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# Simulation study on the distribution of skipjack tuna in relation to FADs during ENSO

Eunjung Kim and John R. Sibert

kimeunju@hawaii.edu Department of Oceanography, University of Hawaii at Manoa

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Photo Jeff Muir

#### Fish under a FAD



Photos Jeff Muir



Video by Jeff Muir (ISSF)

# Tuna fisheries by fishing types and FADs sets in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean (WCPO)



A model to quantify the effects of FADs on tuna movement

- High catch on juvenile yellowfin and bigeye tuna (Freon and Dagorn 2000)
- Ecological traps by dFADs (Dagorn et al. 2012)



# Pacific Tuna Tagging Programme



#### PTTP Releases

#### PTTP Recaptures



- Period: 2005-current
- Target species : skipjack,
  yellowfin, and bigeye tuna
- Release: 243,495
- Recaptures: 40,071 (16% recovery)



### **Fisheries Data**

• Fishing effort ( $F_{ijnf}$ ) data (2005-2012)

- The Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC)

Reported fishing effort by each Nationality in Fleet type (f)

by month (*n*)

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by l^{\circ} geographic resolution (i, j)
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- FAD set data (2005-2012)
  - The Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC)

Reported position (p) of FAD sets (fishing date, position, type of sets)

by month (*n*)

by  $l^{\circ}$  geographic resolution (*i*, *j*)

→ FAD density 
$$\rho_{ijn} = \sum_{ijn} p$$

# **Model description**

Advection-Diffusion Reaction Model



• FAD-Advection-Diffusion Reaction Model

#### Advection component

$$u = u_r + \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial x} \frac{\psi}{G_{max}} \qquad u_r = \text{natural advection in E-W}$$
$$v_r = \text{natural advection in N-S}$$
$$v = v_r + \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial y} \frac{\psi}{G_{max}} \qquad G_{max} = \text{maximum gradient of FAD}$$
$$\psi = \text{taxis coefficient}$$

 FAD-Advection-Diffusion Reaction Model Diffusion Component



#### FAD density



bitmaps/fad-00a-200701.png



u,v and D

bitmaps/uvD-00a-200701.png

#### **Simulation process**



# Model fit with PTTP skipjack data



#### Oceanic Nino Index (ONI)



# Initial condition for simulation



- running month :18 month
- Fishing and natural mortality = 0
- Movement of fish : D,  $\gamma$ , and  $\psi$

#### 1997/98 El Niño















bitmaps/td-001-199004.png





















bitmaps/td-001-199805.png

bitmaps/fad-001-199805.png

#### **1998/99 La Niña**



#### Tag Density



### **Results and summary**

- The use of FADs in the tuna fishing is increasing by development to buoy technology.
- The affect of FAD on tuna population is unknown.
- FAD-ADR model can quantify the effect of FAD on tuna using tagging data.
- Densities of dFAD in 1997/98 El Niño and 1998/1999 La Niña reflect the surface ocean current.
- Simulated fish densities during El Niño and La Niña are controlled by the distribution of FAD densities.

#### **Future works**

- Regional study on the most attractive regions for yellowfin and bigeye tuna.
- Understanding the distribution of dFAD
- 2011 tsunami debris with temperate tuna species?

### acknowledgment



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