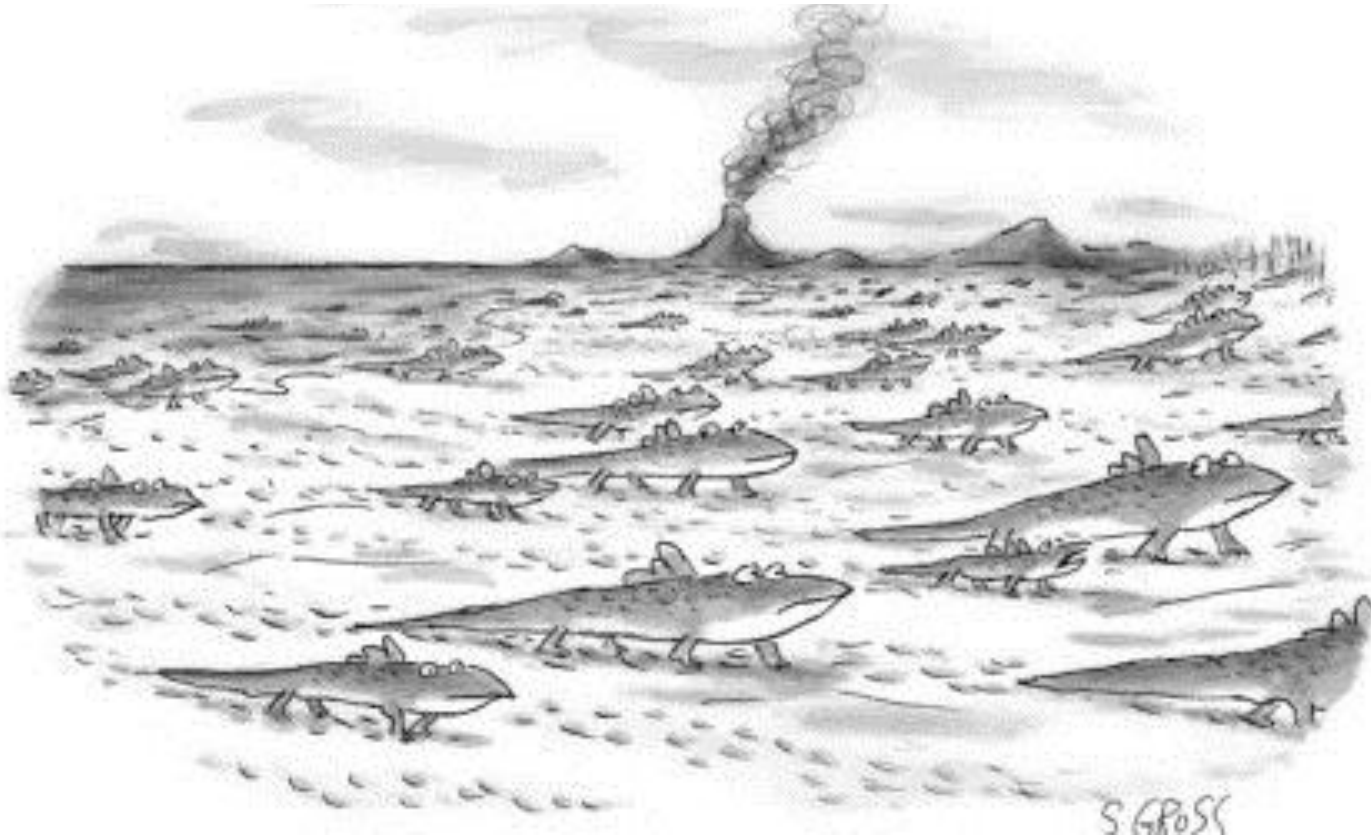


# Ecosystem assessment in fisheries: *are we there yet?*



Julia Blanchard

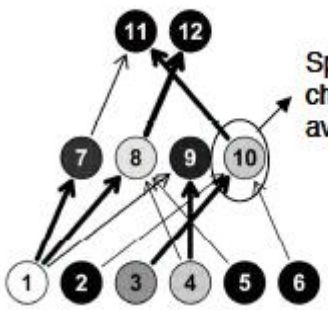
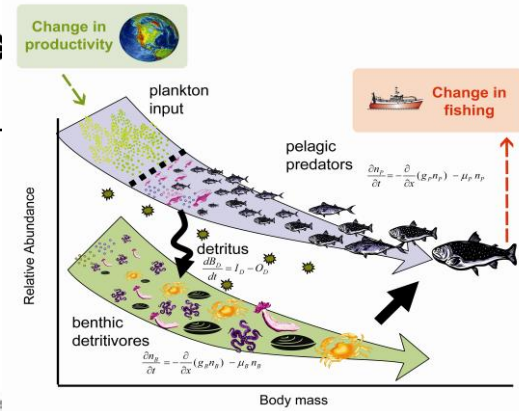
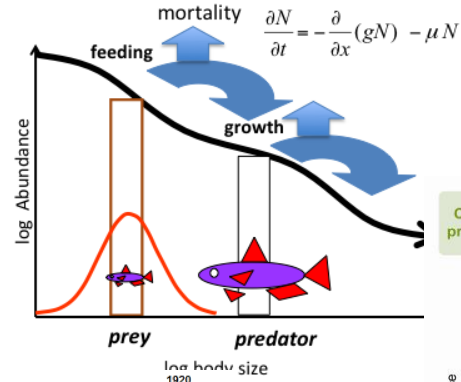
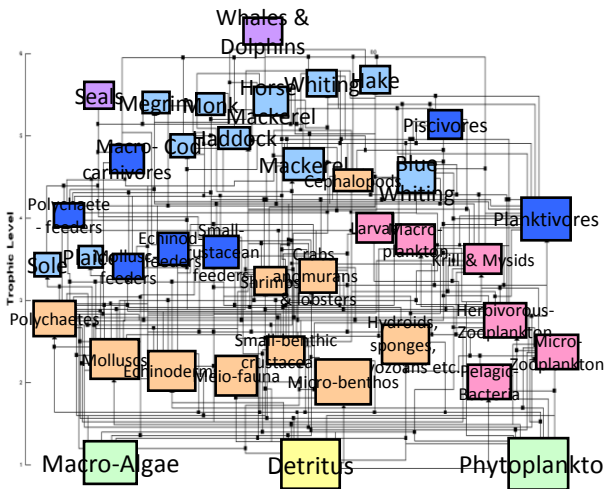
 @BlanchardJulia



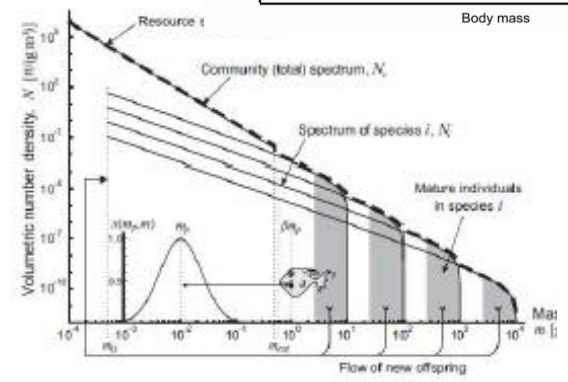
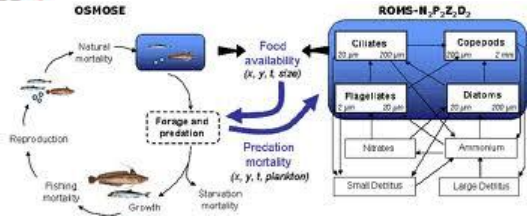
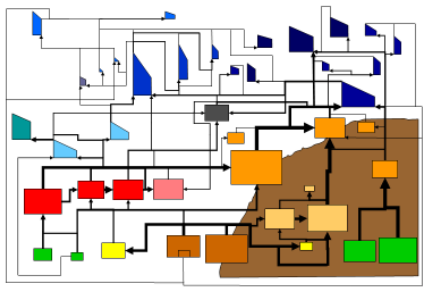
The  
University  
Of  
Sheffield.

# We have many different types of food web and multispecies models!

Species-based ←————→ Size-based



Species characterized by average mass

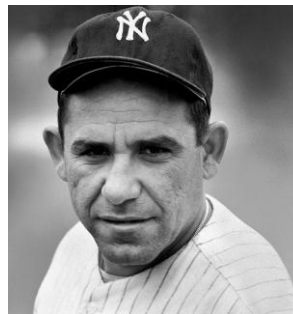


# Communities, ecosystems & fisheries

## **Regime, phase and paradigm shifts: making community ecology the basic science for fisheries**

**Marc Mangel<sup>1\*</sup> and Phillip S. Levin<sup>2</sup>**

“Prediction is always difficult especially about the future”  
– Yogi Berra & Niels Bohr



# Looking backward from 2033 they predicted:

[1] Biological reference points will be determined in a multispecies context (eg. Collie & Gislason, 2001)

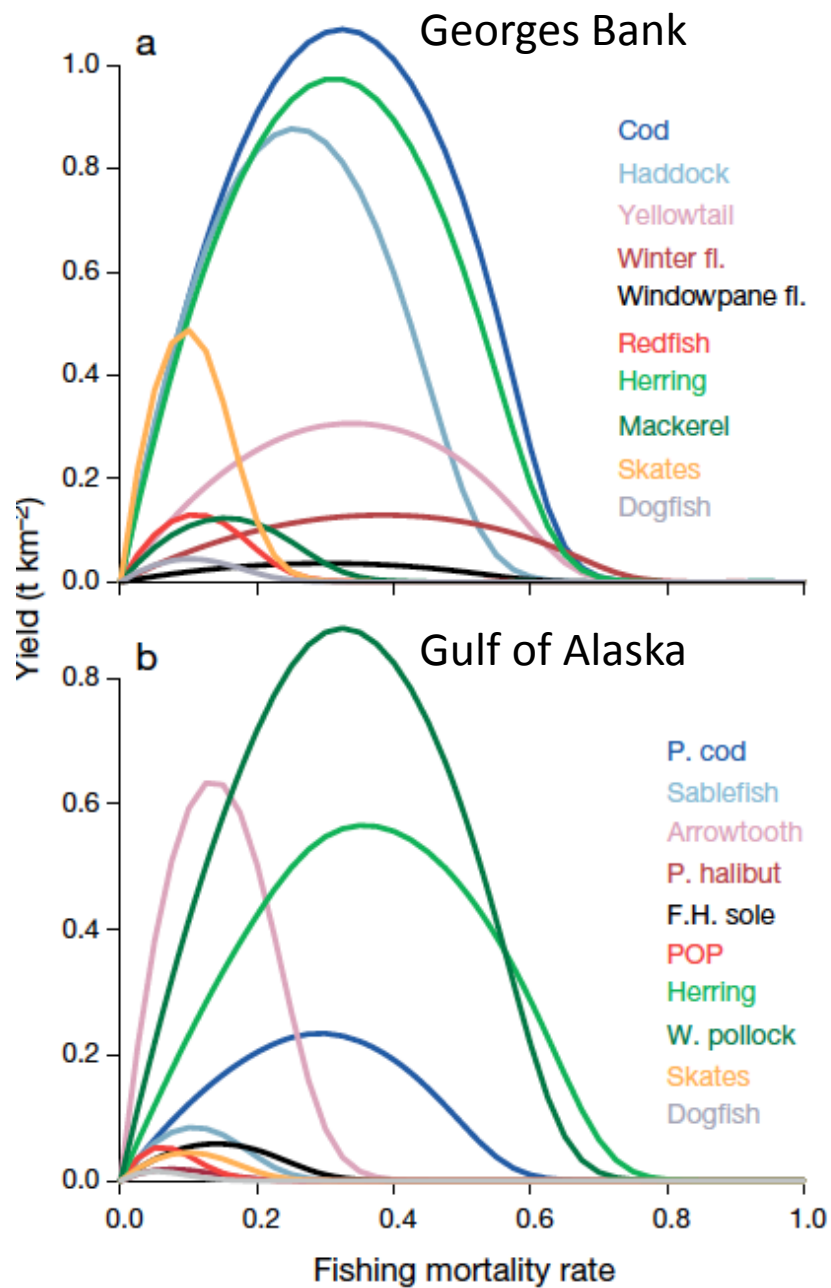
[2] Overfishing will be defined from an ecosystem perspective (eg. Murawski 2000, Caddy 2002)

[3] Development of theory for the metrics of community structure and fishing (eg. Rice 2000)

*[4] Management Strategy Evaluation – wider range of community and ecosystem models (& processes)*

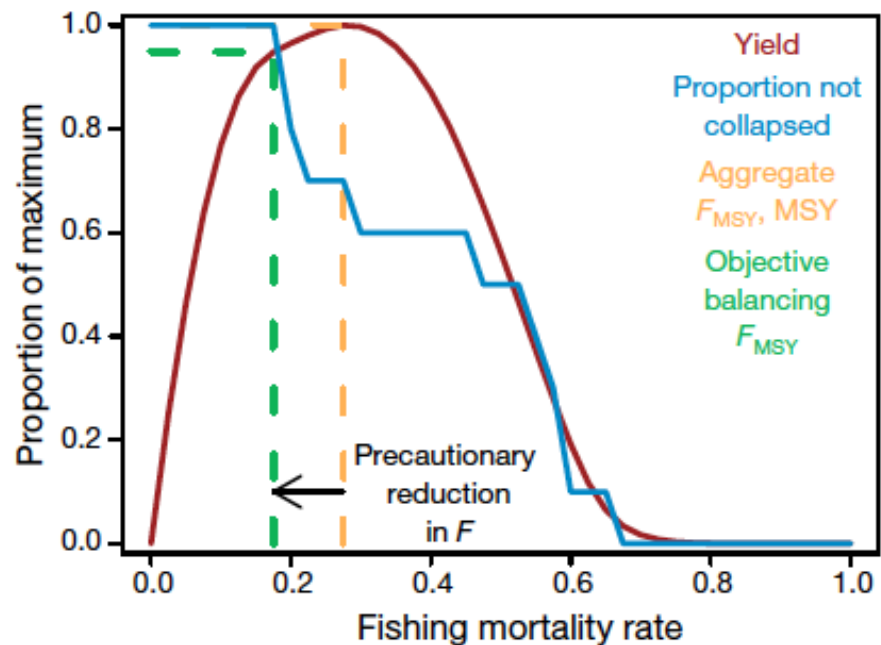
*[5] Using wealth of fisheries data more actively  
– hypotheses, experiments*

***where are we in 2013?***



MODEL: Multispecies Surplus Production with predatory and competitive interactions

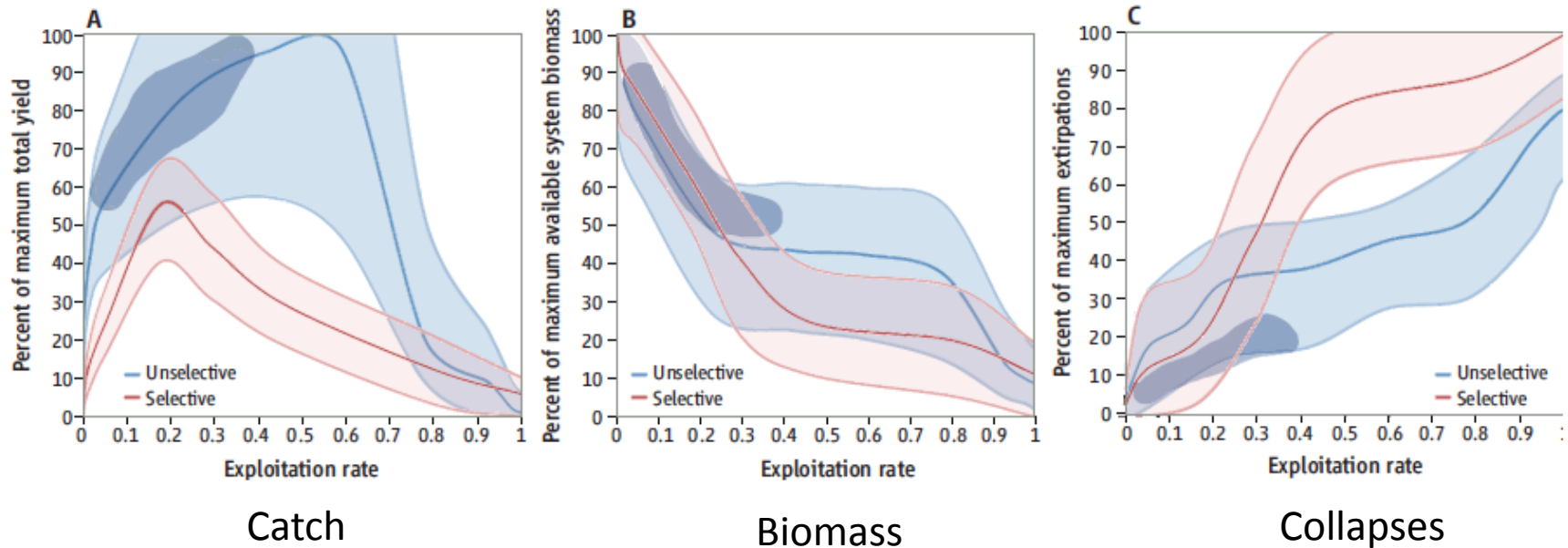
Trade-offs between balancing and fishing at  $F_{msy}$



# BUT $F_{msy}$ & $MSY$ ARE STRONGLY DEPENDENT ON SELECTIVITY, among other things (eg. environment, model structure)

MODELS:

- Ecopath with Ecosim
- Atlantis



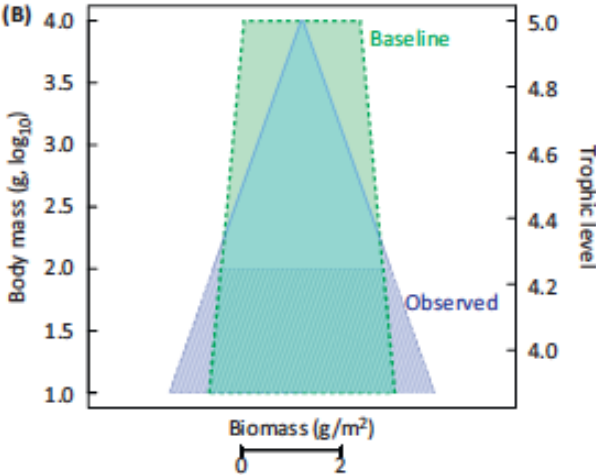
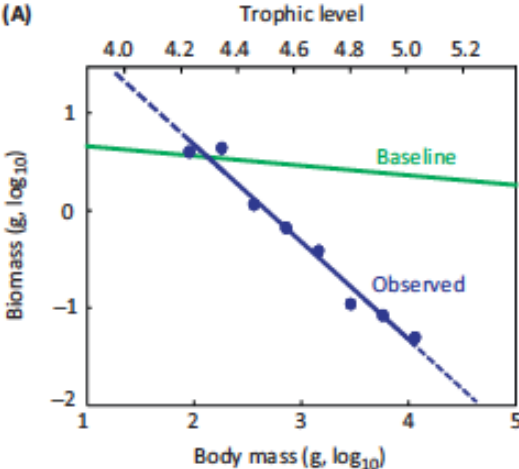
*Garcia et al. 2012 Science  
– Ideas on ‘Balanced fishing’*

On wider ecosystem consequences of forage fish also see:

Smith et al. Science 2012

Dickey-Collas et al. ICES JMS 2013

# Effects of fishing on structure - theory



## Fish abundance with no fishing: predictions based on macroecological theory

SIMON JENNINGS and JULIA L. BLANCHARD  
*Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science, Lowestoft Laboratory, Lowestoft NR33 0HT, UK*

A continuous model of biomass size spectra governed by predation and the effects of fishing on them

Eric Benoît<sup>a</sup>, Marie-Joëlle Rochet<sup>b,\*</sup>

Size-spectra dynamics from stochastic predation and growth of individuals

RICHARD LAW,<sup>1,4</sup> MICHAEL J. PLANK,<sup>2</sup> ALEX JAMES,<sup>2</sup> AND JULIA L. BLANCHARD<sup>3</sup>

## How does abundance scale with body size in coupled size-structured food webs?

Julia L. Blanchard<sup>1,2\*</sup>, Simon Jennings<sup>1</sup>, Richard Law<sup>2</sup>, Matthew D. Castle<sup>1,2†</sup>, Paul McCloghrie<sup>1</sup>, Marie-Joëlle Rochet<sup>3</sup> and Eric Benoît<sup>4</sup>

Asymptotic Size Determines Species Abundance in the Marine Size Spectrum

## Damped trophic cascades driven by fishing in model marine ecosystems

K. H. Andersen<sup>1,\*</sup> and M. Pedersen<sup>2</sup>

From individuals to populations to communities: A dynamic energy budget model of marine ecosystem size-spectrum including life history diversity

Olivier Maury<sup>a,b,\*</sup>, Jean-Christophe Poggiale<sup>c,1</sup>

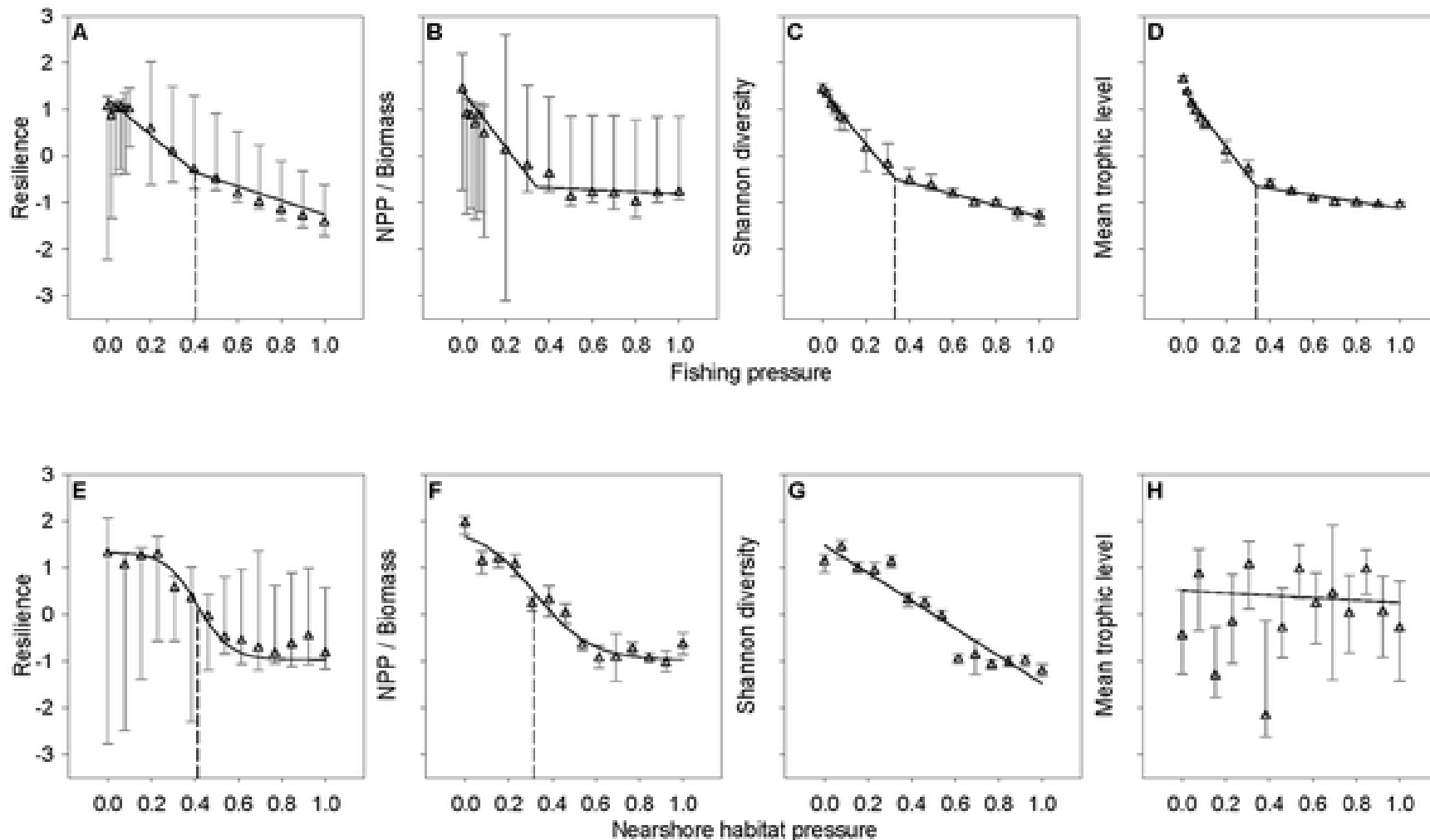
A Complete Analytic Theory for Structure and Dynamics of Populations and Communities Spanning Wide Ranges in Body Size

Axel G. Rossberg<sup>a,1</sup>  
<sup>a</sup>Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science (CeFAS), Lowestoft Laboratory, Suffolk, United Kingdom  
<sup>b</sup>Medical Biology Centre, School of Biological Sciences, Queen's University Belfast, Belfast, United Kingdom  
<sup>c</sup>Corresponding author: e-mail address: axel.rossberg@cefas.co.uk

Static size spectra & trophic pyramids— a review by Trebilco et al. 2013

Size spectrum theory  
Metabolic theory  
Macroecology

# Ecosystem Resilience & Thresholds



Samhouri JF, Levin PS, Ainsworth CH (2010) Identifying Thresholds for Ecosystem-Based Management. PLoS ONE 5(1): e8907.

doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0008907

<http://www.plosone.org/article/info:doi/10.1371/journal.pone.0008907>



# Ecological drivers of resilience from food web & size spectrum dynamics

increased resilience (return speed) and stability when:

- **prey closer to their own size**
- **have wider diet breadths (generalists)**
- **larger maturation size, asymptotic size**
- **weak links**
- **trait diversity**
- **connectivity & coupling**

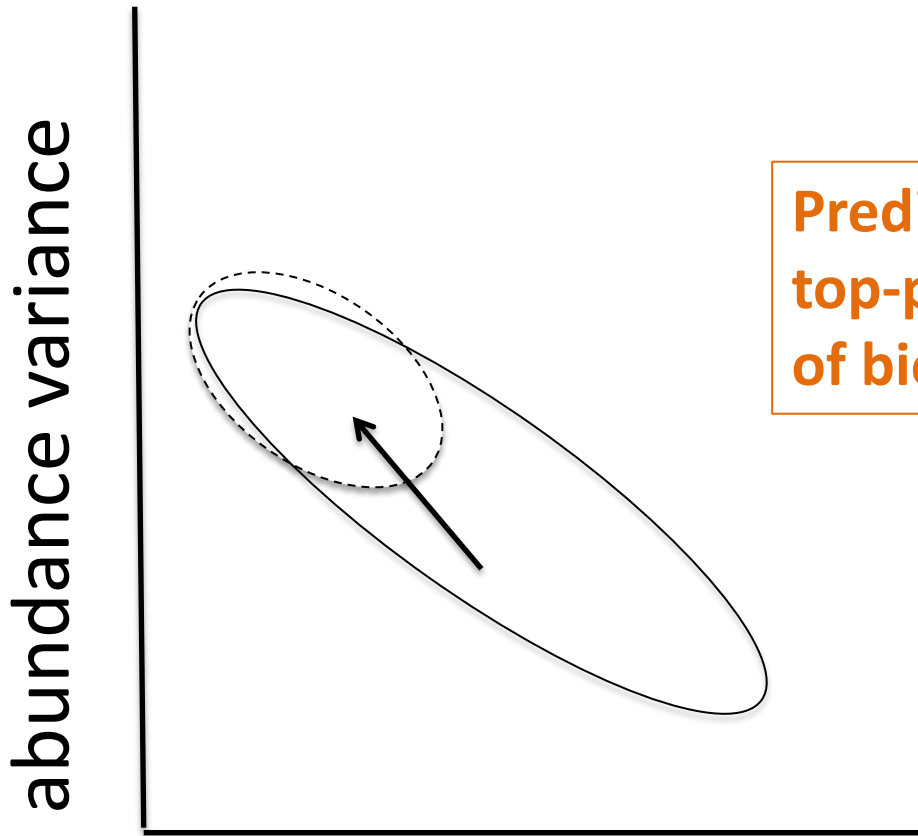


MODELS:

Food web models

Size spectrum models

# Composition of traits within communities **changes** in response to fishing – resilience consequences

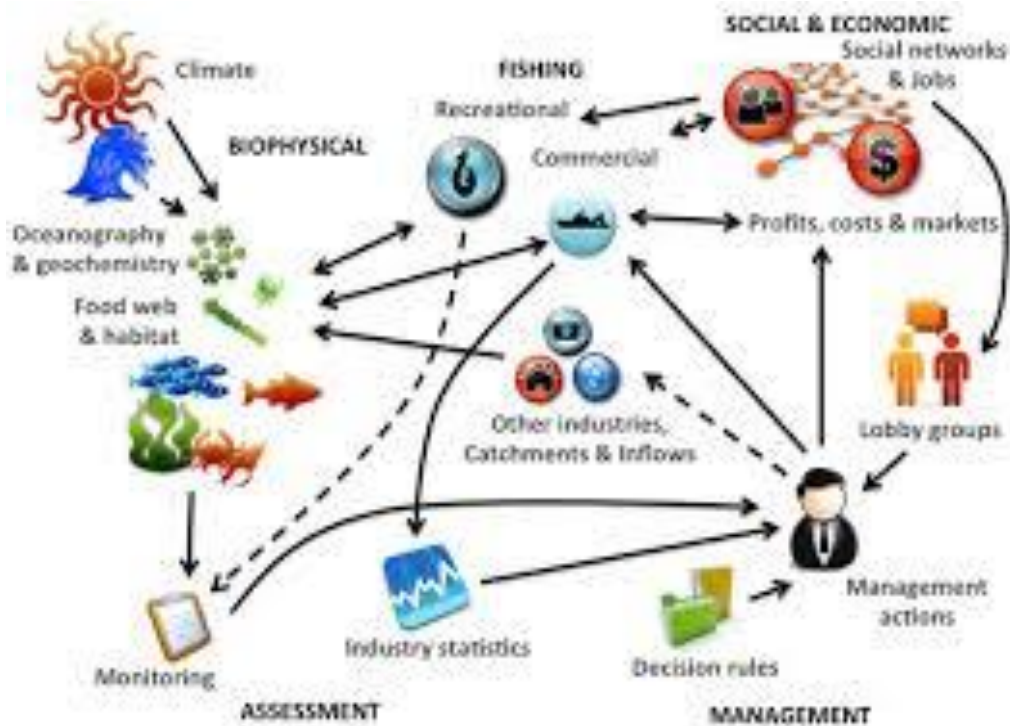


**Prediction: loss of larger, generalist top-predators will increase variance of biomass**

trait

(eg. maximum body size, predator-prey mass ratio, diet breadth)

# Atlantis



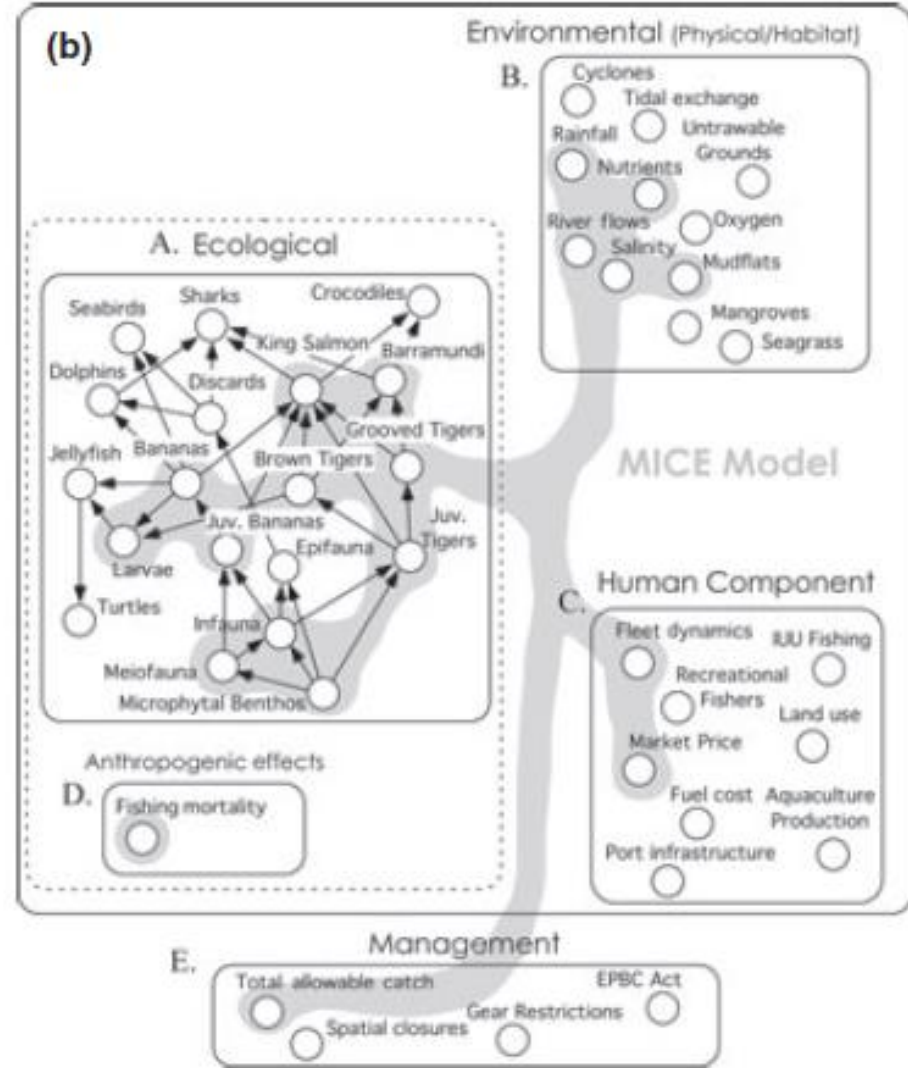
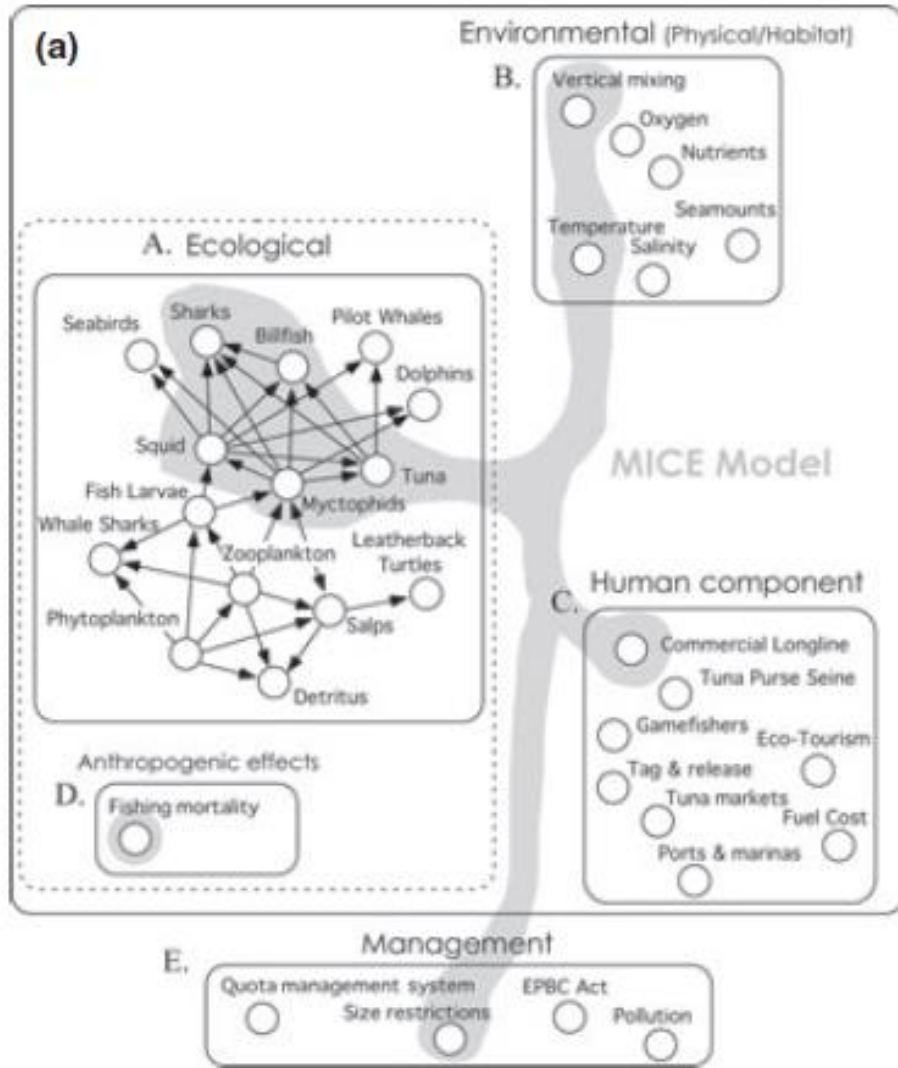
**End-to- end models**

**Physics to humans**

**Growing application  
around the world**

**Simulation test bed for  
wider range of human  
activities, different  
types of management  
models, indicators etc.**

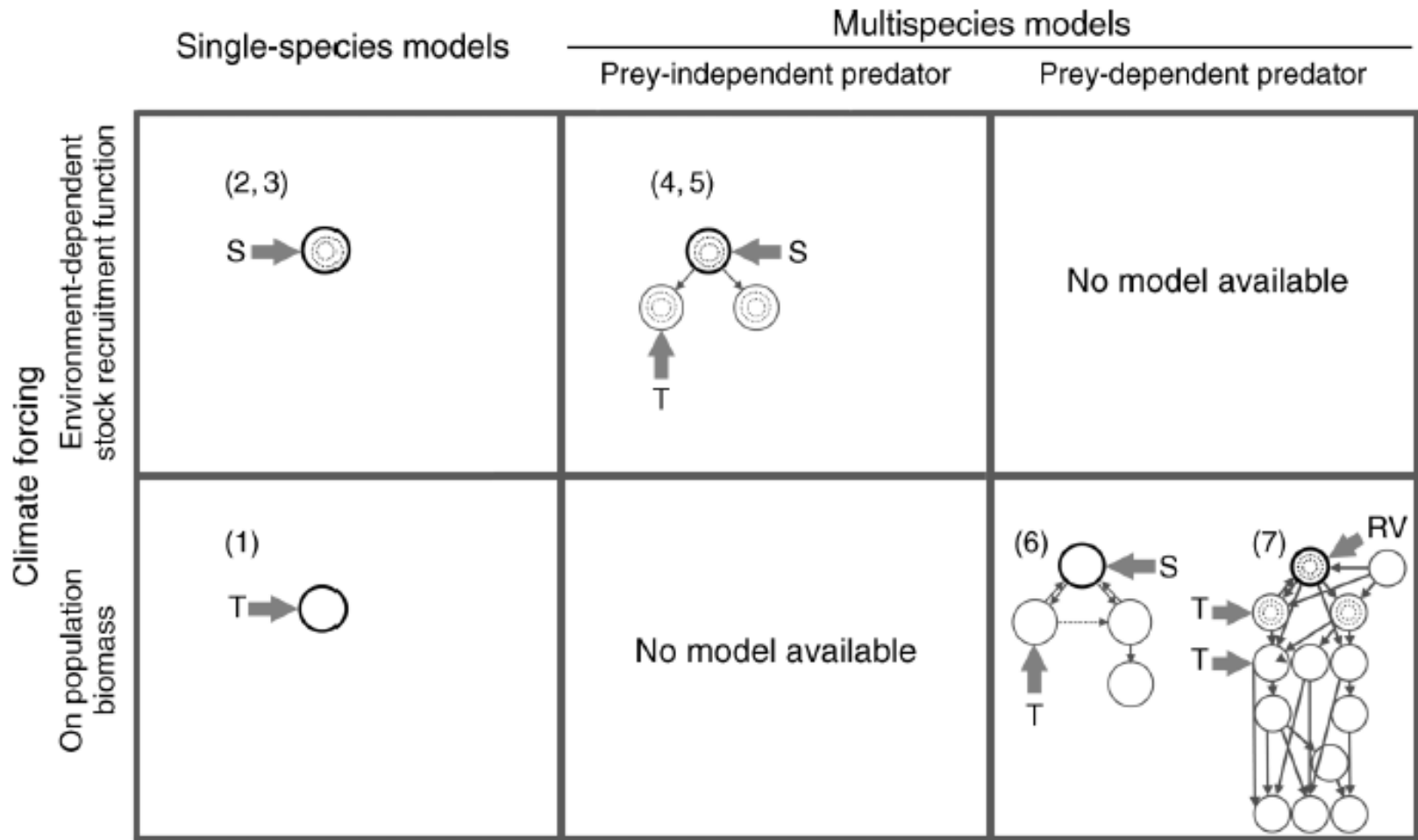
# Models of Intermediate Complexity (MICE)



# Next steps needed for advancement of ecosystem models:

- 1) Structural uncertainty (ensembles, model inference)
- 2) MUCH more rigorous validation and testing of predictions across time/space scales (experimental tests of assumptions, hypotheses, predictions)
- 3) Improved open integration of whole ecosystem data and many different models

# uncertainty across models



Gårdmark et al. 2013 Ecological Applications

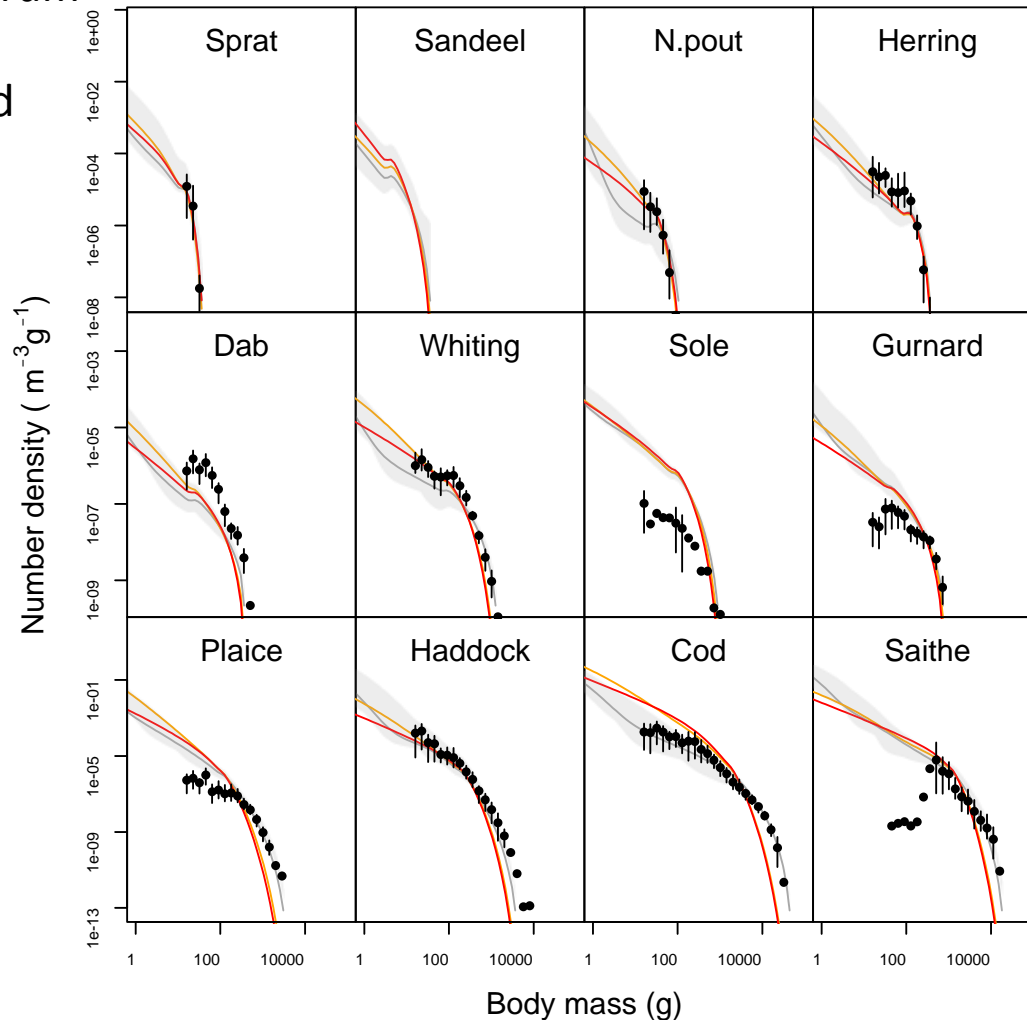
Baltic Sea cod in Ecosystem & Climate Change Context

# uncertainty within models

## Multispecies Size Spectrum

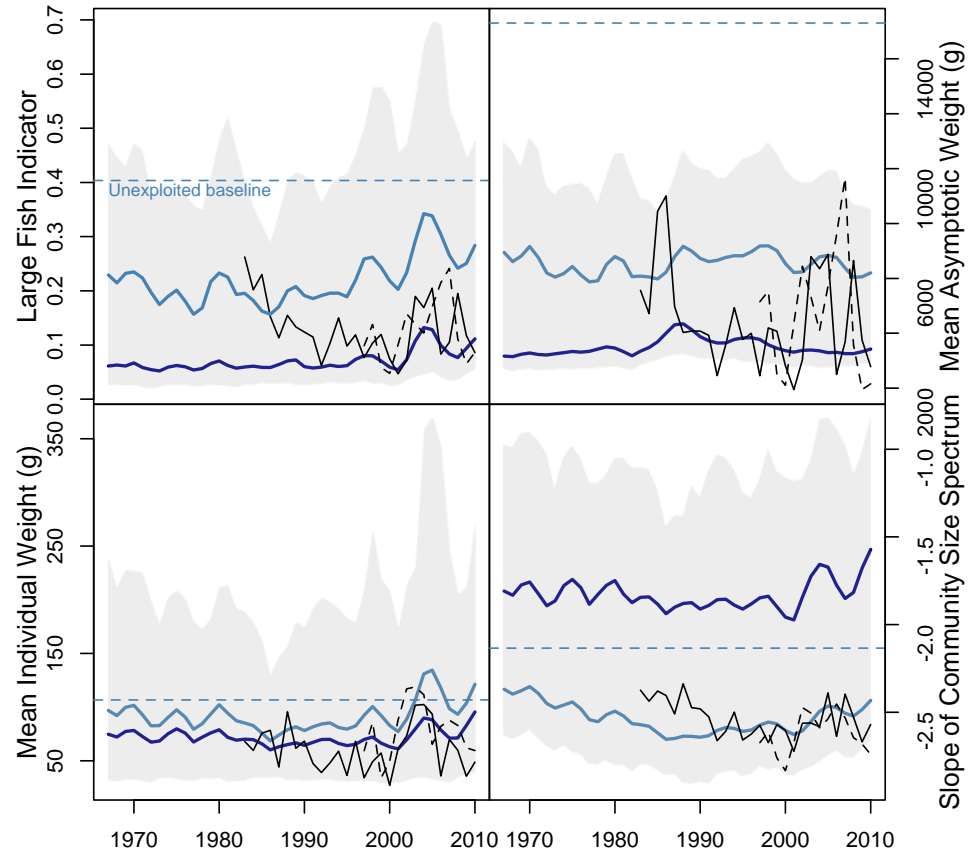
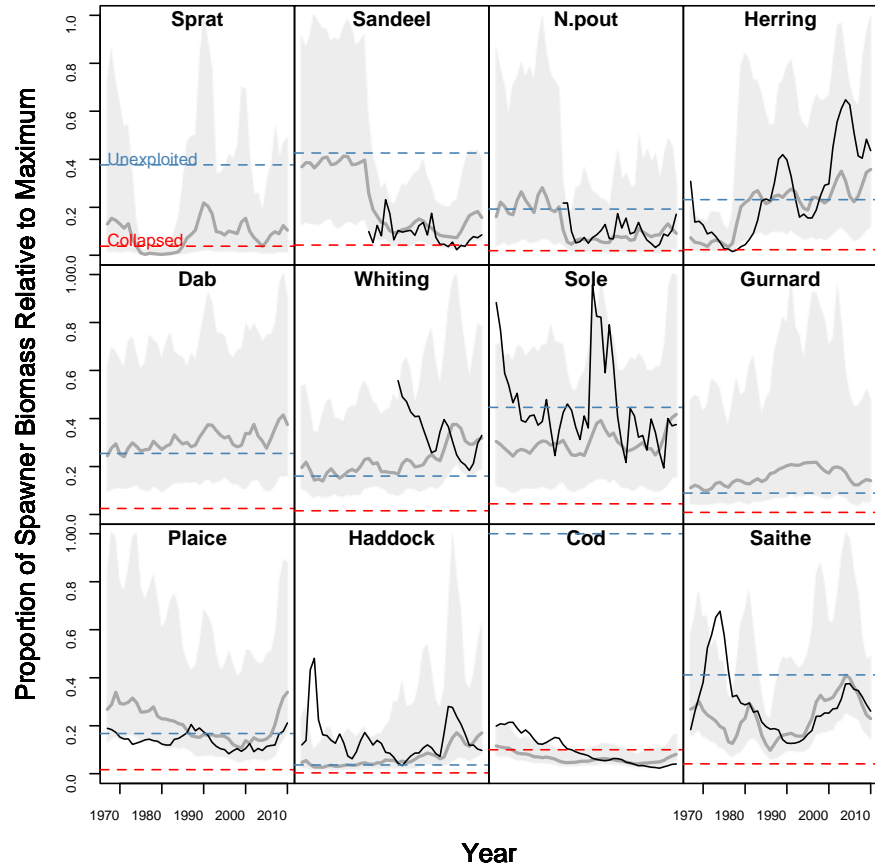
3 sub-models calibrated to time-averaged data and cross validated

1. Full feedback
2. Fixed growth
3. Fixed growth & predation



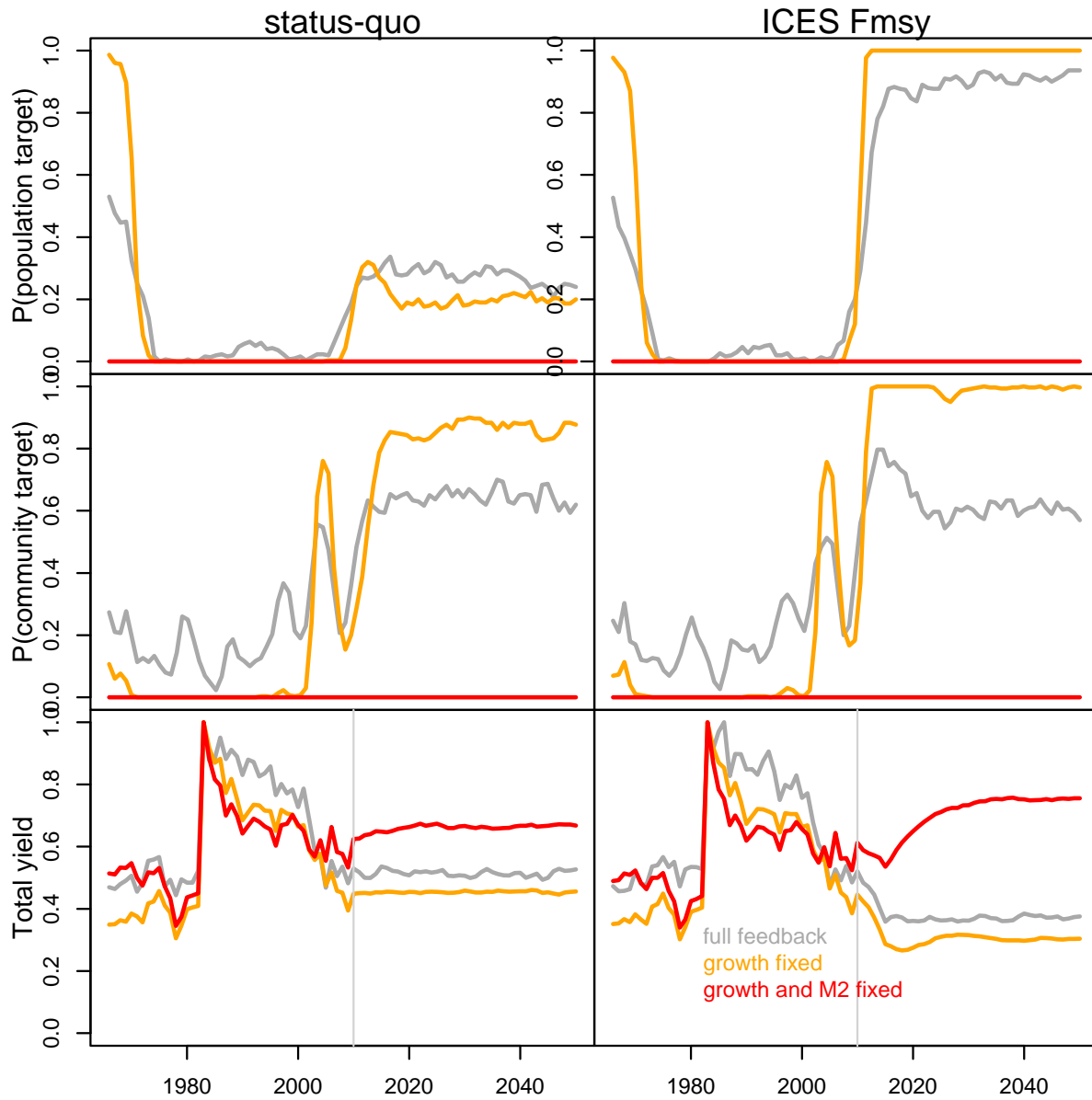
Context:  
exploring  
Marine Strategy  
Framework  
Directive  
indicators &  
targets

# Use each model to assess population and community baselines and change under past time-varying fishing (forcing)





# Set indicator targets and evaluate probability under single-species management scenarios



# **We need to adapt & evolve models (our thinking)**

data  $\longleftrightarrow$  theory

# **BIG [OPEN] DATA & MODEL SYNTHESIS**

**transparency**  
**repeatability**

<http://ropensci.org/>

British Ecological Society –  
Macroecology & Computational Ecology Groups  
International Meeting in Sheffield last week

RAM Legacy, ICES Data Centre, FLR,  
NCEAS working groups

# Some closing thoughts

Diversity of approaches is a good thing – bring on ensembles!

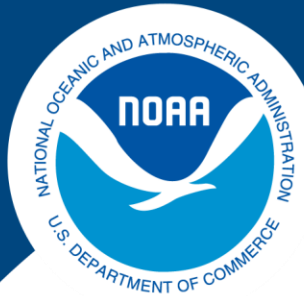
Ecoinformatic tools & ALL available data - whole ecosystem data analysis

Improved methods fitting models to data (Maximum Likelihood, Bayesian) – learn or collaborate

More rigorous testing and cross validation within and across models across scales – evolve the tools!

The next phase shift:

population -> community/ecosystem -> macroecology



**NOAA  
FISHERIES**

# Comparing single-species and ecological indicator-based assessments: practical approaches for implementing ecosystem-based fisheries management

Gavin Fay<sup>1</sup>, Scott Large<sup>1</sup>, Jason Link<sup>1</sup>, Robert Gamble<sup>2</sup>

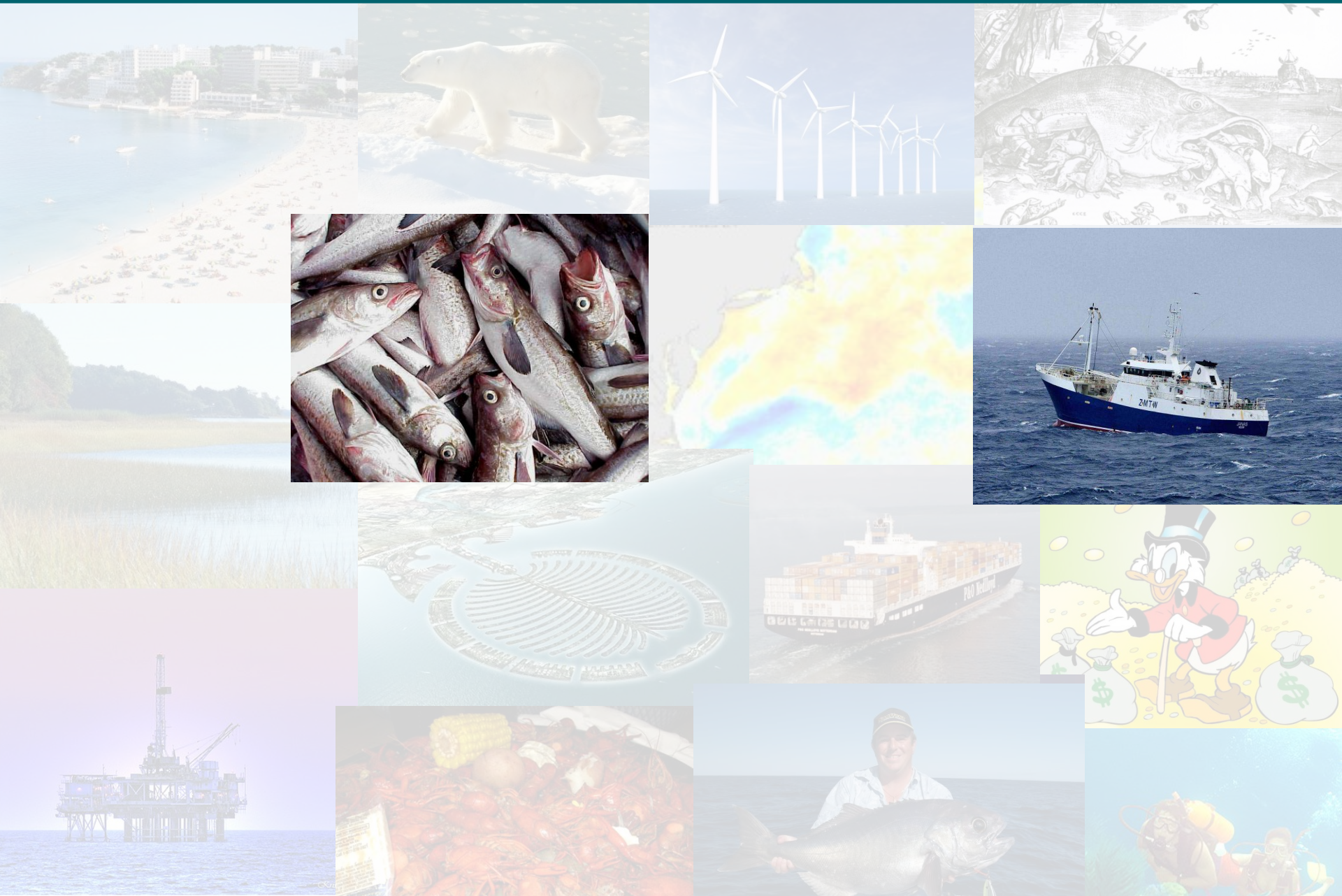
<sup>1</sup>Office of the Assistant Administrator

<sup>2</sup>Northeast Fisheries Science Center

[gavin.fay@noaa.gov](mailto:gavin.fay@noaa.gov)

World Conference for Stock Assessment Methods, 17-19 July 2013

# Ecosystem Based Fisheries Management



# Ecosystem Based Fisheries Management

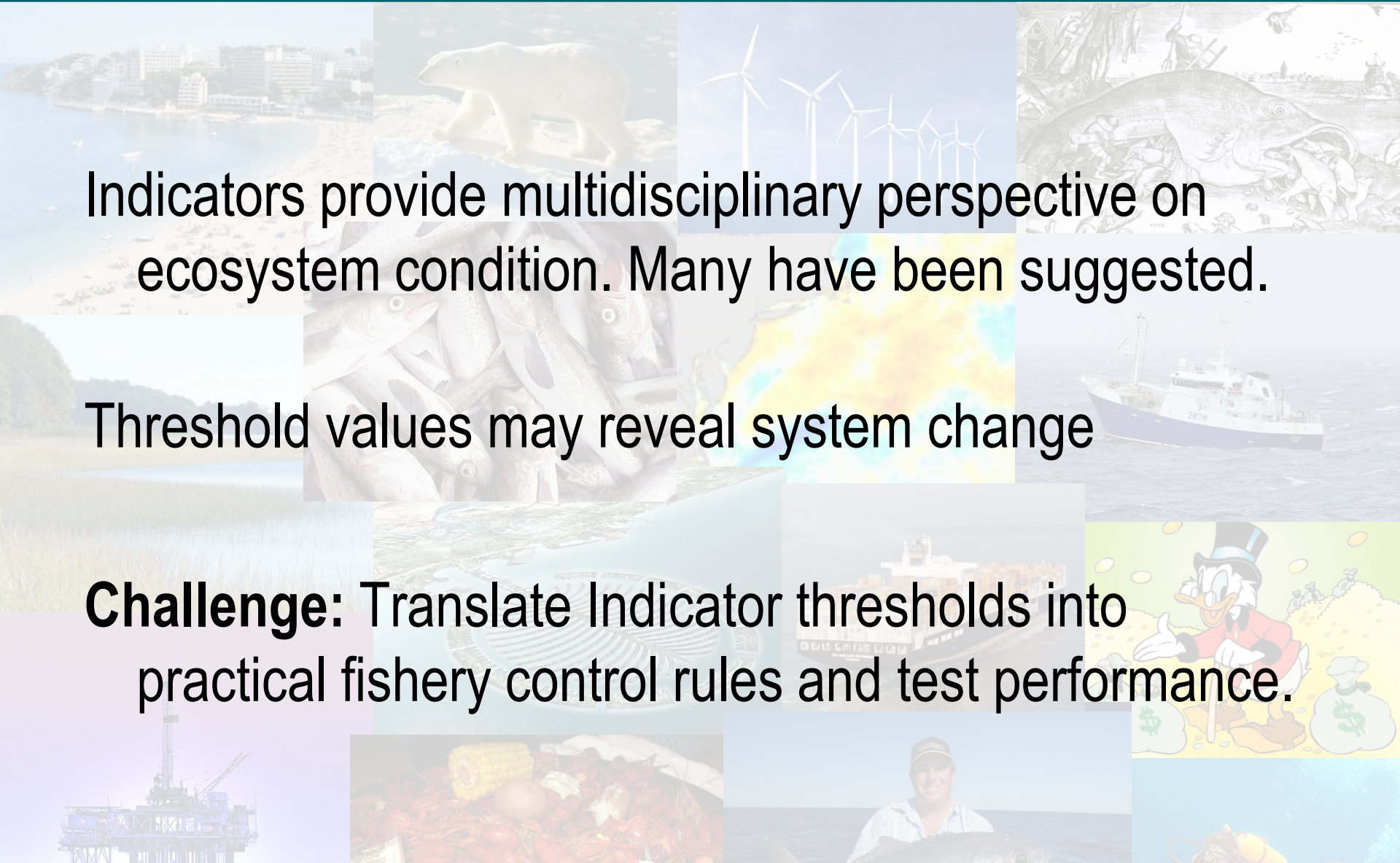


# Indicators as tools for Ecosystem Based Fisheries Management

Indicators provide multidisciplinary perspective on ecosystem condition. Many have been suggested.

Threshold values may reveal system change

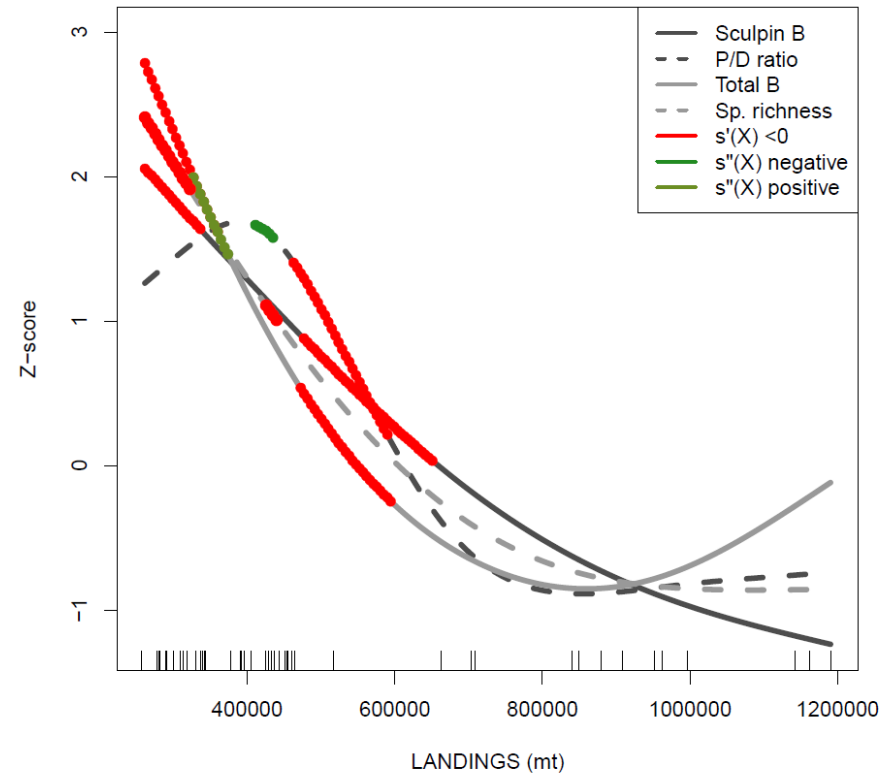
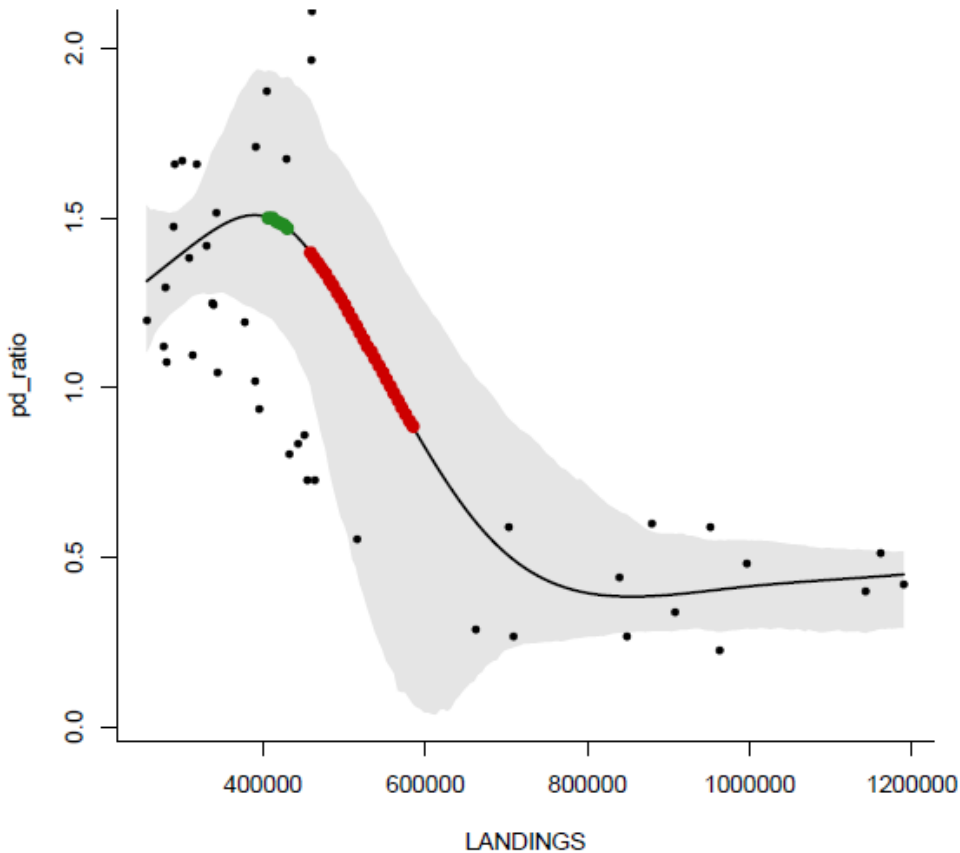
**Challenge:** Translate Indicator thresholds into practical fishery control rules and test performance.





# Indicators and Reference points

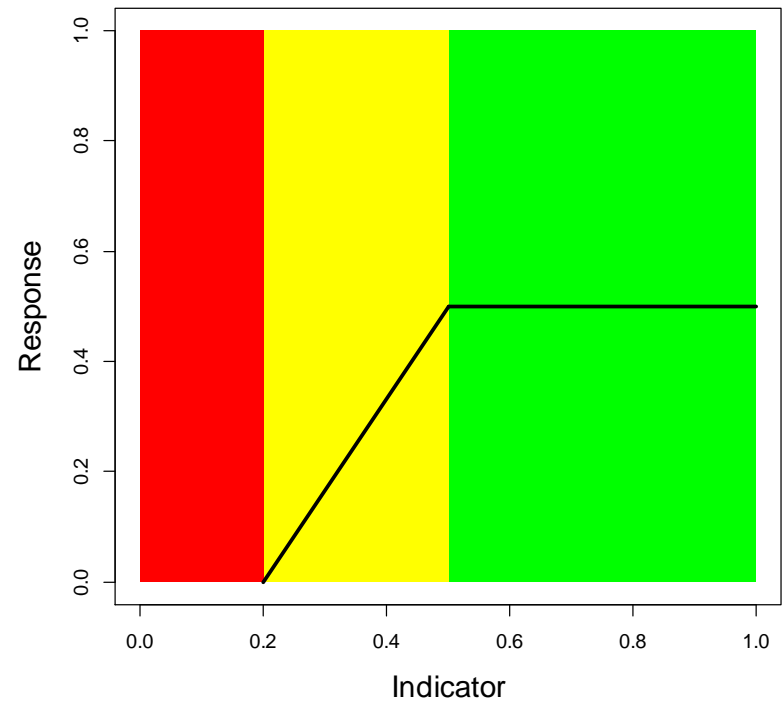
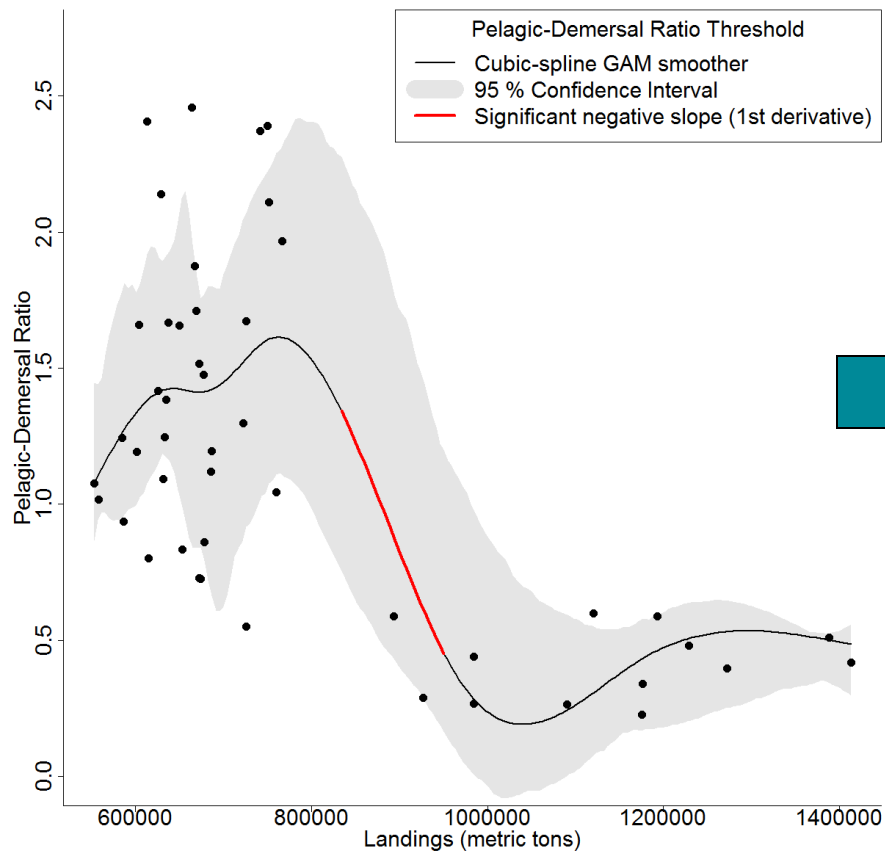
## Empirical analysis of Indicator response



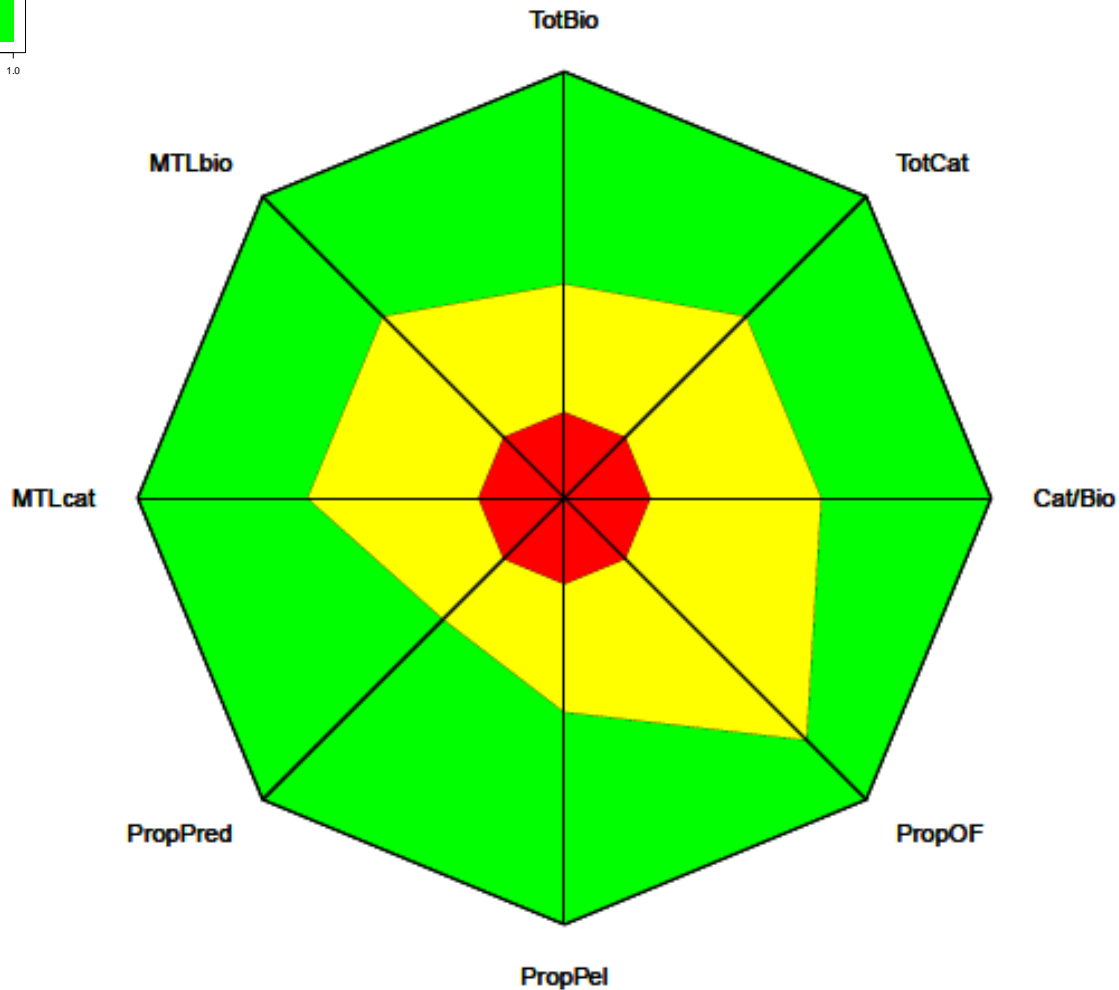
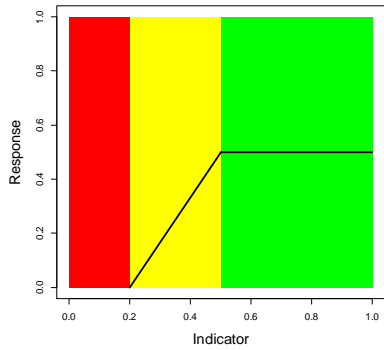
Thresholds in Indicators with respect to system drivers

Multiple indicators show change points at similar levels of landings

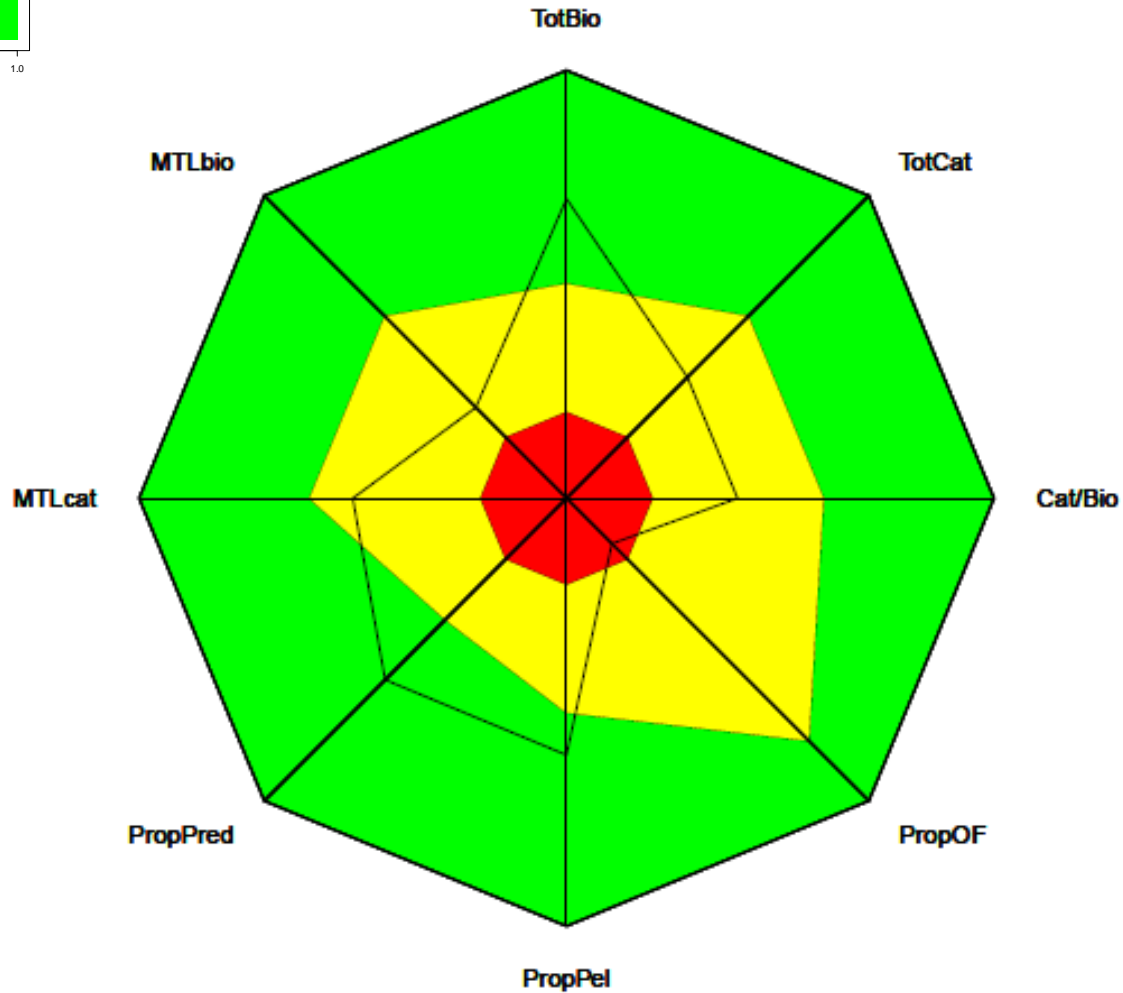
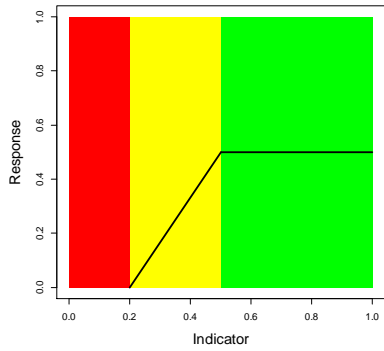
# Can we translate thresholds in indicators to decision criteria for fisheries control rules?



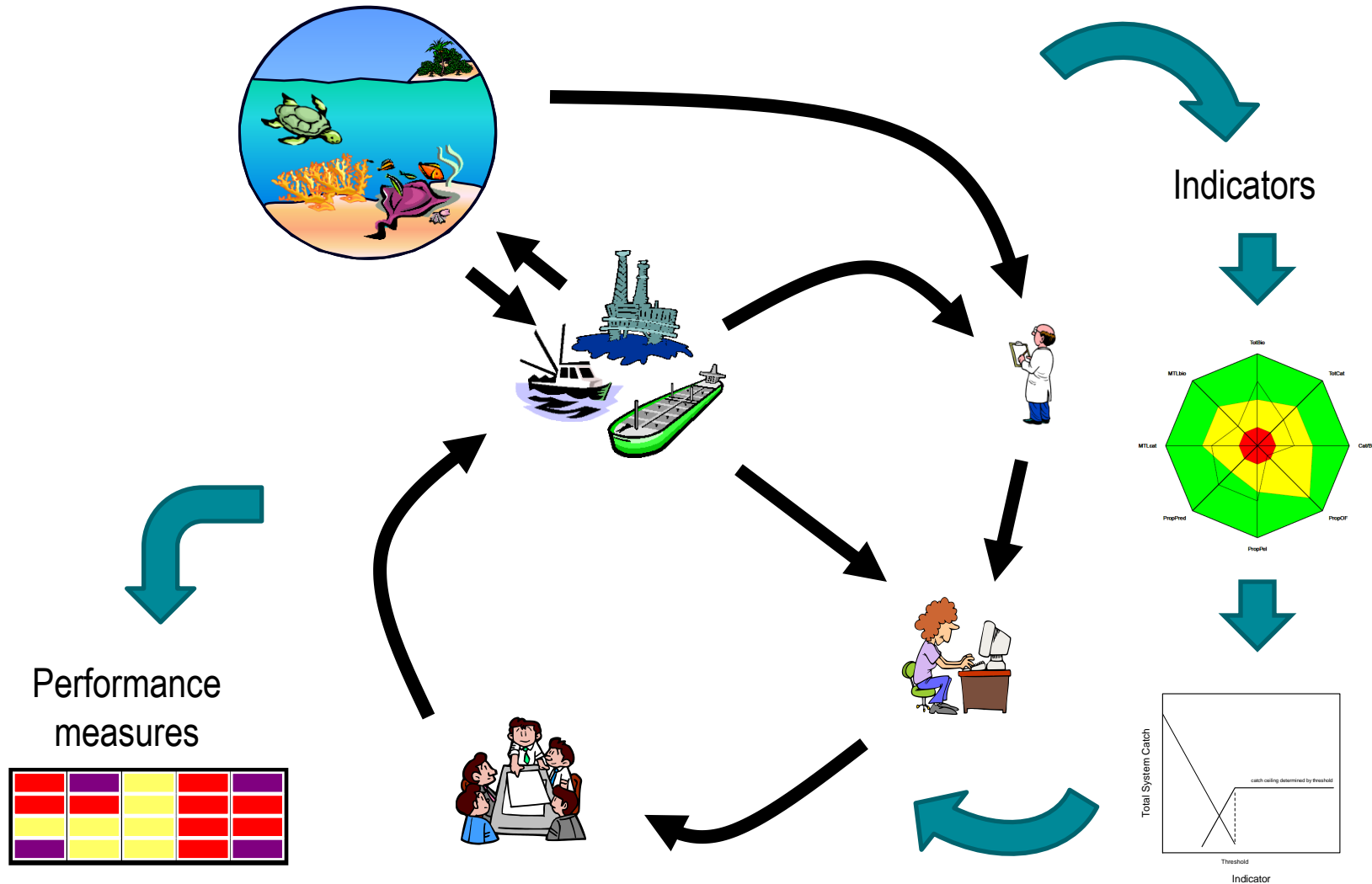
# Indicator-based control rule



# Indicator-based control rule

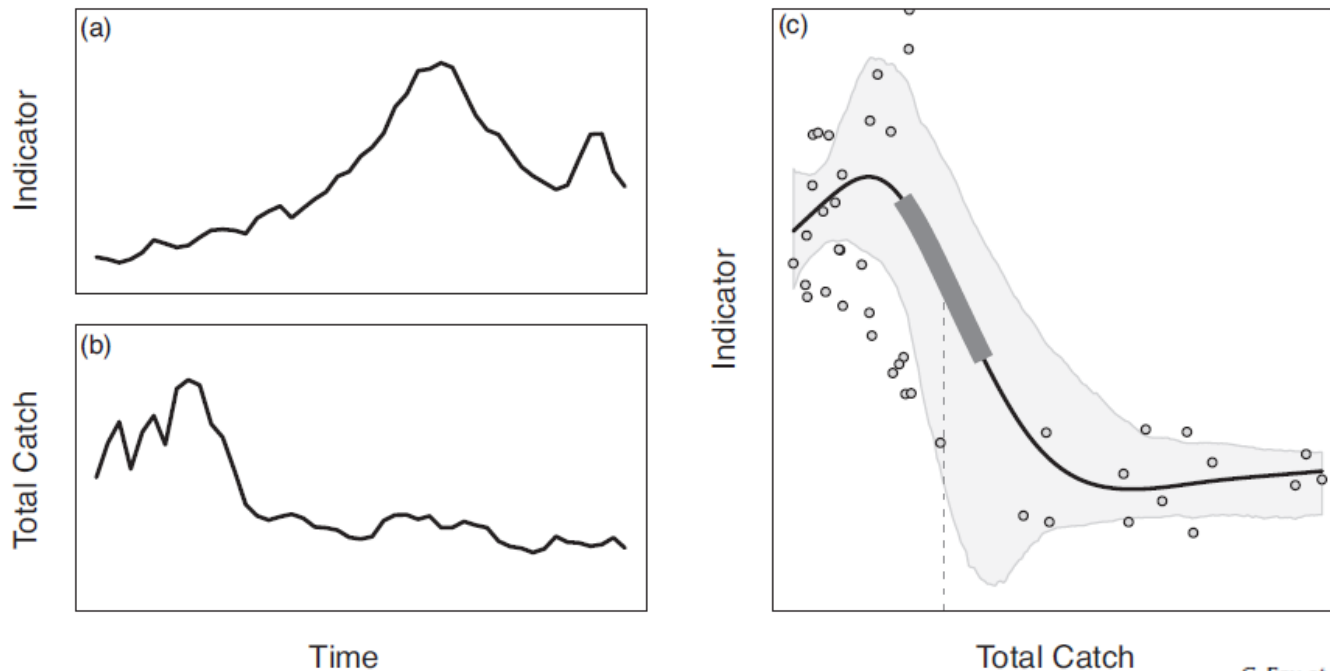


# Testing Indicator based control rules using simulation methods (e.g. MSE)

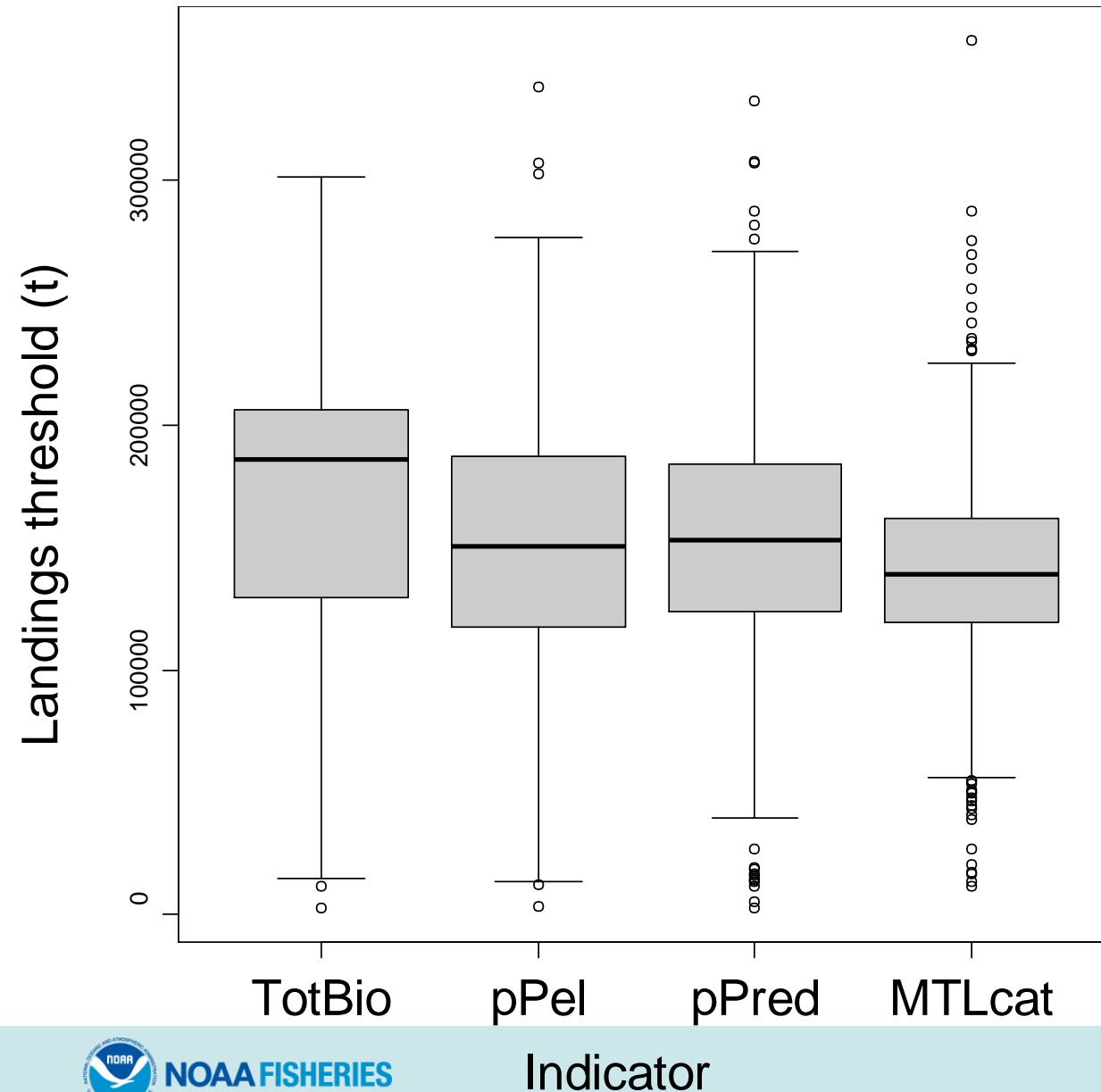


# Using thresholds in indicators to set ceilings on total catch

- Time series of indicators from multispecies operating model.
- Values for ceilings obtained from thresholds in indicator/catch relationships.
- Run models with ceilings, calculate performance metrics.



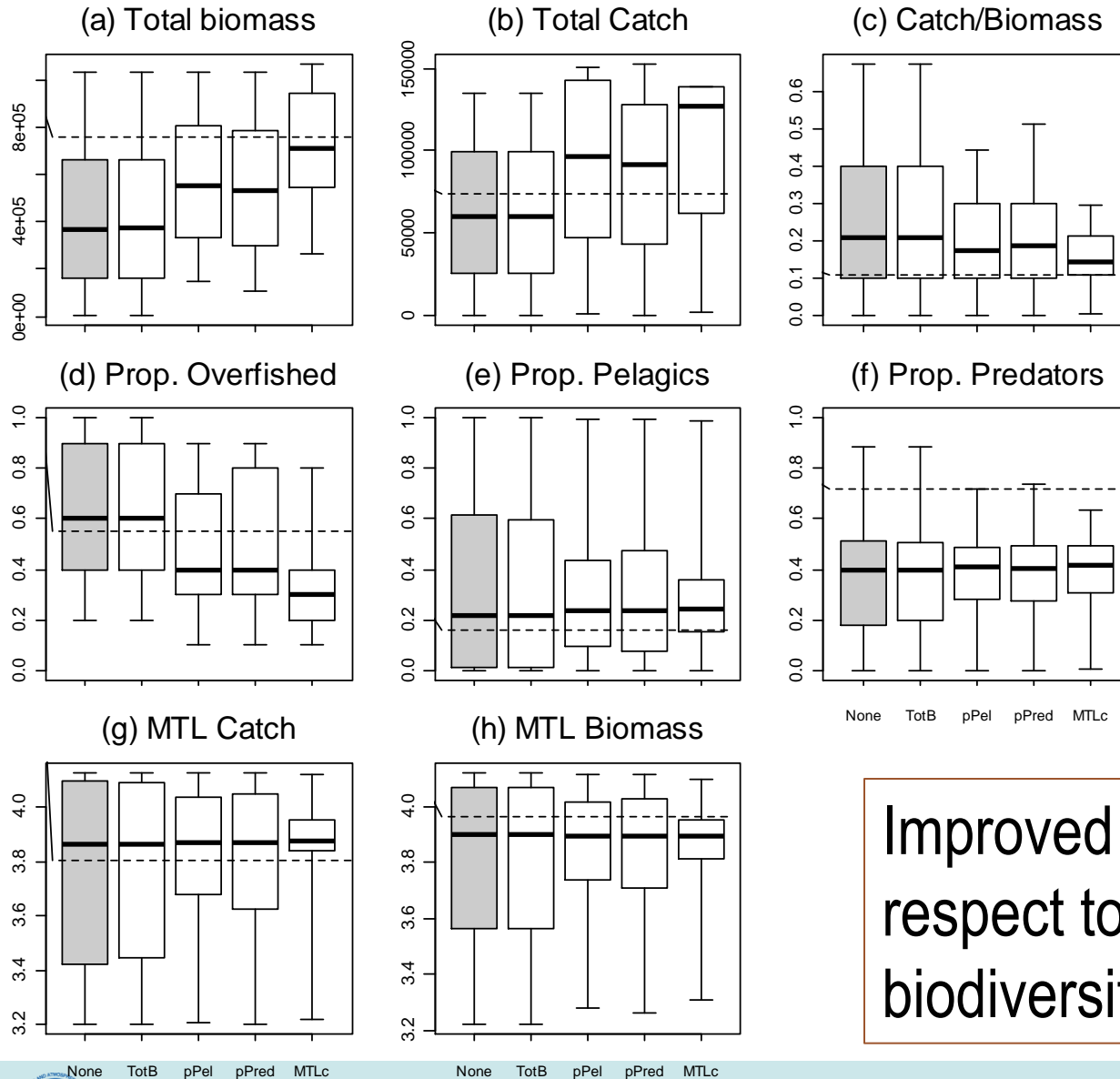
# Indicator Thresholds from simulation testing



Values depend on exploitation history.

Thresholds for community composition indicators occur at lower levels of total landings.

# Ceilings on system catch based on indicator thresholds

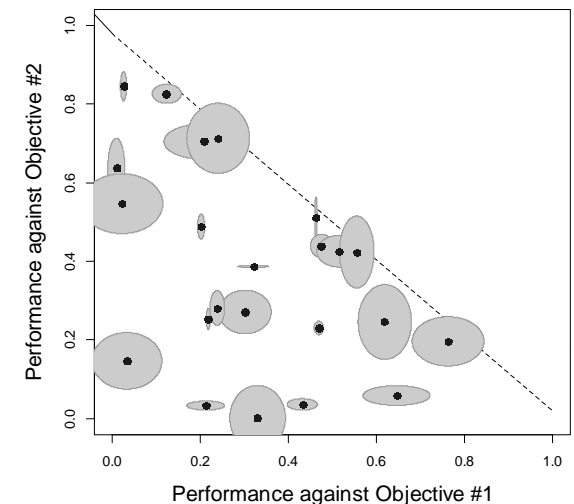
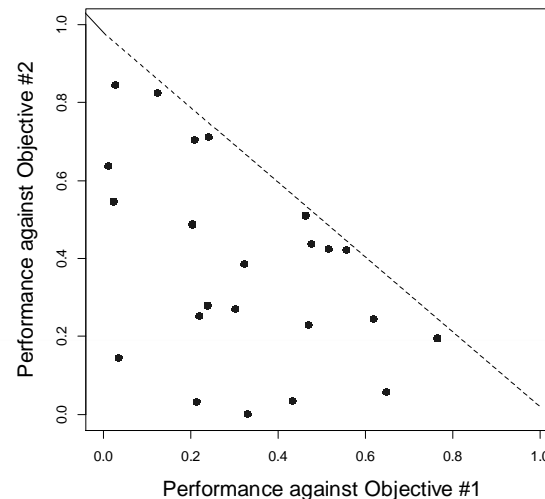
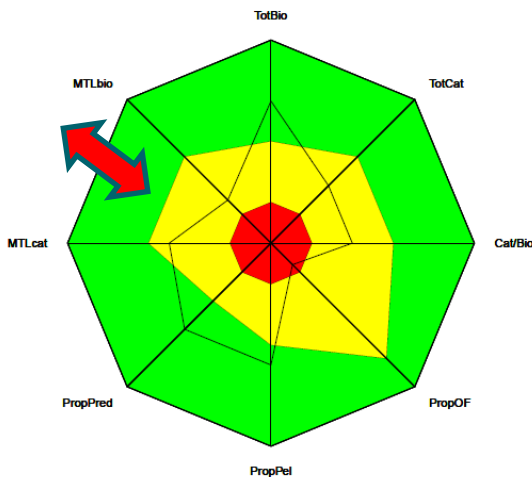


Improved performance with respect to catch and biodiversity objectives.

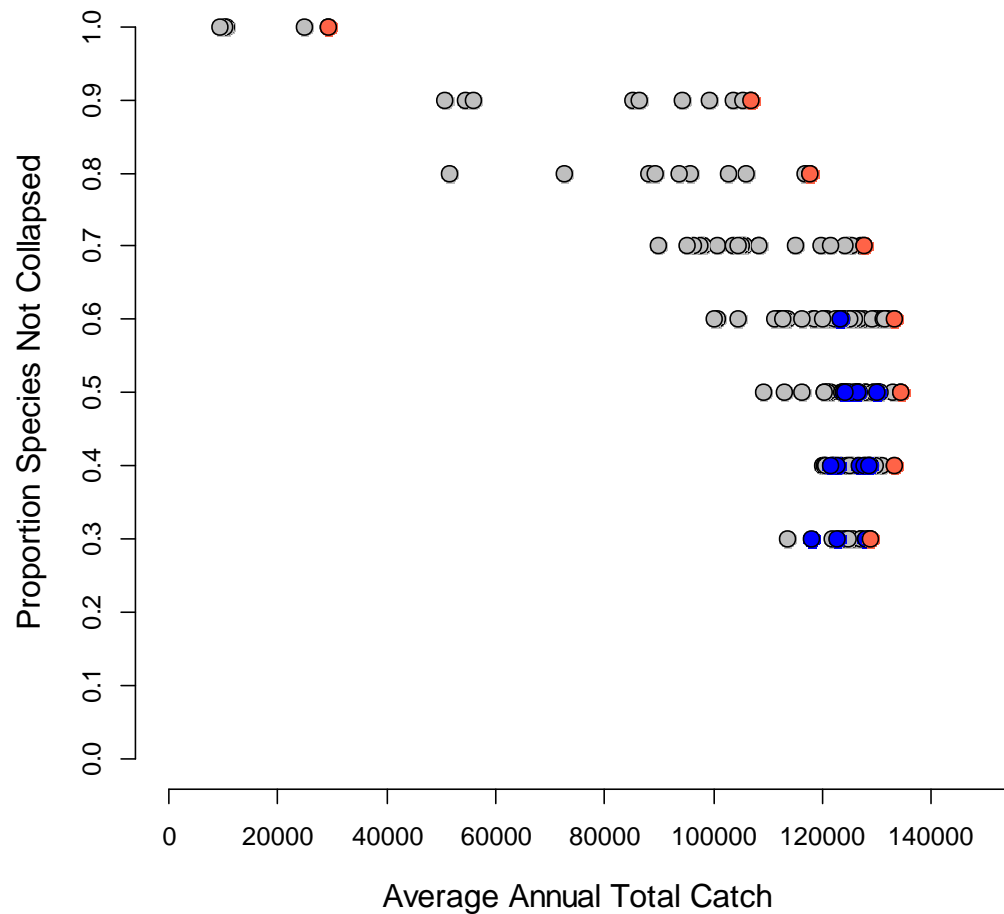


# Testing alternative reference points

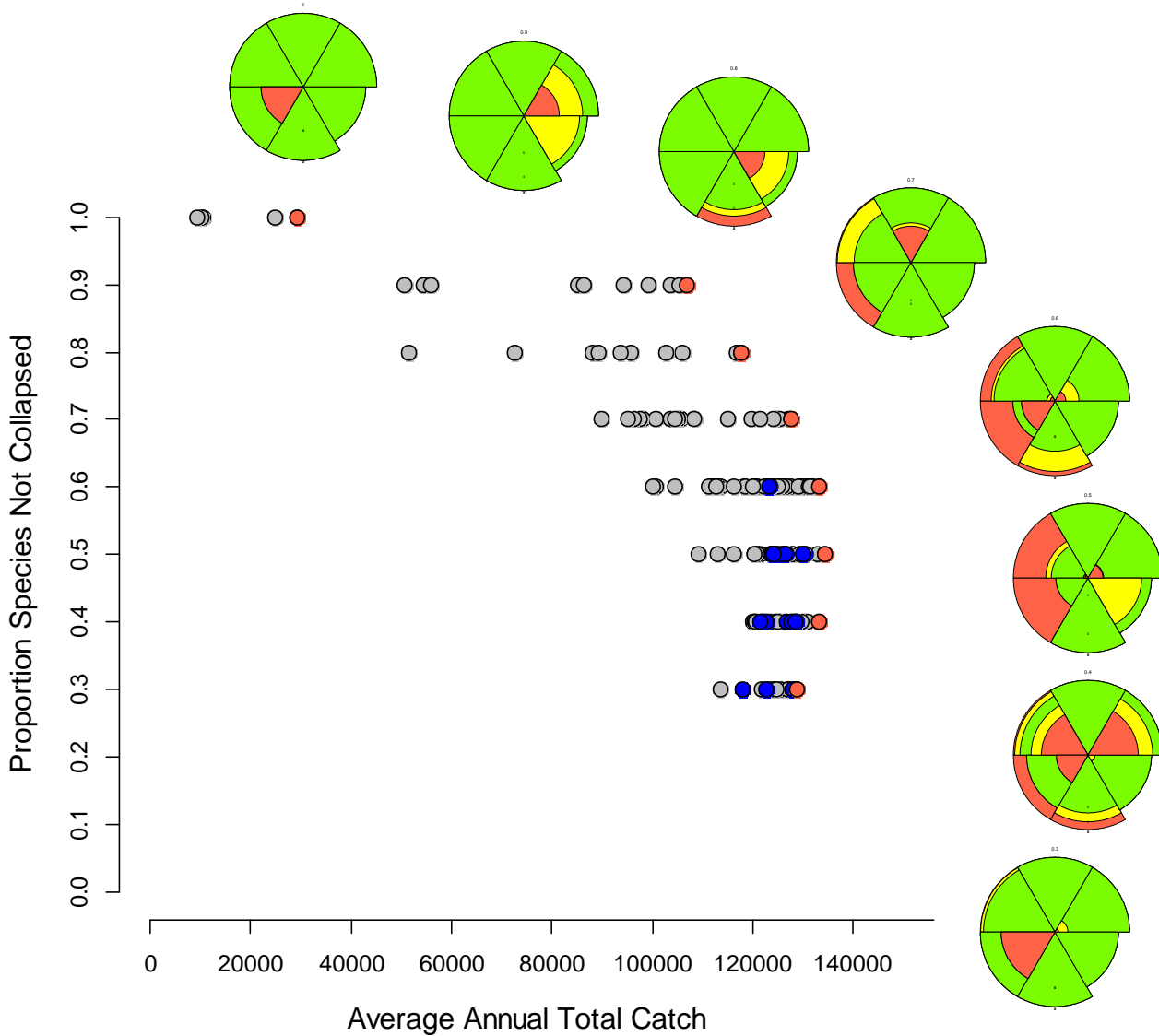
- How do combinations of indicators and reference points perform with respect to yield and biodiversity?
- Operating Model: Multispecies Production Model
- Estimation Model(s):  
Single species biomass dynamics, and/or Indicators.



# Tradeoffs: Indicator-based control rules



# Tradeoffs: Indicator-based control rules



# End-to-End System Modelling: Atlantis

Full suite of indicators

(including lower trophic level, climate, and socioeconomic)

Linkages to additional models

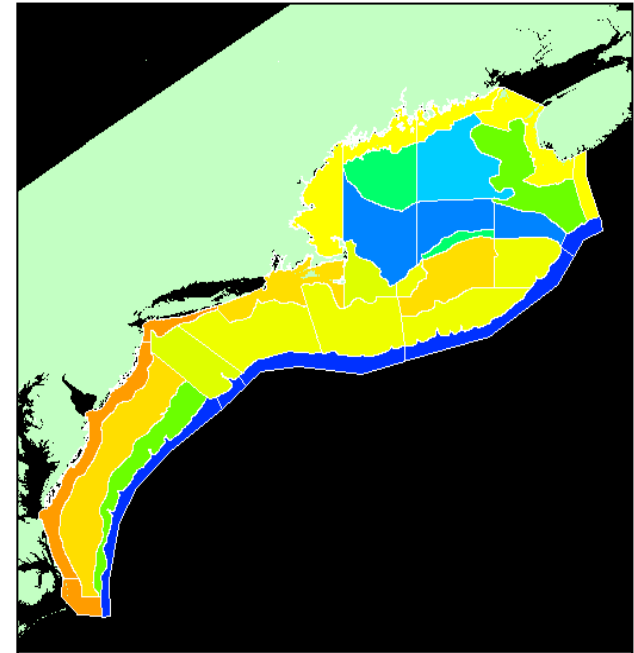
(physics, climate, regional economy)

Northeast US application

v1.0 (*Link et al. 2010 PiO*)

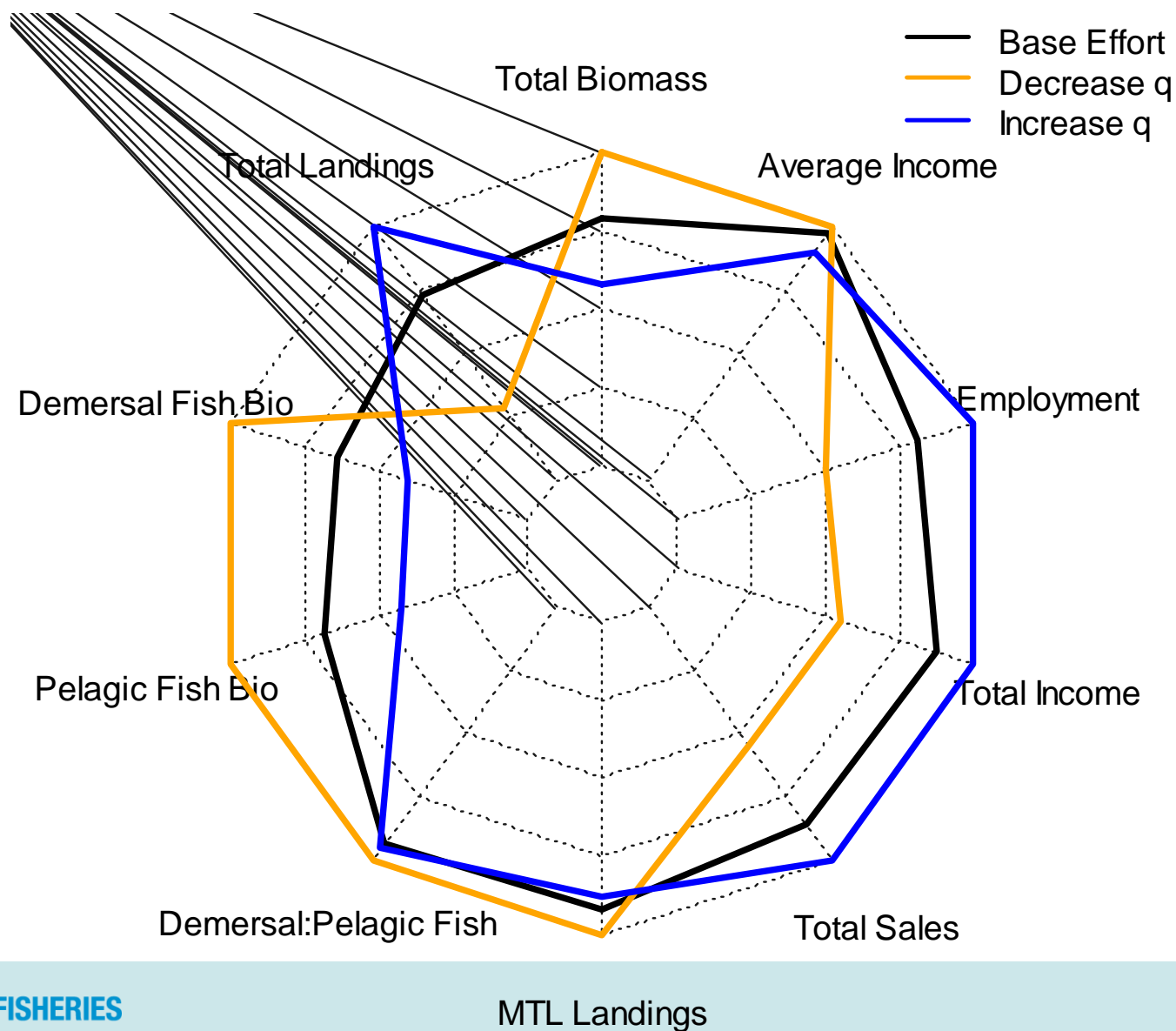
v1.5 (*in development*)

1. Used for Scenario testing
2. Not full MSE (yet)
3. As an operating model



Assessments (and management strategies) can be tested given (very) complicated mechanistic dynamics.

# Quantifying economic and conservation tradeoffs: evaluating fisheries management strategies using multiple criteria



# Further work

- Additional methods for assessing indicator response to system drivers and pressures.
- Integrate indicator assessment and control rule into the Atlantis assessment module.
- Run MSE style scenarios with Atlantis as an operating model.

# It's all about the Questions

- Indicator-based assessments can complement advice from single-species models and be integrated into fishery control rules.
- What do we mean by assessment performance? Implications for management, robustness.
- What is the type and scale of advice required?



**NOAA**  
**FISHERIES**

**Thank you.**

[gavin.fay@noaa.gov](mailto:gavin.fay@noaa.gov)



# An investigation into fisheries interaction effects using Atlantis

**Michael Smith**

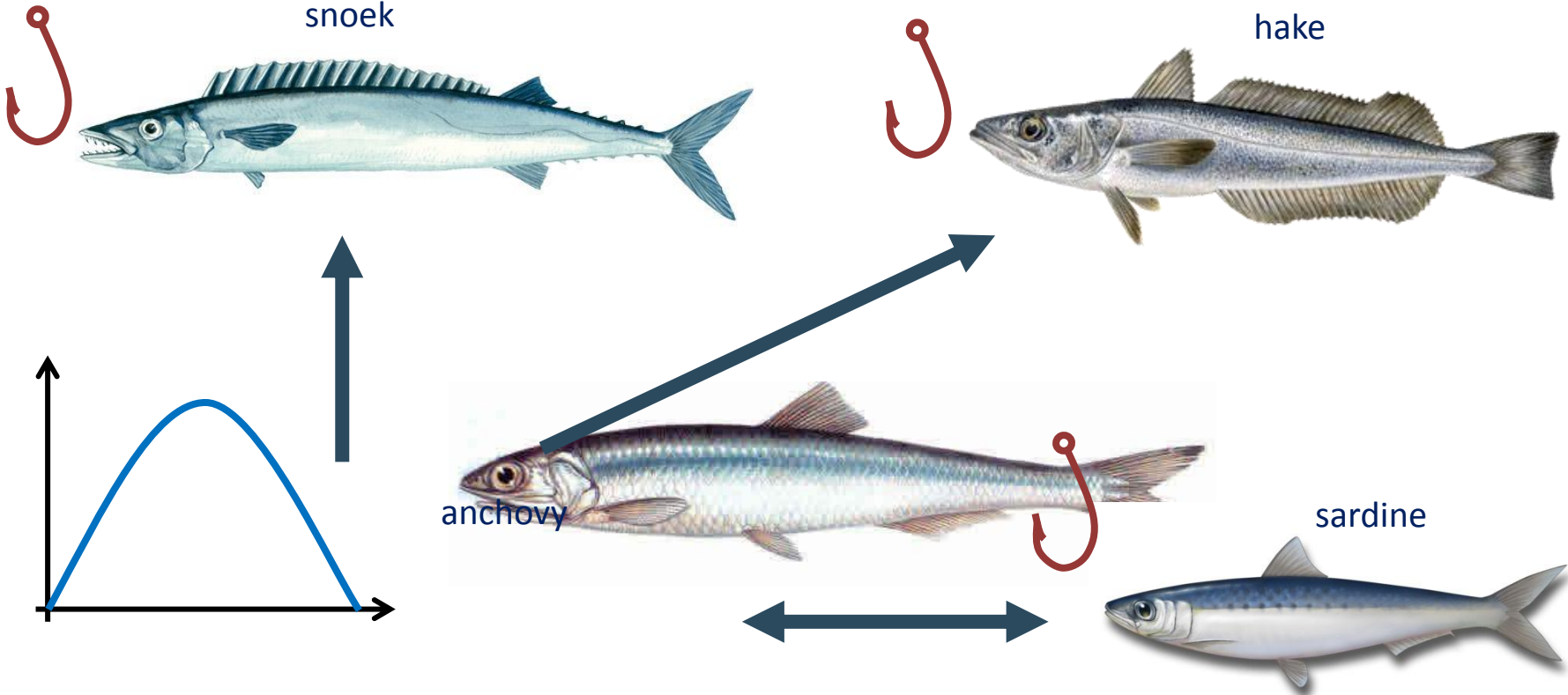
Supervisors: Rob Day (University of Melbourne)  
Beth Fulton (CSIRO)

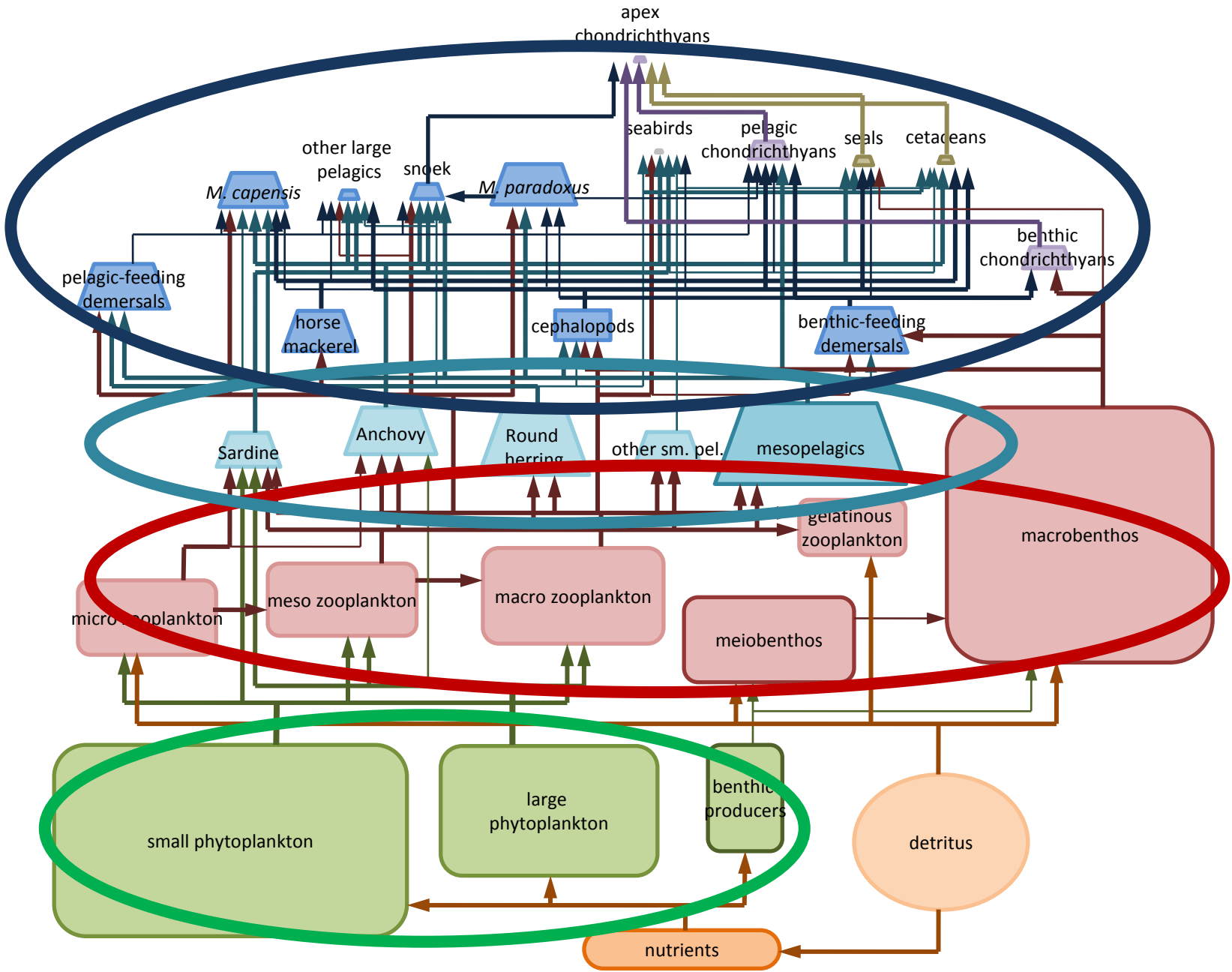


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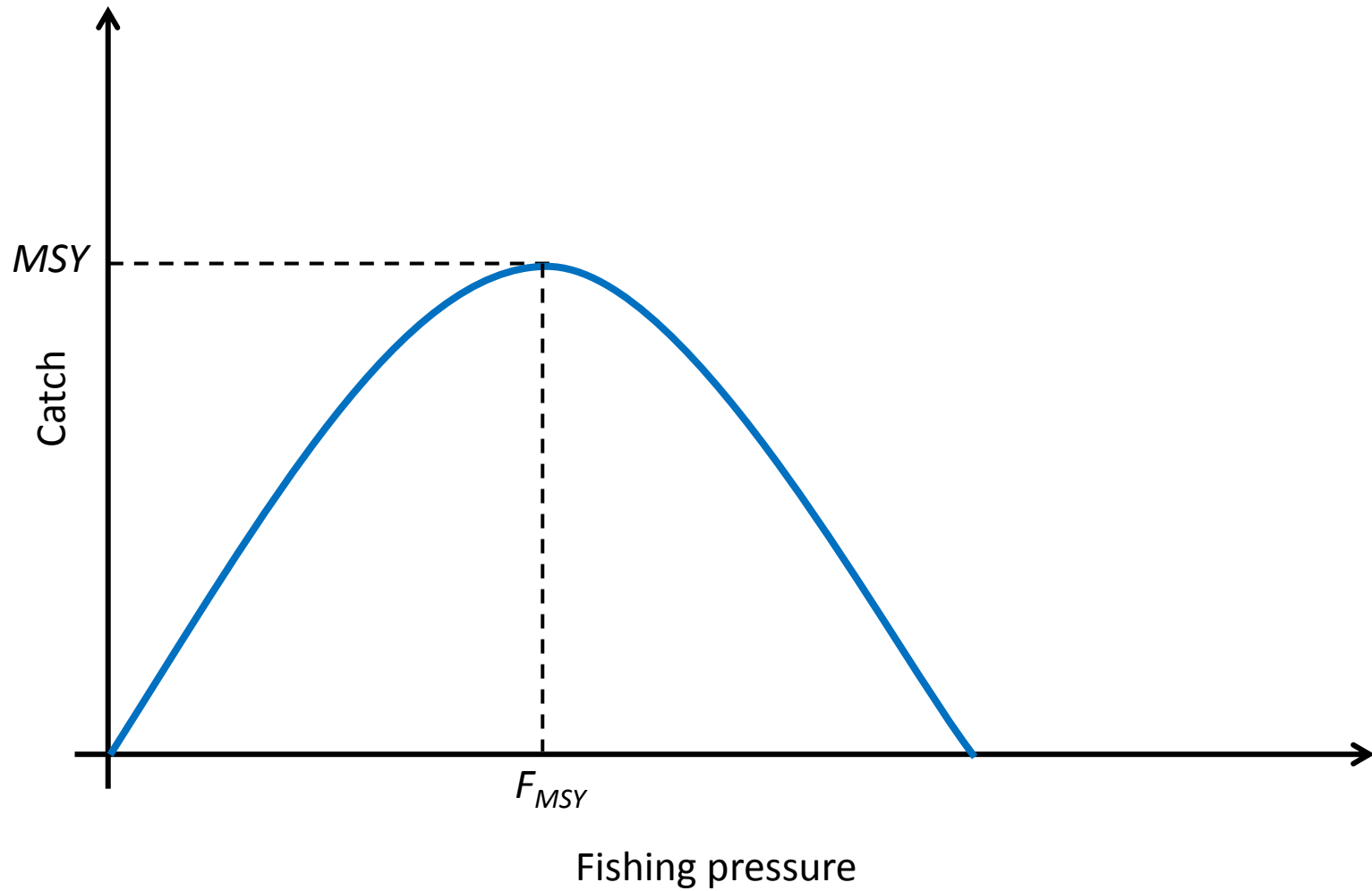


# Why model an ecosystem?

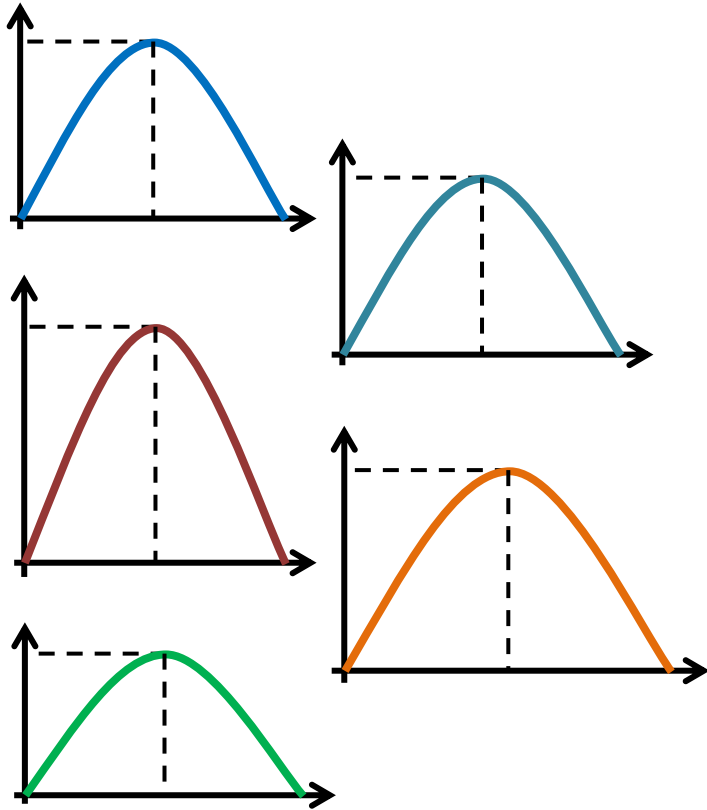




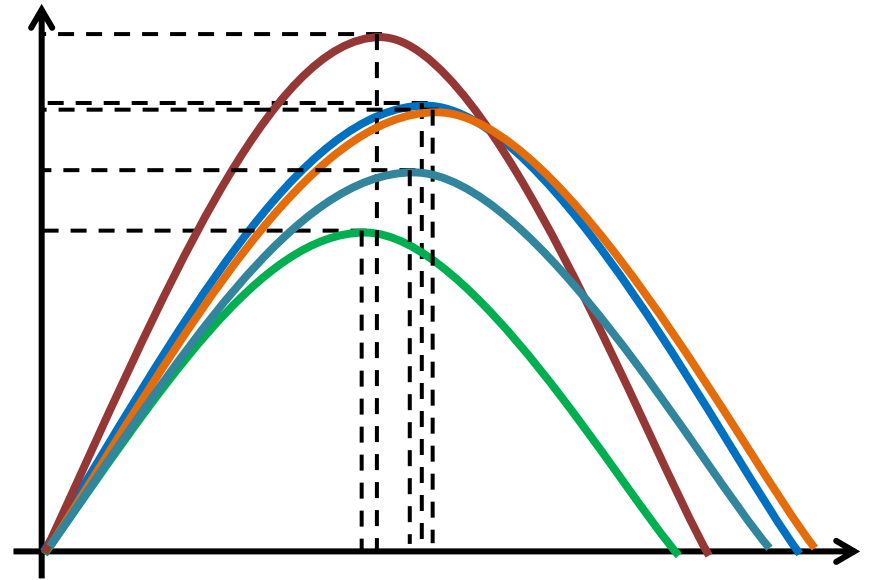
# The $F_{MSY}$ experiment



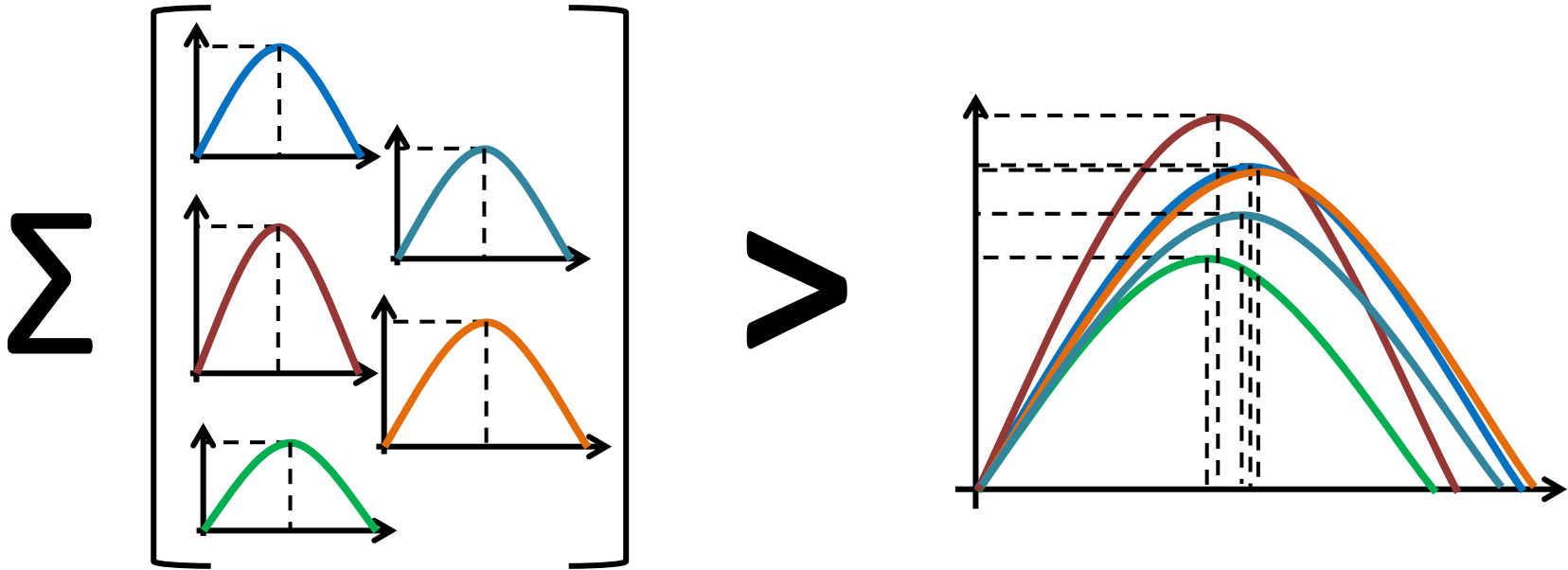
# The $F_{MSY}$ experiment



vs.



# The $F_{MSY}$ experiment: prediction



# Exploring $F_{MSY}$ in Atlantis

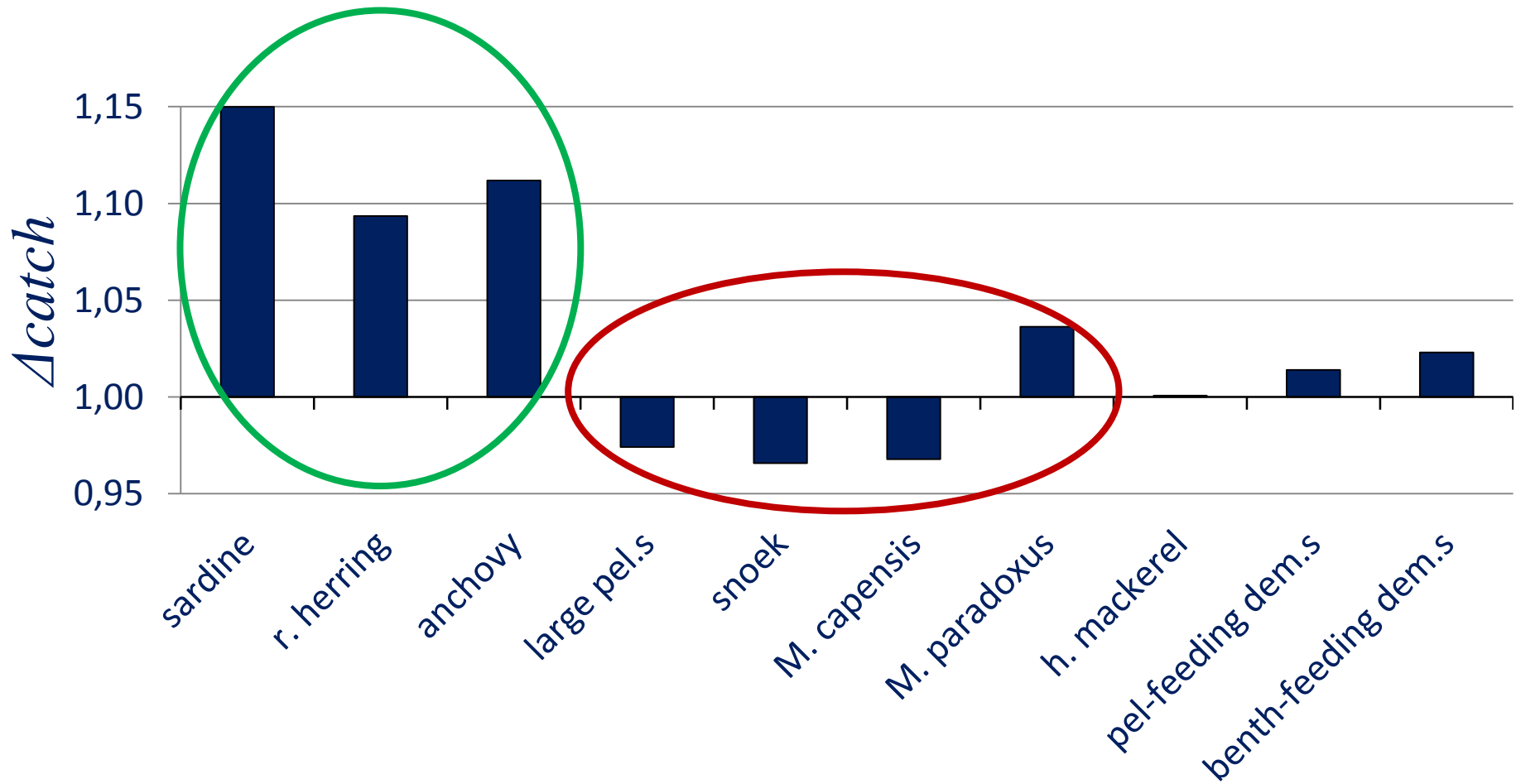
- Prediction:

$$\sum \text{single-spp. MSY} > \text{simultaneous MSY}$$

- Our results:

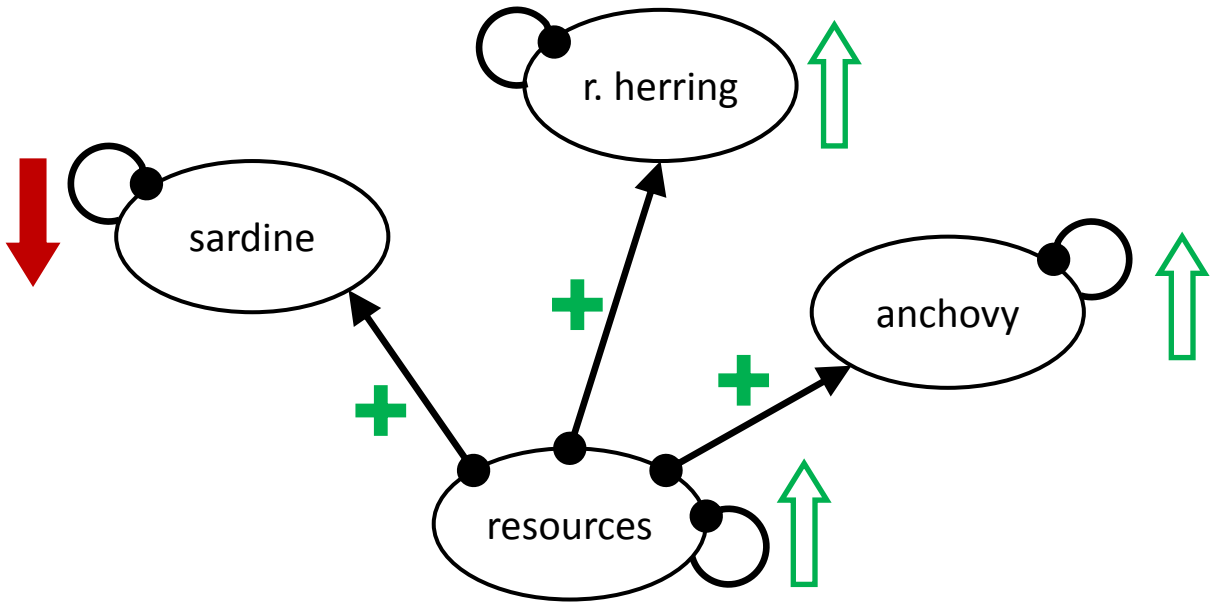
$$\text{simultaneous MSY} > \sum \text{single-spp. MSY}$$

# Simultaneous $F_{MSY}$ vs individual $F_{MSY}$

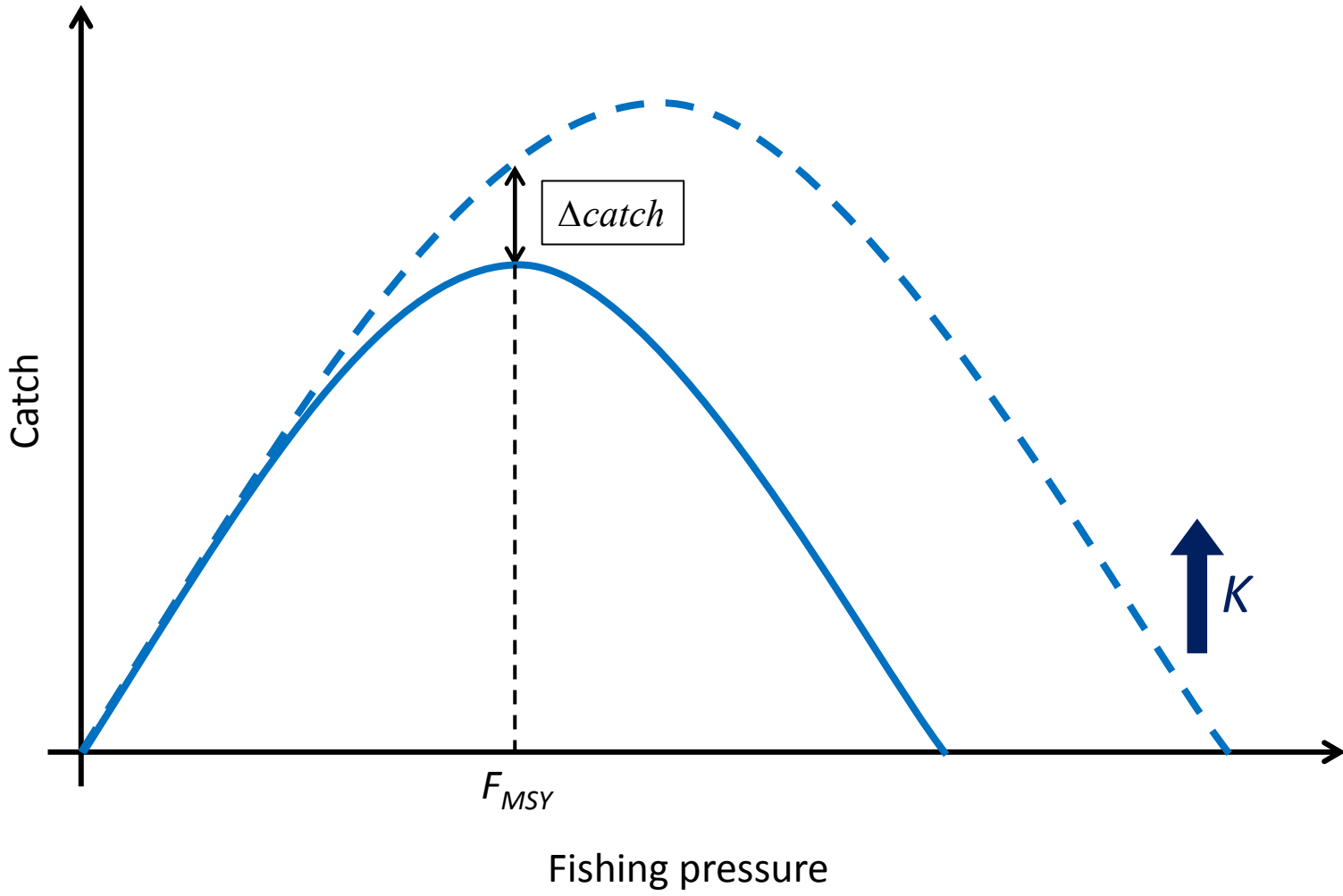




# Competition interaction between planktivores



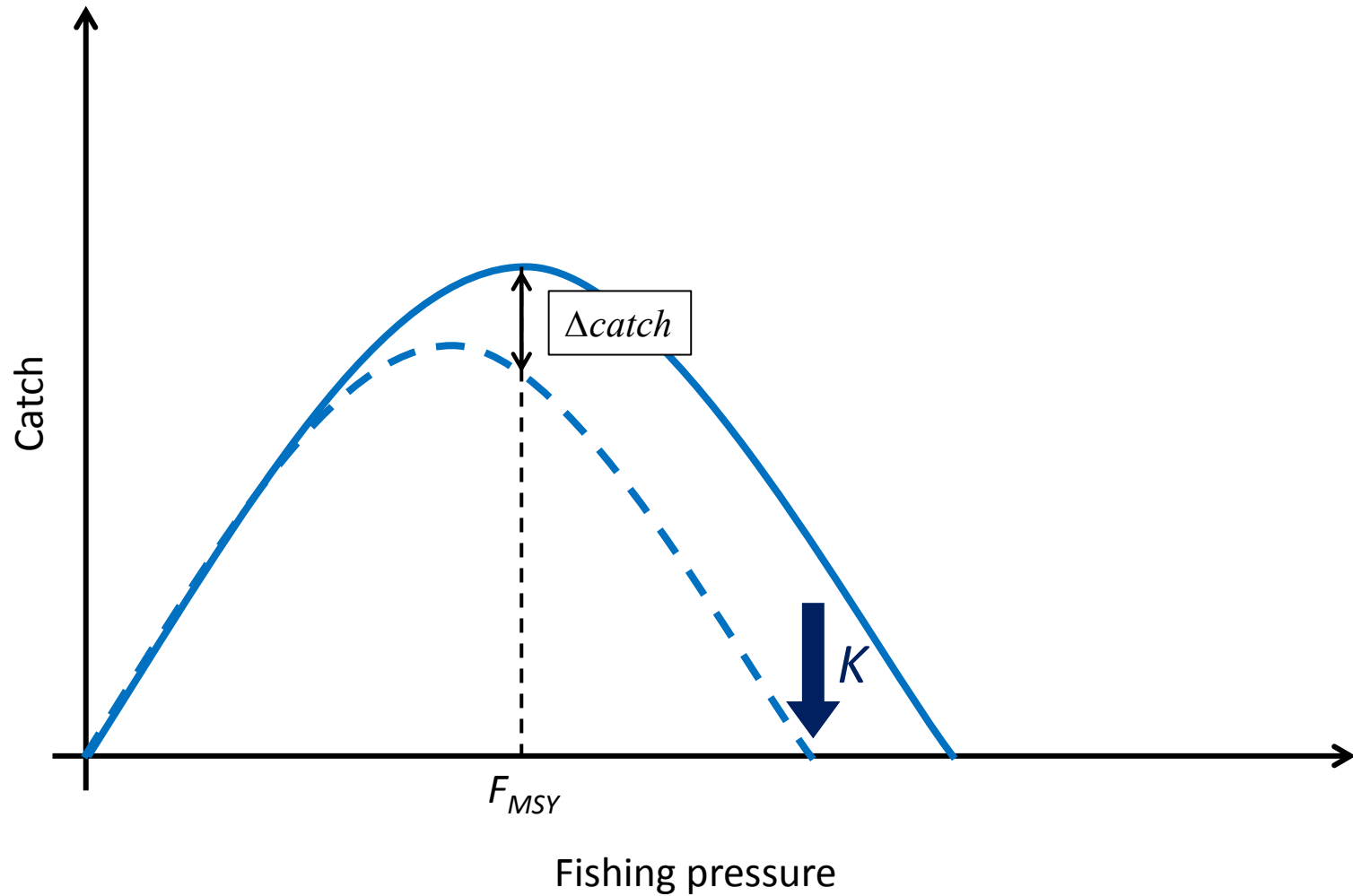
# Increased carrying capacity ( $K$ )



# Predation interactions

Affected group	Targeted group			
	sm. pelagics	snoek	<i>M. capensis</i>	<i>M. paradoxus</i>
sm. pelagics	--	↑	↑	↑
mesopelagics	↑	↑	↑	↑
snoek	↓	--	↑	↑
<i>M. capensis</i>	↓	↑	--	≈
<i>M. paradoxus</i>	≈	↑	↑	--

# Reduced carrying capacity ( $K$ )



# The take-home messages:

- Competition and predation have different importance at different trophic levels.
- Small pelagics dominated the catch for our model
- Results from one system may not be universal

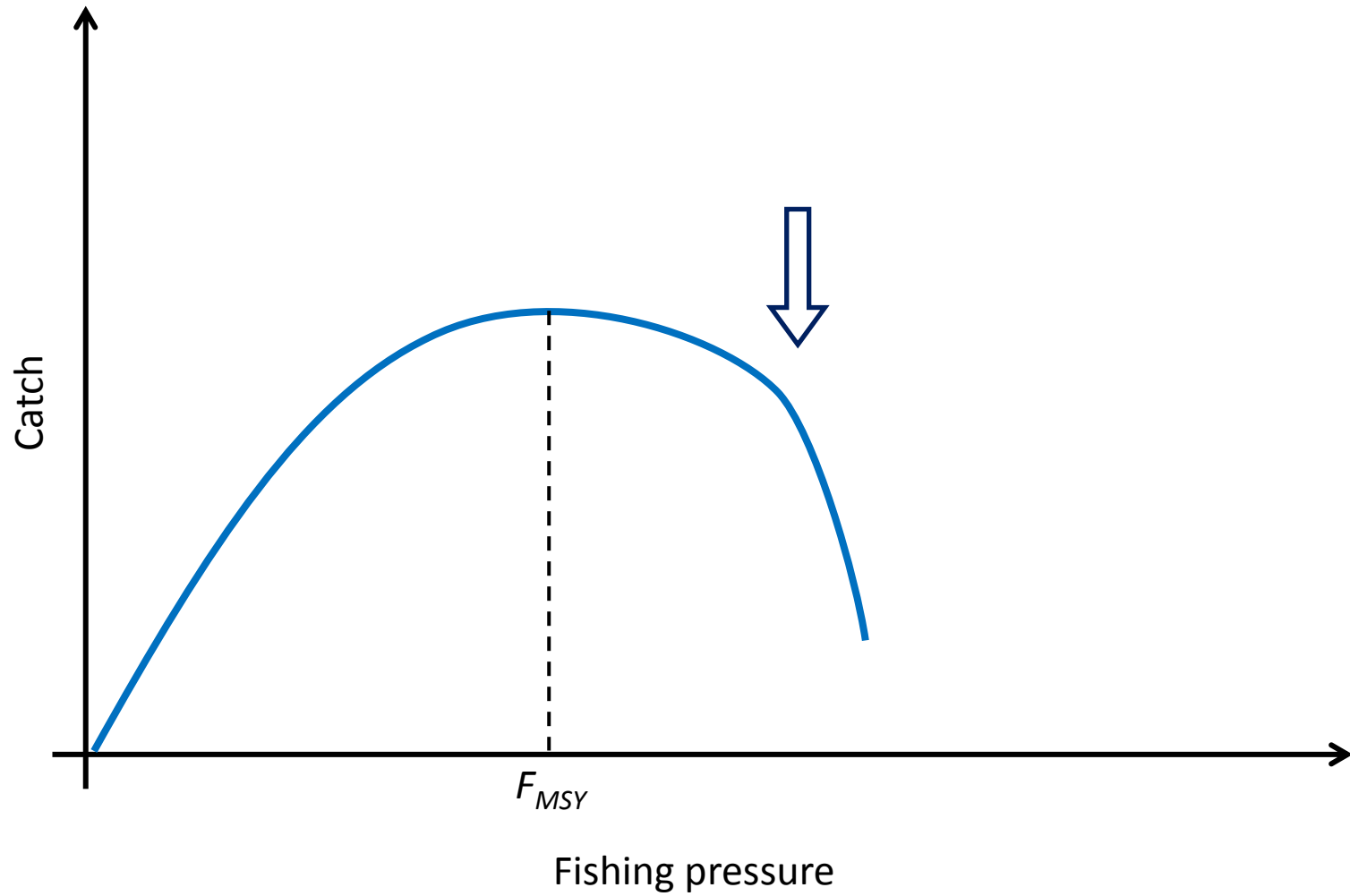
Thank you!



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# What multi species and ecosystem models can do for you - examples from ICES WGSAM

Kempf, A.<sup>1</sup>, Howell, D.<sup>2</sup>, Link, J.<sup>3</sup>, Mackinson, S.<sup>4</sup> and Rindorf, A.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> TI- SF, Palmaille 9, 22761 Hamburg, Germany

<sup>2</sup> IMR, P.O. Box 1870 Nordnes, 5817 Bergen, Norway

<sup>3</sup> NOAA, NMFS, 166 Water St., Woods Hole, MA 02543, USA

<sup>4</sup> CEFAS, Pakefield Road, Lowestoft, Suffolk, NR33 0HT, UK

<sup>5</sup> DTU, Jægersborg Alle 1, DK-2920 Charlottenlund, Denmark

# ICES WGSAM (Working Group on Multispecies Assessment Methods)

Experts from many areas in the North Atlantik (Barent Sea, Iceland, US West Atlantic, Canadian West Atlantic, North Sea , Baltic, Celtic Seas, Bay of Biscay, Mediterranean, Black Sea)

Main aim: Model development + **integration into practical management advice!**

- establishing best practice in multi-species assessment
- ➔ defining standards for models (“Keyruns”)
- identifying and promoting the research needed (e.g., joint stomach sampling projects)
- aligning ToRs with emerging policy needs (e.g., Food Web Indicators, Multi Species MSY)

# Main challenge: Communication and processing of complex results



## Examples from ICES WGSAM

1. Food web and community indicators to be used in stock assessment and other working groups
2. Advice on MSY in a multi species context
3. Implementing multi species effects in MSE simulations

# Food web and community indicators

Natural mortality

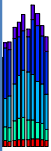
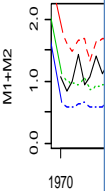
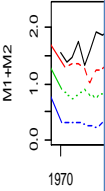
Who eats whom

Cod

Sandeel

1.4

Cod age: 1



1970

2008



1970

2008



2010

Why models?

Alternative and complimentary to survey based indicator estimates

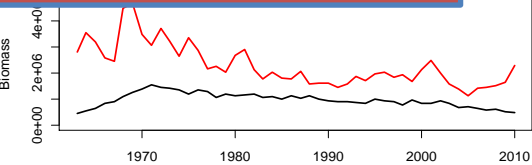
Information on why is an indicator changing

Models can be used to predict changes in management

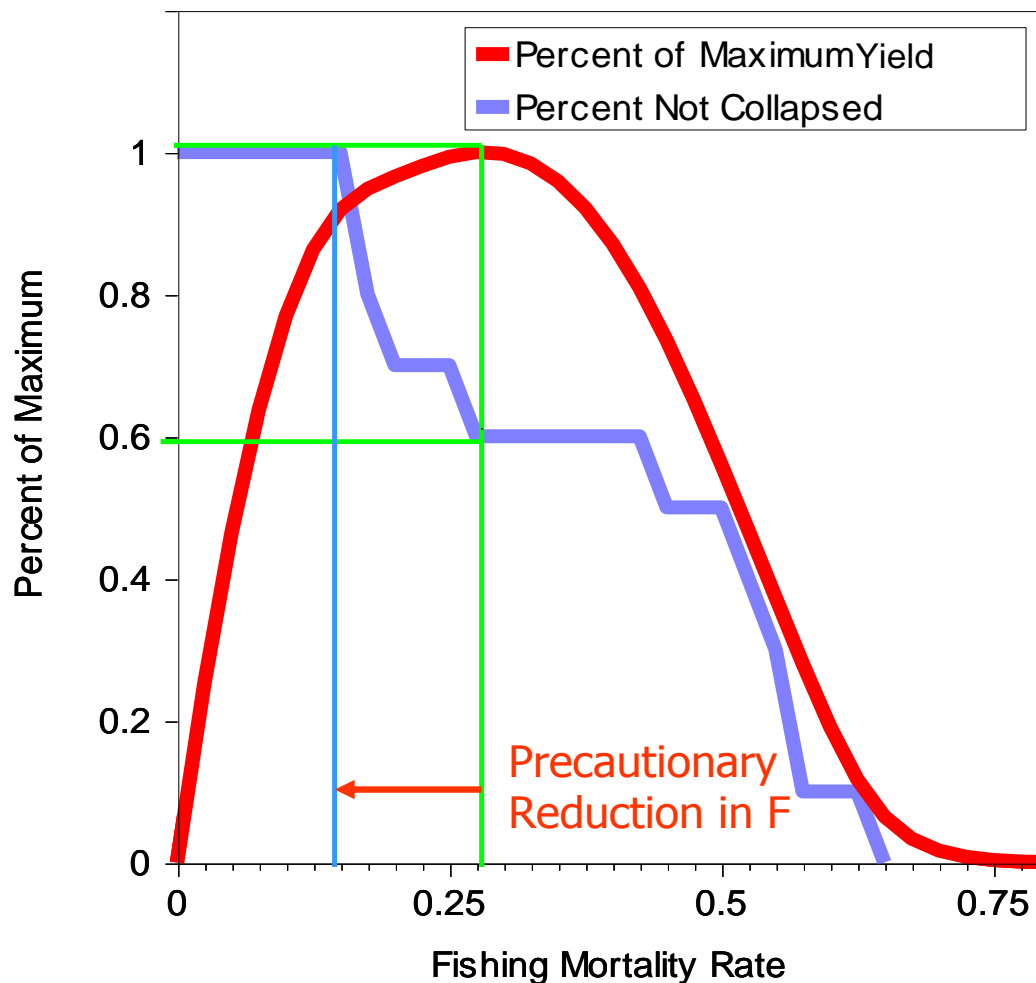
Bio

Biomass

1970 1980 1990 2000 2010



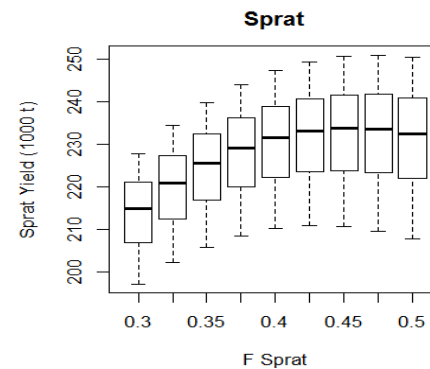
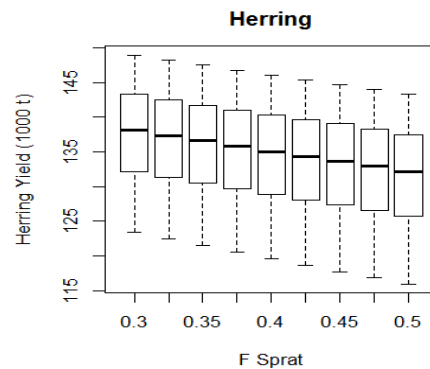
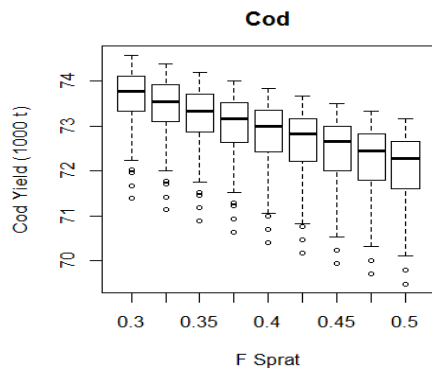
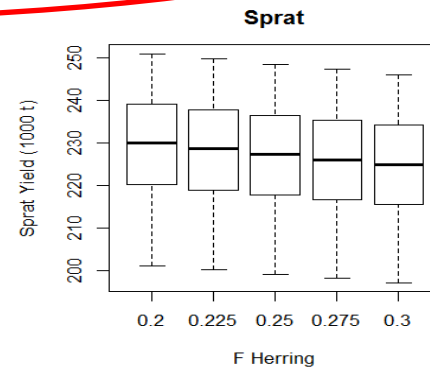
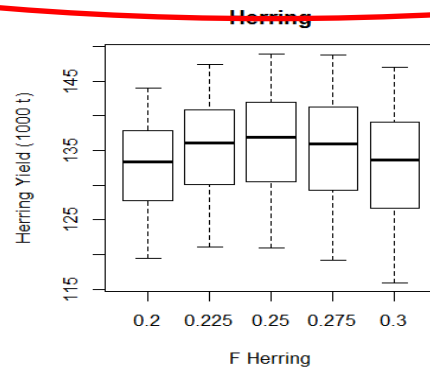
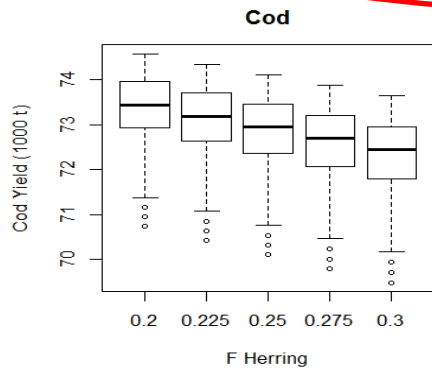
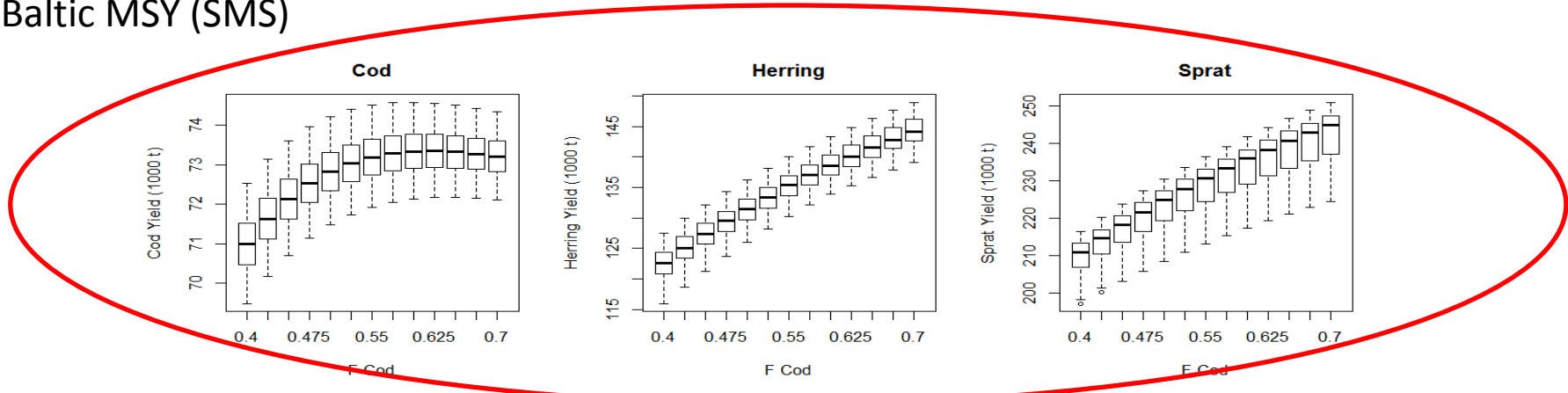
## Advice on precautionary reference points



(from: Gamble and Link 2012)

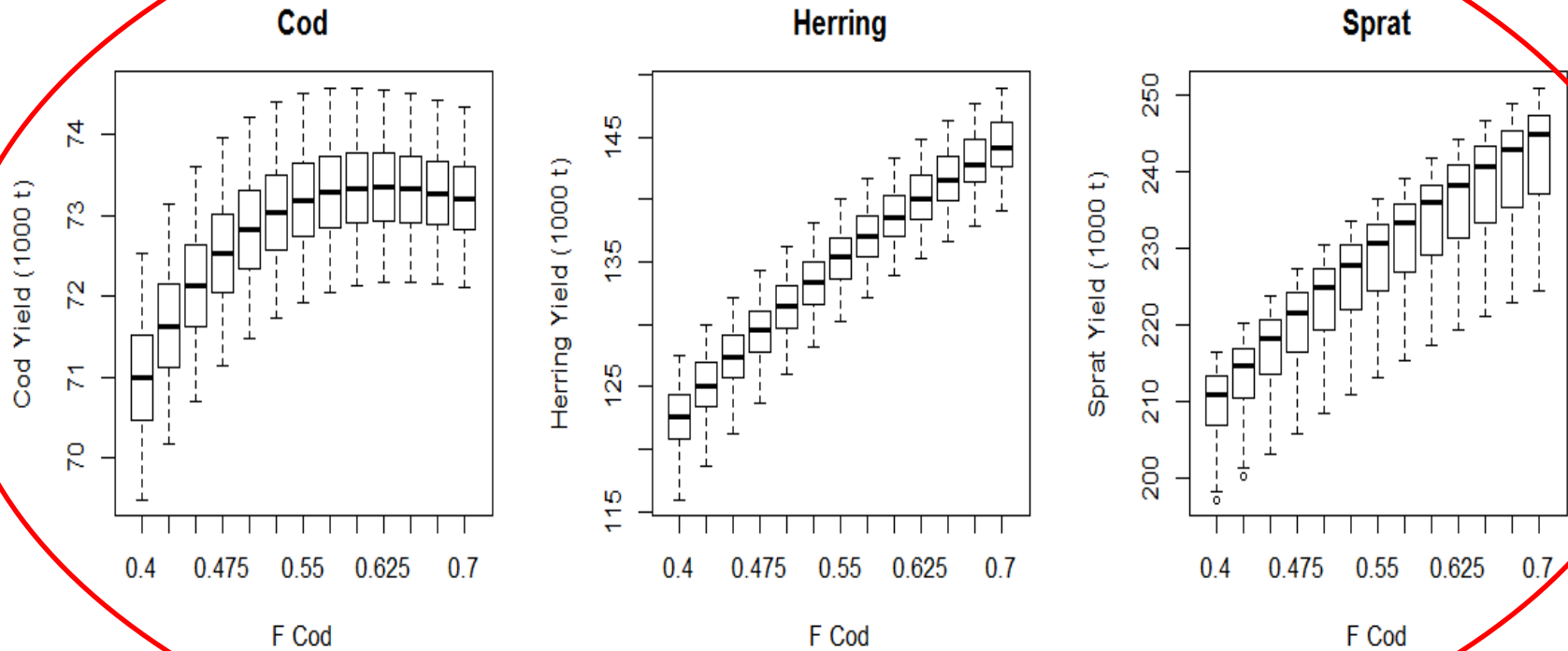
# MSY in a multi species context: important trade-offs

## Baltic MSY (SMS)



# MSY in a multi species context: **important** trade-offs

Baltic MSY (SMS)



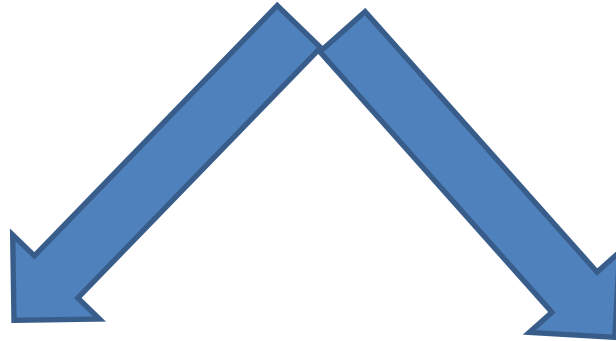


# MSY in a multi species context: **important** trade-offs

## Baltic MSY (SMS)



## Multi species effects



Multi species or  
ecosystem model  
as operating model

Single species MSE +  
identify relationships  
between natural  
mortality and  
predator biomass

$$\text{Predation index}_{year,prey,preyage} = \sum_{predator=1}^n BIO_{year,predator,predatorag} * \overline{pM2}_{predator,predatorag,prey,preyage}$$

## Pros

- Can be used in single species models
- Relatively easy to use and understand

## Cons

- relationships sometimes weak
- Processes (e.g., functional feeding response) will be ignored
- Only valid for historically observed states of the food web

0 40000 80000 0e+00 4e+04 8e+04 0 20000 40000 0 20000 40000

Predation index

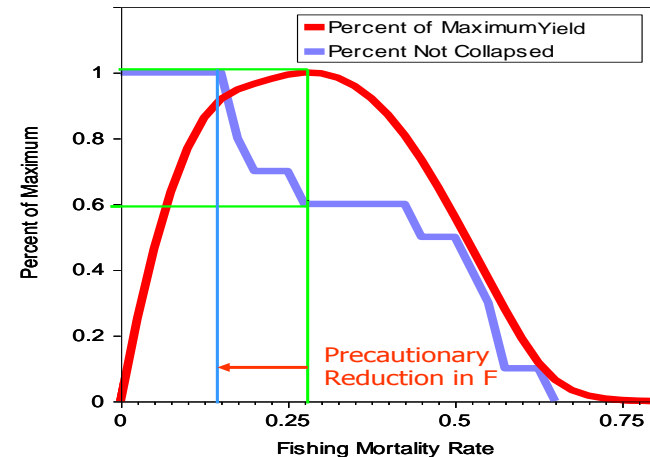
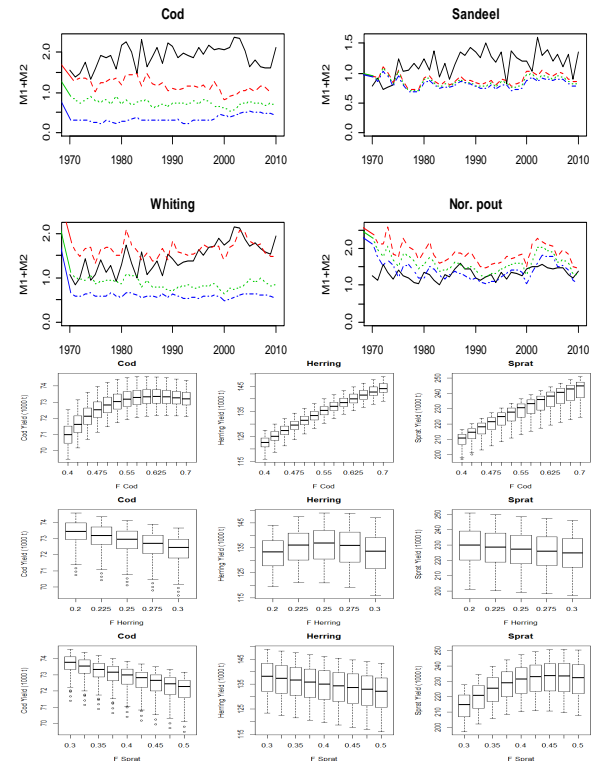
# Conclusions: Multi species advice

Advice on community and food web indicators (including natural mortality). Tables of natural mortality and any other relevant parameter must be available for download.

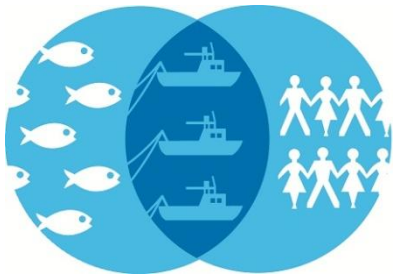
Advice on important interactions and trade offs

Advice on precautionary target fishing mortalities producing close-to-MSY

Advice on limitations of the model results



# Thanks for your attention!



**GAP**

Connecting Science  
Stakeholders and Policy



**ICES**

CIEM

**myfish**

Maximising yield of fisheries  
while balancing ecosystem,  
economic and social concerns

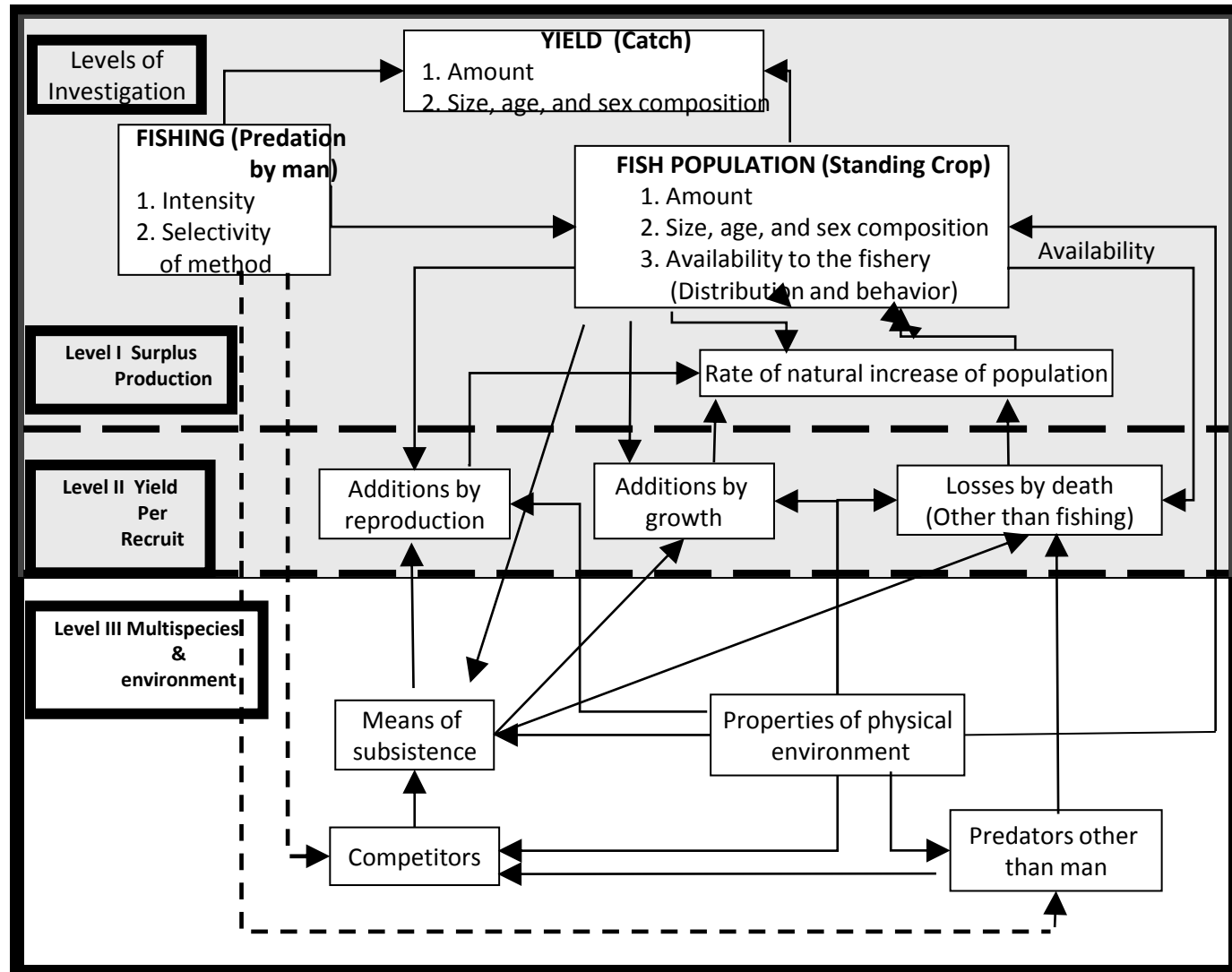


# Ecosystem Data Criteria for Use in Stock Assessment Models

Jason S. Link, Chris Legault, Tim  
Essington, André Punt, Steve Cadrin,  
Richard Methot

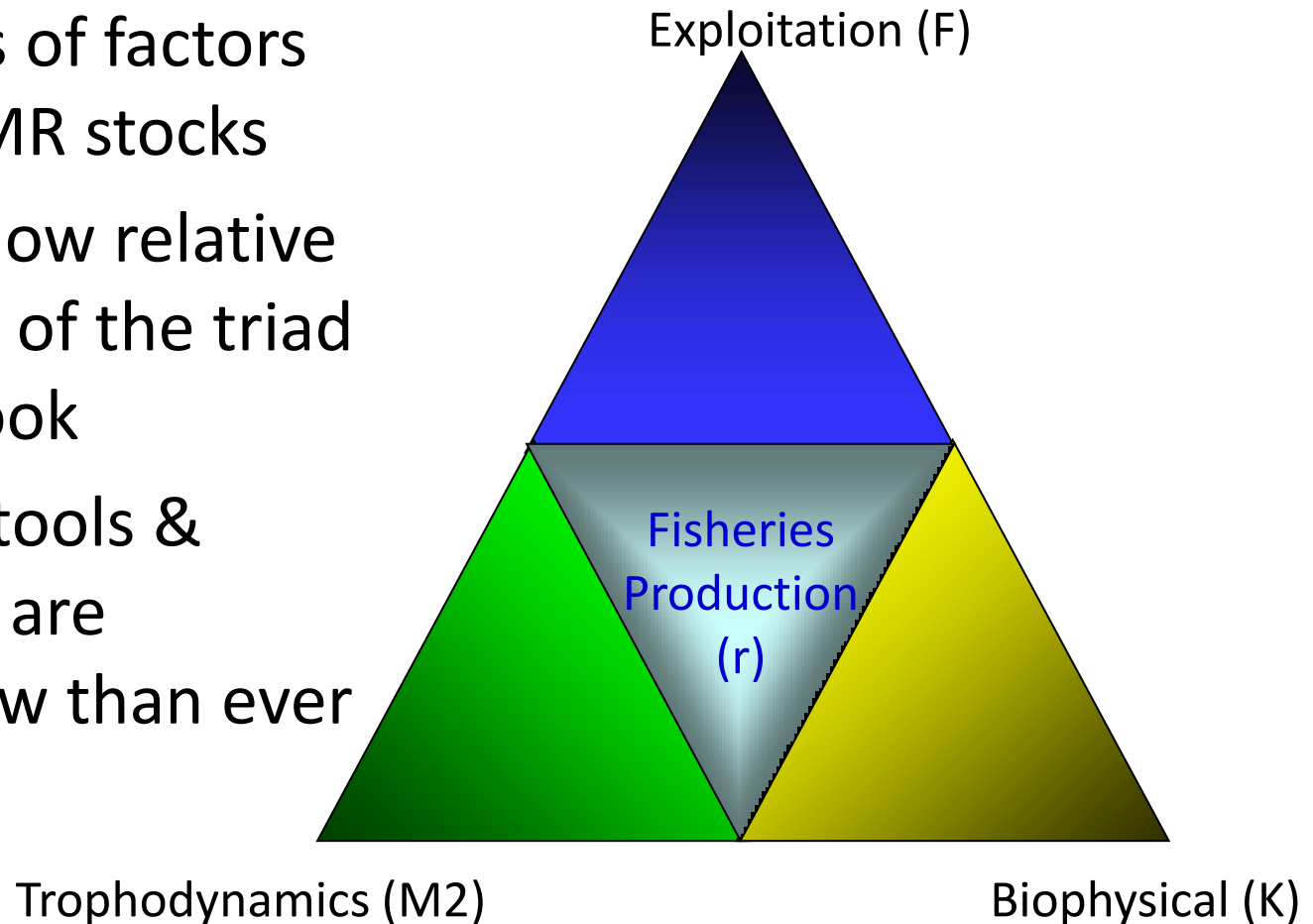
# The History

- Spencer Baird
- Johan Hjort...
- Thompson - Burkenroad debate
- Schaefer's 3<sup>rd</sup> Tier



# The Need

- Broad suites of factors influence LMR stocks
- We don't know relative prominence of the triad unless we look
- More data, tools & information are available now than ever before





# Concerns for Ancillary Data Use in Stock Assessments

- Avoid Extremes
- Meet minimal standards



# General Data Types

- Abundance (B, N)
  - Aka Surveys
- Biological
- Catch/Landings
- Ecological
- Environmental
- Socioeconomic



# Types of Data Use in Stock Assessments



## Context

Alter stock information (e.g. Stock ID, area, etc.)

Change model parameter choice/defaults

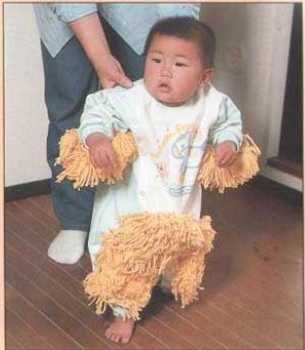
Alter other input data to model

Alter structure of model

Scalars/ Magnitude checks

Model covariates

Data inputs  
to model



Baby Mops

★ Make your children work for their keep

After the birth of a child there's always the temptation to say "Yes, it's cute, but what can it do?" Until recently the answer was simply "lie there and cry", but now babies can be put on the payroll, so to speak, almost as soon as they're born.

Just dress your young one in Baby Mops and set him or her down on any hard wood or tile floor that needs cleaning. You may at first need to get things started by calling to the infant from across the room, but pretty soon they'll be doing it all by themselves.

There's no child exploitation involved. The kid is doing what he does best anyway: crawling. But with Baby Mops he's also learning responsibility and a healthy work ethic.

# Proposed Core Criteria

- Adequate length of time series (as a fraction of life history [e.g. maturity age] of stock)
- Synoptic coverage of stock, else estimable fraction of geographic coverage
- Variance mainly estimable
- Consistency of collection/sampling protocols, else adequate conversion coefficients
- Relates to key facet of the life history of stock
- Captures main contrasts and dynamics over time and space of major processes affecting stock
- International or regional, “diplomacy” considerations

# Criteria & Use

Data Criteria/Data Use	Context	Alter stock info	Change parameters	Alter other input	Alter structure	Scalars/Magnitude	Model covariates	Data inputs
Length of time series	Lo	Lo	Med	Lo	Lo	Med	Med	Hi
Synoptic coverage of stock	Lo	Med	Med	Lo	Lo	Med	Med	Hi
Variance estimable	Lo	Lo	Med	Lo	Lo	Med	Med	Hi
Consistency of sampling	Lo	Med	Hi	Med	Med	Hi	Hi	Hi
Life history of stock	Lo	Med	Hi	Med	Med	Hi	Hi	Hi
Contrasts and dynamics	Lo	Med	Hi	Med	Med	Hi	Hi	Hi
Diplomacy considerations	Lo	Med	Med	Lo	Med	Med	Med	Med

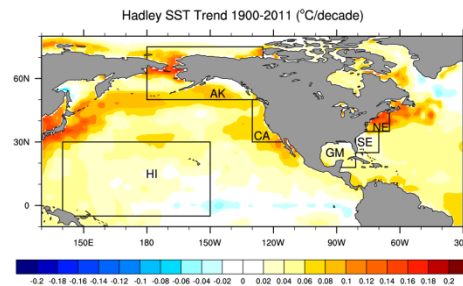
# Example #1: Habitat & Climate

E.g., small pelagic fish  
Consistently sampled  
temperature, B/N & C  
Well estimated variance  
Broad spatiotemporal  
coverage  
Captures major changes in  
thermal habitat of  
ecosystem over time and  
space  
Known linkages to key life  
history and physiology



Suggested possible uses of  
this data stream:

- Alter Stock Info
- Change model parameters
- Scalars/Magnitude
- Model covariates
- Data inputs to model



# Example #2: Trophic Ecology



E.g., invertebrate fishery  
Consistently sampled  
predator stomachs &  
B/N, & C  
Variance poorly known of  
stomachs, catch  
Decent spatio-temporal  
coverage  
Strongly suggested links to  
life history

Suggested possible uses of  
this data stream:

Context

Change model parameters

Alter other input data to  
model

Alter structure of model

Magnitude checks of  
model outputs/Scalars



# Example #3: Data Poor



Suggested possible uses of this data stream:

Context

Evaluate stock info

Alter other input data

Consider simplifying model structure

E.g., high diversity reef fish  
Inconsistently surveyed B/N;  
Consistent C sampling  
Variance hard to estimate  
Moderate spatio-temporal coverage  
Observed shifts in C & B distribution  
Suspected thermal relationships





# Questions?



# Multispecies considerations in stock assessments: yes we can

Daniel Howell and Sam Subbey

With thanks to

Lary Alade, Eider Andonegi, Höskuldur Björnsson, Bjarte Bogstad, Alida Bundy, Santiago Cerviño, Jonathan Deroba, Daniel Duplisea, Jim Ianelli, Alexander Kempf, Jason Link, Éva Plagányi, Jim Penn, Ross Tallman, Sigurd Tjelmeland, Morten Vinter

# Multispecies considerations in stock assessments: yes we do

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# Background

- General legal requirements around the world to manage and protect “the ecosystem”
- ICES 2013 ASC theme session text
  - “While there has been much recent progress in the understanding of foodweb dynamics in marine ecosystems, the application of this knowledge in marine management is however, still scarce”
- Perception that this is important, but difficult

# Current situation

- We are in a single species assessment world
  - No, not always
- We want to be in the promised land of "ecosystem assessments"
  - No, not necessarily
- But there is a huge gulf between the two
  - No, not really

WRONG

# Current situation

- We are in a single species assessment world
  - No, not always
- Various experimental or exploratory multispecies or ecosystem assessments
  - Environmental drivers
  - Bottom up effects
  - Density dependence
  - Variable predation/M2

# Current situation

- We are in a single species assessment world
  - No, not always
- Various experimental or exploratory multispecies or ecosystem assessments
  - Environmental drivers
  - Bottom up effects
  - Density dependence
  - **Variable predation/M2**

# Current situation: take two

- We are using variable predation mortalities in **assessments within ICES right now**
  - And have been for almost 25 years
  - Currently around a dozen stocks
  - In different ways
  - Use "extra" data to derive M variability
- Barents Sea (cod, capelin), North Sea (cod, whiting, herring), Baltic (herring, sprat), Greendlandic shrimp, Atlantic herring, silver hake, walleye pollock, others?



# Two types of different approaches

- Within model (extended single species)
  - Externally derived predator biomasses and consumption
  - Add to single-species model of the prey species
  - Calculate the predation mortality directly
  - E.g. Barents Sea capelin, Atlantic herring
  
- External
  - Run a multispecies model
  - Extract predation-induced mortalities (M2s)
  - Import these to single species assessments
  - E.g. North Sea, Baltic

# Examples

- Three different examples

- Brief overview

- Techniques (how?)

- Rationale (why?)

# Example 1: Barents Sea Capelin

- Forage fish, industrial fishery, important prey
- Lives for c.3-4 years in the Barents Sea
- Eaten by cod (among others)
- Start to mature in summer
- Survey maturing fish in early autumn
- Swim south to near coast the following spring
- Spawn and die
- Fished en route with an escapement rule
  - 95% chance for SSB>200,000 tonnes

# Example 1: Barents Sea Capelin

- Recognized early in the fishery that **variable** cod predation was critical in stock assessment
- Cod predation is large and variable
  - Have stock assessment of cod
  - Extensive annual time series of cod stomachs
- These are incorporated in the capelin model, which calculates cod-induced predation
  - Including uncertainties
- First done for assessment in 1990

# Example 2: Barents Sea cod

- Cannibalistic
- XSA stock assessment
  - Most cannibalism before the fish enter the fishery
  - Not required in assessment (straight single species)
- BUT:
- HCR requires three year forecasts
  - Cannibalized fish in year 1 are definitely important in the fishery by year 3

# Example 2: Barents Sea cod

- Ad hoc, no requirement for uncertainty
- Take assessment XSA stock (by age)
- Use with stomach content data to get cannibalism by predator and prey age
- Add cannibalism by prey age in to XSA as an extra "fleet"
- Refit XSA to account for this extra fleet
- Iterate to convergence

# Example 3: Baltic

- Similar process conducted in the North Sea
- Cod predate on sprat, herring and young cod
- Important fishery on all three species
- Fishing on one species noticeably impacts the biomass and catch of other species
  - Requires going beyond single species assessments and management

# Example 3: Baltic

- Run a multi-species SMS model key run
  - Every 3 years
- Cod as a predator; cod, herring, sprat as prey
- Fixed prey preferences, variable biomasses
- Identify where **important** interactions occur
- Export smoothed M2 values (for herring and sprat, **not** cod)
- Import to annual single-species assessment models (SAM)



# Strengths/Weaknesses: Within model

- Everything consistent (within same model)
- Gives flexibility
- Easier to validate
- Requires a lot of development and expertise
- Requires good data on predation variability
  - Makes medium term forecasts problematic
- Difficult to generalize

# Strengths/Weaknesses: external

- Extendable, generalized
- Divides out the work
- Allows medium-term forecasts (model biomasses, fix prey preferences)
- Avoids need for frequent stomach datasets
  - For better or worse
- Allows the models to be run seperately
  - For better or worse
- Moving M2s between models problematic

# How is this different from "full" multispecies assessments?

- Can capture (some) key pressures
- Only unidirectional effects
  - limits the degree of feedback and interactions
- Allows use by single-species modelling experts

# Stepping stone to integrated multispecies assessments?

- Maybe, maybe not
- Valuable in and of itself
  - Not clear that “integrated” assessments should be the general goal
- Leading to developing competence in extending single-species assessment models
  - But still large amount of competence in single species models, much less in multispecies ones

# Thoughts on the way forward

- This is already "the norm" for some stocks
- Do what is required (stock, management)
- Key is to use appropriate levels of complexity
  - M2 variability may be minor, or it can be critical
  - Data may be available or absent
  - Management requirements (uncertainties, HCRs,...)
  - One size does not fit all
- Needs underlying data
  - It is *variability* that matters here
  - Regular (stomach) data to capture variability

# Catch-quota balancing regulations in the Icelandic multi-species demersal fishery: are they useful for advancing an ecosystem approach to fisheries?

Presented at WCSAM 18. July 2013

**Pamela J. Woods<sup>1,2</sup>, Dan S. Holland<sup>3</sup>, André Punt<sup>2</sup>, and Guðrún Marteinsdóttir<sup>1</sup>**

<sup>1</sup> Faculty of Life and Environmental Sciences, University of Iceland

<sup>2</sup> School of Aquatic and Fishery Sciences, University of Washington

<sup>3</sup> Northwest Fisheries Science Center, NOAA



# Catch-quota balancing mechanisms

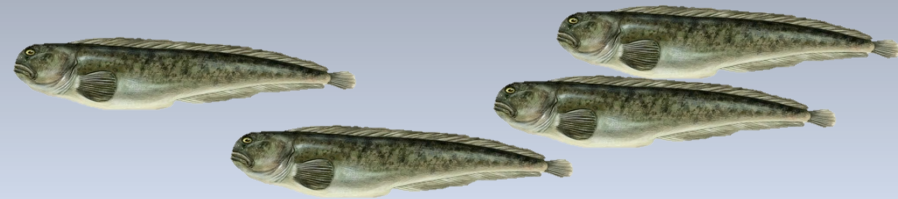
(Sanchirico et al. 2006)



- ∞ trade (permanent or temporary)
- ∞ between-year transfers
- ∞ species transformations
- ∞ quota baskets
- ∞ deemed value fees
- ∞ surrender
- ∞ [discarding]

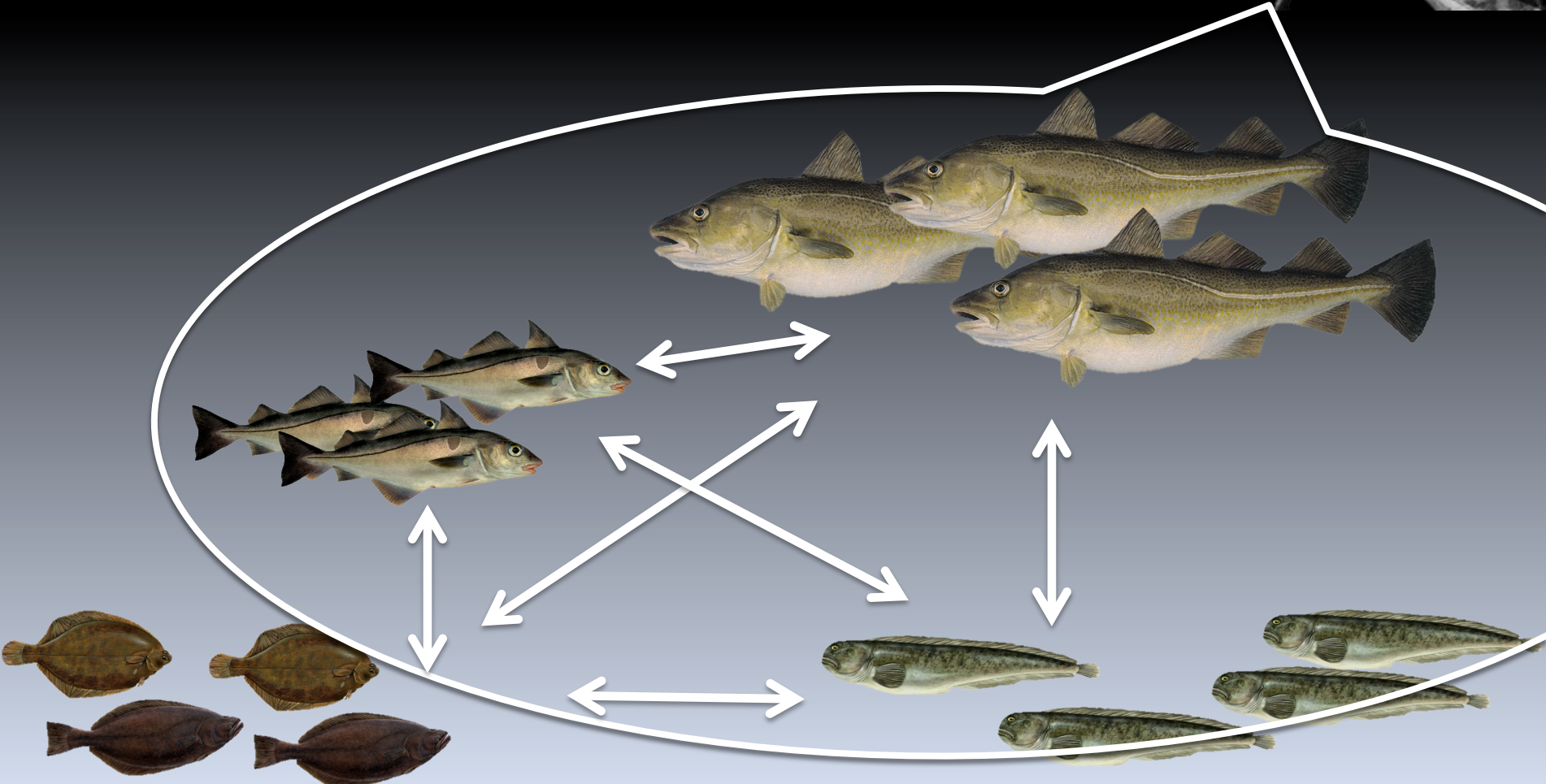


# Ecosystem?





# Ecosystem?



# Catch-quota balancing mechanisms

(Sanchirico et al. 2006)



- ∞ trade (permanent or temporary)
- ∞ between-year transfers
- ∞ species transformations
- ∞ quota baskets
- ∞ deemed value fees
- ∞ surrender
- ∞ [discarding]



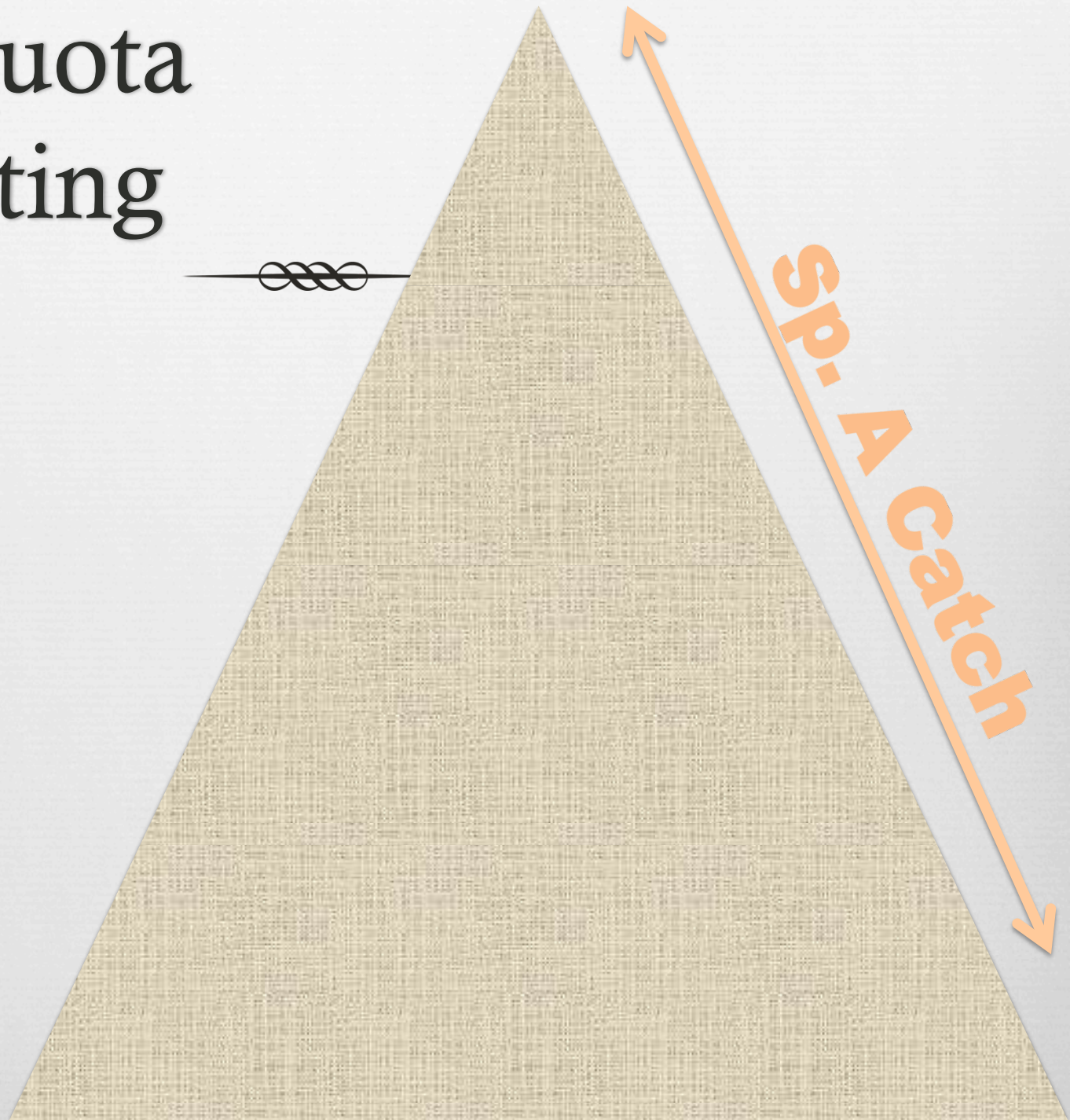
# Iceland as a case study



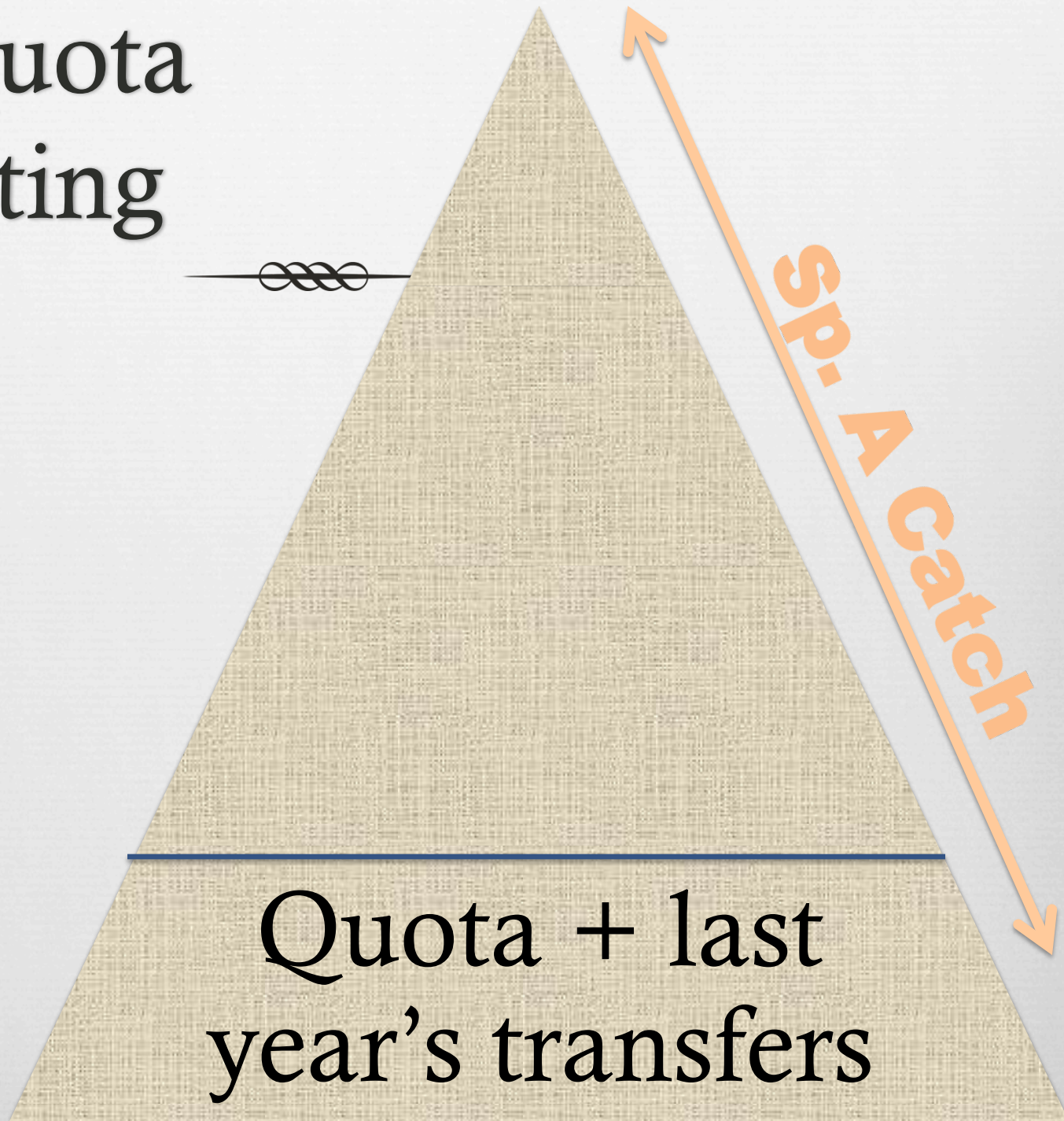
- ∞ Virtually all managed demersal spp. (& some non-demersal) included in system.
- ∞ Rules have been in place for a long time (~20 yrs) and alongside trade and between-year transfers.
- ∞ All fleets managed together (generally).
- ∞ Discards illegal.
- ∞ Industry likes them.
- ∞ Automatic and subject to limitations.



# Catch-quota accounting



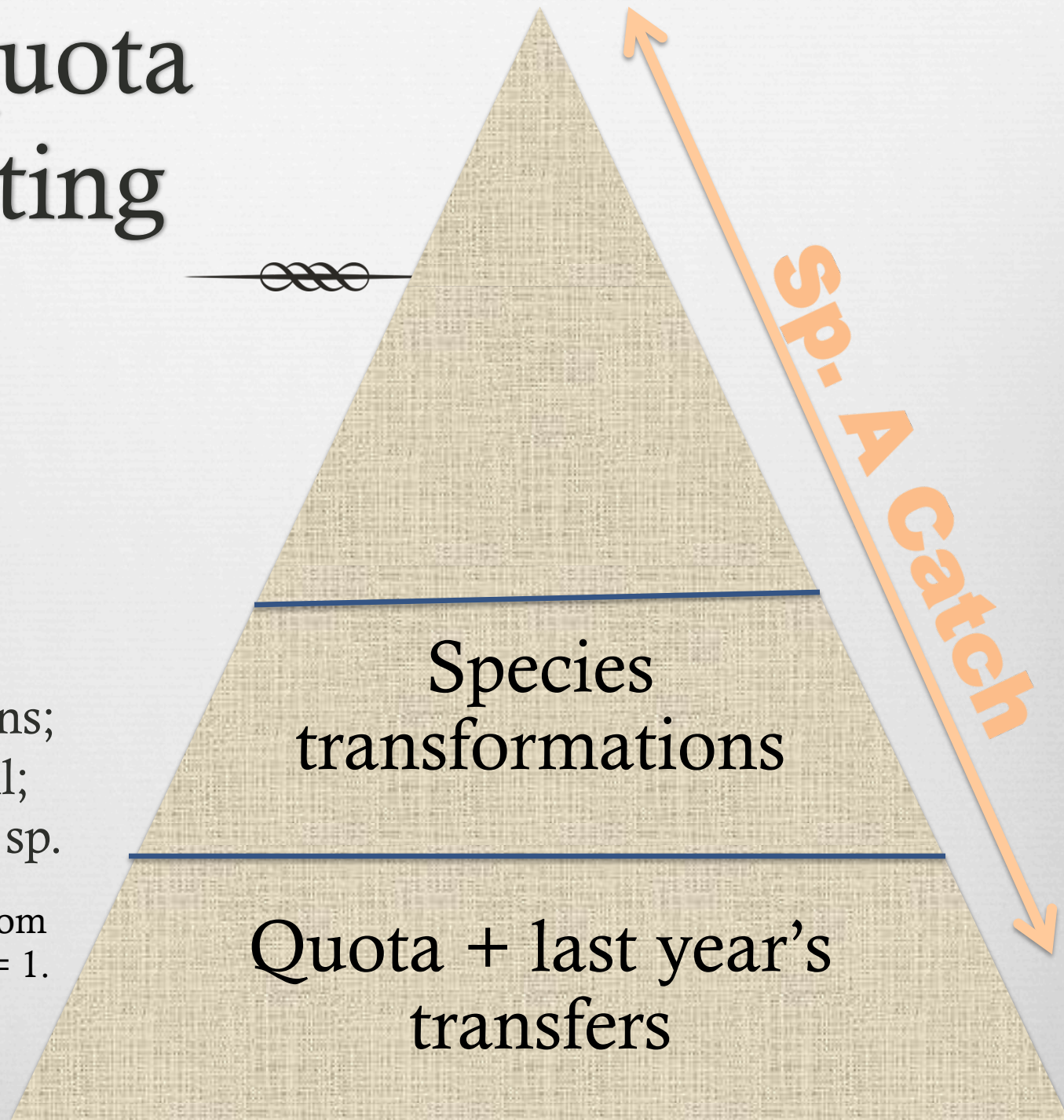
# Catch-quota accounting



# Catch-quota accounting

☞ C.E. conversions;  
5% total overall;  
1.5% total to a sp.

Cod are excluded from  
system, set as base = 1.



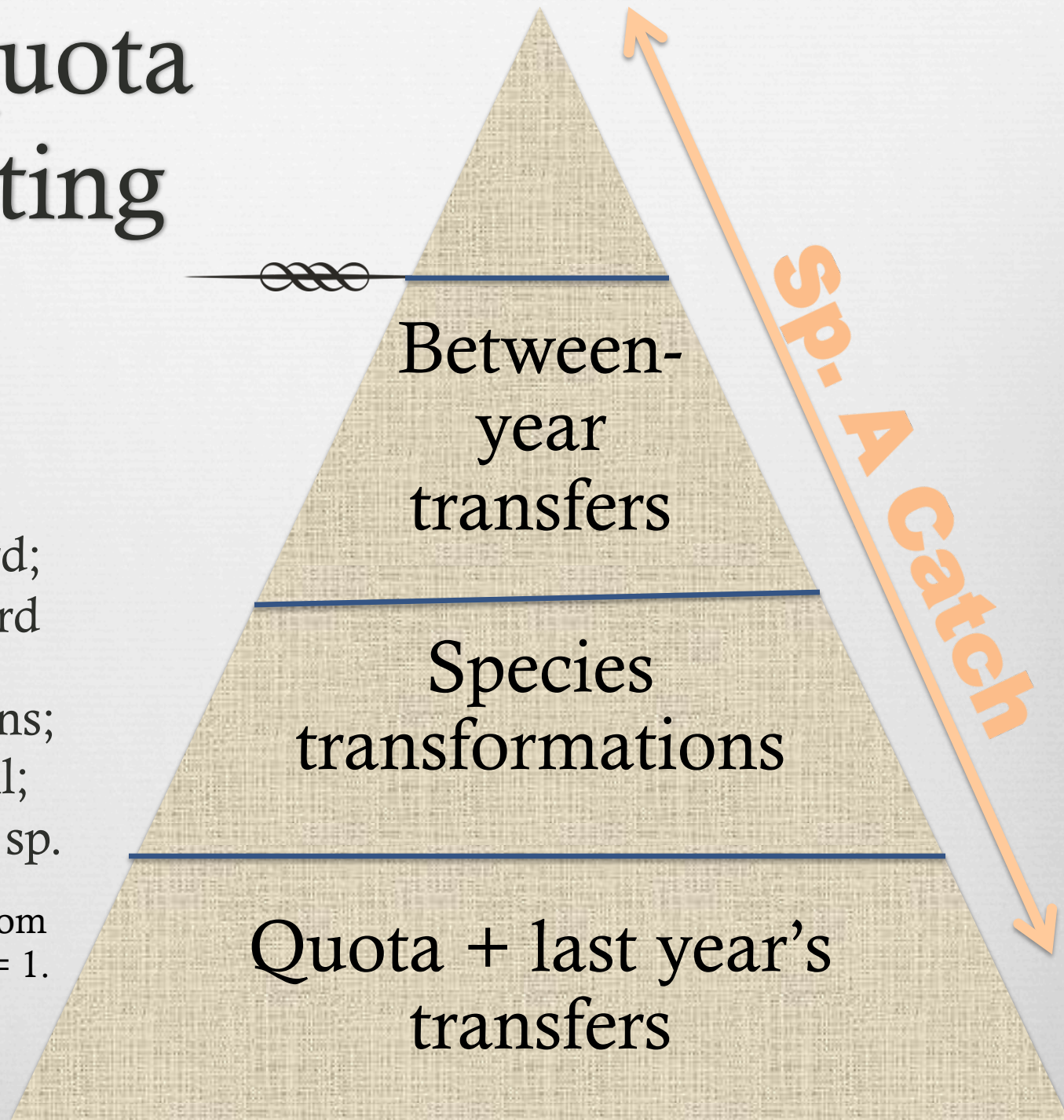
Quota + last year's  
transfers

Species  
transformations

# Catch-quota accounting

- ∞ 15% sp. forward;  
5% sp. backward
- ∞ C.E. conversions;  
5% total overall;  
1.5% total to a sp.

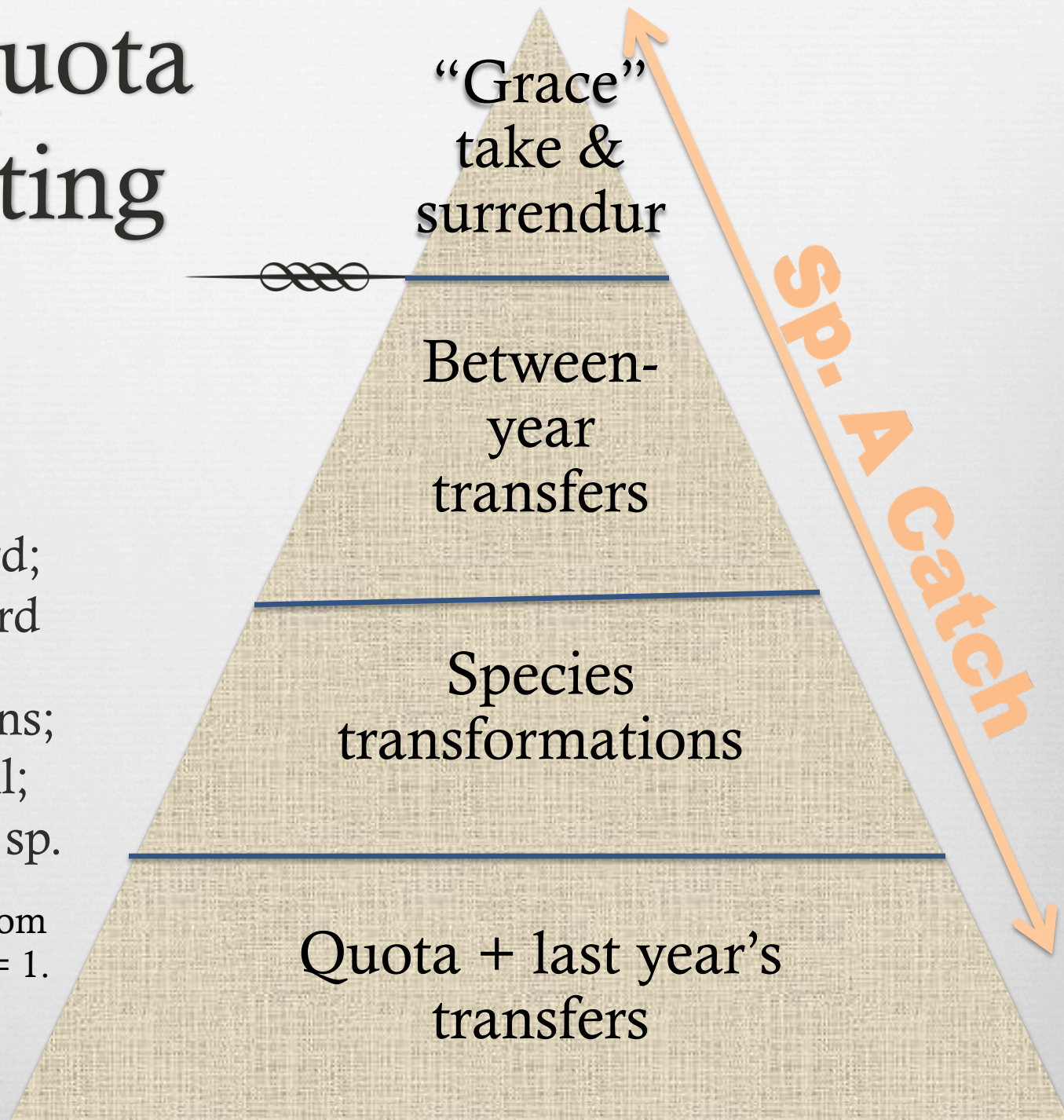
Cod are excluded from system, set as base = 1.



# Catch-quota accounting

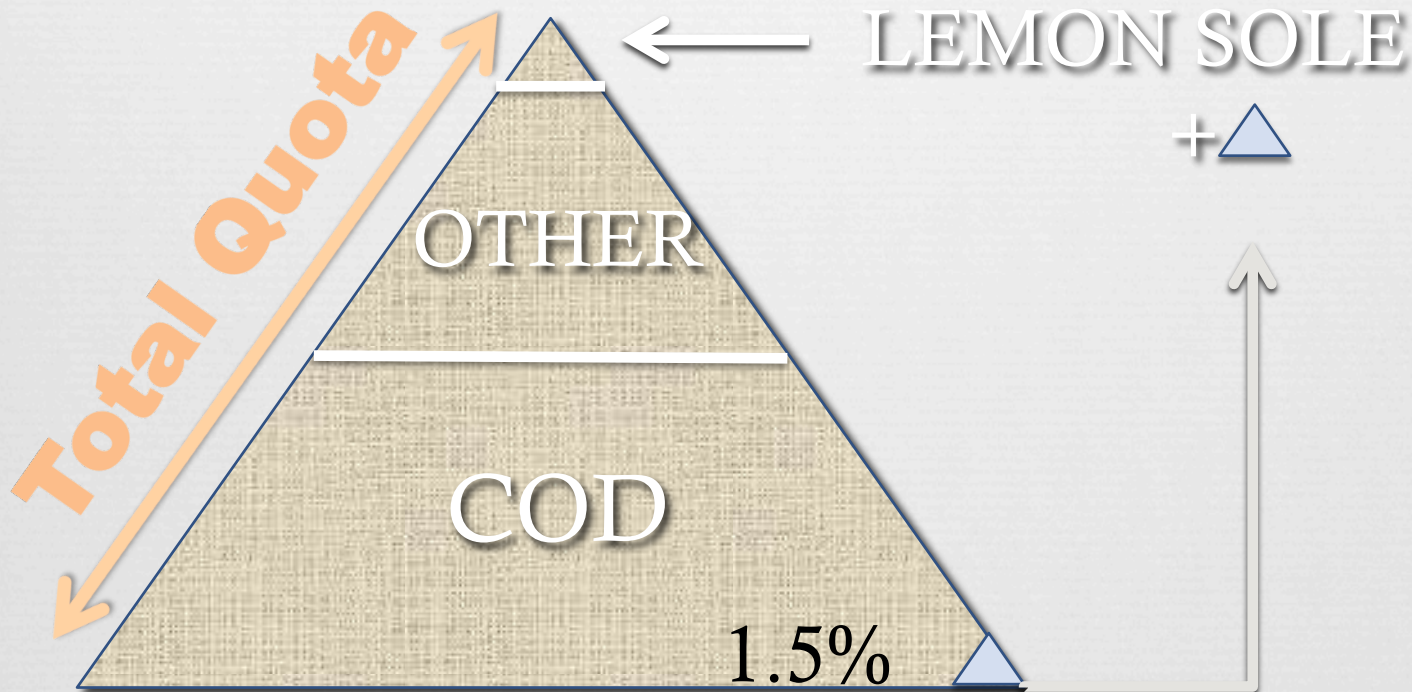
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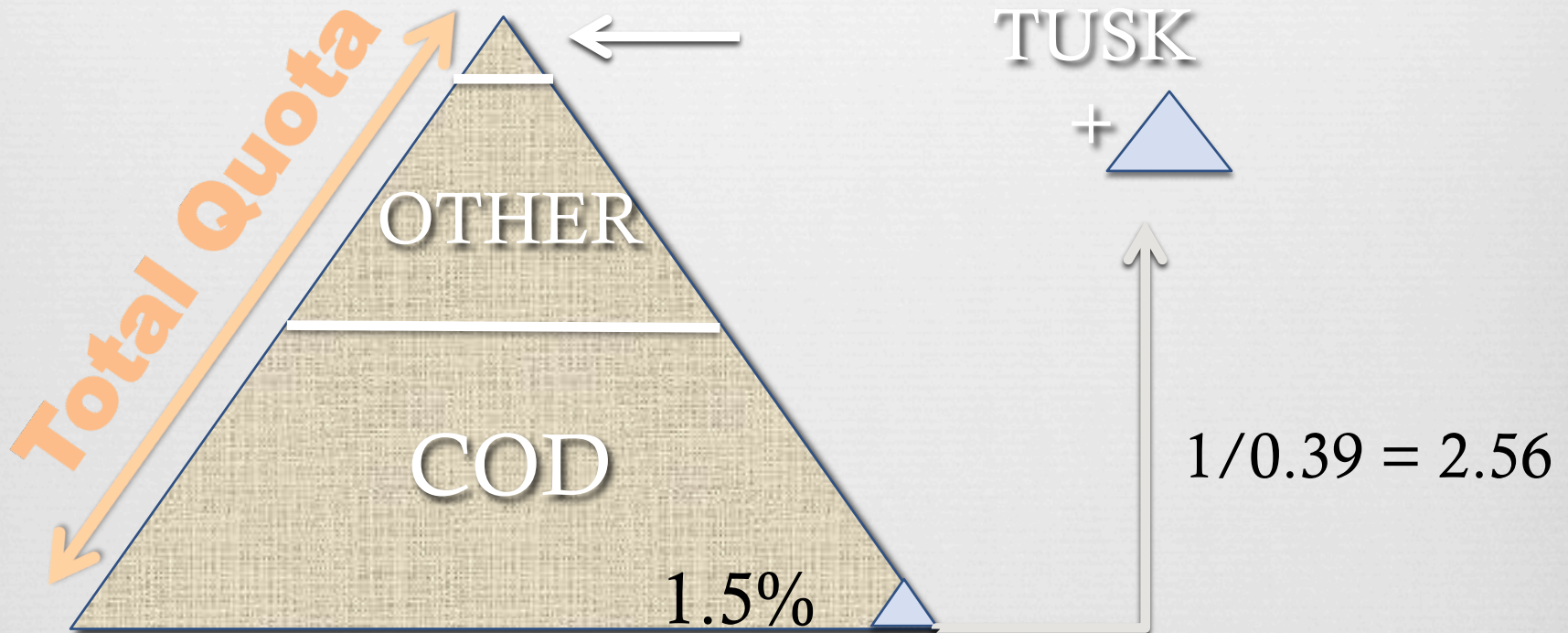




# Some potential problems: abundance imbalance



# Some potential problems: value imbalance



# Goal of this study



Use multi-spp. bioeconomic model to analyze how short-term profit-maximizing behavior affects long-term sustainability & profitability.



# What explains today's fishing patterns?



- ❧ Joint production & fixed ratios among catches: unavoidable bycatch



# What explains today's fishing patterns?



❧ Joint production & fixed ratios among catches: unavoidable bycatch

❧ Independent production: no bycatch



# What explains today's fishing patterns?



❧ Joint production & fixed ratios among catches: unavoidable bycatch

❧ Independent production: no bycatch

**Reality lies somewhere in-between**



# What explains today's fishing patterns?



⌘ Joint production & fixed ratios among catches: unavoidable bycatch

⌘ Independent production: no bycatch

**Reality lies somewhere in-between**



# Model attributes

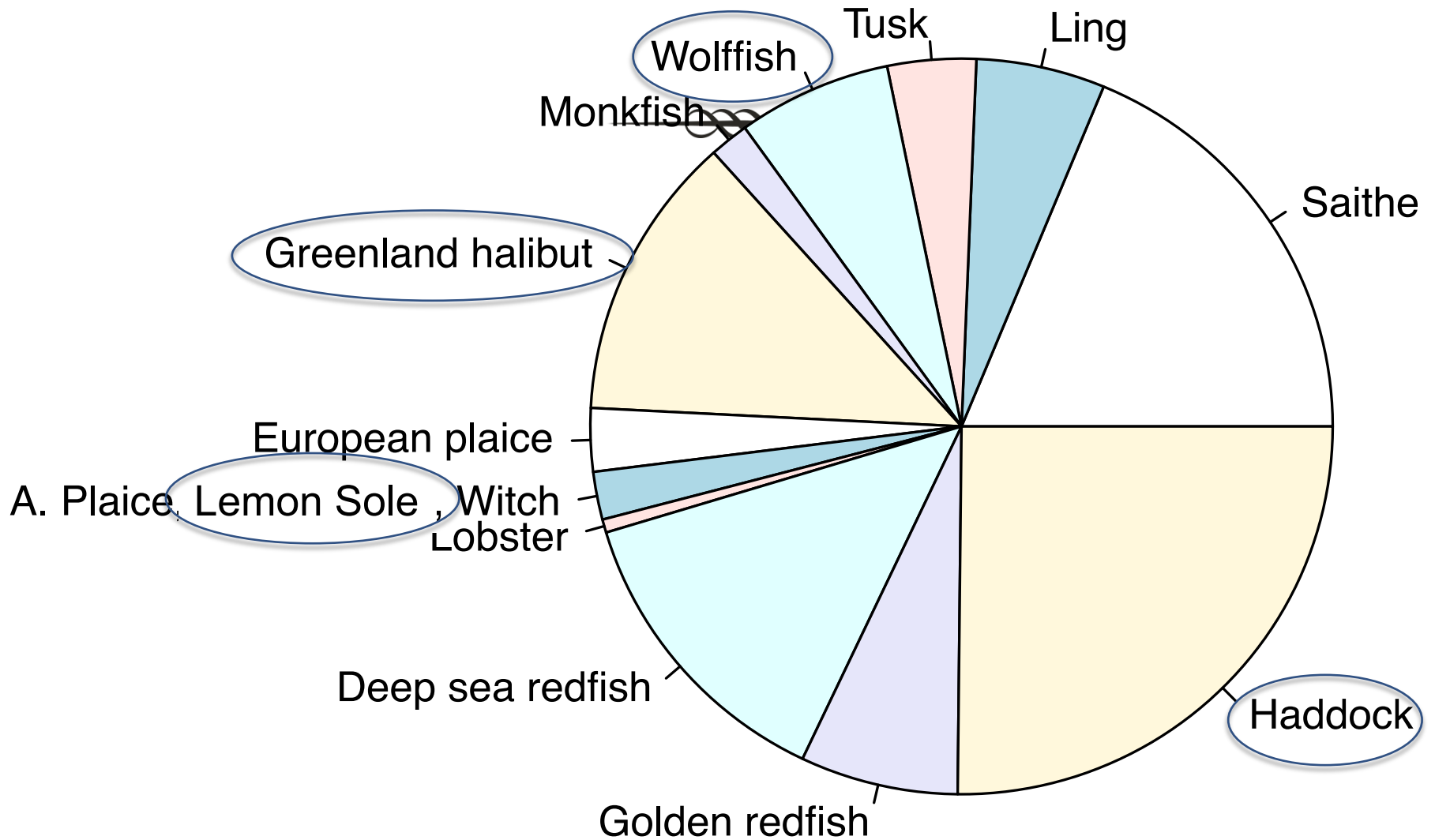


∞ Age-structured models for 5 species.





# Landings in Iceland



# Model attributes



∞ Age-structured models for 5 species.



# Model attributes



- ∞ Age-structured models for 5 species.
- ∞ Industry is the single user.



# Model attributes



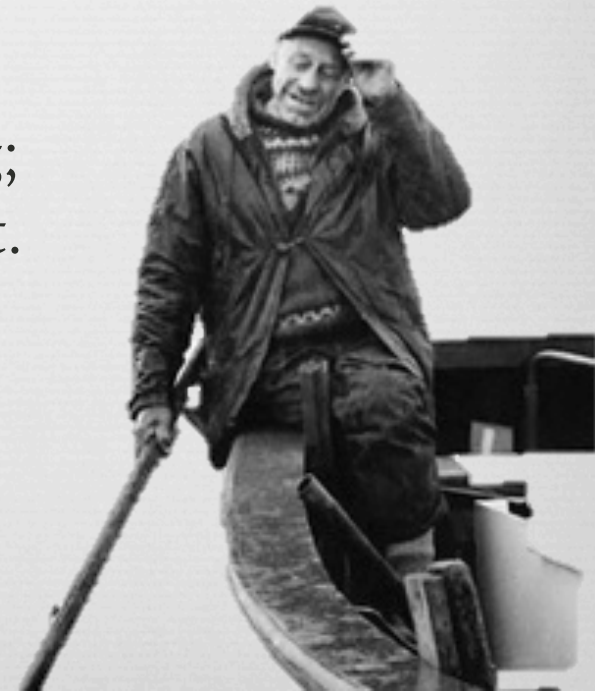
- ∞ Age-structured models for 5 species.
- ∞ Industry is the single user.
- ∞ Cost linearly increases with the sum of effort over all species.



# Model attributes



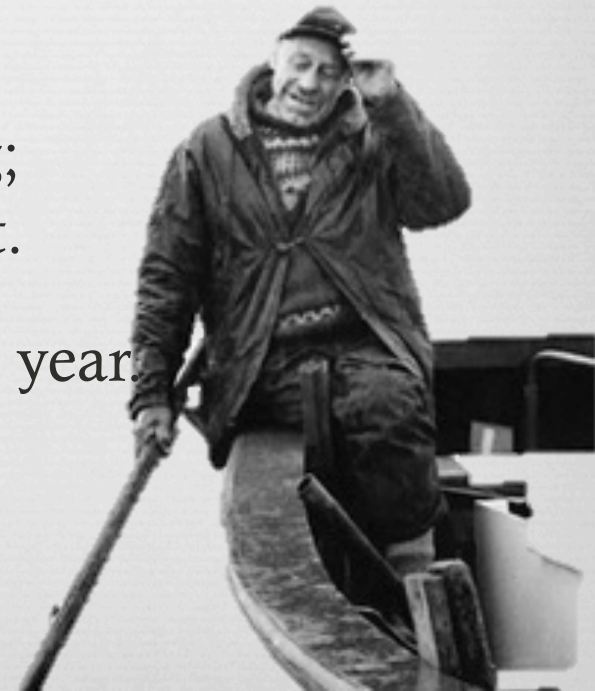
- ∞ Age-structured models for 5 species.
- ∞ Industry is the single user.
- ∞ Cost linearly increases with the sum of effort over all species.
- ∞ TACs based on  $F_{MSY}$  and are not binding; penalties invoked when catch surpasses it.



# Model attributes



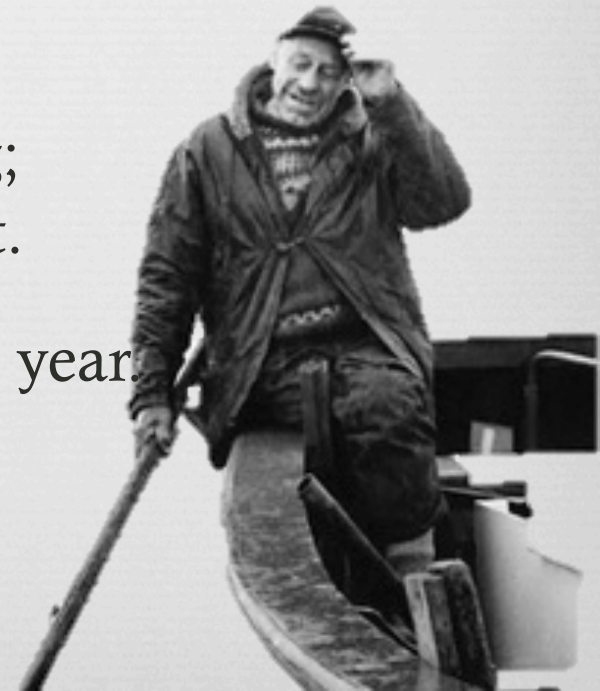
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- ∞ Effort optimized to maximize profit each year.  
Profit = Revenue – Cost – Penalties.



# Model attributes



- ∞ Age-structured models for 5 species.
- ∞ Industry is the single user.
- ∞ Cost linearly increases with the sum of effort over all species.
- ∞ TACs based on  $F_{MSY}$  and are not binding; penalties invoked when catch surpasses it.
- ∞ Effort optimized to maximize profit each year.  
Profit = Revenue – Cost – Penalties.
- ∞ Deterministic.



# How are species catches related in the model?



**LINKED:**    ∞ Cost per unit effort.  
                  ∞ Relative catchability.

**NOT  
LINKED:**





# How are species catches related in the model?



- LINKED:**
- ∞ Cost per unit effort.
  - ∞ Relative catchability.
  - ∞ Penalties. (Species transformation accounting)

**NOT  
LINKED:**



# How are species catches related in the model?



## LINKED:

- ∞ Cost per unit effort.
- ∞ Relative catchability.
- ∞ Penalties. (Species transformation accounting)
- ∞ Ecologically.

## NOT

## LINKED:

- ∞ Spatially.
- ∞ Socially (e.g., catch share distributions)

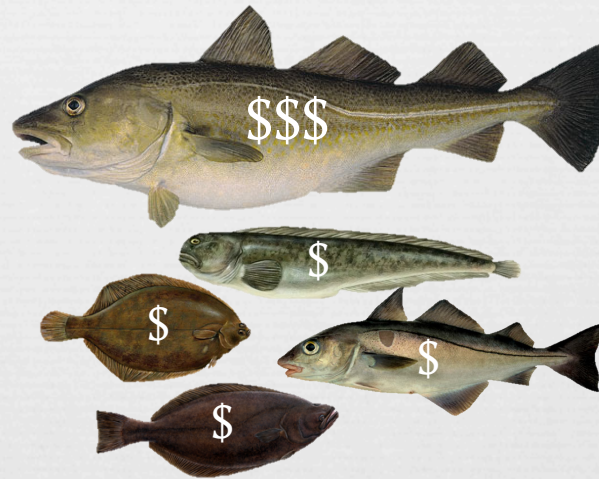


# Thought experiment

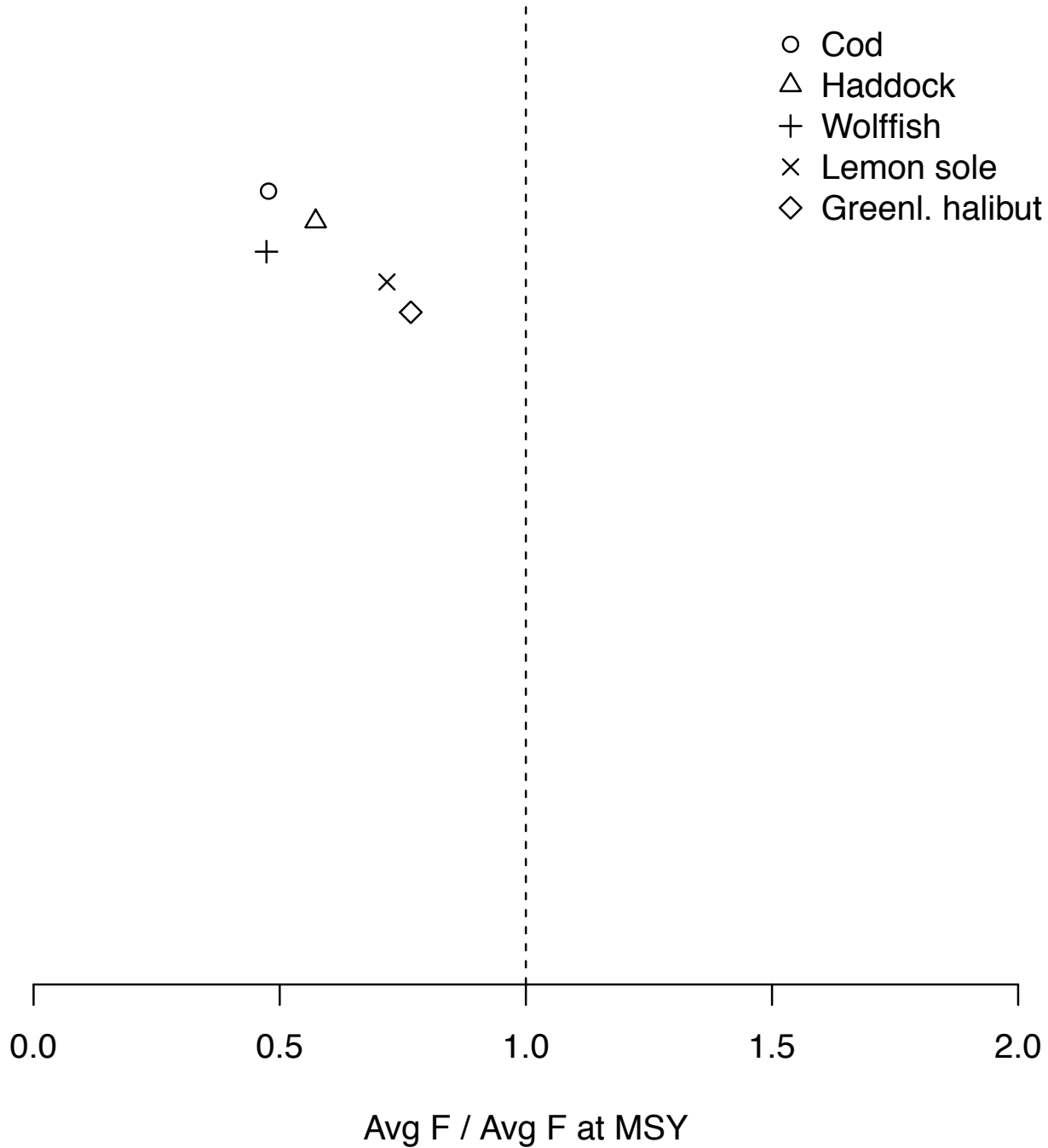


What is the long-term profitability when:

1. Catchability set so revenue / effort is equal among all species but cod.

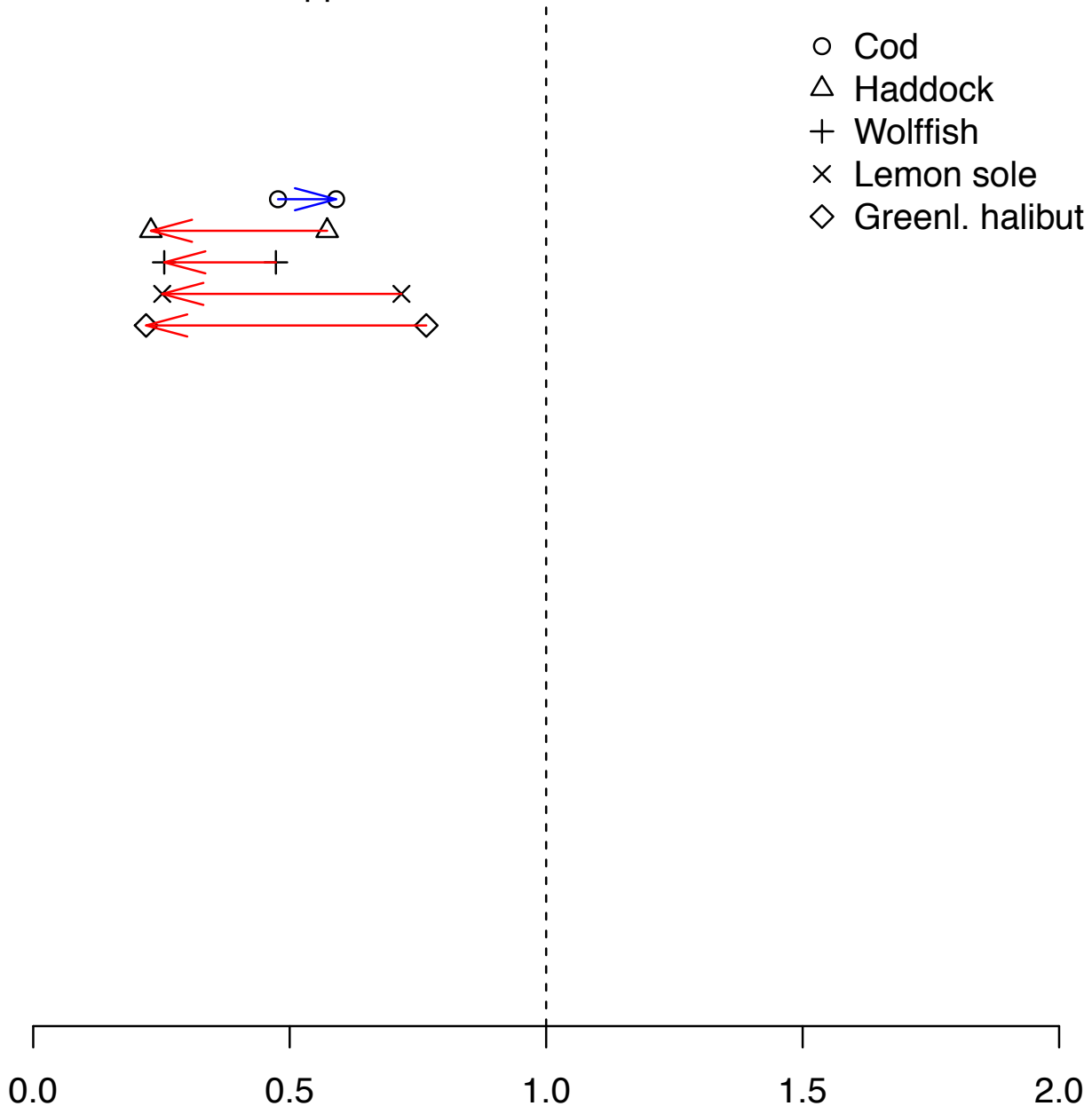


# Individual MEY



# Individual to Multi\_spp. MEY

- Cod
- △ Haddock
- + Wolffish
- × Lemon sole
- ◇ Greenl. halibut



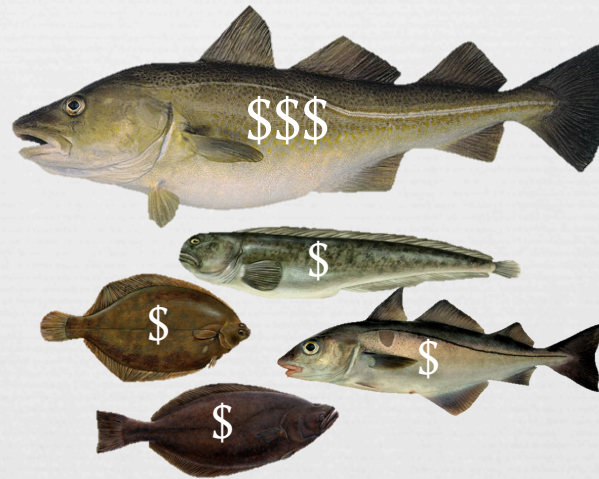
Avg F / Avg F at MSY

# Thought experiment



What is the long-term profitability when:

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# Thought experiment

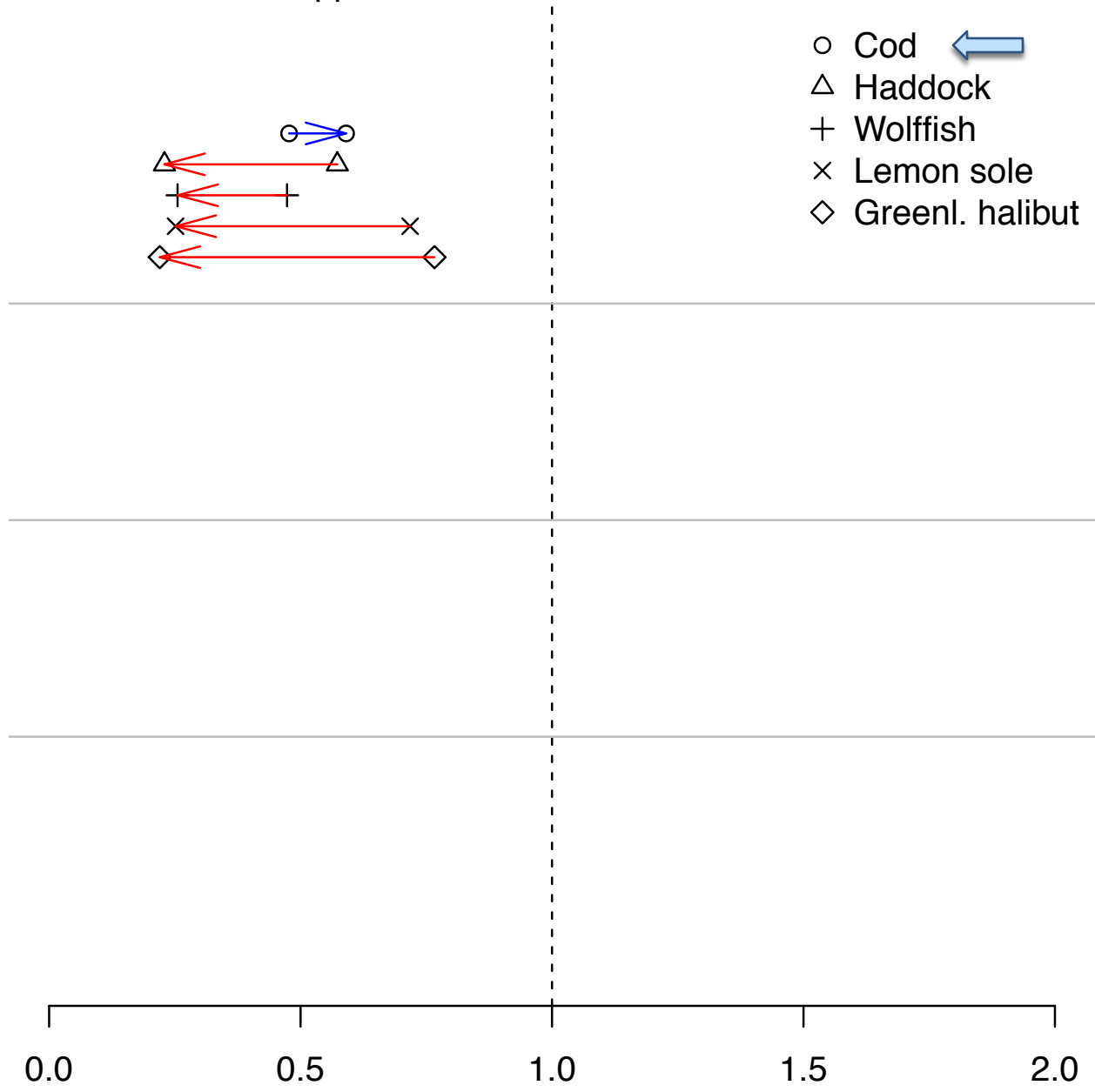


What is the long-term profitability when:

1. Catchability set so revenue / effort is equal among all species but cod.
2. Increase catchability so that revenue / effort is high for each species.



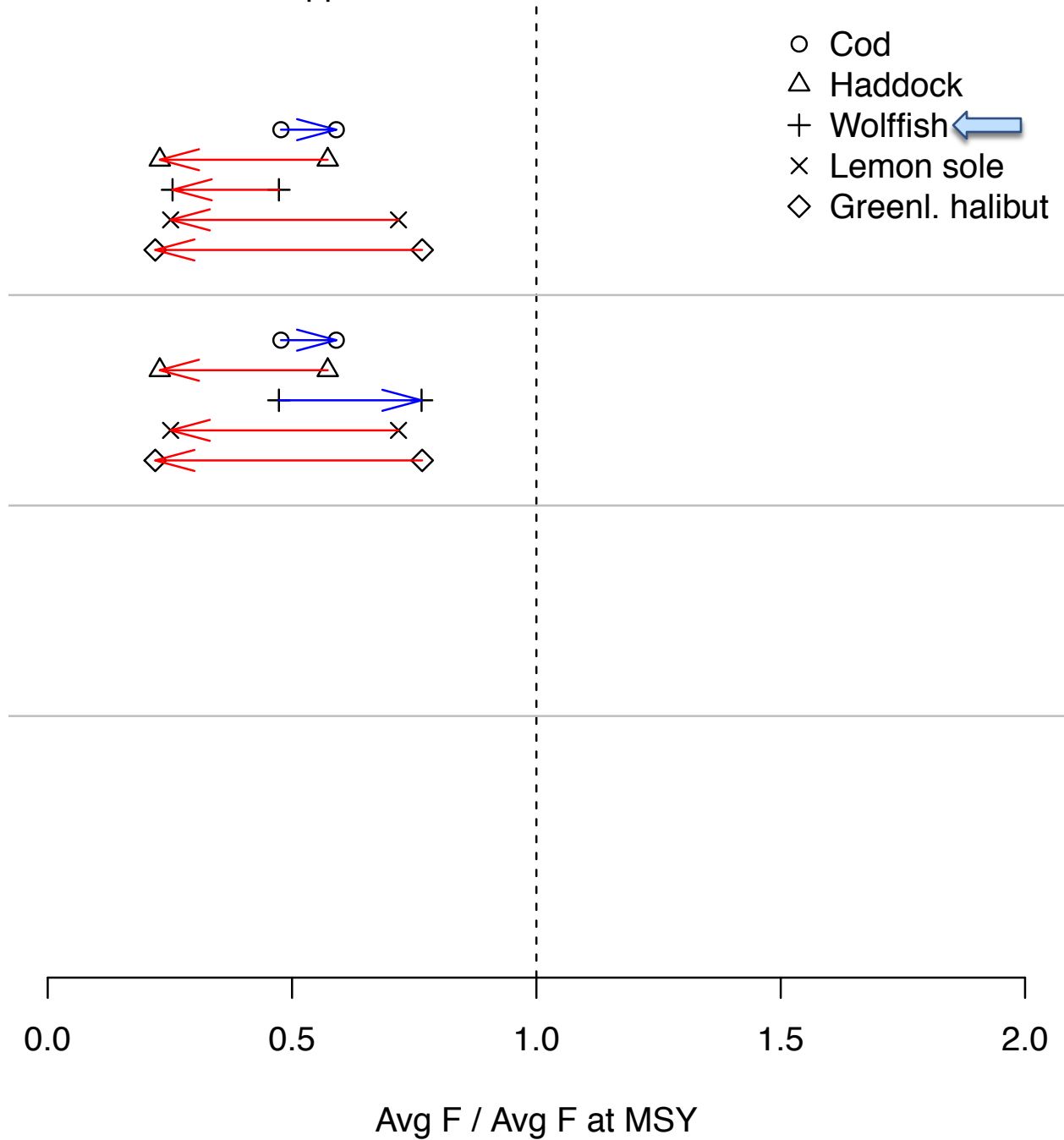
Individual to Multi\_spp. MEY



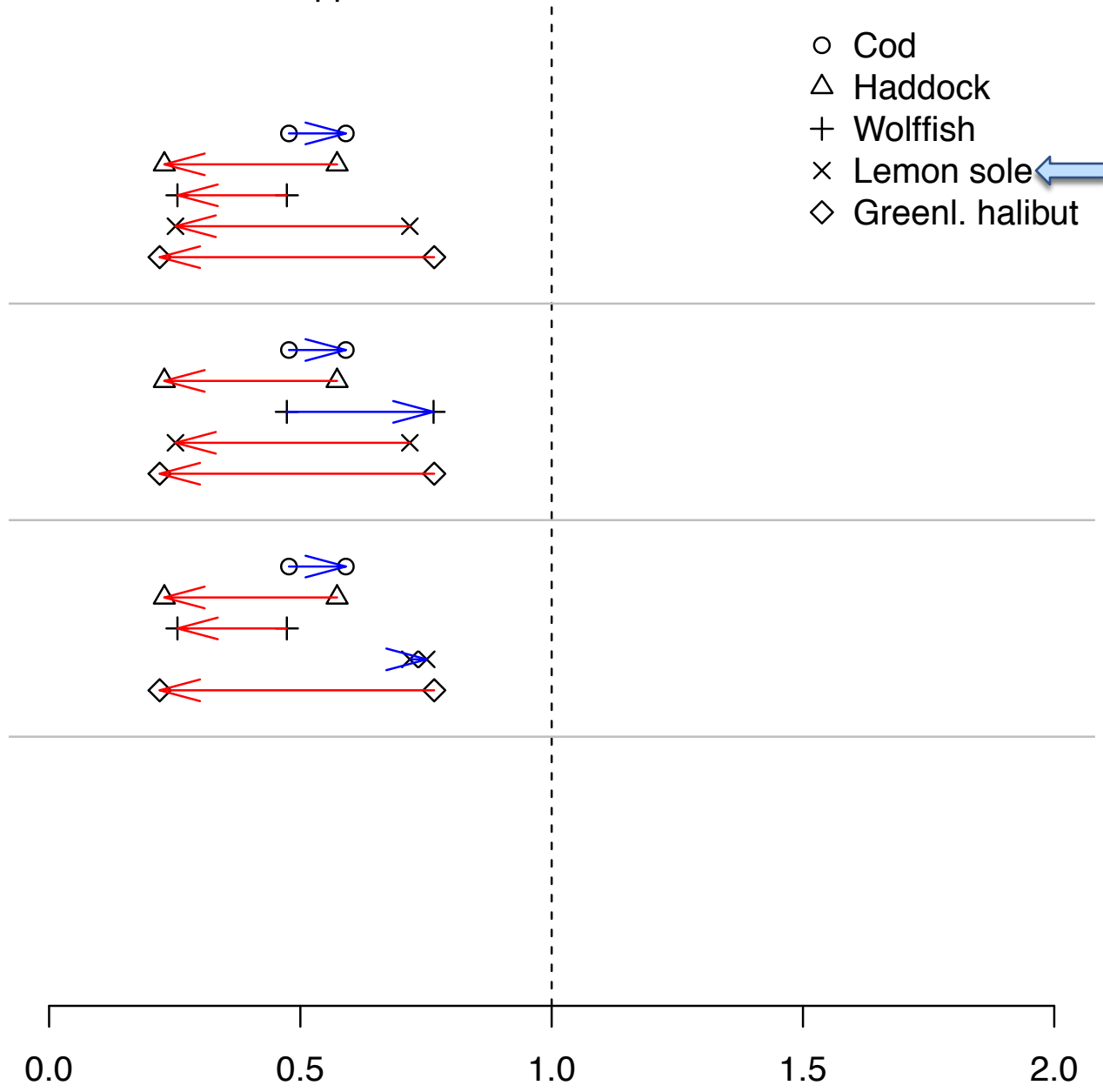
Avg F / Avg F at MSY



# Individual to Multi\_spp. MEY

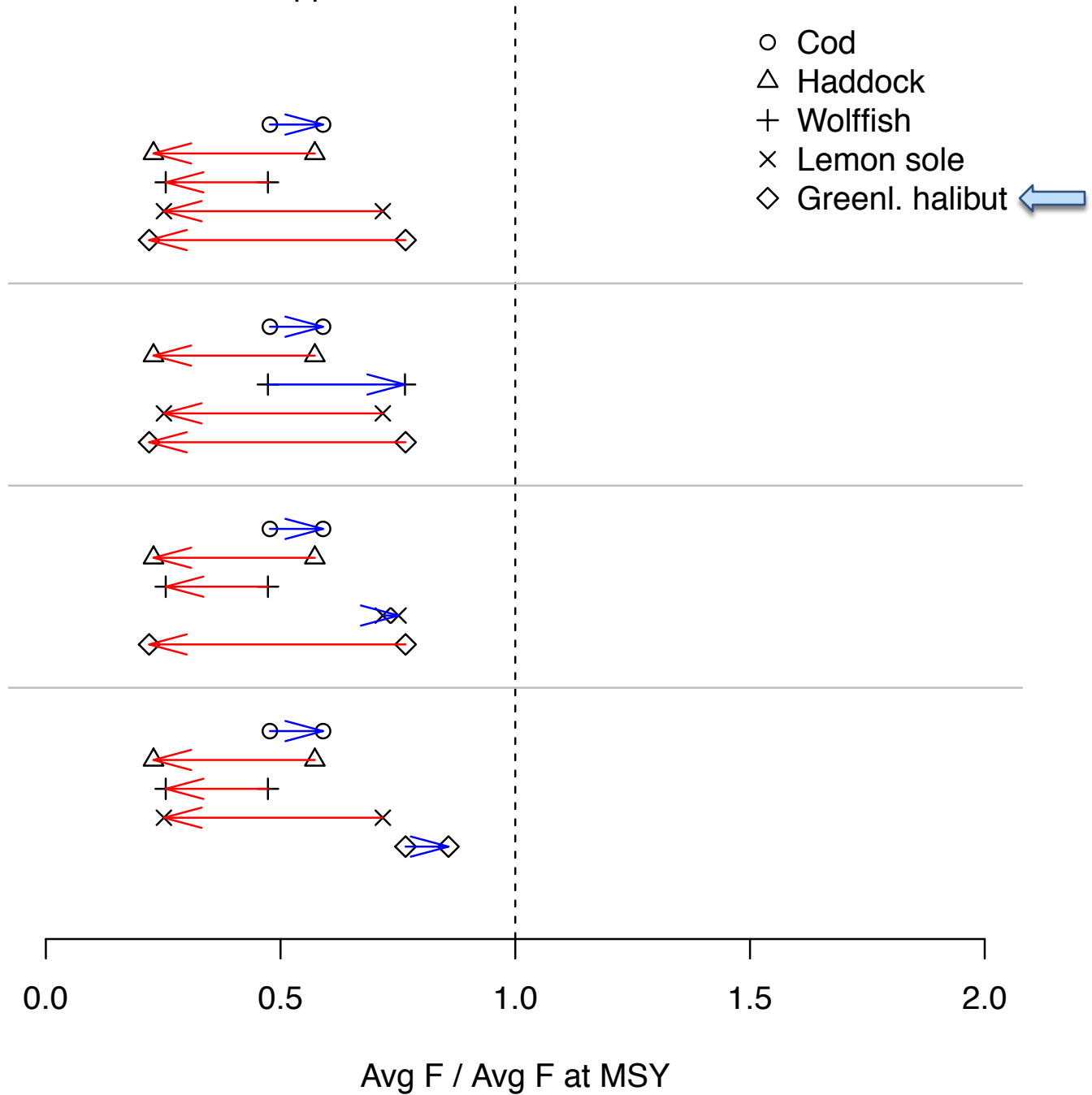


# Individual to Multi\_spp. MEY



Avg F / Avg F at MSY

# Individual to Multi\_spp. MEY



# Thought experiment

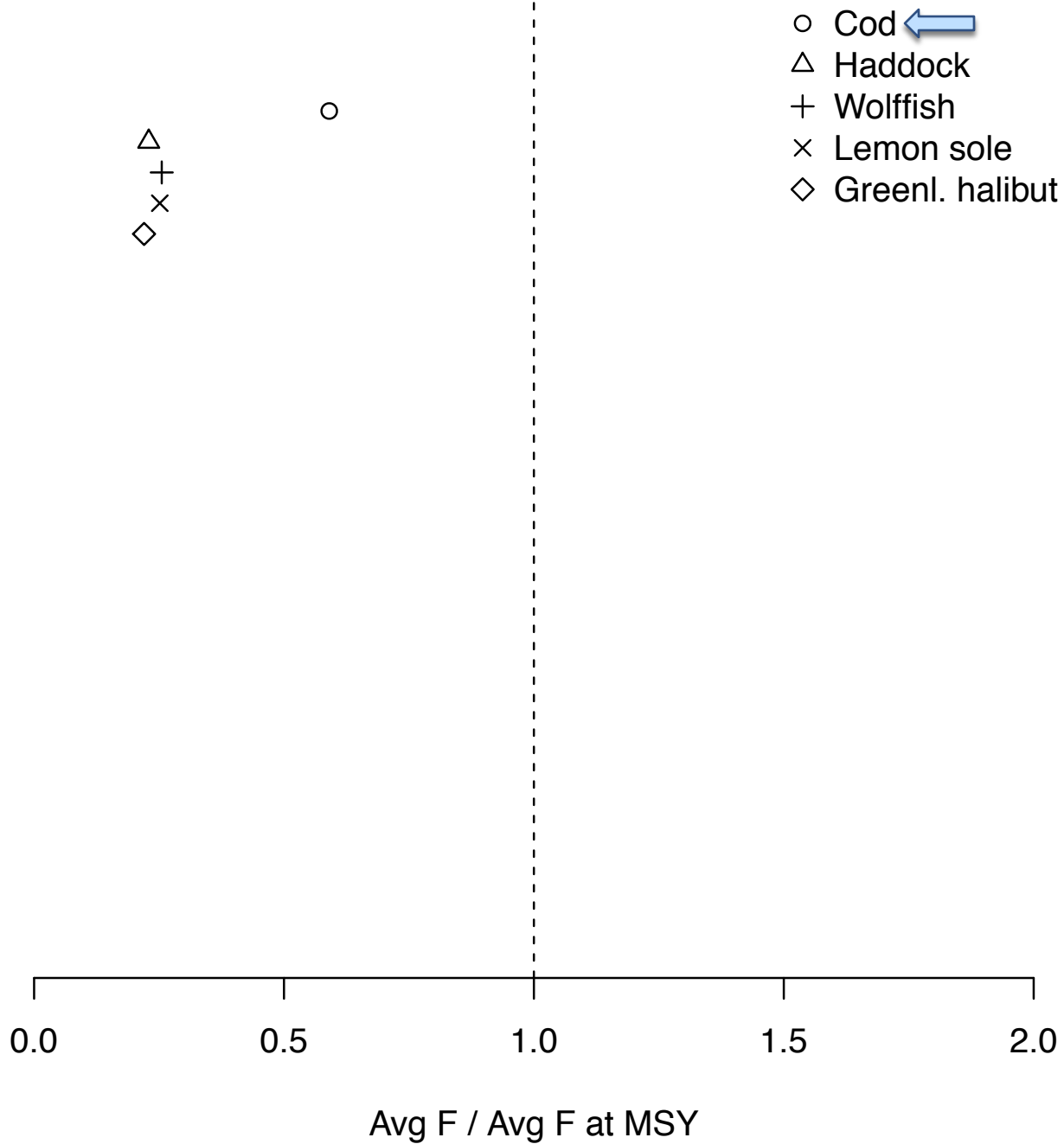


How do results from long-term profitability compare with an assumption of annual short-term profit maximizing behavior?

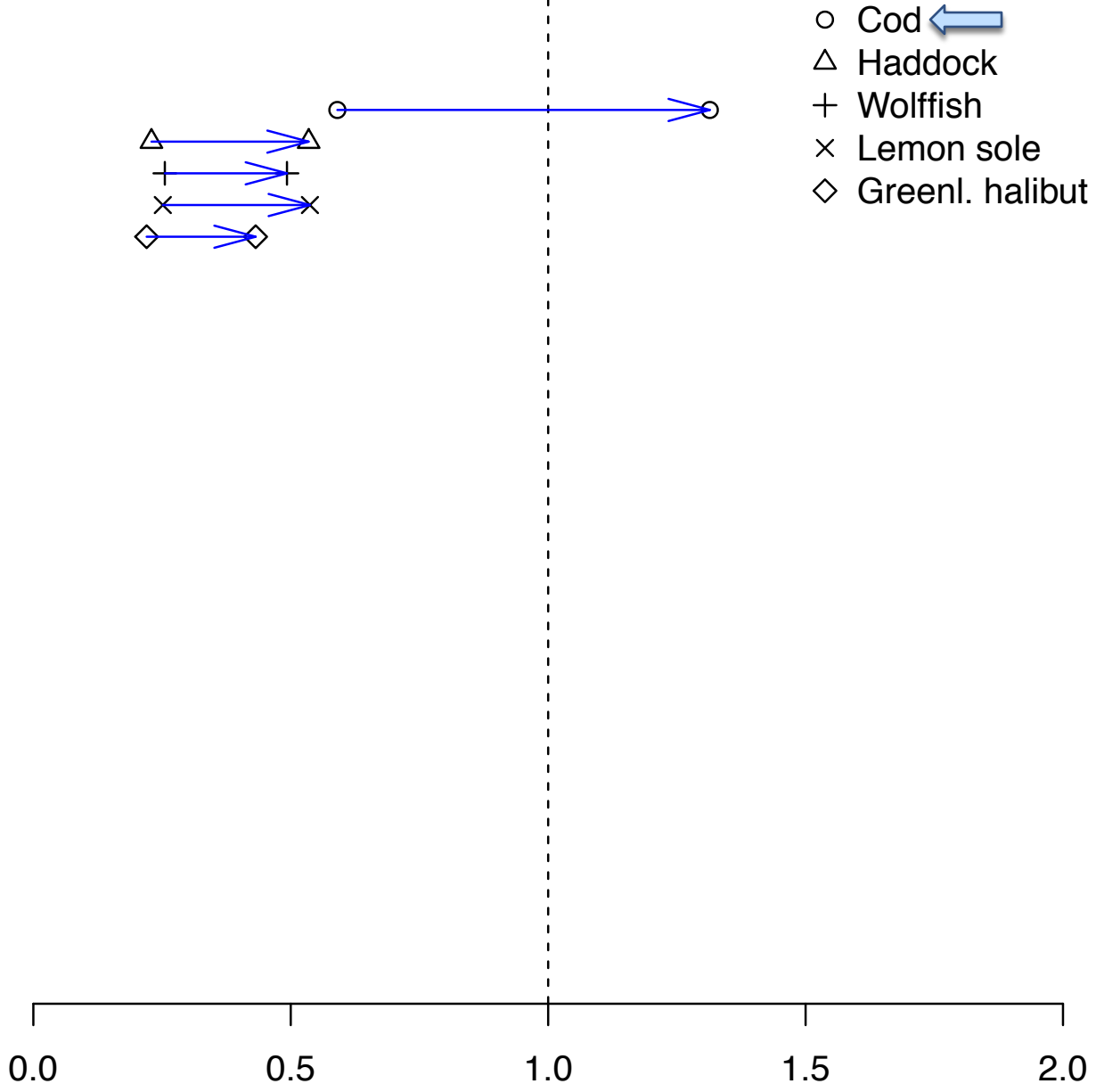
With and without species transformations implemented?



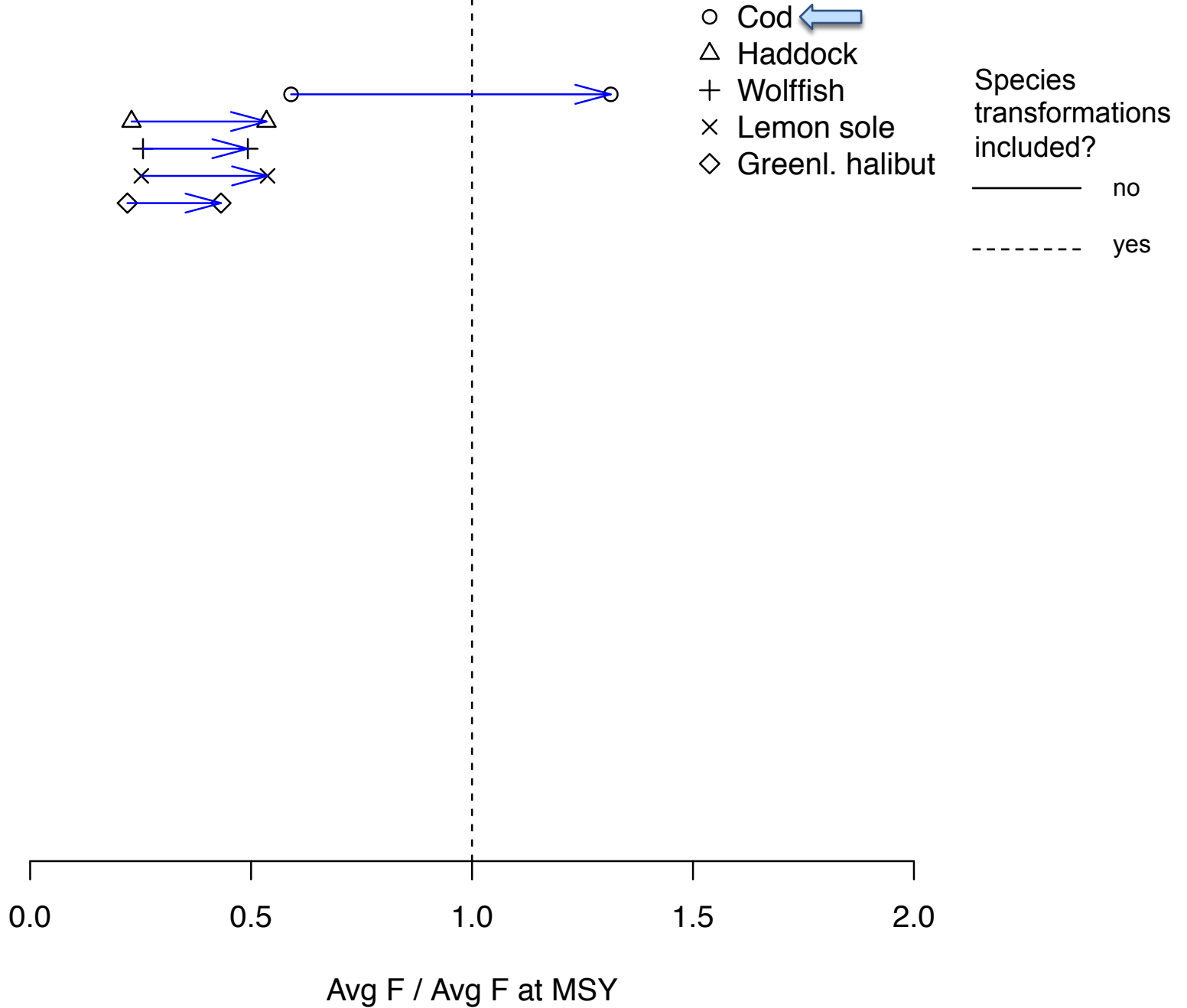
Multi\_spp. MEY to Short-term profit maximization x 60 years



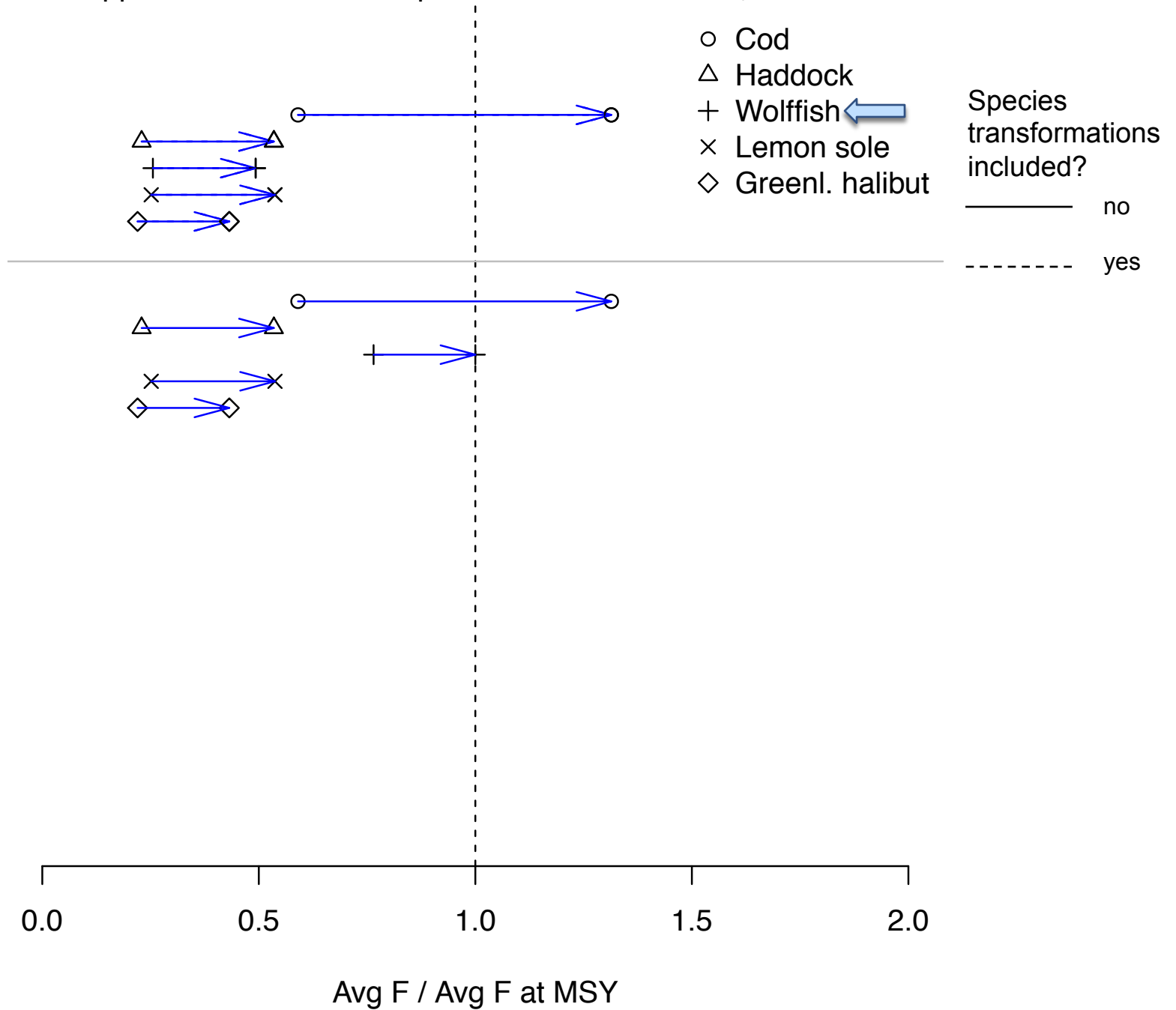
Multi\_spp. MEY to Short-term profit maximization x 60 years



Multi\_spp. MEY to Short-term profit maximization x 60 years

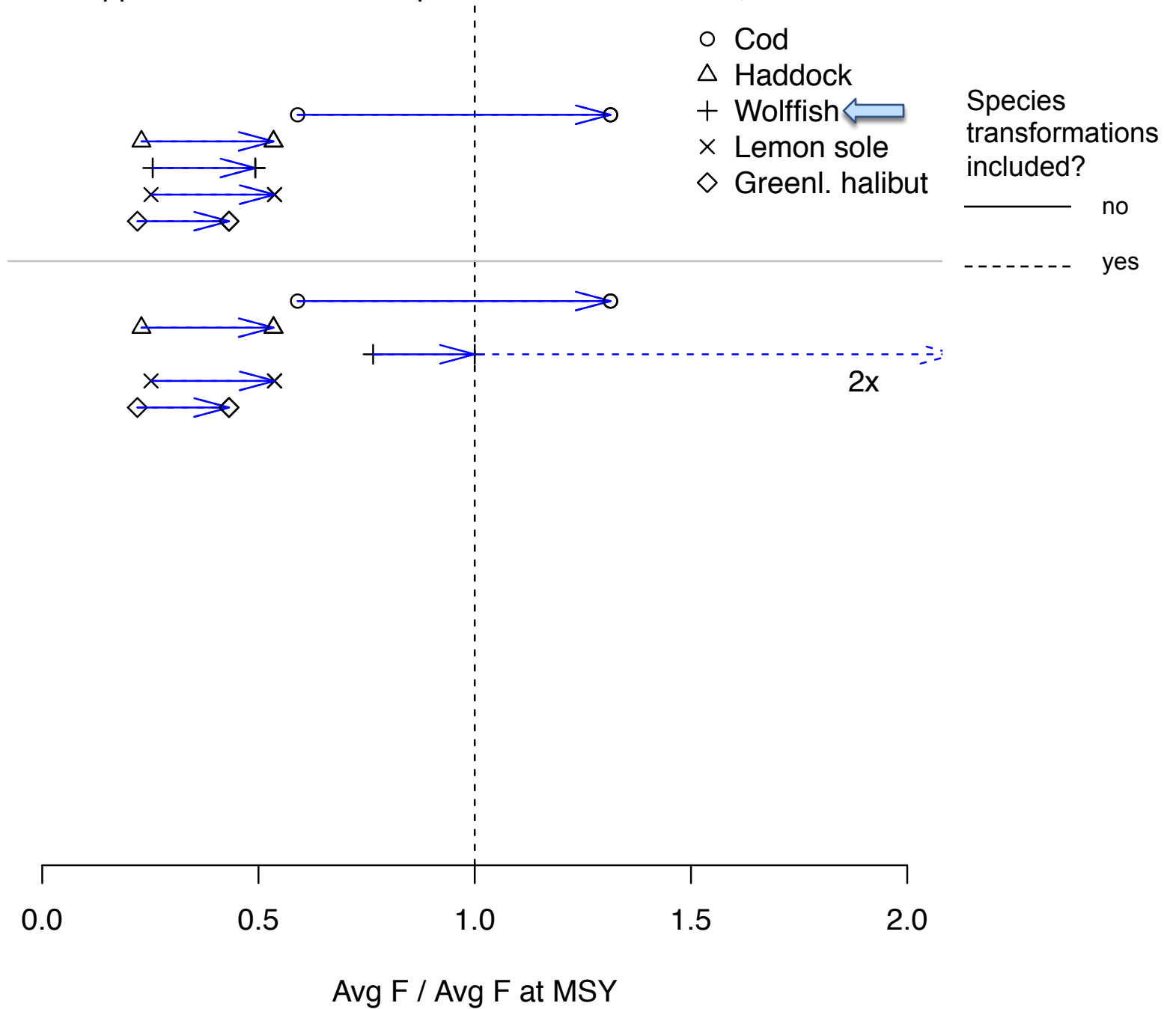


Multi\_spp. MEY to Short-term profit maximization x 60 years

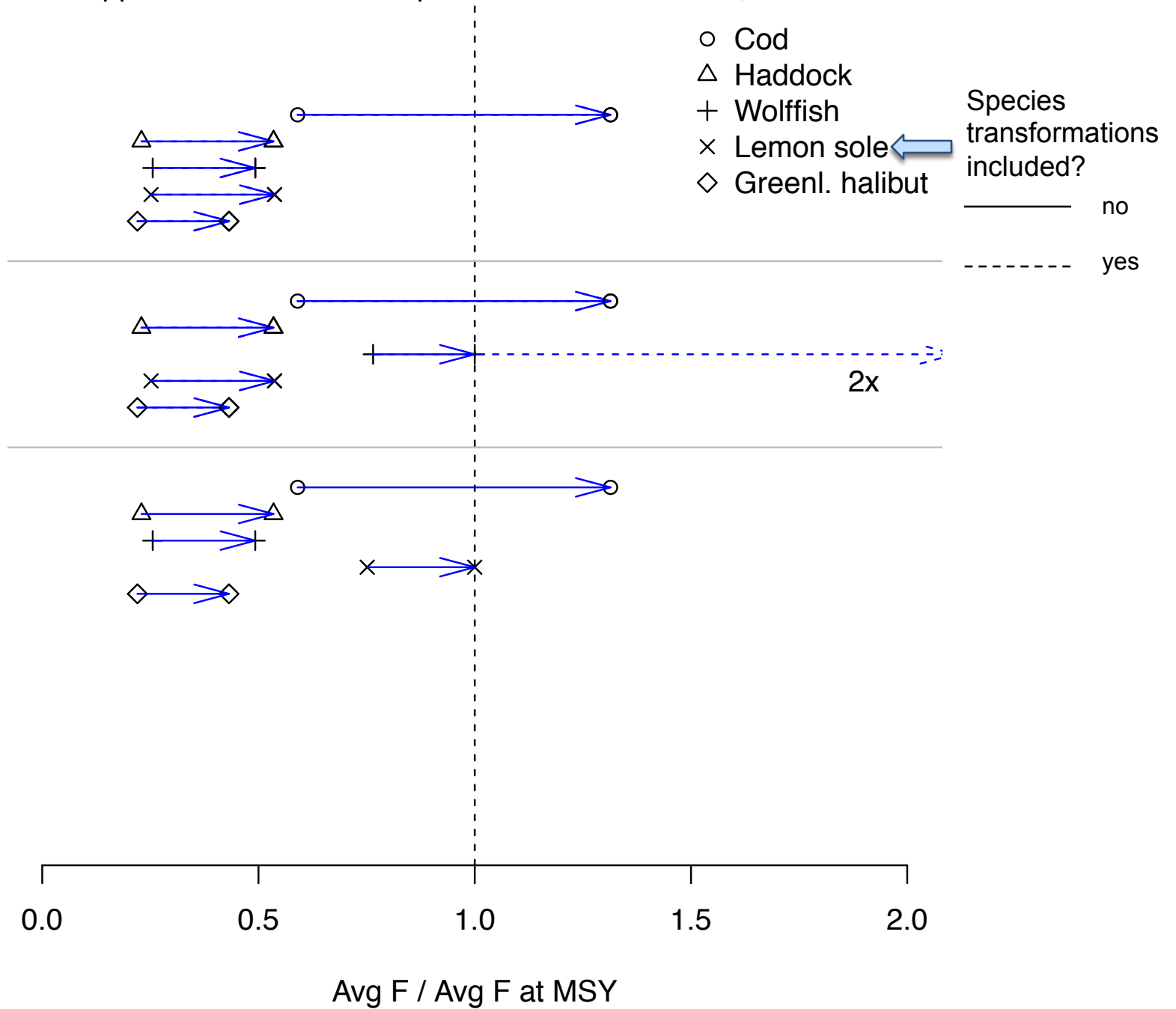




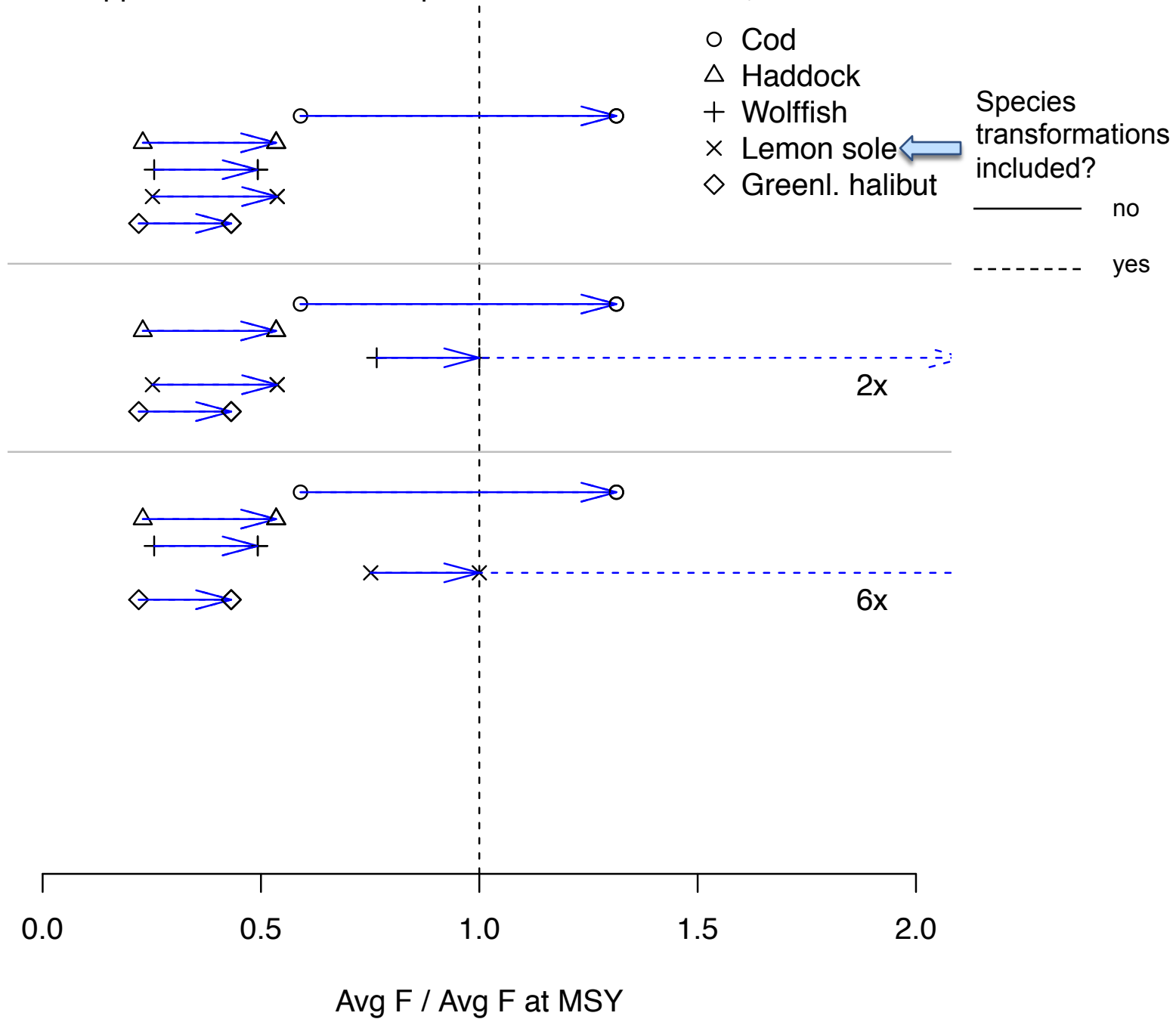
Multi\_spp. MEY to Short-term profit maximization x 60 years



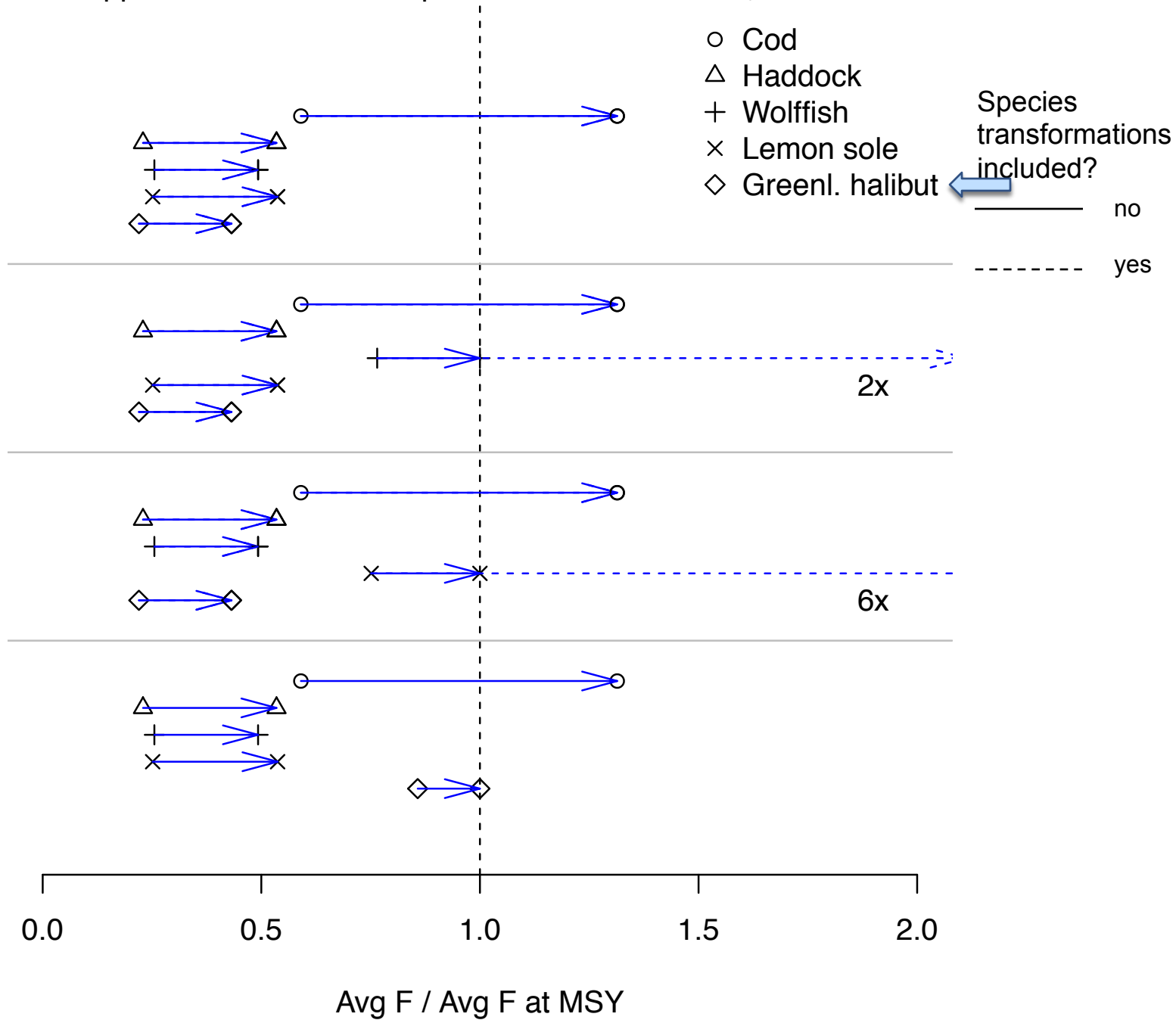
Multi\_spp. MEY to Short-term profit maximization x 60 years



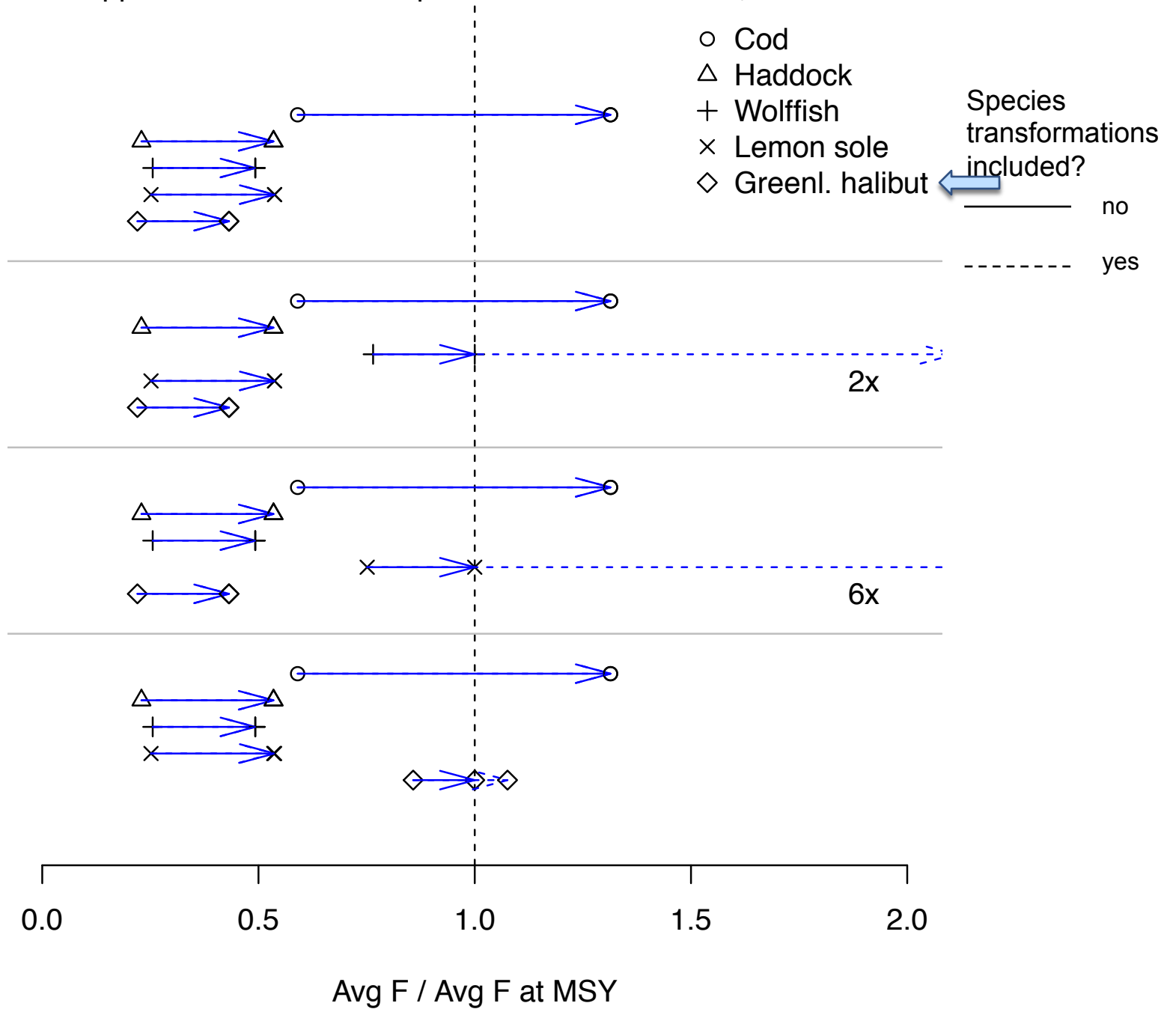
Multi\_spp. MEY to Short-term profit maximization x 60 years



Multi\_spp. MEY to Short-term profit maximization x 60 years



Multi\_spp. MEY to Short-term profit maximization x 60 years



BUT...TACs rarely exceeded to  
the extreme...why?



# BUT...TACs rarely exceeded to the extreme...why?

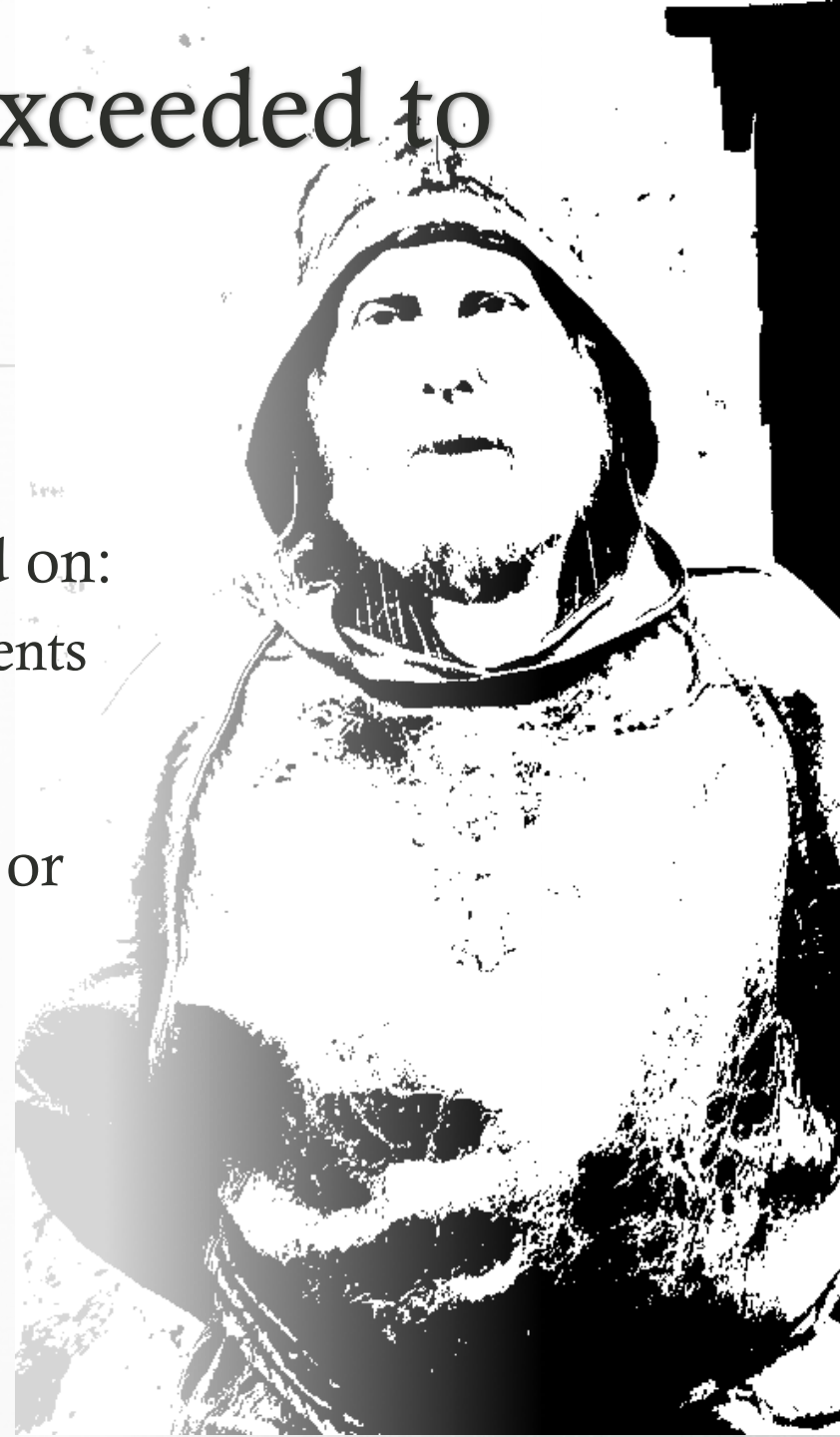
- ∞ Unavoidable bycatch is substantial? More info needed on:
  - ∞ catchability; métier components
  - ∞ spp.-partitioned costs



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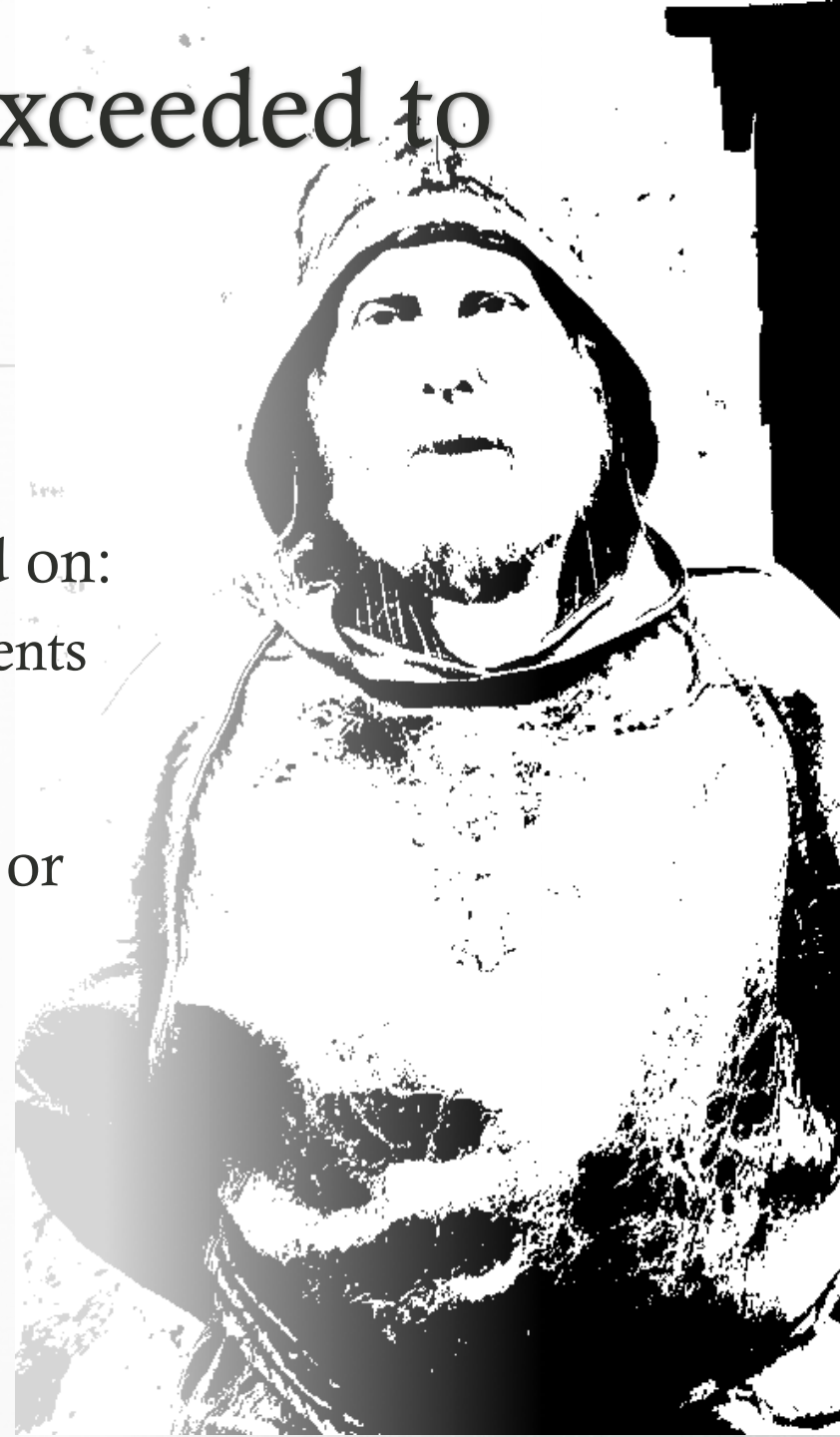
- ∞ Unavoidable bycatch is substantial? More info needed on:
  - ∞ catchability; métier components
  - ∞ spp.-partitioned costs
- ∞ Unpredictable environmental or price fluctuations





# BUT...TACs rarely exceeded to the extreme...why?

- ⌘ Unavoidable bycatch is substantial? More info needed on:
  - ⌘ catchability; métier components
  - ⌘ spp.-partitioned costs
- ⌘ Unpredictable environmental or price fluctuations
- ⌘ Sequential within-year usage.



# BUT...TACs rarely exceeded to the extreme...why?



- ⌘ Unavoidable bycatch is substantial? More info needed on:
  - ⌘ catchability; métier components
  - ⌘ spp.-partitioned costs
- ⌘ Unpredictable environmental or price fluctuations
- ⌘ Sequential within-year usage.
- ⌘ Is short-term profitability not the only motivator?



# Thought experiment



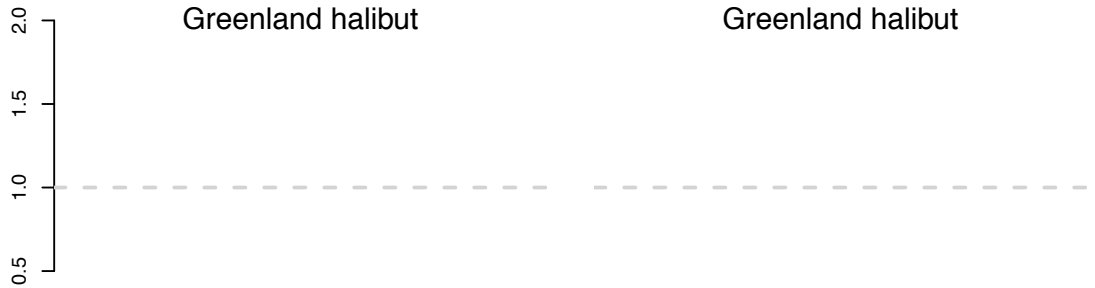
Sustainability or  
profitability?



No species transformations



With species transformations



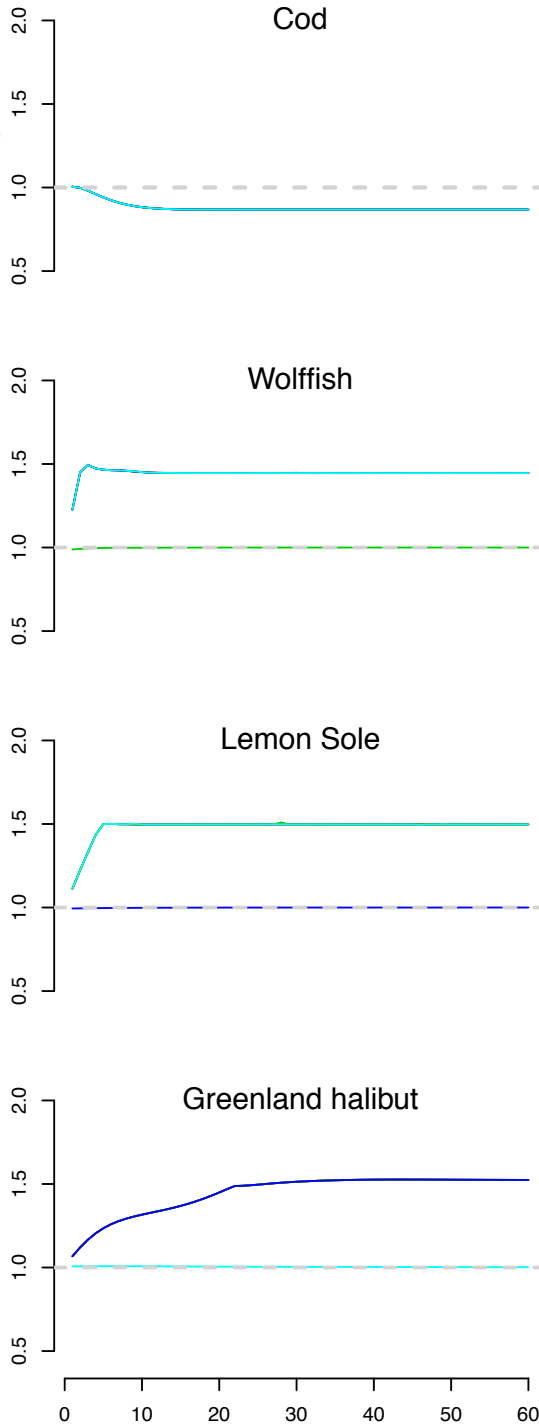
Biomass

Biomass at MSY

x 60 years



No species transformations



With species transformations



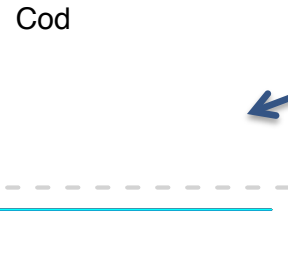
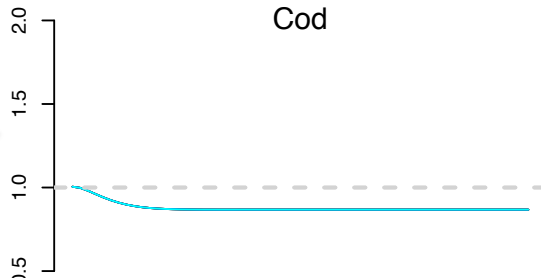
**Biomass**  

---

**Biomass at MSY**

x 60 years

No species transformations

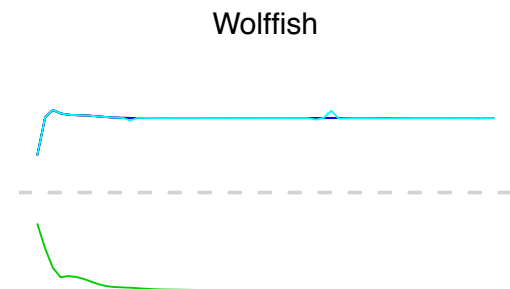
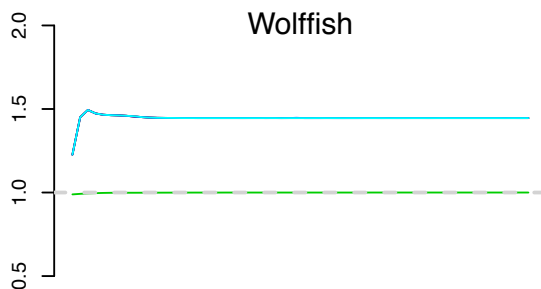


With species transformations

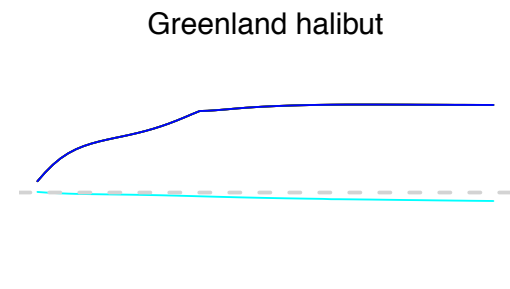
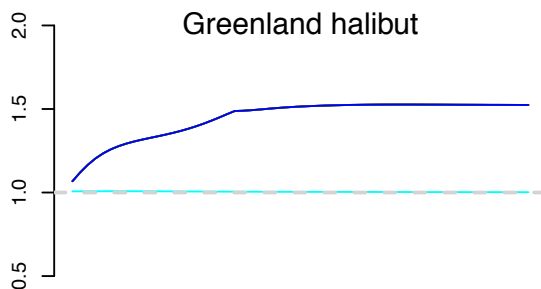
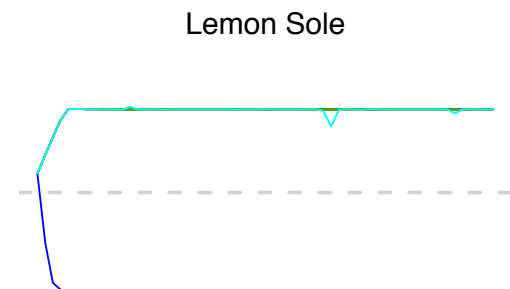
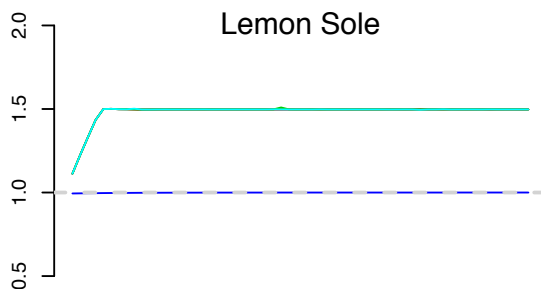


Biomass

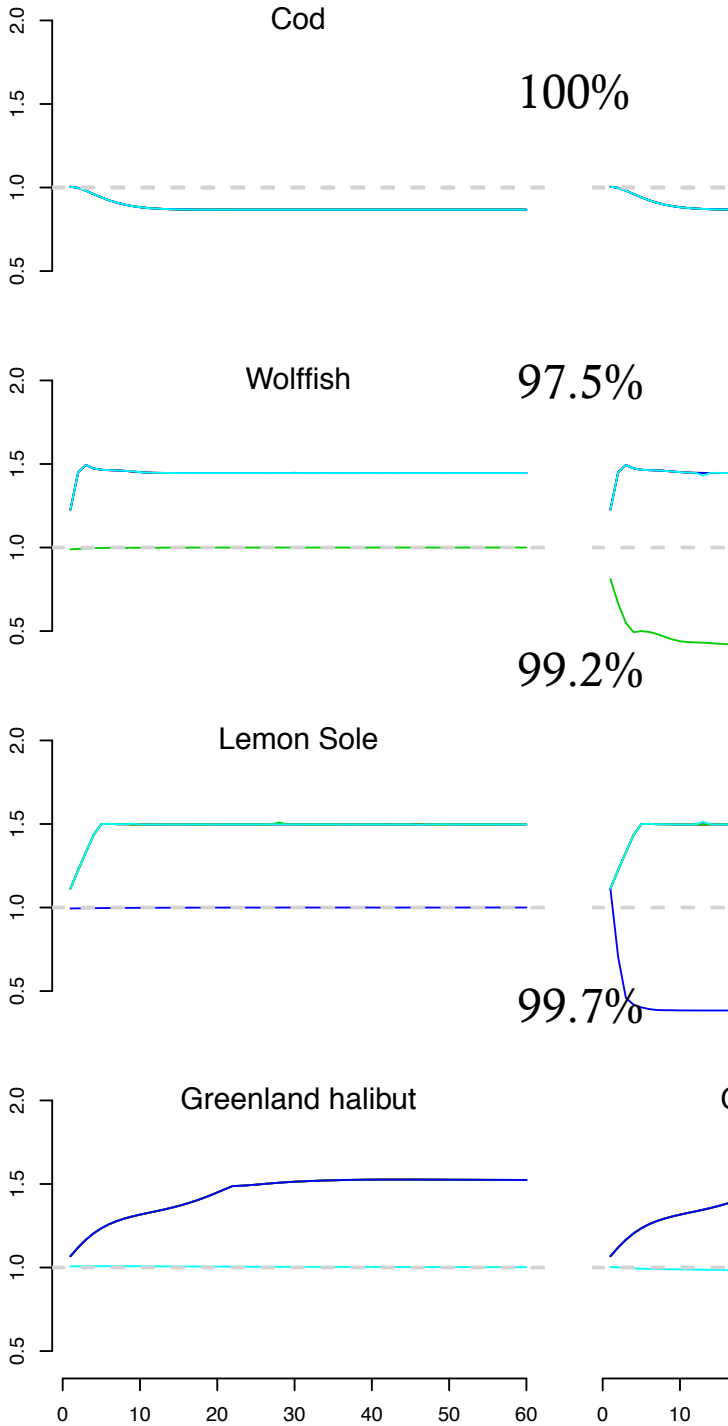
Biomass at MSY



x 60 years

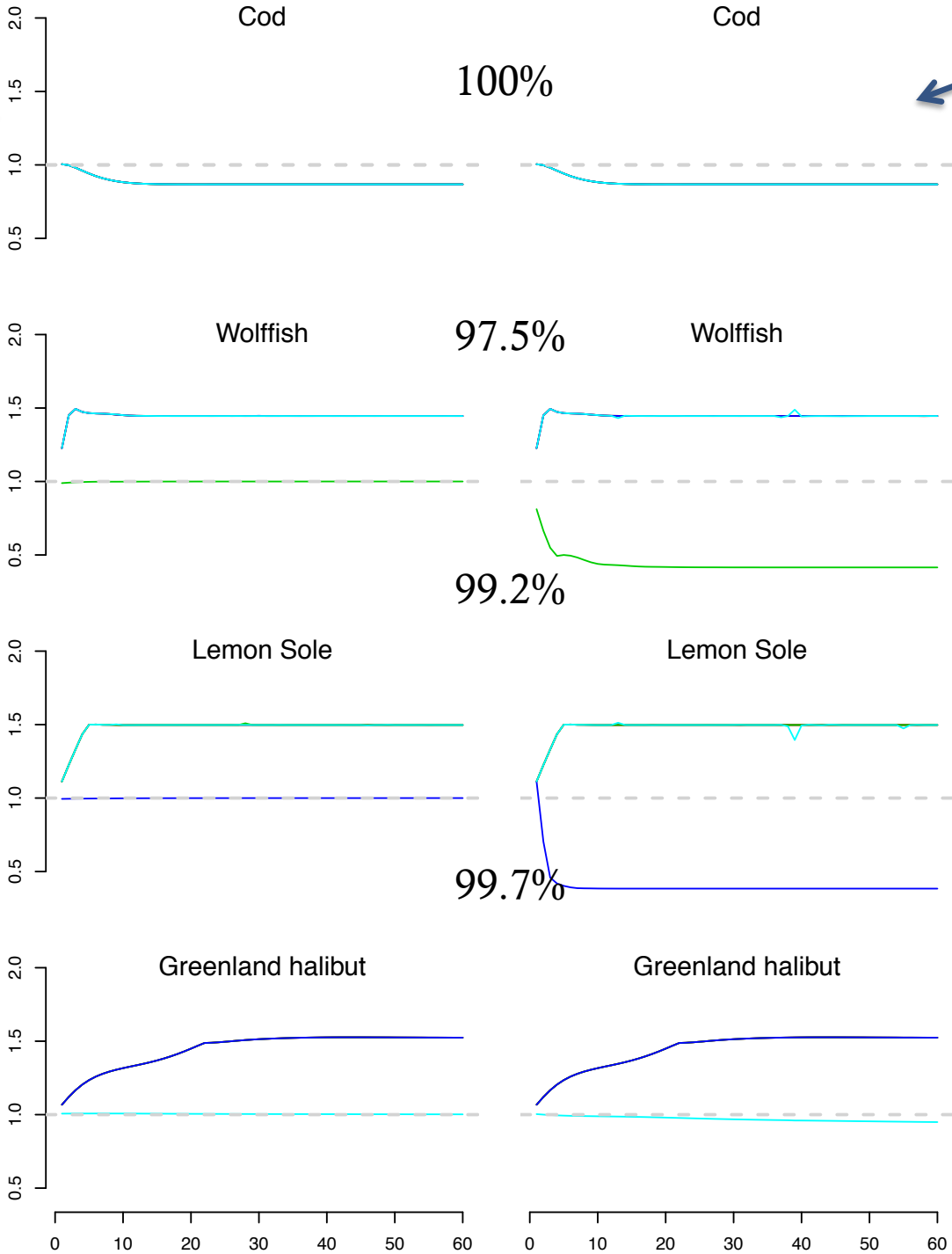


No species transformations



100%

With species transformations



97.5%

99.2%

99.7%

Biomass  
Biomass at MSY

x 60 years

# One step forward?





# One step forward?

- ∞ Yields avenue for formalizing links among species regulations.



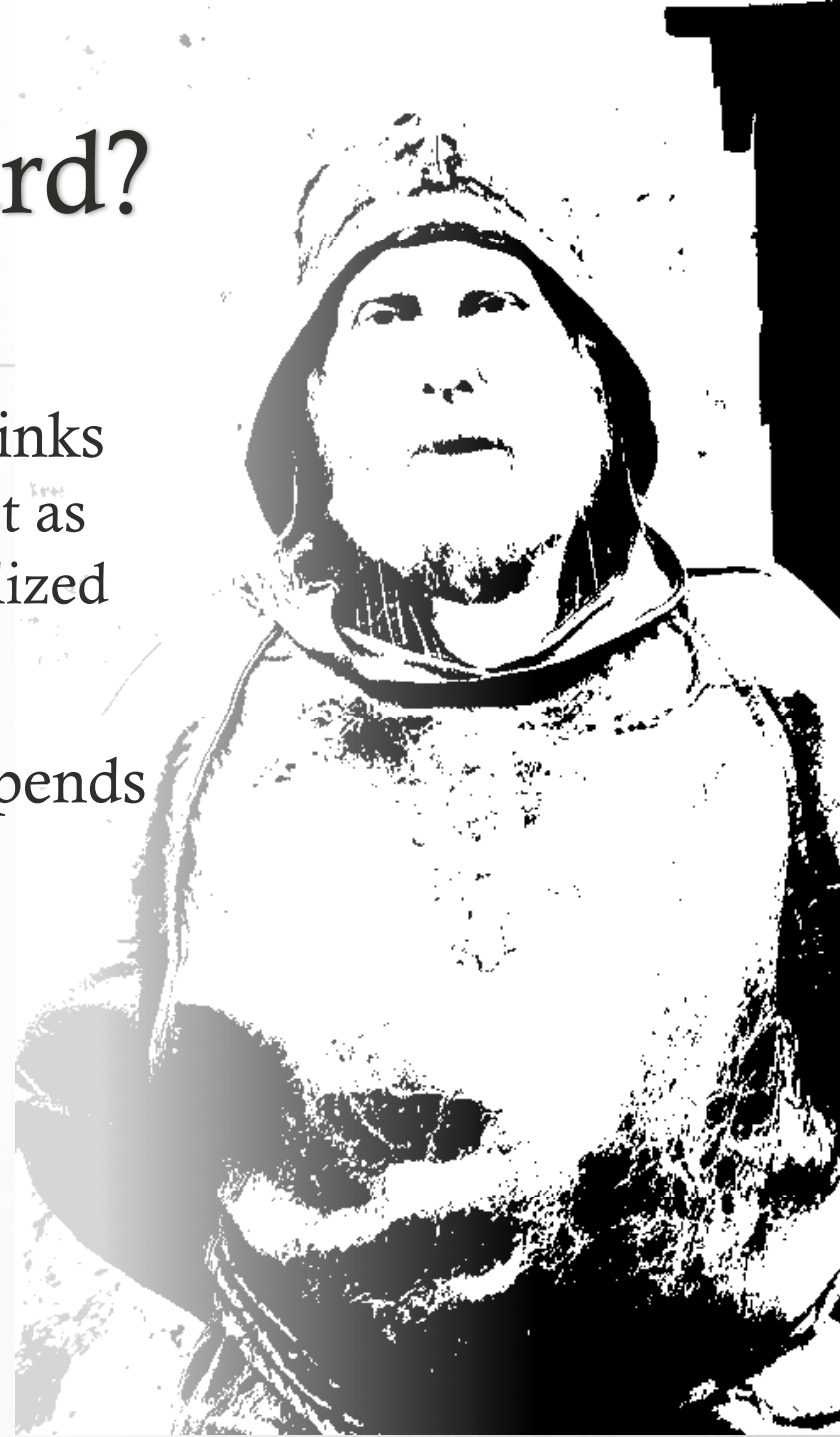
# One step forward?

- ∞ Yields avenue for formalizing links among species regulations. (Not as complex as highly compartmentalized management strategies?)



# One step forward?

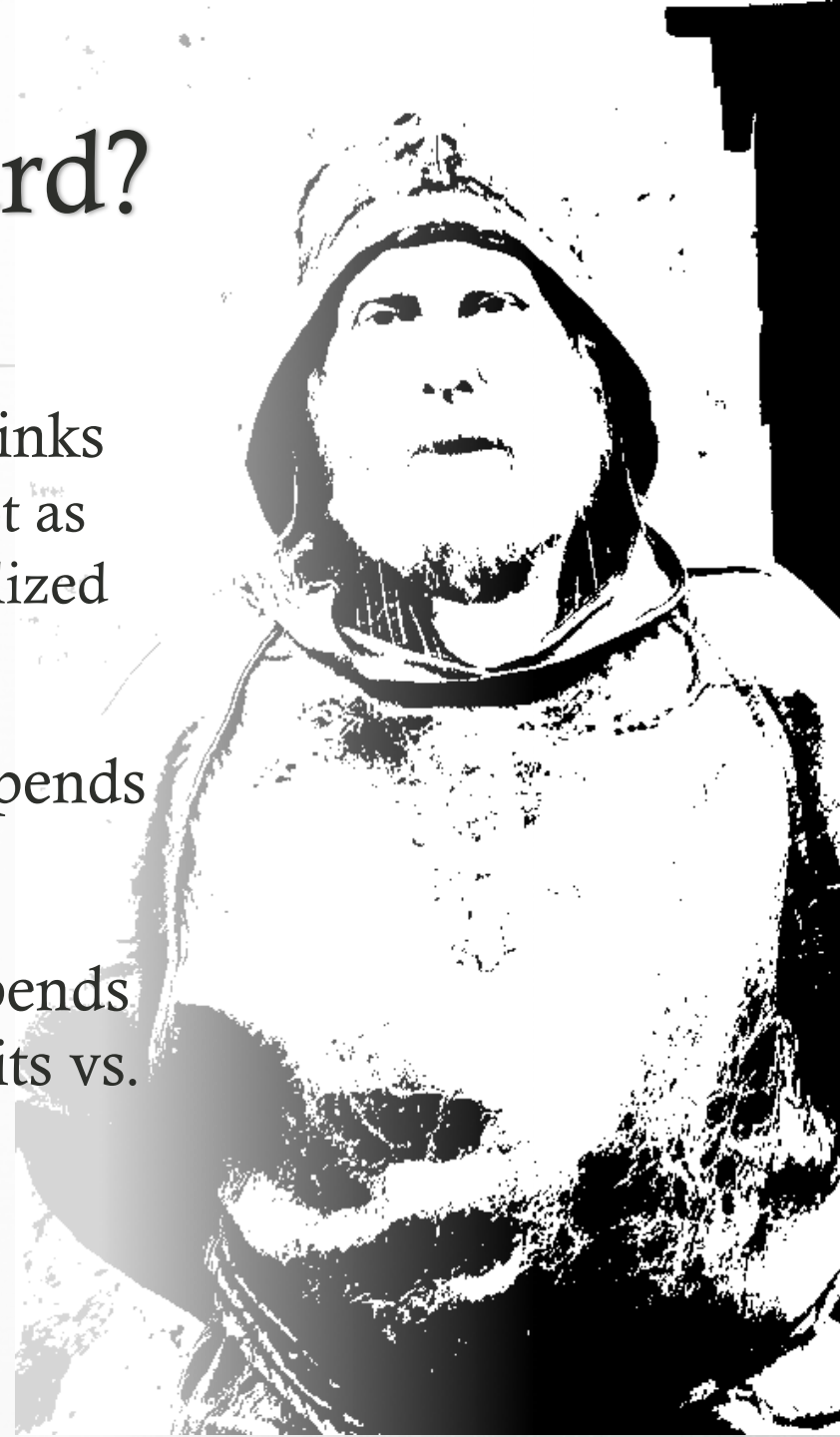
- ⌘ Yields avenue for formalizing links among species regulations. (Not as complex as highly compartmentalized management strategies?)
- ⌘ Highly system-dependent. (Depends on relative profitability).



# One step forward?



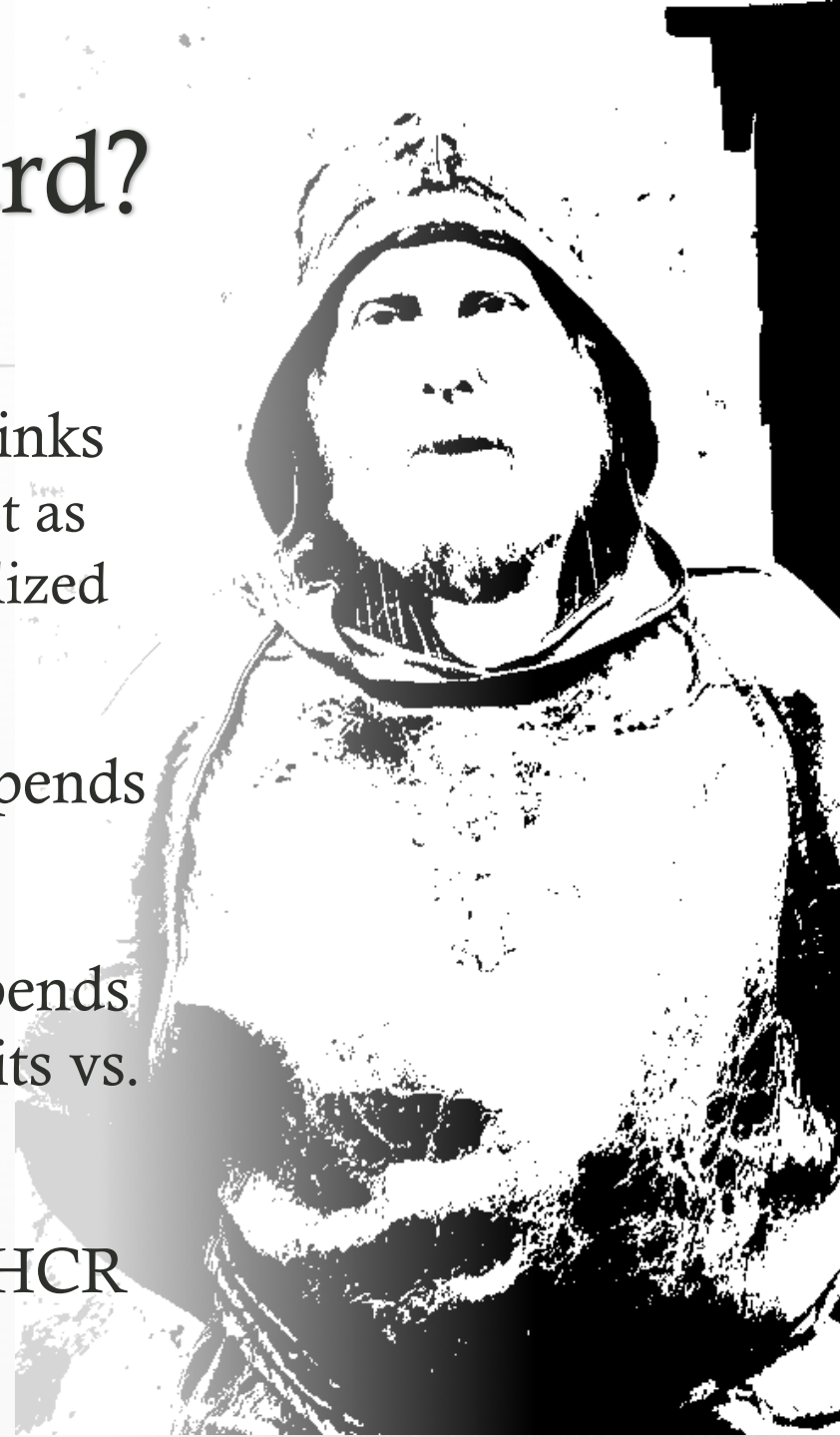
- ∞ Yields avenue for formalizing links among species regulations. (Not as complex as highly compartmentalized management strategies?)
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- ∞ Highly values-dependent. (Depends on profitability vs. social benefits vs. acceptable risk.)



# One step forward?



- ⌘ Yields avenue for formalizing links among species regulations. (Not as complex as highly compartmentalized management strategies?)
- ⌘ Highly system-dependent. (Depends on relative profitability).
- ⌘ Highly values-dependent. (Depends on profitability vs. social benefits vs. acceptable risk.)
- ⌘ Next step: ADMB. (Optimize HCR or spp. conversion rates?)

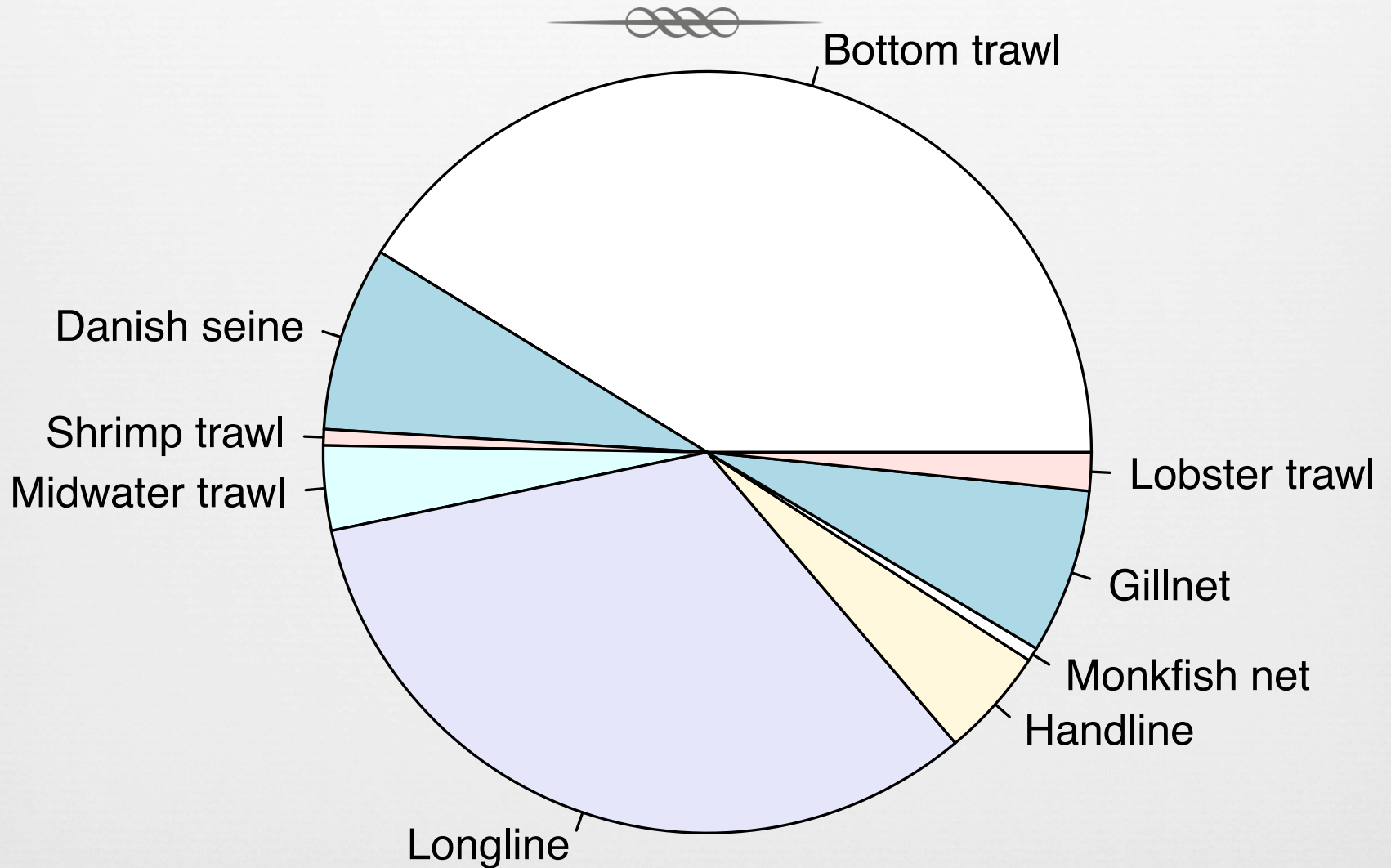


# Thank you!

- ∞ University of Iceland
- ∞ University of Washington
- ∞ Northwest Fisheries  
Science Center
- ∞ RAX photos



# Icelandic demersal fisheries



ÍSLAND  
1300

1983

BETEMPS





ISLAND  
1100

BÉTEMPS

1983



# Prospects



# Prospects

☞ Data analysis.



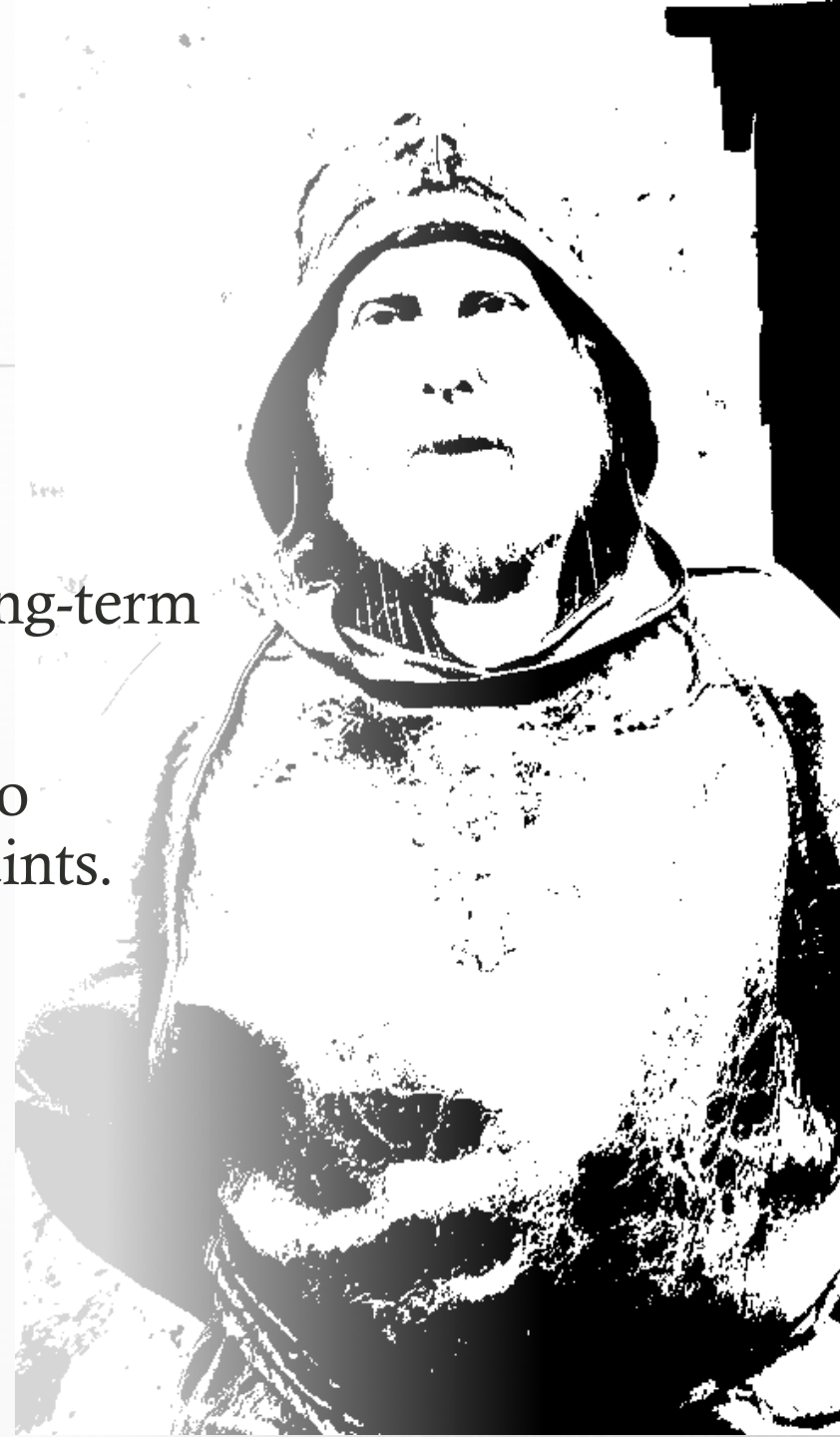
# Prospects

- ❧ Data analysis.
- ❧ Explore how to set TACs or conversion rates to achieve long-term sustainability.



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- ⌘ Add “component” variation to compartmentalize the constraints.



# Prospects

- ❧ Data analysis.
- ❧ Explore how to set TACs or conversion rates to achieve long-term sustainability.
- ❧ Add “component” variation to compartmentalize the constraints.
- ❧ Determine effects of
  1. cod equivalent misspecification
  2. environmental change
  3. chronic over-setting of the TAC
  4. exchange rate parameterization

