

Risk assessment and distribution research of radionuclide Cs-134 for typical fishing ground in the North Pacific Ocean

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Abstract. Using typical fish samples collected in the north Pacific on 2011 to 2012, adopting High Purity Germanium (High Purity Germanium) passive scale efficiency detect gamma spectrometer, radioactive nuclide ¹³⁴Cs was detected in all samples. Using classification and sub-organs and other treatment methods to compare and analyses, we found that in 2011, the highest ¹³⁴Cs nuclide content is in the 155°5′E, 42 ° 10′ N stance, as high as 4.925 Bq·kg⁻¹; the lowest in 39 ° 51 '132 ° 44′ E, N the waters of the sea, nuclide specific activity value does not exceed the bottom level. In the North Pacific ocean, the ¹³⁴Cs 's overall radionuclide content from south to north was decreasing. In 2012, the highest ¹³⁴Cs nuclide content is in 58 ′E, 43 ° 155 ° 34′ N, 0.159 Bq·kg⁻¹; the lowest in 131 ° 47 ′E, 36 ° 50′ N in sea waters position , the nuclide content in the high seas ¹³⁴Cs showed a trend of increased distribution from west to east. From content distribution of two different tissues of the Neon flying squid, visceral is the highest enrichment of nuclide 134Cs and the head is lowest. According to the estimation results, the ¹³⁴Cs Radionuclide concentrations and radiation increment now in the north Pacific are within an environmental safety concentration limits.

Introduction

The fishery resources of North Pacific Ocean in 37° N~46° N, 140° N~160° W is very abundant, especially the small-sized fishes of upper-middle fishery, which is an important place of origin of the world pelagic fishery. Currently, our country is carrying out commercial fishery productions in North Pacific Ocean, such as squid fishing, stick-held net, light-purse seine etc [1, 2]. The Ommastrephe bartramii is rich in this area, and distributed in the Pacific Ocean Kuroshio Current and Oyashio current intersection mixed zone and the mixed water eastward of the subarctic oceanic front mixed zone, which is one of the most main varieties of the high seas fishing in our country [3, 4, 5]. In March 2011, Tsunami in Japan on the Pacific Coast has caused Fukushima nuclear leakage and large amount of radioactive releases have ran into the environment. After radioactive nuclide have ran into the marine environment through the way as atmospheric deposition and water migration, the interconnected ocean water and fishery organisms will be polluted, and finally a certain degree of radiation effects will caused on the environment and the creatures. Marine creatures will not only absorb and accumulate radioactive substances, and could also take pollutant into nonpolluting sea areas by the way of migration and drift, which will become radioactive pollutant carriers and communicators. Therefore, contaminated waters impacts on marine creatures is hard to estimate[6,7,8]. Cesium-134, nuclide symbol as ¹³⁴Cs, which is a kind of cesium isotopes, has strong radioactivity and 2 years half-time period. Cs-134 is mainly comes from nuclear power plants liquid and gaseous effluent, treatment plant waste gas and discharging of wastewater, nuclear accident release near the ground, radioactive nuclear fission products, and high energy electron accelerator induced radionuclides, which will have effects on organisms when reach to a certain dosage[9,10].

By detecting the nuclear radiation content in marine organisms and further to estimate the radiation dosage content that human have received through the food chain transmission, so as to learn marine creatures concentration ability and regularity of different radiation is of great significance to estimate the biological radiation dosage rate and protect the health of ecological system[11].Domestic research on Fukushima accident radiation research and testing works is mainly focused on the safety of offshore aquatic products of china. At present our country to Japan Fukushima nuclear leakage radioactive influence on North Pacific high seas marine creatures is less reported, although some has reported [12], they are mainly aiming at the radionuclide content in the water. This research is mainly aiming at the ¹³⁴Cs enrichment and distribution levels on major fishery organisms in the North Pacific high seas, so as to make up this vacancy and to supplement the subsequent impacts of Fukushima nuclear leakage accident and in order to know the effects of radiation on main fishing grounds of North Pacific high seas, finally to provide technical supervision and guarantee on pelagic fishery production for our country.

Material and Method

Sampling Method

The sampling areas are mainly distributed in the North Pacific high seas of the traditional Squid fishing grounds. The main sampling range is $150 \sim 160^{\circ}$ E, $39 \sim 45^{\circ}$ N, in addition there are sites in Central-South Japan sea, the main sampling objects are soft fishes and other marine creatures, at the same time we have measured the biological relevant body length, weight of the samples ; And frozen it come back to laboratory for further processing and testing. The figure 1 is sampling area, including sampling sites in 2011 and 2012 respectively and the main research object - squid fish.



Fig.1 Distribution position of investigation and main research object

Pretreatment Method and Detection

 $(1)^{134}$ Cs activity determination in biological samples

The nuclide testing instruments are High Purity Germanium (High Purity Germanium, HPGe) passive scale efficiency detect gamma spectrometer made by American CANBERRA Company. IAEA-414 standard [14] taken as the standard reference for radioactive nuclide's measurement accuracy. Samples are putted into the γ spectrometer measuring bottle after weighed and made into the same shape of standard source, the activity concentration calculation formula is[15]:

 $A = as \cdot W \cdot r / [\varepsilon(E) \cdot P \cdot m]$

(2)The risk evaluation method

Taking entropy value method [16] as an evaluation of the risk of Fukushima nuclear accident for marine organisms, that is to use obtained radioactive nuclide content of detected marine organisms to evaluate or to compare the entropy value of radiation dosage rate with standard rate, and if the result is more than 1, there is the risk, if less than 1, none. ERICA is a set of software program with build-in database which is developed form Java, and users can make layered evaluation of environmental risk



with this tool.

Results and Analysis

The Geographical Distribution of ¹³⁴Cs Nuclide in Fishing Grounds

The distribution of ¹³⁴Cs nuclide in detected sites is shown in picture 2. In 2011,the highest ¹³⁴Cs nuclide content is in sites of 155°5′E, 42°10′N, reaching to $4.93Bq\cdot kg^{-1}$; and the lowest is in 132°44′E, 39°51′N of Japan sea, where the nuclide specific activity is in the bottom level. In 2012,the highest ¹³⁴Cs nuclide content is in sites of 155°58′E,43°34′N, reaching to 0.89 Bq·kg⁻¹; and the lowest is still in 131°47′E ,36°50′N of Japan sea, the content of ¹³⁴Cs nuclide appears an increased distribution trend from east to west in North Pacific high seas.





Equalizing ¹³⁴Cs content in all detected and the same kind of marine organisms and let that value as the distribution value of it. The highest value is in sharks, reaching to 0.92 Bq·kg⁻¹; then followed *Coryphaena hippurus*, *Cololabis saira Brevoort*, *Ommastrephe bartramii*, and *Moerella iridescens*, the lowest is in *Todarodes pacificus* on Japan sea, which is as same as the bottom level. But basically the nuclide content of ¹³⁴Cs in almost every marine organism has reduced, among them the highest was in *Coryphaena hippurus*, reaching to 0.41Bq·kg⁻¹, and the next is *Cololabis saira Brevoort*, *Ommastrephe bartramii* and sharks, the lowest was still in *Todarodes pacificus* in Japan sea.





In 2011, among the different kind of soft fishes, the highest ¹³⁴Cs nuclide content was in 250~300mm group , reaching to 0.67 Bq·kg⁻¹ ; and the lowest was in 150~200mm group , only 0.17 Bq·kg⁻¹. In 2012, the highest ¹³⁴Cs nuclide content was in 300~350mm group, reaching to 0.71 Bq·kg⁻¹ ; And the lowest was in >400mm group, only 0.13 Bq·kg⁻¹. As shown in figure 4 below, there is no obvious linear increase or decline with the rising body length of ¹³⁴Cs nuclide's distribution.





Fig.4 ¹³⁴Cs nuclide content distribution of different individual characteristics

 134 Cs nuclide content in specific parts of soft fishes is shown in picture 6.In 2011, the highest was in kidney, reaching to 0.70 Bq·kg⁻¹, the next was fin, trunk, head. In 2012, the highest was also in kidney, reaching to 0.80 Bq·kg⁻¹, the next was trunk, head, fin. From the content distribution of different organic parts of soft fishes in two years, the highest ¹³⁴Cs content tissues of viscera is kidney, and the head have more lower nuclide content.



Fig.5¹³⁴Cs nuclide content distribution of in different tissues of squid

Risk Assessment of Nuclide in Fishing Ground

Setting $100Bg \cdot kg^{-1}$ as reference value which is based on the radioactive nuclide content in marine organism in the table ,the radioactive nuclide content of ^{134}Cs in every detected marine organism of each sites in North Pacific high seas fishing ground is less than 1 (100%) compared with the entropy of reference value, especially the entropy value has dropped close to parts per million in 2012,it means that the detected ^{134}Cs content in mainly fishery organism of North Pacific high seas was not exceeded reference value in the consecutive two years, and have been decreasing year by year ,also much less than reference value, so it means that this nuclide basically does not have risk in this sea area at present.

Biota	External Dose Rate (mGy·h ⁻¹)	Internal Dose Rate (mGy·h ⁻¹)	Total Dose Rate (mGy·h ⁻¹)
Pelagic fish	6.24E-06	1.63E-05	1.19E-04
Benthic fish	5.56E-06	3.06E-04	2.22E-04
Phytoplankton	2.34E-06	1.24E-06	1.39E-04
Zooplankton	1.11E-05	6.30E-06	2.16E-04
Crustaceans	9.66E-06	9.34E-06	3.06E-04
Benthic mollusks	1.88E-06	1.13E-05	1.96E-04
Polychaete worms	3.21E-06	2.33E-06	1.12E-03
Reptiles	1.32E-05	3.11E-05	3.24E-04
Sea anemones or true corals -colony	3.23E-05	1.22E-05	3.59E-04
Sea anemones or true corals-polyp	9.78E-05	1.62E-05	1.27E-04
Mammals	1.23E-05	3.86E-05	3.34E-04
Macroalgae	6.55E-04	1.36E-05	3.33E-04

Tab. 1 Results of total radiation dose rate for ERICA tools ¹³⁴Cs 2 level evaluations

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