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*The Utility of Catch Per Unit Effort Variance*

Population models play a central role in fisheries management. Commercial harvest data, especially catch per unit effort (CPUE), are used to predict population parameters and abundance. A survey of recent literature reveals that CPUE variability is typically ignored. The common practice is to aggregate harvest and effort by year. We present a simulation study to explore traditional models and those that have been modified to include CPUE variability. Daily fish populations and harvest events are simulated over 60 years. Catch and effort are aggregated over several temporal scales. Population level parameter estimates are compared across models and temporal aggregation scales.