

**The IndiSeas experience to evaluate and
communicate the ecological status of
exploited marine ecosystems using data-
based indicators
and additions from food-web modelling exercises**

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OUTLINE

IndiSeas

Background and General Approach
Selection of Indicators
Calculation of Indicators
Comparative Approach
Synthesis and Graphic Representation
Reaching the Public
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IndiSeas2

Objectives and General Approach
New Indicators

Food-web model-based indicators

Ecopath indicators
Ecosim indicators



IndiSeas: Background and General Approach

- ④ Synthetic multispecies and ecosystem-based indicators needed to monitor and manage marine ecosystems
- ④ Complement single-species-based fisheries management
- ④ Progress towards an ecosystem-based approach to fisheries (EAF)
- ④ 2005: **Follow-up to the SCOR/IOC Working Group** on Quantitative Ecosystem Indicators (2001-2004)
- ④ **NoE EUR-OCEANS IndiSeas Working Group** to undertake a comparative study on EAF ecological indicators (2005-2010)
- ④ Lead by **Yunne-Jai Shin, Lynne J. Shannon** and **Philippe Cury**



IndiSeas: Background and General Approach

- ④ Selected a suite of **community- to ecosystem-level data-based indicators**
- ④ Represented a minimum list of indicators that were **easy to calculate and agreed upon** with respect to several criteria
- ④ Calculated the Indicators for **several exploited marine ecosystems** worldwide
- ④ Developed comparative results to provide insights on the **relative current states and recent trends** of these ecosystems

Two important features:

We included **ecosystems that are normally excluded** from studies that require more complex indicators only applicable to data-rich situations

We involved **local experts** to help interpret results from each ecosystem



IndiSeas: Selection of Indicators

- ④ **Examined and reviewed ecological indicators** to identify most suitable for evaluating ecosystem effects of fishing across ecosystem types
- ④ Built a dashboard of indicators to evaluate the status of marine ecosystems in a **comparative framework**
- ④ **Not development of new indicators**, but used specific criteria to select the most representative and practically achievable and meaningful set
- ④ **Step-by-Step process:** define objectives of the WG and requirements of the indicators, identify potential indicators with literature review, determine screening criteria, rank the indicators
- ④ **Criteria:** (i) data availability, (ii) ecological meaning, (iii) sensitivity to fishing, (iv) public awareness & (v) ecological objectives

IndiSeas: Selection of Indicators

- ④ **Measurability:** data estimated routinely, so the potential data to calculate the indicators needed to be readily available across a range of marine ecosystems
- ④ **Survey-based:** Indicators were mostly independent of the fishery in contrast to other comparative studies of fished ecosystems (model-derived or catch-based indicators)
- ④ **Multi-institutional collaboration:** sharing scientific data and scientific diagnoses based on local expertise in each ecosystem investigated

IndiSeas: Selection of Indicators

- ② **Ecological meaning:** reflected ecological processes occurring under fishing pressure and based on strong scientific and theoretical knowledge
 - ② **Sensitivity:** were able to track ecosystem changes due to fishing, hence high correlation between trends in the indicator and in fishing pressure
 - ② **Public awareness:** meaning and link of indicators with fishing widely and intuitively understood to avoid abstract ecological features
- + **four ecological attributes** to be linked with ecosystem health and management strategic priorities:
- (i) Conservation of biodiversity
 - (ii) Maintenance of ecosystem stability and resistance to perturbation
 - (iii) Maintenance of ecosystem structure and functioning
 - (iv) Maintenance of resource potential

Indicator	Ecological significance	Sensitivity	Measurability	Public awareness	Management objective ^a
Size-based indicators (Link, 2005; Rochet and Rice, 2005; Shin <i>et al.</i> , 2005)					
Mean length/weight in community	x	x	x	x	EF
Maximum length in community	x	x		x	
Mean maximum length in community	x	x		x	
Slope of size spectrum	x	x			
Slope of diversity size spectrum	x				
Proportion of large fish	x	x		x	
Proportion of large species	x	x	x	x	CB
Trophodynamic indicators (Cury <i>et al.</i> , 2005; Fulton <i>et al.</i> , 2005; Link, 2005; Pauly <i>et al.</i> , 2000)					
TL landings	x	x	x	x	EF
TL community	x	x	x	x	EF
Fishing-in-Balance index	x	x			
Proportion of predatory fish	x	x	x	x	CB
Pelagic to demersal fish biomass ratio	x	x	x		
Piscivorous to zooplanktivorous fish biomass ratio	x	x	x		
Species-based indicators (Degnbol and Jarre, 2004; Fulton <i>et al.</i> , 2004; Link, 2005; Rochet and Rice, 2005; Yemane <i>et al.</i> , 2005)					
Species richness	x			x	
Shannon and Hill's index of diversity	x		x		
K-dominance, ABC curves, W-statistic	x	x	x		
Ratio of endangered to unendangered species	x	x		x	
Ratio of target to non-target species	x		x	x	
Proportion of sustainably or under-/moderately exploited stocks	x	x	x	x	CB
Mean lifespan	x	x	x	x	SR

^aCB, conservation of biodiversity; SR, maintaining ecosystem stability and resistance to perturbation; EF, maintaining ecosystem structure and functioning; RP, maintaining resource potential.

Indicator	Ecological significance	Sensitivity	Measurability	Public awareness	Management objective ^a
Pressure indicators (Degnbol and Jarre, 2004; Fréon <i>et al.</i> , 2005; Fulton <i>et al.</i> , 2005)					
Overall fishing mortality rate	x	x	x	x	RP
Exploited fraction of ecosystem surface	x		x	x	
Mean distance of catches from the coast	x				
Catch rate by community	x	x			
Discard rate	x			x	
Biomass-related indicators (Blanchard and Boucher, 2001; Fulton <i>et al.</i> , 2005; Link, 2005; Rochet <i>et al.</i> , 2005)					
Total community biomass	x	x	x	x	RP
Coefficient of variation in biomass	x	x	x	x	SR

^aCB, conservation of biodiversity; SR, maintaining ecosystem stability and resistance to perturbation; EF, maintaining ecosystem structure and functioning; RP, maintaining resource potential.

- During 2005-2008 the WG agreed on a suite of **eight ecological indicators**
- Six indicators of **State (S)** and six indicators of **Trend (T)**



IndiSeas: Calculation of Indicators

Table 3. Summary of ecological indicators selected by the IndiSeas WG and the corresponding management objectives.

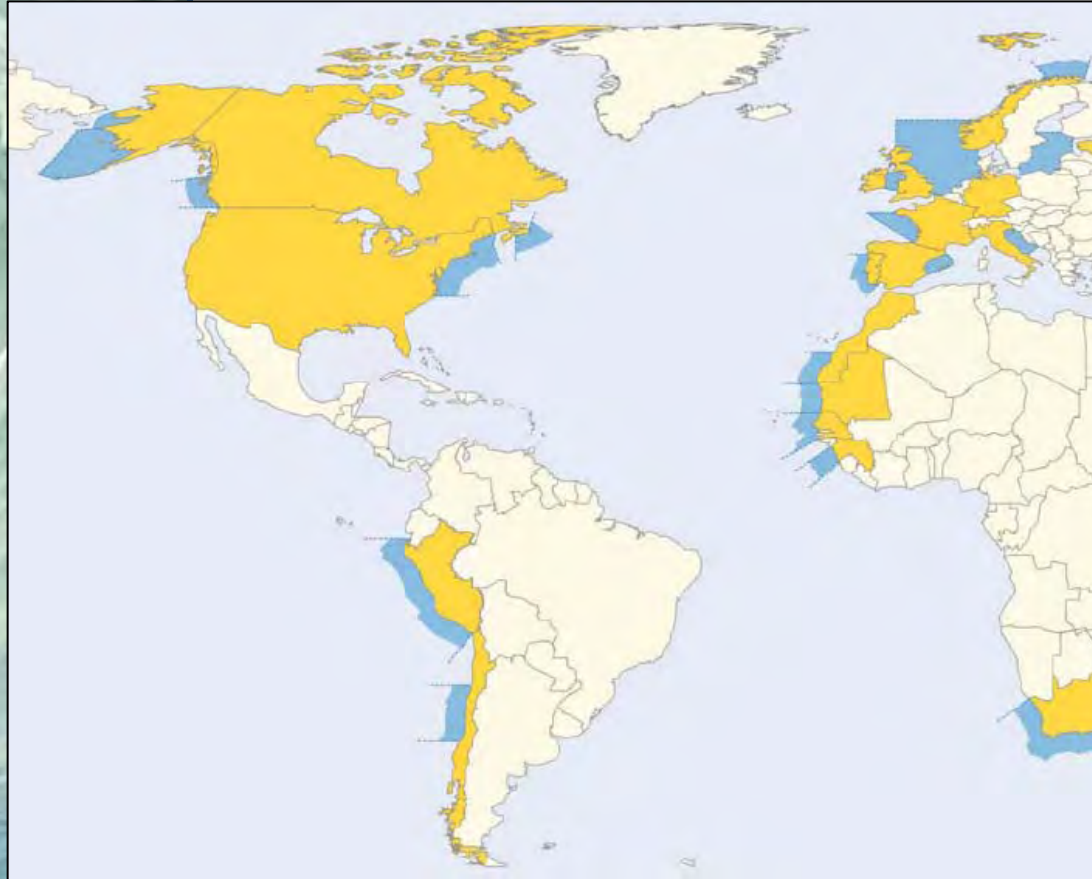
Indicators	Headline label	Used for <u>State</u> or <u>Trend</u>	Management objective ^a
Mean length	Fish size	S, T	EF
TL of landings	TL	S, T	EF
Precaution of under- and moderately exploited stocks	% healthy stocks	S	CB
Proportion of predatory fish	% predators	S, T	CB
Mean lifespan	Lifespan	S, T	SR
1/CV of total biomass	Biomass stability	S	SR
Total biomass of surveyed species	Biomass	T	RP
1/(landings/biomass)	Inverse fishing pressure	T	RP

^aCB, conservation of biodiversity; SR, maintaining ecosystem stability and resistance to perturbation; EF, maintaining ecosystem structure and functioning; RP, maintaining resource potential.

- ② 2008-2009. Calculation of indicators with **standardized procedures**
- ② Current States (**2003-2005**) and recent Trends (**1980-2005** and **1996-2005**)
- ② All indicators defined to **decrease with increasing fishing** pressure

Indicators	Headline label	Source	Calculation, notations, units
Mean length of fish in the community	<i>fish size</i>	Fisheries Independent Surveys	$\bar{L} = \frac{\sum L_i}{N} \text{ (cm)}$
Mean life span of fish in the community	<i>life span</i>	Fisheries Independent Surveys	$\bar{LS} = \frac{\sum (age_{\max} B_s)}{\sum B_s} \text{ (y}^{-1}\text{)}$
Total biomass of species in the community	<i>biomass</i>	Fisheries Independent Surveys	$B \text{ (tons)}$
Proportion of predatory fish in the community	<i>% predators</i>	Fisheries Independent Surveys	prop predatory fish= B predatory fish/B surveyed
TL landings	<i>trophic level</i>	Commercial landings and estimates of trophic level (empirical and fishbase)	$\bar{TL}_{land} = \frac{\sum TL_s Y_s}{Y}$
1/(landings /biomass)	<i>inverse fishing pressure</i>	Commercial landings	B/Y retained species
Proportion of under- and moderately exploited stocks	<i>% healthy stocks</i>	FAO data and local expertise	Number (under- p moderately exploited stocks)/total number of stocks considered
1/CV total biomass	<i>Biomass stability</i>	Fisheries Independent Surveys	Mean(total biomass for the past 10 years)/s.d.(total biomass for the past 10 years)

IndiSeas: Comparative Approach



- ④ **19 ecosystems**
- ④ **32 countries**
- ④ Temperate, Tropical, Upwelling, and High latitude ecosystems
- ④ Span different socioeconomic situations, and vary in ecosystem structure, environmental forcing, and exploitation histories

Coastal ecosystem	Geographic area	Type of ecosystem	Surrounding countries
Adriatic Sea (north-central)	Central Mediterranean	Temperate	Italy, Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Montenegro
Baltic Sea (central)	NE Atlantic	Brackish temperate	Germany, Estonia, Sweden, Poland, Russia, Lithuania, Latvia, Finland, Denmark
Barents Sea	NE Atlantic	High latitude	Norway
Bay of Biscay	NE Atlantic	Temperate	France
Benguela (southern)	SE Atlantic	Upwelling	South Africa
Bering Sea, Aleutian Islands	NE Pacific	High latitude	Alaska, USA
Canada coast (West)	NE Pacific	Seasonal upwelling	Canada
Catalan Sea (southern)	NW Mediterranean	Temperate	Spain
Guinean EEZ	East-central Atlantic	Upwelling	Guinea
Humboldt (northern)	SE Pacific	Upwelling	Peru
Humboldt (southern)	SE Pacific	Upwelling	Chile
Irish Sea	NE Atlantic	Temperate	Ireland, UK
Mauritanian EEZ	East-central Atlantic	Upwelling	Mauritania
Morocco (Sahara coastal)	East-central Atlantic	Upwelling	Morocco
North Sea	NE Atlantic	Temperate	UK, Norway, Denmark, Germany, Netherlands, Belgium
Portuguese EEZ	NE Atlantic	Upwelling	Portugal
Scotian Shelf (eastern)	NW Atlantic	Temperate	Canada
Senegalese EEZ	East-central Atlantic	Upwelling	Senegal
US coast (Northeast)	NW Atlantic	Temperate	United States

²MFA, FAO major fishing area; Div, FAO Division.

The WG developed and applied **different analyses and methodological approaches**:

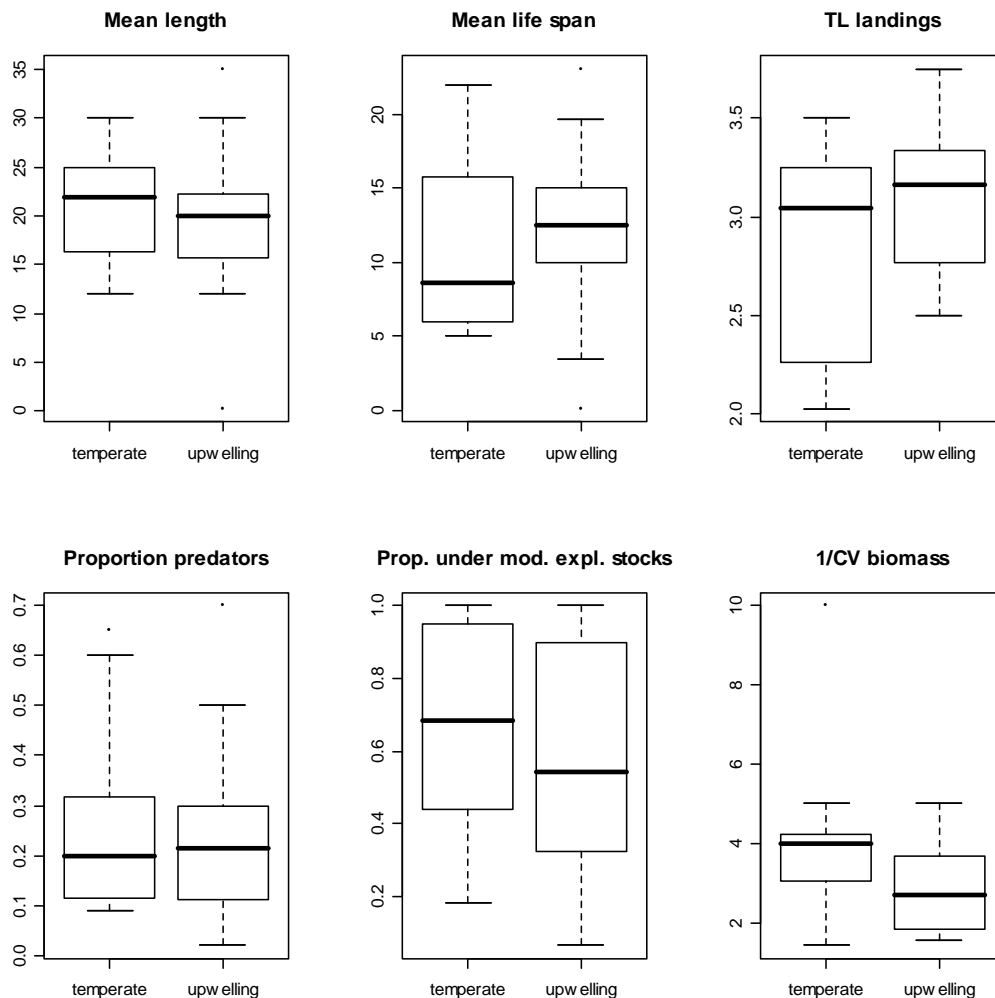
- **Comparison of S**, keeping in mind difficulty to establish reference points
- **Comparison of T**, with linear & non-linear approaches
- **Decision-tree** criteria to evaluate T
- **Ranking criteria** using both S and T
- **Environmental parameters** in comparison of S and T
- **Comparison of similar ecosystems**
- Investigation of how the **quality of trawl-based surveys** influence results

Can simple be useful and reliable? Using ecological indicators to represent and compare the states of marine ecosystems: Shin et al. 2010b.

Can we directly compare ecosystems of different types by using a common set of indicators?

Check whether reference levels for these indicators are similar across ecosystems

Use of an expert survey of scientists to define reference levels (ecosystem overexploitation)



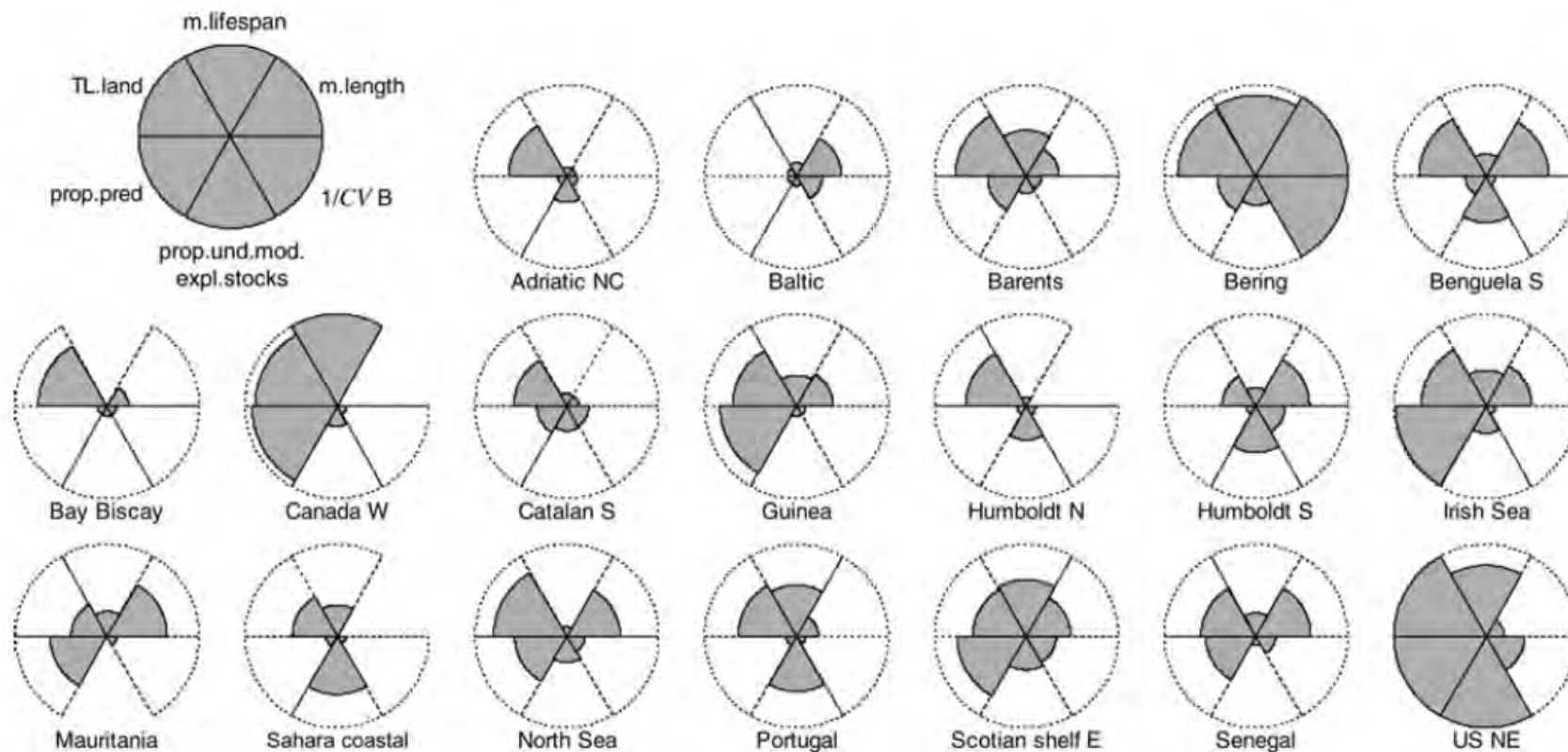
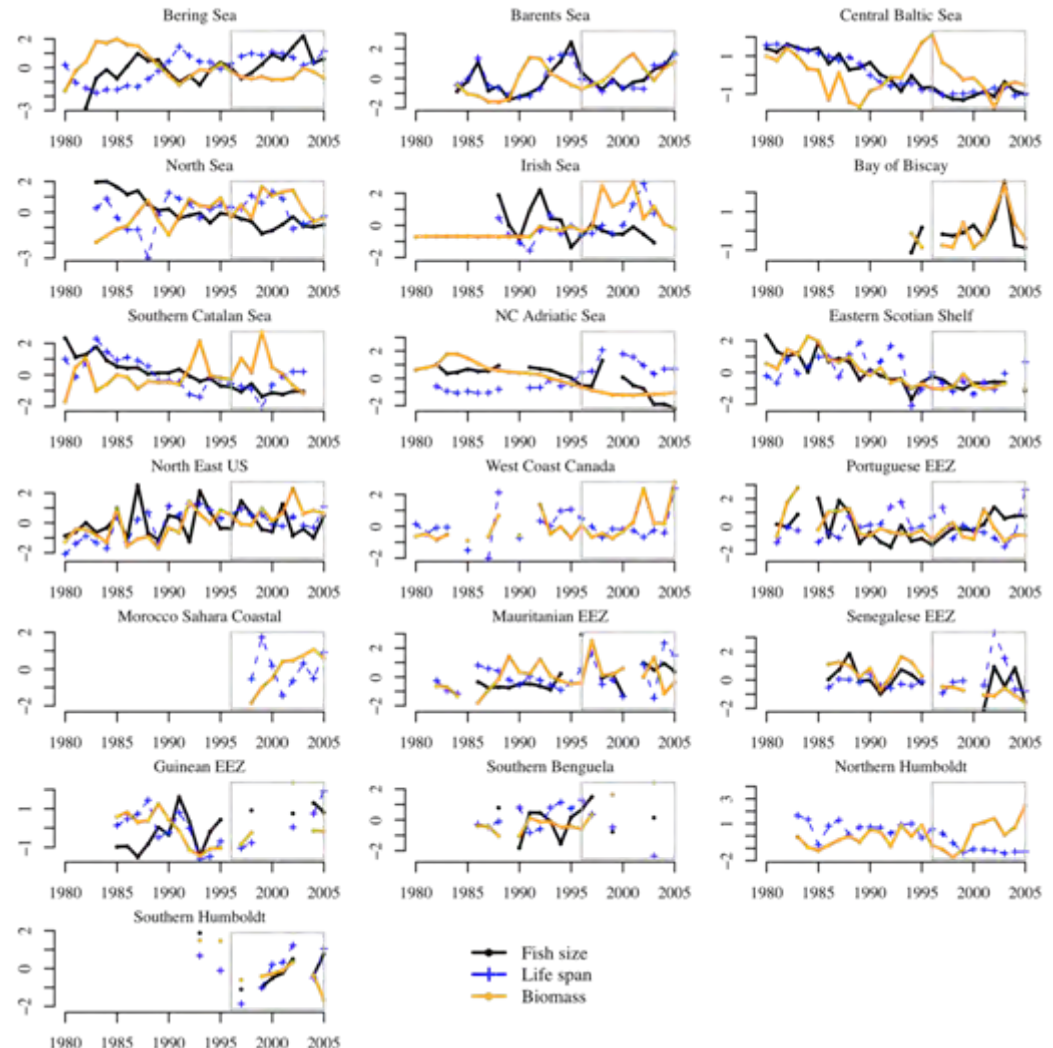


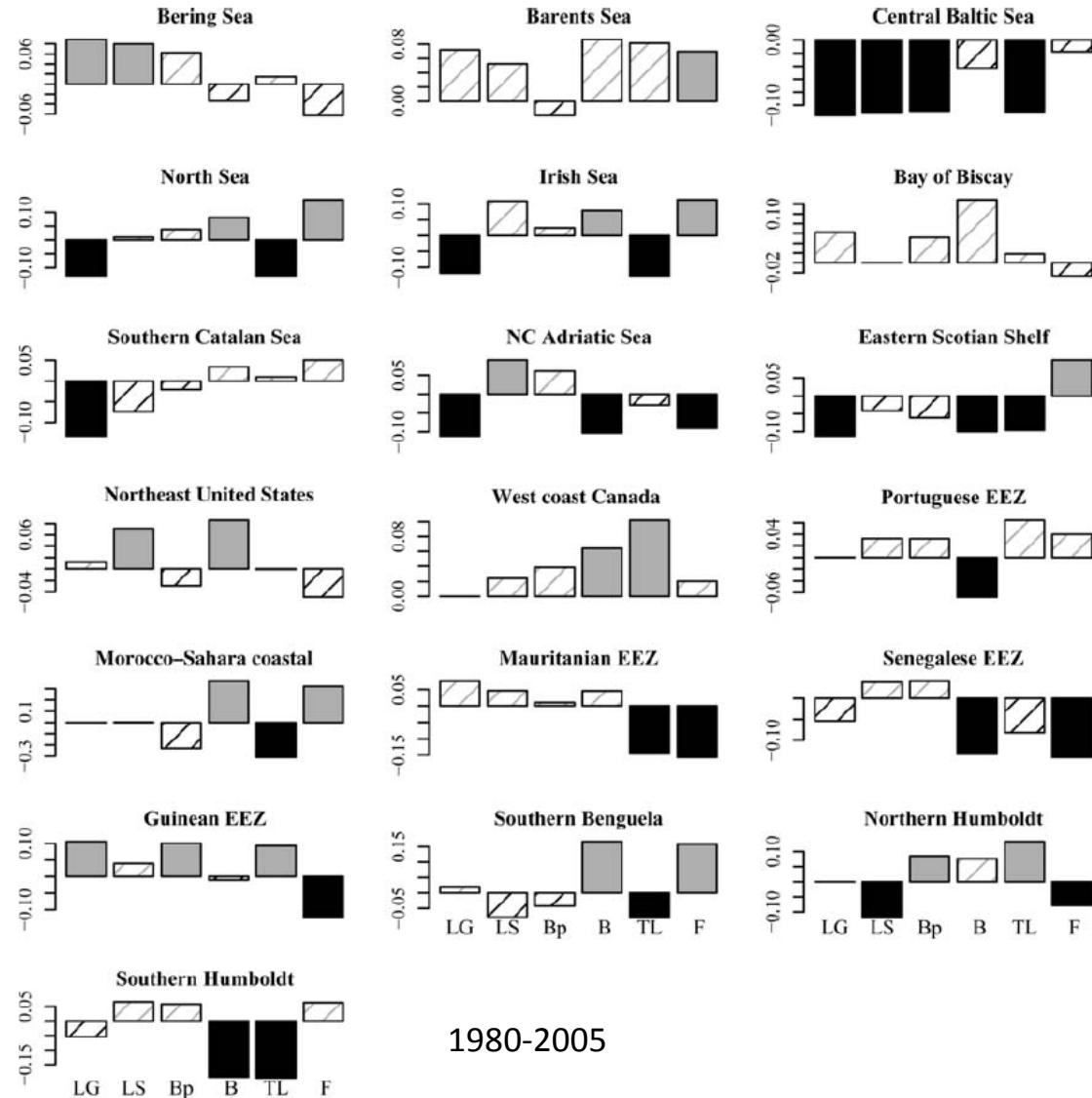
Figure 2. Pie diagrams representing present ecosystem states (2003–2005) using six ecological indicators: mean length, mean lifespan, TL of the landings, proportion of predatory fish, proportion of under- to moderately exploited species, and 1/CV biomass. Absence of the external border of a portion of the pie means that the corresponding indicator value was not available.

Trend analysis of indicators: a comparison of recent changes in the status of marine ecosystems around the world: Blanchard et al. 2010.

- ④ Explore changes of indicators using both linear and non-linear statistical methods for quantifying T
- ④ Compare and contrast T in indicators across ecosystems
- ④ Address the redundancies and/or complementarities of indicators by looking at similarities in temporal dynamics



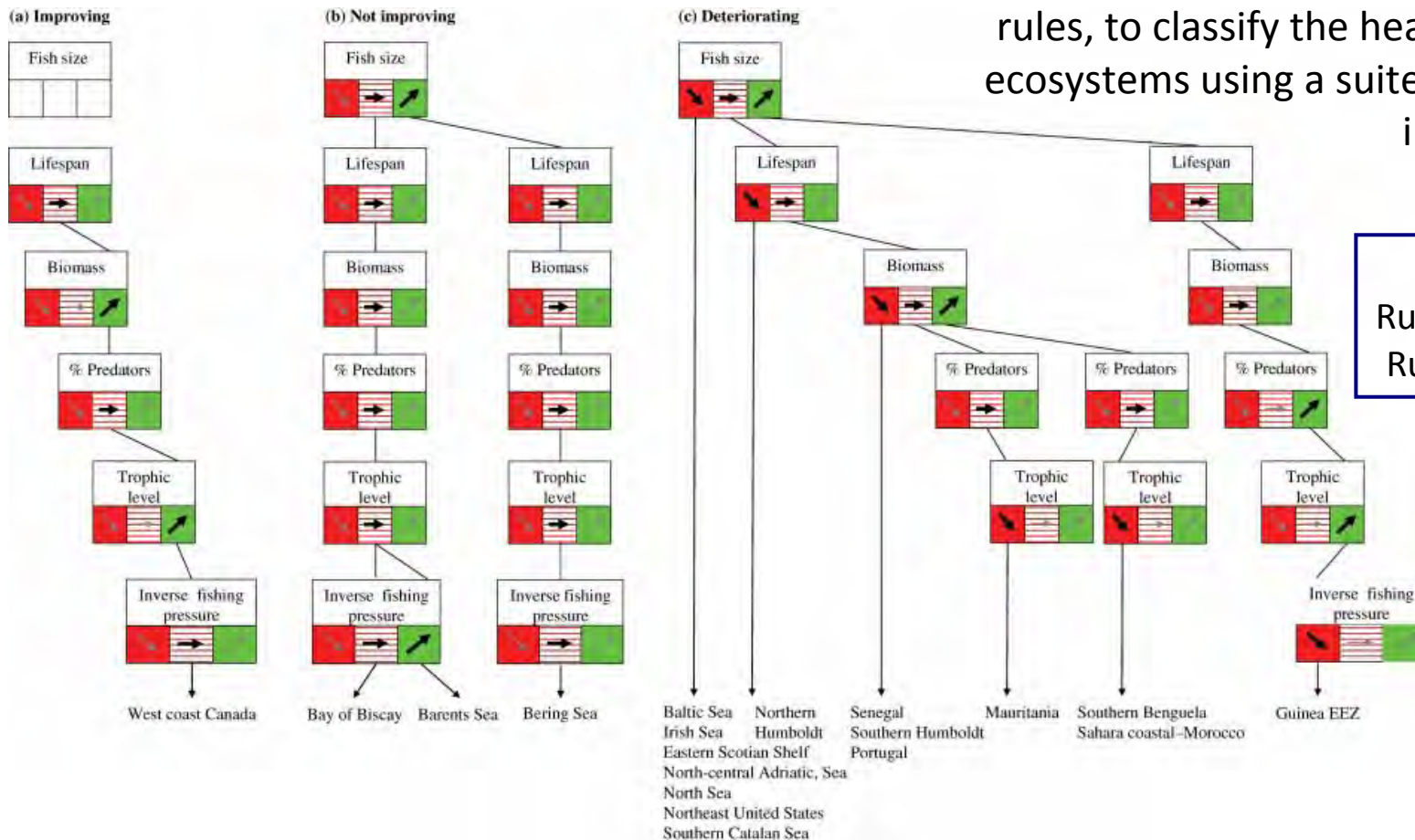
- Ⓢ No consistent patterns in the redundancy of the indicators: each indicator provided complementary information
- Ⓢ Mixture of + and - directions of change including long and short time series
- Ⓢ Need to improve understanding of the responsiveness and performance of indicators



The good(ish), the bad, and the ugly: a tripartite classification of ecosystem trends:
Bundy et al. 2010.

1980-2005

Application of a decision-tree framework, with associated decision rules, to classify the health of marine ecosystems using a suite of ecological indicators of T



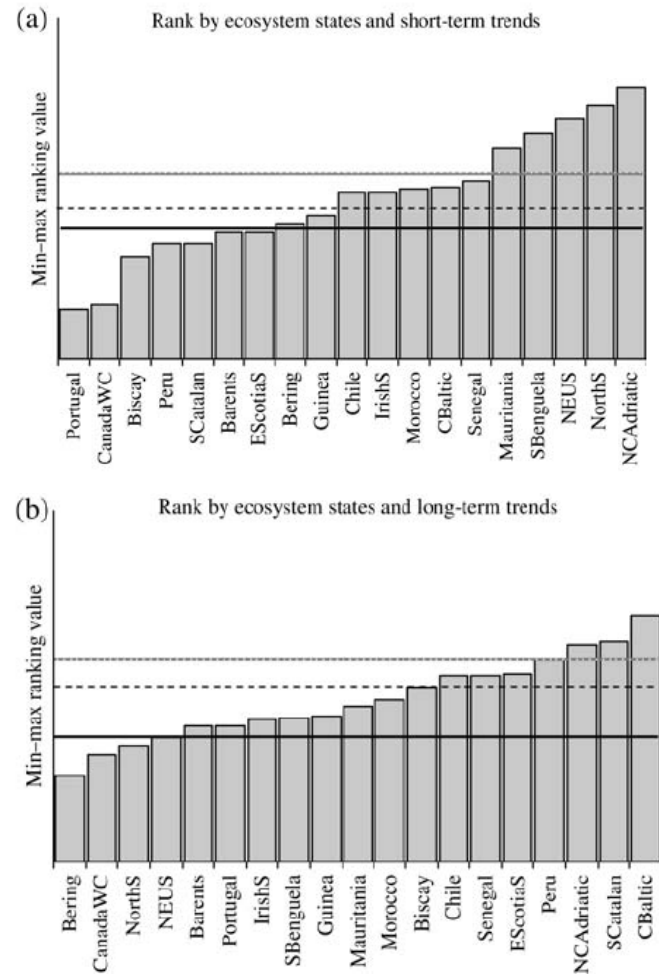
No T, +T, -T
Rule1: one (-) out
Rule2: 2(+) no (-)



IndiSeas: Comparative Approach

Ranking the ecological relative status of exploited marine ecosystems: Coll et al. 2010.

- Ⓢ S and T used to rank exploited ecosystems regarding fishing impacts
- Ⓢ Ecosystems classified into they were most, moderately, or least impacted (S), and they were becoming more or less impacted, or remaining stationary (T)
- Ⓢ Responses of ecological indicators to environmental and socio-economic explanatory factors were tested (BIO-ENV routine PRIMER)



- Ranking with S and T differed because of differences in trends
- Nº of ecosystems classified as “unclear or intermediately impacted” increased with time, and the “less strongly impacted” and “more strongly impacted” were maintained
- Ecosystem type, enforcement, primary production, sea temperature, and fishing type were important variables explaining the ecological indicators

From long-term to short-term trends

Ecosystem	Situation
Barents Sea	U
Bay of Biscay	H → L
Bering Sea	L
Central Baltic Sea	H
Eastern Scotian shelf	H → L
Guinean EEZ	L → U
Irish Sea	U
Mauritania	U → H
Morocco	U
North Central Adriatic Sea	H
Northeastern US	L → H
North Sea	L → H
Northern Humboldt	H → L
Portugal EEZ	L
Senegal EEZ	H → U
Southern Benguela	U → H
Southern Catalan Sea	H
Southern Humboldt	H → U
West coast Canada	L

U, an unclear situation; L, lower impacts of fishing, i.e. a system classified as in a more lightly impacted by fishing situation; H, higher impacts, i.e. a more strongly impacted situation; → indicates that a system's classification changed when assessed over the long term (1980–2005, or for as long as there were data available for the system—see Link *et al.*, 2010, for lengths of the trends) relative to the short term (1996–2005).

Relating marine ecosystem indicators to fishing and environmental drivers: an elucidation of contrasting responses: Link et al. 2010.

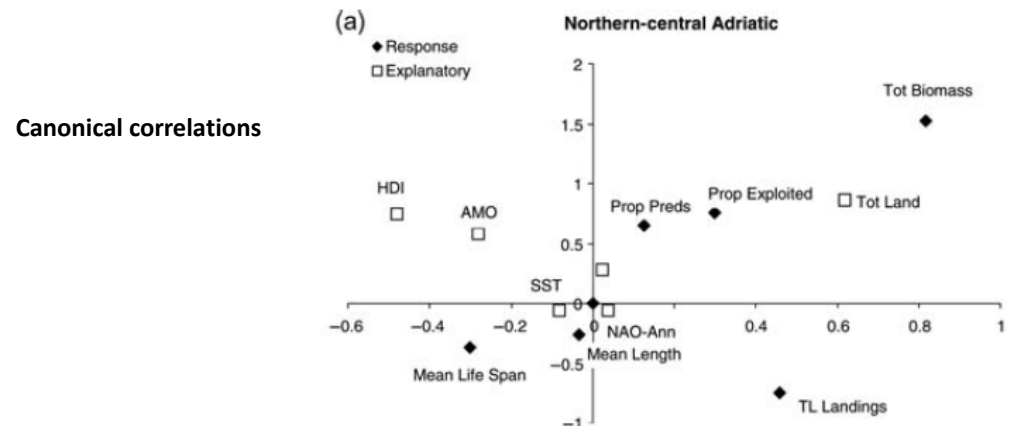
- Analysis of the specificity of S and T indicators, and key drivers: fishing and the environment

- Fishing (Landings) or human populations (HDI) were the primary drivers

- Environmental drivers were secondarily important, except mostly for upwelling systems

Table 2. Importance of ecosystem drivers across the 19 ecosystems resulting from the BV-STEP analysis. Black boxes are significant, grey boxes marginally significant. Blank cells indicate that an indicator was either not applicable to the particular ecosystem or did not emerge as having detected a relationship with the response indicators. AMO, Atlantic Multidecadal Oscillation Index; PDO, Pacific Decadal Oscillation; ENSO, *El Niño*–Southern Oscillation; SST, sea surface temperature; HDI, Human Development Index.

Drivers	Adriatic Sea	Baltic Sea	Barents Sea	Southern Benguela	Bering	Biscay	Chile	Eastern Scotian Shelf	Guinea	Irish Sea	Mauritania	Morocco	North Sea	Peru	Portugal	Southern Catalan Sea	Senegal	US northeast	West coast Canada
AMO		■				■			■	■		■					■		
PDO					■														
ENSO							■								■				■
Landings	■		■	■	■			■			■					■	■	■	
SST		■	■			■					■		■			■			
HDI			■	■	■					■		■	■	■			■	■	■

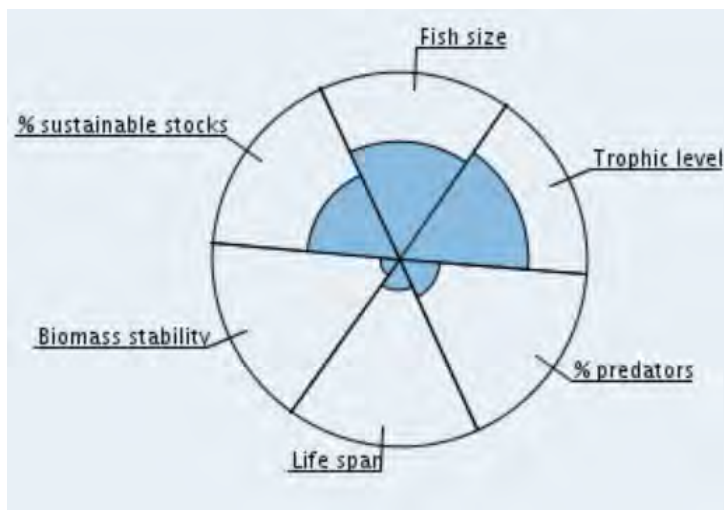




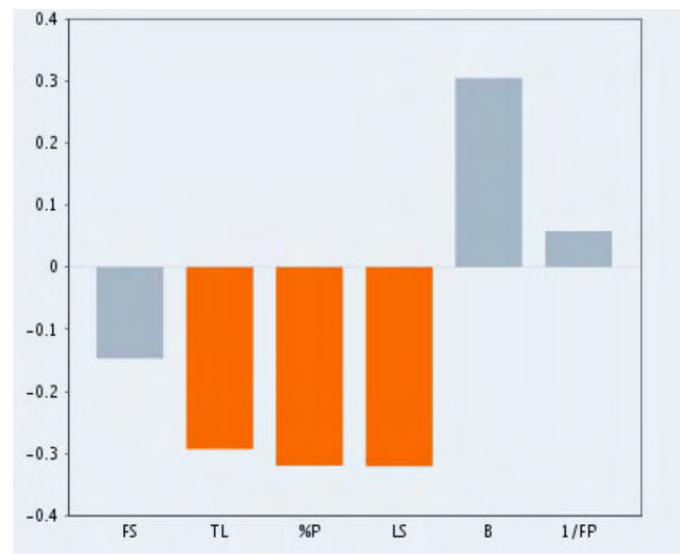
IndiSeas: Synthesis and Graphic Representation

- A special emphasis was given to conveying results clearly
- Images were ideal tools to convey the information from the suite of indicators regarding S and T

Pie diagrams for States (S)



Bar plots for Trends (T)



IndiSeas: Reaching the public

www.indiseas.org

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Indicators for
the seas

indiSeas

Welcome to the website of the indiSeas project

Launched in 2005 under the auspices of the Euroceans scientific programme, the indiSeas project aims to evaluate the effects of fisheries on marine ecosystems by using a panel of ecological indicators, and to facilitate effective communication of these effects.

What will you find in the indiSeas project ?

The present state of exploited marine ecosystems and recent evolutions are evaluated and compared by a group of independent scientists, using indicators of fishing effects.

The state is represented by a pie diagram with 6 indicators. The larger the surface of a pie, the better is the corresponding indicator.

The evolution of an ecosystem is represented through trends and time series of indicators.

General features of ecosystems (functioning, exploitation), key species and illustrations are also provided.

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STATUS OF MARINE ECOSYSTEMS

To view an ecosystem and a evaluation of its state, click on the corresponding location in the world map or consult the list below.

[Ecosystems](#)

COMPARATIVE APPROACH

Select and compare the states and trends of several ecosystems (pie diagrams and time series)

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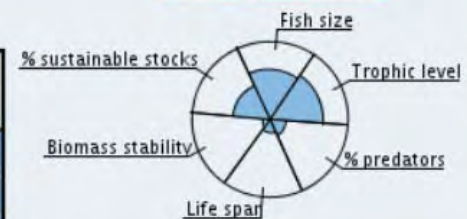
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[State \(2003 - 2005\)](#)



[Trends \(1996 - 2005\)](#)



Southern Benguela



[Description](#)



[Key Species](#)



Anchovy was dominant in the 1980s but declined by the 90s and stocks of sardine, redeye, horse mackerel and Cape hake increased. The "high pelagic fish biomass" situation of the early 2000s was short-lived, stocks of both anchovy and sardine again declining. There is little room for expansion of the hake fishery above present levels. Most linefish stocks are currently overfished and cause for concern. Indicators suggest that the system has been deteriorating from 1996-2005 (mean life span, % predators and TL of the landings) but biomass of surveyed stocks increased. The decline in TL in part reflected the upsurge in small pelagic fish in the early 2000s. The environment has been a more important driver of ecosystem change than fisheries.

by *Lynne Shannon*

MA-RE

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[to the ecosystem](#)

Southern Benguela

Overview of the ecosystem and its fisheries

Geographic Area

The Benguela is an upwelling system that may be subdivided into two oceanographic sub-systems. The northern Benguela is considered to extend south of the Angola-Benguela front located between 14 and 16oS, southwards to the permanent upwelling cell located in the vicinity of Lüderitz, Namibia (26oS). The latter is believed to provide a barrier to the north-south migration of some fish stocks, such as anchovy and sardine. However, the conventional division between northern and southern sub-systems is the Namibian-South African border at the Orange River Mouth (29oS). For scientific and fisheries management purposes, the southern Benguela ecosystem is generally assumed to extend from the Orange River Mouth (29oS) to East London (28oE), offshore to approximately the 500-m depth contour, covering an area of 220 000 km².

[FAO Fishing Areas:](#) [47.1.6 ; 47.2.1]

Environment


The southern Benguela sub-system is unique because it includes the upwelling region along the south-western coast of Africa, but also extends over the Agulhas Bank and along the south coast. For this reason, the demersal and benthic components of the southern Benguela ecosystem are more abundant and play a more important role than in most other upwelling systems. The complex life cycles of many marine species off South Africa, which have spawning, nursery and feeding grounds in both the upwelling area off the west coast and on the Agulhas Bank or south coast, at different times of the




*Lion's Head, and Cape Town waterfront
from harbour entrance to Table Bay. © Obie
Oberholster*



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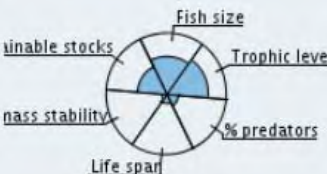
To view an ecosystem and a evaluation of its state, click on the corresponding location in the world map or consult the list below.

Ecosystems

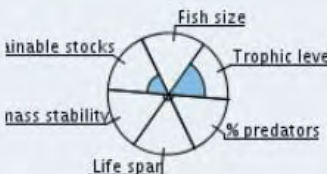


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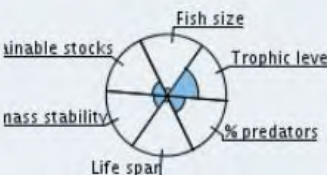
Benquela (Southern)



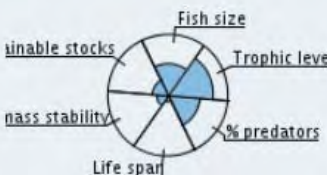
Humboldt (Northern)



Catalan Sea (Southern)



North Sea



- Benguela (Southern)
- Humboldt (Northern)
- Adriatic Sea (North Central)
- Catalan Sea (Southern)
- Portuguese EEZ
- Senegalese EEZ
- Baltic Sea (Central)
- Scotian shelf (Eastern)
- North Sea
- Barents Sea
- Bering Sea, Aleutian Iss.
- Guinean EEZ
- Irish Sea
- Sahara Coastal
- Bay of Biscay
- Mauritanian EEZ
- USA (North-East)
- Canada (West Coast)
- Humboldt (Southern)
- Check All

Compare states

Radars Pies

Compare trends

States: 2003 - 2005
Trends: 1996 - 2005



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Indicators for the seas



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Ecosystems

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Select and compare the states and trends of several ecosystems (pie diagrams and time series)

Compare

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- Benguela (Southern)
- Humboldt (Northern)
- Adriatic Sea (North Central)
- Catalan Sea (Southern)
- Portuguese EEZ
- Senegalese EEZ
- Baltic Sea (Central)
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- Check All

Compare states

Radars Pies

Compare trends

States: 2003 - 2005
Trends: 1996 - 2005

FS : Fish size	LS : Life span
TL : Trophic level	B : Biomass
%P : % predators	1/FP : Inverse fishing pressure

■ Positive trend
■ Negative trend
■ Non significant trend

Benguela (Southern)



Indicator	Trend
FS	Non significant
TL	Negative
%P	Negative
LS	Negative
B	Positive

Humboldt (Northern)



Indicator	Trend
FS	Non significant
TL	Non significant
%P	Non significant
LS	Negative
B	Positive

Catalan Sea (Southern)



Indicator	Trend
FS	Non significant
TL	Positive
%P	Positive
LS	Positive
B	Non significant

North Sea



Indicator	Trend
FS	Non significant
TL	Non significant
%P	Non significant
LS	Non significant
B	Positive





IndiSeas: What have we learned?

- ④ A **set of indicators is helpful** in establishing a diagnosis of the status of exploited ecosystems
- ④ A **comparative approach** enables greater understanding of the driving mechanisms of exploited marine ecosystems
- ④ The **simple, yet rigorous, and often available indicators** of IndiSeas provide good perspective of ecosystem status and the impacts of fishing, and **complement more specific or rich-data assessments**
- ④ Need of **local experts** to interpret results

Advantages and disadvantages

States: easier to calculate, but less informative and difficult to compare

Long-term trends: more informative, fully comparable, but data challenge

Short-term trends: data available, but less informative

Decision tree: provides diagnosis applicable for management, but previous classification needed

Ranking: complete picture of S and T, but weighting method needed

Drivers: informative and necessary



IndiSeas: What have we learned?

- Some consistent patterns observed across ecosystems, methods and indicators (state or trend) for long term trends:
 - 6 ecosystems identified as deteriorating/impacted
 - 2 ecosystems identified as less impacted/non-deteriorating
 - 3 ecosystems identified as improving or highly ranked
 - 8 ecosystems with mixed results due to difference in methodologies
- Results using short term T were more variable, but there were consistent patterns across 8 ecosystems. Most showed a prominence of primary human driver and of secondary environmental driver

- Ⓢ General evaluation indicates an **overexploitation state and declining trends** in several marine ecosystems
- Ⓢ **Fishing** is a prominent driver, **environment** follows, depending on local conditions
- Ⓢ Indicators expected to decrease with increasing fishing, but they do **not vary exclusively in response to fishing**, so need to consider multiple drivers of change



IndiSeas2

Objectives and General Approach

Synthesis of IndiSeas results

Future developments

- Add **marine ecosystems** to the comparison
- **Complement** the suite of indicators and **update** them to 2010
- Complement available indicators with additional indicators not necessarily available for all the ecosystems (e.g. discards) and **model-derived indicators**
- Importance of considering **environmental indicators** as synergistic or antagonistic drivers of ecosystem dynamics
- Need to further work on indicators' **thresholds and reference points**
- Need to assess the **responsiveness** of indicators to specific management



IndiSeas2: Objectives and General Approach

The **main objective of IndiSeas2** is to refine the evaluation and communication of the ecological status of marine ecosystems subject to multiple drivers (climate, fishing) in a changing world in support of an EAF

@ IndiSeas2 WG aims to:

- (i) Update the ecological set of IndiSeas indicators and expand the range of ecosystems included
- (ii) Include biodiversity and conservation-based (**Marta Coll & Lynne Shannon**), environmental (**Jason Link & Larry Hutchings**) and socioeconomic indicators (**Alida Bundy & Ratana Chuenpagdee**)
- (iii) Further explore and test the set of indicators with development of new methods (integration, reference levels, test responsiveness and performance, and modeling) (**Steve Mackinson & Yunne Shin – Julia Blanchard & Jake Rice**)

IndiSeas2 is lead by **Yunne-Jai Shin, Lynne J. Shannon** and **Alida Bundy**



IndiSeas2: New Indicators on biodiversity and conservation-based issues

④ Two of IndiSeas indicators were selected specifically to measure the impacts of fishing on the ecological attribute “Conservation of functional diversity”:

Proportion of predatory fish

Proportion of underexploited stocks

④ IndiSeas2 will include a set of indicators that can quantify the broader biodiversity and conservation risks in ecosystems

④ **Step-by-step process:** define objectives of the group, requirements of the indicators, identify potential indicators with literature review, and determine screening criteria

④ The set of new indicators will be **small, simple, available** and **rigorous**

④ **Criteria:** data availability, ecological meaning, sensitivity to fishing, and public awareness, under a comparative approach framework



The indicators under consideration

In collaboration with Lynne J. Shannon

INDICATORS CHOSEN BY THE GROUP:

% Predatory fish in the catch
% Healthy stocks (FAO data and experts)
Proportion of all exploited species with declining biomass
Intrinsic vulnerability index of the catch -- W. Cheung and colleagues (FishBase)
Relative abundance (or biomass) of flagship species
Areas not impacted by mobile bottom gear
Marine Trophic Index -- D. Pauly and colleagues (CBD)
Mean trophic level of the community
Total (commercial) Invertebrates / Total catch or biomass
Discard rate

OTHER INDICATORS THAT WERE DISCUSSED:

Total fish / Total catch or biomass
% Depleted commercial taxa
Number of critically endangered, endangered, vulnerable or near threatened species (IUCN criteria)
Threat indicator for fish species -- N. Dulvy and colleagues (using IUCN criteria)
Endemic or rare (fish) species in the catch
Proportion of fish species included in the catch or total taxonomic groups (families, orders)
Total surface area of the ecosystem formally protected from fishing, or closed to fishing
% Catch that is coming from highly bottom impacting fleets / the total catch
% Catch that is coming from bottom trawl-beam trawl and dredges / the total catch
Piscivorous fish / planktivorous fish catch or biomass ratios
Seagrass, mangrove or oyster/mussel banks extent or coral reef condition

The indicators under consideration

Criteria of **ecological meaning, sensitivity to fishing, data availability, and public awareness**

INDICATORS CHOSEN BY THE GROUP:

Biodiversity/conservation-based indicators	Ecological significance	Sensitivity	Measurability (%)	Public awareness
% Predatory fish in the catch	x	x	100	x
% Healthy stocks	x	x	100	x
Proportion of all exploited species with declining biomass	x	x	88	x
Intrinsic vulnerability index of the catch	x	x	100	x
Relative abundance (or biomass) of flagship species	x	x	88	x
Areas not impacted by mobile bottom gear	x		88	x
Marine Trophic Index	x	x	100	x
Mean trophic level of the community	x	x	76	x
Total (commercial) Invertebrates / Total catch or biomass	x	x	94	x
Discard rate	x	x	94	x



The indicators under consideration

The decision so far...

IndiSeas1:

- % Predatory fish in the community (State & Trend)
- % of under-and moderately exploited stocks (State)

New indicators:

- % of exploited species with declining biomass (State)
- Intrinsic vulnerability index of the catch (State)
- Relative abundance (or biomass) of flagship species (Trend)
- Marine Trophic Index (of landings, Trend)

Complementary:

- TL of surveyed community to complement MTI and TLc
- Discard (% or discard rate)

Food-web model-based indicators

Species / Ecological groups indicators

Biomass, Production and Consumption ratios
Indicators of fishing impact: F/Z, PPR, TLC
Trophic level
Mixed trophic impact analysis
Keystone species
Total trophic flows, transfer efficiencies
Ecosystem development (Odum; Ulanowicz)

Single species indicators
Population indicators
Community-based indicators
Ecosystem indicators

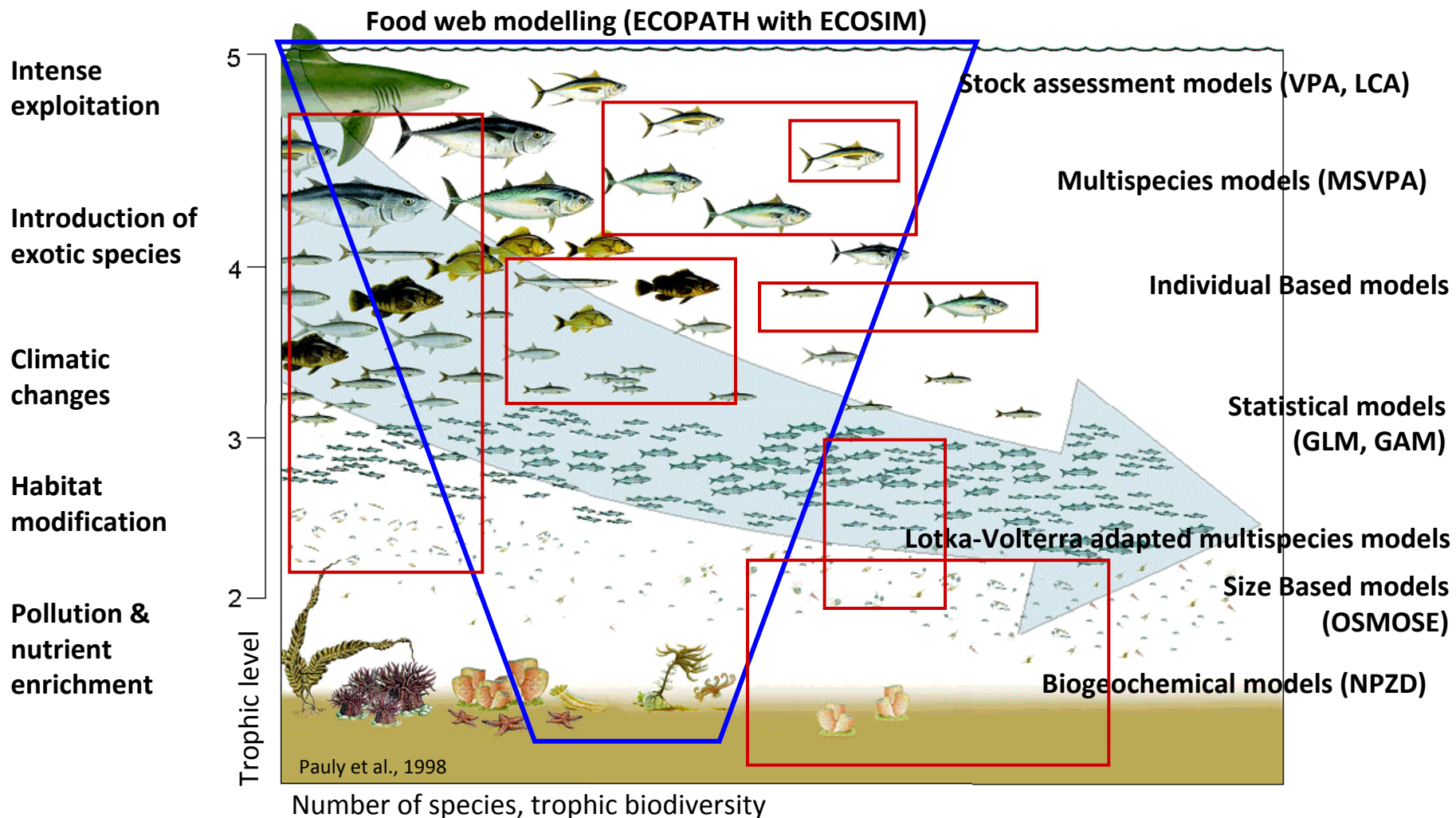
Food web / Ecosystem emergent properties

- ④ Ecosystem structure
- ④ Ecosystem functioning
- ④ Fishing and environmental impacts
- ④ Biodiversity and conservation-based

Food-web modelling



Due to human activities, important changes may have occurred in marine food webs



EwE Food-web modelling



Ecopath with Ecosim – EwE – www.ecopath.org

Worldwide applied tool for the description of ecosystem structure and functioning (mainly marine), for theoretical analysis of food webs, and for investigating various ecological issues in an EAF context

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Ecopath with Ecosim website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the site logo, the slogan "No fish is an island", and three circular icons representing "SEA AROUND US POLICY", "ECOPATH", and "ECOSIM". Below the navigation bar are links for "About", "Publications", "Models", "Downloads", and "Support".

On the left side, there is a search bar and a login section with fields for "Username:" and "Password:", a "Log in" button, and links for "Create new account" and "Request new password".

The main content area is titled "Home" and contains a paragraph describing the software suite: "Ecopath with Ecosim (EwE) is a free ecological /ecosystem modeling software suite. EwE has three main components: *Ecopath* – a static, mass-balanced snapshot of the system; *Ecosim* – a time dynamic simulation module for policy exploration; and *Ecospace* – a spatial and temporal dynamic module primarily designed for exploring impact and placement of protected areas. The Ecopath software package can be used to

- Address ecological questions;
- Evaluate ecosystem effects of fishing;
- Explore management policy options;
- Analyze impact and placement of marine protected areas;
- Predict movement and accumulation of contaminants and tracers (Ecotracer);
- Model effect of environmental changes.

To the right of this text is an illustration of a large fish with a small island on its back, featuring a palm tree and a person standing on it.

Below the text is a prominent blue button labeled "Download Now" with a downward arrow icon. Underneath the button, it says "EwE 6.1.1.1109 (14MB) November 2010".

At the bottom of the page, there is a paragraph: "This website aims to help you to get the best out of the EwE software and to participate in the EwE community: create a user account to participate in the Ecopath forums, to add and update your own EwE-related publications, or to promote your models."

At the very bottom, there are four circular icons with corresponding labels: "EwE user manual" (with a book icon), "Tutorials" (with a pencil icon), "Forums" (with a speech bubble icon), and "Development / pending issues / report issues" (with a wrench and screwdriver icon).

On the left side, under the "News" section, there is a list of recent updates:

- Ecopath post-Doc position in Rennes (France)
- EwE 6.1.1 released
- Next release Ecopath: 8 Nov 2010
- Ecopath course 2-4 March 2011
- Ecopath 6.1.0624 released
- Result Extractor plug-in released
- Ecopath 6.1 released
- All new Ecopath.org

Below the list is a "Read More" link.

EwE Food-web modelling



(1) ECOPATH: mass balance static routine (0D, NO time dynamics)

(2) ECOSIM: time dynamic (0D)

(3) ECOSPACE: time dynamic and spatially explicit (2D)

Polovina, J. J. (1984) Model of a Coral-Reef Ecosystem .1. the Ecopath Model and Its Application to French Frigate Shoals. *Coral Reefs*, **3**, 1-11.

Christensen, V. & Pauly, D. (1992) ECOPATH II - A software for balancing steady-state ecosystem models and calculating network characteristics. *Ecological Modelling*, **61**

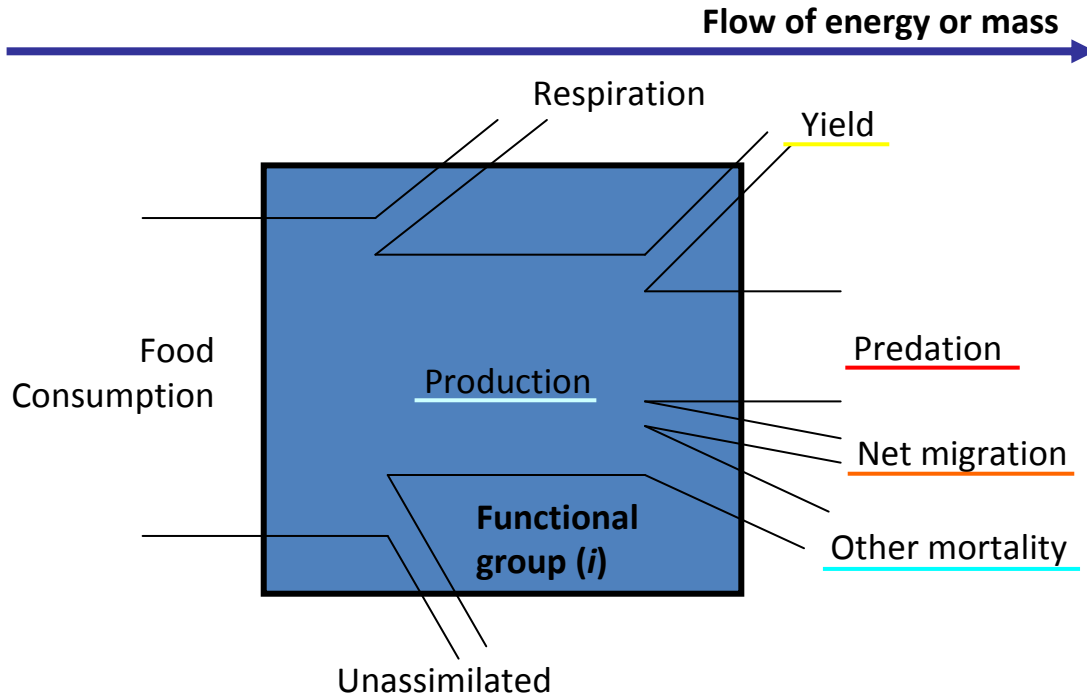
Christensen, V. & Pauly, D. (1993) *Trophic models of aquatic ecosystems*, edn. ICLARM Conference Proceedings

Walters, C., Christensen, V. & Pauly, D. (1997) Structuring dynamic models of exploited ecosystems from trophic mass-balance assessments. *Reviews in Fish Biology and Fisheries*, **7**, 139-172.

Walters, C., Pauly, D. & Christensen, V. (1999) Ecospace: prediction of mesoscale spatial patterns in trophic relationships of exploited ecosystems, with emphasis on the impacts of marine protected areas. *Ecosystems*, **2**, 539-554

Christensen, V. & Walters, C. (2004) Ecopath with Ecosim: methods, capabilities and limitations. *Ecological Modelling*, **72**, 109-139

Ecopath - Mass balance modelling



Assumptions

MASS BALANCE: For each compartment i (species or functional groups) a balance is set up between consumption and all productions

STATIC SNAPSHOT:

- Biomass average
- Ratios as annual average

B_i Biomass

P/B_i Specific Production

Q/B_i Specific Consumption

DC_{ji} Fraction of prey (i) in diet of predator (j)

BA_i Biomass Accumulation

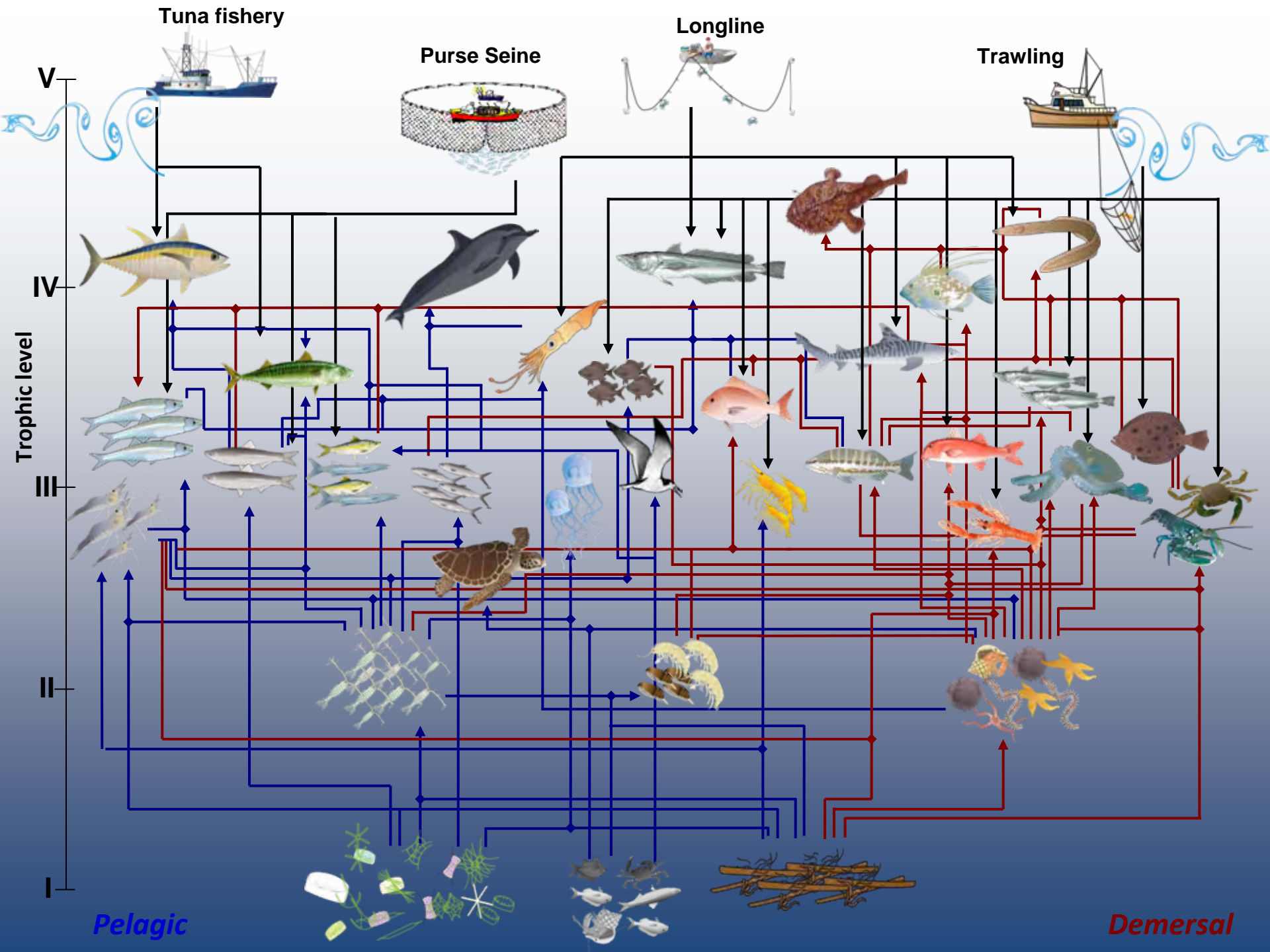
Y_i Catch

EE_i production used within the system

$1 - EE_i$ is the unexplained mortality

$$\left(\frac{Q}{B}\right)_i \cdot B_i = \left(\frac{P}{B}\right)_i \cdot B_i + R_i + UN_i$$

$$\left(\frac{P}{B}\right)_i \cdot B_i = \sum_{\text{Pred}_j=1}^n \left(\frac{Q}{B}\right)_j \cdot B_j \cdot DC_{ij} + E_i + Y_i + BA_i + \left(\frac{P}{B}\right)_i \cdot B_i \cdot (1 - EE_i)$$



Ecopath applications

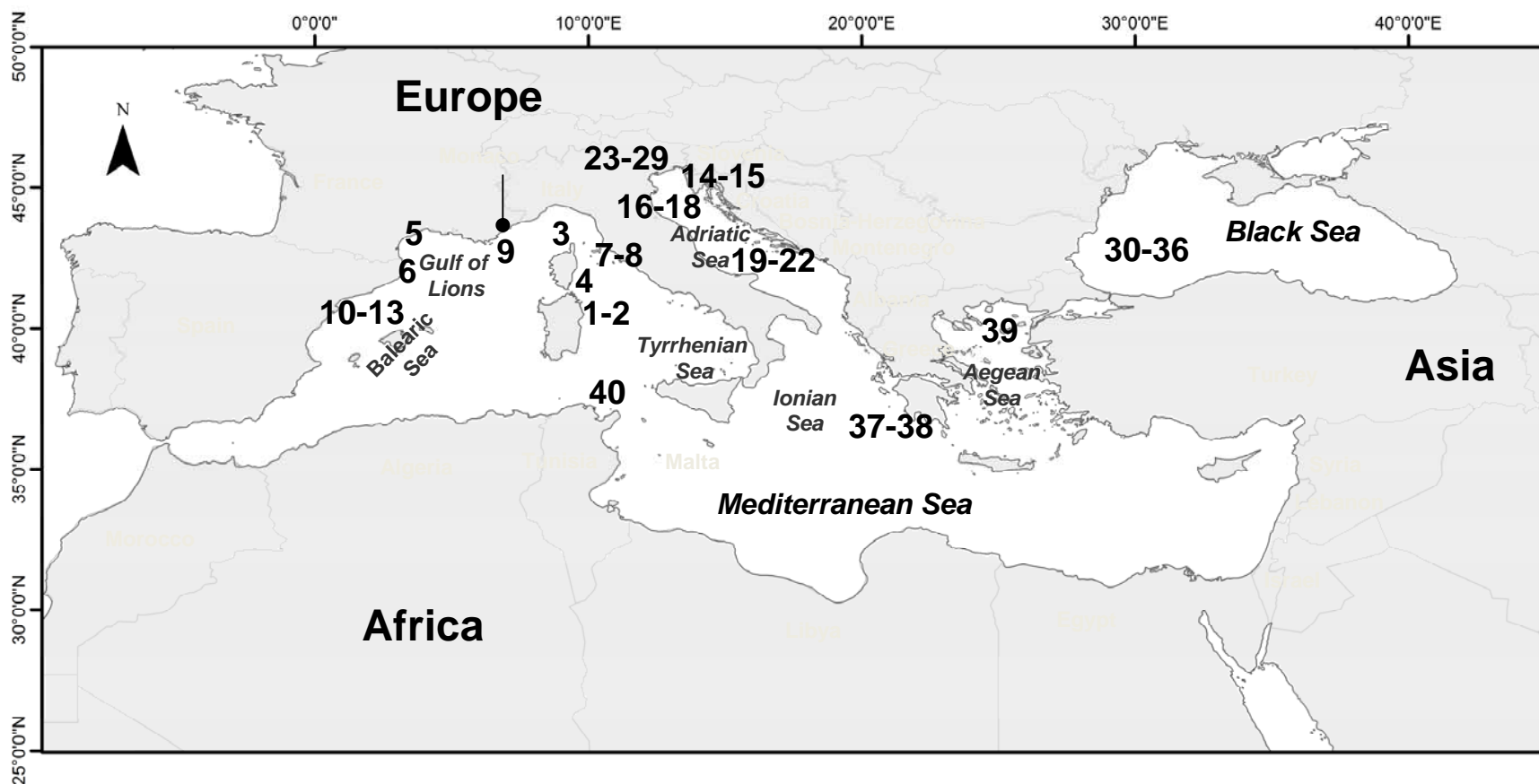


L. Morissette PhD 2007. Ecosystem models constructed from 1984 to 2007 with Ecopath. A total of **393 models** are shown on the map, 316 in marine habitats, 71 in rivers, lakes or reservoirs, and 6 terrestrial ecosystems.

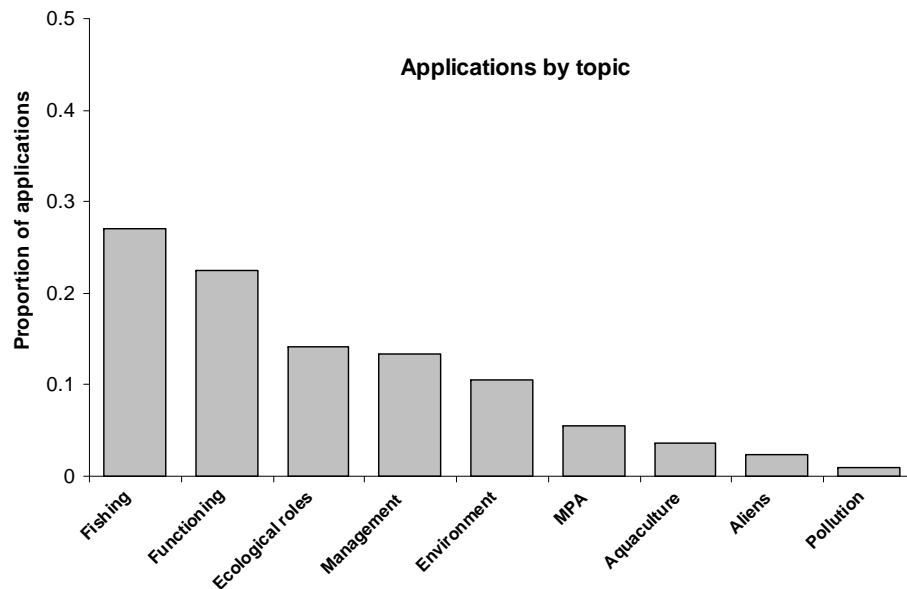
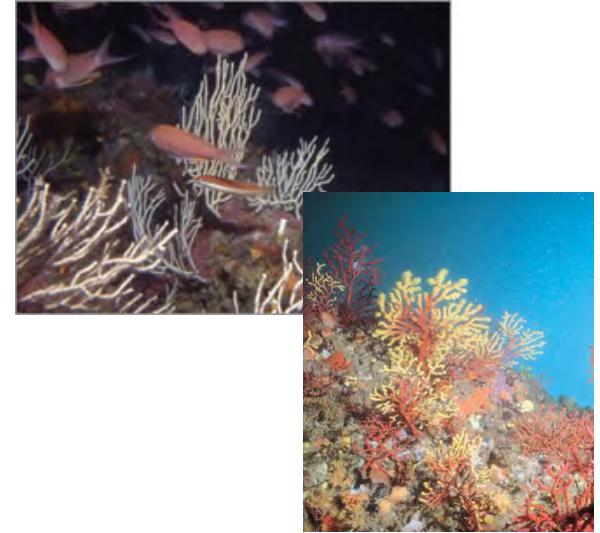
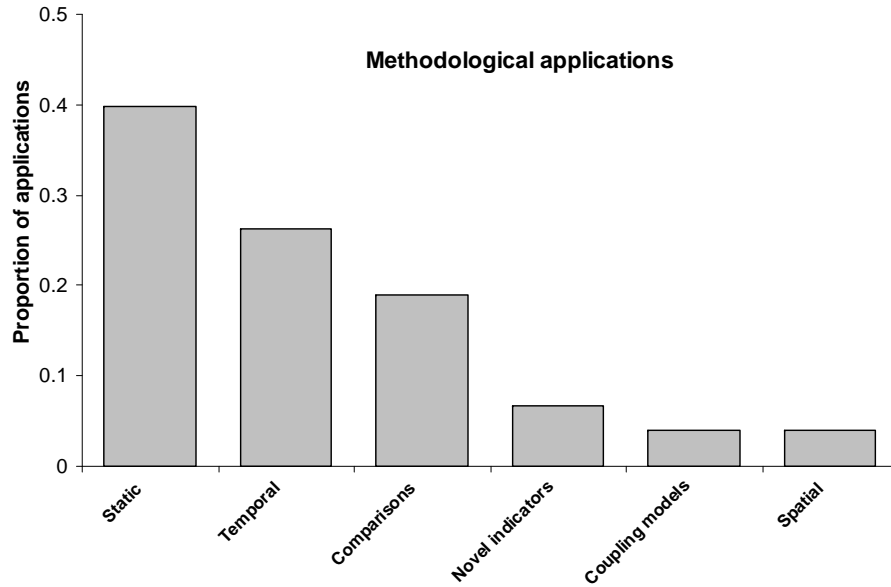
Mediterranean Ecopath applications



Comparative approach



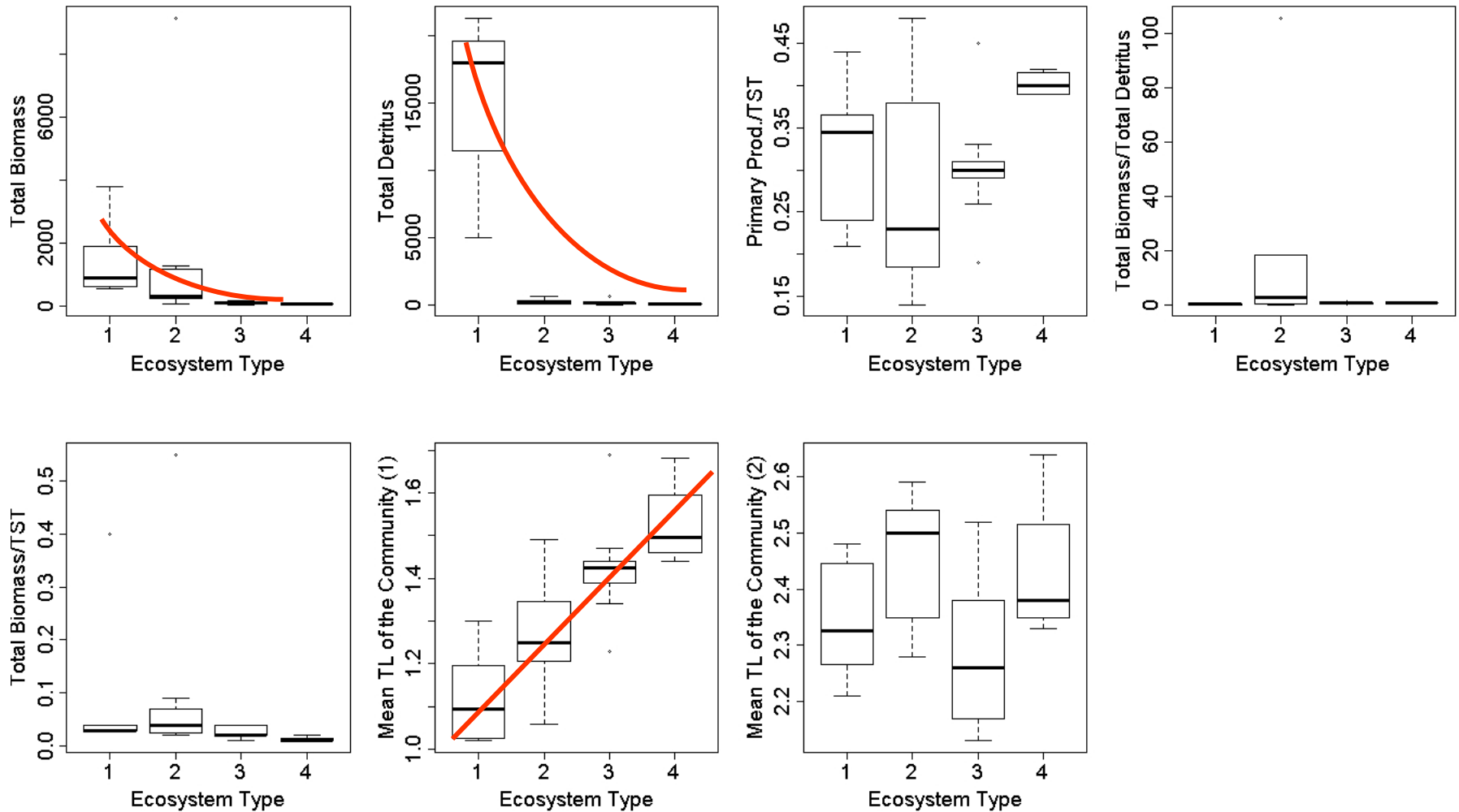
Applications by method and by topic



Ecosystem indicators by ecosystem type



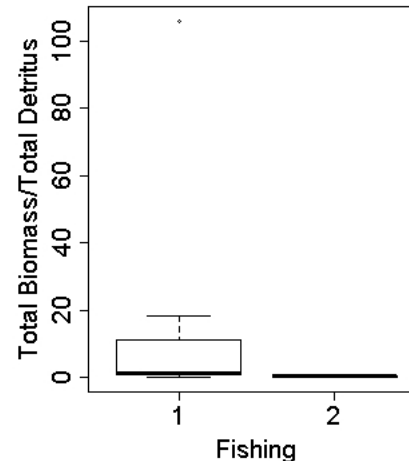
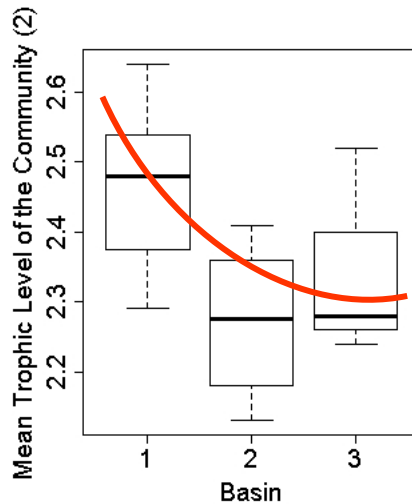
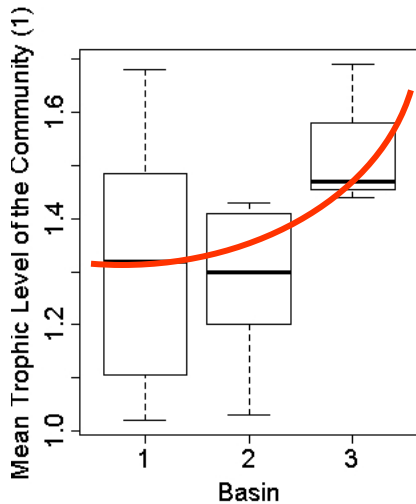
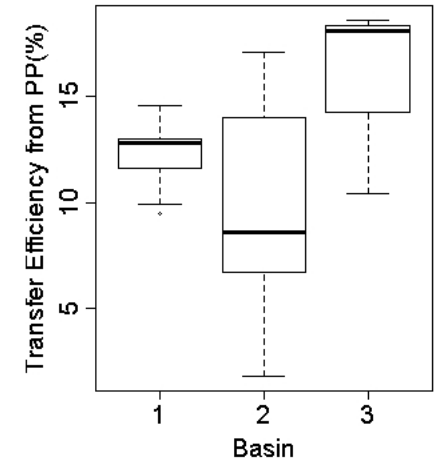
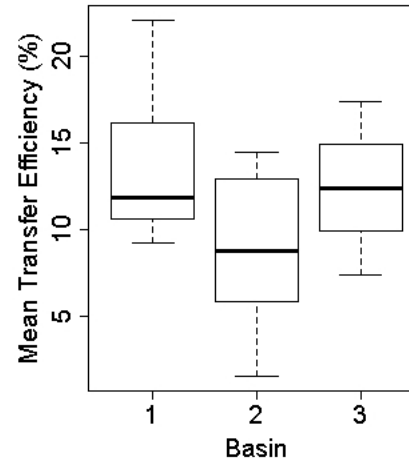
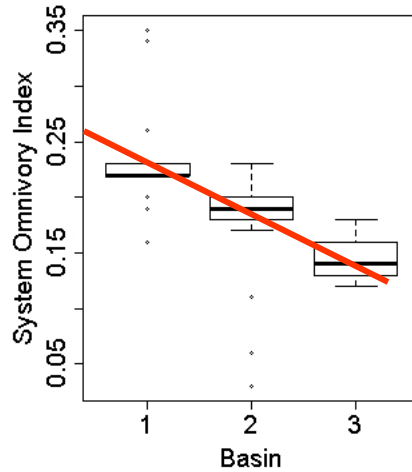
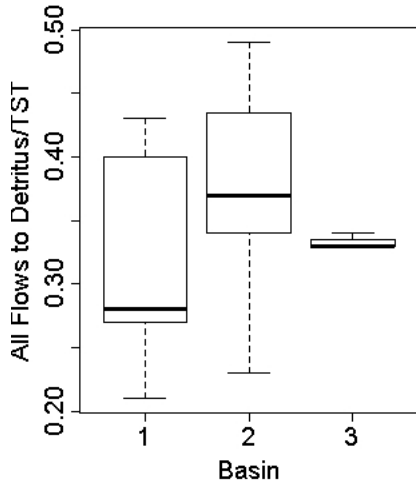
Ecosystem type: 1 = lagoon, 2 = coastal areas, 3 = continental shelf, 4 = continental shelf and slope



... by basin and exploitation



Basin: 1 = North-Western, 2 = North-Central, 3 = North-Eastern



Fishing: 1 = none/slight fishing, 2 = high fishing

Comparison of Ecopath models and SIA



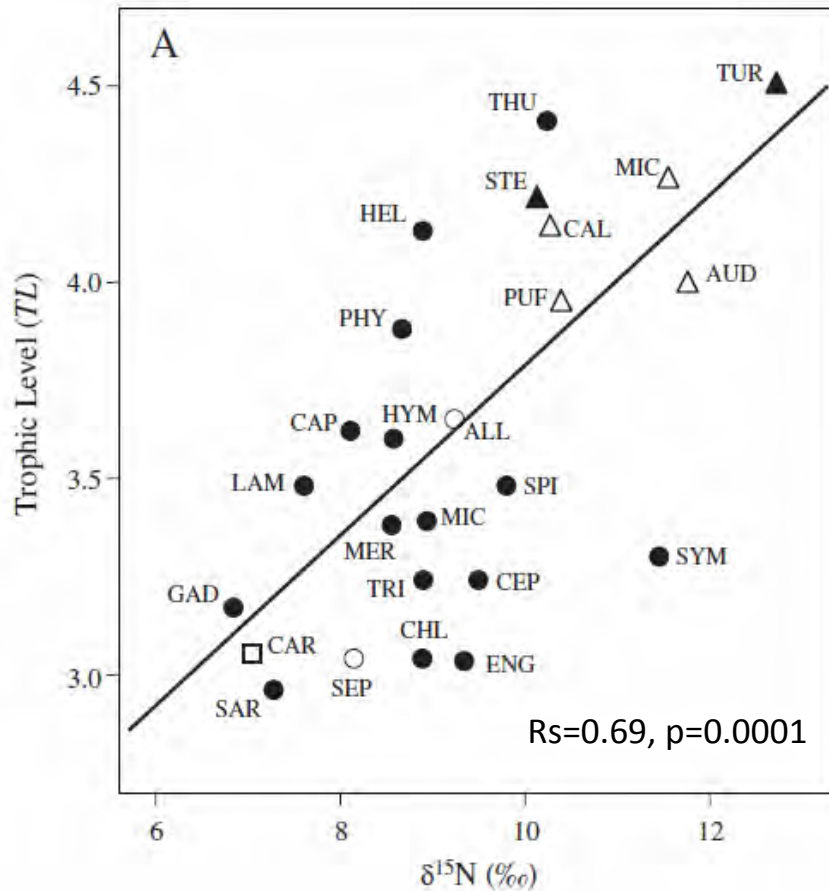
To depict the **trophic position** (trophic level and $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ values) and **trophic width** (omnivory index and total isotopic area) of several species of fish, cephalopods, cetaceans, seabirds and one sea turtle

Table 1

Trophic level (TL, mean \pm sd) and trophic width estimators, total area (TA) and omnivory index (OI), for fish, cephalopods, seabirds, cetaceans and marine turtles from the South Catalan Sea (NW Mediterranean). The source of the stable isotope and the sample sizes for each species (n) are also indicated. ND=No data available.

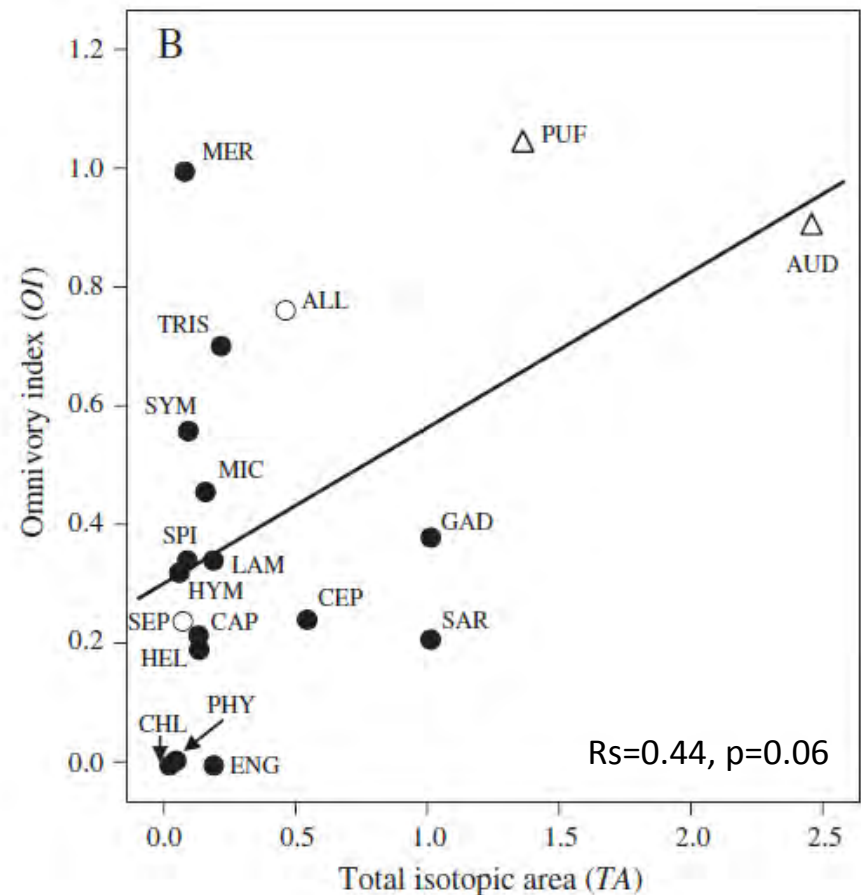
Species	TL	OI	TA	n	Source
Fish					
Anchovy <i>Engraulis encrasicolus</i> (ENG)	3.05 \pm 0.01	0	0.18	9	(Navarro et al., 2009)
Blackbelly rosefish <i>Helicolenus dactylopterus</i> (HEL)	4.14 \pm 0.26	0.19	0.12	10	Present study
Blotched picarel <i>Spicara flexuosa</i> (SPI)	3.49 \pm 0.35	0.35	0.08	9	(Navarro et al., 2009)
Blue whiting <i>Micromesistius poutassou</i> (MIC)	3.40 \pm 0.41	0.46	0.14	9	(Navarro et al., 2009)
Bluefin tuna <i>Thunnus thynnus</i> (THU)	4.42 \pm 0.32	0.11	ND	2	(Cardona et al., 2007)
Boarfish <i>Capros aper</i> (CAP)	3.65 \pm 0.28	0.22	0.12	10	Present study
European hake <i>Merluccius merluccius</i> (MER)	3.39 \pm 0.61	1	0.07	9	Present study
Glasshead grenadier <i>Hymenocephalus italicus</i> (HYM)	3.61 \pm 0.24	0.32	0.05	6	Present study
Greater forkbeard <i>Phycis blennoides</i> (PHY)	3.89 \pm 0.05	0.01	0.03	9	(Navarro et al., 2009)
Jewel lanternfish <i>Lampanyctus crocodilus</i> (LAM)	3.49 \pm 0.35	0.35	0.18	8	Present study
Sardine <i>Sardina pilchardus</i> (SAR)	2.97 \pm 0.27	0.21	1.01	9	(Navarro et al., 2009)
Poor cod <i>Trisopterus minutus</i> (TRI)	3.25 \pm 0.51	0.71	0.21	10	Present study
Red bandfish <i>Cepola macrophthalmia</i> (CEP)	3.25 \pm 0.30	0.25	0.53	9	Present study
Shortnose greeneye <i>Chlorophthalmus agassizi</i> (CHL)	3.05 \pm 0.01	0	0.01	5	Present study
Silvery cod <i>Gadiculus argenteus</i> (GAD)	3.18 \pm 0.37	0.38	1.01	9	(Navarro et al., 2009)
Tonguesole <i>Symphurus nigrescens</i> (SYM)	3.31 \pm 0.45	0.56	0.08	8	(Navarro et al., 2009)
Cephalopods					
Common bobtail <i>Sepieta oweniana</i> (SEP)	3.08 \pm 0.29	0.24	0.06	9	Present study
Common squid <i>Allotheuthis subulata</i> (ALL)	3.66 \pm 0.53	0.77	0.45	6	(Navarro et al., 2009)
Cetaceans					
Bottlenose dolphin <i>Tursiops truncatus</i> (TUR)	4.51 \pm 0.50	0.25	ND	7	(Borell et al., 2006)
Striped dolphin <i>Stenella coeruleoalba</i> (STE)	4.22 \pm 0.26	0.07	ND	5	(Cardona et al., 2007)
Seabirds					
Audouin's gull <i>Larus audouinii</i> (AUD)	4.01 \pm 0.95	0.91	2.44	107	(Navarro et al., 2010)
Balearic shearwater <i>Puffinus mauretanicus</i> (PUF)	3.96 \pm 1.02	1.05	1.35	145	(Navarro et al., 2009)
Yellow-legged gull <i>Larus michahellis</i> (MIC)	4.27 \pm 0.93	0.87	ND	23	(Ramos et al., 2009)
Marine turtle					
Loggerhead sea-turtle <i>Caretta caretta</i> (CAR)	3.06 \pm 0.79	0.63	ND	27	(Revelles et al., 2007)

Comparison of Ecopath models and SIA



The trophic level (mean) calculated with the Ecopath model and the $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ values (mean)

Omnivory index (OI) calculated with Ecopath model with the total isotopic area (TA) calculated with the isotopic values for fish, cephalopods, seabirds, cetaceans, and marine turtles



Identification of keystone functional groups



Keystone species are defined as relatively low biomass species with disproportionate high effects on the food web

The overall impact:

$$\varepsilon_i = \sqrt{\sum_{j \neq i}^n m_{ij}^2}$$

$$p_i = \frac{B_i}{\sum_k B_k}$$

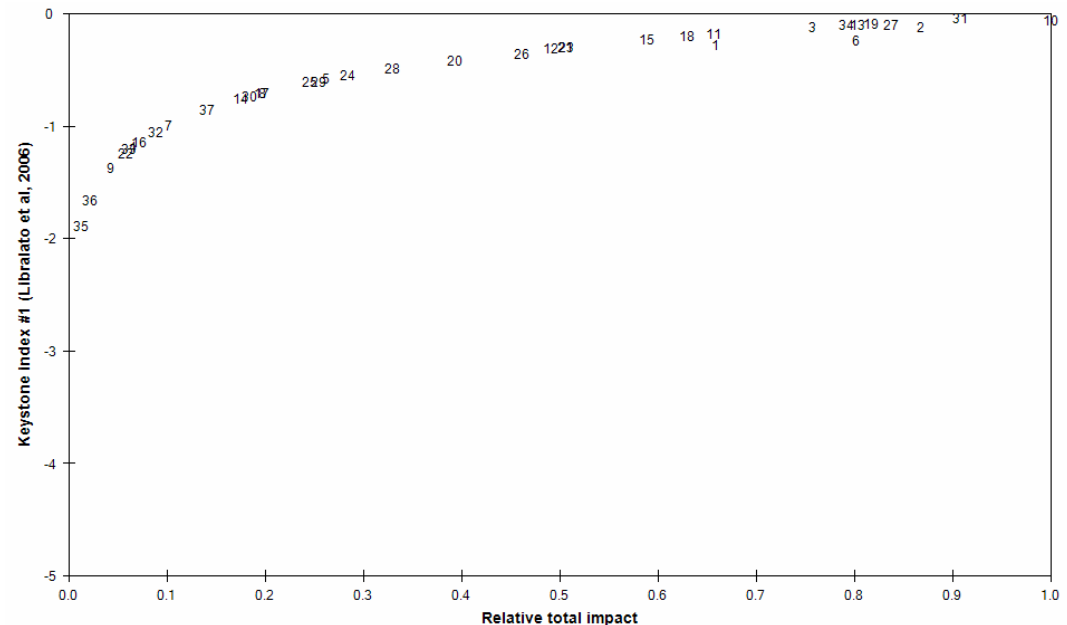
Keystone species
(KS ≥ 0)

$$KS_i = \log[\varepsilon_i \cdot (1 - p_i)]$$

Key dominant
groups (KD ≥ -0.7)

$$KD_i = \log[\varepsilon_i \cdot p_i]$$

Relative total
impact &
Keystoneness: **key
species**



Identification of keystone functional groups



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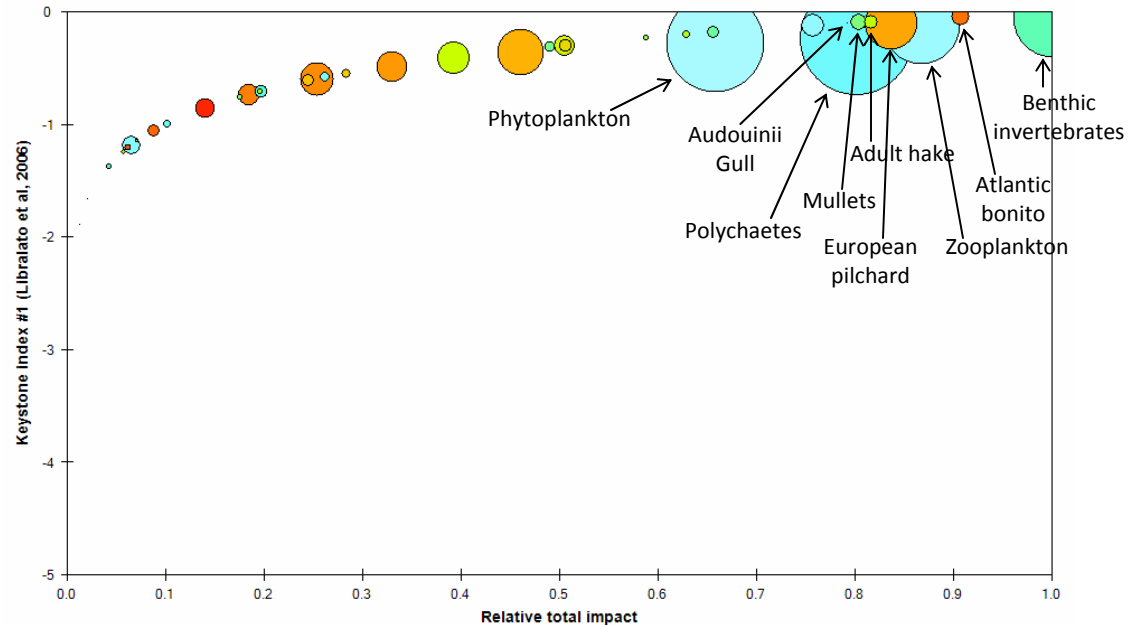
Keystone species
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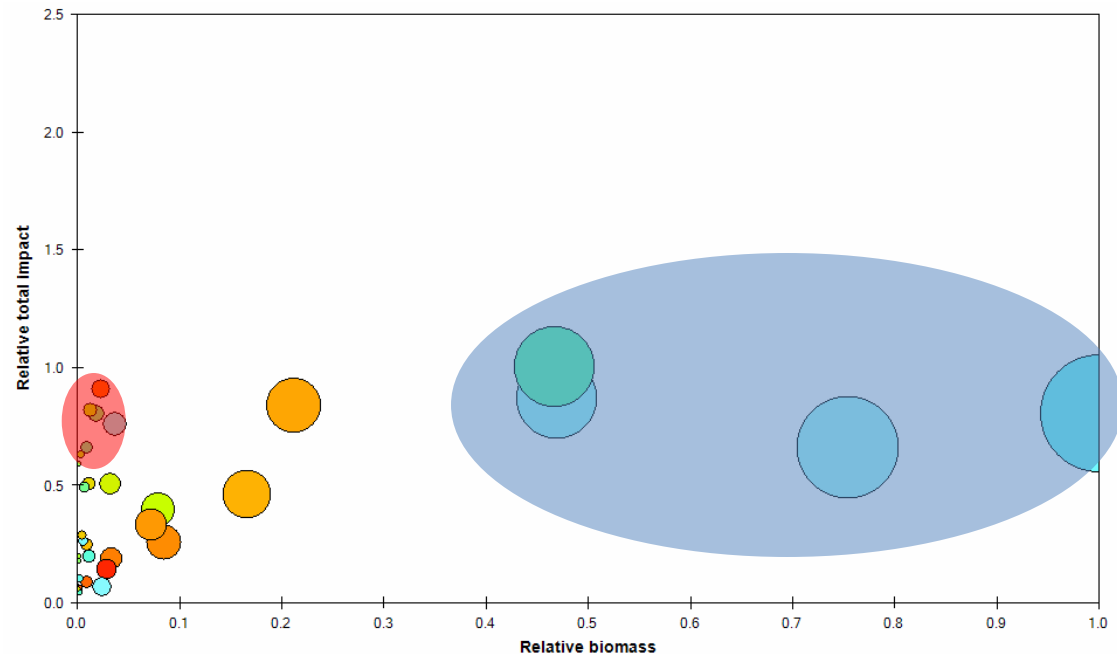
Keystone species
($KS \geq 0$)

$$KS_i = \log[\varepsilon_i \cdot (1 - p_i)]$$

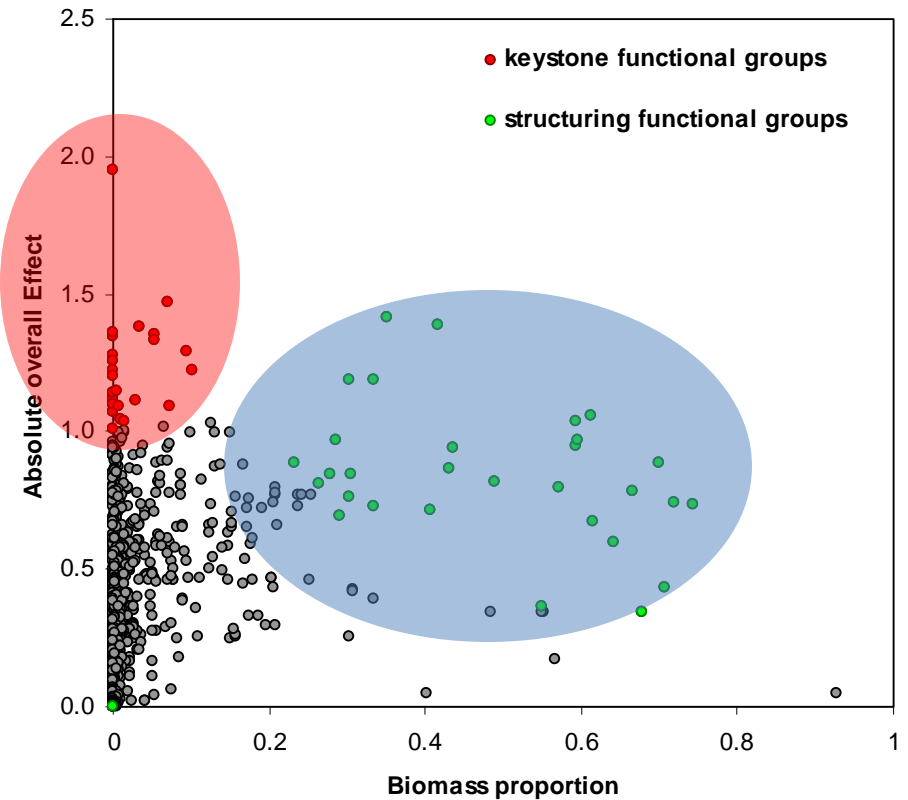
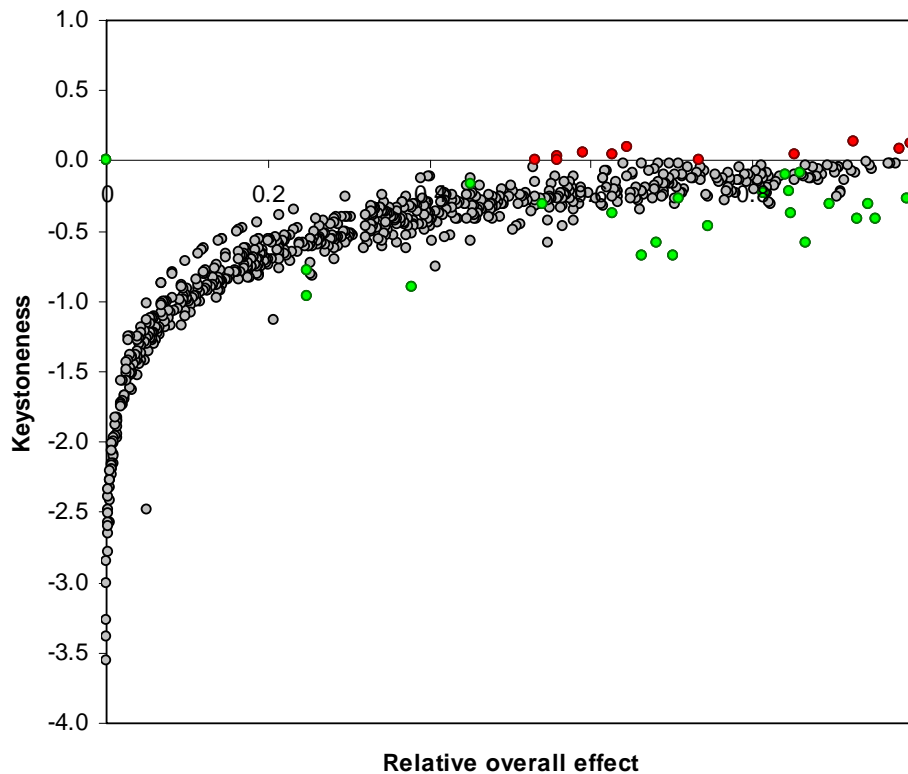
Key dominant
groups ($KD \geq -0.7$)

$$KD_i = \log[\varepsilon_i \cdot p_i]$$

Relative total
impact &
Keystoneness: **key
species**



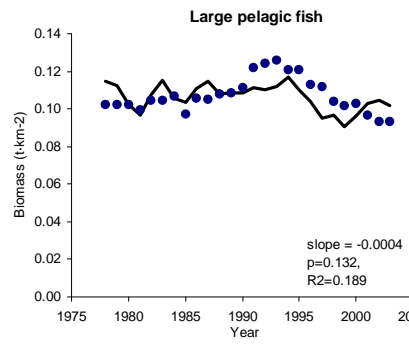
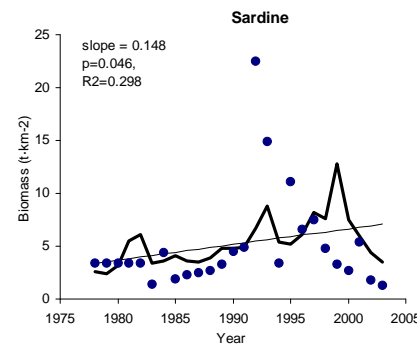
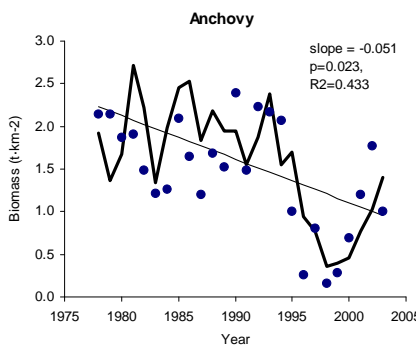
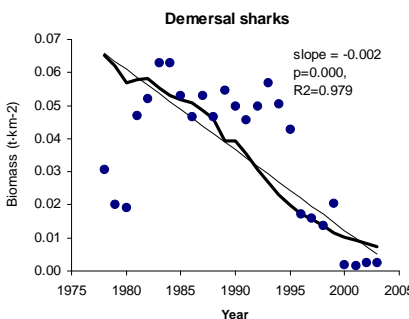
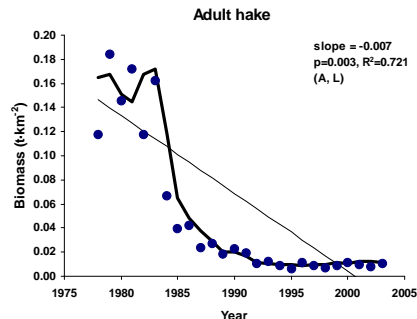
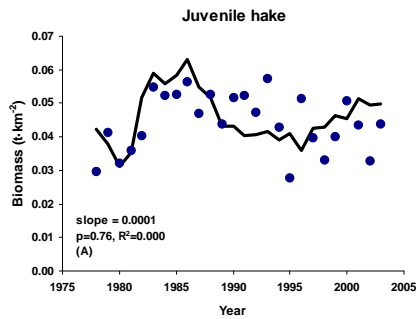
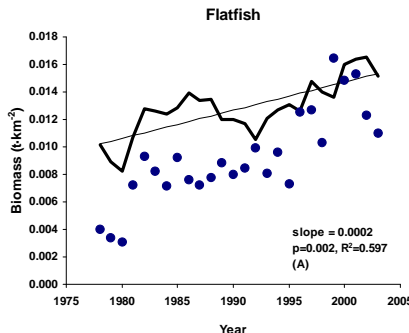
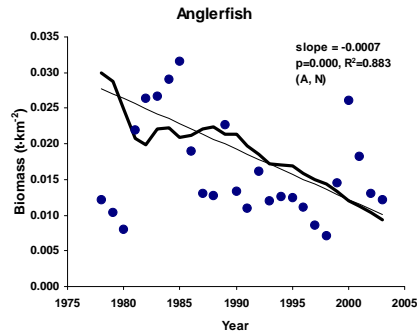
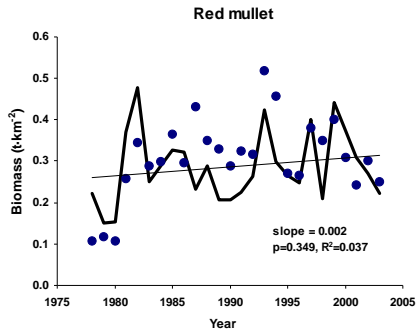
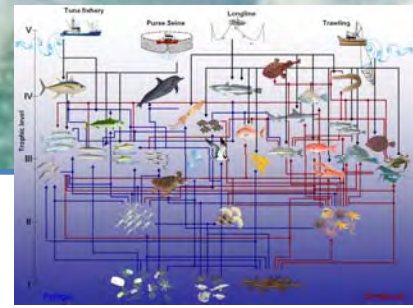
Identification of keystone functional groups



Fished ecosystem models (N = 627): 2% identified keystone groups; 4% structuring groups

Non-fished (or slightly fished) ecosystems (N 188): 6% identified keystone groups; 4% structuring

Indicators from Ecosim



Fishing effort

Environment

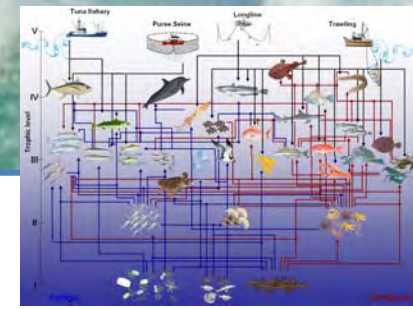


SST

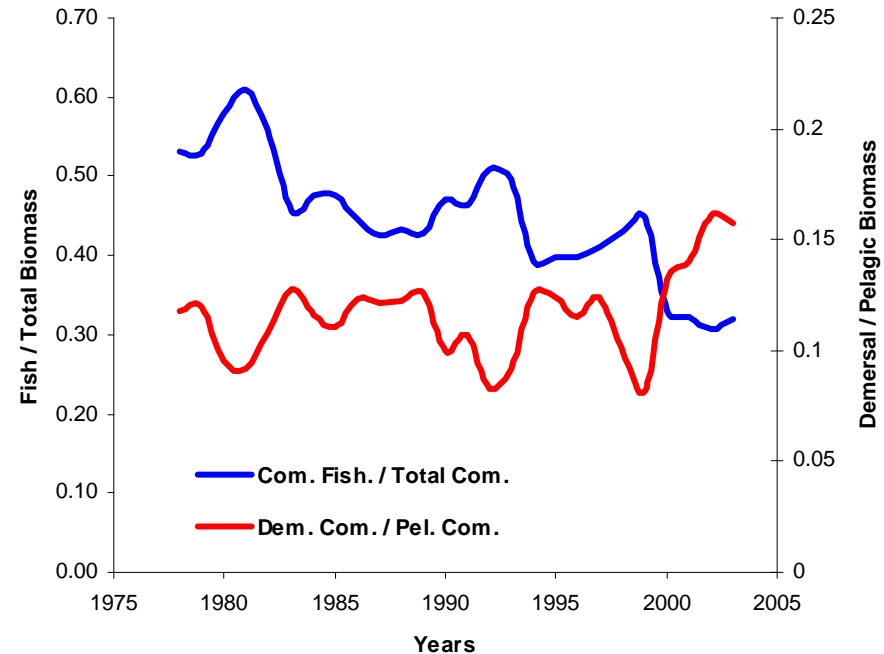
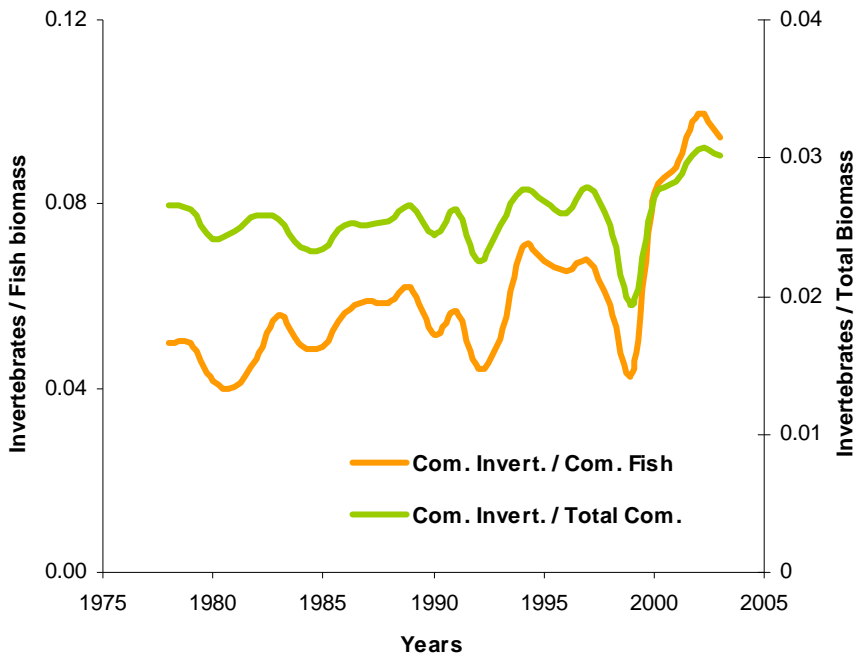


PP

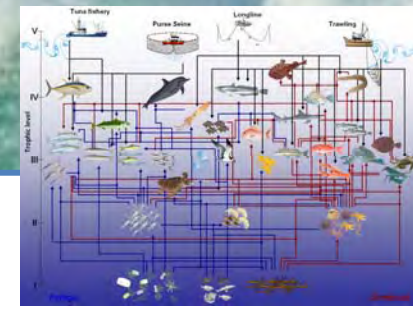
Indicators from Ecosim



- Commercial Invertebrates / Commercial fish Biomass & Catch
- Commercial Invertebrates / Total Commercial Biomass & Catch
- Commercial Fish / Total Commercial Biomass & Catch
- Demersal Commercial / Pelagic Commercial Biomass & Catch



Indicators from Ecosim



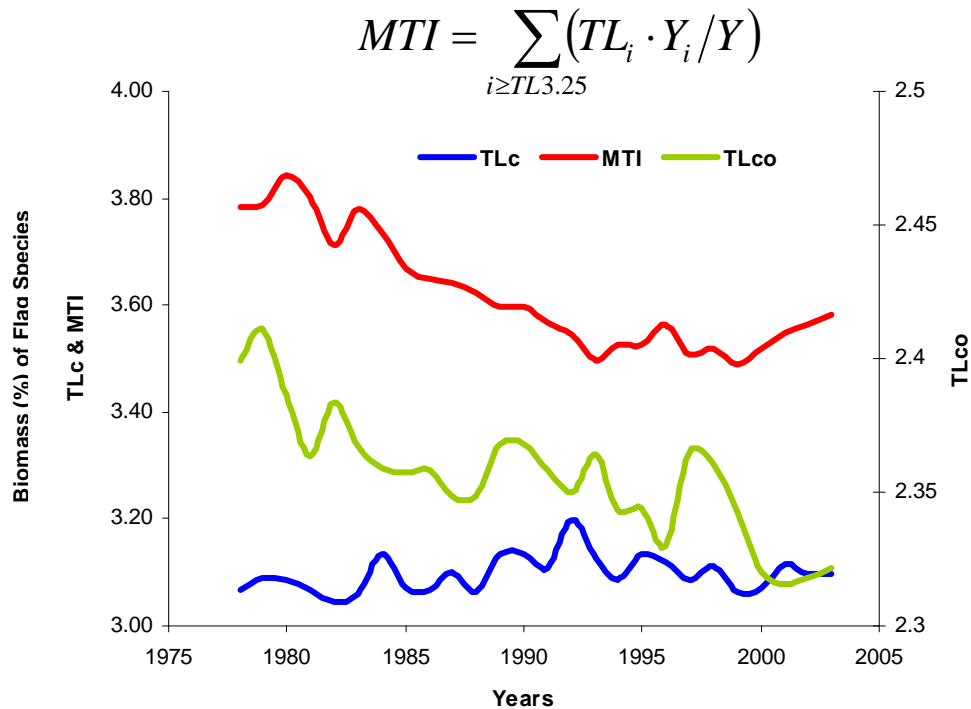
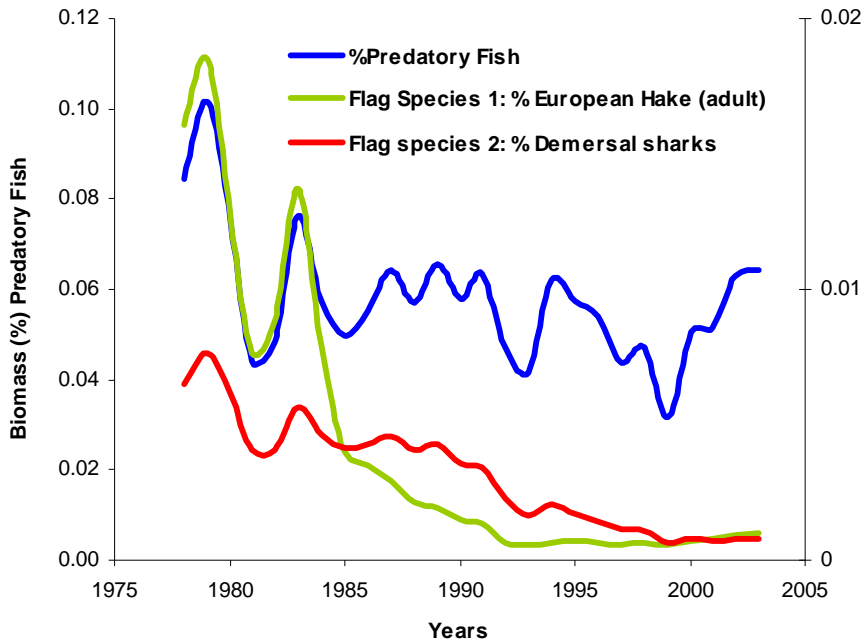
IndiSeas2

% Predatory fish in the community (State & Trend)

Relative abundance (or biomass) of flagship species (Trend)

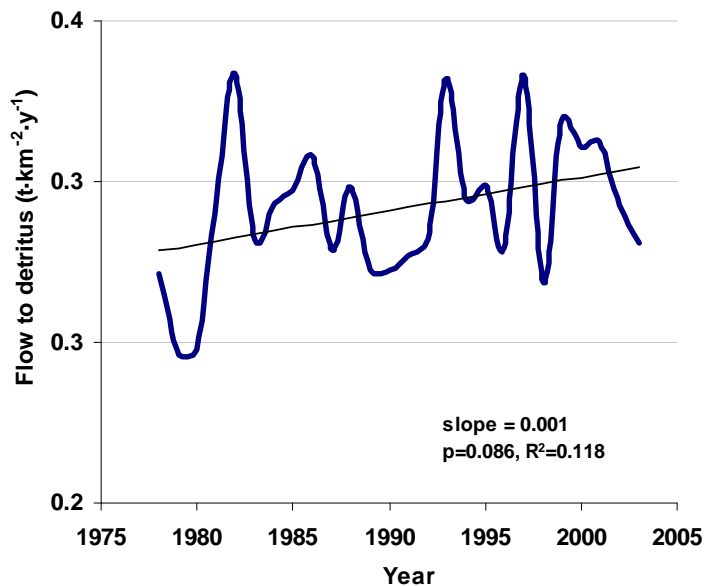
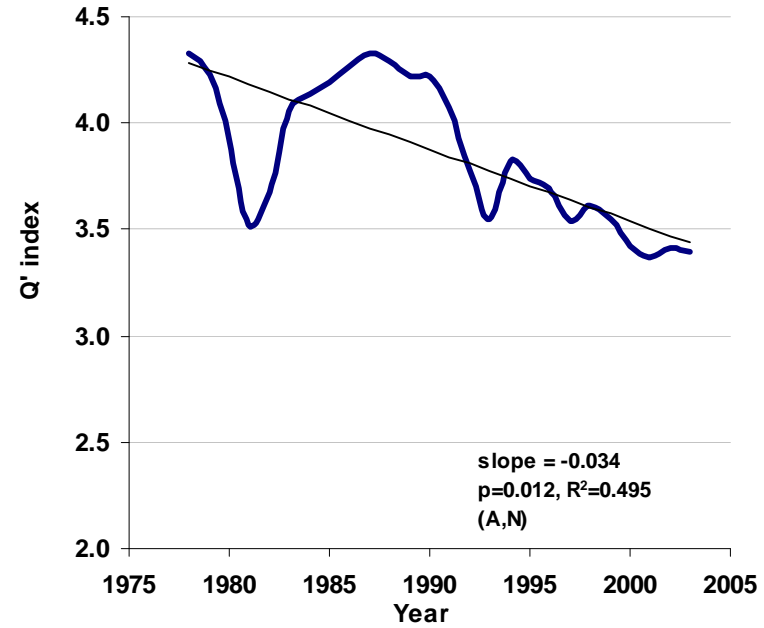
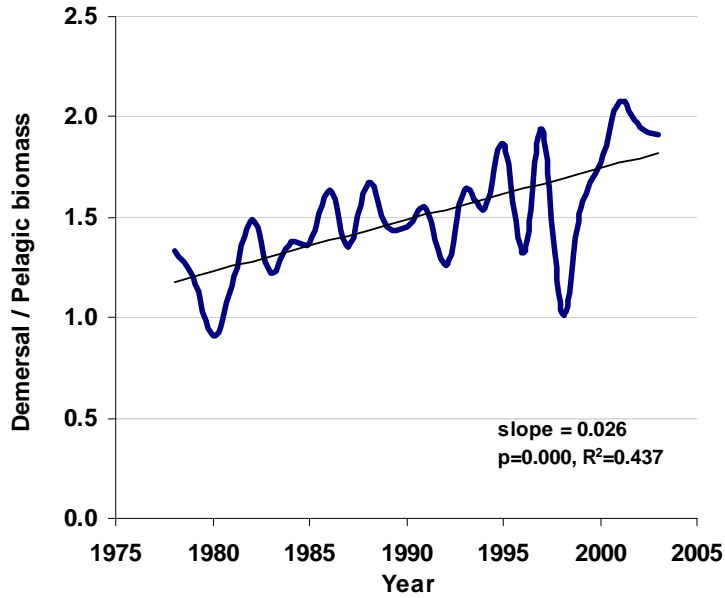
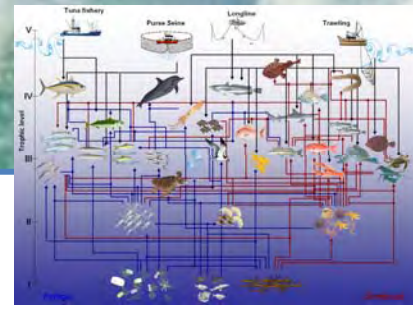
Marine Trophic Index (of landings; Trend)

TL of surveyed community to complement MTI and TLc (Trend)



$$MTI = \sum_{i \geq TL3.25} (TL_i \cdot Y_i / Y)$$

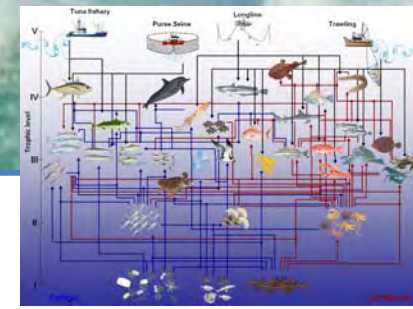
Indicators from Ecosim



$$Q' = \frac{0.8 \cdot S}{\log\left(\frac{R_2}{R_1}\right)}$$

(Kempton & Taylor 1976, Ainsworth & Pitcher 2006)

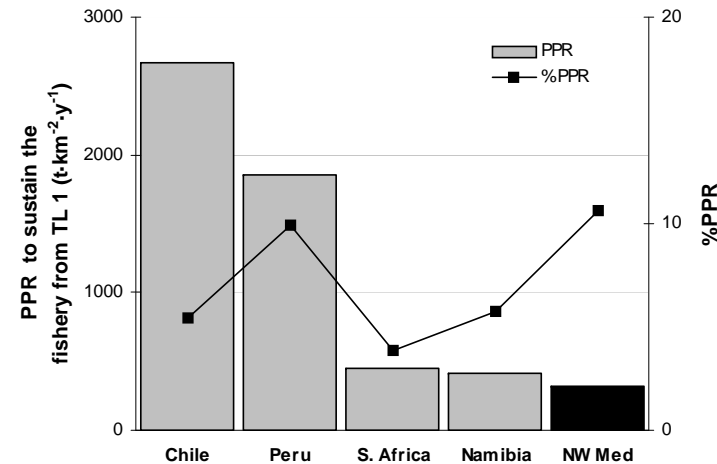
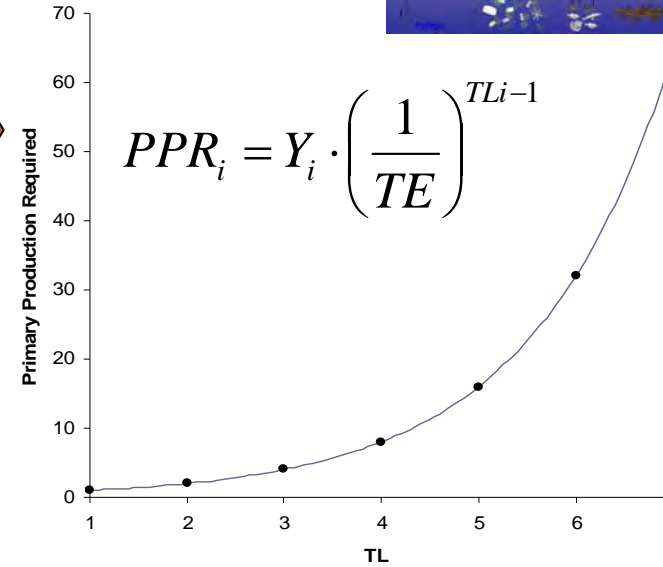
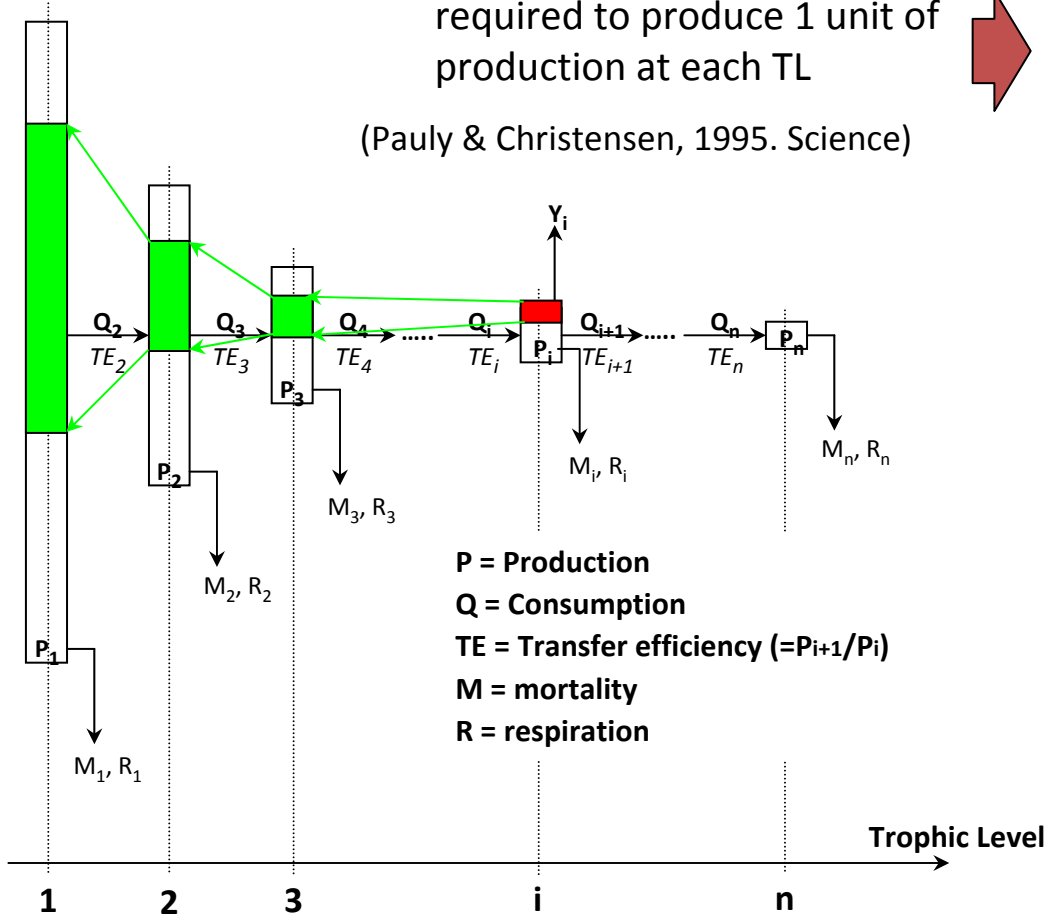
Indicators from Ecosim



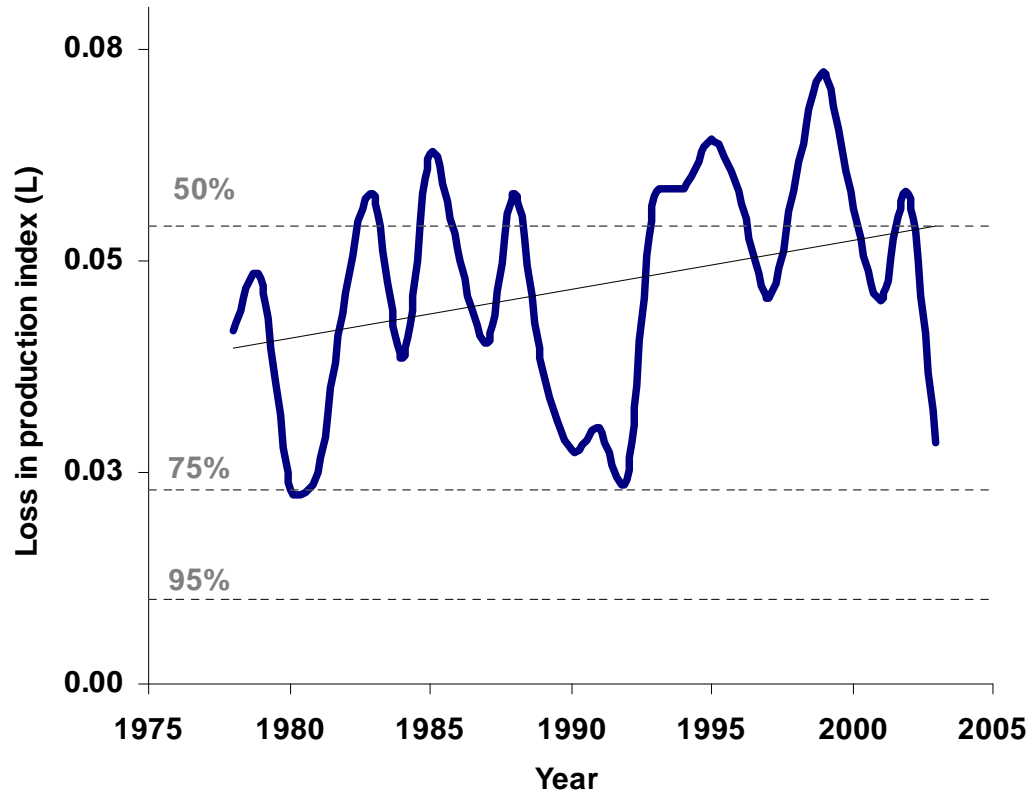
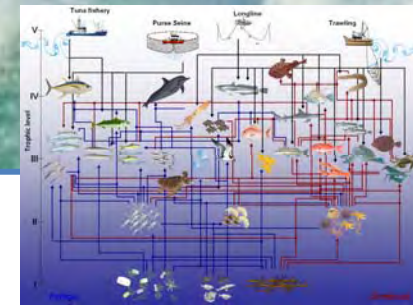
Primary Production Required

Amount of primary production required to produce 1 unit of production at each TL

(Pauly & Christensen, 1995. Science)



Indicators from Ecosim



Loss in production index

$$L = -\frac{1}{PP \cdot \ln TE} \cdot \sum_i^m (PPR_i \cdot TE^{TLi-1}) \cong -\frac{PPR \cdot TE^{TLc-1}}{PP \cdot \ln TE}$$

New Index of Ecosystem Overfishing

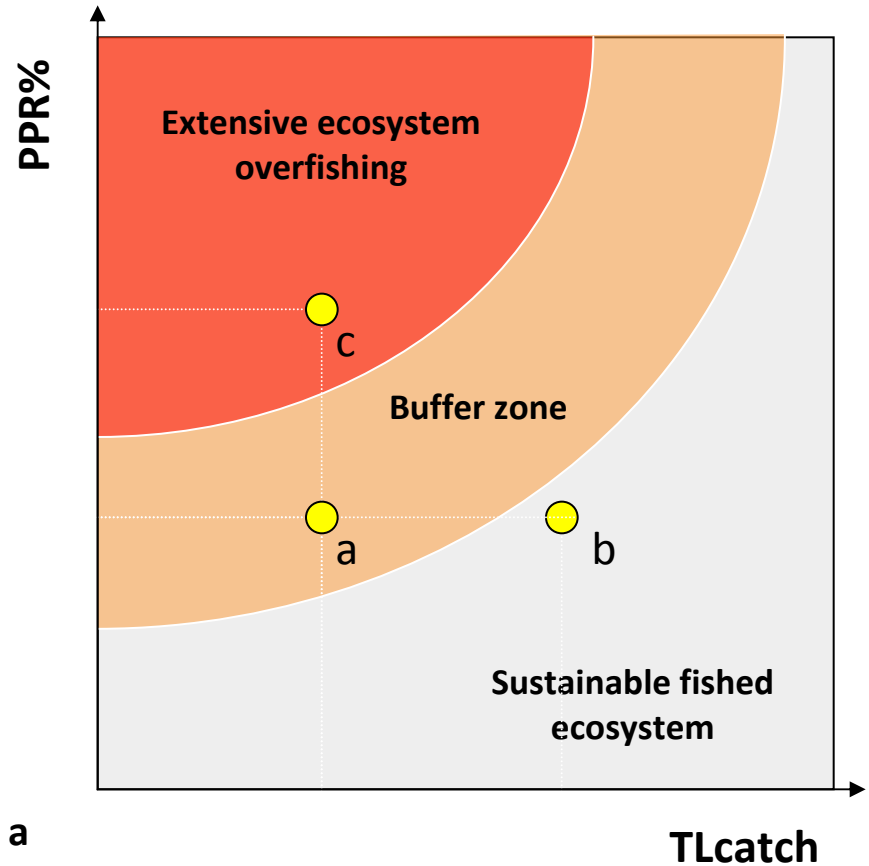
Idea for a new index based on:

- Simple ecological theory
- Data and input information easy to get
- Broadly applicable
- With possibility to identify REFERENCE VALUES

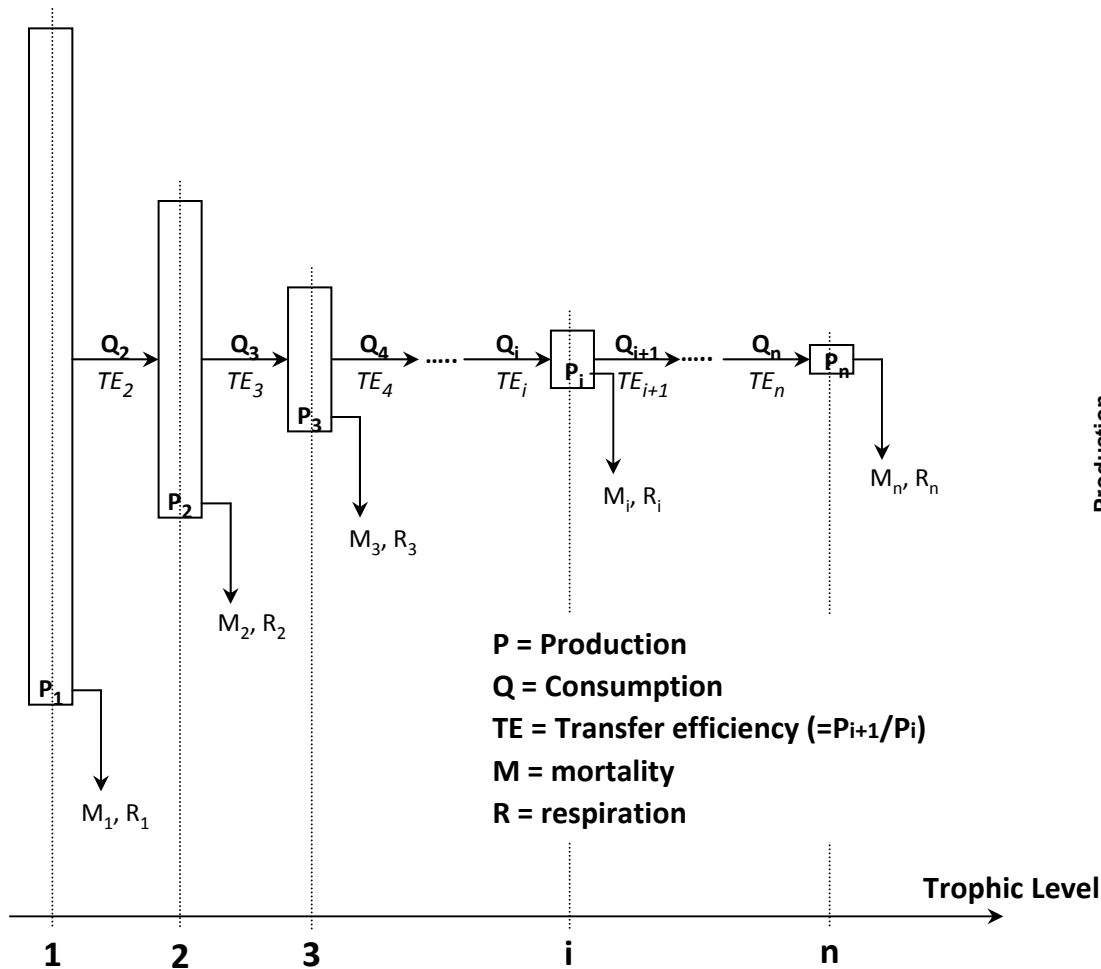
Basics of the new idea

b is intrinsically less disrupting than **a**

c is more disrupting than **a**



The Energy Flow...

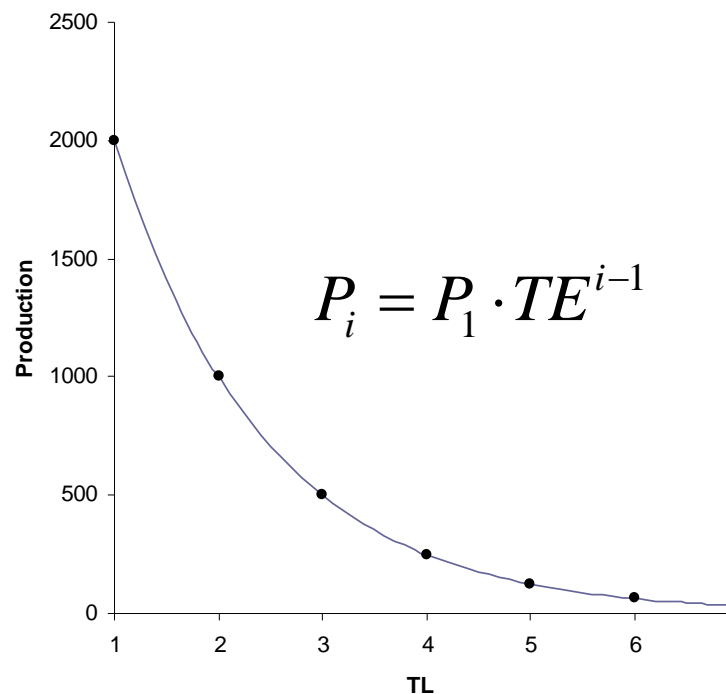


$$P_2 = P_1 \cdot TE_2$$

$$P_3 = P_2 \cdot TE_3 = (P_1 \cdot TE_2) \cdot TE_3$$

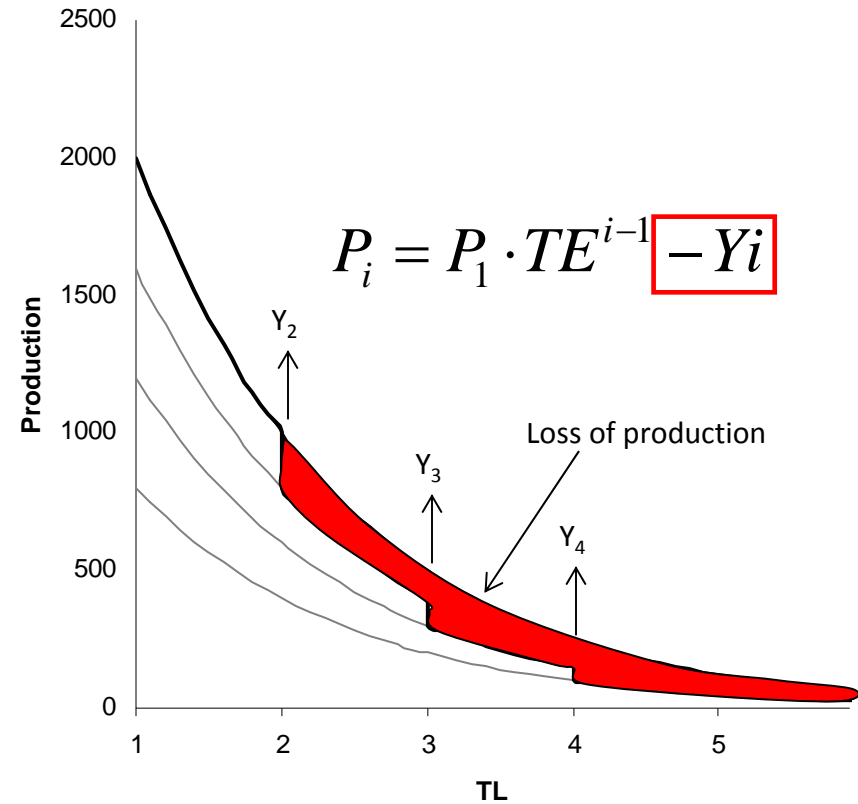
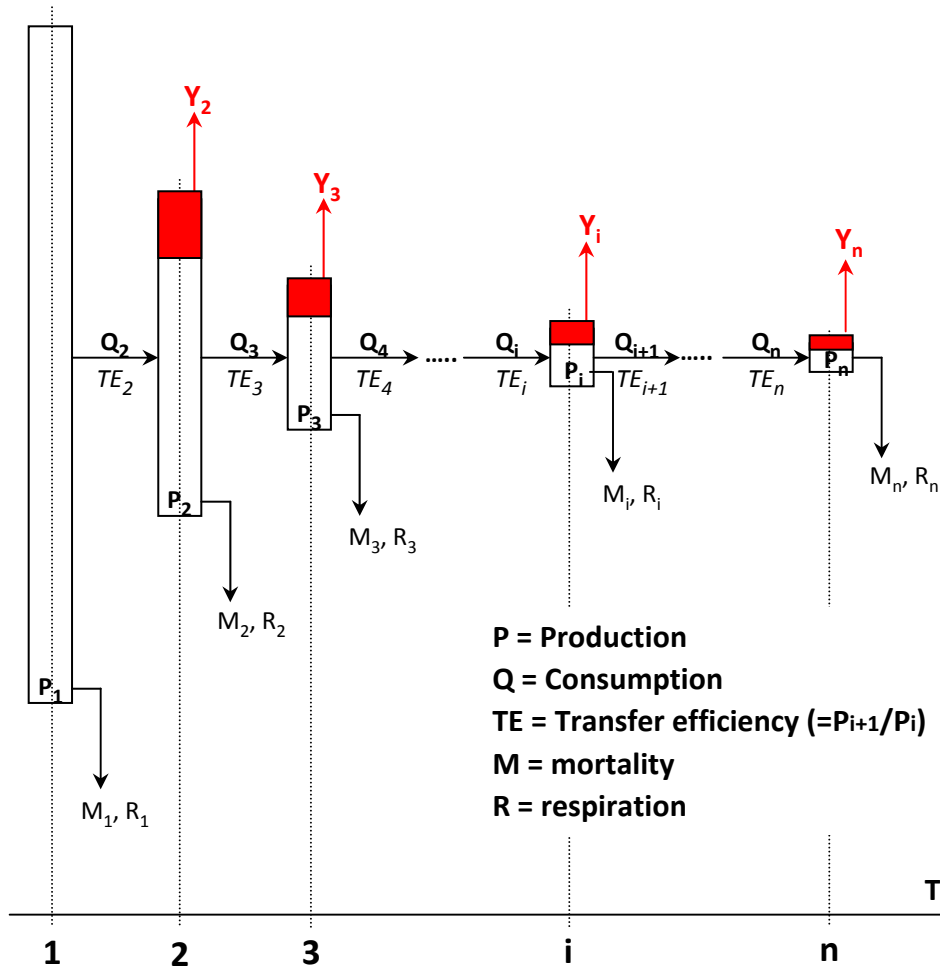
....

$$P_i = P_1 \cdot TE_2 \cdot TE_3 \cdot \dots \cdot TE_i$$



If all the TE_i can be assumed equal to a general characteristic of the ecosystem TE

The Exploited Energy Flow



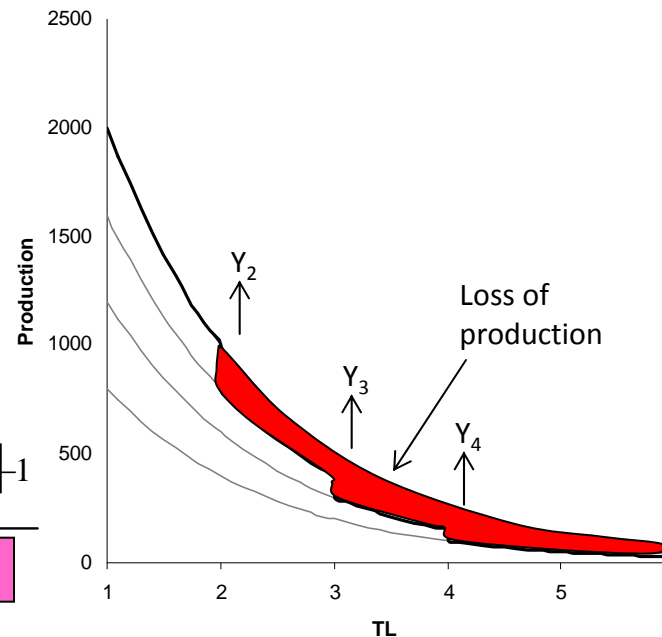
The loss in production is used as a proxy for quantifying the disruption of the ecosystem due to fishing exploitation

New Index of Ecosystem Overfishing

$$L = -\frac{PPR_i}{PP} \cdot \frac{TE^{TL_i-1}}{\ln TE}$$

In case of multi-target fisheries (m species):

$$L = -\frac{1}{PP \cdot \ln TE} \cdot \sum_i^m (PPR_i \cdot TE^{TL_i-1}) \approx -\frac{\boxed{PPR} \cdot \boxed{TE}^{TL_c-1}}{\boxed{PP} \cdot \boxed{\ln TE}}$$

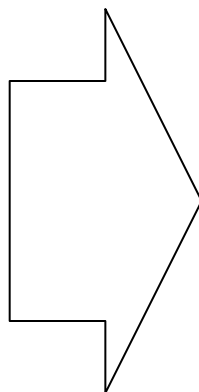


PPR of the catches

TL of the catches

PP of the exploited ecosystem

TE of ecosystem

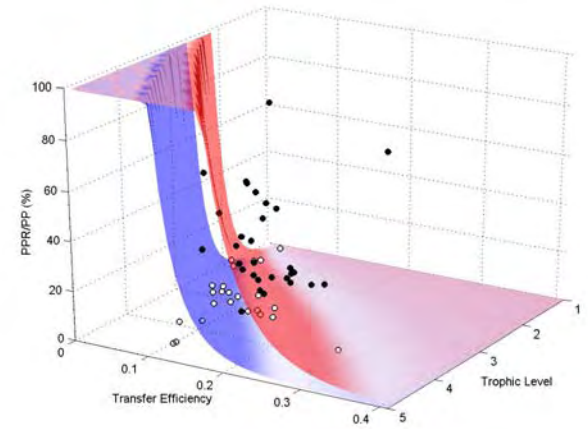
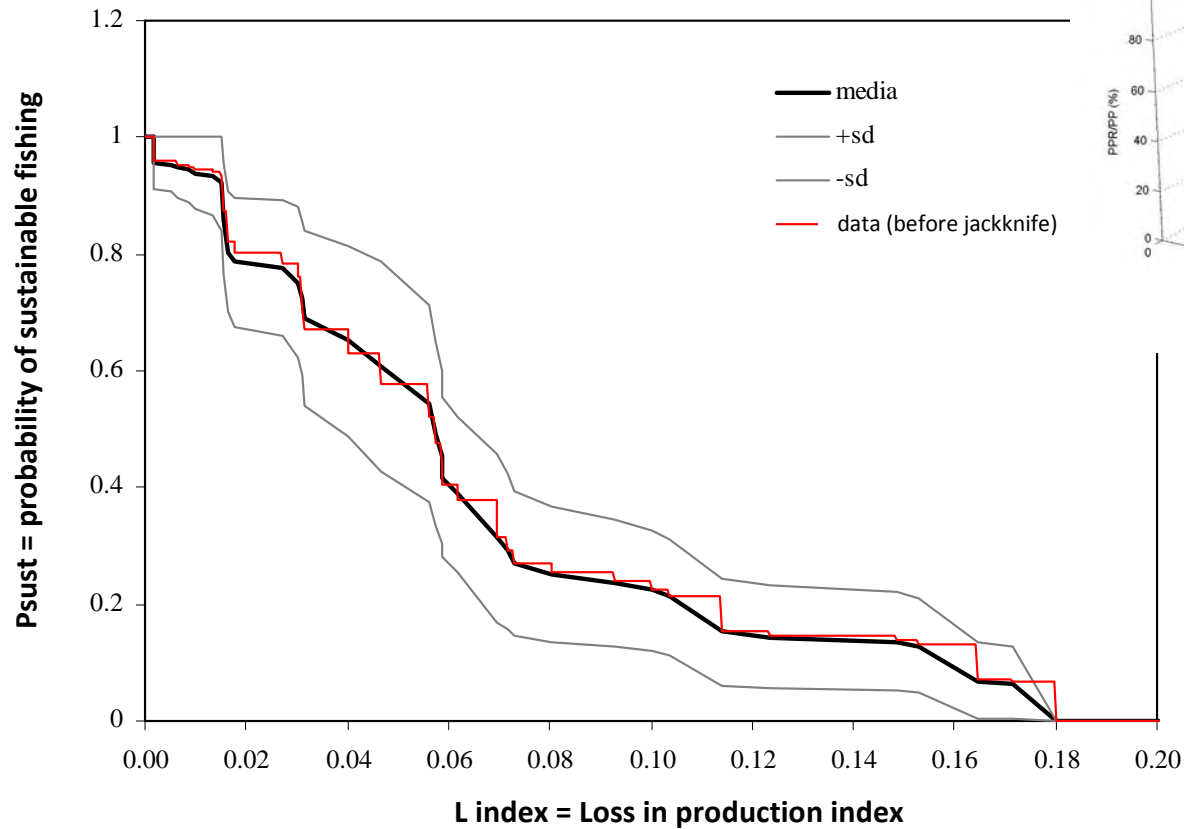


Estimates of the index for

- 1- Local diet studies and catch statistics
- 2- Food web models
- 3- catch data and literature diet

New Index of Ecosystem Overfishing

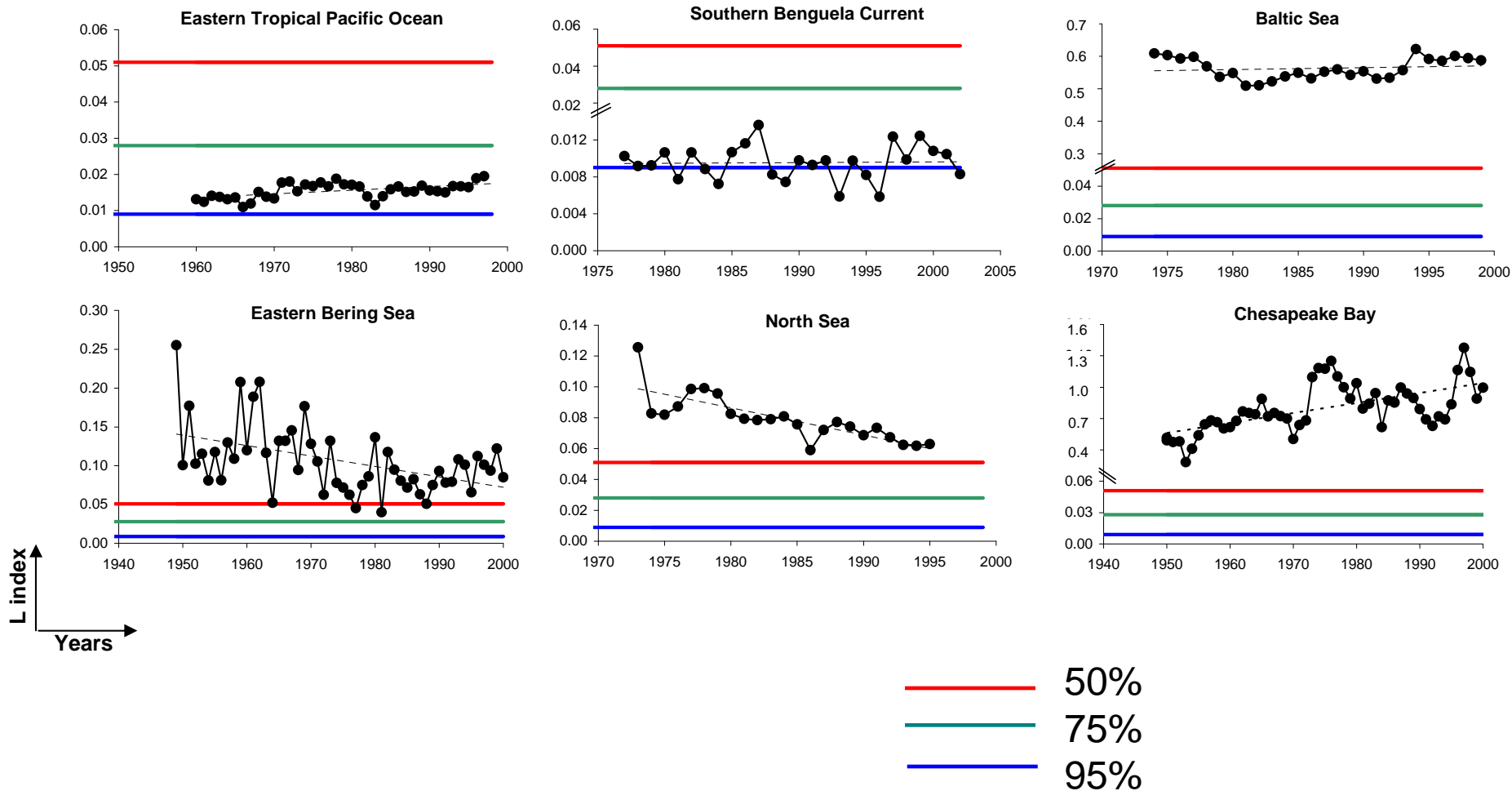
$$P_{sust}(L) = \frac{P(L_2 > L)}{P(L_2 > L) + P(L_1 < L)}$$



Bootstrap and jackknife analysis: to define confidence intervals

New Index of Ecosystem Overfishing

Temporal dynamic models fitted to time series of data (FC, UBC)



Global Evaluation of Overfishing

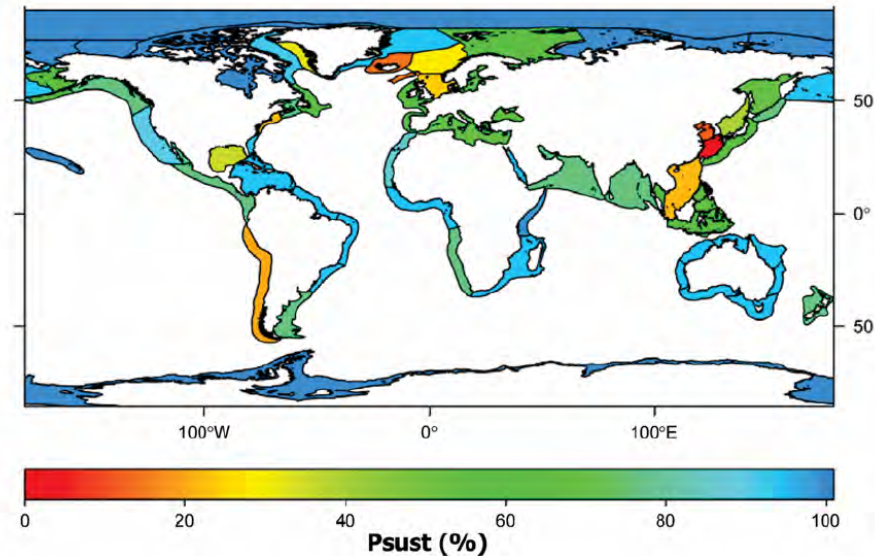
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Ecosystem Overfishing in the Ocean

Marta Coll^{1,2,3*}, Simone Libralato^{3,3}, Sergi Tudela⁴, Isabel Palomera¹, Fabio Pranovi⁵

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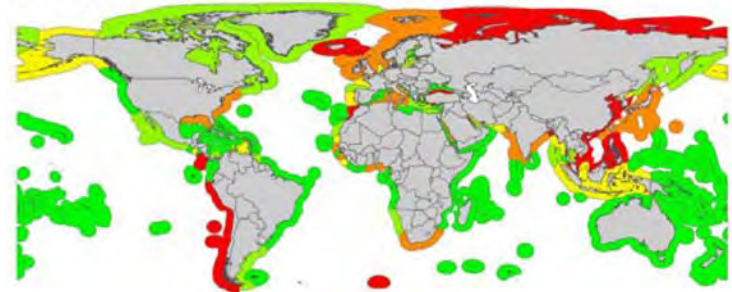
PLOS BIOLOGY

Management Effectiveness of the World's Marine Fisheries

Camilo Mora^{1,2*}, Ransom A. Myers^{2†}, Marta Coll^{2,3}, Simone Libralato⁴, Tony J. Pitcher⁵, Rashid U. Sumaila⁶, Dirk Zeller⁶, Reg Watson⁶, Kevin J. Gaston⁷, Boris Worm²

1 Scripps Institution of Oceanography, University of California San Diego, La Jolla, California, United States of America, 2 Department of Biology, Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada, 3 Institut de Ciències del Mar, ICM-CSIC, Passeig Marítim de la Barceloneta, Barcelona, Spain, 4 Istituto Nazionale di Oceanografia e di Geofisica Sperimentale-OGS, Sgonico-Zgonik, Italy, 5 Peter Wall Institute for Advanced Studies, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, 6 Sea

G Probability of fisheries sustainability



Worst Best

Some remarks...

- ④ A **set of indicators is helpful** in establishing a diagnosis of exploited ecosystems
- ④ A **comparative approach** enables greater understanding of the driving mechanisms
- ④ **Simple data-base available indicators** provide good perspective of ecosystem status
- ④ Can be **complemented** with more specific indicators (modelling-based or rich-data assessments)
- ④ Need to take into account **multiple drivers of marine ecosystems** (fishing, environment)
- ④ Need to look at **different components** (populations, communities, ecosystems, commercial, non-commercial)
- ④ Involvement of **local experts** to interpret results
- ④ Investigate indicators' **responsiveness** to management, **thresholds** and **reference points**

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IndiSeas participants

Villy Christensen & Jeroen Steenbeek

Sergi Tudela, Isabel Palomera and Fabio Pranovi

