Managing Capacity in An Ivq (Individual Vessel Quota) Regime

Prior to the introduction of the modern management regime, the concept of capacity constituted no other reference than the technical capacity of a given fishing vessel. However, after closing the commons and the introduction of an heavily institutionalized management regime, the fisheries sector have been transformed to complex web of rules for regulating fisheries in a detailed manner. The core element of this processes refers to the nationalisation of the fish resources, a scientific based quota production (TAC), the introduction of a complex regime for allocating limited fish resources and the quota regime at fleet level. In the Norwegian management system, the "capacity concept" constitute a special status, which corresponds to the individual vessel quota regime (IVQ). In this model, both quota size and the size of the individual vessel are integrated into one system. Hence, the IVQ model becomes a meeting place for technological adaptations as input regulations and the limited quota as output regulations. However, despite the strict and regulated regime as the Norwegian management model, adapting capacity have proven hard to manage. In this presentation I try to highlight the technological interplay between technological change and the institutional response to modernisational processes.