

Northwest Atlantic



Fisheries Organization

Serial No. N561

NAFO SCR Doc. 82/VI/68

SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL MEETING - JUNE 1982

Assessment of the cod stock in NAFO Divisions 2J3KL

by

C.A. Bishop and S. Gavaris
Research and Resource Services
Department of Fisheries and Oceans
P.O. Box 5667
St. John's, Newfoundland A1C 5X1

Nominal catch and catch at age

Cod catches from Divisions 2J3KL since 1973 along with corresponding TAC's are as follows:

	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982
TAC (000 t)	666	657	554	300	160	135	180	180	200	230
Catch (000 t)	355	373	288	214	173	139	167	172	151 ^a	

^aProvisional data.

Nominal catches by country and gear for 1981 are shown in Table 1. Catch data for Can (N) and Can (M) were obtained from the Economics and Statistics branch of Fisheries and Oceans. Data for other countries were obtained from NAFO circular letters and/or the FLASH database. The 1981 catch was almost entirely by Canada and as in other years mainly by inshore gears. The 1981 catch was less than the TAC mainly due to a lower than expected catch in the inshore fishery. The inshore catch decreased from 1980-81 (Fig. 1) rather than showing a predicted increase. Availability factors due mainly to environmental conditions were considered the major reason for the decrease. The cod trap fishery (Fig. 1) experienced the largest decline when compared with other inshore gears.

Catch-at-age for the 1981 commercial fishery was obtained using catch and sampling data as shown in Tables 2a and 2b. Sampling was obtained by the Commercial sampling and Foreign Cooperative sampling units of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans. Age length keys from different countries were combined by division, gear, and quarter. Length frequencies from the same gear and from months in this quarter were adjusted to the age length key and weighted by the catch in that month. The age length key per division and quarter was obtained for inshore gears and the appropriate frequencies applied. Numbers at age were determined for each division and then combined to produce the total for 2J3KL. The estimated total catch at age with its variance is shown in Table 3. Average weights at age were derived by applying a length-weight relationship (weight = log length X 3.0879 - 5.2106) to the length frequencies and age length keys. The calculated total catch was found to be 147,800 t or 98% of total reported catch.

Surveys

Research vessel survey results in 2J3KL in 1981 in terms of mean number per tow are shown in Tables 5 and 6. In all three divisions there is an indication of increased abundance in the 1981 totals over those for 1980. It is also evident that there is considerable fluctuation within and between divisions. The 1974 and 75 year-classes are strong in all divisions and it would appear that the 1978 year-class is better than average in 3K and 3L.

Catch-effort

Catch and effort information for 1959-79 was derived from NAFO (ICNAF) Statistical Bulletins. The data for Spanish and Portuguese vessels was not used from 1977-79 due to inconsistencies. For 1979-82 catch and effort data for Canadian vessels was obtained from the Economics and Statistics Branch of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans.

The multiplicative model (Gavaris 1980) was applied to each of these series separately. The seasonal and spatial patterns were more pronounced in the latter years (Tables 7 and 8). A combined annual catch rate index series was obtained by scaling the 1979-82 series to the 1979 point in the 1959-79 series (Table 9).

Cohort analysis

The historical partial selection was calculated by dividing the fishing mortality matrix by the fully recruited fishing mortality. The fully recruited fishing mortality was derived from the ratio of the population numbers for ages 8-10 and the population numbers for ages 9-11 in the succeeding year. For ages 4-6, the average partial selection for 1975-79 was used in subsequent computations (Table 10).

A natural mortality of 0.2 was assumed and cohort analysis was performed for a range of fishing mortalities in 1981. The fishing mortality for age 13 was assumed to be equal to the fully recruited fishing mortality. Exploitable biomass was computed by multiplying the mid-year biomass by the partial selection matrix. All values greater than 1 in the partial selection matrix were replaced by 1 and a value of 1 was assumed for all ages over 8. The exploitable biomass was regressed against a modified catch rate index (Table 11). The catch rate index was modified by using the lower 90% confidence bound for 1981 since the 1981 value appeared high and preliminary data for 1982 did not support this (Fig. 2). The effort coefficient of determination showed little change but was higher for $F = 0.10$. The intercept also did not change much but was closer to zero for $F = 0.14$. The fit of the 1980 and 1981 data points to the regression line was best for $F = 0.12$ (Fig. 3). The population numbers, mid-year biomass, and fishing mortality from the cohort analysis with $F = 0.12$ in 1981 are shown in Table 12.

Table 1. Cod landings from the commercial fishery in NAFO Divisions 2J3KL in 1981.

Country	Division	Gear						Total
		OT	Trap	GN	LT	HL	Other	
Can(N)	2J	15,905	2,090	9,199	72	181	40	27,487
	3K	18,525	3,926	10,468	6,365	2,011		41,295
	3L	20,831	10,198	13,570	11,410	7,657		63,666
								132,448
Can(M)	2J	6,218						6,218
	3K	4,585						4,585
	3L	836			6			842
								11,645
Den(F)	2J				641			641
GDR	2J3KL	21						21
Poland	2J3KL	135						135
Norway	2J3KL			790				790
Portugal	2J	354						354
	3K	357						357
	3L	2,449		1,669				4,118
								4,829
USSR	2J3KL	22						22
All	2J3KL							150,531

Table 2a. Commercial sampling for 2J3KL cod in 1981.

Div.	Gear	Qtr.	Country	No. aged	Month	No. measured	Monthly landings	Total adjusted landings
2J	OT	1	Can(N)	377	601	Jan. 15,353	7,081	15,896
			Can(M)	224		Feb. 10,121	8,695	
						Jan. 922	2,032	6,218
						Feb. 714	3,897	
		4	Port.	330		Nov. 1,141	73	73
			Poland			Dec. 3,966	281	281
						Oct. 257	11	11
Trap	3		Can(N)	537		July 1,092	1,550	2,090
GN	3					July 269	1,739	9,199
						Aug. 1,688	4,648	
							Total	35,318
2J3K	LT	2	Den(F)	51 (2J)		April 986	300	
				238 (3K)		April 2,390	325	790
			Norway	8 (2J)	489	May 618	16	
				192 (3K)		May 2,267	120	760
						April 6,837	544	
3K	OT	1	Can	535		Jan. 3,033	2,636	2,636
						Feb. 11,185	17,010	17,010
						Mar. 445	355	355
		2+3	Can	448		April 2,772	859	
						May 389	738	
						June 1,339	514	2,480
						July 520	282	
						Aug. 253	62	
		4	Can(N)	161		Nov. 1,274	664	
			Port.	107		Oct. 1,153	11	
					324	Nov. 207	54	1,160
						Dec. 2,380	292	
			USSR	56		Nov. 373	13	
Trap	3		Can(N)	642		July 4,633	2,015	3,926
GN						Aug. 2,237	1,704	9,774
LT						July 1,040	1,533	6,365
HL						July 3,534	633	1,432
GN	4		Can(N)	503		Sept. 2,211	639	694
HL						Sept. 2,511	326	579
							Total	46,411

Div.	Gear	Qtr.	Country	No. aged	Month	No.	Monthly	Total
						measured	landings	adjusted landings
3L	OT	1	Can(N)	438}	504	January	11,280	4,487
						February	129	278
	Can(M)			66}		March	373	428
						January	315	369
2	Can		501			April	2,552	1,390
						May	3,455	1,564
						June	1,619	3,319
3	Can		370}	437		July	946	804
						August	457	161
						September	2,569	981
	Port.		67,			September	549	47
4	Can		351			October	1,059	1,263
						November	4,237	1,829
						December	913	2,151
	Port.		301	701		October	14,210	1,264
GN	Port					November	15,442	763
						December	5,271	365
	Japan		49			October	2,503	239
						November	12,266	1,232
GN	4					December	5,628	1,184
	Trap	Port	760			September	7,137	465
						October	11,551	277
GN	2	Can(N)	648			November	2,710	927
								1,849
	Trap					May	1,629	360
						May	4,601	2,439
GN	3	Can(N)	855			June	2,273	3,649
						July	5,204	5,476
	LT					June	1,396	2,128
						July	1,902	4,910
HL	LT					July	775	1,989
						June	1,050	642
	HL					July	2,029	1,960
								7,204
LT	4	Can(N)	329			September	1,674	2,866
						September	1,887	1,314
	Total							4,206
								2,228
								68,802

Total 2J3KL = 150,531

Table 3. Estimated average weight, catch, and variance of the catch from commercial statistics for cod in NAFO Divisions 2J3KL during 1981.

AGE	WEIGHT	CATCH	VAR(CATCH)	STD. ERROR	COEF. VAR
2	0.297		0.013	0.11	0.30
3	0.536	1945	26178.832	161.80	0.08
4	0.765	6473	76504.137	276.59	0.04
5	1.147	11844	169629.099	411.86	0.03
6	1.632	21773	329943.570	574.41	0.03
7	2.206	19109	295406.245	543.51	0.03
8	2.874	10502	120763.036	347.51	0.03
9	3.821	2917	28534.616	168.92	0.06
10	5.310	733	4651.960	68.21	0.09
11	6.339	285	939.186	30.65	0.11
12	7.117	183	667.305	25.83	0.14
13	7.477	106	278.018	16.67	0.16
14	9.259	56	111.233	10.55	0.19
15	9.018	18	45.922	6.78	0.39
16	11.197	26	47.288	6.88	0.27
17	10.209	21	47.600	6.90	0.33
18	11.307	7	19.545	4.42	0.59
19	9.694	5	7.243	2.69	0.52
20	12.679	6	7.248	2.69	0.47

Table 4. Catch and average weight matrices used in cohort analysis of cod in NAFO Divisions 2J3KL.

AGE	CATCH NUMBERS ($\times 10^5$)																			
	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981
4	267	271	267	280	663	785	916	381	572	690	798	407	138	150	644	528	169	121	118	65
5	558	592	563	456	942	1009	1990	964	773	921	1166	945	355	259	346	464	396	382	280	118
6	600	1159	590	655	632	972	1450	1534	940	944	762	592	747	347	251	143	213	302	289	218
7	486	579	981	629	598	553	809	1006	788	557	560	353	613	389	180	62	83	116	172	191
8	284	288	498	671	307	388	379	493	269	241	296	273	361	356	149	38	32	36	47	105
9	207	152	202	334	240	172	224	184	190	113	118	142	186	133	113	33	15	14	12	29
10	186	114	118	147	88	161	76	115	36	43	64	76	102	77	45	20	11	8	5	7
11	108	81	84	68	47	60	54	60	19	21	30	38	55	24	19	8	4	6	2	3
12	98	41	61	37	23	34	34	42	11	12	17	22	29	13	7	3	2	2	2	2
13	80	39	48	39	18	21	19	28	5	11	14	12	10	9	4	3	1	1	1	1
AGE	AVERAGE WEIGHT (KG)																			
	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981
4	0.55	0.55	0.55	0.55	0.55	0.55	0.55	0.55	0.55	0.55	0.55	0.55	0.55	0.55	0.55	0.77	0.70	0.74	0.77	0.77
5	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.88	1.02	0.99	1.12	1.16	1.15
6	1.23	1.23	1.23	1.23	1.23	1.23	1.23	1.23	1.23	1.23	1.23	1.23	1.23	1.23	1.23	1.73	1.59	1.68	1.72	1.63
7	1.66	1.66	1.66	1.66	1.66	1.66	1.66	1.66	1.66	1.66	1.66	1.66	1.66	1.66	1.66	2.51	2.53	2.49	2.39	2.21
8	2.12	2.12	2.12	2.12	2.12	2.12	2.12	2.12	2.12	2.12	2.12	2.12	2.12	2.12	2.12	3.29	3.40	3.60	3.58	2.87
9	2.64	2.64	2.64	2.64	2.64	2.64	2.64	2.64	2.64	2.64	2.64	2.64	2.64	2.64	2.64	3.99	4.26	4.46	5.03	3.82
10	3.18	3.18	3.18	3.18	3.18	3.18	3.18	3.18	3.18	3.18	3.18	3.18	3.18	3.18	3.18	4.81	4.75	5.31	5.59	5.31
11	3.76	3.76	3.76	3.76	3.76	3.76	3.76	3.76	3.76	3.76	3.76	3.76	3.76	3.76	3.76	5.61	5.51	5.86	6.73	6.34
12	4.15	4.15	4.15	4.15	4.15	4.15	4.15	4.15	4.15	4.15	4.15	4.15	4.15	4.15	4.15	6.48	7.32	7.18	7.89	7.12
13	6.06	6.06	6.06	6.06	6.06	6.06	6.06	6.06	6.06	6.06	6.06	6.06	6.06	6.06	6.06	8.05	8.25	9.02	8.73	7.48

Table 5. Catch of cod per half-hour tow in Divisions 2J3K in depths to 400 m.

Age	2J				
	Nov. 1977	Aug.-Sept. 1978	Oct.-Nov. 1979	Oct.-Nov. 1980	Nov.-Dec. 1981
1	0.0	0.24	0.0	0.20	.38
2	3.57	0.55	0.17	1.17	1.69
3	10.37	7.28	1.03	1.05	1.36
4	31.40	19.42	14.45	4.92	4.71
5	14.37	38.74	22.23	19.06	21.53
6	3.18	10.90	22.82	16.73	23.06
7	1.48	1.98	3.85	9.88	14.11
8	1.35	0.63	1.29	1.43	2.14
9	1.08	0.56	0.37	0.39	.59
10	0.59	0.40	0.30	0.27	.41
11	0.22	0.23	0.18	0.16	.26
12	0.10	0.08	0.06	0.20	.31
13	0.04	0.08	0.02	0.06	.10
13+	0.10	0.17	0.05	0.07	.14
TOTAL	67.85	81.26	66.82	55.59	70.81

Age	3K			
	Aug.-Sept. 1978	Oct.-Nov. 1979	Oct.-Nov. 1980	Nov.-Dec. 1981
1	0.0	0.0	0.25	.01
2	0.16	0.27	1.07	1.51
3	2.60	1.61	1.12	6.22
4	10.61	11.35	1.79	3.90
5	11.91	19.51	10.47	4.25
6	5.53	11.38	11.29	14.19
7	1.96	2.98	2.18	10.26
8	0.84	1.30	1.03	3.19
9	0.56	0.40	0.36	.58
10	0.38	0.29	0.24	.27
11	0.08	0.21	0.02	.22
12	0.08	0.04	0.14	.23
13	0.03	0.04	0.05	.07
13-	0.05	0.07	0.13	.14
TOTAL	34.79	49.45	30.14	45.02

Table 6. Mean number of cod per standard tow from research surveys in Division 3L.

	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981
1	.12	0.0	0.0	.16	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	.06	0.09	.24
2	7.81	1.54	3.77	.51	1.56	2.07	0.91	0.07	.08	1.94	.67
3	22.07	5.55	12.93	5.77	3.46	18.25	4.13	3.35	.84	0.90	12.22
4	6.99	15.19	7.33	8.20	4.95	9.39	5.94	6.26	9.16	3.48	9.79
5	4.58	1.23	3.89	5.82	2.64	3.76	4.61	4.98	13.89	10.65	8.72
6	1.62	1.23	.54	2.38	2.11	2.63	2.15	3.22	6.48	8.60	14.91
7	1.70	.53	.41	.57	1.78	1.47	0.64	1.45	1.53	2.17	15.20
8	.61	.59	.28	.24	0.29	0.70	0.66	0.47	.46	0.79	4.05
9	.46	.31	.28	.17	0.16	0.12	0.44	0.40	.12	0.16	1.05
10	.49	.24	.15	.09	0.05	0.03	0.15	0.23	.19	0.07	.35
11	.18	.08	.12	.04	0.08	0.03	0.10	0.17	.08	0.12	.10
12	.24	.06	.17	.07	0.02	0.06	0.06	0.12	.04	0.07	.10
13+	1.17	.31	.41	.12	0.20	0.09	0.16	0.17	.18	0.15	.10
Total	48.04	26.86	30.28	24.14	17.38	38.58	19.95	20.89	33.12	22.19	67.49
# sets	57	38	29	70	55	6402	94	141	1138		

Table 7. Regression coefficients for grouped categories and the analysis of variance from the regression of ln catch rate for cod in NAFO Divisions 2J3KL from 1959-79.

Country	Gear	ln Power	Month	ln Power
CAN-N	OTB-4		October	-0.720
SUN	OTB-5	-0.170		
SUN	OTB-6		August	
			September	-0.643
E/GBR	OTB-6	-0.065	November	
CAN-M	OTB-4	0.000	July	-0.550
CAN-N	OTB-5		December	
SUN	OTB-7	0.390	June	-0.453
CAN-M	OTB-5	0.471	May	-0.194
ESP	OTB-6			
ESP	PTB-4		March	-0.108
POL	OTB-7	0.626		
PRT	OTB-6		January	
			April	0.000
E/DEU	OTB-6	0.767	February	0.154
DDR	OTB-5			
E/DEU	OTB-7	0.926	Division	
ESP	PTB-5			
PRT	OTB-7		3L	-0.281
DDR	OTB-6	0.964	3K	-0.168
ESP	PTB-6			
			2J	0.000

REGRESSION OF MULTIPLICATIVE MODEL

MULTIPLE R.....,0.745
MULTIPLE R SQUARED.....,0.555

ANALYSIS OF VARIANCE

SOURCE OF VARIATION	DF	SUMS OF SQUARES	MEAN SQUARES	F-VALUE
INTERCEPT	1	9.112E1	9.112E1	
REGRESSION	38	5.460E2	1.437E1	82.806
TYPE 1	8	2.094E2	2.617E1	150.811
TYPE 2	8	2.079E2	2.599E1	149.761
TYPE 3	2	2.665E1	1.333E1	76.797
TYPE 4	20	2.004E2	1.002E1	57.754
RESIDUALS	2520	4.373E2	1.735E1	
TOTAL	2559	1.074E3		

Table 8. Regression coefficients for grouped categories and the analysis of variance from the regression of ln catch rate for cod in NAFO Divisions 2J3KL from 1979-82.

Country	Gear	ln Power	Month	ln Power
CAN-N	OTB-4	-0.248	August	-1.001
CAN-N	OTB-5	0.000	June	
CAN-M	OTB-4		July	-0.914
CAN-M	OTB-5	0.285	September	
			October	-0.763
			November	
Division	ln Power			
3L	-0.844		May	-0.564
3L	-0.844		December	-0.295
3K	-0.467		April	-0.278
2J	0.000		January	0.000
			March	
			February	0.212

REGRESSION OF MULTIPLICATIVE MODEL

MULTIPLE R.....0.851
MULTIPLE R SQUARED....0.724

ANALYSIS OF VARIANCE

SOURCE OF VARIATION	DF	SUMS OF SQUARES	MEAN SQUARES	F-VALUE
INTERCEPT	1	2.147E1	2.147E1	
REGRESSION	14	7.130E1	5.093E0	28.158
TYPE 1	2	1.827E1	9.136E0	50.514
TYPE 2	7	1.970E1	2.814E0	15.557
TYPE 3	2	5.641E0	2.820E0	15.594
TYPE 4	3	1.605E1	5.350E0	29.583
RESIDUALS	150	2.713E1	1.809E-1	
TOTAL	165	1.199E2		

Table 9. Mean catch rate indices of cod in NAFO Divisions 2J3KL for 1959-82 relative to 1959 with their respective standard errors. The proportion of the total catch which was used in the analysis for each year is indicated.

YEAR	TOTAL CATCH	PROP.	RELATIVE POWER		EFFORT
			MEAN	S.E.	
1959	329572	0.251	1.000	0.000	329572
1960	393577	0.302	1.016	0.074	387191
1961	498078	0.306	1.045	0.074	476593
1962	502752	0.480	1.086	0.073	463124
1963	499904	0.491	1.129	0.075	442840
1964	603585	0.378	1.097	0.072	550250
1965	555654	0.446	0.936	0.061	593682
1966	522307	0.425	1.010	0.066	517270
1967	610535	0.416	1.052	0.067	580407
1968	807470	0.323	1.070	0.069	754663
1969	748433	0.303	0.901	0.058	830908
1970	516213	0.338	0.797	0.053	647391
1971	432496	0.382	0.664	0.044	650942
1972	458170	0.331	0.608	0.040	753271
1973	354509	0.424	0.519	0.035	683171
1974	372650	0.518	0.580	0.039	641948
1975	287508	0.477	0.531	0.036	541878
1976	214220	0.420	0.496	0.036	431925
1977	172720	0.154	0.406	0.037	425692
1978	138559	0.145	0.652	0.063	212565
1979	166743	0.311	0.890	0.074	187296
1980	171863	0.248	0.945	0.084	181844
1981	150824	0.392	1.272	0.111	118560
1982	230000	0.090	1.091	0.145	210751

AVERAGE C.V. FOR THE MEAN: 0.072

Table 10. Historical partial selection for 1975-79, their average and the partial selection pattern used in the current cohort analysis for cod in NAFO Divisions 2J3KL.

AGE	SELECTIVITY					AVG.	USED
	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979		
4	0.12	0.28	0.29	0.11	0.10	0.18	0.18
5	0.35	0.46	0.71	0.47	0.40	0.48	0.48
6	0.62	0.69	0.74	0.81	0.63	0.70	0.70
7	0.80	0.80	0.78	1.15	0.84	0.87	0.85
8	0.98	0.89	0.83	1.08	1.05	0.96	1.00
9	0.94	1.11	1.08	0.85	0.96	0.99	1.00
10	1.14	1.11	1.30	1.03	0.88	1.09	1.00
11	0.76	1.09	1.31	0.76	1.17	1.02	1.00
12	0.98	0.54	1.06	0.99	0.71	0.86	1.00
13	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00

Table 11. Results from regression analyses of exploitable biomass versus catch rate index for cod in NAFO Divisions 2J3KL using years 1962-81 in the regression.

	F_{1981}		
	0.10	0.12	0.14
R^2	0.76	0.74	0.70
Intercept	-2,981	-2,682	-2,467
Slope	14,799	14,079	13,566
1980 residual	2,476	853	-306
1981 residual	1,229	-700	-2,077

Table 12. Results from cohort analysis for cod in NAFO Divisions 2J3KL using a fishing mortality of 0.12 in 1981 for fully recruited ages.

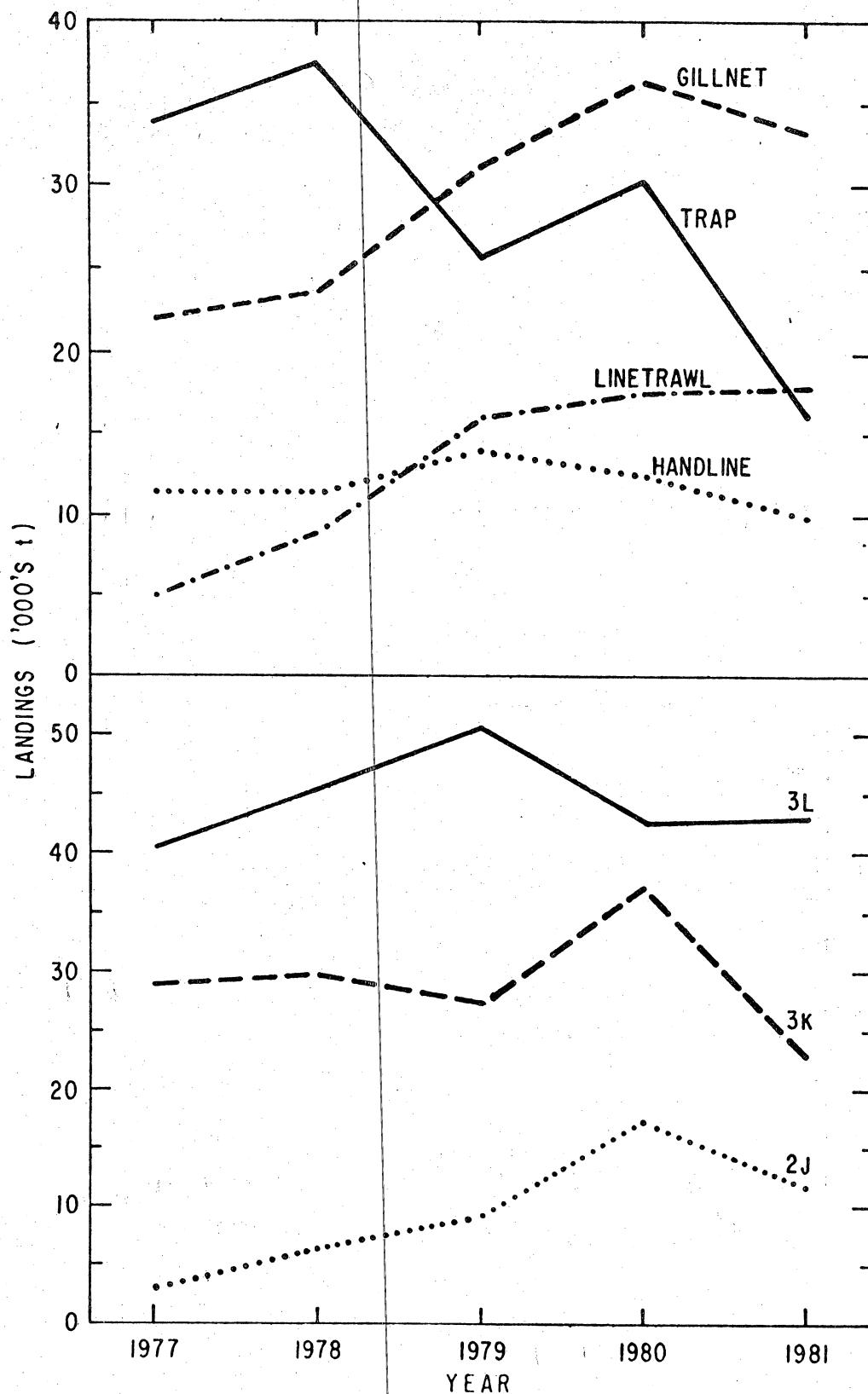


Fig. 1. Inshore cod landings by Can(N) in NAFO Divisions 2J3KL by gear and division for the period 1977-81.

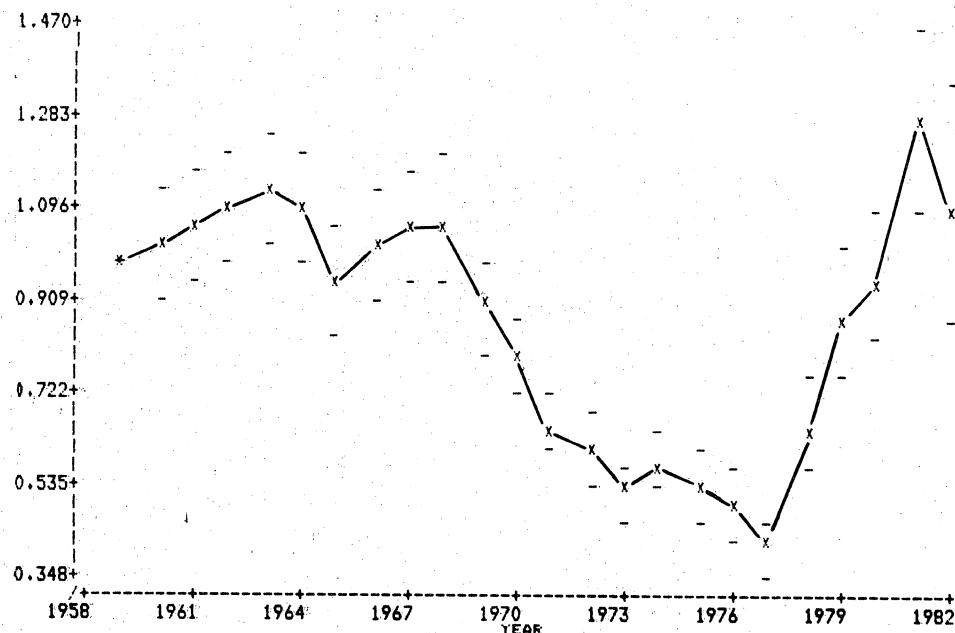


Fig. 2. Relative catch rate index with approximate 90% confidence interval for cod in NAFO Divisions 2J3KL.

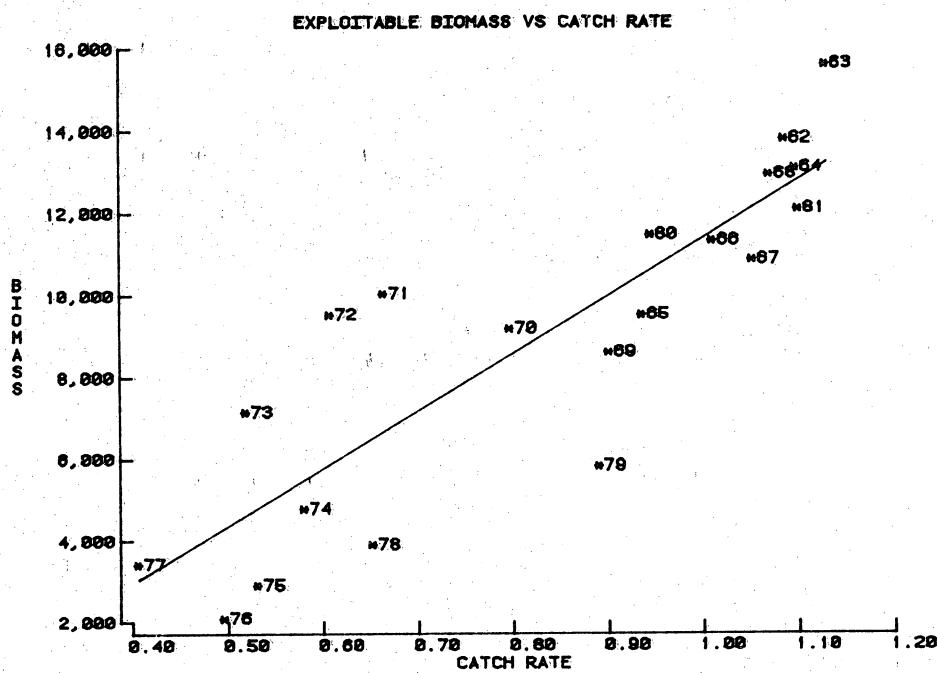


Fig. 3. Plot of the regression of exploitable biomass versus catch rate index for cod in NAFO Divisions 2J3KL using a fishing mortality of 0.12 for fully recruited ages in 1981.