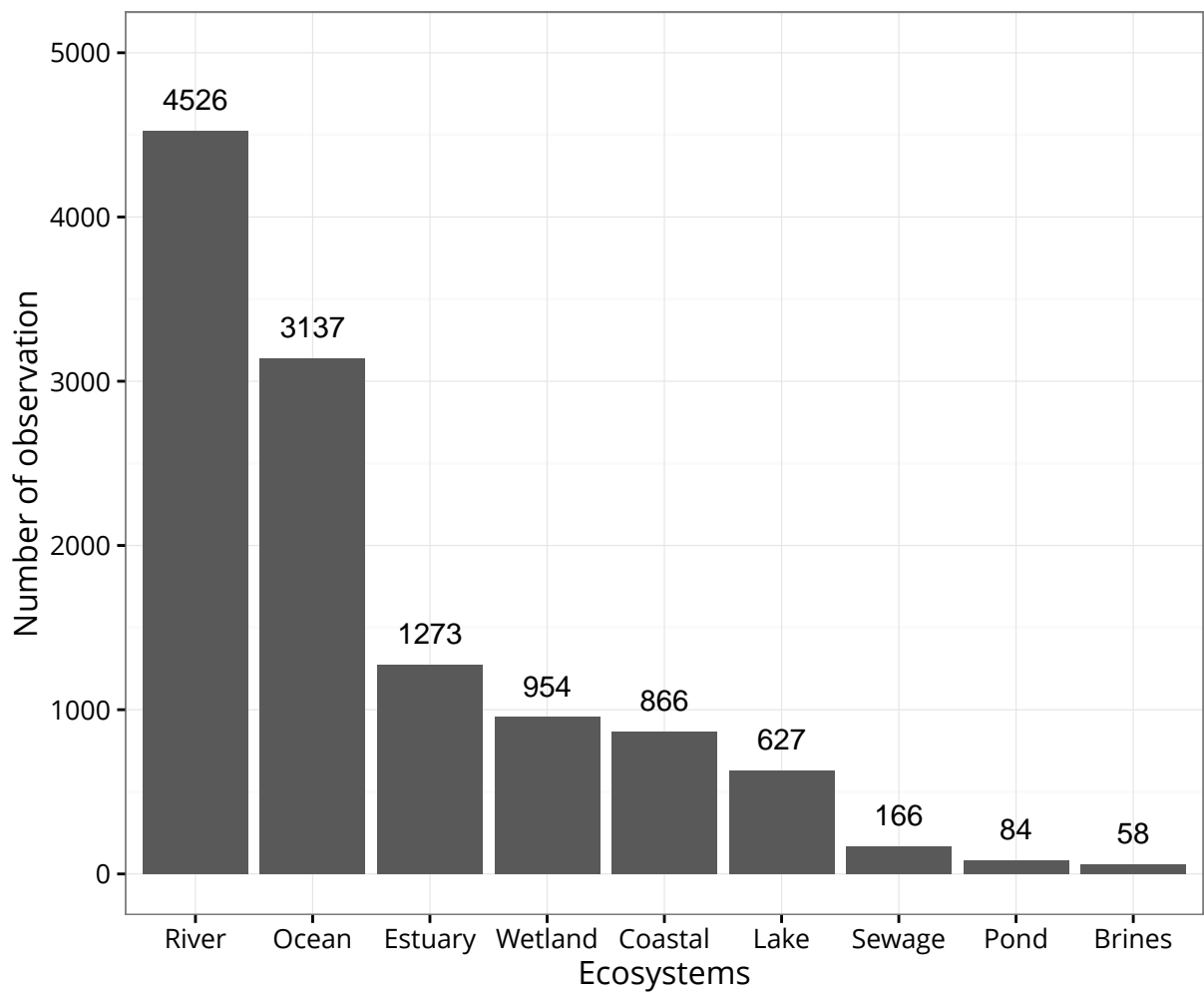
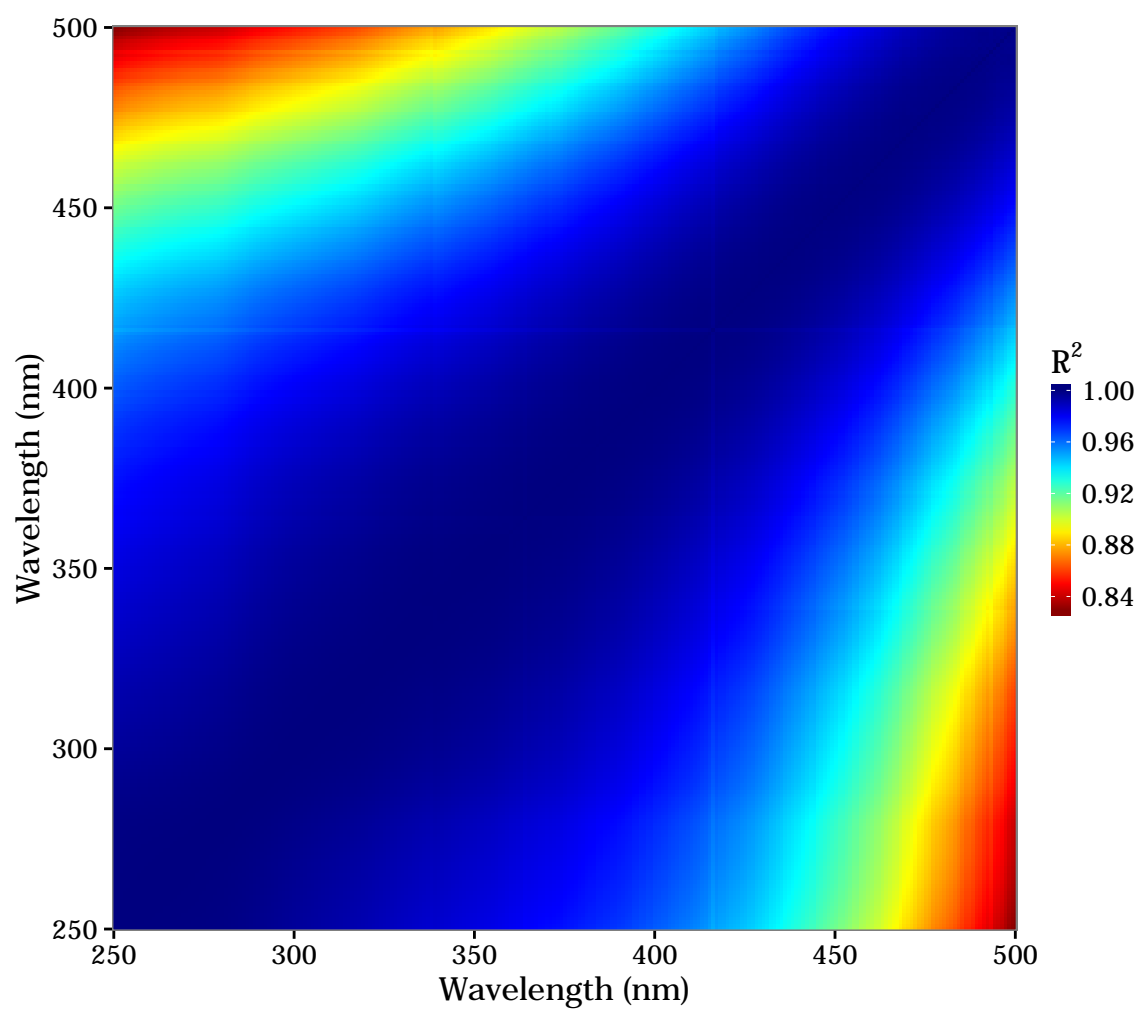


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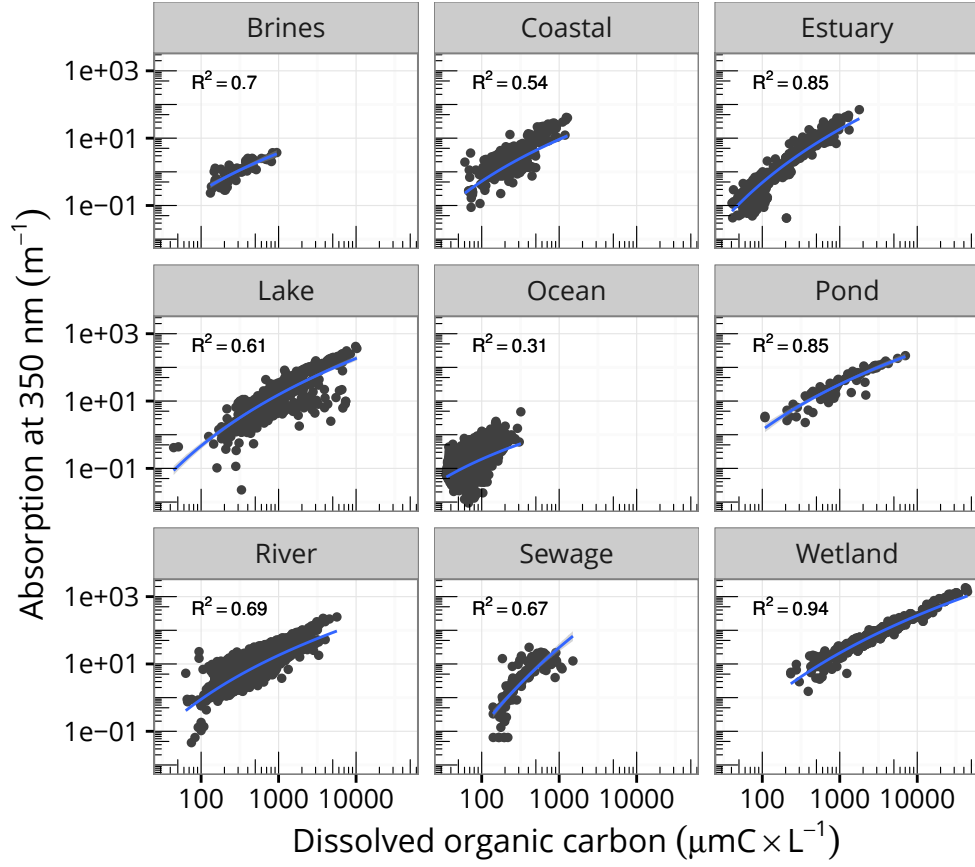
Supplementary materials



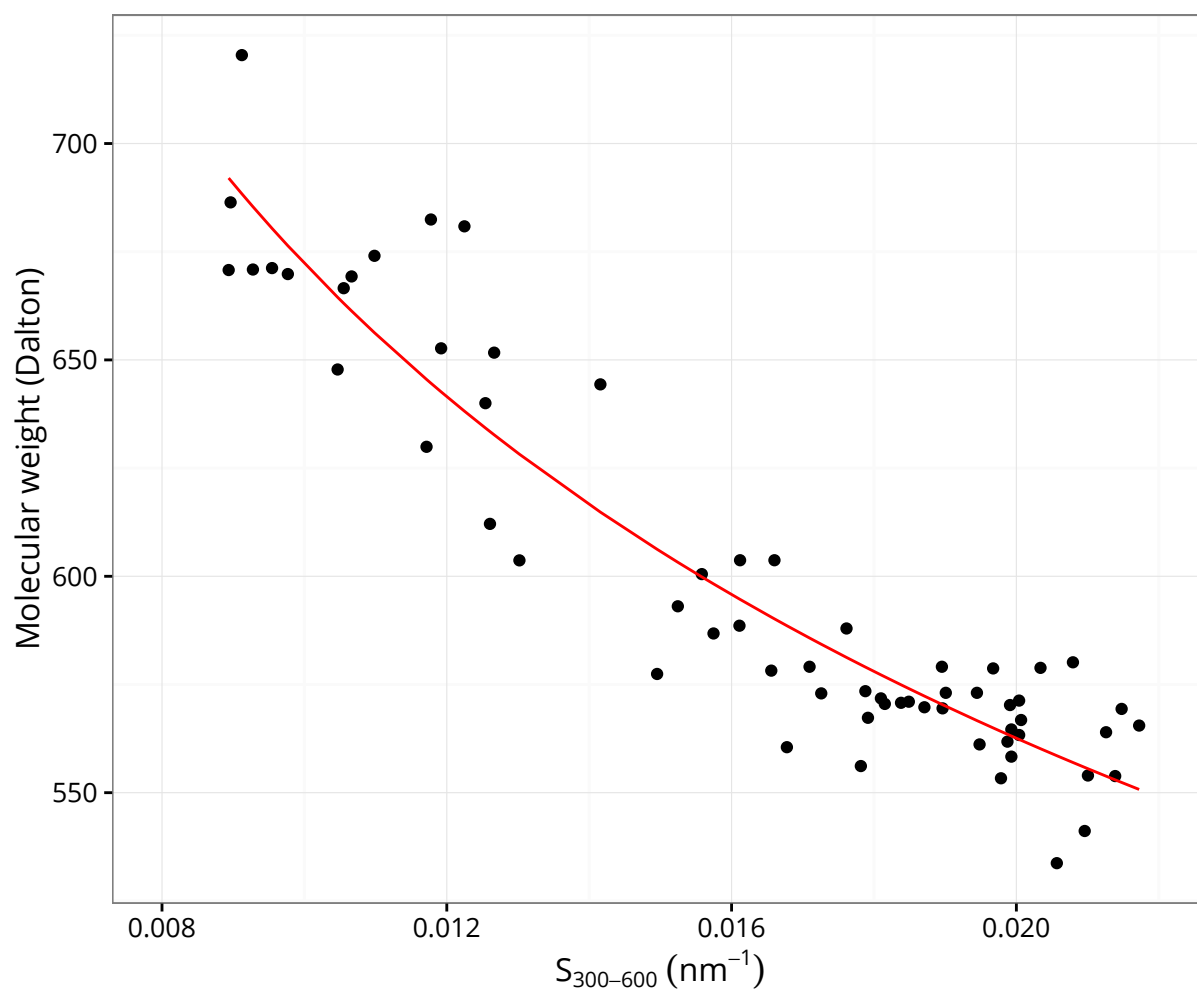
Supplementary Fig. 1: Barplot showing the number of unique observations in each ecosystem.



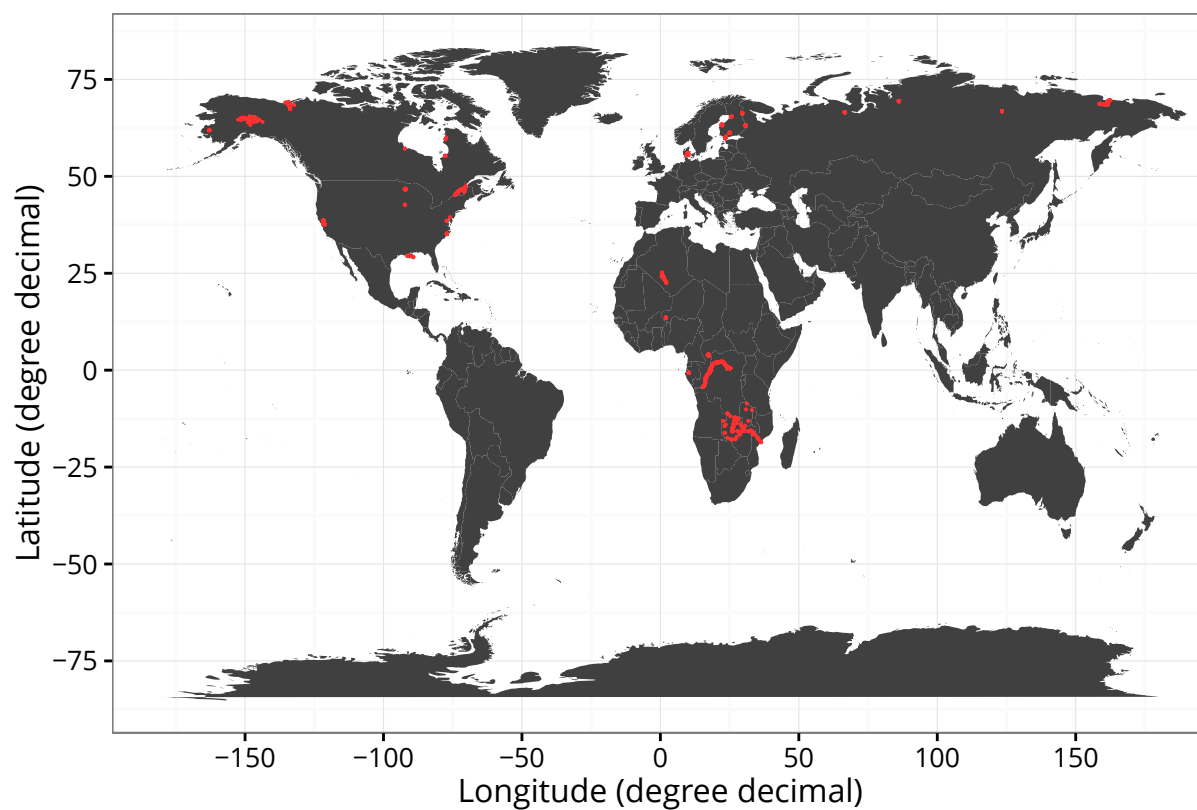
Supplementary Fig. 2: Heat map showing the determination coefficients (R^2) of the linear regressions between absorption values for each pair of wavelengths between 250 and 500 nm ($n = 63001$). Each regression is based on 2194 observations. Note that the diagonal of the plot shows $R^2 = 1$.



Supplementary Fig. 3: Log-linear relationship between $a_{CDOM}(350)$ and DOC divided by ecosystems. The blue line is the fitted values of a linear model $y = \log(x)$. The shaded areas represent the 95% confidence intervals. A total of 11562 observations are distributed across all panels (see supplementary Fig. 1 for details).



Supplementary Fig. 4: Power regression between molecular weight and spectral slope calculated between 300 and 600 nm ($S_{300-600}$). Data have been extracted from Stedmon 2015. One outlier was removed from the analysis. Equation of the model: $y = 205.81x^{-0.26}$, $R^2 = 0.88$, $n = 62$.



Supplementary Fig. 5: World map showing the river observations used to produce Fig. xxx.