

12th FerryBox Workshop
1-2 October 2024, Helsinki



FERRYBOX PLANKTON OBSERVATIONS IN THE BALTIC SEA AND THE KATTEGAT-SKAGERRAK USING BIO-OPTICS AND AUTOMATED IMAGING IN FLOW - FOCUS ON CYANOBACTERIA BLOOMS

Karlson, B., Arneborg, L., Draca, I., Håkansson, J., Karlberg, M., Linders, J., Nilsson, M., Nordström, M., Skjevik, A-T, Torstensson, A., Viktorsson, L., Waldh, F.,
Oceanography, Swedish Meteorological and Hydrological Institute, Västra Frölunda Sweden

Willstrand-Wranne, A., Mohrmann, M. and Rollo, C., Voice of the Ocean Foundation, Västra Frölunda, Sweden

Karin Garefelt, Anders Andersson and Josephine Sullivan, Science for Life Laboratory/KTH, Stockholm, Sweden

Inga Koszalka
Department of Meteorology, Stockholm University, Stockholm, Sweden

Ferrybox Tavastland

Track in 2024

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pCO₂

fluorescence:

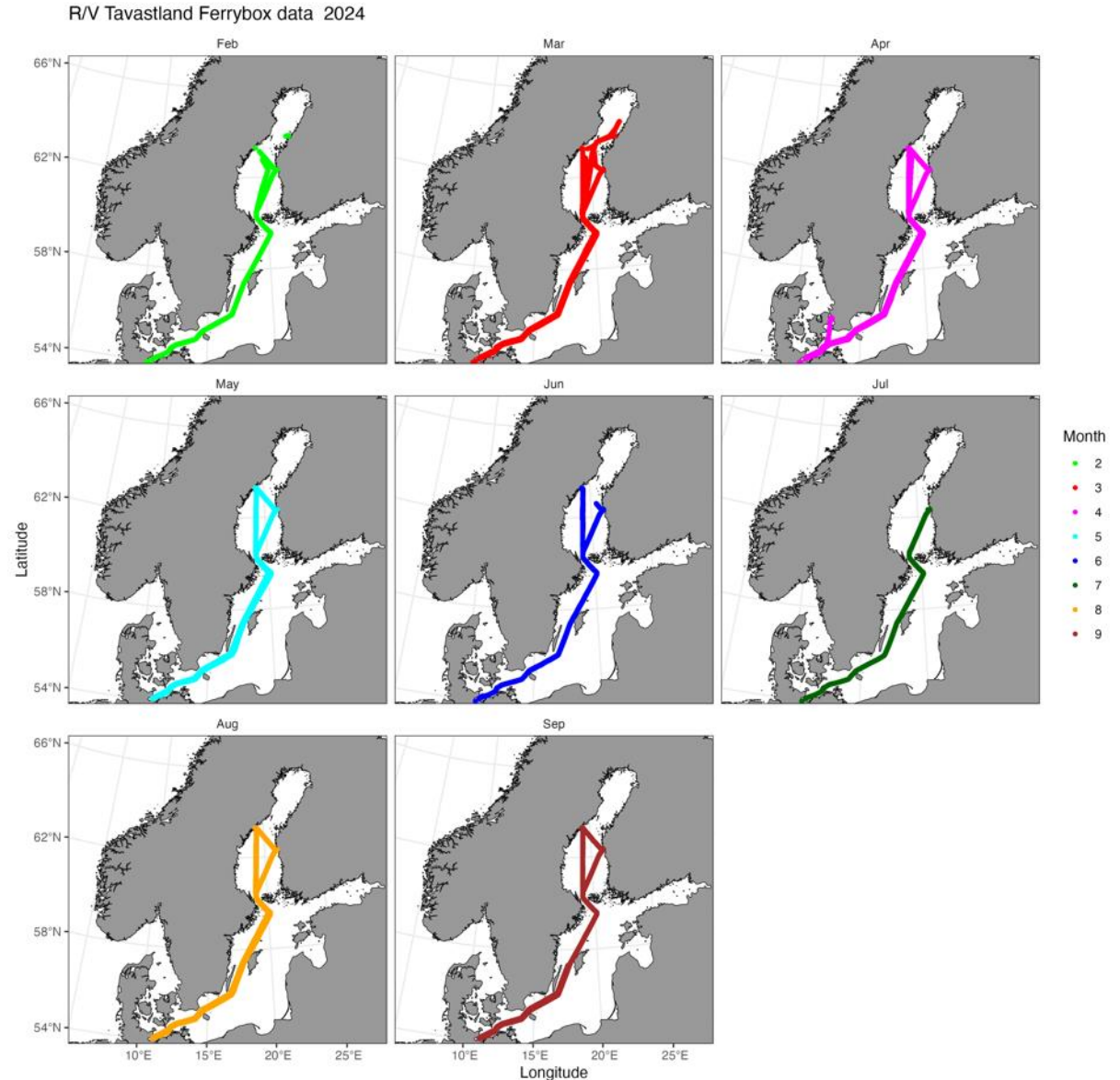
chl

phycyanin

CDOM

salinity

temperature

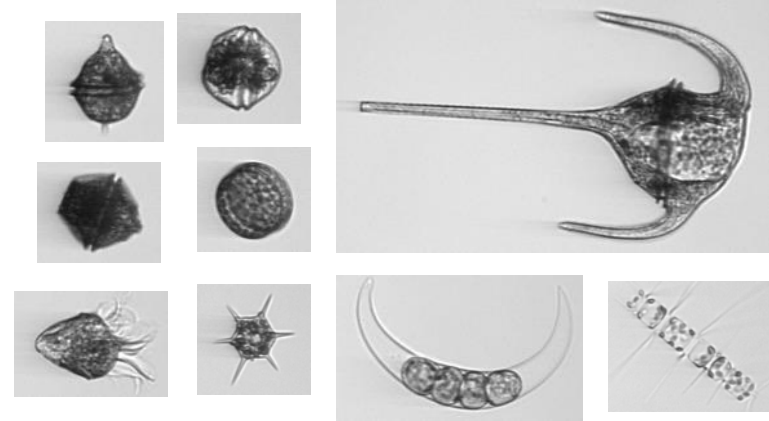


Ferrybox R/V Svea

Monthly cruises

Baltic Proper

Kattegat-Skagerrak



pH

pCO₂

fluorescence:

chl

phycyanin

phycoerythrin

CDOM

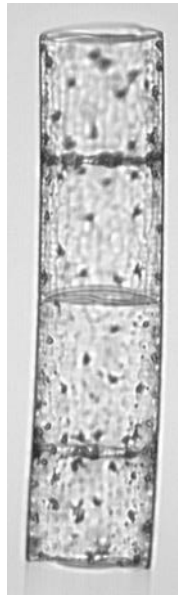
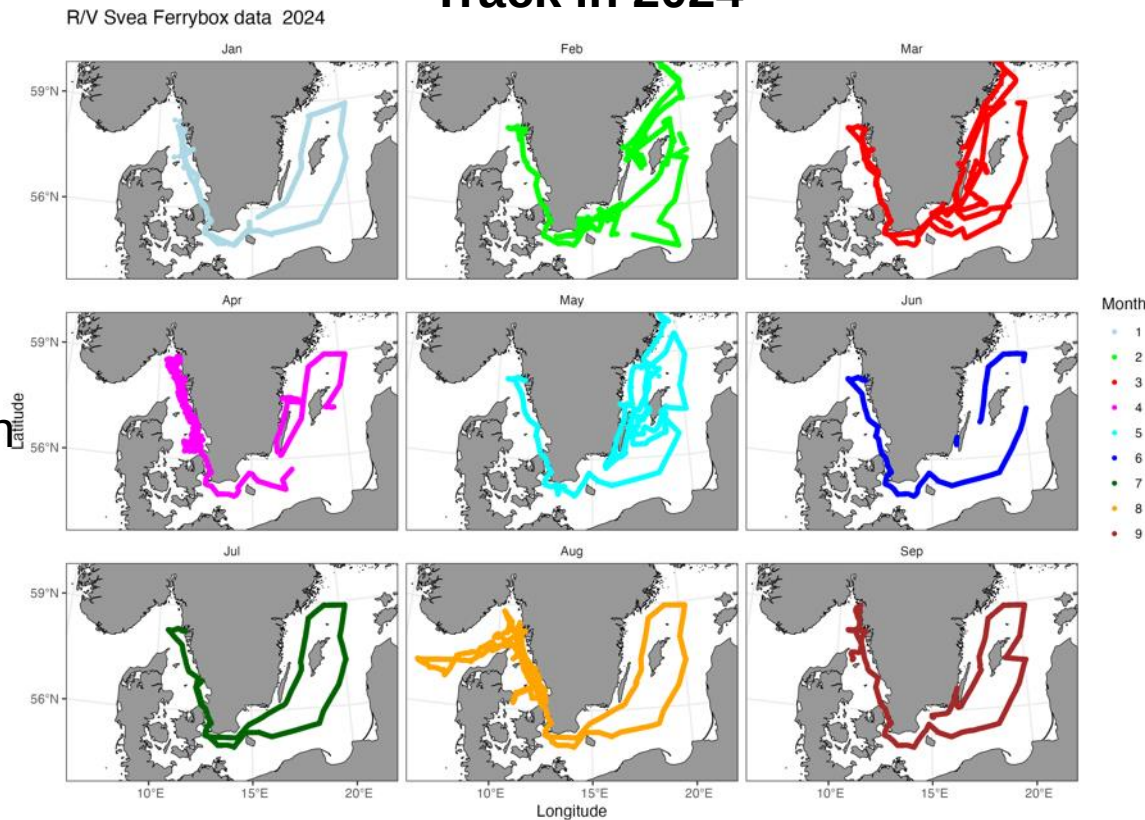
salinity

temperature

meteorology

PAR

Track in 2024

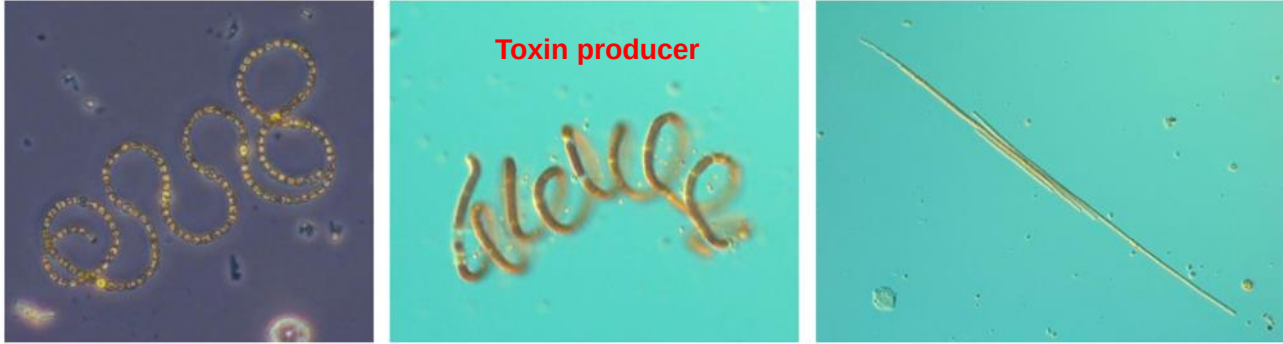


IFCB, automated plankton
sampling every ~25 minutes

AI-assisted analysis

Cyanobacteria

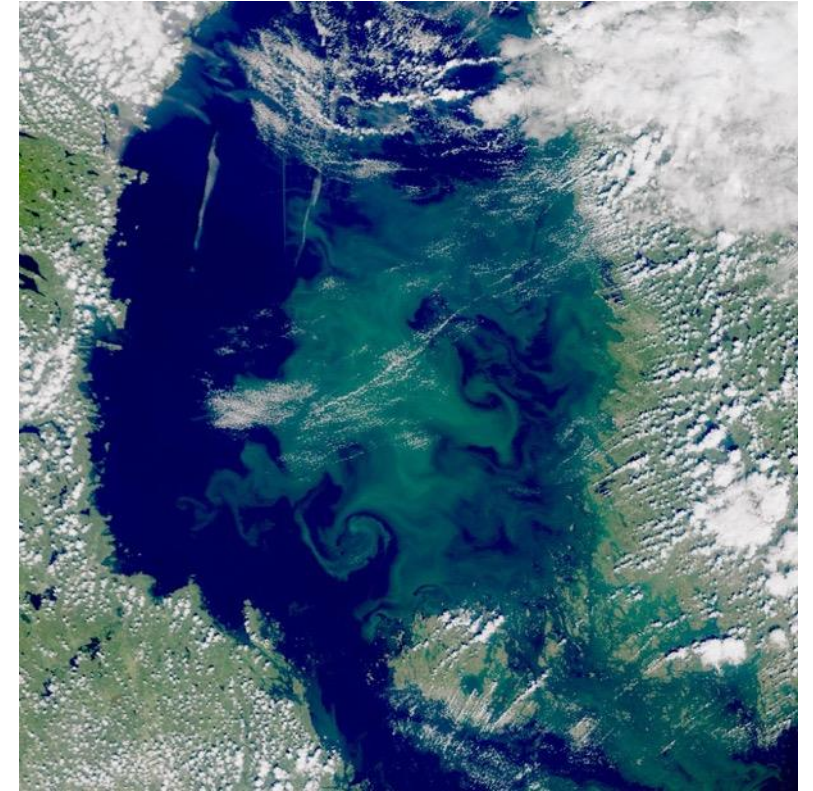
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Dolichospermum sp., *Nodularia spumigena* and *Aphanizomenon flosaquae*



SW Baltic Proper
Suomi-NPP, 20230908, 1129



Gulf of Bothnia
Sentinel-3B 20230724, 0920

<https://www.smhi.se/data/oceanografi/algsituationen>

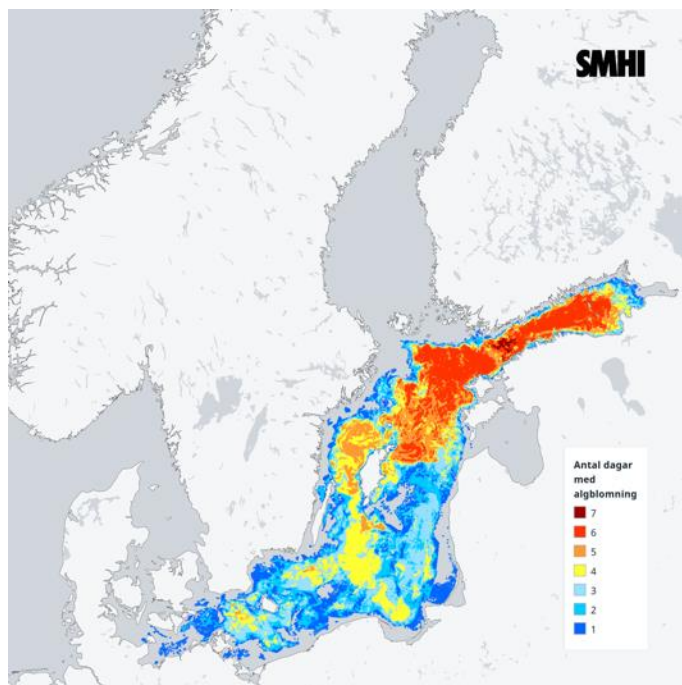
Some goals

- Improve early warning of cyanobacteria blooms
 - Protect human health
 - Protect tourism industry
- Evaluate automated methods for long term monitoring of phytoplankton biomass and diversity

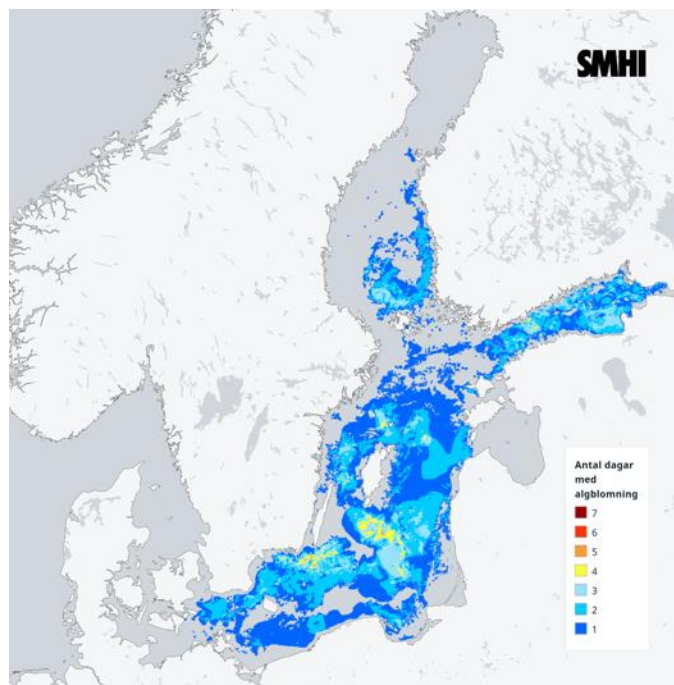
Cyanobacteria – satellite observations 2024

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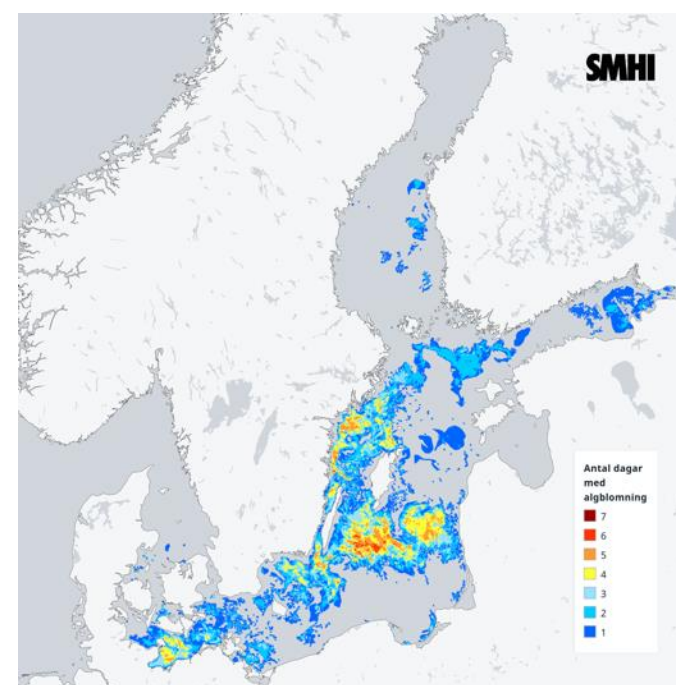
7-day composite images



30 June



18 July



6 August

SMHI Baltic Algae Watch System

Data presented daily in summer

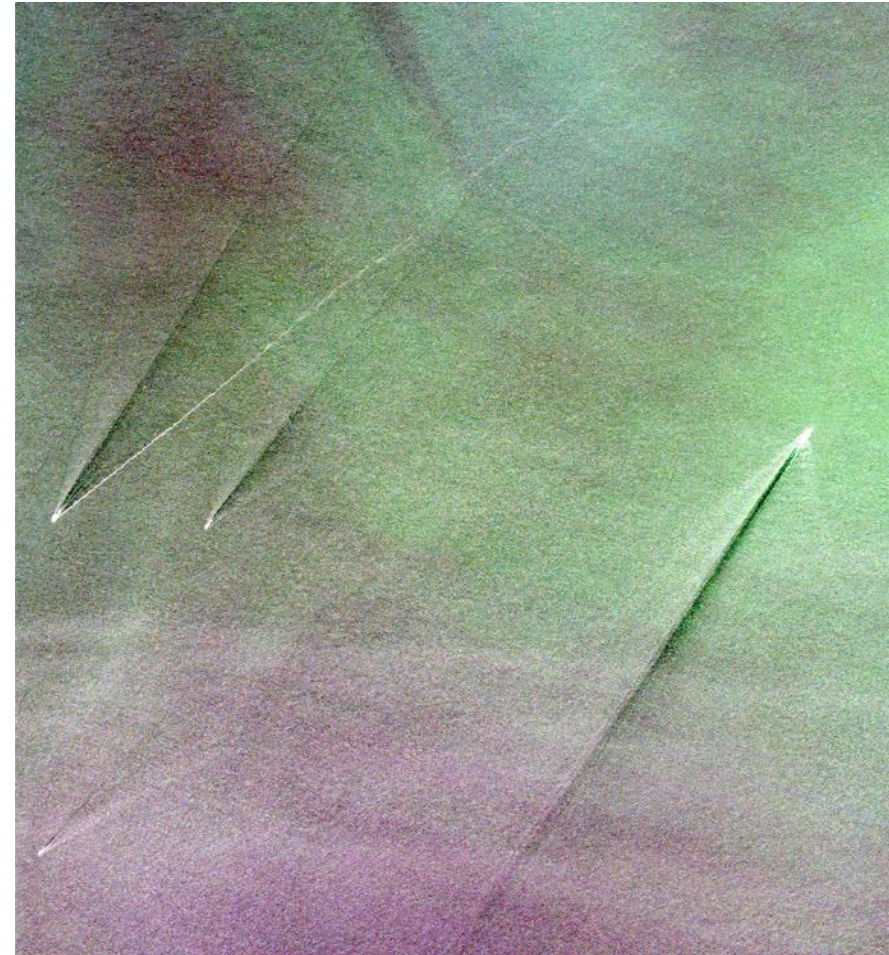
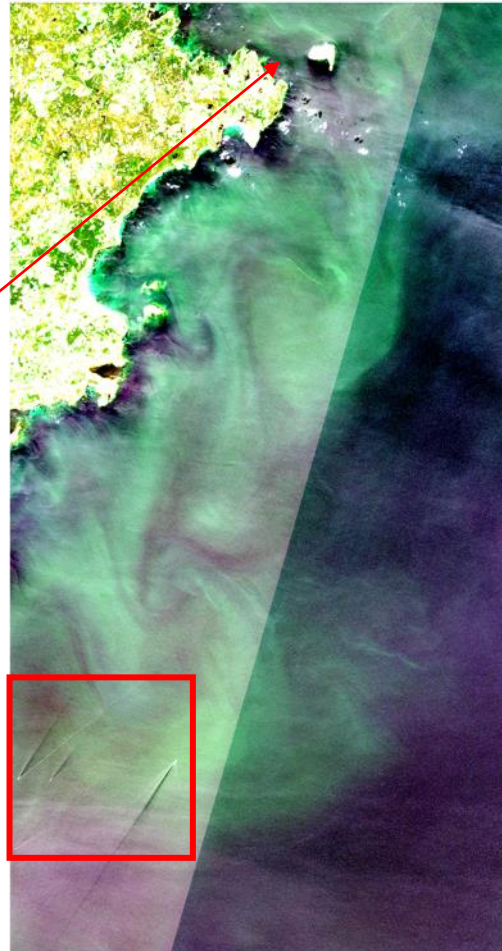
<https://www.smhi.se/data/oceanografi/algsituationen>

Daily data, 7-day summaries

Eastern Gotland 22 June 2023

- ESA Sentinel 2
- ~10 m horizontal resolution
- Every ~ 5 days

Herrvik



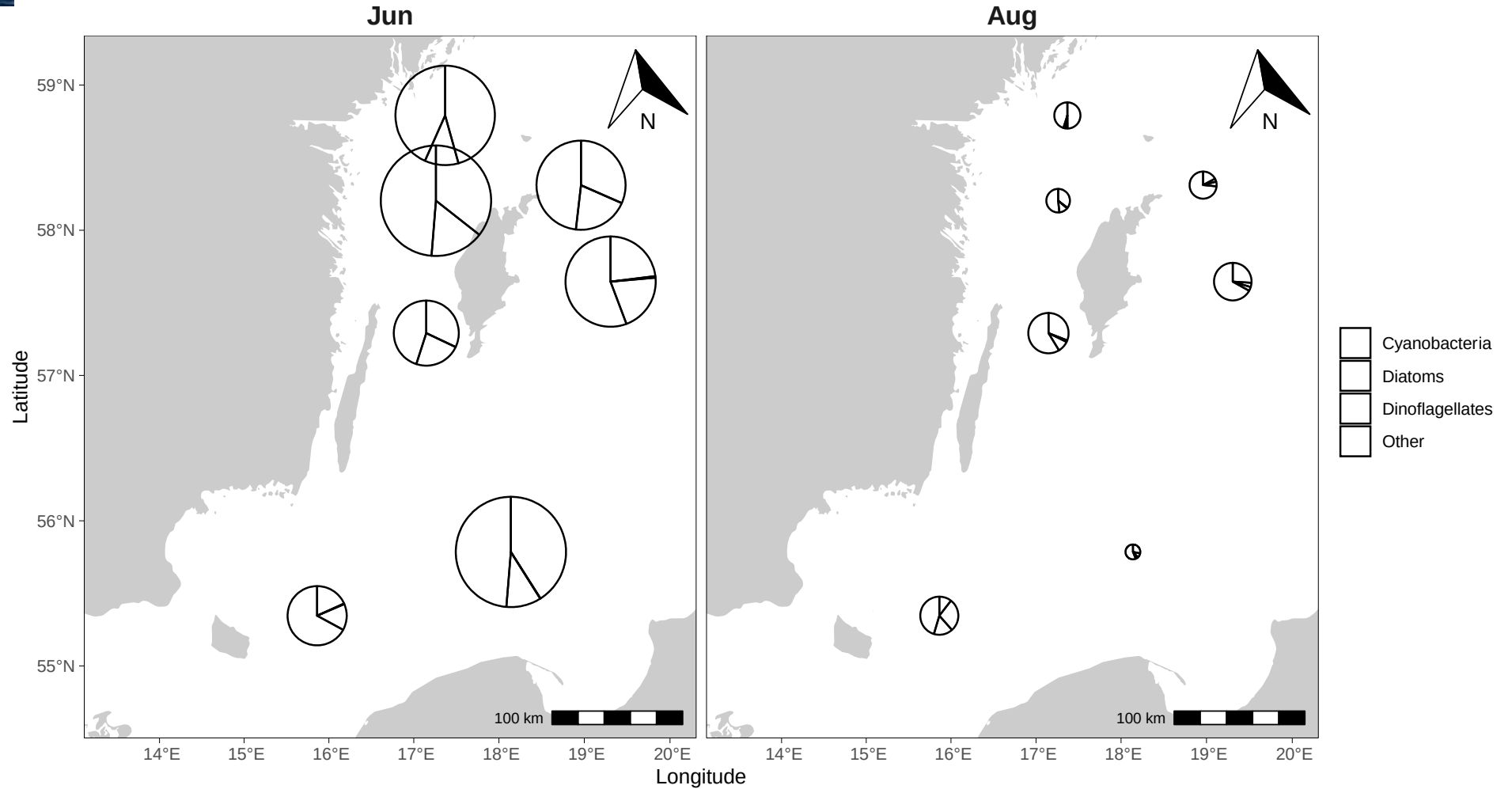
quasi true color = B04 (665 nm) + B03 (560 nm) + B02 (490 nm) with linear stretch

Processed by Christoffer Olsson, SMHI



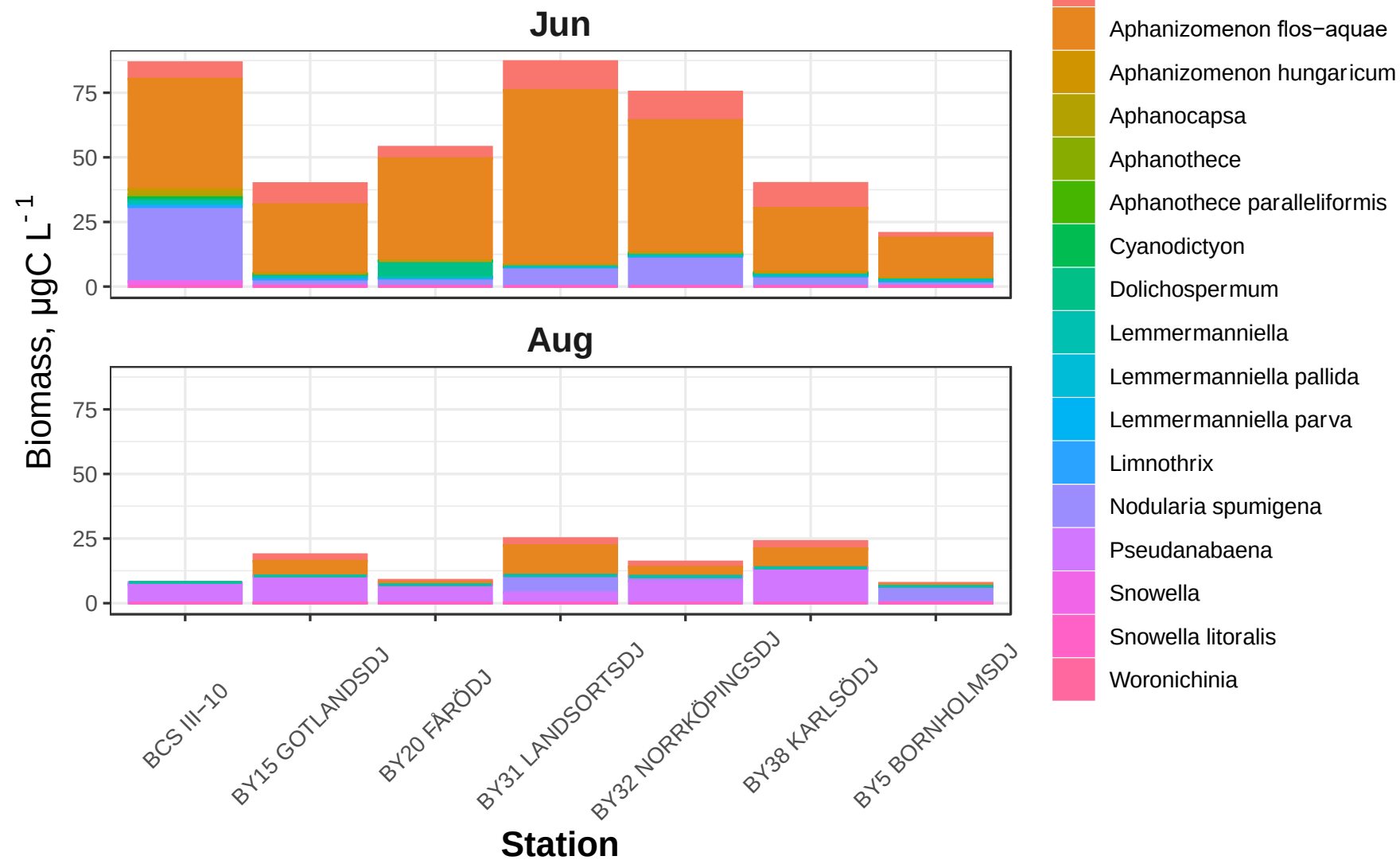
Phytoplankton biomass, major groups 2023

1 m depth



Cyanobacteria biomass summer 2023

1 m depth



Bio-optical sensors on R/V Svea

CTD

- RBRtridente (July-Sep. 2024)
- Wetlabs ECO FLNTU
- PAR

Ferrybox system

- Wetlabs ECO FLNTU
- Turner Designs phycoerythrin
- TriOS Nano flu phycocyanin
- TriOS Nano flu CDOM
- Imaging Flow CytoBot
- PAR (in air)

Moving Vehicle Profile

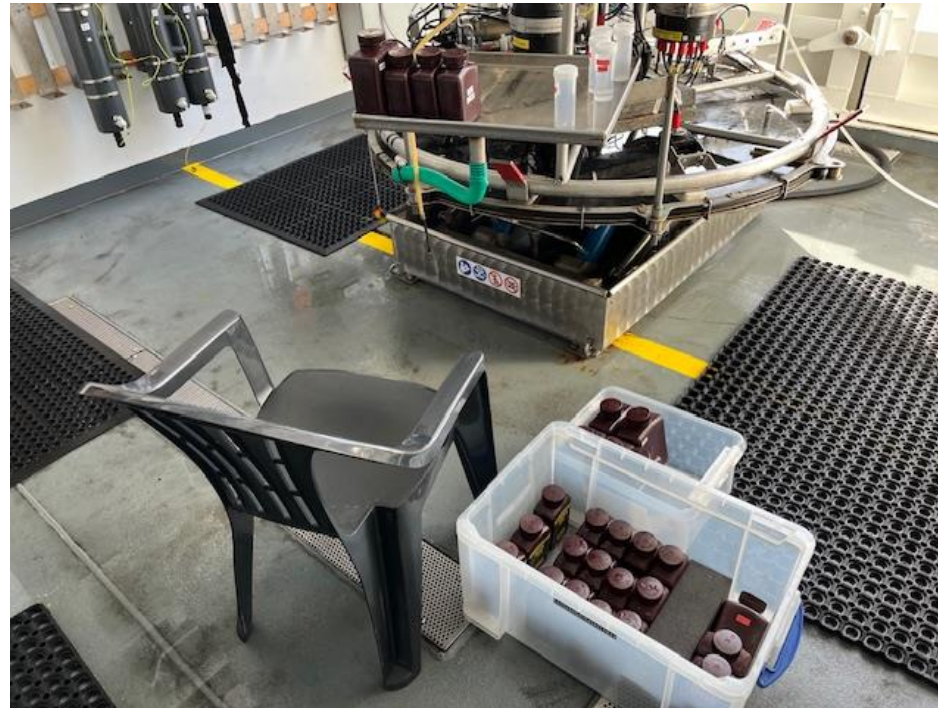
- Turner Desgns chlorophyll fluorescence



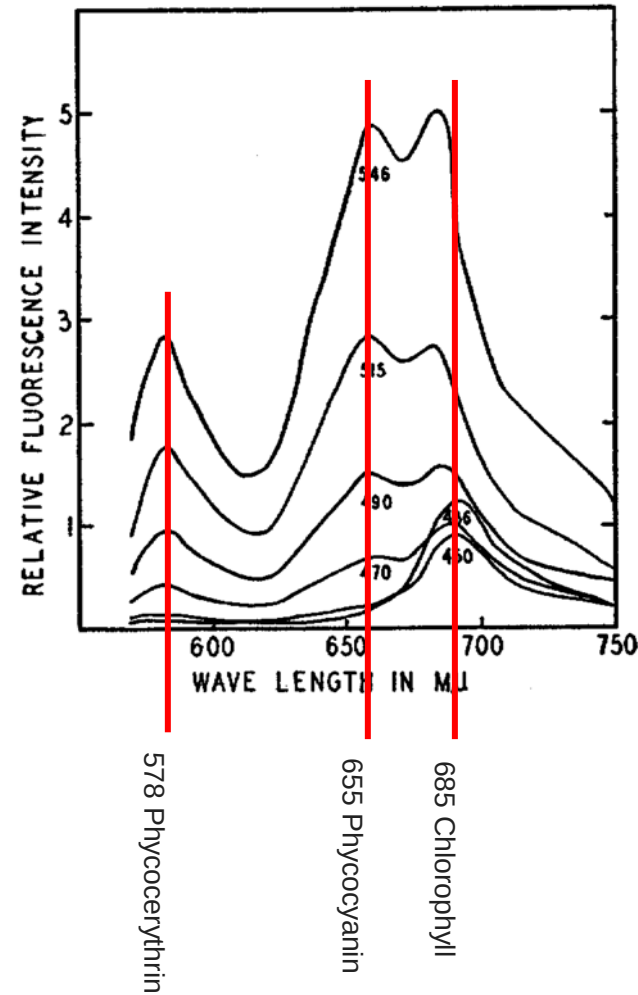
Reference sampling

Reference sampling

- Phytoplankton
 - Tube 0-10 m
 - August - Depth profile BY38
- Phycocyanin
 - Depth profile, six depths
 - June, July and August
 - Stations BY2, BY38



Fluorescence depends on both excitation and emission wavelengths



Porphyridium sp. Fluorescence spectra
at different excitation wavelengths
French *et al* 1952

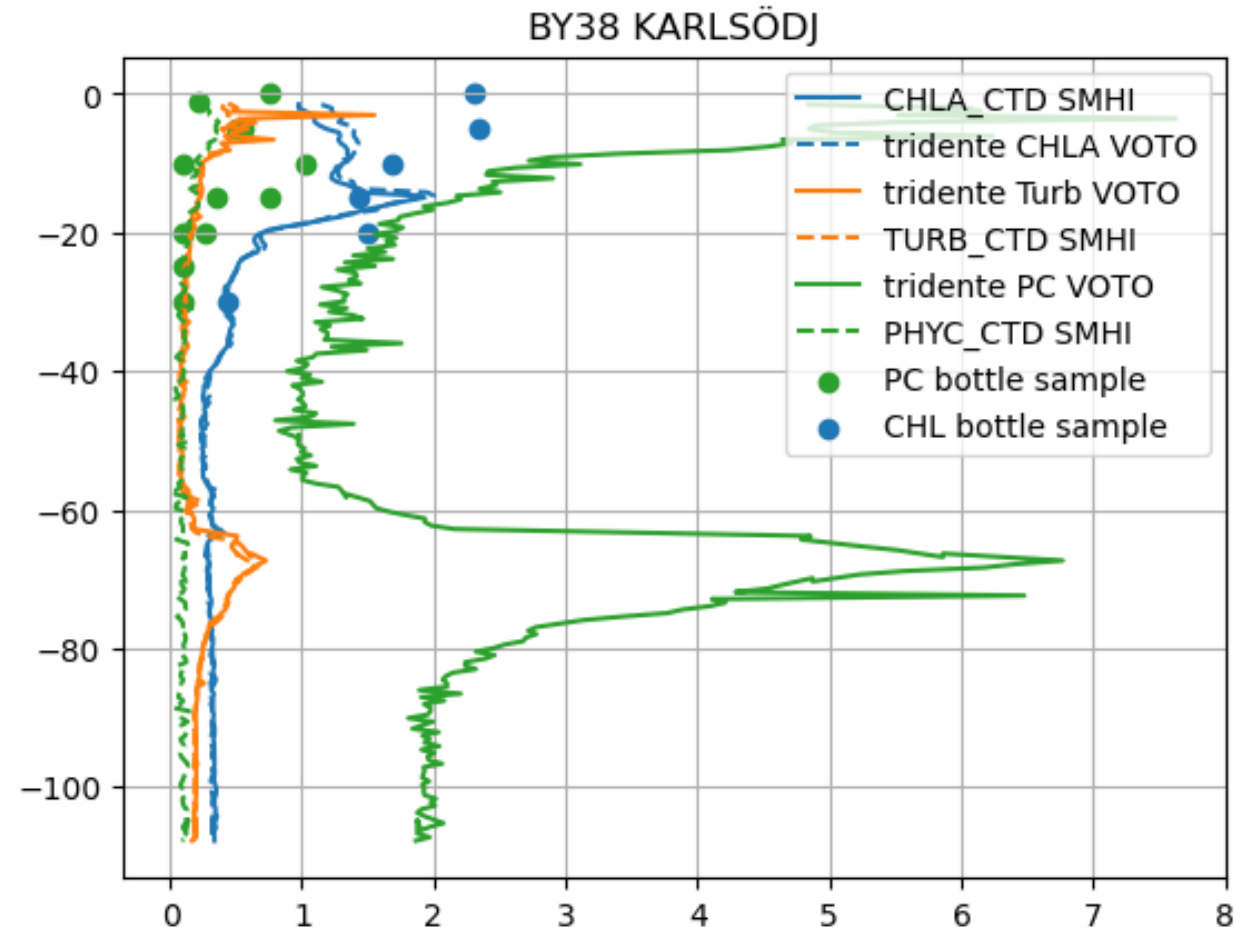
Results - depth distribution

R/V Svea

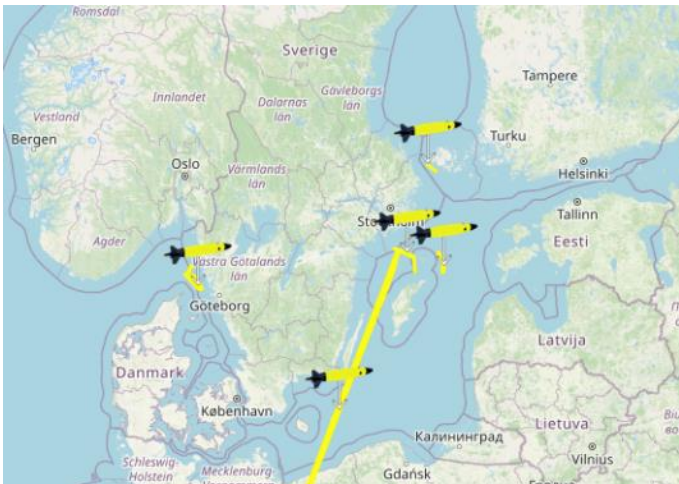
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Bio-optical instruments

- RBR-Tridente
- Wetlabs ECO-FLNTU



Glider with new bio-optical sensor



<https://observations.voiceoftheocean.org>



RBR tridente (new 2024)



Results - depth distribution VoTo glider

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- Tridente phycocyanin fluorometer

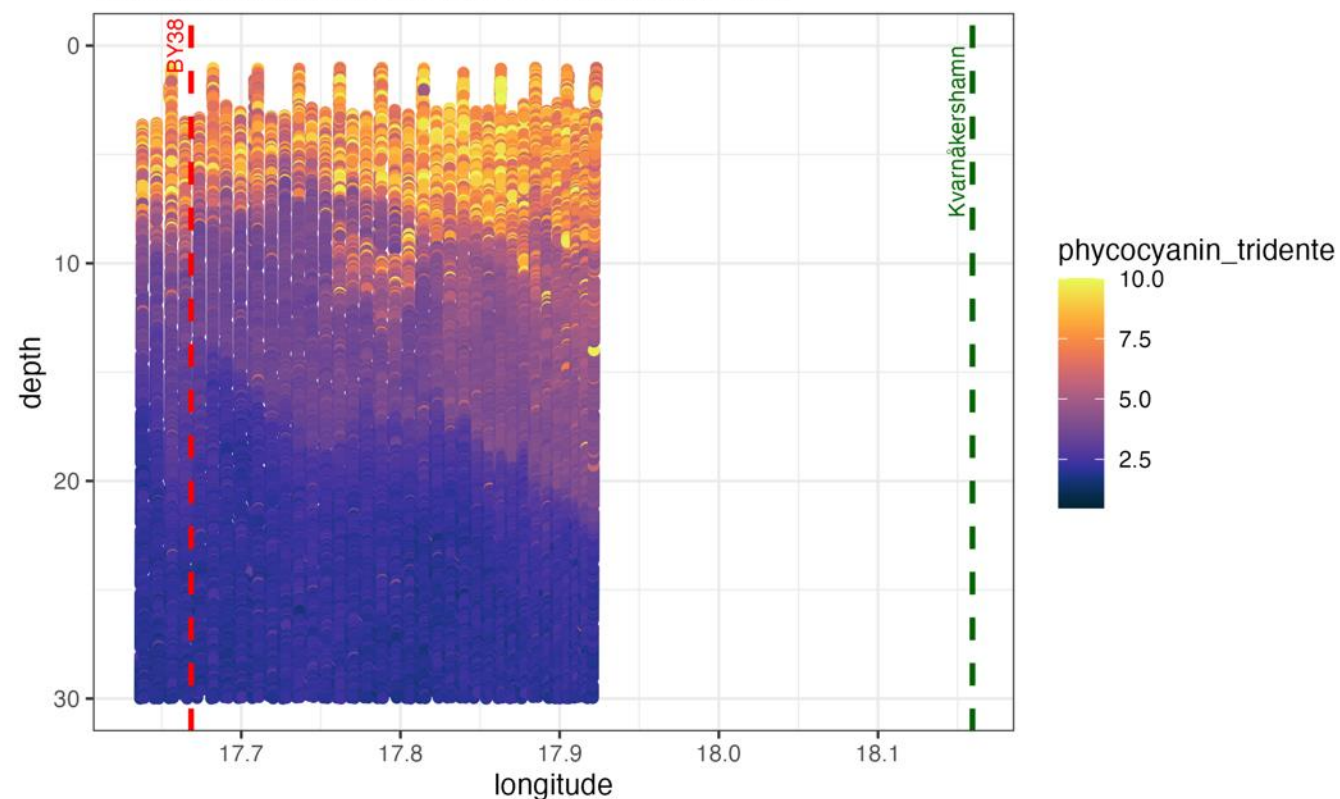
Track of glider



Track of glider



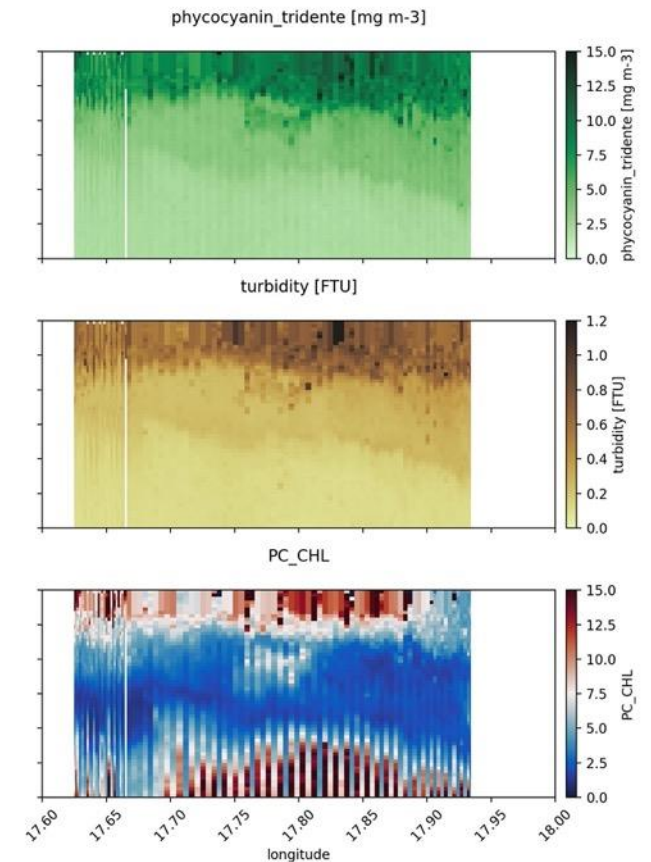
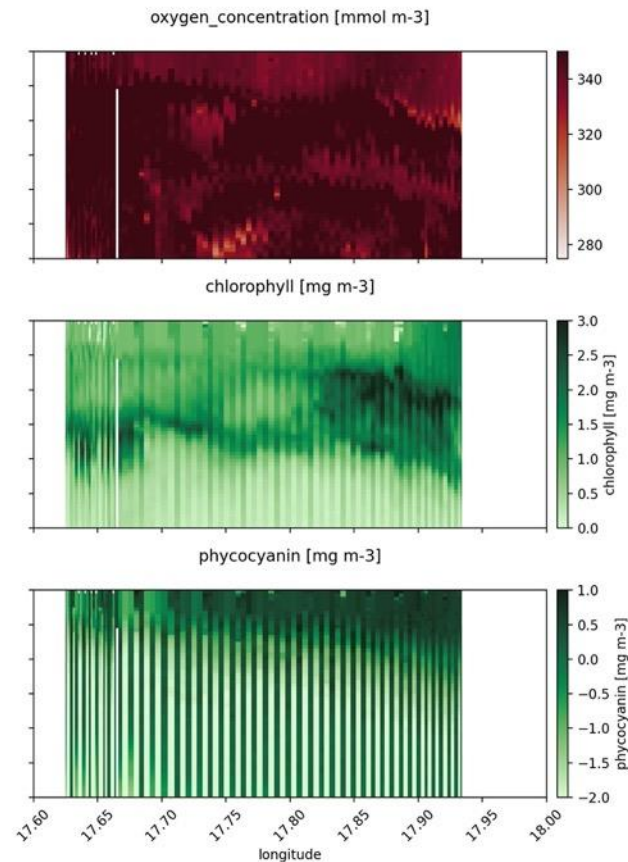
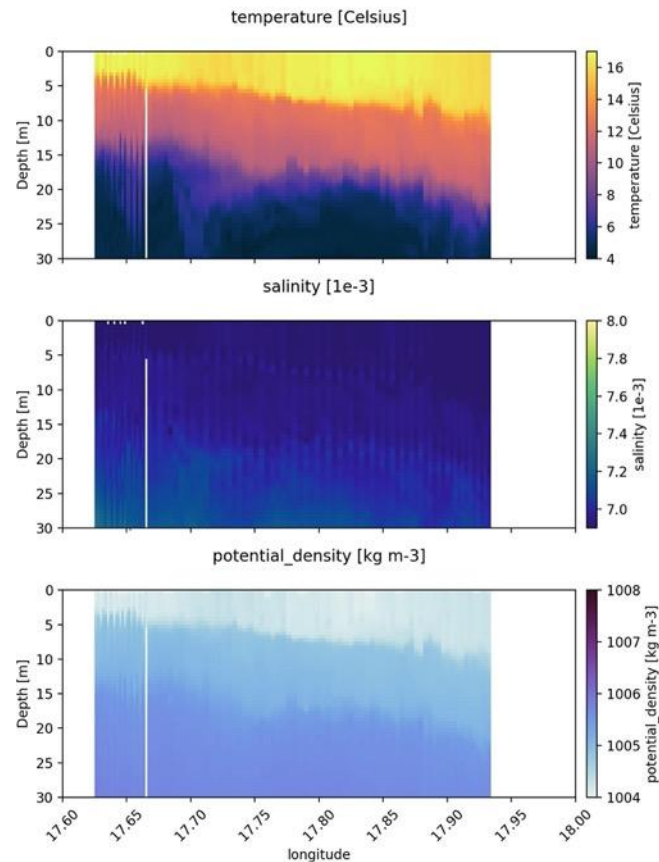
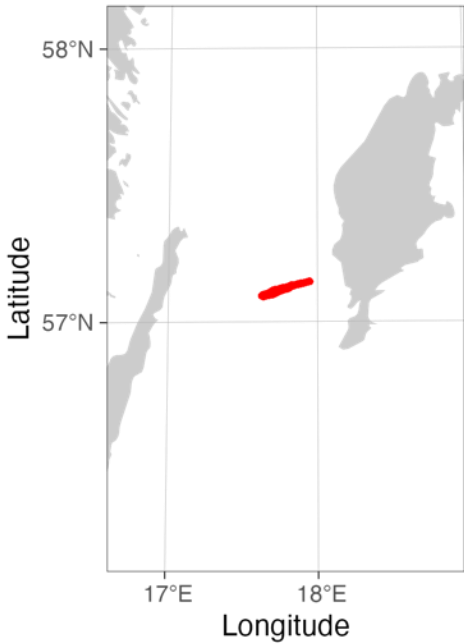
SW Gotland 2024, phycocyanin_fluorescence, Tridente values < 0 and > 10 excluded
VoTo glider going east 28 June 18:00 to 29 June 19:00



Depth distribution and time series VoTo glider

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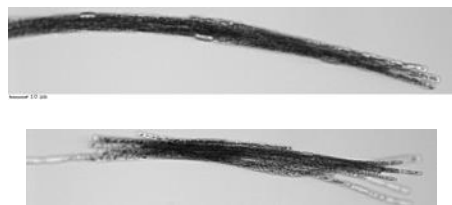
Track of glider



Results - Imaging Flow Cytobot R/V Svea 2024

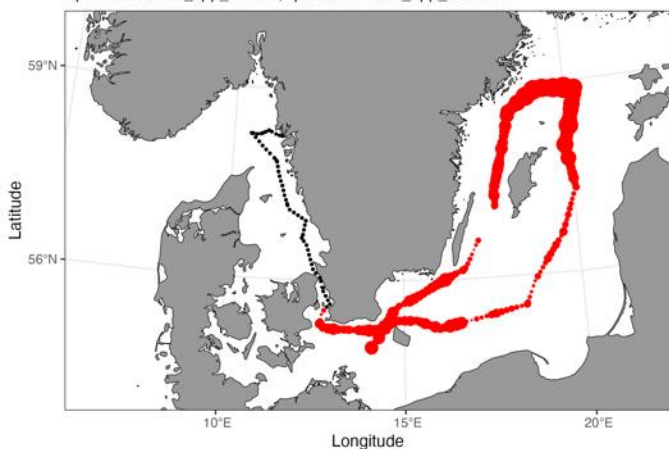
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Aphanizomenon flos-aquae

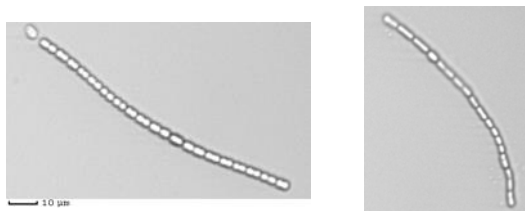


R/V Svea IFCB July 2024

Aphanizomenon_spp_bundle, Aphanizomenon_spp_filament

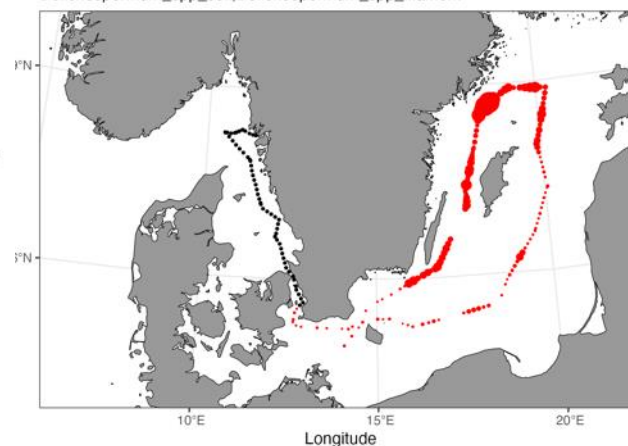


Dolichospermum spp.



R/V Svea IFCB July 2024

Dolichospermum_spp_coil, Dolichospermum_spp_filament



Toxin producer

Nodularia spumigena



R/V Svea IFCB July 2024

Nodularia_spumigena_coil, Nodularia_spumigena_filament



See poster by Anders Torstensson et al. about IFCB data flow
Digital Twin Ocean - BioFlow

Conclusions

- Satellite ocean colour provide information on cyanobacteria near surface accumulations
- Ferrybox and gliders provides near real time data useful for early warning of harmful algae blooms
- Gliders and CTDs on research vessels provide information on depth distribution
- Phycocyanin fluorescence is a proxy for biomass of phycocyanin rich cyanobacteria - the wavelengths for excitation and emission are important
- IFCB provides detailed information on species - important to know if toxin producers are presents

Partners and funding sources



WALLENIUS SOL

SciLifeLab



>OTO Voice of the Ocean



Swedish Agency
Marine and
Water Management

