

2nd Ocean Carbon from Space workshop

24-26 November 2025 Online

Regionalized Algorithms for Phytoplankton Functional Type Estimation in Optically Complex Seas: Applications in the Baltic and Black Seas

E. Canuti

24/11/2025

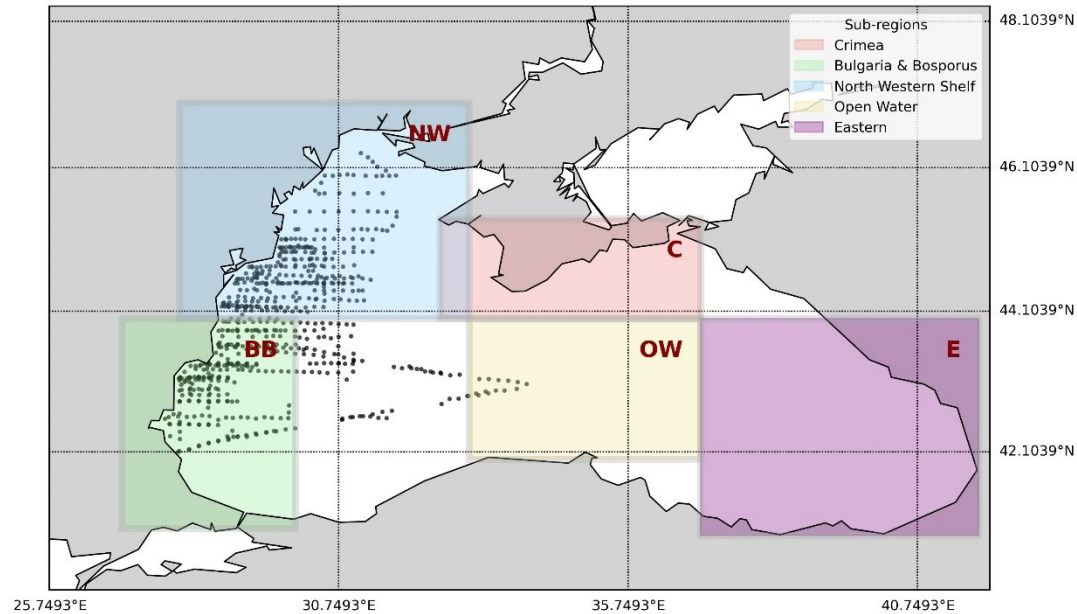
ESA UNCLASSIFIED – For ESA Official Use Only

1



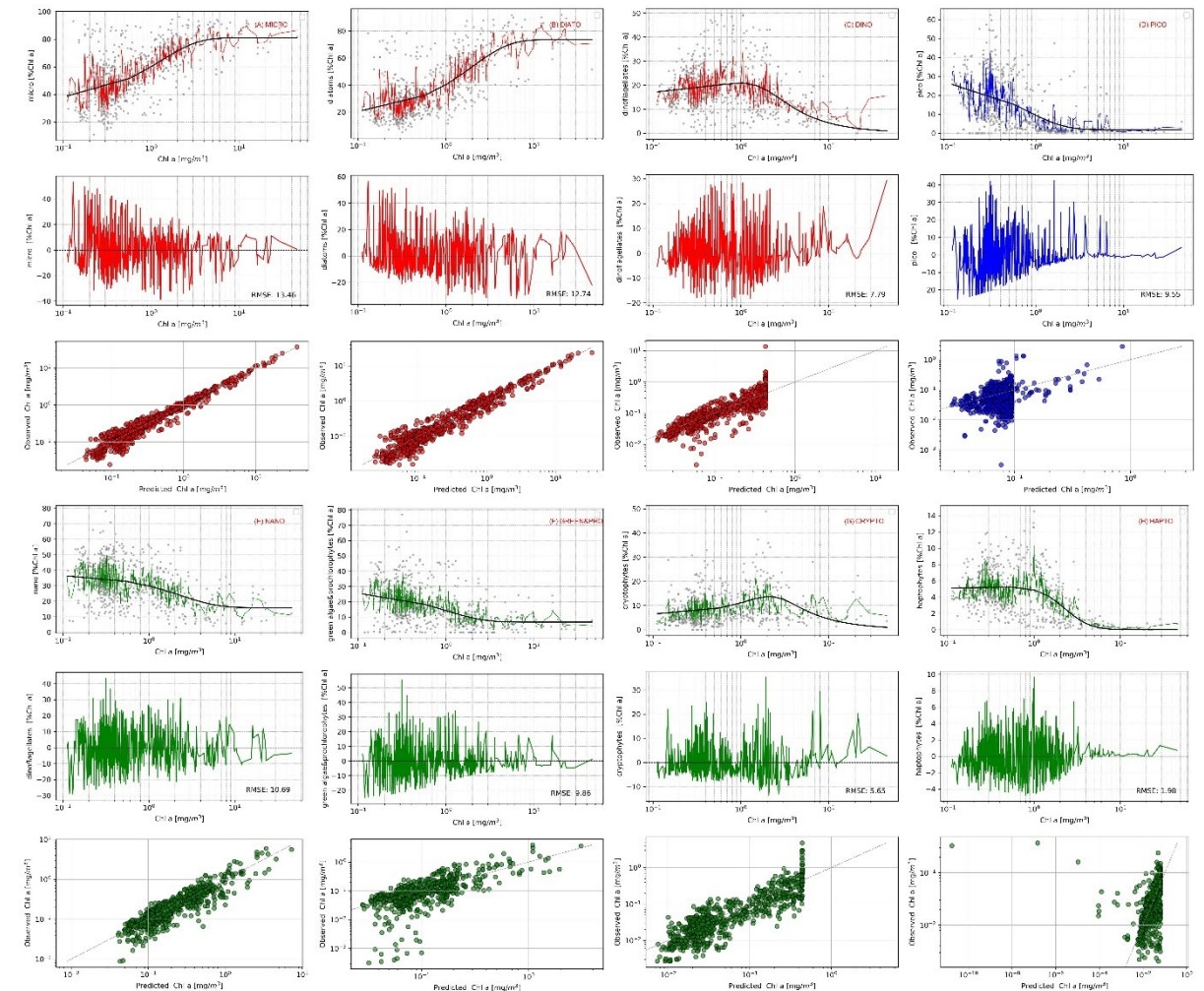
Regionalized Algorithm: Black Sea

690 stations, HPLC dataset (2006–2019)



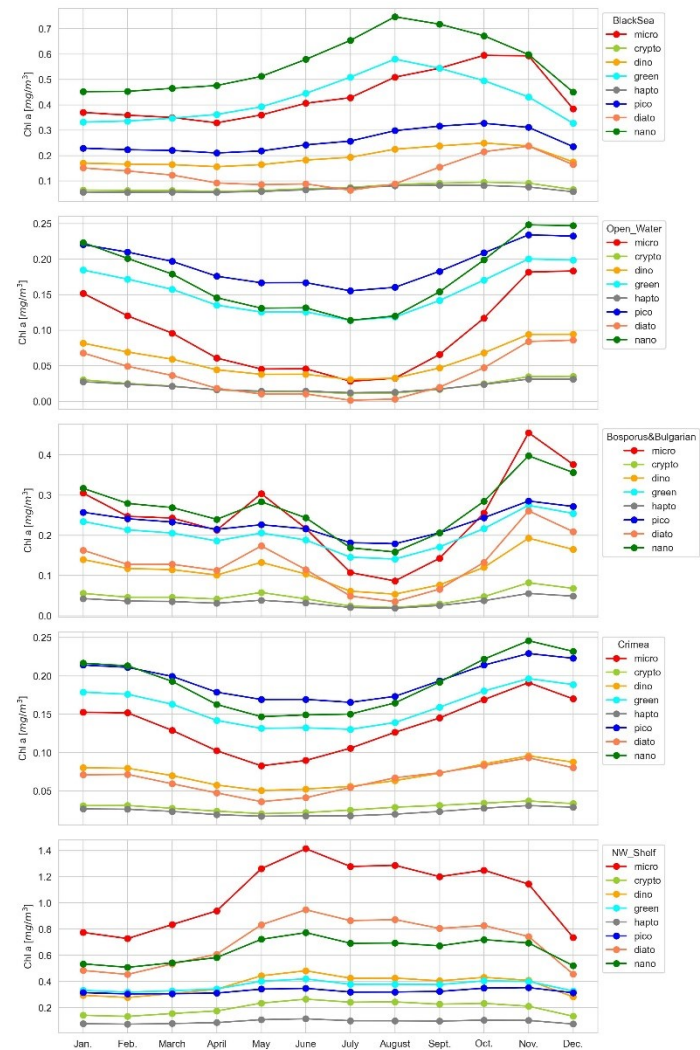
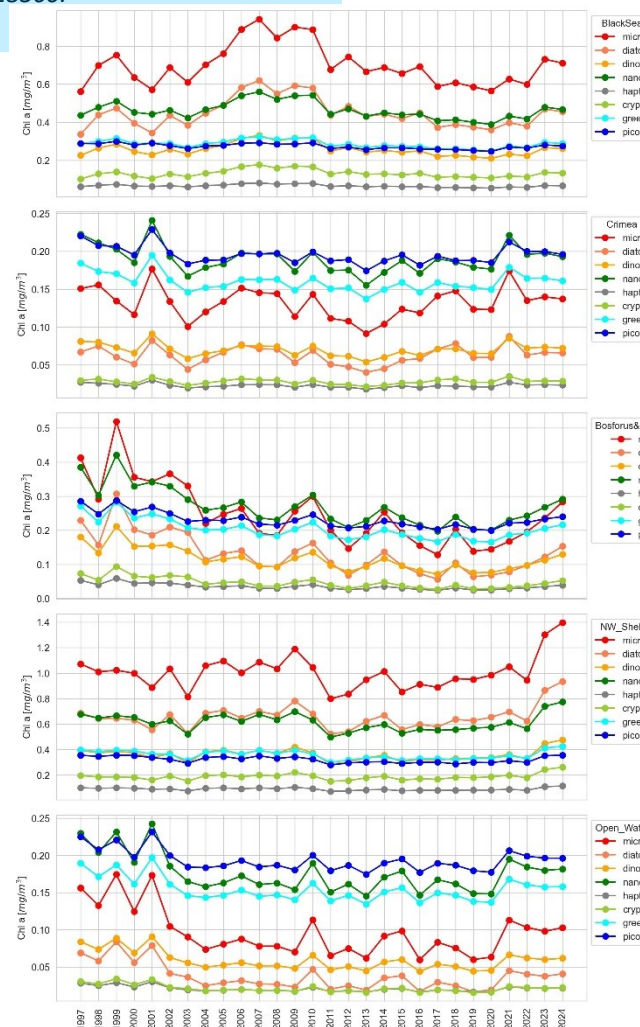
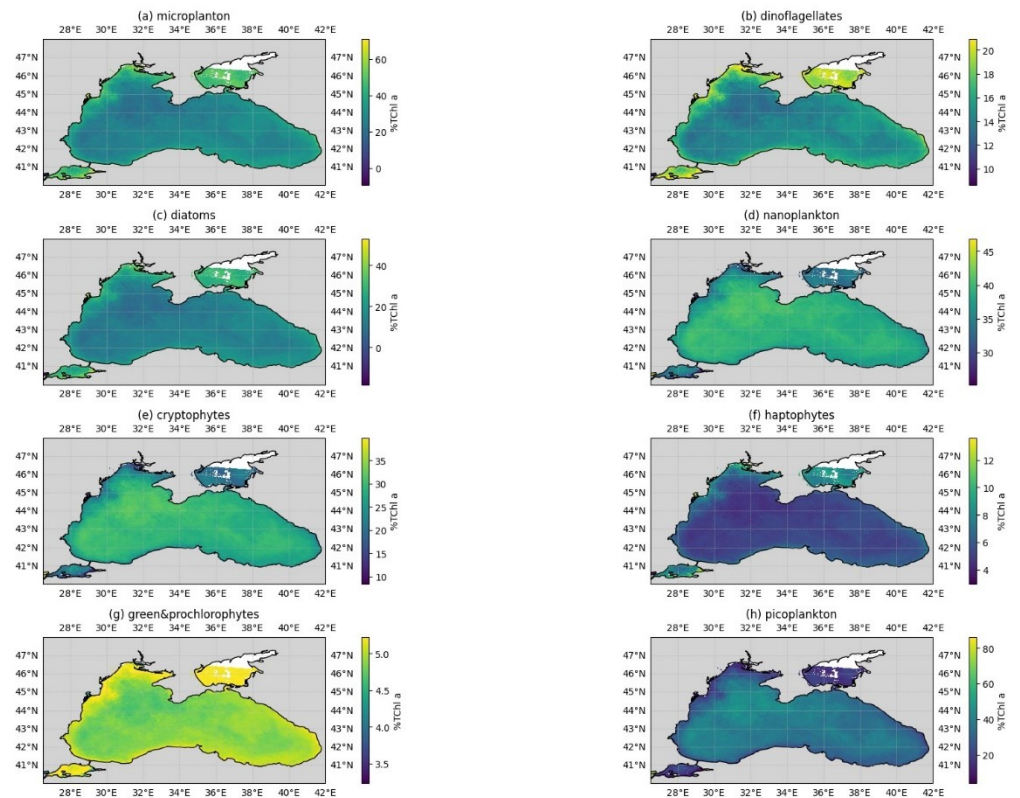
$$\text{ZDP} = 1.33 \cdot \text{Fuco} + 2.42 \cdot \text{Peri} + 2.94 \cdot \text{Allo} + 2.78 \cdot \text{Chl-}b + 0.15 \cdot \text{Hex} + 0.34 \cdot \text{But} + 2.30 \cdot \text{Zea}$$

DESC	Equation	Parameters		
		a	b	c
micro	$a \cdot \exp(-b \cdot x) + c$	-0.460	0.785	0.811
diatoms	micro-dino	--	--	--
dinoflagellates	$1 / (\exp(a \cdot x + b) + c \cdot x)$	-0.921	1.818	2.329
nano	$a \cdot \exp(-b \cdot x) + c$	0.215	0.427	0.158
green&prochl	$a \cdot \exp(-b \cdot x) + c$	0.206	1.018	0.067
cryptophytes	$1 / (\exp(a \cdot x + b) + c \cdot x)$	-0.891	2.805	2.272
haptophytes	$1 / (\exp(a \cdot x + b) + c \cdot x)$	0.558	2.989	-14.190
pico	$a \cdot \exp(-b \cdot x) + c$	0.276	1.292	0.018

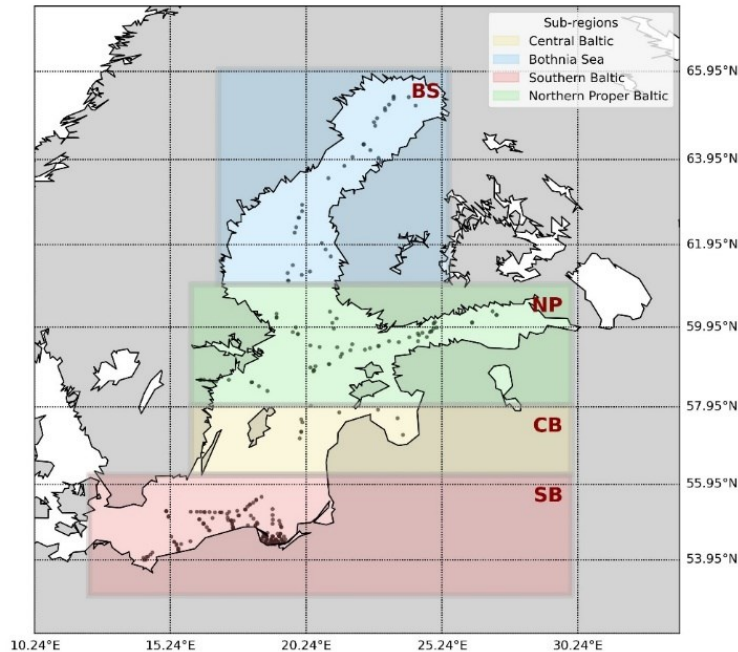




Year	Percentage
1990	85
1995	90
2000	88
2010	92

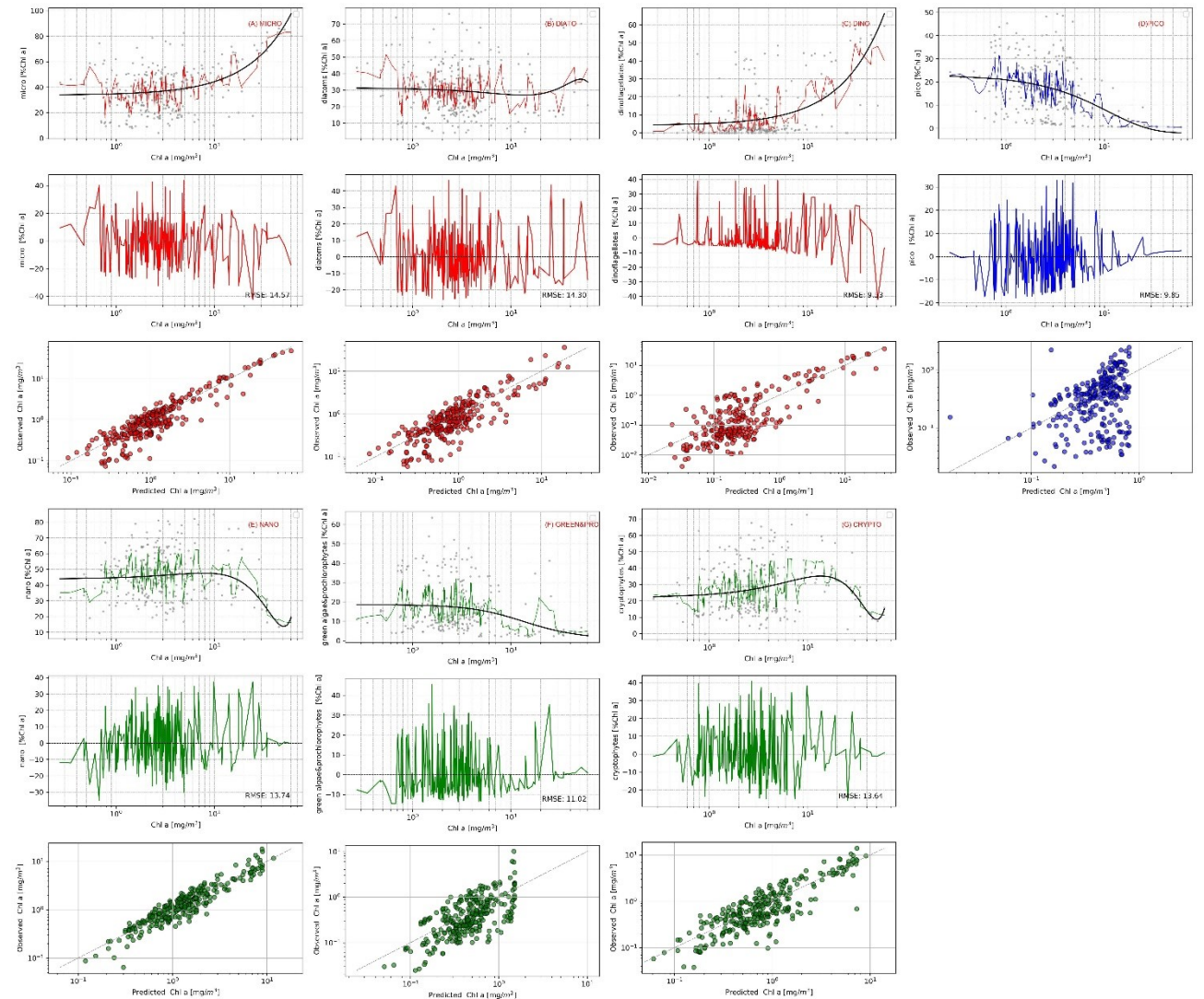


289 stations, HPLC dataset (2004–2020)

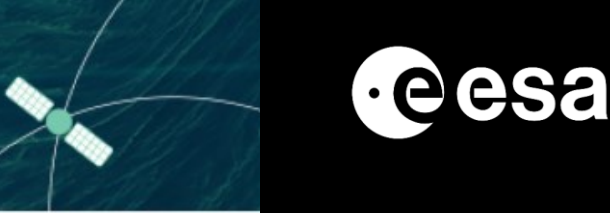


$$\Sigma DP = 2.33 * Fuco + 1.67 * Peri + 3.28 * Allo + 1.7 * Chlb + 0.85 * Hex + 1.74 * Zea$$

DESC		Parameters		
PSCs/PFTs	equations	a	b	c
micro	$a * x + b$	0.01	0.34	
diatoms	micro - dino			
dinoflagellates	$a * x + b$	0.01	0.04	
nano	$1 / (\exp(a * x + b) + c * x)$	-0.07	0.84	0.10
green&prochl	$1 / (\exp(a * x + b) + c * x)$	-0.11	1.68	0.66
cryptophytes	$1 / (\exp(a * x + b) + c * x)$	-0.10	1.50	0.13
pico	$1 / (\exp(a * x + b) + c * x)$	-0.26	1.57	1.17

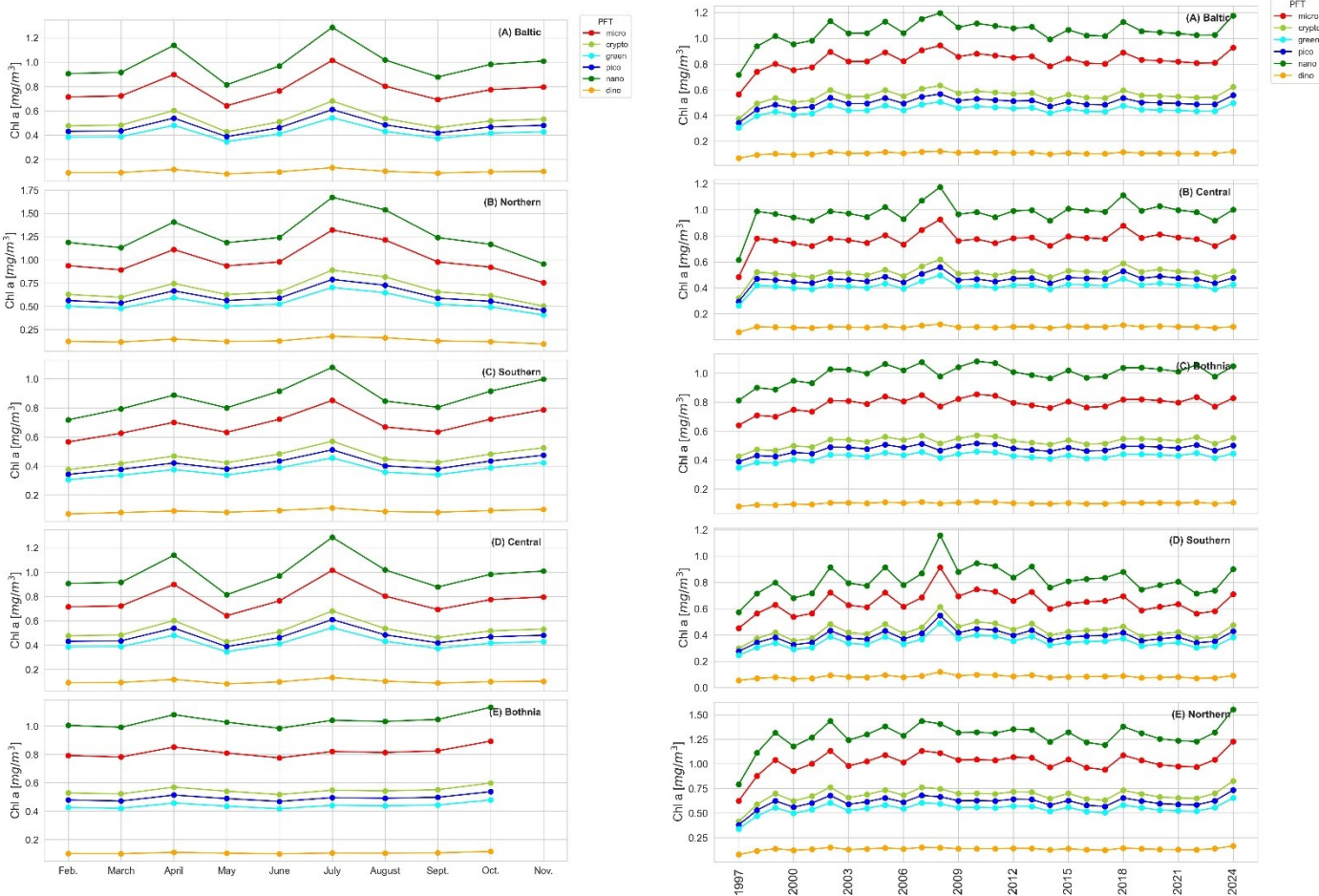
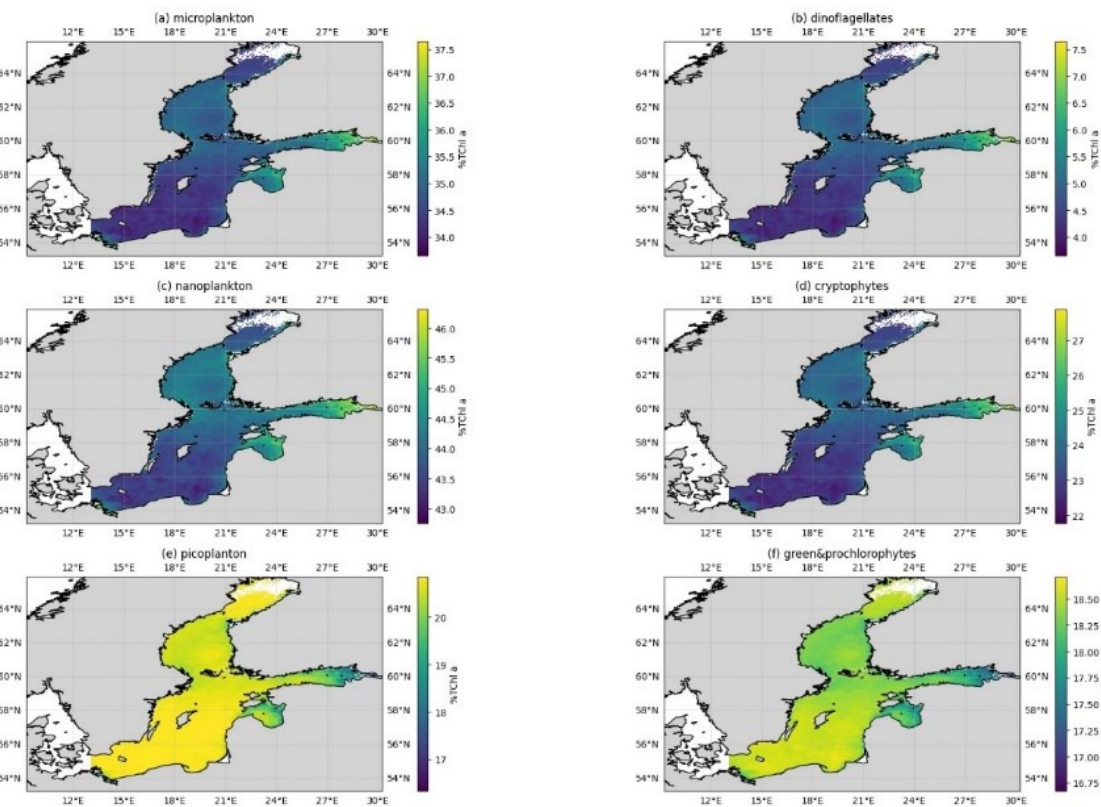


Regionalized Algorithm: Baltic Sea



Canuti, E. (2025, under review) Satellite-Based Estimation of Phytoplankton Functional Types in the Baltic Sea Using a Regionalized Algorithm [Ocean Modelling]

Chl-a, 1 km Level-4, CMEMS



Ocean Carbon from Space – Knowledge Gaps & Strategic Priorities



Time Horizon	Key Knowledge Gaps	Priority Actions
1 Year	- High uncertainty in remote retrievals (POC, DOC) due to limited calibration/validation. - Fragmented metadata, QC practices, and lack of climate-quality datasets.	- Establish community standards for metadata, QC, and uncertainty quantification. - Develop and share prototype retrieval algorithms with explicit error propagation.
5 Years	- Weak coverage and maturity of satellite-derived proxies for internal carbon pools (DIC, alkalinity, DOC). - Limited integration between satellite data, biogeochemical models, and data assimilation.	- Build regional ML/empirical models for DIC, alkalinity, DOC using remote + in situ data. - Implement multi-sensor assimilation frameworks (OC, SST, altimetry, chemical) into flux and budget products. - Expand sustained observing networks (BGC-Argo, moorings, gliders) to resolve vertical carbon structure and episodic events.
10 Years	- No globally consistent, high-resolution satellite-based product for all major ocean carbon pools and fluxes, with quantified uncertainties. - Challenges in closing the global/regional carbon budget with confidence.	- Produce an operational, uncertainty-aware global carbon flux and budget product, updated via reanalysis. - Build global capacity (data infrastructure, training, open tools) to integrate satellite carbon products into policy and climate assessments.