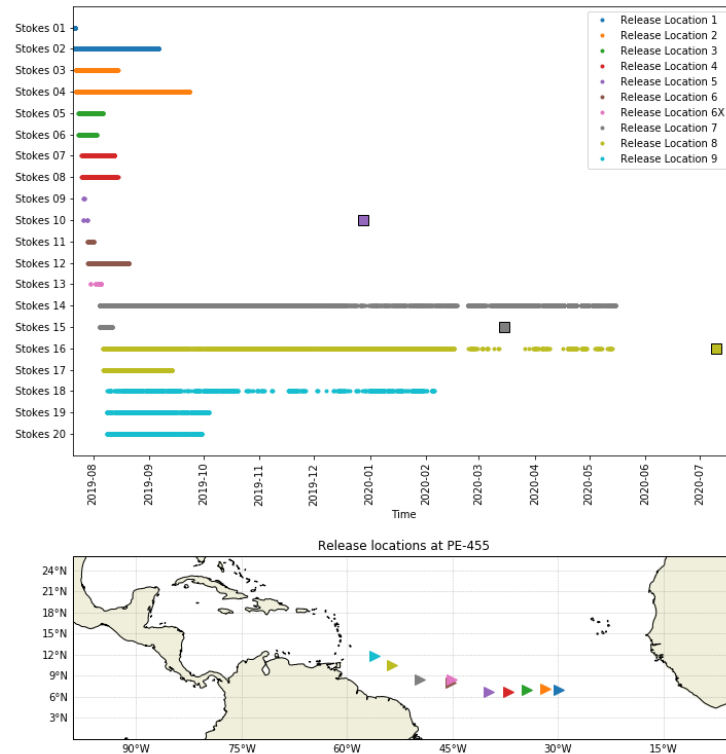
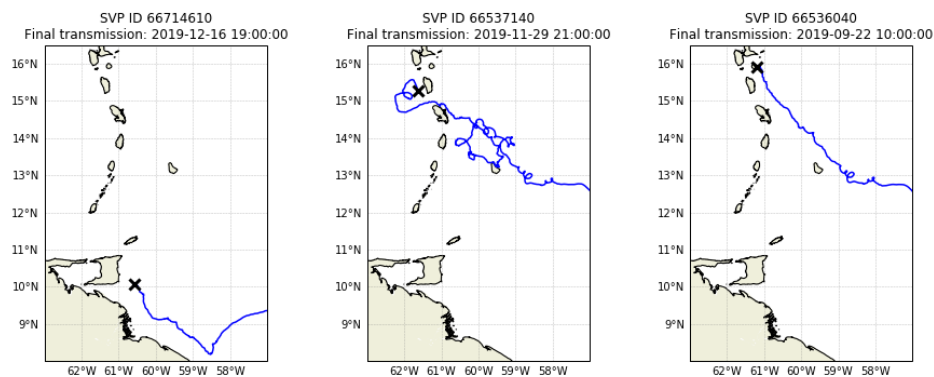


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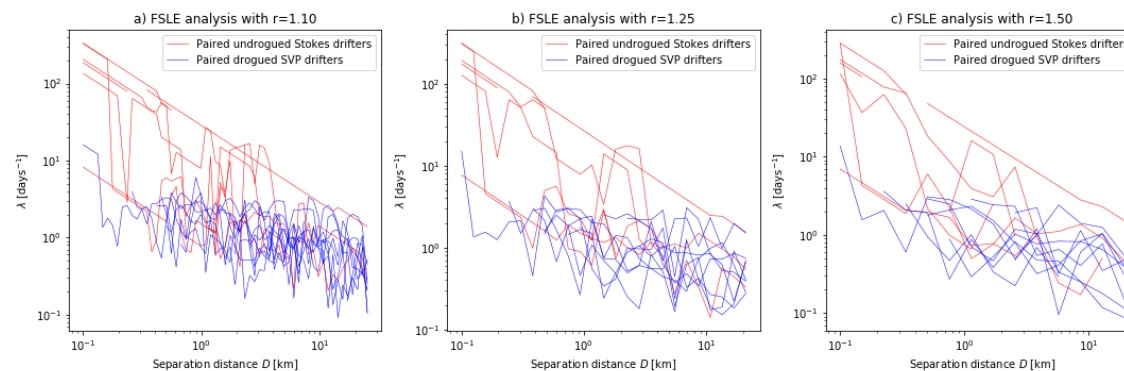
1 Supplementary Figures



Supplementary Figure 1. a) Transmission time series for the Stokes drifters deployed in the Tropical Atlantic Ocean, coloured by release location. Black-edged squares indicate Stokes drifters that were found and reported on beaches. At nine of the ten locations, at least two Stokes drifters were deployed; the only location where a single Stokes drifter was deployed was 6X (drifter 13). Some Stokes drifters (01, 09, 10, 13, 15) transmitted for only a few days while others (14, 16, 18) transmitted for months. b) Locations where the Stokes drifters were released, color-coded by their transmission in the top panel.



Supplementary Figure 2. Zoom-in for the final part of the trajectories of the three drogued SVP drifters that came close to entering the Caribbean Sea. All three stopped transmitting close to an island: Trinidad, Dominica, and Marie-Galante, respectively. None of these have been reported as found on beaches, however.



Supplementary Figure 3. Sensitivity of the FSLE analysis of Figure 6b to the choice for r : $r = 1.10$ in panel a; $r = 1.25$ (as in Figure 6b) in panel b; and $r = 1.50$ in panel c.

2 Supplementary Animations

Animation 1. Animation of the drifter trajectories between 20 July 2019 and 14 January 2020.

3 Supplementary Tables

Table 1. Deployment locations for the drifters released during RV Pelagia Sargassum Cruise PE-455 in July and August of 2019.

	launch date	time (UTC)	lat (N)	long (W)	cruise station	boat	port/stbd	ht (m)	speed (kt)
8 GDP SVP's:									
300234066717650	2019/07/20	18:46	6.99878	-29.91771	PE455-S11.2	Pelagia	port	3.6	0
300234066718350	2019/07/22	10:28	7.16194	-31.75391	PE455-S12.7	Pelagia	port	3.6	0
300234066717640	2019/07/23	21:36	6.90495	-34.47952	PE455-S13.7	Pelagia	port	3.6	0
300234066718620	2019/07/25	11:14	6.73472	-37.09499	PE455-S14.3	Pelagia	port	3.6	0
300234066718580	2019/07/26	11:13	6.73059	-39.91316	PE455-S15.4	Pelagia	port	3.6	0
300234066716600	2019/07/28	21:48	7.99583	-45.24221	PE455-S19.1	Pelagia	port	3.6	0
300234066717240	2019/08/04	10:48	8.41891	-49.72757	PE455-S24.1	Pelagia	port	3.6	0
300234066714610	2019/08/06	13:27	10.46221	-53.67437	PE455-S28.3	Pelagia	port	3.6	0
10 MeteoFrance Upgraded SVPBs									
300234066535050	2019/07/20	18:46	6.99878	-29.91771	PE455-S11.2	Pelagia	stbd	3.6	0
300234066537040	2019/07/22	10:28	7.16194	-31.75391	PE455-S12.7	Pelagia	stbd	3.6	0
300234066839670	2019/07/23	21:36	6.90495	-34.47952	PE455-S13.7	Pelagia	stbd	3.6	0
300234066534050	2019/07/25	11:14	6.73472	-37.09499	PE455-S14.3	Pelagia	stbd	3.6	0
300234066538020	2019/07/26	11:13	6.73059	-39.91316	PE455-S15.4	Pelagia	stbd	3.6	0
300234066536050	2019/07/28	21:48	7.99583	-45.24221	PE455-S19.1	Pelagia	stbd	3.6	0
300234066536030	2019/08/04	10:48	8.41891	-49.72757	PE455-S24.1	Pelagia	stbd	3.6	0
300234066838690	2019/08/06	13:27	10.46221	-53.67437	PE455-S28.3	Pelagia	stbd	3.6	0

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300234066537140	2019/08/08	12:05	11.83018	-56.09376	PE455-S31.1	Pelagia	port	3.6	0
300234066536040	2019/08/08	12:05	11.83018	-56.09376	PE455-S31.1	Pelagia	stbd	3.6	0
Stokes Drifters									
SargassumSPOT1	2019/07/20	18:46	6.99878	-29.91771	PE455-S11.2	Pelagia	port	0	0
SargassumSPOT2	2019/07/20	18:46	6.99878	-29.91771	PE455-S11.2	Pelagia	port	0	0
SargassumSPOT3	2019/07/22	10:28	7.16194	-31.75391	PE455-S12.7	Pelagia	port	0	0
SargassumSPOT4	2019/07/22	10:28	7.16194	-31.75391	PE455-S12.7	Pelagia	port	0	0
SargassumSPOT5	2019/07/23	21:32	6.91487	-34.47964	PE455-S13.7	Pelagia	port	0	0
SargassumSPOT6	2019/07/23	21:36	6.90495	-34.47952	PE455-S13.7	Pelagia	port	0	0
SargassumSPOT7	2019/07/25	11:14	6.73472	-37.09499	PE455-S14.3	Pelagia	port	0	0
SargassumSPOT8	2019/07/25	11:14	6.73472	-37.09499	PE455-S14.3	Pelagia	port	0	0
SargassumSPOT9	2019/07/26	11:13	6.73059	-39.91316	PE455-S15.4	Pelagia	port	0	0
SargassumSPOT10	2019/07/26	11:13	6.73059	-39.91316	PE455-S15.4	Pelagia	port	0	0
SargassumSPOT11	2019/07/28	21:48	7.99583	-45.24221	PE455-S19.1	Pelagia	port	0	0
SargassumSPOT12	2019/07/28	21:48	7.99583	-45.24221	PE455-S19.1	Pelagia	port	0	0
SargassumSPOT13	2019/07/30	17:09	8.367	-45.081	PE455-S20.6	Pelagia	stbd	3.6	0
SargassumSPOT14	2019/08/04	10:48	8.41891	-49.72757	PE455-S24.1	Pelagia	port	0	0
SargassumSPOT15	2019/08/04	10:48	8.41891	-49.72757	PE455-S24.1	Pelagia	port	0	0
SargassumSPOT16	2019/08/06	13:27	10.46221	-53.67437	PE455-S28.3	Pelagia	port	0	0
SargassumSPOT17	2019/08/06	13:27	10.46221	-53.67437	PE455-S28.3	Pelagia	port	0	0
SargassumSPOT18	2019/08/08	12:05	11.83018	-56.09376	PE455-S31.1	Pelagia	port	0	0
SargassumSPOT19	2019/08/08	12:05	11.83018	-56.09376	PE455-S31.1	Pelagia	port	0	0
SargassumSPOT20	2019/08/08	12:05	11.83018	-56.09376	PE455-S31.1	Pelagia	port	0	0

