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Monitoring algal blooms using the MERIS Maximum Chlorophyll Index

Caren Binding

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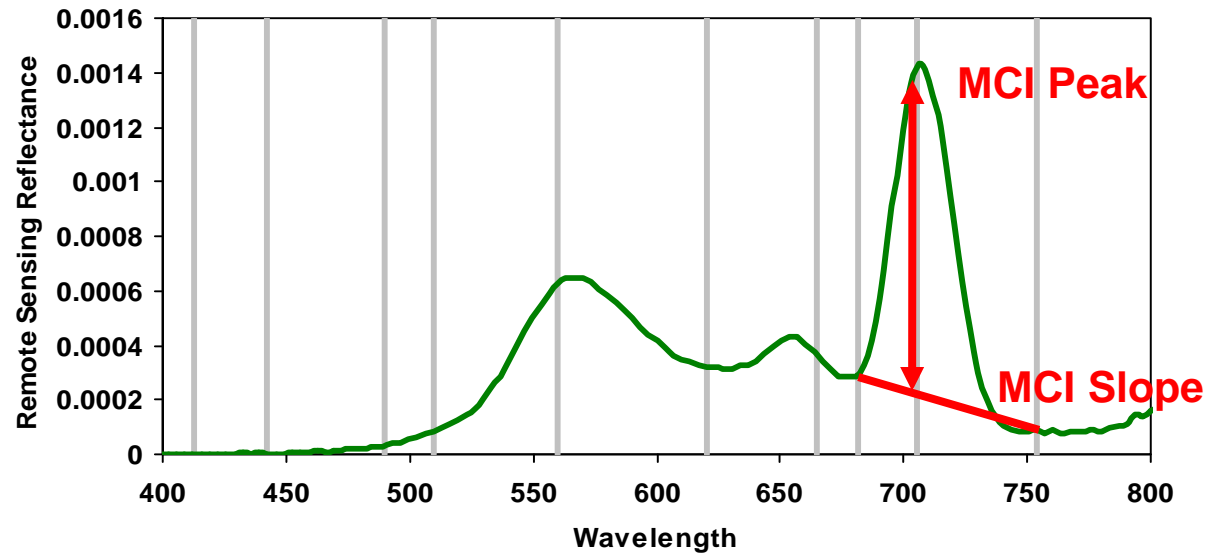
Tracie Greenberg, Bob Bukata, Sue Watson, Shannah
Rastin, Jess Gould

Workshop for Remote Sensing of Coastal and Inland Waters

University of Wisconsin-Madison, June 20-22 2012



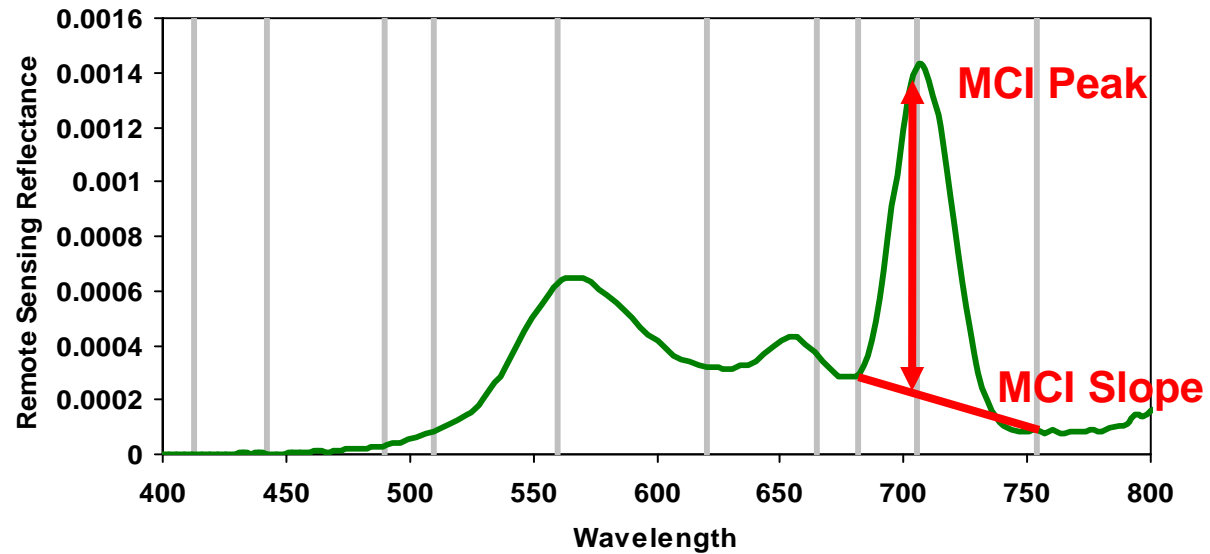
The MERIS Maximum Chlorophyll Index



$$\text{MERIS MCI} = L_{709} - L_{681} - \left[\frac{(709 - 681)}{(753 - 681)} (L_{753} - L_{681}) \right]$$



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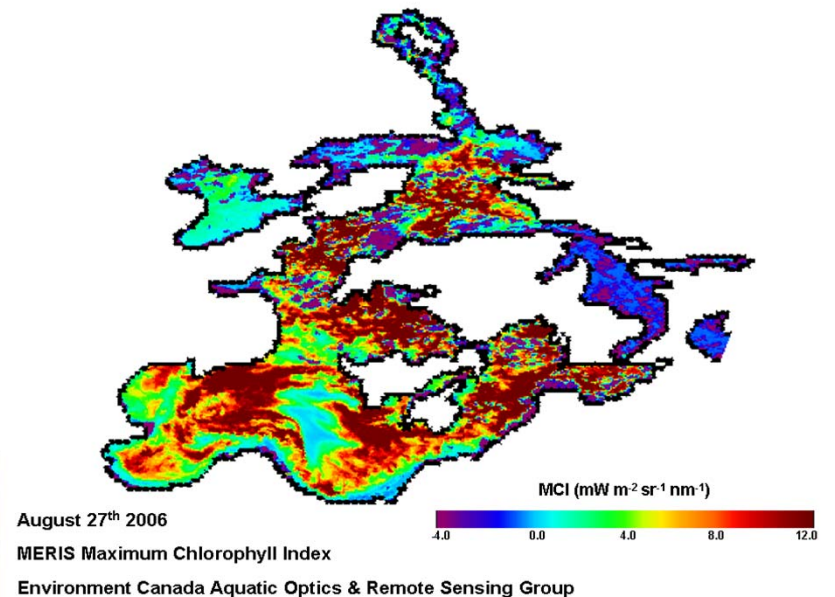
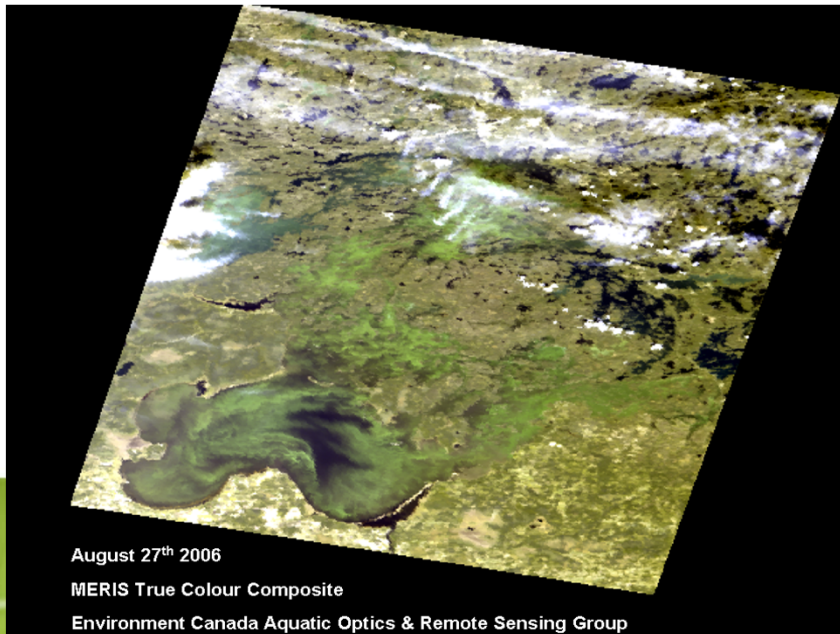
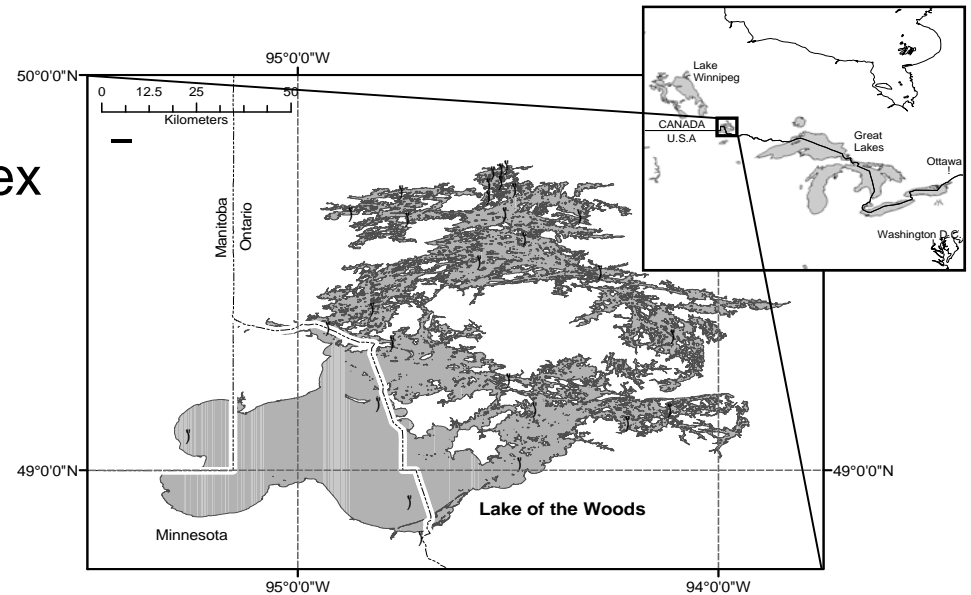
Lake of the Woods

Optically & hydrologically complex

Chlorophyll up to $300 \mu\text{g L}^{-1}$

Very high DOC ($a_{\text{CDOM}} 2\text{-}3 \text{ m}^{-1}$)

MERIS/MODIS Chl retrievals fail



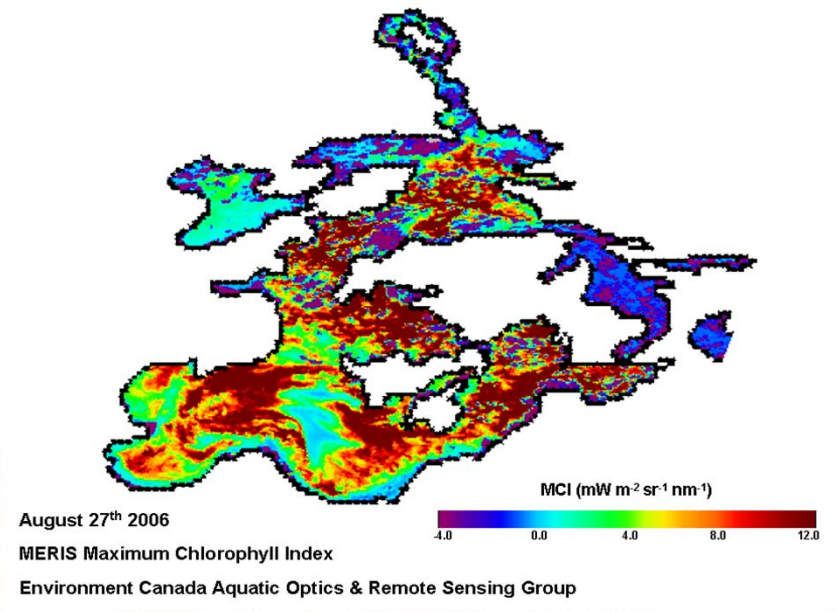
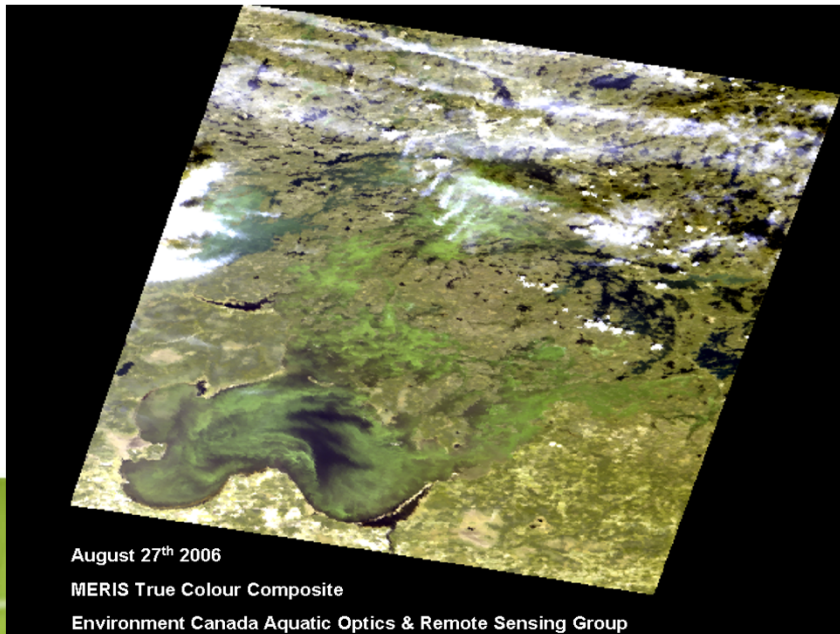
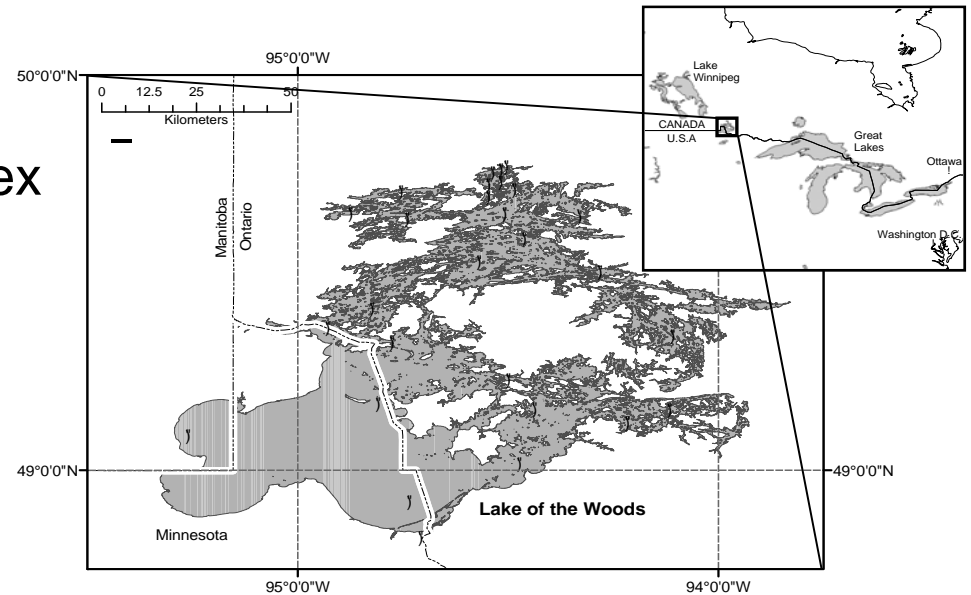
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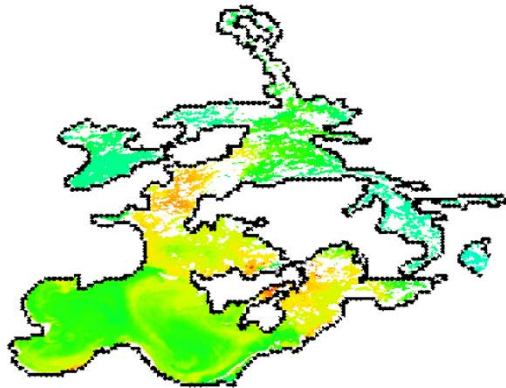
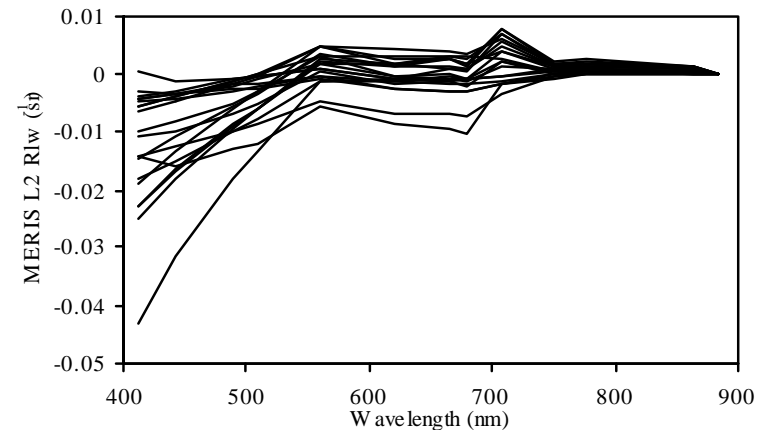
MERIS Rw during intense blooms

All pixels flagged as turbid

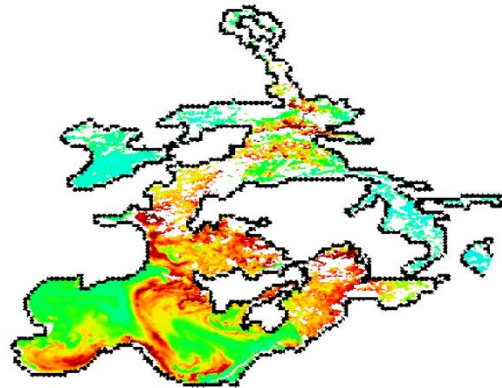
→ Bright Pixel Atmospheric Correction

Large over-correction & negative L2 Rw

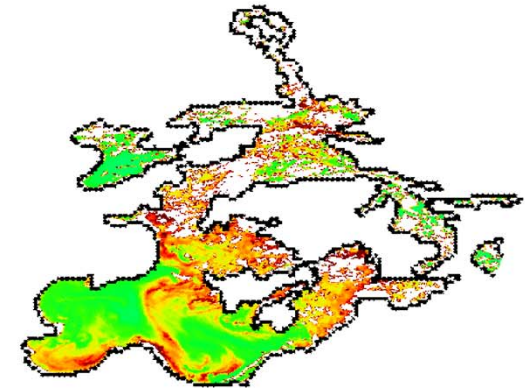
Non-zero NIR L1 R due to algae rather than mineral, with peak at 708 nm



680 nm

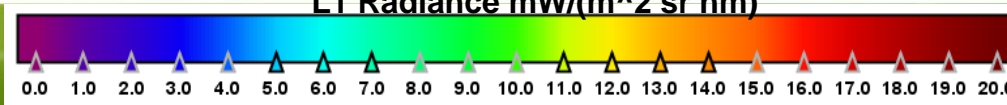


708 nm



778 nm

L1 Radiance $\text{mW}/(\text{m}^2 \text{sr nm})$



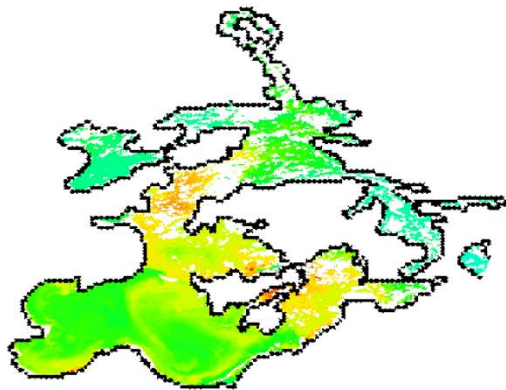
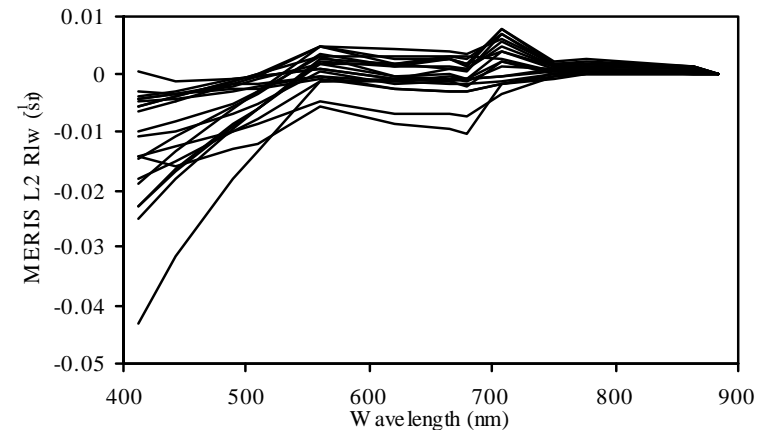
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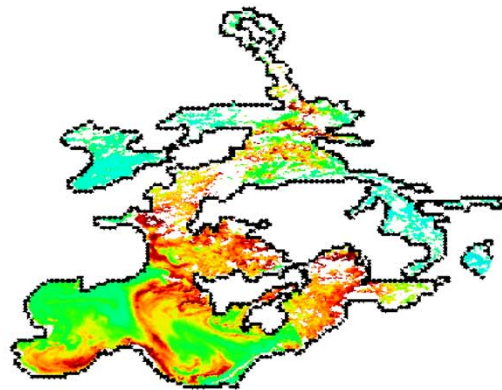
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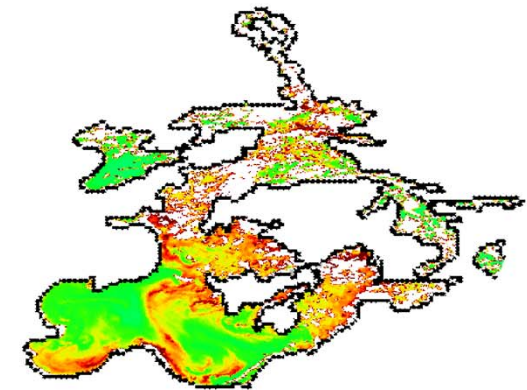
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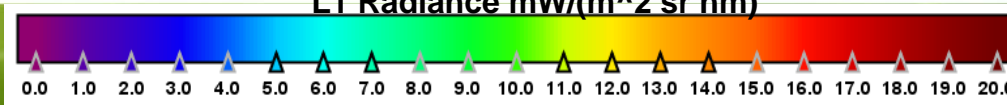


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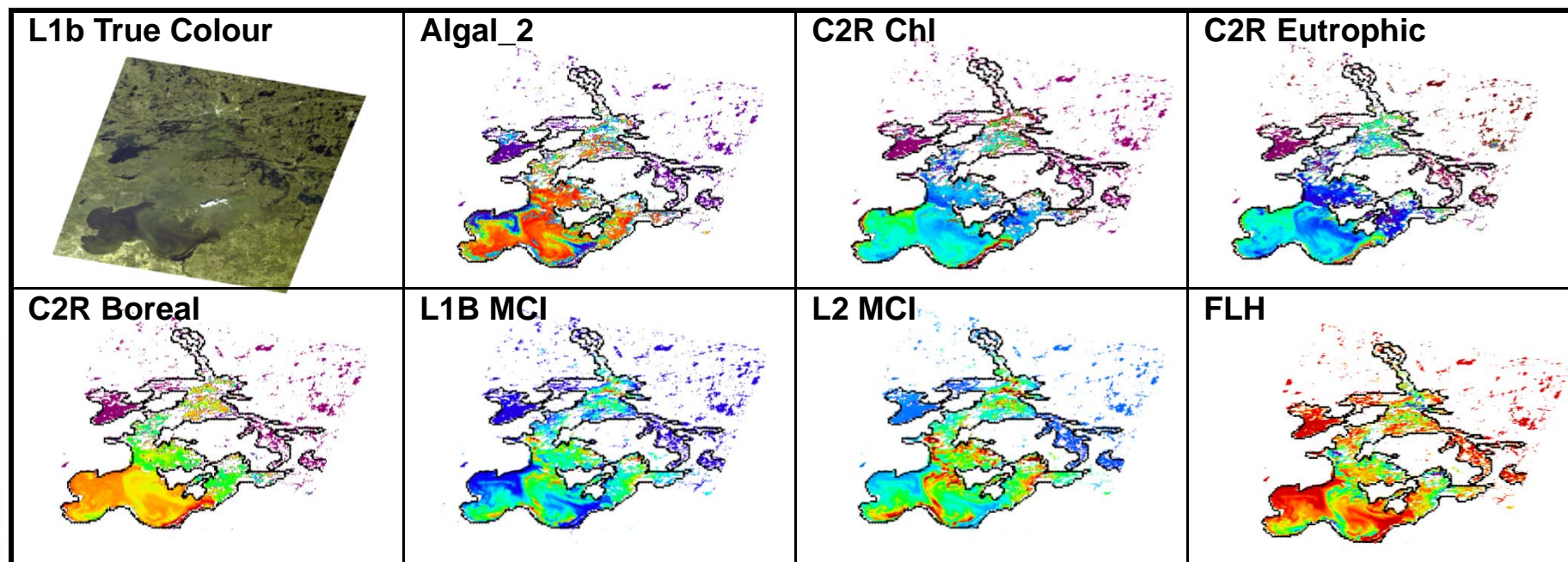


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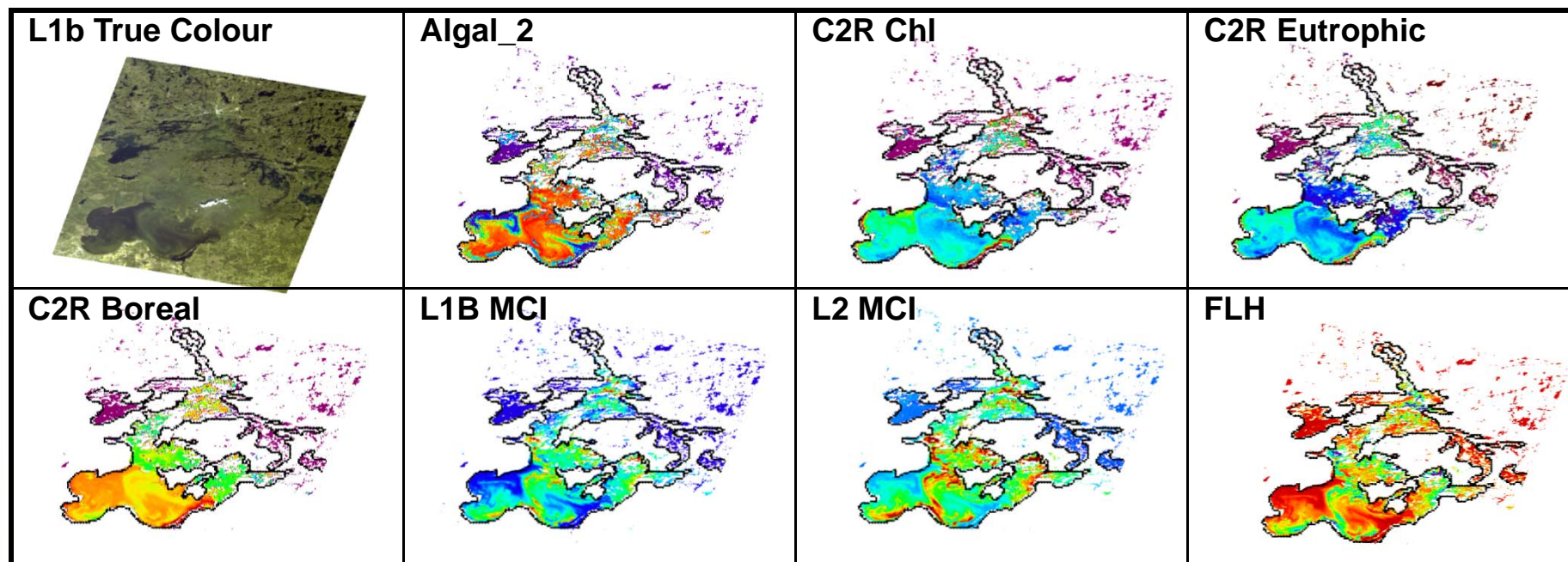
Assessing MERIS Algal Products



	Relationship with Chl_i	R^2	RMSE (%)
L2 Algal_2	$Chl_i = 0.375Chl_M + 7.363$	0.298	100.17
C2R Chl_conc	$Chl_i = 0.664Chl_M + 7.133$	0.159	80.18
C2R w. ICOL Chl_con	$Chl_i = 1.892Chl_M - 4.787$	0.255	77.70
C2R Eutrophic Lake	$Chl_i = -0.129Chl_M + 17.678$	0.188	332.49
C2R Boreal Lake	$Chl_i = 0.444Chl_M + 7.566$	0.207	85.15
L1b MCI	$Chl_i = 6.166MCI_1 + 6.347$	0.739	39.24
L1b MCI w. ICOL	$Chl_i = 6.025MCI_1 + 6.087$	0.719	40.71
L2 MCI	$Chl_i = 1457MCI_2 + 2.895$	0.720	40.59
L2 FLH	$Chl_i = -2491FLH + 3.878$	0.571	50.28



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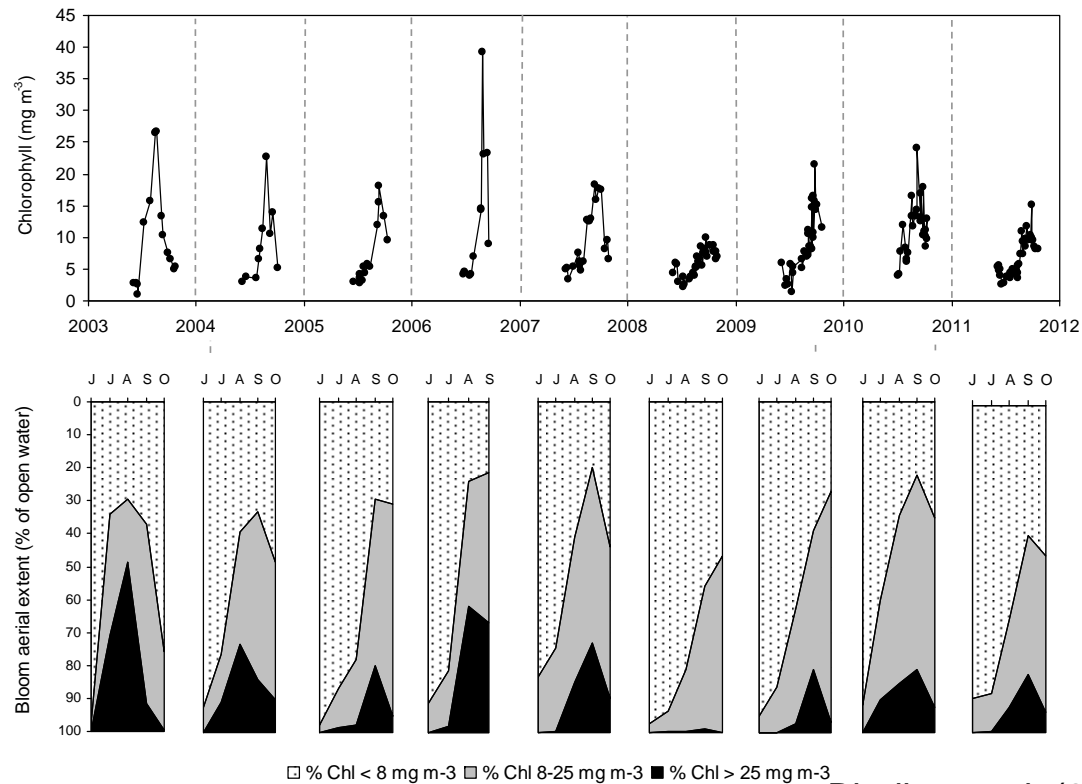


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Inter-annual Bloom Monitoring

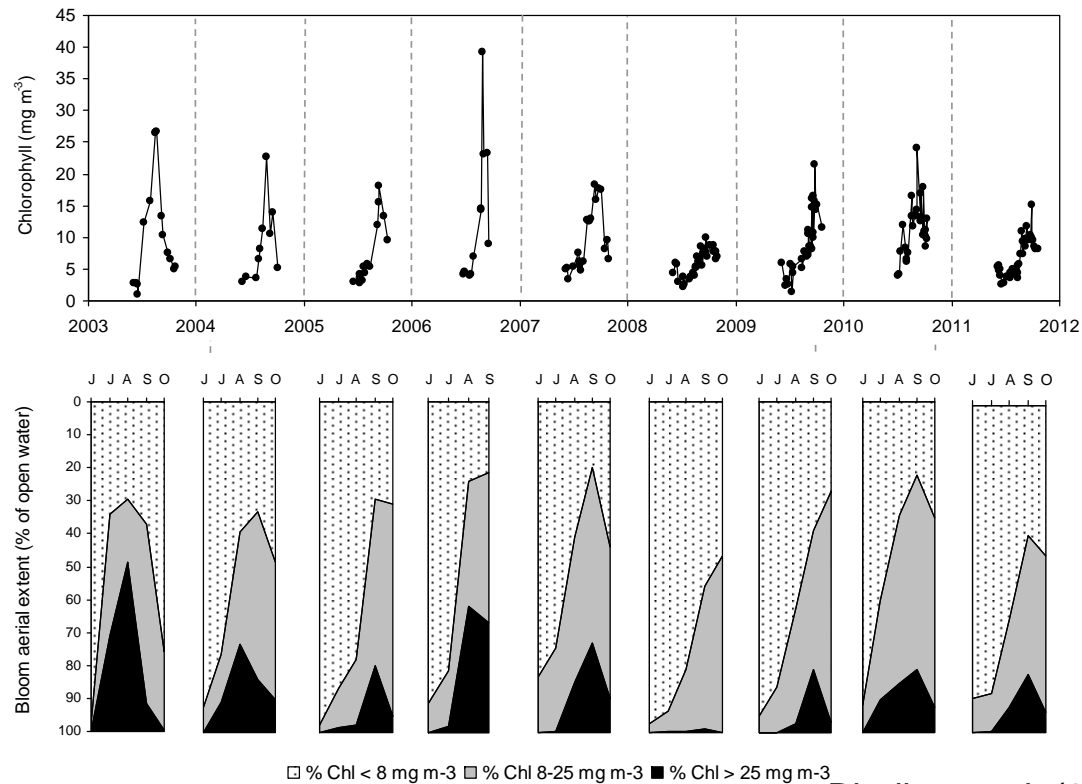
Monitoring lake trophic status, and relating timing, intensity and extent of blooms to climate variables and loadings



Binding et al. (2011) J. Plankton Res.

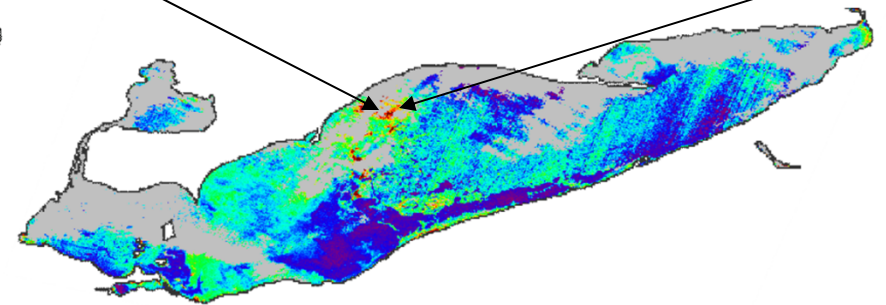
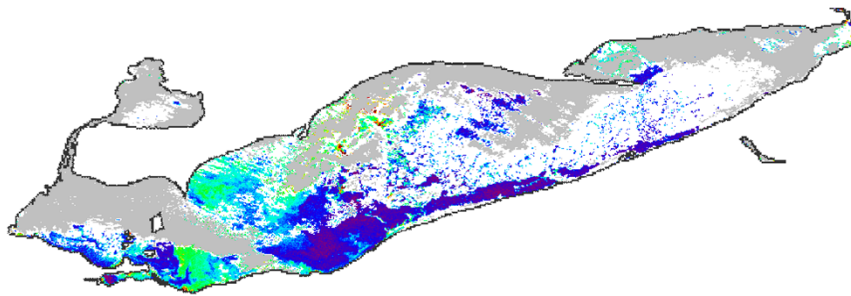
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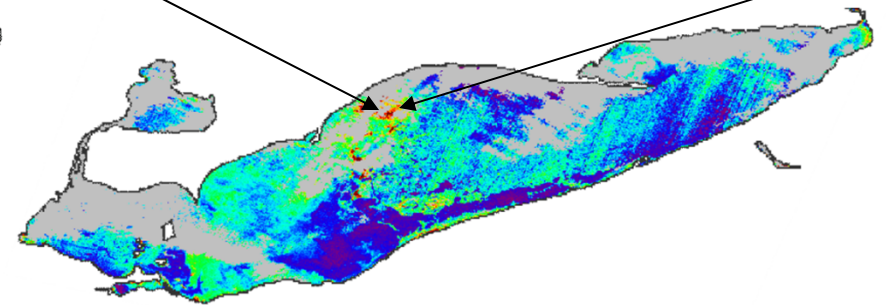
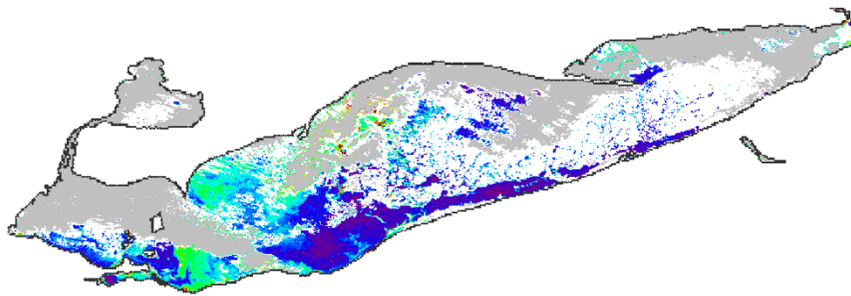
Winter Diatom Blooms on Lake Erie



- Winter blooms of Diatom *Aulacoseira* on Lake Erie with chlorophyll concentrations up to $100 \mu\text{g L}^{-1}$
- L1 MCI detects blooms within and surrounding surface ice



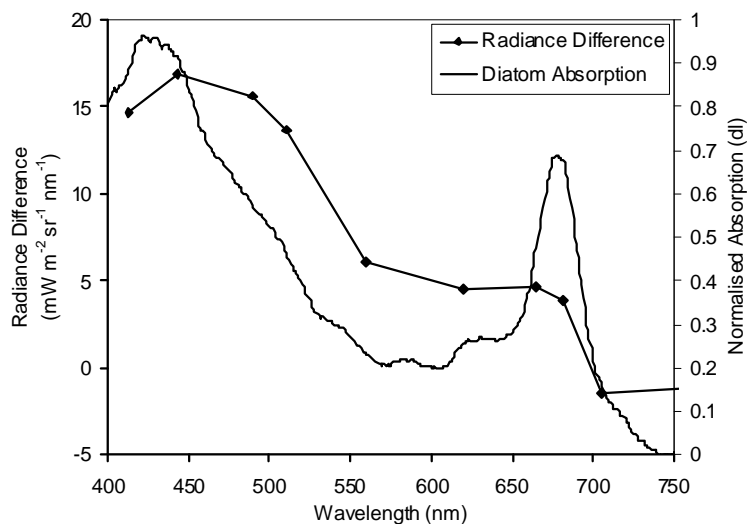
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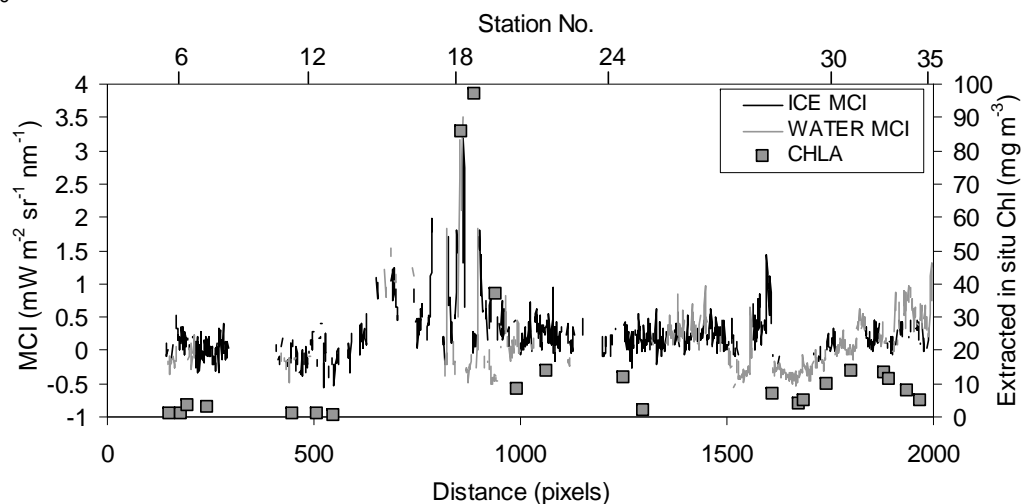


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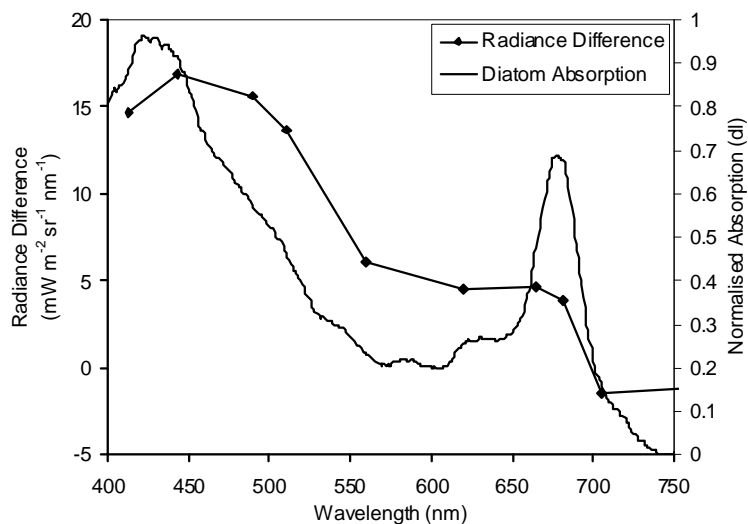


Difference between clean ice and bloom ice signal produces radiance in agreement with absorption spectrum of chlorophyll-a

Location of blooms within ice in agreement with in situ chlorophyll determinations along cruise track

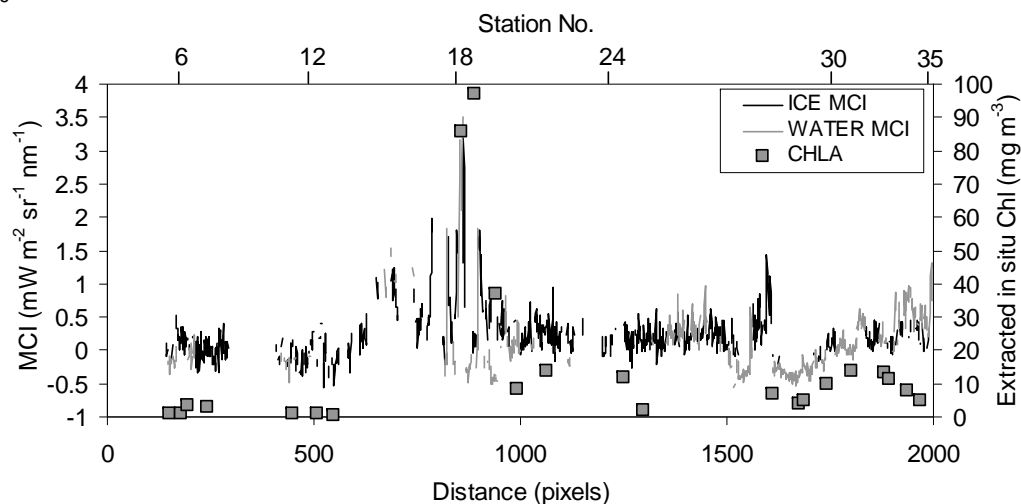


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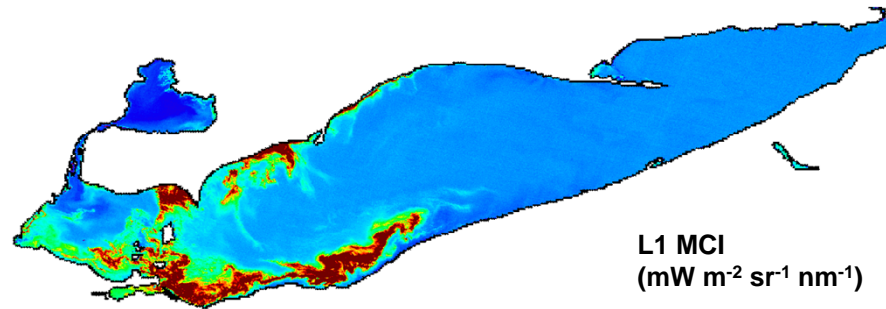
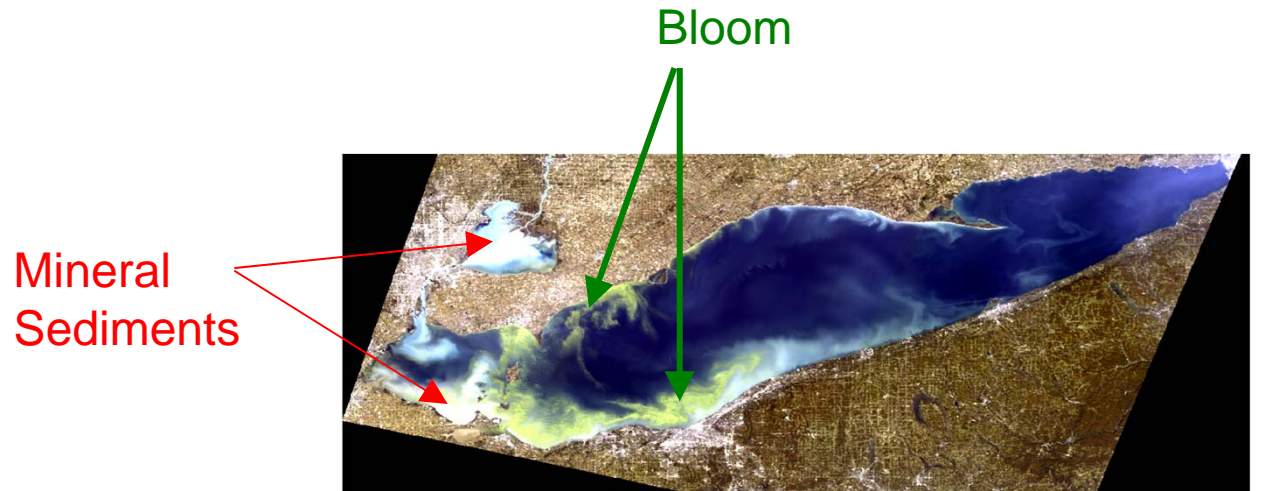


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Sensitivity of MCI to Mineral Sediments



L1 MCI
($\text{mW m}^{-2} \text{sr}^{-1} \text{nm}^{-1}$)

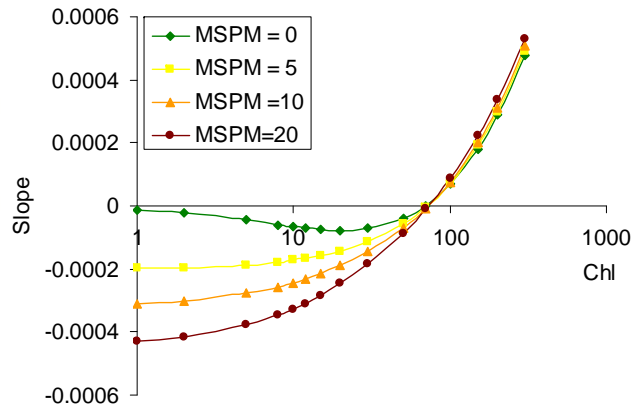
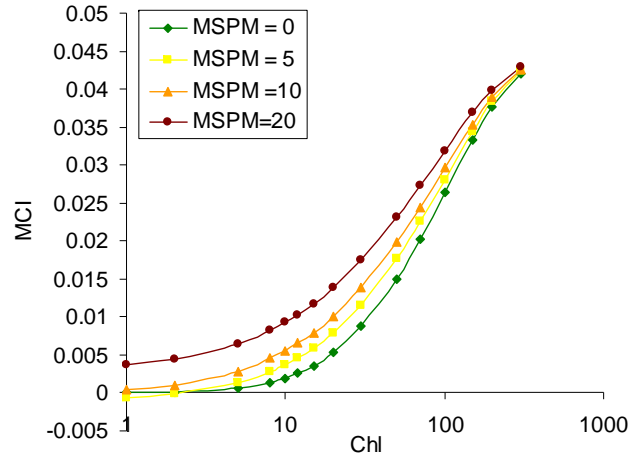
October 8th 2011

First impressions – MCI not overly sensitive to mineral scattering

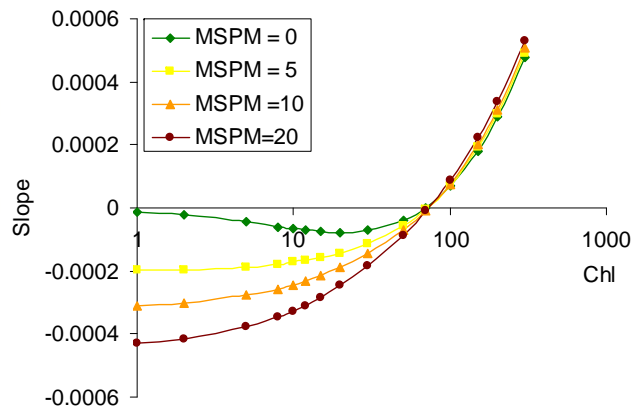
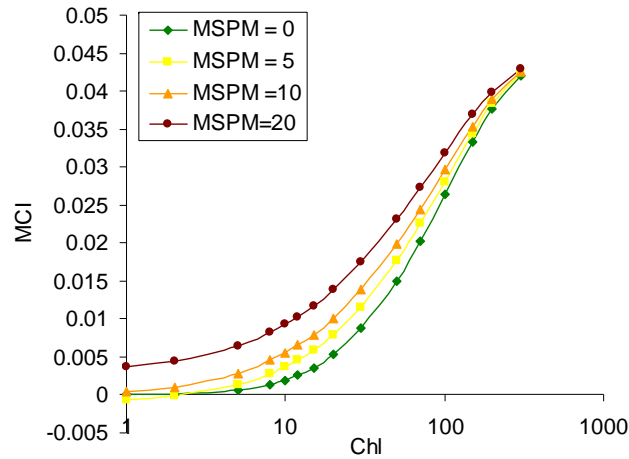


Modelling Sediment Sensitivity

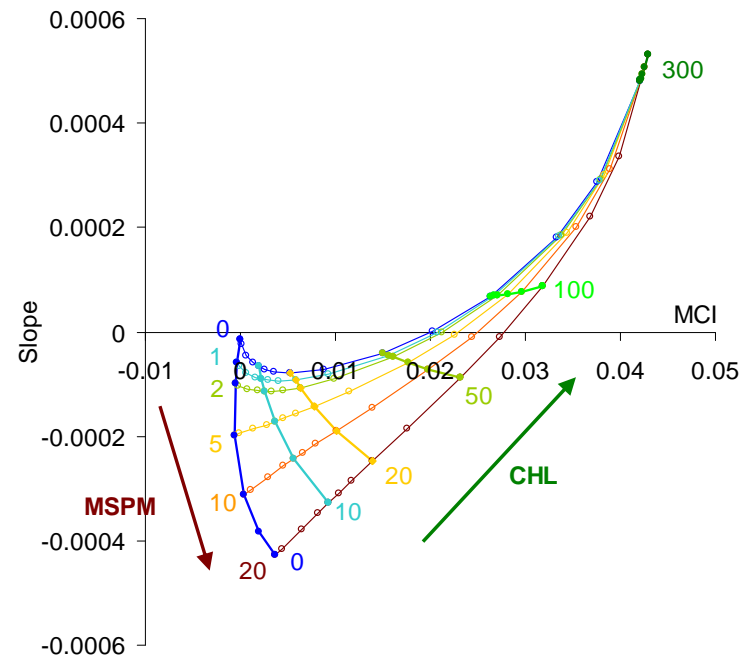
- Hydrolight modelling to determine effects of sediments on MCI properties – peak and slope



Modelling Sediment Sensitivity



- Hydrolight modelling to determine effects of sediments on MCI properties – peak and slope
- Exploring use of LUT with peak and slope to extract CHL under high MSPM



MERIS MCI Summary

- Effective for Chl $> 10 \mu\text{g L}^{-1}$, migration of peak to FLH bands at lower Chl
- Detecting only surface blooms because of low penetration depth
- Fairly insensitive to CDOM, bottom reflectance, and failures in atmospheric correction
- Limited influence of mineral scattering under intense bloom conditions - Influence of MSPM most pronounced in slope parameter



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