

PREPARATION OF DATA INPUT FILES FOR THE STOCK ASSESSMENTS OF INDIAN OCEAN SWORDFISH

Miguel Herrera¹ & Lucia Pierre²

Abstract

This document describes the methods used by the IOTC Secretariat to prepare catch tables, length-frequency samples and catch-at-size and catch-at-age tables for swordfish, for the period 1950-2009, using estimates of total catch and the available catch-and effort, size frequency data and other biological data in the IOTC database.

The IOTC Secretariat estimated total catches of swordfish, in number and weight, per year, quarter, and assessment area and fishery, for the period 1950-2009, using information from the IOTC database, in particular estimates of total catches by fishery and year, and catch-and-effort and size frequency data by time-area strata. In addition, the Secretariat prepared length-frequency samples from the size frequency data available in the IOTC databases. These datasets were prepared to be used in assessments using estimates of total catches by fishery, area, year and quarter and the samples existing for those strata or estimates of catch-at-size or catch-at-age derived from the referred samples. The results are affected by the lack of information for some fleets, periods and years, and, in particular, by the lack of catch and size data from most artisanal fleets and some industrial fleets.

Rationale

The IOTC database contains estimates of total catches by country, gear, year and IOTC Area (**Figure 1**, page 2). In addition, the IOTC database contains catch-and-effort data and size frequency data by country, gear, time-area strata and species, which generally represent a sample of the total catches estimated by country, gear, year and species.

The Secretariat used the above data to produce the following information for the swordfish:

- Input files for stock assessment, in particular:
 - a. Models using estimates of total catches of swordfish, in number and weight, and non-raised length-frequency data (**samples**) available by year, quarter and fishery, for 1950-2009.
 - b. Models using estimates of total catches of swordfish, in number and weight, and estimates of total numbers of swordfish caught by length class interval, year, quarter and fishery, or **Catch-at-Size**, for 1950-2009.
 - c. Models using estimates of total catches of swordfish, in number and weight, and estimates of total numbers of swordfish caught by age interval, year, quarter and fishery, or **Catch-at-Age**, for 1950-2009.
- Stock status indicators (e.g. trends in average weight per fishery).
- Tables of total catch by fishery, year, month and five degrees square areas.

The construction of a catch-at-size table for a particular species requires that length frequency distributions are assigned to the total catch. Thus, the sampled weight estimated for each stratum (i.e. the weight resulting from summing up the weights estimated for the specimens within each length class) is raised to the nominal catch recorded for that stratum.

Species involved

Catch-at-Size (CAS) and Catch-at-Age (CAA) tables were estimated for the Swordfish only. The estimation of CAS and CAA for marlins or Indo-Pacific sailfish has not been attempted in this paper due to a paucity of data.

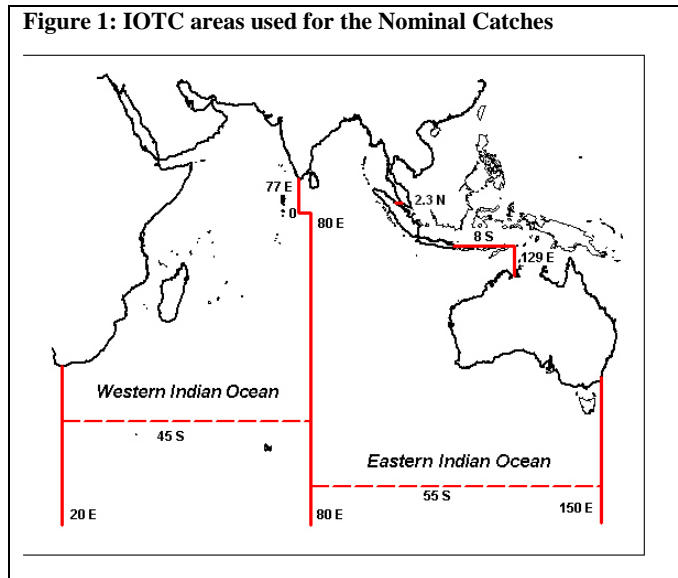
¹ Data Coordinator IOTC (mh@iotc.org; Miguel.Herrera@iotc.org)

² Data Assistant IOTC (data.assistant@iotc.org)

Basic Data

Four datasets are used for the preparation of stock assessment tables for swordfish:

- **Nominal catches:** Total catch estimates per Species, Fleet, Year, Gear and IOTC Area (**Figure 1**). The data in this dataset issues from two different sources:
 - a. Reports from the flag countries or reports from other countries on the catches of foreign vessels operating within its Economic Exclusive Zone or based in ports within its territory.
 - b. Estimates carried out by the IOTC Secretariat: this may involve changes in the catches reported by the above or the estimation of catches for non-reporting fleets (e.g. catches recorded under the NEI³ category).



- **Catches per area** (from catch-and-effort): Catches (in tonnes or/and in number) are recorded per Species, Fleet, Year, Gear, Fishing Mode, Time Interval (month or quarter usually) and area (usually 1⁰ square areas for industrial purse seine fisheries, 5⁰ square areas for industrial longline fisheries and various regular or irregular areas for artisanal fisheries). Catches per area are not available for all Nominal catches strata. When recorded, the catches in these datasets might represent the total catches of the species in the year for the fleet and gear concerned or represent simply a sample of those.
- **Size data:** Size frequency data (standard or processed length or standard or processed weight) are recorded per Species, Fleet, Year, Gear, Fishing Mode, Time Interval (month or quarter or year usually) and area (usually 5⁰ square areas for purse seine fisheries, 10⁰ latitude by 20⁰ longitude for longline fisheries and various regular or irregular areas for artisanal fisheries). Size data are not available for all Nominal catches strata. When recorded, the size data might represent the total catches of the species in the strata concerned (or Catch-at-Size) or simply a sample of those.
- **Biological data:** includes several types of biological parameters for the swordfish, in particular:
 - a. **Conversion from non-standard measurements into fork length:** Equations (data) used to convert specimens of swordfish measured by using non-standard procedures into the standard length measurement used for the swordfish, representing the distance from the tip of the lower-jaw to the fork of the tail (fork length).
 - b. **Conversion from fork length into live weight:** Equations (data) used to estimate sample weights from the available lengths (length-weight relationships).
 - c. **Sex-ratio:** Data used to estimate numbers of swordfish by sex from the available numbers of swordfish.
 - d. **Age-Length keys:** Data used to estimate numbers of swordfish by age (Catch-at-Age) from the numbers of swordfish by length estimated (Catch-at-Size).

The type of information recorded in each case is summarized in **Table 1** below:

Table 1: Main types of fisheries statistics gathered by the IOTC				
<i>Dataset</i>	<i>Fishery Strata</i>	<i>Time Strata</i>	<i>Area Strata</i>	<i>Represents</i>
Nominal Catches	Fleet-Gear (or gear aggregate)-Species (or species aggregate)	Year	IOTC Area	Total catches
Catches per area	Fleet-Gear (or gear aggregate)-Fishing Mode (purse seine only)-Species	Month (quarter or year)	1 ⁰ square area (purse seine) 5 ⁰ square area (longline) Other regular or irregular areas	Sample
Size data	Species- Fleet-Gear (or gear aggregate)-Fishing Mode (purse seine only)-Type of measurement (length or weight, standard or processed)-Size interval (between size classes)	Quarter (year or month)	5 ⁰ square area (purse seine) 10 ⁰ Lat.*20 ⁰ Lon. area (longline) Other regular or irregular areas	Sample
Biological data	Various, depending on dataset	Various	Various, depending on dataset	Sample

Fisheries and Areas used for the assessments of swordfish

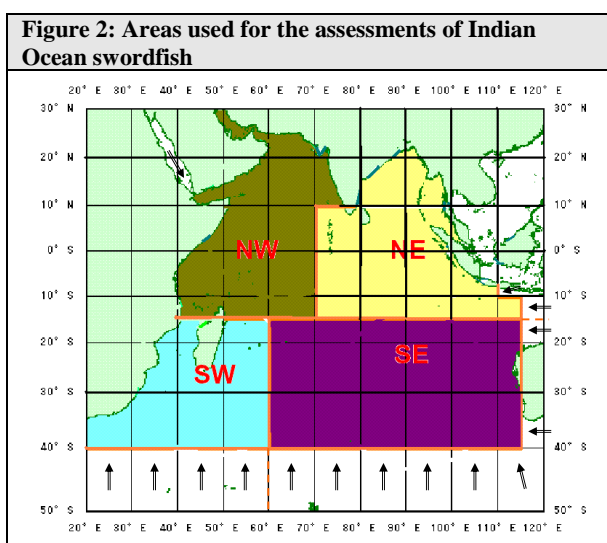
The nominal catches, samples and estimates of Catch-at-Size and Catch-at-Age to be used for the assessments of swordfish were ultimately aggregated by year, quarter, assessment fishery and assessment area.

³ Not elsewhere identified

Assessment Areas: Four areas are used for the assessments of swordfish. These areas are shown in **Table 2** and **Figure 2**. The catches of swordfish from areas outside the four assessment areas were assigned to the closest area, as indicated through the arrows on **Figure 2**. **Table 2** shows also total catches by area accumulated for the entire catch data series (1950-2009) and the contribution that the catches from each area made out of the total accumulated catches for 1950-2009, and in recent years (2005-09).

Table 2: Areas used for the assessments of Indian Ocean swordfish; the total catches (metric tons) accumulated for the period 1950-2009 (Total Catch 50-09), the relative importance of the catches in each area over both the entire catch series (%50-09) and in current years (%05-09), and the catches by assessment fishery (see Table 3) in each of the areas concerned are also shown

Area	Description	Catch (t) 50-09	% 50-09	% 05-09	Catches by Fishery (t)						
					ALGI	AUEL	EUEL	ISEL	JPLL	TWFL	TWLL
NW	Northwest Indian Ocean	198,244	31	32	4,566		7,823	3,578	28,251	2,281	151,731
SW	Southwest Indian Ocean	178,514	28	30	209		42,973	21,697	23,573	236	89,850
NE	Northeast Indian Ocean	163,231	26	21	30,589		844		13,635	41,695	76,467
SE	Southeast Indian Ocean	92,183	15	18	648	11,763	32,139	2,120	11,288	3,442	30,793



Assessment Fisheries: Seven fisheries are used for the assessments of swordfish, as indicated in **Table 3**. Details on the fisheries that were assigned to each fleet-gear-catch/length frequency stratum can be found in **Appendix III**. **Table 3**, below, shows the fisheries that are used for the assessment of swordfish. It shows also total catches by fishery accumulated for the entire catch data series (1950-2009) and the contribution that the catches from each fishery made out of the total accumulated catches for 1950-2008, and in recent years (2005-09).

Table 3: Fisheries used for the assessments of Indian Ocean swordfish; the total catches accumulated for the period 1950-20089 (Total Catch 50-09 in metric tons) and the relative importance of each fishery over both the entire catch series (%50-09) and in current years (%05-09) is also shown

Fishery	Description	Total Catch 50-09	% 50-09	% 05-09
ALGI	Contains data for all gillnet, trolling and other minor artisanal fisheries	36,012	6	6
AUEL	Contains data for the longline fishery of Australia (target is SWO)	11,763	2	1
EUEL	Contains data for EU longliners (from Spain, Portugal and the UK) plus other longliners assimilated to EU longliners (generally owned by Spanish nationals), all targeting SWO	83,779	13	37
ISEL	Contains data for the semi-industrial longline fleets operating in Reunion(France), Mayotte(France), Madagascar, Mauritius and the Seychelles, which also target SWO	27,395	4	6
JPLL	Contains data for the longline fishery of Japan plus other fleets assimilated to the Japanese fleet (e.g. South Korea, Thailand, Oman)	76,747	12	7
TWFL	Contains data for the fresh-tuna longline fleets of Taiwan and Indonesia, plus other fresh-tuna longline fleets assimilated to those and all sport fisheries and fleets operating hand lines	47,653	8	10
TWLL	Contains data for the large scale tuna longline fleet of Taiwan,China, plus other longline fleets assimilated to the Taiwanese fleet (a component of those fleets may target SWO)	348,842	55	33

Input Tables

The Secretariat has prepared the following input tables for the WPB:

- **Stock assessments of swordfish:** Three sets of tables were prepared, depending on the type of assessment models to be used:
 - Assessment models using non-raised length frequency data (samples)

- a. Estimates of total catches of swordfish, in number of specimens and weight, by year, quarter, fishery and area.
- b. Number of swordfish specimens sampled by length interval, by fishery, area, year, and quarter.

Assessment models using Catch-at-Size data

- a. Estimates of total catches of swordfish, in number of specimens and weight, by year, quarter, fishery and area.
- b. Estimates of total number of specimens of swordfish caught by length class (Catch-at-Size) by fishery, area, year, and quarter.

Assessment models using Catch-at-Age data

- a. Estimates of total catches of swordfish, in number of specimens and weight, by year, quarter, fishery and area.
- b. Estimates of total number of specimens of swordfish caught by age class (Catch-at-Age) by fishery, area, year, and quarter.

- Stock status indicators for billfish species: The Secretariat used total catches, catch-and-effort, length frequency samples and Catch-at-Size data in the preparation of sets of stock status indicators for swordfish, marlins and Indo-Pacific sailfish.
- Total catches by time-area strata: The Secretariat prepared a table containing estimates of total catches of swordfish, in number and weight, by fleet, gear, year, quarter, and 5° square areas.

An example of the above tables can be found in **Appendix I**.

Data Processing

Estimation procedures used for the preparation of data for the assessments of swordfish

The way in which the Secretariat prepared the information to be used for the assessments of swordfish is summarized below. Details about these procedures are provided in the following sections.

1. Standardizing catch and size frequency tables
 - a. Nominal catches (NC): Assigning the catches not reported by species/gear by species/gear (NC → NCst)
 - b. Catch-and-effort (CE): Assigning catches not recorded by 5° grid/quarter by 5° grid/quarter (CE → CEst)
 - c. Size frequency (SF → LFst):
 - i. Converting non-standard measurements into standard measurements
 - ii. Breaking the existing lengths into the standard length class intervals used for the species (e.g. 15-18cm, 18-21cm, etc.)
 - iii. Assigning samples not recorded by area (purse seine and other gears)/quarter by area/quarter
2. **Swordfish length frequency samples input file** (LFst → LF_{INPUT}) Aggregating the length frequency samples in LFst by fishery-area-year-quarter-number of specimens sampled by length class, for 1950-2009.
3. Breaking the NCst by quarter and 5° grid using the CEst (NCst → NCds)
4. Assigning length frequency samples to all NCds strata (Fleet-Gear-Year-Quarter-PS/Other Area) (NCds → LFcvs)
5. Deriving Catch-at-Size (CAS) by scaling up length frequency distributions in LFcvs from sample weight to total weight for each stratum (LFcvs → CAS)
6. Adjusting/estimating NCds weights/numbers by using average weights derived from the CAS (NCds → NCad)
7. **Swordfish total catch input file** (NCad → NC_{INPUT}) Aggregating the catches in NCad by fishery-area-year-quarter-total catch of swordfish (in number and weight), for 1950-2009.
8. **Swordfish Catch-at-Size input file** (CAS → CAS_{INPUT}): Aggregating the length frequency data in CAS by fishery-area-year-quarter-total number of specimens by length class interval, for 1950-2009.
9. **Swordfish Catch-at-Age input file** (CAS → CAA_{INPUT}): Deriving Catch-at-Age for swordfish using CAS_{INPUT} and the existing Length-Age key to obtain estimates of total number of specimens caught by age class, fishery, area, year and quarter, for 1950-2009.

Breaking the catches not recorded by gear and/or species by species and gear

The catches in the IOTC nominal catches database are not recorded by species and/or by gear in all cases. The Secretariat conducted a review aiming at estimating catches when data were not available by species or gear in the IOTC database. This process was documented in a paper presented to the WPTT in 2004 (IOTC-2004-WPTT-06).

Standardization of catch-and-effort data

The catches in the catch-and-effort table are recorded under different levels of aggregation.

All the catches from this record were assigned by Species-Fleet-Gear-Fishing Mode-Year-Month-5° square grid-Catch in number of fish-(and/or)-Catch in metric tons.

- i. Grid allocation: All the catches not recorded by 5° square grid were assigned to 5° square grids as follows:
 - a. Allocation of catches recorded under irregular areas by 5° square grid: The catches recorded under irregular areas (e.g. port of unloading, fishing district, etc.) were assigned to the neighbouring 5° square grid(s).
 - b. Allocation of catches recorded under areas that fell within a single 5° square area: all catches recorded under areas that fell within a 5° square area were assigned to the corresponding 5° square areas.
 - c. Allocation of catches recorded under areas overlapping two or more 5° square areas: all catches recorded under areas that overlapped two or more 5° square areas were assigned proportionally by 5° square area (i.e. by using the proportions

obtained by dividing the amount of 1 degree square grids that fell within each 5° square area over the total amount of squares from the overlapping area).

- ii. **Time period allocation:** The catches available in the catch-and-effort file were assigned by month as follows:
- Allocation of catches recorded under time period strata that fall within a single month: all catches recorded under time periods that fell within a month were assigned to the corresponding months.
 - Allocation of catches recorded under time period strata overlapping two or more months: all catches recorded under time periods that overlapped two or more months were assigned proportionally by month (e.g. 1/3 of the catches recorded under the first quarter of a year were assigned to each of the months making up that quarter).

Standardization of size frequency data

The following process was used to convert the samples of swordfish available into standard form:

- i. **Converting non-standard lengths into standard length (Table 4):** The regression equations presented in **Table 4** were used to estimate the distance from the tip of the lower jaw to the fork of the tail (fork length) for specimens of swordfish that were recorded under non-standard lengths or weights in the IOTC database (deterministic conversion). The equations used for other billfish species are presented in **Appendix IX**.

Table 4: Swordfish: Regression equations used to convert from non-standard measurements into standard lengths

Type Measurement	Equation	Parameters	Sample size	Size range	Source
Cleithrum to caudal fork length	$\frac{(L+b)}{a}$	a= 0.8087 b= 8.6712	n/a	n/a	Reference not available
Cleithrum to keel length	$aL + b$	a= 1.55108 b= 13.5025	179	Min:88 Max:252	Two step conversion as $CKL = (0.690253 * EFL) - 3.541823$ in formula $LJFL = 8.00884 + (1.07064 * EFL)$; NOAA Data (Pacific Ocean)
Eye orbit to Fork Length	$aL + b$	a= 1.066 b= 10.449	123	Min:48 Max:255	Data from Reunion Island, Indian Ocean Poisson 2001 (in IOTC-2005-WPTT-05)
Pectoral fin to anal fin length	$aL + b$	a= 2.5407 b= 25.698	1,806	Min:18 Max:105	Data from Reunion Island, Indian Ocean Poisson 2001 (in IOTC-2005-WPTT-05)
Pectoral fin to caudal fork length	$aL + b$	a= 1.2398 b= 11.204	55	Min:60 Max:157	Data from Reunion Island, Indian Ocean Poisson 2001 (in IOTC-2005-WPTT-05)
Weight gilled and gutted	$(w/a)^{1/b}$	a= 0.0000043491 b= 3.188	3,608	Min:89 Max:266	Inverted length-weight equation (ICCAT Mejuto et al 1998 South-East Atlantic Ocean)
Weight headed and gutted	$(w/a)^{1/b}$	a= 0.000004592 b= 3.137	n/a	n/a	Inverted length-weight equation. Reference not available
Weight round	$(w/a)^{1/b}$	a= 0.000003815 b= 3.188	3,608	Min:89 Max:266	Converted to GGT ($GGT = RND/1.14$ (Mejuto et al. 1998)) and inverted length-weight equation (ICCAT Mejuto et al. 1998 South-East Atlantic Ocean)

- ii. **Breaking the samples according to the standard length frequency intervals used for the swordfish:** The length-frequency intervals that are used for billfish species are shown in **Table 5**.

Table 5: Standard length, first length, interval and total number of size classes used for billfish species

Species	Standard Length	First length (cm)	Interval between length classes (cm)	Total number of size classes	Maximum interval allowed (cm)
Swordfish	Tip lower jaw - Fork of tail length*	15	3	150	5
Blue marlin	Eye orbit - Fork of tail length†	15	3	150	5
Black marlin	Eye orbit - Fork of tail length	15	3	150	5
Striped marlin	Eye orbit - Fork of tail length	15	3	150	5
Indo-Pacific sailfish	Eye orbit - Fork of tail length	15	3	150	5

NOTE: All samples in the IOTC database were assigned according to the specifications above; the samples recorded under length intervals greater than the maximum interval specified above were not used

*Refers to the straight distance measured, to the closest lower centimetre, between the tip of the lower-jaw and the fork of the tail
† Refers to the straight distance measured, to the closest lower centimetre, between the front orbit of the eye and the fork of the tail

- a. Allocation of specimens recorded under length classes that fall within a single standard length class:
- Billfish specimens recorded under one centimetre length classes were aggregated under the corresponding three centimetre length classes (e.g. specimens recorded under the classes 15-16cm, 16-17cm and 17-18cm were accumulated under fork length class 15).
 - Billfish specimens recorded under two or three centimetre length classes that fell within standard length classes were assigned to the corresponding standard length classes (e.g. specimens recorded under length classes 15-17cm or 15-18cm -for length frequency data reported by 2cm or 3cm length intervals, respectively-, were assigned to standard length class 15-18cm)

- b. Allocation of specimens recorded under length classes overlapping two or more standard length classes: all the specimens recorded under length classes that overlap the standard classes used for the species (**Table 3**) were assigned proportionally to the corresponding standard length classes (e.g. 1/2 of the swordfish specimens recorded under the length class 17-19cm were assigned to length class 15-18cm and 1/2 to length class 18-20cm; 1/5 of the specimens recorded under length class 17-21cm were assigned to length class 15-18cm, 3/5 to length class 18-20cm and 1/5 to length class 20-22cm). The specimens of swordfish from samples using length class intervals 6cm or higher were discarded.

Breaking the nominal catches by month and 5° degree square grid

The aim of this process is to break the catches recorded in the nominal catches table by month and 5° square grid. This information is used:

- For the estimation of total catches by fishery, year, quarter and assessment area: The catches recorded in the nominal catches table (by fleet, gear and year) need to be further broken by fishery, year quarter and assessment area (**Figure 2**).
- For the estimation of catch-at-size tables: The length distributions of tuna species may change depending on the area and/or time fished and therefore the estimation of catches-at-size is likely to be improved if this information is used.
- For the estimation of total catches by time-period and 5° square area for the Tuna Atlas.

The steps given to assign the catches available for each NC stratum per month and 5° square areas are indicated below:

- i. Nominal catches strata for which time-area catches exist:
 - a. Deleting time-area catches that are not representative of the fishery: Time-area catches for NEI-(deep)-freezing longliners and NEI-fresh tuna longliners were not used because they refer to very limited areas and time-periods and are not considered to be representative of the activities of these fleets.
 - b. Breaking the nominal catches by time-period and area: The nominal catches were broken by time and area in years for which spatio-temporal catches are available for the fleet concerned.
- ii. Nominal catches strata for which time-area catches do not exist:
 - a. Time-area catches exist for the fleet concerned for a period up to 15 years before or after the year concerned:
 - i. Time-area catches of the species concerned are available within the period specified: The catches recorded in the five years closest to the year of reference were accumulated and the average values obtained used to break the catches per area in the year concerned. Data extending to up to 15 years above or below the year concerned are used.
 - ii. Time-area catches of the species concerned are not available within the period specified: The catches of other species are used, where available:
 - a. The catches recorded in the year of reference were accumulated and the average values obtained used to break the catches by time and area in the year concerned.
 - b. The catches recorded in the five years closest to the year of reference were accumulated and the average values obtained used to break the catches per area in the year concerned. Data extending to up to 15 years above or below the year concerned are used.
 - b. Time-area catches do not exist for the fleet concerned for up to 15 years before or after the year concerned:
 - i. Fleets that are presumed to operate as other fleets for which time-area catches exist: This refers mainly to industrial fleets. The catches per area available for other fleets (and years) are used to break the nominal catches per month and 5° square area/s.
 - a. Time-area catches exist for the alternative fleet during the year concerned: This information is used to break the nominal catches by time and area.
 - b. Time-area catches do not exist for the alternative fleet during the year concerned: The same substitution scheme as the one defined in ii.a. above is used.

The fisheries for which the above substitution scheme was used and the alternate fleets and gears selected for substitution in each case can be found in **Appendix IV**.
 - ii. Fleets that are presumed to operate in specific areas: This refers mainly to artisanal and semi-industrial fleets. One or more 5° square areas were assigned to each fleet.
 - a. Time-area catches exist for other fleets in the areas concerned: The nominal catches are broken per month and area according to the proportion that the catches available from other fleets make in the area/s concerned.
 - b. Time-area catches do not exist for other fleets in the areas concerned: The catches for the fleet concerned are broken proportionally per month and area.

Estimation of Catch-at-Size (CAS)

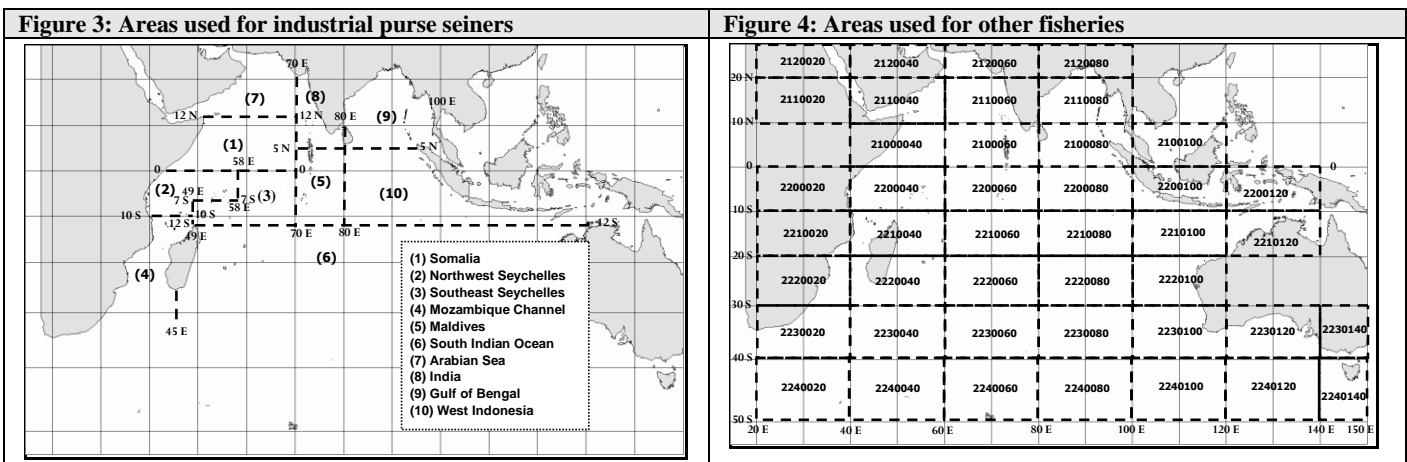
The aim of this process is to estimate length frequency distributions for each species, year and gear type. Thus, the accumulated weight estimated from the specimens making up the length frequency shall be the same than the total weight recorded in the stratum concerned and the weight issuing from all the strata shall be equal to the total catches recorded for the species in the year concerned. These data are used to estimate catches-at-age and other information used for stock assessment.

Reformatting of length frequency data

The time-area resolution used for the estimation of catches-at-size depends on the gear type.

i. Allocation of estimation areas: Two different types of estimation areas are used:

- Industrial purse seine fisheries: The statistical areas used for the sampling of EU purse seiners are used; these are shown on **Figure 3**.
- Other fisheries (industrial longline plus all artisanal fisheries): 10° latitude by 20° longitude areas are used, as shown on **Figure 4**⁴.



The samples in the size frequency table are recorded under different types of geographic areas. The following process was followed to allocate the existing samples by estimation area:

- a. Allocation of samples recorded under irregular areas: The samples recorded under irregular areas (e.g. port of unloading, fishing district, etc.) were assigned to regular areas.
 - b. Allocation of specimens recorded under areas that fall within a single standard area: all specimens recorded under areas that fell within the standard areas were assigned to the corresponding areas (as shown on **Figures 3-4**).
 - c. Allocation of specimens recorded under areas overlapping two or more standard areas: the specimens recorded under areas overlapping two or more standard areas (**Figures 3-4**) were assigned proportionally by estimation area (i.e. by using the proportions obtained by dividing the amount of 1 degree square grids that fell within each estimation area over the total amount of squares from the overlapping area).
- ii. Time period allocation: The available length frequency samples were assigned by quarter as follows:
 - a. Allocation of specimens recorded under time-periods that fall within a single quarter: all specimens from samples recorded under time periods that fell within a quarter were assigned to the corresponding quarter.
 - b. Allocation of specimens recorded under time-periods overlapping two or more quarters: all specimens from samples recorded under time-periods that overlapped two or more quarters were assigned proportionally by quarter (e.g. 2/3 of the specimens recorded under the time period February-April of any year were assigned to the first quarter (Jan-Mar) of that year while the remaining 1/3 specimens were assigned to the second quarter (Apr-Jun)).
 - iii. Estimation of sample weight: The weight for each sample was calculated by adding the weights estimated for all the specimens making it. The equations used to estimate weights from the available lengths are shown in **Table 6** (note that deterministic methods were used for the conversion).

Estimation of catch-at-size tables

The amount of length frequency data available is scarce for some fisheries and/or periods with samples not available for all strata in which catches are recorded or sample numbers too low to be considered. Thus, substitution is required where samples are not available for a fleet-gear(fishing mode)-year-quarter-estimation area (figures 3-4) or where sample numbers are very low.

For this purpose the minimum sample size was set to 30 specimens, i.e. strata with no samples available or with samples made up of less than 30 fish are combined with other strata in order to attain the minimum number of specimens required prior to the estimation of catch-at-size for the strata concerned.

⁴ Note that Japan and Taiwan, China have always reported size data for their longline fisheries as per the areas shown on Figure 4

Table 6: Equation used to convert billfish measurements in standard length to round weight

Species	Gear Type/s	From type length – To round weight	Equation	Parameters	Sample size	Length
Swordfish	All gears	Tip of lower-jaw to fork of caudal fin length(cm) – Round Weight(kg) ^A	$W^{live} = aFL^b$	a= 0.000042030 b= 3.21340	2569	Min:80 Max:253
Black marlin	All gears	Front of eye orbit to fork of caudal fin length(cm) – Round Weight(kg) ^B	$W^{live} = aEFL^b$	a= 0.0000144217 b= 2.98851	24	Min:95 Max:279
Blue marlin	All gears	Front of eye orbit to fork of caudal fin length(cm) – Round Weight(kg) ^B	$W^{live} = aEFL^b$	a= 0.00000272228 b= 3.30967	154	Min:109 Max:269
Striped marlin	All gears	Front of eye orbit to fork of caudal fin length(cm) – Round Weight(kg) ^B	$W^{live} = aEFL^b$	a= 0.00000133263 b= 3.41344	17	Min:101 Max:178
Indo-Pac. sailfish	All gears	Front of eye orbit to fork of caudal fin length(cm) – Round Weight(kg) ^B	$W^{live} = aEFL^b$	a= 0.0000690103 b= 2.52429	35	Min:86 Max:187

A: Data from the Atlantic Ocean, Spanish longline fishery (Mejuto et al., 1988, ICCAT)

B: PIFSC Administrative report: (Updated Weight-on-Length Relationships for Pelagic Fishes Caught in the Central North Pacific Ocean and Bottom fishes from the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands)

The substitution scheme used to assign length frequency data to all strata having catches is explained below:

- i. Length frequency data are available for the stratum concerned:
 - a. Deleting samples from the length frequency table: The samples recorded for South Korea were not used because they are presumed to be very incomplete.
 - b. Assigning the available length frequency distributions by strata: The remaining length frequency distributions were assigned by strata.
- ii. Length frequency data are not available for the stratum concerned:
 - a. Length frequency data are available within the year before or after the quarter concerned:
 - i. Length frequency data are available for the same fleet and gear. Two substitution schemes are used depending on the gear type:
 - a. Industrial purse seiners: The estimation areas defined in **Figure 3** are used. The following latitude and longitude are assigned to each area⁵:

PS Area	Q-Lat-Lon	PS Area	Q-Lat-Lon
(1) Somalia	1 00 040	(6) S Indian Ocean	2 20 060
(2) NW Seychelles	2 00 020	(7) Arabian Sea	1 20 040
(3) SE Seychelles	2 00 060	(8) India	1 00 080
(4) Moz. Channel	2 10 020	(9) Gulf of Bengal	1 00 100
(5) Maldives	2 00 080	(10) W Indonesia	2 00 100

- b. Other gears: The estimation areas defined in **Figure 4** are used. Two regions are identified:
 - i. Areas below 10°S
 - ii. Areas above 10°S

Table 8: Time-area substitution scheme used to assign samples to nominal catches strata with less than 30 swordfish lengths measured (note that only the first five steps and the last are shown)

Step	Lat	Long	Qtr	Description
1	0	0	-0.25	Length frequency data from the same area and previous quarter are used for substitution, if any
2	0	0	0.25	Length frequency data from the same area and following quarter are used for substitution, if any
3	0	-20	0	Length frequency data from the first area to the West and same quarter are used for substitution, if any
4	0	20	0	Length frequency data from the first area to the East and same quarter are used for substitution, if any
5	0	-20	-0.25	Length frequency data from the first area to the West and previous quarter are used for substitution, if any
764	0	120	1.00	Length frequency data from the area 120 degrees to the East and following year are used for substitution, if any

Note that the latitude and longitude defined above for industrial PS and those from the 10*20 grids for other fisheries are used

The sizes of the specimens of yellowfin tuna and bigeye tuna seem to vary markedly depending on the latitude. The substitution scheme is therefore applied independently to each area (i.e. Length frequency data from areas

⁵ Note that the substitution scheme is based on changes in time and/or space (latitude and/or longitude). The areas assigned are used for the substitution.

below 10°S are not used for strata in the North and *vice versa*). **These regions are used for all species, including swordfish. The size data available for the swordfish need to be analyzed in order to assess if the sizes of swordfish vary significantly depending on the area or time fished.**

The substitution process is based on changes in time (quarter) and/or space (latitude and/or longitude). An example of the first substitution steps is shown in **Table 8** (previous page).

- ii. No length frequency data are available for the same fleet and gear: Information from other fleet/s is used. The length frequency data available from other fleets that are presumed to operate the same areas and/or use the same fishing techniques are used for substitution. The same substitution scheme in time and area is applied in each case. Three levels of aggregation are established. The complete substitution tables for each species are shown in **Appendix V, Table 9** below shows an example of the substitution scheme:

Table 9: Nominal catches strata and alternative fleets from which length frequency samples are used in the case that less than 30 lengths of swordfish are available for the NC strata concerned (example)								
Catch Strata			Level Aggregation 1		Level Aggregation 2		Level Aggregation 3	
Species	Gear	Fleet	Gear Ag1	Fleet Ag1	Gear Ag2	Fleet Ag2	Gear Ag3	Fleet Ag3
SWO	LL	IND	LL	AG3	LL	AG2	LL	AG1
SWO	LL	IRN	LL	AG2	LL	AG2	LL	AG1
SWO	LL	JPN	LL	AG1	LL	AG1	LL	AG1
SWO	LL	KOR	LL	AG1	LL	AG1	LL	AG1
SWO	LL	NEI-DFRZ	LL	AG3	LL	AG2	LL	AG1
SWO	LL	PHL	LL	AG3	LL	AG2	LL	AG1
SWO	LL	SUN	LL	AG2	LL	AG2	LL	AG1
SWO	LL	SYC	LL	AG3	LL	AG2	LL	AG1
SWO	LL	THA	LL	AG1	LL	AG1	LL	AG1
SWO	LL	TWN	LL	AG3	LL	AG2	LL	AG1

For example, if no samples of swordfish are recorded for the longline fishery of South Korea in the NC stratum concerned (or the sample is made up of less than 30 specimens) the samples available for South Korea and/or Japan and/or Thailand are combined. The time-area substitution scheme referred to in the previous section applies also in this case.

If no samples are available for the above fleets the second level of aggregation is used and the third level is used in the case that no samples are found.

- b. No length frequency data are available within the year before or after the quarter concerned:
- Length frequency data are available for the same fleet in other years: The samples for the three years that are closest to the year concerned are used. Only the samples from the 15 years before or after the year concerned are used.
 - No length frequency data are available for the same fleet in other years or they are very far in time (more than 15 years ahead or behind the year concerned). The available length data for other fleets are used. The information from the fleets and gears specified in **Appendix V** and the above substitution scheme (b.i.) apply in this case.
- c. No Length frequency data are available for the gear concerned in the 15 years before or after the year concerned:
- Length frequency data are available for the same fleet and gear anytime at all: all available samples are used (i.e. the accumulated length frequency for the whole period is used).
 - No length frequency data are available for the same fleet and gear anytime at all: The available length data for other fleets are used. The information from the fleets and gears specified in **Appendix V** and the above substitution scheme (c.i.) apply in this case.

The average weights estimated from the samples (by using the equation in **Table 6**) are used to estimate the number of specimens or the weight for each stratum in the CAS table:

- Longline fisheries: The catches are usually recorded in numbers. The average weights estimated from the sample are multiplied by the numbers of fish recorded (from the NC table) to obtain the weights per stratum. This method is also used for fisheries other than longline for which only numbers of fish are recorded.
- Other fisheries: The catches are usually recorded in weight. The average weights estimated from the sample are divided by the weight recorded (from the NC table) to obtain the numbers per stratum. This method is also used for longline fisheries for which only the weights are recorded.

The resulting weights are accumulated per fleet, gear, year, species and IOTC Area. The factor resulting from dividing the total catches estimated for the species (nominal catches) and those issuing from the CAS table is used to estimate total weight, total number of fish and number of fish per length class for each stratum in the CAS table (i.e. the numbers of swordfish by length class for each stratum are scaled up/down so as the total number of fish for the stratum matches the number of fish estimated in the NC)

Estimating total catches by year, quarter, assessment fishery and assessment area (NC_{INPUT})

The catches and numbers of fish in the NC table were weighted by using the method covered in the previous section. The catches in the resulting NC table are then aggregated as follows:

- i. Allocation of assessment fishery: Each Fleet-gear stratum in the NC table was assigned to the corresponding assessment fishery. Details on the fisheries that were assigned to each fleet-gear length frequency stratum can be found in **Appendix III**. The fisheries that are used for the assessment of swordfish are presented in **Table 3** (page 3).
- ii. Allocation of assessment area: The catches in the NC table were aggregated by assessment area. The areas used for the assessment are shown on **Figure 2** (page 3). The catches of swordfish from areas outside the four assessment areas were assigned to the closest area, as indicated through the arrows on **Figure 2**.

The following process was used to allocate the existing samples by area:

- a. Allocation of catches for selected fisheries to specific assessment areas: The catches of swordfish estimated for some selected fisheries were fully assigned to specific assessment areas on the assumption that the majority of the catches from those fisheries came from the area assigned. This is thought to be the case with the majority of the artisanal fisheries having catches of swordfish and with a limited number of industrial fisheries. Details on the areas that were assigned to each fleet-gear catch stratum can be found in **Appendix II**.
- b. Allocation of catches for other fisheries: All other catches in the NC table were assigned to the corresponding assessment areas, i.e. the catches recorded under each 5 square area were assigned to the assessment area containing that 5⁰ square area. The catches estimated for 5⁰ squares outside the assessment areas were assigned to the closest assessment area, as indicated through the arrows on **Figure 2**.
- iii. Aggregation of catches by year, quarter, assessment area, and assessment fishery: The above catches were aggregated by year, quarter, assessment area, and assessment fishery. An example of the Input Table containing the Total Catches can be found in **Appendix I**.

Assigning samples by year, quarter, assessment fishery and assessment area (FL_{INPUT})

The length frequency data in standard format (page 5) were used to derive the samples to be used for the assessments of swordfish. The following process was followed to create the table FL_{INPUT}:

- i. Scaling raised length frequency data down to sample numbers: The length frequency data in the IOTC database do not represent sample numbers in all cases as some countries report length frequency data that has been raised in various ways (e.g. to the catches in the stratum covered through sampling, to the total catches estimated for the country, etc.). The sample numbers were used in these cases to scale down the reported length frequency data, i.e. the number of specimens recorded under each length class was multiplied by the number obtained by dividing the total number of specimens sampled (all lengths combined) by the total number of specimens in the raised length frequency (all lengths combined).
- ii. Allocation of assessment area: The existing samples were aggregated by assessment area. The following process was used to allocate the existing samples by area:
 - a. Allocation of the samples available for selected fisheries to specific assessment areas: The samples available for some selected fisheries were fully assigned to specific assessment areas on the assumption that the majority of the specimens sampled on those fisheries came from the area assigned. This is thought to be the case with the majority of artisanal fisheries for which there is size data available and with a limited number of industrial fisheries. Details on the areas that were assigned to each fleet-gear size frequency stratum can be found in **Appendix II**.
 - b. Allocation of the samples available for other fisheries:
 - a. Allocation of specimens recorded under areas that fall within a single assessment area: all specimens from samples recorded under areas that fell within one of the areas used for the assessment (**Figure 2**) were assigned to the corresponding assessment area.
 - b. Allocation of specimens recorded under areas overlapping two or more assessment areas: all specimens from samples recorded under areas that overlapped two or more assessment areas were assigned proportionally by assessment area using the proportion that the catches in each area made out of the total catches in all overlapping areas.
- iii. Time period allocation: The available length frequency samples were assigned by quarter in the same way as indicated in iii.a. and iii.b. (page 6)
- iv. Allocation of assessment fishery: Each Fleet-gear stratum in the length frequency data table was assigned to the corresponding assessment fishery (**Appendix III**).

The resulting data were aggregated to obtain the number of swordfish specimens sampled by standard length interval (3cm), year, quarter, assessment fishery, and assessment area. An example of the Input Table containing the samples of swordfish can be found in **Appendix I**.

Assigning Catch-at-Size by year, quarter, assessment fishery and assessment area (CAS_{INPUT})

Catch-at-Size data are estimated for each fleet-gear(fishing mode)-year-quarter strata. The following process was followed to create the table CAS_{INPUT}:

- i. Allocation of assessment area: CAS were aggregated by assessment area. The following process was used to allocate CAS by area:
 - a. Allocation of the CAS for selected fisheries to specific assessment areas: The CAS for some selected fisheries were fully assigned to specific assessment areas on the assumption that the majority of the specimens sampled on those fisheries came from the area assigned. This is thought to be the case with the majority of artisanal fisheries for which there is size data available and with a limited number of industrial fisheries. Details on the areas that were assigned to each fleet-gear size frequency stratum can be found in **Appendix II**.
 - b. Allocation of the CAS for other fisheries:
 - a. Allocation of specimens recorded under estimation areas that fall within a single assessment area: CAS recorded under estimation areas that fell within one of the areas used for the assessment (**Figure 2**) were assigned to the corresponding assessment area.
 - b. Allocation of specimens recorded under estimation areas overlapping two or more assessment areas: CAS recorded under estimation areas that overlapped two or more assessment areas were assigned proportionally by assessment area using the proportion that the catches in each area made out of the total catches in all overlapping areas.
- ii. Allocation of assessment fishery: Each Fleet-gear stratum in the length frequency data table was assigned to the corresponding assessment fishery (**Appendix III**).

The resulting data were aggregated to obtain the total number of swordfish specimens caught by standard length interval (3cm), year, quarter, assessment fishery, and assessment area. An example of the Input Table containing CAS of swordfish can be found in **Appendix I**.

Estimating Catch-at-Age (CAA_{INPUT})

The catches-at-age (CAA) for the swordfish were estimated from the available catches-at-size (CAS_{INPUT}).

CAA was estimated using a VB model and swordfish data from the Indian Ocean (Young, J., and A. Drake. 2004⁶):

$$L(t) = L_{\infty} \left(1 - e^{-K[t-t_0]} \right)$$

Where:

Species	Sex	L_{∞}	t_0	k
SWO	Female	323.4	-3.413	0.08148
	Male	260.47	-3.3808	0.1096

An Age-Length key, both sexes combined, was derived from above (Sheng-Ping Wang, *pers.comm.*) and used to convert the numbers of specimens estimated by length (CAS) into age (CAA). The referred Age-Length key is shown in **Appendix VI**. The resulting Catches-at-Age were aggregated by Age class (0-15+), year, quarter and assessment fishery. An example of the Input Table containing the CAA table to be used in the ASPM stock assessments can be found in **Appendix I**.

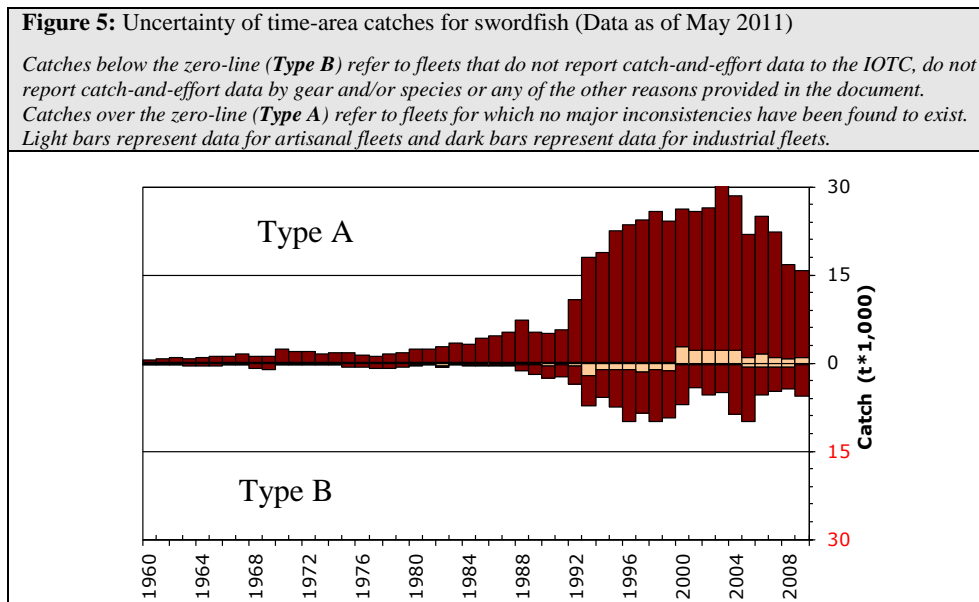
⁶ Young, J., and A. Drake. 2004. Age and growth of broadbill swordfish (*Xiphias gladius*) from Australian waters. Final report for project 2001/014, Fisheries Research Development Corporation, Canberra, Australia. 121 pp.

Results

Total catch by year

The total catches by assessment fishery and year estimated from the process for the swordfish are shown in **Appendix VII**. The catches estimates for 2008-09 are likely to change in the future, especially for some longline fleets that have reported preliminary catches to the Secretariat (Taiwan, China, Japan, Indonesia).

Swordfish are caught by industrial longliners, gillnets and, to a lesser extent, other artisanal or recreational fisheries. **Figure 5** shows the status of the catches of swordfish for 1959-2008.



The catches of swordfish estimated are thought to be more uncertain since the mid-90's due to:

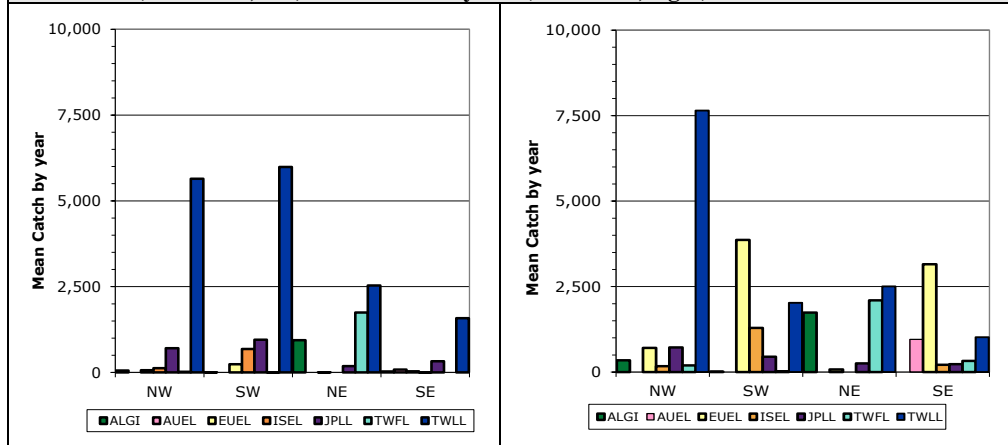
- The catches of swordfish estimated for the fresh tuna longline fishery of Indonesia may have been underestimated in recent years. The majority of the catches of albacore and swordfish are stored and unloaded frozen and are seldom sampled in port. Although no market data for swordfish are available at the moment, the Secretariat believes that the catches of swordfish may be underestimated by as much as 4,000 t in recent years.
- To date, Iran has not reported catches of swordfish for its gillnet fishery. In recent years, many Iranian vessels have moved on to the high seas, using drifting gillnets to catch tunas and other species. The fleet is operating in the northwest Indian Ocean (Figure 2), which is the area that has recorded the highest catches of swordfish in recent years. The Secretariat has little information on the activities of this fleet which has made it impossible to estimate catches of swordfish for the fleet. The catches of swordfish by this fleet may represent as much as 5,000 t in recent years.
- Poor reports from IOTC CPC's: The catches of swordfish recorded for the longline fleet of India were estimated by the IOTC Secretariat as India has never reported catches for its commercial longline fleet (around 100 vessels operating since 2004). Malaysia and Indonesia do not report catches for longliners under their flags that are not based in these countries. The catches for this component were estimated by the IOTC Secretariat.
- Non-reporting industrial longliners (NEI): The amount of non-reporting longliners targeting swordfish was high during the 1990's and early 2000's due to the shift of vessels from the Atlantic Ocean to the Indian Ocean. The catches of these vessels were estimated by the Secretariat by using information from various sources.
- Conflicting catch reports: The catches for South Korean longliners reported as nominal catches and catches and effort are conflicting, with higher catches recorded in the CE table for some years. The Secretariat revised the catches of swordfish for the Korean fleet for the period concerned.

Catches per quarter, fishery and assessment area and Catch-at-Size data (CAS_{INPUT})

The precision of the estimates is likely to vary depending on the quality of the catches (see the above section), the availability of catches in time and space and the amount (coverage) and representativeness of the samples available for swordfish.

Completeness of time-area catches: **Figures 6** and **7** show mean catches (tonnes) of swordfish by year estimated by assessment area and fishery for 1990-99 and 2000-09.

Figures 6-7: Average catches of swordfish by year estimated by Area and Fishery for the entire time series (1990-1999; left) and in current years (2000-2009; right)



The amount of catches that are available in time and space *versus* the total catches of swordfish estimated are shown in the **Figures 8 to 12**. The amount of catches for which time-area information is available has been changing over time. Three different periods can be identified:

- 1954-1966: The total catches of swordfish estimated for this period are low (below 1,500t). Between 20-30% of the total catches estimated come from fisheries for which time-area catches are either not available or poor quality. No time-area catches are available from the Taiwanese longline fleet for this period.
- 1967-1988: The total catches of swordfish estimated for this period range between 1,500t and 3,000t (1967-84) and between 4,000t and 8,000t for subsequent years (1985-88). Time-area information is available from the majority of the fleets with catches of swordfish estimated for this period, representing more than 95% of the total catches of swordfish estimated in most years.
- 1989-2009: The total catches of swordfish estimated for this period range between 6,000t and 35,000t. Between 25-30% of the total catches estimated come from fisheries for which time-area catches are either not available or poor quality. No time-area catches are available for:
 - Fresh-tuna longliners from Taiwan, China (1984-2006) and Indonesia (1973-2009)
 - Longliners from India (2004-09) and various other fleets, in particular longline fleets targeting swordfish (NEI) (2000's)

Figure 8: Total catches of swordfish (SWO) available in time and space versus the total catches recorded for the species (all gears combined).

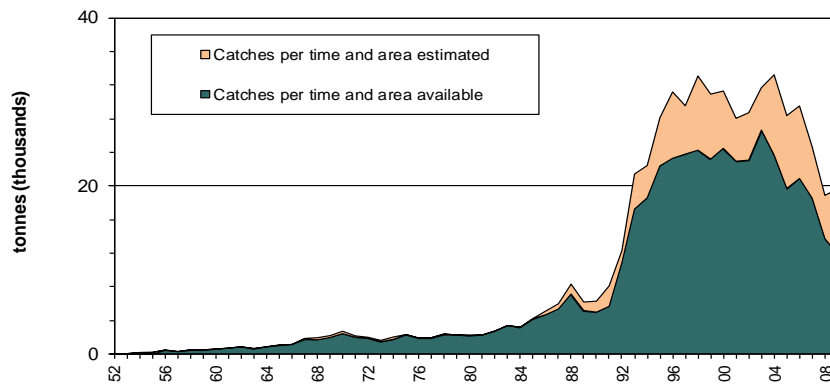


Figure 9: Total catches of swordfish (SWO) available in time and space versus the total catches recorded for the species (longline Taiwan, China and assimilated fleets)

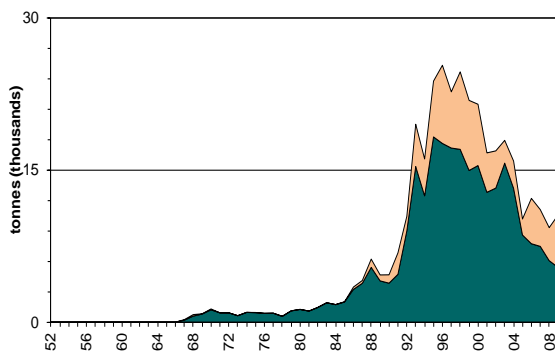


Figure 10: Total catches of swordfish (SWO) available in time and space versus the total catches recorded for the species (longline fisheries for swordfish)

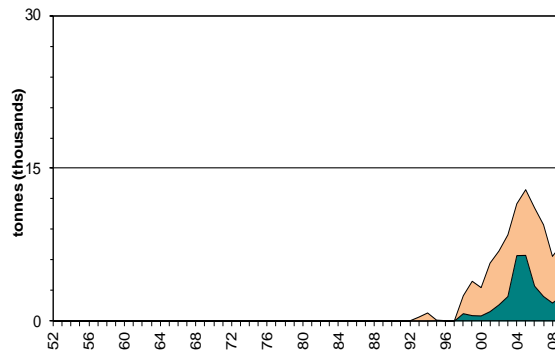


Figure 11: Total catches of swordfish (SWO) available in time and space versus the total catches recorded for the species (longline Japan and assimilated fleets)

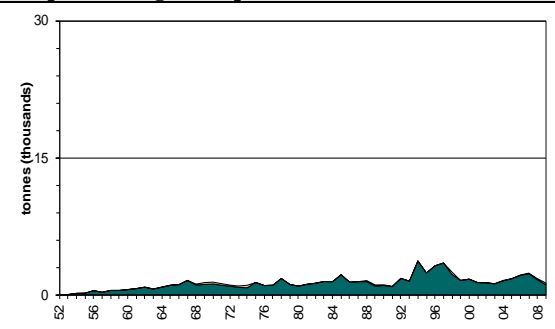
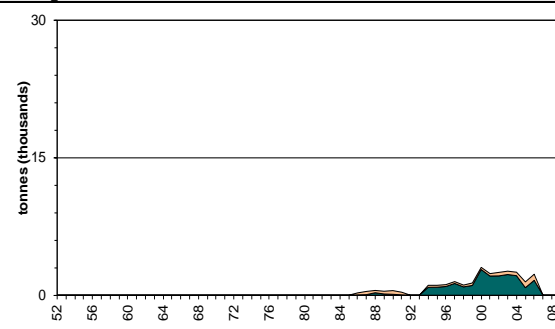


Figure 12: Total catches of swordfish (SWO) available in time and space versus the total catches recorded for the species (artisanal fisheries).



The lack of data or poor quality data existing for some periods and/or fisheries may compromise the quality of the catches that are estimated for the assessments of swordfish, as this information is used to break the catches in the nominal catches by quarter and assessment area.

Completeness of length data: The total numbers of swordfish caught and sampling coverage estimated for 1950-2009, by year and fishery, are shown in **Figures 13 to 17**. The coverage was estimated as the amount (expressed as a percentage) that the total amount of swordfish (in number) from strata having at least 30 specimens of swordfish sampled made out of the total amount of swordfish (numbers) estimated for that year, and fishery. The amount of catches for which length frequency samples are available has been changing over time. Four different periods can be identified:

- 1950-1969: The total catches of swordfish estimated for this period are low (below 1,500t in most years). No size frequency data are available for this period. The majority of the catches of swordfish for the period come from the Japanese and Taiwanese longline fleets.

- 1970-1979: The total catches of swordfish estimated for this period range between 2,000t and 3,000t. Size frequency data is only available for the longline fishery of Japan. Between 3-16% of the total catches estimated (in number) are covered through sampling. Samples are not available for the longline fishery of Taiwan,China during this period.
- 1980-1991: The total catches of swordfish estimated for this period range from 2,000t to 8,000t. Samples are available for the majority of the strata having catches of swordfish, representing 55-90% of the total catches of swordfish estimated (in number), depending on the year.
- 1992-2009: The total catches of swordfish estimated for this period range between 14,000t and 35,000t. Between 40-60% of the total catches estimated (in number) come from fisheries for which samples are available. The main problems are:
 - Poor sample sizes and time-are coverage for the longline fishery of Japan
 - Lack of length samples for the longline fisheries of India, Oman and various other flags (NEI)
 - Lack of samples or poor quality samples from gillnet and other artisanal fisheries.

The lack of length samples or low sampling coverage for some periods and/or fisheries may compromise the assessments that use length frequency samples or CAA data derived from estimates of CAS, adding uncertainty to the results.

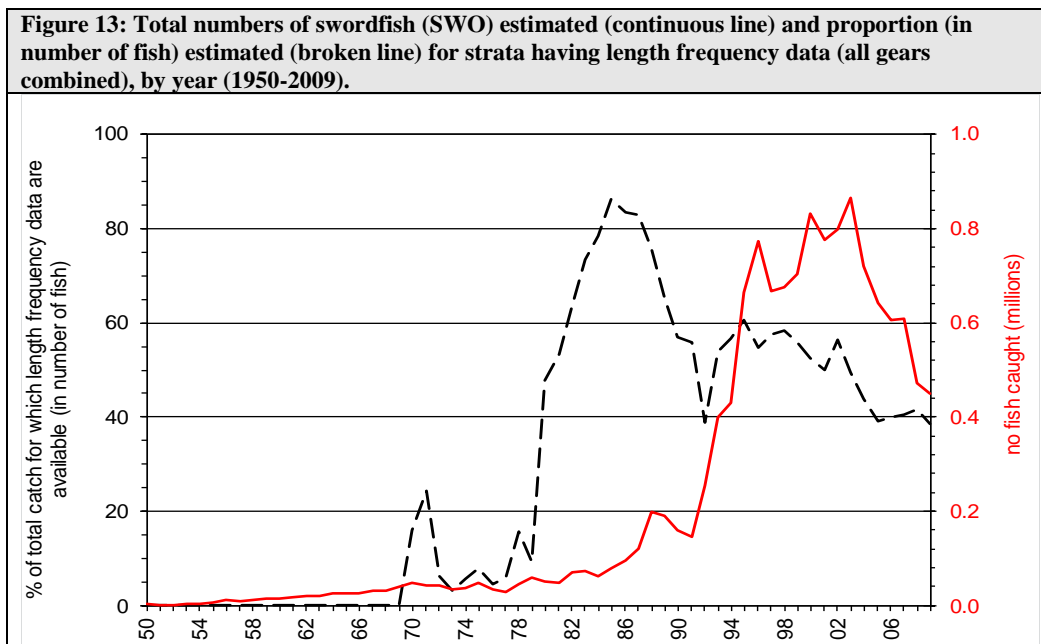
The numbers of fish measured per strata in relation with the total numbers caught by several longline fisheries, mainly Japan, has been declining in recent years. The representativeness of the samples might be also compromised for this reason.

Figures 18-29 show length frequency distributions for original samples (blue line) and catches at size estimated (orange bars) for the entire catch-series, all fisheries combined, and by decade and type of fishery (only periods from which samples are available are shown).

Figures 30-31 show the catches at size estimated for periods in which no samples were available, for the longline fisheries of Taiwan,China and Japan.

The length frequency distributions for some fisheries and periods differ significantly from the length frequency samples; this is especially the case with:

- Longline fishery of Japan and other assimilated fleets for the period 2000-09
- Longline fishery of Taiwan,China and other assimilated fleets for the period 2000-09
- Artisanal fisheries over the entire period



Figures 14-17: Total numbers of swordfish (SWO) estimated (continuous line) and proportion (in number of fish) estimated (broken line) for strata having length frequency data, by year (1950-2009): longline Taiwan,China and assimilated fleets (top left), longline fisheries for swordfish (top right), longline Japan and assimilated fleets (bottom left), and artisanal fisheries (bottom right)

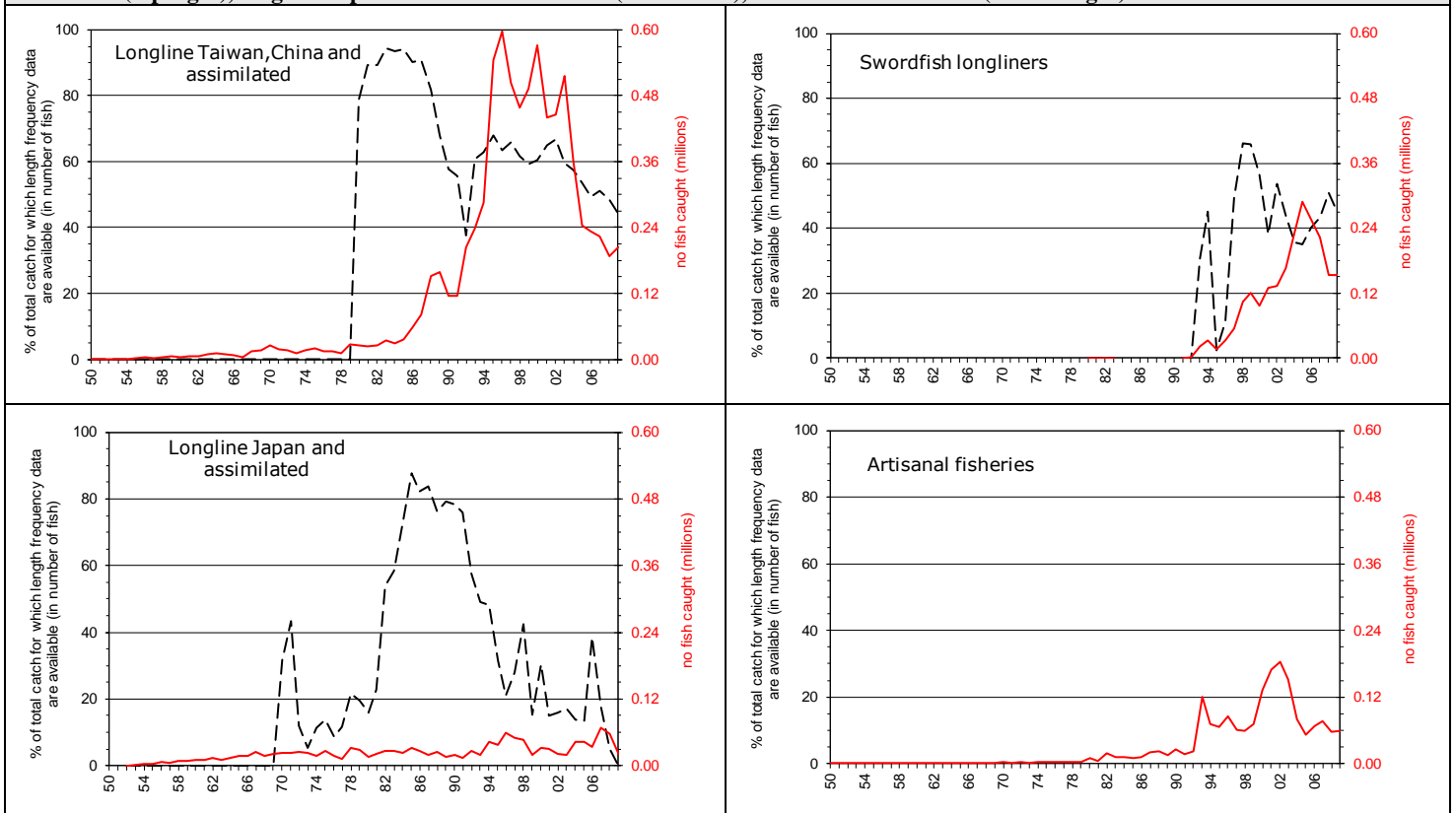
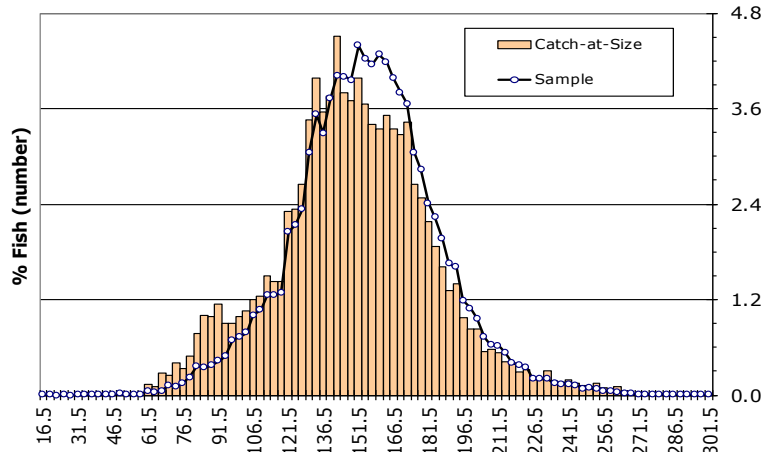
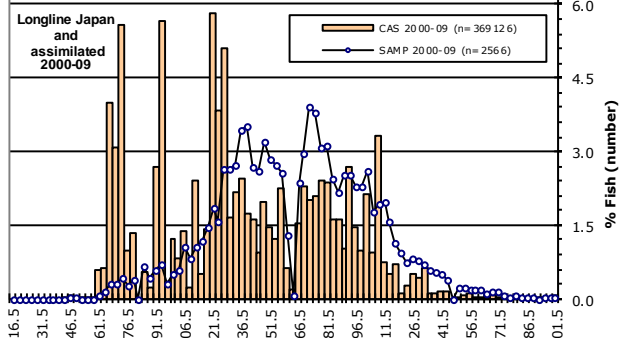
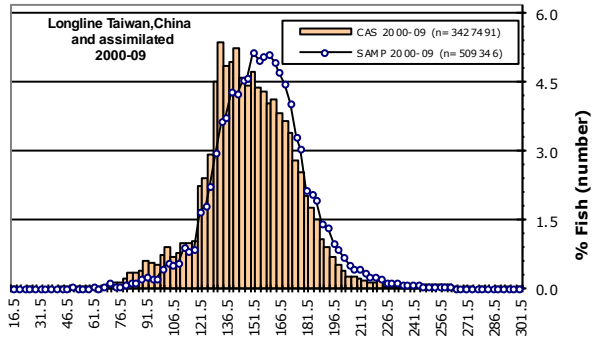
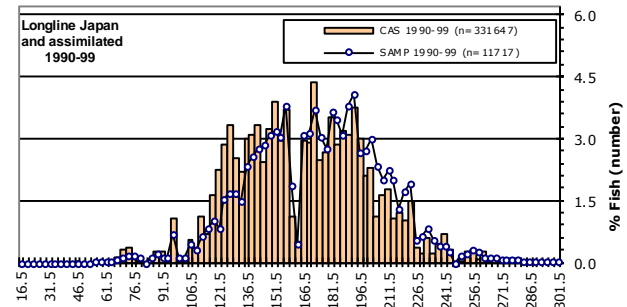
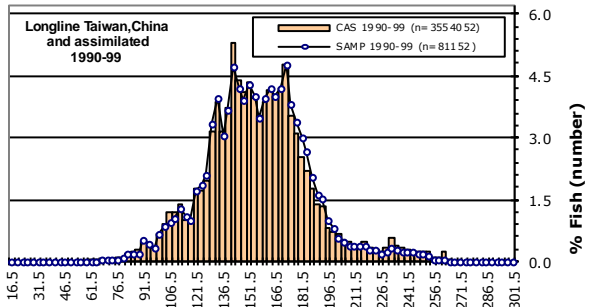
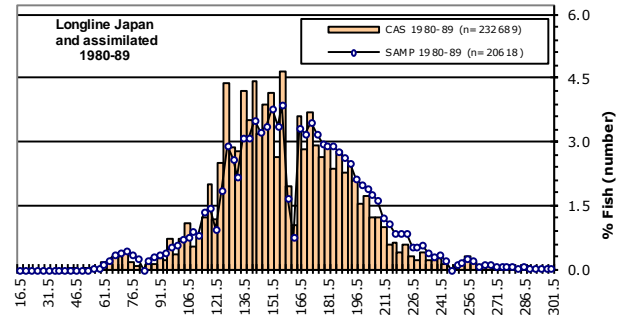
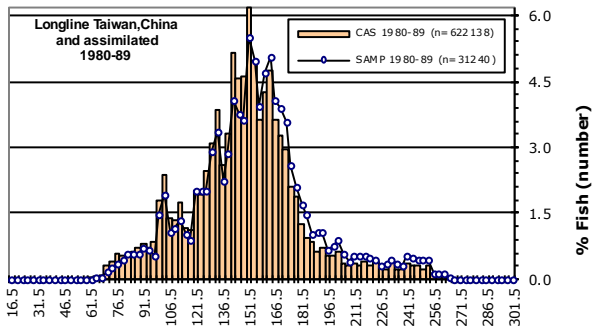


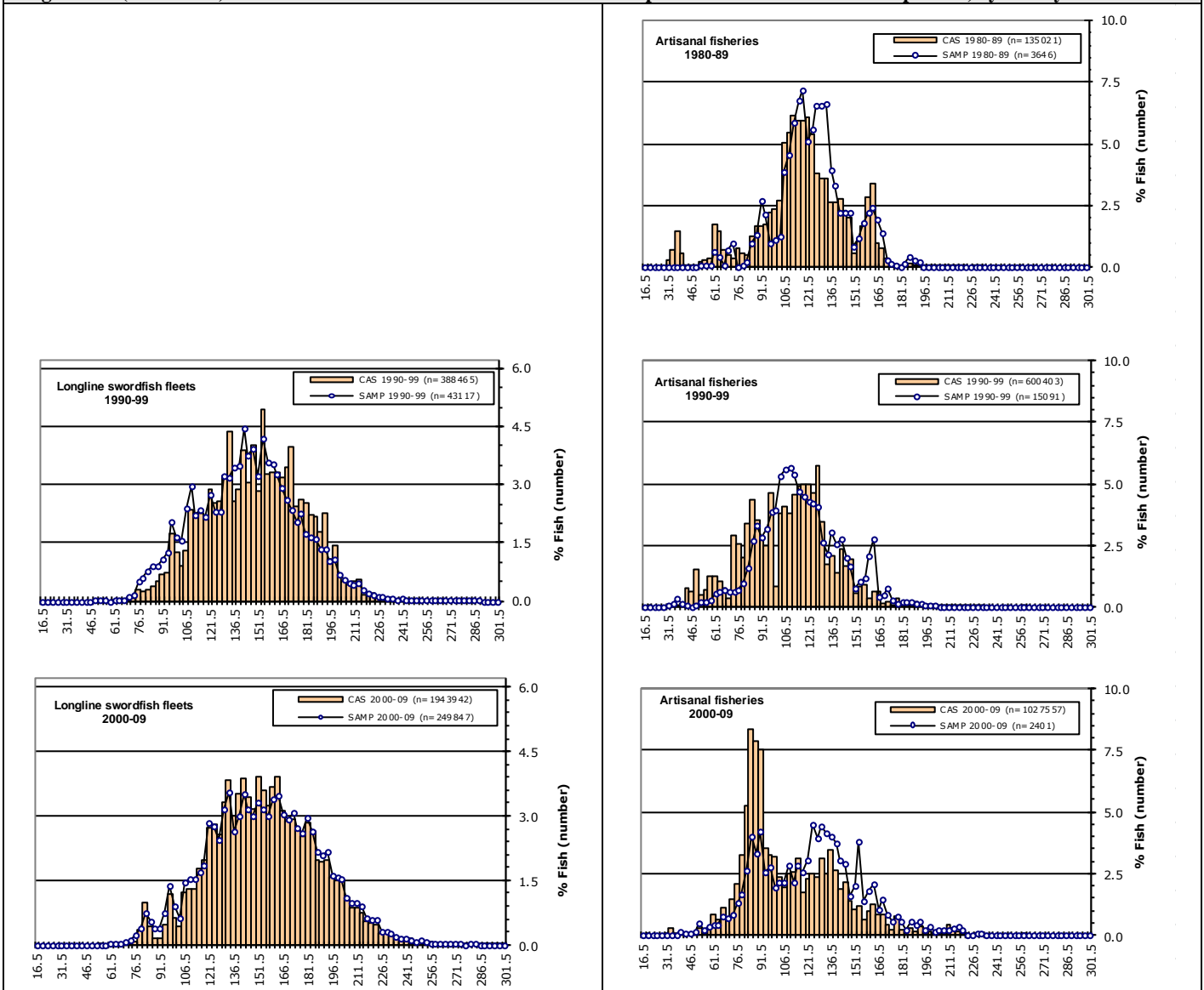
Figure 18: Proportion that the numbers of swordfish sampled (blue line)/estimated (CAS; orange bars) under each 3cm length class (in number) make out of the total numbers of swordfish sampled/estimated over the entire time-area series (1950-2009), all fisheries combined



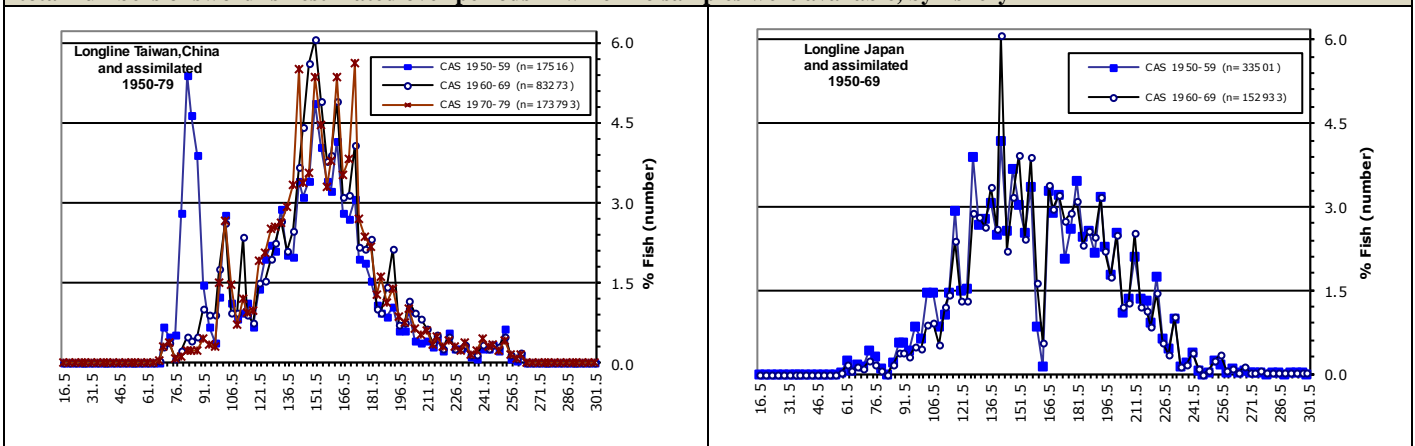
Figures 19-24: Proportion that the numbers of swordfish sampled (blue line)/estimated (CAS; orange bars) under each 3cm length class (in number) make out of the total numbers of swordfish sampled/estimated over different periods, by fishery



Figures 25-29 (cont.): Proportion that the numbers of swordfish sampled (blue line)/estimated (CAS; orange bars) under each 3cm length class (in number) make out of the total numbers of swordfish sampled/estimated over different periods, by fishery

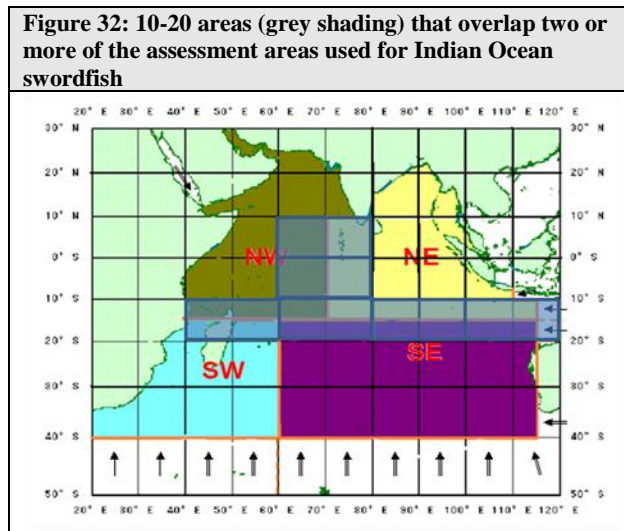


Figures 30-31: Proportion that the numbers of swordfish estimated (CAS) under each 3cm length class (in number) make out of the total numbers of swordfish estimated over periods in which no samples were available, by fishery

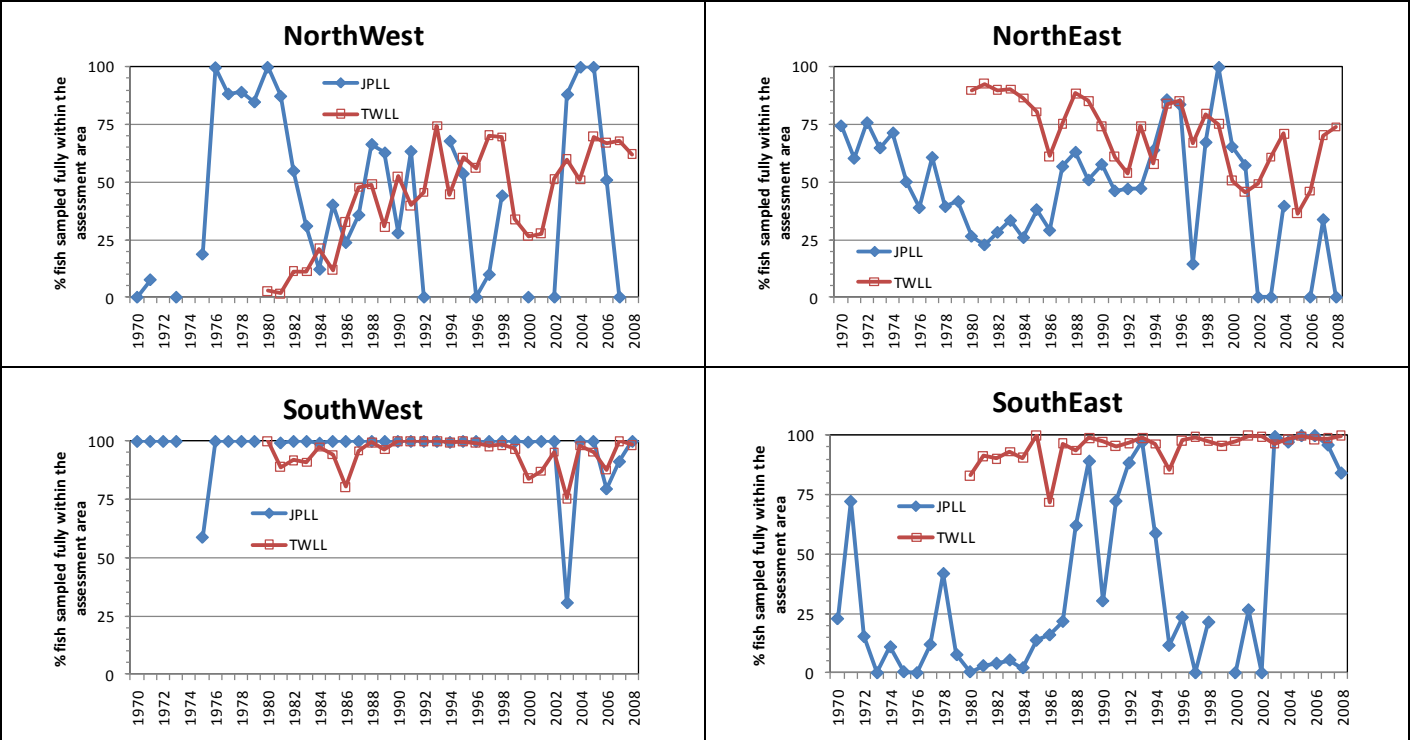


The following reasons may explain the referred discrepancies:

- **No weighting applied in the aggregation of samples under the strata selected for the assessment:** No weighting procedure is used in the allocation of the individual samples available to the fishery, area and period concerned. The samples available for each assessment area, fishery, year and quarter are aggregated by summing up all the specimens sampled by length class from all the fleets and gears concerned and over the entire area and period. However, the sample weights derived from the samples may represent various levels of coverage, depending on the strata involved.
- **Catches at size derived from samples containing a low number of specimens:** The shape of some CAS distributions tends to suggest that the number of specimens from which the catches at size were derived is too low. The minimum number of specimens needed for a sample to be raised to total catches, 30 specimens, is the same for all species. This number may be insufficient for species having a wide length frequency distribution, as it is the case with the swordfish.
- **The samples available are not representative of the fishery concerned:** In recent years the majority of the samples available for the longline fishery of Japan come from training vessels. The representativeness of the samples collected on training vessels is uncertain, as these vessels do not necessarily operate the same areas or use the same fishing techniques as the commercial vessels from Japan.



Figures 33-36: Proportion that the number of swordfish from samples that fall fully within an assessment area makes out of the total number of swordfish allocated to the area (following the disaggregation of samples from areas overlapping two or more assessment areas (Figure 34)), by assessment area and year. Data are presented for the fisheries of Japan (JPLL) and Taiwan (TWLL).

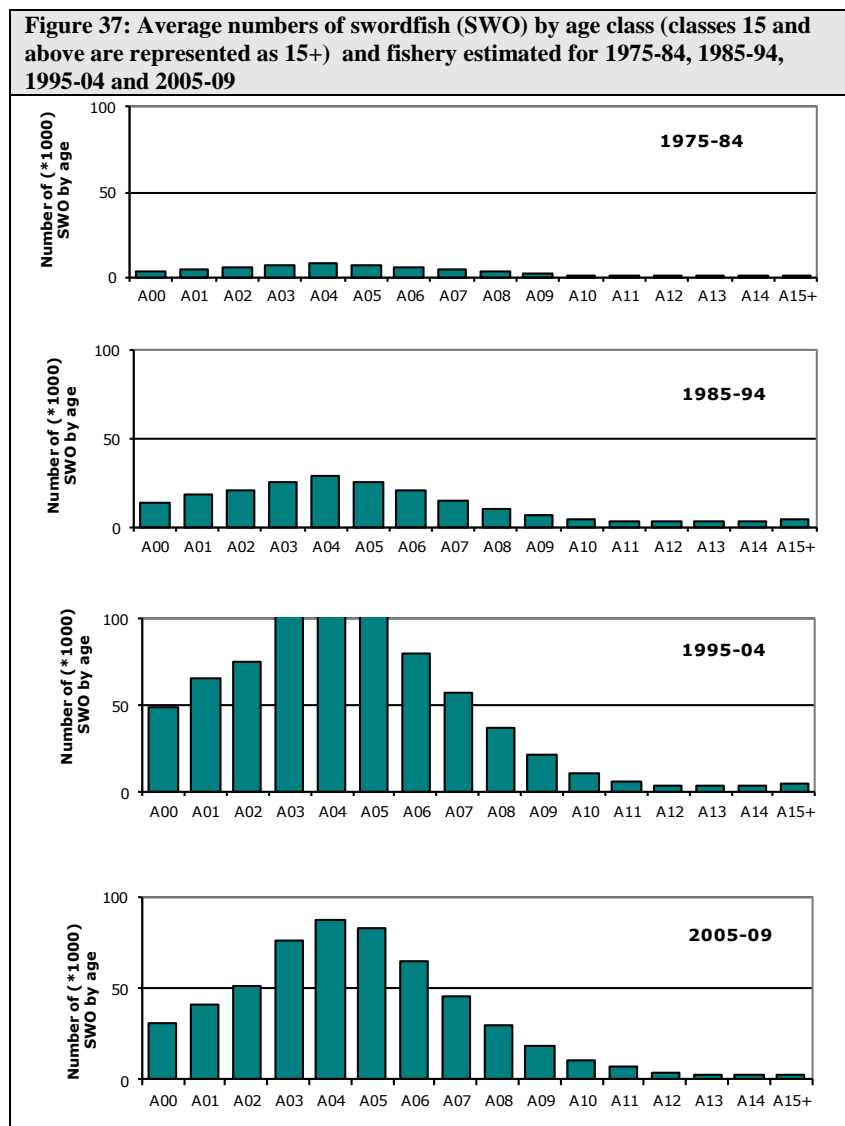


It is important to note that some length classes (159-162cm/165-168cm) are poorly represented in the length frequency distributions derived from both the samples and the CAS for Japan over the entire time series. These gaps originate in the conversion (deterministic) from measurements of swordfish from the eye to the fork of the tail into lower-jaw fork length, as the measurements reported by Japan for the swordfish refer mostly to eye-fork length measurements aggregated into 5cm length classes.

In addition, the Secretariat had to assign samples/CAS from areas overlapping assessment areas to the assessment areas concerned (Figures 33-36). As much as 40% of the swordfish sampled on the fisheries of Japan and Taiwan, China come from 10 latitude by 20 degrees longitude grids that overlap two or more assessment areas (shown in Figure 32).

Catch-at-age tables (CAA)

The total numbers of swordfish by age class estimated for different periods are shown in **Figure 37**; the numbers of swordfish obtained by age class, fishery, area and year are shown in **Appendix VIII**. The estimates of catches-at-age are likely to be affected by a lack of data for some fisheries and periods (see the previous sections).



APPENDIX I
Examples of Input Tables

a. NC_{INPUT}

CID	TimeStamp	Species	Fishery	Year	Quarter	Area	TotalMT	TotalNO	SampledMT	SampledNO
3	21-Jun-10	SWO	ALGI	2004	1	NE	1101	34248	2	68

Where:

Field	Description
CID	Unique row identifier (for each stratum Species-Fishery-Year-Quarter-Area)
TimeStamp	The date the table was created
Species	IOTC Species code
Fishery	Assessment Fishery (Appendix III, page 24)
Year	Year
Quarter	Quarter [January-March(1), April-June(2), July-September(3), October-December(4)]
Area	Assessment Area (Figure 4, page 8)
TotalMT	Total catch estimated in metric tons
Totalno	Total catch estimated in number of fish
Sampledno	Catch sampled in number of fish
SampledMT	Catch sampled in metric tons

b. LF_{INPUT}

CID	TimeStamp	Species	Fishery	Year	Quarter	Area	TotalMT	Totalno	Sampledno	FirstClassLow	SizeInterval	L001	L150
3	21-Jun-10	SWO	ALGI	2004	1	NE	1101	34248	68	15	3	0	0

Where:

Field	Description
CID	Unique row identifier (for each stratum Species-Fishery-Year-Quarter-Area)
TimeStamp	The date the table was created
Species	IOTC Species code
Fishery	Assessment Fishery (Appendix III, page 24)
Year	Year
Quarter	Quarter [January-March(1), April-June(2), July-September(3), October-December(4)]
Area	Assessment Area (Figure 4, page 8)
TotalMT	Total catch estimated in metric tons
Totalno	Total catch estimated in number of fish
Sampledno	Catch sampled in number of fish $\left(\sum_{L001}^{L150} \right)$
FirstClassLow	Length corresponding to the first size class bin, in cm (15cm for swordfish)
SizeInterval	Interval (cm) between consecutive length classes (3cm)
L001...L150	Number of fish measured for length class 15cm(inclusive) to 18cm(exclusive), 18-21, 21-24, etc.

Examples of Input Tables (cont.)

a. CAS_{INPUT}

CID	TimeStamp	Species	Fishery	Year	Quarter	Area	TotalMT	Totalno	Sampledno	FirstClassLow	SizeInterval	L001	L150
1	21-Jun-10	SWO	ALGI	2003	4	NW	115	2913	0	15	3	0	0

Where:

Field	Description
CID	Unique row identifier (for each stratum Species-Fishery-Year-Quarter-Area)
TimeStamp	The date the table was created
Species	IOTC Species code
Fishery	Assessment Fishery (Appendix III, page 24)
Year	Year
Quarter	Quarter [January-March(1), April-June(2), July-September(3), October-December(4)]
Area	Assessment Area (Figure 4, page 8)
TotalMT	Total catch estimated in metric tons
Totalno	Total catch estimated in number of fish $\left(\sum_{L001}^{L150}\right)$
Sampledno	Catch sampled in number of fish
FirstClassLow	Length corresponding to the first size class bin, in cm (15cm for swordfish)
SizeInterval	Interval (cm) between consecutive length classes (3cm)
L001...L150	Total number of fish caught estimated for length class 15cm(inclusive) to 18cm(exclusive), 18-21, 21-24, etc.

b. CAA_{INPUT}

METHOD	CID	TimeStamp	Species	Fishery	Year	Quarter	Area	Totalno	A00	..	A15+
DMS2	3	23-Jun-10	SWO	ALGI	2004	1	NE	34248	5011	..	18

Where:

Field	Description
Method	Method used to estimate catch at age (Sheng-Ping Wang, pers.com.)
CID	Unique row identifier (for each stratum Species-Fishery-Year-Quarter-Area)
TimeStamp	The date the table was created
Species	IOTC Species code
Fishery	Assessment Fishery (Appendix III, page 24)
Year	Year
Quarter	Quarter [January-March(1), April-June(2), July-September(3), October-December(4)]
Area	Assessment Area (Figure 4, page 8)
Tno	Total catch estimated in number of fish $\left(\sum_{A00}^{A15+}\right)$ (Note that the total numbers shown for each stratum refer to Nominal Catches and may differ from the values obtained by adding the specimens for all age classes due to rounding)
A00...A15+	Number of fish estimated for age class 0 (A00 i.e. fish between 0 and 1 year old) and age class 15+ (A15+ i.e. fish 15 or more year old)

APPENDIX II

Areas allocated to Fleet-Gear strata in the Catch-and-Effort and Size Frequency datasets for the assessments of Swordfish

Fleet	Gear	Assessment Area
AUS	ELL	SE
AUS	HAND	SE
FRA-REU	ELL	SW
FRA-REU	TROL	SW
FRAT	ELL	NW
FRAT	HAND	NW
FRAT	TROL	NW
IDN	FLL	NE
IDN	GILL	NE
IDN	HAND	NE
KEN	TROL	NW
LKA	FLL	NE
LKA	G/L	NE
LKA	GILL	NE
LKA	HAND	NE
LKA	TROL	NE
MDG	ELL	SW
MDV	FLL	NE
MUS	ELL	SW
NEI-DFRZ	TLL	SW
NEI-IDN	FLL	NE
OMN	FLL	NW
PAK	GILL	NW
SYC	ELL	NW
SYC	HAND	NW
THA	FLL	NE
TZA	BB	NW
TZA	OTHER	NW
TZA	PSS	NW
TZA	TROL	NW
ZAF	ELL	SW
ZAF	LL	SW
ZAF	SLL	SW
ZAF	SPOR	SW
ZAF	TLL	SW

APPENDIX III

Fisheries allocated to Fleet-Gear strata in the Nominal Catch, Catch-and-Effort and Size Frequency datasets for the assessments of Swordfish

Artisanal fisheries other than hand line and recreational fisheries

Fishery	Fleet	Gear
ALGI	FRA-REU	TROL
ALGI	FRAT	TROL
ALGI	IDN	GILL
ALGI	IND	GILL
ALGI	IND	LIFT
ALGI	IND	TRAW
ALGI	IND	TROL
ALGI	KEN	TROL
ALGI	LKA	G/L
ALGI	LKA	GILL
ALGI	LKA	HATR
ALGI	LKA	TROL
ALGI	LKA	UNCL
ALGI	PAK	GILL
ALGI	TWN	GILL
ALGI	TZA	BB
ALGI	TZA	OTHER
ALGI	TZA	PSS
ALGI	TZA	TROL

Longline fisheries targeting Swordfish

Fishery	Fleet	Gear
AUEL	AUS	ELL

Fishery	Fleet	Gear
EUEL	ESP	ELL
EUEL	ESP	LLEX
EUEL	GBR	ELL
EUEL	GBR	LL
EUEL	GIN	ELL
EUEL	KEN	ELL
EUEL	NEI-DFRZ	ELL
EUEL	PRT	ELL
EUEL	PRT	LL
EUEL	PRT	LLD
EUEL	PRT	SLL
EUEL	SEN	ELL
EUEL	TZA	ELL
EUEL	TZA	LL
EUEL	URY	ELL
EUEL	ZAF	ELL
EUEL	ZAF	LL
EUEL	ZAF	SLL
EUEL	ZAF	TLL

Fishery	Fleet	Gear
ISEL	FRA-REU	ELL
ISEL	FRAT	ELL
ISEL	MDG	ELL
ISEL	MUS	ELL
ISEL	MUS	LL
ISEL	SYC	ELL

Other longline fisheries, and handline and recreational fisheries

Fishery	Fleet	Gear
JPLL	JPN	LL
JPLL	KOR	LL
JPLL	OMN	LL
JPLL	THA	LL

Fishery	Fleet	Gear
TWFL	AUS	HAND
TWFL	BLZ	FLL
TWFL	CHN	FLL
TWFL	FRAT	HAND
TWFL	IDN	FLL
TWFL	IDN	HAND
TWFL	IND	FLL
TWFL	IND	HAND
TWFL	LKA	FLL
TWFL	LKA	HAND
TWFL	LKA	LL
TWFL	LKA	LLCO
TWFL	MDV	FLL
TWFL	MYS	FLL
TWFL	NEI-ICE	FLL
TWFL	NEI-IDN	FLL
TWFL	OMN	FLL
TWFL	SYC	HAND
TWFL	THA	FLL
TWFL	TWN	FLL
TWFL	VUT	FLL

Fishery	Fleet	Gear
TWLL	BLZ	LL
TWLL	CHN	LL
TWLL	IDN	LL
TWLL	IND	LL
TWLL	IND	LLEX
TWLL	IRN	LL
TWLL	MDG	LL
TWLL	NEI-DFRZ	LL
TWLL	NEI-DFRZ	TLL
TWLL	PHL	LL
TWLL	SUN	LL
TWLL	SYC	LL
TWLL	TWN	LL

APPENDIX IV

Industrial fleets for which no catches per time and area are available and alternate fleets whose data were used for substitution

Fleet Code	Fleet Name	Gear Code	IOTC Area	Year From	Year To	Alternate Fleet Code	Alternate Gear Code
BLZ	Belize	FLL	IO_Eastern	2001	2008	TWN	LL
BLZ	Belize	FLL	IO_Western	2001	2009	TWN	LL
BLZ	Belize	LL	IO_Eastern	2001	2008	TWN	LL
BLZ	Belize	LL	IO_Western	2001	2008	TWN	LL
BLZ	Belize	PS	IO_Eastern	2001	2002	ESP	PS
BLZ	Belize	PS	IO_Western	2001	2002	ESP	PS
GBR	United Kingdom	LL	IO_Western	2004	2004	ESP	ELL
GIN	Guinea	ELL	IO_Eastern	2004	2009	ESP	ELL
IDN	Indonesia	LL	IO_Eastern	2001	2009	TWN	LL
IRN	Iran, Islamic Republic	LL	IO_Western	1976	2002	TWN	LL
IRN	Iran, Islamic Republic	PS	IO_Eastern	1996	1998	ESP	PS
IRN	Iran, Islamic Republic	PS	IO_Western	1992	2009	ESP	PS
KEN	Kenya	ELL	IO_Eastern	2005	2009	ESP	ELL
KEN	Kenya	ELL	IO_Western	1980	2009	TWN	LL
MDG	Madagascar	ELL	IO_Western	2002	2009	ESP	ELL
MDG	Madagascar	LL	IO_Eastern	2005	2005	TWN	LL
MDG	Madagascar	LL	IO_Western	2005	2005	TWN	LL
MUS	Mauritius	LL	IO_Western	1978	1987	TWN	LL
MYS	Malaysia	FLL	IO_Western	2006	2006	MUS	LL
MYS	Malaysia	PS	IO_Eastern	2008	2009	JPN	PS
NEI-DFRZ	NEI-Deep-freezing	ELL	IO_Eastern	2002	2009	ESP	ELL
NEI-DFRZ	NEI-Deep-freezing	ELL	IO_Western	2002	2009	ESP	ELL
NEI-DFRZ	NEI-Deep-freezing	LL	IO_Eastern	1985	2009	TWN	LL
NEI-DFRZ	NEI-Deep-freezing	LL	IO_Western	1985	2009	TWN	LL
PAK	Pakistan	LL	IO_Western	1991	2000	TWN	LL
SEN	Senegal	ELL	IO_Eastern	2005	2006	ESP	ELL
SEN	Senegal	ELL	IO_Western	2003	2006	ESP	ELL
SUN	Soviet Union	LL	IO_Eastern	1977	1985	TWN	LL
SUN	Soviet Union	LL	IO_Western	1964	1989	TWN	LL
SUN	Soviet Union	PS	IO_Eastern	1985	1985	NEI-OTH	PS
TZA	Tanzania	ELL	IO_Eastern	2006	2009	ESP	ELL
TZA	Tanzania	ELL	IO_Western	2005	2009	ESP	ELL
URY	Uruguay	ELL	IO_Western	2001	2006	ESP	ELL
VUT	Vanuatu	FLL	IO_Eastern	2009	2009	TWN	LL

APPENDIX V

Swordfish: Substitution scheme used for the estimation of Catches-at-Size (Fleet-Gear)

Gear	Fleet	GearA	FleetA	GearA2	FleetA2	GearA3	FleetA3
BB	TZA	BB	AG1	BB	AG1	SURF	AG1
ELL	AUS	ELL	AG1	ELL	AG1	LL	AG1
ELL	ESP	ELL	AG2	ELL	AG1	LL	AG1
ELL	FRA-REU	ELL	AG3	ELL	AG1	LL	AG1
ELL	FRAT	ELL	AG3	ELL	AG1	LL	AG1
ELL	GBR	ELL	AG2	ELL	AG1	LL	AG1
ELL	GIN	ELL	AG2	ELL	AG1	LL	AG1
ELL	KEN	ELL	AG2	ELL	AG1	LL	AG1
ELL	MDG	ELL	AG3	ELL	AG1	LL	AG1
ELL	MUS	ELL	AG3	ELL	AG1	LL	AG1
ELL	NEI-DFRZ	ELL	AG2	ELL	AG1	LL	AG1
ELL	PRT	ELL	AG2	ELL	AG1	LL	AG1
ELL	SEN	ELL	AG2	ELL	AG1	LL	AG1
ELL	SYC	ELL	AG4	ELL	AG1	LL	AG1
ELL	TZA	ELL	AG2	ELL	AG1	LL	AG1
ELL	URY	ELL	AG2	ELL	AG1	LL	AG1
ELL	ZAF	ELL	AG3	ELL	AG1	LL	AG1
FLL	BLZ	FLL	AG1	FLL	AG1	LL	AG1
FLL	CHN	FLL	AG3	FLL	AG1	LL	AG1
FLL	IDN	FLL	AG3	FLL	AG1	LL	AG1
FLL	IND	FLL	AG2	FLL	AG1	LL	AG1
FLL	LKA	FLL	AG3	FLL	AG1	LL	AG1
FLL	MDV	FLL	AG2	FLL	AG1	LL	AG1
FLL	MYS	FLL	AG3	FLL	AG1	LL	AG1
FLL	NEI-ICE	FLL	AG3	FLL	AG1	LL	AG1
FLL	NEI-IDN	FLL	AG3	FLL	AG1	LL	AG1
FLL	OMN	FLL	AG2	FLL	AG1	LL	AG1
FLL	THA	FLL	AG3	FLL	AG1	LL	AG1
FLL	TWN	FLL	AG3	FLL	AG1	LL	AG1
FLL	VUT	FLL	AG3	FLL	AG1	LL	AG1
G/L	LKA	GILL	AG1	GILL	AG1	GILL	AG1
GILL	IDN	GILL	AG2	GILL	AG2	GILL	AG1
GILL	IND	GILL	AG1	GILL	AG1	GILL	AG1
GILL	LKA	GILL	AG1	GILL	AG1	GILL	AG1
GILL	PAK	GILL	AG1	GILL	AG1	GILL	AG1
GILL	TWN	GILL	AG3	GILL	AG1	GILL	AG1
HAND	AUS	HAND	AG1	HAND	AG1	LL	AG1
HAND	FRAT	HAND	AG2	HAND	AG1	LL	AG1
HAND	IDN	HAND	AG5	HAND	AG1	LL	AG1
HAND	IND	HAND	AG3	HAND	AG1	LL	AG1
HAND	LKA	HAND	AG3	HAND	AG1	LL	AG1
HAND	SYC	HAND	AG4	HAND	AG1	LL	AG1
HATR	LKA	HAND	AG3	HAND	AG1	LL	AG1

Gear	Fleet	GearA	FleetA	GearA2	FleetA2	GearA3	FleetA3
LIFT	IND	LIFT	AG1	LIFT	AG1	GILL	AG1
LL	BLZ	LL	AG1	LL	AG1	LL	AG1
LL	CHN	LL	AG1	LL	AG1	LL	AG1
LL	GBR	ELL	AG2	ELL	AG1	LL	AG1
LL	IDN	LL	AG1	LL	AG1	LL	AG1
LL	IND	LL	AG2	LL	AG1	LL	AG1
LL	IRN	LL	AG2	LL	AG1	LL	AG1
LL	JPN	LL	AG3	LL	AG2	LL	AG2
LL	KOR	LL	AG4	LL	AG2	LL	AG2
LL	LKA	LL	AG2	LL	AG2	LL	AG2
LL	MDG	LL	AG5	LL	AG2	LL	AG2
LL	MUS	ELL	AG2	ELL	AG1	LL	AG1
LL	NEI-DFRZ	LL	AG1	LL	AG1	LL	AG1
LL	OMN	LL	AG2	LL	AG1	LL	AG1
LL	PHL	LL	AG1	LL	AG1	LL	AG1
LL	PRT	ELL	AG2	ELL	AG1	LL	AG1
LL	SUN	LL	AG1	LL	AG1	LL	AG1
LL	SYC	LL	AG1	LL	AG1	LL	AG1
LL	THA	LL	AG3	LL	AG2	LL	AG2
LL	TWN	LL	AG1	LL	AG1	LL	AG1
LL	TZA	LL	AG1	LL	AG1	LL	AG1
LL	ZAF	ELL	AG3	ELL	AG1	LL	AG1
LLCO	LKA	HAND	AG3	HAND	AG1	LL	AG1
LLD	PRT	ELL	AG2	ELL	AG1	LL	AG1
LLEX	ESP	ELL	AG2	ELL	AG1	LL	AG1
LLEX	IND	LL	AG2	LL	AG1	LL	AG1
OTHER	TZA	OTHER	AG1	OTHER	AG1	GILL	AG1
PSS	TZA	BB	AG1	BB	AG1	SURF	AG1
SLL	PRT	ELL	AG2	ELL	AG1	LL	AG1
SLL	ZAF	ELL	AG3	ELL	AG1	LL	AG1
SPOR	ZAF	HAND	AG2	HAND	AG1	LL	AG1
TLL	NEI-DFRZ	ELL	AG3	ELL	AG1	LL	AG1
TLL	ZAF	ELL	AG3	ELL	AG1	LL	AG1
TRAW	IND	OTHER	AG1	OTHER	AG1	GILL	AG1
TROL	FRA-REU	TROL	AG1	TROL	AG1	SURF	AG1
TROL	FRAT	TROL	AG1	TROL	AG1	SURF	AG1
TROL	IND	TROL	AG3	TROL	AG1	SURF	AG1
TROL	KEN	TROL	AG2	TROL	AG1	SURF	AG1
TROL	LKA	TROL	AG3	TROL	AG1	SURF	AG1
TROL	TZA	TROL	AG2	TROL	AG1	SURF	AG1
UNCL	LKA	SURF	AG1	SURF	AG1	SURF	AG1

FL_Low	FL_High	A0	A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	A7	A8	A9	A10	A11	A12	A13	A14	A15+
231	234	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.06	0.16	0.25	0.28	0.23
234	237	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.04	0.12	0.23	0.30	0.30
237	240	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.09	0.21	0.32	0.36
240	243	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.06	0.18	0.32	0.42
243	246	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.04	0.15	0.32	0.48
246	249	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.12	0.30	0.55
249	252	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.10	0.29	0.59
252	255	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.08	0.27	0.64
255	258	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.06	0.24	0.69
258	261	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.05	0.22	0.72
261	264	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.20	0.77
264	267	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.18	0.79
267	270	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.16	0.82
270	273	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.14	0.85
273	276	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.12	0.87
276	279	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.11	0.88
279	282	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.10	0.89
282	285	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.08	0.92
285	288	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.07	0.93
288	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.06	0.94
291	294	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.05	0.95
294	297	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.05	0.95
297	300	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.96
>=300		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00

Swordfish: Total catches estimated, in number of fish and weight, by area (1950-09)

Swordfish catches by area in number of fish						Swordfish catches by area in weight (tonnes)					
Year	NW	SW	NE	SE	Total	Year	NW	SW	NE	SE	Total
1950	1817		657		2474	1950	36		13		49
1951	1455		554		2009	1951	29		11		40
1952	1417		670	28	2115	1952	28		19	2	49
1953	1432		937	84	2453	1953	28		37	5	70
1954	1429	13	3204	203	4849	1954	31	1	176	12	219
1955	2903	201	2721	75	5900	1955	127	14	139	4	285
1956	5172	351	5162	553	11238	1956	286	20	279	34	618
1957	3421	343	4880	442	9087	1957	154	22	249	27	452
1958	3896	455	6482	1489	12322	1958	184	25	359	101	668
1959	4991	1212	4917	2892	14012	1959	271	60	256	185	772
1960	5143	1327	5426	3014	14910	1960	282	66	283	185	816
1961	5351	2272	6272	3238	17133	1961	312	115	343	202	973
1962	6845	4801	6750	2331	20728	1962	365	317	348	151	1180
1963	5847	3757	7034	3621	20258	1963	290	249	355	238	1131
1964	7828	6333	8054	2522	24737	1964	441	403	417	172	1433
1965	8079	3425	10969	4383	26857	1965	465	221	562	312	1561
1966	11417	4043	7345	2420	25225	1966	714	257	371	171	1512
1967	10462	4496	11994	3840	30792	1967	697	279	650	256	1882
1968	15830	3515	9627	3747	32718	1968	979	232	493	261	1966
1969	16972	6363	13530	1890	38755	1969	967	447	659	141	2214
1970	12920	9676	19120	7234	48949	1970	713	579	1033	418	2743
1971	15926	6021	13595	7066	42607	1971	852	239	671	425	2186
1972	18691	9190	12348	2004	42233	1972	812	480	605	128	2025
1973	8175	15213	7806	3546	34740	1973	420	668	357	208	1653
1974	11361	6762	11736	7215	37073	1974	591	451	587	454	2084
1975	13581	5741	22258	5386	46966	1975	557	380	1094	353	2384
1976	5545	8071	16373	4465	34453	1976	426	484	754	295	1959
1977	7421	5356	13582	3405	29765	1977	651	405	738	226	2020
1978	18231	5020	15136	6195	44583	1978	999	361	742	371	2473
1979	14756	12774	24235	6543	58308	1979	479	635	891	348	2353
1980	5439	7749	33784	4110	51082	1980	305	500	1428	277	2508
1981	10216	7453	25368	5579	48615	1981	676	377	1035	341	2430
1982	19928	11730	35737	2970	70366	1982	980	670	1404	225	3280
1983	17892	9037	41140	5020	73090	1983	800	660	1865	369	3694
1984	10955	11368	36442	4677	63442	1984	502	911	1769	331	3512
1985	18041	12061	42417	6836	79354	1985	811	1291	2108	295	4506
1986	37838	9482	43278	3969	94568	1986	2066	609	2326	141	5143
1987	37236	8729	64259	11670	121894	1987	2226	899	2488	433	6046
1988	89933	16507	75245	17983	199669	1988	4189	999	2627	678	8493
1989	49543	8207	115373	17052	190175	1989	2137	611	3916	542	7207
1990	44976	31578	70912	13335	160801	1990	2133	1723	3035	681	7571
1991	70537	19065	48785	7280	145667	1991	3934	1183	2456	525	8100
1992	59272	124137	55706	15623	254738	1992	3108	7550	2662	968	14289
1993	60656	152643	163991	21193	398483	1993	5506	13254	5536	1022	25318
1994	87237	171380	143186	29080	430884	1994	4861	11916	5909	1841	24527
1995	134875	331467	151135	45806	663283	1995	5843	16709	5234	2063	29849
1996	243759	218890	221833	89197	773680	1996	11944	9496	7644	4389	33473
1997	282994	127173	183103	74428	667698	1997	14091	5873	8126	4808	32898
1998	229528	193004	190419	61877	674828	1998	12293	10416	9123	3809	35642
1999	165396	181741	280792	76579	704507	1999	8705	8709	12292	3789	33495
2000	222876	248937	278837	82205	832855	2000	8928	10769	8626	4949	33272
2001	197184	148930	292311	136576	775001	2001	7891	8975	6531	6552	29949
2002	281106	133755	274881	108255	797997	2002	12241	7618	6242	5801	31902
2003	331363	70051	308466	154537	864416	2003	15074	4045	8767	8525	36411
2004	236297	118183	193429	171092	719000	2004	12232	6357	8545	10023	37157
2005	227625	183745	125559	103999	640928	2005	10893	9730	5253	5877	31753
2006	198671	171961	155864	79514	606010	2006	10280	8961	6567	4494	30302
2007	206269	156221	145901	101502	609895	2007	8711	7448	5620	5291	27070
2008	168553	126487	112278	65245	472564	2008	6623	6288	4526	3731	21169
2009	108112	128759	148344	64234	449450	2009	5058	6579	6079	3738	21453

APPENDIX IX

Marlins and Indo-Pacific sailfish

a. Regression equations used to convert from non-standard lengths into eye orbit to fork length

A/ Black Marlin (standard length is front eye orbit to fork of caudal fin)					
Type Measurement	Equation	Parameters	Sample size	Size range	Source
Cleithrum-Keel length					No equation available
Lower-jaw - fork length	$aL + b$	a= 0.8972 b= -4.6673	13	Min:119 Max:314	BRS (Ward, pers.com.) Eastern and western Australia (on IOTC-2005-WPTT-05)
Weight gilled and gutted	aW^b	a= 41.56681 b= 0.309442	24	Min:8.6 Max:279	PIFSC Administrative report: (Updated Weight-on-Length Relationships for Pelagic Fishes Caught in the Central North Pacific Ocean and Bottom fishes from the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands). With value of a (46.9705) divided by 1.13 to account for conversion of gilled-and-gutted weight into round weight
B/ Blue Marlin (standard length is front eye orbit to fork of caudal fin)					
Type Measurement	Equation	Parameters	Sample size	Size range	Source
Lower-jaw - fork length	$aL + b$	a= 0.9039 b= -7.248	26	Min:143 Max:295	BRS (Ward, pers.com.) Eastern and western Australia (on IOTC-2005-WPTT-05)
Weight gilled and gutted	aW^b	a= 46.0356637 b= 0.283377	154	Min:10 Max:381	PIFSC Administrative report: (Updated Weight-on-Length Relationships for Pelagic Fishes Caught in the Central North Pacific Ocean and Bottom fishes from the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands) Value of a (52.0203) divided by 1.13 to account for conversion of gilled-and-gutted weight into round weight
C/ Striped Marlin (standard length is front eye orbit to fork of caudal fin)					
Type Measurement	Equation	Parameters	Sample size	Size range	Source
Lower-jaw - fork length	$aL + b$	a= 1.334 b= 0.8395	443	Min: Max:	BRS (Ward, pers.com.) Eastern and western Australia (on IOTC-2005-WPTT-05)
Weight round	aW^b	a= 51.3506 b= 0.300417	1427	Min:7 Max:100	PIFSC Administrative report: (Updated Weight-on-Length Relationships for Pelagic Fishes Caught in the Central North Pacific Ocean and Bottom fishes from the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands)
Weight gilled and gutted	aW^b	a= 45.443009 b= 0.300417	1427	Min:7 Max:100	PIFSC Administrative report: (Updated Weight-on-Length Relationships for Pelagic Fishes Caught in the Central North Pacific Ocean and Bottom fishes from the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands) Value of a (51.3506) divided by 1.13 to account for conversion of gilled-and-gutted weight into round weight
D/ Indo-Pacific sailfish (standard length is front eye orbit to fork of caudal fin)					
Type Measurement	Equation	Parameters	Sample size	Size range	Source
Cleithrum-Keel length					No equation available
Lower-jaw - fork length	$\frac{(L+b)}{a}$	a= 0.8845 b= -3.7025	1166	Min:78 Max:232	Wei-Chuan Chiang et al. , 2004; inverted EFL-FL equation (Male plus Female sexes pooled)
Weight gilled and gutted	aW^b	a= 45.5076 b= 0.347166	35	Min:5 Max:38	PIFSC Administrative report: (Updated Weight-on-Length Relationships for Pelagic Fishes Caught in the Central North Pacific Ocean and Bottom fishes from the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands) Value of a (51.4235) divided by 1.13 to account for conversion of gilled-and-gutted weight into round weight