# Regional Microplastic Research Progress and Collaboration

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#### **Plastics Debris in Our Environment**



Source: www.pintrest.com/



Source: https://www.haikudeck.com



Source: www.eurolenta.com/



Source: www.texasenvironment.org



2018.11.19, a dead sperm whale at Indonesis Kapota Island, 6 kg of plastics in its stomach, 115 plastic cups, 25 plastic bags, 4 plastic bottles, 2 slippers and some plastic ropes

# **Definition of Microplastics**

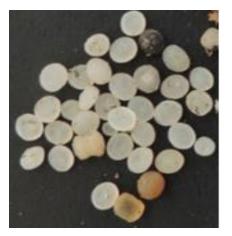
#### **Definition:** Plastic fragments or particles (less than

#### 5mm)

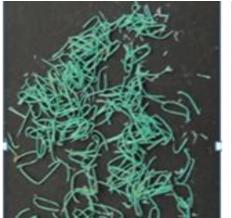
- Various shapes
- Component complexity
- Uneven size













Pellet Foam Fiber Fragme

# Characteristics of microplastics in marine environment

- Large surface area, persistent, extensive, fluidity hydrophobic
- Enrich pollutants (POPs, microorganism and Heavy metals, etc)
- Depositing into the deep sea





## **Sources of Marine Microplastics**

Primary source: Plastic particles from daily chemical products.





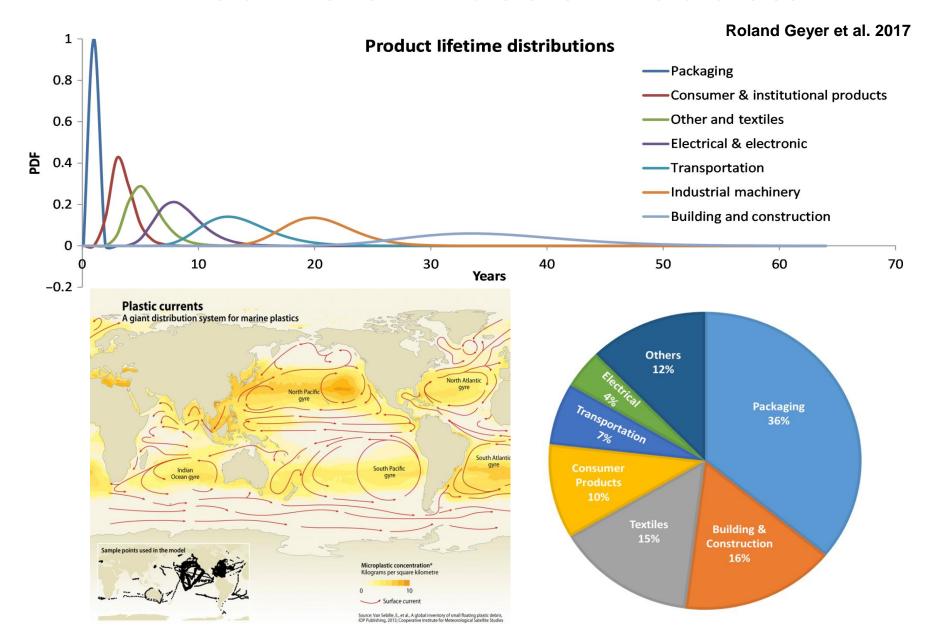
**Secondary source**: Break down of large pieces of plastics coming from land, shipping, aquaculture, and tourism



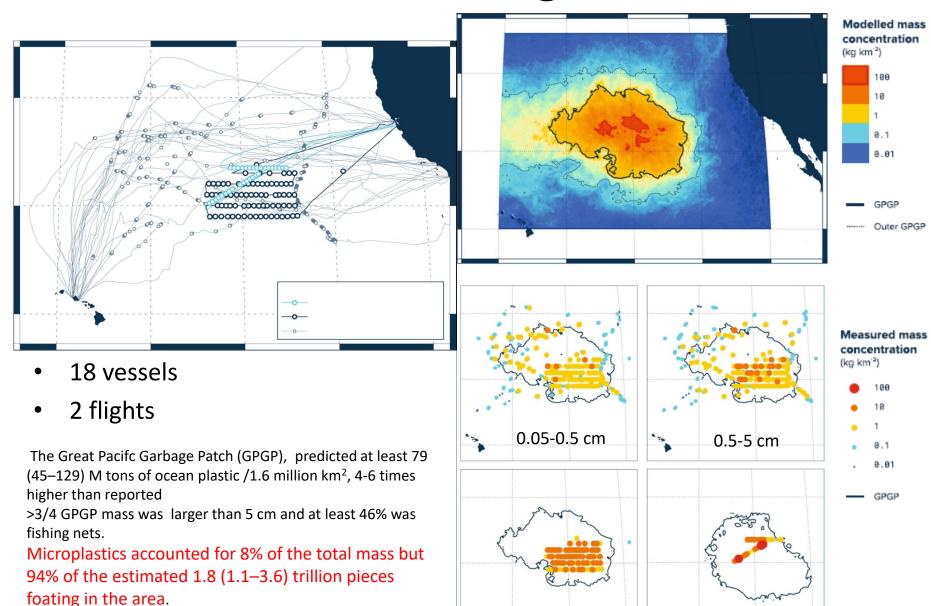




### **Lifetime of Plastic Products**



# Great Pacific Garbage Patch



5-50 cm

>50 cm

Lebreton, et al., 2018

## **Current Research Fileds**

- Establishment of standardized method for separation and analysis of microplastics;
- Temporal and spatial distribution of microplastics in various medium (offshore, lakes, rivers, sediments, organisms);
- Ecotoxic effects of microplastics;
- Marine microplastics pollution, Ecological risk Assessment system and Standards;
- Formulate policies and regulations to control and reduce pollution of microplastics, etc.

# Microplastic Identification

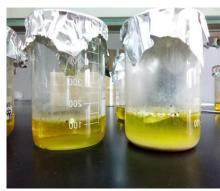
**Sampling** 

Sample Pretreatment

Sample Analysis

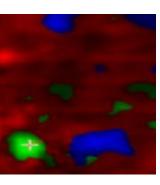








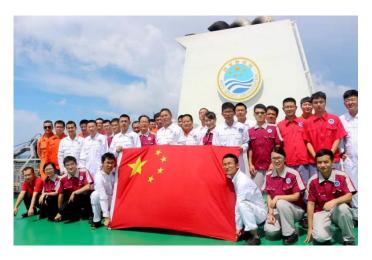




### **Our Research Work**



XIANGYANGHONG 01



XIANGYANGHONG 18

#### **WORK LIST**

Microplastics in surface seawater and water

column

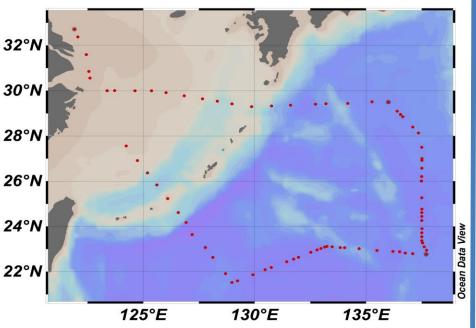
Microplastics in marine organisms

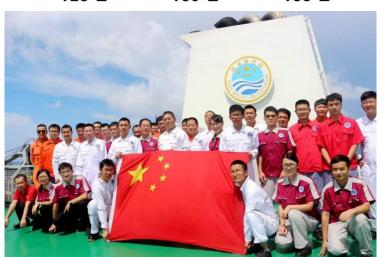
**Microplastics database** 

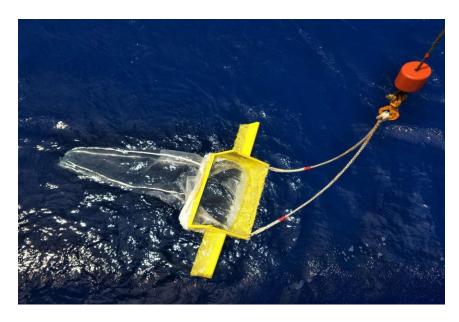
Microplastics and other pollutants

**International co-operation** 

## **Microplastics in Western Pacific**











# FIO/Global Voyage

中国首次环球海洋综合科学考察航次——航段示意图





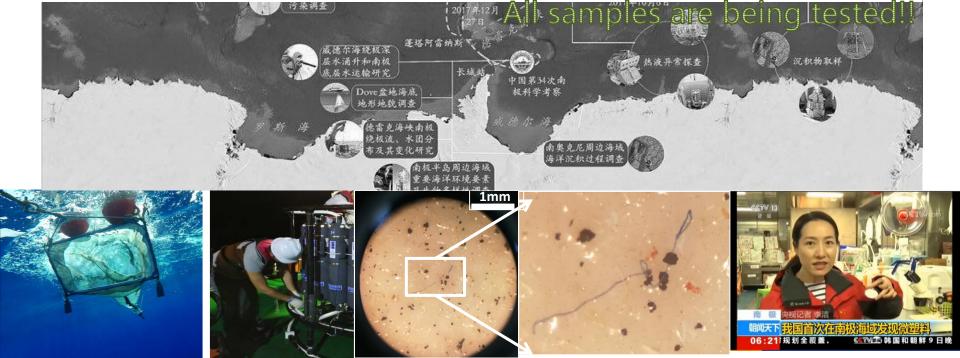
#### Sampling:

Water samples – hundreds

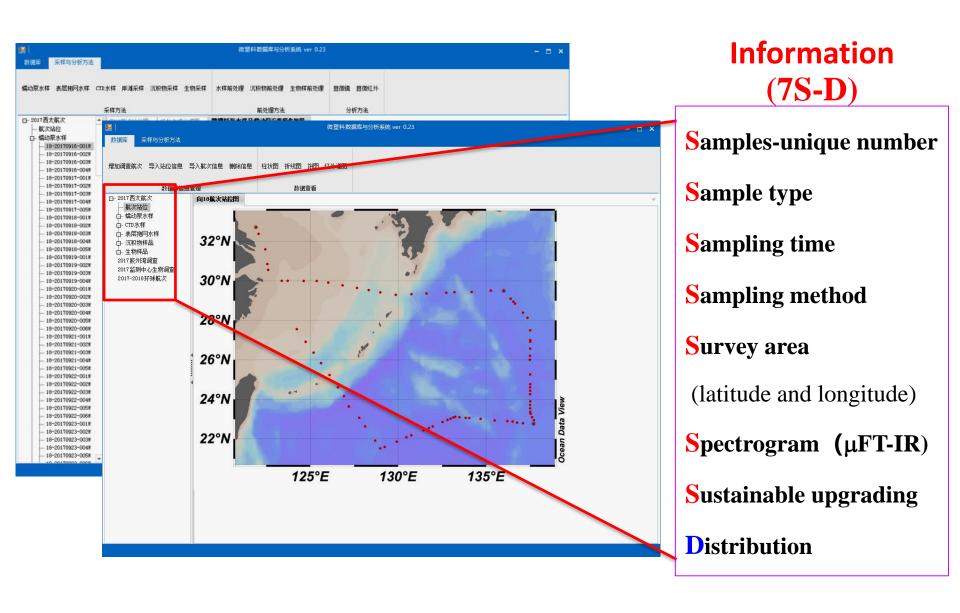
Horizontal: Sailing surface water and Trawling samples; vertical:CTD

Sediments – a few

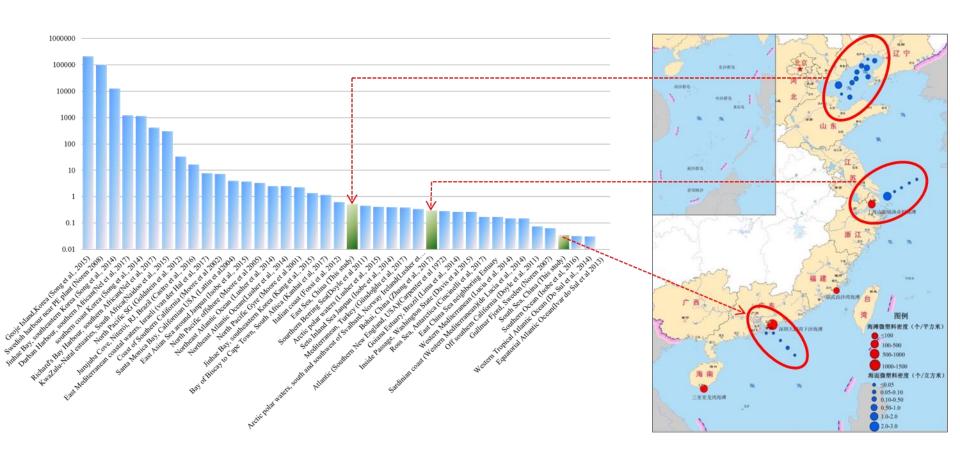
**Organic samples –a few** 



## **Microplastics Database**



# Regional: Surface Water Microplastics Abundance (n/m³)



# Regional: Beach and Sediment Study in China



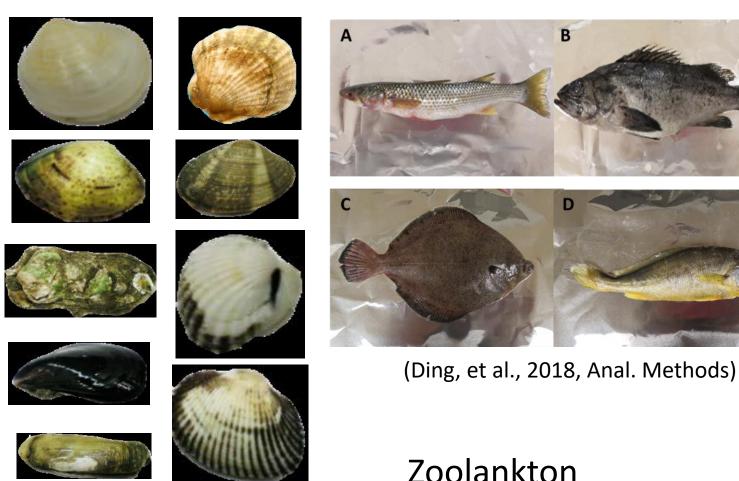
**2016** 中国海洋环境状况公报



**2017**年 中国海洋环境状况公报



## Regional: Marine Organisms Study in China



(Li et al 2015. EP)

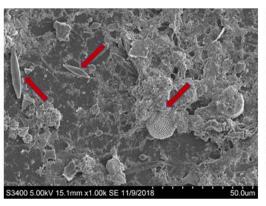
Zoolankton Mussel as bioindicator

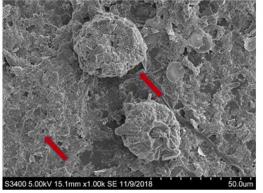
## **Other Regional Work**

- Flux and Transportation Study
- Biotoxicity Study
- Modeling
- Policy
- Non-profit organizations

#### Recent China-Southeast Asian Marine Cooperation Forum

#### The "Plastisphere"





Diverse organisms attached on the biofilm

Deo Florence L. Onda MSI of Philippines



Andreas D Patria CMMA, Indonesia

plastic is identified as a major pollutant but the recycling campaigns over the years have had too little impact

Research by the Ocean Conservancy showed that more than half the plastic coming from South and Southeast Asia goes into the ocean because of a lack of developed waste and recycling systems.



nttps://www.shutterst k.com/video/clip-17566201-sandakannalaysia---23-june-2016-pollution Sandakan, Malaysia

Plastic litter in the

ocean in Semporna,

Carey / Shutterstock.

**Phaik- Eem Lim** 

Malaysia. Image: Rich What's being done? Conducting Research National Agency Action ✓ Macro-, Meso- and Micro-Plastics √ National Plan of Action for Combating Marine Plastic Debris ✓ Different Environmental Matrices √ Occurrence, Fate and Impact Policy Brief endorsing new local regulation Local Agency Action DLHK Pemprov Kepri Citizen Sciences Winged Ambassadors (Under Graduated Students) World Clean-up Day in Riau Island Province

Agung Dhamar Syakti Raja Ali Haji Maritime University

#### Transboundary problem, need international collaboration

# International co-operation



#### **Future Direction**

- Strengthen international cooperation and exchange
- Establish standard methods and specifications for investigation of microplastics
- Improvement and Optimization of qualitative and quantitative methods for Microplastics
- Strengthening the investigation and Research of OpenOcean Microplastics
- Intensive study on the mechanism of migration, diffusion and ecological effect of microplastics

### Acknowledgements

#### **FIO Research team**

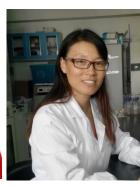
- □ Kuan Wang, Academician, The Taiwan Academy of Sciences, Advisor
- □Seven senior research scientist from chemistry, biology, physical oceanography































- The Basic Scientific Fund for National Public Research Institutes of China (No. 2016Q02)
- > The Research Cooperation and Exchange of Marine Litter and Microplastics (No. QY0518011)
  - The Basic Scientific Fund for National Public Research Institutes of China (No. 2017Y03)

