

Lecture 5

Absorption Part 2 – measuring absorption

Collin Roesler

20 July 2021

How do we measure absorption in the ocean?

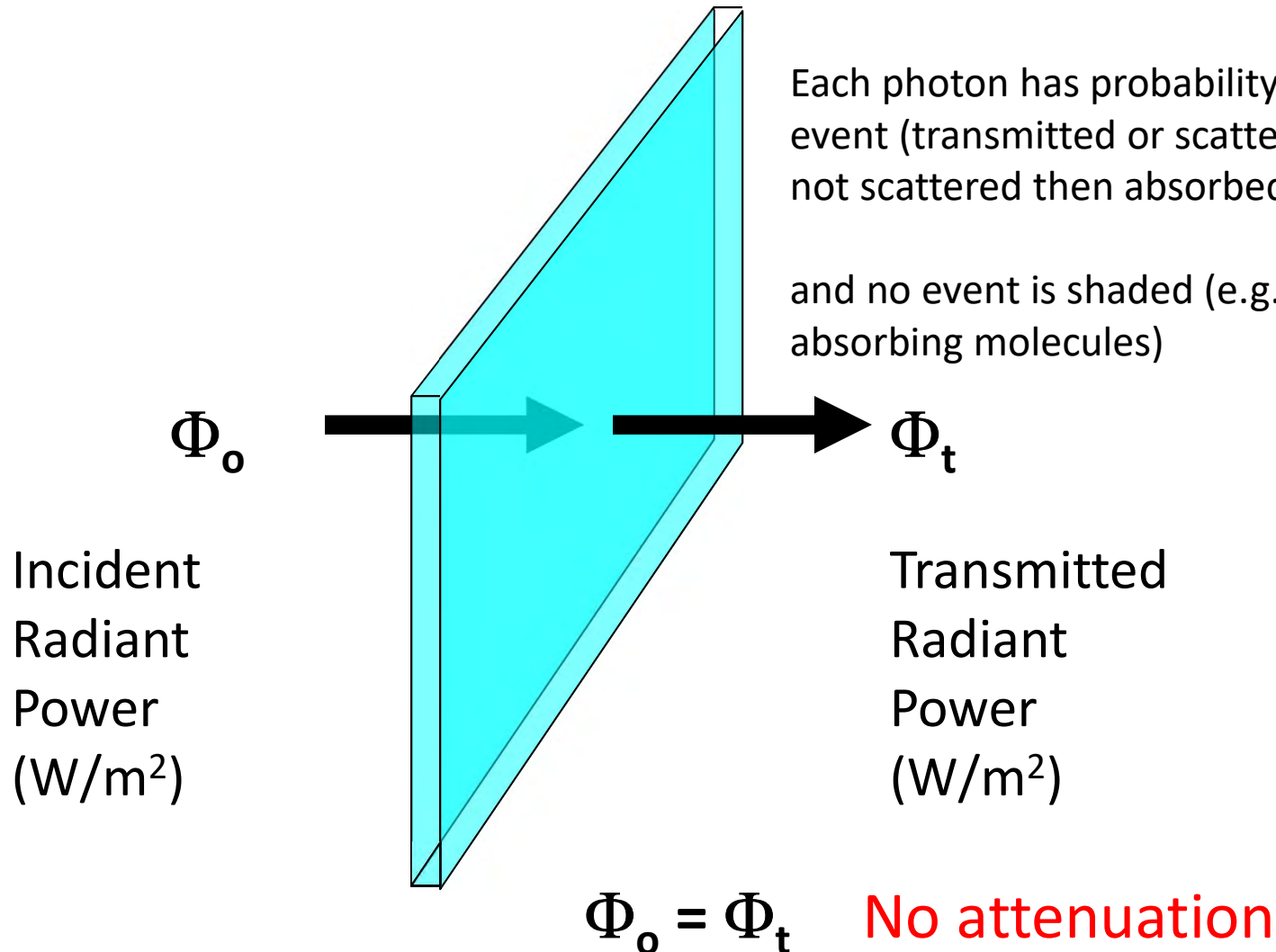
- In situ meters
 - ac meters
 - (ICAM)
- Discrete samples in the laboratory spectrophotometer
 - Cuvettes
 - Filter pad

Before *measuring* IOPs it is helpful to review measurement *theory*

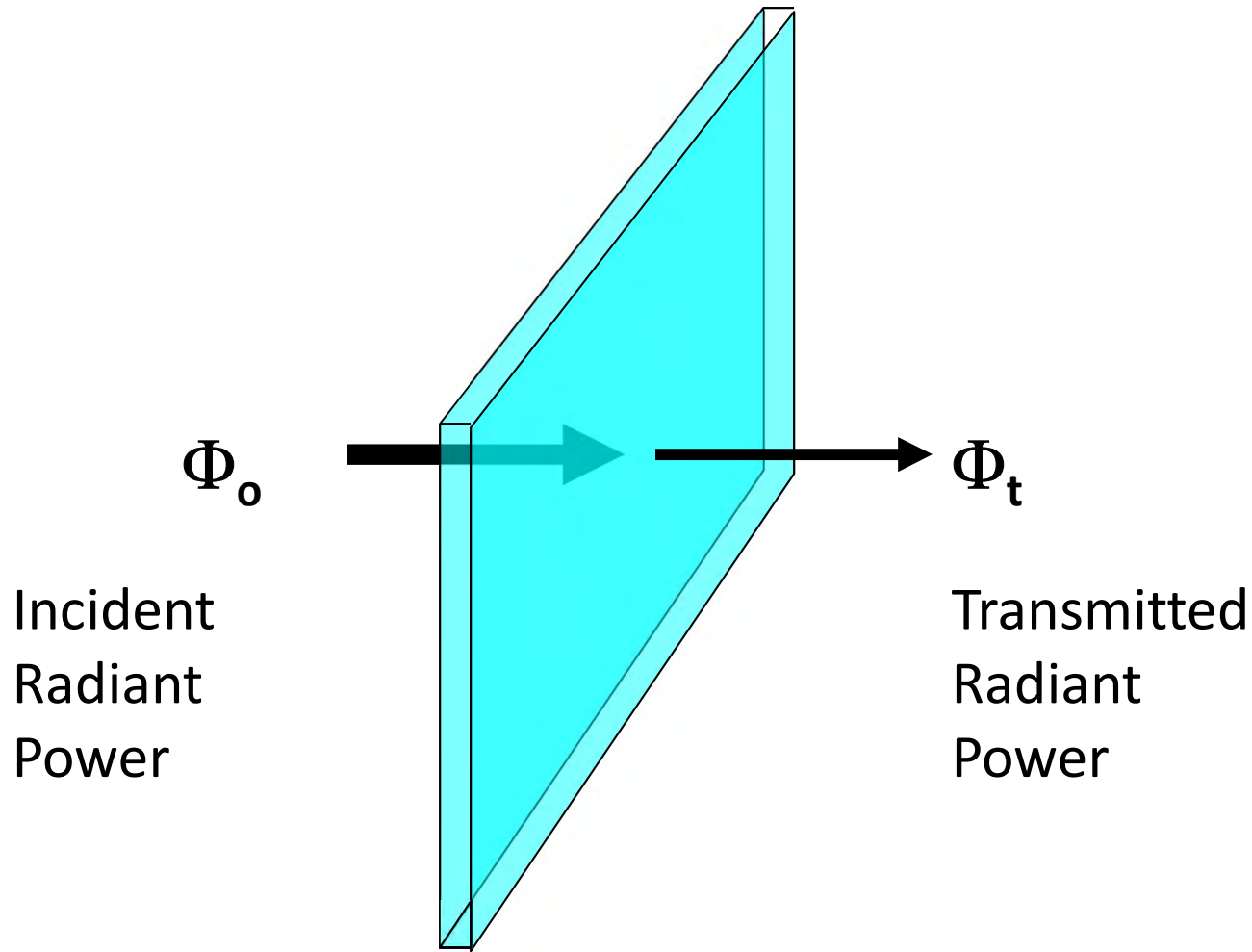
Thin slab of material, what is *thin*?

Each photon has probability for one optical event (transmitted or scattered or absorbed, not scattered then absorbed)

and no event is shaded (e.g., one layer of absorbing molecules)

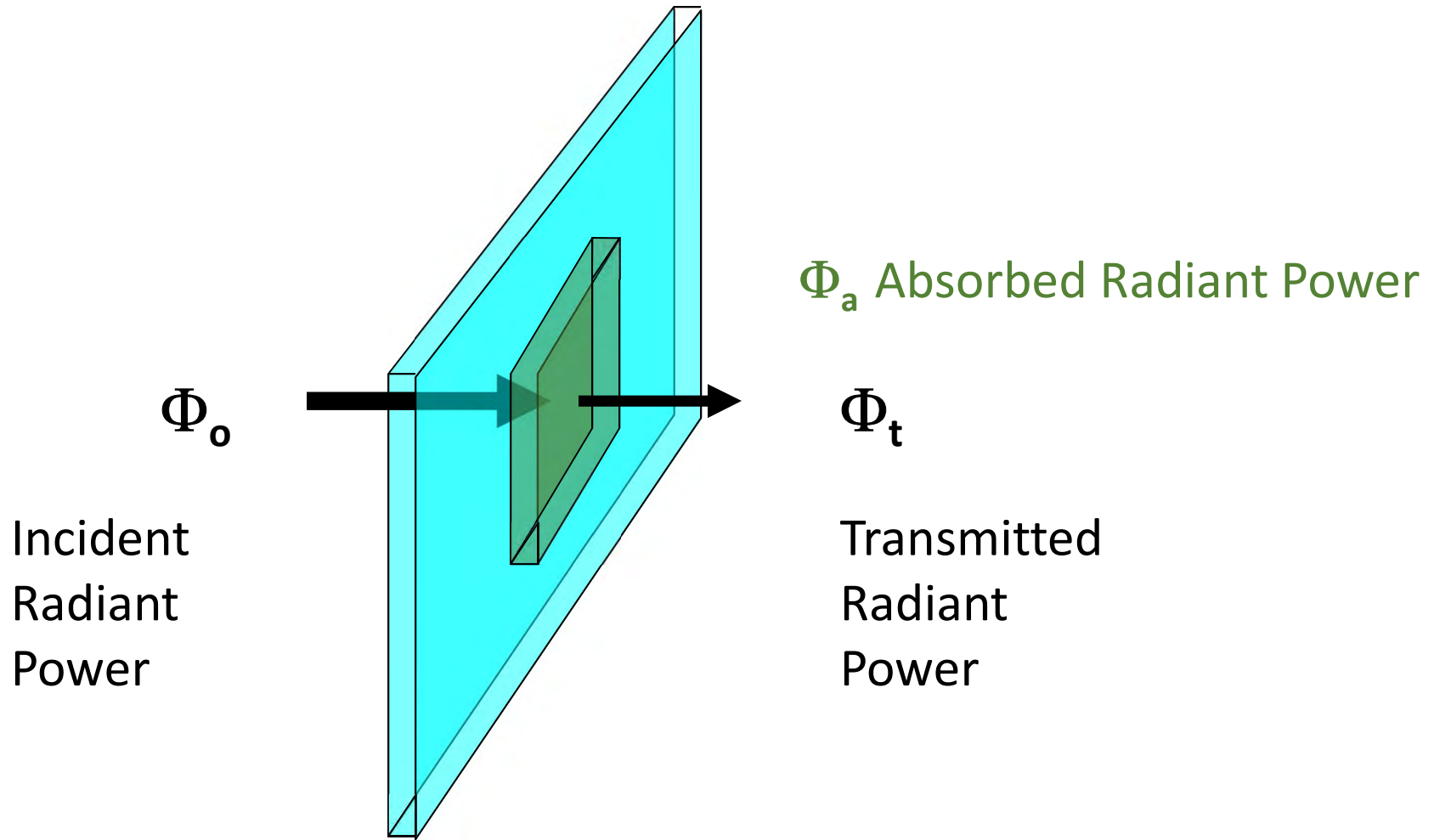


IOP Theory

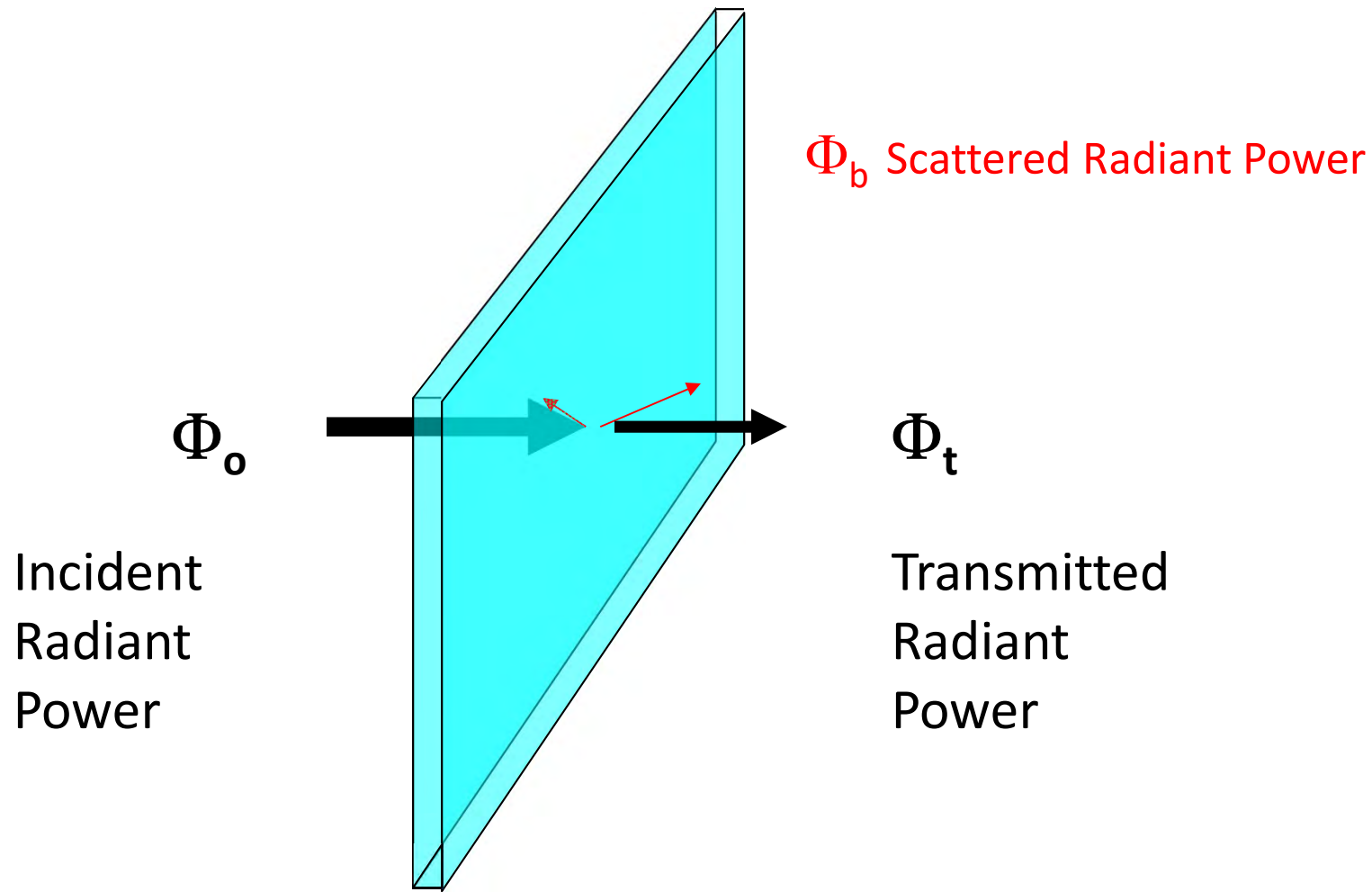


If $\Phi_t < \Phi_o$ there is **attenuation**

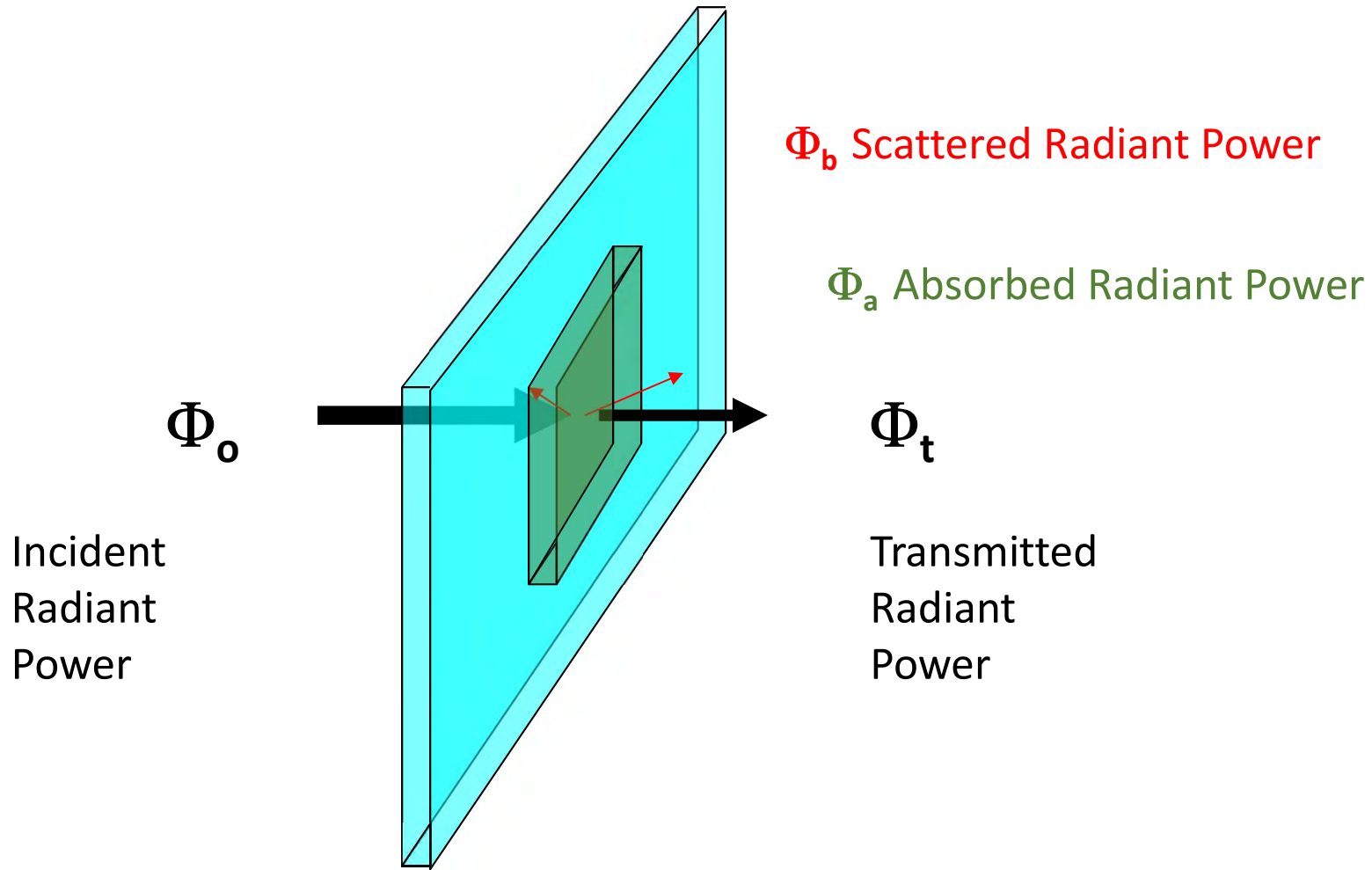
Loss due solely to absorption



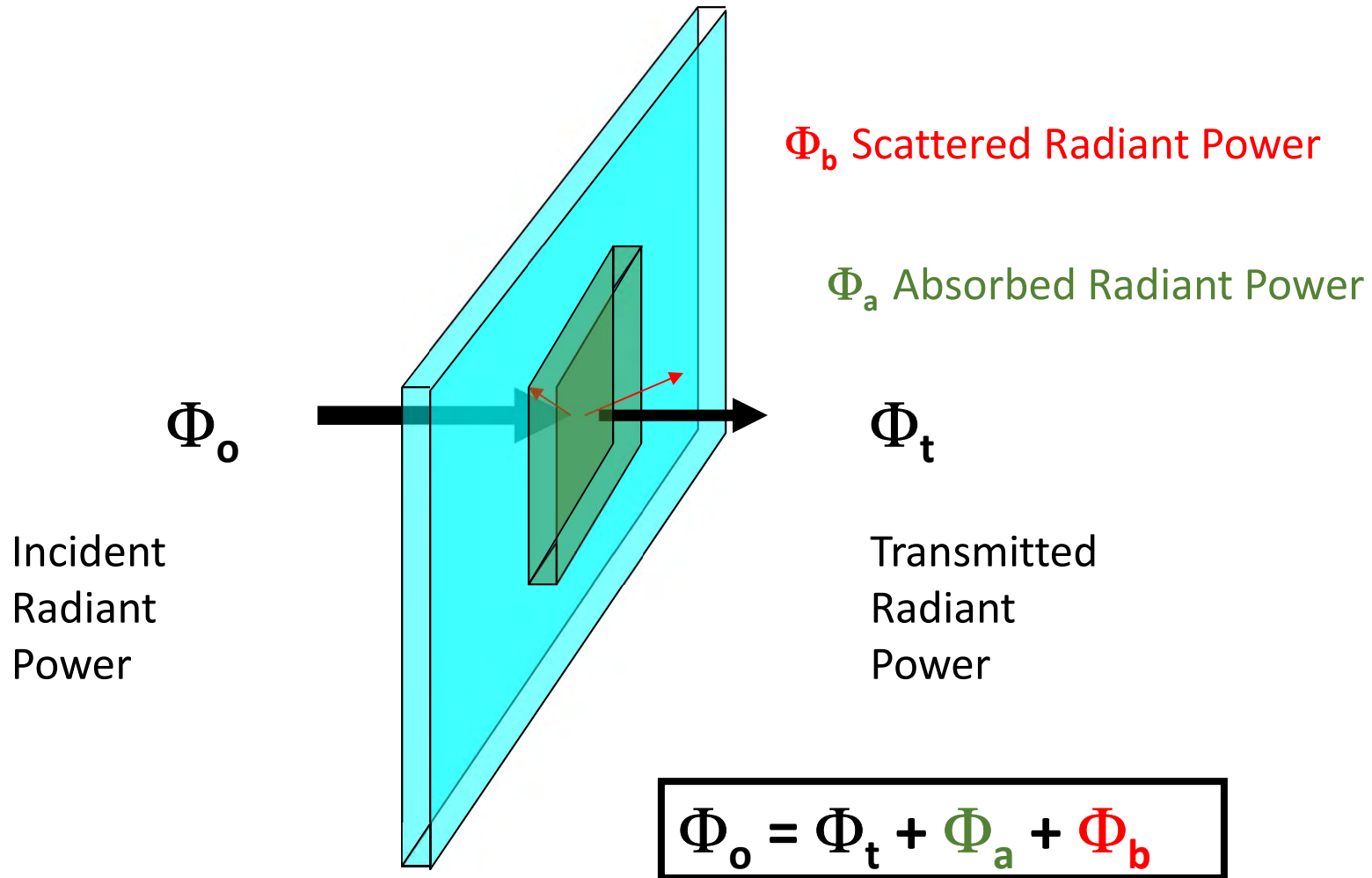
Loss due solely to scattering



Loss due to beam attenuation (absorption + scattering)



Conservation of radiant power



Derivation of Absorption

Absorptance

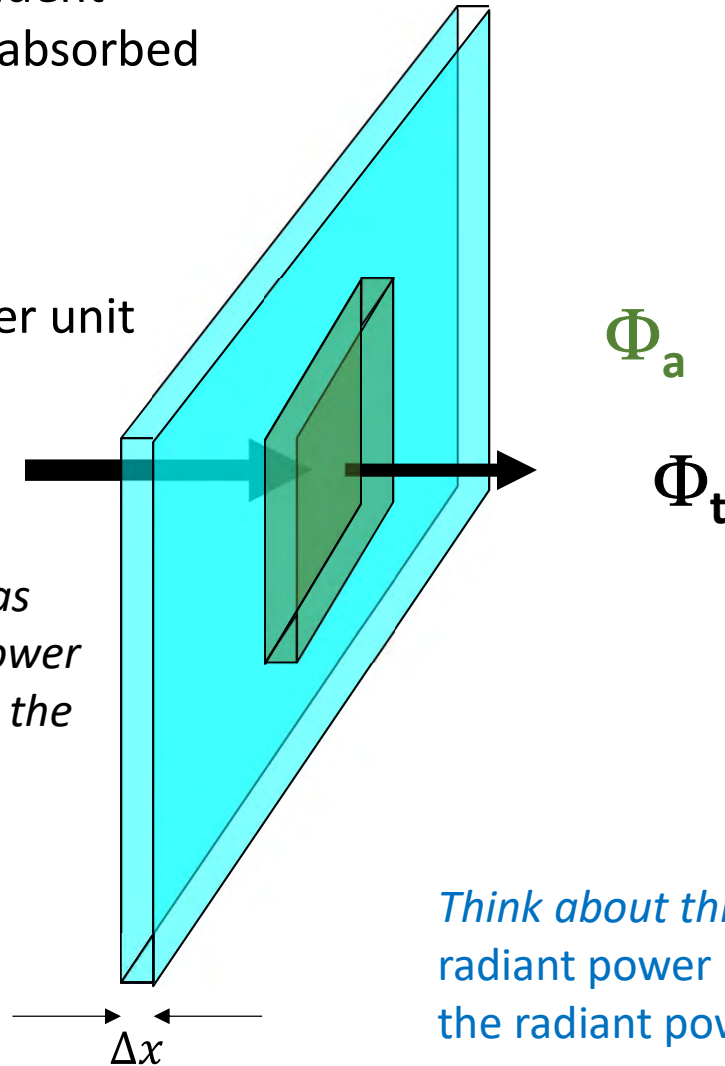
A = fraction of incident radiant power absorbed

If no scattering

Absorption

a = absorptance per unit distance (m^{-1})

Rearrange, express as fractional radiant power loss to absorption in the layer



$$A = \frac{\Phi_a}{\Phi_0}$$
$$A = \frac{\Phi_0 - \Phi_t}{\Phi_0}$$
$$a = \frac{A}{\Delta x}$$

$$a\Delta x = \frac{-\Delta\Phi}{\Phi}$$

$$\frac{-\Delta\Phi}{\Delta x} = \Phi a$$

Think about this equation: the fractional loss or radiant power over the layer is linearly related to the radiant power \rightarrow "Lambert 1760"

Derivation of Absorption

$$a\Delta x = \frac{-\Delta\Phi}{\Phi}$$

$$a\Delta x = \lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} \frac{-\Delta\Phi}{\Phi}$$

$$\int_0^x a \, dx = - \int_0^x \frac{d\Phi}{\Phi}$$

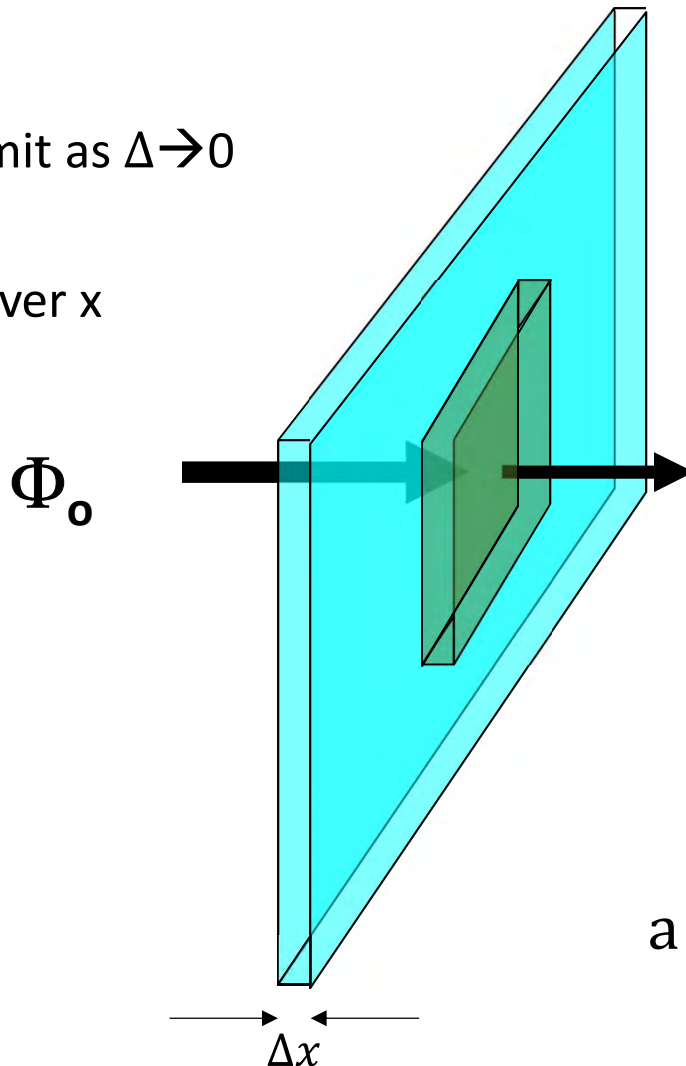
$$a \, x \Big|_0^x = - \ln \Phi \Big|_0^x$$

$$a (x - 0) = -(\ln \Phi(x) - \ln \Phi(0))$$

Take the limit as $\Delta \rightarrow 0$

Integrate over x

Evaluate



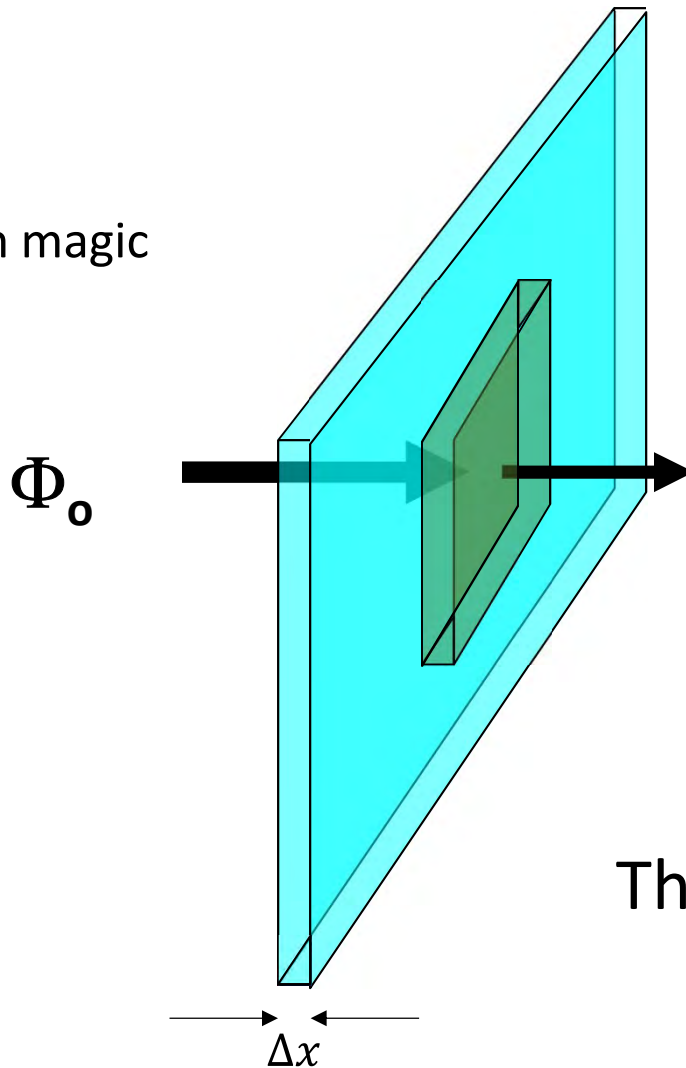
Φ_a

Φ_t

Derivation of Absorption

Evaluate

Logarithm magic



$$a(x - 0) = -(\ln \Phi(x) - \ln \Phi(0))$$

$$a x = -(\ln \Phi_t - \ln \Phi_0)$$

$$a x = -\left(\ln \frac{\Phi_t}{\Phi_0}\right)$$

Φ_a

Φ_t

$$a (m^{-1}) = \frac{-1}{x} \left(\ln \frac{\Phi_t}{\Phi_0}\right)$$

Absorption coefficient (m^{-1})

a = loss of radiant power
per unit distance

This provides a guide towards
measurements (lab 2)

Absorption through particles

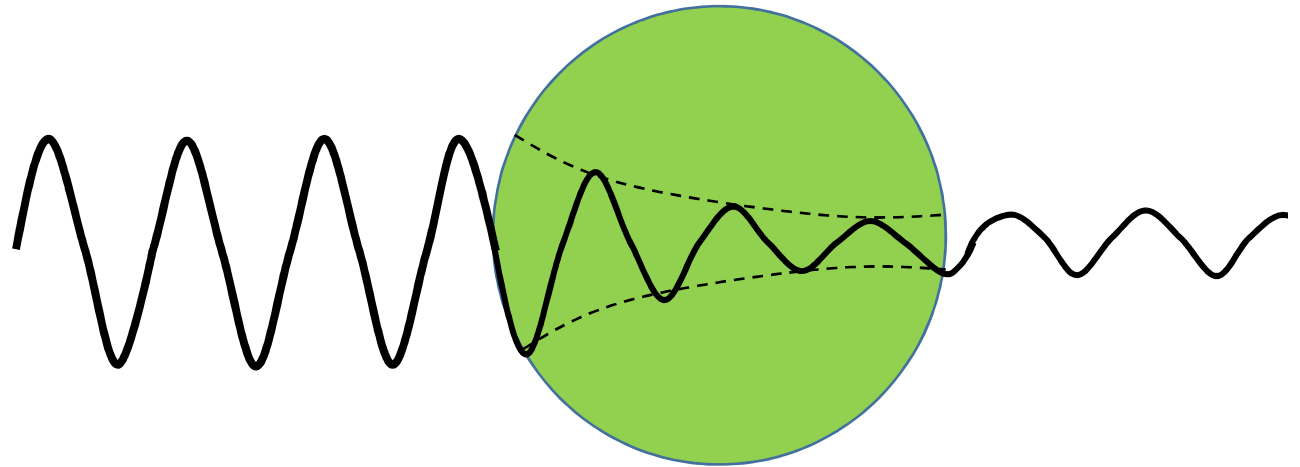
$$a \text{ (m}^{-1}\text{)} = \frac{-1}{x} \left(\ln \frac{\Phi_t}{\Phi_0} \right)$$

- As the EM wave passes through the absorbing matter
- Amplitude decreases exponentially

$$\ln \frac{\Phi_t}{\Phi_0} = -ax$$

$$\frac{\Phi_t}{\Phi_0} = e^{-ax}$$

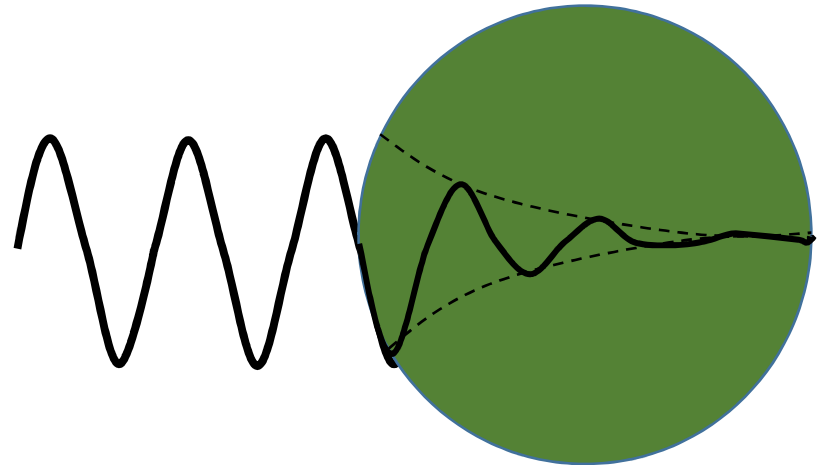
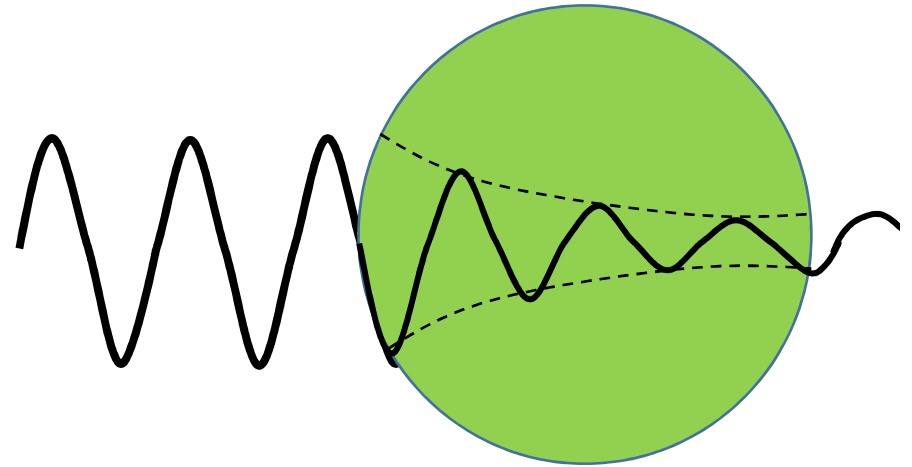
$$\Phi(x) = \Phi_0 e^{-ax}$$



- Wavelength does not change

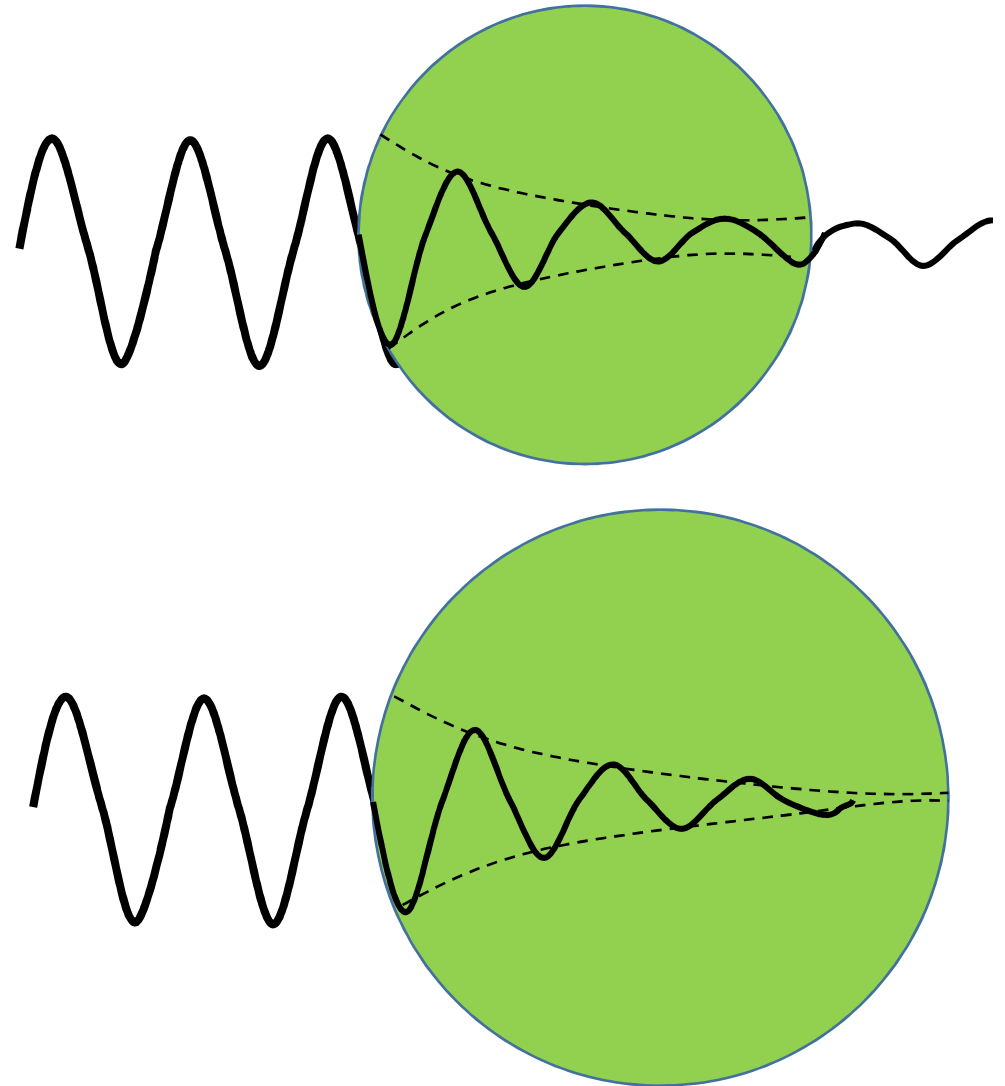
Absorption through particles

- As the **absorption coefficient** increases, less light passes through the particle



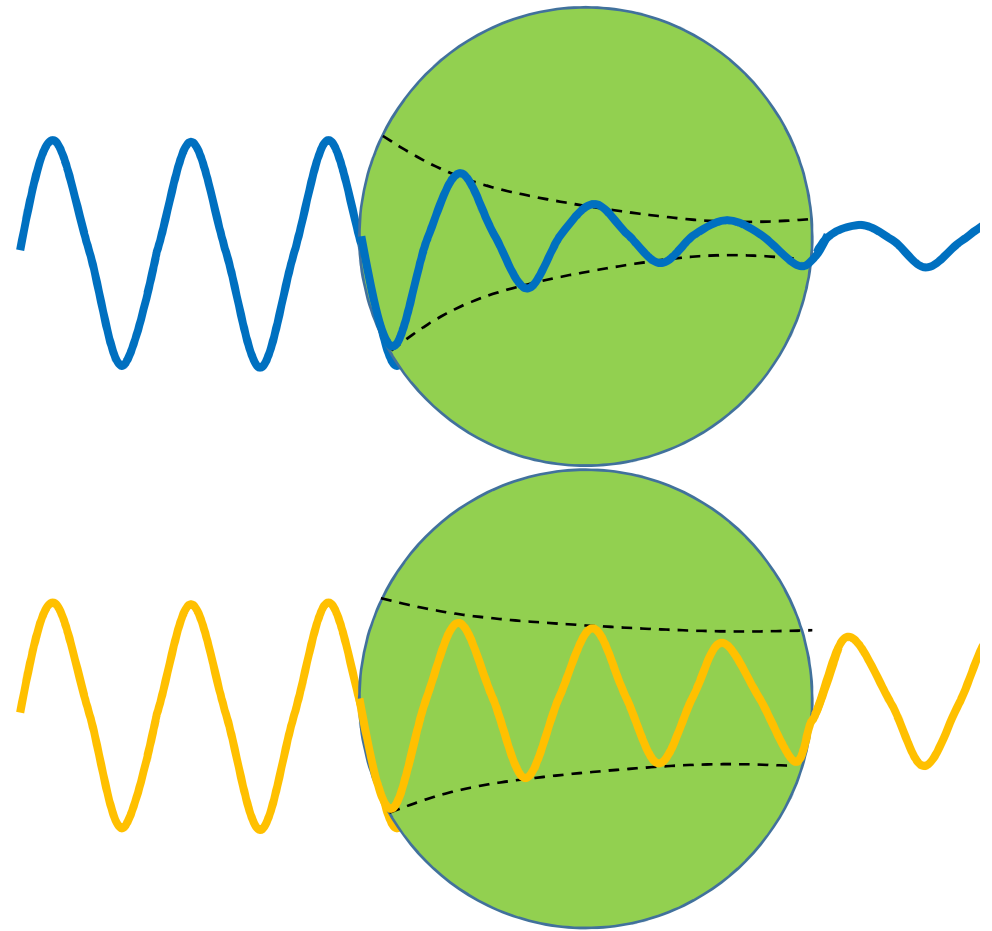
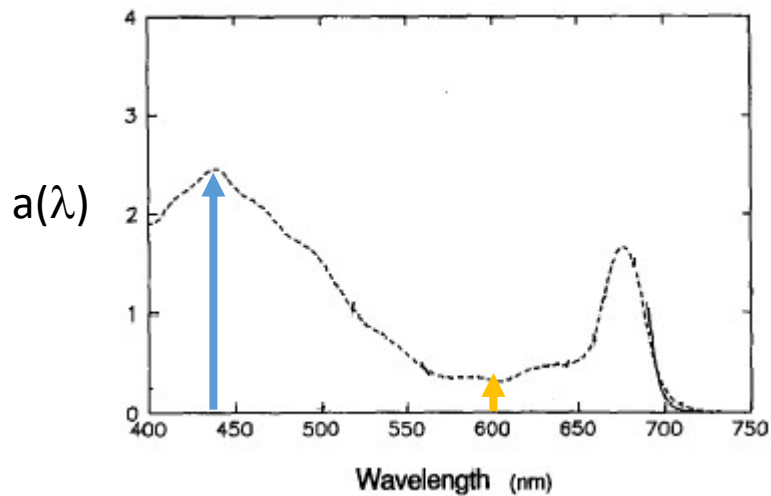
Absorption through particles

- As the **pathlength** through the particle increases, the less light passes through the particle



Absorption through particles

- Each wavelength of the absorption spectrum is attenuated differently through the particle (e.g., phytoplankton cell)



Pigment packaging

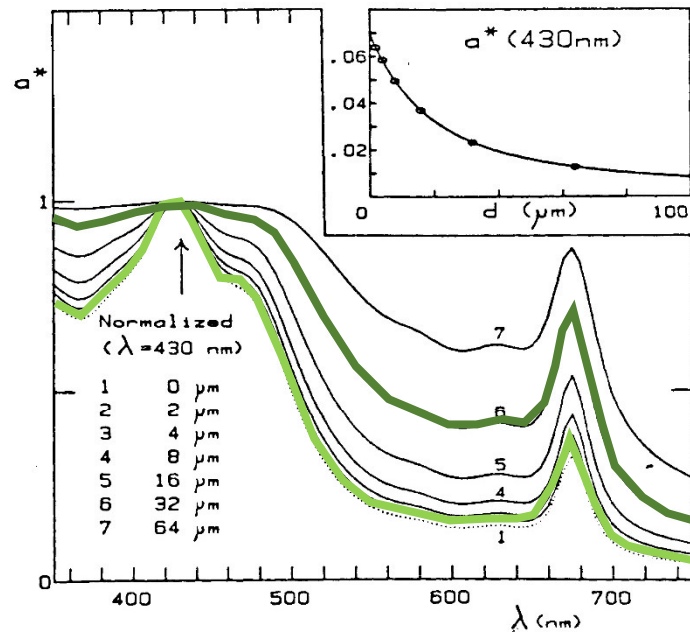
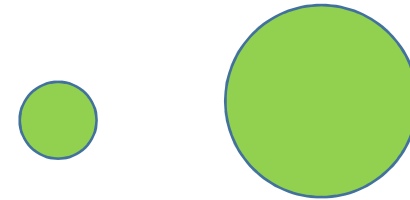


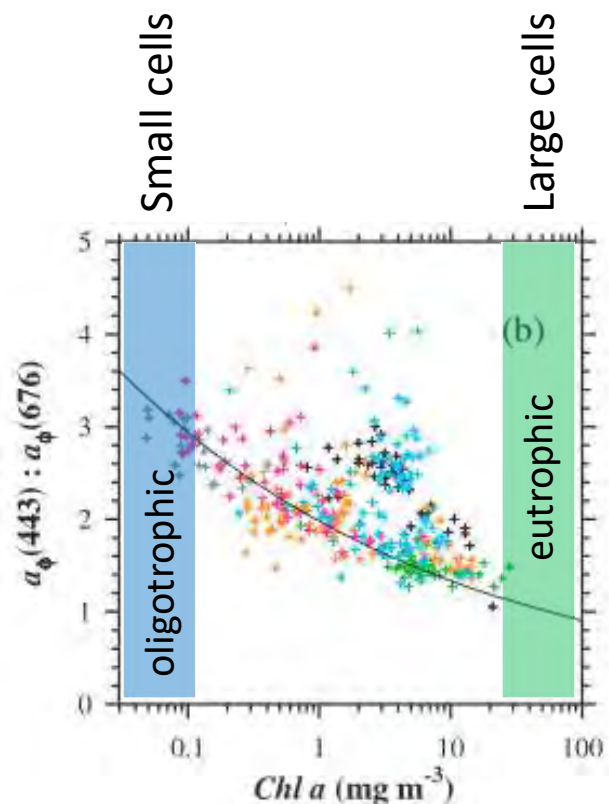
Fig. 2. Change in spectral absorption values with variable cell size (diameter, d , in μm) whereas the cell material forming the cells remains unchanged. The spectral absorption values of this material, somewhat arbitrarily adopted, are shown as the dotted curve. All curves are normalized, at $\lambda = 430\text{ nm}$, to evidence the progressive deformation. The variations with size of the specific absolute value at 430 nm ($\text{m}^2\text{ mg}^{-1}\text{ Chl } a$) are shown in inset, under the same assumption of a constant absorption of the cell material ($a_{c,m} = 2 \times 10^5\text{ m}^{-1}$ at 430 nm) and with the additional assumption of a constant intracellular pigment concentration ($c_i = 2.86 \times 10^9\text{ mg Chl } a\text{ m}^{-3}$).

(1) vary size, maintain constant intracellular pigment concentration



Morel and Bricaud 1981 DSR

Phytoplankton ecology and pigment packaging

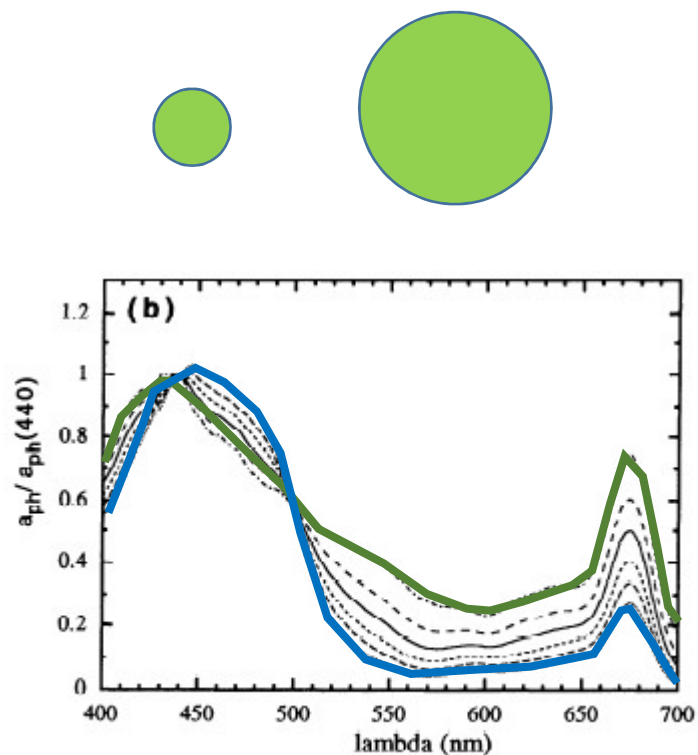


Babin et al. 2003

Global Relationships

Bricaud et al. 1995

$$\frac{a_{\text{phyt}}(\lambda)}{a_{\text{phyt}}(440)}$$



Pigment packaging

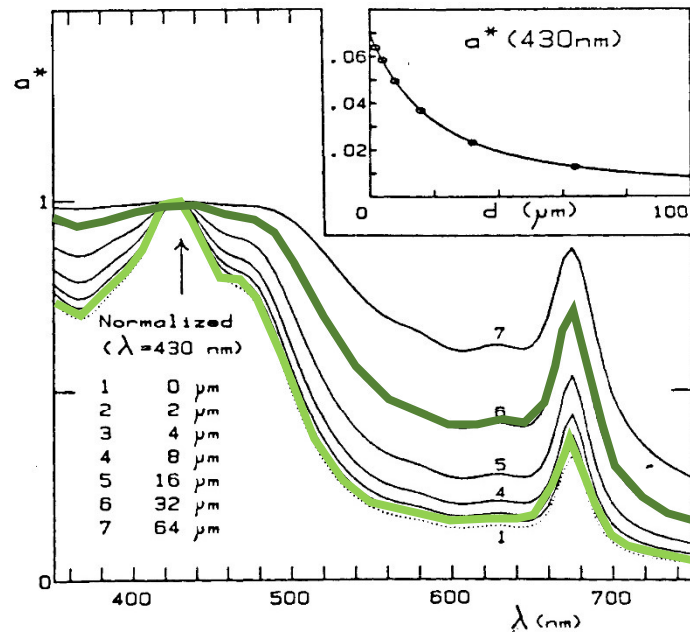
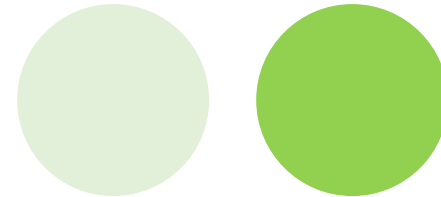


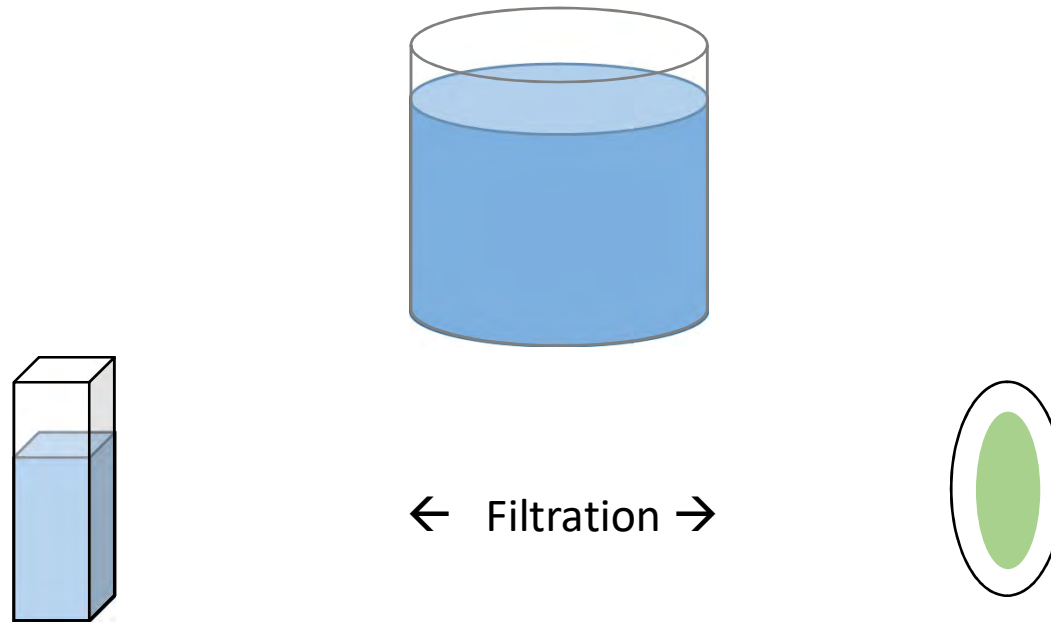
Fig. 2. Change in spectral absorption values with variable cell size (diameter, d , in μm) whereas the cell material forming the cells remains unchanged. The spectral absorption values of this material, somewhat arbitrarily adopted, are shown as the dotted curve. All curves are normalized, at $\lambda = 430\text{ nm}$, to evidence the progressive deformation. The variations with size of the specific absolute value at 430 nm ($\text{m}^2\text{ mg}^{-1}\text{ Chl } a$) are shown in inset, under the same assumption of a constant absorption of the cell material ($a_{c,m} = 2 \times 10^5\text{ m}^{-1}$ at 430 nm) and with the additional assumption of a constant intracellular pigment concentration ($c_i = 2.86 \times 10^9\text{ mg Chl } a\text{ m}^{-3}$).

Morel and Bricaud 1981 DSR

(2) maintain size, vary intracellular pigment concentration



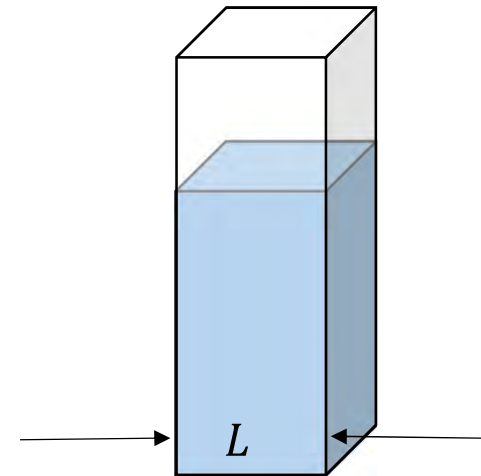
Measuring Absorption



- Separates particles from *dissolved*
- Concentrates particles from dilute medium

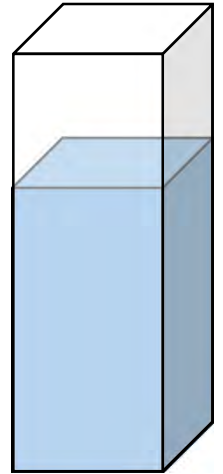
Measuring absorption - solutions

- Spectrophotometers output *absorbance*, A , rather than *absorptance*, \mathbf{A}
 - $A = \frac{\Phi_a}{\Phi_o}$
 - $A = \log_{10} \left(\frac{\Phi_o}{\Phi_t} \right) = -\log_{10} \left(\frac{\Phi_t}{\Phi_o} \right) = -\log_{10}(1 - \mathbf{A})$
 - Absorbance sometimes called *optical density*
- Reference material (Baseline correction)
 - $A_{sample} - A_{ref}$
 - $= - \left(\log_{10} \left(\frac{\Phi_t}{\Phi_o} \right)_{sample} - \log_{10} \left(\frac{\Phi_t}{\Phi_o} \right)_{ref} \right)$
 - $= - \log_{10} \left(\frac{\Phi_{t,sample}}{\Phi_{t,ref}} \right)$
- $a = \ln(10) \times \frac{A}{L} = 2.303 \times \frac{A}{L(m)}$

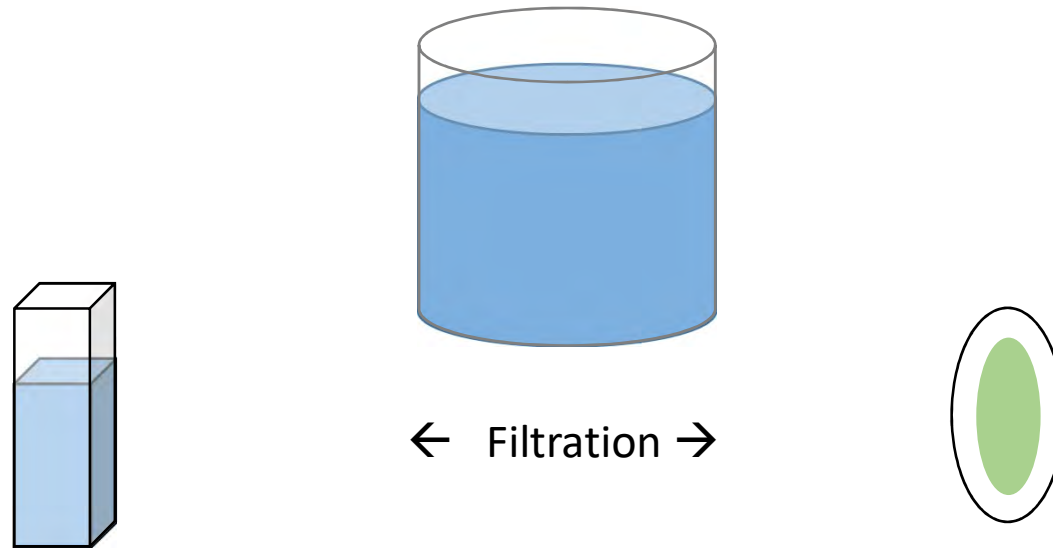


Measuring absorption

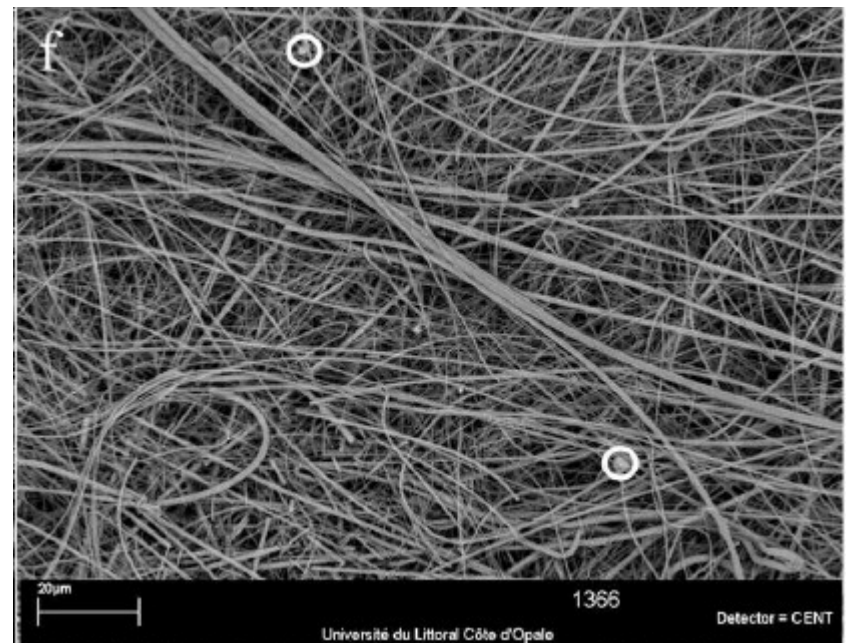
- Sample is not an infinitesimally thin layer
- absorbance, $A = -\log_{10} \left(\frac{\Phi_t}{\Phi_o} \right)$
- Recommendation
 - $0.1 < A < 0.4$
 - $80\% < T < 40\%$
- Adjust the pathlength to maintain correct A range
- May require two different pathlengths along the spectrum



Measuring Absorption – Particles on Filters



- Separates particles from *dissolved*
- Concentrates particles from dilute medium onto a glass fiber filters →



Measure in Spectrophotometer with Center-mounted Integrating Sphere

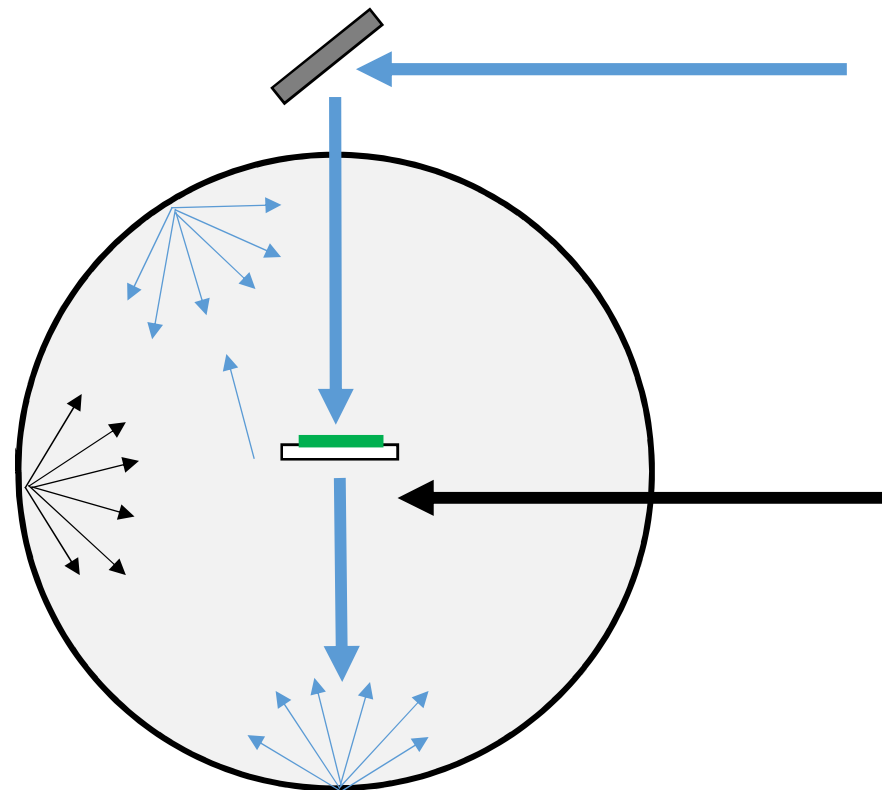
- **Sample Beam**

- Passes through sample filter first
→ sample absorption
- Multiply scatters off reflective sphere
- Pass through sample multiple times → pathlength amplification

- **Reference Beam**

- Multiply scatters off reflective sphere
- Pass through sample multiple times → pathlength amplification

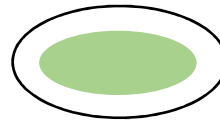
- Sample Beam – Reference Beam
= single pass through filter



Compute absorption

- $a = 2.303 \times \frac{A}{L(m)}$

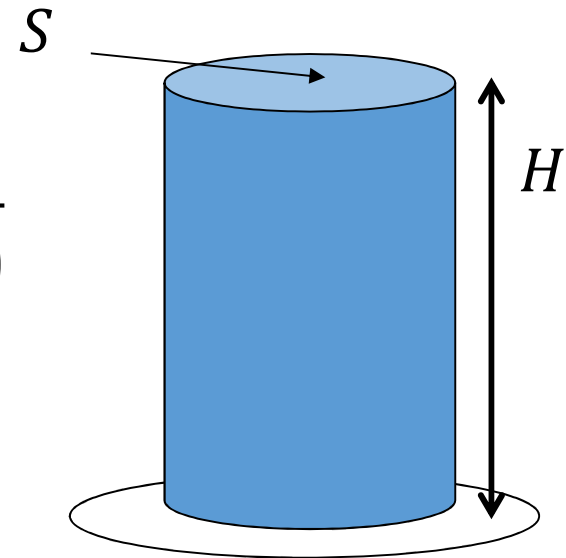
- What is the pathlength, L ?



- Convert the volume filtered into a cylinder of water of area, S , and height, H

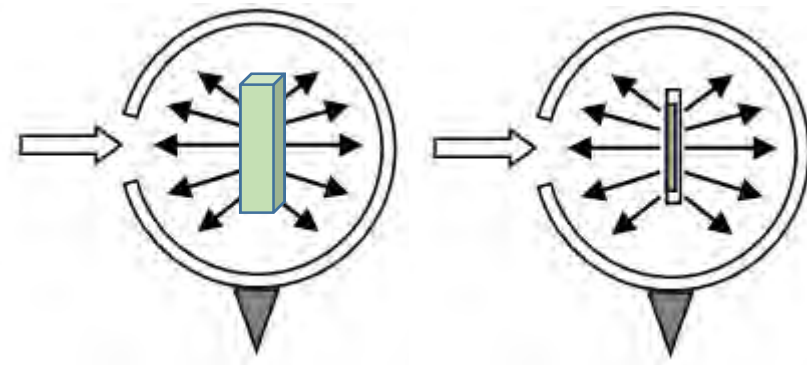
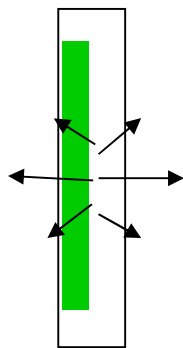
- The pathlength is $H = \frac{V_{filt}}{\pi r_{eff}^2}$

- $a = 2.303 \times 100 \left(\frac{cm}{m} \right) \times \frac{A}{\left(\frac{V_{filt}(ml)}{\pi r_{eff}^2(cm^2)} \right)}$



Filter pad

- Optical properties of the filter pad subtracted in baseline
- Creates highly scattering environment around the particles
 - multiple scattering increases probability of absorption,
 - Overestimates absorption
 - Pathlength Amplification Correction – derive from paired suspension and filter pad measurements



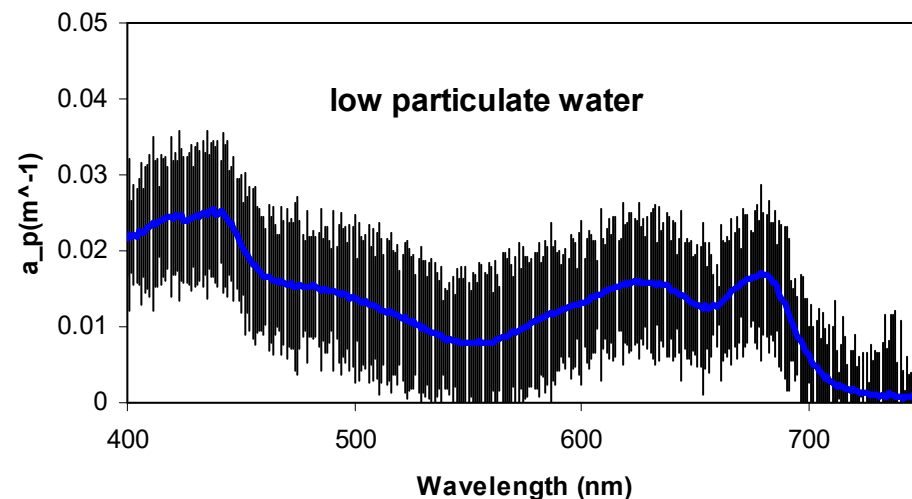
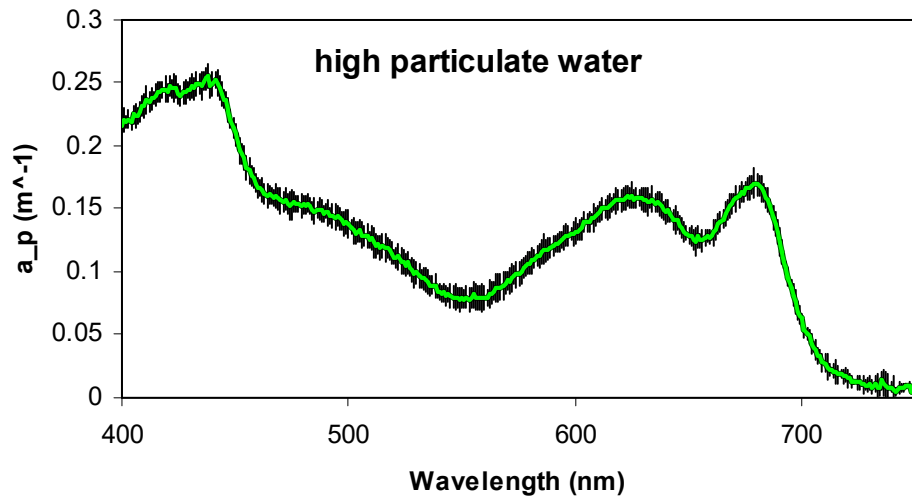
Compute absorption

- *Measure* baseline corrected sample
- $A_{sample_Bcorr}(\lambda) = A_{sample_on_pad}(\lambda) - A_{Baseline_blankpad}(\lambda)$
- *Apply pathlength amplification correction (Stramski et al. 2015)*
- $A_{sample_BcorrAcor}(\lambda) = 0.323 \times A_{sample_Bcorr}(\lambda)^{1.0867}$
- *Compute spectral absorption coefficient*
- $a_{part}(\lambda) = 2.303 \times 100 \left(\frac{cm}{m} \right) \times \frac{A_{sample_BcorrAcorr}(\lambda)}{\left(\frac{V_{filt}(ml)}{\pi r_{eff}^2(cm^2)} \right)}$

Absorption - *uncertainty calculation*

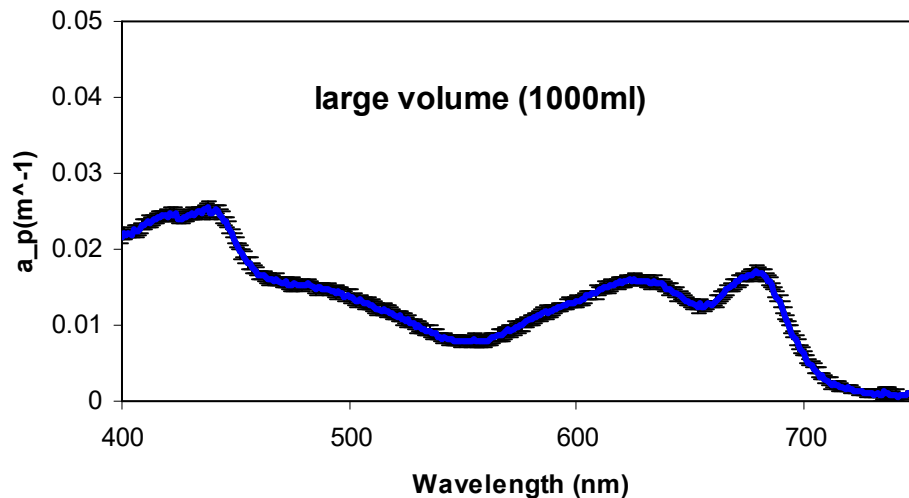
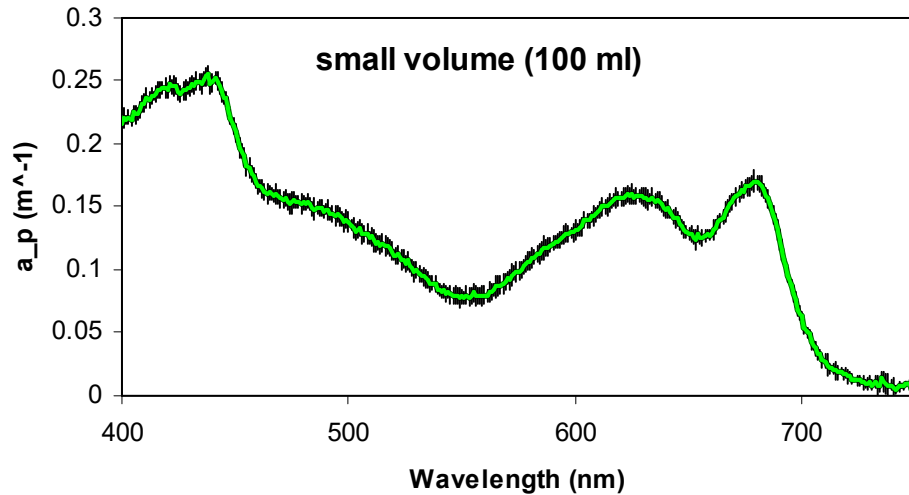
- Run three blank pads relative to your baseline
- Compute the standard deviation of the blank scans, $\sigma_{A_bl}(\lambda)$
- substitute $\sigma_{A_bl}(\lambda)$ for A in the absorption equation to compute $\sigma_a(\lambda)$
- note that the uncertainty will be different for each sample:
- V is different for every sample
- A is different for each sample, so the signal:noise will be different
- $$\sigma_a(\lambda) = 2.303 \times 100 \left(\frac{cm}{m} \right) \times \frac{A_{bl}(\lambda)}{\left(\frac{V_{filt}(ml)}{\pi r_{eff}^2(cm^2)} \right)}$$

Uncertainty example 1: impact of sample optical density



- Same volume filtered for each sample (100ml)
- $A_{\text{sample1}} \sim 10 * A_{\text{sample2}}$ (approx 0.1 vs 0.01)
- $A_{\text{filter blanks}} \sim A_{\text{sample2}}$ for low particulate waters

Uncertainty example 2: impact of volume filtered



- Different V filtered for each sample (100ml vs 1000ml)

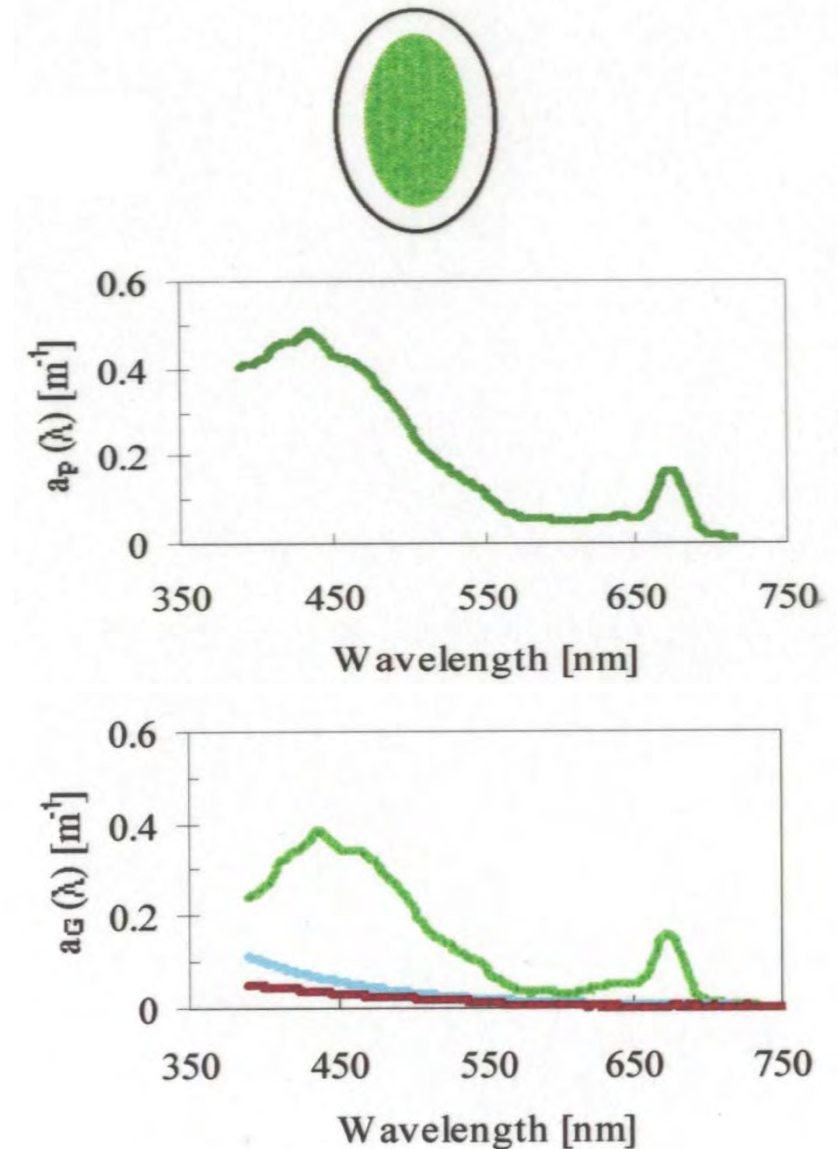
- $OD_{\text{sample1}} = OD_{\text{sample2}} (\sim 0.1)$

- $\sigma_{OD_{\text{filter blank}}} \sim 10\% OD_{\text{sample}}$

Better to **filter more volume**
and obtain
higher OD_{sample} relative to blanks

Partitioning of particulate absorption

- First scan is total particles, a_p
- Extract with methanol and scan again, a_{nap}
- $a_{\text{phyt}} = a_p - a_{\text{nap}}$
- Other issues
 - Phytoplankton “parts”
 - Detrital pigments
 - Phycobilipigments
 - Inorganics



Summary Filter pad technique

- Filter sample, want high loading to overcome the variability in the blank filter pad absorption itself, but not *muddy* (0.1 to 0.4 absorbance (OD))
- Reference?
- Extraction to separate particulates, a_{nap}
- Computation
 - Geometric pathlength
 - Pathlength amplification (optical pathlength)
 - Absorption calculation, a_p and a_{nap}
 - Phytoplankton calculation, $a_{phyt} = a_p - a_{nap}$

WETLabs ac9/acs sensors

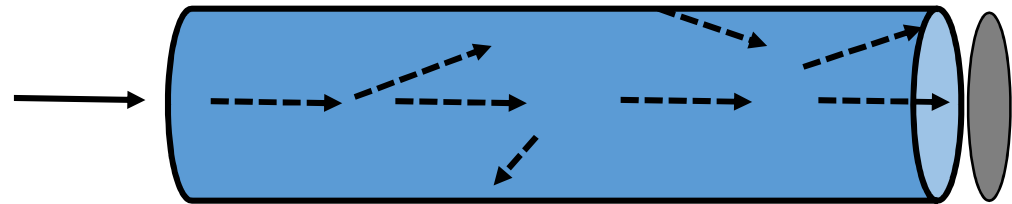


- **Quantitative** measurements of absorption and attenuation
- Calibrated with **pure water**
- Corrections
 - Temperature and salinity of samples relative to pure water calibration
 - Non-ideal configurations for absorption and attenuation
- Strategies for robust measurements

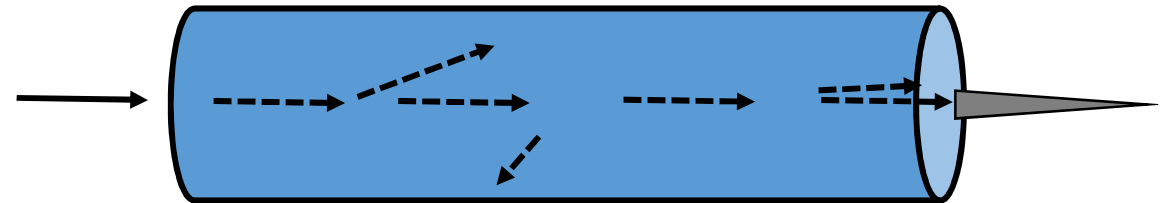
Bio-optical Sensors - Absorption

- Measurement Reality – Sensors
 - Reflecting tube absorption meters

a - Maximize scattered light collection
absorption



c – minimize scattered light collection
beam attenuation



b = c - a scattering

Some scattered light not collected by absorption tube, leads to overestimation of absorption → correction

Some scattered light collected by attenuation tube, leads to underestimation of attenuation → report detection angle

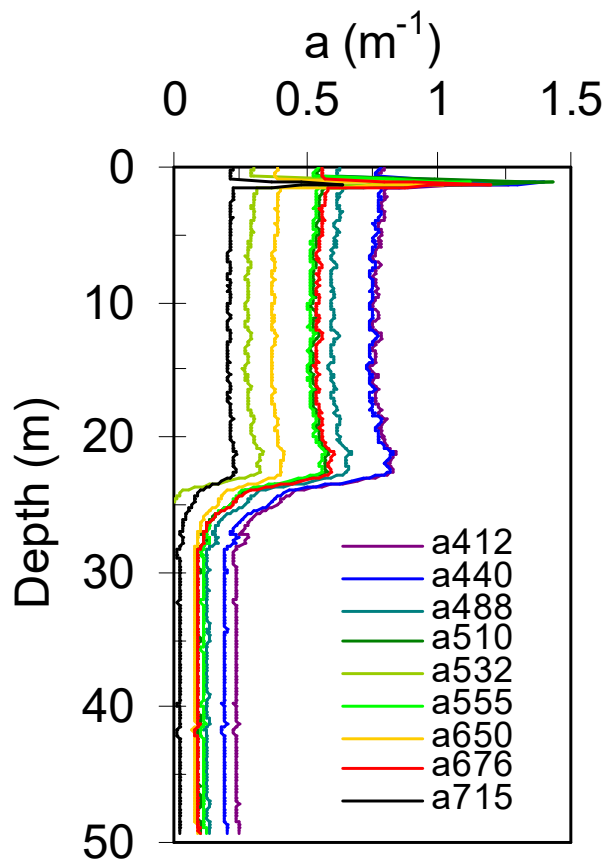
Absorption from ac9/acs



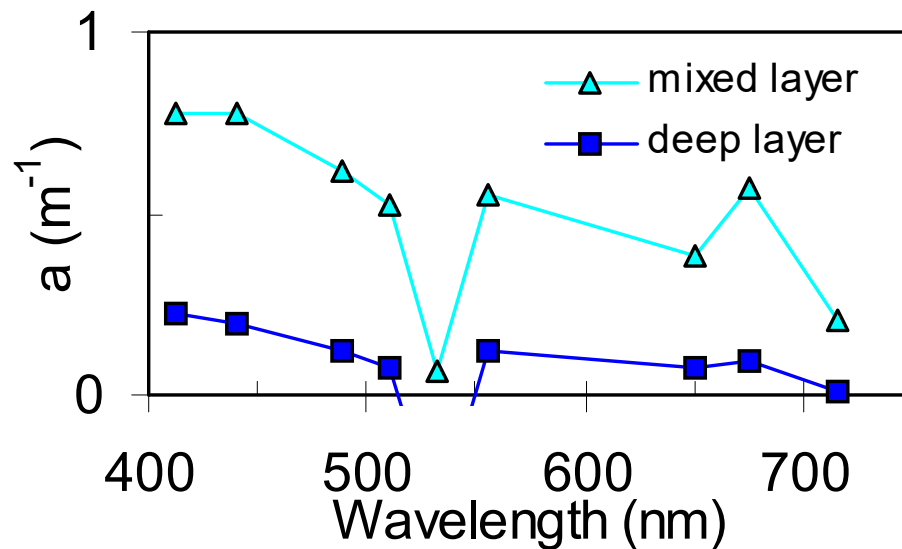
- Obtain from factory
- Calibrate* in the lab
- Place in deployment configuration
 - Black tubing
 - Copper tubing
 - Air valve
 - Seat bottom
 - Bracket top
- Calibrate* on the frame
- Deploy
 - Take to depth to purge
 - Remove upcast observations (pump inversion)
- Calibrate* upon recovery

*water calibration for quantitation
air calibration to track instrument drift

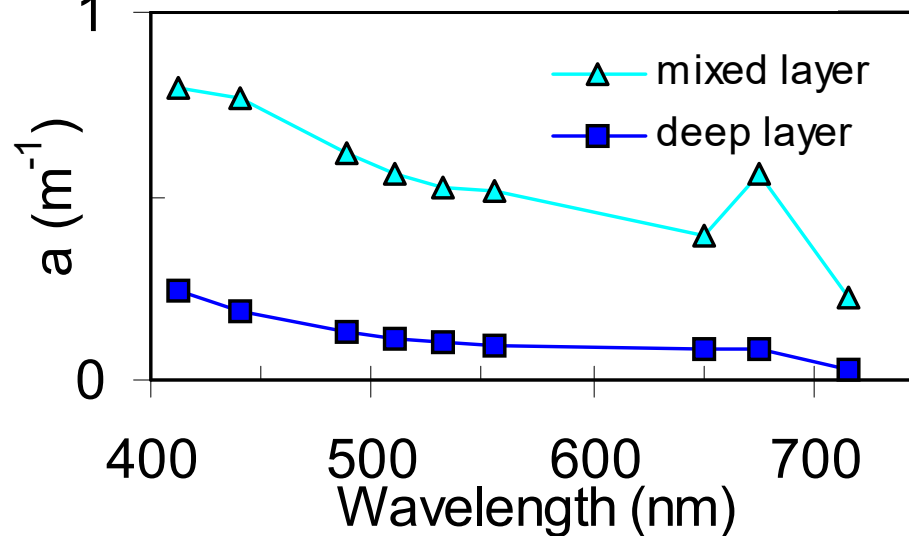
Absorption from ac9 (acs same)



But spectra are problematic



water calibration applied

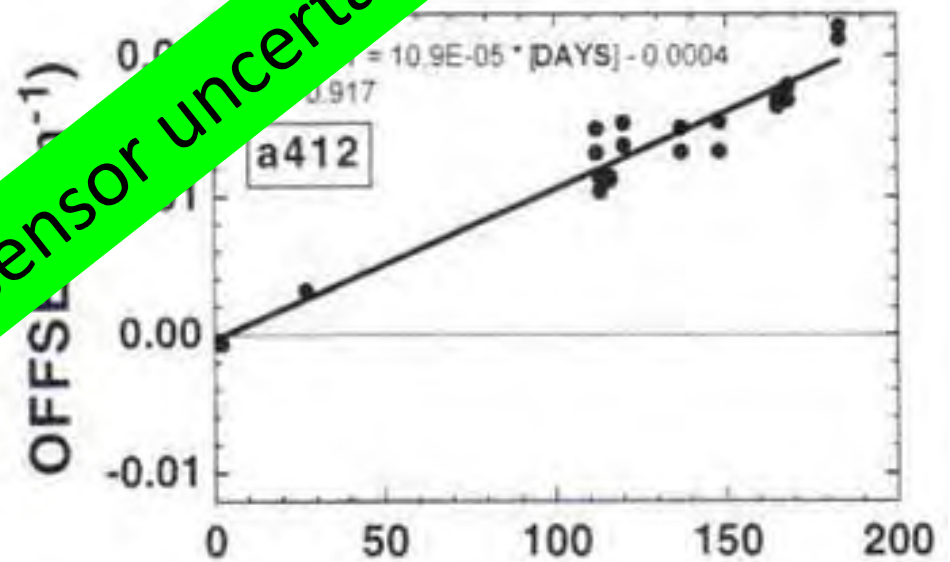
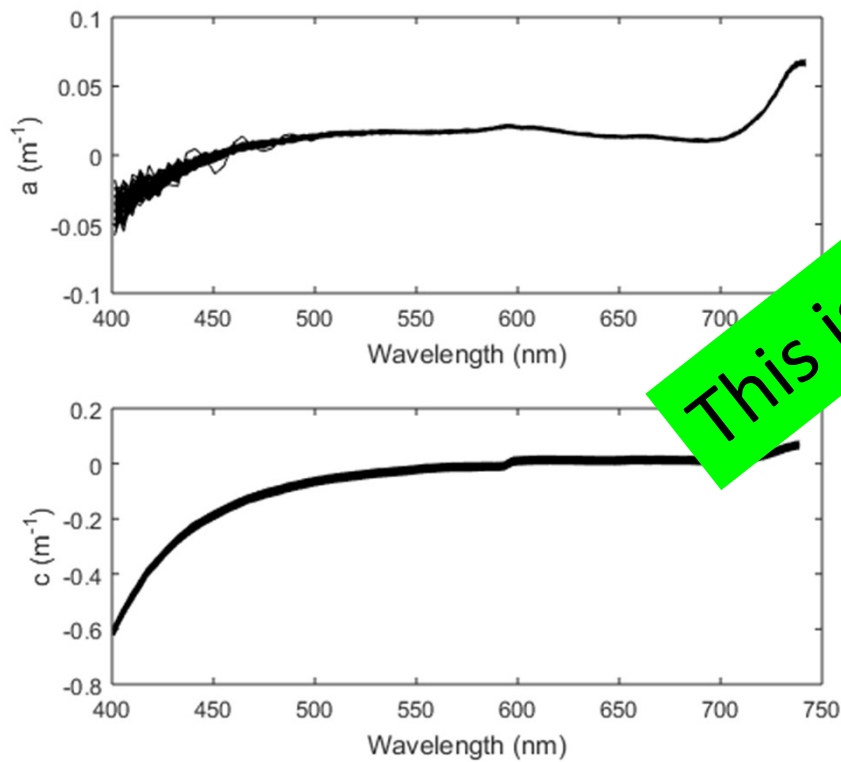


1. Pure water calibration

$$a = a_{\text{meas}} - a_{\text{H2O}}$$

Bio-optical Sensors - Absorption

- Data Analysis and Interpretation – acs example
 1. Measure pure water scans



This is sensor uncertainty

Twardowski et al, 1997
(true for a and c)

The absorption/attenuation by water varies with temperature and salinity

If you calibrate at 25C with fresh water but measure in the ocean at 10C, you have not used a proper **calibration standard**

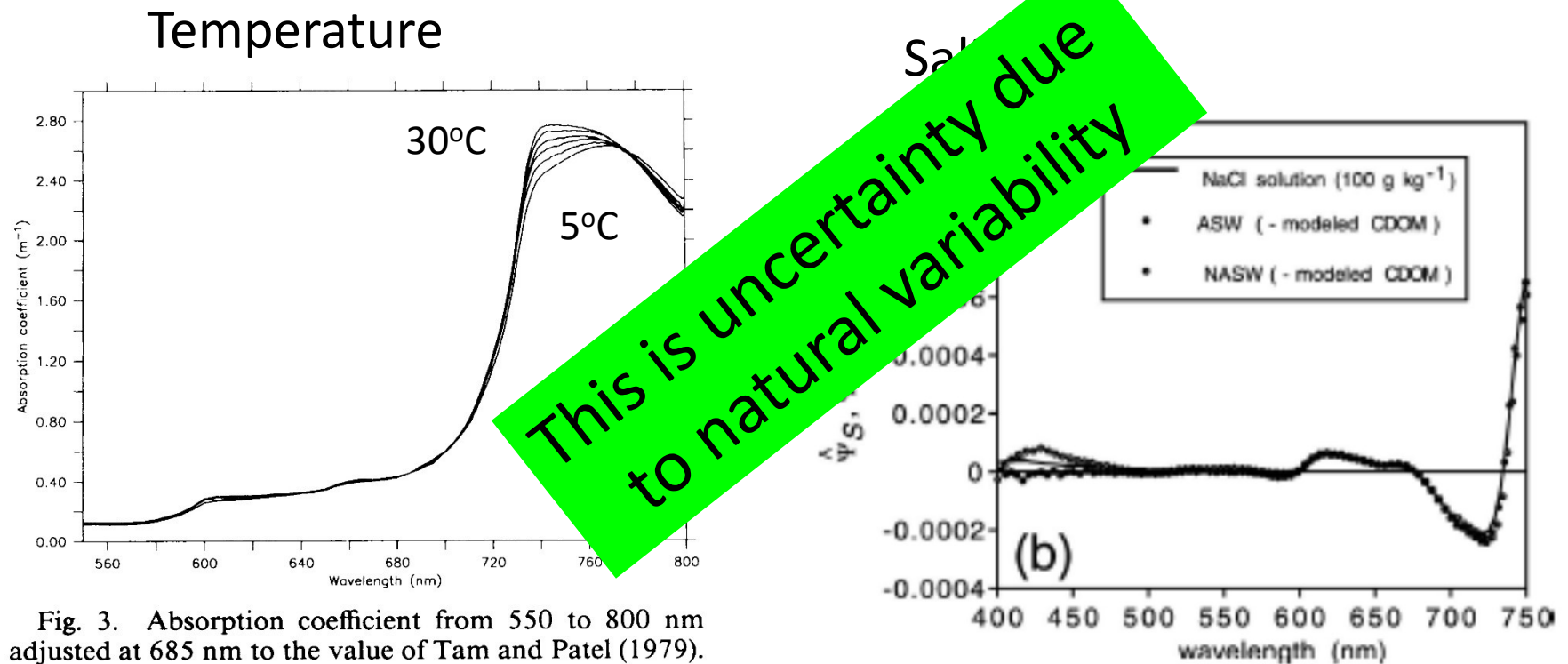
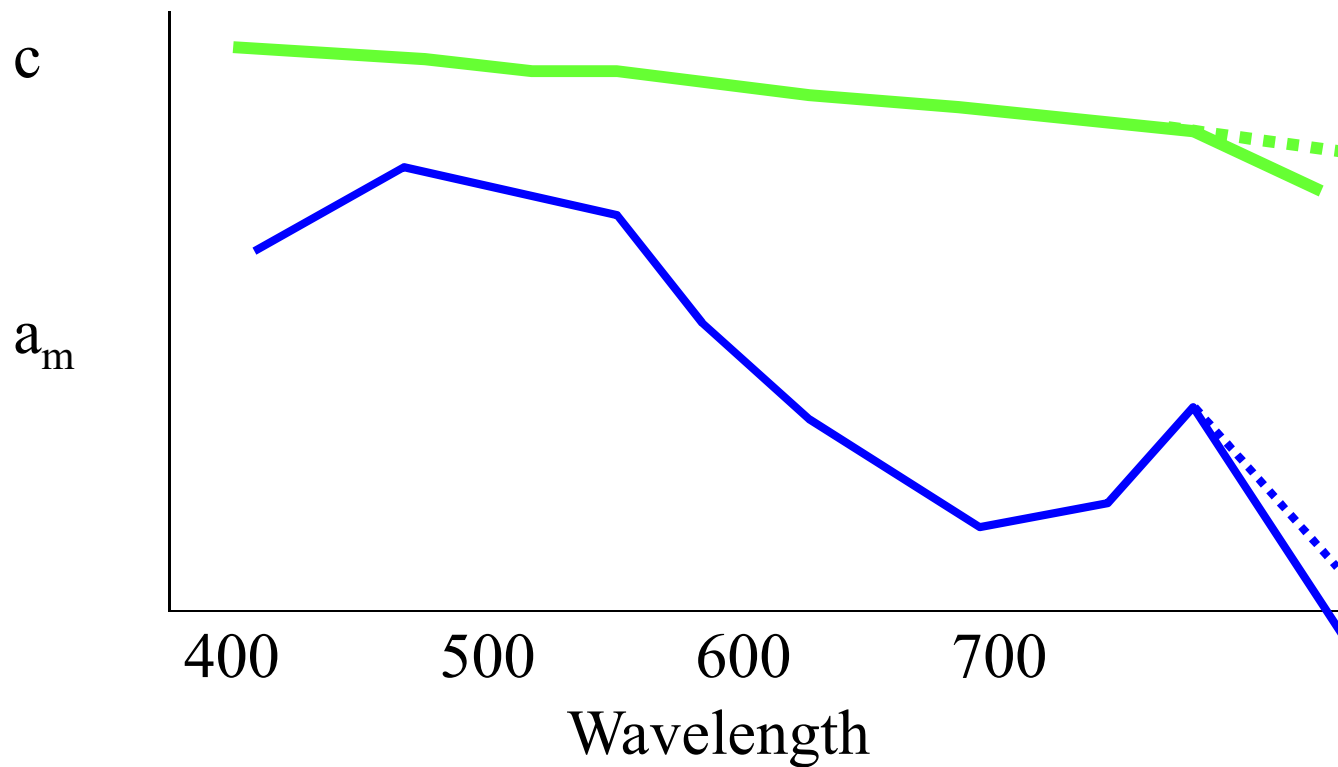


Fig. 3. Absorption coefficient from 550 to 800 nm adjusted at 685 nm to the value of Tam and Patel (1979). The curves represent absorption at temperatures of 5, 10, 15, 21, 25, and 30°C as read from bottom to top at 750 nm.

Sullivan et al. 2006 Applied Optics

Pegau and Zaneveld 1993 Limnol Oceanogr.
Pegau et al. 1997 Applied Optics

Absorption from ac9



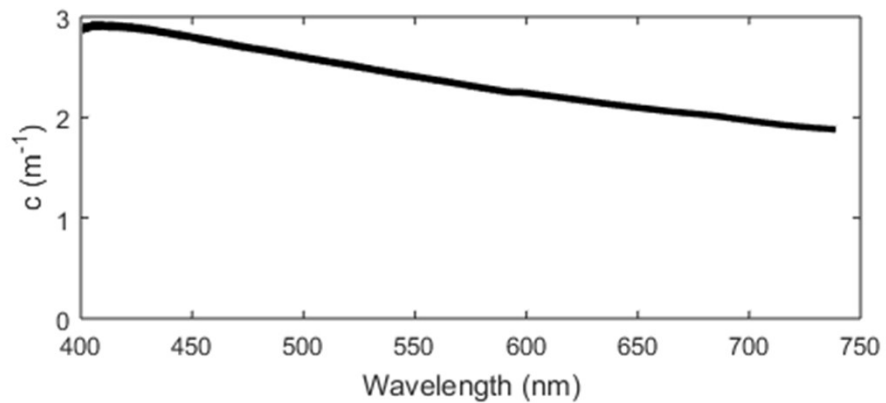
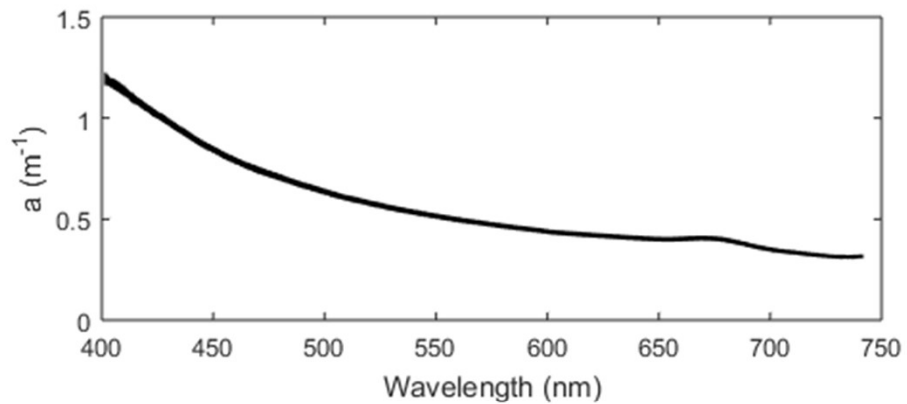
2. Temperature and salinity correction

This is due to the fact that the in situ T and S are different than that of the calibration water

→ Requires measurement of T, S in situ

Bio-optical Sensors - Absorption

- Data Analysis and Interpretation – acs example
 - Collect sample scans
 1. correct for T, S

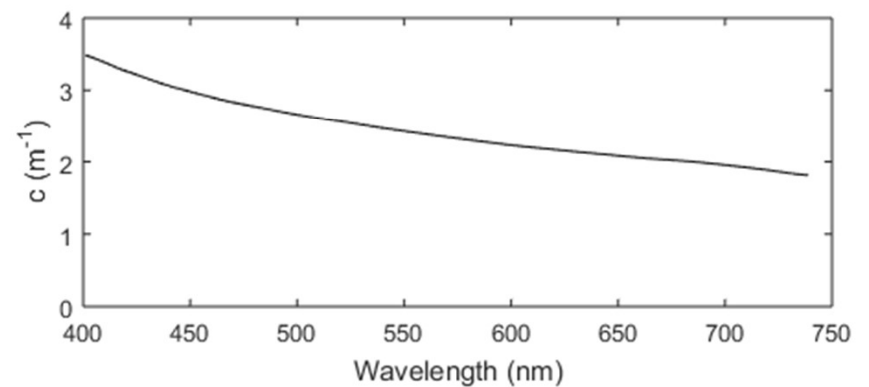
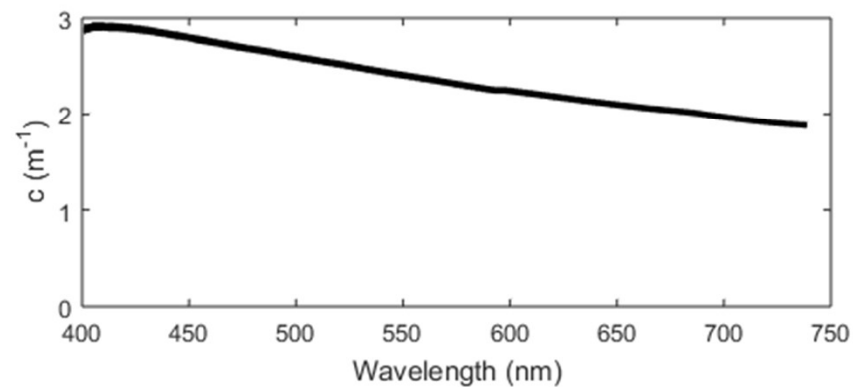
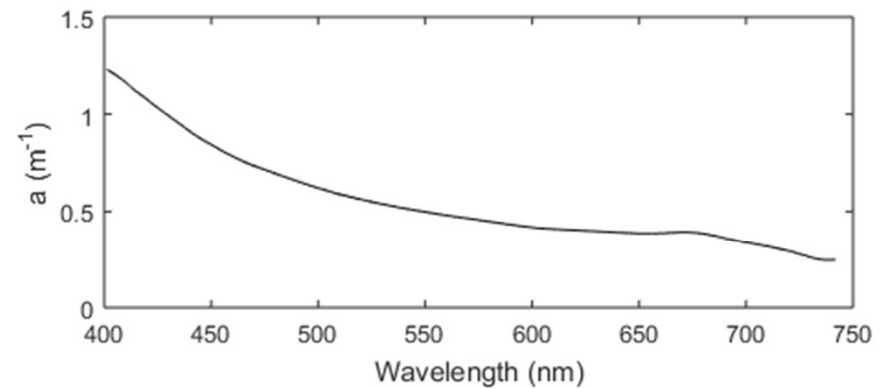
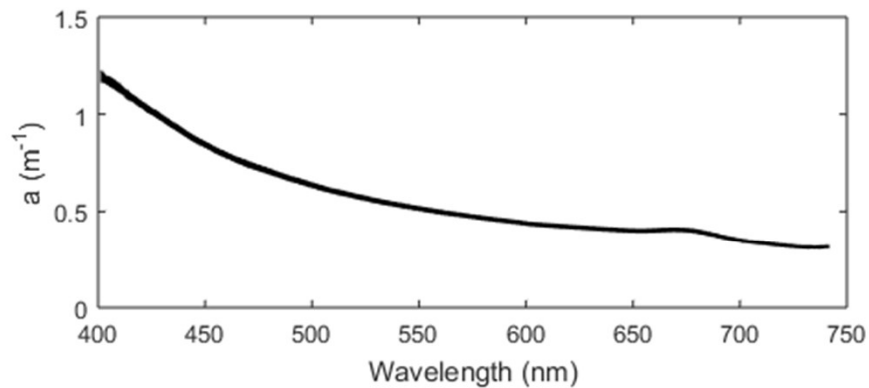


Bio-optical Sensors - Absorption

- Data Analysis and Interpretation – acs example
 2. Correct sample scans for pure water values (T, S corr)

sample scan

corrected for pure water



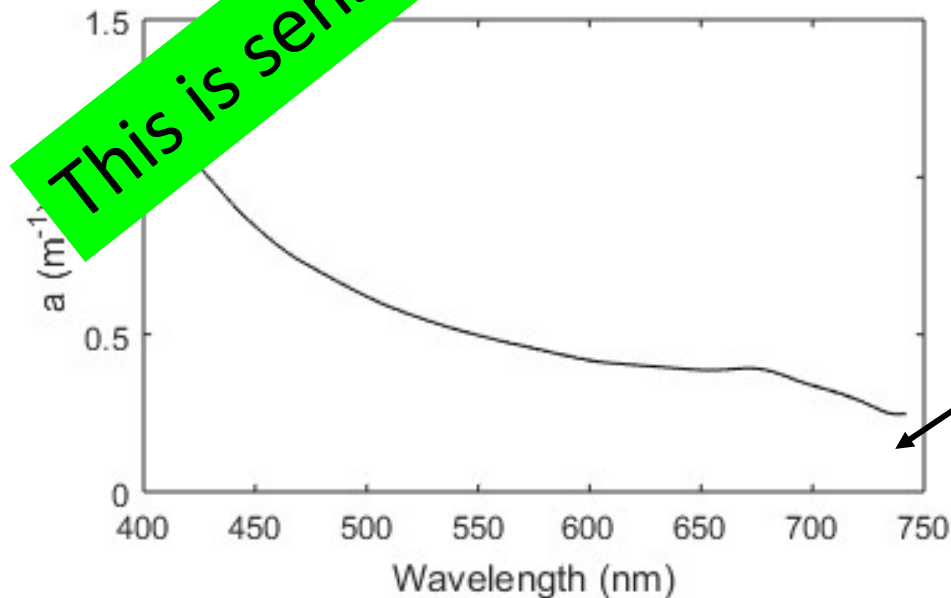
Bio-optical Sensors - Absorption

- Data Analysis and Interpretation – acs example

- 3. Scattering correct the absorption spectra

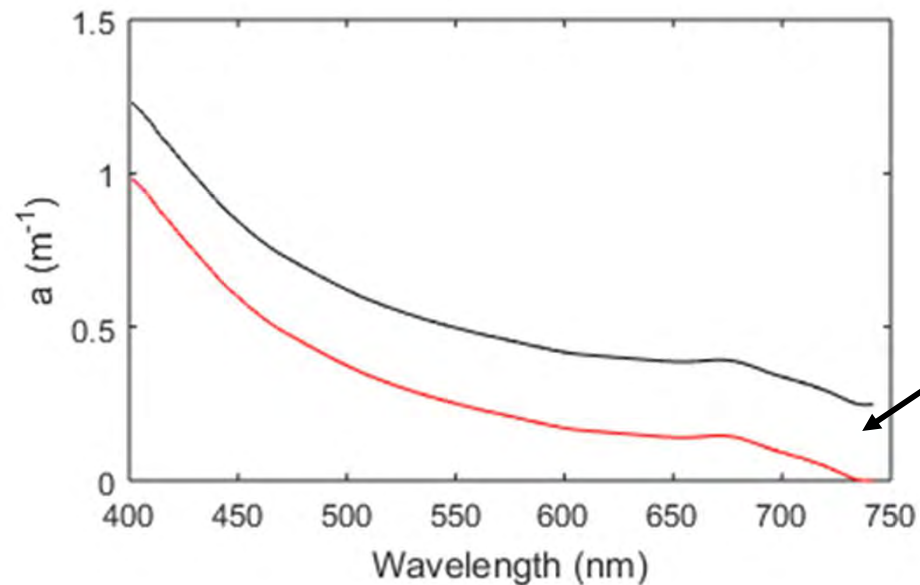
- find wavelength where absorption is negligible

- measured a is actually **scattering** ϵ
- if* T and S have been accurately corrected for



Bio-optical Sensors - Absorption

- Data Analysis and Interpretation – acs example
 3. Scattering correct the absorption spectra
 - a. **Subtract $a_m(\text{NIR})$**
“b not a function of λ ”
spectrophotometric approach



Stramski and Babin 2002

Bio-optical Sensors - Absorption

- Data Analysis and Interpretation – acs example

3. Scattering correct the absorption spectra

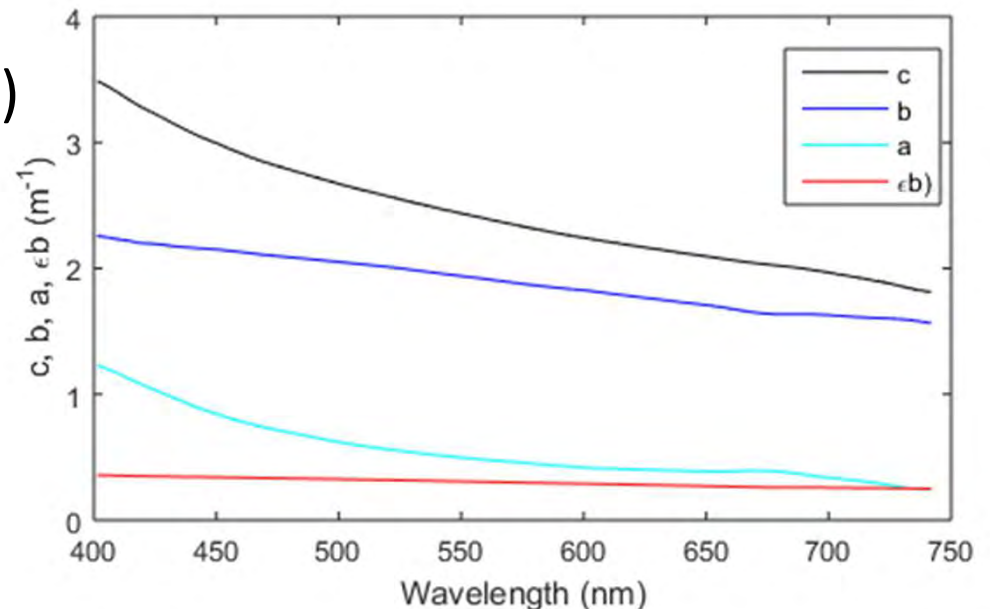
b. **Subtract spectral scattering contribution, fraction of $b(\lambda)$**

$$b(\lambda) = c(\lambda) - a(\lambda)$$

if $a(\text{NIR}) = 0$ signal is due to scattering

$$fb(\lambda) = a(\text{NIR})/b(\text{NIR})$$

$$a_{\text{corr}}(\lambda) = a(\lambda) - (fb(\lambda) * b(\lambda))$$

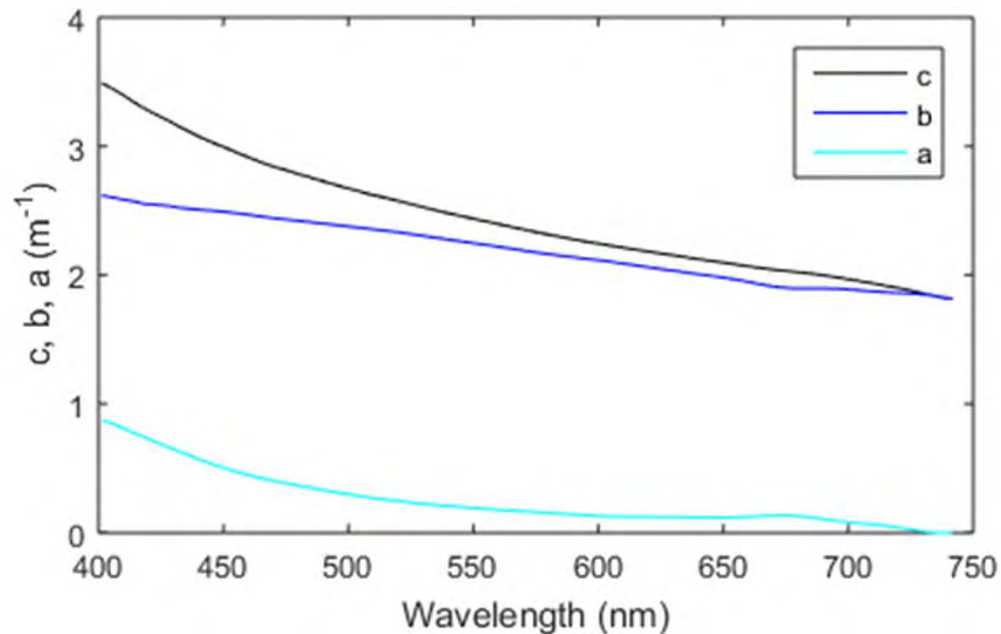


Bio-optical Sensors - Absorption

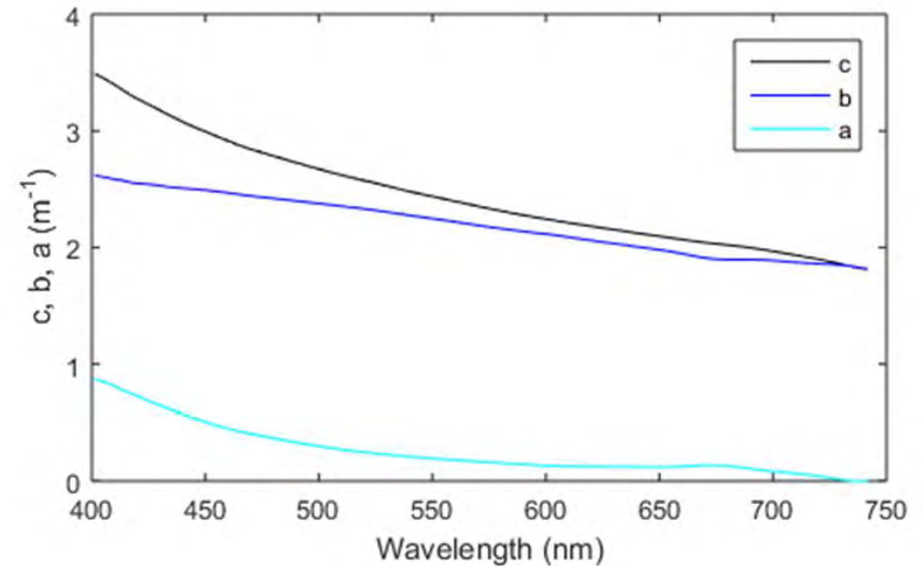
- Data Analysis and Interpretation – acs example

4. Compute Scattering spectra

$$b(\lambda) = c(\lambda) - a(\lambda)$$



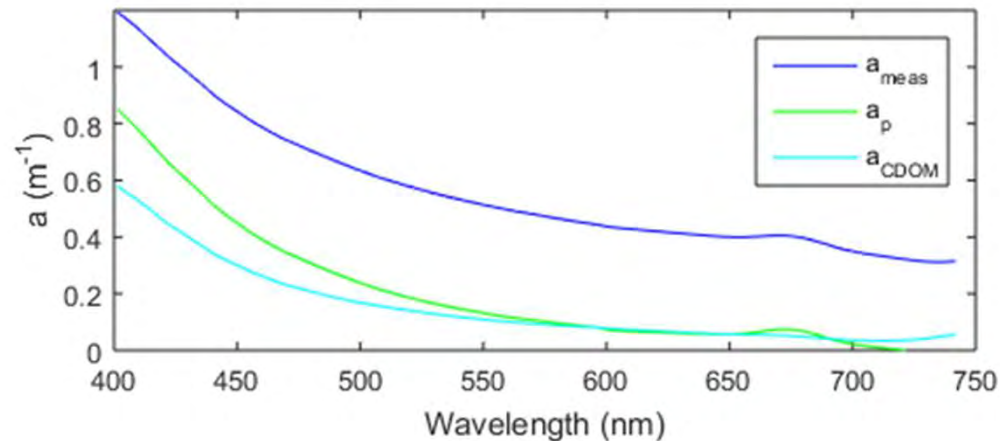
Best practices for obtaining Absorption/Attenuation from acs



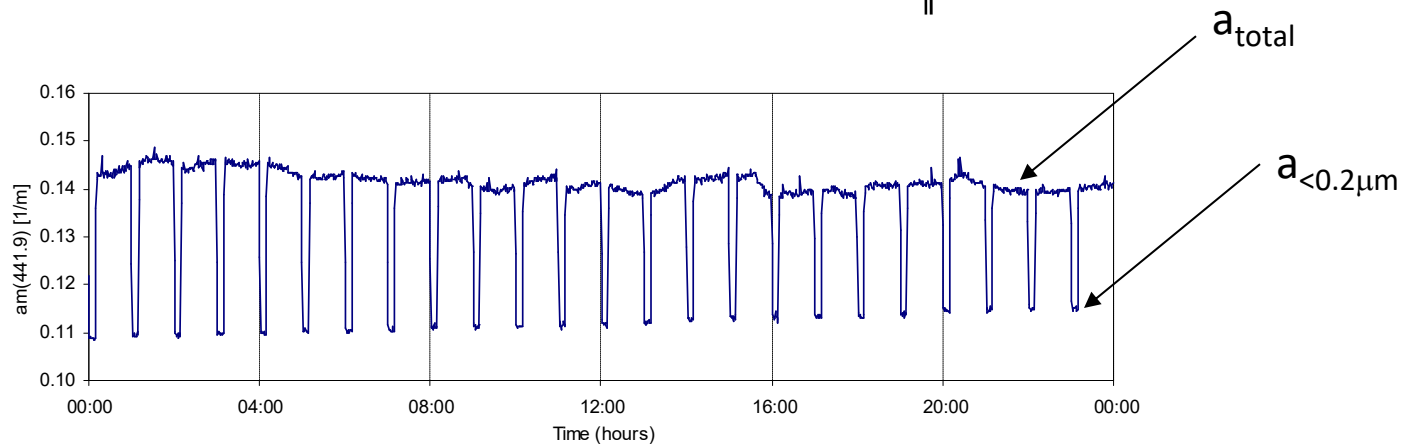
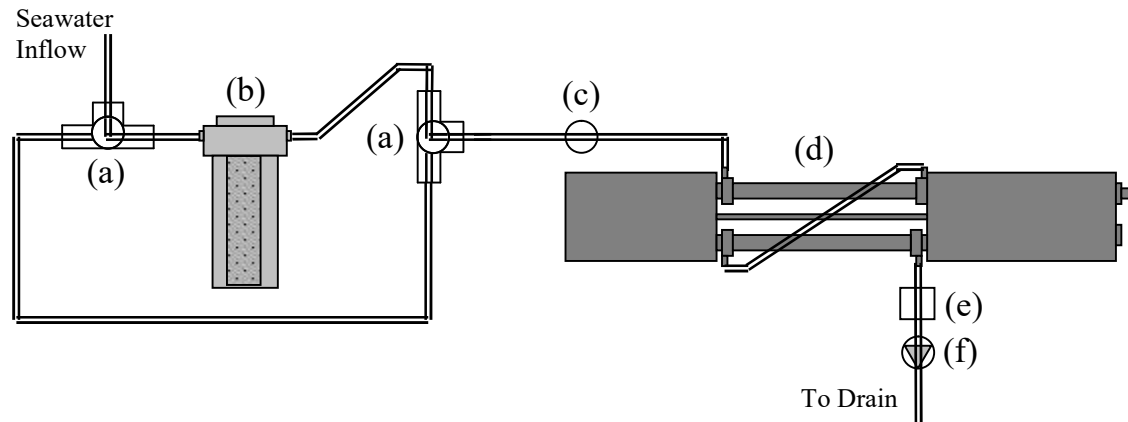
- Review Data processing
 - Temperature/Salinity correct a and c of sample and calibration data
 - Subtract T,S-corrected pure water calibration from sample scans
 - Apply spectral scattering correction to absorption
 - Compute scattering spectrum ($b = c - a$)

Bio-optical Sensors - Absorption

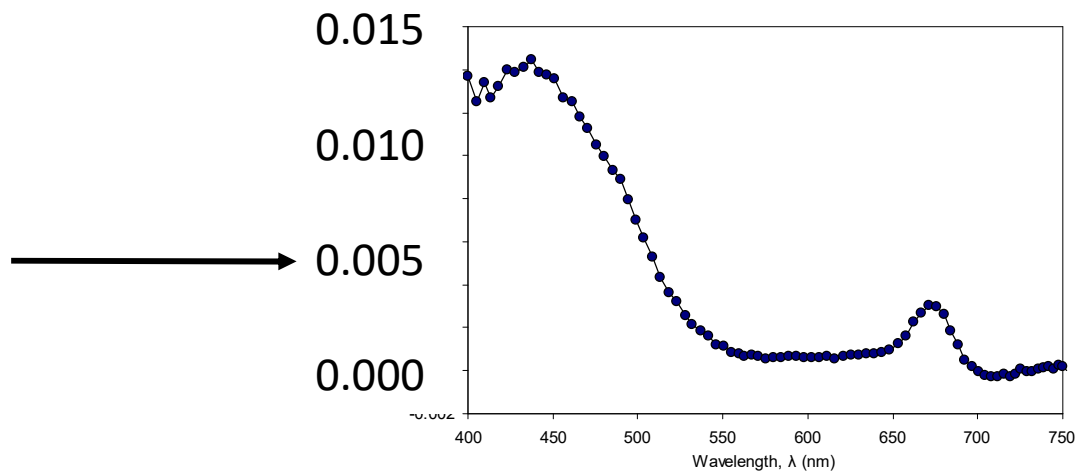
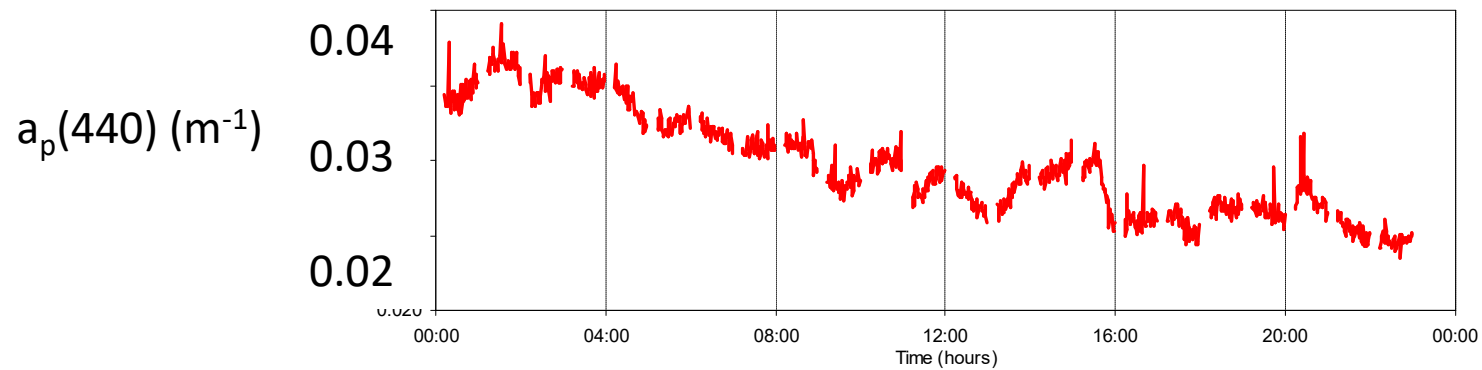
- Data Analysis and Interpretation – acs example
 - **Calibration independent** method for partitioning
 - (Slade et al. 2010)
 - Measure whole water and filtered water, a_{tot} , a_{filt}
 - Apply Temperature, Salinity correction
 - Apply Scattering correction
 - Subtract filtered water scan from whole water scan, $a_{\text{part}} = a_{\text{tot}} - a_{\text{filt}}$
 - Yields a_{CDOM} and a_{part} **independent of calibration drift**



Automated shipboard flow-through method, calibration-independent



An example of calibration independent approach on an automated shipboard flow-through configuration



Slade et al., 2010

Let's go play in the lab!