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Simulating oil spill impacts on plankton populations

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Overview

- A look at three important components of the SYMBIOSES model system
 - oil dispersal (including physics)
 - zooplankton dynamics
 - bioaccumulation model
- A look at some of the output from these model components
- Discussion of how this is relevant to
 - effects on cod larvae (and "higher trophic levels")
 - ecosystem-based management in general







SINMOD: 3D hydrodynamic-biogeochemical model







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SINMOD: lower trophic levels

Model inputs & outputs



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Technology for a better society

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Oil dispersal modelling – OSCAR











SINMOD – Calanus finmarchicus population model







Structure of Calanus model with body burdens



The SYMBIOSES model framework uses 25 body burdens, corresponding to 25 OSCAR *pseudo components*



Bioaccumulation model (OMEGA; Hendriks et al. 2001, 2014)

- Depends on
 - External toxicant concentration + KOW
 - Internal toxicant concentration (Body Burden)
 - Organism weight (size matters)
 - Lipid content
- Body burdens may be several orders of mangitude greater than that of the external concentration
- Lethal and sublethal effects
 - Increased mortality
 - Reduced reproduction









Ocean dynamics

- Ocean circulation pattern
- 50 m depth
- A lot of structure and dynamics even at 4 km horizontal resolution







Oil dispersal

Ocean current data from SINMOD "drives" OSCAR
Output from OSCAR model
3D

•25 pseudo components









SINMOD simulation results: Calanus biomass for 1995

Many ways to present and hence to interpret results





Is this pure speculation? No – reality and models tell the same story



How to combine oil spill and Calanus data?

- First approach: overlap of oil and *Calanus*
 - *is* there an overlap at all?
 - 3D information essential: topside oil vs overwintering *Calanus* (> 500 m depth)
- More sophisticated: SYMBIOSES
 - oil, composition, *Calanus*, fish larvae in the *SAME* model system
 - OMEGA: bioaccumulation of oil components (body burdens)
 - Mortality and reproduction effect submodels (functions of BB)





WHAT IF? The difference between two scenarios







Change in *C. finmarchicus* biomass (gC m^2)

-0.5

Broch et al. 2013 – Mar. Env. Res.

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• One baseline scenario, the other with increased *Calanus* mortality

B_{WITH OIL} - B_{WITHOUT OIL}

- Scenario applicable to
 - Oil spill effect analysis
 - Effects of harvesting
- SYMBIOSES might typically produce same kind of results
- Difference represented in terms of e.g. change in number of individuals or in biomass
- Fewer animals means (e.g.) less food for cod larvae





Why is this useful for ecosystem based management?

- We get a sense of the great spatiotemporal variation, within and between years
- We are able to investigate a number of "what if"-scenarios
 - Inspiration for sampling and monitoring campaigns
 - May give an idea of the amount of data that we need, i.e. what is in fact missing
 - Understand our ecosystem
- Information available as "maps" (2D, 3D) and as time-series
 - GIS
 - Degree of overlap of species and compounds in time and space

