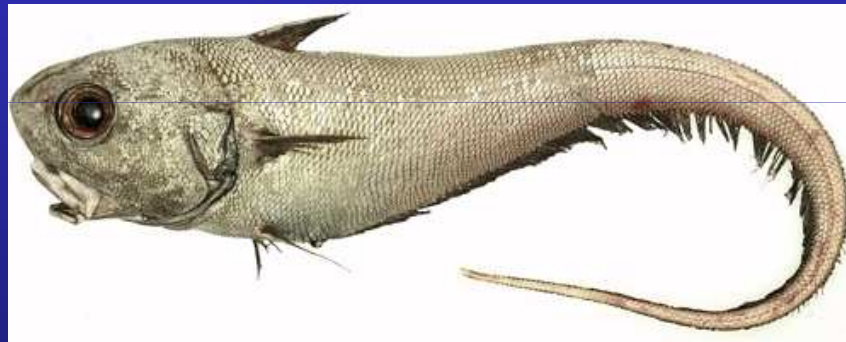
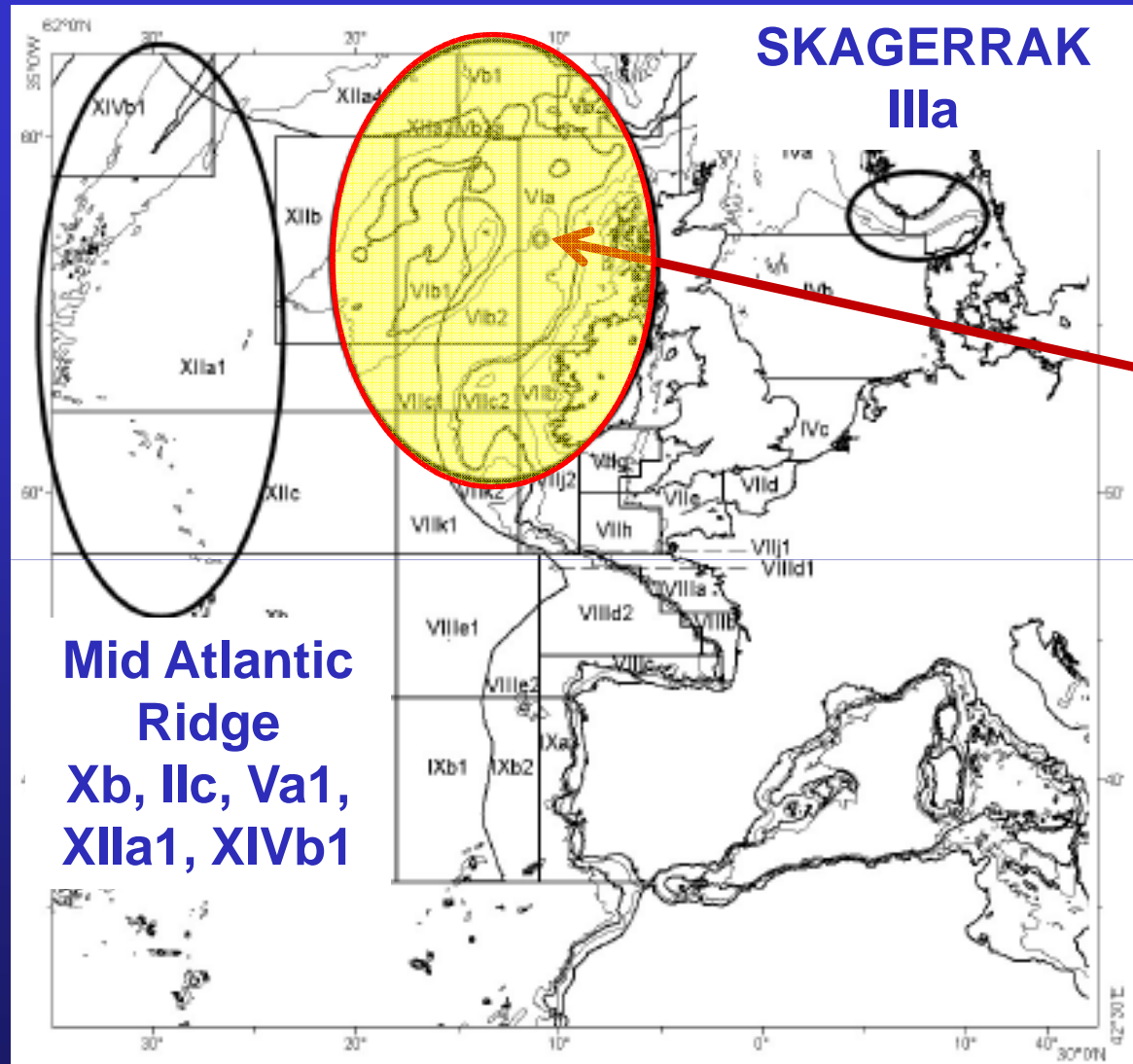


# Analytical Assessment of roundnose grenadier in ICES division Vb, subdivisions VI, VII



Lionel Pawlowski <sup>(1)</sup>, Pascal Lorance <sup>(2)</sup>

# Overview

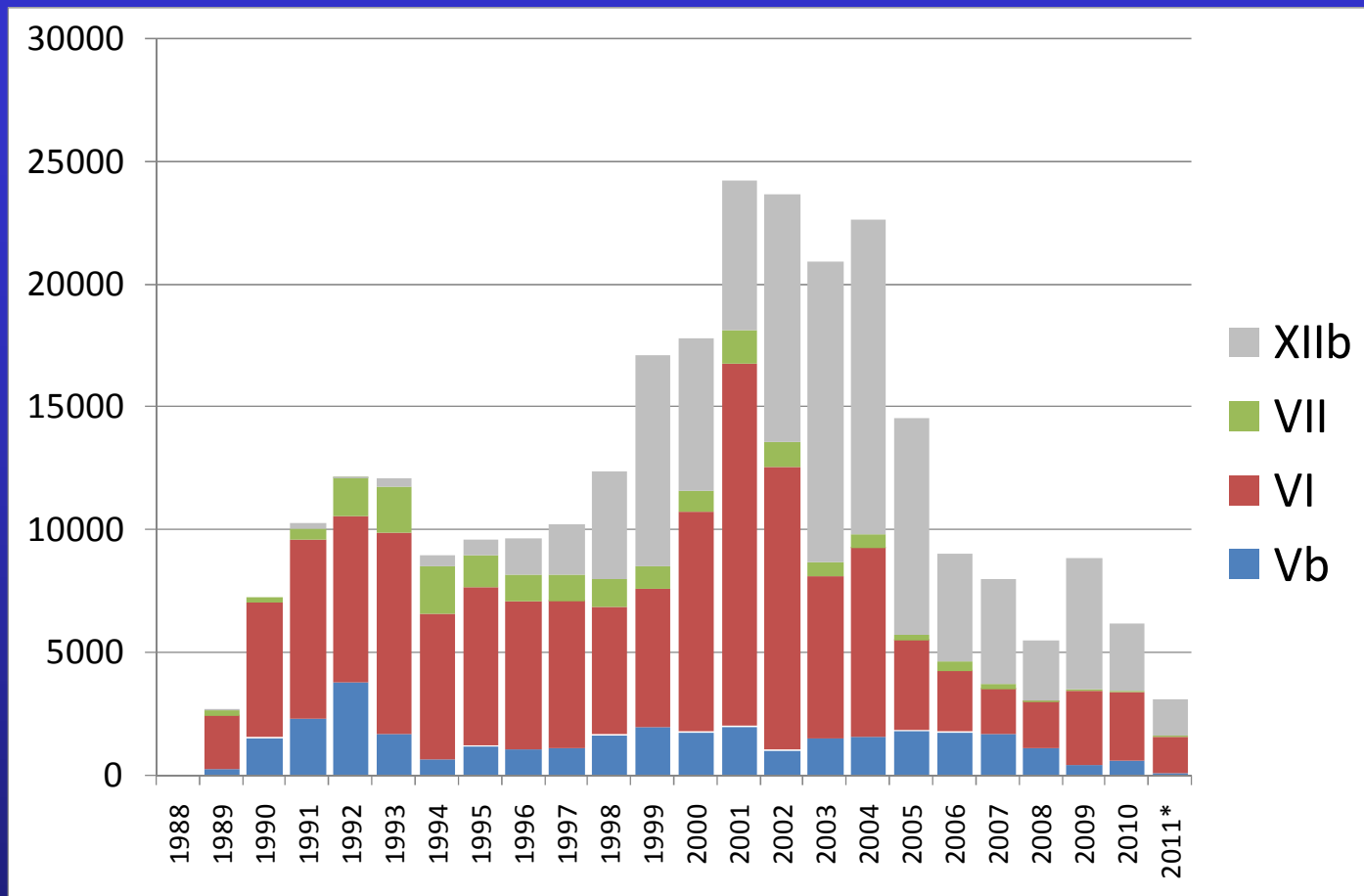


**SKAGERRAK  
IIIa**

**Faroes-Hatton area  
Celtic Sea  
Vb, VI, VII & XIIb**

**Mid Atlantic  
Ridge  
Xb, IIc, Va1,  
Xlla1, XIVb1**

## Overview



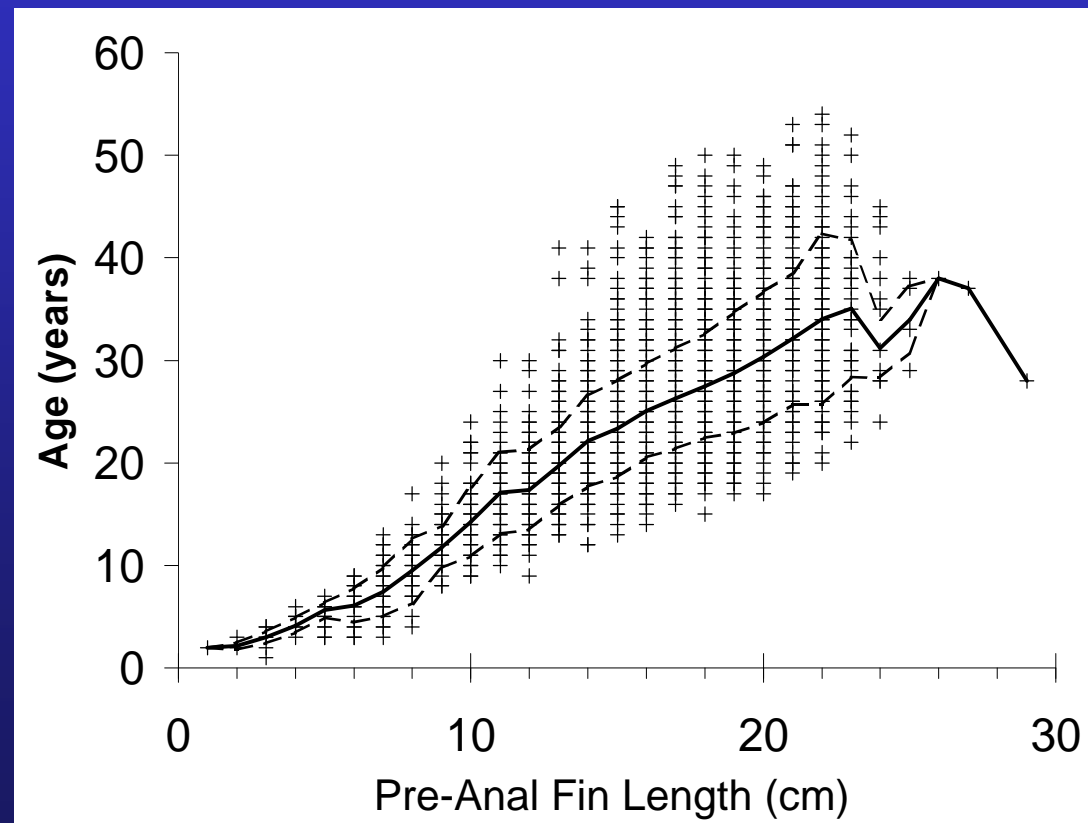
- Expansion then decline (intl landings/8, intl effort/4 since 2003).
- Regulated fishery by EC since 2003
- Mixed deepwater trawler fisheries including blackscabbard fish, blue ling
- Assessment used to be considered by ICES as exploratory prior 2012

## Why the « classical » age structured models do not work for RNG ?

→ Exploratory VPA at ICES WGDEEP before 2010

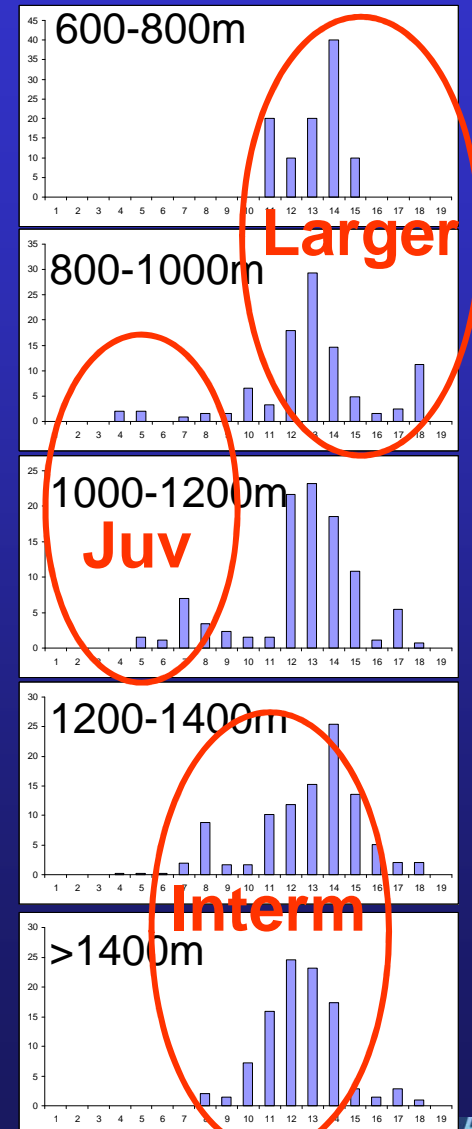
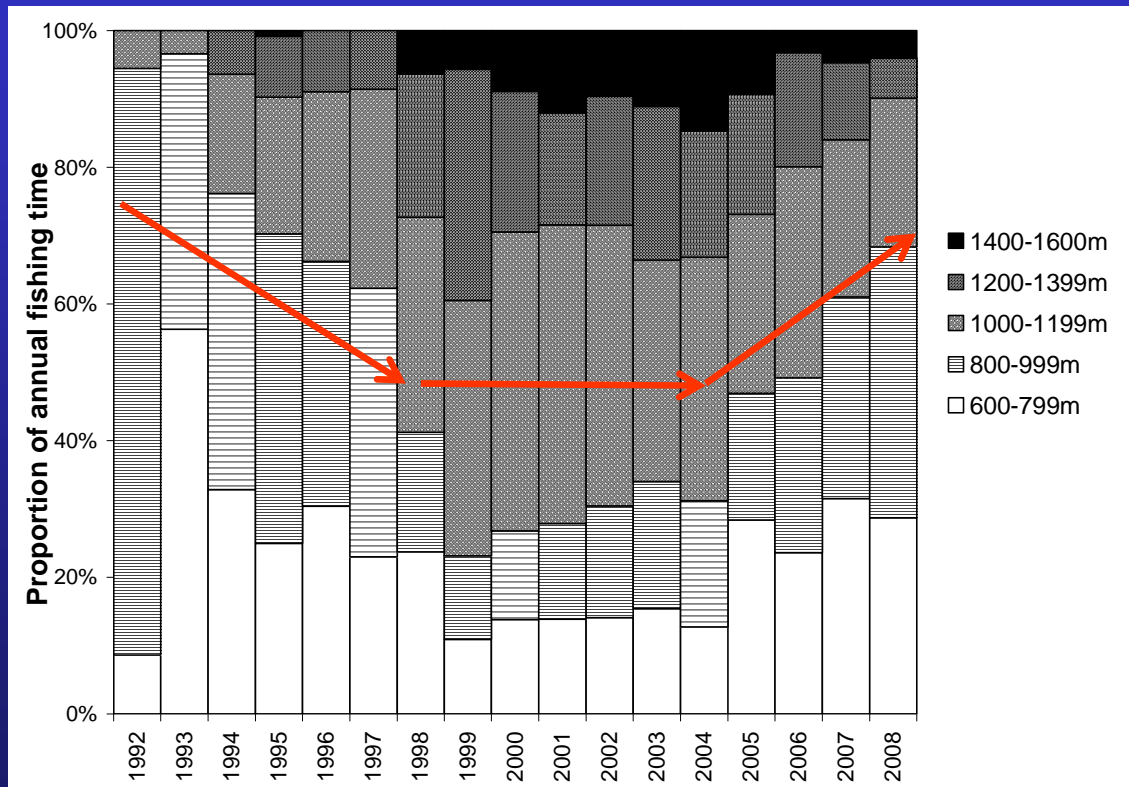
Issue #1 : Difficult cohort tracking (wide age range for a given length)

Issue #2 : Limited age data (specific training, limited sampling)



# Why common age structured models do not work on RNG stocks ?

Issue #3 : Change of fishing depth through time vs depth structured life cycle  
→ change of length structure



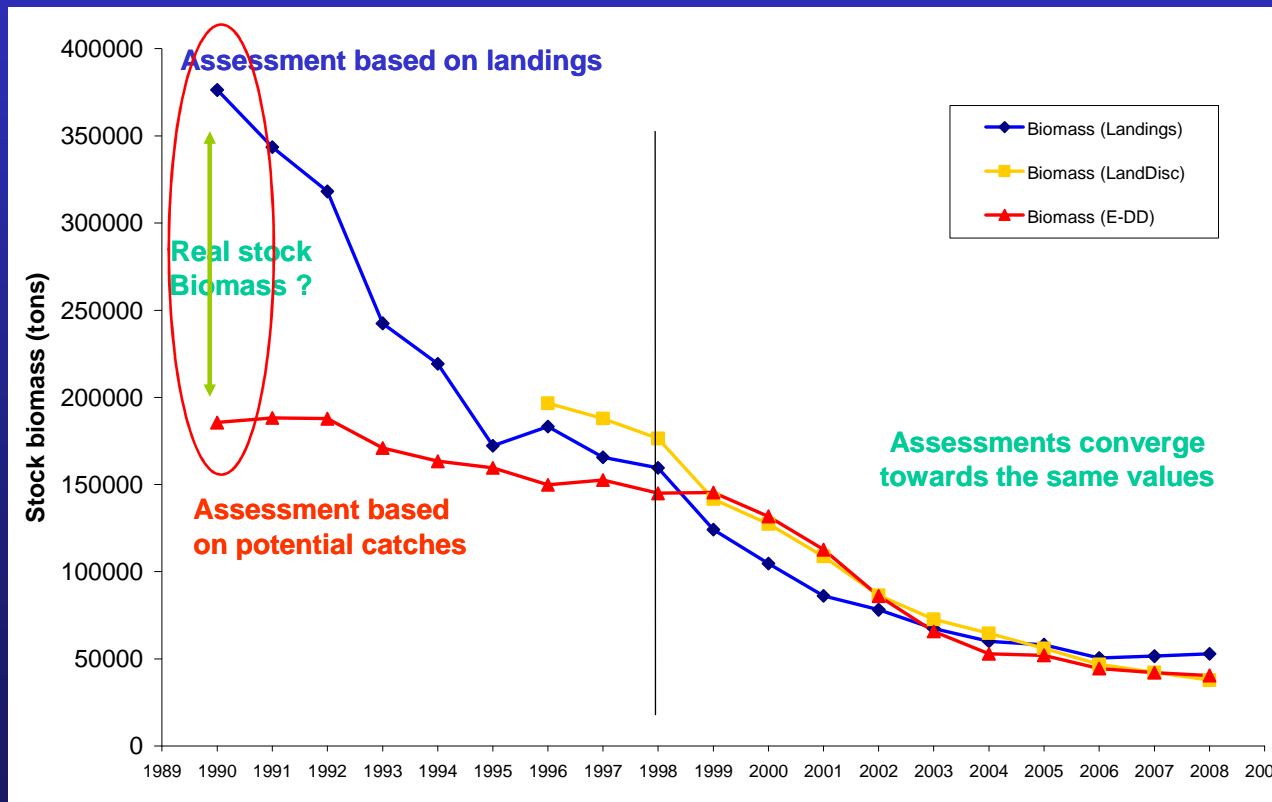
# Why common age structured models do not work on RNG stocks ?

Additional problems:

- too many age classes for the model
- no proper biological reference points
- Wide range of estimates of virgin biomass

Not usable for  
Advice / Management

Precautionary approach  
No catch option





## Surplus Bayesian Production Model

### Additional indicators: Maximum Sustainable Yield

$B_{msy}$   
Stock size at MSY

$H_{msy}$   
"proxy of  $F_{msy}$ "

$C_{msy}$   
MSY Catch level

$$B_{msy} = \frac{K}{2} \quad \times \quad H_{msy} = \frac{r}{2} \quad \rightarrow \quad C_{msy} = \frac{r \cdot k}{4}$$

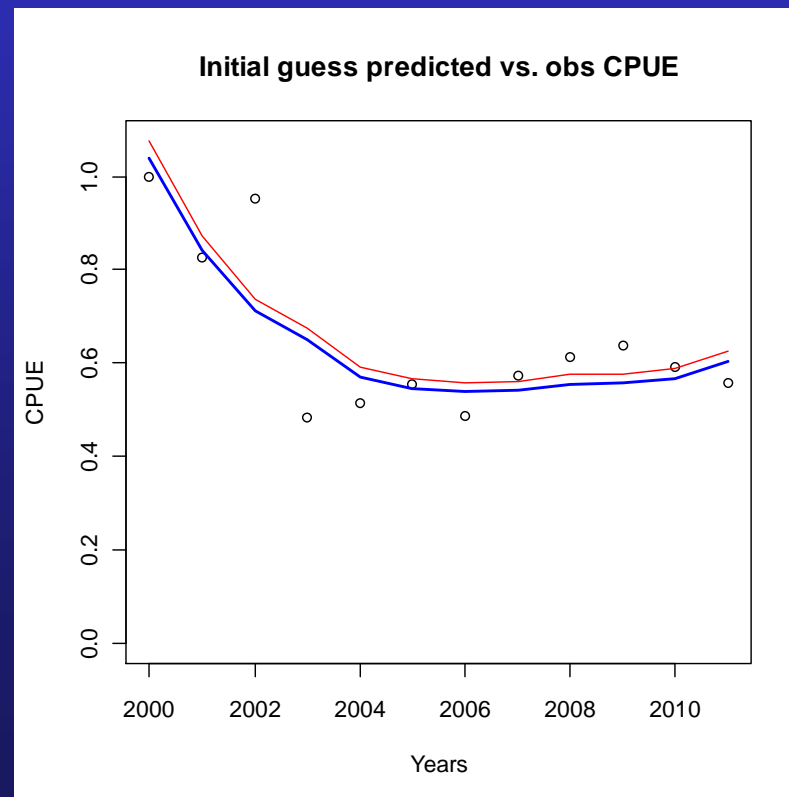
Bayesian framework  $\rightarrow$  probabilities of being above/below MSY

3 parameters required  $r$ ,  $K$ , and  $q$  (log catchability coefficient)

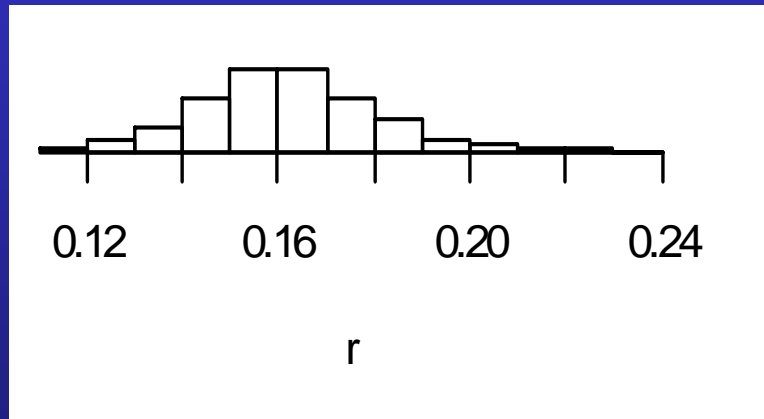
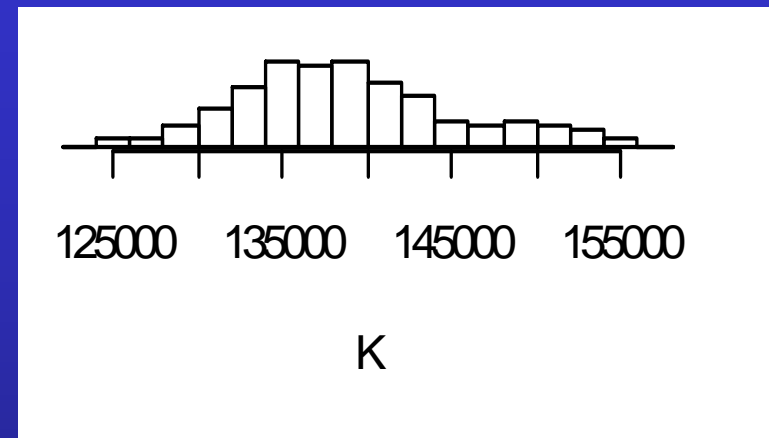
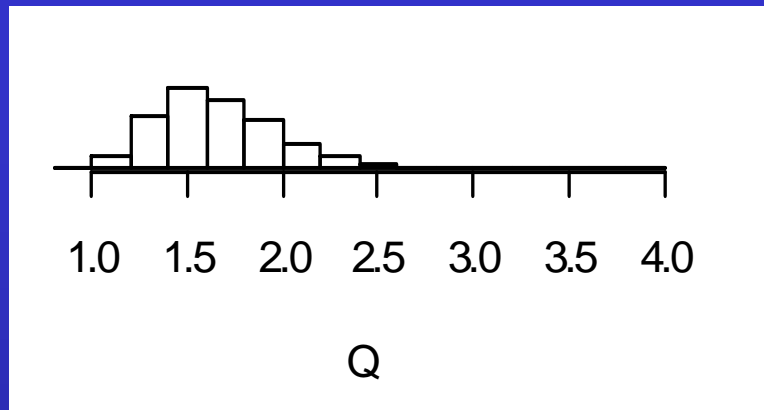


## Estimating $r, K, q$

- $r$ : by solving the Euler-Lotka equation (Fisher, 1930) using
  - assumed distribution of "maximal age"
  - assumed distribution of maturity at age
- $K, q$ : by fitting the production model to time series of abundance based on French tallybook database (30000 hauls) and international landings



## Estimating $r, K, q$

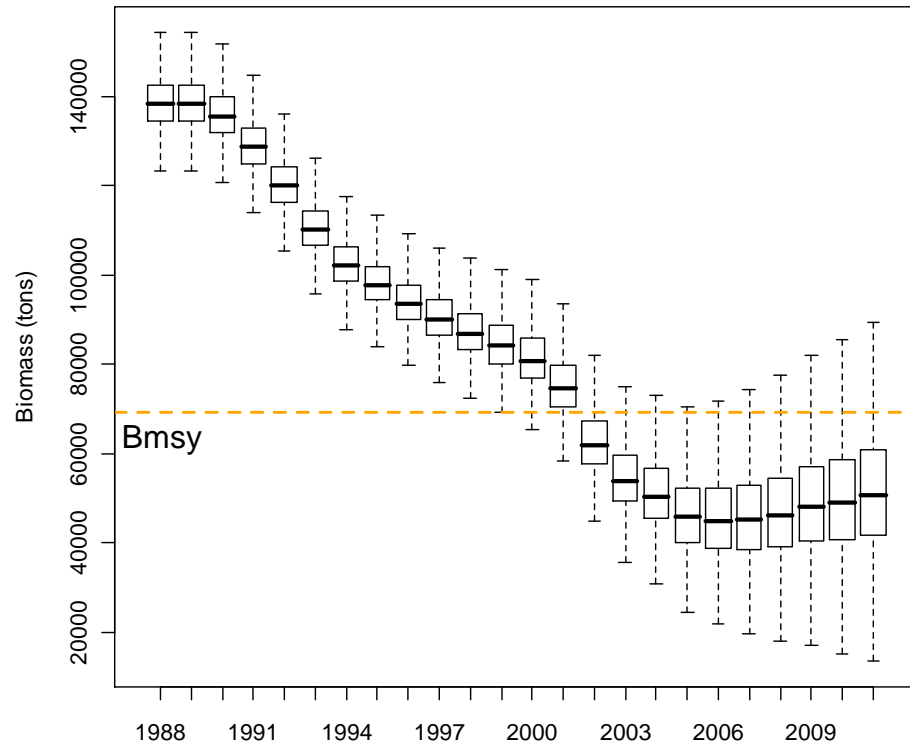


1000 estimates of  $r, K, q$  + goodness of fit for each parameter

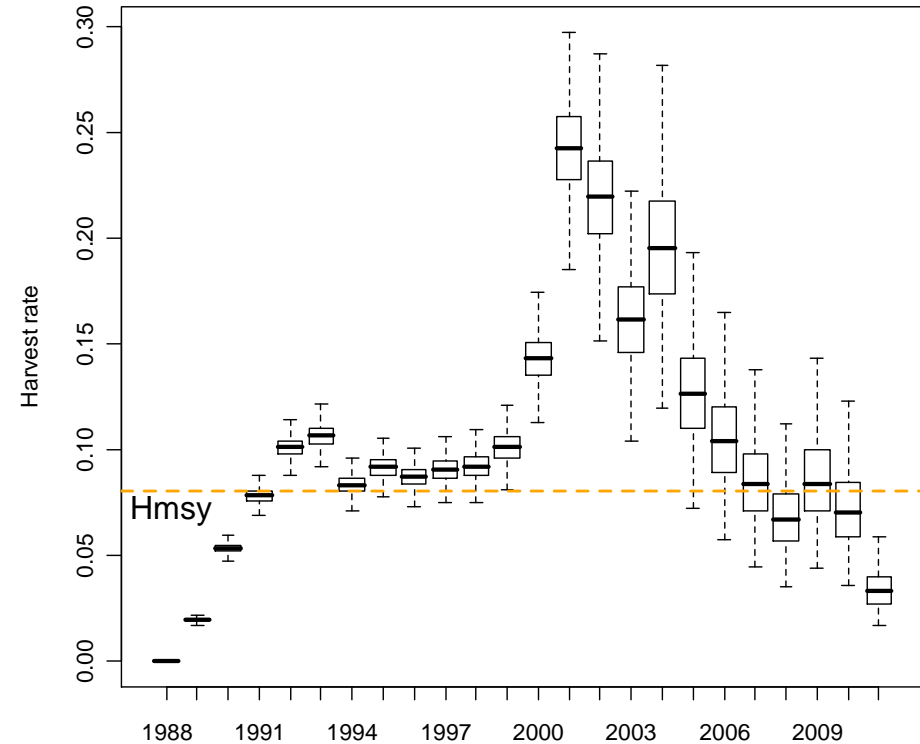
1000 separate runs of the model

# Stock assessment

RNG Biomass - Ref-2012



RNG Harvest rate



→ Stock slowly recovering since 2006 ( $p(B > B_{msy}) = 8\%$ )

→ strong reduction in fishing effort (now below  $H_{msy}$ )

## Providing management options

Applying various scenarios of TAC each year

### Probability of being above Bmsy

Areas V,VI,VII	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Status Quo 2546t	8%	11%	15%	20%	25%	32%	39%	46%	52%
TACy=85% prev. TAC	8%	11%	17%	23%	31%	41%	52%	61%	71%
TACy=Cmsy*By-1/Bmsy	8%	10%	11%	13%	15%	17%	19%	21%	23%
TAC=0t	8%	14%	22%	34%	46%	58%	69%	79%	87%
TAC=500t	8%	14%	21%	31%	42%	54%	64%	73%	81%
TAC=1000t	8%	13%	19%	28%	38%	48%	58%	67%	75%
TAC=2000t	8%	12%	17%	22%	29%	38%	46%	54%	61%
TAC=3000t	8%	11%	14%	18%	22%	28%	33%	39%	45%
TAC=4000t	8%	10%	12%	14%	17%	20%	23%	26%	30%
TAC=5000t	8%	9%	10%	11%	12%	13%	14%	15%	17%

→ In all cases, the stock is rebuilding slowly.

→ Median biomass would reach Bmsy level at the earliest

- in 2017 if fishery is closed,

- in 2020 if status quo TAC (2550t)

## *Work still to be done*

- Integration of discards
  - Unknown before mid 90 but different sorting habits
  - around 33% of catch for 1990-2005 period
  - 10% in 2011
- Inclusion of XIIb data
  - unreliable dataset for the time being (misreporting, poor monitoring of activity)

Thank you !