

INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION  
WORKSHOP ON LONGLINE DATA  
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Review of operational level CPUE data and national  
regulations for longline in the Pacific Ocean  
JAPAN

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## Operational level data format for Japanese longline fleet

- The logbook data is available since 1952 for the Pacific Ocean
- The longline catch and effort data-base includes seven types of formats.
  - 1952-1957, 1985-1965, 1966, 1967-1970, 1971-1978, 1979-1993, 1994-
- Japanese longline vessels are classified into three categories
  - Coastal: under 19 GRT (logbook is available only after 1994)
  - Offshore: under 120 GRT
  - Distant: over 120 GRT

- Some data fields are not available (with some exception)
  - vessel type (commercial, training): after 1971
  - call sign: after 1979
  - license number: after 1979
  - Vessel size (tonnage): after 1979
  - type of target (swordfish, shark and tuna): after 1994
  - main line, branch line materials (Nylon, other ): after 1994
  - bait type (saury, squid, live bait and other): **before** 1993
  - hooks between float: after 1975

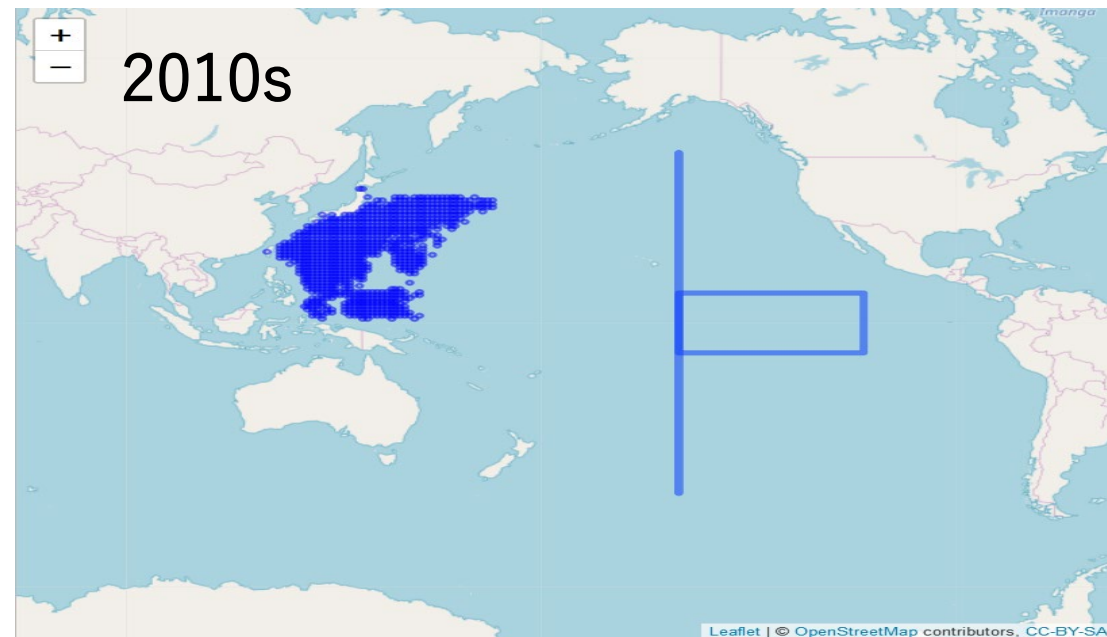
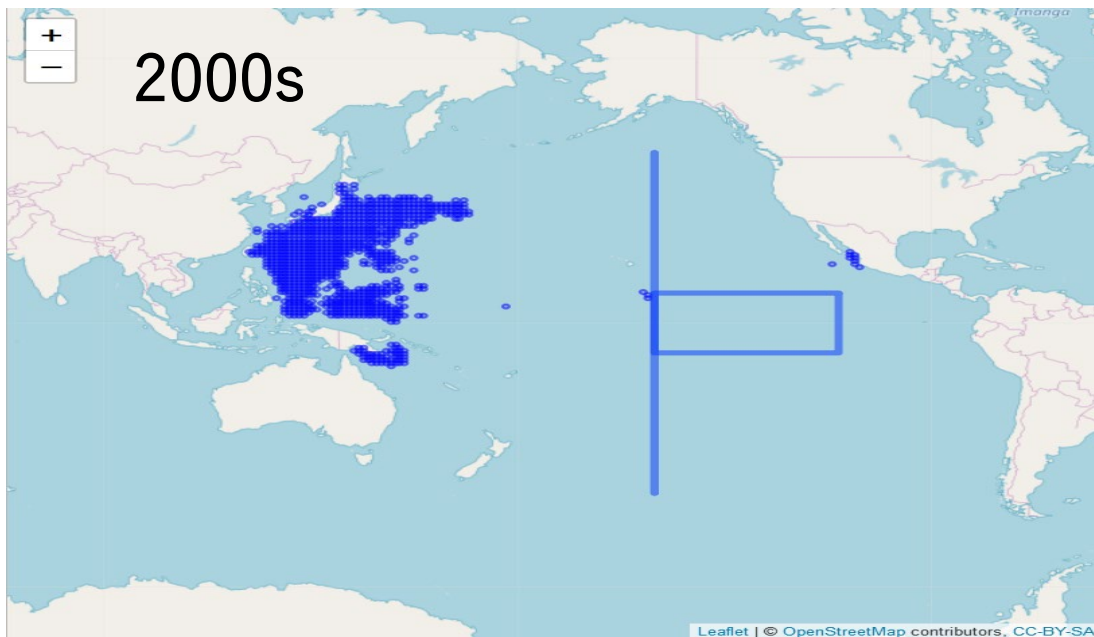
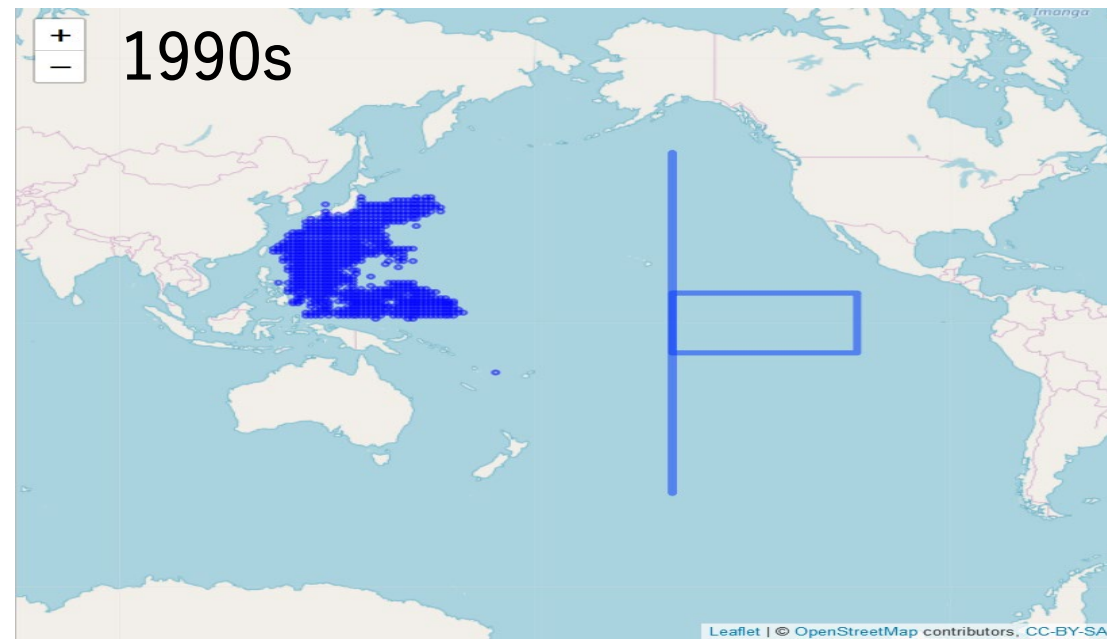
## Gear configurations

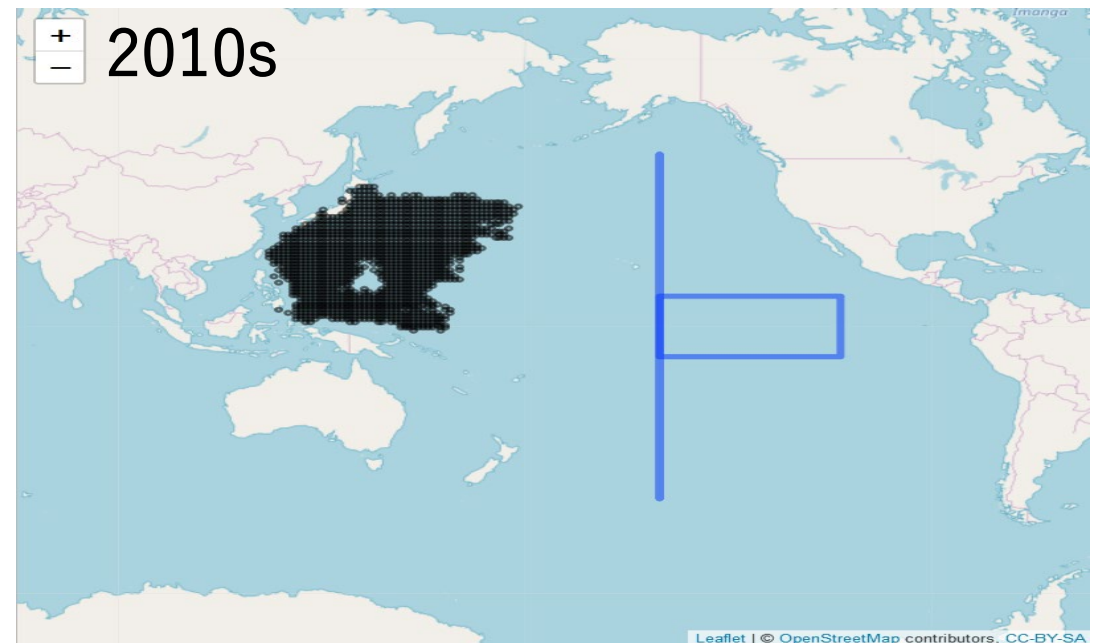
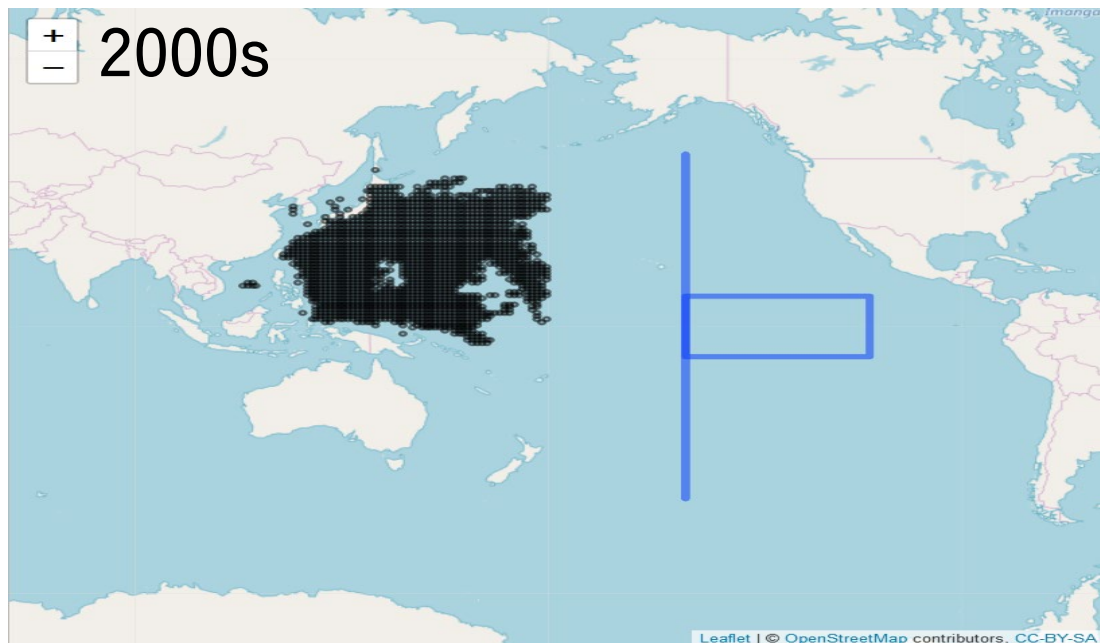
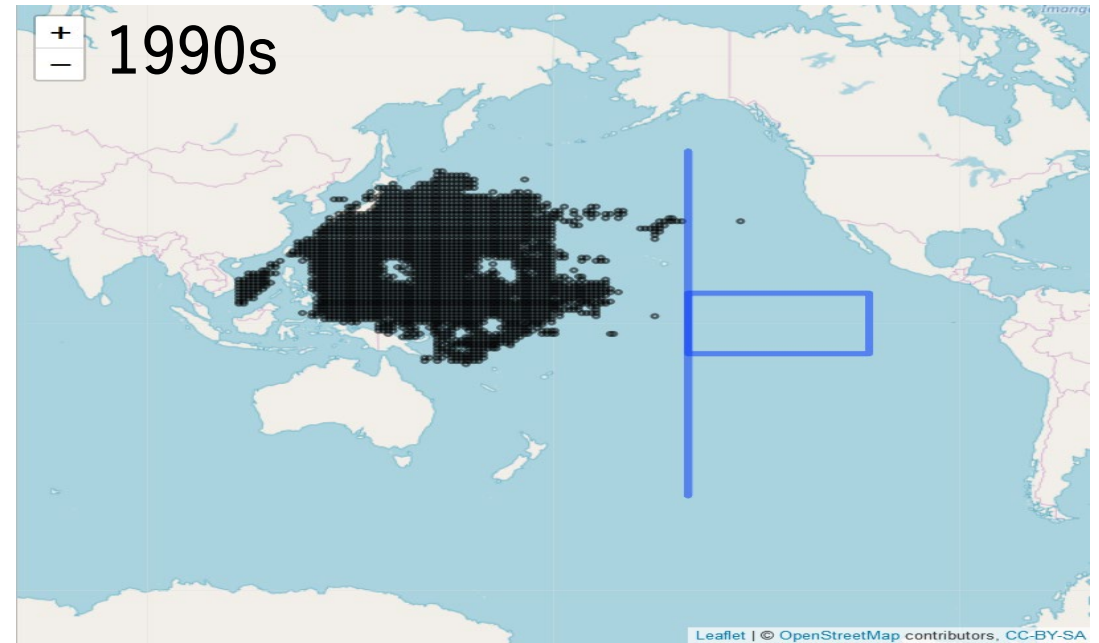
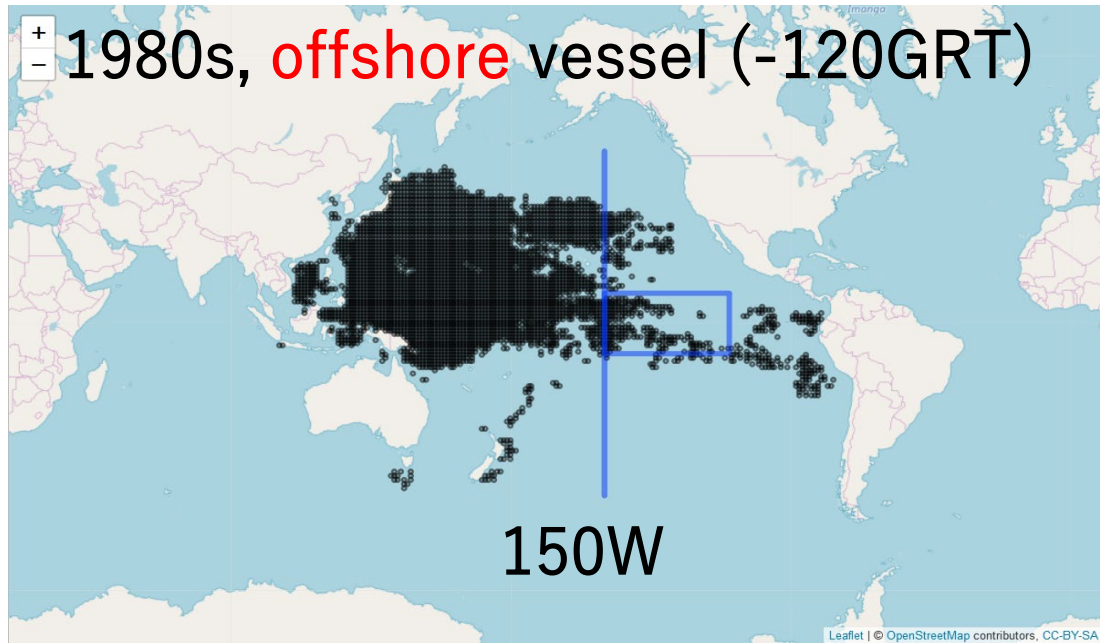
- Hooks per basket
- Material of main line (Nylon or others)
- Material of branch line (Nylon or others)
- Length of branch line (m)
- Length of float line (m)

Because the coverage rate of logsheets is not 100% (but nearly 100%) for longline fishery, it is necessary to raise the sample values to represent 100 %.

If you use the operational data, you should aware the total number of catch is different from the raised one, which is submitted to RFMO.

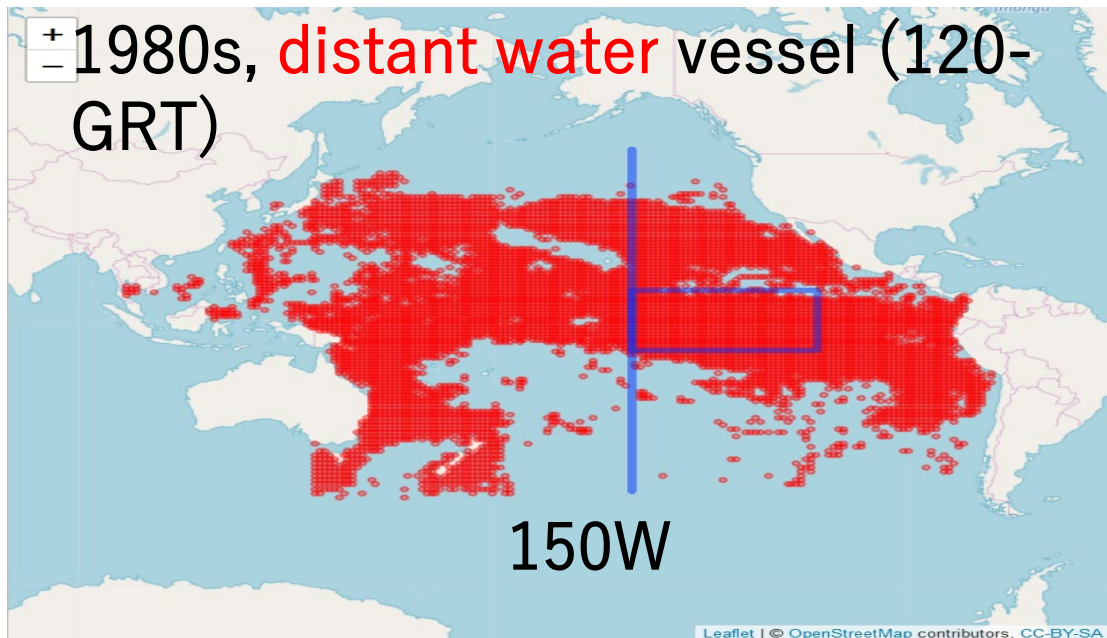
Information on the total number of operations by sub-areas and month provided by the fishermen's association (Federation of Japan Tuna Fisheries Co-operative Association) had been used to raise the logsheet data to the total catch. Since 2008, Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) information has been utilized to raise the logsheet data.



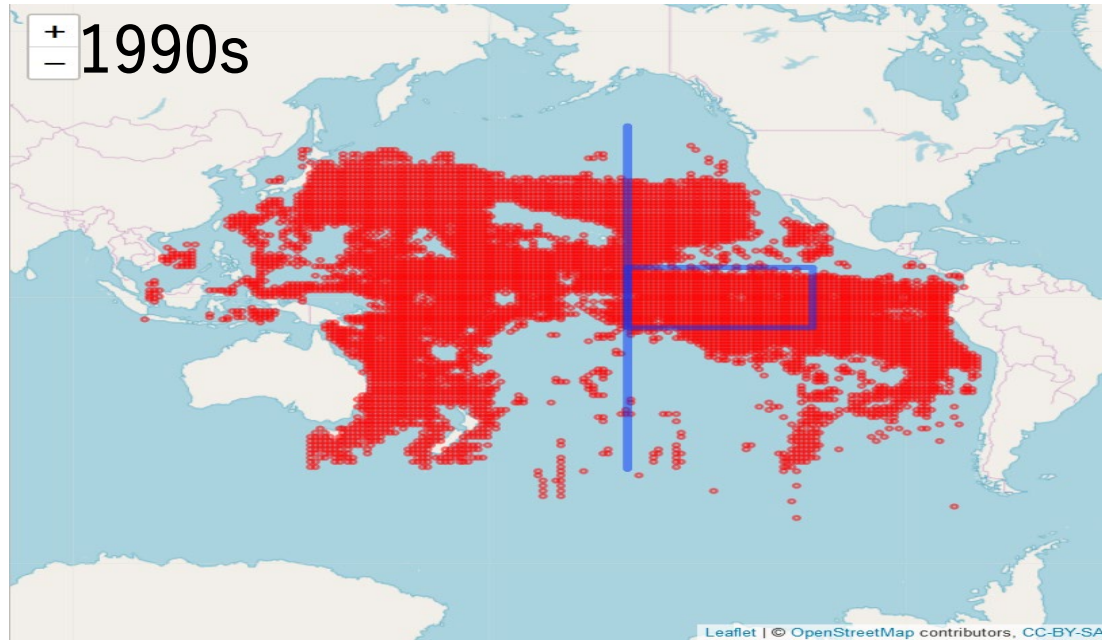




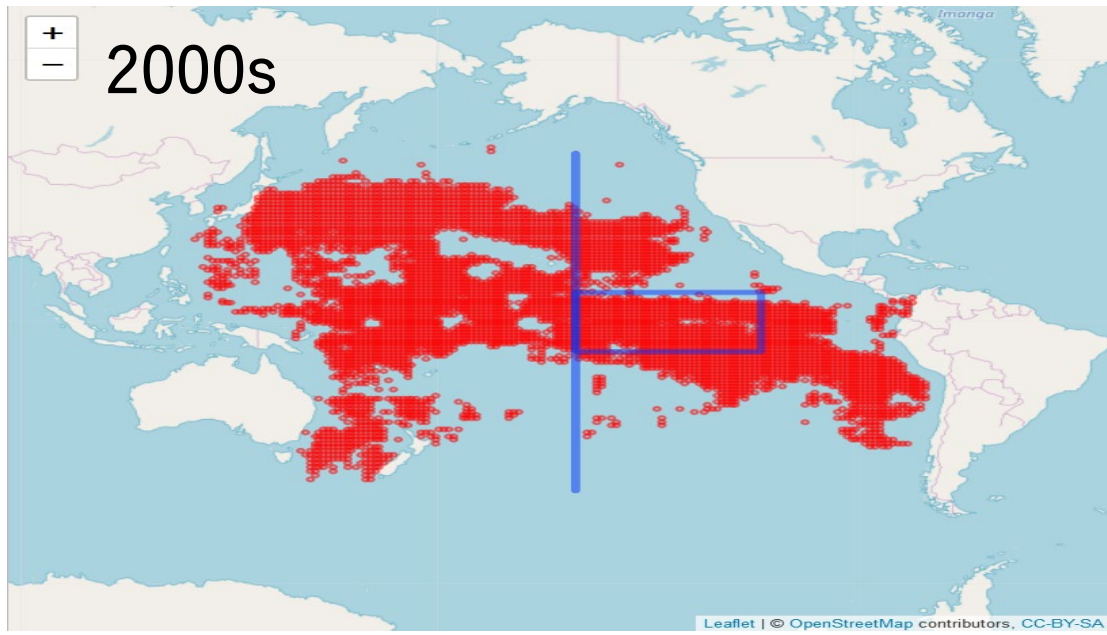
+  
- 1980s, distant water vessel (120-  
GRT)



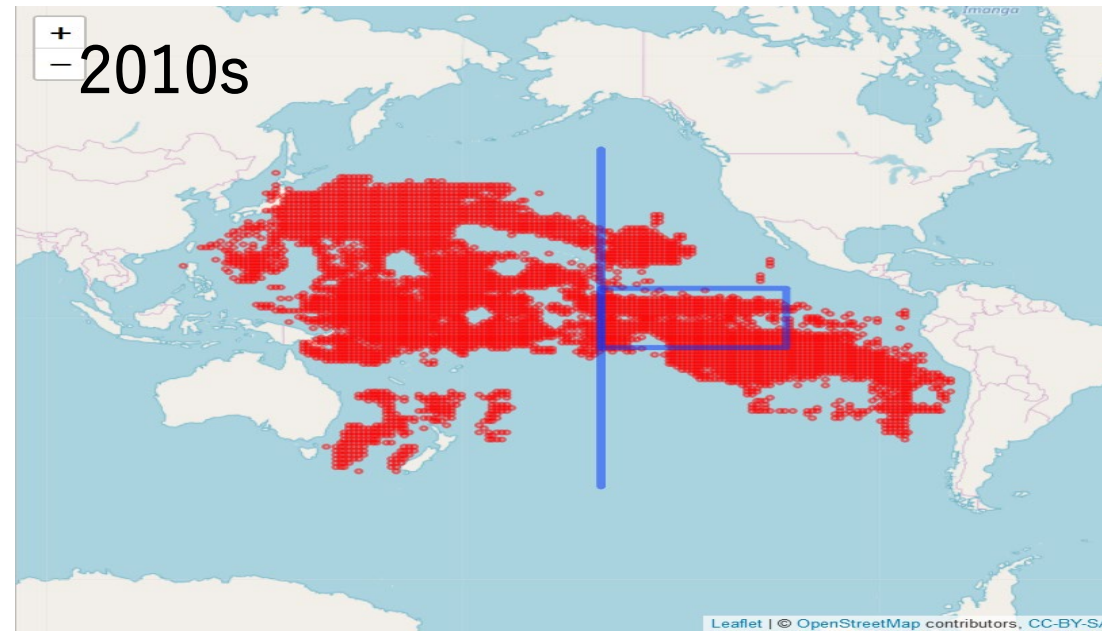
+  
- 1990s



+  
- 2000s



+  
- 2010s





## Recorded species

alb; albacore catch in number (weight is available after 1994)

bet; bigeye

yft; yellowfin

swo; swordfish

whm; striped marlin (*Kajikia audax*)

bum; blue marline (*Makaira mazara*)

blm; black marlin (*Istiompax indica*)

saispear; mix of sailfish (*Istiophorus platypterus*) and shortbill spearfish (*Tetrapturus angustirostris*)

sharks; mix of shark species (after 1994 some shark species separately recorded)

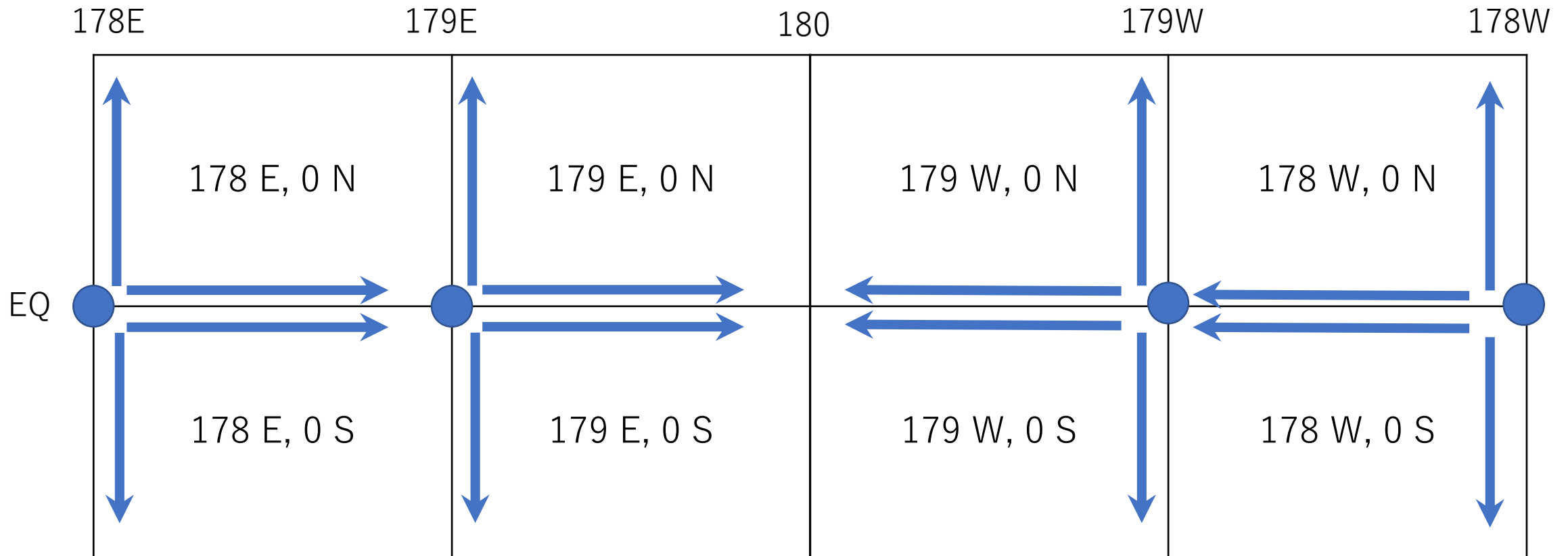
sai; sailfish (*Istiophorus platypterus*)

spf; shortbill spearfish (*Tetrapturus angustirostris*)

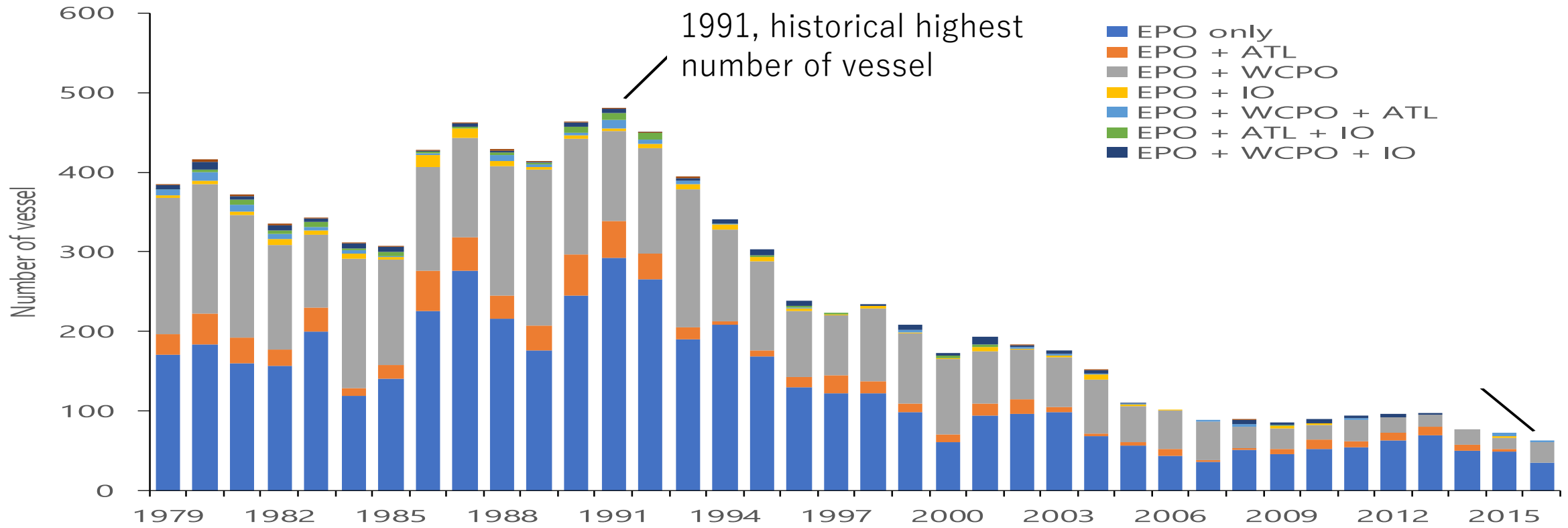
# Recorded position

East longitude area

West longitude area



# national regulations



El Nino: 1983 (strong)

1985 (good recruitment after El Nino in 1983)  
1985 (good price of fish)

1995- (FADs fishery expanded)

1997

1999 (domestic measure for reduction of JPN LL vessel by about 20%)

2002-2007 (continuous increase of oil price)

2008 (reduction 20%)

2014-2015