

An Observation on the Swimming Ability of Dolphin

Byoung-gee LEE**

Though group swimming behavior of dolphin had been observed by some authors, the report on the swimming ability of it is few.

The author observed swimming ability of dolphin accidentally, on the way of cruising from Busan Korea, to Osaka Japan, on the board of R/V Ohdaesan which belongs to National Fisheries University of Busan, on the day 27th August, 1975.

When the vessel cruising near the sea area, 160° of True bearing and 4 miles apart from the Cape Murotozaki, Shikoku, Japan (33°-10'N, 134°-12'E), at about 10 o'clock on that day the author can find a group of dolphins, estimated about twenty individuals, swimming around the vessel. And a little later, about 32 minutes past 10 o'clock, five of them approached to the bow of the vessel and began to swim in front of the stem, in distance never over 10 meters.

Such phenomenon, dolphins compete swim-

ming ability with a ship had been described already by Cousteau (1973), yet the swimming speed of dolphin had been never reported.

As soon as the author find out the phenomena, dolphins advance in front of the stem, ordered to maintain the ship's course and speed constantly enable to estimate the swimming ability of dolphin, then count the time interval, the dolphins started to compete with the vessel and finished it, then found the time interval needed 12 minutes.

At the same time, cruising speed of the vessel to sea water was 11.1 k't, then the average swimming speed of dolphin, sustained in 12 minutes, was estimated as 5.7 m/sec.

Weather and sea condition, at the observation had been done, was such as:

wind speed almost 0, weather overcast, beauford scale 0, air pressure 1,011 mb, air temperature 26.4°C, water temperature 28.8°C.

Reference

Cousteau, J. (1973) : The Ocean World of Jacques Cousteau. Harry N. Abrams, Inc., U. S. A.

돌고래의 游泳能力에 관한 一觀察

李 秉 鎬*

著者は日本 室戸岬에서 眞方位 160°, 距離 4'의 海上을 五台山號로서 航海中, 돌고래가 本船 船首에서 本船과 競争하는 현상을 발견하고, 그 持續時間과 游泳速力을 측정할 바, 12分間 平均 5.7m/sec의 速力을 나타내었다.

*National Fisheries University of Busan.