Impact of Shape and Buoyancy on Ocean Transport Pathways

Simulations of oceanic transport of floating debris typically use a superposition of advection by coarse surface current fields and windage as a fixed percent of wind speed. In this study, observations of advection and dispersion for several types of surface drifters tracked over many months will be used to significantly improve these models in order to better understand the origins and fate of marine debris.









M. Josefina Olascoaga (RSMAS, jolascoaga@rsmas.miami.edu Rick Lumpkin & Gustavo Goni (noaa/aoml)