# Joint Assessment of the South African Merluccius paradoxus and M. capensis Resources 

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#### Abstract

The assessments of December 2004 are updated in three respects: commercial catch-at-age data which cannot be species-disaggregated directly are taken into account in the fitting process, a new basis to split pre-1978 catches by species is introduced, and a new method is used to fit to pre-1978 CPUE series for the two species combined. The low estimated status of the M. paradoxus resource remains unchanged but a better status is estimated for M. capensis.


## 1. Introduction

In previous species-disaggregated assessments of the South African hake resource (e.g. Rademeyer and Butterworth, 2004), the Merluccius paradoxus and M. capensis resources were assessed independently of each other. In such assessments, data which cannot be disaggregated by species (either directly such as the survey information, or indirectly such as the commercial information) must either be ignored, or strong (and possibly inadequate) assumptions must be made about them. This paper presents a joint assessment of the hake resources off South Africa in which speciescombined data can be incorporated in a more defensible way.

In this joint assessment, the two species are treated as two separate stocks but are assessed simultaneously within a single assessment framework, for the south and west coasts combined. Species-disaggregated catch series are external inputs to the model, though a more flexible basis for splitting catches between species in the earlier period of the fishery is introduced (see section 2.1 below for details).

## 2. Data

The tables of data used are given in Appendix A.

### 2.1 Total catches

The South African hake stocks are fished by four fleets: the offshore trawl fleet and the longline fleet operate on both the south and west coasts, while the inshore trawl fleet and the handline fleet operate on the south coast only. The annual catches by mass assumed for each fleet and coast are given in Table A. 1 for the period 1917 to 2004. A summary of the assumptions made to disaggregate the catches by species and fleet for the Reference Case is given below.
a) Offshore trawl fleet:

The catches made by the offshore trawl fleet have been split by species by applying the size-based species proportion-by-depth relationships for the west and south coasts developed by Gaylard and Bergh (2004). Prior to 1978, there is no depth information recorded for the landings so that the proportion of $M$. capensis caught cannot be estimated using this method. Previously, the proportion over the 1917-1977 period has been assumed to equal the average that pertained over the 1978-1982 in splitting the catches for these years ( $16 \%$ on the west coast and $46 \%$ on the south coast for $M$. capensis). In this paper, the catch data for the 1917-1977 period are split by assuming that the proportion of M. capensis caught follows a logistic function over this period (see Fig. 1 for the function used in the Reference Case). Indeed, trawling was concentrated in inshore areas around Cape Town when the fishery began (i.e. probably catching $M$. capensis exclusively) and progressively moved offshore, so that this seems a more defensible approach. The proportion of M. capensis in the offshore trawl catch in year $y$ on coast $c$ is thus given by:

$$
\begin{equation*}
\operatorname{prop}_{c y}^{\text {prop }}=\frac{1-\Delta_{c}}{1+\exp \left[\left(y-P_{1}\right) / P_{2}\right]}+\Delta_{c} \tag{1}
\end{equation*}
$$

where
$\Delta_{c}$ is the average proportion of $M$. capensis in the offshore catch over the 1978-1982 period for coast $c(16 \%$ on the west coast and $46 \%$ on the south coast), and
$P_{1}, P_{2}$ are parameters of the logistic function. Parameter $P_{1}$ is the year in which the proportion of M. capensis in the catch is half-way from $100 \%$ to $\Delta_{c}$; while $P_{2}$ defines how rapidly this change in proportion occurs.

For the Reference Case considered here, values of $P_{1}=1960$ and $P_{2}=4$ were considered, to reflect a large proportion of M. paradoxus in the catch by the end of the 1960s when foreign effort in South African waters had become substantial. Alternative values can be chosen to allow tests of sensitivity to such assumptions.

The proportion of M. capensis consequently assumed for the offshore trawl catches is shown in Fig. 1 for the west and for the south coasts.

## b) Inshore trawl fleet:

The inshore trawl fleet operates on the south coast only. Catches made by this fleet are assumed to consist of $M$. capensis only, as it operates in relatively shallow water.
Because fleet-disaggregated catch data are not available prior to 1974 , the assumption has been made that the annual catch of the inshore trawl fleet from 1960 to 1973 increased linearly from 1000 t to 5000 t , and that the balance of the total catch recorded was taken by the offshore trawl fleet.
c) Longline fleet:

Longline catches on the west coast are assumed to consist of $30 \%$ M. capensis for the whole period, while on the south coast, catches by this fleet are assumed to consist of M. capensis exclusively.

## d) Handline fleet:

The handline fleet operates on the south coast only. As for the inshore fleet, catches made by this fleet are assumed to consist of M. capensis only.

The catch in 2004 is taken to be the TAC for that year, with the same proportion of each species as caught by each fleet in 2003 assumed.

### 2.2 Abundance indices

Historic and GLM-standardised CPUE data are given in Table A2. The historic CPUE series cannot be disaggregated by species, as there are no effort-by-depth data available for this pre-1978 period. The GLM standardised CPUE data used are from Glazer (2004); these are species-specific indices (and based also on the new Gaylard and Bergh estimated species-proportion $v s$. depth relationship).

Survey biomass estimates for the west and south coasts are shown in Table A3 for M. paradoxus and Table A4 for M. capensis.

### 2.3 Catches-at-age

Survey catch-at-age data are shown in Tables A5-A8 for M. paradoxus and in Tables A9-A13 for M. capensis.
Commercial catches-at-age for the offshore (both coasts combined) and for the inshore and longline (south coast only) fleets are shown in Table A14-A16. They cannot be split by species on an age-basis, but this is not a problem for the south coast inshore and longline fleets as their catches are assumed to consist of M. capensis only.

## 3. Methods

The model used in this analysis is an Age-Structured Production Model (ASPM) and is described in detail in Appendix B. This includes a new method introduced to model CPUE series based upon species-aggregated catches - see equations B14-20.

A summary of the specifications for each species for the Reference Case assessment is given below.

### 3.1 M. paradoxus

a) Natural mortality:
$M_{a}$ is taken to be age-dependent $\left(M_{a}\right)$ (with the form of equation as shown in B33).

## b) Commercial selectivity-at-age:

The selectivities of the offshore and longline fleet (the two fleets assumed to catch M. paradoxus) take the form of a logistic curve (equation B35). As there is no information on the age-structure of the longline catches of M. paradoxus alone, the selectivity of the longline fleet for M. paradoxus is assumed to be of the same form as the longline selectivity for M. capensis (which can be estimated from the south coast longline catches-at-age - assumed to be M. capensis only).

This assessment makes use of the offshore species-combined catch-at-age data (ignored in previous speciesdisaggregated assessments), so that if the selectivity of one of the species is known, the selectivity of the other species can be estimated. In this case, an assumption is made for the offshore selectivity for M. capensis (see below), and therefore the offshore selectivity for M. paradoxus can be estimated directly. The periods of fixed and changing selectivity used in previous assessments (to take account for the change in the selectivity at low ages over time in the commercial catches, likely due to the phasing out of net liners) have also been assumed for this assessment. The first selectivity period is from 1917 to 1984 and the second from 1993 to the present, with the selectivities in the intervening period assumed to vary linearly between these 1984 and 1993 values. The offshore trawl selectivity is assumed to decrease exponentially from age 3 (equation B36), with a slope parameter estimated in the model fitting procedure.

## c) Survey selectivity-at-age

Because there are no catch-at-age data available from the west coast winter survey, the same selectivity is assumed to apply to both the summer and winter west coast surveys (conducted by the Africana). A separate selectivity function is estimated for the Nansen west coast summer survey. On the south coast, a single selectivity function is estimated for the spring and south coast surveys. The survey selectivities are estimated directly for each age.

## d) Stock-recruitment residuals

The variability level $\sigma_{R}$ is fixed at 0.25 . The residuals are assumed not to be serially correlated, i.e., $\rho=0$. They are estimated from year 1985 to 2004.

### 3.2 M. capensis

a) Natural mortality:
$M_{a}$ is taken to be age-dependent $\left(M_{a}\right)$ (with the form of equation B33).

## b) Commercial selectivity-at-age:

The selectivity patterns characterising each of the four fleets (offshore, inshore, longline and handline) all take the form of a logistic curve. For the inshore fleet, the selectivity is allowed to decrease exponentially from age 5, as this fleet does not fully select older fish because the distribution of hake extends deeper than its area of operation. The selectivity for the offshore fleet is assumed to be as that for the inshore fleet but shifted one year of age to the right (i.e. $a_{\text {cap,off }}^{c}=a_{\text {cap,insh }}^{c}+1$ in equation B35) and with a flat selectivity for older ages.

Because the longline fishery targets principally older fish, the selectivity for that fleet is also assumed to be flat for older ages. Furthermore, the selectivity indicated by a logistic curve is multiplied by a factor $\lambda$ for ages $\leq 4$. Indeed, the selectivity for this fleet and these ages is so low that it is not adequately represented by a logistic curve. The parameter $\lambda$ is treated as another estimable parameter in the likelihood maximisation process.

As is the case for the offshore fleet, there are no catch-at-age data available to estimate a selectivity vector for the handline fleet, so the assumption is made that the selectivity for this fleet is intermediate between the offshore trawl and longline selectivities (i.e. the average of the two $a_{s f}^{c}$ and $\delta_{s f}^{c}$ - see equation B35-is assumed to apply).
c) Survey selectivity-at-age

A different survey selectivity is estimated for each of the three survey series on the west coast, while on the south coast a single selectivity is estimated. The survey selectivities are estimated separately for each age.

## d) Stock-recruitment residuals

The variability level $\sigma_{R}$ is fixed at 0.25 . For simplicity, the residuals are assumed not to be serially correlated, i.e., $\rho=0$. They are estimated from year 1985 to 2004.

### 3.3 Assessments presented

Different assessments are presented together with the New Reference Case assessment provided for comparison. Results are shown for the following cases:
I. the December 2004 Reference Case; in Rademeyer and Butterworth (2004), a minor error was made in computing the penalty on the calibration factor between the Africana with the old gear and the Africana with the new gear (equation B26), in this assessment, the error (which has very little effect on the results) has been corrected;
II. the new joint assessment, with the same catch series as used in I), i.e. the proportion of M. capensis in the catch is assumed to be constant before 1978;
III. the new joint assessment with the new catch series (shown in Table A1), and with a logistic change with time in the proportion of M. capensis in the offshore catches;
IV. the New Reference Case, which is as III) but with the offshore selectivity for M. capensis shifted one year to the right;
V. as IV) but with the natural mortalities for both species forced to be $\leq 0.5$;
VI. as IV) but with steepness parameters for both M. paradoxus and M. capensis forced to be $\leq 0.8$;
VII. as IV) but including unreported catches from the south coast offshore fleet; indeed, in other assessments, offshore catches on the south coast are assumed to have started in 1967 only, but it is known that some vessels operated in the region right from the beginning of the 20th century; these unreported catches are included in this sensitivity and are assumed to have increased linearly from 100t in 1917 to 5000 t in 1967 (with the species-split based on the logistic equation above);
VIII. as IV) but with a different logistic function for the change with time in the proportion of M. capensis in the offshore catches ( $P_{l}=1950$ and $P_{2}=2$, i.e. the offshore fleet is assumed to have moved towards deeper water earlier and the shift is assumed to have been faster than in Case IV);
IX. as IV) but the calibration factor between the Africana with the old gear and the Africana with the new gear for $M$. capensis is decreased: $\Delta \ell n q^{\text {capensis }}=-0.250$ instead of -0.494 (the variance on this value has been kept the same);

## 4. Results

Tables 1 and 2 compare the results of the different assessments for the M. paradoxus and M. capensis resources respectively. The total likelihood and the contribution of each data source for each of these cases are compared in Table 3.

Fig. 2 plots the population trajectories (in terms of pre-exploitation level) for the New Reference Case assessment for each of the two species (with $90 \%$ Hessian-based confidence envelopes), while Fig. 3 compares these population trajectories in absolute terms with those from the December 2004 Reference Case.
The survey and commercial selectivity functions estimated for the New Reference Case are plotted in Fig. 4.
Figs. 5 and 6 show the fits of the New Reference Case to the CPUE and survey indices respectively, while Figs. 7 and 8 show the fits of this model to the commercial and survey catch-at-age data. In these figures, the fits of the December 2004 Reference Case are also shown for comparison.
Fig. 9 plots the time-series of recruitment and the estimated stock-recruitment curve for the New Reference Case.

## 5. Discussion

In the case of the M. paradoxus resource, the estimate of current depletion from the New Reference Case assessment is very similar to that estimated in the December 2004 Reference Case, with the current level estimated to be well below $M S Y L$ (in fact, $<10 \%$ of the pre-exploitation level). The estimate of current biomass in absolute terms for this species for the New Reference Case is also very similar to the previous assessment. For the M. capensis resource on the other hand, the current biomass level is estimated to be substantially higher for the New Reference Case compared to the 2004 December Reference Case, both in absolute terms (see Fig. 3) and in terms of the pre-exploitation level (about $60 \%$ of pristine for the New Reference Case compared to about $40 \%$ in the December 2004 Reference Case). However, as expected, the changes in the assumptions about the species-split of the historic offshore catches have an effect on the past population trajectories of the two species (see Fig. 3).
The New Reference Case estimates of natural mortality and steepness for both species are also substantially different from those estimated in the December 2004 Reference Case. Natural mortality for M. paradoxus is less than in the previous assessment and now seems biologically realistic ( 0.21 for $5+$ ). However, steepness is estimated to be unrealistically high ( 0.98 - the upper bound imposed for this parameter) which is a concern because a low level of current spawning biomass is estimated, for which taking expected recruitment to remain unchanged might be dangerously inappropriate. For M. capensis on the other hand, the estimate of steepness decreases from the upper bound of 0.98 to 0.45 , but the estimate of natural mortality increases to an age-independent 0.80 which seems unrealistically high biologically. These changes are principally due to the contribution of the species-combined catch-at-age data in the likelihood. From Fig. 7a, it is clear that the December 2004 Reference Case does not fit these data satisfactorily.

The estimates of multiplicative bias for the survey $(q)$ seem more plausible for M. capensis (for which they are generally less than 1 ), but are very high for west coast $M$. paradoxus ( $>2$ ).

Cases V and VI are assessments in which more credible values are forced for natural mortality and steepness. In Case V , where natural mortality for age $5+$ is forced to be equal or smaller than 0.5 , the resulting slight deterioration in the model fit is caused principally by the fit to the inshore catch-at-age data for M. capensis. Estimates of current depletion, MSY and related quantities remain largely unchanged. In Case VI, the deterioration in the fit is due mainly to a deterioration in the fit to the species-combined catch-at-age data. In this case, the current spawning biomass for the $M$. paradoxus resource is estimated to be at about $15 \%$ of its pre-exploitation level, while this level of depletion is hardly changed for M. capensis.

Including unreported catches from the south coast offshore fleet (Case VII) and decreasing the estimated difference in the catchability coefficient between the Africana with the old gear and the Africana with the new gear for M. capensis (Case VIII) make no substantial change to the results.
In Case IX, a different logistic function is assumed for the historic species-split of the offshore trawl catches compared to that in the New Reference Case. Although estimates of absolute biomass change (increase for M. paradoxus and decrease for M. capensis), the current level of depletion for both species remains very similar compared to the results of the New Reference Case.

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Table 1: Estimates of management quantities of the M. paradoxus coast-combined resource for a series of assessments. Exploitable biomass and associated quantities are estimated for each fleet separately, and also for an 'average-selectivity' which reflects that of the last year (2004) of the assessment, and is shown in the first column.


* constraint boundary

Table 1: M. paradoxus continued


[^0]Table 1: M. paradoxus continued


* constraint boundary

Table 2: Estimates of management quantities of the coast-combined M. capensis resource for a series of assessments. Exploitable biomass and associated quantities are estimated for each fleet separately, and also for an 'average-selectivity' which reflects that of the last year (2004) of the assessment, and is shown in the first column.


* constraint boundary

Table 2: M. capensis continued


* constraint boundary

Table 2: M. capensis continued


* constraint boundary

Table 3: Likelihood contributions for cases I to IX. The differences in the likelihood contribution for cases V to IX compared to the New Reference Case are shown in parenthesis.

|  |  | I') December 2004 Reference Case | I) December 2004 <br> Reference <br> Case - erryor corrected | II) Joint assessment with catches as in December 2004 Reference Case | III) Joint assessment with changing species proportion in historic catches | IV) New Reference Case (as III but offshore selectivity for M. capensis shifited one year to the right) | Y) as <br> Reference $M_{5+}=0.5$ <br> spec | New <br> Case but forboth s | VI) as <br> Reference $h=0.8 \mathrm{fo}$ <br> spec | New <br> Case but <br> both <br> s |  | New <br> Case but ing <br> catches <br> h coast | $\begin{array}{r} \text { VIII) as } \\ \text { Reference } \\ \text { differ } \\ \text { calibratio } \\ \text { between old } \\ \text { Africana } \\ \text { capensis } \\ \text { for det } \end{array}$ | New <br> Case but <br> nt <br> factor <br> and new <br> or $M$ <br> ee text <br> ils) | CX ) as Reference different functio offshore species | New <br> Case but <br> ogistic <br> for <br> istoric <br> split |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| -lriL: Total |  |  |  | -178.5 | -180.8 | -183.8 | -180.3 | (3.6) | -1739 | 99) | -1839 | -(0.1) | -184.4 | -(0.6) | -180.8 | (3.1) |
| -1riL: CPIUE | WC historic (spp combined) | $(-10.1)+(-10.3)$ | $(-10.1)+(-10.3)$ | -10.3 | -10.4 | -10.7 | -10.7 | (0.0) | -10.2 | (0.5) | -10.7 | (0.0) | -10.7 | (0.0) | -11.1 | -(0.4) |
|  | SC historic (spp combined) | $(-29.0)+(-255)$ | $(-29.0)+(-25 s)$ | $-28.2$ | -27.0 | -25.7 | $-25.4$ | (0.3) | $-28.7$ | -(3.0) | $-25.7$ | (0.1) | $-25.7$ | (0.0) | -26.4 | -(0.6) |
|  | M paradonus GLM | -44.3 | $-44.2$ | -41.7 | -41.3 | -42.8 | -42.8 | -(0.1) | -42.9 | -(0.2) | -42.8 | (0.0) | -42.8 | (0.0) | -42.8 | -(0.1) |
|  | M. capensis GLM | -40.9 | -40.8 | -40.5 | -42.5 | -42.1 | -42.4 | -(0.4) | -41.7 | (0.4) | -42.1 | (0.0) | -42.1 | (0.0) | $-39.6$ | (2.) |
| -lris: Survey | M paradows, WC sumuther | -8.9 | -9.4 | -8.5 | -8.4 | $-8.8$ | -8.8 | (0.0) | -9.4 | -(0.5) | $-8.8$ | (0.0) | -8.8 | (0.0) | -8.7 | (0.1) |
|  | M paradonus, WC winter | -4.0 | -4.0 | -4.1 | -4.0 | -4.1 | -4.2 | (0.0) | -4.2 | -(0.1) | -4.1 | (0.0) | -4.1 | (0.0) | -4.1 | (1.0) |
|  | M paradons, WC Mansen | -2.1 | -2.1 | -1.9 | -1.9 | -2.0 | -2.0 | (0.0) | -2.1 | -(0.1) | -2.0 | (10.0) | -2.0 | (0.0) | -2.0 | (1.0) |
|  | M paradonus, SC spring | -0.6 | -0.6 | -0.6 | -0.5 | -0.6 | -0.6 | (0.0) | -10.8 | -(0.2) | -0.6 | (0.0) | -0.6 | (0.0) | -0.6 | (1.0) |
|  | M paradonus, SC auturin | 68 | 6.2 | 63 | 6.4 | 6.0 | 6.0 | (0.0) | 6.4 | (0.4) | 6.0 | (0.0) | 6.0 | (0.0) | 59 | (1.0) |
|  | M capensis, WC summer | 18.9 | -1.1 | -0.8 | -0.7 | -0.8 | -0.7 | (0.1) | -0.7 | (0.1) | -0.7 | (0.0) | -1.5 | -(0.8) | -0.8 | (1.0) |
|  | M. capensis, WC winter | 1.6 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.3 | -(0.1) | 0.4 | (0.0) | 0.4 | (0.0) | 0.5 | (0.1) | 0.5 | (1.0) |
|  | M. capensis, WC Nansen | -1.7 | -1.4 | -1.4 | -1.3 | -1.4 | -1.3 | (0.0) | -1.3 | (0.0) | -1.4 | (0.0) | -1.4 | (0.0) | -1.4 | (1.0) |
|  | M capensis, SC spring | 22.7 | -1.6 | -1.6 | -1.6 | -1.6 | -1.6 | (0.0) | -1.6 | (0.0) | -1.6 | (0.0) | -1.6 | (0.0) | -1.6 | (0.0) |
|  | M capensis, SC auturiti | 14.6 | -8. 1 | -7.8 | . 7.7 | -7.7 | -7.5 | (0.2) | -7.7 | (0.0) | -7.7 | (0.0) | -7.6 | (0.1) | -78 | -(0.1) |
| -1riL: commercial CAA | species combined, offshore | - | - | -38.9 | -39.2 | -41.3 | -41.3 | (0.0) | -33.4 | (8.0) | -41.3 | (0.0) | -41.3 | (0.0) | -40.9 | (0.4) |
|  | M. capensis, inshore | -30.5 | -30.6 | -29.6 | -29.6 | -30.5 | $-259$ | (4.9) | -29.9 | (0.6) | -30.5 | (0.0) | $-30.5$ | (0.0) | -31.0 | -(0.5) |
|  | M capensis, longlire | -14.9 | -14.7 | -14.9 | -15.0 | -150 | -14.8 | (0.2) | -14.9 | (0.1) | $-150$ | (0.0) | -1500 | (0.0) | -15.0 | (0.0) |
| -riLs survey CAA | M paradonus, WC sumuther | -5.7 | -5.8 | -15.6 | -155 | -15.5 | -155 | (0.0) | -150 | (0.5) | -15.5 | (0.0) | -155 | (0.0) | -15.7 | -(0.2) |
|  | M paradoxus, WC Mansen | -10.7 | -10.6 | -10.5 | -10.5 | -10.2 | -10.2 | (0.0) | -10.3 | -(0.1) | -10.2 | (0.0) | -10.2 | (0.0) | -10.2 | (0.0) |
|  | M paradowas, SC spring | -10.1 | -10.1 | -4.3 | -4.2 | -3.4 | -3.4 | (0.0) | $-2.3$ | (1.0) | -3.4 | (0.0) | -3.4 | (0.0) | -3.5 | -(0.1) |
|  | M paradonus, SC auturn | 33.3 | 33.4 | 29.0 | 29.1 | 28.2 | 28.2 | (0.0) | 29.5 | (1.3) | 28.2 | (0.0) | 28.2 | (0.0) | 28.2 | (0.0) |
|  | M. capensis, WC sumult | 87.5 | 86.5 | 85.1 | 84.4 | 84.4 | 83.6 | -(0.8) | 84.5 | (0.1) | 84.4 | (0.0) | 84.6 | (0.2) | 85.4 | (1.0) |
|  | M. capensis, WC winter | 97 | 9.7 | 82 | 7.5 | 8.0 | 7.2 | -(0.8) | 8.1 | (0.0) | 8.0 | (0.0) | 8.0 | (0.0) | 8.9 | (1.9) |
|  | M. capensis, WC Nansen | -4.5 | -4.9 | -56 | -5.6 | -5.5 | -59 | -(0.4) | -5.7 | -(0.2) | -5.5 | (0.0) | $-5.4$ | (0.1) | -5.5 | (10) |
|  | M capensis, SC spring | -11.3 | -10.2 | -9.5 | -9.9 | -9.9 | -9.0 | (0.8) | -9.5 | (0.4) | -988 | (0.0) | -10.0 | -(0.2) | -99 | (1.0) |
|  | M. capensis, SC auturni | $-26.5$ | $-27.6$ | $-29.4$ | $-30.0$ | $-30.0$ | -30.5 | -(0.6) | -29.9 | (0.1) | -30.0 | (0.0) | $-29.8$ | (0.1) | $-29.2$ | (1.8) |
| Rectuit fesidual penalty |  | (3) +3.3 | (3.5) +3.9 | 13.8 | 14.0 | 14.1 | 14.5 | (0.3) | 14.3 | (0.2) | 14.1 | (0.0) | 14.0 | -(0.1) | 13.7 | -(0.4) |



Fig. 1: Assumed proportion of M. capensis in the offshore catches for the west and south coasts for the Reference Case.


Fig. 2: Resource abundance trajectories (expressed in terms of spawning biomass as a proportion of its pre-exploitation equilibrium level) for the New Reference Case assessment (Case IV) of the M. paradoxus (a) and M. capensis (b) resources for the south and west coasts combined. The $90 \%$ CIs shown (dotted lines) are Hessian-based. Projections assume future catches of 120 and 40 thousand tons for M. paradoxus and M. capensis respectively.


Fig. 3: Resource abundance trajectories for the New Reference Case assessment (Case IV) of the coast-combined M. paradoxus (a) and M. capensis (b) resources, and for the corresponding December 2004 Reference Case (Case I) (Rademeyer and Butterworth, 2004).


Fig. 4: Survey and commercial selectivity functions estimated for the M. paradoxus and M. capensis resource for both coasts combined, for the New Reference Case assessment (Case IV).


Fig. 5: New Reference Case fits to the CPUE abundance indices. The fits of the December 2004 Reference Case are also shown for comparison. The historic (pre-1978) CPUE data are for both M. capensis and M. paradoxus combined.


Fig. 6: New Reference Case fits to the survey abundance indices. The fits of the December 2004 Reference Case are also shown for comparison. Biomass estimates from surveys conducted with the new Africana gear have been rescaled by the ratio of the $q$ 's estimated and are marked by $\Delta$.


Fig. 7: New Reference Case assessment model fits to commercial catch-at-age data. The fits of the December 2004 Reference Case are also shown for comparison; note however that that assessment was not fit to the species-combined offshore catch-at-age data.


Fig. 8: New Reference Case assessment model fits to survey catch-at-age data. The fits of the December 2004 Reference Case are also shown for comparison.


Fig. 9: Recruitment residuals for the New Reference Case assessment and the estimated stock-recruitment relationships. The straight dashed line through the origin is the replacement line which intersects the stock-recruit curve at a spawning biomass of $K^{s p}$.

## Appendix A - Data Tables

Table A1: Assumed total annual catches by species, coast and fleet for the period 1917 to 2004 (see Data section of text for details) for the South African hake resource. Catches are given in thousand tons.

| Year | Offshore Fleet |  |  |  | Inshore Fleet South coast |  | Longline Fleet |  |  |  | Handline Fleet South coast |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | West coast |  | South coast |  |  |  | West coast |  | South coast |  |  |  |
|  | M. cap | M. para | M. cap | M. para | M. cap | M. para | M. cap | M. para | M. cap | M. para | M. cap | M. para |
| 1917 | 1.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1918 | 1.100 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1919 | 1.900 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1920 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1921 | 1.300 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1922 | 1.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1923 | 2.500 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1924 | 1.500 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1925 | 1.900 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1926 | 1.400 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1927 | 0.800 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1928 | 2.599 | 0.001 | 0.000 | 0.000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1929 | 3.799 | 0.001 | 0.000 | 0.000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1930 | 4.398 | 0.002 | 0.000 | 0.000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1931 | 2.798 | 0.002 | 0.000 | 0.000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1932 | 14.289 | 0.011 | 0.000 | 0.000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1933 | 11.089 | 0.011 | 0.000 | 0.000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1934 | 13.783 | 0.017 | 0.000 | 0.000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1935 | 14.976 | 0.024 | 0.000 | 0.000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1936 | 17.663 | 0.037 | 0.000 | 0.000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1937 | 20.146 | 0.054 | 0.000 | 0.000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1938 | 21.028 | 0.072 | 0.000 | 0.000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1939 | 19.912 | 0.088 | 0.000 | 0.000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1940 | 28.439 | 0.161 | 0.000 | 0.000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1941 | 30.380 | 0.220 | 0.000 | 0.000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1942 | 34.182 | 0.318 | 0.000 | 0.000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1943 | 37.452 | 0.448 | 0.000 | 0.000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1944 | 33.585 | 0.515 | 0.000 | 0.000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1945 | 28.636 | 0.564 | 0.000 | 0.000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1946 | 39.405 | 0.995 | 0.000 | 0.000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1947 | 40.102 | 1.298 | 0.000 | 0.000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1948 | 56.458 | 2.342 | 0.000 | 0.000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1949 | 54.503 | 2.897 | 0.000 | 0.000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1950 | 67.412 | 4.588 | 0.000 | 0.000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1951 | 82.332 | 7.168 | 0.000 | 0.000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1952 | 79.908 | 8.892 | 0.000 | 0.000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1953 | 81.872 | 11.628 | 0.000 | 0.000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1954 | 89.249 | 16.151 | 0.000 | 0.000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1955 | 93.812 | 21.588 | 0.000 | 0.000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1956 | 91.497 | 26.703 | 0.000 | 0.000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1957 | 92.336 | 34.064 | 0.000 | 0.000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1958 | 89.251 | 41.449 | 0.000 | 0.000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1959 | 92.305 | 53.695 | 0.000 | 0.000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Table A1: continued

| Year | Offshore Fleet |  |  |  | Inshore Fleet South coast |  | Longline Fleet |  |  |  | Handline Fleet South coast |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | West coast |  | South coast |  |  |  | West | coast | Sout | coast |  |  |
|  | M. cap | M. para | M. cap | M. para | M. cap | M. para | M. cap | M. para | M. cap | M. para | M. cap | M. para |
| 1960 | 92.742 | 67.158 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 1.000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1961 | 78.480 | 70.220 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 1.308 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1962 | 70.425 | 77.175 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 1.615 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1963 | 72.799 | 96.701 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 1.923 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1964 | 62.633 | 99.667 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 2.231 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1965 | 70.455 | 132.545 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 2.538 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1966 | 61.081 | 133.919 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 2.846 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1967 | 50.246 | 126.454 | 7.660 | 6.526 | 3.154 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1968 | 37.355 | 106.245 | 14.634 | 13.274 | 3.462 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1969 | 39.639 | 125.461 | 19.401 | 18.530 | 3.769 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1970 | 31.880 | 110.620 | 11.884 | 11.839 | 4.077 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1971 | 42.516 | 159.484 | 14.830 | 15.285 | 4.385 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1972 | 48.747 | 195.186 | 22.676 | 24.020 | 4.692 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1973 | 30.192 | 127.590 | 34.742 | 37.614 | 5.000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1974 | 22.709 | 100.291 | 43.230 | 47.623 | 10.056 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1975 | 16.068 | 73.549 | 31.870 | 35.593 | 6.372 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1976 | 25.197 | 118.697 | 24.392 | 27.538 | 5.740 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1977 | 17.581 | 84.747 | 17.288 | 19.684 | 3.500 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1978 | 10.885 | 90.255 | 13.386 | 20.572 | 4.931 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1979 | 15.993 | 76.711 | 22.381 | 25.357 | 4.931 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1980 | 16.635 | 84.903 | 16.333 | 22.117 | 4.931 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1981 | 18.201 | 82.477 | 13.983 | 11.755 | 9.400 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1982 | 14.324 | 71.646 | 17.881 | 20.856 | 8.089 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1983 | 11.712 | 61.735 | 15.427 | 18.075 | 7.672 |  | 0.069 | 0.161 |  |  |  |  |
| 1984 | 17.350 | 70.695 | 15.606 | 18.539 | 9.035 |  | 0.110 | 0.256 | 0.016 |  |  |  |
| 1985 | 16.065 | 82.358 | 20.837 | 25.826 | 9.203 |  | 0.350 | 0.817 | 0.292 |  | 0.065 |  |
| 1986 | 15.757 | 91.956 | 16.066 | 25.991 | 8.724 |  | 0.413 | 0.965 | 0.302 |  | 0.084 |  |
| 1987 | 13.365 | 87.074 | 14.004 | 18.766 | 8.607 |  | 1.071 | 2.500 | 0.353 |  | 0.096 |  |
| 1988 | 13.484 | 71.464 | 15.831 | 20.319 | 8.417 |  | 1.555 | 3.628 | 0.331 |  | 0.071 |  |
| 1989 | 12.568 | 72.038 | 21.133 | 20.432 | 10.038 |  | 0.087 | 0.203 | 0.032 |  | 0.137 |  |
| 1990 | 11.760 | 66.772 | 22.842 | 25.054 | 10.012 |  | 0.116 | 0.270 | 0.000 |  | 0.348 |  |
| 1991 | 9.111 | 76.410 | 17.417 | 25.586 | 8.206 |  | 0.000 | 0.000 | 3.000 |  | 1.270 |  |
| 1992 | 12.369 | 73.911 | 14.775 | 28.694 | 9.252 |  | 0.000 | 0.000 | 1.500 |  | 1.099 |  |
| 1993 | 7.423 | 90.687 | 10.196 | 24.019 | 8.870 |  | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 |  | 0.278 |  |
| 1994 | 8.402 | 92.801 | 12.351 | 21.365 | 9.569 |  | 0.484 | 1.130 | 0.626 |  | 0.449 |  |
| 1995 | 14.166 | 79.634 | 12.433 | 21.814 | 10.630 |  | 0.287 | 0.670 | 0.650 |  | 0.756 |  |
| 1996 | 7.637 | 81.264 | 12.972 | 40.591 | 11.062 |  | 0.718 | 1.676 | 1.828 |  | 1.515 |  |
| 1997 | 8.991 | 81.501 | 10.660 | 31.838 | 8.834 |  | 0.774 | 1.806 | 1.872 |  | 1.404 |  |
| 1998 | 11.723 | 96.615 | 8.333 | 25.135 | 8.283 |  | 0.277 | 0.647 | 1.471 |  | 1.738 |  |
| 1999 | 8.853 | 73.097 | 9.289 | 27.868 | 8.595 |  | 0.841 | 1.963 | 4.144 |  | 2.749 |  |
| 2000 | 10.656 | 80.619 | 12.691 | 27.266 | 10.906 |  | 1.481 | 3.456 | 2.077 |  | 5.500 |  |
| 2001 | 8.484 | 83.835 | 10.550 | 29.809 | 11.692 |  | 1.197 | 2.793 | 1.688 |  | 7.300 |  |
| 2002 | 7.913 | 71.994 | 8.352 | 34.613 | 9.448 |  | 2.045 | 4.772 | 3.945 |  | 4.500 |  |
| 2003 | 5.034 | 63.616 | 7.668 | 35.280 | 9.787 |  | 2.000 | 4.668 | 4.878 |  | 5.941 |  |
| 2004 | 5.836 | 73.752 | 8.890 | 40.902 | 11.346 |  | 2.319 | 5.411 | 5.655 |  | 6.888 |  |

Table A2: South and west coast historic and coast-combined GLM standardised (1978 to 2003) CPUE data (J. Glazer, 2004) for M. paradoxus and M. capensis. The historic CPUE series are for M. capensis and M. paradoxus combined.

| Year | South coast West coastSpecies combined |  | Coasts combined |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | M. capensis | M. paradoxus |
|  | ICSEAF CPUE tons/hr | ICSEAF CPUE tons/day | GLM CPUE <br> $\mathrm{kg} / \mathrm{min}$ | GLM CPUE <br> $\mathrm{kg} / \mathrm{min}$ |
| 1955 |  | 17.31 |  |  |
| 1956 |  | 15.64 |  |  |
| 1957 |  | 16.47 |  |  |
| 1958 |  | 16.26 |  |  |
| 1959 |  | 16.26 |  |  |
| 1960 |  | 17.31 |  |  |
| 1961 |  | 12.09 |  |  |
| 1962 |  | 14.18 |  |  |
| 1963 |  | 13.97 |  |  |
| 1964 |  | 14.60 |  |  |
| 1965 |  | 10.84 |  |  |
| 1966 |  | 10.63 |  |  |
| 1967 |  | 10.01 |  |  |
| 1968 |  | 10.01 |  |  |
| 1969 | 1.28 | 8.62 |  |  |
| 1970 | 1.22 | 7.23 |  |  |
| 1971 | 1.14 | 7.09 |  |  |
| 1972 | 0.64 | 4.90 |  |  |
| 1973 | 0.56 | 4.97 |  |  |
| 1974 | 0.54 | 4.65 |  |  |
| 1975 | 0.37 | 4.66 |  |  |
| 1976 | 0.40 | 5.35 |  |  |
| 1977 | 0.42 | 4.84 |  |  |
| 1978 |  |  | 2.994 | 5.089 |
| 1979 |  |  | 3.230 | 5.209 |
| 1980 |  |  | 3.371 | 5.335 |
| 1981 |  |  | 3.189 | 4.801 |
| 1982 |  |  | 3.258 | 5.128 |
| 1983 |  |  | 3.880 | 5.458 |
| 1984 |  |  | 4.487 | 5.693 |
| 1985 |  |  | 5.478 | 6.794 |
| 1986 |  |  | 4.370 | 6.471 |
| 1987 |  |  | 3.983 | 5.425 |
| 1988 |  |  | 3.766 | 4.956 |
| 1989 |  |  | 4.341 | 5.027 |
| 1990 |  |  | 4.652 | 5.633 |
| 1991 |  |  | 4.829 | 6.262 |
| 1992 |  |  | 4.385 | 5.930 |
| 1993 |  |  | 3.659 | 5.477 |
| 1994 |  |  | 4.560 | 5.746 |
| 1995 |  |  | 4.336 | 4.471 |
| 1996 |  |  | 4.457 | 5.875 |
| 1997 |  |  | 3.486 | 6.044 |
| 1998 |  |  | 3.821 | 5.887 |
| 1999 |  |  | 3.493 | 5.482 |
| 2000 |  |  | 3.958 | 5.445 |
| 2001 |  |  | 4.143 | 4.980 |
| 2002 |  |  | 3.932 | 4.223 |
| 2003 |  |  | 3.747 | 4.906 |

Table A3: Survey abundance estimates and associated standard errors in thousand tons for M. paradoxus for the depth range $0-500 \mathrm{~m}$ for the south coast and for the west coast.

| Year | South coast |  |  |  | West coast |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Spring (Sept) |  | Autumn (Apr/May) |  | Summer |  | Winter |  | Nansen summer |  |
|  | Biomass | (s.e.) | Biomass | (s.e.) | Biomass | (s.e.) | Biomass | (s.e.) | Biomass | (s.e.) |
| 1985 | - | - | - | - | 168.139 | (36.607) | 264.916 | (52.968) | - | - |
| 1986 | 23.049 | (5.946) | - | - | 196.151 | (36.366) | 172.522 | (24.129) | - | - |
| 1987 | 21.545 | (4.601) | - | - | 284.859 | (53.108) | 195.530 | (44.425) | - | - |
| 1988 | - | - | 30.236 | (11.084) | 158.796 | (27.390) | 233.103 | (64.016) | - | - |
| 1989 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 468.928 | (124.878) | - | - |
| 1990 | - | - | - | - | 282.225 | (78.956) | 226.910 | (46.016) | - | - |
| 1991 | - | - | 26.604 | (10.431) | 327.105 | (82.209) | - | - | - | - |
| 1992 | - | - | 24.305 | (15.197) | 234.699 | (33.963) | - | - | - | - |
| 1993 | - | - | 198.403 | (98.423) | 321.782 | (48.799) | - | - | - | - |
| 1994 | - | - | 111.354 | (34.622) | 329.927 | (58.332) | - | - | - | - |
| 1995 | - | - | 44.618 | (19.823) | 324.626 | (80.370) | - | - | - | - |
| 1996 | - | - | 85.530 | (25.485) | 430.971 | (80.614) | - | - | - | - |
| 1997 | - | - | 134.656 | (50.922) | 570.091 | (108.230) | - | - | - | - |
| 1998 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 1999 | - | - | 321.328 | (113.520) | 562.988 | (116.322) | - | - | - | - |
| 2000 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 326.994 | (36.816) |
| 2001 | 19.930 | (9.957) | - | - | - | - | - | - | 276.604 | (34.833) |
| 2002 | - | - | - | - | 272.177 | (35.586) | - | - | - | - |
| 2003 | 88.431 | (36.054) | 108.756 | (37.529) | 405.457 | (68.882) | - | - | - | - |
| 2004 |  |  | 31.653 | (25.906) | 259.566 | (56.034) | - | - | - | - |

Table A4: Survey abundance estimates and associated standard errors in thousand tons for M. capensis for the depth range $0-500 \mathrm{~m}$ for the south coast and for the west coast.

| Year | South coast |  |  |  | West coast |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Spring (Sept) |  | Autumn (Apr/May) |  | Summer |  | Winter |  | Nansen summer |  |
|  | Biomass | (s.e.) | Biomass | (s.e.) | Biomass | (s.e.) | Biomass | (s.e.) | Biomass | (s.e.) |
| 1985 | - | - | - | - | 124.652 | (22.709) | 181.517 | (27.480) | - | - |
| 1986 | 202.871 | (27.845) | - | - | 117.829 | (23.639) | 119.609 | (18.492) | - | - |
| 1987 | 162.282 | (17.512) | - | - | 75.705 | (10.242) | 87.407 | (11.201) | - | - |
| 1988 | - | - | 165.184 | (21.358) | 66.737 | (10.767) | 47.129 | (9.570) | - | - |
| 1989 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 323.879 | (67.303) | - | - |
| 1990 | - | - | - | - | 455.861 | (135.253) | 157.826 | (23.565) | - | - |
| 1991 | - | - | 273.897 | (44.363) | 77.369 | (14.997) | - | - | - | - |
| 1992 | - | - | 137.798 | (15.317) | 95.568 | (11.753) | - | - | - | - |
| 1993 | - | - | 156.533 | (13.628) | 94.564 | (17.346) | - | - | - | - |
| 1994 | - | - | 158.243 | (23.607) | 120.206 | (35.885) | - | - | - | - |
| 1995 | - | - | 233.359 | (31.862) | 199.173 | (26.816) | - | - | - | - |
| 1996 | - | - | 243.934 | (25.035) | 83.347 | (9.287) | - | - | - | - |
| 1997 | - | - | 182.157 | (18.601) | 257.332 | (46.062) | - | - | - | - |
| 1998 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 1999 | - | - | 190.864 | (14.929) | 198.748 | (32.471) | - | - | - | - |
| 2000 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 316.105 | (42.077) |
| 2001 | 133.533 | (20.845) | - | - | - | - | - | - | 191.068 | (25.780) |
| 2002 | - | - | - | - | 108.025 | (16.086) | - | - | - | - |
| 2003 | 82.726 | (89.940) | 126.313 | (19.986) | 74.771 | (12.989) | - | - | - | - |
| 2004 |  |  | 104.763 | (12.867) | 205.976 | (33.221) | - | - | - | - |

Table A5: Summer survey catches-at-age (proportions) of M. paradoxus on the west coast for the $0-500 \mathrm{~m}$ depth range.

|  | Proportions caught at age: Merluccius paradoxus |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Age | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | $5+$ |
| 1990 | 0.0285 | 0.3098 | 0.4918 | 0.1583 | 0.0088 | 0.0017 |
| 1991 | 0.0182 | 0.2777 | 0.5608 | 0.1069 | 0.0240 | 0.0079 |
| 1992 | 0.0098 | 0.3834 | 0.4847 | 0.0824 | 0.0231 | 0.0118 |
| 1993 | 0.0089 | 0.1995 | 0.5469 | 0.1866 | 0.0439 | 0.0097 |
| 1994 | 0.0107 | 0.2441 | 0.5508 | 0.1656 | 0.0174 | 0.0078 |
| 1995 | 0.0651 | 0.1905 | 0.4435 | 0.2583 | 0.0282 | 0.0096 |
| 1996 | 0.0572 | 0.3939 | 0.3018 | 0.2096 | 0.0298 | 0.0050 |
| 1997 | 0.0055 | 0.1708 | 0.5459 | 0.2564 | 0.0164 | 0.0032 |
| 1998 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 1999 | 0.1613 | 0.4099 | 0.3358 | 0.0808 | 0.0084 | 0.0026 |
| 2000 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 2001 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 2002 | 0.1828 | 0.4572 | 0.2551 | 0.0837 | 0.0132 | 0.0080 |
| 2003 | 0.1514 | 0.3704 | 0.3394 | 0.1184 | 0.0107 | 0.0098 |
| 2004 | 0.2144 | 0.3438 | 0.2842 | 0.1240 | 0.0262 | 0.0073 |

Table A6: Nansen summer survey catches-at-age (proportions) of M. paradoxus on the west coast for the $0-500 \mathrm{~m}$ depth range.

|  | Proportions caught at age: Merluccius paradoxus |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Age | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | $5+$ |
| 2000 | 0.2612 | 0.4600 | 0.2041 | 0.0561 | 0.0151 | 0.0035 |
| 2001 | 0.1627 | 0.4360 | 0.2396 | 0.1191 | 0.0354 | 0.0072 |

Table A7: Spring survey catches-at-age (proportions) of M. paradoxus on the south coast for the $0-500 \mathrm{~m}$ depth range.

|  | Proportions caught at age: Merluccius paradoxus |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Age | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | $5+$ |
| 2001 | 0.0066 | 0.0852 | 0.5182 | 0.3689 | 0.0154 | 0.0057 |
| 2002 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 2003 | 0.0083 | 0.0342 | 0.4936 | 0.4250 | 0.0244 | 0.0145 |

Table A8: Autumn survey catches-at-age (proportions) of M. paradoxus on the south coast for the $0-500 \mathrm{~m}$ depth range.

|  | Proportions caught at age: Merluccius paradoxus |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Age | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | $5+$ |
| 1991 | 0.0038 | 0.0099 | 0.5219 | 0.2920 | 0.1162 | 0.0563 |
| 1992 | 0.0000 | 0.0006 | 0.3698 | 0.5407 | 0.0653 | 0.0236 |
| 1993 | 0.0000 | 0.0047 | 0.4157 | 0.5439 | 0.0260 | 0.0097 |
| 1994 | 0.0054 | 0.0898 | 0.6558 | 0.1857 | 0.0170 | 0.0463 |
| 1995 | 0.0002 | 0.0002 | 0.1241 | 0.7729 | 0.0886 | 0.0139 |
| 1996 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0968 | 0.7494 | 0.0999 | 0.0539 |
| 1997 | 0.0002 | 0.0012 | 0.1108 | 0.5806 | 0.1055 | 0.2016 |
| 1998 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 1999 | 0.0001 | 0.0140 | 0.2155 | 0.5266 | 0.1898 | 0.0540 |
| 2000 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 2001 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 2002 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 2003 | 0.0003 | 0.0409 | 0.5624 | 0.3427 | 0.0333 | 0.0204 |
| 2004 | 0.0439 | 0.1365 | 0.4040 | 0.3684 | 0.0411 | 0.0060 |

Table A19: Summer survey catches-at-age (proportions) of M. capensis on the west coast for the 0-500m depth range.

|  | Proportions caught-at-age: Merluccius capensis |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Age | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | $7+$ |
| 1986 | 0.034 | 0.230 | 0.603 | 0.085 | 0.023 | 0.014 | 0.008 | 0.003 |
| 1987 | 0.024 | 0.113 | 0.465 | 0.223 | 0.139 | 0.022 | 0.010 | 0.004 |
| 1988 | 0.280 | 0.483 | 0.135 | 0.059 | 0.018 | 0.015 | 0.009 | 0.002 |
| 1989 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 1990 | 0.004 | 0.325 | 0.635 | 0.023 | 0.009 | 0.003 | 0.001 | 0.000 |
| 1991 | 0.072 | 0.122 | 0.644 | 0.097 | 0.038 | 0.017 | 0.009 | 0.002 |
| 1992 | 0.131 | 0.260 | 0.313 | 0.162 | 0.078 | 0.025 | 0.019 | 0.010 |
| 1993 | 0.038 | 0.176 | 0.207 | 0.399 | 0.088 | 0.057 | 0.024 | 0.011 |
| 1994 | 0.081 | 0.253 | 0.208 | 0.262 | 0.075 | 0.054 | 0.048 | 0.020 |
| 1995 | 0.001 | 0.147 | 0.739 | 0.066 | 0.021 | 0.018 | 0.005 | 0.003 |
| 1996 | 0.065 | 0.368 | 0.205 | 0.237 | 0.066 | 0.023 | 0.025 | 0.011 |
| 1997 | 0.036 | 0.141 | 0.384 | 0.407 | 0.014 | 0.010 | 0.004 | 0.003 |
| 1998 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 1999 | 0.867 | 0.059 | 0.024 | 0.026 | 0.011 | 0.008 | 0.005 | 0.001 |
| 2000 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 2001 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 2002 | 0.351 | 0.425 | 0.100 | 0.062 | 0.032 | 0.019 | 0.009 | 0.002 |
| 2003 | 0.250 | 0.225 | 0.223 | 0.142 | 0.053 | 0.054 | 0.039 | 0.014 |
| 2004 | 0.125 | 0.367 | 0.411 | 0.086 | 0.007 | 0.002 | 0.001 | 0.001 |

Table A10: Winter survey catches-at-age (proportions) of M. capensis on the west coast for the $0-500 \mathrm{~m}$ depth range.

|  | Proportions caught-at-age: Merluccius capensis |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Age | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | $7+$ |
| 1985 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 1986 | 0.005 | 0.305 | 0.267 | 0.318 | 0.051 | 0.027 | 0.017 | 0.010 |
| 1987 | 0.010 | 0.477 | 0.202 | 0.171 | 0.072 | 0.048 | 0.011 | 0.009 |
| 1988 | 0.031 | 0.432 | 0.388 | 0.063 | 0.042 | 0.029 | 0.012 | 0.004 |
| 1989 | 0.079 | 0.676 | 0.213 | 0.022 | 0.008 | 0.001 | 0.001 | 0.000 |
| 1990 | 0.006 | 0.267 | 0.514 | 0.098 | 0.052 | 0.042 | 0.013 | 0.008 |

Table A11: Nansen summer survey catches-at-age (proportions) of M. capensis on the west coast for the 0-500m depth range.

|  | Proportions caught-at-age: Merluccius capensis |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Age | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | $7+$ |
| 2000 | 0.393 | 0.336 | 0.147 | 0.111 | 0.007 | 0.004 | 0.002 | 0.001 |
| 2001 | 0.427 | 0.123 | 0.179 | 0.184 | 0.058 | 0.018 | 0.008 | 0.004 |

Table A12: Spring survey catches-at-age (proportions) of M. capensis on the south coast for the 0-500m depth range.

|  | Proportions caught at age: Merluccius capensis |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Age | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | $7+$ |
| 2001 | 0.158 | 0.106 | 0.091 | 0.171 | 0.264 | 0.139 | 0.039 | 0.033 |
| 2002 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 2003 | 0.205 | 0.134 | 0.154 | 0.157 | 0.161 | 0.113 | 0.041 | 0.036 |

Table A13: Autumn survey catches-at-age (proportions) of M. capensis on the south coast for the $0-500 \mathrm{~m}$ depth range.

|  | Proportions caught at age: Merluccius capensis |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Age | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | $7+$ |
| 1991 | 0.011 | 0.111 | 0.126 | 0.173 | 0.215 | 0.181 | 0.112 | 0.073 |
| 1992 | 0.015 | 0.203 | 0.358 | 0.145 | 0.118 | 0.110 | 0.038 | 0.014 |
| 1993 | 0.001 | 0.083 | 0.120 | 0.171 | 0.373 | 0.143 | 0.068 | 0.042 |
| 1994 | 0.061 | 0.140 | 0.123 | 0.219 | 0.137 | 0.159 | 0.116 | 0.045 |
| 1995 | 0.019 | 0.121 | 0.225 | 0.189 | 0.202 | 0.149 | 0.066 | 0.029 |
| 1996 | 0.005 | 0.104 | 0.188 | 0.192 | 0.288 | 0.131 | 0.061 | 0.031 |
| 1997 | 0.064 | 0.134 | 0.105 | 0.187 | 0.216 | 0.175 | 0.067 | 0.052 |
| 1998 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 1999 | 0.159 | 0.140 | 0.281 | 0.145 | 0.117 | 0.087 | 0.040 | 0.030 |
| 2000 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 2001 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 2002 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 2003 | 0.127 | 0.212 | 0.188 | 0.140 | 0.153 | 0.109 | 0.038 | 0.033 |
| 2004 | 0.115 | 0.109 | 0.131 | 0.174 | 0.218 | 0.152 | 0.054 | 0.047 |

Table A14: Offshore fleet catches-at-age (M. capensis and M. paradoxus combined) for both coasts combined

| Age | Proportions caught at age: species combined |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7+ |
| 1975 | 0.000 | 0.038 | 0.151 | 0.242 | 0.249 | 0.189 | 0.058 | 0.073 |
| 1976 | 0.000 | 0.076 | 0.435 | 0.302 | 0.120 | 0.035 | 0.022 | 0.010 |
| 1977 | 0.000 | 0.119 | 0.499 | 0.223 | 0.081 | 0.051 | 0.023 | 0.005 |
| 1978 | 0.000 | 0.069 | 0.683 | 0.174 | 0.046 | 0.018 | 0.007 | 0.003 |
| 1979 | 0.000 | 0.095 | 0.468 | 0.218 | 0.095 | 0.078 | 0.029 | 0.016 |
| 1980 | 0.000 | 0.048 | 0.458 | 0.284 | 0.120 | 0.053 | 0.023 | 0.014 |
| 1981 | 0.004 | 0.204 | 0.459 | 0.184 | 0.092 | 0.034 | 0.015 | 0.008 |
| 1982 | 0.030 | 0.248 | 0.469 | 0.130 | 0.056 | 0.038 | 0.020 | 0.009 |
| 1983 | 0.001 | 0.097 | 0.457 | 0.256 | 0.099 | 0.056 | 0.025 | 0.010 |
| 1984 | 0.002 | 0.068 | 0.460 | 0.265 | 0.111 | 0.052 | 0.028 | 0.014 |
| 1985 | 0.000 | 0.007 | 0.347 | 0.380 | 0.135 | 0.077 | 0.036 | 0.019 |
| 1986 | 0.000 | 0.011 | 0.315 | 0.446 | 0.119 | 0.055 | 0.033 | 0.019 |
| 1987 | 0.000 | 0.019 | 0.502 | 0.273 | 0.109 | 0.059 | 0.025 | 0.013 |
| 1988 | 0.000 | 0.018 | 0.551 | 0.265 | 0.075 | 0.050 | 0.028 | 0.011 |
| 1989 | 0.000 | 0.011 | 0.411 | 0.399 | 0.097 | 0.049 | 0.026 | 0.008 |
| 1990 | 0.000 | 0.002 | 0.282 | 0.470 | 0.167 | 0.050 | 0.020 | 0.008 |
| 1991 | 0.000 | 0.003 | 0.264 | 0.379 | 0.213 | 0.079 | 0.045 | 0.018 |
| 1992 | 0.000 | 0.010 | 0.380 | 0.328 | 0.149 | 0.084 | 0.035 | 0.014 |
| 1993 | 0.000 | 0.002 | 0.152 | 0.407 | 0.286 | 0.112 | 0.031 | 0.011 |
| 1994 | 0.000 | 0.001 | 0.158 | 0.468 | 0.191 | 0.140 | 0.032 | 0.011 |
| 1995 | 0.000 | 0.001 | 0.107 | 0.533 | 0.218 | 0.074 | 0.049 | 0.018 |
| 1996 | 0.000 | 0.001 | 0.096 | 0.533 | 0.260 | 0.066 | 0.032 | 0.013 |

Table A15: Inshore fleet catches-at-age (assumed to consist of M. capensis only) on the south coast.

|  | Proportions caught at age: Merluccius capensis |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Age | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | $7+$ |
| 1989 | 0.000 | 0.081 | 0.478 | 0.285 | 0.109 | 0.039 | 0.008 |
| 1990 | 0.000 | 0.055 | 0.279 | 0.439 | 0.171 | 0.045 | 0.011 |
| 1991 | 0.000 | 0.053 | 0.281 | 0.367 | 0.219 | 0.067 | 0.014 |
| 1992 | 0.001 | 0.151 | 0.371 | 0.237 | 0.184 | 0.048 | 0.009 |
| 1993 | 0.000 | 0.026 | 0.332 | 0.457 | 0.139 | 0.039 | 0.006 |
| 1994 | 0.000 | 0.060 | 0.380 | 0.304 | 0.183 | 0.067 | 0.007 |
| 1995 | 0.000 | 0.015 | 0.232 | 0.455 | 0.209 | 0.072 | 0.018 |
| 1996 | 0.000 | 0.024 | 0.327 | 0.457 | 0.140 | 0.043 | 0.008 |
| 1997 | 0.000 | 0.034 | 0.369 | 0.394 | 0.159 | 0.034 | 0.011 |
| 1998 | 0.008 | 0.166 | 0.377 | 0.284 | 0.116 | 0.034 | 0.015 |
| 1999 | 0.012 | 0.190 | 0.365 | 0.248 | 0.116 | 0.044 | 0.024 |
| 2000 | 0.000 | 0.022 | 0.244 | 0.476 | 0.196 | 0.034 | 0.028 |

Table A16: Longline fleet catches-at-age (assumed to consist of M. capensis only) on the south coast.

|  | Proportions caught at age: Merluccius capensis |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Age | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | $7+$ |
| 1994 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.001 | 0.030 | 0.248 | 0.404 | 0.318 |
| 1995 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.006 | 0.093 | 0.262 | 0.638 |
| 1996 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.007 | 0.134 | 0.297 | 0.561 |
| 1997 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.002 | 0.036 | 0.201 | 0.298 | 0.464 |
| 2000 | 0.000 | 0.001 | 0.003 | 0.020 | 0.148 | 0.203 | 0.626 |

## Appendix B - The Age-Structured Production Model

The model used in the assessment of the coast-wide South African M. paradoxus and M. capensis hake stocks is an ASPM similar to those used for "standard" assessments (Rademeyer and Butterworth, 2004, for example). It involves assessing the two species as two independent stocks. The model is fitted to species-disaggregated data as well as species-combined data. The model equations and the general specifications of the model are described below, followed by details of the contributions to the log-likelihood function from the different data considered. Quasi-Newton minimisation is used to minimise the total negative log-likelihood function (implemented using AD Model Builder ${ }^{\mathrm{TM}}$, Otter Research, Ltd.).

## B. 1 Population Dynamics

## B.1.1 Numbers-at-age

The resource dynamics of the South African hake stocks are modelled by the following set of population dynamics equations:

$$
\begin{align*}
& N_{s, y+1,0}=R_{s, y+1}  \tag{B1}\\
& N_{s, y+1, a+1}=\left(N_{s y a} e^{-M_{s a} / 2}-\sum_{f} C_{s f y a}\right) e^{-M_{s a} / 2} \quad \text { for } 0 \leq a \leq m_{s}-2  \tag{B2}\\
& N_{s, y+1, m}=\left(N_{s y, m-1} e^{-M_{s, m-1} / 2}-\sum_{f} C_{s f y, m-1}\right) e^{-M_{s, m-1} / 2}+\left(N_{s y m} e^{-M_{s m} / 2}-\sum_{f} C_{s f y m}\right) e^{-M_{s m} / 2} \tag{B3}
\end{align*}
$$

where
$N_{s y a} \quad$ is the number of fish of species $s$ and age $a$ at the start of year $y$,
$R_{s y} \quad$ is the recruitment (number of 0 -year-old fish) of species $s$ at the start of year $y$,
$M_{s a} \quad$ denotes the natural mortality rate on fish of species $s$ and age $a$,
$C_{s f y a}$ is the number of fish of species $s$ and age $a$ caught in year $y$ by fleet $f$, and
$m_{s} \quad$ is the maximum age considered (taken to be a plus-group) for species $s$.
These equations simply state that for a closed population, i.e. with no immigration or emigration, the only sources of loss are natural mortality (predation, disease, etc.) and fishing mortality (catch). They reflect Pope's approximation (Pope, 1972) (the catches are assumed to be taken as a pulse in the middle of the year) rather than the more customary Baranov catch equations (Baranov, 1918) (where catches are incorporated in the form of a continuous fishing mortality). As long as mortality rates are not too high, the differences between the Baranov and Pope formulation will be minimal. Tests showed this approximation to be adequate for the hake stocks (Punt, University of Washington, pers. commn).

## B.1.2 Recruitment

Next year's recruitment depends upon the reproductive output of this year's fish. The number of recruits of each species (i.e. new zero-year old fish) at the start of year $y$ is assumed to be related to the spawning stock size (i.e., the biomass of mature fish) by a stock-recruitment relationship. Traditionally, the Beverton-Holt function (Beverton and Holt, 1957) has been used for southern African hake assessments.
The Beverton-Holt stock-recruitment relationship, allowing for annual fluctuations, is written as:

$$
\begin{equation*}
R_{s y}=\frac{\alpha_{s} B_{s y}^{s p}}{\beta_{s}+B_{s y}^{s p}} e^{\left(\varsigma_{s y}-\sigma_{R}^{2} / 2\right)} \tag{B4}
\end{equation*}
$$

where
$\alpha_{s}$ and $\beta_{s}$ are spawning biomass-recruitment relationship parameters for species $s, \alpha$ being the maximum number of recruits produced, and $\beta$ the spawning stock needed to produce a recruitment equal to $\alpha / 2$, in the deterministic case;
$\varsigma_{s y} \quad$ reflects fluctuation about the expected recruitment for species $s$ in year $y$, which is assumed to be normally distributed with standard deviation $\sigma_{R}$ (whose value is input in the applications considered here); these residuals are treated as estimable parameters in the model fitting process. Estimating the stock-recruitment residuals is made possible by the availability of catch-at-age data, which give some indication of the agestructure of the population. The $-\sigma_{R}^{2} / 2$ term is to correct for bias given the skewness of the log-normal distribution; it ensures that, on average, recruitments will be as indicated by the deterministic component of the stock-recruitment relationship;
$B_{s y}^{s p} \quad$ is the spawning biomass of fish of species $s$ at the start of year $y$, computed as:
$B_{s y}^{s p}=\sum_{a=1}^{m} f_{s a} w_{s a} N_{s y a}$
where
$w_{s a} \quad$ is the begin-year mass of fish of species $s$ and age $a$, and
$f_{s a} \quad$ is the proportion of fish of species $s$ and age $a$ that are mature.
In order to work with estimable parameters that are more biologically meaningful, the stock-recruitment relationship is re-parameterised in terms of the pre-exploitation equilibrium spawning ("virgin") biomass, $K_{s}^{s p}$, and the "steepness", $h_{s}$, of the stock-recruitment relationship, which is the proportion of the virgin recruitment ( $R_{1 s}$ ) that is realised at a spawning biomass level of $20 \%$ of the virgin spawning biomass:
$\alpha_{s}=\frac{4 h_{s} R_{s 1}}{5 h_{s}-1}$
and

$$
\begin{equation*}
\beta_{s}=\frac{K_{s}^{s p}\left(1-h_{s}\right)}{5 h_{s}-1} \tag{B7}
\end{equation*}
$$

where
$R_{s 1}=K_{s}^{s p} /\left[\sum_{a=1}^{m-1} f_{s a} w_{s a} \exp \left(-\sum_{a^{\prime}=0}^{a-1} M_{s a^{\prime}}\right)+f_{s m} w_{s m} \frac{\exp \left(-\sum_{a^{\prime}=0}^{m-1} M_{s a^{\prime}}\right)}{1-\exp \left(-M_{s m}\right)}\right]$
In the fitting procedure, both $h_{s}$ and $K_{s}^{s p}$ are estimated. The steepness parameter is important, as the overall potential yield of a resource estimated by an ASPM depends primarily on the steepness of the stock-recruitment curve and on the natural mortality rate.

## B.1.3 Total catch and catches-at-age

The fleet-disaggregated catch by mass for species $s$, in year is given by:

$$
\begin{equation*}
C_{s f y}=\sum_{a=0}^{m} w_{s, a+1 / 2} C_{s f y a}=\sum_{a=0}^{m} w_{s, a+1 / 2} N_{s y a} e^{-M_{s a} / 2} S_{s f y a} F_{s f y} \tag{B9}
\end{equation*}
$$

where
$w_{s, a+1 / 2}$ denotes the mid-year mass of fish of species $s$ and age $a$, which is assumed to be the same for each fleet (as there are no data available to discriminate between fleets),
$C_{s f y a} \quad$ is the catch-at-age, i.e. the number of fish of species $s$ and age $a$, caught in year $y$ by fleet $f$,
$S_{s f y a}$ is the commercial selectivity (i.e. vulnerability to fishing gear, which may depend not only on the gear itself, but also on distribution patterns of the fish by age compared to the areal distribution of fishing effort) of species $s$ at age $a$ for year $y$, and fleet $f$; when $S_{s f y a}=1$, the age-class $a$ is said to be fully selected, and
$F_{s f y} \quad$ is the fished proportion of a fully selected age class of species $s$, for fleet $f$.

The model estimate of the mid-year exploitable ("available") component of biomass for each species and fleet is calculated by converting the numbers-at-age into mid-year mass-at-age (using the mid-year individual weights) and applying natural and fishing mortality for half the year:
$B_{s f y}^{e x}=\sum_{a=0}^{m_{s}} w_{s, a+1 / 2} S_{s f y a} N_{s y a} e^{-M_{s a} / 2}\left(1-\sum_{f} S_{s f y a} F_{s f y} / 2\right)$
The model estimate of the survey biomass at the start of the year (summer) for each species is given by:
$B_{s y}^{s u r v}=\sum_{a=0}^{m_{s}} w_{s a} S_{s a}^{s u r v} N_{s y a}$
and in mid-year (winter):
$B_{s y}^{s u r v}=\sum_{a-0}^{m_{s}} w_{s, a+1 / 2} S_{s a}^{s u r v} N_{s y a} e^{-M_{s a} / 2}\left(1-\sum_{f} S_{s f y a} F_{s f y} / 2\right)$
where
$S_{s a}^{s u r v} \quad$ is the survey selectivity for age $a$ for species $s$, and
$w_{s, a+1 / 2}$ is the mid-year weight of fish of species $s$ and age $a$ at the start of the year.
It is assumed that the resource is at the deterministic equilibrium that corresponds to an absence of harvesting at the start of the initial year considered, i.e., $B_{s y 0}^{s p}=K_{s}^{s p}$.

## B. 2 The likelihood function

The model is fitted to CPUE and survey abundance indices, catch information and commercial and survey catch-at-age data, as well as to the stock-recruitment curve to estimate model parameters. Contributions by each of these to the negative of the $\log$-likelihood $(-\ell \mathrm{n} L)$ are as follows.

## B.2.1 CPUE relative abundance data

The likelihood is calculated assuming that the observed abundance index is log-normally distributed about its expected value:
$I_{y}^{i}=\hat{I}_{y}^{i} \exp \left(\varepsilon_{y}^{i}\right) \quad$ or $\quad \varepsilon_{y}^{i}=\ln \left(I_{y}^{i}\right)-\ln \left(\hat{I}_{y}^{i}\right)$
where
$I_{y}^{i} \quad$ is the abundance index for year $y$ and series $i$ (which corresponds to a combination of species and fleet)
$\hat{I}_{y}^{i}=\hat{q}^{i} \hat{B}_{s f y}^{e x}$ is the corresponding model estimate, where $\widehat{B}_{s f y}^{e x}$ is the model estimate of exploitable resource biomass, given by equation B10,
$\hat{q}^{i} \quad$ is the constant of proportionality for abundance series $i$, and
$\varepsilon_{y}^{i} \quad$ from $N\left(0,\left(\sigma_{y}^{i}\right)^{2}\right)$.

In cases where the CPUE series are based upon species-aggregated catches (as available pre-1978), the corresponding model estimate is derived by assuming two types of fishing zones: z1) an "M. capensis only zone", corresponding to the shallow water and z2) a "mixed zone" (see Fig. B1).

The total catch of hake of both species $(B S)$ by fleet $f$ in year $y\left(C_{B S, f y}\right)$ can be written as $C_{B S, f y}=C_{C z 1, f y}+C_{C z 2, f y}+C_{P, f y}$, where
$C_{C z 1, f y}$ is the M. capensis catch by fleet $f$ in year $y$ in the M. capensis only zone,
$C_{C z 2, f y}$ is the M. capensis catch by fleet $f$ in year $y$ in the mixed zone, and
$C_{P, f y} \quad$ is the M. paradoxus catch by fleet $f$ in year $y$ in the mixed zone.

Catch rate is assumed to be proportional to exploitable biomass. Furthermore, let $\gamma$ be the proportion of the M. capensis exploitable biomass in the mixed zone ( $\gamma=B_{C z 2, f y}^{e x} / B_{C, f y}^{e x}$ ) (assumed to be constant throughout the period) and $s_{f y}$ be the proportion of the effort of fleet $f$ in the mixed zone in year $y\left(s_{f y}=E_{f y}^{z 2} / E_{f y}\right)$, so that:
$C_{C z 1, f y}=q_{C z 1}^{i} B_{C z 1, f y}^{e x} E_{f y}^{1}=q_{C z 1}^{i}(1-\gamma) B_{C, f y}^{e x}\left(1-s_{f y}\right) E_{f y}$
$C_{f y}^{C z 2}=q_{C z 2}^{i} B_{C z 2, f y}^{e x} E_{f y}^{z 2}=q_{C z 2}^{i} \gamma B_{C, f y}^{e x} s_{f y} E_{f y}$ and
$C_{f y}^{P}=q_{P}^{i} B_{P, f y}^{e x} E_{f y}^{z 2}=q_{P}^{i} B_{P, f y}^{e x} s_{f y} E_{f y}$
where
$E_{f y}=E_{f y}^{z 1}+E_{f y}^{z 2}$ is the total effort of fleet $f$, corresponding to combined-species CPUE series $i$ which consists of the effort in the M. capensis only zone ( $E_{f y}^{z 1}$ ) and the effort in the mixed zone ( $E_{f y}^{z 2}$ ).

It follows that:
$C_{C f y}=B_{C f y}^{e x} E_{f y}\left[q_{C 1}^{i}(1-\gamma)\left(1-s_{y}\right)+q_{C 2}^{i} \gamma s_{f y}\right]$
$C_{P f y}=B_{C f y}^{e x} E_{f y} q_{P}^{i} s_{f y}$
By solving equations B17 and B18, we get:
$s_{f y}=\frac{q_{C z 1}^{i}(1-\gamma)}{\left\{\frac{C_{C f y} B_{P f y}^{e x} q_{P}^{i}}{B_{C f y}^{e x} C_{P f y}}-q_{C z 2}^{i} \gamma+q_{C z 1}^{i}(1-\gamma)\right\}}$
so that:
$\hat{I}_{y}^{i}=\frac{C_{f y}}{E_{f y}}=\frac{C_{f y} B_{P f y}^{e x} q_{P}^{i} S_{f y}}{C_{P f y}}$

| Zone 1 (z1): | Zone 2 (z2): |
| :---: | :---: |
| M. capensis only | Mixed zone |
| M. capensis: | M. capensis: |
| biomass $\left(B_{C z 1}\right)$, catch $\left(C_{C_{z 1}}\right)$ | biomass $\left(B_{C z 2}\right)$, catch $\left(C_{C z 2}\right)$ |
|  | M. paradoxus: |
|  | biomass $\left(B_{P}\right)$, catch $\left(C_{P}\right)$ |
| Effort in zone 1 $\left(E_{z 1}\right)$ | Effort in zone $1\left(E_{z 2}\right)$ |

Fig. B1: Diagramatic representation of the two theoretical fishing zones.

To correct for possible negative bias in estimates of variance $\left(\sigma_{y}^{i}\right)$ and to avoid according unrealistically high precision (and so giving inappropriately high weight) to the CPUE data, lower bounds $\left(\left(\sigma_{A}^{i}\right)^{2}\right)$ on the standard deviations of the residuals for the logarithm of the CPUE series have been enforced; for the historic ICSEAF CPUE series (separate west coast and south coast series) the lower bound is set to 0.25 and for the recent GLM-standardised CPUE series the lower bound is 0.15 , i.e.: $\sigma^{I C S E A F} \geq 0.25$ and $\sigma^{G L M} \geq 0.15$.

The contribution of the CPUE data to the negative of the log-likelihood function (after removal of constants) is then given by:
$-\ell \mathrm{n} L^{\text {CPUE }}=\sum_{i} \sum_{y}\left\{\ln \sqrt{\left(\sigma_{y}^{i}\right)^{2}+\left(\sigma_{A}^{i}\right)^{2}}+\left(\varepsilon_{y}^{i}\right)^{2} /\left[2\left(\left(\sigma_{y}^{i}\right)^{2}+\left(\sigma_{A}^{i}\right)^{2}\right)\right]\right\}$
where
$\sigma_{y}^{i} \quad$ is the (minimum, when $\sigma_{A}^{i}=0$ ) standard deviation of the residuals for the logarithms of index $i$ in year $y$,
$\sigma_{A}^{i} \quad$ is the square root of the additional variance for abundance series $i$, which is an input value; alternatively, this can be used to as a means of specifying an effective lower bound for $\sigma_{y}^{i}$.

Homoscedasticity of residuals is usually assumed, so that $\sigma_{y}^{i}=\sigma^{i}$ is estimated in the fitting procedure by its maximum likelihood value:

$$
\begin{equation*}
\hat{\sigma}^{i}=\sqrt{1 / n_{i} \sum_{y}\left(\ln \left(I_{y}^{i}\right)-\ln \left(\hat{I}_{y}^{i}\right)\right)^{2}-\left(\sigma_{A}^{i}\right)^{2}} \tag{B22}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $n_{i}$ is the number of data points for abundance index $i$.
In the case of the species-disaggregated CPUE series, the catchability coefficient $q^{i}$ for abundance index $i$ is estimated by its maximum likelihood value, which in the more general case of heteroscedastic residuals, is given by:
$\ln \hat{q}^{i}=\frac{\sum_{y}\left[1 /\left\{\left(\sigma_{y}^{i}\right)^{2}+\left(\sigma_{A}^{i}\right)^{2}\right\}\right]\left(\ln I_{y}^{i}-\ln \hat{B}_{s r f y}^{e x}\right)}{\sum_{y}\left[1 /\left\{\left(\sigma_{y}^{i}\right)^{2}+\left(\sigma_{A}^{i}\right)^{2}\right\}\right]}$
While in the case of the species-combined CPUE, $q_{C z 1}^{i}, q_{C z 2}^{i}, q_{P}^{i}$ and $\gamma$ are directly estimated in the fitting procedure.
In the case of the South African hake, two species-aggregated CPUE indices are available: the ICSEAF west coast and the ICSEAF south coast series. For consistency, $q$ 's for each species (and zone) are forced to be in the same proportion:

$$
\begin{equation*}
q_{s}^{S C}=r q_{s}^{W C} \tag{B24}
\end{equation*}
$$

## B.2.2 Survey abundance data

Data from the research surveys are treated as relative abundance indices in a similar manner to the speciesdisaggregated CPUE series above, with survey selectivity function $S_{s a}^{s u r v}$ replacing the commercial selectivity $S_{s f y a}$ (see equations B11 and B12 above). Account is also taken of the begin- or mid-year nature of the survey.

An estimate of sampling variance is available for most surveys and the associated $\sigma_{y}^{i}$ is generally taken to be given by the corresponding survey CV. However, these estimates likely fail to include all sources of variability, and unrealistically high precision (low variance and hence high weight) could hence be accorded to these indices. The contribution of the survey data to the negative log-likelihood is of the same form as that of the CPUE abundance data (see equation B21). The procedure adopted takes into account an additional variance in the same manner as for the CPUE abundance indices, but instead of being input, the additional variance $\left(\sigma_{A}\right)^{2}$ is treated as another estimable parameter in the minimisation process. This procedure is carried out enforcing the constraint that $\left(\sigma_{A}\right)^{2}>0$, i.e. the overall variance cannot be less than its externally input component.
In June 2003, the trawl gear on the Africana was changed and a different value for the multiplicative bias factor $q$ is taken to apply to the surveys conducted with the new gear. Calibration experiments have been conducted between the Africana with the old gear (hereafter referred to as the "old Africana") and the Nansen, and between the Africana with the new gear ("new Africana") and the Nansen, in order to provide a basis to relate the multiplicative biases of the Africana with the two types of gear ( $q_{\text {old }}$ and $q_{\text {new }}$ ). A GLM analysis assuming negative binomial distributions for the catches made (Brandão et al., 2004) provides the following estimates:

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
\Delta \ell n q^{\text {capensis }}=-0.494 & \text { with } \sigma_{\Delta \ell n q^{\text {capensis }}}=0.141 \text { and } \\
\Delta \ell n q^{\text {paradoxus }}=-0.053 & \text { with } \sigma_{\Delta \ell n q^{\text {paradoxus }}}=0.117
\end{array}
$$

where
$\ell n q_{\text {new }}^{i}=\ell n q_{\text {old }}^{i}+\Delta \ell n q^{i}$ with $i=$ capensis or paradoxus

The following contribution is therefore added as a penalty (or a prior in a Bayesian context) to the negative loglikelihood in the assessment:
$-\ell n L^{q-c h}=\left(\ell n q_{\text {new }}-\ell n q_{o l d}-\Delta \ell n q\right)^{2} / 2 \sigma_{\Delta \ell n q}^{2}$
This assessment assumes that the change from "old Africana" to "new Africana" involves a change in $q$ alone, i.e. the pattern of age-specific selectivity remains unchanged.

## B.2.3 Commercial catches-at-age

Catches-at-age cannot be disaggregated by species, the model is therefore fitted to the catches-at-age for both species. The contribution of the catch-at-age data to the negative of the log-likelihood function when assuming an "adjusted" lognormal error distribution is given by:
$-\ln L^{a g e}=\sum_{i} \sum_{y} \sum_{a}\left\lfloor\ln \left(\sigma_{c o m}^{i} / \sqrt{p_{i y a}}\right)+p_{i y a}\left(\ln p_{i y a}-\ln \hat{p}_{i y a}\right)^{2} / 2\left(\sigma_{c o m}^{i}\right)^{2}\right\rfloor$
where
the subscript ' $i$ ' refers to a particular series of catch-at-age data which reflect a specific combination of fleet and coast.
$p_{i y a}=\frac{C_{B S, f y a}}{\sum_{a^{\prime}} C_{B S, f y a^{\prime}}}$ is the observed proportion of fish (M. capensis and M. paradoxus combined) caught by fleet $f$ in year $y$ that are of age $a$,
$\hat{p}_{i y a}=\frac{\hat{C}_{B S, f y a}}{\sum_{a^{\prime}} \hat{C}_{B S, f f a^{\prime}}}=\frac{\sum_{s} \hat{C}_{s, f y a}}{\sum_{a^{\prime}} \sum_{s} \hat{C}_{s, f y a^{\prime}}}$ is the model-predicted proportion of fish caught by fleet $f$ in year $y$ that are of age $a$, where:
$\hat{C}_{s f y a}=N_{s y a} e^{-M_{s a} / 2} S_{s f y a} F_{s f y a}$
and
$\sigma_{c o m}^{i}$ is the standard deviation associated with the catch-at-age data, which is estimated in the fitting procedure by:
$\hat{\sigma}_{c o m}^{i}=\sqrt{\sum_{y} \sum_{a} p_{y, a}^{i}\left(\ln p_{y, a}^{i}-\ln \hat{p}_{y, a}^{i}\right)^{2} / \sum_{y} \sum_{a} 1}$
The log-normal error distribution underlying equation B27 is chosen on the grounds that (assuming no ageing error) variability is likely dominated by a combination of interannual variation in the distribution of fishing effort, and fluctuations (partly as a consequence of such variations) in selectivity-at-age, which suggests that the assumption of a constant coefficient of variation is appropriate. However, for ages poorly represented in the sample, sampling variability considerations must at some stage start to dominate the variance. To take this into account in a simple manner, motivated by multinomial distribution properties, Punt (pers. commn) advocates weighting by the observed proportions (as in equation B27) so that undue importance is not attached to data based upon a few samples only.

Commercial catches-at-age are incorporated in the likelihood function using equation B27, for which the summation over age $a$ is taken from age $a_{\text {minus }}$ (considered as a minus group) to $a_{p l u s}$ (a plus group). The ages for the minus- and plus-groups are chosen so that typically a few percent, but no more, of the fish sampled fall into these two groups.

## B.2.4 Survey catches-at-age

The survey catches-at-age are incorporated into the negative of the log-likelihood in an analogous manner to the commercial catches-at-age, assuming an adjusted log-normal error distribution (equation B27). In this case however, the data is available disaggregated by species.
$p_{\text {sya }}^{\text {surv }}=C_{\text {sya }}^{\text {surv }} / \sum{ }_{a^{\prime}} C_{\text {sya }}{ }^{\text {surv }}$ is the observed proportion of fish of species $s$ and age $a$ from survey surv in year,
$\hat{p}_{s y a}^{\text {surv }} \quad$ is the expected proportion of fish of species $s$ and age $a$ in year $y$ in the survey surv, given by:

$$
\begin{equation*}
\hat{p}_{s y a}^{\text {surv }}=\frac{S_{s a}^{\text {surv }} N_{\text {sya }}}{\sum_{a^{\prime}=0}^{m_{s}} S_{s a^{\prime}}^{\text {surv }} N_{s y a^{\prime}}} \tag{B30}
\end{equation*}
$$

for begin-year (summer) surveys, or
$\hat{p}_{s y a}^{s u r v}=\frac{S_{s a}^{s u r v} N_{s y a} \exp \left(-M_{s a} / 2\right)\left(1-\sum_{f} S_{s f y a} F_{s f y} / 2\right)}{\sum_{a^{\prime}=0}^{m_{s}} S_{s a^{\prime}}^{s u r v} N_{s y a^{\prime}} \exp \left(-M_{s a^{\prime}} / 2\right)\left(1-\sum_{f} S_{s f y a} F_{s f y} / 2\right)}$
for mid-year (winter) surveys.

## B2.5 Stock-recruitment function residuals

The stock-recruitment residuals are assumed to be log-normally distributed and serially correlated. Thus, the contribution of the recruitment residuals to the negative of the log-likelihood function is given by:
$-\ell n L^{S R}=\sum_{s} \sum_{y=y 1+1}^{y 2}\left[\ln \sigma_{R}+\left(\frac{\varsigma_{s y}-\rho \varsigma_{s, y-1}}{\sqrt{1-\rho^{2}}}\right)^{2} / 2 \sigma_{R}^{2}\right]$
where
$\varsigma_{s y}=\rho \varsigma_{s, y-1}+\sqrt{1-\rho^{2}} \varepsilon_{s y}$ is the recruitment residual for species $s$, and year $y$, which is estimated for year $y 1$ to $y 2$ (see equation B4),
$\varepsilon_{s y} \quad$ from $N\left(0,\left(\sigma_{R}\right)^{2}\right)$
$\sigma_{R} \quad$ is the standard deviation of the log-residuals, which is input, and
$\rho \quad$ is the serial correlation coefficient, which is input.
In the interest of simplicity, equation B30 omits a term in $\varsigma_{s, y 1}$ for the case when serial correlation is assumed ( $\rho \neq 0$ ), which is generally of little quantitative consequence to values estimated (Cryer, 1986).

## B. 3 Model parameters

## B3.1 Estimable parameters

While in the case of the species-combined CPUE, $q_{C 1}^{i}, q_{C 2}^{i}, q_{P}^{i}$ and $\gamma$ are directly estimated in the fitting procedure.
In addition to the species-specific virgin spawning biomass $\left(K_{s}^{s p}\right)$ and "steepness" of the stock-recruitment relationship $\left(h_{s}\right)$, the following parameters are also estimated in some of the model fits undertaken.

## B3.1.1 Natural mortality:

Natural mortality ( $M_{s a}$ ) is assumed either to be independent of age or age-specific, and input (fixed) or estimated using the following functional form in the latter case:
$M_{s a}=\left\{\begin{array}{cll}M_{s 2} & \text { for } & a \leq 1 \\ \alpha_{s}^{M}+\frac{\beta_{s}^{M}}{a+1} & \text { for } & a \geq 2\end{array}\right.$
$M_{s 0}$ and $M_{s 1}$ are set equal to $M_{s 2}\left(=\alpha_{s}^{M}+\beta_{s}^{M} / 3\right)$ as there are no data (hake of ages younger than 2 are rare in catch and survey data) which would allow independent estimation of $M_{s 0}$ and $M_{s l}$.

## B3.1.2 Fishing selectivity-at-age:

The fishing selectivity-at-age for each species and fleet, $S_{s f a}$, is either estimated directly:
$S_{\text {sfa }}=\left\{\begin{array}{cl}\text { estimated separately } & \text { for } a \leq a_{\text {est }} \\ =1 & \text { for } a>a_{\text {est }}\end{array}\right.$
or in terms of a logistic curve given by:
$S_{s f a}=\left\{\begin{array}{cl}0 & \text { for } a=0 \\ {\left[1+\exp \left(-\left(a-a_{s f}^{c}\right) / \delta_{s f}^{c}\right)\right]^{-1}} & \text { for } a \geq 1\end{array}\right.$
where
$a_{s f}^{c}$ years is the age-at-50\% selectivity,
$\delta_{s f}^{c}$ year ${ }^{-1}$ defines the steepness of the ascending limb of the selectivity curve.
The selectivity is sometimes modified to include a decrease in selectivity at older ages, as follows:
$S_{s f a} \rightarrow S_{\text {sfa }} \exp \left(-s_{\text {sfa }}\left(a-a_{\text {slope }}\right)\right)$ for $a>a_{\text {slope }}$,
where
$s_{s f a}$ measures the rate of decrease in selectivity with age for fish older than $a_{\text {slope }}$ for the fleet concerned, and is referred to as the "selectivity slope".

Time dependence may be incorporated into these specification, so that $S_{s f a} \rightarrow S_{s f y a}$.

## B3.2 Input parameters

## B3.2.1 Age-at-maturity:

The proportion of fish of species $s$ age $a$ that are mature is approximated by

$$
f_{s a}= \begin{cases}0 & \text { for } a<a_{s}^{\text {mat }}  \tag{B37}\\ 1 & \text { for } a \geq a_{s}^{\text {mat }}\end{cases}
$$

where $a_{s}^{\text {mat }}=4$ for the M. capensis and M. paradoxus stocks (Punt and Leslie, 1991).

## B3.2.2 Weight-at-age:

The weight-at-age (begin and mid-year) for each species is calculated from the combination of the von Bertalanffy growth equation and the mass-at-length function.


[^0]:    * constraint boundary

