## **Copernicus FICE 2024**

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

# AERONET-OC

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## AERONET-OC

The outcome of an excellent NASA-JRC collaboration.

The Ocean Color component of AERONET is an asset for the major Space Agencies managing ocean color missions (e.g., EUMETSAT, KARI, NOAA, JAXA, ESA, CNSA, NASA, ...) and by the ocean colour community at large.





 $(\varphi = \varphi_0 + 90^0; \theta = 40^0; \theta' = 140^0)$ 

Sky-radiance:  $L_i$ 

Sea-radiance:  $L_T$ 

 $L_{W}(\varphi,\theta,\lambda) = L_{T}(\varphi,\theta,\lambda) - \rho(\varphi,\theta,\theta_{0},W)L_{i}(\varphi,\theta',\lambda)$ 



## AERONET-OC: sites

The Ocean Color component of the Aerosol Robotic Network generating globally distributed time-series of standardized  $L_{WN}(\lambda)$  and  $\tau_a(\lambda)$  measurements targeting the validation of satellite ocean color data products









CE-318 (9-channel)

CE-318T (12-channel)

O ● Active marine

Active Marine sites (26, 3 are on hold; plus 2 AERONET-OC equivalent sites managed by China whose data are not yet accessible)
AAOT (replacing Venice); Ariake\_Tower; Bahia\_Blanca; Casablanca\_Platform; Chesapeake\_Bay; Frying\_Pan\_Platform; Galata\_Platform; Gustaf\_Dalen\_Tower;
Helsinki\_LightHouse (on hold); Irbe\_Lighthouse; Kemigawa\_Offshore; LISCO; Lucinda; MVCO; PLOCAN\_Tower; RdP-EsNM; San\_Marco\_Platform; Section-7\_Platform
(replacing Gloria); leodo Station (on hold); Socheongcho; Thornton\_C-power (on hold); USC\_SEAPRISM; WaveCIS\_Site\_CSI\_6; Zeebrugge-MOW1; Muping; Dongou.

#### > Active inland sites (5)

Palgrunden; Banana\_River; Lake\_Erie; South\_Greenbay; Sacramento\_River.

*Potential sites (2)* Gulf\_of\_Biscay, Norwegian Sea



Multi-spectral radiometry, but benefitting of multi-decadal advancement in (fore)optics design, measurement methods, instruments handling, data management and processing.

- CE-318 9-channel for marine applications (considered obsolete).
- *CE-318T 12-channel with two standard configurations for marine and lake applications.*

<b>Satellite Sensors</b>	s Wavelengths [nm]																			
MODIS		412.5	443	488		531	551		667	678		748				870		905	940	
VIIRS (20 nm)		412	445	488			555		672			746			865					
OLCI (10 nm)	400	412.5	442.5	490	510		560	620	665	681	709	754		779	865		885	900	940	1020
				1																
AERONET-OC										Wavelengths [nm]										
PRS-09		412	443	488		531	551		667							870			940	1020
PRS-12 (sea)	400	412.5	442.5	490	510		560	620	665					779	865				940	1020
PRS-12 (lake)		412.5	442.5	490	510		560	620	667	681	709				865				940	1020

#### Band settings

## *AERONET-OC: sites (2002-2020)*



Zibordi, G., Holben, B. N., Talone, M., D'Alimonte, D., Slutsker, I., Giles, D. M., & Sorokin, M. G. (2021). Advances in the Ocean Color component of the Aerosol Robotic Network (AERONET-OC). Journal of Atmospheric and Oceanic Technology, 38(4), 725-746.



#### AERONET-OC products are classified at different QC levels:

*Level 1.0->*  $L_{WN}(\lambda)$  determined from complete measurement sequences.

Level 1.5-> Cloud screened aerosol optical thickness data exist; Replicate sky and sea radiance measurements exhibit low variance; Empirical thresholds are satisfied (e.g., exceedingly negative or positive values).

*Level 2.0-> Pre- and post-deployment calibration coefficients exhibit justifiable differences within 5%; An automated screening is passed to determine the:* 

- *i.* consistency of  $L_{WN}(\lambda)$  spectral shapes within the data set itself (spectral-consistency),
- *ii.* absence of short-term glitches or systematic daily trends (temporal consistency).

# Expert Based QC

AERONET-OC QC Tool v2.0



The same principles are now applied in a fully automated QC procedure

Zibordi, G., Holben, B. N., Talone, M., D'Alimonte, D., Slutsker, I., Giles, D. M., & Sorokin, M. G. (2021). Advances in the Ocean Clor component of the Aerosol Robotic Network (AERONET-OC). Journal of Atmospheric and Oceanic Technology, 38(4), 725-746.



#### *Version-3* (https://aeronet.gsfc.nasa.gov/cgi-bin/draw\_map\_display\_seaprism\_v3)

- Relaying on spectrally independent ho-factors from Mobley (1999)
- Comprehensive and fully automated QC at Level 2.0.
- Data products (i.e., L<sub>WN</sub>) corrected for brdf according to the Chla- and IOP-based methods.

#### Toward Version-4

- Comprehensive and fully automated QC also at Level 1.5 (i.e., incorporating most of the current quality checks applied for Level 2.0).
- Ranking of individual L<sub>WN</sub> as a function of spectral and temporal consistency for a better assessment of satellite data products.
- Statistical determination of  $L_{WN}$  uncertainties for individual measurements.
- Application of advanced sea surface reflectance factors accounting for spectral dependence as a function of aerosol type and optical thickness, and polarization (under evaluation since April 2024).

Zibordi, G., Holben, B. N., Talone, M., D'Alimonte, D., Slutsker, I., Giles, D. M., & Sorokin, M. G. (2021). Advances in the Ocean Color component of the Aerosol Robotic Network (AERONET-OC). Journal of Atmospheric and Oceanic Technology, 38(4), 725-746.

# Early AERONET-OC data application



SeaWiFS VS AERONET-OC

MODIS-A

VS

MERIS

VS

*These scatter plots were* included in the first publication showing the relevance of autonomous above-water radiometry in support of satellite ocean colour validation activities (someone wrote that this changed the way to perform validation activities).

Zibordi, G., Mélin, F., & Berthon, J. F. (2006). Comparison of SeaWiFS, MODIS and MERIS radiometric products at a coastal site. Geophysical Research Letters, 33(6).

# AERONET-OC: an automated network of above-water multi-spectral radiometers

#### Outline

 $\succ$  The network

Objectives

Sites

- Data products and access
- Applications



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# A view on the Sky-Blocked Approach

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# Near-surface radiometry

#### Historical dates

1990s: First successful measurements2010s: Method assessment2020s: Comprehensive uncertainty analysis



#### Advantages

- 1. Simple deployment procedure
- 2. Insensitive to coastal water optical stratifications

#### Drawback

- 1. Cannot produce profiles of radiometric quantities
- 2. Restricted to a few radiometric quantities (i.e.,  $L_w$ )
- 3. Highly sensitive to wave perturbations
- 4. Requires corrections for shading perturbations and for near-surface in-water transmittance

## Near-surface radiometry



Korea Ocean Research & Development Institute (KORDI), "Development of red-tide and water turbidity algorithms using ocean color satellite," BSPE 98721-00-1224-01, (1999).
A. Tanaka, H. Sasaki and J. Ishizaka, "Alternative measuring method for water-leaving radiance using a radiance sensor with a domed cover," Opt. Express 14(8), 3099–3105 (2006).
Z. Lee, Y. H. Ahn, C. Mobley and R. Arnone, "Removal of surface-reflected light for the measurement of remote-sensing reflectance from ...," Opt. Express, 18 (25), 26313–26324 (2010).
G. Zibordi and M. Talone, M., "On the equivalence of near-surface methods to determine the water-leaving radiance." Opt. Express, 28(3), 3200-3214 (2020).

# On the equivalence of near-surface radiometry

SBA was suggested to be superior to other in-water or above-water methods because of its immediacy and the capability of 'directly' measure the waterleaving radiance. For instance, SDA requires correction for the transmittance of *Lu* from below to above water in view of determining *Lw*.

SBA and SDA methods were comprehensively compared through a specific experiment requiring the design of a dedicated measuring system and the collection of data in a number of diverse water types.



## Errors quantification



# ... and what about the water likely splashing on the optical window?



 $t_{wa}(\lambda) \cdot t_{wg}(\lambda)$ 

Finally,  $C_{ww}(\lambda) = t_{wa}(\lambda) \cdot t_{wg}(\lambda)/t_{ag}(\lambda)$  accounts for the wet optical window (idealized as a homogenous water film on the optical window) determined by the ratio of the combined transmittances of air-water and water-window interfaces  $t_{wa}(\lambda) \cdot t_{wg}(\lambda)$  to that of an air-window interface  $t_{ag}(\lambda)$ , all computed applying the small angle approximation.

For completeness, it is mentioned that the corrections for the wet optical window  $C_{ww}$  exhibit values of approximately 1.3% slightly varying with  $\lambda$  in the 400-700 nm spectral interval. Laboratory verifications of such a correction showed values varying from a fraction of a percent to several percent depending on the size and spatial distribution of water drops on the optical window. Because of this,  $C_{ww}$  must be considered an idealized correction, still representative of the impact of water on the optical window of the SBA sensor.

### Supporting the equivalence of the two methods



### On the equivalence of the two methods



## On the equivalence of the two methods







## Conclusions

Near surface radiometric methods exhibit equivalence, which is fully supported by their inter-comparison and also their comparison with in-water radiometry methods.

Definitively, all radiometric measurement methods exhibit advantages and disadvantages.

Near-surface methods, comprehensively implemented, can easily support manned radiometric methods.

Still, above-water radiometry, benefitting of consolidated technology, accurate calibration and characterizations, comprehensive measurement protocols (implying the application of community-shared quality assurance, processing and quality control procedures) exhibit relevance for both manned and automated operations and has already amply shown the capability to support satellite ocean color applications.