# Predicting summer pelagic habitat hotspots of neon flying squid (Ommostrephes bartramil in the western North Pacific

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# BACKGROUND

## Neon flying squid distribution



# BACKGROUND

#### North Pacific population & migratory patterns



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Chen & Chiu 2003; <sup>2</sup> Bower & Ichii,2005

# **OBJECTIVES**

- (1) Deduce the influence importance of oceanographic proxies to squids' pelagic habitat
- (2) Characterize the spatio-temporal patterns of squids' pelagic habitat hotspots
- (3) Understand the physical mechanism that relates to squid aggregations

#### Study area



#### **Datasets**

Environmental variables	Abbrev	. Unit	Source	Temporal Resolution	Source Resolution
Sea surface temperature	SST	° C	AVHRR	daily	25 km
Sea surface salinity	SSS	PSU	MOVE-MRI <sup>1</sup>	5-day	10 km
Sea surface height	SSH	cm	AVISO	daily	25 km
Eddy kinetic energy	EKE	cm²⋅s⁻²	AVISO	daily	33 km
Mixed layer depth	MLD	m	MOVE-MRI	5-day	10 km
Squid Fishery Data	Description		Source	Temporal coverage	
Squid CPUE (tons/day)	Daily po	oint data	APITRC	May-July	2000-2004

<sup>1</sup>MOVE: Meteorological Research Institute Ocean Variational Estimation System

#### Squid habitat hotspots detection



#### Persistence of squid habitat hotspots



<sup>2</sup> Engler et al 2004

# **RESULTS & DISCUSSION**

#### **Key findings: Relative importance of environmental factors to squid habitat** – Objective 1

	Environmental Covariates	With the variable		Without the variable		All variables	
		AIC	CDE (%)	AIC	CDE (%)	AIC	CDE (%)
	SST	8657	0.28	8095	17.00		
	SSS	8297	9.64	8318	12.50		
	SSH	8543	5.01	8145	15.00	8067	17.8
	EKE	8472	6.61	8114	16.20		
	MLD	8487	6.20	8116	16.60		

- Primary contribution from SSS, EKE and SSH: squid association with small-scale salinity fronts & eddies
- SST with lowest contribution: homogeneous spatial pattern due to increased insolation

**CDE:** Cumulative Deviance Explained

# **RESULTS & DISCUSSION**

#### Key findings: Spatial-temporal patterns of summer pelagic habitat hotspots – Objective 2





- Potential squid habitat: Northern transition zone & SAFZ
- Northward retreat of fishing fleets from May-July

# **RESULTS & DISCUSSION (2)**

#### **Key findings:** Persistence of summer squid pelagic habitat hotspots across years – Objective 2





- Proximal to major frontal systems subarctic front (33.8) & TZCF (18°C)
- Squid fishery (May-June) Transition zone (36-40°N) ≈ eddies & fronts ≈ low hotspot persistence

# **RESULTS & DISCUSSION**

#### Key findings: Potential physical mechanisms of squid aggregations – Objective 3



# **SUMMARY & CONCLUSION**

- While environmental proxies exhibit differences in model contribution, their combination shaped the squid pelagic habitat in the North Pacific.
- Squid hotspots persistence is associated with the predictability & dynamics of oceanographic features.
- Squids recognize & track persistent as well as ephemeral cues from its environment for optimal foraging.

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# Thank you for your attention