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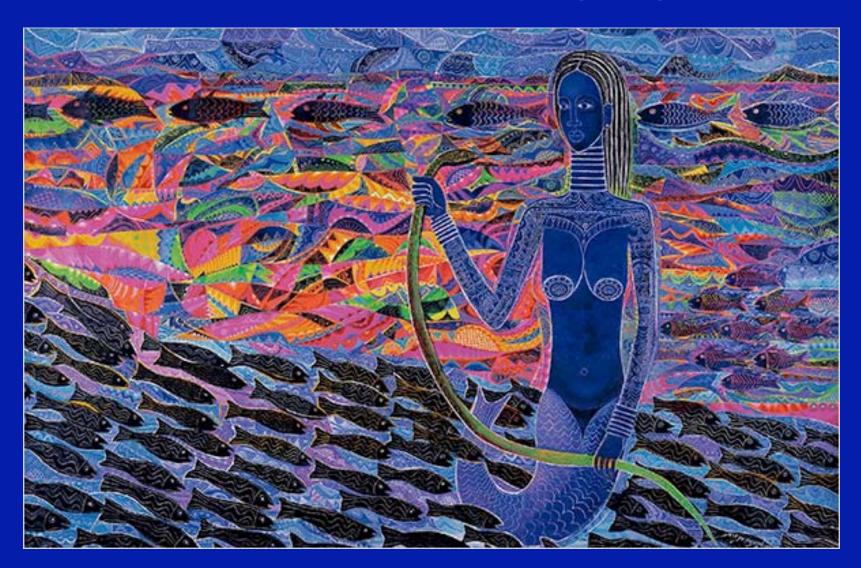
Workshop and Conference on Biogeochemical Impacts of Climate and Land-Use Changes on Marine Ecosystems

2 - 10 November 2009

Great Rivers and Changing Oceans

A. Subramaniam LDEO Columbia University U.S.A

Great Rivers and Changing Oceans



Moyo Ogundipe, Mami Wata, 1999 Acrylic on canvas

Acknowledgments

- NASA SIMBIOS and Ocean Biology Program
- NSF
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- Claire Mahaffey University of Liverpool
- Joseph Montoya Georgia Tech
- Maren Voss, Joachim Dippner IOW
- Patricia Yager UGa

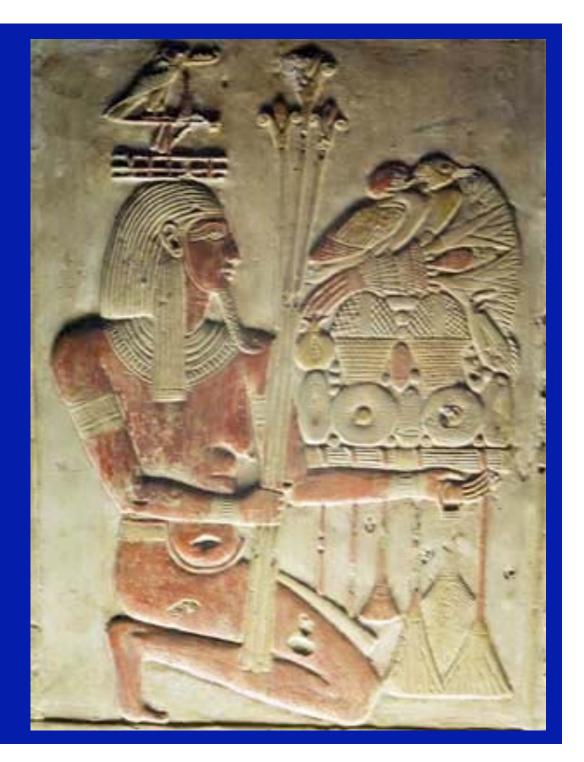
What's in a name?

Iteru - Great River Indus - River (so Indians are river people?) Ganges - Stream Mississippi - Big River Yangtze - Big or Long River **Euphrates - Sweet Water** (and Mesopotamia - Land between Rivers) Amazon - from stories of women warriors, original name Maranon after a local fruit)

 $\sim \sim \sim$

Nile - a greek corruption of nwy meaning water Original name itwr

Hapi "The running one" Predynastic 5500-3100 BC Son of Horus Male and female God of fertility (basket of food)

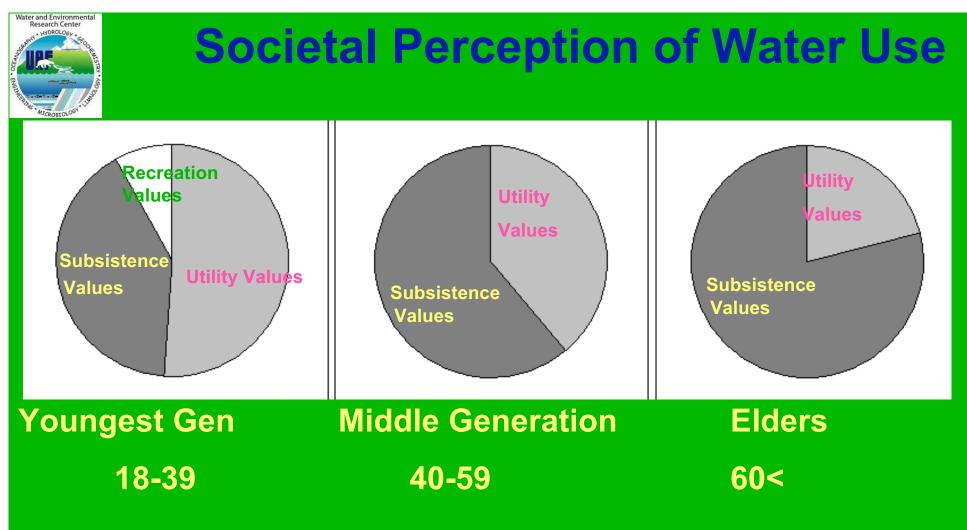


Ganga symbolizes purity and fertility. Hindu belief holds that bathing in the river on specific occasions absolves you of your sins and helps you attain salvation





Ganga riding on Makara - a vehicle that was half alligator half fish Beginning of Earth Systems?



Subsistence Uses: drinking, animal and plant habitat, transportation to hunting and fishing, spiritual connection –

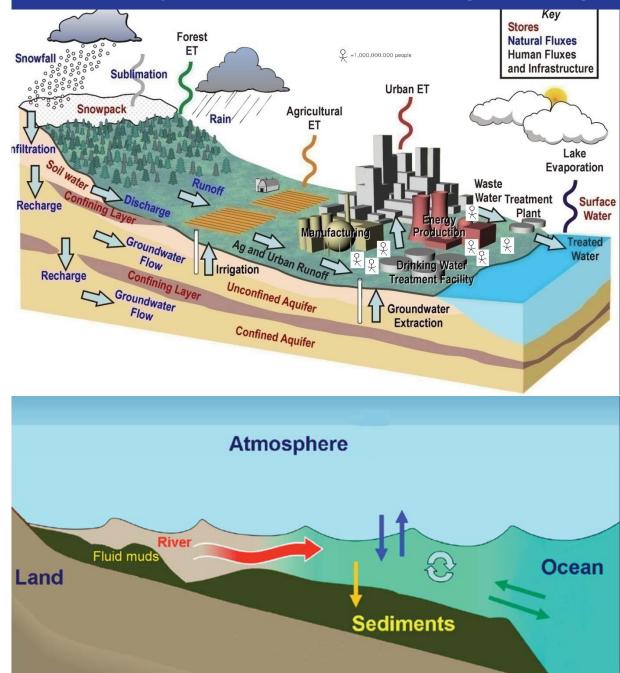
"We have always been a salmon people, The salmon come up the river because we are their people and we are grateful for them.

They feed us and we take care of the river."

Utility Uses: Transportation, electricity, washing clothes, bathing Recreational Uses: Swimming, boating, enjoyment/contemplation

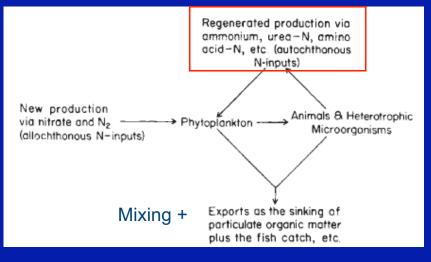
Alessa et al. Global Environmental Change 2007

Water Systems Science & Engineering

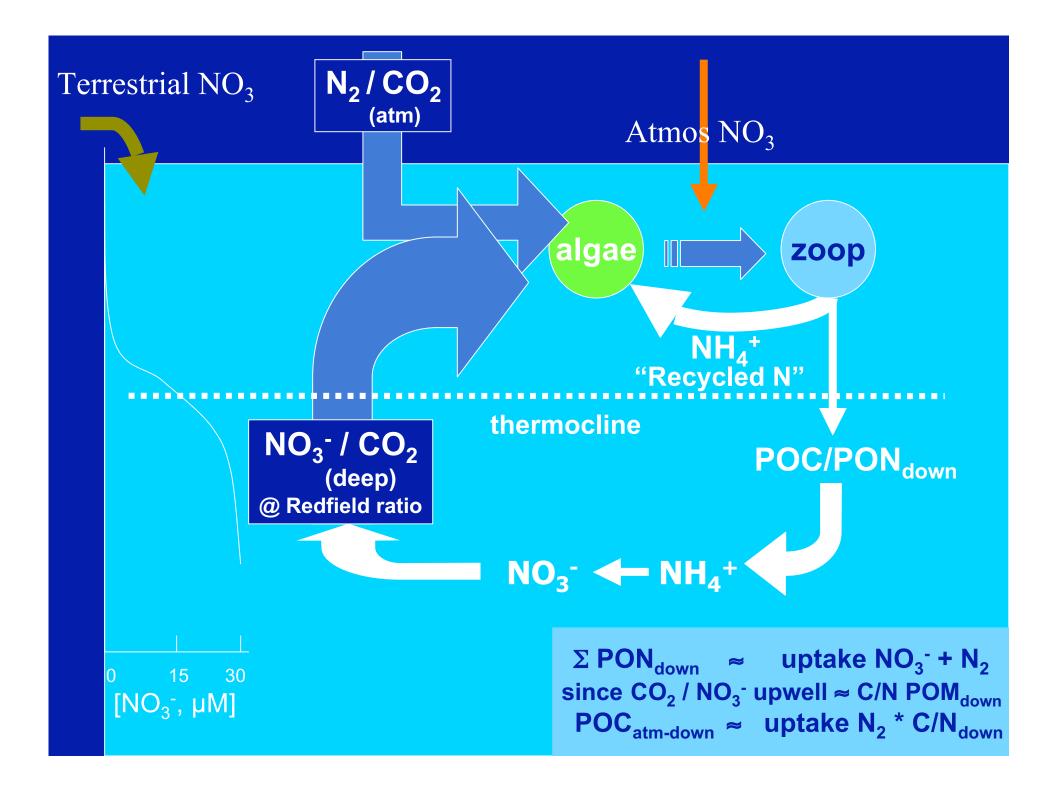


Studying river plumes requires an integrative approach to earth system science - they connect land and water use, and biogeochemical cycling on land, atmosphere, oceans and require knowledge of physical, chemical, biological, and geological oceanography Need understanding of weathering processes on land and climatic influence of precipitation, feed back loops, economics of land use, sociology of agriculture

New production, *f* ratios, and recycling revisited



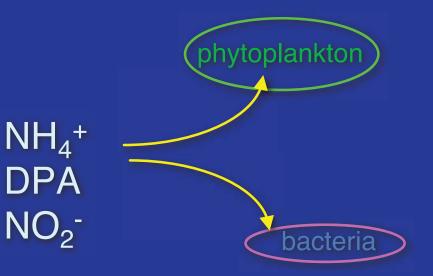
- The plume as a closed system
- Definition of *f* ratio = New production/Total production = rate of nitrate incorporation/rate of nitrate + NH₄ + urea + and other organic N
- Recycling r = (1- f)/ f = number of times a nutrient element is recycled before sinking



Photoproduction of labile N



Humic or fulvic acids **Proteins** Large organic moieties **NH4 regeneration was 6X** greater than NH4 uptake (D Bronk, personal communication)



DPA

JOURNAL OF GEOPHYSICAL RESEARCH, VOL. 106, NO. C8, PAGES 16,807–16,813, AUGUST 15, 2001

Photomineralization of fluorescent dissolved organic matter in the Orinoco River plume: Estimation of ammonium release

Julio M. Morell and Jorge E. Corredor

Morell and Corredor calculated that the time based ammonia release rate in the Orinoco River plume was about 264 μ mol m⁻² d ⁻¹ This is about 50% the total N demand calculated by Muller-Karger 1989 and needs to be balanced against microbial uptake.

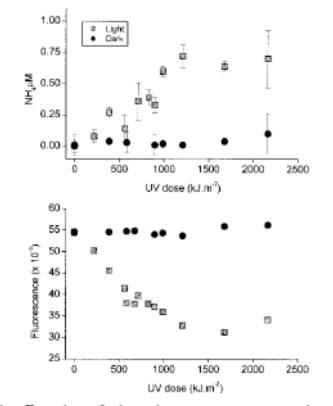


Figure 6. Results of the photoexposure experiment. NH₄ production and concurrent DOM fl reduction in surface water collected from the Gulf of Paria.







Post modern

Pre Industrial

Modern

All kinds of nuances •Photoproduction of labile N from DON •Autotrophic uptake of DON •Nitrification to produce nitrate •UREA

Importance of the bathymetric kopplung

•Role of mobile muds - time/space buffers?

Denitrification

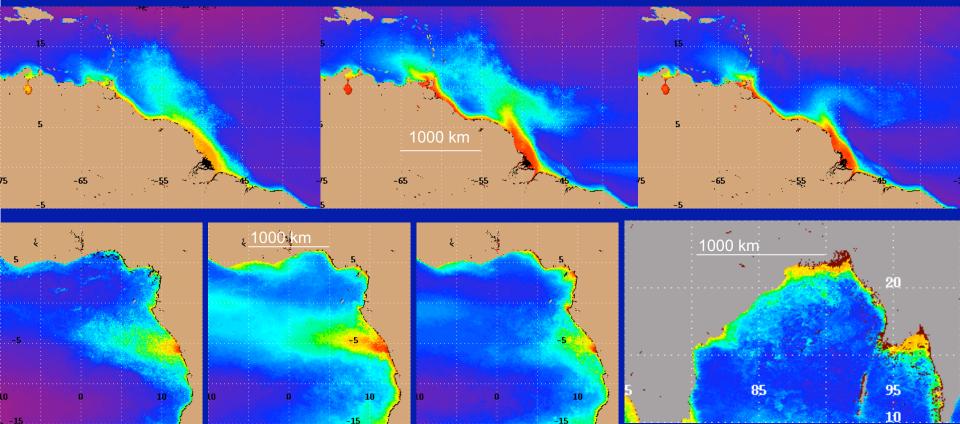
•Fe/P interaction in anoxic sediments - source of SRP and labile Fe?

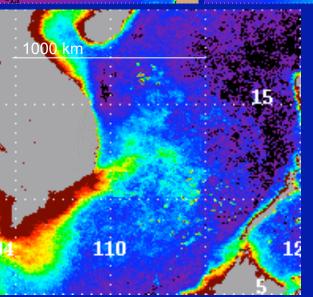
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31	2	499
10		

River	Discharge	Cumulative %	Drainage area	DIN yield*	DIP yield*	DON yield**	DOP yield**
Amazon	6300	18	6.15	173	17	327	18
Zaire	1250	22	3.82		4	91.5	
Orinoco	1200	25	0.99		4	313	17
Ganges- Brahmaputra	970	28	1.48		25	164	
Yangtze	900	31	1.94	326	16		
Yenisey	630	33	2.58		1		
Mississippi	530	34	3.27	256	7	54	3
Lena	510	36	2.49	21	2	58	3
Mekong	470	37	0.79				
Parana	470	38	2.83	44	2	61	
All others	21168	100					

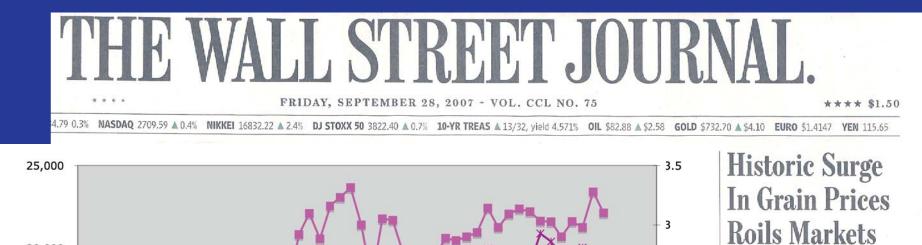
* From Dumont et al 2005** From NEWS Model (Harrison et al 2005)

Yields in Kg N or P/km²/yr





Big plumes (twice the size of Texas/ size of the Gulf of Mexico) often extending more than 1000 of km offshore and often lasting many months What sustains these plumes? What are the biogeochemical consequences?



By Scott Kilman

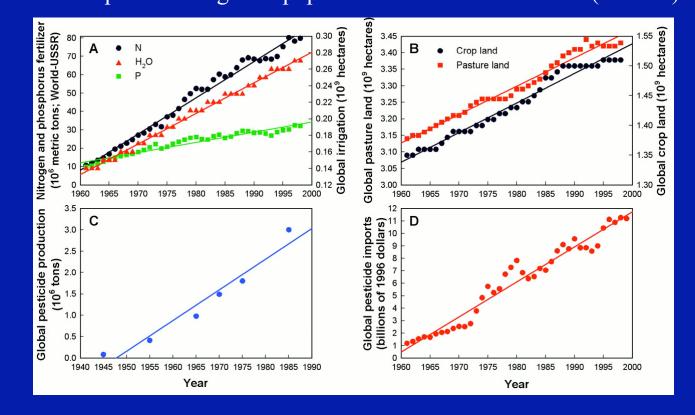
Rising prices and surging demand for the crops that supply half of the world's calories are producing the biggest changes in global food markets in 30 years, altering the economic landscape for everyone from consumers and farmers to corporate giants and the world's poor.

"The days of cheap grain are gone," says Dan Basse, president of AgResource Co., a Chicago commodity fore-



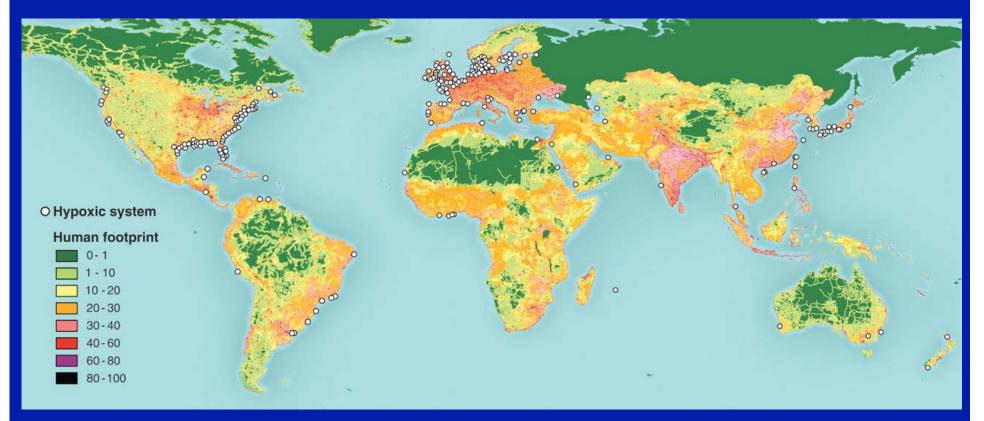
Increased global demand for animal protein, ethanol, speculation

Trends in annual rates of application of nitrogenous fertilizer (N) expressed as mass of N, and of phosphate fertilizer (P) expressed as mass of P2O5, for all nations of the world except the former USSR (18, 19), and trends in global total area of irrigated crop land (H2O) (18). (B) Trends in global total area of land in pasture or crops (18). (C) Trend in global pesticide production rates, measured as millions of metric tons per year (30). (D) Trend in expenditures on pesticide imports (18) summed across all nations of the world, transformed to constant 1996 U.S. dollars. All trends are as dependent on global population and GDP as on time (Table 1).



D. Tilman et al., Science 292, 281 -284 (2001)

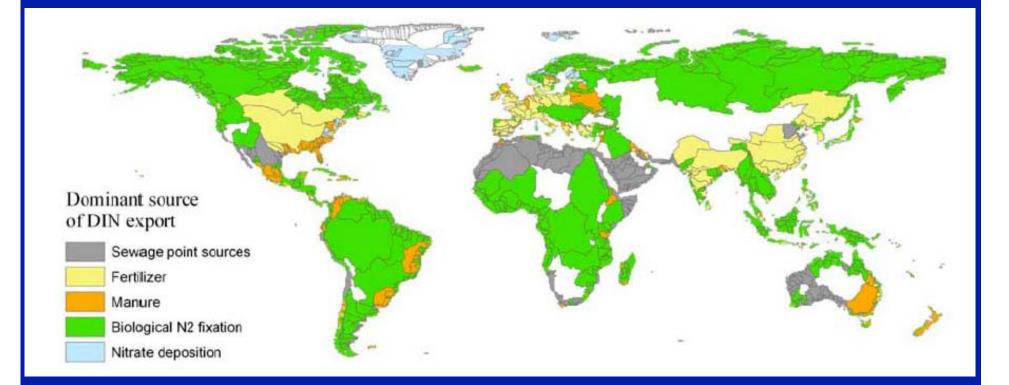
Global distribution of 400-plus systems that have scientifically reported accounts of being eutrophication-associated dead zones



R. J. Diaz et al., Science 321, 926 -929 (2008)

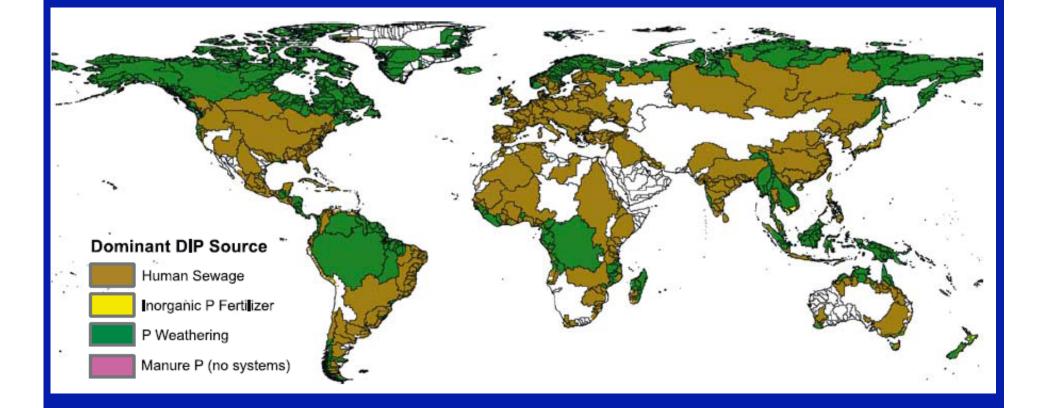


NEWS-DIN-predicted dominant sources of DIN export



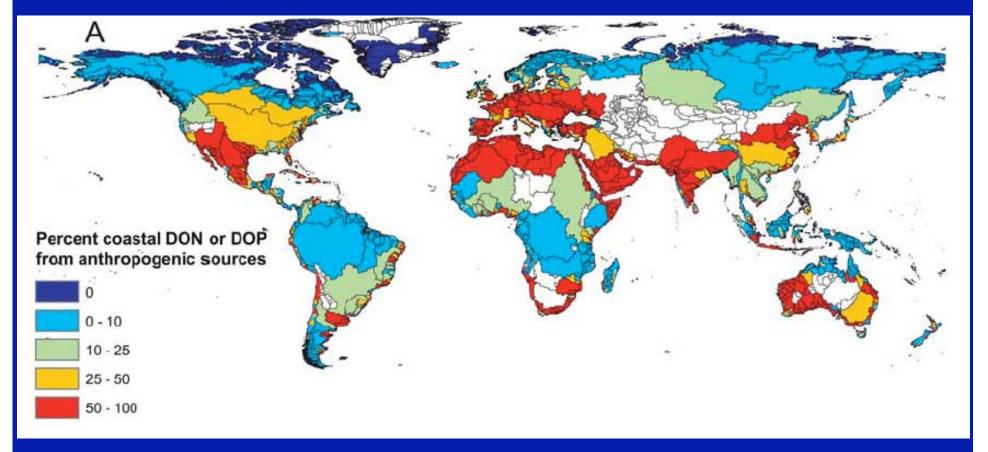
Dumont et al 2005 GBC

Dominant sources of DIP



Harrison et al 2005 GBC

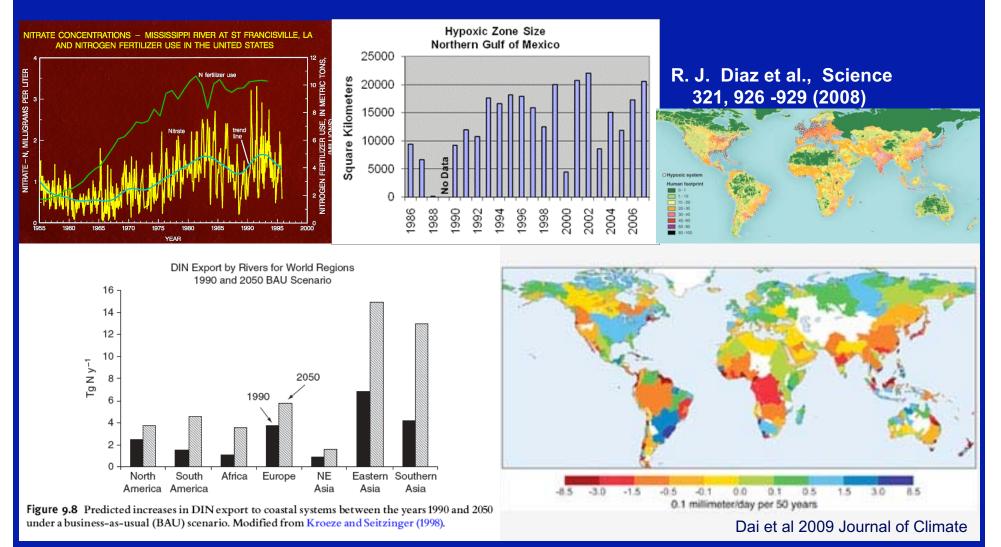
DON/DOP – Percent from Anthropogenic Sources

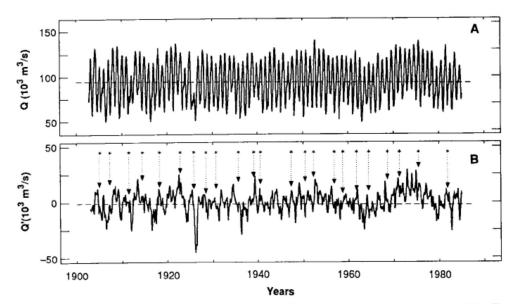


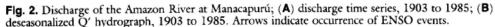
Harrison et al 2005 GBC

Future changes

- Anthropogenic loading (where does urea from fertilizers fit in the new production paradigm?)
- Climate related changes to the hydrological cycle







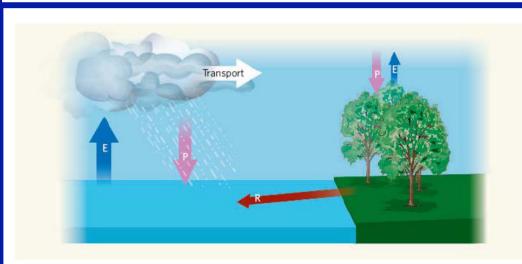


Figure 1 | **Plants, CO₂ and the global water cycle.** The balance between precipitation (P) and evaporation (E) over land determines the surface runoff (R), which returns water from the continents to the oceans. Plant photosynthesis plays an integral role in the global water cycle, by mediating the transfer of water from the land surface to the atmosphere. Elevated CO₂ can lead to closure of leaf stomata, which reduces leaf water loss and thereby decreases overall continental evaporation. Gedney *et al.*² show that this process, initiated by increased atmospheric CO₂, can account for the increases in surface runoff observed over the past century.

Amazon River Discharge and Climate Variability: 1903-1985 Richey, Jeffrey E; Nobre, Carlos; Deser, Clara *Science;* Oct 6, 1989; 246, 4926; Research Library pg. 101

AVAILABILITY OF WATER ACROSS THE WORLD

As flows in the world's rivers alter over the next 300 years, the places that need water most will get the least



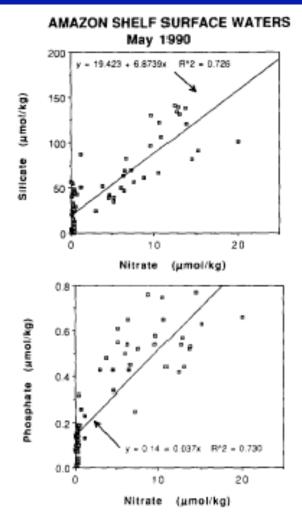
	1	Nutri	ents coi	ncentrat	ions in	Table some n		pollute	d rivers	(µg 1-1)		
	P-PO4	TDP	N-NO ₂	N-NH ₄	N _K	DON	N-NO ₃	TDN	DOC	TOC		
					Т	ropical 1						
Sumatra-Borneo Niger Zaire Orinoco Zambezi	7 13 24 6.2 10	60	1.4 3	14 7			175 100 90 90			8800		
Purari Mekong Solimoes Negro Amazon	1.5 1.5 15 6 12	25 8 (20)	1	40 (40) (25) (35)		150 300 200	40 240 50 25 40	(240) (350) 275	2000 6300 (5000)	8360 (10000)		
		()		. ,		Desert r	ivers					
Orange	9.1							41			From Me	eybeck 1982
Rive	ər			Ρ			N			N:	Р	
Rive Amaz				P 20			N 27	5		N: 13.		
	zon										75	

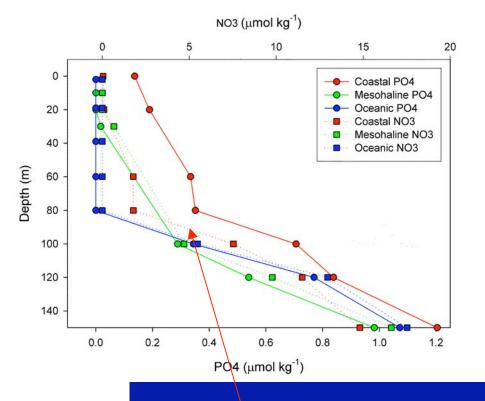
Devol (1991) found that Amazon alone is responsible for 30% of the global riverine supply of SRP

Amazon Nutrients

DeMaster and Pope 1996

Subramaniam et al 2008 PNAS





Buoyancy effect

Fig. 7. Phosphate and silicate concentrations in Amazon shelf surface waters plotted as a function of nitrate concentration for AMASSEDS Cruise III (May 1990; high river discharge). In all four of the cruises the phosphate and the silicate intercepts (i.e. zero nitrate concentration) were positive and significantly different from zero indicating that the algae on the shelf are primarily limited by nitrate and not phosphate or silicate.

Source of P/ Si

DeMaster and Aller 2001

External Nutrient Supply* (x10 ⁸ mol d ⁻¹)		% of Ext. Nutrient Supply to Shelf from Rivers	Gross Production (x10 ⁸ mol d ⁻¹)	%of Gross Production from Recycling	%of Est. Nutrient Supply that is Exported Offshore**	
Si	32	66%	27	096	91.97%	
Р	0.7-0.8	28%	1.7	56%	100%	
Ν	10-12	20-50%	27	60%	50%	

Table 17.2 Biogeochemical Cycling of Si, P, and N on the Amazon Shelf

* External nutrient supply is defined as the supply of dissolved nutrient that is biologically available for shelf plankton. The sources of these nutrients are from the river and upwelled offshore waters, nitrogen fixation regenerated terrestrial organic matter, and absorbed material. The flux of P from desorption is considered part of this external supply, whereas the recycling of estuarine biogenic material (via microbial degradation or dissolution) is not.

** This export includes only the dissolved species and biogenic material that re or can be (following degradation/dissolution) available to marine biota. Less than 4% of the dissolved bioavailable N supplied to the shelf is buried as marine organic matter. However, nearly all of marine PON reaching the seabed is converted to molecular nitrogen, which cannot be utilized by most oceanic plankton. Consequently, only 50% of bioavailable, dissolved, externally supplied N to the shelf is exported in a form that is useable by marine biota.

Tricho can use DOP but P limitation may still occur

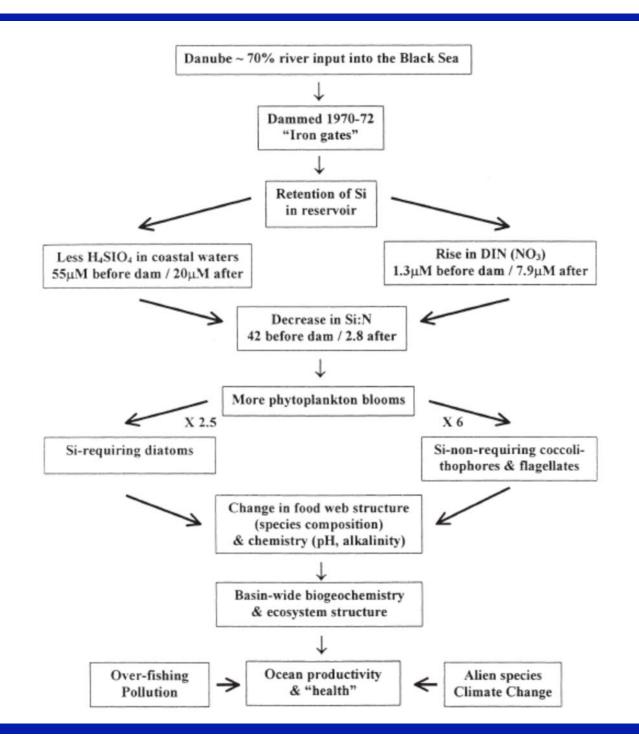
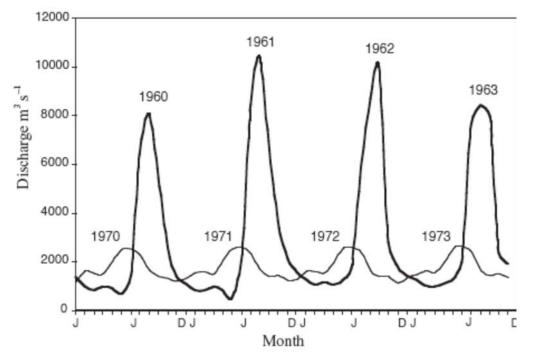


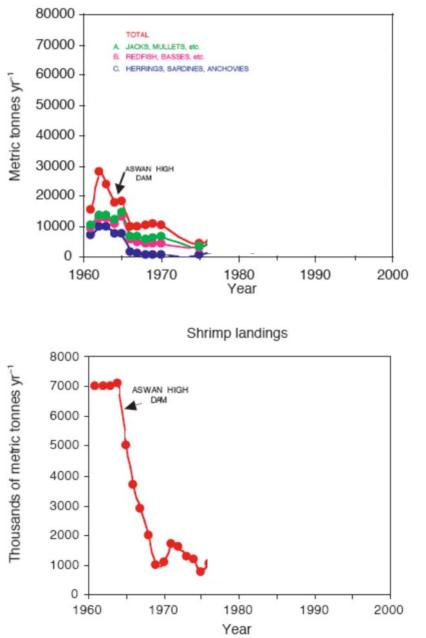
Figure 1. Discharge of the Nile at Aswan before and after closure of the High Dam in 1965 (Data from 14).

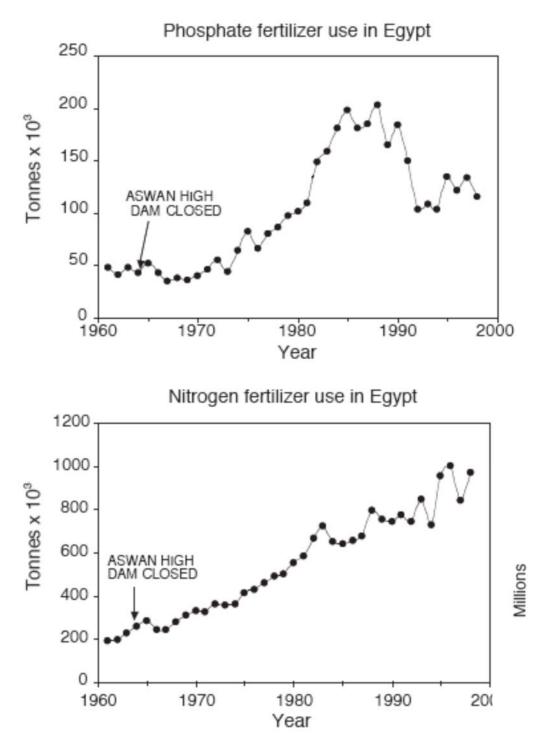
Egypt-Mediterranean fisheries landings



Changes in fisheries landings Decrease after dam due to reduced productivity of the delta

Increase due to fertilizers OR Increase due to better catch per effort, more powerful ships, efficient gear

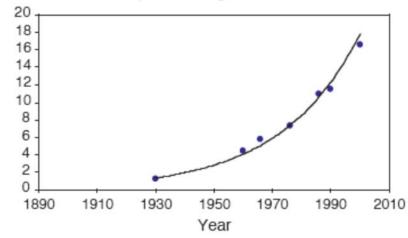




	10 ³ tonr P	nes yr⁻¹ N
The Nile Pre-Aswan High Dam Dissolved On sediments	3.2 4–8	6.7 ?
Total	7–11	6.7
Post-High Dam Dissolved 0.03 On sediment	0.2	0
Total	0.03	0.2
Human Waste Total Generated in Cairo and Alexar 1965 1985 1995	ndria 4.4 8.9 12.6	21 55 87
Potential N and P in wastewater dis Cairo and Alexandria ¹ 1965 1985 1995	charge, 1.1 3.6 9.5	5 22 65
Potential N and P in wastewater dise Total urban population ² 1965 1985 1995	2.4 6.7 15.8	12 41 108

¹Assuming that the population connected to the sewers was 25% in 1965, 40% in 1985, and 75% in 1995 (52). The 1965 estimate is very uncertain.

²Extrapolated from Cairo and Alexandria assuming that the accounted for 45% of the total urban population in 1965. 54% in 1985. and 65% Population of greater Cairo



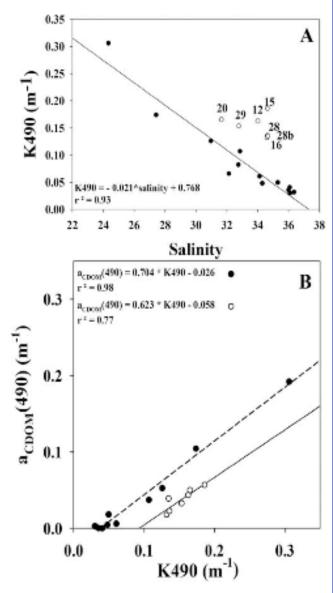


Figure 5. (a) K490 to salinity dependence and (b) $a_{\rm CDOM}(490)$ to K490 dependence in the WTNA during May 2003. Solid circles represent the Amazon River plume (Transect A) and offshore waters (Region A and Region B without intense diatoms bloom). Open circles represent stations with intense diatoms bloom (Region B). Numbers refer to stations. Lines represent linear regressions with parameters reported in figure and statistics in Table 1.

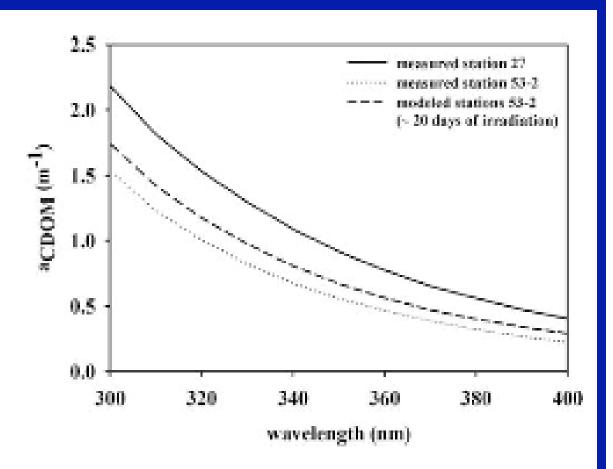
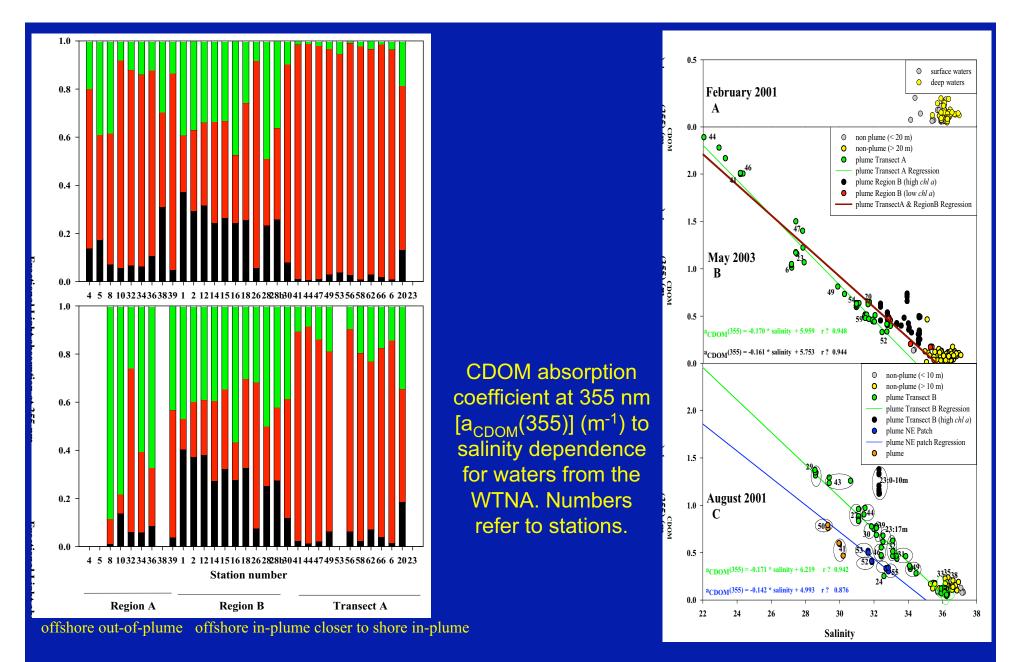
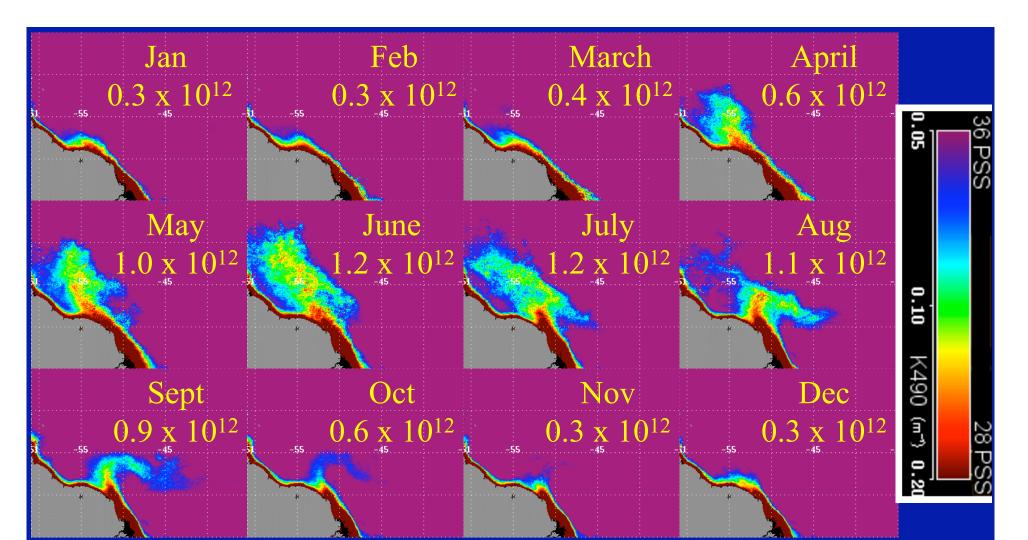


Figure 10. Measured (stations 27 and 53-2) and modeled (after 20 days of light exposure) a_{CDOM} during August 2001 in the WTNA.

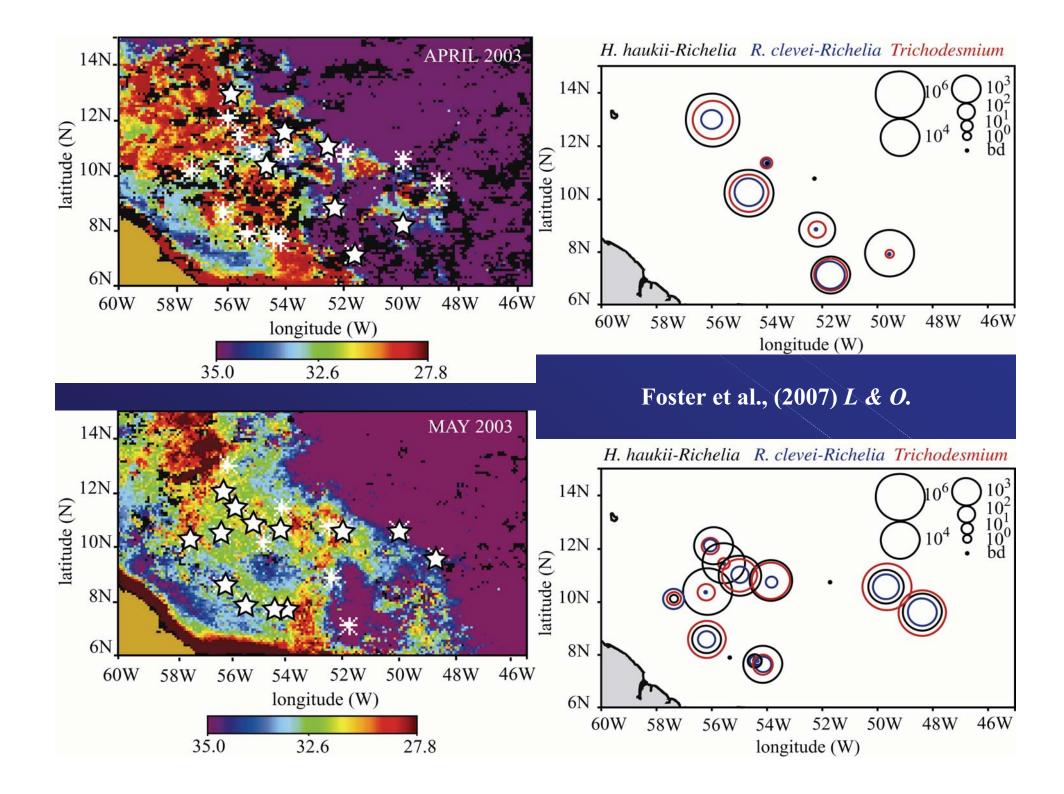
Del Vecchio, R. and A. Subramaniam (2004) Influence of the Amazon River on the surface optical properties of the Western Tropical North Atlantic Ocean. Journal of Geophysical Research. 109, C11001, doi:10.1029/2004JC002503

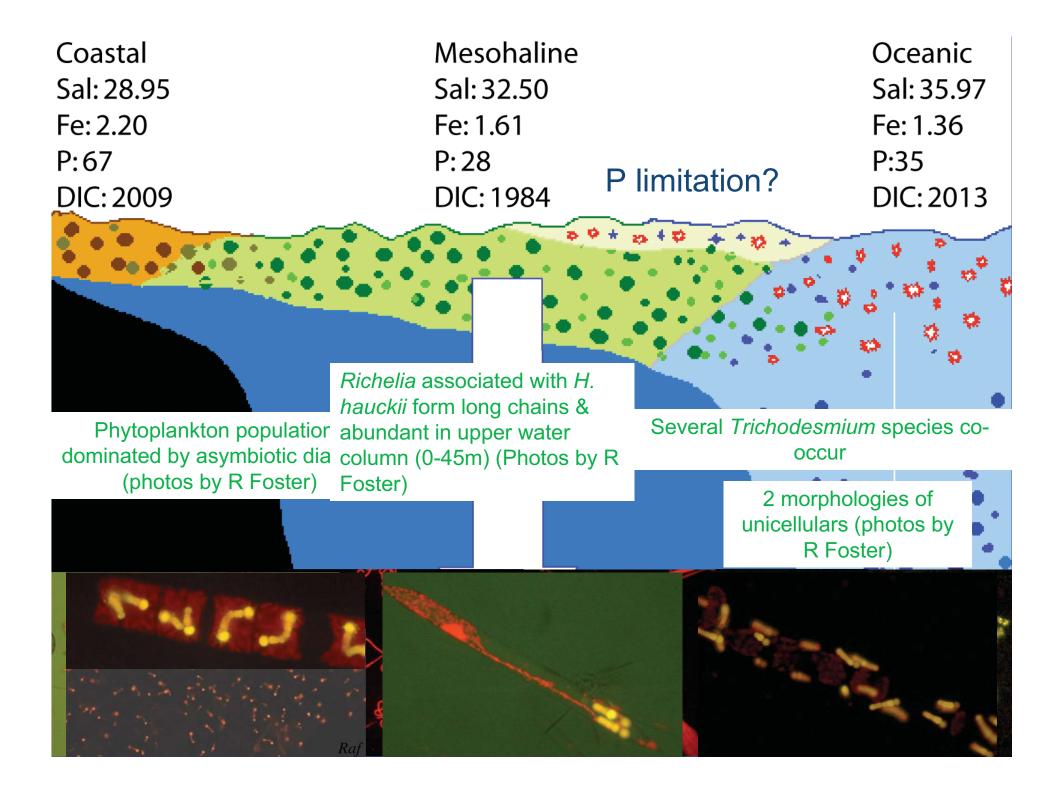


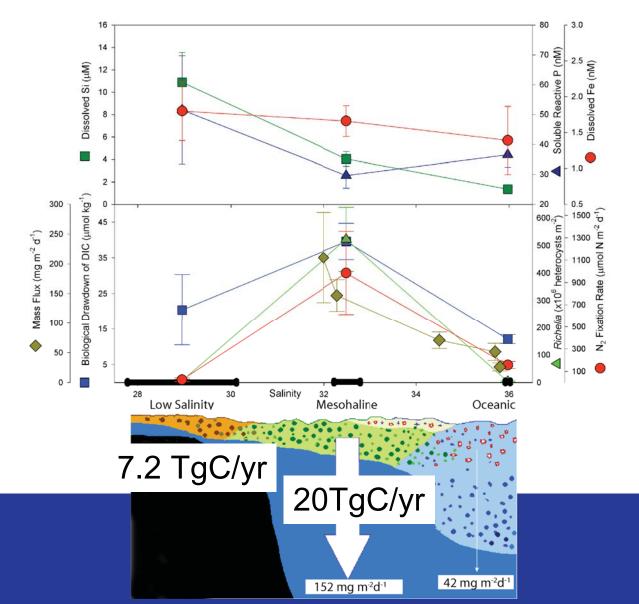
Del Vecchio, R. and A. Subramaniam (2004) Influence of the Amazon River on the surface optical properties of the Western Tropical North Atlantic Ocean. Journal of Geophysical Research. 109, C11001, doi:10.1029/2004JC002503



 $f_{\rm river}$ for the Amazon calculated using the technique of Muller-Karger et al 1989 was 0.03 for the plume implying that N had to be recycled 39 times to meet the measured primary production demand.







Tropical North Atlantic goes from net source of 30 Tg C/yr to neutral or even a sink for C

Subramaniam, A., PL. Yager, EJ. Carpenter, C. Mahaffey, K. Björkman, S. Cooley, AB. Kustka, JP. Montoya, SA. Sañudo-Wilhelmy, R. Shipe, & DG. Capone. (2008) Amazon River enhances diazotrophy and carbon sequestration in the tropical North Atlantic Ocean. (Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences)

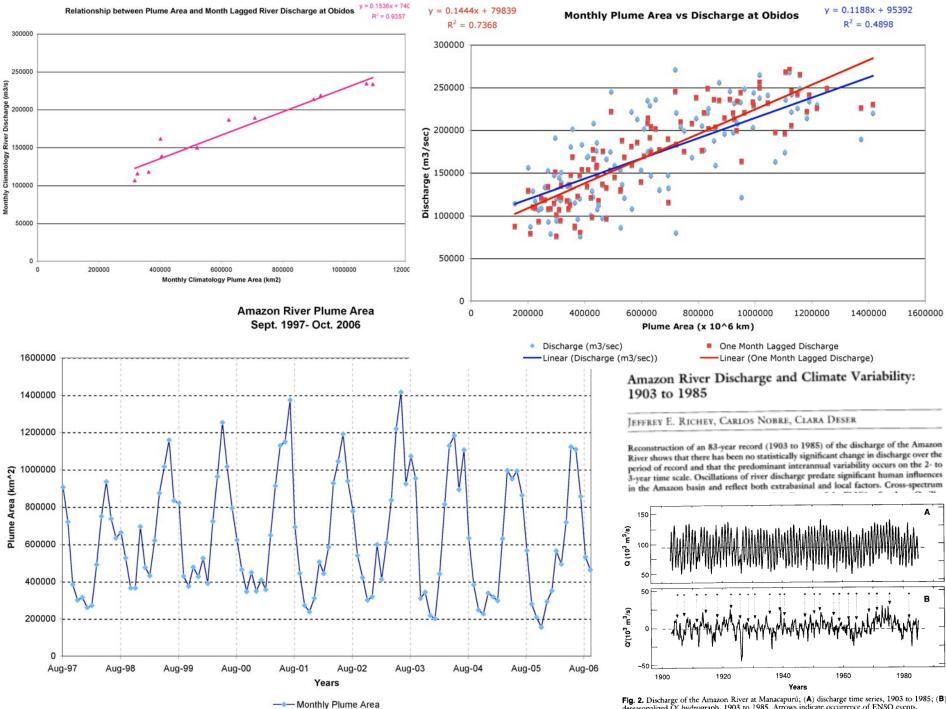
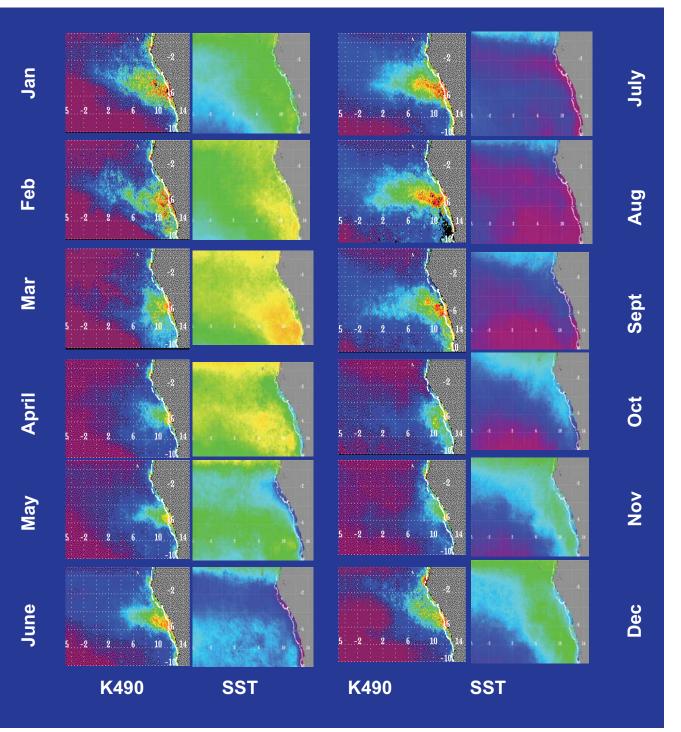
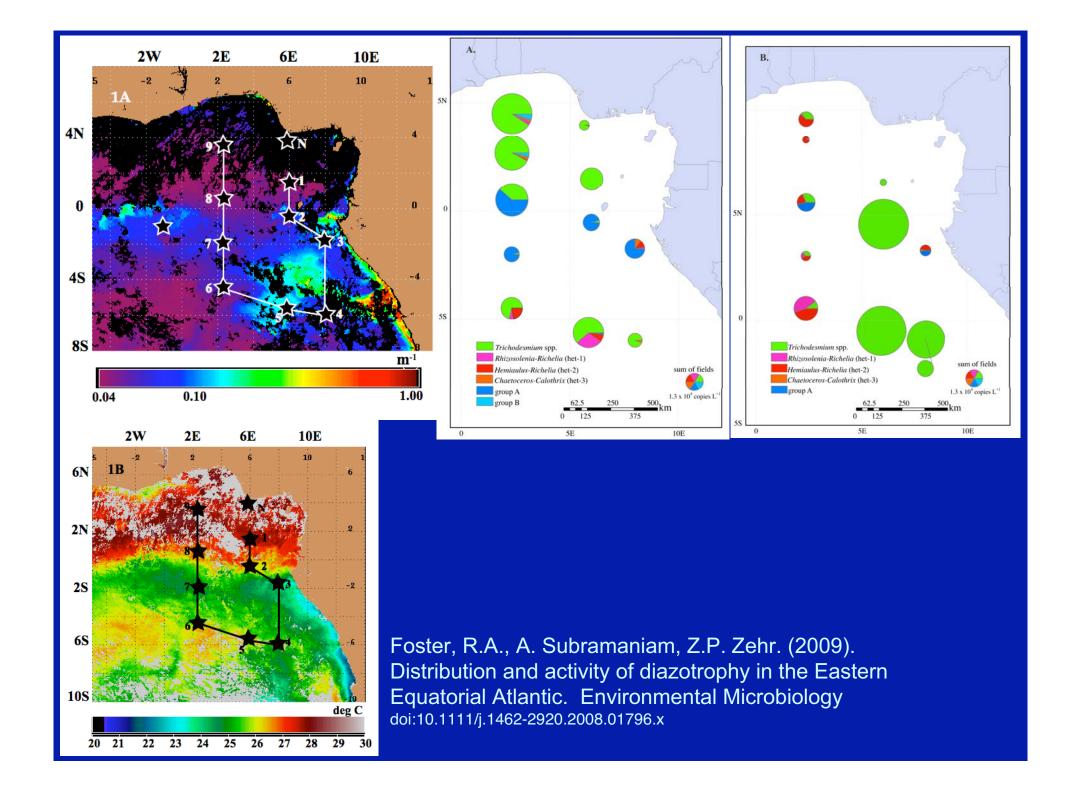


Fig. 2. Discharge of the Amazon River at Manacapurú; (A) discharge time series, 1903 to 1985; (B) deseasonalized Q' hydrograph, 1903 to 1985. Arrows indicate occurrence of ENSO events.

Congo



Colebank, Y., Reison, D., Subramaniam, A. Using Argo Profilers And Ocean Color Satellite Data To Trace The Congo River. 2008 Ocean Sciences Meeting, Orlando, FL.



Congo River 2006

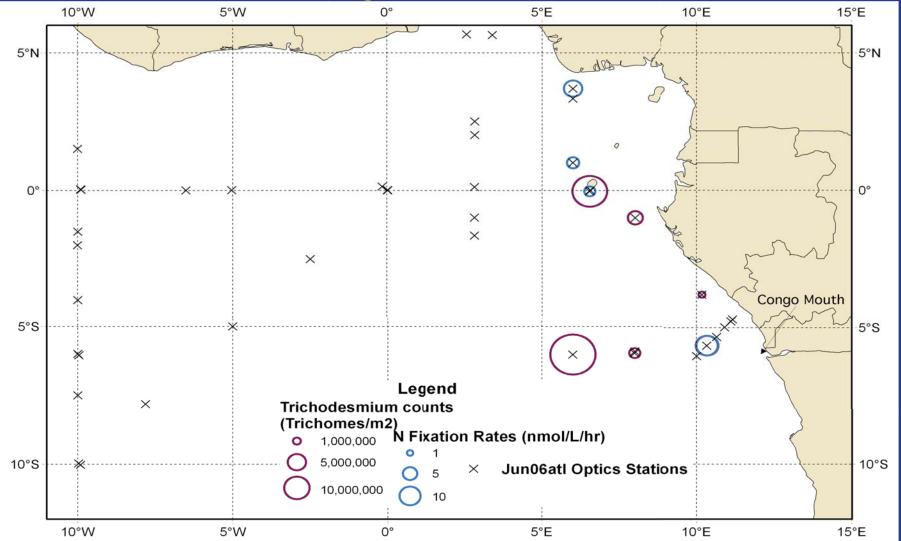


Figure 2 Map of stations occupied in June 2006. Some preliminary data was collected on nitrogen fixation rates and *Trichodesmium* abundance.

The Grand Inga Project



-Twice the hydroelectric power generation as the Three Gorges Dam -Green power? Methane, mercury emissions, loss of carbon sink

GEOPHYSICAL RESEARCH LETTERS, VOL. 30, NO. 10, 1515, doi:10.1029/2002GL016391, 2003

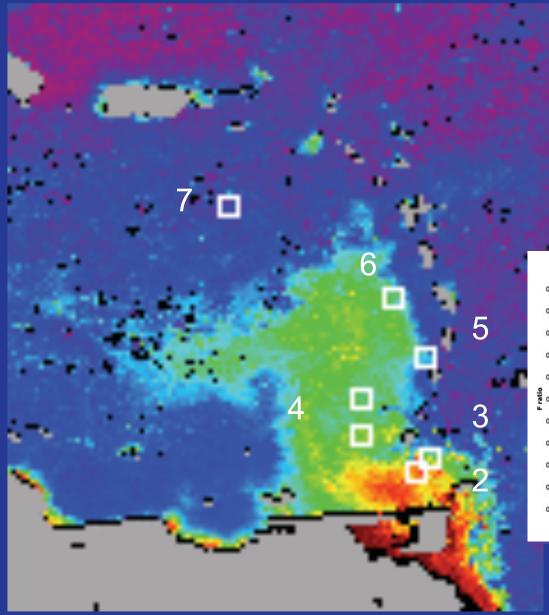
Physical-biological sources for dense algal blooms near the Changjiang River

Changsheng Chen,¹ Jianrong Zhu,² Robert C. Beardsley,³ and Peter J. S. Franks⁴ Received 4 October 2002; accepted 12 March 2003; published 22 May 2003.

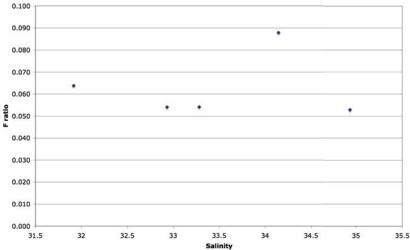
[1] Harmful algal blooms ("red tides") occur primarily in a confined region on the inner shelf off the Changjiang River in the East China Sea during May–August. The areal extent of these blooms has increased dramatically in the

dissipation and senescence depletes the oxygen in the water, leading to massive mortality of fish and other important species. HABs frequently occur in a region bounded by 29°-32.5°N and 122°-123°20'E (with 70% of the blooms

f river for the Orinoco

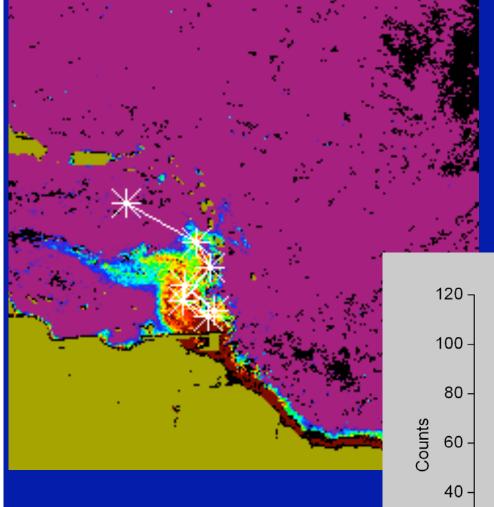


Muller-Karger et al 1989 estimated f_{river} of 0.02 to 0.12, i.e. recycling 7-65 times. The measured values are much less confirming other sources of N



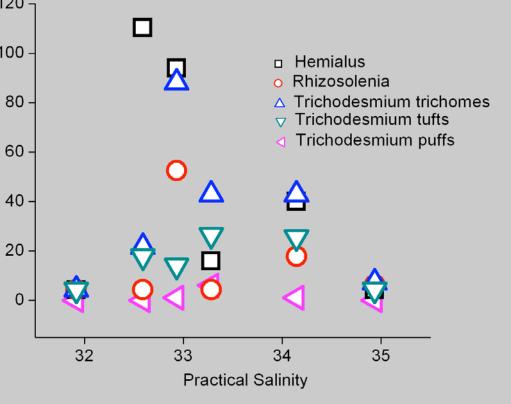
F ratio for the Orinoco

N recycled between 10 and 18 times (D. Bronk, Personal communication)



Orinoco River

Cruise data from September 2006 from Corredor, Morrel, Cabrera



JOURNAL OF GEOPHYSICAL RESEARCH, VOL. 106, NO. C8, PAGES 16,807-16,813, AUGUST 15, 2001

Photomineralization of fluorescent dissolved organic matter in the Orinoco River plume: Estimation of ammonium release

Julio M. Morell and Jorge E. Corredor

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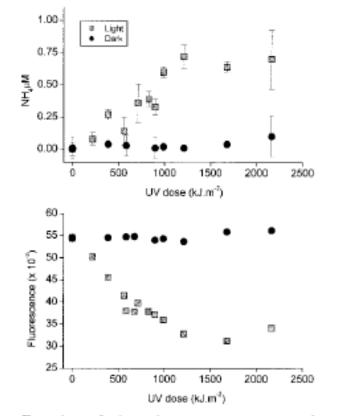


Figure 6. Results of the photoexposure experiment. NH₄ production and concurrent DOM fl reduction in surface water collected from the Gulf of Paria.

Sort of same old story in the Bay of Bengal

A sink for atmospheric carbon dioxide in the northeast Indian Ocean

M. Dileep Kumar, S. W. A. Naqvi, M. D. George, and D. A. Jayakumar

National Institute of Oceanography, Dona Paula, Goa, India

Abstract. Intensive observations in the northeast Indian Ocean (Bay of Bengal) during the presouthwest and northeast monsoon seasons of 1991 reveal that freshwater discharge from rivers of the Indian subcontinent exerts the dominant control over total carbon dioxide (TCO₂) and pCO₂ distributions in surface waters. Low pCO₂ levels occur within the low-salinity zones, with a large area in the northwestern bay acting as a sink for atmospheric CO₂. Only a part of the observed pCO₂ variation can be accounted for by the effect of salinity, and biological production supported by external nutrient inputs in conjunction with strong thermohaline stratification may be more important in lowering surface water pCO₂ by >100 µatm relative to that in the atmosphere. The pCO₂ distribution is seasonally variable and appears to be controlled by the spreading of fresher waters by the prevailing surface circulation.

Indian Ocean Rivers - the great unknowns Bay of Bengal Ganges/Brahmaputra/Irrawady/Salween

Intense blooms of *Trichodesmium erythraeum* (Cyanophyta) in the open waters along east coast of India

*R. Jyothibabu, N. V. Madhu, Nuncio Murukesh, P. C. Haridas, K. K.C.Nair & P. Venugopal

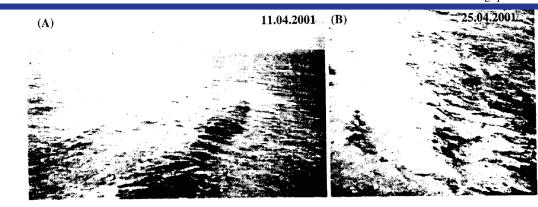
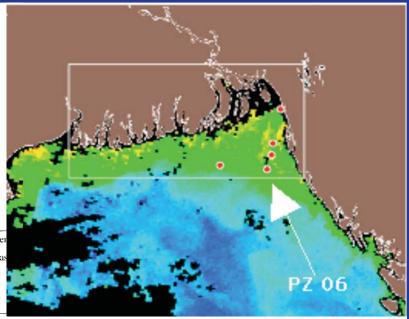


Fig. 2-Trichodesmium erythraeum bloom observed (A) off Karaikkal, (B) off south of Calcutta

Table 1 -- Details of the location, nutrients, primary production and mesozooplankton biomass of the bloom regions in the Bay of Ber

Bloom date	Lat (°N)	Long (°E)	Nutrients (μ mol.l ⁻¹)			Primary production	Zooplankton biom	
Dissin quite			Nitrate	Phosphate	Silicate	$(mgC m^{-2} d^{-1})$	(ml 100m ⁻³)	
11 April 2001	10° 58'	81°50'	0.05	0.9	2.2	2160	22.8	
25 April 2001	19°44'	89°04'	0.14	0.56	_	1740	17.7	



Biogeochemistry of particulate organic matter from the Bay of Bengal as discernible from hydrolysable neutral carbohydrates and amino acids

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$Water \ quality \ assessment \ of \ Gautami-Godavari \ mangroves$

Parameters	KKD bay region	GG estuary region	Mangrove region
NO ₂ -Ν (μM)	(0.50 - 2.24)	(0.68 - 1.72)	(1.21 - 6.49)
	1.33 ± 056	1.23 ± 0.39	3.41 ± 1.6
NO_3-N (μM)	$(0.86 - 12.5) \\ 6.03 \pm 3.55$	(13.9 - 21.4) 17.18 ± 2.64	(7.47 - 16.2) 11.15 ± 2.42
NH_4-N (μM)	(0.82 - 2.49)	(0.33 - 2.25)	(0.79 - 14.2)
	1.51 ± 0.60	1.13 ± 0.54	4.83 ± 3.4
PO_4-P (μM)	(0.92 - 6.9)	(1.76 - 4.53)	(1.89 - 5.85)
	2.54 ± 1.68	3.05 ± 1.09	3.17 ± 0.99
SiO_4 -Si (μM)	(9.26 - 57.7)	(42.5 - 142.0)	(68.6 - 139.0)
	33.93 ± 17.37	90.38 \pm 35.39	102.35 ± 25.73
TN (μM)	(13.7 - 120.0)	(15.8 - 42.6)	(21.3 - 196.0)
	59.95 ± 40.79	26.44 ± 8.65	43.02 ± 45.94
TP (µM)	(2.01 - 15.5)	(3.69 - 16.2)	(2.46 - 21.7)
	7.46 ± 3.85	8.4 \pm 3.99	10.52 ± 5.01
pH	(7.10 - 7.93)	(7.2 - 7.8)	(7.19 - 7.58)
	7.55 ± 0.28	7.52 ± 0.22	7.42 ± 0.13
Salinity (PSU)	(11.9 - 31.4)	(0.27 - 9.65)	(0.27 - 9.48)
	21.06 ± 6.76	3.87 ± 3.9	3.29 ± 3.88
DO $(mg l^{-1})$	(5.85 - 8.65)	(5.49 - 6.38)	(1.39 - 5.45)
	7.03 ± 0.93	5.87 ± 0.33	2.88 ± 1.55
BOD $(mg l^{-1})$	(2.88 - 5.85)	(1.52 - 2.8)	(3.68 - 6.12)
	4.88 ± 1.13	2.32 ± 0.5	4.79 ± 0.74
$\operatorname{Chl} a (\mu \operatorname{g} \operatorname{l}^{-1})$	(0.68 - 25.9)	(0.86 - 15.9)	(2.36 - 16.2)
	12.49 ± 9.55	5.23 ± 4.84	5.42 ± 4.74
$\operatorname{Chl} b \ (\mu g l^{-1})$	(0.04 - 4.08)	(ND - 2.41)	(ND - 4.53)
	1.1 ± 1.21	0.61 ± 0.85	1.48 ± 1.44
$\operatorname{Chl} c \ (\mu \operatorname{g} 1^{-1})$	(0.15 - 7.17)	(ND - 2.6)	(0.05 - 12.9)
	1.83 ± 2.03	0.87 ± 0.94	2.88 ± 3.14
$Pp~(\mu g~l^{-1})$	(0.44 - 21.1)	(ND - 7.05)	(0.88 - 6.25)
	7.92 ± 7.22	2.2 ± 2.28	3.16 ± 1.72

Table 1. Range (in parenthesis) and mean values $(\pm SD)$ of water parameters in the three regions.

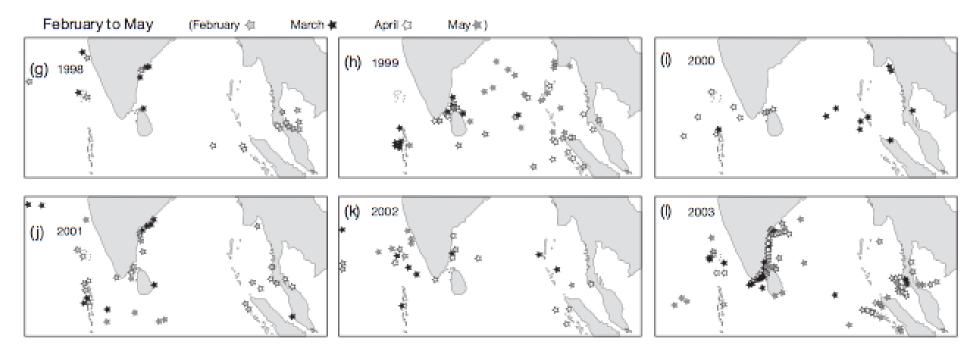
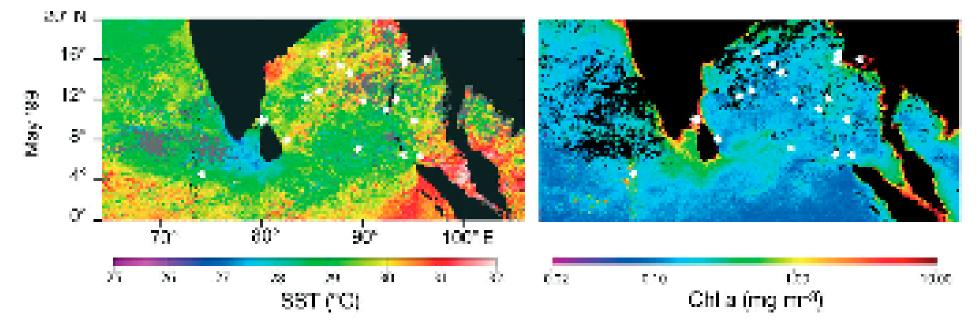


Fig. 3. Remotely sensed Trichodesmium occurrences superimposed on a map of the region for the period of 1997–2003. (a–f) November to January (circles); (g–l) February to May (stars)



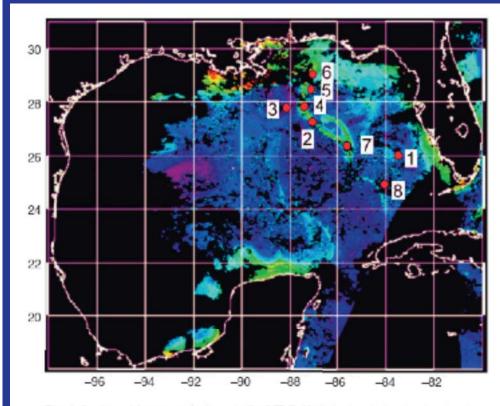
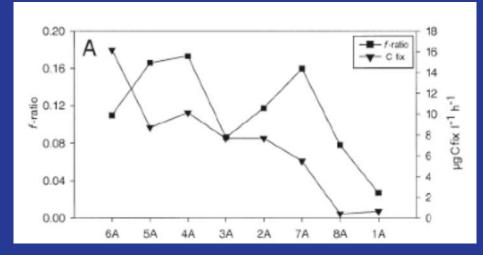
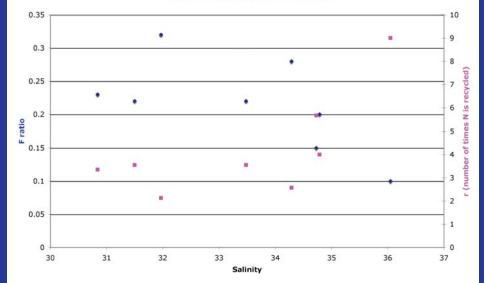


Fig. 1. Surface chl a concentrations in the NE Gulf of Mexico derived using the Sea-Viewing Wide Field-ot-View Sensor (SeaWiFS). Lighter colors indicated higher amounts of colored material in surface water. Concentrations near the Mississippi River Delta and in the river plume, as well as in other coastal areas, are subject to known effects by high concentrations of colored dissolved organic matter, suspended sediments, or bottom reflectance, which can artificially raise chl a estimates. Land and clouds are colored black. Station locations are indicated

Wawrik and Paul 2004 AME



F ratio and recycling in the Mississippi



Mekong River

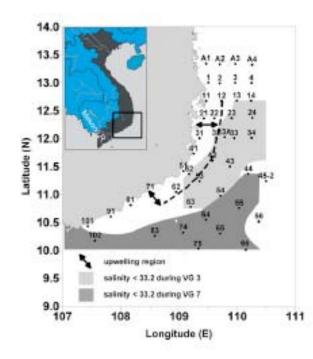


Figure 1. Map of the South China Sea off Vietnam with all CTD stations, the insert shows SE Asia. (N₂-fixation was measured at the 28 stations). Stations A1 to A4 and 1 to 4 were only visited during VG4, stations 62 to 65 only during VG7. The shaded area denotes Mekong river influence and the line the extension of the upwelling region from the coast.

Voss M et al. (2006) Riverine influence on nitrogen fixation in the upwelling region off Vietnam, South China Sea. GRL 33

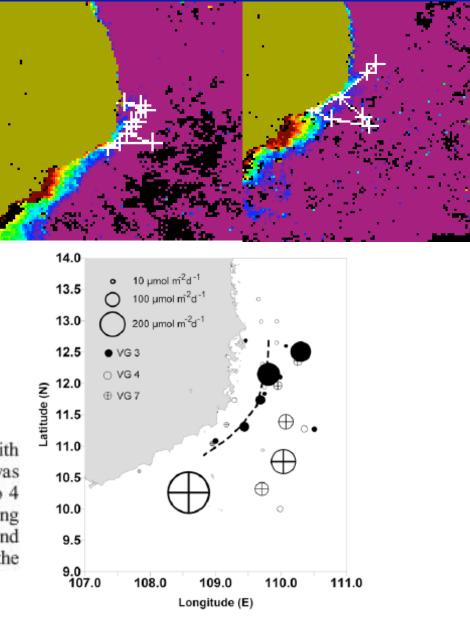


Figure 2. N_2 -fixation rates, symbols are scaled linearly proportional to the measured values. The line visualises the offshore limitation of the upwelling area.

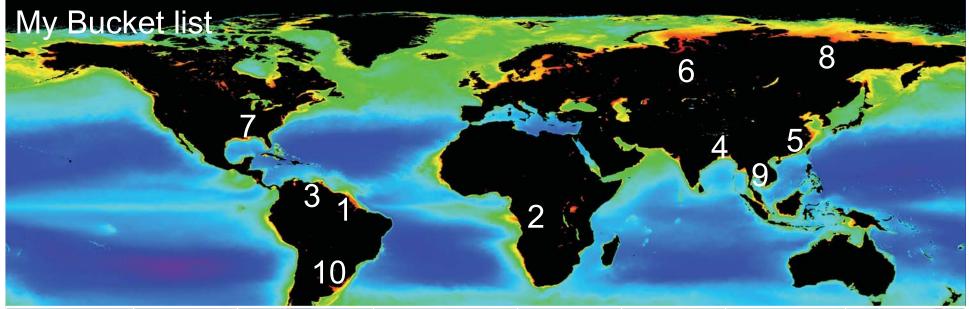




Mami Wata – a symbol of water systems science and engineering?

Who is Mami Wata?

 She is Mother Water, Mother of Fishes, goddess of oceans, rivers and pools, with sources in West and Central Africa and tributaries throughout the African Americas, from Bahia to Brooklyn. Usually shown as a half-woman, half-fish, she slips with ease between incompatible elements: water and air, tradition and modernity, this life and the next.



River	Discharge	Cumulative %	Drainage area	DIN yield*	DIP yield*	DON yield**	DOP yield**
Amazon	6300	18	6.15	173	17	327	18
Zaire	1250	22	3.82		4	91.5	
Orinoco	1200	25	0.99		4	313	17
Ganges- Brahmaputra	970	28	1.48		25	164	
Chiang	900	31	1.94	326	16		
Yenisey	630	33	2.58		1		
Mississippi	530	34	3.27	256	7	54	3
Lena	510	36	2.49	21	2	58	3
Mekong	470	37	0.79				
Parana	470	38	2.83	44	2	61	
All others	21168	100					

