

Recent Progress in Analyses of Catch Data from Fishery Observers and in Logbooks

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Recent Activities

- “Analysis of logbook accuracy for blue marlin (*Makaira nigricans*) in the Hawaii-based longline fishery with a generalized additive model and commercial sales data”, W.A. Walsh et al., 2005. Fisheries Research 75: 175-192
- Provision of corrected catch data for a striped marlin stock assessment being conducted at the PIFSC
- Oral presentation and submittal of a paper for the Fourth International Billfish Symposium proceedings
- Logbook catch data correction; archival of corrections
- Exploratory analyses: within fisheries, between species; between fisheries, within species

Analytical Objectives: Billfish Symposium

- General:

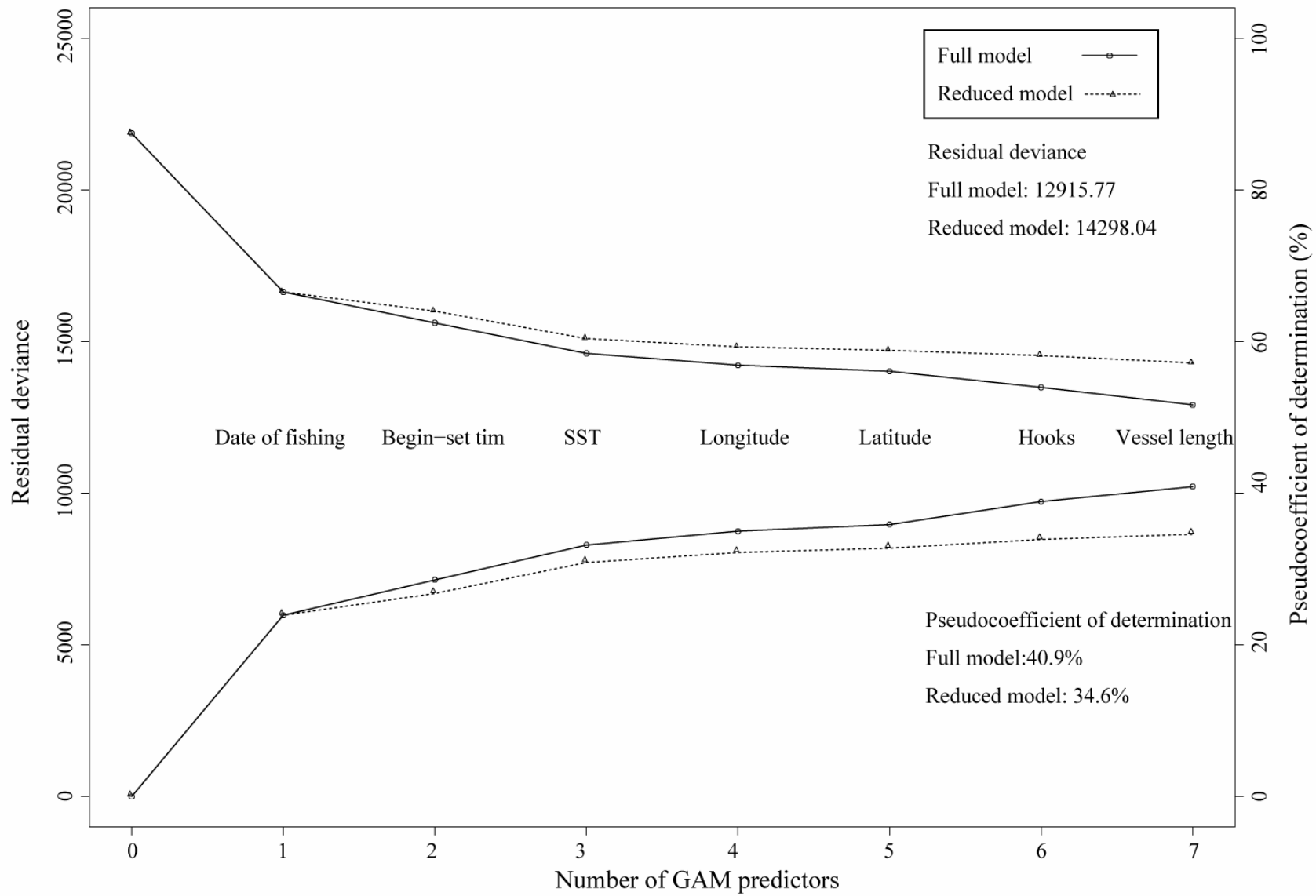
To improve modeling techniques for blue marlin catch data gathered by fishery observers

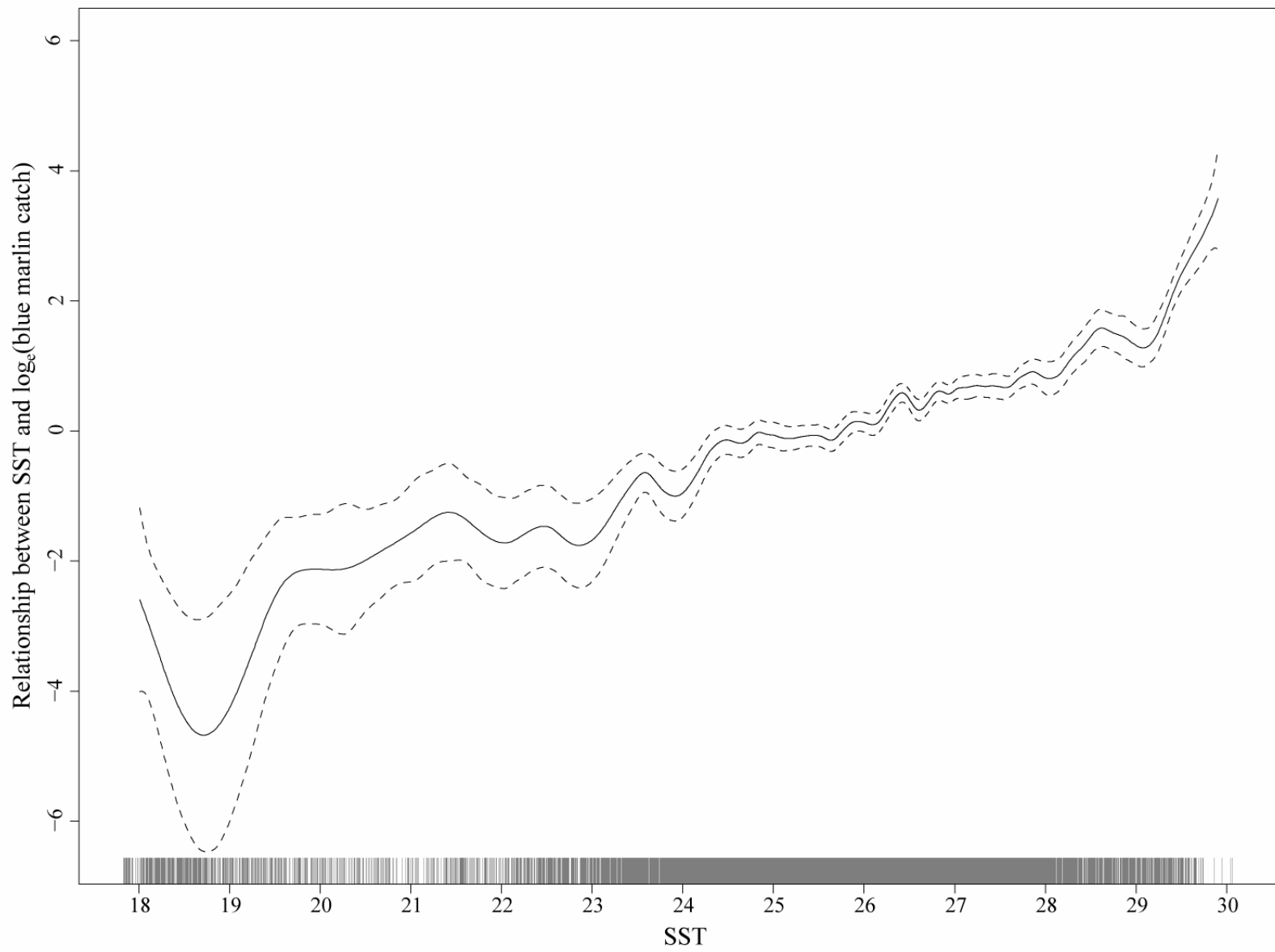
- Specific:

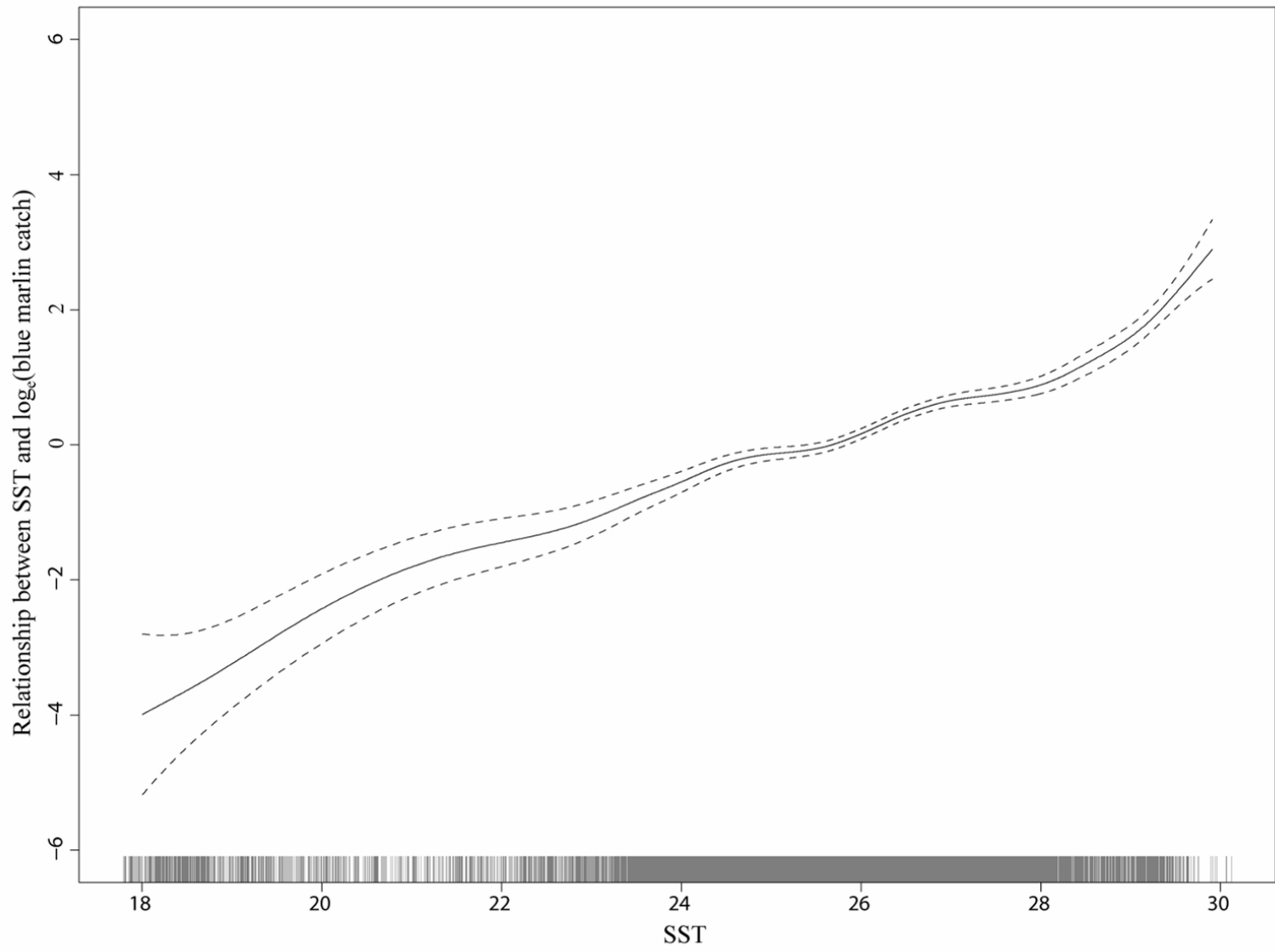
- 1) To reduce overparameterization in a predictive GAM

- 2) To develop predictive GAMs from operational and environmental predictors (but not both)

- 3) To develop an explanatory GAM that includes extrinsic factors that affect catches (in addition to those previously known)

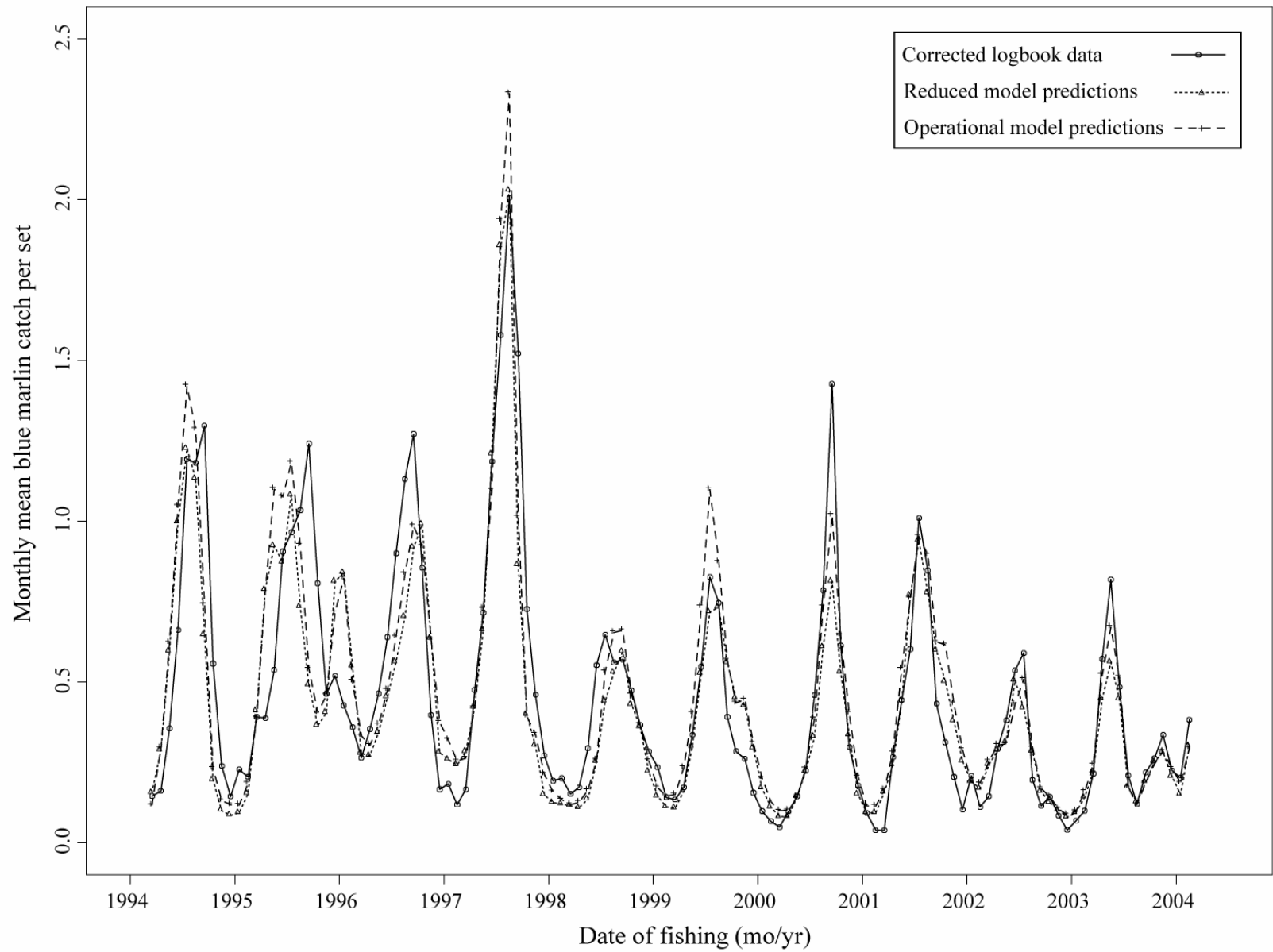






Summary of Results: Predictive Models

- A GAM with model df equivalent to 0.5% of total df yielded an accurate (+6.5%) and relatively precise (95% PI: 24% of point estimate) catch estimate when coefficients were applied to unobserved sets
- Significant variables (all operational factors): seasonality (predominant), position, begin-set time, vessel length, hook numbers
- A GAM with model df equivalent to 0.4% of total df (all environmental factors) had a lower pseudo- R^2 and larger residual deviance than the other GAMs.
- Significant variables: SST (predominant), SST frontal index, SST anomaly, SSH anomaly, Wind stress curl, Current velocity



Summary of Results: Explanatory Model

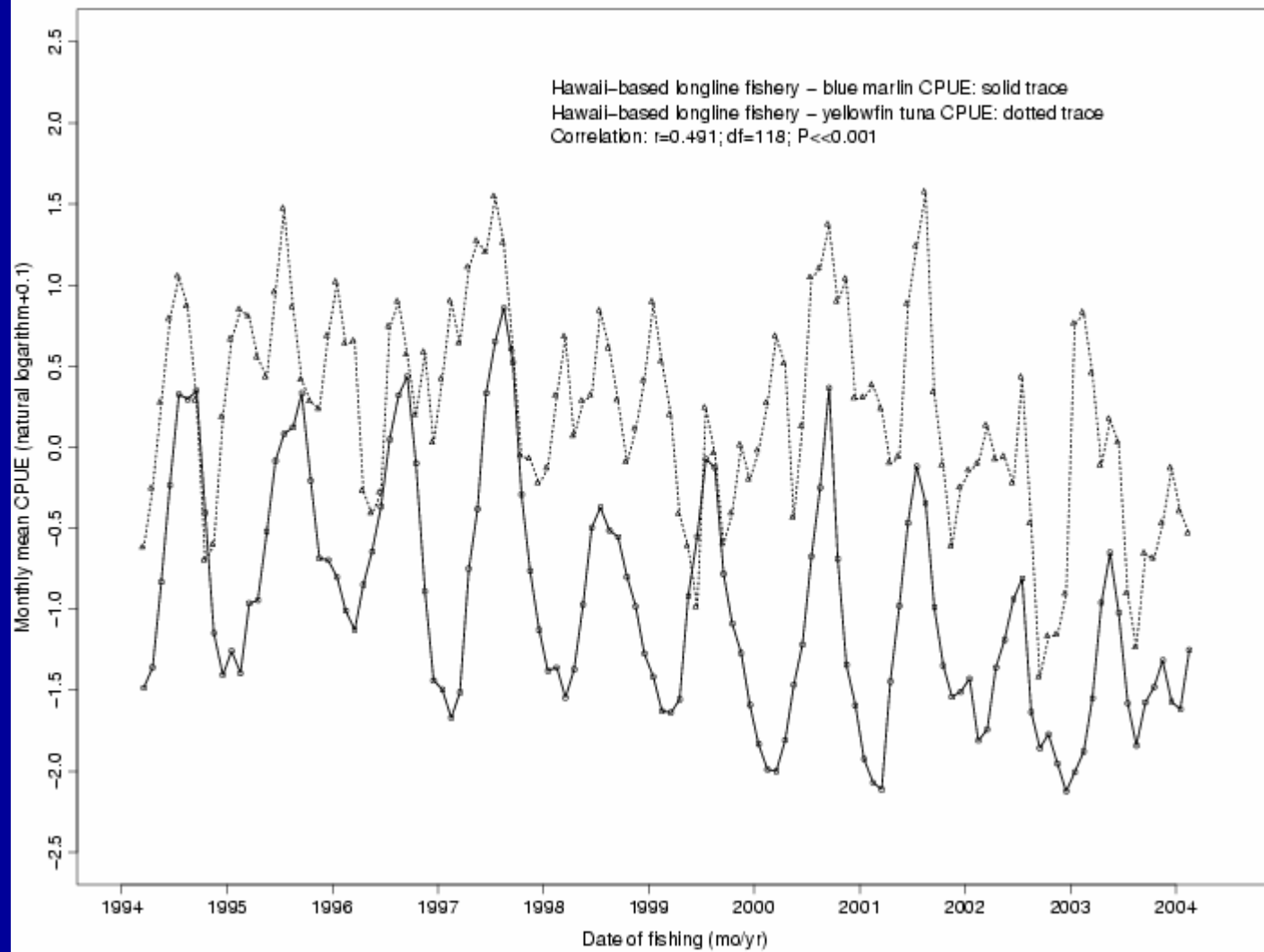
- This model not limited to variables present in logbooks – intention was to describe as adequately as possible this stochastic process
- Fifteen variables significantly associated with blue marlin catches
- Operational factors predominant – nine of the first 10 model entries
- Hooks/float most influential of the newly assessed variables
- Sea surface temperature - the predominant environmental variable
- Operational variables more strongly associated with catches than environmental variables, apparently due to greater measurement error in the latter.

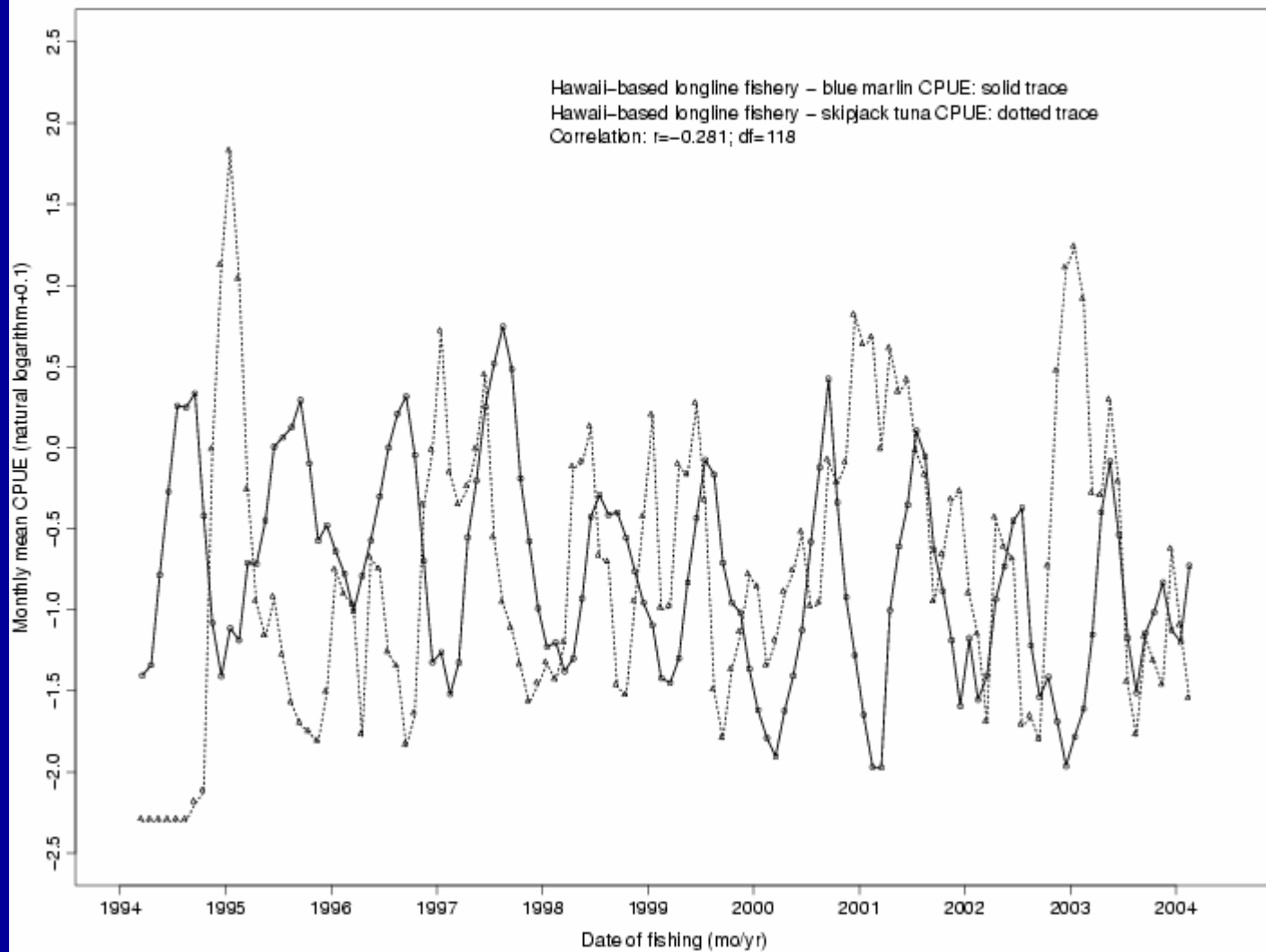
Data Correction and Archival

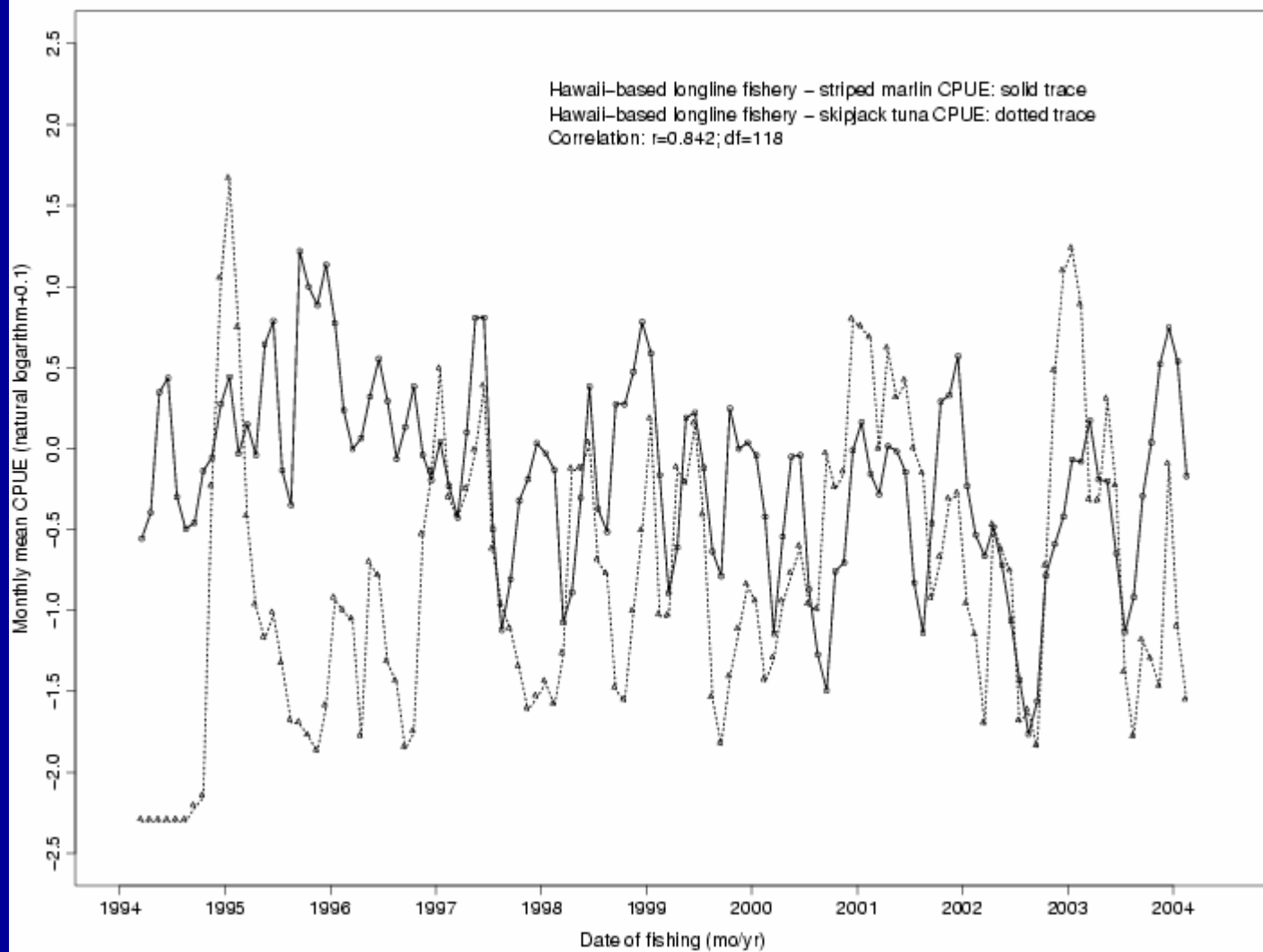
- Ten-year time series (March 1994 – February 2004) of corrected logbook catch data for blue marlin, striped marlin, black marlin, shortbill spearfish, and sailfish
- Estimated Bias
 - Blue marlin: +21%
 - Striped marlin: -9%
 - Shortbill spearfish: -14%
 - Sailfish: +43%
 - Black marlin: +441%
- Contact: Brent Miyamoto (PIFSC data manager)
Brent.Miyamoto@noaa.gov

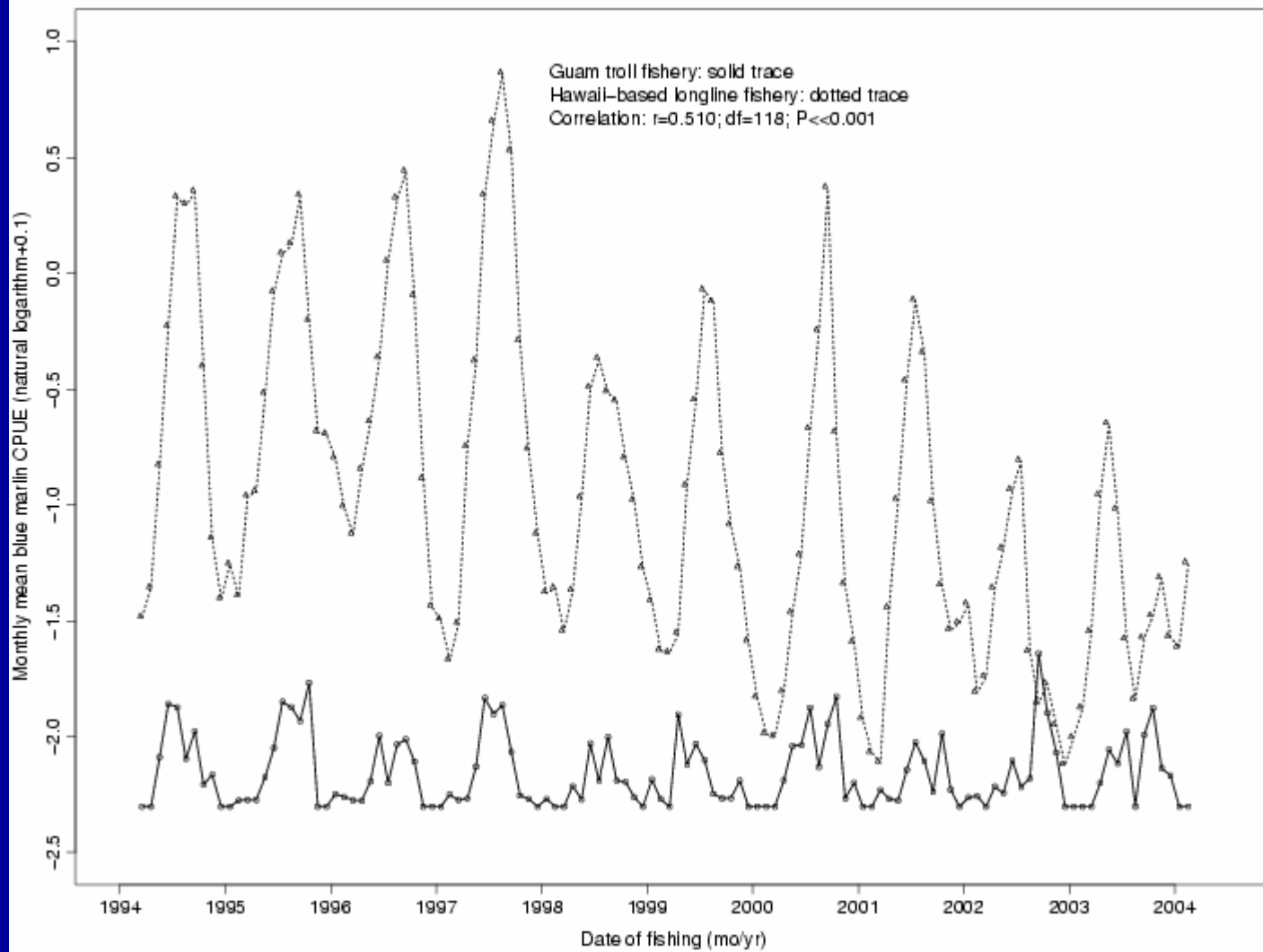
Exploratory Analyses

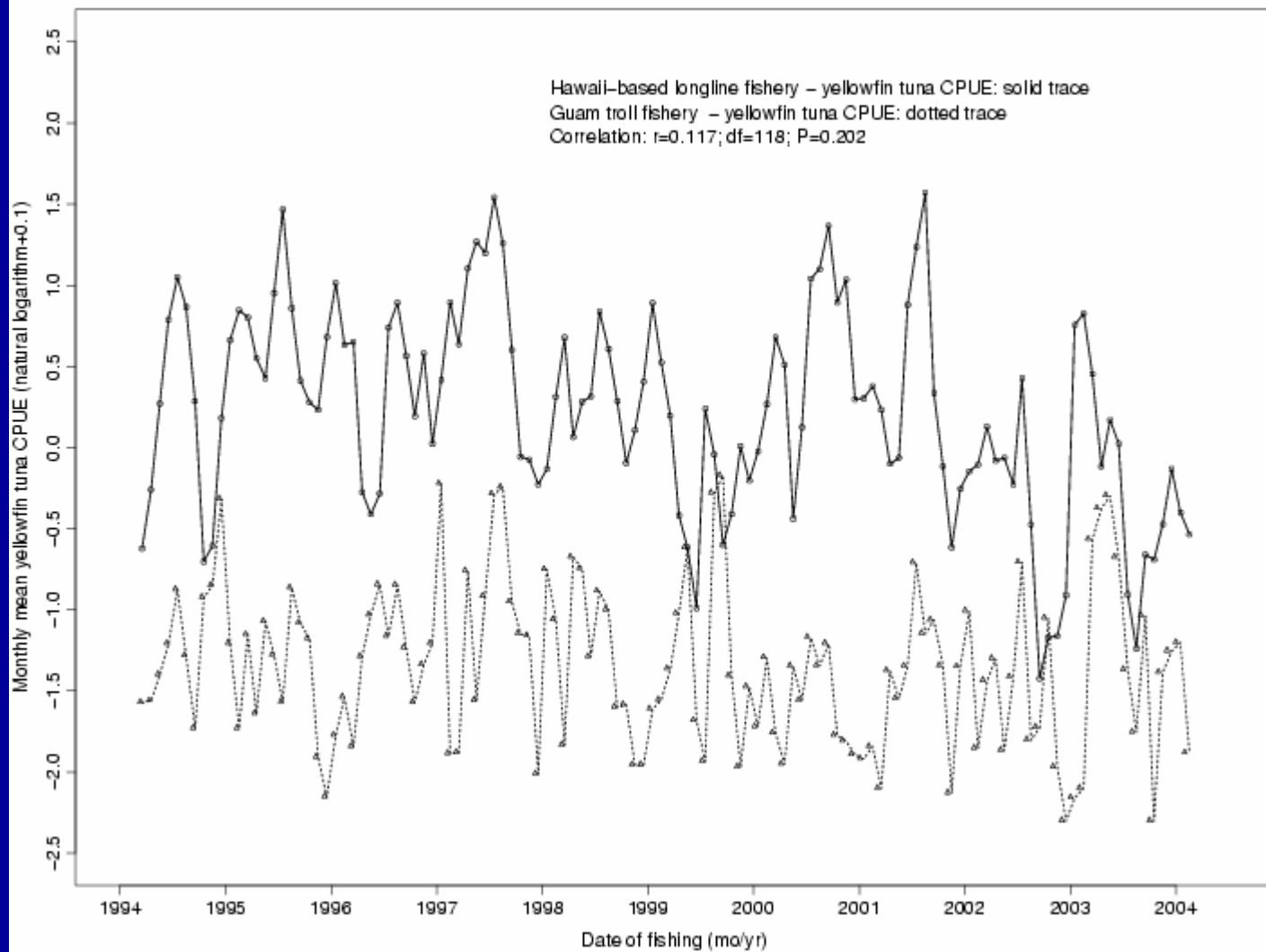
- Preliminary assessment of possible associations between catches of yellowfin or skipjack tunas and blue marlin or striped marlin in the Hawaii-based longline fishery
- March 1994 – February 2004: blue marlin CPUE significantly correlated with yellowfin tuna CPUE; blue marlin and striped marlin CPUE not correlated with skipjack tuna CPUE
- Preliminary assessment of temporal correspondence in blue marlin or yellowfin tuna CPUE from the Hawaii-based longline fishery and the Guam-based troll fishery
- March 1994 – February 2004: blue marlin CPUE significantly correlated in the two fisheries; blue marlin CPUE from the Hawaii-based longline fishery not correlated with yellowfin tuna CPUE











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