

NOAA OCEAN COLOR ACTIVITIES

**Menghua Wang &
NOAA Ocean Color Team**

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College Park, MD 20740, USA

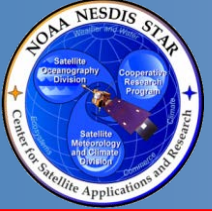
IOCS Meeting, Lisbon, Portugal, 15-18 May 2017

Website for VIIRS ocean color images and Cal/Val:

<https://www.star.nesdis.noaa.gov/sod/mecb/color/>

Acknowledgements: VIIRS work has been supported by JPSS/VIIRS funding. We thank MOBY team for in situ optics data, VIIRS Cal/Val PIs and their collaborators in support of VIIRS Cal/Val activities.





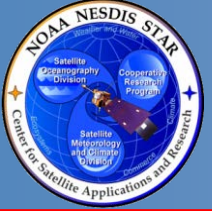
VIIRS Ocean Color EDR & Cal/Val Teams



EDR	Name	Organization	Funding Agency	Task
Lead	Menghua Wang (OC EDR & Cal/Val Lead) , L. Jiang, X. Liu, W. Shi, S. Son, L. Tan, X. Wang, J. Sun, K. Mikelsons, M. Chu, V. Lance, M. Ondrusek , E. Stengel	NOAA/NESDIS/STAR	JPSS/NJO	Leads – Ocean Color EDR Team & Cal/Val Team OC products, algorithms, SDR, EDR, Cal/Val, vicarious cal., refinements, data processing, reprocessing, algorithm improvements, software updates, data validations and analyses
Ocean Color	Robert Arnone Sherwin Ladner, Ryan Vandermeulen Adam Lawson, Paul Martinolich, Jen Bowers	U. Southern MS NRL QinetiQ Corp. SDSU	JPSS/NJO	Satellite matchup tool (SAVANT) – Golden Regions Cruise participation and support WAVE_CIS (AERONET-OC site) operation
	Carol Johnson	NIST	JPSS/NJO	Traceability, AERONET Uncertainty
	Nicholas Tuffiaro , Curt Davis	OSU	JPSS/NJO	Ocean color validation, Cruise data matchup West Coast
	Burt Jones , Matthew Ragan	USC	JPSS/NJO	Eureka (AERONET Site)
	Alex Gilerson , Sam Ahmed	CUNY	JPSS/NJO	LISCO (AERONET site), Cruise data and matchup
	Chuanmin Hu	USF	JPSS/NJO	NOAA data continuity
	Ken Voss & MOBY team	Miami	JPSS/NJO	Marine Optical Buoy (MOBY)
	Zhongping Lee , Jianwei Wei	UMB	JPSS/NJO	Ocean color IOP data validation and evaluation Ocean color optics matchup

Working with: **NOAA CoastWatch**, VIIRS **SDR team**, DPA/DPE, Raytheon, NOAA OC Working Group, NOAA various line-office reps, NOAA NCEI, NOAA OCPOP, IOCCG, NASA, ESA, EUMETSAT, etc.

Collaborators: D. Antoine (BOUSSOLE), B. Holben (NASA-GSFC), G. Zibordi (JRC-Italy), R. Frouin (for PAR), and many others?



VIIRS Spectral Bands for Ocean Color



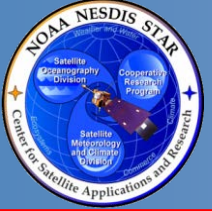
VIIRS (Visible Infrared Imaging Radiometer Suite) on
Suomi National Polar-orbiting Partnership (**SNPP**)

VIIRS-**SNPP**, Oct. 28, **2011**, VIIRS-Joint Polar Satellite System (**JPSS**) **J1**, **2017**, VIIR-**J2**,
2021, and **J3 & J4 (up to ~2038)**

VIIRS [†]		MODIS		SeaWiFS
Ocean Bands (nm)	Other Bands (nm)	Ocean Bands (nm)	Other Bands (nm)	Ocean Band (nm)
410 (M1)	638 (I1)	412	645	412
443 (M2)	862 (I2)	443	859	443
486 (M3)	1600 (I3)	488	469	490
—		531	555	510
551 (M4)	<i>SWIR Bands</i>	551	<i>SWIR Bands</i>	555
671 (M5)	1238 (M8)	667	1240	670
745 (M6)	1601 (M10)	748	1640	765
862 (M7)	2257 (M11)	869	2130	865

[†]VIIRS-SNPP nominal center wavelength

Spatial resolution for VIIRS M-band: 750 m, I-band: 375 m



Summary of VIIRS Ocean Color EDR Products



- **Inputs:**

- VIIRS M1-M7, I1, and the **SWIR M8, M10, and M11** bands SDR data
- Terrain-corrected geo-location file
- Ancillary meteorology and ozone data

- **Operational (Standard) Products (8):**

- Normalized water-leaving radiance (nL_w 's) at VIIRS visible bands M1-M5, **and I1 (638 nm)**
- Chlorophyll-a (Chl-a) concentration
- **Diffuse attenuation coefficient for the downwelling spectral irradiance at the wavelength of 490 nm, $K_d(490)$**
- **Diffuse attenuation coefficient of the downwelling photosynthetically available radiation (PAR), $K_d(PAR)$**
- Level-2 quality flags

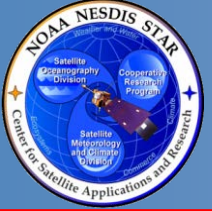
- **Experimental Products:**

New added global products: $nL_w(638)$ (I-band with 375 m), QA Score, and Chl-a anomaly and Chl-a anomaly ratio

- Photosynthetically Available Radiation (PAR) (*R. Frouin*)
- Chl-a from ocean color index (OCI) method (*Hu et al., 2012; Wang and Son, 2016*)

We are open for adding new VIIRS global products

➤ Data quality of ocean color EDR are extremely sensitive to the SDR quality. It requires **~0.1%** data accuracy (degradation, band-to-band accuracy...)! other



End-to-End Ocean Color Data Processing



- NOAA Ocean Color Team has been developing/building the capability for the **End-to-End** satellite ocean color data processing including:
 - Level-0 (or Raw Data Records (RDR)) to Level-1B (or Sensor Data Records (SDR)).
 - Level-1B (SDR) to ocean color Level-2 (Environmental Data Records (EDR) using the **Multi-Sensor Level-1 to Level-2 (MSL12)** ocean color data processing---**measurement-based data processing system**.
 - Level-2 to global Level-3 (**routine daily, 8-day, monthly, and climatology data/images**).
 - Validation of satellite ocean color products (in situ data and data analysis capability).
- Support of in situ data collections for VIIRS Cal/Val activities, e.g., **MOBY, AERONET-OC sites (3 sites operation, added Lake Erie site), NOAA dedicated Cal/Val cruises (2014, 2015, 2016, ...)**
- **On-orbit instrument calibration (solar and lunar) for ocean color data processing:**
 - J. Sun and M. Wang, “Radiometric calibration of the VIIRS reflective solar bands with robust characterizations and hybrid calibration coefficients,” *Appl. Opt.*, **54**, 9331–9342, 2015.
- **On-orbit vicarious calibration using MOBY in situ data:**
 - M. Wang, W. Shi, L. Jiang, and K. Voss, “NIR- and SWIR-based on-orbit vicarious calibrations for satellite ocean color sensors,” *Opt. Express*, **24**, 20437-20453, 2016.
- **RDR (Level-0) to SDR (Level-1B) data processing (efficient RDR to SDR processing):**
 - Sun, J., M. Wang, L. Tan, and L. Jiang, “An efficient approach for VIIRS RDR to SDR data processing,” *IEEE Geosci. Remote Sens. Lett.*, **11**, 2037–2041, 2014.
- **Ocean Color Viewer (OCView)**—Online display and monitoring of ocean color product imagery.
- **Ocean Color Data Analysis and Processing System (OCDAPS)**—IDL-based VIIRS ocean color data visualization and processing package
 - Wang, X., X. Liu, L. Jiang, M. Wang, and J. Sun, “VIIRS ocean color data visualization and processing with IDL-based NOAA-SeaDAS”, *Proc. SPIE 9261*, 8 Nov. 2014.
- **Work with users to meet their requirements.**

Report for the 2014 NOAA dedicated Cal/Val cruise has been published!

NOAA Technical Report NESDIS 146

DOI: [10.7289/V52B8W0Z](http://dx.doi.org/10.7289/V52B8W0Z)



Report for
Dedicated JPSS VIIRS Ocean Color
Calibration/Validation Cruise

Dedicated VIIRS Cal/Val Cruises



Ondrusek, M., E. Stengel, V. P. Lance, M. Wang, K. J. Voss, G. Zibordi, M. Talone, Z. P. Lee, J. Wei, J. Lin, C. Hu, D. English, C. Kovach, J. Cannizzaro, A. Gilerson, S. Ahmed, A. Ibrahim, A. El-Habashi, R. Foster, R. Arnone, R. Vandermeulen, S. Ladner, W. Goode, J. I. Goes, H. Gomes, A. Chekalyuk, K. McKee, S. Freeman, A. Neeley, and B. C. Johnson, "Report for Dedicated JPSS VIIRS Ocean Color Calibration/Validation Cruise," *NOAA Technical Report NESDIS 146*, V. P. Lance (ed.), NOAA National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service, Silver Spring, Maryland, 2015.

<http://dx.doi.org/10.7289/V52B8W0Z>

Washington, D.C.
September 2015

<http://dx.doi.org/10.7289/V52B8W0Z>

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service

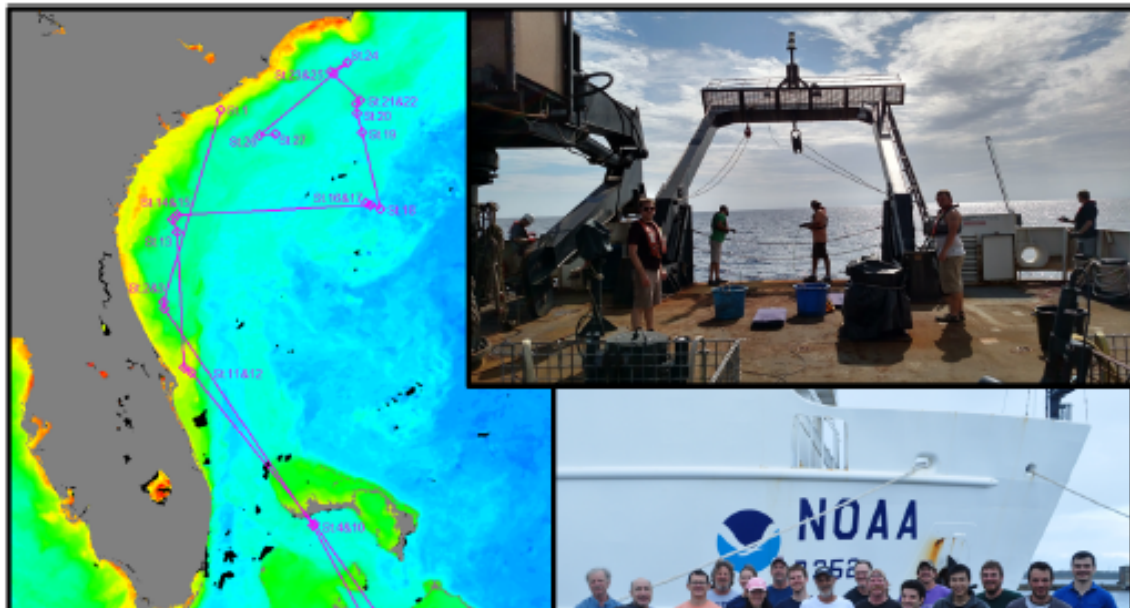


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Report for Dedicated JPSS VIIRS Ocean Color Calibration/Validation Cruise December 2015



**Report for the 2015
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Ondrusek, M., V. P. Lance, E. Stengel, M. Wang, R. Arnone, S. Ladner, W. Goode, R. Vandermeulen, S. Freeman, J. E. Chaves, A. Mannino, A. Gilerson, S. Ahmed, C. Carrizo, A. El-Habashi, R. Foster, M. Ottaviani, J. I. Goes, H. Gomes, K. McKee, C. Hu, C. Kovach, D. English, J. Cannizzaro, B. C. Johnson, Z. P. Lee, J. Wei, Q. Wang, J. Lin, N. Tuffillaro, J. Nahorniak, C. O. Davis, and K. J. Voss, "Report for Dedicated JPSS VIIRS Ocean Color Calibration/Validation Cruise December 2015," *NOAA Technical Report NESDIS 148*, V. P. Lance (ed.), NOAA National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service, Silver Spring, Maryland, 2016. <http://dx.doi.org/10.7289/V5/TR-NESDIS-148>



US DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service

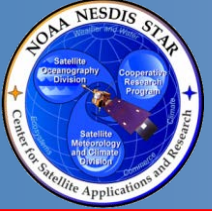


Two Data Streams for VIIRS Ocean Color EDR



To meet requirements from **All** users (operational, research, modeling, etc.), **we** have been routinely producing VIIRS global ocean color products in **two data streams**: **Near-Real-Time (NRT)** and **Delayed Science-Quality** data.

Attribute	Near-Real Time (NRT)	Delayed Science-Quality
Latency:	Best effort, as soon as possible (~12-24h)	Best effort, on a 2-week delay
Processing System:	MSL12	MSL12
SDR:	IDPS Operational SDR	OC-Improved SDR
Ancillary Data:	Global Forecast System (GFS) Model	Science quality (assimilated; GDAS) from NCEP
Spatial Coverage:	May be gaps due to various issues	Complete global coverage
Processed by:	CoastWatch, transferring to OSPO (operational) FY16	NOAA/STAR
Distributed by:	CoastWatch, OSPO	CoastWatch, NCEI
Archive Plans:	Yes, from OSPO to NCEI	Yes, from CoastWatch to NCEI
Full Mission Reprocessing:	No	Yes, every ~2-3 years or as needed

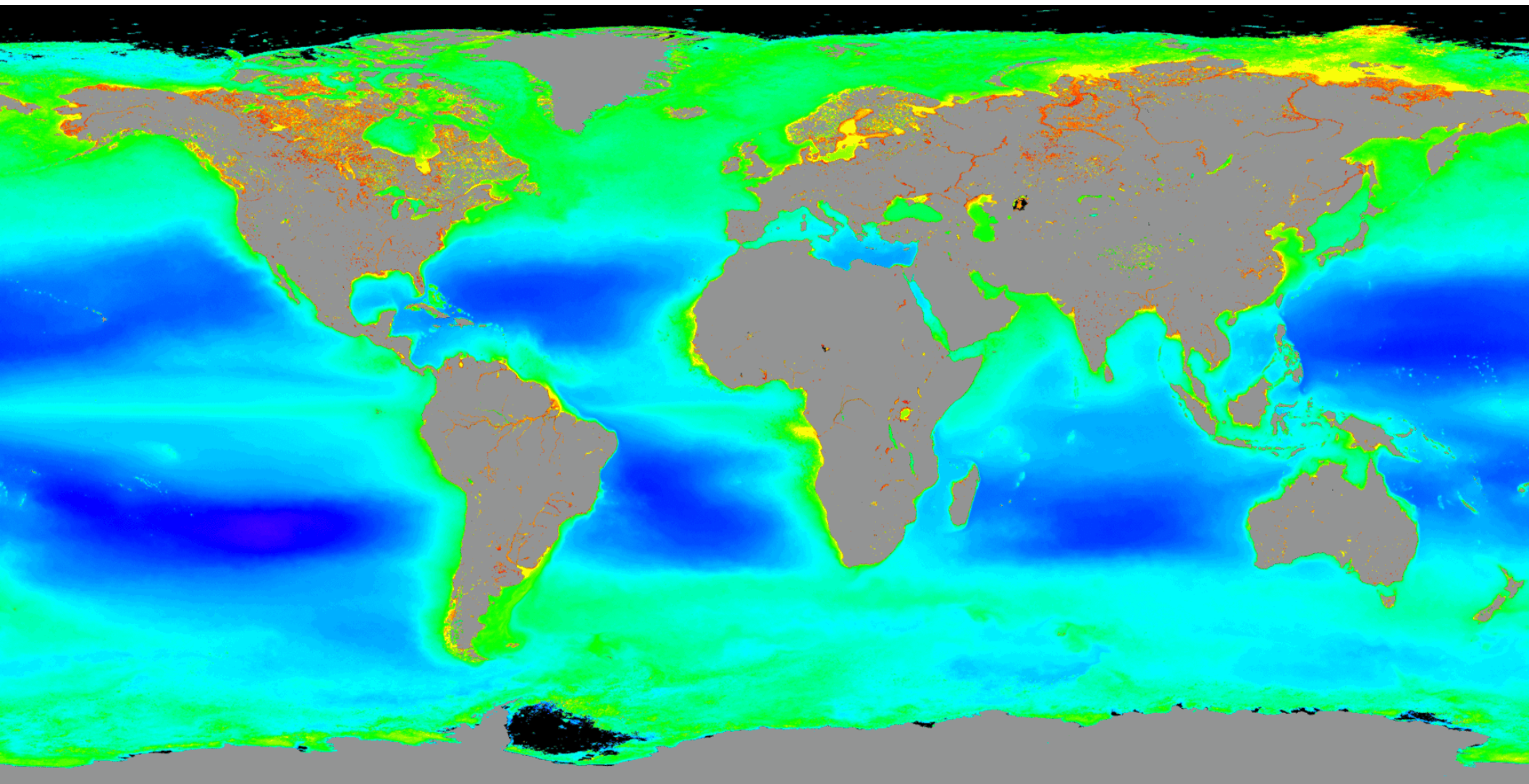


VIIRS Mission-long Ocean Color Data Reprocessing

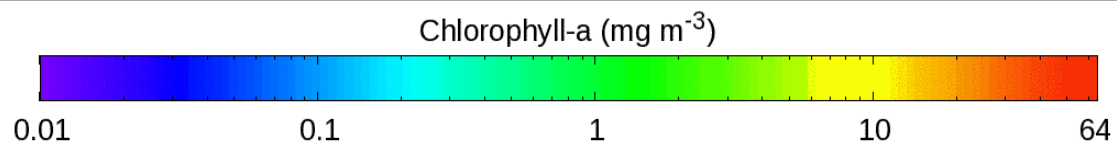


- ✓ We have recently reprocessed VIIRS mission-long ocean color data products for the **Science Quality** data stream in **April 2017**. This is the second data reprocessing due to some significant improvements (algorithms and SDR). The first VIIRS mission-long OC data reprocessing was completed in **May 2016**. The science quality data stream has been going forward routinely.
- ✓ For the **Science Quality** data stream, VIIRS mission-long SDR has been reprocessed using significantly improved on-orbit calibration (both **solar and lunar** approaches).
- ✓ VIIRS ocean color data are available through CoastWatch. In particular, **the Science Quality data stream will also be distributed through CoastWatch and NCEI**.
- The reprocessed VIIRS mission-long Science Quality ocean color data have been significantly improved, providing accurate and consistent ocean color data for science research and applications. It shows the importance of the lunar data for calibration, particularly in recent years (and forwarding).
- VIIRS **chlorophyll-a (Chl-a), $K_d(490)$, $K_d(\text{PAR})$, $nL_w(410)$, $nL_w(443)$, $nL_w(486)$, $nL_w(551)$, and $nL_w(671)$** , as well as I-band **$nL_w(638)$** data are routinely produced now using the Multi-Sensor Level-1 to Level-2 (**MSL12**) ocean color data processing system.
- We show **VIIRS global climatology ocean color product images**, as well as **some evaluation/validation results**.

VIIRS Climatology Ocean Color Product Image (2012–2016)

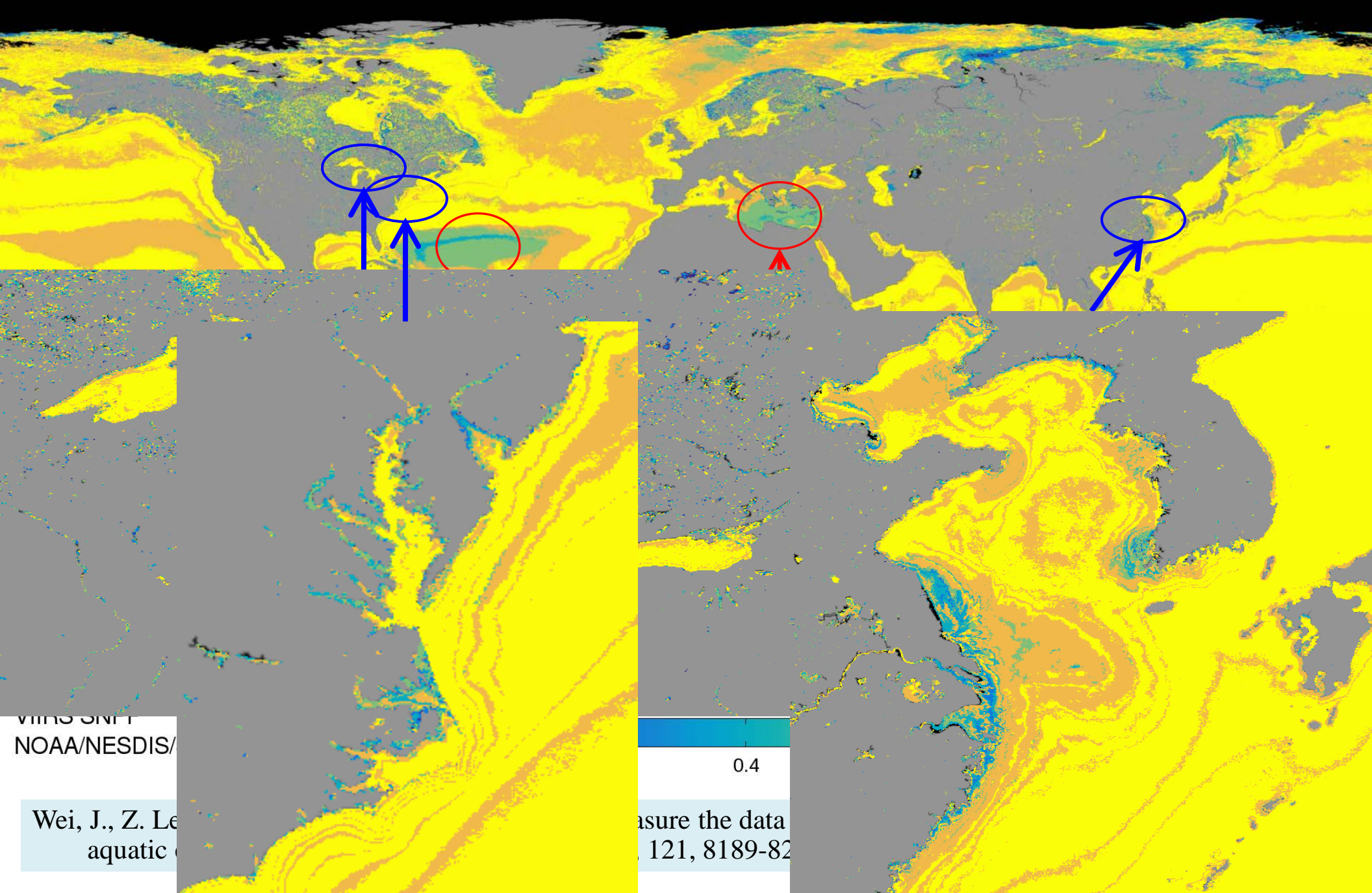


VIIRS SNPP
NOAA/NESDIS/STAR Ocean Color Team



climatology
2012 - 2016

VIIRS Climatology $nL_w(\lambda)$ QA Score Image (2012–2017)



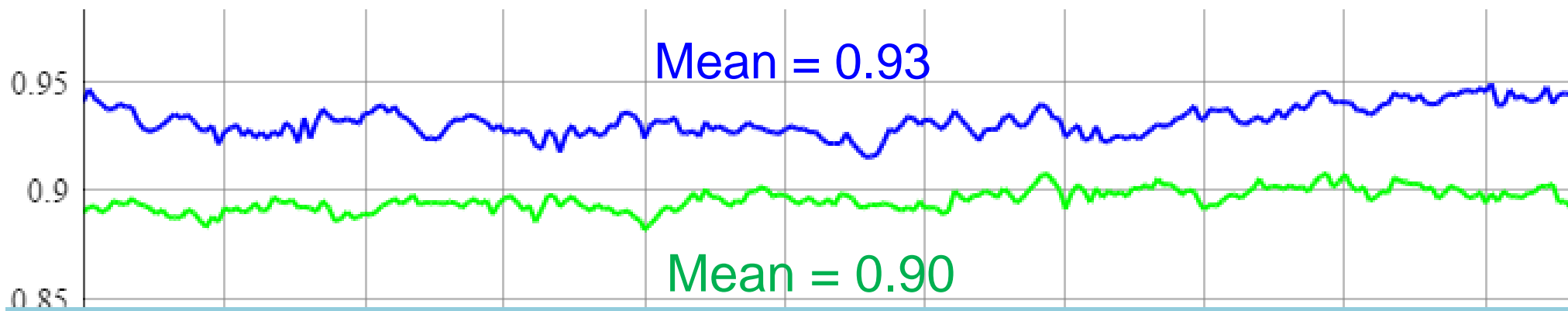
VIIRS SNPP
NOAA/NESDIS/

Wei, J., Z. Le
aquatic

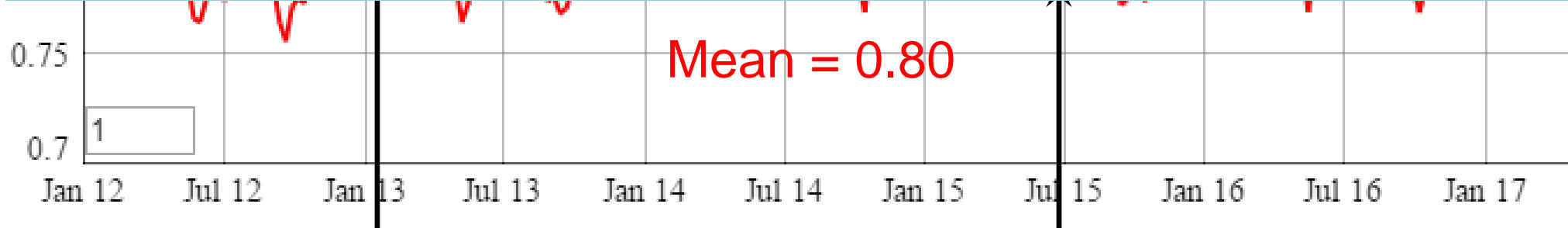
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measure the data
121, 8189-82



VIIRS Mission-long QA Score (global 8-day mean value)



Excellent data quality ($nL_w(\lambda)$ data) over open oceans, and OC data over coastal/inland waters are reasonable (need to be improved)



Higher score in winter

Lower score in summer

Blue: Global Oligotrophic Waters

Green: Global Deep Waters (depth > 1km)

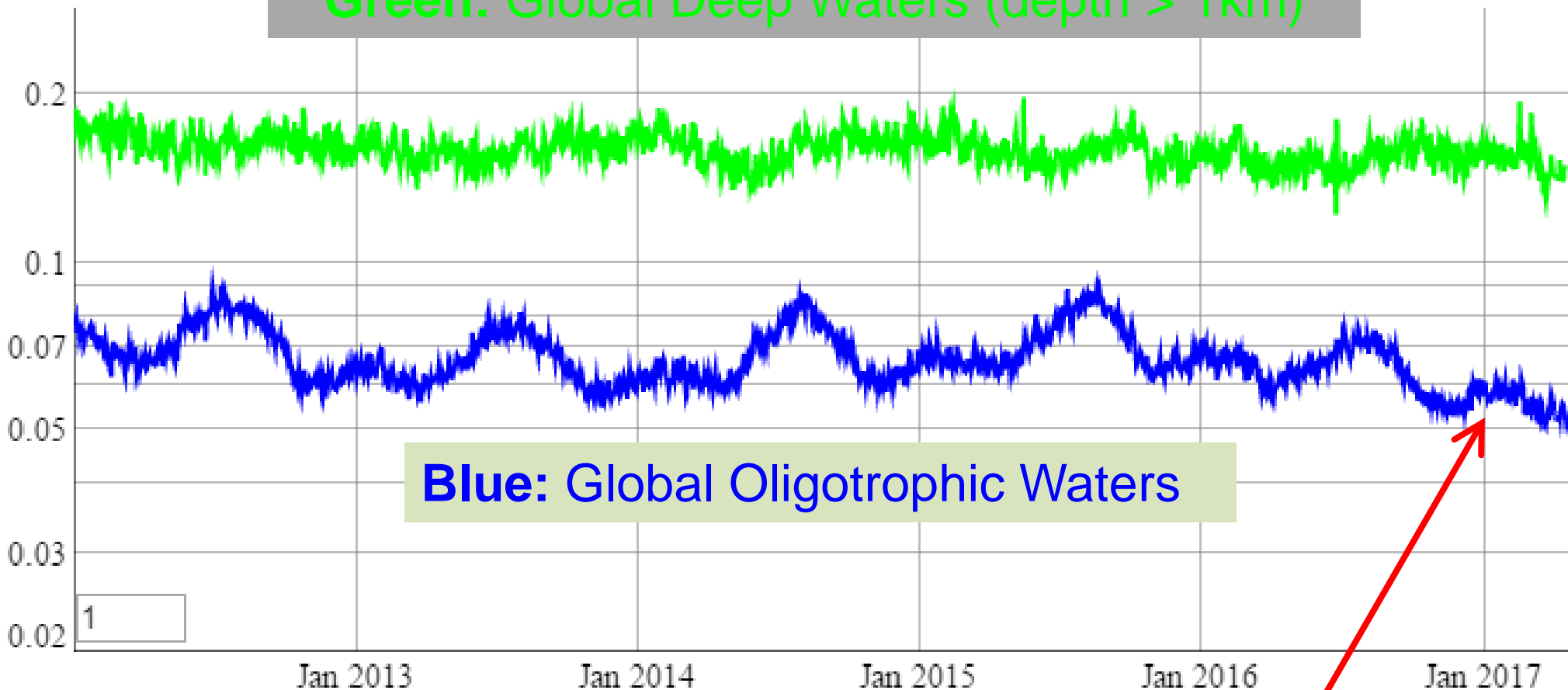
Red: Regions with depth \leq 1km, e.g., coastal & inland waters

VIIRS science quality OC data are processed using the **MSL12!**



VIIRS-derived Daily Chl-a

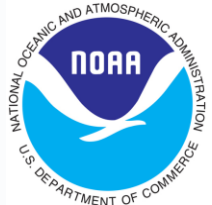
Green: Global Deep Waters (depth > 1km)



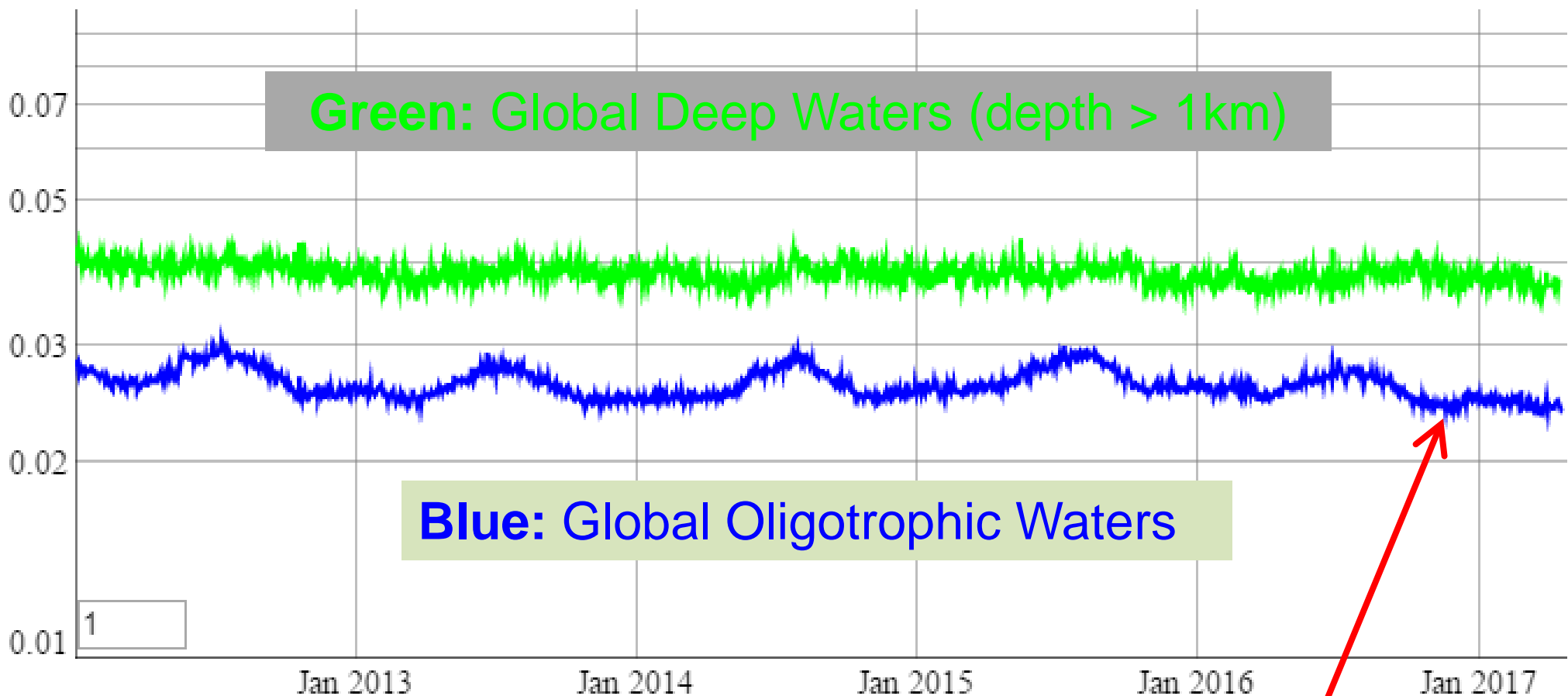
Blue: Global Oligotrophic Waters

Slightly Chl-a drop over oligotrophic waters

VIIRS science quality OC data are processed using the **MSL12!**



VIIRS-derived Daily $K_d(490)$



Green: Global Deep Waters (depth > 1km)

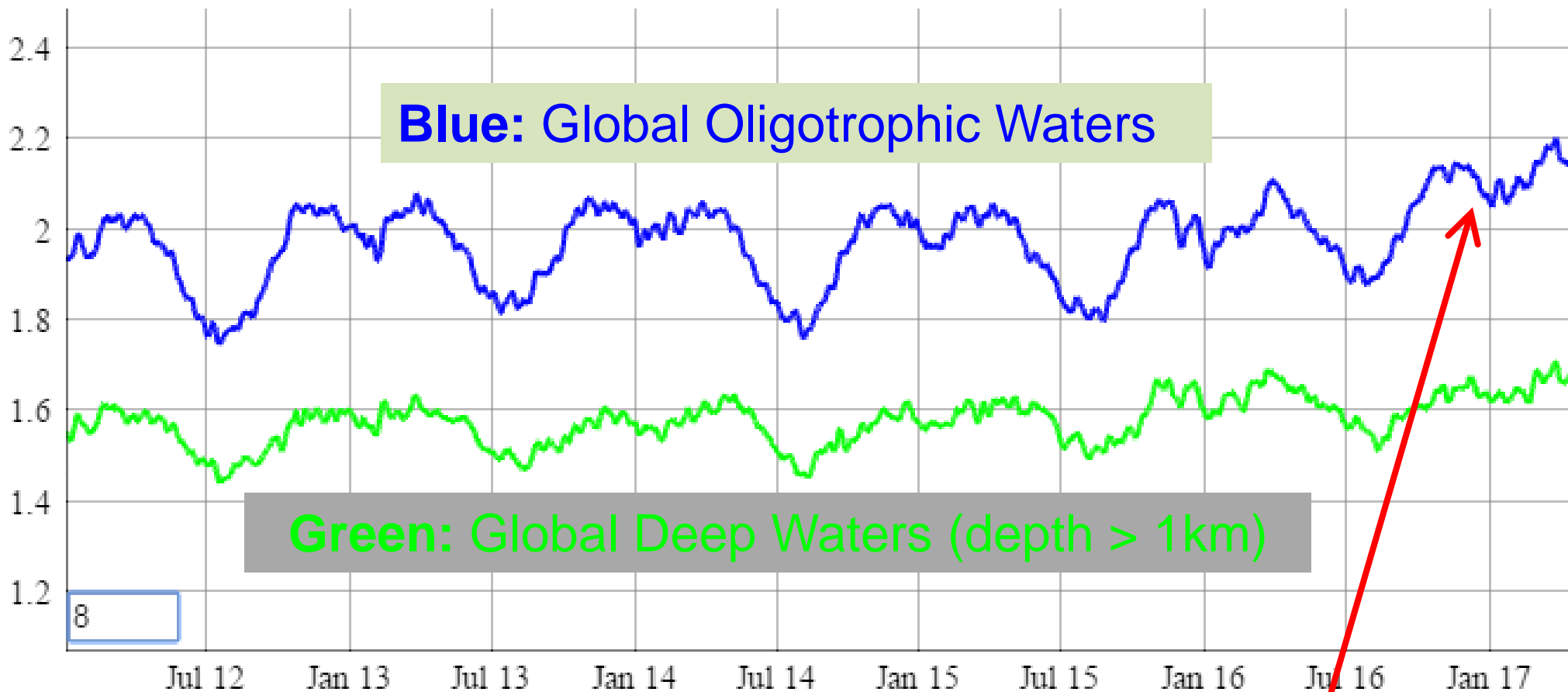
Blue: Global Oligotrophic Waters

Slightly value drop over oligotrophic waters

VIIRS science quality OC data are processed using the **MSL12!**



VIIRS-derived 8-day $nL_w(443)$

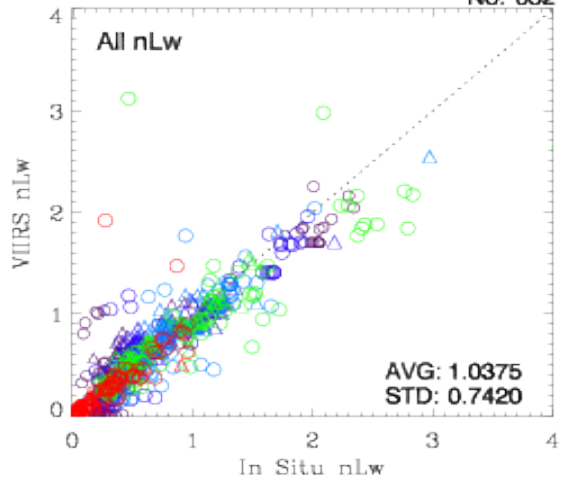
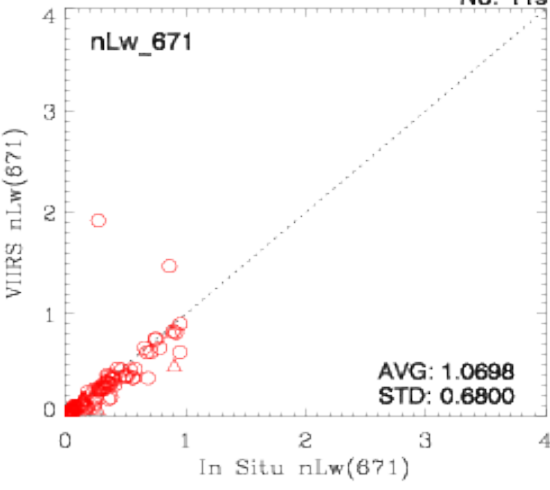
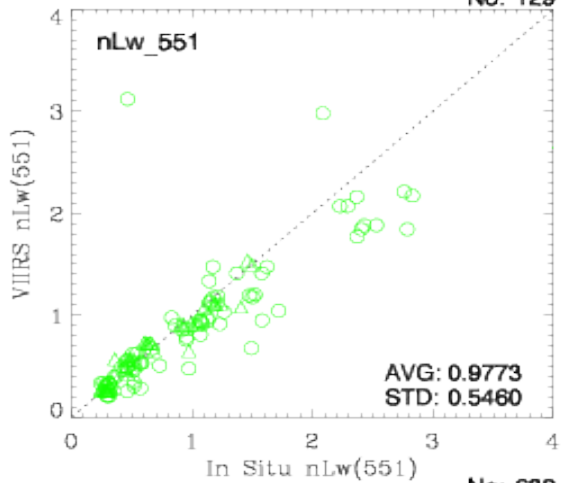
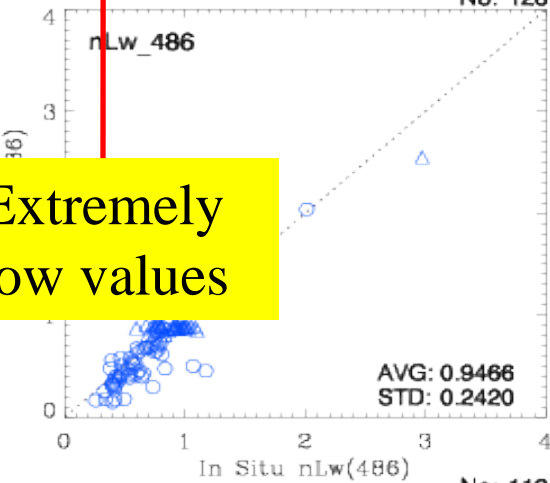
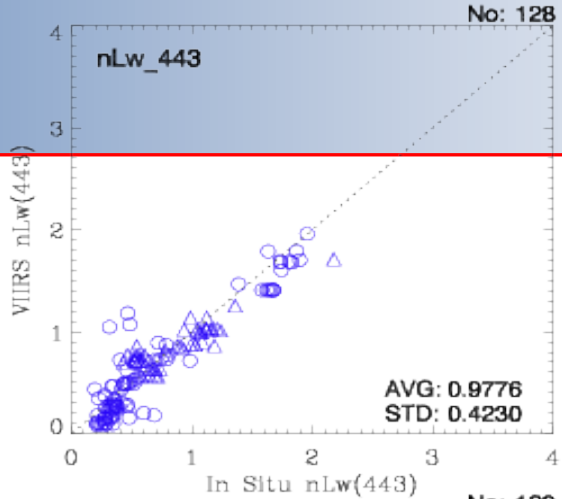
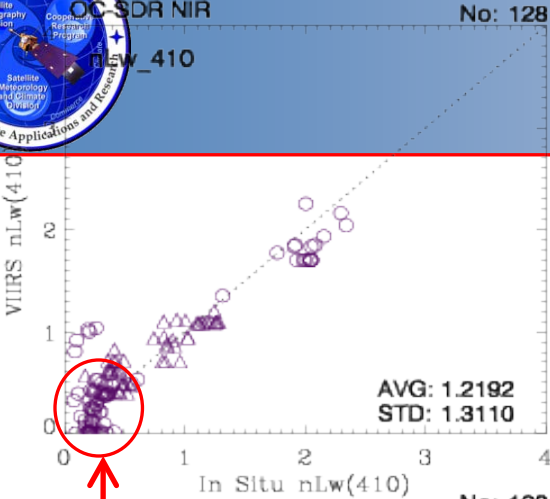


Water getting **Bluer** recently?

VIIRS science quality OC data are processed using the **MSL12!**



Validation Effort



VIIRS vs. In Situ Data

In Situ Data Sources:

- R. Arnone (U. South Miss.)
- C. Davis (Oregon State U.)
- C. Hu (U. South Florida)
- Z. Lee (U. Mass. Boston)
- M. Ondrusek (NOAA/STAR)
- G. Zibordi (JRC)

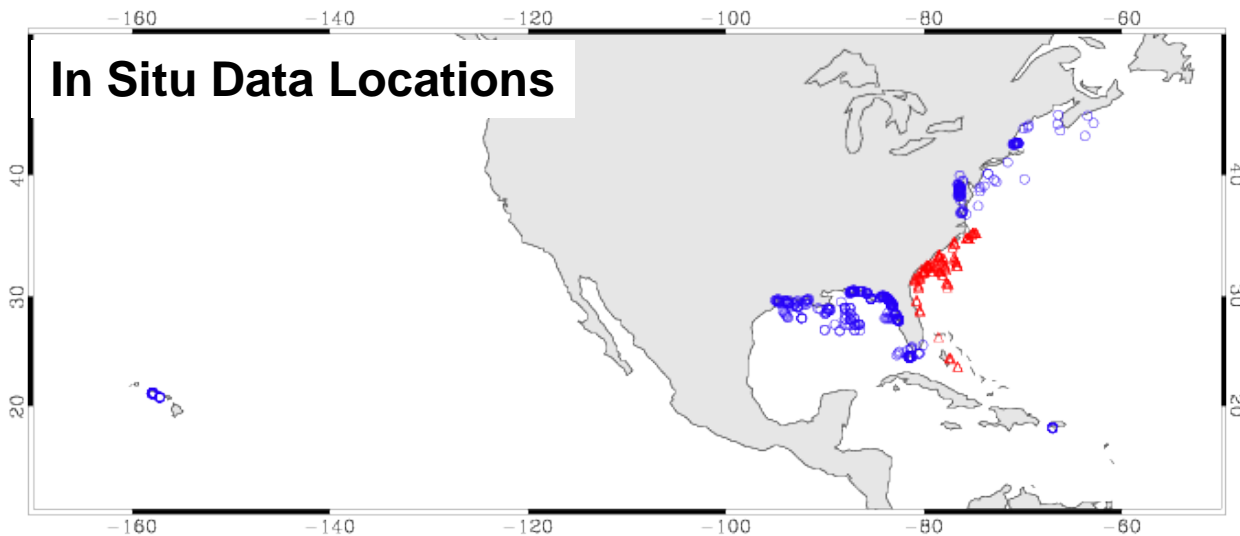
- Three dedicated Cal/Val cruises (2014-2016) and
- Various in situ measurement opportunities

Extremely low values

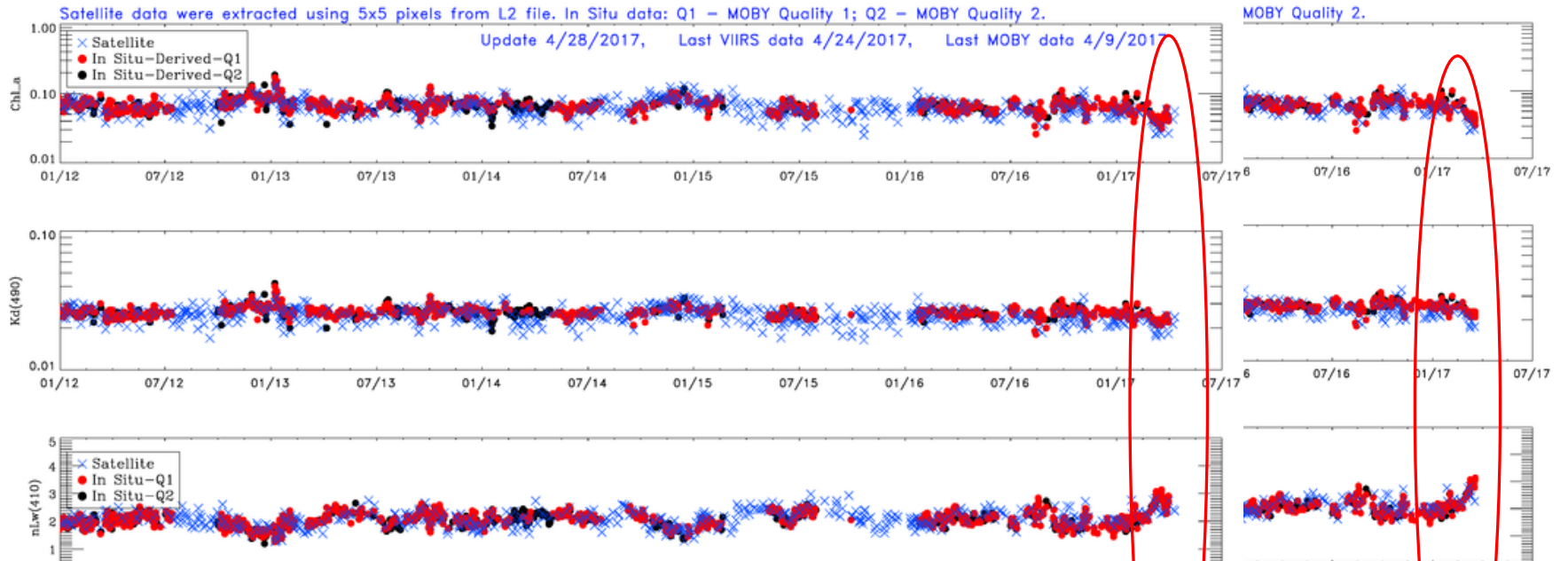
Very significant amount of work!!

Statistics of **VIIRS** vs. **In Situ Data**

OC-SDR NIR (Gain in 2017-03-27)								
	RATIO (VIIRS/In Situ)				DIFFERENCE (VIIRS-In Situ)			
	AVG	MED	STD	No	AVG	MED	STD	%Diff
$nL_w(410)$	1.2192	0.9658	1.311	128	0.0041	-0.0307	0.241	0.600
$nL_w(443)$	0.9776	0.9202	0.423	128	-0.0330	-0.0697	0.191	-4.310
$nL_w(486)$	0.9466	0.9298	0.242	128	-0.0471	-0.0520	0.192	-5.320
$nL_w(551)$	0.9773	0.9316	0.546	129	-0.0783	-0.0415	0.349	-8.830
$nL_w(671)$	1.0698	0.9768	0.680	119	-0.0102	0.0013	0.181	-4.120
<i>All</i>	1.0375	0.9383	0.742	632	-0.0333	-0.0290	0.241	-4.750

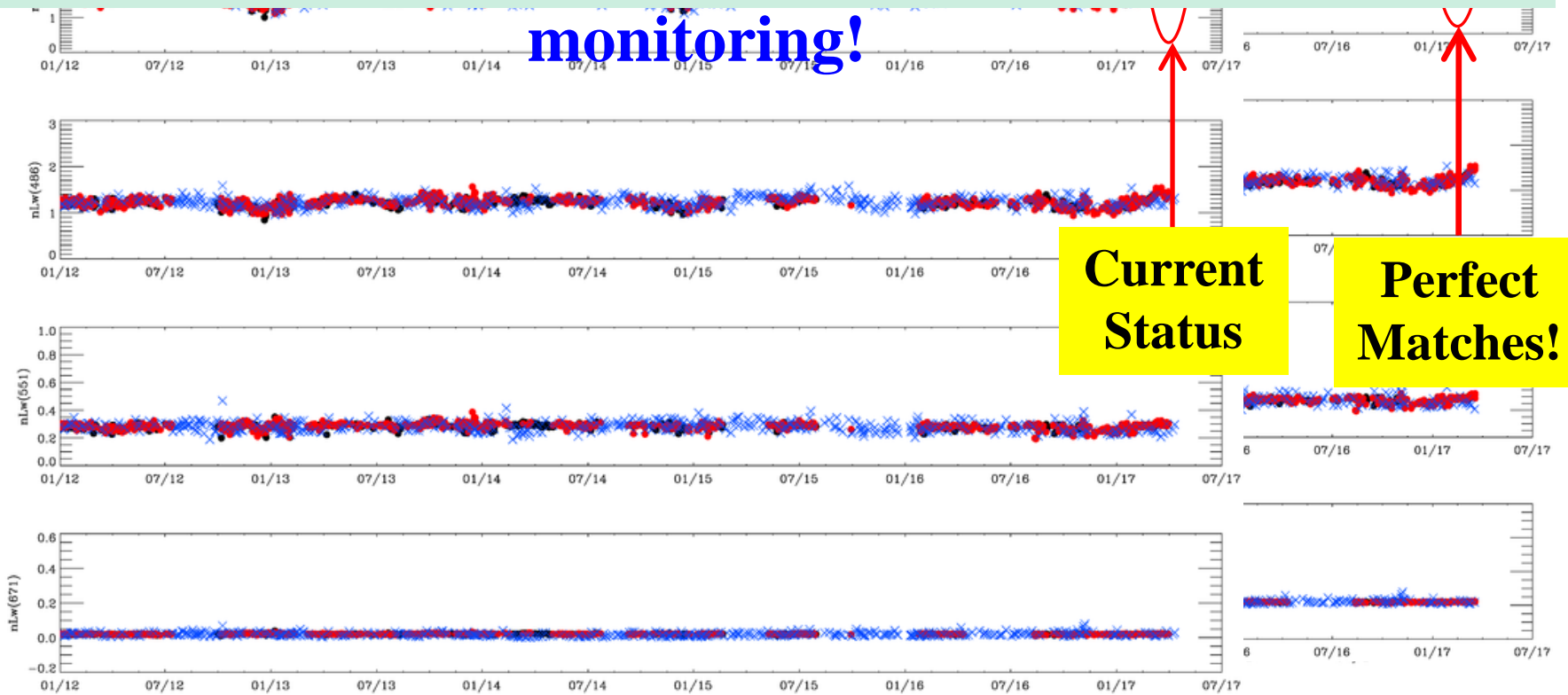


- **Red:** The three dedicated Cal/Val cruises
- **Blue:** Various in situ measurement opportunities

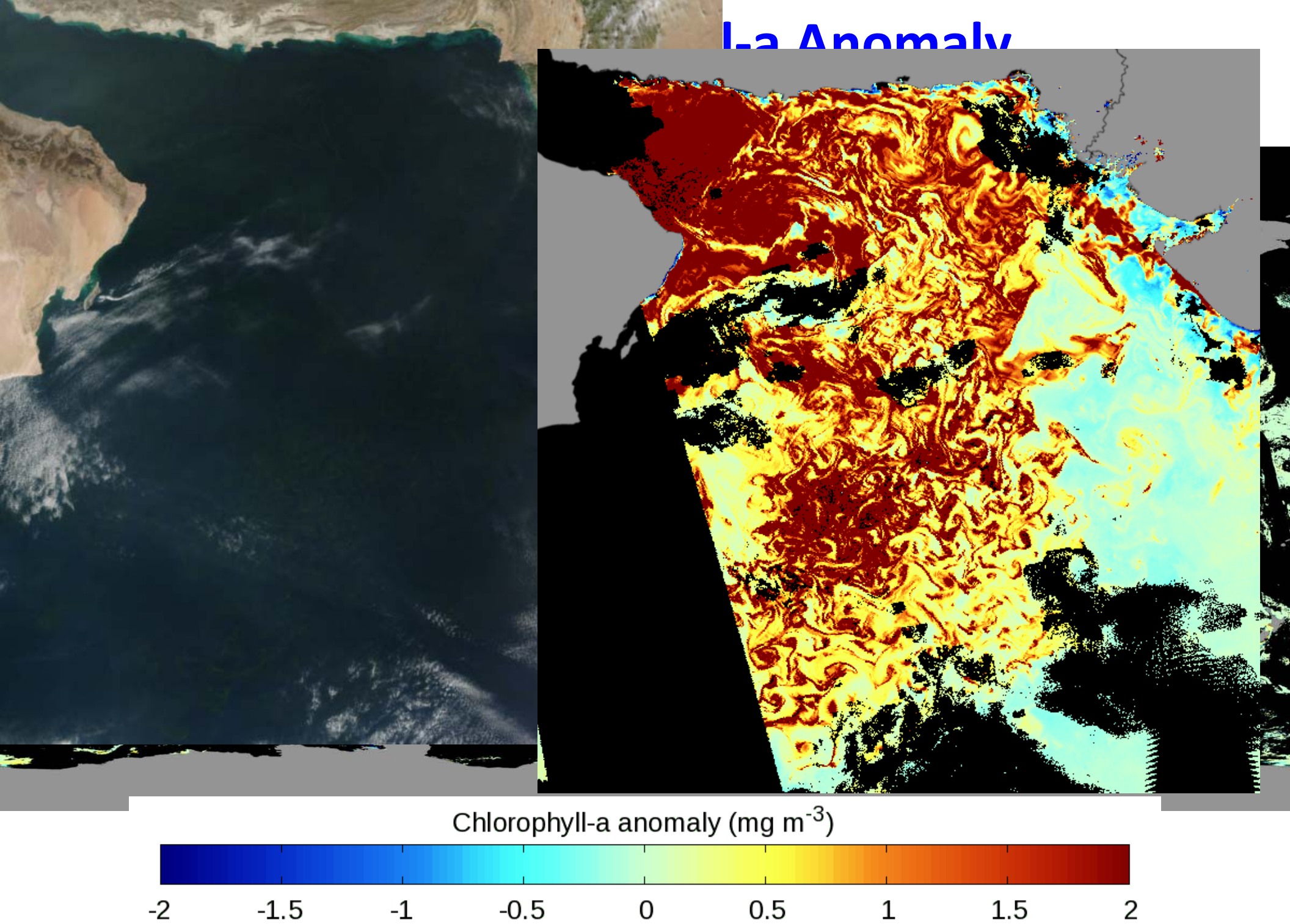


High quality MOBY daily in situ data are also important/useful for on-orbit sensor performance

monitoring!



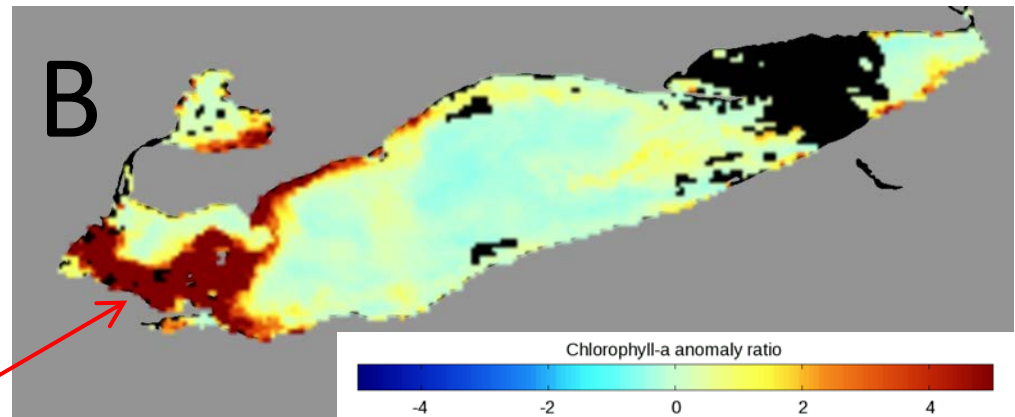
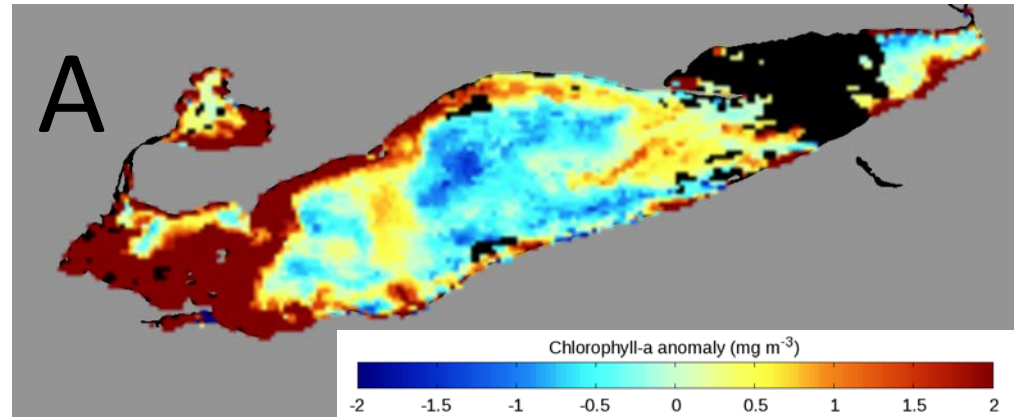
Chl-a Anomaly



Regional Example: Lake Erie

2015-07-28

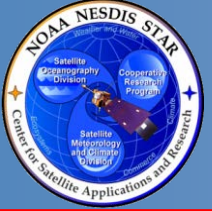
- A: Chlorophyll-a anomaly
- B: Chlorophyll-a anomaly ratio
- C: true color



For coastal/inland waters with high Chlorophyll-a, the **anomaly ratio** (B) may be a better indicator

Shape matches perfectly!





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(Calibrations, Algorithms, Validations, Applications, In Situ Data)



- Mike Chu, [Junqiang Sun](#), and Menghua Wang, **Radiometric evaluation of the SNPP VIIRS reflective solar band sensor data records via inter-sensor comparison with Aqua MODIS.**
- [Veronica P. Lance](#), Michael Ondrusek, Heng Gu, Menghua Wang and NOAA VIIRS Cruise, VIIRS Cal/Val, MOBY and Aeronet-OC Team Members, **NOAA in situ validation activities for satellite ocean color products and related ocean science research.**
- [Xiaoming Liu](#) and Menghua Wang, **Reconstruction of Missing Data in the VIIRS Global Ocean Color Images Using the DINEOF Method.**
- [Karlis Mikelsons](#) and Menghua Wang, **OCView - interactive online visualization and monitoring tool for satellite ocean color data imagery.**
- [Wei Shi](#) and Menghua Wang, **A New Algorithm Deriving VIIRS Particle Backscattering Coefficient $bbp(\lambda)$ Products in the Global Highly Turbid Waters.**
- [SeungHyun Son](#) and Menghua Wang, **Evaluation of VIIRS Ocean Color Products in Open Ocean and Coastal/Inland Waters.**
- [SeungHyun Son](#), Menghua Wang, and Lide Jiang, **Comparison of GOCI and VIIRS Ocean Color Products in the Western Pacific Region.**
- [Junqiang Sun](#) and Menghua Wang, **SNPP VIIRS Reflective solar bands calibration improvements and updates.**
- [Menghua Wang](#), Lide Jiang, Xiaoming Liu, SeungHyun Son, Junqiang Sun, Karlis Mikelsons, Wei Shi, Liqin Tan, Xiaolong Wang, Mike Chu, and Veronica Lance, **Progress Updates of VIIRS Ocean Color Products.**
- [Guangming Zheng](#) and Paul M. DiGiacomo, **Optical characterization of suspended particles along two estuarine transects using VIIRS data.**