

Supplementary materials

Table 1. Comparisons of CDOM (ppb), turbidity (NTU) and chlorophyll-a ($\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$) data from AESS respectively with a350 (R.U.), the total suspended matter (TSM) and chlorophyll-a ($\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$) data obtained from lab analysis of water samples^a collected at stations close to the AESS surveys.

	CDOM v.s. a350	Turbidity v.s. TSM	Chl-a v.s. Chl-a
Correlation coefficient r	0.99	0.92	0.98
P-value	0.0003	0.029	0.003
Slope			1.91 ^b
Offset			1.15 ^c

^a: These stations include Sta. 1 (Fig. 1B; samples collected at 5 m), 14 (samples at 5 m and 20 m) and a station at (31°47.437'N, 123°45.871'E) (samples at 5 m and 30 m) surveyed in the cruise but not included in this study.

^b: The linear relationship between AESS-measured (y) and lab-measured (x) chlorophyll-a concentrations is: $y=1.91x+1.15$

^c: unit: $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$