

## InSTREAM / InSALMO Simulation Experiments



- How to use InSTREAM / InSALMO to understand and manage a river
- Two kinds of experiment:
  - Scenario comparison
  - Sensitivity analysis
- BehaviorSpace: NetLogo's tool for running experiments

## Two kinds of annoying people...



- Those who will never believe the model because:
  - it's too complex, with too many parameters, *and*
  - it's not realistic because it doesn't include \_\_\_\_\_ (my pet mechanism)
- Those who believe the model without question

## Instead:



- Treat initial results as hypotheses and then investigate:
  - Why did they occur?  
What mechanisms caused them?
  - Do you believe those mechanisms?
  - Are there alternatives to explore?
  - How robust are the key results?
  - What is the model telling us about the real river?

## Example analysis conclusions



- Higher flows would be better in mid-late summer but not winter
- Temperature is/not more important than flow (at what times of year?)
- Higher spring flows benefit Rainbow but not Brown Trout
- Redd scour is important but not controllable
- More spawning gravel would/not increase abundance

## Tricks for understanding mechanisms

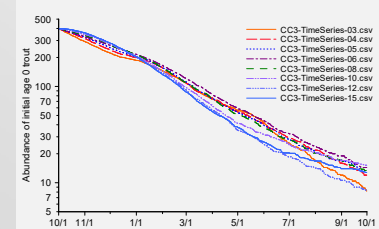


- Confine the possibilities to mechanisms in the model
  - Low spawning success cannot be caused by redd siltation because redd siltation is not in the model

## Tricks for understanding mechanisms



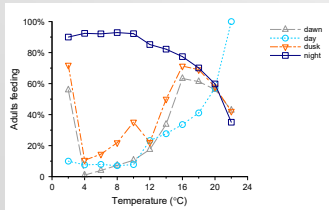
- Look at time series: do different things happen at different times of year?



## Tricks for understanding mechanisms



- Look at what time of day fish feed
  - A shift from day to night indicates better growth conditions or higher predation risk
  - Remember competition



## Tricks for understanding mechanisms



- Turn stuff off (be unrealistic)
  - To see if egg mortality is important, turn it off and see if you still get the same general trends

```
to go
; The main model schedule
; ...
; Redd survival
; ask redds [ redd-survive ]
```

## Tricks for understanding mechanisms



- Use sensitivity experiments
  - How do results change as you vary:
    - Summer, winter flow
    - Summer, winter temperature
    - Fecundity
    - Fish predation
    - Terrestrial predation
    - ... ?

## Tricks for understanding mechanisms

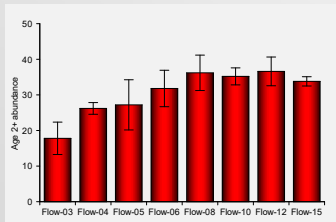


- Remember competition, adaptive tradeoff behaviors, and other complexities
  - More mortality can result from higher abundance
  - Smaller size can result from higher abundance
  - Worse growth conditions can lead to higher predation mortality

## Kinds of simulation experiment



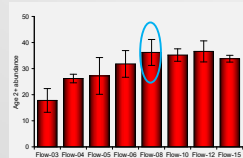
- 1) Scenario comparisons
  - Compare predicted fish populations under several discrete scenarios (e.g., management alternatives)



## Replication in scenario comparisons

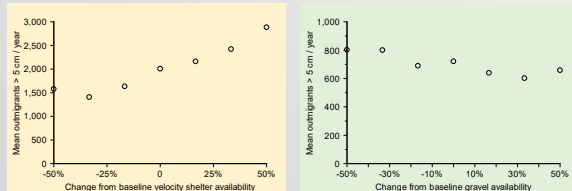


- By random numbers, to evaluate effects of the model's stochasticity, e.g.:
  - How many females spawn, and when
  - Individual survival
  - Redd survival (scour, superimposition)
- By year shuffling, to evaluate effects of the sequence of hydrologic years
  - InSTREAM's year shuffler randomizes the water years



## Experiment type 2: Sensitivity analyses

- Examine how simulated fish populations respond to parameter / input values
- Purposes:
  - Calibration
  - Identifying important processes and management actions

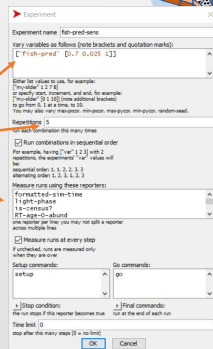


## Running simulation experiments: BehaviorSpace

- BehaviorSpace is a software tool in NetLogo for automating simulation experiments
- It is extremely useful but requires simple, careful changes to the software
- I introduce it but see the User Manual and NetLogo documentation

## BehaviorSpace

- You define an experiment
  - Which parameters/inputs to vary and what values they will have
  - How many replicates of each scenario
  - What results to output
- BehaviorSpace automatically creates and executes all the model runs, in parallel on all available processors
  - All combinations of all parameter/input values
- Output is written to one file, ready for analysis
  - Or you can use InSTREAM's standard output files



## Let's try it

- Suggest something to vary
- We will set up and run the experiment