# **Comparison of Wideband vs Narrowband Acoustic Approach to Target Strength Value on Bullet Tuna** (**Auxis rochei**) and Bonito (Euthynnus affinis)

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Target strength (TS) is one of the main parameters for determining fish density, abundance and biomass in acoustic technique. Therefore, it is of utmost importance to obtain an accurate TS estimate and to minimize bias from its measurement. Various factors contribute to bias in acoustic TS, namely the high diversity of species, body shape, size and also frequencies used. In this paper we compare and examine the acoustic narrowband (NB) and wideband (WB) approaches to better understand the TS response to various frequencies. The use of acoustic wideband approach, is expected to perform better and be less-biased than the narrowband, which is still widely used. The measurement of bullet tuna (*Auxis rochei*) and bonito (*Euthynnus affinis*) for the same fork length (*FL*) size showed the power of four frequencies of 190 - 200 kHz and 200 - 210 kHz showed a significant Pearson correlation value for bonito fish size range from 17 - 26.6 cm, whereas in the case of bullet tuna, fish had no significant correlation at  $\alpha = 0.05$  for fish size range from 16.4 - 26 cm.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The embodiment of sustainable fisheries management where exploitation levels are balanced with the rate of recovery and growth of fish resources requires adequate information support on the condition or status of fish stock resources. Goddard and Welsby indicated that one of the key pieces of information that needs to be known in determining a realistic, measurable, and objective evaluation of fisheries management measures is the initial description of the fish stock condition that serves as the starting point of reference.<sup>1</sup> Given this starting point of reference, the effectiveness of management actions that have been and will be taken can be determined with a high level of confidence. Various efforts have been made to provide the aforementioned data and information by conducting surveys of fish stocks using the acoustic technique (Johanesson and Mitson)<sup>2</sup> and catch sampling (Harbitz, et al.),<sup>3</sup> as well as recording catch data at ports (FAO/SEAFDEC).4

Simmonds and MacLennan have found that accuracy and confidence of the acoustic technique estimate of fish stock assessment are strongly dependent on the accuracy of measured values of fish acoustic target strength (TS).<sup>5</sup> This is very important because TS is the main parameter for determining fish density, abundance and biomass in acoustic technique applications.

Traditionally, NB echosounders, transmitting singlefrequency sinusoidal pulses, also referred to as continuous wave (CW) tones, have been extensively used for fisheries research over four and a half decades (Holliday, Foote, et al., Komeliussen and Ona, Scoulding, et al.).<sup>6-9</sup>

However, there has been a recent emergence of WB acoustic backscattering systems transmitting frequency modulated (FM) signals, typically linearly-frequency modulated signals, or chirps, for characterizing fish and other marine organisms (Foote, et al. and Stanton, et al.).<sup>10,11</sup> The promising success of this WB system was built on a wide history of laboratory based WB and in situ measurements (Holliday, Simmond and Amstrong, Stanton, et al., Thompson and Love, Zakharia, et al.).<sup>6,12–15</sup>

The WB system enables measurements of backscattering acoustics to be measured continuously within the range of the frequency range, thereby increasing the amount of information available for target spectral characterization, as compared to the NB technique, which measures acoustic backscatter at discrete frequencies.

Lavery, et al. explained the term WB refers to systems that use FM transmit signals and hardware capable of transmitting and receiving over a wide range of frequencies.<sup>16</sup> WB transducers usually increase in line with the frequency of the used transducer. The term WB refers to a system that combines multiple transducers, each with different WB or NB signals and capabilities, to span a range of frequencies larger than that which can be achieved with a single transducer. The improvements associated with WB signal processing techniques cannot be achieved from a collection of NB signals. The goal of this study is to examine the acoustic WB approach to better understand the *TS* response to various frequencies. This is the W. Setiawan, et al.: COMPARISON OF WIDEBAND VS NARROWBAND ACOUSTIC APPROACH TO TARGET STRENGTH VALUE...



Figure 1. Lift net floating platform and location of the field measurements.



Figure 2. (a) Measurement of TS fish by tethered method. (b) An example of the measurement echogram of TS bullet tuna, the target fish clearly visible apart with the ballast (ca. 0.5 kg marble stone) and other objects.

initial attempt to produce fingerprints (signature) of the target fish studied, in this case bullet tuna (Auxis rochei) and bonito (Euthynnus affinis) to enhance targets identification.

## 2. RESEARCH METHODS

Acoustic TS measurements on bullet tuna (Auxis rochei) and bonito (Euthynnus affinis) with NB and WB approaches were conducted using a lift net floating platform (Fig. 1) in Palabuhanratu Bay waters in September 2017.

A scientific echo sounder Simrad EK 80 with 200 kHz split beam transducer, sphere ball (target standard) type tungsten carbide (WC) diameter 38.1 mm, CTD SBE 19 plus for measuring temperature and salinity were used during the acoustic TS measurement. Prior to performing the TS measurement activity, the acoustic system was first calibrated using the sphere ball that was placed at a depth of 4.5 m from the surface of the transducer. The parameter settings used during calibration were: single frequency CW 200 kHz; frequency of WB FM 160 - 240 kHz; pulse duration 0.512 ms; transmit power 150 W; water speed sound 1542 m/s; absorption coefficient 82.9 dB/km; temperature 29.3°C; salinity 32.70 ppt; pH 8.1; and SV (scattering volume) and TS threshold of -60 dB and was used at the time of acquisition of the TS value of each

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Table 1. Size range of fish samples used in the measurement.

No	Fish sample	Fork length	Eich comple	Fork length
NO.		(FL), cm	Fish sample	(FL), cm
1	Bt 01	16.4	Bo 01	17
2	Bt 02	17.5	Bo 02	18
3	Bt 03	17.6	Bo 03	18.5
4	Bt 04	19.5	Bo 04	20
5	Bt 05	19.5	Bo 05	20.5
6	Bt 06	20.4	Bo 06	22
7	Bt 07	20.6	Bo 07	25.5
8	Bt 08	20.7	Bo 08	25.5
9	Bt 09	21	Bo 09	26
10	Bt 10	25.6	Bo 10	26.5
11	Bt 11	26		

individual fish. Water temperature and salinity measurements were performed with SBE 19 plus to obtain the speed of sound. Fish used in the study were 11 samples of dead bullet tuna (Auxis rochei) (Bt) and 10 samples of dead bonito (Euthynnus affinis) (Bo) as shown in Table 1. In this study we used dead fish, but in a previous study it was stated that the live fish TSvalue did not have a significant difference from dead fish value for torpedo scad (Megalaspis cordyla) for in situ measurement (Setiawan, et al.).<sup>17</sup>

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Figure 3. Flow chart acoustic data acquisition.

# 3. METHODS AND DATA ANALYSIS

#### **3.1. Measurement of** TS Value

Measurements of acoustic TS of fish were conducted using tethered techniques, where each fish was positioned horizontally and suspended from on a monofilament strings-woven net (see Fig. 2). Each individual fish was insonified with an acoustic pulse, where the transducer was placed over a hanging fish sample so that the target (fish) was in the acoustic beam area (Simmond and MacLenan).<sup>5</sup> The echo sounder parameter settings used at the time of acquisition must conform to the setting of parameters at calibration time. The TS measurements for each fish samples were taken over approximately one hour with the transmission of data for one frequency treatment of about 5-8 minutes. Data collection was carried out during the day, between 08:00 am to 05:00 pm under calm to small waves weather conditions. Data acquisition flow chart is shown in Fig. 3.

#### 3.2. Data Analysis

The acoustic data were extracted using SONAR 5-pro software. The extraction results were presented as TS values in decibels (dB). The TS value of each individual fish measured by acoustics consisted of many variations of TS values that spread within a certain range, but generally were spread normally and had a certain mode value.

The TS value was defined as:

$$TS = 10\log_{10}(\sigma_{bs});\tag{1}$$

where  $\sigma_{bs}$  was a measured backscattering cross section from a single target. The linear TS measurements were used to compute mean TS,

Mean 
$$TS = 10 \log_{10} \left( \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} 10^{TSi_i/10} \right);$$
 (2)

where N was the number of pings data collection for one fish.

## 3.3. *TS* Value of Each Individual Fish and Sphere Ball Calibration

The amount of data used to obtain the average TS value of a single individual fish was the TS data in the range of  $\pm 3$  dB from the peak value of the mode class. The TS was a backscattering cross section ( $\sigma_{bs}$ ) of the returned target signal, the relationship between TS and  $\sigma_{bs}$  was expressed as in Eq. (1) and the average as in Eq. (2). The average TS value was assumed to be the TS value of each individual fish. Calculation of the TS fish was treated with measurement with a different type of signal used, for a single frequency (CW) 200 kHz frequency was used, while for signal WB (FM) using the frequency of 160 - 240 kHz with the sorting of frequency interval every 10 kHz. WC 38.1 mm ball sphere TS value modeling is shown in Fig. 4.

#### 4. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

#### 4.1. Target Strength Value

The TS measurements were performed on 21 fishes of the *Scombridae* family, consisting of 11 samples of bullet tuna (*Auxis rochei*) that ranged from 16.4 - 26 cm in length and 10 samples of bonito (*Euthynnus affinis*) of 17 - 26.5 cm in size measured in whole circumstances deceased condition (Table 2). However, the only thing that will be discussed in this paper is the shift of the TS values of two different fish species but with the same fork length of 26 cm (sample numbers 11 and 09 in Table 1)

The TS calculation values of both samples were treated with 9 different frequency band signals, as follows: 1) Single frequency 200 kHz; 2) FM frequency 160 - 170 kHz; 3) FM frequency 170 - 180 kHz; 4) FM frequency 180 - 190 kHz; 5) FM frequency 190 - 200 kHz; 6) FM frequency 200 -210 kHz; 7) FM frequency 210 - 220 kHz; 8) FM frequency 220 - 230 kHz; and 9) FM frequency 230 - 240 kHz. The TS values of each treatment were compared with the TS values obtained from the tungsten carbide sphere of 38.1 mm calibration results as shown in Table 2. The purpose of calibration using spheres was to obtain absolute TS values that can be used for comparison against other measurements (Simmond and MacLenan).<sup>5</sup> Samples of FL = 26 cm bullet tuna (Auxis rochei) had  $TS_{\text{max}} = -43.17 \text{ dB}$  value at FM 170 - 180 kHzand  $TS_{\min} = -47.97$  at FM 230 - 240 kHz frequency signal. The sample of bonito (Euthynnus affinis), for the same size showed  $TS_{\text{max}} = -32.59 \text{ dB}$  value at FM 220 - 230 kHzand  $TS_{\min} = -51.49$  dB. For sphere it was  $TS_{\max}$  value -38.89 dB at the single frequency 200 kHz and  $TS_{min}$  -60.83



Figure 4. Comparison of TS as a function of frequency based on (a) Sphere 38.1 ball model TS measurement by NOAA (source: https://swfscdata.nmfs.noaa.gov/AST/SphereTS/); and (b) Sphere 38.1 ball TS measurements carried out by ICES in research report # 336 April 2017 using Simrad EK-80.

Table 2.	Mean	value	of $TS$	samples	of $FL$	=	26 cn	ı and	tungsten	carbide
38.1 mm	with 9	treatn	nents.							

Frequency	Bullet tuna		Bonito		Sphere		
(kHz)	TS	STDEV	TS	STDEV	TS	STDEV	
160-170	-45.37	0.70	-35.49	0.83	-60.83	0.62	
170–180	-43.17	1.22	-41.85	1.00	-45.13	1.81	
180–190	-43.75	1.42	-44.16	1.15	-40.19	0.14	
190-200	-43.85	1.24	-43.76	1.20	-44.60	0.68	
CW (200)	-45.55	2.25	-33.50	0.00	-38.89	0.00	
200-210	-45.02	0.90	-40.50	0.49	-42.95	0.07	
210-220	-46.70	1.71	-43.12	1.73	-44.93	0.02	
220-230	-46.42	1.28	-32.59	0.99	-44.59	1.91	
230-240	-47.97	0.75	-51.49	2.24	-60.39	0.17	

#### at frequency FM 160 - 170 kHz.

A simulation model of the TS measurement using the sphereball WC measurement of 38.1 mm with the same physical parameters (Fig. 4(a)) showed up and down fluctuation patterns such as calibration measurements in situ conditions with an average TS value stable at -39.86 dB. In Fig. 4(b), the pattern of fluctuating up and down measurements of ball TS of WC sphere 38.1 in controlled water conditions is shown. The two comparisons showed a pattern that was almost the same as the pattern of the spherical measurement fluctuations carried out. In this study we used 10 kHz band. TS value information with a narrower band range provided more extensive information than the wider band range.

The TS value of the sphere ball calibration of the FM fre-

quency for the range of 160 - 240 kHz was relatively stable at -42.5 dB  $\pm 1$  dB, with the exception at both ends of the 160 and 240 frequencies where it dropped, see Fig. 5. The average TS for the bonito at a frequency range from FM 160-200 kHz, CW 200 kHz to FM 200 - 240 kHz were fluctuated from -47.95 to -43.17 dB. The pattern of the TS response for TS measurements of average bullet tuna with WC sphere calibration TS is provided in Fig. 6. It was clear that the response pattern shown by the bullet tuna was relatively less fluctuated in comparison with the sphere in the given frequency range of 160 - 240 Hz.

The TS value of the average of bonito for each frequency range from FM 160 – 200 kHz, CW 200 kHz to FM 200 – 240 kHz had no high TS fluctuation value; that range from -51.49 to -33.50 dB. It is shown in Fig. 7. The pattern fluctuation of the average TS bonito rating on sphere ball calibration was almost the same except at FM frequency 160 - 170 kHz.

Pattern fluctuation of the average value of TS for each frequency of FM 160 – 200 kHz, CW 200 kHz, up to 200 – 240 kHz for bullet tuna and bonito size FL = 26 cm can be regarded as a signature (fingerprint) of fish for that size. This signature can be used as important information in the process of fish identification and in the process of fish stock estimation.



Figure 5. Average TS value for measuring 38.1 mm tungsten carbide sphere calibration.



Figure 6. Graphic of comparison TS bullet tuna (FL = 26 cm) with TS measurement of sphere ball calibration.



Figure 7. Graphic of comparison TS bonito (FL = 26 cm) with TS measurement of sphere ball calibration.

# 4.2. The Comparison of the *TS* Values Between Bullet Tuna and Bonito of the Same Size

According to Saanin<sup>18</sup> and fishbase.org, bullet tuna and bonito in the classification arrangement are both included in the same family, namely *Scombridae* which has a cigar-shaped or torpedo body morphology but have a different genus for bullet tuna (genus: *Auxis*) and bonito (genus: *Euthynnus*). For both *Auxis* sp. and *Euthynnus* sp., they do not have any swim-bladder. The high difference of TS values for both

fish with FL = 26 cm size occurred at an FM frequency of 160-170 kHz, CW 200 kHz and FM frequency 200-240 kHz with range exceeded  $\pm 3$  dB (Fig. 8). The difference in mean values of TS for the bullet tuna and bonito that occurred can be due to differences in the morphological shape of the two fish, see Fig. 9. Bullet tuna resembles a cigar where they are tapered at the tip of its mouth and the tip of its tail along the body extending from the head to tail (Figueiredo and Menezes, fishbase.org).<sup>19</sup> The bonito also resembles a cigar with the tip of the mouth and tail tapered but with the mid-body slightly bulged/enlarged (Collette and Nauen, fishbase.org).<sup>20</sup>



Figure 8. Graph of comparison of TS value of average TS between bullet tuna and bonito for FL almost the same size: (a) both FL = 26 cm; (b) bullet tuna 17.5 cm and bonito 17 cm; then (c) bullet tuna 20.4 cm and bonito 20.5 cm.



Figure 9. (a) Sketch drawing bullet tuna FL = 26 cm; (b) Sketch drawing of bonito for FL = 26 cm (Source: fao.org).



Figure 10. The correlation value of TS CW 200 kHz with TS FMb (190-200 kHz) and TS CW 200 kHz with TS FMa (200-210 kHz) for bullet tuna in the measured range of FL size.



Figure 11. The correlation value of TS CW 200 kHz with TS FMb (190-200 kHz) and TS CW 200 kHz with TS FMa (200-210 kHz) for bonito in the measured range of FL size.

# 4.3. The Comparison of the NB Approach vs the WB Approach for Both Species Sample

The comparison of TS values measured with NB approach (CW 200 kHz) with WB FMb (190 – 200 kHz) and FMa (200 – 210 kHz) was conducted to see whether the acoustic WB approach can be used to replace the NB approach in the TS target measurements by looking at the magnitude of correlation of the TS CW (200 kHz) with FMb and FMa. The value of the Pearson correlation on bullet tuna for TS CW with FMb

was 0.34, while for TS CW with FMa value was 0.42 for the FL size range of 16.4 - 26 cm (Fig. 10). The Pearson correlation value for combo bonito for TS CW with FMb had a value of 0.72, while the TS CW with FMa was a value of 0.80 using  $\alpha = 0.05$  for the FL size range 17 - 26.5 cm (Fig. 11).

The TS correlation value for bullet tuna was not significant because the value was smaller than 0.51 for the number of nsamples tested, whereas the correlation value for the bonito was greater than 0.51 for the sample being tested. The WB approach had a significant correlation with the NB approach so it can only be used for bonito for the size range 17 - 26.5 cm.



Figure 12. TS response relationship to the frequency: (a) bullet tuna for the size of FL = 26 cm; (b) bonito for size FL = 26 cm.

<b>Table 3.</b> $R - sq$ value for $f(x)$ /best-fit of the target fish sample.
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Variable sample	R - sq value and best-fit degree			
FL = 26  cm	Degree 1	Degree 2	Degree 3	Degree 4
Bullet tuna	0.632	0.799	0.864	0.928
Bonito	0.054	0.085	0.468	0.474

# 4.4. The Relation Between the *TS* and Frequency

It is well understood that at very low frequencies, Rayleigh scattering applies and  $\sigma_{bs}$  varies as  $f^4$ . Once the wavelength was commensurate with the target size,  $\sigma_{bs}$  varies cyclically and smoothly at first, but extreme variations occurred at frequencies above a certain limit of  $f_1$  (Simmond and MacLenan).<sup>5</sup> In the high-frequency region, there were sharp maxima and minima corresponding to the resonance between the elastic vibration of the target and the sound field in the water. Resonance occurred at a discrete frequency that depended on the ratio of the sound-speed ratios. The calculation of the best-fit equation f(x) to find out the response of the average TS relationship of bullet tuna and bonito to the frequencies are provided in Fig. 12. The best-fit equations  $f^4$  for bullet tuna are:  $f(x) = -0.01461x^4 + 0.3219x^3 - 2.5x^2 + 7.35x - 50.47$ with the value of R - sq = 0.93, while bonito: f(x) = $-0.01624x^4 + 0.04563x^3 + 1.85x^2 - 11.02x - 26.79$  with R - sq = 0.47 (Table 3). The relationship of the TS response to frequencies for bullet tuna was more significant than that of bonito (R - sq bullet tuna > R - sq bonito).

## 5. CONCLUSIONS

- (1) In the case of bonito, the NB and WB can both be used because there were no TS value differences, and there was a high significant correlation; whereas in the case of bullet tuna, the use of WB cannot be represented by NB because it had a low significant Pearson correlation value.
- (2) The relationship of FL and TS to frequency on WB fluctuated and indicated the frequency fourth power dependence  $(f^4)$  as the best-fit equation.

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