



# Evaluating the efficacy of five chlorophyll algorithms in the Chesapeake Bay (USA) for operational monitoring and assessment

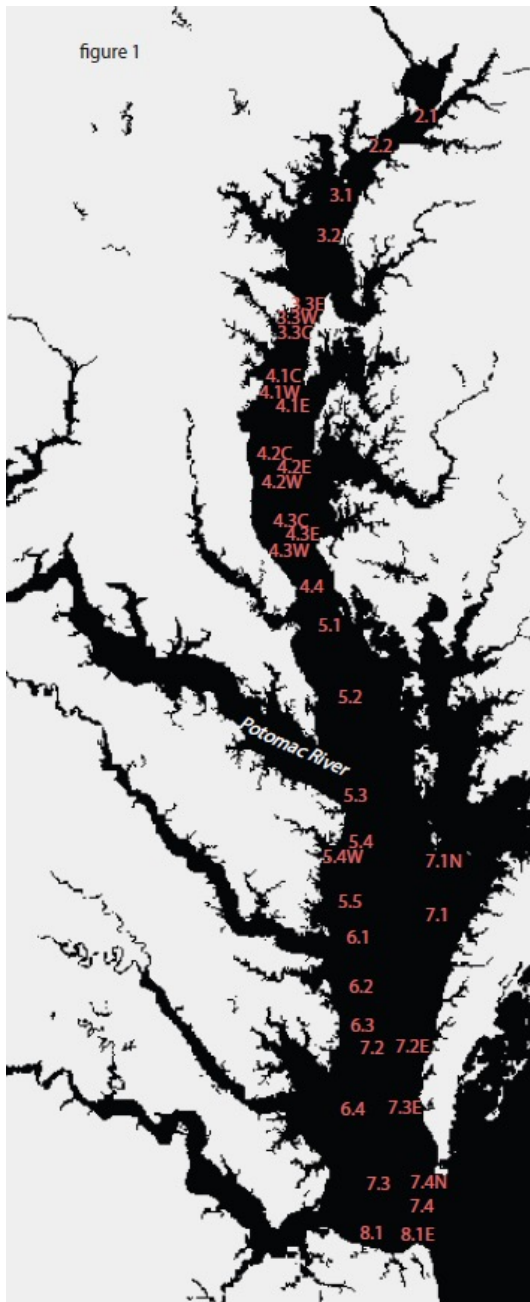
**Shelly Tomlinson**

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration NOAA  
National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science

Timothy Wynne, Rick Stumpf (NCCOS),  
Sachi Mishra, Andrew Meredith and Travis Briggs (CSS)  
Ron Vogel (NOAA CoastWatch)







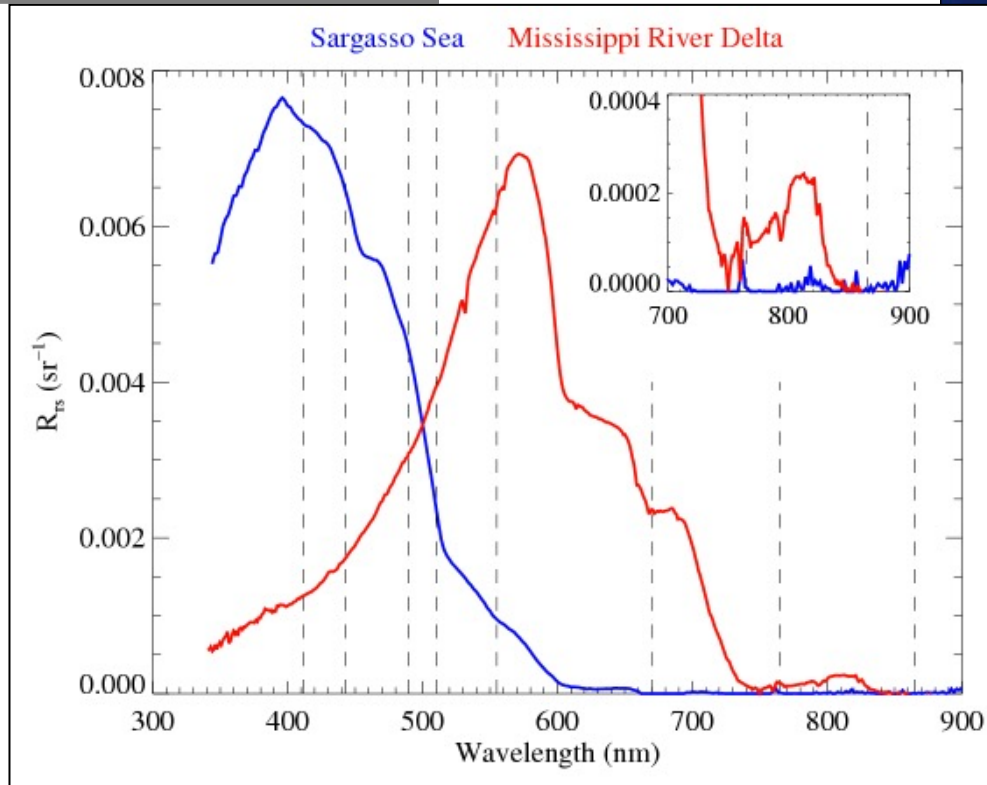
## Methods

- 38 Stations along the center of the Bay were selected for analysis
- A red-edge chlorophyll (chl-a) algorithm was compared with 4 other algorithms (1 open ocean OC4 algorithm, and 3 operational algorithms delivered at CoastWatch East Coast Node)
- Algorithms varied by sensor, resolution and satellite reflectance used
- A median of a 3x3 pixel box surrounding the field sample were used in the analysis
- All pixels at a station were extracted and a time-series analysis was conducted to assess stability
- The degree of agreement between field and satellite chl-a was evaluated using the multiplicative median bias and absolute error

# Case-1 versus Case-2 water

## Case 1

water where the optical properties are determined primarily by phytoplankton and their derivative products



## Case 2

everything else, namely water where the optical properties are significantly influenced by other constituents, such as mineral particles, CDOM, or microbubbles, whose concentrations do not covary with the phytoplankton concentration



# The algorithms

Algorithm	Sensor	Spatial Resolution	Optical bands	Input	Reference
Gilerson <sup>a</sup>	OLCI	300 m	Red edge with NIR correction	Rhos	Gilerson et al. (2010)
OC4 <sup>a</sup>	OLCI	300 m	OC4 (blue-green) applied to OLCI with NIR correction	Rhos	O'Reilly (1999)
Wang <sup>b</sup>	MODIS	1 km	OC3 (blue-green) with SWIR-NIR Atmospheric Correction	nLw	Wang et al. ATBD (2017)
Werdell <sup>b</sup>	MODIS	1 km	OC3 (blue green) bias adjusted for Chesapeake Bay	Rrs	Werdell et al. (2009)
Science Quality <sup>b</sup>	VIIRS	750 m	OC3 (blue green) open ocean (blue-band calibration), 14-day lag	nLw	O'Reilly (1999)

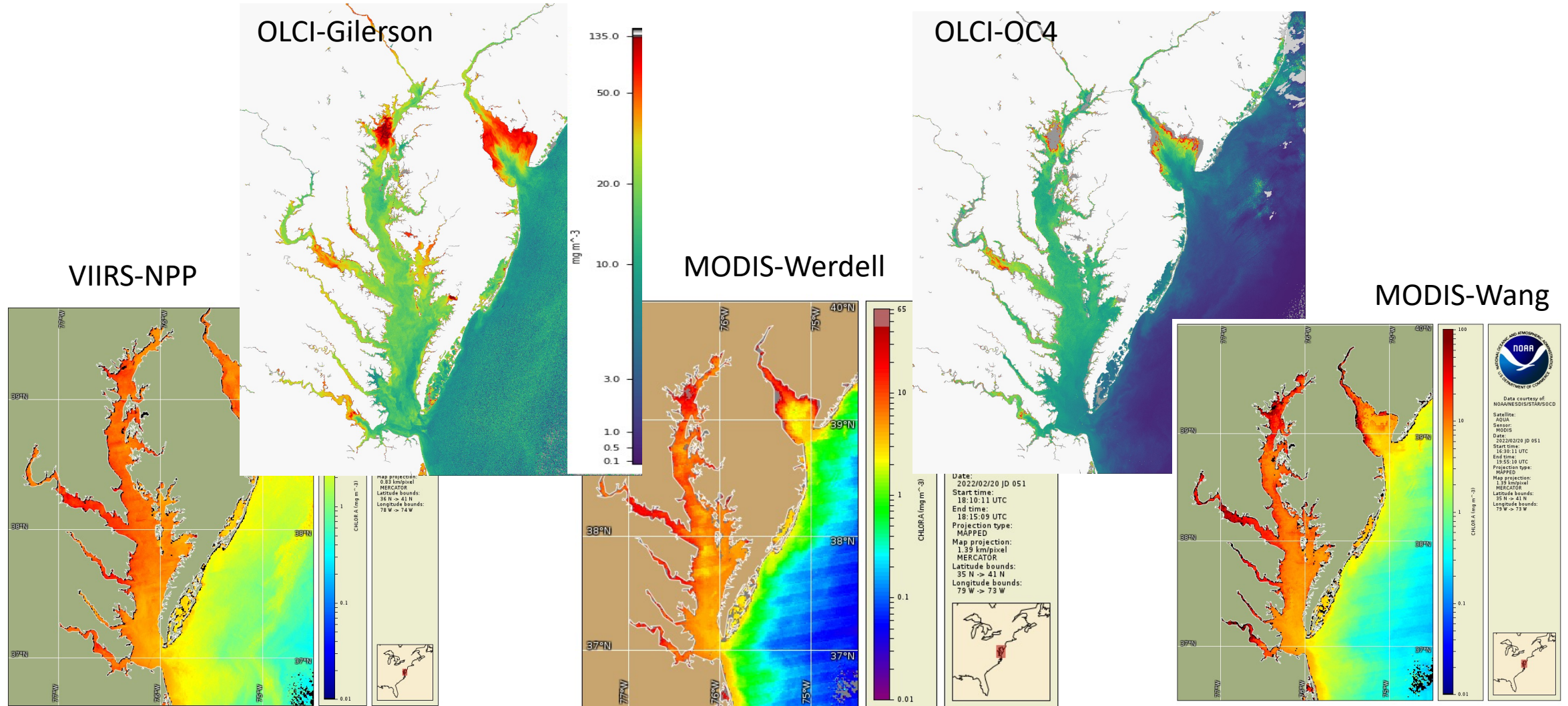
<sup>a</sup>[https://coastwatch.noaa.gov/cw\\_html/NCCOS.html](https://coastwatch.noaa.gov/cw_html/NCCOS.html)

<sup>b</sup>[https://eastcoast.coastwatch.noaa.gov/cw\\_data\\_types.php](https://eastcoast.coastwatch.noaa.gov/cw_data_types.php)

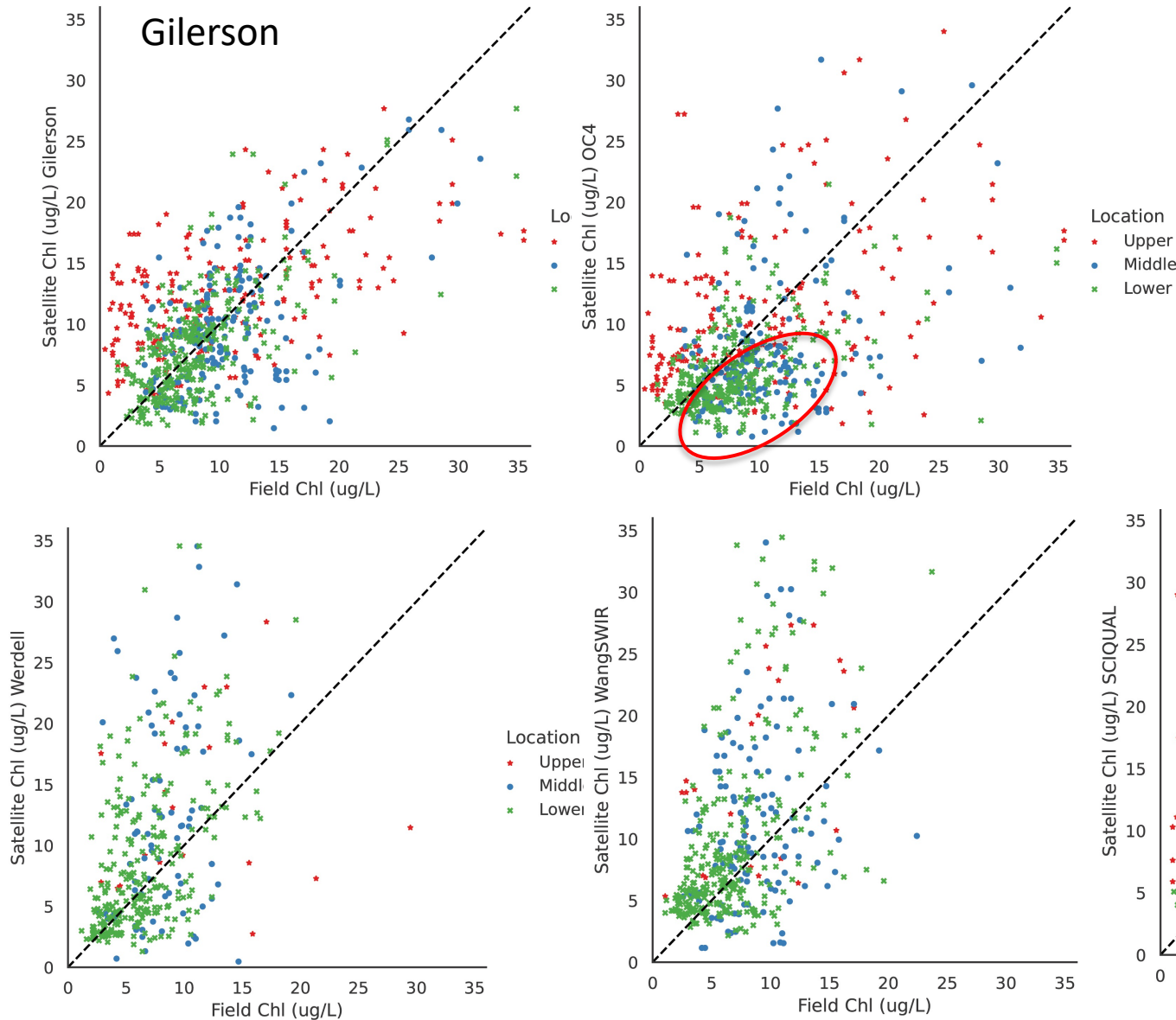




# Imagery from 2/20/2022



# Field to Extracted Chl Match ups



- Gilerson fell along 1:1 line best, less scatter
- OC4 is underestimating chl-a
- All operational algorithms overestimate chl-a
- Due to resolution and atmospheric correction, less upper Bay pixels



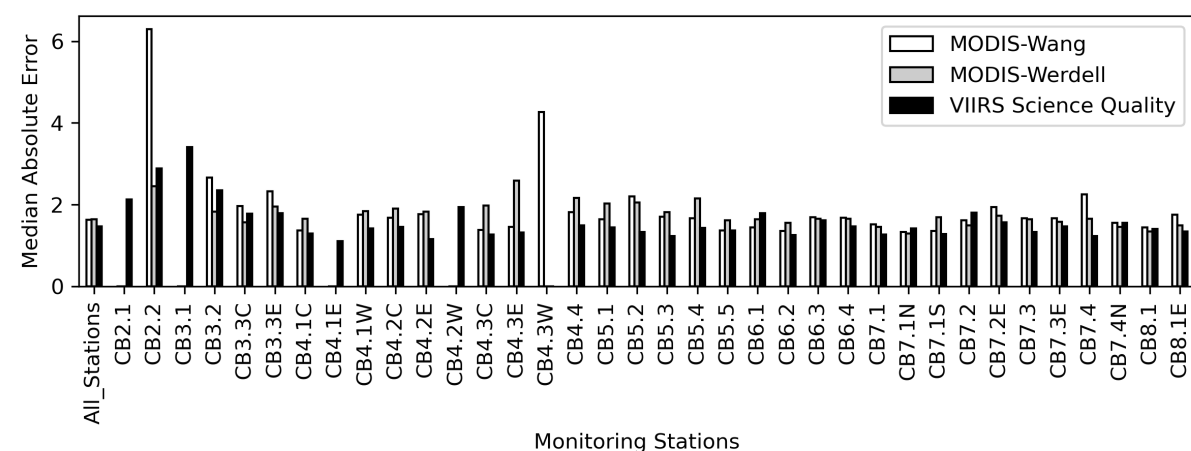
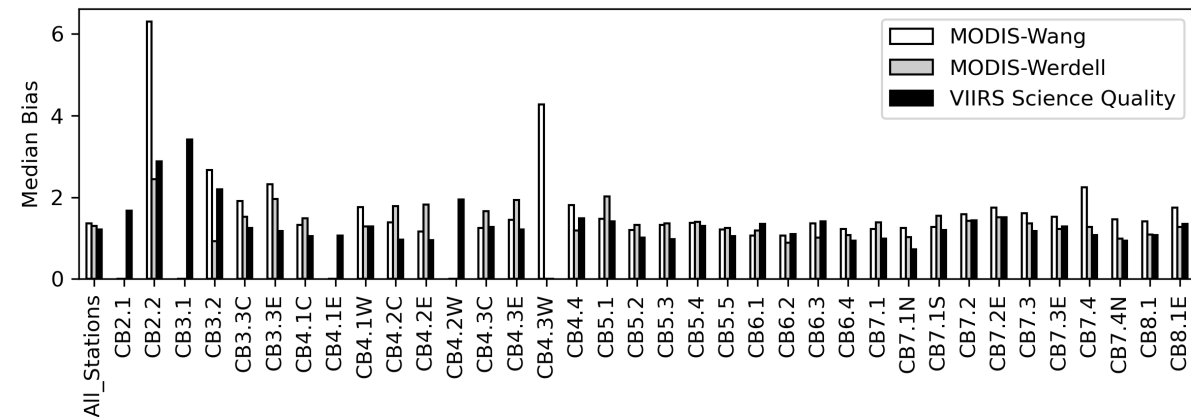
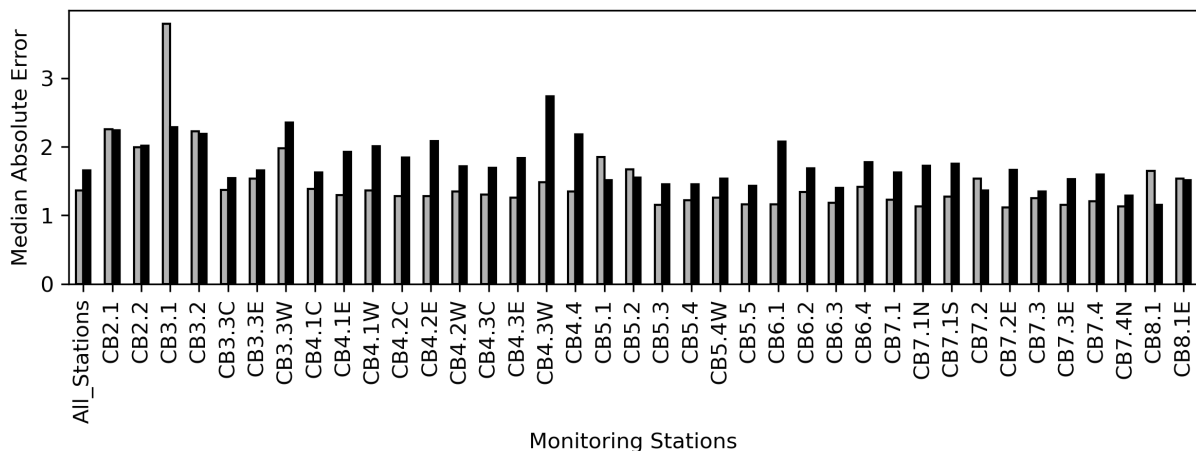
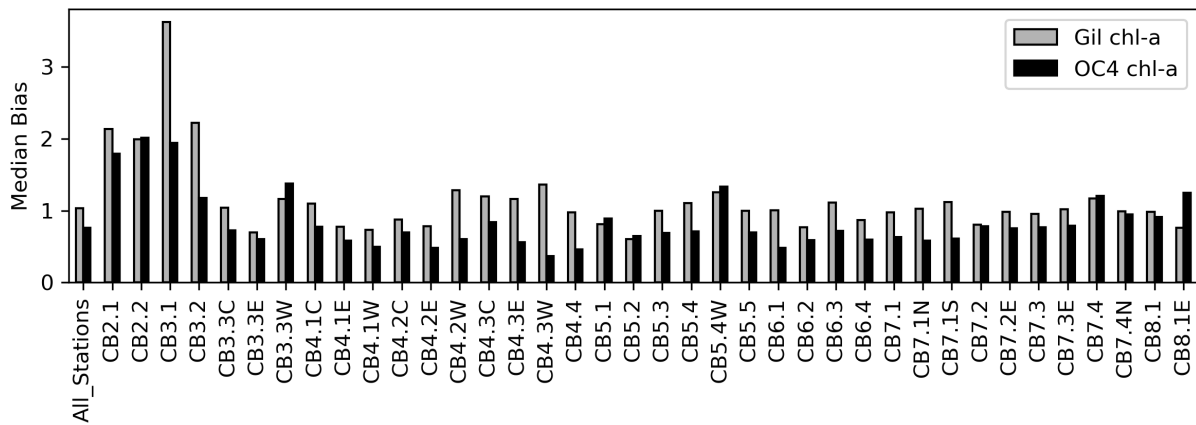
# Bulk Statistics

Metrics	Gilerson	OC4	Science Quality	Werdell	Wang
n	1679	1679	518	383	467
Linear Bias	-0.419	-2.756	16.431	5.715	5.05
Multiplicative Mean Bias	1.044	0.791	1.29	1.328	1.394
<b>Multiplicative Median Bias</b>	<b>1.037</b>	<b>0.765</b>	<b>1.209</b>	<b>1.294</b>	<b>1.358</b>
Linear MAE	4.499	5.86	18.632	7.717	6.894
Multiplicative MAE	1.596	1.87	1.745	1.866	1.839
<b>Multiplicative MDAE</b>	<b>1.36</b>	<b>1.655</b>	<b>1.465</b>	<b>1.637</b>	<b>1.63</b>

- The Multiplicative Median Bias of 1.037 indicates no bias.
- The Multiplicative Median Absolute Error (MDAE) shows a median error of 36%

For Methods see: Seegers et al, 2018 Optics Express

# Error estimates by station for 5 algorithms

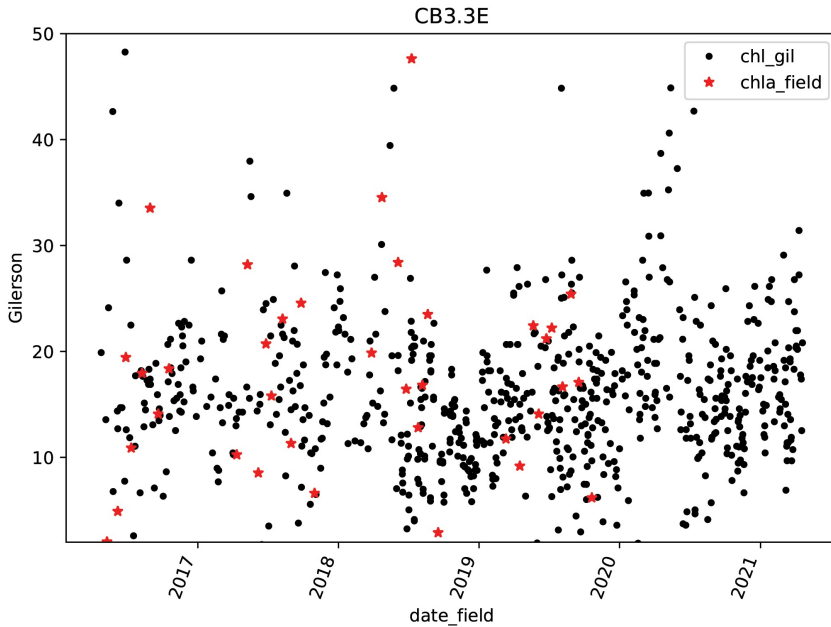


- Overall, Median Multiplicative Bias and MAE varies with location and chlorophyll concentration.
- Upper Bay stations on left, with lower Bay stations on the right

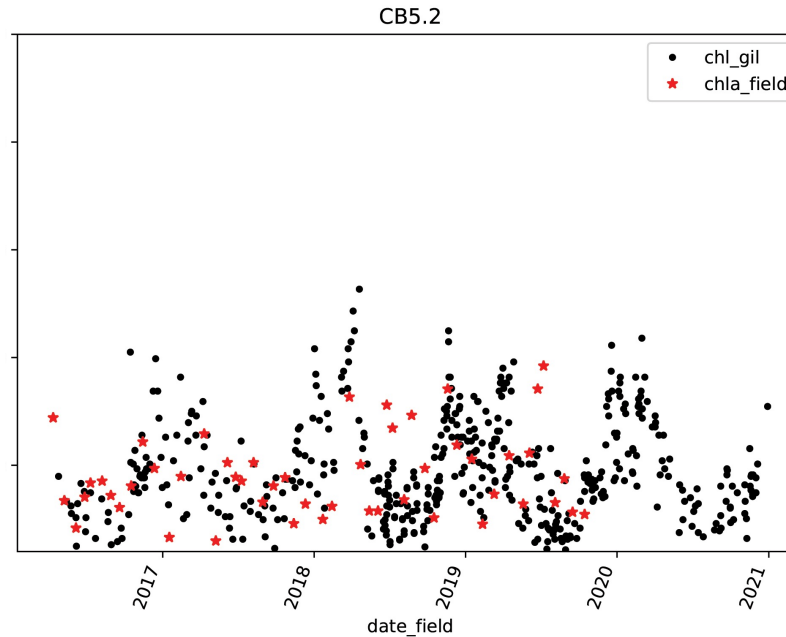


# Time-series analysis

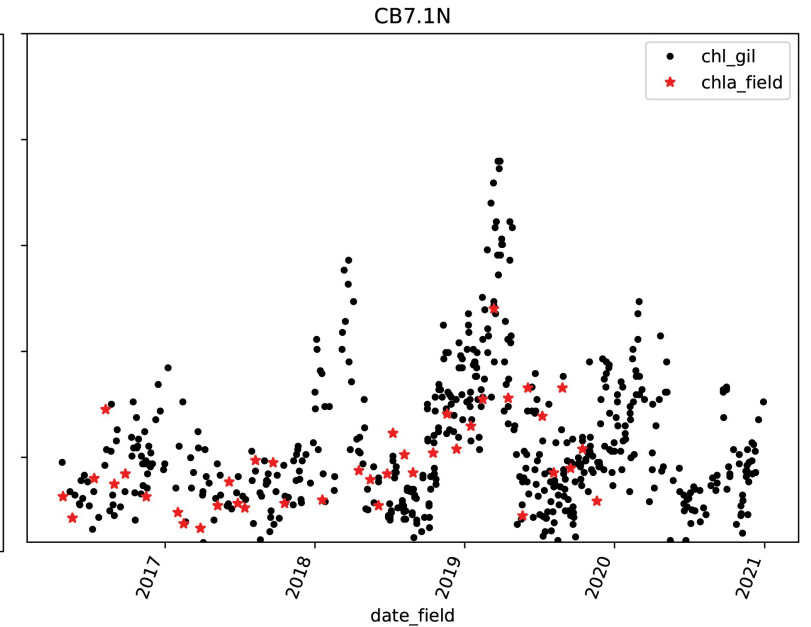
Upper Bay



Middle Bay



Lower Bay

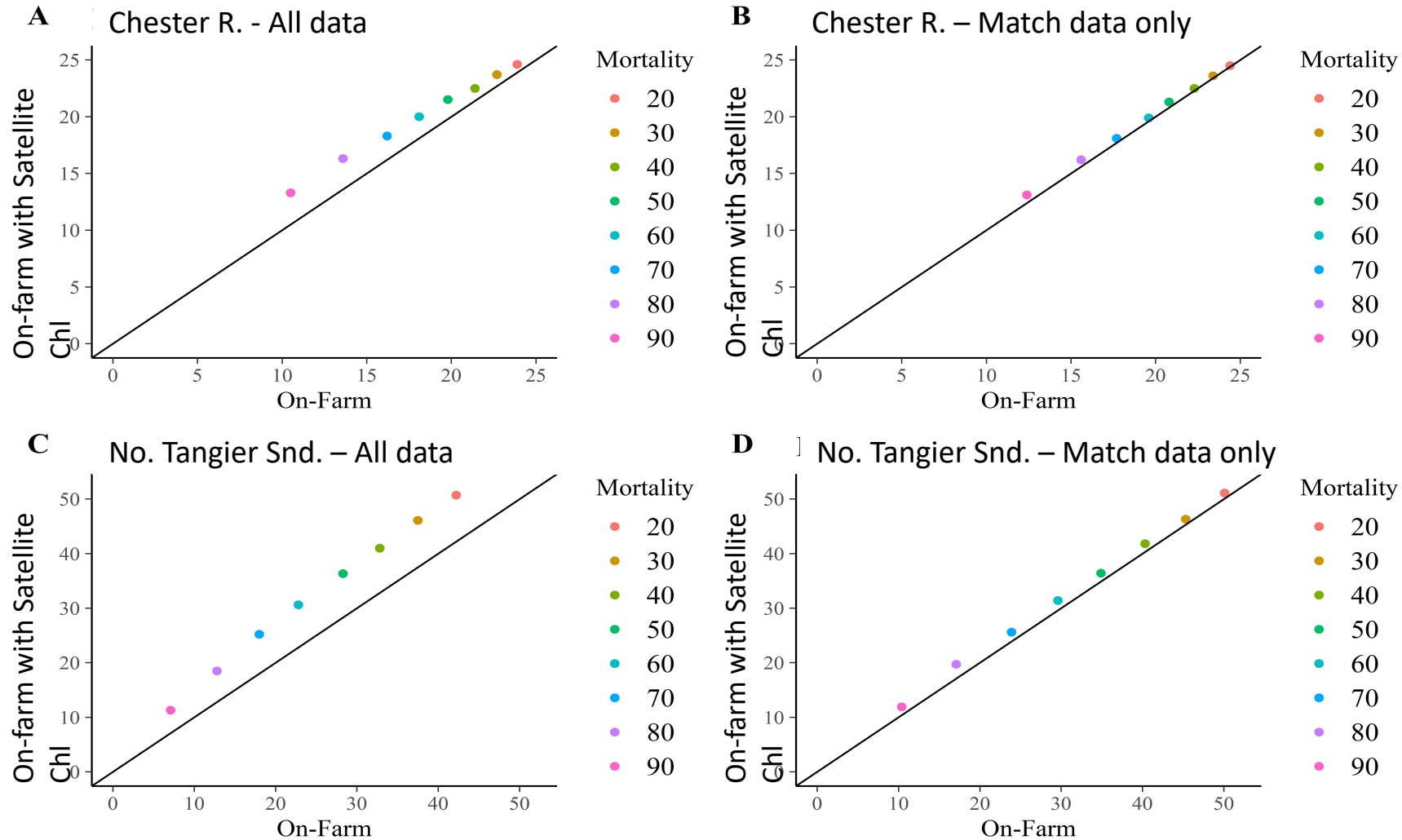


- All available pixels were extracted at each CBP monitoring station
- Overall, tighter relationship in the Middle and Lower Bay regions, with good alignment with field estimates

# Substituting satellite Chl for on-farm data for aquaculture modeling

S. Bricker, V. Ransibrahmanakul, S. Tomlinson, E. Davenport, R. Vogel, R. Karrh, K. Okada

## FARM model harvest results (metric tons/ cultivation cycle)





# Satellite-derived products for algal bloom monitoring in Chesapeake Bay

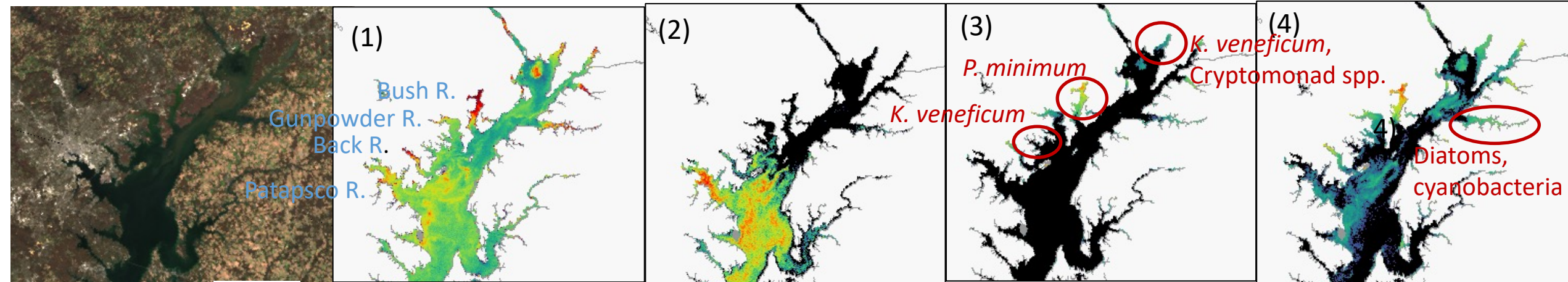
True color

Relative Chl  $a$

Chl fluorescence

Non-fluorescing

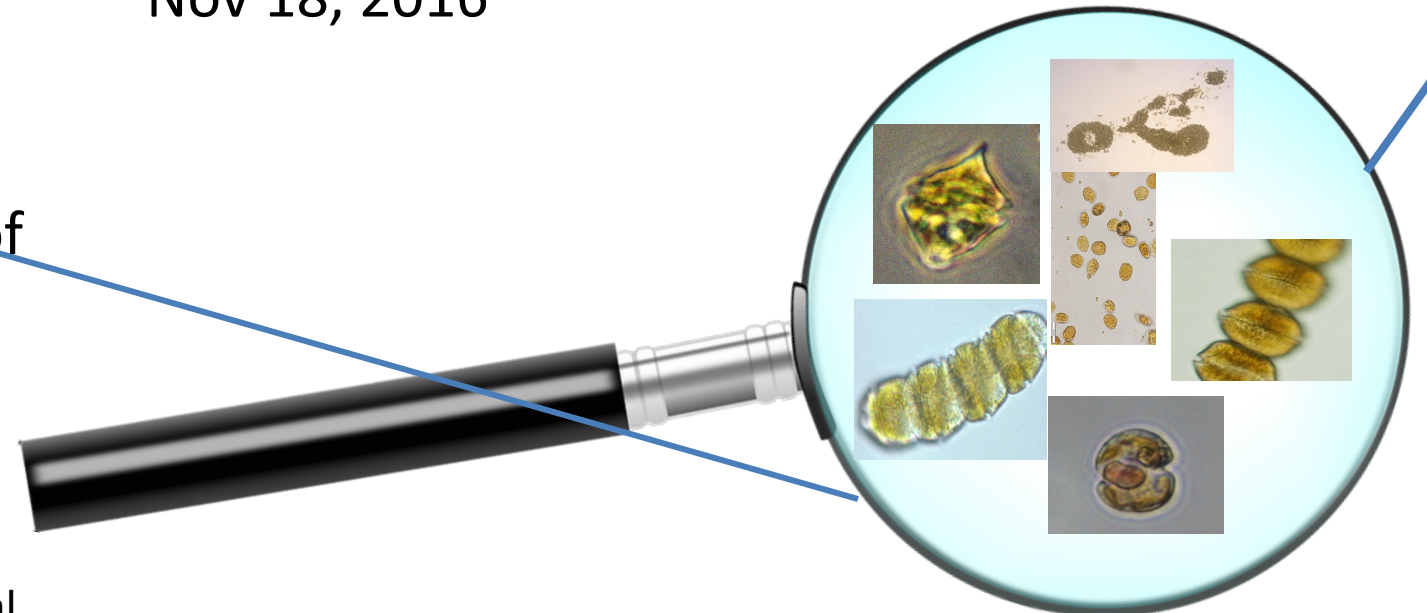
MCI for cyanos and high biomass blooms



Nov 18, 2016

Developing and providing algorithms for bloom monitoring routinely to MD DNR, MDE, VA Dept. of Health and VIMS from OLCI since 2016

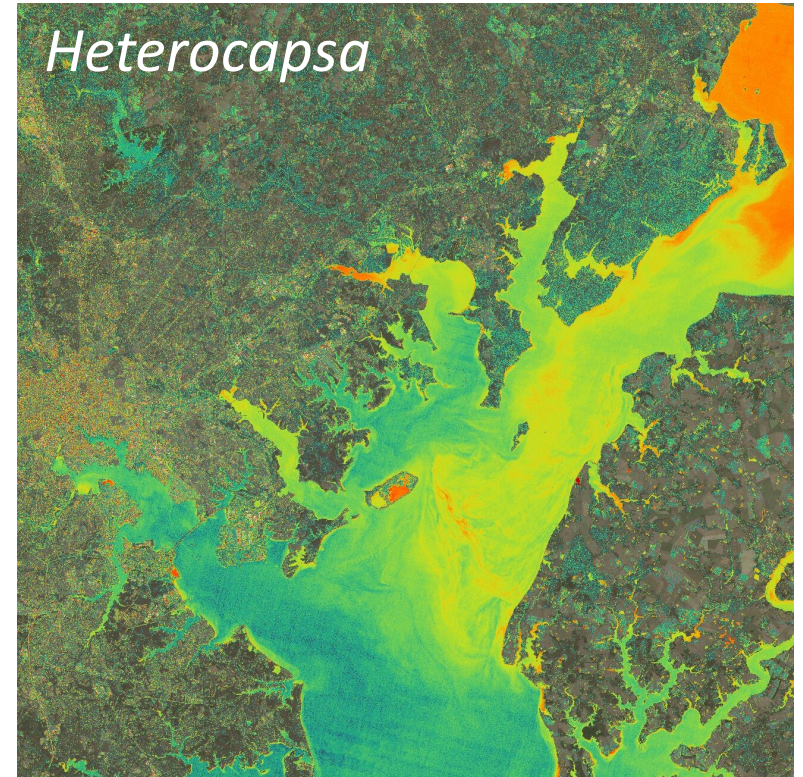
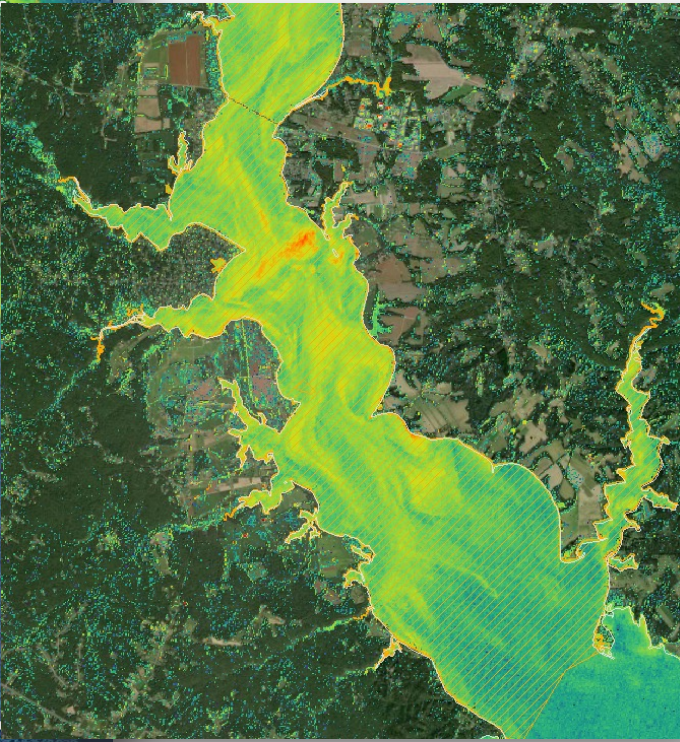
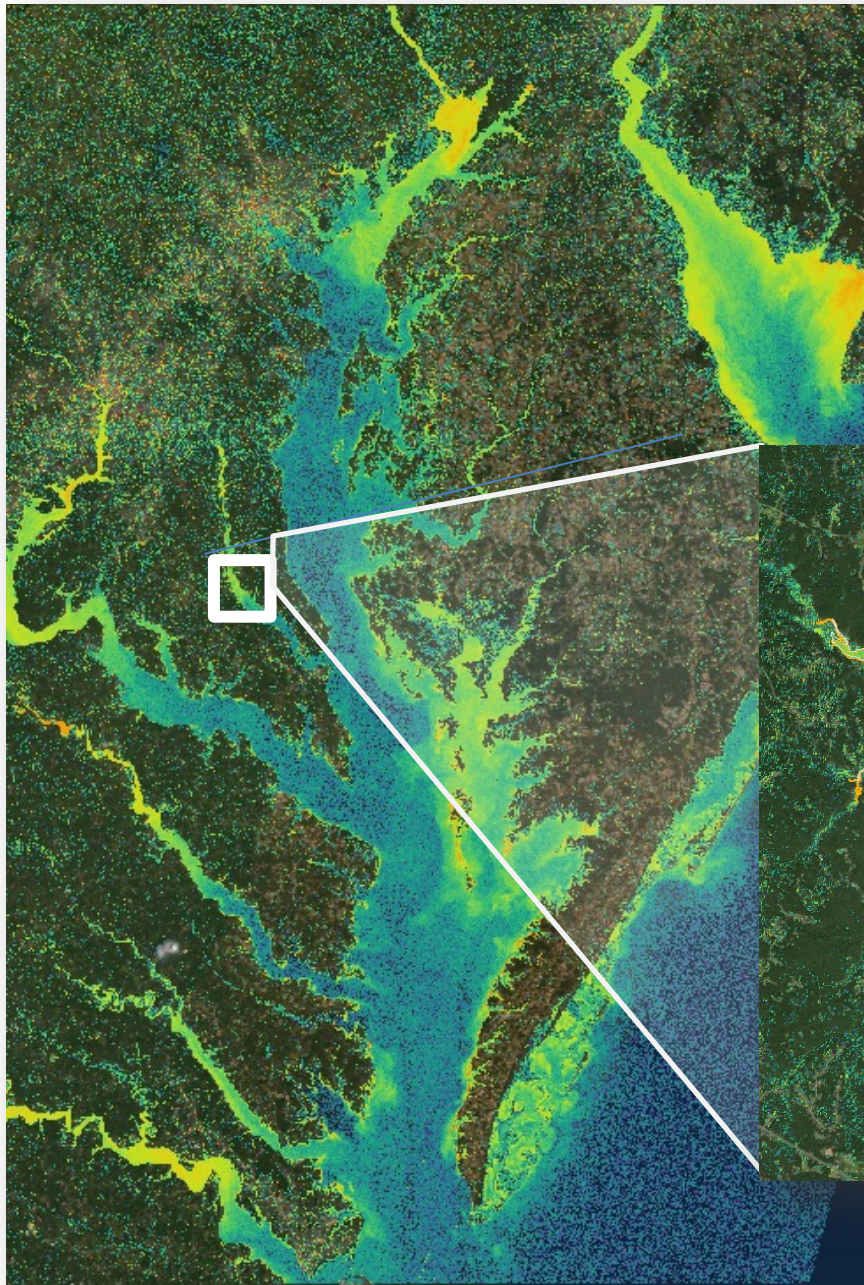
- (1) Red Band Difference (RBD) (Amin et al., 2009)
- (2) Red-Edge (Gilerson, 2010)
- (3) Cyanobacteria Index (Wynne et al., 2008) modified by a negative shape at 620 nm
- (4) Maximum Chlorophyll Index (MCI) (Gower et al., 2008, 2010)



[https://coastwatch.noaa.gov/cw\\_html/NCCOS.html](https://coastwatch.noaa.gov/cw_html/NCCOS.html)



# The future: Higher spatial resolution Sentinel 2



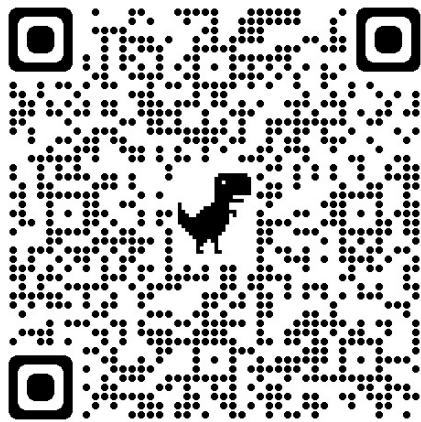
Sentinel-2A February 9, 2022  
MCI Composited (6 daily tiles) 20 meter pixels  
Approximately 5 day repeat with 2 satellites

- Experimental Maximum Chl Index and true color available
- Hyperspectral imagery coming online through PACE, GLIMR, GEO-XO



# CoastWatch Satellite Training Module for Water Quality

Interested in Attending  
a Class



Fill out our survey!

## THE NOAA COASTWATCH PROGRAM CAPACITY BUILDING AND EDUCATION IN OCEAN SATELLITE DATA

We help people access and make sense of satellite data for use in coastal and ocean applications.

### NOAA COASTWATCH

Identifying and using satellite data products appropriate for a given application can be challenging for users outside of the satellite community.

NOAA CoastWatch is a value-added data provider assisting users through a range of services, from data distribution to capacity-building to tool development and direct collaboration on projects and applications.

The goal of the CoastWatch satellite course is to build capacity in using satellite data by providing background knowledge, tools, tutorials and hands-on help on individual projects to course participants. Courses are free to all, can be taught in person or virtually and are tailored to specific audiences, based on participants interests, needs and technical level.

Course materials can be found at: <https://coastwatch.gitbook.io/>

### CAPACITY BUILDING FOR AQUACULTURE

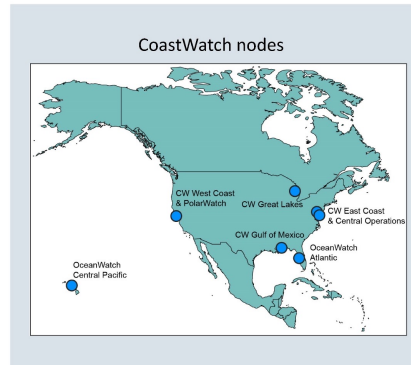
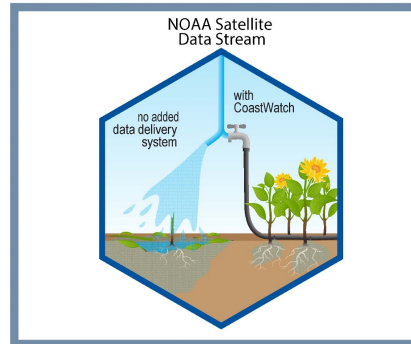
We are planning to start organizing classes targeting various audiences engaged in aquaculture to help government, research and commercial users in the aquaculture fields get more familiar with ocean satellite data products, their strengths and weaknesses and their potential for informing siting and operations.

**Course contents would include:**  
Sea Surface Temperature  
Ocean Color  
Water Quality  
Harmful Algal Blooms  
Data Visualization and Download  
Tool Demonstrations  
ArcGIS

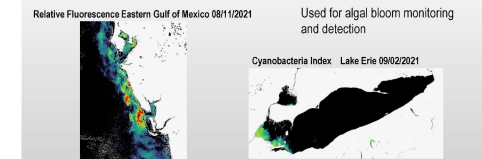
INTERESTED IN ATTENDING A CLASS?



Fill our survey!



### EXAMPLES OF SATELLITE-DERIVED PRODUCTS



How *In-Situ* and Satellite observations roughly correspond

<i>In-Situ</i>	Satellite
Water Temperature	Sea Surface Temperature (SST)
Chlorophyll Concentration and Algal Pigments	Chlorophyll- <i>a</i> Absorption Chlorophyll Fluorescence Phytoplankton Community Composition Spectral characteristic algorithms
Colored Dissolved Organic Matter (CDOM)	Absorption by CDOM ( $a_{440}$ )
Turbidity, Water Clarity	Diffuse Attenuation of Light at 490 nm ( $K_d$ ) Diffuse Attenuation for Photosynthetically Active Radiation ( $K_d$ -PAR) Euphotic Zone Depth
Total Suspended Solids (Total Suspended Matter, Suspended Particulate Matter)	Total Suspended Solids (Total Suspended Matter, Suspended Particulate Matter)
Salinity	Sea Surface Salinity (open ocean only, not available for coastal areas)

**Melanie Abecassis**, Cooperative Institute for Satellite Earth System Studies (CISESS), University of Maryland, College Park, MD  
**Michelle Tomlinson**, NOAA NCCOS, Silver Spring, MD  
**Ronald Vogel**, CISESS, University of Maryland, College Park, MD  
**Elizabeth Staugler**, University of Florida, SeaGrant  
**Cara Wilson**, NOAA SouthWest Fisheries Science Center, Monterey, CA  
**Dale Robinson**, University of California Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz, CA  
**Michael Soracco**, Riva Solutions, Inc., College Park, MD  
**Andrea VanderWoude**, NOAA Great Lakes Environmental Research Lab, Ann Arbor, MI  
**V Wegman**, Global Science & Technology, Inc., Silver Spring, MD



<https://coastwatch.noaa.gov/>

[coastwatch.info@noaa.gov](mailto:coastwatch.info@noaa.gov)

