

The Harmful Algal Bloom Data Assembly Center: A National Cyberinfrastructure Framework for Plankton Imagery

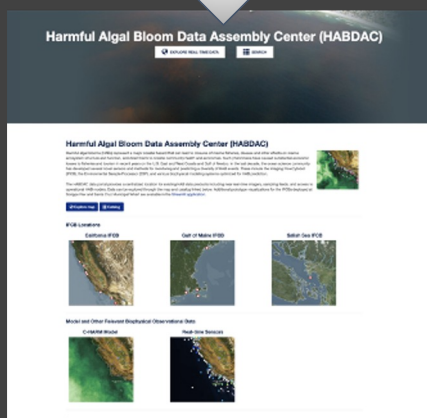
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***SCCOOS Director, CIMEAS Director
Scripps Institution of Oceanography**

6 May 2025

OOI FB-DSC Meeting

**Thank you to the NOAA NCCOS PCMHAB program*



Ocean Observing
and Modeling

Data Management
and Cyberinfrastructure

Stakeholder Engagement
and Co-Design

CA IFCB Network



Cal Poly Humboldt

- Northern California sites
- Southern California sites

Bodega Marine Lab

Santa Cruz Municipal Wharf
MBARI Power Buoy

Stearns Wharf

Newport Beach Pier

Del Mar mooring
Scripps Pier

CalOOS IFCB Dashboard

ifcb.caloos.org



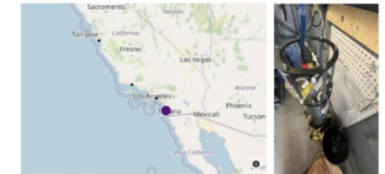
Data available on CalOOS IFCB dashboard (ifcb.caloos.org) and available for download through the UCSD Library Archive

HABDAC

Harmful Algal Bloom Dashboard

This tool enables exploration of harmful algal bloom (HAB) data in coastal areas where where an Imaging FlowCytobot (IFCB) captures pictures of phytoplankton in the water. Researchers trained machine learning algorithms to classify the images and detect harmful algal bloom causing species. Use the filters on the left side of the page to select an IFCB location and a date range to display which HAB taxa were detected during that time period. Results are shown either as concentrations or biovolume and can be binned into hourly or daily resolution. Please note, all data displayed on this dashboard was determined using a machine learning model and may contain inaccuracies, since the data has not yet been validated by a human.

Selected IFCB: Scripps Pier IFCB
183



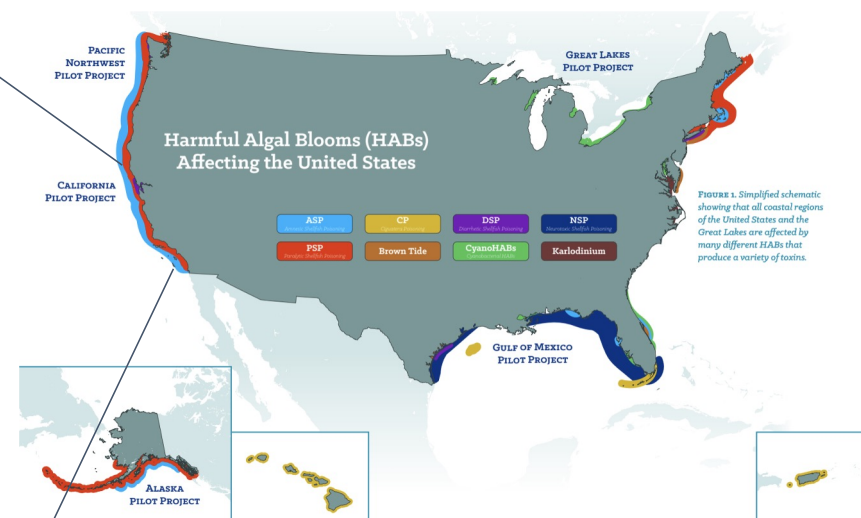
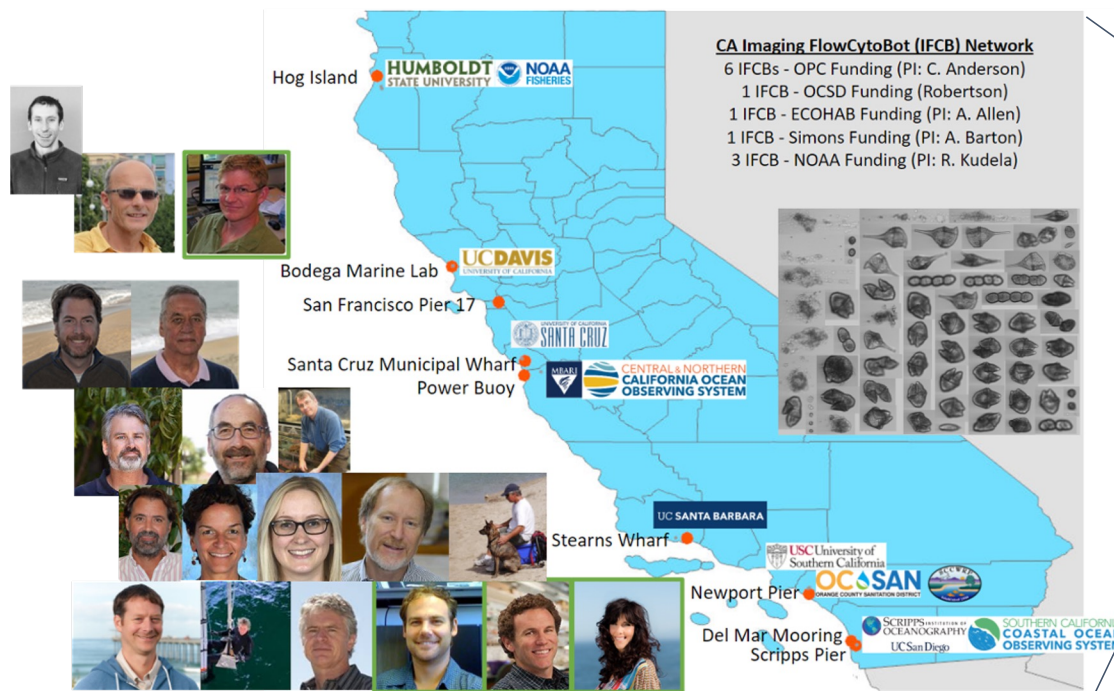
Data illustrated in a comprehensible graphical interface for effective HAB management

Customizable data product resolution (hourly, daily, weekly etc.) and Easy download

California Harmful Algal Bloom Early Warning System

Largest network of robotic microscopes in the world with 12 operational Imaging FlowCytobots





NHABON Pilot Project at SCCOOS + CeNCOOS helps support 9 operational IFCBs at 7 piers and 2 at offshore moorings (12 total in CA Network)

<https://ifcb.caloos.org/>



National HAB Observing Network

The NHABON CoP fosters scientific collaboration, information sharing, and other activities leading to the development, operation, and application of the NHABON at local, state, and regional levels

California IFCB Network

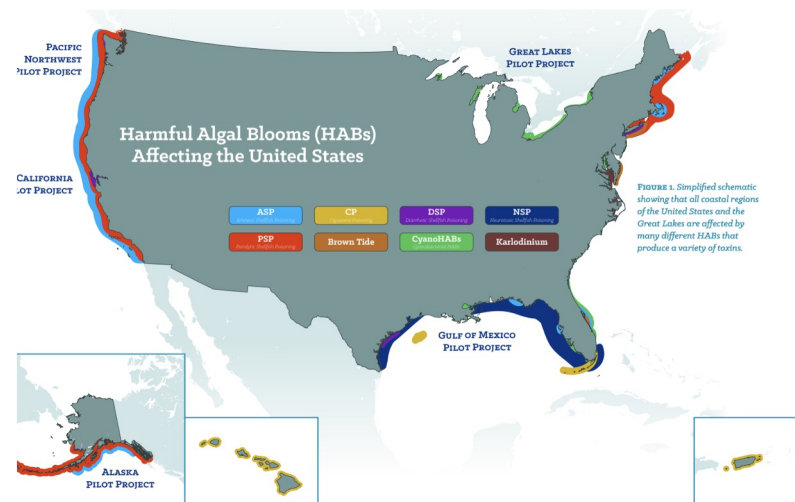
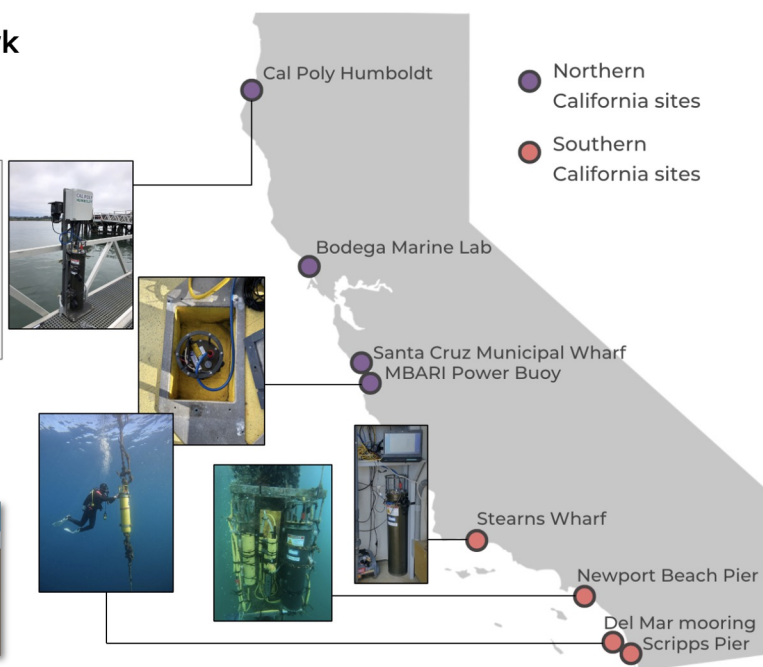
Technical support

- o Monthly technical meetings
- o Troubleshooting protocols in the CA IFCB Network's Standard Operating Procedures (SOP)
- o Data quality control – focus on reliable concentration estimates

1 GB/day



<https://library.ucsd.edu/dc>



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 helps support 9 operational IFCBs at 7 piers and 2
 at offshore moorings (12 total in CA Network)
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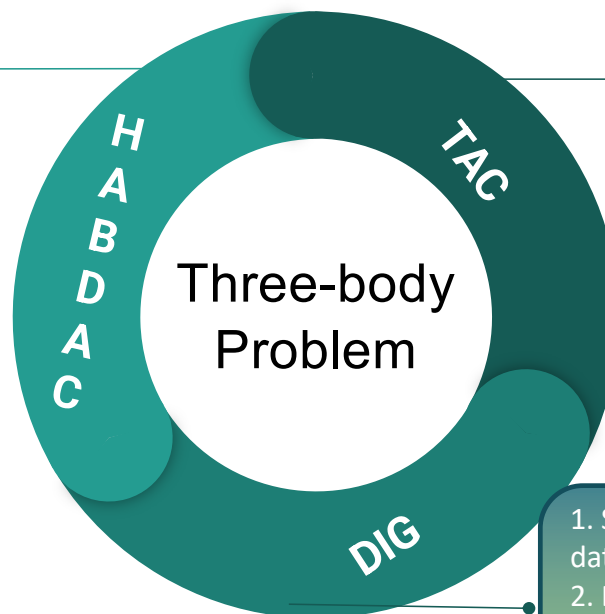
California IFCB Network

*Diverse institutional involvement and deployment configurations across the network
 requires redundant data archival and a centralized cyberinfrastructure*

HABDAC Team

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 Rob Bochenek, ADS
 Heidi Sosik, WHOI
 Stace Beaulieu, WHOI
 Raphe Kudela, UCSC
 Henry Ruhl, MBARI
 Patrick Daniel, UCSC
 Joe Futrelle, WHOI
 Karina Khazmutdinova, ADS
 Kasia Kenitz, SIO
 Andrew Barton, SIO

1. Stand up the TAC
2. Central CI for CA Network
3. Ingest new data/models - new regions
4. Centralize ML models and data sets
5. Transition Plan for tech transfer – SOP/Best Practices



Transition Advisory Committee

1. Downstream products
2. Broaden conversation
3. Regional stakeholders
4. Synergy w/ programs
5. End-user requirements
6. Broaden participation
7. Help sustain HABDAC

Barb Kirkpatrick, GCOOS
 Jan Newton, NANOOS
 Tom Shyka, NERACOOS
 Lisa Campbell, Texas A&M
 Andrew Barton, SIO
 Abby Benson, USGS/OBIS
 Noah Ben-Aderet, OPC
 Mike Brosnahan, WHOI
 Stephanie Moore, NWFSC
 Tenaya Norris, TMMC
 Jules Jaffe, SIO
 Felix Martinez, NCCOS

Data Integration Group

1. Scope of HAB data & data types to be ingested
2. Data levels & process standardization
3. Metadata format & content

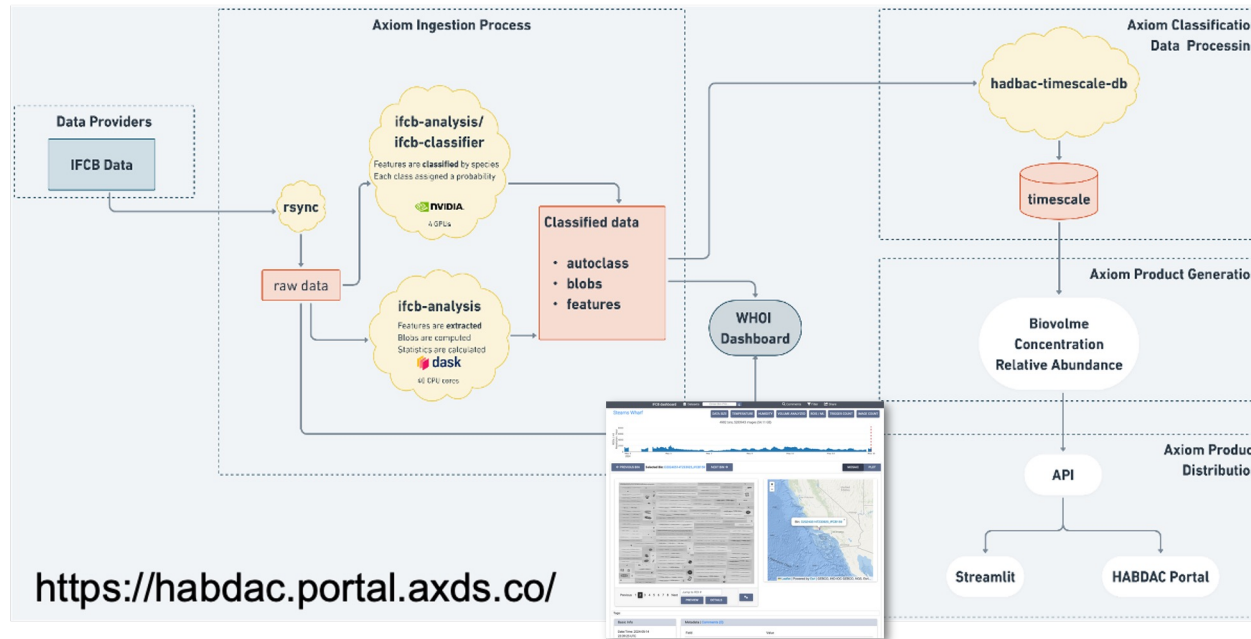
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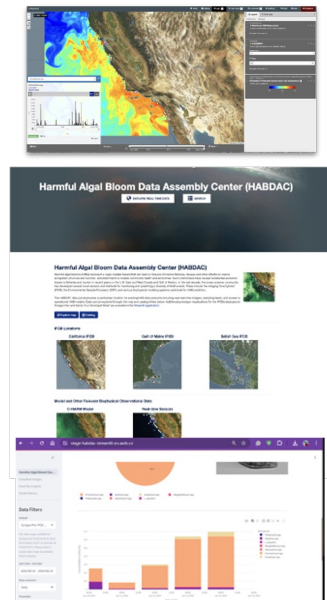
PCM HAB 2020: Harmful Algal Bloom Community Technology Accelerator

NOAA NCCOS funding awarded in 2020 to establish a national HAB Data Assembly Center that uses the CA & GoM IFCB Networks as prototypes

HAB DAC development



CalOOS Catalog



PCM HAB 2020: Harmful Algal Bloom Community Technology Accelerator

VISION: Automated services to all IFCB users to immediately stand up an IFCB Dashboard and generate downstream products for science AND management

Value-added products

Reduce barriers, promote efficiencies, and positively engage varied community participants

- IFCB users / data producers
- End users: research scientists, resource managers, ecosystem modelers, etc.

⇒ **Centralized configuration and management of system components for data access and product workflows**

Automated data accession

Automated image product generation

Automated image product access

Classifier training and evaluation tools

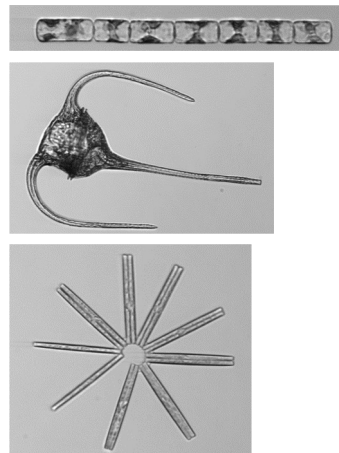
On-demand classifier application

Automated level 2 and 3 product generation

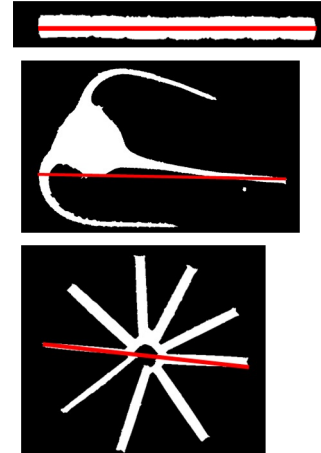
including summary time series and maps

Automated image processing for trait estimation

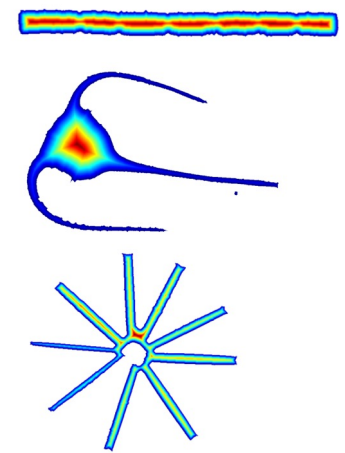
Original image



“Blob” mask and 2D geometry



Distance map

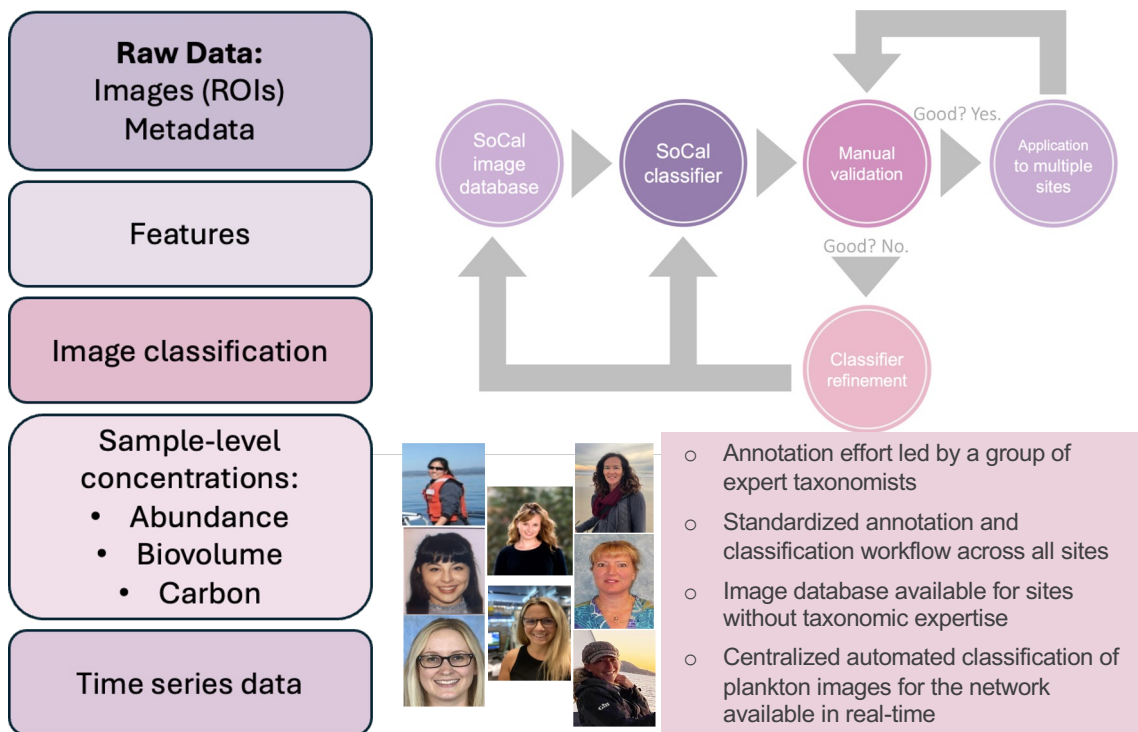


MATLAB development environment → Python operational environment



PCM HAB 2020: Harmful Algal Bloom Community Technology Accelerator

Data Archive and Access: Images (ROIs) Metadata >>> Features >>> Image Classification >>> Automated Level 1 to Level 3 Product Generation



SO CAL

- Convolutional Neural Network
- Inception_v3 architecture, pretrained with ImageNet
- 131 classes, including 33 diatom, 38 dinoflagellate and 20 ciliate categories
- Average F1 score = 0.87

Akashiwo: 0.89
Dinophysis: 0.96
Lingulodinium: 0.92
Phaeocystis: 0.98
Prorocentrum: 0.96
Pseudo-nitzschia: 0.93

NOR CAL

- Convolutional Neural Network
- Xception architecture, pretrained with ImageNet
- 51 classes, including 22 diatom, 16 dinoflagellate and 4 ciliate categories
- Average F1 score = 0.58

Akashiwo: 0.95
Dinophysis: 0.92
Lingulodinium: 0.56
Phaeocystis: 0.81
Prorocentrum: 0.92
Pseudo-nitzschia: 0.62

Building a CoP around community annotation

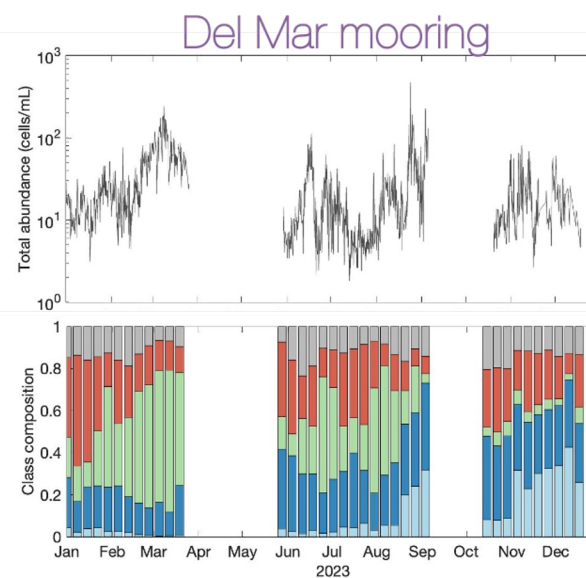
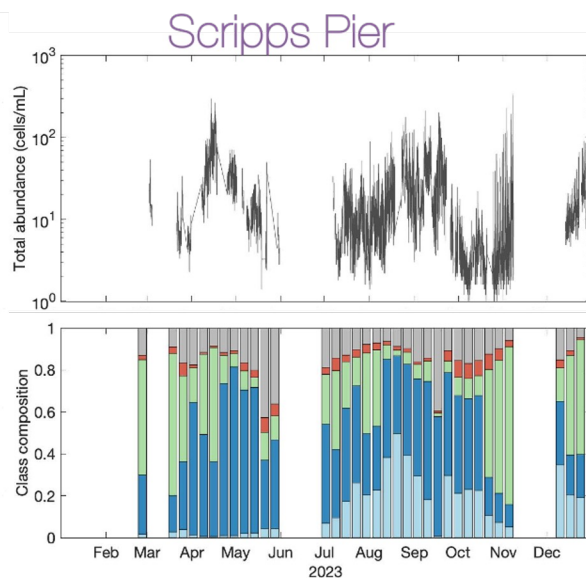
Slide courtesy of Kasia Kenitz



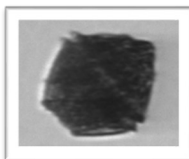
PCM HAB 2020: Harmful Algal Bloom Community Technology Accelerator

Building and sharing annotated image libraries and regional classifiers is essential to progress

NEARSHORE



OFFSHORE



PCM HAB 2020: Harmful Algal Bloom Community Technology Accelerator

Regional CNN classifiers appear necessary for accurate HAB assessment but can be repurposed and retrained

Downstream product development: OBIS use case



Santa Cruz Municipal Wharf

Basic Info

features
autoclass



Darwin Core Tables:

- event
- occurrence
- emof



Building **FAIR** data products from
IFCB autoclassification and size data

Success!

Link to [our notebook](#)

Implemented [EU Horizon 2020 “Best practices and recommendations for plankton imagery data management”](#)

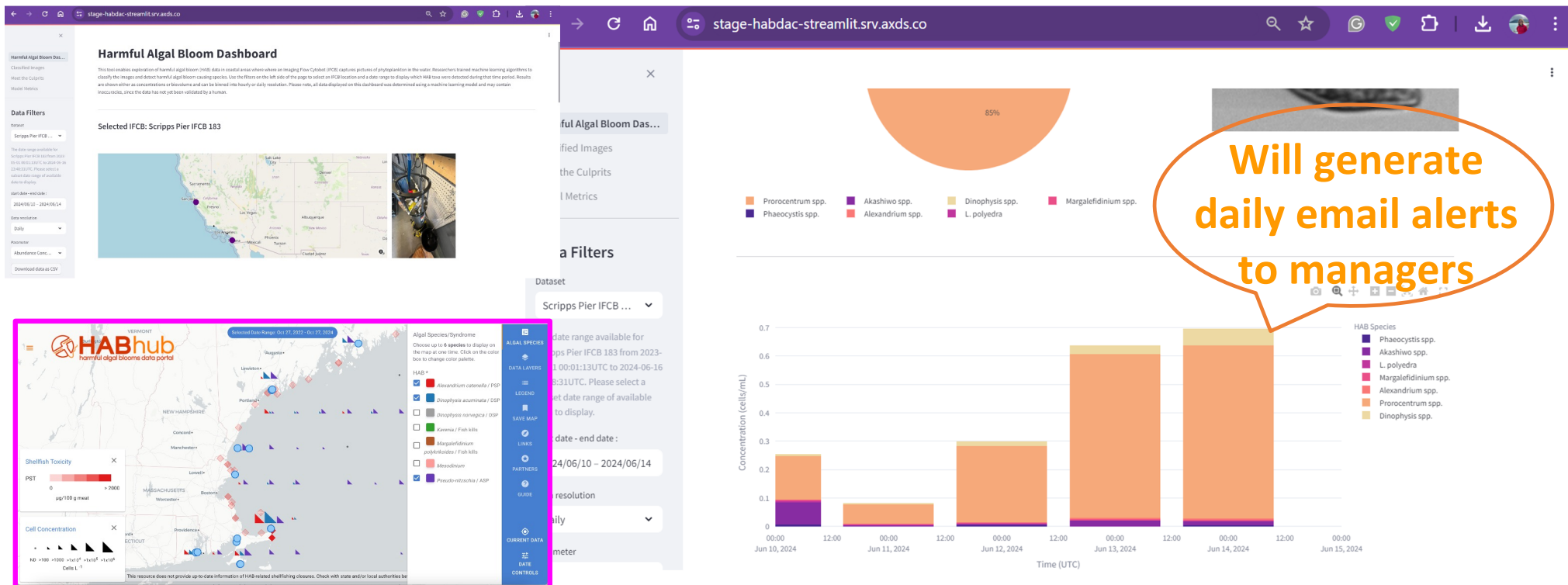
Slide courtesy of Stace Beaulieu
& Ian Brunjes



PCM HAB 2020: Harmful Algal Bloom Community Technology Accelerator

- Building a code repository for community archival of complex image and classifier data
- NASA PACE project (PI Anderson) generating new routines for pushing IFCB data to

SeaBASS



PCM HAB 2020: Harmful Algal Bloom Community Technology Accelerator

What do managers need and want? How do we develop best practices for generating alerts? HABDAC Streamlit app being vetted in concert with apps like WHOI HABHub (M. Brosnahan)

Where are we headed with IRA funding over next two years?

- 1) Plug and play – user can bring an IFCB online almost immediately, i.e. ability to rapidly view sample images on dashboard
- 2) Classifier Menus – existing classifiers (CNNs, RF, etc) from different regions available for testing and/or running side-by-side
- 3) Annotated Image Libraries – libraries searchable by region; easily rearranged for training set generation
- 4) Automated Product Development – L1-L3 and management-ready products, merging all available HAB data (toxins, cell counts, models...)
- 5) Script Libraries for Data Archiving - customized routines to push data to OBIS, NASA SeaBASS, etc. in agency-compliant formats
- 6) Regional Diversity – **We have CA, (some) Gulf of Maine, Salish Sea!!!**
What about Florida?, Texas?, Pacific Northwest? **OOI IFCBs!!!**
- 7) Management Products People Want! - feedback from diverse end-users



California Imaging FlowCytobot Network

Standard Operating Procedure

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PCM HAB 2020: Harmful Algal Bloom Community Technology Accelerator

END GOAL: Create a truly useful community of practice and community experience that stands up to computational and instrumentation advancements

Harmful Algal Bloom Data Assembly Center (HABDAC)

EXPLORE REAL-TIME DATA

SEARCH

PLEASE JOIN OUR
COMMUNITY OF
PRACTICE

clrande@ucsd.edu

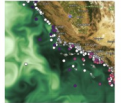
Harmful Algal Bloom Data Assembly Center (HABDAC)

Harmful algal blooms (HABs) represent a major coastal hazard that can lead to closures of marine fisheries, disease and other effects on marine ecosystem structure and function, and direct harm to coastal community health and economies. Such phenomena have caused substantial economic losses to fisheries and tourism in recent years on the U.S. East and West Coasts and Gulf of Mexico. In the last decade, the ocean science community has developed several novel sensors and methods for monitoring and predicting a diversity of HAB events. These include the Imaging FlowCytobot (IFCB), the Environmental Sample Processor (ESP), and various biophysical modeling systems optimized for HAB prediction.

The HABDAC data portal provides a centralized location for existing HAB data products including near real-time imagery, sampling feeds, and access to operational HAB models. Data can be explored through the map and catalog linked below. Additional prototype visualizations for the IFCBs deployed at Scripps Pier and Santa Cruz Municipal Wharf are available in the Streamlit application.

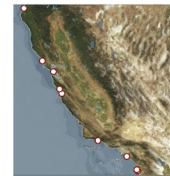
Explore map

Catalog



IFCB Locations

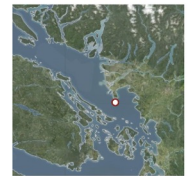
California IFCB



Gulf of Maine IFCB



Salish Sea IFCB



Model and Other Relevant Biophysical Observational Data

C-HARM Model



Real-time Sensors



Release notes

<https://habdac.portal.axds.co/>

<https://ifcb.caloos.org/>

Data Disclaimer

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