

Tracking the pumice rafts from the submarine volcano **Fukutoku-Okanoba**, Japan

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[Iskandar, Park, Kim, Jin, Seo, Kim, 2023, Marine Pollution Bulletin](#)

Submarine volcano **Fukutoku-Okanoba**, Japan



Figure source: www.wikipedia.com



□ Pumices position

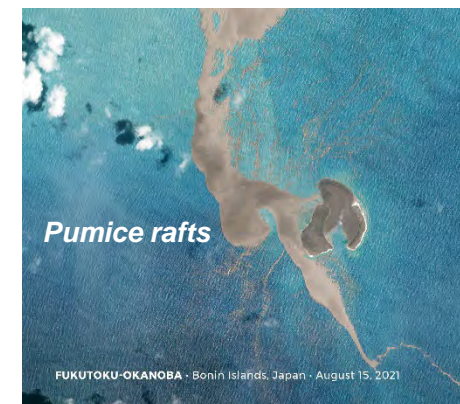


Figure source: www.volcanodiscovery.com

Erupted on 13th August 2021,
and pumice stones were produced.

Pumice 부석(浮石) 경석(輕石)

- A volcanic rock that consists of highly vesicular (void) rough-textured volcanic glass.
- It floats on water, possibly for years, until it eventually becomes waterlogged and sinks.



What is Pumice?

- Construction
- Personal Care
 - remove unwanted hair or skin.



A screenshot of an eBay search results page for 'pumice stone'. The search bar at the top shows 'pumice stone' and 'All Categories'. Below the search bar, there are filters for 'Category' and 'Brand'. The 'Category' section includes 'Health & Beauty' (Nail Care, Manicure & Pedicure, Bath & Body, Skin Care, Health Care, Hair Care & Styling) and 'Home & Garden' (Household Supplies & Cleaning, Bath, Yard, Garden & Outdoor Living, Window Treatments & Hardware, Kitchen, Dining & Bar). The 'Brand' section lists 'Unbranded (8,313)', 'MR. PUMICE (169)', 'TITANIA (33)', 'TRIM (27)', 'Avon (19)', 'Mary Kay (16)', 'Halston (11)', and 'SURE (10)'. The main search results area shows '9,400+ results for pumice stone'. Three sponsored listings are visible: 1. 'PUMICE STONE NATURAL EXFOLIATING Hard Dead Skin Callus Scrubber Remover Pedicure' for \$5.43, 537 sold. 2. '4 PACK Foot Pumice Stone Sponge for Feet Hard Skin Callus Remover and Scrubber' for \$7.85, 68 sold. 3. 'Natural Exfoliating Foot Pumice Stone - Remove Dead Hard Skin / Callus - 2 PK' for \$7.42, 2,180 sold. The page also includes navigation options like 'All Listings', 'Accepts Offers', 'Auction', 'Buy It Now', and 'Condition'.



marine traffic and damaging boat engines



clog harbors and beaches

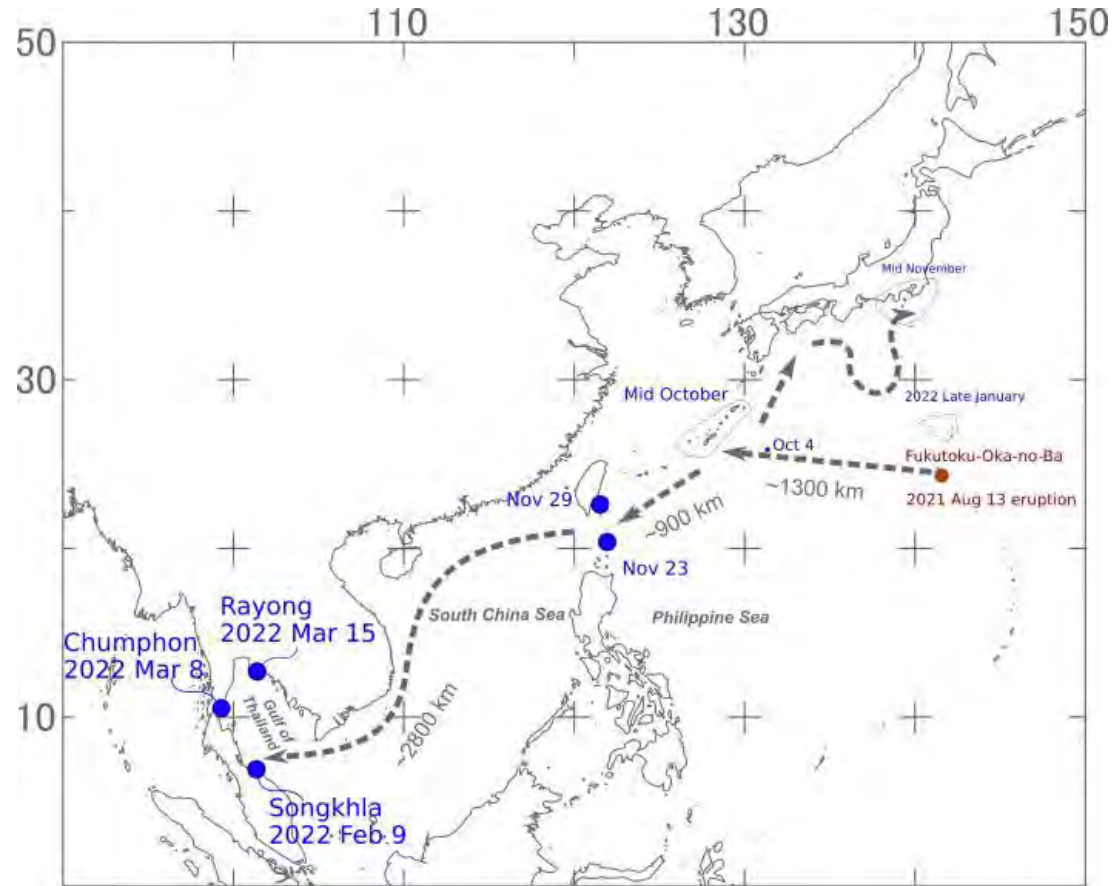


disrupting the fishing industry



threatening local tourism

Spreading of Pumice: Sighting



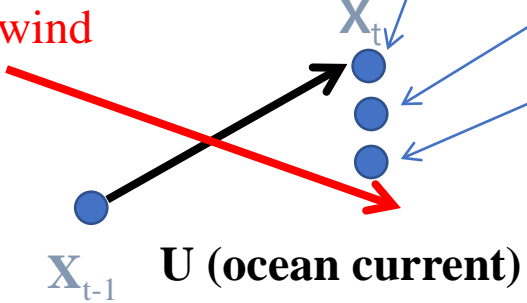
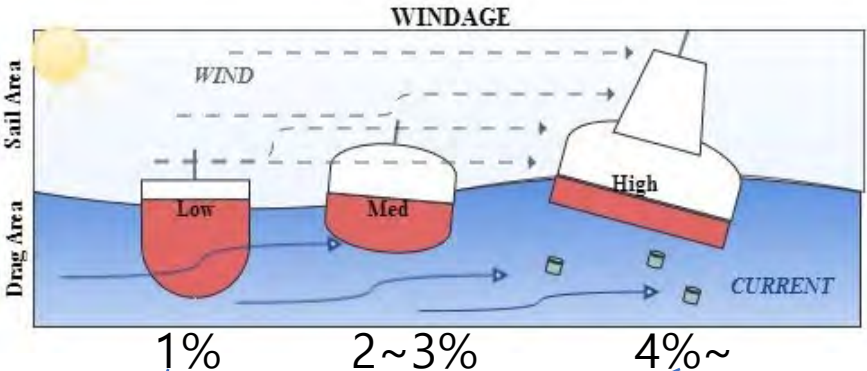
Can we predict/estimate the pathway?

- Satellites
 - Near real time
 - No prediction
 - Cloud
- Lagrangian particle tracking
 - Ocean currents and wind
 - Correct?

Lagrangian Particle Tacking

$$\mathbf{X}_t = \mathbf{X}_{t-1} + \Delta T \mathbf{U} + \text{wind effect} + \text{diffusion}$$

$$\vec{x}_{t+\Delta t} = \vec{x}_t + \int_t^{t+\Delta t} \{ \vec{u}_c(\vec{x}_t, t) + W_f \vec{w}_{10m}(\vec{x}_t, t) \} \Delta t + R \sqrt{2K_h \Delta t}$$



Typical debris (Duhec et al., 2015)

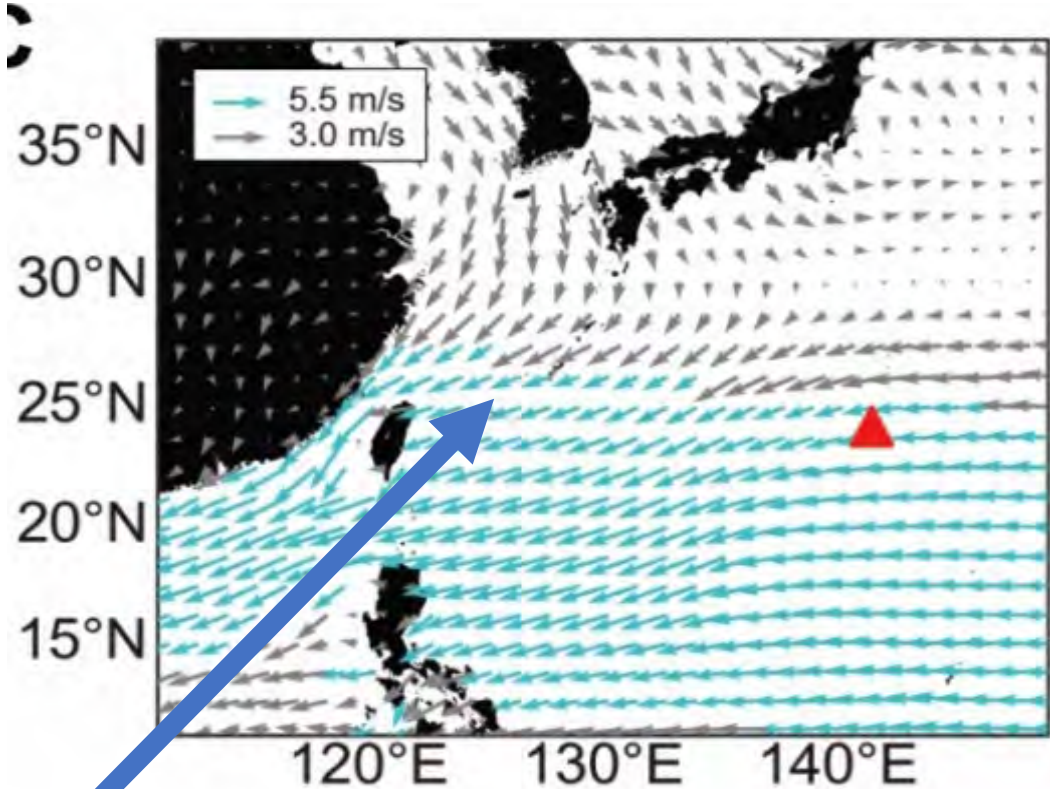
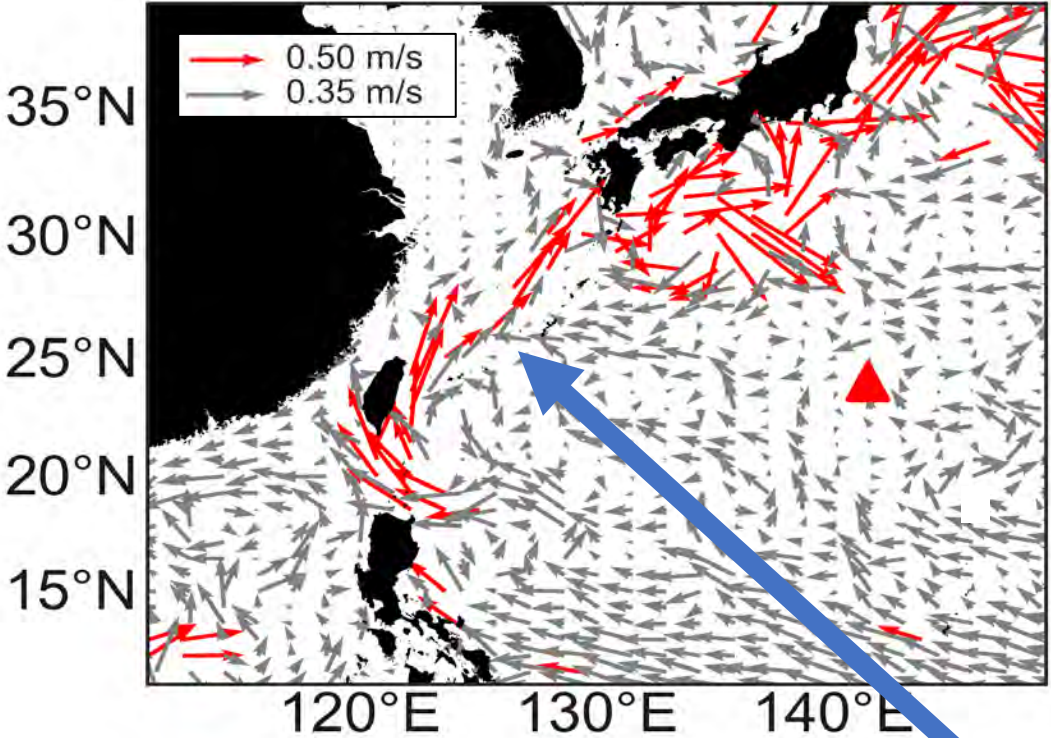
- 0~1%: Fishing nets, small plastic fragments, bottle caps
 - 2~3%: Plastic debris, polystyrene foam, Styrofoam, sea urchins, sea turtles, sea anemones, sea sponges, sea shells, sea urchins, sea turtles, sea anemones, sea sponges, sea shells
 - 4%: Emp
- Jutzeler et al., 2019

For pumice?

Aug-Dec 2021

\vec{u}_c

\vec{w}_{10m}



Ocean currents
HYCOM GOFS 3.1

Surface winds
ECMWF ERA5

Opposite!

Purpose

- Predict/estimate the pathway of the rafts using satellites and Lagrangian particle tracking
 - Optimal Windage factor
 - satellites images
 - Lagrangian particle tracking

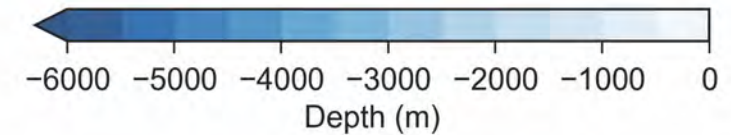
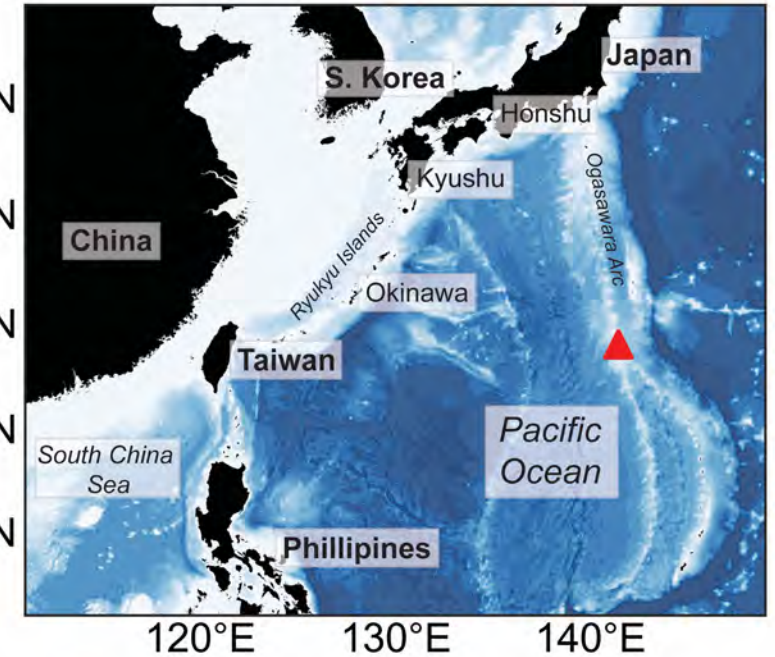
Data and Lagrangian experiments

- Reanalysis Data: HYCOM
- Ocean Parcels v2.0.0 (Seville et al., 2019)

$$\vec{x}_{t+\Delta t} = \vec{x}_t + \int_t^{t+\Delta t} \{ \vec{u}_c(\vec{x}_t, t) + W_f \vec{w}_{10m}(\vec{x}_t, t) \} \Delta t + R \sqrt{2K_h \Delta t}$$

(Seo et al., 2020; Seo and Park, 2020, 2021)

$K_h \rightarrow$ Smagorinsky (1963)



▲ Fukutoku-Okanoba

24°14' N and 141° 27' E
~1000 particles

- Input data

Var	Input	Source	
\vec{u}_c	Ocean current	HYCOM GOFS 3.1	3hourly
\vec{w}_{10m}	10 m wind	ECMWF ERA5	

- Satellite data

Location validation

GOCI and Sentinel-2

$W_f = 0\% - 4\% ?$

Satellite data

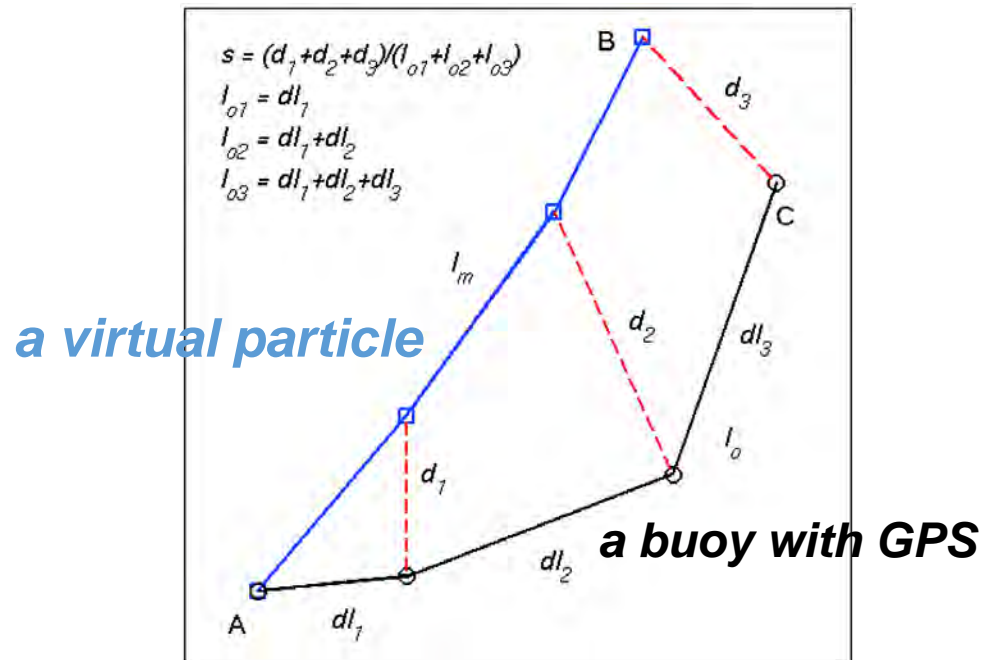
Product	Dates
GOCI-II	August 13/14/18/23/28 September 02/07/12/23 October 02/15/26/29 November 03/15
Sentinel-2A	November 02/05/12/15/22/25 December 02/05/12/15
Sentinel-2B	November 07/10/17/20/30 December 03/07/10/16

Best windage factor: skill score ss

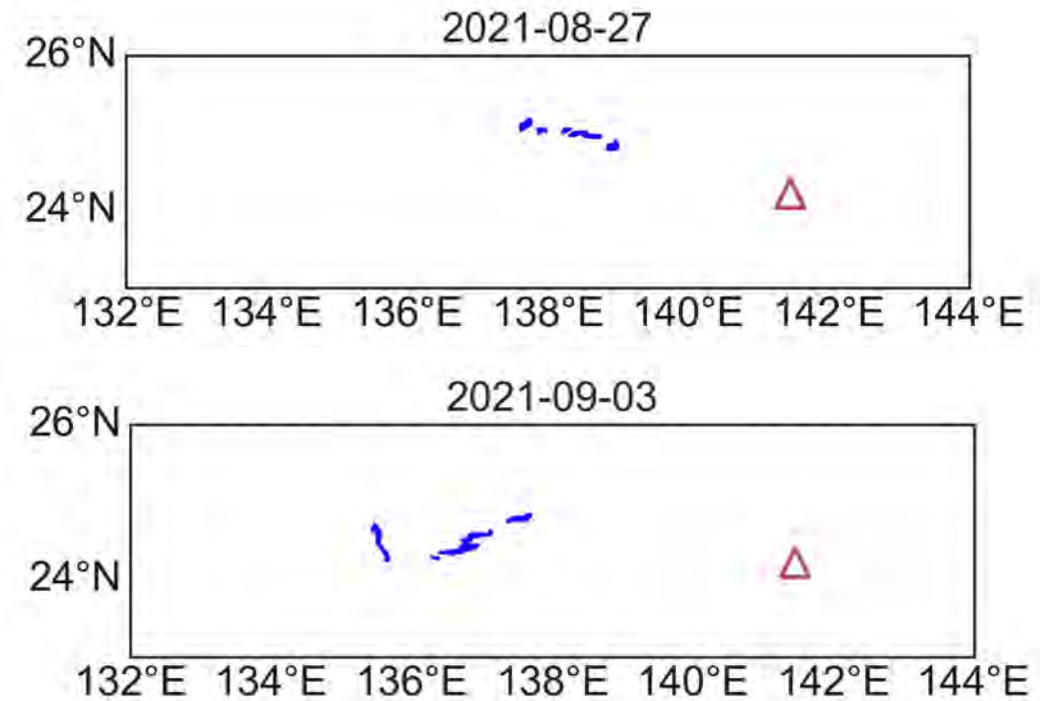
Liu and Weisberg (2011):

a trackable pair

Separation between a virtual particle and a buoy with GPS.



You **cannot track** individual pumice raft using satellite images! But there are **many**.



Best windage factor: skill score ss

A trackable pair \rightarrow Mean separation from clouds of partially trackable pairs

* Skill score SS 1:perfect

$$ss(t) = \begin{cases} 1 - MNLS, & (MNLS \leq 1) \\ 0, & (MNLS > 1) \end{cases}$$

$$MNLS(t) = \frac{1}{M} \sum_{j=1}^M \left(\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \left(\frac{D(t_j)}{l_o(t_j)} \right)_i \right)$$

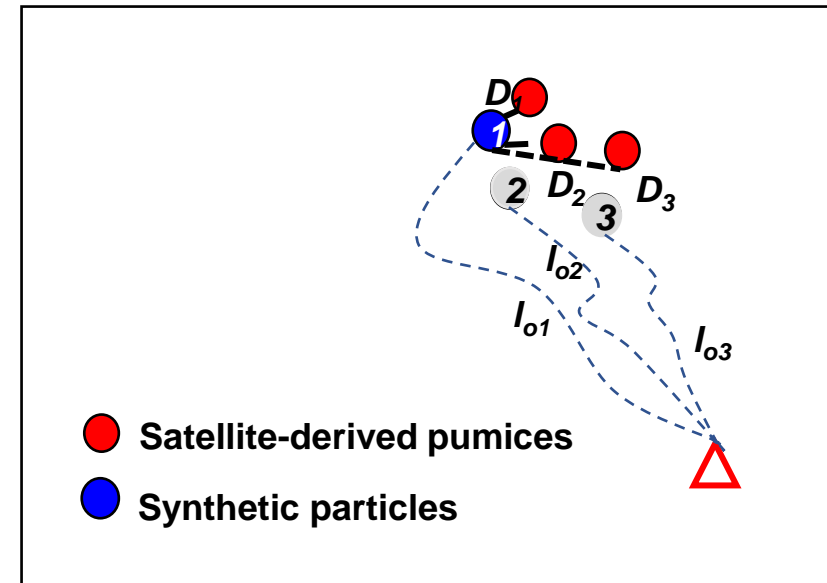
MNLS mean normalized Lagrangian separation

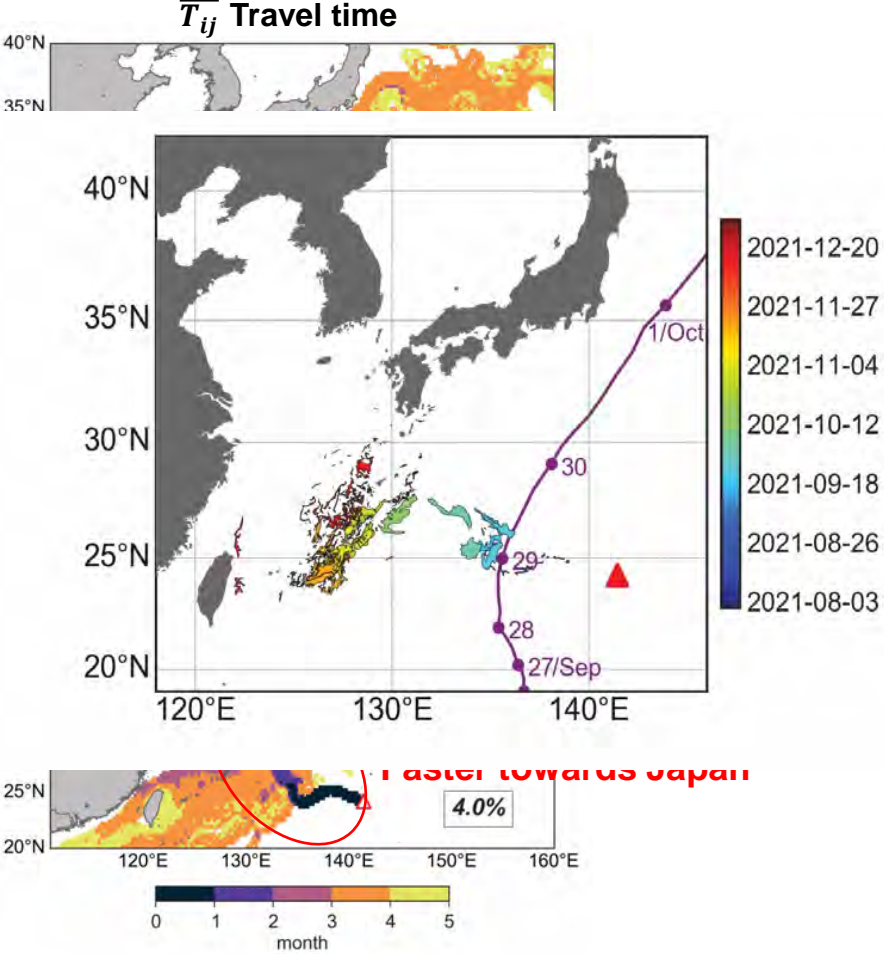
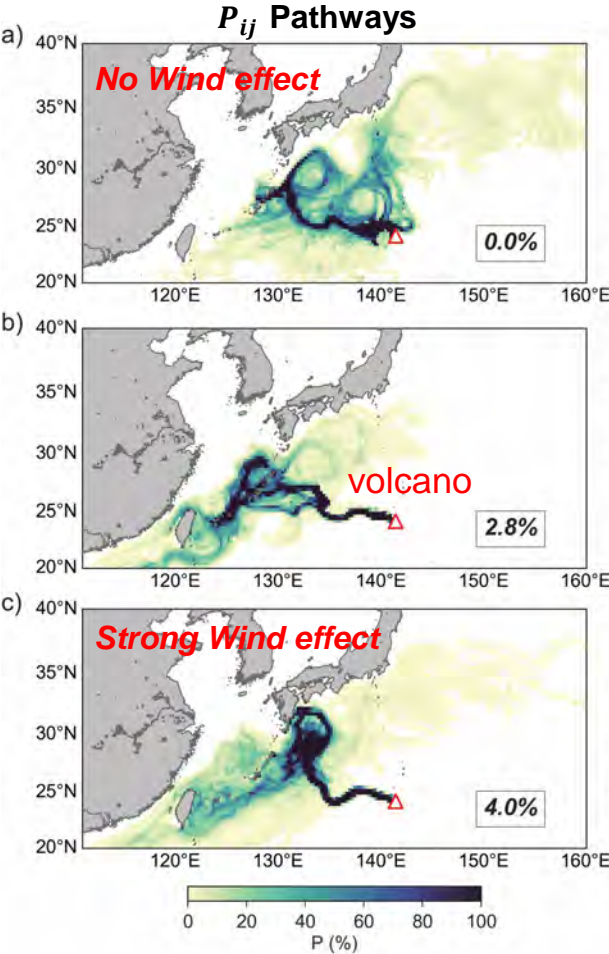
D_i : Distance of particle i to nearest pumice

N : Total number of particles

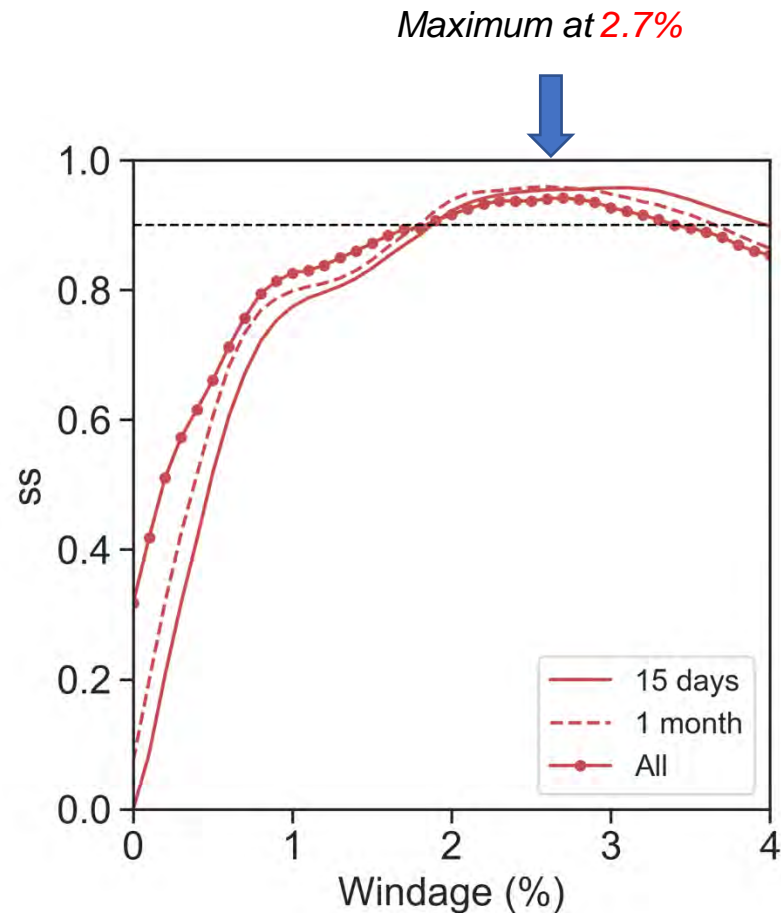
l_o : Length of particle trajectory from initial release

M : numbers of satellite images available up to t



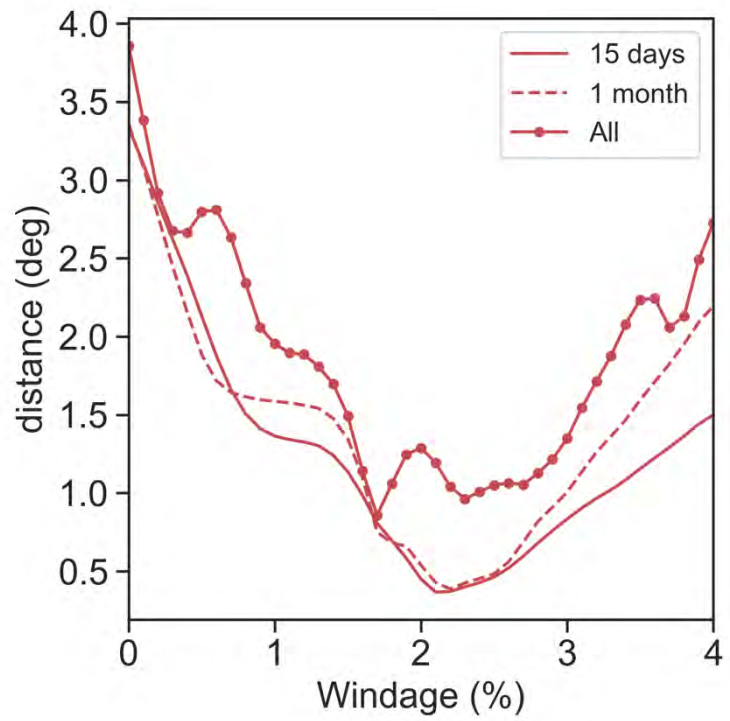


Sensitivity of SS to windage



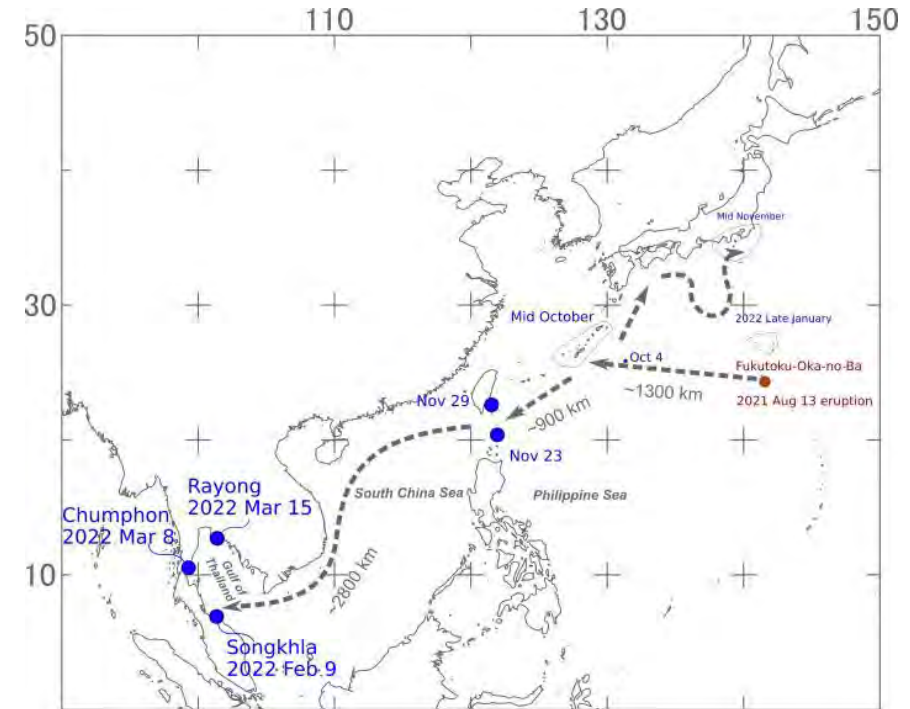
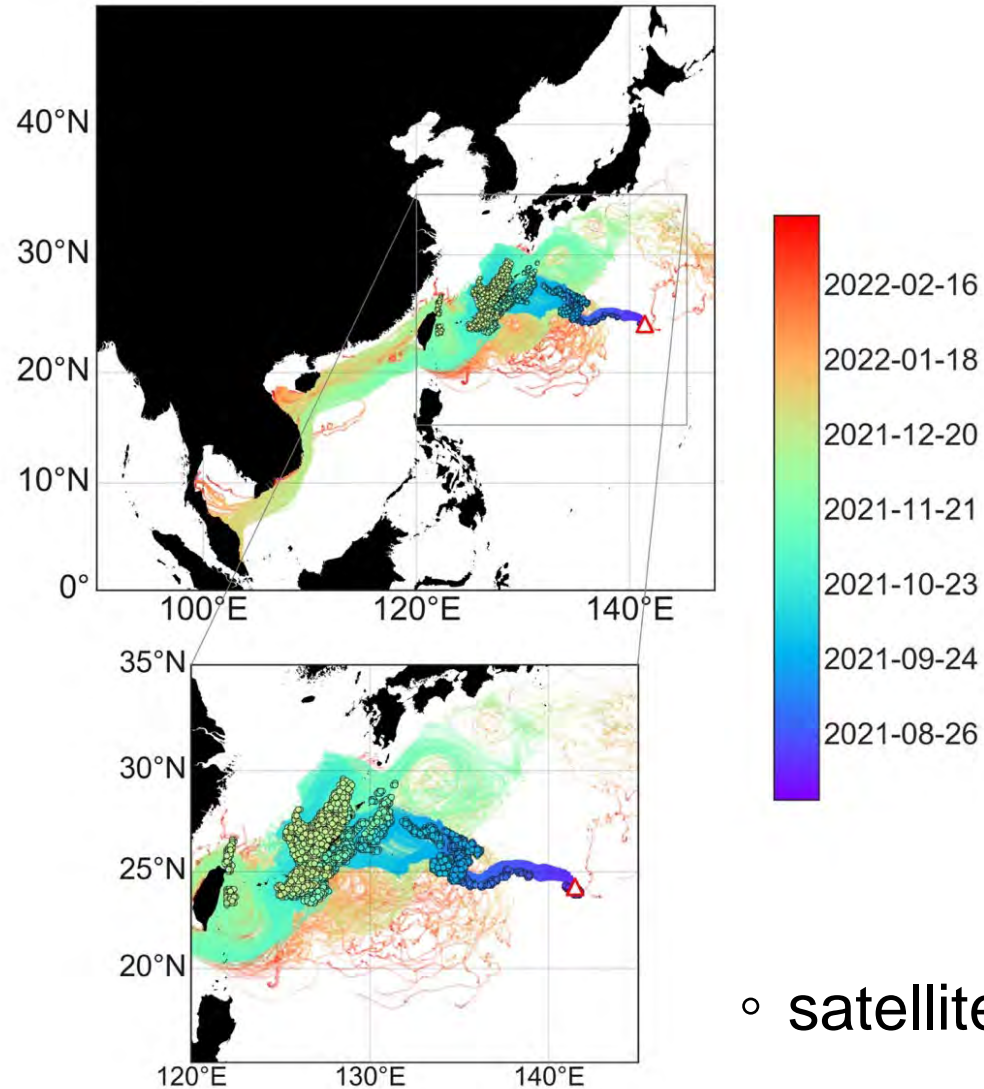
- How many images do we need?
- Would change in shape (breaking) matter?
- Other ocean currents and wind data produced similar results.

Comparison of Centroid



Cloud coverage?

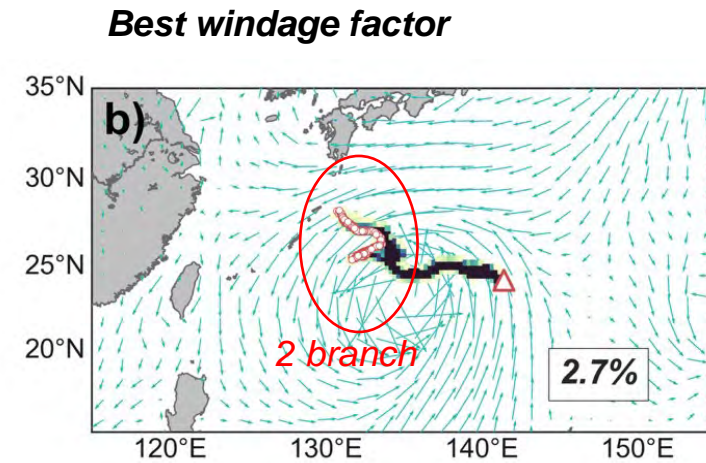
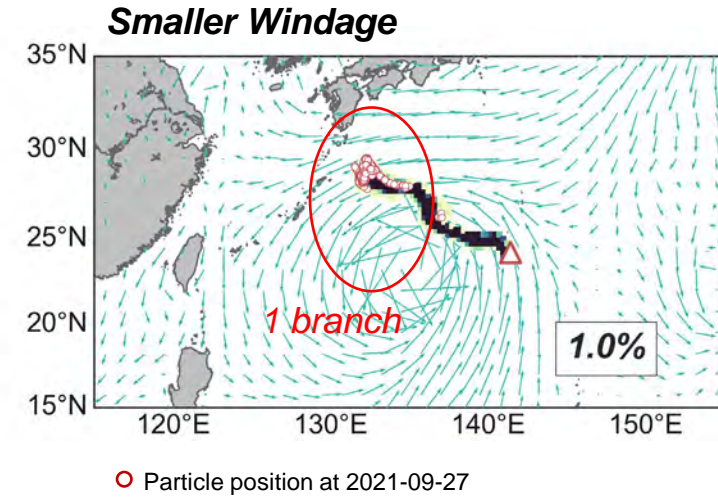
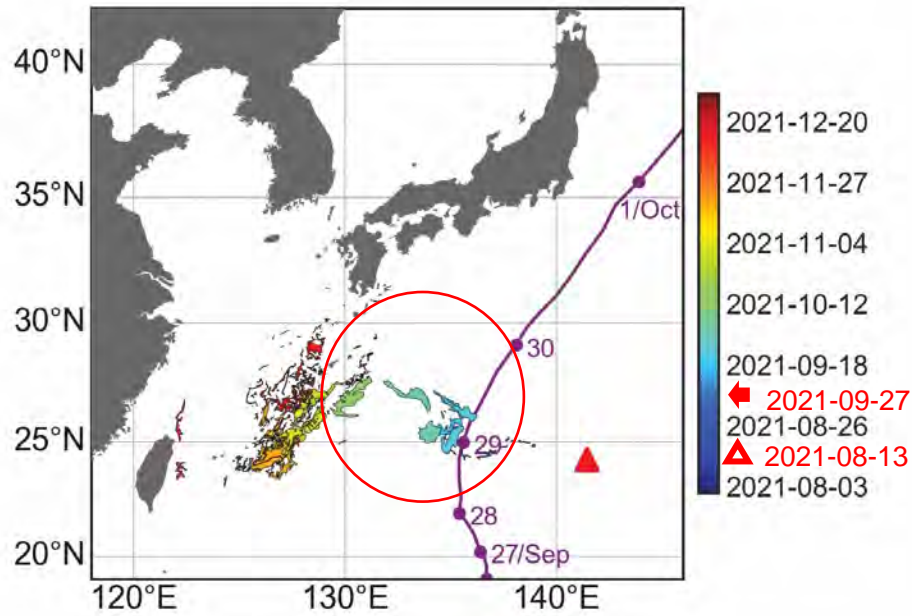
Trajectories with the best windages factor 2.7%



Yoshida et al., 2022

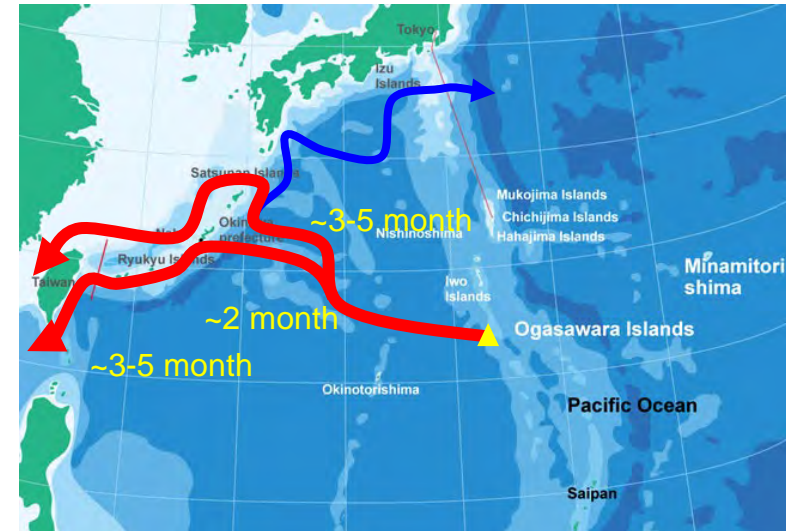
○ satellites

Effects of a typhoon

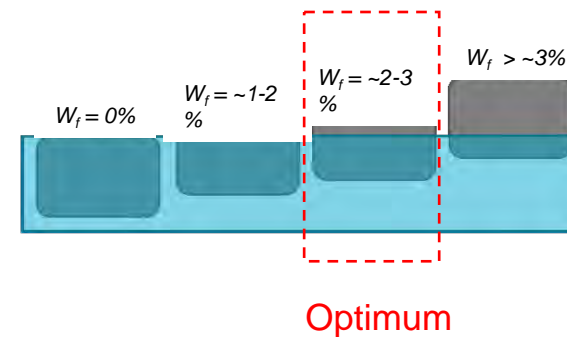


Summaries

- We could tune a model using satellite images.
- Optimal windage for pumice: 2~3%



Basemap source: <https://en.vill.ogasawara.tokyo.jp/>

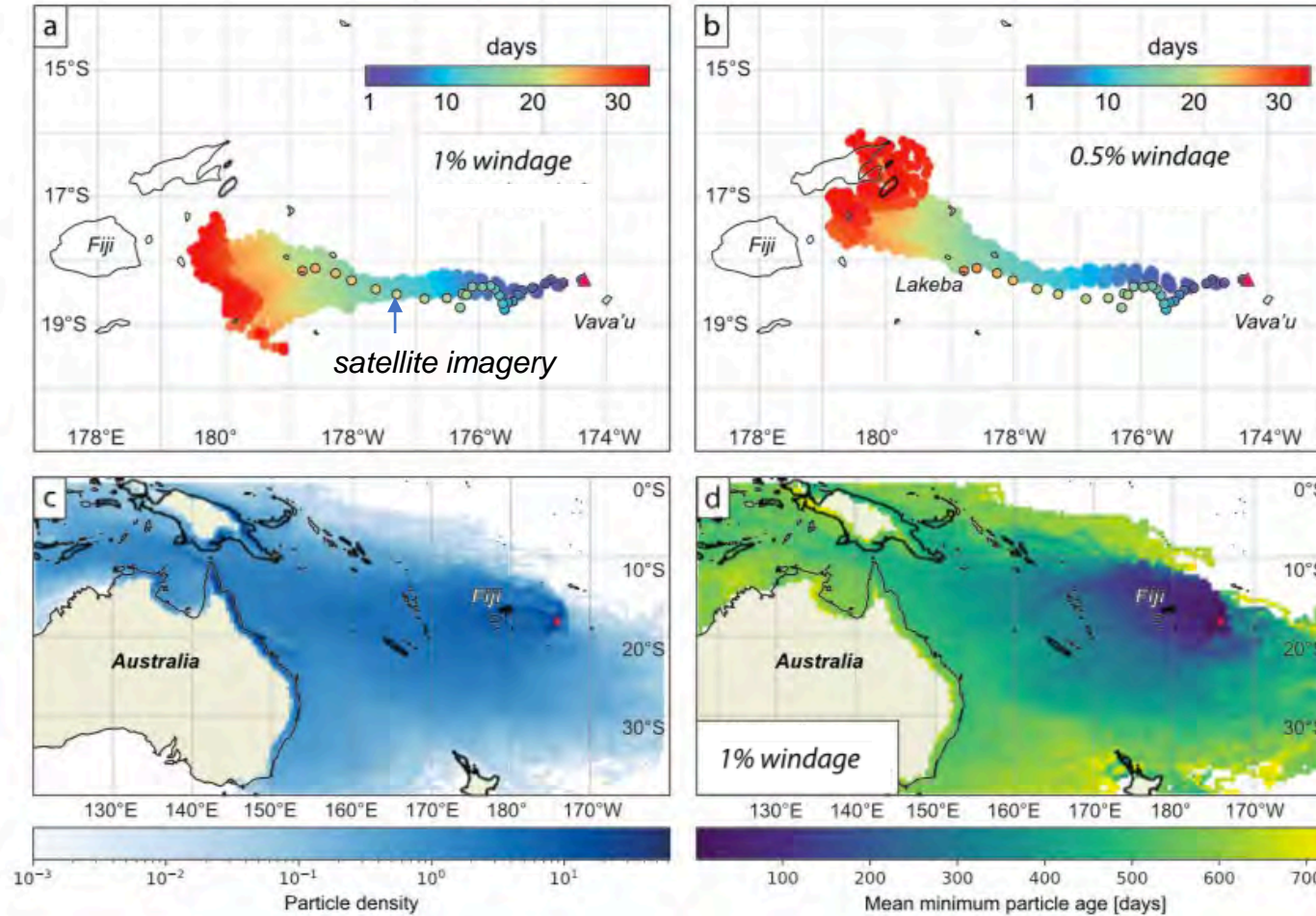


Questions?

Previous Study (Jutzeler et al., 2019)

Ongoing Dispersal of the 7 August 2019 Pumice Raft From the Tonga Arc in the Southwestern Pacific Ocean

Raft dispersal one-month simulation



Best windage factor: skill score ss

Adapted from Liu and Weisberg (2011): *a trackable pair*
 Separation between a virtual particle and a buoy with GPS.

You cannot track individual pumice raft using satellite images!
Many but partially trackable pairs

* Skill score SS 1:perfect

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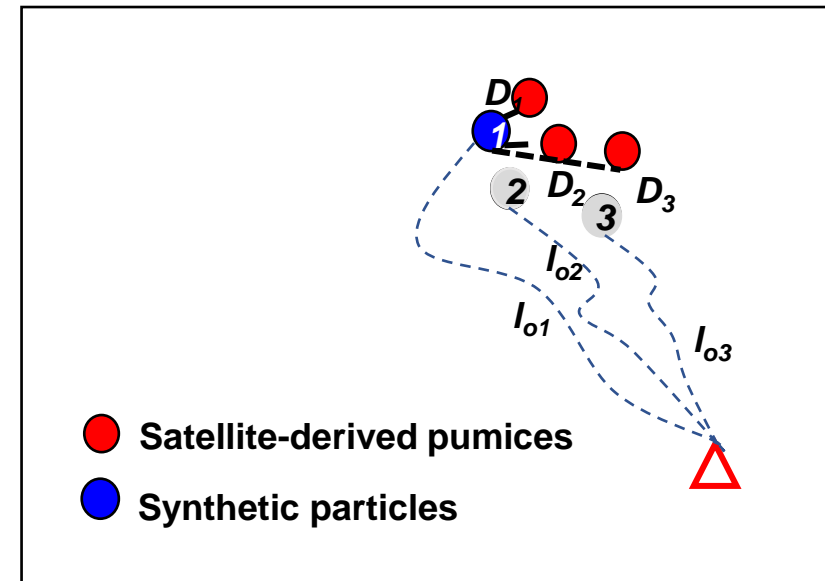
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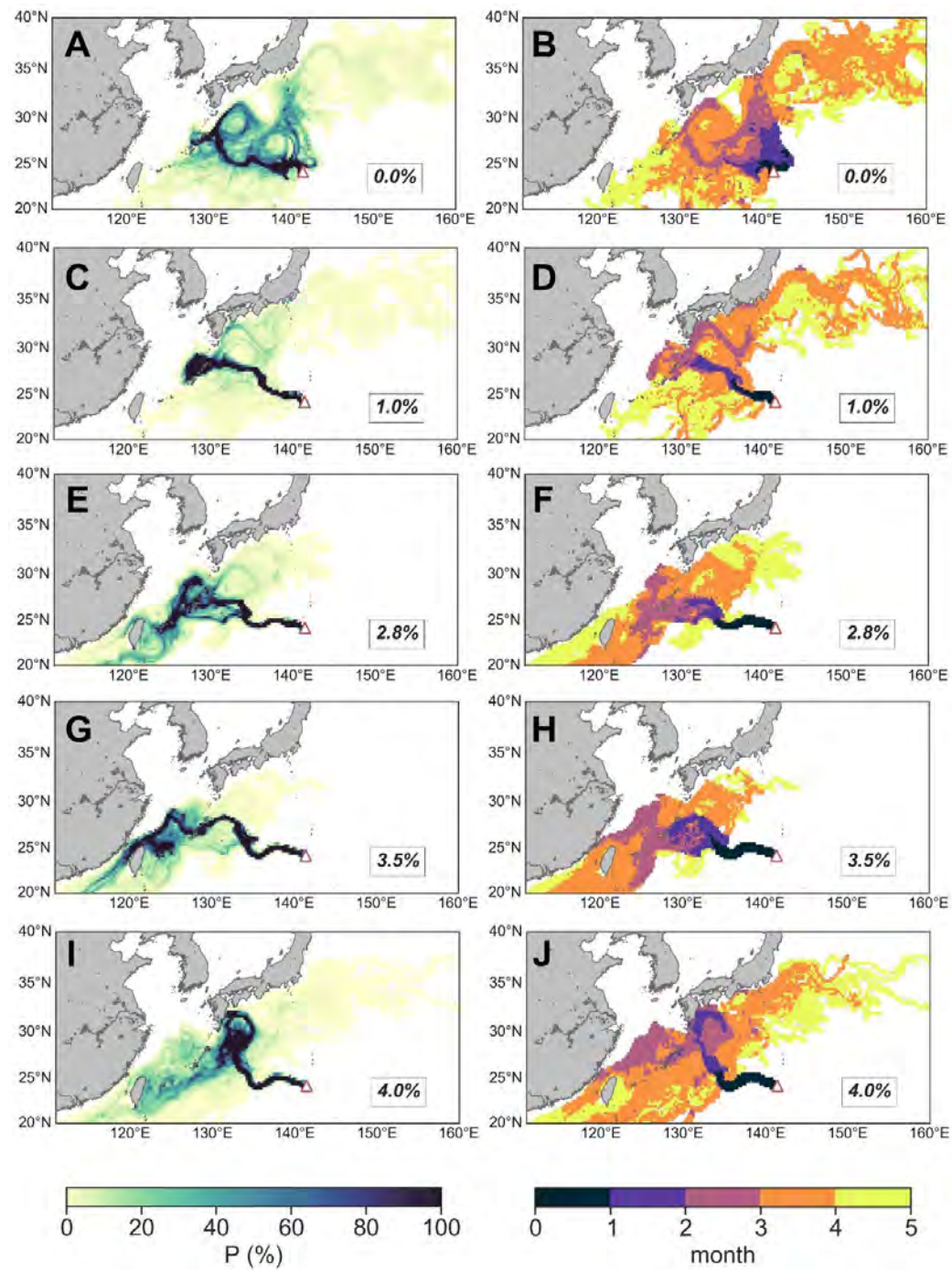
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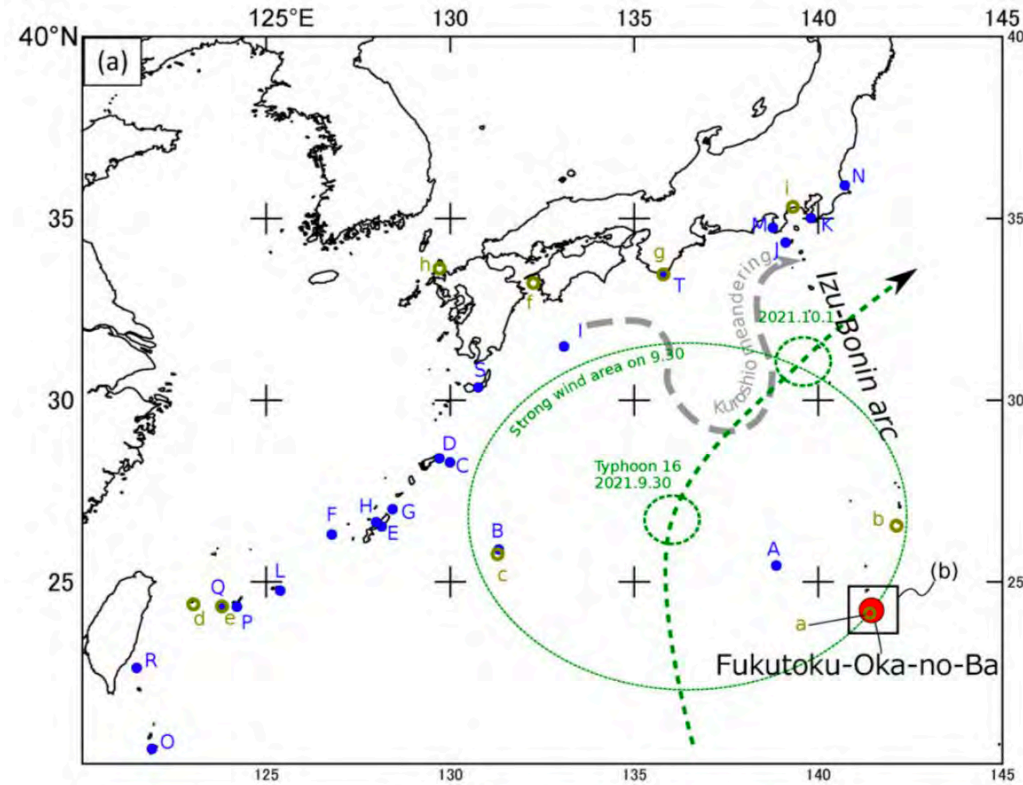
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Sightings



Timeline

2021 Aug. 13 eruption
 A: Aug 22 Sampling by RV Keifu-Maru
 B: Oct. 5 Twitter report from Kita-daito Isl.
 C: Oct. 10 Kikai Isl.
 D: Oct. 12 Amami-oshima Isl.
 E: Oct. 13 Okinawa Main Isl. East coast
 F: Oct. 13 Kume Isl.
 G: Oct. 14 Yoron Isl.
 H: Oct. 18 Okinawa Main Isl. West coast
 I: Oct. 30 Aircraft observation of the raft
 J: Nov. 10 Shikine Isl.
 K: Nov. 15 South Boso Peninsula
 L: Nov. 19 Miyako Isl.
 M: Nov. 23 South Izu Peninsula
 N: Nov. 23 Kashima
 O: Nov. 23 Ivana, Batanes Province (PH)
 P: Nov. 26 Ishigaki Isl.
 Q: Nov. 27 Iriomote Isl.
 R: Nov. 29 Taiwan's Green Island
 S: Dec. 5 Yakushima/Tanegashima Isl.
 T: Dec. 13 Wakayama Pref. Kushimoto

1986 Jan. 18th eruption
 a. Jan. 20 Sampling by RV Takuyo
 b. Mar. 15 Hahajima Isl.
 c. Late May Minami-daito Isl.
 d. Late May Yonaguni Isl.
 e. <June 15 Iriomote Isl.
 f. June 26 Ehime Pref. Uwaumi
 g. Aug. Wakayama Pref. Kushimoto
 h. Oct. Genkai-nada
 i. 1991. Sept. Sagami Bay

