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Drivers of dynamics of small pelagic fish resources



# Ontogenic variability of the ecological niche of Peruvian anchoveta (*Engraulis ringens*)

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# Outline

- Introduction: The anchovy (*Engraulis ringens*) on the HCS.
- Research problem
- Species distribution models (SDM)
- Ecological niche
- Methods
- Results
- Conclusions
- Perspectives

### Introduction

(Giannoulaki et al., 2014)



# **Research problem**



## Spatial distribution models



# **Ecological niche**

#### **1 ENVIRONMENTAL FACTOR**

Tolerance law (Shelford)



Lower tolerance limit

Upper tolerance limit

# **Ecological niche**

#### 2 ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS

Salinity



Temperature

Interactions between environmental factors are possible!

Salinity



Temperature

#### 3 ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS

... "an n-dimentional hypervolume where every point in which corresponds to a state of the environment which would permit the species (S) to exist indefinitely ... " (Hutchinson, 1957).

#### Identify the niche is equivalent to find its boundary.





Without interactions

With interactions

# Methods

#### Data:

#### Distribution of anchovies:

- Presence records in the Peruvian coast between 1985 and 2008.
- Absence records (pseudo-absence where it is known that the anchovy is not distributed).

#### Environmental data:

- SST (°C)
- SSS (ups)
- Cl-a (mg/m<sup>3</sup>)
- Oxy (depth 2 mlL<sup>-1</sup>, m)
- Source: remote sensing, in situ data, model outputs.



### Methods

#### ECOLOGICAL NICHE MODEL



# Methods

#### DETERMINATION OF LIMITED VARIABLES



### **Results:** Estimation of ecological niche of anchovy



### **Results:** Estimation of ecological niche of anchovy



0.0 0.2 0.4 0.6 0.8 1.0

### **Results:** Determination of limiting variables

#### Niche Ranges by Developmental Stage

Stage	Variable	Rank
Pre-recruits	SST	11.69 °C – 18 °C
	SSS	34.80 UPS – 35.15 UPS
	CL	0.45 mg/m3 – 12.88 mg/m3
	OXY	1.20 m – 57.54 m
Recruits	SST	12.24°C – 25.34 °C
	SSS	34.65 UPS – 35.15 UPS
	CL	0.43 mg/m3 – 20.42 mg/m3
	OXY	0.85 m – 72.44 m
Adults	SST	12.19 °C – 25.70 °C
	SSS	34.50 UPS – 35.20 UPS
	CL	0.35 mg/m3 – 28.18 mg/m3
	OXY	0.98 m – 107.15 m







0.8 0.6 0.4 0.2 0.0

1.0

### **Results:** Potential habitat











### **Results:** Interannual variability



SSS CHL 

### **Results:** Seasonal variability



SST SSS CHL OXY

# Conclusions

- Each developmental stage of anchovy has different tolerances to the environmental variables considered.
- The potential habitat of pre-recruits is more coastal than recruits and adults.
- The main limiting environmental factors for the distribution of Peruvian anchovy show an important seasonal, interanual and spatial variability.
- Despite temporal and spatial variability, the main limiting factor are:
  - Pre-recruits: SST
  - Recruits: CL and OXI
  - Adults: CL

### Perspectives

- Improve the estimation of tolerance ranges for environmental variables using in-situ data.
- We need to do simulations with this model including more environmental variables.
- We have to include the size of the fish as a variable in the model with the purpose of having a classification of new stages of development in function of the environmental tolerance.

# Thank you!!!!











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