

Copernicus FICE 2025

Training on
In situ Ocean Colour Above-Water Radiometry towards Satellite Validation

Automated above water hyperspectral radiometry at Acqua Alta: review of recent results and perspectives

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PROGRAMME OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION



IMPLEMENTED BY

FRM4SOC Phase-2



fiducial reference
measurements for
satellite ocean colour



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6-20 July 2025
Venice, Italy



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MARINE

Automated above water hyperspectral radiometry at Acqua Alta: review of recent results and perspectives

V. E. Brando, L. Gonzalez Vilas, J. A. Concha, M. Bastianini, F. Braga

Quinten Vanhellemont, Kevin Ruddick, Matthew Beck

Mariana Altenburg Soppa



HYPERNETS in a single slide

INSTRUMENTS

Automated hyperspectral measurements



PANTHYR system
[Vansteenkoven et al, 2019]
400-900nm, 10nm FWHM



HYPSTAR® system
[https://hypstar.eu/]
380-1700nm, 3-10nm FWHM

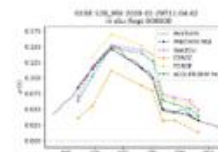
NETWORK

RBINS (BE, coordinator)
+ VLIZ (BE), CNR (IT), LOV (FR),
NPL (UK), GFZ (D), TARTU (ES),
CONICET (ARG), UMBC (USA)

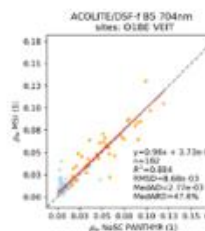


11 water and 7 land sites currently operating
Many international requests to join in 2024 ...

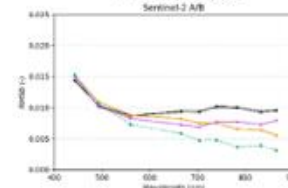
DATA PROCESSING and ANALYSIS



e.g. one matchup



one band
(S2/704nm), many matchups



spectral stats,
many matchups

Prototype network has provided validation data and information to:

Sentinel-2A&B, Sentinel-3A&B/OLCI, Landsat-8&9, Planetscope Doves and Superdoves, PRISMA, Pléiades, ENMAP, MODIS-A&T, VIIRS-1&2,...

OBJECTIVE: To validate **all** VIS/NIR spectral bands (400-1700nm, @3-10nm FWHM) for **all** satellite missions measuring water or land surface reflectance

and preparing for:

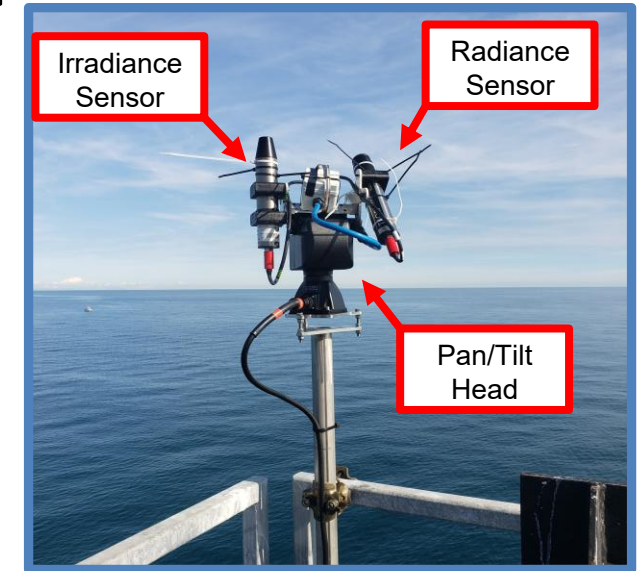
ACIX, DESIS, MTG and SEVIRI, EMIT, CHIME, LSTM, PACE, GLIMR, SBG, PROBAV-CC, GOCI, SABIAMAR, various Newspace, ... (national hyperspectral imagers from Canada, Norway, Australia, ...)



Ana I. Dogliotti^{1,2*}, Estefanía Piegari^{1,3}, Lucas Rubinstein^{1,4},
Pablo Perna¹ and Kevin G. Ruddick⁵



Aqua Alta Oceanographic Tower



PANTHYR (Pan-and-Tilt HYperspectral Radiometer System, Vansteenwegen et al., 2019) :

- 2 TRIOS/RAMSES COTS hyperspectral radiometers
- Installed on 27-09-2019

Data for Oct. 2019—Mar. 2022 is publicly available on:

<https://zenodo.org/records/10024445>





Aqua Alta Oceanographic Tower



Parameter	VNIR water
spectral resolution FWHM	3 nm
spectral sampling interval	0.5 nm
L2B wavelength range	380–1,020 nm
number of L2B channels	1,300
field of view radiance sensor	2°
field of view irradiance sensor	180°



HYPSTAR® (HYperspectral Pointable System for Terrestrial and Aquatic Radiometry, <https://hypstar.eu>)

- **V1 sensor** First deployment 15-04-2020 : 08-05-2022
- Calibration at Tartu
- Second deployment 13-07-2022 : 13-03-2023

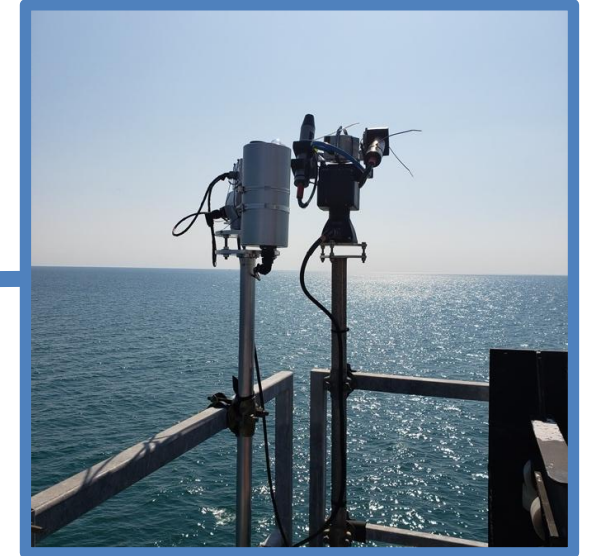
Data available at:

<https://zenodo.org/records/8057531>





Aqua Alta Oceanographic Tower

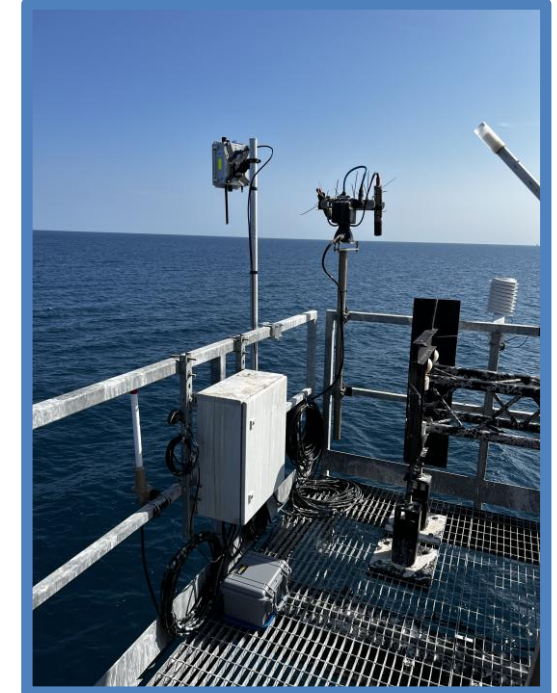


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- Calibration at Tartu
- Second deployment 13-07-2022 : 13-03-2023
- **V3 sensor** installed in AERONET-OC corner on 17-03-2023



Aqua Alta Oceanographic Tower



HydraSpectra

a low-cost optical system for field-deployed water quality monitoring of water bodies based on spectral reflectance developed by the CSIRO.

- installed in PANTHYR corner
- First deployment 6/10/2023



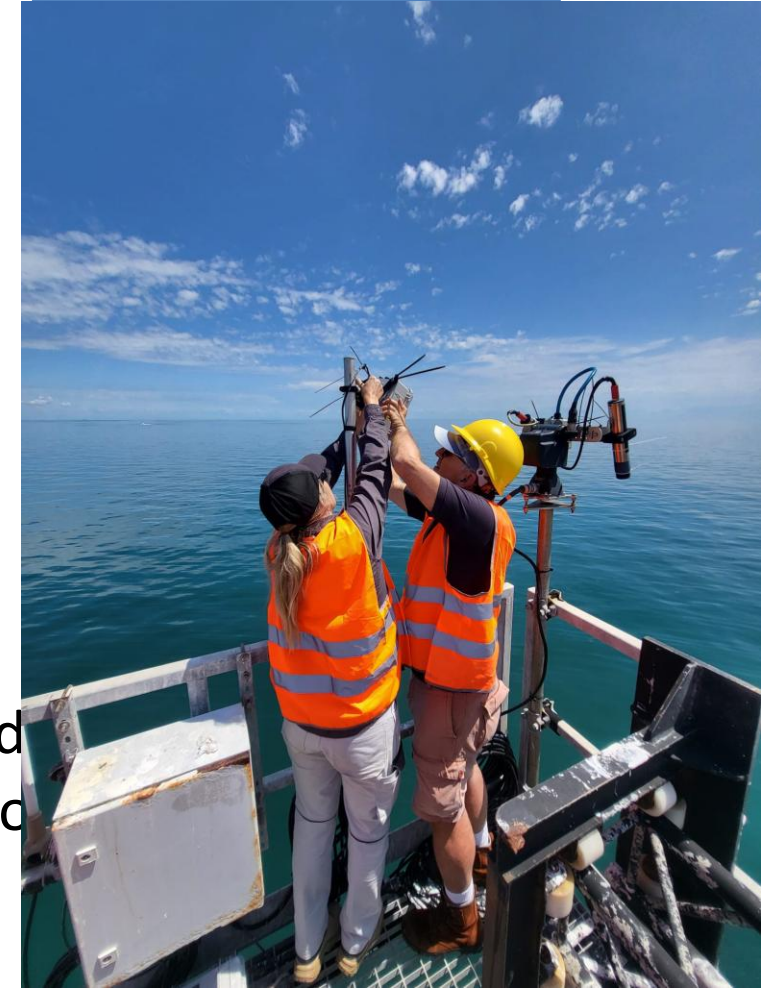
Aqua Alta Oceanographic Tower



HydraSpectra

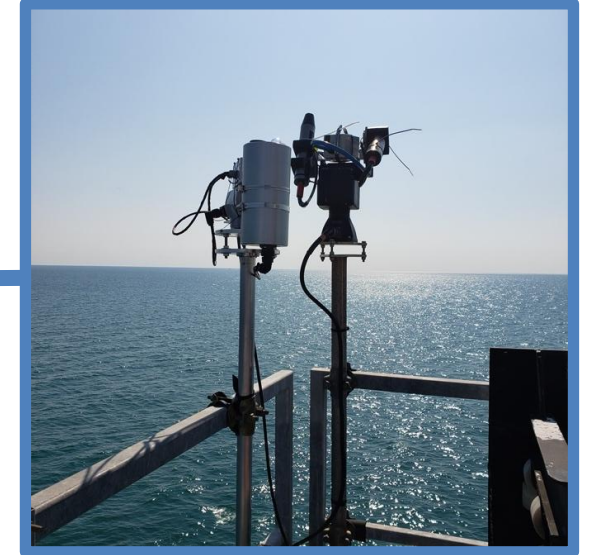
a low-cost optical system for field-deployable monitoring of water bodies based on remote sensing developed by the CSIRO.

- installed in PANTHYR corner
- First deployment 6/10/2023, replaced on 10/7/2025





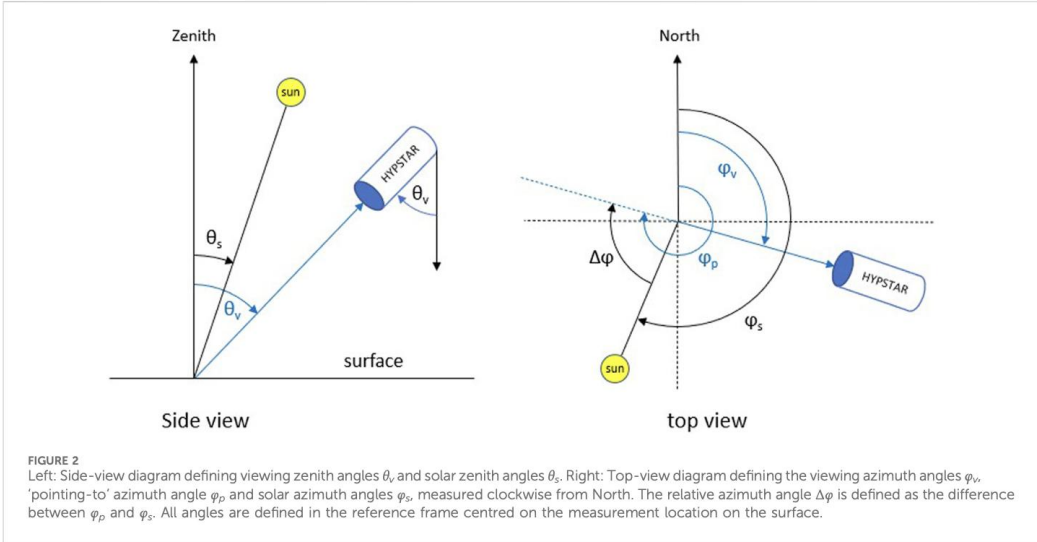
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HYPSTAR® (HYperspectral Pointable System for Terrestrial and Aquatic Radiometry, <https://hypstar.eu>)

- **V1 sensor** First deployment 15-04-2020 : 08-05-2022
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HYPSTAR® (HYperspectral Pointable System for Terrestrial and Aquatic Radiometry, <https://hypstar.eu>)



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number of L2B channels	1,300
field of view radiance sensor	2°
field of view irradiance sensor	180°

frontiers | Frontiers in Remote Sensing
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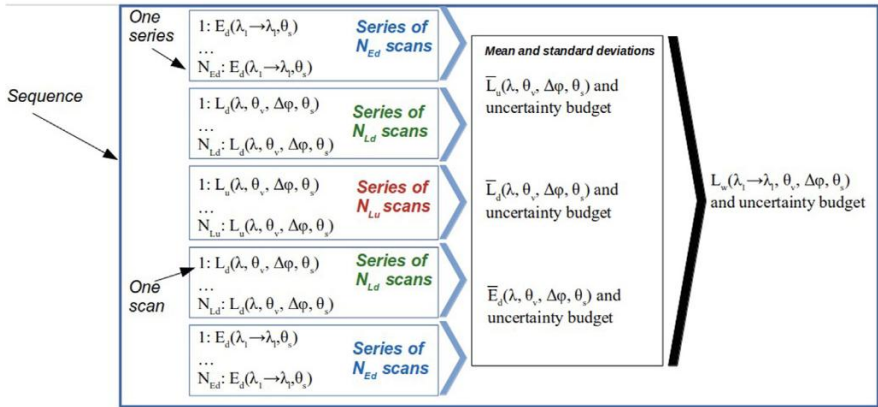


FIGURE 3
Diagram illustrating the measurement protocol for the WATERHYPERNET network with a sequence being a series of scans of upwelling radiance L_u preceded and followed by a series of scans of downwelling irradiance, E_d , and a series of scans of downwelling radiance L_d . In the figure N_s , λ , θ_v , θ_s , and, $\Delta\phi$ stand for number of scans, wavelength, viewing zenith angle, solar zenith angle and relative azimuth angle, respectively.

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[†]These authors have contributed equally to this work and share first authorship

RECEIVED 30 November 2023

Generating hyperspectral reference measurements for surface reflectance from the LANDHYPERNET and WATERHYPERNET networks

Pieter De Vis^{1*†}, Clemence Goyens^{2†}, Samuel Hunt¹, Quinten Vanhellemont², Kevin Ruddick² and Agnieszka Bialek¹

¹National Physical Laboratory, Teddington, United Kingdom, ²Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences (RBINS), Operational Directorate Natural Environment, Brussels, Belgium

HYPSTAR® (HYperspectral Pointable System for Terrestrial and Aquatic Radiometry, <https://hypstar.eu>)

Quality checks

TABLE 4 HYPERNETS_PROCESSOR flags applied during L1C processing.

Name	Network	Level (C)	Description	Flag triggered	Anomaly raised	Processing halted
check_valid_irradiance	L, W	L1	Halt processing if 'variable_irradiance' flag was triggered at previous level		'nu'	✓
check_valid_sequence	L, W	L1	Halt processing if there are no valid series (flagged by 'not_enough_dark_scans', 'not_enough_irr_scans', 'not_enough_rad_scans' or 'vza_irradiance')		'in'	✓
single_irradiance_used	L, W	L1	If only one series of irradiance is used for the computation of the reflectance	✓		
no_clear_sky_sequence	L, W	L1	If all irradiance series are flagged with the 'no_clear_sky_irradiance' flag	✓	'cl'	
variable_radiance	W	L1	More than 10% difference between start and end L_d at 550 nm		'nd'	✓
single_skyradiance_used	W	L1	If only one series of downwelling radiance is used for the computation of the reflectance	✓		
lu_eq_missing	W	L1	If there is no upwelling and downwelling radiance pair with similar pointing azimuth angles (within 1° tolerance)	✓	'l'	✓
rhof_angle_missing	W	L1	If there are no downwelling radiance scans at the appropriate viewing zenith angle (i.e., $180^\circ - \theta_v$) (within 1° tolerance)	✓	'l'	✓
rhof_default	W	L1	If the viewing geometry of the upwelling and downwelling radiance measurements are outside the viewing geometry range of the selected LUT for the 'rhof_option' (e.g., $\Delta\phi > 180^\circ$ when using the LUT from Mobley (1999)), a default ρ_F is used for the air-water interface correction factor (default: $\rho_F = 0.0256$)	✓		
temp_variability_irr	W	L1	If the difference in $E_d(\lambda)$ scans exceeds a given threshold between two neighbouring scans (default: threshold = 25% and $\lambda = 550$, see also Ruddick et al. (2006))	✓		
temp_variability_rad	W	L1	If the difference in $L_d(\lambda)$ or $L_w(\lambda)$ scans exceeds a given threshold between two neighbouring scans (default: threshold = 25% and $\lambda = 550$, see also Ruddick et al. (2006))	✓		
min_nbred/lu/lsky	W	L1	If the total number of scans not flagged by either 'L0_threshold', 'bad_pointing' or 'outliers', is less than a given threshold (default: 3)	✓	'ned' 'nlu' 'nld'	✓
def_wind_flag	W	L1	If a default wind speed is used (by default: wind speed = 2 m ⁻¹)	✓		
simil_fail	W	L1	If the quality check applied on the NIR similarity spectrum is not verified as suggested by Ruddick et al. (2005) (see Section 3.2 and Figure 4 in Ruddick et al. (2005)) with default values for the computation of the NIR Similarity being 780 and 870 nm, the reference wavelength 670 nm and the threshold 5%	✓		

Parameter	VNIR water
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number of L2B channels	1,300
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Quality checks

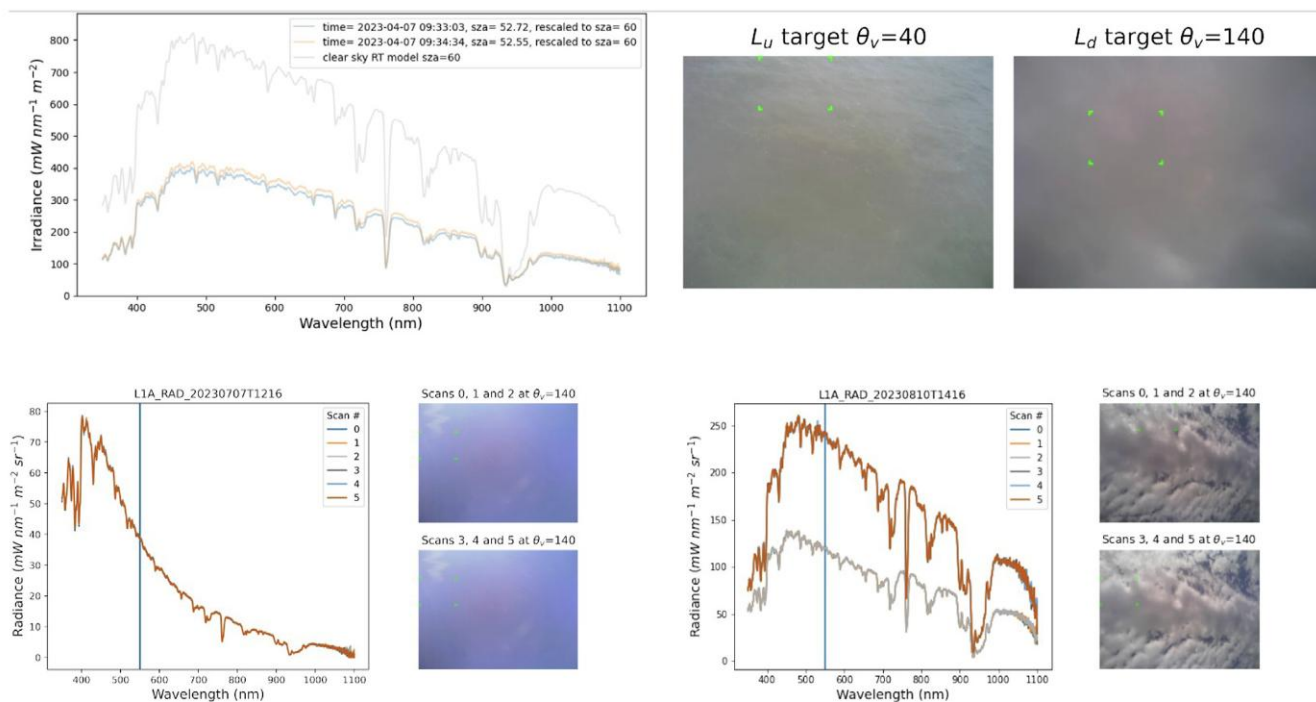


FIGURE 11
Example of the quality checks on the illumination applied in the L1B and L1C data processing for the downwelling irradiance and radiance, respectively. The top row shows the irradiance measurements not passing the 'no_clear_sky_irradiance' check taken at Zeebrugge MOW-1 Belgium (M1BE) site on the 2023-04-07 at 09:32 together with the simulated clear sky (for the same illumination geometries). Images of the sky ($\theta_v = 140^\circ$) and the water ($\theta_v = 40^\circ$) for this sequence are also shown. Bottom row shows (1) an example of downwelling radiance scans passing the quality criteria for constant downwelling radiance taken at WRUK on 2023-07-07 and the images taken with the camera during the measurements (bottom left panels), and, (2) an example of downwelling radiance scans not passing this quality check (variable_radiance flag is raised), and, the images taken with the camera during the measurements taken on 2023-08-10 at WRUK (bottom right panels).

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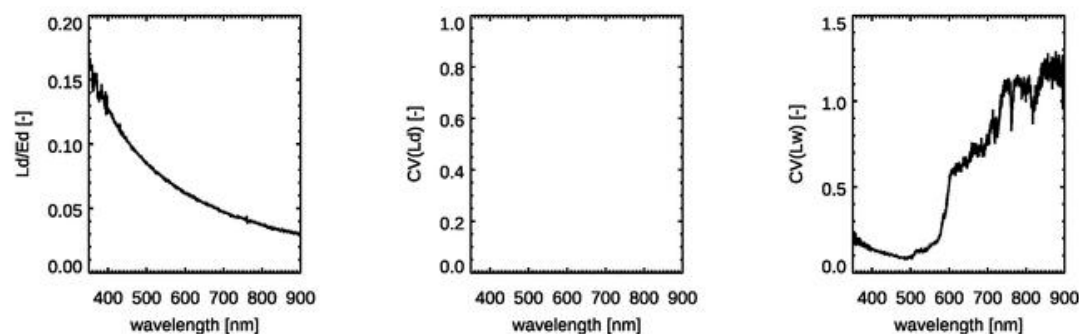
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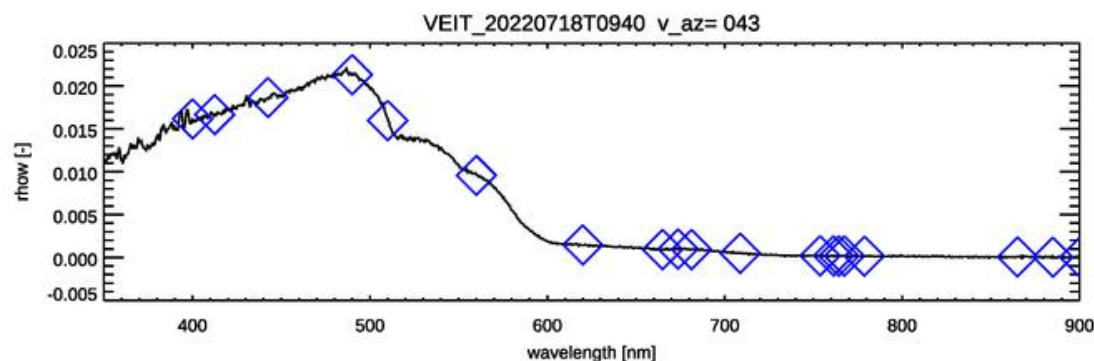
Quality checks at AAOT



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Rhow max 0.025



Published June 19, 2023 | Version 1.2

Dataset Open

Initial Sample of HYPERNETS Hyperspectral Water Reflectance Measurements for Satellite Validation from the VEIT site (Italy)

Vittorio Brando¹ ; Luis Gonzalez Vilas¹ ; Concha, Javier A^{2, 1} ; Goyens, Clémence³ 

Show affiliations

Data manager: Clémence Goyens¹ 

Project leader: Kevin Ruddick¹

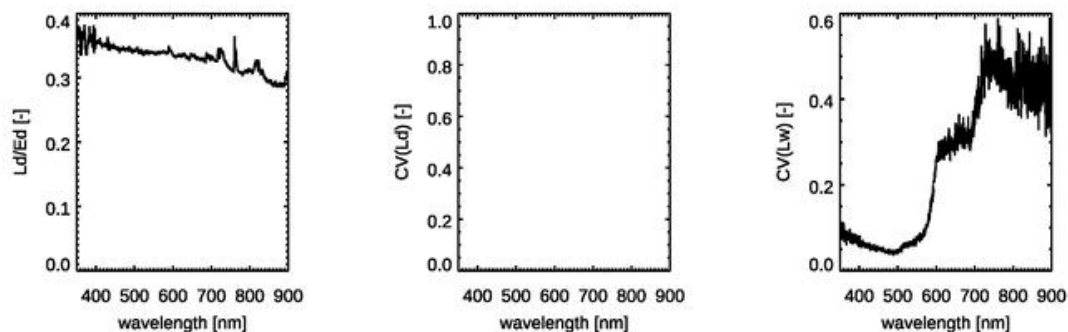


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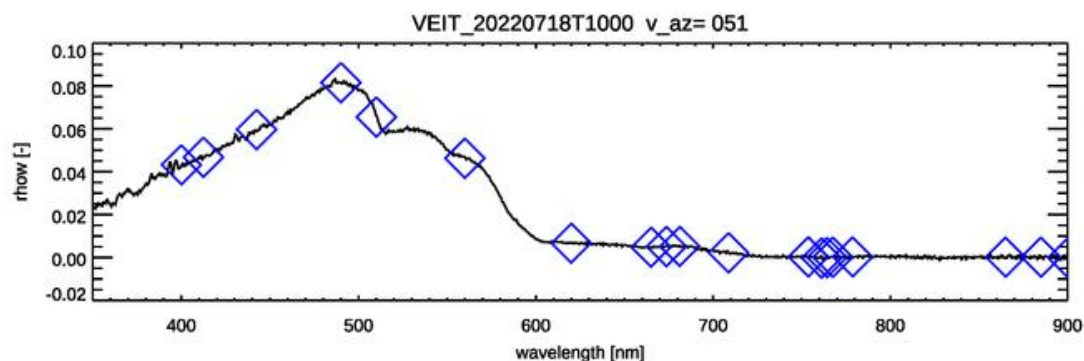
Vittorio Brando¹ ; Luis Gonzalez Vilas¹ ; Concha, Javier A^{2,1} ; Goyens, Clémence³ 

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Project leader: Kevin Ruddick¹

Rhow max 0.010

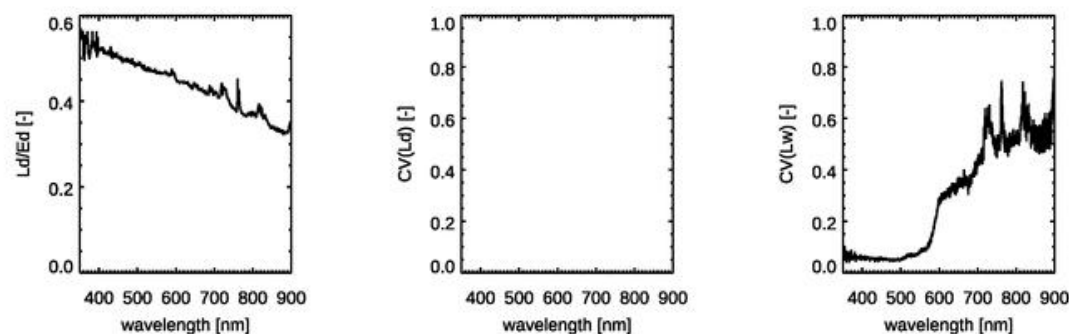


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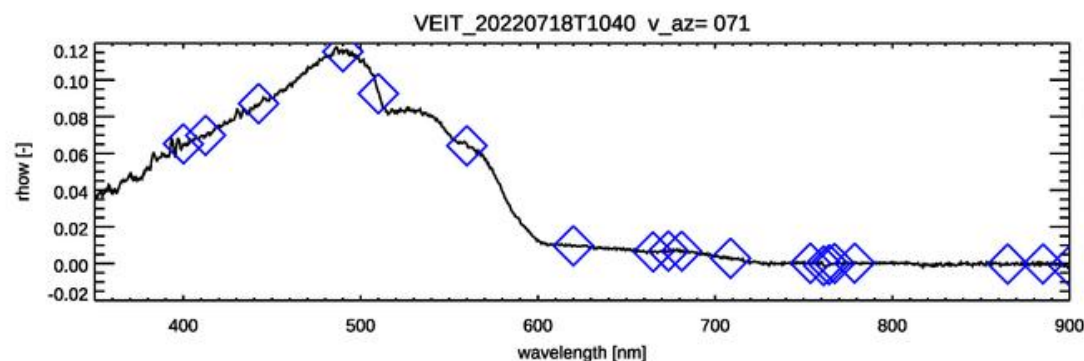
Quality checks
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Rhow max 0.012



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Project leader: Kevin Ruddick¹





Aqua Alta Oceanographic Tower

Sentinel 3 A&B OLCI vs PANTHYR®

27 September 2019 to 23 September 2020

S3A match-ups: 79

S3B match-ups: 76

OLCI IPF V7.0



Normalized water-leaving radiance from OLCI FR L2 data:

$$L_{WN}^{OLCI}(\lambda) = \rho^{OLCI}(\lambda) \frac{F_0(\lambda)}{\pi} C_{f/q}(\lambda)$$

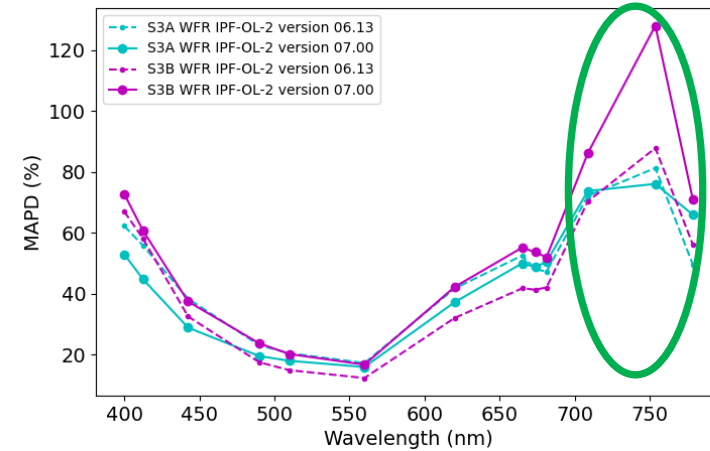
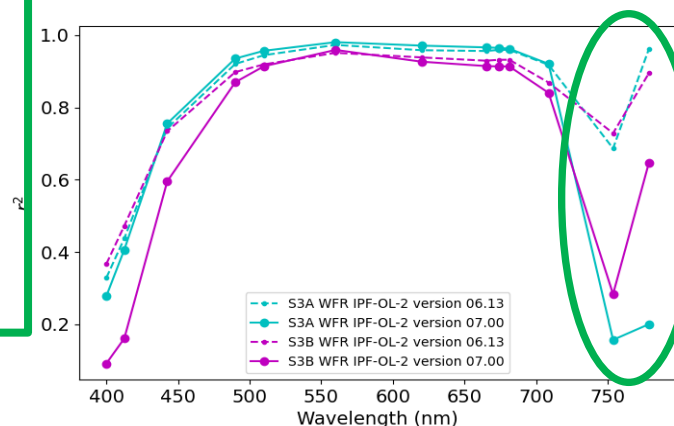
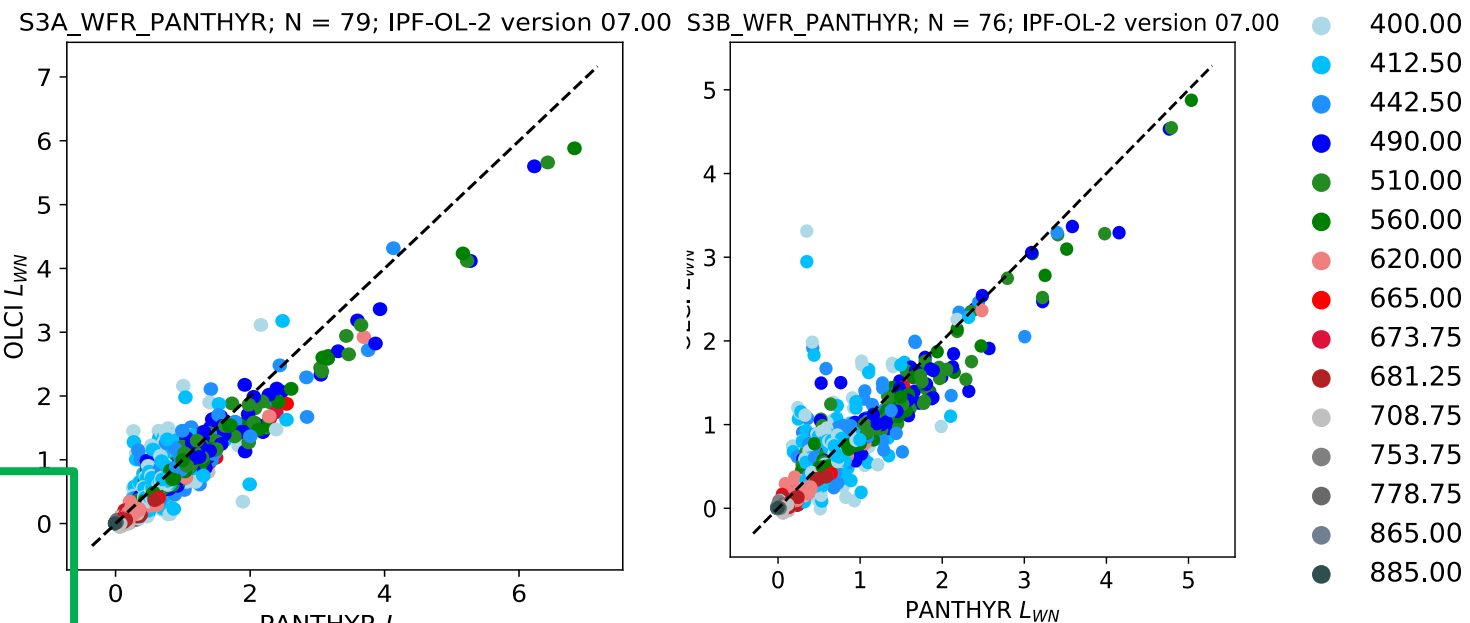
ρ^{OLCI} : OLCI FR L2 reflectance

F_0 : mean extraterrestrial solar irradiance

$C_{f/q}$: BRDF correction factor

(Morel, Antoine, and Gentili 2002).

PANTHYR
hyperspectral data
used to identify a
degradation of 753
and 778nm with IPF
V7.0 processor that
was addressed by
EUMETSAT in V3.0.1





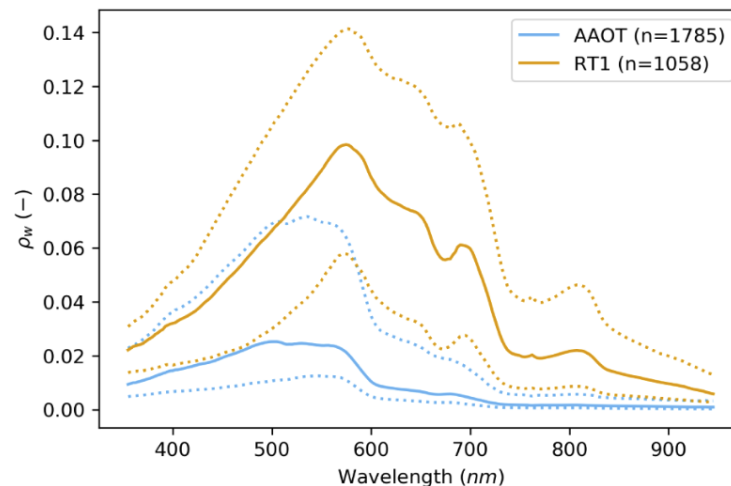
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Sentinel 2 A&B MSI

vs PANTHYR®

26 September to 28 December 2019

Hyperspectral data resampled to match broad S2/MSI spectral bands



Research Article

Vol. 28, No. 20/28 September 2020 / Optics Express 29948

Optics EXPRESS

Sensitivity analysis of the dark spectrum fitting atmospheric correction for metre- and decametre-scale satellite imagery using autonomous hyperspectral radiometry

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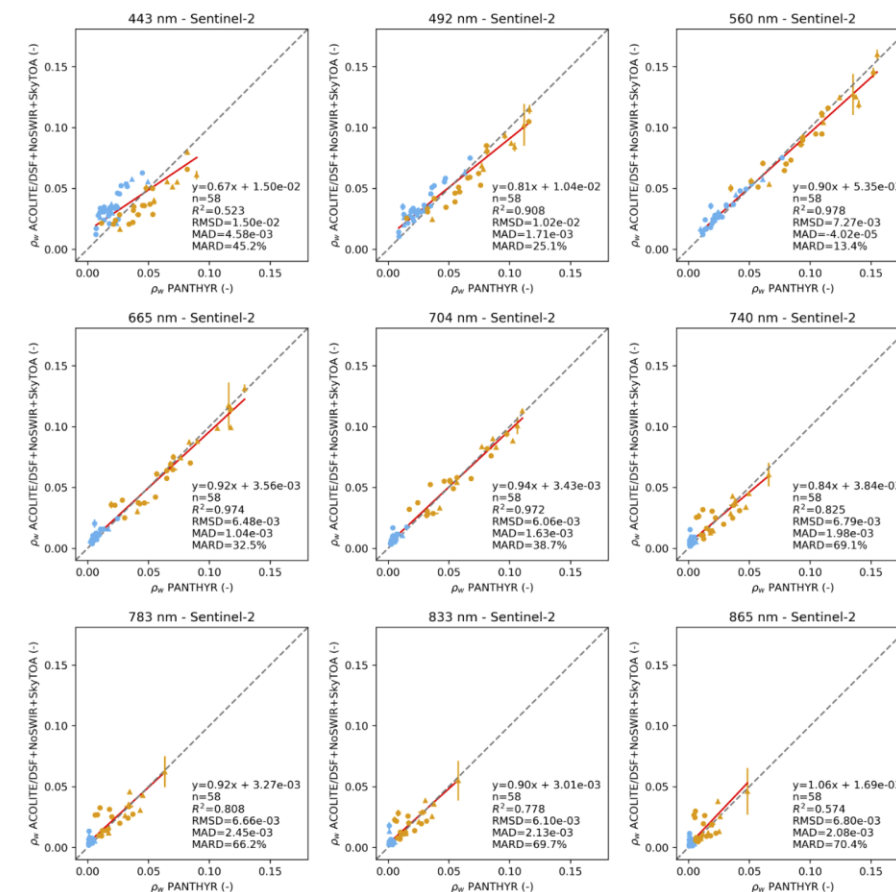


Fig. 5. Scatterplots for the matches between PANTHYR and the nine visible and near-infrared bands Sentinel-2 A/B for DSF+NoSWIR+SkyTOA. Orange and blue dots are measurements from RT1 and AAOT respectively. Circles represent matches with bounding and interpolated in situ data, triangles show matches with only the closest in situ measurement.



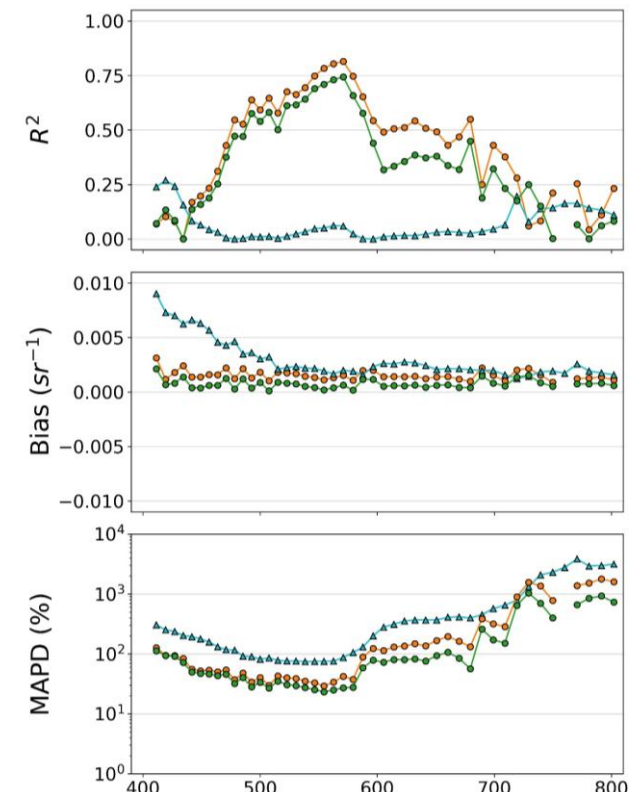
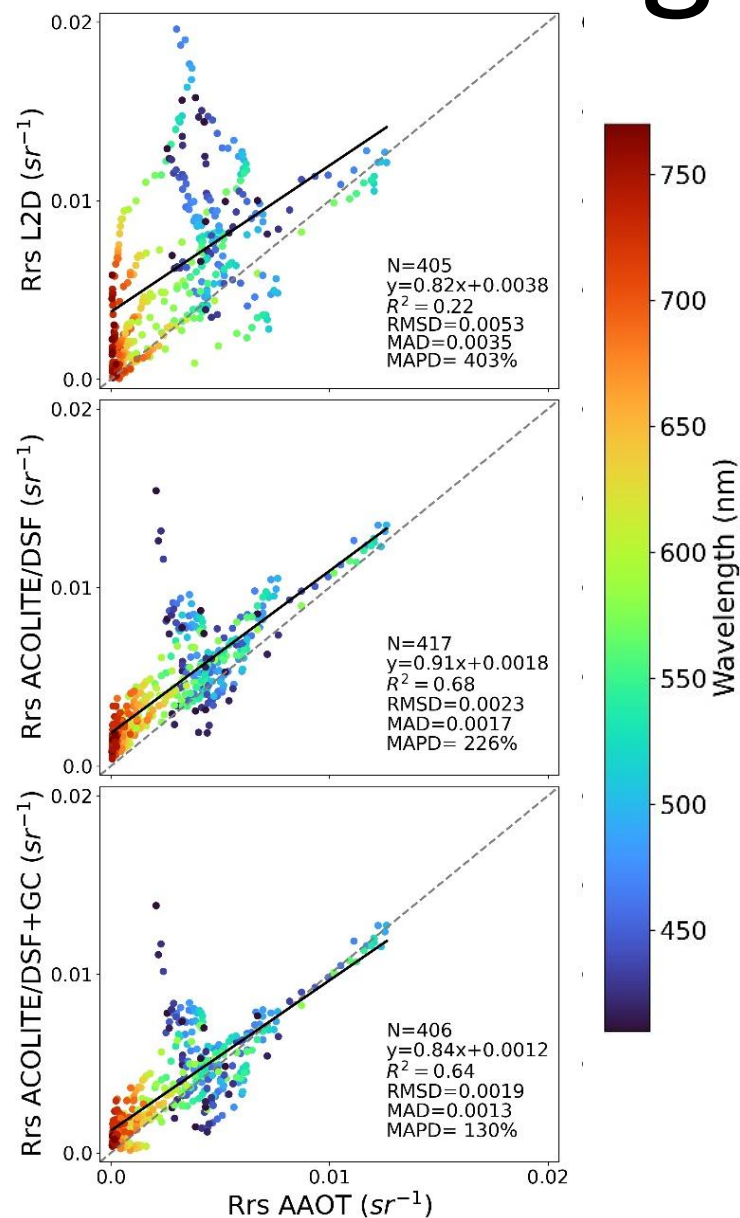
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ASI/PRISMA vs **PANTHYR**[®]

11 match-ups in 2019-2021

Qualitative comparison of Rrs at their original spectral resolutions.

PRISMA - Level 2 standard atmospheric correction processor and ACOLITE atmospheric correction tool



ISPRS Journal of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing 192 (2022) 99–114



Assessment of PRISMA water reflectance using autonomous hyperspectral radiometry

Federica Braga^{a,*}, Alice Fabbretto^{b,c}, Quinten Vanhellemont^d, Mariano Bresciani^b, Claudia Giardino^b, Gian Marco Scarpa^a, Giorgia Manfè^a, Javier Alonso Concha^{c,f}, Vittorio Ernesto Brando^g



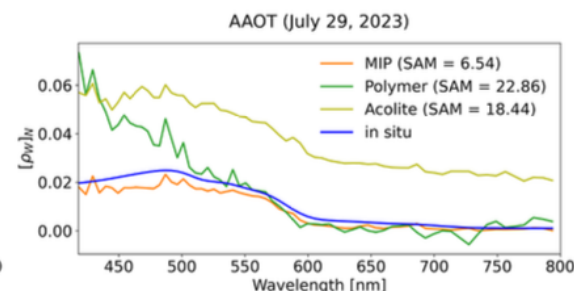
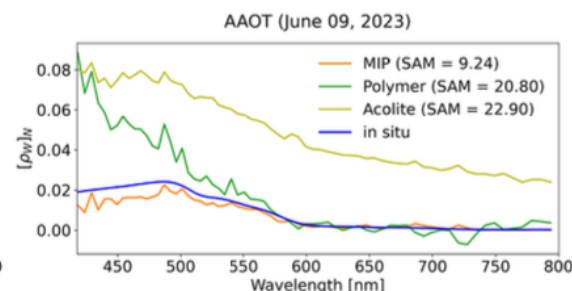
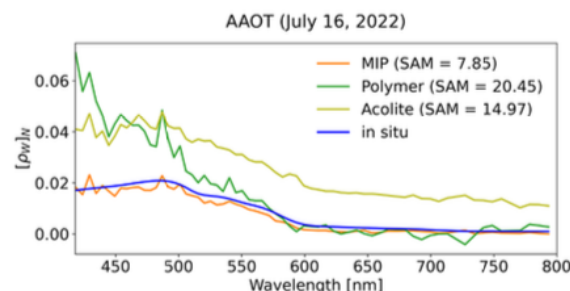
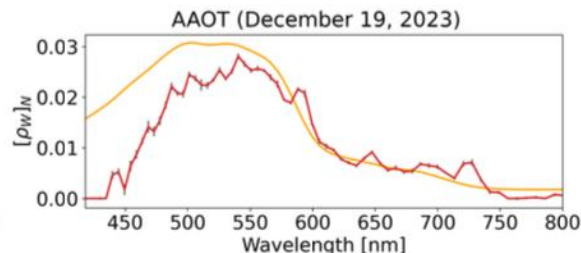
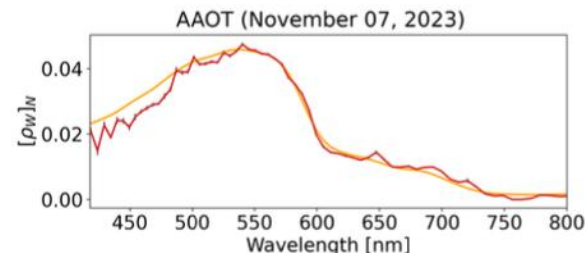
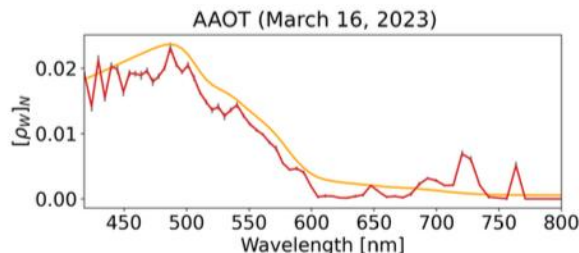
Aqua Alta Oceanographic Tower

DLR/EnMAP vs **PANTHYR**[®]

Qualitative comparison of Rrs at their original spectral resolutions.

EnMAP - Level 2 standard and alternative atmospheric correction processors

Single examples and contribution to overall assessment over water targets



Full mission evaluation of EnMAP water leaving reflectance products using three atmospheric correction processors

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PETER GEGE,⁵ STEFAN PLATTNER,⁵
IAN SOMLAI-SCHWEIGER,⁵ THOMAS SCHROEDER,⁶
FRANÇOIS STEINMETZ,⁷ DANIEL SCHEFFLER,²
VITTORIO E. BRANDO,⁸ MARIANO BRESCIANI,⁹
CLAUDIA GIARDINO,⁹ SIMONE COLELLA,⁸
DIETER VANSTEENWEGEN,¹⁰ MAXIMILIAN LANGHEINRICH,¹¹
EMILIANO CARMONA,¹¹ MARTIN BACHMANN,¹¹
MIGUEL PATO,¹¹ SEBASTIAN FISCHER,¹²
AND ASTRID BRACHER^{1,13,*}



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DLR/EnMAP vs PANTHYR®

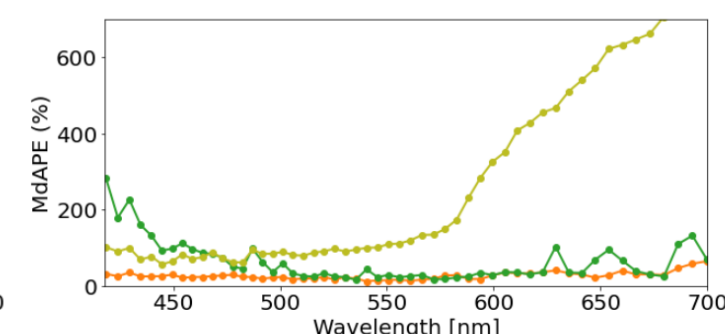
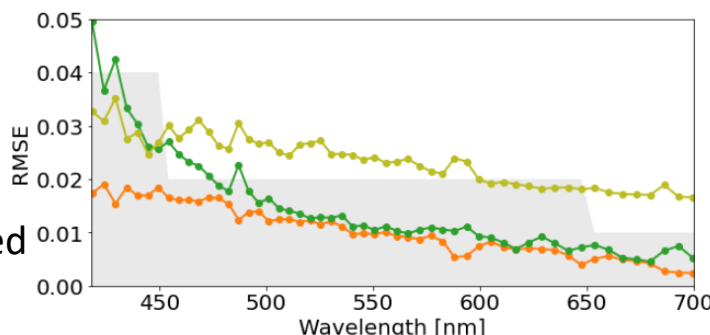
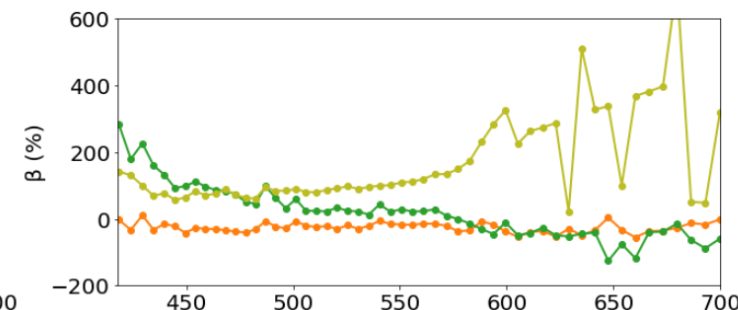
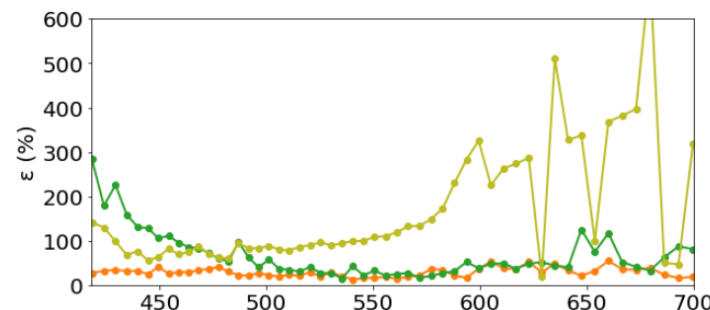
Qualitative comparison of Rrs at their original spectral resolutions.

EnMAP - Level 2 standard and alternative atmospheric correction processors

Single examples and contribution to overall assessment over water targets



— MIP — Polymer — Acolite



The grey shaded area represents the required uncertainty (RMSE) as defined by the EnMAP Ground Segment

The required uncertainty as defined by EnMAP ground segment was only achieved by MIP water reflectance product. The uncertainty requirements by dedicated ocean colour missions in not-optically complex waters of 5% in the blue was not achieved by any of the AC processors.



Full mission evaluation of EnMAP water leaving reflectance products using three atmospheric correction processors

MARIANA A. SOPPA,¹ MAXIMILIAN BRELL,²
 SABINE CHABRILLAT,^{2,3} LEONARDO M. A. ALVARADO,^{1,4}
 PETER GEGE,⁵ STEFAN PLATTNER,⁵
 IAN SOMLAI-SCHWEIGER,⁵ THOMAS SCHROEDER,⁶
 FRANÇOIS STEINMETZ,⁷ DANIEL SCHEFFLER,²
 VITTORIO E. BRANDO,⁸ MARIANO BRESCIANI,⁹
 CLAUDIA GIARDINO,⁹ SIMONE COLELLA,⁸
 DIETER VANSTEENWEGEN,¹⁰ MAXIMILIAN LANGHEINRICH,¹¹
 EMILIANO CARMONA,¹¹ MARTIN BACHMANN,¹¹
 MIGUEL PATO,¹¹ SEBASTIAN FISCHER,¹²
 AND ASTRID BRACHER^{1,13,*}



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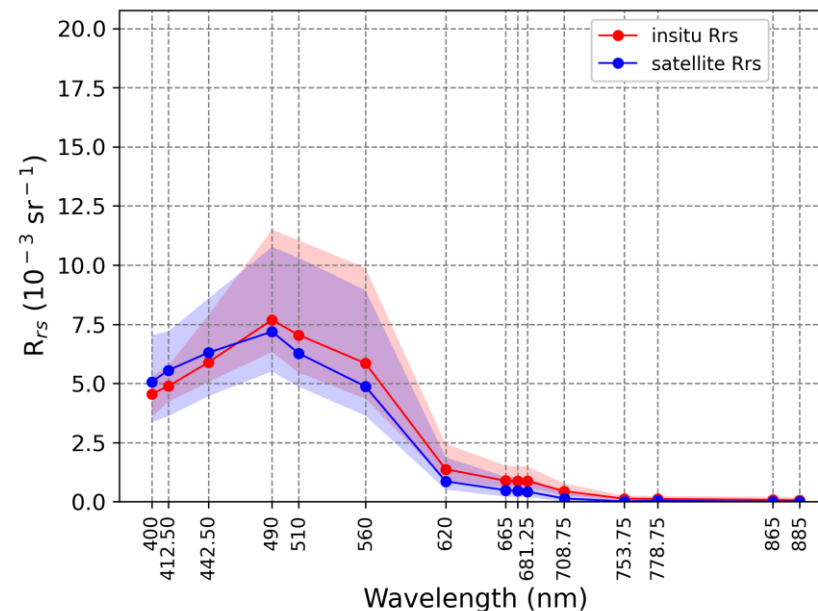
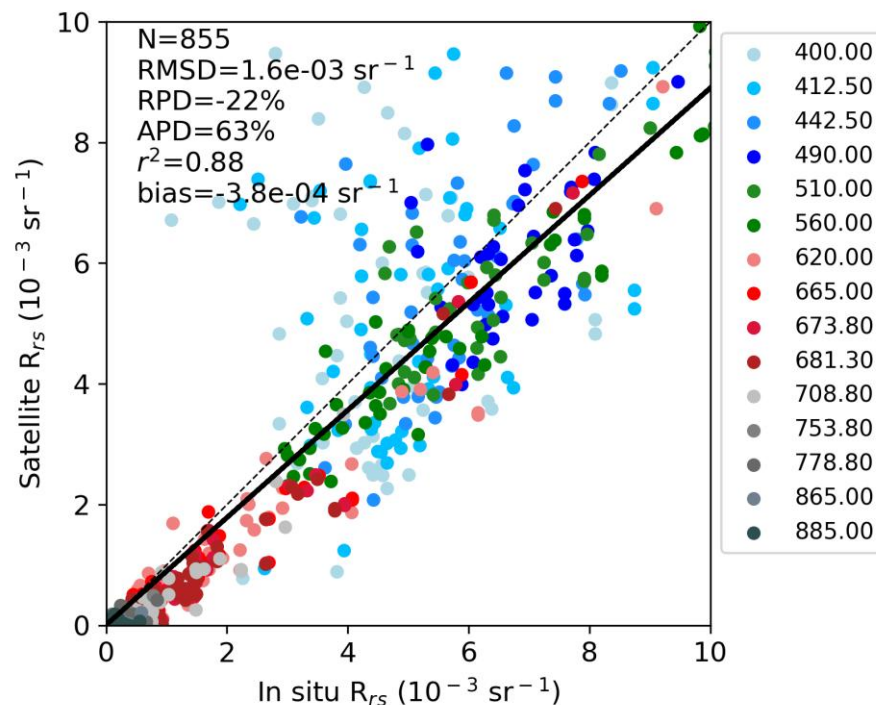
Sentinel 3 A&B OLCI

vs HYPSTAR® V1 sensor

15 April 2021 to 31 December 2022

S3A match-ups: 100

S3B match-ups: 94



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TYPE Original Research
PUBLISHED 18 March 2024
DOI 10.3389/frsen.2024.1330317



OPEN ACCESS

EDITED BY
Enner Alcântara,
São Paulo State University, Brazil

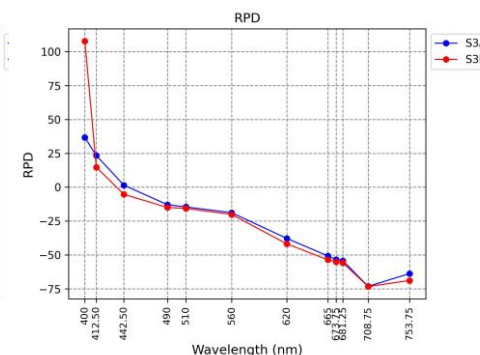
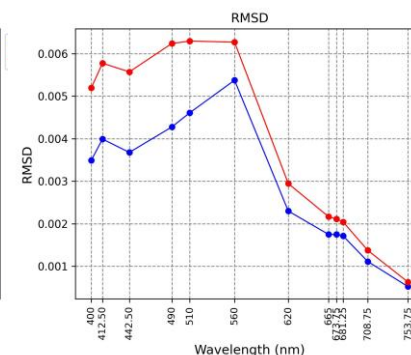
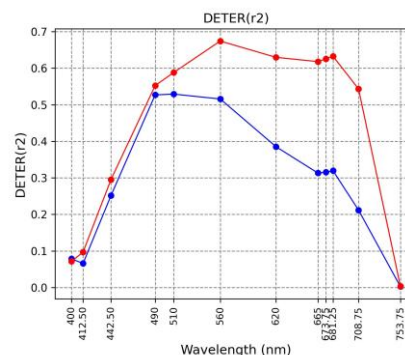
REVIEWED BY
Yulong Guo,
Henan Agricultural University, China
Shun Bi,
Helmholtz Association of German Research
Centres (HZI, Germany)

*CORRESPONDENCE
Luis González Vilas,
luis.gonzalezvilas@artov.ismar.cnr.it

Validation of satellite water products based on HYPERNETS *in situ* data using a Match-up Database (MDB) file structure

Luis González Vilas^{1*}, Vittorio E. Brando¹, Javier A. Concha^{1,2}, Clémence Goyens³, Ana I. Dogliotti^{4,5}, David Doxaran⁶, Antoine Dille³ and Dimitry Van der Zande³

¹CNR-ISMAR, Istituto di Scienze Marine, Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche, Rome, Italy, ²Serco S.p.A. C/





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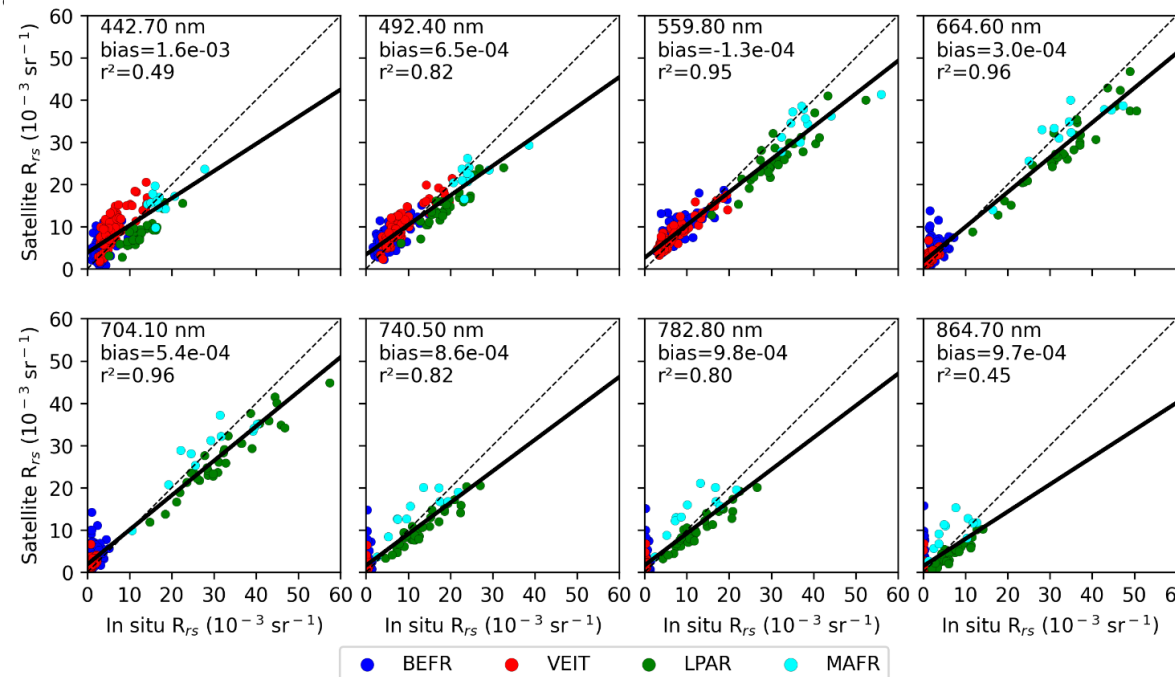
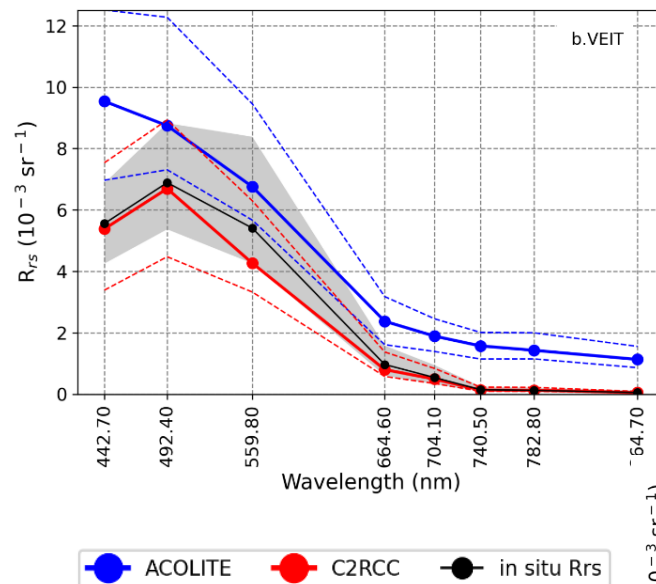
Sentinel 2 A&B MSI

vs HYPSTAR® V1 sensor

15 April 2021 to 28 February 2023

S2A + S2B match-ups: 77

Hyperspectral data resampled to match broad S2/MSI spectral bands



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TYPE Original Research
PUBLISHED 18 March 2024
DOI 10.3389/frsen.2024.1330317

Check for updates

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Enner Alcântara,
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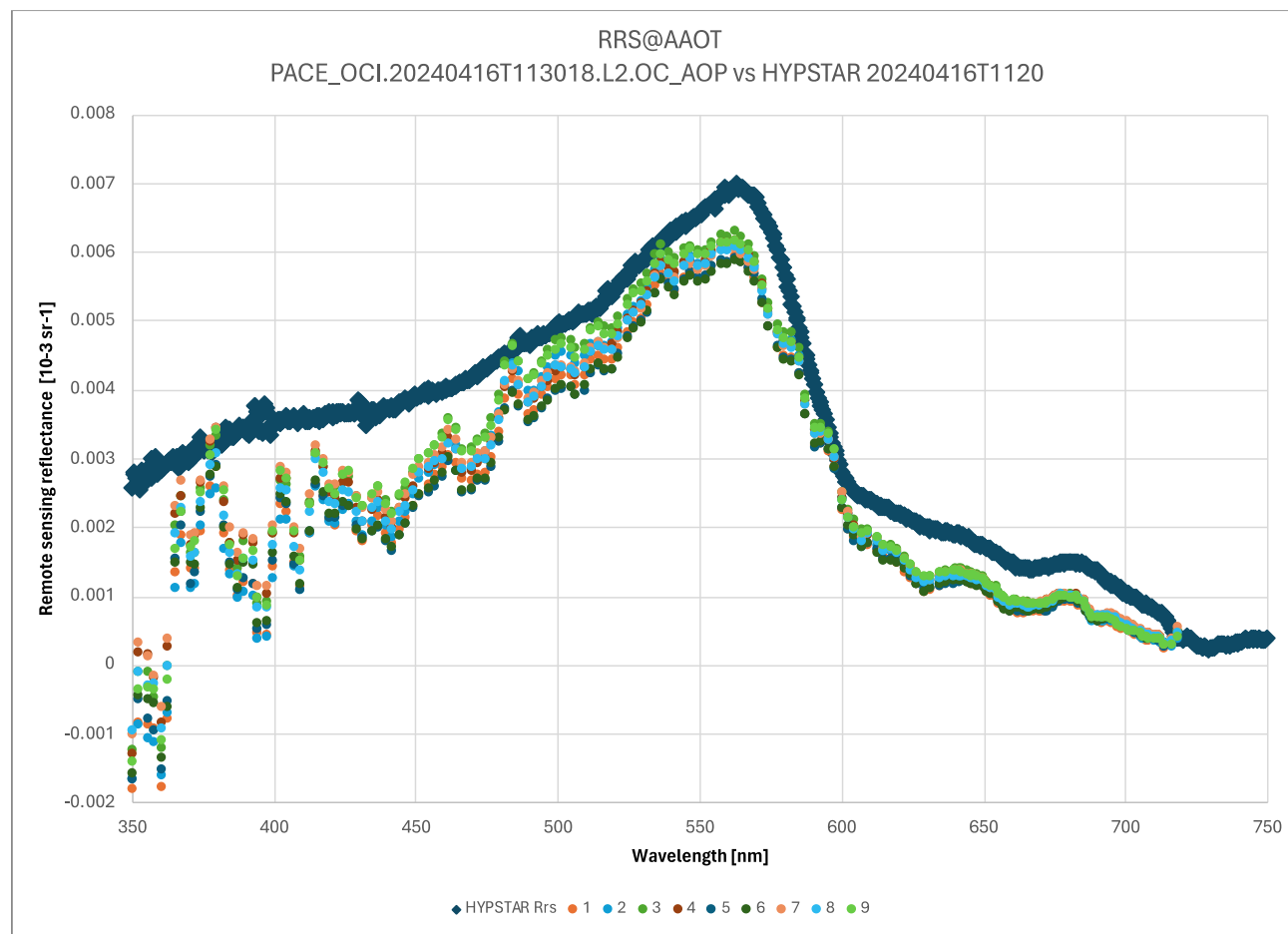
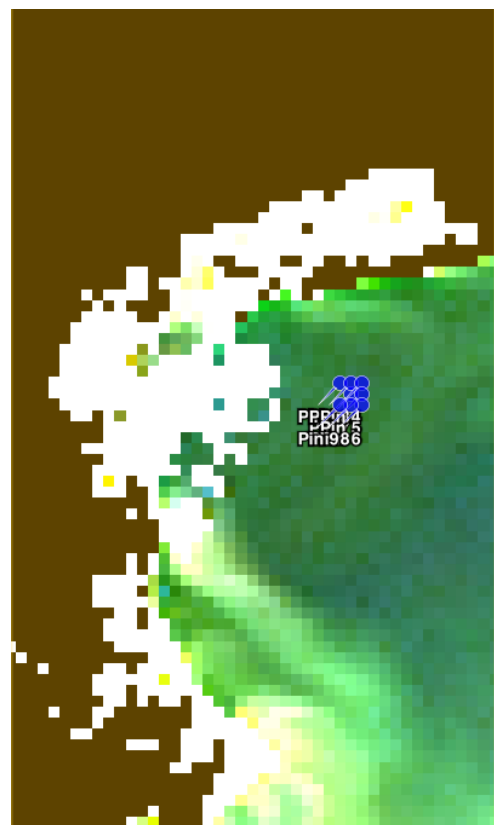
¹CNR-ISMAR, Istituto di Scienze Marine, Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche, Rome, Italy, ²Serco S.p.A. c/



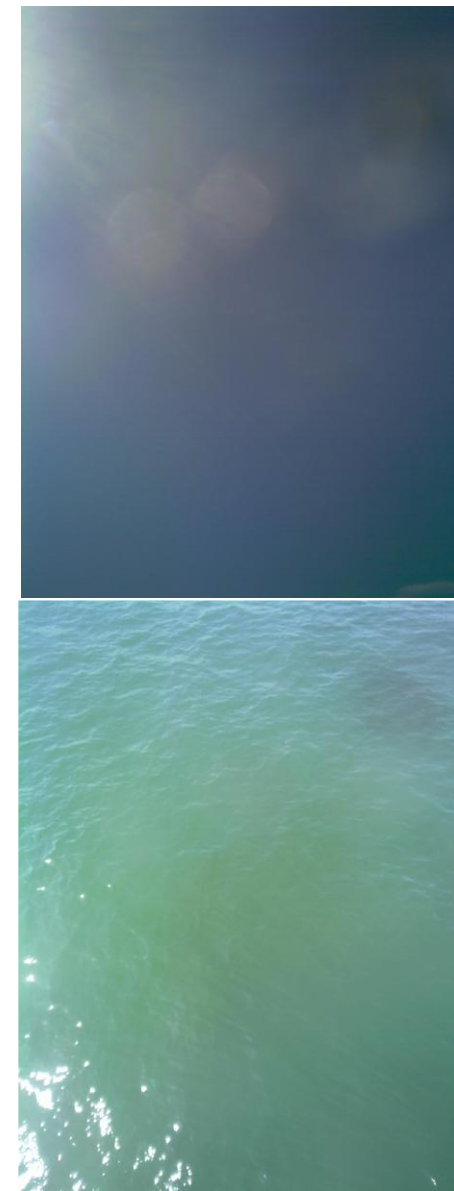


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First match-up for PACE OCI 16 April 2024 (V1)



HYPSTAR spectra acquired 10 minute before the PACE OCI image
the similarity corrected reflectance was used for the comparison





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Validation of PACE OCI V2 and V3

PACE/OCI (V2 & V3)

vs **HYPSTAR® V3 sensor**

2024-03-15 to 2024-04-01

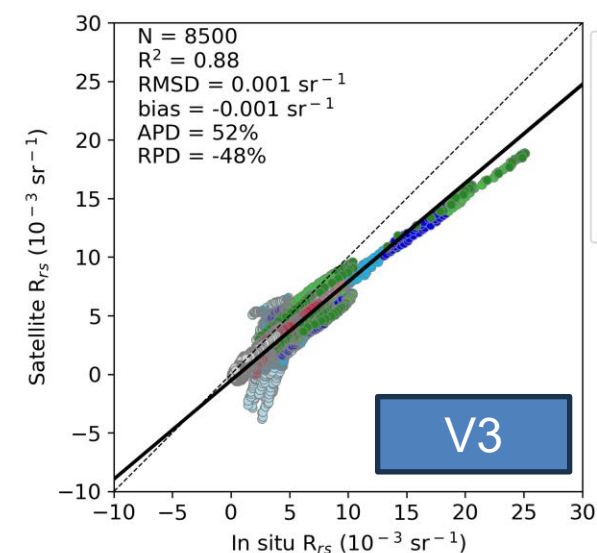
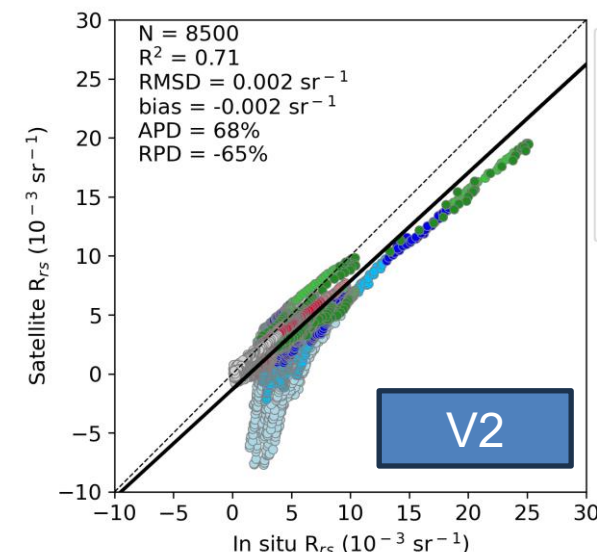
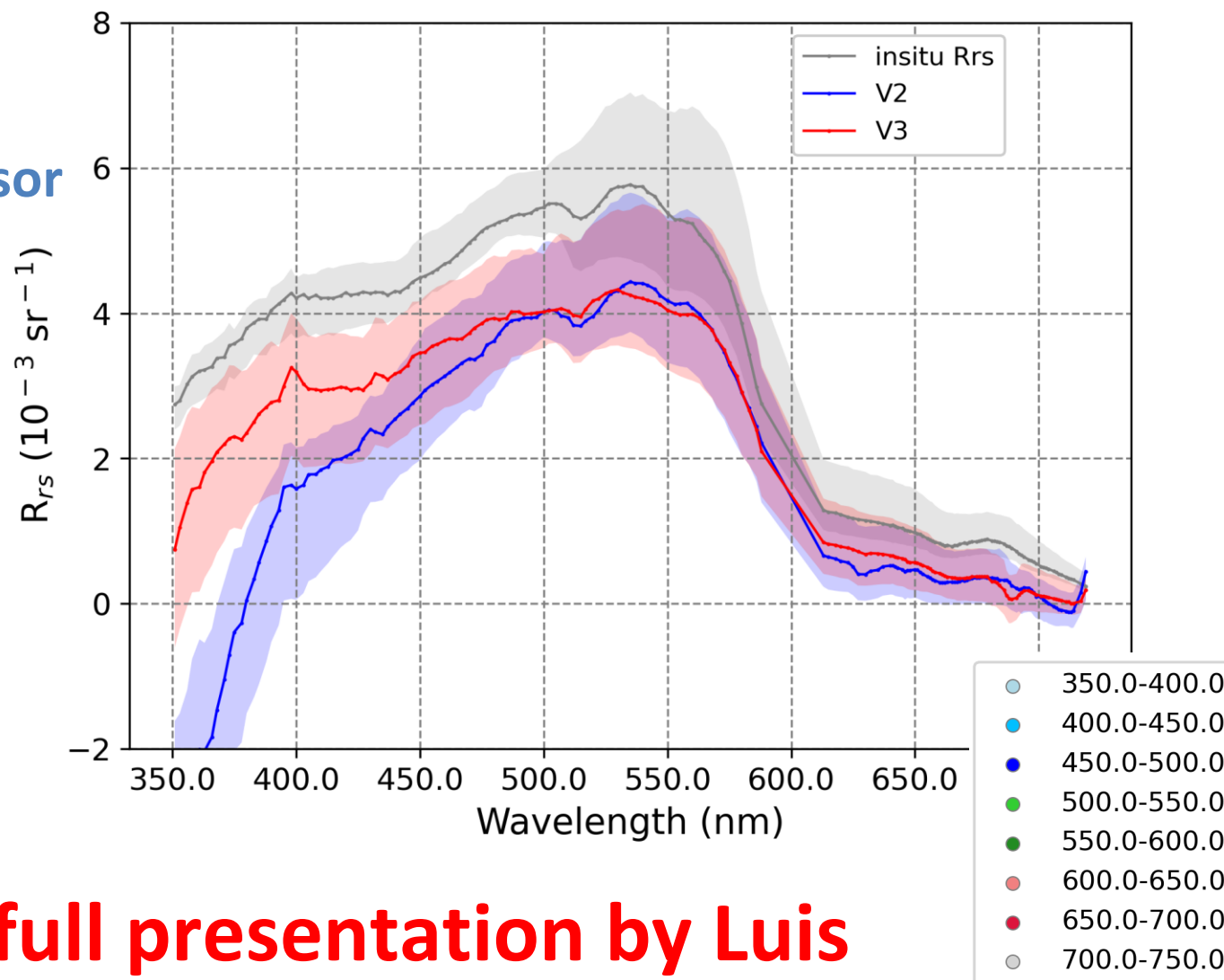
2024-05-17 to 2024-10-20

Potential match-ups: **132**

V2 match-ups: **51**

V3 match-ups: **56**

common match-ups: **51**

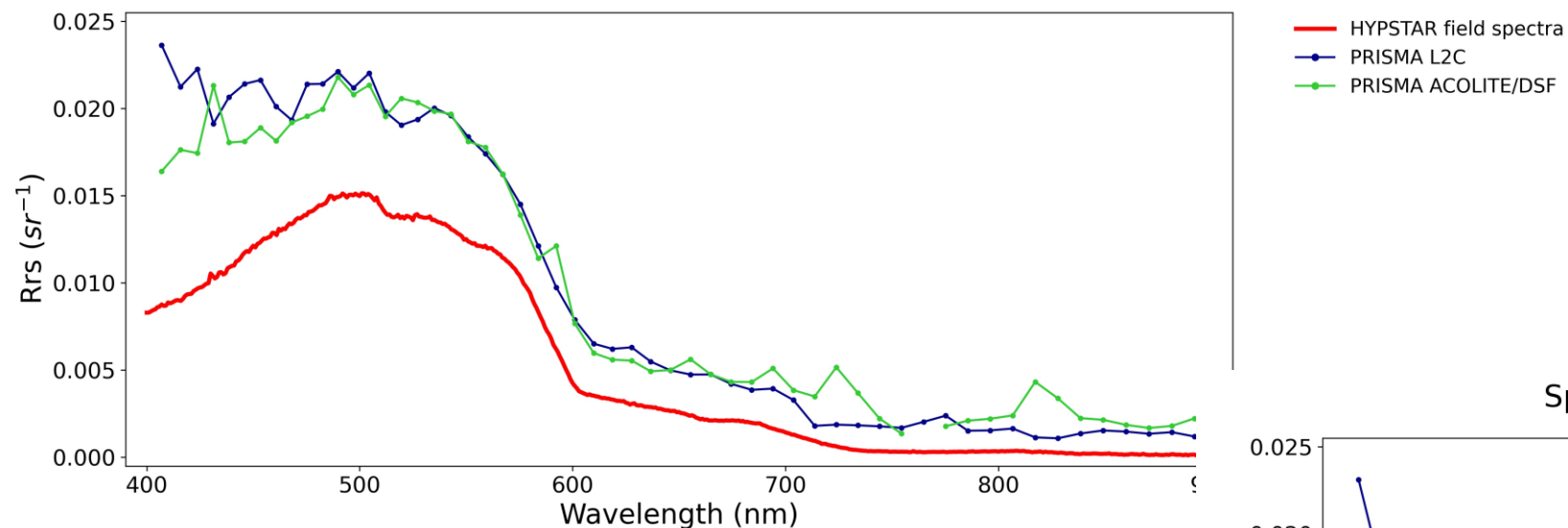




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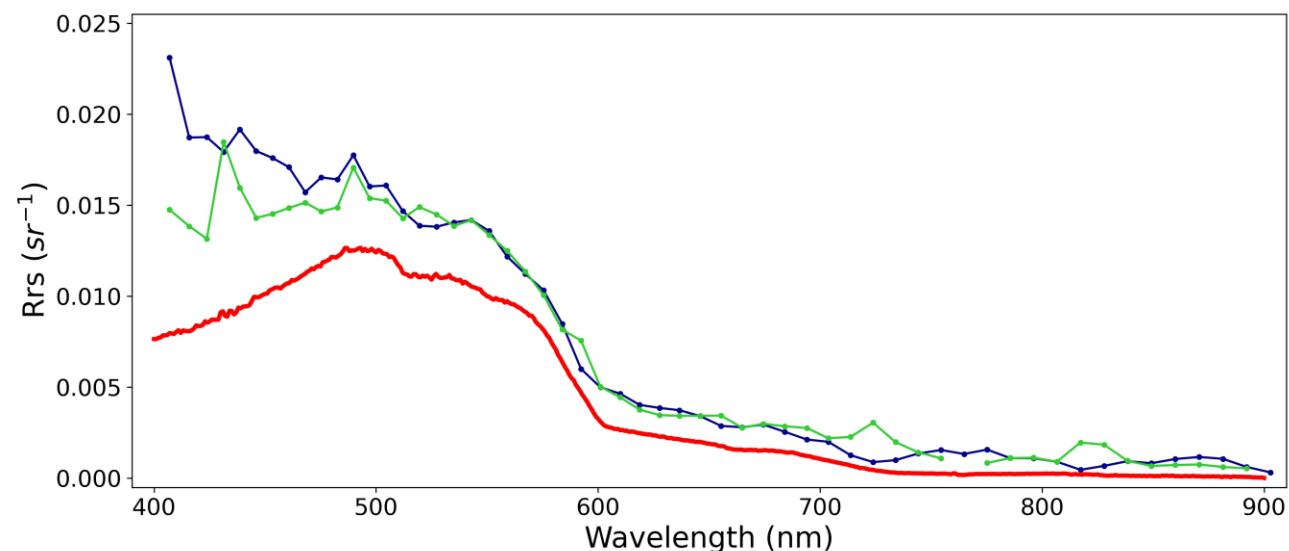
PRISMA vs HYPSTAR® : 2 match-ups in 2023

Spectral Comparison AAOT (January 28, 2023)



New PRISMA LTOA calibration
Performance degraded

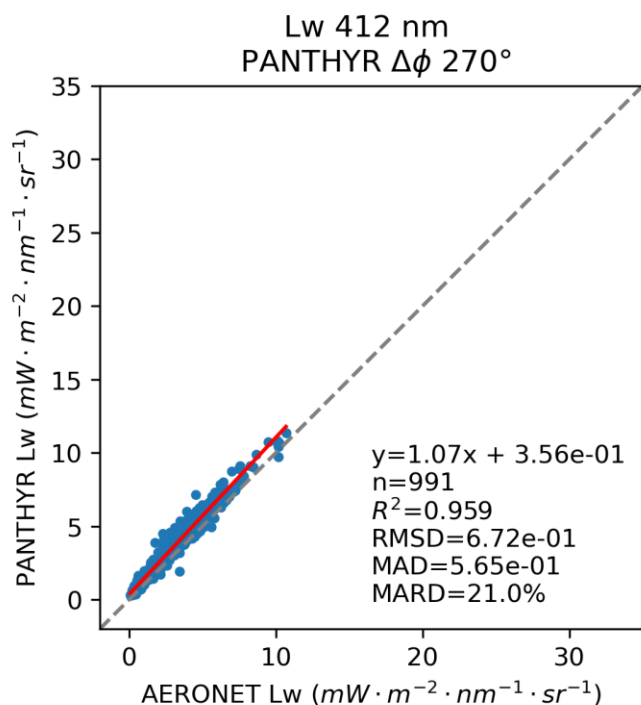
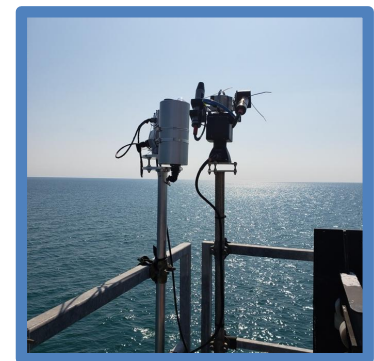
Spectral Comparison AAOT (March 3, 2023)



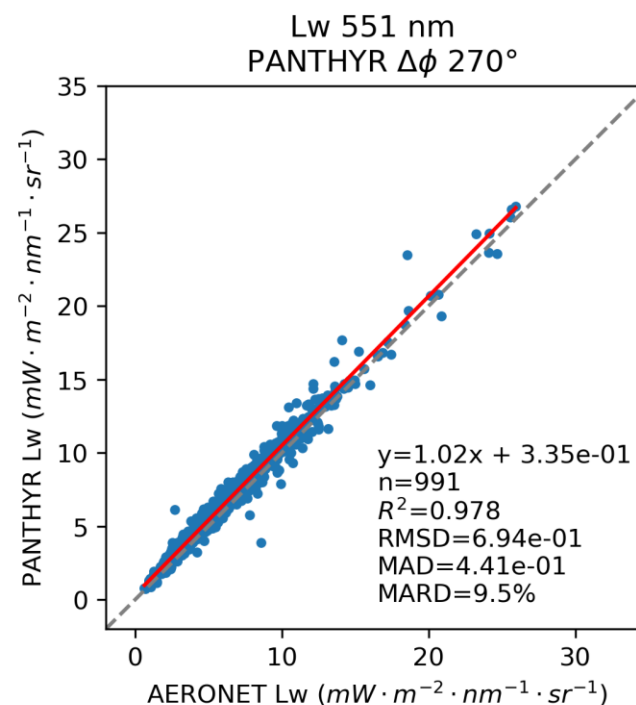


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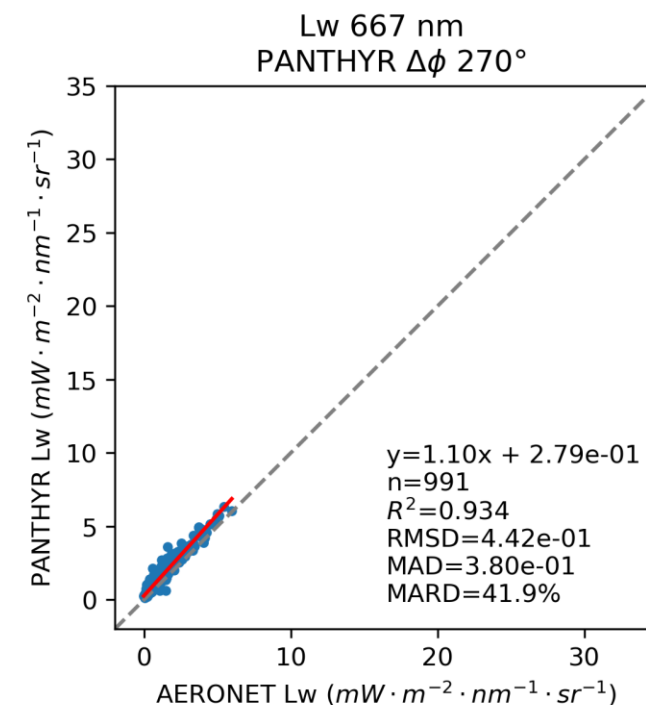
Comparison PANTHYR vs Aeronet-OC: radiometry from opposite corners



412 nm



551 nm

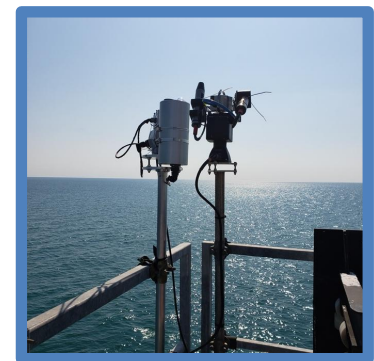


667 nm



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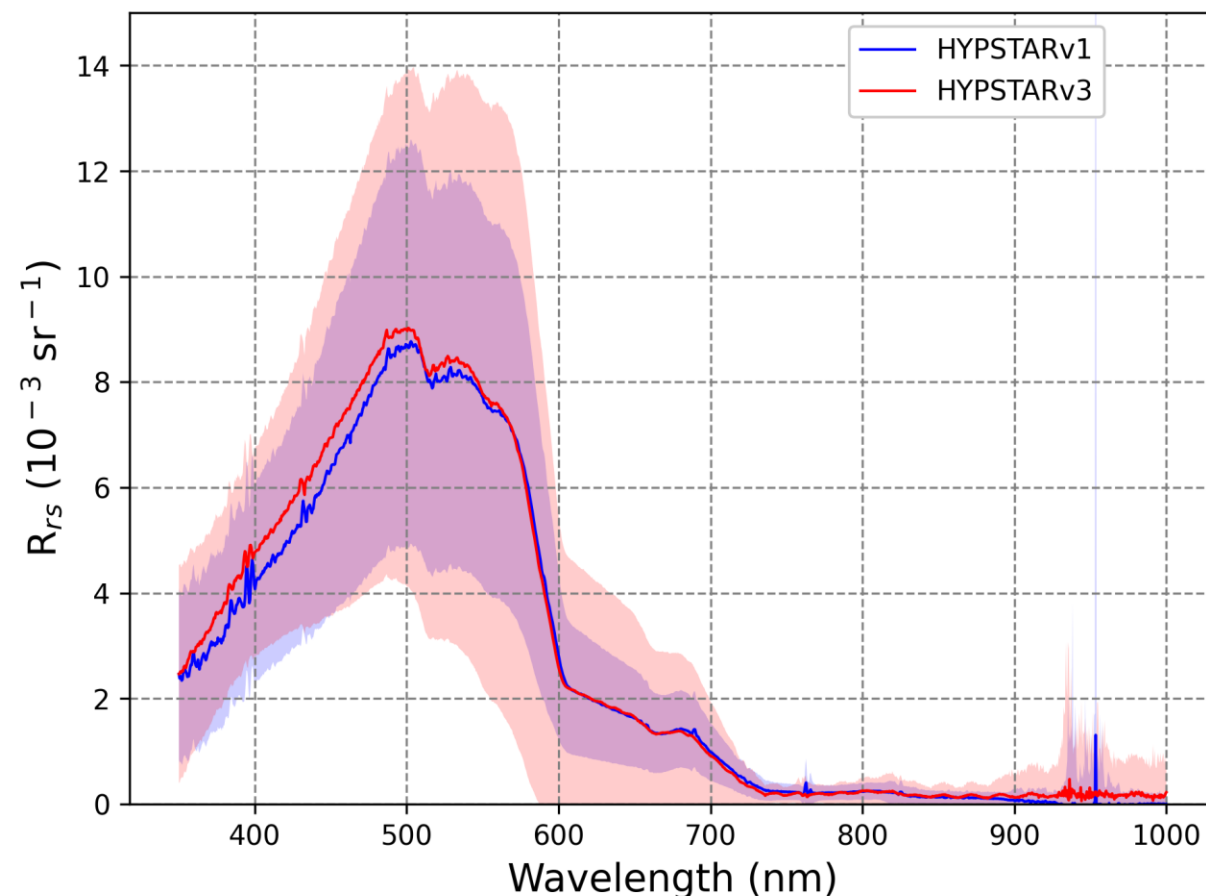
effect of HYPSTAR® relocation



V1 sensor : 15-04-2020 - 13-03-2023



V3 sensor in AERONET-OC corner: 17-03-2023 ->



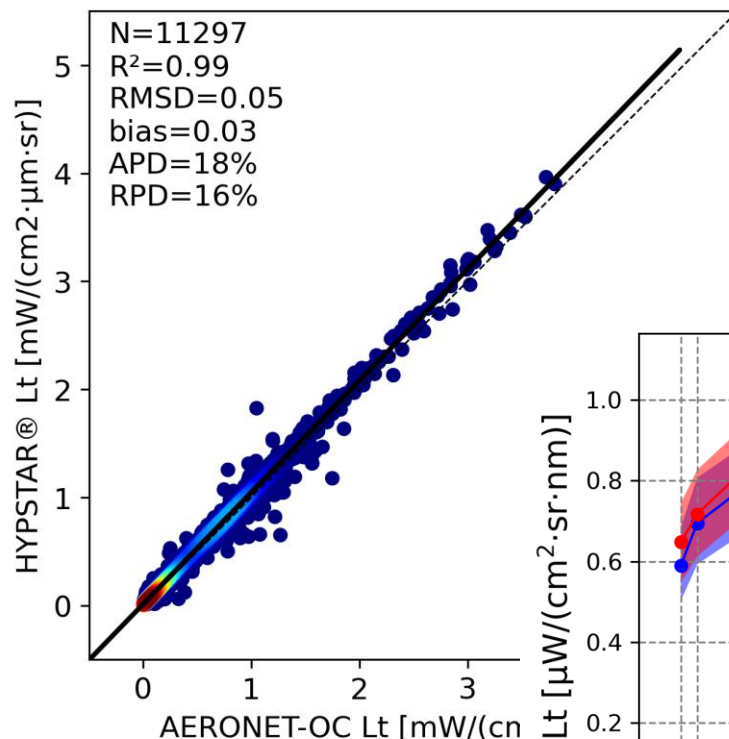
Similar dynamic range for V1 and V3 even for measurements in different periods



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Comparison HYPSTAR[®] vs Aeronet-OC: radiometry from the same location and with the same geometry Lt – Total radiance from the sea surface.

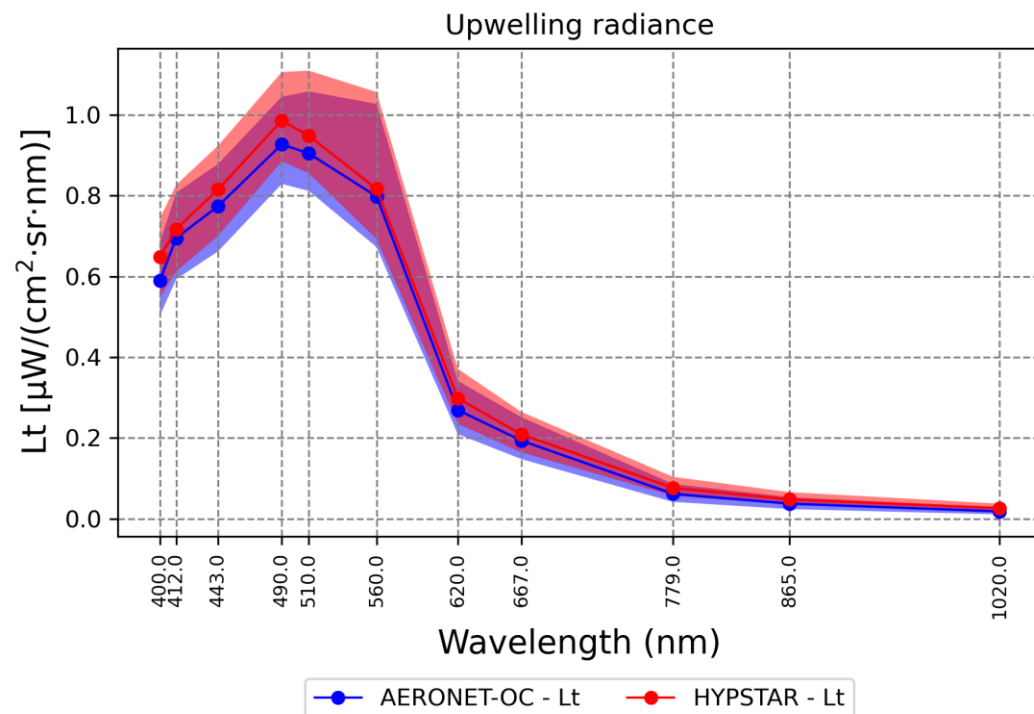
Analysis in progress to assess the impact of the differences in the sensor characteristics, and in the data acquisition and data reduction methods



AERONET-OC data based on Lt_mean



V3 sensor in AERONET-OC corner: 17-03-2023 ->

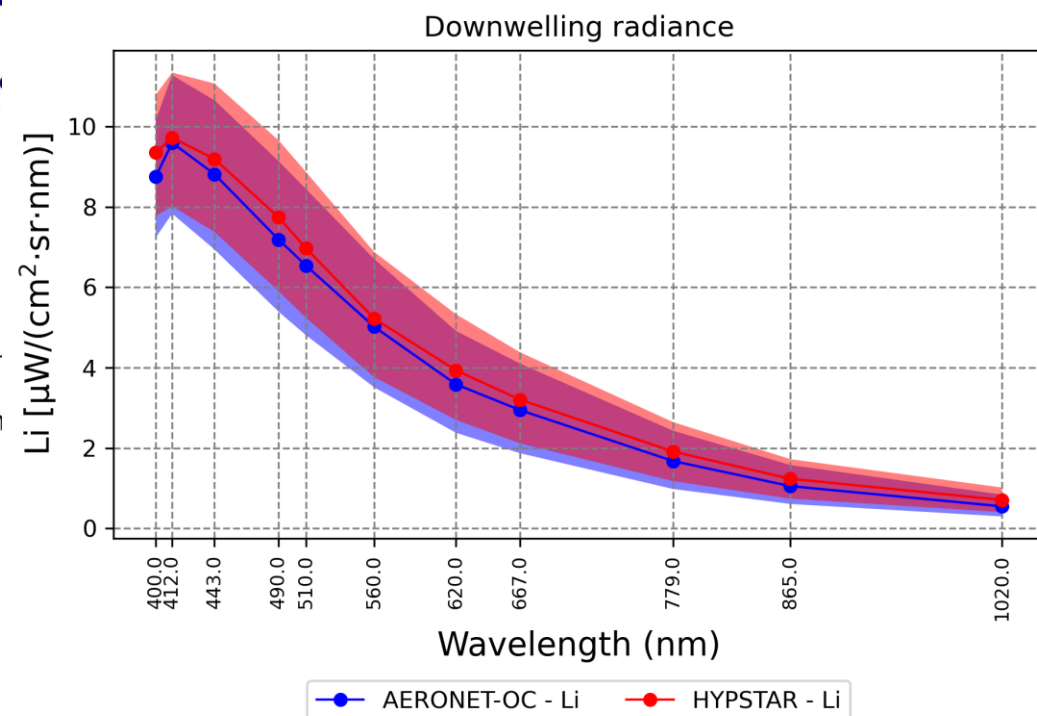
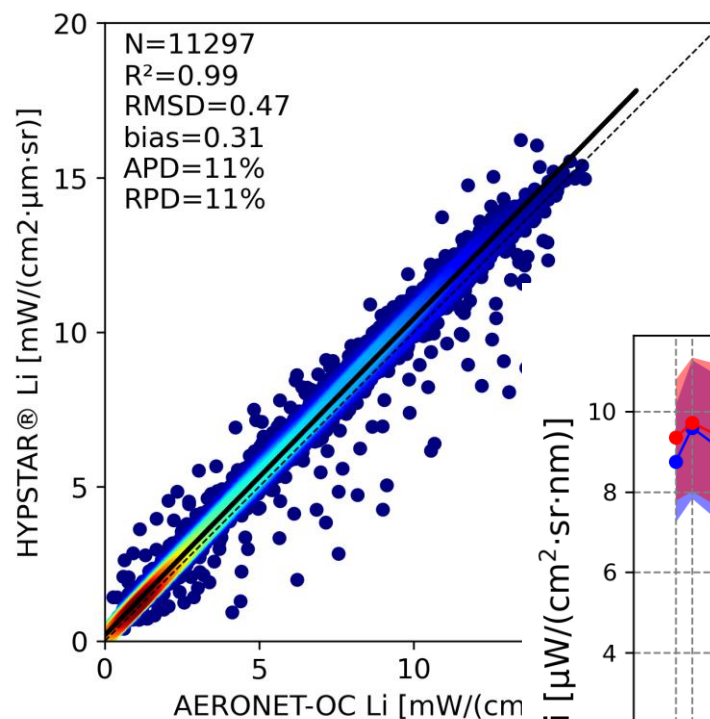




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Comparison HYPSTAR[®] vs Aeronet-OC: radiometry from the same location and with the same geometry Li – Sky radiance

Analysis in progress to assess the impact of the differences in the sensor characteristics, and in the data acquisition and data reduction methods



V3 sensor in AERONET-OC corner: 17-03-2023 ->

2024-01-01 ... 2024-09-30

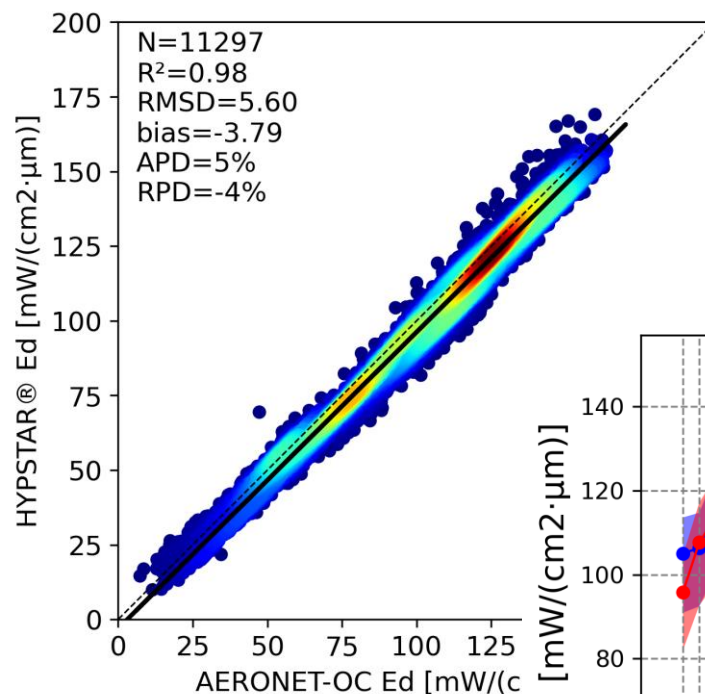
1027 matches within 10 minutes across 121 days



Aqua Alta Oceanographic Tower

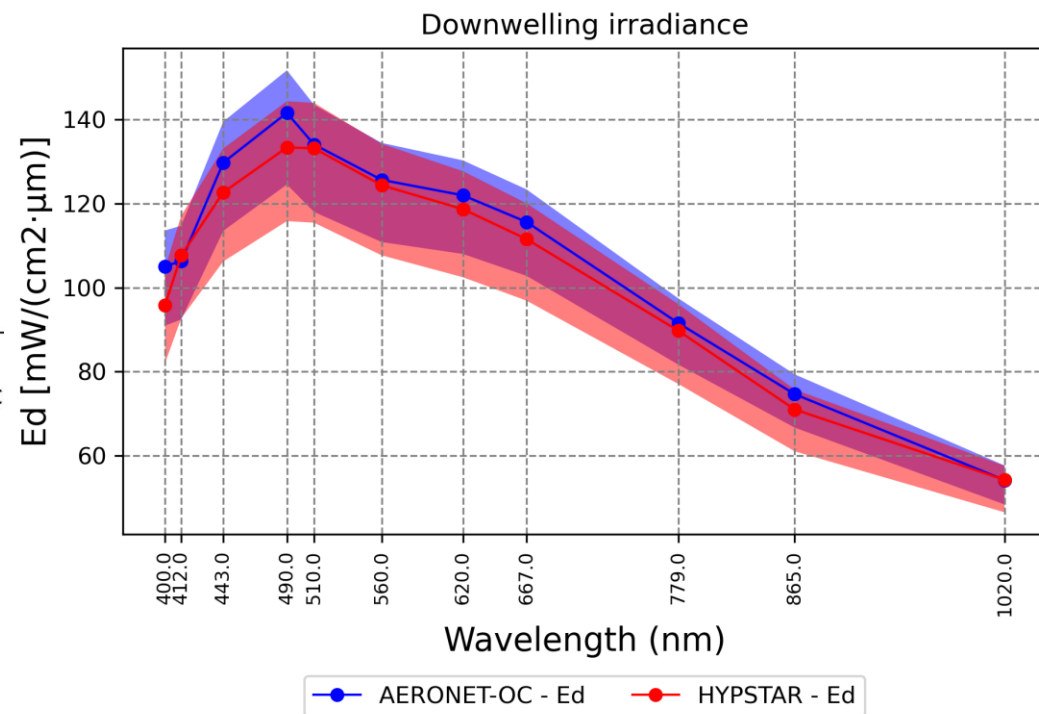
Comparison HYPSTAR[®] vs Aeronet-OC: radiometry from the same location and with the same geometry **Ed – Downwelling irradiance**

Analysis in progress to assess the impact of the differences in the sensor characteristics, and in the data acquisition and data reduction methods



AERONET-OC Ed

$$E_d = \frac{F_0 L_w}{L_{wn}}$$



V3 sensor in AERONET-OC corner: 17-03-2023 ->

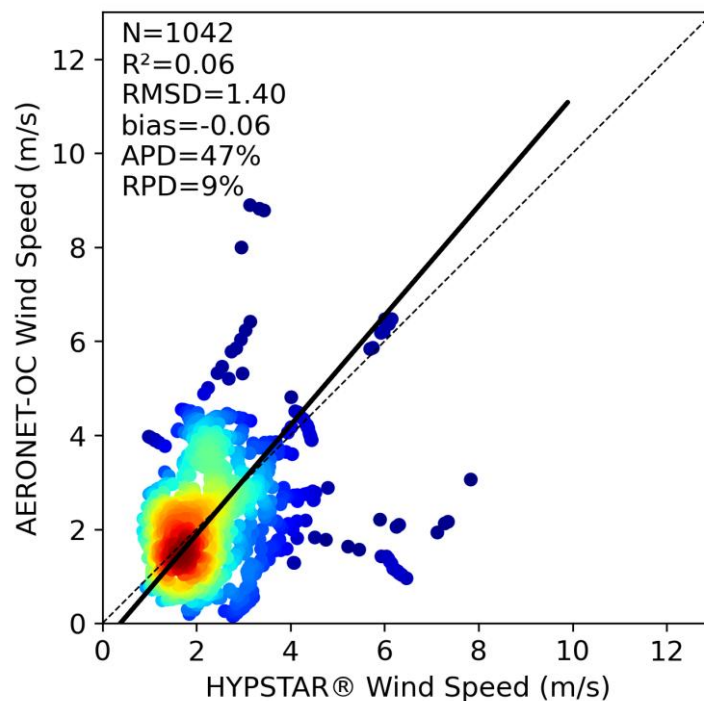
2024-01-01 ... 2024-09-30
1027 matches within 10 minutes across 121 days



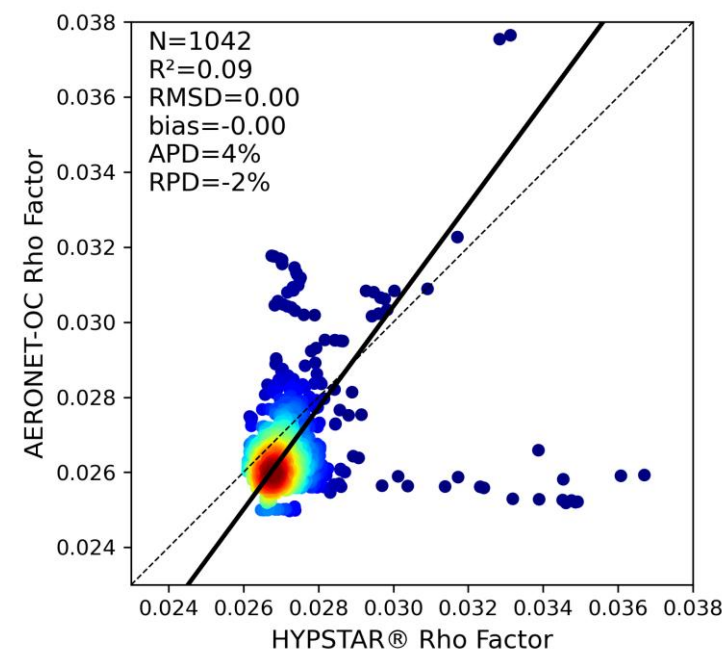
Aqua Alta Oceanographic Tower

Comparison HYPSTAR[®] vs Aeronet-OC: radiometry from the same location and with the same geometry

Analysis in progress to assess the impact of the differences in the sensor characteristics, and in the data acquisition and data reduction methods



Data reduction methods: different source for wind speed leads to significant differences in Rho values



V3 sensor in AERONET-OC corner: 17-03-2023 ->

Summary

- Automated radiometry leads to high number of matchups (~70-80 per year at AAOT)
- Automated hyperspectral radiometry enabled qualification for all 15 OLCI bands with HYPSTAR and PANTHYR
- PANTHYR at VEIT used for PRISMA, EnMAP and PACE Hyperspectral L2 qualification
- PANTHYR and HYPSTAR at VEIT used for Sentinel 2 MSI multispectral
- Intercomparisons between time series from radiometers is on-going



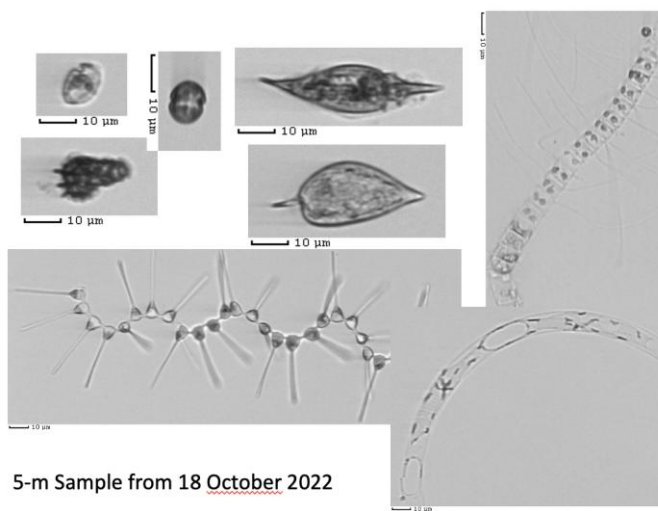
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WORKSHOP REPORT

74 *Oceanography* | Vol.33, No.1

DATA NEEDS FOR HYPERSENSPECTRAL DETECTION OF ALGAL DIVERSITY ACROSS THE GLOBE

By Heidi Dierssen, Astrid Bracher, Vittorio Brando, Hubert Loisel, and Kevin Ruddick



5-m Sample from 18 October 2022

- Hyperspectral Water-leaving Reflectance (R_{rs})
 - Field data from ships, moorings, etc...
 - Algal culture data
 - Satellite or airborne data (e.g., HICO, CHRIS-PROBA, AVIRIS, PRISM) after atmospheric correction
 - Simulated data
- Hyperspectral optical properties (IOPs) when available, absorption by phytoplankton (aphyt) most useful
- Phytoplankton Dominant Taxa (WORMS classification)
- Phytoplankton Dominant Taxa Method
- Concentration metric (carbon/L, cells/L, etc..)
- Fractional composition of major Phytoplankton Groups (PGs)
- PG method
- Relevant metadata (location, date, time)
- Relevant ancillary data (temperature, salinity, nutrients, etc...)



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Ana I. Dogliotti^{1,2*}, Estefanía Piegari^{1,3}, Lucas Rubinstein^{1,4},
Pablo Perna¹ and Kevin G. Ruddick⁵



Publicly available datasets on zenodo



VEIT PANTHYR L2
data for Oct. 2019—
Mar. 2022



VEIT HYPSTAR[®] L2
data for Apr. 2021—
Apr. 2023



GAIT HYPSTAR[®] L2
data for June 2022—
Nov. 2022



Automated above water hyperspectral radiometry at Acqua Alta: review of recent results and perspectives



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