

In situ research in support of ocean color

Norm Nelson, Dave Siegel
Earth Research Institute
UC Santa Barbara

Thanks also to:

Stéphane Maritorena, Craig Carlson, UCSB

Mike Lomas, Natasha McDonald BIOS

Stan Hooker, Aimee Neely GSFC

John Morrow, BSI

Current Projects

- **BBOP** – Time series off Bermuda
- **CLIVAR** – Global long-section survey
- **Plumes and Blooms** – Time series in the Santa Barbara Channel
- **NSPB** – (NSF funded) next-gen in situ radiometer package for use at BBOP and elsewhere
- **Carbon flux study** (beginning 2011)

Bermuda Bio-Optics Project

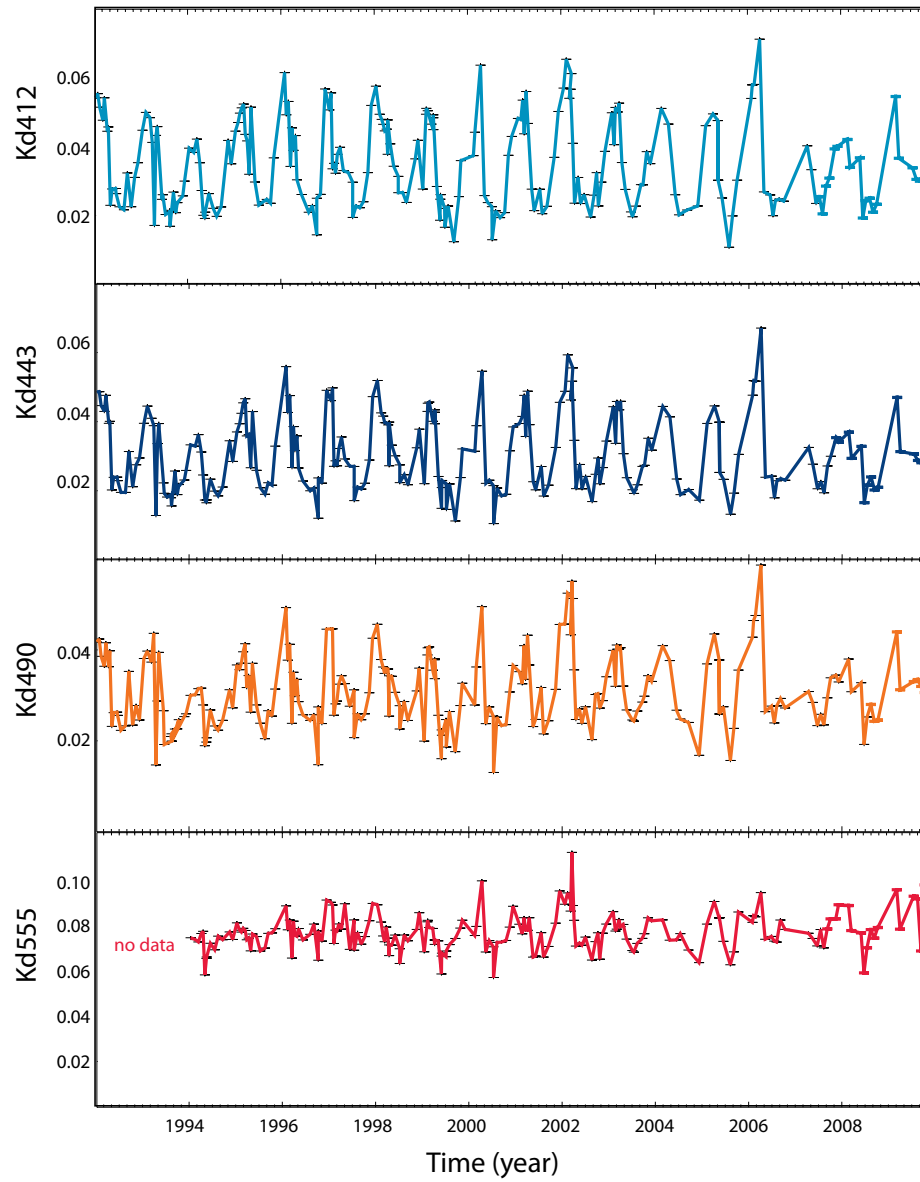
- Since 1992 Monthly to 2x monthly at the BATS site 65 miles SE of Bermuda, piggybacking on BATS cruises
 - Multichannel spectroradiometer profiles (Ed, Lu, Es)
 - Bottle sample component absorption spectra (ag, ap, ad)
- Annual meridional sections across Sargasso Sea

Bermuda Bio-Optics Project

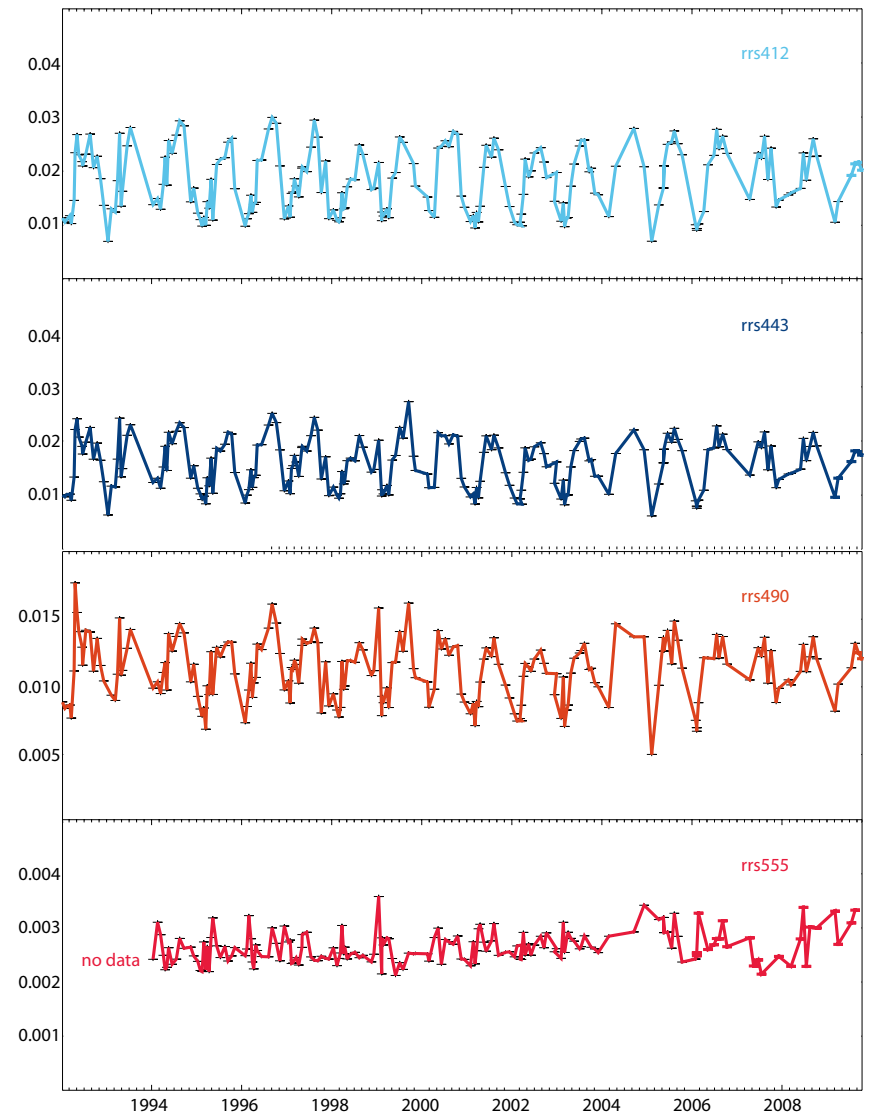
Science Goals

- Climate - ecosystem connections
Decadal - scale changes in optical observables (CDOM, phytoplankton) related to local and regional processes, climate oscillators
- Ocean color product validation
Reflectance, chlorophyll, absorption

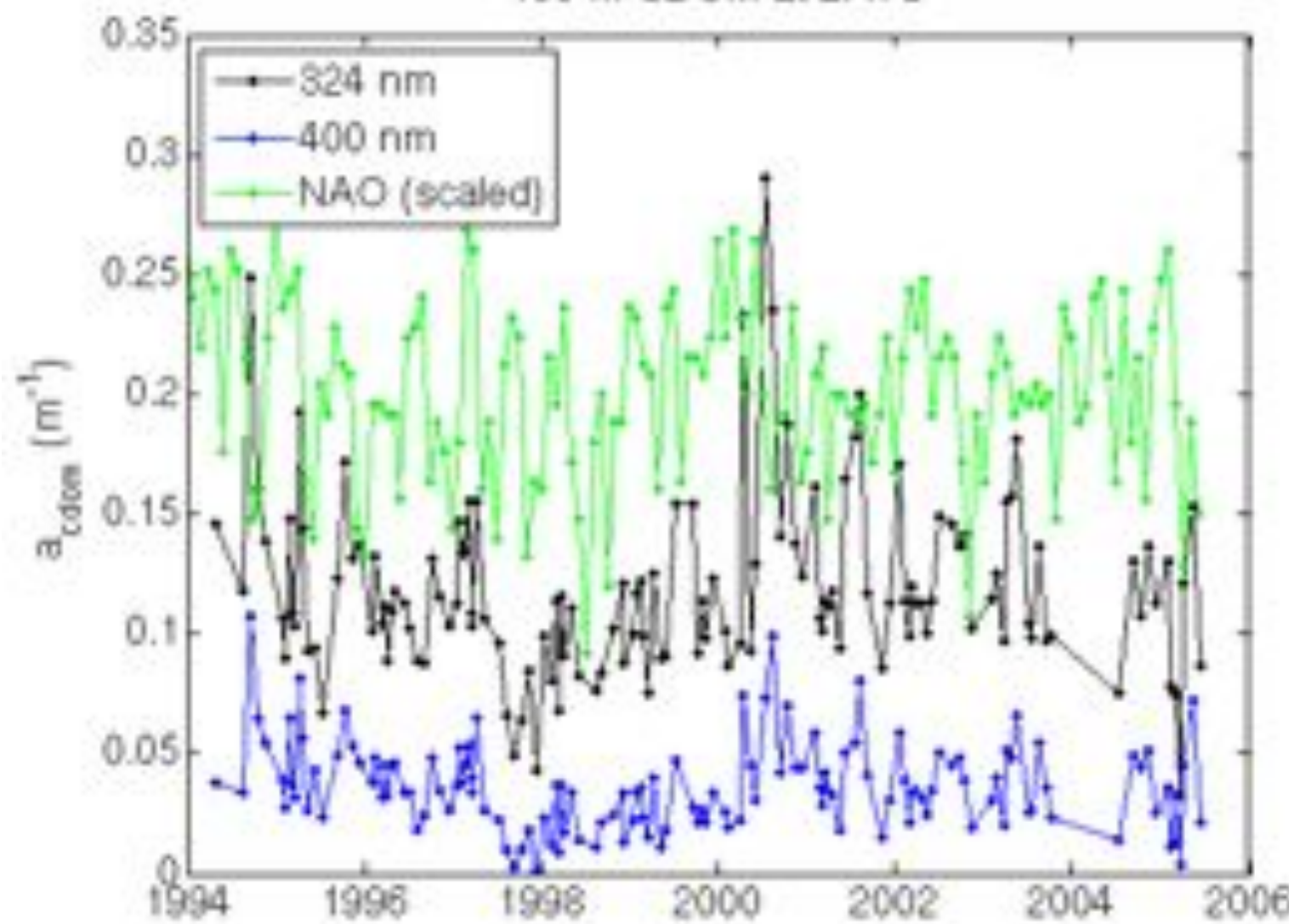
A Timeseries of In-Situ Kd Data for Bermuda Bio-Optics Project (1992 - 2010)



A Timeseries of In-Situ Reflectance Data for Bermuda Bio-Optics Project (1992 - 2010)



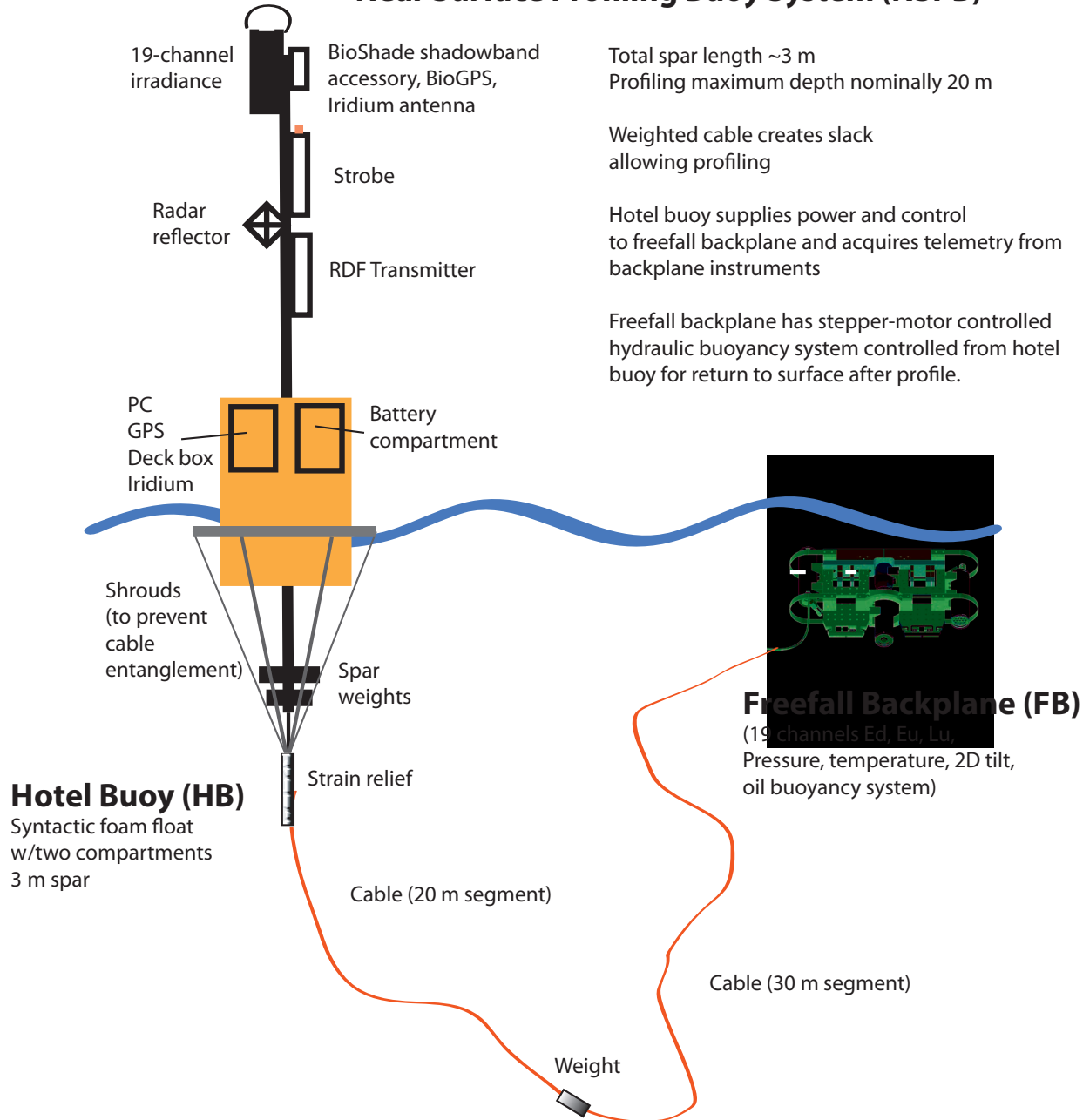
160 m CDOM at BATS



NSPB - Near Surface Profiling Buoy

- “Wire time” at a premium on time series studies - interactions with overpass times, clouds, etc. adding up to fewer valid profiles
- In response NSPB now under development (NSF instrumentation funds) UCSB / BSI / GSFC
- Drifting ‘hotel’ buoy with tethered profiler (active buoyancy control)
- Instrumentation includes Ed, Lu, Eu, Es + shadowband, BSI microradiometer tech
- Emphasis on surface optical properties, f/Q

Near Surface Profiling Buoy System (NSPB)



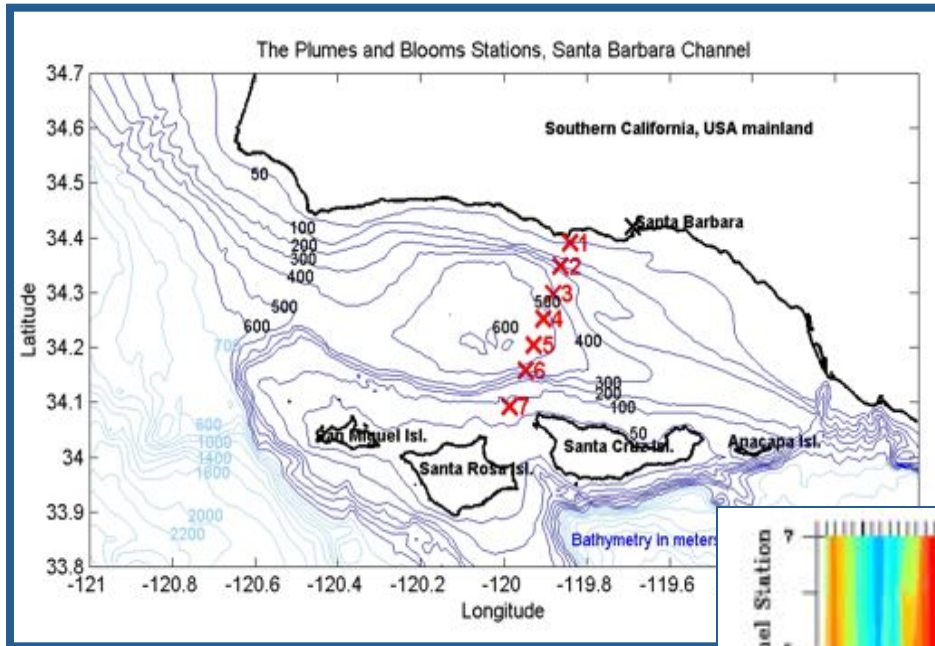


Plumes & Blooms



- Understand, predict & utilize changes in ocean color in the Santa Barbara Channel
- Monthly day cruises (7 stations w/ CINMS' ship)
- Field observations started in 1996
- Measurements
 - CTD/optics ($L_{wN}(\lambda)$, $a(\lambda)$, $b(\lambda)$, $b_{bb}(\lambda)$, PSD, etc.)
 - NUTs, Chl, HPLC pigments, DOC, DIC, pSi, etc.
 - LAC satellite imagery analysis
 - Glider obs starting this summer (w/ SBC LTER)

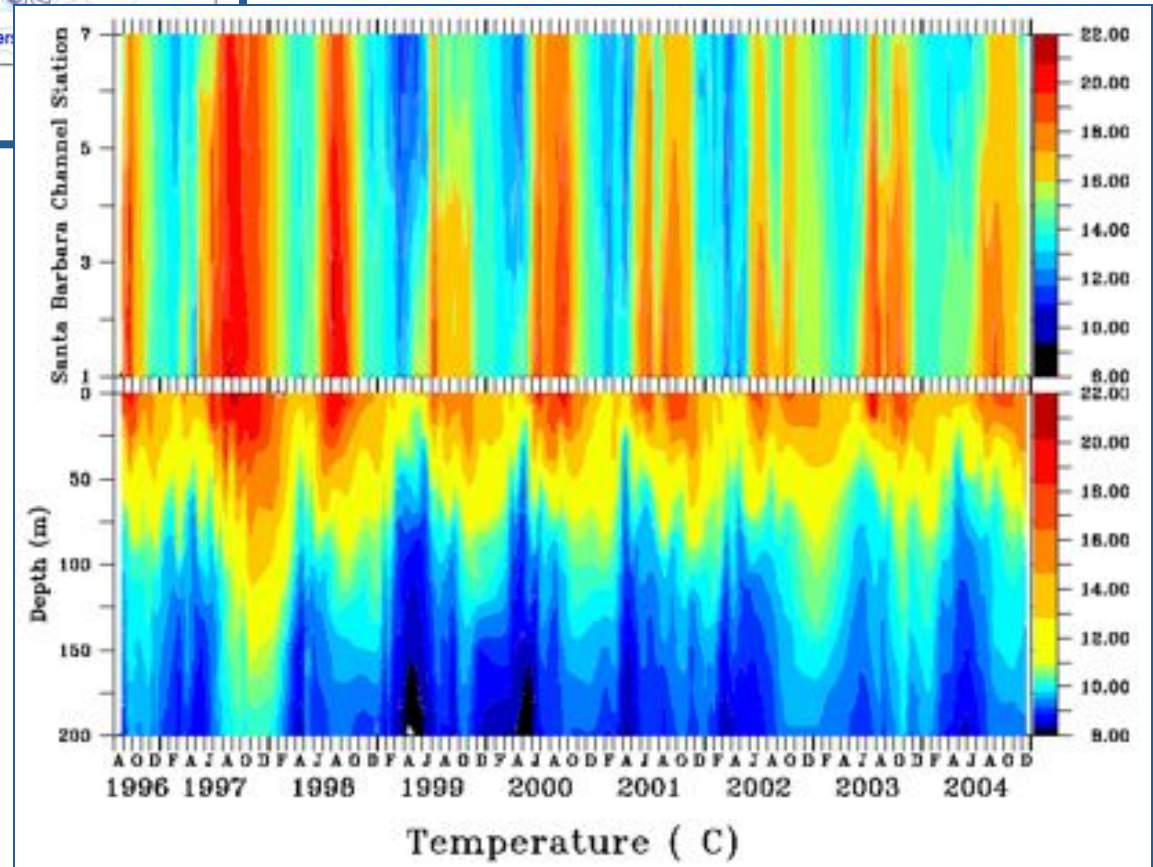
PnB Sampling Program



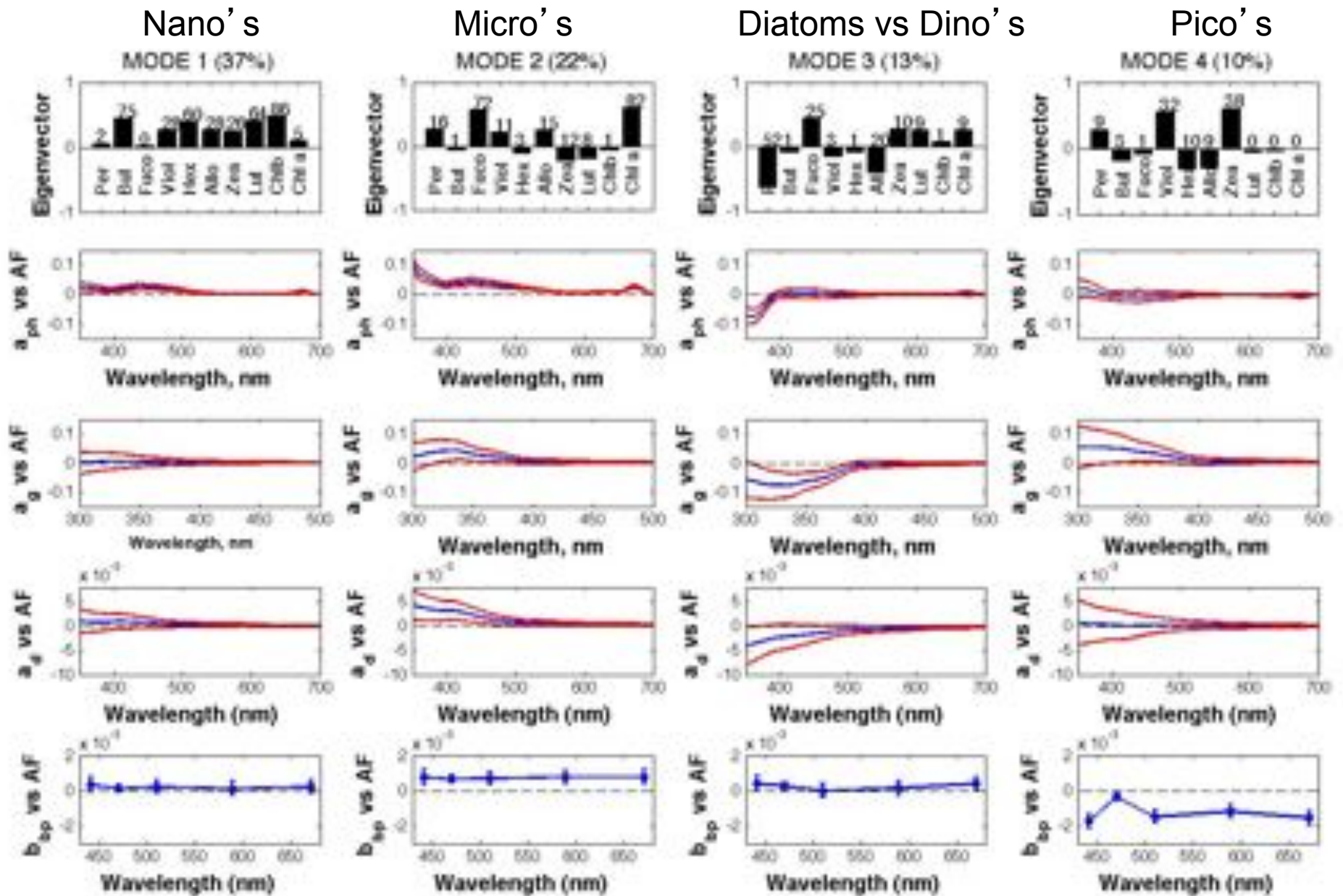
Cross-channel SST
(Station 1 off Campus Point)

Station 4 Profile
(channel center)

www.ices.ucsb.edu/PnB



Relationship between PFT EOF Amplitudes & IOP's



PnB PFT Modeling Results

- EOF analyses provides straight-forward way of distinguishing Phytoplankton Functional Types
- Preliminary assessment of the relationship to ocean color relevant IOP' s

Suggests a coupling between PFT' s & all IOP' s - not just for phytoplankton absorption

Interesting UV absorption signals with dino/diatom mode

Building blocks for future PFT algorithms

CLIVAR Ocean Color

(originally Global CDOM Project)

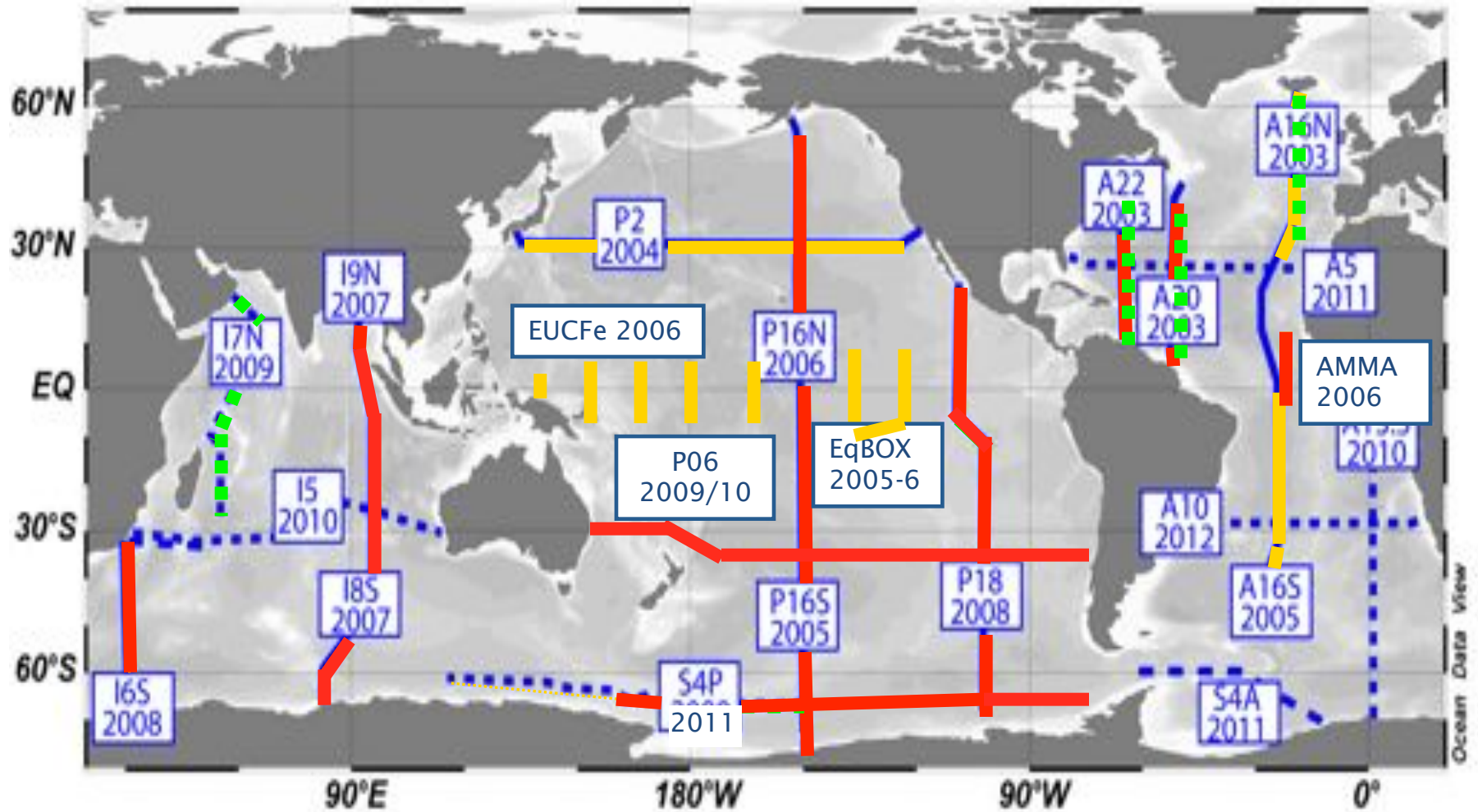
- Piggybacking on U.S. CO₂/CLIVAR Repeat Hydrography sections (all oceans except Arctic)
- Daily spectroradiometer casts
- Bottle samples incl. CDOM profiles, HPLC, particulate absorption
- New: Alongtrack system with switching filter for particle optical properties including bbp and ap spectra, LISST-100X(B) on next deployment
- Collaborators - ship CDOM / other samples to us from cruises of opportunity

CLIVAR Ocean Color Science Goals

- Global CDOM distribution and dynamics (surface and deep ocean)
- Microbial community structure - connections with optics and physical processes
- Assembling data for algorithm development - new ocean color products

Global CDOM Project Sections

(primarily CO₂/CLIVAR Repeat Hydrography)



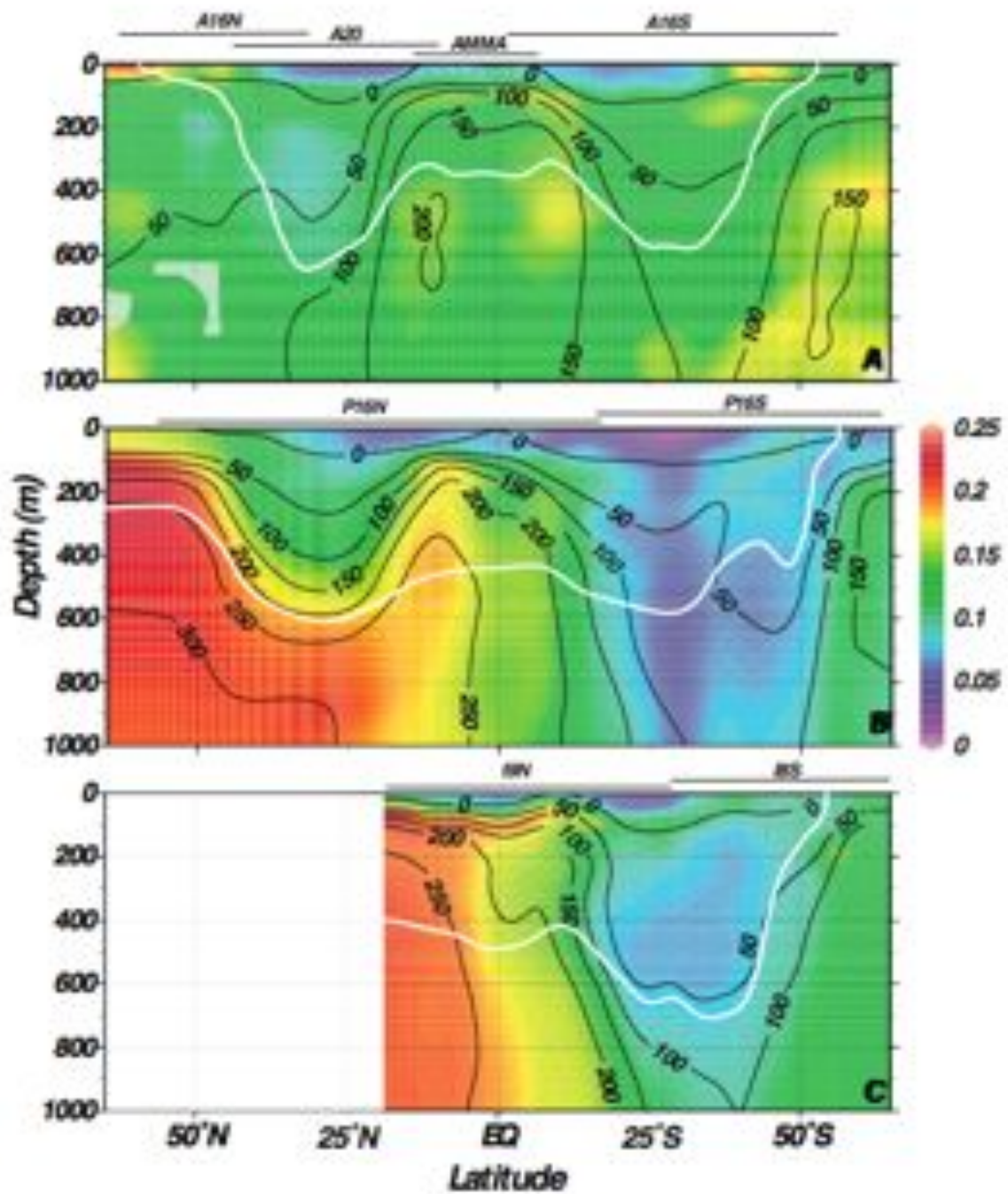
- Completed (full measurement set including CDOM, microbes, optics)
- Completed (limited measurement set, CDOM and hydrography)
- - - Future (in planning)

CDOM and AOU Distribution

◆ Atlantic

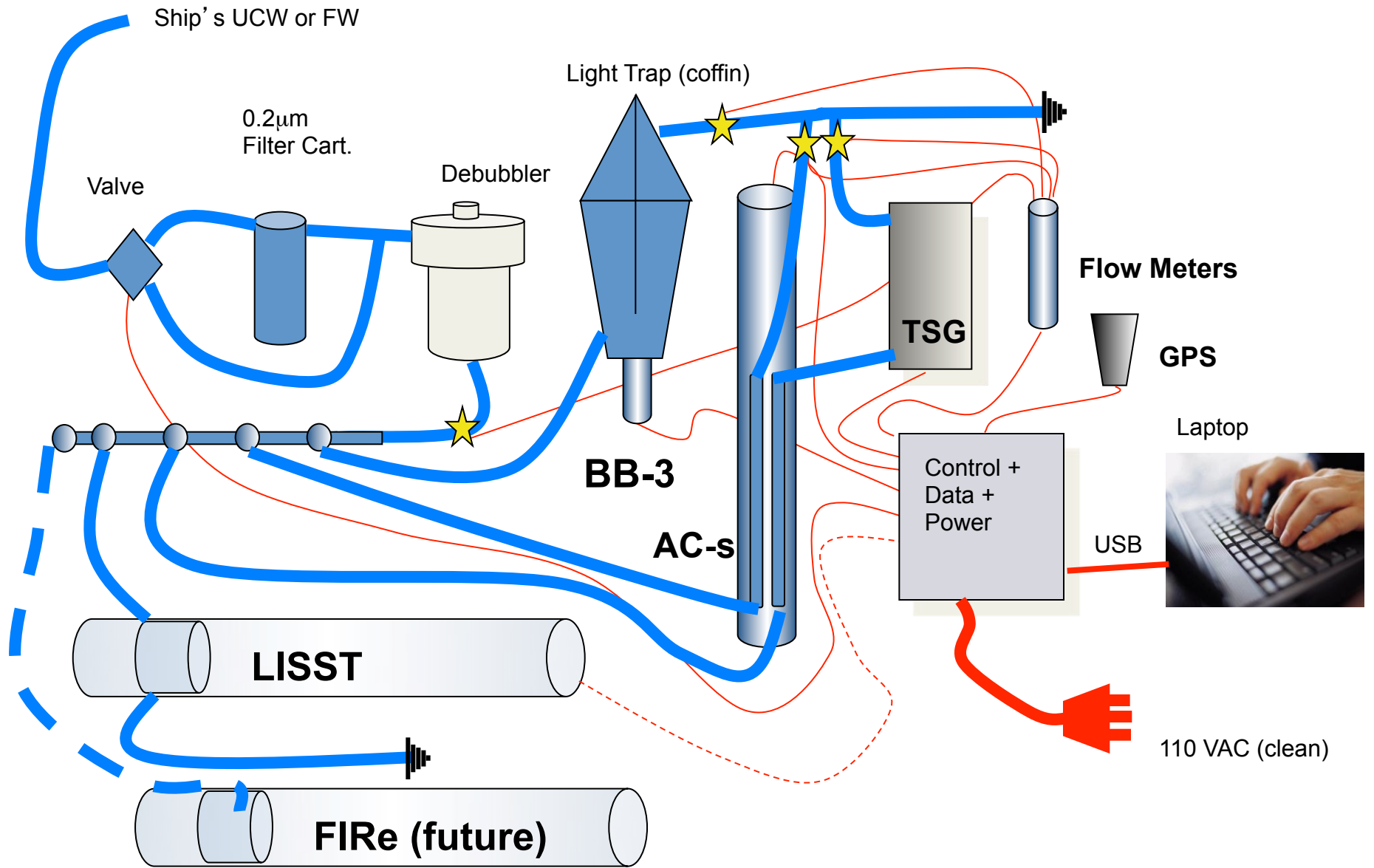
◆ Pacific

◆ Indian

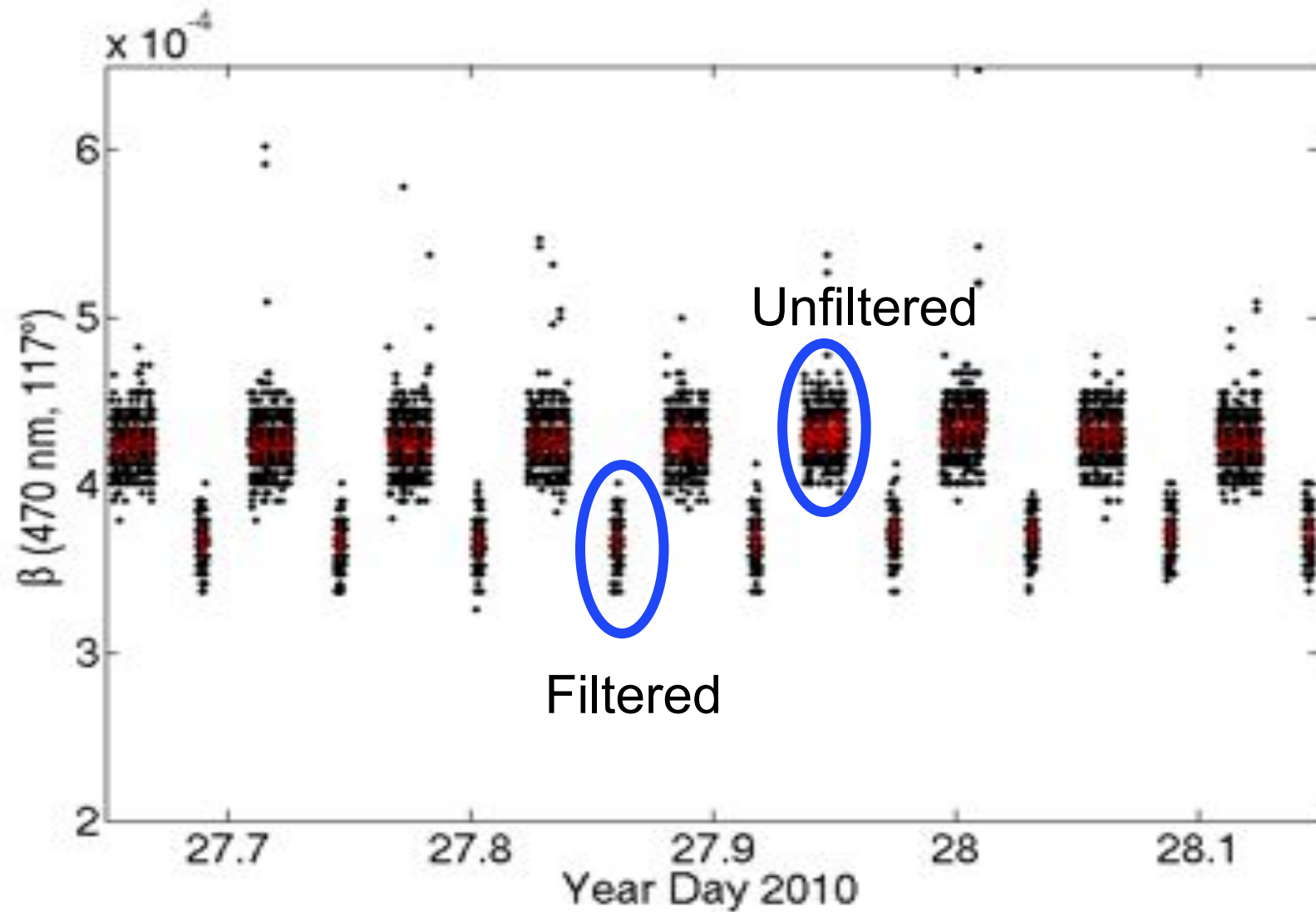


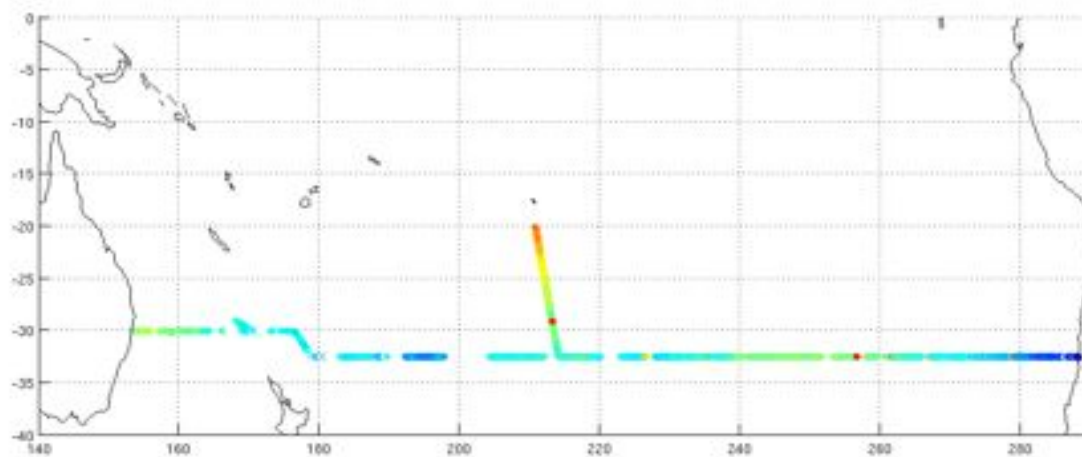
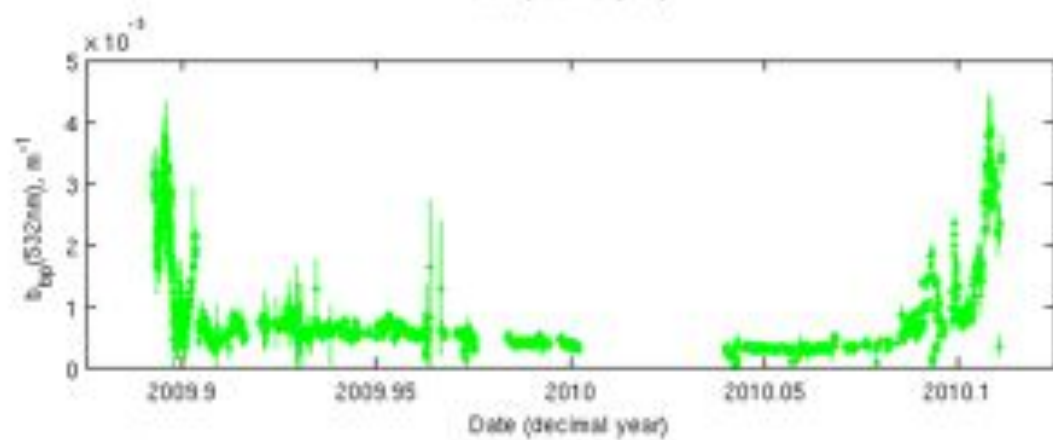
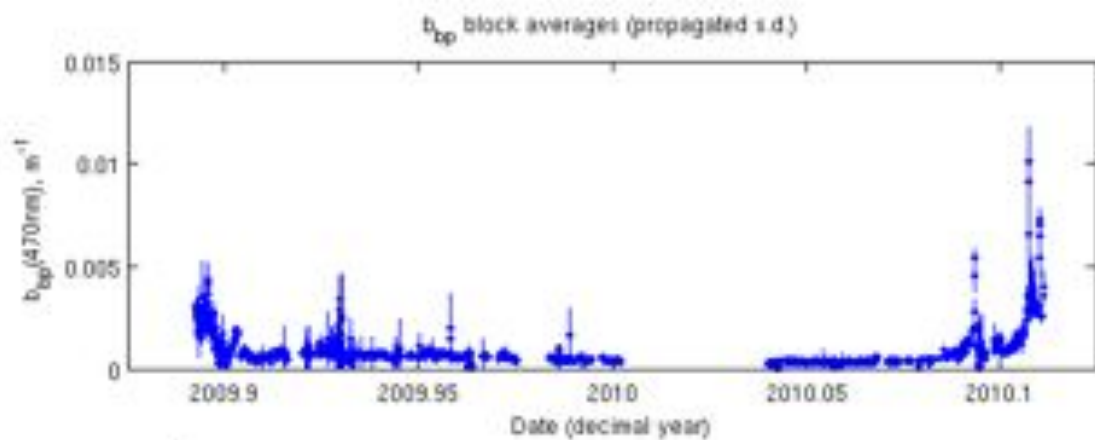
[Nelson et al. 2010]

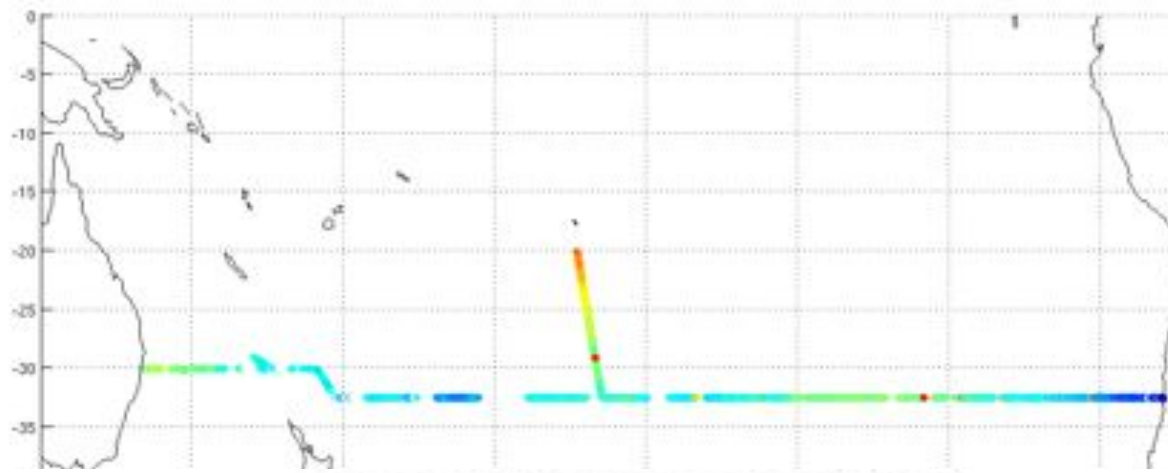
CLIVAR Ocean Color Alongtrack System Schematic



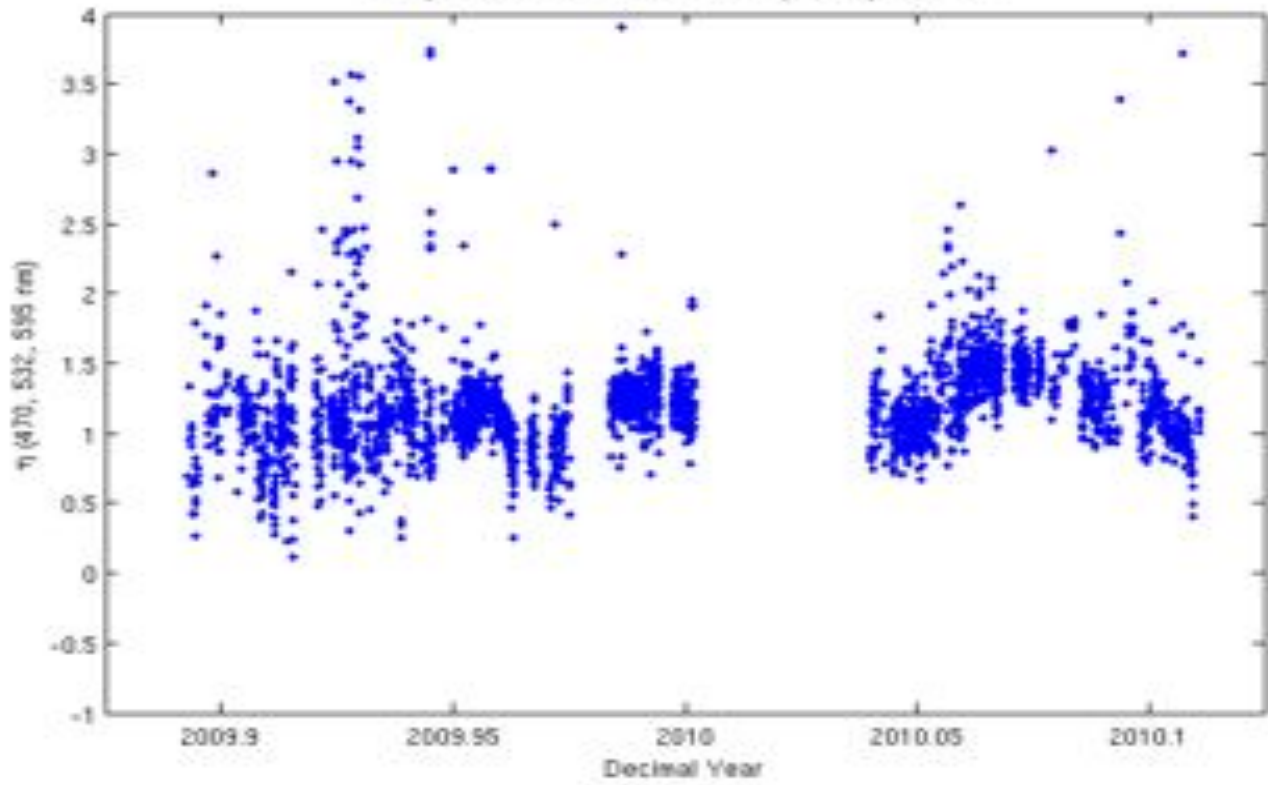
Alongtrack system raw data

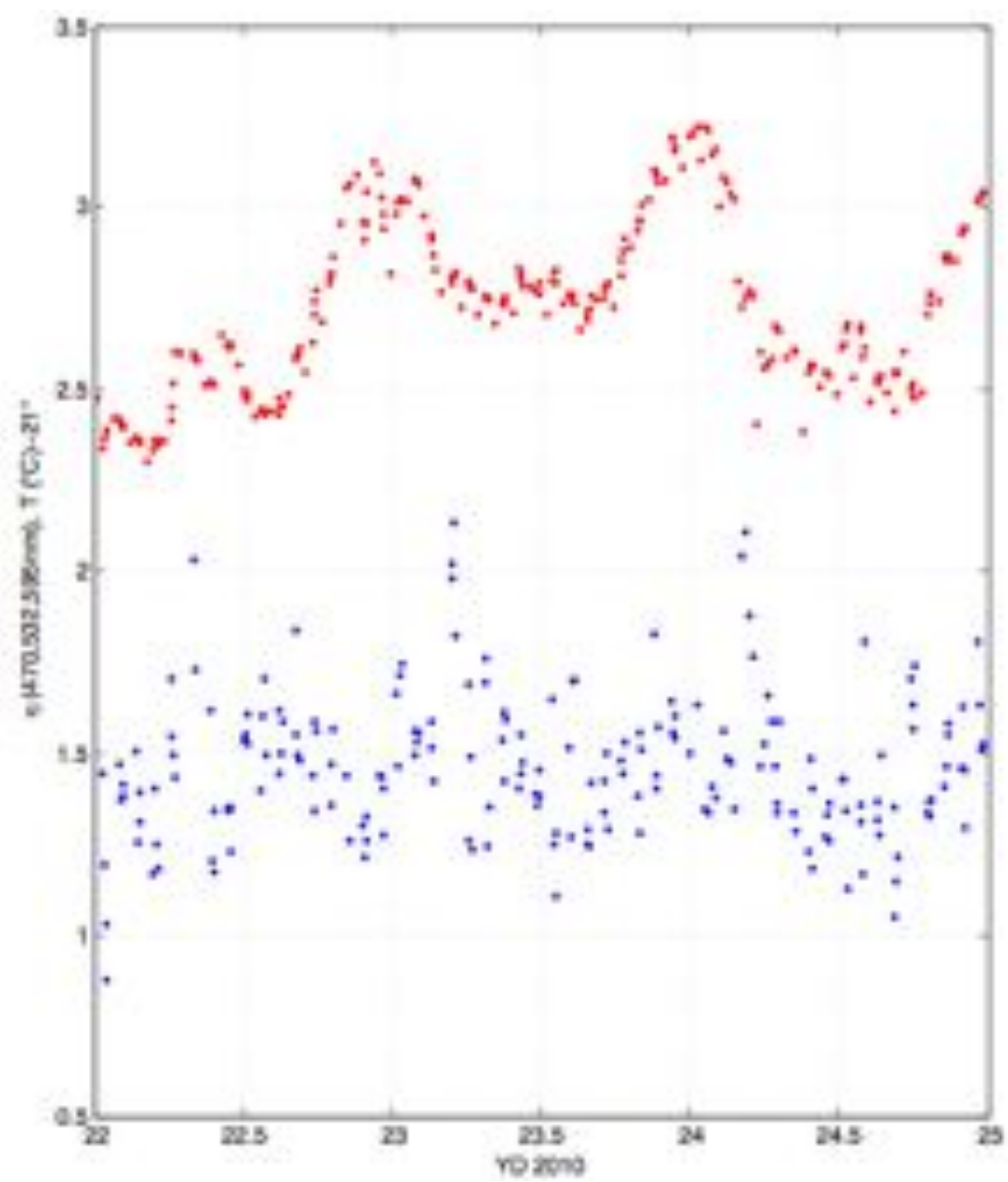






η : b_{500} Spectral Slope Parameter: $b_{500}(\lambda) - b_{500}(\lambda_0) / (\lambda - \lambda_0)^2$





Carbon Flux Project

- Study of particle flux processes and related observables (joint with WHOI, BIOS, others)
- Section east of Bermuda from 40N to P.R. (BATS Validation section), fall 2011, -12
- Radiometer and IOP instrument profiles, HPLC, CLIVAR-alongtrack system
- What are the impacts of biological community structure and physical processes on particle flux / P:E ratio?

Ongoing Research

- Continuing to address science questions in the field while opportunistically collecting data for cal/val + algorithm development
- Transition to new technology for radiometric observations at BBOP
- Increasing implementation of IOP / other measurements for future/improved OC algorithms & validation
- Question - what are the phytoplankton groups or community structure parameters we wish to represent in OC data products?