*A critical re-assessment of the primary productivity of the Yellow Sea, East China Sea and Japan Sea/East Sea LMEs*

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Importance of the primary productivity in the Large Marine Ecosystems (LMEs)

### LMEs

- Occupy less than 10% of the world ocean by surface area but support over 80% of the world fish yield (Sherman and Alexander, 1986; Pauly and Lam, 2016).
- An important component in the Earth's biogeochemical system (Liu et al., 2010).

## Relationship between primary production and fisheries yield (I)



PP determines the upper limit of the global fisheries yields.

Figure 1 Global marine primary production (PP) and fisheries production expressed in (a,c) catch (t km<sup>-2</sup> year<sup>-1</sup>) and (b,d) primary production required (PPR) to sustain catches (in t C km<sup>-2</sup> year<sup>-1</sup>) over the long-term period (1950–2004) and recent period (2000–2004). Solid lines indicate quantile regressions models with quantile  $= 10\%$ , 50%, and 90%.

Chassot et al., 2010

### Are the seas in the northwestern Pacific more productive than other seas in NP, or are they?



Figure 5A. Positive correlation of 5-yr. mean annual fisheries biomass yield with 9-yr. mean annual primary production in fast warming (red), moderately warming (yellow) and slower warming (green) LMEs. The two blue circles represent cooling LMEs. P<0.001.

**UNEP LME Report, Sherman and Hempel (2009)**

# Motivation of this study

- The PP of many coastal LMEs tends to be overestimated by erroneous estimates of core variables.
- What are the best algorithms for the three core variables of PP in the three LMEs?
- How do the new PP estimates using these parametrizations compare with the estimates from the global assessments of the UNEP/LME Report and the SAU Project?



Daily and hourly In aquatic environments, these in wa column differ in how to integrate the core variables vary in time and through depth. PP algorithms variables through time of the day and depth, and can be classified accordingly

$$
\Sigma PP = \int_{\lambda=400}^{700} \int_{t=sumrise}^{sunset} \int_{z=0}^{Z_{eu}} p(\lambda, t, z) d\lambda dt dz
$$
  
= 
$$
\int_{\lambda=400}^{700} \int_{t=sumrise}^{sunset} \int_{z=0}^{Z_{eu}} \Phi(\lambda, z) \cdot PAR(\lambda, t, z) \cdot a * (\lambda, z) \cdot Chl(z) d\lambda dt dz
$$

# PP algorithms

- Numerous PP algorithms have been compared against the in-situ observations (Campbell et al., 2002; Friedrichs et al, 2009; Saba et al, 2010; Saba et al., 2011).
- Regardless of the exact formulations, these algorithms have three core variables: phytoplankton biomass (or absorption), biomass-specific photosynthetic rate (or quantum yield of photosynthesis), and Z\_eu.



### Core Var 1: Chl-a



Park and Yoo (2010)



#### Comparison of CHL by OC4 (standard) algorithm and in-situ CHL



Figure 7. *In situ* Chl-*a* versus derived Chl-*a*. Fil

Core Var 1: Chl-a

## Yellow Sea Ocean Color Database (Bio-optical measurements)



### Core Var 2: biomass-specific photosynthetic rate

#### Comparison of  $P_B^{opt}$ algorithms



Fig. 9. Region-wise Taylor diagrams displaying STD, RMSD, and correlation for the four NPP algorithms in (a) ES, (b) YS, (c) ECS, and (d) YEOSU. The distance from the origin is the standard deviation of the modeled IPP (NPP). The azimuth angle represents the correlation between SIPP (NPP = GPP  $\times$  0.9) and modeled IPP (NPP), and distance between modeled IPP (NPP) and SIPP (NPP = GPP  $\times$  0.9) is the RMSD

### Yoon et al. (2012)

$$
IPP = 0.66125 \times P_{opt}^{B} \times \frac{E_0}{E_0 + 4.1} \times Z_{eu} \times \text{SCHL} \times D_{irr}
$$

$$
P_{opt}^{B} = -3.27 \times 10^{-8} \times \text{SST}^{7} + 3.4132 \times 10^{-6} \times \text{SST}^{6}
$$
  
- 1.348 × 10<sup>-4</sup> × SST<sup>5</sup> + 2.465 × 10<sup>-3</sup> × SST<sup>4</sup> - 0.0205  
× SST<sup>3</sup> + 0.0617 × SST<sup>2</sup> + 0.2749 × SST + 1.2956

#### Behrenfeld and Falkowski (1997)

$$
P_{opt}^{B} = \frac{0.071 \times SST - 3.2 \times 10^{-3} \times SST^{2} + 3.0 \times 10^{-5} \times SST^{3}}{SCHL}
$$
  
+ $(1.0 + 0.17 \times SST - 2.5 \times 10^{-3} \times SST^{2} - 8.0 \times 10^{-5} \times SST^{3})$ 

#### Kameda and Ishizaka (2005)

Core Var 3: Z<sub>eu</sub>





Performance of six  $K_d$  (*PAR*) algorithms using the in situ measurements made in the YS, ECS, and JES LMEs from 1994 to  $2\overline{011}$  (n=32 (YS); n=55 (ECS); n=41 (JES)).

The IOP-centered algorithm showed lowest errors in terms of bias, RMSE, MAE, and absolute relative difference.

#### **1** Table 2. The error statistics for the six  $Z_{eu}$  algorithms



## Data

- Satellite data
	- SeaWiFS and MODIS/Aqua (1998~2014)
	- CHL-a:
		- OC4 v6 (NASA, 2010)
	- SST
	- PAR
- Algorothms
	- YOC for Chlorophyll-a (Siswanto et al., 2011)
	- Photosynthetic rates (Kameda and Ishizaka, 2005)
	- Euphotic depth (ZP Lee, 2005 and 2007)

## The mean annual PP estimated by three methods (unit: $gC m^{-2} y^{-1}$ )





Table 3. The mean annual *PP* estimates by the three methods ( $gC \, m-2 \, y-1$ ). The numbers in the parenthesis indicate the range in 1998-2014 period.



## Primary Productivity



PP models of other global assessments

- LME/UNEP Report (2008): Ocean Productivity from Absorption and Light  $\overline{(OPAL)}$  model (Marra et al., 2003)  $\rightarrow$  an absorption-based model
- Sea around Us Project: Platt and Sathyendranath (1988) with parametrization based on biogeochemical provinces.  $\rightarrow$  a time and depth-resolved model.

Comparison of the mean annual PP by three methods of this study, the SAU Project, and the UNEP/LME Report.



### *Revised with new PP estimates*



*Sherman and Hempel (2009)*

## Conclusions

- 1) Accurate parametrization of the core variables is more important than choosing a primary productivity model, and
- 2) The previous global LME assessments might have overestimated the annual primary productivity in the Yellow Sea by a factor of 2 or so.

Thank you!

#### Classification system for daily net primary productivity (NPP) models based on implicit levels of integration

(Behrenfeld and Falkowski, 1997)

**I. Wavelength-resolved models (i.e., "bio-optical models")(WRMs)**

$$
NPP = \int_{\lambda=400}^{700} \int_{t=sunrise}^{sunset} \int_{z=0}^{Z_{eu}} \Phi(\lambda, Z) \cdot PAR(\lambda, t, z) \cdot a^*(\lambda, z) \cdot Chl(z)d\lambda dtdz - R
$$

#### **II. Wavelength-integrated models (WIMs)**

$$
NPP = \int_{t = \text{sunrise}}^{\text{sunset}} \int_{z=0}^{Z_{\text{eu}}} \varphi(z) \cdot PAR(t, z) \cdot Chl(z)dt dz - R
$$

#### **III. Time-integrated models (TIMs)**

$$
NPP = \int_{z=0}^{Z_{eu}} P^{B}(z) \cdot PAR(z) \cdot DL \cdot Chl(z)dz
$$

**IV. Depth-integrated models (DIMs)** *eu*  $\textit{NPP} = P_{opt}^{\textit{B}} \cdot \textit{PAR}(0) \cdot \textit{DL} \cdot \textit{Chl} \cdot \textit{Z}$ 

### PP estimates from the previous studies

- Point measurements vary in the range of 11.78 ~ 3,175 mg  $C$  m<sup>-2</sup> d<sup>-1</sup> depending on time and space.
- Some of in-situ estimates on annual production are 135~265  $gC$  m<sup>-2</sup> y<sup>-1</sup>, which is much smaller than satellite estimates.
- Park and Yoo (2010) compared 4 chlorophyll X 2 PP algorithm combinations:  $96.5$  to  $610.2$  gC m<sup>-2</sup> yr<sup>-1</sup>.
- Tan and Shi (2006) using SeaWiFS-MODIS 2003- 2005 and VGPM formulation,
	- $-$  Bohai Sea: 564.4 gC m<sup>-2</sup> y<sup>-</sup> 1
	- Northern Yellow Sea: 363.1  $gC \, m^{-2} y^{-1}$
	- $-$  southern YS: 536.5 gC m<sup>-2</sup>  $y^{-1}$
	- northern East China Sea  $(ECS)$ : 413.9 gC m<sup>-2</sup> y<sup>-1</sup>
	- southern ECS: 195.8 gC m-2  $y^{-1}$