A modular open-source bio-optical Python framework for forward and inverse modeling

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Why did we reinvent the wheel?

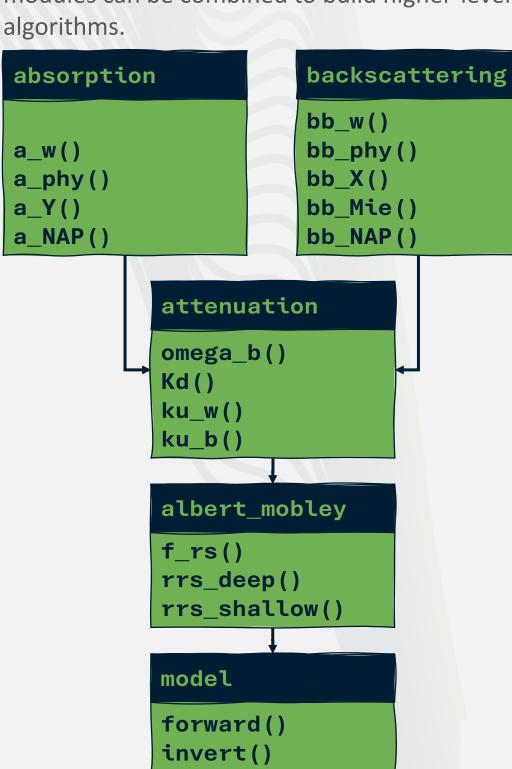
- There are many great algorithms and pieces of software out there
- BUT few are easily accessible and full control over single parts is often limited
- This complicates further development and integration into larger processing chains
- and results in wasting time by recoding and debugging

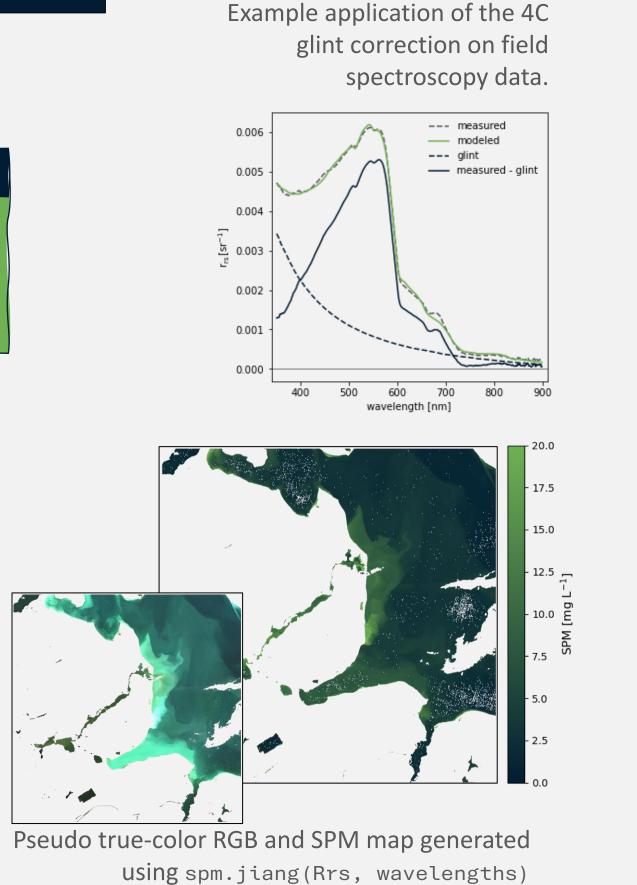


The blo_optics Python package

- Modular architecture to maximize user control and enable construction of new algorithms
- Lower-level functions (e.g., a_Y()) can be run standalone or combined to build higher-level algorithms
- Functions can be replaced by measurements
- Analytical models for optically deep and shallow water (e.g., Albert & Mobley 2003; Lee et al. 1998, 1999; Bi et al. 2023) as well as water surface reflectance / glint models (e.g., Gege 2012; Lin et al. 2023)
- Forward and inverse methods available
- Collection of empirical and semi-analytical models (e.g., HICO algorithms for CHL, CDOM and Turbidity; Jiang et al. 2021 algorithm for SPM, and many more)
- Built on established Python packages (numpy, scipy, pandas, Imfit)
- Additional functions to ease data workflows (e.g., spectral resampling, find the closest band, OWTs, Forel-Ule scale, QWIP, OPSHAL, and many more)

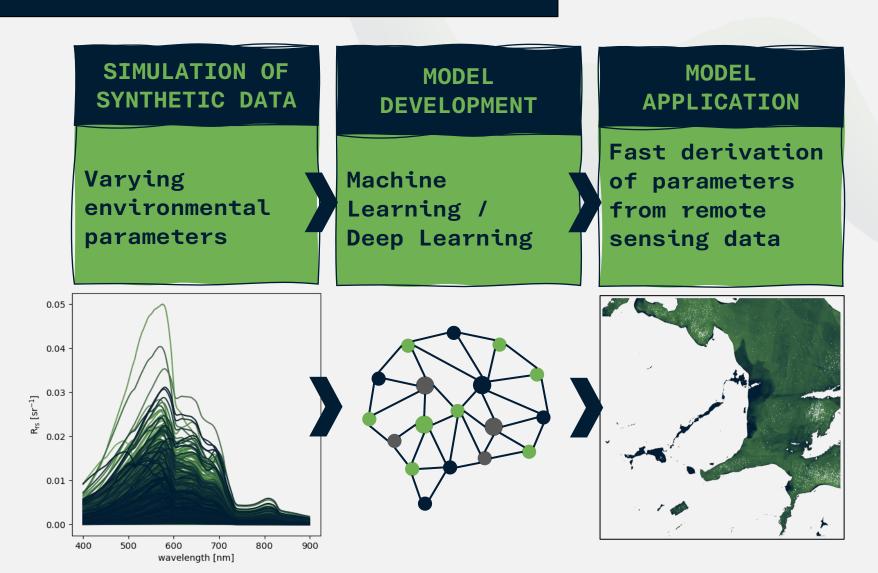
An example for how lower-level functions and modules can be combined to build higher-level

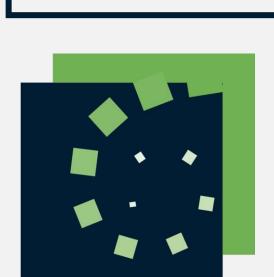




What's next?

- Integration of analytical partial derivatives and Optimal Estimation (OE) for rigorous uncertainty estimation
- Extension with machine learning and deep learning techniques and spectral-spatial approaches
- Continuous integration of existing and novel algorithms
- Continuous consolidation in terms of documentation, naming conventions, bugfixing, and performance improvement (e.g., through parallelization and vectorization)
- Enhanced collaboration with the bio-optical community
- Application in **teaching** and **training**?





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bio_optics is freely available at https://github.com/CMLandOcean/bio optics