

# An estuarine tuned Quasi-Analytical Algorithm for VIIRS (QAA-V): assessment and application to satellite estimates of SPM in Galveston Bay following Hurricane Harvey

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## Supplementary S1

Chlorophyll-a profiles along with depth-dependent mass-specific IOPs are necessary to create Rrs using Hydrolight<sup>®</sup> four component case-2 models (Eq.1) (Mobley and Sundman 2013; Sathyendranath et al., 1989; Kirk 1994; Bukata et. al., 1995),

$$\begin{aligned} a_t(\lambda) &= a_w(\lambda) + a_\phi(\lambda) + a_{\text{NAP}}(\lambda) + a_g(\lambda) \\ b_{bt}(\lambda) &= b_{bw}(\lambda) + b_{b\phi}(\lambda) + b_{b\text{NAP}}(\lambda) \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

Synthetic chlorophyll concentrations [Chl] (N=730) were obtained with 73 values and ranged between 1 to 40 mg m<sup>-3</sup> with 10 repetitions to simulate random variability as observed in natural waters. A total of 730 phytoplankton absorption spectra ( $a_\phi$ ) were generated using six groups containing 83 in situ normalized  $a_\phi$  spectra; random normalized spectrum selection among groups were based on modeled  $a_\phi 440$ , and the following bio-optical models (Bricaud et al., 1995; Fischer and Fell 1999; Mobley 1994) (Fig. 1; Table 1),

$$\begin{aligned} a_\phi^{\text{Normalized}}(\lambda) &= \frac{a_\phi(\lambda)}{a_\phi 440} \\ a_\phi 440 &= 0.06 \times [\text{Chl}]^{0.65} \times \mathcal{R}(1,2) \\ a_\phi^*(\lambda) &= \frac{a_\phi(\lambda)}{[\text{Chl}]} \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

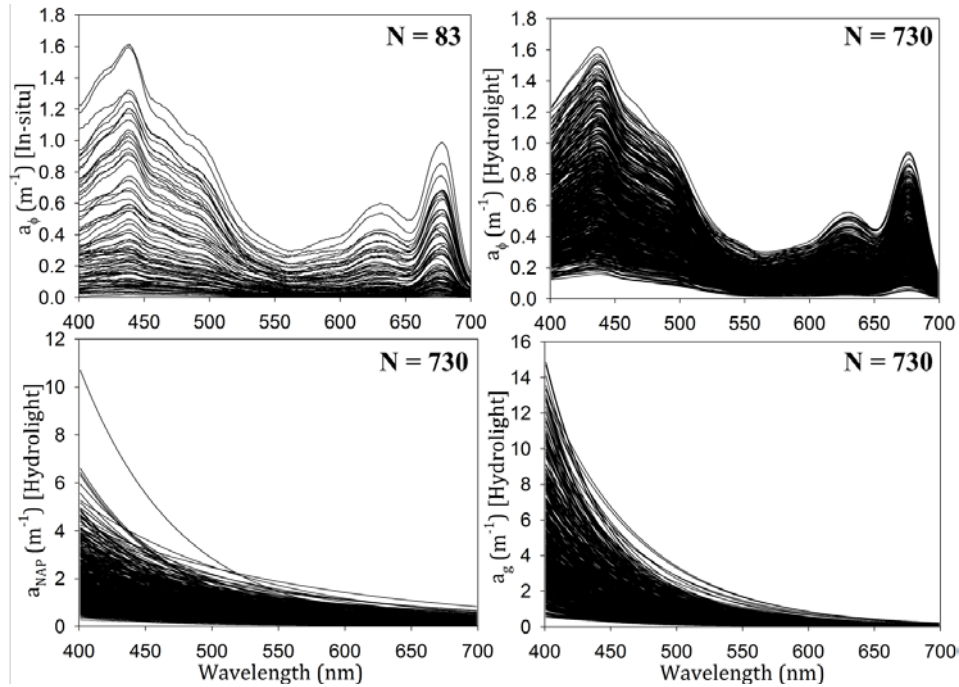


Figure 1. (a, b) *In situ* phytoplankton absorption spectra (N=83) were collected from CDOM-dominated Apalachicola Bay (USA) and sediment-dominated Barataria Bay (USA) to generate 730 simulated spectra for Hydrolight<sup>®</sup> 4-component Case-2 model using Eq. 2, (c) modeled non-algal particle absorption spectra (N = 730) using Eq. 3, and (d) modeled CDOM absorption spectra (N = 730) using Eq. 4.

Table 1: The conditions for allocating in-situ normalized-phytoplankton spectra ( $a_{\phi}^{\text{normalized}}$ ) into 6 groups.  $a_{\phi}440$  is phytoplankton absorption at 440 nm.

| Groups<br>(Total spectra = 83) | Condition                                       |
|--------------------------------|---|
| 1 (n=18)                       | $a_{\phi}440 < 0.1$                             |
| 2 (n=15)                       | $a_{\phi}440 \geq 0.1 \ \& \ a_{\phi}440 < 0.2$ |
| 3 (n=12)                       | $a_{\phi}440 \geq 0.2 \ \& \ a_{\phi}440 < 0.3$ |
| 4 (n=11)                       | $a_{\phi}440 \geq 0.3 \ \& \ a_{\phi}440 < 0.5$ |
| 5 (n=16)                       | $a_{\phi}440 \geq 0.5 \ \& \ a_{\phi}440 < 1.0$ |
| 6 (n=11)                       | $a_{\phi}440 \geq 1.0$                          |

Mass-specific non-algal particle absorption coefficients ( $a_{\text{NAP}}^*(\lambda)$ ) were obtained with an exponential model (Roesler et al. 1989; Bricaud et al. 1995), where slope ( $S_{\text{NAP}}$ ) used a random value between 0.005 - 0.015 as observed in natural waters ranging from oceanic to estuarine environments (Kirk 1994). The required  $a_{\text{NAP}}440$  was modeled using  $a_{\phi}440$  based on a constant  $p_1$  ( $= a_{\text{NAP}}440/a_{\phi}440$ ) which was set to lie between 1 and 3.5 as generally observed in the two bays, e.g.,  $p_1 = 1$  represents pigment/CDOM-rich waters and  $p_1 = 3.5$  represents sediment/CDOM-rich waters (Eq. 3).

$$\begin{aligned}
 a_{\text{NAP}}(\lambda) &= a_{\text{NAP}}440 \times e^{-S_{\text{NAP}} \times (\lambda - 440)} \\
 p_1 &= 1 + \frac{2.5 \times a_{\phi}440 \times \mathcal{R}(0,1)}{0.05 + a_{\phi}440} \\
 a_{\text{NAP}}^*(\lambda) &= \frac{a_{\phi}(\lambda)}{[\text{NAP}]} \\
 [\text{NAP}] &= p_1 \times [\text{Chl}]
 \end{aligned} \tag{3}$$

CDOM absorption coefficient was modeled with an exponential model (Bricaud et al. 1981), where spectral slope ( $S_g$ ) was chosen randomly between 0.01 to 0.025 as generally observed in various oceanic to productive estuarine environments (Kirk 1994; Babin et al., 2003) (Figure 1d).  $a_g440$  was estimated from  $a_{\phi}440$  and a constant  $p_2$  ( $= a_g440/a_{\phi}440$ ).  $p_2$  was set between 1 to 4.5 based on field data, e.g.,  $p_2 = 1$  represents phytoplankton/sediment dominated waters and  $p_2 = 4.5$  represents CDOM-rich waters (Eq. 4).

$$\begin{aligned}
 a_g(\lambda) &= a_g440 \times e^{-S_g \times (\lambda - 440)} \\
 a_g440 &= p_2 \times a_{\phi}440 \\
 p_2 &= 1 + \frac{3.5 \times a_{\phi}440 \times \mathcal{R}(0,1)}{0.02 + a_{\phi}440} \\
 a_g^*(\lambda) &= \frac{a_g(\lambda)}{[\text{Chl}]}
 \end{aligned} \tag{4}$$

Mass-specific phytoplankton backscattering ( $b_{b\phi}^*$ ) and non-algal particle back-scattering ( $b_{b\text{NAP}}^*$ ) coefficients were obtained based on the oceanic models (IOCCG 2006; please see references therein) with no change, as insufficient observations were available for estuarine environments. Subsequently, these coefficients were then converted to respective back-scattering coefficients by multiplying phase function dependent values “0.005” and “0.0183” (Eqs. 5 and 6) (Mobley 1994; Mobley and Sundman 2013),

$$b_{b\text{NAP}}^*(\lambda) = \frac{b_{\text{NAP}}(\lambda) \times 0.0183}{[\text{NAP}]} \tag{5}$$

$$b_{b\phi}^*(\lambda) = \frac{b_{\phi}(\lambda) \times 0.005}{[\text{Chl}]} \tag{6}$$

Hydrolight® simulations were then run with a case-2 model to generate Rrs using mass-specific IOPs, chlorophyll concentrations, dark bottom sediments, finite depth of 5 meters, sun zenith angle of 30°, no Raman scattering, and no chlorophyll fluorescence. A total of 169 erroneous spectra were suspected possibly due to atypical combinations of CDOM, non-algal particles, and bottom reflectance; these were not used in further analysis.

#### References

IOCCG (2006). *Remote Sensing of Inherent Optical Properties: Fundamentals, Tests of Algorithms, and Applications*. Lee, Z.-P. (ed.), Reports of the International Ocean-Colour Coordinating Group, No. 5, IOCCG, Dartmouth, Canada.

IOCCG report 5. [http://www.ioccg.org/groups/lee\\_data.pdf](http://www.ioccg.org/groups/lee_data.pdf)

#### Supplementary S2

Table 2: Comparison statistics between the QAA-V and QAA-v6 algorithms based on simulated Hydrolight® dataset (HL) and in-situ estuarine and near-shore dataset (IES). N= number of observations, RMSE=Root mean square error, MRE= mean relative error.

|   | N   | Bias <sub>log10</sub> (m <sup>-1</sup> ) |        | RMSE <sub>log10</sub> (m <sup>-1</sup> ) |        | MRE (%) |        | R <sup>2</sup> |        |
|---|-----|--|--------|--|--------|---------|--------|----------------|--------|
|   |     | QAA-V                                    | QAA-v6 | QAA-V                                    | QAA-v6 | QAA-V   | QAA-v6 | QAA-V          | QAA-v6 |
| <b>Synthetic data</b>                     |     |  |        |  |        |         |        |                |        |
| <b>a<sub>tnw</sub>411</b>                 | 561 | -0.028                                   | -0.088 | 0.074                                    | 0.117  | 12.7    | 19.7   | 0.92           | 0.92   |
| <b>a<sub>tnw</sub>443</b>                 | 561 | -0.006                                   | -0.071 | 0.071                                    | 0.106  | 12.7    | 17.7   | 0.91           | 0.90   |
| <b>a<sub>tnw</sub>489</b>                 | 561 | -0.003                                   | -0.076 | 0.072                                    | 0.110  | 13.0    | 18.0   | 0.91           | 0.89   |
| <b>a<sub>tnw</sub>555</b>                 | 561 | -0.020                                   | -0.118 | 0.096                                    | 0.149  | 16.3    | 23.9   | 0.87           | 0.87   |
| <b>b<sub>btw</sub>411</b>                 | 561 | -0.041                                   | -0.159 | 0.097                                    | 0.173  | 15.5    | 28.9   | 0.95           | 0.95   |
| <b>b<sub>btw</sub>443</b>                 | 561 | -0.025                                   | -0.130 | 0.086                                    | 0.152  | 14.4    | 25.3   | 0.95           | 0.94   |
| <b>b<sub>btw</sub>489</b>                 | 561 | -0.017                                   | -0.119 | 0.082                                    | 0.146  | 14.1    | 23.9   | 0.95           | 0.94   |
| <b>b<sub>btw</sub>555</b>                 | 561 | -0.018                                   | -0.121 | 0.089                                    | 0.153  | 14.9    | 23.9   | 0.94           | 0.93   |
| <b>IES dataset (Testing set: N = 219)</b> |     |  |        |  |        |         |        |                |        |
| <b>a<sub>tnw</sub>443</b>                 | 209 | -0.023                                   | -0.091 | 0.142                                    | 0.180  | 22.7    | 25.8   | 0.83           | 0.76   |
| <b>a<sub>tnw</sub>555</b>                 | 209 | -0.029                                   | -0.124 | 0.190                                    | 0.249  | 34.3    | 47.5   | 0.72           | 0.63   |
| <b>b<sub>btw</sub>532</b>                 | 89  | 0.038                                    | -0.049 | 0.173                                    | 0.174  | 26.0    | 34.6   | 0.70           | 0.67   |

#### Supplementary S3

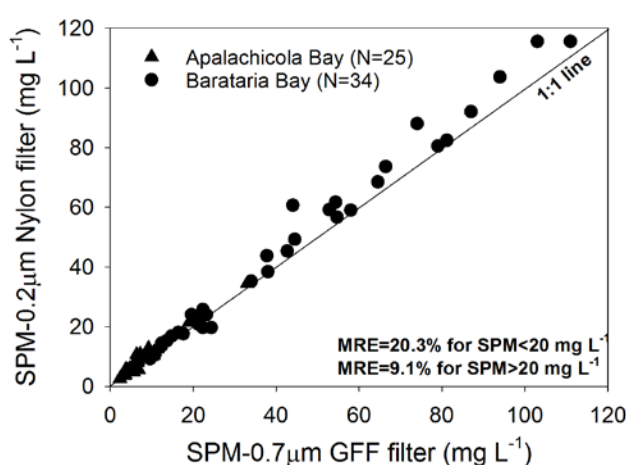


Figure 2: A comparison of SPM concentration obtained with 0.2 µm Nylon filter and 0.7 µm GFF filters.