

# CNES EARTH OBSERVATION PROGRAM FOCUS ON OCEAN COLOUR

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**CARBONNIERE**

Coastal Zones & Marine Cryosphere  
Program Manager  
Strategy Directorate

**International Ocean Color Science**

**2025 Meeting**

**December 3, 2025**

## OUR 4 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



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& Video Dept./S Martin, 2023

### STRENGTHEN

our strategic independence



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### SUSTAIN

a competitive space  
ecosystem



© CNES/Distribution Airbus DS,  
2020

### WORK

towards a sustainable  
world



© CNES/Emmanuel Grimault,  
2021

### EXTEND

our scientific excellence



# SCIENCE AND SOCIETY

Scientific and societal challenges are strongly linked  
to global change and environmental issues

## Keep studying and understanding the Earth System

- ✦ Understand the Earth system and the processes that control it
- ✦ Predict the evolution of our planet
- ✦ Understand human impact

## ... to live better

- ✦ Predict our environment in the coming days/weeks
- ✦ Predict and manage extreme events
- ✦ Understand and manage our needs for water and food

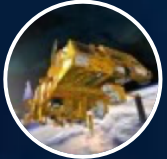


A universal need : to study and understand processes on large spatio-temporal scales, in all compartments of the Earth system.

# MISSIONS IN EXPLOITATION AT CNES

(AS OF DEC 2025)

## Infrared sounding

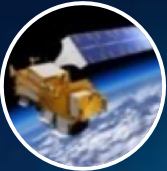


IASI 2/Metop B - 2012



IASI-NG/Metop SG A1 - 2025

Aug. 12, 2025

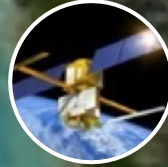


IASI 3/Metop C - 2018

## Ocean & Hydrology



SMOS - 2009



SWOT - 2022



Hy-2 B/C/D

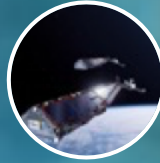


Jason 3 - 2016



Sentinel-6 A & B

## Magnetic field



Swarm - 2013



Cryosat-2 - 2010



CFOSAT - 2018



Sentinel-3A - 2016

## Defence / Optical imagery



CSO 1 - 2018



CSO 2 - 2020



CSO 3 - 2025



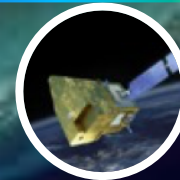
Pléiades 1 A - 2011



Pléiades 1 B - 2012

## Optical imagery

## Carbon



MicroCarb - 2025



Saral-AltiKa 2013



Sentinel-3B - 2018

July 25, 2025



# CNES MISSIONS ACHIEVEMENTS

## SWOT, THE REVOLUTION FOR WATER

Hydrology

Oceanography

Marine geodesy

Swell & tsunamis

Ship detection

Surface DEM

Polar regions

Winds & hurricanes

Coastal altimetry

**From primary science objectives...**

**... To secondary objectives**

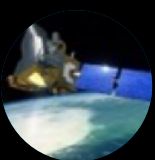
**Unexpected findings**

**Unexplored potential**

# OUR FUTURE MISSIONS IN DEVELOPMENT



SPS 2024 priorities



## MICROCARB

Carbon from space

## CO3D

Global 3D mapping



## IASI-NG

Atmosphere composition



## TRISHNA

Surface temperature & Soil moisture



## SMASH

High-revisit hydrology



## C3IEL

Convective clouds & lightning



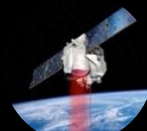
## GENESIS

Geodetic references



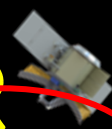
## MERLIN

Monitoring methane emissions



## ODYSEA

Ocean currents & winds



## C<sup>2</sup>OMODO

Convection, aerosols & climate



## S3-NG-Topo

Wide-swath altimetry for ocean & hydrology



## CARIOQA

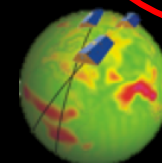
Quantum gravimetry



2035

## MAGIC/NGGM

Earth's gravity field



2030



Our European and international partners



# OUR COMMITMENT TO THE OCEAN

## The Space4Ocean Alliance



- Strengthen **collaboration** between space sector and marine/maritime stakeholders
- Develop **capacity building** to empower frontline countries
- Share good practices based on relevant **science**
- Support the development of advanced **ocean indicators**
- Support the development of innovative **space missions**
- Promote the delivery of **operational services**



**30 signatories**  
gathered at UNOC'25 in Nice



# FUTURE MISSIONS

## PROGRAMMATIC APPROACH



- ▶ **A committee of scientists** is advising CNES Executive on scientific challenges and lays priorities every 5 years.
- ▶ **R&D and technology innovation studies** are carried out with our scientific and industrial partners, to support future missions development and new concepts
- ▶ Identify programmatic frameworks and funding to engage projects
- ▶ Crucial **preparation** with integrated project team, scientists (joint science Teams) & downstream ecosystems e.g. SWOT
- ▶ **Build strong partnerships with a collaborative spirit:** additive skills, building trust, valuing diversity, common vision & ambition





# CNES SCIENTIFIC PROSPECTIVE

**EO Committee  
Executive  
Summary**



Very high High  
**Cooperations**  
**Copernicus**  
**ESA : FutureEO - Nav**  
**EUMETSAT**

## OUR PRIORITY MISSIONS

### STRATO-FLEET

Balloons & Suborbital

### ODYSEA

Ocean currents & winds

**Cryorad**

**Cfosat-NG**

### C-MIM

Constellation of  
Infrared atmospheric sounders

Coupling,  
interfaces and  
various scales  
Interactions

### SMASH

High-revisit Hydrology

### SMOS-HR

Soil moisture & Salinity

### C<sup>2</sup>OMODO/AOS

Convection, Aerosols & Climate

Climate cycles  
and variability

### S3-NG-TOPO

Swath Altimetry  
for oceanography & hydrology

Prediction,  
Digital Twins  
and hazards

**ECO**

**Wivern**

### MAGIC/NGGM

Gravity field



Land-Sea  
Continuum

**Swot-Loac**

### CARIOQA

Quantum gravimetry



Interactions  
between  
internal deep Earth  
and external envelopes

### OG2F

Tahiti Geodetic Reference Observatory

### GENESIS & Doris-Neo

Terrestrial reference

**4D-Earth**



Socio-ecosystems  
et biodiversity

**GEO Color**

**BIODIVERSITY**

# USE OF LIDAR FOR OCEAN COLOUR STUDIES

- Development of collaborations with China, the United States, Italy, and Poland
- International team at the International Space Science Institute (2022-2024)
- Training on marine lidar during the Ocean Optics 2024 conference
- New working group at the International Ocean Color Coordinating Group (2025-)
- CNRS-China project with the State Key Laboratory of Satellite Ocean Environment Dynamics (2025-2026)
- FORUM workshop at ISSI on the development of a network of automatic measurements using ground-based lidar (May 2025)
- ESA project for an ocean profiling lidar space mission (2025-2027)

**Marine Lidar : CNES SPS 2024 Substantial Priority**



# USE OF LIDAR FOR OCEAN COLOUR STUDIES

SCIENCE ADVANCES | RESEARCH ARTICLE



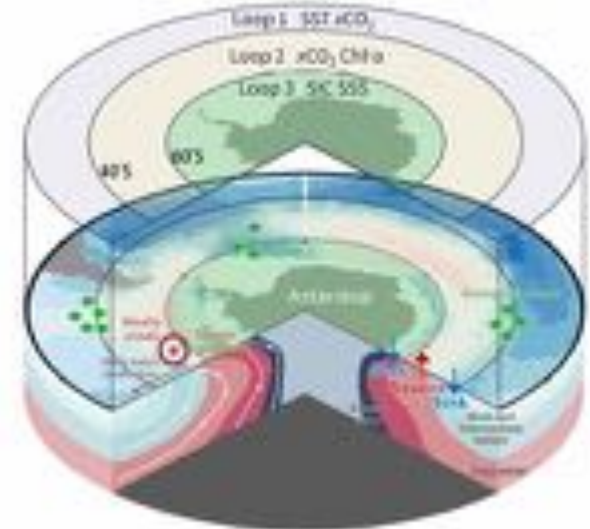
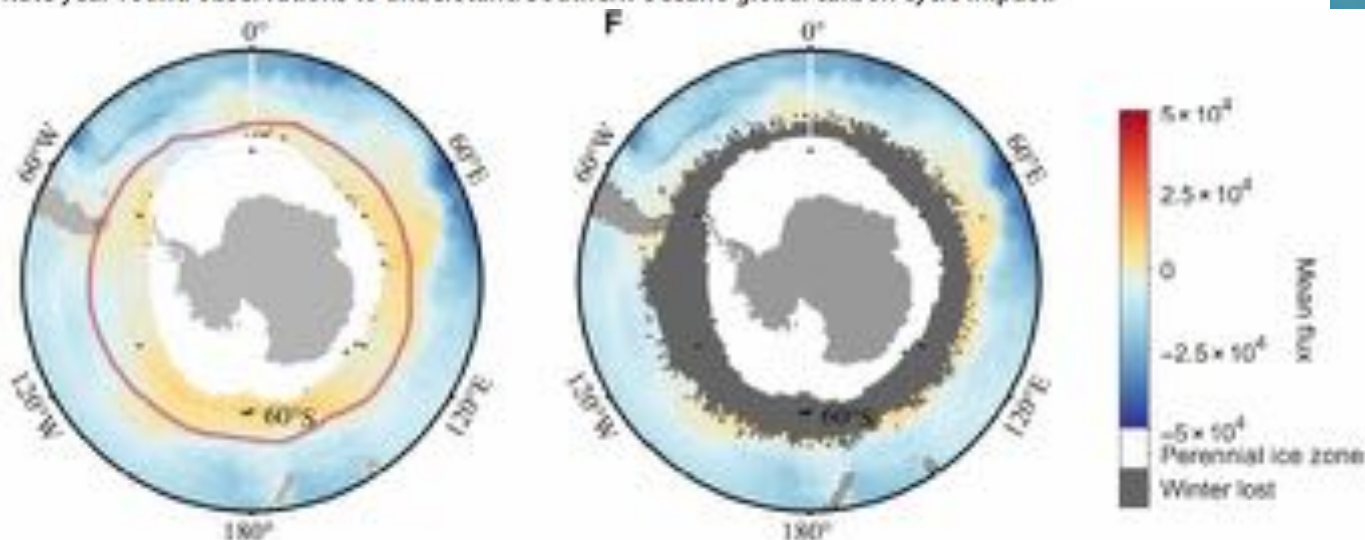
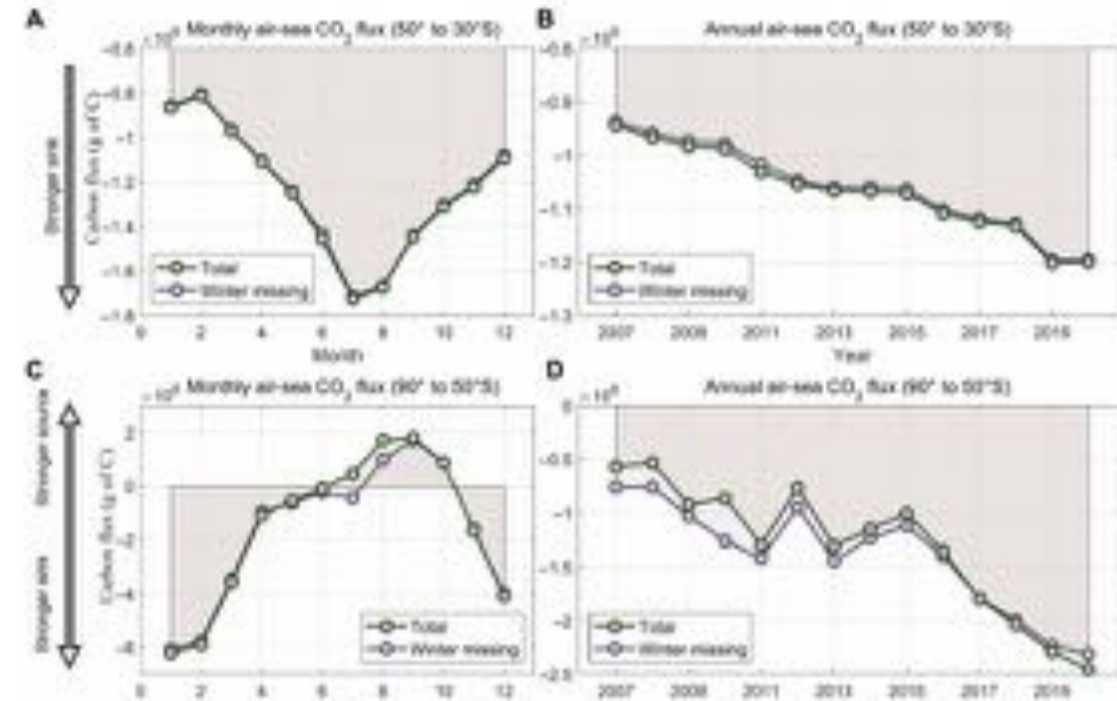
Laboratoire d'Océanologie  
et de Géosciences

OCEANOGRAPHY

## Substantially underestimated winter CO<sub>2</sub> sources of the Southern Ocean

Siqi Zhang<sup>1,2†</sup>, Peng Chen<sup>1,2\*†</sup>, Kelsey Bisson<sup>3</sup>, Cédric Jamet<sup>4</sup>, Paolo Di Girolamo<sup>5</sup>, Davide Dionisi<sup>6</sup>, Yongxiang Hu<sup>7</sup>, Zhenhua Zhang<sup>1,2\*</sup>, Kun Shi<sup>8\*</sup>, Delu Pan<sup>1,2</sup>

The size and control mechanism of the Southern Ocean's carbon fluxes remain highly uncertain due to sparse winter observations. Here, we integrate satellite light detection and ranging (LIDAR) measurements with machine learning to assess the Southern Ocean air-sea CO<sub>2</sub> fluxes between 2007 and 2020. We reveal that CO<sub>2</sub> outgassing south of 50°S was underestimated by up to 40% in previous studies. While the midlatitude Southern Ocean (30° to 50°S) strengthens as a carbon sink, the high-latitude region (50° to 90°S) shows Southern Annular Mode (SAM)-modulated alternation between uptake and outgassing. The air-sea CO<sub>2</sub> partial pressure difference ( $\Delta p\text{CO}_2$ ) increasingly dominates flux variability over wind-driven transfer velocity. We propose a framework involving three latitudinal loops with differing  $p\text{CO}_2$  controls: (i) Antarctic (salinity/sea ice), (ii) polar front (atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub>/chlorophyll), and (iii) subpolar (sea surface temperature/CO<sub>2</sub>). The findings underscore the winter processes' critical role and necessitate year-round observations to understand Southern Ocean's global carbon cycle impact.



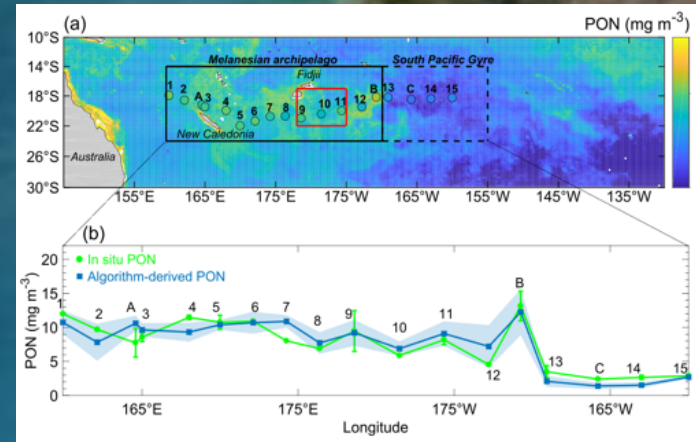
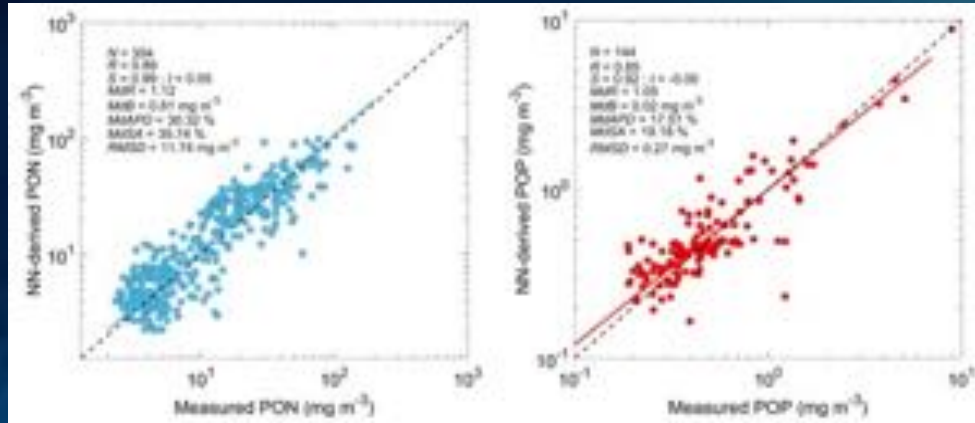


## Regional Application

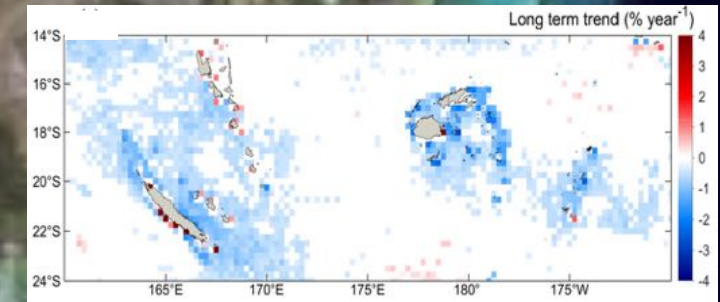
## Long term decline of the planktonic biomass in a hotspot of nitrogen fixation

Alain Fumenia, Hubert Loisel, David M. Karl, Vincent Vantrepotte, Anne Petrenko, Sophie Bonnet, Manh Tran-Duy, Marine Bretagnon, Antoine Mangin and Thierry Moutin

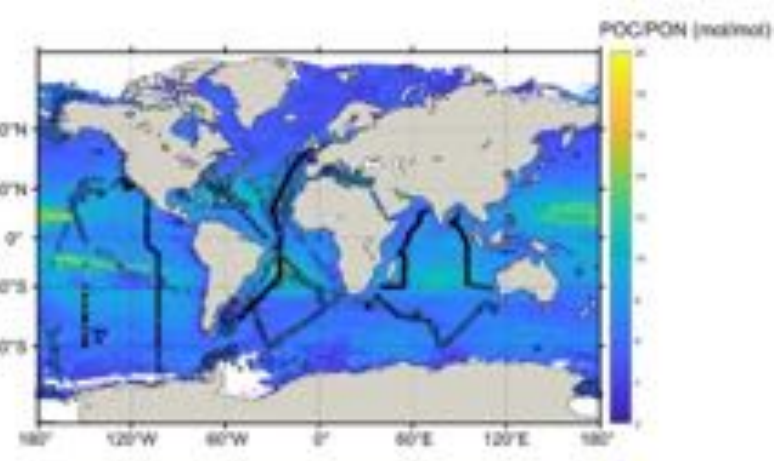
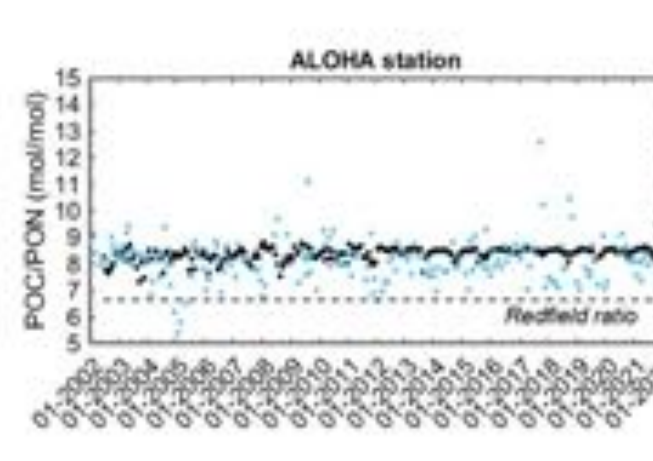
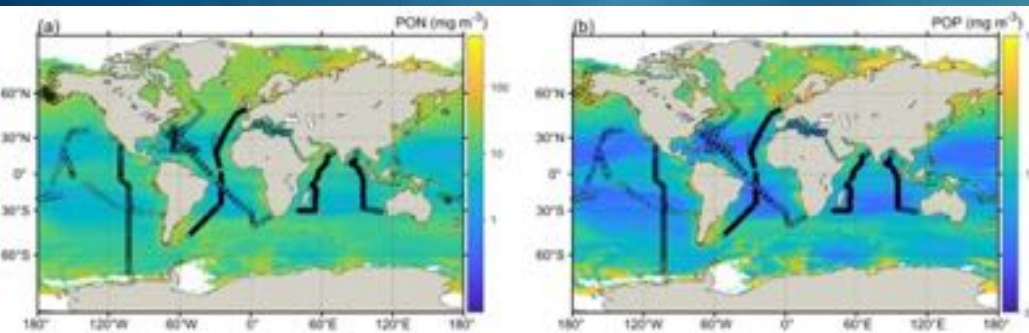
Goal: To estimate the particulate organic nitrogen and phosphorus in the ocean (and the C/N/P ratio constraining global biogeochemical cycles) and their spatio-temporal variabilities



## nature communications



## Towards the Redfield ratio



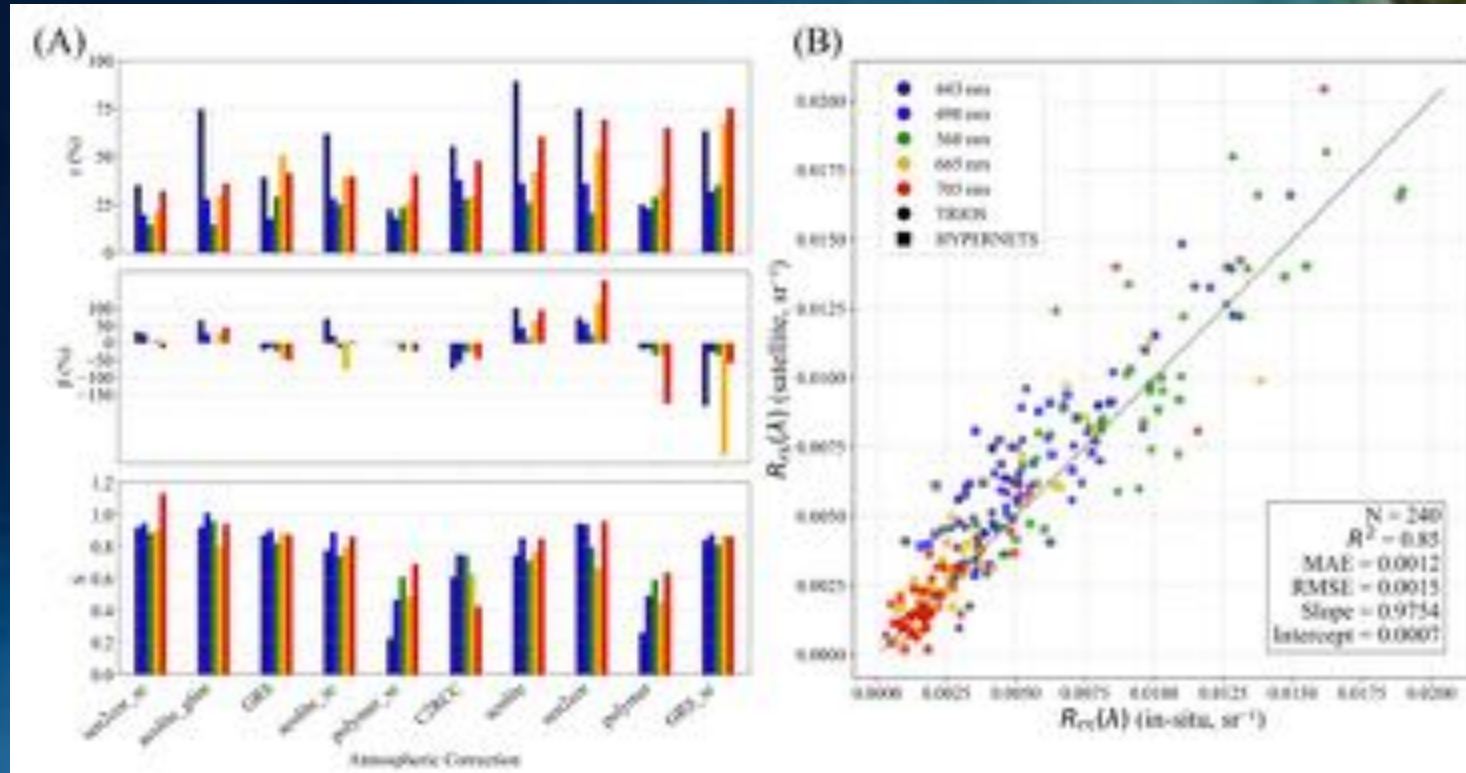


# PROJECT HYPERVAL

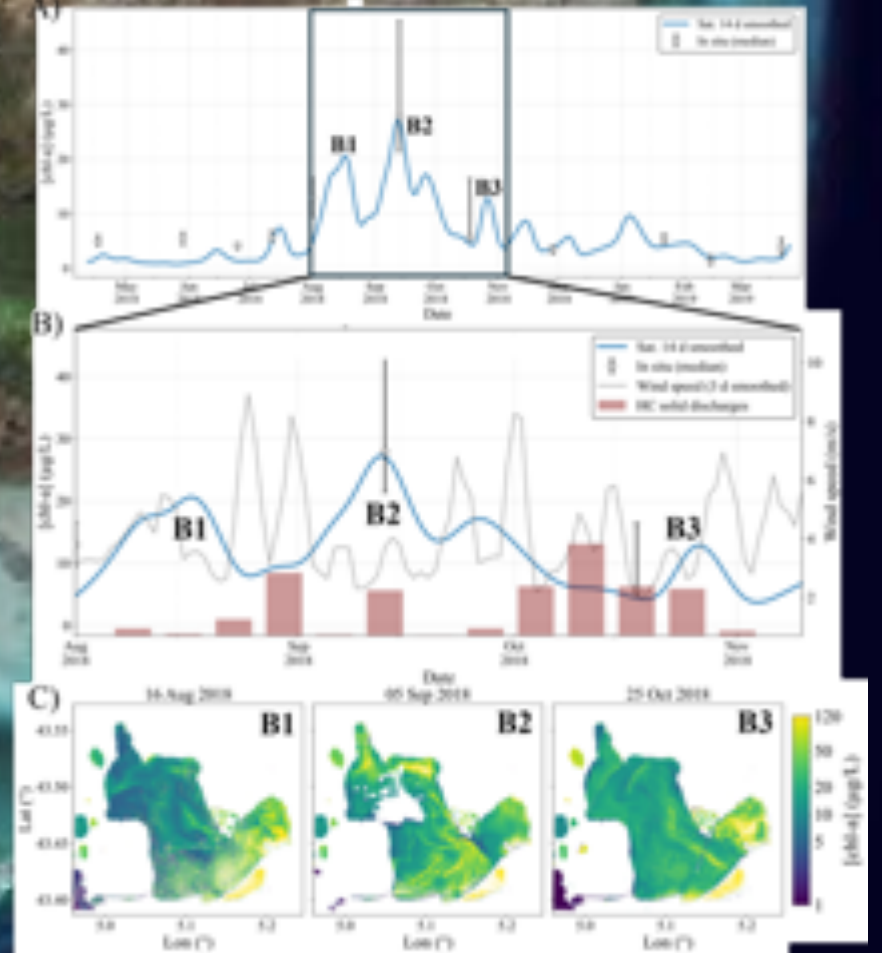
## Towards Reliable High-Resolution Satellite Products for the Monitoring of Chlorophyll-a and Suspended Particulate Matter in Optically Shallow Coastal Lagoons (2025)

by Samuel Martin, Philippe Bryère, Pierre Gernez, Pannimpullath Ramanan Renosh and David Doxaran

Remote Sens. 2025, 17(20), 3430; <https://doi.org/10.3390/rs17203430>



Intercomparison of atmospheric correction algorithms for retrieving the multispectral reflectance of water in the Berre and Thau lagoons, based on matchups between S2-MSI products and autonomous in situ measurements (HYPERNETS).



Application: mapping (S2-MSI) and temporal monitoring of sen Chla concentrations in the Étang de Berre during the 2018 ecological crisis.

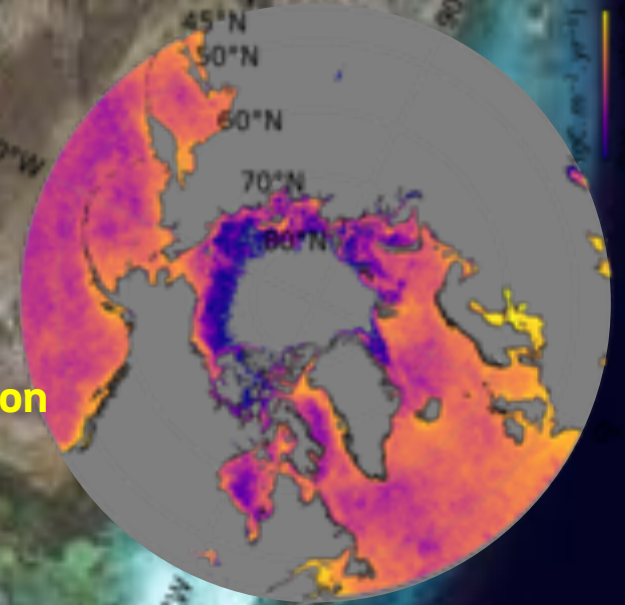
# PROJECT ALG-O-NORD (ARDYNA, BABIN, NIETO, Li)

**Main objective:** Improve estimates and trends of Arctic primary production (PP), from local to pan-Arctic scales.

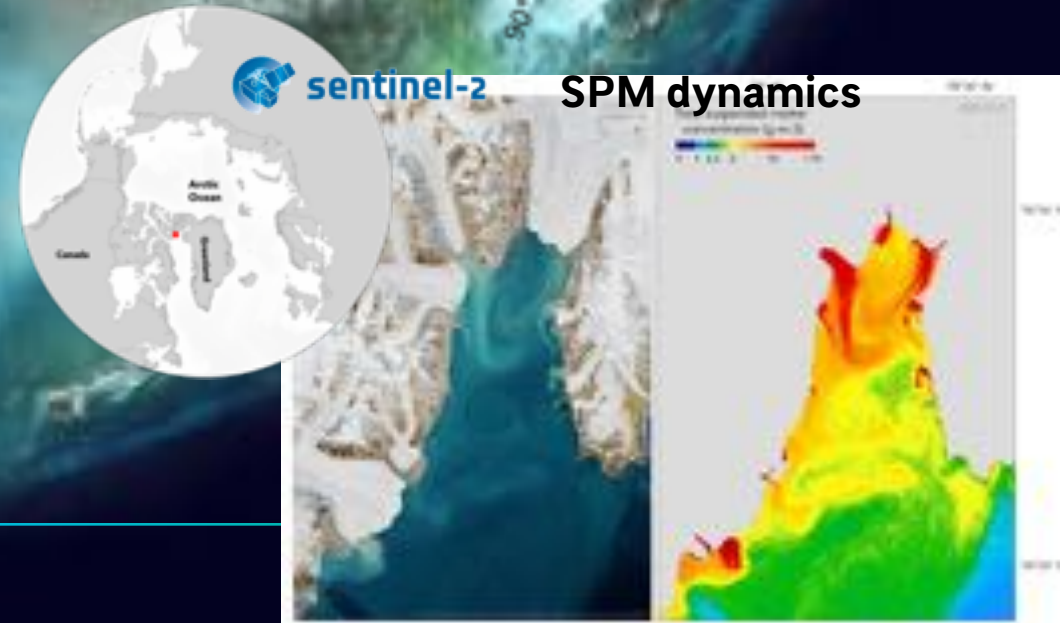
## Key Steps

- Validate and develop Arctic-adapted algorithms using unique High Arctic bio-optical datasets
- Better constrain CDOM, SPM, and chlorophyll-a dynamics
- Derive new PP trends in coastal/fjord systems and across the pan-Arctic region

**Annual primary production  
Takuvik-UQAR model**



**SPM dynamics**



TAKUVIK



UNIVERSITÉ  
LAVAL

SORBONNE  
UNIVERSITÉ



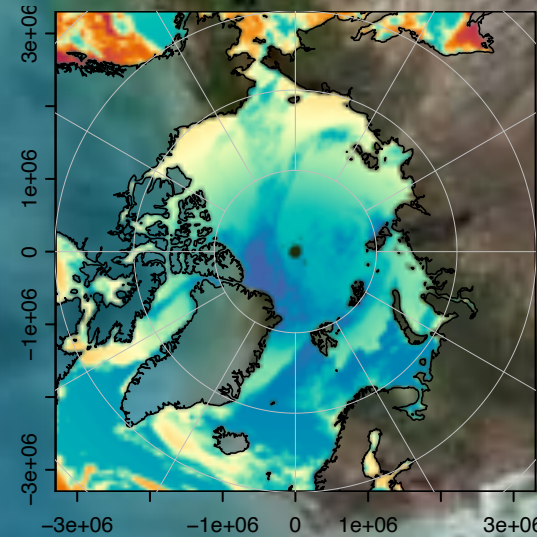
# PROJECT UNDER ICE PAR (BABIN, ARDYNA, LI, NIETO)

**Main Objective:** Estimate under ice radiation using state-of-the-art models and parameterizations.

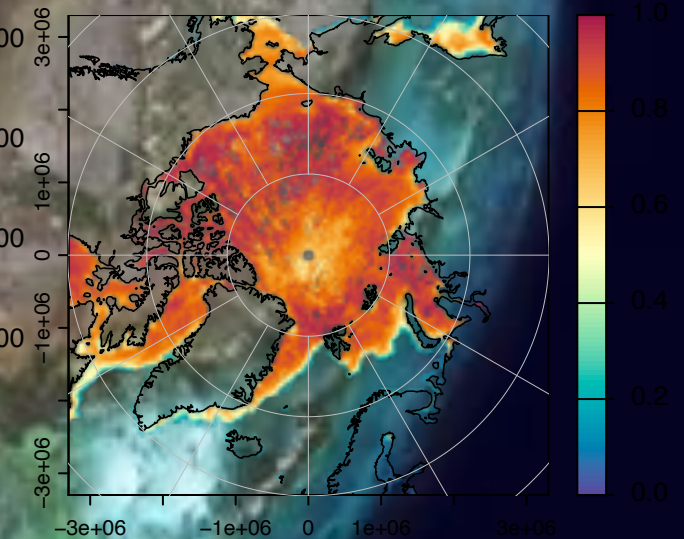
## Key Steps

- Estimate above-surface PAR: quantify the radiation reached at the ice surface
- Estimate PAR albedo: remove the portion reflected back into the atmosphere
- Estimate PAR attenuation within the ice cover: subtract the portion absorbed by the ice

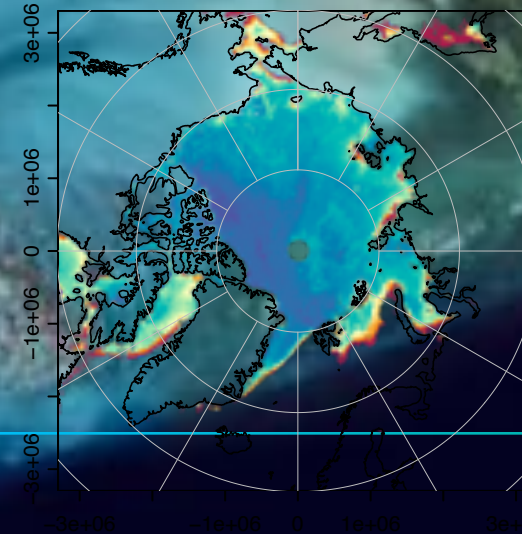
HEIMDALL-modeled above-surface PAR



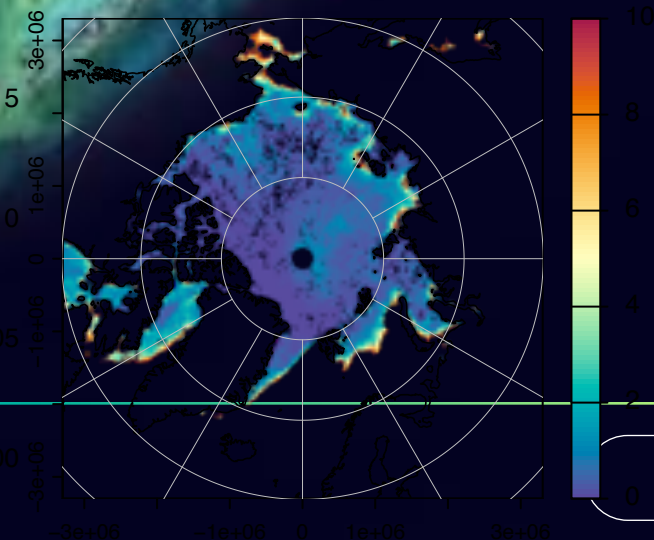
MODIS PAR albedo



PAR attenuation in ice (CryoSat/SMOS)



Under ice PAR<sub>0401</sub>



# PROJECT INVASEA

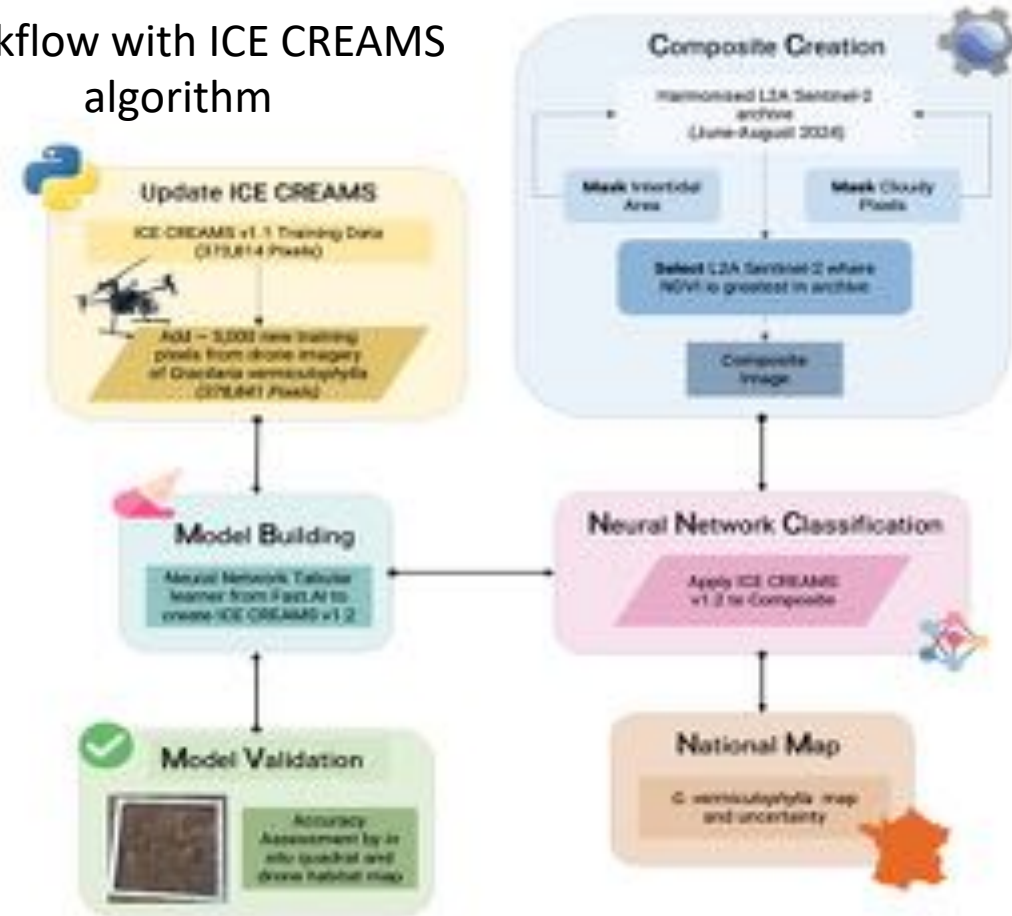
## REMOTE SENSING OF INVASIVE MACROALGAE IN COASTAL AREAS (BARILLÉ, GERNEZ)



Mapping the Distribution of an Intertidal Invasive Red Macroalgae at a National Scale Using Satellite Remote Sensing



Workflow with ICE CREAMS algorithm





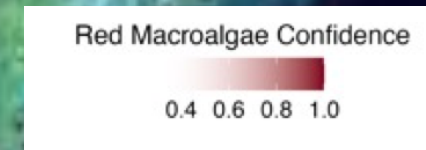
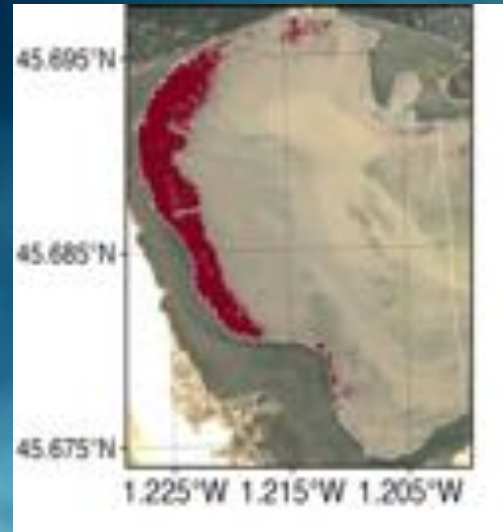
# PROJECT INVASEA REMOTE SENSING OF INVASIVE MACROALGAE IN COASTAL (BARILLÉ, GERNEZ)



## ICE CREAMS ALGORITHM



Intertidal Classification of Europe: categorising Reflectance of Emerged Areas of Marine vegetation with Sentinel-2.



Spatial distribution of *Gracilaria vermiculophylla* in Bonne Anse

A satellite with large solar panels is shown in orbit above Earth. The satellite has a central body with various instruments and two large, rectangular solar panel arrays extended outwards. The Earth's surface is visible below, showing blue oceans, white clouds, and brown landmasses. The background is the blackness of space.

# Thank you for your attention