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# The Economic Structure of Harvesting for Three Vessel Types in the Norwegian Spring-Spawning Herring Fishery

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### **Abstract**

Norwegian spring-spawning herring (Clupea harengus) is the largest fish stock in the North Atlantic and is harvested by many nations. The introduction of new technology in the 1960's caused a substantial increase in the efficiency of the fishing fleet. As a consequence, the stock was fished almost to extinction by the end of the 1960s. In the 1990s, the stock has shown healthy growth, and Total Allowable Catch (TAC) quotas have increased. This paper adds to the understanding of the harvesting process by providing measurements of the economic structure of the harvesting technology. For this fishery, Norway receives the largest share of the internationally determined TAC quota and thus the focus will be to investigate the harvesting process for three vessel types in the Norwegian fishing fleet, i.e., purse seiners, trawlers and coastal vessels. Vessel level cost and revenue data are available annually for the three vessel types for the three-year period 1994-1996. Estimates of input elasticities, economies of scale and cost elasticities for a two output cost function are reported.

# The Economic Structure of Harvesting for Three Vessel Types in the Norwegian Spring-Spawning Herring Fishery

### 1. Introduction

The Norwegian spring-spawning herring (*Clupea harengus*) is the largest fish stock in the North Atlantic and an important source of food and revenue for many coastal states. Norway is the largest harvester but also Iceland, Russia and to a lesser degree the Faroe Islands and the European Union are significant agents in the fishery. Throughout the 1950s, the stock was abundant and healthy. The introduction of new technology, in particular the powerblock, and modern fish finding equipment such as the sonar in the 1960s caused a tremendous increase in harvesting efficiency for purse seine vessels. As a result, catch levels increased, stock size decreased and eventually the stock was fished near extinction by the end of the 1960s. After the collapse, it took about 20 years for the stock to recover to the Minimum Biological Acceptable Level (MBAL) and only in the second half of the 1990s, has stock size reached levels that allow for increases in Total Allowable Catch (TAC) quotas.

Management of spring-spawning herring is complicated by the international migratory pattern of the species (Munro 1998). The migratory range extends from Norwegian coastal waters, through the Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs) of the European Union, Faroe Islands, Iceland and through international waters called the "Ocean Loop" on their way to the summer feeding area near Jan Mayen Island. While the stock is in an EEZ the authority for fisheries management lies with the individual country. On the high seas the stock is in principle open for harvesting by many fishing nations. Efficient management of the fishery requires co-operation among the fishing nations involved and knowledge of both the biology of the fish and the economic structure of the harvesting process. The purpose of this paper is to add to the understanding of the harvesting process by providing measurements of the economic structure of harvesting technology for three different vessel types that fish spring spawning herring. Our

focus will be to investigate the harvesting process for three vessel types in the Norwegian fishing fleet, i.e., purse seiners, trawlers and coastal vessels. Section 2 provides a discussion of the migratory cycle of the species and the allocation of catch shares among the three vessel groups. In Section 3, the harvest function is specified and summary statistics defining the data set used in estimation are reported. As well, the structure of the harvest function is empirically characterised using elasticity measures. Section 4 is a conclusion.

## 2. Norwegian Spring-Spawning Herring

In the 1950s and the 1960s, Norwegian spring spawning herring was a major commercial species, harvested by vessels from Norway, Iceland, Faroe Islands, the former Soviet Union and several European nations. During this period, the fishable component of the herring stock is believed to have measured about 10 million metric tonnes (MT). However, during this period the stock was subjected to heavy exploitation by several European nations especially Norway, Iceland and the former Soviet Union, employing new and substantially more effective fishing technology. The annual harvest peaked at 2 million MT in 1966. By this time, however, the stock was in serious decline and a complete stock collapse occurred by the end of the decade.

Prior to stock depletion, the species was a migratory stock migrating through several coastal states and the high seas. The migratory pattern and number of components to the stock changed between 1950 and 1970. In the 1950's and early 1960's, adults would spawn off the south-central coast of western Norway (near Møre) from February through March. The adults would migrate west and south-west through international waters toward Iceland (April and May), spending the summer (June through August) in an area north of Iceland. In September the adults would migrate south to a wintering area east of Iceland before returning to western Norway to spawn. Juveniles, including the recently spawned or "zero cohort" would migrate

north, but remain in Norwegian waters until sexually mature, around age four or five, when they would join the adult migratory pattern.

In the mid-1960s, a second, more northern stock component appeared. This component would spawn south of the Lofoten Islands (north of Møre) with the adults migrating northwest into the north Norwegian Sea, then north-east into the Barents Sea, and finally south to wintering grounds west of the Lofoten Islands before moving south to spawn. By 1966 the northern component was the largest of the two major stock components. Because of overfishing and poor recruitment, the spawning biomass of both components fell precipitously in 1968 and 1969. In its depleted state, the adult population ceased migration and both adults and juveniles remained in Norwegian waters year round.

Recruitment remained weak throughout the 1970s and it was not until the strong year class of 1983 joined the adult population in 1986 that the stock biomass began to recover. The main component of the stock has re-established itself on the spawning grounds off Møre. Now, after spawning, the adult herring begin a westerly migration passing through the Exclusive Economic Zones of the European Union, Faroe Islands, Iceland and through international waters called the "Ocean Loop" on their way to the summer feeding area near Jan Mayen Island. In the 1990's, the herring have followed the southern edge of the cold East Iceland stream, north and north-easterly, to winter in the fjords of northern Norway (Bjørndal *et al.* 1998).

Harvest quotas have increased considerably in the 1990's, from a total quota of 78,000 tonnes in 1992 to almost 1,500,000 tonnes in 1997. Norway receives about 60% of this allocation. Other nations received smaller shares. In Norway, three vessel types participate in the herring fishery, purse seine, coastal vessels and trawlers. The Norwegian quota is allocated among the three vessel groups. Table 1 shows the distribution of the total quota among the different vessel groups. In 1997, coastal vessels were assigned 31% of the total quota while

purse seiners are granted 60%. The rest of the total quota for this year (9%) was allocated to trawlers. Quota levels for purse seiners and trawlers have increased in the period, while the share of the coastal vessels has been reduced. However, in tonnes the quotas have increased for all groups of vessels in the period.

The coastal vessels and the trawlers are assigned a maximum-quota for each vessel group, while purse seine vessels are assigned a vessel quota. A vessel quota is reliable in the period and guaranteed by the authorities, while a maximum-quota is not. This difference is due to the fact that purse seiners are licensed vessels, while the trawlers have permission to participate and the coastal vessels have free access to the fisheries for Norwegian spring-spawning herring.

For coastal vessels the group quota is allocated among the 400 participating coastal vessels on the basis of a unity quota which was set to 110 tonnes in 1997. The number of unity quotas each vessel is assigned depends on the length of the vessel. The smallest vessels (7 metres or less) were assigned one unity quota as a maximum-quota, and the largest vessels (26 metres or more) were assigned 21 unity quotas as a maximum quota.

For the 70 trawlers participating in the fishery each was assigned a base quota dependent on the gross tonnage of the vessel and calculated by means of a given key. The maximum quota is set by multiplying the base quota by a factor, which is set by dividing the group quota by the sum of the base quotas.

About 100 licensed purse seine vessels participate in the fishery and each is assigned a base quota dependent on the licensed capacity of the vessel and calculated by means of a given distribution key. The vessel quota is set by multiplying the base quota by a factor. The factor is set by dividing the group quota by the sum of the base quotas.

#### 3. The Harvest Function

The data available for analysis are obtained from the Norwegian Directorate of Fishery. They include information on catches, revenues and costs for vessels which are 13 metres and larger for the three year period 1994-1996. Table 2 shows the number of vessels for each vessel group for each year available in the data set. The total sample of observations for purse seiners is 112, for trawlers 103 and for coastal vessels 158. For each vessel, data are available on the value (Norwegian Kroner) and quantity (tonnes) of harvest of spring spawning herring, North Sea herring, mackerel and other species. Expenditure data are available on fuel, product fees, bait, social costs, insurance, maintenance (vessel and gear), miscellaneous, labour and depreciation (based on historical cost). Finally, the vessel itself is measured by replacement value of vessel, length, tonnage units, gross registered tonnes and engine horsepower. All data are annual boat level data.

Because catch levels are set by quota a cost function approach is used in measuring the economic structure of harvesting (Diewert 1974). Thus, the behavioural hypothesis imposed on the modelling process is that the fishing vessel attempts to minimise the cost of harvesting the set quota level subject to vessel type.

The input expenditure data are used to define two price indices; one index measuring the cost of purchasing fuel and one aggregate index measuring the cost of maintaining the vessel and gear. The quantity of fuel used in harvesting is not available in the data set. A proxy variable is calculated based on a Cobb-Douglas aggregator function of vessel length, tonnage units, horsepower and total catch levels. Each variable in the aggregator function receives equal weight (i.e., 0.25). The price index for fuel  $(P_f)$  is then defined as the expenditure on fuel divided by the proxy variable measuring quantity of fuel. The vessel price index  $(P_v)$  is defined as expenditure on insurance and maintenance of the vessel and gear divided by the total catch level of the vessel. Table 3 shows summary statistics for the two price indices for each year and

by vessel type. Purse seine vessels incur the highest price of fuel in all three years followed by trawlers and then coastal vessels. On the other hand, coastal vessels incur the highest price for vessel and gear maintenance. The standard errors associated with the mean values of the price variables show substantial variation in input prices over time and across vessel types.

The data set available separates the harvest by spring spawning herring, North Sea herring, mackerel and other fish. All vessels harvest spring spawning herring, however, not all vessels harvest the other species available. As the interest of the study is on spring spawning herring, it was decided to define the cost function over two outputs, spring spawning herring  $(Q_{sh})$  and other fish  $(Q_{of})$ , where other fish represents the total harvest of North Sea herring, mackerel and other fish.

A measure of vessel capital is defined using the tonnage units for each vessel. In Table 4, the quantity of fish harvested for the two different outputs and tonnage units by vessel type and across years is reported. Purse seine vessels are by far the largest vessels in the fleet and capture the largest harvest of both spring-spawning herring and other fish. Coastal vessels are the most numerous vessel type in the fleet but harvest the smallest share of both spring-spawning herring and other fish. Although trawlers are on average only 25% smaller in tonnage units compared to purse seine vessels they harvest on average as much as 65% of the purse seine catch.

In modelling the harvesting process, we assume that the vessel will attempt to minimise the cost(C) of fuel and other inputs to harvest a given catch level of spring spawning herring and other fish subject to vessel type and tonnage units. Given quota restrictions used in regulating the fishery the cost minimising assumption seems reasonable. The cost minimising problem is written as:

$$C(P,Q,T) = \min P_f q_f + P_\nu q_\nu : H(q_f, q_\nu, T, Q_{sh}, Q_a) = 0$$
 (1)

where P is the input price vector for fuel (f) and vessel (v), q is the corresponding measure of the quantity of inputs, Q is the harvest vector for spring-spawning herring (sh) and other (o) fish, T is the fixed factor capital measure of tonnage units, while H(.) represents the harvest function. As is well known, solving the cost minimisation problem generates a cost function in terms of input prices, output harvest quantities and the fixed tonnage units or:

$$C = C(P_f, P_v, T, Q_{sh}, Q_o)$$
(2)

For estimation, each right-hand-side variable is centred on the mean of the variable in 1994.

For estimation the Trans-Log flexible functional form is used to specify C(.) in Equation 2. The Trans-Log is often used in empirical work and is not encumbered by restrictions on substitution possibilities and regularity conditions compared to say, the Cobb-Douglas form (Brown and Christensen 1974)<sup>1</sup>. The estimating equation for the Trans-Log functional form is written as

$$\ln C = \ln \alpha_o + \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i \ln P_i + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \gamma_{ij} \ln P_i \ln P_j + \alpha_{Q_s} \sum_{s=1}^m Q_s + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{s=1}^m \sum_{k=1}^q \gamma_{sk} \ln Q_s \ln Q_k + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{s=1}^m \rho_{is} \ln P_i \ln Q_s + \gamma_T \ln T + \frac{1}{2} \gamma_{TT} (\ln T)^2 + \sum_{i=1}^n \rho_{iT} \ln P_i \ln T + \sum_{s=1}^m \gamma_{sT} \ln Q_s \ln T + e$$
 (3)

where C is the variable cost of fuel and maintenance, i = f (fuel cost) and v (vessel and other cost), s = sh (spring herring) and o (other fish), T is the tonnage units for the vessel and e is a random error assumed to be normally distributed. Equation (3) is combined with the cost share equation for fuel and estimation is carried out using a weighted iterative Seemingly Unrelated Regression procedure. The share equation regresses the expenditure share of fuel in total cost on the log of the price of fuel, price of vessel maintenance, tonnage units, harvest level of

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See Gordon (1987) for a discussion of the limitations of using a multi-output Cobb-Douglas functional form to estimate the cost function.

spring-spawning herring and other fish. A weighted iterative Seemingly Unrelated Regression estimator is used to correct for heterscedasticity caused by different vessel size.

Input demand elasticities, economies of scale and output cost elasticities can be calculated from the parameters of Equation (3) (Caves, Christensen and Swanson 1981). Input demand elasticities are defined as:

$$\varepsilon_{ij} = \frac{\gamma_{ij} + S_i S_j}{S_i}, \qquad i, j = f, \nu \tag{4}$$

A measure of economies of scale for a two-output short-run cost function is calculated for each vessel type using

$$ES = (1 - \partial \ln C / \partial \ln T) / (\partial \ln C / \partial \ln Q_{sh} + \partial \ln C / \partial \ln Q_{of})$$
 (5)

Finally, cost elasticity with respect to each output at mean 1994 levels is computed as

$$\eta_{cs} = \alpha_{Qs}, \qquad Qs = Q_{sh}, Q_o. \tag{6}$$

Preliminary estimation using the Cobb-Douglas cost equation tested for yearly differences in the cost estimates resulting from changes in the stock of fish. We were concerned that the increase in the stock of fish, particularly in 1996, might have a statistically important influence in changing the parameters in the estimated cost function. Testing was carried out using yearly dummy variables, but the results showed no yearly changes in the cost parameters. Based on this result the yearly data were pooled for further investigation (see Bjørndal and Gordon, 1998).

The estimated parameters of the cost function along with their standard errors are reported in Table 5.1, 5.2, and 5.3 for purse seine, trawler and coastal vessels, respectively. The trans-log cost function appears to fit the data reasonably well with estimated coefficients statistically significant at standard levels. The estimated model satisfies the cost regularity conditions at mean 1994 values. The own-price elasticity estimates for each vessel type for each year with associated standard errors are listed in Table 6. The fuel price elasticity is

reported in column three and the vessel price elasticity is reported in column four. Purse seine vessels are estimated to have a more inelastic response to both fuel and vessel prices as compared to either trawlers or coastal vessels. But nonetheless all vessel types show a strong inelastic response to prices and there appears to be very little variation in these values over the three-year period for each vessel type. This implies a rigid input structure for all vessel types and particularly for purse seine vessels.

The fifth column in Table 6 reports estimates of economies of scale for each vessel type and for each year. In general, all vessel types show increasing returns to scale in all three years. It is interesting, however, that the purse seine and trawler vessel groups appear to have captured much of the benefits available in terms of cost reductions in scale effects (i.e., scale measures close to one). Whereas, for coastal vessels substantial cost benefits could still be achieved by allowing individual vessels to increase harvest levels and capture the available economies of scale.

Finally, Table 7 shows the cost elasticities associated with each output group for each vessel type. The table shows substantial variation in the response of total cost to changes in harvest levels across the different vessel groups. The cost elasticity measure for spring-spawning herring is smallest for purse seiners, then trawlers and, finally, coastal vessels. But in all cases, both spring spawning herring and other fish, we measure an inelastic response of total cost to changes in harvest levels. It is likely that this result can be attributed to the fact that Norwegian spring spawning herring is a schooling fish stock. With modern fish-finding equipment, schooling fish are fairly easy to locate and harvest even as stock size declines. As a consequence, unit harvesting cost may remain fairly constant (Bjørndal, 1988).

The elasticity summary measures provide an interesting description of the Norwegian spring spawning herring fleet but a visual representation of the different cost characteristics will allow us to clearly differentiate costs across vessel types. Figure 1 graphs out the estimated

average cost of harvesting spring-spawning herring for each vessel type. The estimates are calculated by holding constant all variables at mean levels in 1994, except harvest levels of spring spawning herring. Based on this, short-run costs are calculated for the actual range of harvest levels of spring spawning herring for each vessel type. Short-run costs are then divided by the sum of the mean level of other fish harvested for that vessel type in 1994 and the harvest level of spring spawning herring. Average costs are measured per tonne of fish captured.

The most noticeable point in Figure 1, is the high-cost of harvesting for coastal vessels compared to trawlers and purse seiners. The largest coastal vessel is capturing about 1400 tonnes of spring spawning herring and at mean levels of other fish harvested achieves a average cost of about 650 NKr per tonne. On the other hand, trawlers are the most efficient vessels in the fleet achieving an average cost of 455 NKr per tonne of harvest at a catch level of 1600 tonnes of spring-spawning herring. Purse seine vessels certainly capture the largest share of the spring-spawning harvest but achieve an average cost of 480 NKr per tonne at a harvest level of about 4650 tonnes of spring-spawning herring. The figure shows trawlers and purse seine vessels with a very flat average cost curve compared to coastal vessels and seem to have captured available economies of scale to this technology. Again we attribute this to the schooling nature of spring spawning herring (Bjørndal 1988).

### 4. Conclusion

The purpose of this paper is to measure the economic cost of harvesting spring spawning herring by three vessel types (purse seiners, trawlers and coastal vessels). The data available for analyses allow for cost estimates of the different technologies used in harvesting the spring-spawning herring. Our estimates show that purse seine vessels are the least responsive to changes in fuel and vessel maintenance prices. Purse seine vessels are also the largest vessels in the fleet and capture the largest harvests. Increasing economies of scale are

available to all vessel groups but purse seiners and trawlers have captured much of the cost advantage available to scale effects. On the other hand, coastal vessels have not captured the full cost benefits of scale effects. To achieve scale economies the catch levels available to coastal vessels must be increased or the number of coastal vessels allowed to fish spring-spawning herring be decreased.

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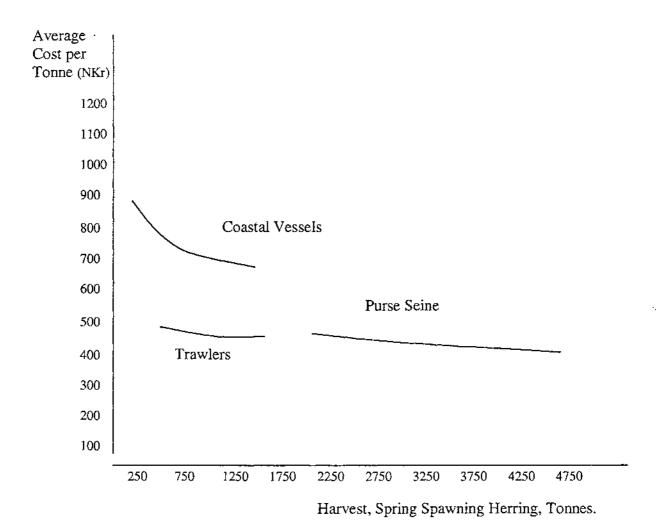


Figure 1. Estimated Average Cost by Vessel Type, at Mean 1994 Levels, NKr per Tonne

Table 1

Norwegian Quota Distribution by Vessel Type, tonnes

(percentage distribution in parentheses)

Year	Purse Seine	Trawler	Coastal Vessel	Total
1994	196 050 (50%)	24 850 (6%)	174 100 (44%)	395 000
1995	304 500 (55%)	45 500 (8%)	200 000 (37%)	550 000
1996	403 700 (58%)	62 550 (9%)	228 750 (33%)	695 000

Source: Norges Sildesalgslag, 1996.

Table 2

Observations per Vessel per Year

Year	1994	1995	1996	
Purse seine	32	36	44	
Trawler	34	32	37	
Coastal Vessel	53	49	56	

Table 3

Input Price Indexes: Purse Seine, Trawler and Coastal Vessel, 1994-96<sup>a</sup>

Year	Vessel Type	Price Fuel	Price Vessel	
1641	vesser rype	#Ilee Puel	rnce vesser	
1994				
	Purse seine	11.5 (3.15)	3.6 (1.2)	
	Trawler	4.2 (1.14)	2.6 (1.3)	
	Coastal Vessel	1.4 (0.55)	5.7 (3.6)	
1995				
	Purse seine	10.8 (3.02)	4.2 (1.5)	
	Trawler	3.6 (0.99)	3.0 (1.6)	
	Coastal Vessel	1.34 (0.65)	6.8 (5.1)	
1996				
	Purse seine	12.6 (3.20)	4.9 (2.1)	
	Trawler	4.4 (1.75)	3.0 (1.5)	
	Coastal Vessel	1.50 (0.54)	5.9 (3.9)	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> Means values with standard errors in parentheses.

Table 4

Harvest (tonnes) and Tonnage: Purse Seine, Trawler and Coastal Vessel, 1994-96

Year	Vessel Type	Harvest Spring Spawning Herring	Harvest Other <sup>a</sup>	Tonnage Units
1994				
	Purse seine	1766.6	6970.3	734.0
	Trawler	633.36	3452.9	189.9
	Coastal Vessel	407.55	307.27	62.6
1995				
	Purse Seine	2845.9	4934.5	718.8
	Trawler	785.16	4332.7	177.6
	Coastal Vessel	438.45	255.58	57.8
1996				
	Purse seine	3677.7	5965.6	779.7
	Trawler	1051.0	2805.3	180.5
	Coastal Vessel	475.69	361.64	59.7

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> North Sea herring, mackerel and other fish

Table 5.1

Purse seine: Trans-Log Cost Function: Estimates and Standard Errors (S. E.)

Parameter	Estimate	S. E.	Parameter	Estimate	S. E.
Constant	15.26	0.004	Pfsh	-0.021	0.012
$\alpha_{\mathrm{f}}$	0.262	0.005	$\rho_{fo}$	0.004	0.012
O <sub>v</sub>	0.738	0.004	$\rho_{vsh}$	0.033	0.011
$lpha_{ m ff}$	0.144	0.009	$\rho_{vo}$	0.079	0.010
$\alpha_{vv}$	0.144	0.009	<b>7</b> r	0.145	0.012
$\alpha_{\mathrm{fv}}$	-0.144	0.009	γπ	0.172	0.039
$lpha_{ m sh}$	0.144	0.012	Рπ	0.012	0.021
$\alpha_{o}$	0.653	0.009	$\rho_{\rm vT}$	-0.107	0.017
Yshsh	0.269	0.032	YshT	-0.844	0.029
$\gamma_{oo}$	0.236	0.017	γот	-0.104	0.021
$\gamma_{ m sho}$	-0.151	0.017			

Note: f is fuel, v is vessel maintenance, sh is spring-spawning herring, o is other fish and T is tonnage units.

Table 5.2

Trawler: Trans-Log Cost Function: Estimates and Standard Errors (S. E.)

Parameter	Estimate	S. E.	Parameter	Estimate	S. E.
Constant	14.19	0.005	$ ho_{\mathrm{fsh}}$	-0.018	0.018
$lpha_{ m f}$	0.280	0.006	$ ho_{ m fo}$	0.010	0.013
$\alpha_{\rm v}$	0.719	0.006	$ ho_{ m vsh}$	0.009	0.015
$lpha_{ m ff}$	0.082	0.009	$\rho_{vo}$	0.022	0.009
$\alpha_{vv}$	0.082	0.009	Ύτ	0.074	0.017
$lpha_{ ext{fv}}$	-0.082	0.009	Ŷтт	0.083	0.059
$lpha_{ m sh}$	0.154	0.011	$\rho_{fT}$	-0.014	0.025
$\alpha_{\rm o}$	0.704	0.009	$\rho_{vT}$	-0.011	0.021
Yshsh	0.249	0.059	$\gamma_{shT}$	-0.063	0.055
γ <sub>∞</sub>	0.194	0.014	γот	-0.044	0.029
Ysho	-0.131	0.028			

Note: f is fuel, v is vessel maintenance, sh is spring-spawning herring, o is other fish and T is tonnage units.

Table 5.3

Coastal Vessel: Trans-Log Cost Function: Estimates and Standard Errors (S. E.)

Parameter	Estimate	S. E.	Parameter	Estimate	S. E.
Constant	13.26	0.006	$ ho_{fsh}$	0.001	0.006
$lpha_{ m f}$	0.266	0.005	$\rho_{\text{fo}}$	-0.013	0.009
αv	0.734	0.005	$ ho_{\nu sh}$	0.035	0.006
$lpha_{ m ff}$	0.094	0.009	$\rho_{vo}$	0.051	0.009
$\alpha_{vv}$	0.094	0.009	$\gamma_{\mathrm{T}}$	0.119	0.007
$\alpha_{fv}$	-0.094	0.009	γπ	0.048	0.023
$lpha_{sh}$	0.434	0.006	Pπ	-0.032	0.011
$\alpha_{o}$	0.351	0.006	$\rho_{vT}$	-0.041	0.011
Yshsh	0.152	0.005	$\gamma_{\rm sh}$ T	-0.019	0.011
γ	0.166	0.008	γοτ	-0.041	0.011
Ysho	-0.134	0.007			

Note: f is fuel, v is vessel maintenance, sh is spring-spawning herring, o is other fish and T is tonnage units.

Table 6 Input Price Elasticities and Economies of Scale: Purse Seine, Trawler and Coastal Vessel,  $1994\text{-}96^{a}$ 

Year	Vessel Type	Fuel	Vessel	Economies of
		Elasticity	Elasticity	Scale
1994				
	Purse seine	-0.189 (0.04)	-0.067 (0.01)	1.073 (0.01)
	Trawler	-0.427 (0.03)	-0.166 (0.01)	1.080 (0.02)
	Coastal Vessel	-0.380 (0.03)	-0.138 (0.01)	1.121 (0.01)
1995				
	Purse seine	-0.179 (0.04)	-0.059 (0.02)	1.041 (0.01)
	Trawler	-0.438 (0.04)	-0.152 (0.01)	1.050 (0.02)
	Coastal Vessel	-0.381 (0.04)	-0.126 (0.01)	1.102 (0.01)
1996				
	Purse seine	-0.181 (0.05)	-0.052 (0.01)	1.023 (0.01)
	Trawler	-0.452 (0.03)	-0.162 (0.01)	1.068 (0.02)
	Coastal Vessel	-0.393 (0.03)	-0.133 (0.01)	1.116 (0.01)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> Standard errors in parentheses.

Table 7

Cost Elasticity with respect to each Output Group<sup>a</sup>

Output Group	Spring Spawning herring	Other Fish
Purse seine	0.144 (0.01)	0.653 (0.01)
Trawler	0.154 (0.11)	0.704 (0.02)
Coastal vessel	0.435 (0.01)	0.351 (0.02)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> Means values with standard errors in parentheses.