*The following appendices (1 through 3) accompany the manuscript*

Functional trait consistency of mid-water fish species in two contrasting island systems

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**Appendix 1: Supplementary Tables**

Table S1 – Common length, Bayesian length-weight coefficients, estimated body mass, and trophic level data for all species observed, by family. Body mass of Delphinidae was derived from literature rather than calculated using length-weight coefficients. Where only genus or family was identified, data for species native to study sites were used to inform values.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Family** | **Species** | **Common length (cm)** | **Bayesian length-weight coefficients** | | **Body mass**  **(kg)** | **Trophic level** |
| **α** | **β** |
| Acanthuridae | *Acanthurus monroviae* | 38 | 0.0275 | 2.97 | 2.24 | 2.5 |
| *Acanthurus xanthopterus* | 50 | 0.01413 | 3 | 4.85 | 2.9 |
| Aetobatidae | *Aetobatus narinari* | 180 | 0.00586 | 3.13 | 67.13 | 4.2 |
| Balistidae | *Balistes capriscus* | 44 | 0.02089 | 2.9 | 1.29 | 4.2 |
| *Canthidermis maculata* | 35 | 0.0257 | 2.94 | 2.54 | 3.5 |
| Belonidae | | 58 | 0.00118 | 3.081 | 4.97 | 4.37 |
| Carangidae | *Caranx crysos* | 40 | 0.01738 | 2.95 | 0.93 | 4.1 |
| *Caranx lugubris* | 70 | 0.01698 | 2.95 | 4.71 | 4.5 |
| *Decapterus* sp. | 24 | 0.01189 | 2.978 | 0.43 | 3.68 |
| *Elagatis bipinnulata* | 90 | 0.00977 | 2.85 | 3.63 | 4.3 |
| *Selene dorsalis* | 24 | 0.01479 | 2.89 | 0.14 | 4.1 |
| *Seriola* sp. | 66.67 | 0.01748 | 2.924 | 3.76 | 4.4 |
| *Trachurus* sp. | 23.5 | 0.00961 | 2.95 | 0.11 | 3.5 |
| Juvenile (unidentified) | 1.413 | 0.00957 | 3.039 | 2.74 × 10-5 | n.a. |
| Carcharhinidae | *Carcharhinus falciformis* | 250 | 0.00489 | 3.09 | 125.59 | 4.5 |
| Coryphaenidae | *Coryphaena hippurus* | 100 | 0.01622 | 2.83 | 7.41 | 4.4 |
| Dasyatidae | *Hypanus* sp. | 107.5 | 0.00676 | 3.06 | 11.12 | 3.5 |
| Echeneidae | *Echeneis naucrates* | 66 | 0.00166 | 3.15 | 0.89 | 3.7 |
| Fistulariidae | *Fistularia* sp. | 150 | 0.00069 | 2.965 | 4.7 | 4.05 |
| Istiophoridae | *Istiophorus platypterus* | 270 | 0.00513 | 3.1 | 176.74 | 4.5 |
| Kyphosidae | *Kyphosus ocyurus* | 25 | 0.0182 | 3.01 | 0.29 | 3.5 |
| Lutjanidae | *Lutjanus aratus* | 35 | 0.01288 | 2.96 | 0.48 | 4.1 |
| Monacanthidae | *Aluterus scriptus* | 55 | 0.823 | 1.814 | 1.18 | 2.8 |
| Scombridae | *Acanthocybium solandri* | 170 | 0.00288 | 3.16 | 32.18 | 4.3 |
| *Euthynnus alletteratus* | 80 | 0.01 | 3.05 | 6.38 | 4.5 |
| *Sarda orientalis* | 55 | 0.00955 | 3.03 | 1.79 | 4.2 |
| *Thunnus albacares* | 150 | 0.01445 | 3.01 | 51.28 | 4.4 |
| Sphyrnidae | *Sphyrna lewini* | 360 | 0.00355 | 3.11 | 316.47 | 4.1 |
| *Sphyrna tiburo* | 80 | 0.002 | 3.1 | 1.59 | 3.9 |
| *Sphyrna zygaena* | 335 | 0.00417 | 3.03 | 186.65 | 4.9 |
| Delphinidae | | 246.43 | n.a. | n.a. | 140 | 4.3 |

Table S2 – Functional trait values for all species observed, by family. Where only genus or family was identified, traits were based on values for species of the group in question native to study sites. The 6 traits used to describe each species were size (0-7 cm, 7.1-15 cm, 30.1-50 cm, 50.1-80 cm, > 80 cm), mobility (sedentary, mobile within a reef, mobile between reefs), period of activity (diurnal, both nocturnal and diurnal, nocturnal), schooling (solitary, pairing, small group [3-20 individuals], medium group [20-50 individuals], large group [> 50 individuals]), position in water column (benthic, benthopelagic, pelagic), and diet (herbivorous-detritivorous, macroalgal herbivorous, invertivorous targeting sessile invertebrates, invertivorous targeting mobile invertebrates, planktivorous, piscivorous [including cephalopods], omnivorous).

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Family** | **Species** | **Length (cm)** | **Mobility** | **Activity** | **Schooling** | **Position** | **Diet** |
| Acanthuridae | *Acanthurus monroviae* | 30.1-50 | Within reef | Diurnal | Small group | Benthic | Herbivorous-detritivorous |
| *Acanthurus xanthopterus* | 50.1-80 | Within reef | Diurnal | Small group | Benthopelagic | Herbivorous-detritivorous |
| Aetobatidae | *Aetobatus narinari* | >80 | Between reefs | Both | Solitary | Benthopelagic | Invertivorous (sessile) |
| Balistidae | *Balistes capriscus* | 30.1-50 | Within reef | Diurnal | Small group | Benthopelagic | Invertivorous (sessile) |
| *Canthidermis maculata* | 30.1-50 | Between reefs | Diurnal | Large group | Pelagic | Planktivorous |
| Belonidae |  | 50.1-80 | Between reefs | Both | Small group | Pelagic | Piscivorous |
| Carangidae | *Caranx crysos* | 30.1-50 | Between reefs | Both | Medium group | Pelagic | Piscivorous |
| *Caranx lugubris* | 50.1-80 | Between reefs | Nocturnal | Solitary | Benthopelagic | Piscivorous |
| *Decapterus* sp. | 15.1-30 | Between reefs | Both | Medium group | Benthopelagic | Planktivorous |
| *Elagatis bipinnulata* | >80 | Between reefs | Diurnal | Large group | Pelagic | Piscivorous |
| *Selene dorsalis* | 15.1-30 | Between reefs | Nocturnal | Medium group | Benthic | Piscivorous |
| *Seriola* sp. | 50.1-80 | Between reefs | Both | Small group | Benthopelagic | Piscivorous |
| *Trachurus* sp. | 30.1-50 | Between reefs | Nocturnal | Large group | Benthopelagic | Invertivorous (mobile) |
| Juvenile (unidentified) | 0-7 | Between reefs | Both | Medium group | Pelagic | Planktivorous |
| Carcharhinidae | *Carcharhinus falciformis* | >80 | Between reefs | Both | Solitary | Pelagic | Piscivorous |
| Coryphaenidae | *Coryphaena hippurus* | >80 | Between reefs | Both | Small group | Pelagic | Piscivorous |
| Dasyatidae | *Hypanus* sp. | >80 | Between reefs | Nocturnal | Solitary | Benthic | Invertivorous (mobile) |
| Echeneidae | *Echeneis naucrates* | 50.1-80 | Between reefs | Both | Solitary | Pelagic | Planktivorous |
| Fistulariidae | *Fistularia* sp. | >80 | Between reefs | Both | Solitary | Benthopelagic | Piscivorous |
| Istiophoridae | *Istiophorus albicans* | >80 | Between reefs | Both | Small group | Pelagic | Piscivorous |
| Kyphosidae | *Kyphosus ocyurus* | 15.1-30 | Between reefs | Diurnal | Medium group | Pelagic | Omnivorous |
| Lutjanidae | *Lutjanus aratus* | 30.1-50 | Between reefs | Nocturnal | Large group | Benthopelagic | Piscivorous |
| Monacanthidae | *Aluterus scriptus* | 50.1-80 | Between reefs | Diurnal | Solitary | Benthopelagic | Omnivorous |
| Scombridae | *Acanthocybium solandri* | >80 | Between reefs | Both | Solitary | Pelagic | Piscivorous |
| *Euthynnus alletteratus* | 50.1-80 | Between reefs | Both | Large group | Pelagic | Piscivorous |
| *Sarda orientalis* | 30.1-50 | Between reefs | Both | Large group | Pelagic | Piscivorous |
| *Thunnus albacares* | >80 | Between reefs | Both | Large group | Pelagic | Piscivorous |
| Sphyrnidae | *Sphyrna lewini* | >80 | Between reefs | Nocturnal | Solitary | Pelagic | Piscivorous |
| *Sphyrna tiburo* | 50.1-80 | Between reefs | Diurnal | Small group | Pelagic | Invertivorous (mobile) |
| *Sphyrna zygaena* | >80 | Between reefs | Nocturnal | Solitary | Pelagic | Piscivorous |
| Unidentified larval fish | | 0-7 | Between reefs | Both | Medium group | Pelagic | Planktivorous |
| Delphinidae | | >80 | Between reefs | Both | Large group | Pelagic | Piscivorous |

Table S3 – Results of SIMPER analysis of abundance with 95% cut off, showing average MaxN of species across all samples at each site, average contribution to dissimilarity between sites, standard deviation of average contribution, cumulative contribution to dissimilarity between sites, and *P* level of contribution.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Average MaxN | | Average Contribution % | S.D. | Cumulative Contribution % | *P* level |
| **Cape Verde** | **Malpelo** |
| *Decapterus* sp. | 26.11 | 2.63 | 0.20 | 0.18 | 0.21 | ns |
| *Elagatis bipinnulata* | 0.00 | 14.50 | 0.12 | 0.14 | 0.34 | \* |
| *Thunnus albacares* | 0.00 | 9.00 | 0.10 | 0.12 | 0.45 | \* |
| *Euthynnus alletteratus* | 19.22 | 0.00 | 0.09 | 0.16 | 0.55 | ns |
| *Trachurus* sp. | 36.33 | 0.00 | 0.08 | 0.24 | 0.64 | ns |
| Carangidae juvenile | 6.22 | 0.88 | 0.08 | 0.11 | 0.73 | ns |
| *Lutjanus aratus* | 0.00 | 15.13 | 0.08 | 0.16 | 0.82 | ns |
| *Canthidermis maculata* | 0.00 | 2.75 | 0.02 | 0.05 | 0.84 | ns |
| *Sarda orientalis* | 0.00 | 4.75 | 0.02 | 0.06 | 0.86 | ns |
| *Delphinidae* sp. | 1.00 | 0.75 | 0.02 | 0.04 | 0.88 | ns |
| *Sphyrna lewini* | 0.00 | 0.88 | 0.02 | 0.03 | 0.90 | \*\* |
| *Kyphosus ocyurus* | 0.00 | 2.75 | 0.02 | 0.03 | 0.92 | ns |
| *Belonidae* sp. | 0.00 | 2.38 | 0.01 | 0.03 | 0.93 | ns |
| *Fistularia* sp. | 0.44 | 0.00 | 0.01 | 0.02 | 0.94 | \* |
| *Acanthocybium solandri* | 0.89 | 0.13 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.95 | ns |

*P*-value: ns, non-significant; \*, p < 0.05; \*\*, p < 0.01

**Appendix 2: Supplementary Figures**

Figure S1 – Comparison of quality of multidimensional functional spaces, showing mean squared deviation between Euclidean distance of species in initial space and Gower distance of species in scaled spaces.***A close up of a map

Description automatically generated***

Figure S2 – Distribution of trait levels on the first and second (A) and third and fourth (B) dimensions of the functional space; labels are positioned at the centroids of convex hulls around coordinates of species with each trait value. Circles indicate species observed at Cape Verde, and triangles indicate species from Malpelo.

**Appendix 3: Literature used to compile functional trait values, species lengths, Bayesian length-weight coefficients, and trophic levels**

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