2015 Summer Course on Optical Oceanography and Ocean Color Remote Sensing

Overview of the Course

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In General...

- Lectures in the mornings
- Labs in the afternoons
- Saturday mornings (as needed): Lab reports, tie
- up loose ends, critiques, special requests, ..
- Saturday afternoon & Sunday: party, sleep, explore Maine, kayak with Curt

Topical Organization

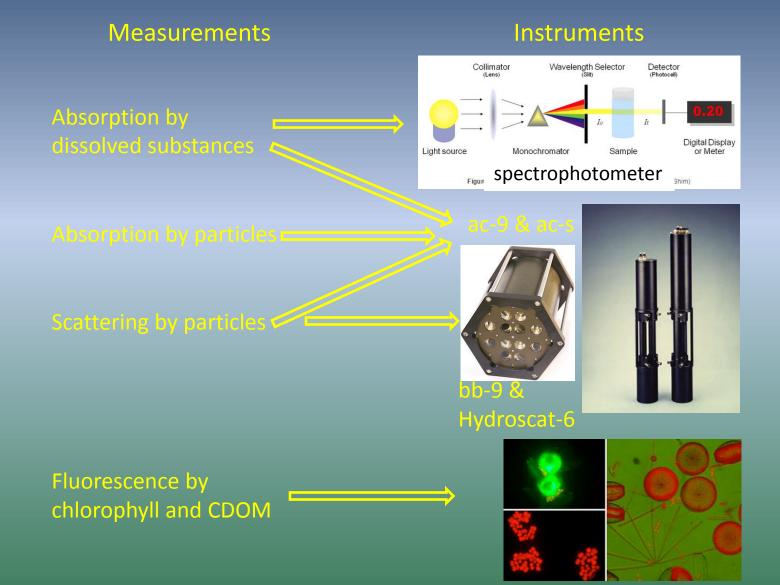
Week 1: Optical Properties of Matter (Inherent Optical Properties, IOPs)

- Basic definitions
- How light is described
- How light interacts with matter: Theory and measurement of absorption and scattering by particles
- and dissolved substances



Week 1 Labs

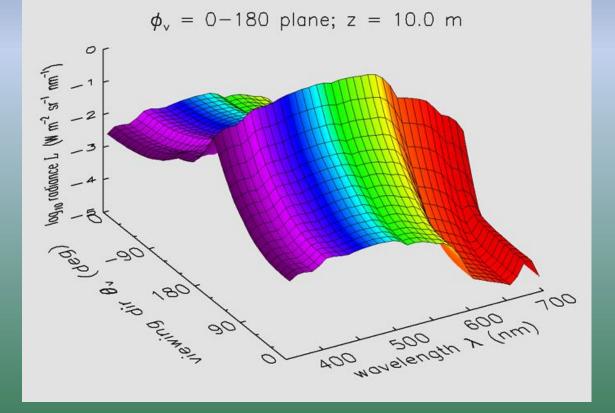
Afternoons 2-5: 4 different labs to learn how to use different instruments



Week 2: Radiometry

- Radiometric (light) quantities and their measurement
- Other measures of light (Apparent Optical Properties, AOPs)
- Linking material properties to optical properties
- The radiative transfer equation

The labs will be measuring light and learning to run HydroLight and Mie codes



Week 3: Data Collection and Remote Sensing Field data collection on the R/V Ira C Remote sensing Data analysis: atmospheric correction for ocean color remote sensing; QA/QC; error estimation

The labs will be field data collection and learning how to use NASA's SeaDAS and SeaBASS software

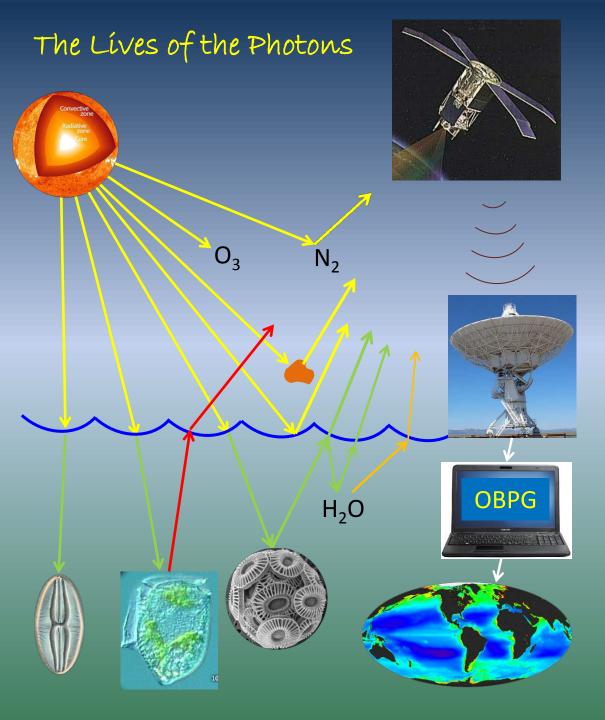




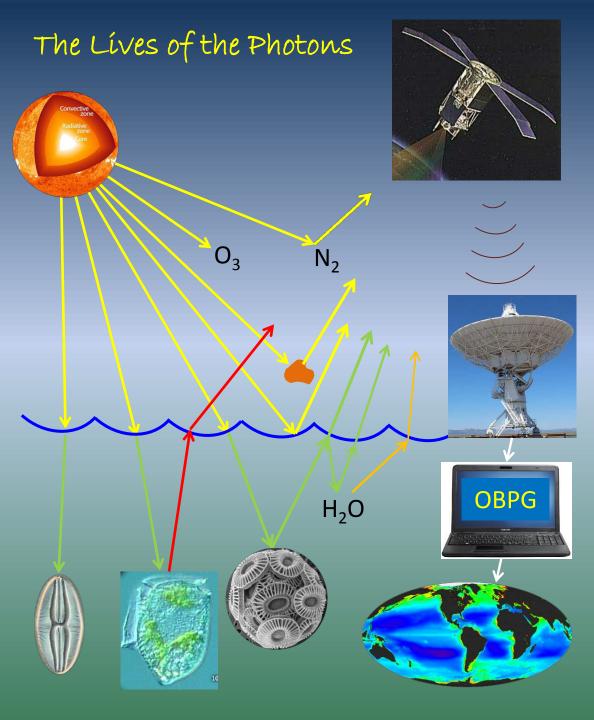
Week 4: Synthesis

- Design of field campaigns
- Guest lectures
- Work on Student Projects
- Final presentations of student projects





Much of the class will be spent discussing all of the things that can happen to solar photons after they arrive at earth....

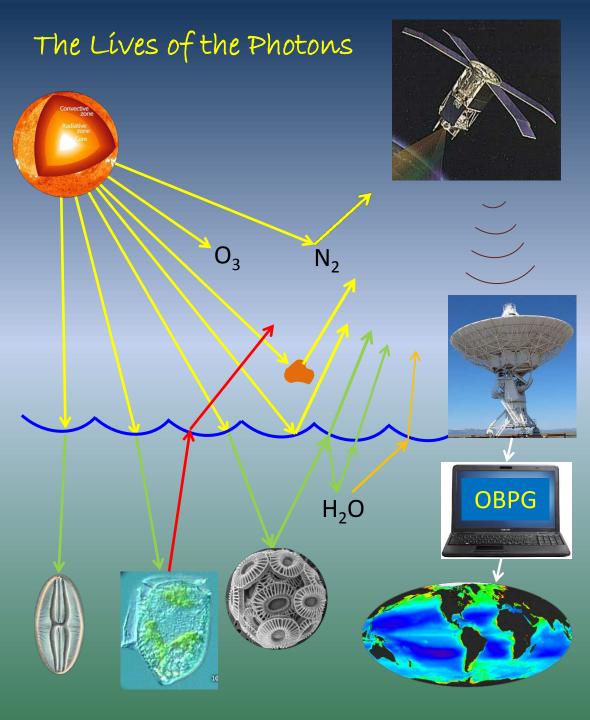


Some photons are absorbed by atmospheric gases such as ozone.

Others are scattered by non-absorbing gases such as nitrogen.

Some are absorbed or scattered by aerosols.

Photons that reach the sea surface are either reflected or transmitted into the water.

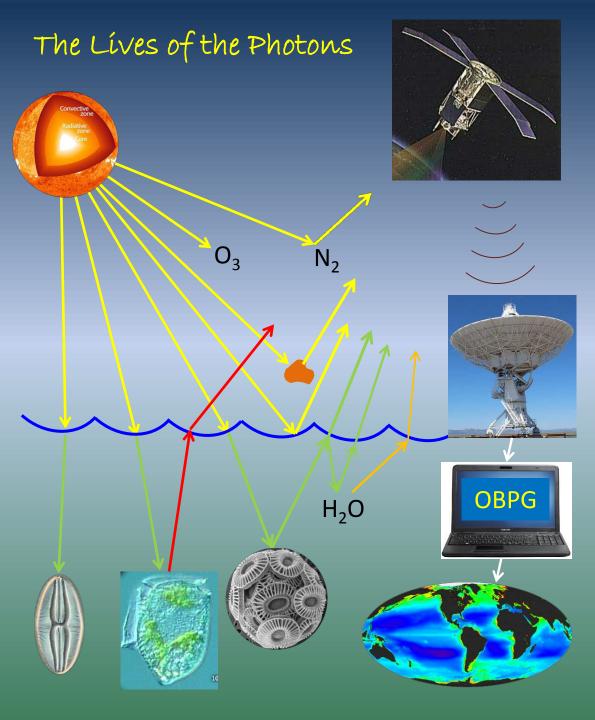


Some of the light that gets into the water is absorbed by phytoplankton, water, CDOM, or mineral particles.

Some of the light absorbed by chlorophyll and CDOM is re-emitted at longer wavelengths (fluorescence).

Light can be scattered by phytoplankton and other particles.

Water molecules themselves absorb and scatter light, and can change one wavelength into another.



Some of the light scattered upward by the atmosphere, sea surface, and water column reaches satellite sensors, where the photon energy is converted to a digital signal.

The NASA satellite data are sent to the Ocean Biology Processing Group...

...where enormous amounts of science and computer power are required to convert the raw satellite data to products of scientific interest

The Promise of the Class

Four weeks are not sufficient to make you experts, but...

...by the end of the class you should have sufficient knowledge to

- read papers on optical oceanography, bio-optics, and ocean color remote sensing
- feel semi-comfortable operating various lab and field instruments
- download ocean color imagery from NASA and upload your data
- be able to run HydroLight and Mie codes

The Pieces Will All Come Together, and You Will Learn to

