

# Stock-recruitment

## Part I

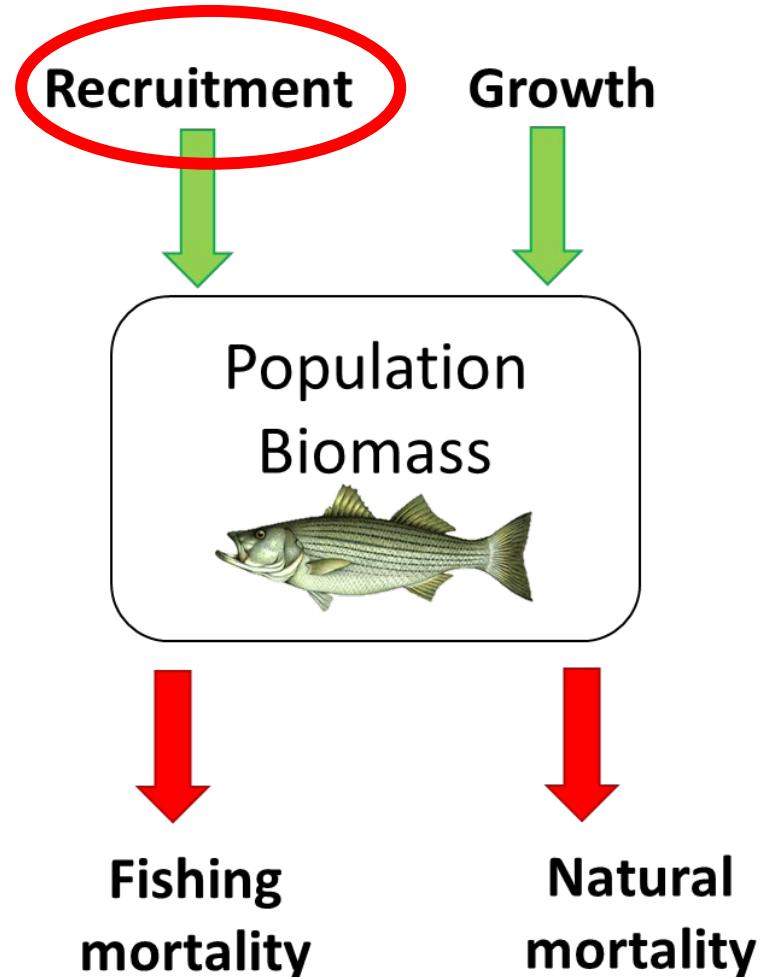
Reading:

Jennings et al. 2001. Marine Fisheries Ecology, Chapter 4  
(section 4.2)

Advanced: Quinn and Deriso 1999, Chapter 3

# Stock-recruitment

- **Recruitment** = The number of individuals that reach a specified “stage” of their life cycle. Often in reference to a specific age or to a size/age that is vulnerable to fishing



# Stock-Recruitment

- Why is this one of the most important topics in fisheries mgmt?
- Answers questions like:
  - How many young are produced by a given amount of adults?
  - How many recruits can we expect in the future for a given stock size?
  - Ability of pop to renew itself is critical for management and conservation
  - How much sustainable harvest can populations generate?

# Stock-recruitment

- Interested in finding the relationship between spawners and recruitment



- Side: multiple ways of saying the same thing:
  - Stock-recruitment
  - Stock-recruit
  - Spawner-recruit
  - SR

# What is a stock?



# What is a stock?

- **Stocks** are arbitrary groups of fish large enough to be essentially self-reproducing, with members of each group having similar life history characteristics
  - Hilborn and Walters 1992
- More generally: **Stock** defines a semi-discrete group of fish with some definable attributes of interest to managers
  - Begg et al. 1999

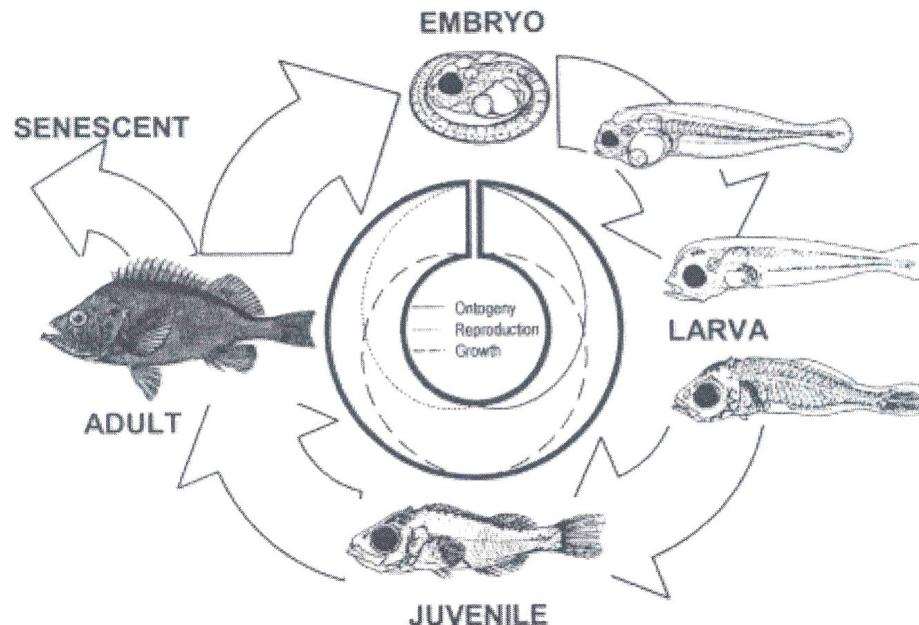
# What is a stock?

- **spawning stock** - Reproductively active part of the population
- Indices/Proxies include (descending order of quality):
  - Egg (or larval) production in the population
  - Biomass of adult females
  - Biomass of adults
  - Number of adults or adult females
  - CPUE of adults



# What is recruitment?

- **Recruitment** = The number of individuals that reach a specified “stage” of their life cycle
  - Typically after egg/larval stage
  - Or referring to fishery
  - Combines reproduction and early life survival
  - Ideally, year class strength set by the selected stage



# Where do spawner and recruit data come from?

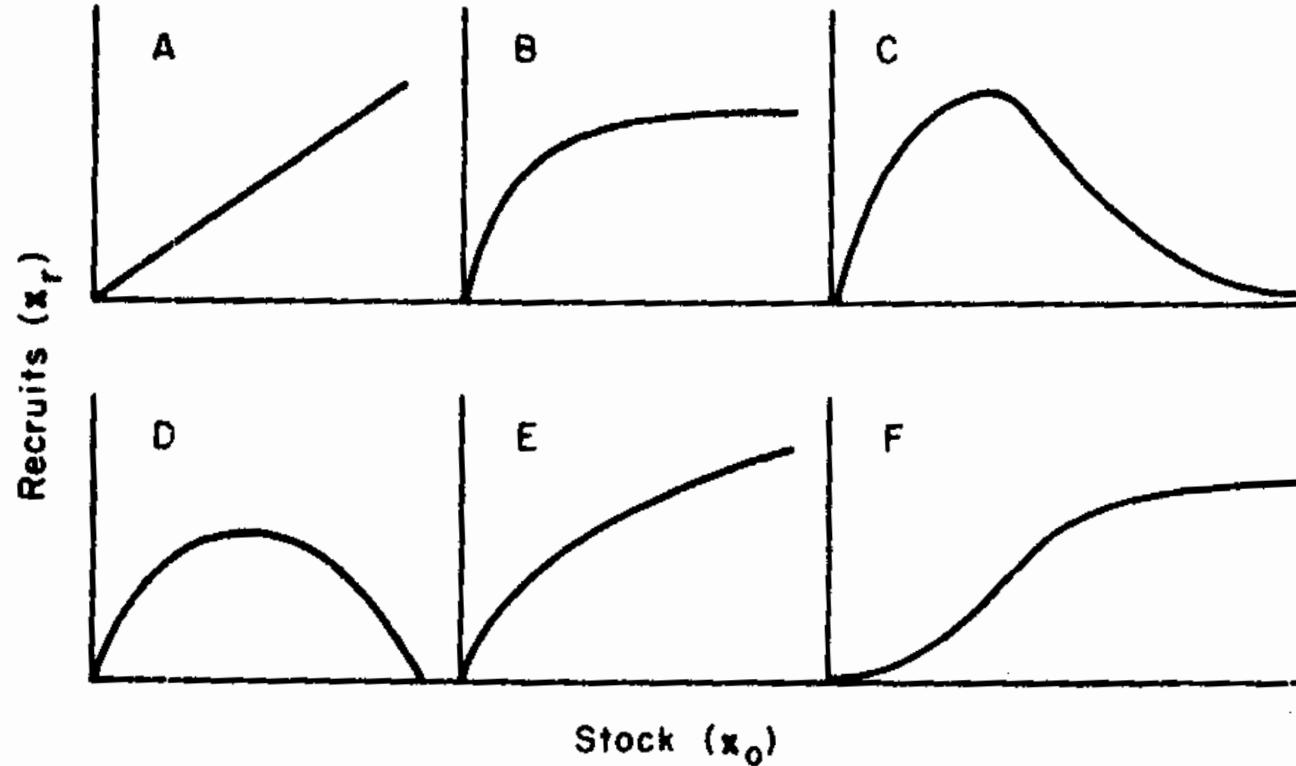
- Monitoring surveys
  - For eggs/juveniles/adults
- Population models (i.e. stock assessment models)



# What does R vs. S look like?

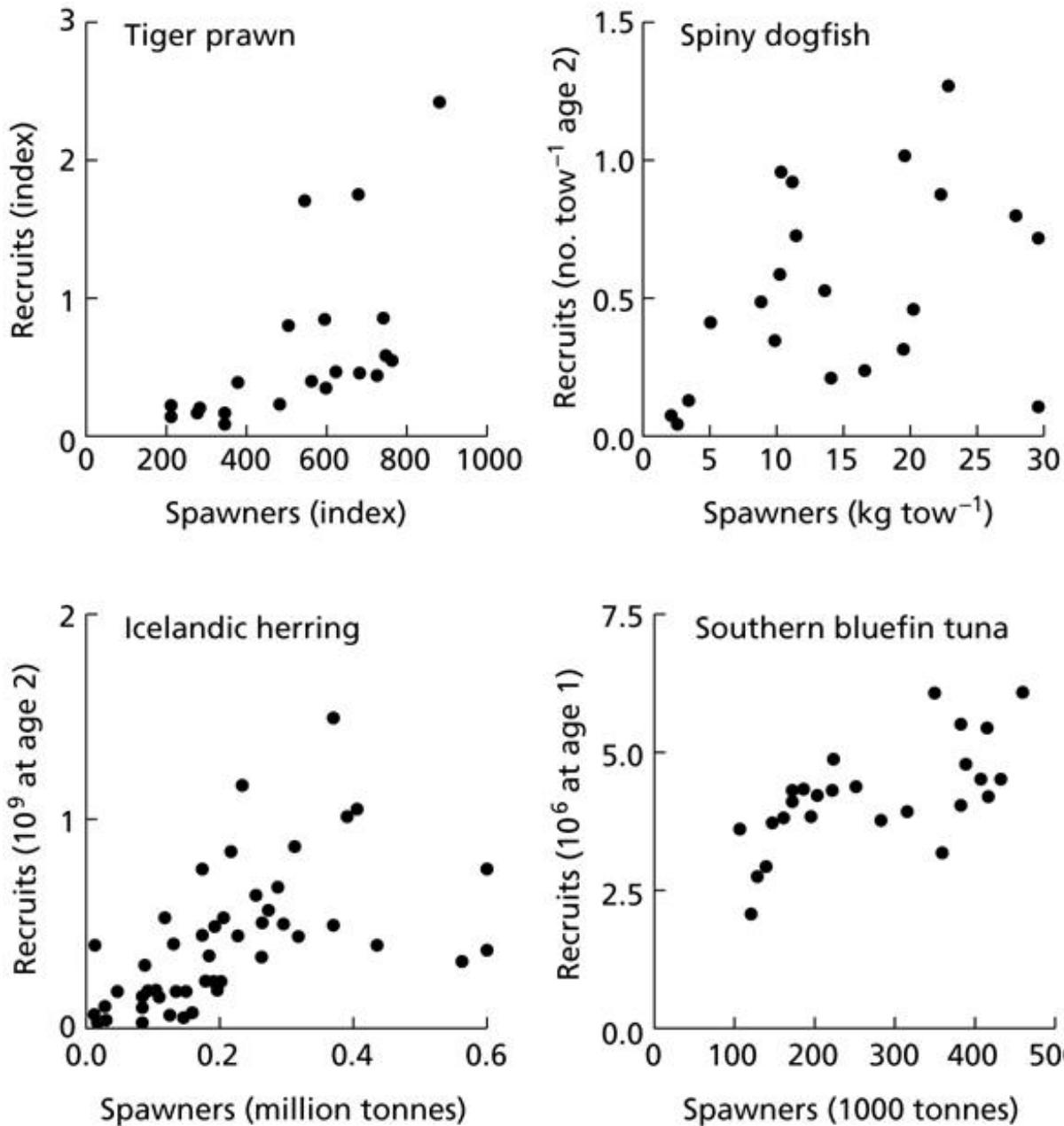
- Draw relationship
- Chat with neighbor
- Why do you think it looks like that?

# Shapes of S-R models



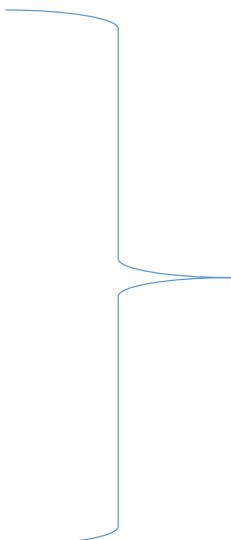
**FIGURE 3.1.** Nonlinear relationships between newborn individuals ( $x_0$ ) and survivorship to age  $r$  ( $x_r$ ); see equation (3.8). A, linear; B, Beverton and Holt; C, Ricker; D, Schaefer; E, power function ( $0 < \beta < 1$ ); F, depensation.

# Examples (real data)



# Stock-recruitment models

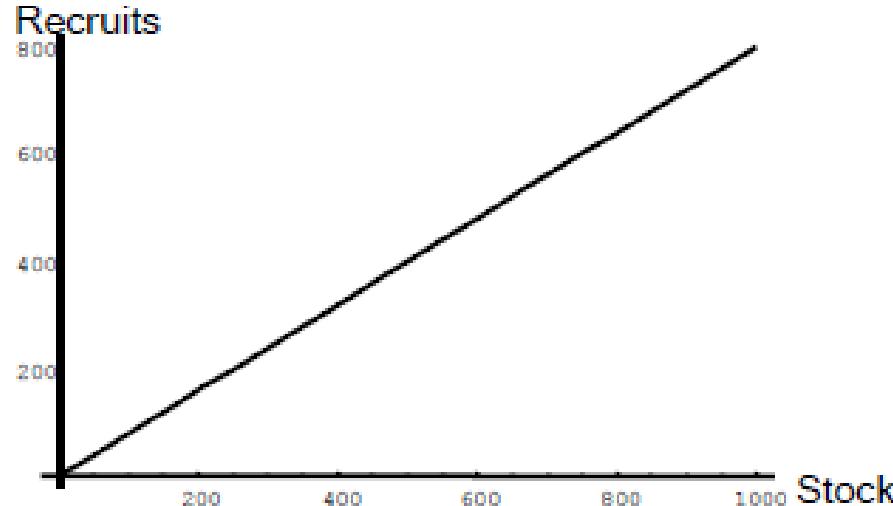
- 1. Density Independent
- 2. Beverton-Holt
- 3. Ricker
- 4. Shepherd
- 5. Hockey stick
- Others...



Density dependent

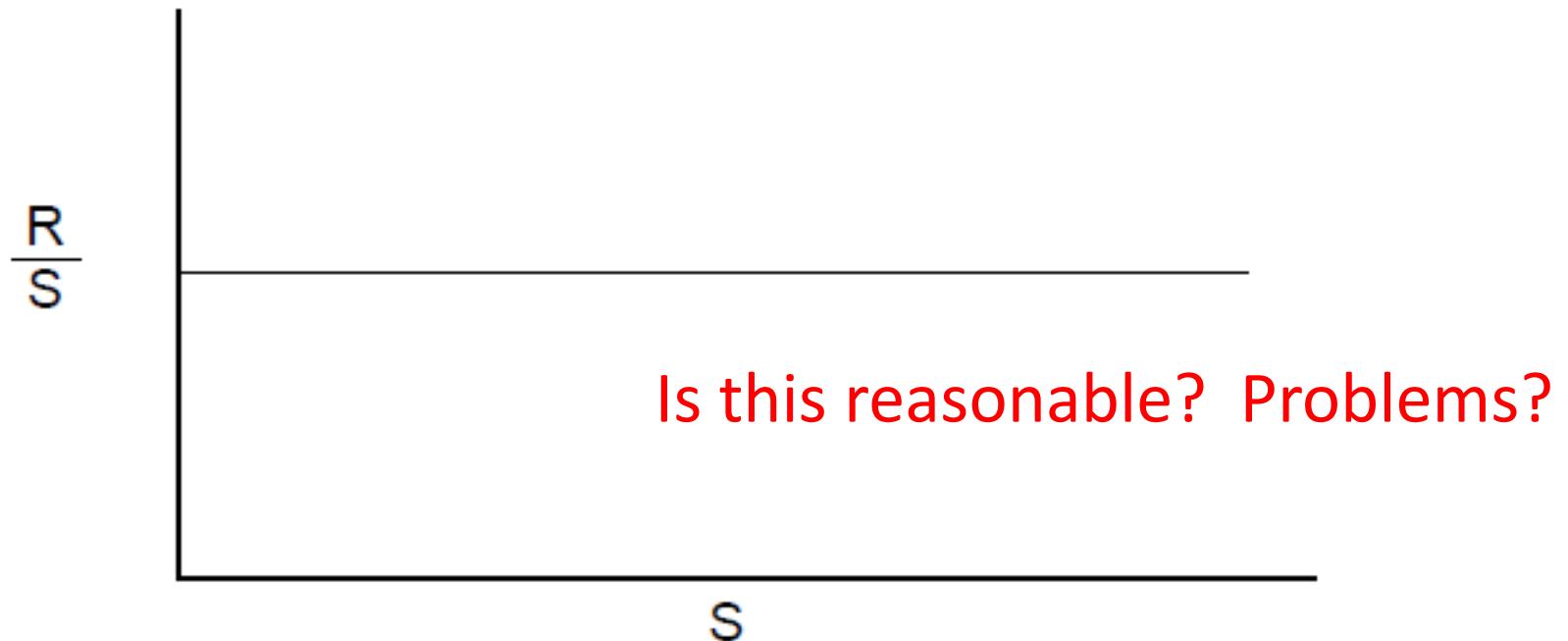
# 1. Density independent model

- Assumes density independence:
  - Survival (e.g., of eggs, juveniles, adults) does not depend on abundance
  - E.g., no intraspecific competition
- Model:  $R = a \cdot S$
- $a$  = productivity or density-independent parameter (combines egg production per spawner and survival to recruit stage)

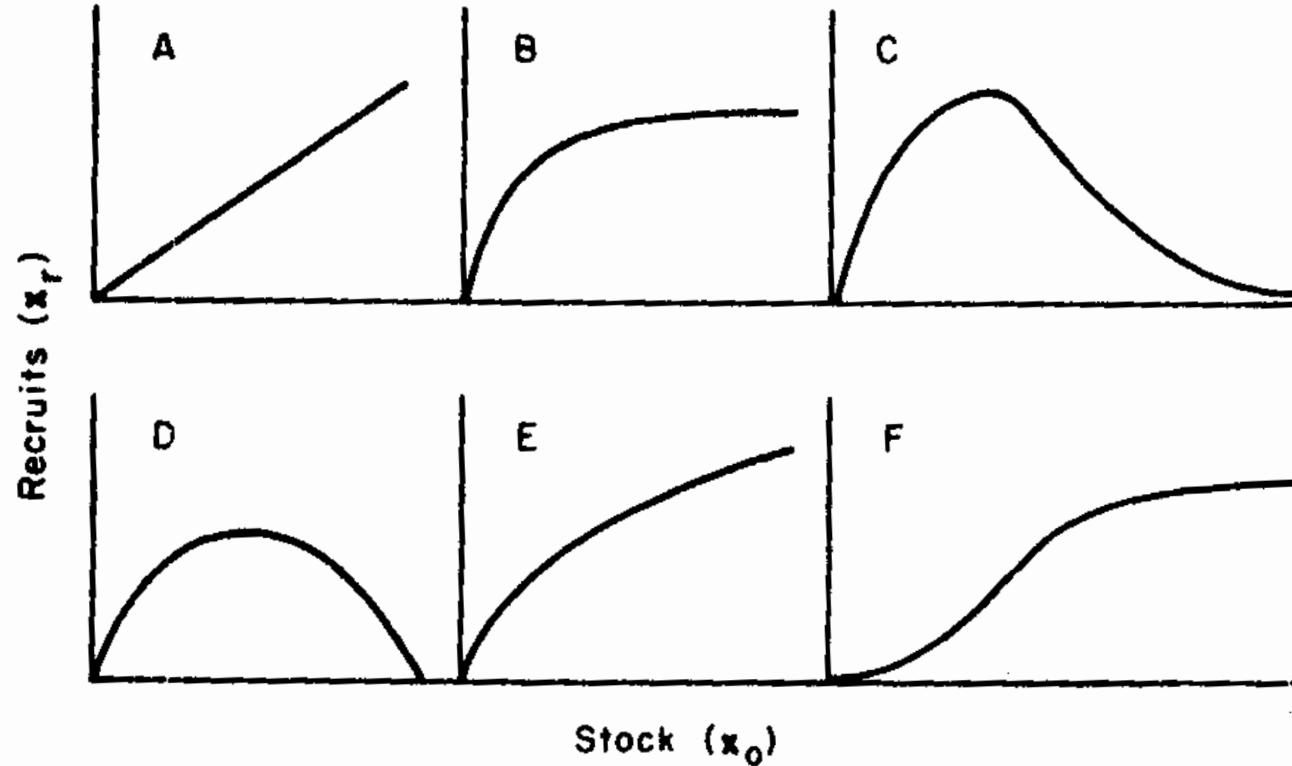


# 1. Density independent model

- $R/S = a$ ;
- $R/S$  can be thought of as an index of survival



# Models should be density dependent



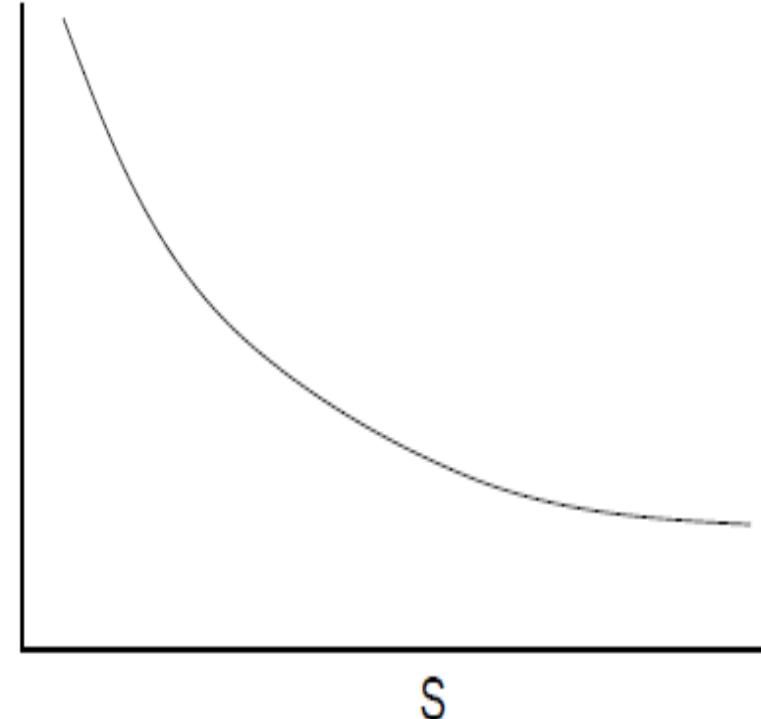
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# Compensatory stock-recruitment

- **Density dependence** can be built in through compensation (ie changes in survival rate)
- **Compensation** =
  - recruits per spawner ( $R/S$ ) increases as  $S$  decreases, or
  - $R/S$  decreases, as  $S$  increases

## • Why?

- Density independent model leads to exponential growth
- Compensation assumes survival declines as  $S$  increases (e.g., cannibalism, disease, competition for prey, predation)



# Compensatory stock-recruitment

- Density-dependent processes thought to act via two mechanisms:
  - **1. acts via the juveniles** (affected by recruit density)
    - E.g., young compete for food or feed on one another
      - → *Leads to Beverton Holt model*
  - **2. acts via the adult stock** (affected by spawner density)
    - Aka “stock dependent”
    - E.g., limited numbers of nests, cannibalism of young by adults, disease transmission from adults to juveniles, density-dependent growth combined with size-specific predation
      - → *leads to Ricker model*

## 2. Beverton-Holt Model

- Based on idea of density-dependence acting on the juveniles
  - Change in abundance affected by total mortality,  $Z$
  - Assume  $Z$  described by linear function of abundance, affected by density independent ( $a$ ) and density dependent ( $b$ ) parameters
  - Leads to nonlinear differential equation (see Quinn & Deriso for solution)

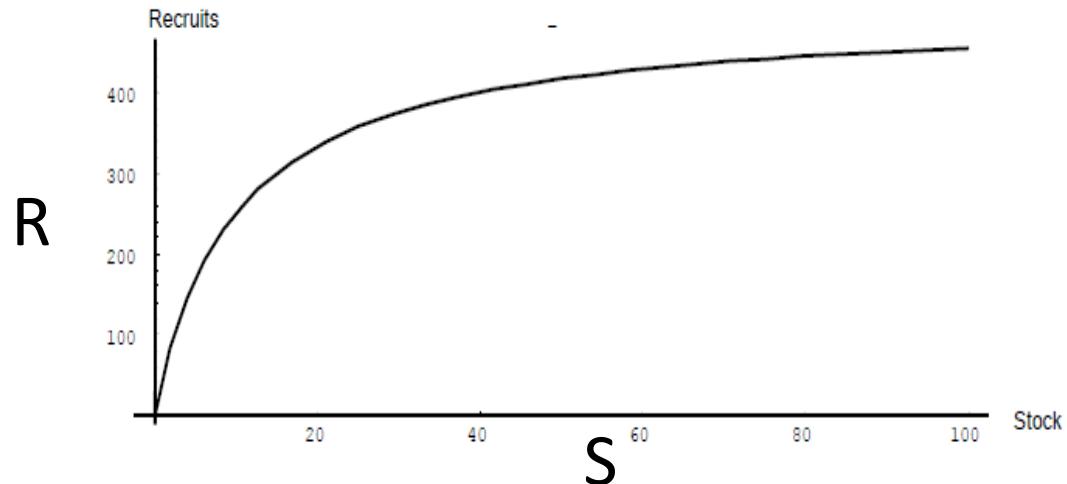
$$\frac{dN}{dt} = -ZN$$

$$Z = a + bN$$

$$\frac{dN}{dt} = -(a + bN)N$$

## 2. Beverton-Holt Model

$$R = \frac{aS}{1 + bS}$$



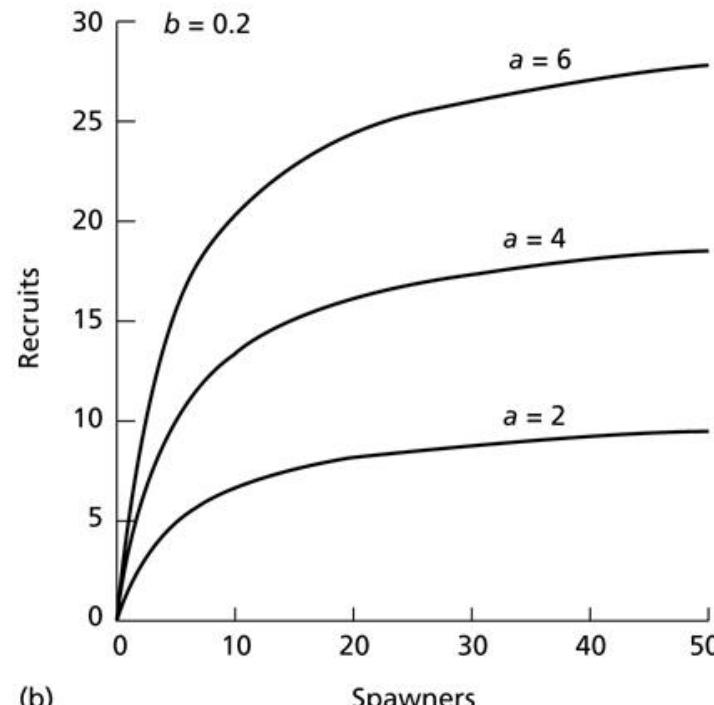
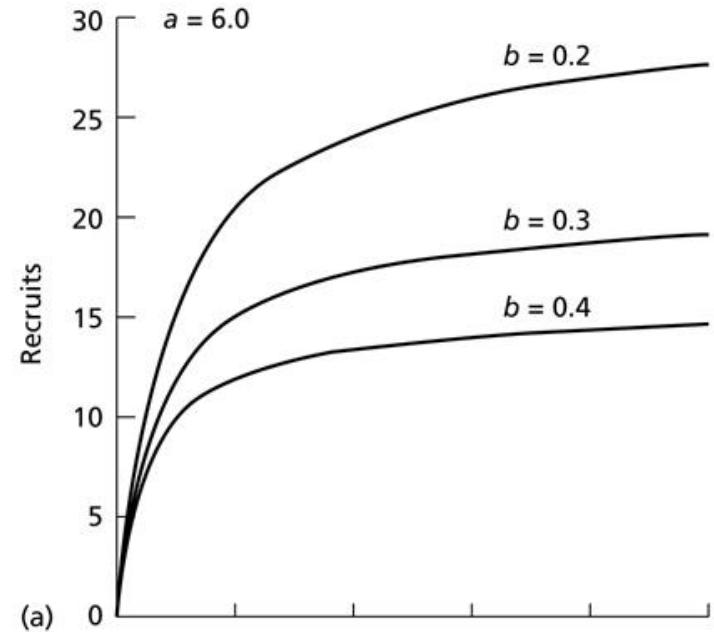
- $R$  = number (or biomass) of recruiting individuals
- $S$  = number (or biomass) of spawners
- $a$  = productivity parameter (number of  $R$  per  $S$  at low  $S$ ); slope of curve at the origin
- $b$  = parameter for degree of density dependence (affects rate of approaching asymptote)
- Basic property:  $R$  constantly increases toward an asymptote as  $S$  increases

## 2. Beverton-Holt Model

- Effects of changing parameters

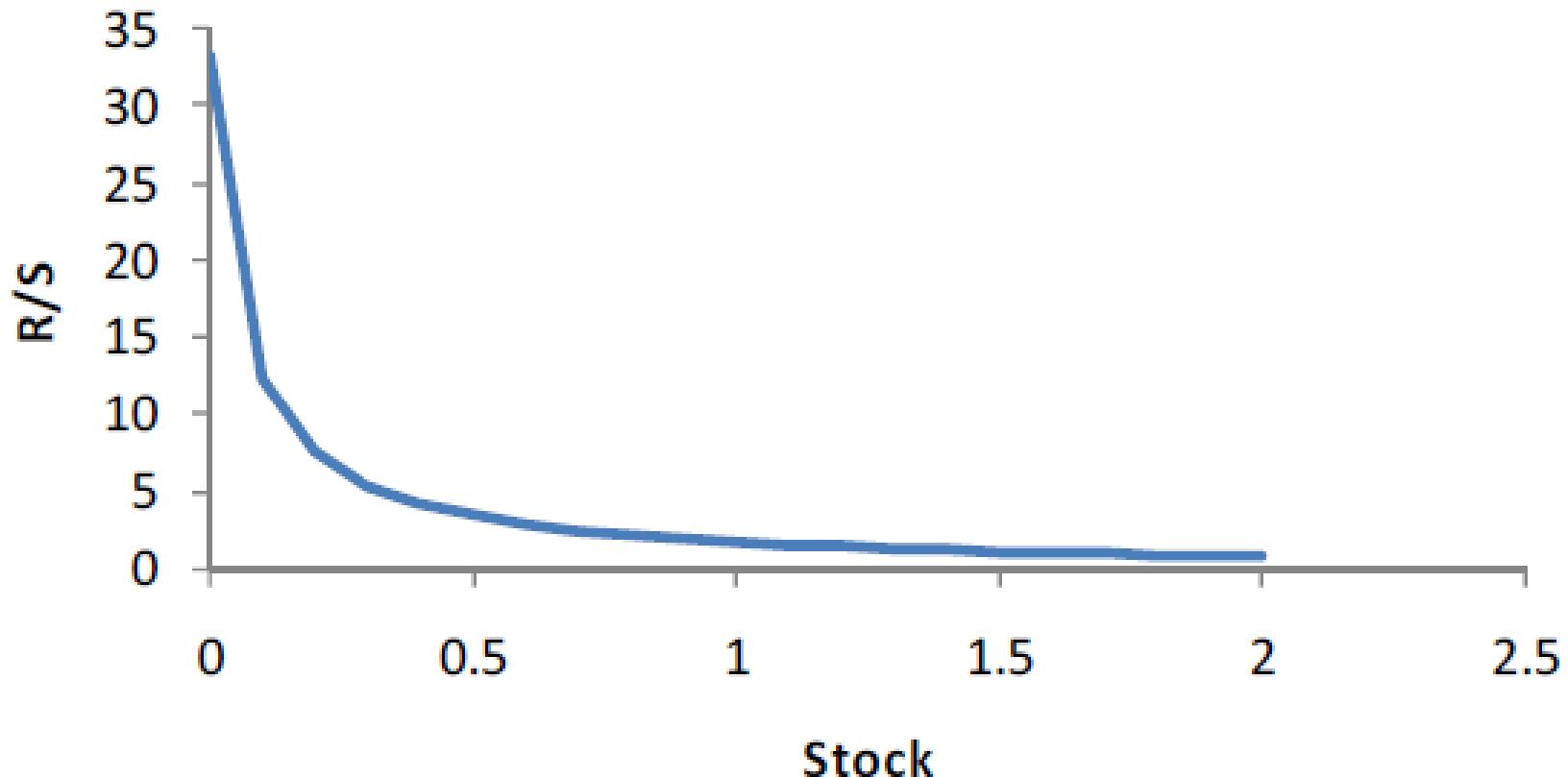
$$R = \frac{aS}{1 + bS}$$

- Max  $R = a/b$



## 2. Beverton-Holt Model

- What does survival index ( $R/S$ ) look like?



# Beverton Holt parameterizations

- There are different parameterizations for the same model
- Parameter meanings differ
  - $a' = 1/a$  (from before)
  - $b' = b/a$  (from before)
  - $\alpha = \text{maximum } \# \text{ recruits produced } (=1/b')$
  - $\beta = \text{spawners needed to produce } R = \alpha/2$   
 $(=a'/b')$

$$R = \frac{aS}{1 + bS}$$

$$R = \frac{S}{a' + b'S}$$

$$R = \frac{\alpha S}{\beta + S}$$

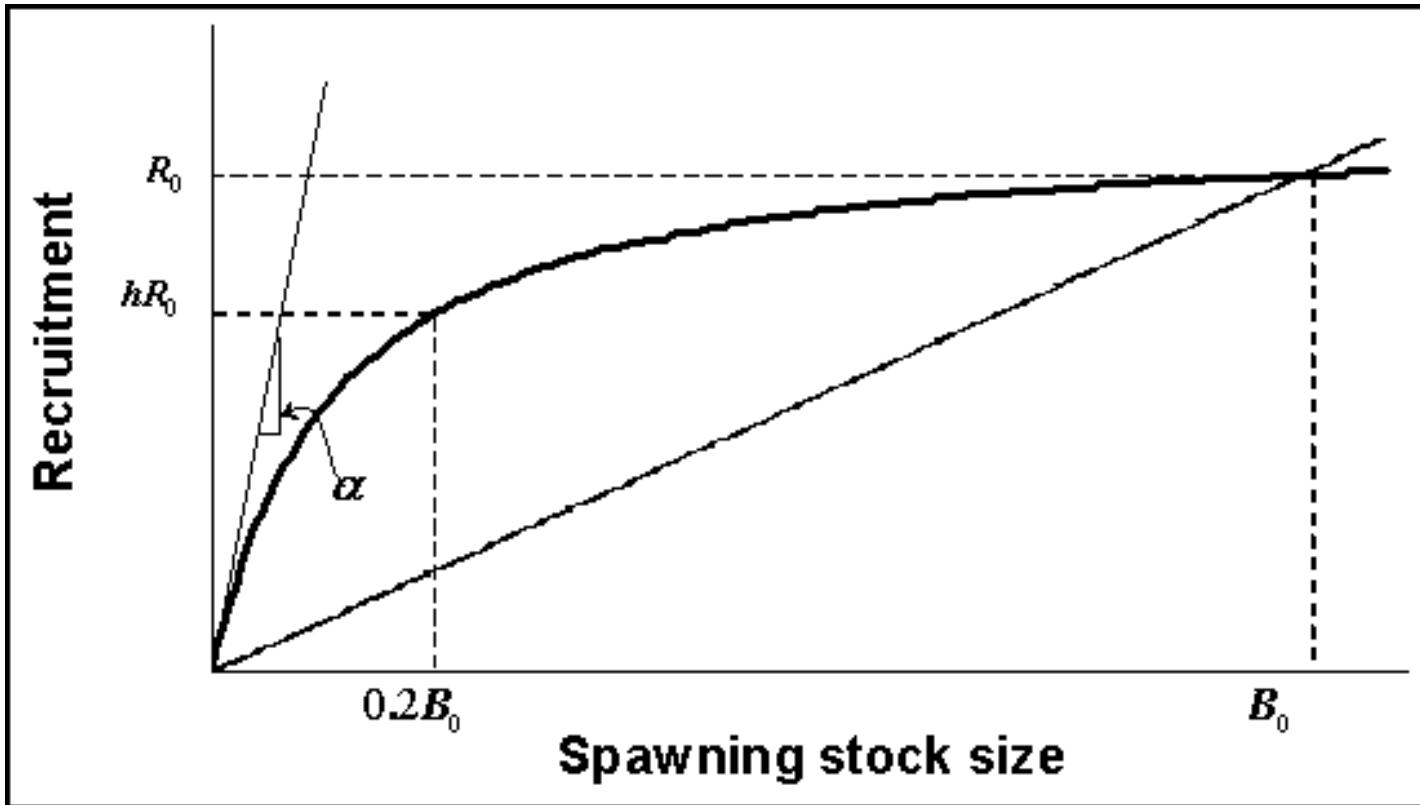
# Steepness Parameterization of BH

- Commonly used form of the Beverton-Holt Model

$$R = \frac{4hR_{\max}S}{S_{\max}(1-h) + (5h-1)S}$$

- **h=steepness**, measure of how fast asymptote reached
  - Defined as: fraction of max recruitment attained when S is 20% of max (i.e.,  $h = R/R_{\max}$  @ 20%  $S_{\max}$ )
  - Bounded by:  $0.2 < h < 1$
- $R_{\max}$  = Maximum recruitment (ie virgin, unfished R)
- $S_{\max}$  = Maximum observed stock size (virgin, unfished S)
- Why used?
  - Steepness (h) is scale-less, allowing comparison across species
  - Common in marine systems

# Steepness Parameterization of BH



- Note:  $R_0 = R_{\max}$
- $h$ =steepness; fraction of max recruitment attained when  $S$  is 20% of max (i.e.,  $h = R/R_{\max} @ 20\% S_{\max}$ )

# Stock-recruitment Part II

Reading:

Jennings et al. 2001. Marine Fisheries Ecology, Chapter 4  
(section 4.2)

Advanced: Quinn and Deriso 1999, Chapter 3

“Stock recruitment  
funny”



Search ID: bven1352  
*“They’re the ideal temp workers! Easy to train,  
industrious, punctual... And with a 13-day  
life-span, they conveniently die before collecting  
a paycheck!”*

# Recap: Stock-recruitment models

## Models

- 1. Density Independent
  - 2. Beverton-Holt
  - 3. Ricker
  - 4. Shepherd
  - 5. Hockey stick
  - Others...
- What did BH model look like?
  - What is compensation?
  - How does density dependence play into BH model?



William E. Ricker

### 3. Ricker Model

- Based on idea of density-dependence acting on the adults
  - Change in juv. abundance ( $N$ ) affected by total mortality,  $Z$
  - Assume  $Z$  described by linear function of *spawner abundance (S)*, affected by density independent ( $a$ ) and density dependent ( $b$ ) parameters
  - Leads to nonlinear differential equation (see Quinn and Deriso for solution)

$$\frac{dN}{dt} = -ZN$$

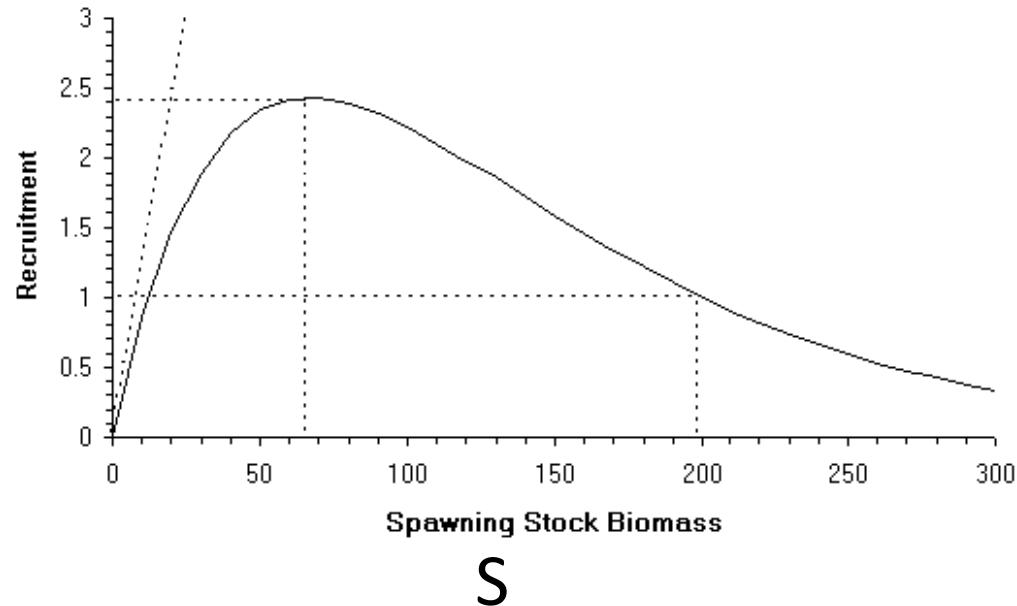
$$Z = a + bS$$

$$\frac{dN}{dt} = -(a + bS)N$$

### 3. Ricker Model

$$R = aSe^{-bS}$$

R



S

- R = number (or biomass) of recruiting individuals
- S = number (or biomass) of spawners
- a = productivity parameter (number of R per S at low S)
- b = parameter for degree of density dependence
  
- Basic property: “hump” shaped with declining R at higher S

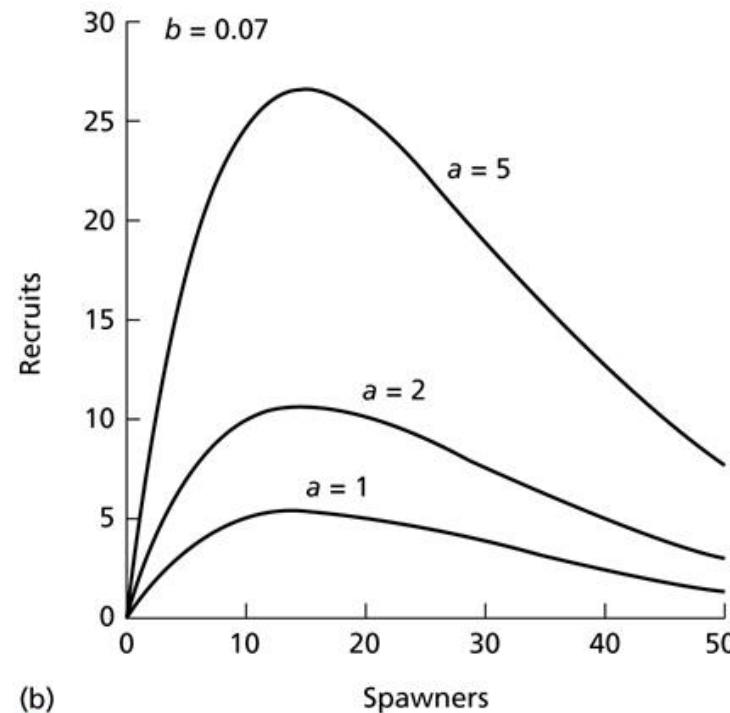
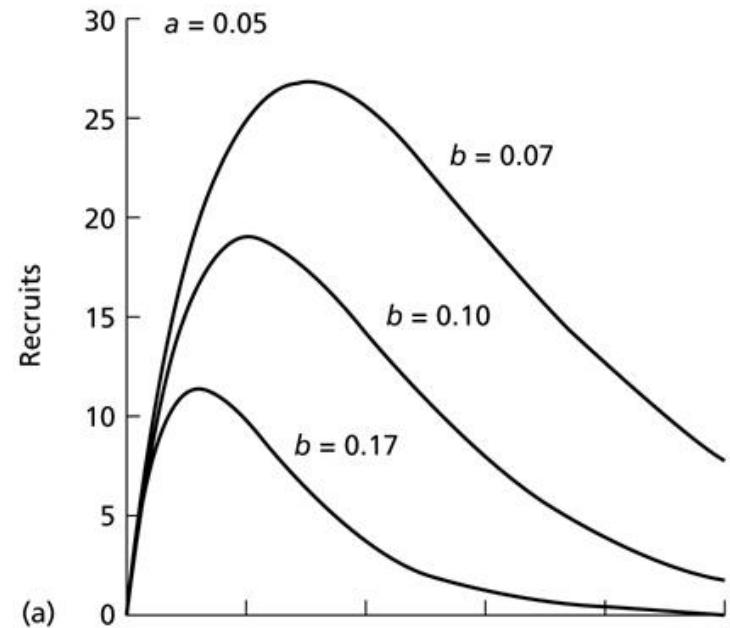
# 3. Ricker Model

- Effects of changing parameters

$$R = aSe^{-bS}$$

- Maximum mean  $R$  occurs at  $S=1/b$
- Alternative parameterization you might see:

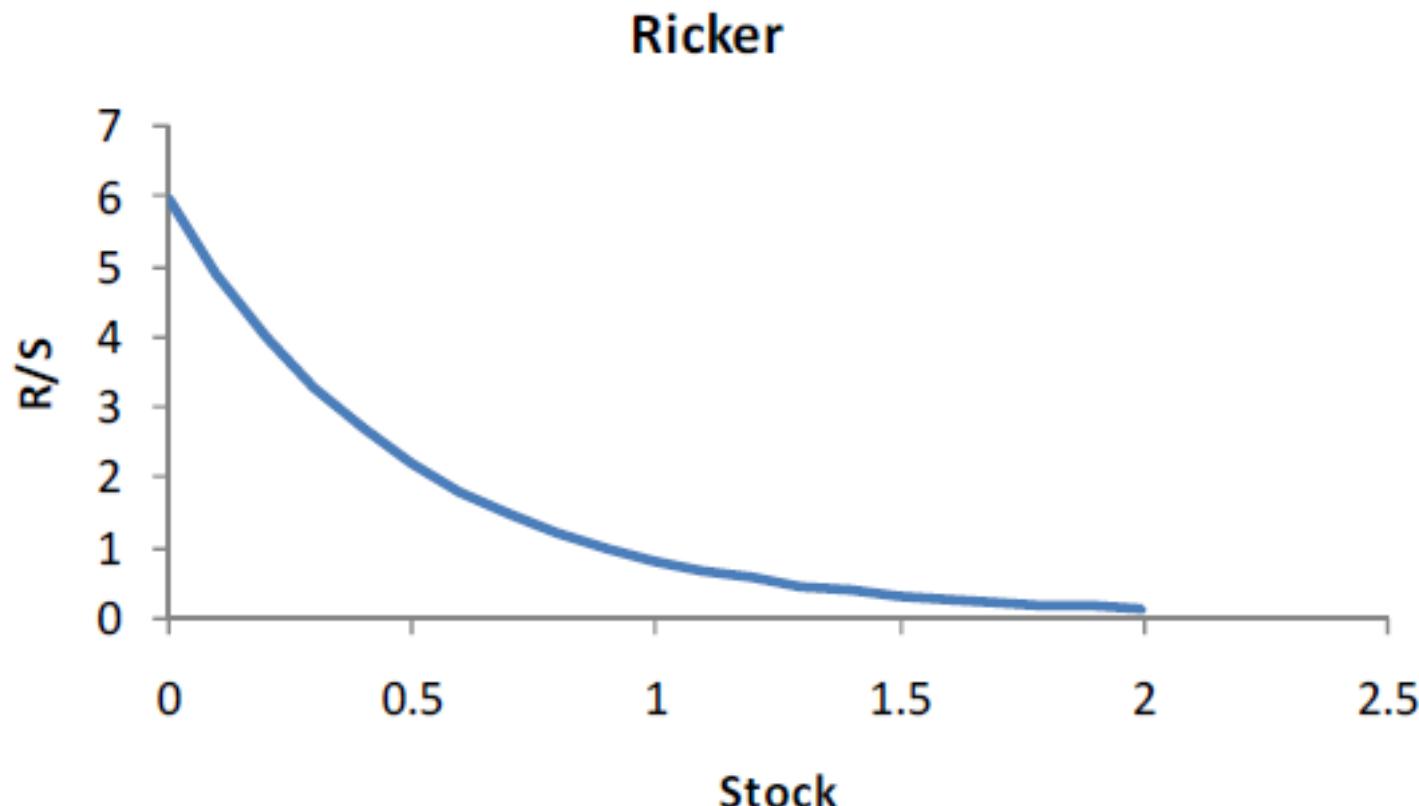
$$R = Se^{a'-bS}$$



(b)

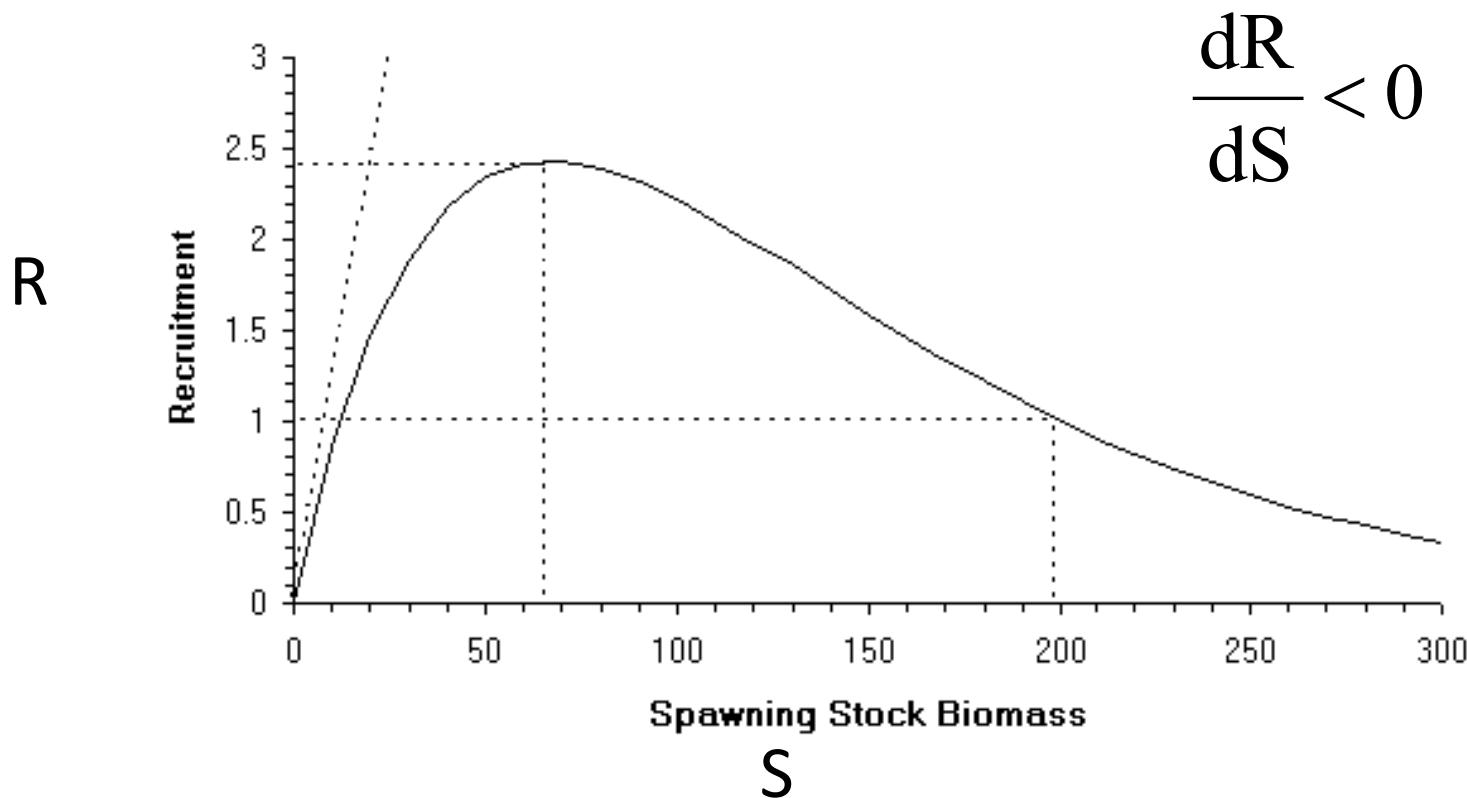
### 3. Ricker Model

- What does survival proxy ( $R/S$ ) look like?
  - Like, BH, has stabilizing effect on population at low  $S$



# Ricker – overcompensation

- **Overcompensation** – decrease in recruitment with increasing spawning stock



# Ricker Overcompensation

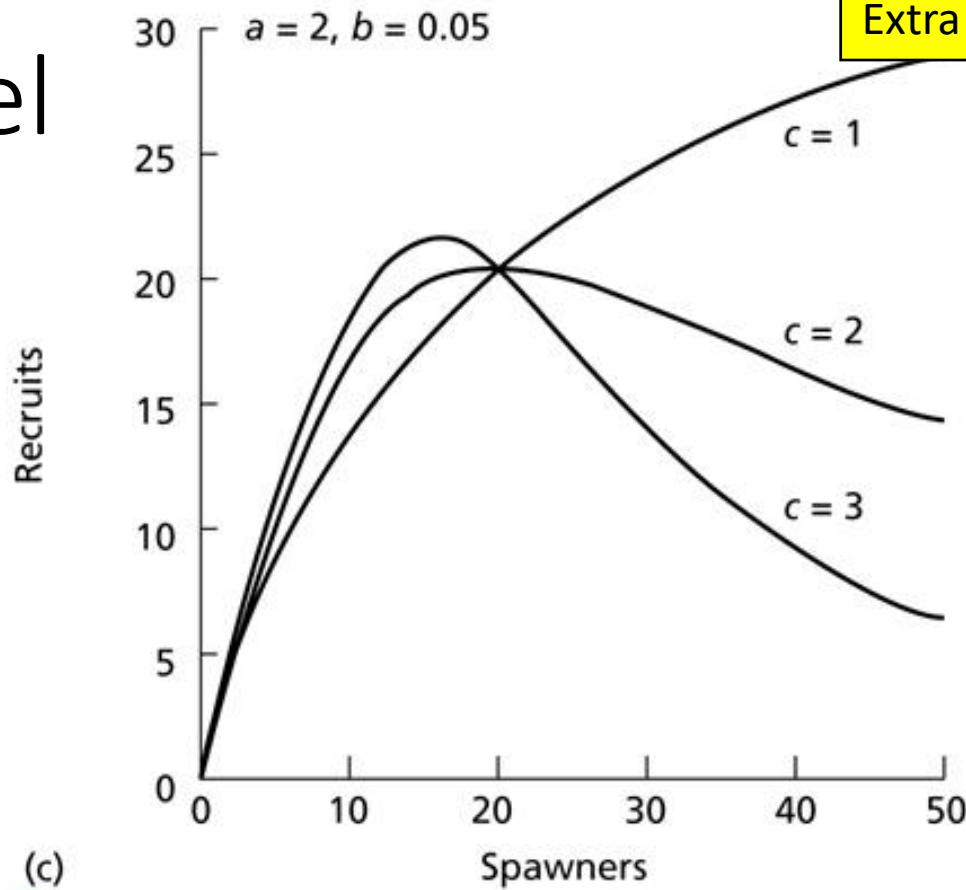
- Recruitment decreases at large stock sizes
- **Some possible causes:**
  - 1. Cannibalism of juveniles by adults
  - 2. Disease transmission from adults to juveniles
  - 3. Oxygen limitations due to heavy egg deposit that affects all eggs
  - 4. Spawning site damage by adults
  - 5. Density dependent growth with size-dependent predation



# 4. Shepherd Model

- Generalizing equation

$$R = \frac{aS}{1 + (bS)^c}$$

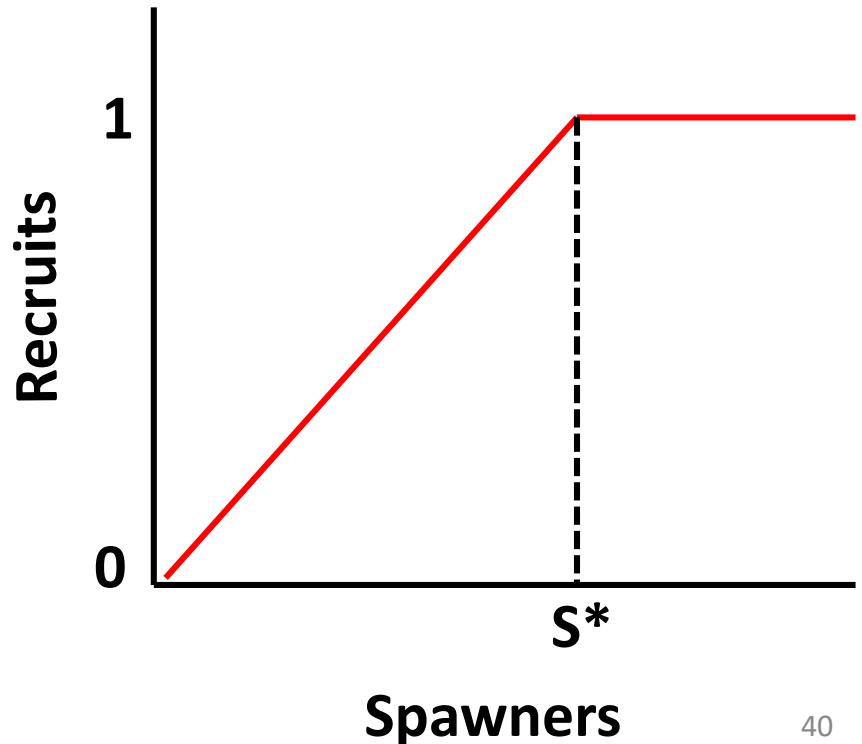


- $a$  = productivity parameter (number of R per S at low S)
- $b$  = parameter for degree of density dependence
- $c$  = shape parameter
  - $c < 1$ : density-independent;  $c=1$ : Beverton-holt;  $c > 1$ : Ricker shape
- Basic property: generalizing equation for other model shapes

# 5. Hockey stick model

- Segmented (change-point) regression
  - Slope  $a > 0$  at the origin;
  - Slope  $a = 0$  beyond pivotal spawner level,  $S^*$

$$R_t = \begin{cases} aS_t & \text{if } S_t < S^* \\ aS^* & \text{if } S_t \geq S^* \end{cases}$$



# Stock-recruitment models

- Most common
  - Ricker
  - Beverton-Holt
- Others
  - Shepherd
  - Deriso-Schnute
  - Cushing
  - “Hockey-stick”
  - Unnormalized gamma density
  - Many others

# Fitting Stock-recruitment models

- Recommend using nonlinear regression
- Making the following assumptions:
  - No error in our estimate of S
  - Independent errors\*
- But, model equation will depend on whether error is assumed to be additive or multiplicative

\*see Quinn and Deriso 1999 (section 3.2) for “measurement error approach” and “autocorrelated errors” if these assumptions are grossly inappropriate

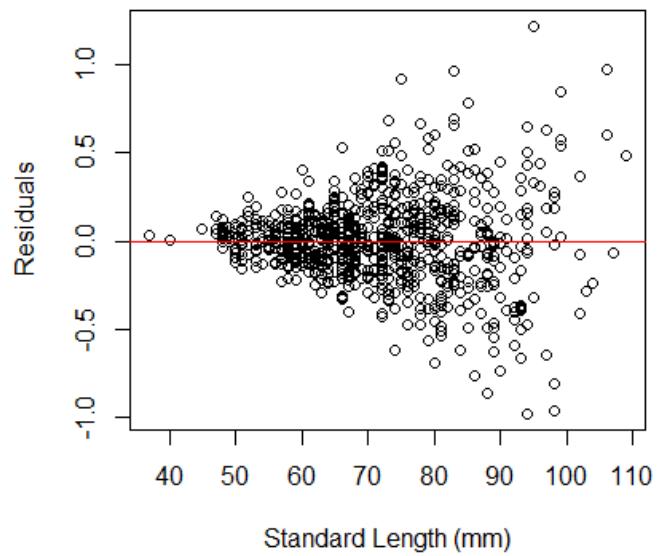
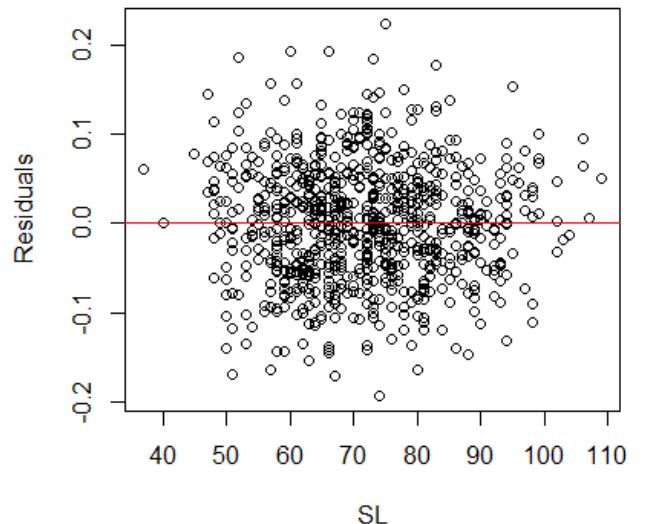
# Additive vs. multiplicative error

- Additive error
  - for a given model, the residuals will tend to have constant variance
  - Doesn't violate regression assumption of Homogeneity of Variance (HOV)

$$Y = f(X) + \varepsilon$$

- Multiplicative error
  - for a given model, the residuals will increase with higher values of X
  - This violates the HOV assumption for regression → so log-transform equation to use regression

$$Y = f(X) \cdot e^{\varepsilon}$$



# Log transforming to deal with multiplicative error

- Recall our example using W-L allometric model:

$$W = aL^b e^\varepsilon$$



*Log-transform both sides of equation*

$$\log(W) = \log(aL^b e^\varepsilon)$$



*Algebra*

$$\log(W) = \log(a) + b \cdot \log(L) + \varepsilon$$

Now, the error is  
“additive” in our model,  
so we can use  
regression and OLS



# Fitting Stock-recruitment models

- Our approach
  - use nonlinear regression (and OLS)
  - The equation we fit with `nls()` will depend on whether we assume additive or multiplicative error
  - *Multiplicative error is typically more appropriate for SR data*
- If using multiplicative error (& log transformation) → must use bias correction
  - Back transforming (i.e. exponentiating) estimates from log space introduces bias
  - *Bias correction*: multiply the back-transformed predicted values by a correction factor (CF), which depends on the standard error of the estimate (SEE; aka Residual SE)

# Fitting Stock-recruitment models

- Our approach

Equations to fit using nonlinear regression

More common!

Additive error

$$R = aS + \varepsilon$$

Multiplicative error

$$(\log R = f(S) e^\varepsilon \rightarrow \log(R) = \log(f(S)) + \varepsilon)$$

$$\ln(R) = \ln(aS) + \varepsilon$$

Density  
Independ.

Beverton  
Holt

Ricker

$$R = \frac{aS}{1 + bS} + \varepsilon$$

$$\ln(R) = \ln(aS / (1 + bS)) + \varepsilon$$

$$R = aSe^{-bS} + \varepsilon$$

$$\ln(R) = \ln(aSe^{-bS}) + \varepsilon$$

Note: “In” is “natural log”, which in R, is written just as “log()”

# Fitting Stock-recruitment models

## Example: Ricker Model with Multiplicative Error

$$R = aSe^{-bS}e^{\varepsilon}$$



*Log-transform*

$$\ln(R) = \ln(aSe^{-bS}) + \varepsilon$$



*Fit using nonlinear regression,  
and estimate parameters:*

$$\hat{a}, \hat{b}, \hat{\sigma}_{\varepsilon}^2$$



*Back-transform & bias-correct*

$$\hat{R} = \hat{a}Se^{-\hat{b}S} \cdot e^{(\hat{\sigma}_{\varepsilon}^2/2)}$$

$$\text{SEE} = \hat{\sigma}_{\varepsilon}^2 = \sqrt{\frac{\sum (\text{obs.} - \text{pred.})^2}{n - (\text{nos. parameters})}}$$

Note: In R, SEE is the  
“residual standard error”.

Value stored in:  
`summary(MyModel)$sigma`

$$CF = e^{(\hat{\sigma}_{\varepsilon}^2/2)} = e^{(SEE/2)}$$

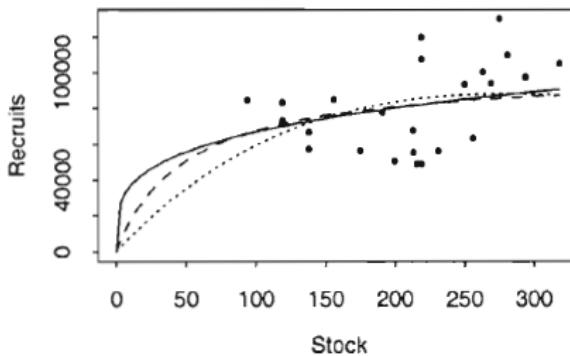
# Examples of SR model fits

Thoughts?

Why are fits so poor?

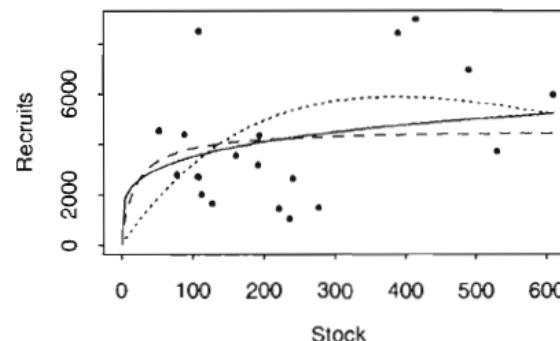
Yellowfin tuna  
(*Thunnus albacares*)

Lognormal fits



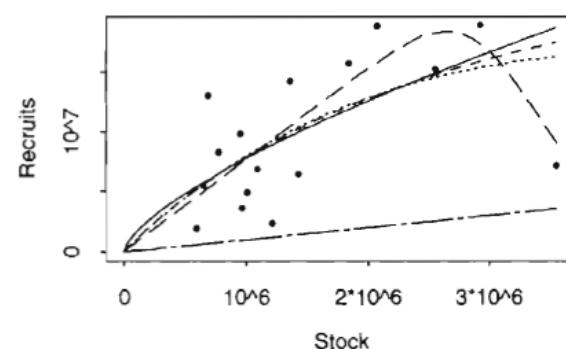
Petrale sole  
(*Eopsetta jordani*)

Lognormal fits

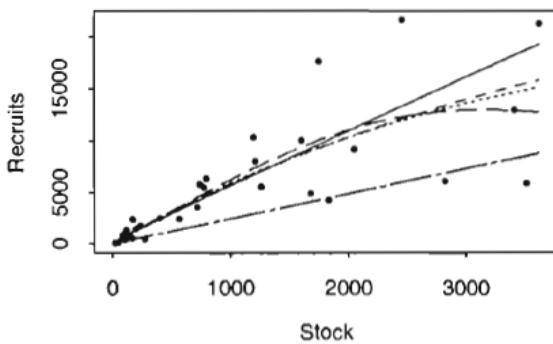


Pink salmon (Fraser river)  
(*Oncorhynchus gorbuscha*)

Lognormal fits

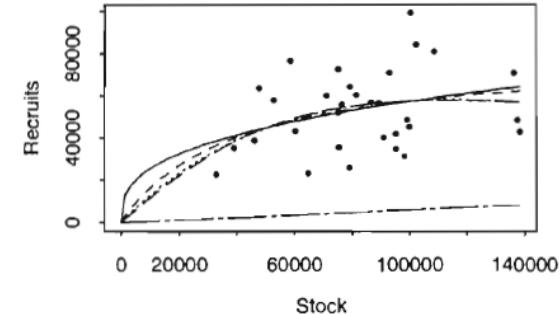


Lognormal fits



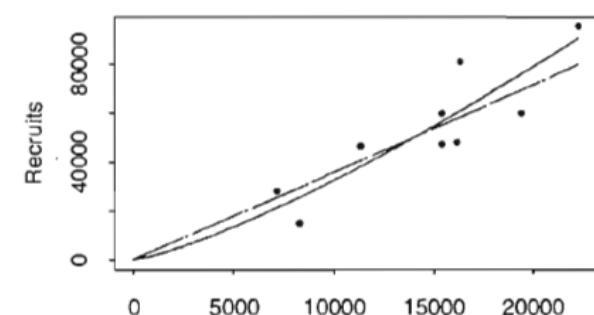
CA Sardine  
(*Sardinops sagax*)

Lognormal fits



Atlantic cod (NAFO 3Ps)  
(*Gadus morhua*)

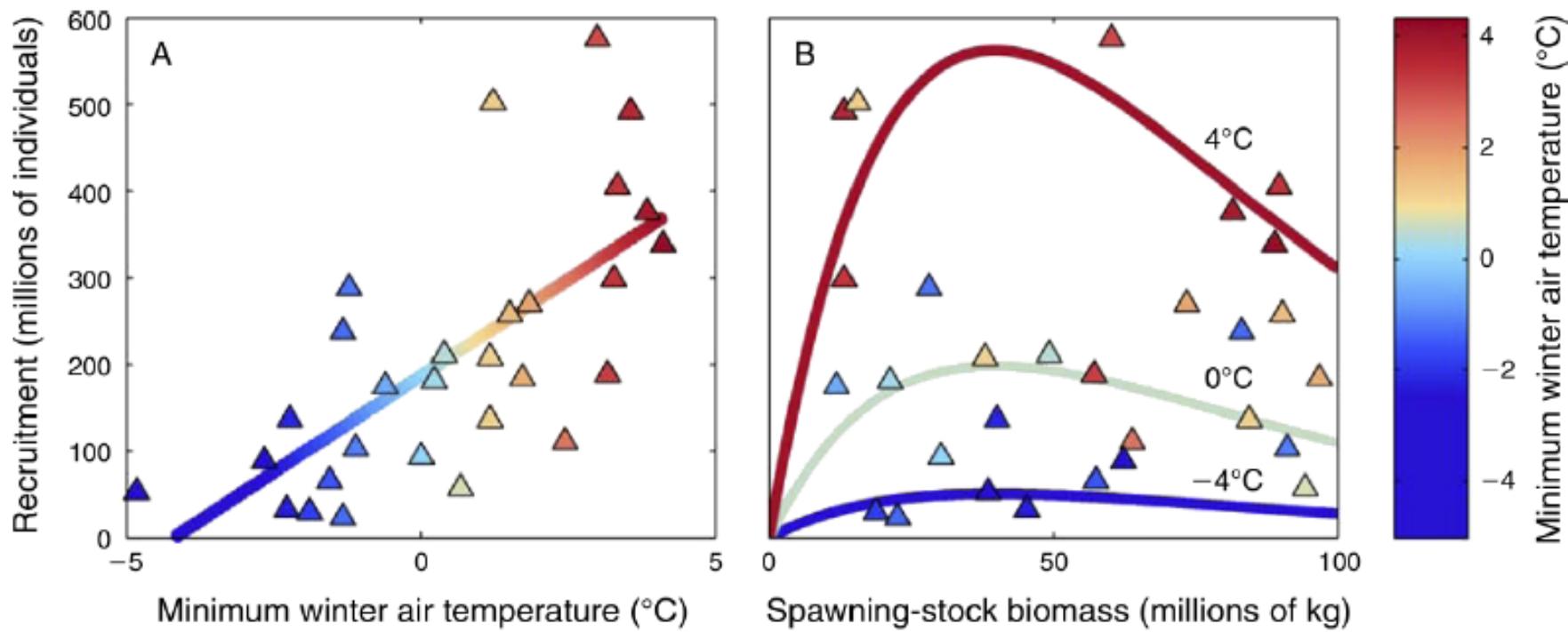
Lognormal fits



Summer flounder  
(*Paralichthys dentatus*)

# Some modifications to S-R Models

- Possible to build in environmental effects (e.g., temp for Atlantic Croaker)
- Account for error in  $S$  estimates
  - see Quinn & Deriso, Section 3.2.3



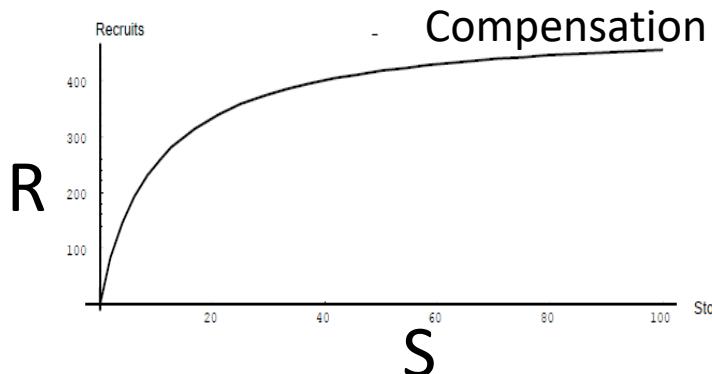
# Summary

- Stock recruitment models
  - Relate the production of recruits to adult spawning stock
  - Critical for forecasting, assessing, and managing populations
  - Typically account for some type of density-dependence (DD)
  - Fits can be rather poor → lots of uncertainty
- Know definitions:
  - **Stock, Recruitment, Density dependence, Compensation**
- Stock recruitment models
  - **Beverton-Holt**
  - **Ricker**
  - Shepherd – Generalization of other models
  - “Hockey-stick”
  - Many others (Deriso-Schnute, Cushing, ...)
- Fitting models
  - For us: assume multiplicative error (if have HOV problem) → log-transform model → use nonlinear regr. → back-transform & bias correct

# Summary of BH and Ricker models

## Beverton Holt

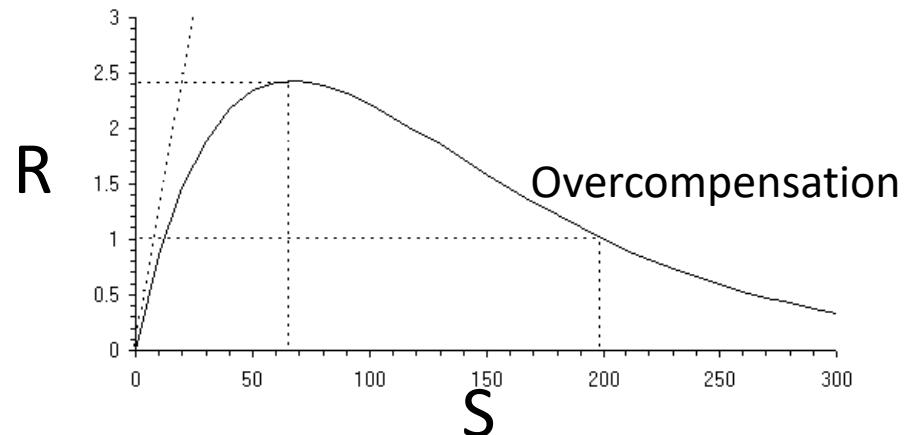
$$R = \frac{aS}{1 + bS}$$



- Density dependence
  - Acts via juvenile stage (*know examples*)
- Parameters
  - a = productivity parameter
  - b = density dependence
- Shape: asymptotic

## Ricker

$$R = aSe^{-bS}$$

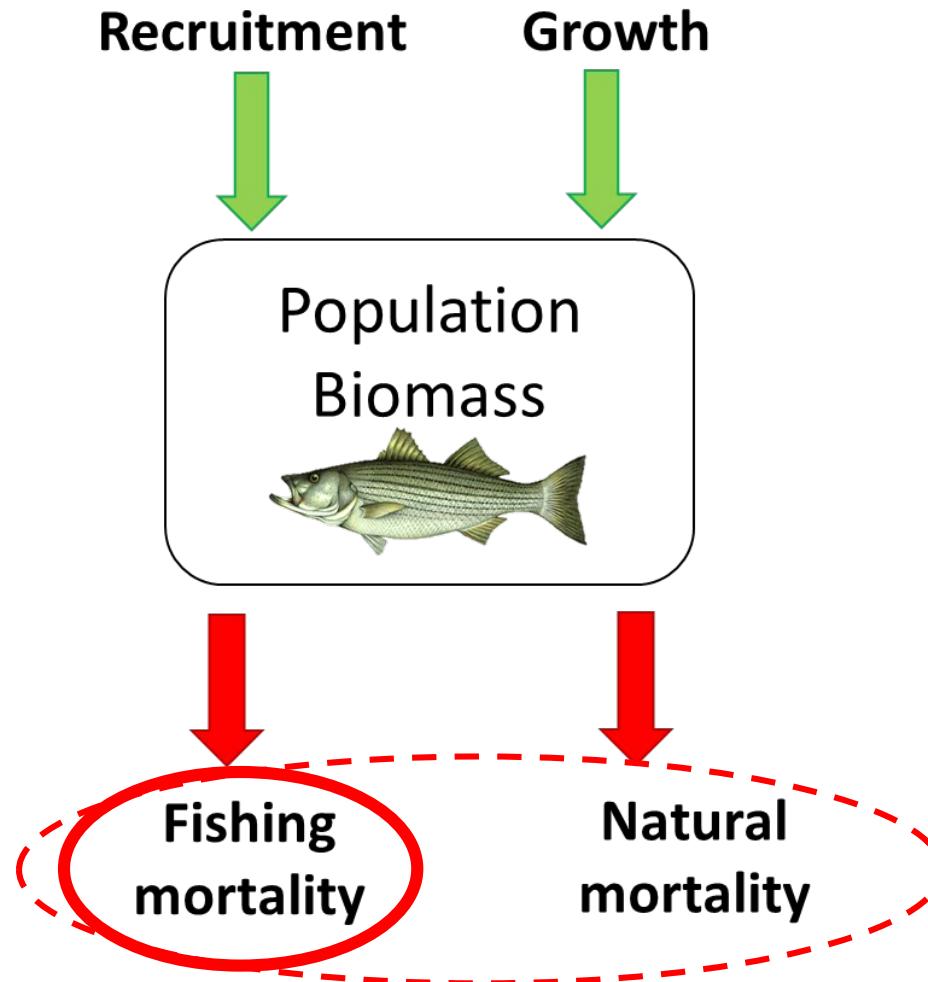


- Density dependence
  - Acts via adult stage (*know examples*)
- Parameters
  - a = productivity parameter
  - b = density dependence
- Shape: dome

# Effects of harvest on populations

Reading:  
Jennings et al. 2001 – Chapter 7

# Conceptual population model



# Review of exponential mortality

- If following a single cohort, then we can track the mortality losses to the cohort

$$\frac{dN}{dt} = -ZN$$

$$N_t = N_0 e^{-Zt}$$

- Useful for modeling changes in a cohort over time; very common in fisheries science

Derive equations for the following:

S – annual survival (proportion living after one year)

A – the annual mortality rate (proportion dying per year)

# Review of exponential mortality

Formulas for converting from instantaneous to annual rates:

- $Z$  = total instantaneous mortality rate
- $S$  = annual survival rate (proportion surviving in a year)

$$S = e^{-Z} \quad Z = -\ln(S)$$

- $A$  = annual mortality rate (proportion dying in a year)

$$A = 1 - e^{-Z}$$

# Deterministic theory of fishing

- For fished populations, total mortality ( $Z$ ) is composed of mortality due to harvest and mortality due to natural causes:

$$Z = F + M$$

- $F$  = instantaneous fishing mortality rate
- $M$  = instantaneous natural mortality rate
  - Includes all non-fishing mortality

# Deterministic theory of fishing

- Restate our exponential mortality equations:

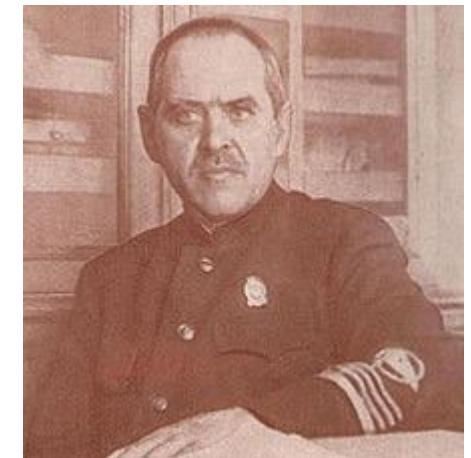
$$\frac{dN}{dt} = -(F + M)N$$

$$N_t = N_0 e^{-(F+M)t}$$

# Baranov Catch Equation

- How can we calculate how many fish die from fishing (or from natural causes)?
- Baranov catch equation:

$$C_t = \frac{F}{Z} (1 - e^{-Z}) N_t$$



- Where  $C_t$  = catch in year t
- What does this mean in words?

# Baranov Catch Equation

- How can we calculate how many fish die from fishing (or from natural causes)?
- **Baranov catch equation:**

$$C_t = \frac{F}{Z} (1 - e^{-Z}) N_t$$

- Where  $C_t$  = catch in year t
- What does this mean in words?
  - Catch = (fraction of mortality due to fishing)\*(Proportion dying)\*abundance
  - Catch = (fraction of mortality due to fishing)\*(total number of deaths)
- What would the equation be for fraction of fish dying from natural causes?

# Baranov Catch Equation

- Other forms:  $C_t = \frac{F}{Z} (N_t - N_{t+1})$

$$C_t = \frac{F}{Z} (N_t - N_t e^{-Z})$$

$$C_t = \frac{FA}{Z} N_t$$

$$C = F \bar{N}$$

N(bar) is the average abundance over the course of a year

# Converting to annual rates

- Annual rates
  - $A$  = proportion of population dying in 1 year
  - $u$  = **exploitation rate** (e.g., proportion of population dying from fishing in 1 year)
  - $v$  = proportion of population dying from natural causes in one year

$$A = u + v$$

# Converting to annual rates

- **Type II fishery (continuous fishery)**
  - fishing and natural mortality continuous throughout the year; more common
  - Calculating  $u$  requires info on 2 of the following: F,M,Z

$$u = \frac{F}{Z} (1 - e^{-Z}) = \frac{FA}{Z}$$

$$v = \frac{M}{Z} (1 - e^{-Z}) = \frac{MA}{Z}$$

- **Type I fishery (pulse fishery)**

- Fishing occurs in short pulse (days/weeks), natural mortality elsewhere; less common

$$u = 1 - e^{-F}$$

$$v = 1 - e^{-M}$$

# Catch in Difference Model

- Catch ( $C$ ) is the product for the difference equation:

$$C_t = u_t N_t$$

- $u_t$  = exploitation rate at time t
- $N_t$  = abundance at time t
- (Assumes catch occurs in one pulse)

We can incorporate Catch into the logistic model...

Note:

**Difference equation** – time is viewed as discrete points

**Differential equation** – time is used as a continuous variable

# Review of Logistic Model

## Logistic growth model

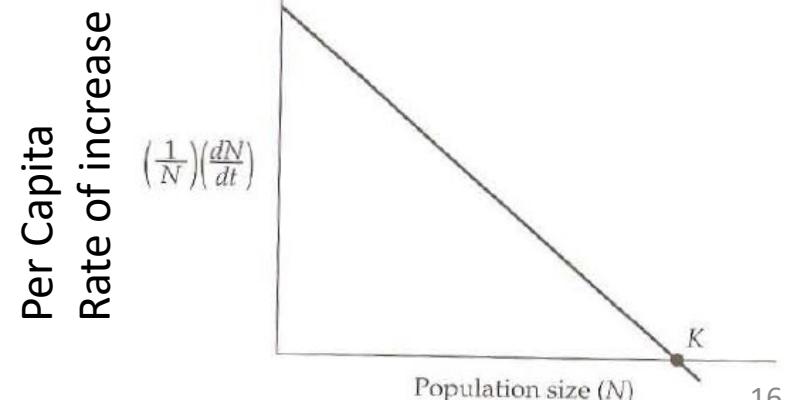
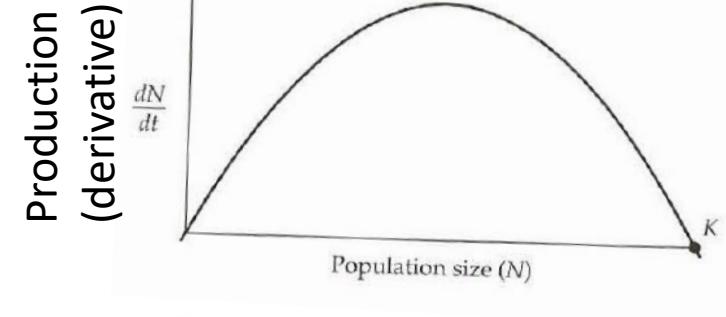
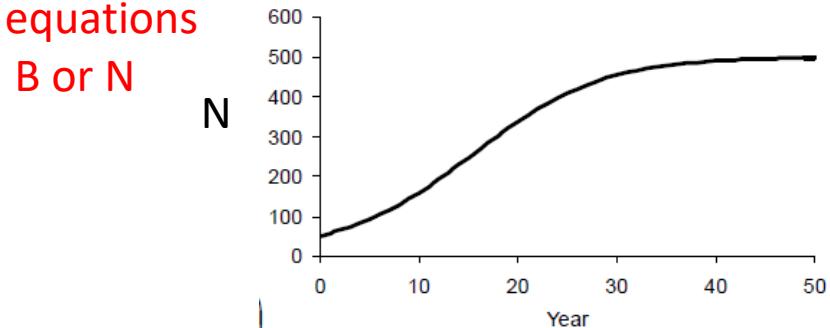
$$\frac{dN}{dt} = rN \left(1 - \frac{N}{K}\right)$$

Discrete version

$$N_{t+1} = N_t + rN_t \left(1 - \frac{N_t}{K}\right)$$

Sidenote: equations work with B or N

- Density-dependent
  - Per-capita growth rate varies with pop. size
- Key parameters:
  - $r$ =intrinsic rate of increase
  - $K$ =carrying capacity
- Equilibrium = carrying capacity
- Shape: logistic (“S-shaped”)
- For fisheries models:
  - Foundation for production models



# Surplus production

$$B_{t+1} = B_t + rB_t \left( 1 - \frac{B_t}{K} \right)$$

- Biomass<sub>t+1</sub> = Biomass<sub>t</sub> + **surplus production (SP)**

$$SP = rB_t \left( 1 - \frac{B_t}{K} \right)$$

- **Surplus production** = the excess biomass generated above what is needed to maintain the population at its current biomass.

# Logistic model with harvest

- Logistic growth model adjusted for fishing mortality ( $F$ ) or exploitation rate ( $u$ )

$$\begin{pmatrix} \text{Biomass} \\ \text{next year} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \text{Biomass} \\ \text{this year} \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} \text{Surplus} \\ \text{production} \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} \text{Catch} \end{pmatrix}$$

Discrete version

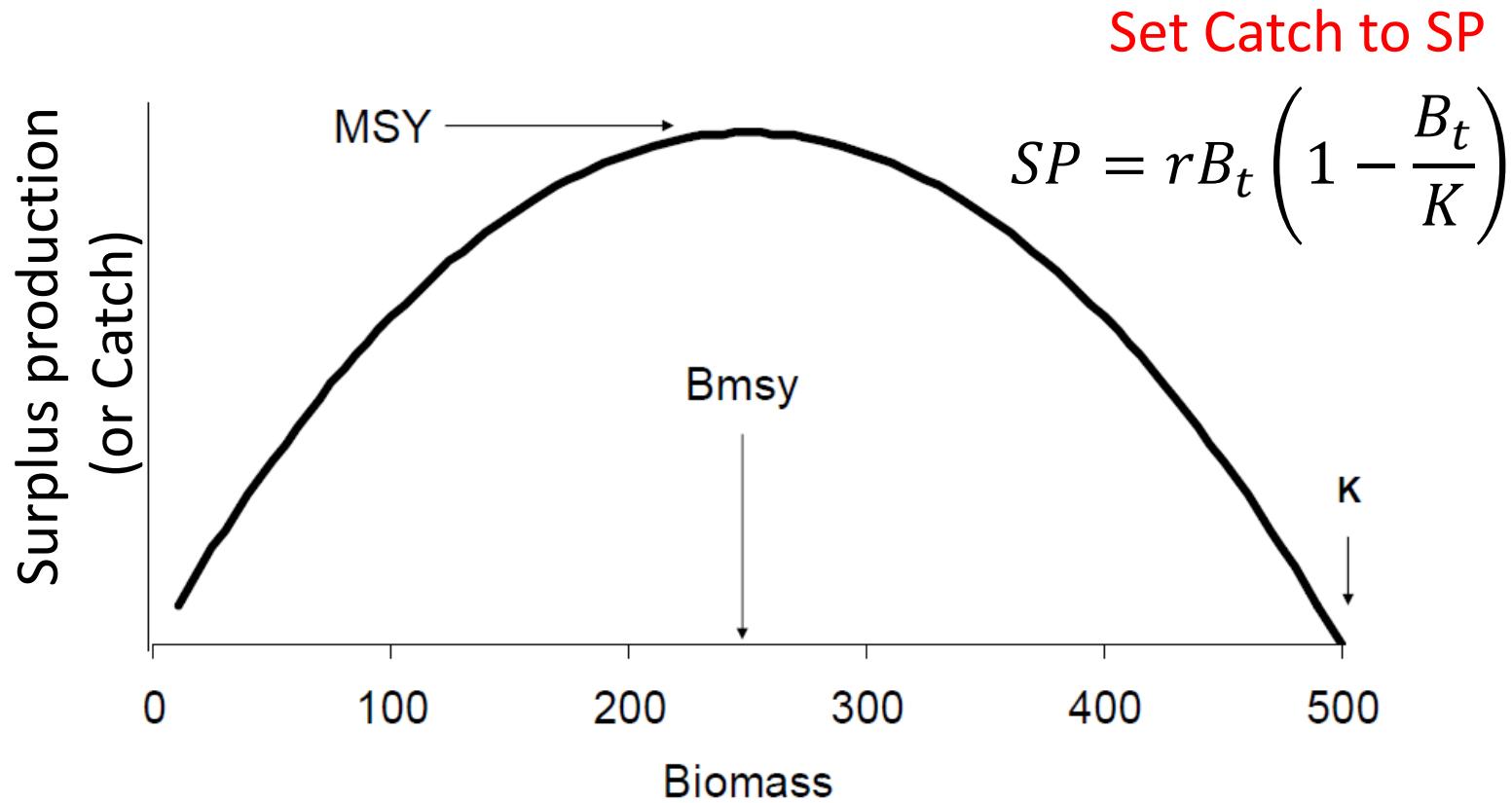
(difference equation):

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

$$B_{t+1} = B_t + rB_t \left( 1 - \frac{B_t}{K} \right) - uB_t$$

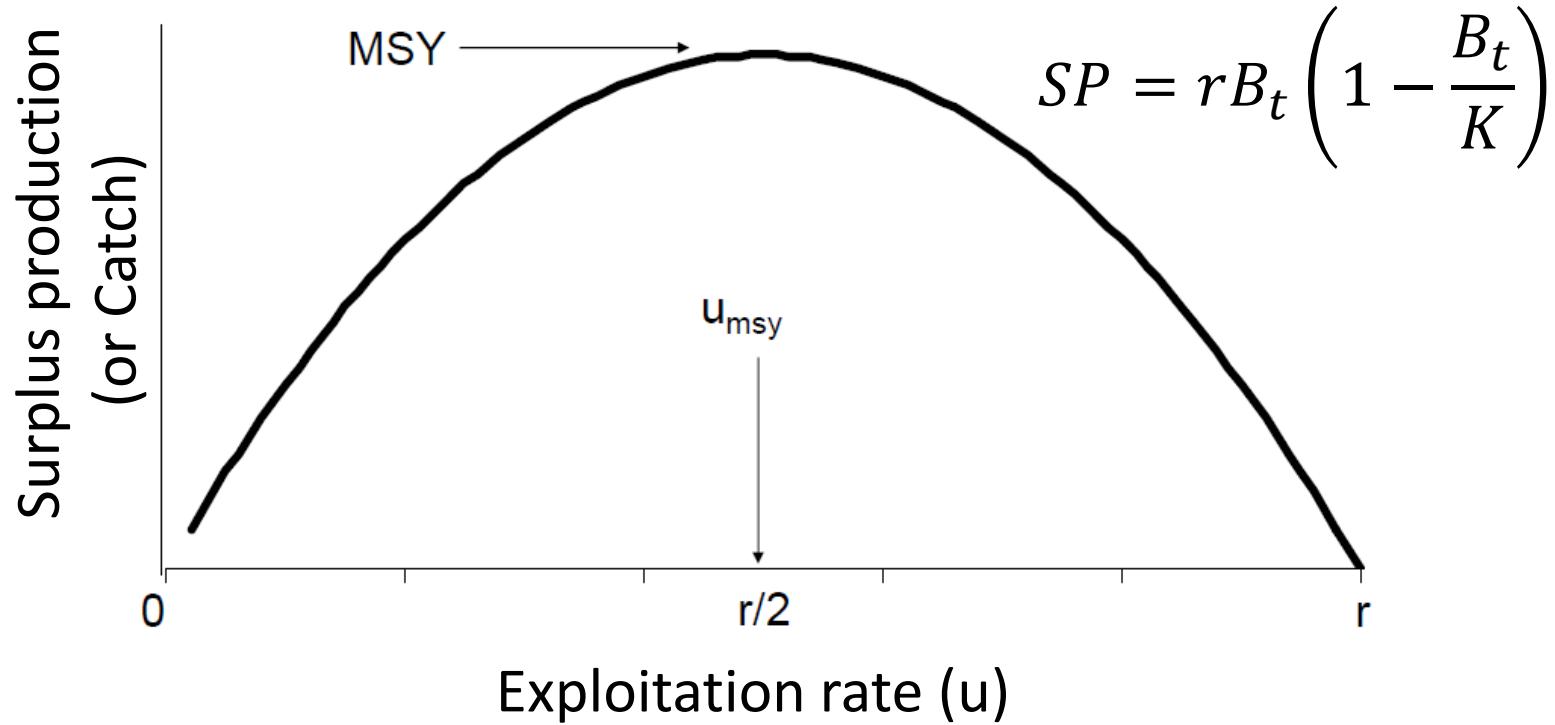
How can we ensure  
the Catch doesn't  
deplete a stock?

# Surplus production and MSY



- **MSY** = largest catch (yield) that can be supported by the population over an indefinite period
- **B<sub>msy</sub>** = Biomass at which MSY is generated

# Surplus production and MSY

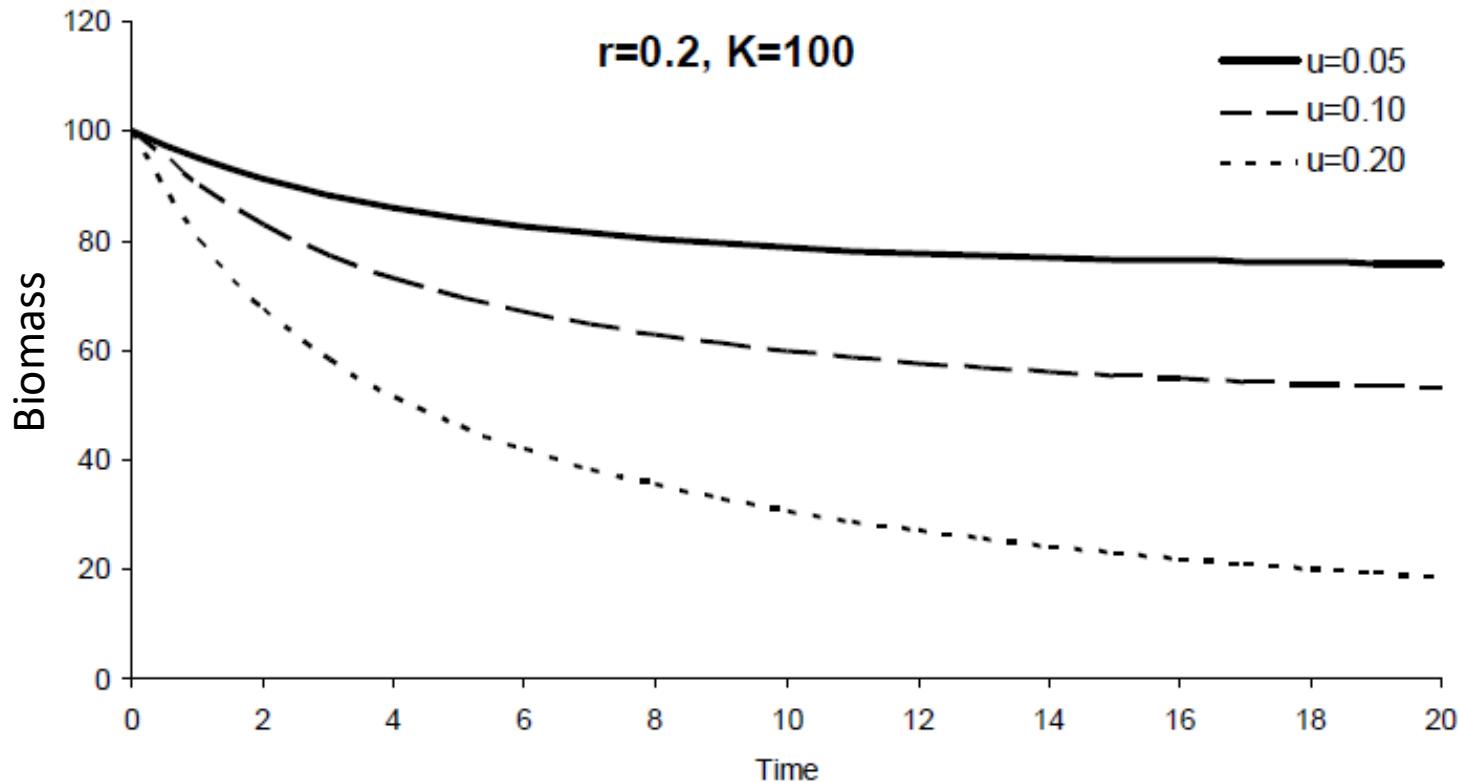


**How hard should we fish to get MSY and keep the pop. at  $B_{MSY}$ ?**

- $u_{msy}$  = exploitation rate that generates MSY
- $F_{msy}$  = instantaneous fishing mortality rate that generates MSY

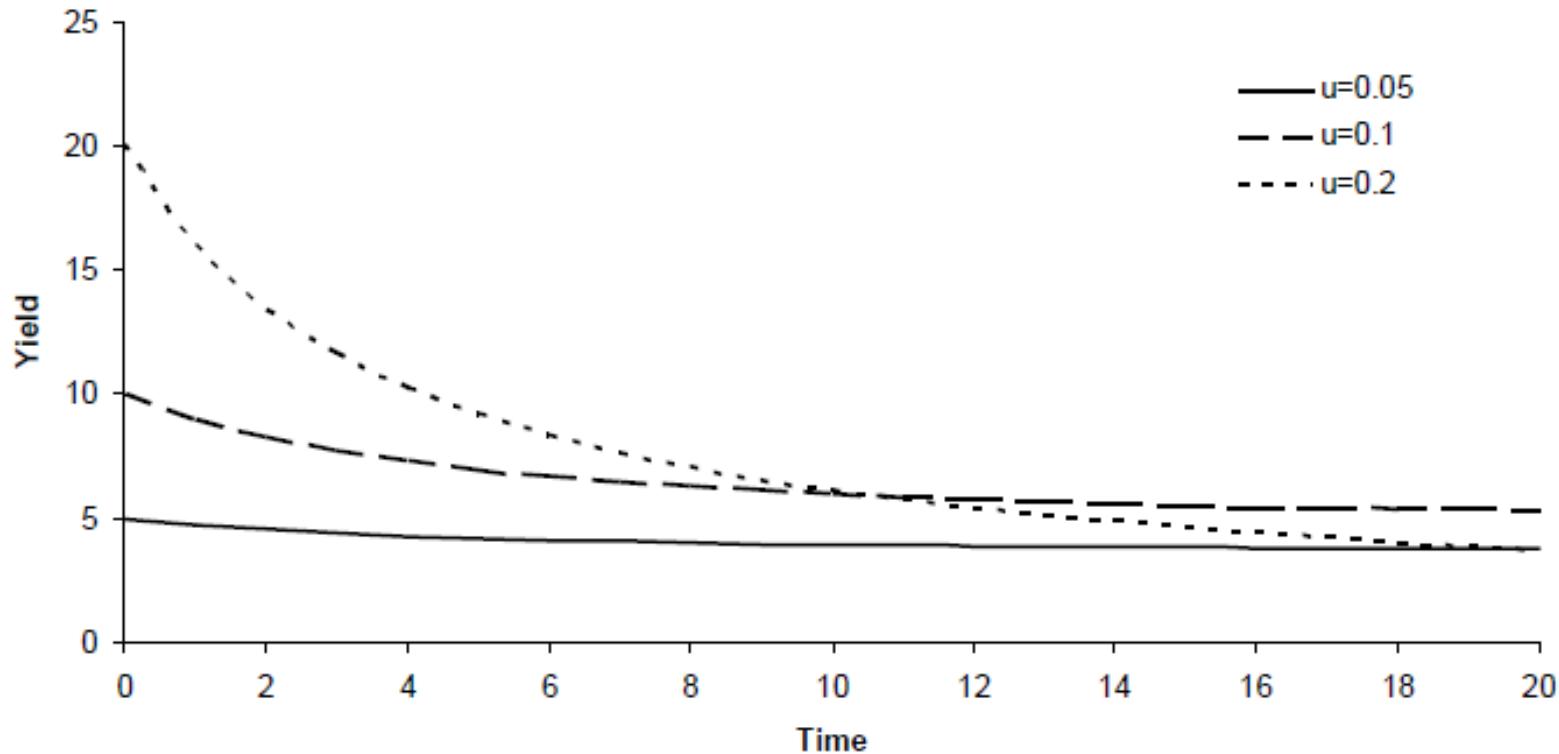
How to calculate MSY?

# What happens to pop. through time at different exploitation rates ( $u$ )?



- What do you notice about the Biomass?

# Yield over time



- What do you notice about the yield over time?
- →MSY is when we maximize this longterm yield

# How to calculate MSY

$$B_{t+1} = B_t + rB_t \left(1 - \frac{B_t}{K}\right) - uB_t$$

$$u_{MSY} = \frac{r}{2}$$

$$B_{MSY} = \frac{K}{2}$$

$$MSY = u_{MSY}B_{MSY} = \frac{rK}{4}$$

# Management Quantities

To be continued when we get  
into stock assessments...

|   |        |
|---|--------|
| Maximum surplus production (MSY)                        | $rK/4$ |
| Stock size for MSY ( $B_{MSY}$ )                        | $K/2$  |
| Rate of exploitation at MSY ( $u_{MSY}$ )               | $r/2$  |
| Effort required to achieve MSY ( $E_{MSY}$ )            | $r/2q$ |
| Maximum rate of exploitation ( $u_{max}$ )              | $r$    |
| Effort at maximum rate of<br>exploitation ( $E_{max}$ ) | $r/q$  |

# Summary 1

- Exponential mortality model

$$N_t = N_0 e^{-(F+M)t}$$

- describes cohort abund. through time
- Divide total inst. Mortality into: **Z=M+F**

- Definitions

- A, S, Z, u, v, F, and M
- Exploitation rate (u)
- Type I and II fisheries

$$C_t = \frac{F}{Z} (1 - e^{-Z}) N_t$$

- Baranov Catch Equation (many variants)

- Catch = (fraction of mortality due to fishing)\*(Proportion dying)\*abundance

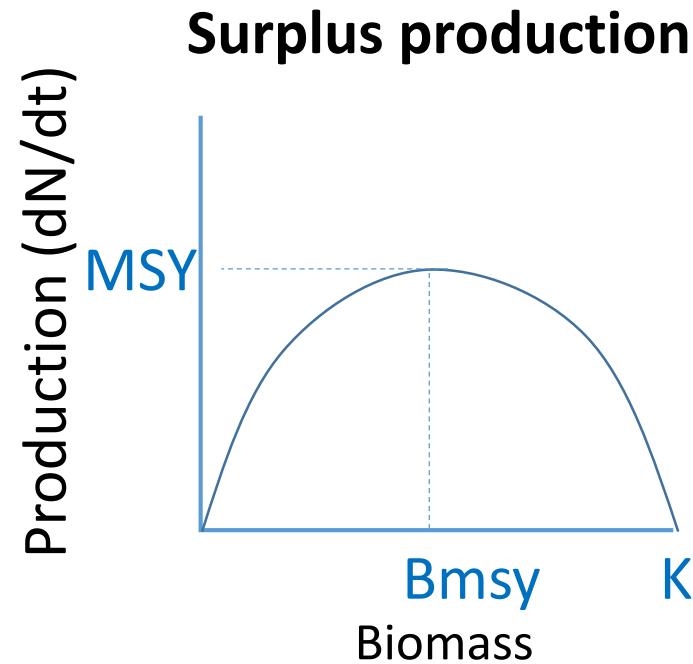
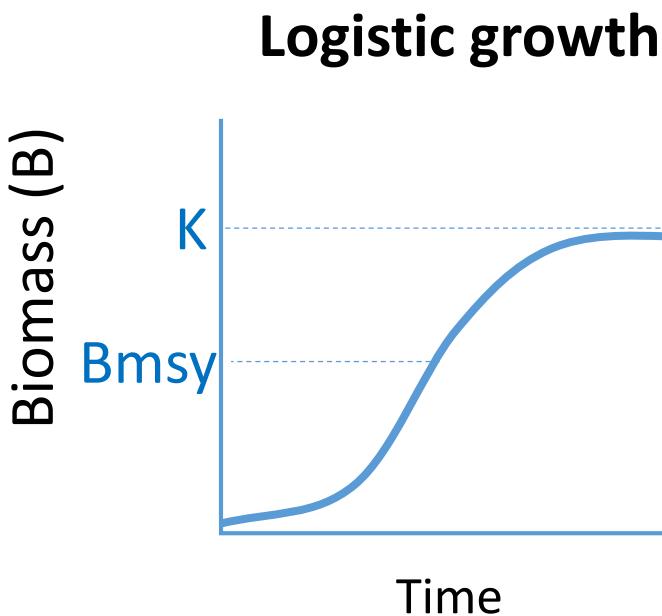
- Know MSY concepts!

- how MSY related to logistic growth and surplus prod.
- **MSY,  $B_{MSY}$ ,  $u_{MSY}$ ,  $F_{MSY}$**

# 2 Logistic growth & surplus production

- Key concepts from the simple model:

- $K$ ,  $r$
- Surplus production
- MSY,  $B_{MSY}$
- $u_{MSY}$  and  $F_{MSY}$



# 3 Instantaneous & annual mortality

| Instantaneous rate       | Annual rate (proportion)               | Relationship*   |
|--------------------------|--|---|
| $Z$<br>Total mortality   | $A$<br>Annual mortality                | $A = 1 - e^{-Z}$<br>$S = 1 - A = e^{-Z}$<br>$Z = -\ln(S)$ |
| $F$<br>Fishing mortality | $u$<br>Exploitation rate               | $u = FA/Z$  |
| $M$<br>Natural mortality | $v$<br>Prob. death from natural causes | $v = MA/Z$  |
| $Z = F + M$              | $A = u + v$                            |   |

For  $u$  or  $v$ , need 2 of the following:  
 $F$ ,  $M$ ,  $Z$

\*Note:  $u$  and  $v$  relationships assume Type II fishery that operates continuously throughout the year

# Yield Per Recruit

Reading:

See Jennings et al. 2001, section 7.7

Haddon et al. 2011, section 2.8

# Yield Per Recruit (YPR) models

Main questions:

- How hard should we fish to optimize harvest?
- What is the optimum age (or size) at first capture?
  - Lots of small fish or fewer big fish?

YPR is called a “**dynamic pool model**”

# What are Dynamic Pool Models?

- Simple age-structured models
- Deterministic models
- Include mortality and growth models
- Widely used to develop reference points used to manage fisheries
- Common Types :
  - **Yield per recruit (YPR) → TODAY**
  - Spawning Stock Biomass per Recruit (SSB/R, S/R)
  - Egg per recruit

# YPR – In class exercise

- See hand out
- Explanation of exercise
- Preliminary questions
  - If your goal is to maximize your yield, what fishing strategy do you think will be best:  
 $u=80\%, 50\%, 40\%, 30\%, 20\%, 10\%$ ?
- Break up into groups and calculate the values.  
Then, fill in the summary table on the board.

# Example

- \*values rounded to 1 decimal place

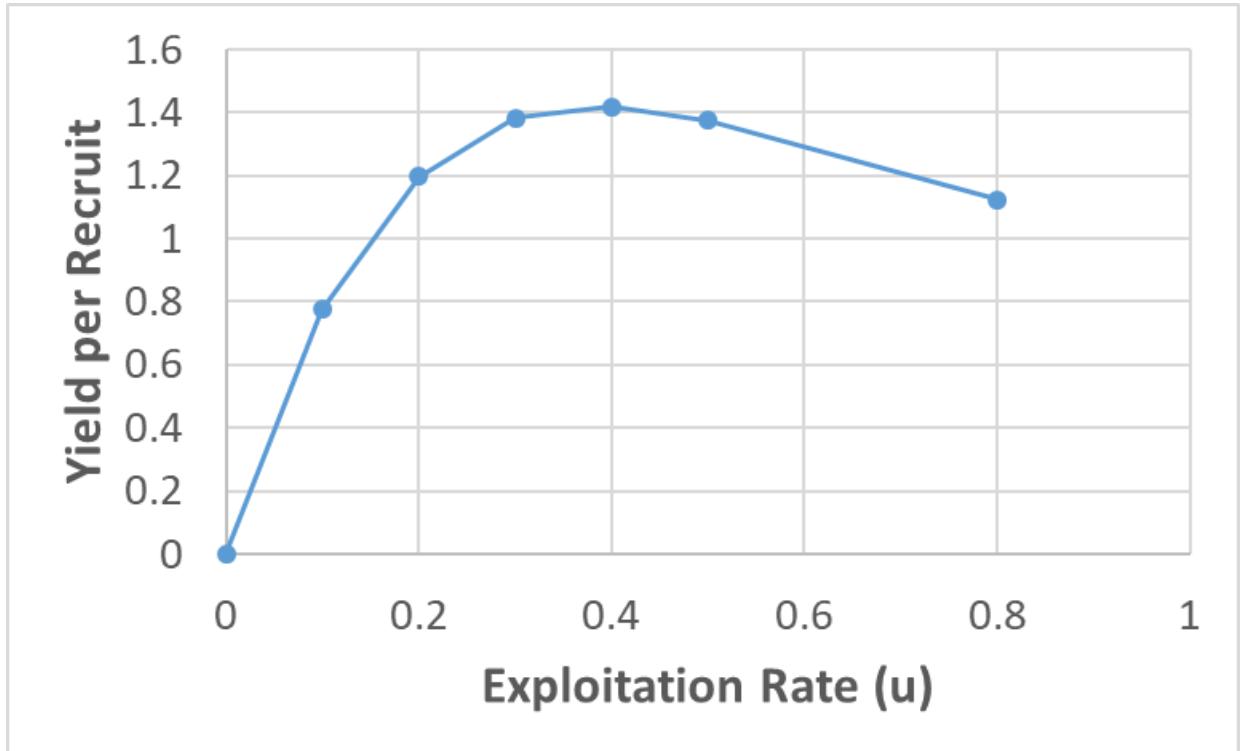
| Exploitation rate of 80% ( $u=0.8$ ) |                      |                        |                    |                  |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Age (a)                              | Weight<br>(W, in kg) | Stock Size (N)         | Catch (C)          | Catch Wt<br>(kg) |
| 1                                    | --                   | 1000                   | --                 | --               |
| 2                                    | 1                    | $200 ((1-u)^*N_{a-1})$ | $800 (u^*N_{a-1})$ | $800 (C^*W_a)$   |
| 3                                    | 1.5                  | 40.0                   | 160.0              | 240.0            |
| 4                                    | 2                    | 8.0                    | 32.0               | 64.0             |
| 5                                    | 2.5                  | 1.6                    | 6.4                | 16.0             |
| 6                                    | 3                    | 0.3                    | 1.3                | 3.8              |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                         |                      | 1000                   | 1124               |                  |
| <b>YPR</b>                           |                      |                        |                    | <b>1.124</b>     |

# Write your YPR Results on the board

| Fishing Scenario (# of fish) | Total Catch (kg) | Initial Recruits | Yield per recruit |
|------------------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| u=0.8                        |                  | 1000             |                   |
| u=0.5                        |                  | 1000             |                   |
| u=0.4                        |                  | 1000             |                   |
| u=0.3                        |                  | 1000             |                   |
| u=0.2                        |                  | 1000             |                   |
| u=0.1                        |                  | 1000             |                   |

- What do the results mean?
- Did the results match your prediction? Why or why not?
- What were the tradeoffs with the different strategies?
- What would happen if we introduced natural mortality?

# YPR Results

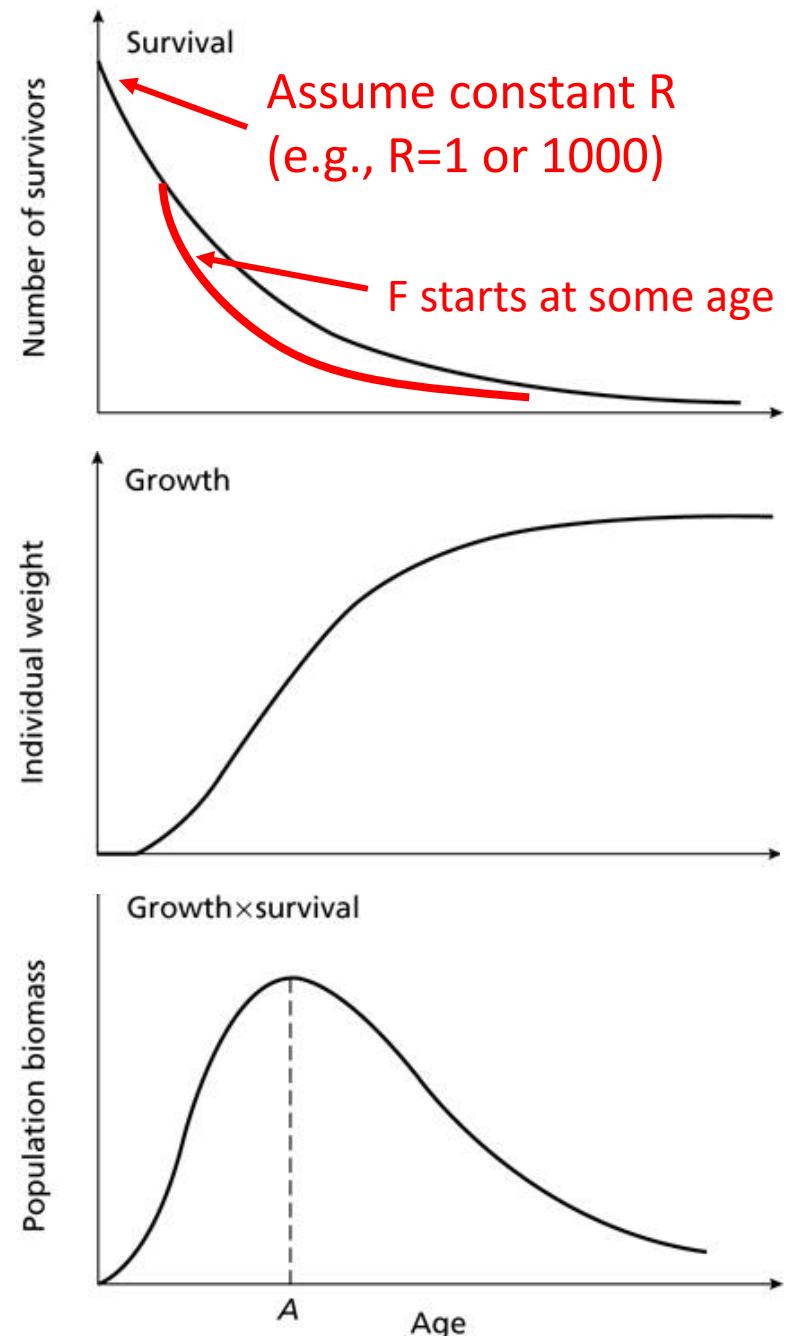


| Fishing Scenario (# of fish) | Total Catch (kg) | Initial Recruits | Yield per recruit |
|------------------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| $u=0.1$                      | 410              | 776              | 0.776             |
| $u=0.2$                      | 672              | 1198             | 1.198             |
| $u=0.3$                      | 832              | 1382             | 1.382             |
| $u=0.4$                      | 922              | 1420             | 1.420             |
| $u=0.5$                      | 969              | 1375             | 1.375             |
| $u=0.8$                      | 1000             | 1124             | 1.124             |

# Yield Per Recruit (YPR)

Fishing yield affected by a tradeoff between growth and mortality

- Basic Idea
  - Assume constant R
  - Simulate declines in N by age
  - Account for increases in W at age
  - Calculate Biomass at age
  - Estimate yield
    - given F and age at capture
  - Repeat for different fishing scenarios to find the optimum yield



# YPR

|         |                      | Exploitation rate of 80% ( $u=0.8$ ) |                   |                  |
|---------|----------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Age (a) | Weight<br>(W, in kg) | Stock Size (N)                       | Catch (C)         | Catch Wt<br>(kg) |
| 1       | --                   | 1000                                 | --                | --               |
| 2       | 1                    | $200 ((1-u)*N_{a-1})$                | $800 (u*N_{a-1})$ | $800 (C*W_a)$    |
| 3       | 1.5                  | 40.0                                 | 16.0              | 24.0             |
| 4       | 2                    | 8.0                                  | 3.2               | 6.4              |
| 5       | 2.5                  | 1.6                                  | 0.64              | 1.6              |
| 6       | 3                    | 0.3                                  | 0.12              | 0.36             |
|         |                      | <b>TOTAL</b>                         | 1000              | 1124             |
|         |                      | <b>YPR</b>                           |                   | 1.124            |

How do we express this as an equation?

# Yield Per Recruit (YPR)

- Model biomass and yield of a cohort over time, accounting for growth and mortality:

$$Y = \sum_{t=t_c}^{t_{max}} \frac{F_t}{Z_t} (1 - e^{-Z_t}) N_t W_t$$

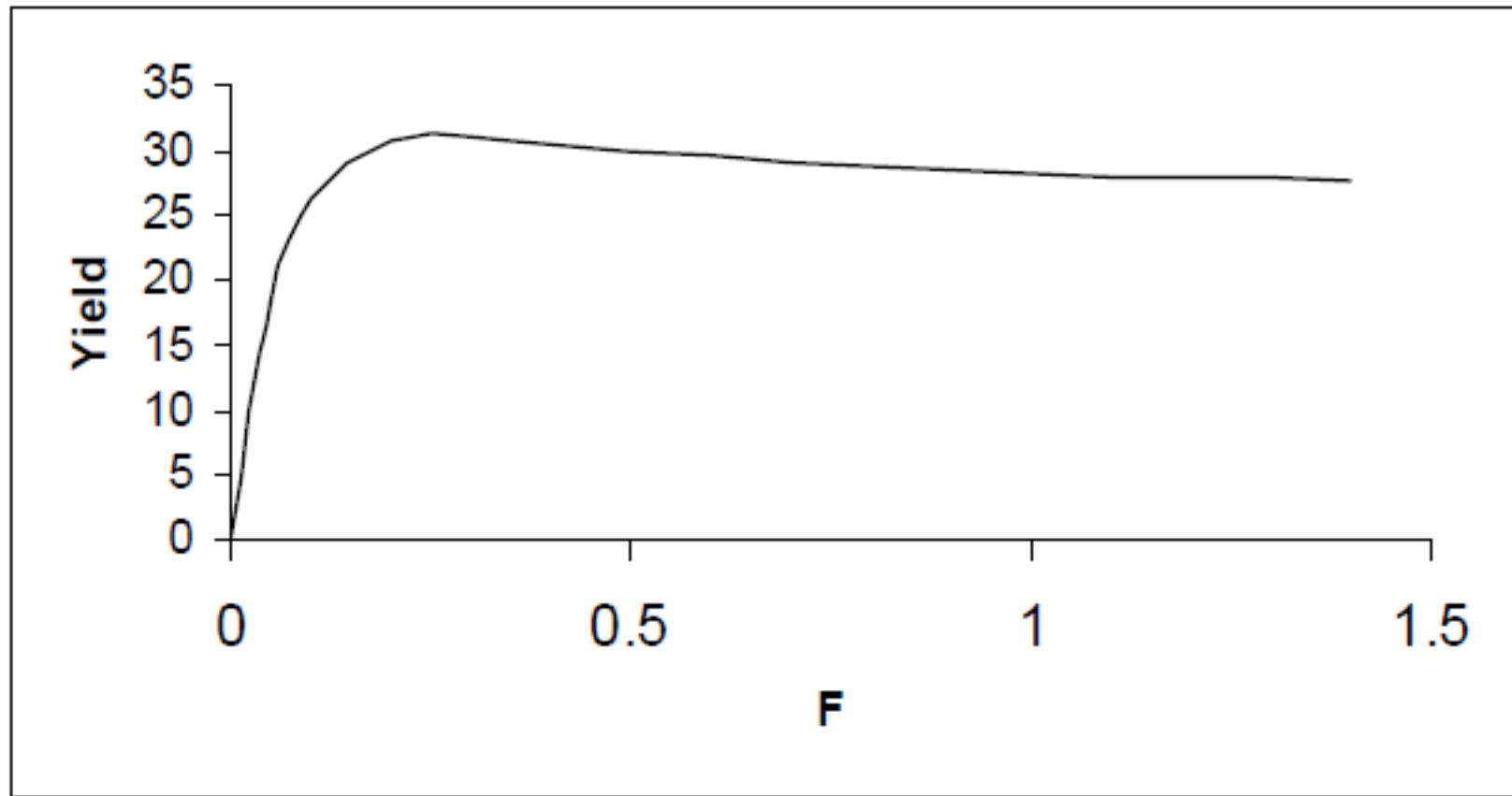
$$Y = \sum_{t=t_c}^{t_{max}} u_t N_t W_t$$

- $Y$  = yield (in biomass) per fish recruited to fishery
- $t_c$  = age at first capture
- $t_{max}$  = max age that is captured
- $F_t$  = instantaneous fishing mortality rate at age  $t$
- $Z_t$  = instantaneous total mortality rate
- $u_t$  = exploitation rate at age  $t$  (proportion harvested)
- $N_t$  = abundance at age  $t$
- $W_t$  = weight at age  $t$

How do we  
model  $N_t$   
and  $W_t$ ?

# Yield (per recruit) vs. $F$

- Yield per recruit curve
  - Model is run for different values of  $F$  (e.g. our 6 scenarios)
- What do the different parts of this curve represent?

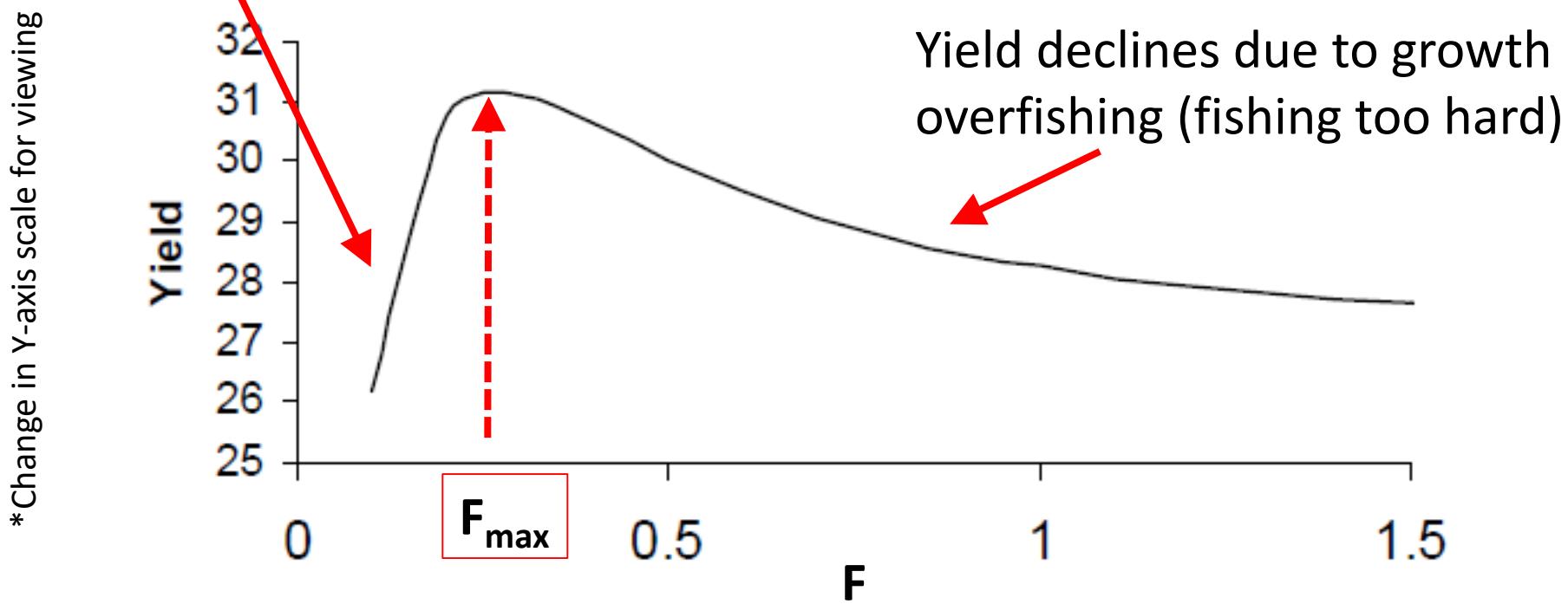


\*Not uncommon to have a flat top to these curves

# Yield (per recruit) vs. $F$

Yield declines due to low fishing (not fishing hard enough)

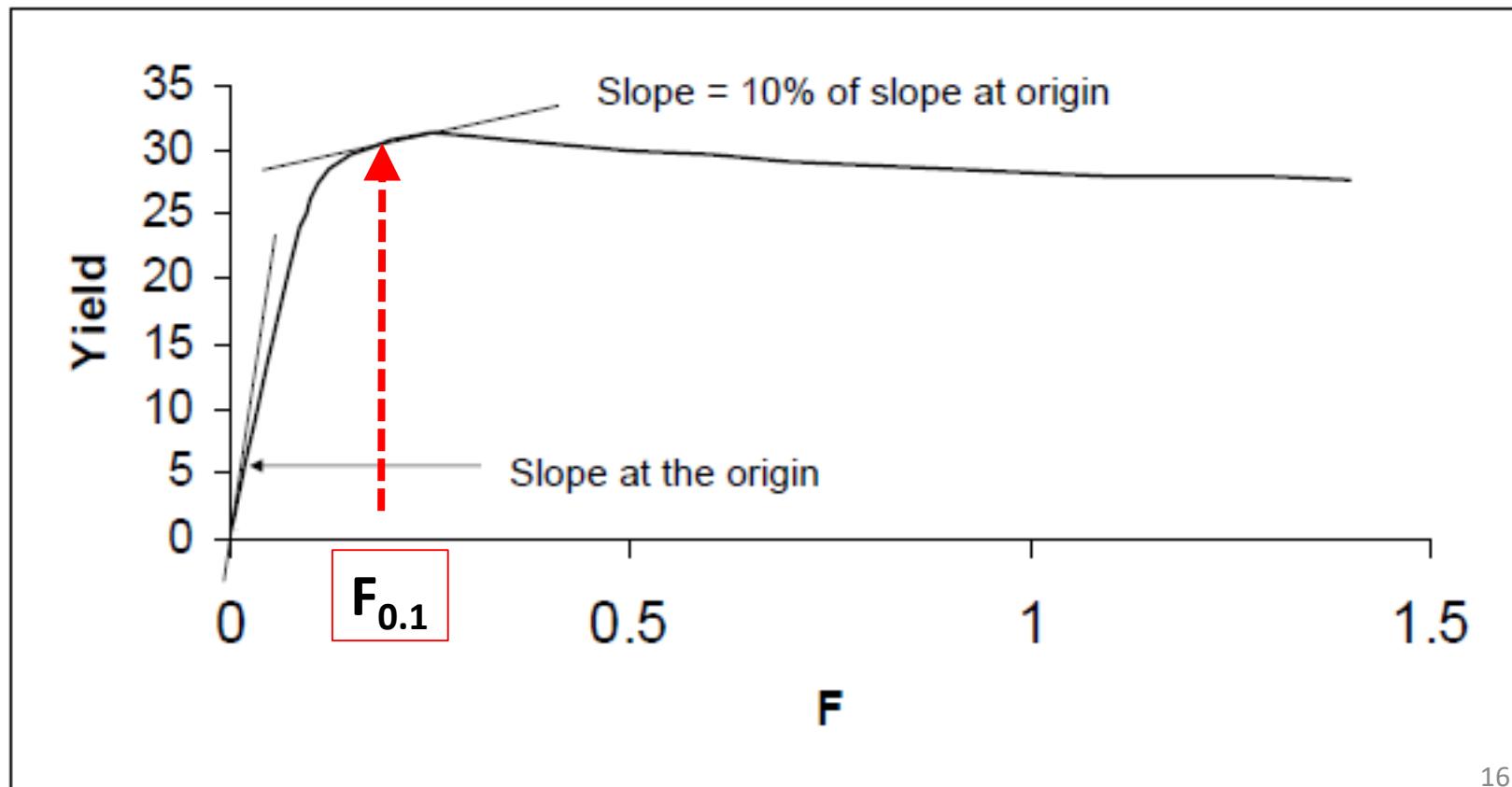
**Growth overfishing** – when fishing rates are too high, preventing the maximum yield being caught (b/c fish are prevented from growing to larger sizes)



**$F_{max}$**  = Fishing mortality rate that maximizes the yield per recruit  
Use optimization function to find  $F_{max}$

$F_{0.1}$

- $F_{0.1} = F$  where slope of YPR curve is 10% of slope at the origin
- Conservative alternative to  $F_{max}$



# Comments on $F_{\max}$ and $F_{0.1}$

- **Biological reference points** – quantitative, biologically-based metric for a stock to inform management
- $F_{0.1}$ 
  - Ad hoc with no theoretical justification
  - More conservative
  - Greater stock stability with slightly lower yields
- $F_{\max} \neq F_{\text{msy}}$  (don't confuse the two...)
- Usage
  - Still used somewhat in Europe and Canada
  - In US: Spawning Stock Biomass per Recruit favored

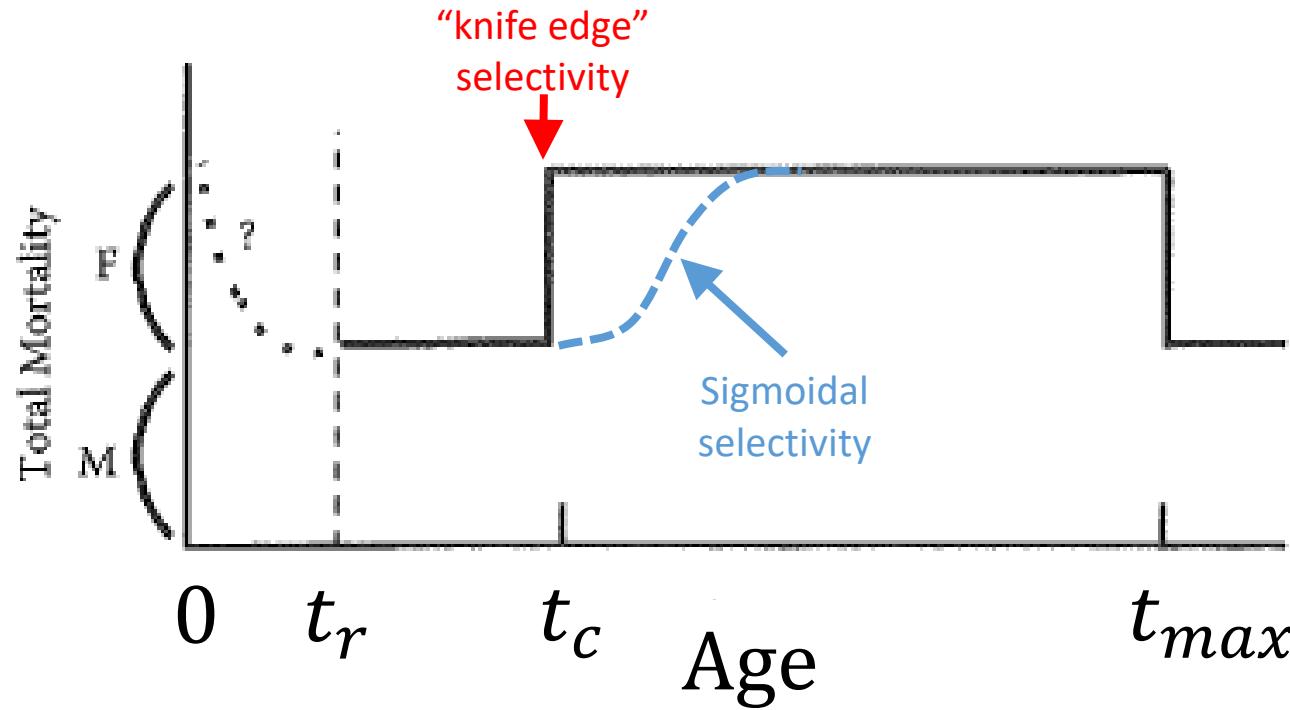
# Yield per recruit models

- 2 main control variables:
  - Age at first capture,  $t_c$  (ie, selectivity pattern)
  - Fishing Mortality, F
- Try different combinations of  $t_c$  and F to maximize yield



# Age at first capture ( $t_c$ )

- Assume constant  $M$ , but  $F$  only starts at  $t_c$
- But we can change how abruptly  $F$  increases by changing the “selectivity”

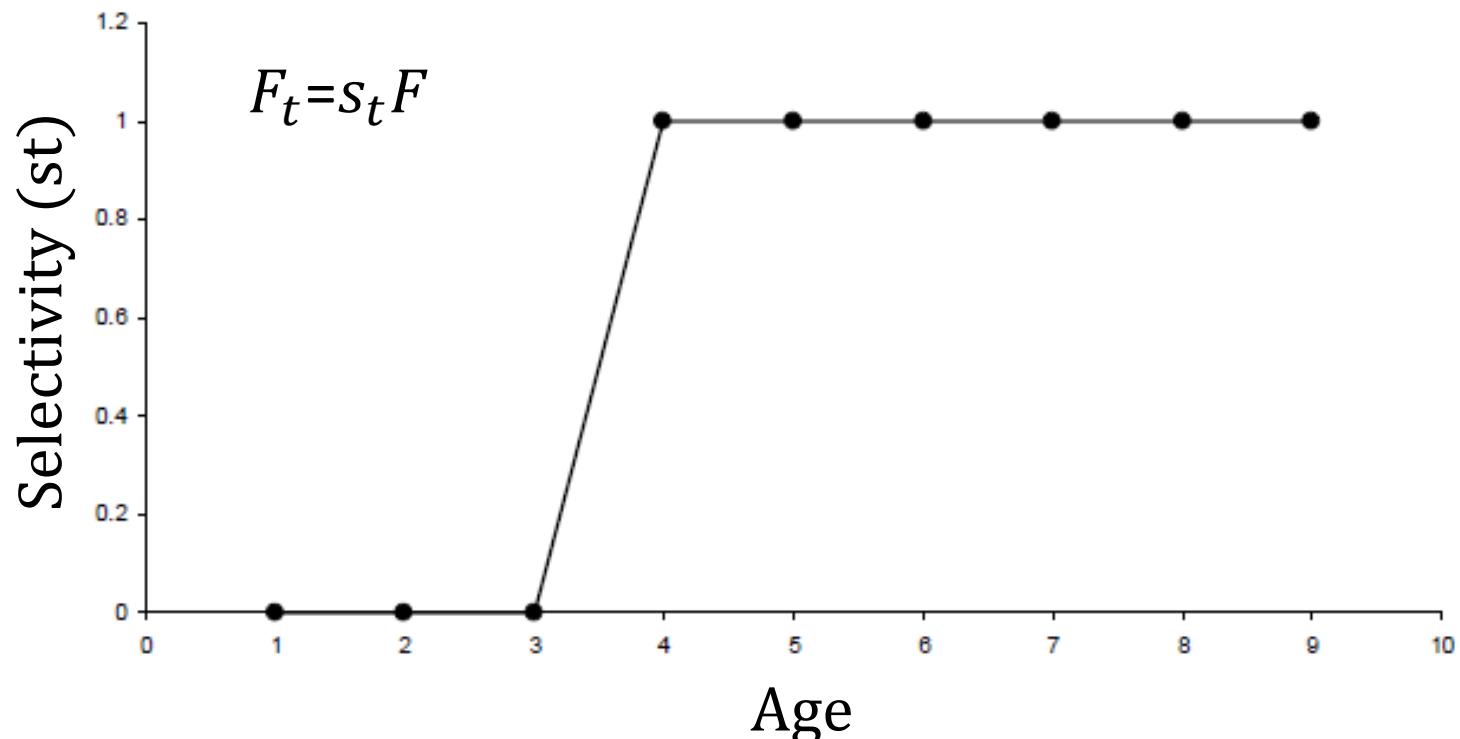


**FIGURE 2.14**

A diagram of the assumptions made in simple yield-per-recruit analysis. Here  $t_r$  is the age at recruitment,  $t_c$  is the age at first possible capture, and  $t_{max}$  is the age at which fish cease to be vulnerable to fishing. The model does not consider the dynamics of individuals younger than  $t_r$  years of age but simply assumes that there are  $R$  recruits of this age entering the stock each breeding period.  $M$  and  $F$  are the constant instantaneous rates of natural and fishing mortality, respectively. Knife-edge selection is shown by the vertical rise in mortality at  $t_c$ .

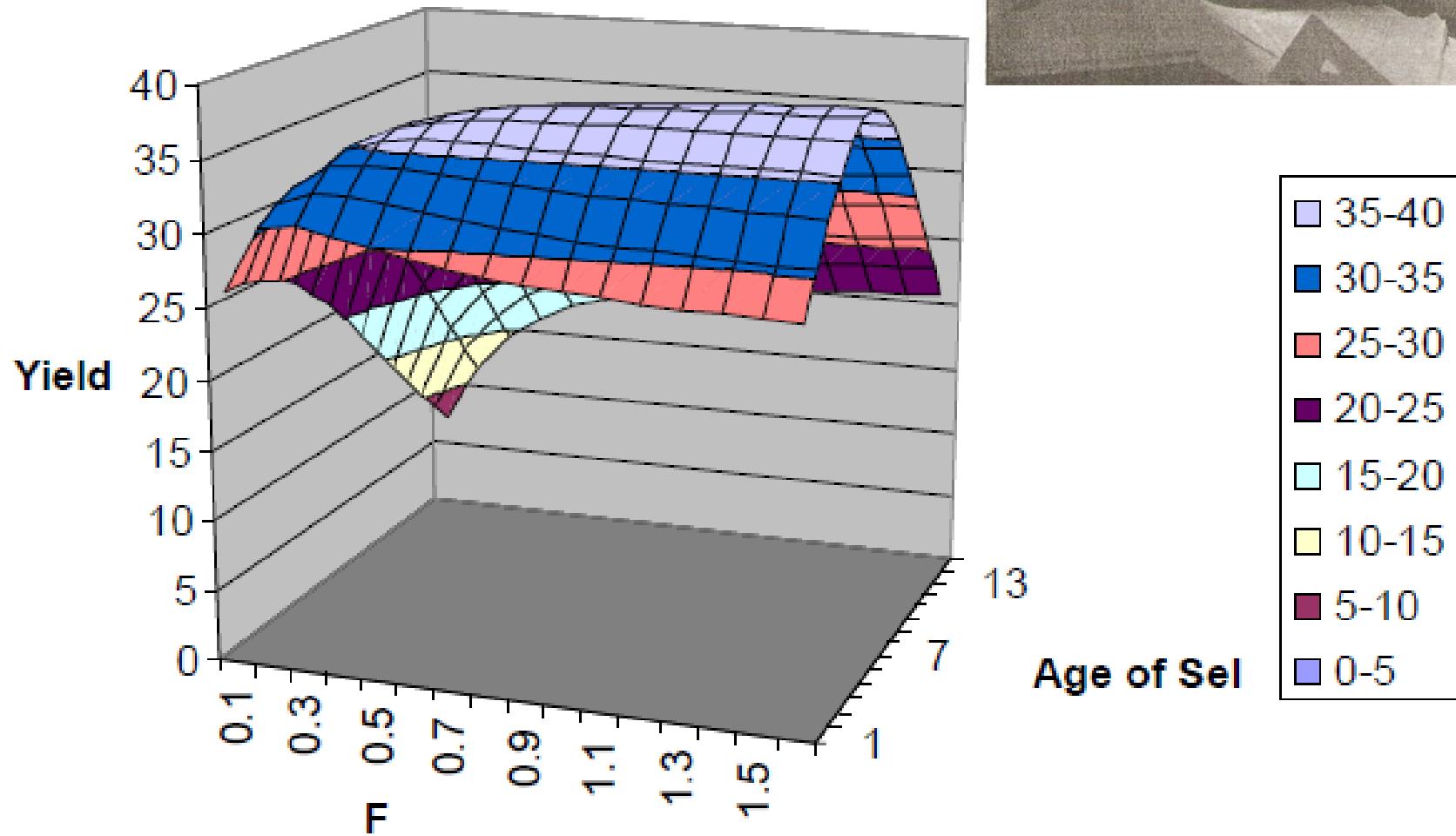
# Fishing mortality by age

- **Age-specific selectivity** ( $s_t$ ) = the probability of being vulnerable to fishing at age  $t$  (or some size)
  - This is known as “partial recruitment” for the `ypr()` function in R
- Simple model assumes knife-edge selectivity (but can have different shapes):

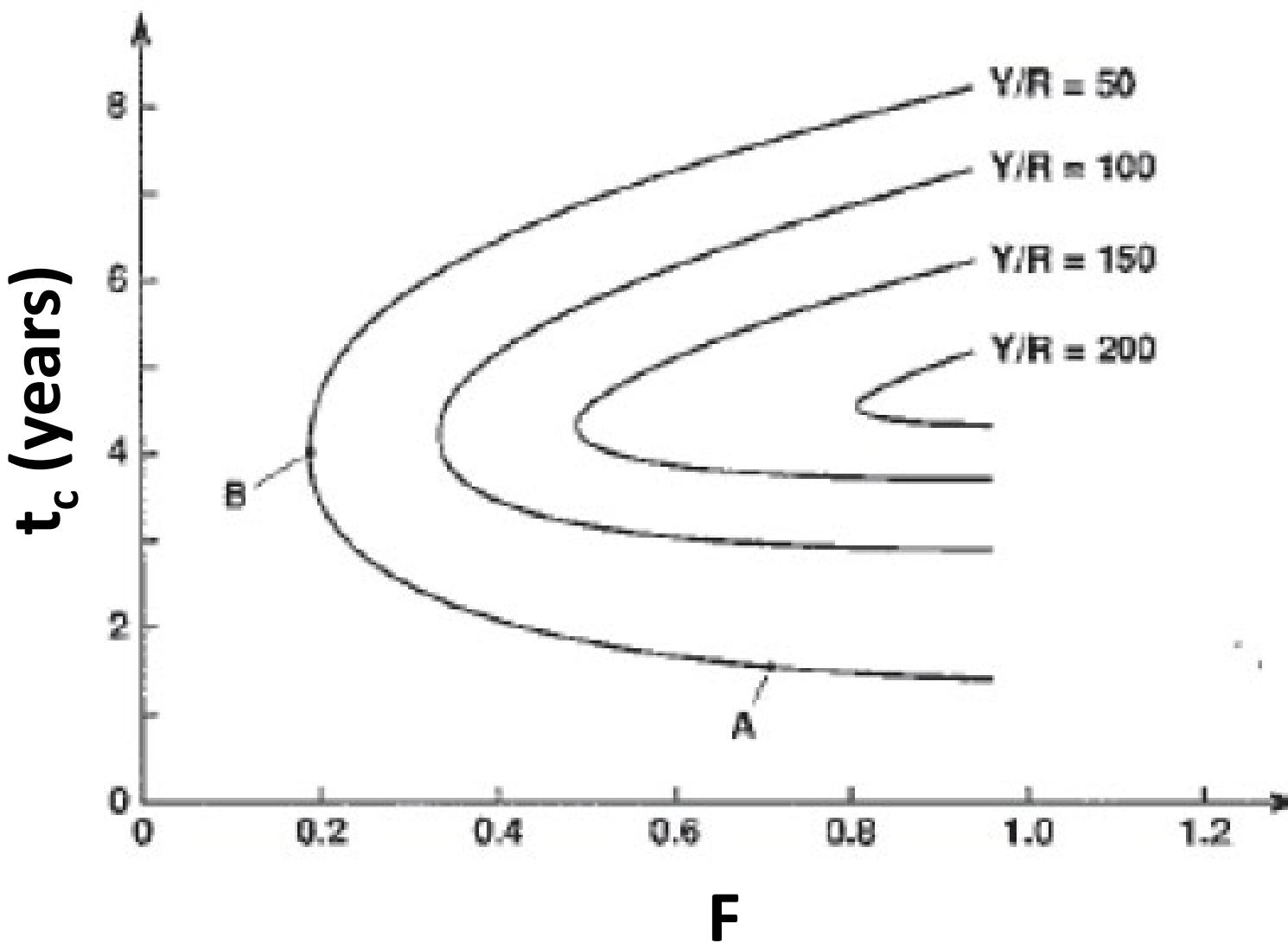


# YPR Surface

Side: Beverton  
& Holt with  
cardboard  
cutout for YPR  
surface

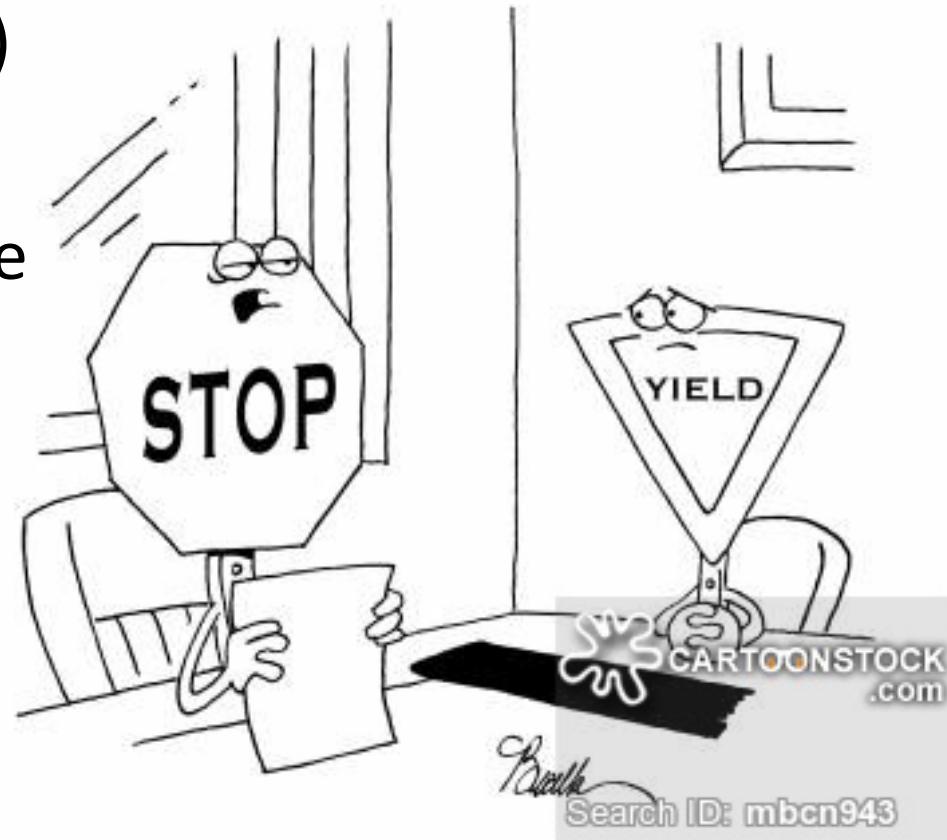


# YPR contour plot



# Assumptions of YPR Models

- Constant recruitment (ie age-structure is at equilibrium or steady state)
- Constant mortality schedule
- Constant growth schedule



"I'm afraid we need someone with a  
little more backbone for this position."<sup>23</sup>

# Uses of YPR Models

- Develop reference points ( $F_{\max}$ ,  $F_{0.1}$ ) for fisheries management (constant fishing rate harvest strategy)
  - Prevent growth overfishing
  - Evaluates things we can control ( $F$ ,  $t_c$ )
- Determine optimal age at first capture
  - Gear regulations (e.g., mesh sizes, hook sizes, escapement holes, minimum sizes)
  - Season start date

# Limitations of YPR Models

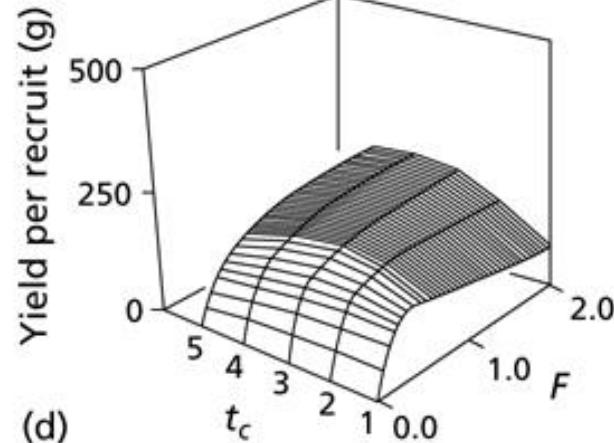
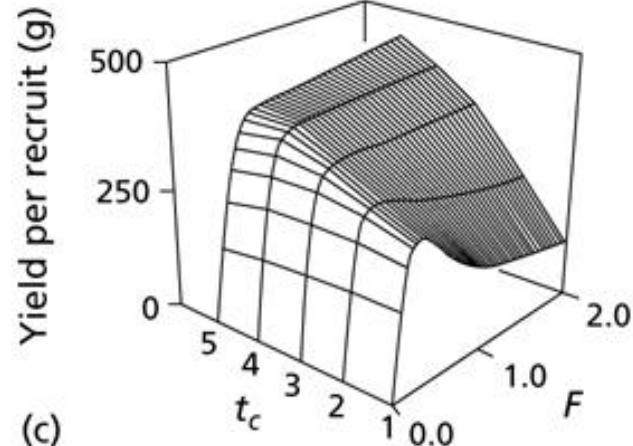
In what setting  
may some of  
these be more  
appropriate?

- Constant assumptions
  - Assumes steady state (e.g., constant R & age structure)
  - Constant mortality, selection, size at age schedules
  - This means no density dependence
- Used as a relative measure
  - does not estimate total yield which is of greater interest to fishers. (Total yield requires info on amount of R)
- Ignores effects of harvest on recruitment (no SR model)
  - No indication of whether  $F_{\max}$  or  $F_{0.1}$  is sustainable!
    - E.g., Some could predict  $t_c$  for juveniles; some predict infinite  $F_{\max}$

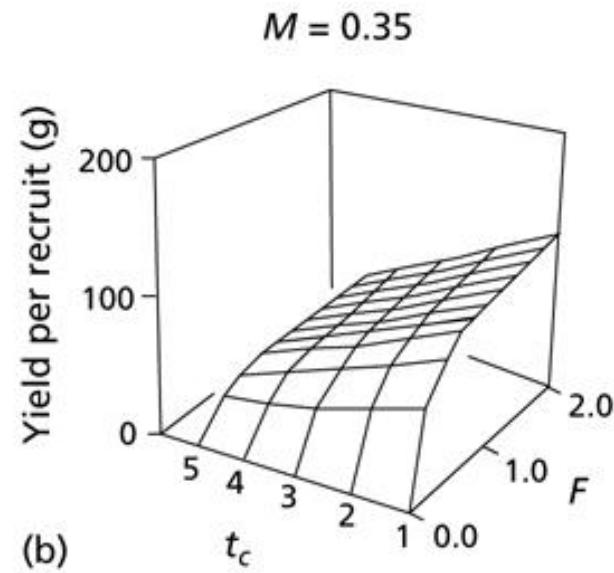
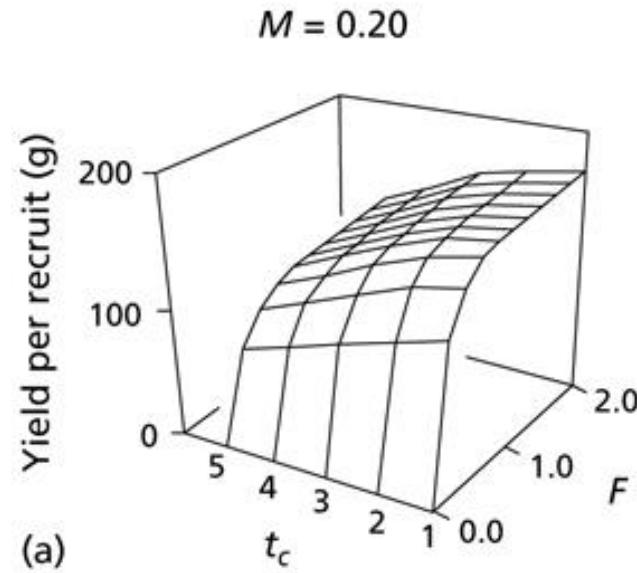
# YPR example – Atlantic croaker

- Effect of region and M assumption?
- CB
  - $T_c = \text{age-2}$
  - $Z \sim 0.6$
  - 1988-91 data
- NC
  - $T_c = \text{age-1}$
  - $Z \sim 1.3$
  - 1979-81 data

North Carolina



Chesapeake Bay



# Summary - YPR

$$Y = \sum_{t=t_c}^{t_{max}} \frac{F_t}{Z_t} (1 - e^{-Z_t}) N_t W_t \quad \text{or } (u_t N_t W_t)$$

- **Yield per Recruit (YPR)**
  - YPR = estimate of the weight that each recruit contributes to fishery harvest over its lifetime (on average)
  - Goal of YPR models: evaluate fishing rates & age at capture ( $t_c$ ) to maximize YPR
- YPR models account for:
  - age-structure
  - growth and mortality
- YPR models don't account for:
  - Recruitment, changes in growth or mortality schedules, or density dependence
- Provide info and reference points for management
  - Deals with **growth overfishing**
  - $F_{max}$  and  $F_{0.1}$  (or  $u_{max}$  and  $u_{0.1}$ )
  - Provides info on optimal age at first capture

} know definitions & graphical representation

# Spawning per recruit

## (Spawning stock biomass per recruit)

Reading:

See Jennings et al. 2001, section 7.7

Haddon et al. 2011, section 2.8

# Announcements

- Still grading take home exams
- Grad students, please review the requirements for your project (see canvas) → will discuss later this week
  - Synopsis Due: March 18

# Spawning per recruit

- Developed to address YPR limitations of not accounting for maturation and recruitment
- Goal is to determine the lifetime spawning potential of a recruit and how much it is reduced by fishing
- Spawning: typically SSB or eggs
- Used to calculate reference points for fisheries management.

| Age | Wt (kg) | Maturity at age | Mortality Rate |             |                  | Stock Size (#) | SSB (kg) |
|-----|---------|-----------------|----------------|-------------|------------------|----------------|----------|
|     |         |                 | Natural (v)    | Fishing (u) | 1000             |                |          |
| 1   | 0.1     | 0.00            | 0.2            | 0           |                  |                |          |
| 2   | 0.5     | 0.00            | 0.2            | 0.3         |                  |                |          |
| 3   | 1       | 0.50            | 0.2            | 0.3         |                  |                |          |
| 4   | 1.5     | 1.00            | 0.2            | 0.3         |                  |                |          |
| 5   | 2       | 1.00            | 0.2            | 0.3         |                  |                |          |
|     |         |                 |                |             | <b>TOTAL SSB</b> |                |          |
|     |         |                 |                |             |                  | <b>SSB/R</b>   |          |

## With Fishing

Calculate the following (no calculator should be needed):

- stock sizes based on the mortality rates
- Spawning stock biomass (SSB)
- Total SSB
- SSB per recruit (divide by initial # of recruits)

|     |         | Mortality Rate  |             |             |                  |             |
|-----|---------|-----------------|-------------|-------------|------------------|-------------|
| Age | Wt (kg) | Maturity at age | Natural (v) | Fishing (u) | Stock Size (#)   | SSB (kg)    |
|     |         |                 |             |             |                  | 1000        |
| 1   | 0.1     | 0.00            | 0.2         | 0           | 800              | 0           |
| 2   | 0.5     | 0.00            | 0.2         | 0.3         | 400              | 0           |
| 3   | 1       | 0.50            | 0.2         | 0.3         | 200              | 100         |
| 4   | 1.5     | 1.00            | 0.2         | 0.3         | 100              | 150         |
| 5   | 2       | 1.00            | 0.2         | 0.3         | 50               | 100         |
|     |         |                 |             |             | <b>TOTAL SSB</b> | <b>350</b>  |
|     |         |                 |             |             | <b>SSB/R</b>     | <b>0.35</b> |

With  
Fishing

# Spawning Stock Biomass per Recruit

- Calculation of SSB/R
- Info needed:
  - Maturity at age ( $Mat_a$ )
  - Mortality at age ( $Z_a$ )
  - Size at age ( $W_a$ )
- What are the components of this equation?

$$SSB / R = \sum_a Mat_a W_a e^{\sum_{j=\min a}^{a-1} -Z_j}$$

What is the maximum SSB/R that is possible?

**With Fishing**

| Age | Wt (kg) | Maturity at age | Mortality Rate |             |                  | Stock Size (#) | SSB (kg) |
|-----|---------|-----------------|----------------|-------------|------------------|----------------|----------|
|     |         |                 | Natural (v)    | Fishing (u) | 1000             |                |          |
| 1   | 0.1     | 0.00            | 0.2            | 0           | 800              | 0              |          |
| 2   | 0.5     | 0.00            | 0.2            | 0.3         | 400              | 0              |          |
| 3   | 1       | 0.50            | 0.2            | 0.3         | 200              | 100            |          |
| 4   | 1.5     | 1.00            | 0.2            | 0.3         | 100              | 150            |          |
| 5   | 2       | 1.00            | 0.2            | 0.3         | 50               | 100            |          |
|     |         |                 |                |             | <b>TOTAL SSB</b> | <b>350</b>     |          |
|     |         |                 |                |             | <b>SSB/R</b>     | <b>0.35</b>    |          |

**NO Fishing**

| Age | Wt (kg) | Maturity at age | Mortality Rate |             |                  | Stock Size (#) | SSB (kg) |
|-----|---------|-----------------|----------------|-------------|------------------|----------------|----------|
|     |         |                 | Natural (v)    | Fishing (u) | 1000             |                |          |
| 1   | 0.1     | 0.00            | 0.2            | 0           | 800              | 0              |          |
| 2   | 0.5     | 0.00            | 0.2            | 0           | 640              | 0              |          |
| 3   | 1       | 0.50            | 0.2            | 0           | 512              | 256            |          |
| 4   | 1.5     | 1.00            | 0.2            | 0           | 410              | 614            |          |
| 5   | 2       | 1.00            | 0.2            | 0           | 328              | 655            |          |
|     |         |                 |                |             | <b>TOTAL SSB</b> | <b>1526</b>    |          |
|     |         |                 |                |             | <b>SSB/R</b>     | <b>1.53</b>    |          |

**Maximum spawning potential (MSP)**

# Spawning Stock Biomass per Recruit

- **Maximum spawning potential (MSP)**
  - biomass of reproductively mature fish per recruit *in the absence of fishing*
  - IE, the max. expected lifetime contribution of a recruit to the spawning stock biomass
  - SSB/R with no fishing

No Fishing (MSP):

$$SSB / R_{F=0} = \sum_a Mat_a W_a e^{\sum_{j=\min a}^{a-1} -M_j}$$

- How much are we reducing the lifetime spawning potential by fishing?
  - Calculate ratio of values → “spawning potential ratio (SPR)”

| Age | Wt (kg) | Maturity at age | Mortality Rate |             |                  | Stock Size (#) | SSB (kg) |
|-----|---------|-----------------|----------------|-------------|------------------|----------------|----------|
|     |         |                 | Natural (v)    | Fishing (u) | 1000             |                |          |
| 1   | 0.1     | 0.00            | 0.2            | 0           | 800              | 0              |          |
| 2   | 0.5     | 0.00            | 0.2            | 0.3         | 400              | 0              |          |
| 3   | 1       | 0.50            | 0.2            | 0.3         | 200              | 100            |          |
| 4   | 1.5     | 1.00            | 0.2            | 0.3         | 100              | 150            |          |
| 5   | 2       | 1.00            | 0.2            | 0.3         | 50               | 100            |          |
|     |         |                 |                |             | <b>TOTAL SSB</b> | <b>350</b>     |          |
|     |         |                 |                |             | <b>SSB/R</b>     | <b>0.35</b>    |          |

| Age | Wt (kg) | Maturity at age | Mortality Rate |             |                  | Stock Size (#) | SSB (kg) |
|-----|---------|-----------------|----------------|-------------|------------------|----------------|----------|
|     |         |                 | Natural (v)    | Fishing (u) | 1000             |                |          |
| 1   | 0.1     | 0.00            | 0.2            | 0           | 800              | 0              |          |
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| 5   | 2       | 1.00            | 0.2            | 0           | 328              | 655            |          |
|     |         |                 |                |             | <b>TOTAL SSB</b> | <b>1526</b>    |          |
|     |         |                 |                |             | <b>SSB/R</b>     | <b>1.53</b>    |          |

Maximum spawning potential (MSP)

$$SPR = \frac{SSB/R_{Fishing}}{SSB/R_{NoFishing}} = \frac{0.35}{1.53} = 0.23 \text{ (or } 23\%)$$

With  
Fishing

NO  
Fishing

# Spawning Stock Biomass per Recruit

- **Spawning potential ratio (SPR)**
  - the fraction of MSP that is achieved at different fishing mortality rates
  - i.e., Ratio of fished SSB/R to unfished SSB/R

With Fishing:

$$SSB / R = \sum_a Mat_a W_a e^{\sum_{j=\min a}^{a-1} -Z_j}$$

No Fishing (MSP):

$$SSB / R_{F=0} = \sum_a Mat_a W_a e^{\sum_{j=\min a}^{a-1} -M_j}$$

**Spawning potential ratio**

$$SPR = \frac{SSB / R}{SSB / R_{F=0}} \times 100$$

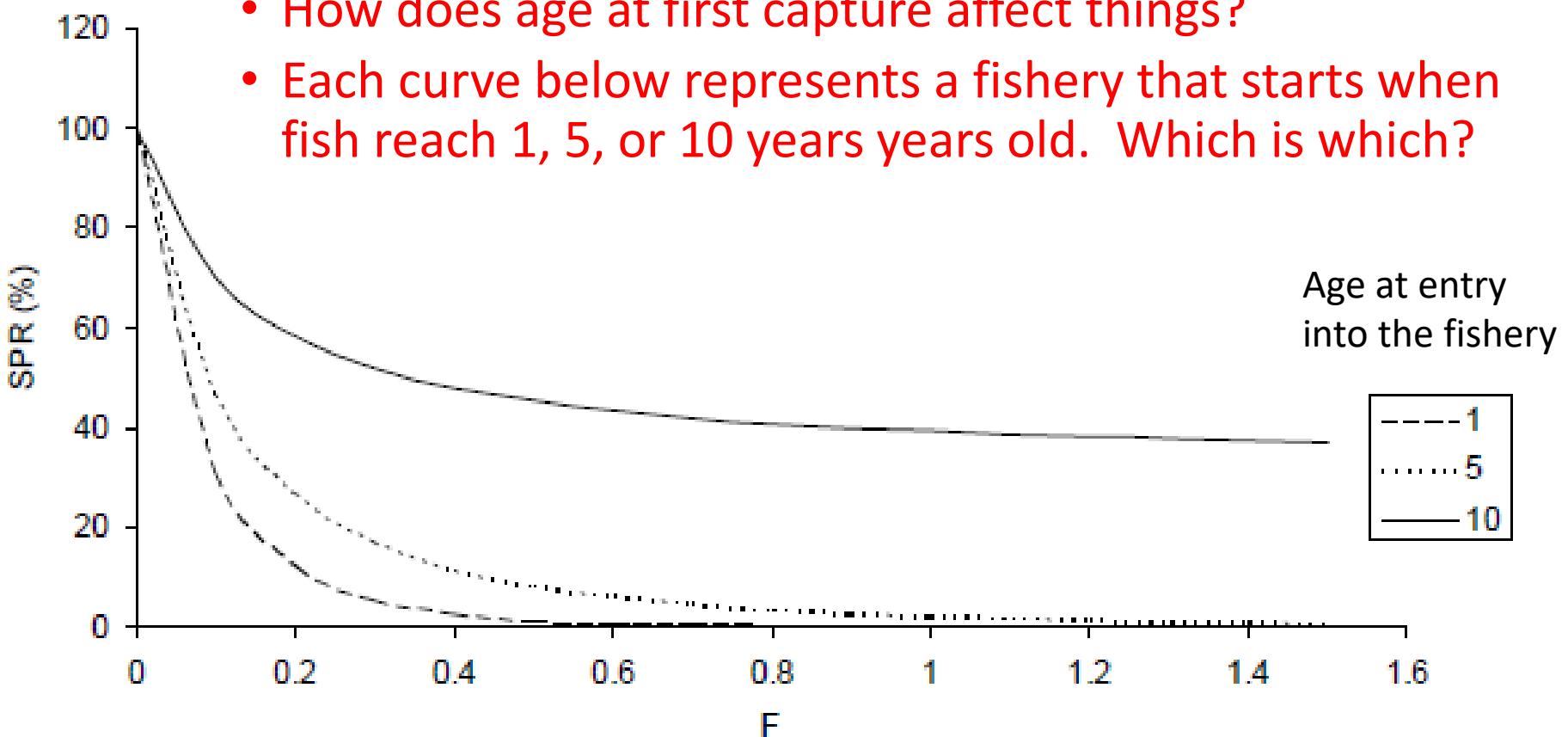
# Terminology/acronyms

- Spawning stock biomass per recruit
  - Also: spawners per recruit, spawning per recruit
  - Acronyms: SSB/R or S/R or SSBR or SPR (e.g., Gabriel and Mace 1999, Rochet 2000)
  - **Maximum spawning potential (MSP)** – SSB/R with no fishing
- Ratio of SSB/R to unfished SSB/R
  - **Spawning potential ratio** (SPR, or %SPR)
  - %MSP
  - Compensation ratio (CR) (Goodyear 1993)

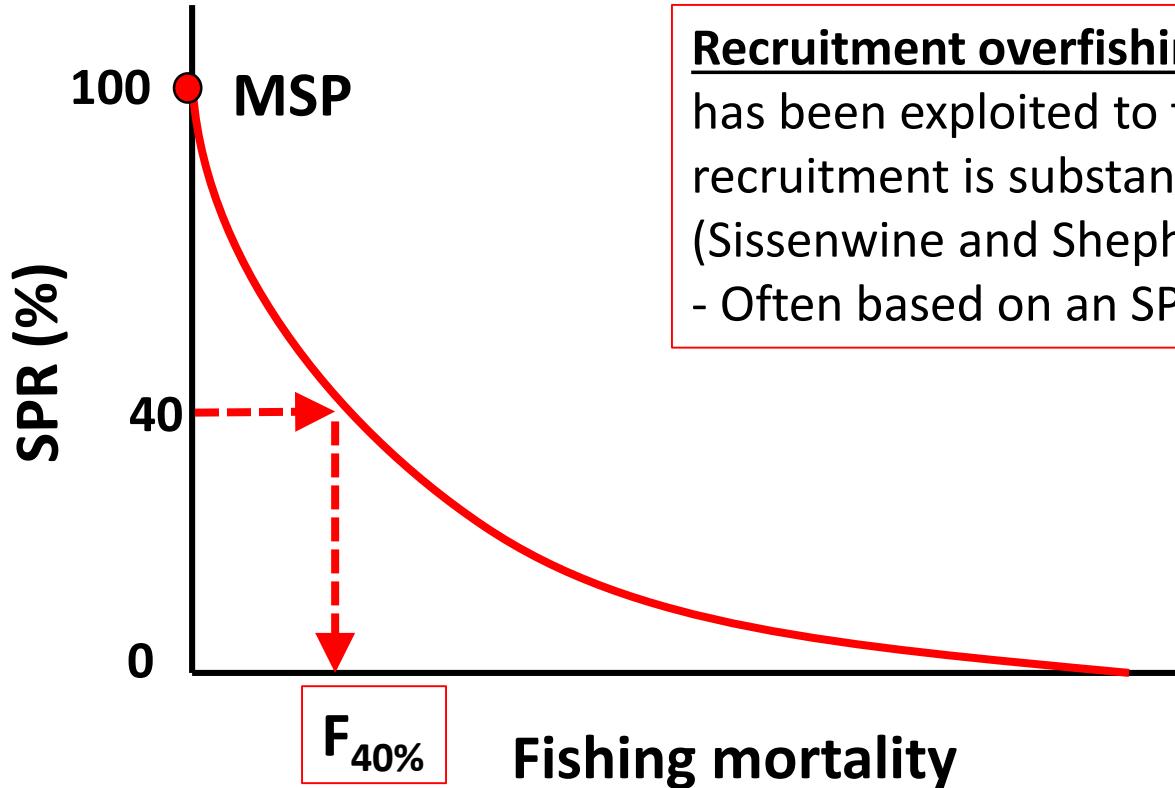
# Spawning potential ratio (SPR)

- Example curves

- How does age at first capture affect things?
- Each curve below represents a fishery that starts when fish reach 1, 5, or 10 years old. Which is which?



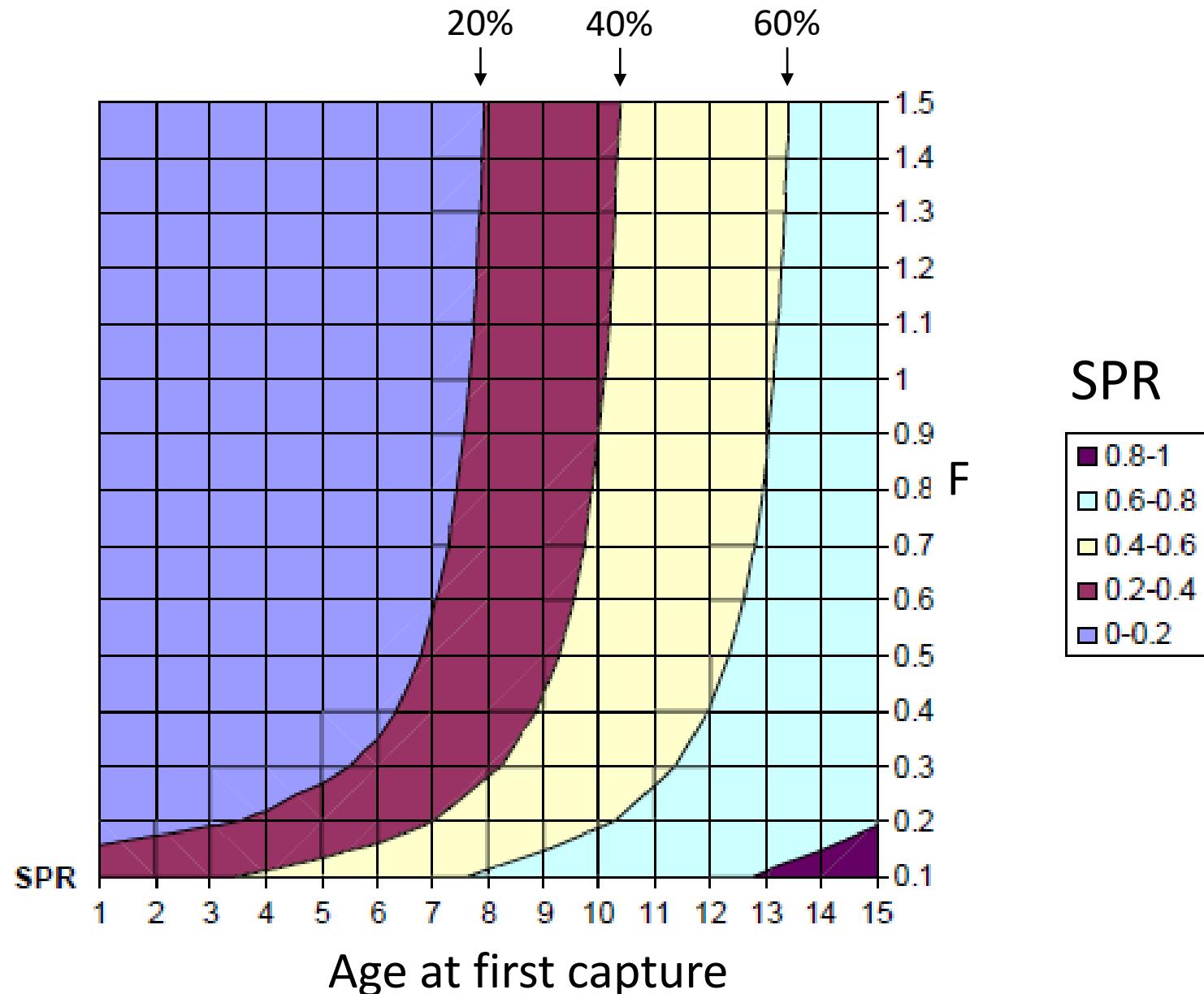
# Reference points from SSB/R



**Recruitment overfishing** – when a population has been exploited to the point at which recruitment is substantially reduced  
(Sissenwine and Shepherd 1987)  
- Often based on an SPR-type reference point

- $F_{x\%SPR}$  = fishing mortality rate that keeps spawning potential ratio at X% of the maximum spawning potential
  - E.g.,  $F_{40\%}$  is relatively common.

# Spawning Potential Ratio (SPR)



# Spawning per recruit assumptions

- Constant life history schedules
  - Mortality at age
  - Growth (weight at age)
  - Maturity at age
  - Fecundity at age (for Eggs-Per-Recruit [EPR] models)
- Assumes spawning occurs over a short period in time  
(ie not continuous process)

# Uses of spawning per recruit

- Generation of biological reference points ( $F_{x\%SPR}$ )
  - Used as a proxy of  $F_{msy}$
  - 35% SPR suggested as a general reference point, but may be too aggressive for many life histories
  - 40% SPR now commonly used but higher values (50% to 60%) have been suggested for some species.
- Helpful in avoiding recruitment overfishing

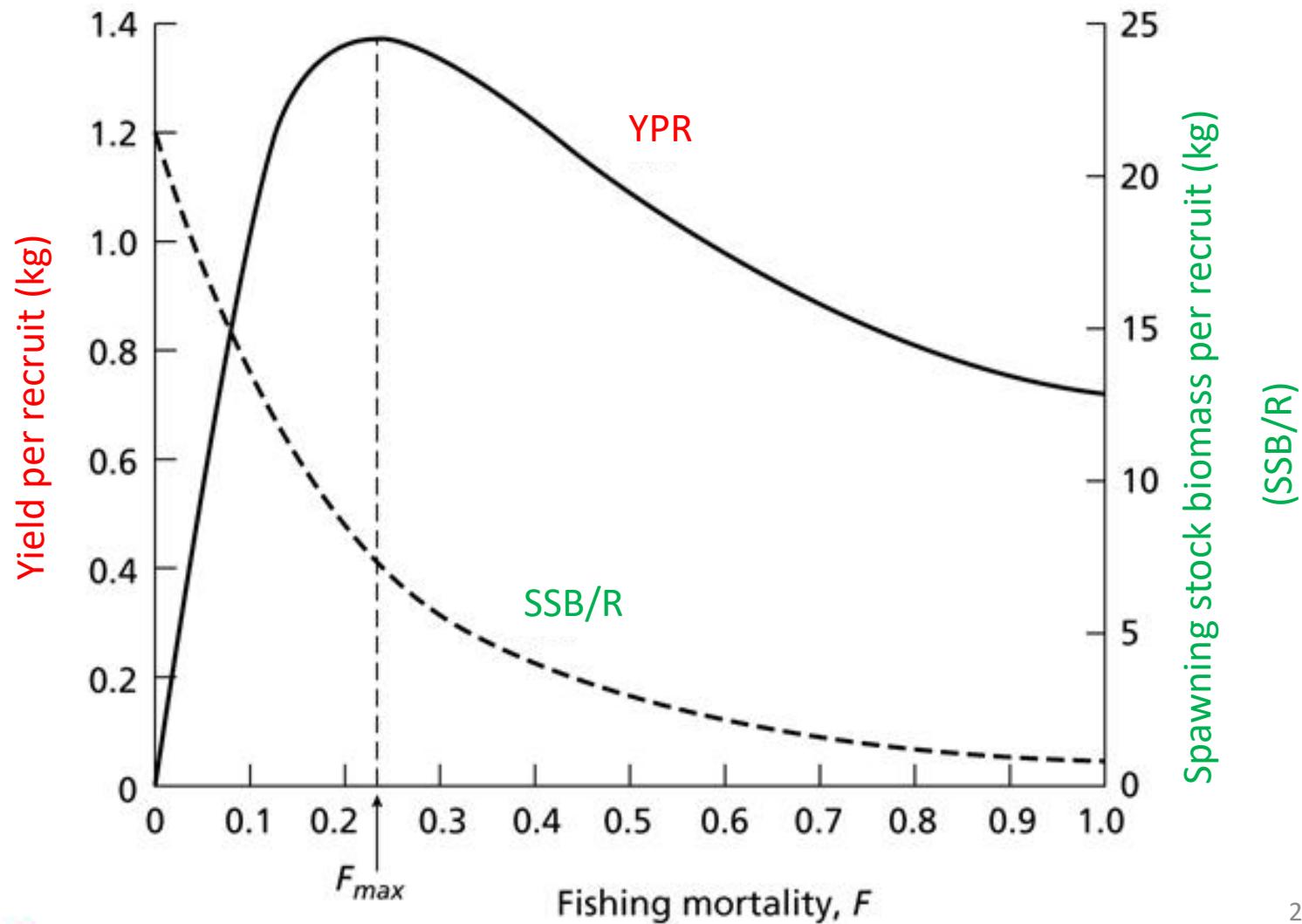
# Limitations of SPR Models

- Constant assumptions
- Equilibrium conditions
  - No density dependence
- Does not contain stock-recruitment assumptions
  - But possible to build this in

# Examples of challenges/problems

- External drivers of populations
  - Environment, Climate, etc.
- Doesn't account for density dependence
- Possible changes as density decreases:
  - Growth rate increases (ie increased  $W$  at age)
  - Earlier maturity
  - Higher fecundity at age (due to size)
  - Smaller egg sizes (due to younger age at maturity)
  - Decreased natural mortality
- How have life history traits changed over the history of the fishery?
  - Traits/schedules now (which we estimate) may be different than virgin population

# Tradeoffs in YPR and SSB/R



# Example

- Walleye YPR and SSBR in Mille Lacs Lake



Schmalz et al. 2016

Color: SSB/R  
Contours: YPR

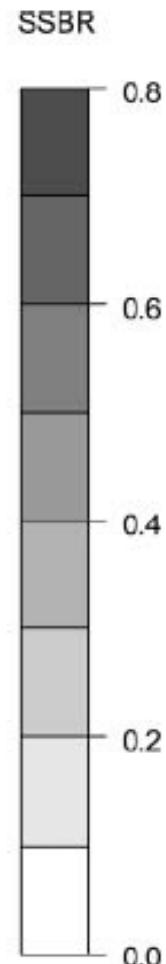


FIGURE 2. Mille Lacs Lake Walleye YPR and SSBR as a function of the age at which 50% selection to the angling fishery occurs, at Full Angling  $F$ . The horizontal dashed line represents the age (3.9 years) where 50% selection results in an SSBR = 0.3 at a median  $F = 0.4$ , as estimated from the SCAA model. The vertical dashed lines represent low  $F = 0.2$  (10th percentile of SCAA-estimated  $F$ ) and high  $F = 0.75$  (90th percentile of SCAA-estimated  $F$ ). 21

# Summary – SSB/R

$$SSB / R = \sum_a Mat_a W_a e^{\sum_{j=\min a}^a -Z_j}$$

- SSB/R models
  - Examples of “spawning per recruit” models → but they look at different measures of spawning
  - Typically expressed as ratio of fished to unfished values
  - Definitions/concepts to know: **SSB/R, SPR, MSP, recruitment overfishing**
- SSB/R models account for:
  - age-structure
  - growth, mortality, maturity
- Don’t account for:
  - Recruitment, changes in growth/mortality/maturity schedules, or density dependence
- Provide info and reference points for management
  - Deals with **recruitment overfishing**
  - $F_{x\%}$  (e.g.,  $F_{35\%}$  and  $F_{40\%}$ )
  - Often used as a proxy for  $F_{MSY}$  (b/c don’t need S-R relationship)
  - Info on best age at first capture
  - These methods can also be modified to calculate eggs per recruit (EPR)

# Estimating mortality

*Supplemental* Readings:

Millar 2015 (CJFAS)

Kenchington 2014 (Fish and Fisheries)

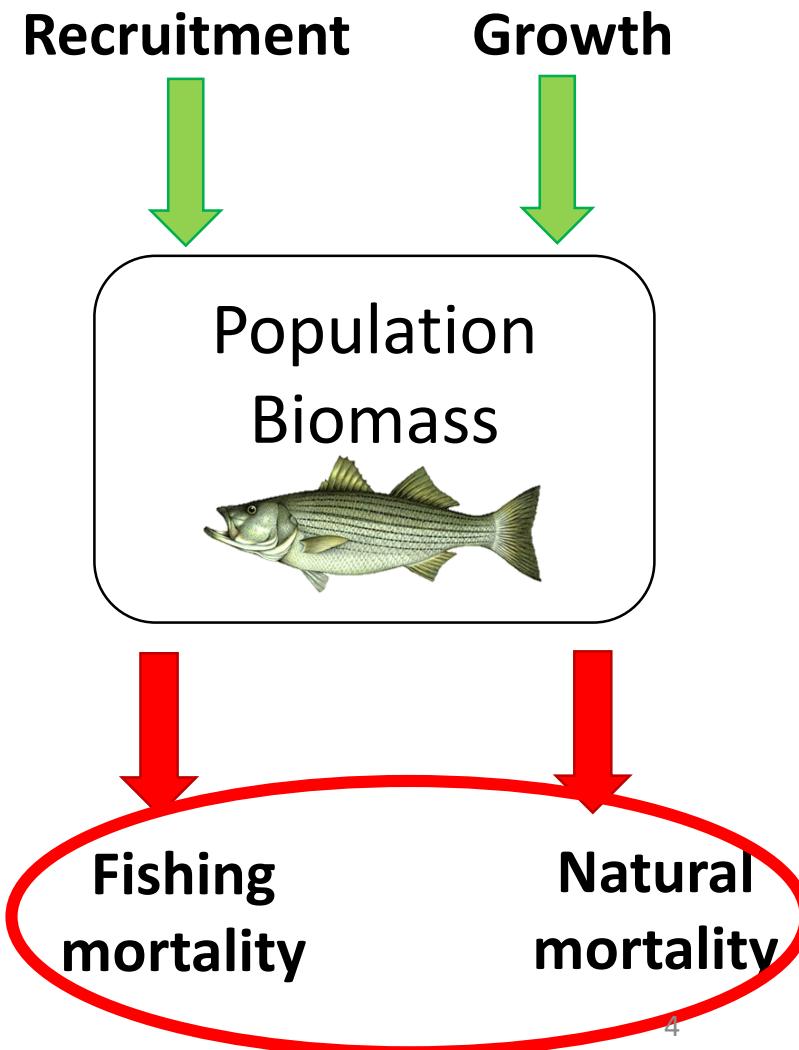
# Announcements

- **Grad students, please review the requirements for your project (see canvas)**
  - will discuss on Friday
  - Synopsis Due: March 18

# Mortality

## Sources of mortality

- Exploitation
- Predation
- Disease
- Starvation
- Senescence
- Grouped into fishing and natural mortality

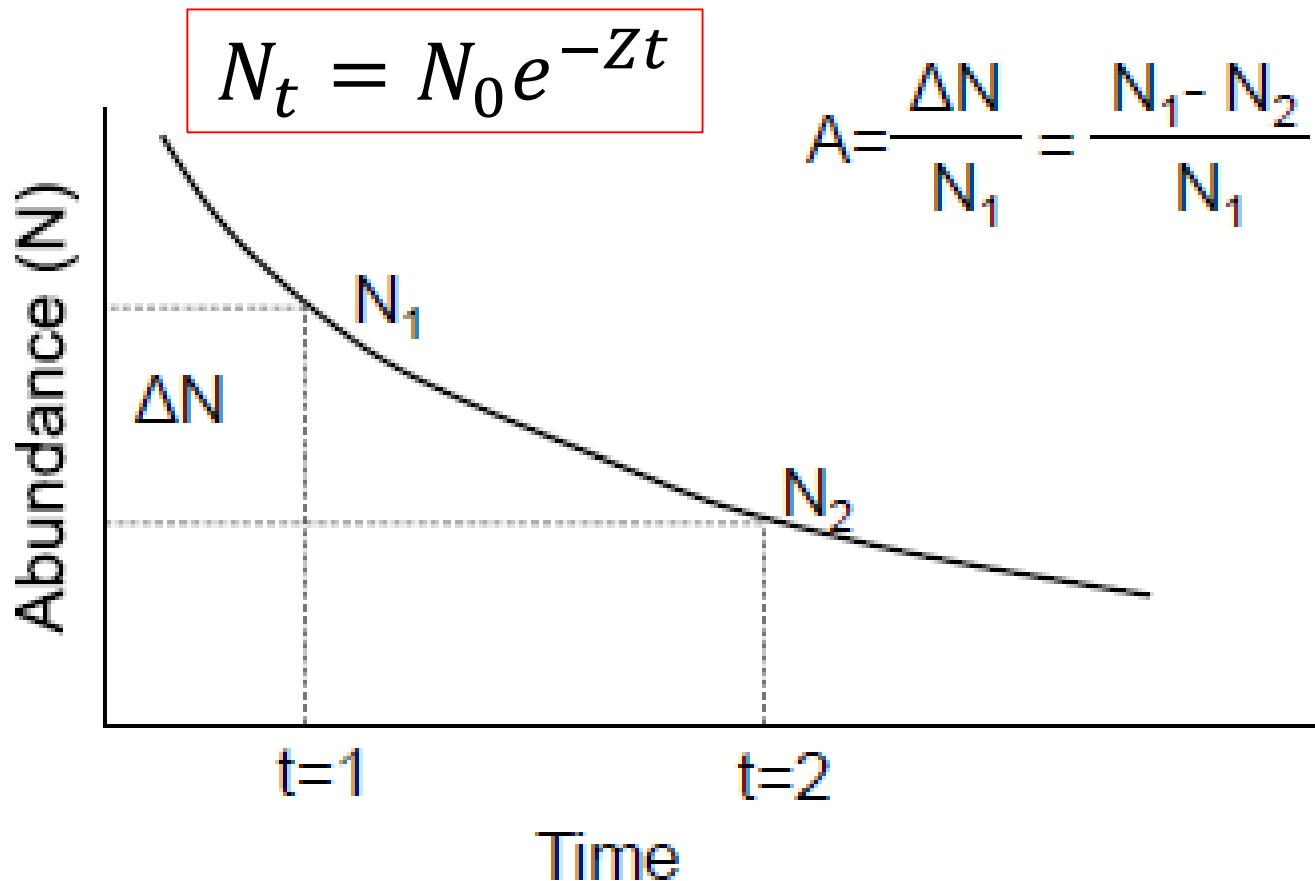




"MY PARENTS DIED. THEIR PARENTS DIED. THEIR PARENTS DIED...  
IT RUNS IN THE FAMILY."

# Exponential mortality model

- Assume exponential decline in abundance over time (ie, constant proportional change)



How to estimate total  
instantaneous mortality  $Z$ ?

# How to estimate Z?

1. Catch curve and related methods ← **Will focus on this**
2. Length-based estimators
3. Mark-recapture
4. Population models (or two population size estimates)

# How to estimate Z?

## 1. Catch curve and related methods

- Basic catch curve
  - Cohort or year-specific method
- Related methods:
  - Chapman and Robson 1960
  - Maceina and Bettoli 1998
  - Mixed-effects Poisson log-linear model (Millar 2015)

# 1. Catch curve method

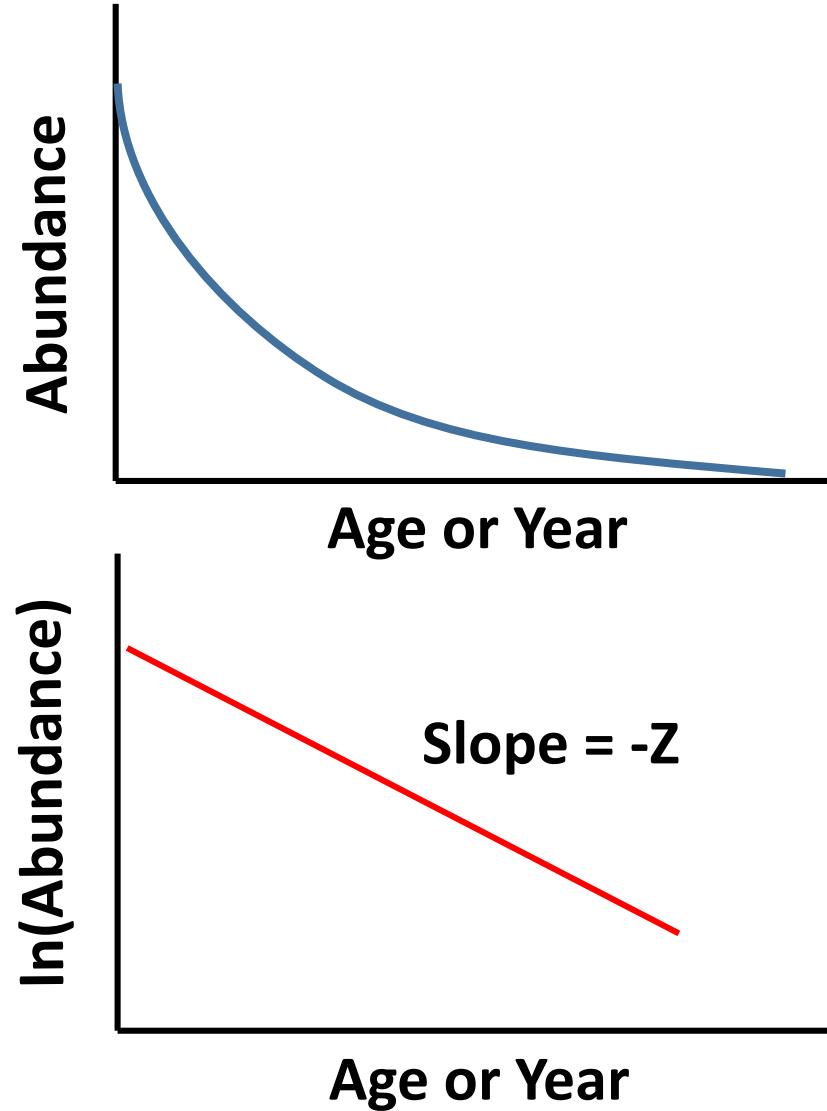
- General idea
  - Look at changes in relative abundance
  - Requires catch-at-age data
  - Linearize exponential mortality model

$$N_t = N_0 e^{-Zt} e^{\varepsilon_t}$$

↓ Log transform

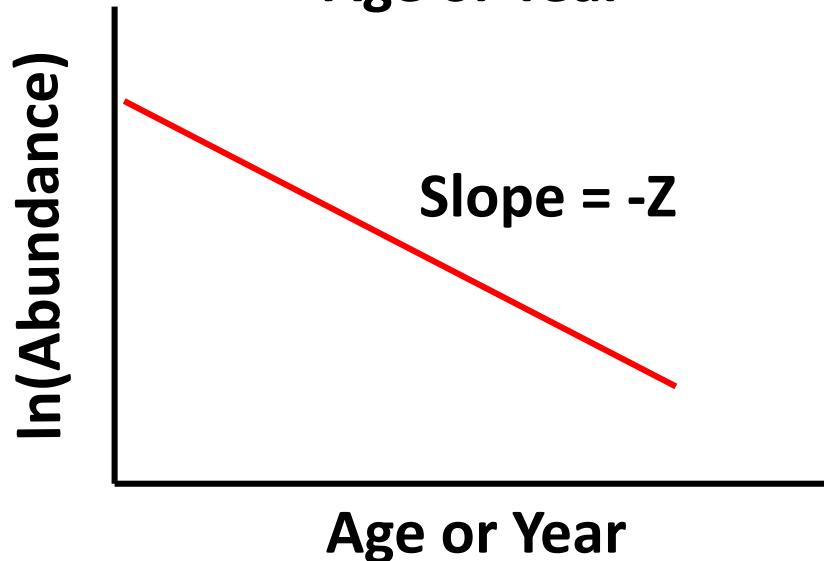
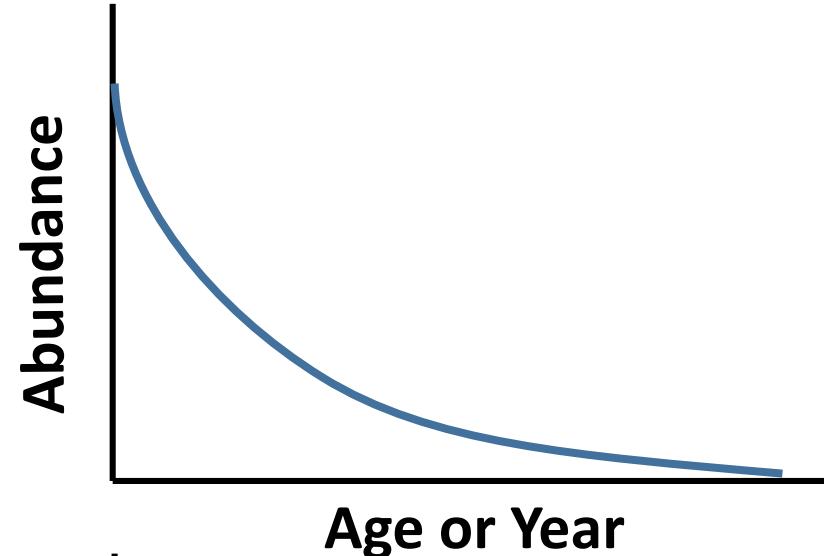
$$\ln(N_t) = \ln(N_0) - Zt + \varepsilon_t$$

Note inclusion of error term



# 1. Catch curve method

- 2 options:
  - Cohort-specific: Track cohort abundance through time
  - Year-specific: Look at age distribution snapshot in 1 year

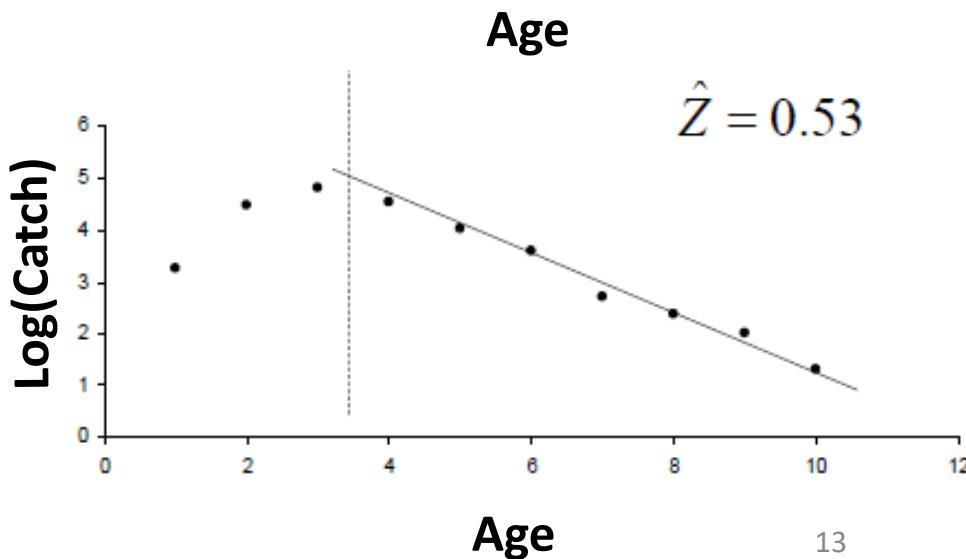
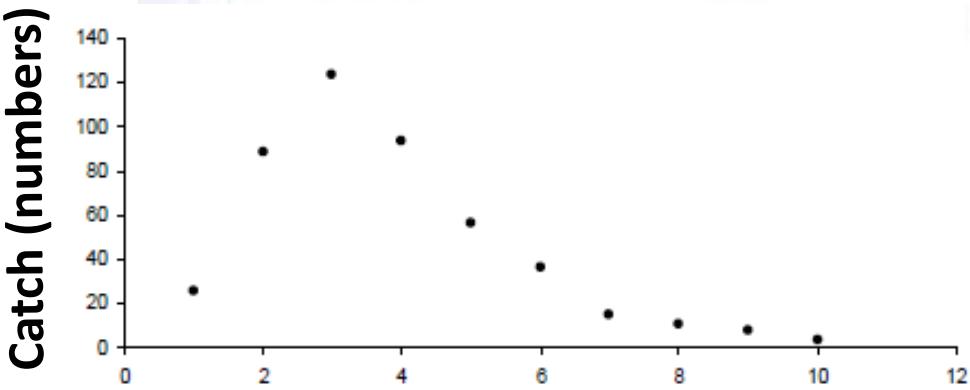
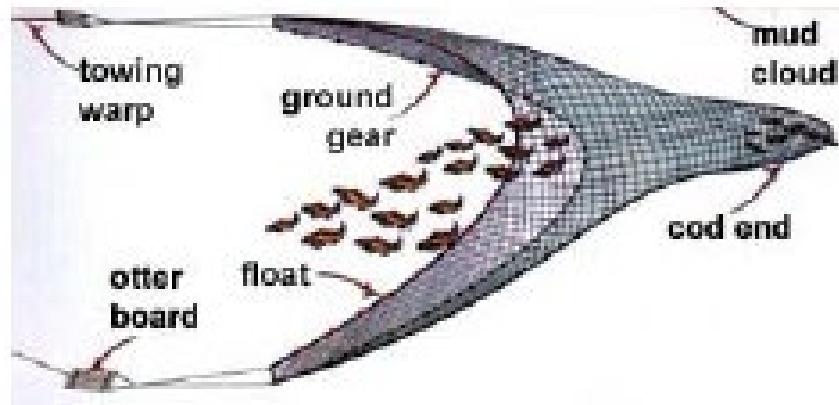


# Cohort vs. year specific

| Year | Ages |     |      |      |     |    |    | Year |
|------|------|-----|------|------|-----|----|----|------|
|      | 3    | 4   | 5    | 6    | 7   | 8  | 9  |      |
| 1978 | 13   | 129 | 646  | 954  | 99  | 19 | 4  |      |
| 1979 | 19   | 169 | 416  | 1031 | 243 | 47 | 18 |      |
| 1980 | 40   | 354 | 606  | 479  | 152 | 18 | 7  |      |
| 1981 | 32   | 606 | 1424 | 844  | 157 | 23 | 17 |      |
| 1982 | 0    | 226 | 1178 | 1156 | 116 | 16 | 5  |      |
| 1983 | 2    | 165 | 593  | 982  | 428 | 22 | 11 |      |
| 1984 | 53   | 209 | 560  | 410  | 30  | 1  | 4  |      |
| 1985 | 0    | 105 | 674  | 446  | 16  | 2  | 2  |      |
| 1986 | 46   | 422 | 838  | 726  | 70  | 4  | 4  |      |
| 1987 | 3    | 310 | 1224 | 1068 | 65  | 0  | 0  |      |
| 1988 | 14   | 354 | 1264 | 1172 | 69  | 0  | 6  |      |
| 1989 | 6    | 429 | 1222 | 1067 | 192 | 0  | 0  |      |

# Approach

1. Log transform abundance index data
  - Or use catch-at-age from fisheries data
2. Plot log(catch) vs. age
3. Select the first “fully selected age”
  - Typically the peak or next value
4. Fit regression using selected ages
  - Ie, use first fully selected age and older



# Examples

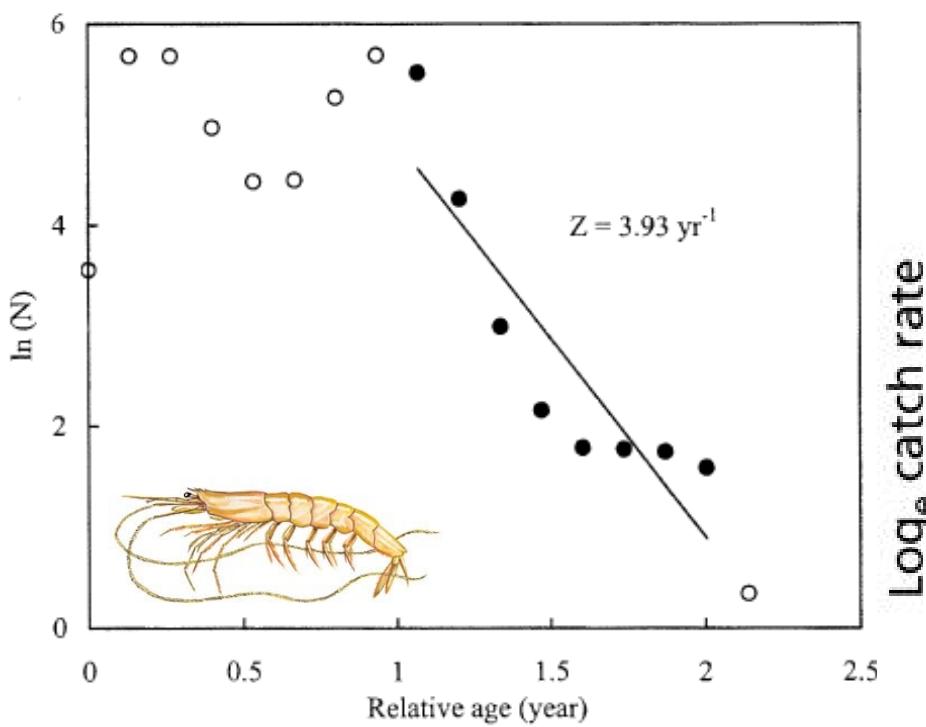
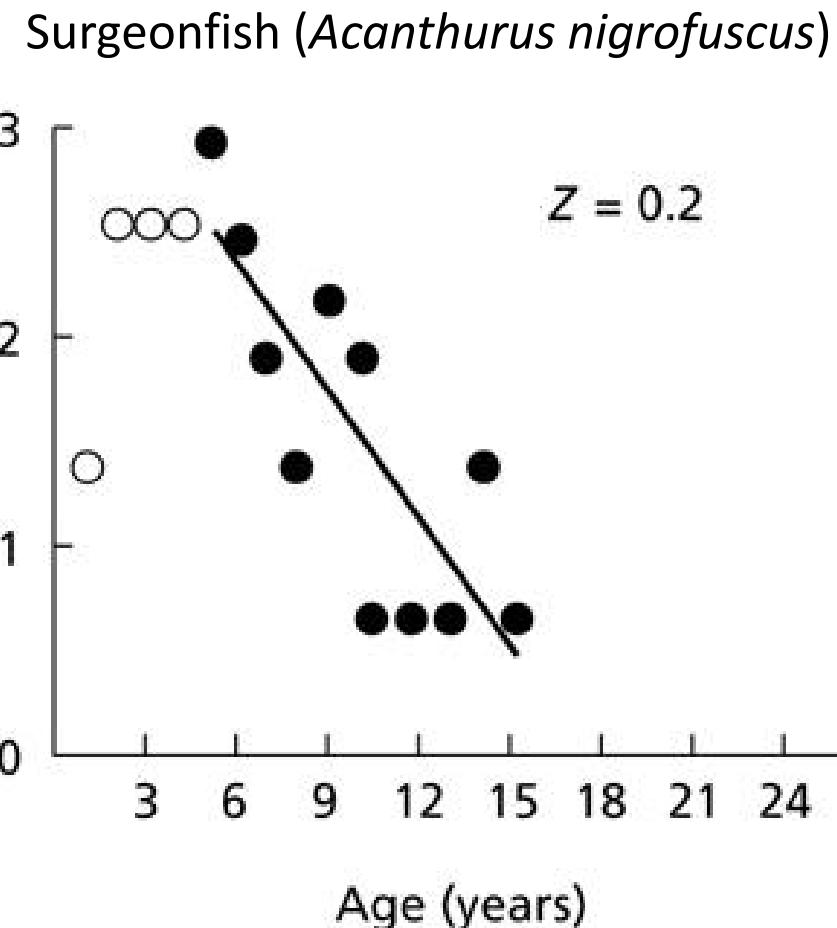


Fig. 9. Length-converted catch curve of *Acetes chinensis* based on length-frequency data during the study periods. The darkened circles represent the points used in estimating  $Z$  through regression analysis. The open circles represent points either not fully recruited or nearing  $L_\infty$ , hence discarded from the calculation.

Oh and Jeong J Crust Bio 2003

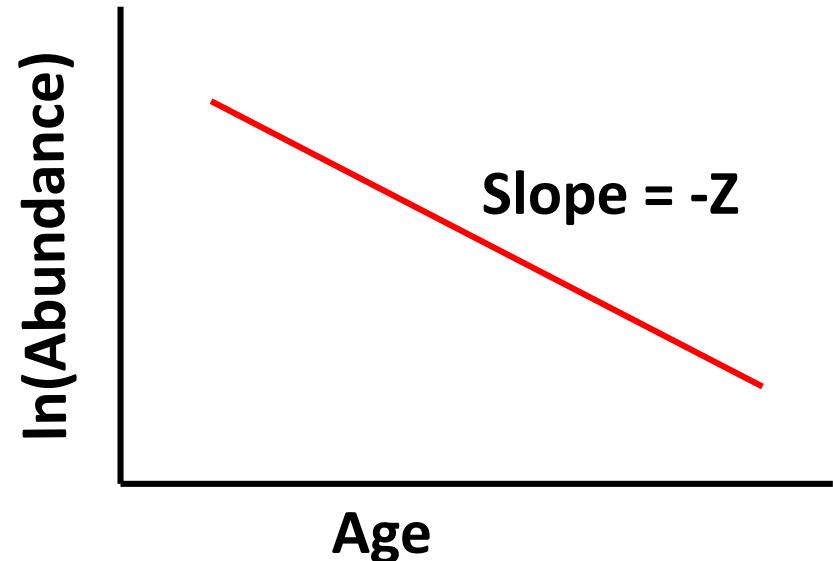


Hart and Russ 1996  
(in Jennings et al. 2001)

# 1. Catch curve method

## Assumptions

- cohort-specific
  - No errors in ages estimates
  - Constant mortality in all years and age classes
  - Constant catchability, or vulnerability to gear, over ages and years
- Year-specific
  - Constant recruitment
  - (rest are same as above)



| Year | Ages |     |      |      |     |    |    |
|------|------|-----|------|------|-----|----|----|
|      | 3    | 4   | 5    | 6    | 7   | 8  | 9  |
| 1978 | 13   | 129 | 646  | 954  | 99  | 19 | 4  |
| 1979 | 19   | 189 | 418  | 1031 | 243 | 47 | 18 |
| 1980 | 40   | 354 | 606  | 479  | 152 | 18 | 7  |
| 1981 | 32   | 606 | 1424 | 644  | 157 | 23 | 17 |
| 1982 | 0    | 226 | 1178 | 1156 | 116 | 16 | 5  |
| 1983 | 2    | 185 | 593  | 982  | 428 | 22 | 11 |
| 1984 | 53   | 209 | 580  | 410  | 30  | 1  | 4  |
| 1985 | 0    | 105 | 674  | 446  | 16  | 2  | 2  |
| 1986 | 46   | 422 | 838  | 726  | 70  | 4  | 4  |
| 1987 | 3    | 310 | 1224 | 1068 | 65  | 0  | 0  |
| 1988 | 14   | 354 | 1264 | 1172 | 69  | 0  | 6  |
| 1989 | 6    | 429 | 1222 | 1067 | 192 | 0  | 0  |

If recruitment is not constant, what type of pattern would be most problematic?

# Advantages/disadvantages of each approach

- Cohort-specific
  - PRO: No need to assume constant recruitment
  - PRO: Allows estimation of mortality rates for individual cohorts
  - CON: many years of data needed
  - CON: It is in the past
- Year-specific
  - PRO: Only one year of data is needed
  - PRO: Represents what is occurring in recent time
  - CON: Need to assume constant recruitment

# Other catch-curve-like methods

- Chapman and Robson 1960
- Weighted regression (Maceina and Bettoli 1998)
- Mixed-effects Poisson log-linear model (Millar 2015)
- Modifications
  - E.g., logistic selectivity & age-specific M (Thorson and Prager 2011)

# Chapman & Robson (CR) method

Extra

- Uses mean age, age at full selection, and the number of samples (above the age of full selection)

$$\hat{S} = \frac{\bar{a} - a_r}{a_r - \bar{a} + \frac{n-1}{n}}$$
$$\hat{Z} = -\log(\hat{S})$$

- $\hat{S}$  is survival
  - $a_r$  is the age at full selection
  - $\bar{a}$  is the mean age of the sample
  - $n$  is the sample size
- Notes:
    - assumes duration of life follows a geometric distribution
    - Variance estimate should be corrected for bias from overdispersion

How is the numerator reflective of survival?

# Weighted linear regression (Maceina and Bettoli 1998)

- Two-step process
- 1) do the normal regression estimate (i.e., catch curve)
- 2) Use the estimated  $\log(C_a)$  values from the first regression to do a weighted regression
  - Essentially, this is an *ad hoc* method to give higher weight to ages with higher abundances

# Mixed effects Poisson Model

- Uses GLMM (generalized, linear, mixed-effects model) and maximum likelihood
- Builds in recruitment variability using a random intercept
- Assumes a Poisson distribution with log link

# Recommendations for catch-curve-like methods

- For year-specific approach (ie “cross-sectional”)
  - Basic catch curve should not be used
  - Smith et al. 2012 (TAFS) recommended the Chapman Robson method corrected for overdispersion
    - Use: age of max catch + 1 as the lower age limit
  - Millar 2015 recommended Poisson GLMM

## 2. Length-based estimators for Z

- Use length as a proxy for age
- When is this useful?
- Resources:
  - Reviews:
    - Hoenig et al. 1983;
    - Shepherd and Breen 1992
  - Examples:
    - Beverton and Holt 1957; Ehrhardt and Ault 1992; Gedamke and Hoenig 2006; Then et al. 2015

## 2. Length-based estimators for Z

- Example: Beverton and Holt (1957)
  - Assumptions: Von Bert growth; knife edge selectivity at  $L_c$ ; constant mortality

$$Z = K \frac{L_{inf} - \bar{L}}{\bar{L} - L_c}$$

- $K$  &  $L_{inf}$  from von Bertalanffy model;
- $\bar{L}$  is mean length in sample
- $L_c$  is length at first capture

# How to estimate Z?

1. Catch curve method
2. Length-based estimators
3. Mark-recapture
  - Estimate disappearance of marked individuals over time
  - Need multiple detection events
  - Assume survival of marked individuals = survival of unmarked individuals
  - *Future lecture...*
4. Population models
  - Survival =  $N_{t+1}/N_t$  (if no recruitment)
  - *Future lectures on stock assessment models...*

# Estimating instantaneous natural mortality ( $M$ )

# Estimating natural mortality (M)

1. Catch curve analysis ←
  2. Length-based estimators
  3. Mark recapture methods
  4. Life-history methods (empirical methods) ←
  5. Population models (Multispecies VPA)
  6. Pope's derivation
- Will focus  
on this

# Estimating natural mortality

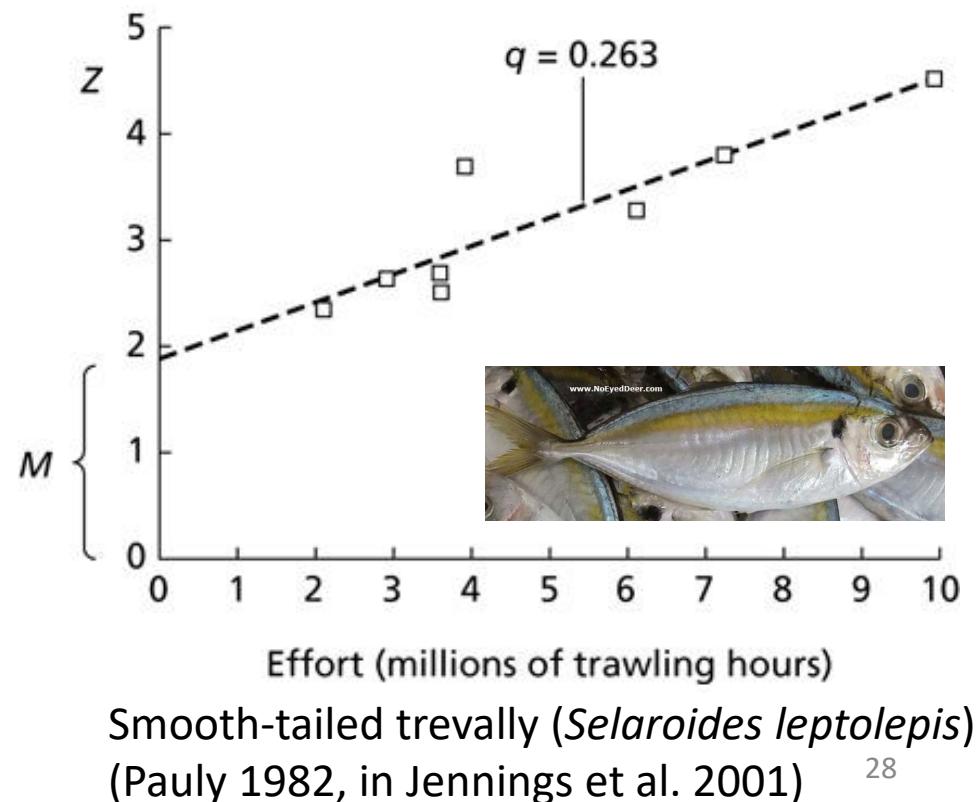
## 1. Catch curve analysis

- A. Catch curve on population with no fishing
  - Restricted applicability given our interest in fishing
- B. Use relationship of  $Z$  to fishing effort ( $E$ )

$$Z = M + F \quad F = qE$$

$$Z = M + qE$$

- $M$ =natural mortality (y intercept)
- $q$ =catchability coefficient
- $E$ =fishing effort
- Requires wide range of fishing effort



# Estimating natural mortality

## 2. Length based estimators

- Good for data-limited fisheries
- Use estimates of  $Z$  (as described before) and  $F$  to get  $M$
- See Hoenig et al. 1983; Shepherd and Breen 1992

# Estimating natural mortality

## 3. Mark-recapture

- Estimate disappearance of marked individuals over time
- Need multiple detection events
- Assume survival of marked individuals = survival of unmarked individuals
- Partition total mortality into fishing and natural
- *Future lecture...*

# Estimating natural mortality

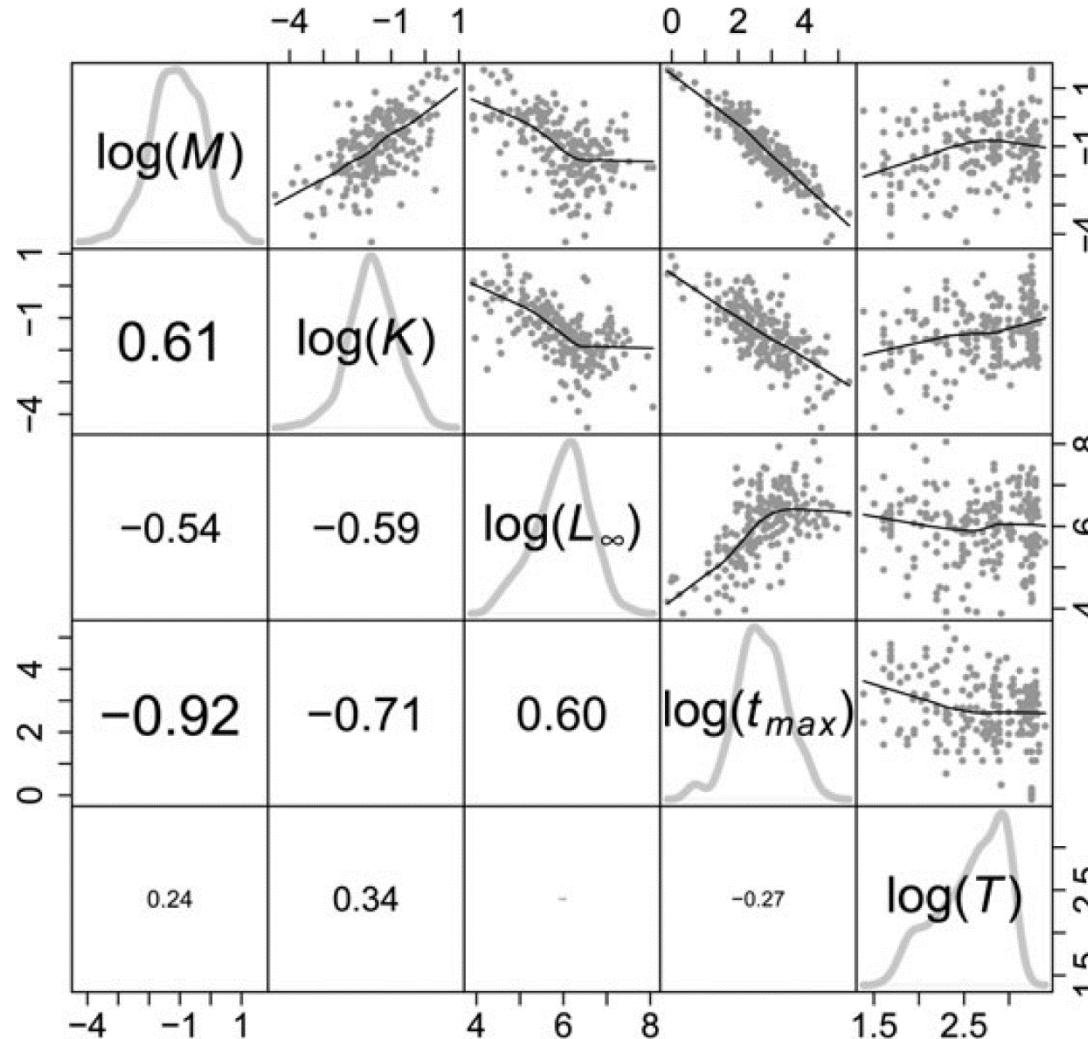
## 4. Use empirical estimators

What life history parameters do you think would be related to M?

Draw how you think M is related to:

- K (from von Bertalanffy model),
- Linf (from von Bert model; asymptotic max length)
- Max Age ( $t_{\max}$ ),
- mean temperature (T)

Figure 1. Scatterplot of pairs of log-transformed variables in the upper half of the panel, with LOWESS smooths. (>200 M estimates)



# Estimating natural mortality

## 4. Use empirical estimators

- Often used for information limited fisheries
- M related to life history parameters (e.g., K, Linf, mean Temp)
  - [www.Fishbase.org](http://www.Fishbase.org) is a great source of values!
- At least 30 equations proposed!
- 2 of the more robust models:
  - **Pauly 1980:**

$$\ln(M) = -0.0152 - 0.279 \ln(Linf) + 0.6543 \ln(K) + 0.4634 \ln(T)$$

- **Jensen 1996**

$$M = 1.5K$$

# Sidenote: Size/Age-specific M

- Many empirical relationships developed.
- Decent examples:
  - Lorenzen 1996

$$M_w = 3.00w^{-0.288}$$

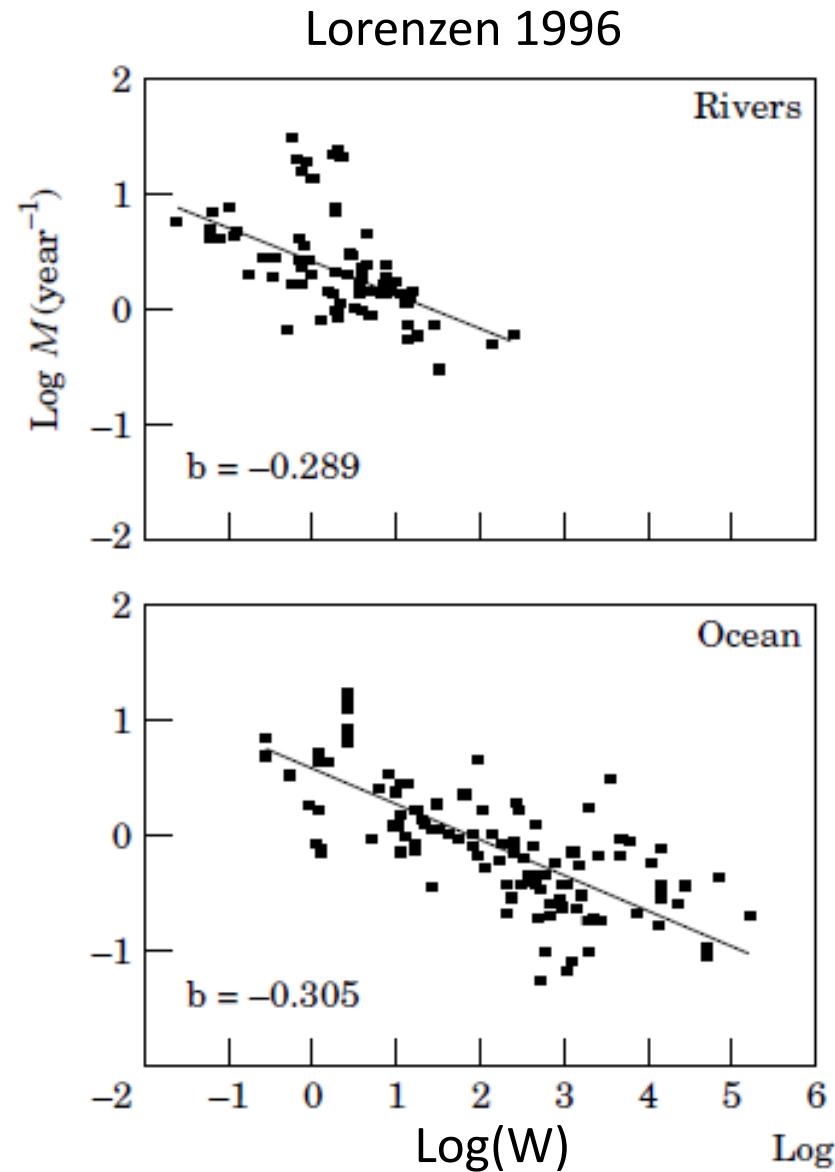
- Gislason et al. 2010

$$M_l = 1.73l^{-1.61}L_{\infty}^{1.44}K$$

- Charnov et al. 2012

$$M_l = K \left( \frac{l}{L_{\infty}} \right)^{-1.5}$$

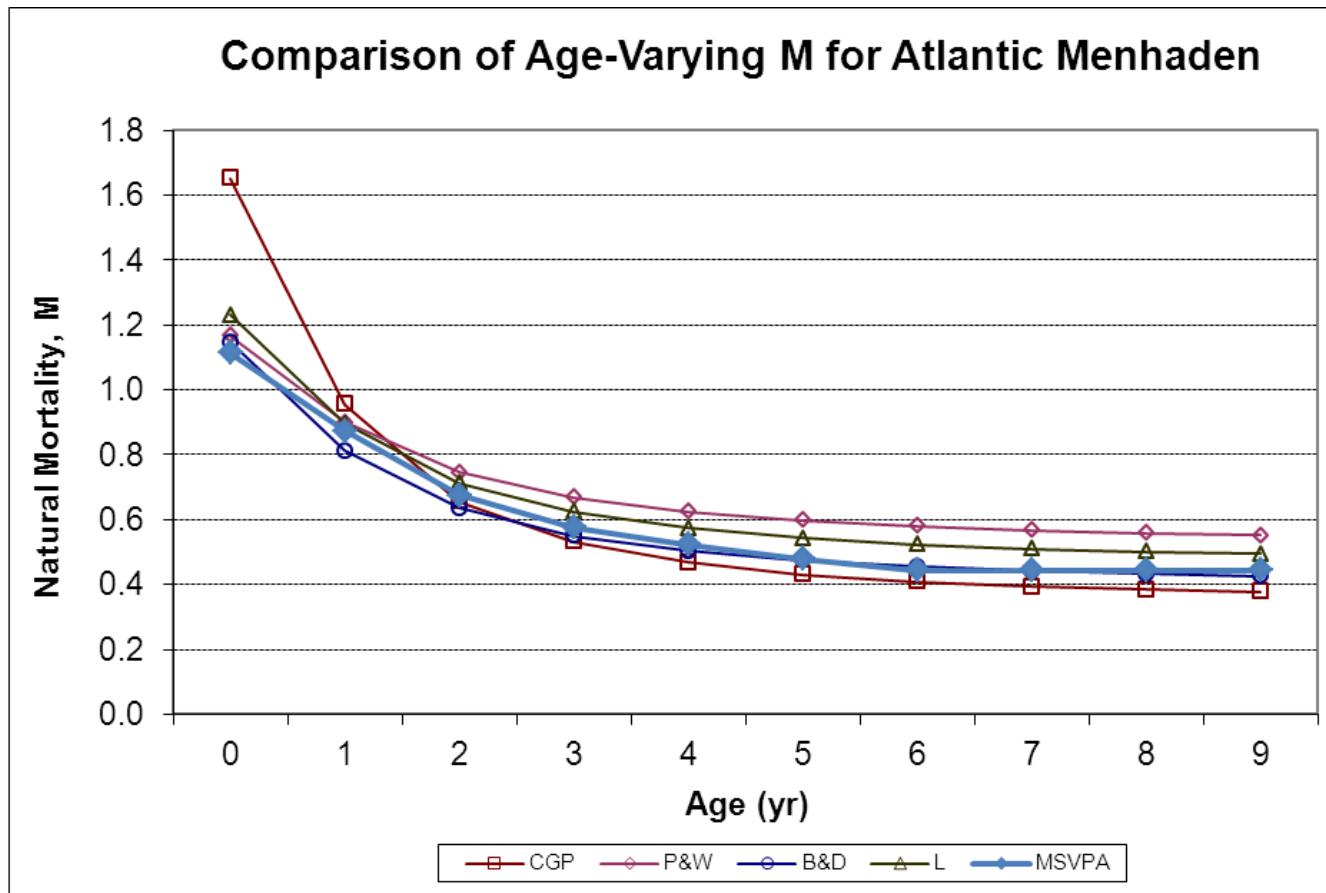
$M_w$  = M at weight,  $w$   
 $M_l$  = M at length,  $l$   
 $L_{\infty}$ ,  $K$  = Von Bert parms



# Sidenote: Size/Age-specific M

- Example

- More realistic biologically, but hard to estimate accurately
- Can scale to other mortality estimates (e.g., tagging-based)



# Estimating natural mortality

## 5. Population Models

- Multispecies models (e.g., MS VPA)
  - Multispecies models account for consumption by predator species
  - Use this info to estimate predation mortality
    - *Future lecture(s)*
- Estimate M within stock assessment (or ecosystem) models
- Comments
  - Data intensive
  - Can be controversial given uncertainties

# Estimating natural mortality

## 6. Pope's Derivation

- Many models just assume  $M=0.2$  if no other info available
- Not ideal, but common
- Note: this is NOT an “estimate” of  $M$ ... just an assumption

The evolution of  $M = .2$

$M = ?$

? → ? → ? → ? → ? → .2

# Summary

- Mortality is critical component for population dynamics and management
  - → challenging to estimate precisely
- General approaches for estimating Z or M:
  - (Z or M) **Catch curve** and related methods
    - Know general catch curve process, diff btw cohort & year- specific
    - Chapman/Robson Method or Poisson GLMM recommended (for Z)
    - (M) Regress Z on Effort → intercept=M
  - (Z) Length-based estimators
  - (M) **Life-history methods (meta-analysis)** – for M only
    - Size/length specific estimates possible
  - (Z or M) Mark-recapture (*future lectures*)
  - (Z or M) Population models (*future lectures*)
  - (M) “Pope’s derivation” → many just assume M=0.2 in the absence of other information. Not ideal. Also would not be considered a “estimate of M”.

# Replacement Lines

Reading:

Jennings et al. 2001, section 7.8

*Supplemental:* Mace and Sissenwine 1993

*Supplemental:* Gabriel et al. 1989

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"Hip replacement? He was never hip  
to begin with."



"Tom, we're letting you go, but we'd like you to stay on and train  
your replacement so they know what not to do."

# Background

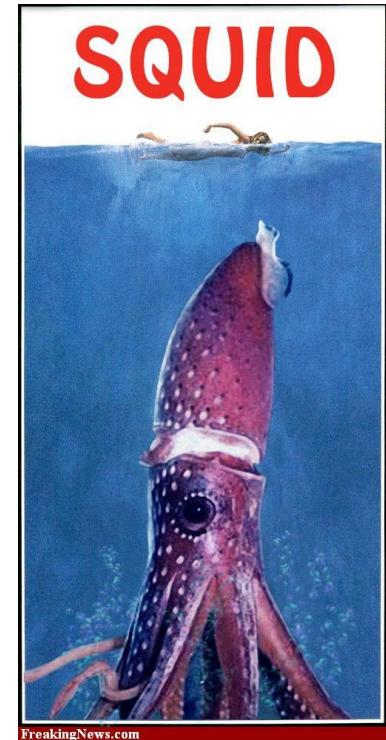
- Dynamic pool models (YPR, SSB/R, EPR) did not account for stock-recruit relationships
- Why is this potentially problematic?

# Background

- **Replacement line** = Line on a stock-recruit plot indicating the amount of recruits per spawner needed to replenish the population on average
  - Semelparous species – can use stock recruit models alone
  - Iteroparous species – combine SSB/R models with stock-recruit models

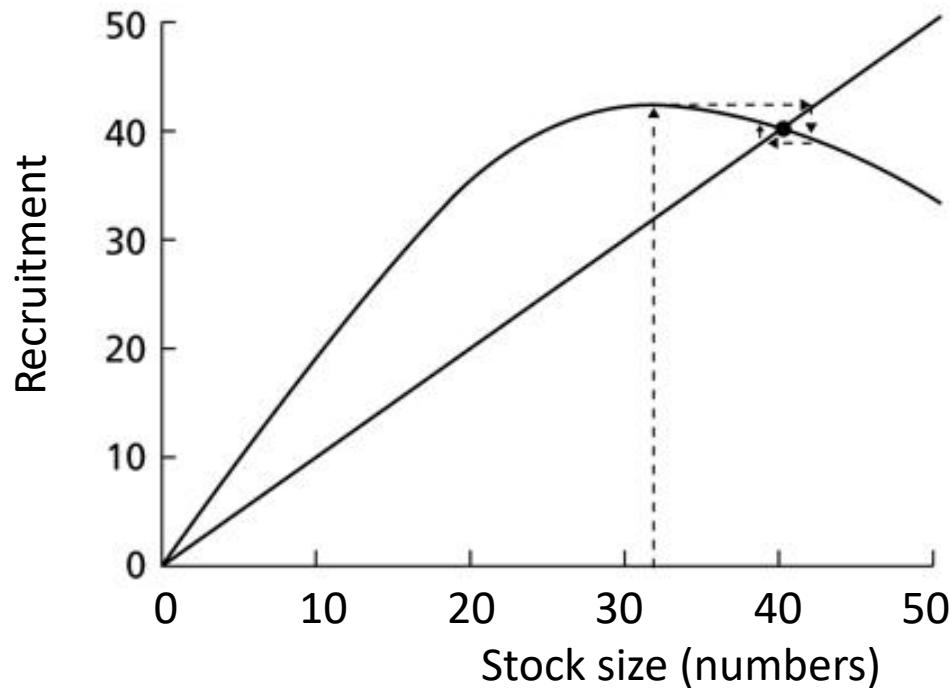
# Example of replacement lines

- **Example:** consider a semelparous species with a life span of 1 year (e.g., squid)
- Draw Ricker Curve with replacement line.  
Discuss:
  - Meaning
  - Equilibrium
  - Effect of fishing on replacement line



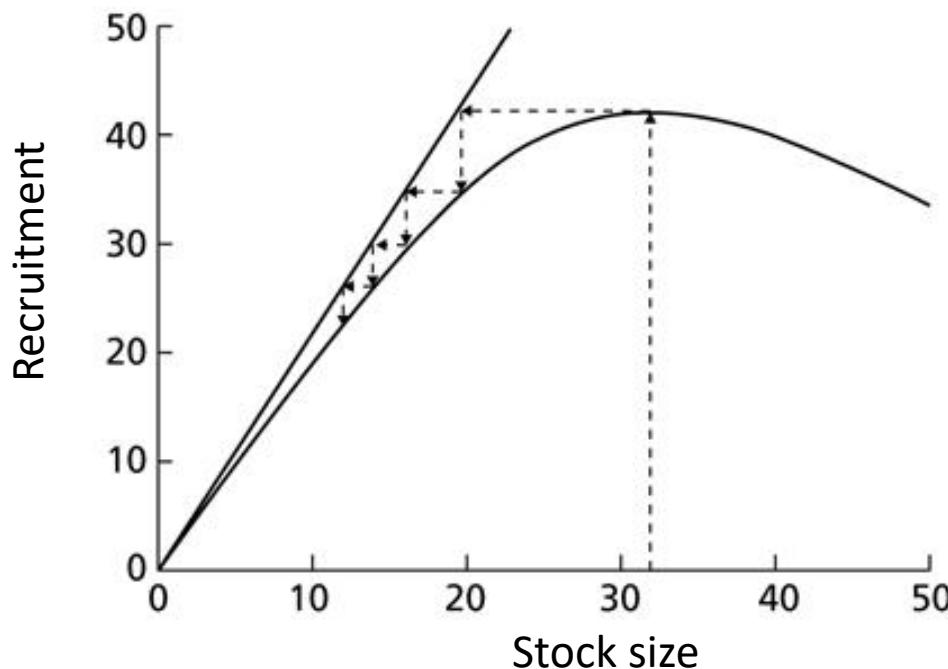
# Example

- Ricker SR model
- 1:1 replacement line
  - 1:1 b/c dealing with annual species; assume all mortality occurs prior to recruitment
- If SR curve is above replacement line, we get a stable equilibrium (at intersection)



# Example

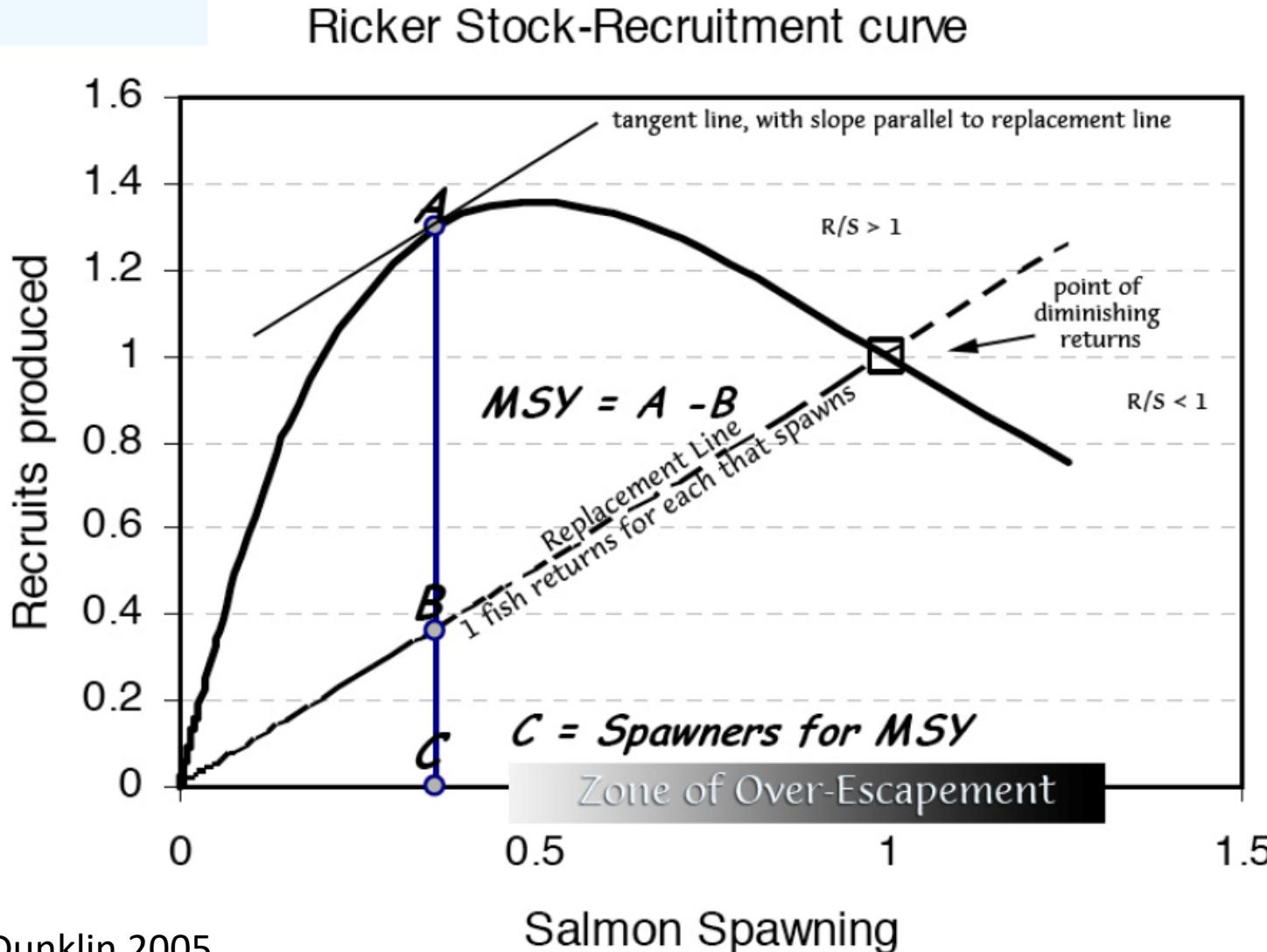
- Steeper replacement line to accommodate fishing
- If SR curve is below the replacement line, population crashes



# Replacement lines and MSY for semelparous species

- Area above the replacement line equates to surplus production
- Use this to calculate MSY from SR models
- Qualifications:
  - Semelparous species only
  - Recruitment is measured after all non-fishing mortality
  - Fixed timing of life cycle (ie non-overlapping generations)
  - Recruitment needs to be adjusted for years at large
- Best example: Pacific salmon
  - Draw a Ricker S-R Model with a replacement line and use that to identify the following values:  $S_{MSY}$ , MSY

# MSY from replacement lines in Stock-Recruitment Models



**Escapement** –  
the number of  
fish that are not  
caught in the  
fishery and  
allowed to  
survive and  
reproduce

# Ricker Model – MSY calculations

- Approximations to estimate MSY reference points from SR parameters
- Side: can use numerical methods to get exact values

$$R = \alpha S e^{-\beta S}$$

$$S_{MSY} \sim \frac{\log_e \alpha}{\beta} (0.5 - 0.07 \log \alpha)$$

$$MSY \sim \alpha S_{MSY} e^{-\beta S_{MSY}} - S_{MSY}$$

$$u_{MSY} \sim 0.5 \log_e \alpha - 0.07 (\log \alpha)^2$$

# Beverton Holt Model – MSY calculations

- Analytic solutions for BH model:  $R = \frac{\alpha S}{\beta + S}$

$$S_{MSY} = \alpha \sqrt{\frac{\beta}{\alpha} - \beta}$$

$$MSY = \frac{\alpha S_{MSY}}{\beta + S_{MSY}} - S_{MSY}$$

$$u_{MSY} = 1 - \sqrt{\frac{\beta}{\alpha}}$$

# Replacement lines for iteroparous species

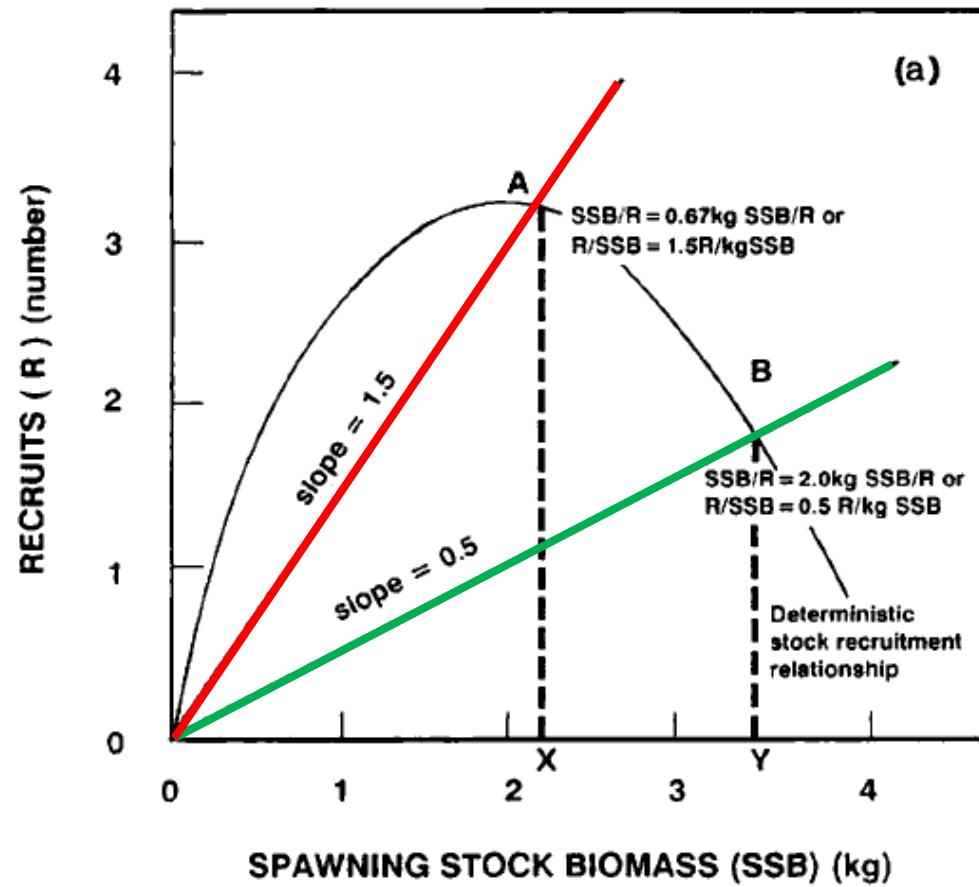
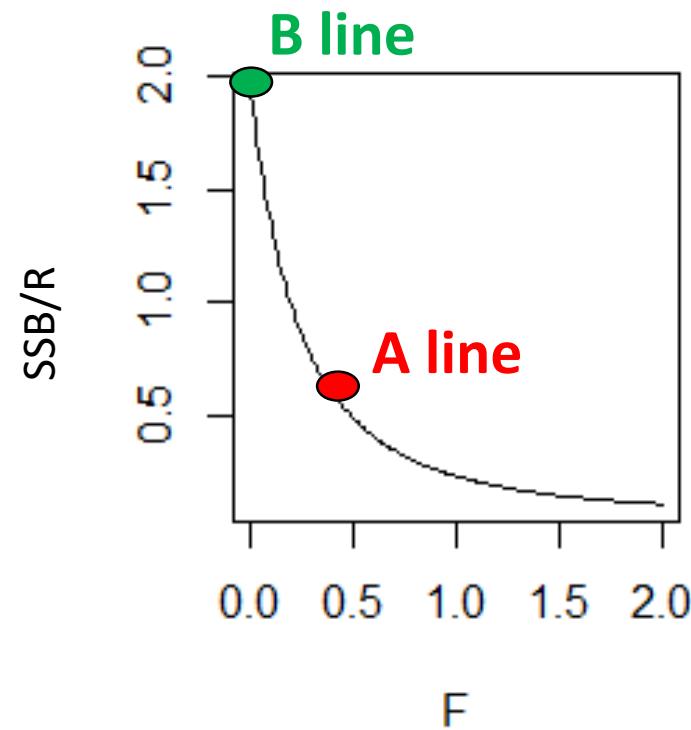
- Challenges determining the replacement line (e.g., iteroparous species):
  - Depends on maturation schedule, longevity, mortality rates
- Need to combine SR model with YPR and SSB/R models
- No easy analytical solution for MSY reference points

# Relating SSB/R and R/SSB

- Select desired **SSB/R** for a given level of fishing
- The inverse (**R/SSB**) is the survival ratio for our stock-recruit model
- **Replacement line** = recruits per spawner needed to replenish the population on average
  - **OR:** line in a stock-recruit plot with a slope equal to the observed average *survival ratio* (R/SSB)

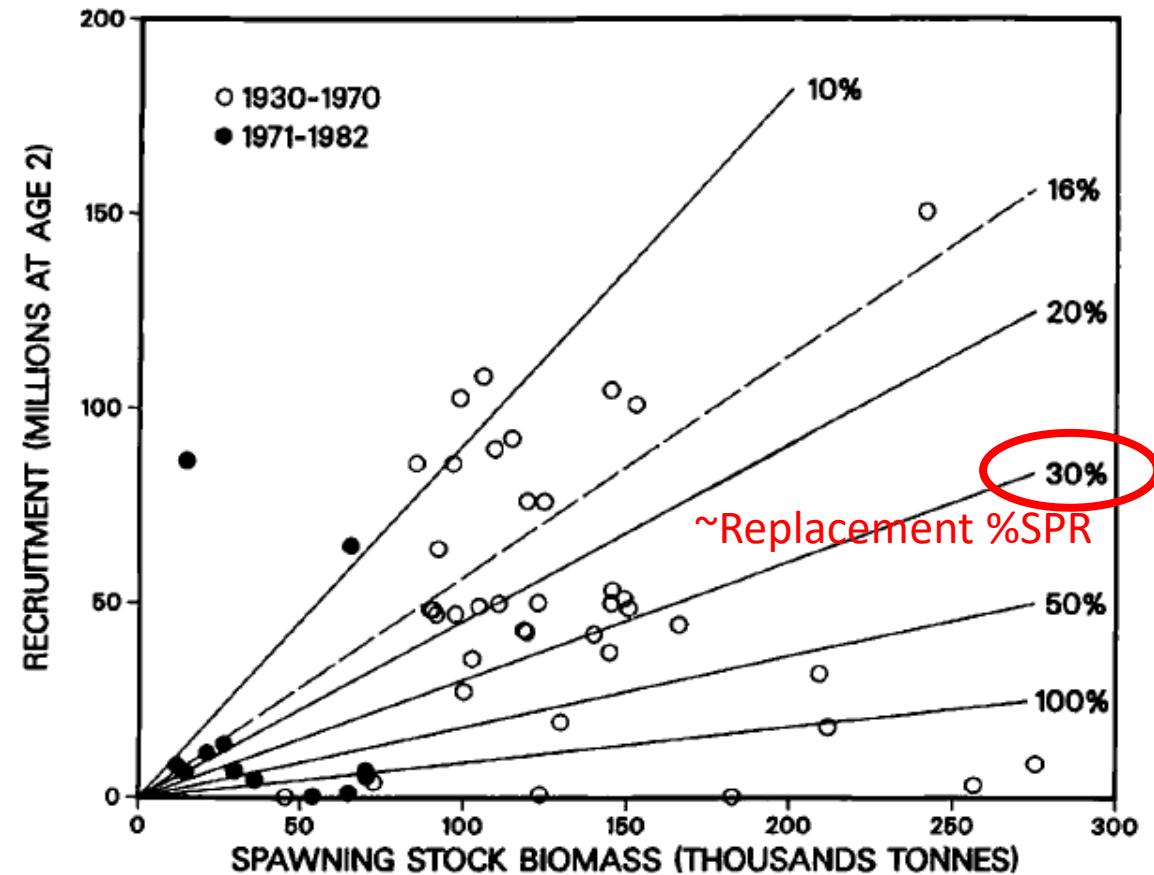
# Relating SSB/R and R/SSB

- Slope on S-R curve depends on the fishing mortality rate
- Slope on S-R = inverse of SSB/R



# Example with real data: haddock

- Replacement lines labeled as % of maximum spawning potential
- Points above a line = R/SSB sufficient to maintain or increase pop (on average)
- One meta-analysis recommend 30%SPR as guide



# Benefits of replacement lines

- Explicitly account for the effect of fishing on future recruitment (ie accounts for stock-recruit relationship)
- Addresses recruitment overfishing
- Can be used to determine biological reference points
  - E.g.,  $F_{MSY}$ ,  $F_{rep}$ , replacement %SPR
  - (Mace and Sissenwine 1993)
- Estimates of MSY are possible:
  - Easier for semelparous species like Pacific salmon
  - For iteroparous species, see Shepherd 1982

# Limitations of replacement lines

- Data limitations
  - S-R models may not fit observed data well
  - narrow range of S
  - imprecise estimates
- Don't account for changes in survival rates (R/S)
  - environmental effects
  - changes through time
- Only accounts for density dependence in production

# Summary – Replacement lines

- **Replacement lines** represent the recruits per spawner needed to replenish a population on average
- Deals with **recruitment overfishing** (know def. from before)
- For semelparous species like Pacific salmon, they can be used with SR model to estimate MSY reference points
  - [know conceptually how to get MSY from stock recruitment model & replacement line]
- For most species, replacement lines can be drawn using SSB/R models in conjunction with Stock-Recruit models
  - Higher fishing → higher slope of replacement line
- Biological reference points for management can be derived from these concepts

# Maximum Likelihood Estimation

Readings:

Haddon 2011 (Section 3.4)

# Announcements

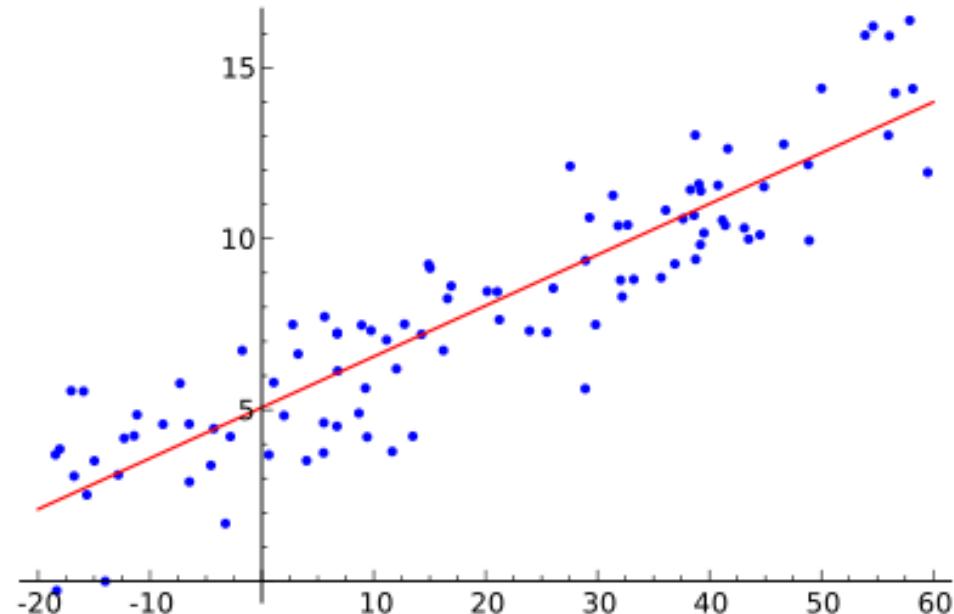
- 558 project synopses → Due Wednesday, 3/18  
(11:59pm)

# How do we fit models to data?

- Least squares (see refresher below)
- Maximum likelihood
- Bayesian methods (not for this class)

$$residual = \varepsilon_i = Y_i - \hat{Y}_i$$

$$RSS = \sum_{i=1}^n (Y_i - \hat{Y}_i)^2$$



# Maximum Likelihood

- Alternative way of fitting models and getting estimates...
- Need a quick review of probability
- Simple intro/explanation:
  - <https://towardsdatascience.com/probability-concepts-explained-maximum-likelihood-estimation-c7b4342fdbb1>

# Probability

# Probability – Frequency View

- Probability is long-run relative frequency (from a random process)
- Same as relative frequency in the population
- Examples
  - Dice toss  $p(1) = p(2) = \dots = p(6) = 1/6$
  - Coin flip  $p(\text{Head}) = p(\text{Tail}) = .5$

# Probability

- Some characteristics

- Between 0 and 1
- Probabilities must be non-negative.
- The sum of probabilities over all possible mutually exclusive outcomes must equal one (e.g., dice)
- If two events, A and B, are mutually exclusive, the probability of observing either of the events is the sum of their individual probabilities.

$$P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B)$$

“Union”

P(A or B)

E.g., what is P(1 or 2) when rolling a die?

**Mutually exclusive:** related in such a way that each thing makes the other thing impossible; not able to be true at the same time or to exist together

# Independence

- **Joint probability** is the probability that two (or more) different events will occur
- Statistical **independence** means that knowledge of one event provides no information about the probability that another event will occur

$$P(A, B) = P(A)P(B)$$

P(A,B) is the same as P(A and B) or P(A ∩ B)



intersection

E.g., what is P(1 and 2) when rolling two die?

# Independence

- We usually assume that observations are in some way independent of one another when we fit models

$$P(y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n) = P(y_1)P(y_2) \dots P(y_n) = \prod_{i=1}^n P(y_i)$$

- E.g., in linear regression, we assume that the errors are independent

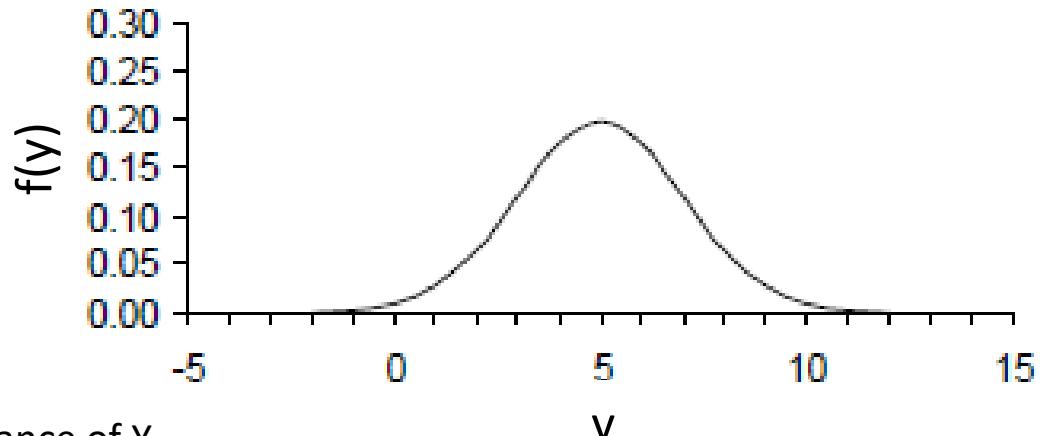
# pdf for the normal distribution

- **Probability density function (pdf)** describes the probability of an event occurring for a *continuous* distribution.
  - The total area under the curve = 1
- The normal distribution is one of the most common pdfs:

$$f(y|\mu, \sigma) = \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-0.5\left(\frac{y-\mu}{\sigma}\right)^2}$$

$$E(Y) = \mu$$

$$Var(Y) = \sigma^2$$



$E(Y)$  – “expected value of Y”;  $Var(Y)$  – variance of Y

# Maximum Likelihood

# Maximum Likelihood Estimation (MLE)

- ML techniques are a powerful and flexible method for parameter estimation
- Alternative to least squares methods
- **This technique involves finding the parameters that maximize the probability of generating the observed data** (this is how we define “best fit” with ML)
- Likelihood  $\neq$  probability



ML - Developed by R. A. Fischer  
(published this while a junior in college!)

# Maximum Likelihood Parameter Estimation

- ML parameter estimates maximize the probability of observing the data
- Reverses the role of parameters and data (compared to probability)
- **Treat the data as fixed and find parameters that maximize the probability of observing those data**

$$L(\text{parameters} \mid \text{data}) = P(\text{data} \mid \text{parameters})$$


Likelihood ( $L$ ) is conditioned on the data

# Likelihood for continuous distributions

- For a continuous distribution, the likelihood is calculated as:

$$L(\theta | Y_i) = \prod_{i=1}^n \text{pdf}(Y_i | \theta)$$

Probability density function  
↑  
Parameters      ↑  
Product      Data

- “the likelihood of the parameter(s)  $\theta$  (theta) is the product of the pdf values for each of the  $n$  observations  $Y_i$  given the parameter(s)  $\theta$ ”

# Example 1 – Normal distribution

- To get probability of whole data set (given parameters):
  - Multiply prob. of each data point together b/c independent
  - $P(y_{\text{all}}) = P(y_1) \times P(y_2) \times \dots \times P(y_n)$
- Use normal PDF for getting probabilities.
- Parameters for normal are  $\mu$  and  $\sigma$ .

$$L(\mu, \sigma | y_i) = \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{\sigma \sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{(y_i - \mu)^2}{\sigma^2} \right)}$$

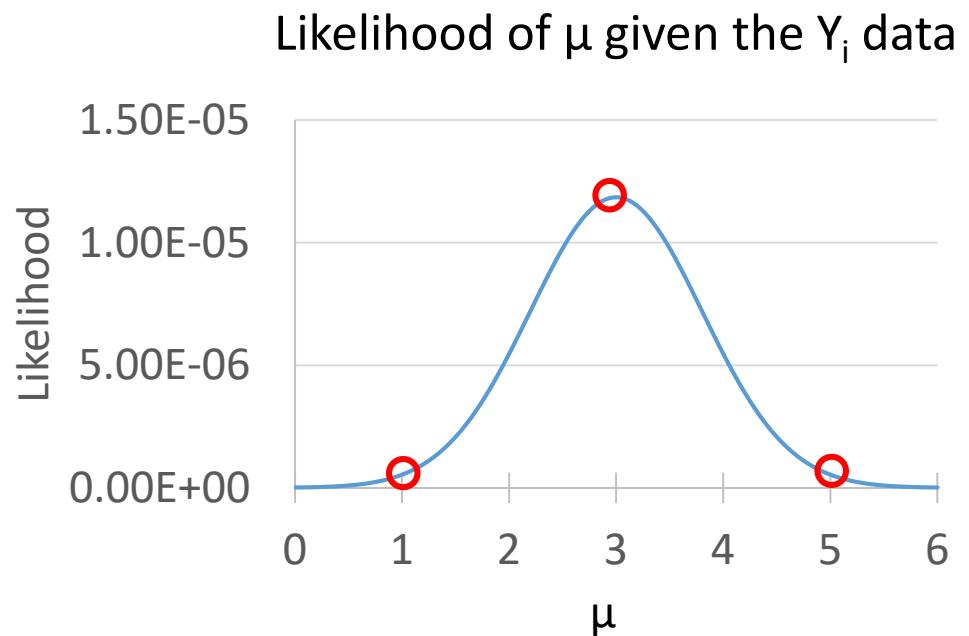
↑  
Parameters      Data ↘

# Maximum Likelihood Example 1

- You take a sample ( $n=4$ ) from a population and you want to estimate the population average ( $\mu$ ) using ML.
- Samples of  $Y_i = 0, 2, 4, 6$
- Calculate  $L$  for different values of  $\mu$  (here, using sample SD as  $\sigma=2.6$ ). Find the value of  $\mu$  that would “maximize the likelihood”.

| $Y_i$      | $P(Y_i   \mu)$ |            |            |
|------------|----------------|------------|------------|
|            | If $\mu=1$     | If $\mu=3$ | If $\mu=5$ |
| 0          | 0.127          | 0.027      | 0.001      |
| 2          | 0.127          | 0.127      | 0.027      |
| 4          | 0.027          | 0.127      | 0.127      |
| 6          | 0.001          | 0.027      | 0.127      |
| $L$        | 5.35E-07       | 1.19E-05   | 5.35E-07   |
| $\log(L)$  | -14.44         | -11.34     | -14.44     |
| $-\log(L)$ | 14.44          | 11.34      | 14.44      |

$$L(\mu, \sigma | y_i) = \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{\sigma \sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{(y_i - \mu)^2}{\sigma^2} \right)} = P(Y_1) \times P(Y_2) \times P(Y_3) \times P(Y_4)$$

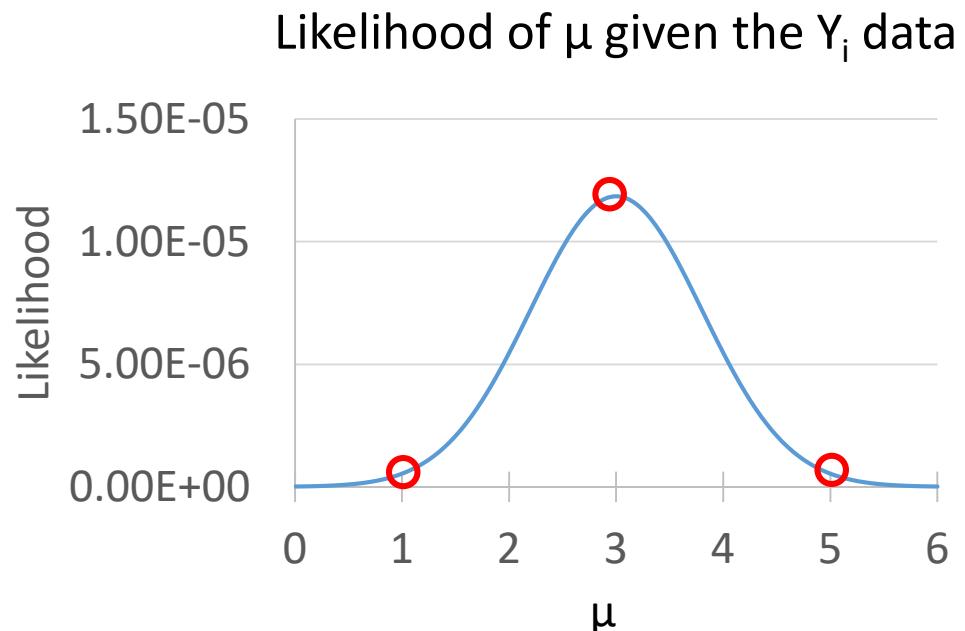


# Maximum Likelihood Example 1

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- Samples of  $Y_i = 0, 2, 4, 6$
- Calculate  $L$  for different values of  $\mu$  (here, using sample SD as  $\sigma=2.6$ ). Find the value of  $\mu$  that would “maximize the likelihood”.

Our ML estimate of  $\mu$  is 3.

- This is the value that maximizes the likelihood on the graph
- note this matches our sample mean ( $\bar{Y} = (0+2+4+6)/4 = 3$ ), which is an unbiased estimator of  $\mu$ .



$$L(\mu, \sigma | y_i) = \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{\sigma \sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{(y_i - \mu)^2}{\sigma^2} \right)} = P(Y_1) \times P(Y_2) \times P(Y_3) \times P(Y_4)$$

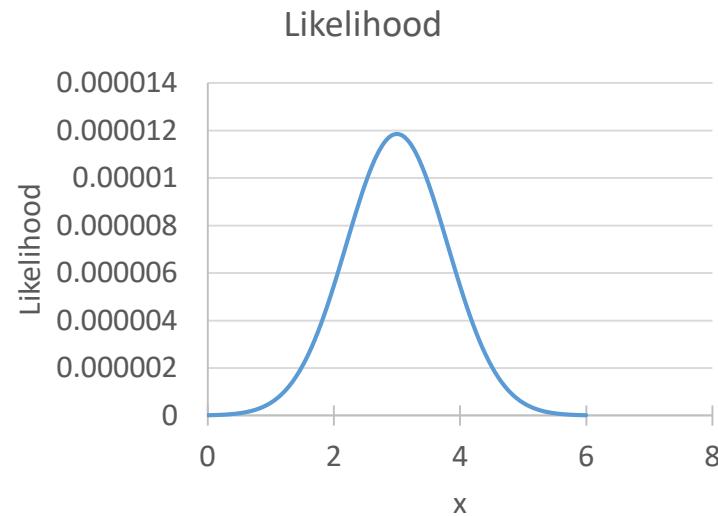
# Properties of Likelihoods

- Likelihoods do not need to sum to one
  - They are NOT probabilities
- Likelihoods are a *relative* (not absolute) measure of model fit
- Calculating products is difficult, so logs are often used

# Likelihood Nomenclature

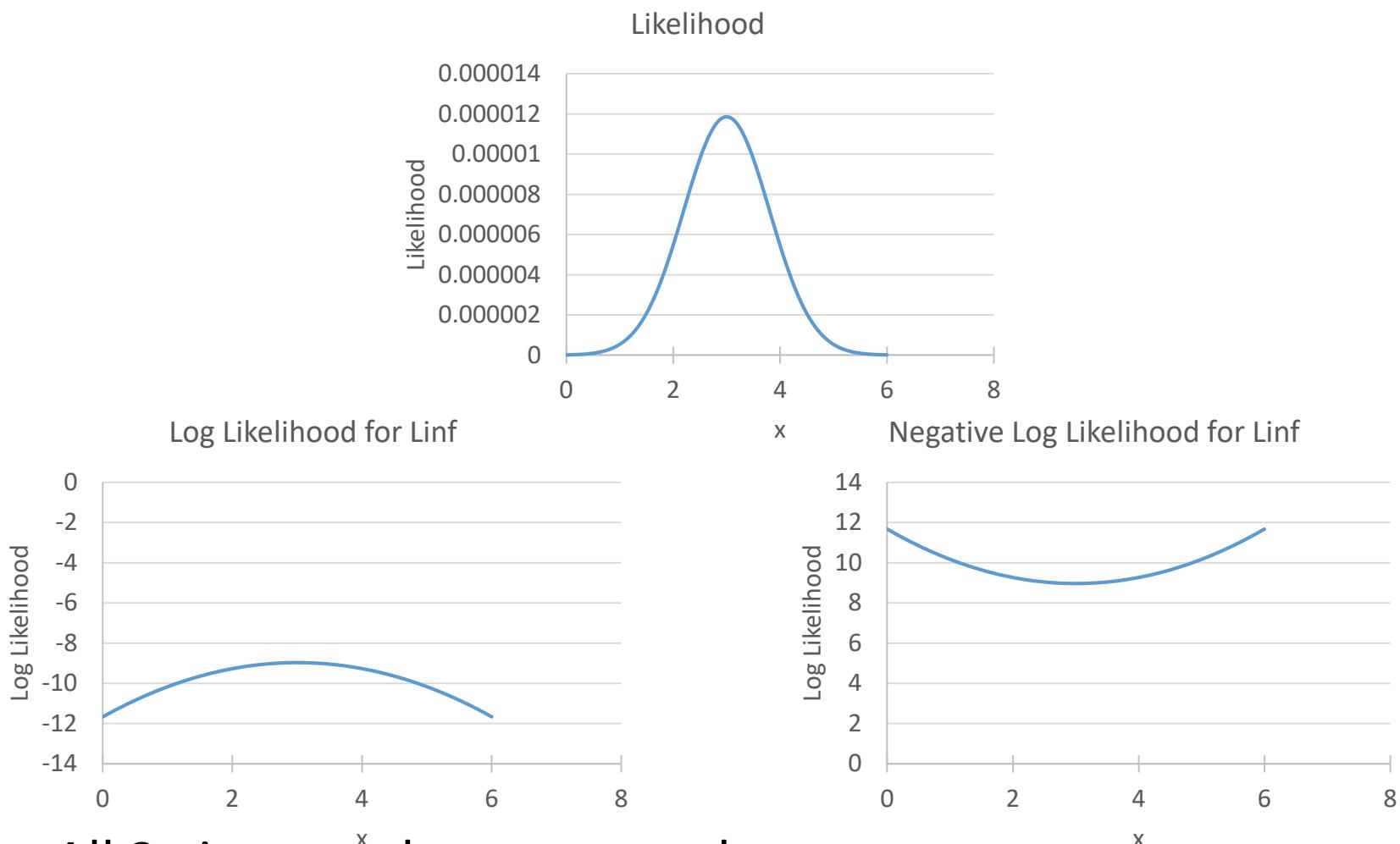
- Terms used to identify likelihood methods can be confusing:
- **Likelihood**  $L(\theta | \text{data})$  [where  $\theta$  are parameters]
  - Remember: goal is to maximize likelihood
- **Log likelihood**  $\log(L(\theta | \text{data}))$  or LL
  - Used because easier to deal with sums than with products.
- **Negative log likelihood**  $-\log(L(\theta | \text{data}))$  or  $-LL$  or NLL
  - Used for historical reasons (e.g., folks used to minimizing Sums of Squares), and software more common previously for minimizing functions

# ML Example 1, n=4



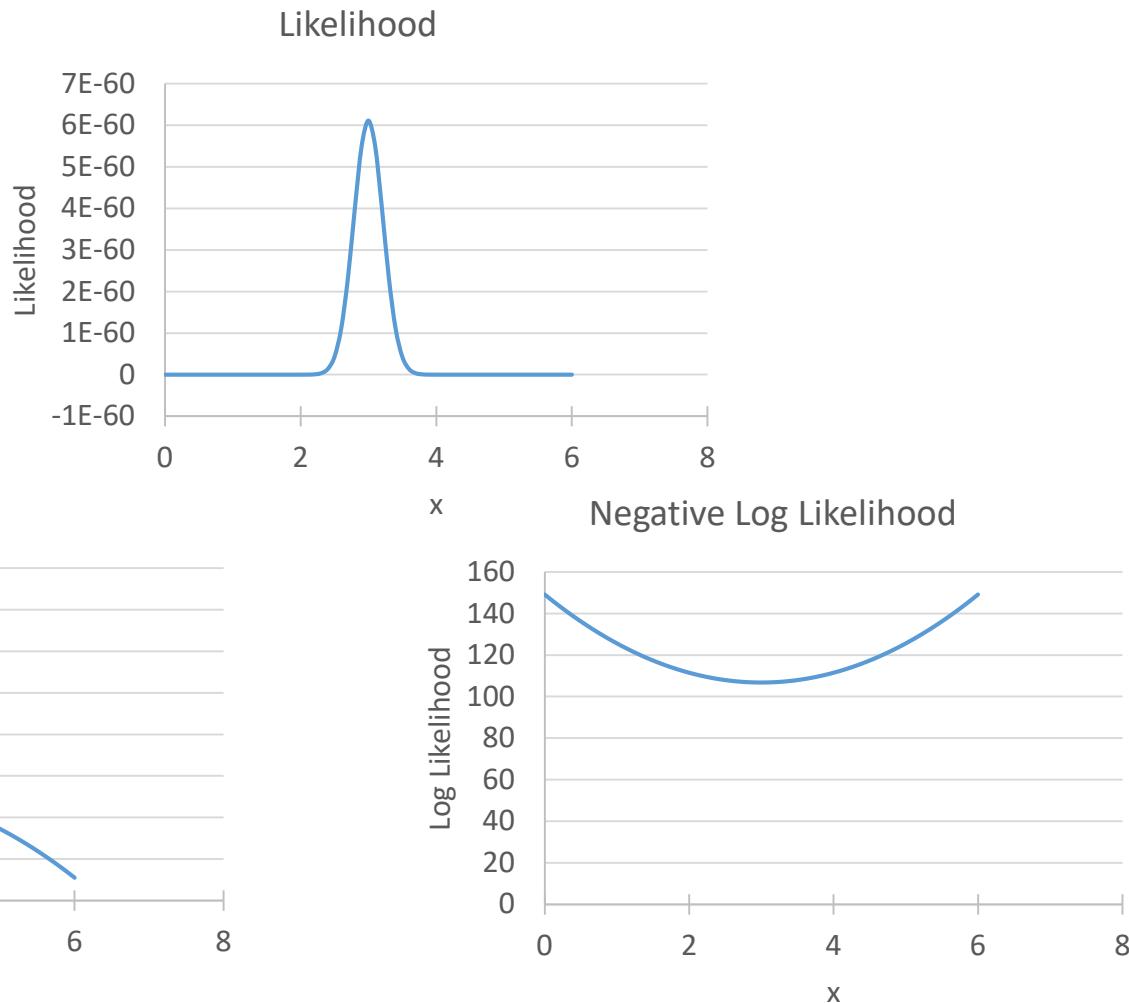
- What would LL and  $-\text{LL}$  look like?

# ML Example 1, n=4



- All 3 give you  $x$  the same result.
- Profile shapes give you some information of the relative likelihood of different results

# ML Example 2, n=48



- As sample size increases, the amount of information increases, so you have a narrower range of values near the “best estimate” → **greater confidence in value**

# -LL eqns. – Normal distribution

- Negative log likelihood (negLL, -LL) [to be minimized!]
  - Done to facilitate calculations

$$\text{negLL} = \sum_{i=1}^n \left( \frac{1}{2} \log(2\pi) + \log(\sigma) + \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{y_i - \mu}{\sigma} \right)^2 \right)$$

- Negative log likelihood with constants removed:

$$\text{negLL} = \sum_{i=1}^n \left( \log(\sigma) + \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{y_i - \mu}{\sigma} \right)^2 \right)$$

$\mu$  would be whatever your model is!  
e.g.,  $\mu = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X$

# Properties of MLEs

- **Invariant to transformations**
- Asymptotically efficient (**lowest possible variance**)
- Asymptotically **normally distributed**
  - Useful for getting CI intervals
- Asymptotically **unbiased** (expected value of the estimated parameter equals the true value)
- **ML estimates will be the same as least squares estimates if errors are normal, additive, and with constant variance**

“Asymptotic” - deals with the conditions at infinitely large sample sizes.

# Potential Challenges of ML Methods

- Programming may be required because usually problem specific
- Likelihood equations need to be worked out for a given problem
- Numerical techniques are often required to find MLE
- MLEs may be biased for small samples and asymptotic benefits may not apply to small samples

# Summary 1: Maximum likelihood

- Goal: find the parameter values that make the observed data most likely
  - Maximize likelihood ( $L$ ), maximize log-likelihood ( $\text{LL}$ ), or minimize negative log-likelihood ( $-\text{LL}$ ) → give same result
- Likelihood is different than probability
  - Probability: Knowing parameters → Prediction of data
  - Likelihood: Observation of data → Estimation of parameters
- ML is an alternative to least squares for fitting models
  - ML and Least Squares give same results if errors are normal and additive with constant variance
- Writing a likelihood function relies on the equation for your distribution
  - See Haddon 2011 for examples, or lecture for eqns.

# Model fitting with nonlinear optimization

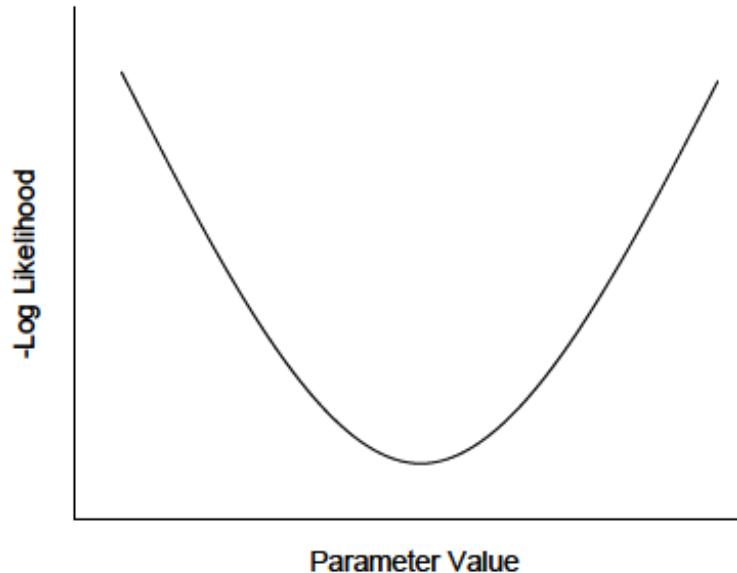
Readings:

Haddon 2011 (Section 3.4)

# How to find minimum of -LL?

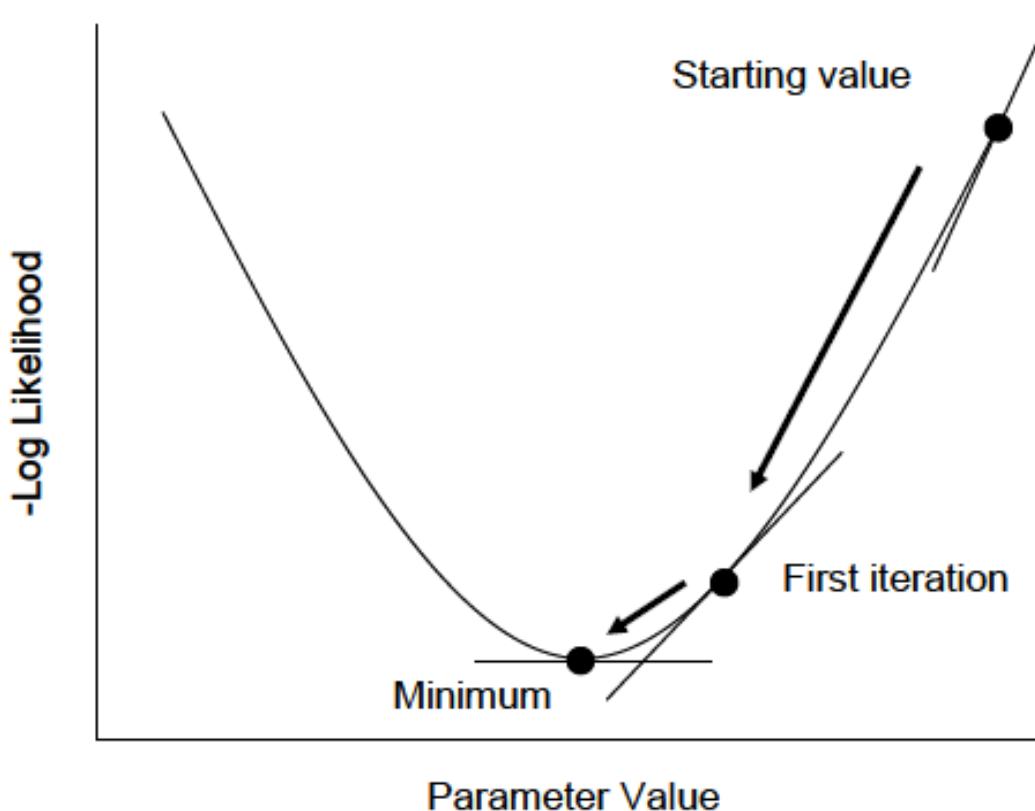
## Nonlinear Optimization

- **Nonlinear optimization** is the general term for trying to find the maximum or minimum of a function (e.g., likelihood fxn)
- Numerical solution (vs. Analytical solution) – approximate solution found through iterative searching

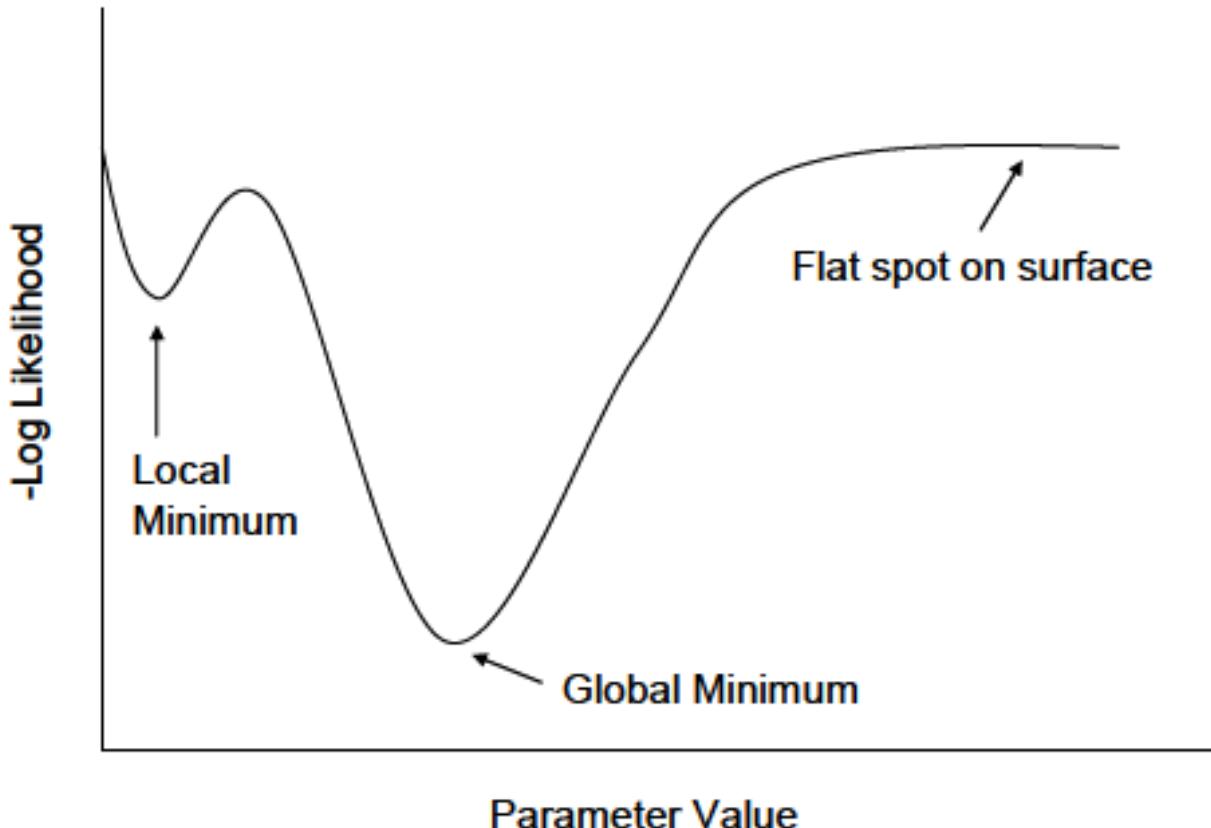


# Minimization

- R has functions to do this: e.g., `optim()`



# Potential Nonlinear Optimization Problems



# optim() in R

- optim() uses an algorithm that relies on derivatives to find the optimal solution
- Some common outcomes:
  - it finds the “best” solution
  - it reaches its limit of iterations (can change *maxit*)
  - Misc. errors
- Check that convergence criteria were met:
  - **\$convergence = 0 → SUCCESS!**
  - **\$convergence = 1 → max iterations reached**

# Potential Nonlinear Optimization Problems

1. Improper starting values
2. Model specification or coding error
3. Negative log likelihood function may be undefined for some parameter values
4. Parameterization problems (scaling, correlated parameters)
5. Uninformative data

# 1. Starting values

- Parameters need to be provided “good” starting values for all nonlinear optimization routines
  - The starting value should be: of the same sign and similar magnitude the expected solution
- Obtain starting values by eye
- Use several sets of starting values
- Can increase max number of iterations (using *maxit*) to allow longer search
  - `optim(..., control=list(maxit=10000))`

# 2. Model Specification and Coding Errors

- R cannot detect mistakes in your model
- Make sure that model predictions make sense
  - Do the numbers make sense?
  - Graph predictions over the data
- Try specific sets of parameter values for which you know the correct answer
- Fit model to simulated data

### 3. negLL function may be undefined for some parameter values

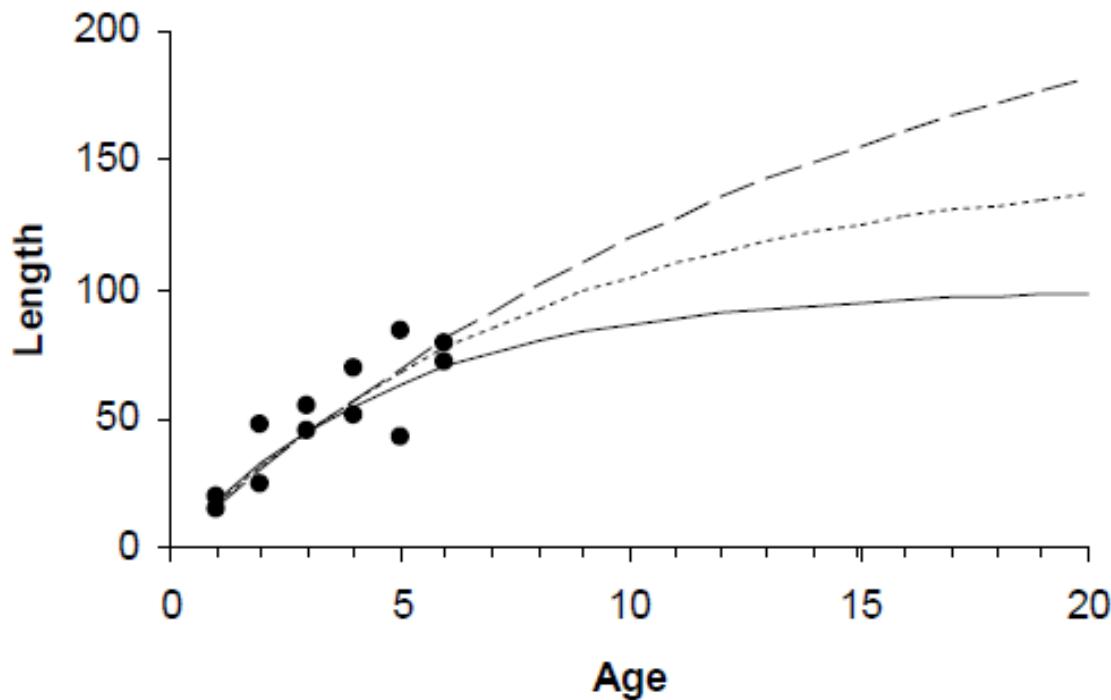
- Common example:
  - Sigma ( $\sigma$ ) can't be negative – can't have a negative SD of residuals
  - Warning
    - Warning messages:  
1: In log(sigma) : NaNs produced
- Possible solutions:
  - Ignore
  - Use a different method that allows constraints (e.g., "L-BFGS-B")
  - Estimate  $\log(\sigma)$  which can be negative, then backtransform

# 4. Parameterization Problems

- Many models can be written in several forms, each called a parameterization
- Parameters should have low correlations with one another
- Parameters should be of similar magnitude (e.g., avoid 0.000000529 and 3.54)
  - → estimating parameters in log space can help (e.g.,  $\ln(5.3\text{E}-07) = -14.45$ )

## 5. Uninformative data

- The data may have little or no information about one or several parameters
- Only able to statistically estimate  $n-1$  parameters



# Summary 2 - Nonlinear Optimization

- **Nonlinear optimization** - general term for trying to find the maximum or minimum of a function (e.g., likelihood function).
  - Numerical solution used when can't Analytical solution)

Potential problem with nonlinear optimization:

1. Improper starting values
2. Model specification or coding error
3. Negative log likelihood function may be undefined for some parameter values
4. Parameterization problems (scaling, correlated parameters)
5. Uninformative data

# Occupancy Modeling

Reading:  
MacKenzie et al. 2002

# Announcements

- Monday, April 1 – No Class
- Wed, April 3 - In-class exam 2
- Tues, April 9 – Take-home exam 2 due (will have 10-14 days to complete.

# Occupancy

- Occupancy ( $\psi$ )
  - Measuring the presence or absence of a species in a location
  - (Alternative to abundance)
- Uses for occupancy data/studies? Examples?



# Occupancy

- Occupancy ( $\psi$ )
  - Measuring the presence or absence of a species in a location
  - Given as a probability or frequency
  - (Alternative to abundance)
- Uses for occupancy data/studies? Examples?
  - Studies of species distributions
    - What factors affect presence?
    - Habitat modeling
  - Metapopulation dynamics
    - where site (or patch) occupancy is related to site (or patch) characteristics
    - Can look at extinction and colonization probabilities



# Occupancy

- How might someone estimate occupancy ( $\psi$ ) if we had data from a survey at  $n$  sites?

$$\psi = \frac{n_{occupied}}{n_{total}}$$

Problem with this?

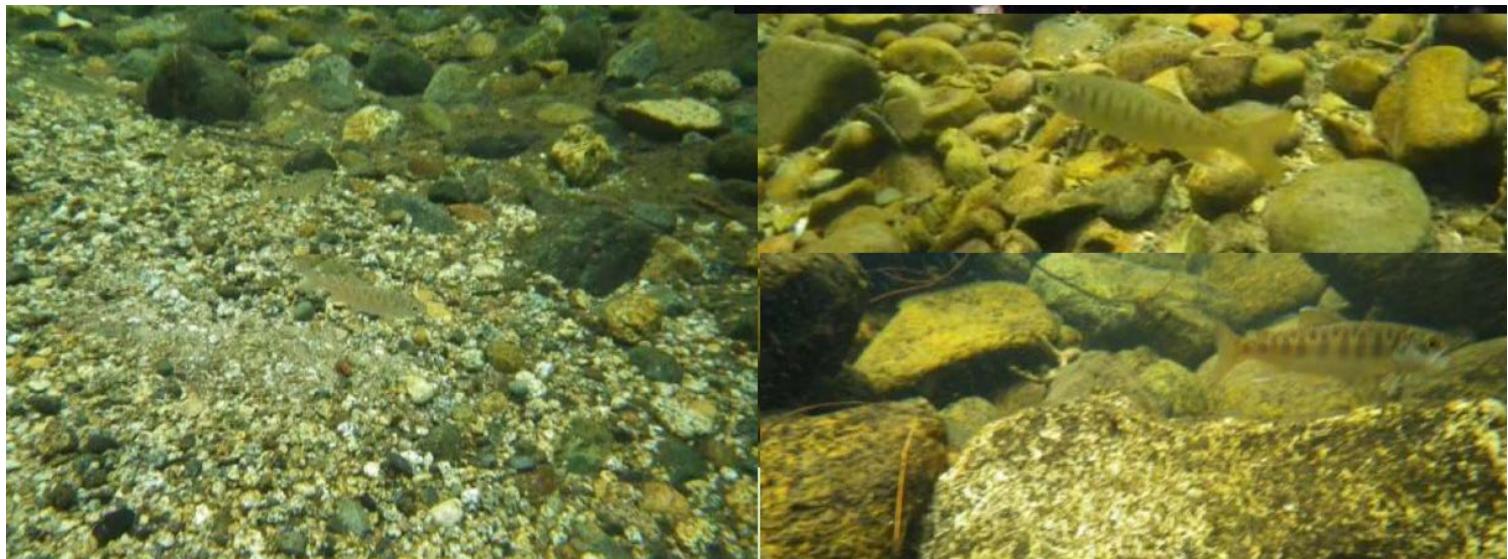
# Problem?

- Was species *present and not detected* or was it absent?
- The measure of occupancy is **confounded** with the detectability of the species
  - **Confounded:** an inability to separate multiple factors potentially contributing to an observed pattern.
- Using presence/absence data alone will UNDERESTIMATE or OVERTIMATE true occupancy.



# Problem?

- Was species *present and not detected* or was it absent?
- The measure of occupancy is **confounded** with the detectability of the species
  - **Confounded:** an inability to separate multiple factors potentially contributing to an observed pattern.
- Using presence/absence data alone will UNDERESTIMATE or OVERTIMATE true occupancy.



- **Detectability**

- refers to the reality that it is very common for animals and even entire species to be missed and go undetected.
- Expressed as a probability of detection

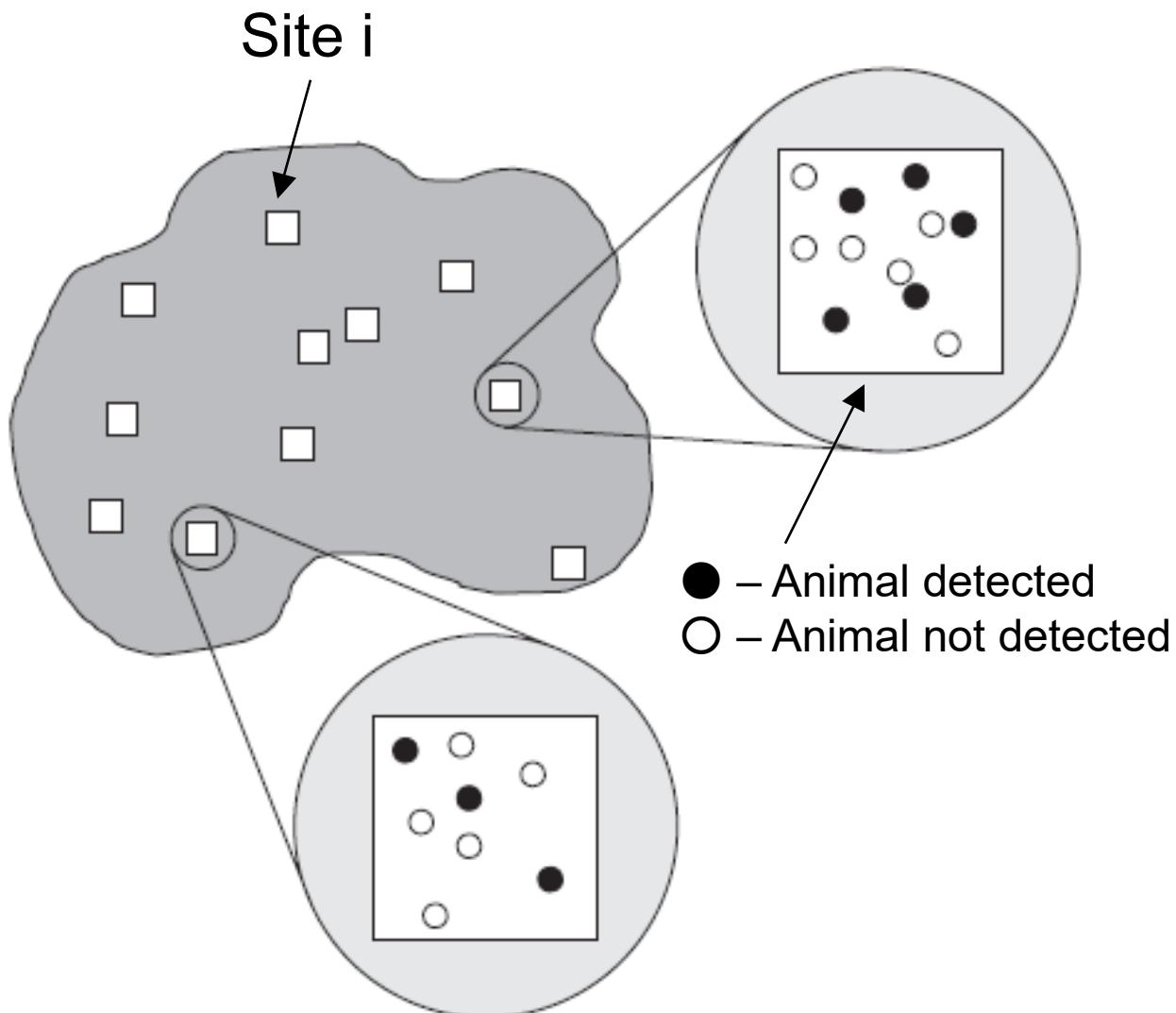
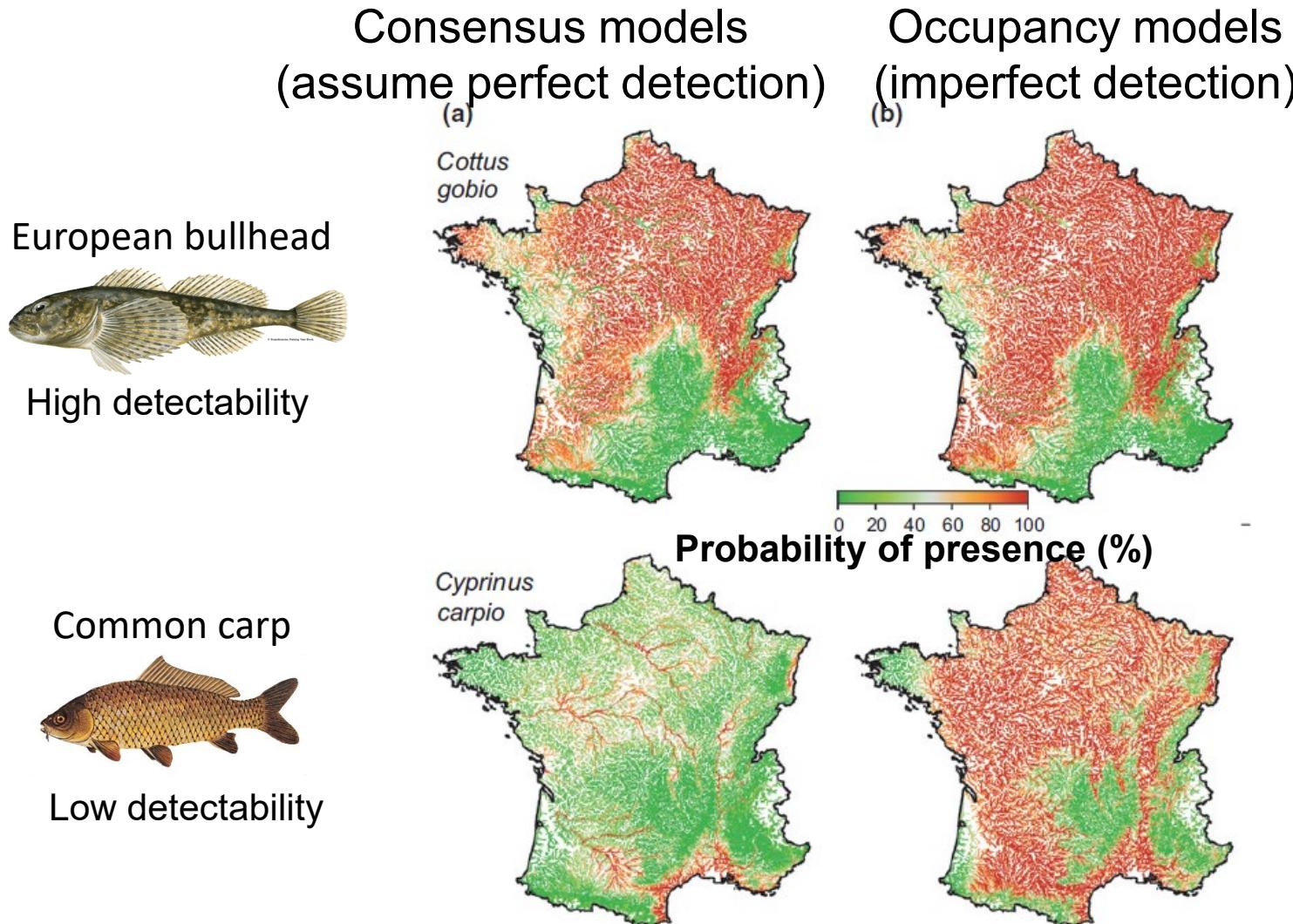


FIGURE 1.1 Illustration of the two critical aspects of sampling animal populations, spatial variation and detectability. The shaded region indicates the area or population of interest, with the small squares representing the locations selected for sampling. Within each sampling location, animals will be detected (filled circles) or undetected (hollow circles) during a survey or count.

# Occupancy models

- **Models that deal with the problem of imperfect detectability**
- **Need info from repeated observations at each site to estimate detectability!**
  - Can be multiple visits, multiple observers, single observer & multiple passes, etc.
- Detectability can vary with site characteristics (e.g., habitat variables) or survey characteristics (e.g., weather)
  - Occupancy relates only to site characteristics

# Effect of imperfect detection



**What patterns do you see?**



# Next installment of “Google This”!

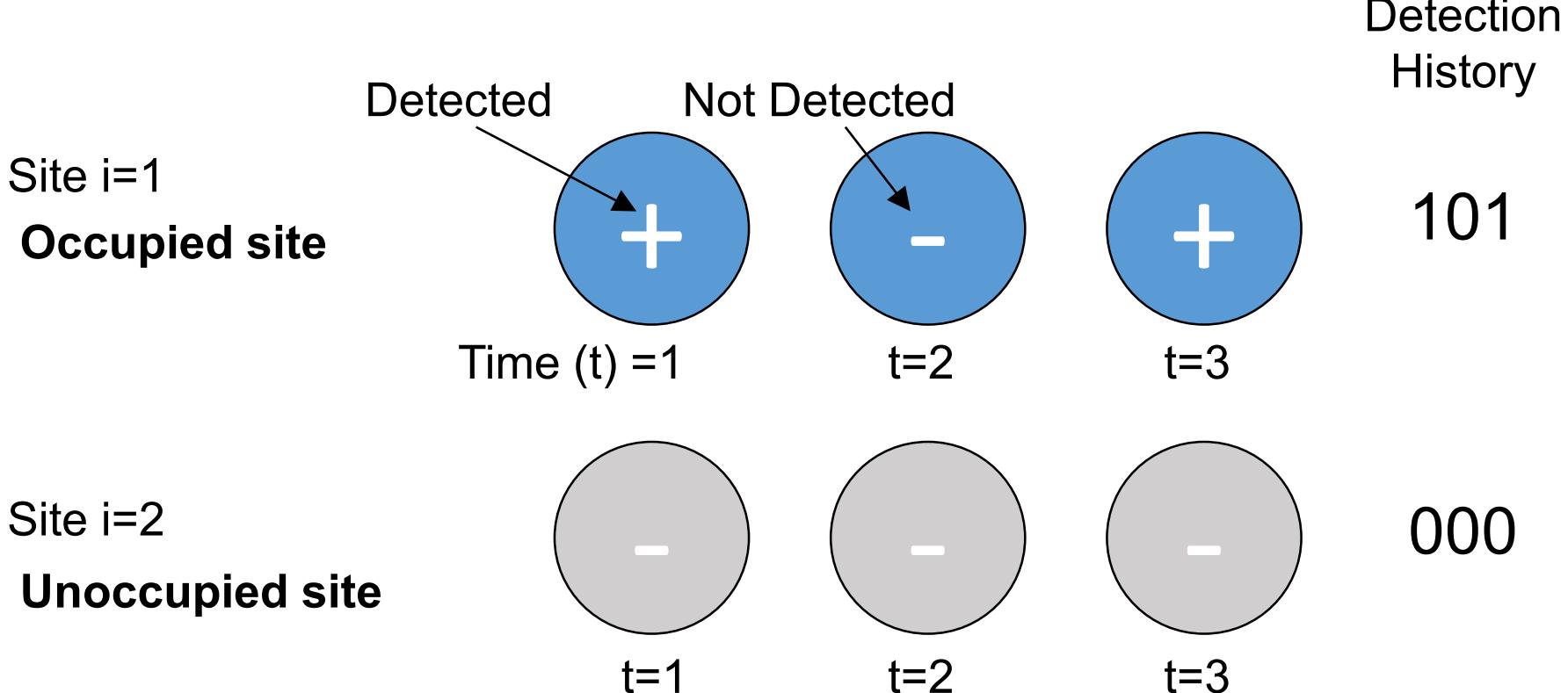
- “occupancy modeling funny”



# Data needs

- Detection history
  - record of pres/abs data for each site (multiple occasions)
- Other variables of interest
  - Environmental variables pertaining to site
  - Variables pertaining to detection during repeat sampling events or surveys (e.g., weather)

# General idea



## Main parameters

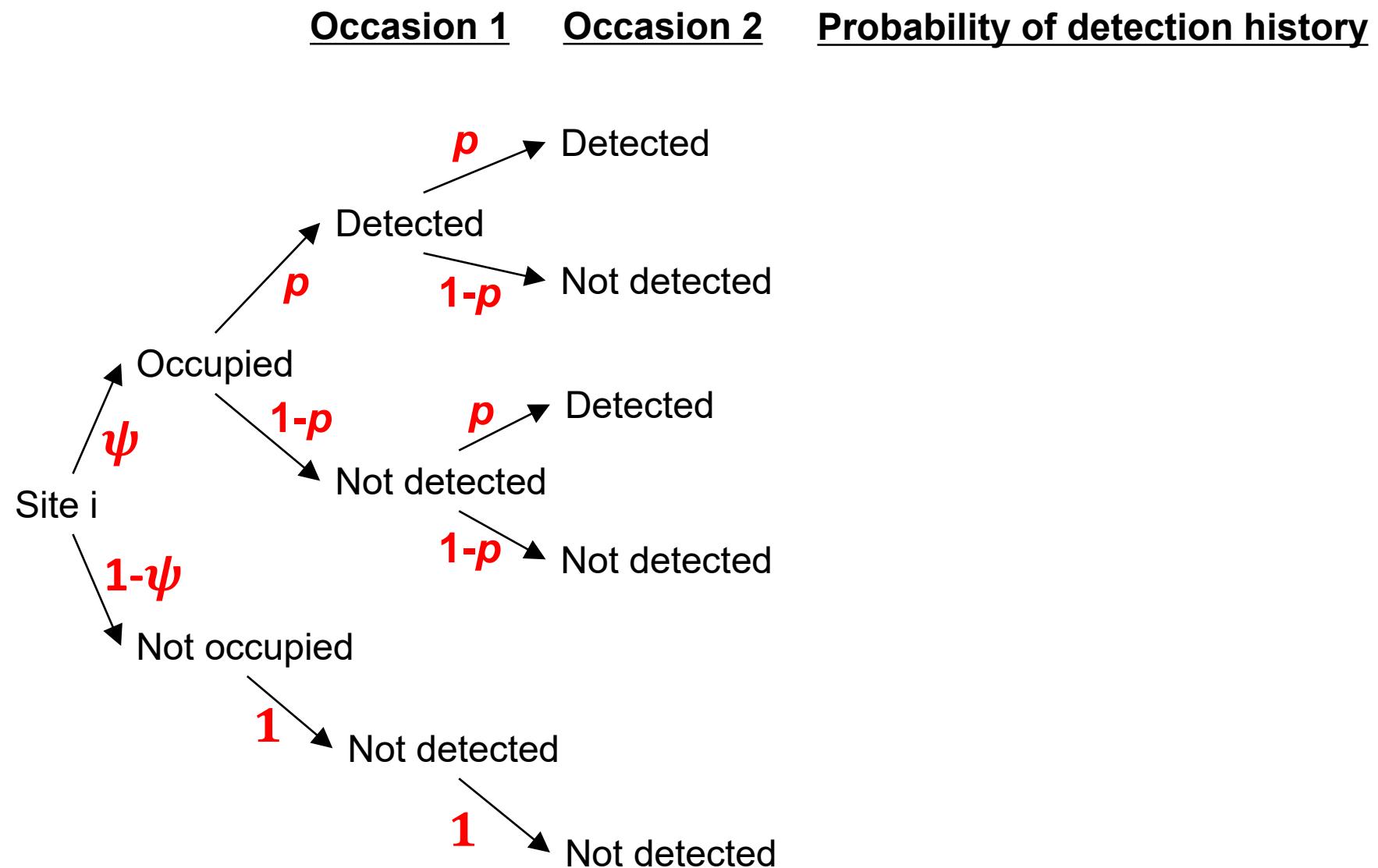
- **$\Psi$  – probability of occupancy** = probability of the species being present at site i
- **$p$  – conditional detection probability** = probability of detecting the species, given that it was present
  - This takes advantage of the multiples detections (e.g., over time t)

# Single seas. occupancy (2 sampling occasions)

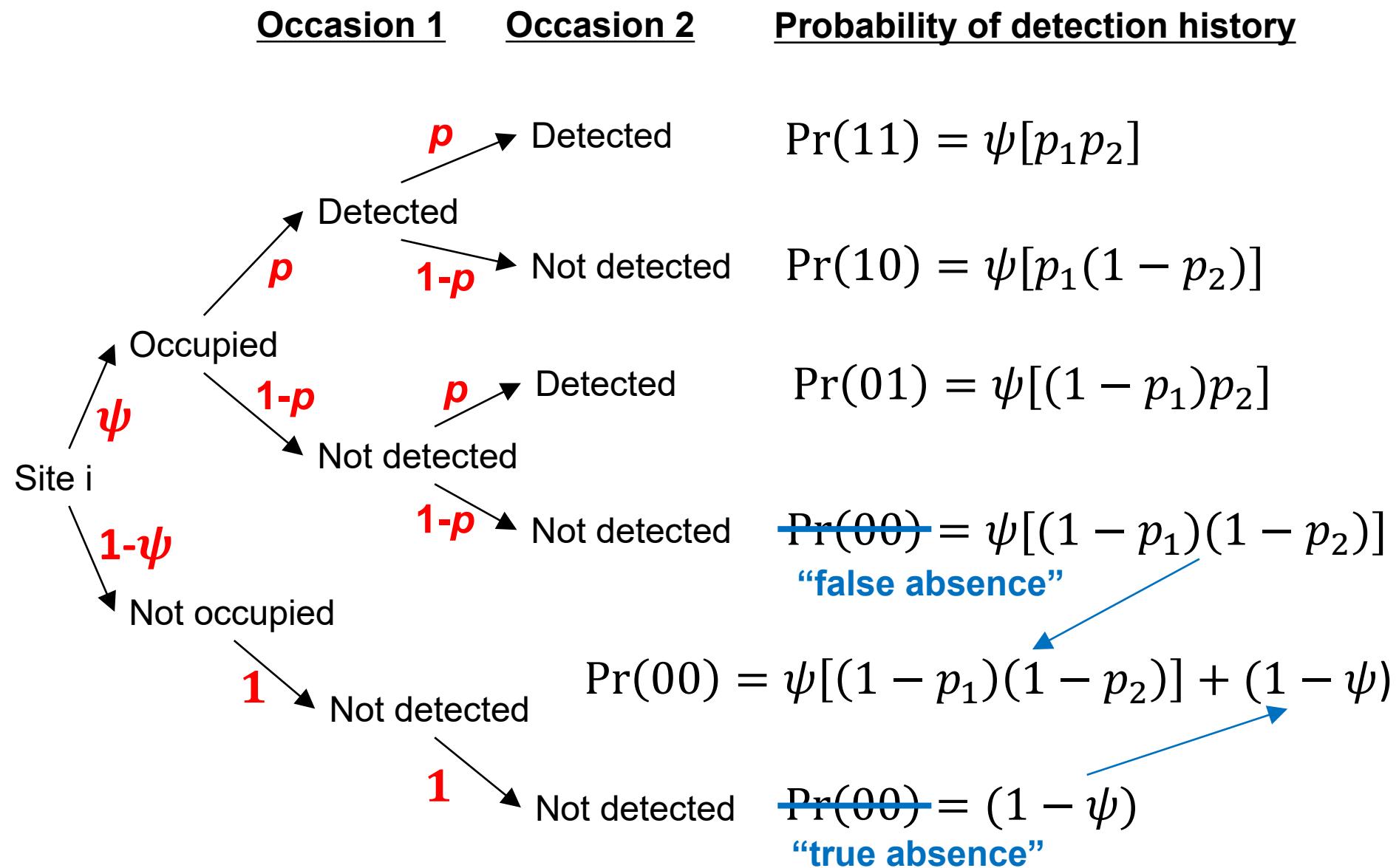
| <u>Occasion 1</u> | <u>Occasion 2</u> | <u>Probability of detection history</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------|---|
|-------------------|-------------------|---|

Site i

# Single seas. occupancy (2 sampling occasions)



# Single seas. occupancy (2 sampling occasions)



# Draw hypothetical example...

Suppose you sample 5 sites to detect the endangered tidewater goby,  
And you have 2 survey occasions per site:

# Likelihood and log likelihood

## Probability of detection history

$n_{01}$  = number  
of sites with  
detection  
history of 01

$$\Pr(11) = \psi[p_1 p_2]$$

$$\Pr(10) = \psi[p_1(1 - p_2)]$$

$$\Pr(01) = \psi[(1 - p_1)p_2]$$

$$\Pr(00) = \psi[(1 - p_1)(1 - p_2)] + (1 - \psi)$$

- **Likelihood** of the dataset, given N total sites  
 $(N = n_{11} + n_{10} + n_{01} + n_{00})$ , is:

$$L(\psi, p | N) = \Pr(11)^{n_{11}} \Pr(10)^{n_{10}} \Pr(01)^{n_{01}} \Pr(00)^{n_{00}}$$

- And the **log likelihood** is:

$$\log L(\psi, p | N) = n_{11} \log(\psi[p_1 p_2]) + n_{10} \log(\psi[p_1(1 - p_2)]) + n_{01} \log(\psi[(1 - p_1)p_2]) + n_{00} \log[\psi[(1 - p_1)(1 - p_2)] + (1 - \psi)]$$

# How to add covariate effects?

- Model  $\psi$  or  $p$  as a function of covariates (i.e., logistic regression)

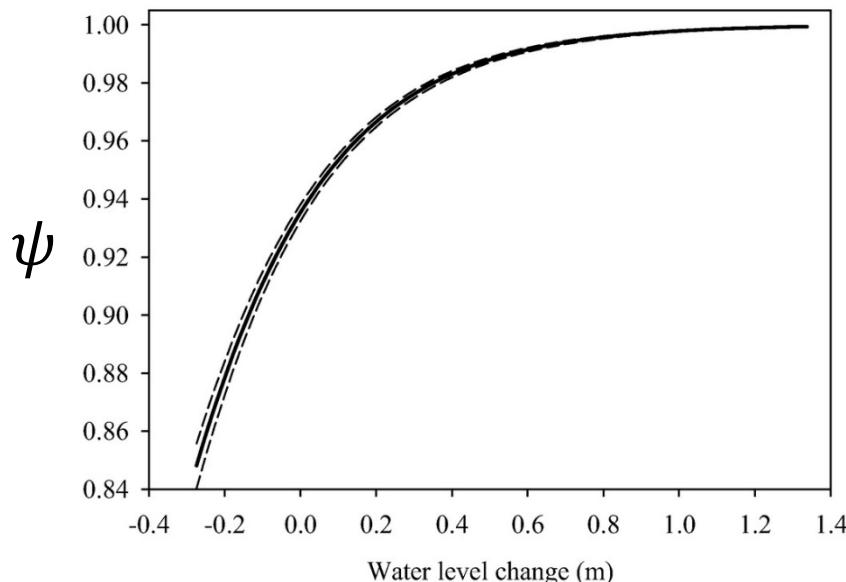
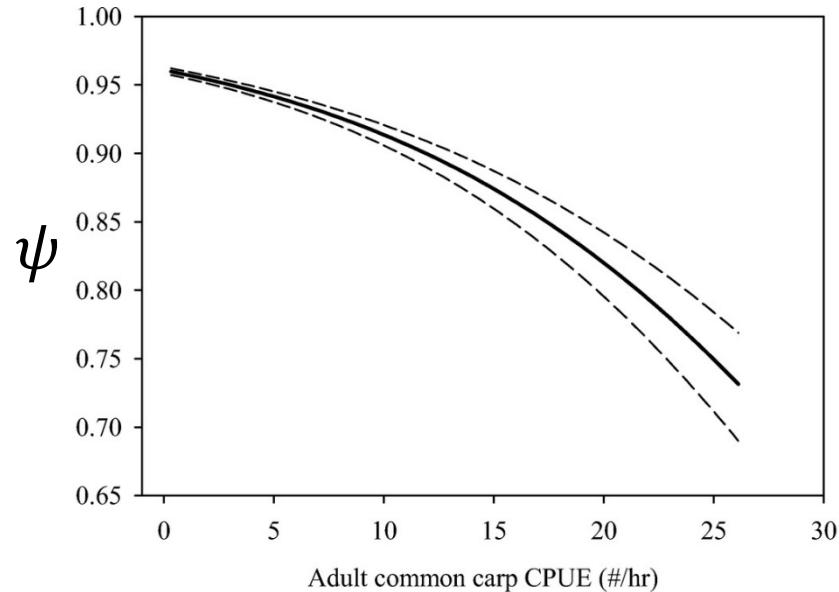
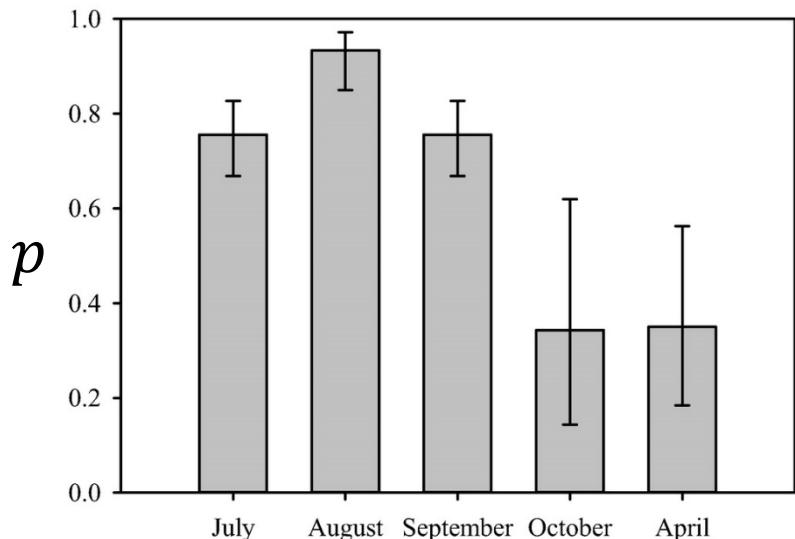
Generic parameter (representing either  $\psi$  or  $p$ ) →

$$\theta = \frac{e^{X\beta}}{1 + e^{X\beta}} = \frac{e^{\beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \dots}}{1 + e^{\beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \dots}}$$

- Examples of covariates?
- Covariates can be for sites or for sampling occasions (aka surveys)

# Visualizing covariate effects

- Plot predicted  $\psi$  and  $p$  as a function of your covariates (typically with 95% CI)
  - Can be continuous or categorical variables
- E.g.: Study on age-0 common carp occupancy in South Dakota



# How to add covariate effects?

- To get the average occupancy across sites (when modeled with covariates):
  - Need to average occupancy across covariate levels:

$$\bar{\hat{\psi}} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N \hat{\psi}_i}{N}$$

# Missing observations

- The model can handle missing observations
  - E.g., due to logistical issues or sampling design

$$\Pr(10\_11) = \psi p_1 (1 - p_2) p_4 p_5$$

- If you have some sites with only 1 sampling occasion:
  - Won't inform detection probability estimate,
  - but can apply estimates of  $p$  (and perhaps covariate effects) to those sites

# Standard error of parameters

- Recommend bootstrapping
  - Resample N sites (with replacement) from the N sites
  - Refit model many times
  - Look at distribution of values
- Asymptotic standard error not recommended
  - ASE based on second order partial derivative of model likelihood

# Assumptions

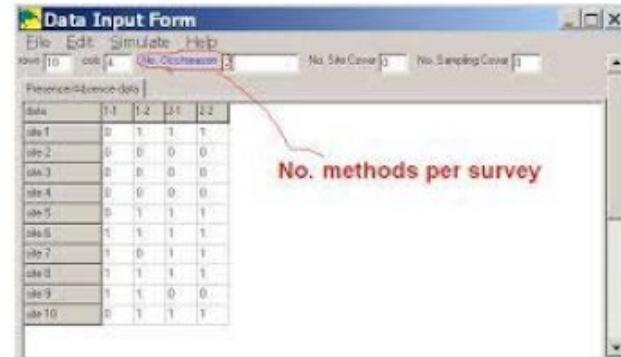
- Occupancy state is “closed” (no change in occupancy)
- Sites are independent
- No unexplained heterogeneity in occupancy
- No unexplained heterogeneity in detectability

# How to meet assumptions?

- Occupancy state is “closed” (no change in occupancy)
  - Use life history or existing data to inform sampling
- Sites are independent
  - Select sites using probability based sampling scheme (e.g., simple-random; stratified-random)
- No unexplained heterogeneity in occupancy
  - Collect info about important variables
- No unexplained heterogeneity in detectability
  - Collect info about important variables

# Occupancy model software

Program PRESENCE



Program MARK



R package Unmarked



# Example



Spring peeper



American toad

- Covariates
  - Temperature
  - Habitat type
- 29 Sites
  - visited 2-66 times; mean ~9

# Example

- Can compare evidence for different hypotheses (ie models)!

What do the results of this table mean?  
(Recall “Lab07 – AIC background.pdf”)

TABLE 1. Relative difference in AIC ( $\Delta\text{AIC}$ ), AIC model weights ( $w_i$ ), overall estimate of the fraction of sites occupied by each species ( $\hat{\psi}$ ), and associated standard error ( $\text{SE}(\hat{\psi})$ ).

| Model, by species                            | $\Delta\text{AIC}$ | $w_i$ | $\hat{\psi}$ | $\text{SE}(\hat{\psi})$ |
|--|--------------------|-------|--------------|-------------------------|
| American toad                                |                    |       |              |                         |
| $\psi(\text{Habitat}) p(\text{Temperature})$ | 0.00               | 0.36  | 0.50         | 0.13                    |
| $\psi(\cdot) p(\text{Temperature})$          | 0.42               | 0.24  | 0.49         | 0.14                    |
| $\psi(\text{Habitat}) p(\cdot)$              | 0.49               | 0.22  | 0.49         | 0.12                    |
| $\psi(\cdot) p(\cdot)$                       | 0.70               | 0.18  | 0.49         | 0.13                    |
| Spring peeper                                |                    |       |              |                         |
| $\psi(\text{Habitat}) p(\text{Temperature})$ | 0.00               | 0.85  | 0.84         | 0.07                    |
| $\psi(\cdot) p(\text{Temperature})$          | 1.72               | 0.15  | 0.85         | 0.07                    |
| $\psi(\text{Habitat}) p(\cdot)$              | 40.49              | 0.00  | 0.84         | 0.07                    |
| $\psi(\cdot) p(\cdot)$                       | 42.18              | 0.00  | 0.85         | 0.07                    |

# Simulation results

## Take-homes

- Better performance with greater sampling occasions
- Lower precision with lower sampling occasions
- Poorer performance at lower  $p$  with  $T=2$

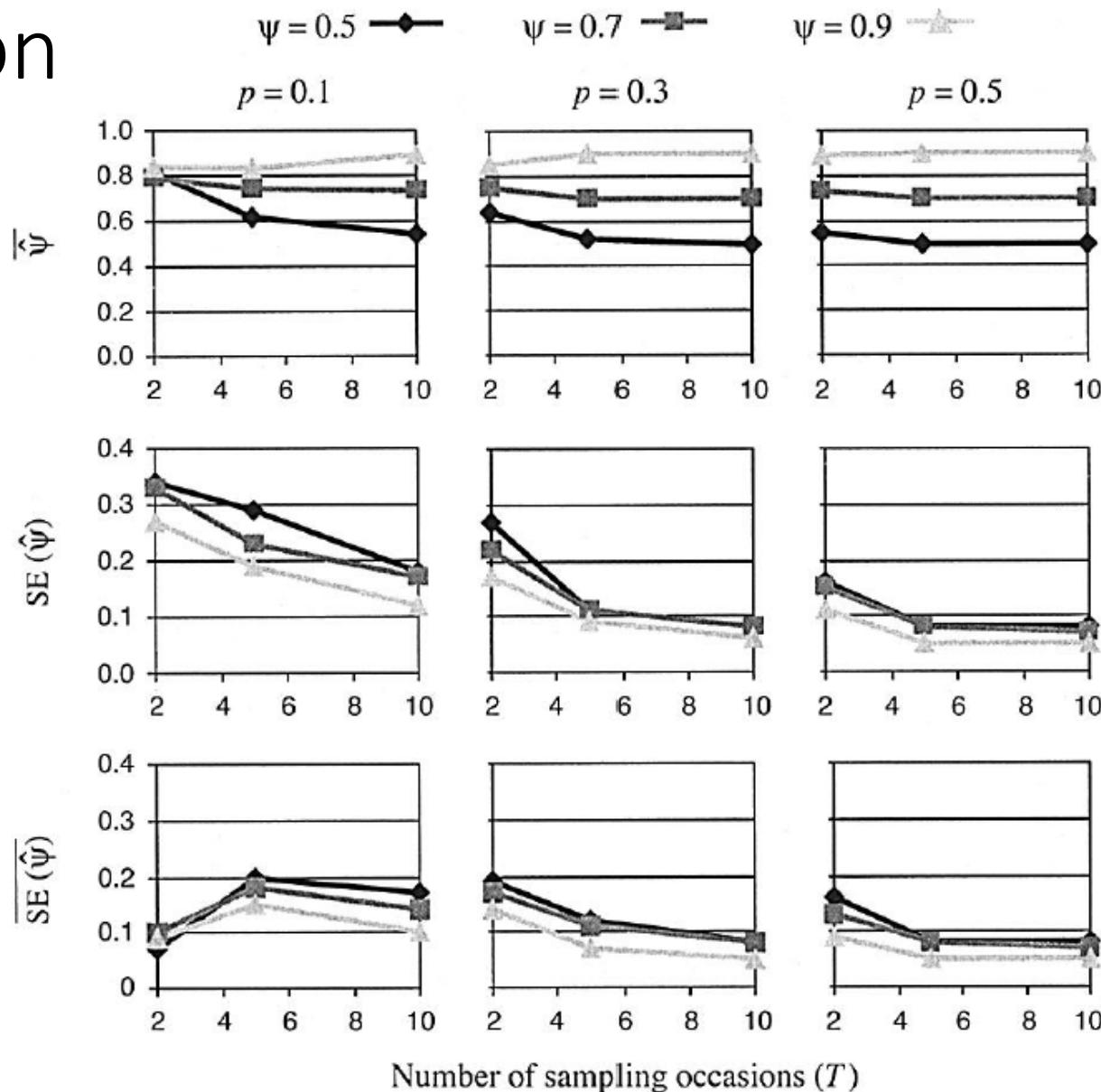


FIG. 1. Results of the 500 simulated sets of data for  $N = 40$ , with no missing values. Indicated are the average value of  $\hat{\psi}$ ,  $\hat{\psi}$ ; the replication-based estimate of the true standard error of  $\hat{\psi}$ ,  $SE(\hat{\psi})$ ; and the average estimate of the standard error obtained from 200 nonparametric bootstrap samples,  $\overline{SE}(\hat{\psi})$ , for various levels of  $T$ ,  $p$ , and  $\psi$ .

# Considerations

- Recommended number of site visits?
  - More site visits = greater precision
  - If visiting only twice: best if occupancy is  $>0.7$  and detection probability  $> 0.3$
- Be skeptical of values if:
  - $\psi$  close to 1, and p is low ( $<0.15$ )

# Extensions

- Having detection probability depend on abundance
  - Royle and Nichols 2003
- Multiple seasons
  - MacKenzie et al. 2003
- Multiple species
  - MacKenzie et al. 2004
- Multi-scale occupancy using multiple detection methods
  - Nichols et al. 2008
- ...

## ESTIMATING SITE OCCUPANCY RATES WHEN DETECTION PROBABILITIES ARE LESS THAN ONE

DARRYL I. MACKENZIE,<sup>1,5</sup> JAMES D. NICHOLS,<sup>2</sup> GIDEON B. LACHMAN,<sup>2,6</sup> SAM DROEGE,<sup>2</sup> J. ANDREW ROYLE,<sup>3</sup> AND CATHERINE A. LANGTIMM<sup>4</sup>

*Ecology*, 84(8), 2003, pp. 2200–2207  
© 2003 by the Ecological Society of America

## ESTIMATING SITE OCCUPANCY, COLONIZATION, AND LOCAL EXTINCTION WHEN A SPECIES IS DETECTED IMPERFECTLY

DARRYL I. MACKENZIE,<sup>1,5</sup> JAMES D. NICHOLS,<sup>2</sup> JAMES E. HINES,<sup>2</sup> MELINDA G. KNUTSON,<sup>3</sup> AND ALAN B. FRANKLIN<sup>4</sup>

*Journal of Animal Ecology* 2004  
73, 546–555

## Investigating species co-occurrence patterns when species are detected imperfectly

DARRYL I. MACKENZIE\*, LARISSA L. BAILEY† and JAMES. D. NICHOLS‡

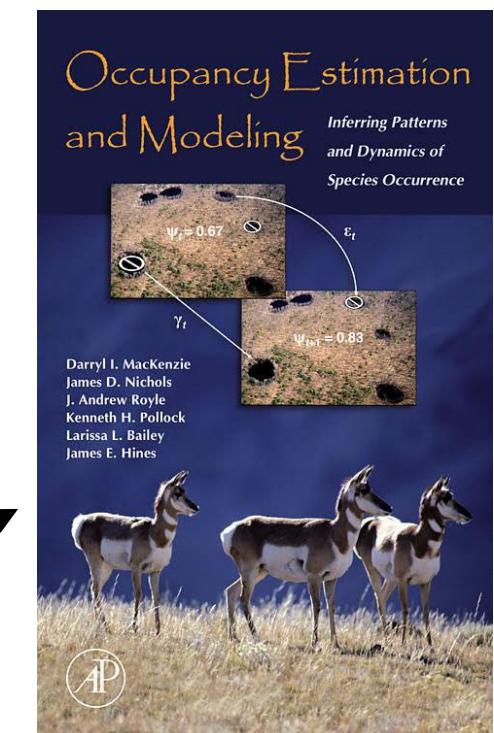
*Journal of Applied Ecology* 2008, 45, 1321–1329

doi: 10.1111/j.1365-2664.2008.01509.x

## Multi-scale occupancy estimation and modelling using multiple detection methods

James D. Nichols<sup>1\*</sup>, Larissa L. Bailey<sup>1</sup>, Allan F. O'Connell Jr.<sup>2</sup>, Neil W. Talancy<sup>3</sup>, Evan H. Campbell Grant<sup>1</sup>, Andrew T. Gilbert<sup>4</sup>, Elizabeth M. Annand<sup>5</sup>, Thomas P. Husband<sup>3</sup> and James E. Hines<sup>1</sup>

- MacKenzie et al. 2006 (book)
- Donovan, T. M. and J. Hines. 2007. Exercises in occupancy modeling and estimation. [www.uvm.edu/rsern/vtcfwru/spreadsheets/occupancy/occupancy.htm](http://www.uvm.edu/rsern/vtcfwru/spreadsheets/occupancy/occupancy.htm)



# E.g., Multi-season occupancy model

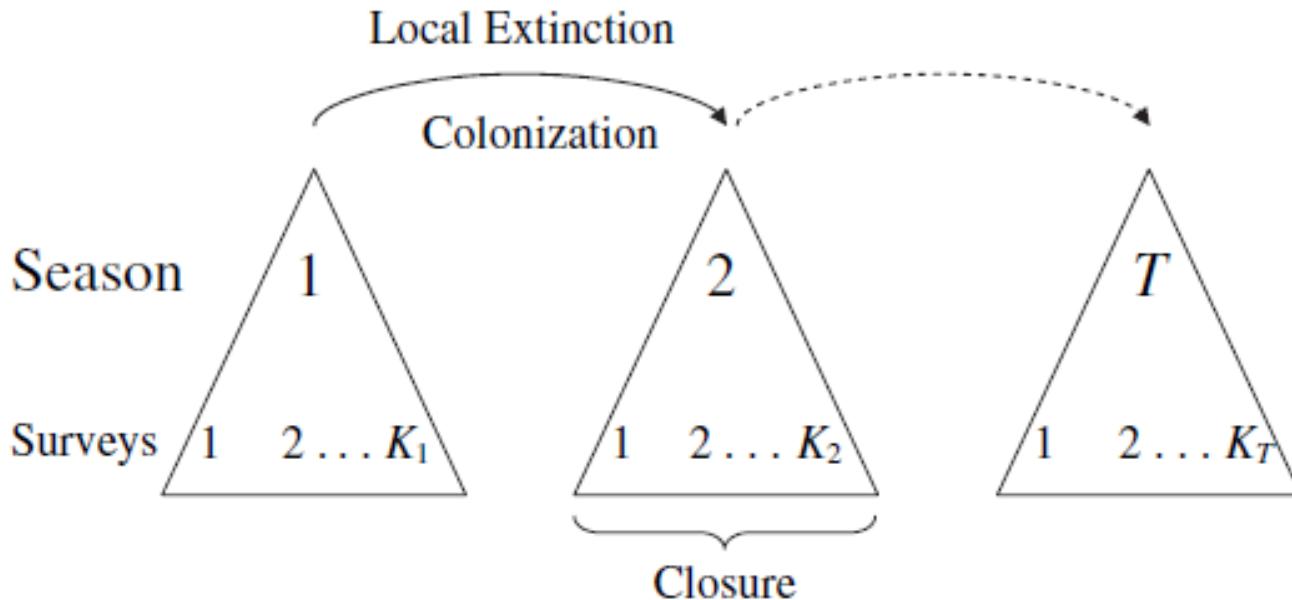


FIGURE 7.1 Graphical representation of the sampling situation for a multi-season occupancy study. Each triangle represents a season ( $t$ ), with multiple ( $K_t$ ) surveys within seasons. Sites are closed to changes in occupancy within seasons, but changes may occur between seasons through the processes of colonization and local extinction.

# E.g., Multi-season occupancy model

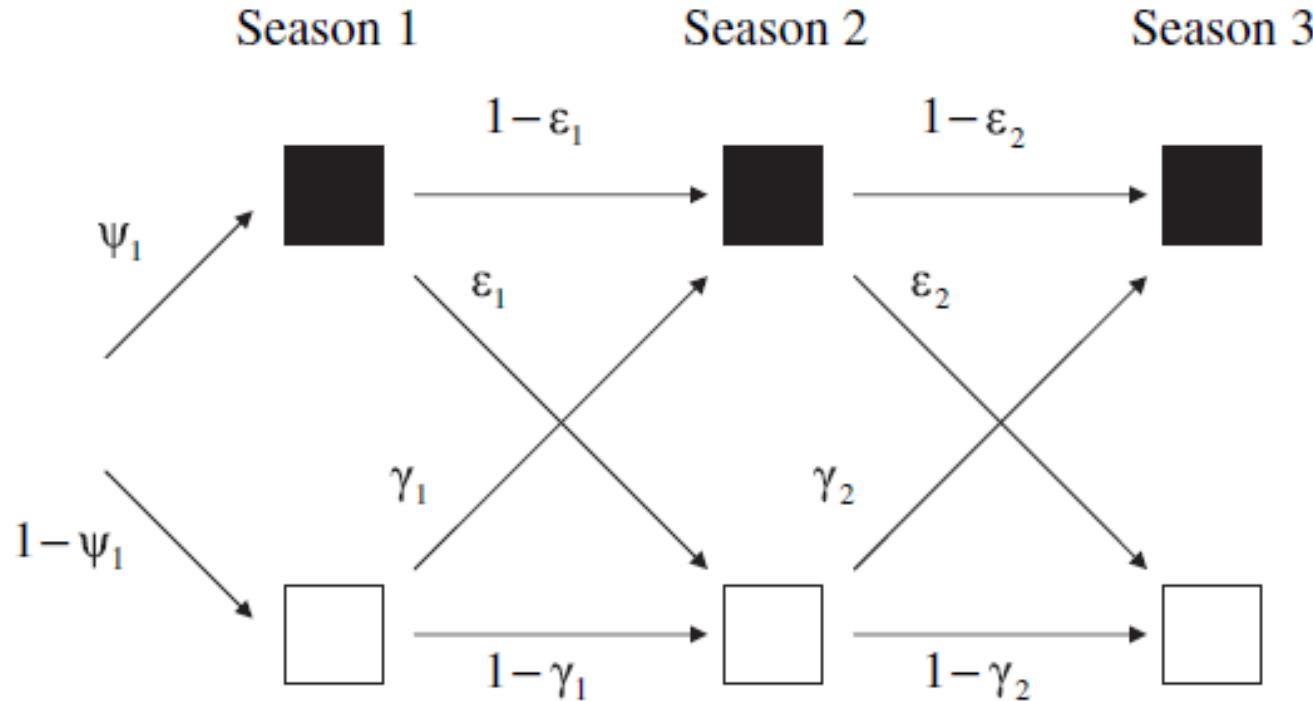


FIGURE 7.2 Representation of how the occupancy state of a site may change between seasons in terms of the processes of occupancy ( $\psi$ ), colonization ( $\gamma$ ), and local extinction ( $\varepsilon$ ). Filled boxes indicate that the site is occupied (species present) in that season, while empty boxes indicate that the site is unoccupied (species absent).

# Summary – Single season occupancy models

- General, flexible approach that models **occupancy** ( $\psi$ ) while accounting for imperfect **detection probability** (p)
- Data needs:
  - detection history at sites (need to have repeat sampling at each site!);
  - covariates (if any) – covariates can be for the site OR for the sampling occasion
- Strengths
  - More accurate than assuming p=1
  - Evaluate covariate effects; assess competing hypotheses
  - Flexible, statistical approach
- Drawbacks:
  - Requires more sampling at each site
  - Modeling pres/abs and not abundance
- Extensions
  - Have p depend on abundance; Multiple seasons; multiple species;...
- Know the general branching diagram and be able to derive an equation for 1) the probability for a given detection history, and 2) the likelihood for a simple example

# Brief introduction to Mark-recapture analysis

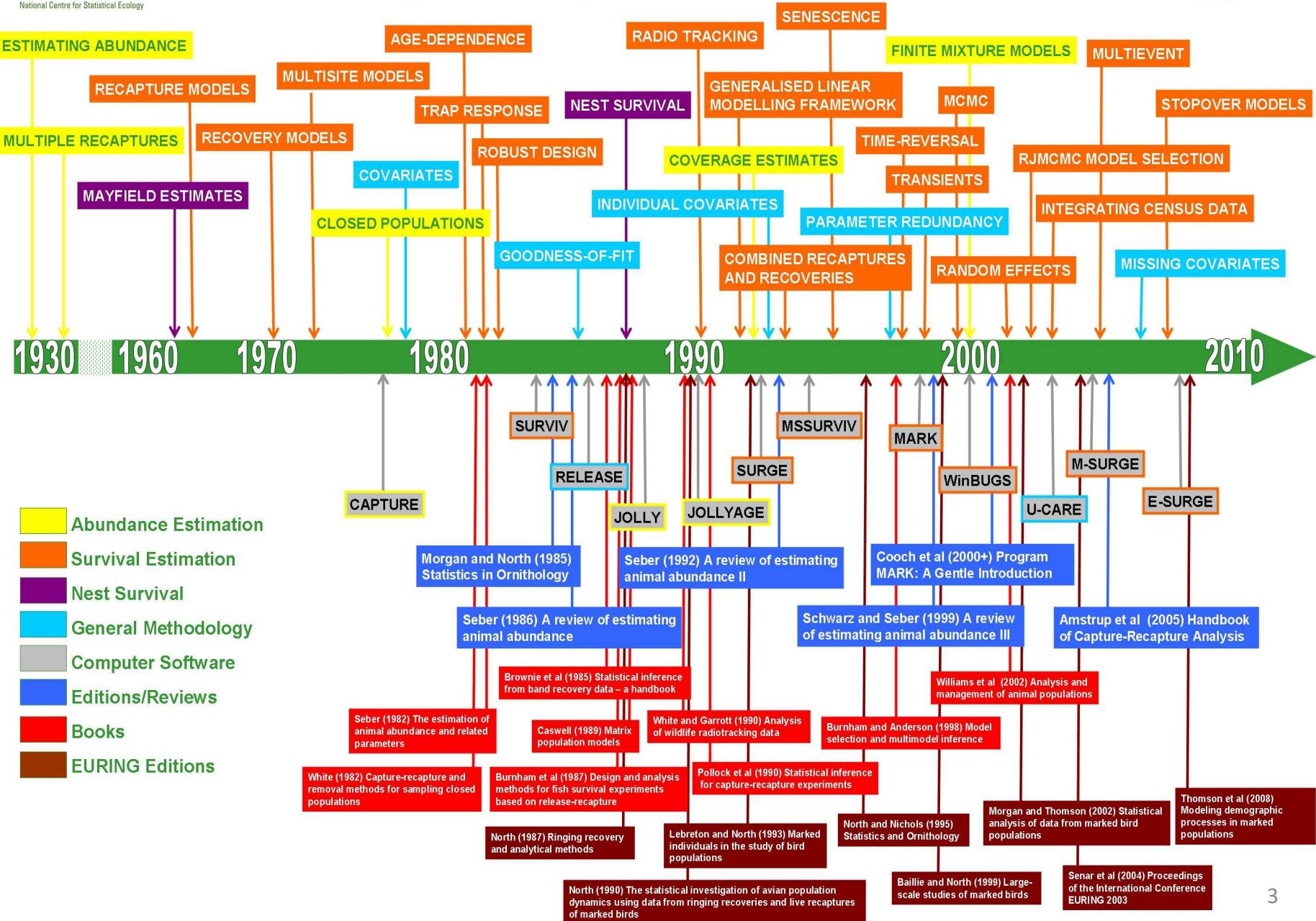
Reading: Pine et al. 2003

For more: WLDF 578 Advanced Ecology of Wildlife  
Populations (aka Dan Barton's 'MARK class')

# Outline

- A brief history
- Closed population methods (→ for abundance)
  - Lincoln-Petersen
- Open population methods (→ for survival)
  - Capture-recapture (Cormack-Jolly-Seber) models
  - Recovery (Brownie) models
- Extensions
  - Multi-state models
  - Robust design

# A History of Capture-Recapture in Ecology



# Mark recapture models

- **Main Purpose is to estimate:**
  1. Mortality (Z, F, M) or Survival
  2. Abundance
  3. (or study behavior, movement, habitat use, etc.)
- Lots of different models & methods!

**Table 2.** Model, type of mark required (batch or individual), source of fish used in study (research collection or fishery dependent), typical study duration, reporting rate requirement, key parameters, additional information generated, and principal software for estimating population size and mortality components from tagging models discussed in this review.

| Model name                                 | Type of mark required | Source of fish   | Typical study duration | Reporting rate required? | Key demographic parameters  | Additional information generated  | Principal software  |
|--|-----------------------|------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|---|
| <b>Lincoln-Peterson</b>                    | Batch                 | Research         | < 1 month              | No                       | Population size   |                                   | Calculator, spreadsheet, SPAS                               |
| <b>Schnabel</b>                            | Batch                 | Research         | < 1 month              | No                       | Population size   |                                   | Calculator, spreadsheet, or CAPTURE                         |
| <b>Removal</b>                             | No mark               | Research         | < 1 month              | No                       | Population size   |                                   | CAPTURE or MARK   |
| <b>Closed-CAPTURE models</b>               | Unique individual     | Research         | < 1 month              | No                       | Population size, capture probability                                |                                   | CAPTURE for all closed models or MARK for non-heterogeneity |
| <b>Jolly-Seber and Cormack-Jolly-Seber</b> | Unique individual     | Research         | >1 month               | No                       | Population size, apparent survival                                  | Individual growth from recaptures | POPAN, JOLLY, or MARK                                       |
| <b>Robust</b>                              | Unique individual     | Research         | >1 month               | No                       | Population size and growth, apparent survival, temporary emigration | Individual growth from recaptures | CAPTURE and JOLLY together or MARK                          |
| <b>Brownie</b>                             | Unique individual     | Fishery          | >1 year                | No                       | Survival, total mortality   |                                   | BROWNIE, MARK   |
| <b>Hoenig/Hearn</b>                        | Unique individual     | Fishery          | >1 year                | Yes                      | Survival, fishing and natural mortality                             |                                   | AVOCADO   |
| <b>Telemetry</b>                           | Unique individual     | Research         | = 1 year               | No                       | Survival, fishing and natural mortality                             | Movement, habitat use             | SURVIV  |
| <b>Combined telemetry/tagging</b>          | Unique individual     | Research/Fishery | > 1 year               | No                       | Survival, fishing and natural mortality                             | Movement, habitat use             | SURVIV  |

# of tagging events also important

# Many Software Options

| Product name | Description   | World Wide Web address   |
|--------------|---|--|
| MARK         | Comprehensive program for most types of capture-recapture analysis including open, closed, and robust design models. Capture probability and survival directly estimated for open, closed, and robust models and population size estimation for closed and robust models.   | <a href="http://www.cnr.colostate.edu/~gwhite/mark/mark.htm">www.cnr.colostate.edu/~gwhite/mark/mark.htm</a> |
| CAPTURE      | One of the first programs for estimating population size and capture probability in closed populations. Calculates estimates using a variety of models which are able to account for heterogeneity, behavioral response, time variation, in capture probability. Only software that contains heterogeneity models. Can be run as an option within MARK. | <a href="http://www.mbr-pwrc.usgs.gov/software">www.mbr-pwrc.usgs.gov/software</a>                           |
| JOLLY        | Program for estimating population size, survival, and capture probability of open populations.  | <a href="http://www.mbr-pwrc.usgs.gov/software">www.mbr-pwrc.usgs.gov/software</a>                           |
| SURVIV       | Program used to calculate survival rates from user-specified survival functions including tag-return models. Not very user-friendly.  | <a href="http://www.mbr-pwrc.usgs.gov/software">www.mbr-pwrc.usgs.gov/software</a>                           |
| POPAN        | Program for estimating population size and number of new recruits in open populations.  | <a href="http://www.cs.umanitoba.ca/~popan/">www.cs.umanitoba.ca/~popan/</a>                                 |
| SPAS         | Program for estimating population size in stratified two sample capture-recapture studies.  | <a href="http://www.cs.umanitoba.ca/~popan/">www.cs.umanitoba.ca/~popan/</a>                                 |

Package “RMark” is an R interface that uses program MARK in the background

# Open vs closed population

- Closed population\*
  - No changes in population size (births, deaths, immigration, or emigration)



\*Note this is slightly different definition than what we used before. Before, “closed” was defined by not having migration (but allowed births and deaths)<sup>7</sup>

# Open vs closed population

- Closed population
  - No changes in population size (births, deaths, immigration, or emigration)
- Open population



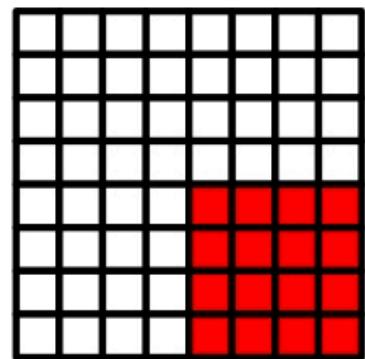
# Outline

- A brief history
- **Closed population methods**
  - Lincoln-Petersen
- Open population methods
  - Capture-recapture (Cormack-Jolly-Seber) models
  - Recovery (Brownie) models
- Extensions
  - Multi-state models
  - Robust design

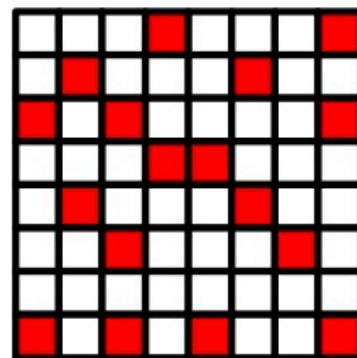
# Closed Populations

- No additions
  - Births or immigration
- No deletions
  - Death or emigration
- **Primarily used to estimate abundance**

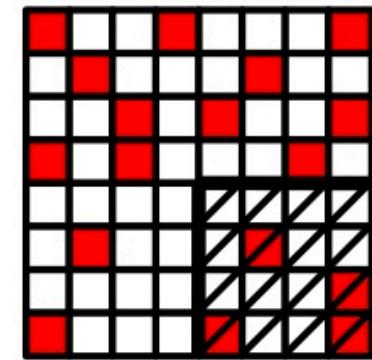
# Closed Populations



FIRST CAPTURE



DISPERSE



SECOND CAPTURE

# Lincoln-Petersen Estimator

$$\frac{\frac{n_1}{\text{# captured in 1st sample}}}{\text{Population abundance}} = \frac{\frac{m_2}{\text{# marked in 2nd sample}}}{\frac{n_2}{\text{# captured in 2nd sample}}}$$

$$\frac{n_1}{N} = \frac{m_2}{n_2}$$

Solve for N →

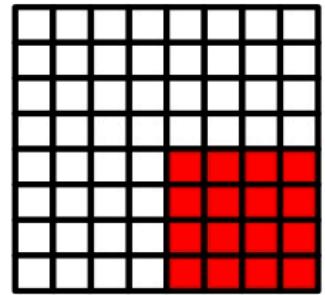
$$N = \frac{n_1 n_2}{m_2}$$

# Lincoln-Petersen Correction

- Chapman correction
  - Reduces bias
  - Defined even if  $m_2=0$

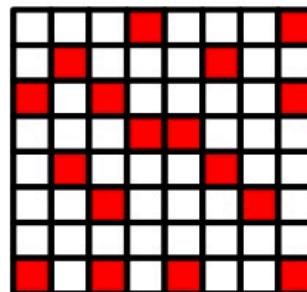
$$N_{chap} = \frac{(n_1 + 1)(n_2 + 1)}{(m_2 + 1)} - 1$$

# Lincoln-Petersen Example



FIRST CAPTURE

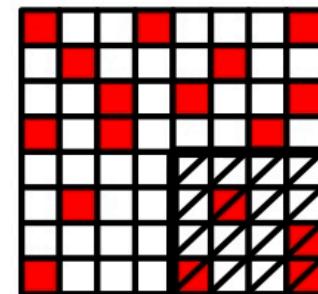
$$n_1 = 16$$



DISPERSE

$$n_2 = 16$$

$$m_2 = 4$$



SECOND CAPTURE

$$N = \frac{n_1 n_2}{m_2} = \frac{16 * 16}{4} = 64$$

As an exercise, calculate N assuming  $m_2$  was 2 or 5.

$$N_{chap} = \frac{(n_1 + 1)(n_2 + 1)}{m_2 + 1} - 1 = \frac{17 * 17}{5} - 1 = 56.8$$

# Assumptions

- Population is closed to additions or deletions
  - i.e., no births, deaths, migration
- All individuals have the same capture probability
- Individuals do not lose marks

# Outline

- A brief history
- Closed population methods
  - Lincoln-Petersen
- Open population methods
  - Capture-recapture (Cormack-Jolly-Seber) models
  - Recovery (Brownie) models
- Extensions
  - Multi-state models
  - Robust design

# Capture Recapture Models

- Individuals are captured and then released
  - Can be recaptured in multiple sampling occasions

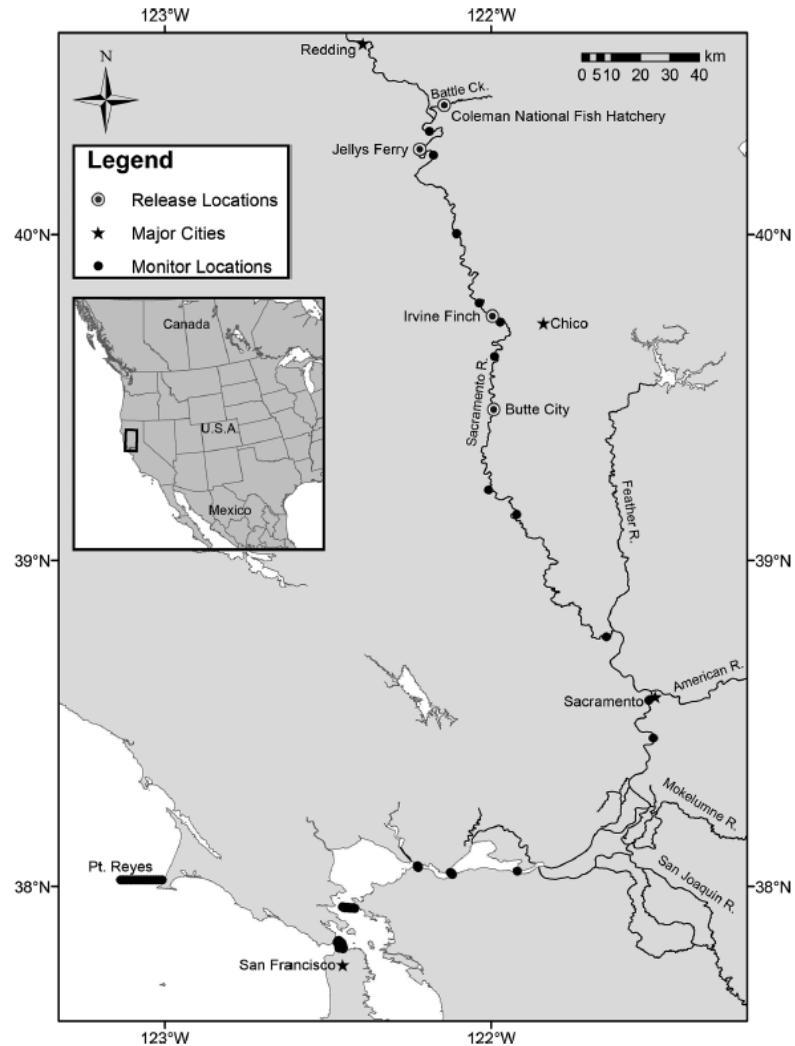


# Cormack Jolly Seber (CJS) Model

- Individuals are captured, tagged, and released
  - Can be recaptured on multiple sampling occasions
  - Model accounts for imperfect re-capture (i.e, imperfect detection)
- Only uses marked individuals
  - **Primarily used to estimate survival**
  - **Cannot estimate abundance or recruitment**
- Requires at least 3 samples
- Developed independently in 1960s by three researchers (Cormack, Jolly, and Seber)

# CJS Example

- Implanted acoustic tags in 1350 late-fall Chinook smolts
- Tracked movements with acoustic receivers
- Applied CJS model to estimate survival throughout Sac River, Delta, and SF estuary

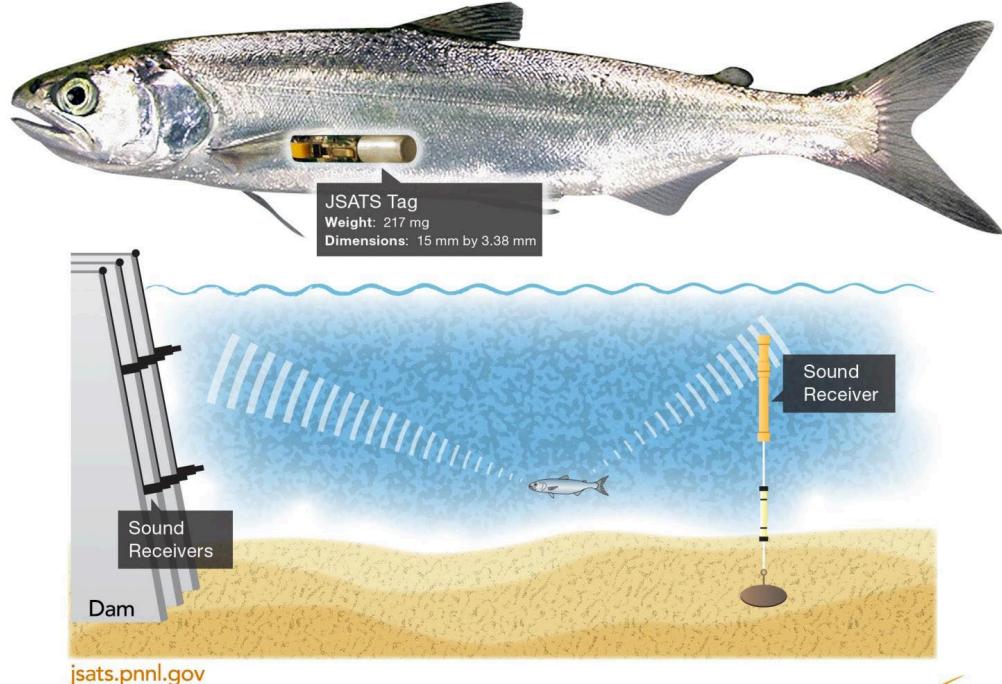


# Capture Recapture Example

- Juvenile Salmon Acoustic Telemetry System



Injectable Acoustic Fish Tracking Tag



# Parameters

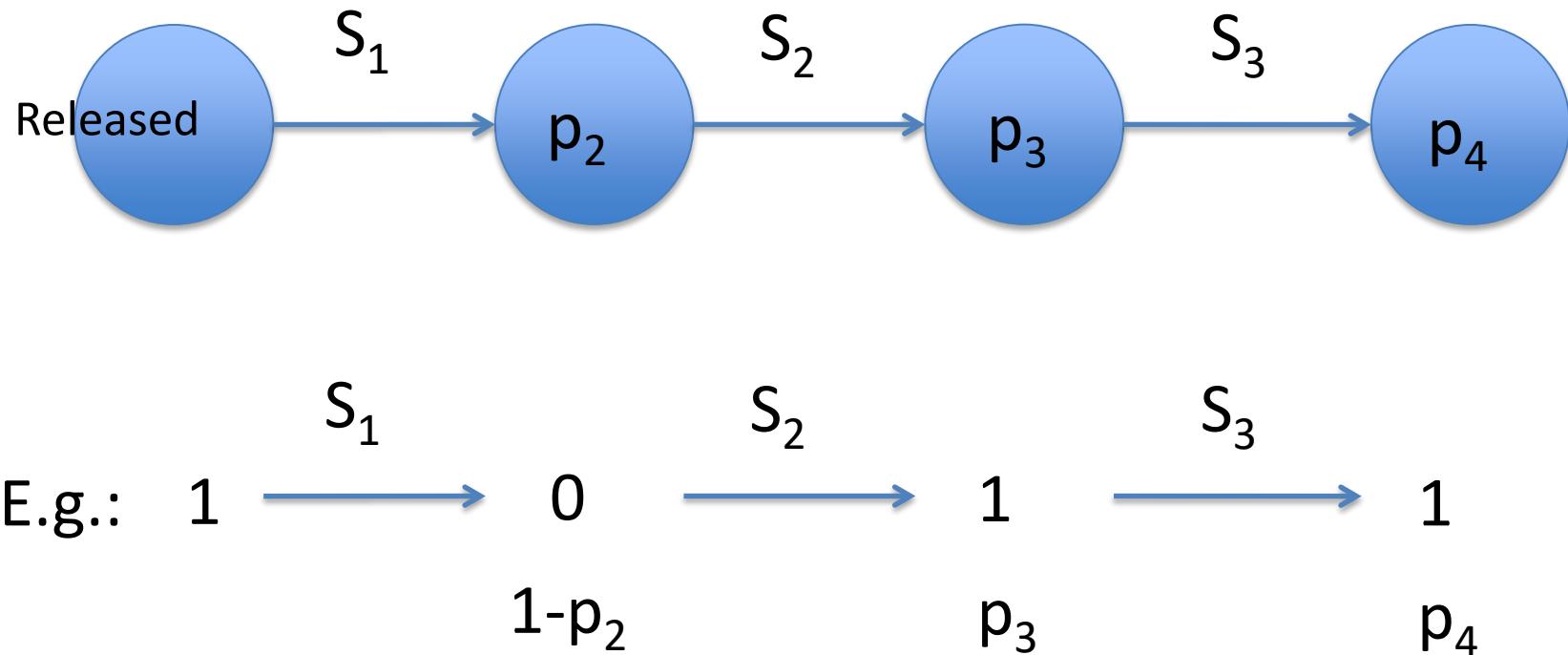
- **Capture probability ( $p_i$ )**
  - Probability that a marked fish is captured in period (i)
- **Apparent survival ( $S_i$ ) (often use “Phi”  $\Phi_i$ )**
  - Probability that an animal alive in time (i) survives until (i+1) *and* does not permanently emigrate
  - Cannot distinguish between death and permanent emigration



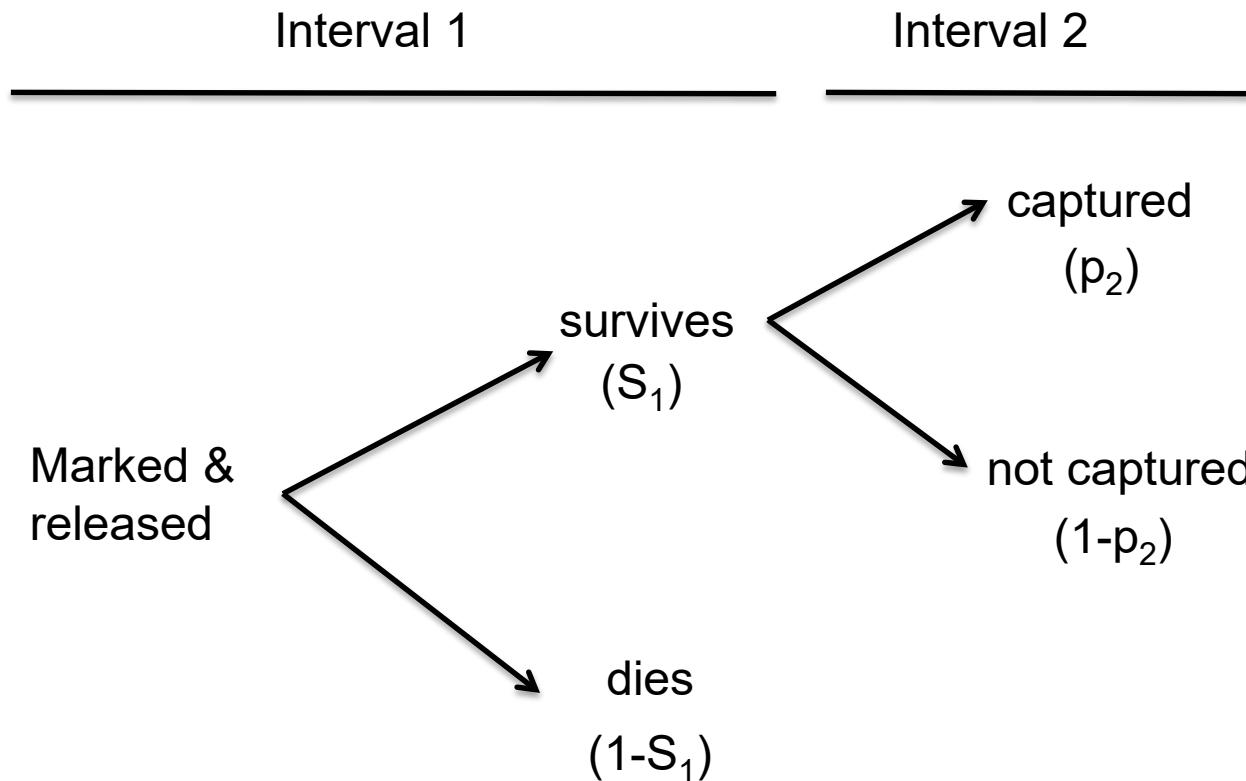
**Sidenote:**  $\Phi$  is also used in math for the [Golden ratio \(1.618...\)](#), but this is not what we are using

# CJS data

For each fish, we may (or may not) detect it on each sampling occasion

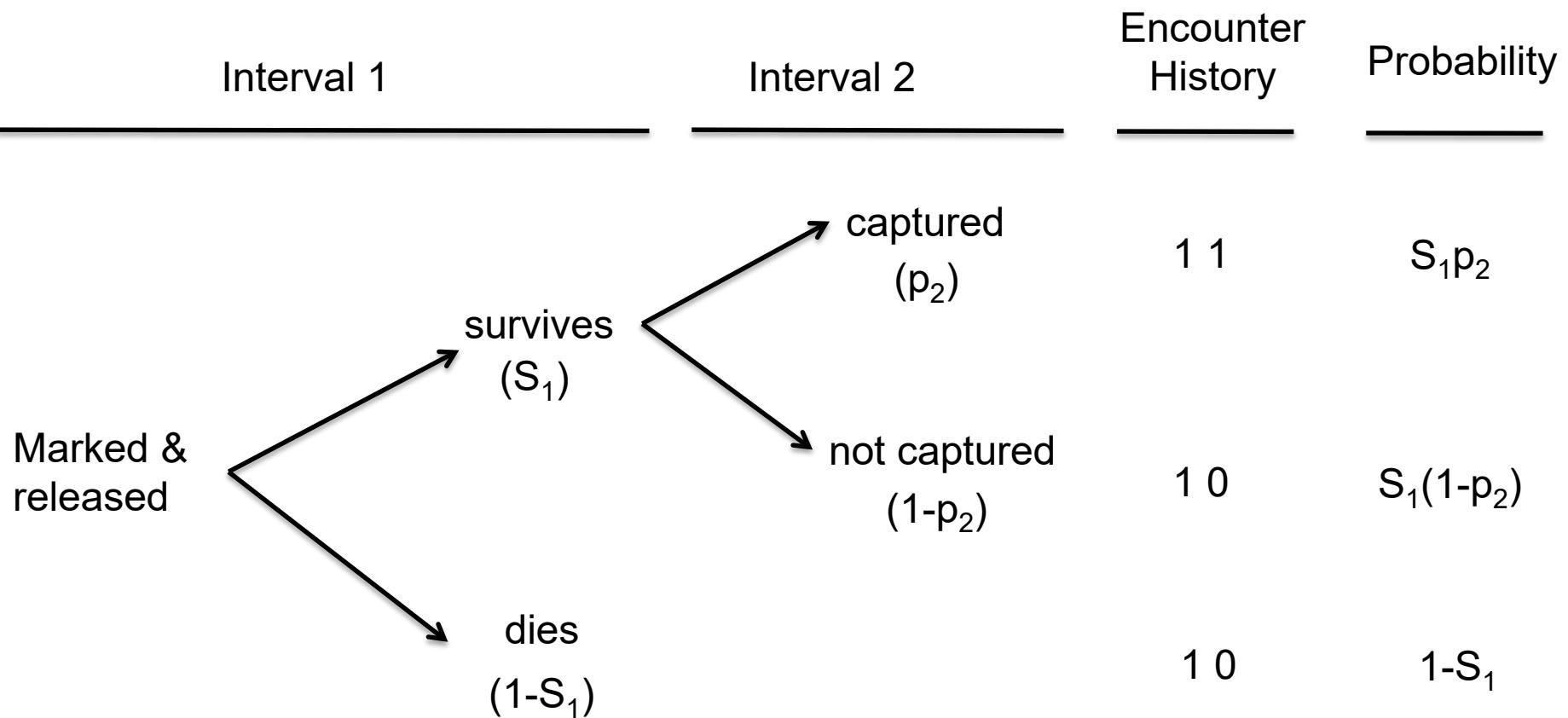


# CJS Model



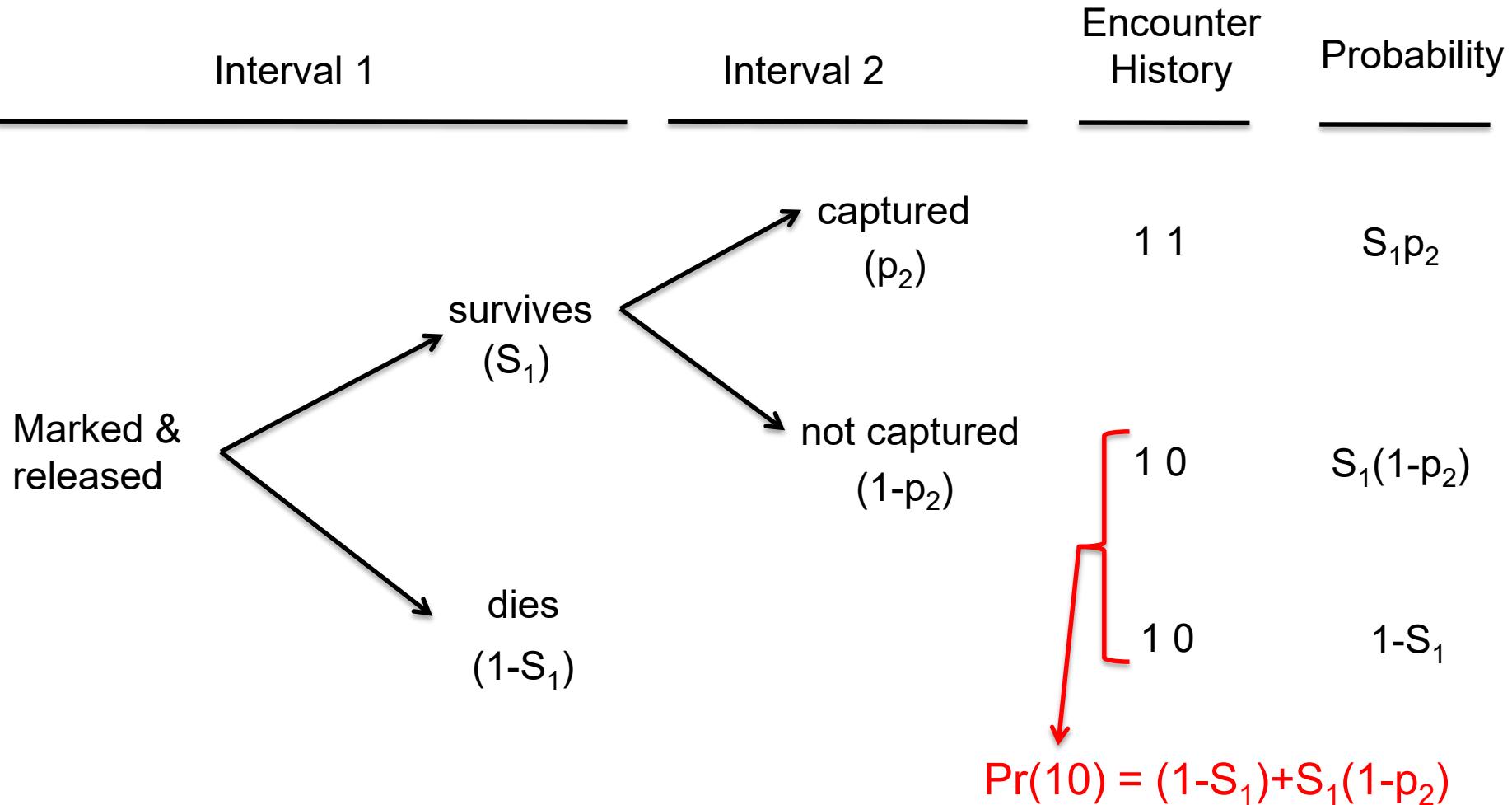
Modified from Williams et al 2002

# CJS Model



Modified from Williams et al 2002

# CJS Model



Modified from Williams et al 2002

# CJS Likelihood

- Capture history,  $CH$  (conditional on release)

| Interval 1 | Interval 2 | Interval 3 | Interval 4 |
|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| 1          | 0          | 1          | 0          |

$$\Pr(CH) = S_1(1 - p_2) \quad S_2 p_3 \quad ((1 - S_3) + S_3(1 - p_4))$$

$$L(S, p) = \prod_{i=1}^h (\Pr(CH_h))^n$$

Where  $h$  = unique capture histories

$n$  = individuals with capture history  $i$

# Example

| Ind | Sample2 | Sample3 | Sample4 | Probability               | Likelihood |
|-----|---------|---------|---------|---------------------------|------------|
| 1   | 1       | 1       | 1       | $S_1 p_2 S_2 p_3 S_3 p_4$ | 0.106      |
| 2   | 1       | 0       | 1       |                           |            |
| 3   | 0       | 1       | 1       |                           |            |
| 4   | 1       | 1       | 0       |                           |            |
| 5   | 1       | 0       | 0       |                           |            |

Initial parameter values:  $S_1=0.5, S_2=0.6, S_3=0.7; p_2=0.9, p_3=0.8, p_4=0.7$

# Example

| Ind | Sample2 | Sample3 | Sample4 | Probability                   | Likelihood |
|-----|---------|---------|---------|-------------------------------|------------|
| 1   | 1       | 1       | 1       | $S_1 p_2 S_2 p_3 S_3 p_4$     | 0.106      |
| 2   | 1       | 0       | 1       | $S_1 p_2 S_2 (1-p_3) S_3 p_4$ | 0.027      |
| 3   | 0       | 1       | 1       |                               |            |
| 4   | 1       | 1       | 0       |                               |            |
| 5   | 1       | 0       | 0       |                               |            |

Initial parameter values:  $S_1=0.5, S_2=0.6, S_3=0.7; p_2=0.9, p_3=0.8, p_4=0.7$

# Example

| Ind | Sample2 | Sample3 | Sample4 | Probability                   | Likelihood |
|-----|---------|---------|---------|-------------------------------|------------|
| 1   | 1       | 1       | 1       | $S_1 p_2 S_2 p_3 S_3 p_4$     | 0.106      |
| 2   | 1       | 0       | 1       | $S_1 p_2 S_2 (1-p_3) S_3 p_4$ | 0.027      |
| 3   | 0       | 1       | 1       | $S_1 (1-p_2) S_2 p_2 S_3 p_4$ | 0.012      |
| 4   | 1       | 1       | 0       |                               |            |
| 5   | 1       | 0       | 0       |                               |            |

Initial parameter values:  $S_1=0.5, S_2=0.6, S_3=0.7; p_2=0.9, p_3=0.8, p_4=0.7$

# Example

| Ind | Sample2 | Sample3 | Sample4 | Probability                             | Likelihood |
|-----|---------|---------|---------|---|------------|
| 1   | 1       | 1       | 1       | $S_1 p_2 S_2 p_3 S_3 p_4$               | 0.106      |
| 2   | 1       | 0       | 1       | $S_1 p_2 S_2 (1-p_3) S_3 p_4$           | 0.027      |
| 3   | 0       | 1       | 1       | $S_1 (1-p_2) S_2 p_2 S_3 p_4$           | 0.012      |
| 4   | 1       | 1       | 0       | $S_1 p_2 S_2 p_3 [1-S_3 + S_3 (1-p_4)]$ | 0.065      |
| 5   | 1       | 0       | 0       |   |            |

Initial parameter values:  $S_1=0.5, S_2=0.6, S_3=0.7; p_2=0.9, p_3=0.8, p_4=0.7$

# Example

| Ind | Sample2 | Sample3 | Sample4 | Probability  | Likelihood |
|-----|---------|---------|---------|--|------------|
| 1   | 1       | 1       | 1       | $S_1 p_2 S_2 p_3 S_3 p_4$                            | 0.106      |
| 2   | 1       | 0       | 1       | $S_1 p_2 S_2 (1-p_3) S_3 p_4$                        | 0.027      |
| 3   | 0       | 1       | 1       | $S_1 (1-p_2) S_2 p_2 S_3 p_4$                        | 0.012      |
| 4   | 1       | 1       | 0       | $S_1 p_2 S_2 p_3 [1-S_3 + S_3(1-p_4)]$               | 0.065      |
| 5   | 1       | 0       | 0       | $S_1 p_2 \{1-S_2 + S_2(1-p_3)[1-S_3 + S_3(1-p_4)]\}$ | 0.208      |

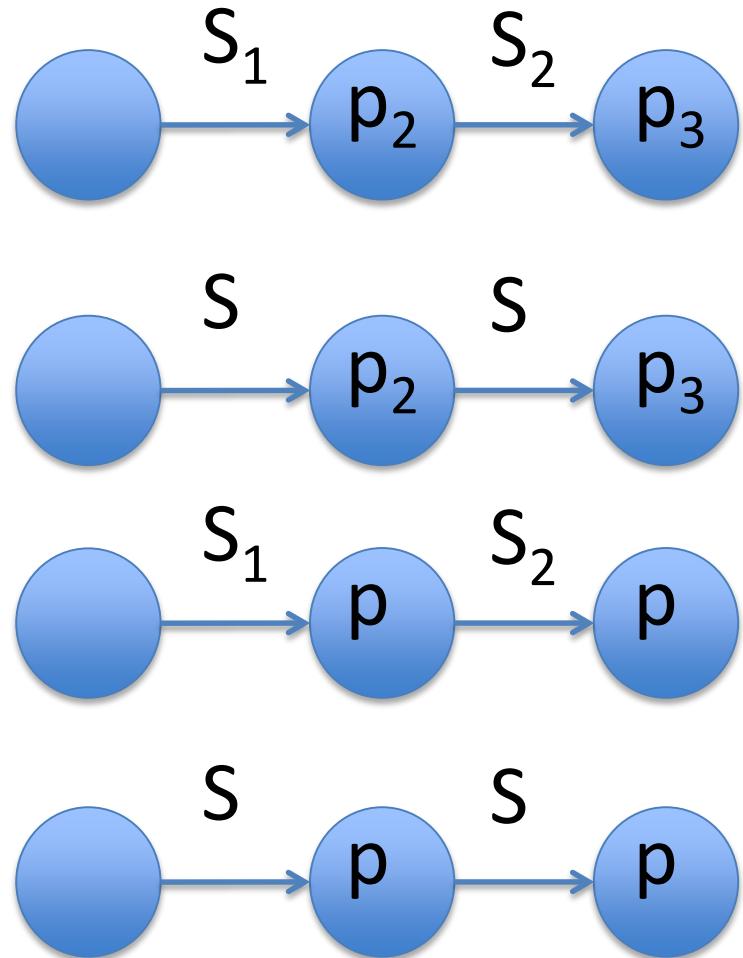
Initial parameter values:  $S_1=0.5, S_2=0.6, S_3=0.7; p_2=0.9, p_3=0.8, p_4=0.7$

# Model assumptions

- Survival is equal for marked and unmarked animals
- Tagging does not influence capture probability
- Sampling is ‘instantaneous’
- Tags are not lost or overlooked
- Fate of each fish is independent

# Examples of Potential Models

- Time dependent
- Constant Survival
- Constant Cap Prob
- Time independent



Note the different subscripts on the parameters;  
different subscripts denote different values

# Model Selection

- Akaike's Information Criterion (AIC)

$$AIC = -2\log(\hat{L}) + 2p$$

- $\hat{L}$  = likelihood value for a model evaluated at the parameter estimates
- $p$  = number of parameters (including the estimated error term,  $\sigma^2$ )
- Lower values are better

- Other criteria also exist (QAIC, BIC, etc.)

# Adding covariates

- Use Logistic regression and Logit Link
  - Logit transforms values (e.g.,  $\Phi$ ) that are btw 0 and 1 to make it go from  $-\infty$  to  $+\infty$

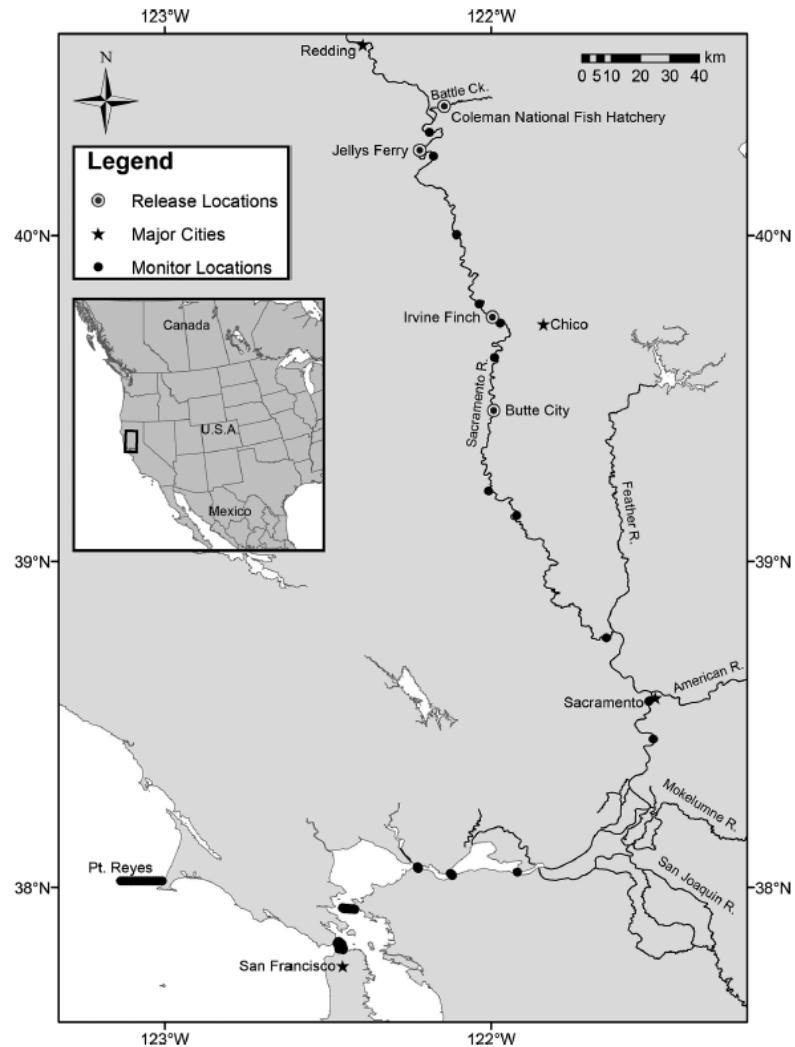
$$\log\left(\frac{\Phi_i}{1 - \Phi_i}\right) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_{1i} \dots$$

Alternative formulation (in probability form)

$$\Phi_i = \frac{e^{\beta_0 + \beta_1 X_{1i} \dots}}{1 + e^{\beta_0 + \beta_1 X_{1i} \dots}}$$

# CJS Example

- Implanted acoustic tags in 1350 late-fall Chinook smolts
- Tracked movements with acoustic receivers
- Applied CJS model to estimate survival throughout Sac River, Delta, and SF estuary

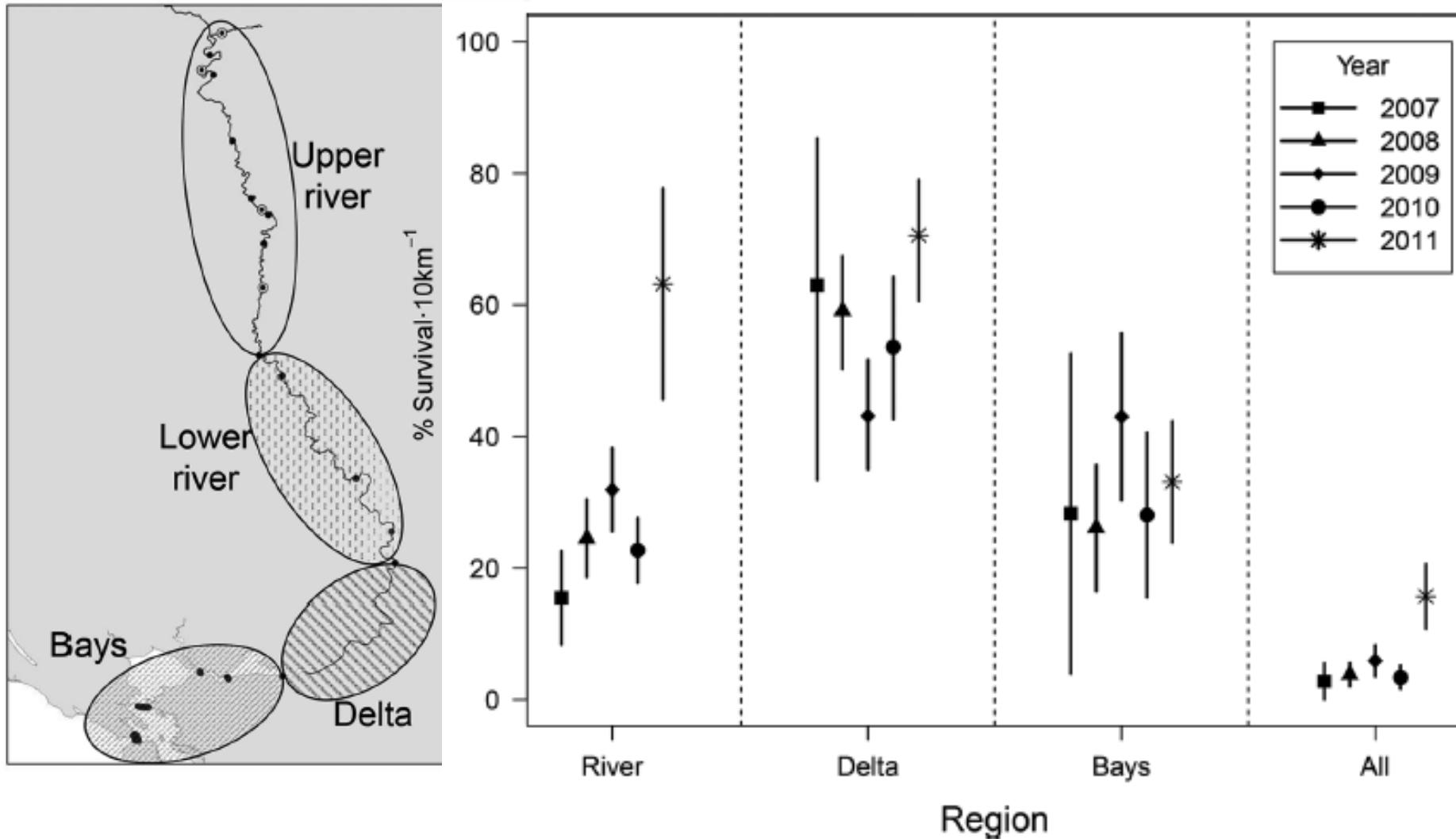


# CJS Example

**Table 3.** Survival models for different spatial and temporal factors, as well as individual covariates, ordered from lowest to highest  $\Delta\text{QAIC}_c$ , omitting 2011 data.

| Survival ( $\phi$ ) treatment                 | $\Delta\text{QAIC}_c$ | No. of parameters |
|---|-----------------------|-------------------|
| (River survival $\times$ year) $\times$ reach | 0.0                   | 126               |
| (Delta survival $\times$ year) $\times$ reach | 25.3                  | 93                |
| Base model (reach)                            | 26.6                  | 90                |
| Reach + length                                | 26.6                  | 91                |
| Reach $\times$ year                           | 27.9                  | 144               |
| Reach $\times$ length                         | 40.0                  | 108               |
| (Bays survival $\times$ year) $\times$ reach  | 49.0                  | 105               |
| Reach $\times$ mass                           | 50.0                  | 108               |
| Reach $\times$ release                        | 53.8                  | 126               |
| Reach $\times$ year $\times$ release          | 270.8                 | 288               |
| Null model (constant survival)                | 308.4                 | 73                |

# CJS Example



# Outline

- A brief history
- Closed population methods
  - Lincoln-Petersen
- Open population methods
  - Capture-recapture (Cormack-Jolly-Seber) models
  - Recovery (Brownie) models
- Extensions
  - Multi-state models
  - Robust design

# Recovery Model

- Models where a tag is ‘recovered’ and not returned to the population
  - Harvest



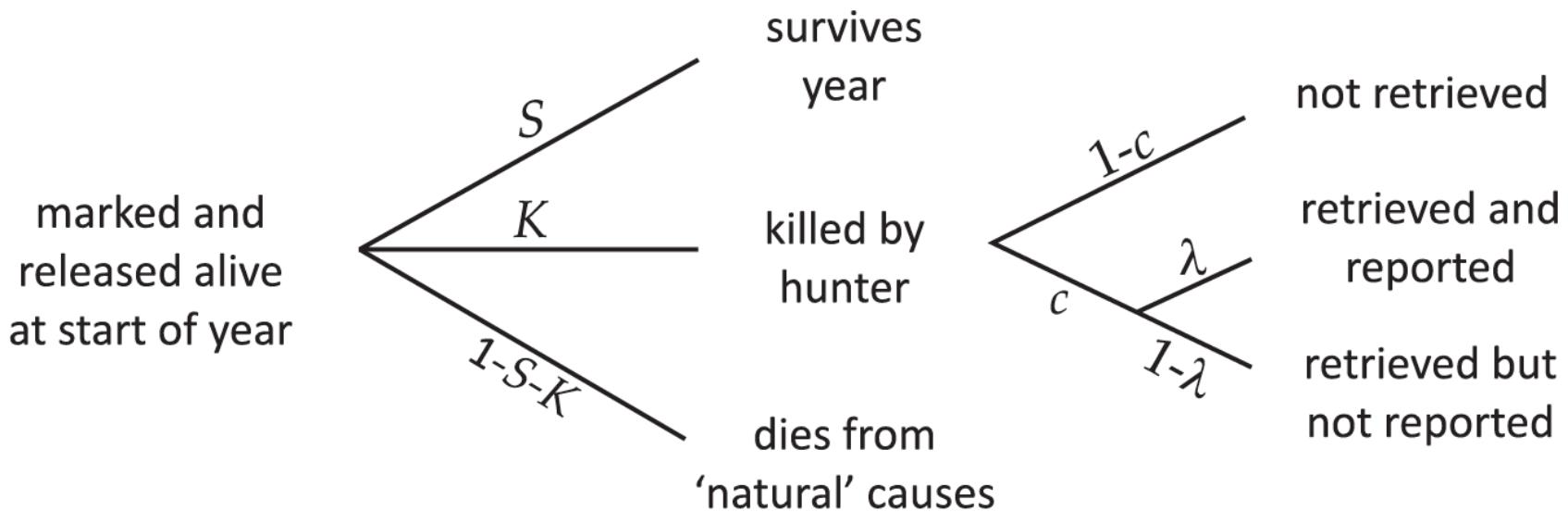
[www.skysguideservice.com](http://www.skysguideservice.com)

# Recovery Model

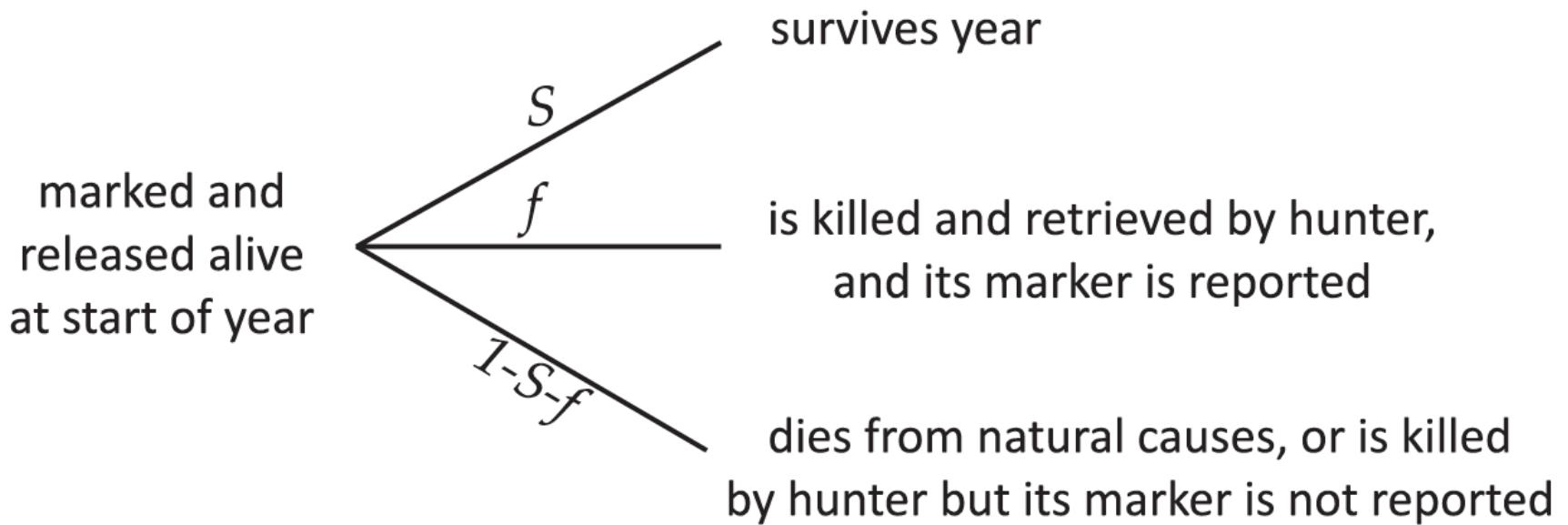
- Models where a tag is ‘recovered’ and not returned to the population
  - Harvest
- Also requires at least 3 sampling occasions
- Often referred to as ‘Brownie models’
  - Brownie et al. 1985



# Recovery Model



# Recovery Model



Brownie et al 1985

# Recovery Model

| year marked | number marked | <i>year recovered</i> |               |                   |                       | $l = 4$ |
|-------------|---------------|-----------------------|---------------|-------------------|-----------------------|---------|
|             |               | 1                     | 2             | 3                 |                       |         |
| 1           | $N_1$         | $N_1 f_1$             | $N_1 S_1 f_2$ | $N_1 S_1 S_2 f_3$ | $N_1 S_1 S_2 S_3 f_4$ |         |
| 2           | $N_2$         |                       | $N_2 f_2$     | $N_2 S_2 f_3$     | $N_2 S_2 S_3 f_4$     |         |
| 3           | $N_3$         |                       |               | $N_3 f_3$         | $N_3 S_3 f_4$         |         |
| $k = 4$     | $N_4$         |                       |               |                   | $N_4 f_4$             |         |

$N_t$  = Number of individuals marked at time  $t$

$f_t$  = proportion harvested and reported

$S_t$  = proportion surviving (or harvested and not reported)

# Recovery matrix

**TABLE 16.8 Recoveries of Adult Male Mallards Banded during January/February in Illinois<sup>a</sup>**

| Year | Number banded | Recovered during hunting season |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
|------|---------------|---------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
|      |               | 1963                            | 1964 | 1965 | 1966 | 1967 | 1968 | 1969 | 1970 | 1971 | 1972 |
| 1963 | 2583          | 91                              | 89   | 24   | 18   | 16   | 11   | 8    | 7    | 7    | 2    |
| 1964 | 3075          |                                 | 141  | 45   | 52   | 50   | 17   | 30   | 21   | 16   | 7    |
| 1965 | 1195          |                                 |      | 27   | 31   | 21   | 8    | 19   | 7    | 9    | 4    |
| 1966 | 3418          |                                 |      |      | 156  | 92   | 44   | 50   | 49   | 34   | 23   |
| 1967 | 3100          |                                 |      |      |      | 113  | 68   | 57   | 65   | 41   | 23   |
| 1968 | 2400          |                                 |      |      |      |      | 63   | 52   | 59   | 44   | 30   |
| 1969 | 2601          |                                 |      |      |      |      |      | 91   | 80   | 58   | 37   |
| 1970 | 4433          |                                 |      |      |      |      |      |      | 222  | 169  | 95   |
|      |               |                                 |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      | 46   |

<sup>a</sup>From Brownie *et al.* (1985).

# Parameter Estimation

- Method of Moments

| year marked | number marked | <i>year recovered</i> |               |                   |                       |
|-------------|---------------|-----------------------|---------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
|             |               | 1                     | 2             | 3                 | $l = 4$               |
| 1           | $N_1$         | $N_1 f_1$             | $N_1 S_1 f_2$ | $N_1 S_1 S_2 f_3$ | $N_1 S_1 S_2 S_3 f_4$ |
| 2           | $N_2$         |                       | $N_2 f_2$     | $N_2 S_2 f_3$     | $N_2 S_2 S_3 f_4$     |
| 3           | $N_3$         |                       |               | $N_3 f_3$         | $N_3 S_3 f_4$         |
| $k = 4$     | $N_4$         |                       |               |                   | $N_4 f_4$             |

TABLE 16.8 Recoveries of Adult Male Mallards

| Year | Number banded | 1963 | 1964       | 1965 | 1966 |
|------|---------------|------|------------|------|------|
|      |               |      | Recoveries |      |      |
| 1963 | 2583          | 91   | 89         | 24   | 18   |
| 1964 | 3075          |      | 141        | 45   | 52   |
| 1965 | 1195          |      |            | 27   | 31   |
| 1966 | 3418          |      |            |      | 156  |
| 1967 | 3100          |      |            |      |      |

# Parameter Estimation

- Method of Moments

| year marked | number marked | year recovered |               |                   |                       |
|-------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
|             |               | 1              | 2             | 3                 | $l = 4$               |
| 1           | $N_1$         | $N_1 f_1$      | $N_1 S_1 f_2$ | $N_1 S_1 S_2 f_3$ | $N_1 S_1 S_2 S_3 f_4$ |
| 2           | $N_2$         |                | $N_2 f_2$     | $N_2 S_2 f_3$     | $N_2 S_2 S_3 f_4$     |
| 3           | $N_3$         |                |               | $N_3 f_3$         | $N_3 S_3 f_4$         |
| $k = 4$     | $N_4$         |                |               |                   | $N_4 f_4$             |

$$\frac{r_{12}}{r_{22}} = \frac{N_1 S_1 f_2}{N_2 f_2}$$

$$S_1 = \frac{r_{12} N_2}{r_{22} N_1}$$

TABLE 16.8 Recoveries of Adult Male Mallards

| Year | Number banded | 1963 | 1964 | 1965 | 1966 |
|------|---------------|------|------|------|------|
|      |               |      | Re   |      |      |
| 1963 | 2583          | 91   | 89   | 24   | 18   |
| 1964 | 3075          |      | 141  | 45   | 52   |
| 1965 | 1195          |      |      | 27   | 31   |
| 1966 | 3418          |      |      |      | 156  |
| 1967 | 3100          |      |      |      |      |

$$S_1 = \frac{89 \cdot 3075}{141 \cdot 2583}$$

$$S_1 = 0.75$$

# Parameter Estimation

- Method of Moments
- Maximum Likelihood
  - Uses all available data
  - Reduces bias
  - Better (and more common) than the method of moments approach

# Assumptions

(Same as CJS model):

- Survival is equal for marked and unmarked animals
- Tagging does not influence capture probability
- Sampling is ‘instantaneous’
- Tags are not lost or overlooked
- Fate of each fish is independent

# Mortality

- The parameter  $f_i$  (prob of harvest and reporting) is a function of the probability of harvest ( $u_i$ ) and the tag-reporting rate ( $\lambda_i$ )

$$f_i = u_i \lambda \longrightarrow u_i = \frac{f_i}{\lambda}$$

# Mortality

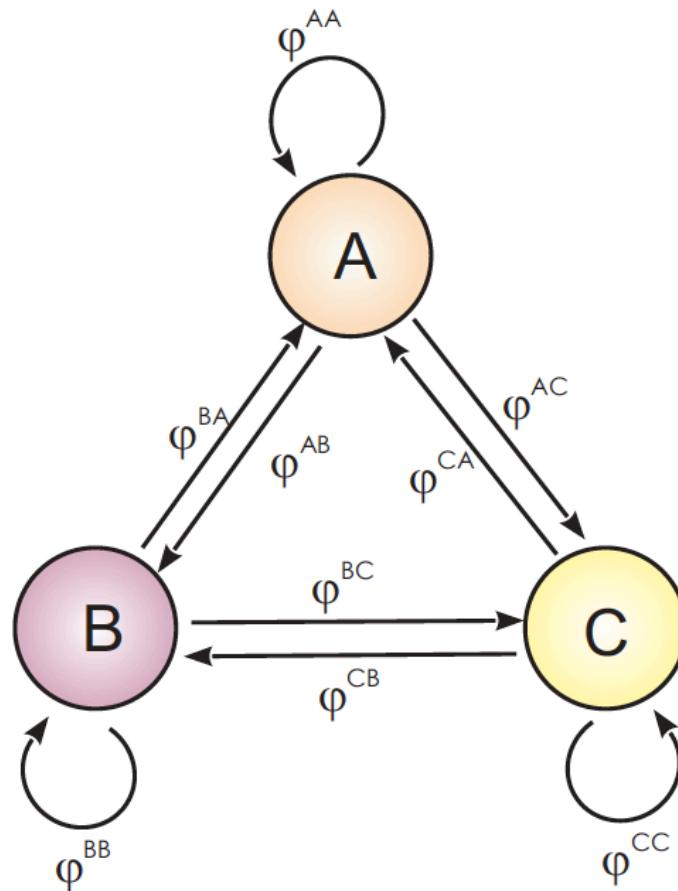
- The parameter  $f_i$  (prob of harvest and reporting) is a function of the probability of harvest ( $u_i$ ) and the tag-reporting rate ( $\lambda_i$ )
- Methods to estimate reporting rate
  - High reward tags (Pollock et al. 2001)
  - Planted tags
  - Port sampling
  - Two samples per year (Hearn et al 1998)

# Outline

- A brief history
- Closed population methods
  - Lincoln-Petersen
- Open population methods
  - Capture-recapture (Cormack-Jolly-Seber) models
  - Recovery (Brownie) models
- Extensions
  - Multi-state models
  - Robust design

# Multistate Models

- Animals can move between different discrete ‘states’

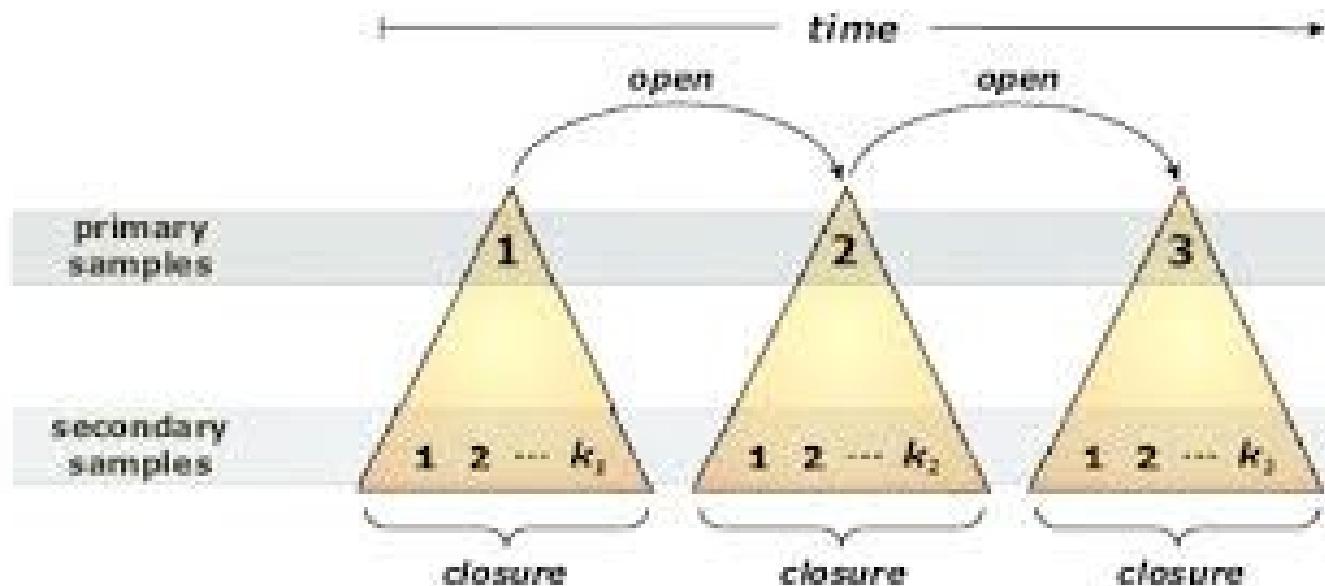


# Multistate Models

- Animals can move between different discrete ‘states’
- Examples of states
  - Spatial (spawning grounds)
  - Ontogenetic (immature vs mature)
  - Related to harvest (sublegal vs legal)
- Advantages
  - Can separate the probability of survival and moving between states
- Disadvantages
  - Very data hungry!

# Robust Design

- Combine intense sample over short period (closed population) with longer term sampling (open population)



# Robust Design

- Combine intense sample over short period (closed population) with longer term sampling (open population)
- Advantages
  - Robust estimates of abundance and recruitment
  - More precise estimates
  - Estimate temporary emigration

# Useful References

- Amstrup S.C., McDonald T.L., and Manly B.F.J. (2005) Handbook of Capture-Recapture Analysis. Princeton University Press, Princeton, NJ.
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- Williams B.K., Nichols J.D., and Conroy, M.J. (2001) Analysis and Management of Animal Populations. Academic Press, San Diego, CA.

# Summary - mark-recapture models

- General
  - Purpose: estimate mortality (Z,F,M) or abundance
  - Numerous methods with diff. assumptions/goals!
  - Methods for **open** vs. **closed** populations
- Closed population methods
  - **Lincoln-Petersen** – Estimate N; simple; **know basics & assumptions**
- Open population methods
  - **Cormack-Jolly-Seber (CJS) models** – Estimate survival & capture probability; **know basic idea; be able to write out capture history probabilities (for simple example)**
  - **Recovery (Brownie) models** – tags are harvested by fishery; **tag reporting rate** is important; ML method better than method of moments
- Extensions
  - **Multi-state models**
  - **Robust design**