

# IBM models for simulating the Early Life Stages of small pelagic: a generic code approach

Sofía González-Pérez\*, Adrián Sanjurjo-García, Luz M. García-García,  
Daniel Rodríguez-Abal, Gonzalo González-Nuevo, Manuel Ruiz-Villarreal

\*sofia.gonzalez@ieo.csic.es



INSTITUTO  
ESPAÑOL DE  
OCEANOGRAFÍA



**CSIC**  
CONSEJO SUPERIOR DE INVESTIGACIONES CIENTÍFICAS



GOBIERNO  
DE ESPAÑA

MINISTERIO  
DE CIENCIA  
E INNOVACIÓN



Plan de  
Recuperación,  
Transformación  
y Resiliencia



XUNTA  
DE GALICIA



Financiado por  
la Unión Europea  
NextGenerationEU  
FEMP-FEMPA

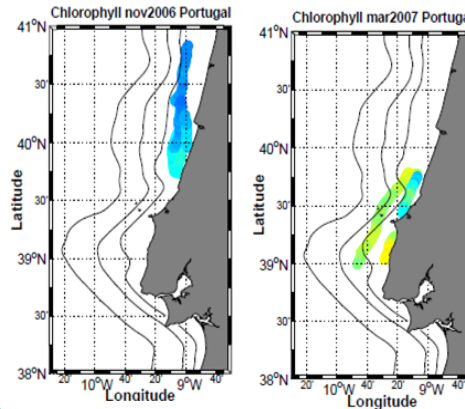
# A biophysical model for the Early Life Stages of fish species

## Hydrodynamic model (3D)

- ROMS Rutgers
- 30 vertical levels
- 3.5 km horizontal resolution
- Meteorological forcing
- Tides
- Rivers

## Biogeochemical model N2PZD2 (nutrient sources)

- Fennel et al, 2006



Phyto  
Zoo

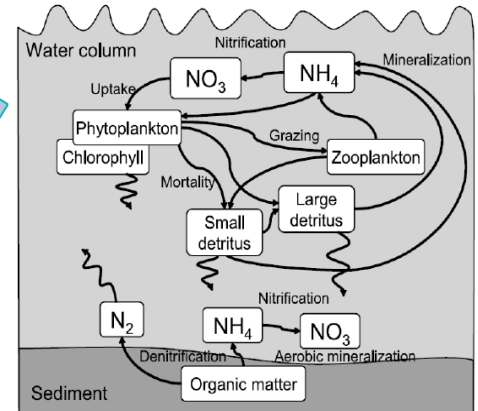


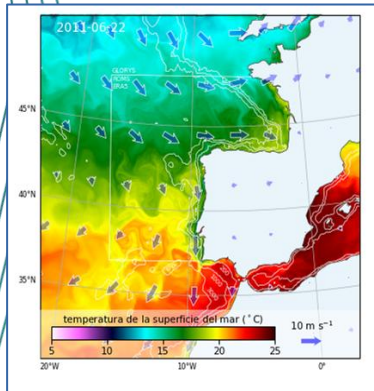
Figure 1. Biological model schematic.

Velocities  
Turbulence  
Temperature  
Salinity  
Density

## Lagrangian IBM model

- Offline, Ichthyop or OpenDrift
- Physical processes (advection and dispersion)
- Biological behaviour of Early Life Stages (growth, buoyancy, vertical migration, etc.)

Transport  
Survival  
Connectivity



# A Lagrangian IBM for Early Life Stages



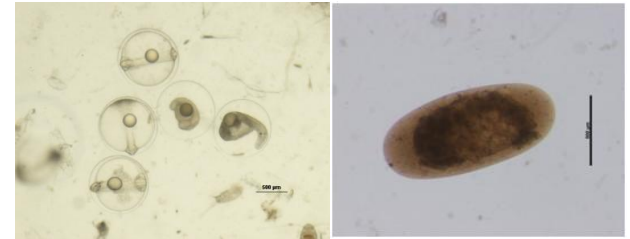
## Lagrangian model (offline)

Egg (<2.8 mm)	Yolk-sac larva (2.8–4.5 mm)	Feeding larva (>4.5 mm)
---------------	-----------------------------	-------------------------

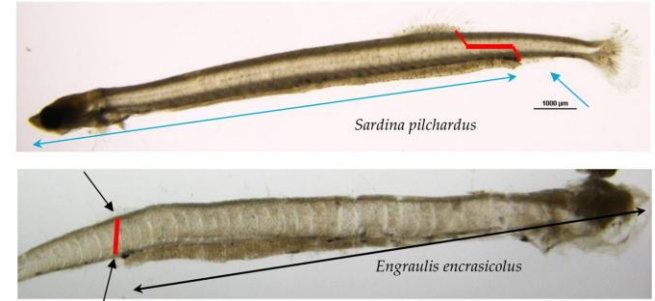
	Egg (<2.8 mm)	Yolk-sac larva (2.8–4.5 mm)	Feeding larva (>4.5 mm)	
Physical processes	Horizontal advection	x	x	x
	Vertical advection	x	x	x
	Horizontal dispersion	x	x	x
	Vertical dispersion	x	x	x
Biological processes	Temperature dependent development/growth	x	x	
	Food limitation (LTL model)			x
	Development dependent buoyancy	x		
	Vertical migration			x

	Yolk-sac	Autonomous
Anchovy	3.5 mm	4.5 mm
Sardine	4.0 mm	5.5 mm

Egg



Larvae



# Egg stage

## Atlantic Iberian Sardine (*Sardina pilchardus*)



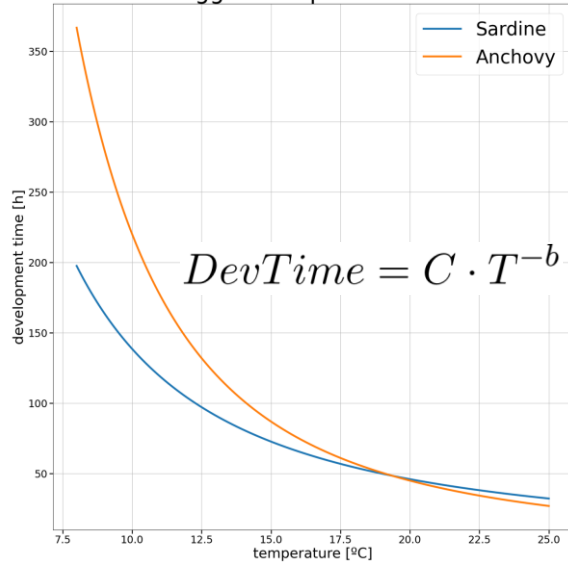
$d = 1.63 \text{ mm}$

## European Anchovy (*Engraulis encrasicolus*)

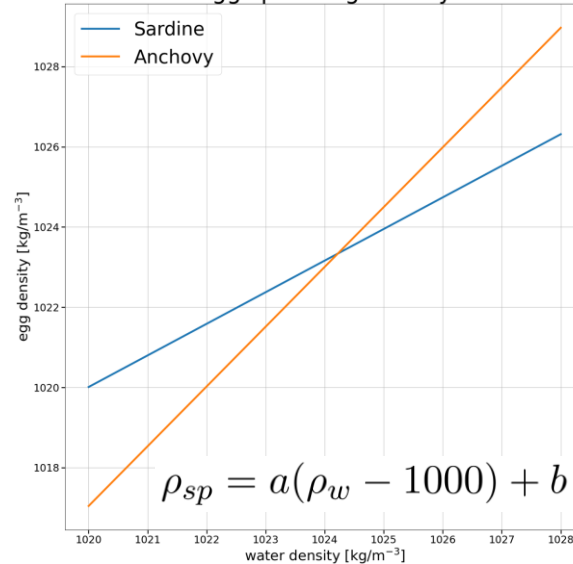


$a = 0.5 \text{ mm}, b = 1.4 \text{ mm}, d = 0.7047 \text{ mm}$

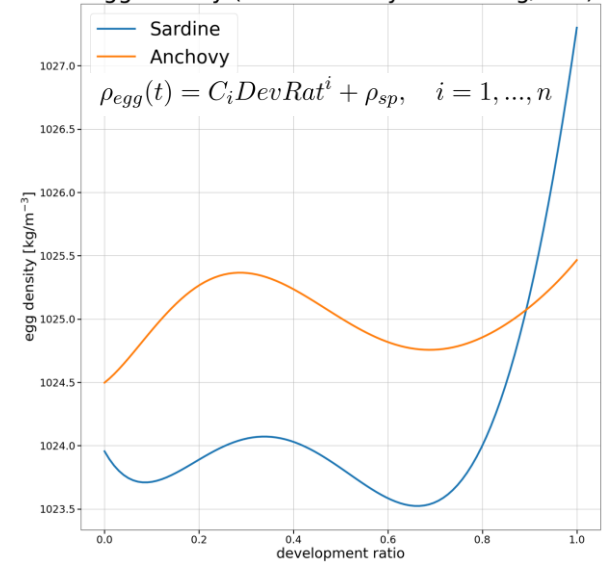
Egg development time



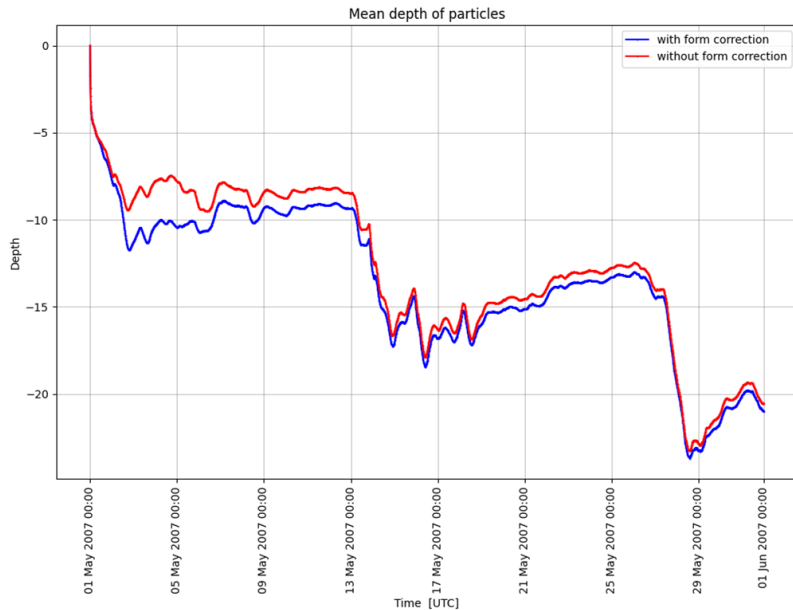
Egg spawning density



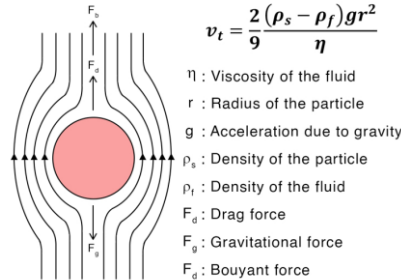
Egg density (water density = 1025 kg/m<sup>-3</sup>)



## Elliptical vs Spherical eggs



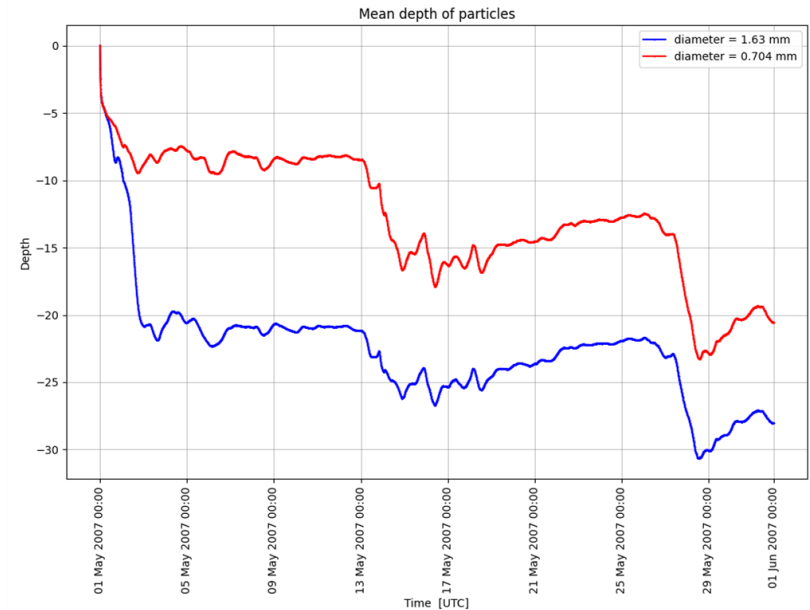
### Stokes' Law and Settling Velocity



Shape  
correction  
for ellipsoid

$$W = \frac{1}{18}gd^2\Delta\rho\mu^{-1}, W_{ellip} = \frac{A_{sphere}}{A_{ellip}}W[\text{m/s}]$$

## Bigger vs Smaller eggs



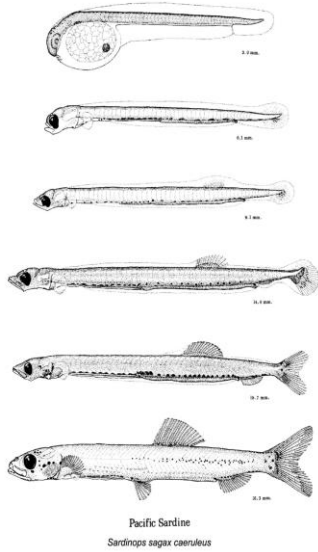
The trajectory model is not highly sensitive to shape correction but it is to egg size

# Larval stage

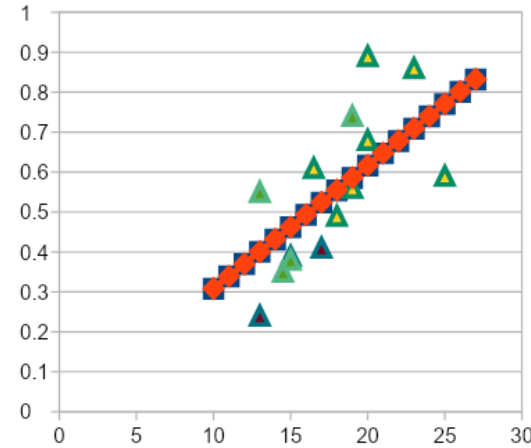
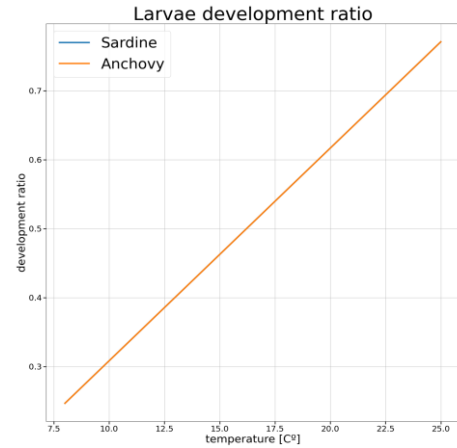
Yolk-sac larvae

Linear growth dependent on temperature

$$\theta(T) = a \cdot T + b$$



after Körtge et al. (2010)



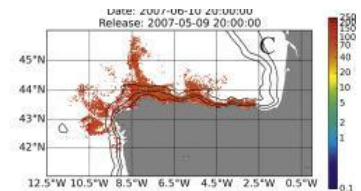
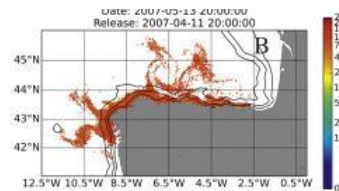
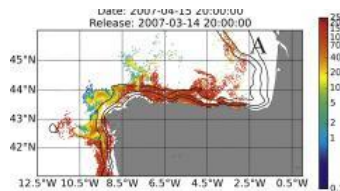
Food Limitation Factor (FLF)

$$\theta(T) = (a \cdot T + b) \cdot FLF$$

$$FLF = \frac{a + \lambda Z_{max} + (1 - \lambda)F_{max}}{\lambda Z_{max} + (1 - \lambda)F_{max}} \cdot \frac{\lambda Z(t) + (1 - \lambda)F(t)}{a + \lambda Z(t) + (1 - \lambda)F(t)}, \lambda \in [0, 1]$$

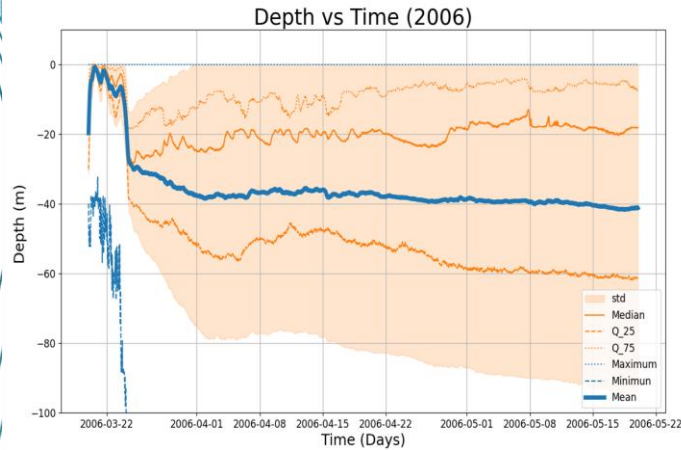
Self-feeding  
autonomous larvae

Vertical migration

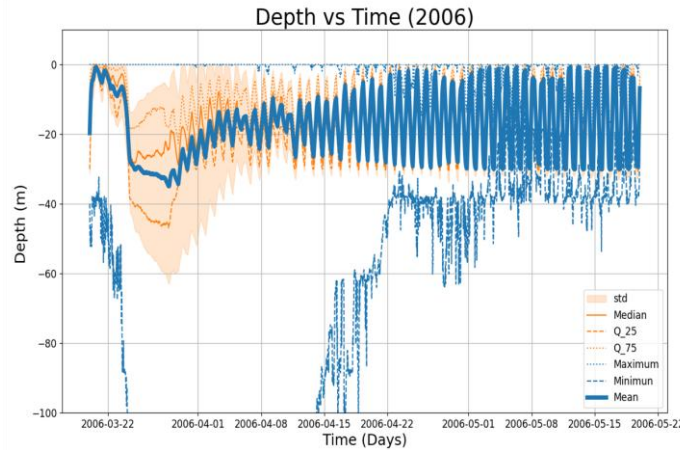


# What is the impact of vertical migration on larval dispersion?

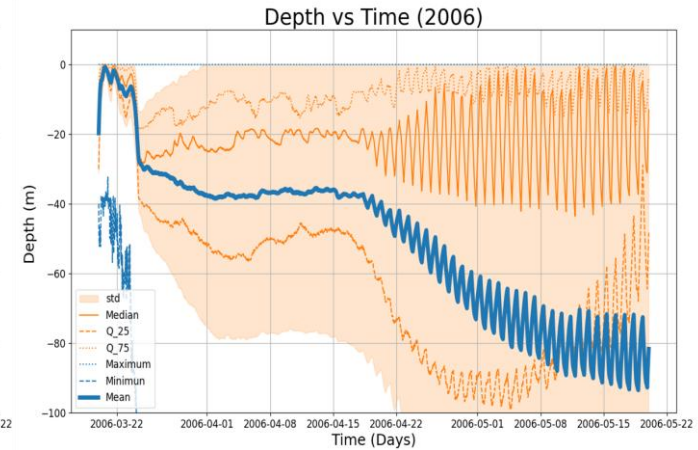
## No vertical migration



## Vertical migration



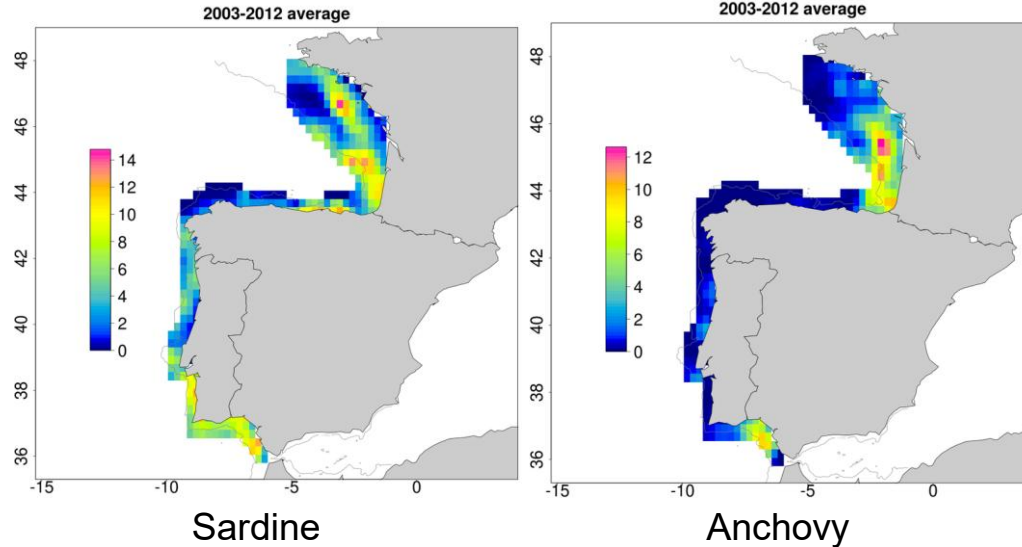
## Vertical migration at 10 mm



Vertical positions of particles: depth limit and checked different sizes at which vertical migration starts

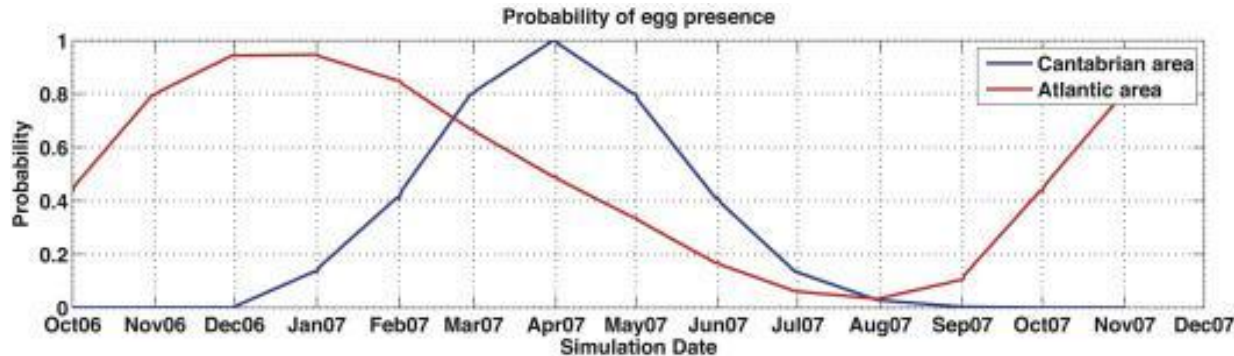
# Spawning areas and periods

Positions for  
spawning of eggs



Egg density from CUFES  
surveys (average 2003-2012).  
ICES WGAEGG

Time for spawning  
of eggs



Sardine

Stratoudakis et al., 2007

# Target species of commercial interest



Sardine



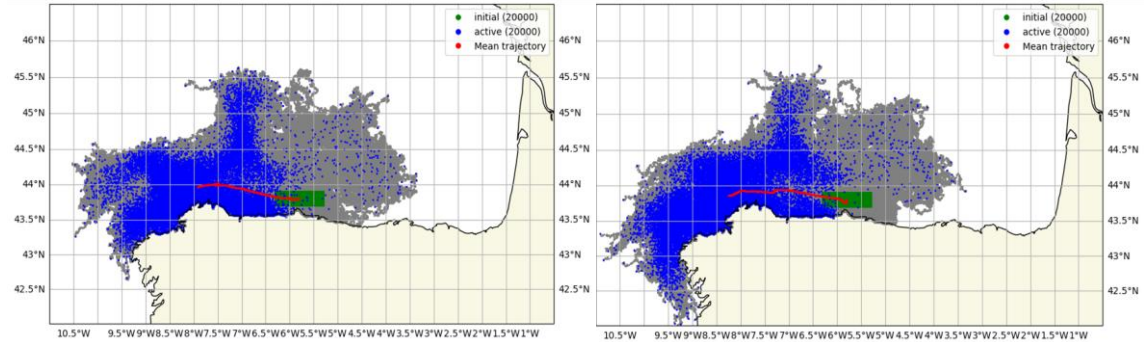
Anchovy



Hake

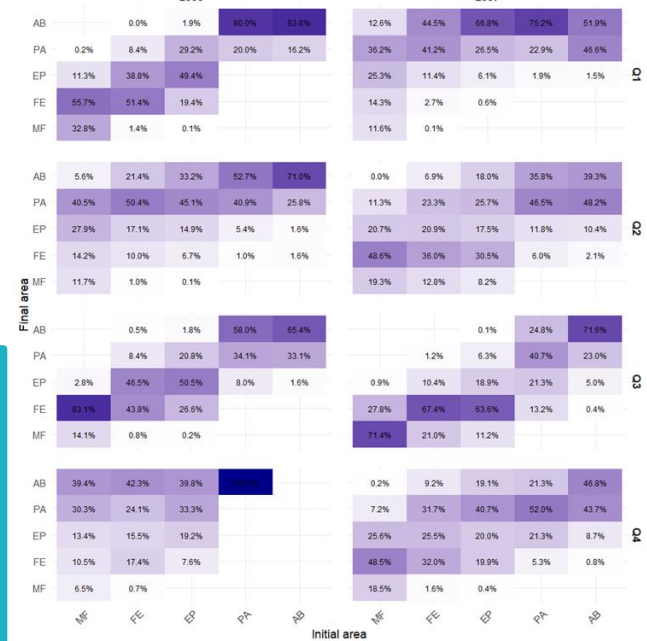
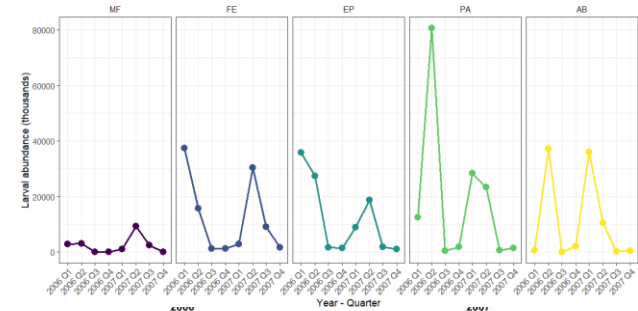
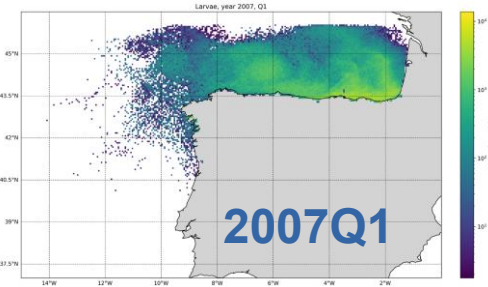
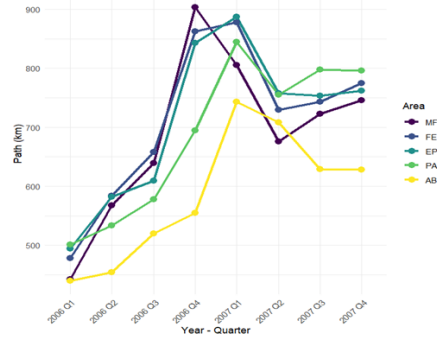
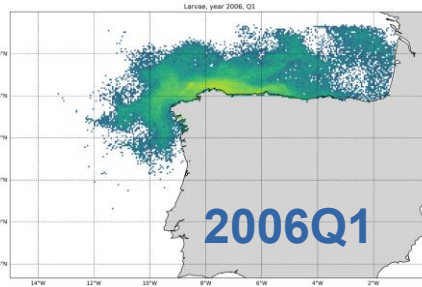
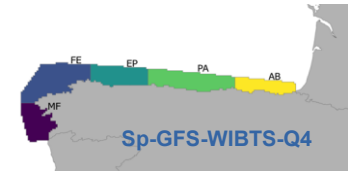
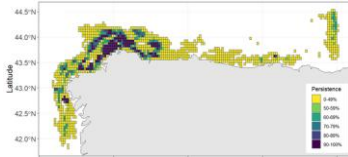


Octopus



**Can we simulate species that are not SPF using our IBM generic code approach?**

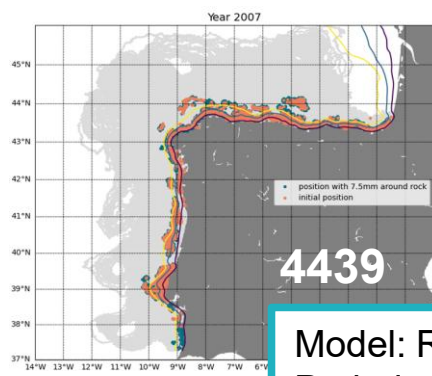
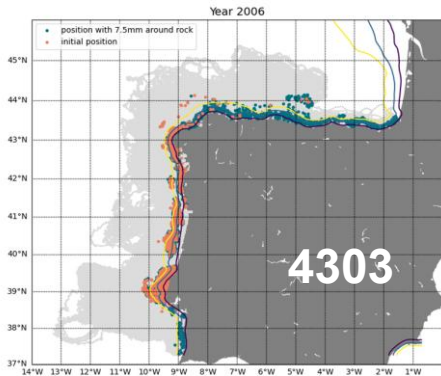
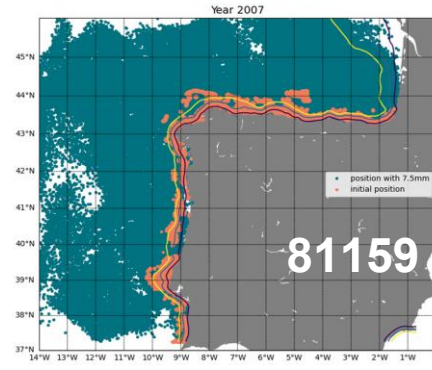
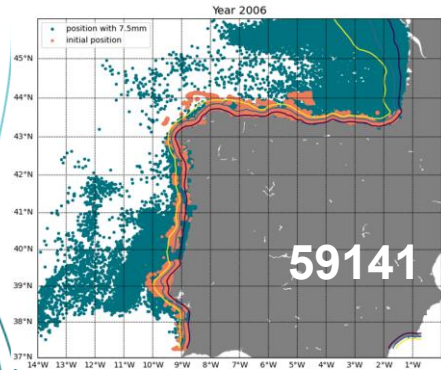
# Some results for hake



**Success:** reaching Sp-GFS-WIBTS-Q4 areas. Overcome mortality models (depth 330, surface dehydration, 22°C). Influence of seasonality in spawning.

Model: ROMS + Opendrift  
 Period: 5Jan06 - 31Dec07  
 Particles: 24510  
 Run: Advection+Dispersion (H & V)  
 + behaviour (growth depending on temperature) + mortality

# Some results for octopus

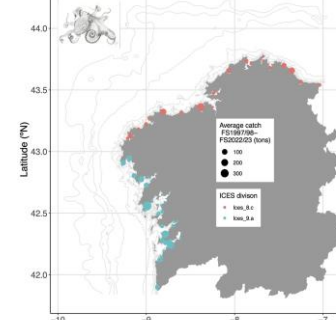


**Success:** reaching 7.5mm close to rocks.  
Higher possibility of settling.  
**Metric for recruitment!?**

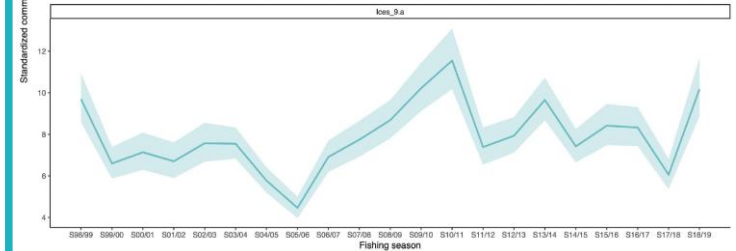
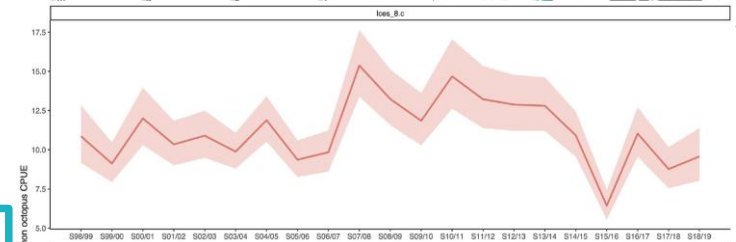
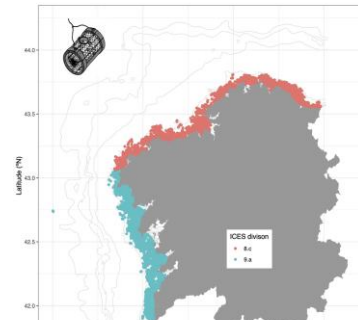
Model: ROMS + Opendrift  
Period: 1Sept-31Dec  
Particles: 100000  
Run: Advection+Dispersion  
(H & V) + behaviour (growth  
depending on temperature)

## Data for model validation

Captures



Observers on artesanal  
fishing vessels



# A generic code for simulating the Early Life Stages of small pelagic

A multi-species IBM has been developed.

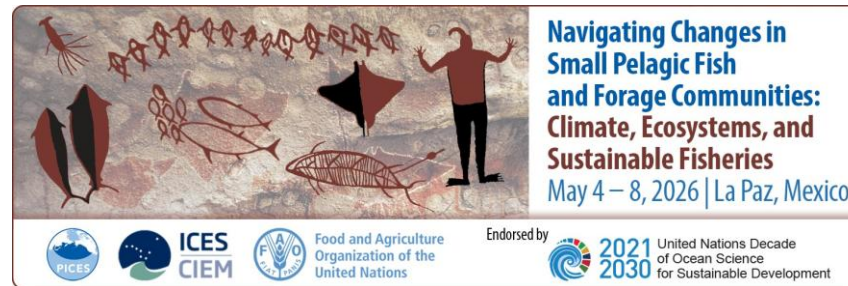
- Anchovy IBM and sardine IBM have been merged attending their similarities
- Hake and octopus IBMs have been recently added
- Other similar species could be simulated (user defined parameters)
- Same physical and biological processes
- Different spawning periods and areas for seeding particles
- Different input data depending on the species:
  - ▾ initial larval length
  - ▾ length for larval stage change
  - ▾ vertical migration length
  - ▾ egg diameter
  - ▾ coefficients for the parametrizations
- Lagrangian models are data demanding and there is a lot of information lacking for certain species



*Coming soon*

## Closing remarks

- Biophysical models help disentangle how environmental variability shapes spatio-temporal distributions of SPF
- A flexible and user-friendly framework enables multi-species exploration and adaptation
- Integrating models and data is key to strengthen fisheries advice in a highly variable and changing ocean



INSTITUTO  
ESPAÑOL DE  
OCEANOGRAFÍA



**CSIC**  
CONSEJO SUPERIOR DE INVESTIGACIONES CIENTÍFICAS



GOBIERNO  
DE ESPAÑA

MINISTERIO  
DE CIENCIA  
E INNOVACIÓN



Plan de  
Recuperación,  
Transformación  
y Resiliencia



XUNTA  
DE GALICIA



Financiado por  
la Unión Europea  
NextGenerationEU  
FEMP-FEMPA