20th February 2025 Department of Physics, Faculty of Science, University of Split

PHOTOCLIM 2^{nd} ANNUAL MEETING PRESENTATION OF THE RESULTS ACHIEVED DURING THE FIRST PROJECT YEAR

PROJECT FUNDED BY THE CROATIAN SCIENCE FOUNDATION IP-2022-10-8859

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Fragility of primary production under climate change

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Project logo created



Project website created: photoclim.org



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First year work plan

List of deliverables:

- D1. Annual project work meeting
- D2. Primary production time series data acquired
- D3. Global marine phytoplankton production dataset accessed
- D4. Local data repository created
- D5. Primary production measurements in the Adriatic
- D6. Modern capital theory applied to the study of marine photosynthesis
- D7. Measuring primary production workshop
- D8. Educational material on primary production measurements
- D9. Training (Training in primary production measurements at the Plymouth Marine Laboratory)
- D10. Training (Attendance of Summer Lecture Series Frontiers in Ocean Optics and Ocean Colour)

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- D11. Attendance at conferences
- D12. Scientific publications

D1. Annual project work meeting

On the 23rd February 2024 we had our Kickoff meeting at the Faculty of Science in Split.

Meeting agenda

09:15 - 09:25 Opening Remarks
09:25 - 09:45 Project Presentation
09:45 - 10:00 Planning of Project Activities
Presentation of the work plan for the entire project period
Presentation of the financial plan for the entire project period
10:00 - 10:30 Coffee & Discussion
10:30 - 11:30 Planning of Project Activities for the First Year

- Data Collection Data Digitization Local Data Storage Data Processing
- $11{:}30-12{:}00$ Coffee & Discussion
- 12:00 12:30 Lecture: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Davor Mance: Ecological Economics
- 12:30 13:00 Planning of Project Workshop: Measurement of Primary Production
- 13:00 15:00 Lunch

D2. Primary production time series data acquired

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Stončica	1962	
Kaštelanski zaljev	1962	
Bermuda Atlantic Time Series	1988	bats.bios.edu
Hawaii Ocean Time Series	1988	hahana.so est.hawaii.edu/hot/hot-dogs
Cariaco	1996	imars.marine.usf.edu/car
Monterey Bay	1988	www.mbari.org/bog
La Coruña	1990	www.seriestemporales-ieo.com
Western Channel Observatory	1992	www.western channel observatory.org.uk

- + 1148 annual time series from 483 locations (Cloern et al., 2014)
- + 125 time series longer than 8 years with more than 10 measurements per year (Winder & Cloern, 2010)

D2. Primary production time series data acquired

Such data are mostly publicly available.

Data typically comes in the form which requires significant effort to prepare the data for analysis.

The production data also come with optical data, which requires significantly more processing.

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An example from BATS

Table 14.1: Partial List of Measurements Made by BBOP & BATS

BBOP	
Direct Measur	rements:
Ed(z,l)	Downwelling vector irradiance (325, 340, 380, 412, 443, 488, 510, 555, 565, 665 & 683
mm) E $\mu(0^+ 1)$	Incident irradiance (325-340-380-412-443-488-510-555-565-665-& 683-nm)
$L_{II}(z,l)$	Upwelling radiance (325, 340, 380, 412, 443, 488, 510, 555, 565, 665 & 683 nm)
chl-fl(z)	Chlorophyll fluorescence with a WetStar fluorometer
T(z) & S(z)	Temperature and conductivity with Ocean Sensors probes (calibrations by Satlantic)
atp(1)	Particulate absorption spectrum by QF1 Detrited particle absorption spectrum by MaOH avtraction
a _{vs} (l)	Colored dissolved absorption spectrum
chl-a(z)	Discrete chlorophyll a determinations via Turner fluorometry
Primary Deriv	red Products:
L _{WN} (l)	Normalized water leaving radiance (325, 340, 380, 412, 443, 488, 510, 555, 565, 665 &
885 mm) Rps(0".1)	In-water remote sensing reflectance (325, 340, 380, 412, 443, 488, 510, 555, 565, 665 &
683 nm)	
$K_d(z,l)$	Attenuation coefficient for Ed(z,l) (325, 340, 380, 412, 443, 488, 510, 555, 565, 665 &
683 nm)	Attenuation coefficient for L (al) (225 240 200 412 442 400 510 555 565 665 6
683 nm)	Auenuation coefficient for Lu(z,f) (323, 340, 380, 412, 445, 488, 510, 555, 565, 665 &
aph(1)	Phytoplankton absorption spectrum (= ap(l) - adet(l))
<par(z)></par(z)>	Daily mean photosynthetically available radiation at depths of the <i>in situ</i> C ¹⁴ incubations

U.S. JGOFS BATS (NSF) AND RELATED BIOGEOCHEMISTRY SAMPLING PROGRAMS

Primary Production (in situ ¹⁴ C incubation)	Sinking flux (sediment trap array)								
Phytoplankton pigments (fluorometric & HPLC)	Nutrients (NO3+NO2, SiO4, PO4)								
CO2 system (alkalinity, TCO2 and pCO2)	Continuous atmosphere & surface								
pCO ₂									
Dissolved oxygen (continuous & discrete)	Zooplankton biomass & grazing								
POC & PON (POP infrequently)	DOC & DON (DOP infrequently)								
Full water column, WOCE-standard CTD profile	Bacterial abundance and rates								
Validation spatial cruises (5 days, 4cruises/year)	Deep ocean sediment sinking								
fluxes									

An example of optical data from BATS

11.61885295	6.7889543	3 2.48758	1034 - 999	2.21340063	0.00413555	8.00071333	8.80351293	8.8233085	8.85797826	@.@08L6477	8.89808758	8.84350776	2.21843253	8.80849245	0.00115705	9.70306432	155.3025571	237,1134094	31.46187022	52.53540436	59.93483683	63.19990673	66.52238191	57.25186901	54.76213189
11.05176745	6.3347187	2.18750	-999	@.@L096546	8.80334192	8.80855556	8.80342992	8.82353866	8.85458809	0.87645854	9.8564835	9.84355827	0.00975867	9.80841409	9.00306500	0.09315524	154.3425453	235,3498035	30.99563187	51.58928026	58.45555789	61.58532555	64.65567005	55.5508982	55.05539952
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6.25084155	3.0371148	6.73121	287 - 999	8.805563.5	8.80483857	8.80859543	8.80847864	0.00818218	0.02458208	8.85593934	0.84353863	0.02018422	0.00402128	0.00022353	0.00053571	0.17854545	151/7234575	231.5555259	30.76685886	51.48659586	58.76742782	61.97237587	45.24784065	56.18554491	55.88977476
5.97856827	2.8366425	0.6785	1363 -999	8.80525845	0.00393285	8.00006578	8.0001572	0.00353322	0.02331253	0.03720238	8.85550378	0.01914594	0.00377245	8.80820907	0.00030838	8.679339	153.653888	235.4129148	30.64692358	\$1.07931942	58.29786552	61.48146644	64.64185868	\$5.55323546	53.16548858
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2.19752646	0.4594812	12 -929	#. 00415253	4.0000022	0.00025203	0.00000556	8.89534603	0.01750656	0.02010915	0.03624553	9.91400000	0.00220015	9.00117238	9.00017913	9.67354193	158.1205483	229.1571141	30.20040550	50.2228859	\$7.25298768	60.22532947	63-34682662	54.45062052	52.03062621	47,74833628
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1.97235175	0.3950775	1 - 999	8.8033479	8.00412315	8.00039832	0.00018543	0.00458157	8.81553523	@.@2654315	@.@5371747	0.0133074	8.80349992	0.00015742	9.00013395	9.65351174	153.879243	232.3669822	30.97335755	51.82556543	59.38592821	62.64541284	65.9718504	56.83189437	54.45195282	49.92782554
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1.48797683	0.2484264	17 .999		0.00793184	#. #0836.684	0.00003379	0.00303766	0.01306226	0.01070865	0.02597343	0.00970533	0.00171543	0.00011663	0.00033294	0.67039332	149.0205344	222,5585555	88.17141143	50.25564721	57.45178071	60.54131576	43.69681853	54.79141782	52.460989384	48.13487184
1.336397	0.2295766	15 - 999	0.00363222	8.00000005	0.00003886	0.00006717	0.00300023	0.01030565	0.01833379	0.02083705	0.00025668	0.00355800	0.00011348	0.0003205	0.66885853	147.1255480	224.4217437	29.73563382	49.64979941	56.73343686	59.72995439	62.03668543	54.08553787	\$1.79987992	47.54729531
1.25958230	0.2645174	12 - 999	0,00321656	8.00376458	0.00000057	8,00003334	0,00051155	8.00993539	4.413333	0.02300915	9,00275814	0,00151802	@.@00L0605	9,0000207	8.6590499	148.0752131	226,3098132	30.03415035	50.38648272	57.50511500	60.64982486	63.06134335	54.97183788	52.65955787	40.28553280
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0.01768076	0.1895308	10 - 979	8.02221922	0.00359254	0.00025803	9.00004514	0.00150003	0.00025705	0.01319655	0.01600000	9.00525505	9,00006332	9.000054	-999 0.65	3349 145.	1606308 221.6/	199.203 29,203	49,546	70833 56.1271	560 59,12	21472 62.26	547278 53,56	34168 55.375	37293 46.998	11218 -929
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13539041 29.	95228049 2	6.14390895	20.68003554	8,7952979	@.58382757	8.80524802	@.@3355327	8.87350865	9.253588.38	2.24481522	9.25842964	@.34555902	@.15435@34	9.05358784	9.80206558	9,80491374	9.45356884	99.33587781	153,3538241	19.7893513	32.73081399	37.12998354	38.74933865	40.63095139	34.78134057
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70079531 20.	75403388	6.23475157	10.35158581	0.01415075	2.84361111	8.00453214	8,80992968	8.82546572	0.00439834	@. 15364558	8.17145877	0.36877595	0.09077572	9.83431451	0.0012097	9,80395912	0.44753148	97.63346547	548,5948639	19.37967948	32.02951036	36.29146993	37.04069544	29,78613681	33.94167636
34727747 20.	11325022 1	15.40354131	9.55455834	8.00551815	8.85670173	8.80455466	8.80546428	8.82599364	@.@7000822	@.3433129	Q. 25227335	9.35873837	0.00012245	9.83353519	9.00113135	9.80353844	Q.44505815	97.22964029	147.681371	19.22158666	31.74542571	35.94233975	37,44442679	39.26836533	33.56638031
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16,93649125	12, 136623	45 6.8366	745 -999	8,82596317	8,8044410	8,8045756	₹.₹1572805	8.8585476	8.11275846	8.13356798	9.13420903	8.87517734	8.82374846	9,80893558	9,80224154	9,44840203	36.07253864	146.2135680	19.08468366	31.38696649	25,52243021	37,03553341	30.03145964	33,1825300	31,44533477

D2. Collecting data from lesser-known sources

Region	Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun J	ul J	Aug Se	Cot	Nov	Dec	P-E
Bedford Basin	1969												
Bedford Basin	1970												
Bedford Basin	1971												
Bedford Basin	1975												
Scotian Shelf	1976												
Bedford Basin	1976												
Labrador Sea	1977												
Scotian Shelf	1977												
Bedford Basin	1977												
Lab Sea/Davis Str/Baf	1 1978												
Labrador Sea	1978												
Scotian Shelf	1978												
Bedford Basin	1978												
Lancaster Sound	1979												
Ungava Bay NWT	1979												
Scotian Shelf	1979												
Bedford Basin	1979												
East Canadian Arctic	1980												
Front SW Azores	1981												
Foxe Basin	1981												
Hudson Bay	1982												
Mid Atlantic Ridge	1982												
Lab Shelf/Hudson Bay	1982												
Eastern Arctic	1983												
East Canadian Arctic	1983												
Grand Bank	1984												
Caribbean Sea	1984												
Jones Sound	1984												
Lab Shelf Ice Algae	1984												
Sargasso Sea	1984												
Grand Bank	1985												
Georges Bank Sarg Se	1985												
Labrador Shelf	1985												
Bedford Basin	1985												
Celtic Sea	1986												
Bedford Basin	1986												
Bedford Basin	1986												
New England Seamour	1987												
Bedford Basin	1987							1					
Georges Bank	1988												
Lab Shelf/Str Belle Isle	1988												
North Sargasso Sea	1988												

Archived data from Platt and Irwin

D2. Collecting data from lesser-known sources

Such data come in the form of reports, which have to be digitized by hand!

Thus far we have digitized some 20% of the entire dataset.

We estimate the entire dataset to have around 50 000 incubations, which ammounts to around 100 000 datapoints which have to be typed in.

An example from Bedford Basin



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An example from Bedford Basin

BEDFORD BASIN

44°41'N 63°39'W

DATE: 31/08/76	SAMPLE DEP	TH: 5 m	SURFACE TEMP: 16.9°C
Light Intensity W m ⁻²	Specific Production mg C(mg Chl a) ⁻¹ hr ⁻¹	Light Intensity W m ⁻²	Specific Production mg C(mg Chl α) ⁻¹ hr ⁻¹
225.1 112.7 45.0 23.1 13.0 6.4 4.4 2.9 1.8 1.1	$11.55 \\ 11.58 \\ 10.43 \\ 6.79 \\ 4.19 \\ 2.53 \\ 1.14 \\ 0.59 \\ 0.26 \\ 0.09$	224.8 107.2 41.6 20.8 4.0 4.0 2.8 2.2 0.8	11.11 10.65 9.82 5.37 3.40 1.98 1.14 0.60 0.33 0.16
9 Incubation Temperature:	16.0°C		
mg at m ⁻³ Nitrite: 0.07 Nitrite: 0.02 Ammonia: 0.50 Silicate: 4.55 Phosphate: 0.48 Total number of cells: Total volume of cells: Mean volume of cells:	Chlorophyll: Carbon Nitrogen: Salinity: 30. 14.6 x 10 ⁶ 7-1 2.55 ppm 150 µ ³	mgrm ^{−3} 2.18 713 84 57 °‰	
α mg C (mg Chl α) ⁻¹ hr ⁻¹ (W	90% 10w m ⁻²) ⁻¹ 0.35 0.:	Confidence Interval er upper 30 0.40	
\mathcal{P}_{m}^{B} mg C (mg Chl α) ⁻¹ hr ⁻¹	-0.28 -0.0	-0.08 25 11.97	

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D3. Global marine phytoplankton production dataset accessed (Mattei & Scardi, 2021)



D3. Global marine phytoplankton production dataset accessed (Mattei & Scardi, 2021)

This dataset has **6084 production profiles**.

There are around 50 000 primary production incubations.

There are around 50 000 chlorophyll measurements.

D4. Local data repository created

An example of parameter estimation from Mattei & Scardi (2021) dataset



D5. Primary production measurements in the Adriatic

In situ primary production measurements were conducted at the following stations:

Kašetla bay: 23.1.2024., 16.2.2024., 15.3.2024., 2.4.2024., 9.10.2024., 16.11.2024., 10.12.2024.

Stončica station: 24.1.2024., 17.2.2024., 17.3.2024., 3.4.2024., 14.10.2024., 17.11.2024., 11.12.2024.

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D6. Modern capital theory applied to the study of marine photosynthesis

Bioeconomic interpretation of primary production models

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Abstract

Mathematical models of marine primary production have long since been established in the occanographic literature. They are based on biophysical principles expressing the relation between the rate of carbon assimilation by photosynthesis in the presence of light, via mathematical functions called photosynthesis-irradiance functions. Here we make the case that marine primary production can also be studied using economic theory, by employing similarities in the mathematical apparatus used in biophysical and economic models. By using economic theory we provide a bioeconomic interpretation to the canonical model of primary production and derive a set of biocenomic indicators for marine primary production. It is shown that the photosynthesis-irradiance function can be interpreted as the marginal product of hytoplankton biomass and that the initial slope of the photosynthesis irradiance function equals the marginal product of light. It is also demonstrated that saturation of photosynthesis with respect to night is not on the word diministing returns. Watercolumn production and derive a set of biocet to unitients and its relation with respect to mixed layer depth are derived and interpreted using the lens of conomic theory. Finally, the theoretical significance of the approach is examined, highlighting instances in the literature where interactions between the disciplines of primary production production marked have been beneficial for both.

A paper under review

D7. Measuring primary production workshop



The first project workshop took place in Split in from 14th to 18th October.

D7. Measuring primary production workshop

The theme of the workshop was the creation of a database of quality-checked in situ primary production time series along with programming tools for handling such data sets. A detailed report from the workshop can be found here:

https://www.photoclim.org/workshops/measuring-primary-production/

D8. Educational material on primary production theory

Our first educational material is now available for download!

MODELLING PRIMARY PRODUCTION

https://www.photoclim.org/education/

D8. Educational material on primary production theory

2.3 PROPERTIES 13

2.3 PROPERTIES

The shape of the photosynthesis irradiance function expresses biophysical, biochemical and metabolic processes which regulate photosynthesis (r_1, r_2). Fortunately, just two parameters uniquely determine the photosynthesis irradiance function: the initial slope a^a and the assimilation number $P_{2}^{B}(4, s)$. The initial slope is also referred to as photosynthetic efficiency and the assimilation number as the photosynthesis cracking (4ϕ). Both parameters are referred to as the photosynthesis irradiance function: the written as a function of irradiance, in the following form Ide):

$$p^{B}(I) = p^{B}(I | \alpha^{B}, P_{m}^{B}),$$
 (20)

highlighting the role photosynthesis parameters have. Having defining the photosynthesis irradiance function with two parameters, a^B and P_{av}^B a whole family of photosynthesis irradiance functions is set. It is worth noting that the parameters are strictly positive.

The photosynthesis irradiance function itself is also positive and defined only for positive values of irradiance $I \ge 0$ [44]:

$$p^{B}(I) > 0.$$
 (21)

For low irradiance normalized production is a linear function of irradiance with a coefficient of proportionality given by α^B , and we write:

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} p^{B}(I) = \alpha^{B}I. \tag{22}$$

With increasing irradiance the slope of the curve drops. Finally, at high enough irradiance the slope flattens, and we have:

$$\lim_{l\to\infty} p^B(I) = P^B_m.$$
 (23)

In that case light saturation takes place and normalized production stops being dependent on irradiance (Figure 3). 14 PHOTOSYNTHESIS IRRADIANCE FUNCTIONS



Figure 3: A typical photosynthesis irradiance function.

Mathematically, for I > 0, photosynthesis irradiance function is a strictly increasing function:

$$\frac{dp^{B}(I)}{dI} > 0,$$
 (24)

and has a negative curvature:

$$\frac{d^2 p^B(I)}{dI^2} < 0.$$
 (25)

The ratio of photosynthesis parameters is called the photoadaptation parameter:

$$_{k} = \frac{P_{m}^{B}}{\alpha^{B}},$$
 (26)

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which is expressed in the same unit as irradiance, namely W m⁻². In the vicinity of l_k normalized production depends on both parameters a^B and P^B_{a} . With values of irradiance lover than l_k the a^B dominates, while at values higher than l_k , P^B_{a} dominates.

D8. Educational material on primary production theory

3.3 ANALYTICAL SOLUTION FOR THE DAILY PRODUCTION PROFILE 23

24 PRIMARY PRODUCTION PROFILE

3.3 ANALYTICAL SOLUTION FOR THE DAILY PRODUCTION PROFILE

By taking the previous expression for irradiance ($_{48}$) as the argument of the exponential photosynthesis irradiance function ($_{18}$) the defining integral for daily normalized production ($_{41}$) becomes:

$$P_{T}^{B}(z) = \int_{0}^{D} P_{m}^{B} \left[1 - \exp\left(-\alpha^{B} I_{0}^{m} \sin(\pi t/D) e^{-Kz} / P_{m}^{B}\right) \right] dt. \quad (49)$$

The solution of this integral gives the amount of carbon assimilated at depth during one day per unit biomass. To solve it we begin by defining the dimensionless noon irradiance as:

$$I_*^m = \frac{\alpha^B I_0^m}{P_m^B} = \frac{I_0^m}{I_k},$$
 (50)

which represents the ratio of the photoadaptation parameter to noon irradiance. As such it scales noon irradiance relative to the photoadaptation parameter. Using (50) translates the previous integral into:

$$P_T^B(z) = \int_0^D P_m^B \left[1 - \exp\left(-I_*^m e^{-Kz} \sin(\pi t/D) \right) \right] dt.$$
 (51)

To solve it, the expansion of the exponential function as an infinite sum is used:

$$\exp x = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{n!}.$$
(52)

After inserting this identity into the previous integral we obtain:

$$P_{T}^{B}(z) = \int_{0}^{D} P_{m}^{B} \left(1 - \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{\left(-l_{*}^{m} e^{-Kz} \sin\left(\pi t/D\right) \right)^{n}}{n!} \right) dt,$$
(53)

which after some algebra becomes:

$$P_{T}^{\rm B}(z) = -P_{m}^{\rm B} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\left(-I_{*}^{\rm m} e^{-Kz}\right)^{n}}{n!} \int_{0}^{D} \sin^{n}\left(\pi t/D\right) {\rm d}t.$$
(54)

Next step is to employ the following substitution:

by which the integral in the previous expression becomes:

$$\int_{0}^{D} \sin^{n}(\pi t/D) dt = \frac{D}{\pi} \int_{0}^{\pi} \sin^{n} x dx.$$
(56)

Normalized daily production is now:

$$P_T^B(z) = -P_m^B D \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-I_*^m e^{-Kz})^n}{\pi \cdot n!} \int_0^{\pi} \sin^n x \, dx.$$
 (57)

The obtained integral is solved by recursive application of the following identity:

 $x = \frac{\pi t}{D}$

$$\int_{0}^{\pi} \sin^{n} x \, dx = \frac{n-1}{n} \int_{0}^{\pi} \sin^{n-2} x \, dx. \quad (58)$$

To apply it we first break the previous sum into sums over odd and even integers, to get:

$$P_{T}^{B}(z) = -P_{m}^{B}D\left(\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-I_{m}^{m}e^{-Kz})^{2n-1}}{\pi(2n-1)!} \int_{0}^{\pi} \sin^{2n-1}x \, dx + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-I_{m}^{m}e^{-Kz})^{2n}}{\pi(2n)!} \int_{0}^{\pi} \sin^{2n}x \, dx\right).$$
(59)

Going step by step, for n = 1 we have:

$$\sin x \, \mathrm{d}x = 2. \tag{60}$$

For n = 2 we have:

$$\int \sin^2 x \, \mathrm{d}x = \frac{\pi}{2}.\tag{61}$$

Subsequently, for several more values of n we have:

D9. & D10. Training



The 6th edition of the advanced IOCCG Summer Lecture Series: Frontiers in Ocean Optics and Ocean Colour Science was held during 4-16 November 2024 in Hyderabad, India. Our team member Shubha Sathyendranath was part of the organization committee and our team member Leon Ćatipović was one of the attendees.

D11. Attendance at conferences

Leon Ćatipović and Žarko Kovač attended the Ocean Optics conference in Las Palmas, Gran Canaria. The six day conference started on the 6 October and was held at the Palacio de Congresos located along Playa de Las Canteras. It is considered the leading conference in the filed of ocean optics. In total there were over 350 attendees from around the globe.

Leon presented his work on validation of gap-filled satellite-detected surface chlorophyll concentration in the Adriatic and Ionian basin. Žarko served as a planning committee member.

D12. Scientific publications

Critical Times for the Critical Depth Theory

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Abstract

Critical Depth Hypothesis is arguably one of the longest standing biophysical theories in oceanography and is the earliest mathematically formulated theory aimed at explaining the phenomenon of phytoplankton blooms. It introduces a depth horizon, termed the critical depth, at which the integrated primary production from the surface to that depth equals the integrated loss terms within the same laver. If the mixed laver is deeper than the critical depth, average light level in the mixed layer falls below that required to maintain photosynthesis at a level that equals losses. A related horizon in case of week mixing is the compensation depth, where the rate of photosynthesis matches the loss rate. In this paper the effect of phytoplankton light attenuation on the critical depth is examined, showing that it creates a bio-optical feedback in the model. A new differential equation, derived for the time evolution of the compensation depth reveals that the light intensities at both the compensation depth and the critical depth are constants of motion. A common model assumption of zero biomass below the mixed laver is derived as a consequence of the bio-optical feedback in the mixed laver. Exact solutions for average and total mixed layer biomass at steady state are derived and their stability properties analysed. It is demonstrated that the system has a trivial and a non-trivial steady state. An existence of a bio-optical bifurcation is shown, in which the mixed layer depth acts as the bifurcation parameter. The critical depth is identified as the bifurcation point at which the trivial and the non-trivial steady state exchange stability properties. Transients between steady states are also explored and it is shown that the relation between the initial condition and the final steady state is paramount. in determining whether a shallowing or deepening of the mixed layer will lead to a rise or a decline in biomass over time.

A paper under review

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D12. Scientific publications

Island Trapped Waves Enhance Primary Production in Idealized Numerical Models

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Key Points:

- Island trapped waves excited by wind stress at both resonant and offresonant frequencies enhance local primary production.
- Island trapped waves enhance diffusive and advective flux divergences that elevate local nutrient levels, increasing primary production.
- The magnitude of enhanced primary production is determined by nutrient enrichment, while light availability controls the spatial pattern.

Abstract

An Island trapped wave (ITW) is a special case of coastal trapped waves where baroclinic energy becomes confined around an island and propagates at the forcing frequency. Developing evidence indicates that ITWs affect primary production. We investigate this interaction with numerical experiments conducted in the Regional Ocean Modeling System (ROMS) coupled with a simple NPZD ecosystem model. We examine ecosystem responses to ITWs under different surface light and wind stress conditions. Simulations reveal that the ITW propagates as a nonlinear wave with sharp downwelling preceded by a broad upwelling period. In our base configuration with constant light forcing, the ITW is forced by homogeneous clockwise rotational wind stress at the resonant frequency, elevated nutrients result in an increase in depth-integrated primary production within the ITW influence zone. When subjected to light that changes on a diel cycle, the ITW resulted in a larger increase in primary production. Greater wind stress and forcing the wave at a higher frequency than resonant result in the most substantial primary production enhancements. Primary production is analyzed through a metric dependent on correlations between phytoplankton biomass, nutrient levels, and light availability. In constant light experiments, primary production responses result from a correlation between phytoplankton biomass and nutrient levels. Diel light cycle simulations demonstrate an asymmetric enhancement of primany production around the island due to an elevated correlation between light and nutrient fluctuations. ITW's forced at off-resonant frequencies suggest that they are more common than previously thought and contribute to elevated primary production around islands.

A paper under review



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