



# Alg@line: 30+ years of FerryBox measurements in the Baltic Sea

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With contributions from large amount of  
current and past Alg@liners



Suomen ympäristökeskus  
Finlands miljöcentral  
Finnish Environment Institute

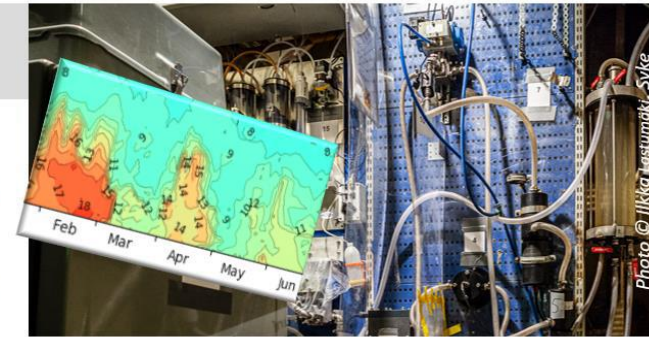
# 12<sup>th</sup> FerryBox Workshop

Welcome back to Helsinki  
with memories of 5<sup>th</sup> FerryBox Workshop  
- Celebrating 20 Years of Alg@line in Helsinki 2013!

12<sup>th</sup> FerryBox Workshop  
1.-2. Oct 2024 Helsinki, Finland



FerryBox  
TaskTeam



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5th Ferrybox Workshop - Celebrating 20 Years of Alg@line

Edited by

- Seppo Kaitala
- Jukka Seppälä

Volume 140, Part A,

Pages 1-72 (December 2014)



Suomen ympäristökeskus  
Finlands miljöcentral  
Finnish Environment Institute



# How did it all start ?

*Continental Shelf Research*, Vol. 10, No. 4, pp. 329-354, 1990.  
Printed in Great Britain.

0278-4343/90 \$3.00 + 0.00  
© 1990 Pergamon Press plc.

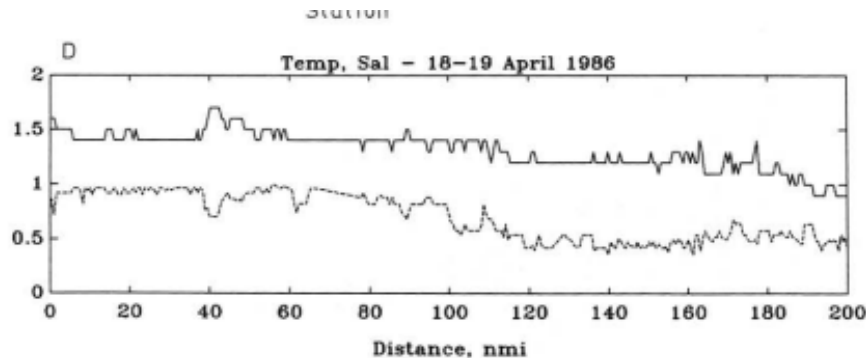
In 1980's

## The phytoplankton spring bloom in the Baltic Sea in 1985, 1986: multitude of spatio-temporal scales

M. KAHRU\* and S. NÖMMANN\*

### METHODS AND DATA

Most of the observations that will be discussed were made from R.V. *Arnold Veimer* in the “along-track” mode while the ship was steaming along a straight course at a constant speed from 6 to 12 kn. Underway shipboard measurements of particle concentrations, *in vivo* fluorescence, temperature and salinity were obtained from a depth of 5 m. The “flow-through” system contained a bubble trap and a reservoir tank to maintain a relatively constant flow rate necessary to obtain the particle concentrations from an on-line Hiac-Royco PC-320 particle size analyser (PUGH, 1978). The counter included two



<https://mereviki.vta.ee/mediawiki/index.php/LIVONIA>

# How did it all start ?

In 1990's

- Collaboration between Finnish and Estonian marine institutes using passenger ship Georg Ots between Helsinki and Tallinn 1990-91,
  - a semi-automatic system consisting of a flow-through fluorometer, a thermosalinograph, a navigator and a PC.
- In 1992 an unattended analyser system was installed by FIMR on board Silja Lines ferry Finnjet crossing the whole Baltic Proper from Travemünde to Helsinki.
  - Soon several other lines evolved: Gulf of Bothnia, Helsinki- St. Petersburg
- In spring 1992 a mass mortality of birds and seals occurred in the eastern Gulf of Finland, possibly due to a toxic phytoplankton bloom. The following year, 1993, was a real kick-off year for Alg@line, when the systematic information compilation and delivery service on phytoplankton blooms were started.



**1995 - Alg@line into the web**



Source: Rantajärvi 2003 Alg@line IN 2003: 10 YEARS OF INNOVATIVE PLANKTON MONITORING AND RESEARCH AND OPERATIONAL INFORMATION SERVICE IN THE BALTIC SEA



# Then it went viral...





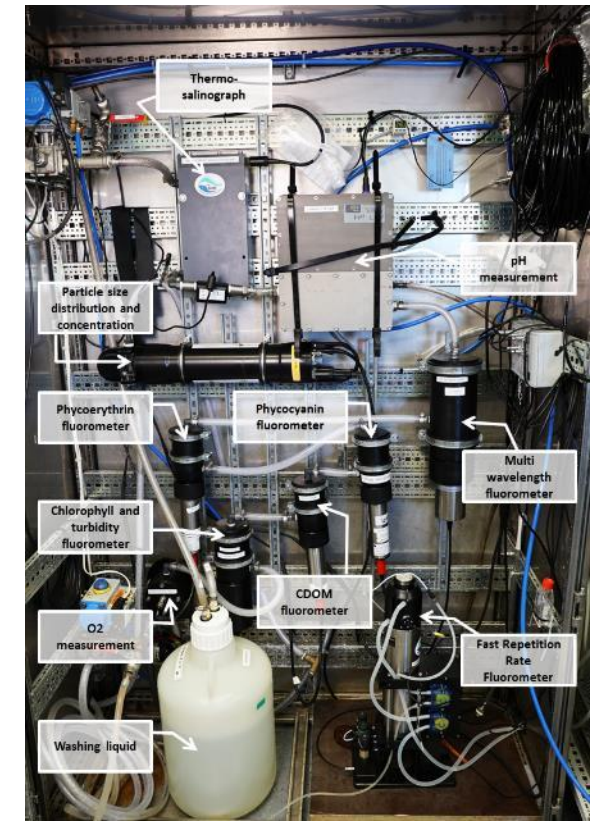
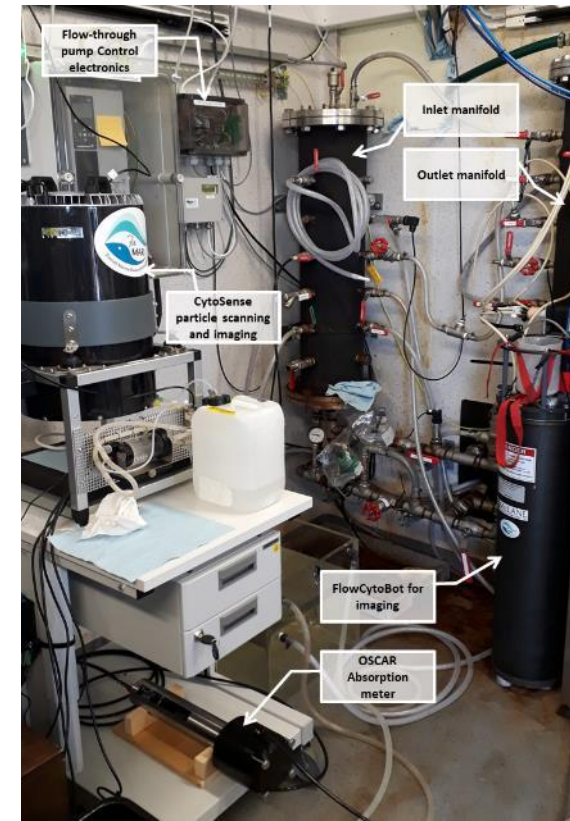
# Alg@line today

Silja Serenade Helsinki-Stockholm  
(Ship operated since 1999)

Finnmaid Helsinki-Travemünde  
(Transect operated since 1992)



Uto fixed station  
(since 2016)



# Alg@line in phytoplankton research

## Chlorophyll fluorescence

Hydrobiologia (2006) 554:57–65  
J. Kuparinen, E. Sandberg-Kilpi & J. Mattila (eds), Baltic Sea: A Lost System or a Future Treasury  
DOI 10.1007/s10750-005-1006-7

© Springer 2006

### Phytoplankton spring bloom intensity index for the Baltic Sea estimated for the years 1992 to 2004

Vivi Fleming\* & Seppo Kaitala  
Finnish Institute of Marine Research, 33, SF-00931, Helsinki, Finland

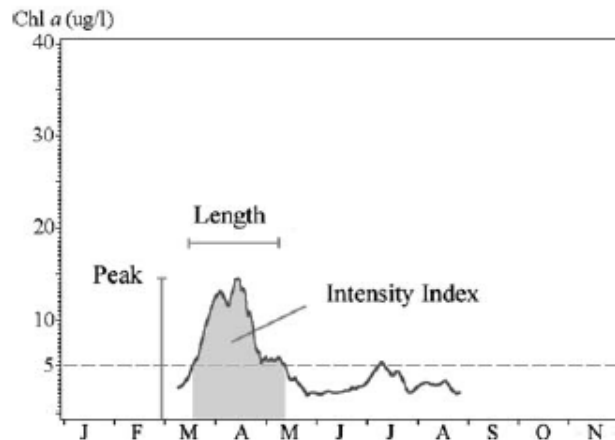


Figure 2. Seven-day running average of chlorophyll *a* in 2003 for the Northern Baltic Proper. The shaded area indicates the spring bloom, for which the intensity index is calculated; the spring bloom threshold is shown with a broken line. The peak and length of bloom are also presented.

## Phycocyanin fluorescence



Available online at [www.sciencedirect.com](http://www.sciencedirect.com)

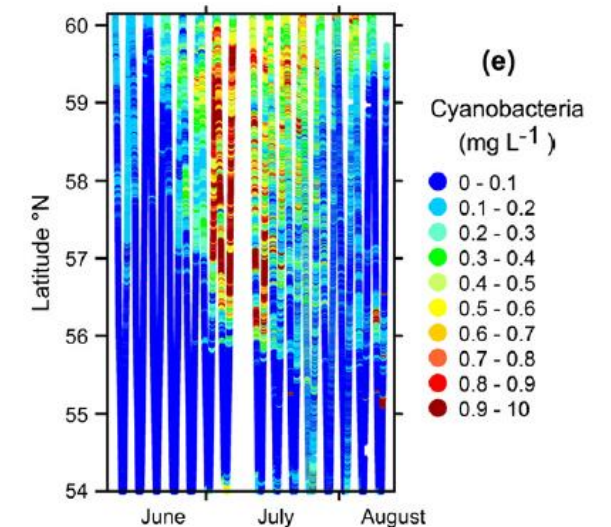
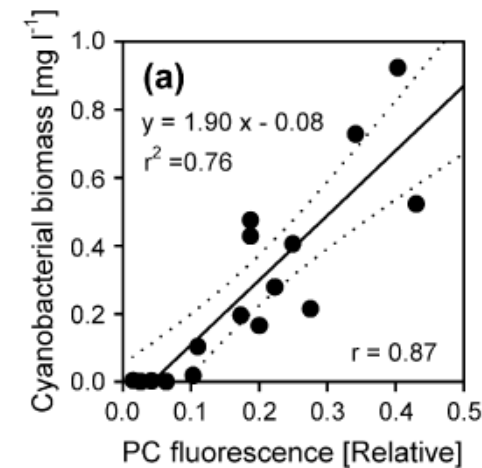


Estuarine, Coastal and Shelf Science 73 (2007) 489–500

ESTUARINE  
COASTAL  
AND  
SHELF SCIENCE  
[www.elsevier.com/locate/ecss](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/ecss)

### Ship-of-opportunity based phycocyanin fluorescence monitoring of the filamentous cyanobacteria bloom dynamics in the Baltic Sea

J. Seppälä\*, P. Ylöstalo, S. Kaitala, S. Hällfors, M. Raateoja, P. Maunula



# Alg@line in phytoplankton research

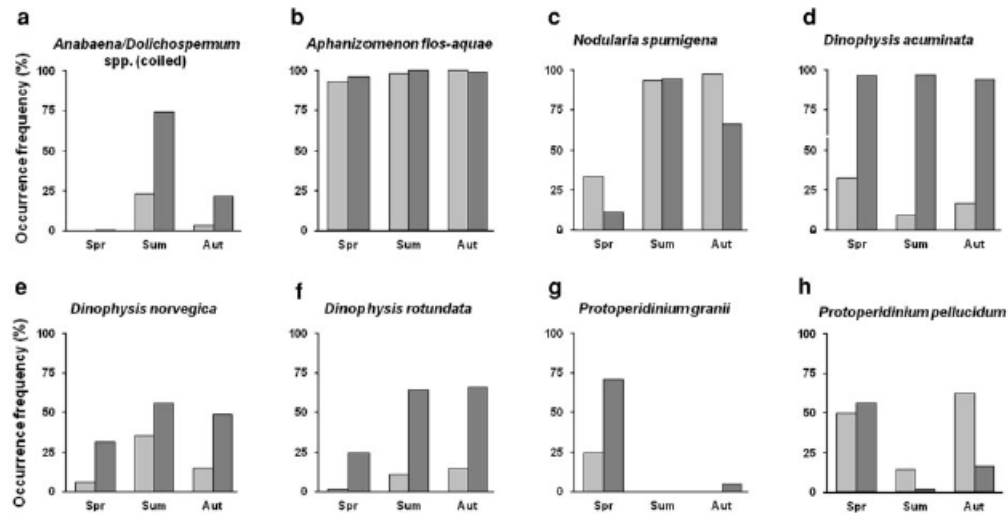
## Trends in phytoplankton communities

Hydrobiologia  
DOI 10.1007/s10750-012-1414-4

### PRIMARY RESEARCH PAPER

## The northern Baltic Sea phytoplankton communities in 1903–1911 and 1993–2005: a comparison of historical and modern species data

Heidi Hällfors · Hermanni Backer ·  
Juha-Markku Leppänen · Seija Hällfors ·  
Guy Hällfors · Harri Kuosa



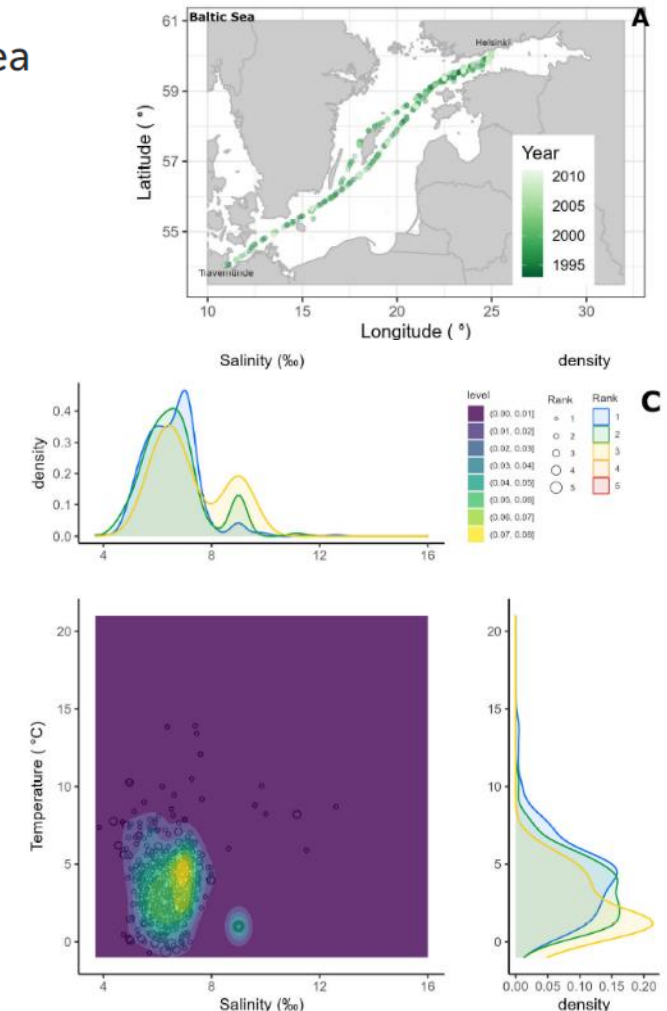
**Fig. 3** Seasonal mean occurrence frequencies of the 20 taxa which occurred in both 1903–1911 (left hand columns, in *pale grey*) and 1993–2005 (right hand columns, in *dark grey*), in spring (*Spr*), summer (*Sum*) and autumn (*Aut*)

## Phytoplankton responses to environment

## Trait response of three Baltic Sea spring dinoflagellates to temperature, salinity, and light gradients

Lumi Haraguchi\*, Kaisa Kraft, Pasi Ylöstalo, Sami Kielosto,  
Heidi Hällfors, Timo Tamminen and Jukka Seppälä

Semi-quantitative phytoplankton data (as abundance ranks) from samples collected in 1993–2011 onboard ships-of-opportunity transversing the Baltic Sea (A), depicting the occurrence of *Heterocapsa arctica* subsp. *frigida* (C) over environmental temperature and salinity gradients.





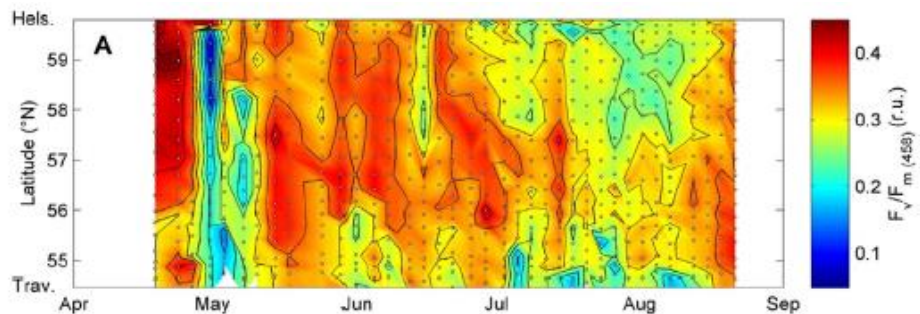
# Alg@line in phytoplankton research

## New technologies for productivity



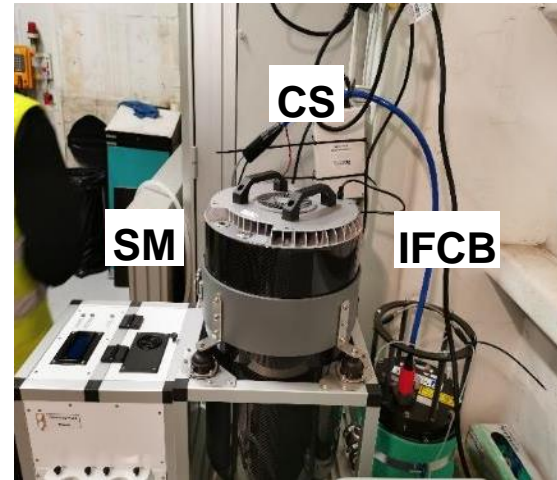
Basin-scale spatio-temporal variability and control of phytoplankton photosynthesis in the Baltic Sea: The first multiwavelength fast repetition rate fluorescence study operated on a ship-of-opportunity

Emilie Houliez <sup>a,\*</sup>, Stefan Simis <sup>a,b</sup>, Susanna Nenonen <sup>a</sup>, Pasi Ylöstalo <sup>a</sup>, Jukka Seppälä <sup>a</sup>



Spatio-temporal dynamics of the maximum photochemical efficiency measured at 458nm

## ...and imaging & cytometry



### Talks

Detection of filamentous cyanobacteria blooms using imaging and pulse shape flow cytometry, and optical sensors

Kaisa Kraft, Finnish Environment Institute

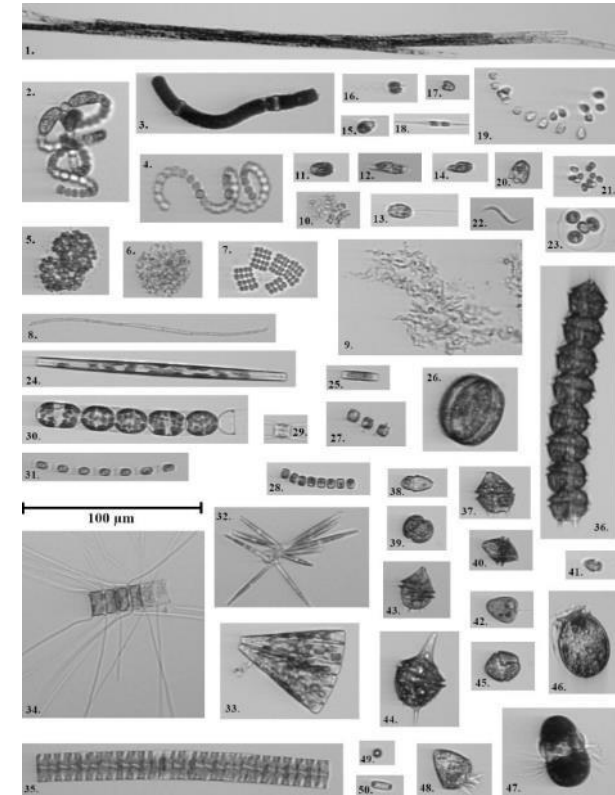
Spatio-temporal development of cyanobacteria bloom in the Baltic Sea during summer 2023

Lumi Haraguchi, Finnish Environment Institute

### Poster

Spatial and temporal dynamics of spring phytoplankton functional traits in Baltic sea

Lescroart E, Finnish Environment Institute & Ifremer



# Alg@line in biogeochemistry

Climatology and trends in Chl-a and nutrients

## Loading from river Neva



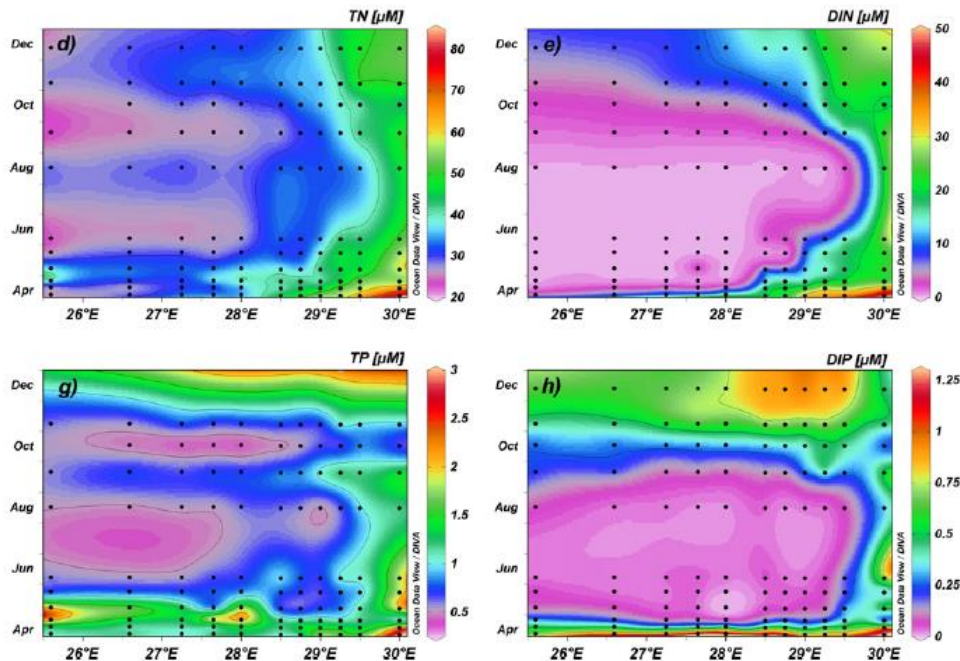
Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Marine Chemistry

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/marchem](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/marchem)

Loadings of dissolved organic matter and nutrients from the Neva River into the Gulf of Finland – Biogeochemical composition and spatial distribution within the salinity gradient

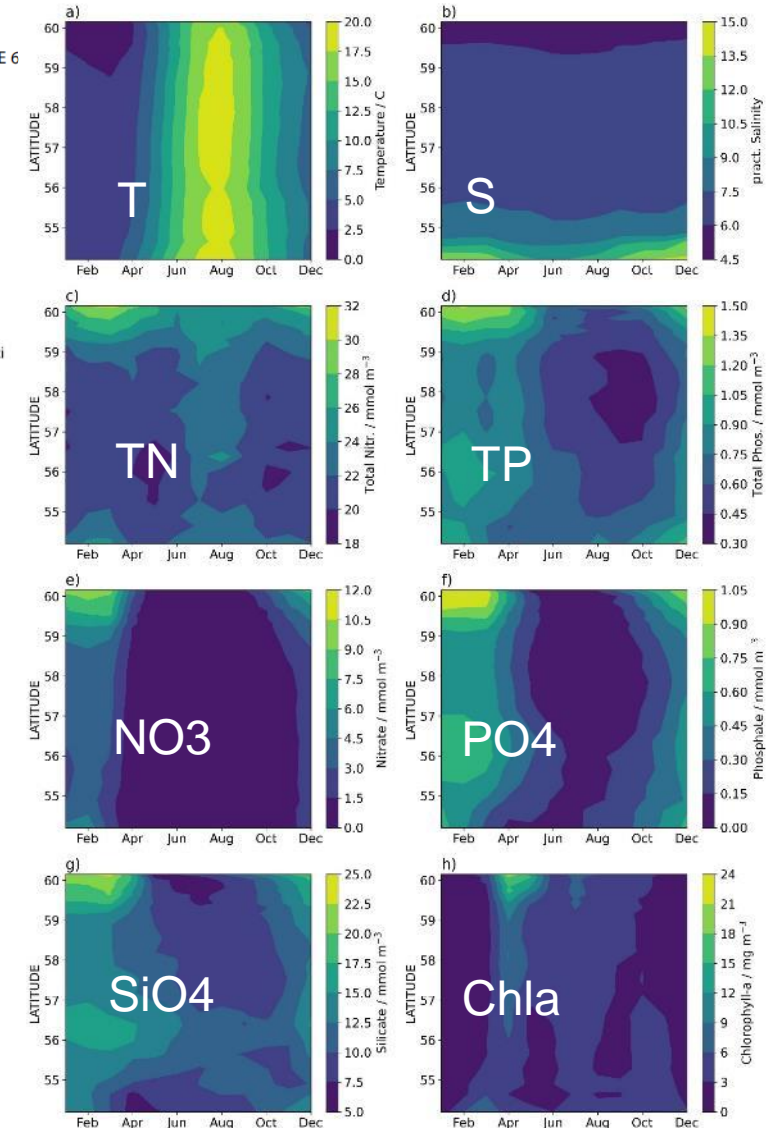
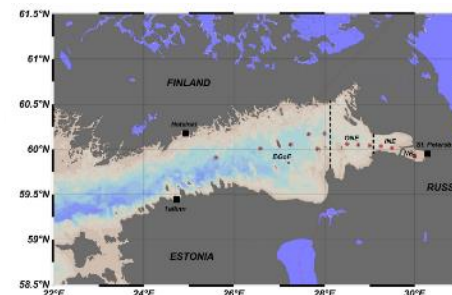
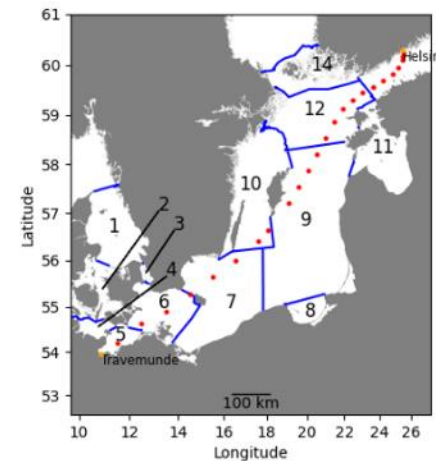
Pasi Ylöstalo <sup>a,\*</sup>, Jukka Seppälä <sup>a</sup>, Seppo Kaitala <sup>a</sup>, Petri Maunula <sup>a</sup>, Stefan Simis <sup>a,b</sup>



s92 THE COPERNICUS MARINE SERVICE OCEAN STATE REPORT, ISSUE 6

## Section 3.2. Trends in nutrient and chlorophyll *a* concentrations from FerryBox transect time series in the Baltic Sea

Authors: Samu Elovaara, Sebastian Ehrhart, Seppo Kaitala, Petri Maunula, Jukka Seppälä





# Alg@line supporting remote sensing

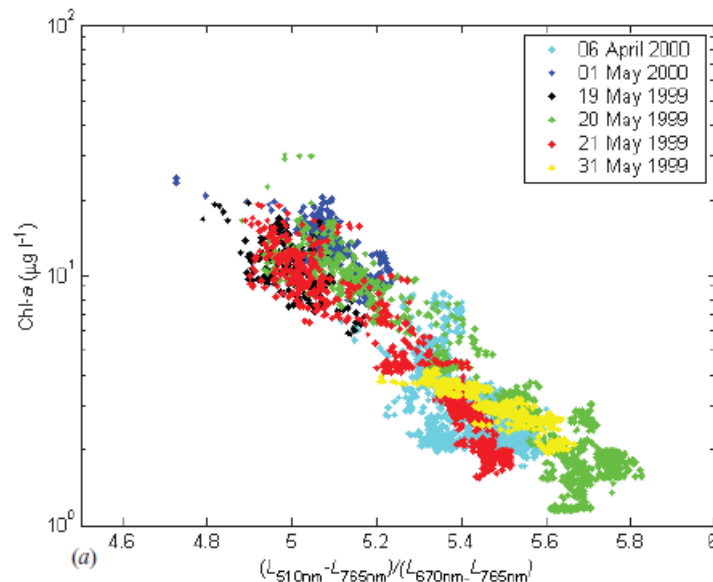
## Remote sensing vs. fluorometry

*International Journal of Remote Sensing*  
Vol. 26, No. 2, 20 January 2005, 261–282



### The combined use of optical remote sensing data and unattended flow-through fluorometer measurements in the Baltic Sea

J. VEPSÄLÄINEN\*†, T. PYHÄLAHTI†, E. RANTAJÄRVI†, K. KALLIO†,  
S. PERTOLA†, T. STIPA†, M. KIIRIKKI†, J. PULLIAINEN§ and J. SEPPÄLÄ†



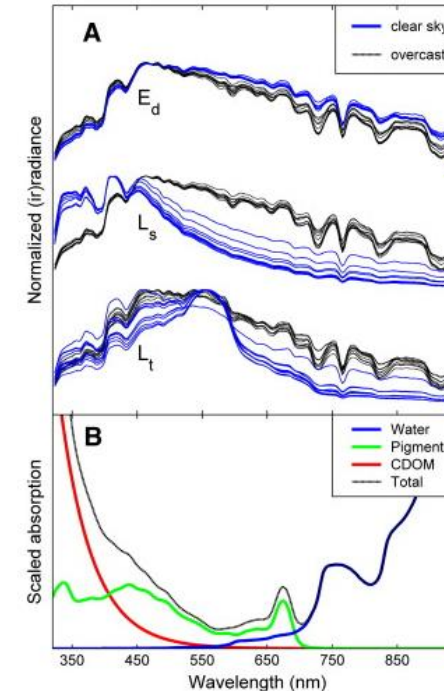
## Hyperspectral radiometry



Remote Sensing of Environment  
Volume 135, August 2013, Pages 202–212

### Unattended processing of shipborne hyperspectral reflectance measurements

Stefan G.H. Simis✉, John Olsson✉



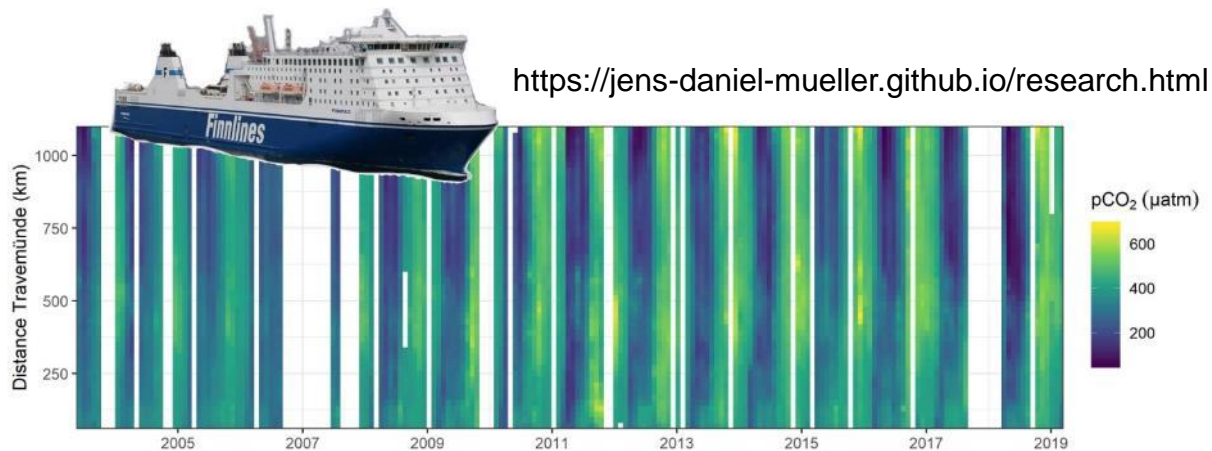
[www.monocle-h2020.eu/](http://www.monocle-h2020.eu/)

# Alg@line measuring greenhouse gases



Continuous measurements of trace and greenhouse gases  
on the ferry Finnmaid

The Leibniz Institute for Baltic Sea Research Warnemünde (IOW) has been operating a system for measuring trace gases on the ferries Finnpartner/ Finnmaid since 2003.



## Talks

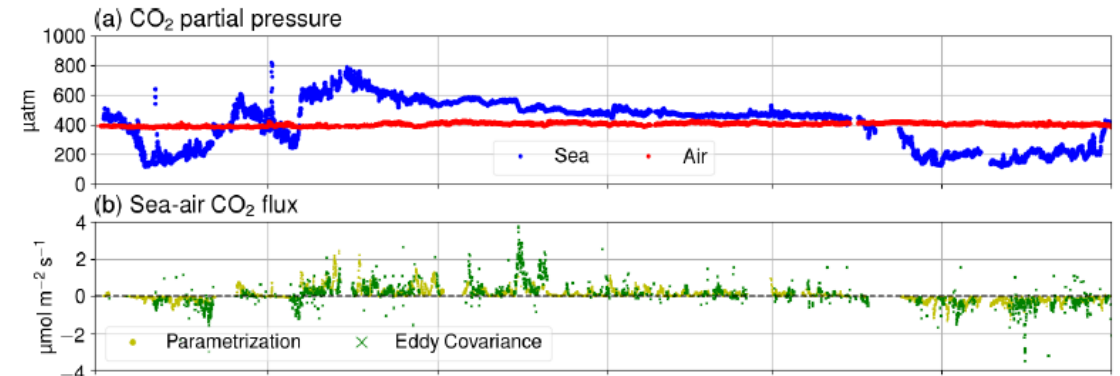
Development of a Gas-Equilibrium – Membrane-Inlet Mass spectrometer (GE-MIMS) for continuous N<sub>2</sub>, Ar and O<sub>2</sub> measurements on a voluntary observing ship to quantify nitrogen fixation in the Baltic Sea  
Sören Iwe, Leibniz-Institute for Baltic Sea Research

Air-sea CO<sub>2</sub> exchange at Utö in the Baltic Sea  
Martti Honkanen, Finnish Meteorological Institute

## Developments at Utö and Silja Serenade

### The diurnal cycle of $p\text{CO}_2$ in the coastal region of the Baltic Sea

Martti Honkanen<sup>1</sup>, Jens Daniel Müller<sup>2,4</sup>, Jukka Seppälä<sup>3</sup>, Gregor Rehder<sup>4</sup>, Sami Kielasto<sup>1,3</sup>, Pasi Ylöstalo<sup>3</sup>, Timo Mäkelä<sup>5</sup>, Juha Hatakka<sup>5</sup>, and Lauri Laakso<sup>1,6</sup>





# Alg@line in EU JERICO Research Infrastructure

## Providing Transnational Access

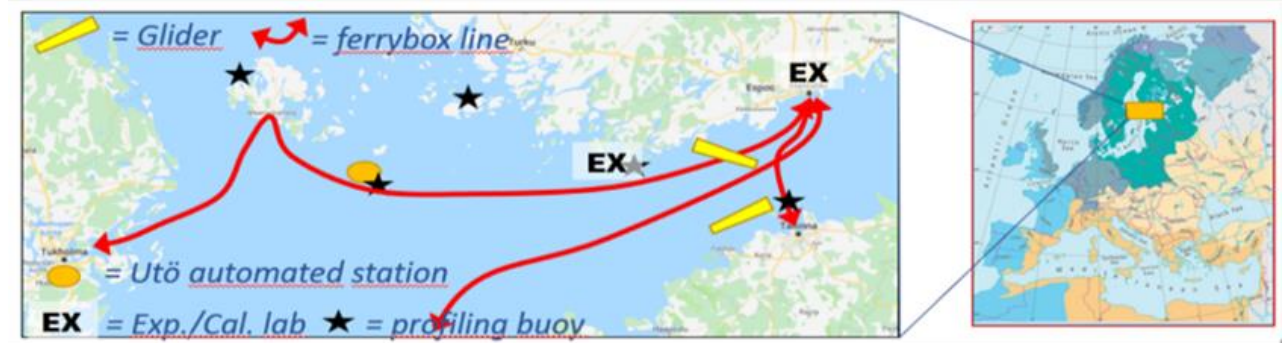
### JERICO TNA Project MultiFluoro – Testing new multi-parameter fluorometer in optically complex environments

DATE 2019-04-02  
TEMPORAL EXTENT 2019-04-02 – 2019-05-15  
AUTHORS Kirkbride James<sup>1</sup>, Attridge John<sup>1</sup>, Kirby Sam<sup>1</sup>, Seppälä Jukka<sup>2</sup>  
AFFILIATIONS 1. Chelsea Technologies, 55 Central Avenue, West Molesey, Surrey, KT8 2QZ, UK  
2. SYKE, Agnes Sjöbergin katu 2, Helsinki, Finland  
DOI [10.17882/62725](https://doi.org/10.17882/62725)  
PUBLISHER SEANOE

The project installed a newly developed multi-parameter algal fluorescence sensor (Chelsea Technologies VLux) in the FerryBox system on the ro-ro ferry Finnmaid. Algal fluorescence measurements were taken along the journey through the Baltic sea between Helsinki and Travemünde. The VLux data were compared with several other sensors installed in the FerryBox system. Further laboratory work was performed to characterise the response of the Chelsea Technologies VLux to various different algal species.



## Component of multiplatform Pilot Supersites



During the last week of January, Brandon, Luke and Nathan visited the Finnish environmental institute, SYKE, to meet Jukka Seppälä and his team and do initial tests on our solid state pH sensor for Oceanographic monitoring.

During our stay we were able to undertake testing and calibration of our sensor using the local brackish Baltic water from the ferry that crosses from Finland to Germany.

Search ...

#### Recent Posts

Fondriest Environm  
as a distributor of ci  
sensors

### Supersites

- Contribution to local, national, regional and global scale requirements
- Comprehensive and top-level, high-frequency measurements in all required scientific areas (**marine physics, biogeochemistry and biology**)
- Integrated, multiplatform strategy for **long-term observation, process measurements, and experimentation**
- Key platforms for **J3 integration** in **"European RI ecosystem"**
- Organization of regular joint campaigns
- Observation R&D, benchmarking, calibration lead

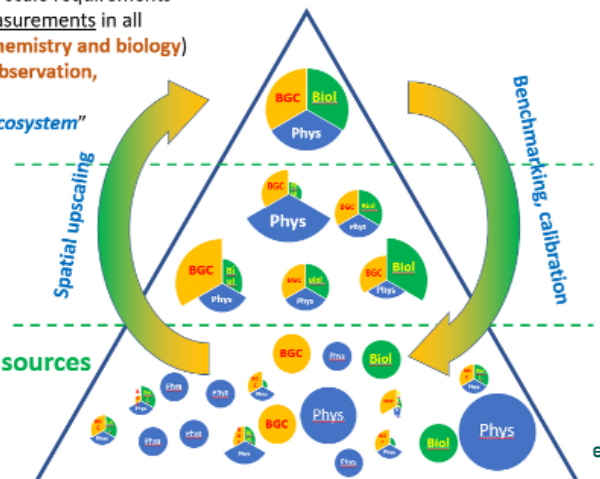
### Advanced Observatories

- Comprehensive and top-level measurements in **specific scientific areas or services**
- Capability for hosting campaigns, intercalibrations

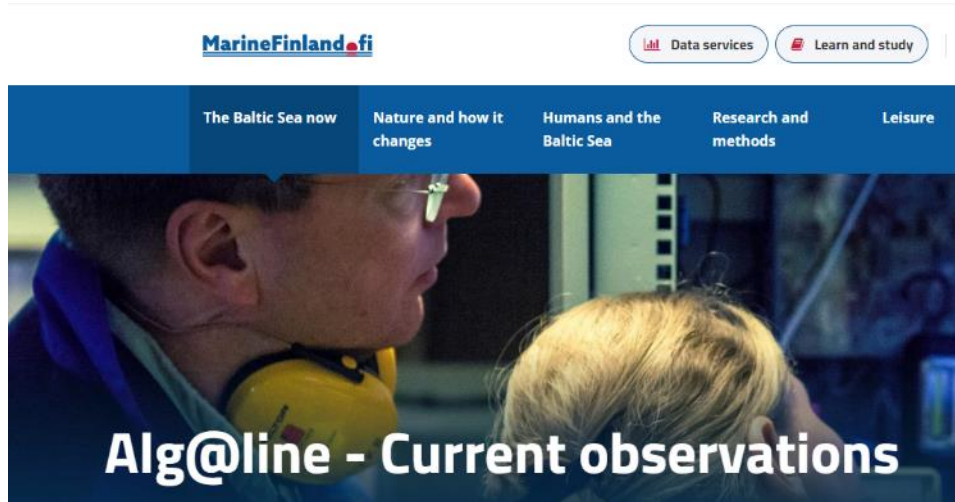
### Standard Observatories; collaborative data sources

- Continuous measurement of **key parameters**
- Local and regional **collaboration** in regular acquisition of multisource coastal data (e.g. monitoring programs)

## JERICO-RI coastal observatory network

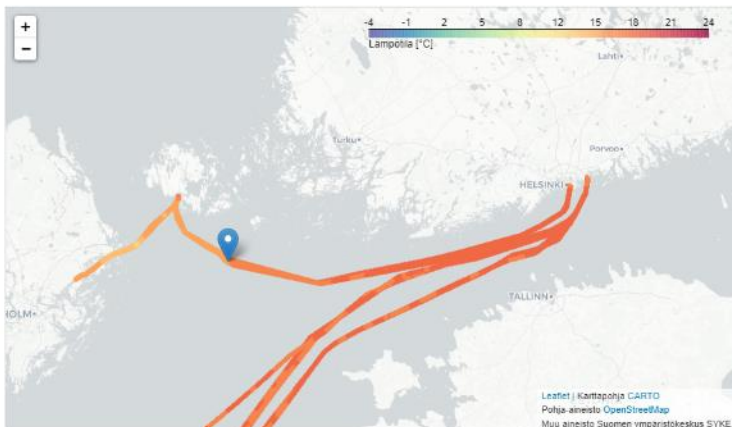


# Alg@line data and users



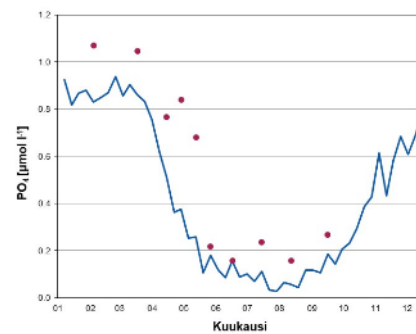
## Water temperature

Temperature observations measured on ferries during the last week between Helsinki-Travemünde. Map is showing the current position of the ship making the measurements and the latest observations. The color of the route indicates the temperature on the shipping route.

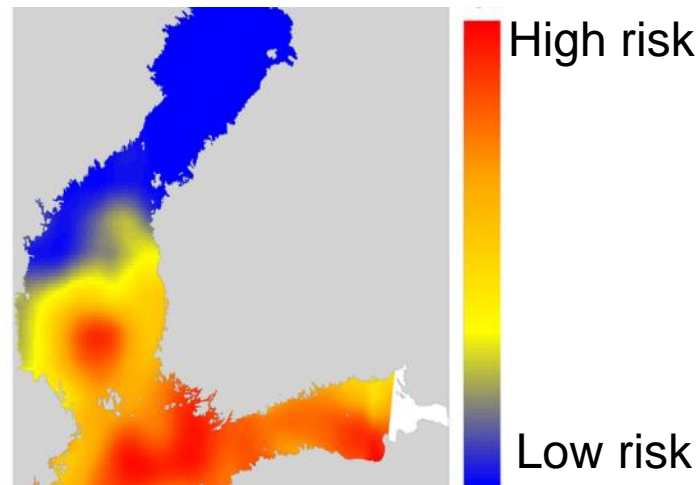


## The phosphorus content in winter predicts how much blue-green algae will occur the following summer

Phosphorus is another nutrient that limits the growth of algae. The concentrations of nutrients in the winter season are used as one measure of eutrophication of the Baltic Sea. High levels of phosphorus in winter predict an abundance of blue-green algae in summer. In summer, the amount of phosphorus is lower than in winter. Phosphate concentrations in the Gulf of Finland are higher than in other areas, especially in winter.



## Risk of cyano-HABs: Summer 2024



## Algaline transect measurement API

Service endpoint: <https://geoserver2.ymparisto.fi/geoserver/algaline>

Service layer: algaline:transect\_measurements



## Talk

Utilizing of FerryBox data in combination with other information sources for forecasting of cyanobacterial blooms  
Heikki Peltonen, Finnish Environment Institute



Suomen ympäristökeskus  
Finlands miljöcentral  
Finnish Environment Institute



# KIITOS!

## Warm thanks to all current and past Alg@liners



FMI



EuroGOOS  
European Global Ocean  
Observing System

FerryBox  
TaskTeam



MINKE



Project funded by the European Commission within the Horizon 2020  
Programme (2014-2020)  
Grant Agreement No. 101008724



ICOS

Integrated  
Carbon  
Observation  
System



Finnish way of  
celebrating 30 years  
of successful project  
work