Remote Sensing of Red tides and the Seafloor:

Heidi Dierssen, University of Connecticut Go Huskies!

HyspIRI

- Will not be useful for routine monitoring of ocean plumes and blooms (19 day revisit)
 - Water residence time in Monterey Bay is
 ~3 days
 - Phytoplankton doubling time (1-8 doublings d⁻¹)
- HyspIRI will be useful for process studies

76 2. Factors Affecting Primary Production

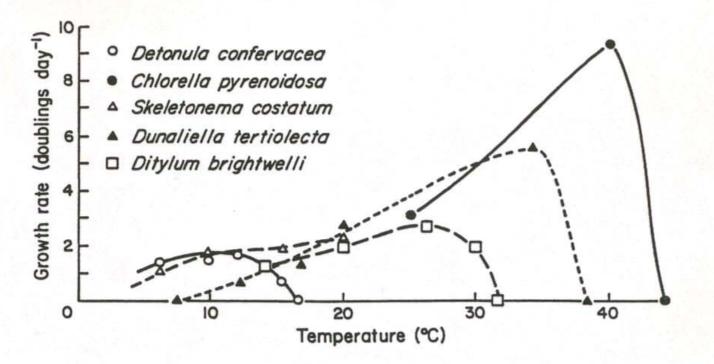
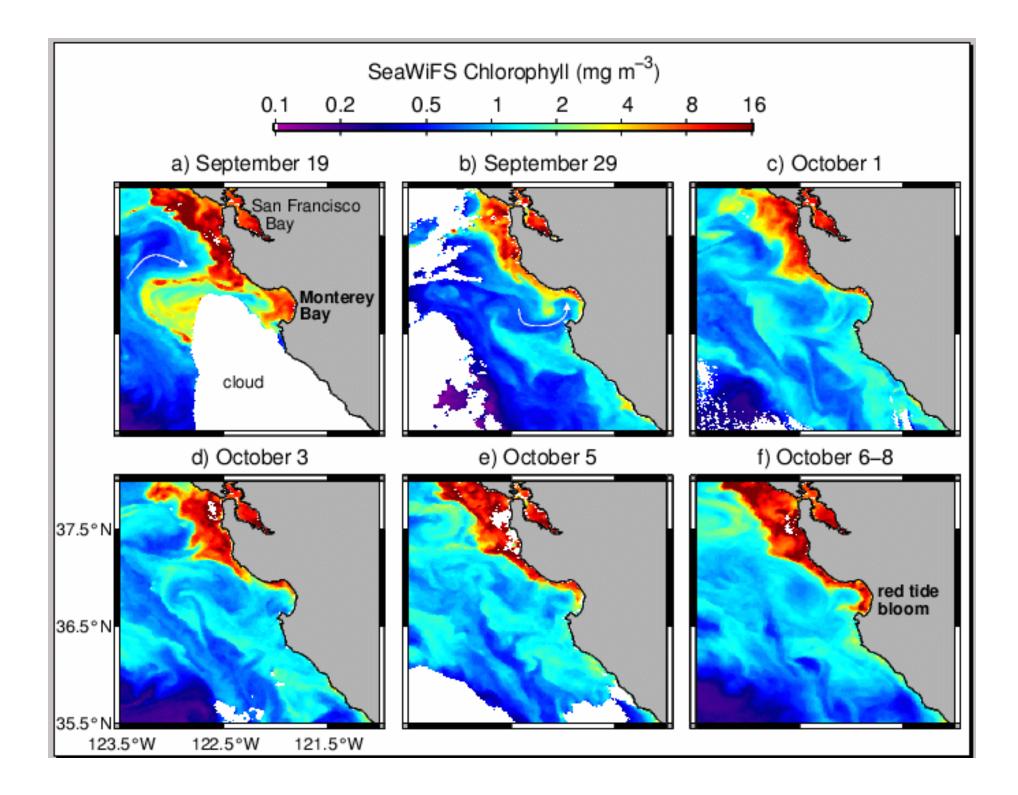
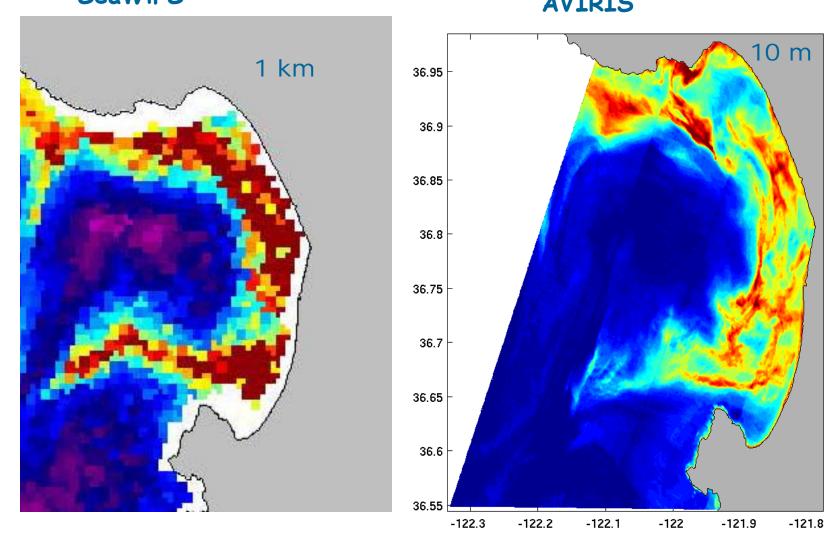


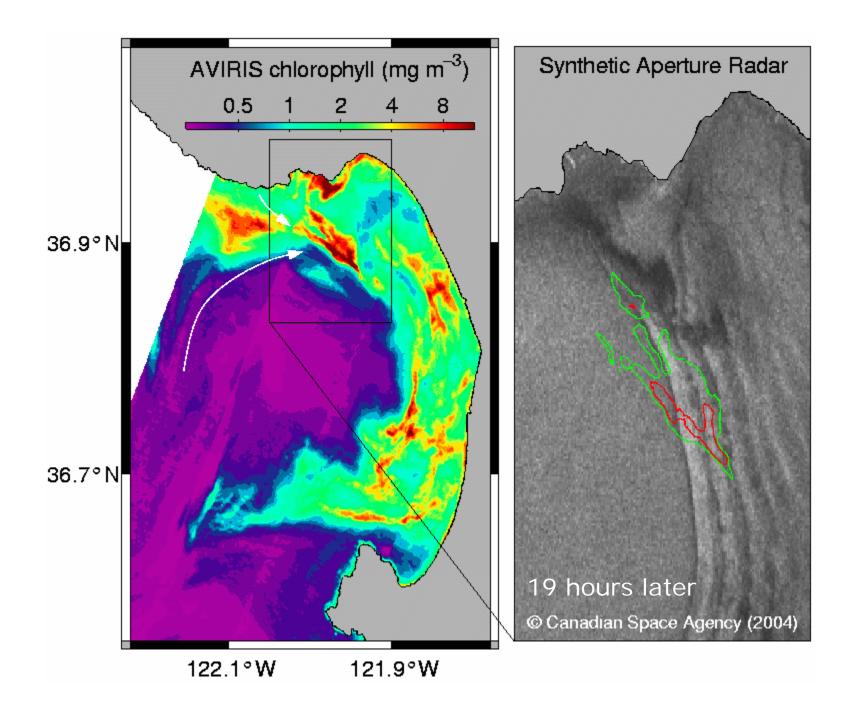
FIGURE 2-32. Growth rate of several phytoplankton species under differe temperatures. Adapted from Eppley (1972).



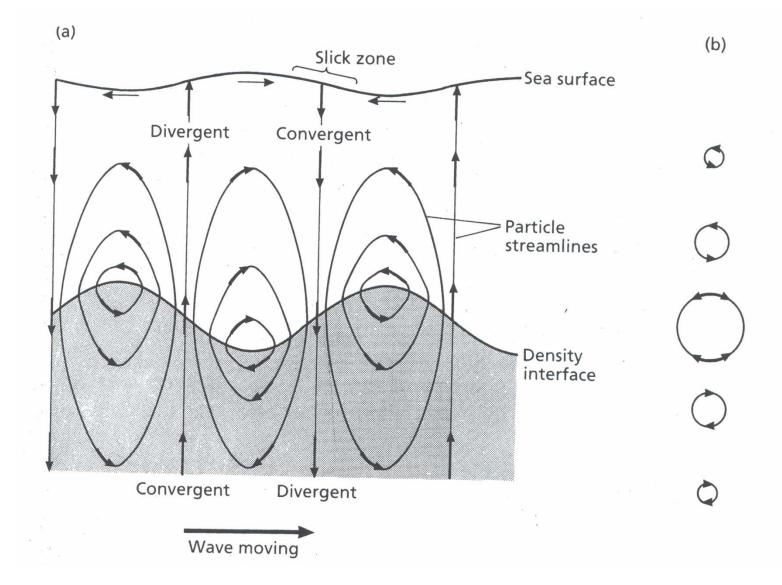


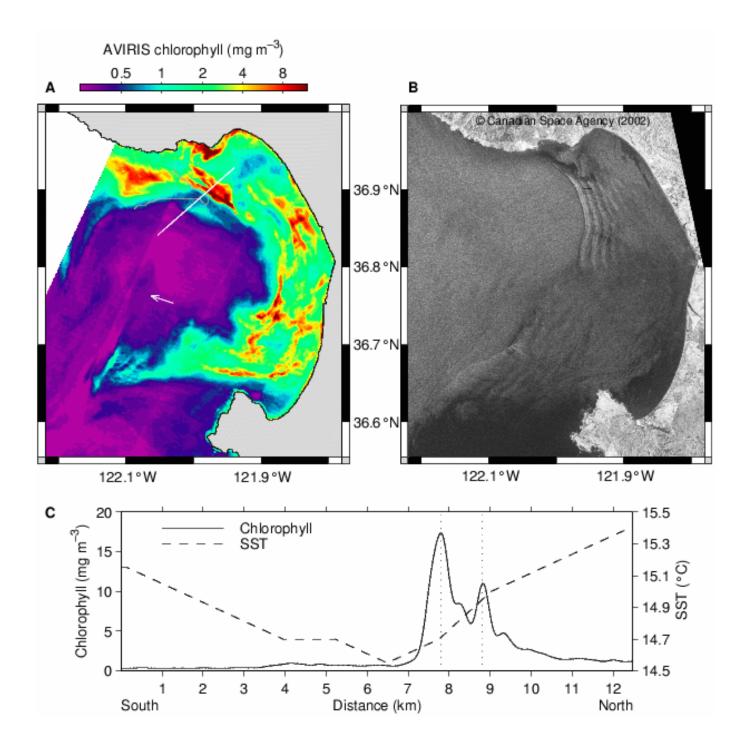
Imaging "Red Tides" in Monterey Bay





Internal Waves cause convergence zones



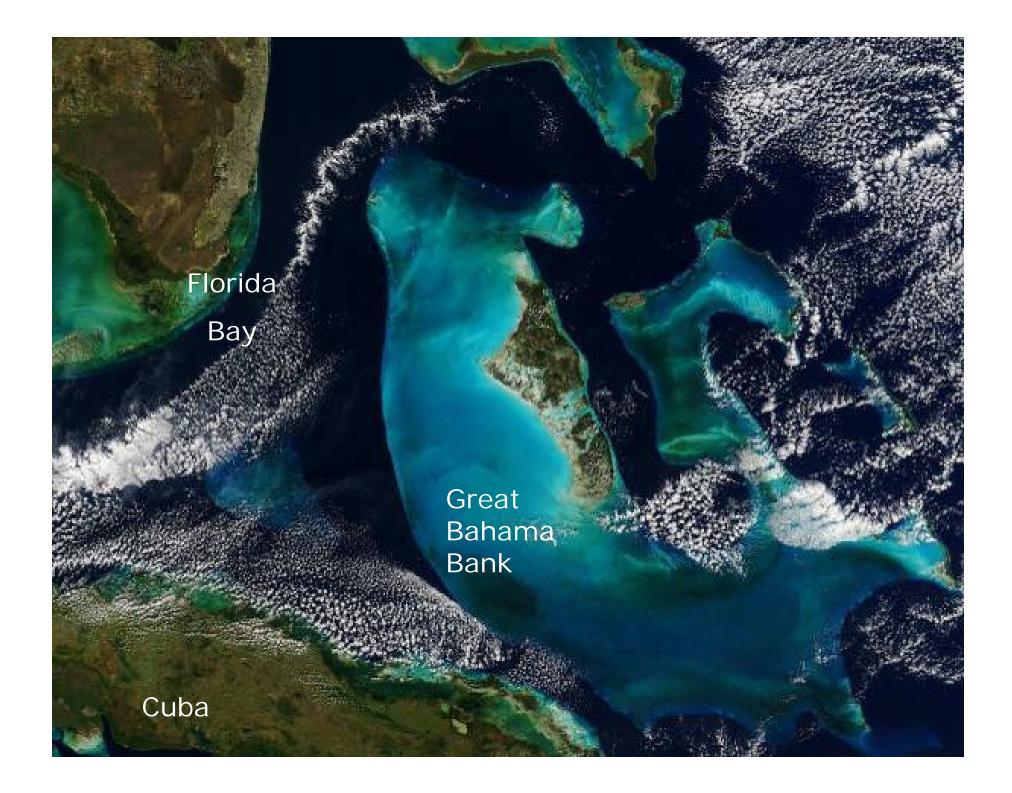


Coastal Bloom Products

- High resolution snapshots of algal blooms show patches at 60 m resolution
- Useful for process studies to evaluate mechanisms of bloom formation
- Analyses not possible with 1 km

Benthic Questions

- How do benthic producers on large banks influence the carbon cycle and climate?
 - -Net primary production
 - Carbonate dissolution
 - -Heat budgets
- What are the ecological mechanisms for distributions and response to environmental forcing?

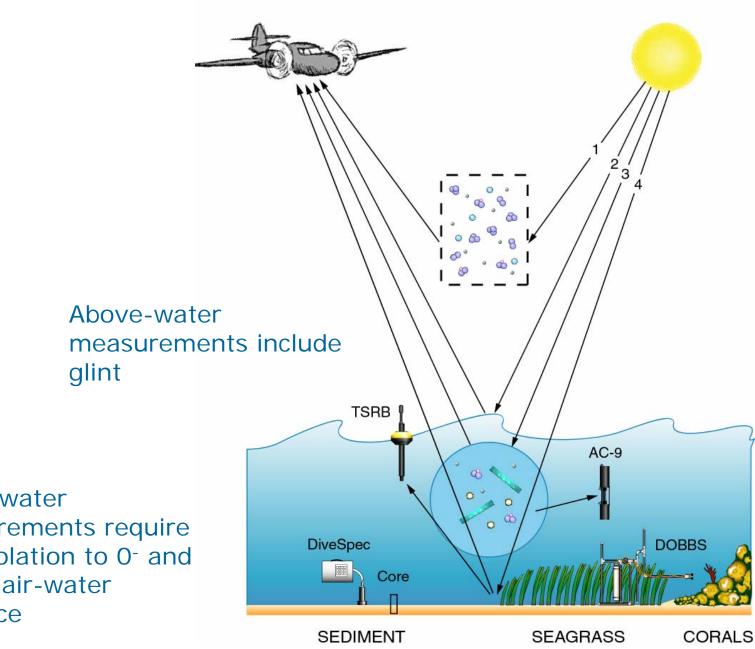




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F. G. WALTON SMITH



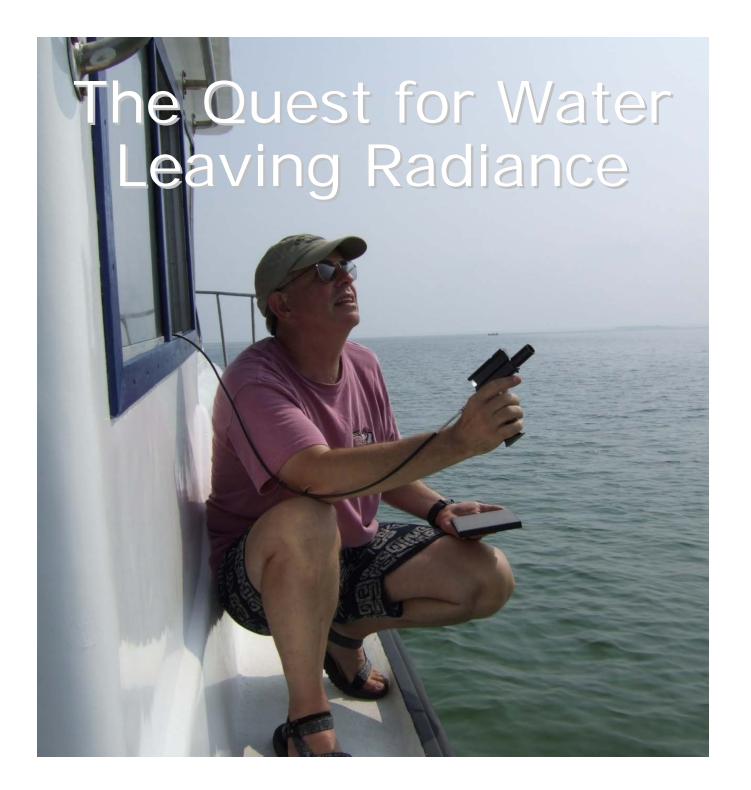


Below-water measurements require extrapolation to 0⁻ and across air-water interface

Water column properties

- ac-9 package
- eco-VSF
- CTD
- fluorometers
- (Chl, CDOM, phycoer.)

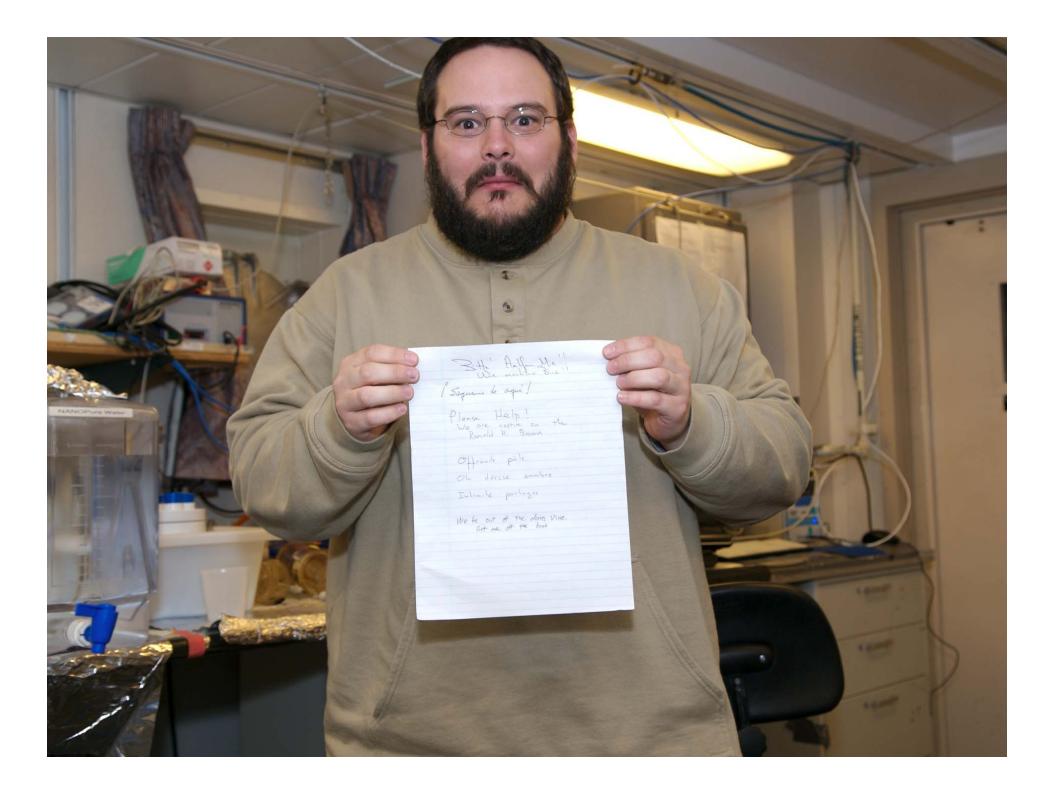


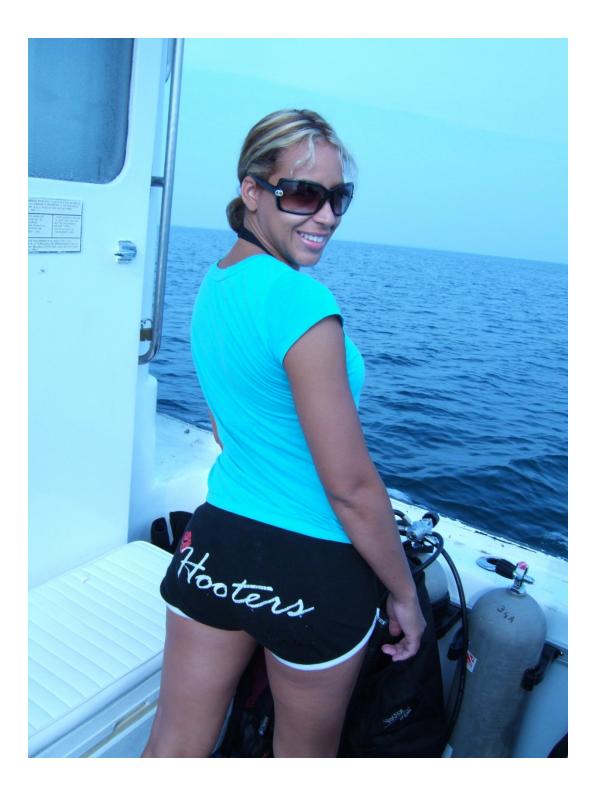












Seagrass counts

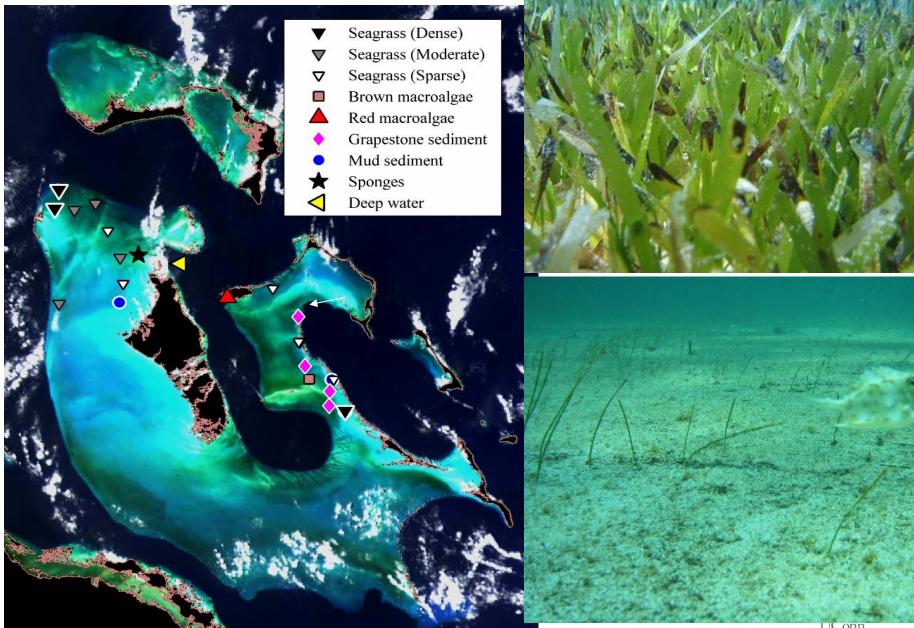
NSF Carbonate Disso Date: Station: Diver

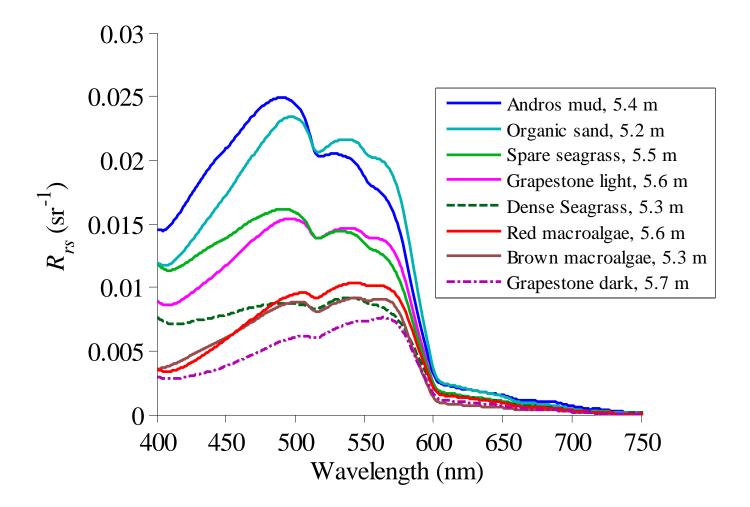
Bearing (Deg)

Distance (m)

Shoots

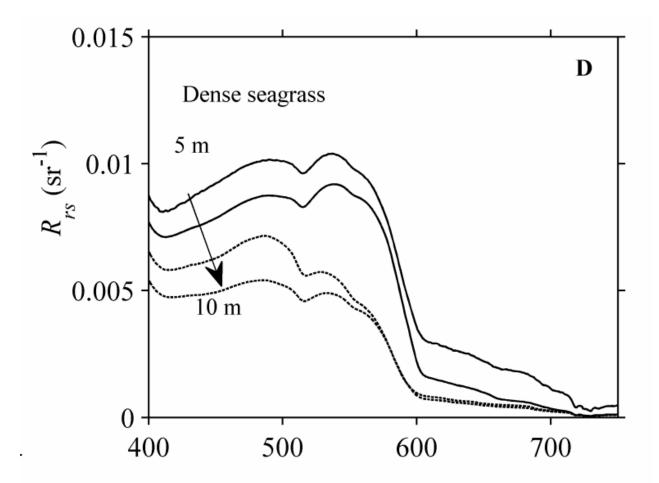
Tutrtlegrass

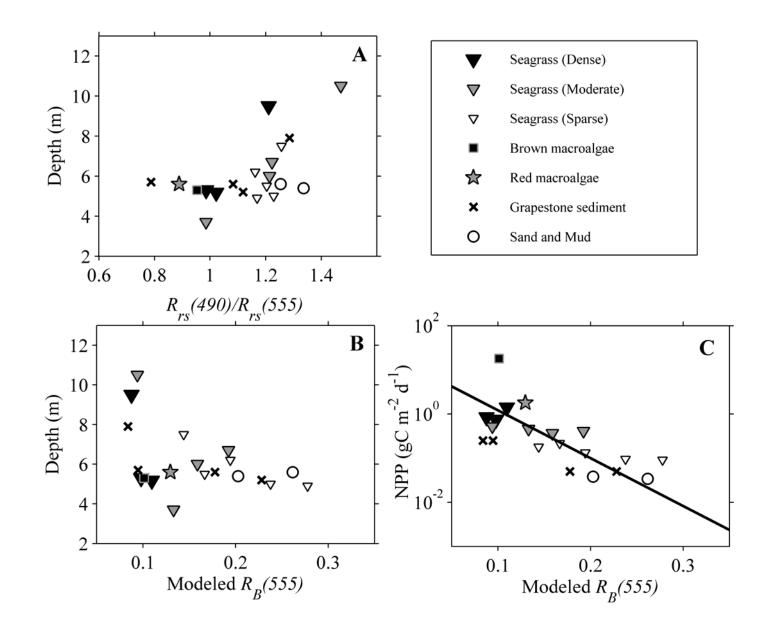


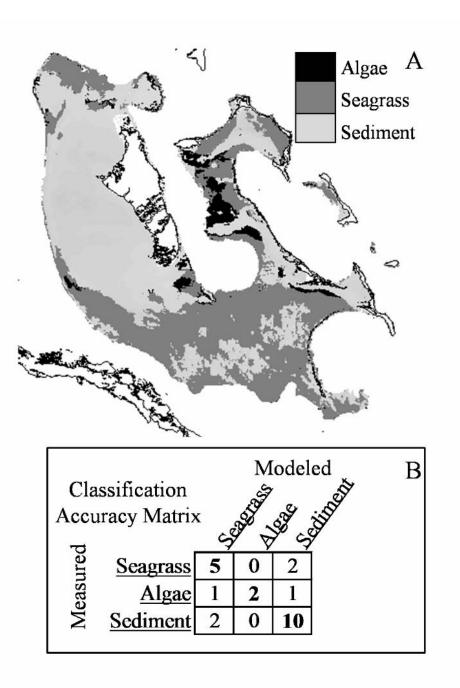




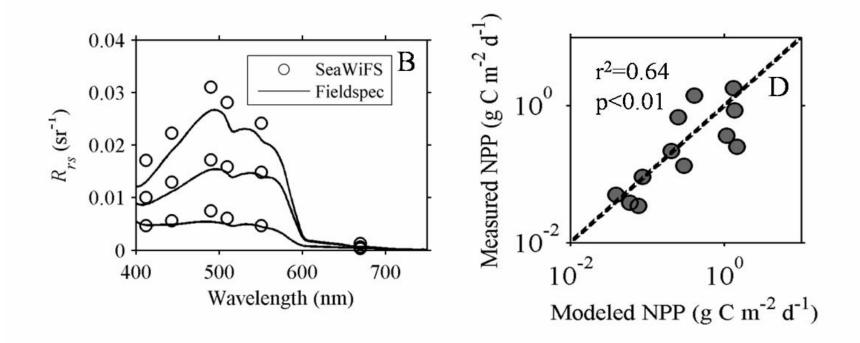
With depth, the spectrum changes from green-to blue- dominated





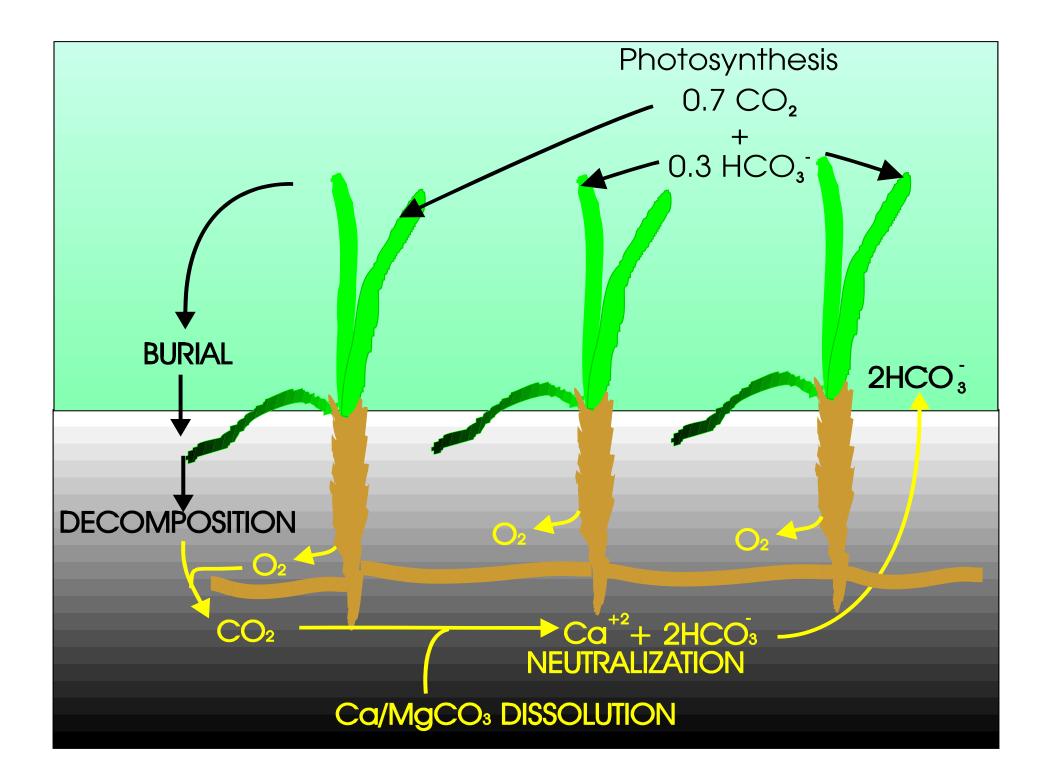


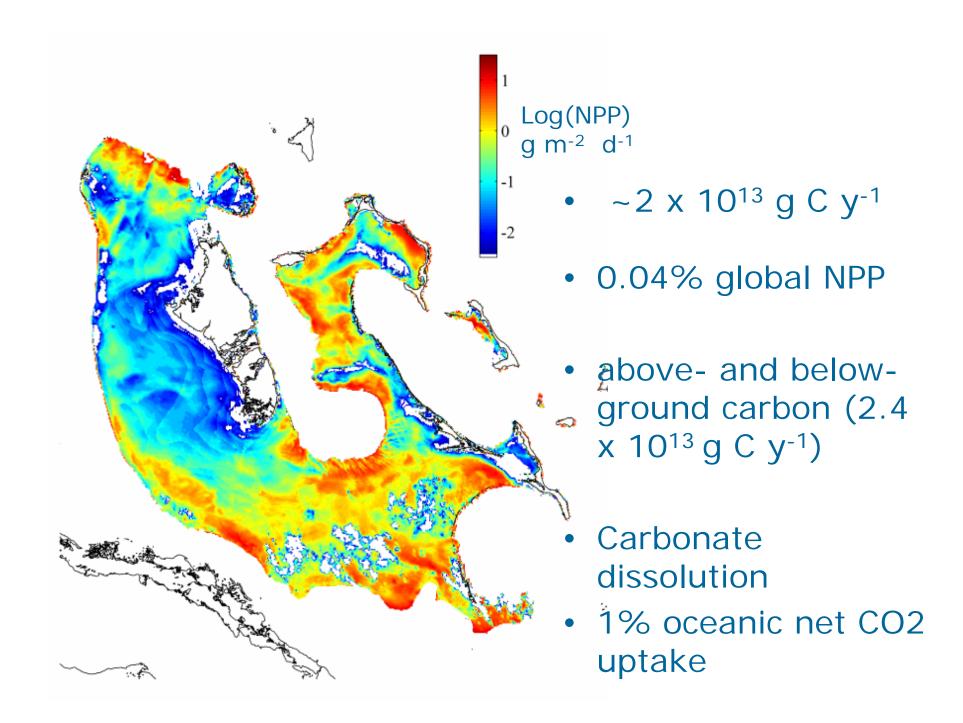
Atmospheric Correction



Carbonate Sediment Geochemistry

- Turtlegrass oceanic sink for carbon
 - -Shallow water "biological pump"
 - Decomposition in sediments
 - -Carbonate sediment dissolution
 - -Burdige & Zimmerman, *Limnol. Oceanogr.* 2002. **47**: 1751-1763

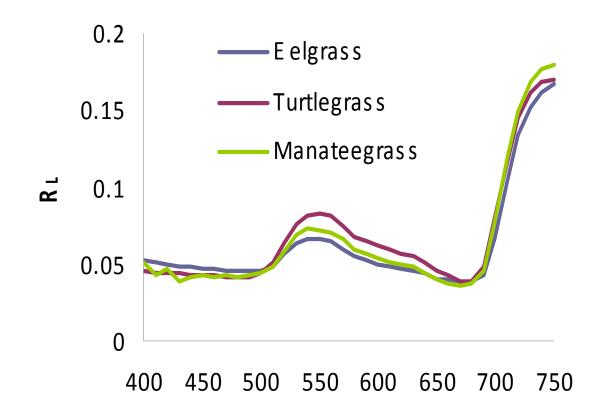




Greater Florida Bay



Differentiating seagrass species

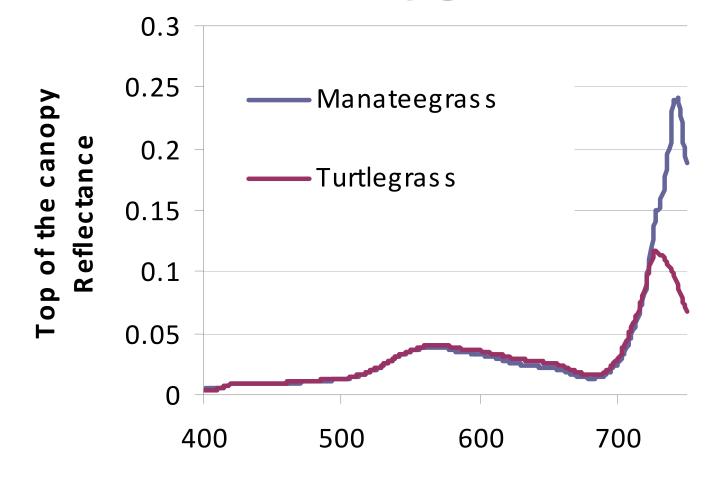


Wavelength (nm)
 Similar leaf reflectance

Measuring Seagrass Canopy Reflectance



Different canopy reflectance



Wavelength (nm)

Fate of the carbon

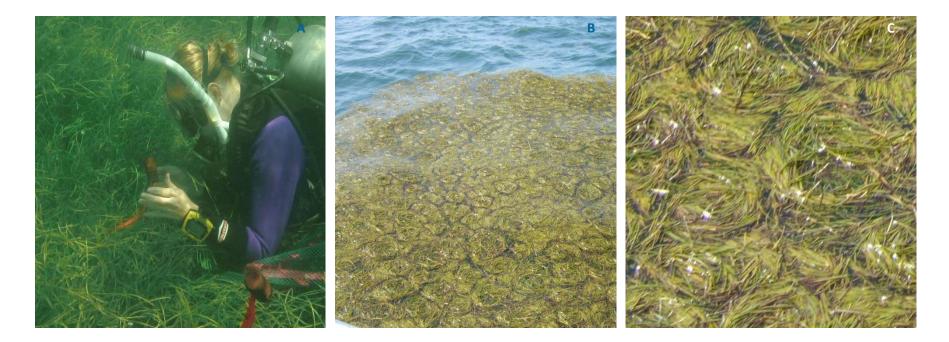
 Different seagrass species play different ecological roles

• Turtlegrass leaves decompose in the beds



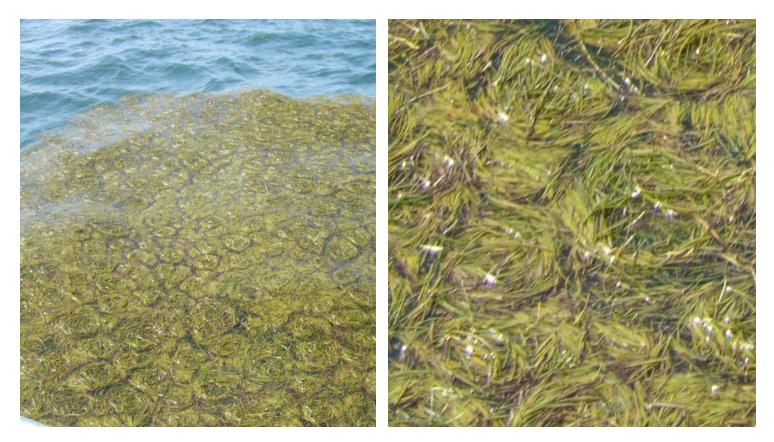
Manateegrass

Buoyant leaves, exported carbon



Fate of the carbon

 Different seagrass species play different ecological roles



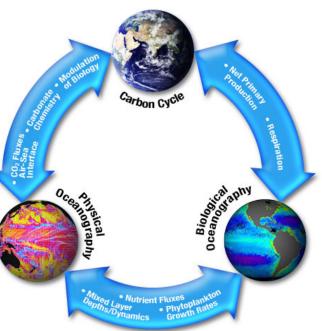


Relevance to Hyspiri

- Spatial resolution -
 - 60 m will resolve many benthic features on large carbonate banks like Florida Bay and Bahamas
- Spectral resolution
 - Differentiate benthic producers
 - Differentiate seagrass species from canopy-level NIR effects
 - -Potentially detect export flux

Implications

- Improved understanding of role of shallow banks and bays on carbon cycle and climate
- Improved understanding, of ecology and environmental forcing



GEOPHYSICAL RESEARCH LETTERS, VOL. 36, L04602, doi:10.1029/2008GL036188, 1



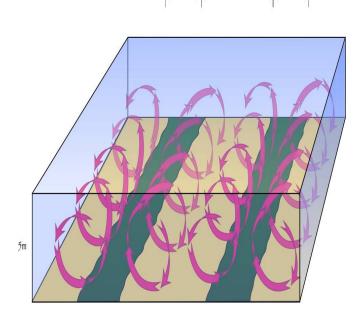
Potential export of unattached benthic macroalgae to the deep sea through wind-driven Langmuir circulation

H. M. Dierssen,¹ R. C. Zimmerman,² L. A. Drake,^{2,3} and D. J. Burdige²



Langmuir "supercells" could be a mechanism

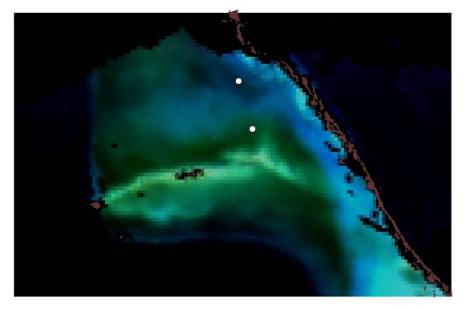
- Langmuir cells observed on the Banks
- Consistent with periodicity
 in optics
- Historic descriptions of "digits" and "roiling"
- Seasonality of whitings consistent with wind patterns

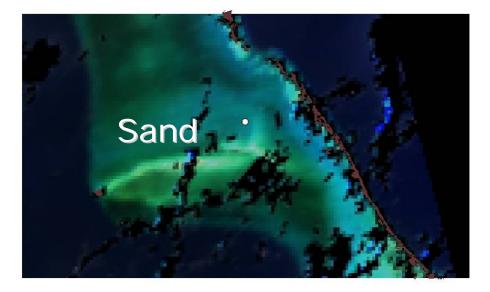


6 March 2004 7 March 2004

16 March 2004 → 19 March windrow

22 March 2004





Carbon Export to Deep Sea

- Phytoplankton only considered in models

 Carbon not consumed and respired back
- Negatively buoyant macroalgae sinks rapidly and could be a potential missing sink of export carbon
- Pulsed export 7 x 10¹⁰ g carbon
 - Equivalent to daily export flux of phytoplankton in the tropical North Atlantic

Biogeosciences, 6, 1–13, 2009 www.biogeosciences.net/6/1/2009/ © Author(s) 2009. This work is distributed under the Creative Commons Attribution 3.0 License.

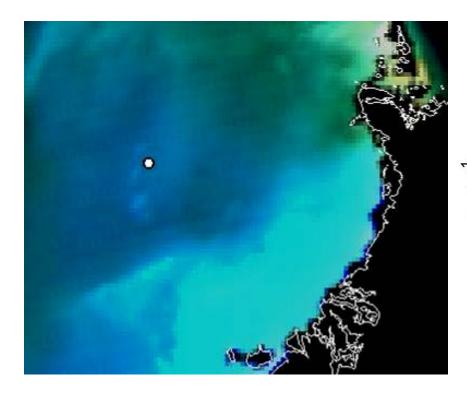


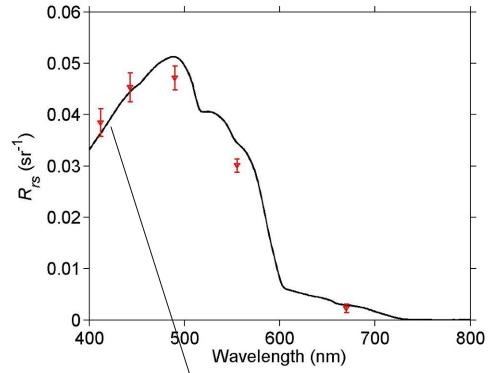
Optics and remote sensing of Bahamian carbonate sediment whitings and potential relationship to wind-driven Langmuir circulation

H. M. Dierssen¹, R. C. Zimmerman², and D. J. Burdige²

¹Department of Marine Sciences and Geography, Univ. of Connecticut, 1080 Shennecossett Road, Groton, CT 06340, USA ²Department of Ocean, Earth & Atmospheric Sciences, Old Dominion Univ., 4600 Elkhorn Ave., Norfolk VA 23529, USA

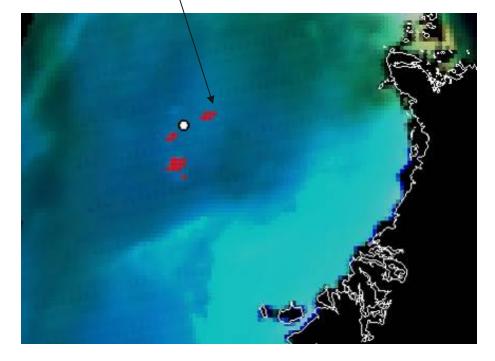






Resuspensed sediment can serve as a nucleus for carbonate precipitation and growth of sediment particles

~18 km²



HyspIRI Benthic Products

• Products we may get

- Mapping broad benthic types across Bahamas and similarly clear banks and bays
- Seasonal shifts in motile benthic cover
- Resuspended sediment on banks
- Potential Products
 - Leaf area index (LAI) m² m⁻²
 - Net primary productivity g C m⁻² d⁻¹
 - Rates of carbonate dissolution
 - Rates of carbonate precipitation (resuspended sediment)
 - Bottom albedo for heat budgets

