Using simulation model experiments to explore the impact of basin-scale climate forcing on localized upper-trophic-level marine ecosystem production

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Presentation Overview

- Brief model introduction
- Review model experimental procedure
- Present results of three applications showing impacts of climate change on marine ecosystems

NEMURO

North Pacific Ecosystem Model for Understanding Regional Oceanography

"A conceptual model representing the minimum trophic structure and biological relationships between and among all the marine ecosystem components thought to be essential to describe ecosystem dynamics in the North Pacific"

Source: Kishi et al. 2007. Ecological Modeling

NEMURO



NEMURO.FISH NEMURO For Including Herring and Saury

• Explicitly include higher trophic level (fish) dynamics in the simulation of marine ecosystems

NEMURO.FISH



NEMURO-3D

Basin scale predictions of the state of the LTL ecosystem NEMURO embedded in a GCM grid of the North Pacific



The Research Plan



Apply the same model structure (i.e. equations and parameters) and climate scenarios to three different ecosystems – any observed differences in dynamic response will be due to local characteristics and forcing

Experimental Procedure

- Used predictions of temperature and zooplankton from 3D-NEMURO (NEMURO embedded in a 3-D circulation model)
 - Aita-Noguchi, Yamanaka, and Kishi (2007) Ecological Modelling
- *Uncoupled*: used stored output from NEMURO as input to herring growth model
- Can we see regime shifts effects cascading up the food web?

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Static Linking Fish Bioenergetics/Biomass to NEMURO





Apply the same model to Pacific herring, for three areas of the North Pacific, using the same 50 year climate forcing scenario



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Impact of Regime Shifts on Herring Growth

Responses were synchronous in time but different between regions Bering Sea responded differently from WCVI and PWS; WCVI and PWS responded the same



Source: Rose et al (2007) Ecological Modeling.

Source: Megrey et al (2007) Ecological Modeling.

Year



Species comparison between saury and herring



Simulate herring and saury growth in response to common climatology at each of the 6 stations which span the North Pacific basin. Within each side of the Pacific a slight latitudinal gradient was introduced. Megrey et al. (2007); Ito et al. (2007)

Saury vs. Herring, West vs. East



Saury and herring show out of phase synchronicity in the east

Oct. 31, 2007 Source: Megrey et al. (2007)



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Basin-Scale Geographical Herring Comparison





Calibration with PEST using Climatological Steady-state weights-at-age



Weights-at-age from: Naumenko (2002) Report 20 ADFG stock assessments Schweigert et al. (2004) Lassuy (1980)

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Looking for Patterns by Region?



Geographic Differences?

Nothing apparent in terms of trends or associations



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Looking for Patterns by Latitude?





Quite messy and nothing apparent here as well

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Desperately looking for patterns -Clustering



distance Use complete connection method with standardized Euclidian distance

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Eigenvector for wet weight EOF1 38.1% EOF2 19.4%



PCA analysis again -(showed opposing associations in the wet weight response variable2



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1940

year PICES S5

1950 1960 1970 1980 1990 2000

Climate Effects Are they Top-Down, Bottom-up or Both?

- Climate affects the ecosystem from the bottom of the food web through climate signals passed through the LTL up to the HTL (i.e. changes in SST, MLD, nutrient flux, LTL productivity), or
- Top-down through climate influences on the UTL or the environment-dependent spawner recruit model that closes the life cycle.

Summary

- Within basin synchronies were detected but opposing associations were localized.
- Local associations were not always consistent
- Evidence of bottom-up ecosystem forcing
- Models like NEMURO.FISH are useful, especially when their predictions differ from known patterns and data
- Investigate additional climate change scenarios and perhaps global warming scenarios?