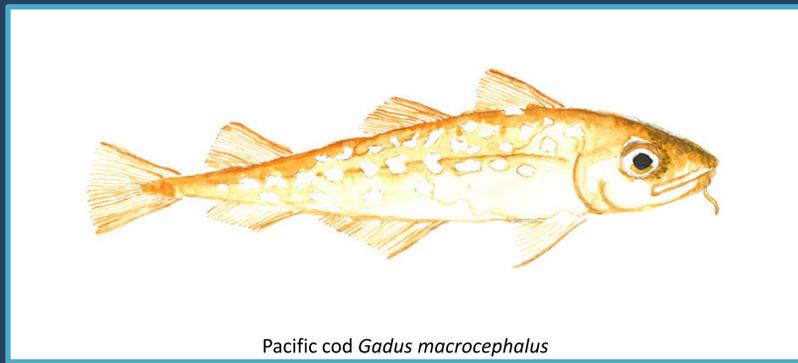


They grow up so fast: Comparing conditions of young of the year gadids in Bering Sea and Gulf of Alaska

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Pacific cod *Gadus macrocephalus*

Background:
Young of the year (YOY) gadids need to allocate energy for growth and lipid storage to maximize their overwinter survival.

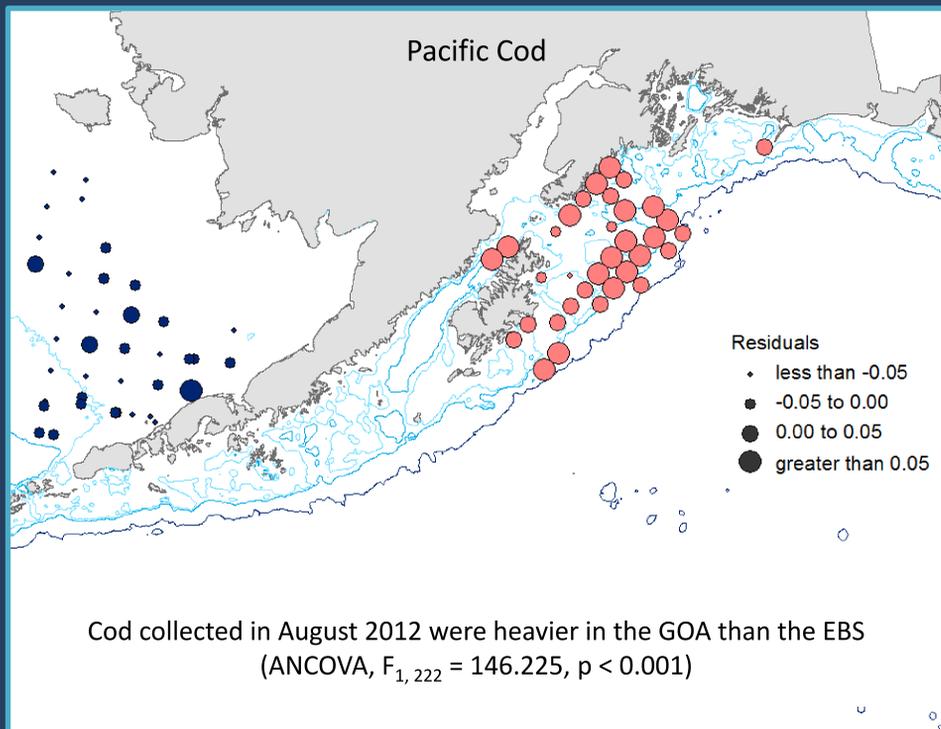
Question:
Does the nutritional condition of cod and pollock differ between the eastern Bering Sea (EBS) and the Gulf of Alaska (GOA)?

Objectives:
Compare dry weight/length residuals, total energy, and diet composition between the two large marine ecosystems

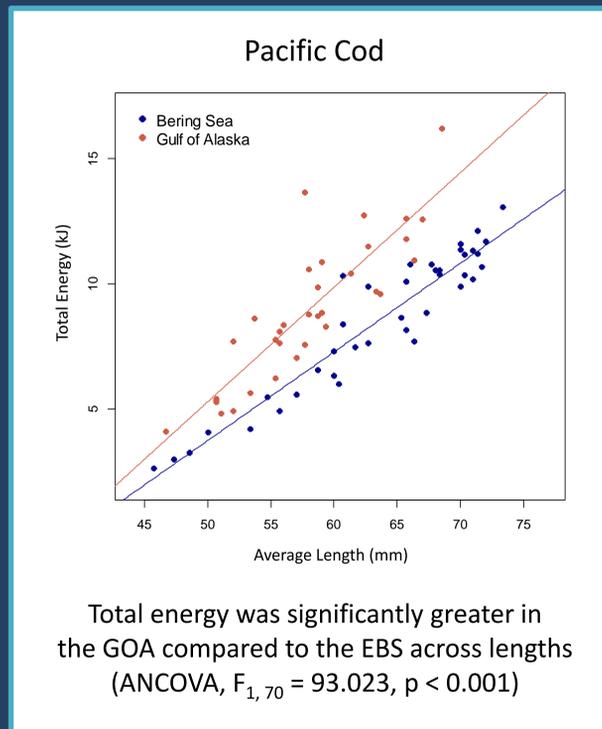


Walleye pollock *Theragra chalcogramma*

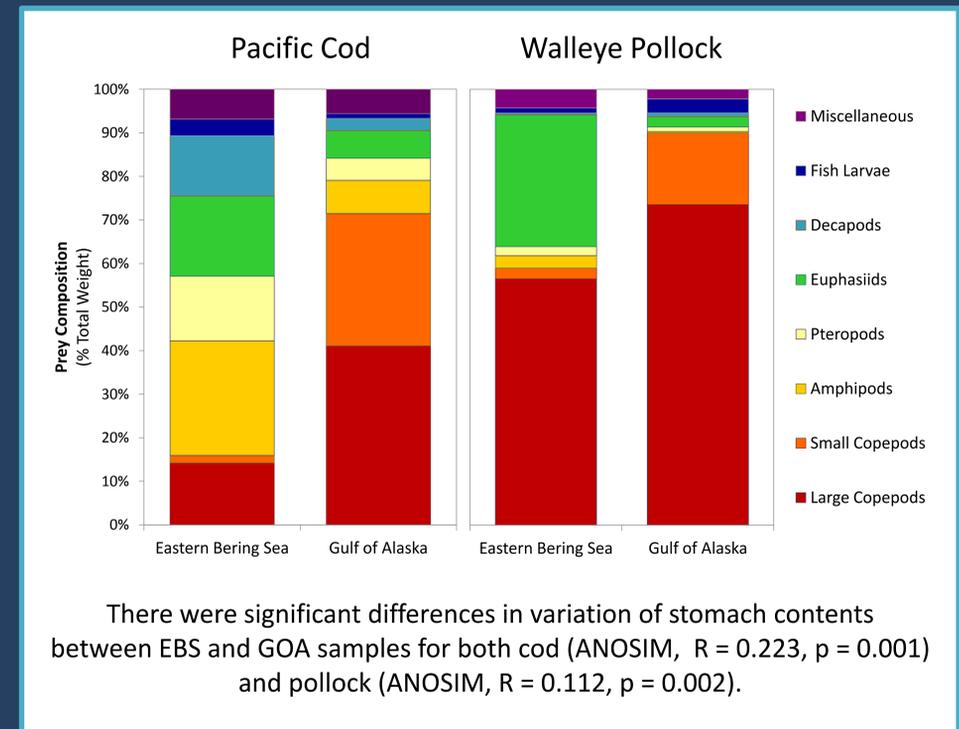
Dry Weight/Length Residuals



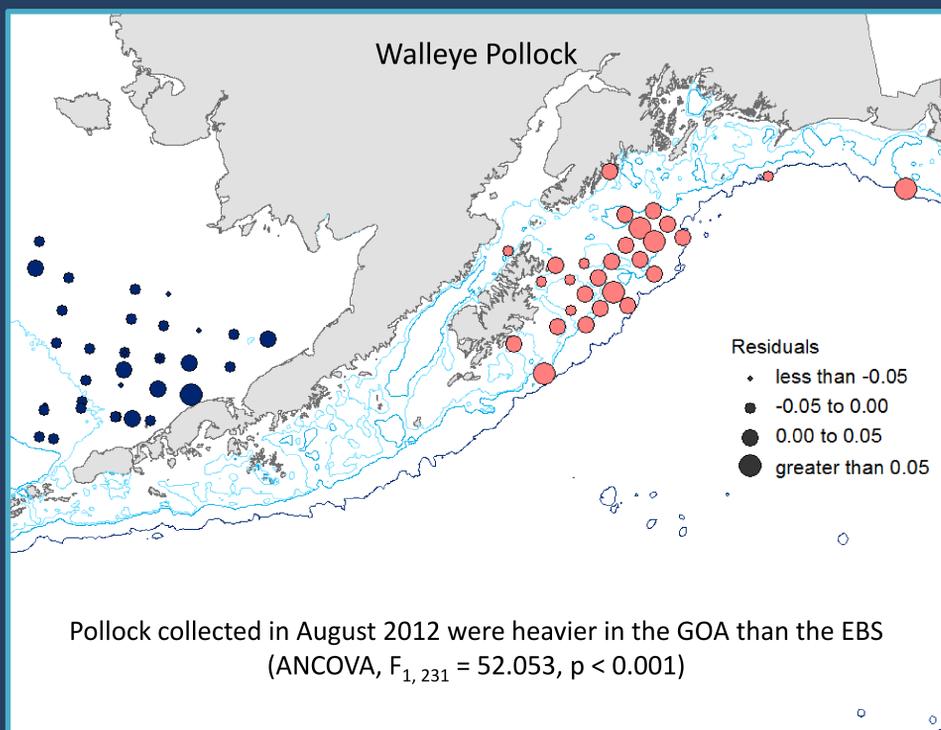
Total Energy



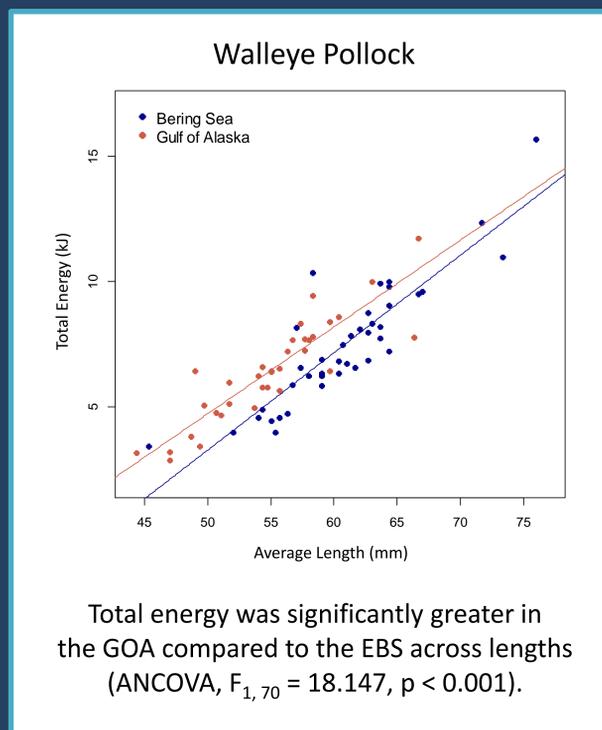
Diet Composition



Walleye Pollock



Walleye Pollock



Conclusions

Condition in the GOA is better than the EBS:

- Higher dry weight/length residuals reflect favorable growing conditions.
- Higher total energy indicates proportionally higher lipid levels, suggesting a higher survival potential.
- Higher percentages of energy-rich copepods in diets relate to better nutritional condition in cod and pollock.

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