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Elaine T Spiller* (elaine.spiller@marquette.edu) and **D W Han**. *Data assimilation and model error for an idealized 3D ocean eddy.*

A simple kinematic model of a wind-forced three dimensional ocean eddy can illuminate complex dynamics of the fluid flow. However, a kinematic model alone cannot hope to perfectly describe reality or the data one may collect. As such we propose modeling the difference between the kinematic model and data as a random function which we refer to as a bias. Once the random function is fit, we use the now bias-corrected kinematic model to explore the eddy dynamics. (Received September 25, 2012)