BLACK SEA FISH

PRESENTATION SERIES

Data limited stock assessment models-Three Monte-Carlo methods based on MonteCarlo approaches

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Research question:

How Monte Carlo approaches can be utilised in developing fish population dynamics models?



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Monte Carlo simulation is, in essence, the generation of random objects or processes by means of a computer. These objects could arise 'naturally' as part of the modeling of a real-life system, such as a complex road network, the transport of neutrons, or....







Methods used:

Monte Carlo methods are routinely used in stock assessment methodologies and accoding to data vailability it is possible to employ:

- Catch
 - Use **CMSY** (use expert interviews or better LBB for *B*/*B*₀ priors)
- Catch-per-unit-of-effort (CPUE)
 - Use **CMSY/BSM** if CPUE and catch data are available
 - Use **AMSY** if catch is unreliable or if true stock boundaries are unknown (use expert interviews or better LBB for *B*/*B*₀ prior anywhere in the time series)
- Length-frequencies from the commercial fishery
 - Use LBB (compare Linf with data in FishBase/SealifeBase)

The CMSY Method in a Nutshell

If CPUE is unknown, a prior range for r is derived from life history traits, a prior range for k is derived from maximum catch, and prior ranges for B_t/k (beginning and end of catch time series) are derived from expert knowledge or better from LBB.

$$B_{t+1} = B_t + r B_t \left(1 + \frac{B_t}{k}\right) - C_t$$

All *r*-*k* combinations that are compatible with the life history traits (r M, K), the catches (C_t) and the expert knowledge (B_t/k) are identified by a Monte-Carlo approach. An *r*-*k* combination representative of high *r* values is chosen as best estimate.

The BSM Method in a Nutshell

Given a time series of Catch and CPUE, the parameters $r = r_{max}$ and $B_{\infty} = k$ are estimated from

$$B_{t+1} = B_t + r B_t \left(1 - \frac{B_t}{k}\right) - C_t$$

where C_t is catch in year t, B = CPUE / q, q is the catchability coefficient, and the other parameters are as defined above

Using a Bayesian approach, the *r*-*k* combination that minimizes the difference between the observed biomass and the one predicted by the equation is chosen as best estimate



FISH and FISHERIES

Estimating fisheries reference points from catch and resilience

Rainer Froese¹, Nazli Demirel², Gianpaolo Coro³, Kristin M Kleisner⁴ & Henning Winker^{5,6}

Abstract

This study presents a Monte Carlo method (CMSY) for estimating fisheries reference points from catch, resilience and qualitative stock status information on data-limited stocks. It also presents a Bayesian state-space implementation of the Schaefer production model (BSM), fitted to catch and biomass or catch-per-unit-of-effort (CPUE) data. Special emphasis was given to derive informative priors for productivity, unexploited stock size, catchability and biomass from population dynamics theory. Both models gave good predictions of the maximum intrinsic rate of population increase r, unexploited stock size k and maximum sustainable yield MSY when validated against simulated data with known parameter values. CMSY provided, in addition, reasonable predictions of relative biomass and exploitation rate. Both models were evaluated against 128 real stocks, where estimates of biomass were available from full stock assessments. BSM estimates of r, k and MSYwere used as benchmarks for the respective CMSY estimates and were not significantly different in 76% of the stocks. A similar test against 28 data-limited stocks, where CPUE instead of biomass was available, showed that BSM and CMSY estimates of r, k and MSY were not significantly different in 89% of the stocks. Both CMSY and BSM combine the production model with a simple stock-recruitment model, accounting for reduced recruitment at severely depleted stock sizes.



Sole in the Irish Sea: Graphic Results of CMSY/ BSM analysis for use by stock assessment working group

D: Biomass



Relative biomass B/k





F: Equilibrium curve





Sole in the Irish Sea: Graphical results of CMSY / BSM analysis for use by management

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D: Stock size

E: Exploitation rate

F: Equilibrium curve









Process variation



Residual diagnostics





Density



Density



B/B_{MSY}





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Marine Policy

Status and rebuilding of European fisheries

Rainer Froese^{a,*}, Henning Winker^{b,c}, Gianpaolo Coro^d, Nazli Demirel^e, Athanassios C. Tsikliras^{f,*}, Donna Dimarchopoulou^f, Giuseppe Scarcella^g, Martin Quaas^h, Nele Matz-Lückⁱ

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The LBB Method in a Nutshell





Length where 50% of the individuals are retained by the gear Asymptotic length of the von Bertalanffy growth equation Growth rate of the von Bertalanffy growth equation

- Natural mortality rate Fishing mortality rate
- Number of individuals
- Gear selectivity at length *i*
- Catch at length *i*

 L_{c}

Linf

Κ

Μ

F

Ν

 S_{Li}

 C_{Li}

The LBB Equations

Gear-selectivity:
$$S_{L_i} = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-\alpha(L_i - L_c)}}$$

Survivors to L_i : $N_{L_i} = N_{L_{i-1}} \left(\underbrace{\frac{L_{inf} - L_i}{L_{inf} - L_{i-1}}}_{K_{inf} - L_{i-1}} \right)^{M_i + F_i} S_{L_i}$

Vulnerable/ relative catch at L_i : $C_{L_i} = N_{L_i} S_{L_i}$

Using a Bayesian approach with priors derived from previous or aggregated LFs, all parameters are estimated simultaneously.

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Survivors to L_i : $N_{L_i} = N_{L_{i-1}} \left(\frac{L_{inf} - L_i}{L_{inf} - L_{i-1}} \right)^{\frac{M}{K} + \frac{F}{K} S_{L_i}}$

Vulnerable/ $C_{L_i} = N_{L_i} S_{L_i}$ relative catch at L_i :

Using a Bayesian approach with priors derived from previous or aggregated LFs, all parameters are estimated simultaneously.

Performance of LBB

- LBB results for relative biomass or stock status have been validated against simulations and against real stocks
- LBB predictions were not significantly different from the "true" B/B_0 values of the simulations
- LBB predictions for stock status were similar to those obtained from full stock assessments



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A new approach for estimating stock status from length frequency data

Rainer Froese^{1,*}, Henning Winker^{2,3}, Gianpaolo Coro⁴, Nazli Demirel⁵, Athanassios C. Tsikliras⁶, Donna Dimarchopoulou⁶, Giuseppe Scarcella⁷, Wolfgang Nikolaus Probst⁸, Manuel Dureuil^{9,10}, and Daniel Pauly¹¹

Example for Haddock in the North Sea







Example for Haddock in the North Sea



Year

Year

LBB gives: F/M=3.2 B/B0=0.16 B/Bmsy=0.43

ICES: F/Fmsy=1.6 SSB/Bmsy=0.69 (Bmsy~2*Bpa)

Year

The AMSY Method in a Nutshell

If only CPUE is known, a prior range for r is derived from FishBase, a single prior range for B/k = CPUE/kq (anywhere in the time series) is derived from expert knowledge or better from LBB. The lower end of the range must be larger than max CPUE.

$$CPUE_{t+1} = CPUE_t + rCPUE_t \left(1 - \frac{CPUE_t}{k_q}\right) - C_{qt}$$

All $r-k_q$ combinations that are compatible with the CPUE in the sense that they result in time series of plausible (never negative, never much too high) predicted catches are identified by a Monte-Carlo approach.

AMSY assessment of Skipjack tuna in the Indian Ocean



(d) Relative catch

1995

2005

Year

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4O

4

ന

2

0

1985

Rel. catch Ct/q







(f) B/Bmsy

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Consider "effort creep" in commercial CPUE

- Fisher tend to follow the stock and can maintain high catches even if the overall stock is declining
- Because of increasing experience of fishers or better gears or better equipment, the catch per effort tends to increase
- CMSY and AMSY allow to correct for effort increase
- 2% per year has been found to be a reasonable average in many fisheries (Pauly and Palomares, submitted)



(d) Catch/MSY











Comparison with full Schaefer



Summarizing:

Monte Carlo methods are routinely used in stock assessment methodologies and accoding to data availability it is possible to employ:

- Length-frequencies from the commercial fishery
 - Use LBB (compare Linf with data in FishBase/SealifeBase)
- Catch
 - Use **CMSY** (use expert interviews or better LBB for *B*/*B*₀ priors)
- Catch-per-unit-of-effort (CPUE)
 - Use CMSY/BSM if CPUE and catch data are available
 - Use AMSY if catch is unreliable or if true stock boundaries are unknown (use expert interviews or better LBB for B/B₀ prior anywhere in the time series)

Results implication

- The MCM continues to be one of the most useful approaches to scientific computing due to its simplicity and general applicability als oin stock assessment.
- CMSY/BSM evaluated against 128 real stocks, where estimates of biomass were available from full stock assessments, showed a pretty good agreement (76%)
- LBB gives preliminary estimates of stock status based on length frequency data from the fishery
- AMSY seems to be well suited for estimating productivity r and thus Fmsy = ½ r as well as relative stock size B/k or B/Bmsy. The combination of AMSY with objective relative biomass (B/BO) priors derived from LBB appears to be a promising approach to produce MSY-level stock assessments for the many commercially caught species that lack reliable catch data.