

## Where does my jellyfish come from?

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The globally observed increase in jellyfish is a major concern due to the negative impacts on commercial activities (such as aquaculture and tourism) and their potential to disturb the trophic balance in marine ecosystems. In order to predict when and where massive jellyfish concentrations could develop, a better understanding of their population dynamics and dispersal is required. In 2013, a mass stranding of jellyfish occurred at the beaches of Belgium and The Netherlands. In order to learn more about the spreading of jellyfish, the OSERIT drift model was expanded to test several types of vertical swimming behaviours. Comparison of the back-calculated trajectories and field observations on polyps will help to further understand the role of swimming behaviour on spreading of jellyfish.

Keywords: jellyfish; spreading modelling; polyps