Estimating post-release mortality and capture stress of blacktip sharks in the Gulf of Mexico recreational fishery

John Mohan

SEDAR65-DW21

12/6/19



This information is distributed solely for the purpose of pre-dissemination peer review. It does not represent and should not be construed to represent any agency determination or policy.

Please cite this document as:

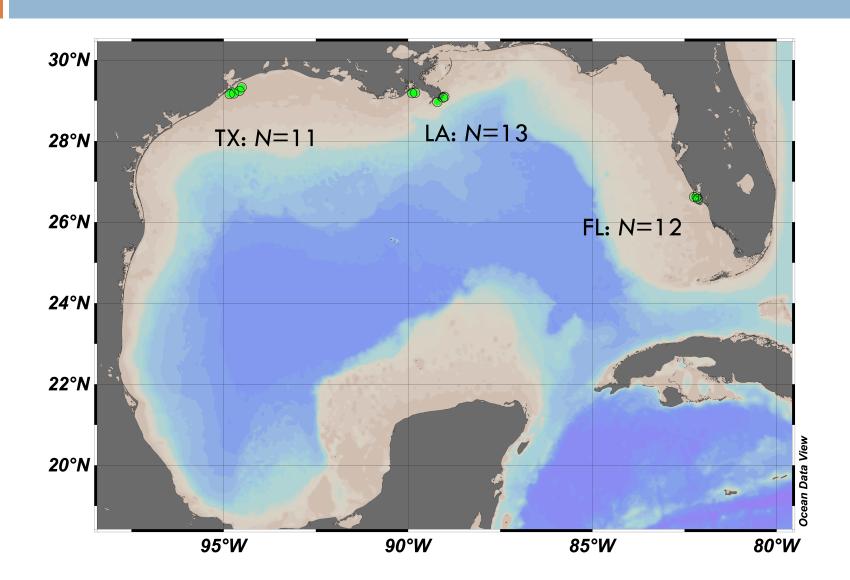
Mohan, John. 2019. Estimating post-release mortality and capture stress of blacktip sharks in the Gulf of Mexico recreational fishery. SEDAR65-DW21. SEDAR, North Charleston, SC. 21 pp.

ESTIMATING POST-RELEASE MORTALITY AND CAPTURE STRESS OF BLACKTIP SHARKS IN THE GULF OF MEXICO RECREATIONAL FISHERY

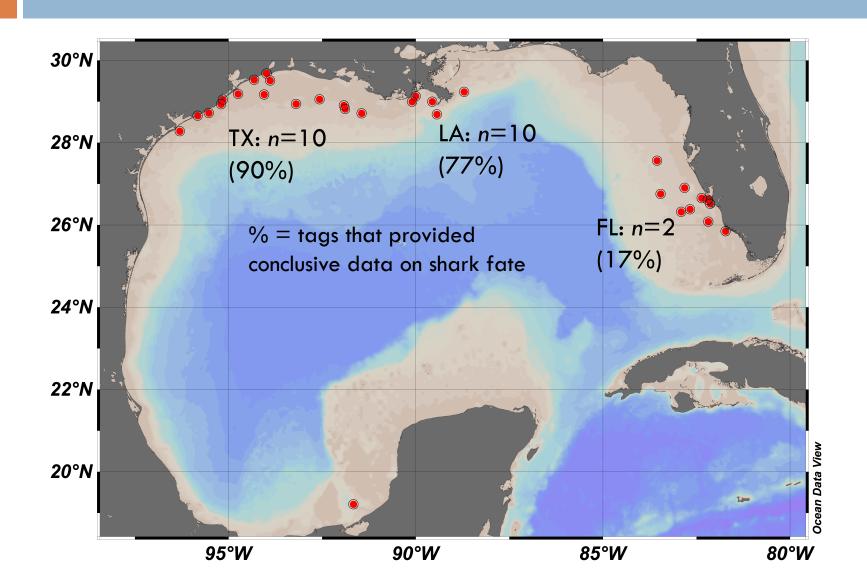
John Mohan

Assistant Research Scientist
Texas A&M University at Galveston
jmohan@tamu.edu

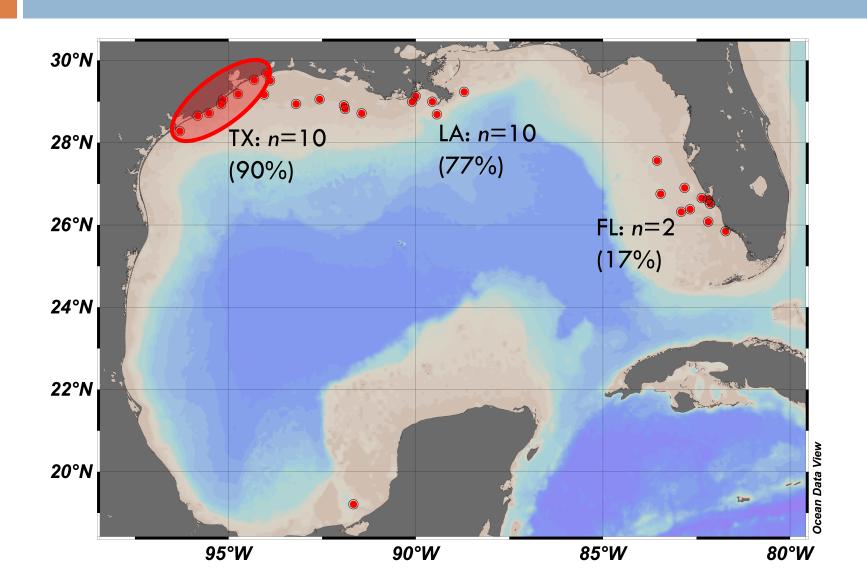
Tag deployment



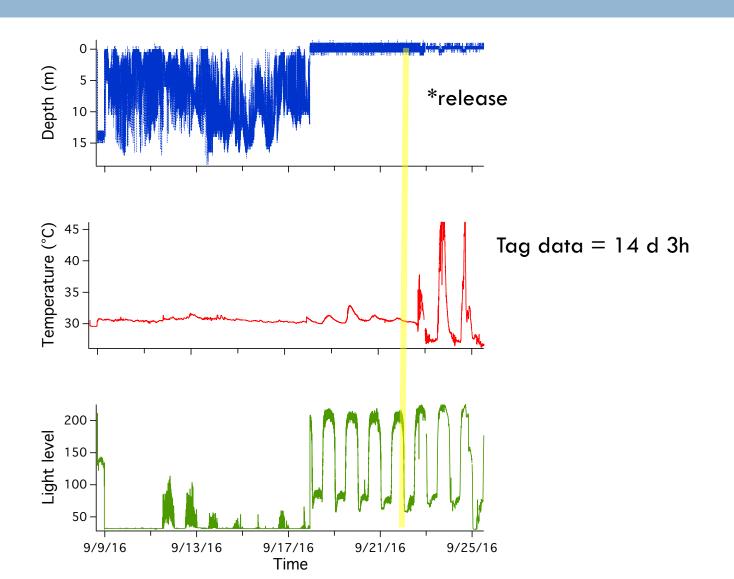
Tag release (first transmission)



Tag release (first transmission)

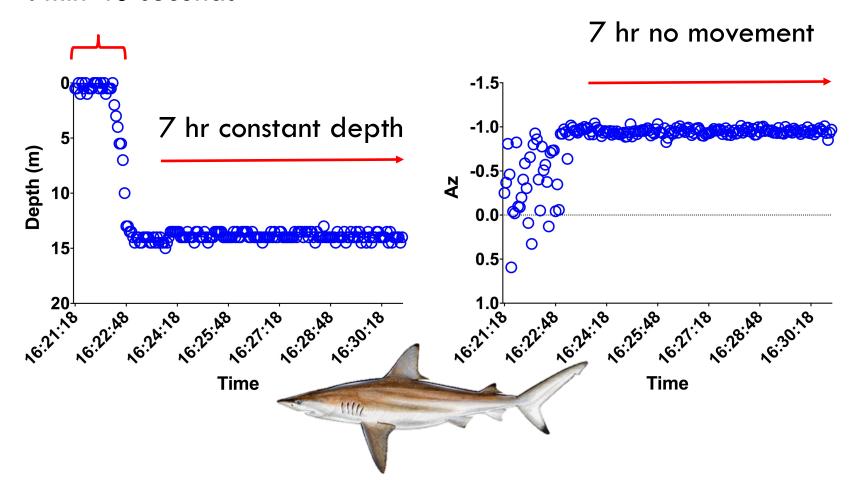


TX08 – female in poor condition



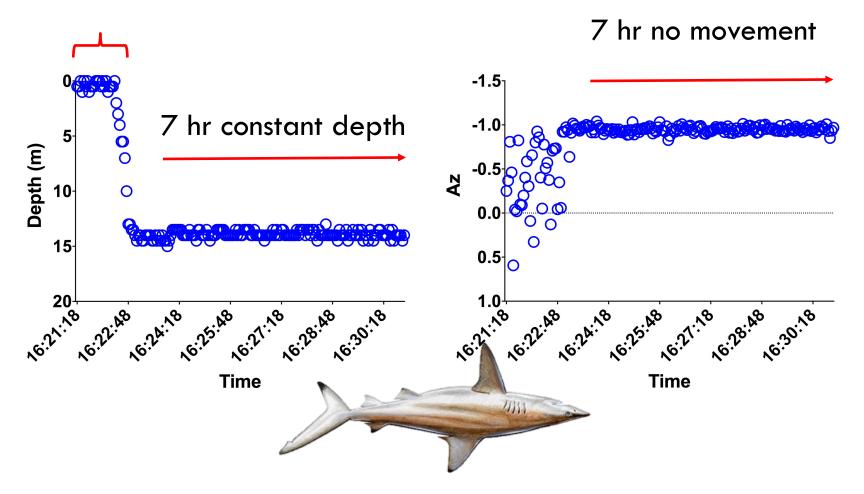
TX08 – (first 9 min)

I min 40 seconds

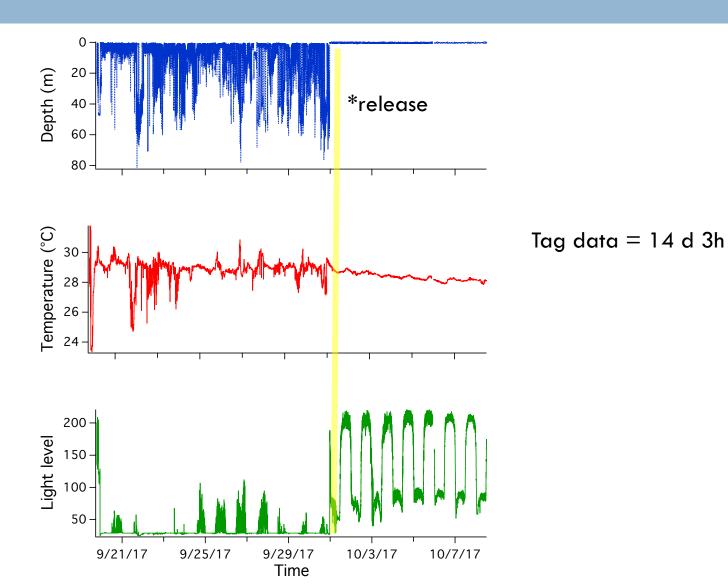


TX08 – (first 9 min)

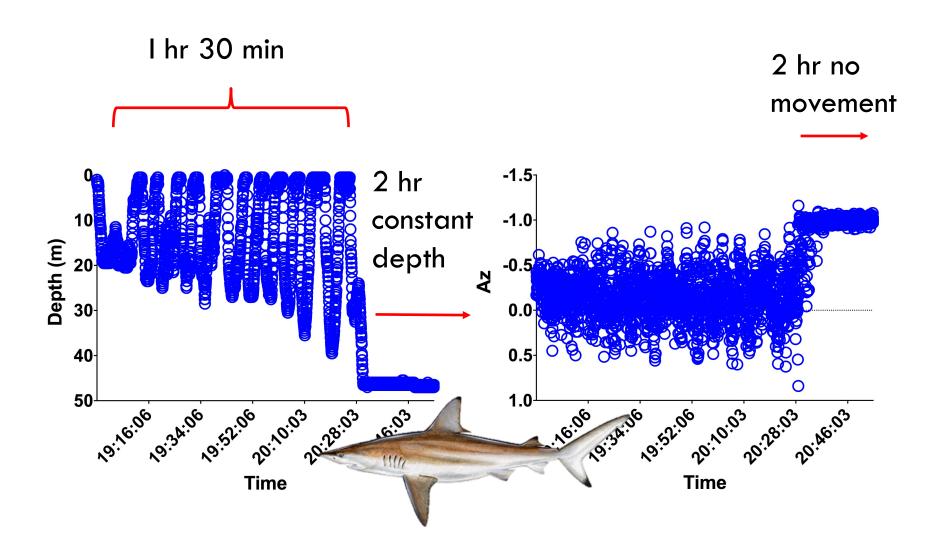
I min 40 seconds



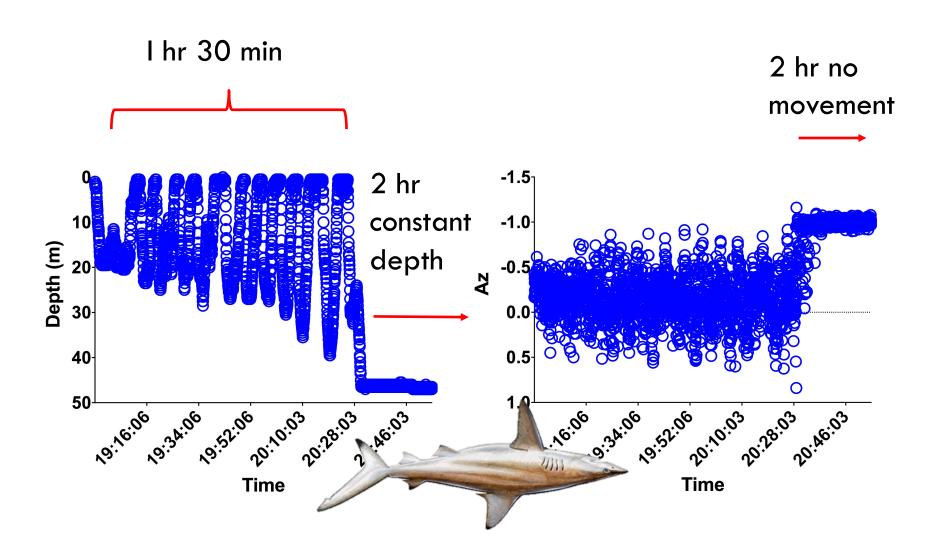
LA22 - female in fair condition



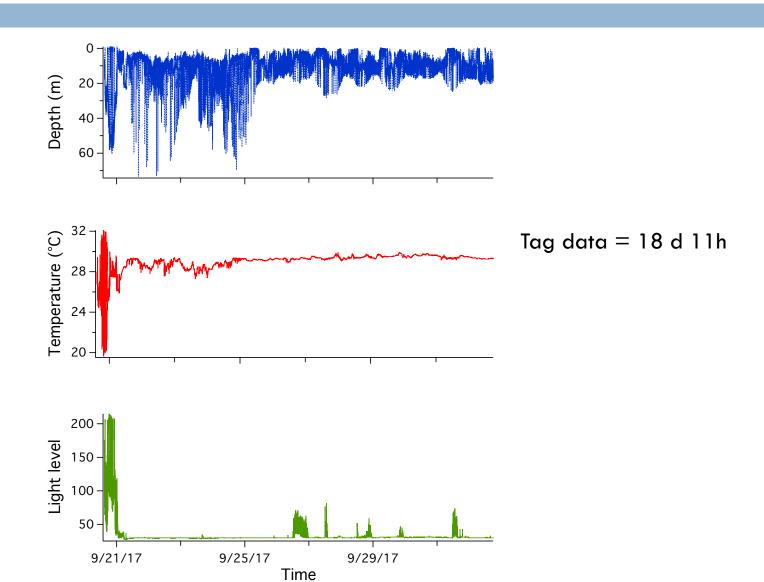
LA22 - (first 2 hr)



LA22 - (first 2 hr)

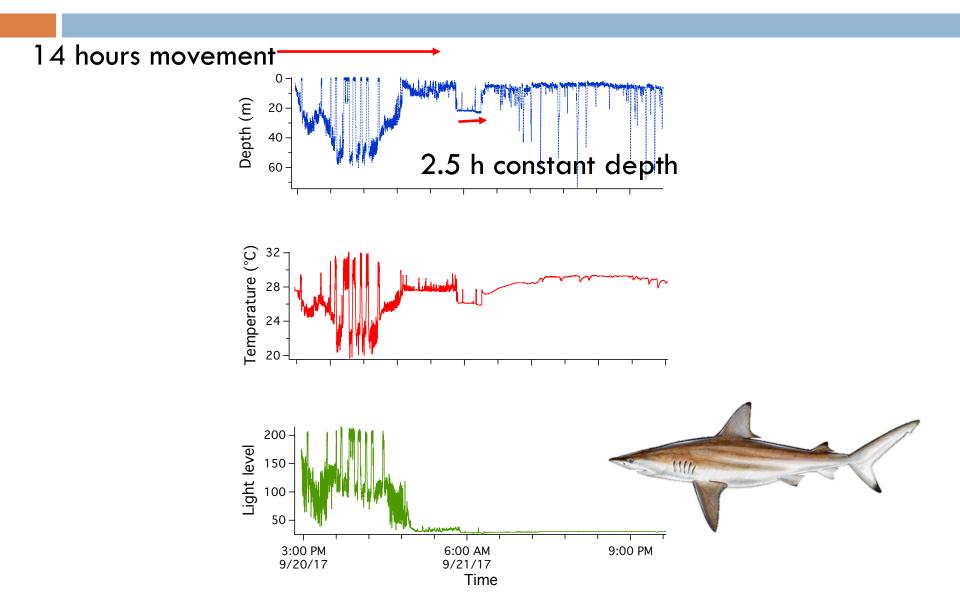


LA27 – female in fair condition

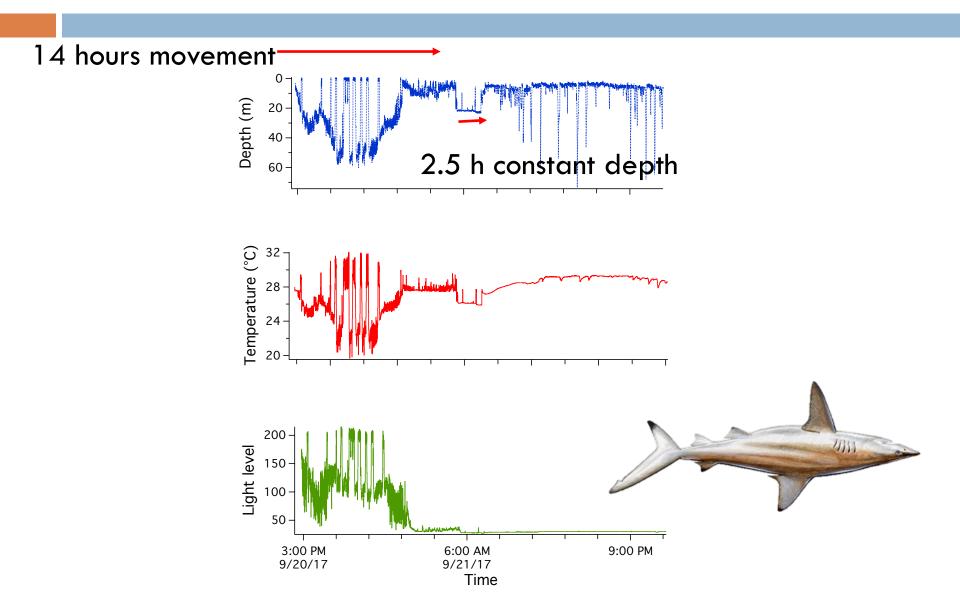


sPAT survivorship tag

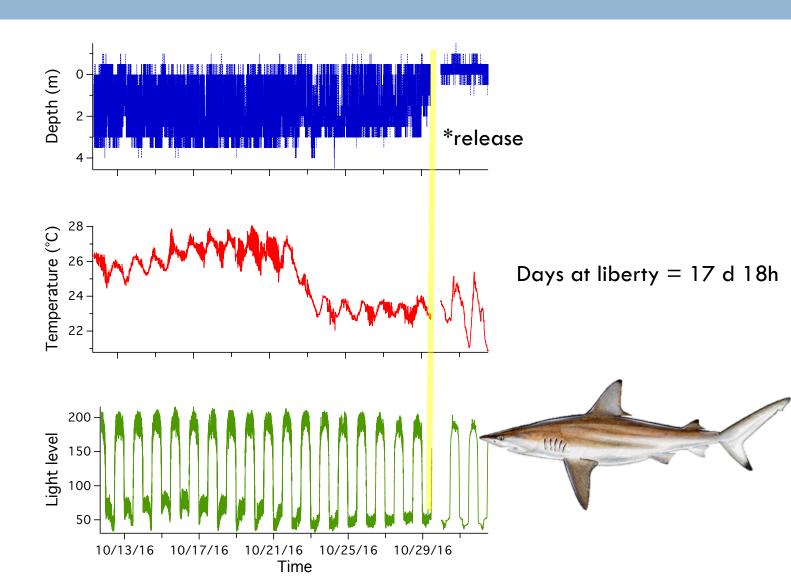
LA27 – first 36 hours



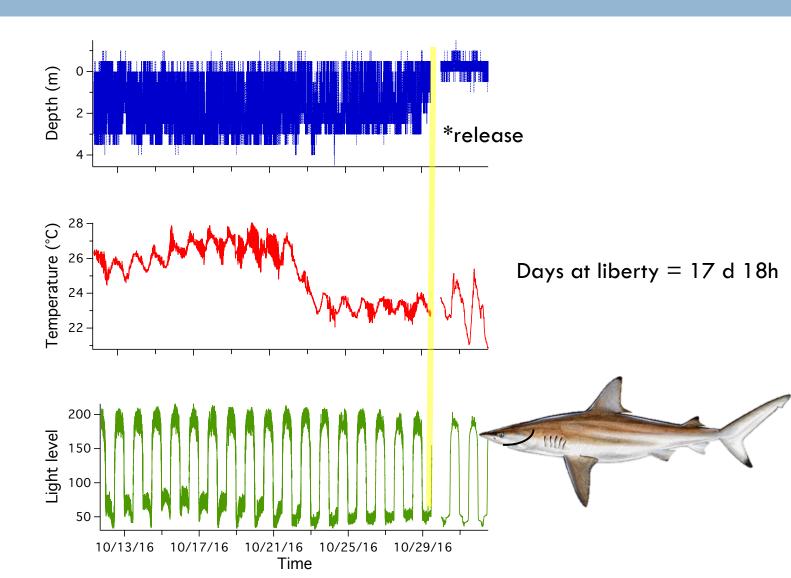
LA27 – first 36 hours



FL08 female in good condition



FL08 female in good condition



Post-release summary

- 36 tags deployed; 14 tags no data/ unclear data
 - 9 tags recovered high resolution archived datasets
- \square 5 mortalities = 5 ingested tags, 17 survivors
 - Immediate mortality occurred 22 s to 1.5 m post-release
 - Delayed mortality occurred 1.5 14 h post-release
- Region specific mortality rates
 - \blacksquare TX: 3/10 sharks = 30%
 - **LA:** 2/10 sharks = 20%
 - □ FL: 0/2 sharks = 0%
- Post-release mortality rate of 23% (5 of 22) for blacktips in recreational charter fisheries

Why regional differences?

Louisiana: net landing

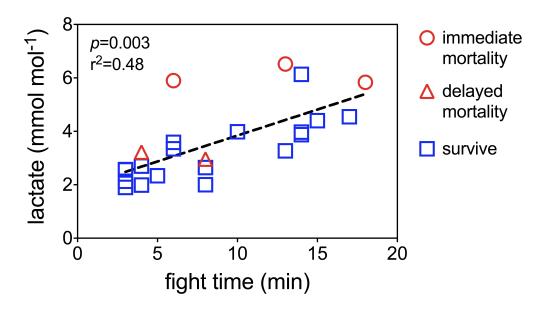


Texas: head rope landing = gill damage?

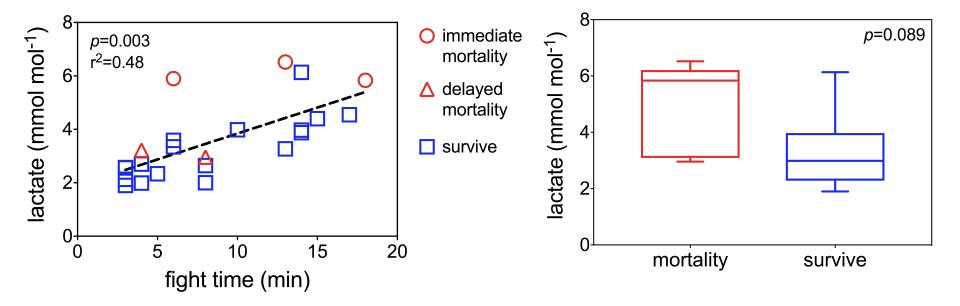


Florida:
water clarity?
predator density? tag style?

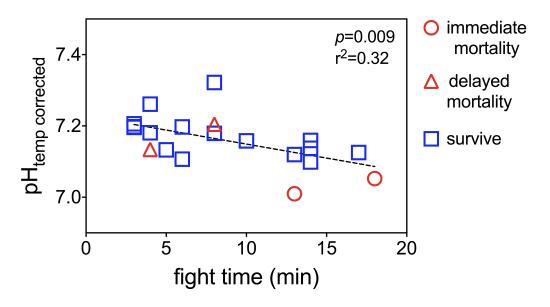
Blood chemistry – lactate



Blood chemistry – lactate

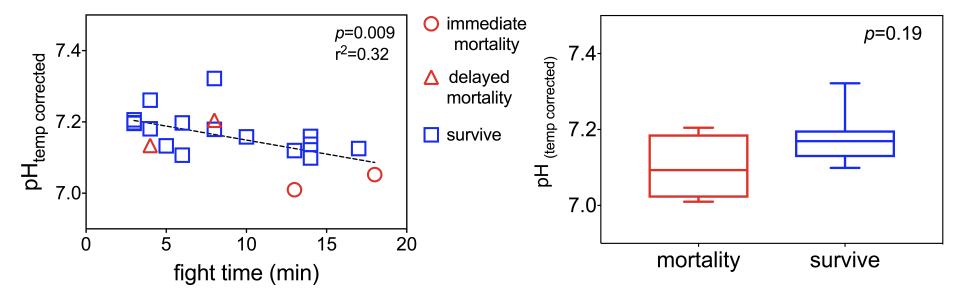


Blood chemistry – pH



*pH unavailable for 1 mortality

Blood chemistry – pH



No significant difference in blood chemistry between survivors and mortalities