

Evaluation of Management Procedures

Application to Chilean Jack Mackerel Fishery

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- Chilean Jack Mackerel (Jurel) fishery is the bigger one in Chile in terms of catches as well as in economical terms



- This pelagic fish is affected by climatic factors that generate uncertainties in its stock dynamic model (El Niño)

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- **These uncertainties are an obstacle for the implementation of sustainable exploitation strategies**
- Until now, this has been done via yearly Total Allowable Catches (TACs) and their assignation by using non-transferable individuals quotas
- TAC can be considered as a management procedures (MP)

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Management Procedures (MPs)

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- A Management Procedure (MP) is defined in Butterworth et al. 1997 as a **set of rules, which translates data from a fishery into a regulatory mechanism**, such as total allowable catches (TAC) or maximum fishing effort
- According to Oliveira and Butterworth 2004, such MPs have been developed (though not always implemented) for a number of disparate fisheries since their development within the International Whaling Commission in the late 1980s

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- Ideally, before defining the MP to be applied, one should **compare different potential MPs** and rank them with respect to their ability to keep the fishery sustainable in an uncertain environment
- The so-called Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE) denotes a class of procedures based on simulation to compare alternative MPs

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As detailed in Sainsbury et al. 2000, the MSE approach consists of two main steps:

- 1 defining an operational set of management objectives,
- 2 and evaluating using simulations the performance of various alternative management strategies with respect to the specified objectives, taking into account uncertainty in the modeled processes

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MPs and MSE

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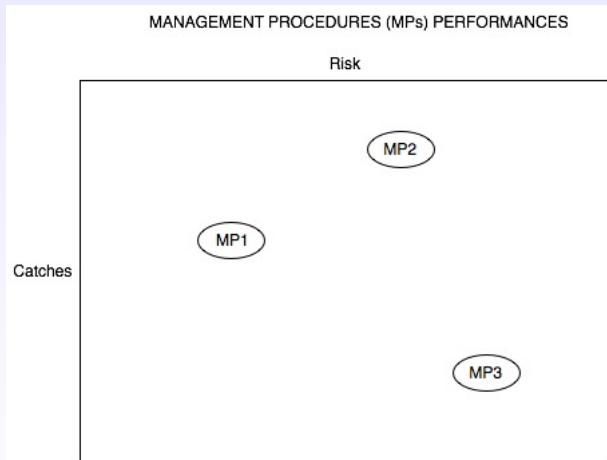
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The MPs are not always comparable!!

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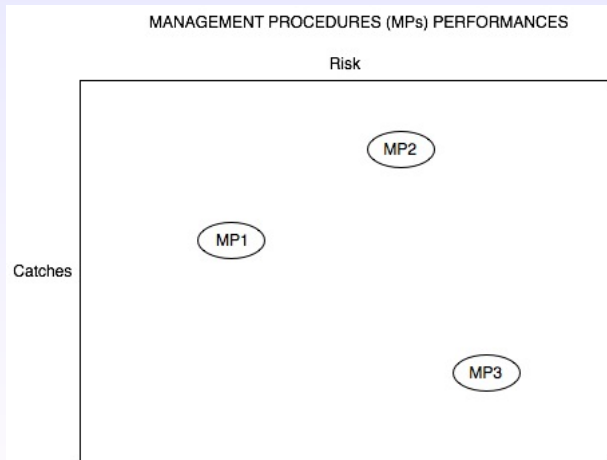
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An age class dynamical model

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We consider an age structured abundance population model (Quinn & Deriso 1999) for the Chilean Jack Mackerel fishery with

- $A = 11$ age classes
- An horizon time of $T = 10$ years
- We perform our analysis for the initial year $t_0 = 2002$

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The stock-recruitment relationship

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The recruits are supposed to be a **Ricker** function of the **spawning stock biomass** at time $t - 1$ ($SSB(t - 1)$):

$$N_1(t + 1) = \alpha SSB(t - 1) \exp(\beta SSB(t - 1))$$

the random variable $w(t)$ reflects the **uncertainties** in the recruitment (*El Niño*)

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The Model

Incertitudes in the stock-recruitment relationship

The stock-recruitment relationship is given by¹:

$$N_1(t+1) = \alpha SSB(t-1) \exp(\beta SSB(t-1) - 0.12 \text{niño}(t) + \epsilon(t))$$

where the **uncertainties** are defined as follows:

- $\epsilon(t) \sim \mathcal{N}(0; 0.18)$
- $\text{niño}(t)$ is a **dummy (0 or 1) random variable** reflecting the presence of *El Niño* phenomena. It is defined by:

$$\text{niño}(t) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } \text{promsdf} > 0.5 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

where

$$\text{promsdf} = -1.2 \sin(18.19 + 2\pi(t - 1959)/3.17)$$

¹M. Yepes 2008 (Thesis supervised by J. Peña) 

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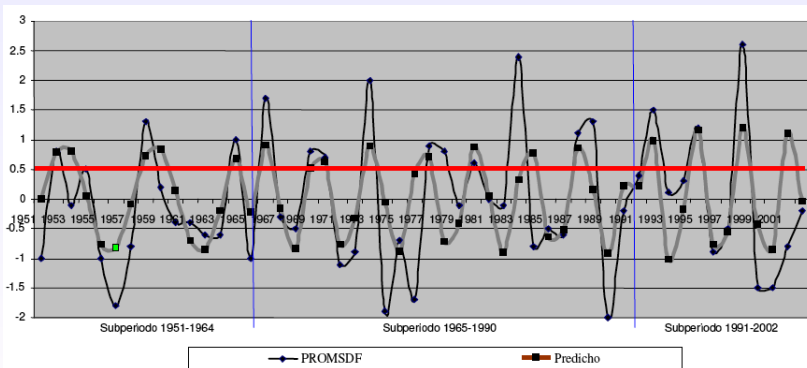
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New Methodology: Viability Approach

Our model can be described in the following **discrete time dynamic** framework:

$$\begin{cases} N(t+1) = g(N(t), \lambda(t), w(t)), & t = t_0, \dots, T \\ N(t_0) \quad \text{given,} \end{cases}$$

where

- state variable $N(t)$ (abundances)
- control $\lambda(t)$ (fishing effort)
- uncertainty $w(t)$ (recruitment uncertainties)

The notation for a scenario being $w(\cdot) := (w(t_0), \dots, w(T))$

Scenarios are perturbations of the dynamics (in this case of the stock-recruitment relation) due to climate factors (*El Niño*)

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Constraints: Conflicting Indicators

Consider **constraints** to be satisfied at every time $t = t_0, \dots, T$.

They are given by indicators² $I_k = I_k(N, \lambda)$ and thresholds or reference points i_k .

So, we impose $I_k(N(t), \lambda(t)) \geq i_k$ for all $t = t_0, \dots, T$

In this talk we focus on two conflicting issues:

- Biological: $SSB(t) \geq \text{percentage} \cdot SSB_{\text{virg}}$ where
 - $SSB_{\text{virg}} = 6.44$ millions tons. is the virginal spawning stock biomass
 - percentage is typically 0.2, 0.3 or 0.4
- Economical: $Y(N(t), \lambda(t)) \geq y_{\min}$ where
 - Y is the catches in term of biomass

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A Common Currency: Viability Probability

We use the probability on the set of all possible scenarios as a common currency.

This **viability probability** depends on the initial time t_0 , the initial state N_0 and a given control λ^* (exploitation policy, for instance TAC or fixed constant fishing effort), and is defined by:

$$P \left(w(\cdot) : \begin{array}{l} N(t_0) = N_0 \\ N(t+1) = g(N(t), \lambda(t), w(t)) \\ \lambda(t) = \lambda^*(t, N(t)) \\ I_k(N(t), \lambda(t)) \geq i_k \\ \text{for all } k = 1, 2 \text{ and } t = t_0, \dots, T \end{array} \right)$$

We use this probability to **compare** different exploitation strategies

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MPs Evaluation

Classical approach: MSE

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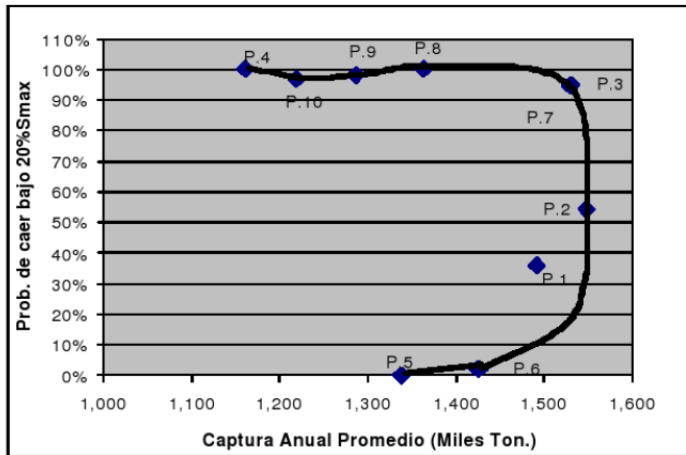
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MPs Evaluation

Classical approach: MSE

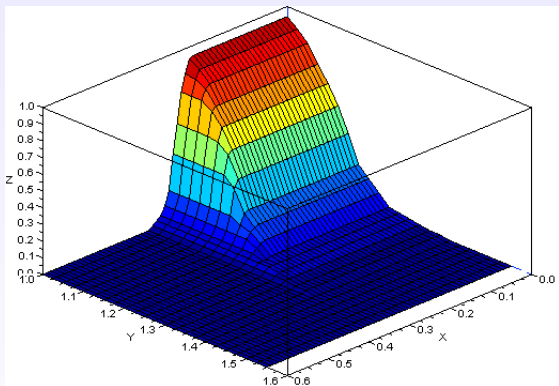
MSE example (M. Yepes 2008):



MPs Evaluation

Viability approach

Output for constant fishing effort $\lambda(t) = \lambda^* = 0.2$



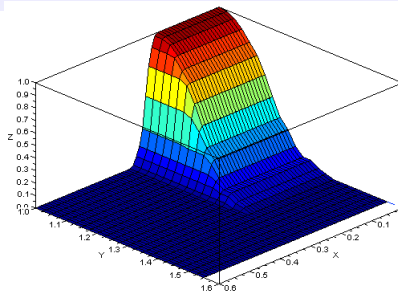
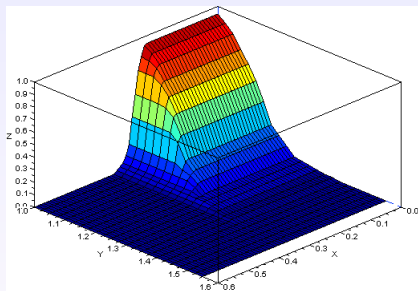
When percentage = 0.2 and $y_{\min} = 1.2$ millions tons. we have:

$$P(\lambda(t) = 0.2) = 0.155$$

MPs Evaluation

Visual comparison of two given strategies

We can compare strategies $\lambda(t) = 0.2$ and $\lambda(t) = 0.23$:



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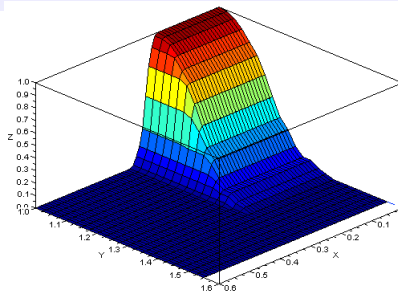
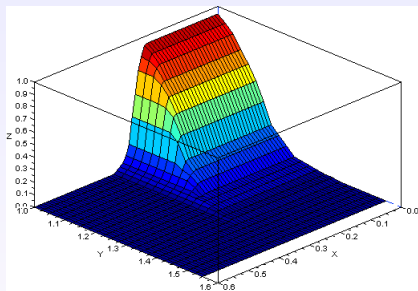
$$P(\lambda(t) = 0.2) = 0.155 \leq 0.438 = P(\lambda(t) = 0.23)$$

So, for these reference points, exploitation strategy $\lambda(t) = 0.23$ should be preferable to $\lambda(t) = 0.2$

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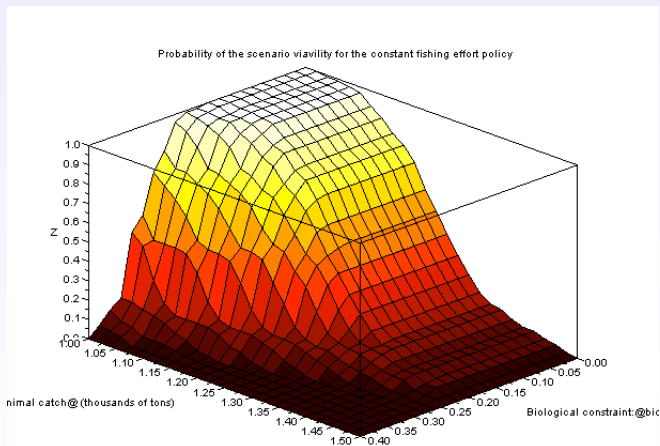
$$P(\lambda(t) = 0.2) = 0.155 \leq 0.438 = P(\lambda(t) = 0.23)$$

So, for these reference points, exploitation strategy $\lambda(t) = 0.23$ should be preferable to $\lambda(t) = 0.2$

MPs Evaluation: TAC and Constant Fishing Effort

Best constant fishing effort strategy

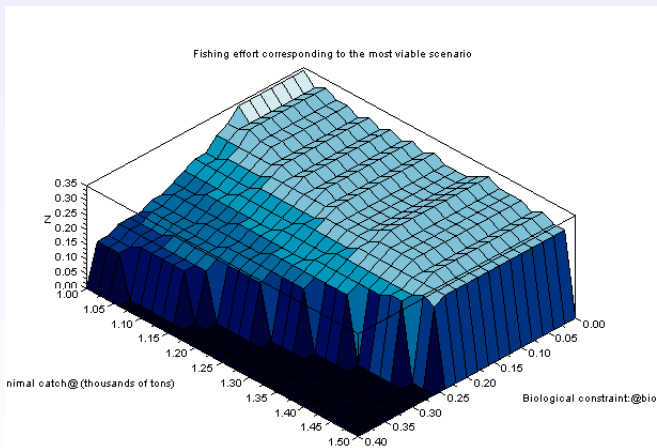
For the range of reference points, percentage and y_{\min} , we compute the highest viability property we can obtain via a constant fishing effort strategy:



MPs Evaluation: TAC and Constant Fishing Effort

Best constant fishing effort strategy

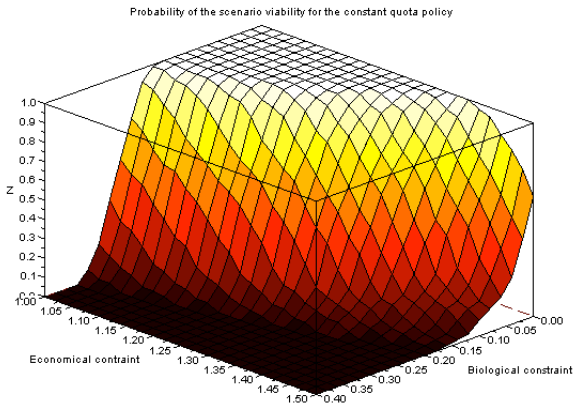
For the range of reference points percentage and y_{\min} we compute the larger constant fishing effort value (associated with the probability of the previous slide):



MPs Evaluation: TAC and Constant Fishing Effort

Best TAC strategy

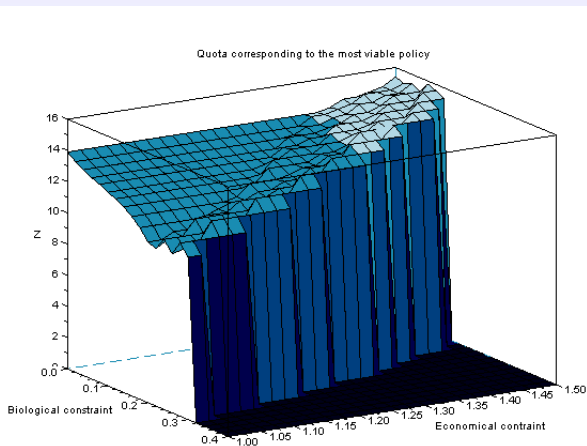
For the range of reference points, percentage and y_{\min} , we compute the highest viability property we can obtain via a TAC strategy:



MPs Evaluation: TAC and Constant Fishing Effort

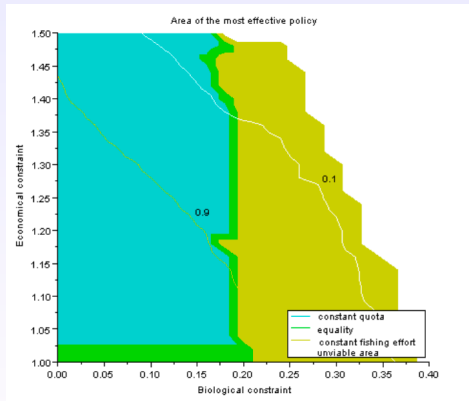
Best TAC strategy

For the range of reference points percentage and y_{\min} we compute the larger TAC value (associated with the probability of the previous slide):



MPs Evaluation: TAC vs Constant Fishing Effort

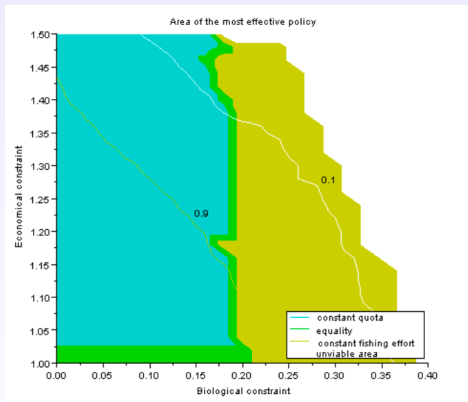
We can also compare both types of strategies:



Note that TAC type strategy is always more efficient than a constant fishing effort type strategy when the probability ≥ 0.9

MPs Evaluation: TAC vs Constant Fishing Effort

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- 5 Conclusions

Tool Scheme: MSE

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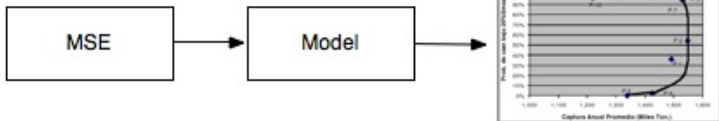
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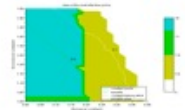
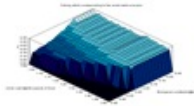
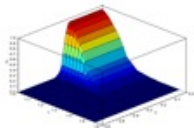
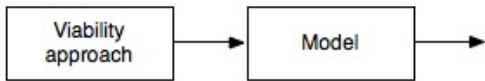
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Conclusions

- We consider an age structured abundance population model where the uncertainties only appears in the stock-recruitment relationship
- These uncertainties reflects the impact of *El Niño* phenomena
- We apply a new methodology which establishes a common currency (the viability probability) for the study of MPs
- This methodology provides a flexible tool for the comparison of fishery exploitation strategies

Bibliography

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M. Yepes, J. Peña, P. Barría & A. Gomez-Lobos

Pesquería del Jurel en Chile: Reclutamiento, El Niño y efectos sobre la captura

Working paper (UAH Master thesis)

Thanks!!

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Grilled mackerel

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