

Description of supplementary material available

The supplementary material provided enables a more detailed look at data discussed in the paper. The numerical data underlying Fig. 4 and Figs. A1-A4 are made available in ASCII format (see directories DATA FIG_04 etc.). Each directory contains separate files for each drifter. The first two columns in these files specify longitude and latitude, the last column contains time in the format yyyyymmddhhmmss. The third column provides time in terms of days since 2015-05-27 (13:00 UTC), which is the time coordinate used throughout the manuscript for segmentation of drifter trajectories. Table S1 establishes the explicit relationship between these counts of days and corresponding calendar days. Each day referred to in Table S1 denotes the 24 h period starting at 13:00 UTC of the calendar day specified.

Four separate collections provide full sets of plots of 25 h drifter displacements for the experiments addressed in the paper. The four collections are the following:

SM1-Observations.pdf: Observations for days 0-53. Drift velocities are coloured in agreement with Table S1.

SM2-BSHcmod_vs_TRIM.pdf: Observations (coloured) plus corresponding simulations (black) with BSHcmod (left) or TRIM (right).

SM3-BSHcmod+W_vs_TRIM.pdf: Observations (coloured) plus corresponding simulations (black) with BSHcmod+W (left) or TRIM (right). Figs. 7, 8 and 9 in the manuscript display subsets of this collection.

SM4-BSHcmod+W_vs_BSHcmod+S.pdf: Observations (coloured) plus corresponding simulations (black) with BSHcmod+W (left) or BSHcmod+S (right).

Finally, a collection of two plots extends panels Fig. 12(a,b) in the manuscript:

SM5-Full-Version-Fig.12.pdf: Figure S1 (corresponding with Fig. 12(a)) and Fig. S2 (corresponding with Fig. 12(b)) show magnitudes of drift velocities of drifters #5 and #6, respectively, for all days available.

Table S1: Colours assigned to calendar dates and corresponding counts of days

| day | date | day | date | day | date | day | date |
|-----|-------------|-----|-------------|-----|-------------|-----|-------------|
| -8 | 19 May 2015 | 8 | 04 Jun 2015 | 24 | 20 Jun 2015 | 40 | 06 Jul 2015 |
| -7 | 20 May 2015 | 9 | 05 Jun 2015 | 25 | 21 Jun 2015 | 41 | 07 Jul 2015 |
| -6 | 21 May 2015 | 10 | 06 Jun 2015 | 26 | 22 Jun 2015 | 42 | 08 Jul 2015 |
| -5 | 22 May 2015 | 11 | 07 Jun 2015 | 27 | 23 Jun 2015 | 43 | 09 Jul 2015 |
| -4 | 23 May 2015 | 12 | 08 Jun 2015 | 28 | 24 Jun 2015 | 44 | 10 Jul 2015 |
| -3 | 24 May 2015 | 13 | 09 Jun 2015 | 29 | 25 Jun 2015 | 45 | 11 Jul 2015 |
| -2 | 25 May 2015 | 14 | 10 Jun 2015 | 30 | 26 Jun 2015 | 46 | 12 Jul 2015 |
| -1 | 26 May 2015 | 15 | 11 Jun 2015 | 31 | 27 Jun 2015 | 47 | 13 Jul 2015 |
| 0 | 27 May 2015 | 16 | 12 Jun 2015 | 32 | 28 Jun 2015 | 48 | 14 Jul 2015 |
| 1 | 28 May 2015 | 17 | 13 Jun 2015 | 33 | 29 Jun 2015 | 49 | 15 Jul 2015 |
| 2 | 29 May 2015 | 18 | 14 Jun 2015 | 34 | 30 Jun 2015 | 50 | 16 Jul 2015 |
| 3 | 30 May 2015 | 19 | 15 Jun 2015 | 35 | 01 Jul 2015 | 51 | 17 Jul 2015 |
| 4 | 31 May 2015 | 20 | 16 Jun 2015 | 36 | 02 Jul 2015 | 52 | 18 Jul 2015 |
| 5 | 01 Jun 2015 | 21 | 17 Jun 2015 | 37 | 03 Jul 2015 | 53 | 19 Jul 2015 |
| 6 | 02 Jun 2015 | 22 | 18 Jun 2015 | 38 | 04 Jul 2015 | | |
| 7 | 03 Jun 2015 | 23 | 19 Jun 2015 | 39 | 05 Jul 2015 | | |