

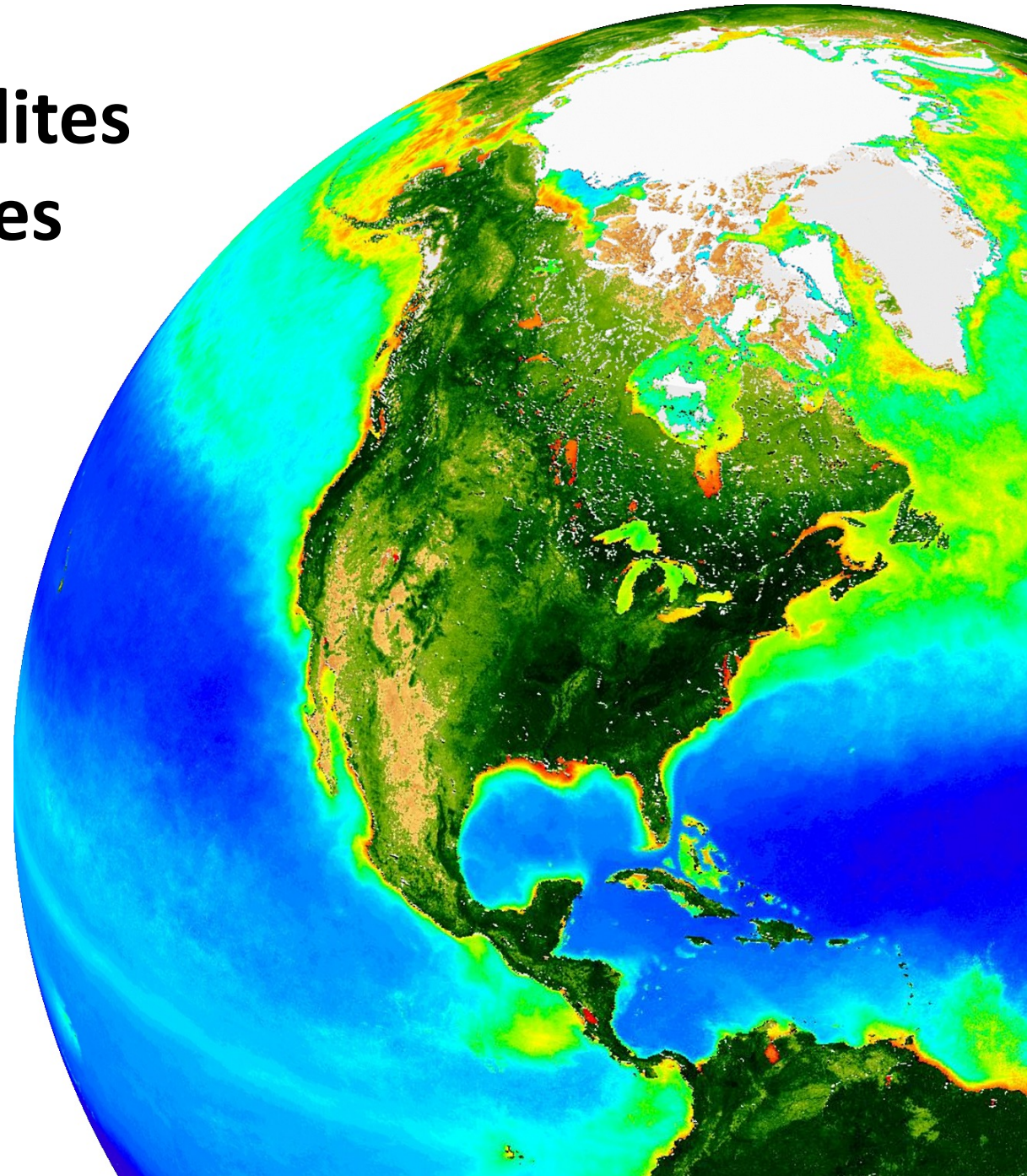
# Why don't all ocean color satellites measure hyperspectral radiances at meter-scales?

**Jeremy Werdell**

NASA Goddard Space Flight Center

Acknowledgements: Gary Davis, Bryan Monosmith,  
& **Curt Mobley**

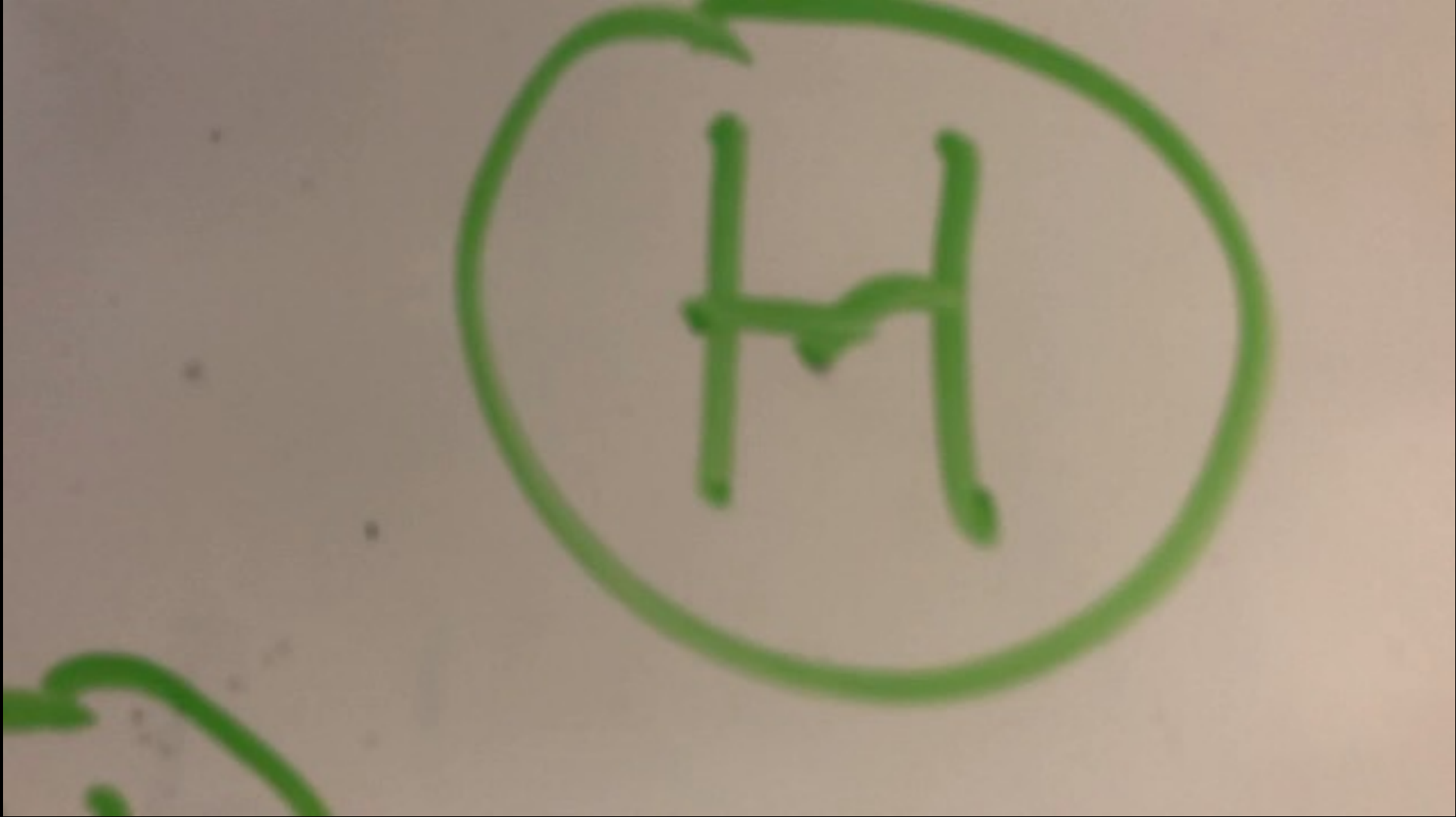
2023 Ocean Optics Summer Course



why include this talk?

my prediction is that >50% of you will someday:

1. use satellite data for your research & wish to understand engineering design choices
2. serve as members of space agency Science Definition Teams  
(or equivalent, e.g., 2017 Decadal Survey “designated observable” teams)
3. serve on satellite mission review boards or proposal panels
4. write proposals for new missions



# chasing photons – considerations for making & maintaining useful satellite ocean color measurements



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Atmospheric Correction	
Monte Carlo Simulation	
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Surfaces	
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alternative title: the trade space within which you will work when creating an instrument design concept



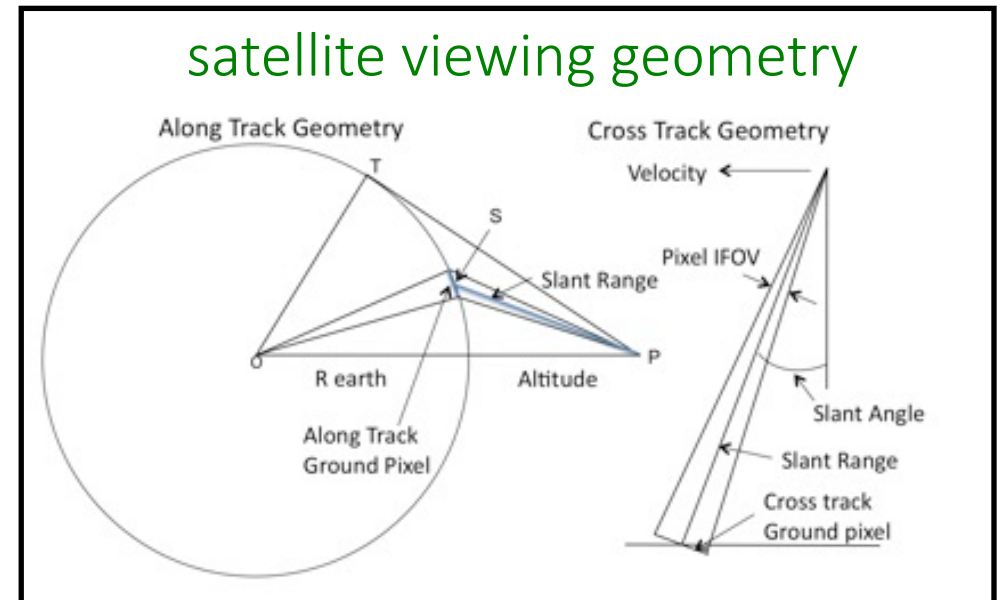
# Why don't all ocean color satellites measure hyperspectral radiances at meter-scales?

3 case studies:

- (1) stationary satellite staring at  $1 \text{ m}^2$  for  $1 \text{ s}$
- (2) moving satellite staring at  $1 \text{ m}^2$
- (3) moving satellite scanning side to side

What we will (hopefully) learn:

- how many photons leave a  $1 \text{ m}^2$  of ocean surface
- how many photons from this patch reach the satellite detector
- how many photons must the detector collect to achieve useful SNR



consider a satellite instrument with the following characteristics

Optical efficiency (OE)	= 0.66	} solid angle of aperture (sensor) as seen from earth's surface = $1.3 \text{ e}^{-14} \text{ sr}$  ground velocity = $6838 \text{ m s}^{-1}$
Quantum efficiency (QE)	= 0.9	
View angle	= 20 deg	
Aperture	= 0.009 m (90 mm)	
Altitude	= 650,000 m (650 km)	
Slant Range	= 700,000 m (700 km)	

let's focus on a fluorescence channel:

Wavelength	= 0.678 $\mu\text{m}$ (678 nm)
Bandwidth ( $\Delta\lambda$ )	= 0.01 $\mu\text{m}$ (10 nm)
Typical TOA radiance	= $14.5 \text{ W m}^{-2} \mu\text{m}^{-1} \text{ sr}^{-1}$
Desired SNR	= 2000

$$SNR = \frac{N_{\text{electrons}}}{\sqrt{N_{\text{electrons}}}}$$

( oversimplification; assumes  
no dark current or noise )

# consider a **stationary** satellite taking a quick peek at Earth

power reaching detector for **1 m<sup>2</sup> areal footprint** & **1 s integration time**:

$$P_{detector} = L \Omega_{aperature} Area_{surface} OE \Delta\lambda$$

$$1.24e^{-15} = 14.5 \quad 1.3e^{-14} \quad 1 \quad 0.66 \quad 0.01$$

$$W = W m^{-2} sr^{-1} \mu m^{-1} \quad sr \quad m^2 \quad (none) \quad \mu m$$

photoelectrons reaching detector:

$$N_{electrons} = P_{detector} t QE \lambda h^{-1} c^{-1}$$

$$3812 = 1.24e^{-15} \quad 1 \quad 0.9 \quad 0.678 \quad (6.63e^{-34})^{-1} \quad (3e^{14})^{-1}$$

$$(none) = J s^{-1} \quad s \quad (none) \quad \mu m \quad J^{-1} s^{-1} \quad s \mu m^{-1}$$

integration time  
needs to be raised  
to 8 minutes to get  
SNR of ~ 1400

This is for top-of-atmosphere.

If we consider that the ocean contributes ~5% of this signal, then the **number of photoelectrons from the ocean surface reaching the detector is ~190.**

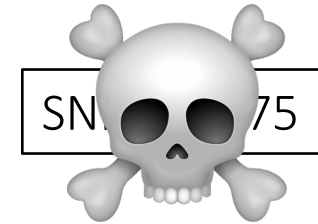
$$SNR = \sim 62$$

consider a **moving** satellite that stares at **1 m<sup>2</sup> at nadir**

$$\begin{aligned}\text{ground velocity} &= \text{distance} / \text{time} \\ 6838 \text{ m s}^{-1} &= 1 \text{ m} / t \\ \text{integration time} &= 0.000146 \text{ s}\end{aligned}$$

repeat calculations with new integration time:

**photoelectrons from ocean surface reaching detector = 0.028**



but, increase pixel size to **1 km<sup>2</sup>** ...

integration time increases by 3 orders of magnitude

area increases by 6 orders of magnitude

repeat calculations with new area and integration time:

**photoelectrons from ocean surface reaching detector ~ 28,000,000**

SNR = ~ 23000

major reason why pushbroom instruments are attractive ...  
SNR ~ 2900 for a 250 m pixel



# consider a **moving** satellite that scans from side-to-side

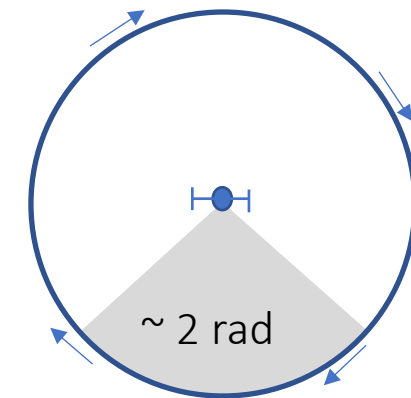
$$\begin{aligned} \text{instantaneous field of view (IFOV)} &= \text{pixel size} / \text{altitude} \\ 0.0014 \text{ rad} &= 1 \text{ km} / 700 \text{ km} \end{aligned}$$

scanning instrument  
like SeaWiFS & PACE

a swath width of  $\sim 2$  rad translates to  $\sim 1,400$  pixels:

$$1,400 = \frac{\text{swath width}}{\text{IFOV}} = \frac{2 \text{ rad}}{0.0014 \text{ rad}}$$

dividing the 28M photoelectrons by 1,400 pixels leaves  $\sim 19,900$  photoelectrons from the ocean surface reaching the detector



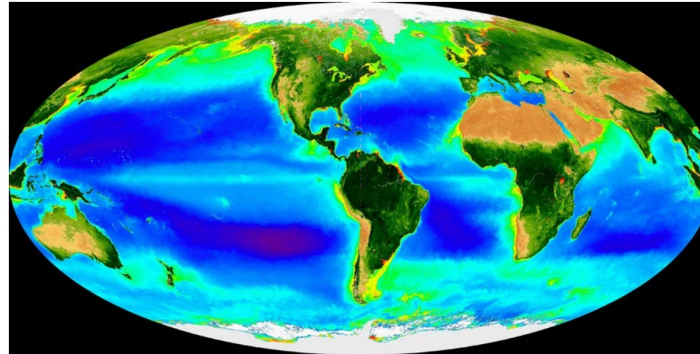
useful duty cycle of scan mirror is  $< 1/3$ , **so really, we're talking about  $\sim 6,000$  ocean surface photons**

propagate this to TOA results in  $\sim 120,000$  photons reach detector

SNR  $\approx 346$

consider a **moving** satellite that scans from side-to-side

**Pre-Aerosol, Clouds, and ocean Ecosystem (PACE) Mission Science Definition Team Report**



October 16, 2012

Requires >16x photons reaching the detector

$\lambda$	Band Width (nm)	Spatial Resol. (km <sup>2</sup> )	$L_{typ}$	$L_{max}$	SNR-Spec
350	15	1	7.46	35.6	300
360	15	1	7.22	37.6	1000
385	15	1	6.11	38.1	1000
412	15	1	7.86	60.2	1000
425	15	1	6.95	58.5	1000
443	15	1	7.02	66.4	1000
460	15	1	6.83	72.4	1000
475	15	1	6.19	72.2	1000
490	15	1	5.31	68.6	1000
510	15	1	4.58	66.3	1000
532	15	1	3.92	65.1	1000
555	15	1	3.39	64.3	1000
583	15	1	2.81	62.4	1000
617	15	1	2.19	58.2	1000
640	10	1	1.90	56.4	1000
655	15	1	1.67	53.5	1000
665	10	1	1.60	53.6	1000
678	10	4	1.45	51.9	2000
710	15	1	1.19	48.9	1000
748	10	1	0.93	44.7	600
820	15	1	0.59	39.3	600
865	40	1	0.45	33.3	600
1240	20	1	0.088	15.8	250
1640	40	1	0.029	8.2	180
2130	50	1	0.008	2.2	15

useful duty cycle of scan mirror is < 1/3, so really, we're talking about ~6,000 ocean surface photons

propagate this to TOA results in ~120,000 photons reach detector

SNR = ~ 346

satellite instruments come in all shapes and sizes and have varying capabilities

how does one choose what to use / build?

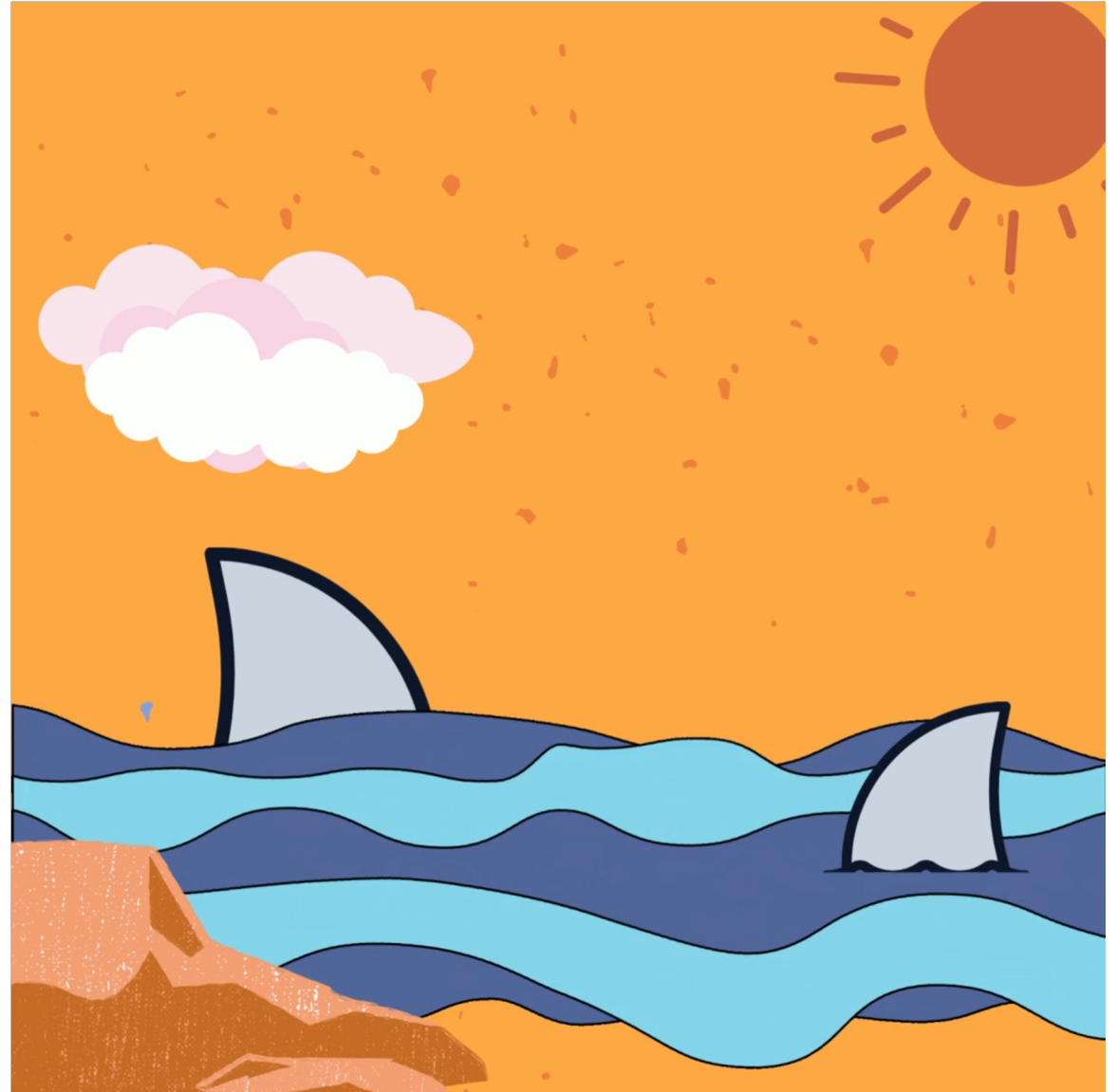
how would you design a mission to monitor coastal harmful algal blooms?



# Optics Class Class Shark tank exercise

(aka build a  
mission with your  
new co-PIs)

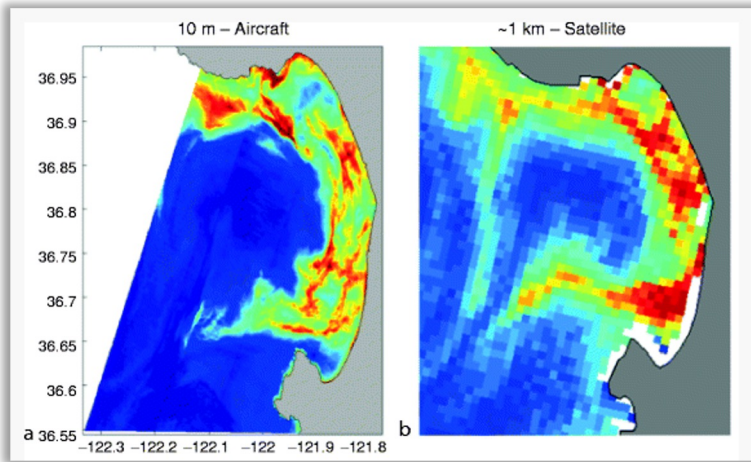
Ryan and Ivona  
and Jeremy



# Goal – build your own mission

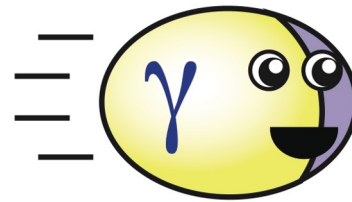
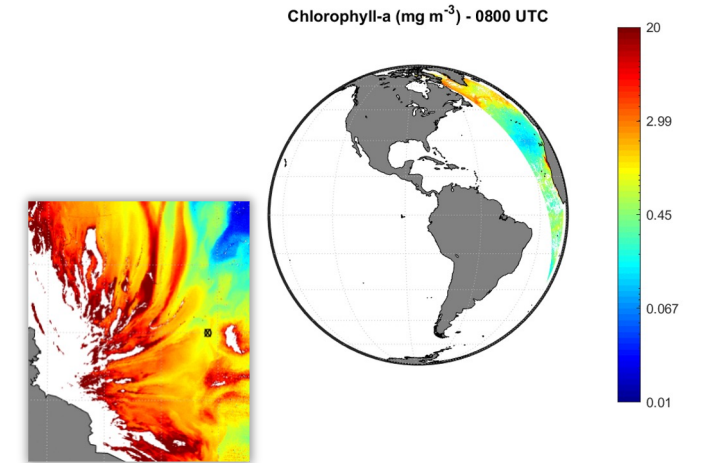
1. Find your team members (maybe groups of 5?)
2. Think about the assigned science question (coastal HABs)
3. Think what kind of space-based observation would you need to get data to address that question (you can copy already existing missions a bit)
4. Your budget is 100\$ (and you are cost capped) – go shopping
5. Cool acronym (or yeah not a real mission)

# The battle over the happy photon



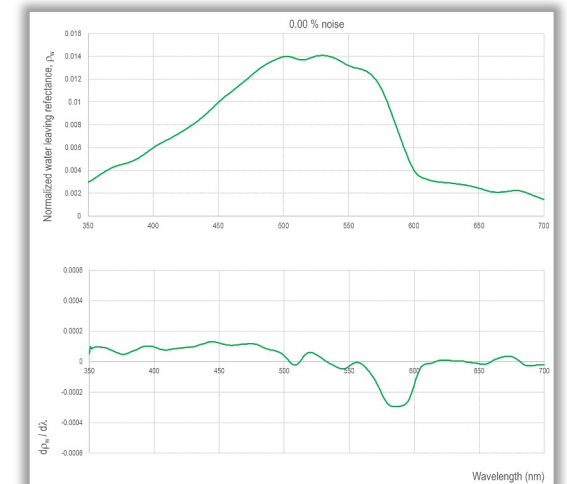
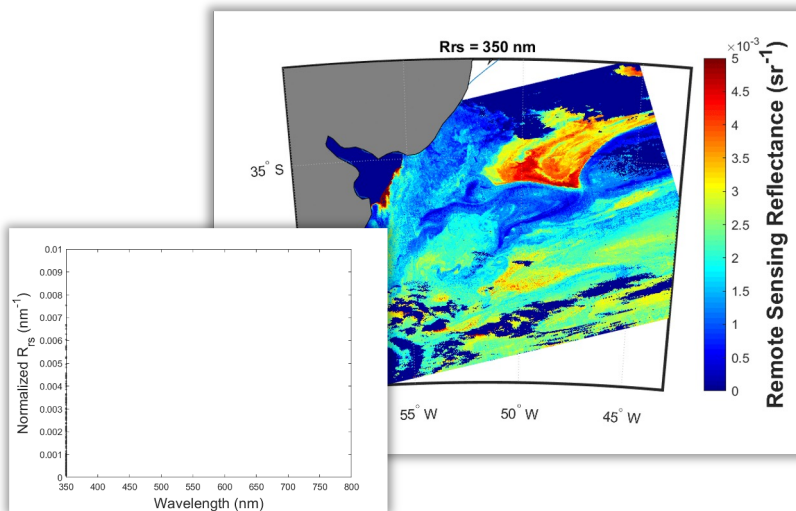
Spatial  
resolution

Temporal  
resolution



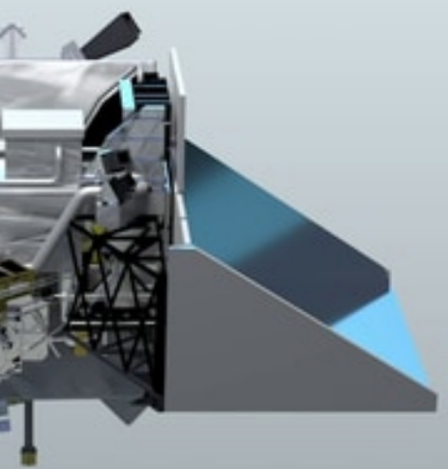
Spectral  
resolution

Signal to  
Noise



# SATELLITE

Cafe



## INSTRUMENTS (VIS)

multispectral (10) radiometer	\$35
HYPERSPECTRAL radiometer	\$55
multispectral (3) radiometer	\$25
Hyperspec, multiangle polarimeter	\$45
lidar, single channel	\$50
instrument yet to be invented	\$80
multispec (4), multiangle polarimeter	\$40

## SPATIAL RES

1 km (radiometer)	\$25
300 m (radiometer)	\$40
1 km (polarimeter)	\$50
10 m (radiometer)	\$65
2-3 km (radiometer)	\$25

## TEMPORAL RES

DAILY	\$25
7-10 DAYS	\$10
MULTIPLE TIMES A DAY (GEO)	\$35
MULTIPLE TIMES A DAY (constellation)	\$20

## ADD ONS

SWIR	\$10
UV	\$10
THERMAL	\$15
additional bands in vis	\$2
additional angles	\$4
more than occasional artifact	-\$7
low SNR (lower than pace instr)	-\$15
higher-than-planned SNR at spec. range	-\$5
Calibration (MORE reliable): On board calibrator	\$5
Calibration (LESS reliable): Cross calibrate with existing sensors	-\$5

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GRATUITY (AKA  
LAUNCH +  
SPACECRAFT) = 20%

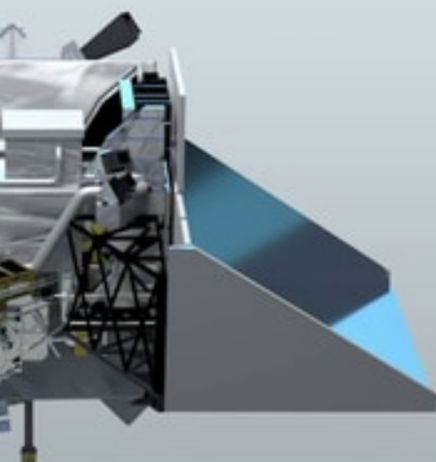
OPEN :  
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7 AM - 5 PM

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Any City, ST 12345



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Cafe



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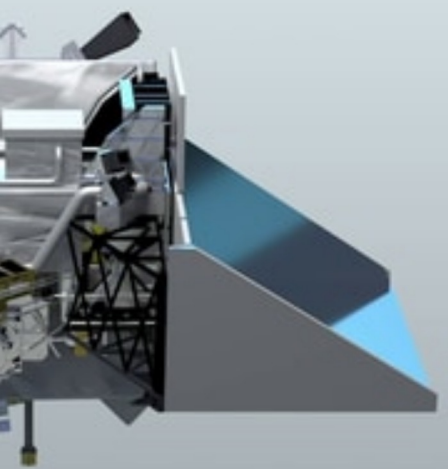
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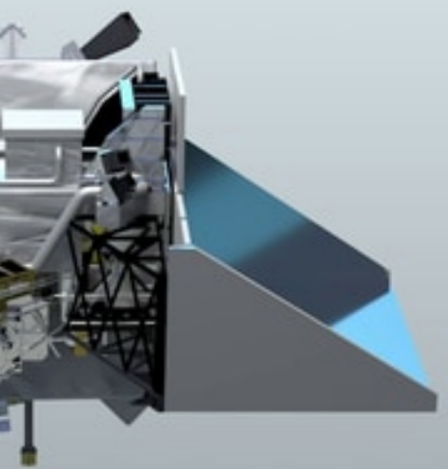
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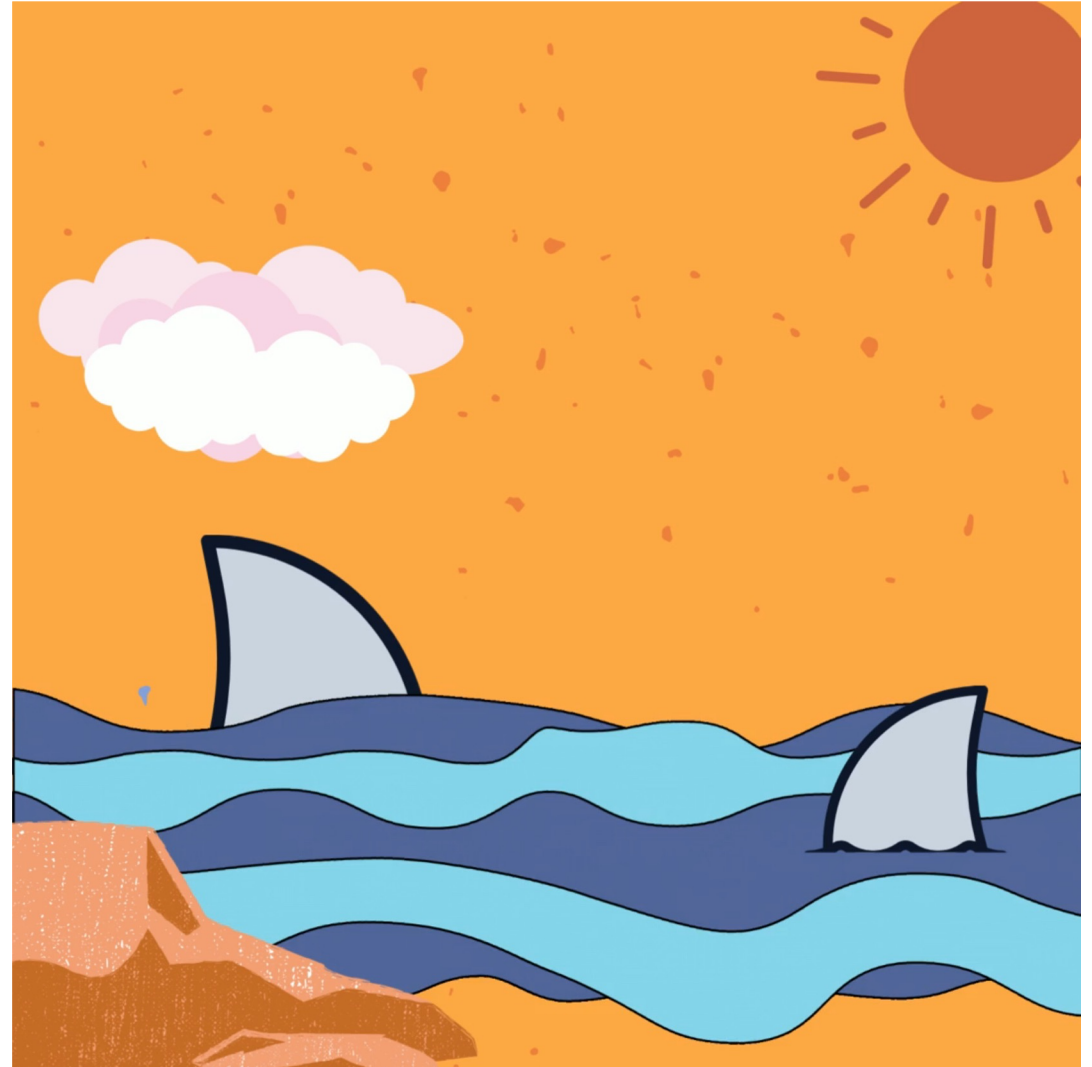
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# What if you go over the budget?

- Well – the review panel (or HQ) will decide.
- You fly or you get eaten by sharks.



What measurements & data products?

All of them.

What instruments? Active? Passive?

Both.

Spectral – what wavelengths? Thermal?

Yes please! UV-to-~~SWIR~~ plus thermal.

Spectral – what resolution?

Hyperspectral, of course.

What spatial footprint?

The smaller the better. 10 m!

What repeatability?

Daily global, duh. Phytos are transient.

What allowable image quality?

High SNRs, no image artifacts.

What temporal stability?

Change is bad.

You can't have this mission  
(from orbit alone anyway).

You have neither the budget ...  
... nor the technology.

And certain aspects of the design are in  
conflict with each other.

So ... we make compromises based on  
overarching science objectives.



# current & future missions – it's a consumer's market



SENSOR / DATA LINK	AGENCY	SATELLITE	LAUNCH DATE	SWATH (KM)	SPATIAL RESOLUTION (M)	BANDS	SPECTRAL COVERAGE (NM)	SPECTRAL RESPONSE FUNCTION	EQUATORIAL CROSSING TIME
COCTS CZI	NSOAS/CAST (China)	HY-1D	11 June 2020	3000 950	1100 50	10 4	402 - 12,500 433 - 885		13:30
COCTS CZI	NSOAS/CAST (China)	HY-1C	7 September 2018	3000 950	1100 50	10 4	402 - 12,500 433 - 885		10:30
GOCE-II Geostationary	KARI/KIOST (South Korea)	GeoKompsat-2B	18 February 2020	2500 x 2500	250	13	380 - 900	SRF-link	10 times/day
MODIS-Aqua	NASA (USA)	Aqua (EOS-PM1)	4 May 2002	2330	250/500/1000	36	405-14,385	SRF-link	13:30
MODIS-Terra	NASA (USA)	Terra (EOS-AM1)	18 Dec 1999	2330	250/500/1000	36	405-14,385	SRF-link	10:30
MSI	ESA	Sentinel-2A	23 June 2015	290	10/20/60	13	442-2202	SRF-link	10:30
MSI	ESA	Sentinel-2B	7 March 2017	290	10/20/60	13	442-2186	SRF-link	10:30
OCM-2	ISRO (India)	Oceansat-2 (India)	23 Sept 2009	1420	360/4000	8	400 - 900		12:00
OLCI	ESA/ EUMETSAT	Sentinel 3A	16 Feb 2016	1270	300/1200	21	400 - 1020	SRF-link	10:00
OLCI	ESA/ EUMETSAT	Sentinel 3B	25 April 2018	1270	300/1200	21	400 - 1020	SRF-link	10:00
SGLI	JAXA (Japan)	GCOM-C	23 Dec 2017	1150 - 1400	250/1000	19	375 - 12,500	SRF-link	10:30
VIIRS	NOAA (USA)	Suomi NPP	28 Oct 2011	3000	375 / 750	22	402 - 11,800	SRF-link	13:30
VIIRS	NOAA/NASA (USA)	JPSS-1/NOAA-20	18 Nov 2017	3000	370 / 740	22	402 - 11,800	SRF-link	13:30

SATELLITE	AGENCY	SENSOR / DATA LINK	LAUNCH DATE	SWATH (KM)	SPATIAL RESOLUTION (M)	# OF BANDS	SPECTRAL COVERAGE (NM)	ORBIT
HY-1E/F (China)	CNSA (China)	CZI	2021	2900 1000	1100 250	10 4	402 - 12,500 433 - 885	Polar
EnMAP	DLR (Germany)	HSI	2021-2022	30	30	242	420 - 2450	Polar
OCEANSAT-3	ISRO (India)	OCM-3	end-2021	1400	360 / 1	13	400 - 1,010	Polar
SABIA-MAR	CONAE	Multi-spectral Optical Camera	2023	200/2200	200/1100	16	380 - 11,800	Polar
PACE	NASA	OCI	2023	2000	1000	Hyperspec (5 nm, 350-890nm + 7 bands NIR-SWIR)	350-2250 nm	Polar
		SPEXone		100	2500	Hyperspec (2 nm)	385-770 nm	
		HARP-2		1550	3000	4 bands	440-870 nm	
GISAT-1	ISRO (India)	MX-VNIR HyS-VNIR HyS-SWIR	12 August 2021	470 160 190	42 320 191	6 158 256	450-875 375-1000 900-2500	Geostationary (35.786 km) at 93.5°E
SBG	NASA	*Hyper-VSWIR *TIR-Imager	2026	-185 -600	30 60-100	>200 -8	380-2500	Polar
GLIMR	NASA	*VNIR-imager *WFOV-sensor	>2023	TBD	300 133	141	340-1040	Geostationary -Cont.US coasts, Amazon, Caribbean



How to choose?

PACE

Plankton, Aerosol, Cloud, ocean Ecosystem



### PACE will support studies of:

- ocean biology, ecology, & biogeochemistry
- atmospheric aerosols
- clouds
- land

### Primary hyperspectral radiometer:

- Ocean Color Instrument (OCI) (GSFC)

### 2 contributed multi-angle polarimeters:

- HARP2 (UMBC)
- SPEXone (SRON/Airbus)

### History:

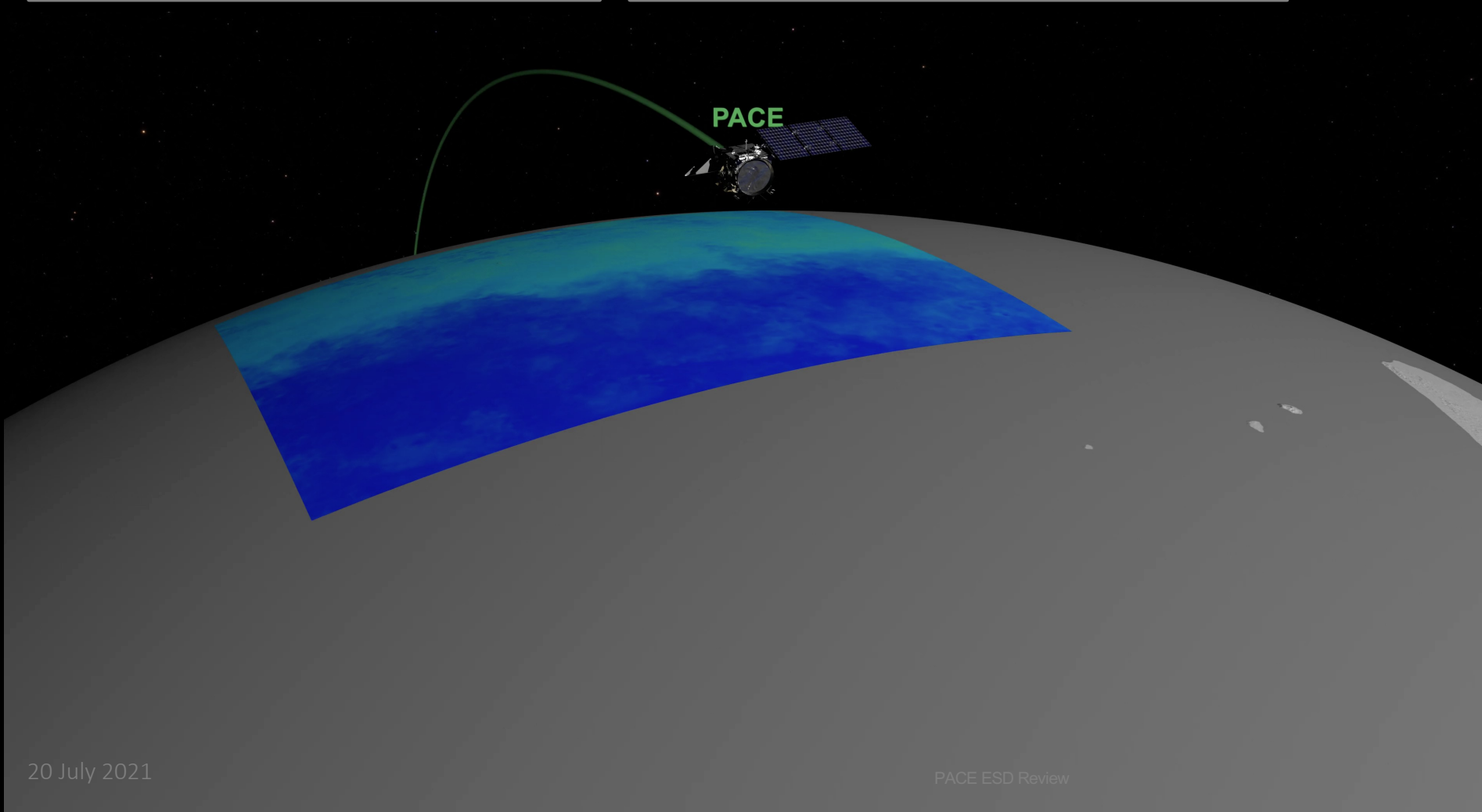
- 2003-ish preliminary concept studies
- 2011 NASA Climate Change Initiative
- 2012 Science Definition Team
- 2014 first PACE science team
- 2015 mission directed to GSFC

### Legacies:

- SeaWiFS, MODIS, VIIRS
- POLDER, MISR

### Key characteristics:

- winter 2023/24 launch
- Falcon 9 from KSC/Cape Canaveral
- 676.5 km altitude
- polar, ascending, Sun synchronous orbit; 98° inclination
- 13:00 local Equatorial crossing
- 3-yr design life; 10-yr propellant



Extend key systematic ocean biological, ecological, & biogeochemical climate data records, as well as cloud & aerosol climate data records

Make new global measurements of ocean color that are essential for understanding the global carbon cycle & ocean ecosystem responses to a changing climate

Collect global observations of aerosol & cloud properties, focusing on reducing the largest uncertainties in climate & radiative forcing models of the Earth system

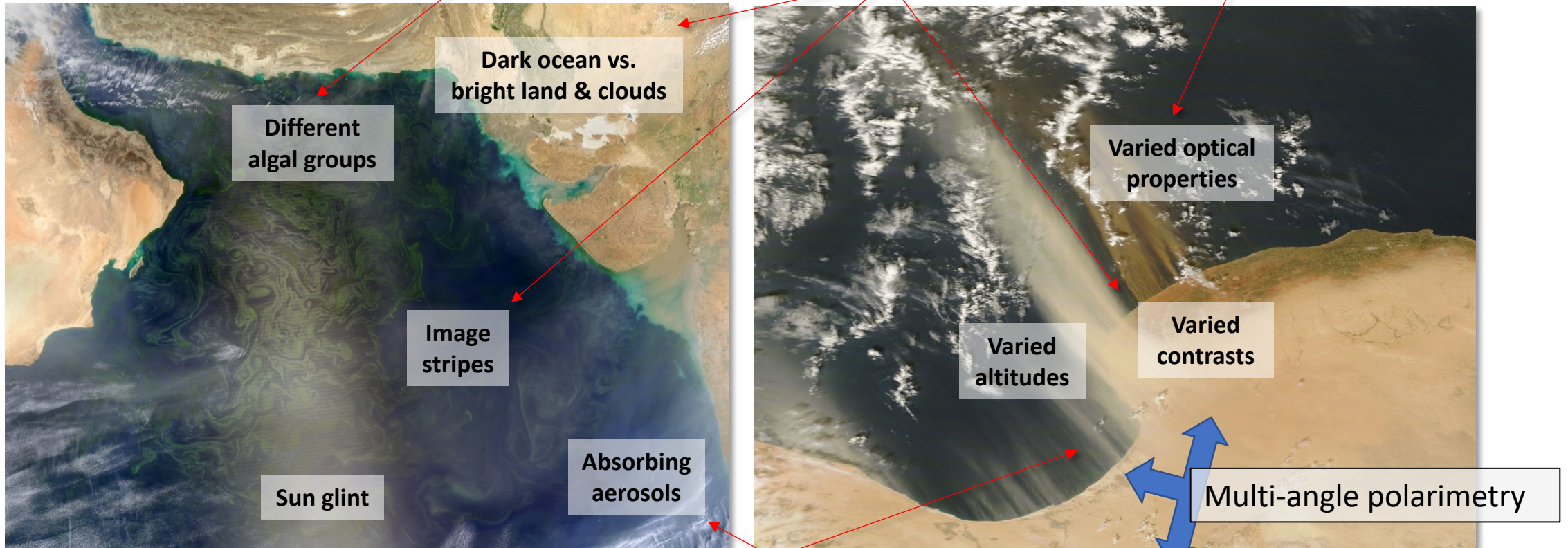
GSD of  $1 \pm 0.1 \text{ km}^2$  at nadir

Twice-monthly lunar calibration & onboard solar calibration (daily, monthly, dim)

Spectral range from 350-865 @ 5 nm

940, 1038, 1250, 1378, 1615, 2130, 2260 nm

Instrument performance requirements



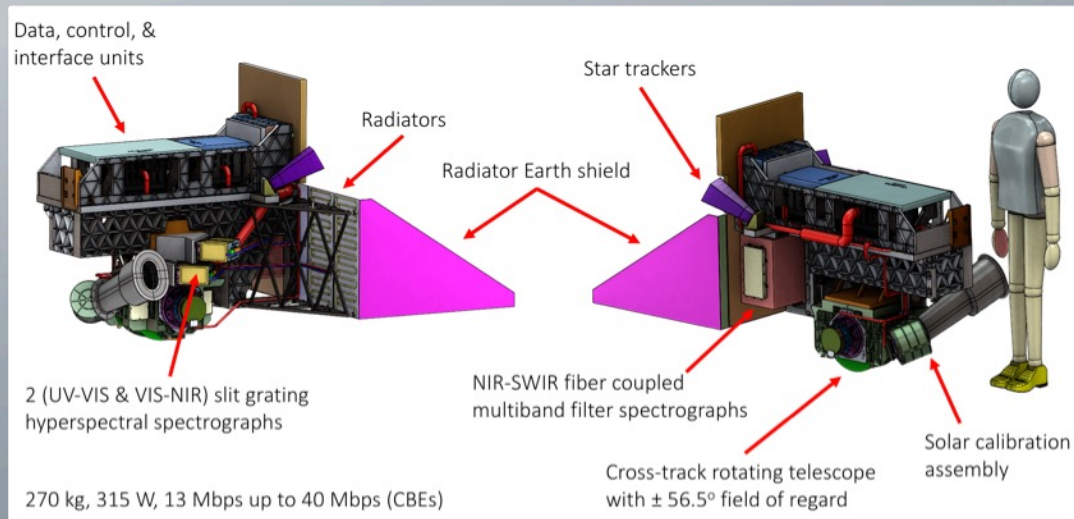
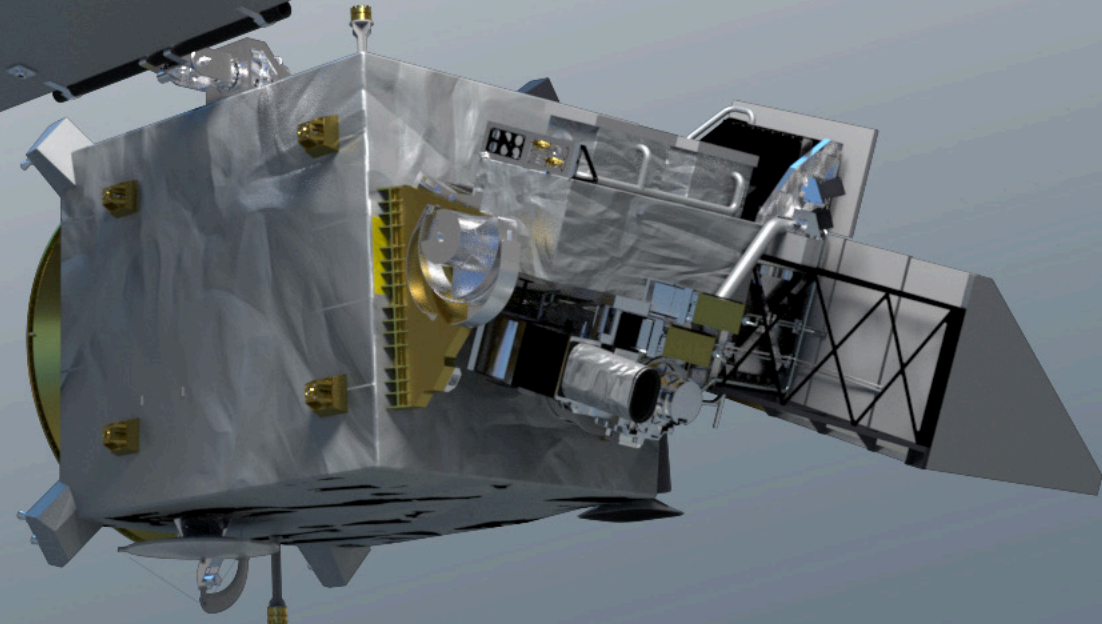
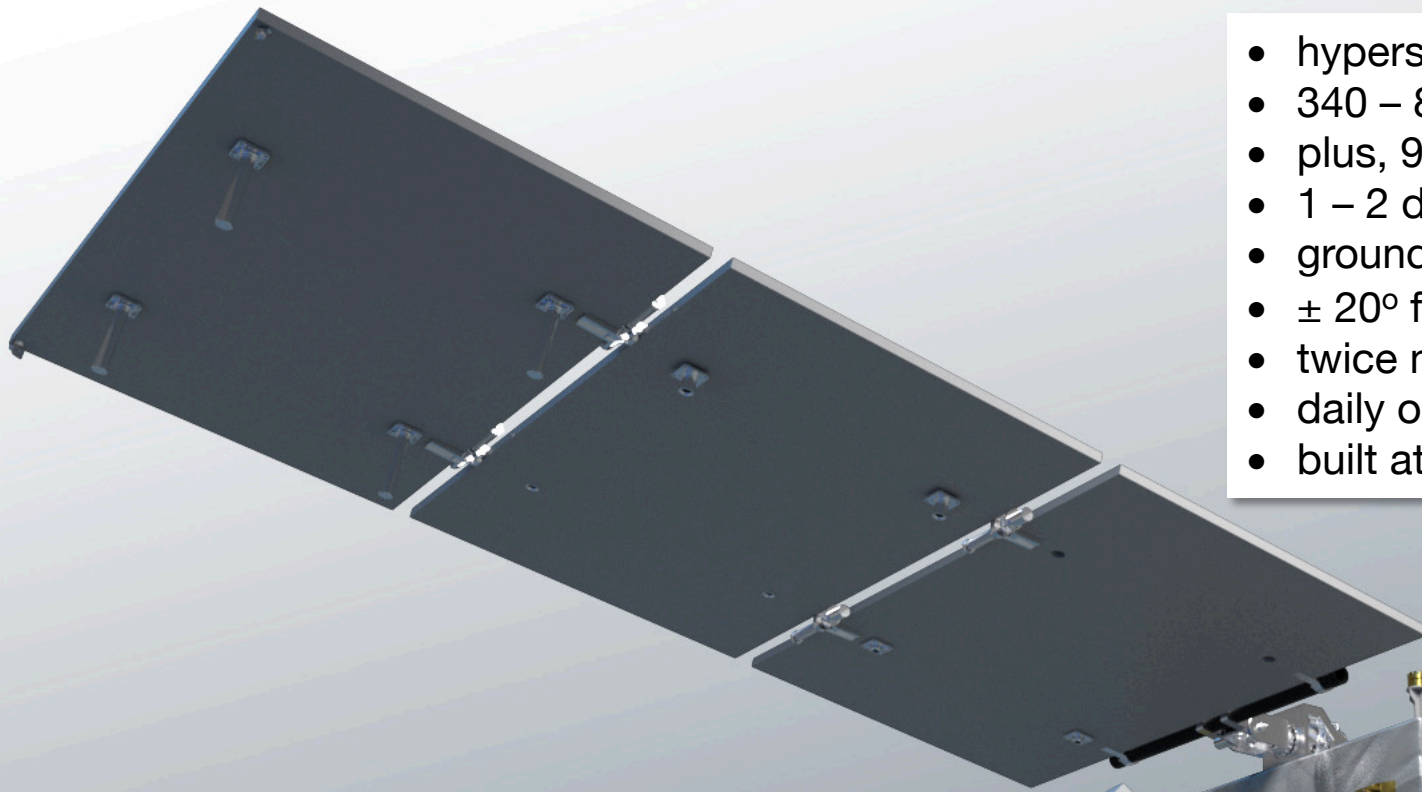
Tilt  $\pm 20^\circ$

Spectral range goal of 320-865 @ 5 nm

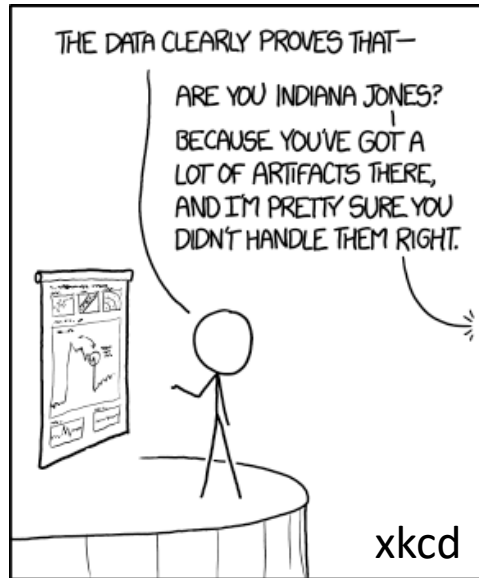
Improve our understanding of how aerosols influence ocean ecosystems & biogeochemical cycles and how ocean biological & photochemical processes affect the atmosphere



- hyperspectral scanning radiometer
- 340 – 890 nm, 5 nm resolution, 2.5 nm steps
- plus, 940, 1038, 1250, 1378, 1615, 2130, and 2250 nm
- 1 – 2 day global coverage
- ground pixel size of 1 km<sup>2</sup> at nadir
- ± 20° fore/aft tilt to avoid Sun glint
- twice monthly lunar calibration
- daily on-board solar calibration
- built at NASA Goddard Space Flight Center



# Challenges



*Atmospheric correction (yesterday)*

Sun glint

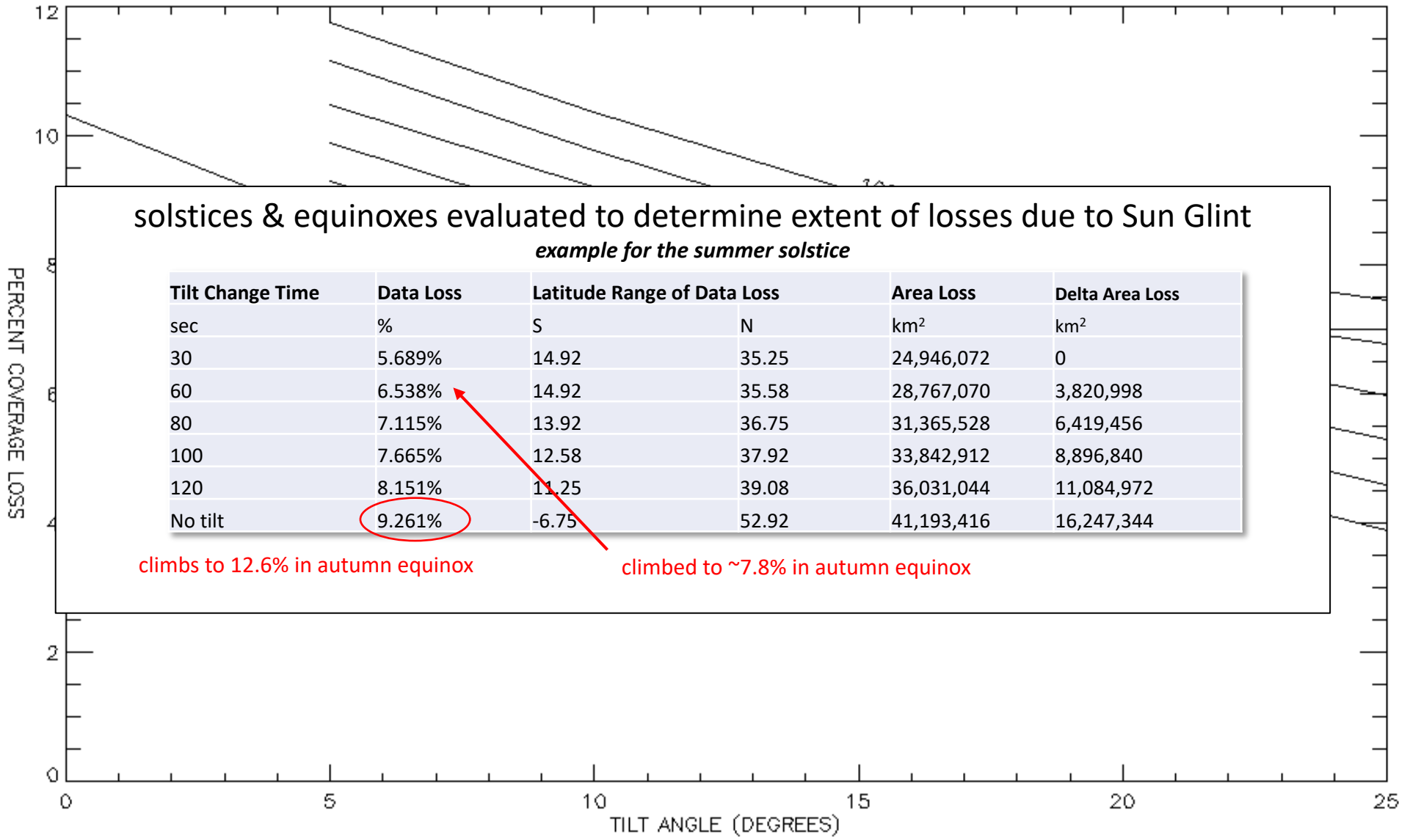
Image artifacts

Spectral resolution

Conscientious use of the data

Glint for a 20.0 degree tilt

PERCENT 2-DAY GLOBAL COVERAGE LOSS VS. TILT ANGLE



solstices & equinoxes evaluated to determine extent of losses due to Sun Glint  
*example for the summer solstice*

climbs to 12.6% in autumn equinox

climbed to ~7.8% in autumn equinox

0.000 0.001

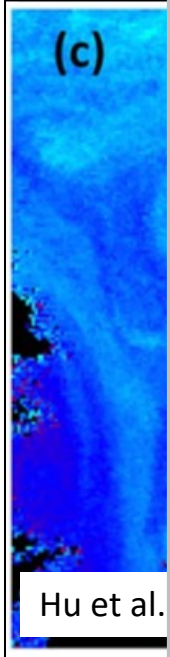
0.000 0.001 0.002 0.003 0.004 0.005 0.006 0.007 0.008 0.009 0.010

PAR = Photosynthetically Available Radiation (Einstein m<sup>-2</sup> d<sup>-1</sup>)



# image artifacts & instrument design

SeaWiFS  
1



often

HICO TOA 444 nm

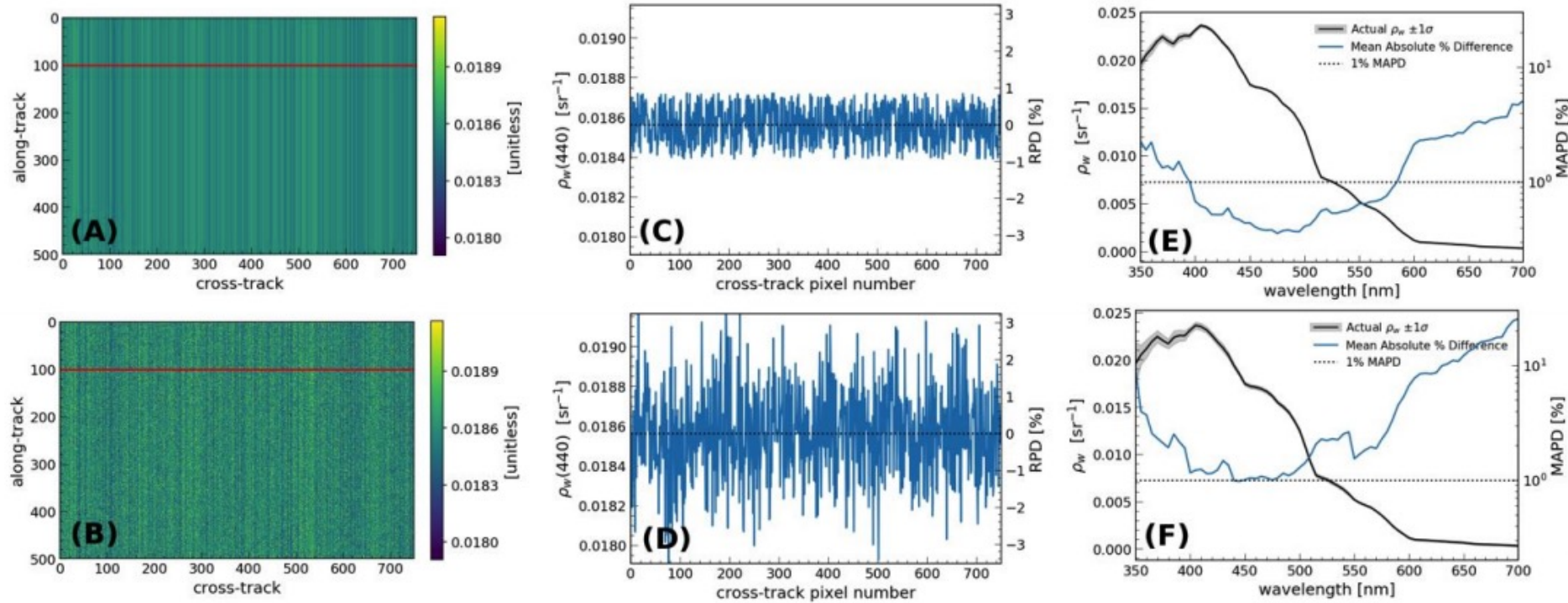
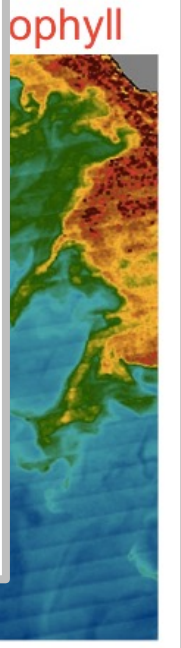


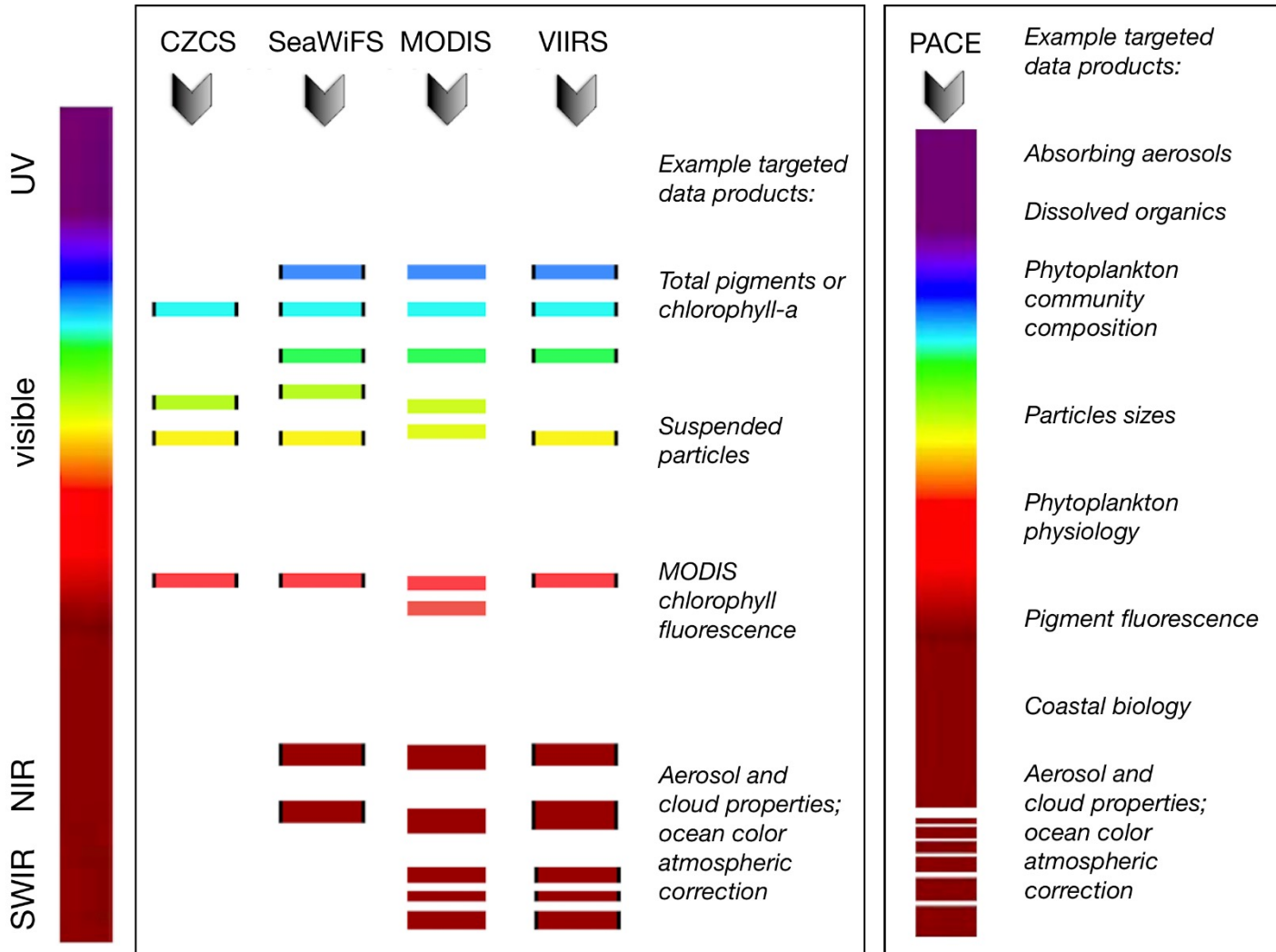
Figure 4.5: Subplots (A) and (B) show simulated pushbroom images of  $\rho_w(440)$  for a uniform ocean: (A) is modeled with 0.1% miscalibration error, and (B) is modeled with 0.1% miscalibration error in the presence of noise. Subplots (C) and (D) show variability in  $\rho_w(440)$  along a cross-track transect for scan number 100 (denoted as redlines in subplots (A) and (B)). Subplots (E) and (F) show the true  $\rho_w(\lambda)$  and the transect-averaged spectral mean absolute percent differences (MAPD).

detector  
show  
mean color  
more  
calibrate)



# moving from multi-spectral radiometry to spectroscopy

1978-1986 1997-2010 1999-pres. 2012-pres.

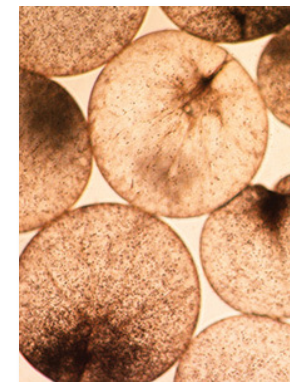


Example diatom



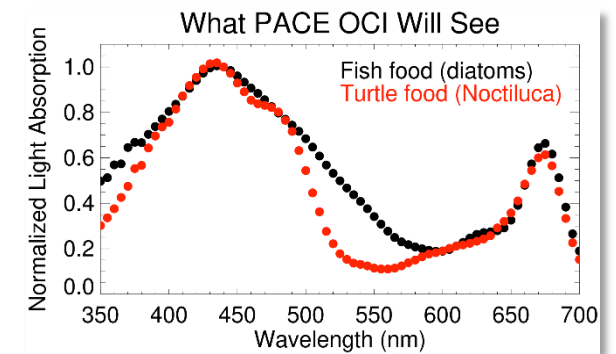
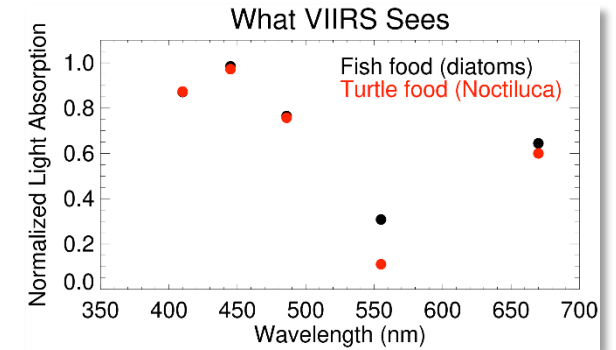
Linda Armbricht, abc.com.au

Example Noctiluca

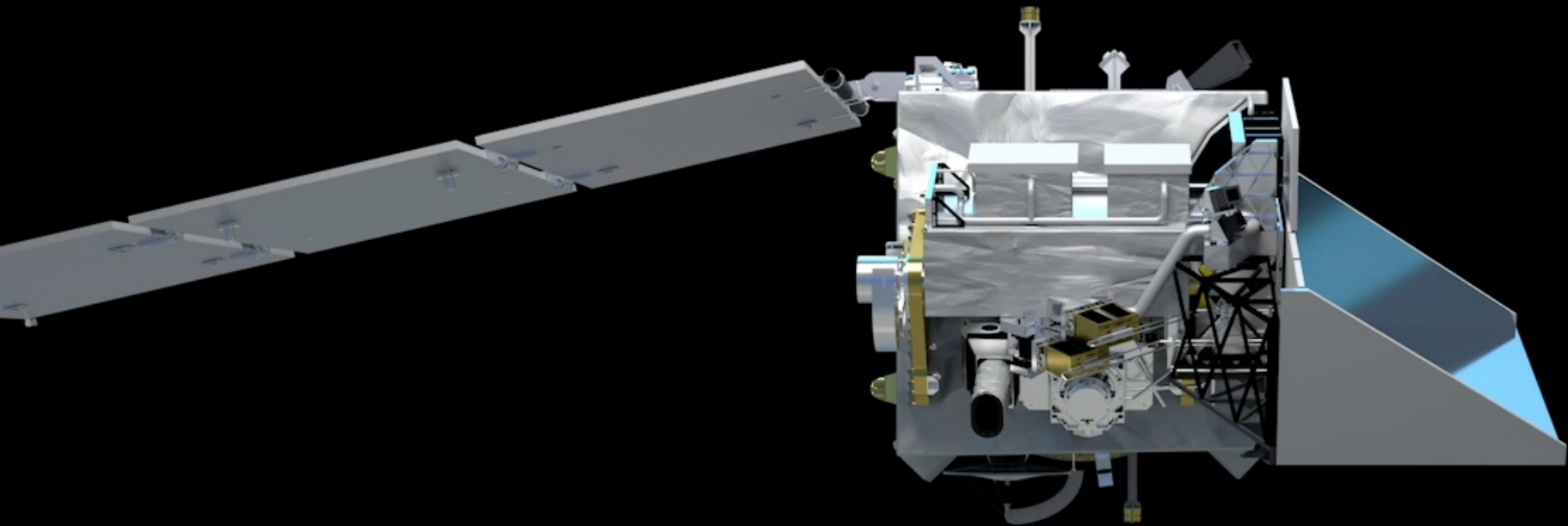


1 mm  
Joaquim Goes, LDEO

signals from the ocean are small & differentiating between constituents requires additional information relative to what we have today



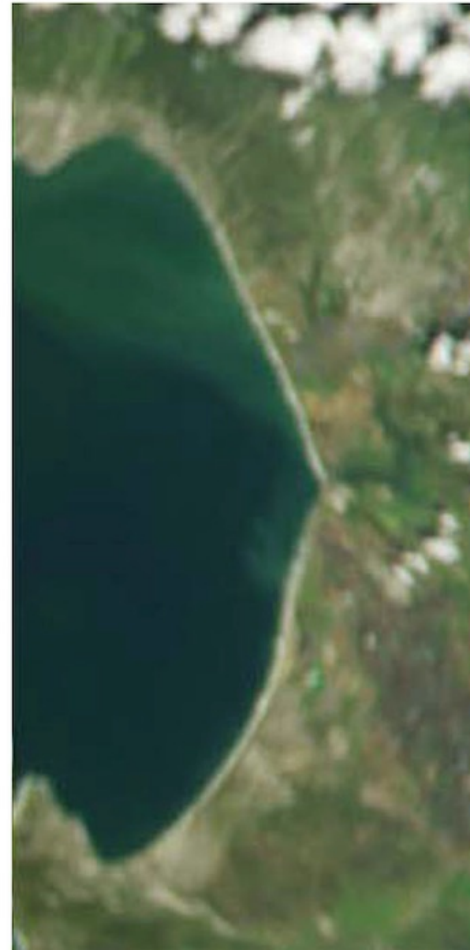
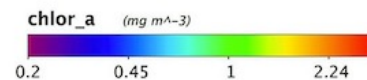
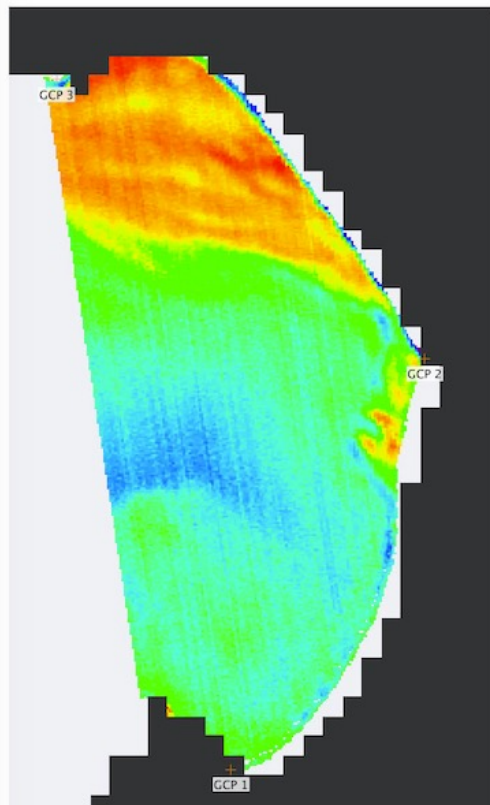




all that said ...

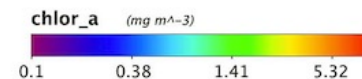
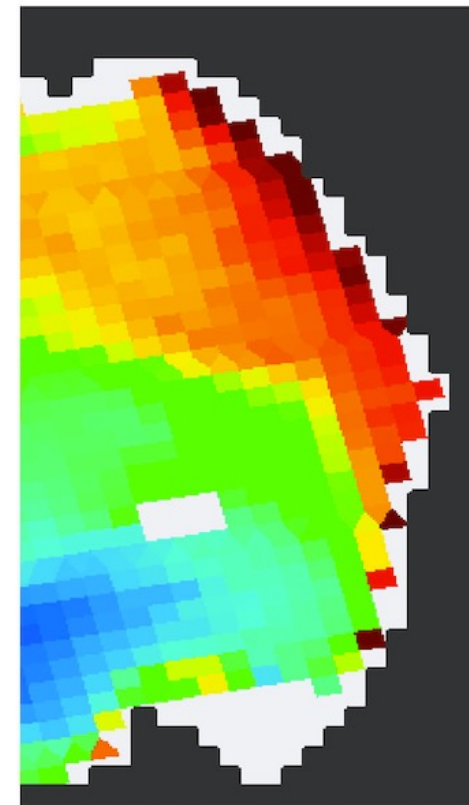
## Chlorophyll-a Concentration

HawkEye / SeaHawk  
21 March 2019

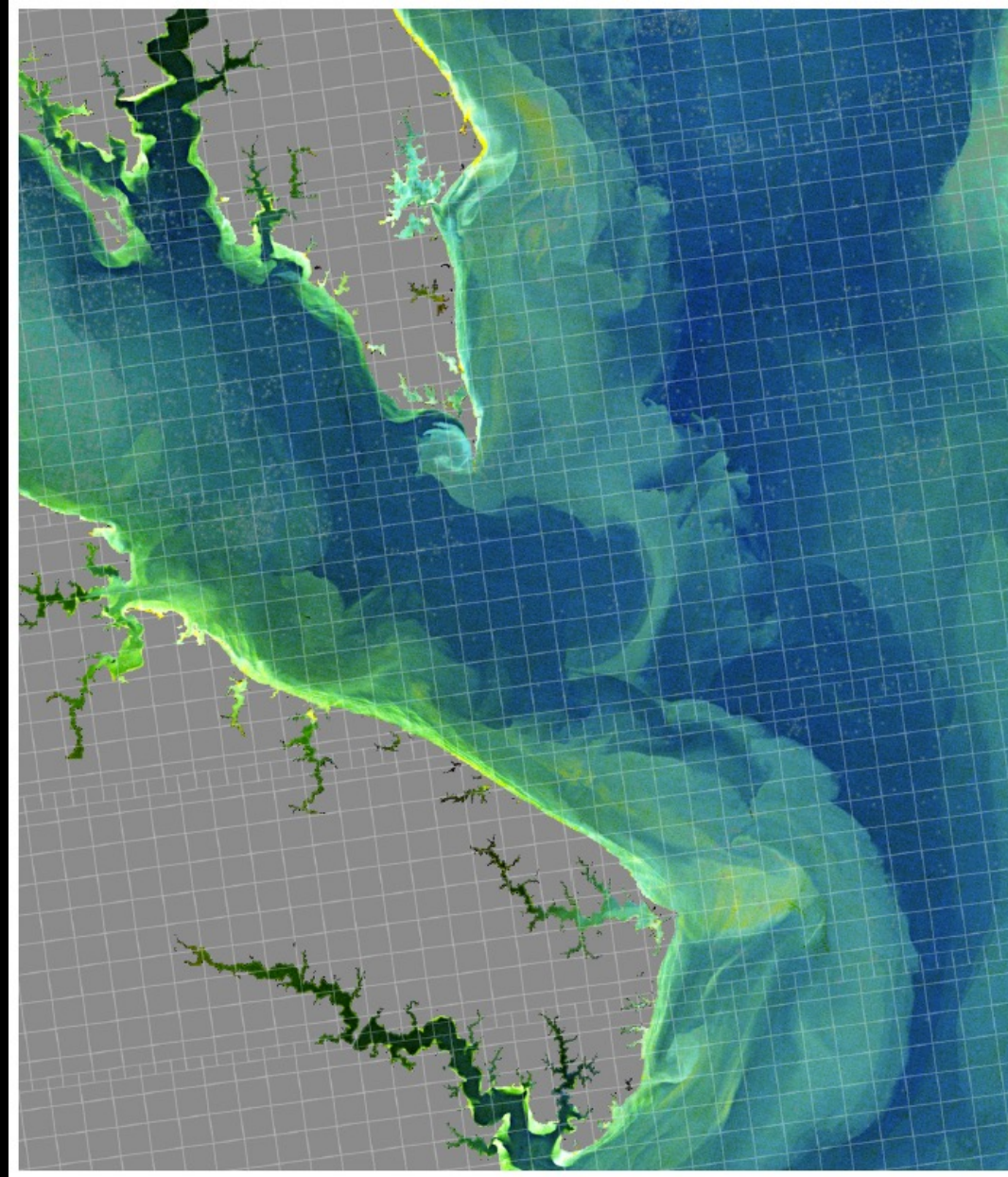


HawkEye True Color  
Monterey Bay

MODIS / Aqua  
20 March 2019



# Landsat OLI image with MODIS-Aqua grid shown (Franz et al. 2015)







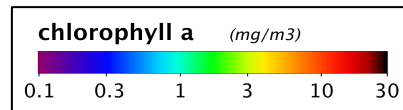
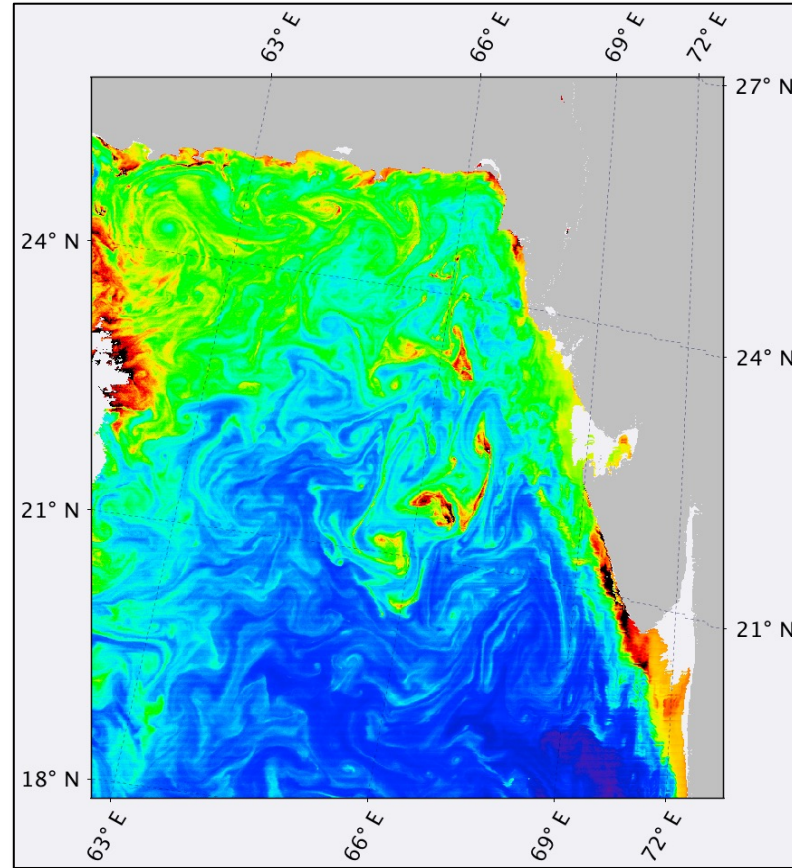
# NEVER GIVE UP

NEVER STOP TRYING TO EXCEED YOUR LIMITS. WE NEED THE ENTERTAINMENT.

# understand how data processing changes the “answers”

## For your consideration:

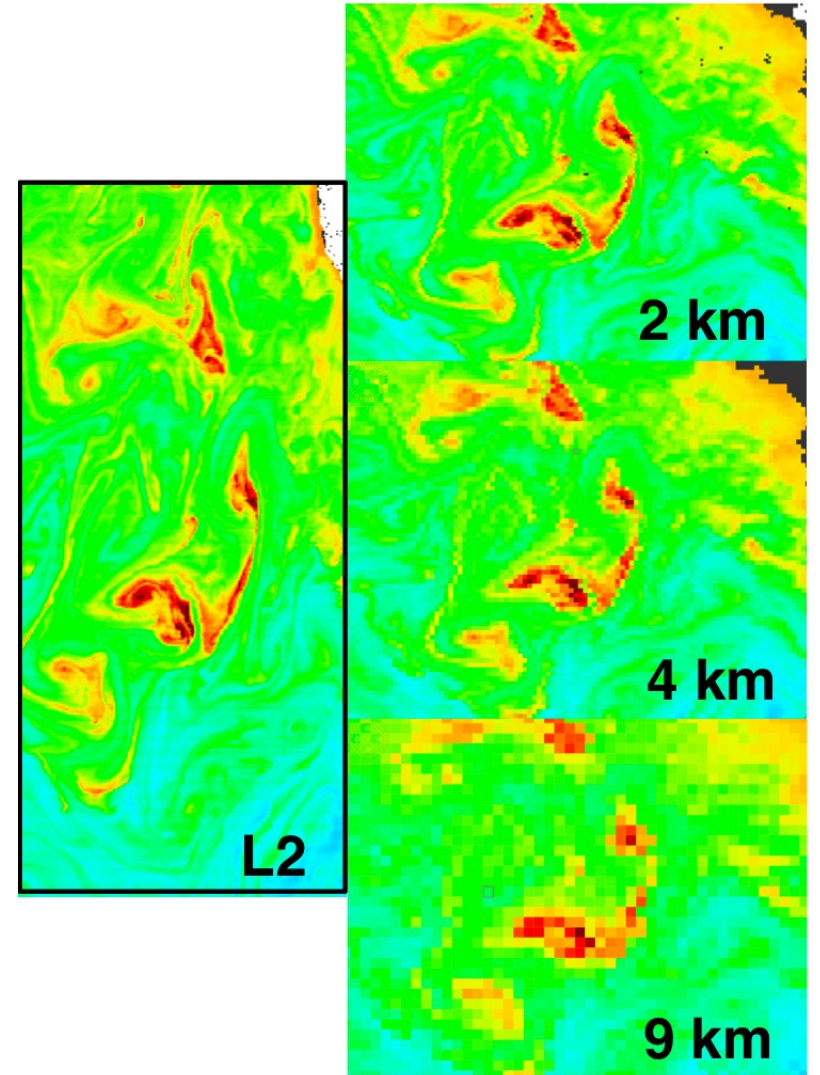
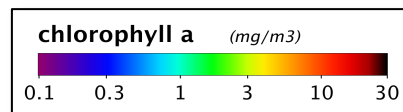
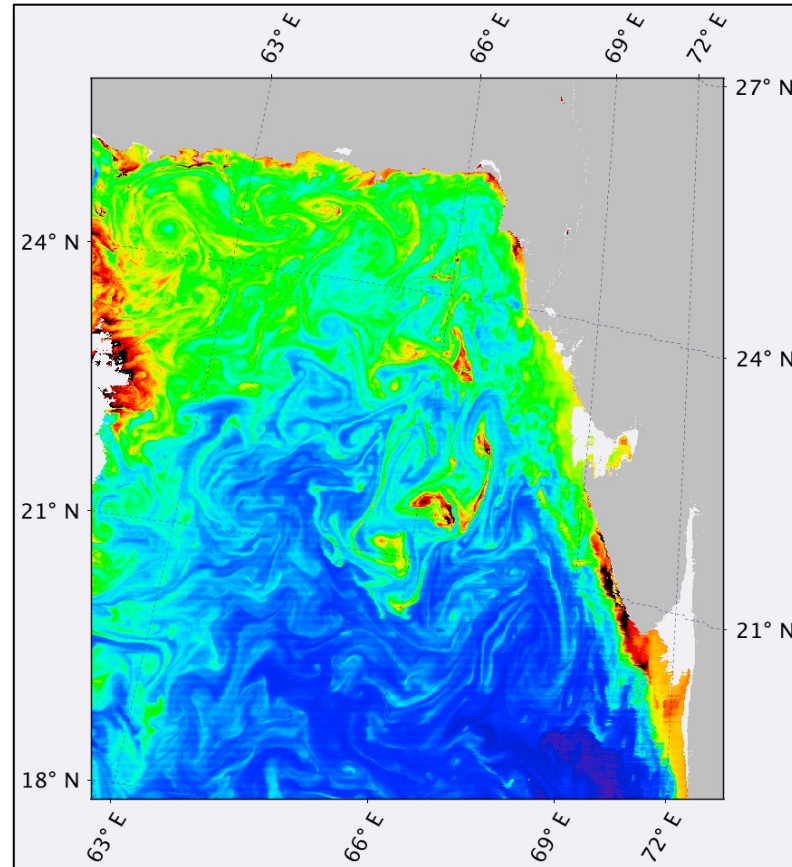
- horizontal resolution
- temporal resolution
- vertical resolution



# understand how data processing changes the “answers”

## For your consideration:

- horizontal resolution
- temporal resolution
- vertical resolution

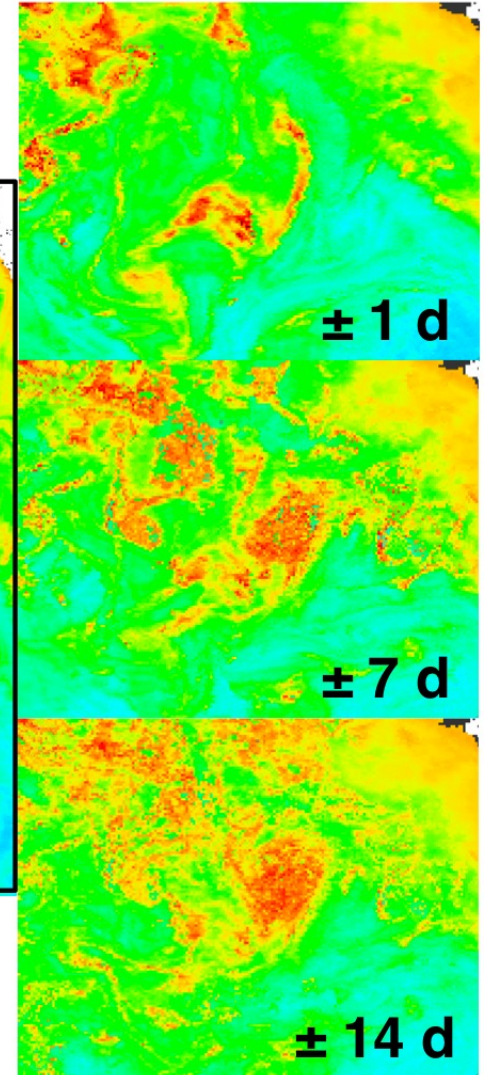
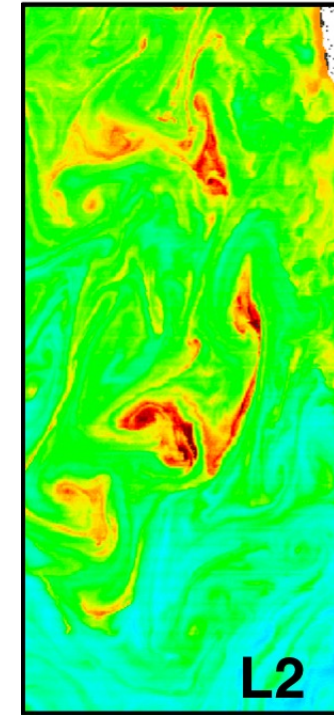
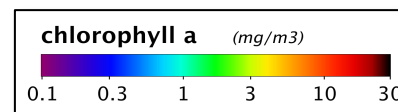
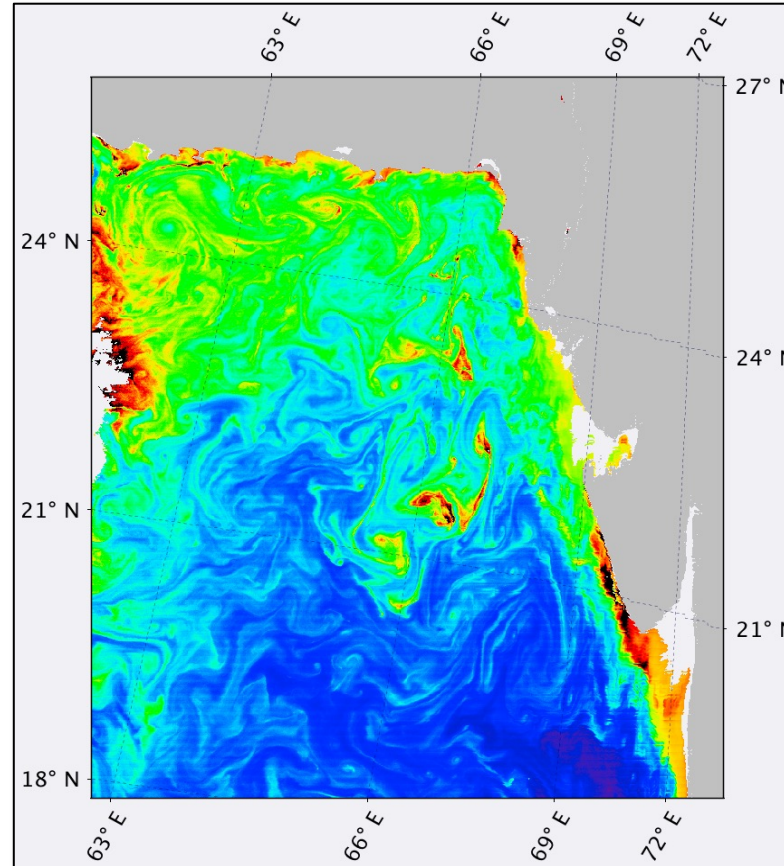




# understand how data processing changes the “answers”

## For your consideration:

- horizontal resolution
- temporal resolution
- vertical resolution

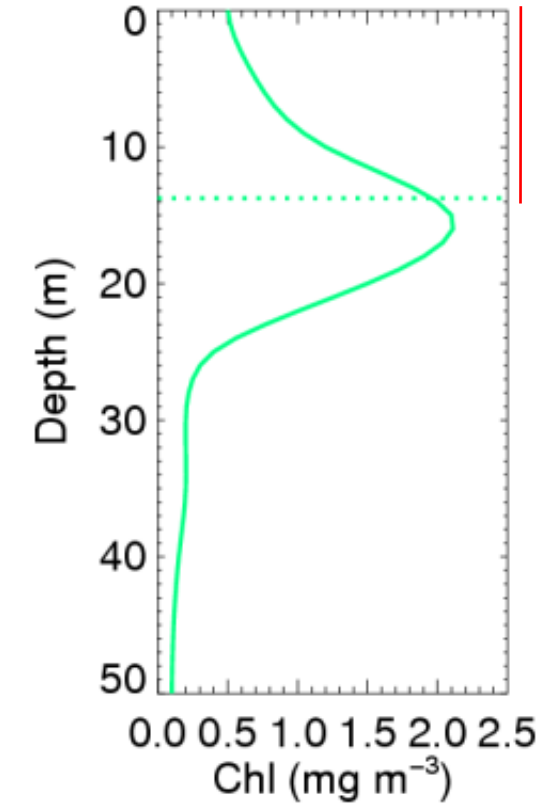
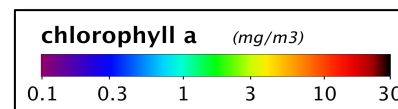
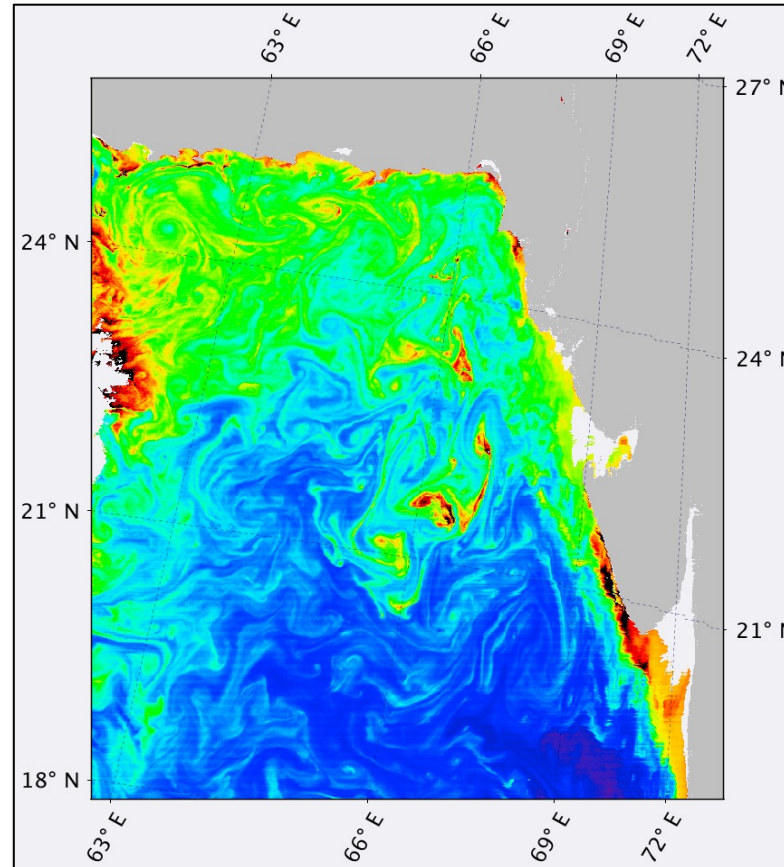




# understand how data processing changes the “answers”

## For your consideration:

- horizontal resolution
- temporal resolution
- **vertical resolution**



first optical depth  
 $0.37 = \exp(-K_d z)$   
 $-1 = -K_d z$

### Estimation of the Depth of Sunlight Penetration in the Sea for Remote Sensing

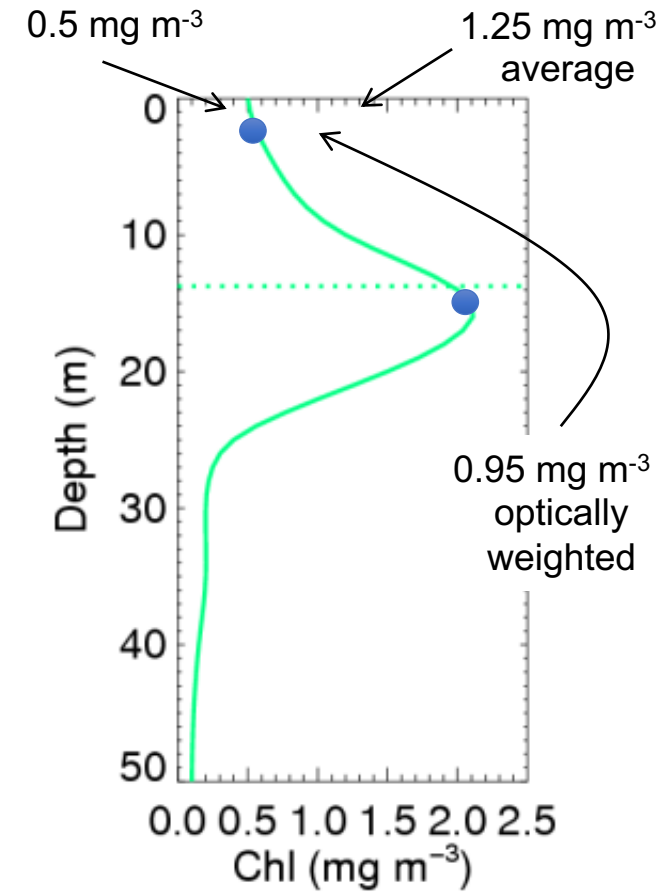
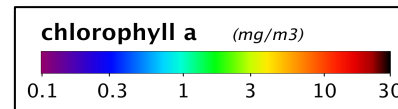
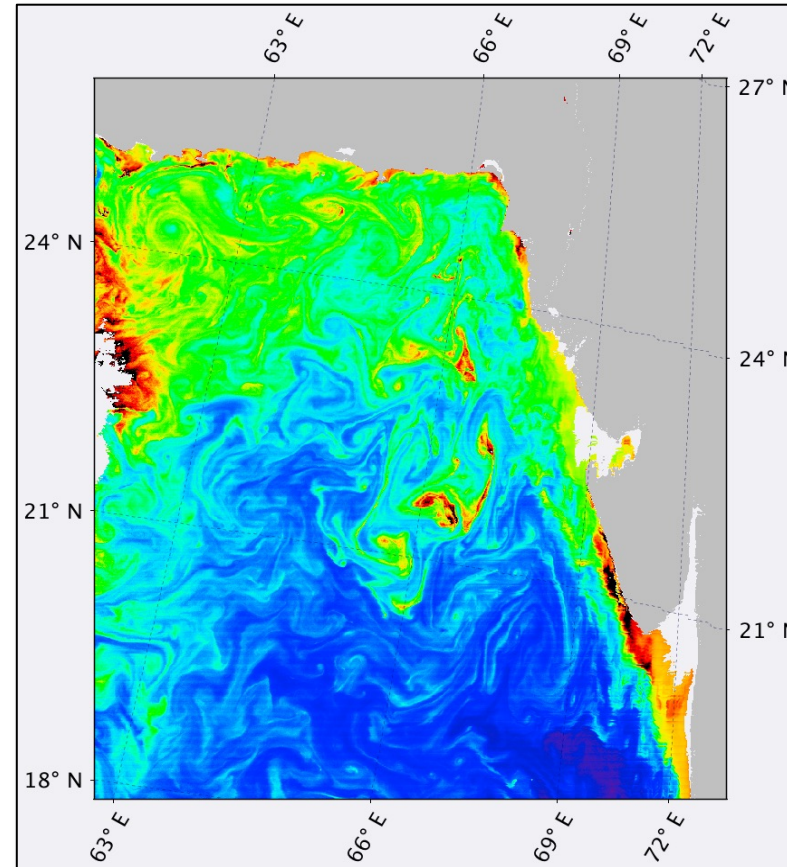
Howard R. Gordon and W. R. McCluney

February 1975 / Vol. 14, No. 2 / APPLIED OPTICS 413

# understand how data processing changes the “answers”

## For your consideration:

- horizontal resolution
- temporal resolution
- **vertical resolution**



## Theoretical derivation of the depth average of remotely sensed optical parameters

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Received 15 September 2005; revised 20 October 2005; accepted 24 October 2005  
31 October 2005 / Vol. 13, No. 22 / OPTICS EXPRESS 9052



persevere ...





persevere ...

... and collaborate



#NASAESABakeoff





Advanced Measurements of Sea & Sky

Plankton, Aerosol, Cloud, ocean Ecosystem

PACE

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