



NAVAL  
POSTGRADUATE  
SCHOOL

# ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECT ON UNDERWATER OPTICAL TRANSMISSION

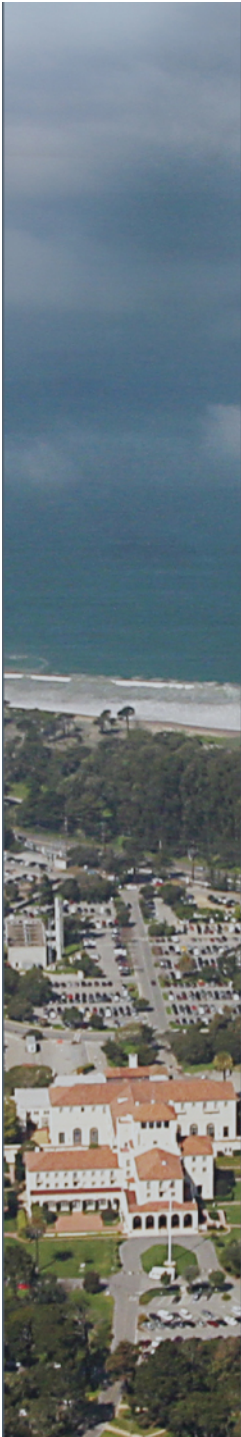
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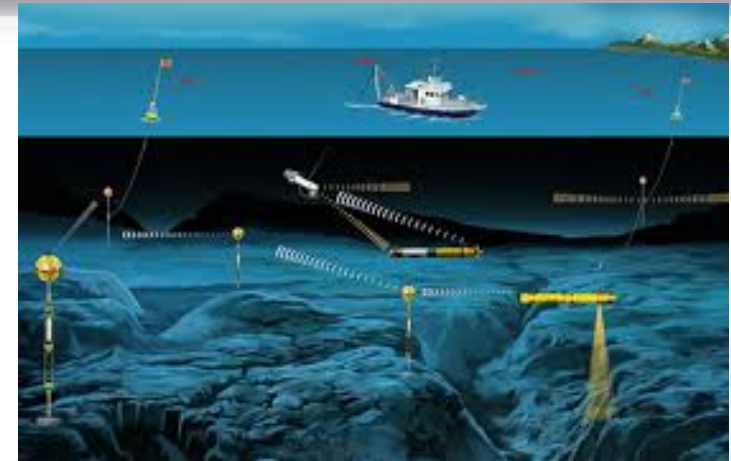


# Effect of Ocean Environment on Underwater Communication and Detection

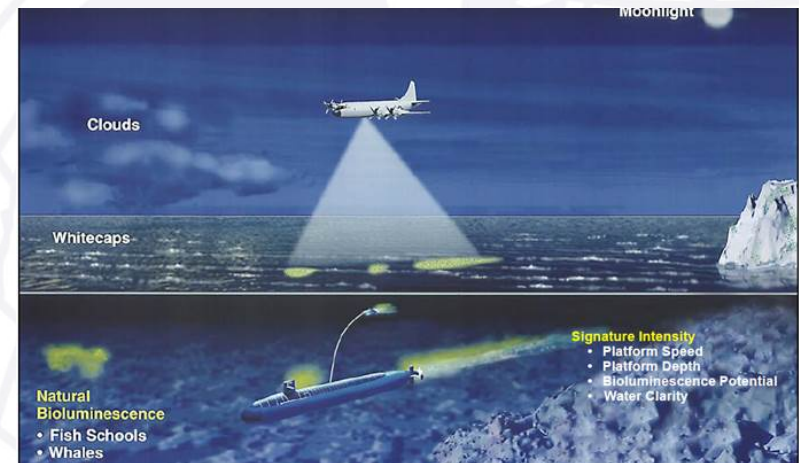
- Optical communication/detection systems are an **alternative** to acoustics
- The ocean optical properties are highly variable and depend on **ocean environment**
- Absorption and scattering by seawater and particles including chlorophyll-a causes **light attenuation**.

Radiative Transfer Equation

$$\left[ \frac{1}{v} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + \mathbf{s} \cdot \nabla + c(z) \right] L(t, r, \mathbf{s}) = b(z) \int_{2\pi} \beta(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{s}') L(t, r, \mathbf{s}') d\Omega' + E(t, \mathbf{r}, \mathbf{s})$$



<http://www.whoi.edu/page.do?pid=119416&tid=3622&cid=163149>



<http://www.atcourses.com>



Development of transfer and correlation functions that relate measurements of one type to another (e.g., mixed layer depth and Lidar optical penetration depth) that could be used to infer profiling data using hull-mounted sensors without having the submarine make a vertical excursion.



# Outlines

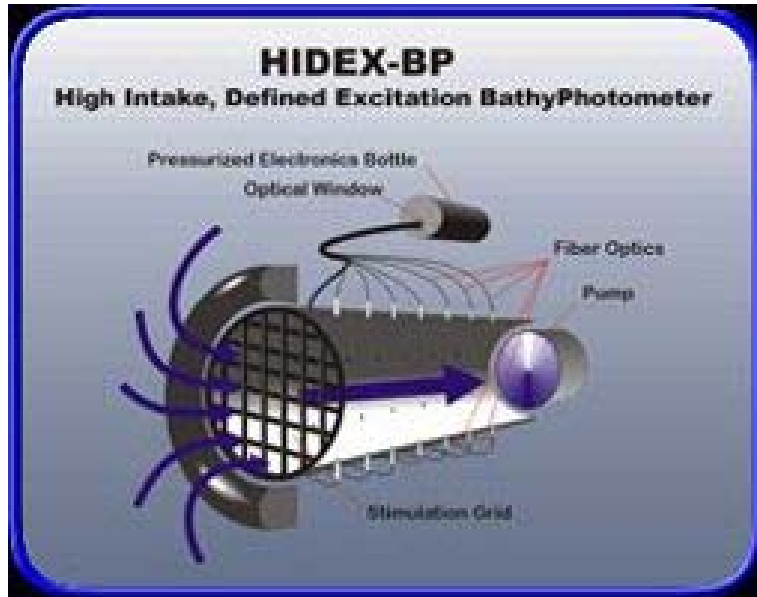
- (1) Data Analysis: establishment of relationship between optical parameters (absorption, scattering, and attenuation coefficients) and ocean environment (T, S, Chl-a, ...) from glider and shipboard observations in the Arabian Gulf, Gulf of Oman, Adriatic Sea, and East Asian Marginal Seas
- (2) Modeling: identify underwater optical path loss through solving the underwater radiative transfer equation (RTE)



# (1) Data Analysis



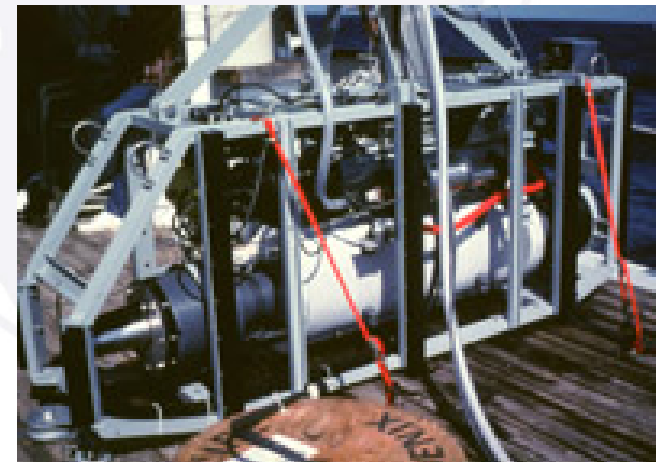
# Ship Board Observation -HIDEX-BP



From [http://www.teamorca.org/cfiles/biolum\\_study.cfm](http://www.teamorca.org/cfiles/biolum_study.cfm)

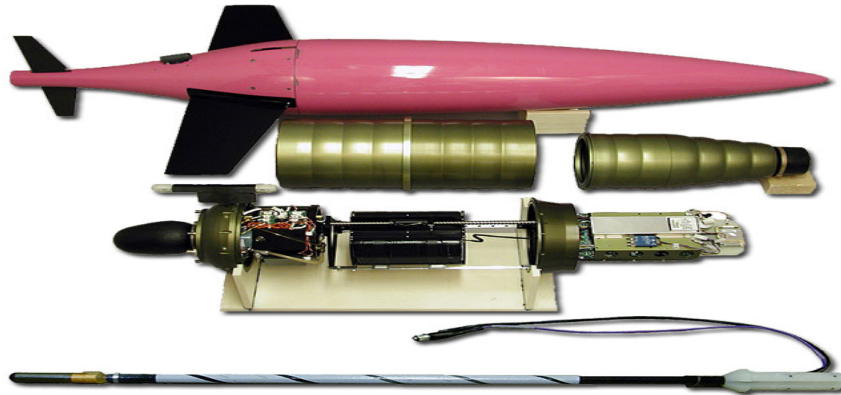
- Environmental instrumentation includes:
  1. A Sea Bird model SBE CTD  
Measure temperature ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ), salinity (PSU), and depth (m).
  2. A Chelsea Mk II Aquatracka fluorometer  
Measure chlorophyll-a fluorescence ( $\mu\text{g/L}$ ) at wavelength 676 nanometers (nm).
  3. A Sea Tech 25 cm pathlength transmissometer  
Measure red light (670 nm) transmission (%).
  4. APL (Applied Physics Laboratory) 1 m pathlength transmissometer  
Measure blue light (490 nm) transmission (%).

- A vertical profiler
- High intake flow (up to 35L/s)
- Long residence time
- Faster profile rate, 200-meter HIDEX profiles takes 20 minutes to complete.

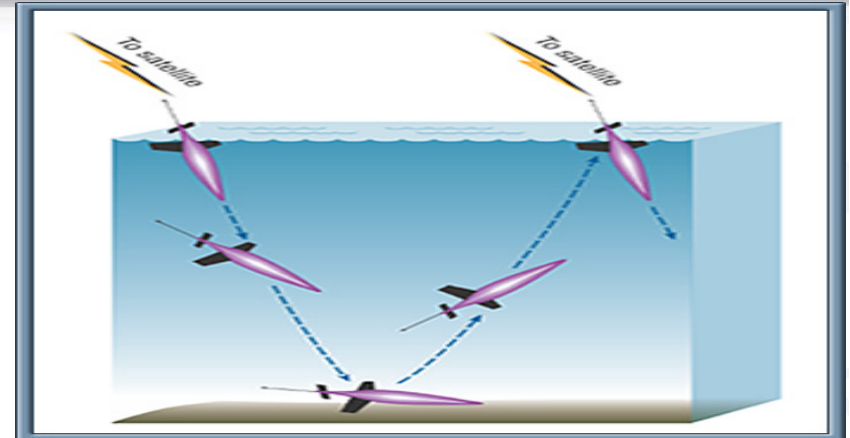




# Instrumentation on Glider



From SEAGLIDER Fabrication Center. [seaglider.washington.edu](http://seaglider.washington.edu)



From Applied Physics Laboratory [www.apl.washington.edu](http://www.apl.washington.edu)

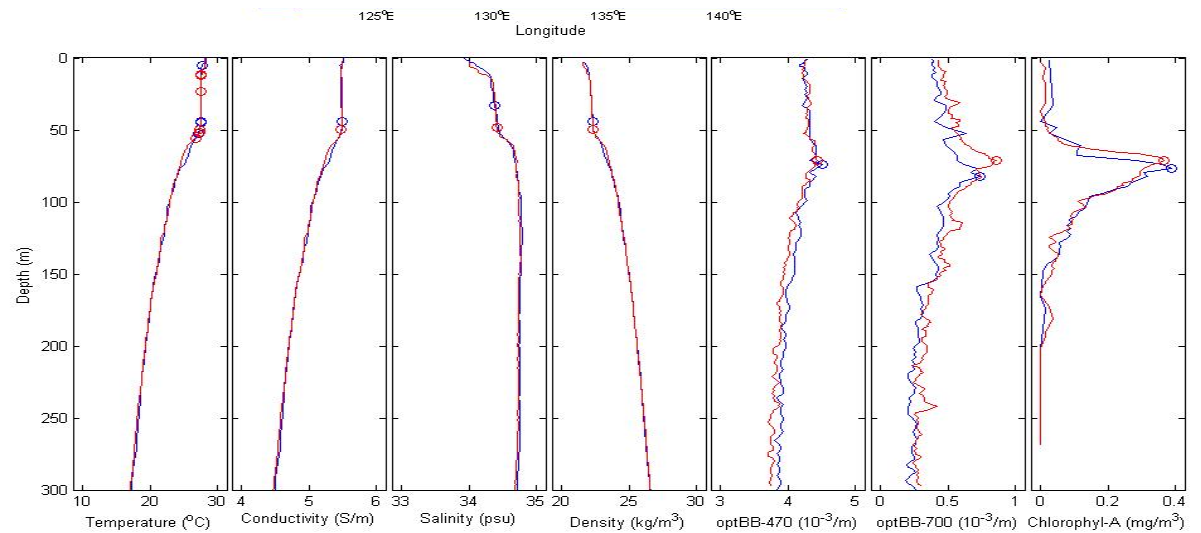
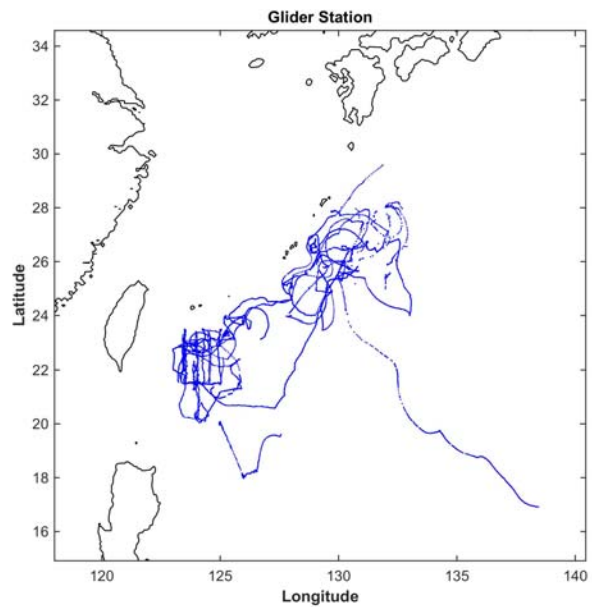
- Profiles from surface to 1500m
- Buoyancy engine produces slight buoyancy changes to induce pitched upward or downward gliding. Internal battery pack is shifted side to side to facilitate turning.
- Uses Iridium LEO system to obtain GPS fixes, upload data, and receive command and control instructions from NAVO Glider Operations Center (GOC).

## Instrumentation

- 1) **Seabird Electronics' SBE 41 CTD sensor**
  - 1 Hz sample rate
  - T accurate to .001 degrees C
  - Salinity accurate to .005 PSU\*
  - Pressure accurate to 2 dbar\*
- 2) **WET Labs, Inc ECO bb2fl optical sensor**
  - Optical Backscatter @ 470nm and 650nm\*
  - Fluorimeter: Chlorophyll-A @ 470 nm\*
  - Samples in top 300m to preserve battery life



## Example – One Cycle Downward/Upward Profiles



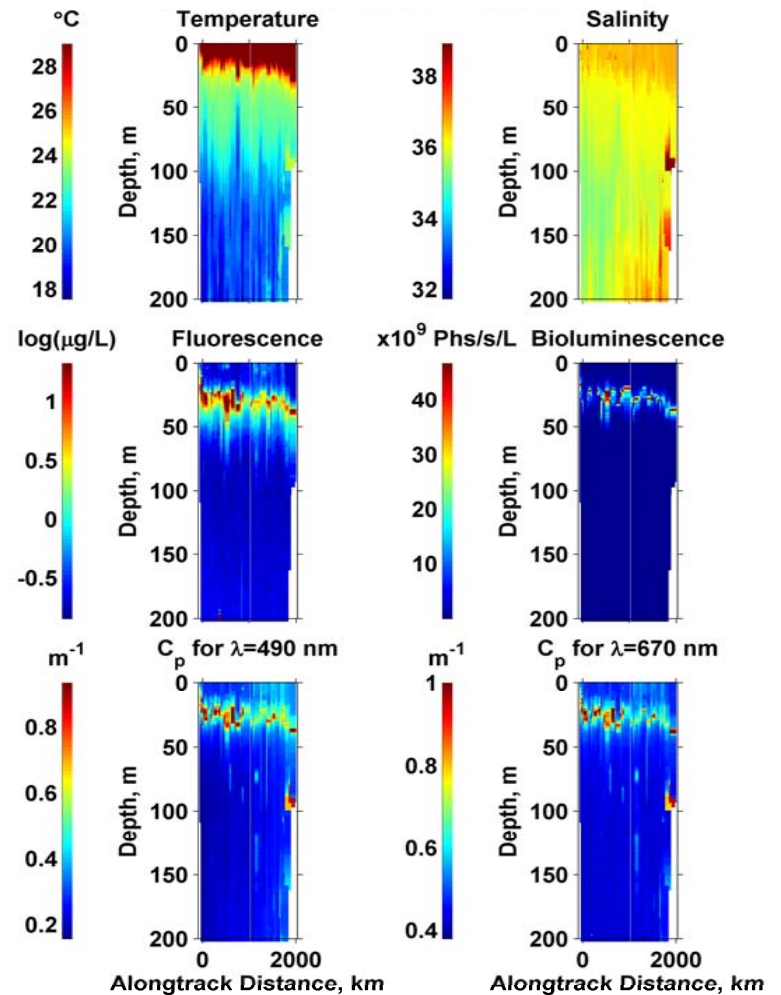




- $(T, S) \leftrightarrow$  Optical Parameters

Fluorescent Chlorophyll  $\rightarrow$

$C_p \rightarrow$  Beam Attenuation  
Coefficient



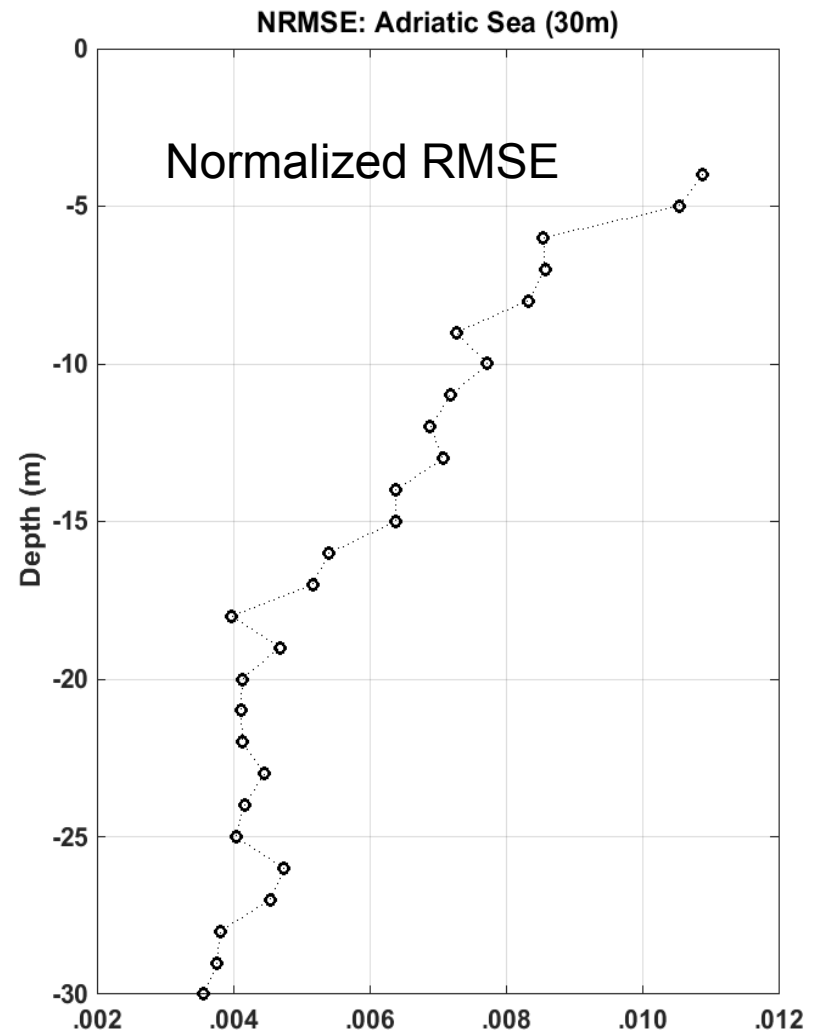
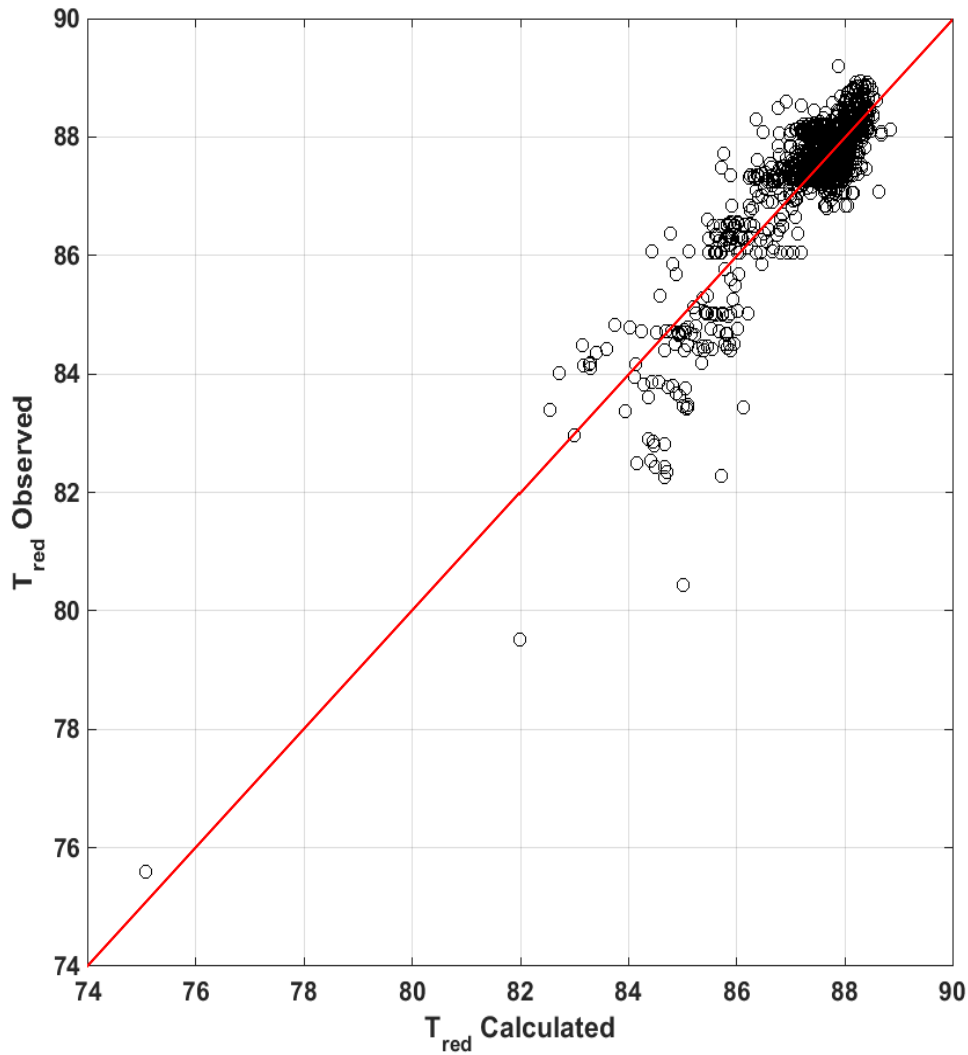


$$\text{Transmittance}(z) = a_0 + a_1 T(z) + a_2 S(z) + a_3 B(z) + a_4 \text{Chl}_F(z)$$

$$\text{Transmittance}(z) = \begin{cases} T_{670} \rightarrow T_{red} \\ T_{490} \rightarrow T_{blue} \end{cases}$$

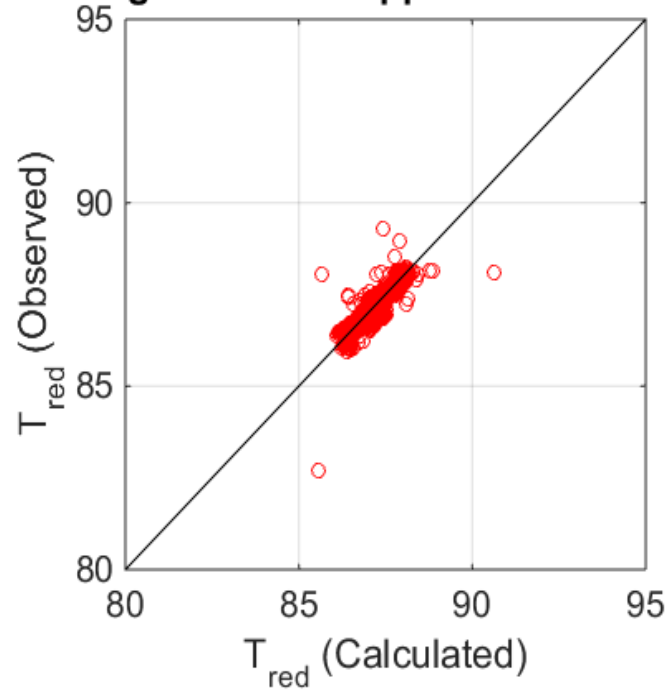


# Transmittance ( $T_{670}$ ) Adriatic Sea

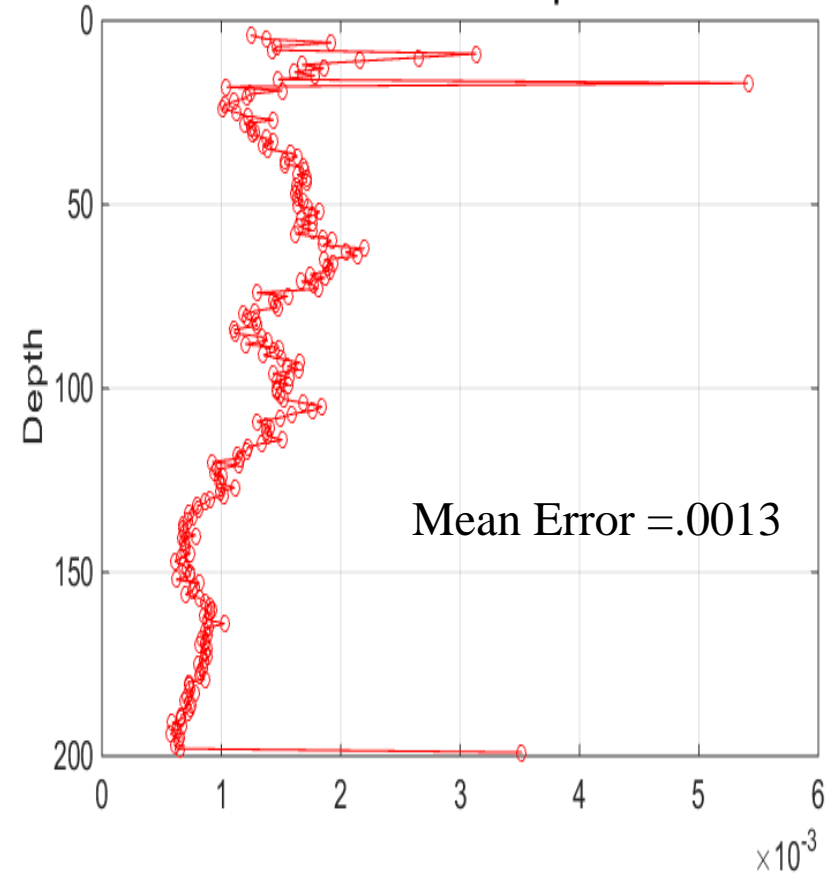




### Linear Regression: Philippine Sea Summer 2005



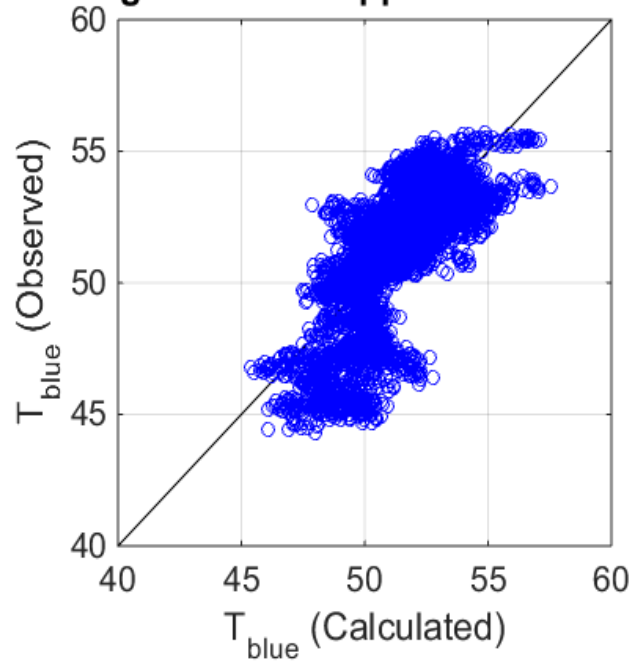
### Normalized Root Mean Square Error



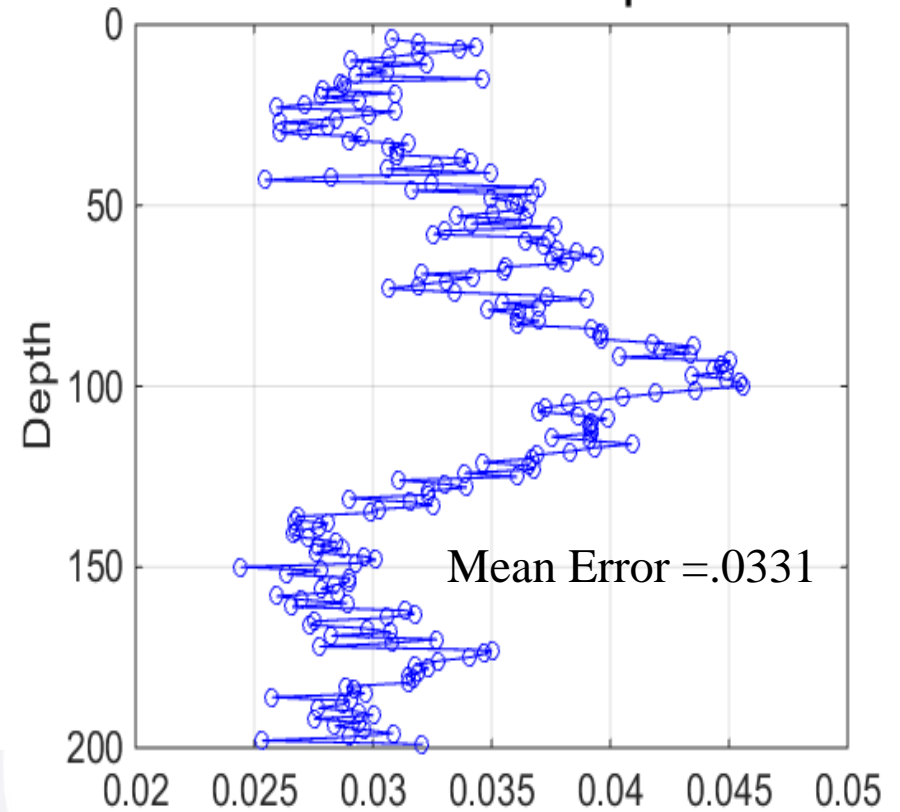


# Philippine Sea-Summer 2005

Linear Regression: Philippine Sea Summer 2005



Normalized Root Mean Square Error



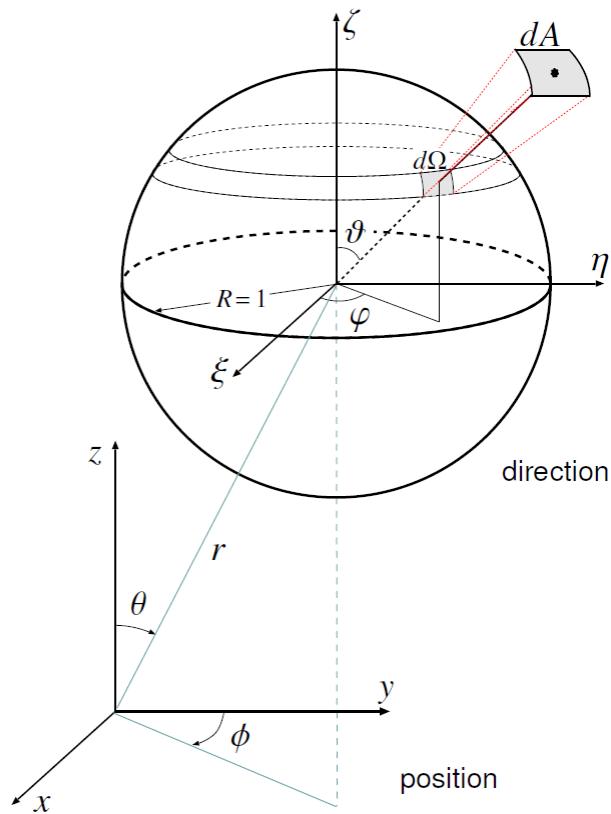


## **(2) Modeling:**

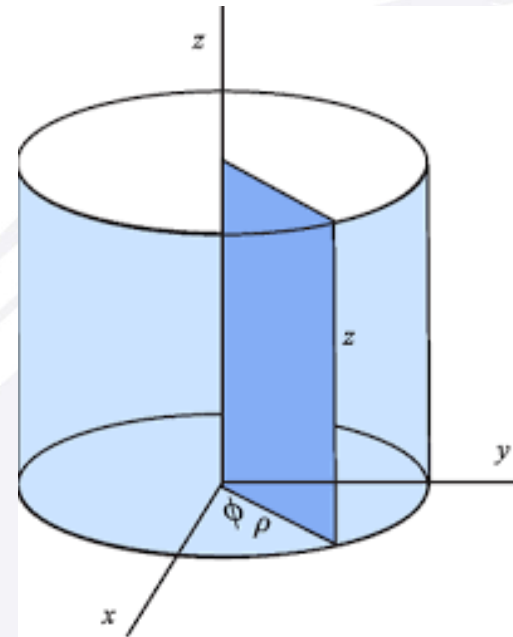
**Identify underwater optical path loss**



# Position and Direction



3D position  $(x, y, z)$



2D position  $(\rho, z)$

Azimuthal symmetry



# Steady State 2-Dimensional RTE

$$\mathbf{n} \cdot \nabla L(\rho, z, \mathbf{n}) = -cL(\rho, z, \mathbf{n}) + b \int_{2\pi} \beta(\mathbf{n}, \mathbf{n}') L(\rho, z, \mathbf{n}') d\mathbf{n}' + S(\rho, z, \mathbf{n})$$

$L(\rho, z, \mathbf{n})$  is the radiance at position  $\mathbf{r}$  propagating towards the direction  $\mathbf{n}$

$S(\rho, z, \mathbf{n})$  is the source radiance

Henyeey-Greenstein  
Phase Function

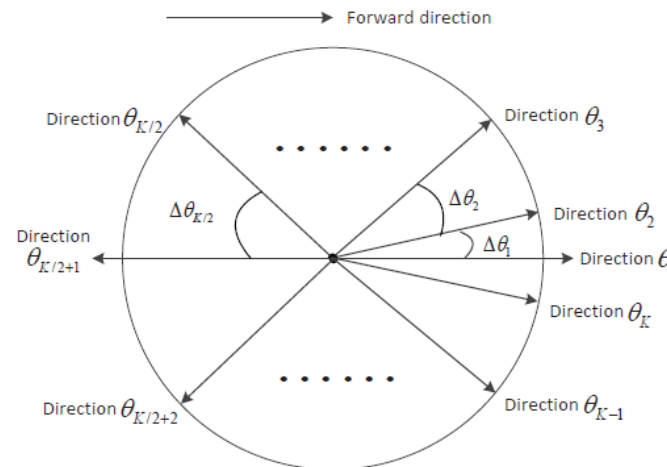
$$\beta(\mathbf{n}, \mathbf{n}') = \frac{1 - g^2}{2\pi(1 + g^2 - 2g\mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{n}')}$$

$\mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{n}' = \cos \Theta$ ,  $\Theta \rightarrow$  Scattering Angle



$$\sin \theta_k \frac{\partial L(\rho, z, \theta_k)}{\partial \rho} + \cos \theta_k \frac{\partial L_k(\rho, z, \theta_k)}{\partial z}$$

$$= -cL(\rho, z, \theta_k) + b \int_{2\pi} \beta(\theta_k - \theta') L(\rho, z, \theta') d\theta' + E(\rho, z, \theta_k)$$

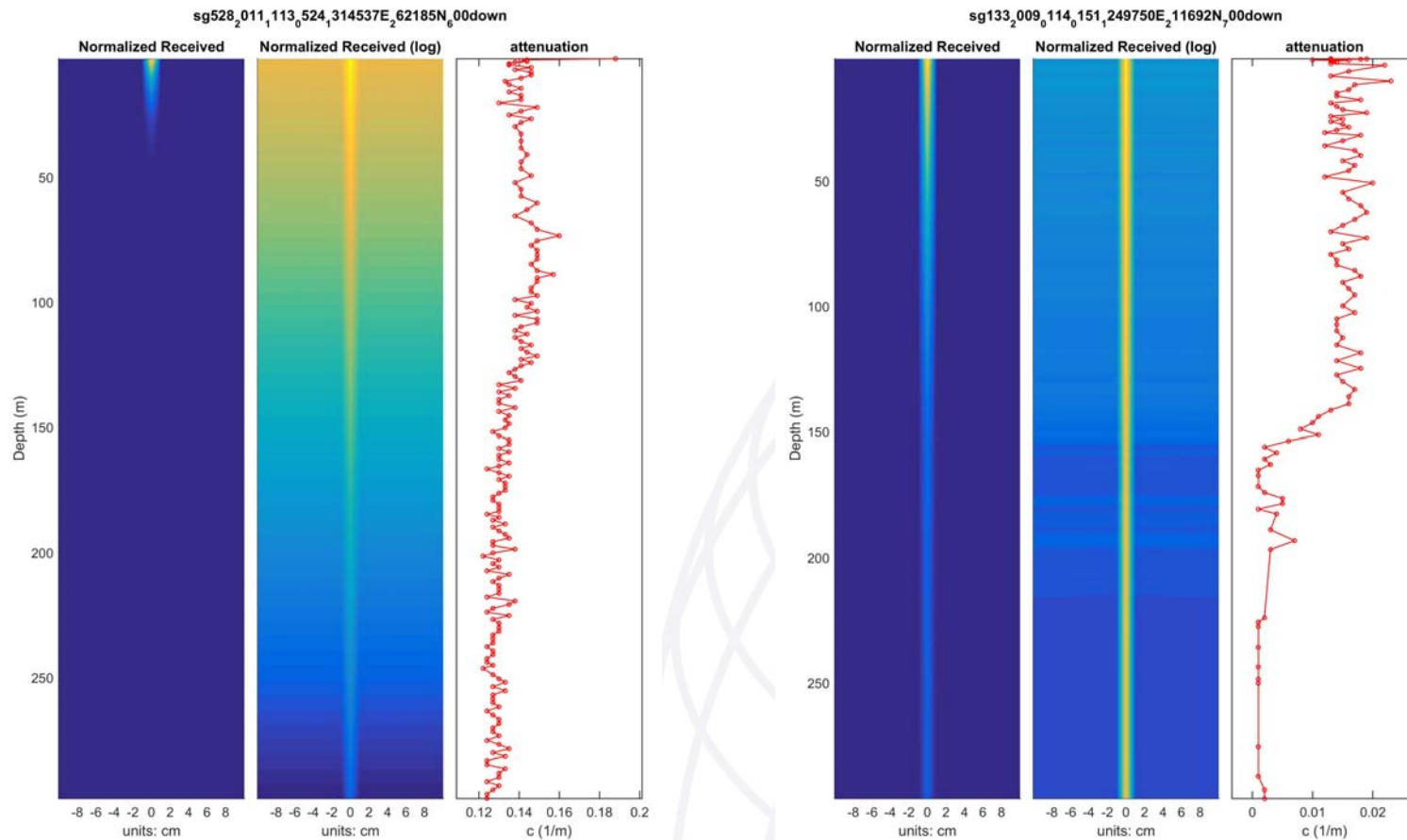


Li et al. 2015  
(IEEE Wireless Communication Letters)



# Integration of $L$ over scattering angle

## Light source at the Surface in the Western North Pacific



$L(r)$      $\log [L(r)]$

High  $c$

$L(r)$      $\log [L(r)]$

Low  $c$



# Conclusions

- Relationships between (T, S, Chl,...) to the optical parameters such as absorption, scattering, and attenuation coefficients → connection between ocean environmental model and optical RTE.
- Simple 2D RTE solver is useful for identifying underwater optical transmission.



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    Oceanography Technical Director  
    OPNAV N97