An Innovative Concept for Spacebased Lidar Measurement of Ocean Carbon Biomass

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Altitude Region and CALIOP ocean subsurface range bins





Seasonal Variations of CALIPSO Ocean Cross Polarization Measurements of Phytoplankton Backscatter



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Seasonal Variations of CALIPSO BBP





Phytoplankton particulate backscatter coefficient (1/m) estimate from CALIPSO, and comparisons with MODIS





Current Methods for Ocean Carbon Biomass Estimate

Carbon biomass is proportional to beam attenuation coefficient C of particulates in water.

Existing methods:

- Chlorophyll based algorithm (Voss, 1992): C = f(Chl)
 Problem: C does not always co-vary with Chl (e.g., sunlight, nutriciean can affect Chl)
- BBP based algorithm: C=f(BBP) Better than Chl based algorithm

An Innovative Methods for Ocean Carbon Biomass Estimate

New method:

linking beam attenuation and diffuse attenuation with depolarization ratios

C = diffuse attenuation Kd / multiple scattering factor η

 $\eta = [(\omega^2 \text{-} \delta) / (\omega^2 \text{+} \delta)]^2$

 ω is single scatter albedo and δ is depolarization ratio

The multiple scattering – depolarization relation is based on Monte Carlo simulation

30 degree off-nadir measurement of ocean subsurface depolarization ratios



Why pointing CALIPSO 30 degree off-nadir: avoid ocean surface backscatter

- 1. Direct demonstration of CALIPSO ocean subsurface signals in both copolarization and cross-polarization to convince the community that CALIOP can measure phytoplankton backscatter
- 2. Direct measurements of depolarization ratios of phytoplankton backscatter to improve CALIOP estimate of phytoplankton backscatter and biomass estimate

Behrenfeld, Hu, Hostetler, Dall'Olmo, Rodier, Hair, Trepte(2013), Space-based lidar measurements of global ocean carbon stocks, **Geophys. Res. Lett.**, 40, 4355–4360, doi:10.1002/grl.50816.

Lu., Hu, Trepte, Zeng, and Churnside (2014), Ocean subsurface studies with the CALIPSO spaceborne lidar, J. Geophys. Res. Oceans, 119, 4305–4317, doi:10.1002/2014JC009970.

Total Attenuated Backscatter



Perpendicular Attenuated Backscatter



Total Attenuated Backscatter 1064



Total Attenuated Backscatter



Zoom in to the lowest 1 km



Surface signals are much weaker than subsurface signals and can be corrected using 1064nm measurements



Thus, at 30 degree off-nadir, we can accurately measure depolarization ratio of ocean subsurface backscatter

Applications: Improving Phytoplankton Particulate Organic Carbon (POC) Estimate from CALIPSO

CALIPSO Cross Polarization Phytoplankton Backscatter (Sr⁻¹)

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Evaluation of the multiple scattering factor – depolarization ratio relation



Comparisons of beam attenuation between CALIPSO and MODIS





Comparisons with shipbased measurements during SABOR campaign





Summary

- Ocean carbon biomass co-varies with phytoplankton beam attenuation coefficient
- Effective attenuation coefficient, which can be measured, is the product of beam attenuation and multiple scattering factor
- Multiple scattering factor can be accurately estimated from lidar depolarization ratio measurements
- Spaced-based lidars provide most direct measurements of ocean carbon biomass