

Ontogenetic variations and feeding habits of Blue shark (*Prionace glauca*) of west coast in Baja California Sur, Mexico

The Blue shark (*Prionace glauca*) is a cosmopolitan and pelagic organism which is usually found at open water in tropical and temperate zones. This shark have a high reproduction rate, late sexual maturity and long gestation period.

In addition, they had a migratory pattern around the ocean which is associated with an active searching of preys and reproduction.

At Mexican Pacific, this shark is highly captured during artisanal and industrial fisheries, because of that, is considered as "Near Threatened" by the IUCN Red List, because them population is decreasing over the world.

Aim

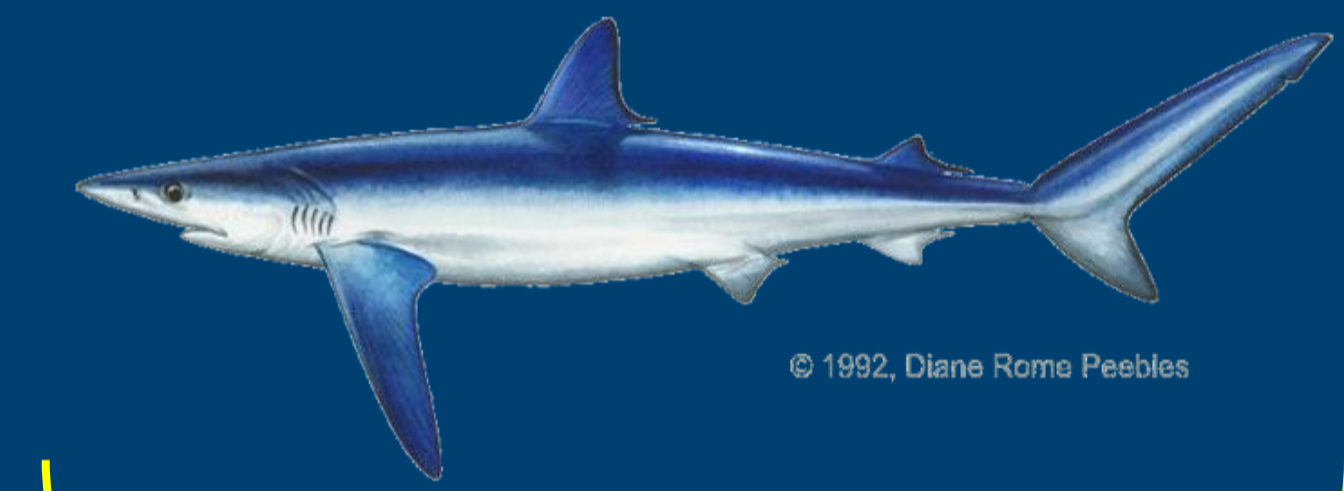
The objective of this Project is to do a comparison about feeding ontogenetic between sexes and stadium, and in different catching year between 2004 and 2016, using samples of muscles and vertebrae of blue sharks organisms with stable isotopes analyses.

Materials and methods

Samples were taken from different fisheries port around Pacific Ocean at west Baja California Sur, México, since 2004 to 2016.



For each organism sampled were taken information about total length to estimate age, and sex using maturity of gonopterygium.



Total Length

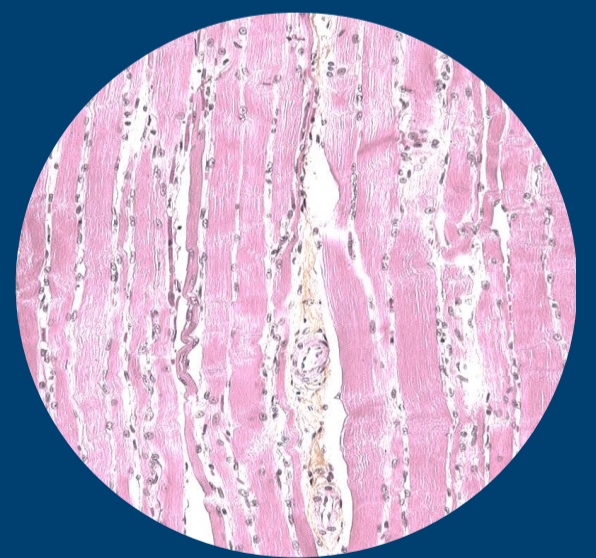
Stable isotopes analyses

Vertebrae



- Cut of a tissue sample
- Lyophilization of the fragment
- Homogenization
- Stable isotope analyses in a mass spectrometer of isotopic ratios

Muscles



Other analyses

- Trophic level of blue shark using stable isotopes analyses
- Statistic analyses to compare between ages, sexes and catching year groups.

