



- **A reasonable level and pattern of Natural mortality at age,**
- **But at a much higher level than previously assumed by IOTC WG= 1.0**
- **NB : this high yearly M rates are much higher than the apparent Z, total mortality, apparent in the adult Catch at age table estimated by Fonteneau growth (showing a yearly apparent Z at about 1.0 in recent years)**

## But still a pending question: why the YFT observed sex ratio at size?

- Is it due to a **lower L infinity of female YFT**: A very realistic hypothesis? A fact observed for most species in the living world....
- Or to a **higher natural mortality of spawning female YFT**? The present MF-CL hypothesis
- But note that female YFT are very seldom dominant in the sampled CAS

