




iotc ctoi

# Implementing the Precautionary Approach



# The motivation

- UNFSA
  - FAO Code of Conduct
  - Recommendations from the Performance Review
  - FAO Ecolabelling guidelines
  - Other eco-certification principles
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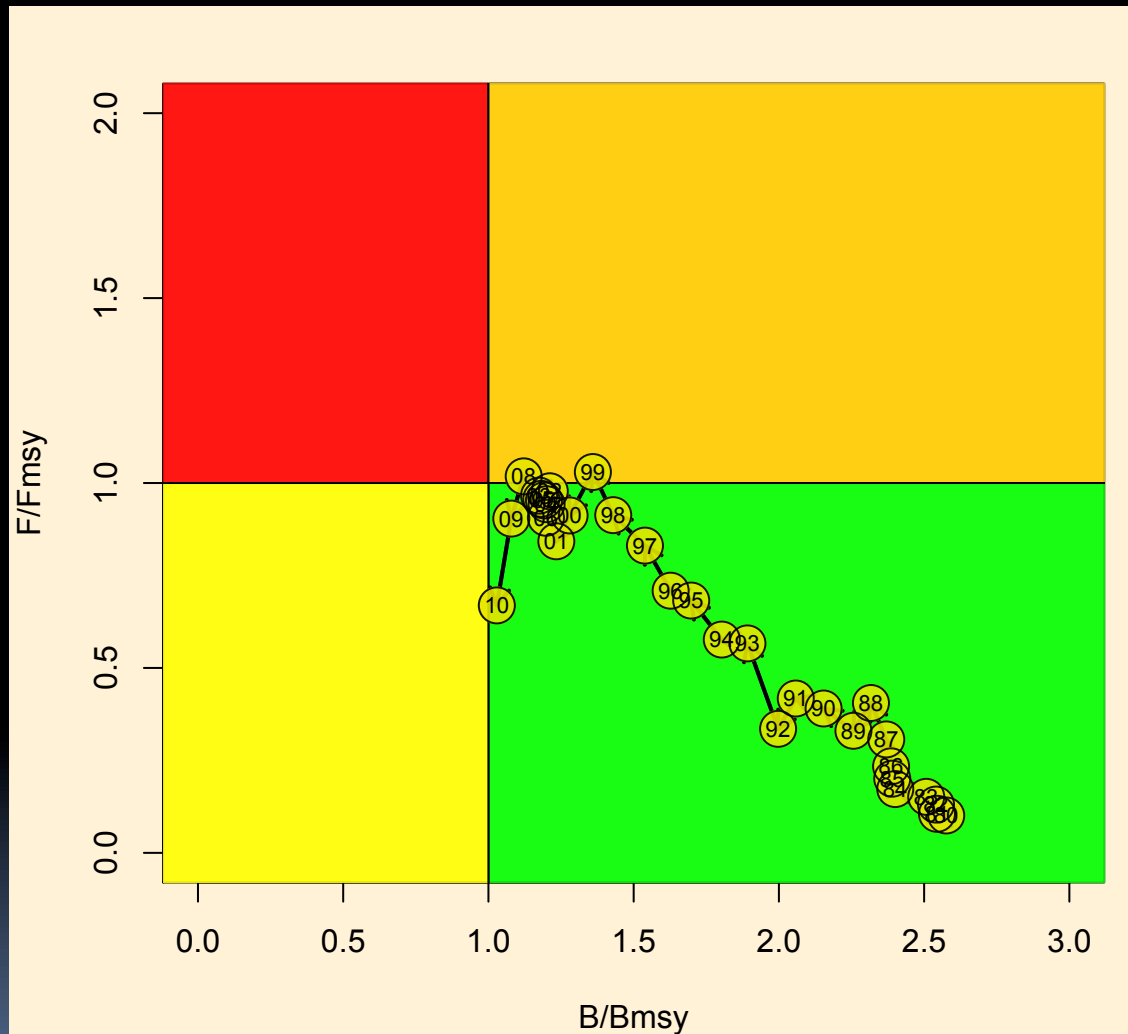
# The proposal in document 35

- Establishes the principles of implementation of the precautionary approach
- Formalizes the Management Strategy Evaluation process
- Encourages adoption of **provisional** reference points

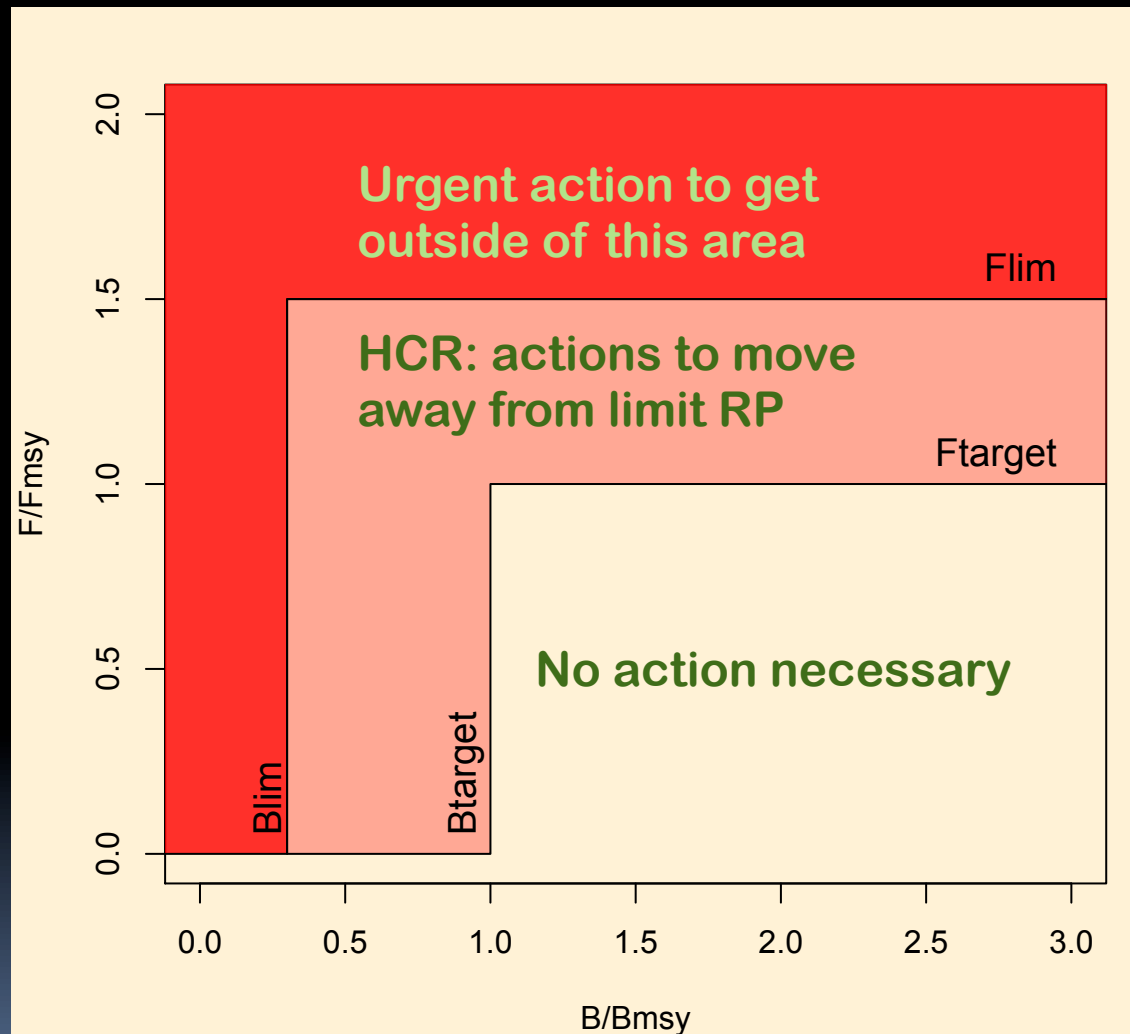
# Applying the precautionary approach

- Calculate usual **status indicators**:  $F/F_{msy}$  and  $B/B_{msy}$ .
- Compare status indicators with **the target and limit reference points**.
- Apply **Harvest Control Rule**:
  - E.g.: Restrict catch limits as we get closer to the  $B_{lim}$  or  $F_{lim}$ ...

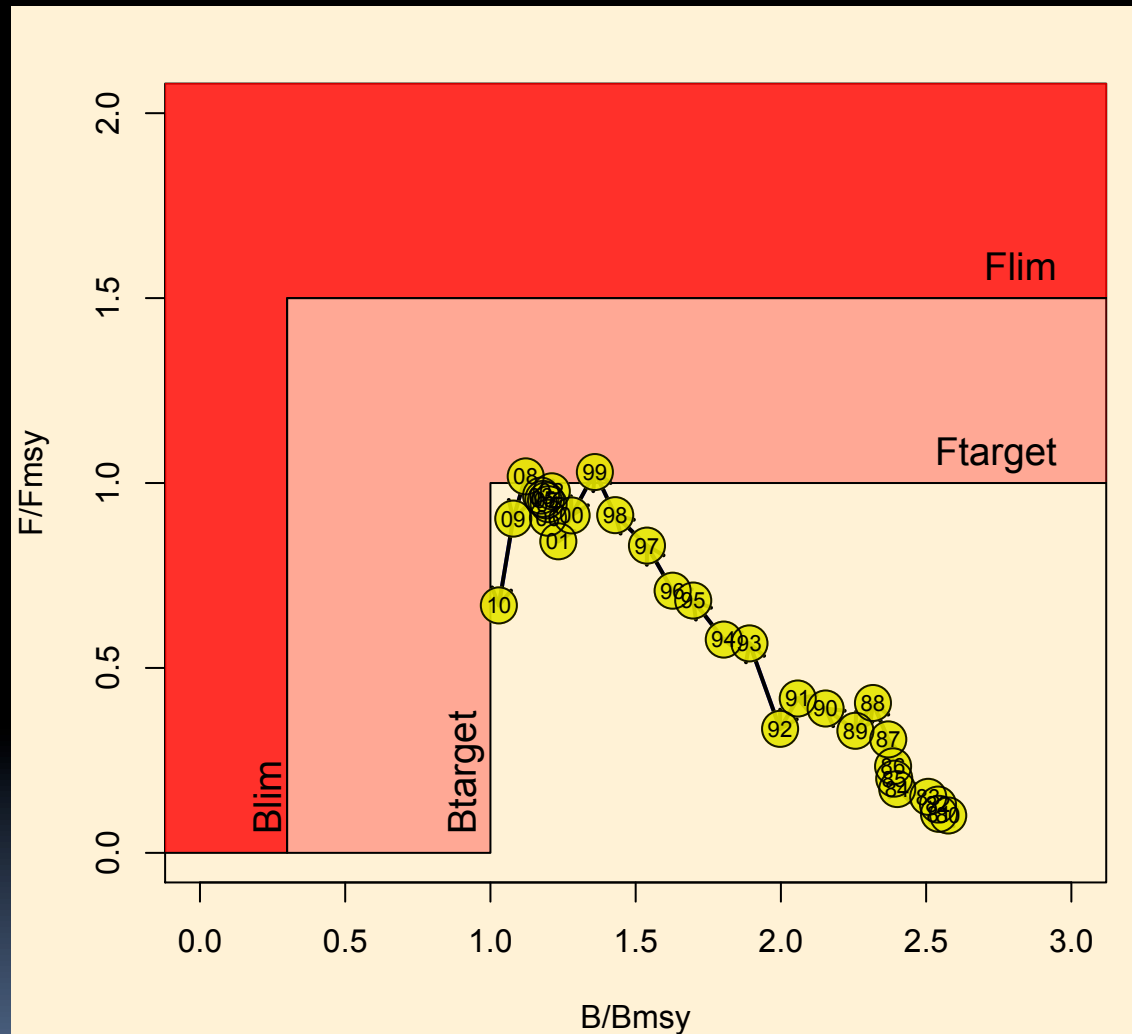
# The usual Kobe plot



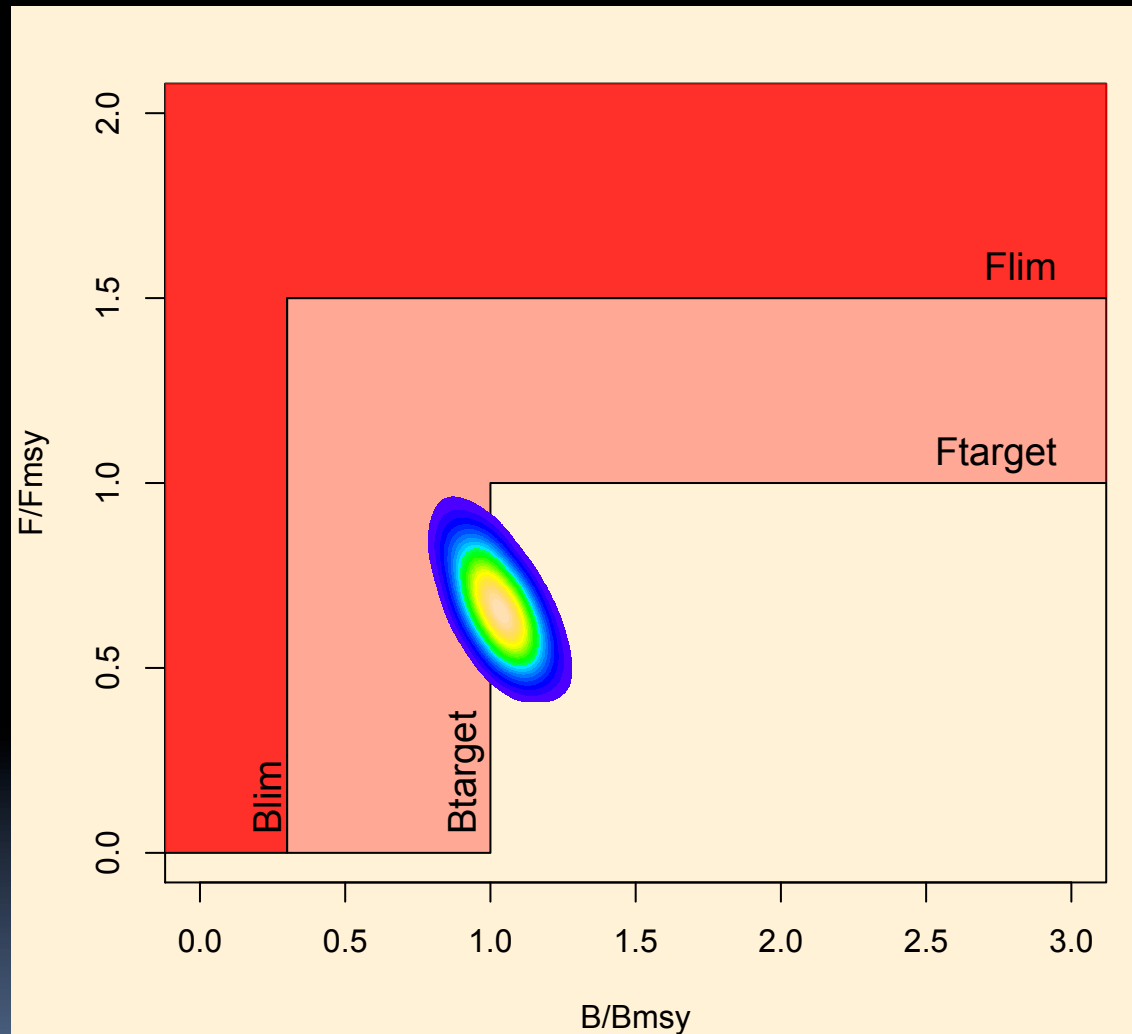
# A similar plot based on reference points



Of course we can plot the trajectories...

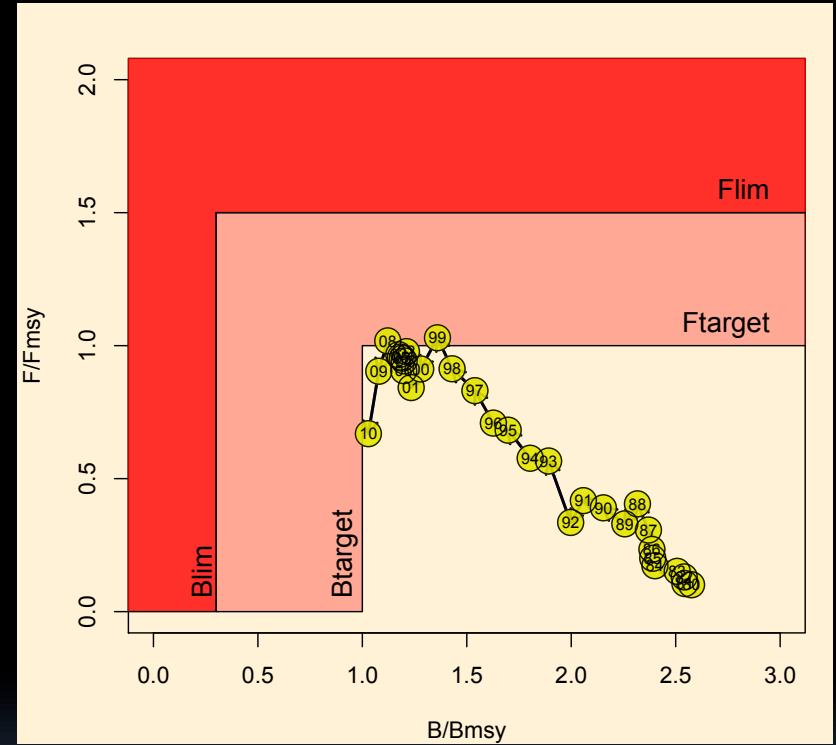
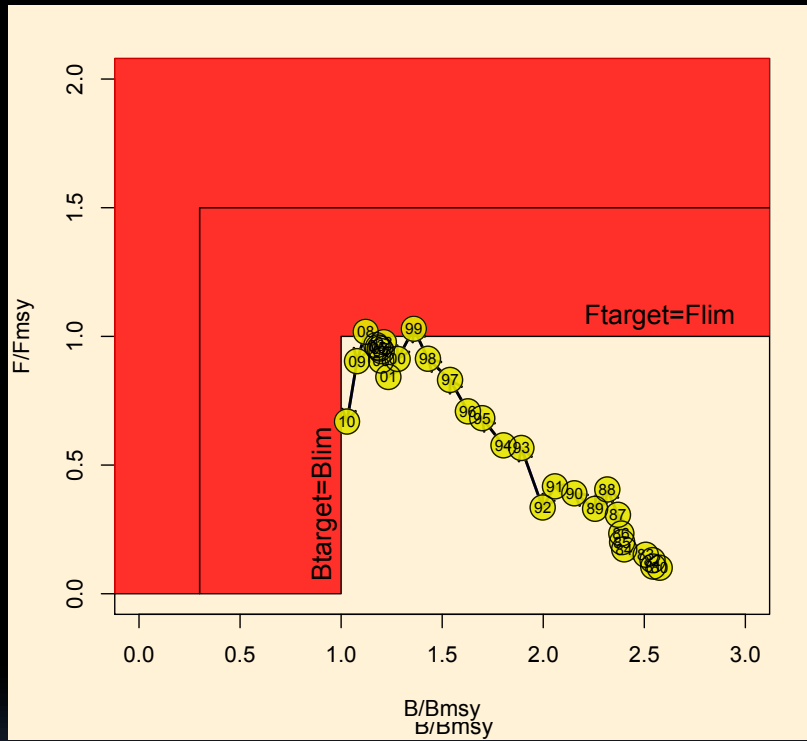


# Or concentrate on the uncertainty around the last estimate





# The usual Kobe plot





# How do we determine the best RP and HCR?

- **Conduct a Management Strategy Evaluation to choose:**
  - Firm target and limit reference points
  - Harvest control rule

Already initiated, more on this later...



# Can we establish reference points now?

- Yes, following that the UNFSA, emphasize that they are **provisional**, until the Management Strategy Evaluation can provide better values.

# A proposal for **provisional** target and limit reference points

Stock	Target Reference Point	Limit Reference Point
Skipjack	Bmsy; Fmsy	0.4*Bmsy; 1.5*Fmsy
Yellowfin	Bmsy; Fmsy	0.4*Bmsy; 1.4*Fmsy
Bigeye	Bmsy; Fmsy	0.5*Bmsy; 1.3*Fmsy
Swordfish	Bmsy; Fmsy	0.4*Bmsy; 1.4*Fmsy
Albacore	Bmsy; Fmsy	0.4*Bmsy; 1.4*Fmsy

# What about Harvest control Rules?

- Build a HCR around the time-area closure ?
- No other management measures proposed
- Most stocks in the green (except albacore)
- If measures are proposed, they can be cast as a **provisional harvest control rule**



## Questions for the SC:

- 1) Does the SC have any objection to the precautionary approach proposal in doc 35?
- 2) Would the SC object to the proposed reference points?
- 3) Will the SC continue to support the establishment of an MSE process?