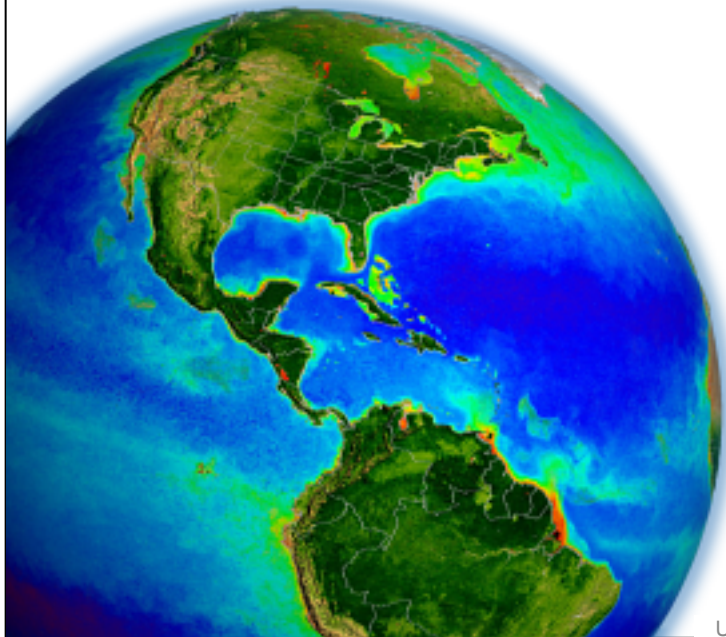


# Estimating phytoplankton functional types & particle size classes from satellite ocean color



Jeremy Werdell

NASA Goddard Space Flight Center

UMaine Ocean Optics Summer Course

Jul 7 – Aug 3, 2013

# rationale

## changes in the Earth's climate

can lead to changes in phytoplankton species composition

which can alter regional & global C budgets & food webs

## large spatial & temporal scales required to study broad, long-term environmental changes on species assemblages

microscopic enumeration of phytoplankton cells alone insufficient

in practice, remote (including space-based) tools required

ocean color satellites provide daily, synoptic views of Earth

SeaWiFS – 1997 to 2010

MERIS – 2002 to 2010

MODIS-Aqua – 2002 to present



[www.archives.gov](http://www.archives.gov)

# terminology

## PSC – particle size class

micro: > 20  $\mu\text{m}$

nano: 2 to 20  $\mu\text{m}$

pico: < 2  $\mu\text{m}$

← can describe either  
phytoplankton or particles

## PFT – phytoplankton functional type

“function” can mean many things (see Lecture 4 from week 1)

often class/genus-ish levels – diatom vs. dinoflagellate vs. cyano, etc.

sometimes functions like “nitrogen fixers” or “calcifiers”

## perspective

the faithful & the skeptical surround us

this is pushing the limits of existing satellite instruments

many methods have been proposed, most fall into 2 classes

spatially, temporally diverse validation data are, um, ...

like it or not, this is our future – already big in our community

**HUGE science driver for PACE** (Pre-Aerosols, Clouds, and ocean Ecosystems)

this presentation will walk through methods & issues

# outline

diverse bio-optical methods to estimate PSCs/PFTs exist

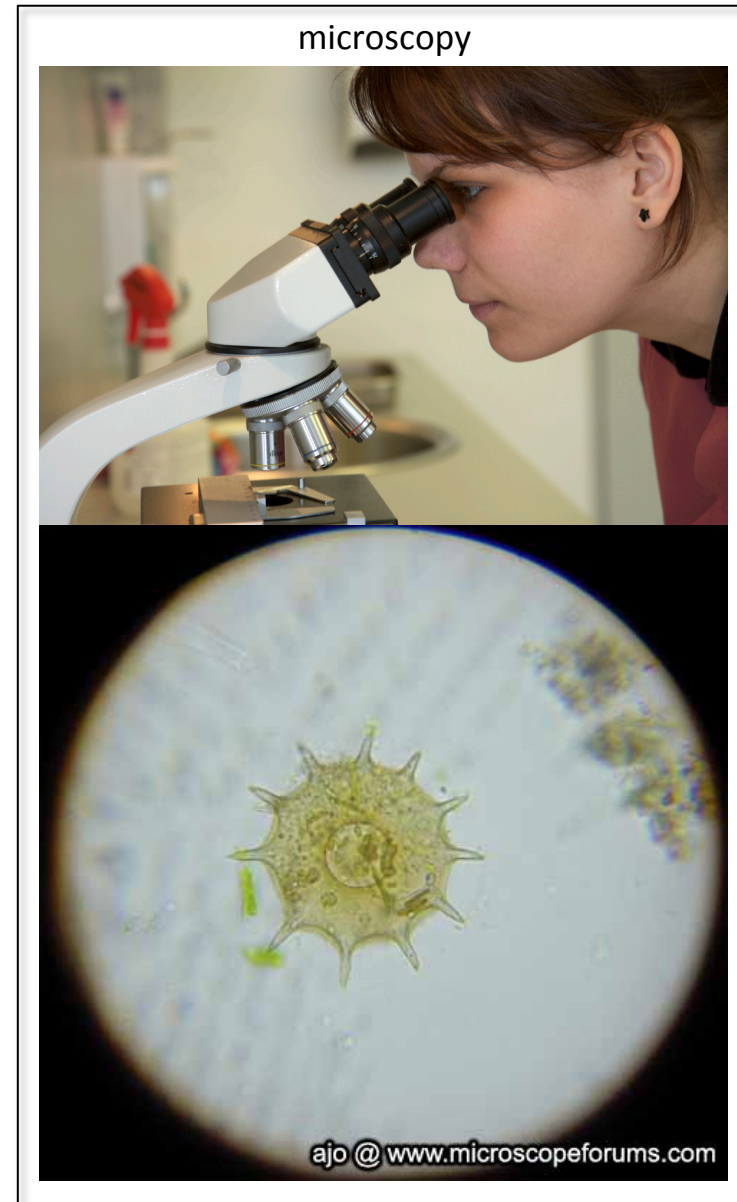
their sensitivities remain unexplored

most folks use proxy data sets for their validation

# measuring PSCs & PFTs in the field

microscopy  
flow cytometry  
coulter counters  
video imaging  
continuous plankton recorder  
spectroscopy  
pigment analyses  
etc.

most ocean color  
PFT/PSC  
algorithms tuned  
& validated using  
this proxy method



# phytoplankton accessory pigments

JOURNAL OF GEOPHYSICAL RESEARCH, VOL. 106, NO. C9, PAGES 19,939–19,956, SEPTEMBER 15, 2001

## Phytoplankton pigment distribution in relation to upper thermocline circulation in the eastern Mediterranean Sea during winter

Francesca Vidussi<sup>1</sup>, Hervé Claustre<sup>1</sup>, Beniamino B. Manca<sup>2</sup>, Anna Luchetta<sup>3</sup>, and Jean-Claude Marty<sup>1</sup>

DPA = Diagnostic  
Pigment Analysis

Vol. 144: 265–283, 1996

MARINE ECOLOGY PROGRESS SERIES  
Mar Ecol Prog Ser

Published December 5

## CHEMTAX— a program for estimating class abundances from chemical markers: application to HPLC measurements of phytoplankton

M. D. Mackey<sup>1,2</sup>, D. J. Mackey<sup>2,\*</sup>, H. W. Higgins<sup>2</sup>, S. W. Wright<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>University Chemical Laboratory, Lensfield Rd, Cambridge CB2 1EW, United Kingdom

<sup>2</sup>CSIRO Division of Oceanography, PO Box 1538, Hobart, Tasmania 7001, Australia

<sup>3</sup>Australian Antarctic Division, Channel Highway, Kingston, Tasmania 7050, Australia



# phytoplankton accessory pigments

## Appendix A. Diagnostic Pigment Analyses

Vidussi et al. (2001) described a common method for diagnostic pigment analyses. Uitz et al. (2006) updated this method. Dominant phytoplankton groups are always assigned to the most significant contributor (often >45 or >50% relative presence required). A list of the biomarker pigments is provided below, as well as the sums and ratios suggested by both authors.

<u>Abbreviation</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Taxonomic Significance</u>	<u>Size</u>
Fuco	Fucoxanthin	diatoms	micro
Perid	Peridinin	dinoflagellates	micro
Hex-fuco	19'-hexanoyloxyfucoxanthin	chromophytes, nanoflagellates	nano
But-fuco	19'-butanoyloxyfucoxanthin	chromophytes, nanoflagellates	nano
Allo	Alloxanthin	cryptophytes	nano
TChl-b	Chl-b + Divinyl Chl-b	green flagellates, prochlorophytes	pico
Zea	Zeaxanthin	cyanobacteria, prochlorophyte	pico

### Vidussi et al. (2001)

$$DP = \text{Fuco} + \text{Perid} + \text{Hex-fuco} + \text{But-fuco} + \text{Allo} + \text{TChl-b} + \text{Zea}$$

$$\text{micro} = (\text{Fuco} + \text{Perid}) / DP$$

$$\text{nano} = (\text{Hex-fuco} + \text{But-fuco} + \text{Allo}) / DP$$

$$\text{pico} = (\text{TChl-b} + \text{Zea}) / DP$$

### Modifications by Uitz et al. (2006)

$$DP_w = 1.41 \text{ Fuco} + 1.41 \text{ Perid} + 1.27 \text{ Hex-fuco} + 0.35 \text{ But-fuco} + 0.60 \text{ Allo} + 1.01 \text{ TChl-b} + 0.86 \text{ Zea}$$

$$f_{\text{micro}} = (1.41 \text{ Fuco} + 1.41 \text{ Perid}) / DP_w$$

$$f_{\text{nano}} = (1.27 \text{ Hex-fuco} + 0.35 \text{ But-fuco} + 0.60 \text{ Allo}) / DP_w$$

$$f_{\text{pico}} = (1.01 \text{ TChl-b} + 0.86 \text{ Zea}) / DP_w$$

$$\text{micro-Chl-a} = f_{\text{micro}} \text{ Chl-a}$$

$$\text{nano-Chl-a} = f_{\text{nano}} \text{ Chl-a}$$

$$\text{pico-Chl-a} = f_{\text{pico}} \text{ Chl-a}$$

adjusted chl-to-accessory  
pigment ratios – link to  
fractional chl for each PSC

# outline

diverse bio-optical methods to estimate PSCs/PFTs exist

their sensitivities remain unexplored

most folks use proxy data sets for their validation

# methods

## two flavors of algorithms:

### abundance

- exploit observed relationships between the trophic status of the environment & the type of phytoplankton expected to be present
- assign empirically-derived thresholds on [chl],  $b_b(\lambda)$ ,  $a_{ph}(\lambda)$ , etc.

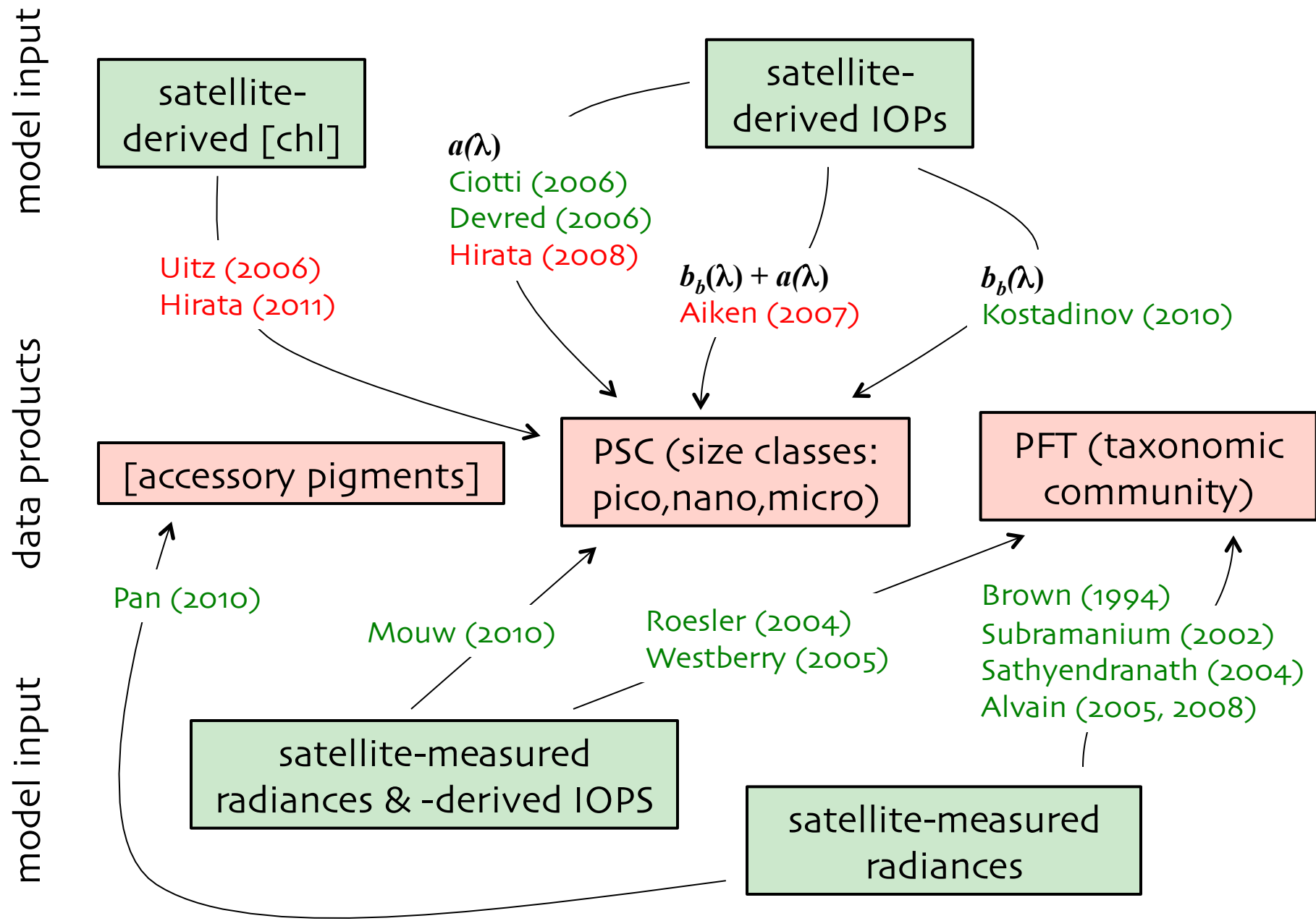
### spectral

- exploit variations realized in the spectral shape of  $R_{rs}(\lambda)$  with varying community structure
- use unique optical signatures of specific PFTs or PSCs to distinguish between groups

## varied inputs to the algorithms:

- $R_{rs}(\lambda)$ , Chl,  $b_{bp}(\lambda)$ ,  $a(\lambda)$ ,  $a_{ph}(\lambda)$ , combinations of these

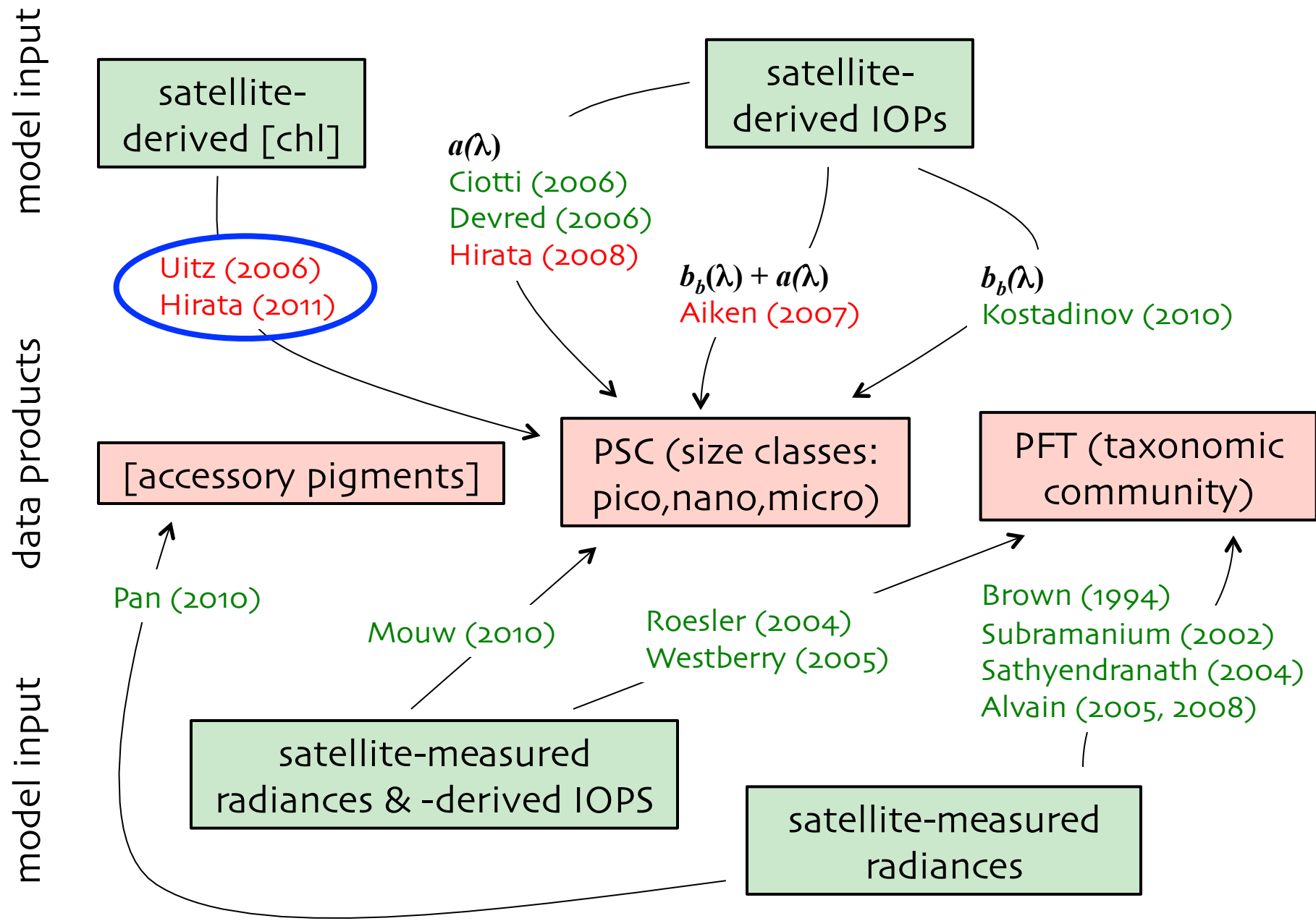
# outline



## abundance methods

assume that a given phytoplankton biomass, defined by either Chl or IOPs – in particular,  $a_{ph}(\lambda)$  – covaries with the dominance of or fraction of a particular PFT or PSC

# outline



# abundance – Chl as input

Biogeosciences, 8, 311–327, 2011  
www.biogeosciences.net/8/311/2011/  
doi:10.5194/bg-8-311-2011  
© Author(s) 2011. CC Attribution 3.0 License.

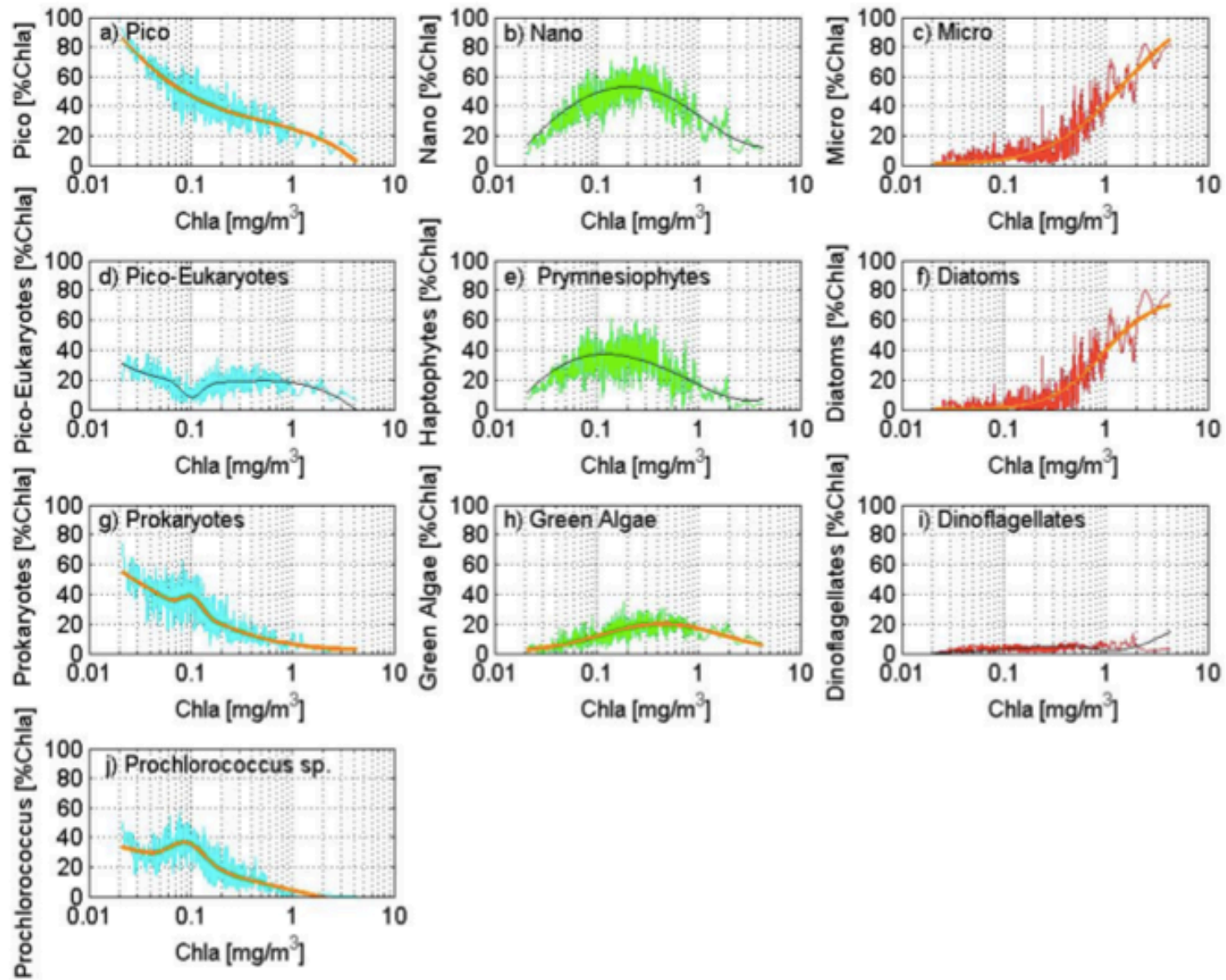


## **Synoptic relationships between surface Chlorophyll-*a* and diagnostic pigments specific to phytoplankton functional types**

**T. Hirata<sup>1,2,\*,\*\*</sup>, N. J. Hardman-Mountford<sup>1,2</sup>, R. J. W. Brewin<sup>1,3</sup>, J. Aiken<sup>1</sup>, R. Barlow<sup>4,5</sup>, K. Suzuki<sup>6</sup>, T. Isada<sup>7</sup>, E. Howell<sup>8</sup>, T. Hashioka<sup>9,10</sup>, M. Noguchi-Aita<sup>7,10</sup>, and Y. Yamanaka<sup>6,9,10</sup>**

provide estimate of %Chl for each PFT/PSC in a pixel

# abundance – Chl as input





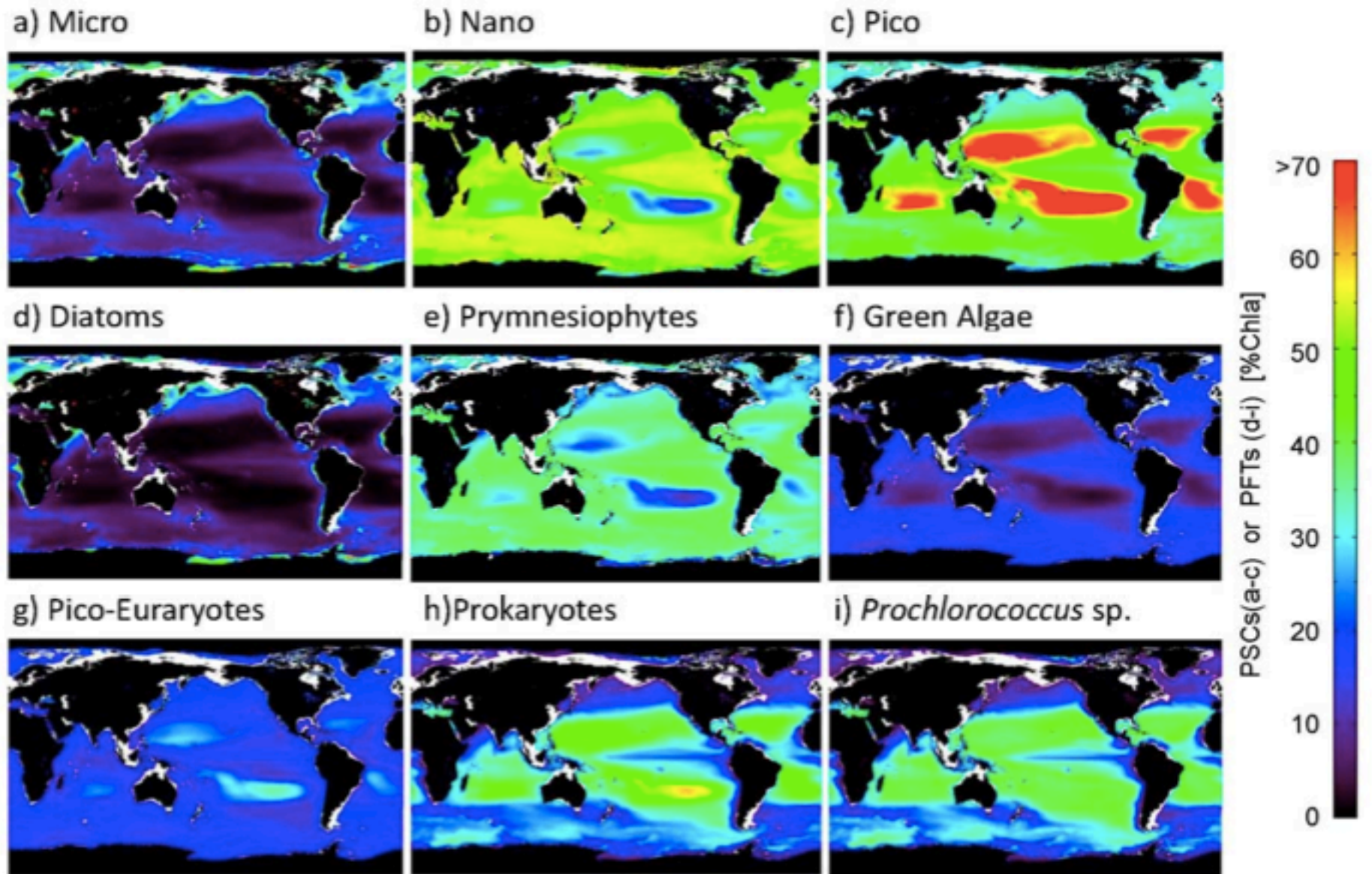
# abundance – Chl as input

**Table 2.** Equations to estimate fractions [0.0–1.0] of PSCs (Micro-, Nano- and Picoplankton) and PFTs (other). Set PFT fraction to 1.0 if >1.0, and 0 if <0. To get % Chl-*a*, multiply 100 to the fractions derived.

PSCs/PFTs	Formula	a <sub>0</sub>	a <sub>1</sub>	a <sub>2</sub>	a <sub>3</sub>	a <sub>4</sub>	a <sub>5</sub>	a <sub>6</sub>
Microplankton	$[a_0 + \exp(a_1 x + a_2)]^{-1}$	0.9117	-2.7330	0.4003				
Diatoms	$[a_0 + \exp(a_1 x + a_2)]^{-1}$	1.3272	-3.9828	0.1953	-	-	-	-
Dinoflagellates	(= Micro-Diatoms)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nanoplankton	(= 1-Micro-Pico)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Green Algae	$(a_0/y) \exp[a_1(x + a_2)^2]$	0.2490	-1.2621	-0.5523	-	-	-	-
Prymnesiophytes (Haptophytes)	( $\simeq$ Nano-Green Algae)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Picoplankton	$-[a_0 + \exp(a_1 x + a_2)]^{-1} + a_3 x + a_4$	0.1529	1.0306	-1.5576	-1.8597	2.9954	-	-
Prokaryotes	$(a_0/a_1/y) \exp[a_2(x + a_3)^2/a_1^2]$ $+ a_4 x^2 + a_5 x + a_6$	0.0067	0.6154	-19.5190	0.9643	0.1027	-0.1189	0.0626
Pico-eukaryotes <i>Prochlorococcus sp.</i>	(= Pico-Prokaryotes)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	$(a_0/a_1/y) \exp[a_3(x + a_4)^2/a_1^2]$ $+ a_4 x^2 + a_5 x + a_6$	0.0099	0.6808	-8.6276	0.9668	0.0074	-0.1621	0.0436

$x = \log_{10}(\text{Chl-}a)$ ;  $y = \text{Chl-}a$

# abundance – Chl as input



# abundance – Chl as input

JOURNAL OF GEOPHYSICAL RESEARCH, VOL. 111, C08005, doi:10.1029/2005JC003207, 2006



## **Vertical distribution of phytoplankton communities in open ocean: An assessment based on surface chlorophyll**

Julia Uitz,<sup>1</sup> Hervé Claustre,<sup>1</sup> André Morel,<sup>1</sup> and Stanford B. Hooker<sup>2</sup>

provide estimate of relative presence (%) of 3 PSCs

# abundance – Chl as input

**Table 3.** Trophic Categories Defined With Respect to the Chlorophyll *a* Concentration Within the Surface Layer,  $[Chl]_{surf}$ , and the Associated Parameters<sup>a</sup>

	Stratified Waters									Mixed Waters				
	S1	S2	S3	S4	S5	S6	S7	S8	S9	M1	M2	M3	M4	M5
$[Chl]_{surf}$ range, $mg\ m^{-3}$	<0.04 <sup>b</sup>	0.04–0.08	0.08–0.12	0.12–0.2	0.2–0.3	0.3–0.4	0.4–0.8	0.8–2.2	2.2–4 <sup>c</sup>	<0.4 <sup>d</sup>	0.4–0.8	0.8–1	1–4	>4 <sup>e</sup>
Number of profiles	109	268	269	320	287	180	260	110	18	155	153	53	182	55
Average $[Chl]_{surf}$ , $mg\ m^{-3}$	0.032 (0.005)	0.062 (0.012)	0.098 (0.012)	0.158 (0.023)	0.244 (0.030)	0.347 (0.028)	0.540 (0.106)	1.235 (0.403)	2.953 (0.520)	0.244 (0.092)	0.592 (0.112)	0.885 (0.051)	1.881 (0.753)	6.320 (2.916)
Average $\overline{Chl}_{Z_{eu}}$ , $mg\ m^{-3}$	0.0910 (0.025)	0.151 (0.067)	0.185 (0.088)	0.250 (0.144)	0.338 (0.152)	0.410 (0.153)	0.578 (0.229)	1.206 (0.526)	2.950 (1.191)	0.280 (0.130)	0.591 (0.175)	0.872 (0.189)	2.059 (0.996)	7.574 (3.700)
Average $\langle Chl \rangle_{Z_{eu}}$ , $mg\ m^{-2}$	10.54 (1.84)	14.15 (3.31)	15.98 (3.29)	18.79 (4.08)	22.09 (4.99)	24.70 (4.64)	29.72 (5.88)	44.05 (10.46)	71.98 (15.28)	19.90 (4.70)	30.27 (4.73)	37.57 (4.44)	58.64 (15.30)	120.00 (26.75)
Average $\langle Chl \rangle_{1.5\ Z_{eu}}$ , $mg\ m^{-2}$	18.27 (3.97)	22.13 (5.18)	24.74 (6.35)	27.19 (8.29)	29.42 (8.58)	31.83 (8.76)	38.22 (9.57)	58.18 (19.9)	101.33 (26.59)	28.46 (7.52)	40.22 (8.17)	51.49 (8.13)	85.42 (26.80)	178.37 (44.55)
Average $Z_{eu}$ , m	119.1 (12.2)	99.9 (15.4)	91.0 (11.8)	80.2 (12.6)	70.3 (11.9)	63.4 (9.3)	54.4 (8.2)	39.8 (8.0)	26.1 (4.5)	77.1 (14.3)	53.2 (6.8)	44.0 (4.6)	31.5 (6.8)	16.9 (2.4)

<sup>a</sup>These parameters are derived from the calculations involving the complete database 1 and are presented as averages and standard deviations (the latter shown in parentheses).

<sup>b</sup>Minimum value 0.015  $mg\ m^{-3}$ .

<sup>c</sup>Maximum value 3.97  $mg\ m^{-3}$ .

<sup>d</sup>Minimum value 0.047  $mg\ m^{-3}$ .

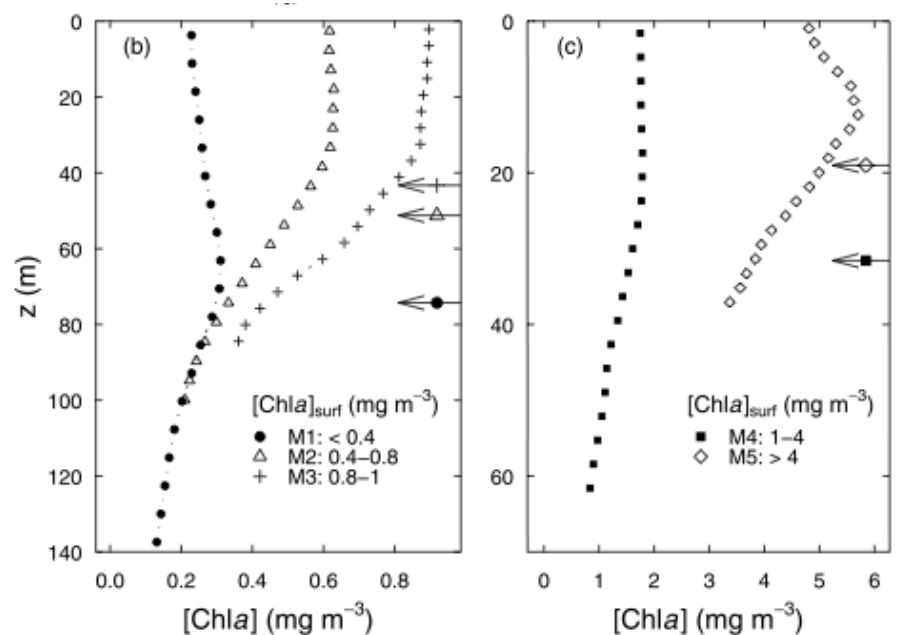
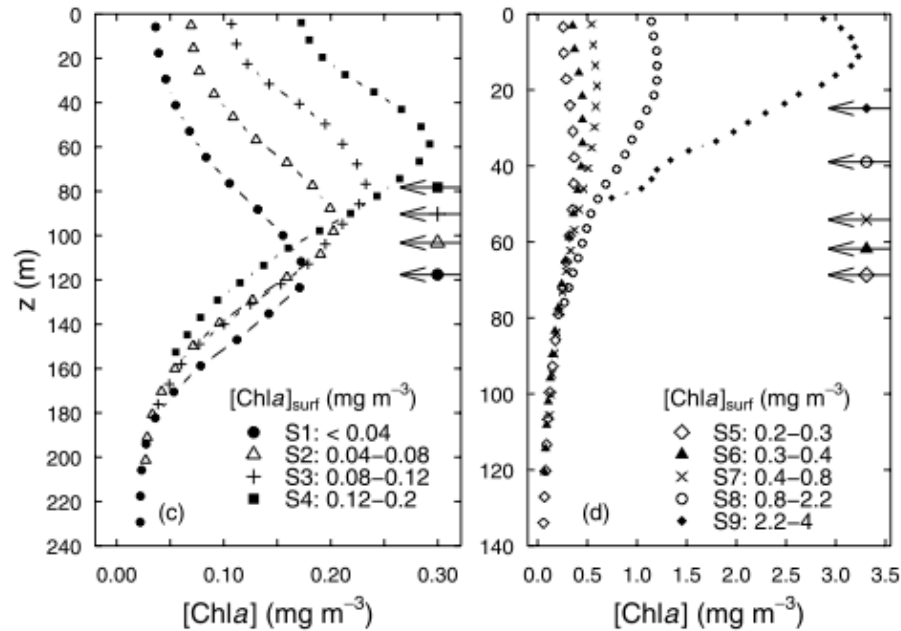
<sup>e</sup>Maximum value 23.9  $mg\ m^{-3}$ .

use range of Chl & estimate of mixed layer depth (MLD) to assign each pixel to 1 of 14 trophic categories

# abundance – Chl as input

stratified water

mixed water

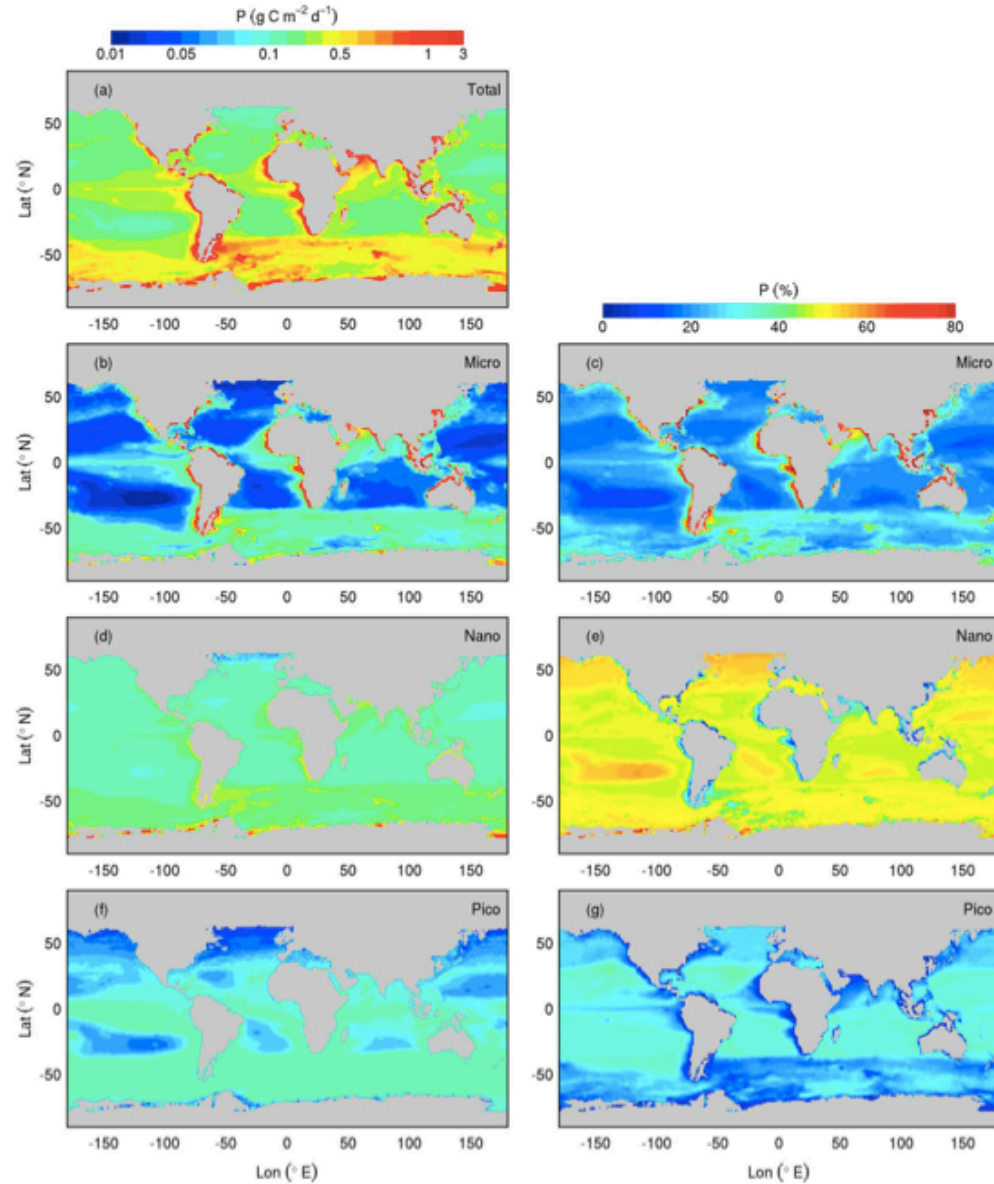
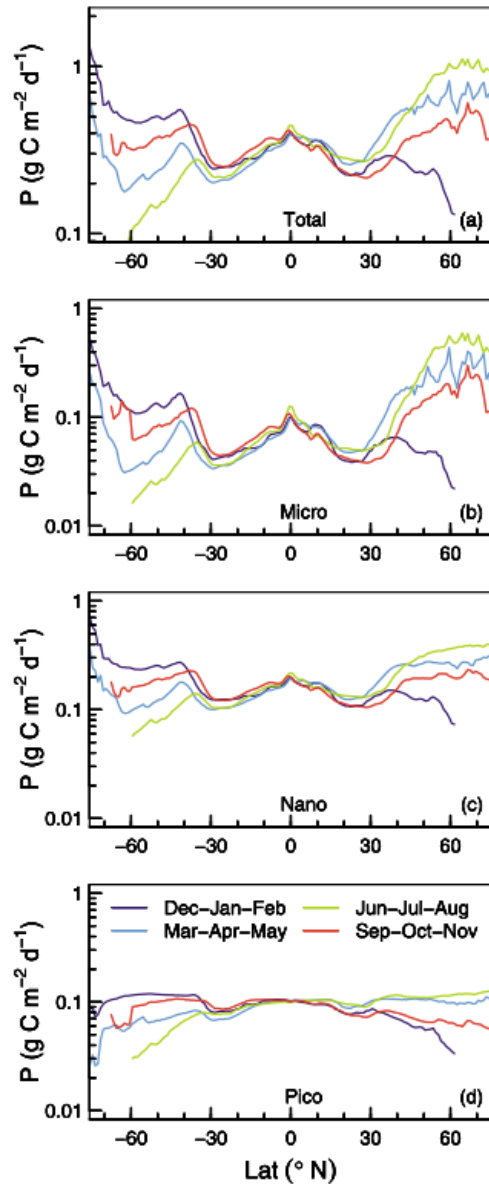


empirically parameterized vertical profiles of PSCs for 9 stratified & 5 mixed water categories

used to infer column-integrated phytoplankton biomass, its vertical distribution, & community size composition

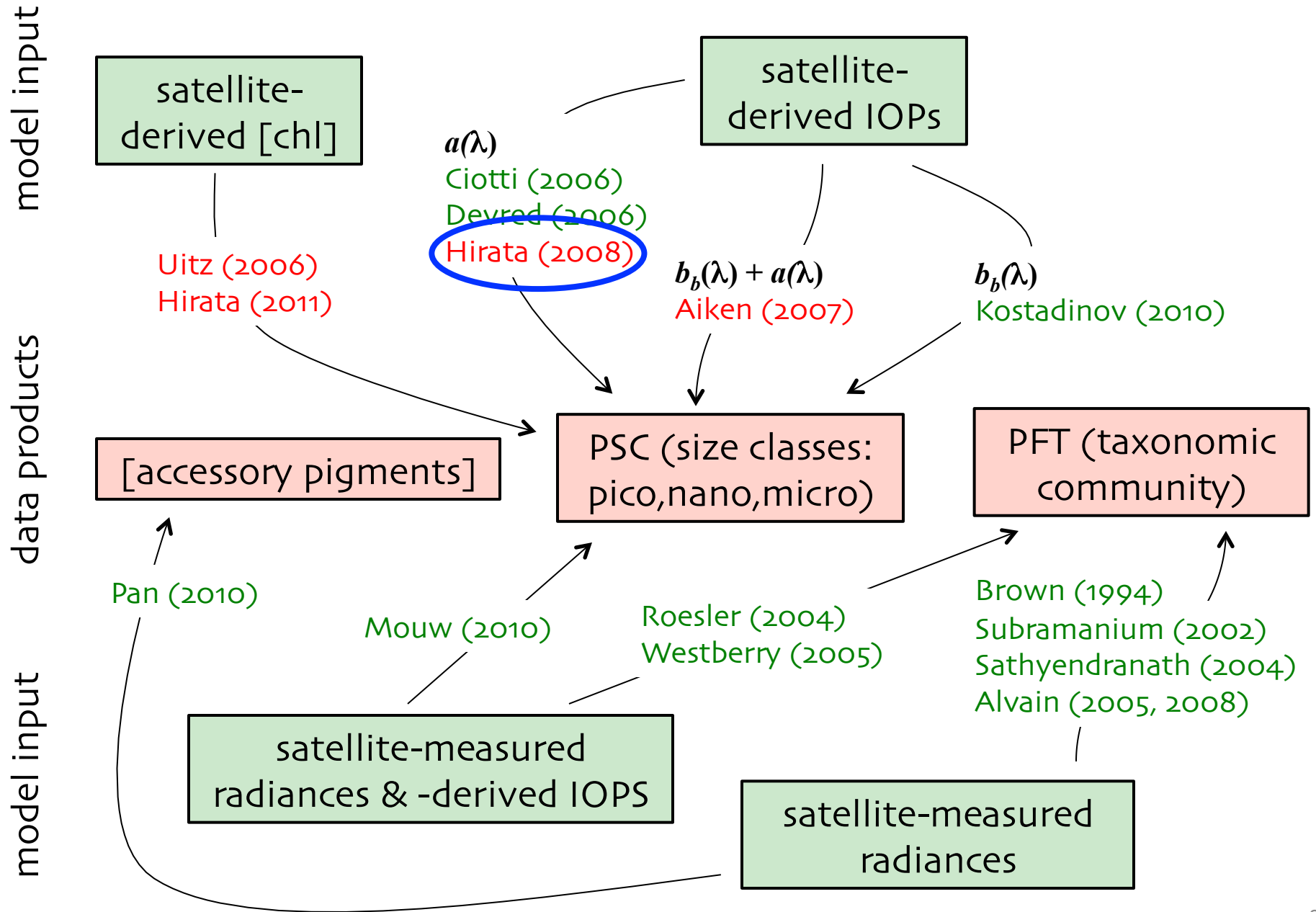


# abundance – Chl as input



estimates of marine productivity

# outline



# abundance – IOPs as input

Remote Sensing of Environment 112 (2008) 3153–3159



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Remote Sensing of Environment

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/rse](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/rse)



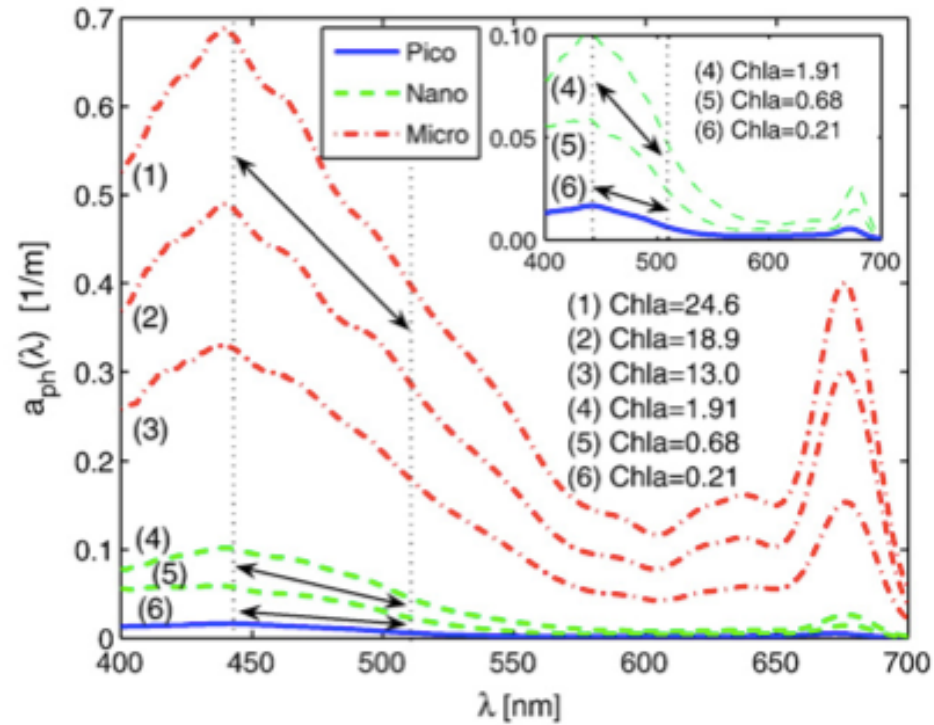
An absorption model to determine phytoplankton size classes from satellite ocean colour

T. Hirata<sup>a,b,\*</sup>, J. Aiken<sup>a,b</sup>, N. Hardman-Mountford<sup>a,b</sup>, T.J. Smyth<sup>a,b</sup>, R.G. Barlow<sup>c</sup>

assign a dominant PSC to each satellite pixel



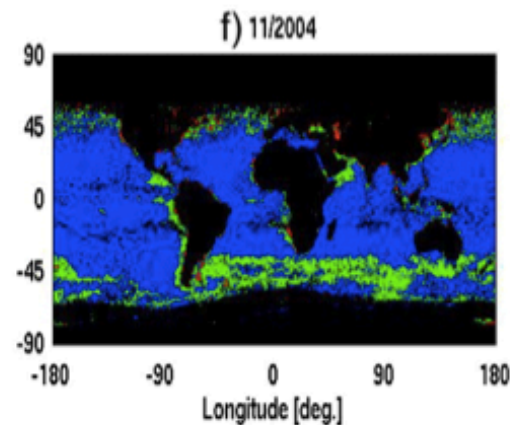
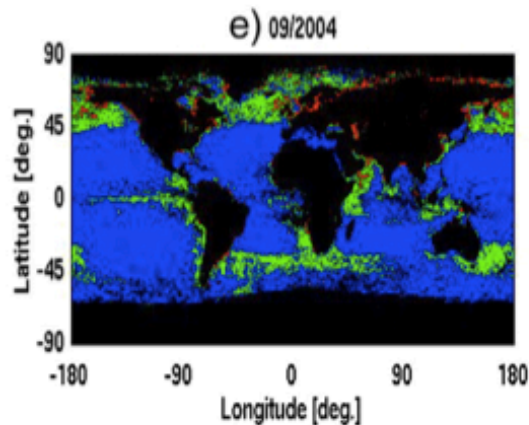
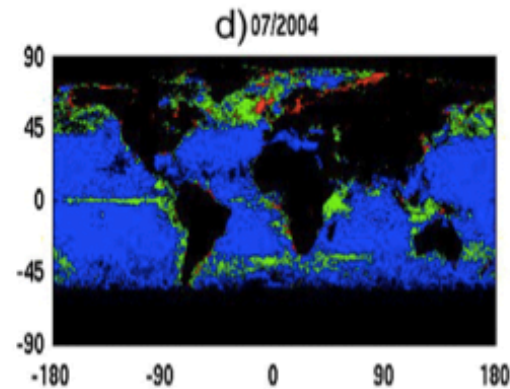
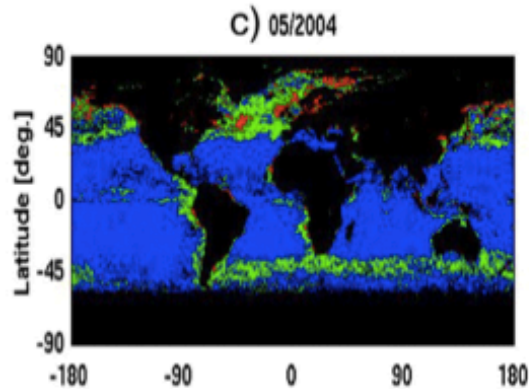
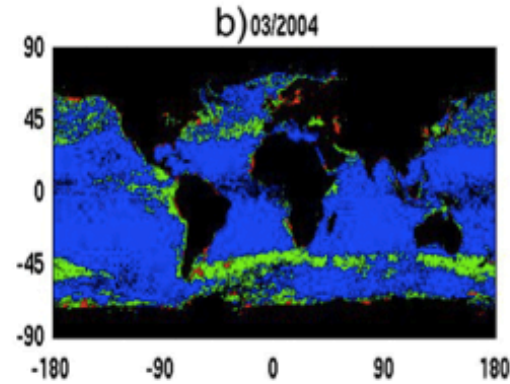
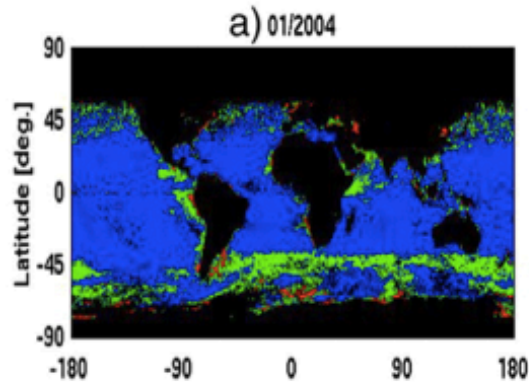
# abundance – IOPs as input



**Fig. 1.** Phytoplankton absorption spectra for a range of Chla (24.6, 18.9, 13.0, 1.91, 0.68, 0.21  $\text{mg m}^{-3}$ ) and taxonomic size classes (pico, nano and micro) with decreasing slope from high to low  $a_{ph}(\lambda)$  and Chla; inset spectra of pico and nanoplankton at expanded range.

premise – slope of  $a_{ph}(443)$  to  $a_{ph}(510)$  & magnitude of  $a_{ph}(443)$  vary with PSC

# abundance – IOPs as input



micro when  
 $a_{ph}(443) > 0.069 \text{ m}^{-1}$

pico when  
 $a_{ph}(443) < 0.023 \text{ m}^{-1}$

nano otherwise

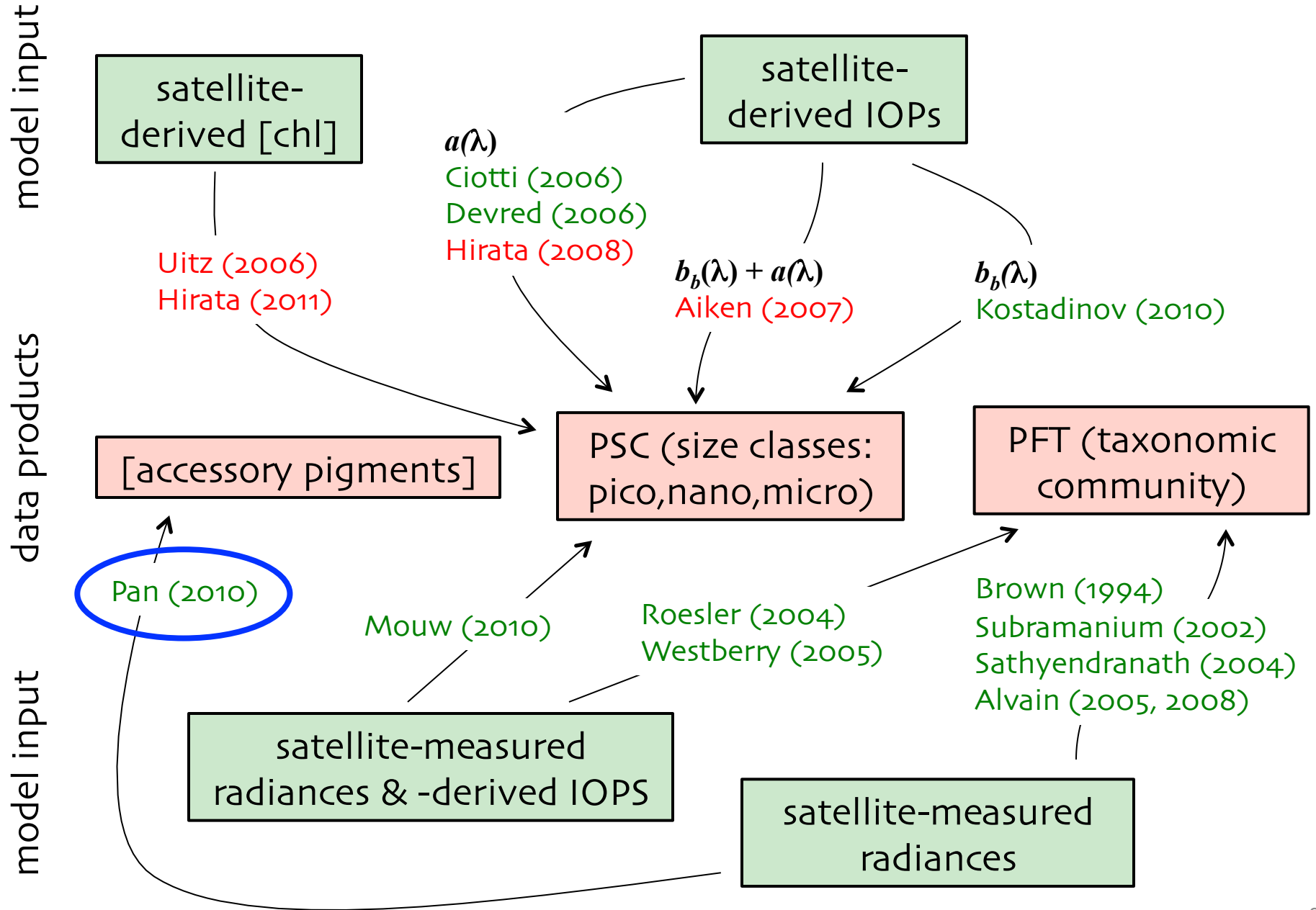
## spectral methods

exploit variations realized in the spectral shape of  $R_{rs}(\lambda)$  or IOPs with varying phytoplankton community structure

unlike abundance approaches, these can detect different PFTs/PSCs with common total biomass, provided the groups have contrasting optical signatures

but, often confounded by variations of spectral characteristics of the same PFT/PSC due to growth conditions, nutrient availability, & ambient light regimes

# outline



# spectral – $R_{rs}(\lambda)$ as input

Remote Sensing of Environment 114 (2010) 2403–2416



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Remote Sensing of Environment

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/rse](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/rse)



## Remote sensing of phytoplankton pigment distribution in the United States northeast coast

Xiaoju Pan <sup>a,\*</sup>, Antonio Mannino <sup>a</sup>, Mary E. Russ <sup>a</sup>, Stanford B. Hooker <sup>a</sup>, Lawrence W. Harding Jr. <sup>b</sup>

<sup>a</sup> NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, Greenbelt, MD 20771, USA

<sup>b</sup> Horn Point Laboratory, University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science, Box 775, Cambridge, MD 21613, USA

provide estimate of phytoplankton accessory pigment concentration ( $\text{mg m}^{-3}$ ) for each satellite pixel

# spectral – $R_{rs}(\lambda)$ as input

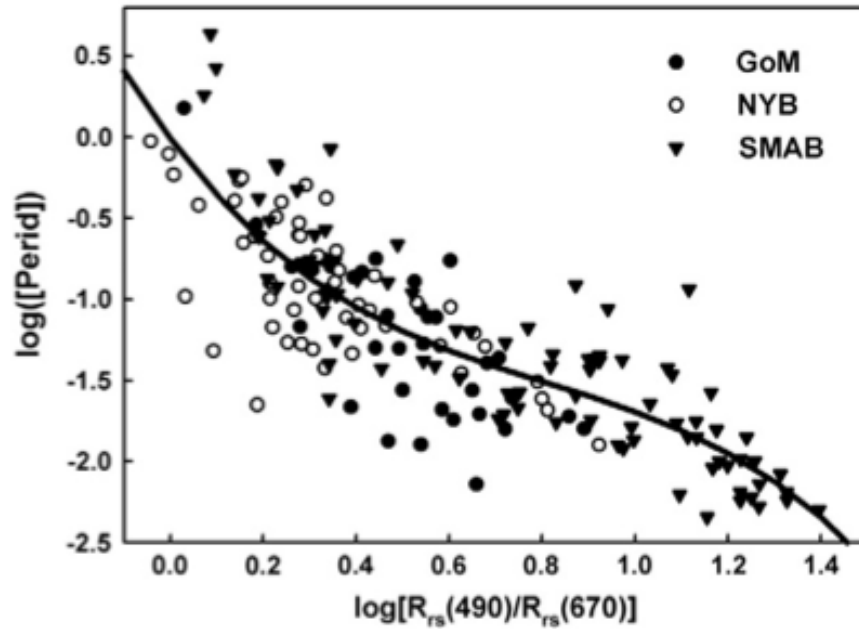


Fig. 4. Algorithm development for peridinin concentration ([Perid]). See Fig. 3 for detailed description.

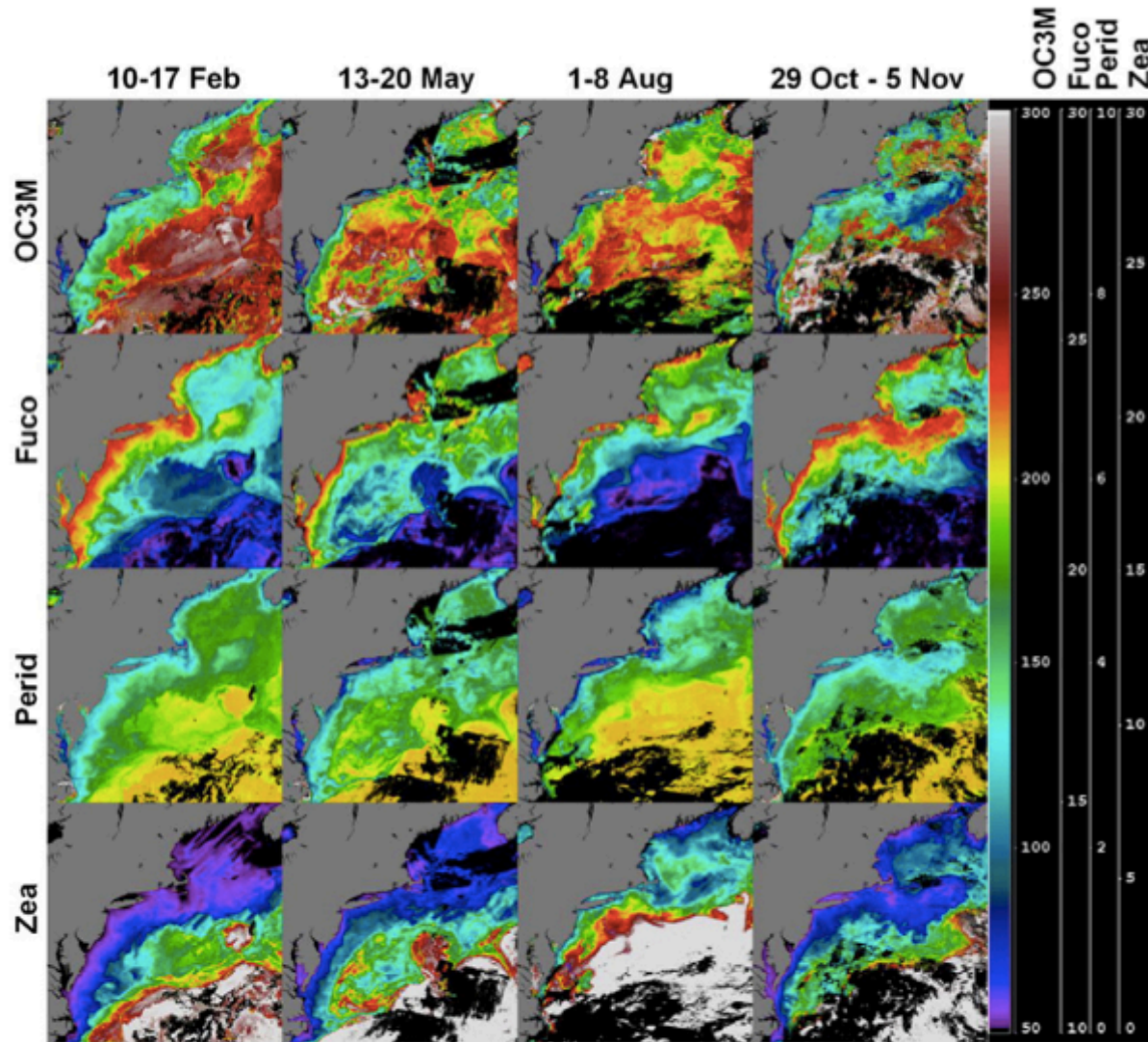
Table 4

Derived coefficients for pigment algorithms from Eq. (1):  $\log[\text{Pigment}] = A_0 + A_1X + A_2X^2 + A_3X^3$ , where  $X = \log[R_{rs}(\lambda_1)/R_{rs}(\lambda_2)] - 1.5\log(T_w)$  for Zea, but  $X = \log[R_{rs}(\lambda_1)/R_{rs}(\lambda_2)]$  for other pigments. Total data points  $N = 196$ . A set of 2nd-order polynomial functions replaced the 3rd-order polynomial functions for Fuco due to their similar regression results and more reasonable performance.

Pigments	$\lambda_1/\lambda_2$	$A_0$	$A_1$	$A_2$	$A_3$	$r^2$	RMSE
<i>Group_A pigments</i>							
TChl_a	490/555	0.02534	-3.033	2.096	-1.607	0.86	0.244
	488/547	0.03664	-3.451	2.276	-1.096	0.83	0.261
	490/670	1.351	-2.427	0.9395	-0.2432	0.89	0.217
TChl_c	490/555	-0.7750	-3.071	0.7940	-1.559	0.81	0.302
	488/547	-0.7584	-3.511	0.4116	-0.4283	0.79	0.314
	490/670	0.4424	-2.291	1.190	-0.5307	0.82	0.293
Caro	490/555	-1.344	-2.604	3.050	-3.351	0.84	0.232
	488/547	-1.341	-2.952	3.802	-4.256	0.82	0.245
	490/670	-0.01909	-2.775	1.703	-0.5496	0.86	0.212
Fuco	490/555	-0.6334	-3.533	1.317	-	0.77	0.356
	488/547	-0.6208	-3.928	1.339	-	0.75	0.373
	490/670	0.6908	-2.053	0.2658	-	0.77	0.346
<i>Group_B pigments</i>							
TChl_b	490/555	-1.101	-1.993	0.9228	-7.980	0.70	0.294
	488/547	-1.097	-2.348	0.9633	-9.374	0.69	0.299
Allo	490/555	-1.402	-4.114	-0.9104	0.9988	0.72	0.384
	488/547	-1.401	-4.816	-1.264	5.838	0.71	0.391
	490/670	0.04234	-2.747	1.562	-0.8771	0.77	0.345
Dia	490/555	-1.001	-2.626	1.501	-3.736	0.74	0.310
	488/547	-0.9963	-3.113	1.635	-2.164	0.72	0.318
Perid	490/555	-1.416	-2.363	2.565	-4.186	0.64	0.352
	488/547	-1.401	-2.817	2.634	-2.396	0.62	0.365
	490/670	-0.01038	-3.807	3.612	-1.489	0.70	0.327
Lut	490/555	-2.196	-1.935	2.042	-3.601	0.53	0.314
	488/547	-2.188	-2.037	2.179	-10.16	0.53	0.313
Neo	490/555	-1.984	-1.790	1.610	-11.31	0.73	0.239
	488/547	-1.983	-2.151	2.134	-12.67	0.70	0.251
Viola	490/555	-1.950	-1.285	2.595	-14.65	0.67	0.273
	488/547	-1.947	-1.601	3.258	-17.31	0.63	0.285
<i>Group_C pigment</i>							
Zea	490/555	-11.58	-17.94	-11.02	-2.323	0.65	0.293
	488/547	-9.885	-14.84	-9.230	-1.998	0.64	0.296

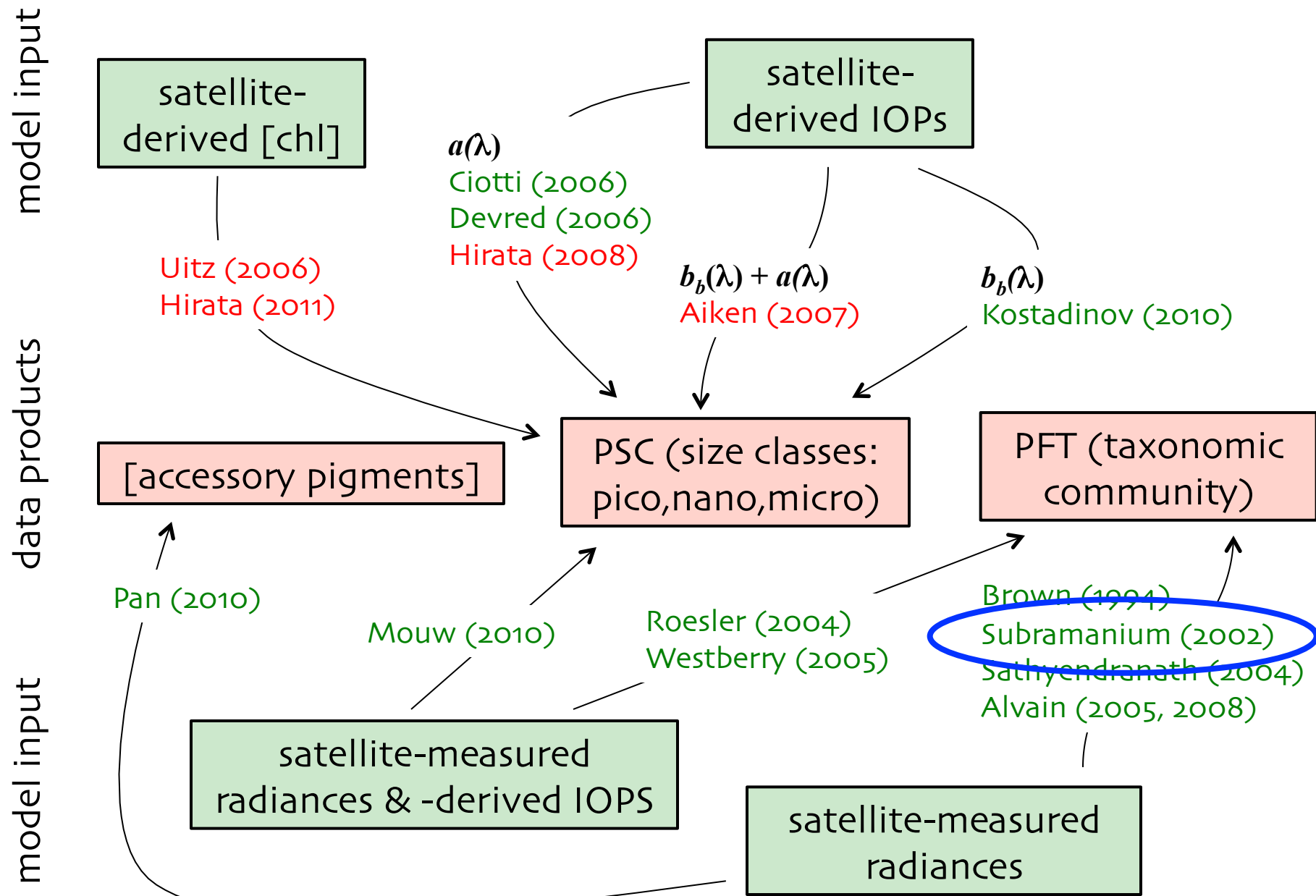


# spectral – $R_{rs}(\lambda)$ as input



**Fig. 8.** The distributions of the percentages pigment concentrations relative to  $[TChl_a]$  calculated from our algorithms for OC3M  $TChl_a$ , Fuco, Perid, and Zea in the U.S. northeast coast in 2006. See Fig. 7 for detailed description. The scales of the color bar are 50–300 (%) for OC3M, 10–30 (%) for Fuco, 0–10 (%) for Perid, and 0–30 (%) for Zea.

# outline





# spectral – $R_{rs}(\lambda)$ as input



PERGAMON

Deep-Sea Research II 49 (2002) 107–121

DEEP-SEA RESEARCH  
PART II

[www.elsevier.com/locate/dsr2](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/dsr2)

## Detecting *Trichodesmium* blooms in SeaWiFS imagery

Ajit Subramaniam<sup>a,\*</sup>, Christopher W. Brown<sup>b</sup>, Raleigh R. Hood<sup>c</sup>,  
Edward J. Carpenter<sup>d</sup>, Douglas G. Capone<sup>a</sup>

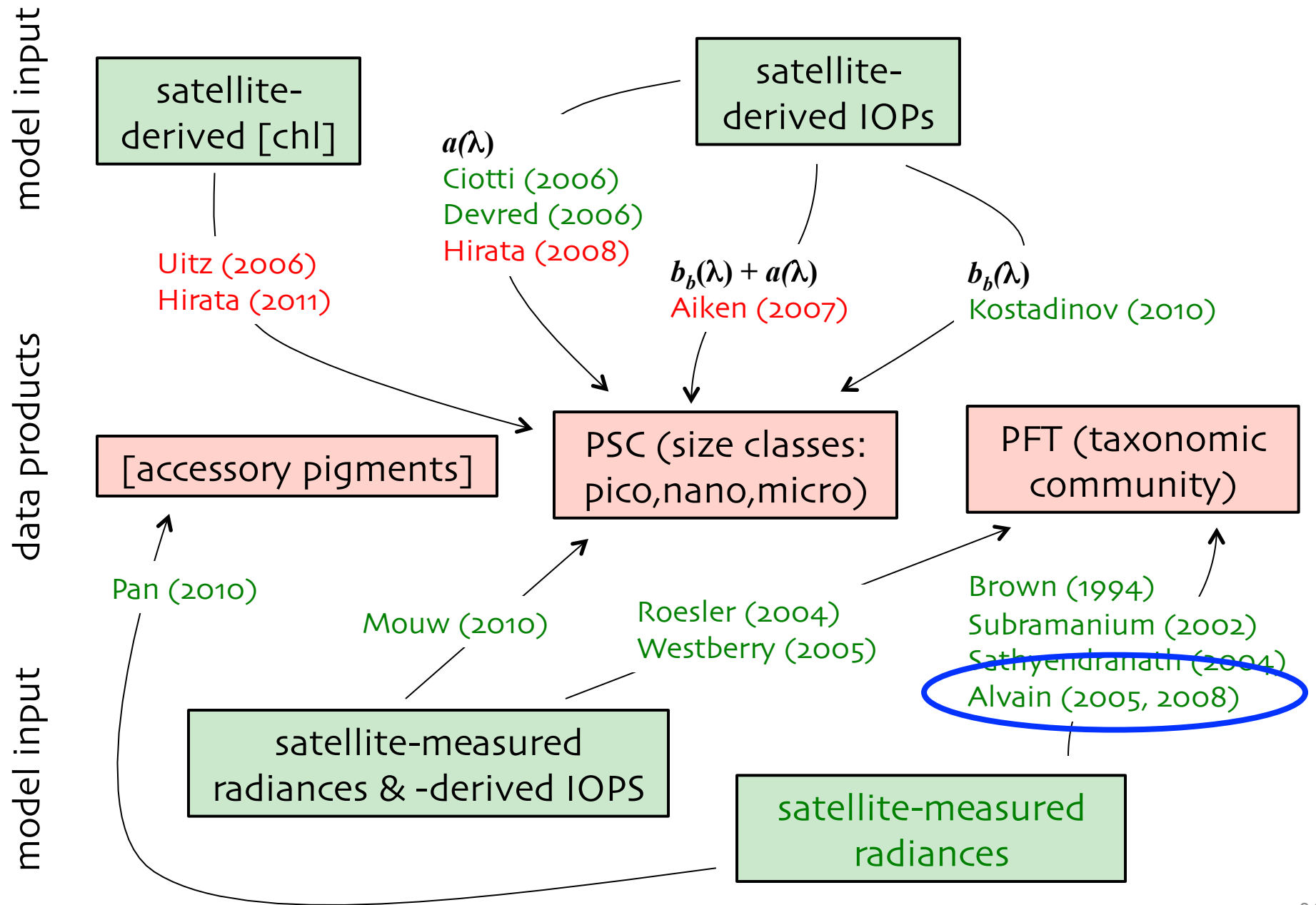
### 3.4. Classification scheme

Based upon these empirical observations and model results, we propose the following classification scheme to identify the presence of *Trichodesmium* at moderate chlorophyll concentrations (0.5–3.0 mg/m<sup>3</sup>) in SeaWiFS imagery: A pixel was flagged as dominated by *Trichodesmium* if the following three criteria were satisfied:

1.  $nLw(490) > 1.3 \text{ mW cm}^2/\mu\text{m/sr}$  and  $nLw(490) > nLw(412), nLw(443), nLw(555)$
2.  $nLw(510) > nLw(443)$
3.  $0.4 < [nLw(490) - nLw(443)] / [nLw(490) - nLw(555)] < 0.6$

Criteria #1 and #2 represent absolute and relative magnitude thresholds, while criterion #3 depends on spectral shape. The threshold for  $nLw(490)$  was employed because it was a

# outline



# spectral – $R_{rs}(\lambda)$ as input



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Deep-Sea Research I 52 (2005) 1989–2004

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DEEP-SEA RESEARCH  
PART I

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[www.elsevier.com/locate/dsr](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/dsr)

## Remote sensing of phytoplankton groups in case 1 waters from global SeaWiFS imagery

S. Alvain<sup>a</sup>, C. Moulin<sup>a,\*</sup>, Y. Dandonneau<sup>b</sup>, F.M. Bréon<sup>a</sup>

provide estimate of dominant PFT for each pixel

## spectral – $R_{rs}(\lambda)$ as input

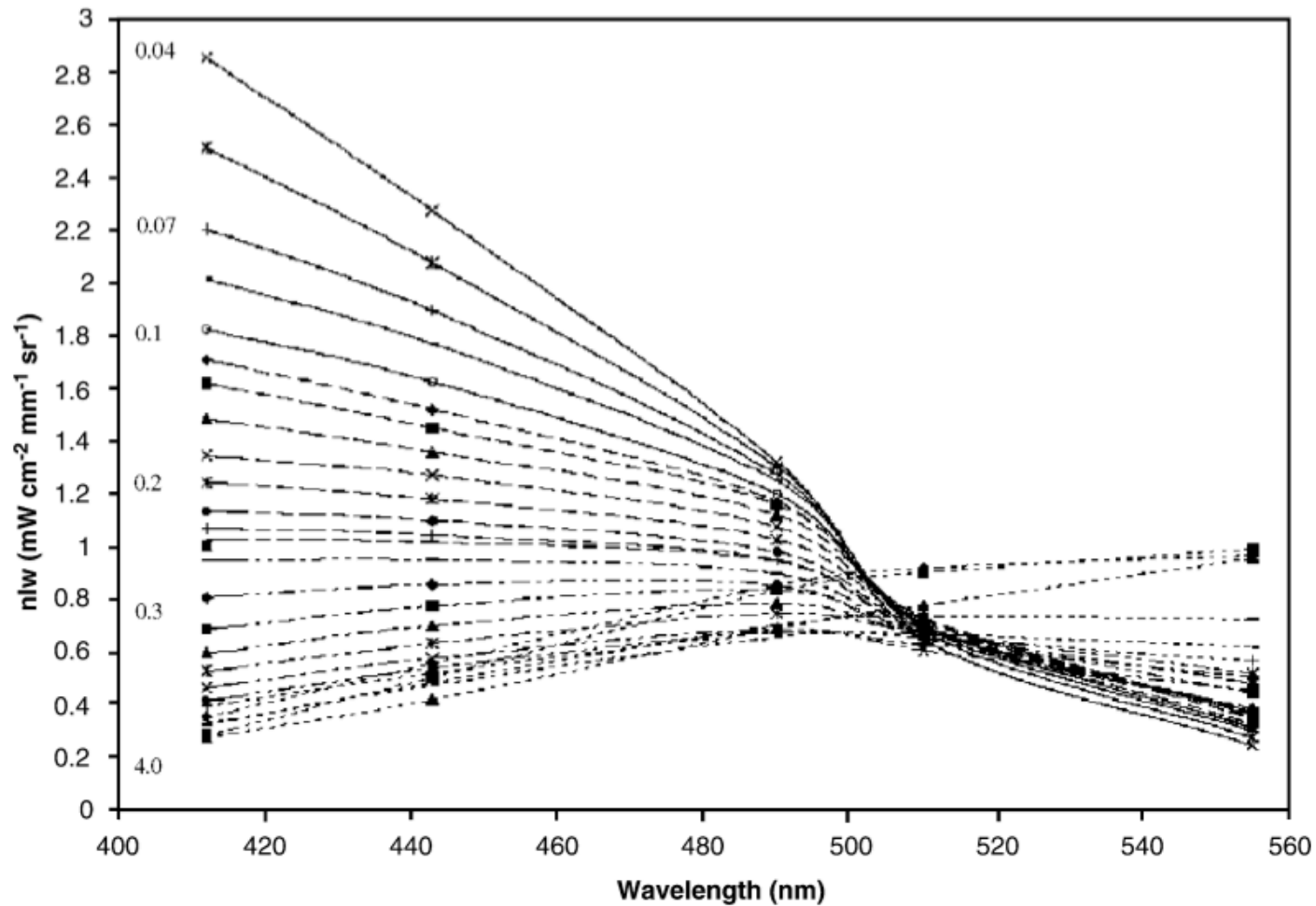


Fig. 1. Normalized water-leaving radiance  $nL_w$  as a function of wavelength for various chlorophyll- $a$ . Average spectra were obtained from 28 800 coincident SeaWiFS chlorophyll  $a$  concentration and  $nL_w$  spectra located in the vicinity of the GeP&CO ship tracks.

average satellite  $nL_w(\lambda)$  for a range of Chl

## spectral – $R_{rs}(\lambda)$ as input

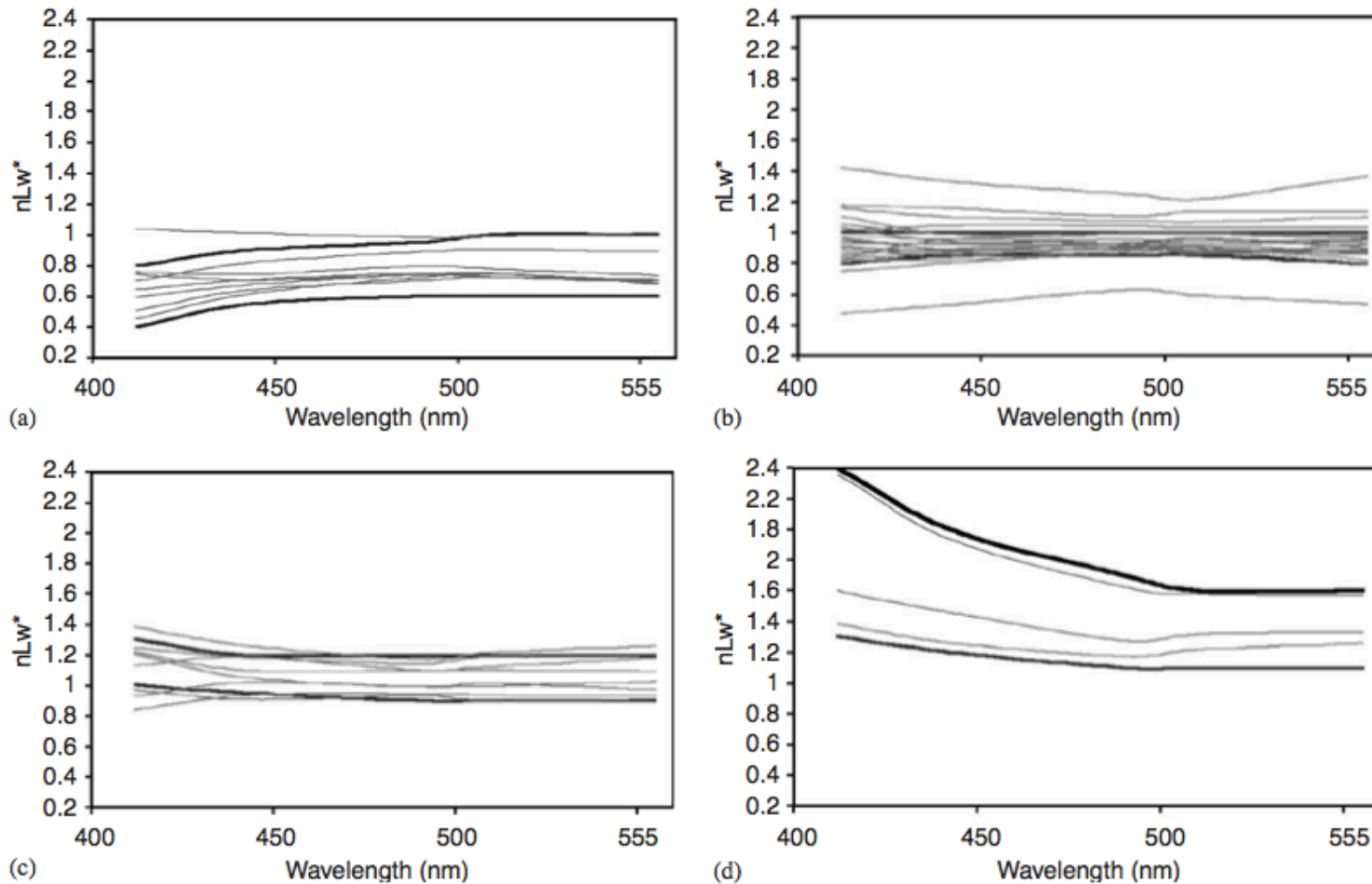
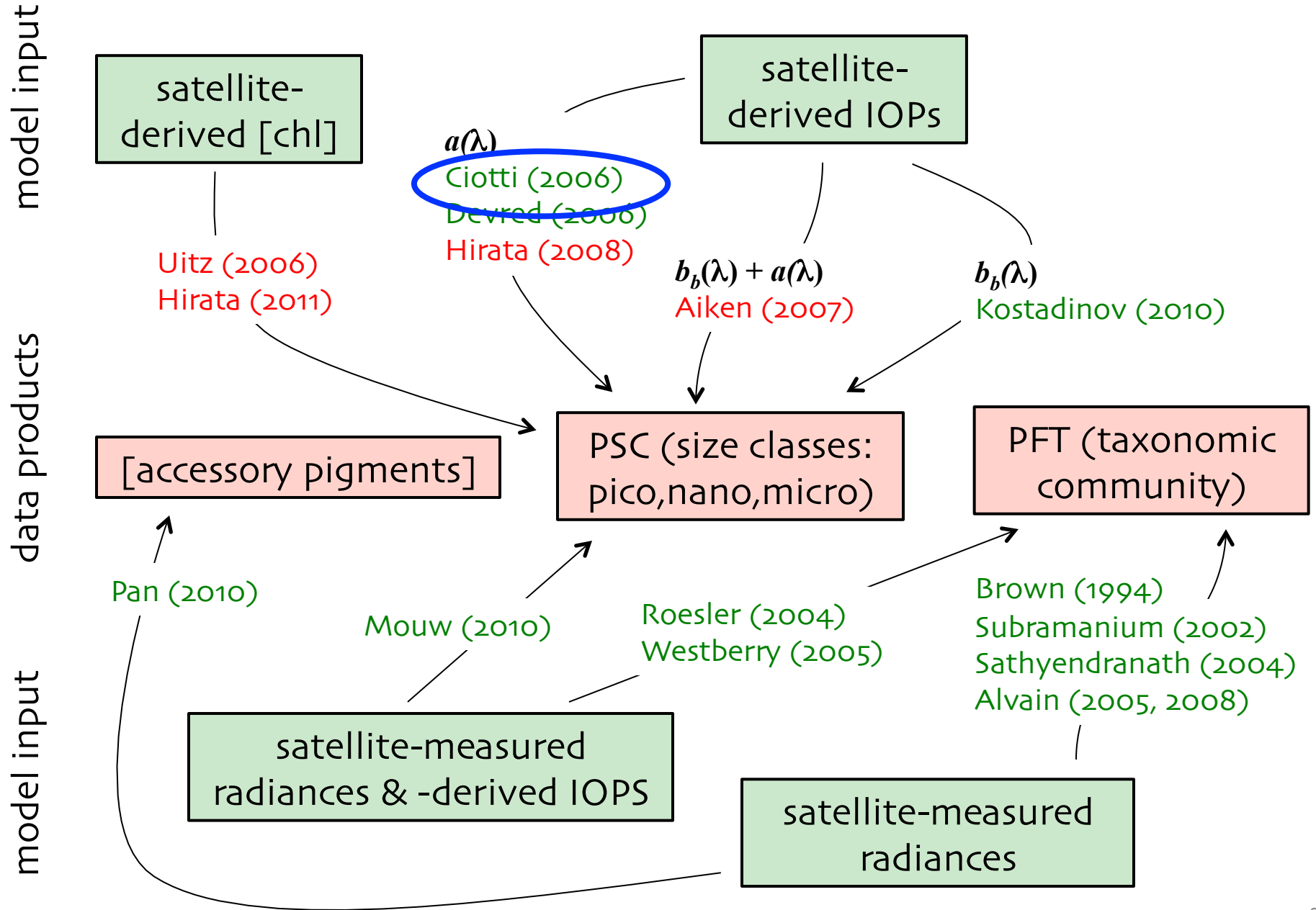


Fig. 5. Spectral signatures of  $nLw^*$  of the four different phytoplankton assemblages, dominated by (a) haptophytes, (b) *Prochlorococcus*, (c) SLC and (d) diatoms. Individual SeaWiFS  $nLw^*$  are depicted by the grey lines. Bold plain lines show the minimum and maximum spectral values of  $nLw^*$  defined in Table 5 to characterize phytoplankton groups.

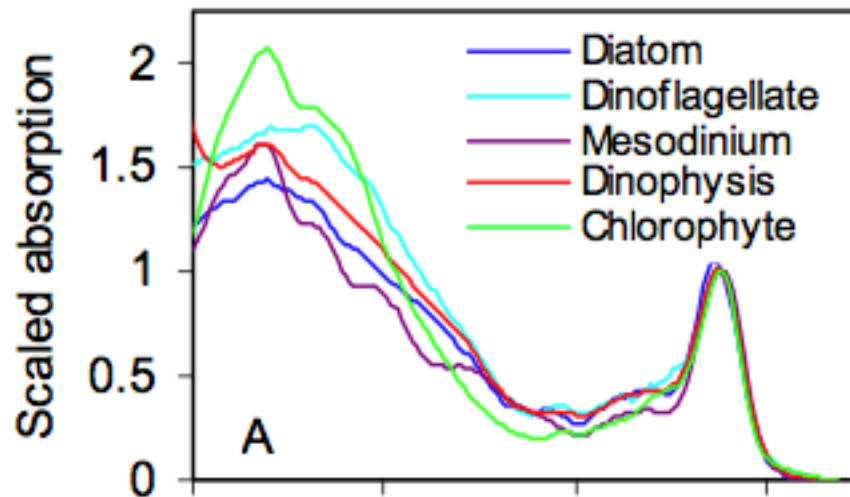
$nL_w(\lambda)$  anomalies for each PFT

# outline



## spectral – $a_{ph}(\lambda)$ as input

$$a(\lambda) = a_w(\lambda) + \sum_{i=1}^{N_\phi} A_{\phi_i} a_{\phi_i}^*(\lambda) \\ + \sum_{i=1}^{N_d} A_{d_i} a_{d_i}^*(\lambda) + \sum_{i=1}^{N_g} A_{g_i} a_{g_i}^*(\lambda),$$



Roesler et al. 2004

# spectral – $a_{ph}(\lambda)$ as input

## LIMNOLOGY and OCEANOGRAPHY: METHODS

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*Limnol. Oceanogr.: Methods* 4, 2006, 237–253  
© 2006, by the American Society of Limnology and Oceanography, Inc.

### **Retrievals of a size parameter for phytoplankton and spectral light absorption by colored detrital matter from water-leaving radiances at SeaWiFS channels in a continental shelf region off Brazil**

*Aurea M. Ciotti<sup>1</sup> and Annick Bricaud<sup>2</sup>*

<sup>1</sup>UNESP–CLP/SV, Campus do Litoral Paulista, Praça Infante Dom Henrique s/nº, São Vicente (SP), Brazil

<sup>2</sup>CNRS, Laboratoire d'Océanographie de Villefranche, Villefranche-sur-Mer; Université Pierre et Marie Curie-Paris, Laboratoire d'Océanographie de Villefranche, Villefranche-sur-Mer, France

estimate the relative fraction of 2 PSCs for each pixel



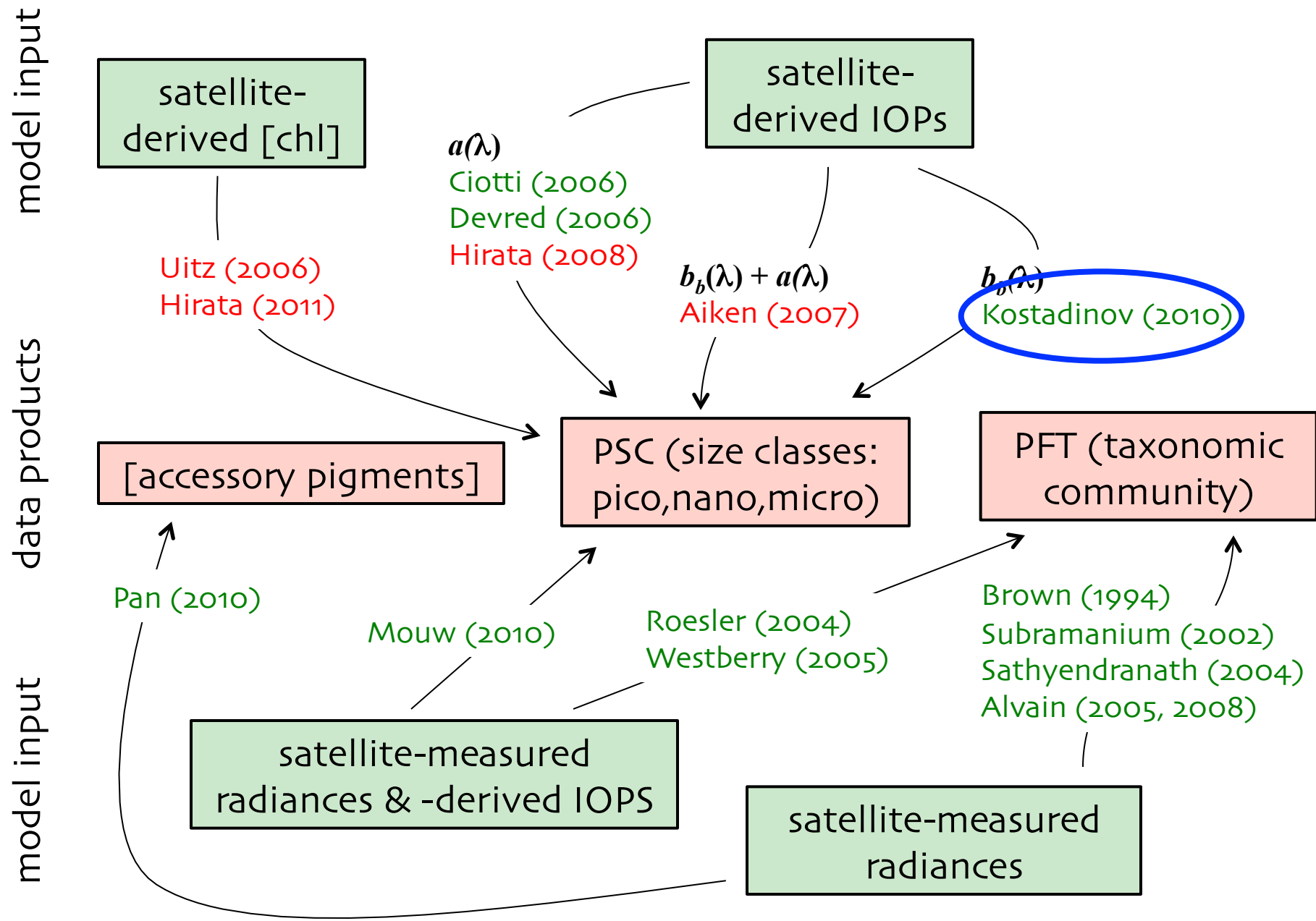
## spectral – $a_{ph}(\lambda)$ as input

deconvolve  $a_{ph}(\lambda)$  from an inversion algorithm into contributions by two size classes

$$a_{\phi}(\lambda) = a_{\langle\phi\rangle}(\lambda) \cdot \{[S_f \cdot \bar{a}_{\langle pico \rangle}(\lambda)] + [(1 - S_f) \cdot \bar{a}_{\langle micro \rangle}(\lambda)]\} \quad (1)$$

where  $\bar{a}_{\langle pico \rangle}(\lambda)$  and  $\bar{a}_{\langle micro \rangle}(\lambda)$  are the “basis vectors” (or absorption spectra normalized by their own average over the visible spectrum) corresponding to picoplankton and microplankton, respectively, and  $a_{\langle\phi\rangle}(\lambda)$  is the scaling factor to be applied to the normalized absorption spectrum. The size parameter  $S_f$  is a parameter constrained to vary between 0 and 1 and specifying the relative contributions of picoplankton and microplankton to

# outline



# spectral – $b_{bp}(\lambda)$ as input

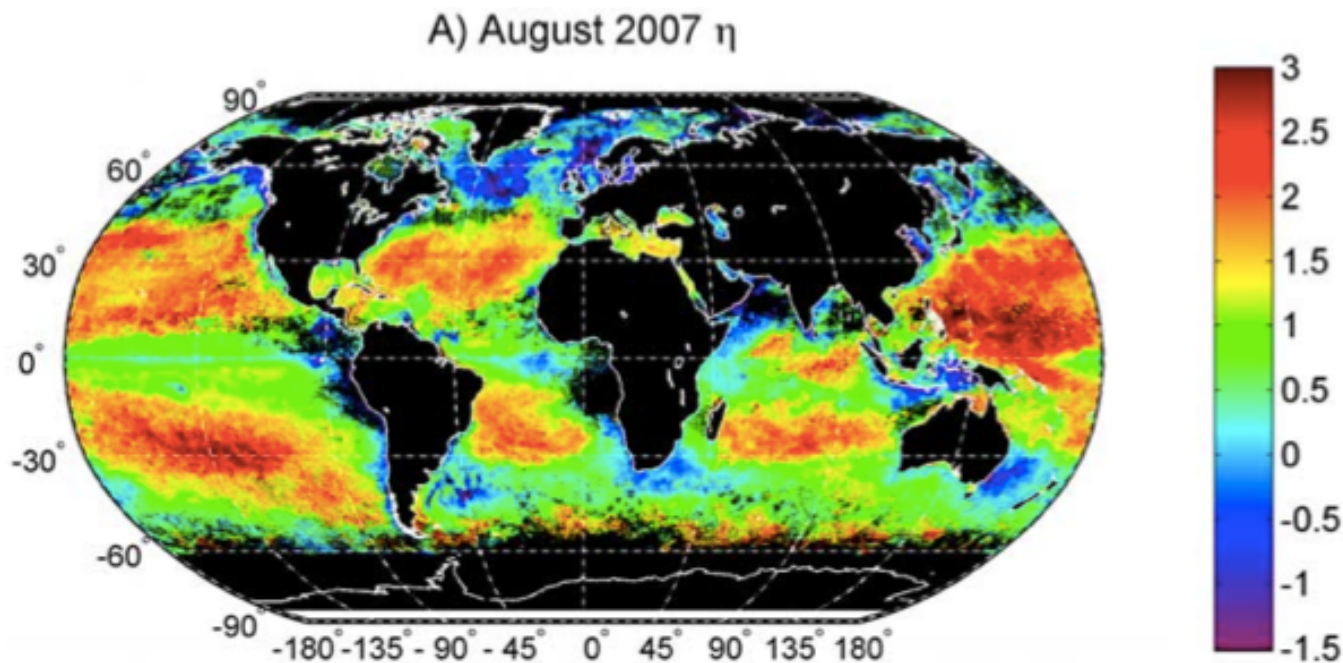
JOURNAL OF GEOPHYSICAL RESEARCH, VOL. 114, C09015, doi:10.1029/2009JC005303, 2009



$\eta$  from Loisel & Stramski 2000

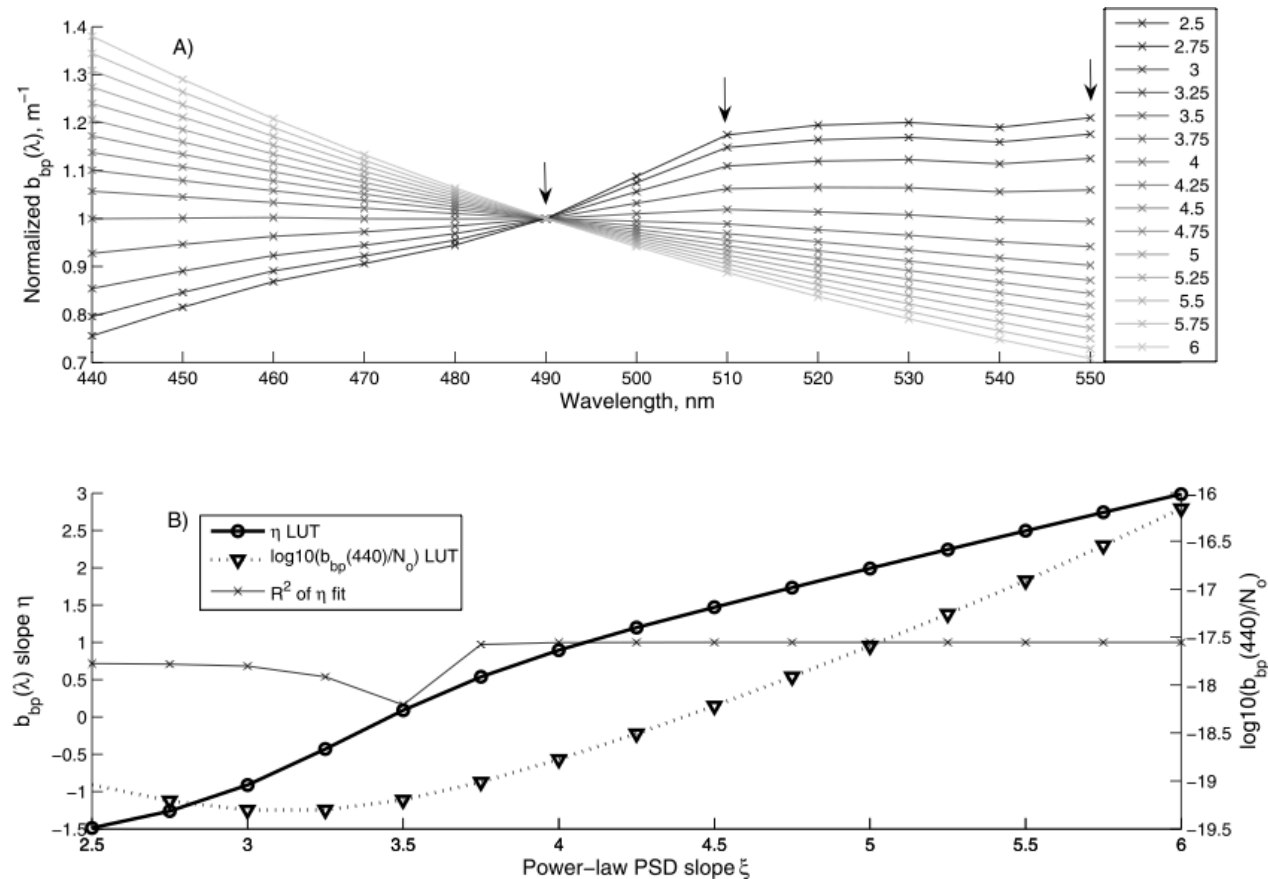
## Retrieval of the particle size distribution from satellite ocean color observations

T. S. Kostadinov,<sup>1,2</sup> D. A. Siegel,<sup>1,3</sup> and S. Maritorena<sup>1</sup>



estimate the relative fraction of 3 PSCs for each pixel

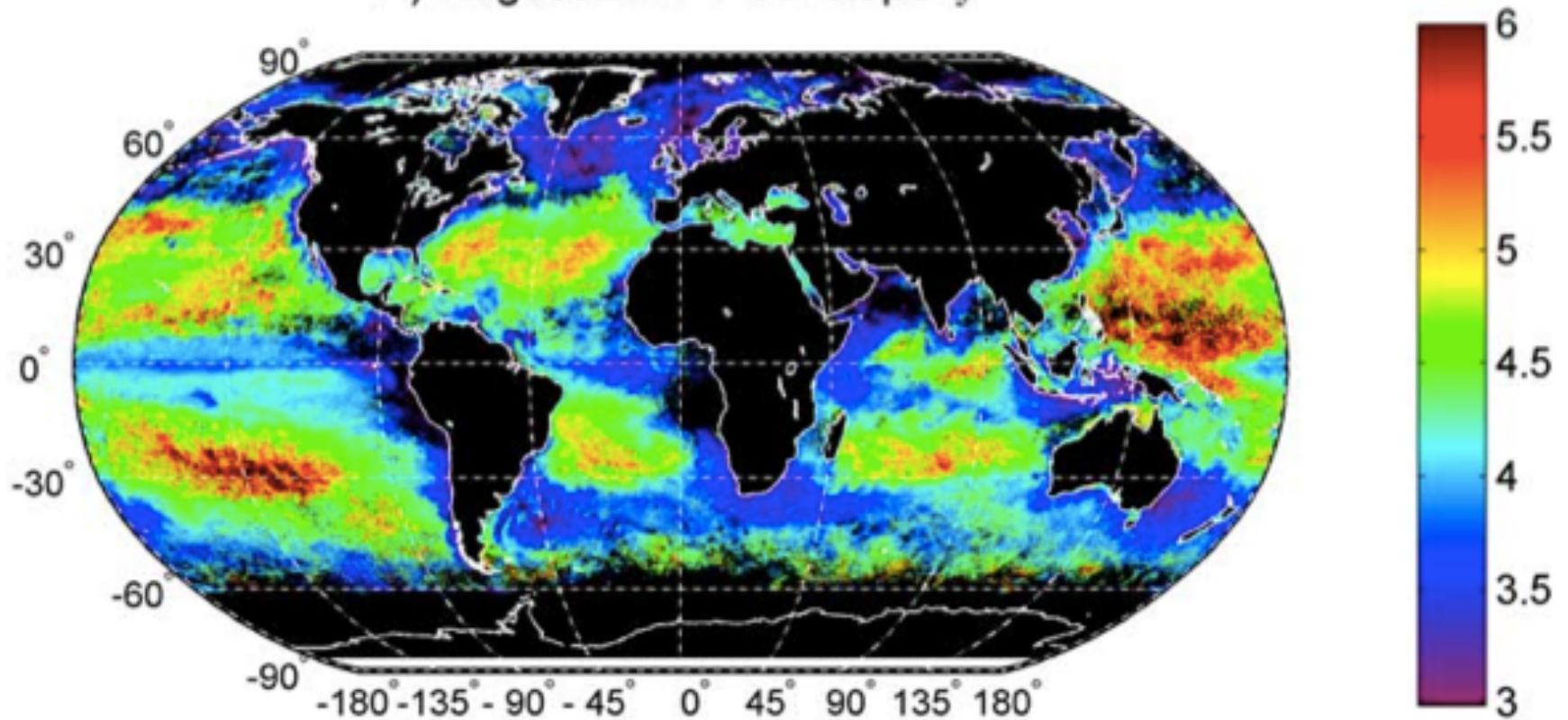
# spectral – $b_{bp}(\lambda)$ as input



**Figure 1.** Results of the forward Mie model run with the default parameters as in Table 1. (a) The resulting  $b_{bp}(\lambda)$  spectra are shown for different PSD slopes, as in the legend, from lowest ( $\xi = 2.5$ , black curve) to highest ( $\xi = 6$ , lightest shade of gray). The wavelengths at which Mie calculations were performed are marked with crosses. The particulate backscattering slope,  $\eta$ , was calculated using only the three wavelengths marked with arrows, both for modeled and SeaWiFS-retrieved spectra (see section 2.1 for details). (b) The resulting relationship between the power law slope of the PSD,  $\xi$ , and  $\eta$  (left y axis), as well as the relationship between  $\xi$  and the value of  $\log_{10}(b_{bp}(440)/N_o)$  (right y axis). These relationships are the basis of the look-up tables (LUTs) presented in the text. The determination coefficient,  $R^2$ , of the linear regression used to calculate the  $b_{bp}(\lambda)$  slope is also shown (scale on left y axis).

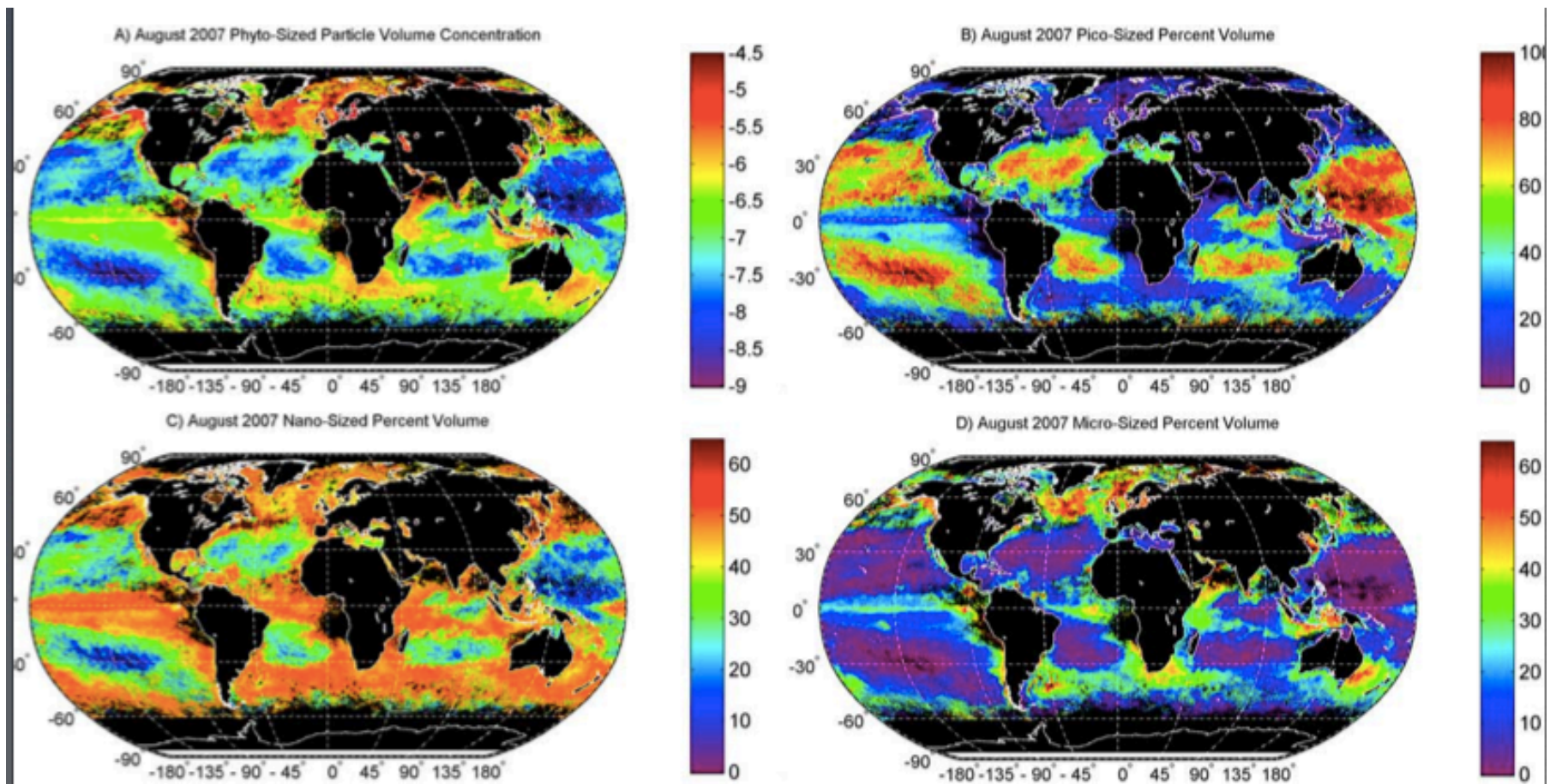
# spectral – $b_{bp}(\lambda)$ as input

A) August 2007 PSD slope  $\xi$



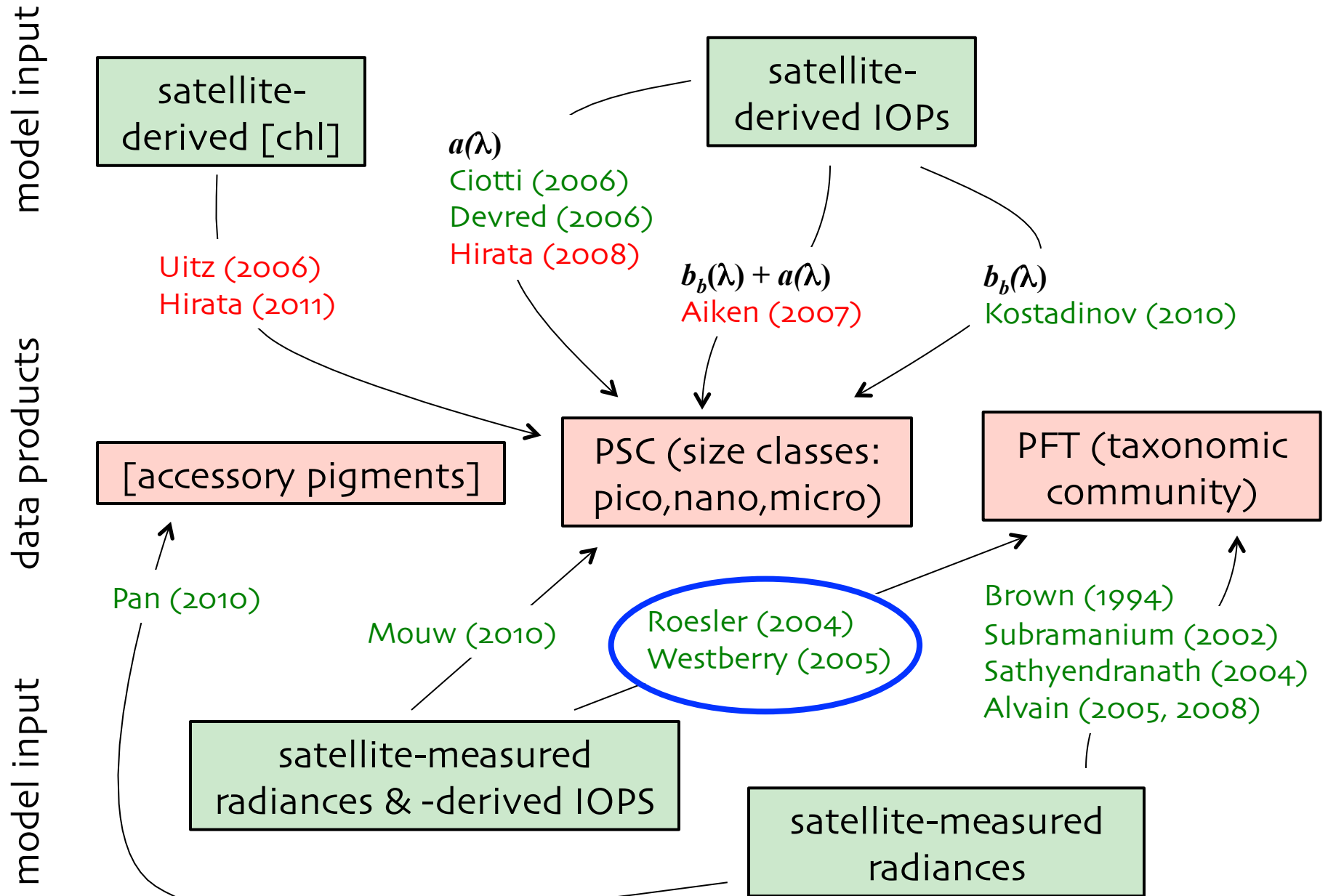


# spectral – $b_{bp}(\lambda)$ as input



**Figure 11.** Global maps of (a) volume concentration of phytoplankton-sized (0.5 and 50  $\mu\text{m}$ ) particles, a dimensionless quantity,  $\log_{10}(\text{volume of particles}/\text{volume of seawater})$ ; (b) percent volume due to picoplankton-sized particles (0.5–2  $\mu\text{m}$ ); (c) percent volume due to nanoplankton-sized particles (2–20  $\mu\text{m}$ ); and (d) percent volume due to microplankton-sized particles (20–50  $\mu\text{m}$ ).

# outline





# spectral – inversion modeling

inversion modeling as described in Lectures 19 & 20, except ...

## **Application of an Ocean Color Algal Taxa Detection Model to Red Tides in the Southern Benguela**

Collin S. Roesler<sup>1</sup>, Stacey M. Etheridge<sup>2</sup>, and Grant C. Pitcher<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Bigelow Laboratory for Ocean Sciences, PO Box 475, West Boothbay Harbor, ME 04575, USA;*

<sup>2</sup>*Department of Marine Science, University of Connecticut, 1084 Shennecossett Rd., Groton, CT 06340, USA;*

<sup>3</sup>*Marine and Coastal Management, Private Bag X2, Rogge Bay 8012, Cape Town, South Africa*

... solve for multiple  $a_{ph}(\lambda)$

GEOPHYSICAL RESEARCH LETTERS, VOL. 30, NO. 9, 1468, doi:10.1029/2002GL016185, 2003

## **Spectral beam attenuation coefficient retrieved from ocean color inversion**

Collin S. Roesler

Bigelow Laboratory for Ocean Sciences, West Boothbay Harbor, Maine, USA

Emmanuel Boss

School of Marine Sciences, University of Maine, Orono, Maine, USA

... solve for slope of beam-c

# outline

diverse bio-optical methods to estimate PSCs/PFTs exist

**their sensitivities remain unexplored**

most folks use proxy data sets for their validation

## algorithm sensitivities

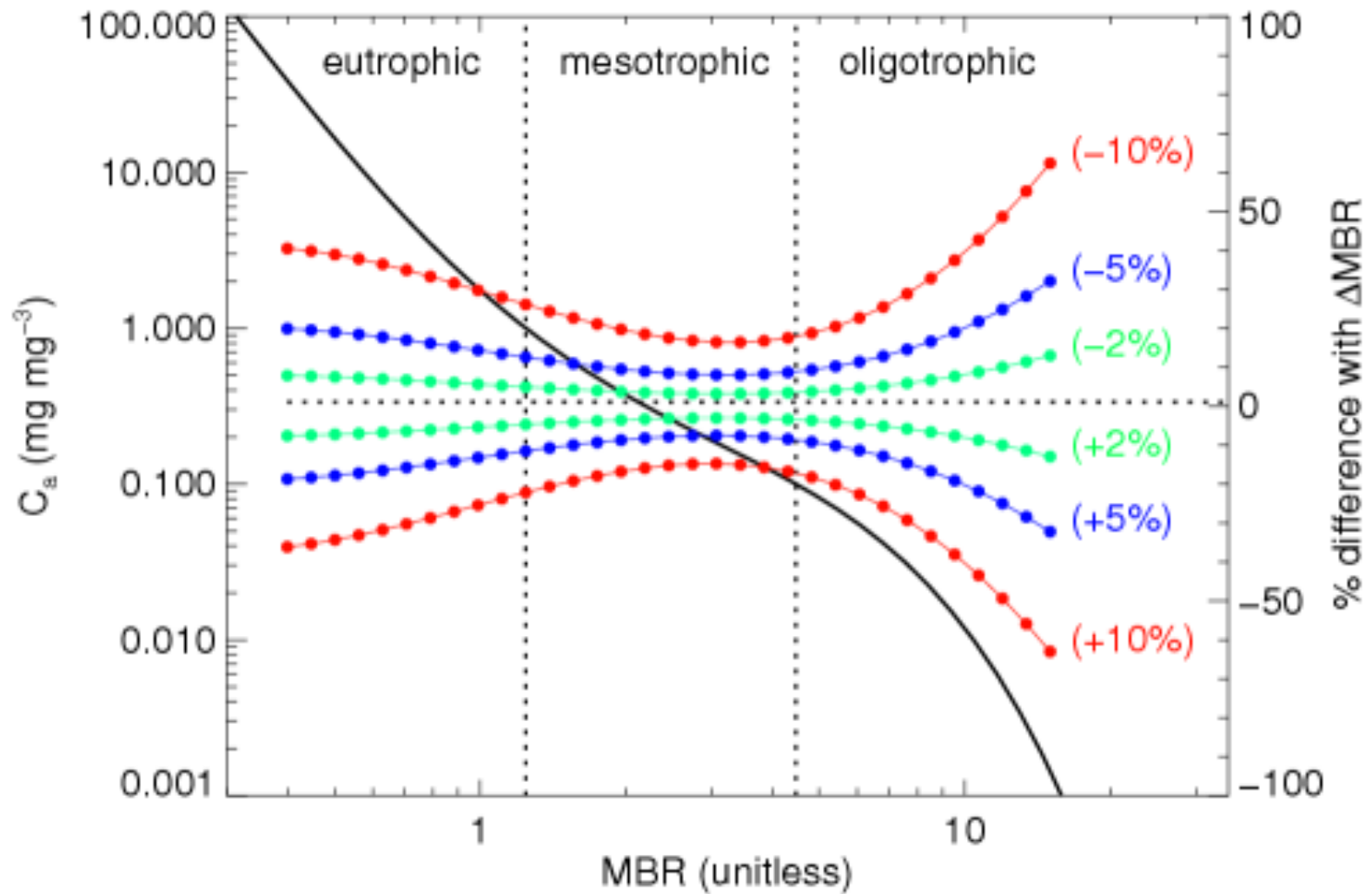
all PFT algorithms use derived products (e.g., Chl & IOPs) or make *a priori* environmental assumptions

unfortunately, few PFT/PSC modeling papers include robust analysis of the sensitivity of the model outputs to the model inputs

how sensitive are the abundance methods to uncertainties in derived Chl & IOPs?

how sensitive are the spectral methods to uncertainties in  $R_{rs}(\lambda)$  & derived  $a_{ph}(\lambda)$ ?

# sensitivity of the operational chl algorithm



# sensitivity of an inversion model to parameterization

Run	$N$	MPD			
		$b_{bp}$	$a$	$a_{dg}$	$a_{\phi}$
GIOP-DC	437	NA	NA	NA	NA
$S_{bp} - 33\%$	440	5.19	5.17	7.58	2.98
$S_{bp} + 33\%$	436	5.65	5.70	8.82	2.90
$S_{dg} - 33\%$	448	18.96	33.44	101.73	46.59
$S_{dg} + 33\%$	399	3.77	8.41	40.10	32.92
$S_{dg}$ from [7]	439	3.20	5.33	20.40	14.58
$C_a - 33\%$ in [14]	419	2.02	2.92	1.48	7.25
$C_a + 33\%$ in [14]	437	1.56	2.28	1.14	5.90
Fixed $C_a$ in [14]	369	4.57	7.89	2.60	21.68
$\alpha_{\phi}^*$ from [17]	357	8.33	12.72	7.04	22.23
$G$ from [22]	422	9.99	6.15	7.49	14.12
Matrix inversion	475	4.60	3.68	2.24	7.41
$400 \leq \lambda \leq 600$ nm	424	0.23	0.21	0.08	0.38

Werdell et al. 2013

# outline

diverse bio-optical methods to estimate PSCs/PFTs exist

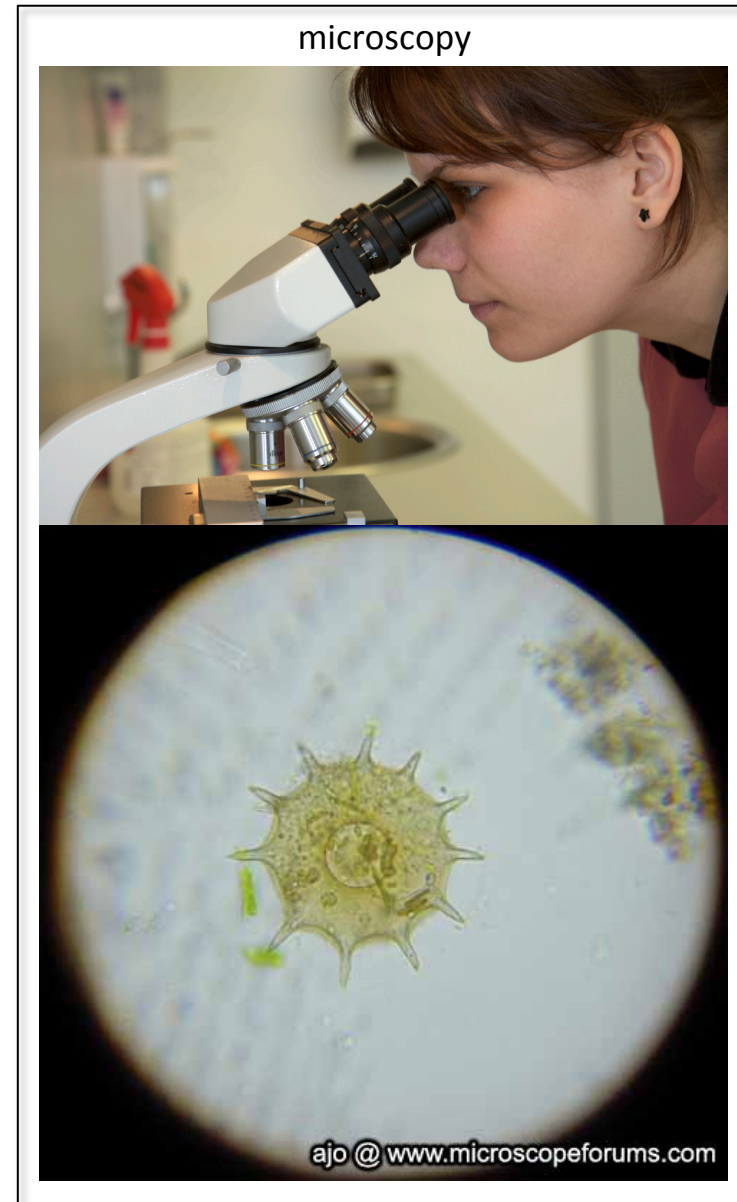
their sensitivities remain unexplored

**most folks use proxy data sets for their validation**

# measuring PSCs & PFTs in the field

microscopy  
flow cytometry  
coulter counters  
video imaging  
continuous plankton recorder  
spectroscopy  
pigment analyses  
etc.

most ocean color  
PFT/PSC  
algorithms tuned  
& validated using  
this proxy method



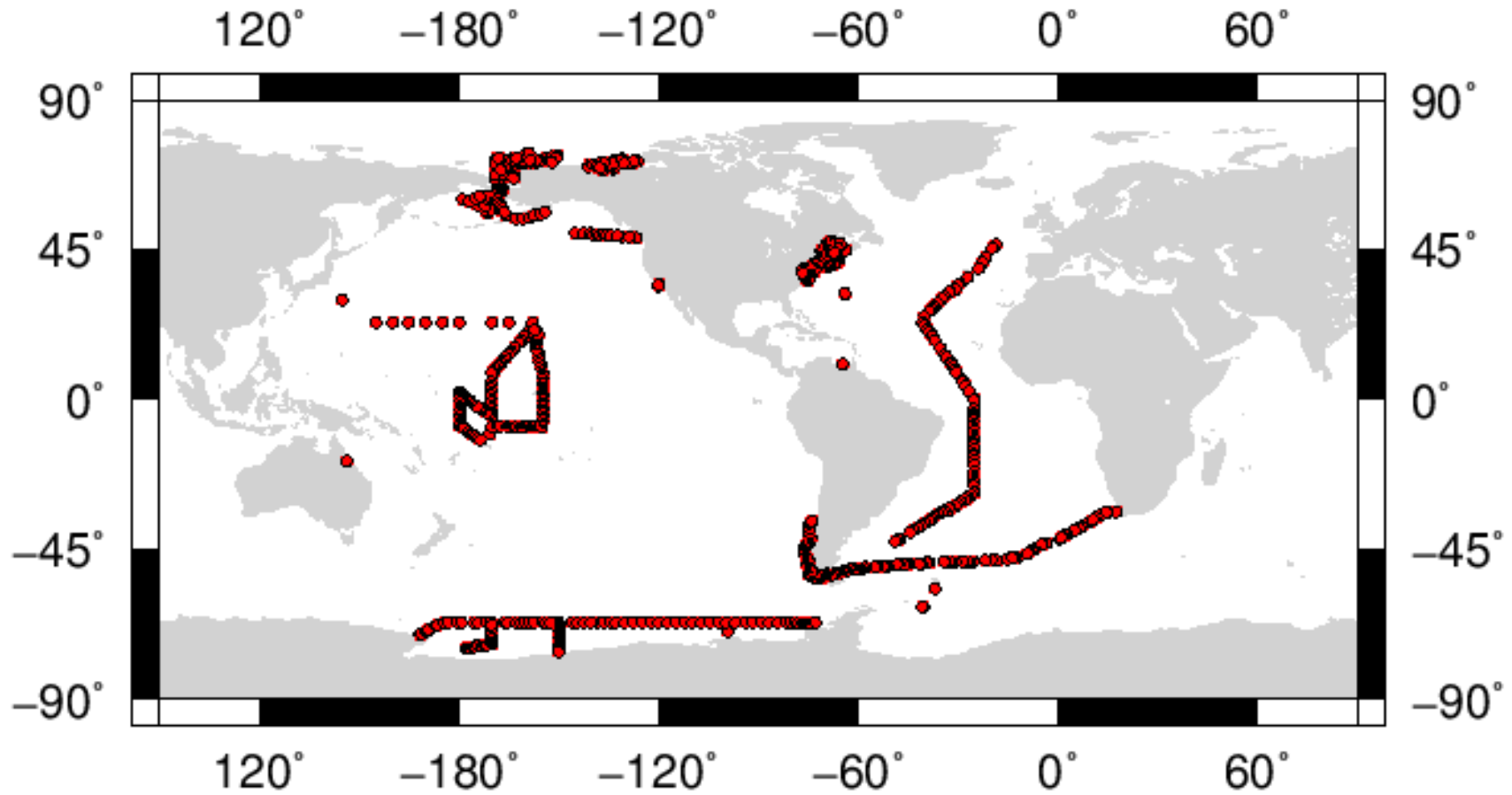


# HPLC measurements as proxy PFT/PSC data

all authors acknowledged the need for rigorous validation via microscopic or flow cytometric enumeration of phytoplankton cells

these measurements are scarce, whereas HPLC pigment data are now abundant & globally distributed

# NASA HPLC measurements since 2009



# HPLC measurements as proxy PFT/PSC data

## weaknesses in DPA:

various phytoplankton groups share some taxonomic pigments (e.g., fucoxanthin in diatoms, plus dinoflagellates & Phaeocystis)

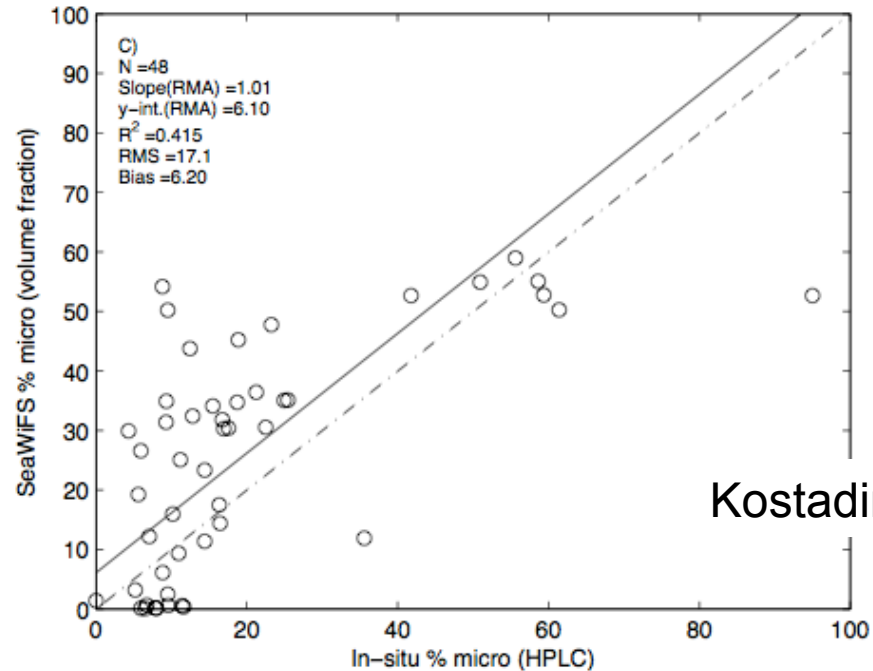
some phytoplankton groups encompass wide size ranges (e.g., most diatoms are micro, but some are nano)

requires a priori knowledge of accessory pigment ratios

# validation via visual inspection

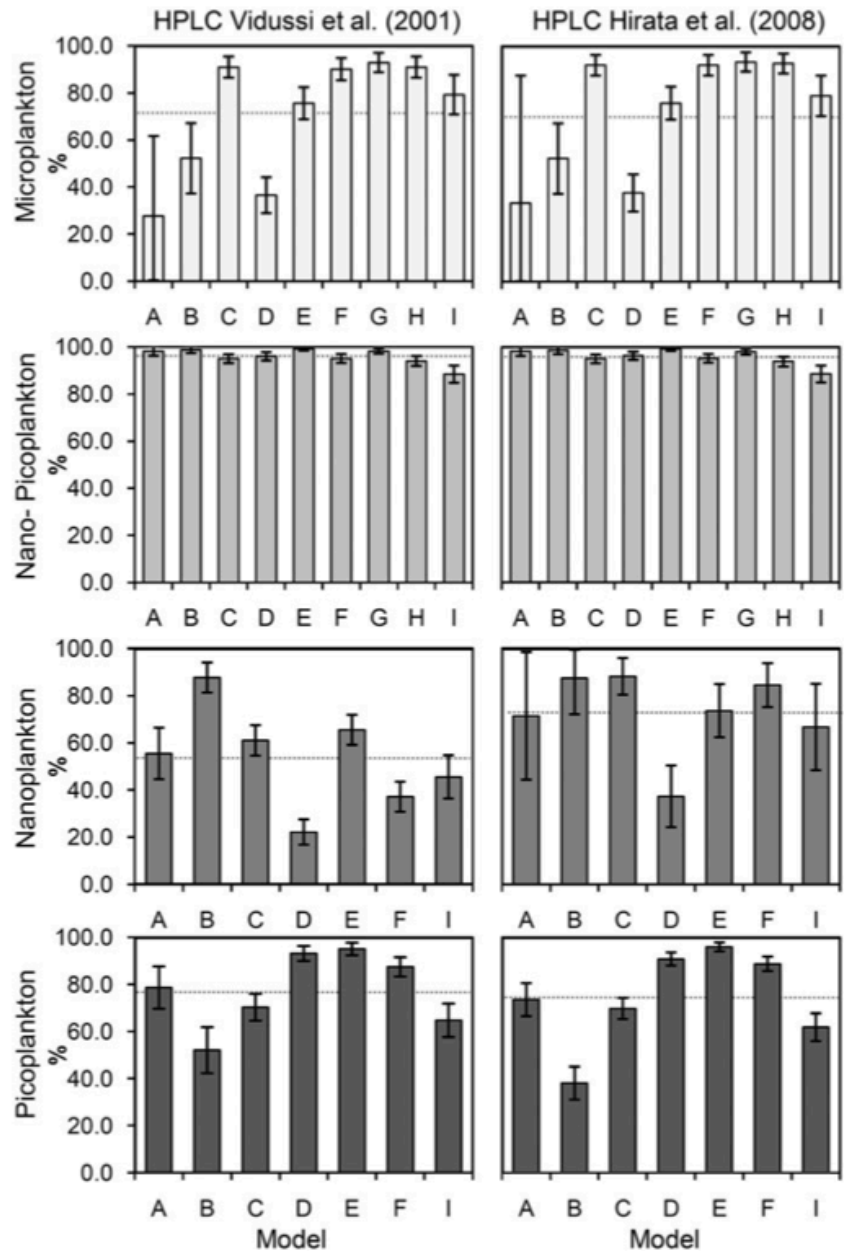
global spatial distributions often inspected to verify expected relationships with environmental preferences  
(Prochlorococcus in oligotrophic waters, diatoms in upwelling zones & high production environments)

## example validation exercises



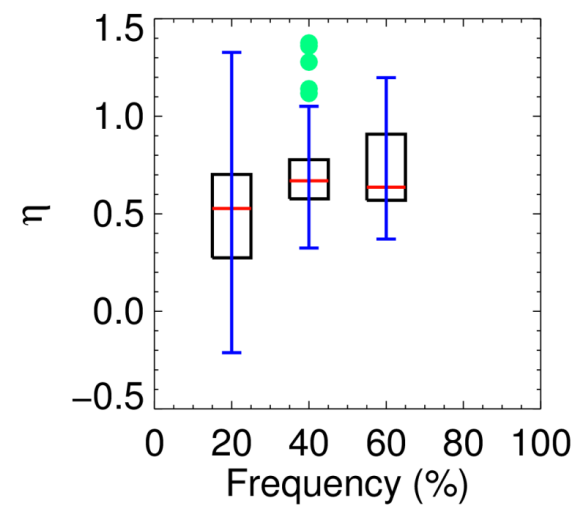
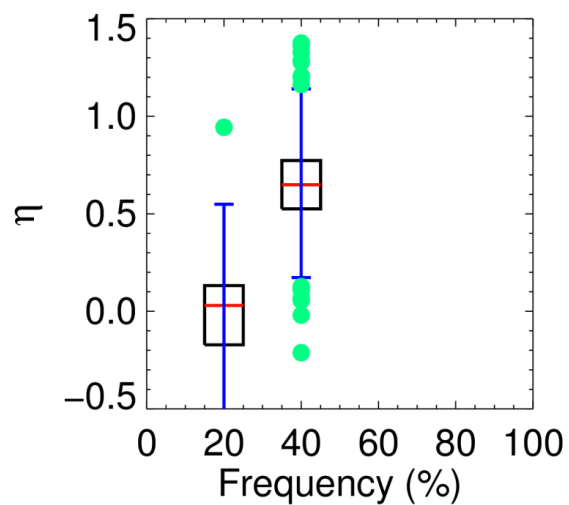
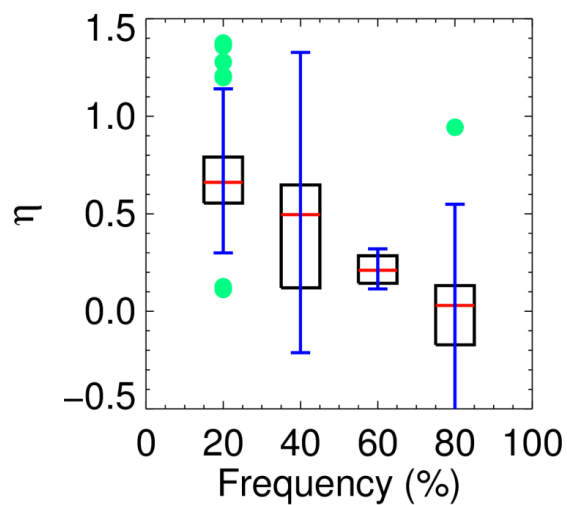
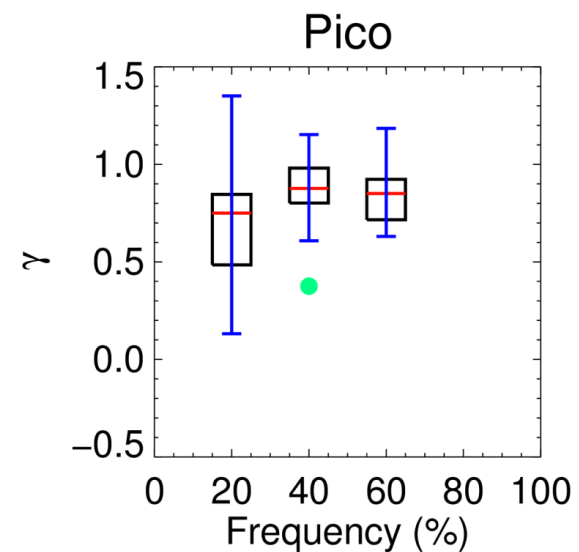
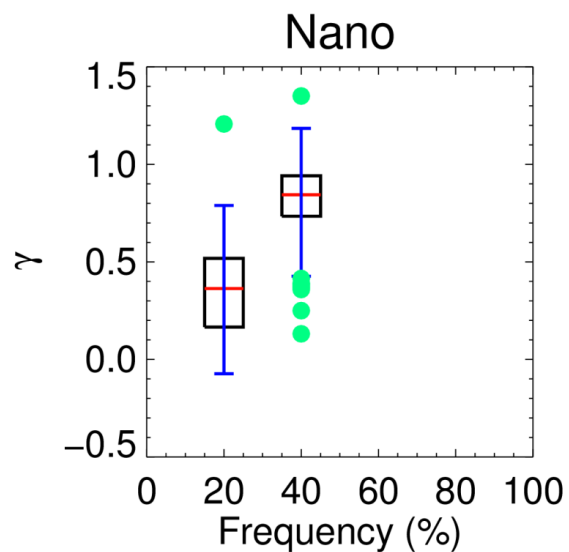
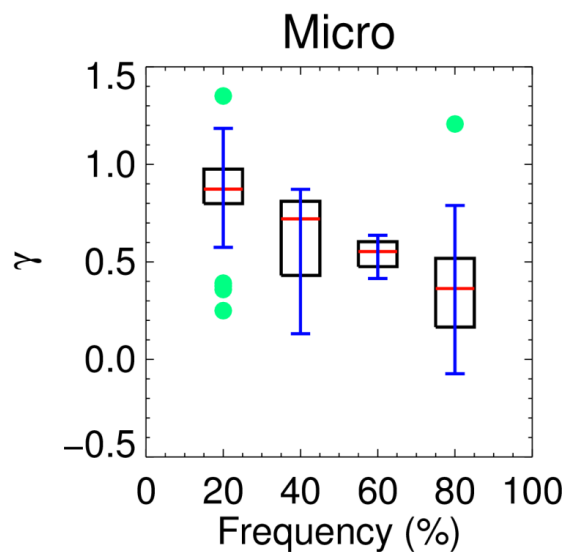
**Fig. 3.** PFT algorithm validation regressions for (A) percent picoplankton, (B) percent nanoplankton and (C) percent microplankton. The in-situ PFT's (x-axes) were calculated using the Vidussi et al. (2001) diagnostic phytoplankton pigment ratio method. Global HPLC surface data were matched to Level-3 daily SeaWiFS imagery in order to calculate a satellite PFT estimate using the PSD algorithm (y-axes). Type II regressions were used. RMS (Root Mean Square) and bias statistics are independent of the regression lines.

# example validation exercises



Brewin et al. 2010

# example validation exercises





# discussion

thoughts?