

Optical Remote Sensing of marine and inland waters Main results of the BELCOLOUR-2 project (2007-2011)

1. Management Unit of the North Sea Mathematical Models (MUMM/RBINS)
2. Laboratoire d'Ecologie des Systèmes Aquatiques (ULB/ESA)
3. Vlaamse Instelling voor Technologisch Onderzoek (VITO)
4. Unité d'Océanographie Chimique, Université de Liège (ULg)
5. Laboratoire d'Océanographie de Villefranche, France (LOV)
6. CSIRO Land and Water, Australia (CSIRO)



“What’s in the water”? (How much information can we extract?)

- Mass concentration of particles?
- Size distribution of particles?
- Algal or non-algal?
- What species of algae?
- How much carbon is it fixing/day?
- Dissolved CO₂ concentration?
- Conc./typ of Dissolved organic matter?
- How transparent?

+ **space-time variation (and cause/effect)**

BUT

- Viewing through atmosphere
- Possibly also viewing sea bottom

Applications

Sediment
transport

Ecosystem
dynamics
(phytoplankton)

Water quality
(EU monitoring)

Carbon cycle

Marine science
(inc. benthos)

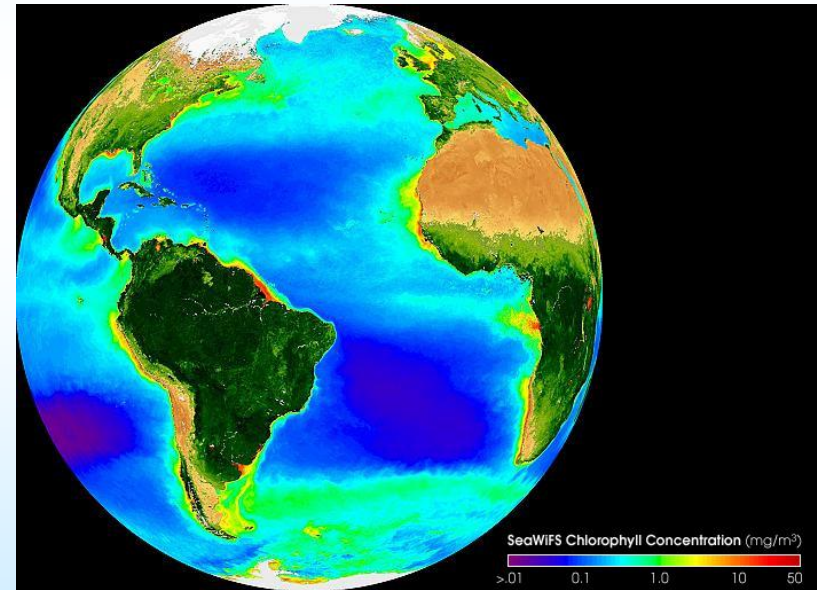
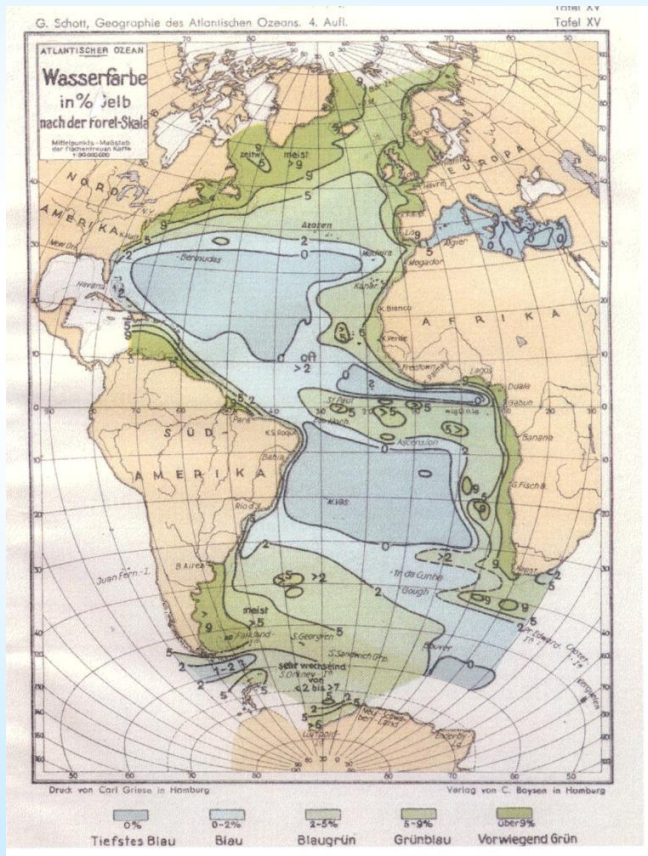


1. Introduction
2. Application Results
3. Science Results
4. Conclusions

History

Forel-Ule measurements
 [Schott, 1944!] in [Wernand, 2010]

SeaWiFS chlorophyll a
 [NASA]



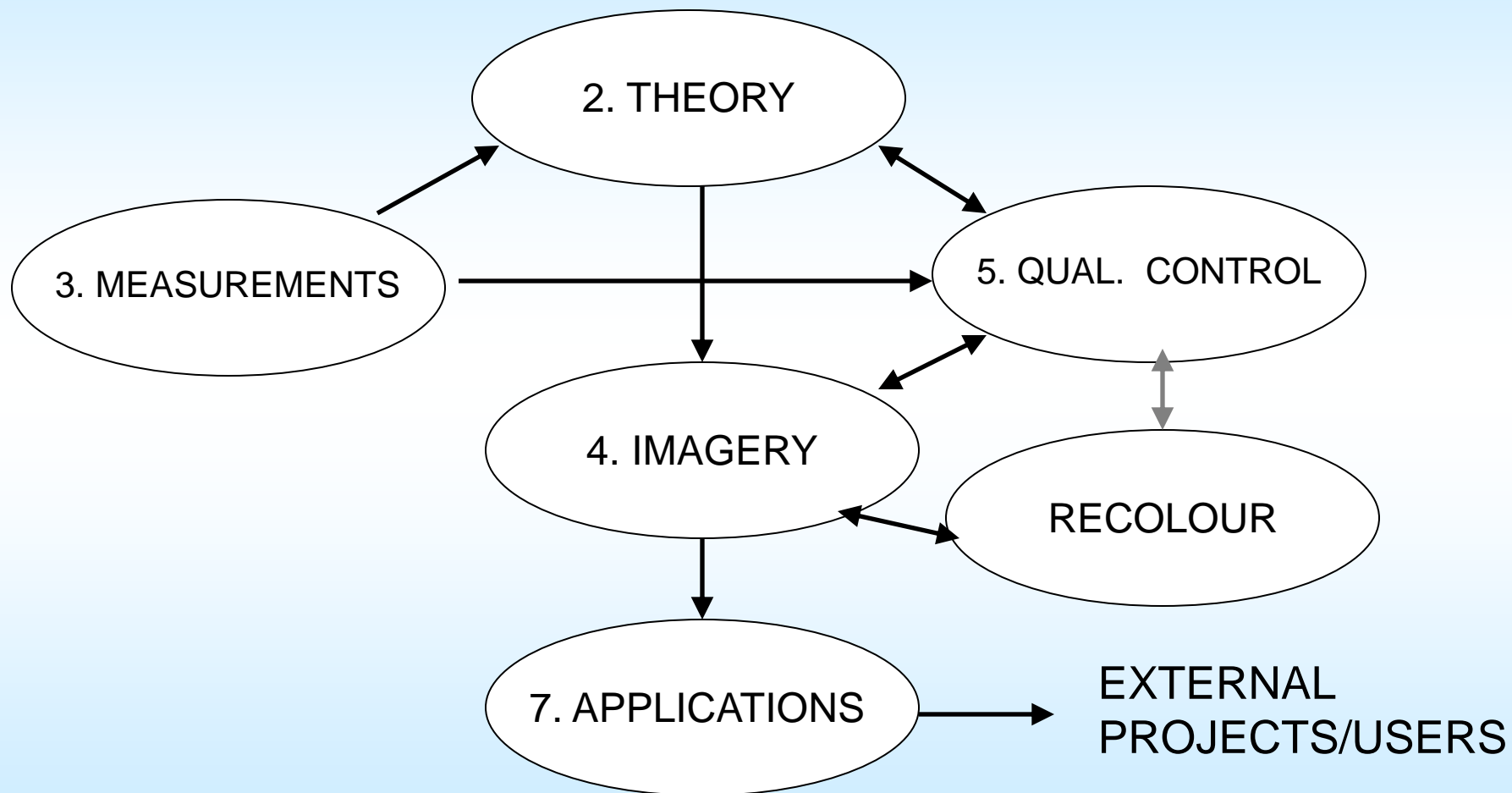
The BELCOLOUR-2 project

- **Objectives:**
 - To improve the quality of chlorophyll and total suspended matter-based products
 - To develop new optical remote sensing products, including pCO₂ and primary production
- **Project duration: January 2007 – December 2011**
- **Funded by Belgian Federal Science Policy Office, STEREO programme (SR/00/03): 1.07M€ (+0.16 M€ RECOLOUR)**
 - ✓ **5 years funding**
 - ✓ **Easy admin (yearly reporting, budget transfers)**
 - ✓ **Constructive support and Steering Committee**
 - ✓ **Funding for international partners**
- **Partners: MUMM, ULB/ESA, VITO/TAP, ULg-Chim., LOV (Fr), CSIRO (Aus) + RECOLOUR (2007-8): ULg/GHER + ad hoc intl. (ULCO, etc.)**

The Partners

- **BELCOLOUR-2 BE:**
 - MUMM: algorithms, satellite imagery, env . apps
 - ULB/ESA: phytoplankton, primary production, IOPs
 - VITO/TAP: airborne, atmospheric correction, inland waters
 - ULg-Chim: carbon dynamics, air-sea flux, CO₂
- **BELCOLOUR-2 foreign:**
 - LOV: scattering, turbid waters, suspended matter
 - CSIRO: algorithms, satellite imagery, env. apps
- **RECOLOUR**
 - ULg-GHER: statistical analysis, EOF, data filling

Project structure



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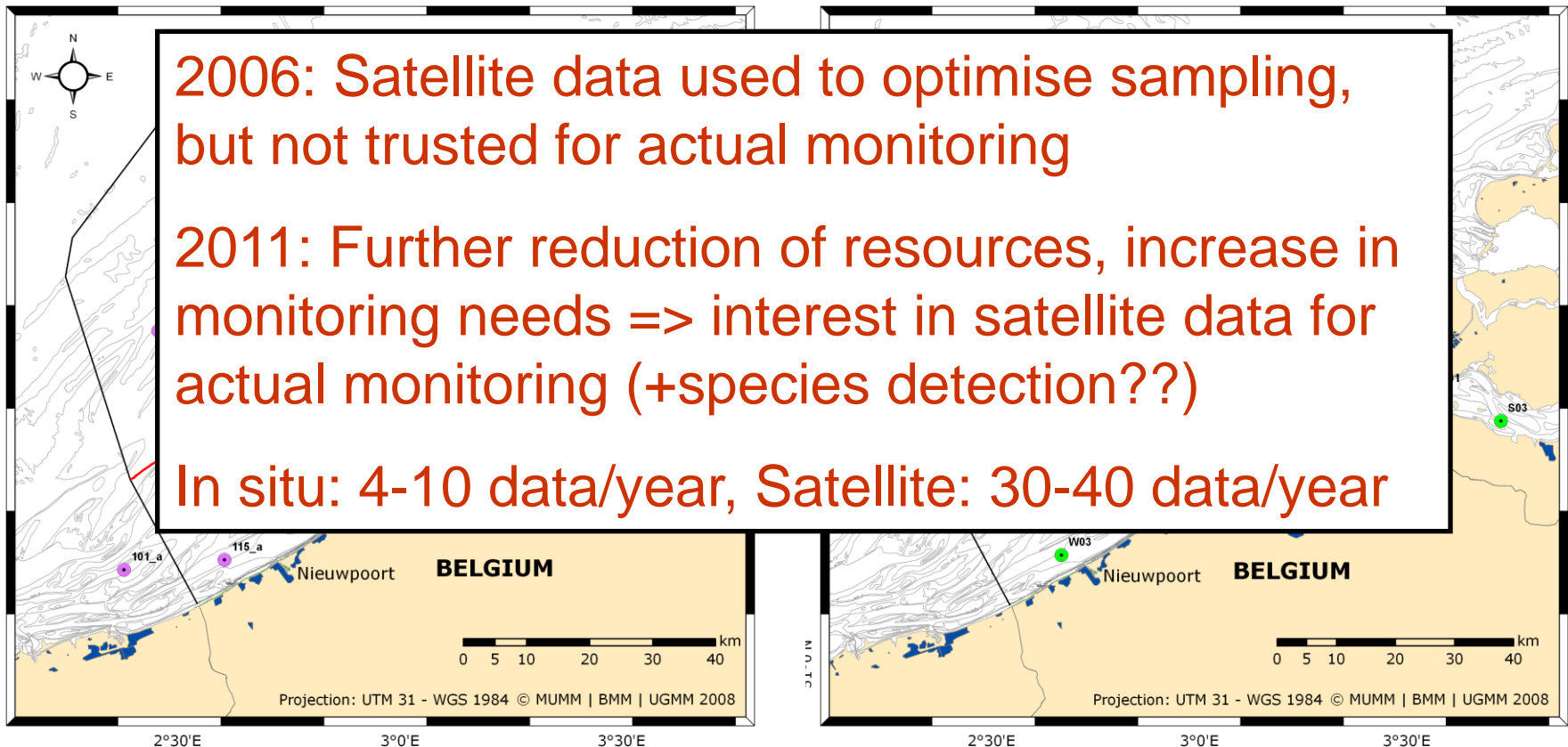
Applications

App #1: Eutrophication monitoring (optimisation) Reorganisation of BE monitoring network

[Ruddick et al, in “Remote Sensing of the European Seas”, 2008]

Before 2007 (17+2)

After 2007 (10+2)

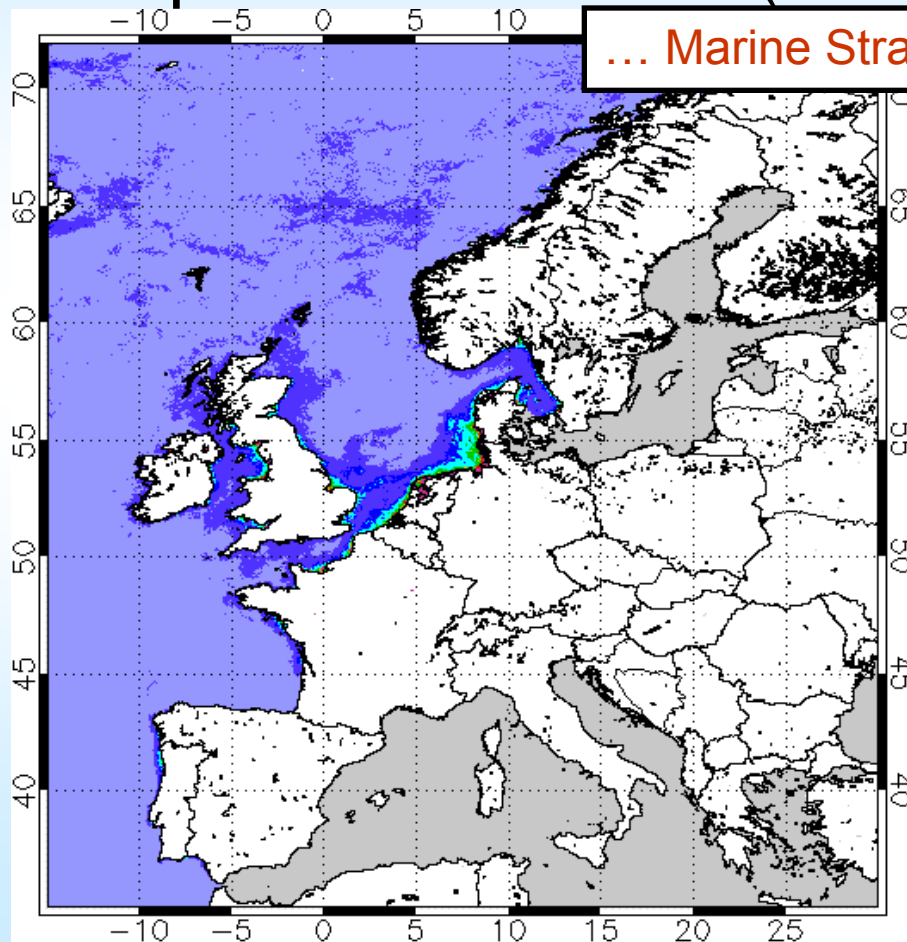


App #2: Eutrophication assessment

[In “Second OSPAR Integrated Report on the Eutrophication Status ...”, 2008]

- 90 percentile CHL in 2006 (OSPAR Eutrophication cttee)

... Marine Strategy Framework Directive (2014)



Satellite data is:

- Neutral, transparent
- Spatially extensive
- Cross-boundary

Relevant for:

- OSPAR “screening”
- Supplementing *in situ* [F. Gohin]

[MERIS data from
 ACRI/ MARCOAST,
 processed MUMM]

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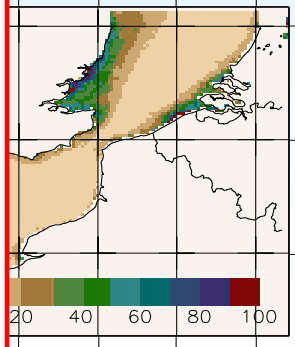
App #3: Ecosystem model support

1. TSM for light forcing

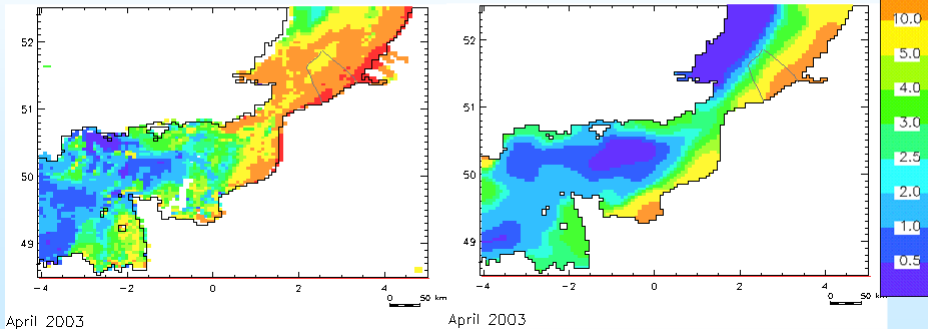
2008 4-season TSM climatology

2010 RECOLOUR daily TSM 2003-6

2012 SEVIRI/DINEOF 15-min KdPAR?



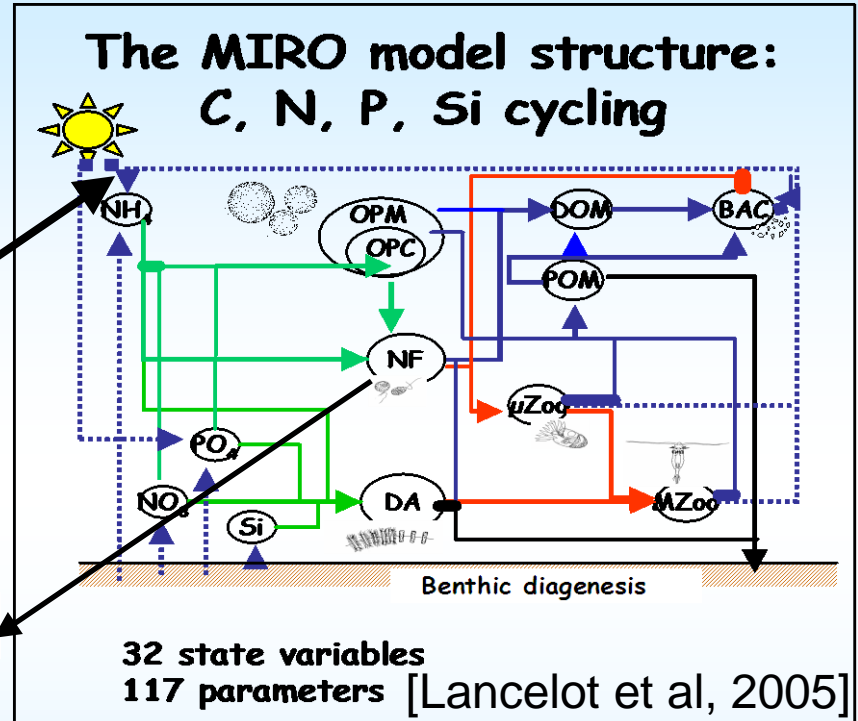
2. CHL a for validation



April 2003

April 2003

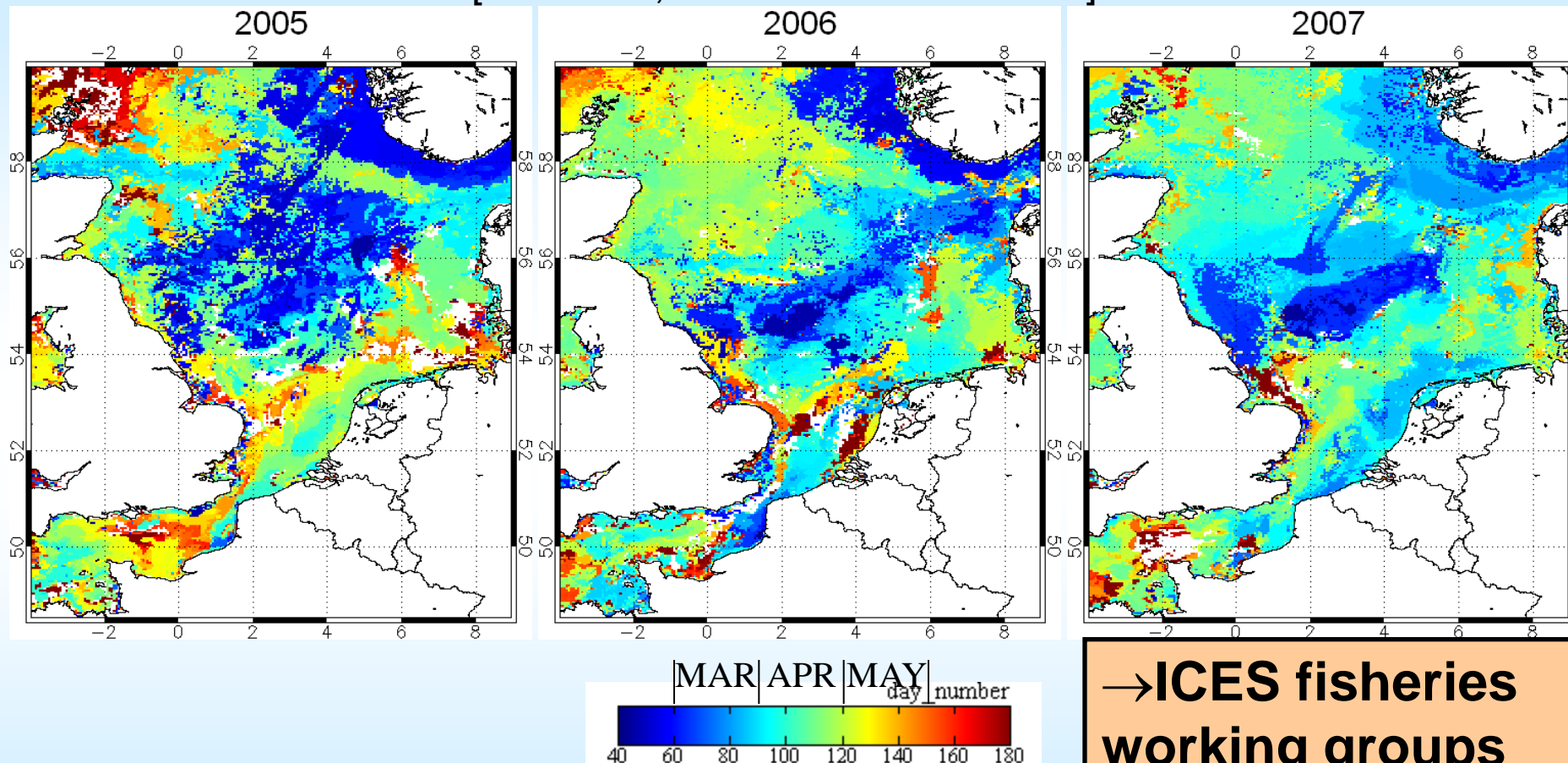
The MIRO model structure: C, N, P, Si cycling



32 state variables
 117 parameters [Lancelot et al, 2005]

[Lacroix et al, 2007]

App #4: Algal bloom timing in the North Sea [Park et al, Int. J. Rem Sens. 2011]

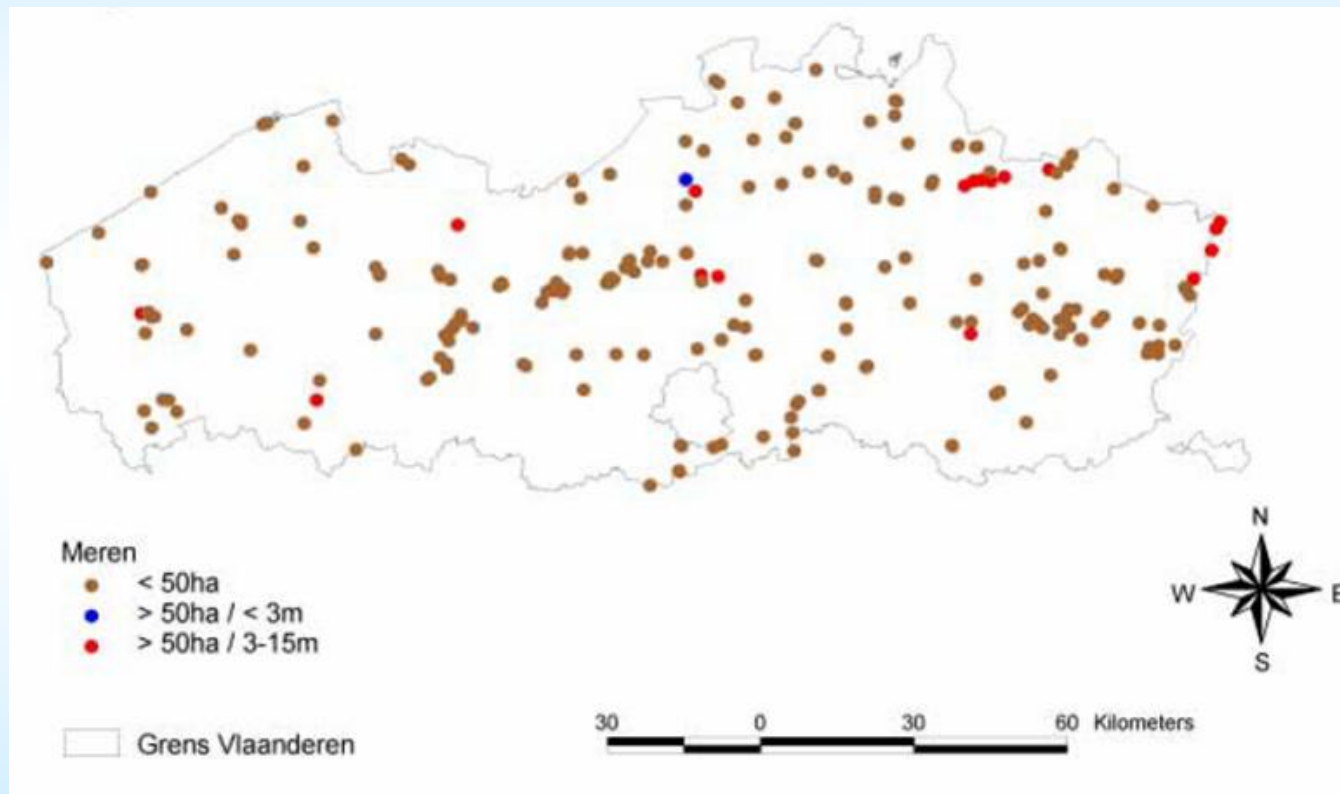


→ ICES fisheries working groups

1. Early blooms in Norwegian coastal current, central North Sea
 2. Late blooms in turbid water in east UK coast, German bight, western channel
- => Significant spatial and interannual variabilities in the North Sea

App#5: Inland water monitoring

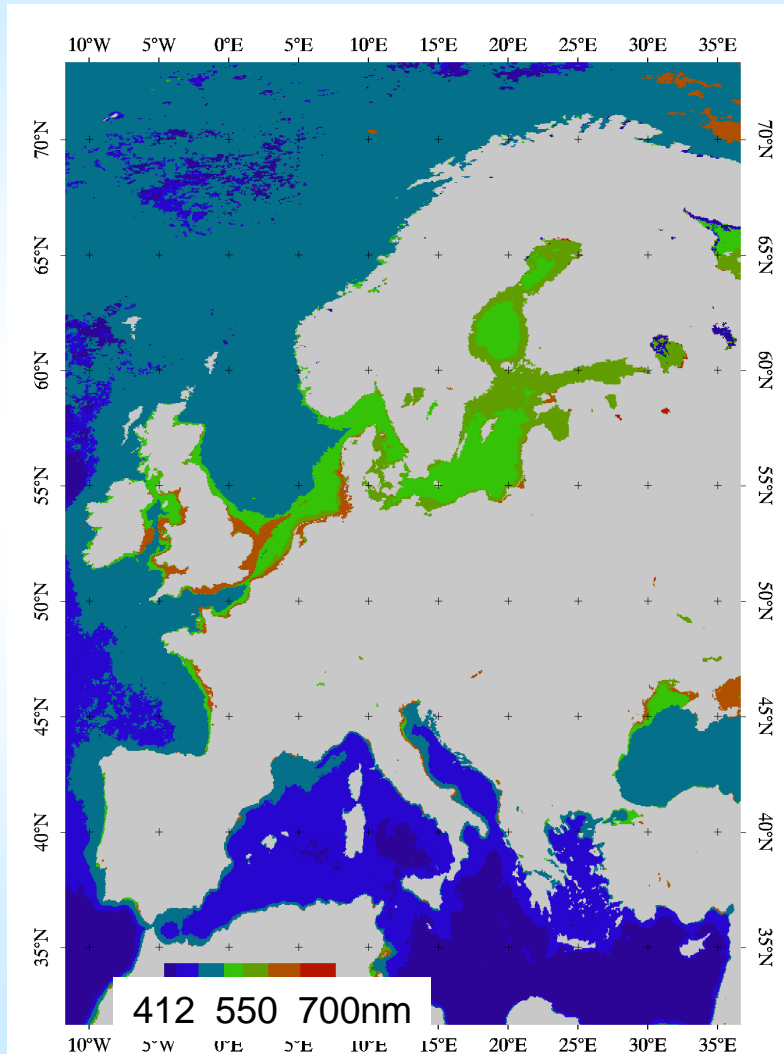
- Review of Water Framework Directive reqts [VITO/BELCOLOUR report]



[Map from <http://www.ciwvlaanderen.be/>]

App #6: Underwater light climate (fish genetics)

[Larmuseau et al, Molecular Ecology, 2009]



- Wavelength of maximally transmitted light (WMTL) from MODIS data of 2007
- Light climate influences fish evolution (vision)?

Future perspectives:

Use of optical remote sensing data of light climate for applications in habitat adaptation of visual predators ... evolution studies??

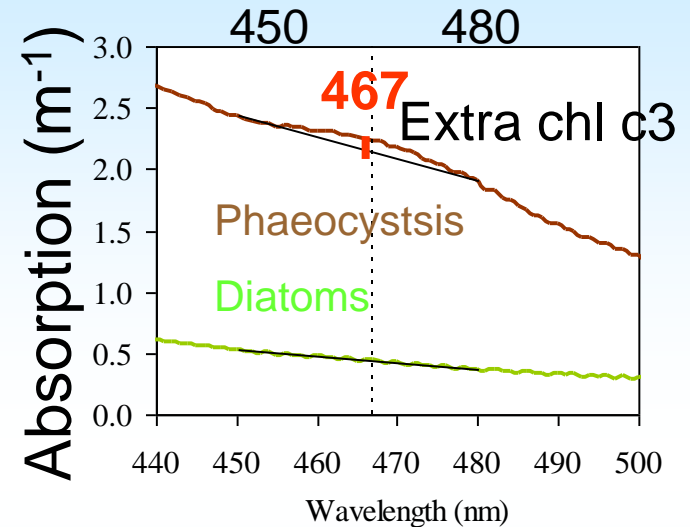
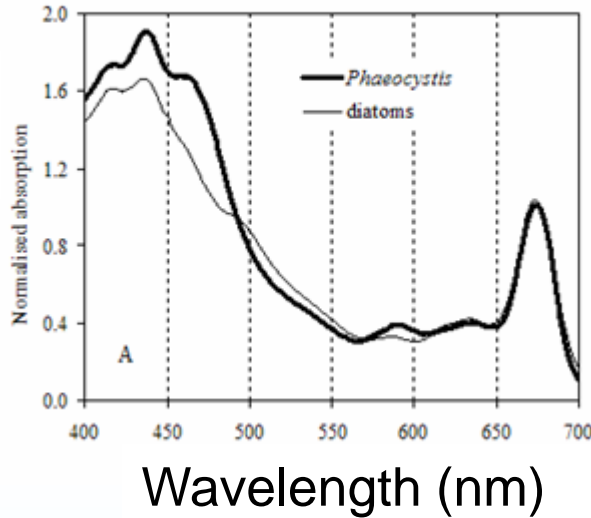
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Science results (selected)

Detection of *Phaeocystis globosa*

[Astoreca et al, J. Plankton Research, 2009]

Normalised absorption



Absorption algorithm

$$a_{c3}(467) = a_t(467) - 0.43 * a_t(450) - 0.57 * a_t(480)$$

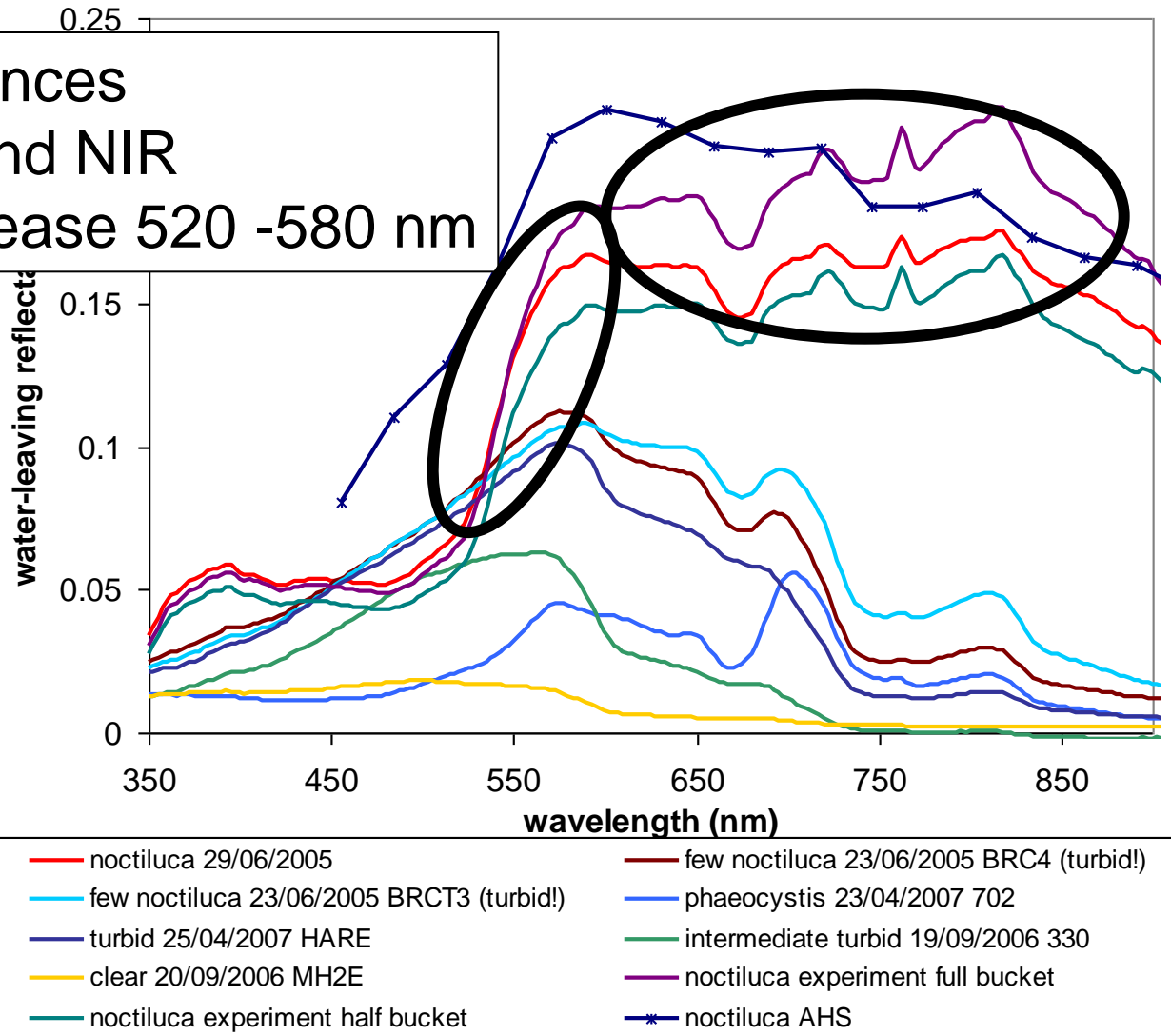
Reflectance algorithm

$$a_{c3}(467) = [(1 / \rho_w(467)) - (0.43 / \rho_w(450)) - 0.57 / \rho_w(480)] * a_w(700) * \rho_w(700)$$

Detection of *Noctiluca scintillans*

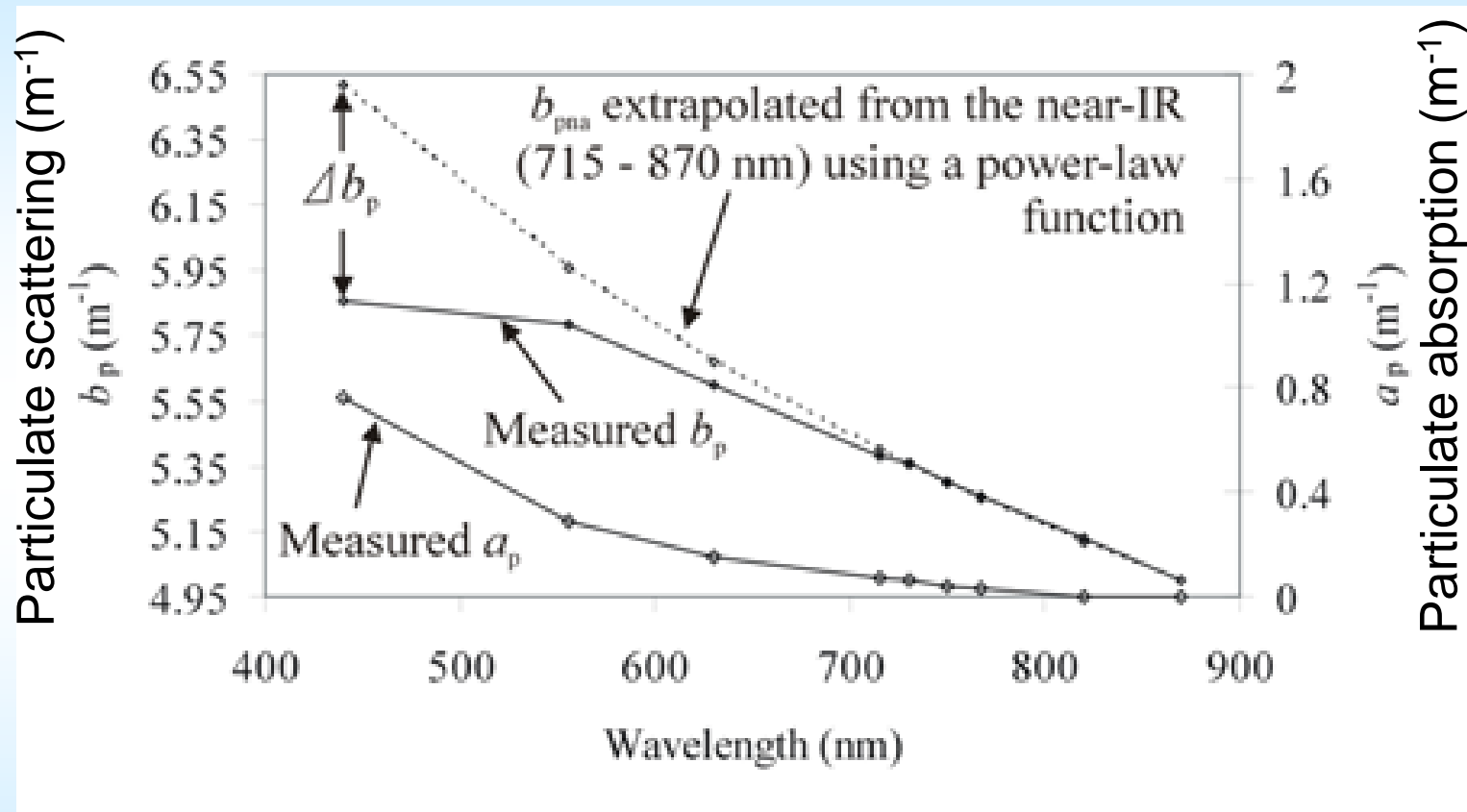
[Van Mol et al, EARSEL eProceedings, 2007]

Main differences
 - high red and NIR
 - sharp increase 520 -580 nm



Spectral variation of scattering from near infrared to visible

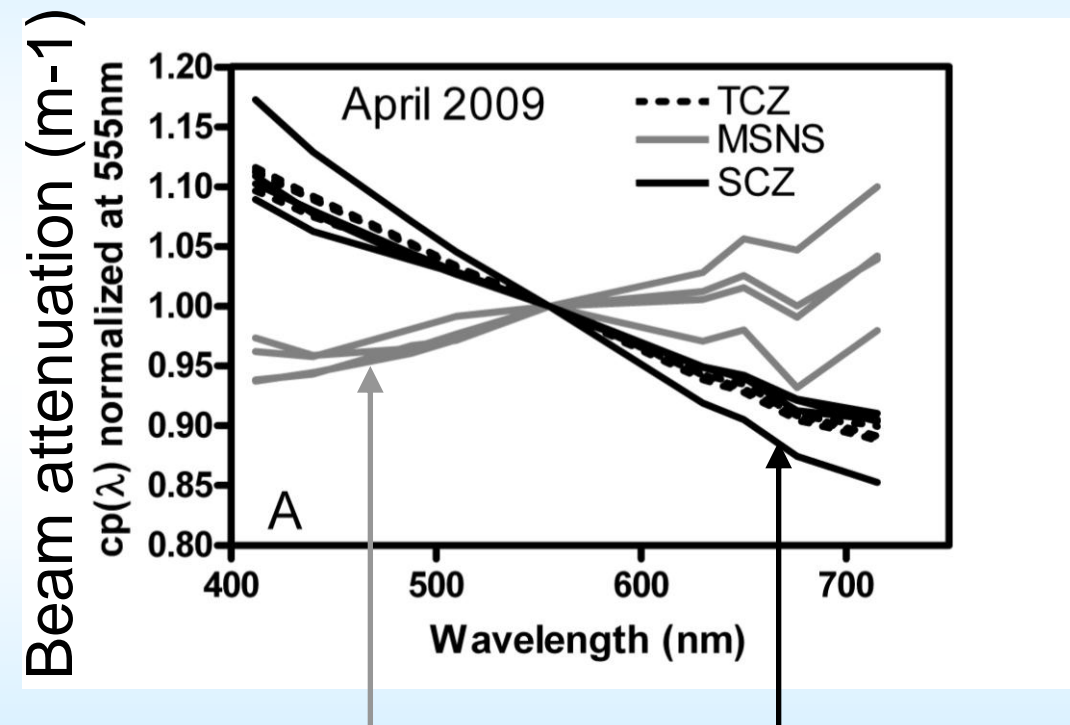
[Doxaran et al, Limnology and Oceanology, 2009]



- The relation between Δb_p and a_p is function of particle size dist.
- Next step: similar analysis for backscatter (with new instrument) ...

Spectral variation of particulate scattering

[Astoreca et al, submitted to Continental Shelf Research, 2011]

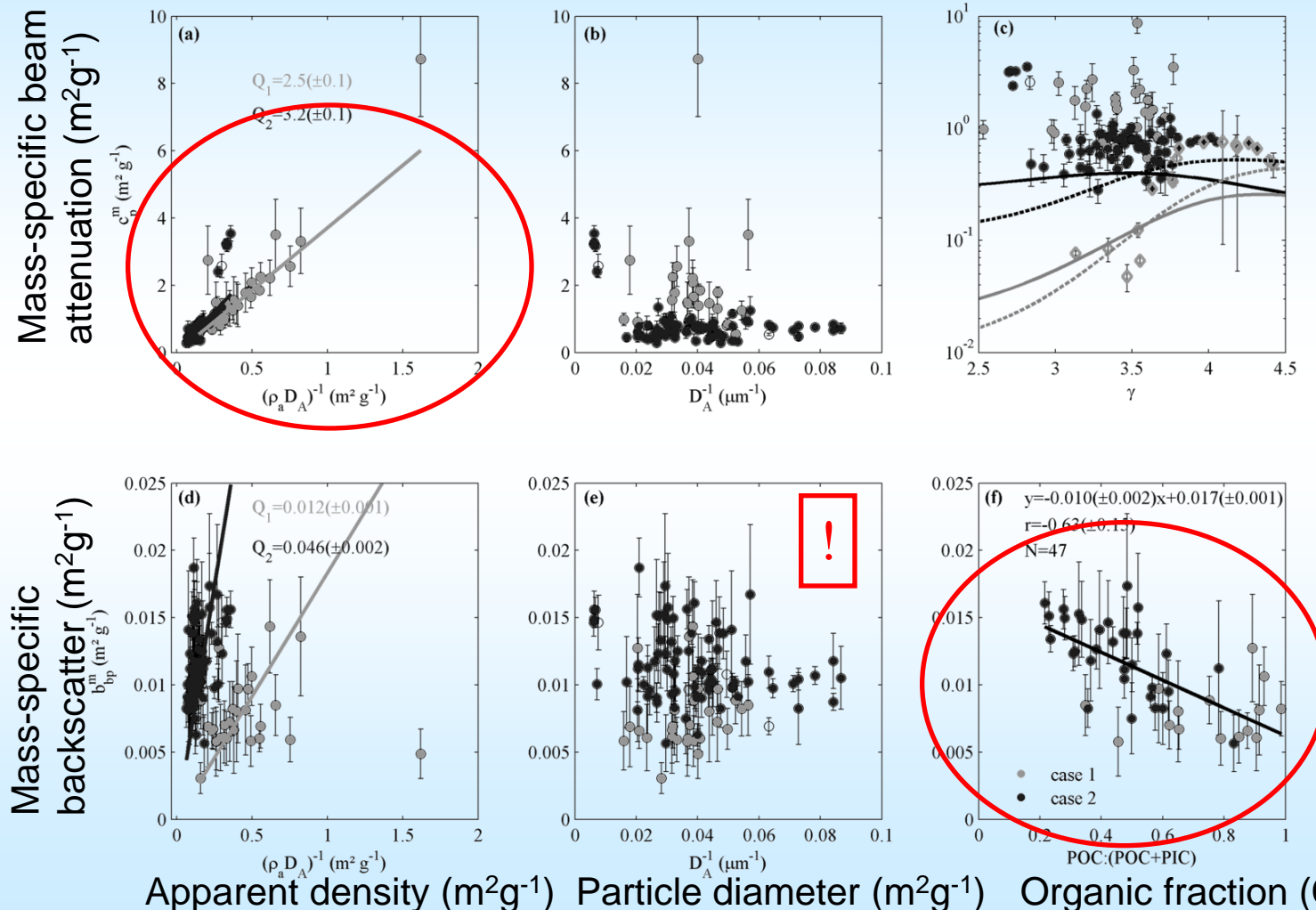


- Spectral variation depends on particle type and size
- Phytoplankton $\sim 7\mu\text{m}$ give anomalous positive slope
- In situ measurements confirmed by lab experiments and Mie theory simulations

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Mass-specific Particulate beam attenuation (c_p) and backscatter (b_{bp})

[Neukermans et al, submitted to Limnology and Oceanography, 2011]

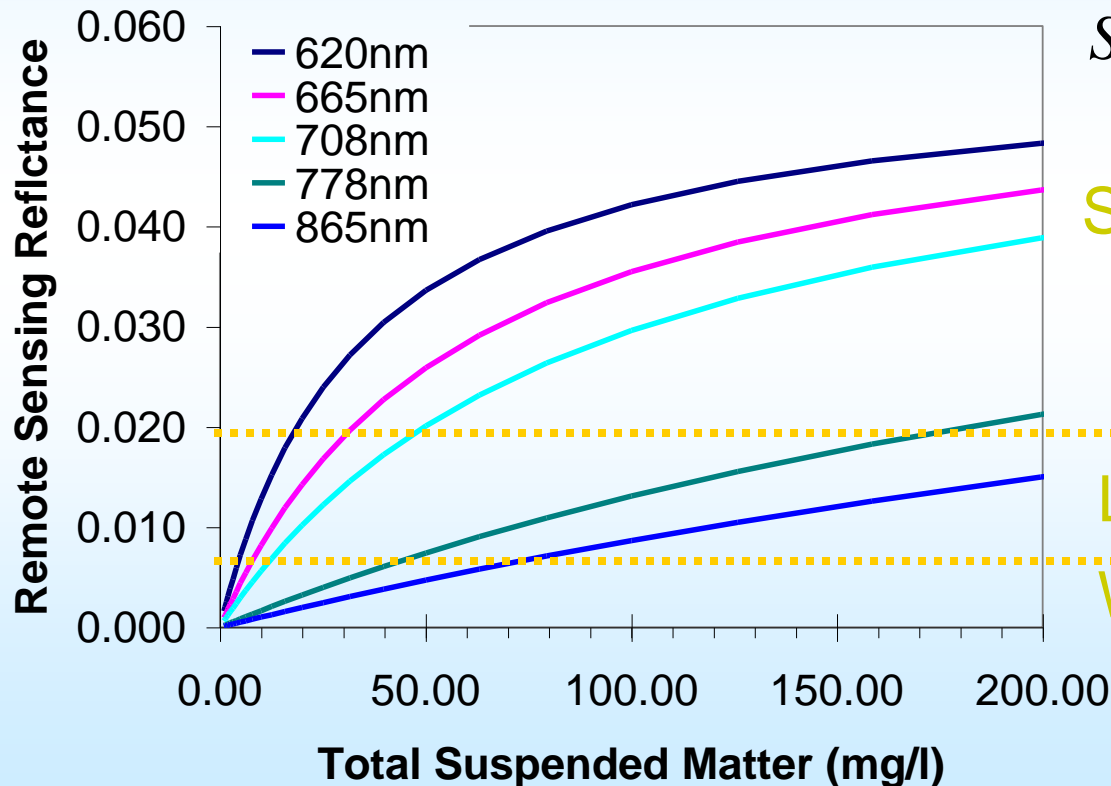


- Regions:
- S. North Sea (BE/UK/FR/NL)
 - Channel (FR/EN)
 - Atlantic (FR/SP)
 - Ligurian (IT/FR)
 - Fr. Guyana

One band TSM retrieval algorithms

[Nechad et al, Rem. Sens Env., 2010]

- Remote-sensing reflectance, R_{rs} , at any single wavelength, λ , is almost linearly related to Total Suspended Matter, S



$$S = \left\{ \frac{A \lambda}{1 - R_{rs} \lambda / C} \right\} R_{rs} \lambda$$

SATURATION

LINEAR (optimal)

WEAK SIGNAL

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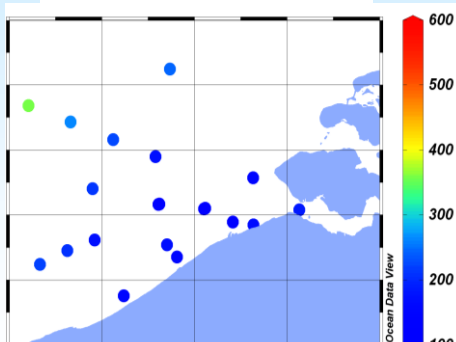
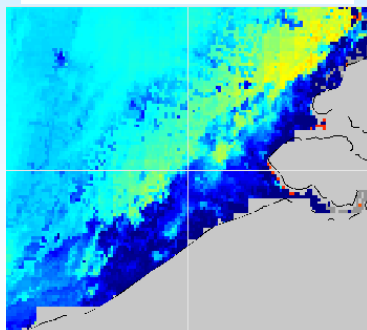
Dissolved CO₂

[Borges et al, ESA Living Planet Proceedings, 2010]

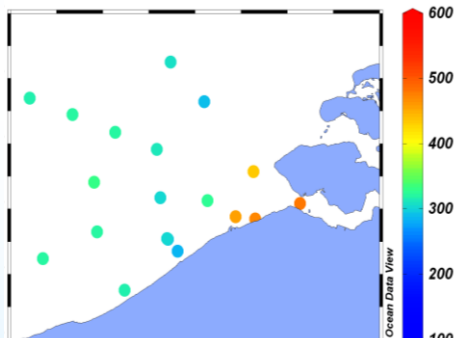
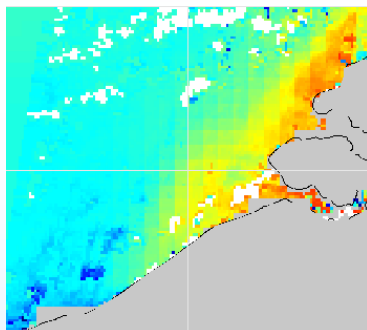
Estimated
pCO₂@10 C

In situ
pCO₂@10 C

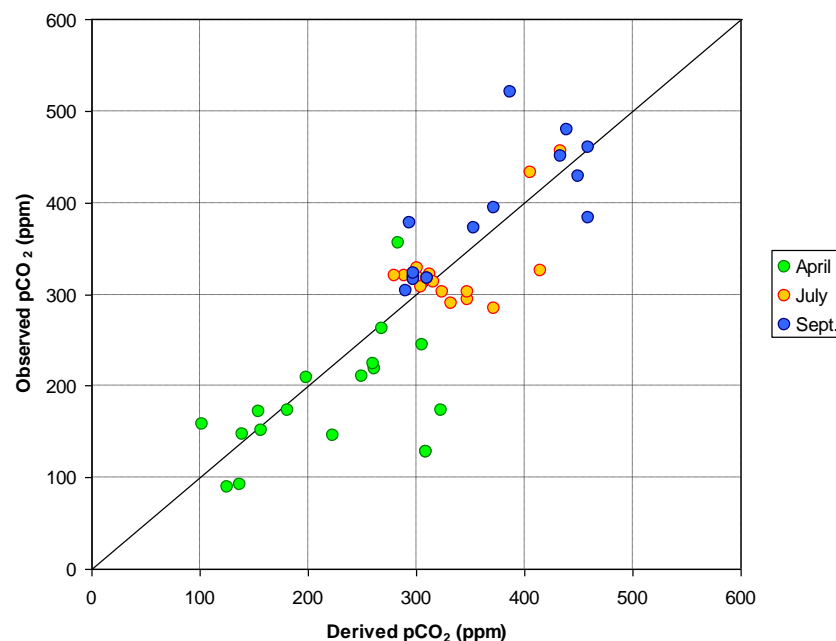
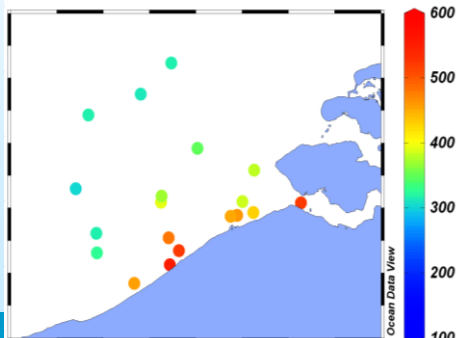
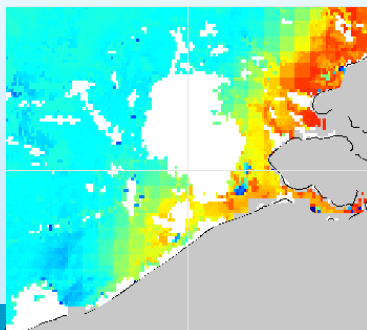
Apr
2007



Jul
2007



Sep
2007



pCO₂ algorithm has input:

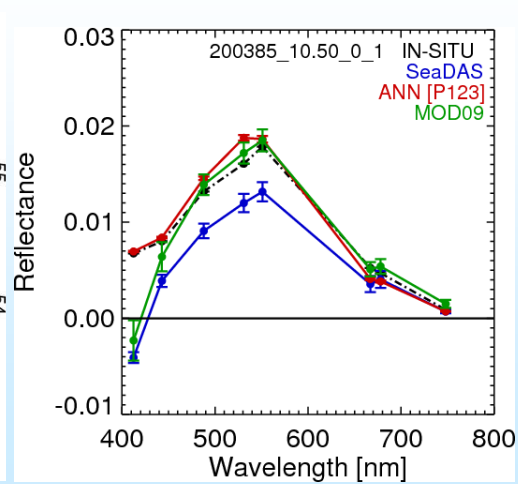
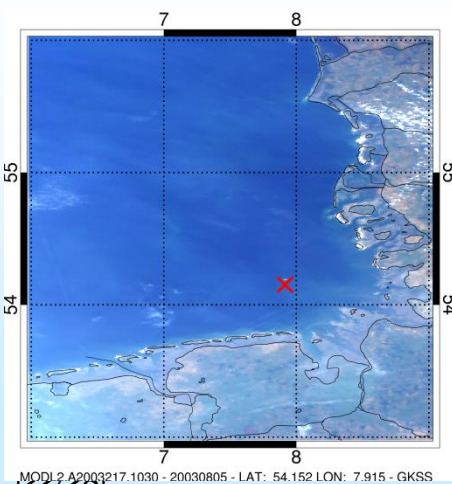
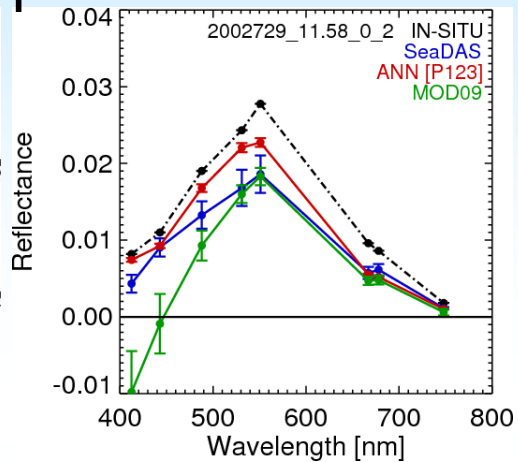
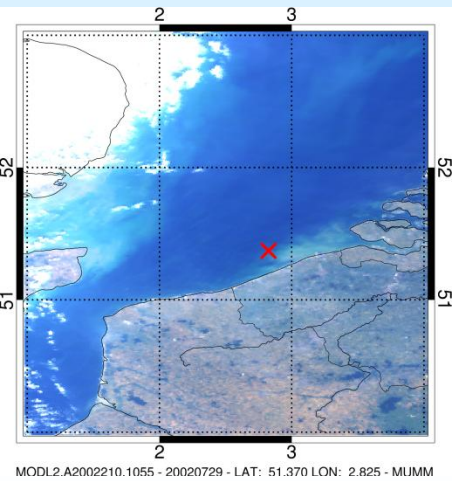
- hydrodynamic model salinity
- satellite Chlorophyll

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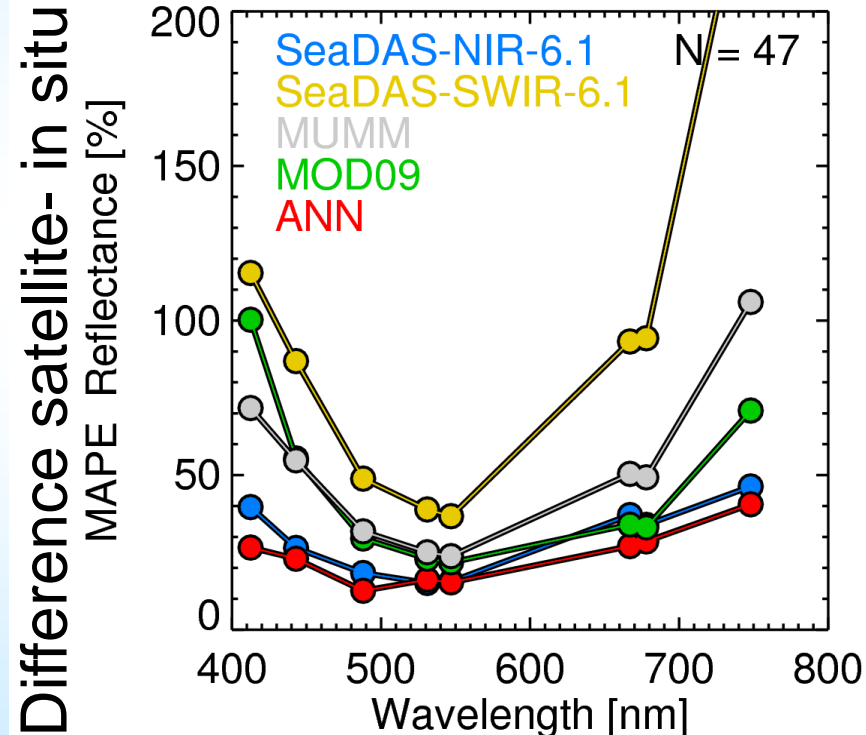
Atmospheric correction inter-comparison

[Schroeder et al, in prep]

2 examples



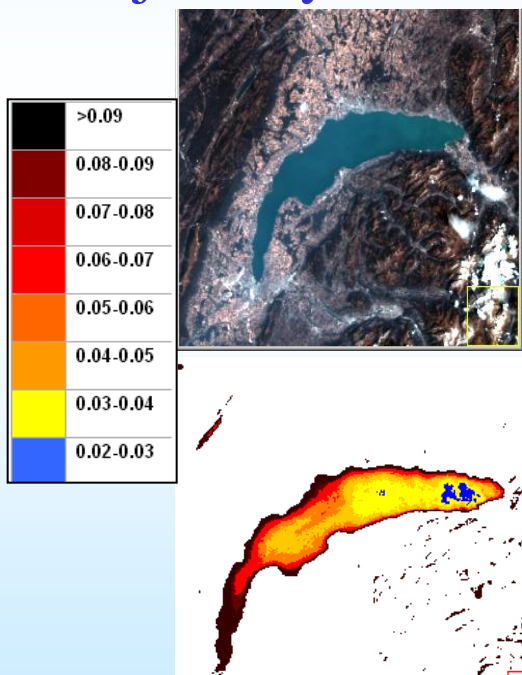
All 47 matchups



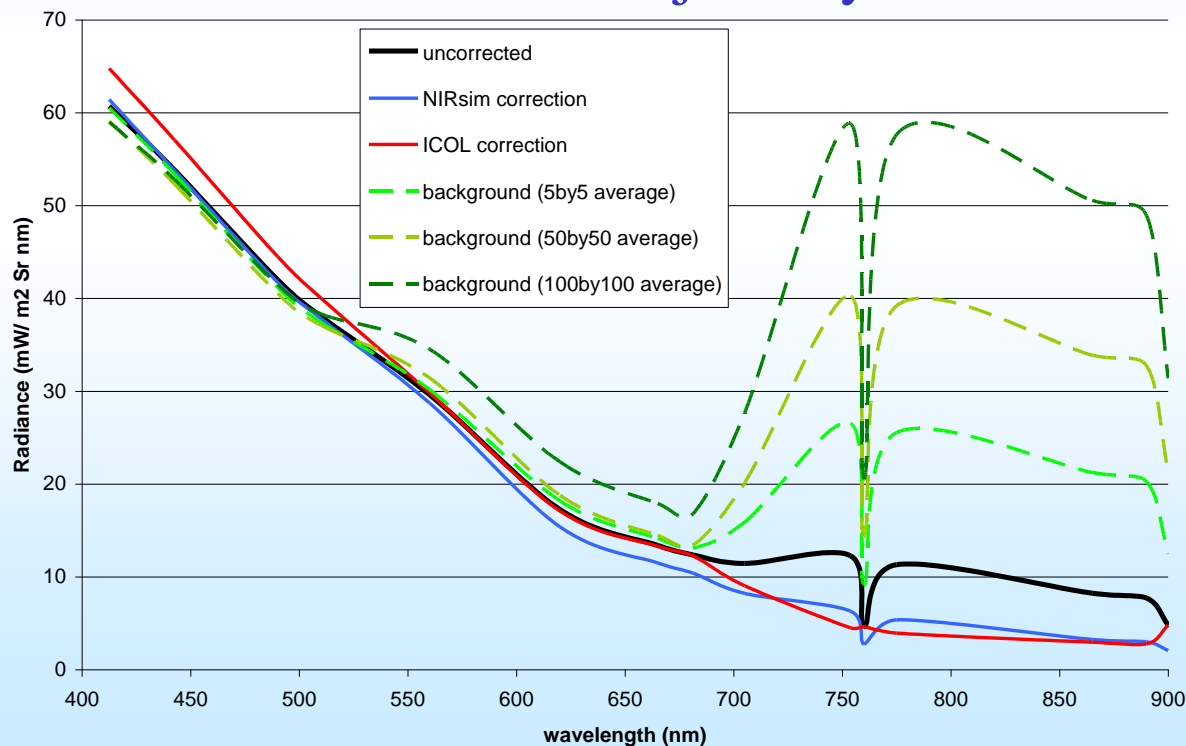
Adjacency detection and correction with the NIR similarity spectrum: application to airborne and MERIS data

[Sterckx et al, Int. J. Rem. Sens, in press]

Adjacency detection



Adjacency correction



In situ evidence of **non-zero SWIR reflectance** in the Scheldt

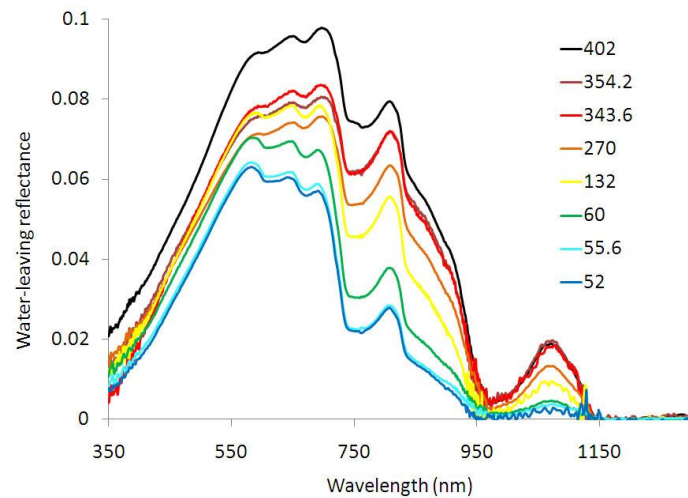
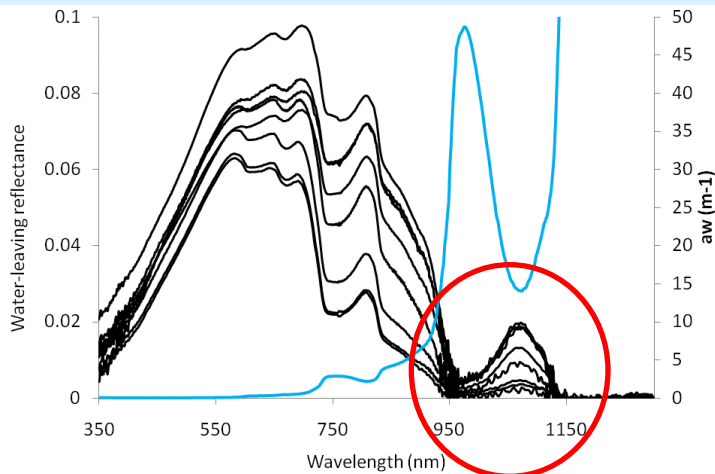
[Knaeps et al, submitted to Rem. Sens. Env]



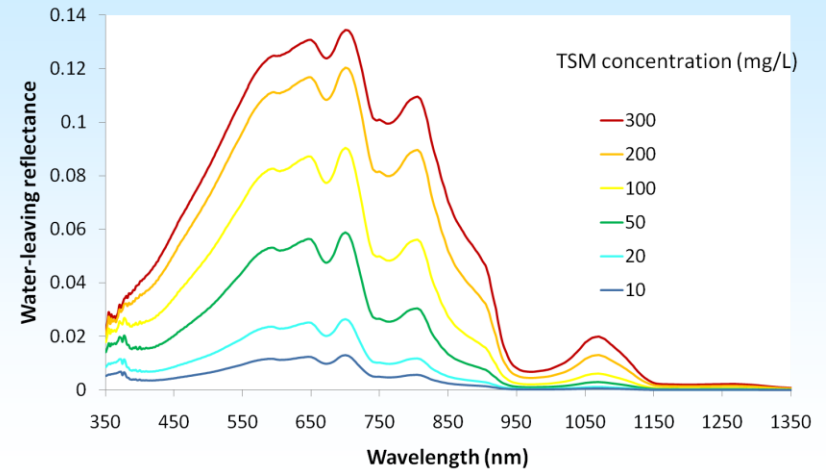
Belgian Earth Observation Day
Oudenburg, 25th May 2011

ASD water reflectance

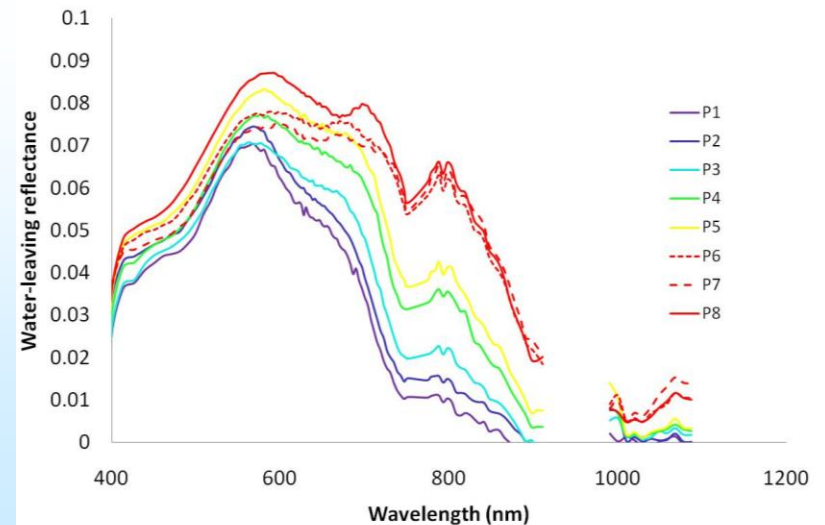
Pure water absorption coefficient (Pope & Fry, 1997; Kou et al., 1993)



Simulated water reflectance with Hydrolight

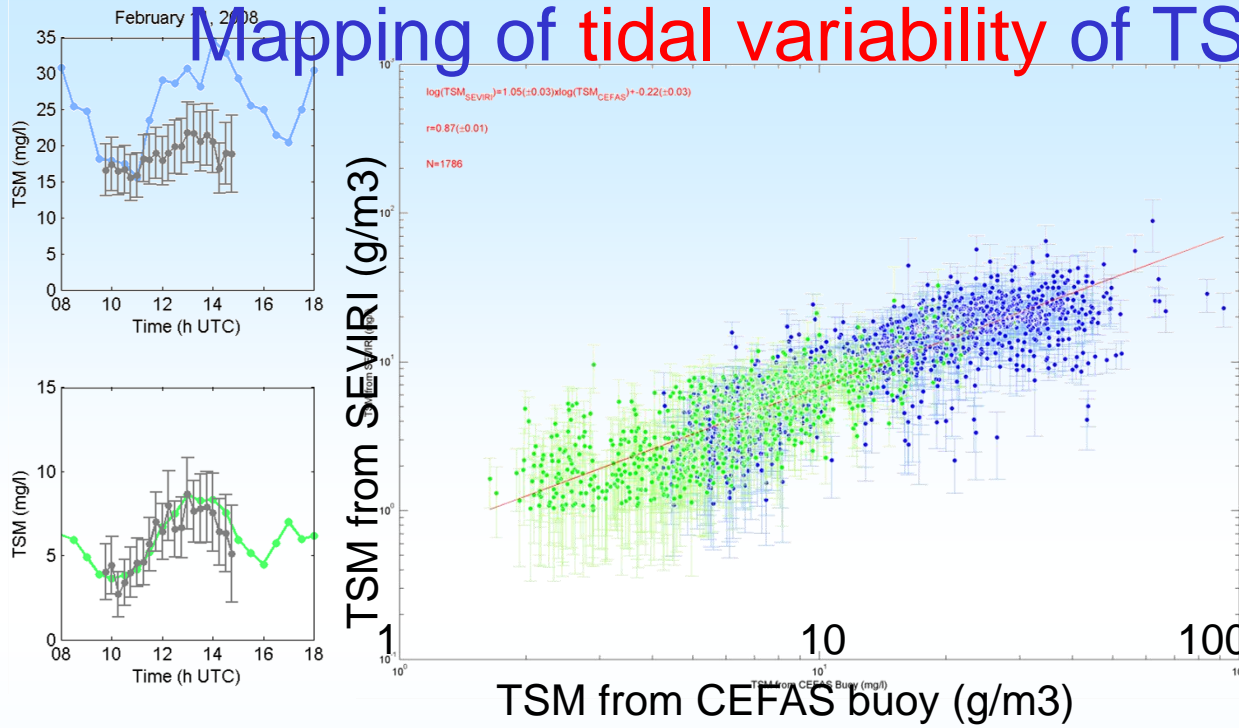


APEX water reflectance



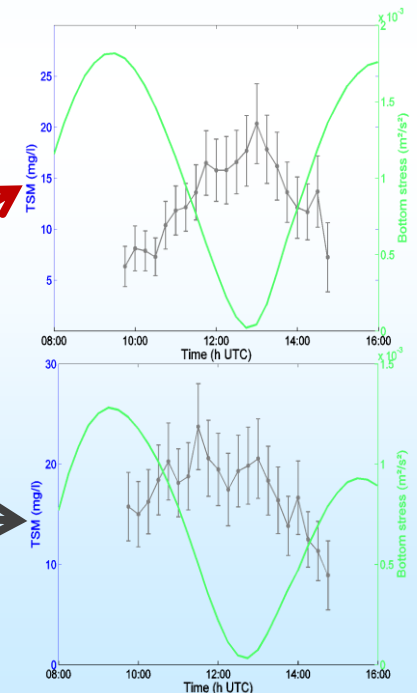
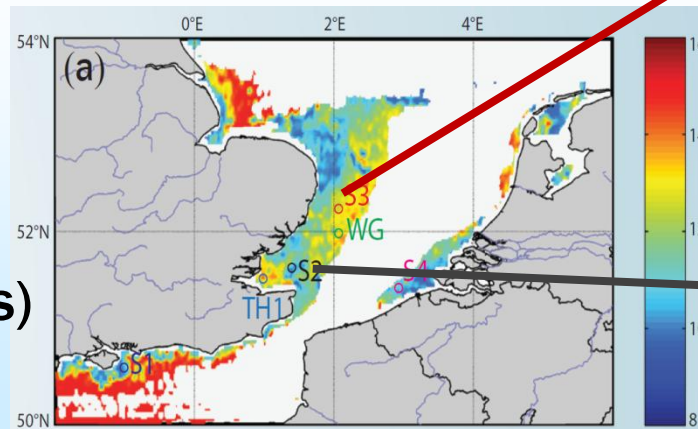
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Mapping of tidal variability of TSM by SEVIRI



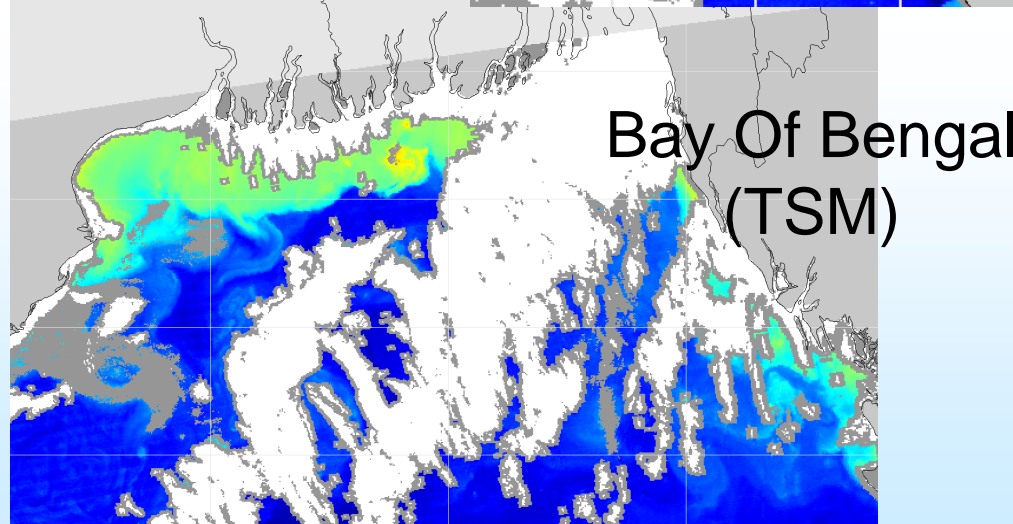
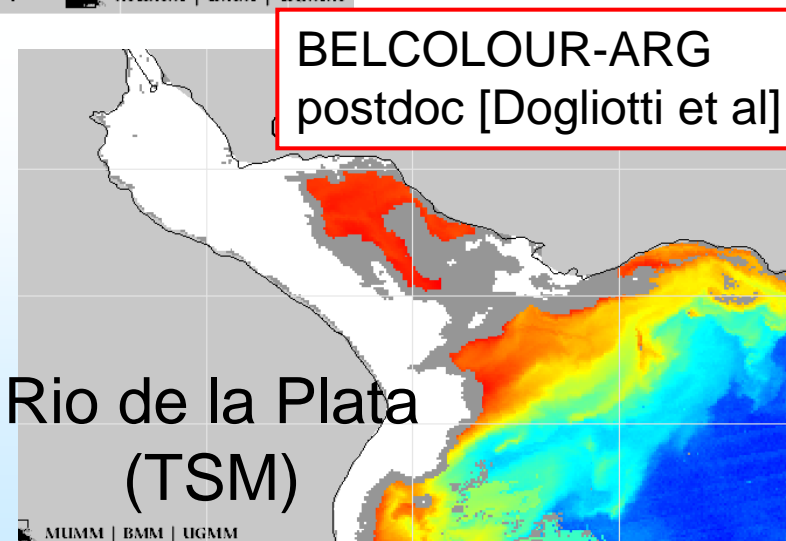
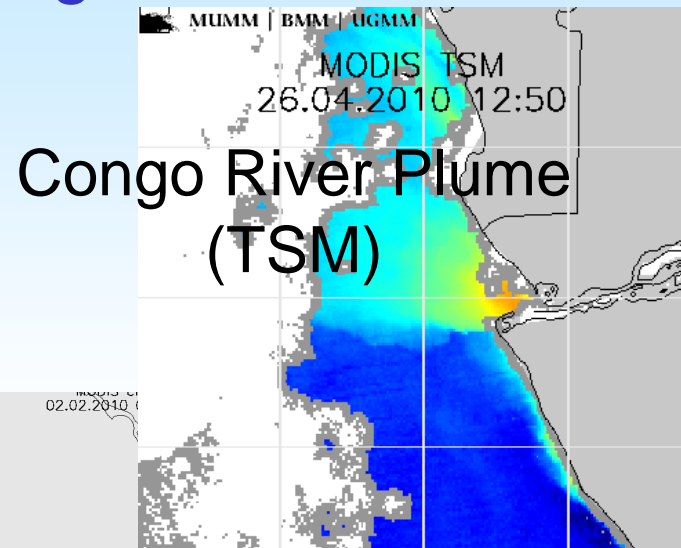
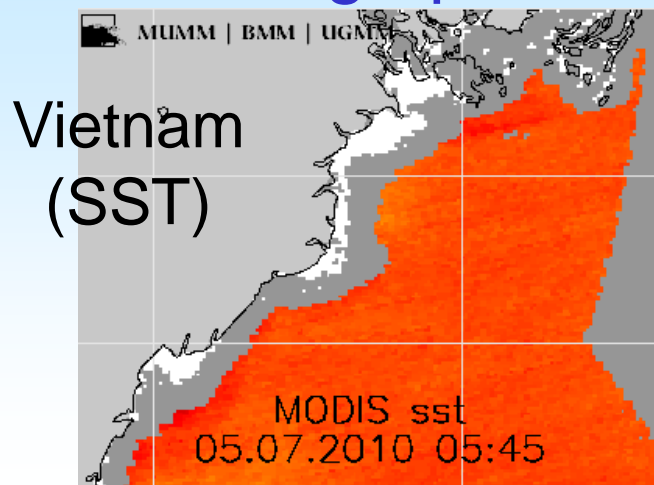
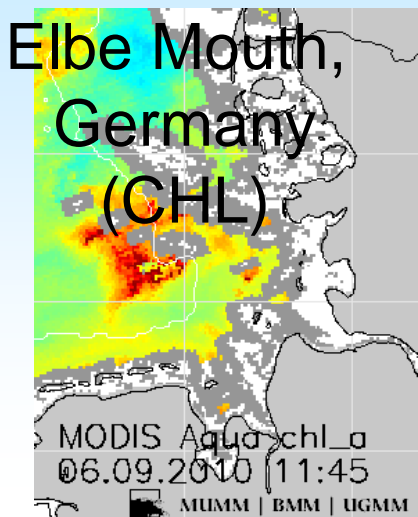
[Neukermans, in prep.]
Good overall correlation between SEVIRI TSM and CEFAS SB TSM, but large deviations occur.

TSM mainly driven by tidal resuspension with max(TSM) occurring about 3h after max(BottomStress)



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Automation of image processing [Vanhellemont, in prep]



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Web site publications and products

SPECIFIC PHYTOPLANKTON ABSORPTION VARIABILITY AND IMPLICATION FOR CHLOROPHYLL *a* RETRIEVAL IN BELGIAN WATERS (SOUTHERN NORTH SEA).

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(1) *Ecologie des Systèmes Aquatiques (ESA), Université Libre de Bruxelles, Campus Plaine - CP 221, Boulevard du Triomphe, B-1050 Brussels, Belgium, rastorec@ulb.ac.be, vrousso@ulb.ac.be, lancelot@ulb.ac.be*

ABSTRACT

Chlorophyll *a* retrieval from satellite is based on algorithms that convert the phytoplankton absorption into chlorophyll *a* by means of the specific-phytoplankton absorption. This factor has been found to be highly variable, spatially and seasonally.

The variability of the chlorophyll *a*-specific phytoplankton absorption in Belgian waters (Southern North Sea) was investigated to determine how it is affecting the chlorophyll *a* retrieval from satellite information. The Southern Bight of the North Sea is a very dynamic area influenced by river discharges and characterised by highly variable chlorophyll, suspended matter and coloured dissolved organic matter absorption.

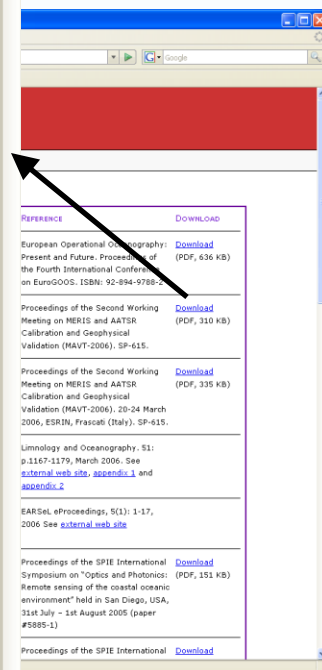
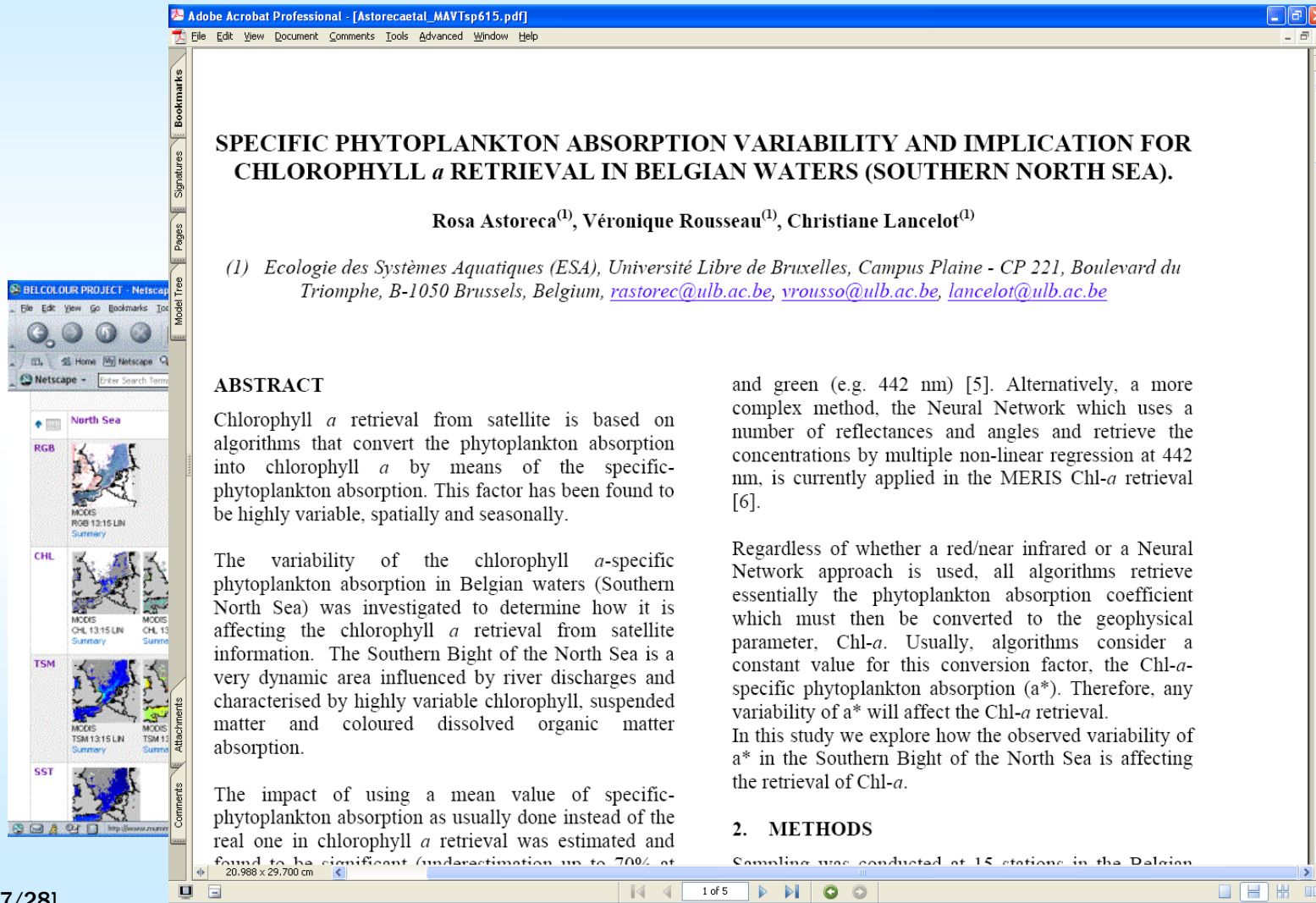
The impact of using a mean value of specific-phytoplankton absorption as usually done instead of the real one in chlorophyll *a* retrieval was estimated and found to be significant (underestimation up to 70% at

and green (e.g. 442 nm) [5]. Alternatively, a more complex method, the Neural Network which uses a number of reflectances and angles and retrieve the concentrations by multiple non-linear regression at 442 nm, is currently applied in the MERIS Chl-*a* retrieval [6].

Regardless of whether a red/near infrared or a Neural Network approach is used, all algorithms retrieve essentially the phytoplankton absorption coefficient which must then be converted to the geophysical parameter, Chl-*a*. Usually, algorithms consider a constant value for this conversion factor, the Chl-*a*-specific phytoplankton absorption (a^*). Therefore, any variability of a^* will affect the Chl-*a* retrieval. In this study we explore how the observed variability of a^* in the Southern Bight of the North Sea is affecting the retrieval of Chl-*a*.

2. METHODS

Sampling was conducted at 15 stations in the Belgian



Conclusions

- BELCOLOUR-2 is the **research behind current/future applications** of marine
- Project research exploitation detection effects, es QC, etc.)
- BELCOLOUR has established expertise and strong internal and external collaborations
 - Will future be fragmented?
 - What happens to the researchers?
- Publications (includes RECOLOUR spin-off):
 - 19 peer-reviewed accepted/published (inc. 5 external collaborations)
 - 3 peer-review submitted
 - 7 peer-review drafted
 - 13 other publications, conference proceedings
 - ~10 international conference presentations/year
- Training:
 - 1 Masters course (RUG/VUB), 6 Masters theses, 2 Phd theses

Our heritage

Reserve slides

Applications

- Research leads to use of optical remote sensing for:
 - **Marine science** support (e.g. NRT for cruise ships, multitemporal composites, time series extraction via web site)
 - **Ecosystem functioning, aquaculture and fisheries** (e.g. primary production maps, algae bloom timing, monthly CHL)
 - **Eutrophication** (OSPAR/WFD) via forcing/validation of ecosystem modelling (AMORE-3) and optimising sampling
 - **Sediment transport** support via initialisation/validation of models
 - **HAB** group support (Marcoast, ICES, AMORE-3)
 - **pCO₂** and CO₂ fluxes
 - **Inland waters**

Atmospheric correction inter-comparison

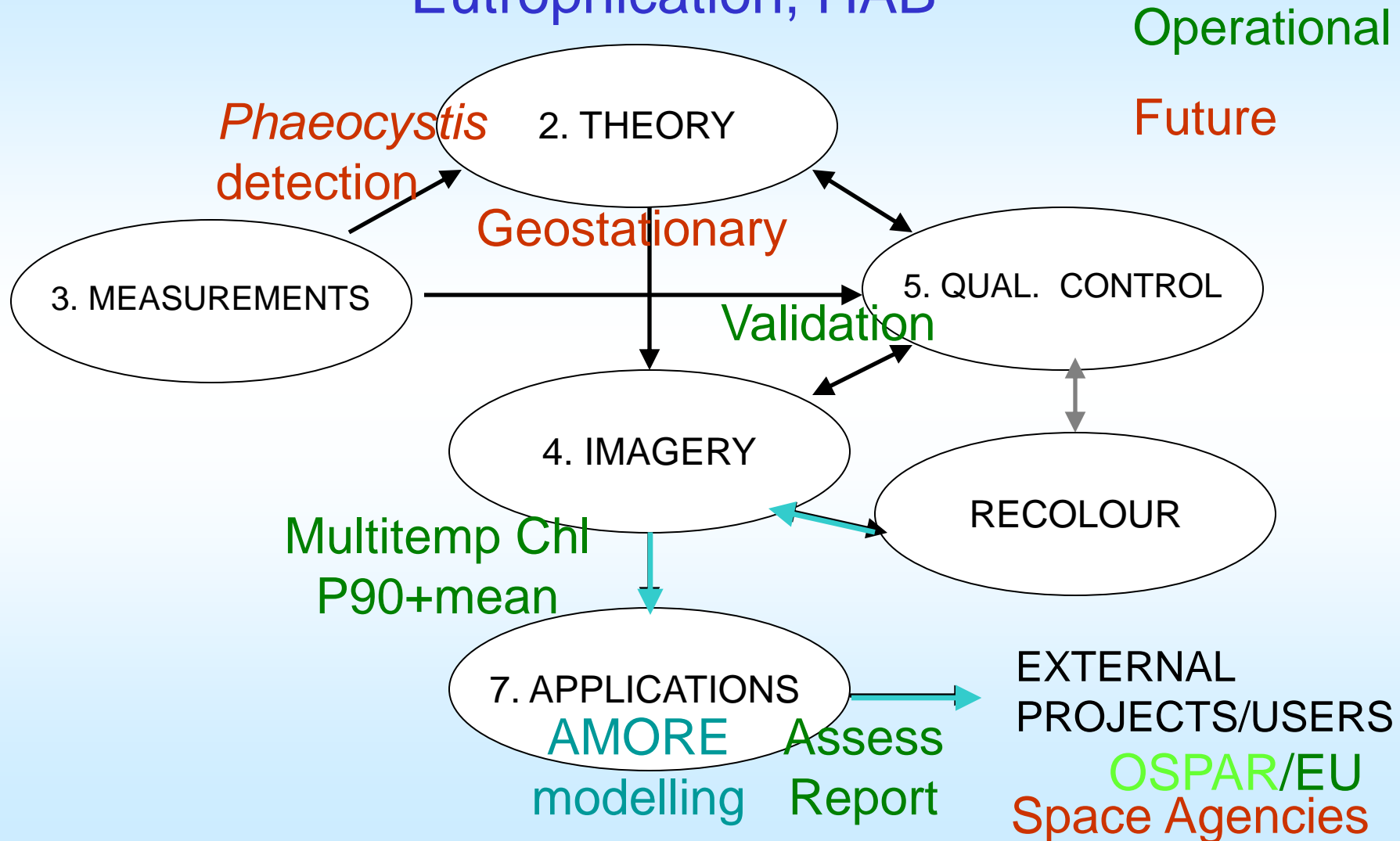
[Schroeder, in prep]

- Validation completed incorporating MUMM's reflectance data base until end of 2008
- Five algorithms compared (MUMM, NIR-6.1, SWIR-6.1, MOD09, ANN)
- SeaDAS 6.1 standard atmospheric correction significantly improved compared to v5.4 (major changes introduced with v6.0)
- Results indicate overall best performance of ANN algorithm at all time differences ± 30 , ± 60 , ± 120 , ± 180 min to satellite over pass
- Peer reviewed publication in preparation (Optics Express)



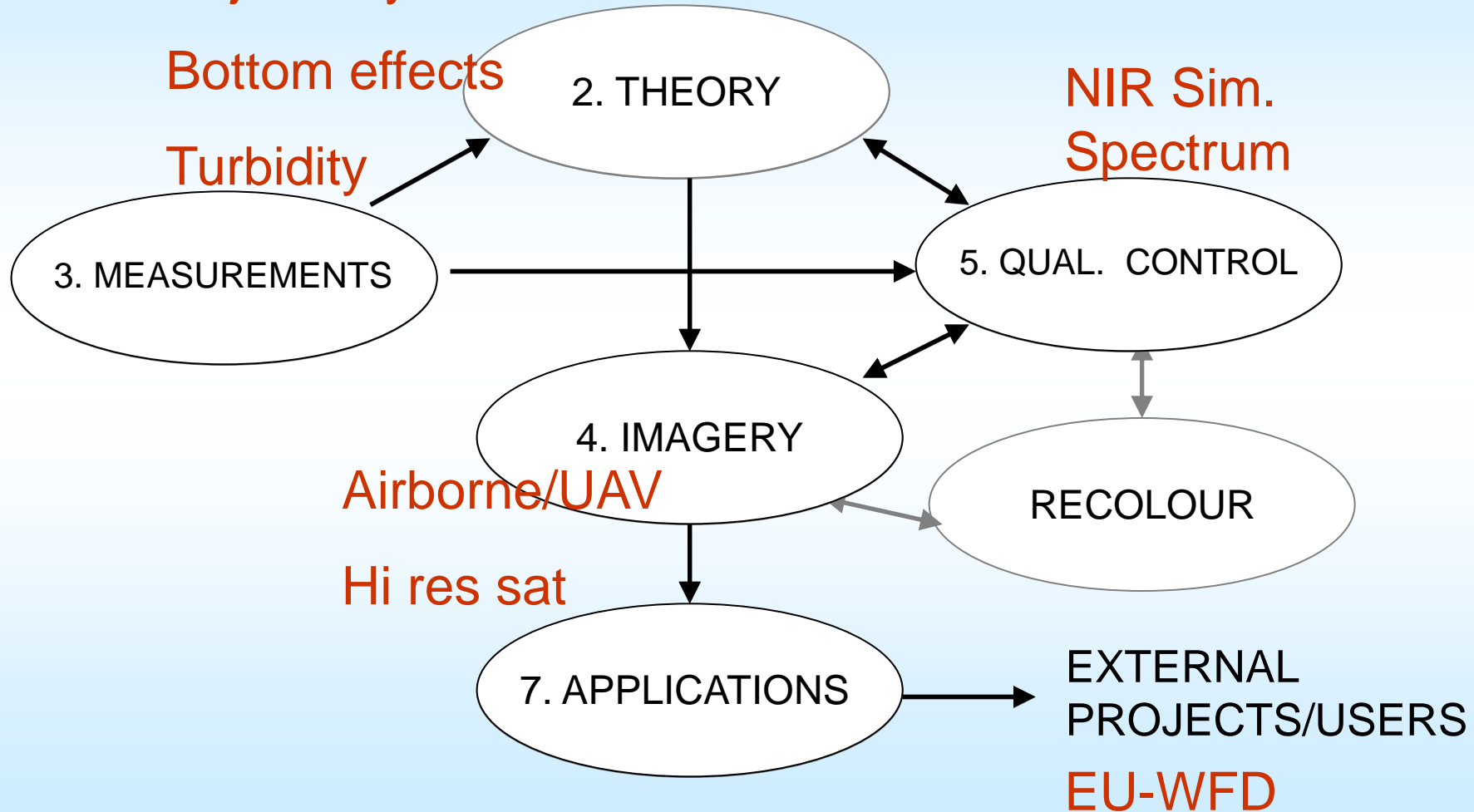
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Project structure e.g. 1/2: OSPAR, Eutrophication, HAB



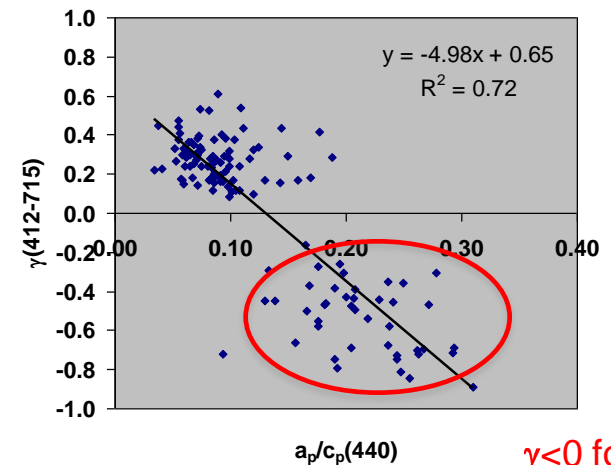
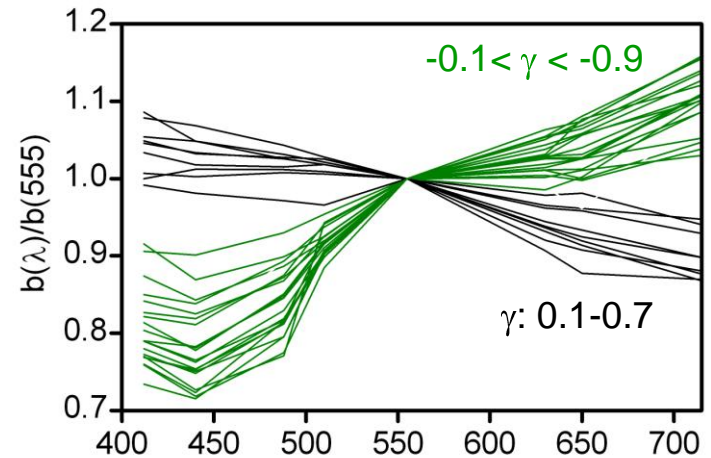
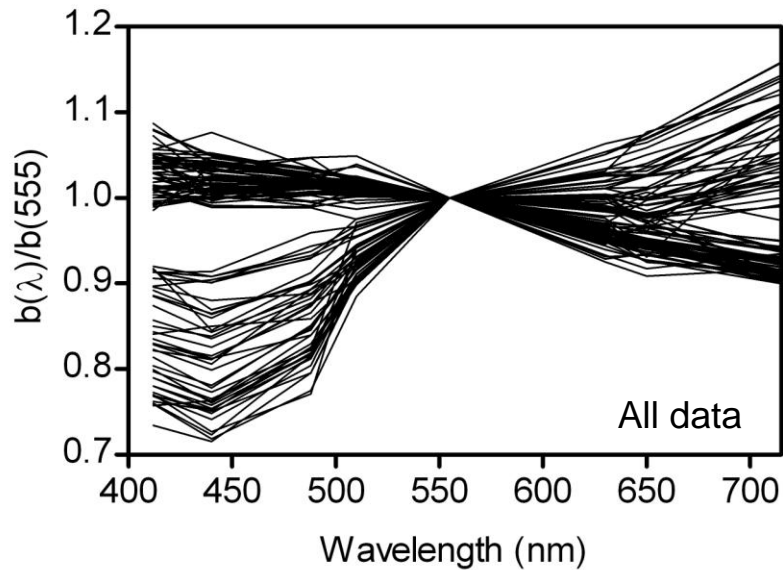
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Project structure e.g. 2/2 Inland Waters Adjacency



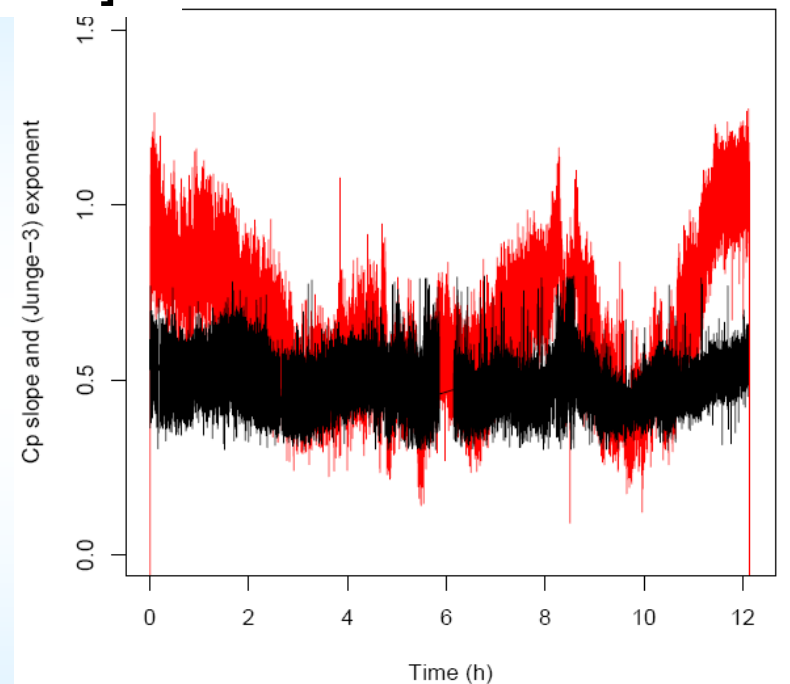
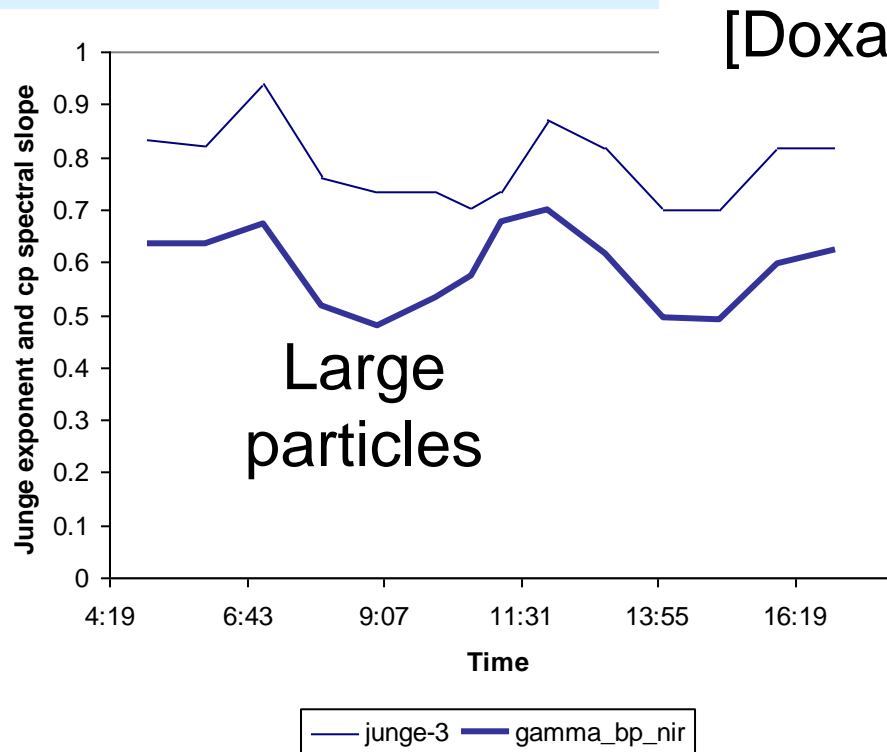
Spectral variations of scattering: Do phytoplankton blooms play a role? [Astoreca et al.]

Ac9 particle scattering



$\gamma < 0$ for
 $a/c > 0.14$

Particulate attenuation spectral slope vs. Particle Size Distribution (Junge exponent – 3)



**Tidal variations over mudbanks
 (Belgian coast – July 2007)**

**Tidal variations at Scheldt river mouth
 (Belgian coast – September 2009)**

data in process

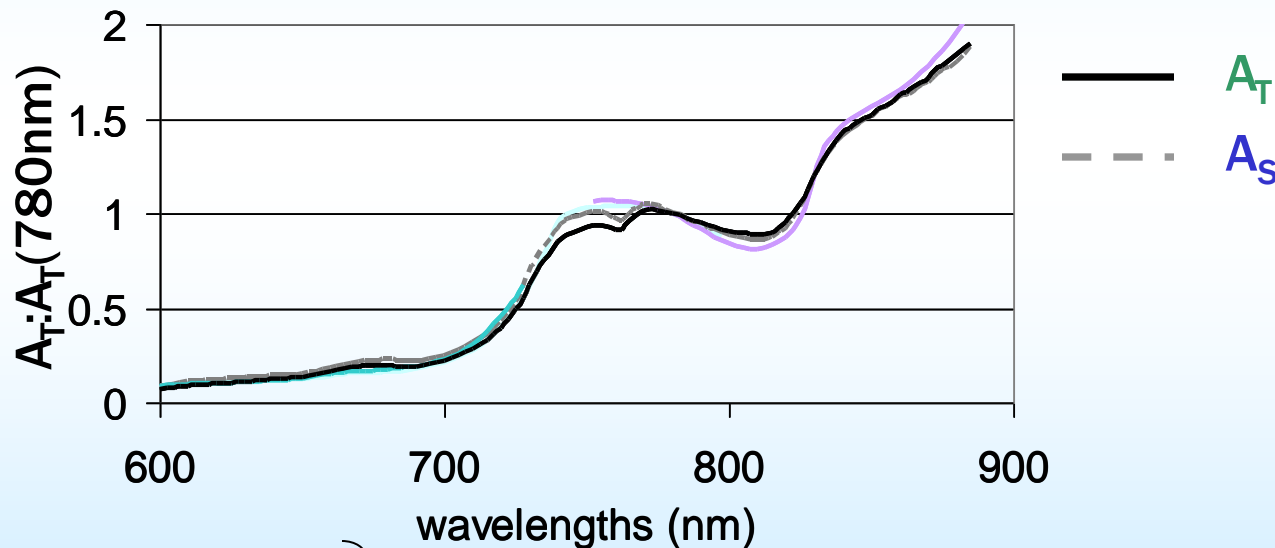
Generic one-band TSM and turbidity algos (hyperspectral calibration)


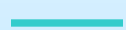

[Nechad et al, 2009]

- T-calibrated algorithm:

$$T = \frac{A_T \rho_w}{1 - \rho_w / C} + B$$

$$A_T = \frac{a_{np}}{\gamma b_{bT}^*}$$

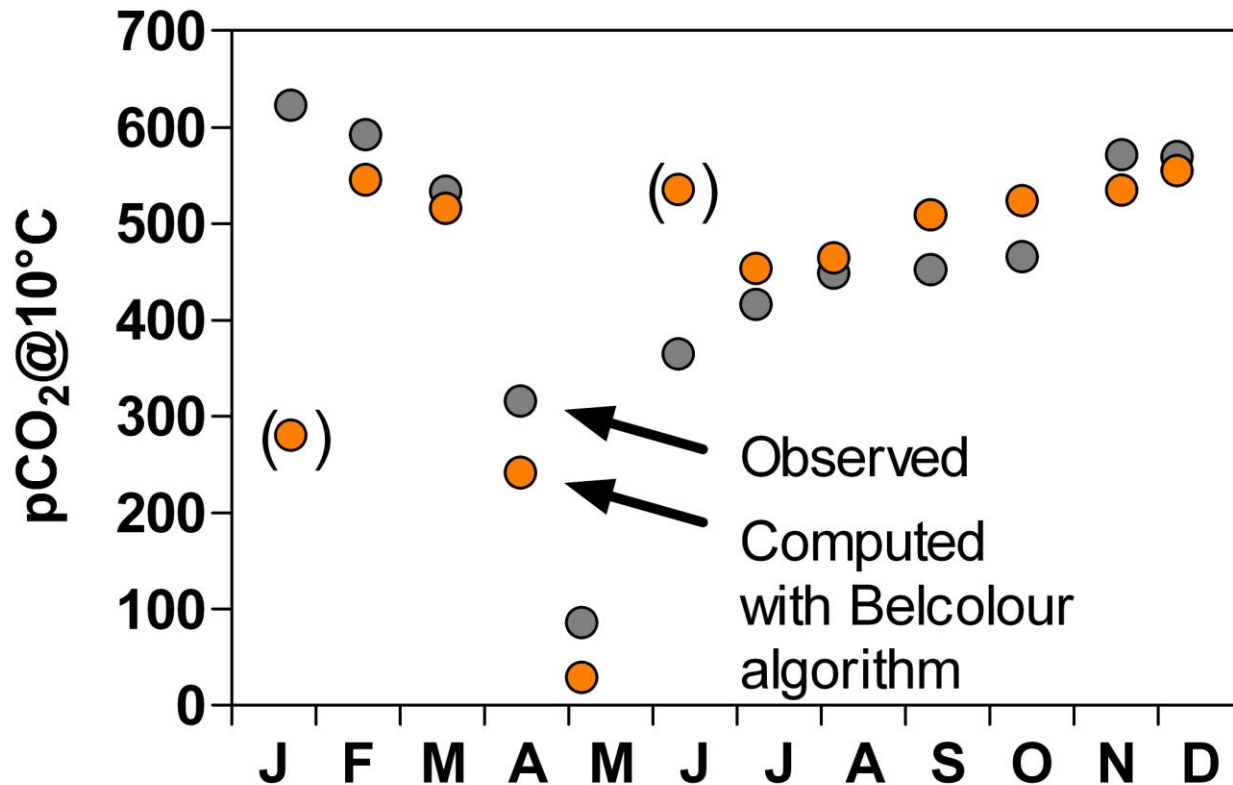


-  a_w [Pope & Fry 1997]
-  a_w [Buiteveld 1994]
-  a_w [Kou et al/1993]

Laboratory pure water absorption measurements

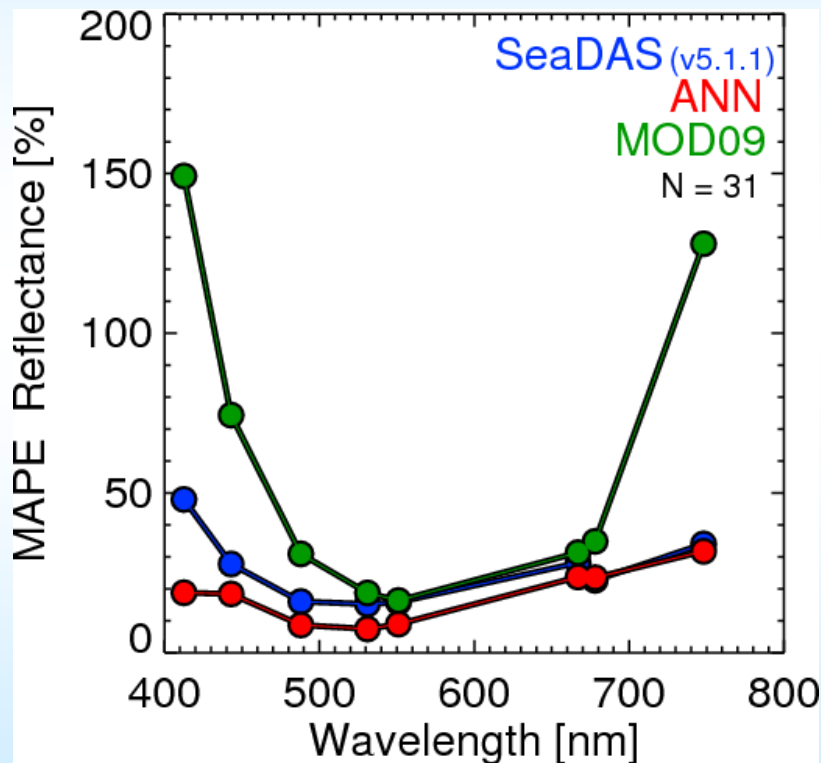
Comparison of observations from a totally independent data-set (Luctor) at the mouth of the Scheldt and values computed with the algorithm ($pCO_2@10^\circ C = f(SSS; Chla)$) based on the 2008 Belcolour data-set shows the ability to reconstitute a full annual cycle of pCO_2 . The two outsiders are due to SSS value outside range of algorithm application, and suspicious input value (Chla value)

[Borges et al]

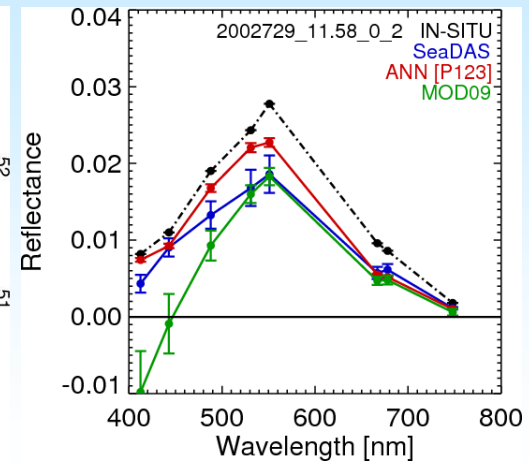
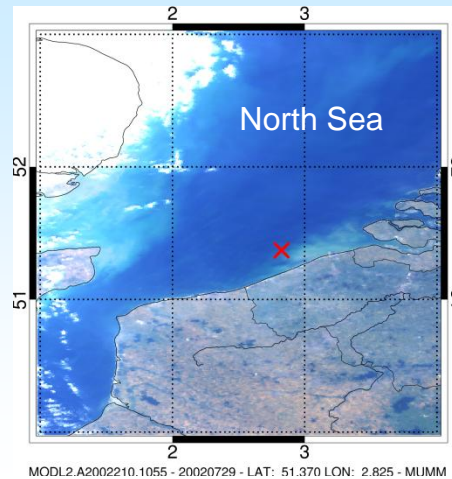


[Schroeder et al]

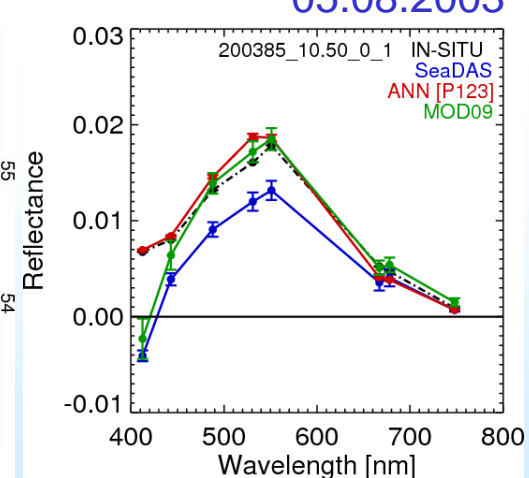
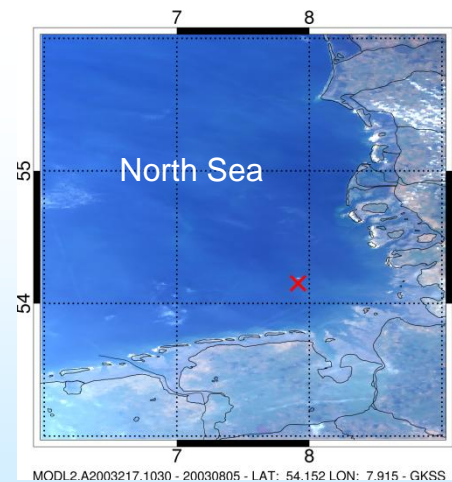
Atmospheric correction inter-comparison



(MAPE=Mean Absolute Percentage Error)



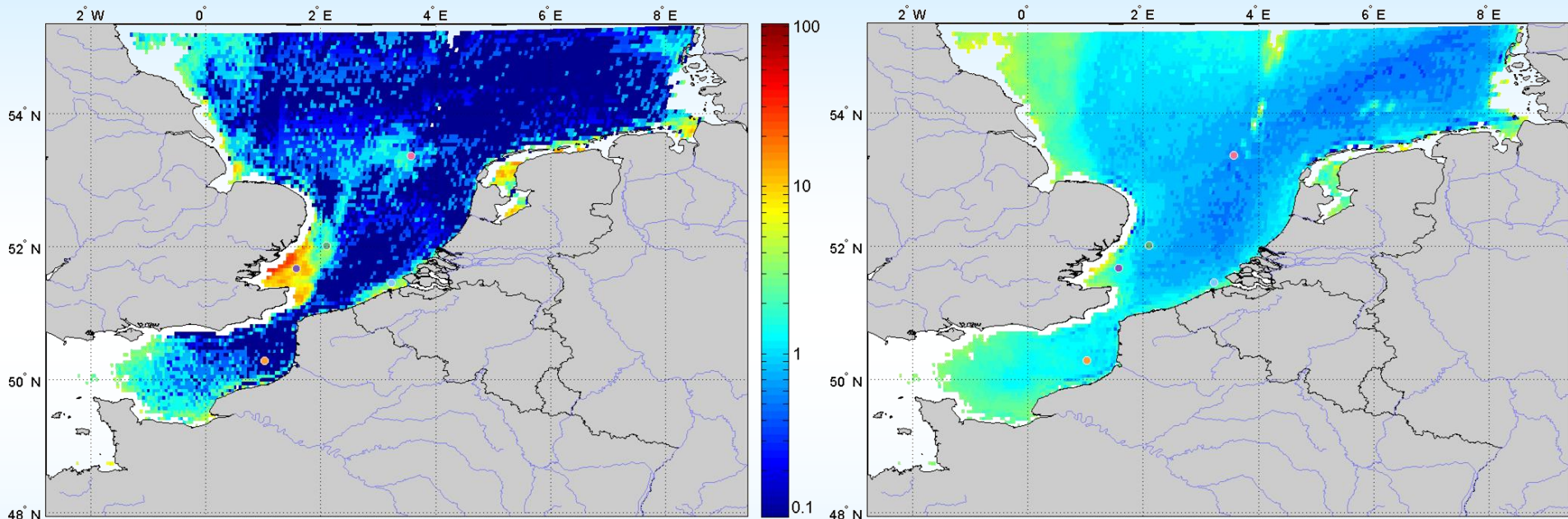
29.07.2002



05.08.2003

TSM mapping and uncertainty (SEVIRI)

TSM (mg/l) [Neukermans et al, 2009] Δ TSM (mg/l)

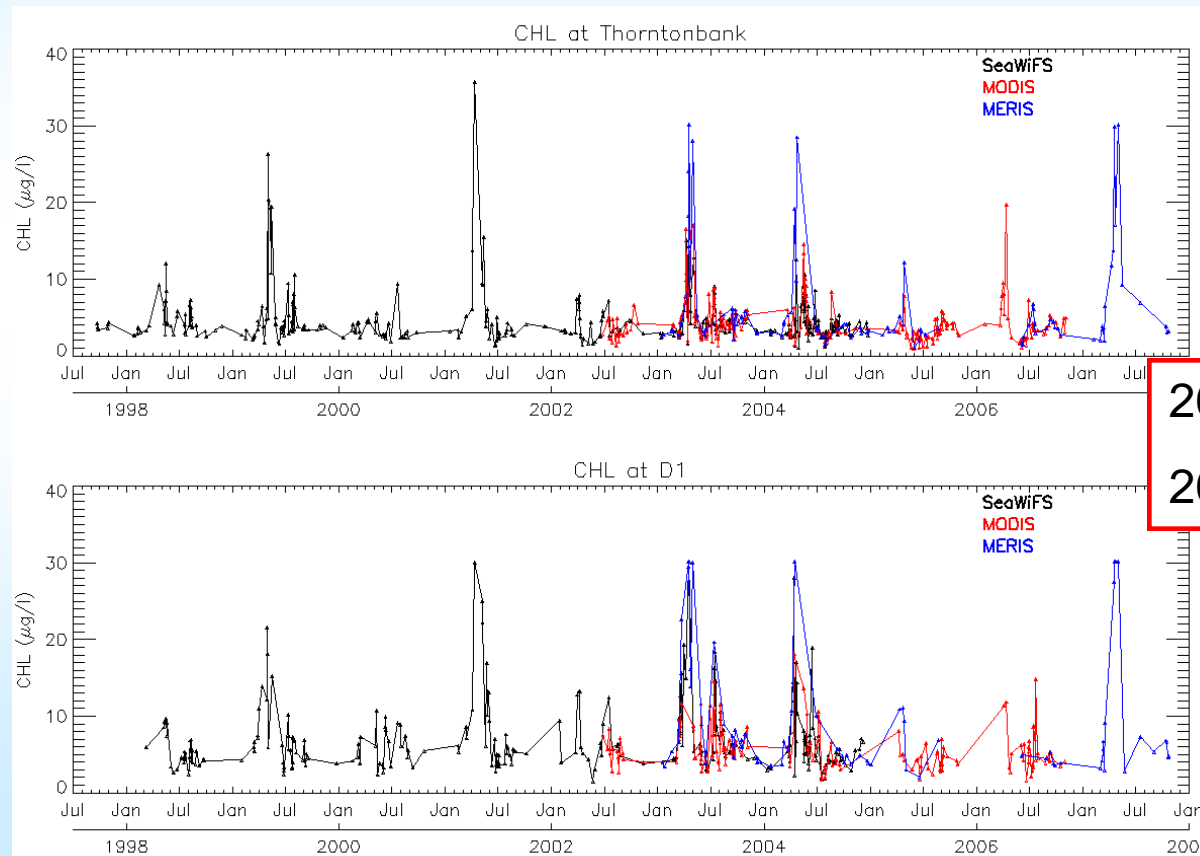


June 29th 2006 at 13:00 UTC

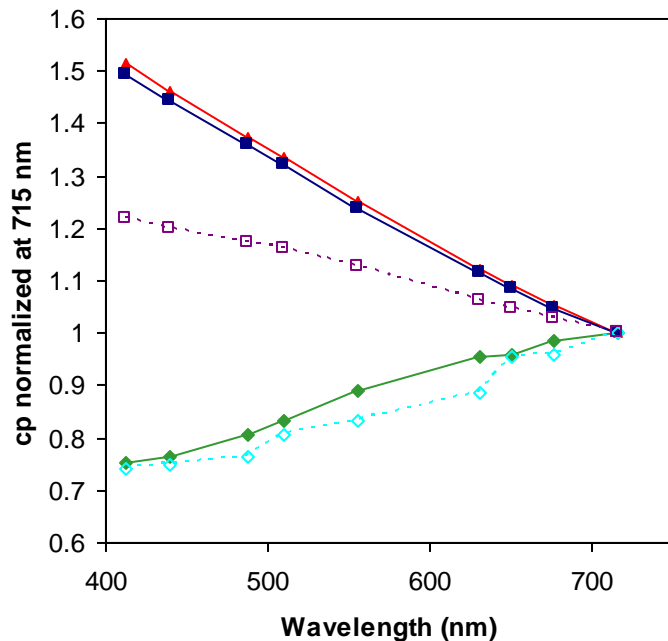
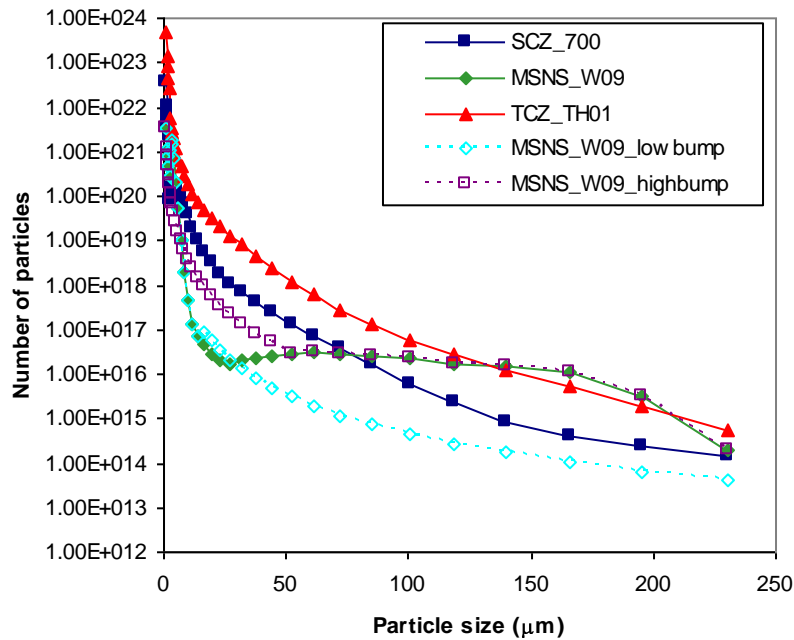
$$\Delta TSM = \frac{AC\Delta\rho_w^{(0.6)}}{(C - \rho_w^{(0.6)})^2}$$

App #5: Aquaculture support

- **CHL, TSM and SST time series extracted from BC archive for ILVO (mussel production in Belgian waters)**



2008 original
2010 updated



- Particle size distributions (PSDs) observed in the Southern North Sea show a power-law 'flat' distribution in the TCZ and SCZ while a bimodal distribution with peaks at 7 and 200 μm is observed in the MSNS.

[Astoreca et al, submitted]

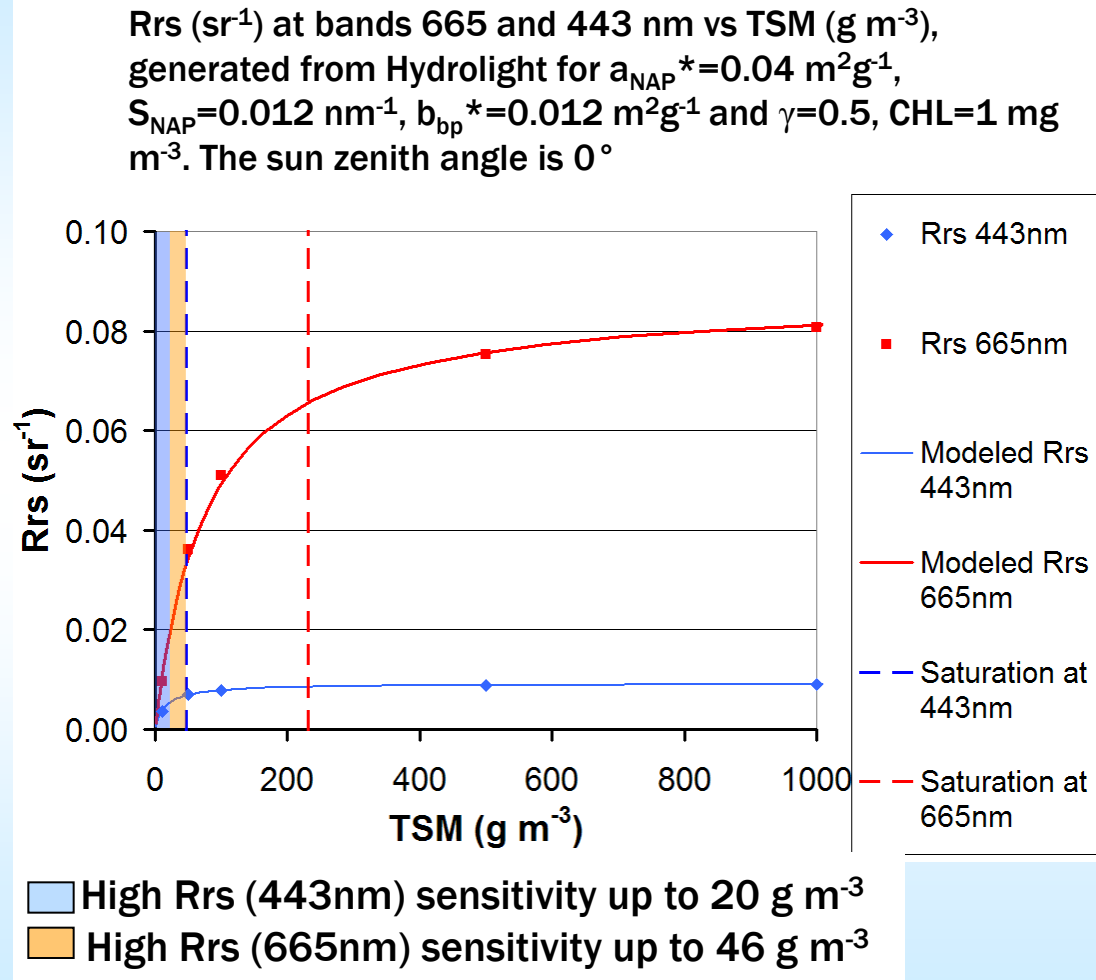
- Mie computations were used to explain the occurrence of the c_p spectral negative slopes. The observed PSDs were used as inputs.
- Results show that c_p follows a power-law shape with positive γ_{cp} in the SCZ and TCZ.
- a negative γ_{cp} is obtained for the MSNS with absorbing particles
- when modifying the PSD of the MSNS by removing the peak at 7 μm , the result is a positive γ_{cp} as in the TCZ.
- when removing the peak at 200 μm from the MSNS PSD, the result is a negative γ_{cp}

=> the negative γ_{cp} results from the bloom of phytoplankton particles of size 7 μm .

Is there a general algorithm for TSM estimation from satellites?

[Nechad, in prep]

- Hydrolight simulations
- Non linear regression (NLR) analysis to fit $(Rrs//TSM)_{SIO,P,GEO}$
- (1) $Rrs = G TSM / (A - TSM/C)$
- using (1), parameterise:
 - Saturation
 - Sensitivity
 - Uncertainties due to SIOPs and sun/viewing geometry



Wavelengths (nm)	TSM ranges ($g m^{-3}$)
412-560nm	0-10
620-665nm	10-30
682-705nm	30-100
775nm	100-500
865-900nm	500-1500

Development and validation of a primary production algorithm for coastal waters of the Southern North Sea

[Rousseau et al, in prep]

$$PP = Chla * P_{\max}^B * \int_{t=\text{sunrise}}^{t=\text{sunset}} \int_{z=0}^{z=d} \frac{(-\alpha^B * E_{t,z})}{P_{\max}^B} * dt dz$$

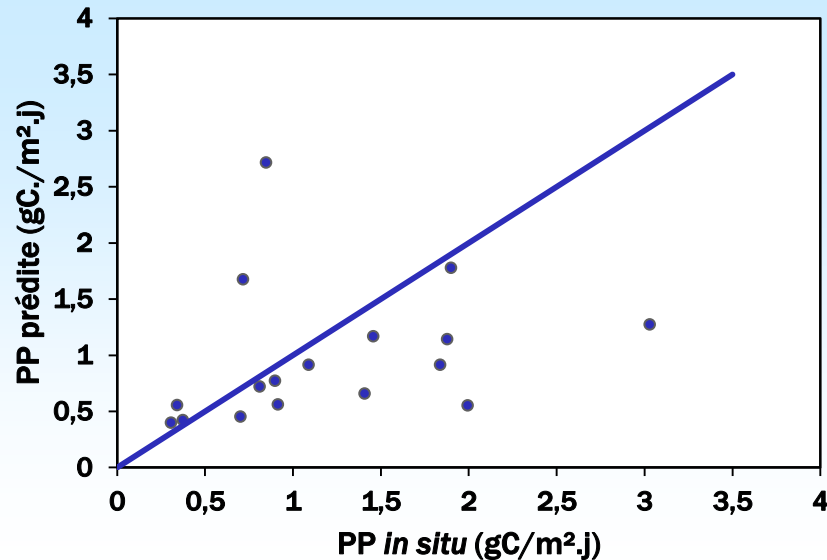
$$P_{\max}^B = 0,463 * T + 4,037 * [PO_4] - 2,103$$

$$\alpha^B = 0,017 + 0,003 * P_{\max}^B$$

$$E_z = E_0 * e^{-K_d(PAR) * z}$$

$$\ln(K_d(PAR)) = 0,454 * \ln([MES]) + 0,157 * \ln([Chla]) - 6,191 * \ln(sal) + 19,995$$

PP algo performance [Rousseau et al, in prep]



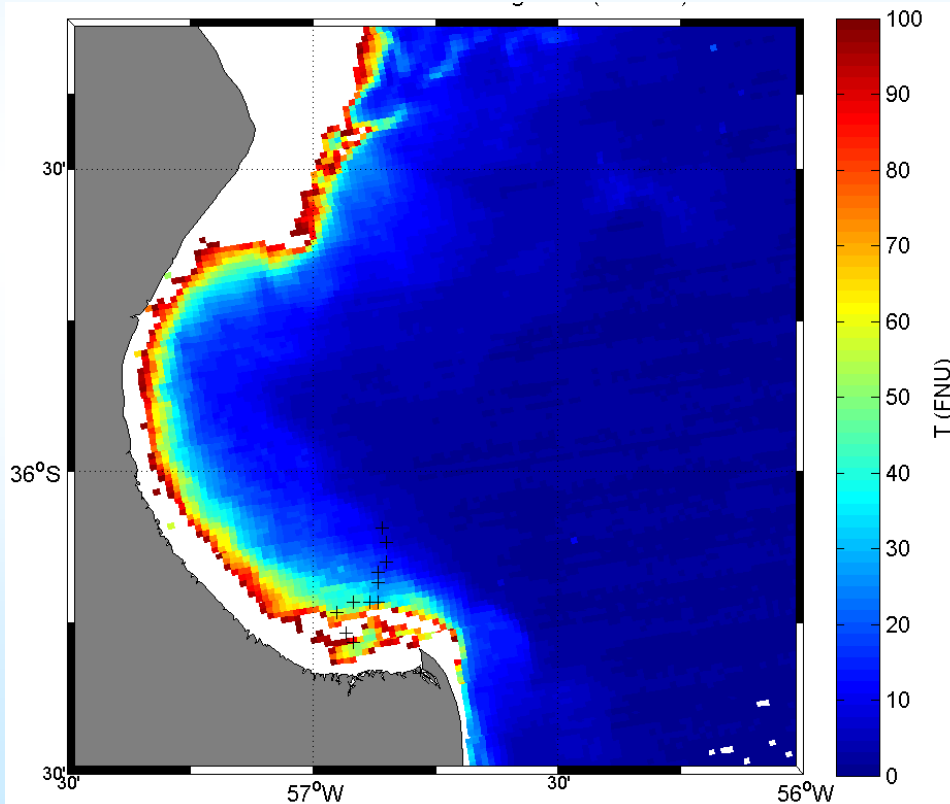
Relative errors

Average	Min	Max
51%	7%	220%

- Regional algorithm based on specific data
- Hyp: PBmax, α_B and $K_d(\text{PAR})$ are constant along the day; Salinity > 31
- Good predictive models for PBmax, α_B and $K_d(\text{PAR})$ → Good for PP
 But need to improve the description of PBmax
- GPP vs NPP : respiration taken into account : coupling with 3D-MIRO model
- Climatology vs In situ measurements of E_t (satellite) and z (3D-model)

App #8: La Plata: TSM and Turbidity maps ([Dogliotti, in prep] BELCOLOUR-ARG)

- A band-difference TSM and turbidity algorithm was developed based on Nechad et al. (2009/10) one-band algorithm.
- Good results were obtained for low Turbidity (<100 NFU)

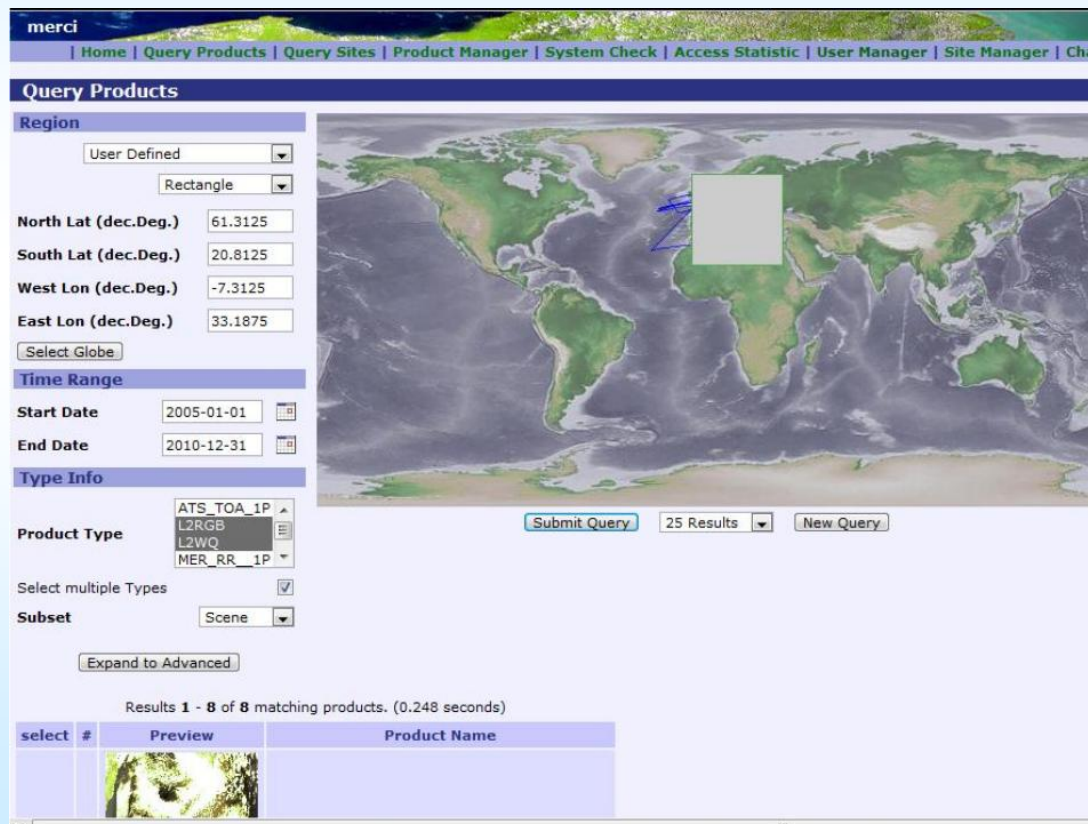


Future perspectives:

- Improve atmospheric correction algorithm to apply one-band TSM algorithms
- Start collecting *in situ* radiometric measurements

Reorganisation of image archive (in progress)

- BELCOLOUR image archive was just graphics images ... reorganising to give time series, digital data downloads

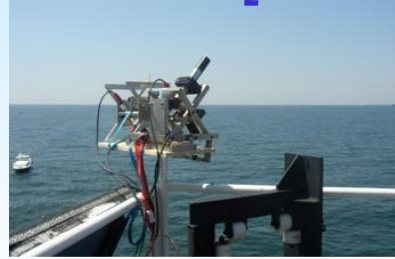


The screenshot shows the 'merc' web interface for the BELCOLOUR project. The main section is 'Query Products'. On the left, there are search filters: 'Region' (set to 'User Defined'), 'Time Range' (Start Date: 2005-01-01, End Date: 2010-12-31), and 'Product Type' (selected: L2RGB, L2WQ, MER_RR_1P). A world map on the right shows a search rectangle over the Atlantic Ocean. Below the map are buttons for 'Submit Query', '25 Results', and 'New Query'. At the bottom, a table shows 'Results 1 - 8 of 8 matching products. (0.248 seconds)'. The table has columns for 'select', '#', 'Preview', and 'Product Name'. The first row shows a preview image of a satellite scene.

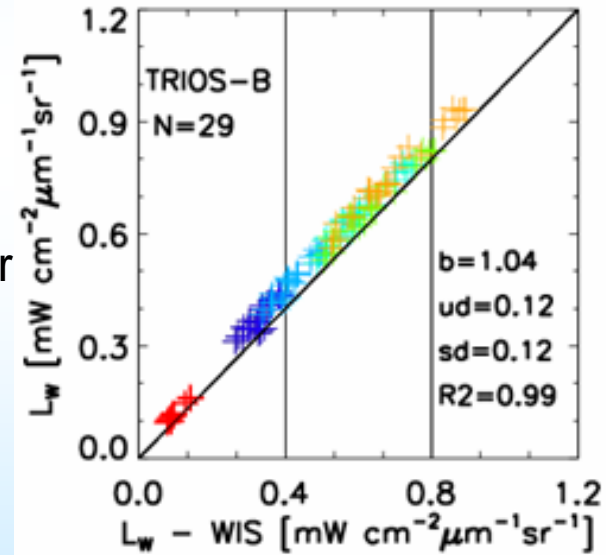
[J-R. Diouf]

1. Introduction
2. Science Results
3. Application Results
4. Dissemination
5. Plans for 2011

Water-leaving radiance protocol intercomparison on AAOT [Zibordi et al, in prep]



MUMM
 abovewater
 system



Also VITO/MUMM comparison (Sint Anna pontoon)

JRC underwater
 system

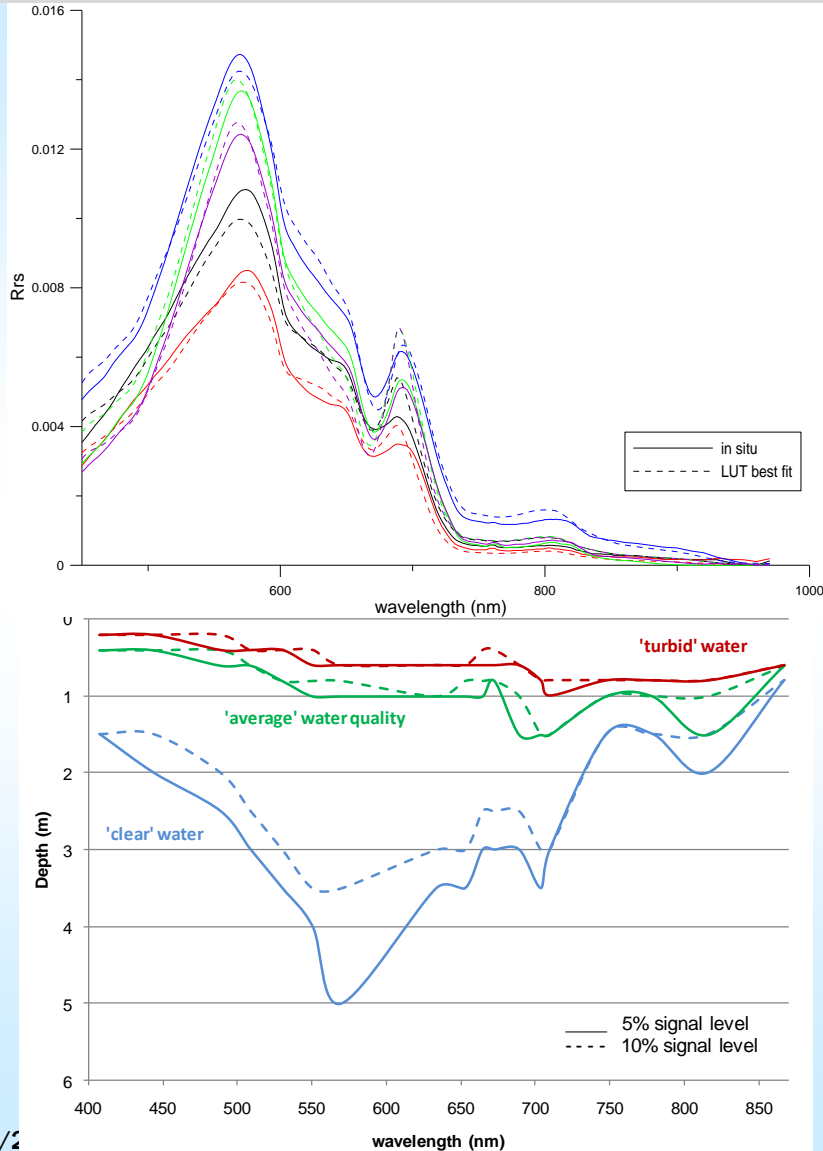
Automation of image processing (1/2)

[Vanhellemont, in prep]

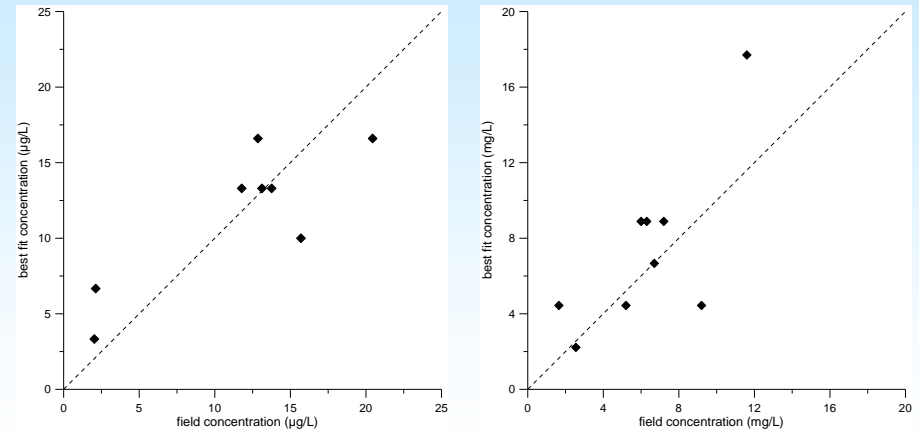
- **Flexible software to process satellite imagery**
 - New region: 4 bounding coordinates
 - MODIS/SeaWiFS
 - MERIS RR **and FR**
 - Custom products easily implemented (TSM, Kd)
- **Outputs**
 - gridded scenes (NetCDF/png)
 - daily and multitemporal binning
 - time-series
- **Fast**
 - processing 8 years of MODIS data for SNS: 20 minutes
 - extraction of time-series, mean maps: matter of seconds



Ecolight simulations: look-up-table



WQ based on *in situ* R_w measurements



WQ based on CASI image

