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Anthony ACOU



Chondrichthyans Distribution Atlas

within North-Eastern Atlantic and French Mediterranean waters

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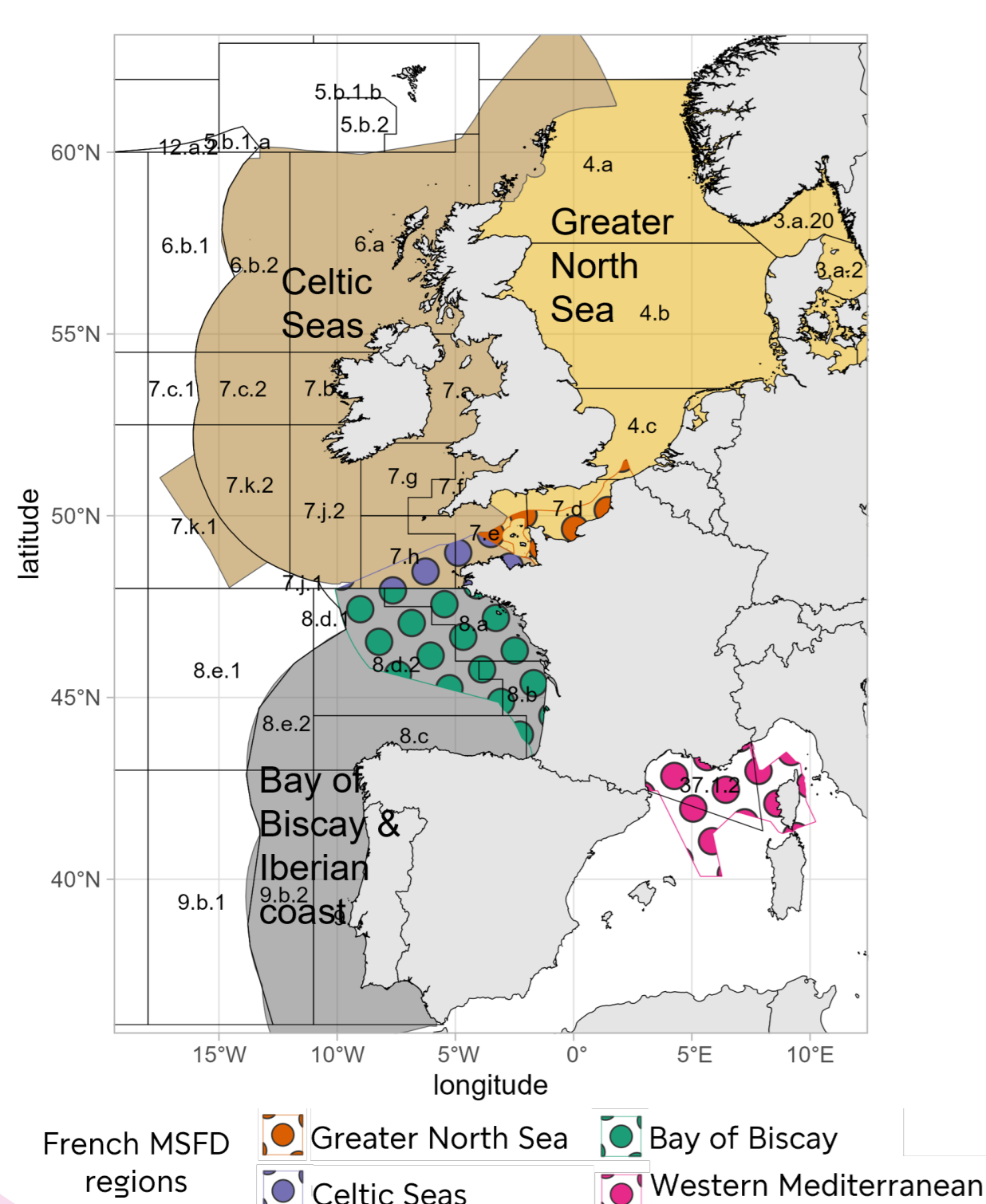
INTRODUCTION

In the context of Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD), accurate and up-to-date distribution maps of the 106 chondrichthyans (40 batoids, 59 sharks and 7 chimaeras) present in French metropolitan marine waters is required. For that, a database from fisheries-dependent and -independent data was collated to produce a chondrichthyan distribution atlas.

METHODS

Study area & period

Data pooled from 2003 to 2021



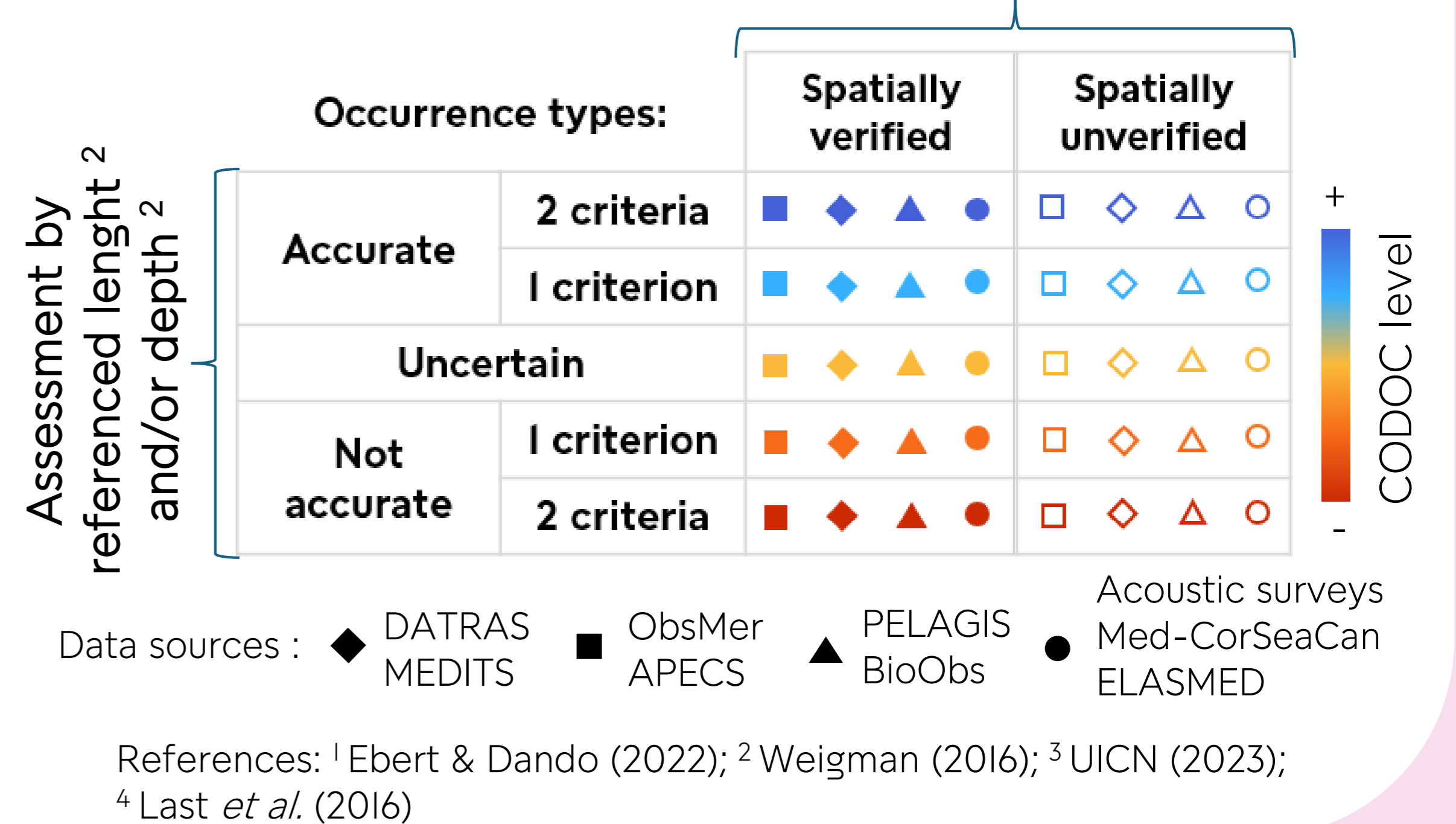
Data sources

Fishery-dependent data	Scientific surveys	Citizen science
> 105 000 fishing operations (fo) and 3800 landings	64 000 fo & >11 000 (aerial, boat & submarine) transects	> 3 300 observations
Presence-absence, length & depth at capture		presence-only

Certainty of Data Occurrence Category (CODOC)

- To limit potential misidentification issue

Assessment by known distribution area^{1,3,4}



RESULTS : 106 species fact sheets including:

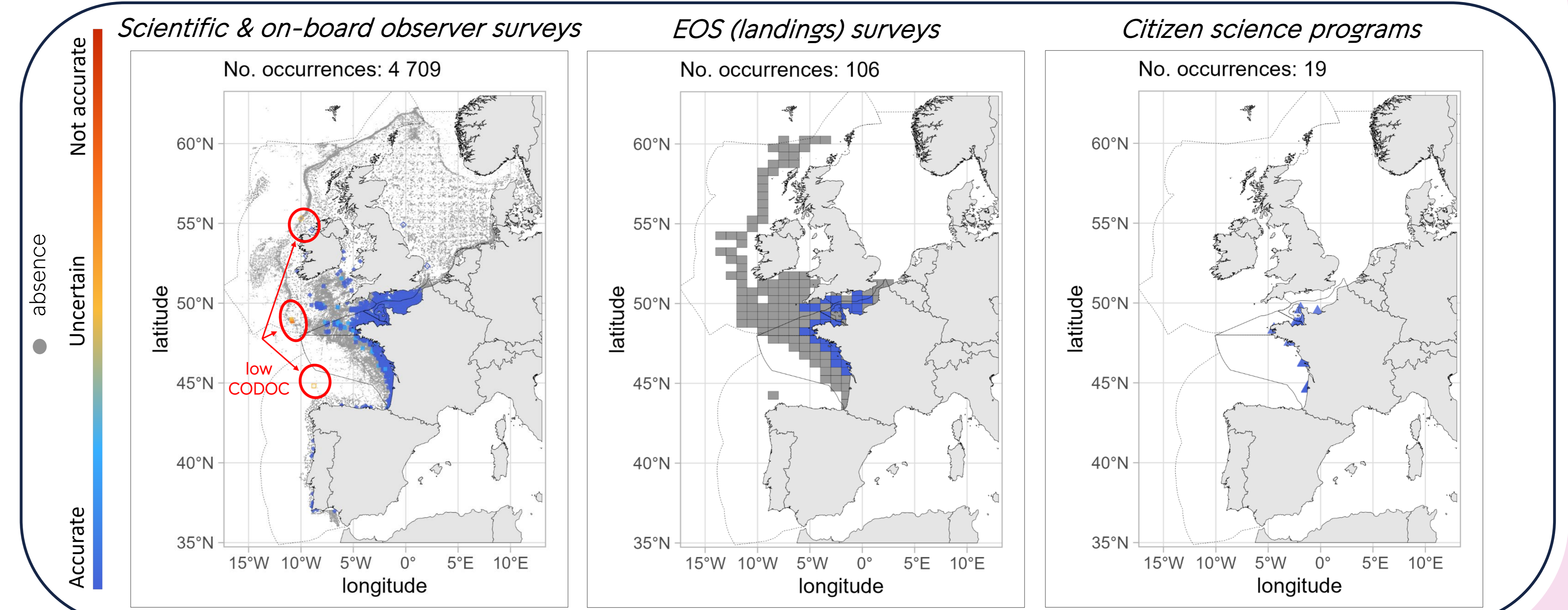
A general overview

Raja undulata

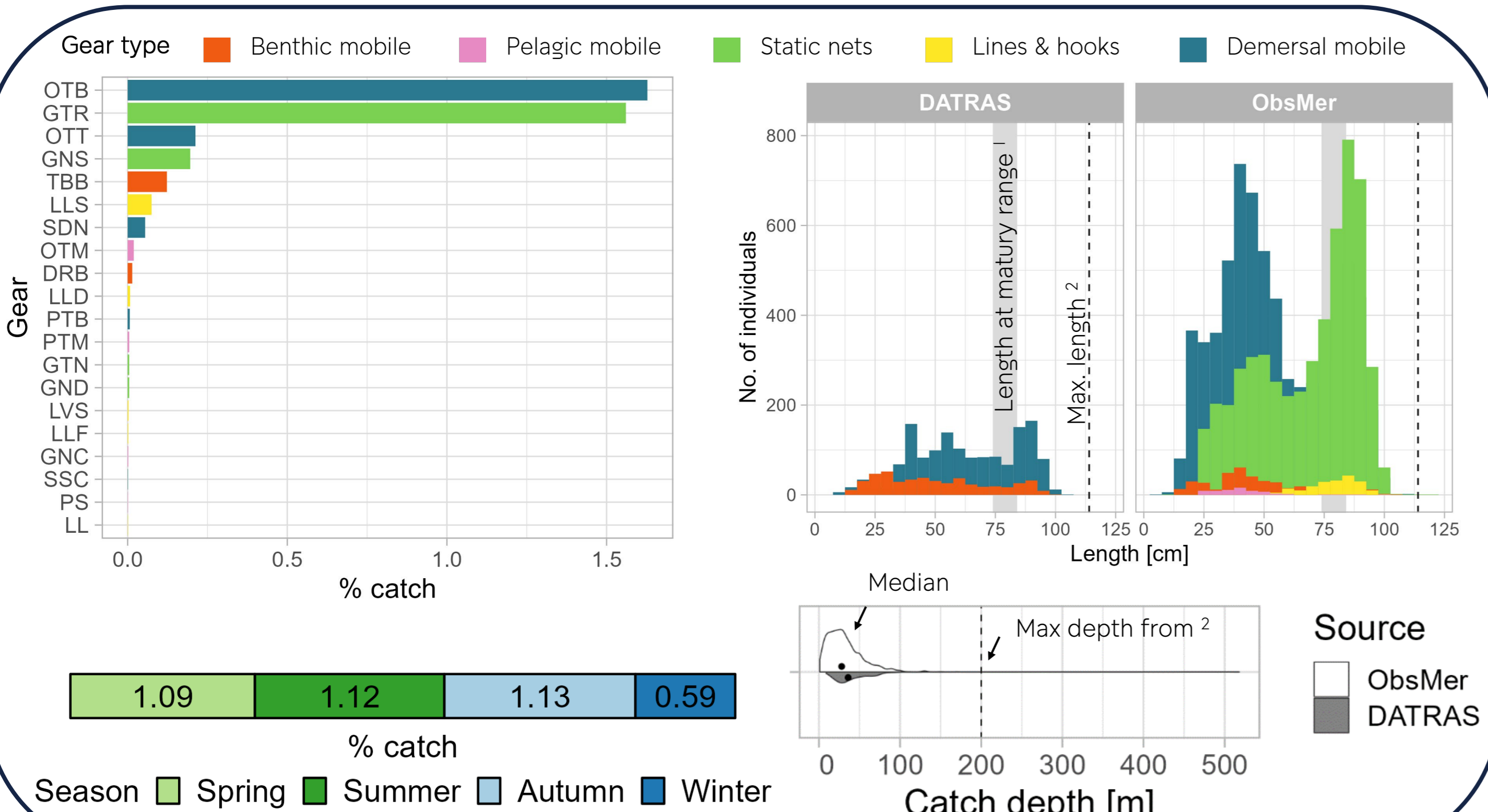
Area	Status	Year
France	DD	2013
Mediterranean	NT	2016
Europe	NT	2015
Global	EN	2003

Not included in any convention with a short summary of habitat and biology

Occurrence maps broken down by 3 regions: NE Atlantic, Gulf of Lion (not displayed) and Corsica (not displayed)



Species-specific catchability information by region



CONCLUSION

- Unprecedented database of chondrichthyan distribution with 175 702 occurrences.
- The CODOC method helped provide important information on misidentified species (e.g., *Mustelus mustelus*, *Galeus murinus*).
- Data paper coming soon
- Modelling approach is in progress to produce robust distribution map (see Bisch *et al.* oral presentation).

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