altered phenology
- Changes in spatial distribution
- “Shrinking”



# Impacts of warming on individuals and food webs

Predicted responses of animal communities to climate change:

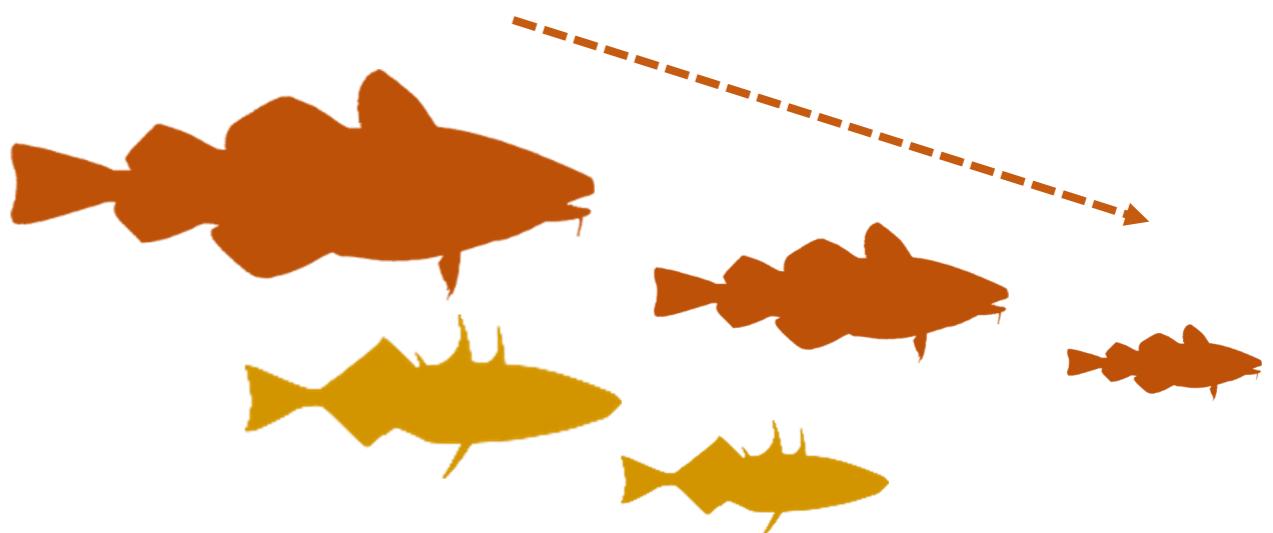
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# Impacts of warming on individuals and food webs

Predicted responses of animal communities to climate change:

- Altered phenology
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# Impacts of warming on individuals and food webs

Predicted responses of animal communities to climate change:

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- Changes in spatial distribution
- “Shrinking”

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Global Change Biology (2014) 20, 1023–1031, doi: 10.1111/gcb.12514

OPINION

## Warming temperatures and smaller body sizes: synchronous changes in growth of North Sea fishes

ALAN R. BAUDRON<sup>1</sup>, COBY L. NEEDLE<sup>2</sup>, ADRIAAN D. RIJNSDORP<sup>3</sup> and C. TARA MARSHALL<sup>1</sup>

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# Impacts of warming on individuals and food webs

1. Climate warming increases the metabolism and resource demands of ectotherm organisms



# Impacts of warming on individuals and food webs

1. Climate warming increases the metabolism and resource demands of ectotherm organisms
2. Effects of temperature depend on body size and food levels



# Impacts of warming on individuals and food webs

1. Climate warming increases the metabolism and resource demands of ectotherm organisms
2. Effects of temperature depend on body size and food levels
3. Need to account for physiological and food web effects



# Impacts of warming on individuals and food webs

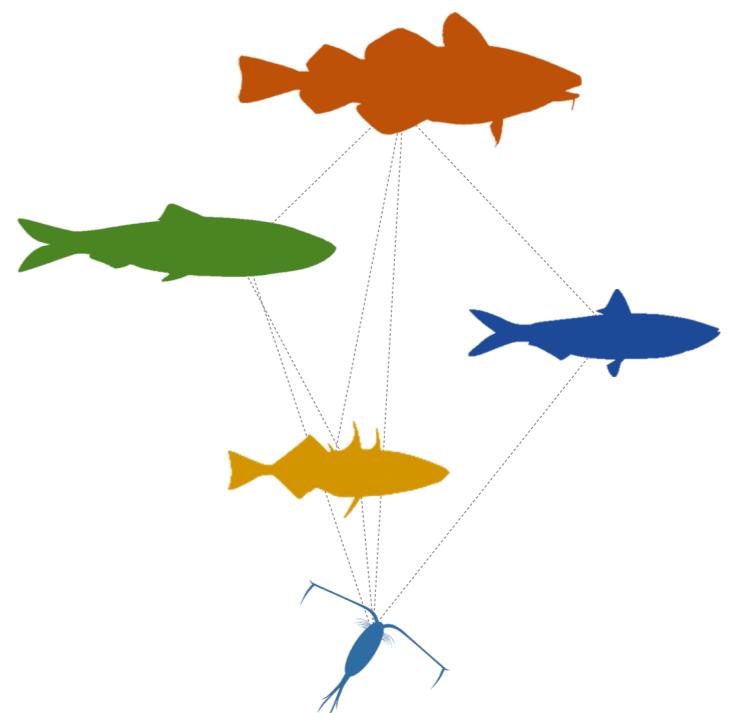
## Contents

1. Temperature- and size-dependence of physiological rates in fishes
2. Bioenergetic, dynamic food web modelling
3. Empirical findings + temperature size rule (TSR)
4. Outlook & future work



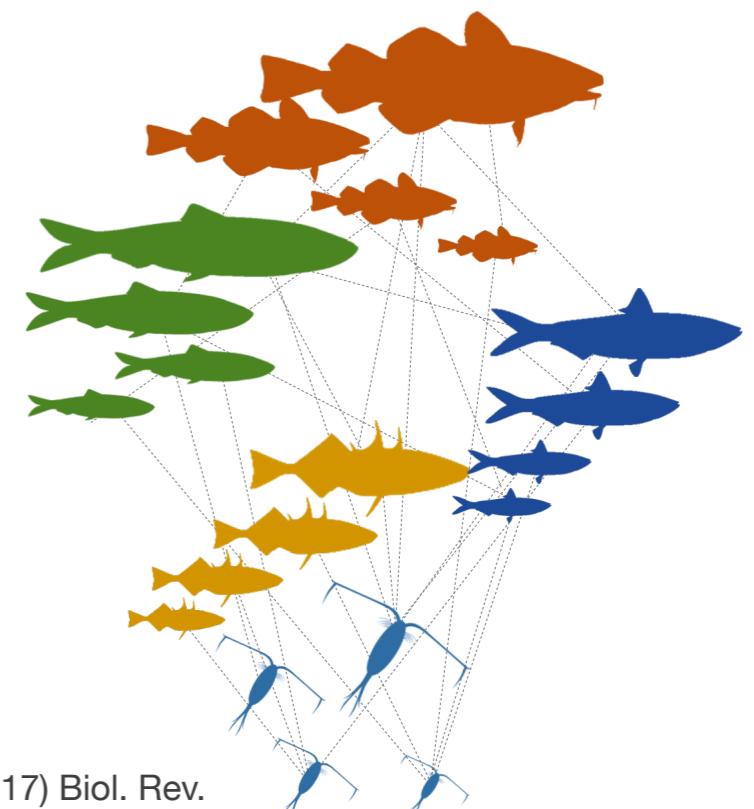
# Body size & food webs

- Species-level energetics from average size of a species
- Body size is a trait of a species



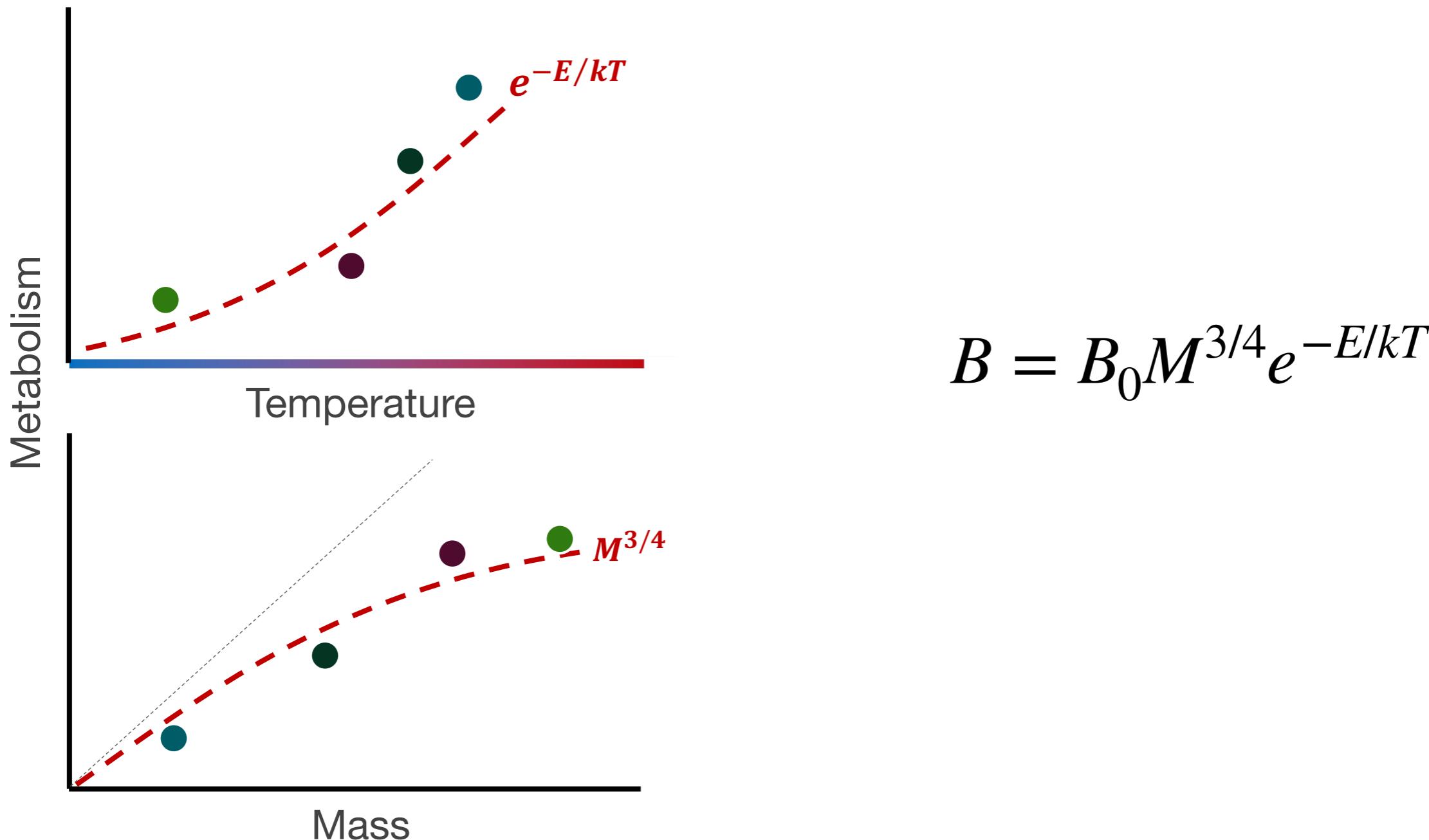
# Body size & food webs

- Body size is also a trait of an individual
- Temperature affects life stages differently!

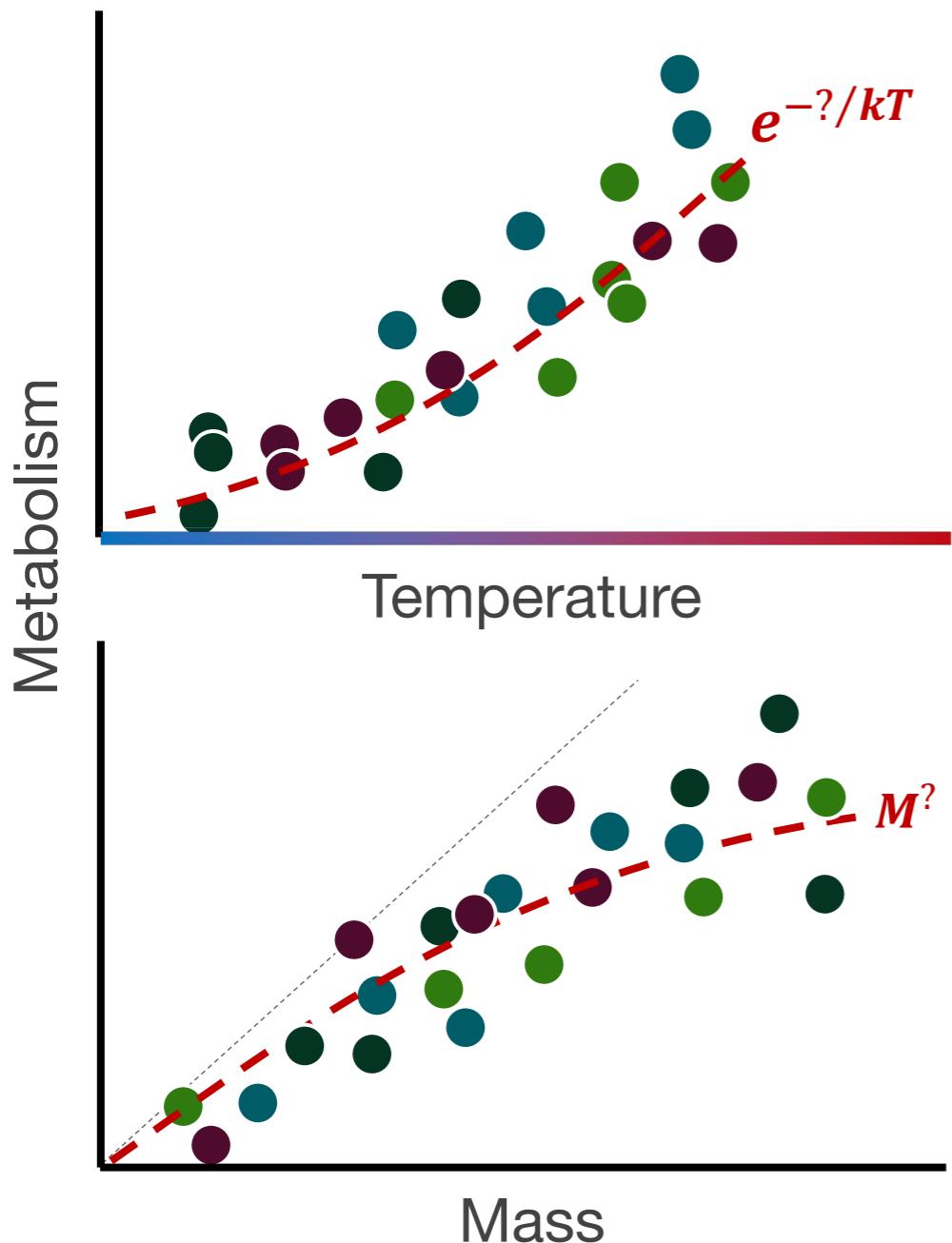


1. Temperature- and size-dependence of physiological rates in fishes
2. Bioenergetic, dynamic food web modelling
3. Empirical findings
4. Outlook & future work

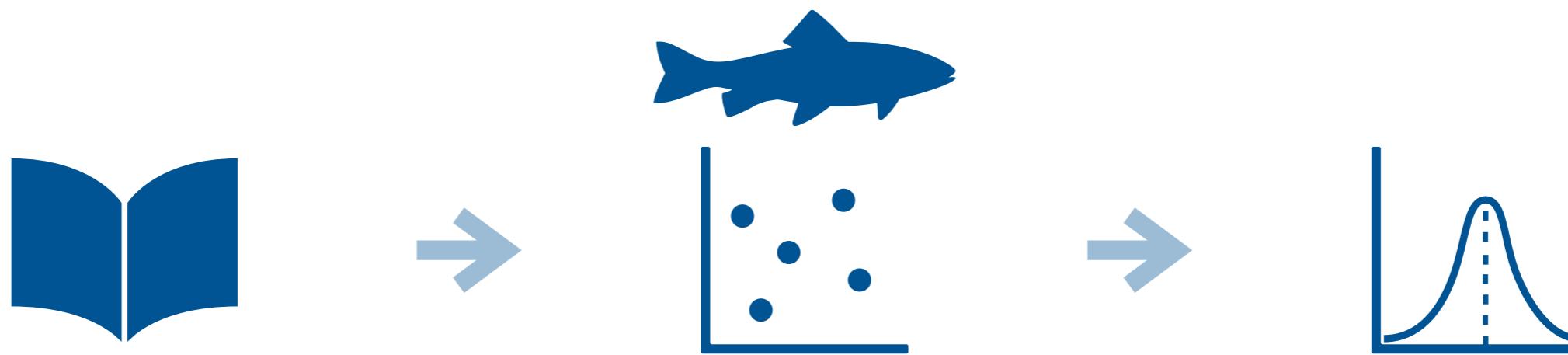
# Metabolism increases with temperature and size



# Metabolism increases with temperature and size



# Literature search



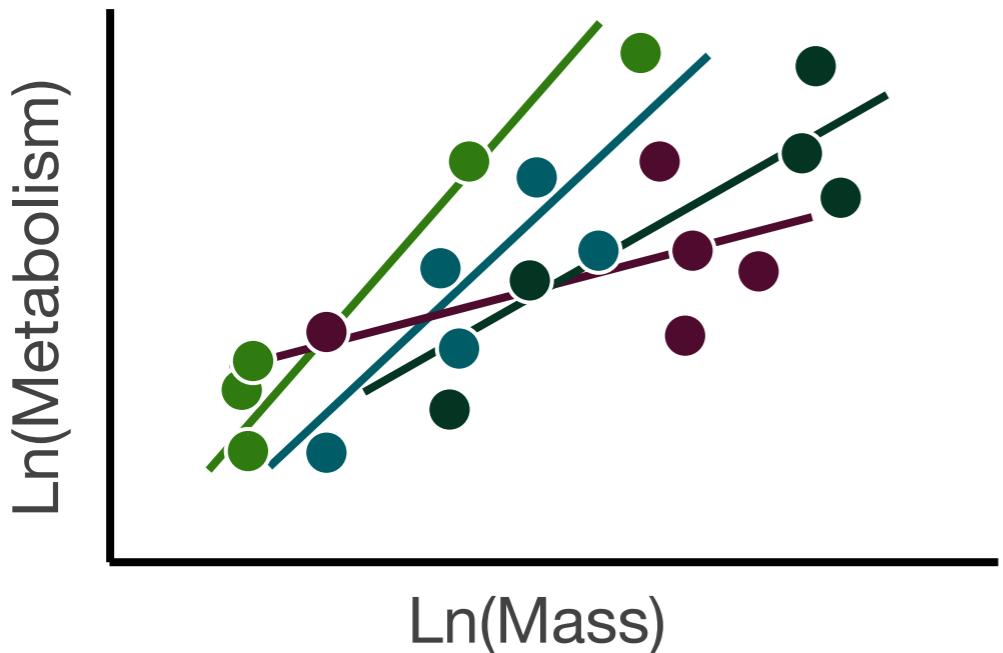
>4500 studies

- Metabolism
- Feeding rates
- Growth

3570 data points

>60 species

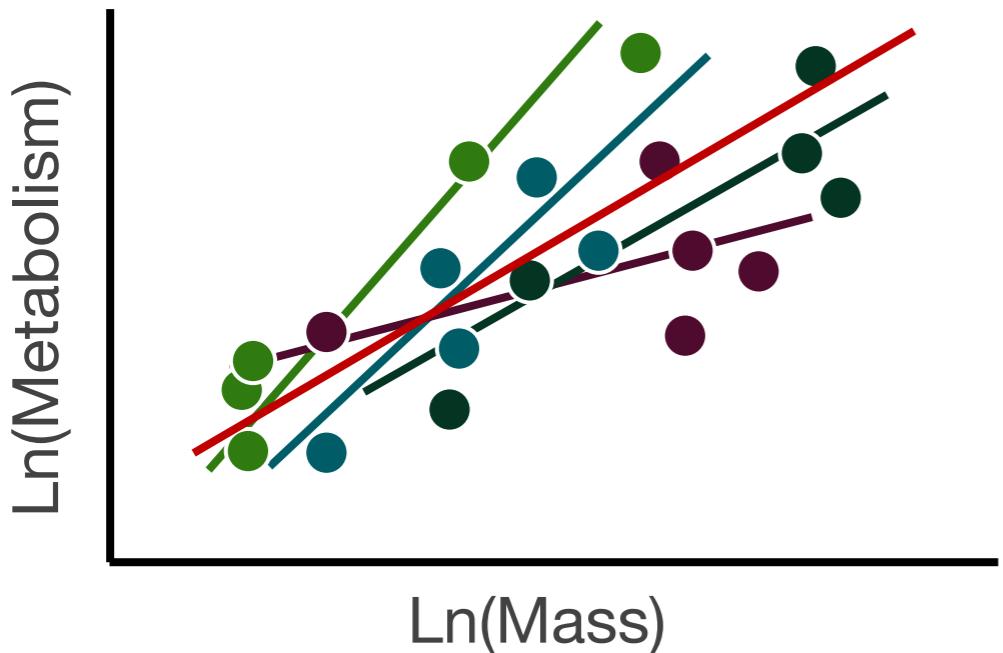
# Size and temperature dependence of rates



## Hierarchical Bayesian models

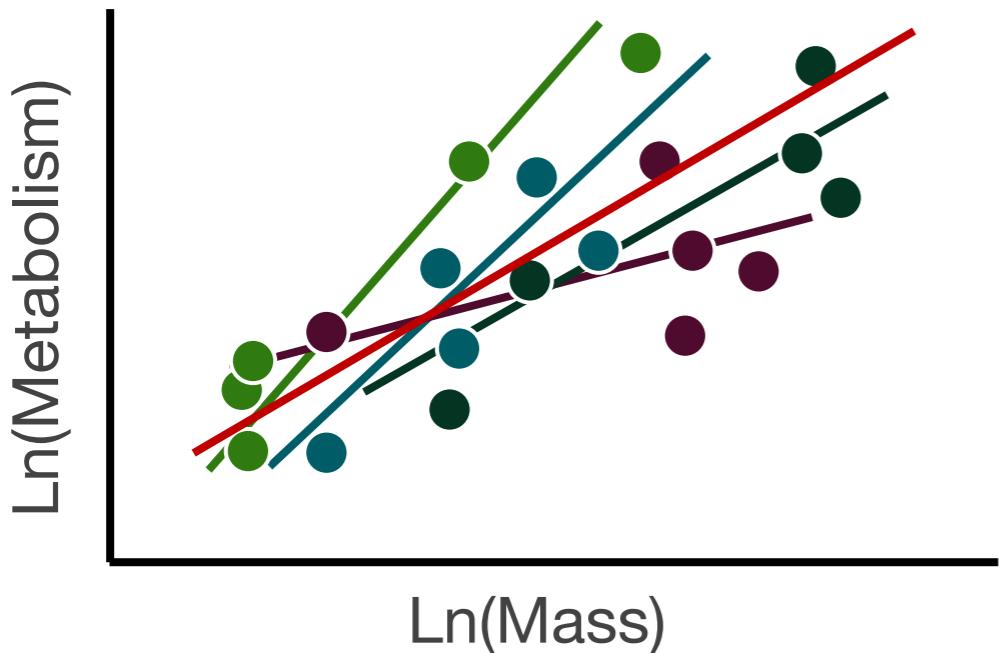
- Variation within and between species
- Estimate parameters with shrinkage: find general relationships
- “Borrow” from data-rich species

# Size and temperature dependence of rates



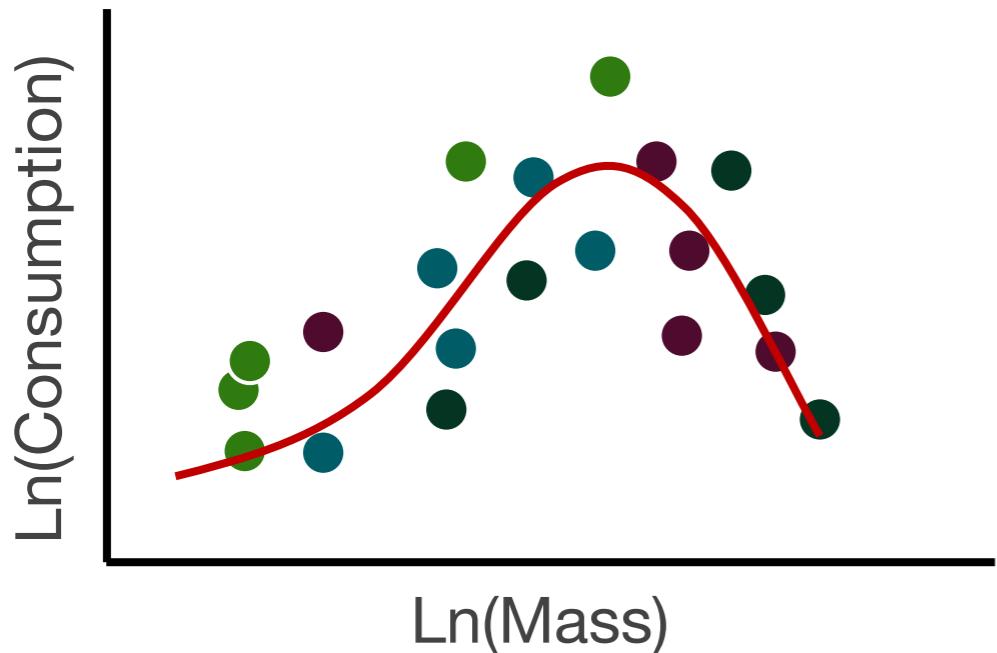
$$y_{ij} \sim N(\mu_{ij}, \sigma^2)$$
$$\mu_{ij} = \beta_{0j} + \beta_1 m_i + \beta_2 t_{A,i} + \beta_3 t_{A,i} m_i$$
$$\beta_{1:3j} \sim N(\mu_{\beta_{1:3}}, \sigma_{\beta_{1:3}})$$

# Size and temperature dependence of rates



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# Size and temperature dependence of rates



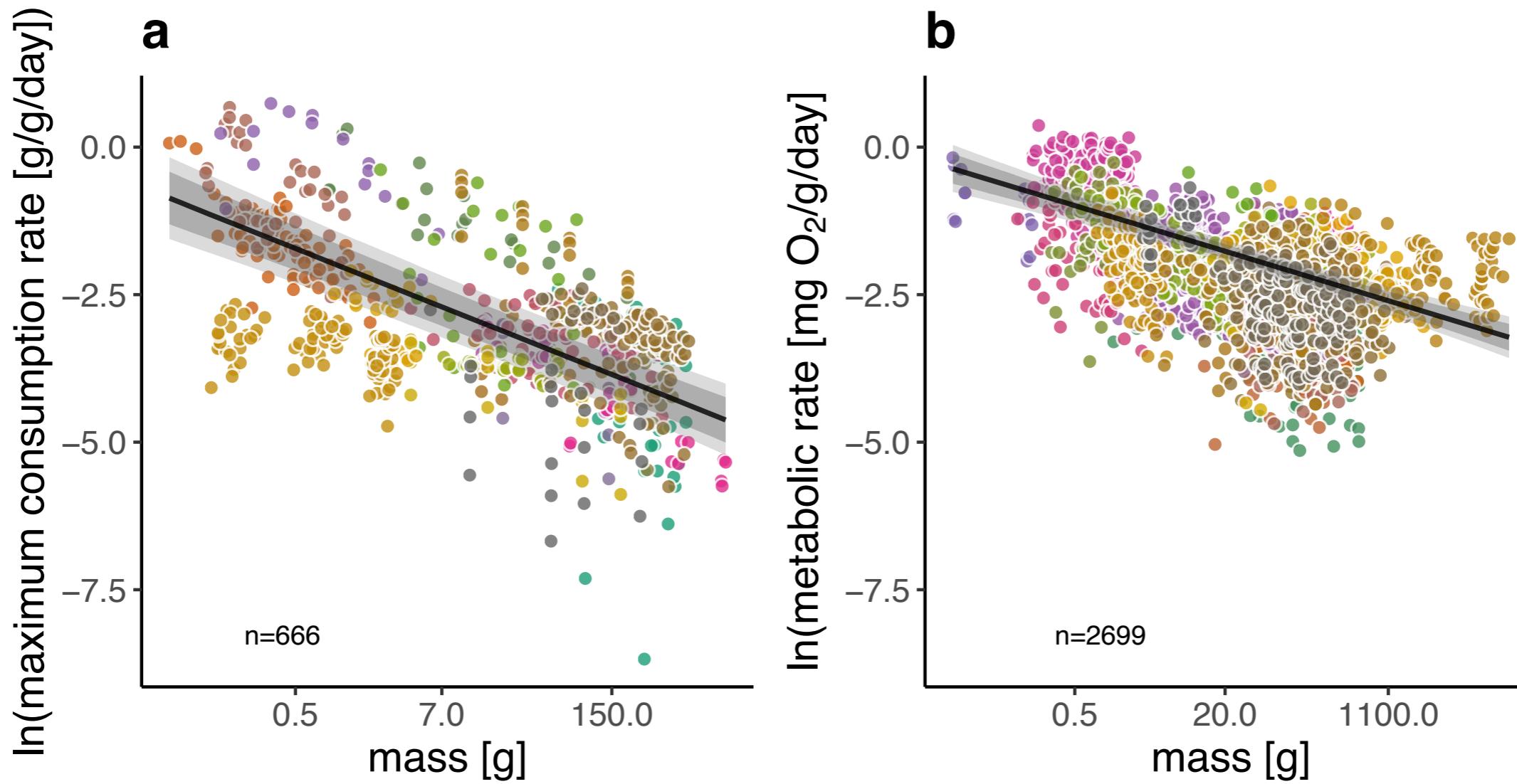
$$y_{ij} \sim N(\mu_{ij}, \sigma^2)$$

$$\mu_{ij} = \frac{C_{0j}(T_c)e^{E_j(1/kT_c - 1/kT)}}{1 + e^{E_h(1/kT_h - 1/kT)}}$$

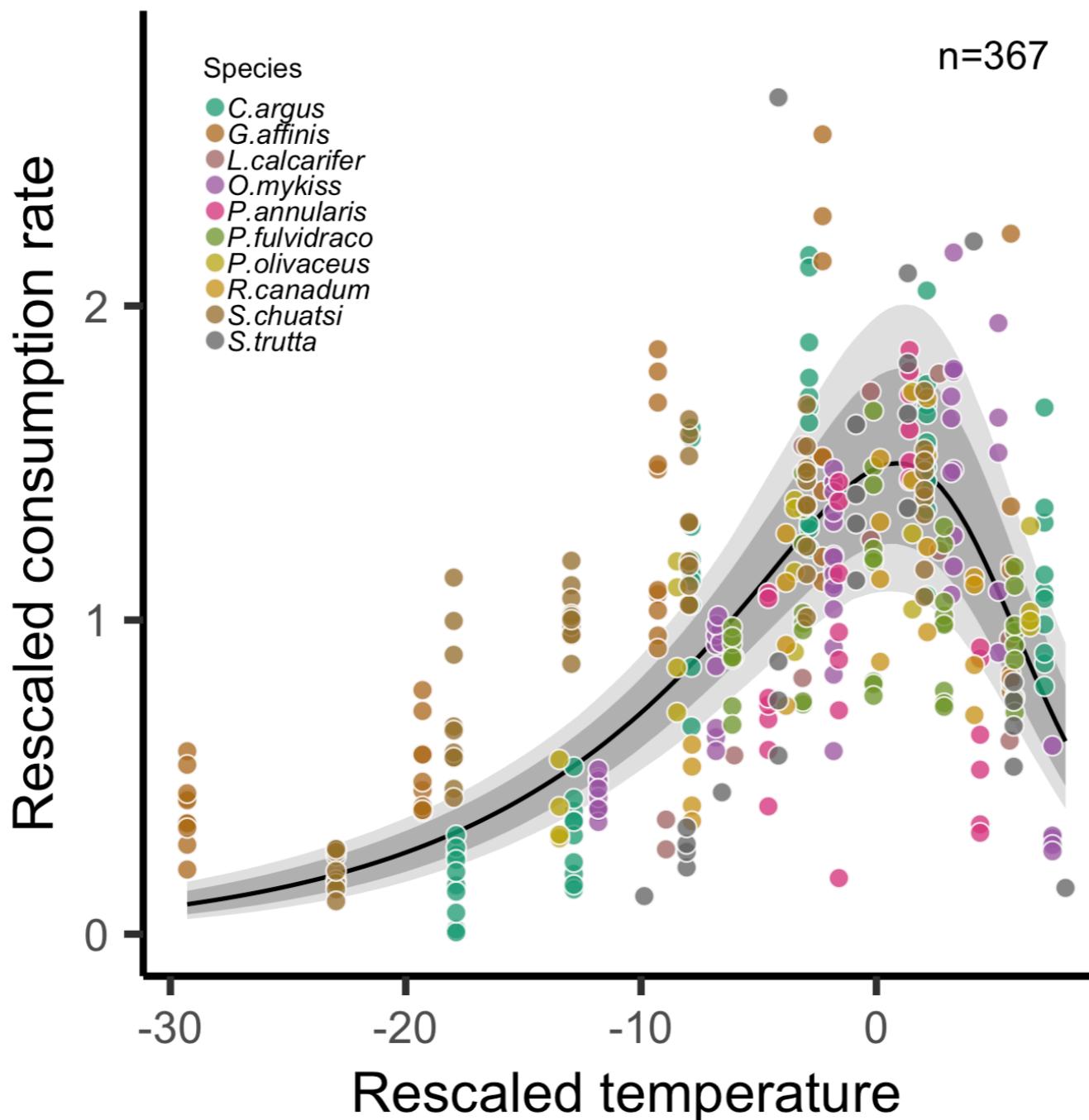
$$C_{0j} \sim N(\mu_{C_0}, \sigma_{C_0})$$

$$E_j \sim N(\mu_E, \sigma_E)$$

# Smaller exponent for metabolism than consumption



# Consumption rates decline if too warm



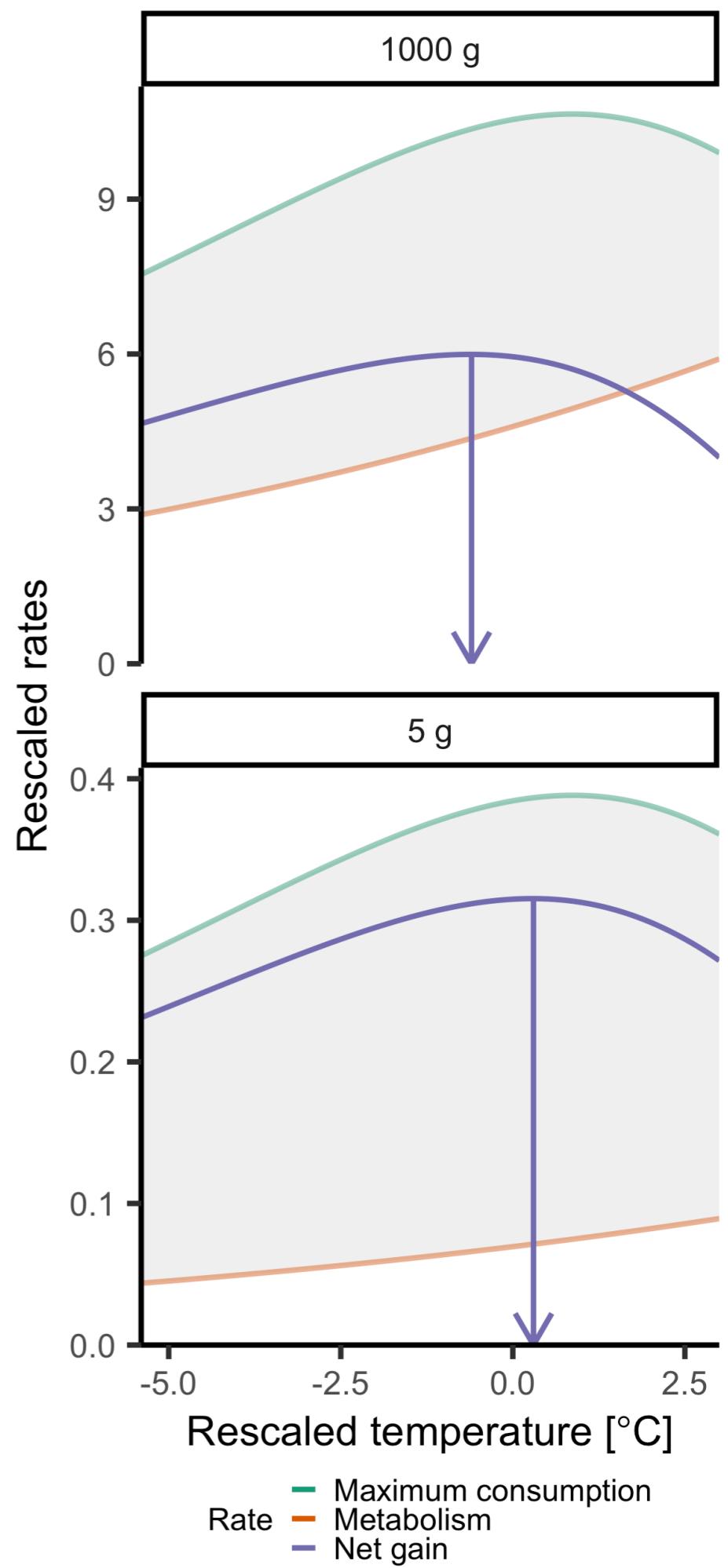
# Simple growth model

- Metabolism catches up with consumption as fish growth
- Consumption rate increases first and then declines with warming
- Put this in simple growth model

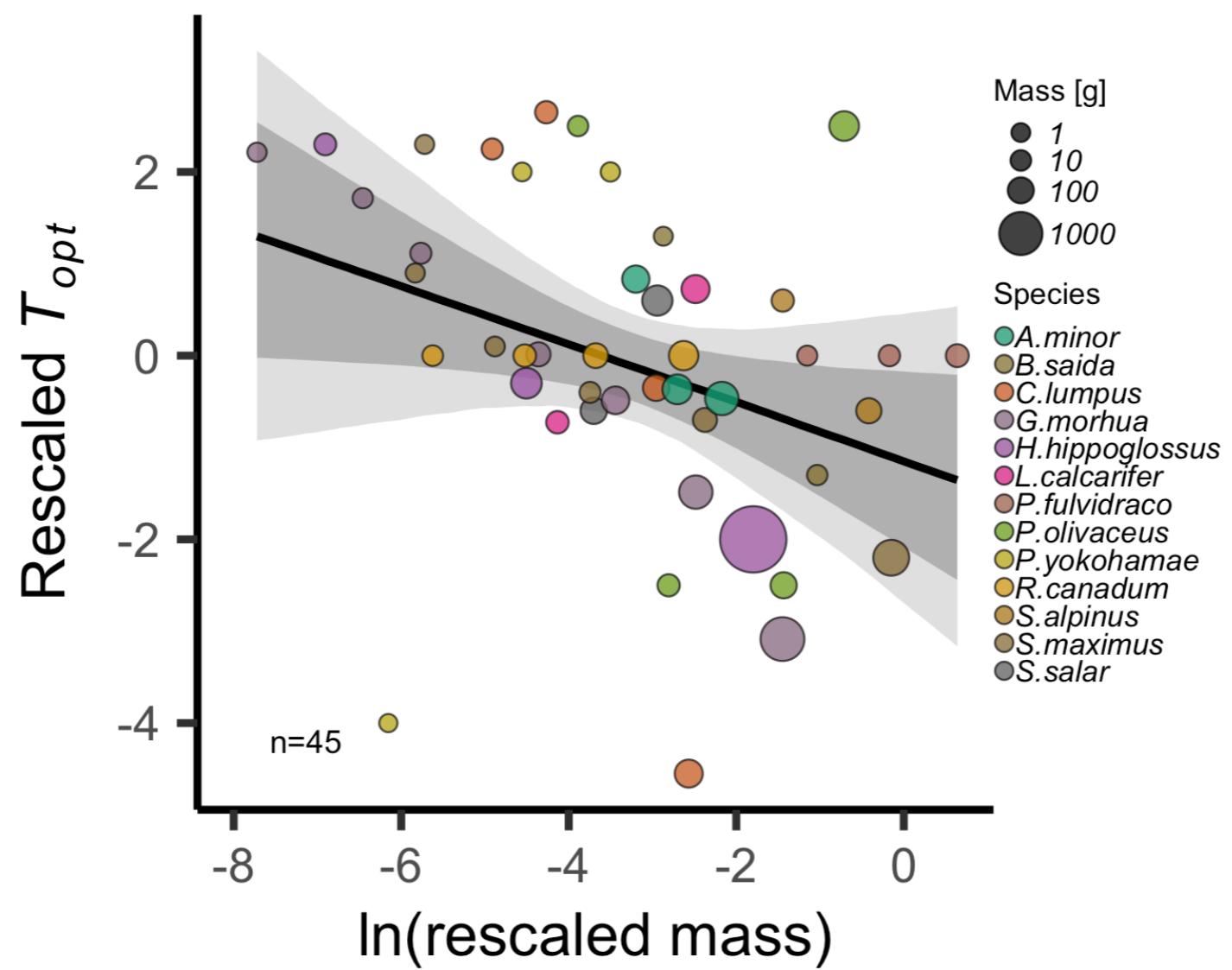
$$\frac{dM}{dt} = aM^b - cM^d$$

# 1. Temperature- and size-dependence of physiological rates in fishes

$$\frac{dM}{dt} = aM^b - cM^d$$

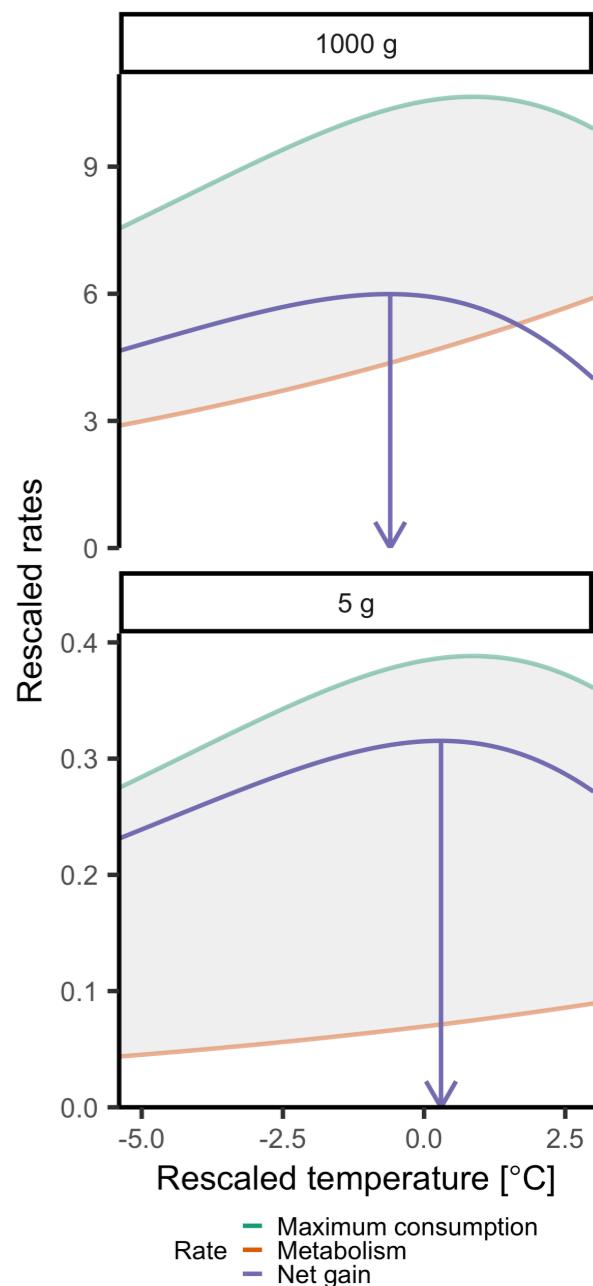


# Optimum growth temperature declines with size



## 1. Temperature- and size-dependence of physiological rates in fishes

- Metabolism catches up with consumption as fish growth
- Consumption rate increases first and then declines with warming
- Simple mechanism causing TSR?

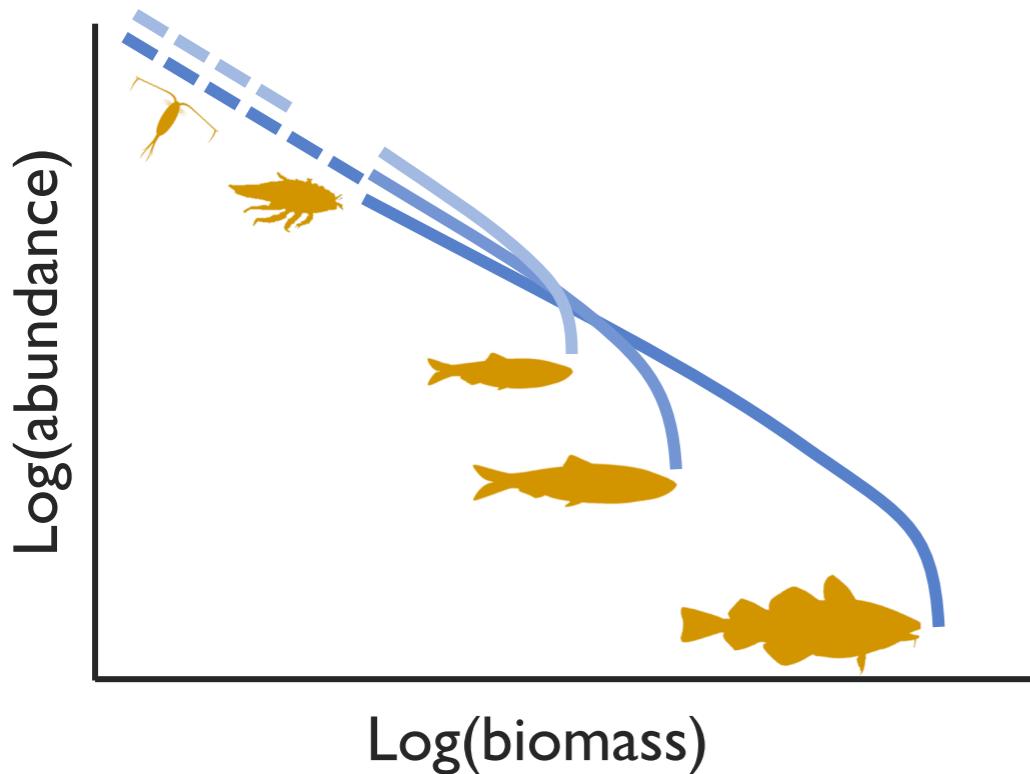


1. Temperature- and size-dependence of physiological rates in fishes
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# Mechanistic food web models

- How do growth rates, size-at-age and size-structure change with warming in food webs?
- What is the role of physiological (top down) effects vs changes in resources (bottom up) for the effect of warming on size-structure?
- How does that affect fisheries reference points and targets?

# Size-spectrum model



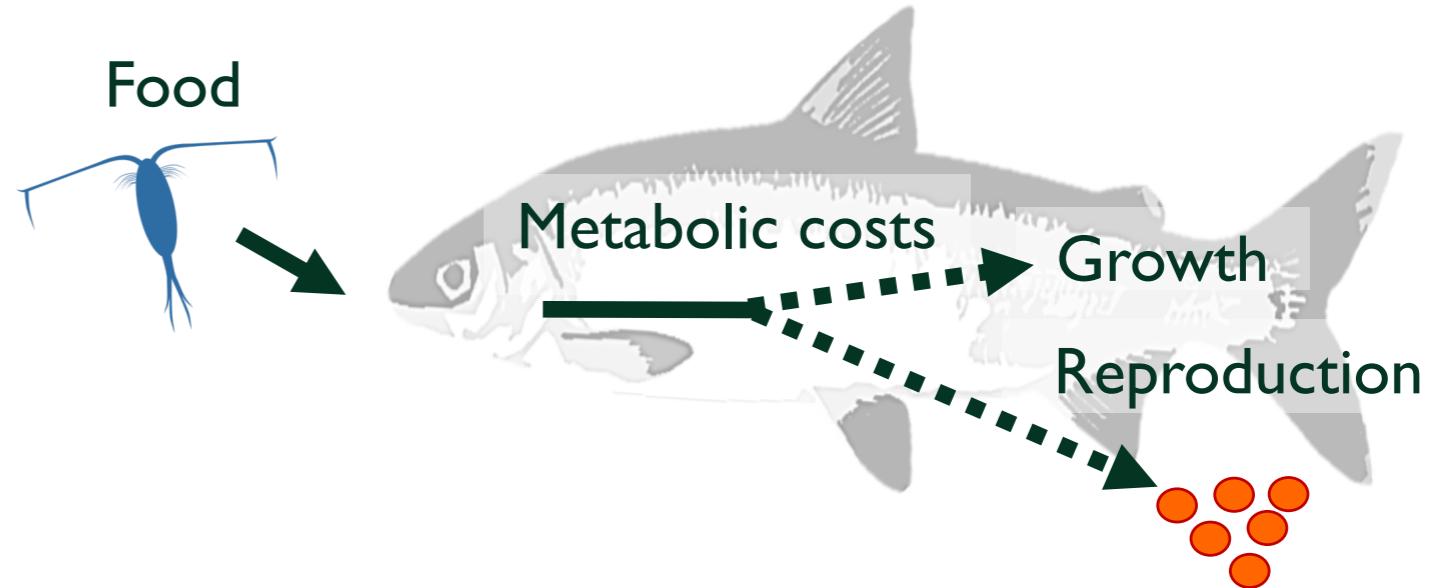
## McKendrick von Foerster equation

- General model inspired by the Baltic Sea
- Cod, Sprat, Herring, Benthos, Plankton

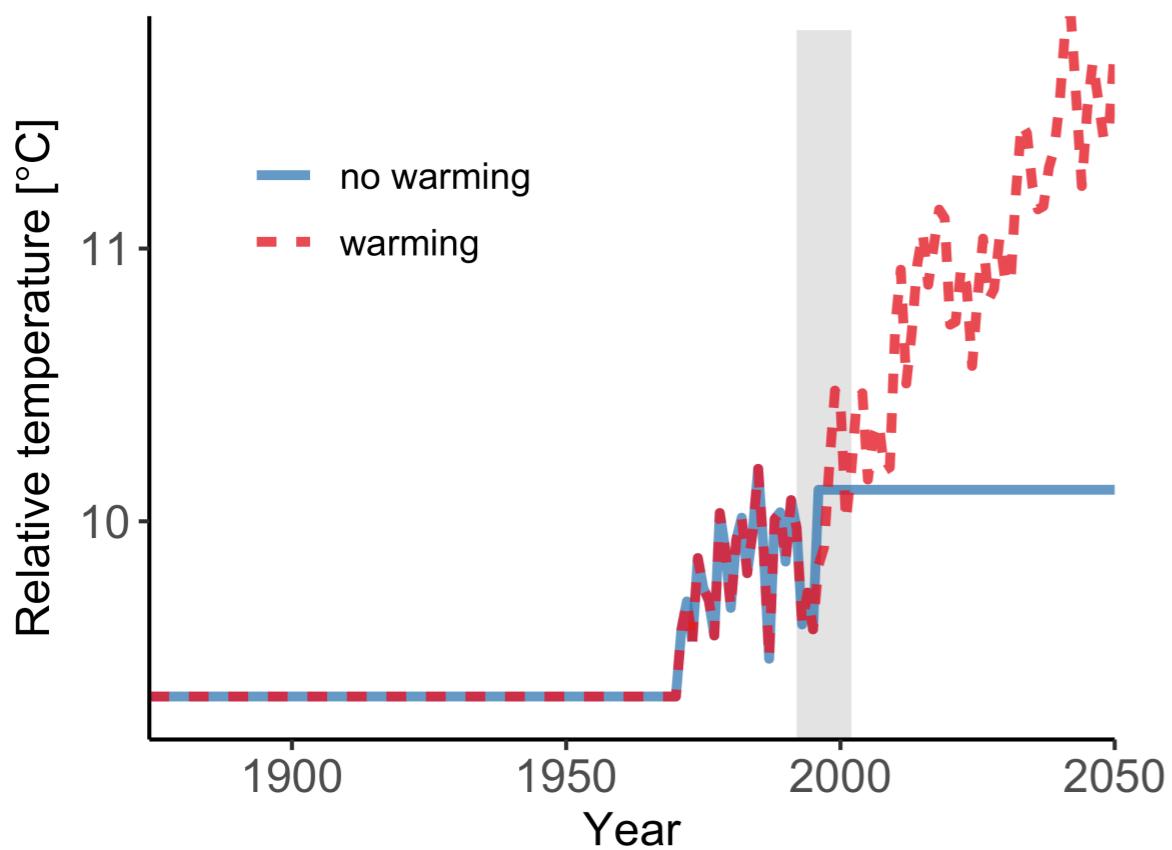
$$\frac{\partial N_i(w)}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial g_i(w)N_i(w)}{\partial w} = -\mu_i(w)N_i(w)$$

# Size-spectrum model

- Assumptions made at the individual-level
- Food dependent growth and development
- Type II Functional response

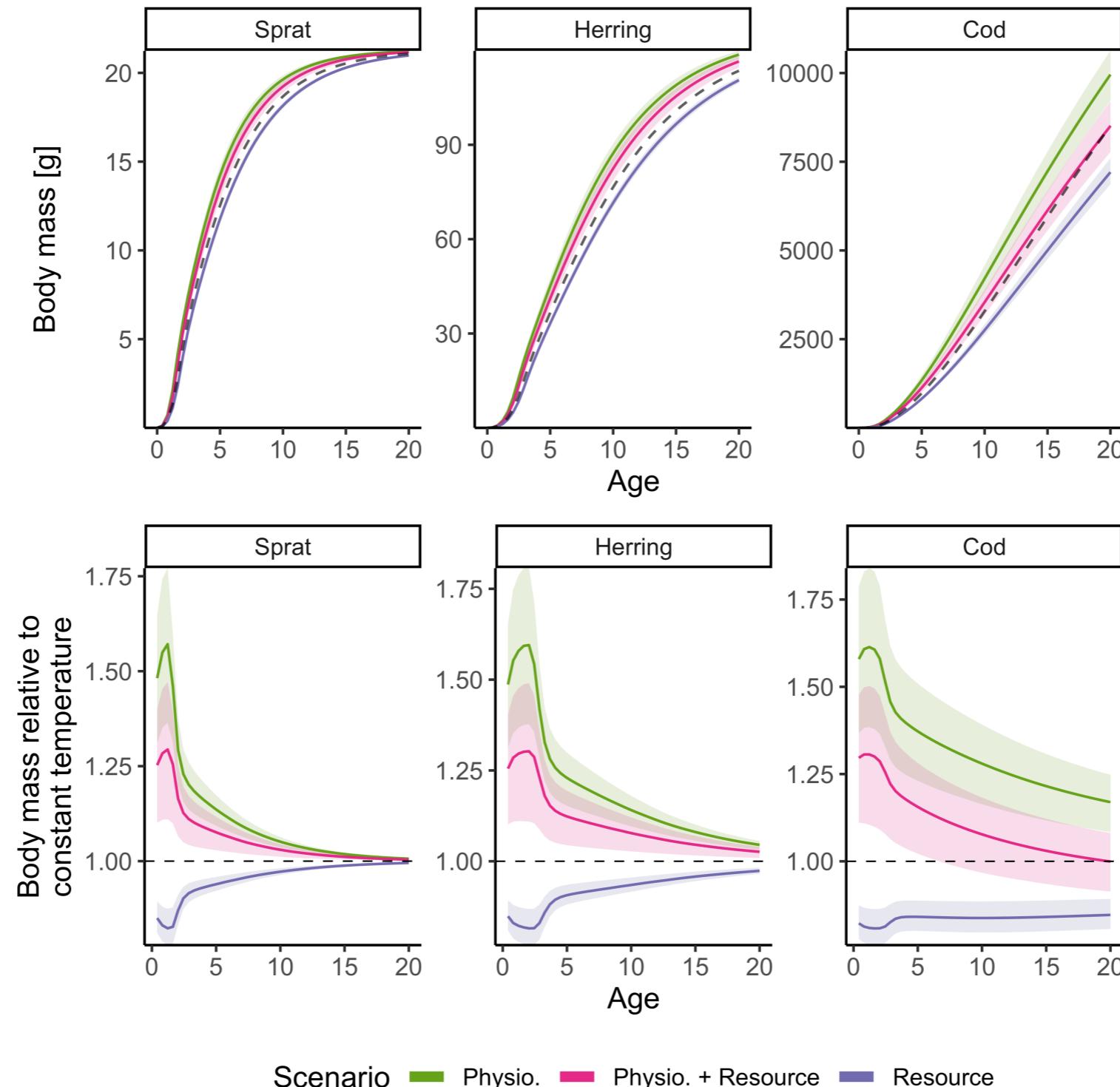


# Size-spectrum model

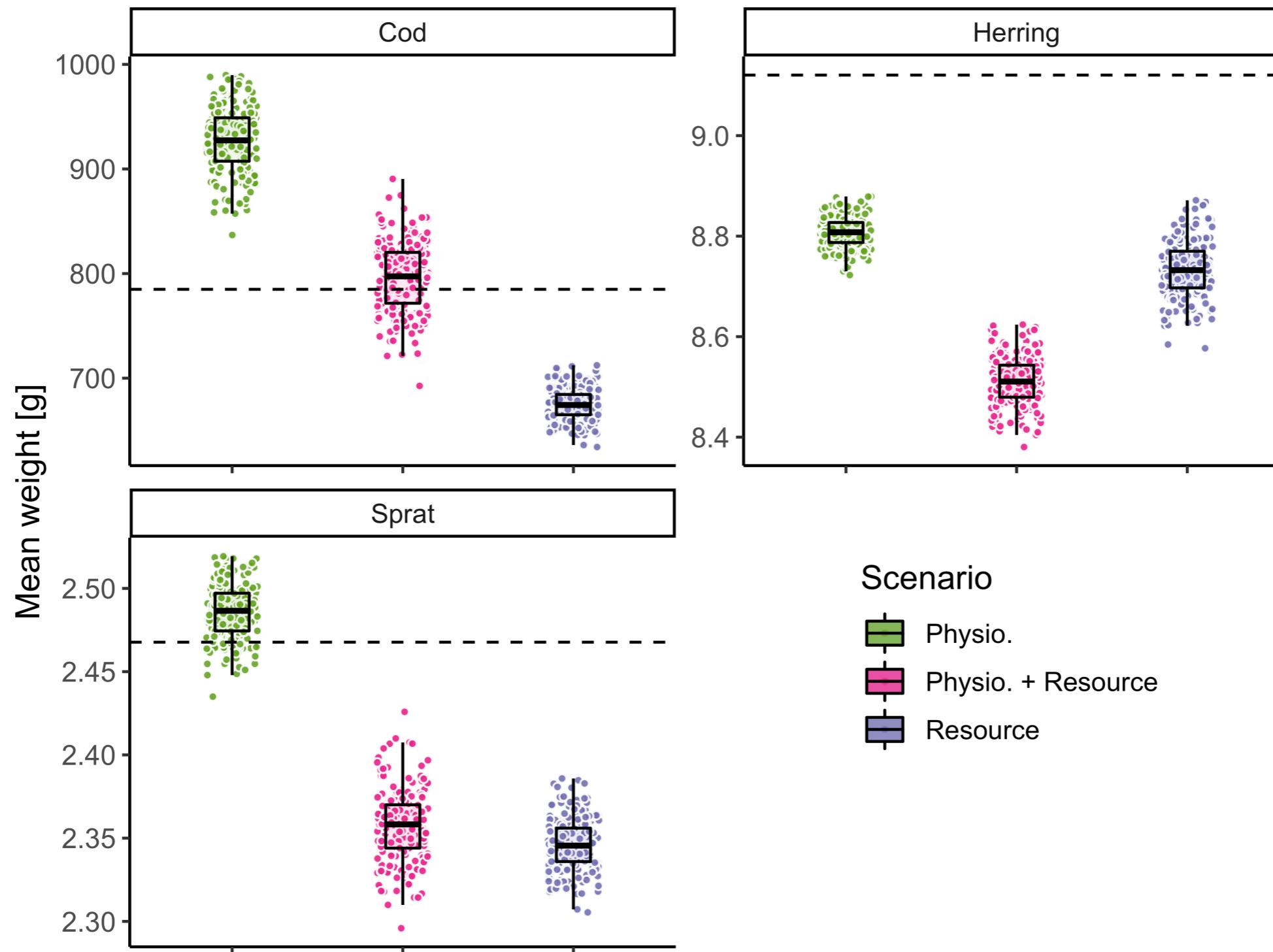


- Simulation through time
- Time varying fishing mortality
- Time varying ocean temperatures from regional coupled model projection

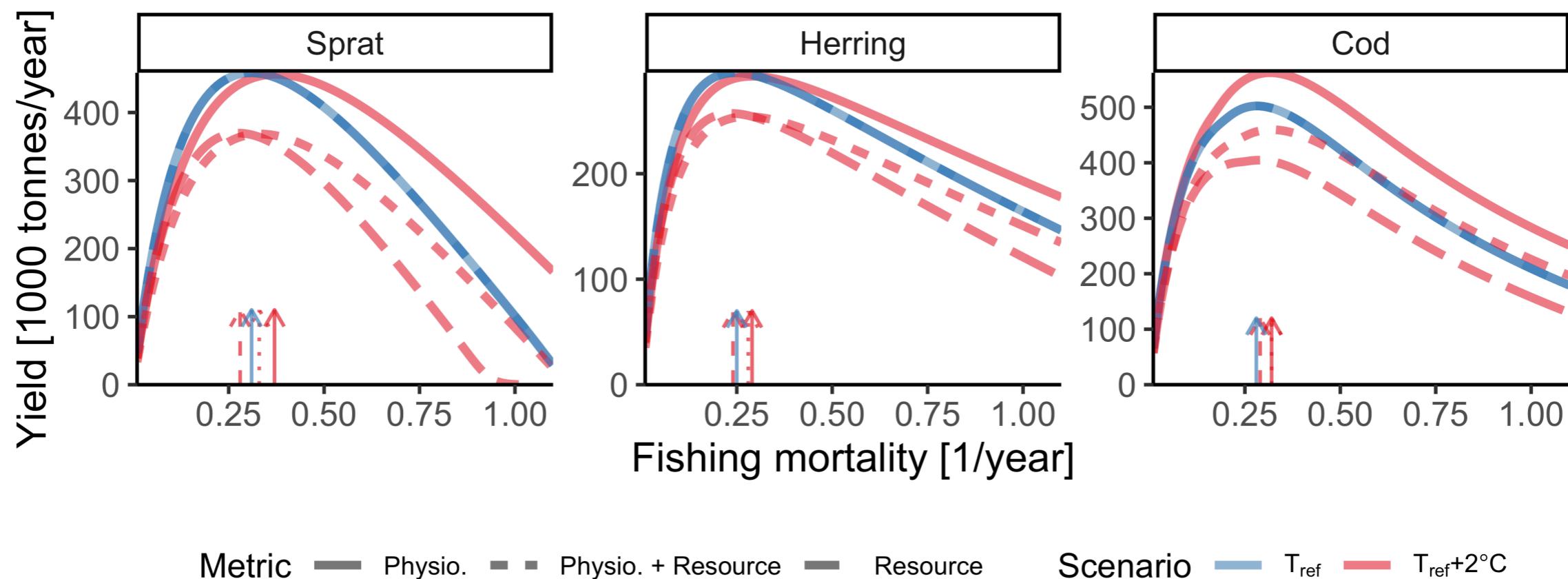
# Size-spectrum model: growth rates



# Size-spectrum model: mean weight



# Size-spectrum model: reference points & targets



1. Temperature- and size-dependence of physiological rates in fishes
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# Large scale natural experiment

- Biotest Lake: enclosed lagoon on the Baltic coast
- 1980- : heated with cooling water from nuclear power plant
- +8°C above surrounding sea
- Scientific sampling only source of mortality



# Large scale natural experiment

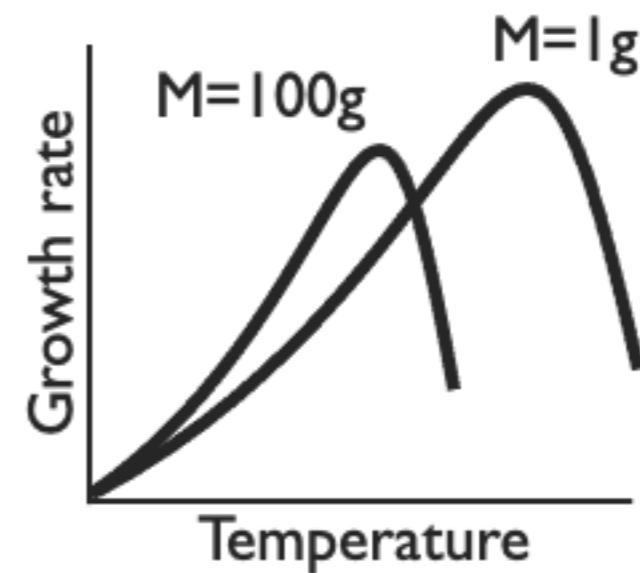
- Eurasian perch
- > 22 000 back-calculated lengths (operculum bone & otoliths)
- > 8 000 individuals
- 1980-2003 (grid removed in 2004)



photo: <https://www.slu.se/institutioner/akvatiska-resurser/miljoanalys/individniva/I Aldersanalys-av-fisk/>

# Large scale natural experiment

- Growth exponentially increasing at sub-peak temperatures
- Peak temperature declining function of size



# Large scale natural experiment

- VBGE
- Support for shared or unique parameters?
- Dummy variable for area ([w]arm, [c]old)
- Length-at-age data
- Cohort-varying ( $j$ )  $K$  and  $L_\infty$
- Informative priors

## Hierarchical VB model with dummy

$$L_i \sim N(\mu_i, \sigma_i^2)$$

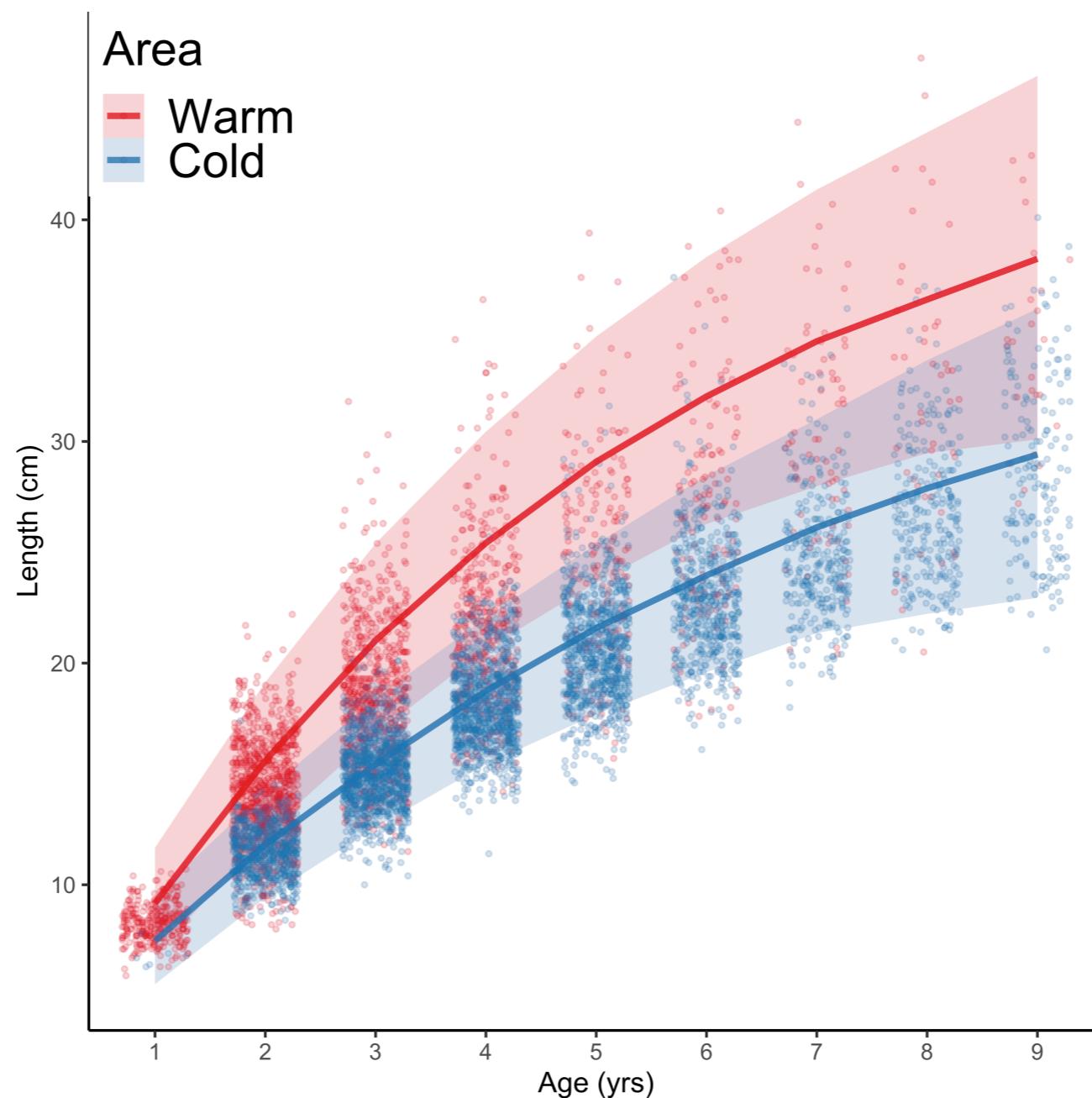
$$\mu_i = A_c[L_{\text{inf}_{c,j}}](1 - e^{(-K_{c,j}(age_{j[i]} - t_0))}) + A_w[L_{\text{inf}_{w,j}} \dots]$$

$$\sigma_i^2 = \beta_{0,\sigma} + \beta_{1,\sigma} age_i$$

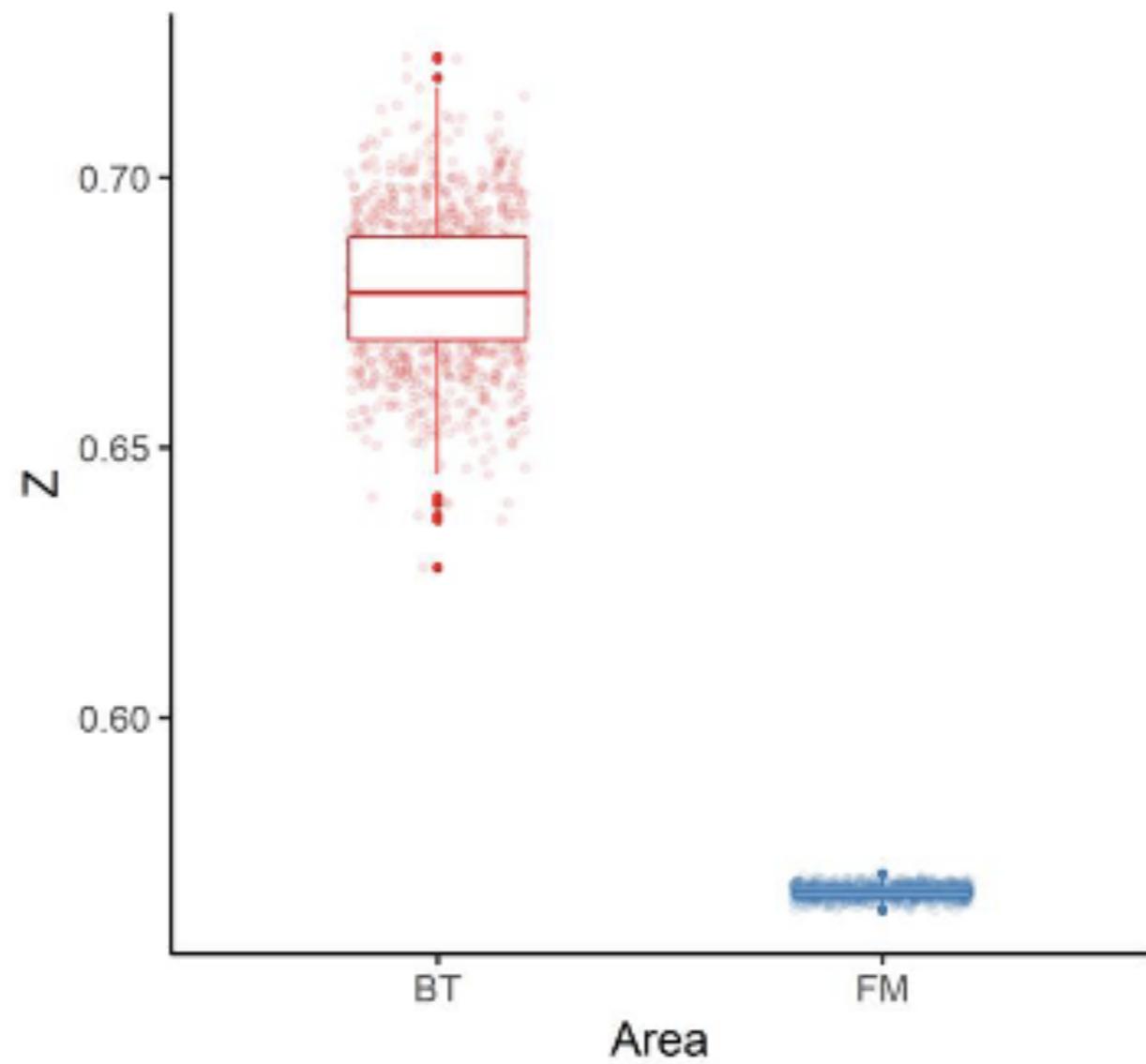
$$L_{\text{inf},c,w,j} \sim N(\mu_{\beta_{L_{\text{inf}}}}, \sigma_{\beta_{L_{\text{inf}}}})$$

$$K_{c,w,j} \sim N(\mu_{\beta_K}, \sigma_{\beta_K})$$

# Large scale natural experiment



# Large scale natural experiment



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# Outlook & Future Work

- Other environmental stressors?
- Challenges & opportunities with size-spectrum models
- Open questions in physiology

# Thank you for listening!

Max Lindmark, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences,  
Department of Aquatic Resources

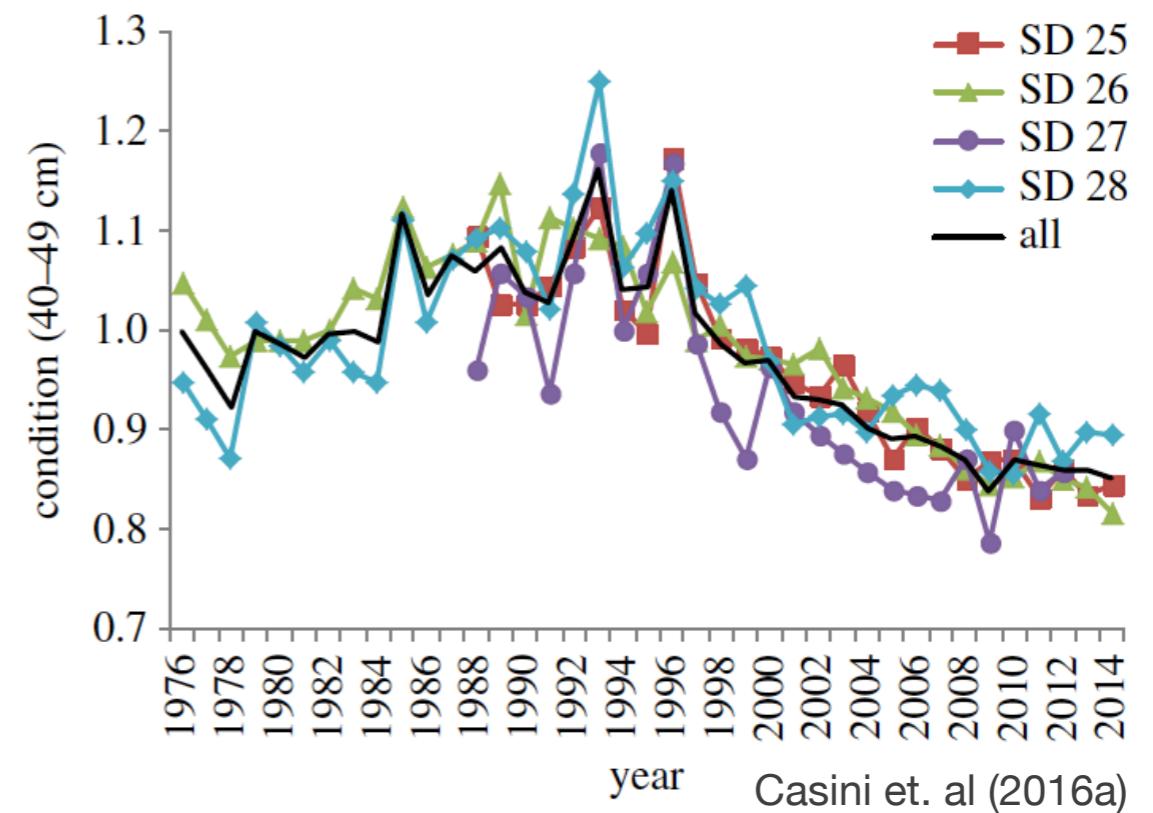
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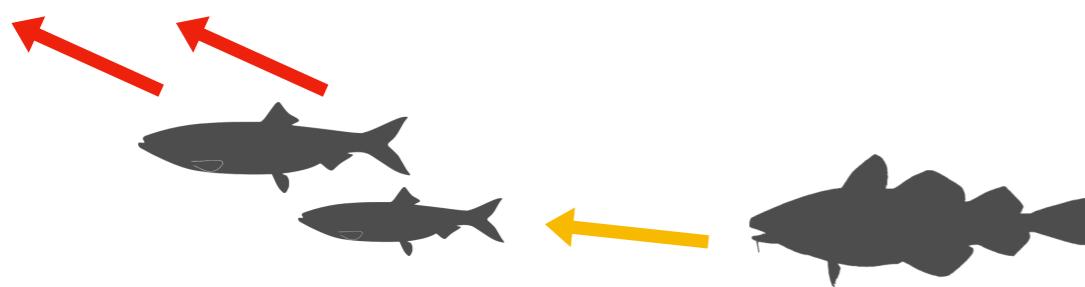
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# Baltic cod condition

- Steady decline since the collapse in the early 1990's
- Poor growth + increased natural mortality = low biomass production

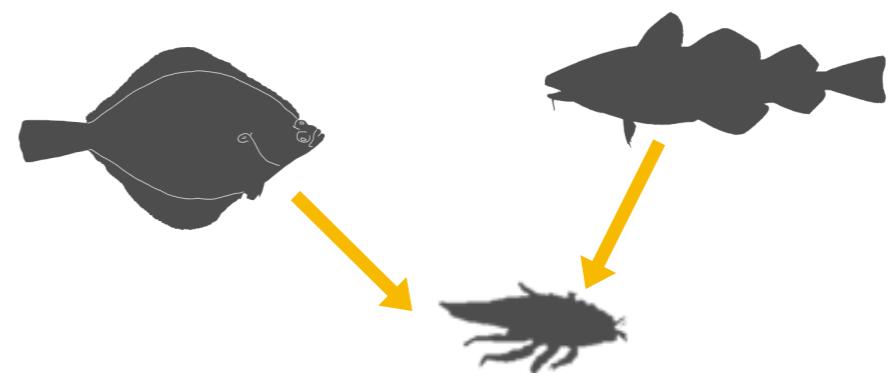


# Hypothesised drivers



- Spatial mismatch with pelagic prey
- Lack of right-sized pelagic prey

- Intraspecific + interspecific competition for benthic resources



- (direct effects of oxygen)

# Spatiotemporal GLMMs

- Account for correlations using random effects!  
(package `sdmTMB`)
- BITS 1991-2019 Q4

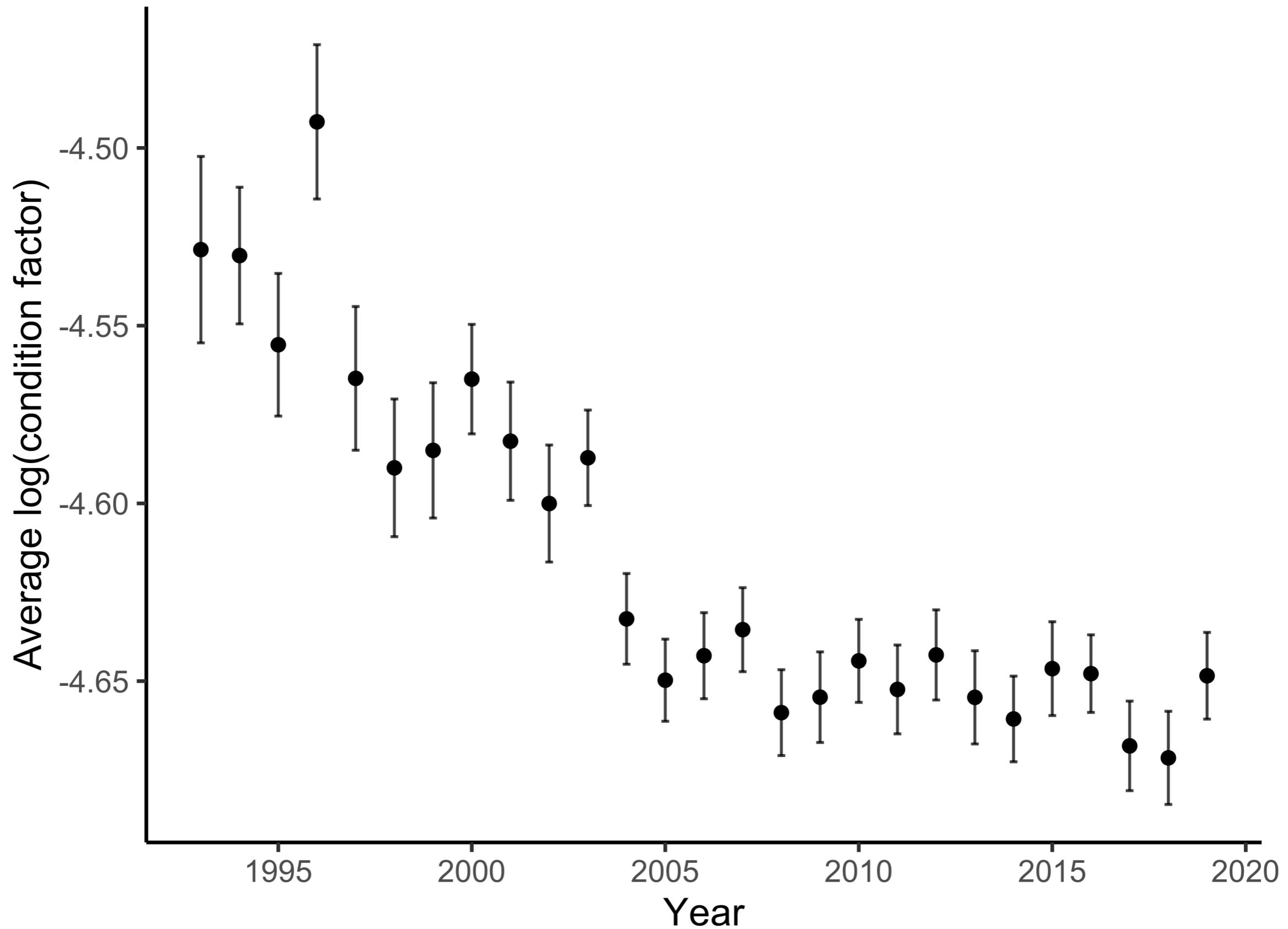
## Condition model

- Weight of individual  $i$  at spatial location  $s$  at time  $t$
- Student-t distribution
- No model selection - include all and check for overfitting

## CPUE model

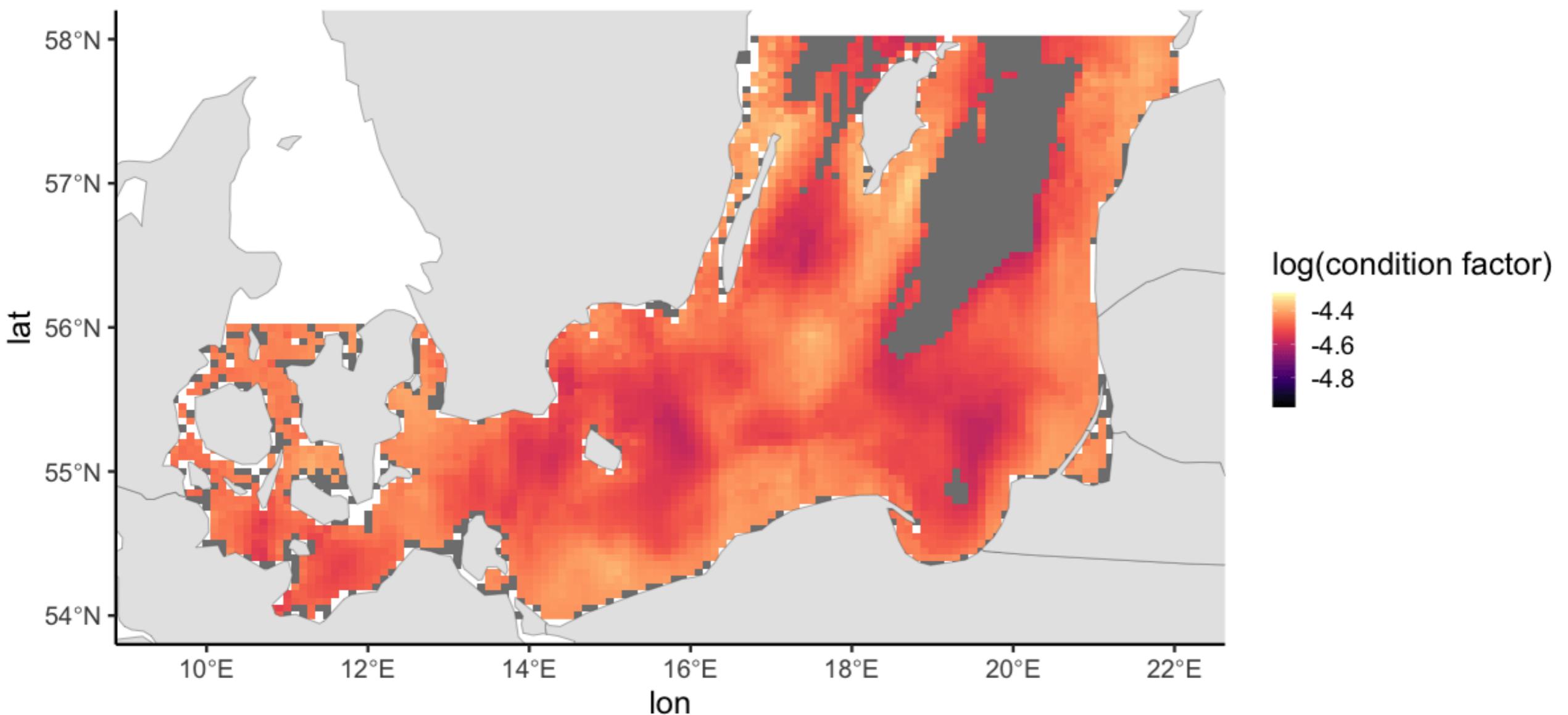
- CPUE at spatial location  $s$  at time  $t$
- Tweedie-distribution
- Depth, oxygen and temperature as covariates (splines)

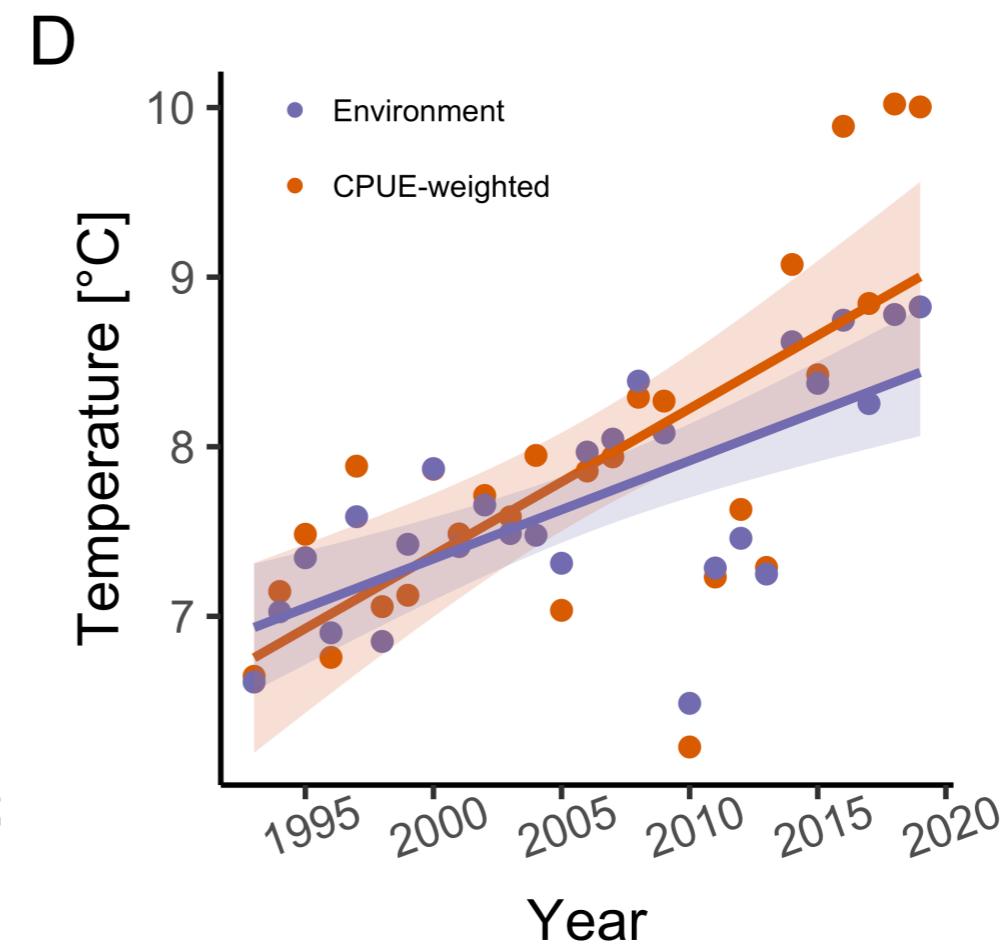
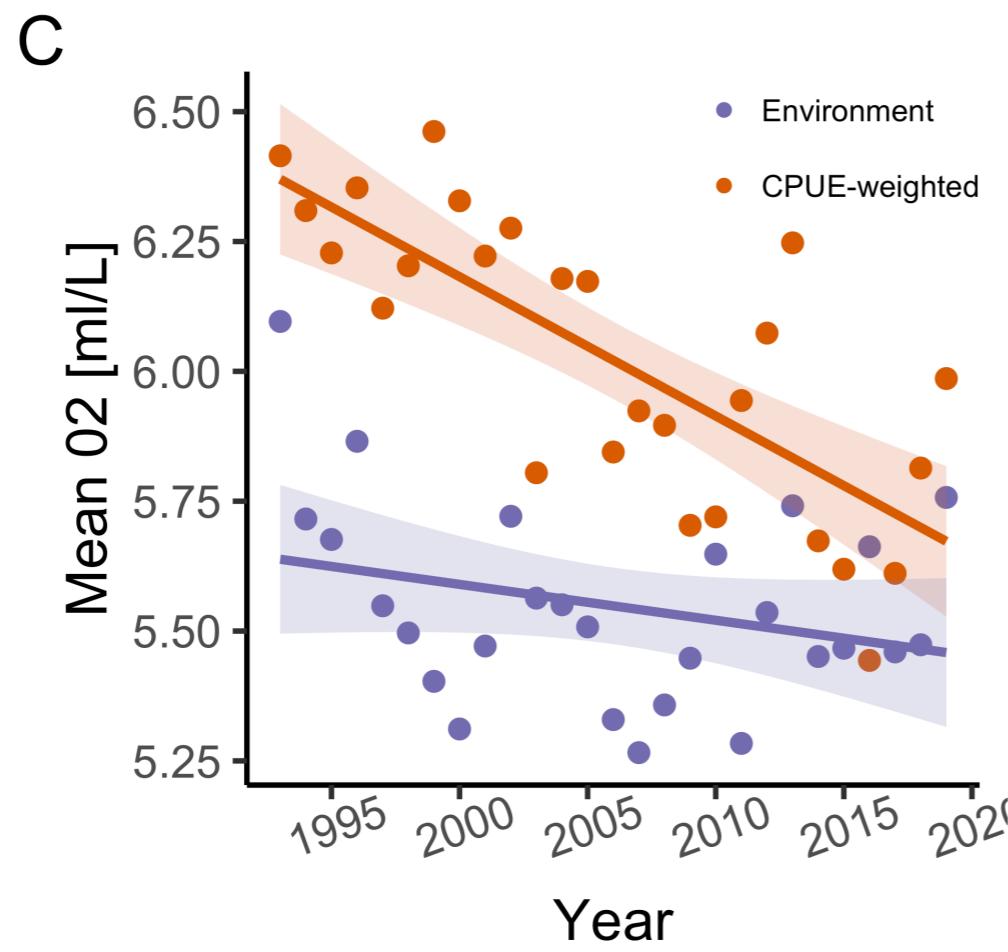
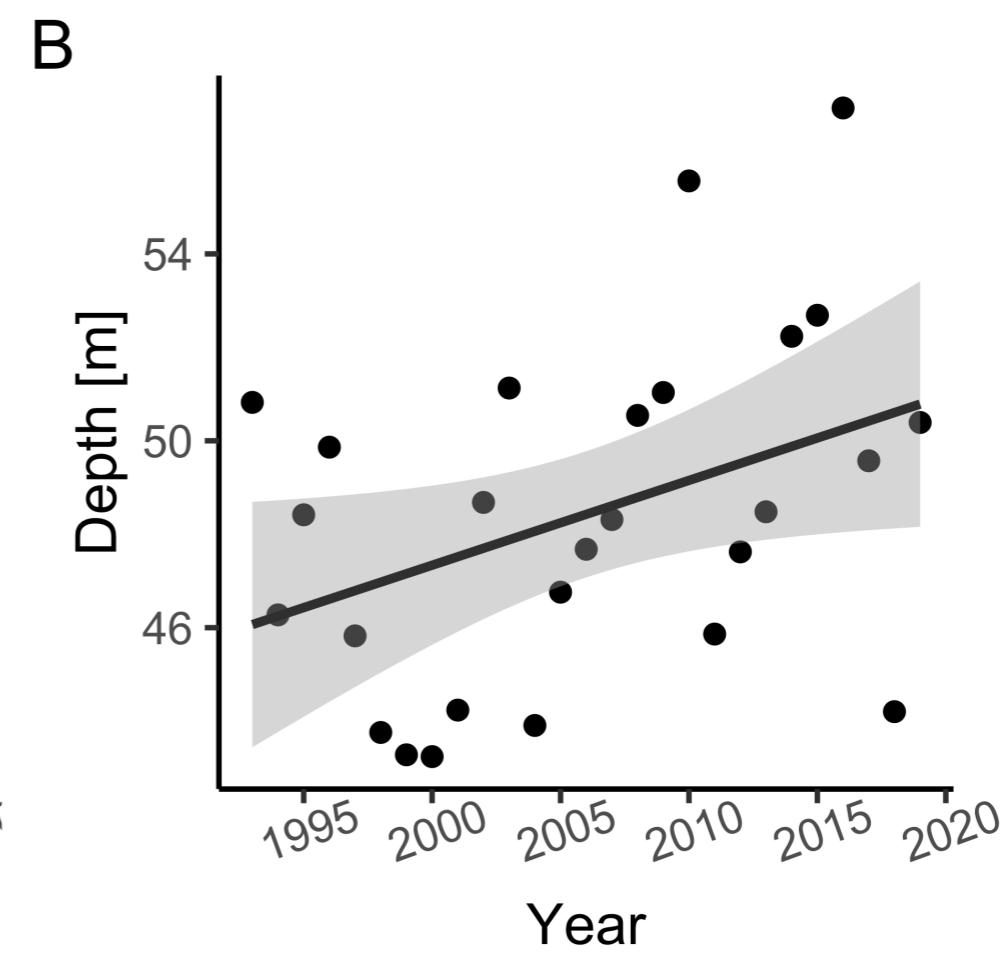
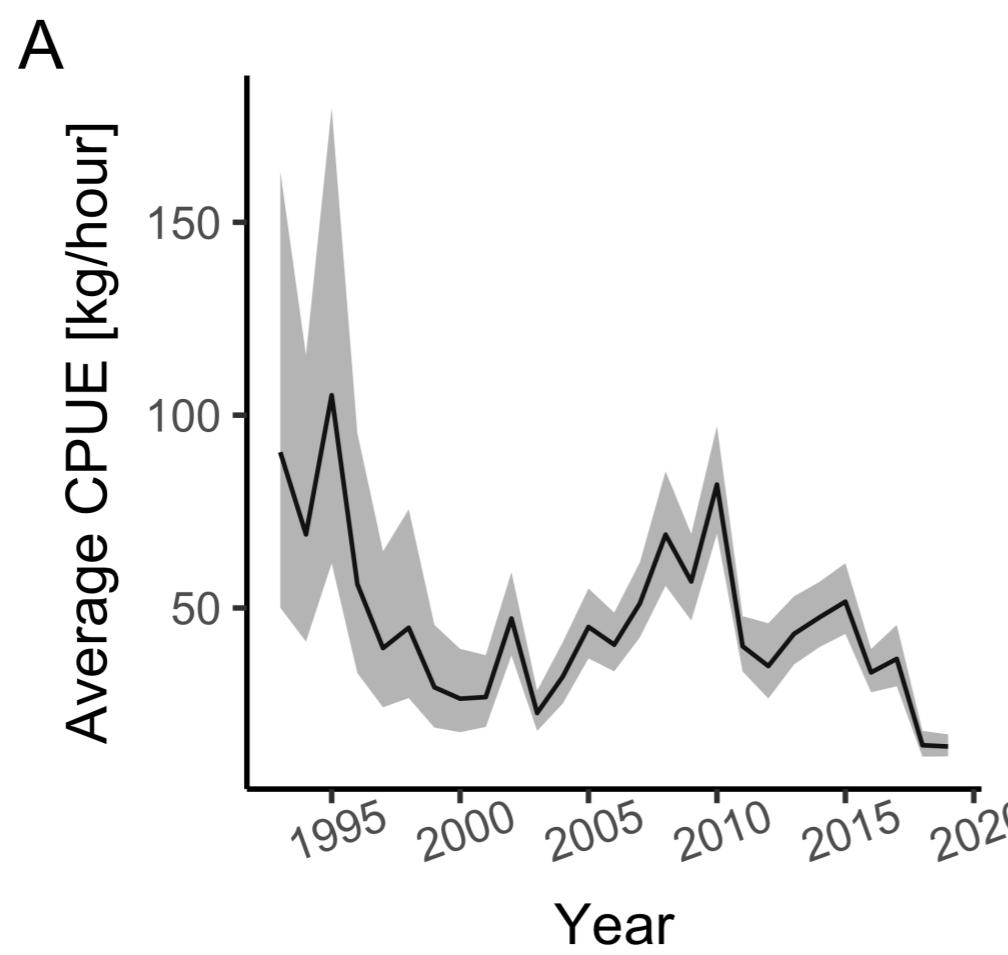
# Decline over time



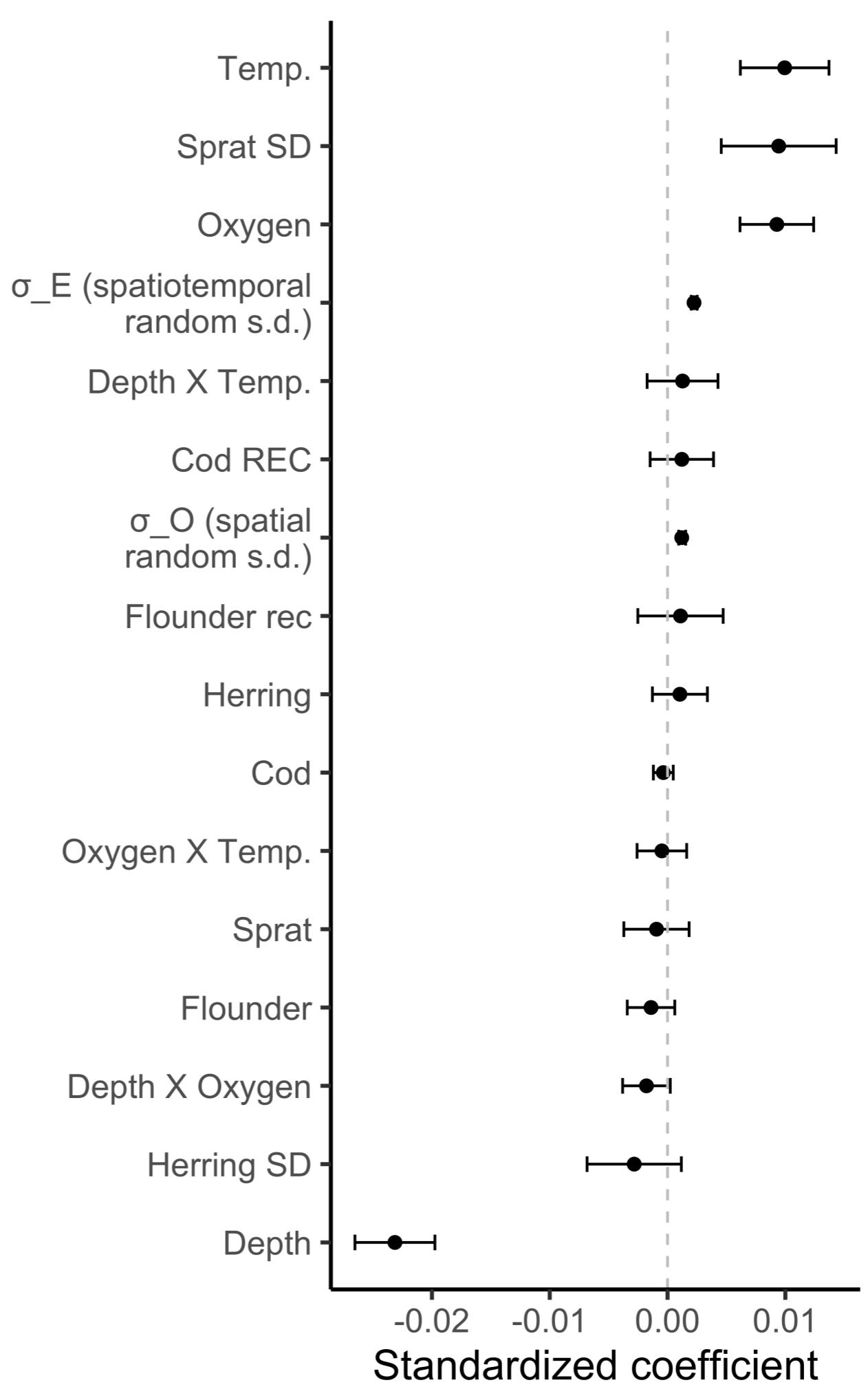
# Decline over time

Year: 1993





# Covariates



# Conclusions

- Why did condition decline between 1993-2005?
  - Feeding levels where normal (Neuenfeldt et al 2020)
  - Condition declined for all sizes (not a single food source limiting)
  - Flounder going down in SD 24-25 (Orio et al 2017)

# Outlook

- Still unclear as to what lead to the decline in condition, which preceded the decline in growth
  - Vague ecosystem changes? Food quality?
- Unlikely that the same mechanisms keep cod in poor physiological condition now
- What can explain spatial variation in condition in more recent, “post physiological collapse”-years?

Thank you for listening!

# A spatiotemporal condition model

$$\mu_{s,t} = \alpha_t + d_{depth} + \omega_s + \epsilon_{s,t} + \sum_{k=1}^{n_k} \gamma_k X_k + \beta \log(l)$$

- Fit in package `sdmTMB`
- BITS 1991-2019 Q4
- Fit full model with all covariates; Compare out-of-sample-predictive performance with minimal model

