

ISIS-FLR : An FLR-based bioeconomic operating model for mixed fisheries : framework and application

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Abstract

A main issue in the dynamics of mixed fisheries is that of technical interactions, leading to incidental catch and discarding. Technical interactions largely depend on the allocation of fishing effort between métiers and fishing grounds which in turn is tightly linked to economic conditions and to the expected profitability of alternative options for fishing effort allocation. We developed a bioeconomic fishery model to investigate these issues, and in particular to explore the possibilities of mitigating these interactions through appropriate policy options. The bioeconomic model was developed using and creating FLR (<http://www.flr-project.org>) packages as part of the EFIMAS project (http://europa.eu.int/comm/research/fp6/ssp/efimas_en.htm). The model is spatially- and seasonally-explicit, it considers population dynamics, exploitation dynamics and policies are explicitly modelled, building in the fishery model underlying the ISIS-Fish software (<http://www.ifremer.fr/>

`isis-fish`). The model is applied to the hake-nephrops fishery in the Bay of Biscay. The fishery generates a large amount of by-catch of juvenile hake, particularly at recruitment time. We modelled the dynamics of the main fleets exploiting hake and nephrops, and investigated the consequences of several policy options, including present ones (Total Allowable Catch) and gear technical measures, and alternative options including Marine Protected Areas, closed seasons, and selective devices.

Key words: Fisheries management model, Fisheries Library in R (F.L.R.), mixed fisheries, M.P.A., *Merluccius merluccius*, *Nephrops norvegicus*

1 Introduction

1 Mixed fisheries are characterized by a set of fleets in competition for the re-
2 source harvesting not a single but a combination of species along a mosaic
3 of fishing grounds (Laurec *et al.* (1991); Marchal *et al.* (2002)). Before each
4 fishing trip, fishermen used to chose a species or a set of species to be caught
5 regarding their expected profitability or the remaining TAC, etc. (Christensen
6 and Raakjaer, 2006). But in mixed fisheries, the ability of the fishers to tar-
7 get individual species is generally assumed to be limited using a selection of
8 gear, fishing ground and target species and may depends on the spatially and
9 seasonally pattern of the availability of this species in regard to its covariance
10 with other species. This implies that species cannot always be harvested sep-
11 arately because of technical interactions among fishing activities (TECTAC,
12 2006). Such a complexity of interactions in this multi-fleets and multi-stocks
13 context could partly explain the difficulty to implement efficient regulations

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14 for a sustainable exploitation of fisheries. For example, the TAC management
15 is no longer efficient while there are fishing activities incidentally catching
16 populations for which the TAC is already reached (Biais, 1995). Equally, ille-
17 gal catches or disproportionate discards will not be avoided if a fleet is unable
18 to change its fishing activity for economic reason (Hansen *et al.*, 2006). Con-
19 versely, if a given fleet adapts its fishing activity in agreement to the remaining
20 TAC or to the variation of the stock abundance, the neglectful of fisher's be-
21 haviour could lead to underestimate the incidence on other stocks of a change
22 in spatial effort allocation and/or gear and/or targeted species while TAC
23 regulations are implemented. The mixed species aspect of fisheries would be
24 rather addressed using fleet-based regulations with economic and fishermen's
25 behaviour consideration instead of single stock-based regulations (Ratz *et al.*,
26 2007). A common solution for better fishing practice and stock preservation
27 would be to reduce as far as possible the technical interactions between fishing
28 activities. In this goal, alternative management measures have been suggested
29 (TECTAC, 2006) such as:

- 30 (1) an alteration of the selective performance of fishing gears as a direct way
31 to control the fishing mortality on the stock, both in fisheries targeting a
32 given stock as well as in those which are not directed to the species but
33 have a significant level of discards for this stock.
- 34 (2) The creation of Marine Protected Areas (MPA) as a management rule to
35 protect particular stages in the stock life-history (spawning, etc.) from
36 fishing. Because of the efficiency of the MPA may depend on the size, the
37 seasonality and the location of the closure, these MPA features have to
38 be investigated.

39 Fisheries description and modelling should be performed with considerations
40 of the economic sustainability of evolved fleets. It obvious that the best way
41 to achieve the stock conservation objective should be to totally close the fish-
42 eries, but it is a non-sense in economic and social terms. Management of
43 fisheries include economic and social objectives that require to test short-
44 term and long-term consequences of implementing conservation measures for
45 impacted fishing activities (Walters and Martell (2004); Kjaersgaard and An-
46 dersen (2007)). In a multi-fleet context with inherent technical interactions,
47 revenues of different fishing activities are more or less inter-dependent and the
48 effects of regulations applied to a set of fishing activities have shown to be
49 considered simultaneously as the result of the positive or negative effects from
50 each fishing activity to each others (Ulrich *et al.*, 2002). For example, a bio-
51 economic model should aims at quantifying how much the catches from fleets
52 not targeting the stock (i.e. producing by-catches) affect the performance of
53 fleets targeting this particular stock. In a regulation context, it also needs to
54 test if the activity change from a fishing activity to another is economically
55 viable (i.e. evaluate the potential of substitutability between the main and
56 alternative species).

57 Because of real-time experiments in fisheries are impossible to carry out and
58 retrospective analysis of implemented policy option is still scarce, models
59 of fisheries are needed to test management scenarios. Pelletier and Mahevas
60 (2005) give a recent review of models enable to mimic the stock dynamics in
61 interaction with the variation of the fishing pressure from fleets dynamics and
62 simple management rules implementation. Few among these models aims at
63 describing fisheries in multi-fleet way using economic inputs and outputs and
64 evaluate the reciprocal dependency of revenue between fleets (BECHAMEL
65 in Ulrich *et al.* (2002); BEMMFISH in Guillen *et al.* (2004), TEMAS in Ulrich

66 *et al.* (2007), MEPHISTO in Lleonart *et al.* (2003)). Furthermore, in order to
67 draw as far as possible an accurate picture of fisheries and address the mixed
68 fisheries issue, some additional features of the fisheries have been taking into
69 account with models performing stock and exploitation dynamics in a spa-
70 tially and seasonally explicit way (see the review of Pelletier and Mahevas
71 (2005)). Exploited stocks are generally not uniformly distributed in space and
72 time but display spatio-temporal patterns. Many species are known to migrate
73 between different habitats during their life span with seasonal aggregation of
74 spawners and juveniles. Equally, spatial allocation of the fishing effort is not
75 uniformly distributed but depends on fisher behaviours which looks for fish
76 concentration and having a bounded range of action from the harbour depar-
77 ture. Since effort and stock patterns are suspected to be highly correlated,
78 some biases could weaken the link between the fishing mortality and the effort
79 if spatio-temporal dimension is neglected. Space and time dimensions in mod-
80 els enable to investigate and design alternative management such as MPAs
81 (size, season, location) regarding the dynamic allocation of fishing effort. In
82 this way, ISIS-Fish model ('Integration of Spatial Information for FISHeries
83 simulation ', Mahevas and Pelletier (2004)) is designed as a generic simulation
84 tool to quantify the impact of management rules on multi-species, multi-fleet
85 fisheries. The underlying fishery model takes into account of the spatial and
86 seasonal dynamics of each population and each fishing activity as well as fish-
87 ermen's behaviour in response to one or a combination of management rules
88 which are explicitly modelled. In addition, the most recent version of ISIS-Fish
89 add an economic module enables to compute fleet and fishing activity based
90 costs and fleet revenues. Other recent trial are dealing with fisheries modelling
91 suggesting disaggregated space and time dimension. ISIS-fish model is a sim-
92 ulation tool which could be useful to project forward the state of fisheries in

93 the future regarding to initial input conditions.

94 FLR (i.e. ‘Fisheries libraries’ in R; Kell *et al.* (2007)) aims at developing a
95 software suite to test alternative management strategies conducted within a
96 common generic framework for fisheries modelling. FLR is developed using R
97 (R Development Core Team, 2007), an environment and computer language for
98 statistical computing and graphics which is highly extensible. The FLR frame-
99 work is implemented using object-oriented programming (OOP) by making use
100 of the S4 classes within R (Chambers, 2000). FLR constitute an extension of R
101 which suggests different elements of fisheries systems (stocks, fleets, assessment
102 methods, etc.) represented as predefined classes of objects. Like R, FLR is an
103 OpenSource project (under the GNU General Public License, version 2) means
104 that the source code is available to the users (FLR classes could be downloaded
105 on the main web page for the project - <http://flr-project.org>) and could
106 be reused and modified. Beyond FLR, existing models for management of
107 fisheries such as ISIS-Fish already incorporates mixed fisheries, multispecies
108 and economic models and it appears relevant to plug existing models to the
109 management procedure supported by the FLR platform (eXtended Survival
110 Analysis, shortterm forecast, etc.). Hence, the FLR project suggests to reuse
111 the set of developed tools and packages to implement blocks of a the full
112 feedback management procedure (operating model, observation error model,
113 stock assessment model, decision making model, implementation error model
114 and feedback; examples in Kell *et al.* (2007); Pastoors *et al.* (2007)) from the
115 ISIS-Fish operating model. Then, in this paper we developed a FLR-based
116 model called ‘ISIS-FLR’ entirely coded in R using the FLR framework as a
117 toolbox to generate fishery-related objects from existing FLR classes. How-
118 ever, since the model encompasses the complex structure of mixed fisheries
119 and emphasizes spatial and seasonal aspects, new classes of objects have been

120 defined for handling objects with specific extended properties. In this paper
121 we aim at:

- 122 (i) proposing FLR objects that are consistent with the FLR framework and
123 enable to consider mixed fisheries issues
- 124 (ii) show how ISIS-Fish can be recoded based on this proposed object struc-
125 ture into the tool ISIS-FLR

126 The relevance of ISIS-FLR as an operating model for testing management
127 procedures for mixed fisheries will be illustrated from the example of the
128 Hake and Nephrops fisheries of the Bay of Biscay. We will in particular show
129 how fleet dynamics, short-term fishers behaviour and technical interactions
130 can be modelled and how technical measures on gear selectivity and MPA
131 management scenarios can be tested with this tool.

132 **2 Methods**

133 *2.1 From ISIS-Fish to ISIS-FLR*

134 ISIS-FLR model defines a set of FLR-like classes and methods encapsulated
135 in a R package named ‘FLIsis’ which is available for download on the FLR
136 web site. The conceptual representation of a fishery in the ‘ISIS-FLR’ model
137 were being built from the ‘ISIS-Fish ’model (Mahevas and Pelletier, 2004).
138 The model is a spatially and seasonally explicit multi-fleet, multi-stock model
139 taking into account of the response of fishermen to a range of management
140 rules through dynamic allocation of fishing effort. Fishery simulations result
141 from the interaction between four sub-models : (i) a population sub-model

142 which simulate the demographic processes for each species over space and
143 time; linked with (ii) an exploitation sub-model by the relationship between
144 fishing effort of the fleets and fishing mortality; the fishing mortality depending
145 on (iii) the management sub-model altering the spatio-temporal distribution
146 of the fishing effort based on management constraints and on the response of
147 fishers to these constraints; finally (iv) a bioeconomic model computes rev-
148 enue from landings and fish price. Beyond traditional management rules (e.g.
149 T.A.C.) it is assumed that alternative management options could be sug-
150 gested by monitoring the spatio-temporal covariance between population and
151 exploitation dynamics. Then, at each discretized time step, fisheries dynamics
152 is determined by the spatial overlap between population areas, fishing activity
153 areas and management areas. The model is a monthly time step model and
154 uses a regular grid of cells to discretize the fishery region (the ices square res-
155 olution of space by default) and the degree of discretization for both of these
156 features could be set up as needed by the user.

157 The translation of spatially- and seasonally- explicit ISIS-Fish objects to-
158 ward FLR environment have been facilitated using basic FLR existing classes
159 (Full details of FLR classes and their internal structure are provided on the
160 FLR web site) and in particular the FLR lower-level class named ‘FLQuant’.
161 This class provide the basic structure to design time and area-desagregated
162 arrays of data. ‘FLQuant’ objects are 5-dimensions array of data: the first
163 dimension can be set by the users (e.g. ‘Age’, ‘Length’, ‘Vessel type’) and the
164 other dimensions are ‘Year’, ‘Unit’ (e.g. ‘Sex’, ‘Spawning type’), ‘Season’ and
165 ‘Area’. These dimensions are common with the existing ISIS-Fish’ s basic ob-
166 ject dimensions. Different FLQuants have been grouped into FLR classes and
167 constitute attributes of these classes (generally called ‘slots’ in the R OOP
168 vocabular; Chambers (2000)). Figure 1 depicts the representation of the fish-

169 ery of the present model as a set of composite FLR-shaped classes nested
170 by common slots acting as relational keys between objects. For the sake of
171 simplicity, related-fishery region data used as input in ISIS-FLR are currently
172 stored as text files and consequently do not require additional software (e.g.
173 database) than R statistical language. Data are loaded in the R working space
174 and constitute a list of slots in the main class of the ISIS-FLR application we
175 called ‘FLIIs’ . Then, the core of the ISIS-FLR model is the FLIIs class we
176 built and which acts as a class manager by holding the set of input data and
177 the combination of management rules (and related parameters) to be tested
178 by sequential simulations. All ISIS-FLR objects are initially created at the
179 beginning of the simulation and act as collectors of the data processed by the
180 simulation loop and equation computation over time steps (Table 1).

181 *2.2 population dynamic*

182 Steps for simulation of age-disaggregated and spatially- and seasonally-explicit
183 dynamic of populations are described in Appendix 1. Disaggregated demo-
184 graphic processes simulations are facilitated by the use of the area and season-
185 disaggregated FLQuant objects. For our purpose, the existing FLR class
186 named FLBiol have also be reused suggesting a set of FLQuant objects hold-
187 ing all the age-, time- and area-desaggregated relevant information to com-
188 pute demographic processes (weight-at-age, fecundity-at-age, natural mortal-
189 ity, etc.) over discrete time steps. We have largely extended this class to cre-
190 ate a ‘FLBiol2’ class (Table 1) which holds additional information (i.e. slots)
191 which are (i) information about recruitment-specific areas, reproduction areas
192 or other type of areas such as nurseries constitute slots of the FLBiol2 class ;

193 (ii) migration coefficients from zones to another with an attached method to
194 perform migration at relevant timing; (iii) ogives of reproduction and recruit-
195 ment providing timing for these processes; (iv) additional slots to compute
196 a stock-eggs relationship for reproduction such as sex ratio, eggs mortality,
197 etc. (v) a matrix of ‘age ’ change (or ‘length ’or ‘stage ’ change). Hence, a
198 FLBiol2 object with its specific slots can be initialized at the beginning of the
199 simulation for each simulated stock.

200 *2.3 exploitation dynamic*

201 Several fleets are supported as set of vessels with distinct physical character-
202 istics (e.g. length, engine power, etc.) mainly because they result in distinct
203 travelling times, fishing powers and corresponding costs. Further, to take into
204 account of spatio-temporal heterogeneity of fishing activities, ‘metiers’ (also
205 called ‘trip type’, ‘rigging’ or only ‘gear’) are defined to constitute each a
206 particular spatio-temporal fishing activity of the fleet. A metier is defined as
207 a unique arrangement of a gear, one or a set of target species and a fishing
208 ground (Mahevas and Pelletier, 2004). Within each strategy, the distribution
209 of fishing effort between metiers over the year is dictated either by a static
210 activity calendar per metier (a particular type of calendar constitute a strat-
211 egy) or by a dynamic allocation of effort model into metiers (e.g. given by the
212 outputs of a Random Utility Model) and mimics the splitting up of the global
213 effort of the strategy into effort per metier (Appendix 2). The development
214 of new designed FLR-shaped classes (Table 1) were required to store specific
215 features of the ISIS-Fish way of modelling. Then, the FLSetOfVessels class, as
216 an extended version of the original FLR FLFleet class, enables to define a set

217 of vessels sharing physical characteristics but also sharing the same strategy
 218 i.e. the same sequence of fishing activities or metiers over time. Consequently,
 219 each fleet could be modelled by one or several *FLSetOfVessels* objects, as many
 220 as possible strategies. Each *FLSetOfVessels* object has got a list of *FLMetier*
 221 objects to describe the metiers practiced within a given strategy. The key allo-
 222 cation of the total activity into activity in each metier of the *FLSetOfVessels*
 223 object is hold in a particular slot named ‘activity’ having metier names as first
 224 dimension. Then, various fishing activities occurring on different areas and pos-
 225 sibly varying over time could be set up for each *FLsetOfVessels*. Metier zones
 226 constitute a list of cells among fishery region cells.

227 In this mixed fishery model, a same stock is harvested by different metiers.
 228 Then, over the simulation loop, at each time step, on each cell of the grid,
 229 the total age and cell-disaggregated fishing mortality on stocks $F_{stock,age,cell}$
 230 is computed as the sum of the fishing mortality per fleet per metier (details
 231 in Appendix 3) and applied on the stock. Conversely to ISIS-Fish, two ways
 232 have been set up to applied zone-desaggregated fishing mortalities on stocks
 233 depending on the user-chosen spatial scale:

- 234 (1) The fishing mortality $F_{metier,stock}$ is applied cell by cell creating local
 235 depletion in stock abundance.
- (2) The fishing mortality $F_{metier,stock}$ is applied metier zone by metier zone by
 summing F over cells belonging to a same metier zone and in this case:

$$F(t)_{fleet,metier,stock,age,cell} = F(t)_{fleet,metier,stock,age,cell} \times nbIntersectCells_{metier} \tag{2.1}$$

236 with $nbIntersectCells$ the metier-related number of cells of the intersec-
 237 tion between the metier zone and the biological zone for the concerned
 238 stock.

With the assumption that the fishing mortality is instantaneously applied at the beginning of each time step, total catches for each stock are computed from total fishing mortality and dispatched into catches per metier C depending on the contribution per metier to the total mortality applied to the stock following:

$$C(t)_{fleet,metier,stock,age} = \sum_1^i \left[\frac{F(t)_{stock,age,cell_i}}{F(t)_{stock,age,cell_i} + M(t)_{stock,age,cell_i}} \times N(1 - e^{F_{stock,age,cell_i} + M_{stock,age,cell_i}}) \times \frac{F(t)_{fleet,metier,stock,age,cell_i}}{F(t)_{stock,age,cell_i}} \right] \quad (2.2)$$

239 with M the natural mortality. A proportion of catches is discarded based on
 240 the age-disaggregated ogive of discards for this metier, and the remaining part
 241 of catches yields the landings.

242 2.4 economic model

243 The economic sub-model explicits fleet and metier cost definition and dy-
 244 namic of fleet revenues from landings (Appendix 4). The aim is to (i) assess
 245 the short-term economic effects and viability of management measures, and
 246 (ii) take into account the short-term response of fishers (i.e. in terms of spatio-
 247 temporal reallocation of effort) to economic indicators or market events. Then,
 248 owner margin and vessel margin are computed from economic characteristics
 249 of metiers as the most recent version of ISIS-Fish is also suggesting (version
 250 3.0). Additional new FLR-shaped classes (Table 1) were required to take into
 251 account of economic terms which are: (i) the FLMarket class which enables to
 252 compute metier-stock specific prices. A list of FLMarket objects in the simu-
 253 lation stores stock-specific parameters attached to a market place to compute

254 age-structured fish price from a price equation (e.g. supply and offer law)
255 using the total landings on the concerned market; (ii) the FLCostFleet and
256 FLCostMetier classes which store cost structure of fishing activities impact-
257 ing dynamics at either fleet level (insurance costs, etc.) or at metier level (fuel
258 costs may depends on the used gear and the visited area, etc.). It is assumed
259 that all vessels of a given fleet share similar cost structure which seems realistic
260 since fleets are set of vessels with similar physical characteristics. Cost struc-
261 ture is fixed over the simulation process while the total cost depends on the
262 effort allocated on each fishing activity at each time step; (iii) the FLRevFleet
263 and FLRevMetier classes which compute revenues of fishing activities. The
264 gross return for a particular metier are computed from fish price and age-
265 structured landings of the metier. The gross return from other species (i.e.
266 species whose population dynamics is not explicitly simulated) is added as
267 a linear function of the metier effort. Net revenues are then computed from
268 gross return minus costs for fishing. Then, economic objects are linked with
269 FLSetOfVessels and FLMetier objects using common slots as relational keys.
270 Further, capital dynamics is also supported through these classes and may be
271 used to implement an entry/exit model of vessels to/from the fishery. Equally,
272 a model option enables economic outputs to influence the dynamic of effort
273 allocation between metiers for the next time step.

274 *2.5 management rules*

275 As enabled by the flexibility of FLR, the settings for management sub-model
276 are stored into a new FLR-shaped class (we named ‘FLMgtRules’). Manage-
277 ment rules runs over time steps either at predefined steps from the database or

278 dynamically in response to simulation events (e.g. TAC reached, etc.). Hence,
279 a combination of management rules and all their related values can be tested
280 by sending this combination as argument during the creation of the FLIIs
281 manager class. Using a grid of simulations, these management rules are evalu-
282 ated before each new simulation using new values as arguments of each rules.
283 Conversely, management rules could occur over the simulation depending on
284 internal events. A particular management rule implemented in ISIS-FLR is
285 MPA rule. With this rule, Marine Protected Areas could be set up as a partial
286 or total closure of all or chosen fishing activities on predefined or dynamic
287 zones at predefined or dynamic times. Assumptions are needed concerning
288 fishers behaviours facing to the management rule constraint. In case of MPAs,
289 two possibility are assumed for the reallocation of the fishing effort: (i) ac-
290 tivities of possible metier for each fleet are reallocated to the remaining cells
291 of metier zones; (ii) for a given fleet activities from metiers using forbidden
292 gears is reallocated on metiers using allowed gears. If all metier cells are closed
293 for a given metier, the activity of the concerned metier is reallocated to other
294 possible metiers of the fleet. Finally, if all metier cells are closed for all possible
295 metiers, the activity of the concerned fleet is set up to 0. The alteration of the
296 selectivity of the used gears could also be set up. If this rule occurs, selectivity
297 curves from gear-specific selectivity equations are re-calculated using desired
298 values for the technical parameter (e.g. mesh size).

299 *2.6 Conditioning on Northern Hake/Nephrops mixed fishery*

300 The Hake/Nephrops mixed fishery is located on the continental shelf of the
301 Bay of Biscay (ICES VIIIab) and involved both french and spanish fleets.

302 Fleet definition for this fishery was performed by Mahevas et al. (2006) in
303 the TECTAC project framework. The modelled french fishing activity is a set
304 of 8 FLSetOfVessels i.e. a total of 206 vessels distributed into 2 vessel types
305 (intermediate: 12-24 meters; large: > 24 meters) attached to 1 harbour and
306 displaying 4 strategies of activity pattern over the year. The spanish fleet is
307 described by 6 FLSetOfVessels i.e. a total of 69 vessels distributed into 2 vessel
308 types (20-29 meters; 30-39 meters) attached to 2 harbours and displaying 2
309 strategies. Specific trip types attached to these fleets are described in Table
310 2. Spatio-temporal distribution of fleet efforts are driven by related-metiers
311 zones and activities over year using a static allocation of effort per metier
312 over time obtained from data analysis (Figure 1; TECTAC (2006)). Metiers
313 use either single or pair bottom trawls or gillnets for which the age-specific
314 selective behaviour have been assessed (Table 6).

315 Drouineau *et al.* (2006) previously applied the ISIS-Fish model on the mixed
316 fishery of hake/nephrops and the present study partly reuse the same value for
317 parameters linked to the biological model. The spatial distribution of Nephrops
318 is restricted to the ‘Grande Vasiere’ (ICES VIII) whereas hake is located along
319 all the shelf of the Bay of Biscay (Figure 3) and the Celtic sea (ICES VII).
320 The effect of the reduction to the Bay of Biscay area in the present study is
321 not well known and it is assumed that reproduction and recruitment areas
322 may be distinct between this region and the Celtic Sea like ICES which as-
323 sume two distincts stocks. Initial population abundances were taken from the
324 2003 ICES stock assesement and were uniformly distributed over the area of
325 presence of the stock in the Bay of Biscay. Nephrops stock is sedentary while
326 Hake stock show seasonal ontogenic migrations between areas with agregation
327 on reproduction zone along the shelf edge at the beginning of the reproduction
328 season (January) and dispersion over the whole of presence area at the end of

329 the season (July) (Table 4; Quero and Vayne (1997)). The migration in or out
330 of the Bay of Biscay have not been taken into account because of lack of data.
331 For both stocks, age and season-specific catchabilities were estimated based on
332 data analysis of log-books data and catch-at-length information (Drouineau
333 *et al.*, 2006). The spanish fleets data result from analysis of logbook and ac-
334 tivity data from the AZTI-tecnalia database. Related-economic parameters
335 for french fleets and metiers and market place parameters were obtained from
336 data collected by the Fisheries Information System of Ifremer via surveys of
337 individual vessel owners (year 2003) (TECTAC, 2006). Spanish economic data
338 are obtained from the Statistical Service of the Departement of Agriculture
339 (Fisheries and Food of the Basque Government).

340 Deterministic simulations were running to test two management scenarios from
341 the data set which defined the initial conditions assuming total compliance of
342 fishermen for both scenarios:

343 (1) *MPA scenario*. Northern hake use to spawn from February through July
344 along the shelf edge, the main areas extending from north of the Bay
345 of Biscay to the south and west Ireland (ICES 2006). Large part of the
346 hake catches are obtained during the first quarter of the year when the
347 spawning period occurs. Data have shown that there are specific ICES
348 rectangles where high catches occur reiteratively year after year, and in
349 particular for the spanish fleets using VHVO gears (i.e. ‘Very High Verti-
350 cal Opening’ nets). Thus, a possible management scenario is to close these
351 rectangles (contiguous 22E4, 23E5, 23E4 and 22E5; contiguous 20E7 and
352 19E7) to the VHVO pair trawlers and to the TTBLN and OTBLN french
353 trawlers from February to May.

354

355 (2) *selective gear scenario*. In order to reduce the Hake discards from by-catch
 356 of juveniles for the fleets targeting nephrops the impact on an increasing
 357 minimum mesh size for trawl gears (70 mm, 100 mm, 130 mm which
 358 respectively correspond to the 50% retention age in years of 2.5, 4.4 and
 359 6.3 for the Hake and 0.5, 1.2 and 2.1 for Nephrops with our settings for
 360 trawl gears) is tested on the fishery in terms of stock evolution, landings
 361 and fleet revenues.

362 The aim of this paper is to illustrate some trends in the fishery response to var-
 363 ious management options rather than provide absolute numbers about stock
 364 abundance or catches. Results are showed in relative values of each tested
 365 scenario in regards to the scenario of reference (70 mm for mesh size of trawl
 366 gears and no MPA application). Then, two diagnostic plots are suggested here:

367 (i) The landings ratio $Lratio_t$ at the horizon time ($t = 5$ years) is given by

368
$$Lratio_{t=5} = \frac{\sum_{t=1}^5 L_t - \sum_{t=1}^5 Lref_t}{\sum_{t=1}^5 Lref_t} \times 100$$
 with $Lref_t$ the landing of the simulation

369 of reference;(ii) the slope and the intercept of the linear regression of landing

370 ratios over time. In this case the slope parameter is the percent of gain (if

371 positive) or loss (if negative) per year while the intercept parameter represent

372 the immediate (i.e. at $t=0$) loss or gain of landings with respect to the landing

373 of reference. In addition, time of recovery to the reference level can be com-

374 puted and traced using the relation $t_{recovery} = \frac{Lratio_t - intercept}{slope}$ with $Lratio_t = 0$,

375 occuring when landing of the tested scenario L equal the landing of reference

376 $Lref$. A cluster analysis was performed using the ward criteria in order to

377 depict and make the representation clearer of group of responses of metiers to

378 the tested combination of management rules.

379 In addition, simulation results are known to be sensitive to population param-

380 eters such as catchability coefficients and natural mortality values attached to

381 the stocks for which data analysis showed difficulties to estimate (Drouineau
382 *et al.*, 2006). Nevertheless, FLIIs enables a serie of simulations (i.e. an experi-
383 ment plan) to be launched to test different values of parameters. Then, in order
384 to check if trends still exist with respect to uncertainty on parameter values,
385 several simulations were ran using a range of values for the capturability and
386 natural mortality of simulated stocks.

387 **3 Results**

388 *3.1 effect on stock biomasses*

389 Under the assumption of a constant exploitation pattern from a year to the
390 next, the deterministic simulated biomass trajectories of stocks (Figure 4;
391 scenario of reference i.e. 70mm of mesh size/ no MPA) showed variations
392 depending on the occurrence of age-structured biological events (recruitment,
393 class change at the beginning of the year) and depending on the interactions
394 between spatio-temporal allocation of fishing effort and the spatio-temporal
395 occurrence of the stock (migration pattern). Both stock evolution was im-
396 pacted by the tested management scenarios since all tested scenarios led to
397 higher biomass levels (same result in abundance) at the 5-years horizon time
398 with respect to the scenario of reference. For both stocks the higher level of
399 biomass was reached with the scenario combining a 130 mm of mesh size for
400 trawlers with the MPA application altering the spatio-temporal allocation of
401 fishing effort (+35.2% and +16.7% for Nephrops and Hake respectively under
402 130mm/MPA scenario). MPA occurred during the Hake spawning period and
403 protect a part of the stock from fishing. All Hake ages were protected in cells

404 23E4, 22E4 and 22E5 with a gain after application in biomass in MPA cells of
405 +4.3%, +1.9%, +4.5%, +5.7% for ages 2, 7, 8 and 9 respectively and <+1%
406 for ages 3, 4, 5 and 6 which move to inshore cells before the end of the MPA.
407 Only age 2 were protected because present alone in cells 23E5, 20E7 and 19E7
408 with a gain in biomass of +18.2% after the first MPA period. Although effort
409 during MPA period is reallocated on remaining cells, no increased landings
410 occurred in no MPA cells because effort is applied on a smaller number of indi-
411 viduals. Rather, a slight decrease (<+1%) in landings was shown due to the
412 variation in the *landable* proportion (33% in the MPA against 27% outer of
413 the MPA). MPA effect was strong for Nephrops in the only impacted 23E5
414 cell by the closure for this stock (+245.1% for all ages). Nevertheless, for both
415 stocks, the impact of MPA on biomasses was minor at the horizon time in
416 regards to the increased mesh size effect (+1.2% and +3.1% of total biomass
417 for Nephrops and Hake respectively under 70mm/MPA scenario).

418 3.2 *short-term effect on fleet catches*

419 The cumulated landings per fleet per metier over the horizon simulation of
420 5 years in ratio to the cumulated landings of the reference scenario (Figure
421 5) underline species-specific responses of fleets and their metiers facing to the
422 tested scenarios. For Hake, MPA application (i.e. scenario 70mm/MPA) led
423 to enhanced landings for all fleets such as the french netters (metiers G1 and
424 H1; +4.0% to 9.1%) the spanish netters targetting the Megrim and Anglerfish
425 using BAKANets gear and being not concerned by the MPA rule (metiers K1
426 and L1; +2.5% to 7.6%) and at a lesser extend the french trawlers (up to
427 +3.1%) which had only one closed square belonging to the reproduction area

428 (24E4) where fish concentration occur year after year. However, spanish fleets
429 using VHVO nets (metiers I2 and J2) and having five closed cells made excep-
430 tion with MPA having a strong negative effect (up to -10.6%) The balance for
431 these fleets was negative between the loss in weight during the MPA period
432 and the gain outer of the period. Discards are reduced during the period of
433 MPA application in respect to the reference scenario and could explain for a
434 part the positive effect of MPA for trawlers due to increased landings outer
435 of the MPA period (Figures 6 and 7). However, simulation runs without the
436 spanish VHVO net users (results not shown) showed that the positive effect of
437 MPA on french trawlers was mainly explained by the loss in catches for span-
438 ish trawlers. MPA positive effect was enhanced (results not shown) if spanish
439 VHVO net users were allowed to change of gears rather than reallocate effort
440 on remaining cells of the metier (up to +8.7% for french trawlers) underlin-
441 ing a qualitative change in fishing pressure on the stock when spanish netters
442 choose to focus on fewer cells. Concerning Nephrops stock, the impact of MPA
443 on the french trawlers nephrops landings is slightly positive for metiers D3,
444 D4, F3 and F4 (up to +3.3%) and negative for metiers 1 and 2 (up to -2.0%).
445 The impact of selectivity on Hake landings (i.e. 130mm/noMPA scenario) dis-
446 tinguished two groups: (i) a negative effect for french trawlers for all fleets and
447 depending on metiers (fleets A to F; -14.0% to -22.0%) which are directly con-
448 cerned by the increased mesh size (metiers using TTBLN and OTBLN gears).
449 Discards are reduced mainly because catches are reduced; (ii) a positive effect
450 for french (G and H; +5.1%) and spanish netters (I, J, K and L; +4.9%). For
451 these last fleets, since they are not concerned by the improved selective gears
452 rule, the positive effect is totally explained by passive gain of the trawlers
453 loss. The impact of selectivity on Nephrops landings is strongly positive for
454 all fleets fishing nephrops (fleets A to F) but depend also on metiers (+10.8%

455 to +18.9%).

456 3.3 long-term effect on fleet catches

457 Beyond the snapshot of cumulated landings at the 5-year horizon time, the
458 dynamic aspect of the landings and the potential interaction of a combination
459 of management rules is addressed by Figure 8. For both stocks, several groups
460 of metiers under tested scenarios can be isolated and even if response of fleets
461 was scenario-specific in a larger extend, dispersion of metiers for a given fleet
462 across groups underline that effect of management scenarios equally depended
463 on metiers. From hake landings, 3 groups of response to the tested manage-
464 ment rules could be identified from the cluster analysis (Figure 8a): (i) For the
465 french trawlers (Fleet A to F), the 70/100/130 mm mesh size scenarios are
466 discriminated both by x-axis and y-axis, a higher mesh size meaning a greater
467 immediate loss but a higher rate of gain per year (Figure 8a) since stock grow
468 up. Further, y-axis separates MPA/noMPA scenarios and application of MPA
469 scenarios was additional effect and led to greater rate of gain per year without
470 effect on immediate loss and whatever the selectivity scenarios. A trawler sub-
471 group is constituted by the metiers 1, 2, 5 and 6 which showed larger time to
472 recovery (15 to 20 years) under the 130mm/noMPA scenario. At a lesser level,
473 times to recovery are greater than 5-year horizon time for the other scenarios
474 apart from the 70mm/MPA scenario for which this time is immediate, metiers
475 having closed squares or not; Another subgroup is constituted by the metiers 3
476 and 4 across the fleets (i.e. whatever the vessel size) and display same features
477 than the previous one but at a lesser scale; (ii) The french netters (fleets G
478 and H) and spanish trawlers (fleets I, J, K and L) only fishing on Hake stock,

479 constitute a group of metiers having no immediate loss and various rate of
480 gain per year. Then, the balance of landings is immediately positive for these
481 fleets. MPA scenarios led to the greater rate of gain per year for the french
482 netters (greater than 1.0% per year for G1 and H1) not concerned by the
483 closure. I2 and J2 metiers made exception having 5 closed squares under the
484 MPA scenarios and had a heavily negative balance with a very high time to
485 recovery (greater than 20 years) if mesh size was of reference.

486 The nephrops stock is only fished by the french trawlers (fleets A to F, metiers
487 1, 2, 3 and 4). Nephrops landings of these fleets could be separated into 3
488 groups of response (Figure 8b) across fleets depending on metiers: (i) Metiers
489 1 and 2 had no immediate times to recovery but mainly below the 5-years
490 simulation horizon for all scenarios except for 70mm/MPA scenario. For these
491 metiers, stock landings showed that an increased mesh size led to increased
492 immediate loss and higher rate of gain per year (Figure 8c) and, at the reversal
493 of observed on Hake stock, MPA scenarios could lead to a greater immediate
494 loss for a same level of rate of gain per year whatever the mesh size scenario;

495 (ii) Metiers 3 and 4 across fleets targetting nephrops constitute 2 sub-group:
496 one with the set of intermediate trawler metiers C3,C4, E3 and E4 with no
497 immediate loss and positive balance depending on the scenario; another sub-
498 group gathers large trawler metiers F3, F4, D3 and D4 with negative immedi-
499 ate balance and for which MPA decreased the short-term loss. For nephrops,
500 interactions between MPA and selectivity depend on metiers.

502 The respective landing from the Nephrops and Hake stocks is integrated into
503 the gross return of each metier and the various trends in landings between the
504 two stocks may be solved examining the gross return with respect to the
505 different tested scenarios. Hence, three groups of response could be identified
506 on Figure 8c: (i) a group with a positive gross return balance with positive rate
507 of gain per year, (ii) a group with a lot of metiers closed to the zero immediate
508 loss and zero rate of gain; (iii) a group with immediate loss greater than 15%
509 associated with large time (>10 years) to recovery the reference level. The
510 group 1 was constituted of metiers had had positive landings balance such as
511 the french intermediate trawlers E3, E4, C3 and C4 less impacted by loss on
512 hake landings and having gain on nephrops landings, the french netters G and
513 H and spanish trawlers I, J, K and L. For metiers of group 1 the rate of gain per
514 year is higher for MPA scenarios (from 1 to 2%). The group 2 was constituted
515 of metiers 1, 2 and large trawlers D3, D4, F3 and F4 demonstrating that a loss
516 in landings do not necessarily lead to a loss in global gross return because gross
517 return from each stock could be balanced (For example, metiers A1, A2, B1
518 and B2 have positive grossreturn balance (range from 0.2 to 2.6% after 5 years
519 because losses on Hake were balanced by gains on Nephrops for all scenarios).
520 Price dynamic (higher price when the total landing on the attached market
521 place decrease and reversal) had a tendency to erase difference in gross return
522 between scenarios for these metiers. The group 3 was constituted by metiers
523 having largely depleted landings on Hake stocks such as I2 and J2 spanish
524 trawlers using VHVO gears whereas MPA scenarios occur, and also by the
525 fleet-metiers with largely depleted landings on Hake stock whereas they only

526 targetting Hake such as C5, C6, E5, E6, D5, D6, F5 and F6.

527 3.5 elasticity analysis

528 The application of multipliers on capturability or natural mortality of stocks
529 enables to assess the degree of sensitivity of the simulation outputs to these
530 uncertain input parameters and to evaluate if differences between metiers are
531 kept with these other settings. Capturability changes lead to altered stock
532 biomass (for hake for 70mm/noMPA -94.6% and +72.5% respectively for
533 $Q = Q_{ref} \times 10$ and $Q = Q_{ref} \times 0.1$ for nephrops for 70mm/noMPA col-
534 lapse to -99.8% and gain of +482.0% respectively for $Q = Q_{ref} \times 10$ and
535 $Q = Q_{ref} \times 0.1$) which could be explained by increased or respectively
536 decreased fleet landings (Figures 9a and b). Whatever, differences between
537 metiers were kept and even enhanced (metiers 3 and 4 were less sensitive
538 than metier 1, 2, 5, 6) except for metiers I2, J2 on Hake or metiers 3 and
539 4 on Nephrops which were greatly altered in case of $0.1 \cdot Q_{ref}$ simulations.
540 Equally, stock biomasses are sensitive to the natural mortality (+21.2% with
541 $M = M_{ref} \times 0.8$; -17.5% with $M = M_{ref} \times 1.2$) with the consequence of
542 slightly increasing or respectively decreasing the time required for fleets to
543 recovery to the reference level of Hake landings (Figure 9c).

544 The effect of migration on Hake trajectories of biomass and catches was quite
545 important since pattern of catches was quite different while no Hake migration
546 was taken into account (i.e. unabled age-specific movements between zones;
547 reproduction and recruitment in all cells of the stock area). Higher landings
548 occurred for all metiers of all trawlers the first semester of each year in compar-
549 ison to reference simulations using the migration pattern (results not shown).

550 When hake is uniformly distributed on its area of presence the trawlers target-
551 ting nephrops got access to the mature age classes which were only localized
552 on reproduction cells between January and June in the case of migration pat-
553 tern. If no migration occurs, effect of MPA is reversal for trawlers and reference
554 levels for landings take a long time to be overshooted (Figure 9d) because the
555 higher landings with no migration particularly for metiers 3 and 4 are greatly
556 amputated.

557 Applying the fishing mortality at the cell scale rather than at the zone metier
558 scale led to greater final biomass for both stocks (+ 329.0% and + 75.2% for
559 Nephrops and Hake respectively for the 70mm/noMPA scenario) underlining
560 that results are scale-dependent. Indeed, in a case fishing efforts target the
561 whole fish present in each metier area whereas in the other case efforts are
562 assumed to be applied cell by cell creating local depletion on local fish abun-
563 dance. Greater final biomass is explained by the fact that, for all fleet-metiers,
564 landings are less important and times to recovery to the reference level are
565 increased (Figures 10d and e). The difference between metiers observed in case
566 of zone metier application was kept for Hake stocks comparing to the cell scale
567 fishing mortality application. Concerning Nephrops stock, differences between
568 metiers C1, C2, F1, F2 and C3, C4, F3, F4 are quite reduced.

569 **4 Discussion**

570 Because fisheries could be mixed fisheries (in the largest sense, a mixture
571 of species and ages/stages), fishery management alternatives to TAC should
572 be investigated to avoid by-catches, discards and overquotas of non-targetted
573 species. Such alternatives include Marine Protected Areas which aim at pro-

574 tecting fish concentration from fishing i.e. either concentration of non-targetted
575 species, immature and unmarketable individuals to let them grow and re-
576 produce themselves, or spawning adults concentration before or during the
577 spawning season to keep the potential production of eggs initiating the next
578 year-class. Hence, design of MPA should depend either on spawning season
579 which usually lead to fish concentration of adults, or on juvenile aggregation
580 zone after the spawning (i.e. nursery). The present tested scenarios for the
581 management of the mixed Hake/Nephrops fishery had the dual goal of lim-
582 iting the spawner catches of Hake before they reproduced themselves using
583 a closure design in space and time and limiting by-catches of juvenile Hake
584 by altering selectivity of activities targetting Nephrops. From 2001, the emer-
585 gency plan implemented by the Commission for the recovery of the Northern
586 hake stock associate these two technical measures in addition to a TAC re-
587 duction: A 100 mm minimum mesh size implemented for trawlers (for vessel
588 >12 meters and when hake comprises more than 20% of the total amount of
589 marine organisms retained onboard) and two areas have been defined, one in
590 Sub area VII and the other in Sub area VIII, where a 100 mm minimum mesh
591 size is required for all trawlers, whatever the amount of hake caught. Using
592 ISIS-FLR we tested first a total seasonal closure for trawlers to simplify the
593 respective role of MPA and gear selectivity. Hence, ISIS-FLR was showed as a
594 tool designed to model the effect of such spatialized management rules taking
595 into account of the spatio-temporal co-occurrence between stock distributions
596 and spatio-temporal disaggregated fishing activities. By simultaneously han-
597 dling several species, the model is designed to implement rules in a mixed
598 fisheries context using a combination of rules to attempt to solve trade-off in
599 fishing various species.

600 However, these first results concerning the two tested alternative scenarios

601 (increasing gear selectivity and implementing MPAs) are only illustrative of
602 the current capacity of the tool and do not constitute policy recommenda-
603 tions since strong uncertainties exist in the conditioning of the model: (i)
604 For nephrops, a length-structured model may be investigated to test the ar-
605 tificial slicing procedure in age classes which does not take account of the
606 variability in individual growth rate and hence the variability in length-at-
607 age. It could be also required to take into account of growth, maturity and
608 catchability sex dependence (ICES, 2006a); (ii) For hake an underestimation
609 of growth were underlined by tagging experiments (Bertignac and de Pontual,
610 2007); (iii) For selectivity ogive assessment (ICES, 2006a), analysis of nephrops
611 selectivity data in the past often keep haul which exhibit good fit with the
612 sigmoid selection curve model whereas it sometimes represented only 50% of
613 the total number of hauls. In addition, Briggs et al. (1999) demonstrated that
614 vessel size affects nephrops selectivity. Finally, an alternative management rule
615 to increased mesh size which is currently tested at Ifremer should be tested
616 (NECESSITY, 2006). Indeed, the preliminary results from a grid device look
617 promising and the results show clear size selection of Nephrops. This new de-
618 signed gear should be tested in other fisheries to confirm these findings and
619 provide better definition of appropriate bar spacing.

620 As stressed by Pelletier and Mahevas (2005) , recent models in fisheries sciences
621 aims at taking into account of space and time distribution of the abundance of
622 the populations and their demographic processes possibly varying in the course
623 of life cycle of species. Further, since some demographic processes have been
624 shown to be age-specific (e.g. migration, mortality) the population dynamic is
625 simulated in a age-structured way. In ISIS-FLR, successive demographic pro-
626 cesses could occur depending on relevant areas and time steps (class change,
627 migration, reproduction, recruitment). The ISIS-FLR model as a generic tool

628 aim at being helpful to organise age-disaggregated population data and turn
629 out data analysis (mapping of stock abundances, etc.) for modelling popula-
630 tion dynamics in space and time including migration patterns. On a hand,
631 FLR provides R classes of objects to hold and structure data related to as
632 many as stock dynamics we want to describe. Further, modularity of the FLR
633 language was a great help to design new classes to hold more complex data
634 to support migration patterns. Hence, the ISIS-Fish operating model and its
635 specificity (Mahevas and Pelletier 2001) have been fully and successfully re-
636 coded into the FLR environment. Other example of biological operating model
637 using FLR blocks are now available (e.g. Hamon *et al.* in press on the North
638 sea roundfish mixed fisheries) and are described on the FLR web site. The
639 current specificity of the ISIS-FLR model is the possibility of a high level of
640 spatio-temporal desaggregation following the grid-based unit of management
641 that are the ICES squares. Then, in the hake/nephrops case study, age-specific
642 migration between different locations and at various time is of great contri-
643 bution to explain the variation in catches and the catches composition over
644 time for the different fishing activities. In this case, the seasonal aggregation
645 of spawners during the spring prevent a part of the mature population to be
646 harvested by the trawlers either because they target nephrops and do not try
647 to go fishing out of the nephrops stock limits or because they cannot reach
648 the reproduction zone from their harbour. Testing application of fishing mor-
649 talities with a cancelled hake migration pattern enabled to quantify such an
650 effect.

651 In the ISIS-FLR model, stocks and fishing fleets are separately structured on
652 the same grid-based space and time to mimic the mismatch between spatio-
653 temporal application of the fishing effort and particular population zones in
654 a mixed fishery context (e.g. mismatch is usually observed when a fleet ei-

655 ther do not target only one species but rather several species at the same
656 time, or possibly when a non-targeted stock overlaps the targeted stock, etc.).
657 But, if the FLR environment provided blocks to handle data to build a fleet
658 operating model, FLR classes had to be extended to reproduce this feature
659 and organize the desagregation of effort into different fishing activities. Then,
660 the heterogeneity of the fishing effort and vessel characteristics could be or-
661 ganized using ISIS-FLR as well as ISIS-Fish in separated categories described
662 by encapsulated or linked classes of objects: several set of vessels attached
663 to different harbors having several metiers using distinct gears for fishing an
664 array of species in different areas depending on time. Hence, heterogeneities
665 of catching power between set of vessels, selective ogives between metiers and
666 finally their spatio-temporal dimension are explicitly taken into account. In
667 particular the distangle was made between the various stock catchability spe-
668 cific to a given fishing activity and the stock vulnerability specific to biological
669 features of stocks (Mahevas and Pelletier, 2004). In addition, ISIS-Fish defines
670 strategies as subgroups of set of vessels sharing same metiers but splitting total
671 effort over time into efforts per metier depending on different activity calen-
672 dars. For example, fleet data analysis from logbooks and sales declaration for
673 french trawlers on the hake/nephrops fishery of the Bay of Biscay (Mahevas
674 *et al.* , 2006) led to implement in ISIS-FLR a set of two set of vessels (i.e. two
675 vessel sizes of french trawlers) each displaying 3 strategies. In each strategy, 6
676 different metiers are possible depending on the spatio-temporal allocation of
677 effort and main targetted species. Hence, conditionning ISIS-FLR model may
678 be data-consuming since it requires finer scale data on fleets and stocks which
679 may not be readily available (e.g. trip data to identify metiers on the main as-
680 sumption that catch profiles are indicators of metiers as described in Pelletier
681 and Ferraris 2000; tagging survey to evaluate migration coefficients between

682 zones, etc.) and it may be more convenient to focus on model which have lower
683 level of data disaggregation. However, do not spatialize fleet and stock data
684 suppose some strong underlying assumptions relaxed by ISIS-FLR. Then, in
685 ISIS-FLR populations are not homogeneously distributed in space and time
686 but display age-disaggregated structures related to ontogenic migration pat-
687 terns based on the spatio-temporal dimension of the life cycle. The fishing
688 effort is not uniformly applied over population but heterogeneously occurs
689 due to either various fishermen's access to the resource or various targetting
690 behaviours. For species displaying migratory movements, models which ne-
691 glect these features may goes wrong if it exists spatio-temporal heterogeneity
692 in fishing effort.

693 ISIS-FLR model is a contribution to assess the effect of a space and time
694 specificity (i.e. metiers) in the effort distribution for a given set of vessels on
695 the stock dynamics they are fishing. But more focus is on the quantification
696 of the possible effect of implementation of management rules on each metier
697 evolved in the fishery. A rising consensual point of view turns fishery mod-
698 elling effort toward a fleet-based management of stocks (TECTAC, 2006) and
699 first step would be to quantify in economic terms the impact of management
700 rules on fleet targetting these stocks as modelled here. In a second time, pre-
701 diction of consequence of the possible fishermen switch of activity in response
702 to the management constraint should be modelled to test the efficiency of the
703 implemented recovery plan in the long run (Christensen and Raakjaer, 2006).
704 Then, due to technical interactions in the simulated hake/nephrops fishery,
705 no scenario led to short-term increased of landings and revenues at the same
706 time for all implemented fleets. As a general rule, some metiers gain advan-
707 tage from the loss of others. In the point of view of fleet management, the
708 interest of such a model is to provide a tool to identify specific fleet responses

709 to the tested management rules, quantifying interdependency effects and loss
710 of marketable catches in a fluctuating market context (price dynamics, dis-
711 count rate, etc). Following, instances of fishery management may base their
712 choices and decisions on the stock and economic projections performed by the
713 model. Diagnostic plots such as presented in this paper could be helpful in
714 decisions (e.g. to identify which fleets may need subsidies if the given combi-
715 nation of management rules is driven, etc.). Nevertheless, three main causes
716 of uncertainties or elasticity on simulated projections have been identified:
717 (i) uncertainties on input data (e.g. uncertainties on stock parametrization
718 such as initial stock number, catchability, migration, no exhaustive or error in
719 fleet effort data, etc.); (ii) results dependent on the design of the model (e.g.
720 scale-dependent application of fishing mortality) and (iii) fishermen behaviour
721 retroaction (fishing effort reallocation on other zones or other activities, non-
722 compliance, etc.). The FLR project is designed to get some insights in the first
723 type of uncertainties using stochasticity with repeated simulation and boot-
724 strapping (Kell *et al.*, 2007) and this underline the relevance of fully recoding
725 ISIS-Fish into the FLR environnement and plug it with the other tools provi-
726 den by FLR. As for the uncertainties inherent to the model design, ISIS-FLR
727 have proven that these features could be investigated by various settings of
728 the model. Fishermen response have also be investigated using ISIS-FLR un-
729 der the MPA scenarios. This last point is known to greatly impact the success
730 of management rule implementation and the most recent papers in fisheries
731 stress on the importance of the feedback behaviour of fishermen in fisheries
732 modelling. In particular, as we decided to perform a static allocation of ef-
733 fort in the present simulations, a same set of vessels could not dynamically
734 change allocation of activity between metiers and further could not change of
735 strategy to adapt its fishing practice to the implemented management rules.

736 Then, numerous simulations should be performed changing short-term effort
737 reallocation rules to investigate the impact on results of alternative fishermen
738 choices. Using the present design of ISIS-FLR, this could be easily done using
739 the modular aspect of the model by creating additional new rules from exist-
740 ing demonstration examples.

741 Linking the ISIS-FLR model with the FLR project, this model acts as an
742 entry point operating model of the closed-loop management procedure eval-
743 uation to test various management strategies (Kell *et al.*, 2007). Then, the
744 operating model can be linked with FLR tool in current development such as
745 the observation module that simulates data collection from the true popula-
746 tion in the operating model; an assessment model to derive estimates of stock
747 status from the simulated observations; and a predefined set of management
748 actions according to some specified rules (e.g. an HCR), which takes into ac-
749 count the outcome of the assessment. However ISIS-FLR is able to test other
750 regulations beyond the classical TAC and stock-based management, such as
751 MPAs application as indirect effort regulation taking into account of economic
752 incidence on fleets. Then, this model constitutes a fleet-based extension to the
753 FLR environment and a proposal to be added for developing an FLR-shaped
754 generic economic and social simulation tool (e.g. the FLEcon package in cur-
755 rent development). Results at the metier or at the fleet level showed in the
756 economic part of the present simulations are still preliminar and only relative
757 landings outputs were given preventing to take into account of the fixed or
758 variable costs for fishing. Nevertheless, the architecture to perform fleet effort
759 optimisation depending on economic outputs, or reversal, economic outputs
760 depending on fleet effort dynamic choice, is already done. Then ISIS-FLR
761 constitute a modifiable economic operating model that simulate the *true*
762 population depending on various assumptions on fishing behaviours, a set of

763 classes integrated in the FLR tool set. This model go strengthenen the FLR
764 proposal to provide a standard open-source collection of tools suggesting a
765 generic modelling framework for building fleet-based management strategies
766 evaluation. A particular challenge of the ISIS-FLR model will be to test and
767 predict the effect of fisher response behaviours on the success of the tested
768 management options before their implementation.

769 **5 Acknowledgement**

770 This study was evolved in the EFIMAS project ('Operational Evaluation Tools
771 for Fisheries Management Options') granted by the EU 6th Framework Pro-
772 gramme Specific Targeted Research Project SSP8-CT-2003-502516.

773 **A population dynamic submodel equations**

774 The population dynamic sub-model calls the following demographic processes
775 for each time step inside the simulation loop:

- 776 - *class change*. Due to ageing, classe change occurs either the 1st of January
777 if the population is age-structured, or at the beginning of all time steps if a
778 length-structured population is simulated. In this last case, the proportion
779 of individual changing class from a step to the next is predicted from the
780 common reversal Von Bertalanffy relation.
- 781 - *seasonal large scale ontogenic migration*. Possible age-specific migrations are
782 simulated using coefficients which are specifically applied on the spatially
783 distributed abundance as a proportion of migrants from an area to another.
- 784 - *reproduction*. Egg production occurs in reproduction cells from age-desagregated
785 spawner abundance (located in reproduction cells) and fecundity-at-age in
786 timing given by the time desagregated ogive of reproduction. From a step
787 to the next a egg mortality is applied on the pool of egg and larva.
- 788 - *recruitment*. New recruited from the larval pool are uniformly distributed
789 between recruitment cells in function to the timing given by the ogive of
790 recruitment.

Hence, the stock-recruitment relationship is split up into a stock-eggs relationship and the application of an eggs natural mortality. Then, the abundance N for each stock for the next time step is given by:

$$N(t + 1)_{stock,age,cell} = SR(t)_{stock,age,cell} \times$$
$$[[(N(t)_{stock,age,cell} \times CC(t)) \times Mig(t)_{stock,age,cell}] + R(t)_{stock,age,cell}]$$

(A.1)

With CC the array of class change coefficients, R the array of new recruited, Mig the array of migration coefficients and SR the array of survival rates. All arrays are cell and time step desagregated. The survival rate give the proportion which is substracted to the population due to the mortality process. The equation A.2 is the common exponential model to compute population dynamics in fishery sciences:

$$SR(t)_{stock,age,cell} = exp[-F(t)_{stock,age,cell} + M(t)_{stock,age,cell}] \quad (A.2)$$

791 with F the fishing mortality computed from the exploitation model and M
792 the natural mortality.

793

794 A Standardized effort calculation per metier

$$travelTime_{vessel,metier} = 2 \times \frac{1}{nbCells_{metier}} \sum_{i=1}^{cellsC_{metier,zone}} distance(harbor, cell_i) \quad (A.1)$$

$$distance_{harbor,zone} = \sum_i Rearth \times [\sin(lat.cell_i/p) \times \sin(lat.harbor/p) + (\cos(lat.cell_i/p) \times \cos(lat.harbor/p) \times \cos(lon.cell_i/p - lon.harbor/p))] \quad (A.2)$$

36 with $Rearth = 6378.388$, the radius of the earth.

$$fishingTimePerTrip_{vessel,metier} = tripDuration_{vessel,metier} - travelTime_{vessel,metier} \quad (A.3)$$

$$nbTrip_{vessel,metier} = \frac{monthDuration - mininactdays_{vessel,metier}}{tripDuration_{vessel,metier}} \quad (A.4)$$

$$fishingTime_{vessel,metier} = fishingTimePerTrip_{vessel,metier} \times nbTrip_{vessel,metier} \quad (A.5)$$

$$stdEffortPerHour_{vessel,metier} = nbGearsPerOpe_{vessel,metier} \times nbFishOpePerDay_{vessel,metier} \quad (A.6)$$

$$stdEffortPerMetier_{vessel,metier} = fishingTime_{vessel,metier} \times stdEffortPerHour_{vessel,metier} \quad (A.7)$$

$$stdEffort_{fleet,metier} = stdEffortPerMetier_{vessel,metier} \times nbVessels_{fleet} \times activity_{metier} \quad (A.8)$$

795 **A fishing mortalities calculation**

The fleet dynamic sub-model enables to compute disaggregated fishing mortalities for each time step of the simulation loop as follows:

$$F(t)_{stock,age,cell} = \sum_1^i \sum_1^j F(t)_{fleet_i,metier_j,stock,age,cell} \quad (\text{A.1})$$

The fishing mortality per fleet per metier $F(t)_{fleet,metier,stock,age,cell}$ is performed as described in the following equation:

$$F(t)_{fleet,metier,stock,age,cell} = E(t)_{fleet,metier,cell} \times tgtFctr_{fleet,metier,stock} \quad (\text{A.2}) \\ \times sel_{metier,gear,stock,age} \times q_{stock,age,season,cell}$$

796 with:

- 797 (1) $E(t)_{fleet,metier,cell}$ the effort per metier as a part of the total fleet effort
 798 dedicated to this metier. As detailed in Appendix B, fishing effort per
 799 metier is explicitly performed in the model by predicting the fishing
 800 time depending on the number of possible trips per time step (e.g. a
 801 month), the type of trips (e.g. 5 days at sea:2 days of inactivity, versus
 802 5×1 days at sea::2days of inactivity) and taking into account of the
 803 travel time to reach the targetted fishing cells for this metier from its
 804 specific harbor. then, fishing time is standardized per metier taking into
 805 account of the gear efficiency ('standard factor'of gears) and the number
 806 of fishing operations per day. Finally, effort per metier is computed from
 807 the number of vessels belonging to the strategy (\tilde{fleet}) and the percent of
 808 time activity spent in this metier for this time step.
- 809 (2) $tgtFctr_{fleet,metier,stock}$ a stock-specific target factor per metier. This coeffi-
 810 cient aim at taking into account of the relative efficiency of a unit of effort
 811 between metiers (obtained by performing a Generalized Linear Model on

812 CPUEs; details in Mahevas and Pelletier (2004)) measuring the degree
813 of linkage of the metier with each of the species caught.

814 (3) $sel_{metier,gear,stock}$ gear selectivity computed from a selectivity model for
815 the gear used by metiers.

816 (4) $q_{stock,age,season,cell}$ disaggregated stock-specific catchability coefficients per
817 age per zone displaying a seasonal pattern. Since a target factor related
818 to gear used by metiers having previously been defined, it should be
819 noted that the catchability parameter of the population model is only
820 dependent on stock availability rather than a mixture of stock availability
821 and of fishers technical efficiency at catching the species.

822 A Related-economic equations

$$price_{fleet,metier,stock} = \alpha_{market} TotalLandings_{stock,market}^{\beta_{market}} \quad (A.1)$$

$$GrossReturn_{fleet,metier} = \sum_{nbStocks} [Price_{fleet,metier,stock} \times Landings_{fleet,metier,stock}] \quad (A.2)$$

$$GrossReturn_{fleet,metier} = GrossReturn_{fleet,metier} + [Effort_{fleet,metier} \times GrossReturnFromOtherSpecies] \quad (A.3)$$

$$GrossReturnFromOtherSpecies = \frac{[GrossReturn_{allSpecies}(t0) - GrossReturn_{simulatedSpecies}(t0)]}{Effort_{fleet,metier}(t0)} \quad (A.4)$$

$$NetRevenue_{fleet,metier} = (1 - LandingCost_{fleet,metier}) \times GrossReturn_{fleet,metier,stock} \quad (A.5)$$

$$SharedCost_{fleet,metier} = (FuelCost + BaitCost + IceCost + FoodCost) \times Effort_{fleet,metier} \quad (A.6)$$

$$ReturnToBeShared_{fleet,metier} = NetRevenue_{fleet,metier} - SharedCost_{fleet,metier} \quad (A.7)$$

$$CrewShare_{fleet,metier} = CrewShareRate_{fleet,metier} \times ReturnToBeShared_{fleet,metier} \quad (A.8)$$

$$GrossWage_{fleet,metier} = \frac{CrewShare_{fleet,metier}}{CrewSize_{fleet,metier}} \quad (A.9)$$

$$NetCrewShare_{fleet,metier} = CrewShare_{fleet,metier} - [InsuranceCost_{metier} \times CrewSize_{fleet,metier}] \quad (A.10)$$

$$VesselShare_{fleet,metier} = (1 - CrewShareRate_{fleet,metier}) \times ReturnToBeShared_{fleet,metier} \quad (A.11)$$

$$OwnerMargin_{fleet,metier} = VesselShare_{fleet,metier} - OtherVariableCosts_{fleet,metier} \times Effort_{fleet,metier} \quad (A.12)$$

$$\text{GrossSurplus}_{fleet} = \sum_{metier \in M_{fleet}} (\text{OwnerMargin}_{fleet, metier} - \text{LicenceCost}_{fleet, metier} - \text{overC}_{fleet}) \quad (\text{A.13})$$

$$\text{ReturnFromOtherSpecies} = \frac{\text{ReturnToBeShared}_{\text{otherSpecies}}(t_0)}{\text{Effort}_{fleet, metier}(t_0)} \quad (\text{A.14})$$

$$\text{ReturnToBeShared}_{fleet, metier, \text{otherSpecies}}(t) = \text{ReturnFromOtherSpecies} \times \text{Effort}_{fleet, metier}(t) \quad (\text{A.15})$$

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