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Theme: Special Sessions

Session: ThG3 - Capacity

Title: **Technological Changes and their Impact on Fishing Capacity - A Case Study of the Hawaii-based Longline Fisheries**

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Abstract: Fisheries regulations on fishing capacity are usually based on a nominal measurement such as limiting number of vessels of a fleet. However, the nominal measurement of fishing capacity has difficulty in capturing the actual fishing power enhanced by technological changes and potentially leads to biased measures on fishing capacity and fisheries performance. This study identified and quantified the important variables in determining effective fishing capacity (fishing power) through an empirical study that examined fishing technological changes and their impact on the Hawaii-based longline fishery in the past 20 years. The study also explored questions including 1) what are the key determinants of technology adoption in the fishery; 2) to what extent does technology play a more important role than human capital, such as fishing experience, in the fishing production process; and 3) does technology play a significant role in dealing with uncertainties in the fishery?