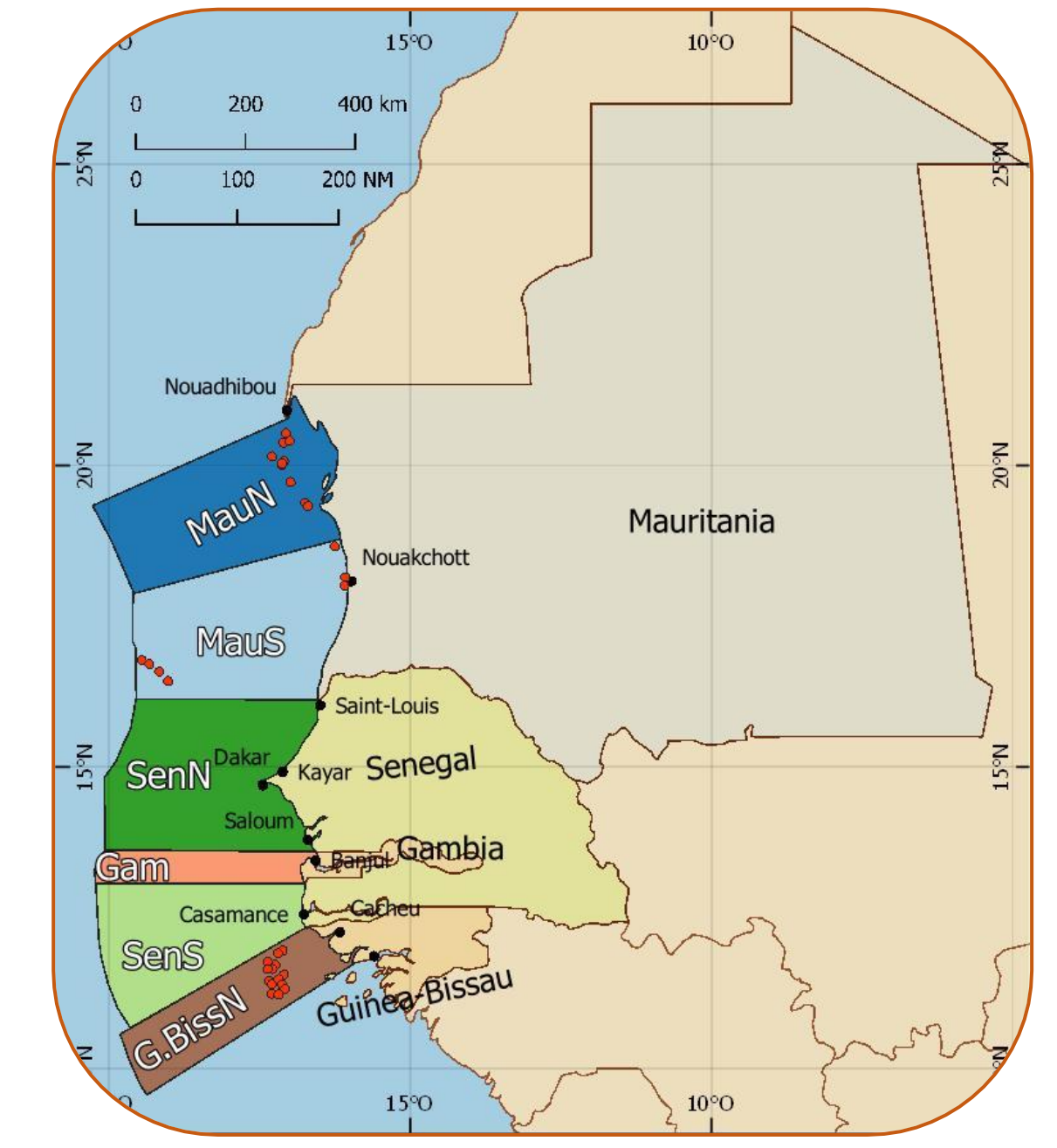
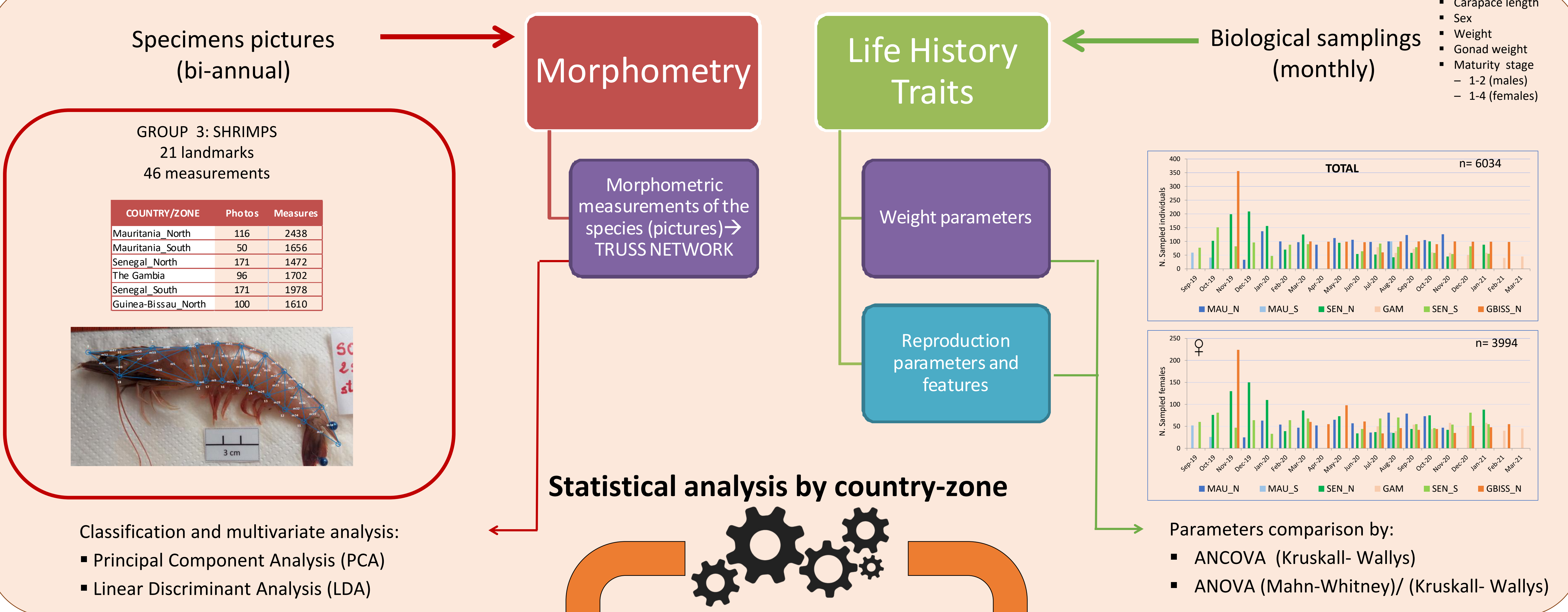


1 Introduction

Different units of *P. notialis* are known to occur from Mauritania to Guinea-Bissau: one in the Banc d'Arguin (Mauritania) and another at the mouth of the Senegal River, this last composed of four sub-units associated with the Senegal, Saloum, Gambia and Casamance rivers. However, for practical reasons, CECAF considers only two stock-units in the North WG (Mauritania and Senegal-Gambia) and one single stock for Guinea-Bissau, in the South WG, for assessment purposes.



2 Methods



3 Results

Morphometry

SPECIMEN SHAPE (TRUSS NETWORK)

Country area	Predicted Group Membership						Total
	MauN	MauS	SenN	SenS	Gam	GBissN	
MauN	45	3	0	2	1	0	53
MauS	2	32	0	0	1	0	35
SenN	0	0	37	1	1	0	43
SenS	0	0	5	26	0	0	32
Gam	2	0	0	1	33	1	37
GBissN	1	0	0	0	1	33	35
Original							
Number	88	59	0	39	2	0	100
%	5,7	91,8	0	0	0	2,9	100
	0	39,5	2,6	2,6	0	100	
	0	16,1	83,9	0	0	100	
	5,4	0	0	2,7	89,2	2,7	100
	2,9	0	0	0	2,9	94,3	100

90.6% of original grouped cases correctly classified.

Correct classification from LDA

Life History Traits

WEIGHT PARAMETERS

Length- Weight relationship

Contry-Zone	Length- Weigth relationship		Le Cren's condition factor (k)		
	Slope (b)	SE	median	mean	sd
MAU_N	2.62	0.03	1.07	1.09	0.17
MAU_S	2.66	0.05	1.06	1.05	0.08
SEN_N	2.58	0.02	1.00	1.00	0.13
GAM	2.63	0.03	1.01	1.00	0.12
SEN_S	2.62	0.02	0.96	0.97	0.1
G. BISS	2.23	0.04	1.06	1.02	0.18

No significant differences are observed in weight parameters among the four studied zones.

REPRODUCTION

	MAU_N	MAU_S	SEN_N	GAM	SEN_S	G. BISS_N
Spawning period	All year	The 3 sampled months	Jan-Jun/ Oct-Dec	All sampled months	All year	Nov*
Spawning peaks	Jul/ Oct-Dic	Unknown	Mar/ Oct-Dic	Feb/ Jul-Ago	Feb/ Jul-Ago	Nov*
L50_warm season**	34.5	38.0	37.1	38.4	38.1	29.4
cv	0.39	0.03	0.02	0.06	0.02	0.05
N	36	88	148	89	135	280

*Mature females only sampled in a survey

4 Conclusions (preliminary)

While data from life history traits have not provided conclusive results so far, the morphometry analysis (body shape-truss network) shows more reliable information for stock identification. Independent populations of *Penaeus notialis* can be considered for Mauritania North, Mauritania South, Senegal North, Gambia, Senegal South and Guinea-Bissau North. A more in-depth analysis of this information is being carried out and these results together with those from genetics (in progress), may be useful for fisheries assessment and management of the species.

These results should be linked to those obtained from the genetic analysis, in order to confirm if the units identified are in fact independent stocks or subpopulations of the same stock.



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