

Angeles, the main features of the salinity field variations are studied from 20°S to 20°N. The annual cycle is described and the connection with the equatorial currents system is discussed. The interannual variability exhibit significant differences in the eastern and central Pacific area. The monthly anomalies computed for the period 1975-1980 are compared. Some characteristic changes in the salinity pattern associated with the 1976/77 El Niño phenomenon are observed in both areas. During the Shuttle Experiment however the salinity field appeared to be slightly normal in the central Pacific, but looked highly unusual in the western Pacific. The relationship between the surface salinity and the rainfall anomalies is briefly discussed.

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THE SEA SURFACE SALINITY VARIATIONS IN THE  
INTERTROPICAL CENTRAL AND WESTERN PACIFIC OCEAN.

Jean Paul REHERI, ORSTOM PO BOX A 5 NOUMEA  
NEW CALEDONIA.

Alexis MOULIERE, ORSTOM PO BOX A 5 NOUMEA  
NEW CALEDONIA.

Christian MCHIN, ORSTOM PO BOX A 5 NOUMEA  
NEW CALEDONIA.

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Using surface salinities data collected  
by ships of opportunity on the routes New  
Caledonia-Japan, Suva-Honolulu and Sydney-Los