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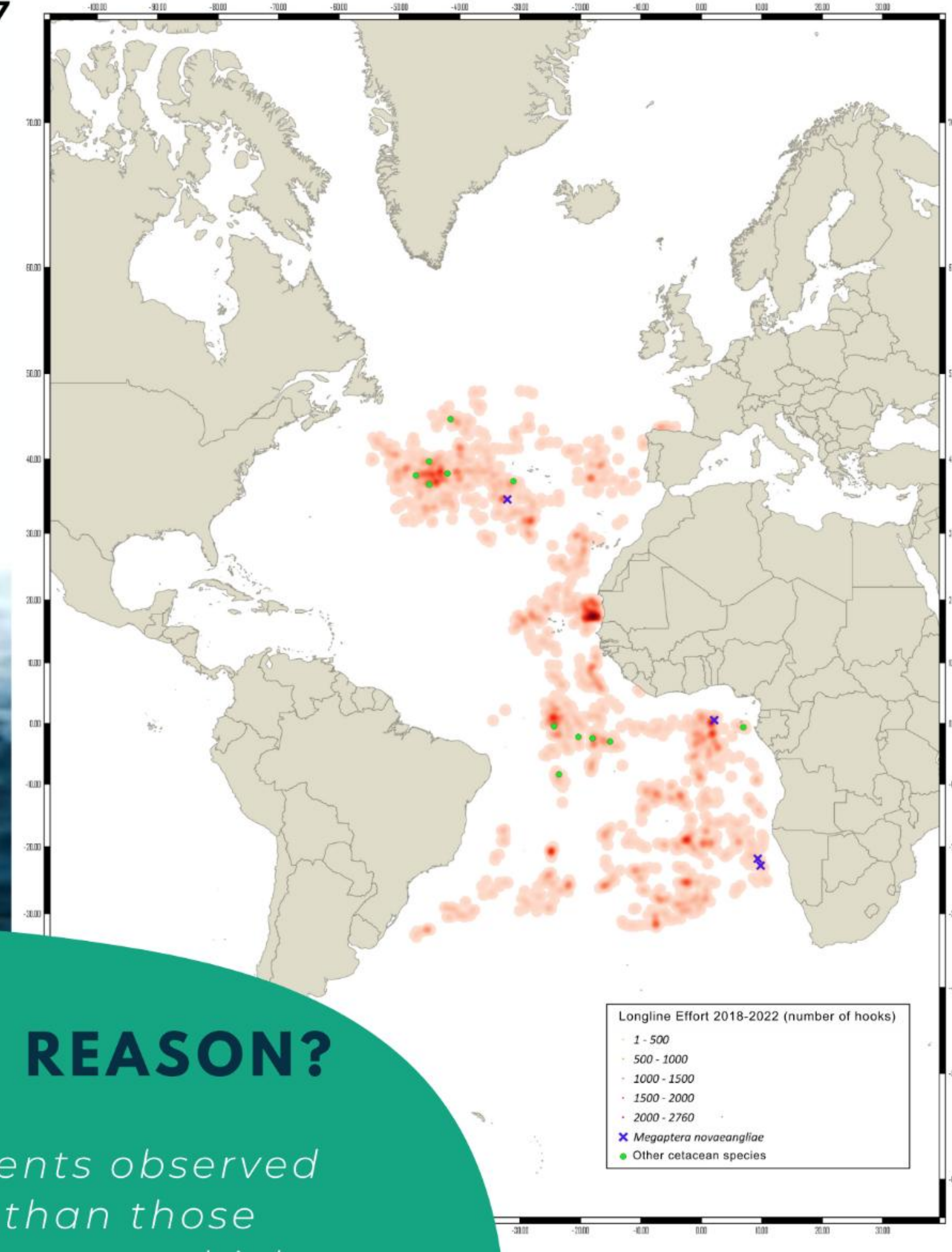
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ACCIDENTAL INTERACTION BETWEEN CETACEANS AND THE SURFACE LONGLINE BY THE SPANISH FLEET FROM ATLANTIC OCEAN

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PLEASE, TELL ME... WHAT HAPPENED?

Surface longlining is one of the most common fishing gears to capture swordfish (*Xiphias gladius*) and blue shark (*Prionace glauca*) in the Atlantic Ocean. Many **Atlantic** coastal countries (e.g. Spain, Portugal, Brazil, United States, Uruguay), as well as others from distant regions (e.g. Japan, China, Taiwan, Korea), fish in the Atlantic using this technique. Although it is a selective gear that does not usually interact with **cetaceans**, sometimes they do.



...and WHO TOLD YOU THAT?

In this work, the information from the Spanish **On-Board Observer Program** is analyzed, versus the data from an **Electronic Monitoring System (EMS)**. During the period 2018-2022, a total of 3,246 fishing sets were analyzed, corresponding to **3.6 million hooks**



WHAT WAS THE REASON?

The number of entanglements observed in the EMS was smaller than those observed by onboard observers, which could suggest that the EMS tends to underestimate the fishing interactions of cetaceans in the open sea. This finding highlights a discrepancy that requires further investigation and evaluation, shedding light on potential limitations or biases inherent to the electronic monitoring system.



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