# Expanding NOAA's ability to monitor and predict HAB events in western Lake Erie

Dr. Timothy Davis









### **NOAA's HAB Team**

### **Monitoring**

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### **Communications**

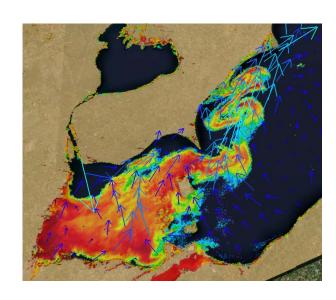
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Joe Smith

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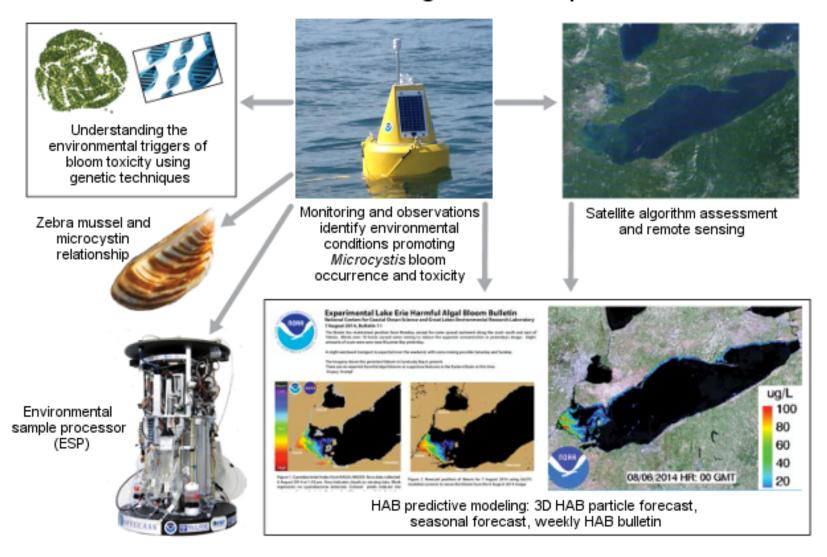




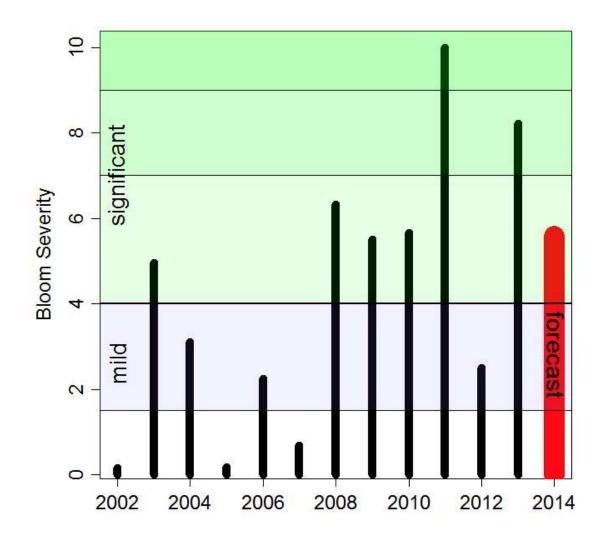


### NOAA uses an integrated approach to studying HABs

# Developing Predictive Models to Improve Coastal and Human Health and Beach Forecasting - HAB Component



### NOAA and academic partners predict bloom severity



The forecast uses a 12-year Lake Erie nutrient flow data set, collected by Heidelberg University's National Center for Water Quality Research, and analysis of satellite data from the European Space Agency's ENVISAT and NASA's Terra and Aqua satellites.

## Lake Erie Harmful Algal Bloom Summary

### **2014 HABs Summary**

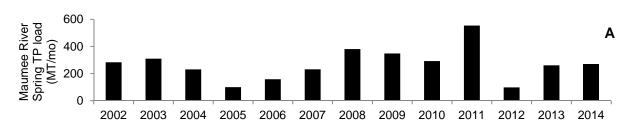
Bloom forecasts:

Stumpf – 38%

Obenour – 50%

of the 2011 bloom.

Average HAB extent in Western L. Erie Basin (derived from MODIS)	
2011	892 sq.km
2012	221 sq. km.
2013	676 sq. km
2014	470 sq. km



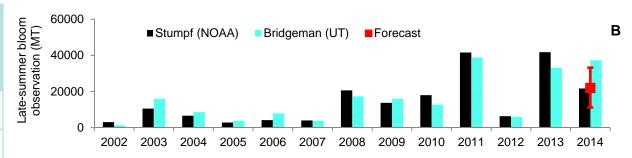


Figure: Spring TP loads (A) and western basin bloom observations (B) along with 2014 boom forecast and 95% predictive interval (red).

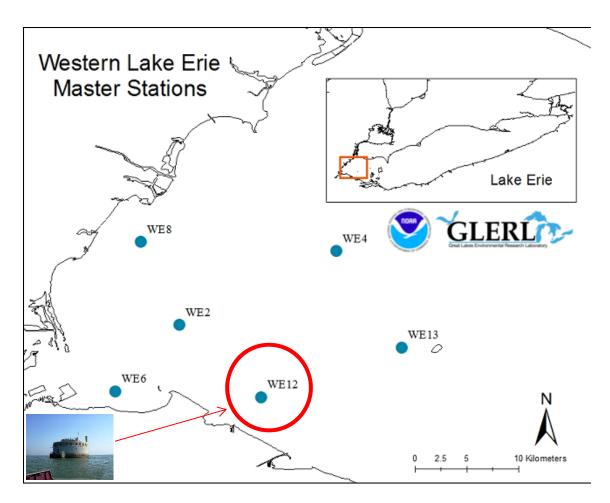
### **Summary:**

In July of 2014, researchers from University of Michigan and NOAA Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory (GLERL) forecasted a western basin Lake Erie cyanobacteria bloom of 22,000 metric tons dry weight (MT), with a 95% predictive interval of 11,000 to 33,000 MT. The average observed late-summer bloom intensity, derived from NOAA remote sensing and University of Toledo field sampling, was approximately 29,000 MT, in general agreement with the forecasted range.

# Weekly HAB sampling in Lake Erie

- June October
- Surface water samples
- Ground-truth for remote sensing (bloom extent, distribution)
- Parameters:
- Temperature
- Kpar
- CHN
- SRP
- Particulate P
- Total P
- $NO_3 + NO_2$
- NH<sub>3</sub>
- Fluorescence

- Chlorophyll
- Particulate and dissolved microcystins
- Phytoplankton community composition
- Phycocyanin
- DNA



### Western Lake Erie Real-time **HABs Monitoring**

### **Sensors:**

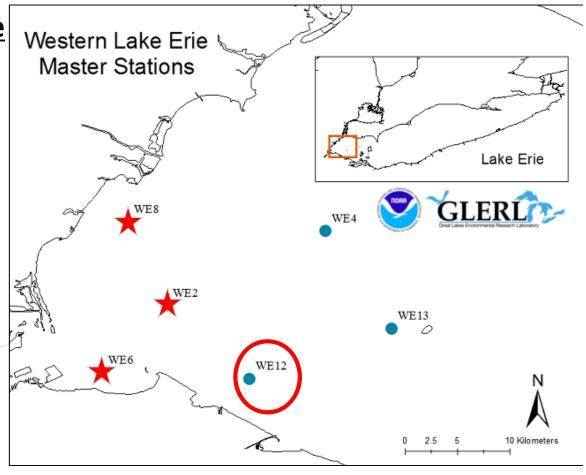
. Turner C6, Cyclops sensors

. Chlorophyll, Phycocyanin,

Turbidity, CDOM

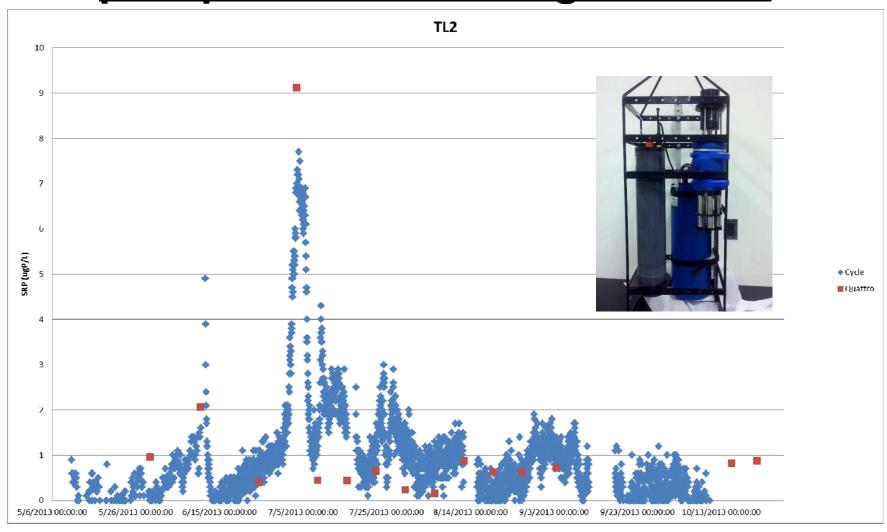


. Wetlabs Cycle -PO4



= Real-time observation station in 2014

# Continuous inorganic phosphorus monitoring at WLE 4



# Toledo water intake 2014 sampling data

The bloom was a typical bloom No other cyanotoxins were detected Cylindrospermopsins and anatoxins have been previously detected in Lake Erie No BMAAs were detected or have ever been detected in the Great Lakes Highlights the need for more research to further understand the ecology of HABs

- - = WHO guideline level for safe drinking water

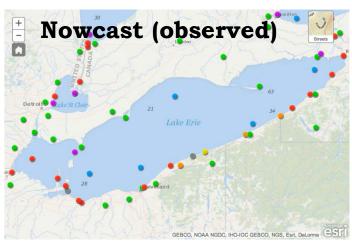
### Remote sensing of HABs in Lake Erie

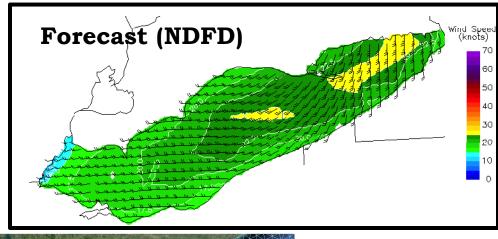


http://livingbetweenwednesdays.com/?p=486

MODIS satellite
estimates of chlorophyll
values for western Lake
Erie → capturing HABs

## Lake Erie hydrodynamic forecasts

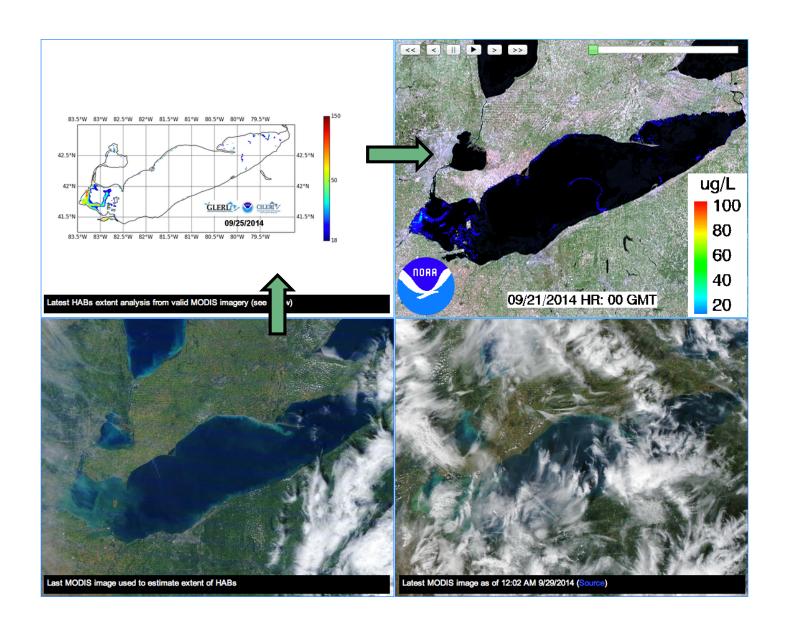




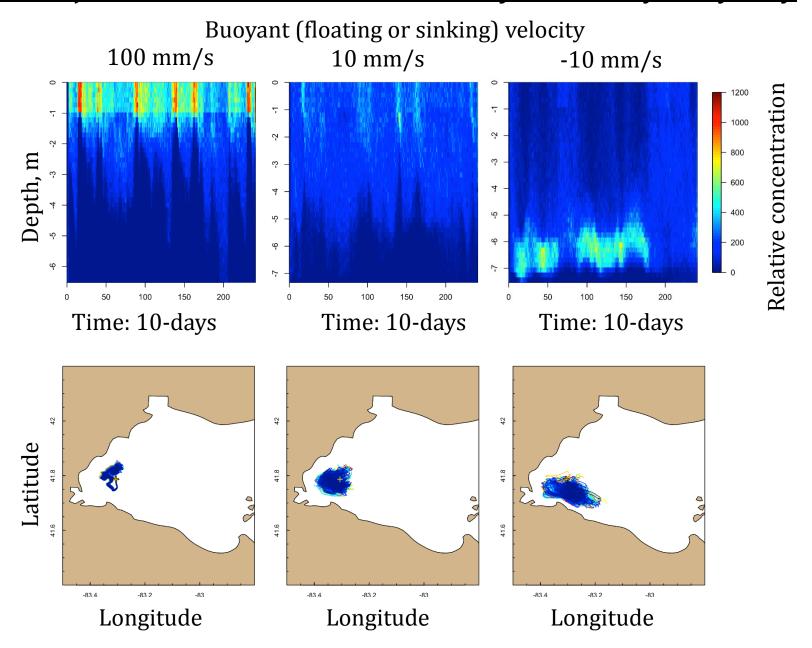
- Daily nowcast/forecast (120 hrs)
- Hourly currents
  - HAB advection



### NOAA-GLERL HAB Tracker



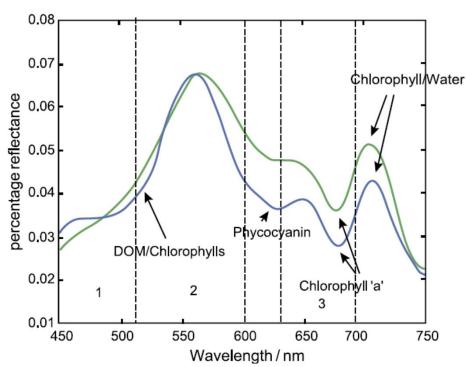
# Sensitivity of simulated HAB vertical concentration profiles and trajectories as a function of *Microcystis* colony buoyancy



# **HABs Flyovers**



- . Detect blooms near water intakes when satellite remote sensing products unavailable
- . Airborne Sensor: 400-900 nm, 2.1 nm res
- . GLRI funds available for 2015
- . Pursuing MERHAB for 2016-18

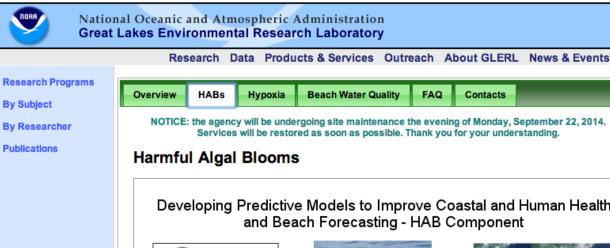


R. K. Vincent et al., *Remote Sensing of Environment*, **89** (2004) 381-392.

# **NOAA-GLERL HAB webpage**

FAQ

Contacts



GLERL

**National Poison Control** Center: 1-800-222-1222

### Additional HAB Resources

Overview of guidelines on algal toxins

Latest Lake Erie HABs Bulletin

Lake Erie HAB Bulletin Sign Up

Lake Erie HAB Bulletin Archive

Algal Bloom Images (GLERL

Great Lakes MODIS Satellite Imagery

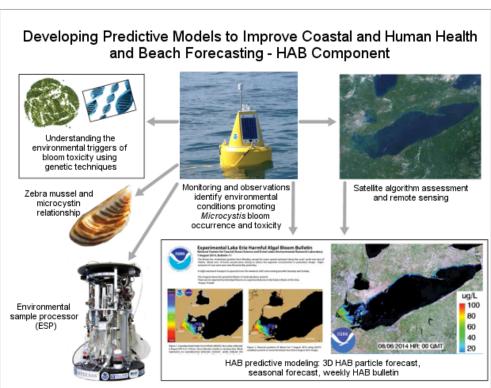
Western Lake Erie Microcystin concentration sampling data.

Lake Erie HABs Tracker

Other HABs resources

### **Brochures and Factsheets**

Harmful Algal Blooms in the Great Lakes: What they are and how they can affect your health (.pdf)



### Experimental Lake Erie Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science and Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory

The microcystis bloom has intensified since last Thursday, and the area covered by medium to high concentrations (green to red) has increased. Calm winds have allowed the bloom to concentrate near surface; patches of scum were present in the areas of high concentration.

Today and Tuesday expect slight northeast transport (away from the Maumee Bay area). However, this pattern will change and light southward transport is expected through the end of the week. Mixing is expected to be weak.

The imagery shows the persistent bloom in Sandusky Bay is present.

There are no reported harmful algal blooms or suspicious features in the Eastern Basin at this time.

### -Dupuy Stumpf

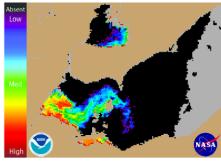


Figure 1. Cvanobacterial Index from NASA's MODIS-Agua data collected 3 August 2014 at 1:10 pm. Grey indicates clouds or missing data. Black represents no cyanobacteria detected. Colored pixels indicate the presence of cyanobacteria. Cooler colors (blue and purple) indicate low concentrations and warmer colors (red, orange, and yellow) indicate high concentrations. The estimated threshold for cyanobacteria detection is 35,000 cells/mL.

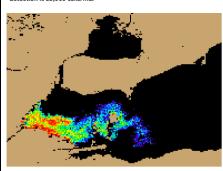


Figure 3. Forecast position of bloom for 7 August 2014 using GLCFS modeled currents to move the bloom from the 3 August 2014 image.

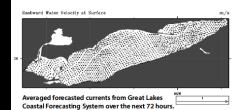
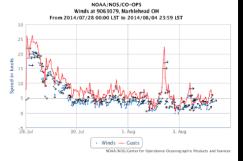
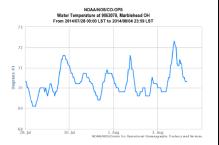


Figure 2. Nowcast position of bloom for 4 August 2014 using GLCFS modeled currents to move the bloom from the 3 August 2014 image.



Wind Speed, Gusts and Direction from Marblehead, OH. From: NOAA/Center for Operational Oceanographic Products and Services (CO-OPS). Note: 1 knot = 0.51444 m/s. Blooms mix through the water column at wind speeds greater than 7.7 m/sec (~ 15 knots).



Water Temperature from Marblehead, OH. From: NOAA/Center for Operational Oceanographic Products and Services (CO-OPS).

Supported by the NASA Applied Sciences Health and Air Quality Program. For more information and to subscribe to this bulletin, go to: http://www.glerl.noaa.gov/res/Centers/HABS/lake\_erie\_hab/lake\_erie\_hab.html

### Cyanobacteria Assessment Network (CyAN)

Getting satellite ocean color capabilities into U.S. water quality mgmt decisions collaboration of EPA Office of Water; NOAA Natl Centers Coastal Ocean Science; NASA; USGS

### **Partners**

- **EPA Office of Water** 
  - Office of Wetlands, Oceans, and Watershe
  - Office of Wastewater Management
  - Office of Science and Technology
- **EPA Regions**
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- States
  - Ohio EPA
  - St. Johns River WMD
  - S. Florida WMD









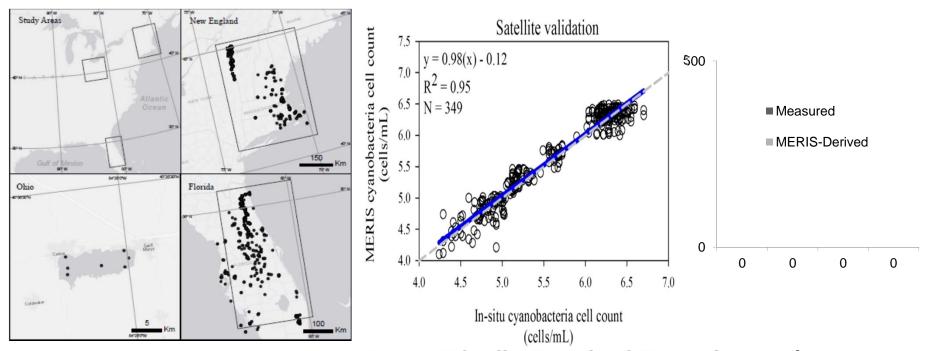


### <u>Validation of Lake Erie algorithm for other areas with</u> <u>EPA; start of Cyanobacteria Assessment Network</u>

### Remote Sensing

- Uniform and systematic approach for identifying cyanobacteria blooms.
  - Second derivative spectral shape algorithms (SS; Wynne et al. 2008)

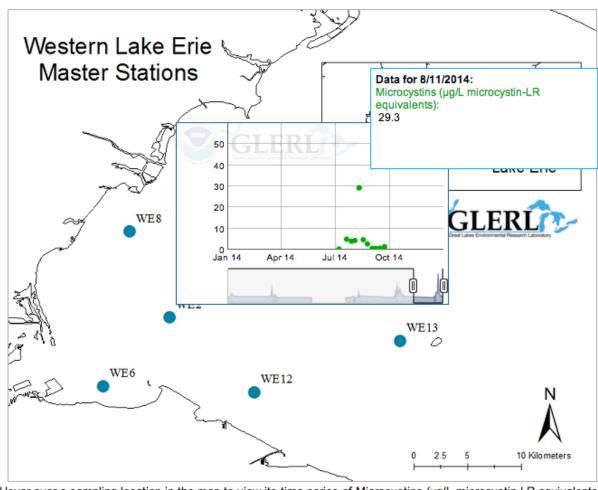
$$SS(\lambda) = \rho_s(\lambda) - \rho_s(\lambda) + \{\rho_s(\lambda) - \rho_s(\lambda)\} * \frac{(\lambda - \lambda)}{(\lambda + \lambda)}$$



Lunetta, Schaeffer, Stumpf et al. Remote Sensing of Environment

## **NOAA- GLERL microcystins data**

### Microcystin estimates from western lake Erie

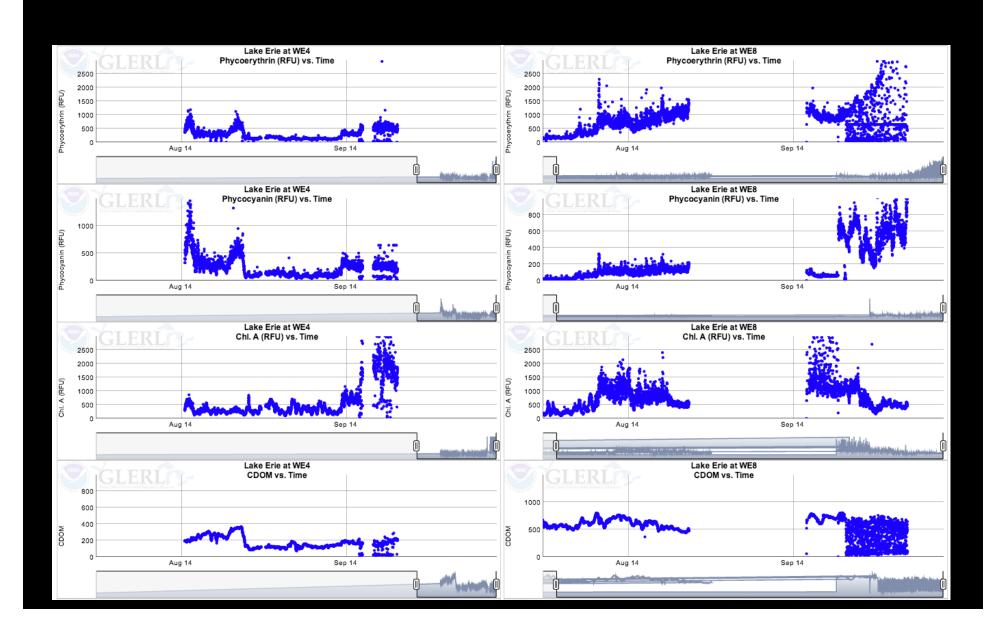


Hover over a sampling location in the map to view its time series of Microcystins (μg/L microcystin-LR equivalents).

Click on the map to close the chart.

Year to display (for time series plot): 2014 ‡

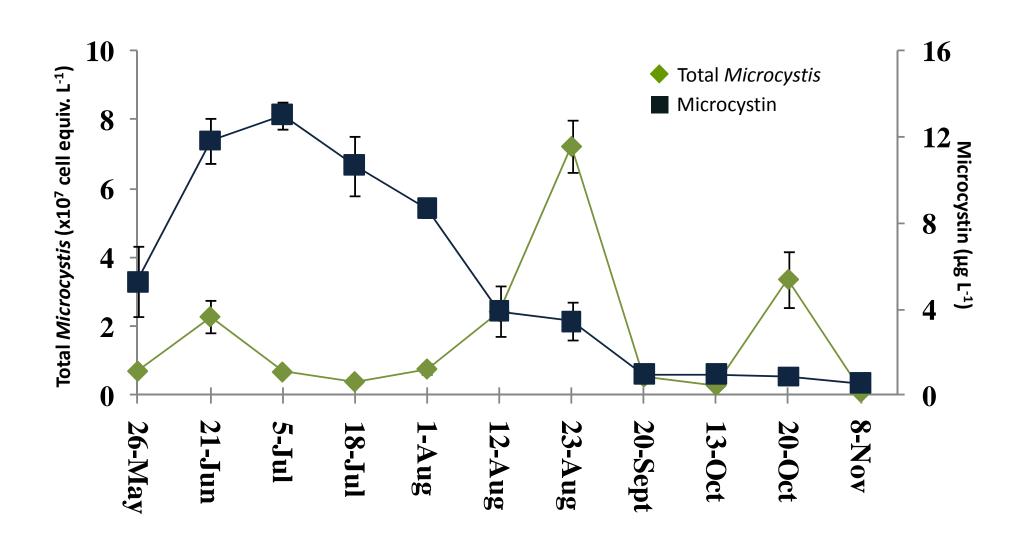
# Water quality data



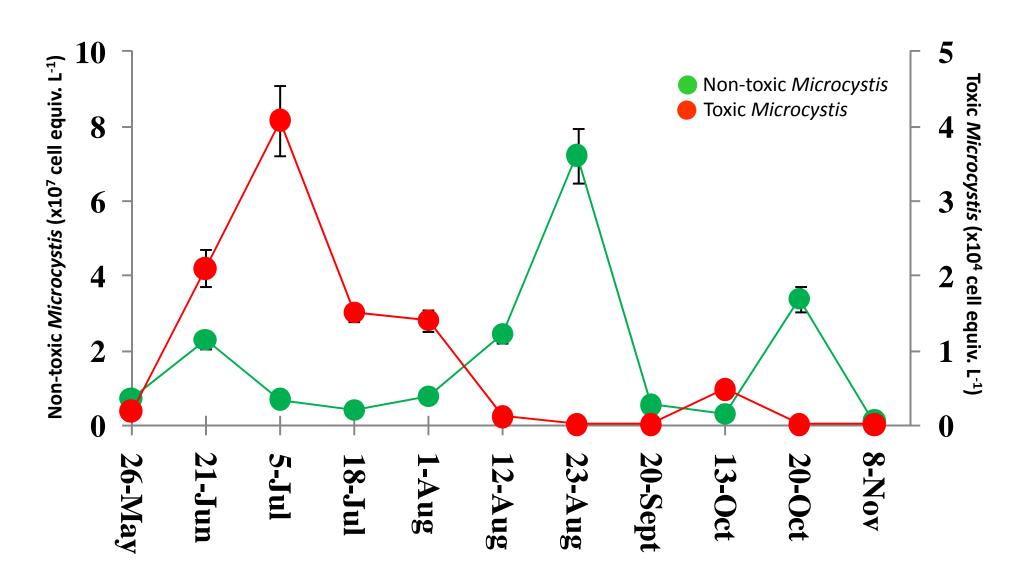
## Overarching research statement:

Understanding the driver of bloom toxicity will aid in enhancing predictive models that forecast bloom size, location AND toxicity

### Total Microcystis and microcystin



## Toxic and non-toxic Microcystis



### Toxic Microcystis and microcystin



Toxic (*mcyD*-containing) *Microcystis* is a better predictor of microcystin concentrations than either of the parameters currently suggested by WHO.

Davis et al., 2009; Harmful Algae

20-Oct

20-Sept

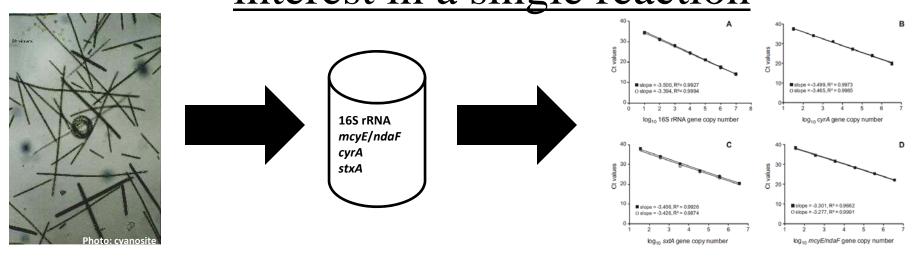
23-Aug

1-Aug

21-Jul

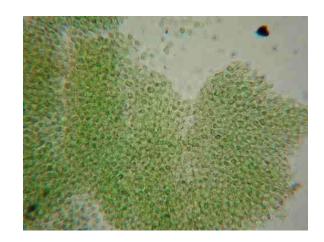
26-May

# Multiplex qPCR: quantifying multiple genes of interest in a single reaction

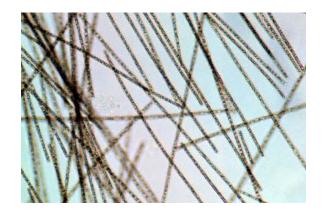


# Multiplex qPCR: understanding competition among CHAB species in the Great Lakes

- This proposed work would be a continuation of my current grant
- In Lake Erie, cylindrospermopsin, anatoxin, and microcystin have been detected
- The specie(s) responsible for the production of CYN and ATX are currently unknown
  - CYN production: Cylindrospermopsis or Aphanizomenon?
- Would significantly enhance models aimed at predicating bloom toxicity
- Conducting mechanistic experiments that would help elucidate the competition between potential cyanotoxin producers







### Elucidating ecological adaptions of Great Lakes CHAB species

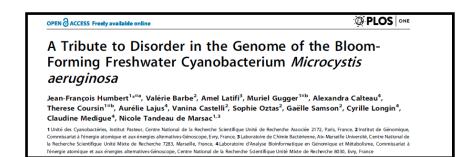
- Microcystis blooms (Western Basin Lake Erie, Lake St. Clair, Green Bay, Hamilton Harbor) Anabanea blooms (Cleveland area & Western Basin of LE, Bay of Quinte) and Planktothrix blooms in Sandusky Bay
- Isolation of Great Lake HAB species from major bloomforming genera
- Controlled laboratory experiments investigating the competition between species under varying environmental conditions
- Further understating the interactive roles of light, nutrients, and temperature on toxin production and community composition
- This would involve investigating the molecular response of these phytoplankton to different environmental variables (light, nutrient, temperature, CO<sub>2</sub>) on a global level (comparative genomic/transcriptomic studies)





### Omics of Great Lakes CHAB species

- Very few Great Lake HAB genomes have been sequenced
- Understanding the global response of HAB species to environmental stressors
- Comparative genomics of toxic and non-toxic strains
- Laboratory and field experiments aimed at elucidating the transcriptomic response of individual strains and the overall community to changes in the physical and chemical environment
- 13 strains of Great lakes CHAB species sequenced







Global Transcriptional Responses of the Toxic Cyanobacterium, *Microcystis aeruginosa*, to Nitrogen Stress, Phosphorus Stress, and Growth on Organic Matter

Matthew J. Harke, Christopher J. Gobler\*

School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences, Stony Brook University, Stony Brook, New York, United States of America

Tonietto et al. Proteome Science 2012, 10:38



### RESEARCH

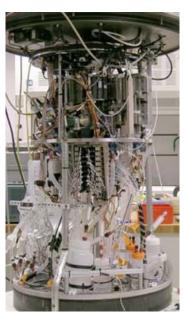
Open Access

Comparative proteomics between natural Microcystis isolates with a focus on microcystin synthesis

Ângela Tonietto¹, Bernardo A Petriz¹, Wérika C Araújo¹, Ângela Mehta², Beatriz S Magalhães¹ and Octávio L Franco¹.3\*

### Autonomous real-time toxin detection for Lake Erie

- EPA-GLRI supplemental funds
- Environmental Sample Processor (ESP; Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute)
- Would be able to track blooms toxicity at a resolution that was previously unattainable with traditional sampling
- Will be referenced against physical, chemical and biological conditions
- Will be extremely valuable in the development of more accurate bloom forecasting models





Photos: Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute



