

Biological risk assessment modeling for potentially invasive species

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U.S. Department of the Interior U.S. Geological Survey

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Talk Outline

- 1. Why look at biological characteristics?
- 2. Qualitative methods
- 3. Quantitative methods
- 4. Developing and using quantitative models for fishes in Great Lakes
- 5. Exercise: using models for Great Lakes



Hypothesized Characteristics of IS

- Broad diet
- Single-parent reproduction
- High genetic variability
- Phenotypically plastic

- Large native range
- Gregarious
- Long-lived
- Human commensal
- Strategy (r-selection or switch between k- and r-?)
- Individual size (small or large?)
- Population density (constant or boom and bust?)



(from Lodge 1993)

Productive Approaches for Biological Risk Assessments

- Transition step-specific: controls for interstep differences
- Region-specific: controls for speciesecosystem interaction
- Taxon-specific: controls for inter-taxa differences



	PLAN	ITS	BIRDS			
haracters	Establish/Fail	Invasive/Not	Establish/Fail	Invasive/Not		



(modified from Kolar & Lodge, 2001 TREE 16:199-204) Upper Midwest Environmental Sciences Center

	PLAN	TS	BIRDS				
Characters	Establish/Fail	Invasive/Not	Establish/Fail Invasive/Not				
Body mass			+, +, ns, ns, ns -				
Migrating			-, ns, ns, ns, ns 🛛 +				
Len. flowering	+	ns, ns					



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	PLAN	ITS	BIRDS				
Characters	Establish/Fail	Invasive/Not	Establish/Fail Invasive/Not				
Body mass			+, +, ns, ns, ns -				
Migrating			-, ns, ns, ns, ns +				
Len. flowering	+	ns, ns					
Invasion history	y	+, +, +, +					
Family invasive	9	+, +, +, +					
Vegetative rep	ro.	+, +, +					



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	PLAN	ITS	BIRDS
Characters	Establish/Fail	Invasive/Not	Establish/Fail Invasive/Not
Body mass			+, +, ns, ns, ns -
Migrating			-, ns, ns, ns, ns 🛛 +
Len. flowering	+	ns, ns	
Invasion histor	y	+, +, +, +	
Family invasive	9	+, +, +, +	
Vegetative rep	ro.	+, +, +	
Annual (vs. per	.)	ns, ns, ns	
Diet breadth			ns, ns
Diverse climate	es	ns	ns
		(modified fror	m Kolar & Lodge, 2001 TREE 16:199-204)

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Using Species Characteristics

- Patterns emerging from focused studies (one taxon, one ecosystem, one region)
- Some species & ecosystem characteristics have consistent association with invaders
- But ability to predict using species characteristics limited by small sample sizes, & a lack of diversity of taxa studied



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Qualitative Modeling of Biological Risk

- ANSTF Generic Risk Assessment
- Scoring systems such as the Weed Risk Assessment (Australia)
- Common characteristics of invasive species



Qualitative Modeling of Biological Risk

Ricciardi and Rasmussen (1998) – common sense approach





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Quantitative Modeling of Biological Risk Multivariate Statistical Modeling

- 1. Discriminant Analysis (DA) two or more groups; know membership
- 2. Canonical Discriminant Analysis (CDA) uses new variables
- 3. Logistic Regression (LR) two groups; normality not necessary
- 4. Cluster Analysis (CA) classifies when don't know membership



Quantitative Modeling of Biological Risk Decision Trees: Categorical & Regression Trees (CART)



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Rule Sets are Key Elements CART Analyses

1. Splitting each node in tree

Considers all possible splits for EACH variable Ranks by a quality-of-split criterion and splits on top ranked variable

2. Deciding when tree is complete

Overgrows then prunes back

3. Assigning each terminal node to a class outcome

Ex: plurality rule--group with greatest representation determines class assignment

4. Testing

Lots data: build tree with learning sample, then calculate misclassification rate using test sample

Less data: bootstrap cross validation technique



Studies using CART in Biological Abstracts





Comparison of Quantitative Methods

	DA	CART
Two or more groups	X	X
Independent variables	X	Х
Populations are distinct	X	X
Multivariate normality	Х	
Equal covariance matricies	Х	
Mathematical function	Х	
Decision tree		X
Common statistical packages	Х	
Stand alone software or expensive		X



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Pathways for Introduction of Fishes







Round goby

≈USGS



1. Adjacent watersheds





Grass carp



Weather loach

Productive Approaches: Quantitative Predictions

- Region-specific: controls for speciesecosystem interaction
 GREAT LAKES
- Taxon-specific: controls for inter-taxa differences
 FISHES
- Transition step-specific: controls for interstep differences
 STEPS EXAMINED INDEPENDENTLY



Process of Species Spread



Habitat & Environmental Tolerances:





Life History Characteristics:

- Length at maturity (mm)
- Age at maturity (yrs.)
- Fecundity (annual)
- Maximum yrs. spawn
- Reproductive potential
- Incubation period (days)
- Parental care (scale 1-7)
- Degree of derived characters





Additional Variables:

Whether the genus has history of introduction, establishment, or invasiveness elsewhere

Whether the species has history of introduction, establishment, or invasiveness elsewhere



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Database Complete

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32	21	grass carp	6	4	1	2	2 760	26	1	44	750000	6	4500000	1	10	5	718426	3	(-
33	12	chain pickerel	1	1		1	1 350	49	2	72	7000	5	35000	1	8	3.5	1332950	2	2	-
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Question

1. Are fishes that successfully invaded the Great Lakes different from those that have failed?





Establishment of Fishes

Successful (n = 24)

Failed (n = 21)









rainbow smelt **≥USGS**



Atlantic salmon

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Discriminant Function

- Fast relative growth rate
- Wide salinity tolerance
- Wide range of water temperature tolerance
- Species has a history of invasiveness

Overall Correct Classification = 87%



Question

2. Are fishes that quickly spread through the Great Lakes different from those that spread slowly?



Overall correct classification: 89%

Quickly spreading (n=9)



Slowly spreading (n=8)





Questions

3. Are fishes that are perceived as a nuisance in the Great Lakes different from those that are not?

Nuisance (n=8)



Non-nuisance (n=15)







Overall correct classification: 91%

CART Decision Tree for Establishment



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Overall correct classification rate 96%

Predictive Models Developed

1. Establishment

Discriminant function

• CART tree

2. Spread

Discriminant function

3. Impact

Discriminant function



Application : Ponto Caspian fishes



66 out of 110 species





Establishment of Ponto-Caspian Fishes

Low risk	Medium risk
(no models)	(1 model)
29 species	15 species

22 species

High risk

(both models)



8 minnows 3 gobies





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Quick Spreading & Nuisance Fishes

22 species common to both models





Highest Risk Ponto-Caspian Fishes

Tyulka (*Clupeonella cultriventris*)





Monkey goby (Neogobius fluviatilis)

Eurasian minnow (*Phoxinus phoxinus*)





Black sea silverside (Atherina boyeri)

European perch (*Perca fluviatilis*) **SUSGS**



Uses of Biological Risk Models

Intentional Pathways of Introduction

- ✓ Basis for developing regulations
- ✓ Basis for developing best management practices
- ✓ Basis for developing introduction policies

Unintentional Pathways of Introduction

- ✓ Basis for developing regulations
- Basis for developing best management practices



Statistical Models & Decision Trees

Advantages

Any group of plants or animals

Any stage of invasion process

Not difficult to construct with

software

Limited data collection needed

or screening species

Limitations

For establishment stage, need data on 'failed' introductions

Substantial data collection to develop models

System, region, or pathwayspecific



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Combination Decision Tree



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Evaluation of Analyses

Jack-knife classification rates

	Question S	p. characteristics	Correct +	Correct	False +	False -
1.	Establishment DA	t Rel. growth (+), Salinity tol. (+), Range temp. tol. (+) Sp. history invas.(+)	75% ,	91%	25%	9%
	CART	Rel. growth (+), Diet breadth (+), Min. temp. (-)	96%	71%	4%	29%
2.	Spread DA	Max. temp. tol. (-), Rel. growth(+), Range temp. tol. (+)	78%	100%	22%	0%
3.	Impact DA	Egg diameter(-), Min. temp. tol. (-), Salinity tol. (+)	92%	90%	8%	10%