

CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR 2002 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s) **Project Number** Keiko Imazumi; Nicole Parsels S0103 **Project Title** Salinity, Buoyancy, and Drag Abstract **Objectives/Goals** Our objective was the measure the effect the change in salinity has on the buoyancy and drag of the boat. Methods/Materials We constructed a modek boat and tank out of masonite and pine wood. Two pumps were used to maintain a constant flow of water through the tank. The boat was placed in the tank and a pully system and spring gauge were used to measure the drag of the boat. We added 1L of salt to the water, then measured the drag after the salt dissolved. Procedures were repeated with an increase of 1L of salt for each event. Results The first event of our enperiment, which has no salt measured a drag of .75 newtons. As we continued the events, adding 1 liter of salt each time, the results were, .65 newtons for 1L of salt, .55 newtons for 2L of salt, .55 newtons for 3L of salt, .45 newtons for 4L of salt, .45 newtons for 5L of salt, .40 newtons for 6L of salt, .35 newtons for 7L of salt, .30 newtons for 8L of salt, and .30 newtons for 9L of salt. These results showed that as the amount of salt increased, the drag decreased. **Conclusions/Discussion** Our conclusion was that the increase in salt causes the density of the water to increase, which reduces the volume of water displaced by the mass of the boat. It reduces the hull surface in contact with the water, which reduces the drag. For change in salinity of 9% we recorded a 40% reduction in drag. **Summary Statement** For our project, we measured the effect the change in salinity has on the buoyancy and drag of a boat. **Help Received**

My father helped us in building the tank and the boat.