

PHIDIAS: Boosting the use of cloud services for marine data management, services and processing



Passport photos for plankton: new era for marine biology research



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Phytoplankton abundance is typically estimated using ocean colour, in situ sensors or lab analysis

- **Phytoplankton contribute** ~50% of the global photosynthesis: CO_2 fixation and O_2 production.
- Due to measurement uncertainties and undersampling, the role of oceans and phytoplankton
 is one of the key unknowns in global carbon-budget
- We may observe the abundance of phytoplankton using Chlorophyll *a* as a proxy



Long-term average concentration of chlorophyll at the ocean's surface in milligrams per cubic meter of water. The data in this map were provided by the Joint Research Centre (JRC). Source EMODnet.



Seasonal concentration of chlorophyll in the Baltic Sea, between Helsinki (FI) and Travemünde (DE), measured with the ferrybox. Source Alg@line project, SYKE.



Species/group –specific information is crucial to understand the biogeochemical fluxes

- Bulk biomass estimates by Chlorophyll *a* do not reflect the diversity of phytoplankton
- Phytoplankton community composition is largely affected by environmental and anthropogenic forcing (light, nutrients, temperature)
- Phytoplankton community composition responds very quickly to chaotic rhytms of aquatic environments
- Phytoplankton community composition (and functional types) largely affects the aquatic elemental fluxes (carbon and nutrients) and structure of the food web (up to fish)



Photos of phytoplankton, taken by Imaging FlowCytobot at Utö station, Gulf of Finland



- Trad. microscopy is slow and costly (though accurate and important reference method!)
- New technologies based on optics, fluidics and imaging offer rapid, automated, unattended, quantitative, and cost-efficient analysis of individual cells and colonies of plankton organisms
- Possibility to permanently store the digital raw data gathered, which allows re-analyses, and creation of open data archives within the international scientific community

Cyanobacterial bloom in the Baltic 2018 - with 3 main species recorded at 20 min intervals. Kraft et al in prep.

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PHIDIAS Plankton imaging – state of art



Globally Consistent Quantitative Observations of Planktonic Ecosystems

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- Various technologies available, many in the betaversion/demonstration phase. Some forerunner technologies (e.g. Cytosense) have well established user communities and common vocabularies for metadata.
- Machine learning algorithms available but optimising/developments ongoing
- Central data storage not available, no agreed way to connect to data aggregators
- EcoTaxa web application an European forerunner for visual exploration and the taxonomic annotation of images. Initiated by Laboratoire d'Océanographie de Villefranche (LOV) https://ecotaxa.obs-vlfr.fr/



IMAGING FLOWCYTOBOT at SYKE



- Images of phytoplankton cells (range 10-150µm)
- Operate remotely on Utö island flow through system
- Samples of 5ml with approx. 20 min interval
- Camera triggered by chlorophyll-a fluorescence
- Up to 30 000 high resolution images / hour





Random Forest algorithm for image regocnition – moving towards Convolutional Neural Networks



storage

duration

Demonstration: from image to information



Imaging FlowCytobot (Finnish Environment Institute, Utö)



Finnish Meteorological



CSC (Center for Scientific Computing, FI) Allas object

- Data storage and sharing

during the project's



cPouta (Cloud computing) - Development of CNN-models

- GPU flavor is needed



Puhti (high performance computing)

- CNN in production mode (classification of new images)
- GPU or CPU flavor
- Potential realtime usage



Data aggregators / other users

- EcoTaxa
- Long time data storage

Institute's server





PHIDIAS, at the focal point for multiplatform detection of phytoplankton:

EO algorithms – sensor validation – ML, CNN – DIVA









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Thank-you, stay tuned, and see you again!



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