

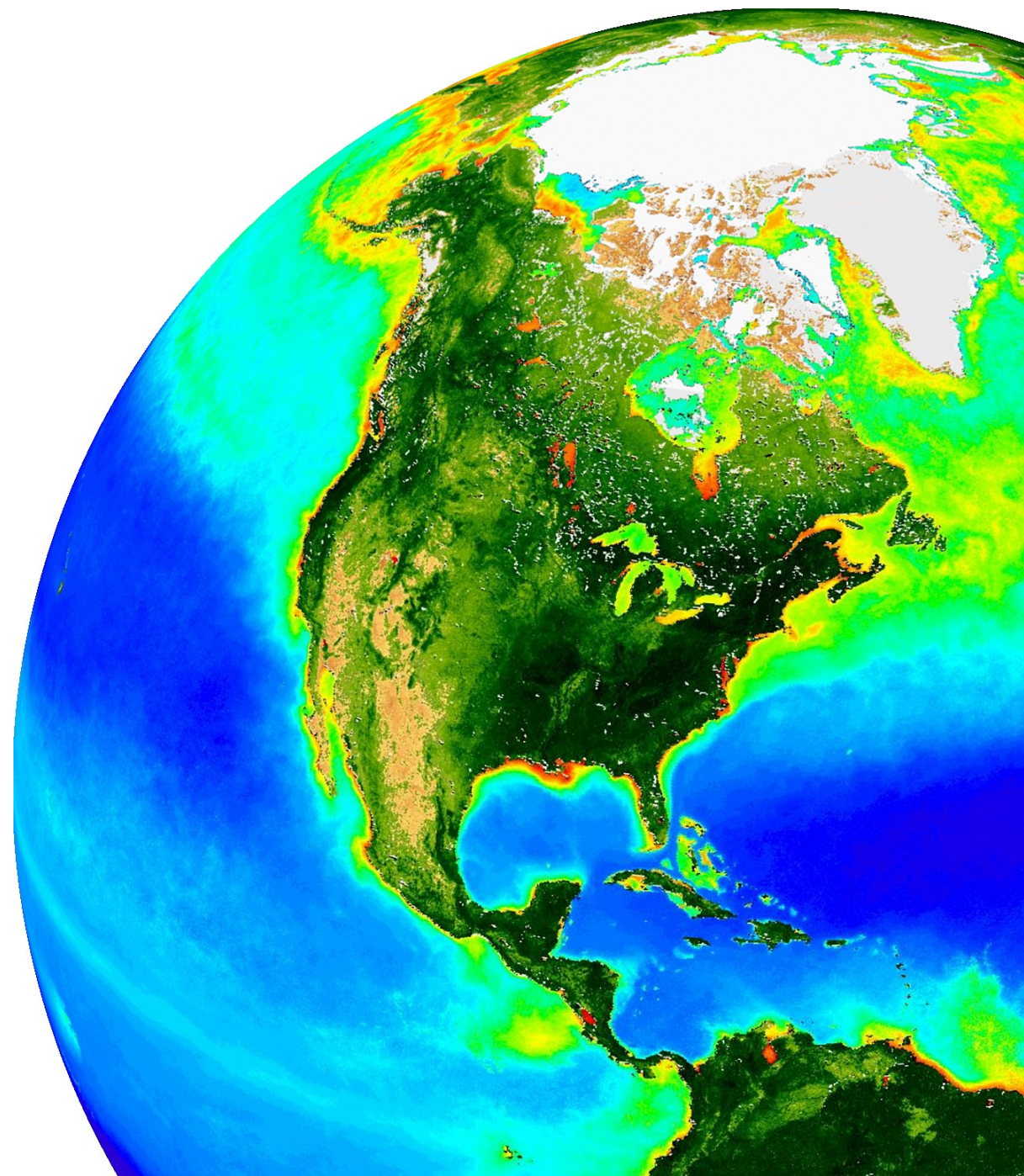
Ocean color satellite atmospheric correction

Jeremy Werdell

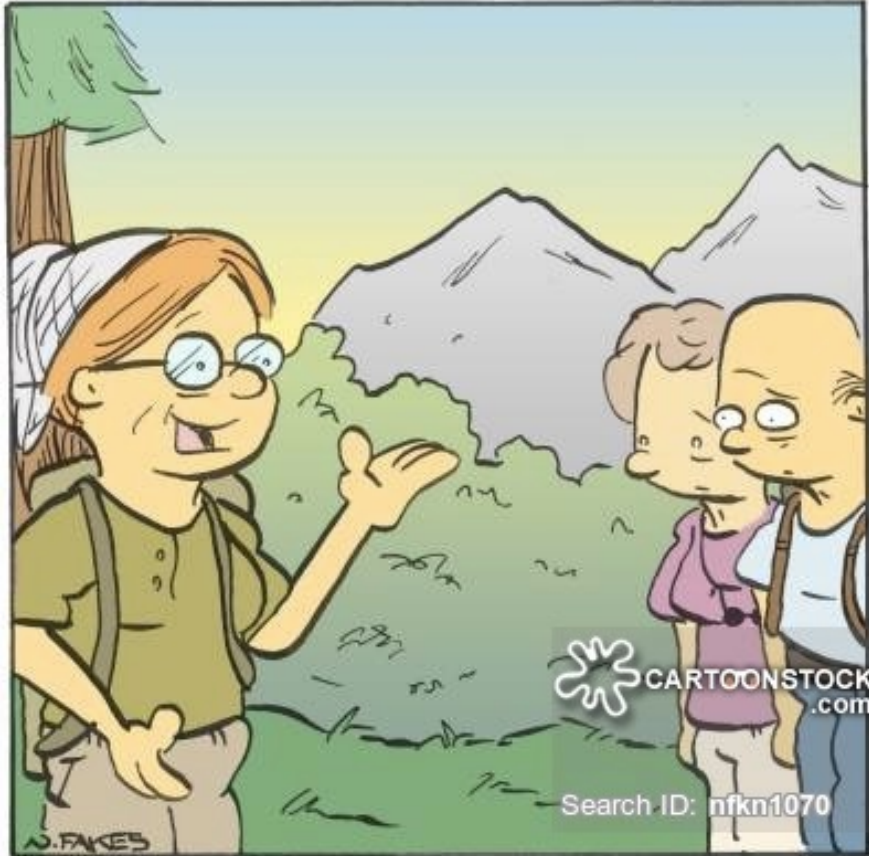
NASA Goddard Space Flight Center

Acknowledgements: Zia Ahmad, Sean Bailey,
Bryan Franz, Amir Ibrahim, & **Curt Mobley**

2023 Ocean Optics Summer Course



Learn more



*“And as your tour guide, I’d now like to point out that we’re **completely** lost.”*

NASA/TM–2016-217551



Atmospheric Correction for Satellite Ocean Color Radiometry

Curtis D. Mobley, Jeremy Werdell, Bryan Franz, Ziauddin Ahmad, and Sean Bailey

National Aeronautics and
Space Administration

Goddard Space Flight Center
Greenbelt, Maryland 20771

OCEAN OPTICS Web Book

Contents

- ▣ Introduction
- ▣ Light and Radiometry
- ▣ Overview of Optical Oceanography
- ▣ Absorption
- ▣ Scattering
- ▣ Optical Constituents of the Ocean
- ▣ Radiative Transfer Theory
- ▣ Remote Sensing
- ▣ Atmospheric Correction
- ▣ Monte Carlo Simulation
- ▣ Surfaces
- ▣ References

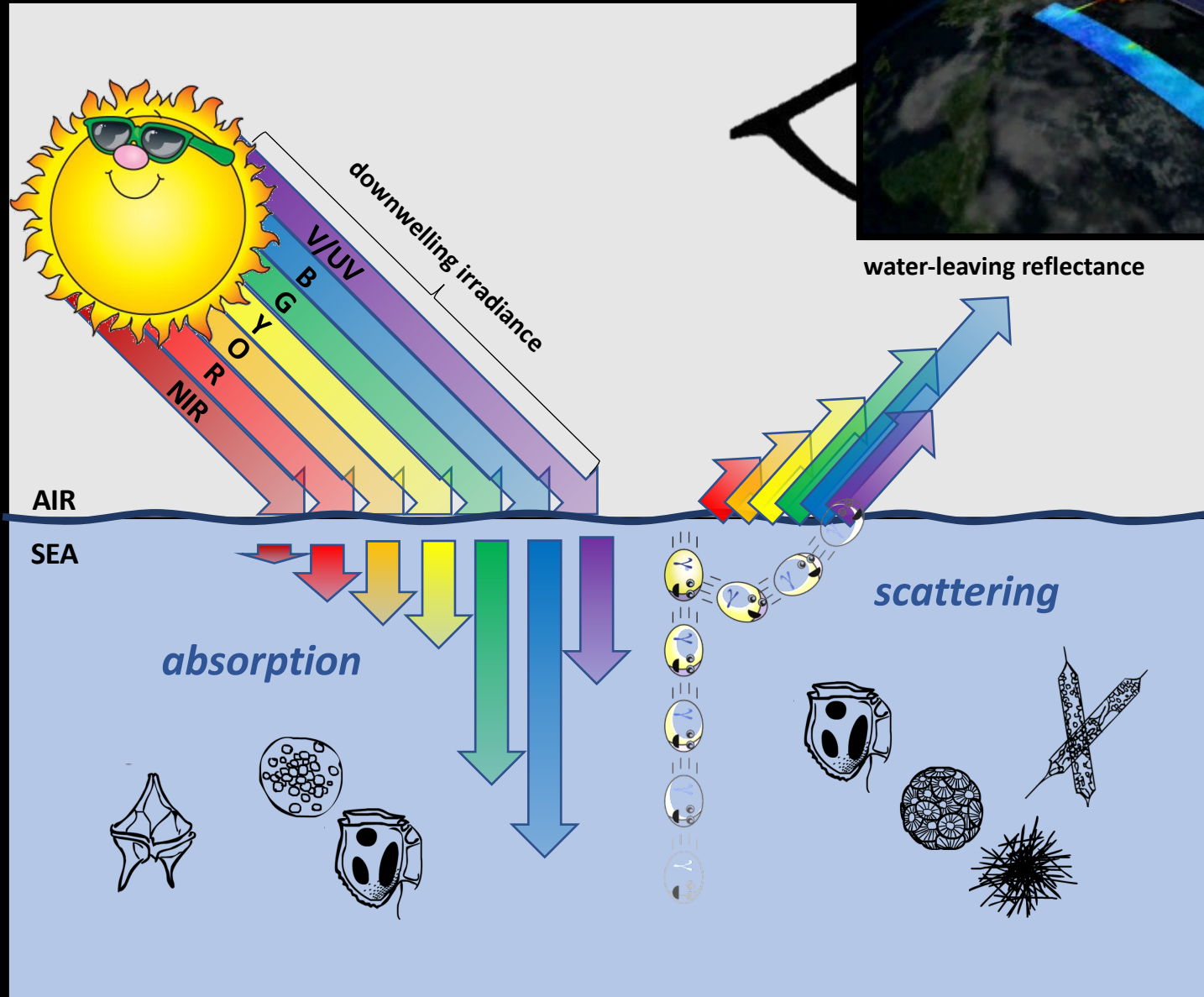


understand the mechanical steps of ocean color atmospheric correction
(as performed by NASA in heritage – this is only one solution, but touches on common issues)

identify places where ancillary (external) data is required

identify places where in situ data & bio-optical models are used

The “color” of the ocean or atmosphere is determined by the interactions of incident light with substances or particles present in the water or atmosphere.



Focus of this lecture

The core satellite data are accurate measurements of light intensity from ultra-violet to shortwave infrared wavelengths.

satellite ocean color

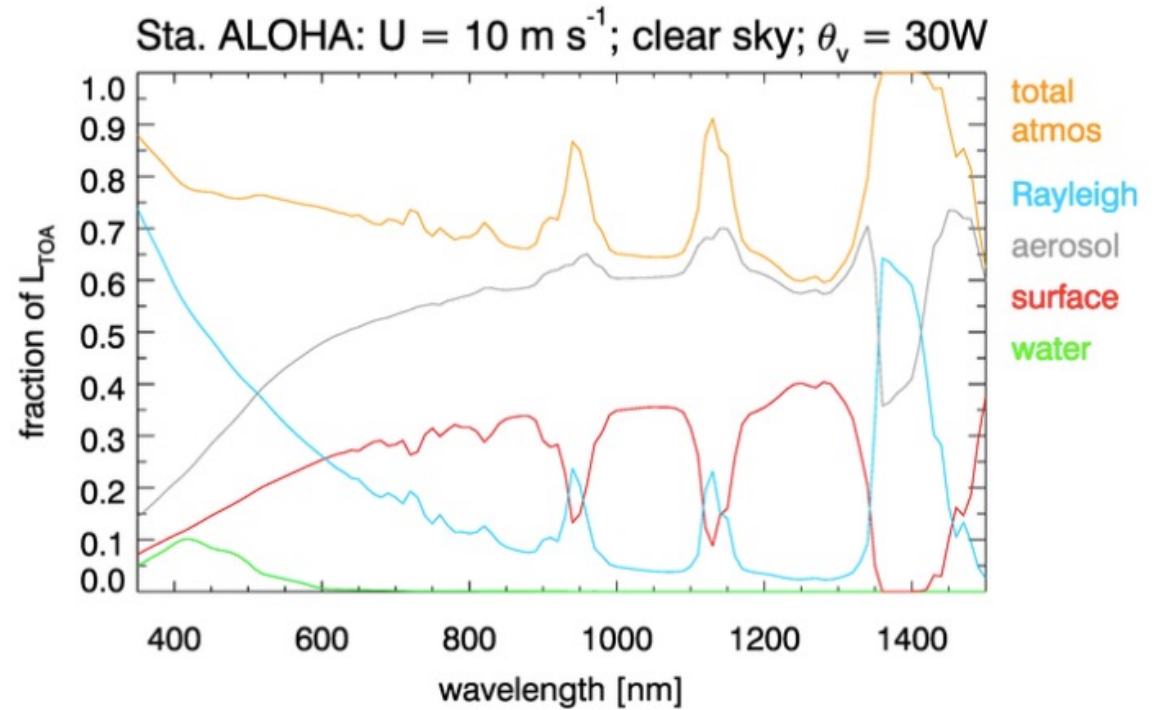
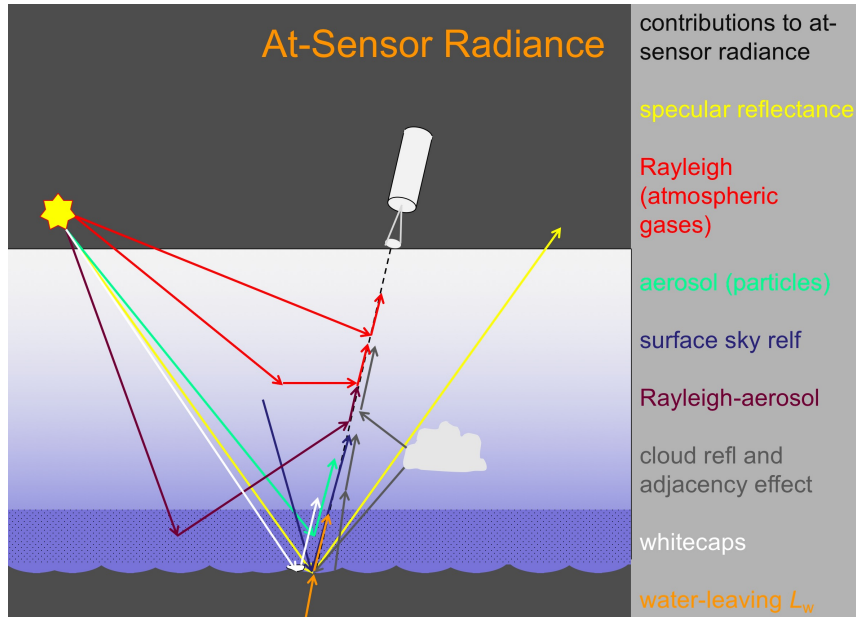
ocean color satellites measure top-of-atmosphere radiances



Rayleigh aerosols aerosols+Ray Sun glint background sky radiance white caps water-leaving

$$(1) \quad L_t = L_R + [L_a + L_{aR}] + L_g + L_{sky} + L_f + L_w$$

where all radiances are defined at the top-of-atmosphere (TOA)



processing constraints

Order of magnitude estimate:

Global ocean area: $5.1 \times 10^8 \text{ km}^2$

MODIS, VIIRS, etc. give global coverage in < 2 days (MODIS data acquisition rate is 10.5 Mbytes/sec)

VIIRS pixel size is 375 m, so ~ 7 pixels/ km^2 , so must process 35×10^8 pixels every 2 days

All of this times all of the instruments now in orbit (2 MODIS, 3 VIIRS) or planned (PACE, 2 OLCI)

Every pixel gets its own atmospheric correction, which must be done in near real time

This is a severe constraint on what atmospheric correction algorithms are used. You WANT the AC algorithms to be as accurate as possible, but they MUST BE computationally FAST

satellite ocean color

ocean color satellites measure top-of-atmosphere radiances



Rayleigh aerosols aerosols+Ray Sun glint background sky radiance white caps water-leaving

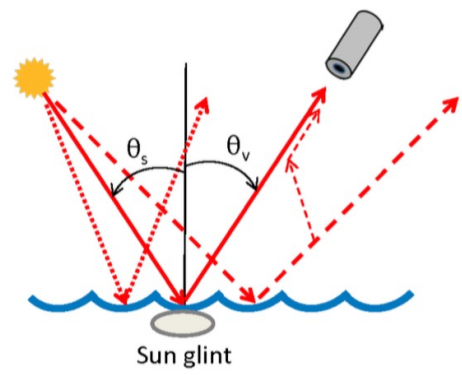
(1) $L_t = L_R + [L_a + L_{aR}] + L_g + L_{sky} + L_f + L_w$

where all radiances are defined at the top-of-atmosphere (TOA)

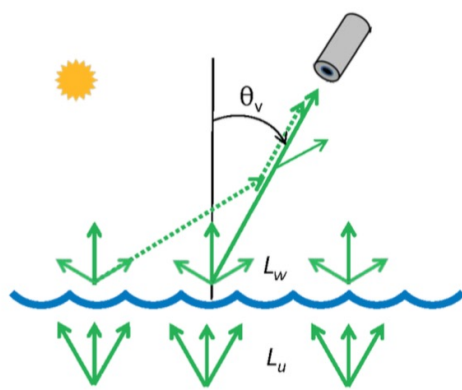
(2) $L_t = L_R + [L_a + L_{Ra}] + TL_g + tL_f + tL_w$

where L_g , L_f , and L_w are now defined at the sea surface and L_{sky} is accounted for in Rayleigh correction. T and t are the direct and diffuse transmittance.

Direct: one particular path connects the source & observer



Diffuse: radiance from all locations & directions can be scattered into the direction of interest



satellite ocean color

ocean color satellites measure top-of-atmosphere radiances



Rayleigh

aerosols

aerosols+Ray

Sun glint

background sky radiance

white caps

water-leaving

$$(1) \quad L_t = L_R + [L_a + L_{aR}] + L_g + L_{sky} + L_f + L_w$$

where all radiances are defined at the top-of-atmosphere (TOA)

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where L_g , L_f , and L_w are now defined at the sea surface and L_{sky} is accounted for in Rayleigh correction. T and t are the direct and diffuse transmittance.

factor out
gaseous diffuse
transmissions:

$$(3) \quad L_t = (L_r + [L_a + L_{ra}] + t_{dv}L_f + t_{dv}L_w) t_{gv}t_{gs}f_p + TL_g$$

t_{gv} is the diffuse transmission by atmos. gases in the viewing direction

t_{gs} is the diffuse transmission by atmos. gases in the Sun's direction

t_{dv} is the diffuse transmission along viewing path of the sensor

This "factoring" is done for reasons of computational efficiency. Theoreticians often use (1) or (2); OBP works with (3).

justification for the latter

Consider the Rayleigh term: $L_R = L_r t_{gv} t_{gs} f_p$

The TOA Rayleigh contribution L_R depends on Sun and viewing geometry, absorbing and non-absorbing atmospheric gasses, sea-level pressure, and polarization. This is a serious RT calculation, including polarization.

The L_r term is a “standard” Rayleigh contribution computed using a standard atmosphere and only non-absorbing gases N_2 and O_2 , for various Sun & viewing geometries. This can be computed once and placed in a look-up table.

The gaseous transmittances are computed by use of gas absorption coefficients, computed path lengths, and gas concentrations for the various absorbing gases. Compute once and put in a LUT.


The f_p term is a polarization correction, which depends on atmosphere and surface polarization states (modeled Rayleigh and glint Stokes vectors) and the sensor-specific polarization sensitivity with viewing direction. Again, compute once for various inputs and make a LUT.


L_r , the diffuse transmittances, and f_p are pre-computed and stored in look-up tables as functions of Sun and viewing geometry, gas concentrations, instrument polarization sensitivity, etc. **Evaluation of L_R then requires no real-time radiative transfer calculations.**

Ditto for the other terms in the L_t equation

atmospheric correction is the process of
estimating R_{rs} from L_t

ocean color satellites measure top-of-atmosphere radiances


$$L_t = (L_r + [L_a + L_{ra}] + t_{dv}L_f + t_{dv}L_w) t_{gv} t_{gs} f_p + T L_g$$


$$R_{rs} = \frac{L_w}{F_0 \cos(\theta_s) t_{ds} f_s f_b f_\lambda}$$



we desire (normalized)
remote sensing reflectances

lecture outline: sequentially step through the meaning & derivation of each term in these equations

The diagram illustrates the derivation of two equations, L_t and R_{rs} , with various terms highlighted and annotated. The annotations include "measured", "not known", "calculated", and "desired".

Equation 1: $L_t = L_r + [L_a + L_{ra}] + t_{dv} L_f + t_{dv} L_w (t_{gv} t_{gs} f_p + T L_g)$

- L_t is circled in green and labeled "measured".
- L_r is circled in blue.
- $[L_a + L_{ra}]$ is circled in red and labeled "not known".
- $t_{dv} L_f$ is circled in blue.
- $t_{dv} L_w$ is circled in blue.
- $(t_{gv} t_{gs} f_p + T L_g)$ is circled in blue and labeled "calculated".


Equation 2: $R_{rs} = \frac{L_w}{F_0 \cos(\theta_s) t_{ds} f_s f_b f_\lambda}$

- R_{rs} is circled in green.
- L_w is circled in green and labeled "desired".
- $F_0 \cos(\theta_s) t_{ds} f_s f_b f_\lambda$ is circled in blue.

Arrows indicate the flow of information: a blue arrow points from the "calculated" term in Equation 1 to the "desired" term in Equation 2. A green dashed arrow points from the "desired" term in Equation 2 to the L_w term in Equation 1. A solid black arrow points from the L_w term in Equation 1 to the L_w term in Equation 2.

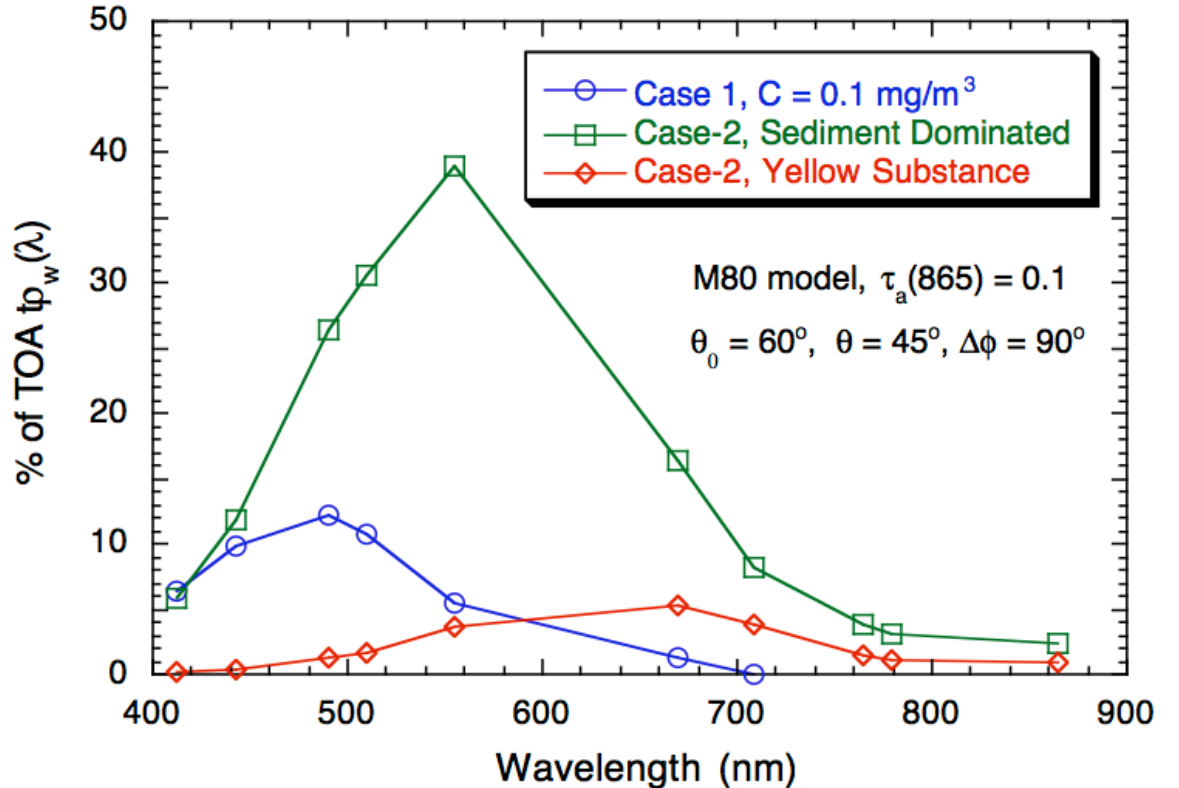
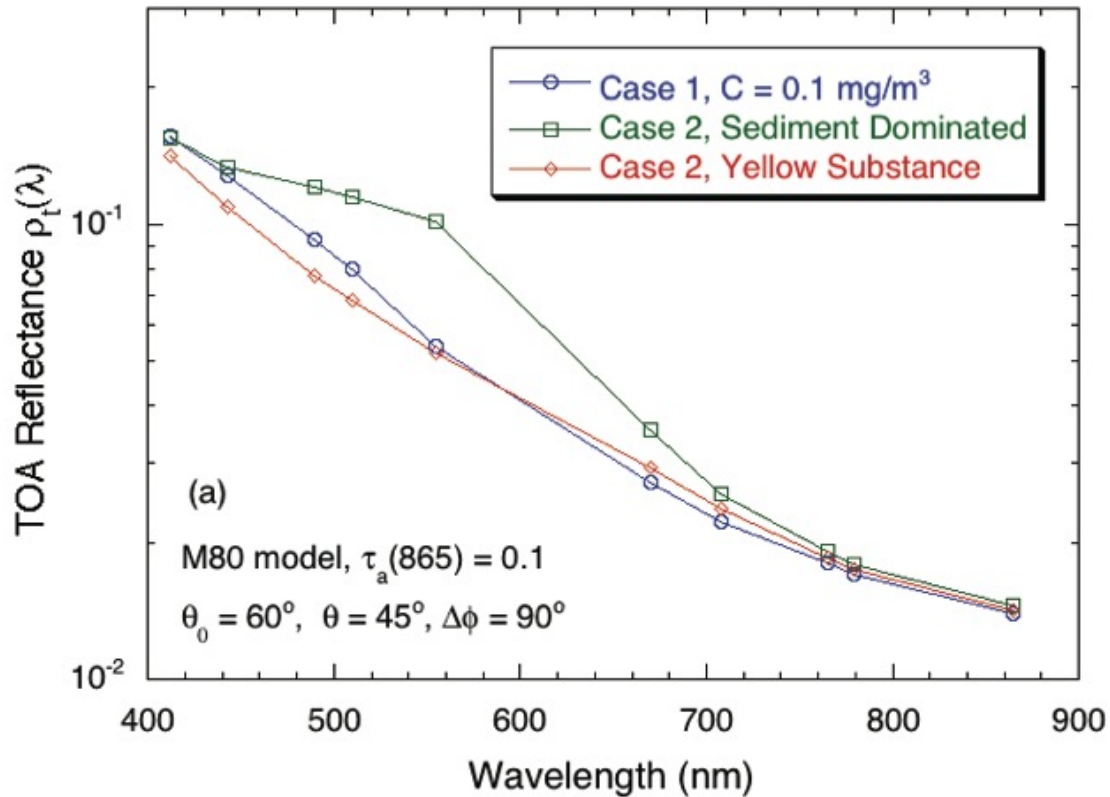
top-of-atmosphere radiance

$$L_t = (L_r + [L_a + L_{ra}] + t_{dv}L_f + t_{dv}L_w) t_{gv} t_{gs} f_p + T L_g$$

$$R_{rs} = \frac{L_w}{F_0 \cos(\theta_s) t_{ds} f_s f_b f_\lambda}$$


top-of-atmosphere radiance

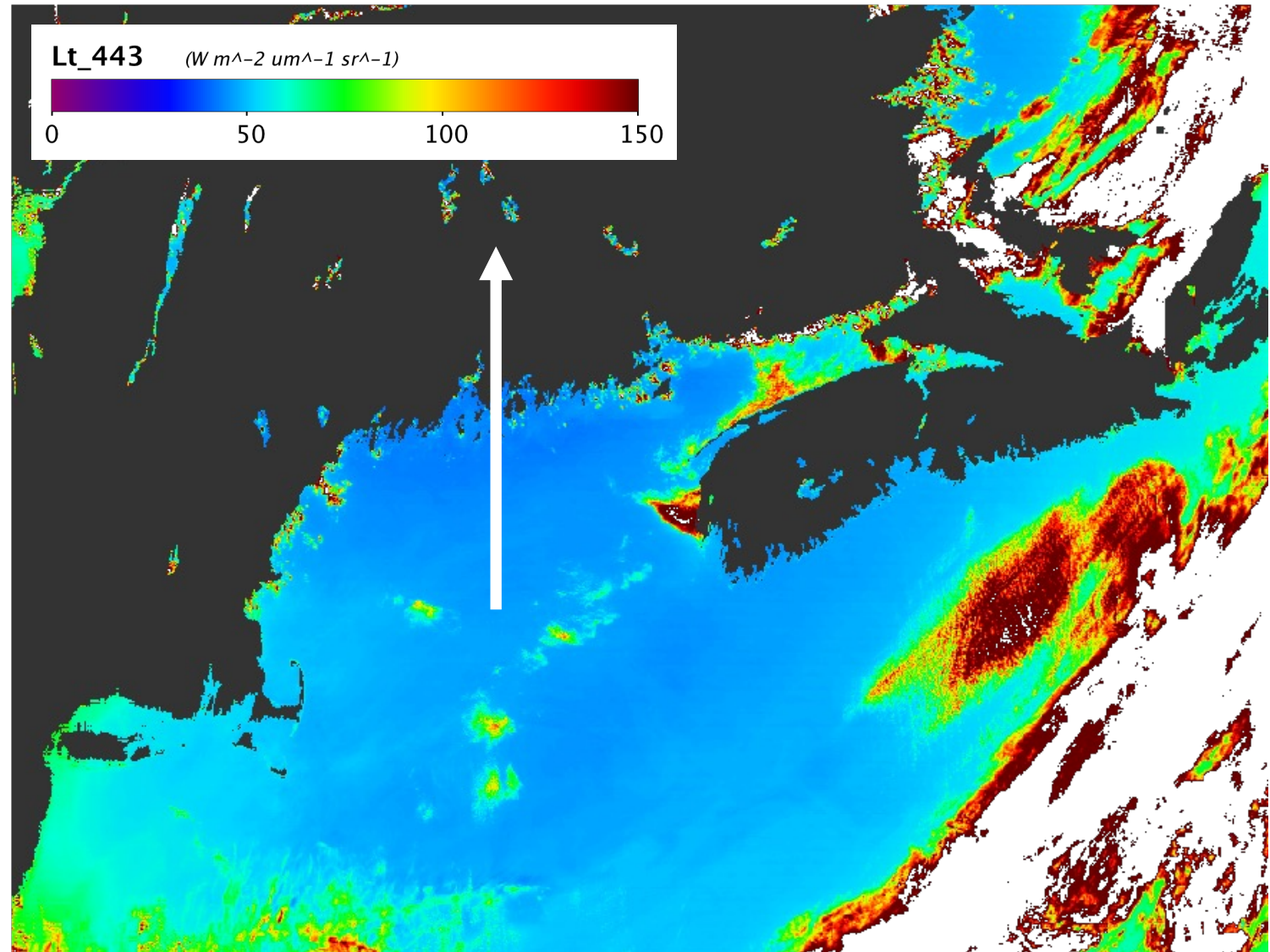
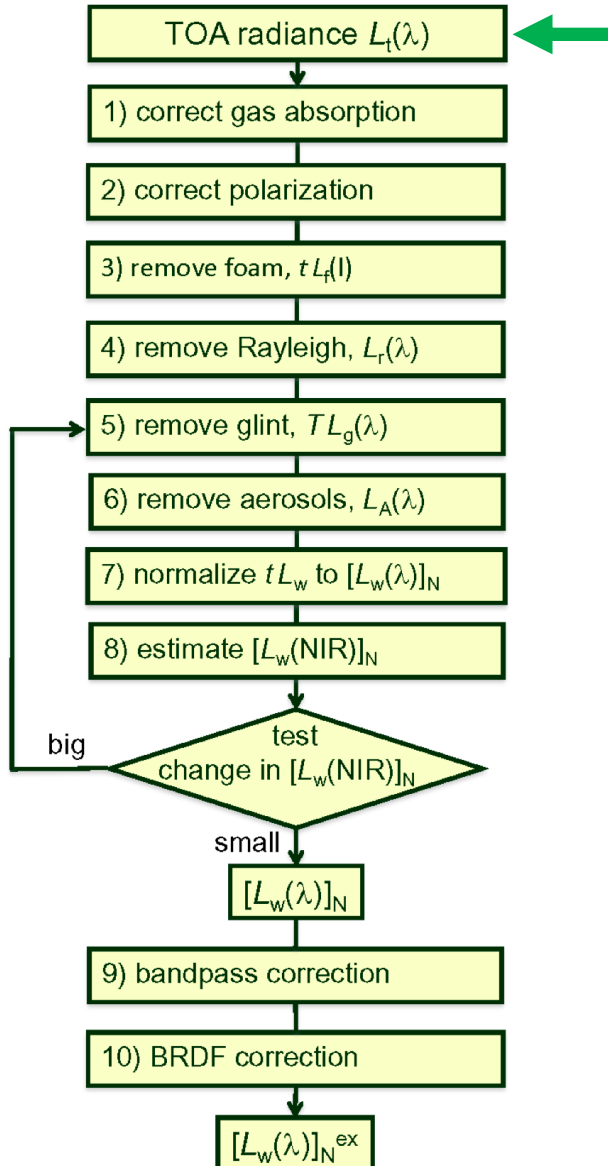
Menghua Wang, IOCCG Report 10



L_w is often $<10\%$ of L_t !

0.5% error in atmospheric correction or calibration \rightarrow 5% error in L_w

processing cadence: L_t



known terms

$$\checkmark L_t = (L_r + [L_a + L_{ra}] + t_{dv}L_f + t_{dv}L_w) t_{gv} t_{gs} f_p + T L_g$$

$$R_{rs} = \frac{L_w}{F_0 \cos(\theta_s) t_{ds} f_s f_b f_\lambda}$$

cosine of the
instrument view angle

solar constant (irradiance) & an
adjustment for the Earth-Sun distance

transmittances

diffuse transmittance of gases (g)
in direction of Sun (s) or satellite (v)

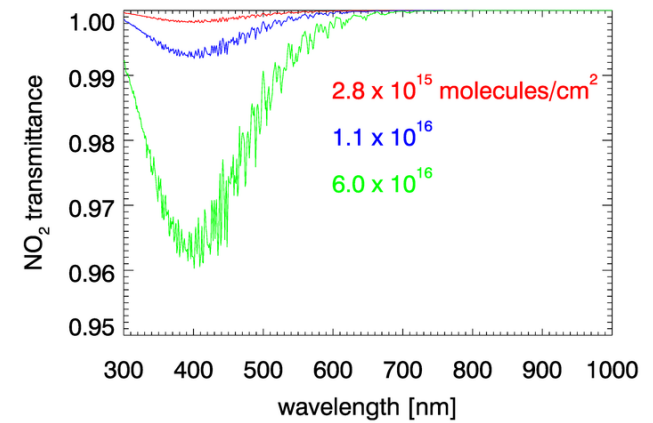
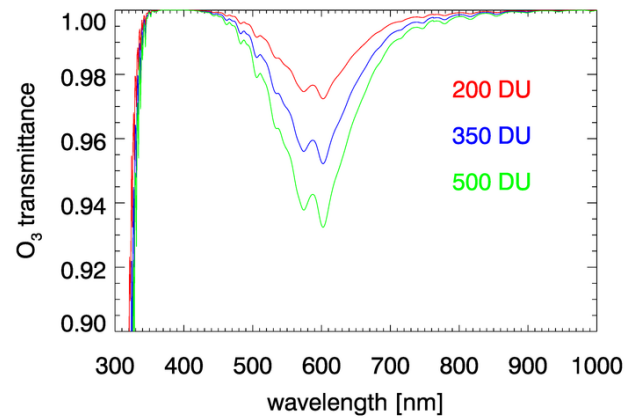
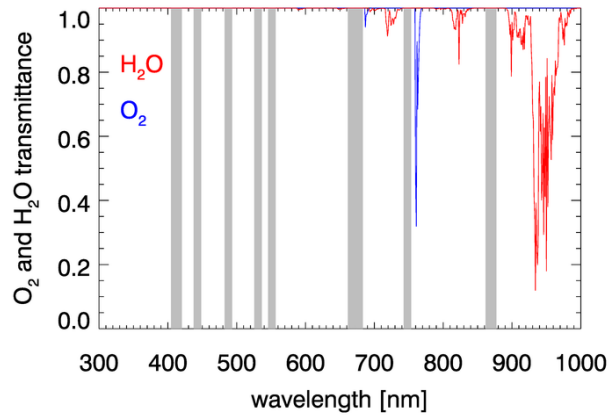
$$L_t = (L_r + [L_a + L_{ra}] + t_{dv} L_f + t_{dv} L_w) t_{gv} t_{gs} f_p + T L_g$$

$$R_{rs} = \frac{L_w}{F_0 \cos(\theta_s) t_{ds} f_s f_b f_\lambda}$$

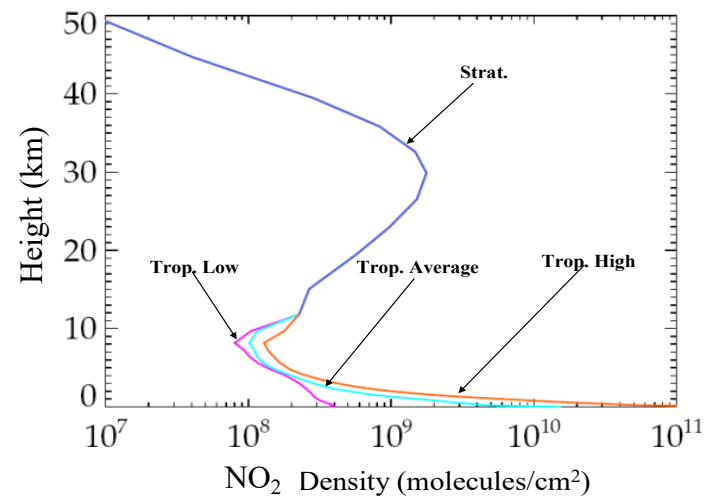
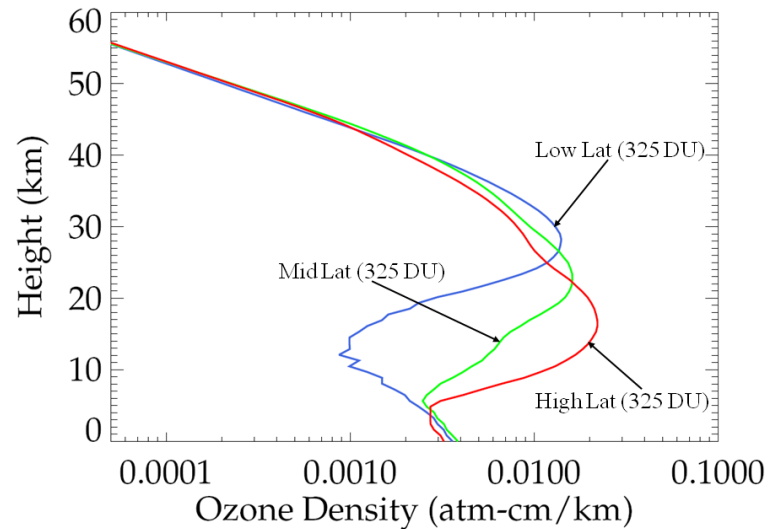
Rayleigh / aerosol diffuse
transmittance (d) in direction
of Sun (s) or satellite (v)

gaseous transmittance

nitrogen dioxide, ozone, oxygen, & water vapor all attenuate sunlight

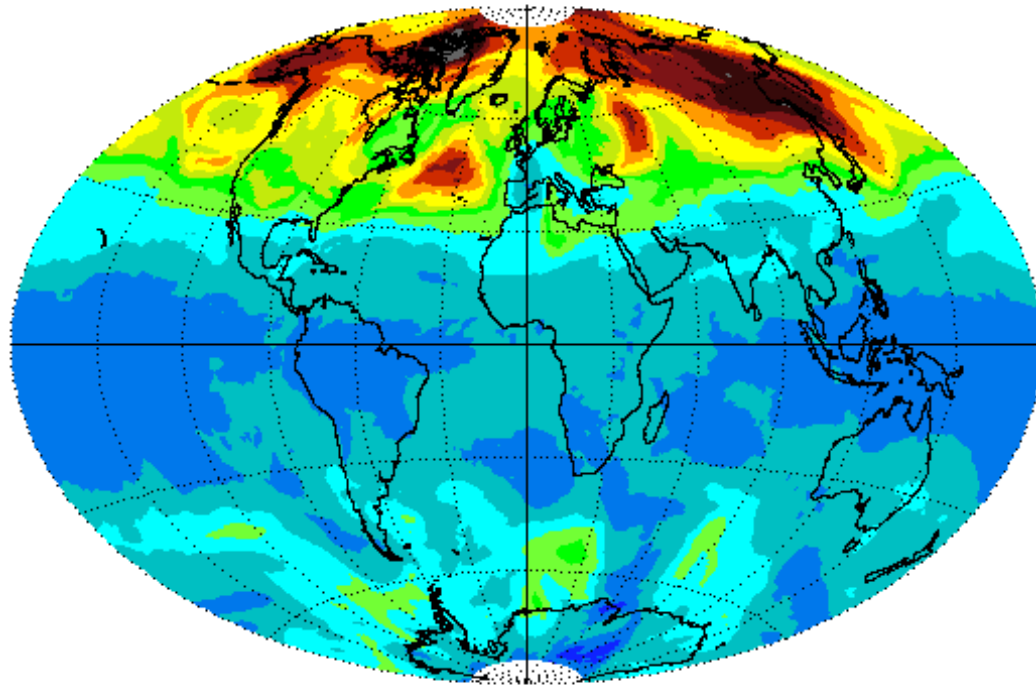


O₃ optically thin & high in atmosphere, but NO₂ dense & near the surface



calculating gaseous transmittance requires ancillary data

OMI Total Ozone Mar 21, 2005



example using OMI ozone measurements

$$\tau_{O_3} = O_3 k_{O_3} \leftarrow \text{from LUT}$$

$$t_{O_3} = \exp \left[-\tau_{O_3} \left(\frac{1}{\cos(\theta_0)} + \frac{1}{\cos(\theta)} \right) \right]$$

NIVR-FMI-NASA-KNMI



Dark Gray < 100 and > 500 DU

GSFC



most transmittances are calculated in this manner

all ancillary data are not created equal

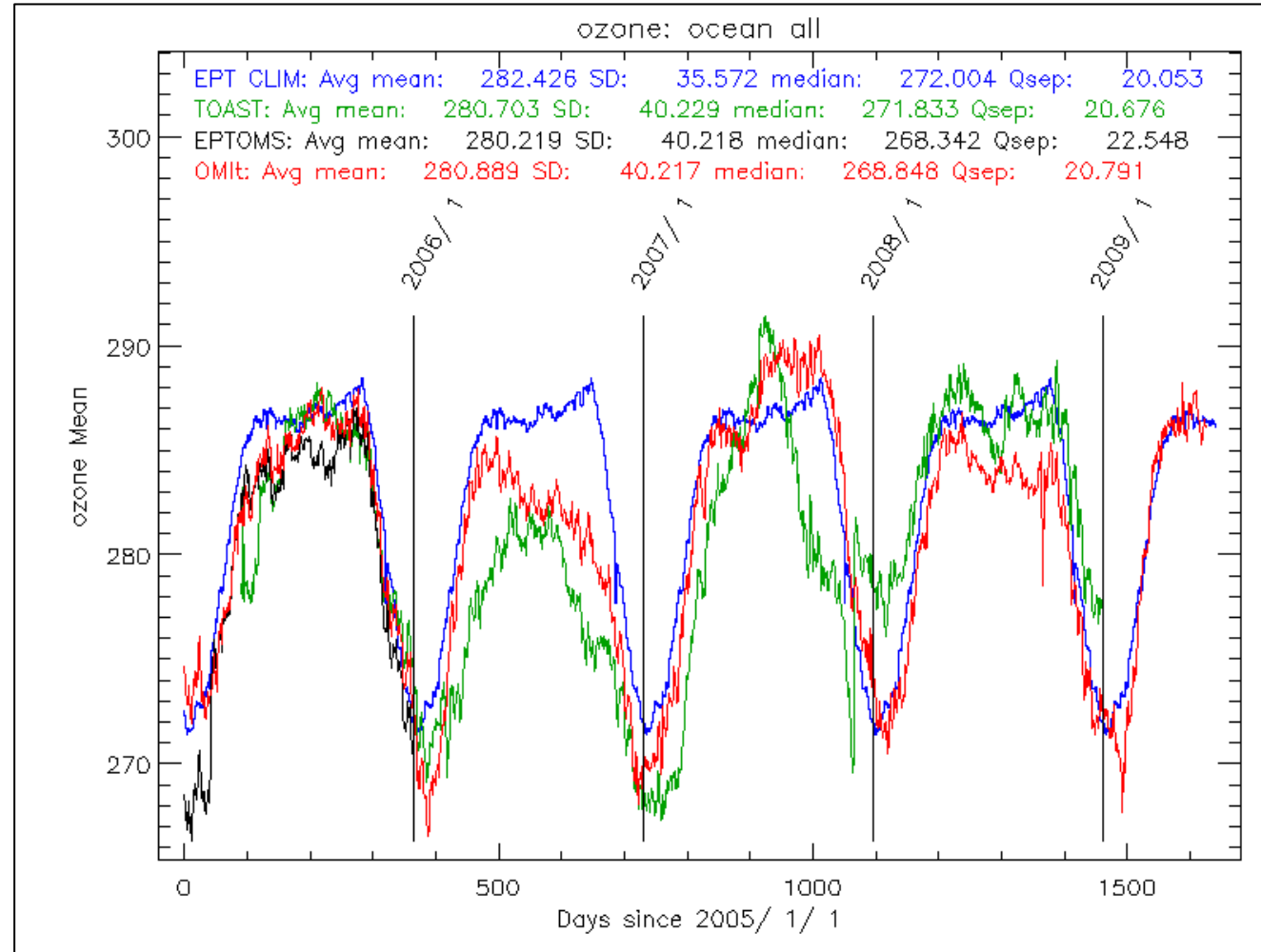
compare three
ancillary
sources of O₃:

TOAST

OMI

EPT climatology

small differences
in ancillary data
can lead to big
differences in
geophysical
products



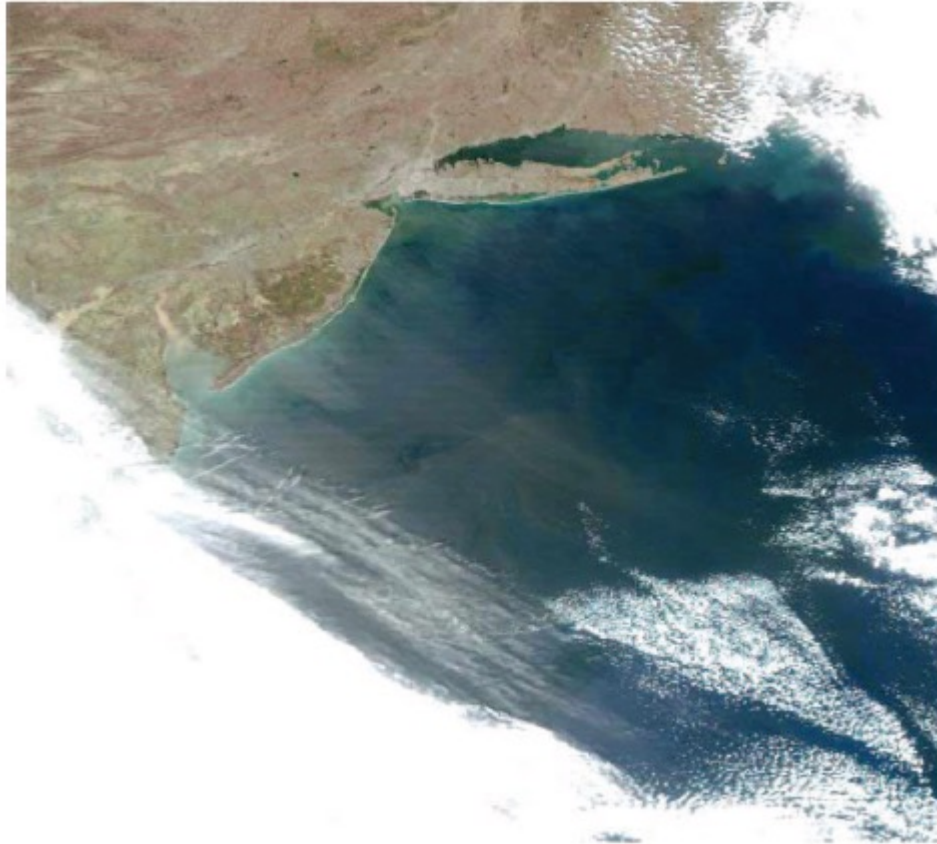
TOAST: Total Ozone from Analysis of Stratospheric and Tropospheric components

OMI: Ozone Mapping Instrument

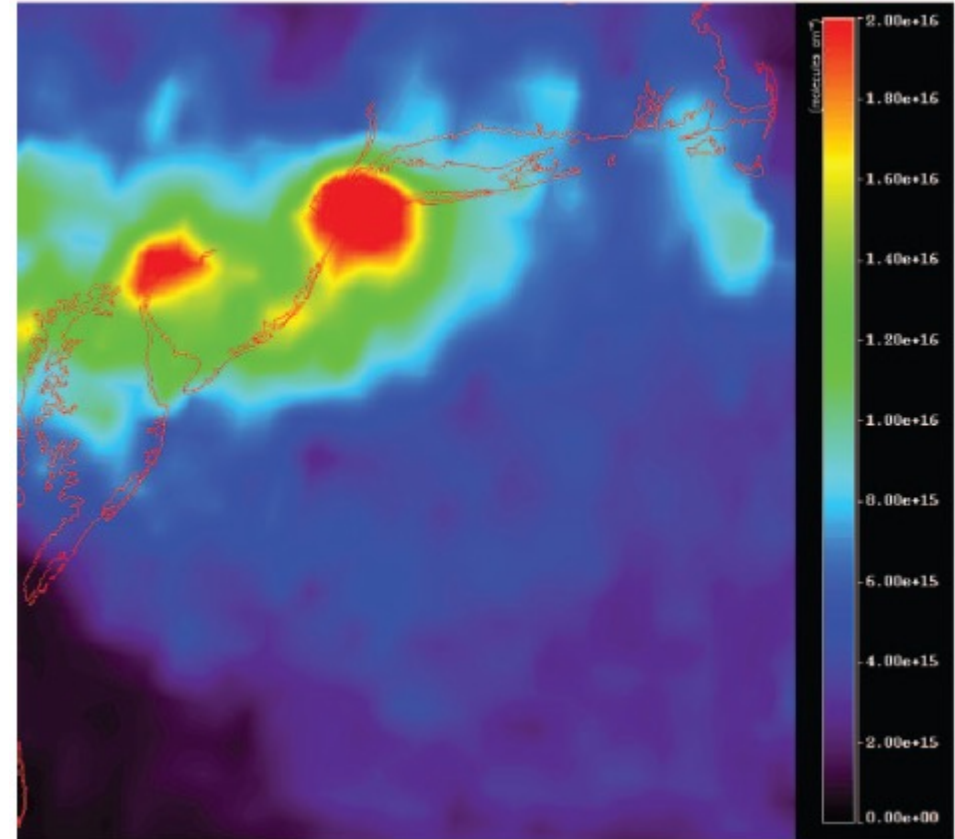
EPTOMS: Earth-Probe Total Ozone Monitoring Spectrometer

...and there are others

no surprise: Lots of NO₂ near NY City and Philadelphia



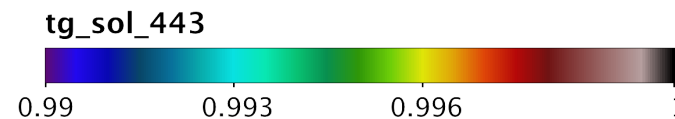
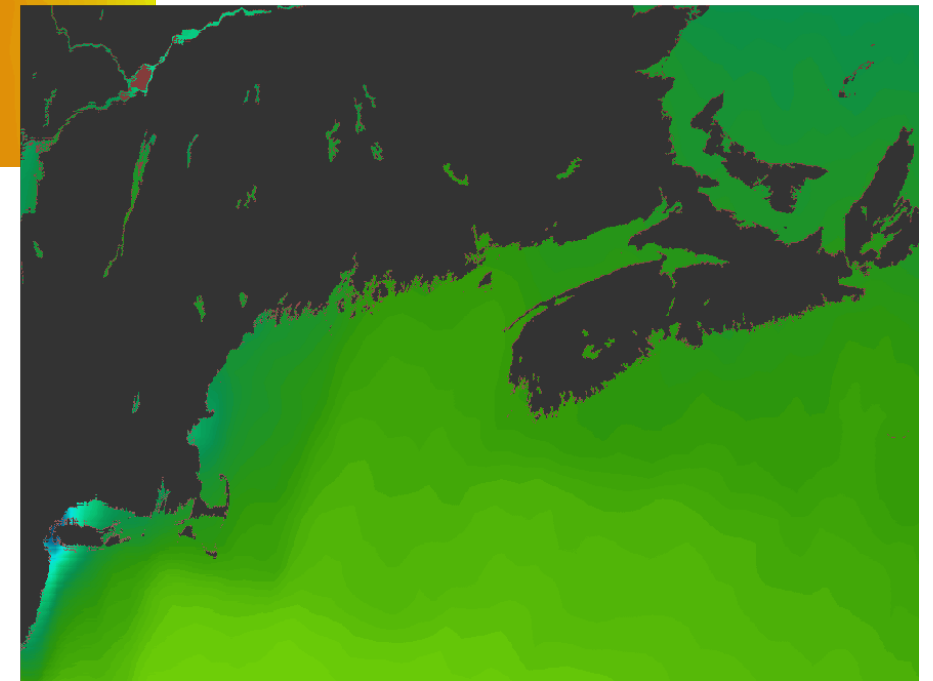
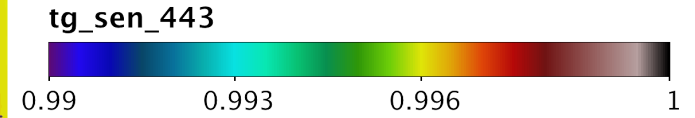
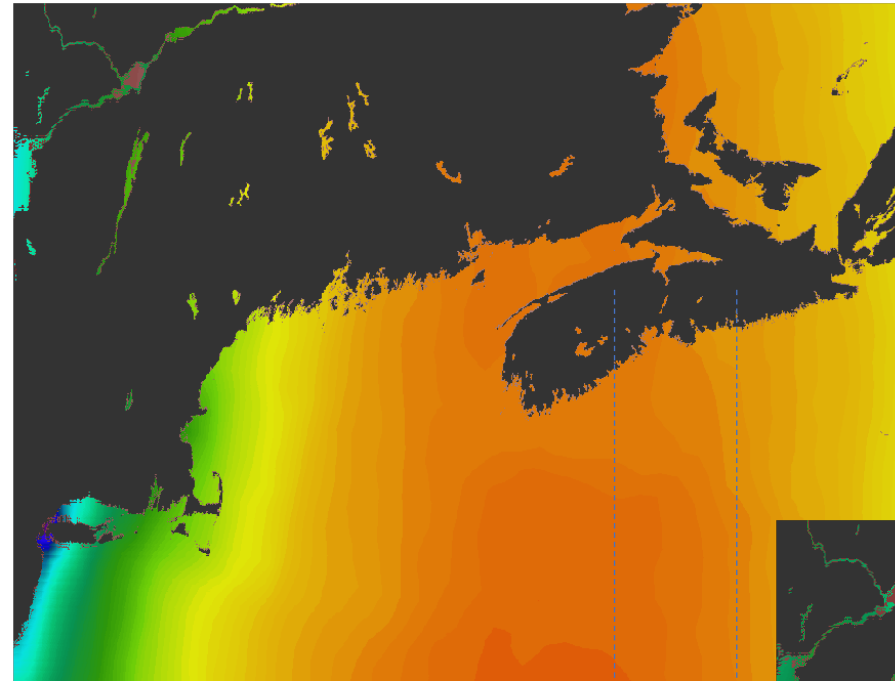
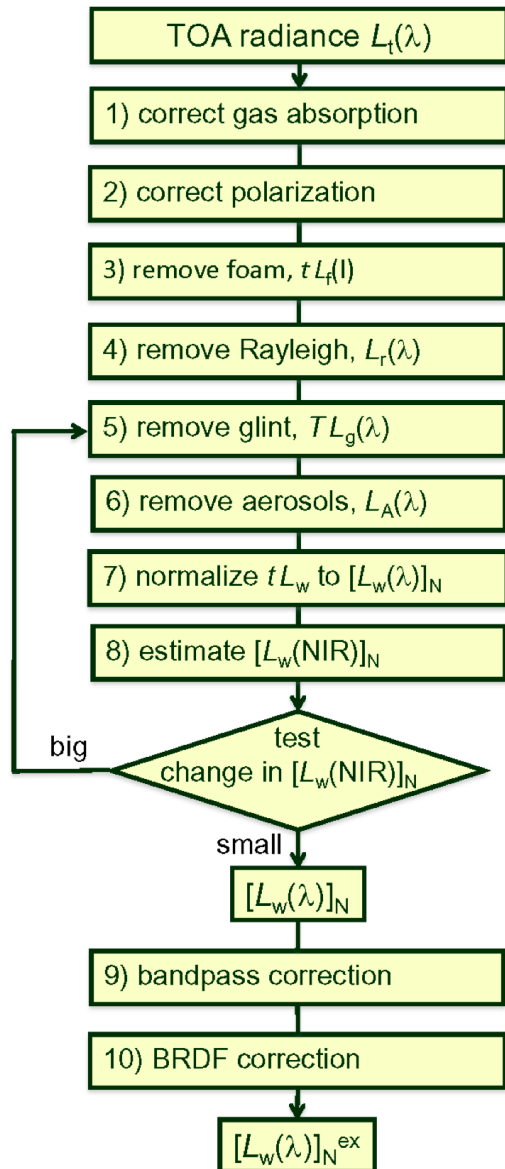
RGB image of a MODIS-Aqua scene from 11 April 2005



OMI tropospheric NO₂ amount on 11 April 2005

From Ahmad et al. (2007)

processing cadence: $L_t / t_{gv} / t_{gs}$



instrument polarization sensitivity

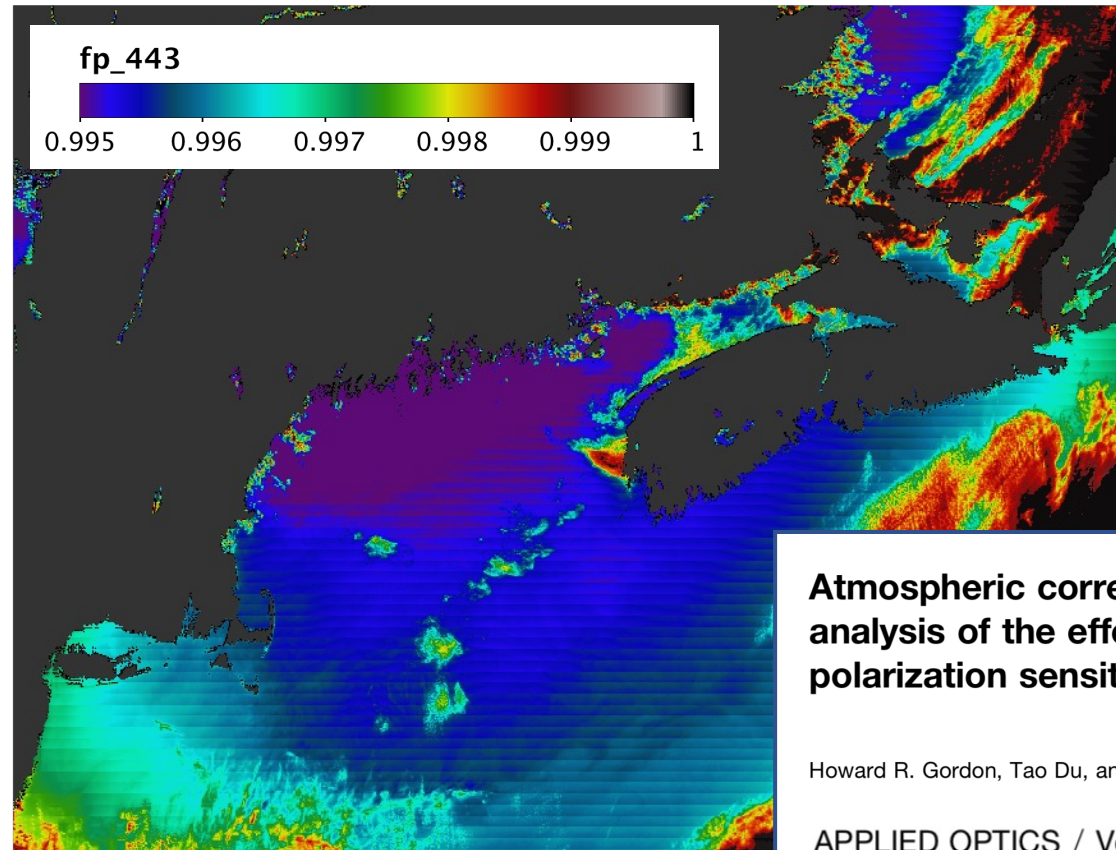
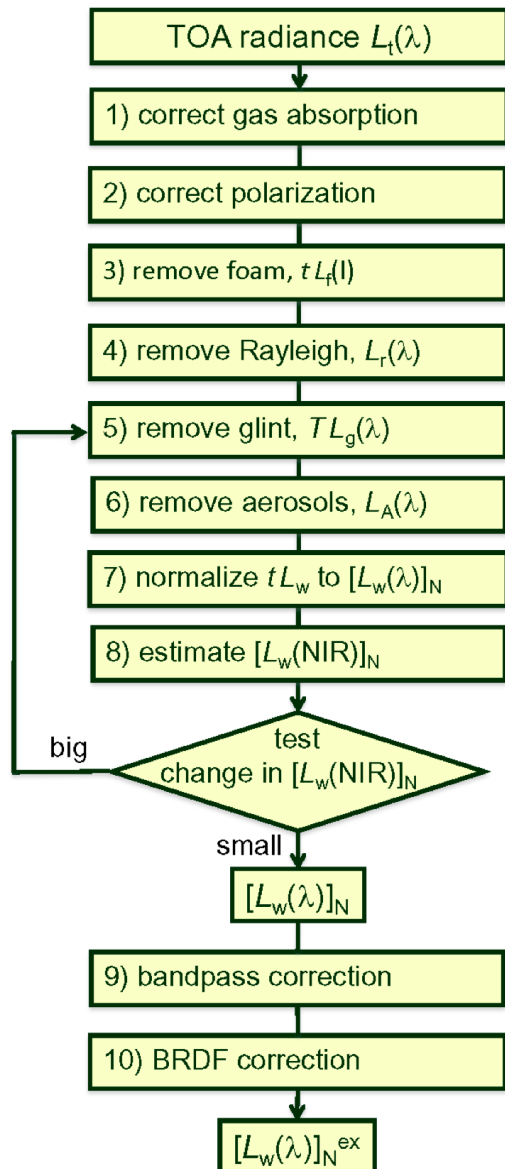
instrument polarization correction factor (pre-launch measurement)

$$L_t = \left(L_r + [L_a + L_{ra}] + t_{dv} L_f + t_{dv} L_w \right) t_{gv} t_{gs} f_p T L_g$$

$$R_{rs} = \frac{L_w}{F_0 \cos(\theta_s) t_{ds} f_s f_b f_\lambda}$$

MODIS requires an additional correction

processing cadence: $L_t / t_{gv} / t_{gs} / f_p$



some satellite instruments include depolarizers in their fore optics, which mitigates instrument polarization sensitivity

Atmospheric correction of ocean color sensors: analysis of the effects of residual instrument polarization sensitivity

Howard R. Gordon, Tao Du, and Tianming Zhang

APPLIED OPTICS / Vol. 36, No. 27 / 20 September 1997

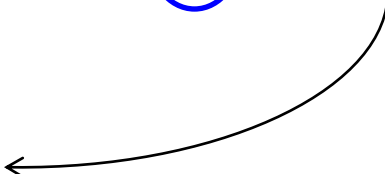
Moderate-Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer ocean color polarization correction

Gerhard Meister, Ewa J. Kwiatkowska, Bryan A. Franz, Frederick S. Patt, Gene C. Feldman, and Charles R. McClain

APPLIED OPTICS / Vol. 44, No. 26 / 10 September 2005

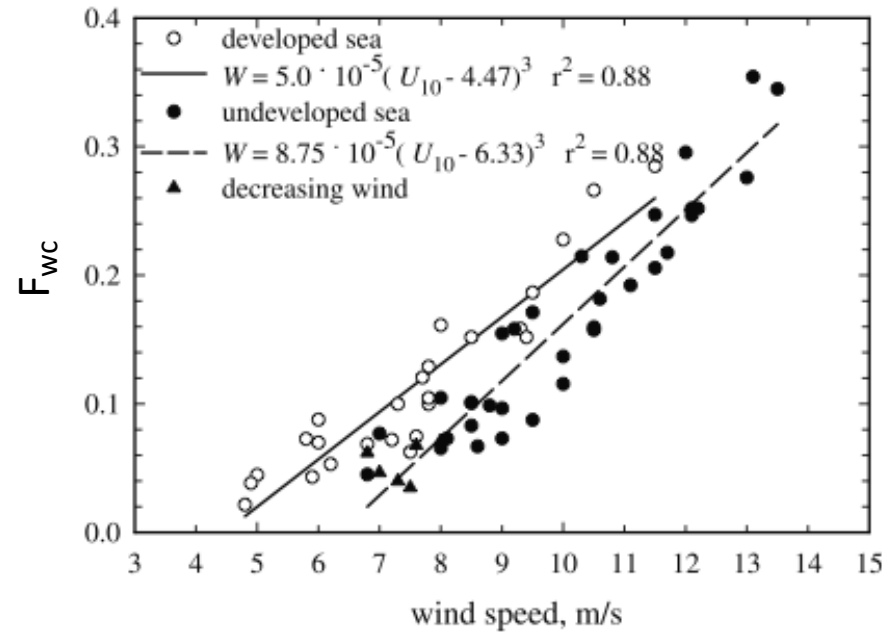
foam & whitecaps

$$\checkmark \quad \checkmark \quad \checkmark \quad \checkmark \quad \checkmark \quad \checkmark \quad \checkmark$$
$$L_t = \left(L_r + [L_a + L_{ra}] + t_{dv} L_f + t_{dv} L_w \right) t_{gv} t_{gs} f_p + T L_g$$

$$R_{rs} = \frac{L_w}{F_0 \cos(\theta_s) t_{ds} f_s f_b f_\lambda}$$


foam & whitecaps

Stramska & Petelski, JGR, 2003



$$\rho_f = \pi L_f = A F_{wc}$$

A = 22% (11-33%) from Koepke 1984
 + a correction for decreasing reflectance in red & NIR

$$\rho_f(412) = \pi L_f(412) = 1.925 \times 10^{-5} (U_{10} - 6.33)^3$$

estimation of contribution of whitecaps & foam
 requires ancillary wind data (e.g., NCEP)

ORIGINAL RESEARCH ARTICLE

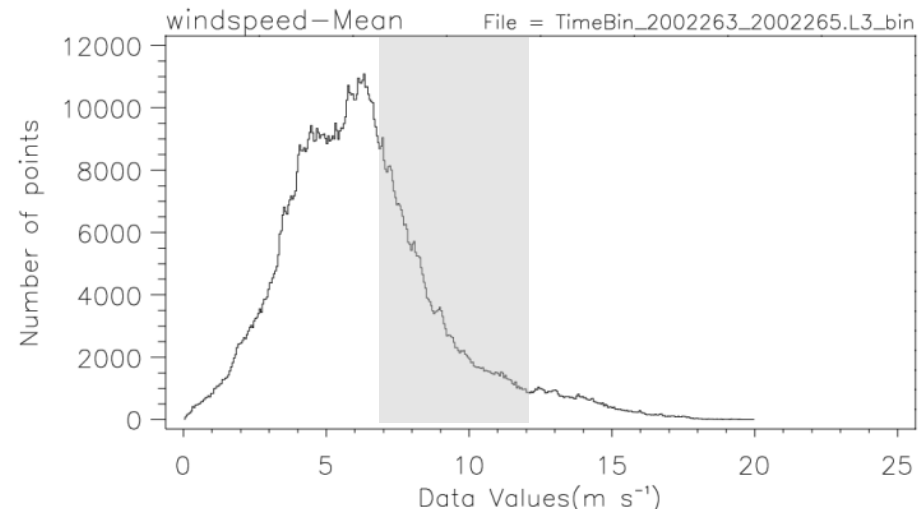
Front. Earth Sci., 26 February 2019 | <https://doi.org/10.3389/feart.2019.00014>



Hyperspectral Measurements, Parameterizations, and Atmospheric Correction of Whitecaps and Foam From Visible to Shortwave Infrared for Ocean Color Remote Sensing

Heidi M. Dierssen*

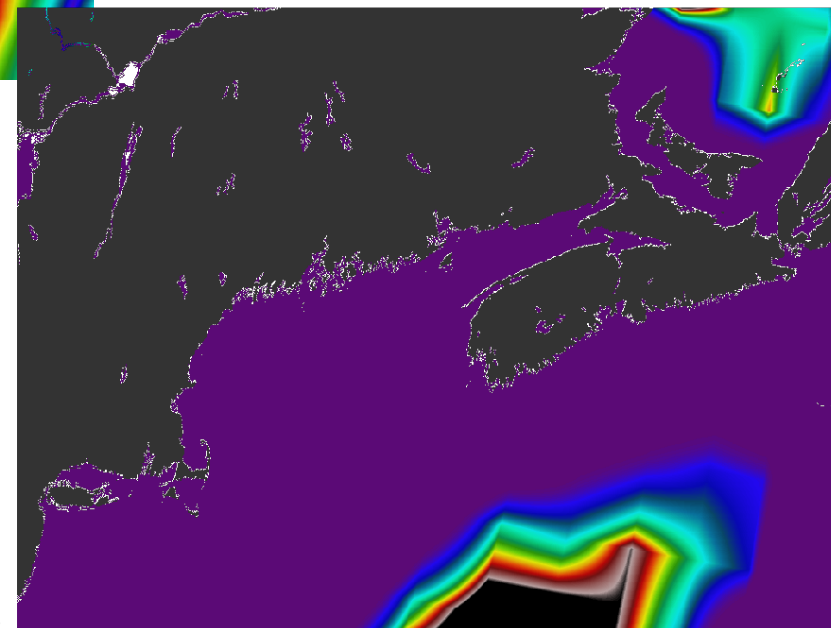
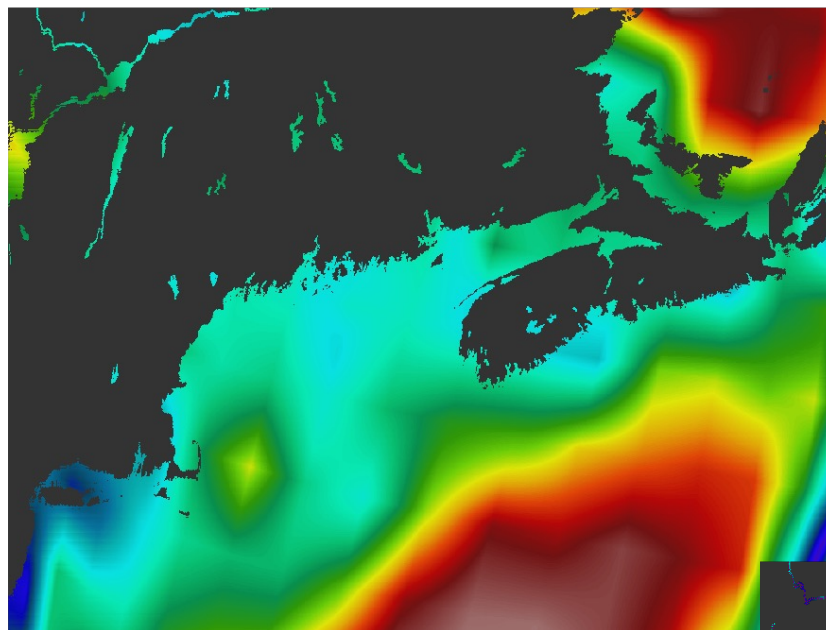
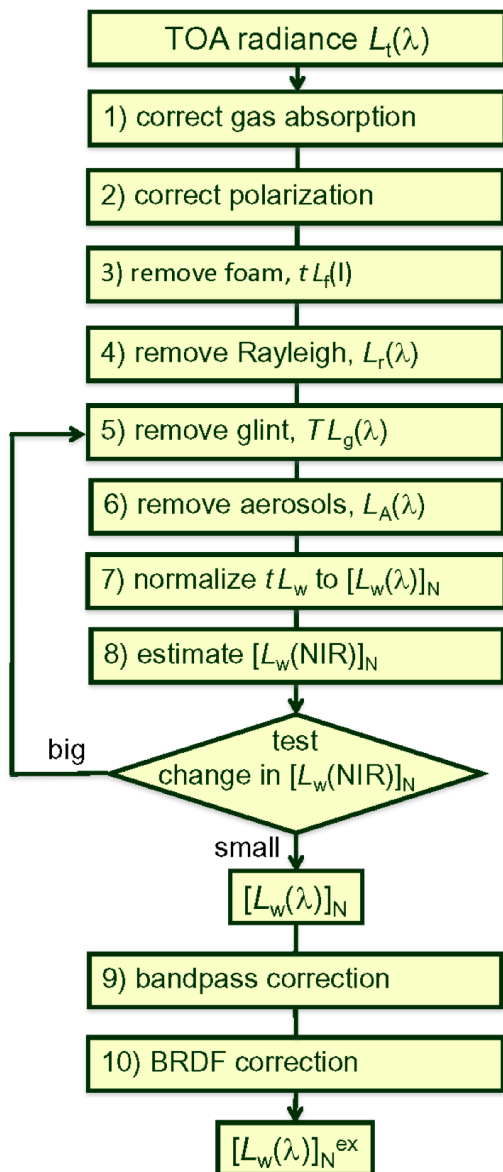
Department of Marine Sciences, University of Connecticut, Groton, CT, United States



| | | | |
|---------|---------|--------|--------|
| Min : | 0.0155 | Mean: | 6.2878 |
| Max : | 19.9611 | STD : | 2.7837 |
| Median: | 5.9863 | Mode : | 6.3260 |

Binsize : 0.0500000, No. of bins : 400
 No. pts selected/No. pts in area : 1187244/8388608 (14.1531%)
 Area : Full data

processing cadence: $L_t / t_{gv} / t_{gs} / f_p - tL_f$



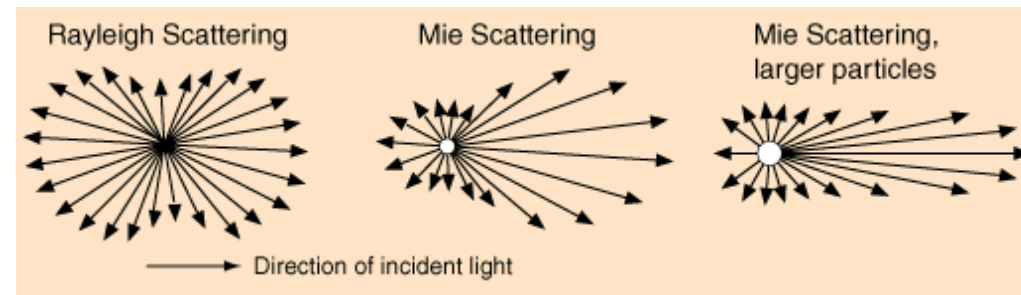
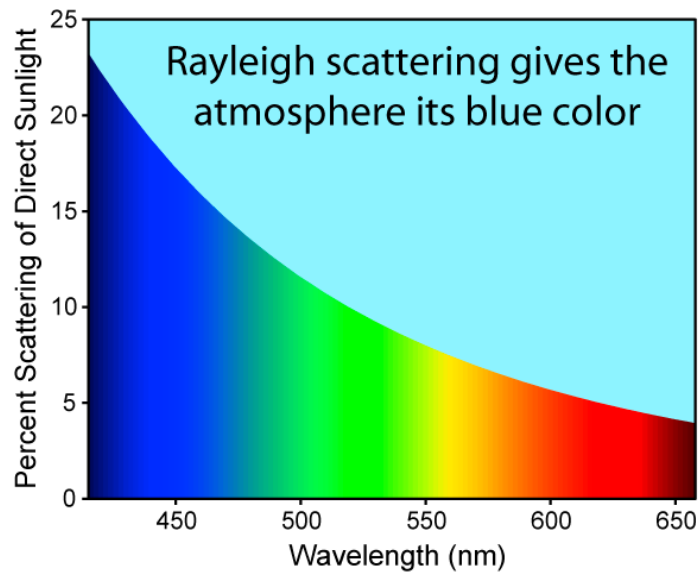
molecular (Rayleigh) scattering

$$L_t = \overset{\checkmark}{(L_r)} + [L_a + L_{ra}] + \overset{\checkmark}{t_{dv}} \overset{\checkmark}{L_f} + \overset{\checkmark}{t_{dv}} \overset{\checkmark}{L_w} \overset{\checkmark}{t_{gv}} \overset{\checkmark}{t_{gs}} \overset{\checkmark}{f_p} + T L_g$$

$$R_{rs} = \frac{L_w}{\overset{\checkmark}{F_0} \overset{\checkmark}{\cos(\theta_s)} \overset{\checkmark}{t_{ds}} \overset{\checkmark}{f_s} \overset{\checkmark}{f_b} \overset{\checkmark}{f_\lambda}}$$

molecular (Rayleigh) scattering

- elastic scattering of electromagnetic radiation by **particles much smaller than the wavelength of light** (atoms or molecules)
- Rayleigh scattering of sunlight in atmosphere causes diffuse sky radiation – why the sky is blue and the Sun is yellow



<http://hyperphysics.phy-astr.gsu.edu/hbase/atmos/blusky.html>

- scattering phase function is symmetrical – equal forward & backward

a quick aside on computational efficiency

$$L_R = L_r t_{gv} t_{gs} f_p$$

- Rayleigh TOA contribution (L_R) is factored into the product of a Rayleigh term (L_r), diffuse transmittances, & a polarization correction factor
- develop & maintain one **look-up table** (LUT) for L_r , computed using a standard atmosphere & the non-absorbing gases N_2 and O_2 for various Sun & viewing geometries
- transmittances calculated separately
- **computational efficiency**: without doing this, the Rayleigh LUT would become a function of other gases affecting transmission (ozone, NO_2 , & water vapor), making it too large for efficient operational use

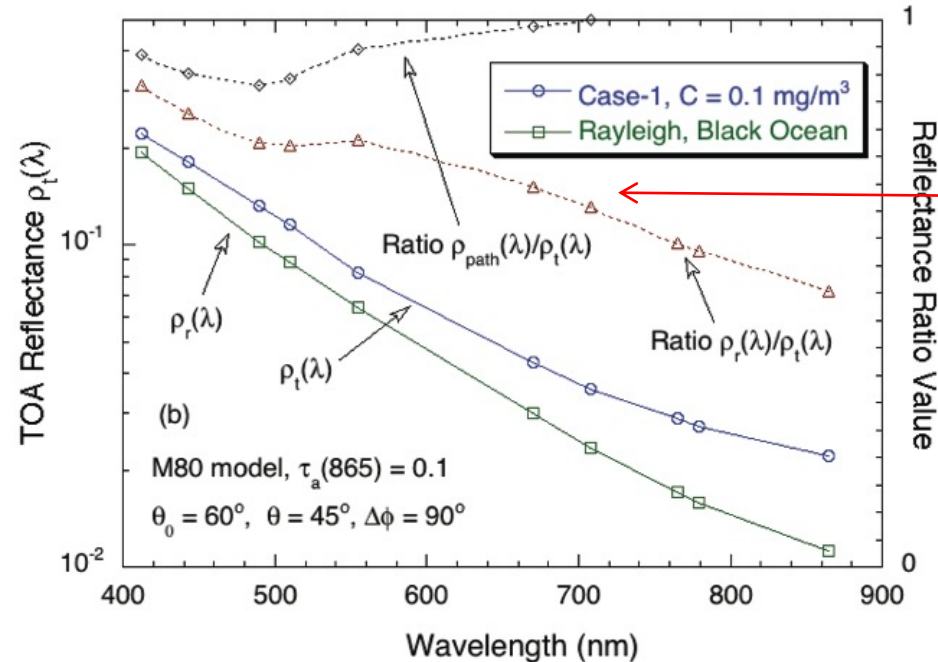
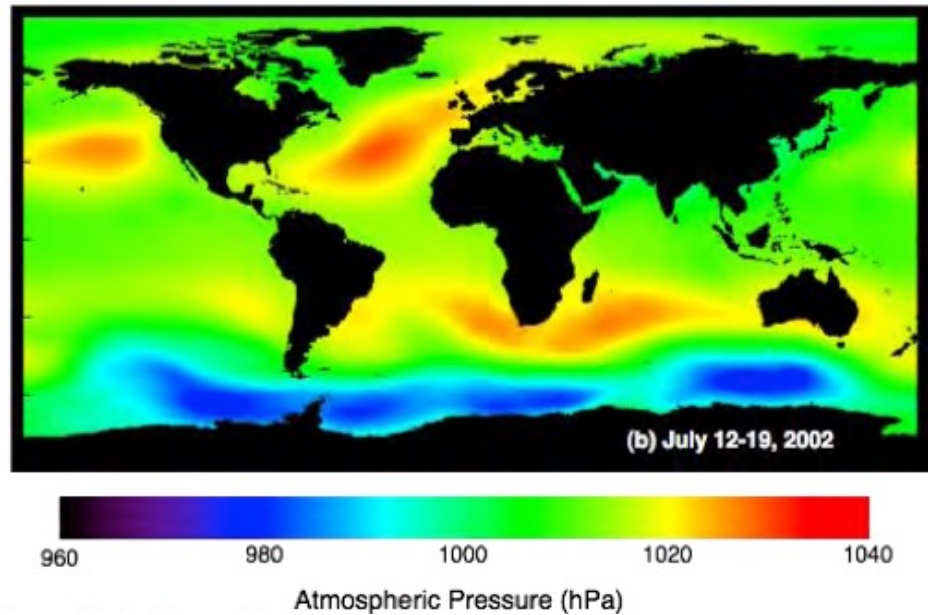
molecular (Rayleigh) scattering

Rayleigh optical properties are calculable (to ~0.2%) – made challenging by a rough, reflective ocean (versus a flat, black ocean)

Rayleigh radiances (with polarization) are retrieved from look up tables given:

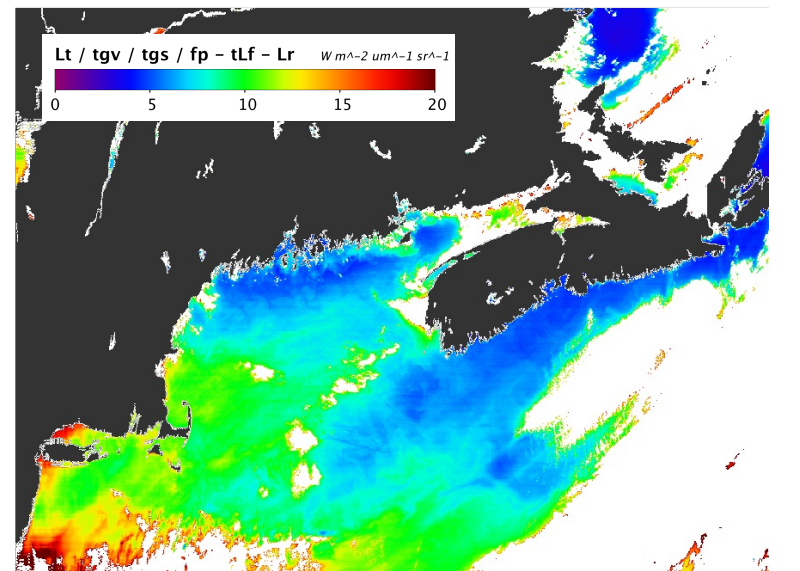
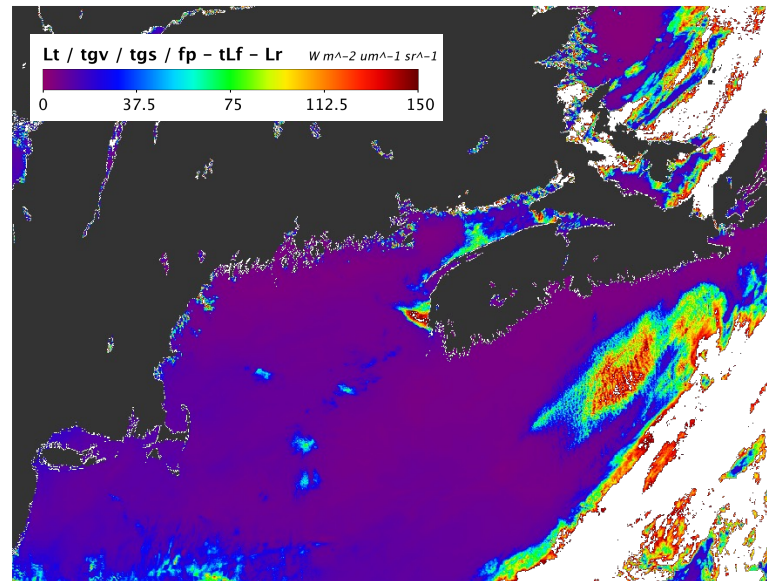
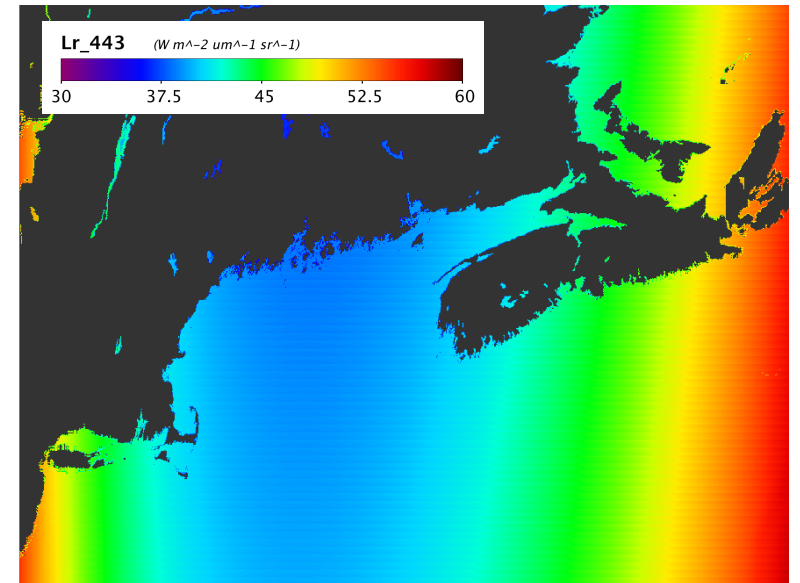
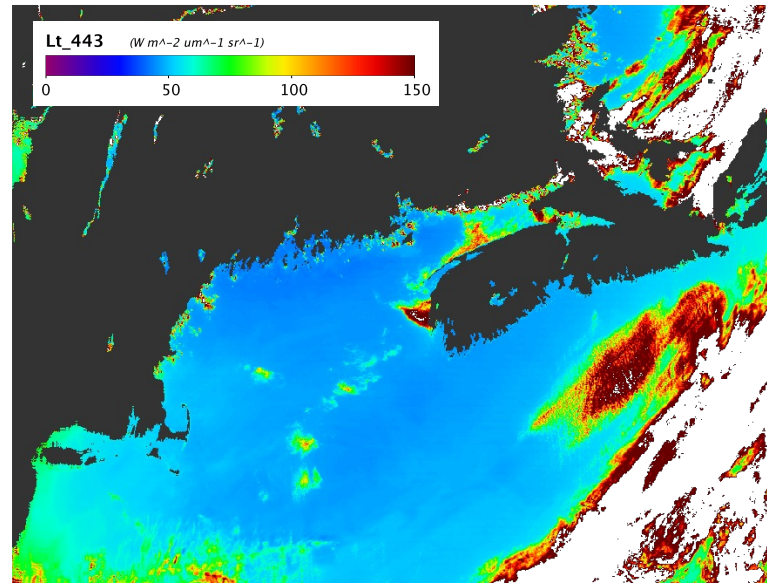
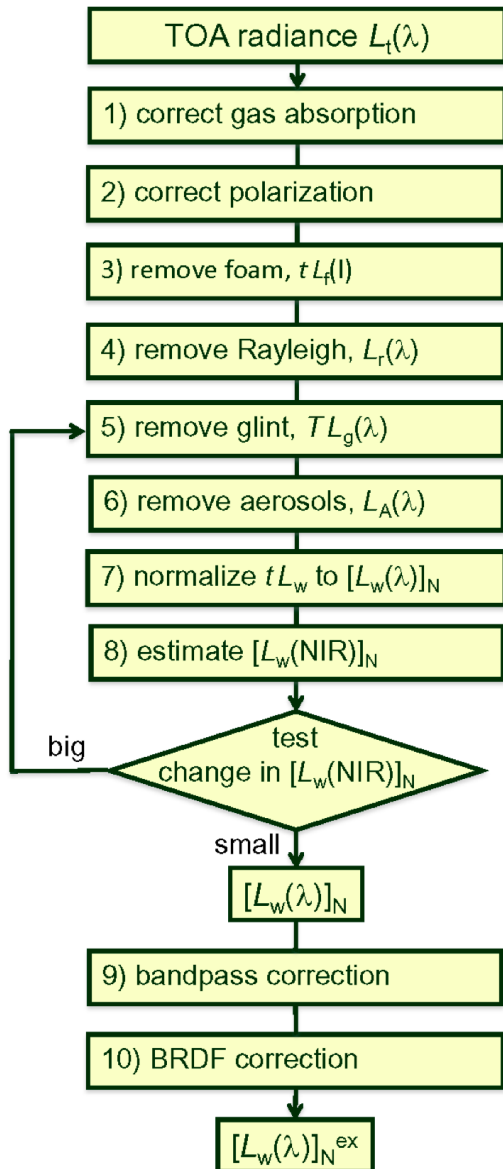
- solar & satellite viewing geometries
- wind speed (a proxy for surface roughness (influences L_{sky}))
- atmospheric pressure (\propto # gas molecules, adjusts Rayleigh optical thickness, τ_r)

Menghua Wang, IOCCG Report 10



L_r can be
50-90% of L_t

processing cadence: $L_t / t_{gv} / t_{gs} / f_p - tL_f - L_r$



=

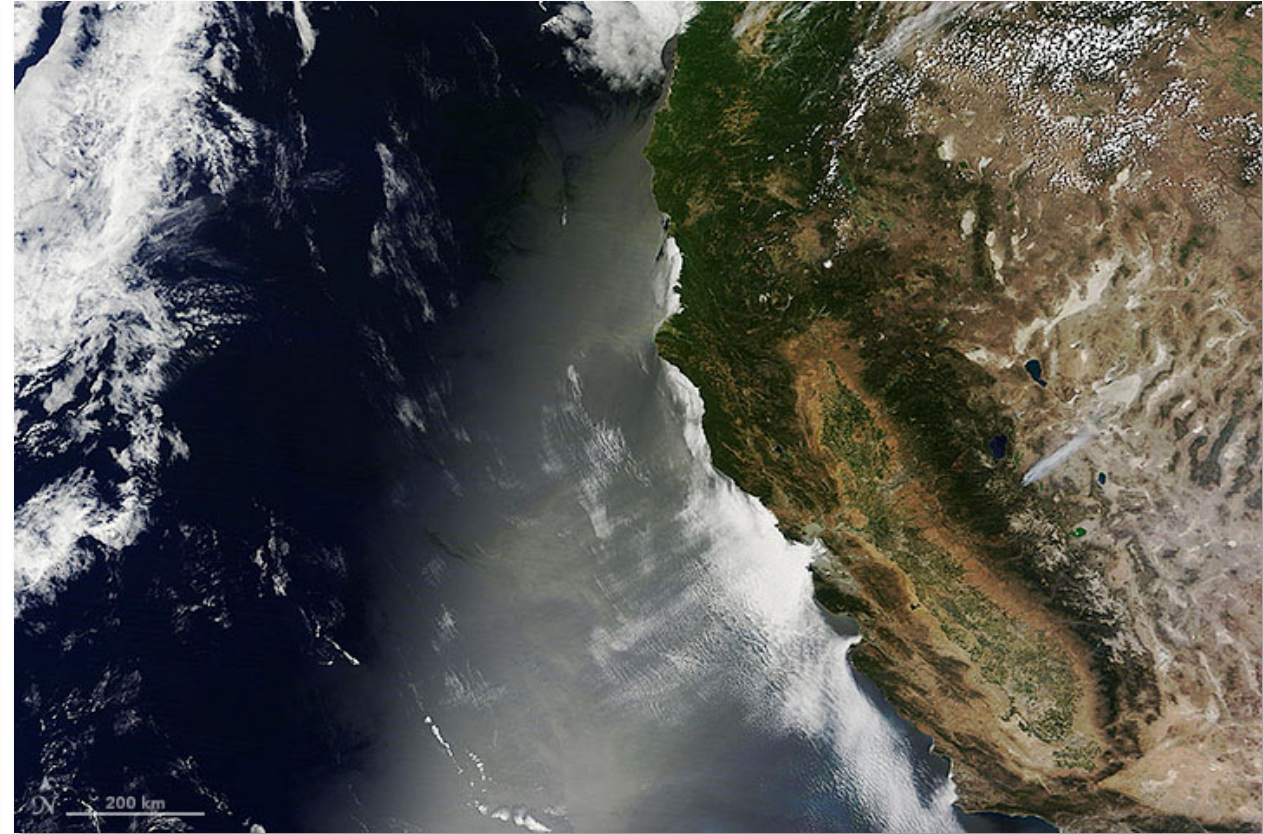
=

Sun glint

$$L_t = \left(L_r + [L_a + L_{ra}] + t_{dv} L_f + t_{dv} L_w \right) t_{gv} t_{gs} f_p + T L_g$$

$$R_{rs} = \frac{L_w}{F_0 \cos(\theta_s) t_{ds} f_s f_b f_\lambda}$$

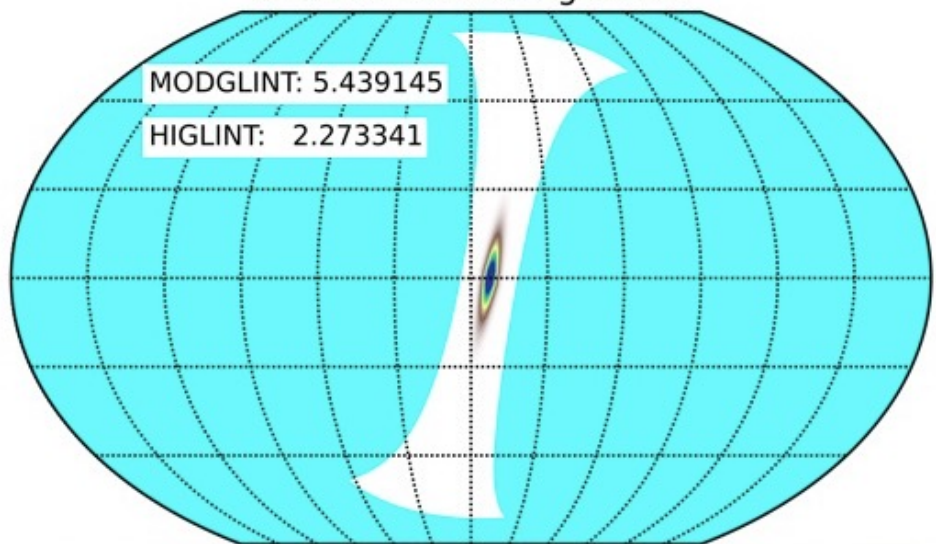
we cannot see “ocean color” through Sun glint



Courtesy NASA Earth Observatory
Ground to Space: A Glittering Path of San Francisco Sunlint

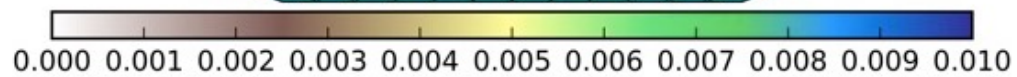
<https://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/blogs/earthmatters/2016/11/09/ground-to-space-a-glittering-path-of-san-francisco-sunglint/>

Glint for a 20.0 degree tilt

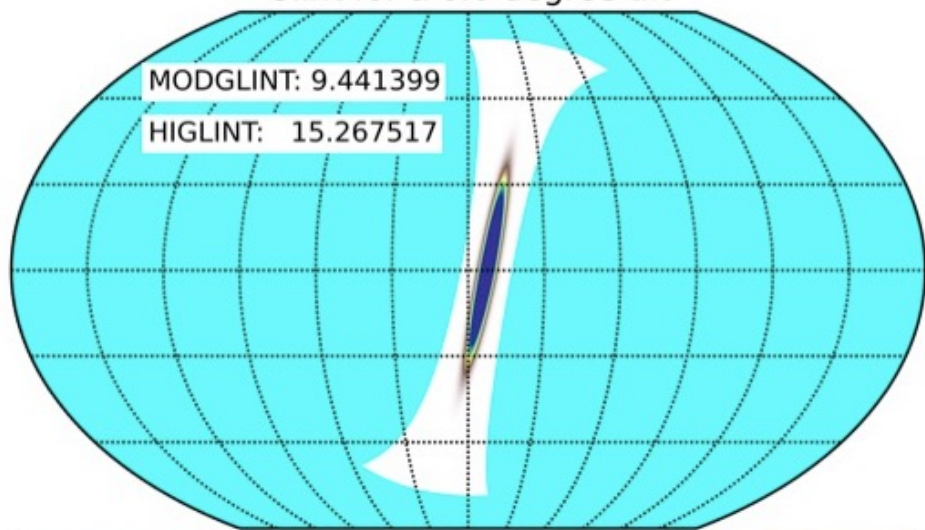


MODGLINT: 5.439145

HIGLINT: 2.273341

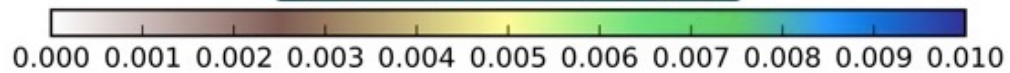


Glint for a 0.0 degree tilt

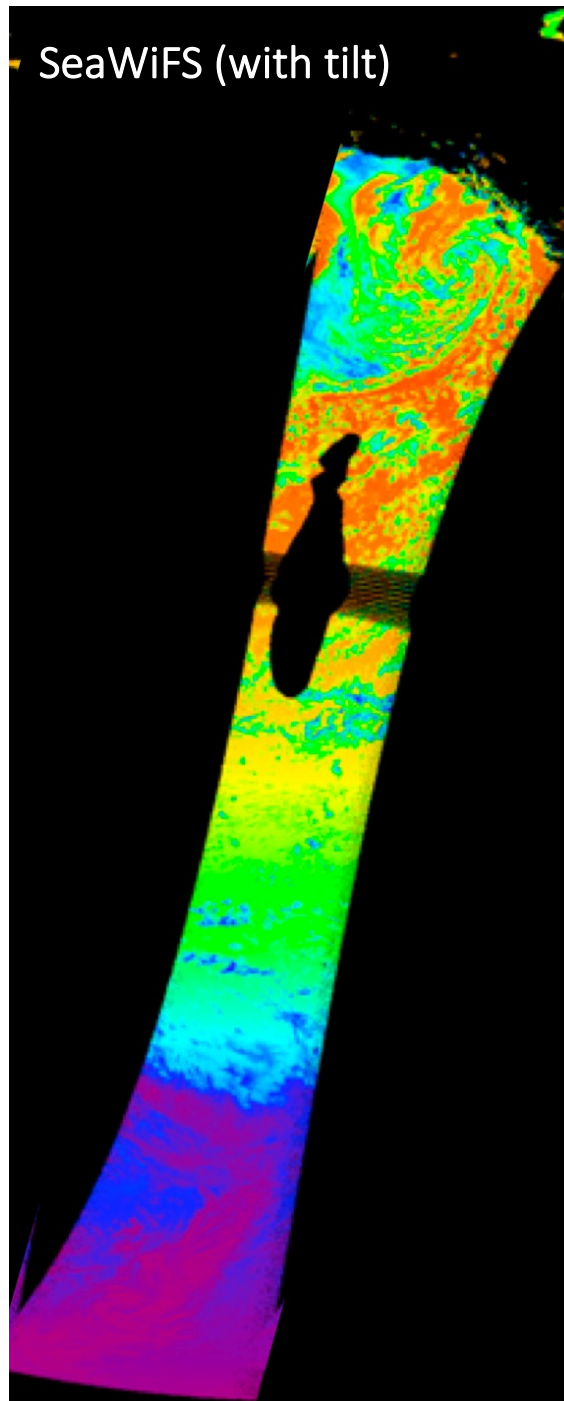


MODGLINT: 9.441399

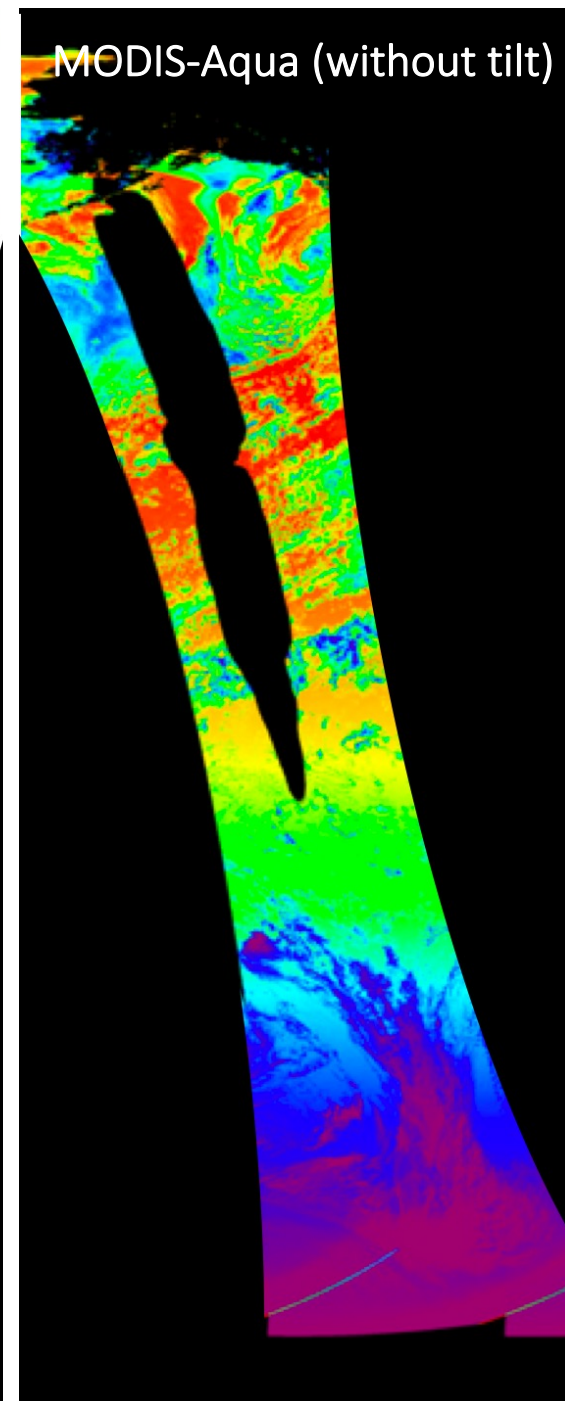
HIGLINT: 15.267517



SeaWiFS (with tilt)



MODIS-Aqua (without tilt)



PAR = Photosynthetically Available Radiation (Einstein $m^{-2} d^{-1}$)

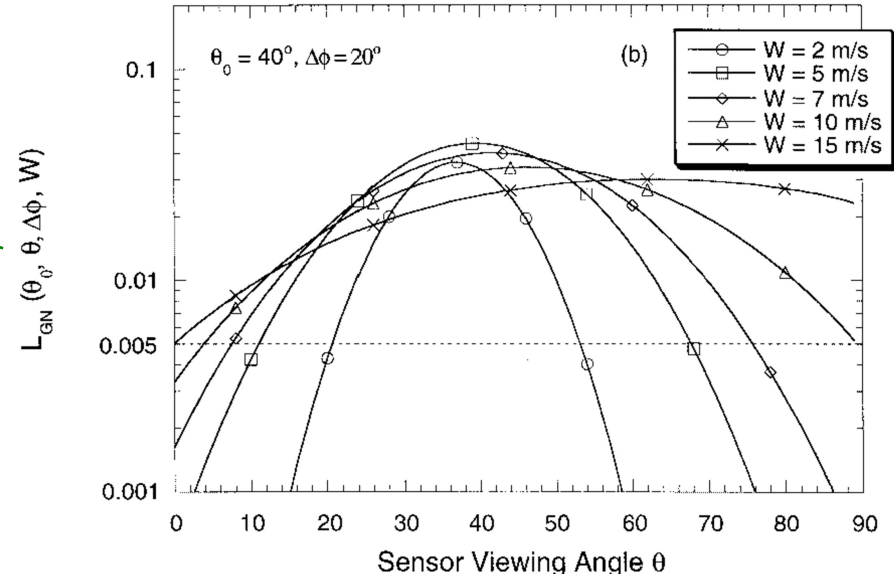
Sun glint

Sun glint can be further expressed as:

$$T L_g = F_0 T_0 T L_{GN}$$

L_{GN} is glint radiance normalized to no atmosphere & $F_0 = 1$

$$T_0 T = \exp \left[-(\tau_r + \tau_a) \left(\frac{1}{\cos(\theta_0)} + \frac{1}{\cos(\theta)} \right) \right]$$



L_{GN} from Cox and Munk (1954) requires ancillary wind speed & geometries of Sun & sensor

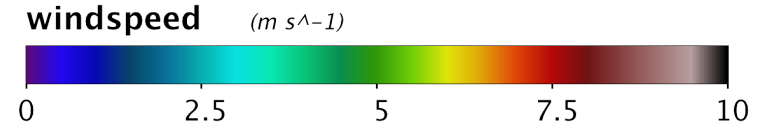
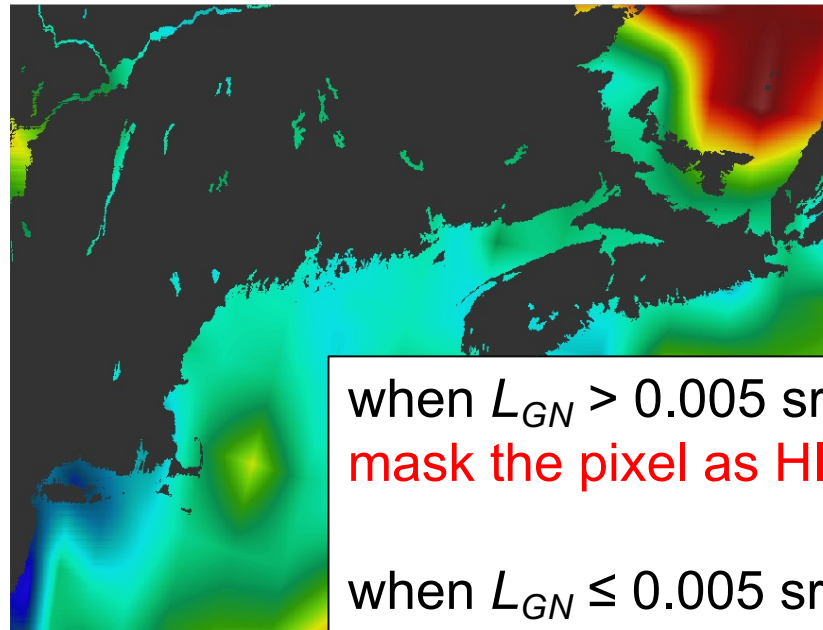
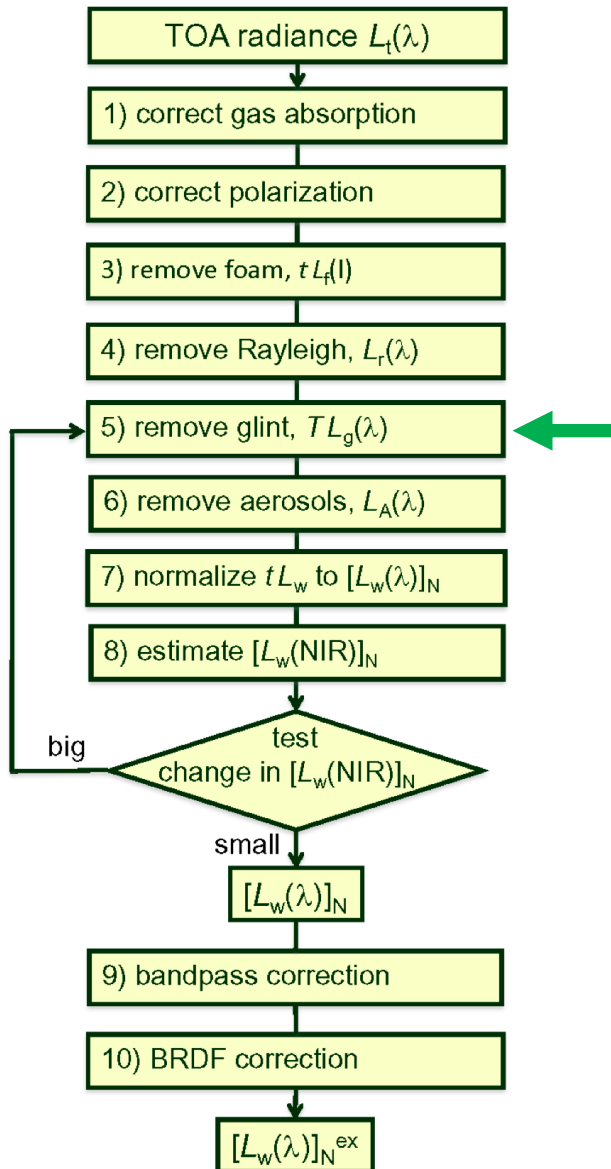
two step iteration since we don't know τ_a :

$$(1) [L_t, \tau_a', W] \rightarrow L_t^{(1)} = L_t - L_g \rightarrow \tau_a^{(1)}$$

$$(2) [L_t^{(1)}, \tau_a^{(1)}, W] \rightarrow L_t^{(2)} = L_t^{(1)} - L_g \rightarrow \tau_a^{(2)}$$

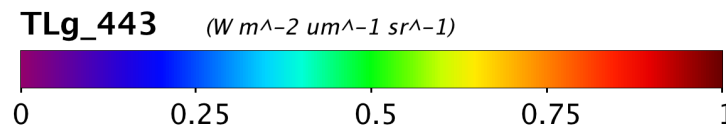
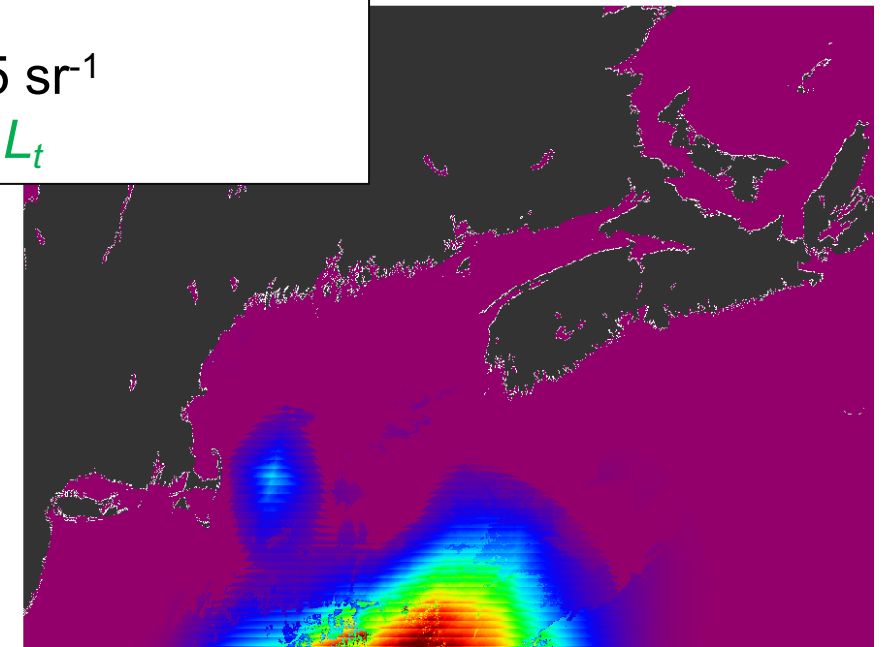
with initial guess of $\tau_a' \sim 0.1$ (additional logic included to prevent overcorrection)

processing cadence: $L_t / t_{gv} / t_{gs} / f_p - tL_f - L_r - TL_g$



when $L_{GN} > 0.005\ sr^{-1}$
 mask the pixel as **HIGH GLINT**

when $L_{GN} \leq 0.005\ sr^{-1}$
 remove TL_g from L_t



aerosols: the hard part

$$L_t = \left(L_r + [L_a + L_{ra}] + t_{dv} L_f + t_{dv} L_w \right) t_{gv} t_{gs} f_p + T L_g$$

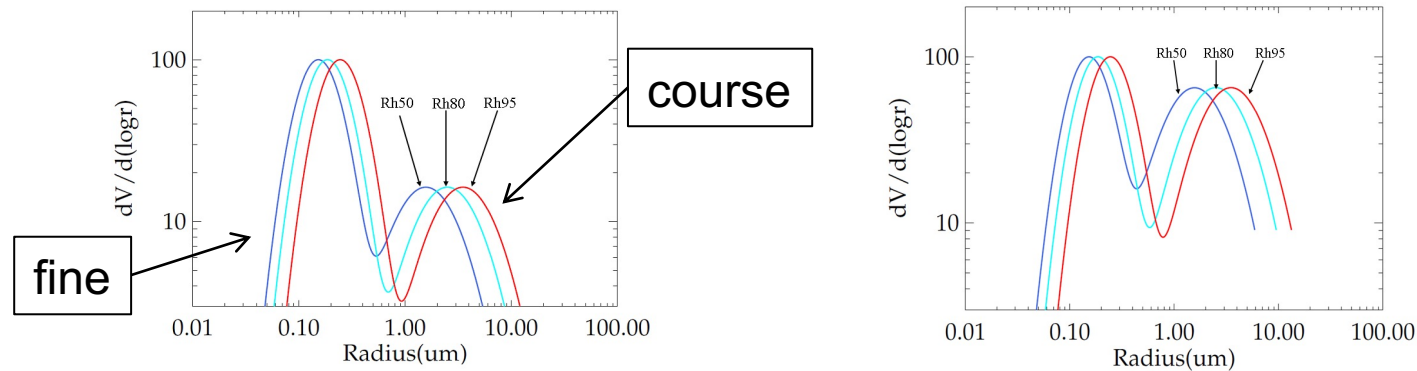
$$R_{rs} = \frac{L_w}{F_0 \cos(\theta_s) t_{ds} f_s f_b f_\lambda}$$

aerosol tables

- aerosol properties can be characterized by their particle size distribution (PSD) & their complex index of refraction (m)
- given a PSD & m (& assuming sphericity), aerosol optical properties can be computed using Mie theory:
 - scattering phase function ($\tilde{\beta}$)
 - single scattering albedo ($\omega = b / c$)
 - extinction coefficient ($c = a + b$)
- aerosol optical thickness relates to extinction coefficient
 - $\tau_a = \int_0^z c(z) dz$
- aerosol tables are generated for various PSDs (& m 's) & are
 - defined by $\tilde{\beta}$, ω , τ_a (& other variables)
 - navigated using solar & satellite viewing geometries

aerosol tables

- we assume each PSD to be represented by 2 lognormal distributions
 - fine particles (continental & sometimes absorbing)
 - coarse particles (oceanic / sea salt & non-absorbing)



- each PSD modulated by varying relative humidity
 - humidity changes particle size
 - requires ancillary data from GMAO
- 80 aerosol tables total, built from AERONET measurements
 - 10 PSDs
 - 8 relative humidities

see Ahmad et al., Applied Optics, 2010

aerosol tables

- the Angstrom exponent (α) provides an estimator of particle size

- high α = small particles

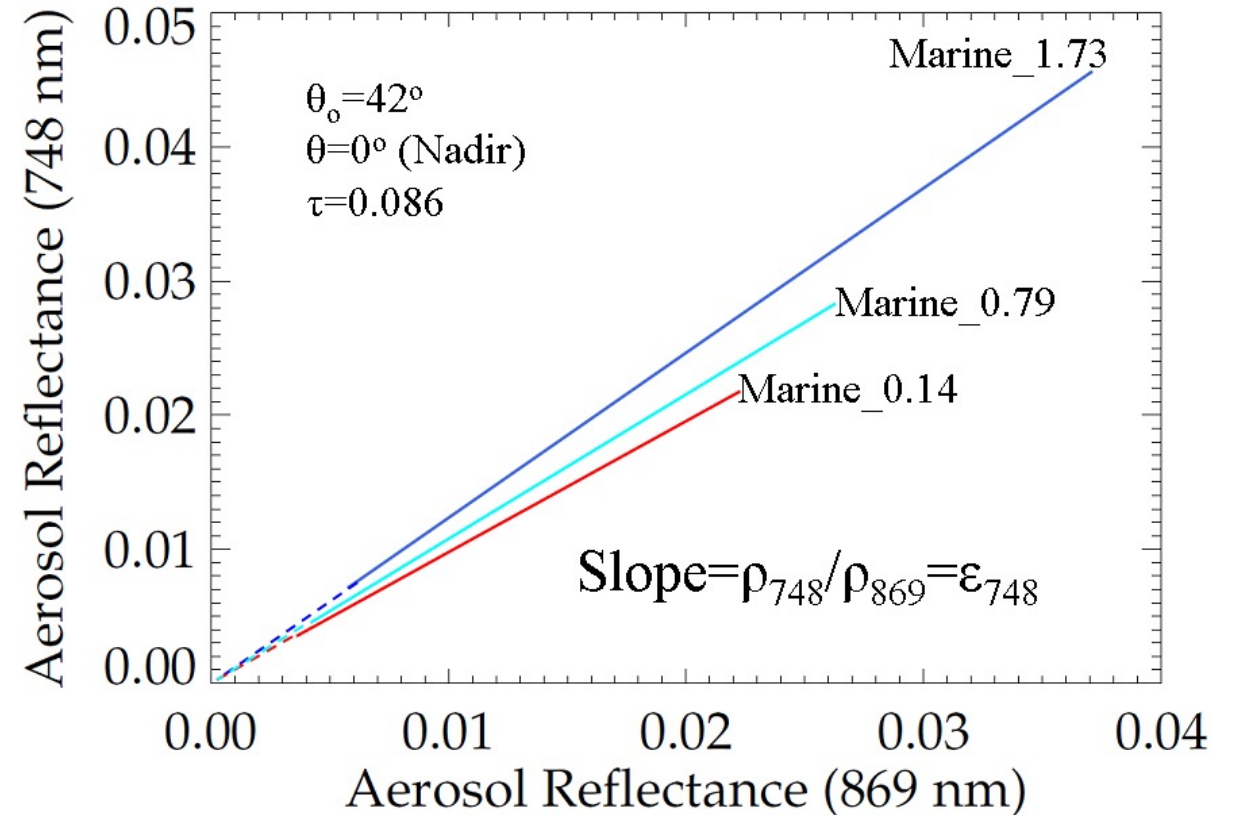
- low α = large particles

- defined via $\frac{\tau_a(\lambda)}{\tau_a(\lambda_0)} = \left(\frac{\lambda_0}{\lambda}\right)^\alpha$

- aerosol models often defined by epsilon (ϵ)

- $\epsilon(748, 869) = \frac{L_a(748)}{L_a(869)}$

do we know these values???



black pixel assumption

final unknowns in top expression

$$\checkmark L_t = \left(\checkmark L_r + \checkmark [L_a + L_{ra}] + \checkmark t_{dv} L_f + \checkmark t_{dv} L_w \right) \checkmark t_{gv} \checkmark t_{gs} \checkmark f_p + \checkmark T L_g$$

in the open ocean, we can assume (???) that L_w in the near-infrared (NIR) is = 0 (rather, is *black*)

thus, in the NIR (e.g., 748 and 869 nm):

$$L_a(\text{NIR}) + L_{ra}(\text{NIR}) = L_t(\text{NIR}) - \text{the terms we computed}$$

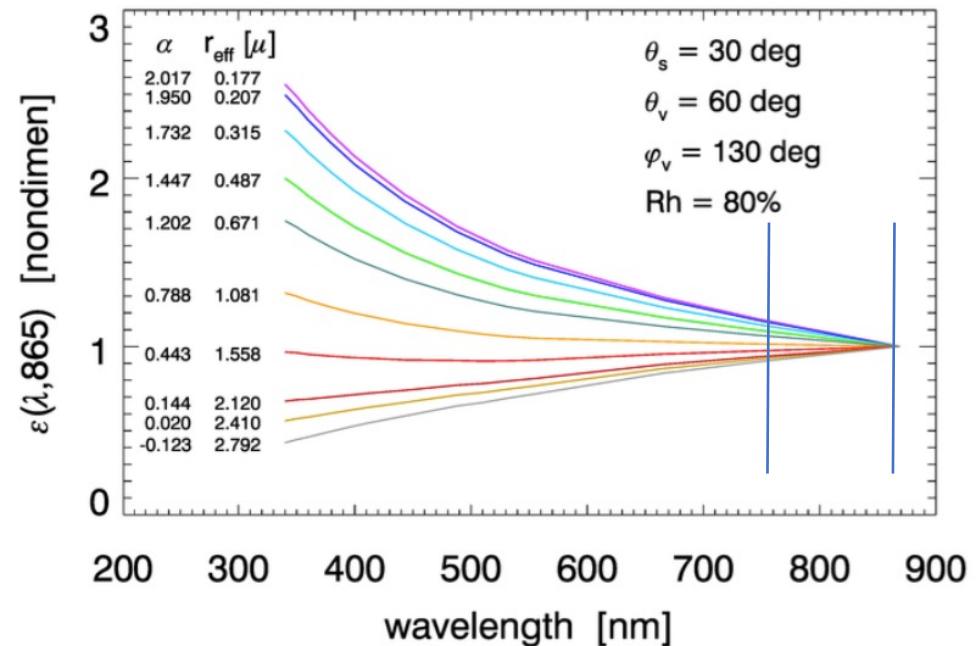
aerosol selection

$L_w(\text{NIR}) = 0$, so $L_a(\text{NIR}) + L_{ra}(\text{NIR}) = L_t(\text{NIR}) -$ (everything previously computed)
how do we estimate $L_a(\text{visible}) + L_{ra}(\text{visible})$?

- let's refer to $[L_a + L_{ra}]$ simply as L_a & ignore single- vs. multi-scattering issues
- select the 10 aerosol tables that match the observed GMAO relative humidity
- compute epsilon values for the 10 tables $[\varepsilon(748,869) = L_a(748) / L_a(869)]$
- perform an iterative determination of the mean $\varepsilon(748,869)$ value & select a final bounding 2 aerosol models
- using 2 bounding models, calculate $\varepsilon(\lambda,869)$ from $\varepsilon(748,869)$
- calculate $L_a(\lambda) = \varepsilon(\lambda,869) L_a(869)$

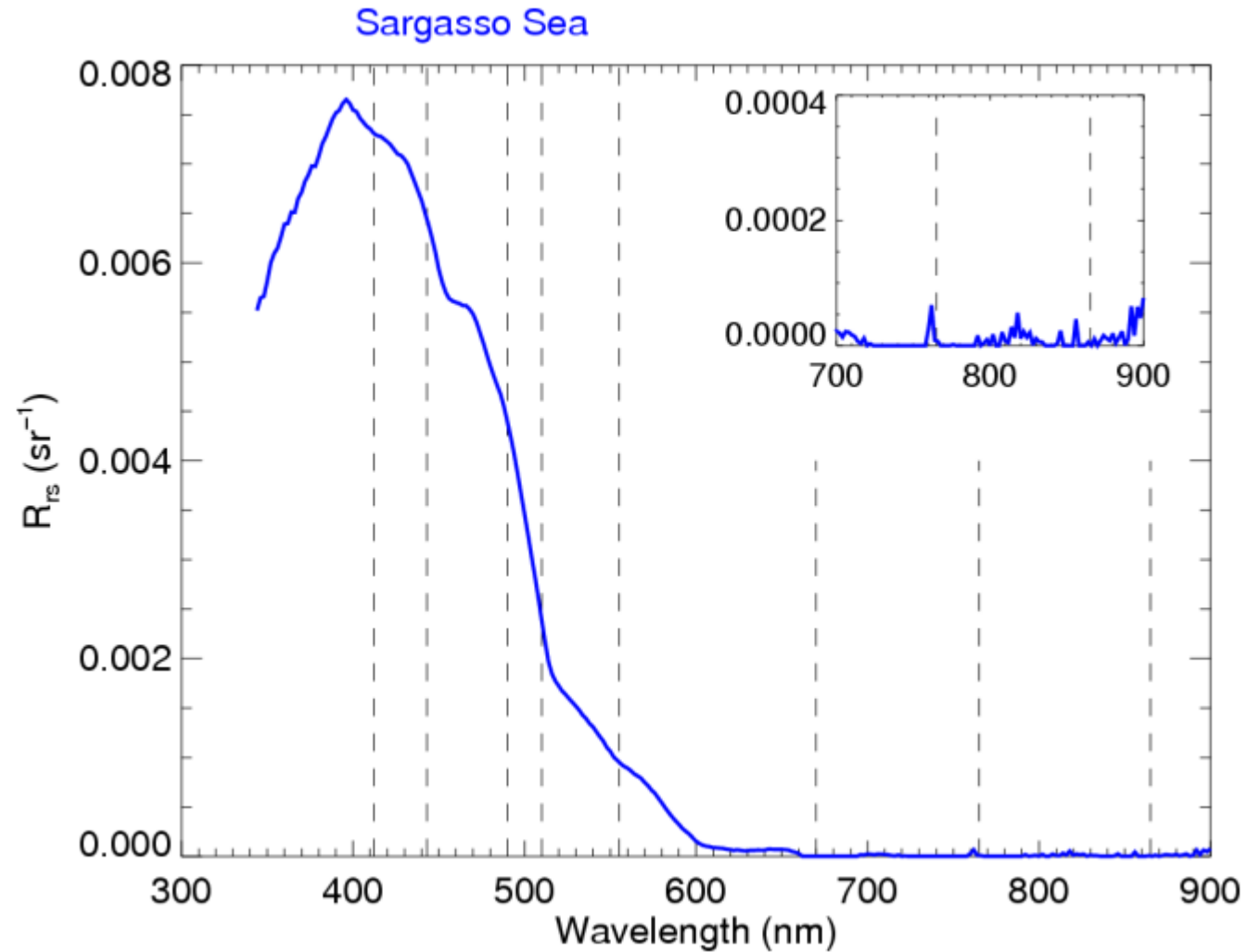
see Gordon & Wang,
Applied Optics, 1994

final retrieval of $L_a(\lambda)$ is more accurate than that of τ_a and α ;
not unlike retrievals of $a(\lambda)$ being more accurate than $a_{dg}(\lambda)$ & $a_{ph}(\lambda)$ in inversion models



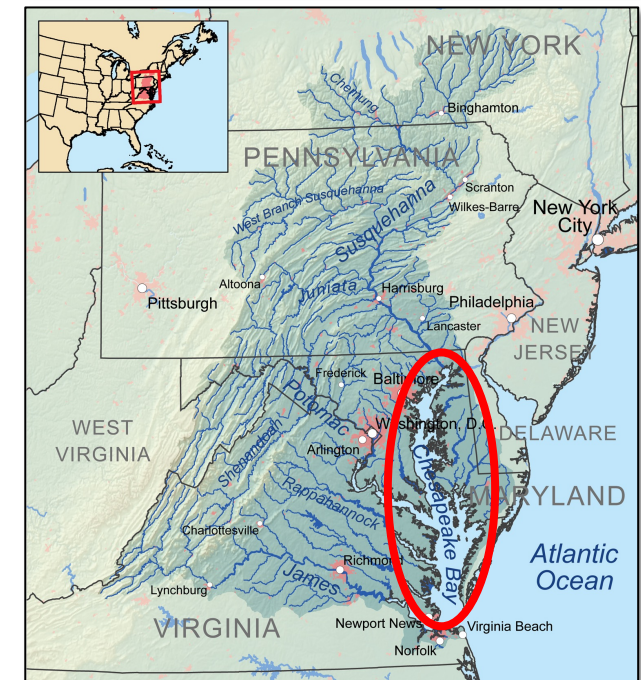
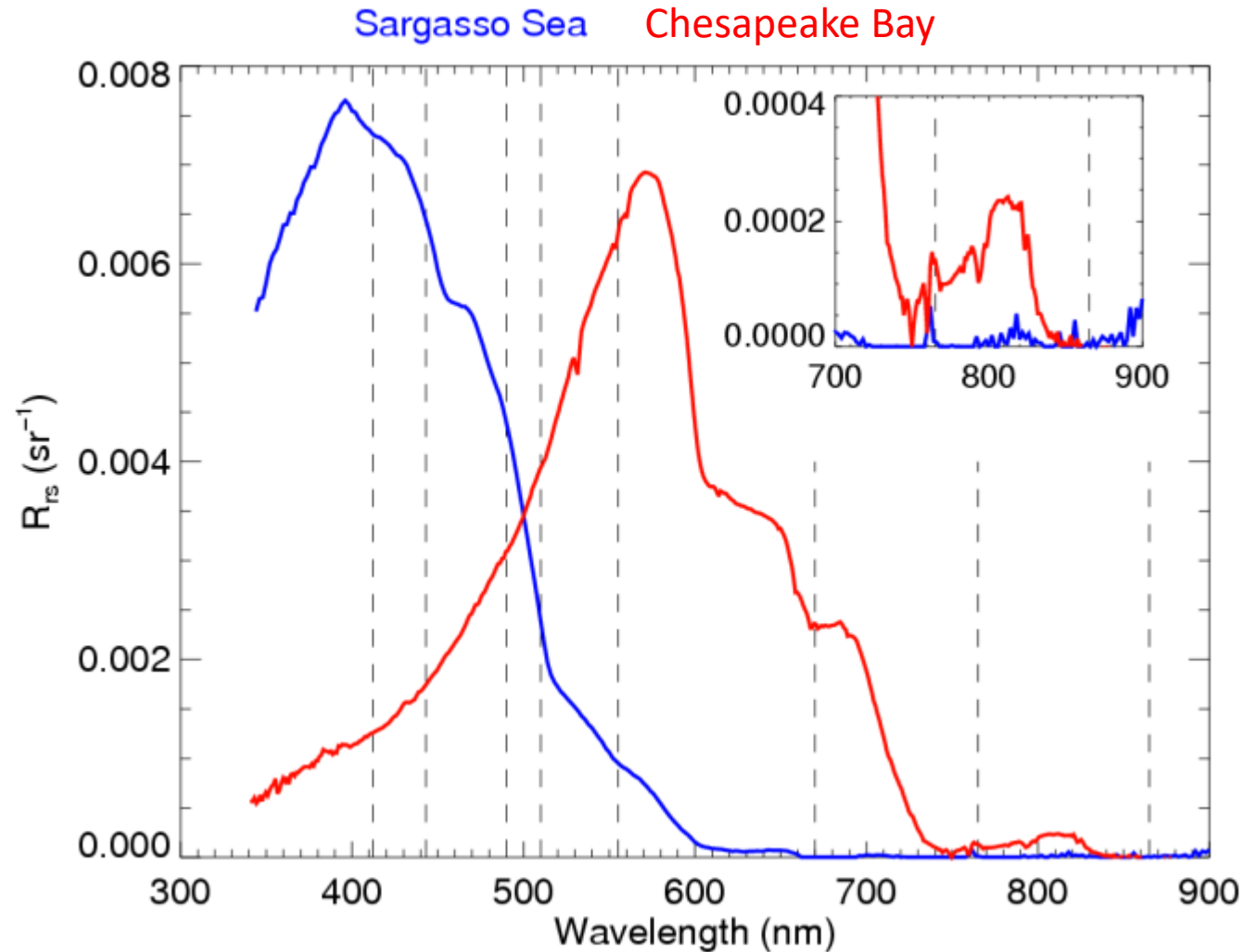
is the black pixel assumption valid?

are R_{rs} (NIR) really black?



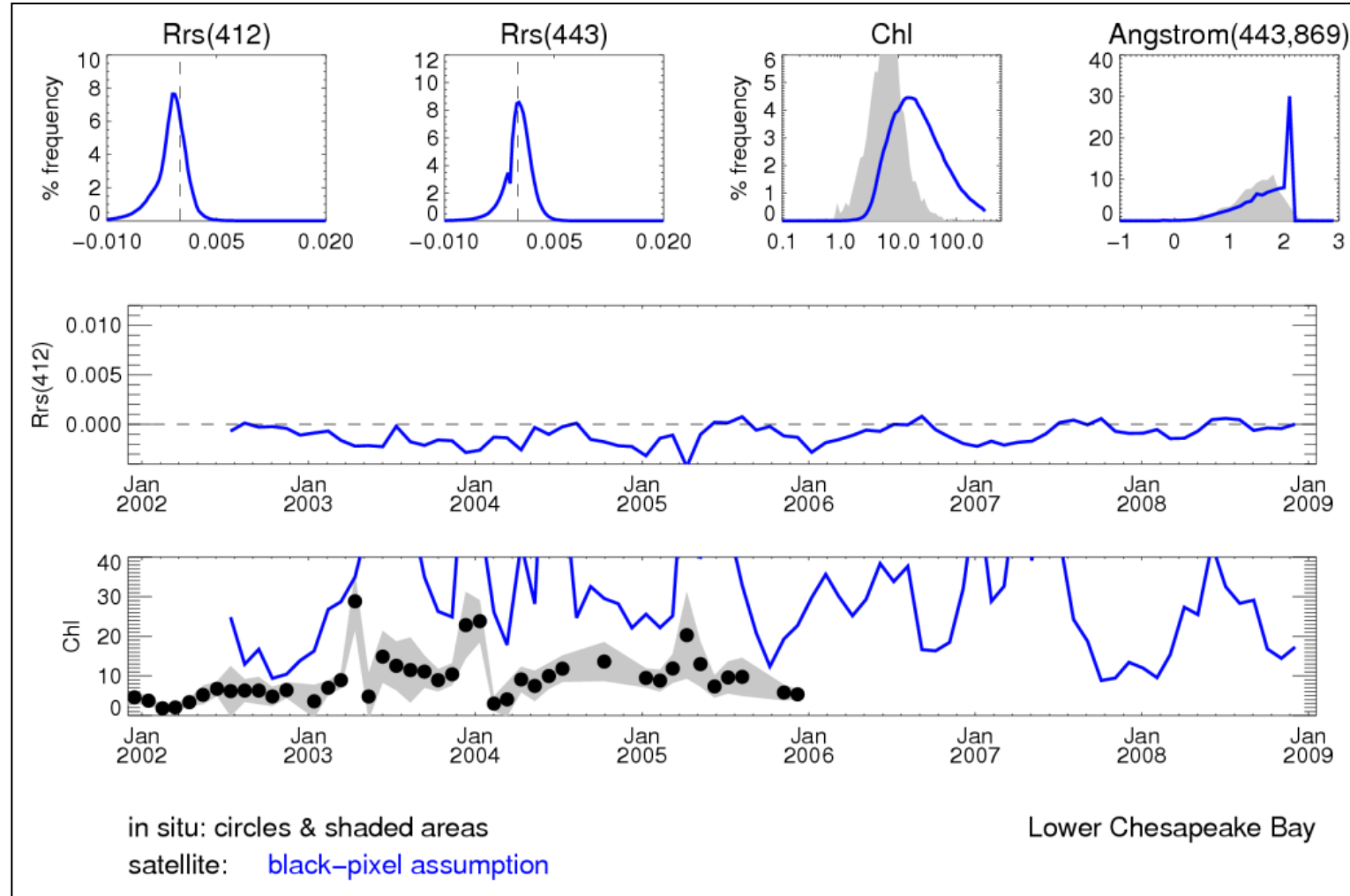
is the black pixel assumption valid?

are R_{rs} (NIR) really black?



is the black pixel assumption valid?

what happens when we don't account for $R_{rs}(NIR) > 0$?



use the “black pixel” assumption (e.g., SeaWiFS 1997-2000)

how to proceed with the black pixel assumption?

what to do when $R_{rs}(NIR) > 0$?

many approaches exist, here are a few examples:

assign aerosols (ϵ) and/or water contributions ($R_{rs}(NIR)$)

e.g., Hu et al. 2000, Ruddick et al. 2000

use shortwave infrared bands

e.g., Wang & Shi 2007

correct/model the non-negligible $R_{rs}(NIR)$

Siegel et al. 2000 used in SeaWiFS Reprocessing 3 (2000)

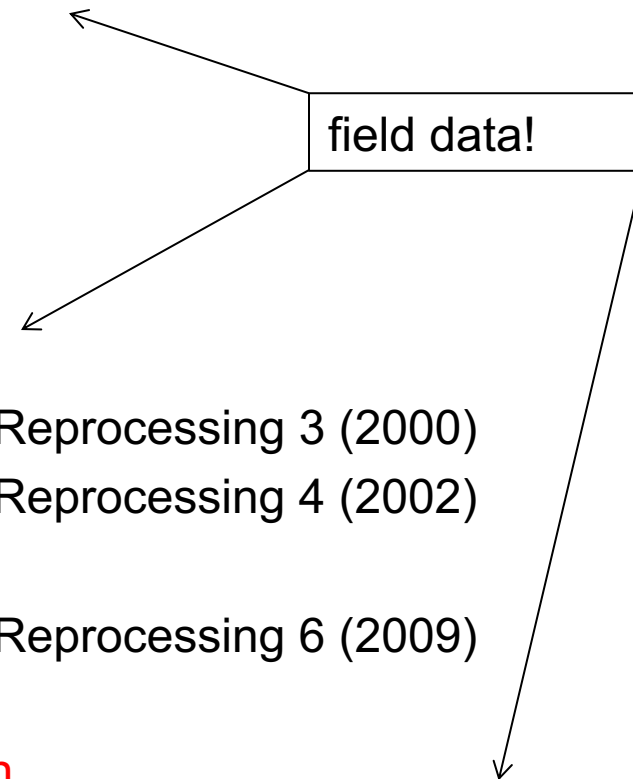
Stumpf et al. 2003 used in SeaWiFS Reprocessing 4 (2002)

Lavender et al. 2005 MERIS

Bailey et al. 2010 used in SeaWiFS Reprocessing 6 (2009)

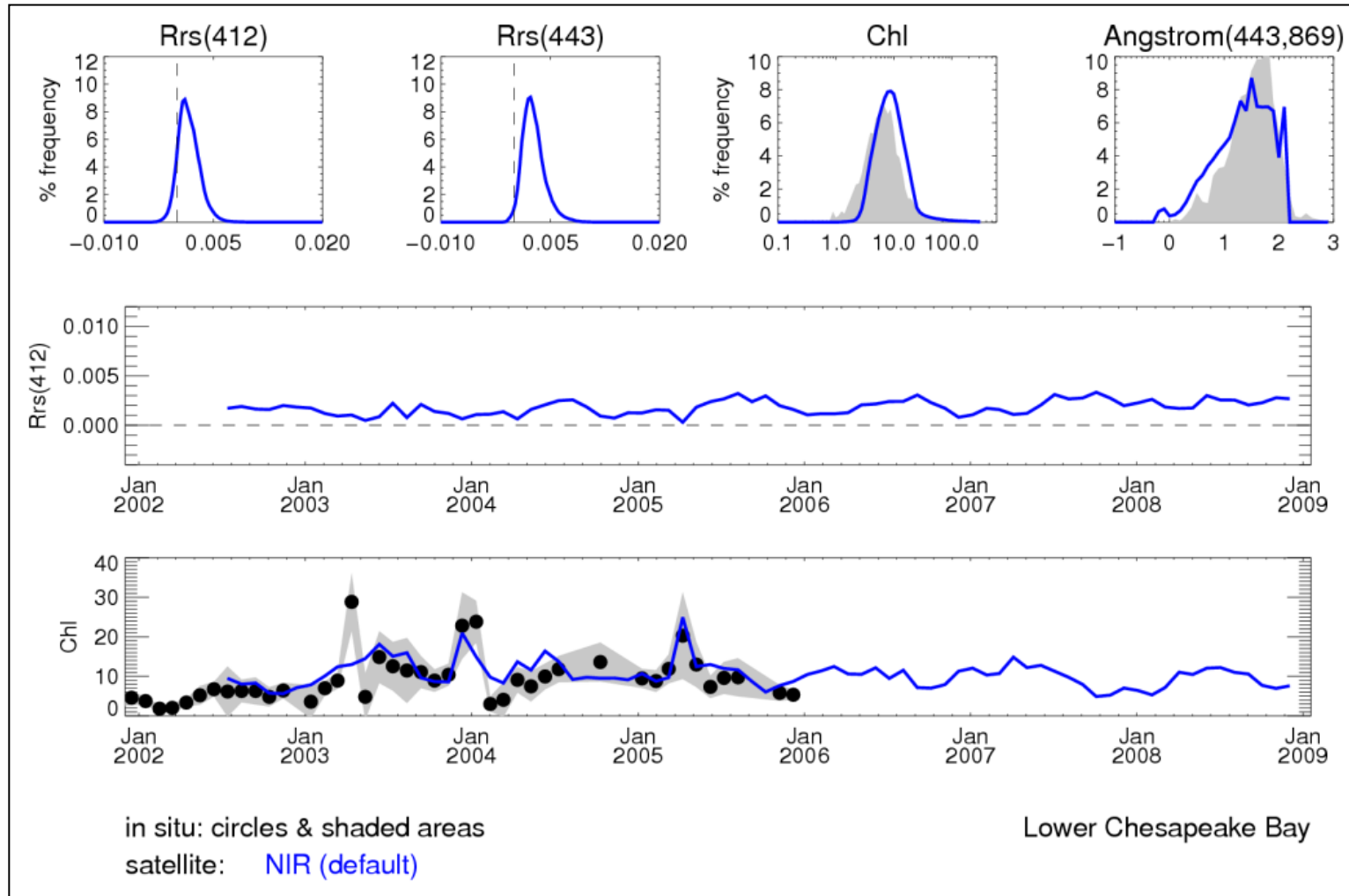
use a coupled ocean-atmosphere optimization

e.g., Chomko & Gordon 2001, Stamnes et al. 2003, Kuchinke et al. 2009



black pixel assumption – a bio-optical model

correction of non-negligible $R_{rs}(\text{NIR})$



estimate $R_{rs}(\text{NIR})$ using a bio-optical model

operational VIIRS & MODIS processing ~ 2000-present

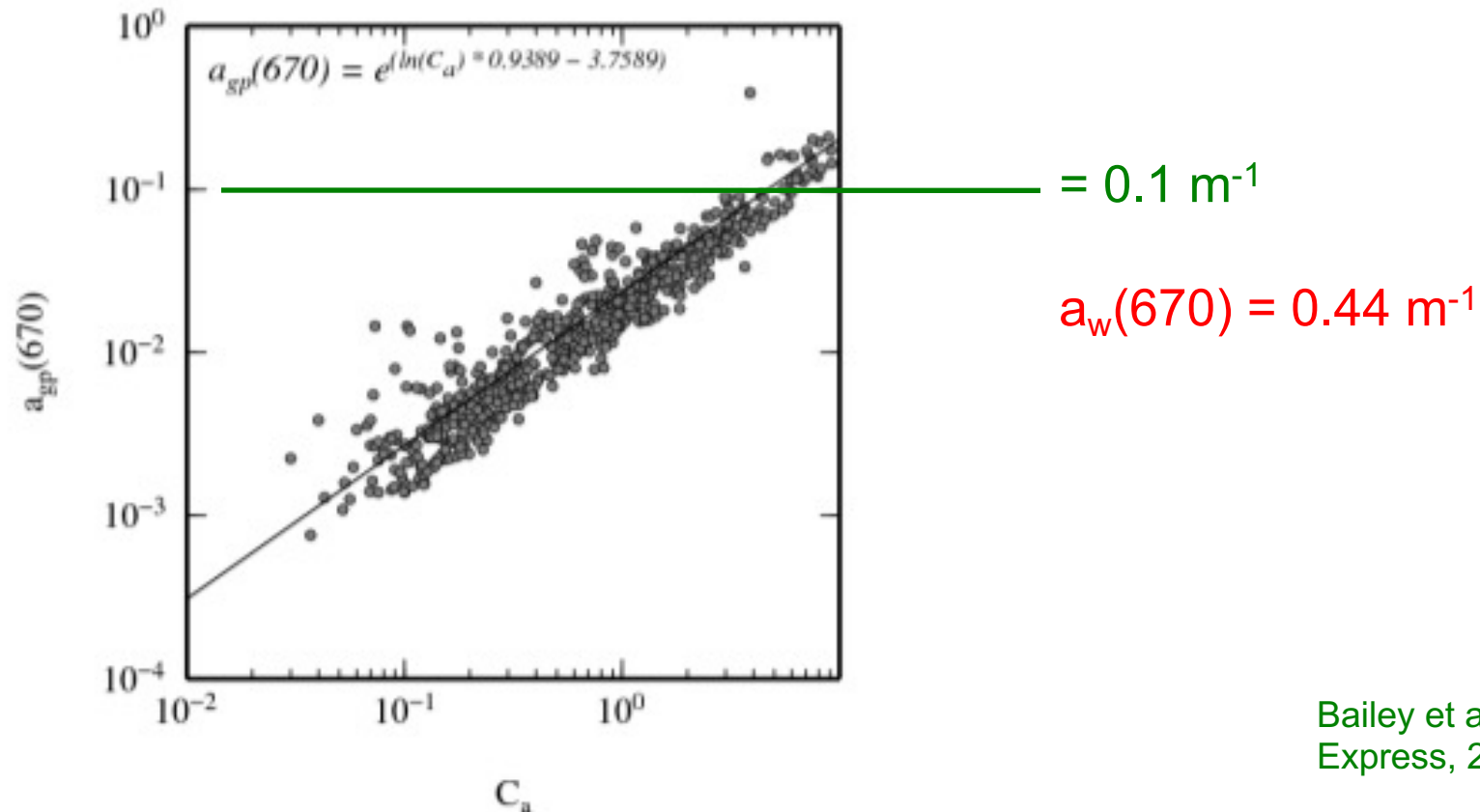
black pixel assumption – a bio-optical model

initial $R_{rs}(670)$ measured by satellite (using $R_{rs}(765) = 0$)

black pixel assumption – a bio-optical model

initial $R_{rs}(670)$ measured by satellite (using $R_{rs}(765) = 0$)

model $a(670) = a_w(670) + a_{pg}(670)$



Bailey et al., Optics Express, 2010

black pixel assumption – a bio-optical model

initial $R_{rs}(670)$ measured by satellite (using $R_{rs}(765) = 0$)

model $a(670) = a_w(670) + a_{pg}(670)$

estimate $b_b(670)$ using $R_{rs}(670)$, $a(670)$, & $G(670)$ [Morel et al. 2002]

$$R_{rs}(670) = G(670) \frac{b_b(670)}{a(670) + b_b(670)}$$

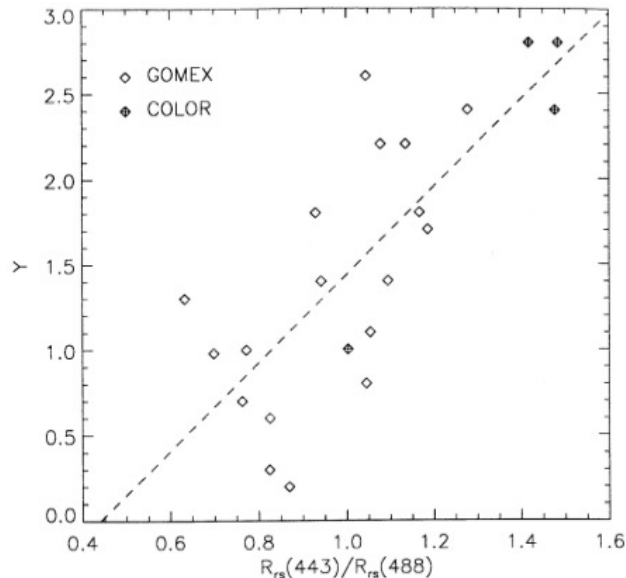
black pixel assumption – a bio-optical model

initial $R_{rs}(670)$ measured by satellite (using $R_{rs}(765) = 0$)

model $a(670) = a_w(670) + a_{pg}(670)$

estimate $b_b(670)$ using $R_{rs}(670)$, $a(670)$, & $G(670)$ [Morel et al. 2002]

model η using $R_{rs}(443)$ & $R_{rs}(555)$ [Lee et al. 2002]



$$\eta = 2.0 \left[1 - 1.2 \exp\left(-0.9 \frac{R_{rs}(443)}{R_{rs}(555)}\right) \right]$$

from Carder et al. 1999

Bailey et al., Optics
Express, 2010

black pixel assumption – a bio-optical model

initial $R_{rs}(670)$ measured by satellite (using $R_{rs}(765) = 0$)

model $a(670) = a_w(670) + a_{pg}(670)$

estimate $b_b(670)$ using $R_{rs}(670)$, $a(670)$, & $G(670)$ [Morel et al. 2002]

model η using $R_{rs}(443)$ & $R_{rs}(555)$ [Lee et al. 2002]

estimate $b_b(765)$ using $b_b(670)$ & η

$$b_b(765) = b_{bw}(765) + b_{bp}(670) \left(\frac{670}{765} \right)^\eta$$

black pixel assumption – a bio-optical model

initial $R_{rs}(670)$ measured by satellite (using $R_{rs}(765) = 0$)

model $a(670) = a_w(670) + a_{pg}(670)$

estimate $b_b(670)$ using $R_{rs}(670)$, $a(670)$, & $G(670)$ [Morel et al. 2002]

model η using $R_{rs}(443)$ & $R_{rs}(555)$ [Lee et al. 2002]

estimate $b_b(765)$ using $b_b(670)$ & η

reconstruct $R_{rs}(765)$ using $b_b(765)$, $a_w(765)$, & $G(765)$

$$R_{rs}(765) = G(765) \frac{b_b(765)}{a_w(765) + b_b(765)}$$

$$a_w(765) = 2.85 \text{ m}^{-1}$$

black pixel assumption – a bio-optical model

initial $R_{rs}(670)$ measured by satellite (using $R_{rs}(765) = 0$)

model $a(670) = a_w(670) + a_{pg}(670)$

estimate $b_b(670)$ using $R_{rs}(670)$, $a(670)$, & $G(670)$ [Morel et al. 2002]

model η using $R_{rs}(443)$ & $R_{rs}(555)$ [Lee et al. 2002]

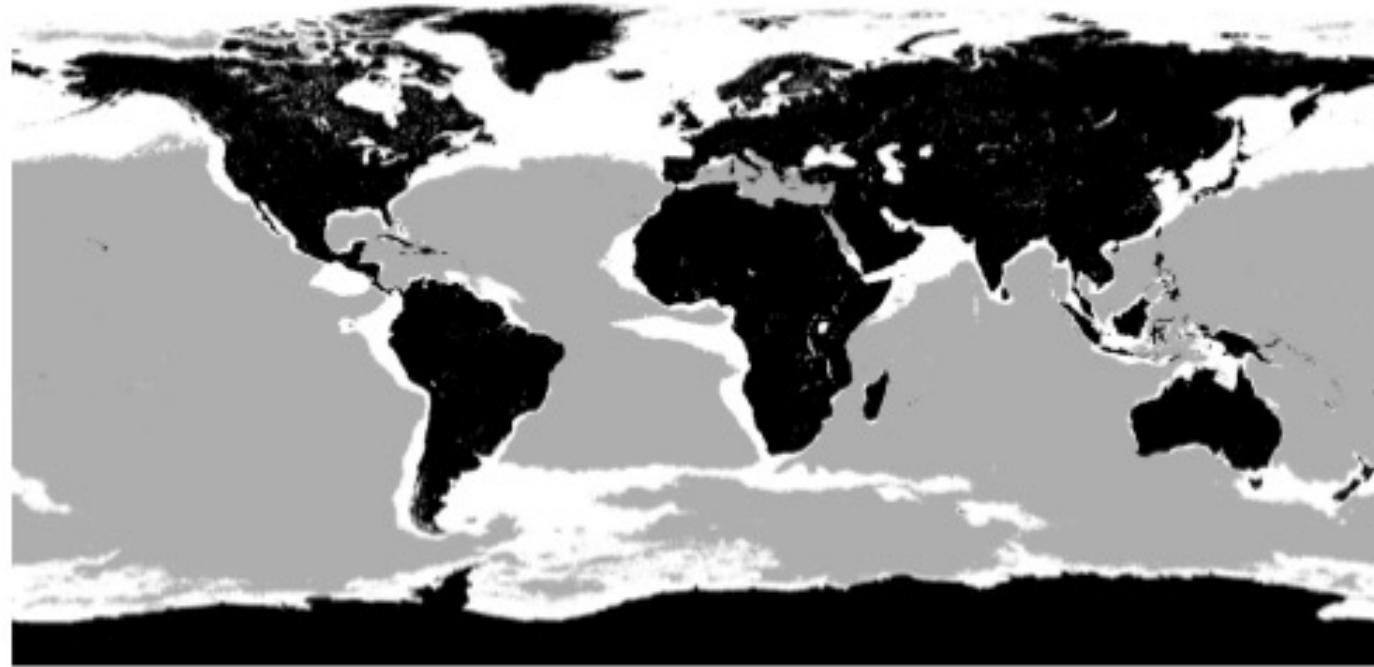
estimate $b_b(765)$ using $b_b(670)$ & η

reconstruct $R_{rs}(765)$ using $b_b(765)$, $a_w(765)$, & $G(765)$

iterate until $R_{rs}(765)$ changes by $<2\%$ (typically 3-4 iterations)

black pixel assumption – a bio-optical model

locations of application of bio-optical model



black = land; grey = Chl < 0.3 mg m⁻³; white Chl > 0.3 mg m⁻³


not applied when Chl < 0.3 mg m⁻³

weighted application when 0.3 < Chl < 0.7 mg m⁻³





fully applied when Chl > 0.7 mg m⁻³

Bailey et al., Optics Express, 2010

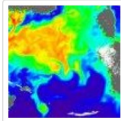
example alternative aerosol selection schemes

ORIGINAL RESEARCH ARTICLE
Front. Earth Sci., 31 May 2019 | <https://doi.org/10.3389/feart.2019.00116> 

Multiband Atmospheric Correction Algorithm for Ocean Color Retrievals


 Amir Ibrahim^{1,2*},  Bryan A. Franz¹,  Ziauddin Ahmad^{1,3} and  Sean W. Bailey¹

- “MBAC”
- uses multiple NIR/SWIR bands instead of 2
- GW94, but no assumption of single-scattering



Atmospheric correction in presence of sun glint: application to MERIS

François Steinmetz, Pierre-Yves Deschamps, and Didier Ramon

[Author Information](#)  [Find other works by these authors](#)

Optics Express Vol. 19, Issue 10, pp. 9783-9800 (2011) · <https://doi.org/10.1364/OE.19.009783>

- “POLYMER”
- spectral matching approach
- <https://www.hygeos.com/polymer>

ORIGINAL RESEARCH ARTICLE Provisionally accepted The full-text will be published soon. [Notify me](#)

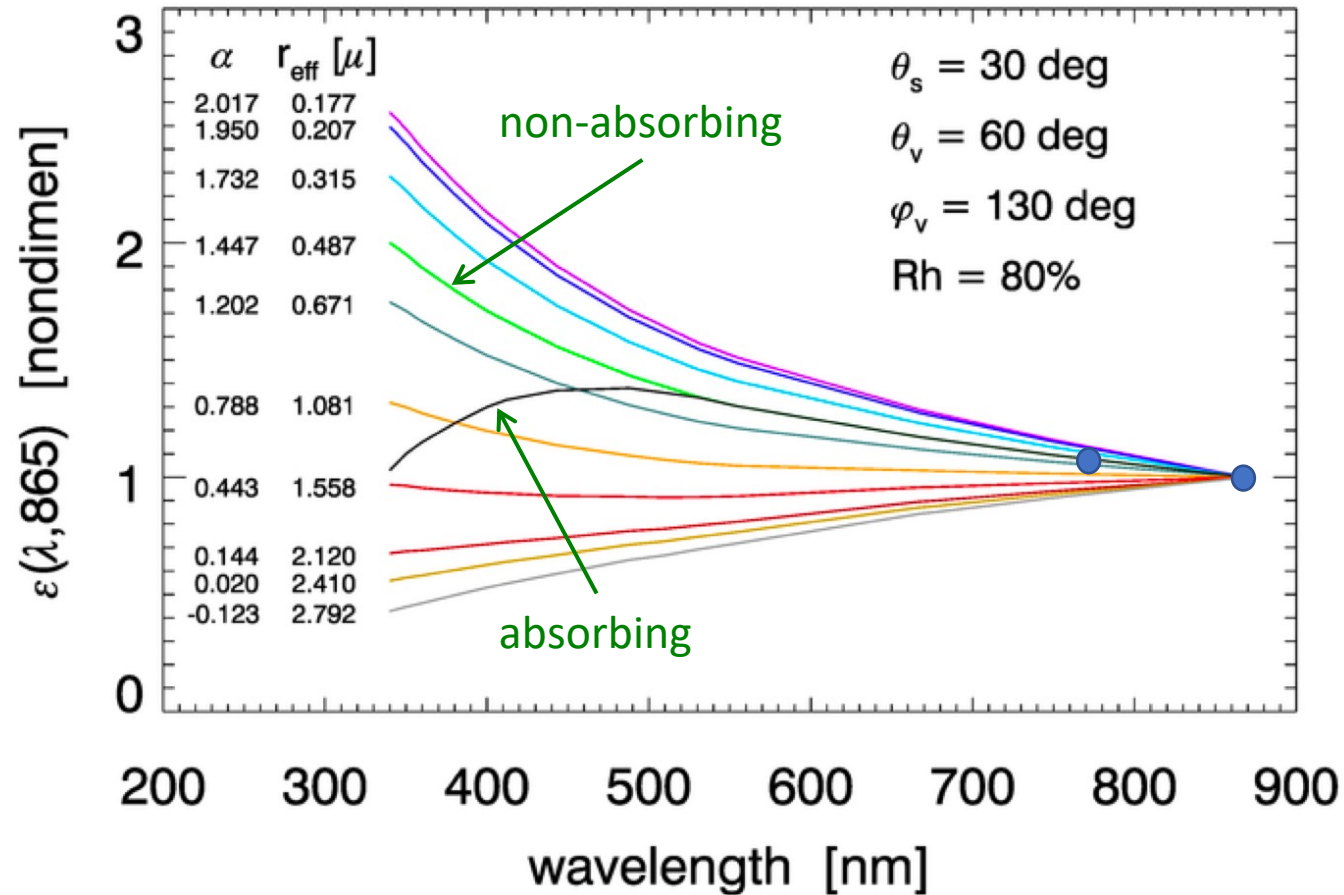
Front. Earth Sci. | doi: 10.3389/feart.2019.00100

Modeling atmosphere-ocean radiative transfer: A PACE mission perspective.

 Jacek Chowdhary¹,  Pengwang Zhai²,  Emmanuel Boss³,  Heidi M. Dierssen⁴,  Robert J. Frouin⁵,  Amir I. Ibrahim⁶,  Zhongping Lee⁷,  Lorraine A. Remer⁶,  Michael Twardowski⁸,  Feng Xu⁹,  Xiaodong Zhang¹⁰,  Matteo Ottaviani¹¹,  William R. Espinosa⁶ and  Didier Ramon¹²

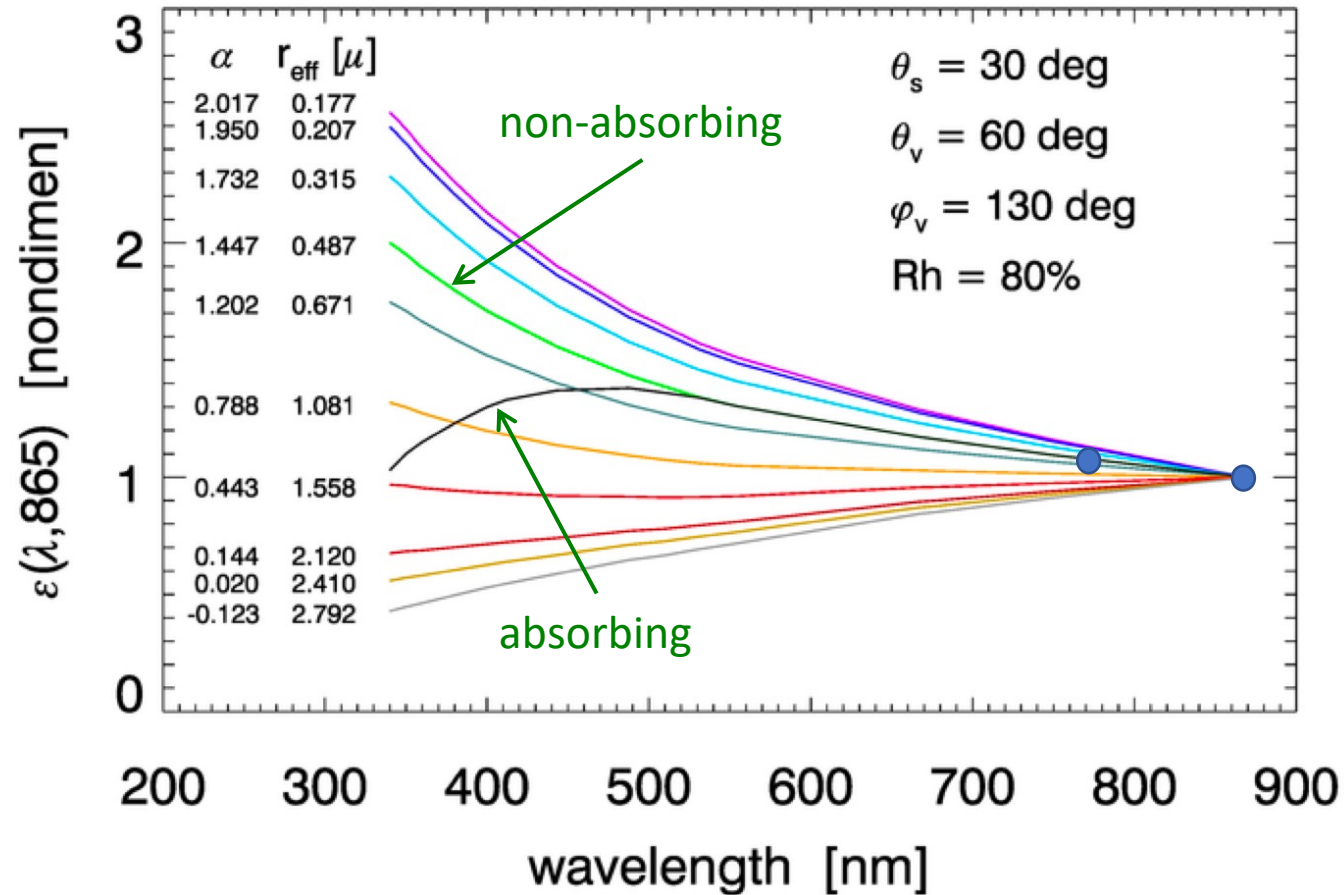
- radiative transfer for coupled ocean-atmosphere systems

atmospheric correction (currently) assumes no absorbing aerosols



Q: Why not use a wavelength near 350 or 400 nm, which could distinguish between absorbing and nonabsorbing aerosols?

atmospheric correction (currently) assumes no absorbing aerosols

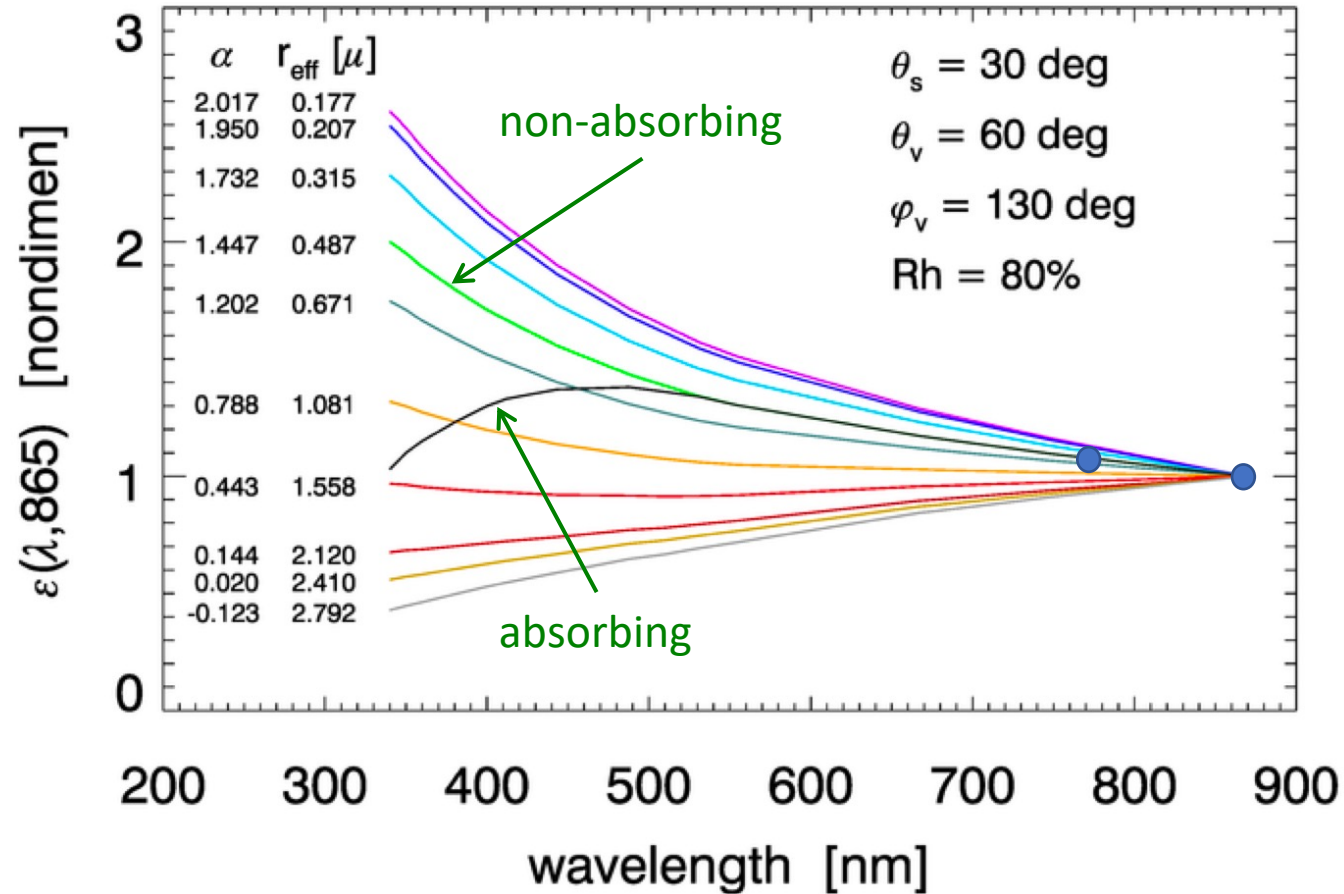


Q: Why not use a wavelength near 350 or 400 nm, which could distinguish between absorbing and nonabsorbing aerosols?

A: the water isn't black

Q: Why not use a wavelength < 300 nm, where the ocean is again black due to high CDOM and water absorption?

atmospheric correction (currently) assumes no absorbing aerosols

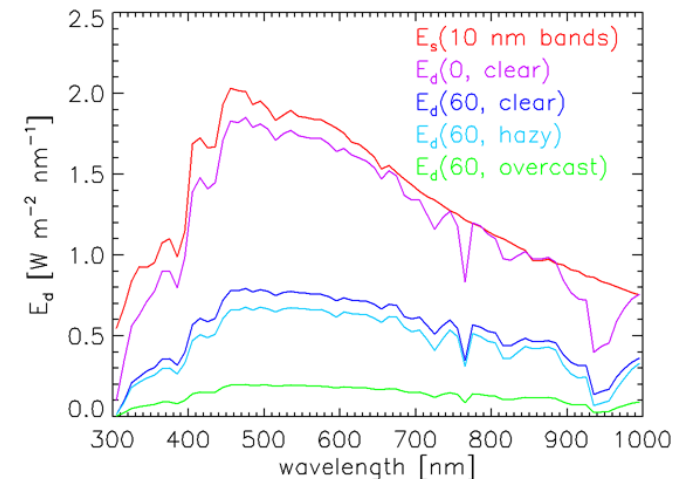


Q: Why not use a wavelength near 350 or 400 nm, which could distinguish between absorbing and nonabsorbing aerosols?

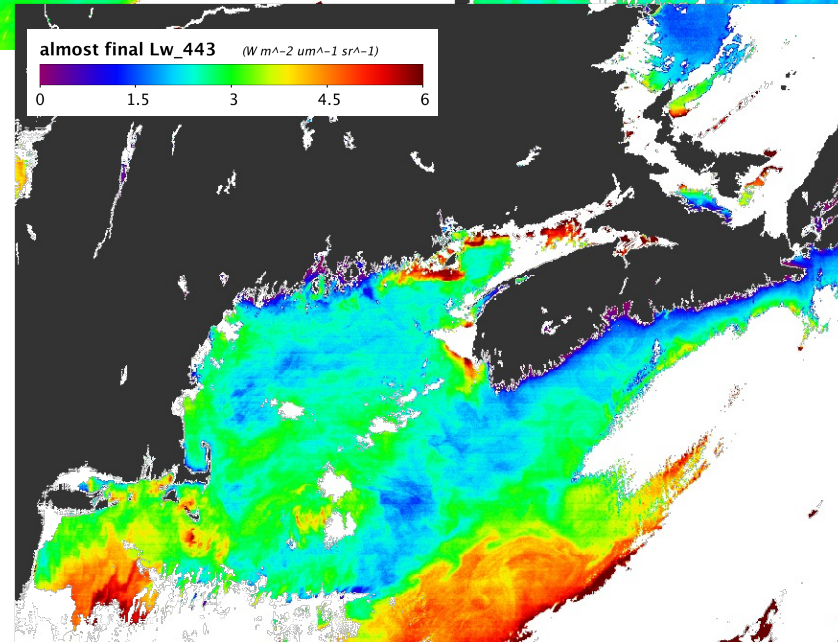
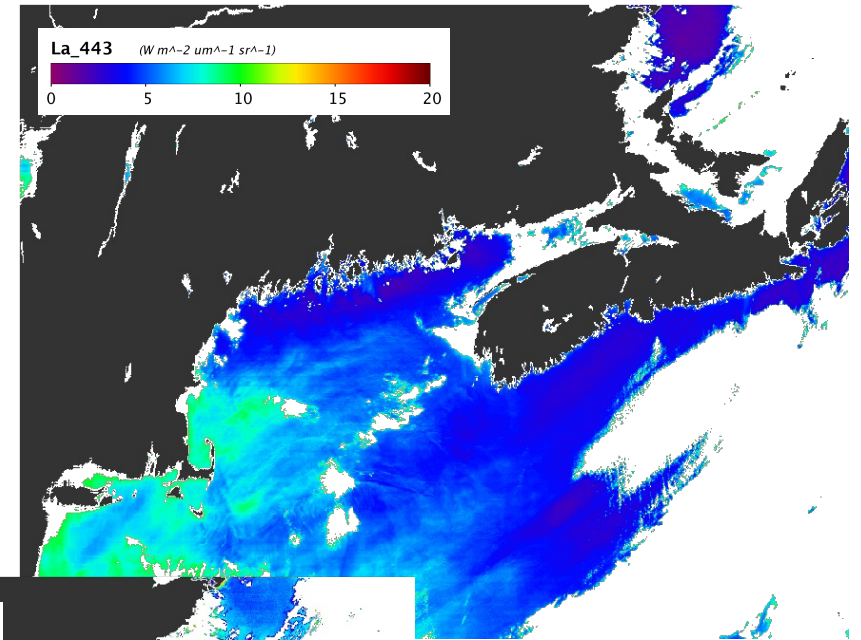
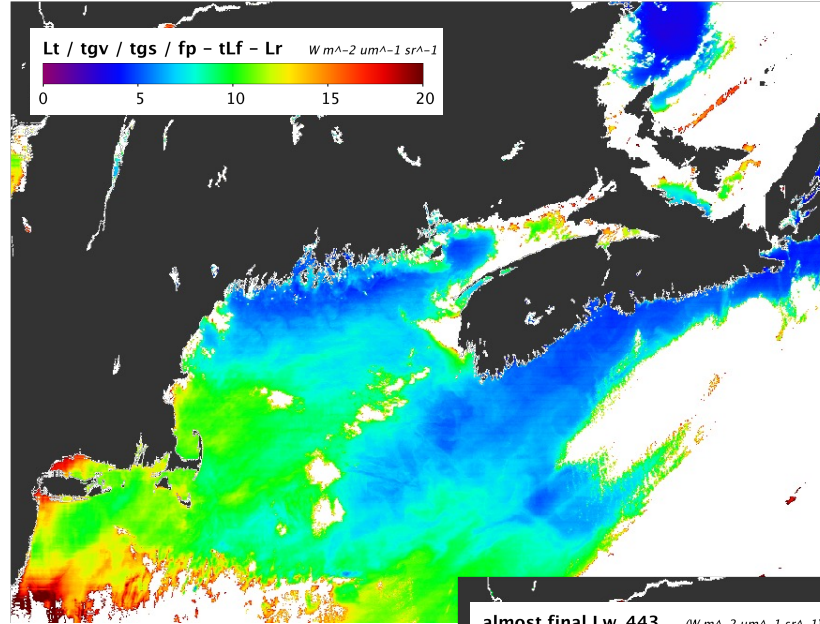
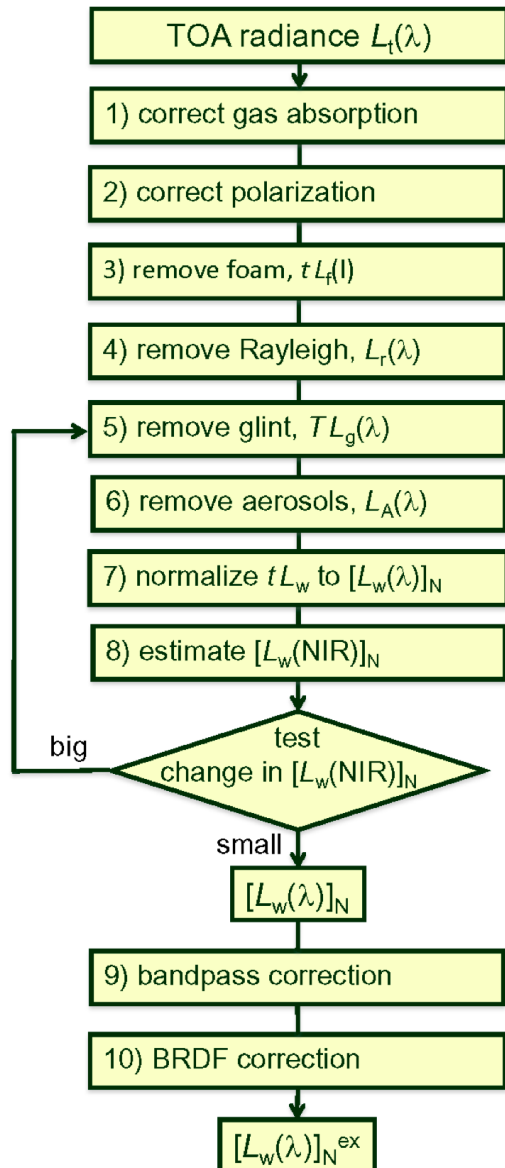
A: The water isn't black

Q: Why not use a wavelength < 300 nm, where the ocean is again black due to high CDOM and water absorption?

A: There ain't no sunlight



processing cadence: $L_t / t_{gv} / t_{gs} / f_p - tL_f - L_r - TL_g - L_a$

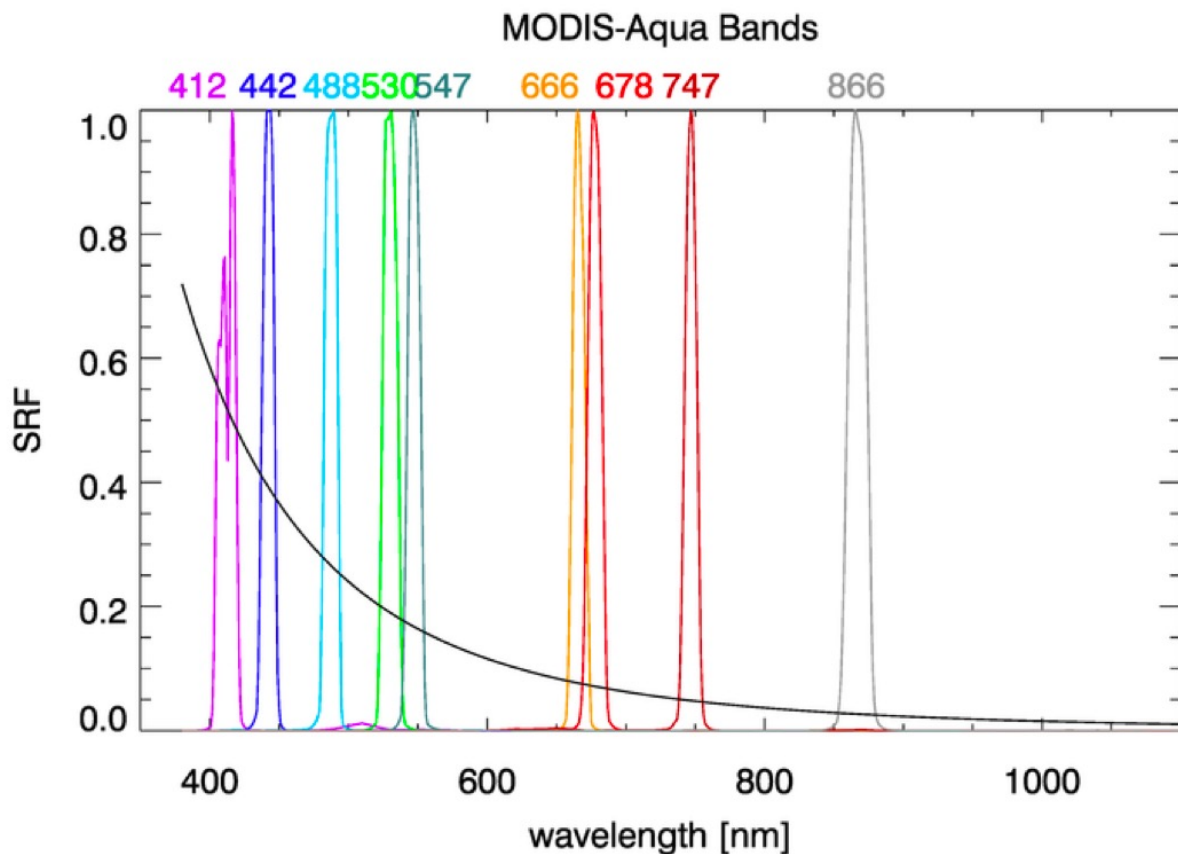


spectral bandpass correction

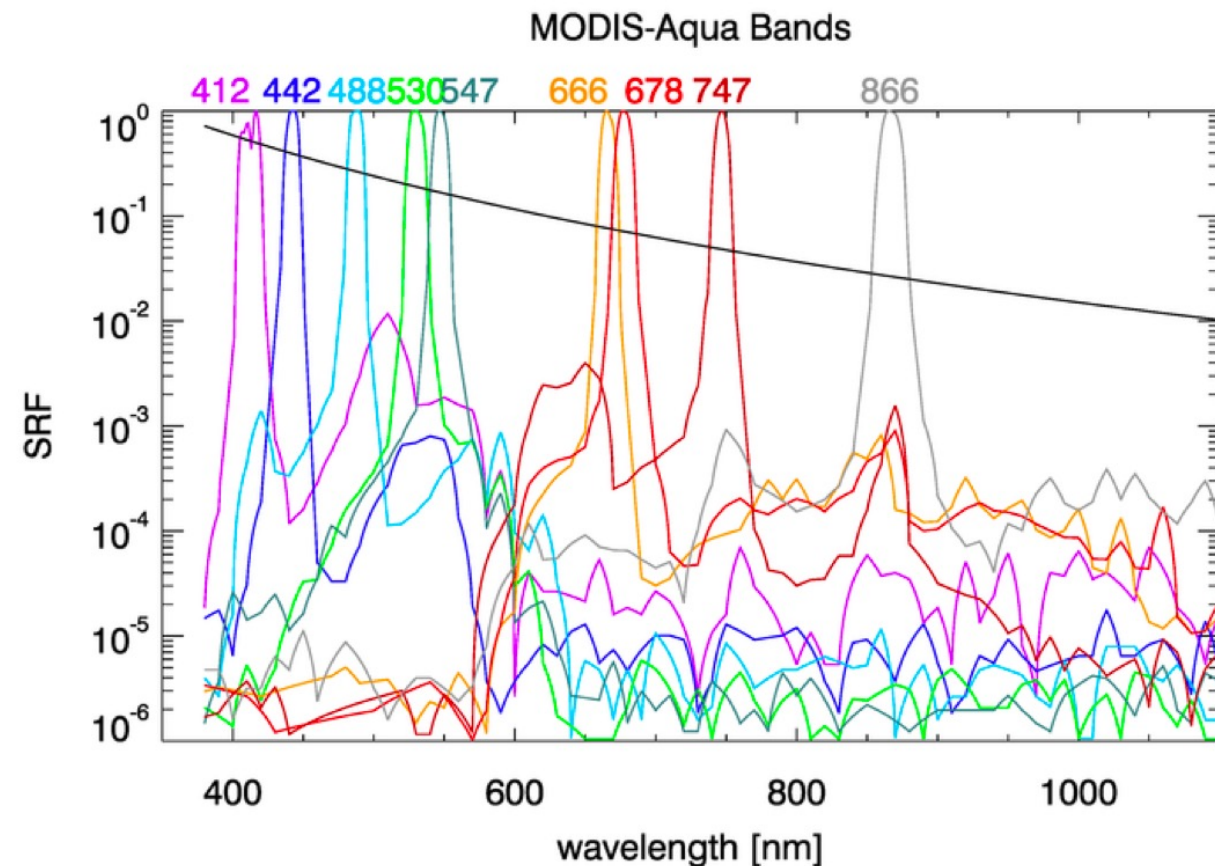
$$L_t = \left(L_r + [L_a + L_{ra}] + t_{dv} L_f + t_{dv} L_w \right) t_{gv} t_{gs} f_p + T L_g$$

$$R_{rs} = \frac{L_w}{F_0 \cos(\theta_s) t_{ds} f_s f_b f_\lambda}$$

instrument spectral bandpasses



sensor bands appear well separated
on a linear axis



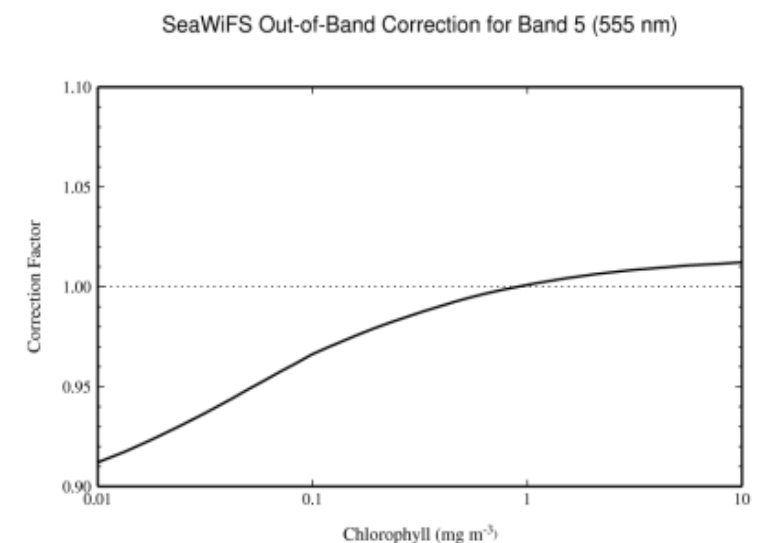
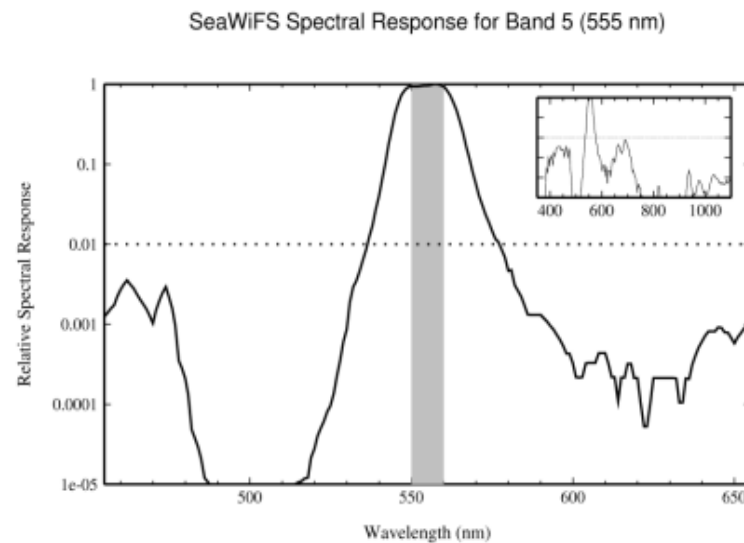
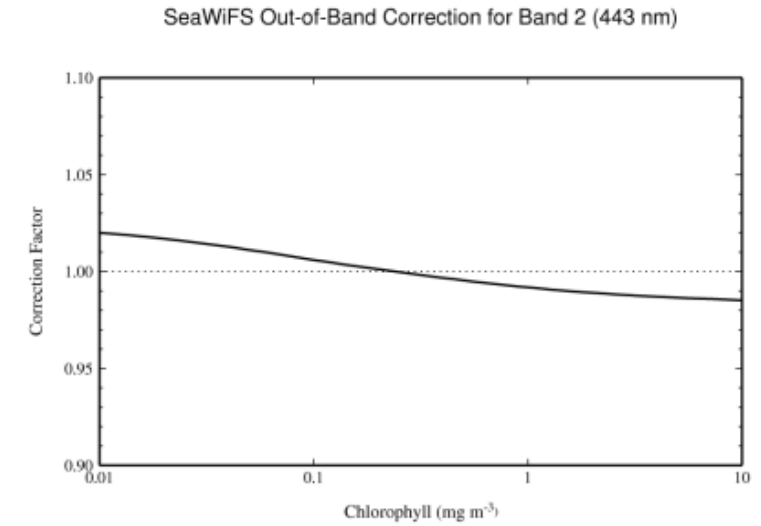
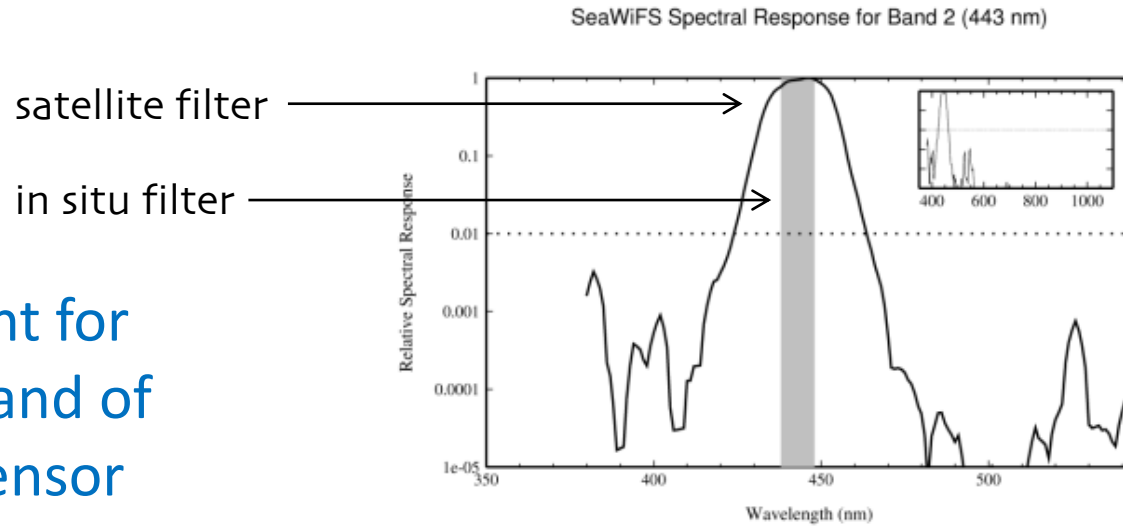
however, sensor band response overlaps
enough to cause problems

correction for light that comes from outside the nominal wavelength band

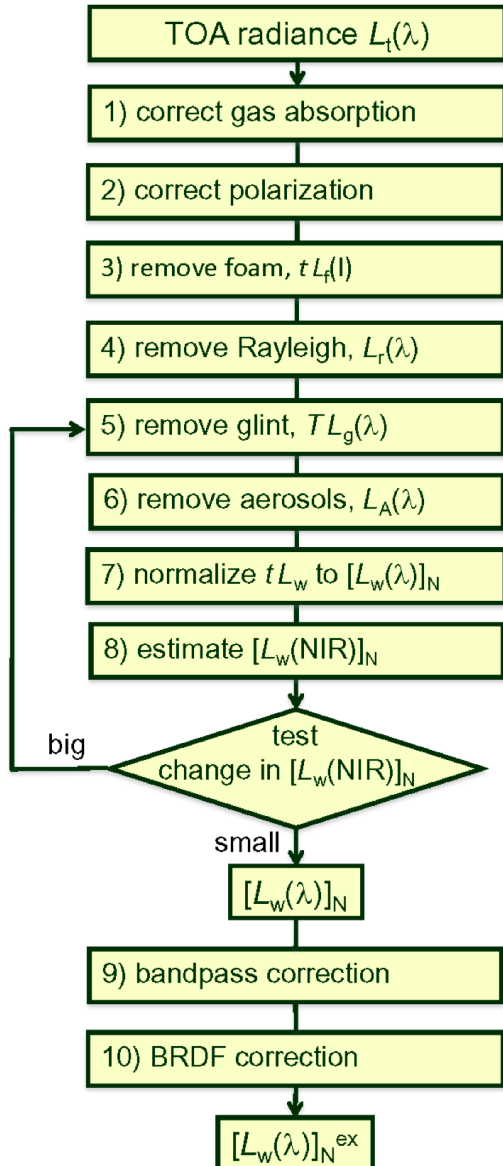
different for each band of each sensor

correction uses a clear-water (Morel) reflectance model

see SeaWiFS post-launch TM vol. 22



processing cadence: spectral bandpass correction



take care when executing satellite-to-in situ match-ups

Example for heritage multi-spectral satellite instruments:

when using multispectral in situ radiometers:
enable the bandpass adjustment

when using hyperspectral in situ radiometers:
enable the adjustment when applying 10-nm filter to in situ R_{rs}
disable the adjustment when applying full-spectral-response to in situ R_{rs}

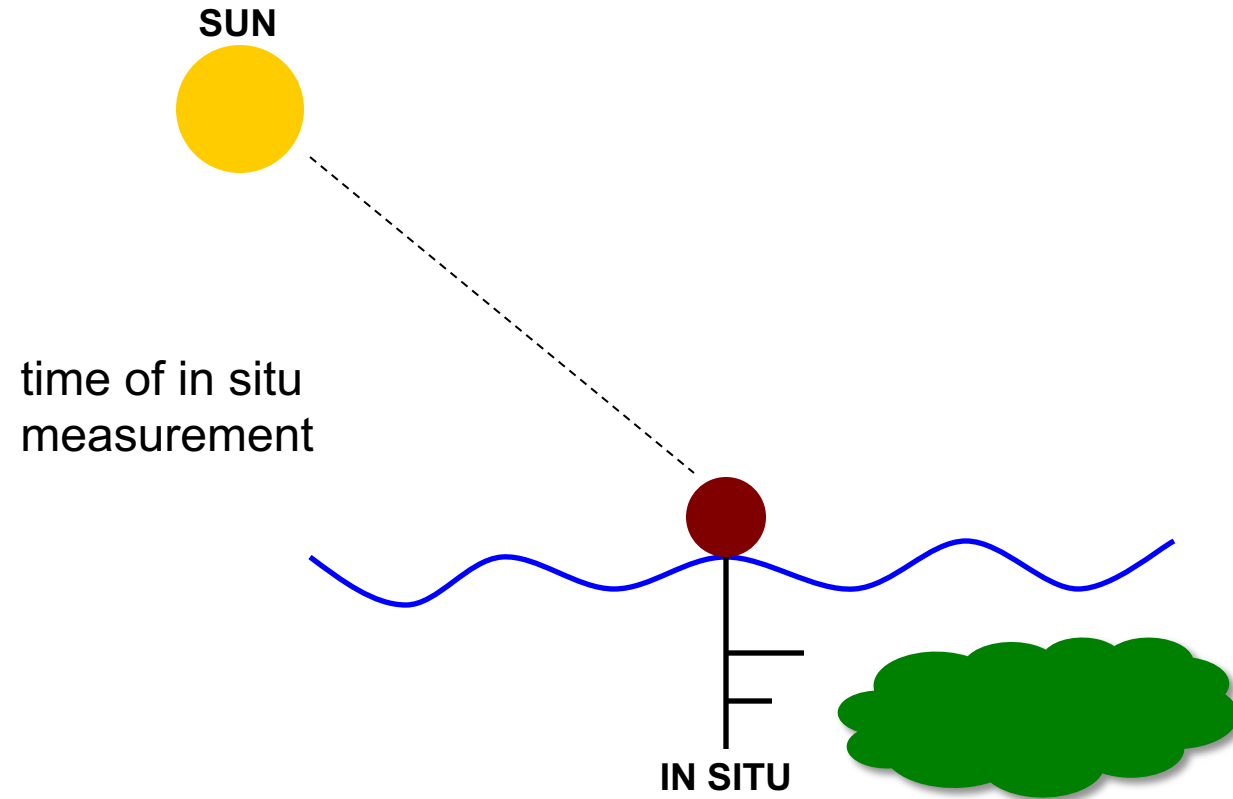
bidirectional reflectance correction

$$L_t = \left(L_r + [L_a + L_{ra}] + t_{dv} L_f + t_{dv} L_w \right) t_{gv} t_{gs} f_p + T L_g$$

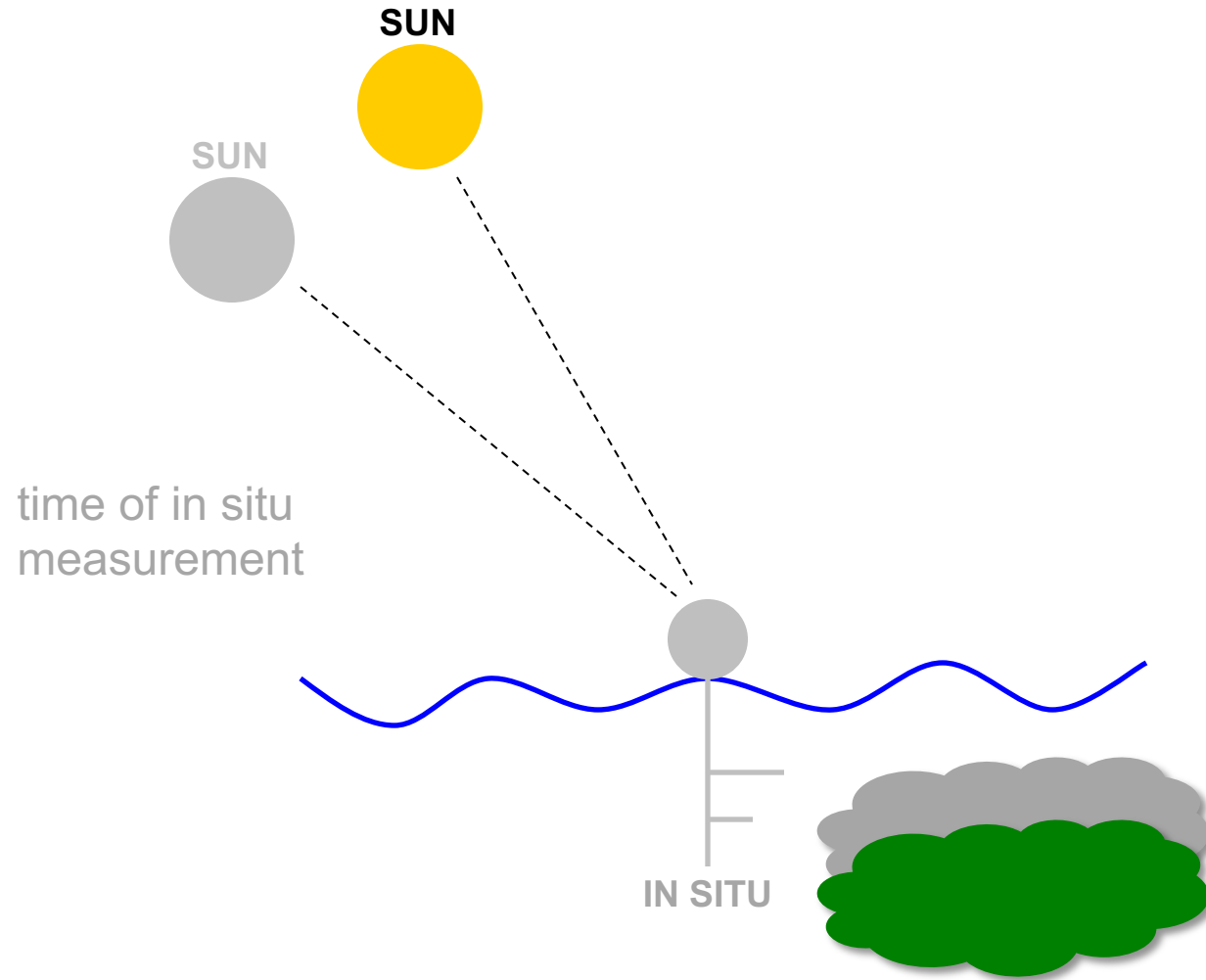
$$R_{rs} = \frac{L_w}{F_0 \cos(\theta_s) t_{ds} f_s f_b f_\lambda}$$



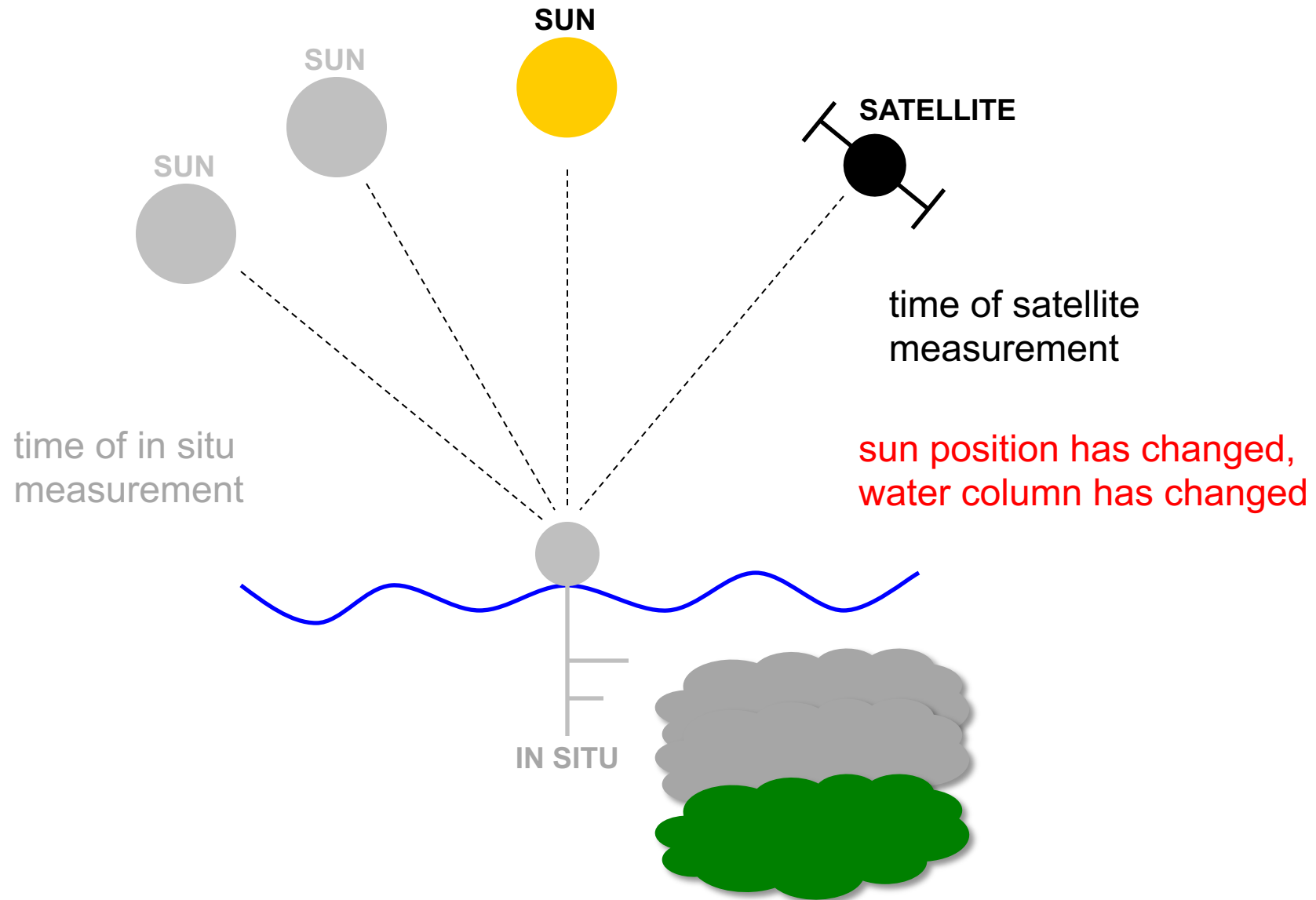
bidirectional reflectance correction



bidirectional reflectance correction



bidirectional reflectance correction



bidirectional reflectance correction

we normalize R_{rs} to account for Sun's changing position in the sky:

- pathlengths through atmosphere
- transmission of light through air-sea & sea-air interfaces
- angular features of in-water volume scattering functions

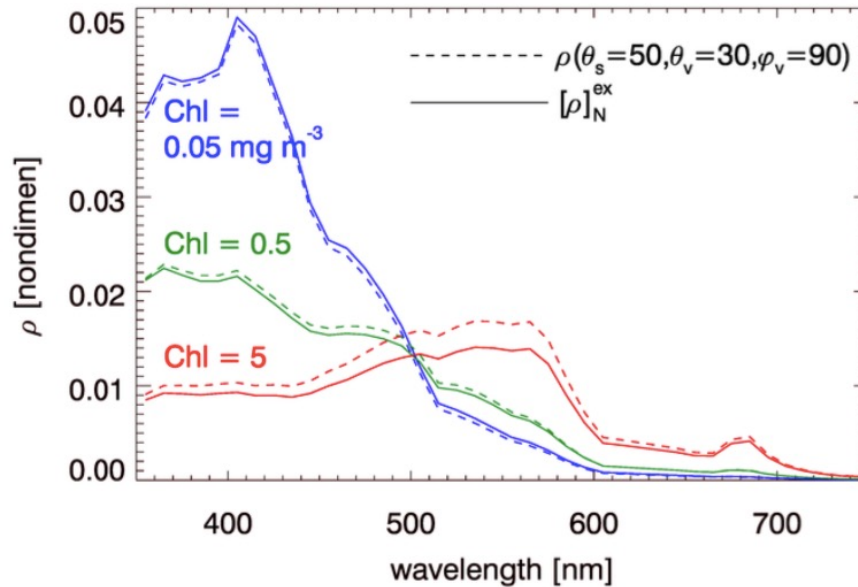
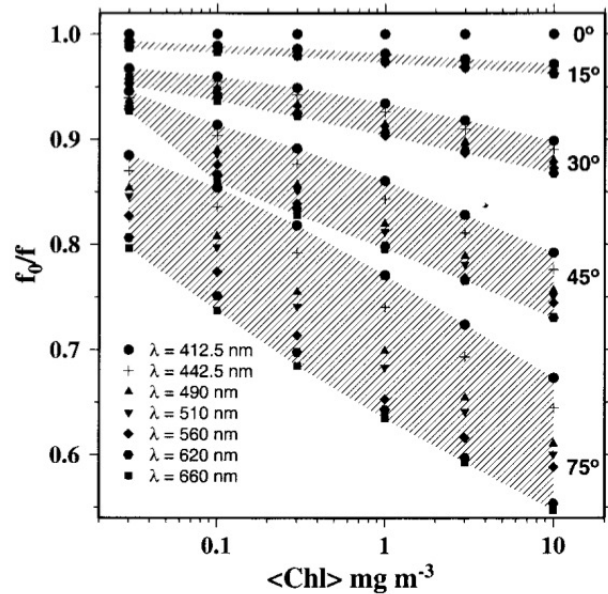
$$[L_w]_N^{\text{ex}} \equiv [L_w(\theta_v, \phi)]_N \frac{\mathfrak{R}_o(W)}{\mathfrak{R}(\theta'_v, W)} \frac{f_o(\text{ATM}, W, \text{IOP})}{Q_o(\text{ATM}, W, \text{IOP})} \left[\frac{f(\theta_s, \text{ATM}, W, \text{IOP})}{Q(\theta_s, \theta'_v, \phi, \text{ATM}, W, \text{IOP})} \right]^{-1}$$

Morel et al., Applied Optics, 2002

$\mathfrak{R}, \mathfrak{R}_o, f, f_o, Q, Q_o$ from look-up-tables based on Chl & geometries of Sun & sensor

to normalize all measurements (no subscript) to condition of overhead Sun (subscript $_o$)

bidirectional reflectance correction



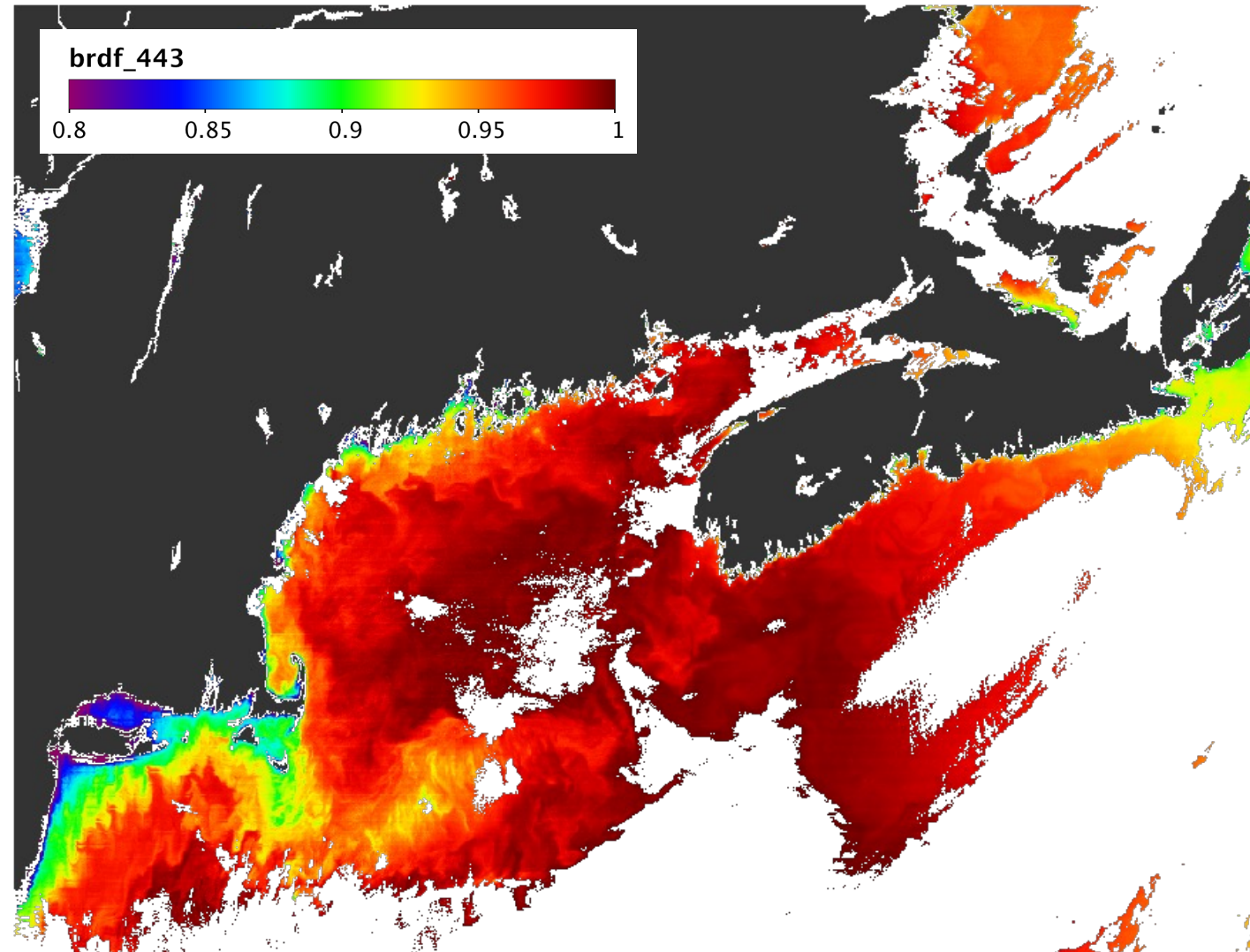
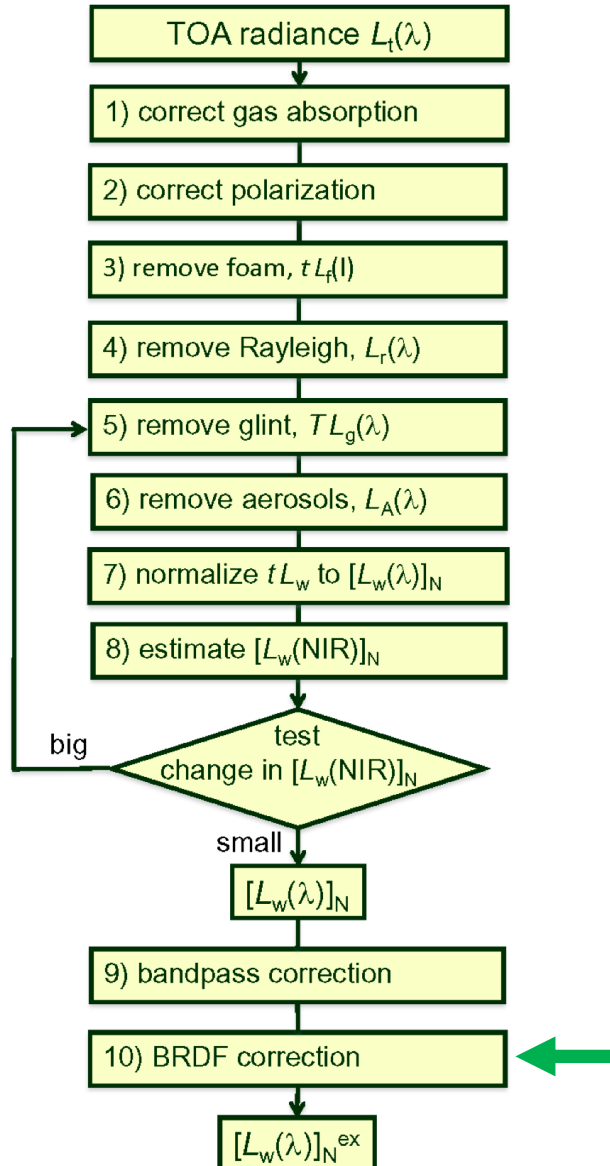
$$[L_w]_N^{\text{ex}} \equiv [L_w(\theta_v, \phi)]_N \frac{\mathfrak{R}_o(W)}{\mathfrak{R}(\theta'_v, W)} \frac{f_o(\text{ATM}, W, \text{IOP})}{Q_o(\text{ATM}, W, \text{IOP})} \left[\frac{f(\theta_s, \text{ATM}, W, \text{IOP})}{Q(\theta_s, \theta'_v, \phi, \text{ATM}, W, \text{IOP})} \right]^{-1}$$

Morel et al., Applied Optics, 2002

$\mathfrak{R}, \mathfrak{R}_o, f, f_o, Q, Q_o$ from look-up-tables based on Chl & geometries of Sun & sensor

to normalize all measurements (no subscript) to condition of overhead Sun (subscript $_o$)

processing cadence: BRDF correction



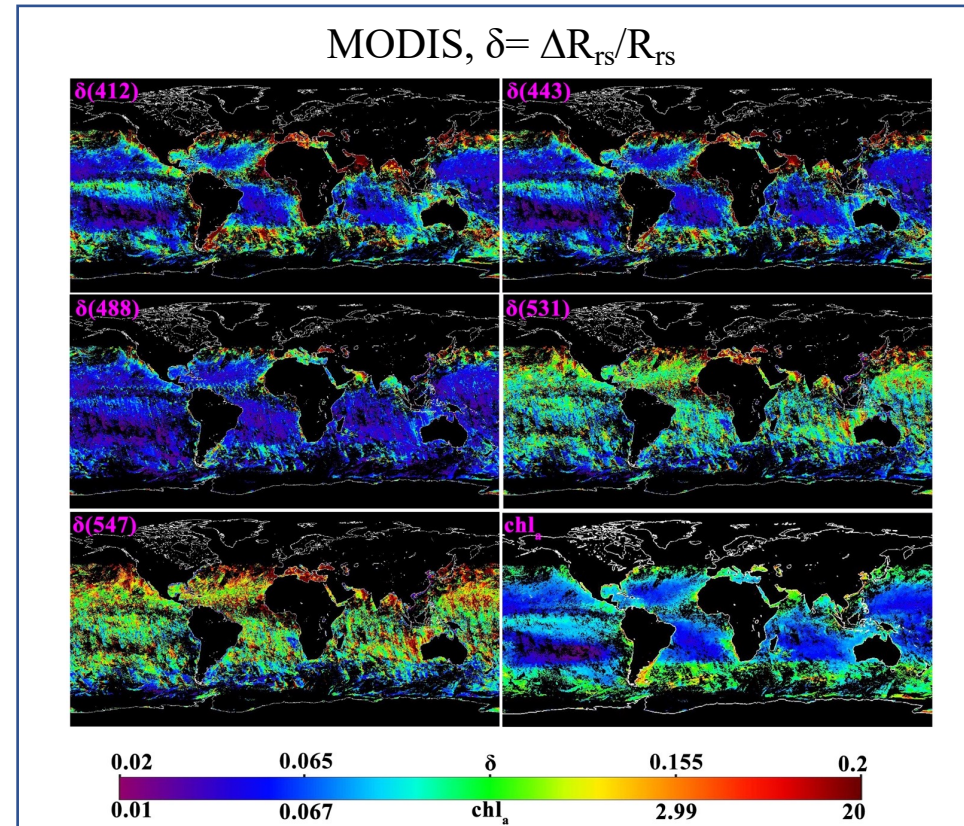
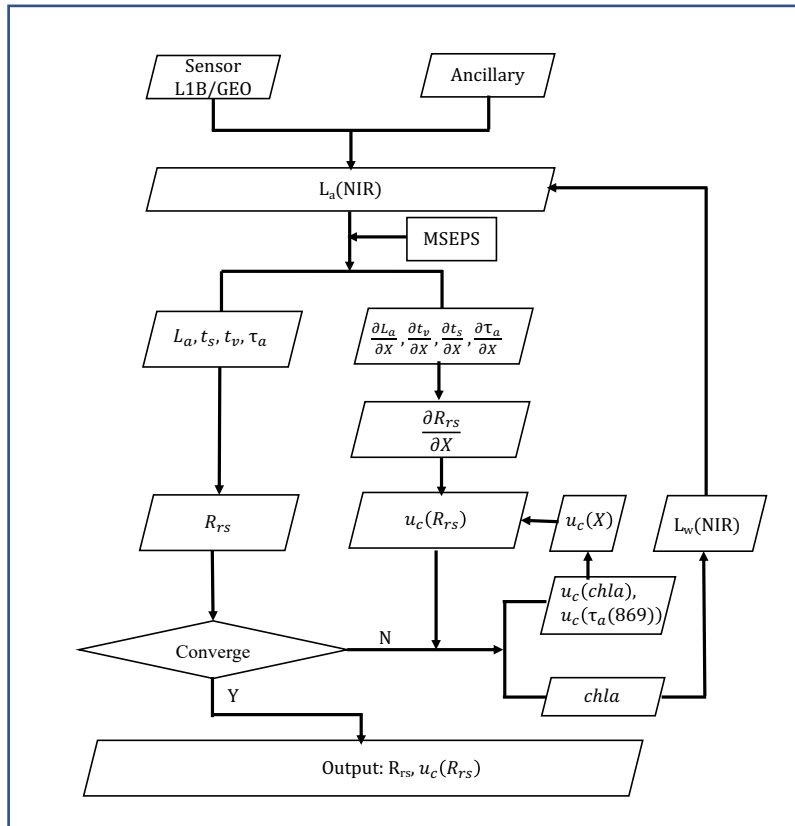
so there you have it – perfect R_{rs}

$$L_t = \overset{\checkmark}{L_r} + \overset{\checkmark}{[L_a + L_{ra}]} + \overset{\checkmark}{t_{dv}} \overset{\checkmark}{L_f} + \overset{\checkmark}{t_{dv}} \overset{\checkmark}{L_w} \overset{\checkmark}{t_{gv}} \overset{\checkmark}{t_{gs}} \overset{\checkmark}{f_p} + \overset{\checkmark}{T} \overset{\checkmark}{L_g}$$

$$R_{rs} = \frac{L_w}{\overset{\checkmark}{F_0} \overset{\checkmark}{\cos(\theta_s)} \overset{\checkmark}{t_{ds}} \overset{\checkmark}{f_s} \overset{\checkmark}{f_b} \overset{\checkmark}{f_\lambda}}$$

$R_{rs}(\lambda)$ Uncertainties

- framework for analytical propagation of instrument noise, systematic error, and AC model error to $R_{rs}(\lambda)$ uncertainty, $\Delta R_{rs}(\lambda)$, has been developed/implemented for MSEPS and MBAC.
- M. Zhang, A. Ibrahim, B.A. Franz, Z. Ahmad, and A.M. Sayer, "Estimating pixel-level uncertainty in ocean color retrievals from MODIS," Opt. Express 30, 31415-31438 (2022).



scorecard – ancillary data requirements

ancillary data

atmospheric pressure
water vapor
relative humidity
wind speed
ozone
NO₂
sea surface temperature
sea ice

ancillary source

GMAO (formerly NCEP)
GMAO (“ NCEP)
GMAO (“ NCEP)
GMAO (“ NCEP)
GMAO (“ OMI/TOMS)
GMAO (“ Sciamachy/OMI/GOME)
Reynolds
NSIDC

uses

Rayleigh
transmittance
aerosol models
white caps, Sun glint, Rayleigh
transmittance
transmittance
bio-optical algorithms
masking

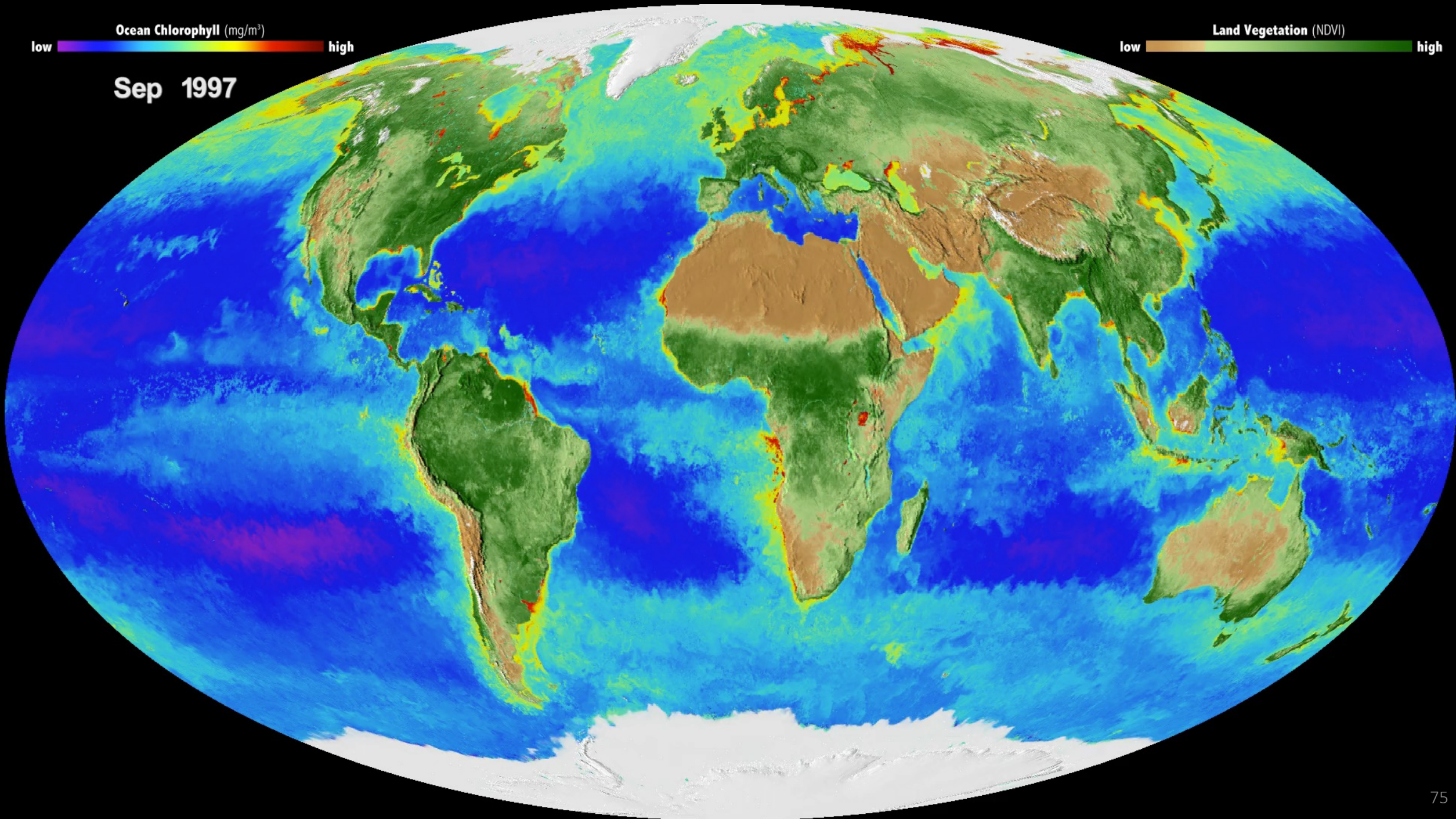
look-up tables, coefficients

aerosol models
Rayleigh
Rayleigh optical thickness
ozone absorption
NO₂ absorption
pure seawater absorption, scattering, index of refraction (temp/sal dependent)
f/Q (bidirectional reflectance distributions)
others ...

low **Ocean Chlorophyll (mg/m³)** high

low **Land Vegetation (NDVI)** high

Sep 1997



Thank you! Questions?

