



## Breakout WS 2: Going beyond HPLC: Coming to rapid consensus on science requirements for assessing phytoplankton composition from satellite imagery

Co-chairs: Astrid Bracher (AWI), Ryan Vandermeulen (NASA-GFSC), Stewart Bernard (CSIR)

# Agenda

14:00-14:05 **Scope of BO, former efforts and overview**

14:05-14:25: **Minimum requirements for lab and field work and measurements for sufficient PFT algorithm evaluation:**

Colleen Mouw + Discussion

14:25-15:15: **Detection of phytoplankton blooms of specific groups and species – current achievements, gaps and next steps:**

Arnold Dekker, Shaoling Shang, Wonkook Kim, Ana Dogliotti, Tit Kutser, Tiho Kostadinov + Discussion

15:15-15:30: **Role of synthetic data sets and IOP/radiative transfer modelling for development and evaluation of hyperspectral vs multi-spectral detection for phytoplankton groups**

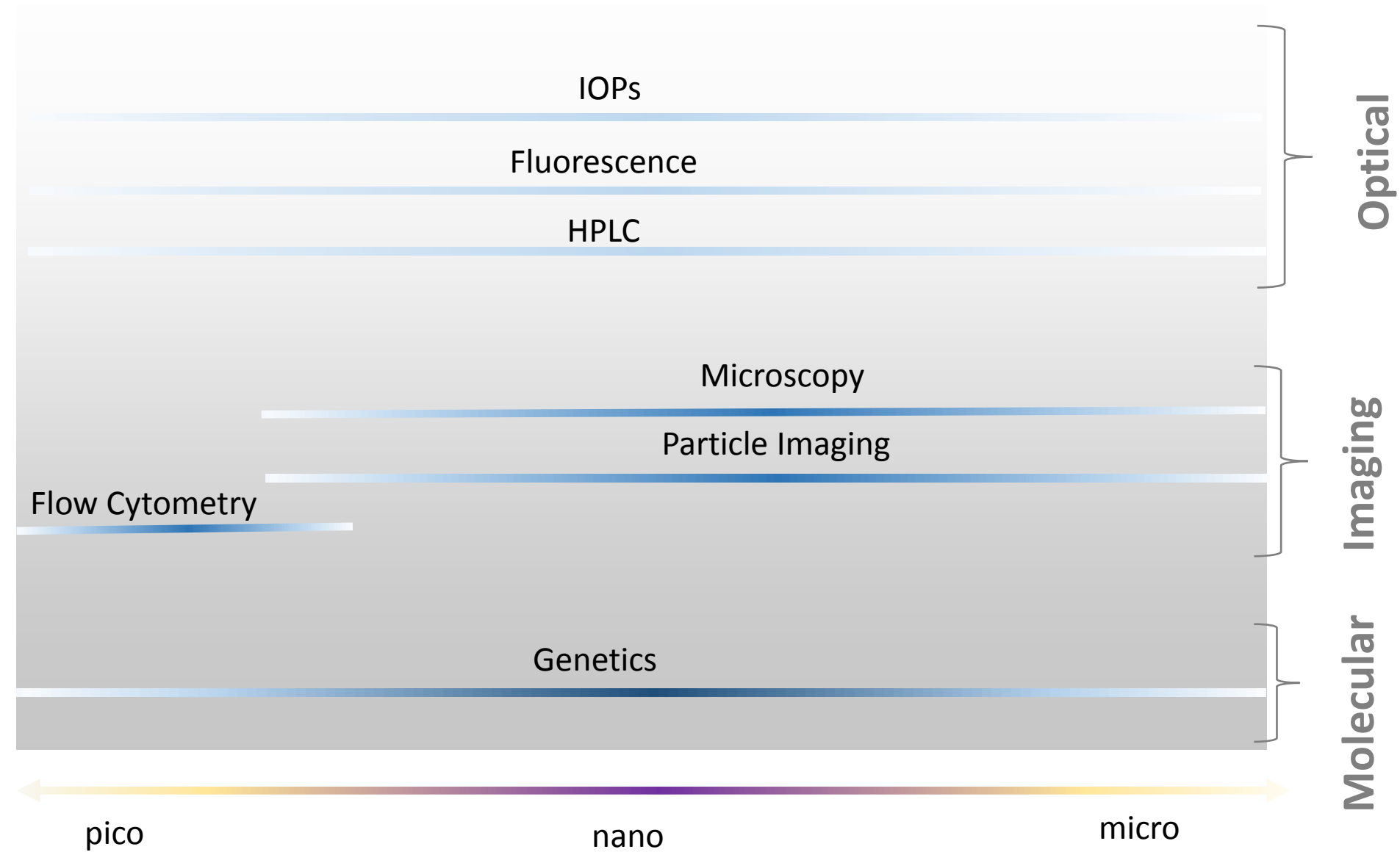
Hongyan Xi, Jianwei Wei + Discussion

15:30-16:15 **How do we best utilise existing or recommend new programs to validate satellite approaches for detecting ephemeral blooms in the sea?**

Lesley Clementson, Ryan Vandermeulen, Shaoling Shang, Wonkook Kim, Astrid Bracher + Discussion

16:15-16:30: **Final discussion, summary and recommendations**

# Range of Characterization & Level of Derivation from $R_{rs}$



# Particle Imaging – Instrumentation Differences

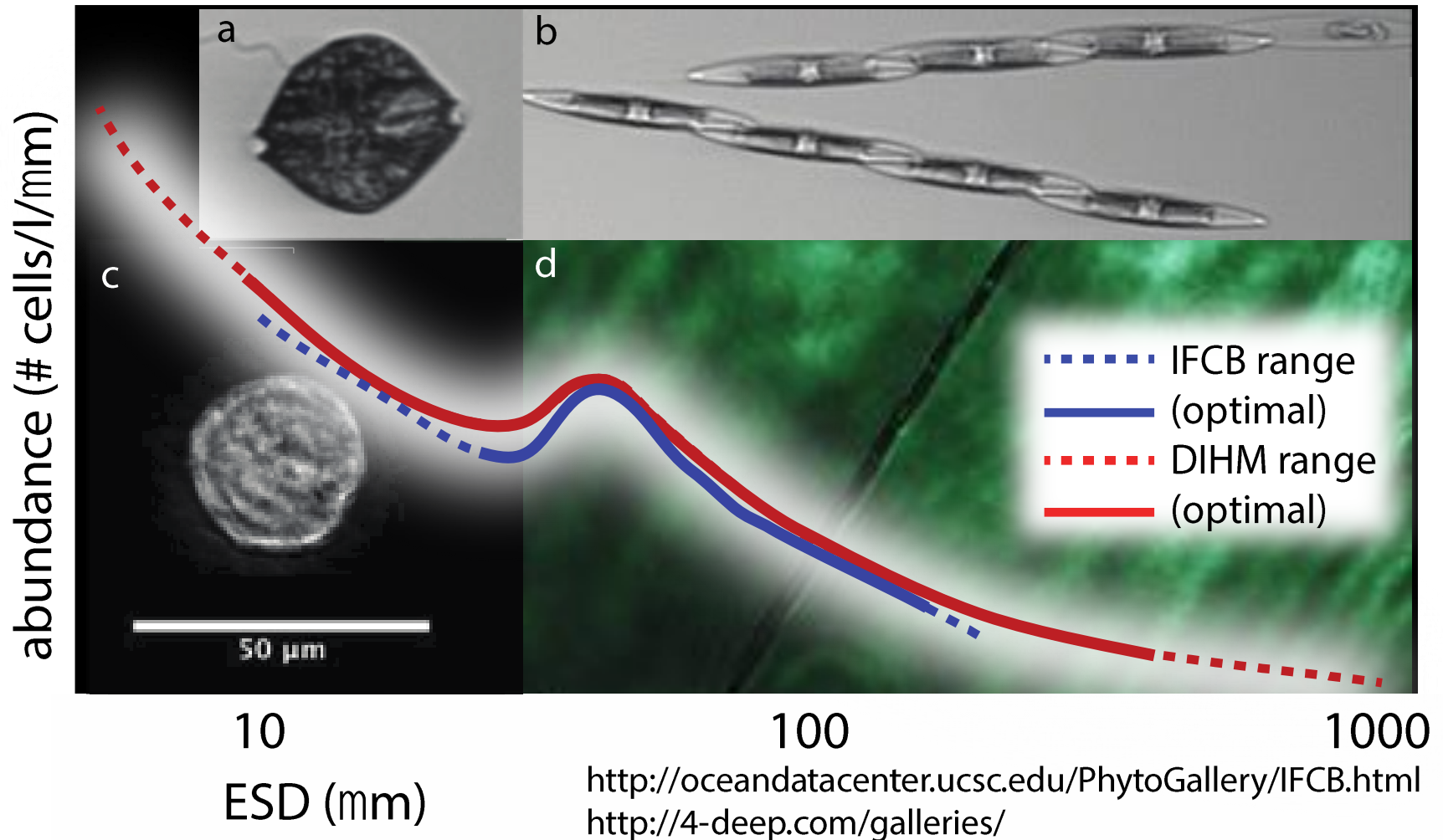
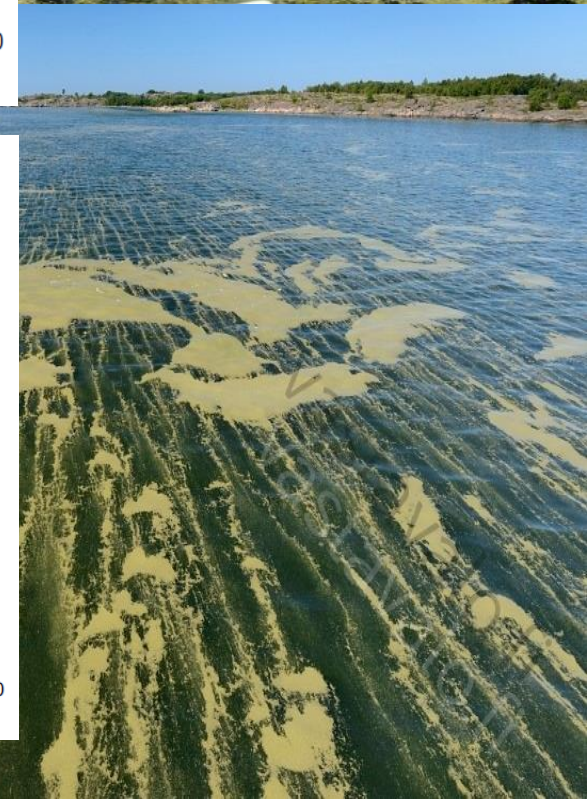
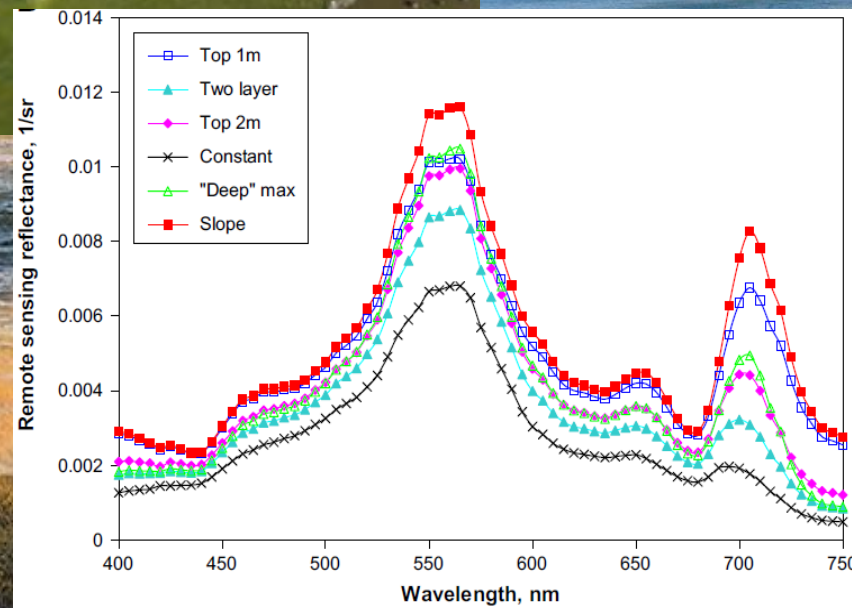
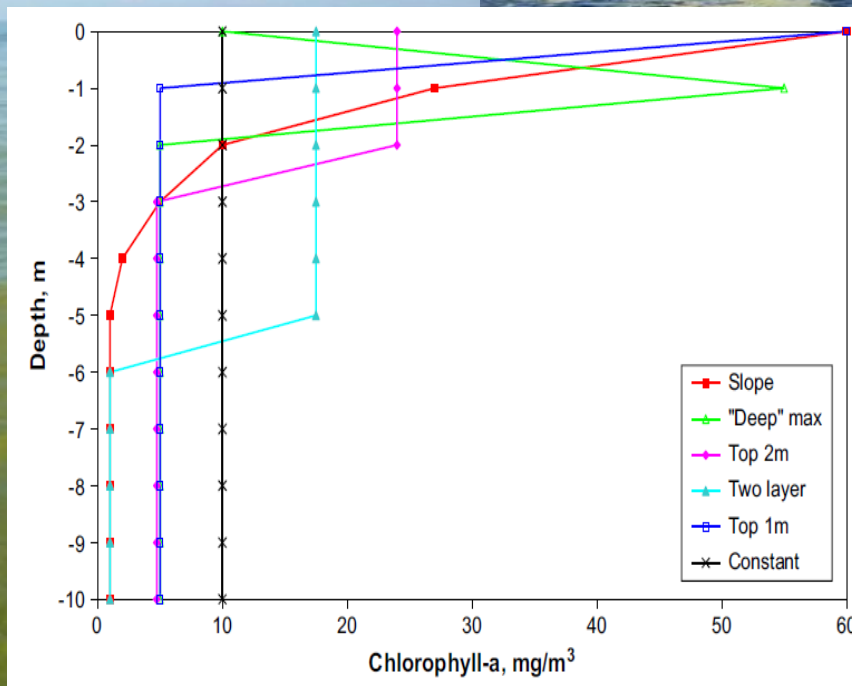


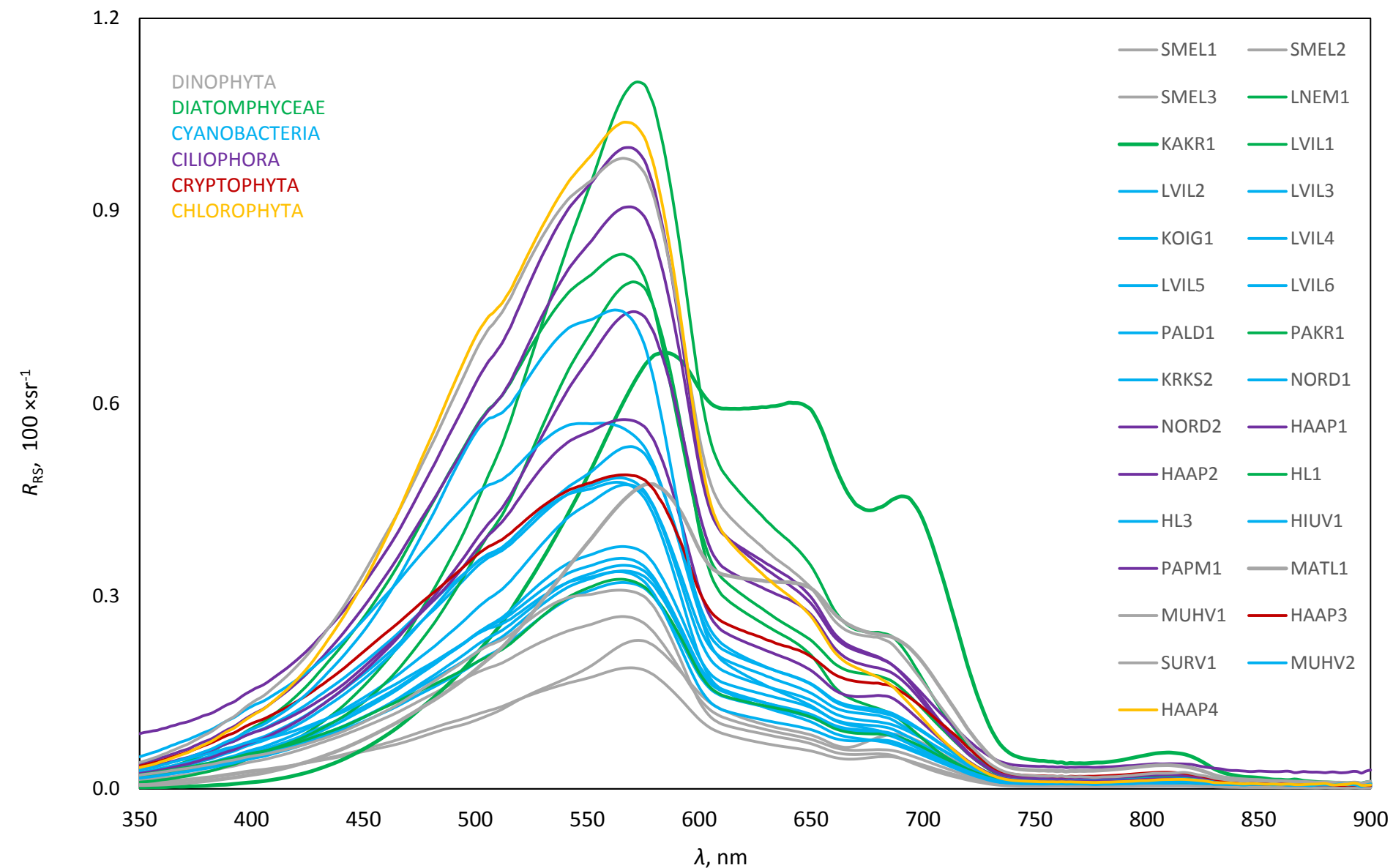
Figure: Courtesy of Melissa Omand

High biomass and  
only one species  
dominating, easy  
discrimination

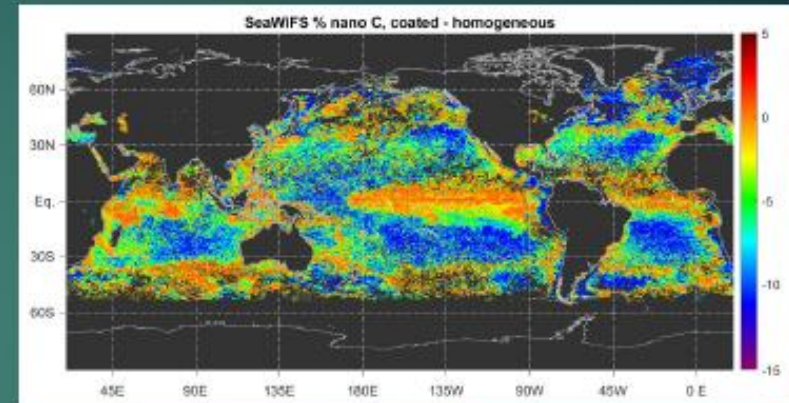
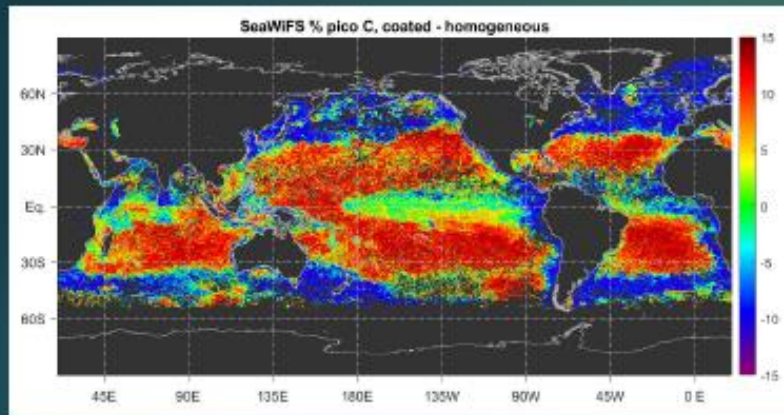




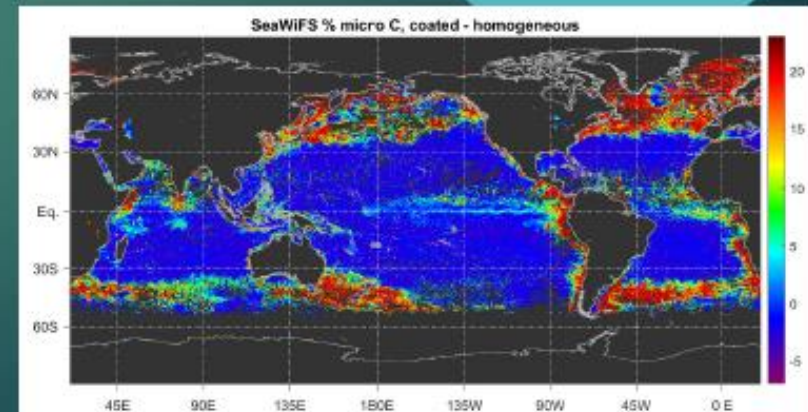
# Pigment signal confusing



# Differences in retrievals for the fractional C-based PSCs – coated vs. homogeneous spheres



Fractional PSCs are a function of the PSD slope, allometric coeffs, and  $D_{min}/D_{max}$  chosen. So this change reflects the change in the PSD slope LUT – higher slopes retrieved for high values, lower slopes for low values.



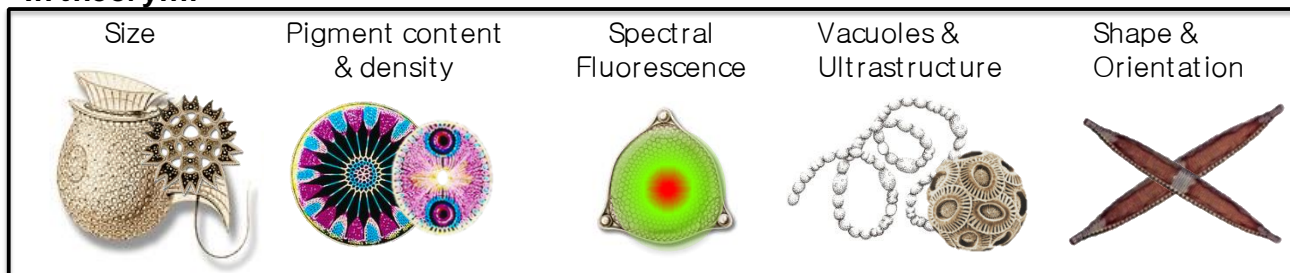


# International Ocean Colour Science Meeting 2019

Advancing Global  
Ocean Colour  
Observations

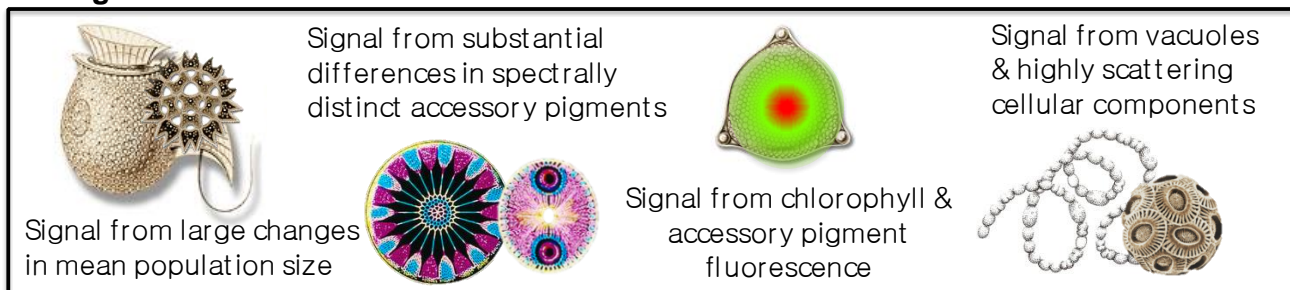
The properties of the phytoplankton community that affect ocean colour...

## In theory....

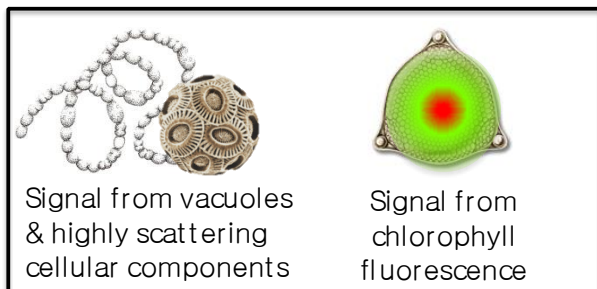


...from the IOCCG HAB WG draft monograph....

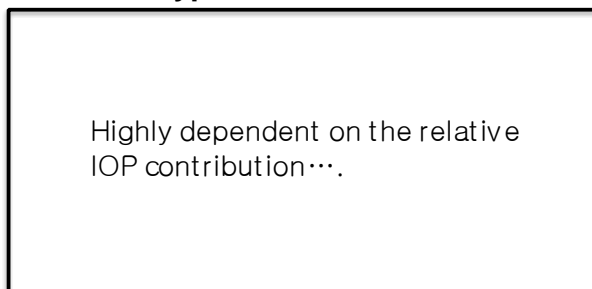
## At high biomass...



## At low biomass....



## In Case 2 type waters...

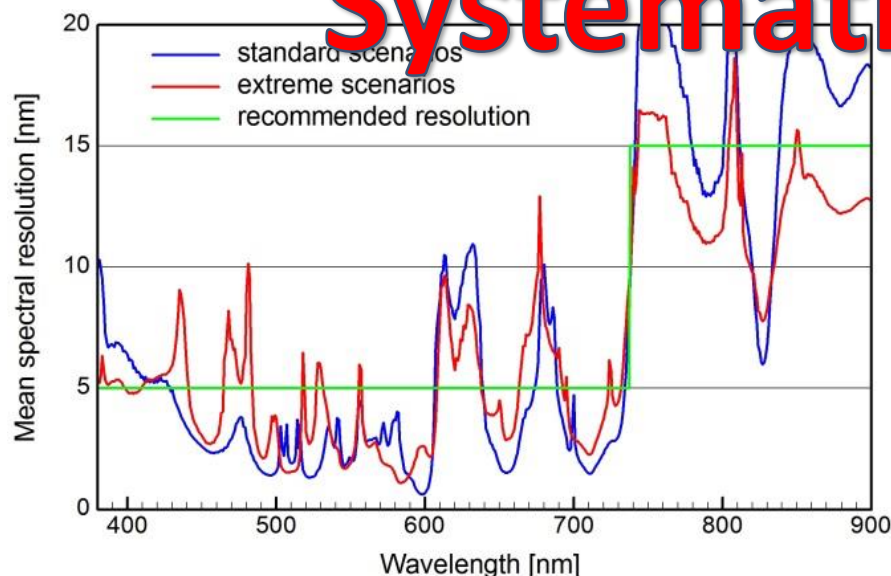


Important to understand that phytoplankton biomass and the relative phytoplankton contribution to the IOP budget are critical to assessing second-order community-structure related effects on the spectral light field....

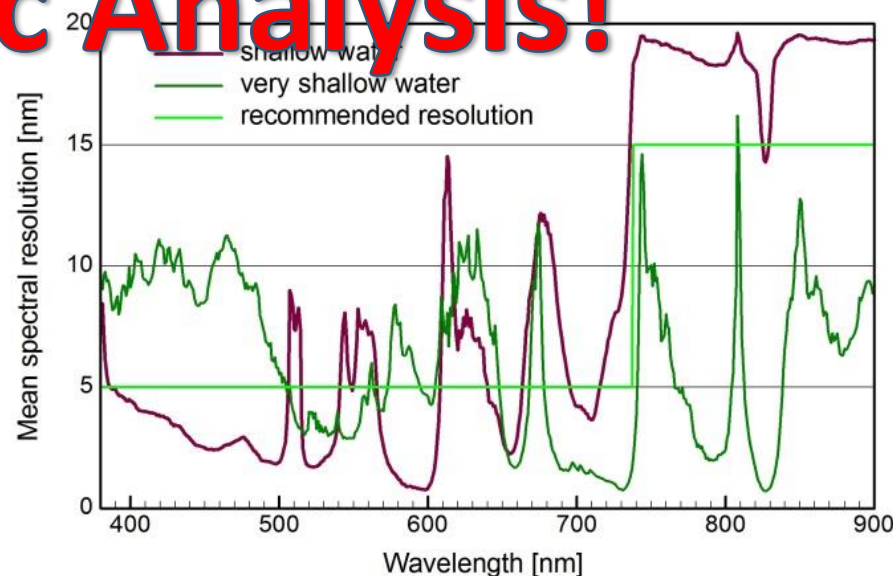




## Systematic Analysis!



DLAMBDA | 1.3.2017



DLAMBDA\_SH | 1.3.2017

**Figure 34: Averages of optimal spectral resolutions. Left: for optically deep water. Right: for optically shallow water.**

The quantitative hyperspectral vs multispectral case is a complex one, requiring systematic evaluation over a wide range of water types, focusing on a matrix of co-varying target variables, using both multi-spectral and spectrally dense analyses. An example focusing on spectral resolution requirements - how spectrally dense must the hyper be to offer quantitative advantage? Dekker et al 2018.

Feasibility Study for an Aquatic  
Ecosystem Earth Observing System

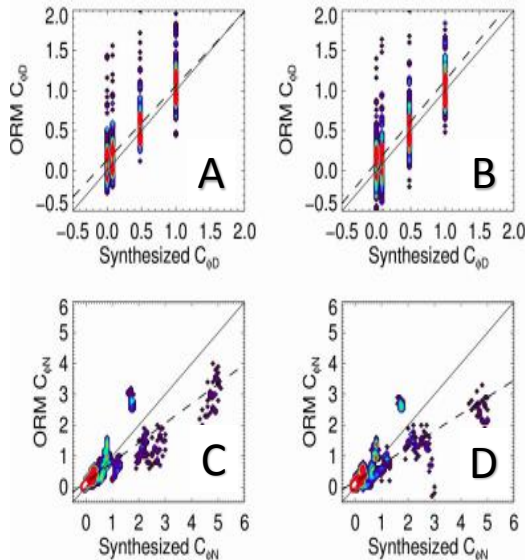
Version 1.2  
February 2018



# GIOP – Ocean color inversion models for PFT retrieval with synthetic Rrs (hyper- / multi-spectral)

GIOP for retrieving diatoms and noctiluca  
(Werdell et al. (2014))

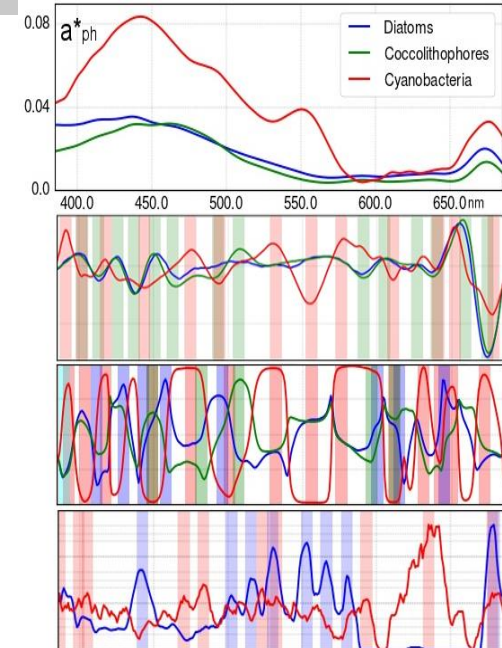
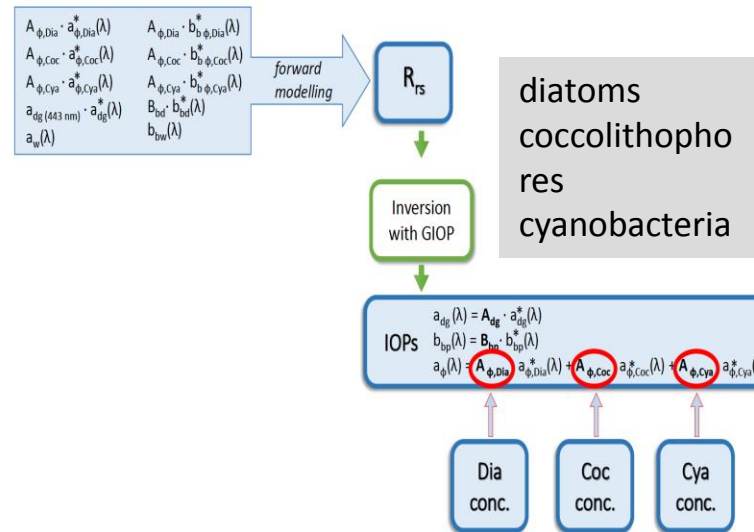
Hyperspectral MODIS bands



Ground truth (synthesized) versus  
GIOP retrieved concentrations of  
Diatom and Noctiluca

- Able to separate the *N. miliaris* and diatoms;
- Biased absolute estimates even under perfectly controlled conditions.

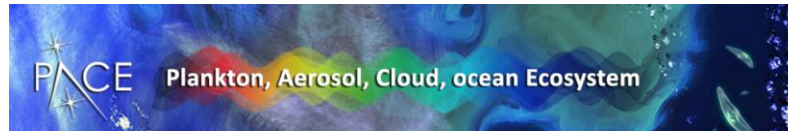
Spectral band requirements for PFT retrievals  
(Wolanin et al. 2016)



1. Hyperspectral data most beneficial for multiple PFTs
2. Sensors: MERIS best for diatoms & cyano., SeaWiFS for cocco.
3. No single bands setting led to best retrievals for all PFTs.
4. Adding bands to OLCI to enable optical retrievals of this 3 PFTs
5. Choice of band settings depends on chosen

# Existing programs

Several databases – SeaBASS, MERMAID, PANGAEA, PACE, OC-CCI, International PFT etc



European Space Agency



Satellite Phytoplankton Functional Type  
Algorithm Intercomparison Project



Marine Optical BuoY (MOBY)

Provides vicarious calibration of ocean color satellites

**André Valente, et al (2019). A compilation of global bio-optical in situ data for ocean-colour satellite applications – version two. Submitted to Earth System Science Data**

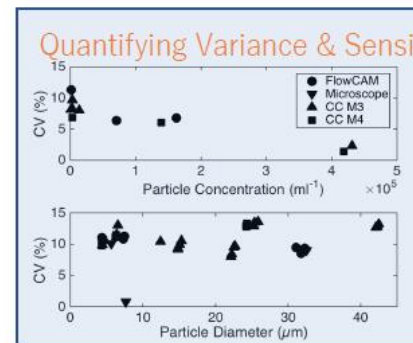
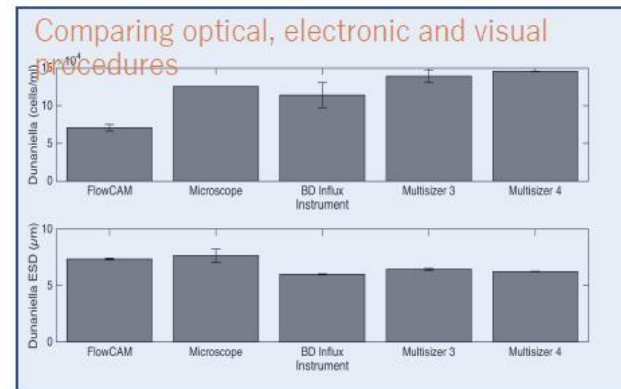
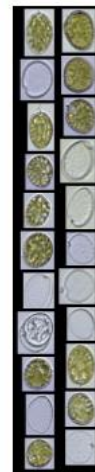
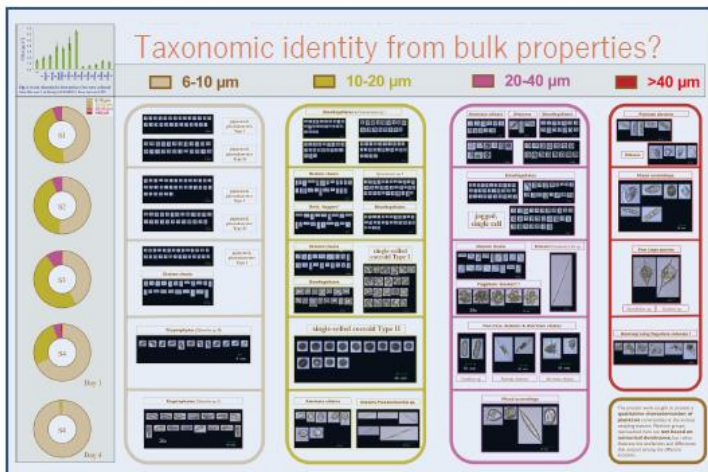


# Future Parameters

## EXPORTS:

Inter-comparison to link remotely & in situ determined plankton abundance, size and taxonomy

- at sea and in the lab, whole seawater and mono-specific cultures
- particle abundance, taxonomic identity, size and abundance/size spectra
- instrument sensitivity and measurement variance



Courtesy of Susanne Menden-Deuer  
(Export PSD collaborative)



# Development of portal with standards, tools, and services, both for users and data centres

for pulse shape recording flow cytometer (ex: Cytosense):

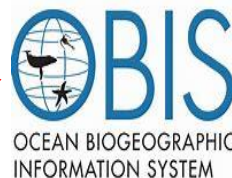
1. New FCM Standardized Common Vocabulary (F02): *12 identifier*

2. New Parameter Usage Vocabulary (P01)

3. Data flow



Data providers: own database or DOI data →



# **Recommendations (I) = Science requirements for assessing phytoplankton group composition (PG) from space: in-situ data**

- **Phytoplankton community observations:** promote use & develop standardised methods & protocols for new generation of imaging particle counters and flow cytometry to allow routine phytoplankton taxonomy resolving size distribution observations & key community metric products (– need to OCB Taxon Resolving Group); enhance usage of data sets for validation from ongoing science initiative repositories and monitoring program efforts provided by flowctometry, imaging and microscopic technique
- **PG into models:** need quantitative framework linking phyto community measurements to biogeochemistry & IOPS (& then onwards to optics). Community based IOP models act as integrative & comparative mechanisms for ranges of data, also allowing QC. These models also facilitate much needed systematic analyses
- **Measured IOPS:** Spectral backscattering identified as major gap in community capability, with large uncertainties & poor ability to resolve phytoplankton specific backscattering. Single angle instruments and/or inappropriate chi factors identified as issues that need attention> Currently sub-optimal phytoplankton specific angular/backscattering measurement capability IOP gap and constraining further systematic analysis...
- **Systematic analysis:** needed at both IOP and reflectance level to understand PG signal across wide ranges of water types – biomass and IOP ranges and including uncertainties (high quality synthetic RTM based data sets).