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# Simultaneous observation of *in situ* water reflectance and atmospheric properties from autonomous sensor systems to improve satellite validation of optically complex waters

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### **Talk overview**

- 1. Autonomous sensor systems and deployments in MONOCLE
  - So-Rad (Solar tracking Radiometry platform): Ls, Lt, Ed  $\rightarrow$  Rrs
  - HSP (Hyperspectral Pyranometer): Ed, Eds, Edd  $\rightarrow$  AOT
- 2. A new way to retrieve in situ Rrs by combining So-Rad and HSP
  - Modification of Rrs algorithm (3C) to incorporate direct-diffuse irradiance from the HSP.
  - Illustration of improved precision in Rrs.

#### 3. Spatial scales of Rrs variability from `ships of opportunity'

- Measuring sub-pixel variability and spatial autocorrelation in Rrs.
- Advantage to using mobile platforms for satellite validation.





### 1.1 So-Rad (Solar-tracking Radiometry Platform)

- Rotating platform designed to operate spectroradiometers on moving vessels whilst avoiding sun glint. Prototype in Simis and Olsson 2013.
- Applications of Rrs: ecosystem monitoring and satellite validation (assessment of atmospheric correction uncertainty & sub-pixel variability).
- Stand-alone operation (except cleaning), low power consumption (15 W), low cost (~€ 3000 + sensors). Open-source compatible with Linux on a Raspberry Pi 3B.



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### **1.2** Spatial variability in Rrs from So-Rad on `ships of opportunity'

44.935

44 905\*

44.89\*1

44.875\*



Lake Balaton, Hungary



**Tagus Estuary, Portugal** 



— Mean spectrum

800

900

700





Plymouth Sound and near-coast, UK



### **1.3 Direct-diffuse irradiance from the Hyperspectral Pyranometer (HSP)**





- Partitions Ed (downwelling irradiance) into direct (Edd) and diffuse (Eds) components.
- Primary usage: characterization of aerosol optical thickness (AOT).
- Incorporates a shading pattern over multiple diffuser optics: can be operated on moving platforms. Prototype in Wood et al. 2017.



2019-06-01: HSP irradiance data

### 2.1 The 3C (3 glint component) Rrs algorithm

#### **Conventional above-water Rrs equation:**

- 3C algorithm (Groetsch et al. 2017): Rrs derived from spectral optimization using water (Albert & Mobley, 2003) and atmospheric (Gregg & Carder, 1990) models.
- Spectral-offset, Δ(λ): `additional spectral' basis functions (Edd/Ed, Eds/Ed).
- Rationale: improved estimation of Rrs when Ls/Ed is not representative of surface-reflected radiance (wind-roughened & scattered-cloud conditions).
- Current limitation: spectral shape of Edd/Ed and Eds/Ed based on model inversion (uses clear-sky model).

Example of `glint basis functions':

Dashed lines: modeloptimized by 3C Solid lines: measured by HSP

$$R_{rs}(\lambda) \equiv \frac{L_w(\lambda)}{E_d(\lambda)} = \frac{L_t(\lambda)}{E_d(\lambda)} - \rho_s \frac{L_s(\lambda)}{E_d(\lambda)} - \delta_s$$

**Rrs equation in 3C:** 

$$R_{rs}(\lambda) \equiv \frac{L_w(\lambda)}{E_d(\lambda)} = \frac{L_t(\lambda)}{E_d(\lambda)} - \rho_s \frac{L_s(\lambda)}{E_d(\lambda)} - \Delta(\lambda),$$
$$\Delta(\lambda) = \frac{\rho_{dd}}{\pi} \cdot \left(\frac{E_{dd}(\lambda)}{E_d(\lambda)}\right)^m + \frac{\rho_{ds}}{\pi} \cdot \left(\frac{E_{ds}(\lambda)}{E_d(\lambda)}\right)^m,$$



- **Central idea**: HSP measurements of Eds/Ed and Edd/Ed replaced model-optimized glint terms in 3C.
- Hypothesis: HSP measurements will better-constrain the spectral-shape of glint correction (& remove atmospheric-model dependence).
- We benchmarked 3 algorithm variants:

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1. **3C** (3 component glint): model optimization for Eds/Ed and Edd/Ed

2. **DD** (direct-diffuse): HSP measurements for Eds/Ed and Edd/Ed.

3. **DD2**: 2-sensor variant of DD (no Ls sensor & lower cost solution).



2020-07-30 09:00:38, IDR: 0.0646

Incorporating a hyperspectral direct-diffuse pyranometer in an above-water reflectance algorithm. Jordan et al. 2022, Remote Sensing, 14, 2491.

### 2.3 Deployment & atmospheric characterization using the HSP

- ~ 4.5-month time series of in-port data from the Western Channel (summer 2020).
- So-Rad and HSP deployed on Armorqiue (Brittany Ferries) & collecting (near)simultaneous data.
- Atmospheric state variable: Integrated Diffuse Ratio
  (`fraction of diffuse light')

$$IDR = \frac{\int_{\lambda_i}^{\lambda_f} E_{ds}(\lambda) d\lambda}{\int_{\lambda_i}^{\lambda_f} E_d(\lambda) d\lambda},$$







Wavelength [nm]

# 2.4 Dependence of algorithm precision on atmospheric conditions

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- Assess algorithm precision over 20-minute measurement cycles using Rrs coefficient of variation.
- Key result: DD has significantly lower variability than 3C in clear conditions (IDR < 0.2) in the blue (400 nm) band.
- DD and 3C have comparable variability in green (560 nm), red (665 nm), and NIR bands (865 nm).
- All algorithms have relatively high variability in intermediate conditions (scattered cloud). DD2 has higher variability than 3C and DD in overcast conditions.





Improved precision of DD at blue wavelengths: consistent with the spectral curvature of the glint correction being better constrained (via HSP measurements).



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# 3.1 Using `ships of opportunity' to sample sub-pixel variability for satellite validation

- Satellite validation: assessment of `match-ups' between *in-situ* Rrs (~ point-like data) and satellite Rrs (information aggregated over pixel: 300 m for OLCI, 10-60 m for MSI).
- `Mismatch in spatial scales' can contribute to uncertainty budget in match—up analysis (particularly if a fixed-platform is used to measure Rrs).
- Here we illustrate the advantage to using a mobile platform to sample sub-pixel variability: Lake Balaton car ferry deployment used as case study.

#### Rrs(560) collected by So-Rad within a 6hr match-up window from Lake Balaton car ferry



### 3.2 Characterizing spatial scales of in situ Rrs variability

• Variogram methods were used to sample spatial variation in Rrs as a function of mean ground sample distance (GSD: h).



Spatial variation in Rrs

Intrinsic variation in Rrs: includes instrument noise, algorithm uncertainty, temporal variation within match-up window.



**Correlation length** (distance over which Rrs is spatially autocorrelated)

**Empirical semi variance** 

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ce: 
$$\gamma(h) = \frac{1}{2N(h)} \sum_{i \neq j} \left[ R_{rs}(x_i) - R_{rs}(x_j) \right]^2$$

Fitted (Gaussian) model

$$\gamma(h) = C_0 + (C_\infty - C_0)(1 - \exp(-4h^2/L^2))$$

### 3.3 Examples of root-variograms from the Lake Balaton deployment



Data from `hypothetical match-up windows' of 6 hrs.

### 3.4 Summary of root-variogram structure for the Lake Balaton deployment



- Gaussian model fits are shown (subject to fit-filtering). Median fits in bold. Corresponds to ~ 20 (hypothetical) match-up windows from a 6-week deployment on the car ferry
- Broadly similar shape of variogram between spectral bands
- Correlation lengths for Rrs ~ 100-400 m. Spatial variance component ~ 20-50% of total variance.

## 3.5 Percentage of Rrs variation due to spatial structure at 300 m (OLCI pixel size)

500

- Approximates additional % uncertainty that a fixed platform would experience in match-up analysis (due to not sampling sub-pixel variability).
- Alternatively, approximates % reduction in uncertainty that sampling Rrs from a moving platform enables (for large N).





### **Summary and highlights**

- 1. HSP and So-Rad are autonomous sensor systems, suitable for moving platforms that can aid satellite validation of Rrs in inland and coastal waters.
- 2. Combining So-Rad and the HSP in Rrs processing can improve the precision of *in-situ* Rrs (relative to baseline of 3C).
- Sampling sub-pixel Rrs variability from a `ship of opportunity' would reduce *in-situ* uncertainty by factor ~ 1/3 in OLCI match-up analysis (relative to sampling at a fixed location where water properties are unchanging).







monitoring of Coastal waters. Lakes and Estuarie