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### **RESEARCH ARTICLE**

# TEMPORAL DYNAMICS OF DEMERSAL FISHING PROFILES OF THE ARTISANAL FISHING FLEET SEGMENT ON THE PETITE CÔTE OF SENEGAL.

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### Abstract

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..... This work investigates the temporal dynamics of demersal fishing profiles of the artisanal fishing fleet segment off the Petite Côte of Senegal. Using a multivariate approach to examine commercial artisanal fishing data (provided by the Centre for Oceanographic Research of Dakar-Thiaroye [CRODT] in Senegal), the fishing profiles of this fishery were defined and their evolution through the time described in two landings sites (Joal and Mbour). The results showed in total 11 demersal fishing profiles based on gear category, landings site, year and the major captured species. Fishing profile changes were observed by years, mainly in connection with the target species. Significant variations on the main species caught were found between the periods 2004-2011 and 2012-2013 for the ""fixed net" category" and between the periods 2004-2005 and 2006-2013 for the ""longline" category" at Joal' site and for the ""various gears" group" at Mbour' site. The comparison of fishing profiles between the two landing sites showed that fishing profiles that dominate at Mbour' site were characterized by poorly diversified catches (mainly Cymbium spp and Murex spp) compared to those prevailing at Joal' site and for which their catches were highly diversified. Understanding the fishers' adaptation strategies to the scarcity of fishery resources (cf. catch - fishing effort ratio) through their way of using the resource over time is of great interest for managers to adapt resource management measures to recent changes in the fishery.

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### Introduction:-

As in most of the coastal West African countries, fishing plays an important socio-economic role in Senegal. It generates foreign exchange, creates jobs (15% of the total Senegalese workforce) and it is the main source of animal protein (75%) in the diet of the Senegalese population (Kébé, 2008). These economic and social assets of fisheries in Senegal are the result of the dynamic sub-sector of artisanal fisheries, which provides about 90% of landings and contributes nearly 60% of the quantities of exported products (ANDS, 2011). However, this sub-sector is today subject to various mutations.

The scarcity of fishery resources requires artisanal fishers from Senegal to change their behaviour in their fishing activities and fishing operations (Ndour et al., 2014). This adaptation may change the pattern of artisanal fishing formerly known through different previous studies (Laloë and Samba, 1990; Ferraris and Samba, 1992; Fall et al., 2006). In this context, it presents a new challenge, which is to understand how these changes are reflected on fishing operations by referring to the fishing gear categories used, to the landings sites and to the targeted species (Fall et al., 2006; Maynou et al., 2003, 2011; Leleu et al., 2014). The layout of these kinds of information is fundamental for

scientists and managers to adapt fisheries management measures to recent changes in the fishery in favour of a more rational and sustainable management model of fisheries resources (Fluharty, 2011).

This paper aims to determine and analyze the temporal dynamics of demersal fishing profiles of the artisanal fleet segment at the Petite Côte of Senegal and compare them with previous results obtained through studies on tactics and fishing typologies (Bousso, 1994; Fall et al., 2006), in order to detect changes in the fishery in a context of overexploitation.

# Materials and Methods:-

# Data sources:-

Artisanal commercial fishing was obtained from the Centre for Oceanographic Research of Dakar-Thiaroye (CRODT) in Senegal. The catches per species were assessed based on daily surveys of landings at the localities of Mbour and Joal on the Southern coast (Petite Côte) of Senegal (Figure 1) between 2004 and 2013. The choice of Mbour and Joal was related to the fact that they were the two most important fishing harbours on the Southern coast of Senegal (Petite Côte) in terms of artisanal fishing landings (82% (CRODT, 2012)). The collection method was based on a hierarchical three-tier stratification scheme on: (i) the fishing port; (ii) the fifteen days during which fishing occurred; and (iii) the type of gear used. The choice of fifteen days as basic time unit help to avoid missing data that may result from lack of fishing trip in a day (case of choosing the day as unit) for festive reasons, weather conditions etc. This method incorporated the spatio-temporal variations of each fishing method. The catch was extrapolated according to the following equations (*Modified from* Ferraris and Samba 1992).

$$Ff_{ij} = \sum_{d=1}^{15} Fd_{ij}$$

Where Ff is the fishing effort (fishing trip) in the fifteen days; Fd is the fishing effort in the day d for fishing gear i and port j.

(1)

$$Cf_{ij} = \left[\frac{Csd}{Fsd}\right]_{ij} * Ff_{ij}$$
<sup>(2)</sup>

Where Cf is the catch in the fifteen days; Csd is the catch in the surveyed days in the fifteen days; Fsd is the fishing effort (fishing trip) in the surveyed days in the fifteen days; and Ff is the fishing effort in the fifteen days for fishing gear i and port j.

$$Ca_{ij} = \sum_{f=1}^{24} (Cf_{ij})$$
 (3)

Where *Ca* is the annual catch; *Cf* is the catch in the fifteen days and 24 is the number of fifteen days in the year.



**Figure 1**:- Map showing the study area with the landings sites of Joal and Mbour along the Southern coast (Petite Côte) of Senegal.

#### Data treatment:-

A multivariate approach was followed to determine the fishing profiles of the demersal artisanal fleet segment, using the catch volumes (tons). The data set was transformed into a matrix with rows denoting *year*  $\times$  *gear category* and columns denoting *species*. The list of species retained was composed of 22 species, which comprised 94.4% of the catch (tons) of the demersal artisanal fleet segment in the two landings sites in the study period.

Thereafter, a Hierarchical Cluster Analysis (HCA, using Euclidean distance and Ward's aggregation method (Pelletier and Ferraris, 2000)), a Correspondence Analysis (CA) and a Principal Component Analysis (PCA) centred, reduced were applied to the data matrix. All analyses were carried out with the R software environment for statistical computing, using the stats library R-ADE 4 (Thioulouse and Dray, 2007).

The data used in the analysis of dynamics of demersal fishing profiles of the artisanal fishing included catch by species, fishing effort and fishing gear (Table 1). As the catch varied significantly from one fishing gear to another and between years and between landings sites both in terms of species composition and quantity (p < 0.05, One-way ANOVA (Table 2)), the catch of each species were aggregated by gear category on an annual scale for each landings site for getting the catch by gear category.

	Year	Effort/Cat	Fixed	Diverse	Longline	Purse	Simpl	Various	Encircling	Beach	Total
		ch	net	lines	_	seine	e line	gears	gillnet	seine	
Joal	2004	Fishing trip	15839	15906	974	9611	-	8	1127	818	44283
		Catch (t)	7724	1944	1502	478	-	0	5	36	11689
	2005	Fishing trip	16183	12920	2665	10256	1	2	3637	881	46546
		Catch (t)	9809	1424	6214	289	0	0	0	136	17872
	2006	Fishing trip	15768	14790	2218	9708	-	-	1315	-	43799
		Catch (t)	4461	1496	3137	593	-	-	2	-	9689
	2007	Fishing trip	17098	11453	866	14225	-	-	2497	-	46139
		Catch (t)	4415	1084	1550	352	-	-	7	-	7408
	2008	Fishing trip	22603	11136	318	11812	-	-	2239	-	48108
		Catch (t)	5572	1058	76	278	-	-	7	-	6991
	2009	Fishing trip	18569	9636	147	12198	-	2	2552	-	43103
		Catch (t)	3580	708	183	668	-	0	2	-	5141
	2010	Fishing trip	14376	11926	10	14310	-	-	1159	-	41782
		Catch (t)	2126	1170	14	501	-	-	35	-	3846
	2011	Fishing trip	15721	13370	2	12490	-	-	-	-	41583
		Catch (t)	3975	1779	4	489	-	-	-	-	6247
	2012	Fishing trip	22769	12302	1492	19952	-	-	-	-	56515
		Catch (t)	26854	2094	5632	759	-	-	-	-	35339
	2013	Fishing trip	20042	9557	520	14549	354	-	6680	3	51705
		Catch (t)	30701	1172	2296	732	95	-	57	1	35054
Mbo	2004	Fishing trip	21545	28411	6156	2478	3681	1808	-	-	64080
ur		Catch (t)	3608	2623	2462	36	1161	268	-	-	10158
	2005	Fishing trip	27947	24280	8606	5879	5409	1916	-	-	74038
		Catch (t)	5804	2391	2468	45	54	254	-	-	11016
	2006	Fishing trip	22418	16830	8447	2340	3594	1414	-	-	55043
		Catch (t)	3427	1422	1734	42	21	129	-	-	6775
	2007	Fishing trip	19879	16713	6213	3681	4841	1834	-	-	53161
		Catch (t)	2991	2201	1995	20	37	243	-	-	7487
	2008	Fishing trip	17988	17343	8434	3103	5698	2454	-	-	55020
		Catch (t)	2985	2638	3055	13	54	934	-	-	9679
	2009	Fishing trip	20572	18769	7408	2897	3593	2854	26	-	56118
		Catch (t)	3813	1845	2479	109	31	645	0	-	8922
	2010	Fishing trip	16963	16369	6895	2659	2416	3346	-	-	48648
		Catch (t)	2577	1969	3021	16	30	741	-	-	8354
	2011	Fishing trip	17980	21109	7138	3748	1626	2901	-	-	54502
		Catch (t)	2727	2913	2979	94	21	589	-	-	9323
	2012	Fishing trip	15096	20420	7519	6979	1183	2601	-	-	53798
		Catch (t)	2297	6364	8594	98	27	390	-	-	17770
	2013	Fishing trip	15609	16426	8633	2877	2096	2590	-	-	48232
		Catch (t)	1965	2100	3767	74	11	327	-	-	8244

**Table 1:-** Catch (tons) and effort (fishing trip) by gear groups of artisanal fisheries at two fishing harbours (Joal and Mbour) on the Southern coast (Petite Côte) of Senegal from 2004 to 2013.

**Table 2:-** Statistical analysis of the effects of landings site, year and gear category on catch (tons), using a One-way ANOVA test, ns: no significant (error probability p > 0.05), \*: significant (p < 0.05), \*: highly significant (p < 0.01) and \*\*\*: very highly significant (p < 0.001).

	Df	Sum Sq	Mean Sq	F value	р	
Landings site	1	399700	399700	165.182	<2e-16	***
Year	9	286625	286625	118.452	<2e-16	***
Gear category	7	1006141	143734	59.4	<2e-16	***
Residuals	20189	48852462	2420			

# **Results:-**

### Hierarchical cluster analysis:-

Based on gear categories, landings sites, years and the mainly captured species relationships, in general, multivariate analyses indicated the formation of three to four fishing profile groups (Figure 2A-2F), depending on the geographic area and on the considered variable. There were four main groups of gear categories ("fixed net", "diverse lines", "longline", "various gears") for Joal and Mbour, three and four main groups of years for respectively Joal (2004-2005, 2006-2011 and 2012-2013) and Mbour (2004-2005, 2006-2009, 2012 and 2010-2011-2013) and four and three main groups of species for Joal and Mbour, respectively.



terms of % catch.

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### Correspondence analysis:-

The Correspondence Analysis at Joal' site showed relationships between gear category and species groups caught in different time periods (Figure 3). The axes of the Factorial Correspondence Analysis (FCA) explained 55.00% of the total variability which 29.96% for axis 1 and 25.04% for axis 2. Most of catches of *Murex sp* (Gastropod), *Cymbium spp* (Gastropod) and *Pseudotolithus senegalensis* (Demersal fish) during the period from 2004 to 2011 was from the "fixed net". *Galeoides decadactylus*, *P. brachygnathus*, *P. typus*, *Diplodus sargus*, *Arius spp*, *A. heudelotii* and *Plectorhinchus mediterraneus* (Demersal fish) were the most caught species by the ""various gears" category" during the period 2004 to 2013. "The "diverse lines" category" landings were dominated by *Octopus vulgaris* (Cephalopod), *Sepia officinalis* (Cephalopod), *Epinephelus aeneus*, *E. gorensis*, *Pagellus bellottii*, *Pagrus caeruleostictus* and *Rhinobatos rhinobatos* (Demersal fish) during the study period. Some temporal variations were observed on "fixed net" and "longline" groups. In the period 2012 to 2013, *Syacium micrurum* (Demersal fish) was the main founded species in the catch of the "fixed net". As to "longline", dominant species from 2006 to 2013 were *Arius latiscutatus* and *Cynoglossus canariensis* (Demersal fish), while they were *P. mediterraneus*, *A. heudelotii* and *P. typus* (Demersal fish) from 2004 to 2005.



**Figure 3**:- Factorial Correspondence Analysis (FCA) relating the fishing year x gear category (in gray) established for the artisanal fishing fleet segment at Joal' site to species composition (in black).

The CA at Mbour' site showed relationships between gear category and species groups caught in different time periods (Figure 4). The axes of the FCA explained 63.96% of the total variability which 41.58% for axis 1 and 22.38% for axis 2. For the "fixed net" *Murex sp, Cymbium spp* (Gastropods) and *Synaptura spp* (Demersal fish) were dominant from 2004 to 2013. As to ""diverse lines" category", *Sepia officinalis* (Cephalopod), *Arius heudelotii, Carcharhinus spp* and *Pagrus caeruleostictus* (Demersal fish) were the most represented species in their

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catches during the study period except 2012, where Octopus vulgaris (Cephalopod) was dominant. From 2004 to 2005 most of catches of Syacium micrurum, Rhinobatos rhinobatos and Diplodus sargus (Demersal fish) was from "the "various gears" category". In contrast from 2006 to 2013, the main species founded in the catch were *P. mediterraneus* (Demersal fish) and Cymbium spp (Gastropod). As to ""Longline" category", landings mainly consisted of *A. latiscutatus, E. gorensis, E. aeneus, P. bellottii, P. brachygnathus, P. typus* and *Arius spp* (Demersal fish) during the study period except 2012, where Galeoides decadactylus, *C. canariensis* and *P. senegalensis* (Demersal fish) were dominant.



Dim 1 (41.58%)

**Figure 4**:- Factorial Correspondence Analysis (FCA) relating the fishing year x gear category (in gray) established for the artisanal fishing fleet segment at Mbour' site to species composition (in black).

#### Fishing profiles determination:-

Based on gear categories, landings sites, years and the mainly captured species, in total 11 demersal fishing profiles were determined, 6 at Joal' site and 5 at Mbour' site (Table 3).

Fishing	Gear	Landings	Years	Species
profiles	category	site		
Profile 1	Fixed net	Joal	from 2004 to 2011	Murex spp, Cymbium spp and Pseudotolithus senegalensis
Profile 2	Various gears	Joal	from 2004 to 2013	Galeoides decadactylus, P. brachygnathus, P. typus, Diplodus sargus, Arius spp, A. heudelotii and Plectorhinchus mediterraneus
Profile 3	Diverse lines	Joal	from 2004 to 2013	Octopus vulgaris, Sepia officinalis, Epinephelus aeneus, E. gorensis, Pagellus bellottii, Pagrus caeruleostictus and Rhinobatos rhinobatos
Profile 4	Fixed net	Joal	from 2012 to 2013	Syacium micrurum
Profile 5	Longline	Joal	from 2004 to 2005	P. mediterraneus, A. heudelotii and P. typus
Profile 6	Longline	Joal	from 2006 to 2013	Arius latiscutatus and Cynoglossus canariensis
Profile 7	Fixed net	Mbour	from 2004 to 2013	<i>Murex spp, Cymbium spp</i> and <i>Synaptura spp</i>
Profile 8	Diverse lines	Mbour	from 2004 to 2011 and 2013	Sepia officinalis, Arius heudelotii, Carcharhinus spp and Pagrus caeruleostictus
Profile 8	Diverse lines	Mbour	2012	Octopus vulgaris
Profile 9	Various gears	Mbour	from 2004 to 2005	Syacium micrurum, Rhinobatos rhinobatos and Diplodus sargus
Profile 10	Various gears	Mbour	from 2006 to 2013	P. mediterraneus and Cymbium spp
Profile 11	Longline	Mbour	from 2004 to 2011 and 2013	A. latiscutatus, E. gorensis, E. aeneus, P. bellottii, P. brachygnathus, P. typus and Arius spp
Profile 11	Longline	Mbour	2012	Galeoides decadactylus, C. canariensis and P. senegalensis

**Table 3:-** Demersal fishing profiles determined, based on gear category, landings site, year and the major species captured in two fishing harbours off the Petite Côte of Senegal from 2004 to 2013.

## Temporal dynamic of fishing profiles:-

At Joal' site, variations were observed on ""fixed net" and "longline" groups" at temporal scale. In fact, from 2004 to 2005, *Murex sp, Cymbium spp* (Gastropods) and *Pseudotolithus senegalensis* (Demersal fish) were the most caught species by the "fixed net". In contrast, from 2012 to 2013, *Syacium micrurum* (Demersal fish) was dominant. As to the "longline" catches, they essentially consisted of *Arius latiscutatus* and *Cynoglossus canariensis* (Demersal fish) from 2006 to 2013, while *P. mediterraneus*, *A. heudelotii* and *P. typus* (Demersal fish) were the most abundant species in the catch from 2004 to 2005.

At Mbour' site, a temporal variation in catches of ""various gears" group" was observed. From 2004 to 2005 most of landings of *Syacium micrurum, Rhinobatos rhinobatos* and *Diplodus sargus* (Demersal fish) were from ""various gears" category". In contrast, from 2006 to 2013, their catches were dominated by *P. mediterraneus* (Demersal fish) and *Cymbium spp* (Gastropod).

# Changes of fishing profiles between landings site:-

The two first axes of the PCA centred, reduced explained 40.31% of the total variability which 24.45% for axis 1 and 15.86% for axis 2 (Figure 5A, 5B, 5C). Axis 1 separated a group characterized by highly diversified catches from another group corresponding to poorly diversified catches. Catches were more diversified with a low

dominance at Joal' site than at Mbour' site, where dominance was high (*Cymbium spp* and *Murex spp* (Gastropods) and catches poorly diversified (Figure 5A, 5B, 5C). Axis 2 separated the categories of dominant gear at Mbour' site from those prevailing at Joal' site.

Significant changes of fishing profile were observed between Joal and Mbour sites. "fixed net" and "longline" were mainly associated to Joal' site, where, these gear categories targeted mainly *Arius heudelotii, Cynoglossus canariensis* (Demersal fish), *Murex spp* (Gastropod), *Pseudotolithus typus, P. senegalensis, P. brachygnathus, Syacium micrurum, Rhinobatos rhinobatos, Diplodus sargus, Synaptura spp, Carcharhinus spp, Arius spp* and *Galeoides decadactylus* (Demersal fish). In contrast, At Mbour' site, ""diverse lines" and "various gears" groups" were dominant and targeted mainly *Octopus vulgaris* (Cepalopod), *P. mediterraneus, P. caeruleostictus* (Demersal fish), *Sepia officinalis* (Cepalopod), *E. aeneus* and *E. gorensis* (Demersal fish) (Figure 5A, 5B, 5C).



**Figure 5**:- Principal Component Analysis (PCA) relating associations of landings site (A) to the fishing gear category (B) and to species composition (C) for the artisanal fishing fleet segment in the Southern coast (Petite Côte) of Senegal.

## **Discussion:-**

## **Temporal dynamic:-**

The temporal change of the composition catches by "longline" and "various gears" was primarily explained by an abundance of exploited species associated with moderate fishing effort. Thereafter, the fishing effort increased causing a reduction in fishing yields. Lower yields having reached a critical level; fishers have adopted other fishing strategies mainly including the exploration of other fishing grounds off the Senegalese EEZ (Gambia, Guinea Bissau and Guinea). This practice was favoured by fishing agreements between Senegal and those countries especially in 2012 (fisheries agreement for 12 months). As to "fixed net", due to the emergence of *Murex spp* in the 2000s, fishers using this type of fishing had reoriented their target to this species in addition to regular catches of *Cymbium spp*. This fact is recurrent in artisanal fisheries. According to Forcada et al. (2010) fishers rotate fishing tactics throughout the year to optimize yields by targeting specific species. Thus, the fishing profiles change is regulated by resource distribution and availability of species (Leleu et al., 2014); hence the new change in the composition of the catches of this category of fishing gear from 2012 to 2013 with the dominance of *Syacium micrurum*.

# Changes of fishing profiles between landings site:-

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Most diversified catches at Joal than at Mbour' site can be explained by the nature of fishing gears that dominate in this area ("longline" and "fixed net"). In fact, the "fixed net" had low selectivity, because it is mainly through their spontaneous movements that the fish meet the net and captured therein (Charles-Dominique, 2003). As to "longline", besides the fact that fishers using this type of gear most often operated off or even in areas outside of the Senegalese EEZ (which increases the number of species in catches), it can be easily readapted for capturing different species depending on their availability (Jabeur et al., 2000; Leleu et al., 2014). However, the "diverse lines" and "various gears" that were more present at Mbour' site had a high selectivity and targeting mainly *Octopus vulgaris* and *Sepia officinalis*, hence the proportions of these species in their catch.

## Existing management in light of the study's outcomes:-

In the West African countries, artisanal fisheries management is generally based on a single species model with measures relating to the determination of allowable catches (TACs); the allocation of specific fishing licenses, application of biological recovery by species, the prohibition of certain fishing gear or types of mesh. However, this management model has limits in the context of a very dynamic artisanal fishing; because it is often noted a transfer of fishing effort on other species to bypass these types of measures or rehabilitation of fishing gear so they have almost the same properties as those prohibited by the legislation.

## How might these results contribute to the management of the fishery?

By determining fishing profiles in artisanal fishing for demersal species (link between fishing techniques - developed strategies - caught species - used areas etc.) and providing a better view of the strategies developed (migration, combination of gear, transfer of fishing effort) and changes in fishing units (length of nets and canoes, motor power etc.), this study provides fisheries managers, the elements required to propose adaptive management measures based on a 'multiparametric prototype', which simultaneously integrate all these parameters and the result of their interactions. In the works of Bousso (1994), considering that the fishing gear is not necessarily linked to a fishing technique and conversely, the fishing gear was privileged rather than the fishing method and the elements that had been taken into account in the structure of the fishing unit were the fishing gear, the boat, the movement means and the crew. However, the approach in this study was more exhaustive because it favours the species caught, which therefore helps to understand how the priorities and expertise of the fisherman, environmental constraints and resource status or behaviour of the species are integrated into the operating system developed by the fisherman. The originality of this approach also lies in the fact that a fishing profile will no longer be assigned to a single gear but rather a category of fishing gear which has the same species catches properties. This result is of great interest to managers for defining a fishing unit adapted to the current context of the fishery. This work on artisanal fishing complements the work of Fall et al. (2006) on industrial fishing, who had to use the same approach.

## Specific recommendations:-

This work represents an improvement over the level of exploratory analyses that are typically undertaken in developing nations, particularly in West Africa. Thereby, we recommend this approach for multi-species, multi-gear fisheries more generally. As recommendation to, it will be necessary (i) to set standards norms for each type of fishing gear and implement them through the development of a communication strategy with stakeholders and (ii) to submit a better fishing license option suited to a multi-species exploitation.

To do this, we have to take the following control measures: the regulation of fishing trips and allocation of fishing licenses through the development of a communication strategy with stakeholders; the monitoring of catches by the collection and analysis of landing data and the limitation of production and exports to reduce fishing pressure.

### Limits of the approach:-

However this approach is relevant, it needs to be monitored and evaluated in the medium term to incorporate the changes which may occur over time in the identified fishing profiles. In the long term, the distinction of fishing profiles may become difficult in a context of a fishery characterized by increasing pressure on the resource and continuing scarcity of species, because the adaptive strategies developed by fishers, could lead to the possibility catch of a given species by different fishing gears.

## **Conclusion:-**

Understanding the temporal dynamics of fishing profiles, may help to manage fisheries according to the use fishers make of the resource over time. Taking into account the fishermen decisions (target species, fishing gear and location at specific times of the year etc.) is essential when designing management initiatives in a multispecies fisheries context. This work is of great interest to managers for defining a fishing unit adapted to the current context of the fishery. However, this study being carried out particularly from landings, an indication of fishing locations would also be of great importance for a comprehensive analysis of the dynamics of fishing profiles and a better understanding of the different scenarios adaptation of fishers to the scarcity of the resource for their integration into management processes.

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