



## Introduction to PACE Hyperspectral Observations for Water Quality Monitoring

Part 1: Introduction to PACE (Plankton Aerosol, Cloud, ocean, Ecosystem) Mission for Water Quality Monitoring

ARSET Host: Amita Mehta (NASA-GSFC & UMBC-GESTAR II)

Guest Instructor: Antonio Mannino, PACE Deputy Project Scientist, Oceans (NASA-GSFC)

September 25, 2024



## About ARSET

# About ARSET

- ARSET provides accessible, relevant, and cost-free training on remote sensing satellites, sensors, methods, and tools.
- Trainings include a variety of applications of satellite data and are tailored to audiences with a variety of experience levels.



AGRICULTURE



CLIMATE & RESILIENCE



DISASTERS



ECOLOGICAL CONSERVATION



HEALTH & AIR QUALITY

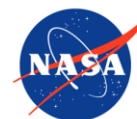


WATER RESOURCES



# About ARSET Trainings

- Online or in-person
- Live and instructor-led or asynchronous and self-paced
- Cost-free
- Bilingual and multilingual options
- Only use open-source software and data
- Accommodate differing levels of expertise
  
- Visit the [ARSET website](#) to learn more.





## Introduction to PACE Hyperspectral Observations for Water Quality Monitoring Overview

# Background

- Water quality monitoring in coastal ocean estuaries and inland lakes is critical for ecosystems and fisheries management and safe drinking water.
- Because of the limited spatial and temporal coverage of in situ water samples, remote sensing data are utilized to obtain water quality parameters in coastal and open oceans and inland water bodies.
- Multispectral sensors with limited, medium spectral bands ( $> 10$  nm), e.g., Terra & Aqua-MODIS, NPP & JPSS VIIRS, Landsat-OLI, Sentinel-2 MSI, are widely used for deriving water quality parameters such as chlorophyll-a concentration, an indicator of algal bloom.
- Sentinel-3 OLCI has a few bands with a bandwidth of  $< 10$  nm, also used for deriving water quality parameters such as chlorophyll-a concentration.
- While these sensors can detect algal blooms, they can not distinguish between toxic, harmful algal bloom (HAB) and non-toxic algae.



# Why Hyperspectral Observations?

- HABs cause illness in humans if they consume contaminated seafood or drinking water or are exposed to HABs through swimming (NIEHS<sup>1</sup>).
- Hyperspectral observations (< 10 nm spectral bandwidth) help detect HAB organisms in water<sup>2</sup>.

**Table 1 from the NIEHS Report: Health Effects of HAB Organisms**

Organism	Water Type	Color	Toxin	Target Tissue	Health Effects
Alexandrium sp.	Salt	Red or Brown	Saxitoxins	Nerves and Muscles	Paralytic shellfish poisoning, paralysis, death
Karenia brevis	Salt	Red	Brevetoxins	1. Nervous System 2. Respiratory System	1. Gastrointestinal illness, muscle cramps, seizures, paralysis 2. Respiratory problems, especially for asthmatics
Pseudo-nitzschia	Salt	Red or Brown	Domoic Acid	Nervous System	Amnesiac shellfish poisoning, vomiting, diarrhea, confusion, seizures, permanent short term memory loss, or death
Microcystis	Fresh	Blue-Green	Microcystin	Liver	Gastrointestinal illness, liver damage

<sup>1</sup>National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS). "Algal blooms". National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences: Environmental Health Topics. (2021, September 8)

<sup>2</sup><https://www.space4water.org/news/exploring-exciting-potential-hyperspectral-imaging-water-quality-monitoring>



# PACE: Global, Daily Hyperspectral Observations

<https://pace.gsfc.nasa.gov/>

- Past NASA Missions with Hyperspectral Sensors: EO Hyperion, HICO.
- Current NASA Mission with Hyperspectral Sensors: EMIT.
- In February 2024 NASA launched PACE, the newest hyperspectral mission:
  - [Ocean Color Instrument \(OCI\)](#) has bands between the 314.55 to 894.602 nm wavelength range with 5 nm bandwidth, and 8 bands in the shortwave infrared range.
  - PACE-OCI will improve detection of toxic algae and help monitor the health of coastal and open oceans and [inland water bodies](#) that can be resolved by the OCI footprint (>1 km<sup>2</sup>). [In the US, 150 to 200 lakes can be resolved by OCI.](#)
- PACE also has polarimeters (HARP2 and SPEXone). Combined [ocean and air observations](#) will help us understand how aerosols might impact phytoplankton growth in the ocean.





# Training Learning Objectives

By the end of this training participants will be able to:

- Review the capabilities of past and current hyperspectral missions useful for water quality applications.
- Examine key characteristics of the new NASA PACE satellite and hyperspectral sensors including their advantages and limitations.
- Access, analyze, and visualize PACE level-2 and -3 data for water quality monitoring in selected areas of interest using SeaDAS and Jupyter Notebook software.
- Assess the applicability of selected PACE level-2 and -3 water quality parameters to evaluate water quality in large bodies of water.



# Prerequisites

- [Fundamentals of Remote Sensing](#)
- [https://appliedsciences.nasa.gov/sites/default/files/2021-09/WQ\\_Estuaries\\_Part1.pdf](https://appliedsciences.nasa.gov/sites/default/files/2021-09/WQ_Estuaries_Part1.pdf)
- [SeaDAS Training](#)
- [Jupyter Notebooks](#) and [Python 3.X](#) installed on your computer **(Optional)**



# Training Outline

## Part 1

Introduction to  
PACE (Plankton  
Aerosol, Cloud,  
ocean, Ecosystem)  
Mission for Water  
Quality Monitoring

September 25, 2024

10:00-11:30 AM

## Part 2

Overview, Access,  
and Analysis of  
PACE Ocean Color  
Data Products

October 2, 2024

10:00-11:30 AM

## Part 3

Access and  
Visualization of  
PACE/OCI Data  
using  
Python/Jupyter  
Notebook Software

October 9, 2024

10:00-11:30 AM

## Homework

Opens October 9 – Due October 24 – Posted on Training Webpage

A certificate of completion will be awarded to those who attend all live sessions and complete the homework assignment(s) before the given due date.





Part 1

## Introduction to the PACE Mission for Water Quality Monitoring

# Part 1 – Trainers

**Amita Mehta**

ARSET Instructor

NASA-GSFC & UMBC-GESTAR II



**Antonio Mannino**

Guest Instructor

PACE Deputy Project Scientist  
(NASA-GSFC)



# Part 1 Objectives

By the end of Part 1, participants will be able to:

- Review past and current hyperspectral missions useful for water quality applications.
- Identify key features of the NASA PACE hyperspectral satellite and instruments useful for monitoring water quality of large lakes and estuaries.
- Identify advantages and limitations of using PACE/OCI data for water quality monitoring.



# How to Ask Questions

- Please put your questions in the Questions box and we will address them at the end of the webinar.
- Feel free to enter your questions as we go. We will try to get to all of the questions during the Q&A session after the webinar.
- The remainder of the questions will be answered in the Q&A document, which will be posted to the training website about a week after the training.





## Introduction to PACE Hyperspectral Observations for Water Quality Monitoring

Part 1: Introduction to the PACE Mission for Water Quality Monitoring

Antonio Mannino (NASA Goddard Space Flight Center)

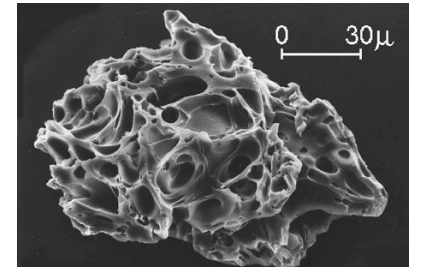
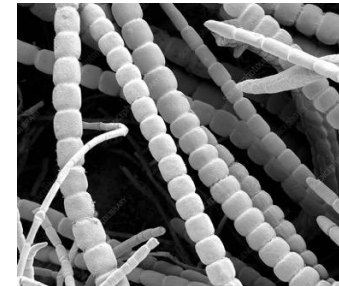
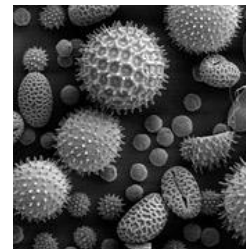
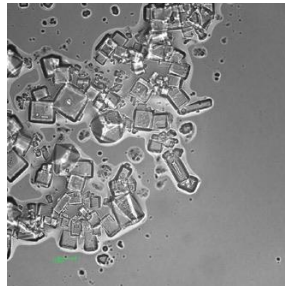
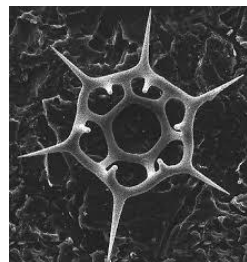
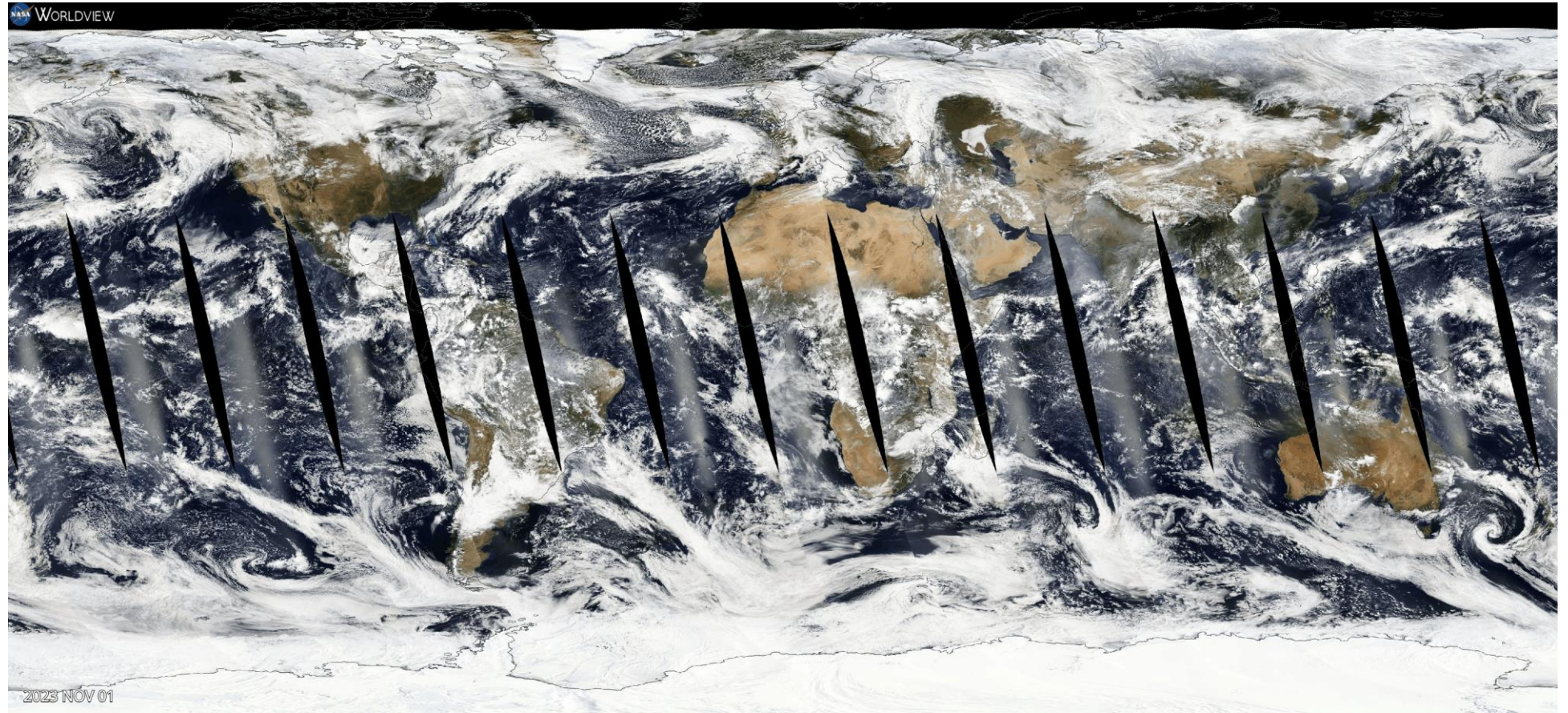
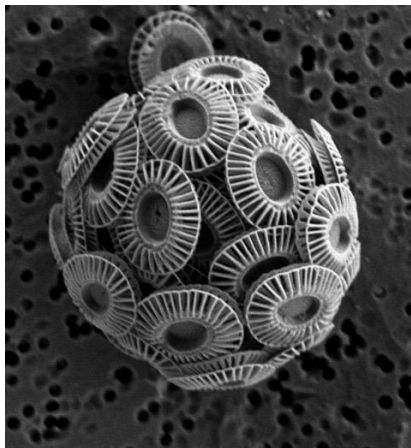
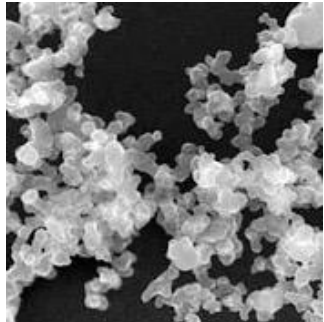
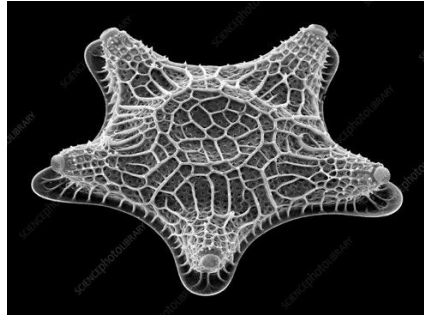
Acknowledgements: Jeremy Werdell and the PACE Project

September 25, 2024



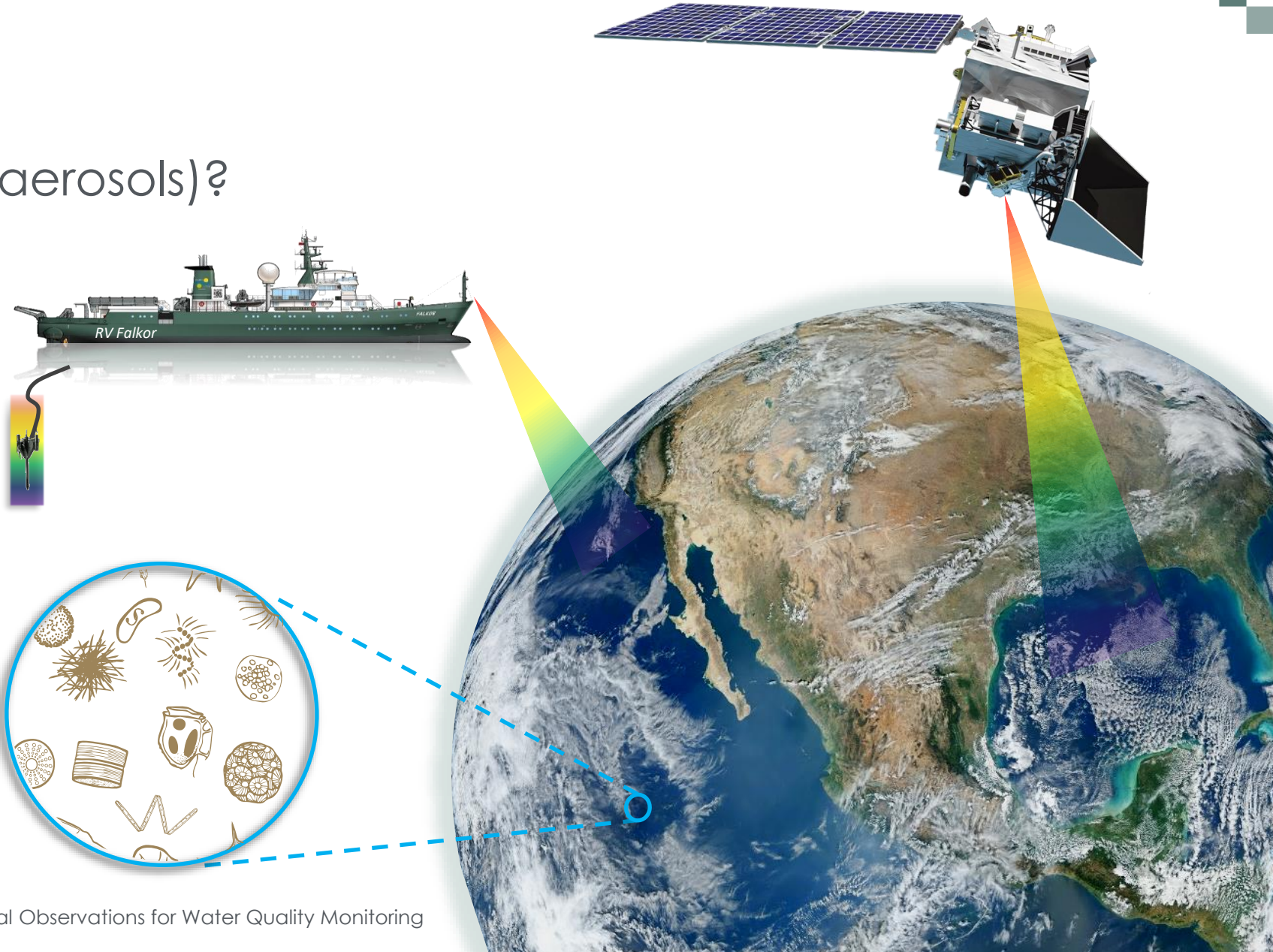


# PACE will see invisible (microscopic) stuff from space.

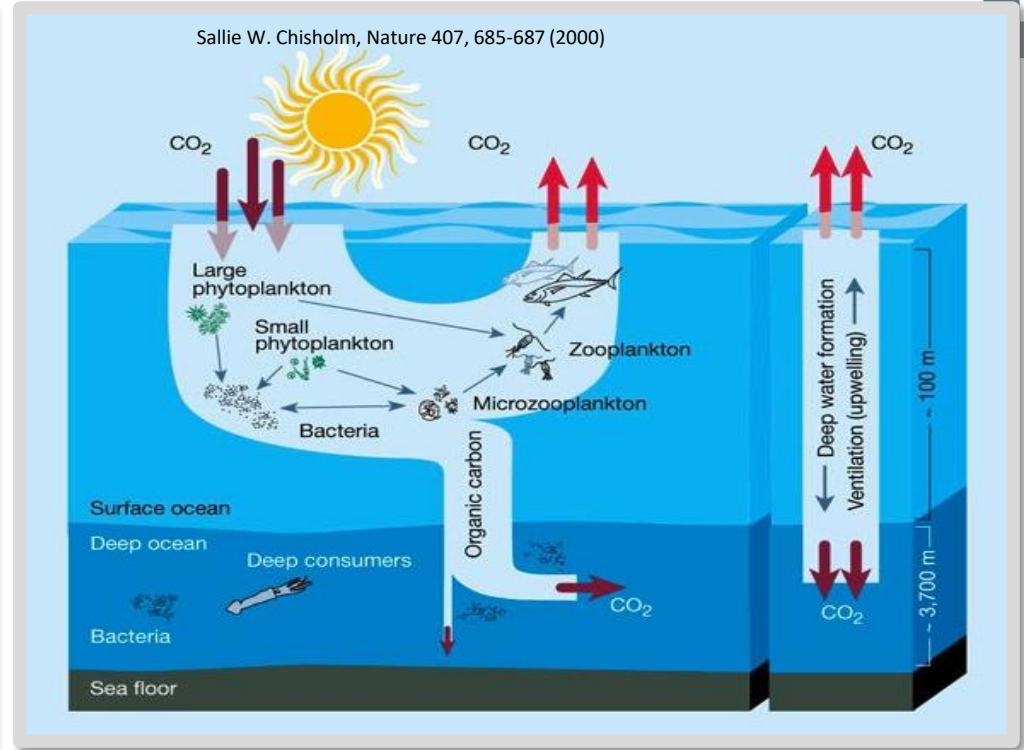
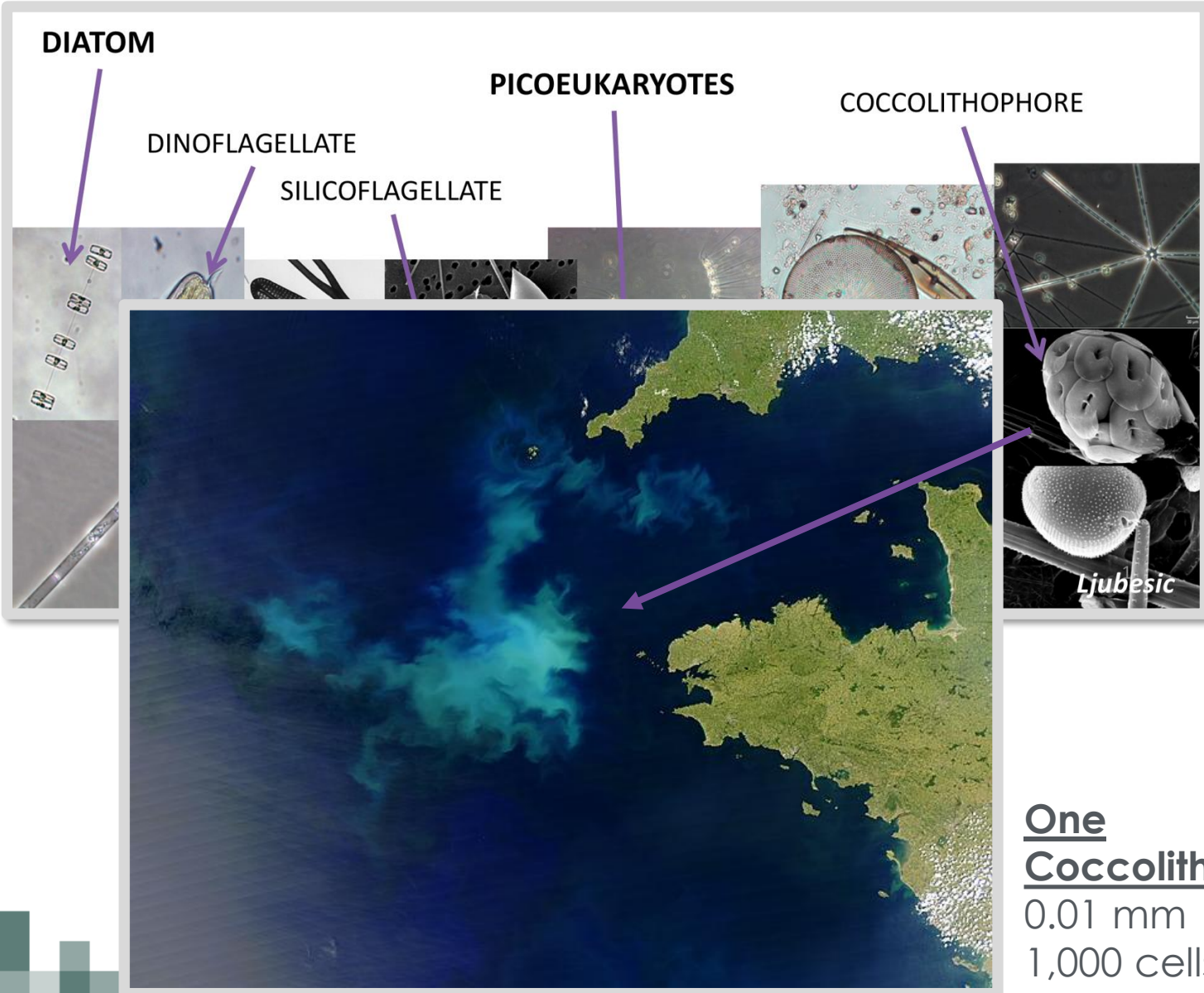


# Why PACE?

- Why satellites?
- Why phytoplankton (& aerosols)?
- Why PACE?

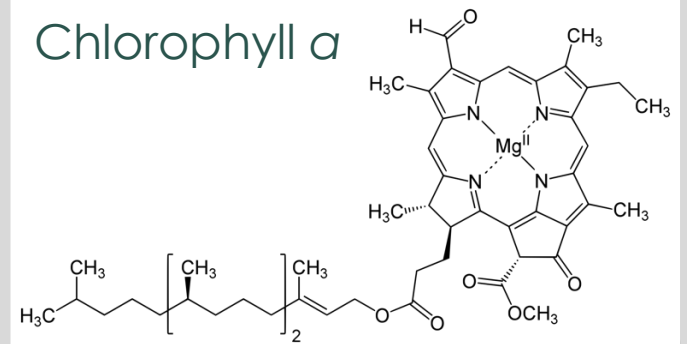


# Phytoplankton on Earth



One  
**Coccolithophore:**  
 0.01 mm  
 1,000 cells/mL

Chlorophyll a



# Phytoplankton: Friend or Foe?



A satellite image from NOAA shows an aerial view of Lake Erie's massive 2011 algae bloom.

PHOTOGRAPH BY NASA/EARTH OBSERVATORY



## Algae outbreak suffocates thousands of sardines in Oman

Residents of Sidab village teamed up to clean the area before the smell of dead fish spread



Image Credit: Twitter

The sardines had choked to death due to the lack of oxygen in the seawater.

Published: 12:27 May 6, 2017  
Gulf News

GULF NEWS



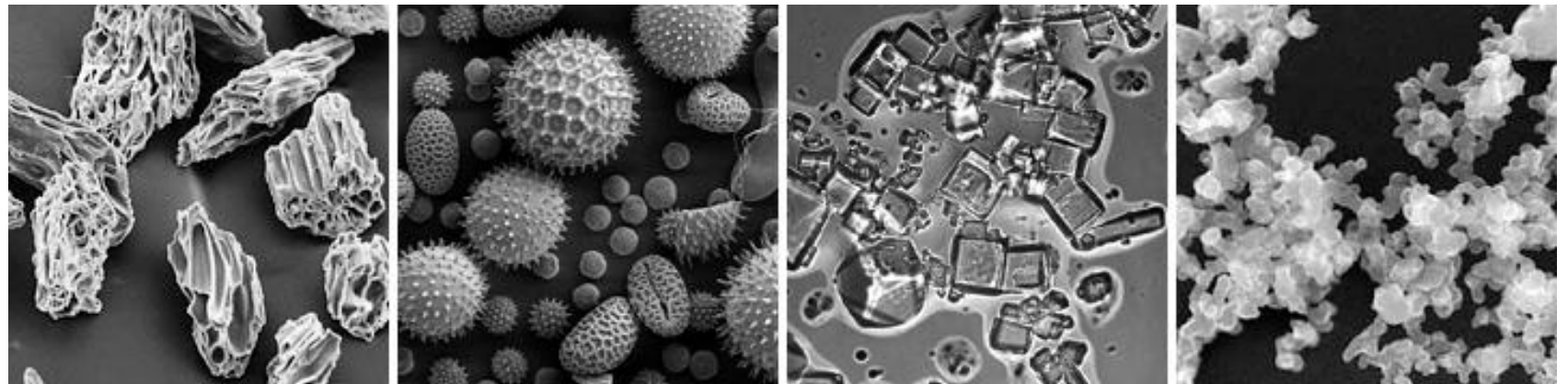


Photographs copyright (left to right) Western Sahara Project, Jonathan Jessup, Vox, Árni Friðriksson (cropped), and Jerem

# Aerosols are highly variable and have many sources

...and they impact climate

- Clouds (liquid and ice) are technically a type of aerosol, but we refer to them separately as a special category.

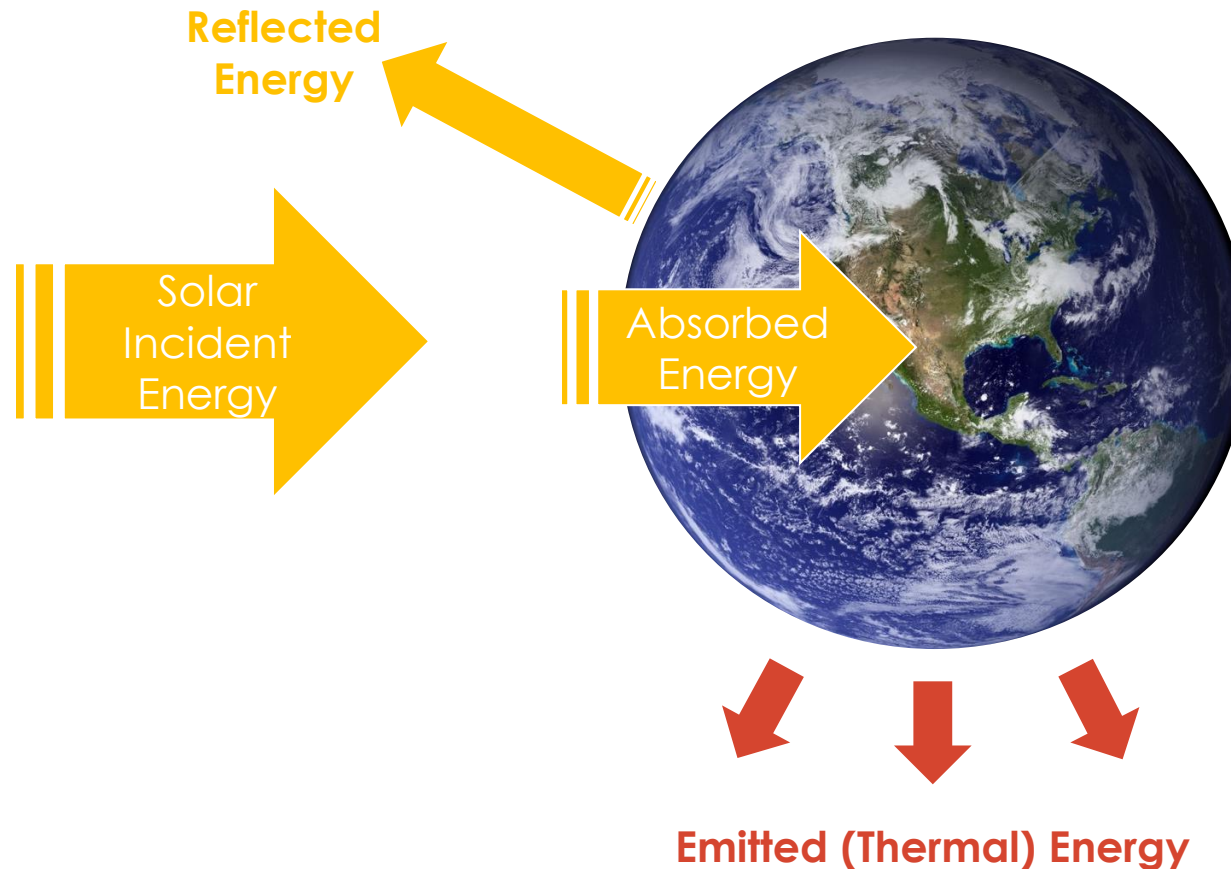


Micrographs Courtesy USGS, UMBC (Chere Petty), and Arizona State University (Peter Buseck).



# Greenhouse gases change how much thermal energy is emitted

Aerosols and clouds help control how much energy is absorbed.

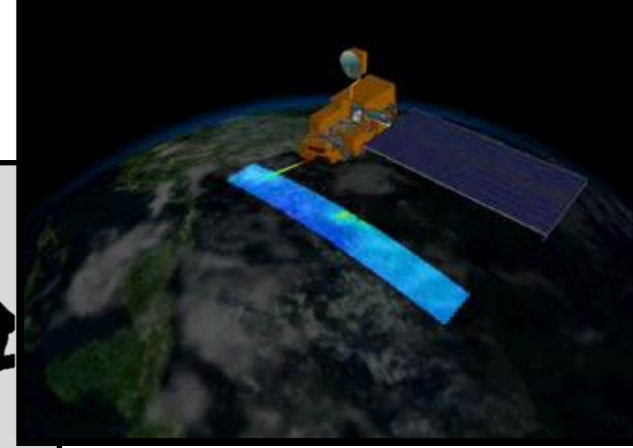
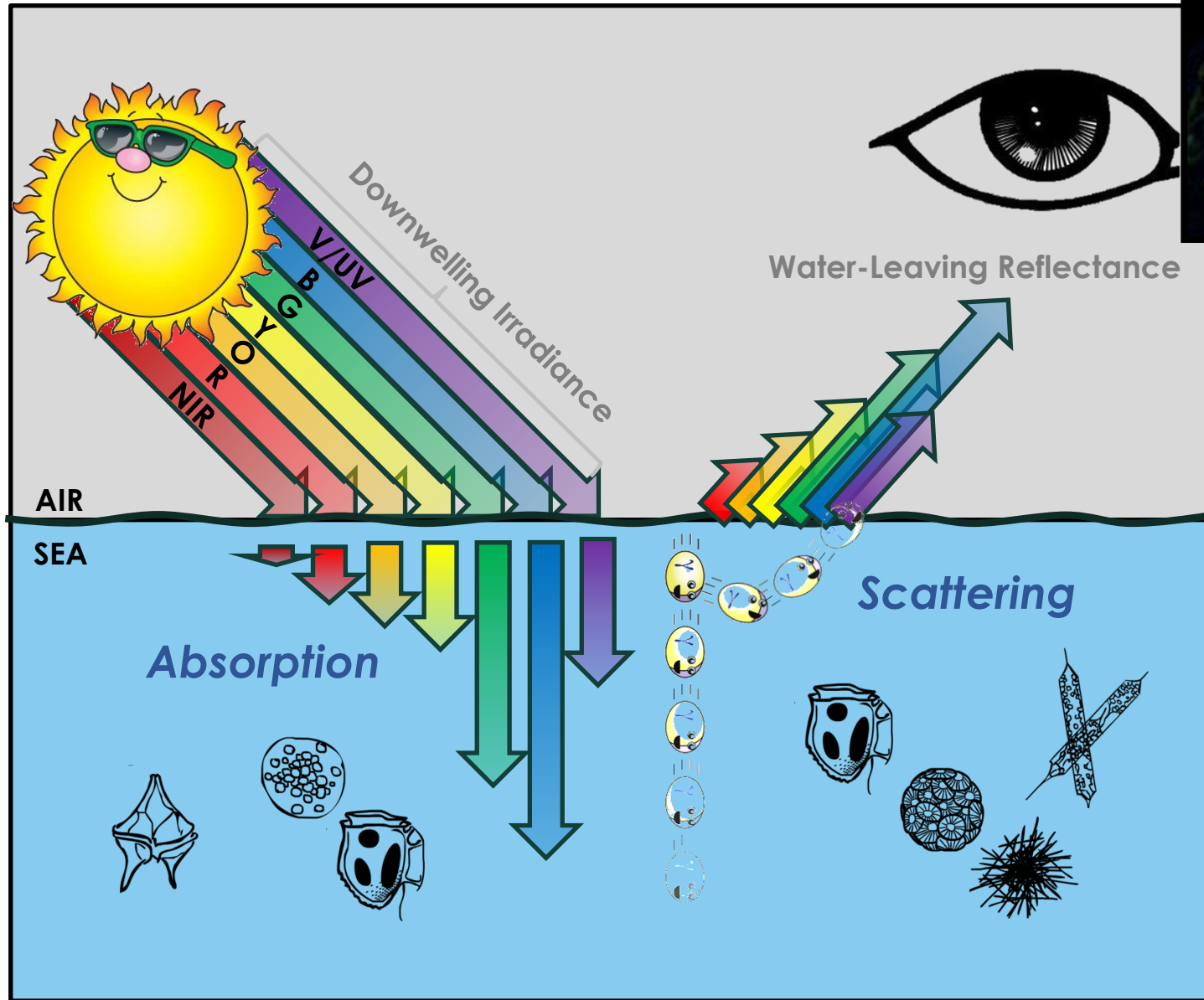


- Some aerosols **warm** our atmosphere (absorb energy).
- Some aerosols **cool** our atmosphere (reflect energy).



# Ocean Color

- 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.



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

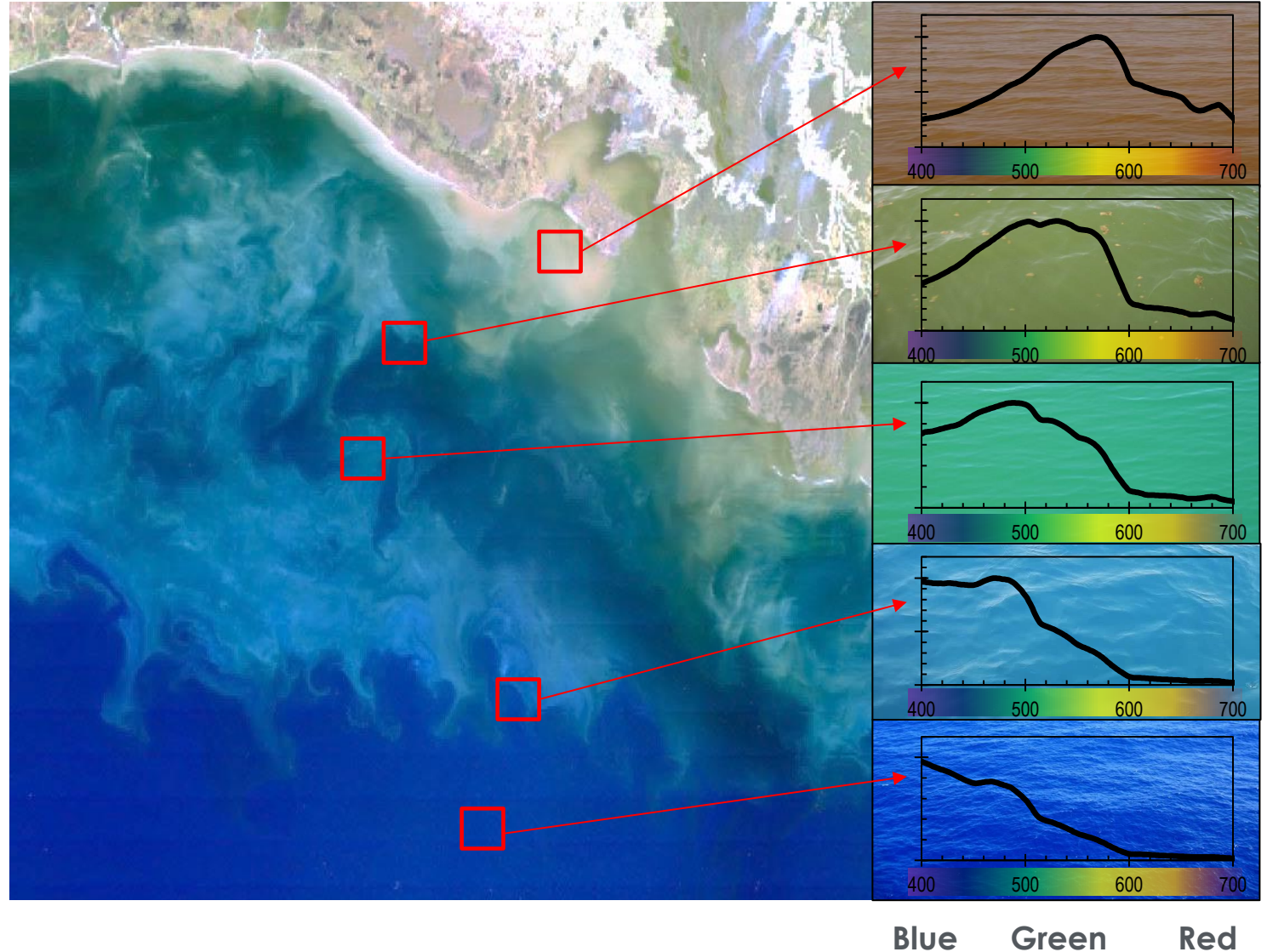


# What causes variation in the color of the ocean?

The color of the ocean is a function of light that is absorbed or scattered as a result of constituents in the water.

- Phytoplankton and pigments
- Dissolved organic matter
- Detritus (fecal pellets, dead cells)
- Inorganic particles (sediment)
- Water absorption

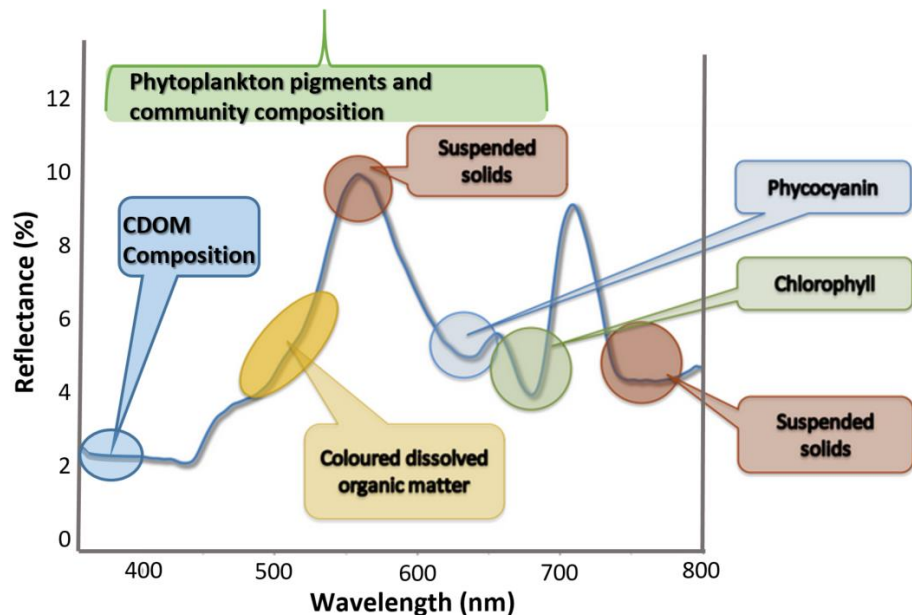
Water-Leaving Reflectance



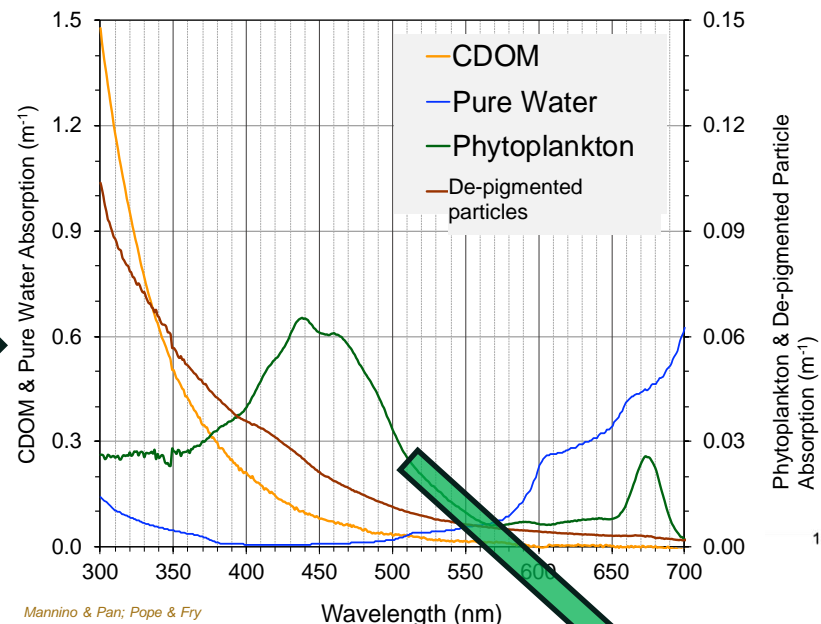


# Hyperspectral Observations Enables Separation of Aquatic Constituents

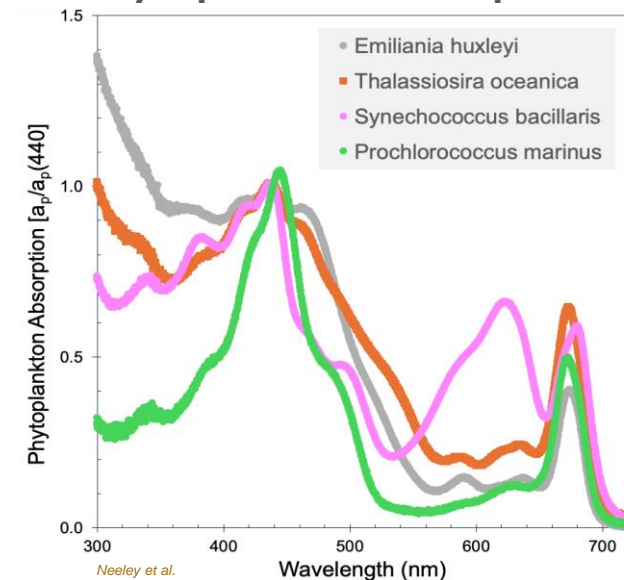
## Water-Leaving Reflectance



## Absorption of In-Water Constituents



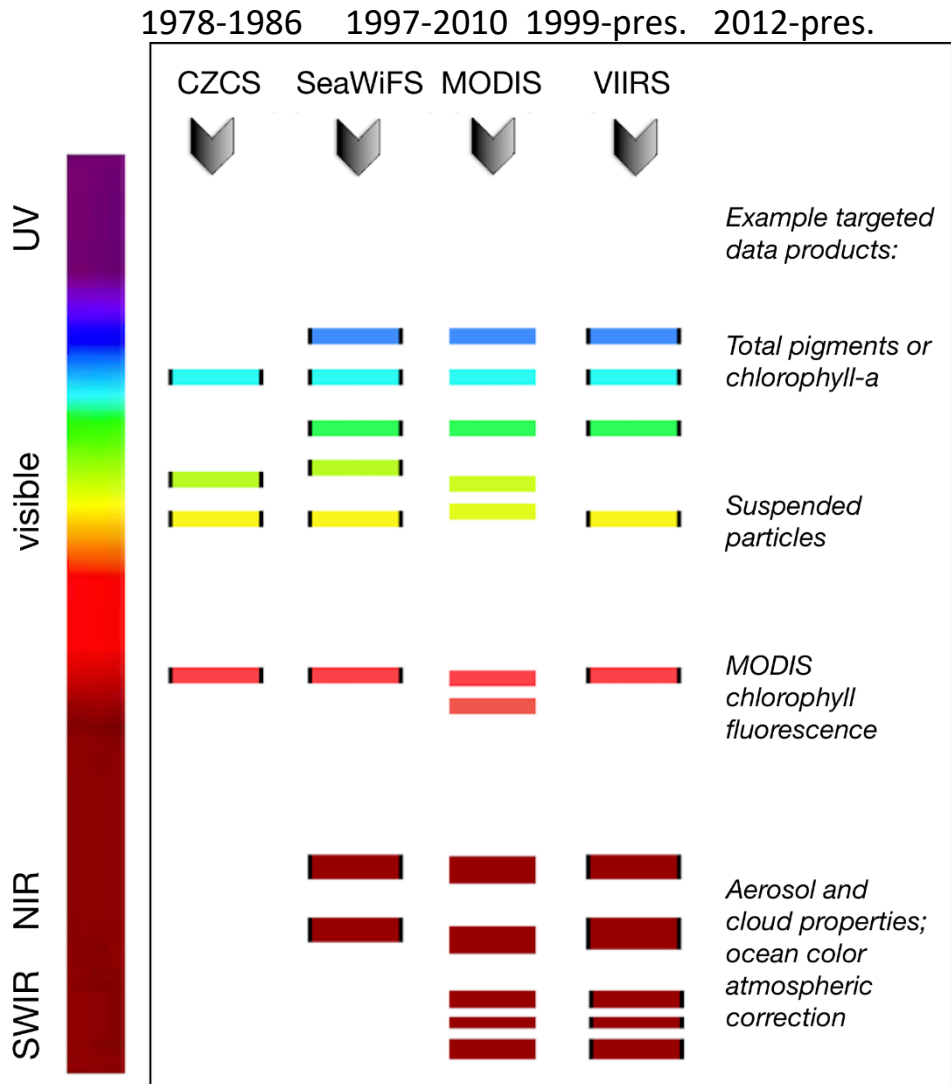
## Phytoplankton Composition



Figures adapted from Dierssen et al. 2023;  
JGR Biogeosciences

Reflectance (%) = Percent of sunlight (radiance) leaving the ocean surface from the sunlight (irradiance) entering through the ocean surface.

# Moving from Multi-Spectral Radiometry to Spectroscopy

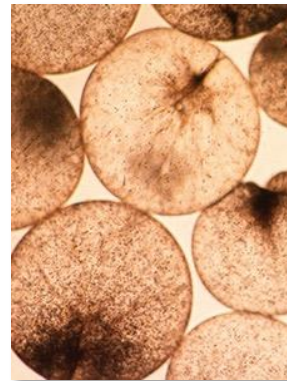


Example Diatom



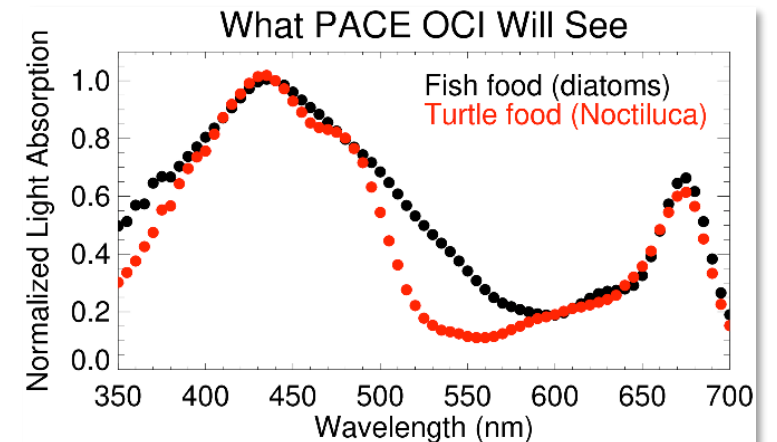
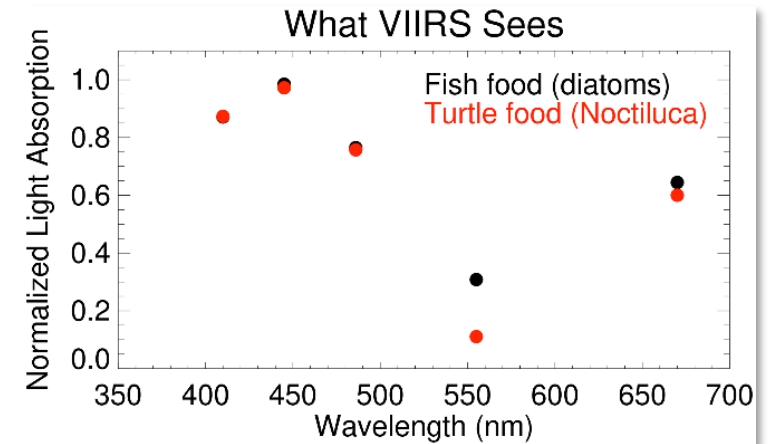
Linda Armbrecht, abc.com.au

Example Noctiluca

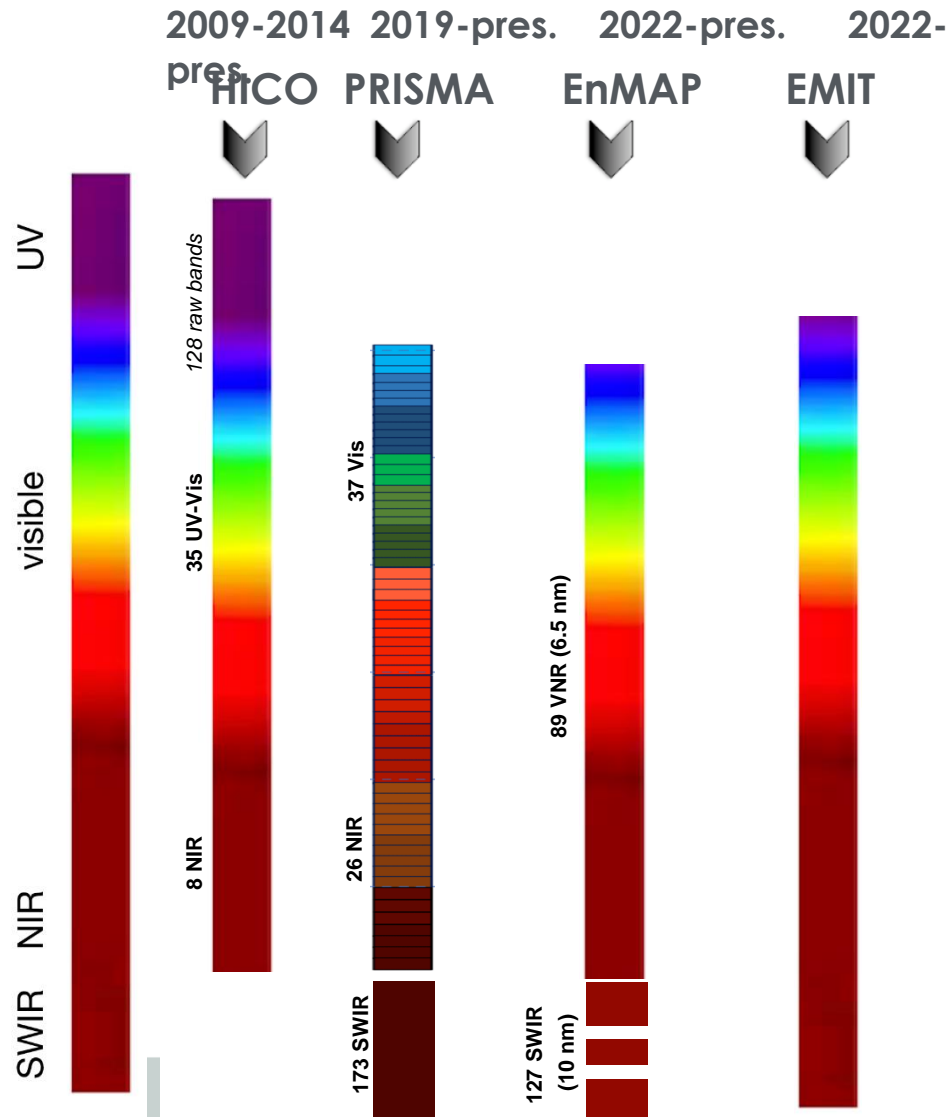


1 mm  
Joaquim Goes, LDEO

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



# Past and Current Hyperspectral Missions Used for WQ



## HICO (Navy/NASA, USA)

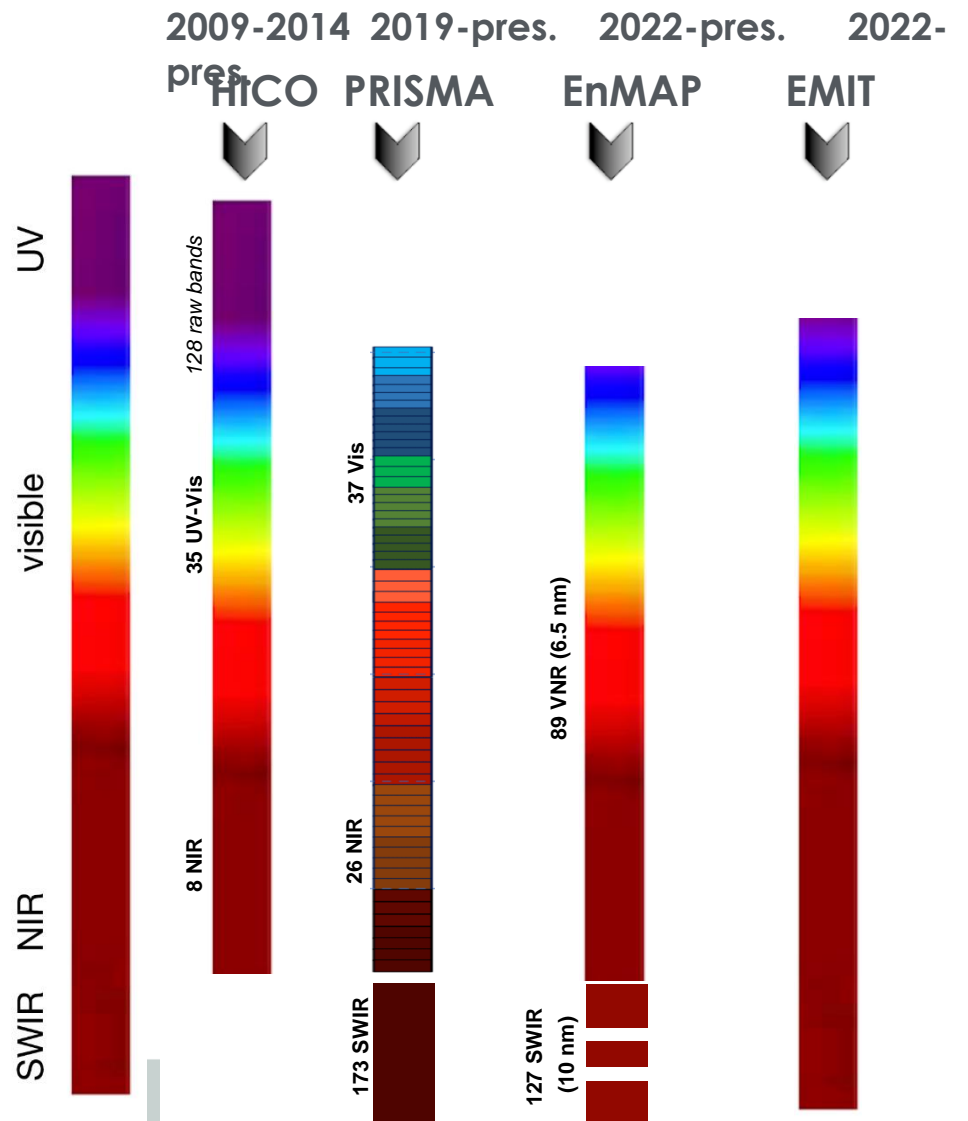
- Collected 10,000 scenes (~42 km x 192 km) at ~90 m spatial footprint from international Space Station
- Off-the-shelf sensor for coastal ocean color
- Bands smoothed to 10 nm for visible spectral range and 20 nm in NIR

## PRISMA (ASI, Italy)

- Collects scenes 30 km x 30 km (up to 30 km x 1800 km) at 30 m spatial resolution
- Designed for land surface imagery and greenhouse gases; recently applied for water quality
- Bandwidths ~12 nm; spectral range: 400-1010 nm & 920-2505 nm



# Past and Current Hyperspectral Missions Used for WQ (Continued)



## EnMAP (DLR, Germany)

- Collects scenes 30 km x 390 km at 30 m spatial footprint
- Designed for atmospheric properties and land surface imagery and greenhouse gases; recently applied for water quality
- Bandwidths ~6.5 nm across the visible and NIR and ~10 nm for the SWIR; spectral range: 420-1000nm; 900-1390 nm; 1480-1760 nm, 1950-2450

## EMIT (NASA, USA)

- Collects scenes 80 km x ~800 km/variable at 60 m spatial footprint from International Space Station
- Designed for mineralogy, land surface reflectance, atmospheric dust for climate radiative forcing; used for greenhouse gases; presently exploring water quality applications
- Bandwidths <8.5 nm across the spectral range: 380-2500 nm





OCI

400-894.6 nm  
1000 channels (or less)  
2260 nm  
coverage

HARP2

100 nm  
angles  
polarimeter,

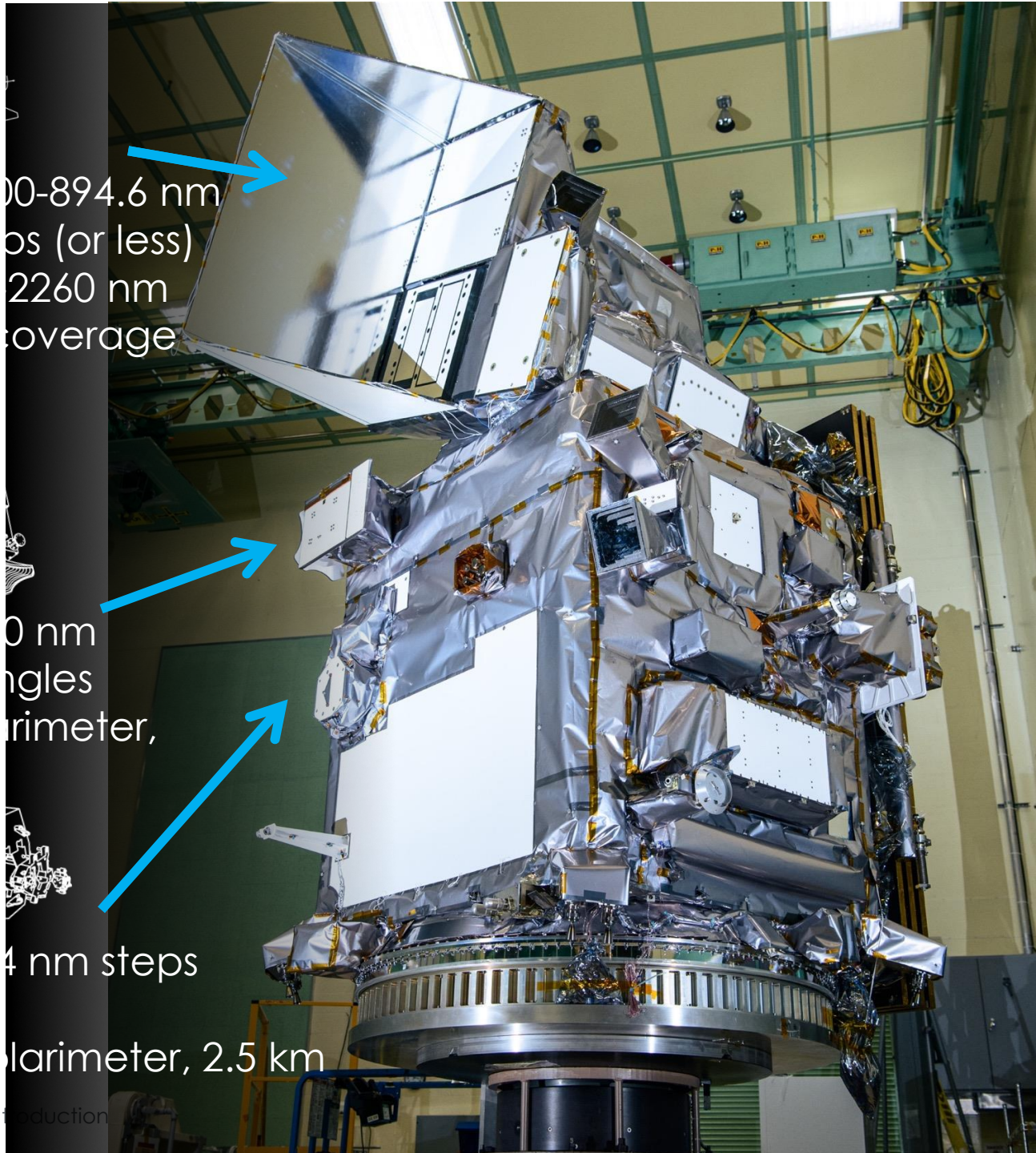
SPEXone

4 nm steps

1000 channels, 2.5 km

narrow

# Pace Instruments



# OCI

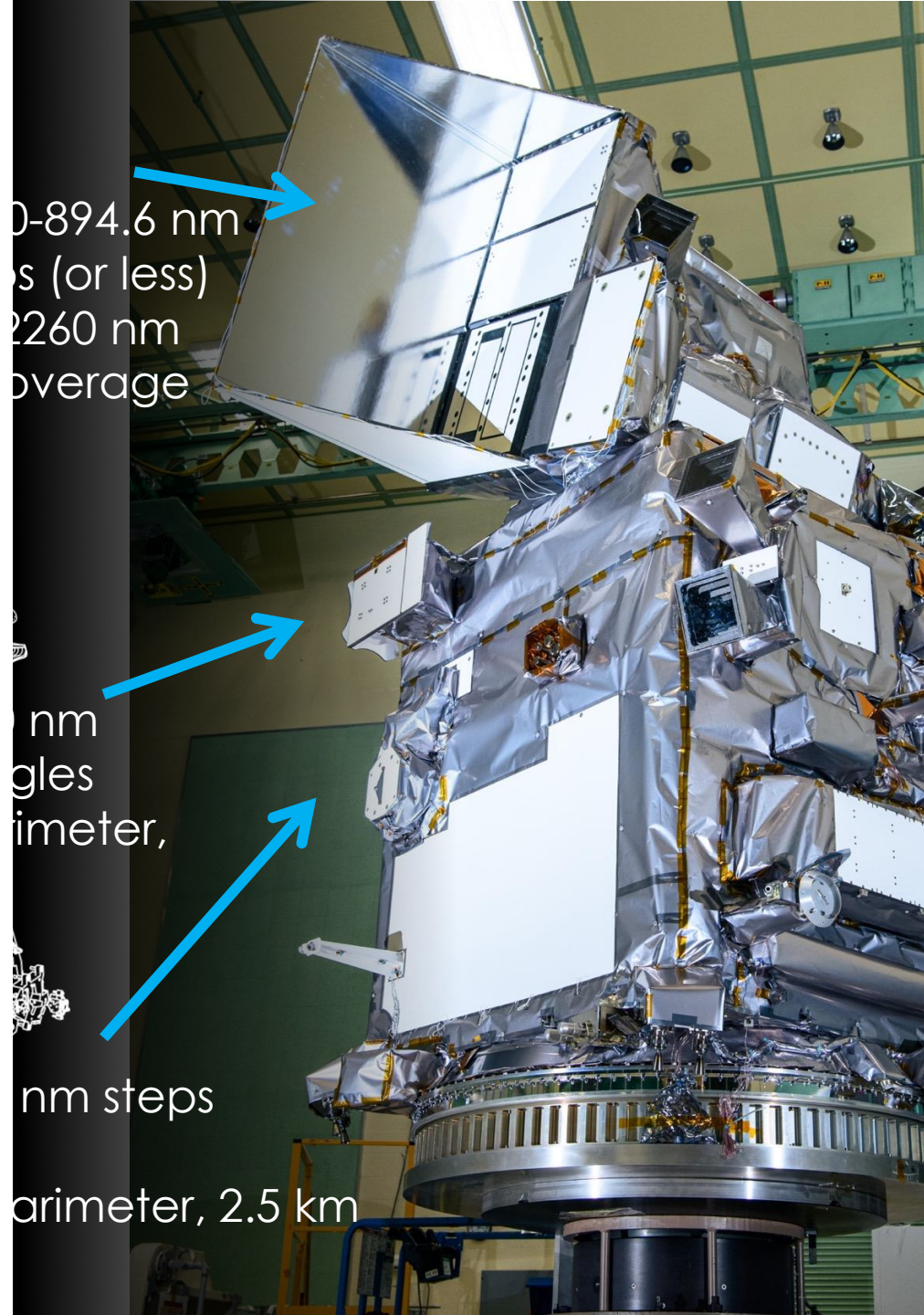
400-894.6 nm  
10 channels (or less)  
2260 nm coverage

# HARP2

1000 nm  
10 channels  
Spectrometer,

# SPEXone

1000 nm steps  
Spectrometer, 2.5 km



📷	rhot_red_801.8835 (801.9 nm)
📷	rhot_red_804.3875 (804.4 nm)
📷	rhot_red_806.89734 (806.9 nm)
📷	rhot_red_809.4096 (809.4 nm)
📷	rhot_red_811.91376 (811.9 nm)
📷	rhot_red_814.417 (814.4 nm)
📷	rhot_red_816.92474 (816.9 nm)
📷	rhot_red_819.42944 (819.4 nm)
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📷	rhot_red_831.98413 (832.0 nm)
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📷	<b>rhot_SWIR</b>
📷	rhot_SWIR_940.0 (940.0 nm)
📷	rhot_SWIR_1038.0 (1038.0 nm)
📷	rhot_SWIR_1250.0 (1250.0 nm)
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📷	rhot_SWIR_2130.0 (2130.0 nm)
📷	rhot_SWIR_2260.0 (2260.0 nm)



# OCI

00-894.6 nm  
ps (or less)  
-2260 nm  
coverage



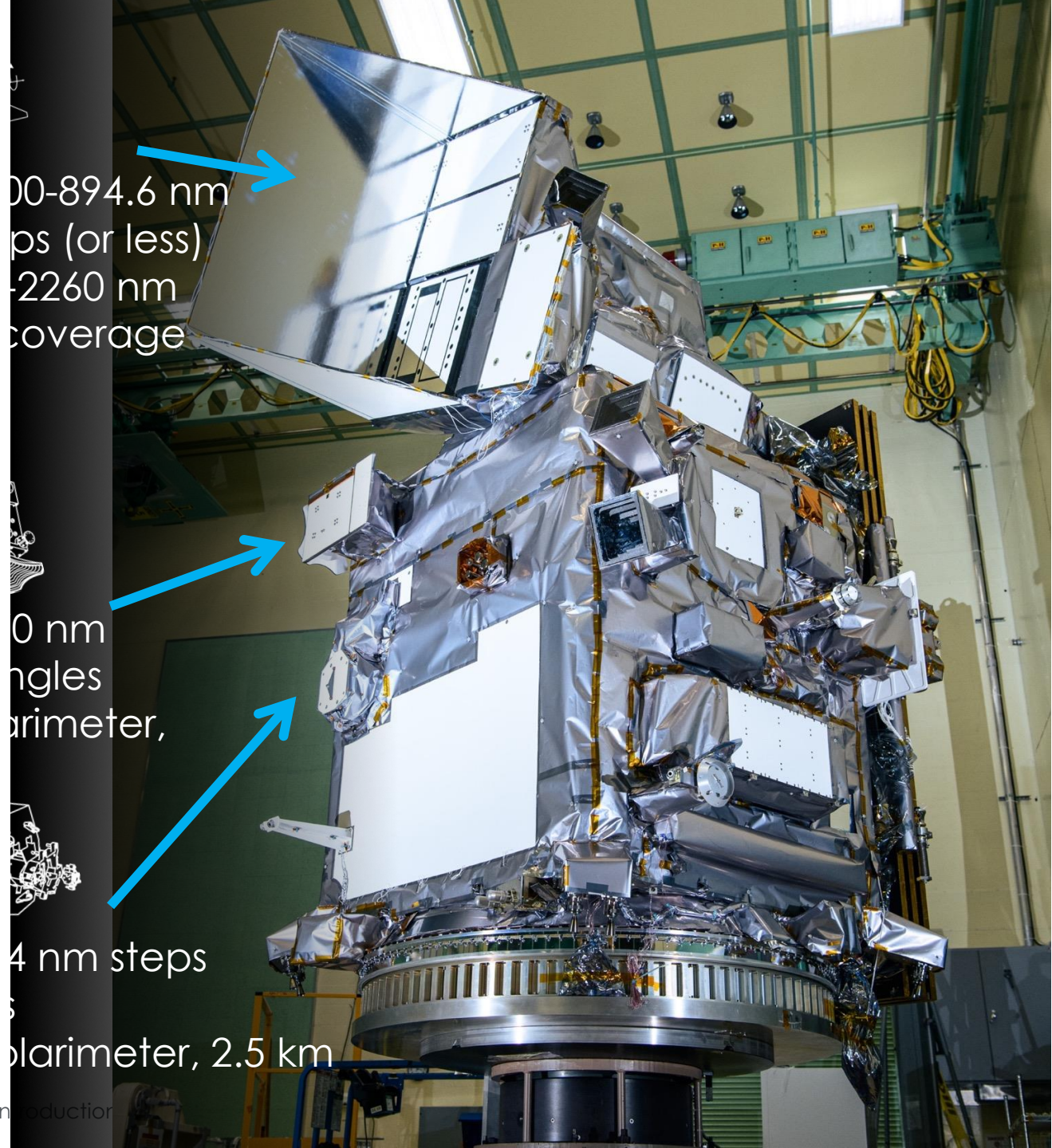
# HARP2

0 nm  
ngles  
arimeter,



# SPEXone

4 nm steps  
olarimeter, 2.5 km



narrow





# PACE Ocean Color Advances and Limitations

## Advances:

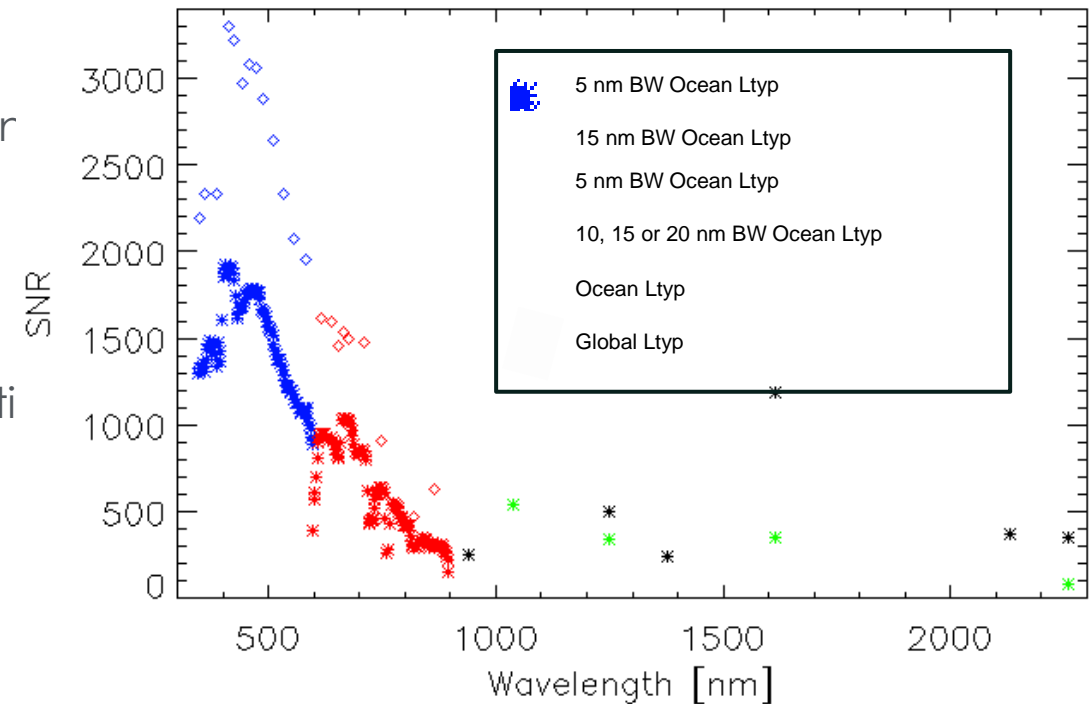
- Hyperspectral from 315 nm to 895 nm
- Spectral resolution of 5 nm bandwidths for Hyperspectral range
- Spectral sampling of 1.25 or 2.5 nm for Hyperspectral range (184 bands)
- Amazing signal to noise ratio – even for 5 nm bandwidths
- High UV sensitivity from ~340 nm
- 9 Short-Wave Infrared (SWIR) bands for atmospheric correction including turbid waters (3 ocean sensitive)
- Nearly daily global coverage
- HARP2 and SPEXone will aid in atmospheric correction

## Limitations:

- Spatial resolution of ~1.1 km constrains use within inland and nearshore waters and near ice floes

## Challenges:

- Lack of verified hyperspectral algorithms
- Need for more comprehensive hyperspectral field measurements

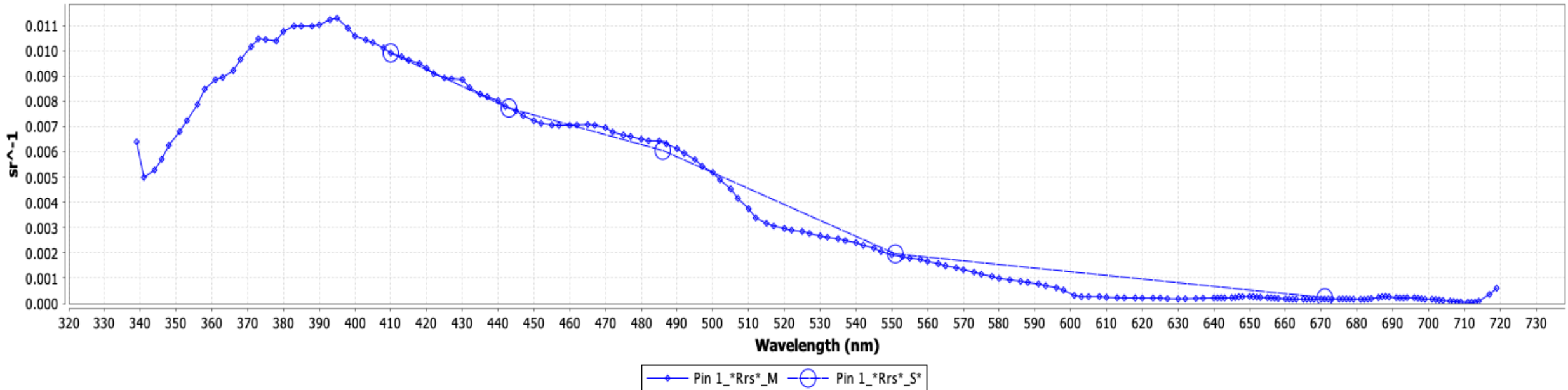


# OCI and VIIRS Rrs(445)

NOAA-20 VIIRS

PACE OCI

Spectrum Plot



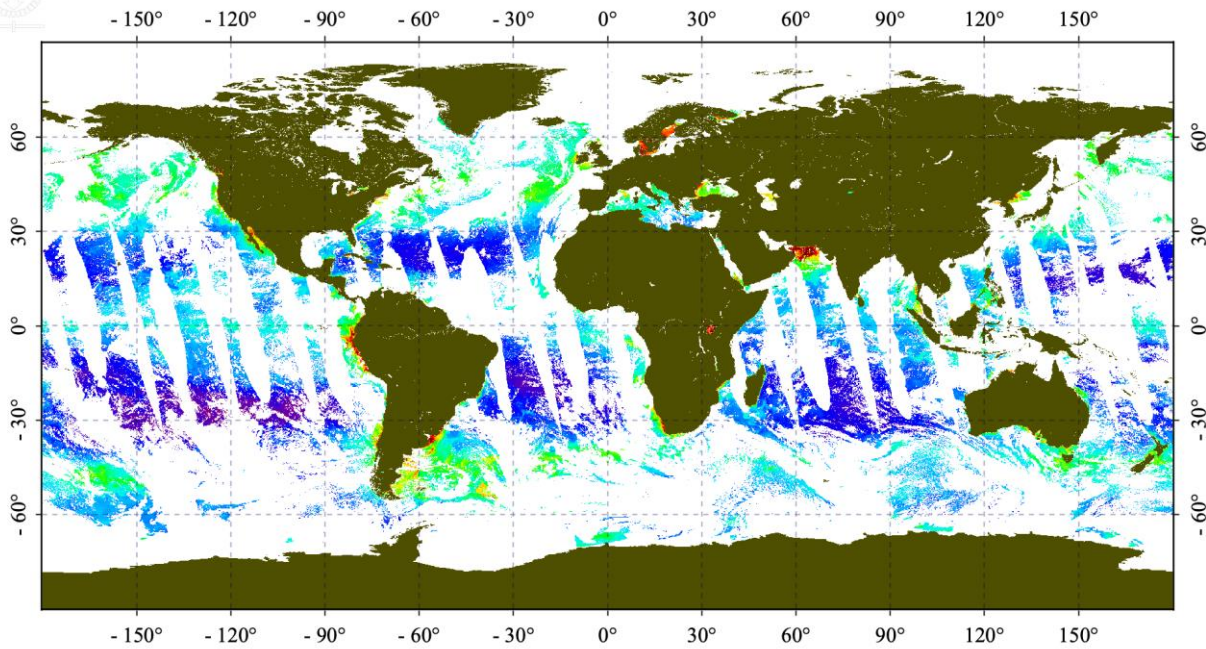
4-km Daily Composite from 23 March 2024

OCI and VIIRS Rrs retrievals agree well on global scales.

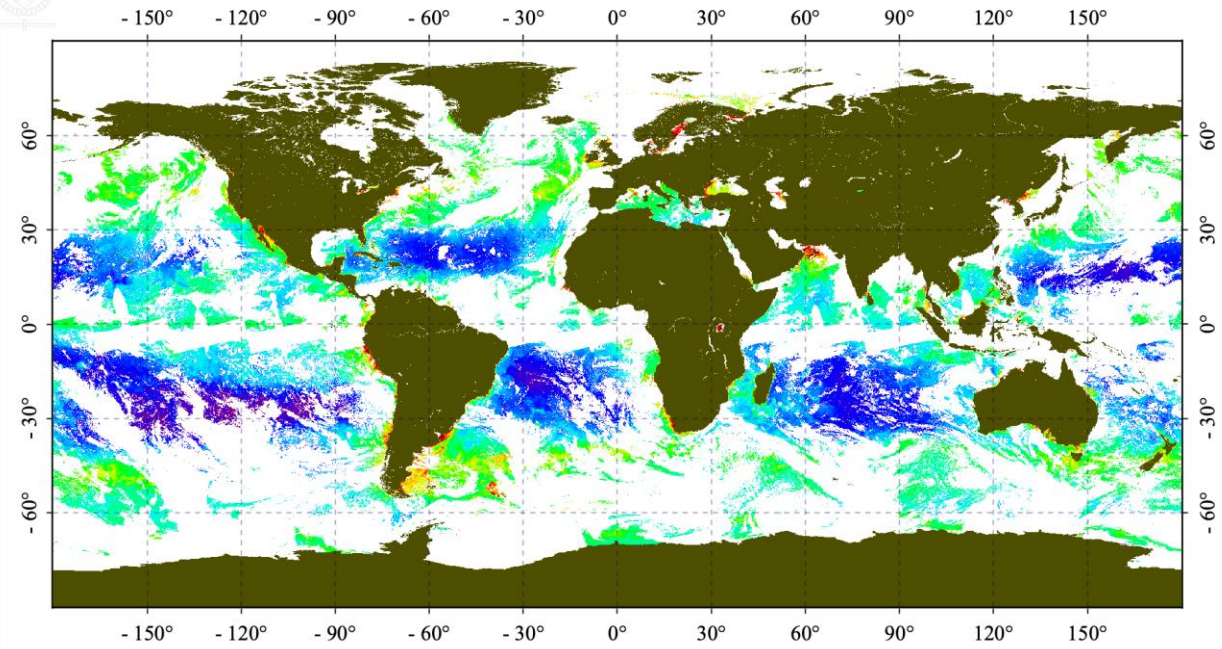


# OCI & VIIRS Chlorophyll-a Comparison

NOAA-20 VIIRS



PACE OCI



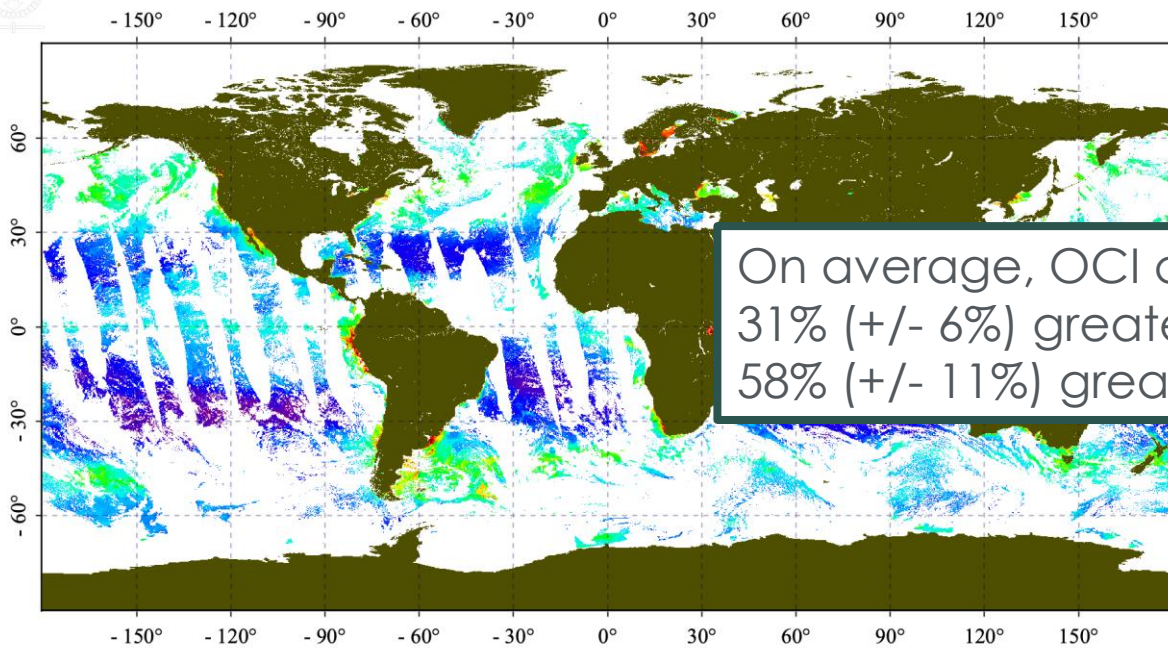
4-km Daily Composite from 17 March 2024

OCI and VIIRS chlorophyll retrievals agree well on global scales.

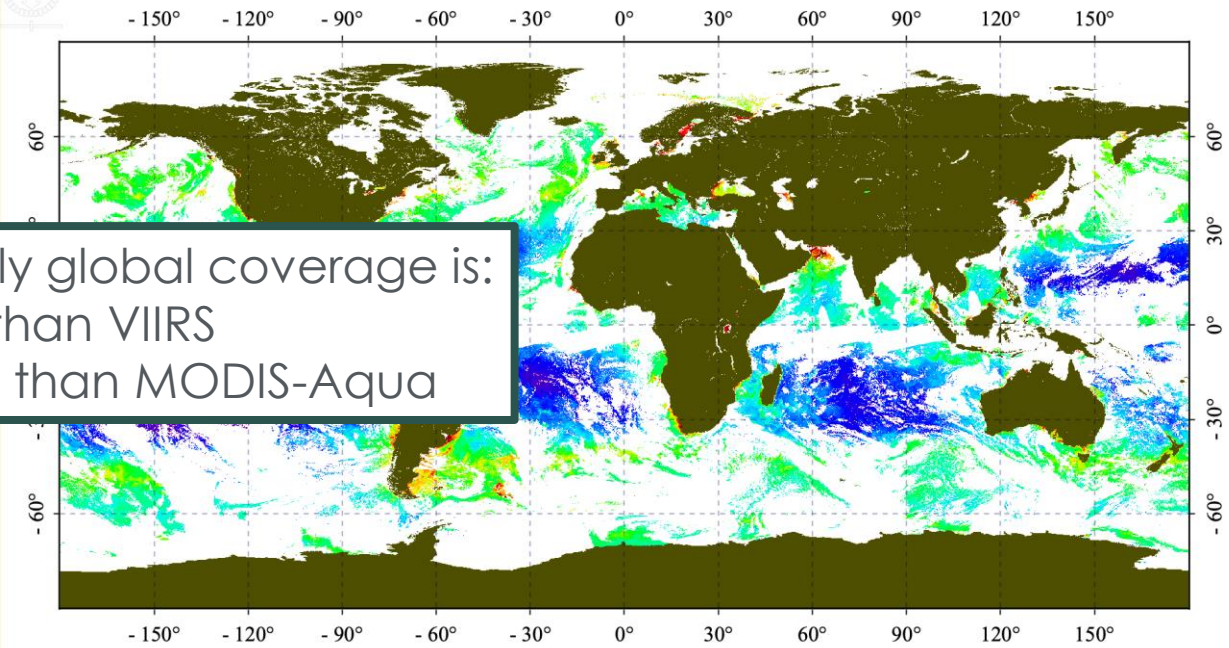


# OCI & VIIRS Chlorophyll-a Comparison

NOAA-20 VIIRS



PACE OCI



On average, OCI daily global coverage is:  
31% (+/- 6%) greater than VIIRS  
58% (+/- 11%) greater than MODIS-Aqua

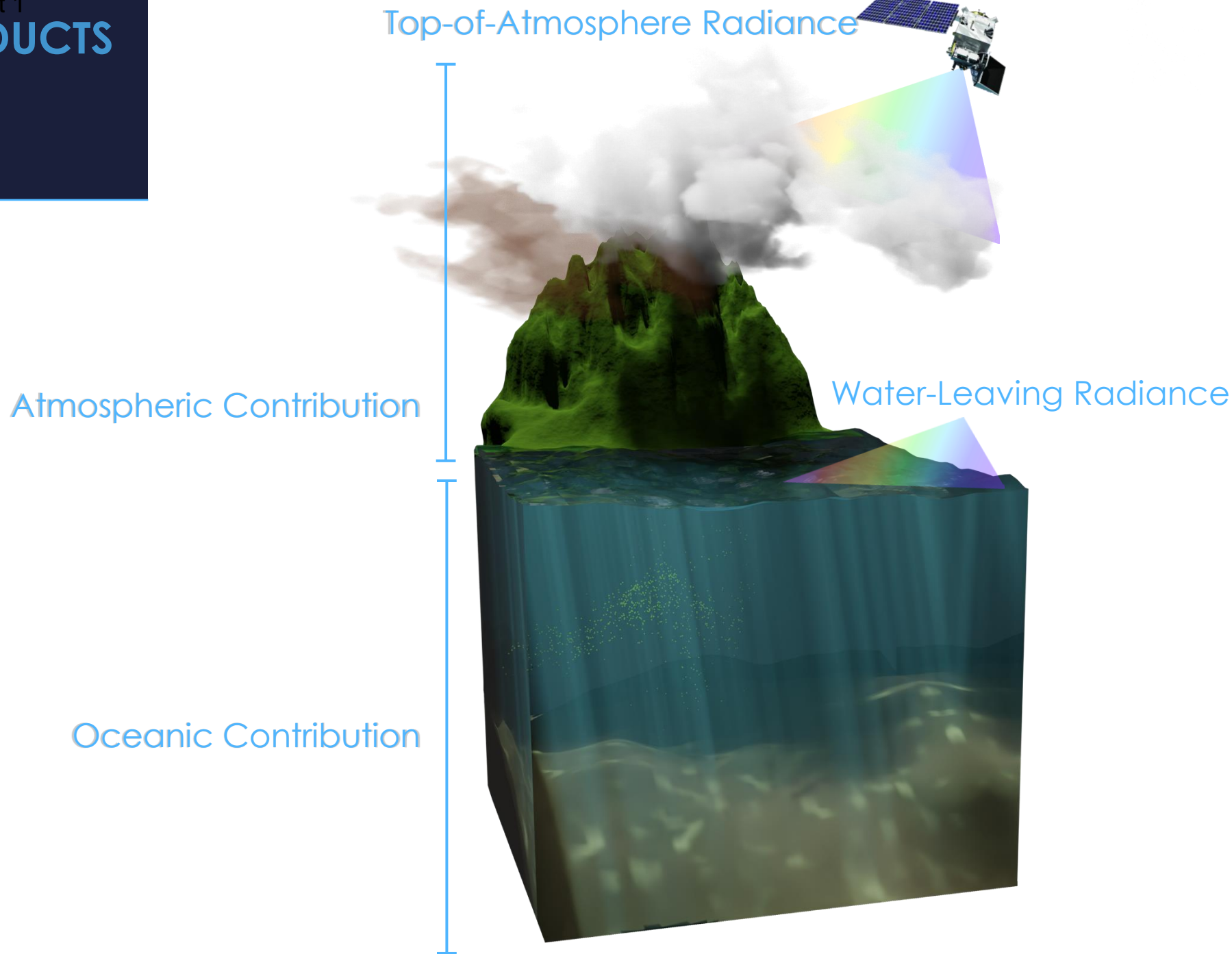
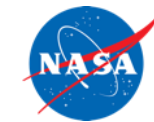
4-km Daily Composite from 17 March 2024

OCI and VIIRS chlorophyll retrievals agree well on global scales.



# PACE DATA PRODUCTS

## ATMOSPHERIC OCEAN COLOR



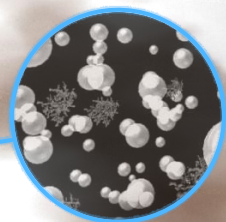
# PACE DATA PRODUCTS

## ATMOSPHERIC



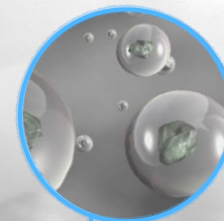
Cloud Optical Depth  
Cloud Height  
Cloud Thickness

Aerosol Absorption  
Aerosol Size Distributions  
Concentrations of  
Brown/Black Carbon



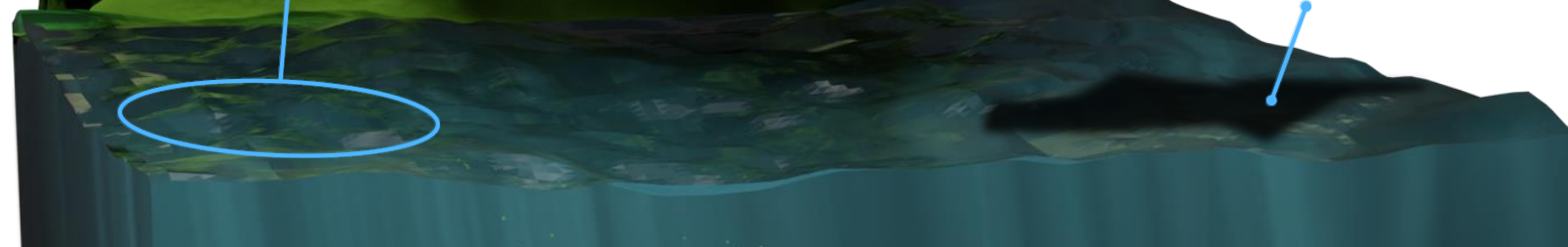
Aerosol Optical Depth  
Aerosol Heights and Layers

Cloud Phase (Liquid/Ice)  
Droplet Size Distributions  
Ice Crystal Shapes



Ocean Reflectance  
Whitecap Fraction  
Angular Light Distributions

Oil Slick Detection

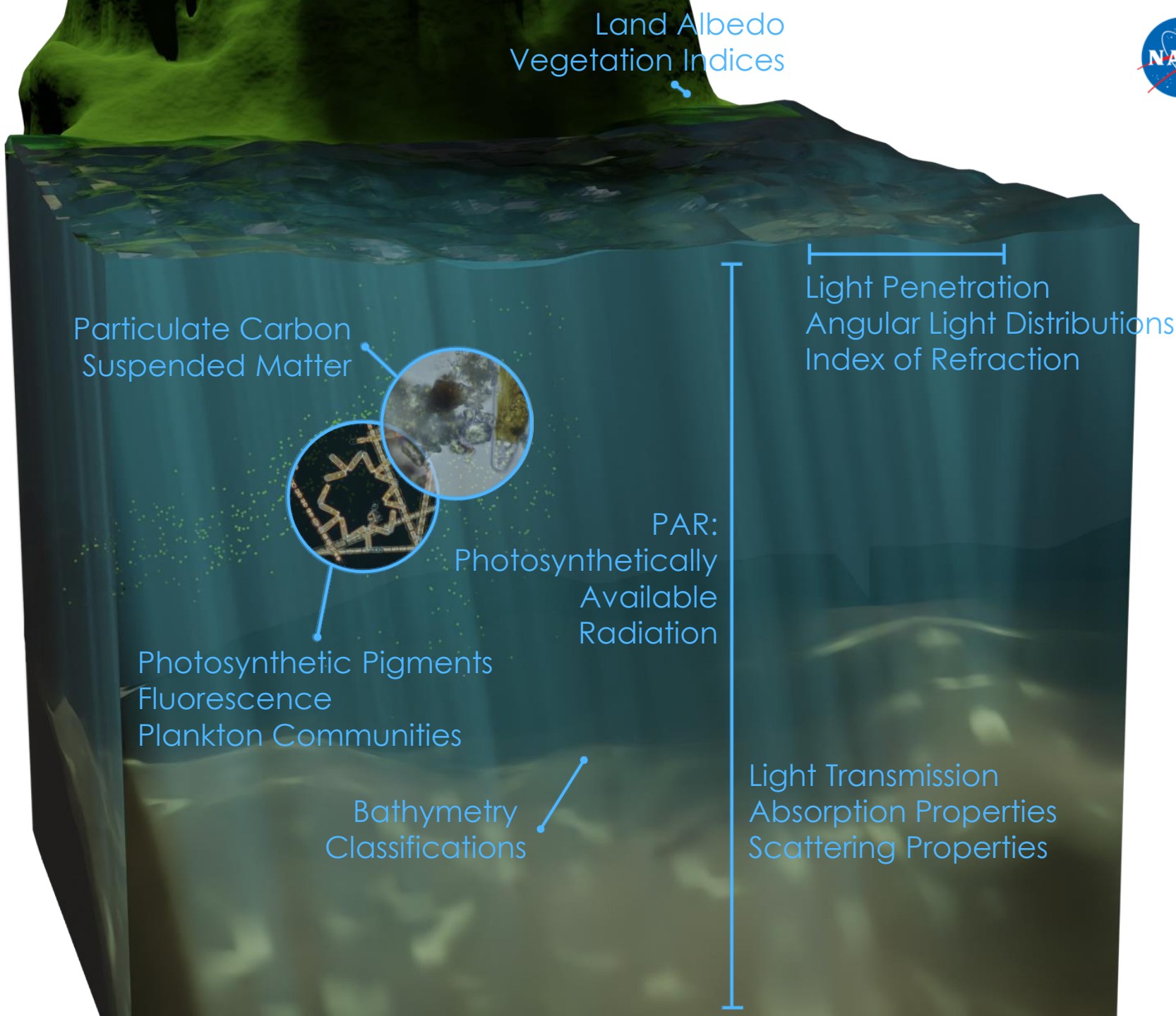


# PACE DATA PRODUCTS

## OCEAN COLOR



Land Albedo  
Vegetation Indices



Particulate Carbon  
Suspended Matter

Light Penetration  
Angular Light Distributions  
Index of Refraction

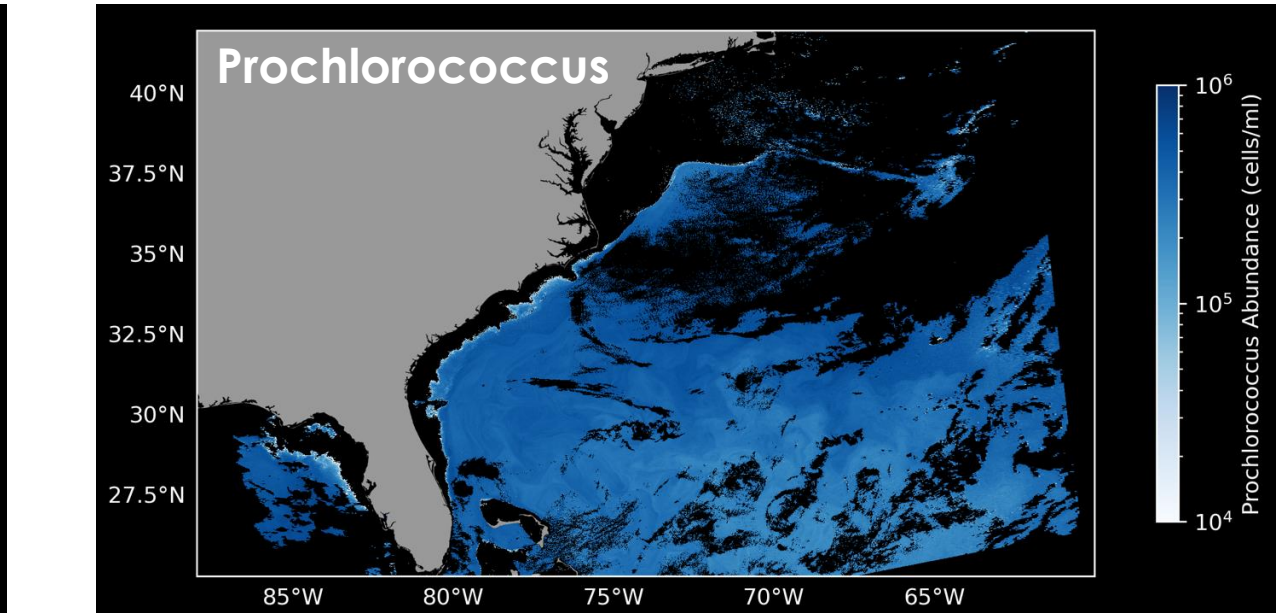
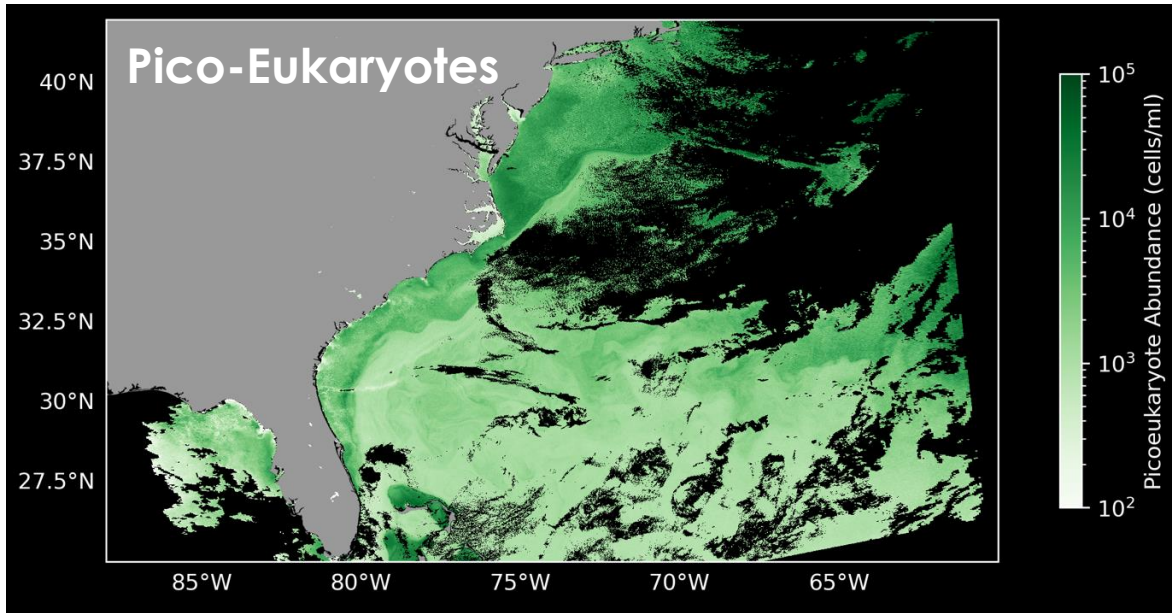
PAR:  
Photosynthetically  
Available  
Radiation

Photosynthetic Pigments  
Fluorescence  
Plankton Communities

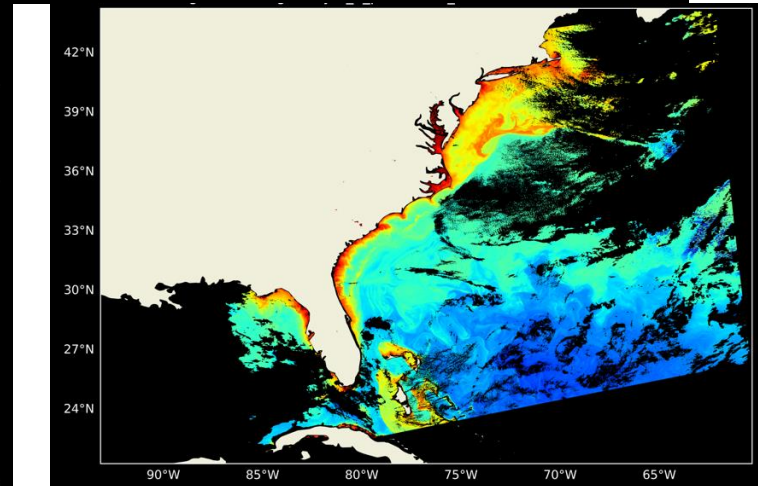
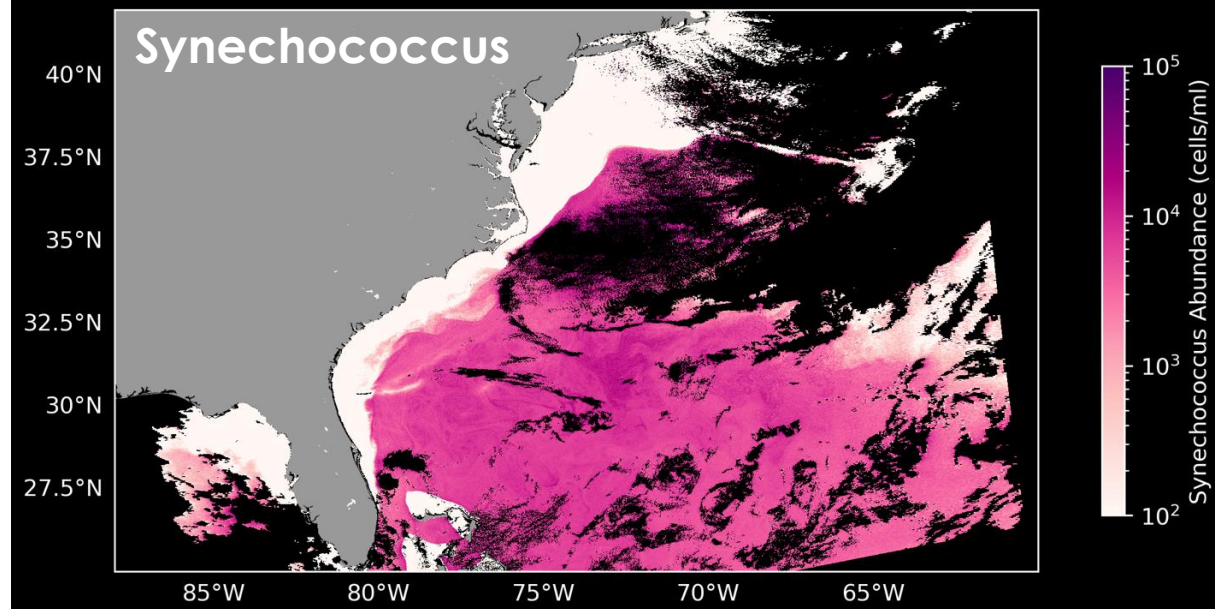
Light Transmission  
Absorption Properties  
Scattering Properties

Bathymetry  
Classifications

# PACE OCI Phytoplankton Community Composition



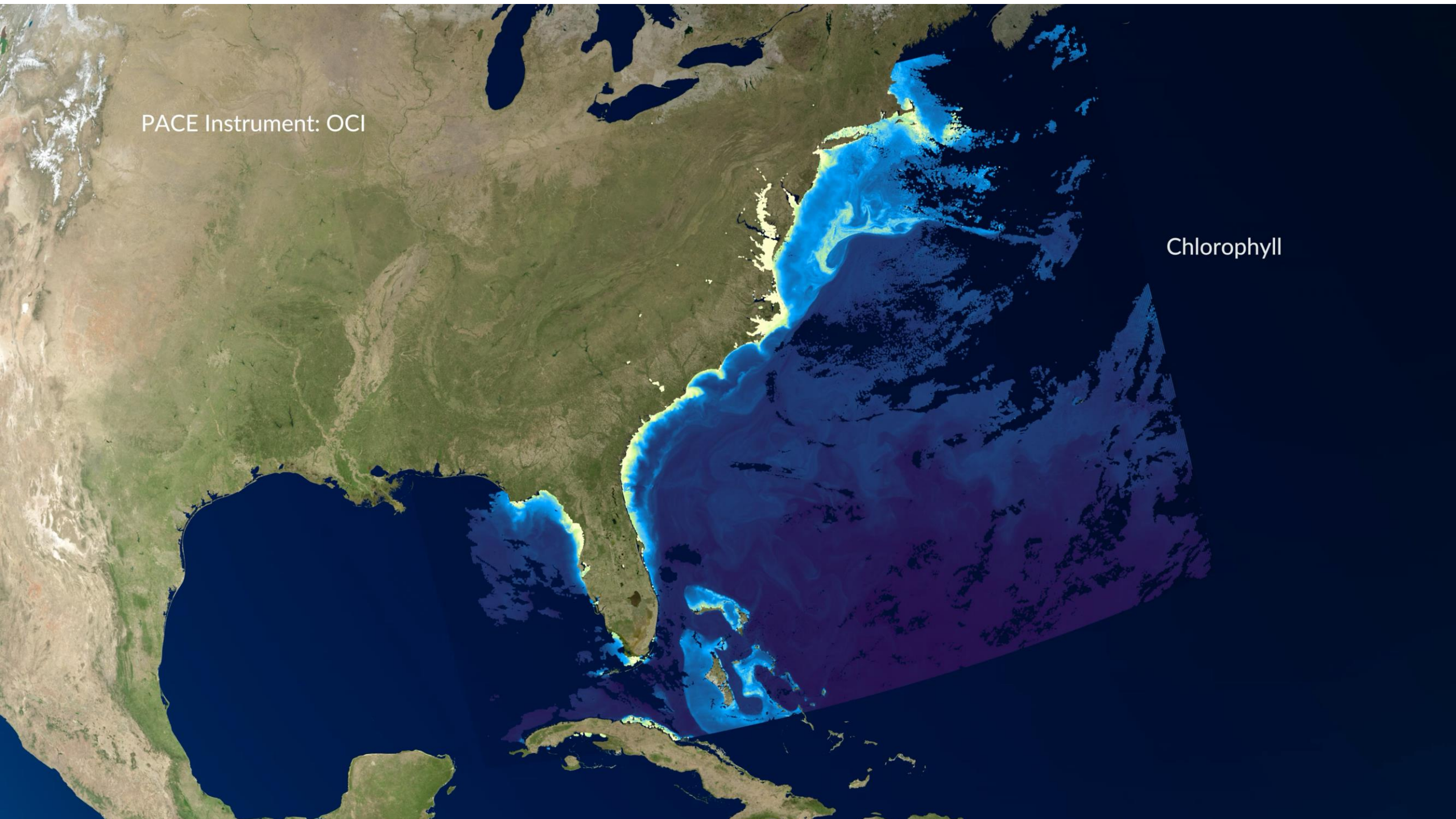
21 March 2024  
Chlorophyll-a  
Phytoplankton  
Community  
MOANA Algorithm  
Lange et al. 2020





PACE Instrument: OCI

Chlorophyll

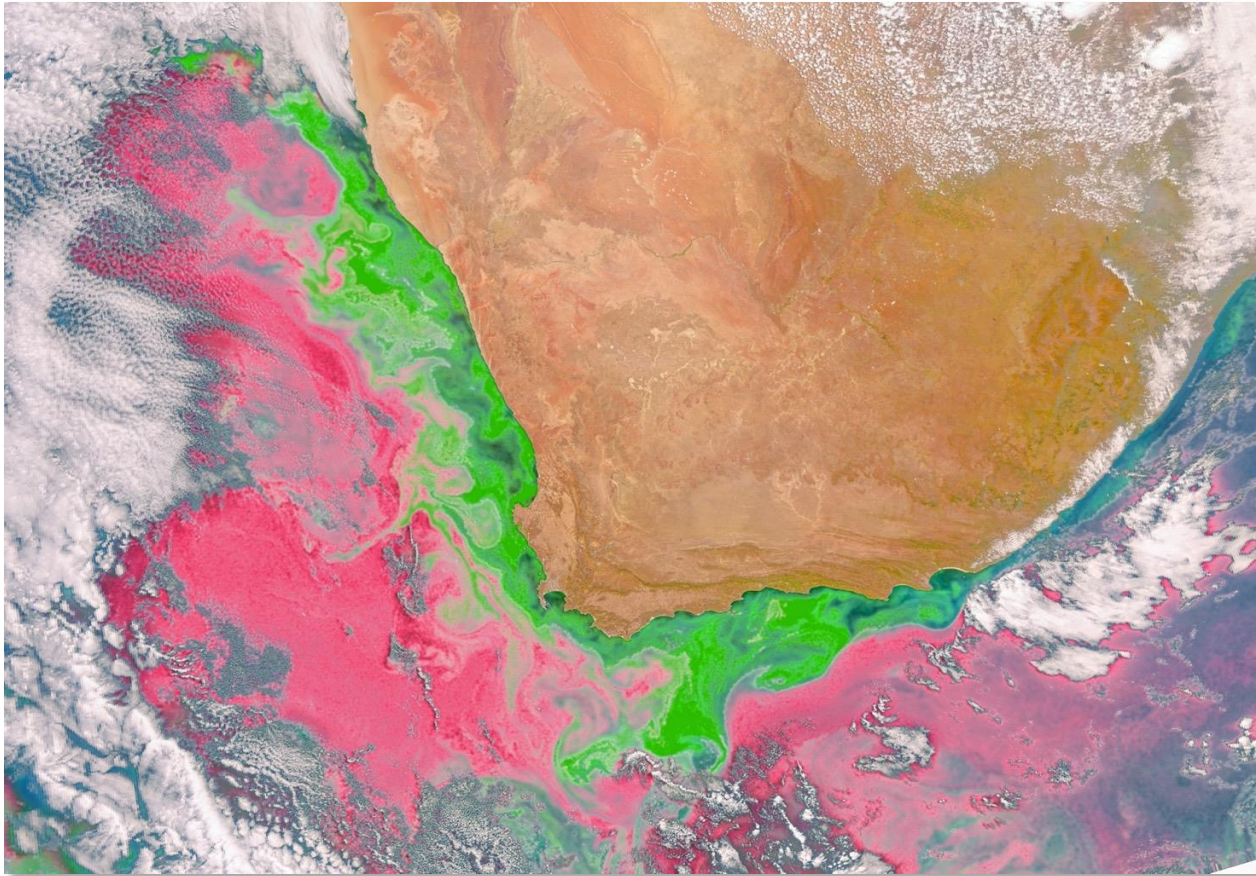


# Data (Re)Processing & Release Status

- Initial data release on 11 April 2024
  - Level-1 radiometry from all 3 instruments
  - Heritage suite of ocean color products from OCI (all “provisional” -> EDS, OB.DAAC/OBPG)
- First reprocessing (tagged V2) completed in early July
  - First use of on-orbit (= solar diffuser) calibrations for all 3 instruments
  - Second wave of OCI products (all “TEST” -> OB.DAAC)
    - Terrestrial and aquatic surface reflectances (every 10 nm)
    - Terrestrial vegetation indices (~10 products)
    - Cloud optical properties and altitude
  - <https://oceancolor.gsfc.nasa.gov/data/reprocessing/V2.0/pace/>
- Second reprocessing (V3) to be conducted in coming months
  - First system vicarious calibration (HyperNAV)
  - TBD wave of products (all “TEST” -> OB.DAAC)
- Additional data products to be released pending review by Project + Pis
  - No predefined deadlines



# Algorithms: PACE Phytoplankton Community Composition



*Synechococcus* and *Autotrophic Picoeukaryotes*, as seen by PACE off South Africa – 03/09/2024

**MOANA Algorithm from Lange et al. 2020**

## Other Algorithms/Approaches:

- Kramer et al. 2022
  - Pigments and Absorption
- Chase et al. 2022
  - Diatom carbon relating absorption and phytoplankton imaging flow cytometry

See Cetinic et al. 2024



# Data Levels

## OB.DAAC Data Processing Levels

Level-1A	Level-1B	Level-1C	Level-2	Level-3	Level-4
Raw instrument data and spacecraft telemetry in NetCDF4	Calibrated and geolocated instrument data	Calibrated, geolocated, and co-registered to a common grid	Derived geophysical science data products	Temporally and spatially composited (binned and mapped) global products	Geophysical products derived from combined Level-3 inputs and/or models

## Product Maturity Levels

Standard	Provisional	Test	Diagnostic
Products are produced by an algorithm that has community consensus and have been validated.	Results have been reviewed and are in family with heritage data products or other basis of expectation, but which have not yet been validated and may still contain significant errors.	Results have not yet been reviewed by algorithm developers and/or may be known to have substantial errors in implementation that are under investigation.	Products that are produced to support analysis of algorithm behavior, but that are not intended for science.



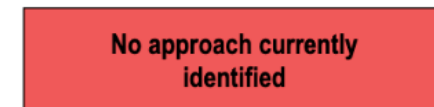
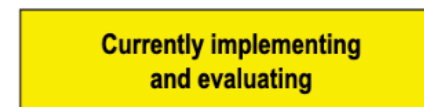
# Data Products Availability

## Data Products Table

Calibrated Radiometry and Polarimetry | Ocean Properties to be Produced by OCI | Atmospheric Properties to be Produced by OCI | Land Data Products to be Produced by OCI | Aerosol and Ocean Properties from HARP2 | Aerosol and Land Surface Properties from HARP2 | Cloud Properties from HARP2 | Ocean Surface Properties from HARP2 | Aerosol and Ocean Properties from SPEXone | Aerosol and Land Surface Properties from SPEXone | Aerosol and Ocean Properties from OCI + HARP2 + SPEXone

Access to data varies with its status (data maturity level). Provisional data are available through [Earthdata Search](#), the [OB.DAAC File Search](#) and [Level 3 & 4 Browser](#). Test and Diagnostic data are available through the [OB.DAAC File Search](#) and [Level 3 & 4 Browser](#). See also “[Access PACE Data](#)”.

### What do colors in the “Availability” column mean?



Calibrated Radiometry and Polarimetry						
Calibrated and geolocated radiometry and polarimetry as observed at sensor.						
Product	L2 Suite	Description and Use	Units	Availability	Status	Additional Info
Spectral top-of-atmosphere radiances from OCI	N/A	Spectral radiance observed at the top of the atmosphere.	$W m^{-2} um^{-1} sr^{-1}$	Level-1B 1-km at nadir; daily - Level-1C; daily	Provisional	Level-1C draft data format and examples
Spectral top-of-atmosphere radiances and polarimetry from SPEXone	N/A	Spectral radiance and polarimetry observed at the top of the atmosphere, for all sensor viewing angles.	Various	Level-1B TBD; daily - Level-1C; daily	Provisional	Level-1C draft data format and examples
Spectral top-of-atmosphere radiances and polarimetry from HARP2	N/A	Spectral radiance and polarimetry observed at the top of the atmosphere, for all sensor viewing angles.	Various	Level-1B TBD; daily - Level-1C; daily	Provisional	Level-1C draft data format and examples

Ocean Properties to be Produced by OCI						
Bio-optical and biogeochemical properties of seawater constituents in the sunlit upper ocean.						
Product	L2 Suite	Description and Use	Units	Availability	Status	Additional Info
Spectral remote sensing reflectances	OC_AOP	Spectral color of the ocean in the ultraviolet-to-near infrared spectral range. Used as input into algorithms to retrieve information about colored dissolved organic matter,	$sr^{-1}$	Level-2 1-km at nadir; daily - Level-3 4-km; daily, 8-day, monthly, annual	Provisional	ATBD SAT members: Boss, Zhai, Krotkov, Chowdhary, Stamnes, Zhang



[https://pace.oceansciences.org/data\\_table.htm](https://pace.oceansciences.org/data_table.htm)



# PACE Ocean Data Products L2 Suites 20240829



## APPARENT OPTICAL PROPERTIES

- Remote Sensing Reflectance (Rrs) for 184 bands
- Rrs uncertainty
- Aerosol Optical Thickness
- Angstrom exponent
- Normalized Fluorescence Line-Height
- Apparent Visible Wavelength (AVW)



## INHERENT OPTICAL PROPERTIES

- Spectral phytoplankton absorption coefficients
- Spectral non-algal particle plus dissolved organic matter absorption coefficients
- Spectral chromophoric dissolved organic matter absorption coefficients
- Spectral non-algal particle matter absorption
- Spectral particulate matter absorption coefficients
- Spectral slope coefficients of chromophoric dissolved organic matter absorption
- Spectral particle backscattering coefficients
- Total spectral backscattering coefficients
- Total absorption coefficients
- Backscattering Slope
- Non-algal particle matter absorption Slope
- Uncertainties (for some listed above)
- Diffuse attenuation coefficient (Kd\_Lee)
- Kd\_Lee uncertainties



## BIOGEOCHEMISTRY

- Concentration Of Chlorophyll-a
- Concentration Of Particulate Organic Carbon
- Concentration Of Particulate Inorganic Carbon
- Concentration Of Phytoplankton Carbon
- Chlorophyll-a uncertainties
- Phytoplankton Carbon uncertainty



## PHOTOSYNTHETICALLY AVAILABLE RADIATION

- Daily PAR scalar 0-
- Daily PAR planar 0+
- Daily PAR planar 0-
- Instantaneous PAR planar 0+
- Instantaneous PAR planar 0-
- Instantaneous PAR scalar 0-

## More Advanced Products to come:

- Water Quality Suite
- Phytoplankton Community Composition Suite
- Level 4
  - Net Primary Production

Algorithm Descriptions: <https://www.earthdata.nasa.gov/apt/documents>

*PACE Data Table* →



# Water Quality Suite & Algorithms in Consideration

PACE

WATER QUALITY

- Water Clarity: Diffuse attenuation coefficient ( $K_d$ )
- Chlorophyll-a
- Turbidity: Suspended particulate matter (SPM)
- Colored dissolved organic matter (CDOM) absorption ( $a_g$ )

## Inland and Coastal Waters Algorithms:

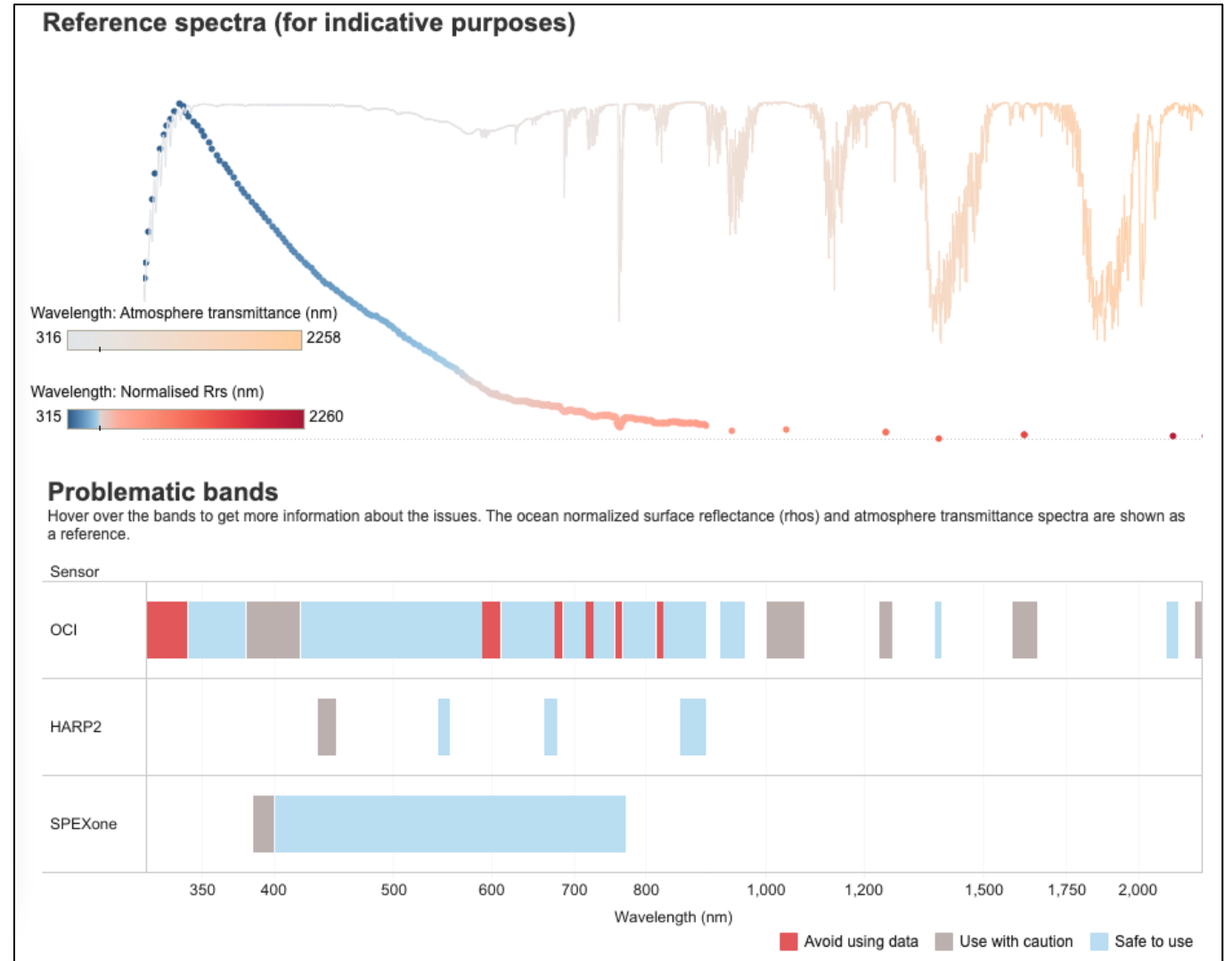
- **Aquaverse:** A mixture density neural network algorithm
  - Chlorophyll-a, CDOM absorption, Total Suspended Solids (~SPM), Phycocyanin
- **CYAN-Equivalent:**
  - Aquatic surface reflectances ( $r_s$ )
  - Cyanobacteria Index ( $CI_{\text{cyano}}$ )
  - Cyanobacteria-Apparent Visible Wavelength (CI-AVW)
- Harmful Algal Blooms – TBD



# Data Issues Under Investigation

Broad categories currently under investigation include:

- Geolocation
- Radiometric Performances
- On-Orbit Calibration Refinement
  - Instrument-to-instrument intercomparisons are only beginning
- Recommend avoiding, for now, particular bands influenced by instrument or atmospheric characteristics





## OC Data Product Issues – 2

Ocean apparent optical properties suite (OC\_AOP): spectral remote sensing reflectances ( $R_{rs}(\lambda)$ ;  $sr^{-1}$ ) and uncertainties (Provisional), apparent visible wavelength (Provisional), aerosol optical thickness (Diagnostic), and aerosol angstrom exponent (Diagnostic).

- No vicarious calibration applied yet; further reduction in bias for OC\_AOP data product retrievals relative to ground truth is expected once vicarious calibration applied.
- Limited validation of  $R_{rs}(\lambda)$  retrievals has been performed. Results show good agreement (to first order) with ground truth and with heritage multispectral satellite missions (e.g., VIIRS), but more measurements are needed to fully assess data quality.
- Performance of  $R_{rs}(\lambda)$  retrieval in the ultraviolet (below 400 nm) has not yet been meaningfully reviewed and is likely to contain significant biases and erroneous variability.
- Corrections for absorbing gases have been applied, but refinement is on-going.  $R_{rs}(\lambda)$  variability, especially in the red, is likely to contain residual artifacts from water vapor and oxygen absorption near 680, 720, 760, and 820 nm.
- Discontinuity in the observed radiances at the transition between the blue and red focal planes. This results in an artifact in  $R_{rs}(\lambda)$  in the 590-610 nm region. Science algorithms should avoid use of data in this region.
- The current processing extends to higher view zenith angles than the heritage sensors. The atmospheric correction becomes increasingly difficult at these extreme geometries, and erroneously elevated reflectance has been observed in red wavelengths near scan edge. These data are flagged at Level-2 and masked at Level-3.
- Chlorophyll fluorescence line height (FLH) will be included in a future release.



## OC Data Product Issues – 3

- Ocean Inherent Optical Properties Suite (OC\_IOP) Known Issues:
  - Products are derived from Rrs(l). Algorithm failure and artifacts have been noted in highly productive and near-shore waters.
- Ocean Biogeochemical Properties Suite (OC\_BGC) Known Issues:
  - Products are derived from Rrs(l)
- Ocean Photosynthetically Available Radiation (PAR) Suite Known Issues:
  - None
- Cloud Mask Suite (CLDMASK): Cloud Mask and Cloud-Adjacent Mask (Test) Known Issues:
  - Current implementation of the MERRA-2 snow/sea ice mask can cause blockiness around coasts where the land is snow-covered. This will be fixed in a forthcoming release.



# Resources & Useful info

Data Product Descriptions + Access to Simulated Data & Characterizations

**Data Products Overview**

**Ocean Properties to be Produced by OCI**  
Bio-optical and biogeochemical properties of seawater constituents in the sunlit upper ocean.

Products >

PACE Technical Memos & Other Documents

**NASA/TM-2018-219027/ Vol. 7**  
**PACE Technical Report Series**  
**Volume 7**  
Jana Cotner, Charles B. McClain, and P. Jeremy Wordell, Editors

**Ocean Color Instrument (OCI) Concept Design Studies**

Zainab Alshani, Robert Aronson, Michael J. Behrenfeld, Bruce Cairns, Dana Cotner, Robert E. Egle, Bruce Frank, David Hagler, Anne Hasse, Steven Maruya, Lachlan E. W. McKenna, Gerhard Hoyer, Anne Parry, Steve Robinson, Frederick S. Port, Wayne Robinson, Sergio B. Sigurdson, Ryan Tinderman, Taly Winkler, and Jeremy Wordell

**Extended UV Capability for Ozone Retrieval  
Chlorophyll Fluorescence Requirements  
Estimates for Optimal Sensing of Coastal Features  
Analyses Supporting an OCI 1038 nm Band  
Analysis of OCI SWIR Bands  
Strategy & Requirements: Solar & Lunar Calibrations  
L<sub>tp</sub> and L<sub>max</sub> Calculations for the OCI  
Analysis of OCI Spectral Resolution Considerations**

[Dec-18] Ocean Color Instrument (OCI) Concept Design Studies [MORE >>](#)

**NASA/TM-2018-219027/ Vol. 6**  
**PACE Technical Report Series**  
**Volume 6**  
Jana Cotner, Charles B. McClain, and P. Jeremy Wordell, Editors

**Data Product Requirements and Error Budgets Consensus Document**

Zainab Alshani, Dana Cotner, Bryan A. Franz, Erik M. Karickhoff, Lachlan E. W. McKenna, Frederick S. Port, and Jeremy Wordell

**Ocean Color Science Data Product Requirements  
OCI Pointing Knowledge & Control Requirements  
SNR Requirement: Assessment & Verification  
Derivation of OCI Systematic Error Approach  
Uncertainty in Ocean Color Observations  
Uncertainty in Aerosol Model Characterization**

[Dec-18] Data Product Requirements and Error Budgets Consensus Document [MORE >>](#)

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pace.oceansciences.org/home.htm

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TECHNICAL MEMOS  
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REPORTS AND PAPERS  
PUBLICATIONS

PACE Ready to Make Waves  
PACE has passed its design reviews and moved into construction and testing »

PACE's advanced technologies will provide new insight into Earth's ocean and atmosphere.

These systems impact our everyday lives. How?  
By regulating climate and making our planet habitable.

LATEST NEWS & EVENTS

HARP named SmallSat Mission of the Year (news) [VIEW >>](#)

A Walk Through the Rainbow with PACE (news) [VIEW >>](#)

PACE's data will help us better understand how the ocean and atmosphere interact. In addition, it will reveal how aerosols might fuel phytoplankton growth in the ocean. Novel uses of PACE data will benefit our economy and society by helping us identify the extent and duration of harmful algal blooms. PACE will enable long-term observations of our living planet. By doing so, it will take us a step closer to understanding our planet for decades to come.

<https://pace.gsfc.nasa.gov>

@NASAOcean

Which Phytoplankton Are You? [Click to find](#)

What in the World are Aerosols? [Click to find](#)

Which Phytoplankton Are You? Quarantine Edition



# PACE Data Access



## Three Primary Options Include:

- Earthdata Search OB.DAAC Portal
- OB.DAAC Level 3 & 4 Browser
- OB.DAAC File Search

The OB.DAAC Level 1 & 2 browser does not support access to PACE data.



# Plankton, Aerosol, Cloud, ocean Ecosystem

PACE will revolutionize global marine and atmospheric science with its hyperspectral imaging radiometer and two multi-angle polarimeters.

Advances realized in Earth science relative to those from MODIS will be as profound as those achieved in astronomy moving from Hubble to JWST.

PACE is far more than an ocean color and aerosols continuity mission. Its capabilities make it a true mission of discovery across Earth system science.





Learn more about the  
PACE mission



Join the PACE CoP and/or  
Early Adopter Program



Part 1  
**Summary**

# Summary

- Description of PACE-OCI, HARP2, and SPEXone: Spectral, spatial, and temporal resolutions.
- PACE data products are available for oceans/estuaries, atmosphere, and land
- OCI Observations:
  - Hyperspectral from 315 nm to 895 nm, with spectral sampling of 2.5 nm
  - Will enable separation of aquatic constituents and phytoplankton community composition
  - Only hyperspectral observations with near-daily, global coverage
- HARP2 and SPEXone will aid in atmospheric correction
- Relatively low spatial resolution (1 km) constraints; use within inland and nearshore waters
- Hyperspectral algorithms need verification and require hyperspectral field measurements
- Overview of available PACE Data products and issues in Level-2 data products
  - Not completely calibrated, limited validation
  - Ongoing refinements to the atmospheric correction





## Looking Ahead to Part 2

- Overview, Access, and Analysis of PACE Ocean Color Data Products
- Analysis and Visualization OCI Data Products Using NASA's Open-Source SeaDAS Software



# Homework and Certificates

- **Homework:**
  - One homework assignment
  - Opens on 9/10/2024
  - Access from the [training webpage](#)
  - Answers must be submitted via Google Forms
  - **Due by 24/10/2024**
- **Certificate of Completion:**
  - Attend all three live webinars (attendance is recorded automatically)
  - Complete the homework assignment by the deadline
  - You will receive a certificate via email approximately two months after completion of the course.



# Contact Information

## Trainers:

- Antonio Mannino
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- Amita Mehta
  - [Amita.v.mehta@nasa.gov](mailto:Amita.v.mehta@nasa.gov)

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**Thank You!**

