

A revolutionary approach for improving age determination efficiency in fish using Fourier transform near infrared spectroscopy (FT-NIRS)

FT-NIRS 2023 Workshop 3-7 April

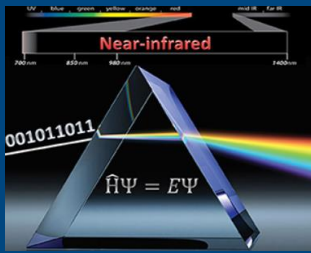
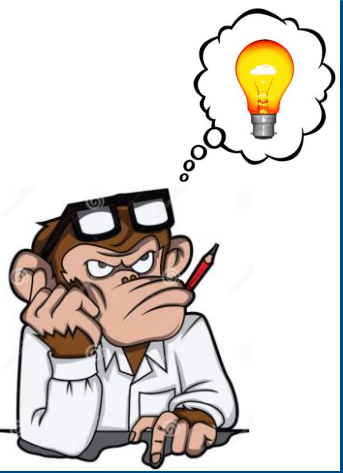


Envisioning the future of production fish ageing: end-to-end integration of the FT-NIRS age estimation enterprise

*Thomas Helser, Irina Benson, Esther Goldstein, Beth Matta, Brenna Groom, Jon Short*

*Many thanks to AGP staff*

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A revolutionary approach for improving age determination efficiency in fish using Fourier transform near infrared spectroscopy (FT-NIRS)

FT-NIRS 2023 Workshop 3-7 April

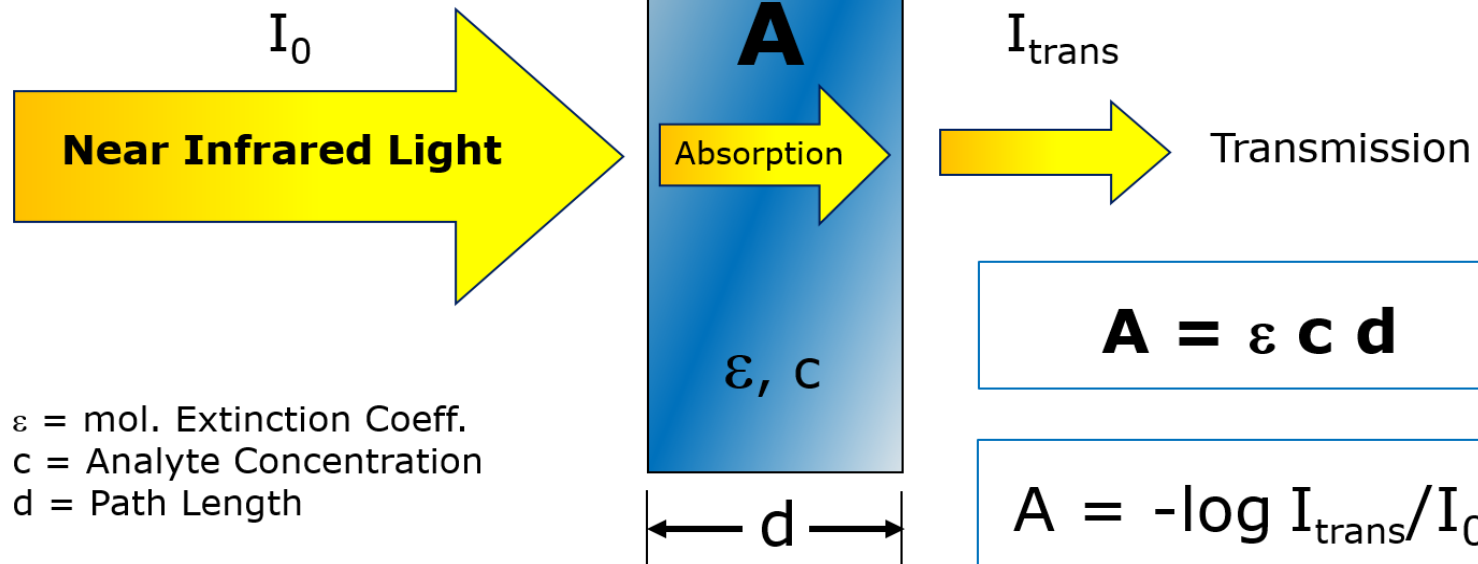
## Envisioning the future of production fish ageing: end-to-end integration of the FT-NIRS age estimation enterprise

### *Where to begin?*

- Some background of FT-NIRS & age prediction
- How does FT-NIRS age estimation fit into the TMA process (maintain consistency in both TMA and FT-NIRS)
- Describe a (*hypothetical*) system of process control and data quality control from end-to-end (reporting examples)
- Emulate the future process: 1) build predictive model on data from past (2014-2018) and predict ages from future collections (2019 and 2021)

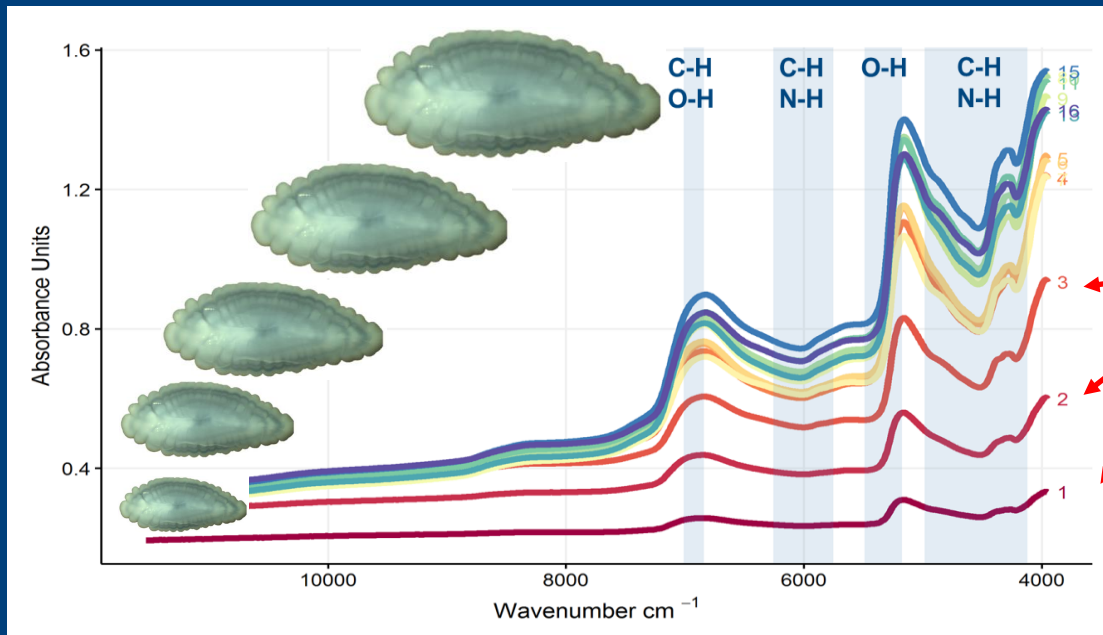
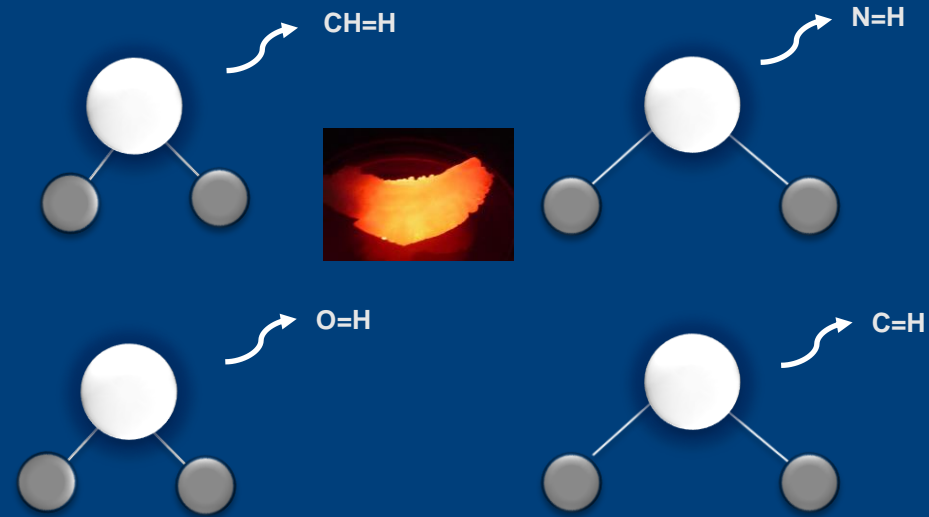
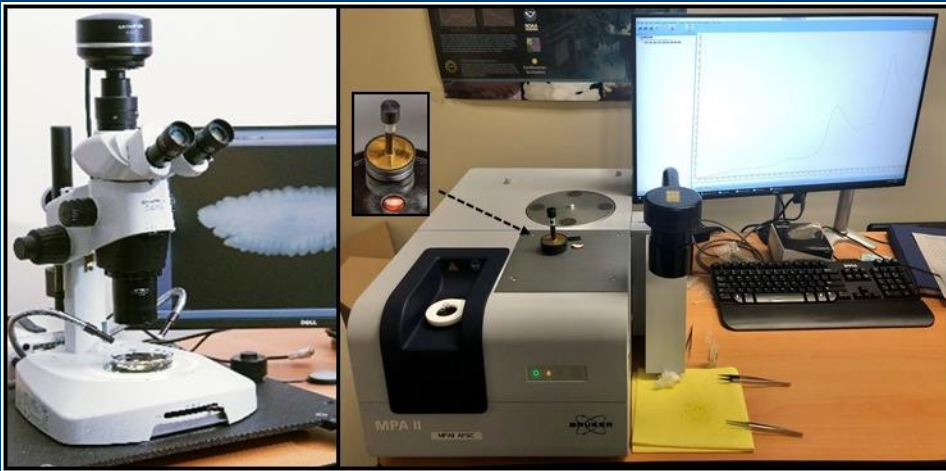
# Interaction of electromagnetic radiation and matter

Lambert-Beer's Law:  
Absorption



$\epsilon$  = mol. Extinction Coeff.  
 $c$  = Analyte Concentration  
 $d$  = Path Length

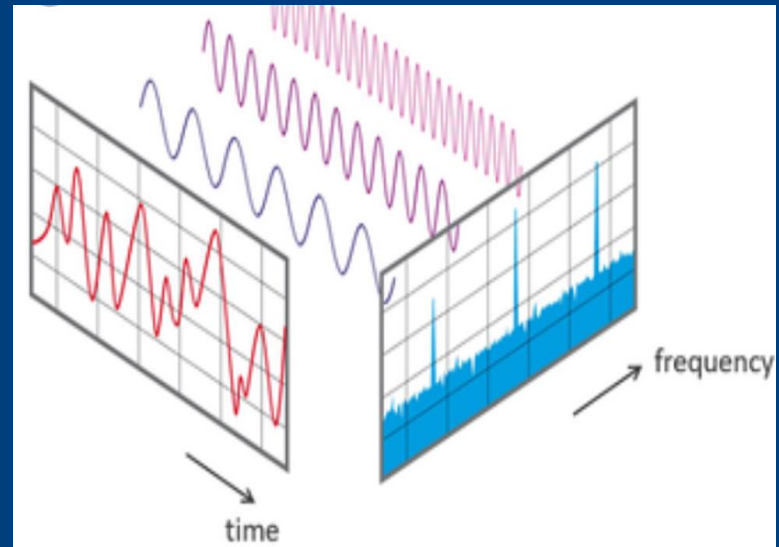
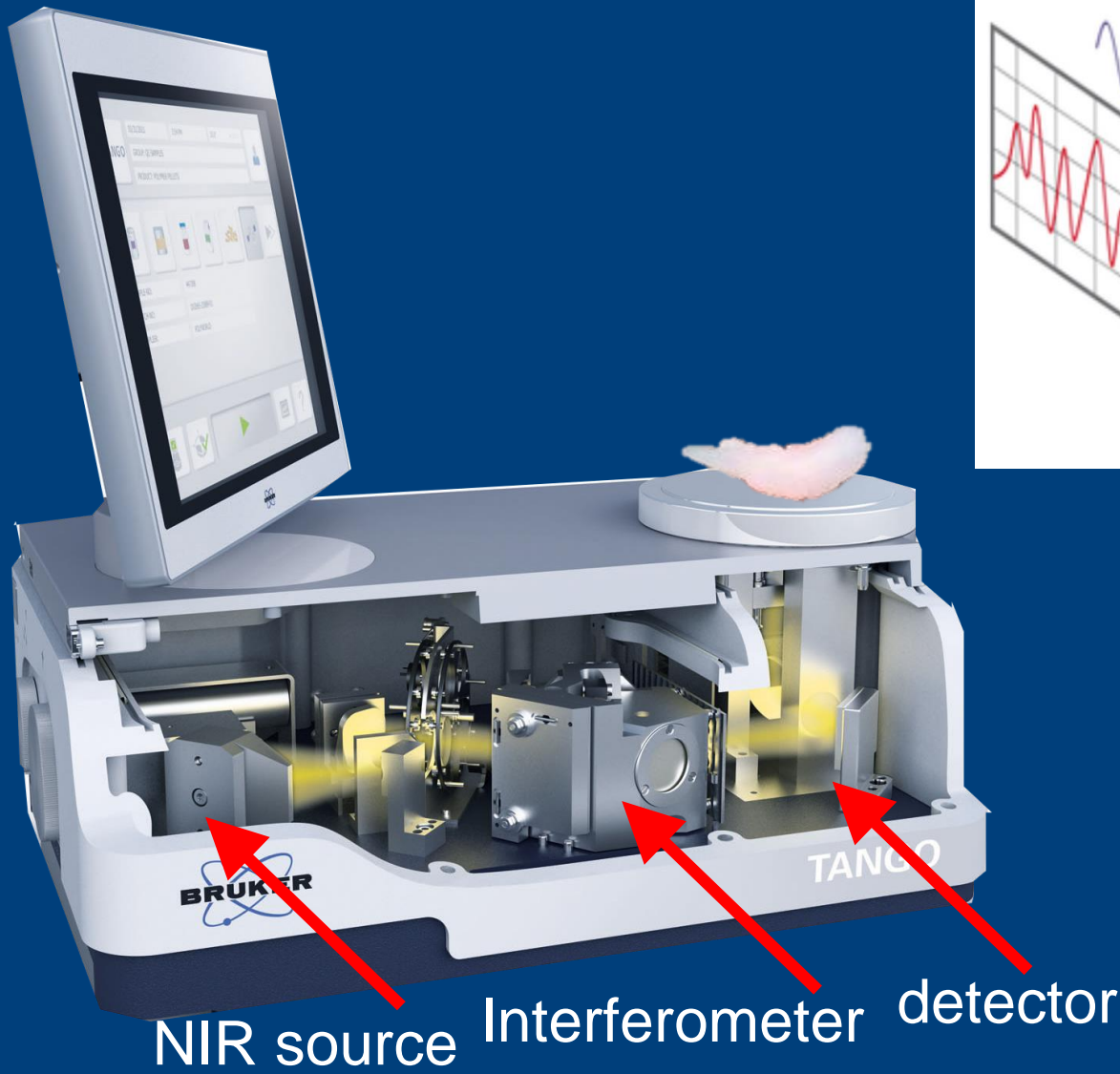
# NIR Spectroscopy: measurement of intra-molecular vibrations



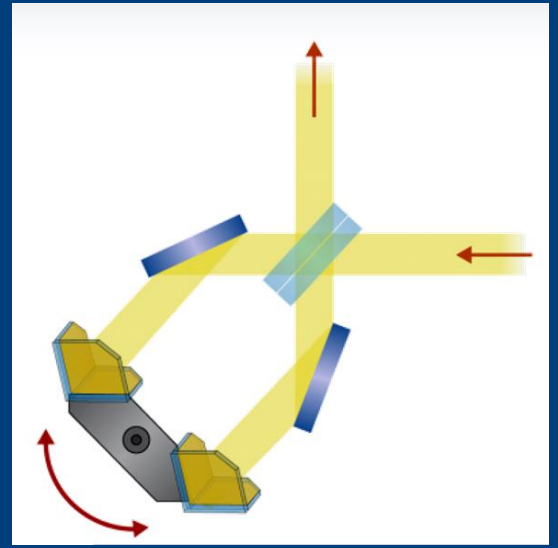
Different ages have different absorbance profiles

# How are the molecular motions detected and measured?

## Fourier transform near infrared spectrometer



### Interferometer



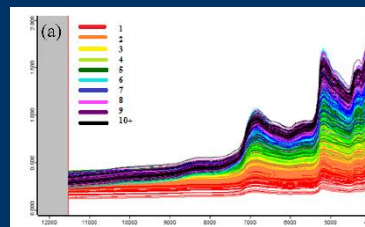
# How is fish age predicted from otolith spectra?



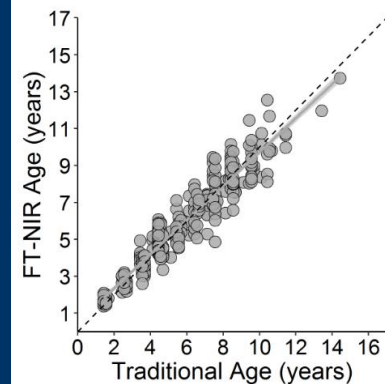
Measured by FT-NIR



Spectral Data



Deep machine learning



Samples



Analyzed by Primary Reference Method

Age	Wavelength (nm)	Intensity	...
1	1200	0.1	...
1	1100	0.2	...
1	1000	0.3	...
1	900	0.4	...
1	800	0.5	...
1	700	0.6	...
1	600	0.7	...
1	500	0.8	...
1	400	0.9	...
2	1200	0.15	...
2	1100	0.25	...
2	1000	0.35	...
2	900	0.45	...
2	800	0.55	...
2	700	0.65	...
2	600	0.75	...
2	500	0.85	...
2	400	0.95	...
...	...	...	...
10	1200	0.9	...
10	1100	1.0	...
10	1000	1.1	...
10	900	1.2	...
10	800	1.3	...
10	700	1.4	...
10	600	1.5	...
10	500	1.6	...
10	400	1.7	...

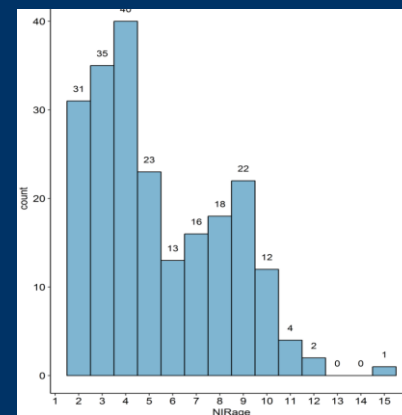
Reference Values (ages)

Model uploaded to instrument

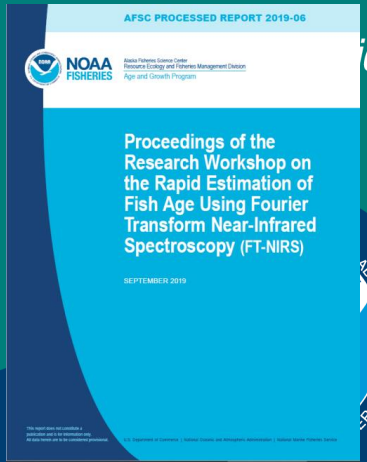
Unknown Samples



Measured by FT-NIR



Age compositions for assessments



## MARINE & FRESHWATER RESEARCH

Rapid age estimation of longnose skate (*Raja rhina*) vertebrae using near infrared spectroscopy

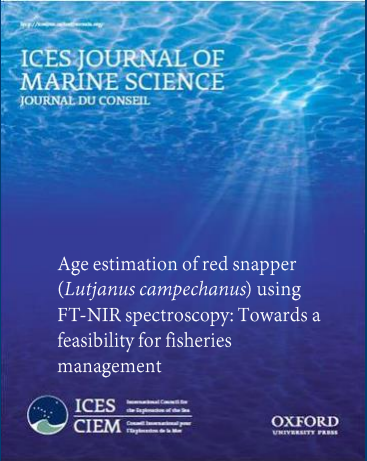
Canadian Journal of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences

OPEN ACCESS | Article

### The future of fish age estimation: deep machine learning coupled with Fourier transform near-infrared spectroscopy of otoliths

Irina M. Benson<sup>1</sup>, Thomas E. Helsler<sup>2</sup>, Giovanni Marchetti<sup>3</sup>, and Beverly K. Barnett<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Resource Ecology and Fisheries Management Division, Alaska Fisheries Science Center, National Marine Fisheries Service, NOAA, 7600 Sand Point Way NE, Seattle, WA 98115, USA; <sup>2</sup>Google LLC, 1600 Amphitheatre Parkway, Mountain View, CA 94043, USA; <sup>3</sup>Fisheries Assessment, Technology, and Engineering Support Division, Biology and Life History Branch, Southeast Fisheries Science Center, Panama City Laboratory, National Marine Fisheries Service, NOAA, 3500 Delwood Beach Rd, Panama City, FL 32408, USA



Age estimation of red snapper (*Lutjanus campechanus*) using FT-NIR spectroscopy: Towards a feasibility for fisheries management



Ageing fish at the molecular level using Fourier transform near infrared spectroscopy (FT-NIRS): A case study of Pacific cod



Classification of fish species from different ecosystems using the near infrared diffuse reflectance spectra of otoliths

# NOAA FISHERIES

Original Research Article

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### Fourier transform near infrared spectroscopy as a tool to predict spawning status in Alaskan fishes with variable reproductive strategies

Todd TenBrink<sup>1</sup>, Sandra Neidetcher<sup>1</sup>, Morgan Arrington<sup>2</sup>, Irina Benson<sup>1</sup>, Christina Conrath<sup>3</sup> and Thomas Helsler<sup>1</sup>

frontiers in Marine Science

ORIGINAL RESEARCH  
published: 16 July 2021  
doi: 10.3389/fmars.2021.690694

### Rapid and Reliable Assessment of Fish Physiological Condition for Fisheries Research and Management Using Fourier Transform Near-Infrared Spectroscopy

OPEN ACCESS

Edited by:  
Carlo C. Lattacco,  
Norwegian Institute of Food, Fisheries  
and Aquaculture Research (Nofima),  
Norway

Reviewed by:

Esther D. Goldstein<sup>1\*</sup>, Thomas E. Helsler<sup>1</sup>, Johanna J. Vollenweider<sup>2</sup>, Ashwin Sreenivasan<sup>1</sup> and Fletcher F. Sewall<sup>2</sup>

# Operational framework

FT-NIRS ageing approach



RACE, FMA, special collections



N = 1500 - 2000

Maintaining consistency in Reference age data

- Double reads
- Unscannable

Microscopic ageing (10% -20% double read subsample)

QC tools

FT-NIR otolith scanning

QC tools

Maintaining consistency in spectral data

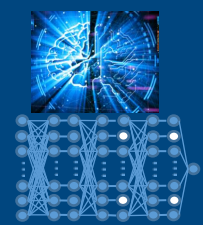
- In-scan check (model based)
- Operator level check
- Manager level check (PLSr)

Evaluate model performance

good

bad

QC tools



New ages + spectra

Update model re-calibrate

Model validation

- Reasons to update
- Instrument (operating environment)
  - Sample domain shift
  - Unobserved variability

Key personnel:

- Database manager
- Operator
- Manager
- Analyst

QC tools





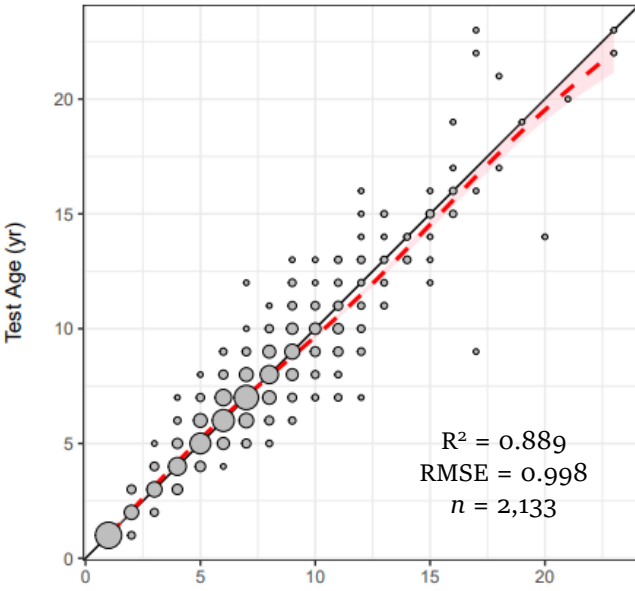
**Pretend it is August of 2018.**

- **Using otoliths from past EBS 2014-2018 surveys build a predictive CNN model.**
- **Predict ages for 2019 & 2021 using FT-NIRS (2014 – 2018) model**



# EBS walleye pollock (2014-2018)

## Age data



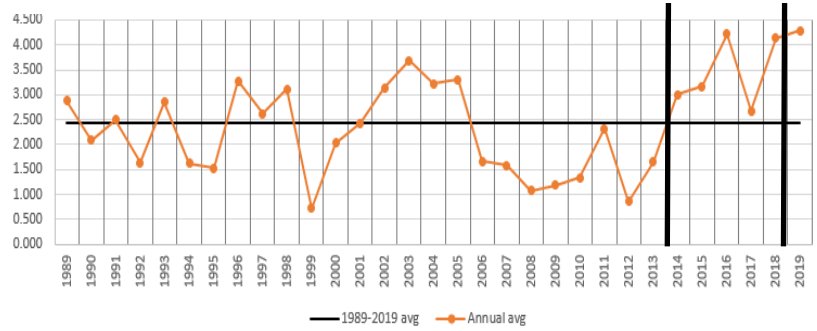
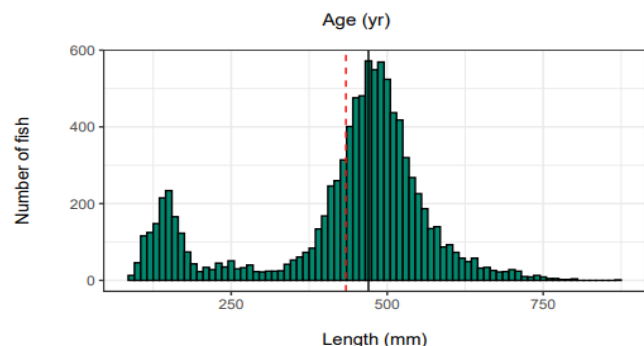
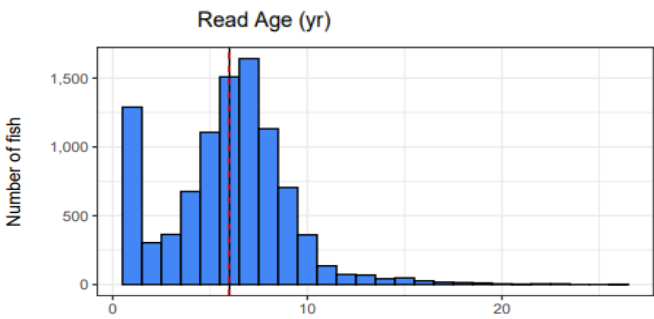
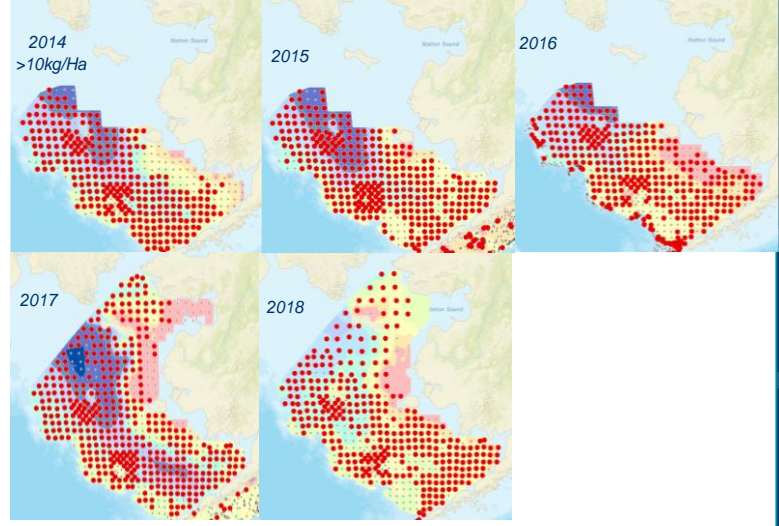
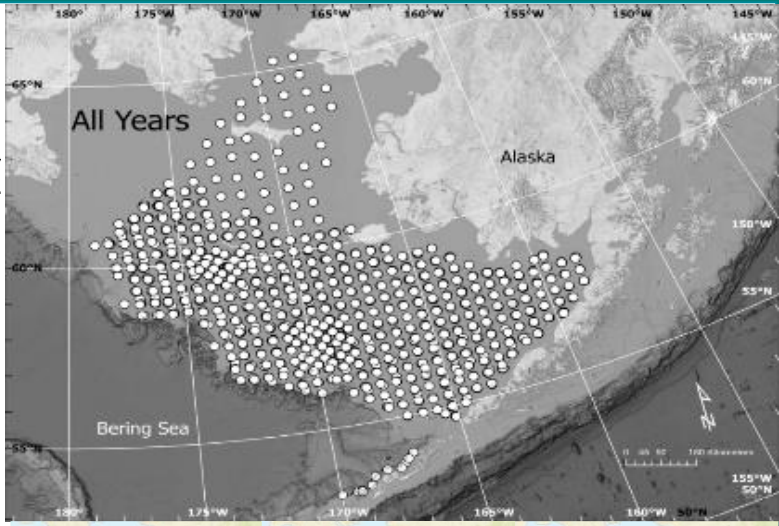
Precision statistic	Value
Percent agreement (PA)	66.9%
Average percent error (APE)	3.05%
Coefficient of variation (CV)	4.32%
Total number of fish in ageing collection	9603
Number of fish unaged	58
Number of fish in precision-testing sample	2133
Number of fish aged by two readers	2133
Percentage of fish with paired age readings	22
	5.83

(a) Bias direction

minus bias	371 otoliths	17.4%
plus bias	335 otoliths	15.7%
complete agreement	1427 otoliths	66.9%

(b) Tests of symmetry

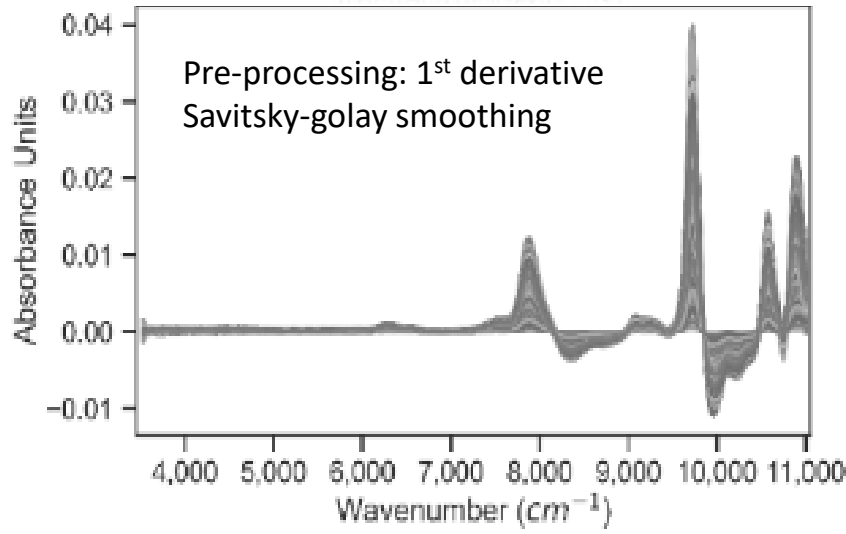
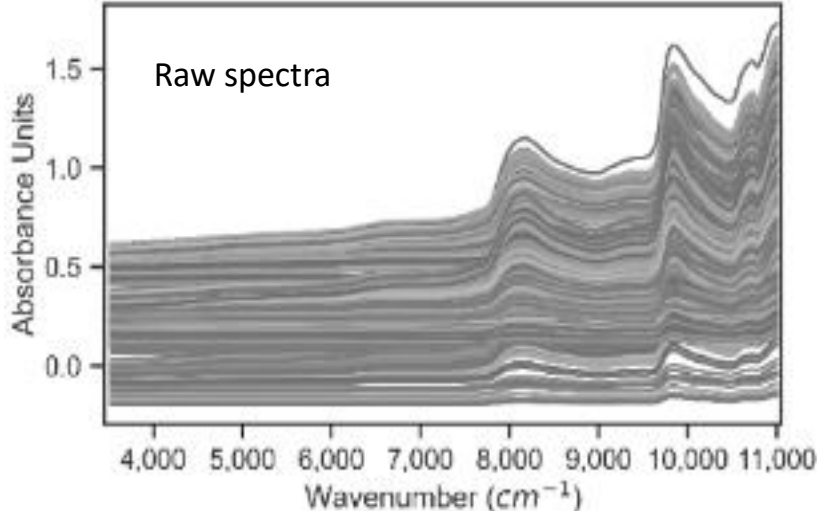
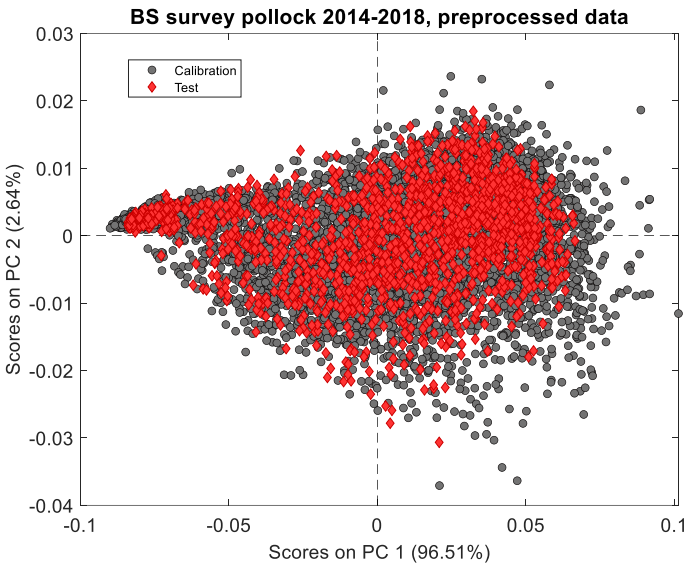
Test name	df	Test statistic	p
Bowker's	48	55.72	0.21
Evans-Hoenig	7	4.79	0.69



# EBS walleye pollock base model (2014-2018)

## Otolith spectra

- n = 8,617
- Onion algorithm to split train & test (applied to each year)

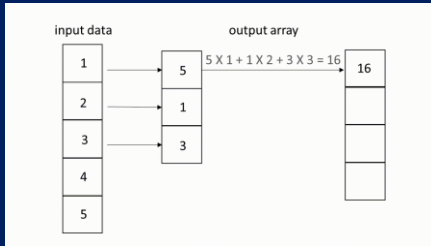


Features	Subset	Values
<b>Mean fish age*</b> (standard deviation)	train	5.72 (3.3)
	test	5.82 (3.14)
<b>Fish age range*</b>	train	1 – 23
	test	1 – 23
<b>Fish length range</b>	train	90 – 870
	test	100 – 800
<b>Latitude range</b>	train	53.13822 – 65.25117
	test	53.15808 – 65.23351
<b>Gear depth range</b>	train	18 – 695.79
	test	18 – 640
<b>Gear temperature range</b>	train	-1.6 – 9.9
	test	-1.6 – 9.6

# Convolutional Neural Network

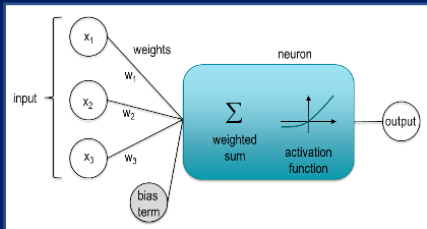


Convolutional layer consists of a kernel that slides along our data and applies its weights to the data values.

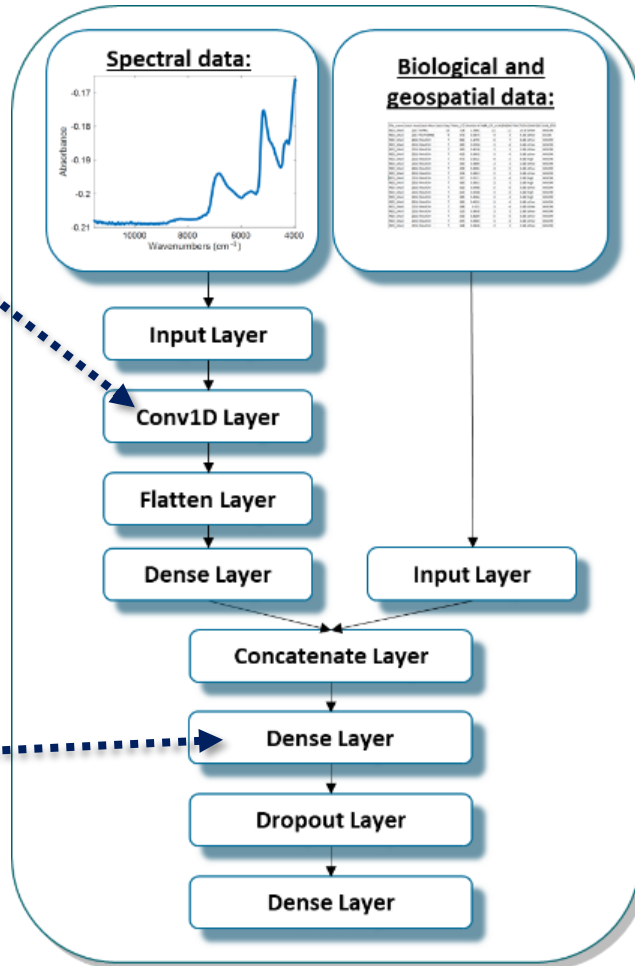


Deep learning networks will have multiple kernels and will produce multiple output arrays.

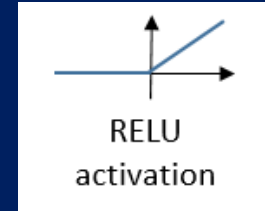
Neurons are core processing units of the network.



Dense layers of neural network is made up of layers of neurons.

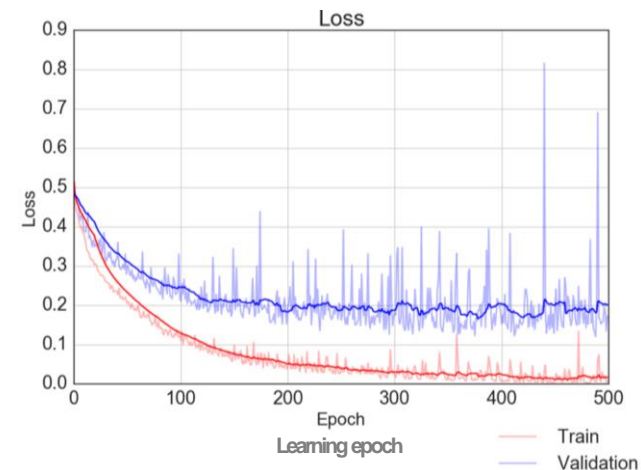


Non-linear activation functions introduce non-linear properties into network.



We used Rectified linear unit (RELU) functions which outputs the input directly if it is positive, for negative input outputs zero.

To implement our models we employed Python using TensorFlow with Keras API and hyperband optimization (HB) for hyperparameter tuning.



# Predictive results from CNN



Walleye pollock  
(*Gadus chalcogrammus*)

Table 3. Prediction results of multi-modal CNN and PLS models.

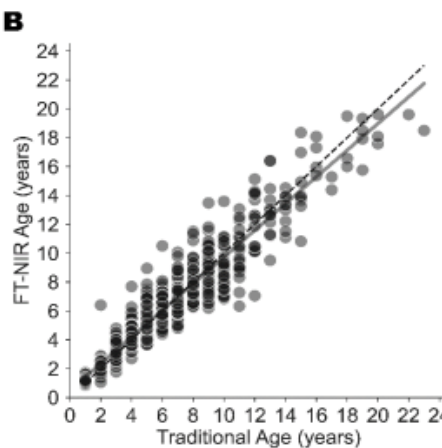
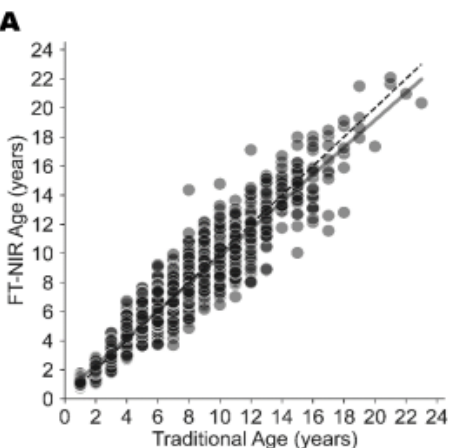
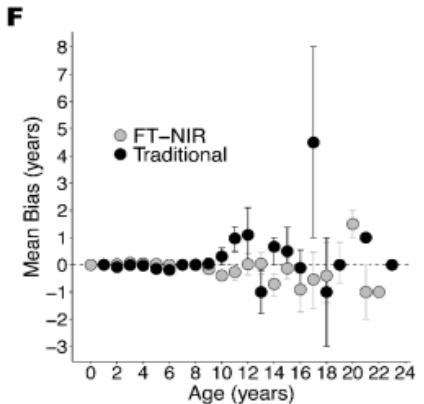
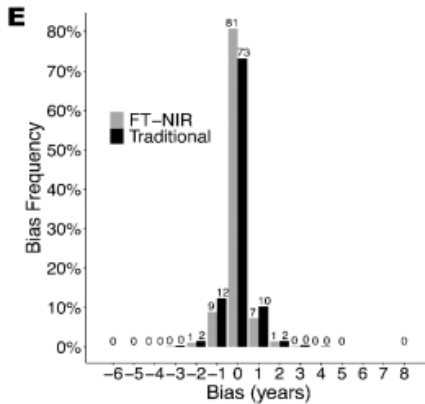
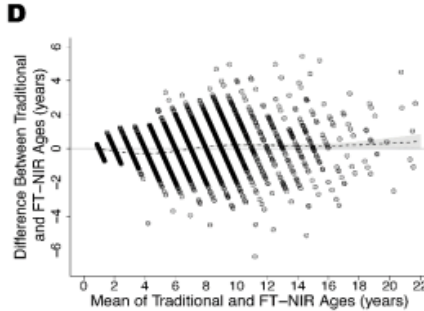
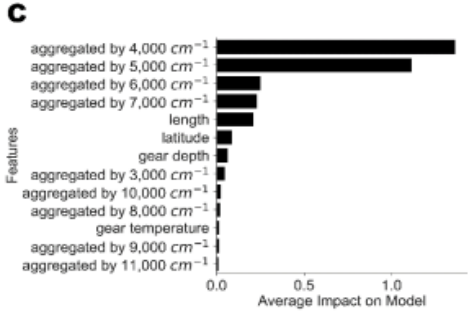
Model	Number of otoliths			R <sup>2</sup>		RMSE	
	Train	Test	Outliers*	Train	Test	Train	Test
CNN				<b>0.93</b>	<b>0.92</b>	<b>0.83</b>	<b>0.91</b>
PLS with all spectral wavenumbers	6866	1751	12	0.89	0.87	0.99	1.14
PLS with selected spectral wavenumbers				0.90	0.87	0.97	1.12

\*Spectral outliers removed for each collection year:  
2014 (n=3); 2015 (n=1); 2016 (n=3); 2017 (n=1); 2018 (n=4)

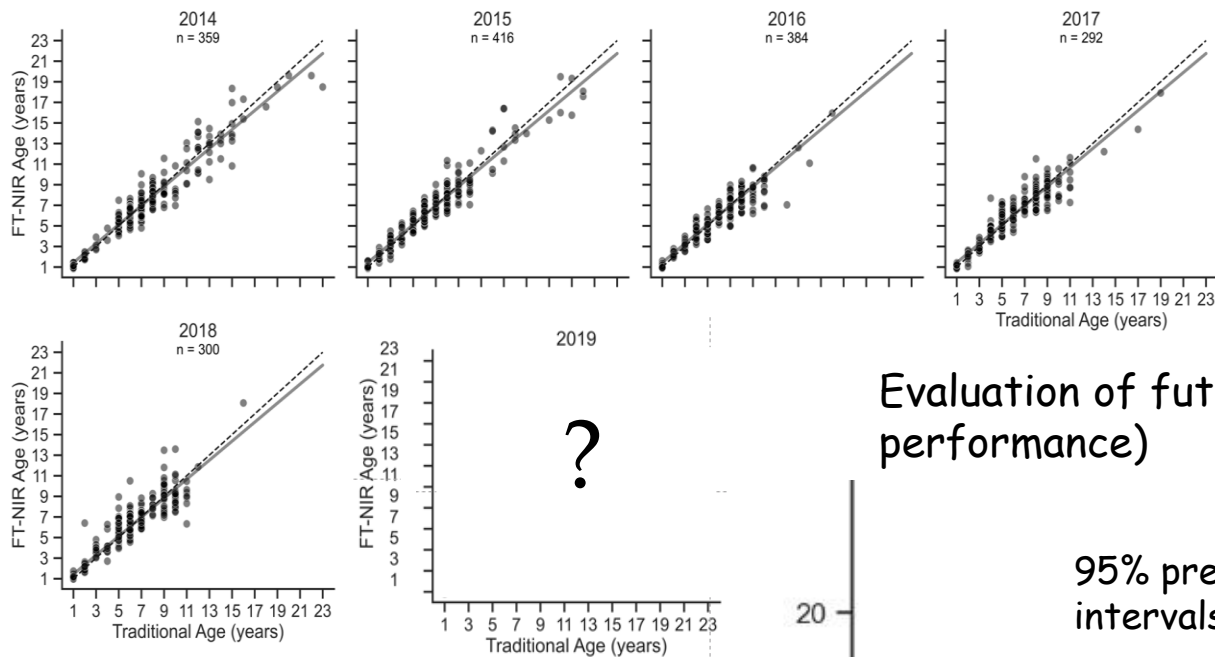


The future of fish age estimation: deep machine learning coupled with Fourier transform near infrared spectroscopy of otoliths.

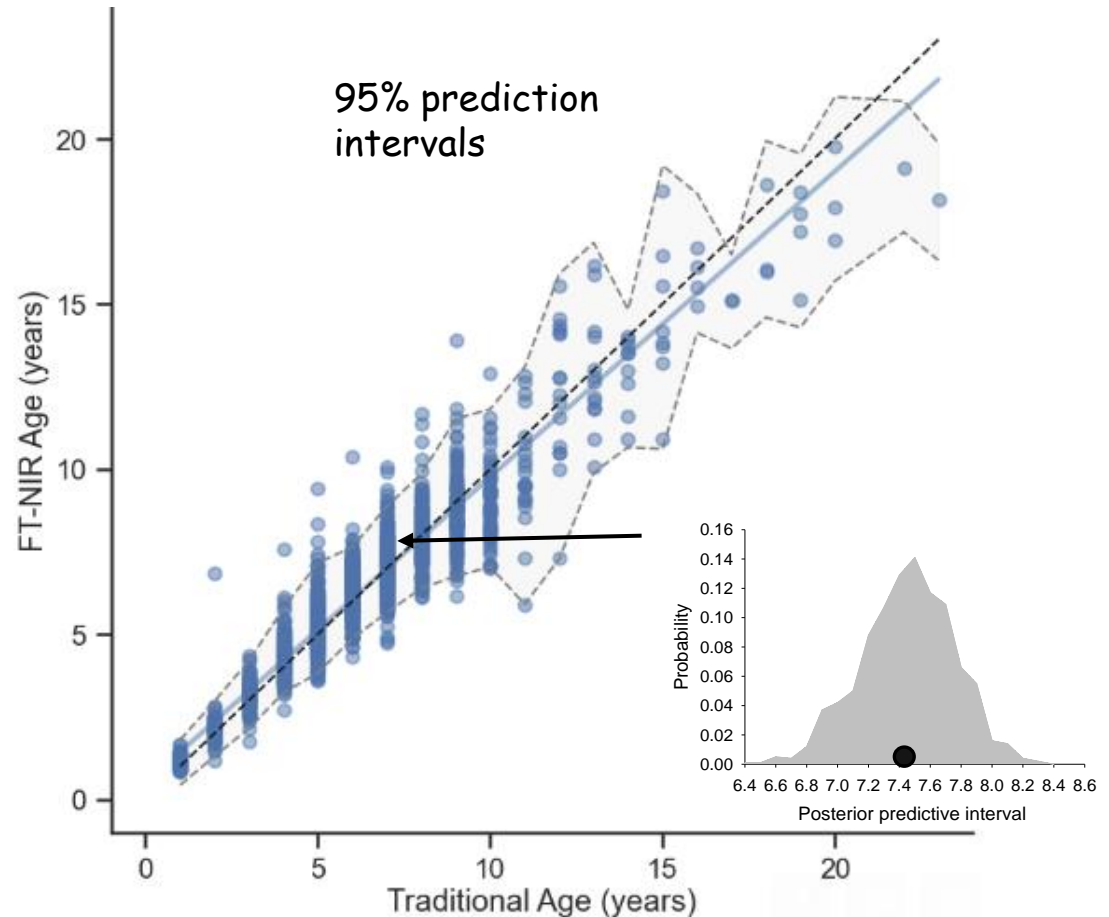
Benson, Irina; NOAA Fisheries Alaska Fisheries Science Center, Resource Ecology and Fisheries Management Division  
 Helser, Thomas; NOAA Fisheries Alaska Fisheries Science Center, Resource Ecology and Fisheries Management Division  
 Marchetti, Giovanni; Google LLC  
 Barnett, Beverly; NOAA Fisheries Southeast Fisheries Science Center, Fisheries Assessment, Technology, and Engineering Support Division, Biology and Life History Branch, Panama City Facility



R<sup>2</sup> = 0.92 RMSE<sub>p</sub> = 0.91 years



## Evaluation of future predictions (model performance)








### Dropout as a Bayesian Approximation: Representing Model Uncertainty in Deep Learning

*Proceedings of the 33<sup>rd</sup> International Conference on Machine Learning*, New York, NY, USA, 2016. JMLR: W&CP volume 48. Copyright 2016 by the author(s).

[nature](#) > [nature reviews physics](#) > [viewpoint](#) > article

Viewpoint | Published: 22 August 2022

### Bayesian uncertainty quantification for machine-learned models in physics

[Yarin Gal](#) , [Petros Koumoutsakos](#) , [Francois Lanusse](#) , [Gilles Louppe](#)  & [Costas Papadimitriou](#) 

[Nature Reviews Physics](#) 4, 573–577 (2022) | [Cite this article](#)

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**Consistency in otolith spectra**



FT-NIR otolith scanning



QC tools

**QA/QC standardized reports ex. 2019 survey walleye pollock**

Analysis by session	Total scans	<u>Unscannable</u>	Broken	Crystallized	Other issue	Outliers	Extreme	Unusual
NIR_162201901201A	138	2	2	3	5	2	3	4
NIR_162201901201B	261	11	1	10	16	2	12	6
NIR_162201901201C	140	0	4	4	5	1	9	4
NIR_162201901201D	140	0	0	6	9	1	12	6
NIR_162201901201E	85	0	0	1	2	0	7	2
NIR_94201901201A	124	7	6	6	4	0	10	6
NIR_94201901201B	236	44	13	10	30	1	24	4
NIR_94201901201C	138	2	0	7	7	1	11	4
NIR_94201901201D	138	2	2	6	7	1	11	2
NIR_94201901201E	78	0	0	0	3	0	4	4
<b>Separate analysis on combined 2019 scan sessions</b>	<b>1478</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>42</b>

**Outliers** – Rescan or traditional ageing

**Extreme** – Pass QA/QC if there are no issues based on metadata

- Unusual** –
- Confirm outliers
  - Possibly add data to calibration model
    - 2019 warm year
    - Many small fish

Include time-flow stats to monitor utilization and efficiency:

- 10 operators
- 1.66 – 2.43 hrs/session
- 30 – 50 scans/person/hour (as high as 67 scans/hour)

**Future scan sessions – standardized at ~ 2 boxes (200+ otos)**

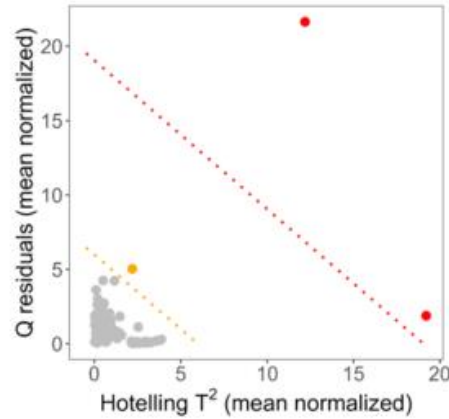
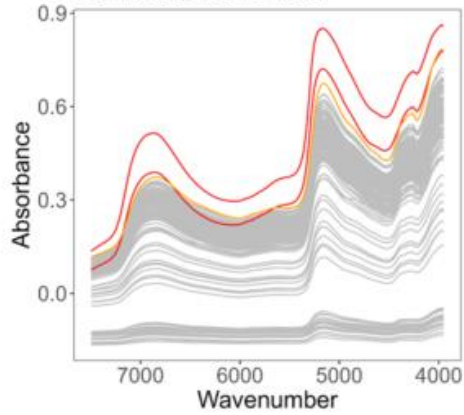
**Higher efficiency may be realized (w/o weighing otoliths)**



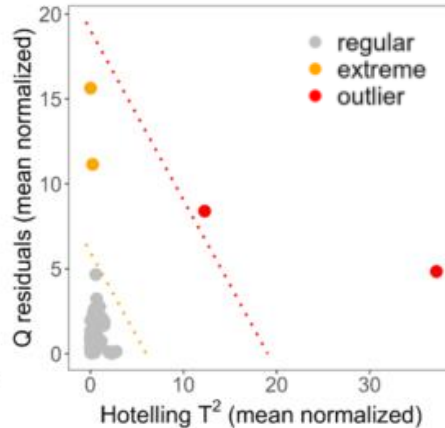
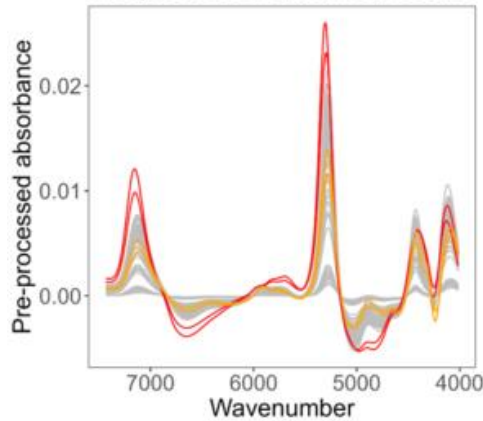
## QA/QC standardized reports

ex. 2019 survey walleye Pollock Session NIR\_162201901201A

Raw data: new scans



Pre-processed data: new scans

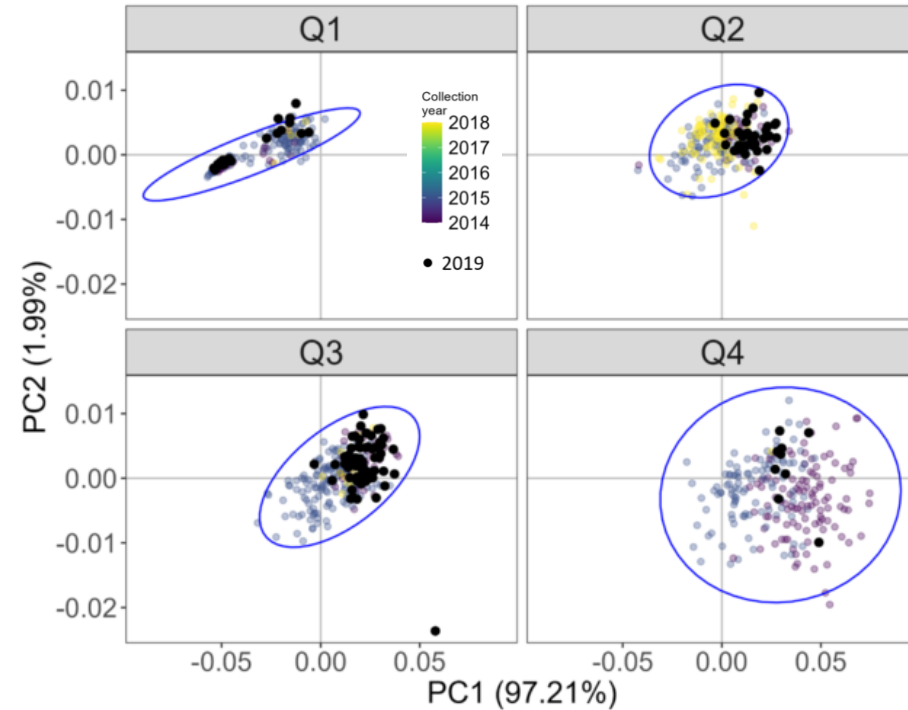


### Part 1: Extremes & Outliers

PCA by scan session

- **Extreme:** determine cause (small otolith, broken, etc.)  
Significance level = 0.05
- **Outliers:** rescan or age traditionally.  
Significance level = 0.01

## Pre-processed data



### Part 2: Unusual spectra

New scans vs. past scans

- PCAs with all data
- 99% data ellipse by length quartile

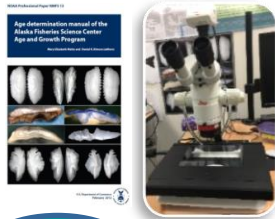
→ outliers & specimens that expand data domain



## PART II: Processing 2019 & 2021 age data (only ageing 20% of entire collection)



**Consistency in Reference age data (assumes 20% double reads)**



**QC tools**

Table 1: Precision statistics for the Walleye Pollock 2019 Bering Sea Survey collection.

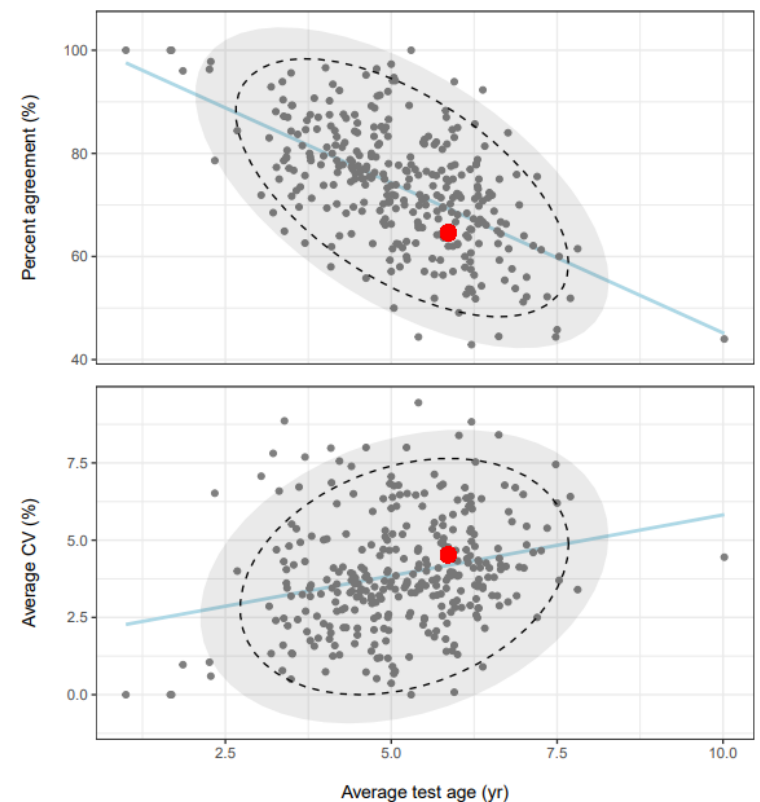
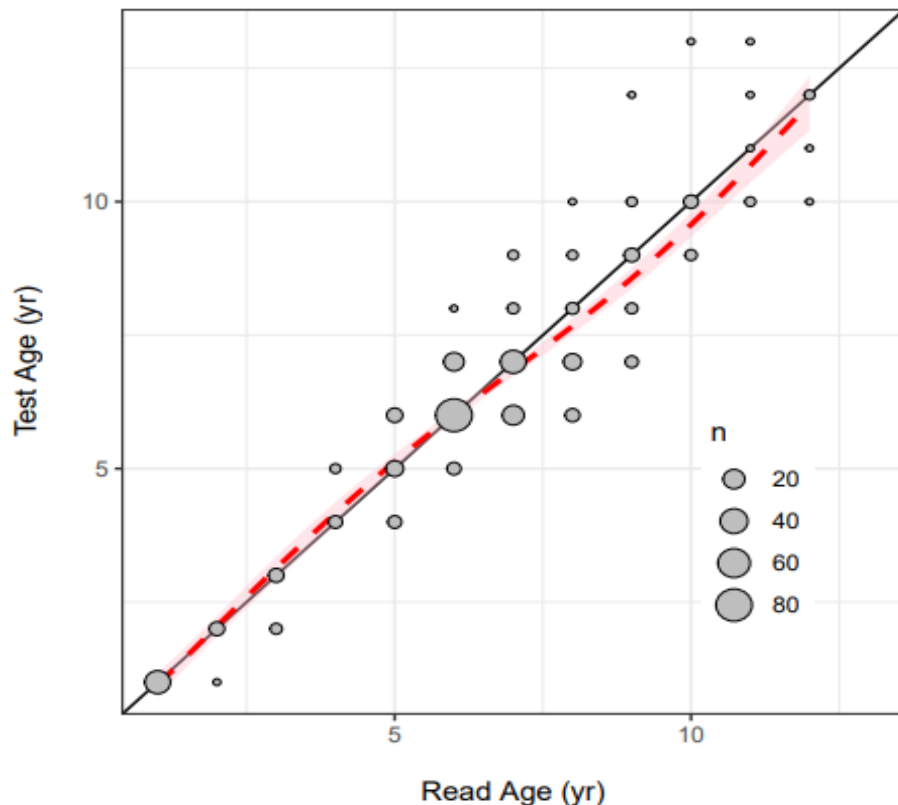
Precision statistic	Value
Percent agreement (PA)	64.61%
Average percent error (APE)	3.2%
Coefficient of variation (CV)	4.53%
Total number of fish in ageing collection	1552
Number of fish unaged	13
Number of fish in precision-testing sample	308
Number of fish aged by two readers	308
Percentage of fish with paired age readings	20
Average read age (paired reads only)	5.95
Average test age (paired reads only)	5.86

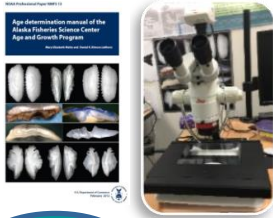
(a) Bias direction			
minus bias	42 otoliths	13.6%	
plus bias	67 otoliths	21.8%	

(b) Tests of symmetry			
Test name	df	Test statistic	p
Bowker's	17	23.44	0.14
Evans-Hoenig	3	9.1	0.03



**Consistency in Reference age data (assumes 20% double reads)**



QC tools

Table 1: Precision statistics for the Walleye Pollock 2021 Bering Sea Survey collection.

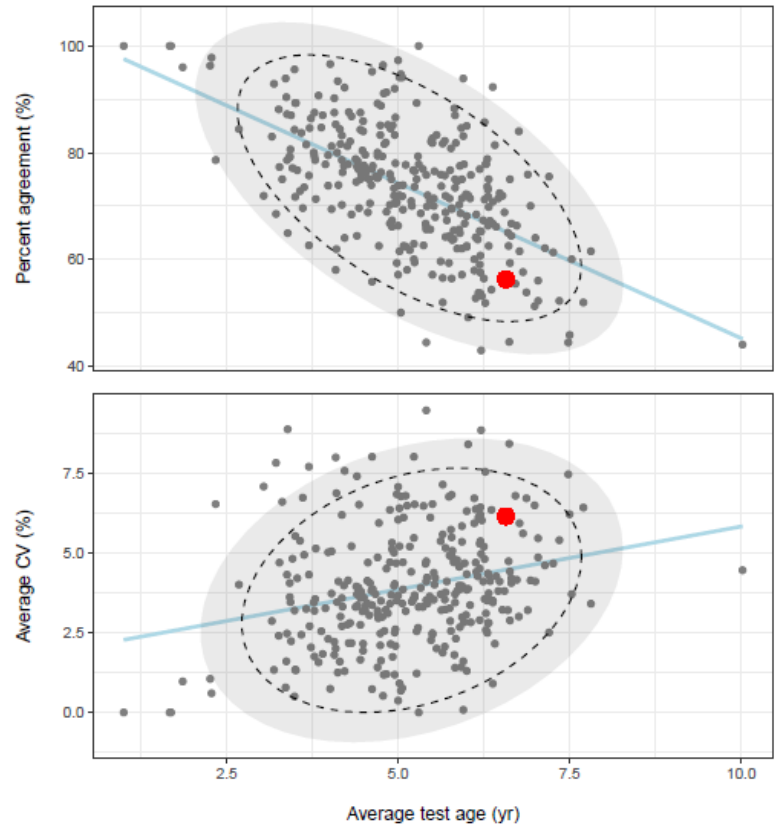
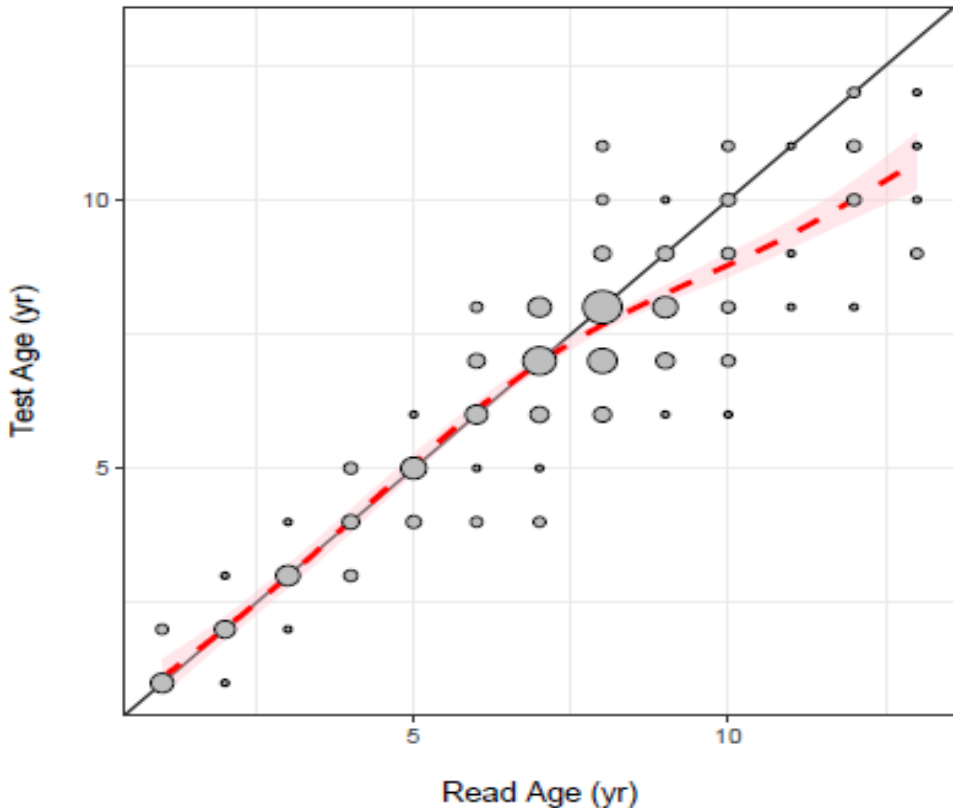
Precision statistic	Value
Percent agreement (PA)	56.27%
Average percent error (APE)	4.34%
Coefficient of variation (CV)	6.14%
Total number of fish in ageing collection	1535
Number of fish unaged	7
Number of fish in precision-testing sample	359
Number of fish aged by two readers	359
Percentage of fish with paired age readings	23%
Average read age (paired reads only)	6.89
Average test age (paired reads only)	6.57

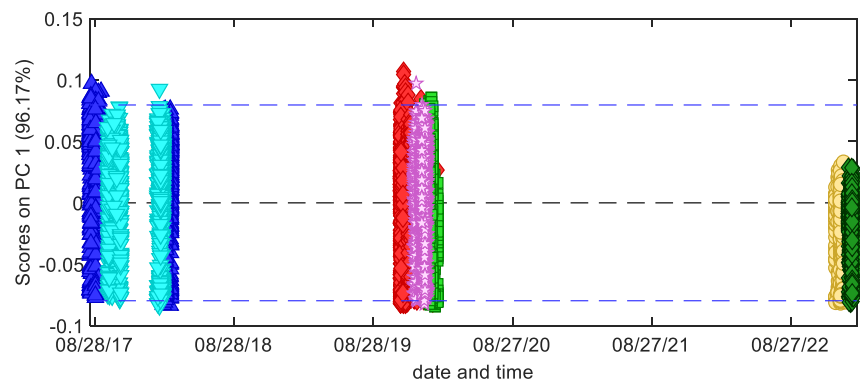
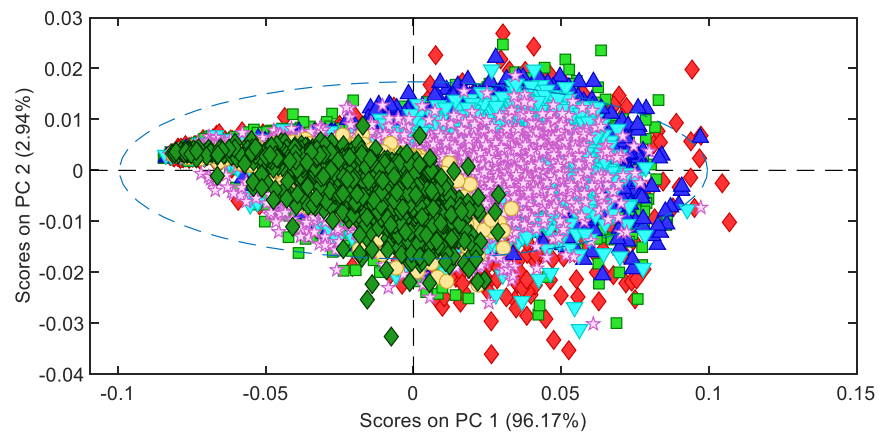
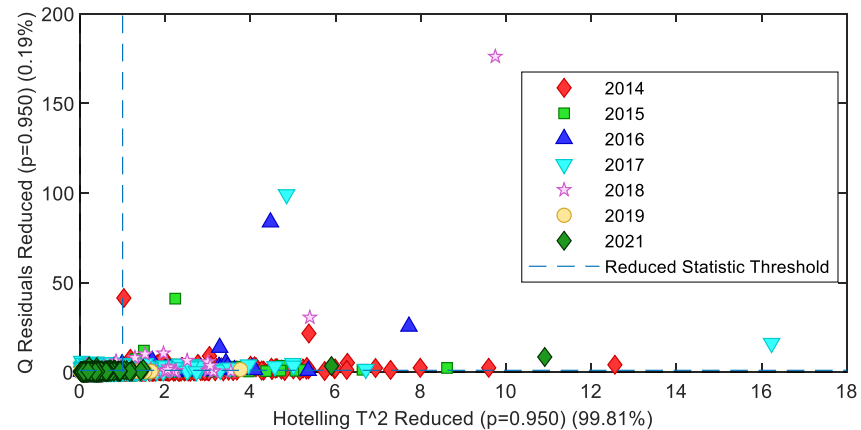
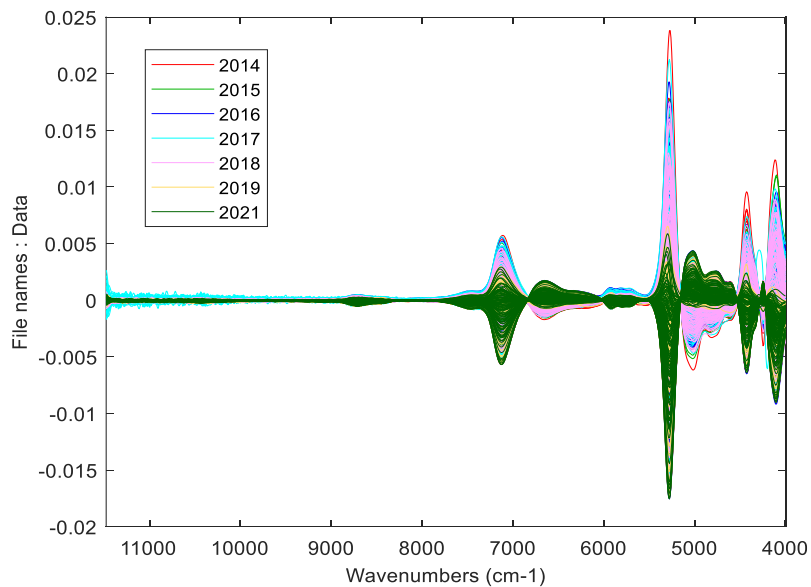
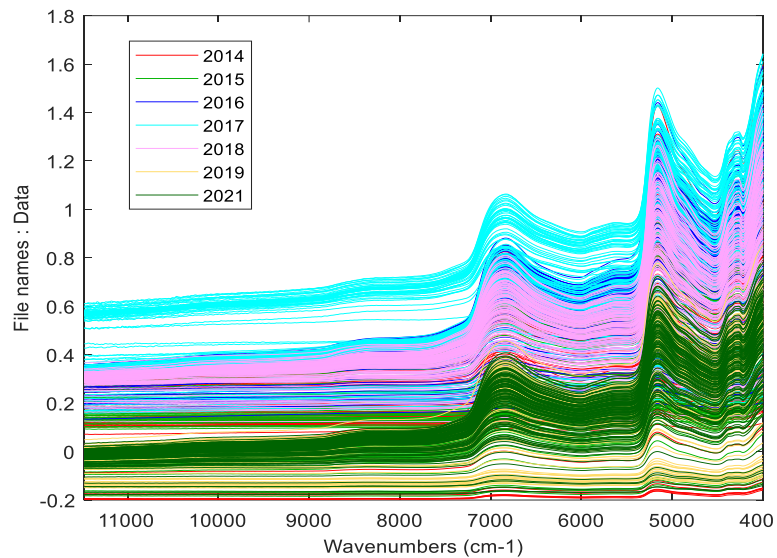
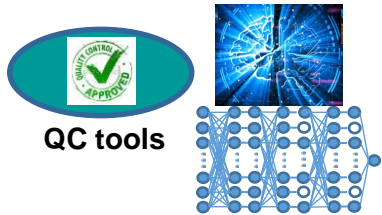
  

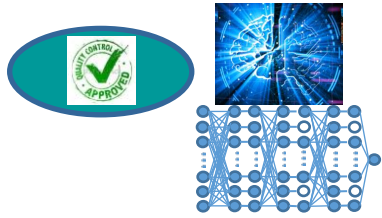
(a) Bias direction		
minus bias	45 otoliths	12.5%
plus bias	112 otoliths	31.2%
complete agreement	202 otoliths	56.3%

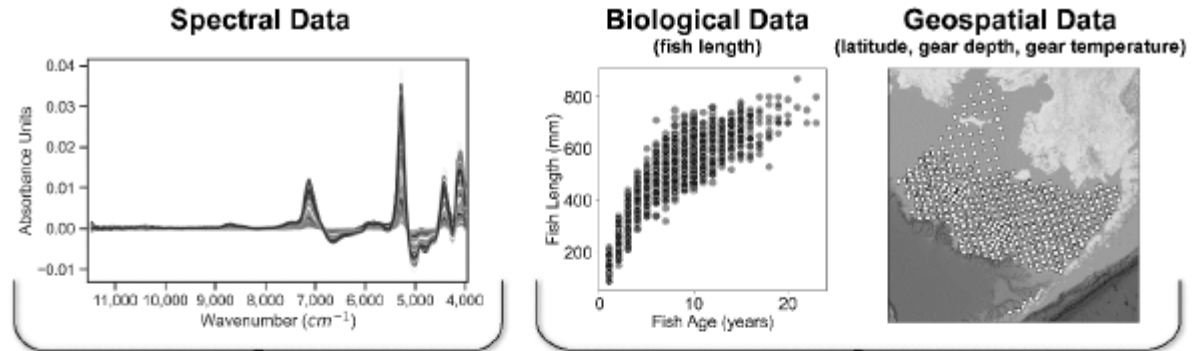
(b) Tests of symmetry			
Test name	df	Test statistic	p
Bowker's	28	50.09	0.01
Evans-Hoenig	4	34.57	0



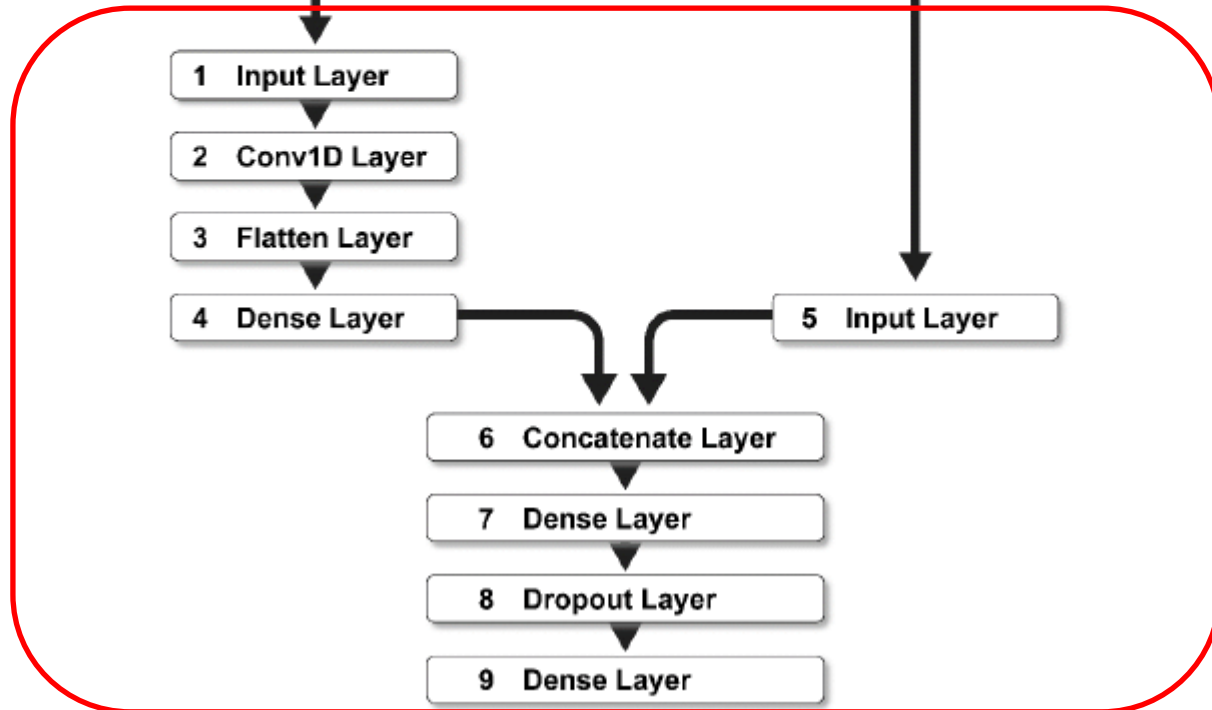


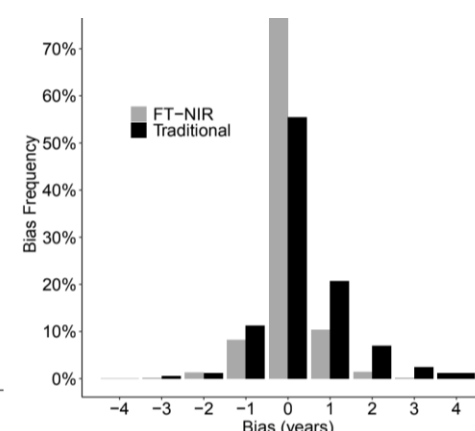
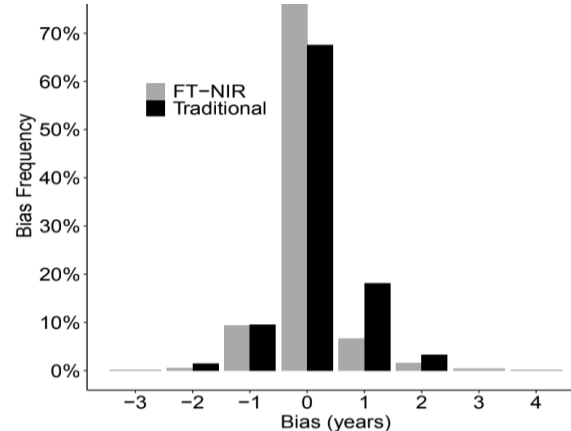
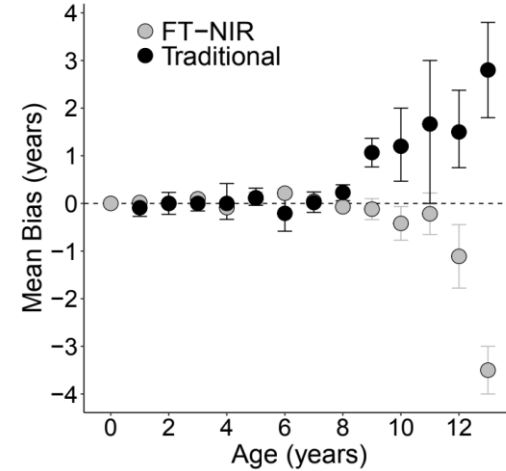
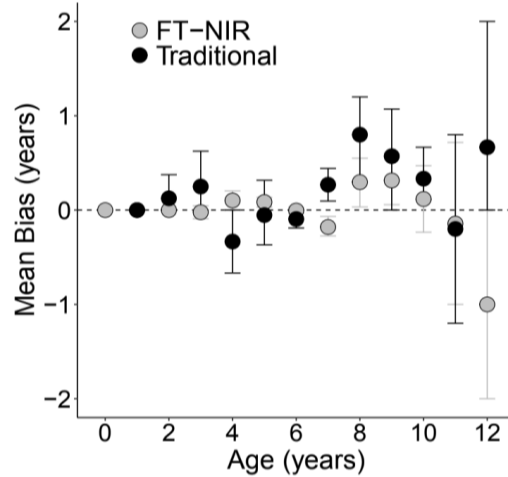
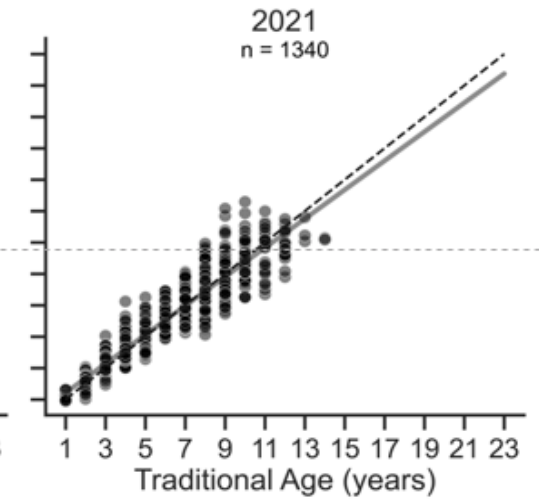
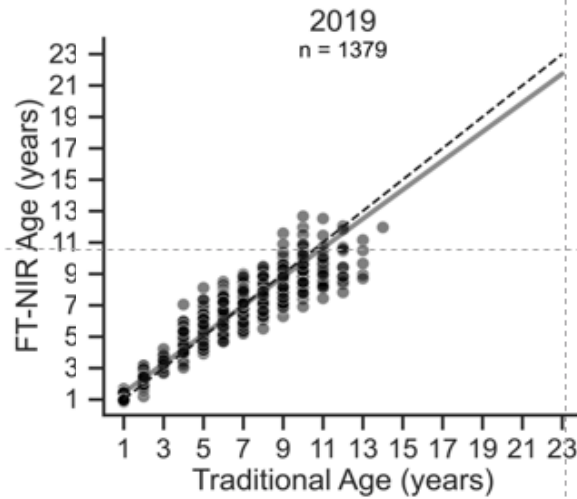
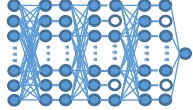


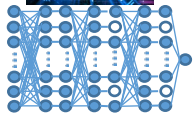
# Predicting 2019 & 2021 (*ages, spectra & metadata*)



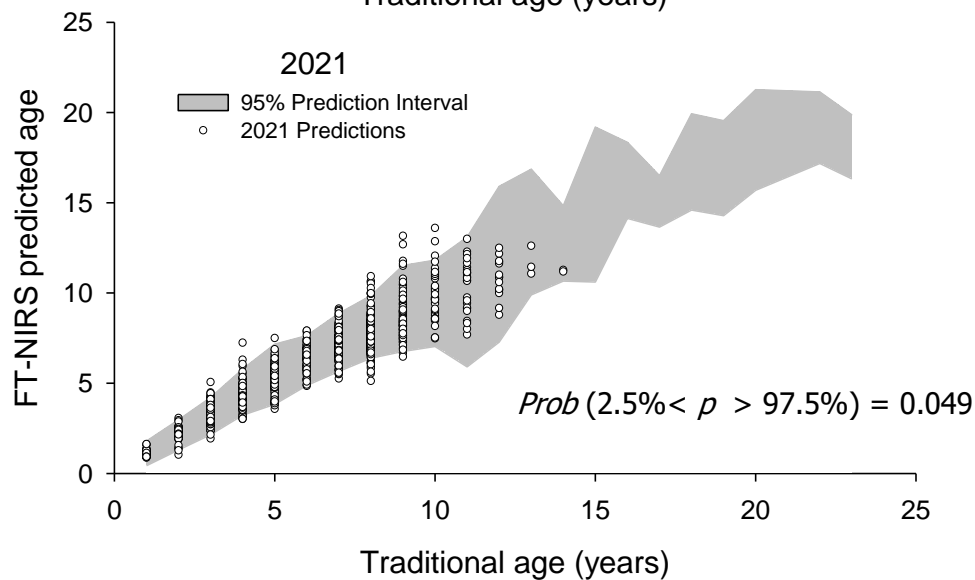
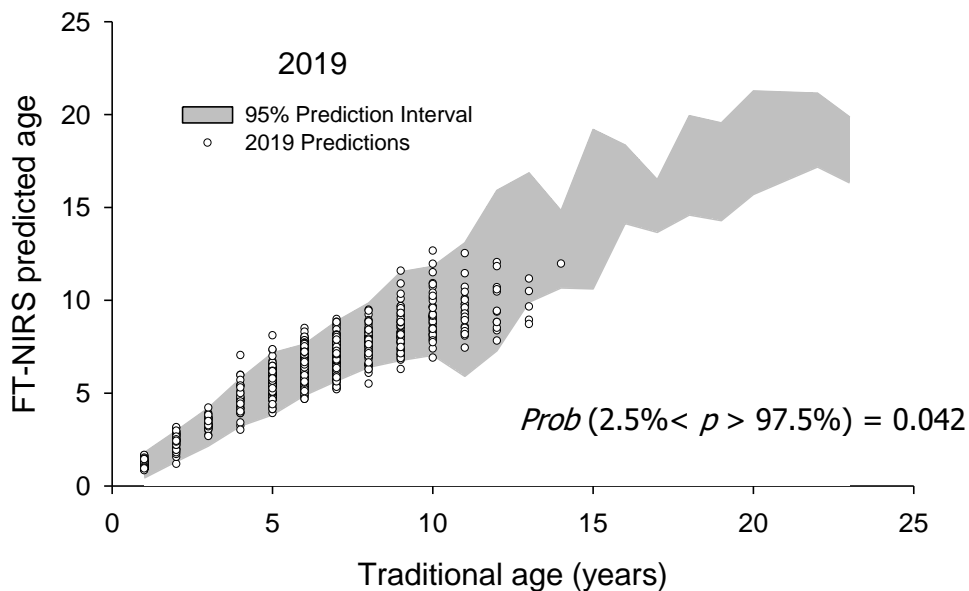
2014-2018 CNN  
base model





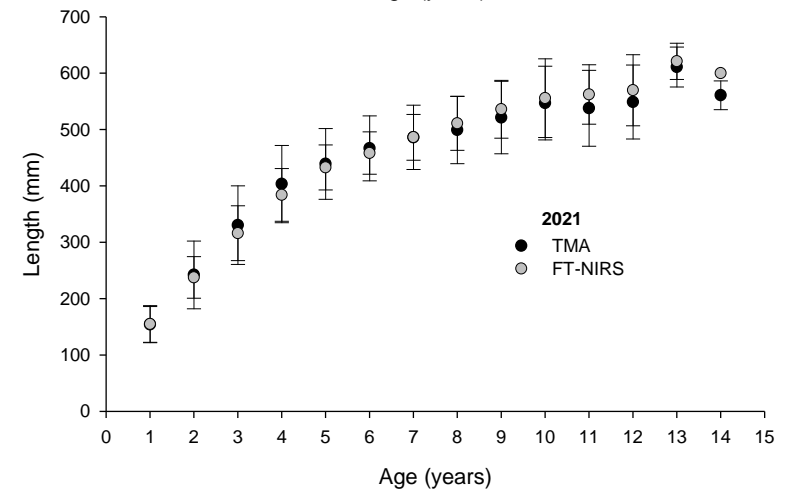
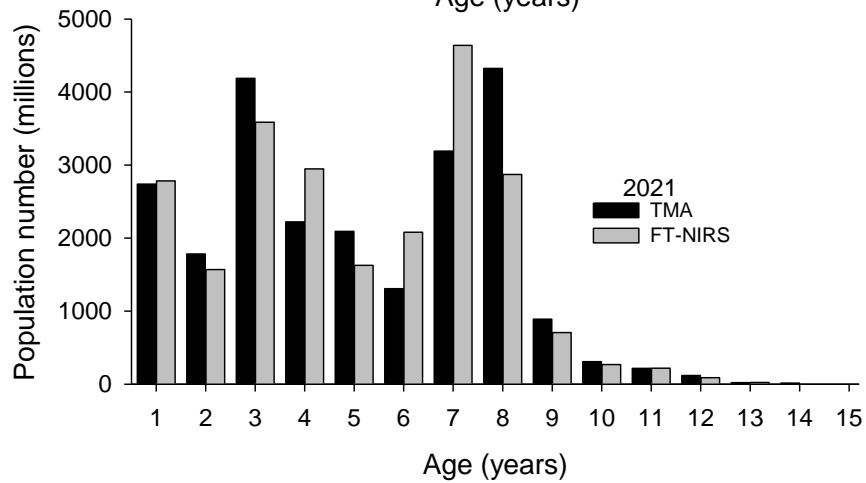
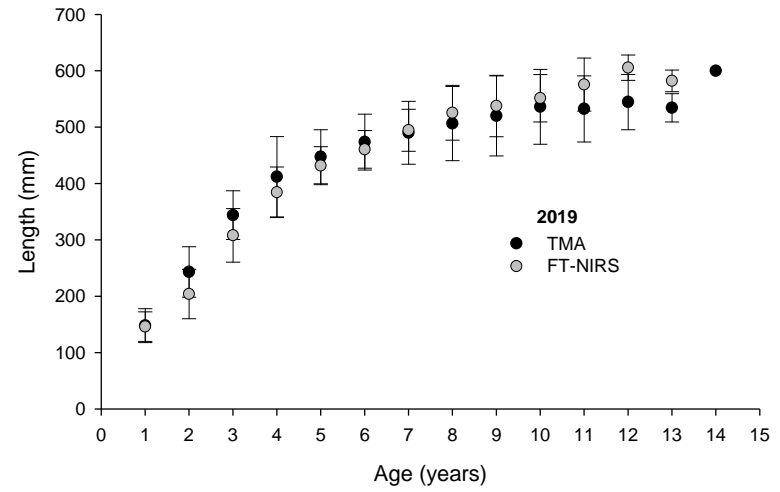
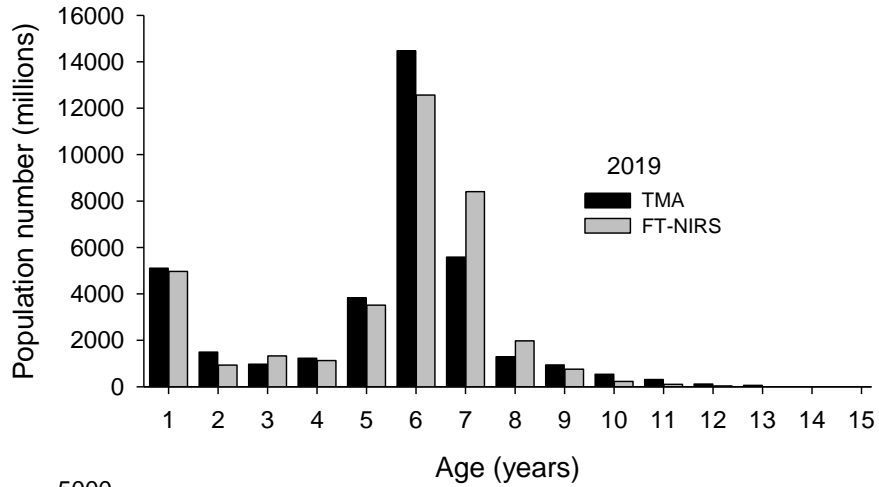


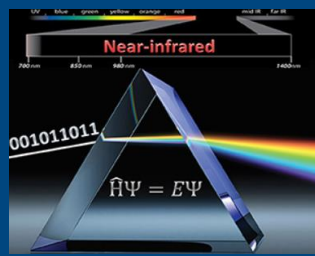
# Assessing CNN model performance of future predictions





# Age data products for stock assessments





A revolutionary approach for improving age determination efficiency in fish using Fourier transform near infrared spectroscopy (FT-NIRS)

FT-NIRS 2023 Workshop 3-7 April

Envisioning the future of production fish ageing: end-to-end integration of the FT-NIRS age estimation enterprise

## *Talking points?*

- Define the “bar” for successful application
- Ageing imprecision for use in stock assessments (TMA + NIR)
- FT-NIRS age data performance in stock assessments – model updating to accommodate unseen variability
- FT-NIRS operational transition and technological deployment
- Utility function – evaluate trade offs between TMA samples (double reads + outliers + issue otoliths) and FT-NIRS efficiency gains



## The Future:

- Continue to investigate ageing error and bias effects on models (enhance predictive models to accommodate "known" age fish)
- Improve database interface and architecture (employ time-flow statistics for cost-benefit analysis)
- Broaden simulation framework to accommodate larger range of species & life histories
- Leverage cloud computing and machine learning (take advantage of other data types)
- Develop predictive model tool box (R, ADMB, OPUS, Python) - standardization
- Better define staff needs and skill sets required for future operationalization
- Think more about operational transition and technological deployment (where possible)
- Communicate to stake holders

Questions?



# Strategic Initiative work flow

2020

2021

2022

2023

2025

2026

## Application Development

- Instrument optimization (AFSC, Jan-Mar 2019) for otoliths
- FT-NIRS Workshop (April 2019; SI planning over 5 years)
- Otolith spectra acquisition (3 species per region x 5-year time depth)
- Predictive model development (calibration/validation)

Discovery switchback

## Application Implementation

- Process control, quality control, fault detection
- Standards, best practices (simulation)
- AI/Deep machine learning
- Build scientific basis of tech. (publish)

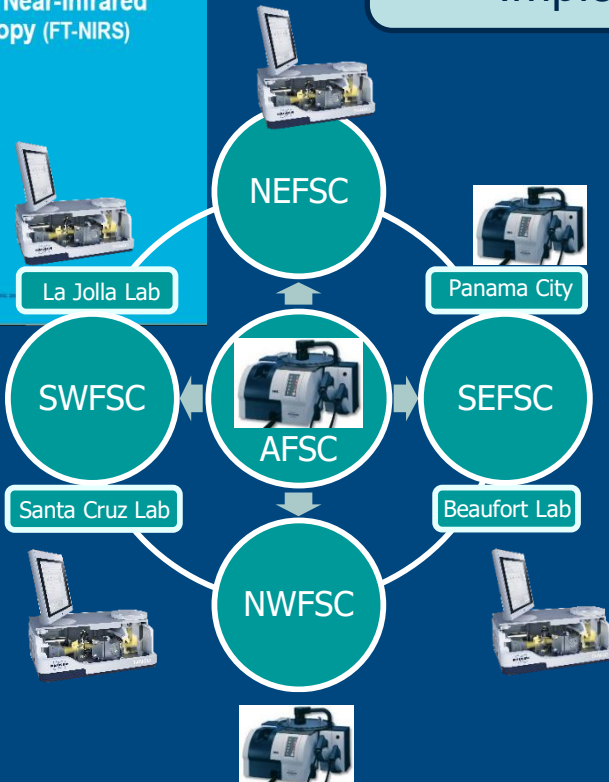
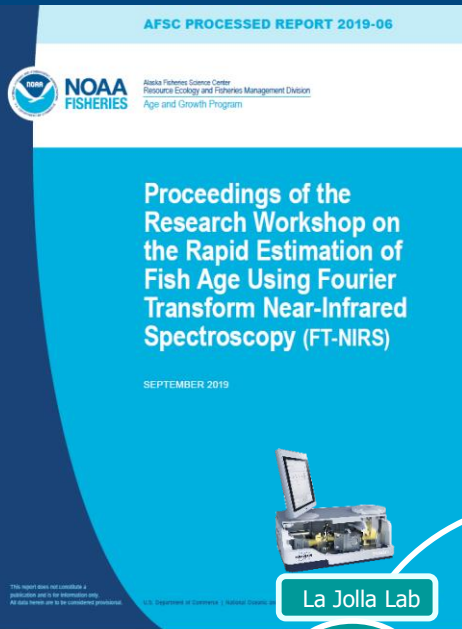
Discovery switchback

## Stock Assessment Integration

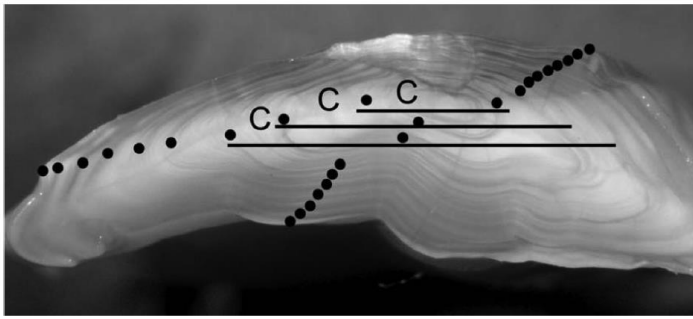
- Evaluation of assessment model outputs to FT-NIRS data
- Provide FT-NIRS precision & reliability metrics

## Deployment of technology

- Integrating technology into current production setting (species-specific)



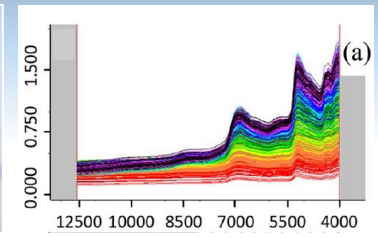
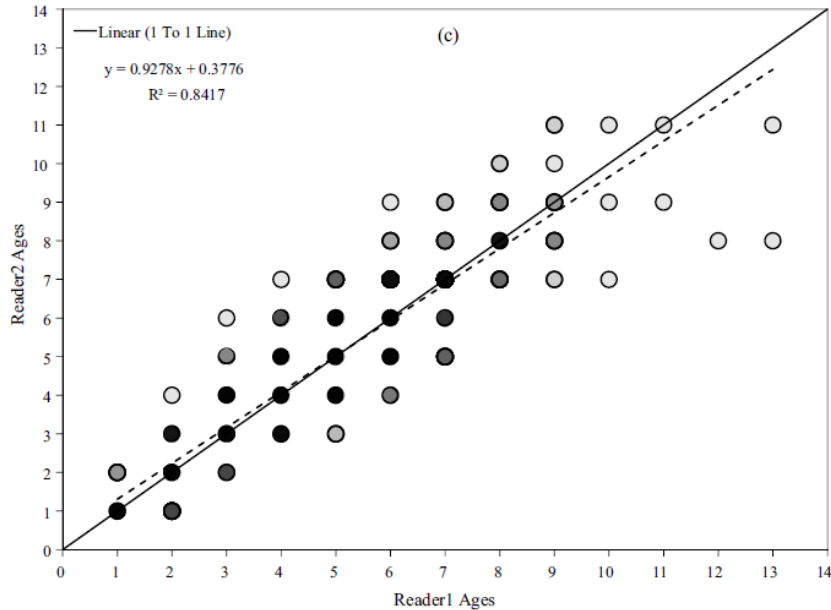
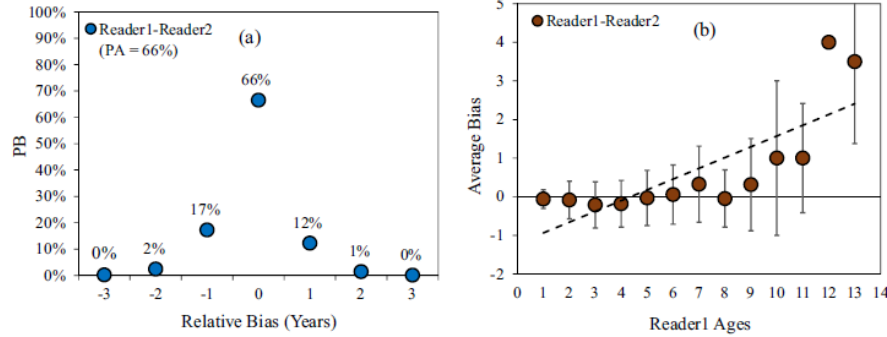
# Pacific cod otolith (transverse section)



COASTAL AND MARINE ECOLOGY

HEALY ET AL.

## Age reading precision



## FT-NIRS ageing precision

