

# Polarization signatures of nano- and micro-plastics suspended in the water column simulated at the water surface and top-of-atmosphere levels

Tristan Harmel

Olivier Burggraaff

Shungu Garaba

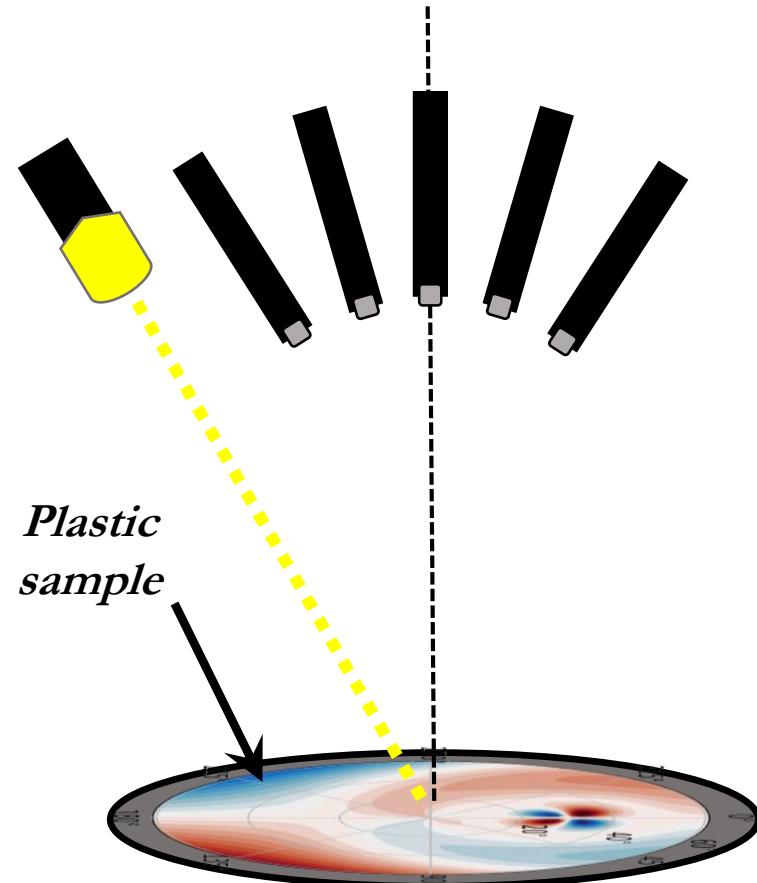
Robert Foster

Paolo Corradi

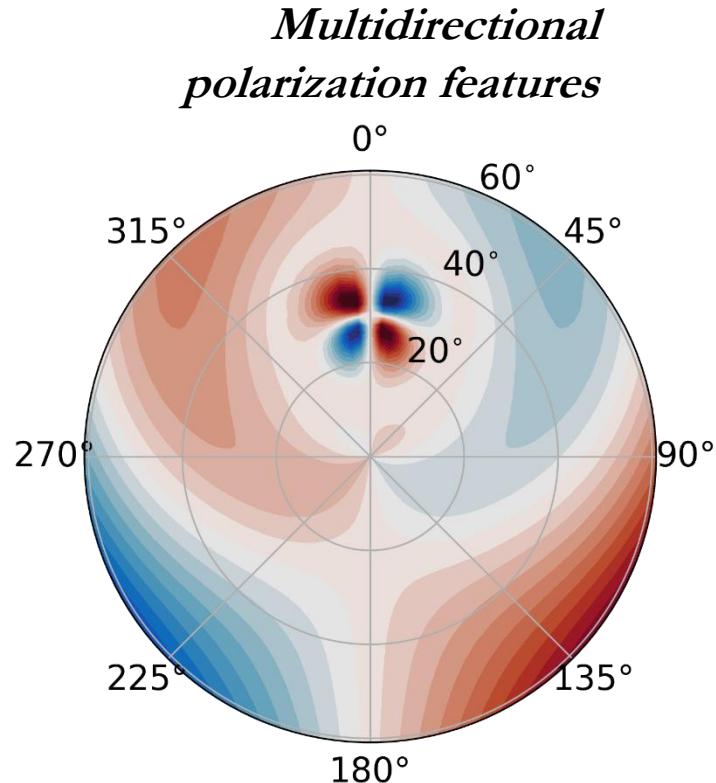


Universiteit  
Leiden





Lab Experiment



Theoretical Modeling

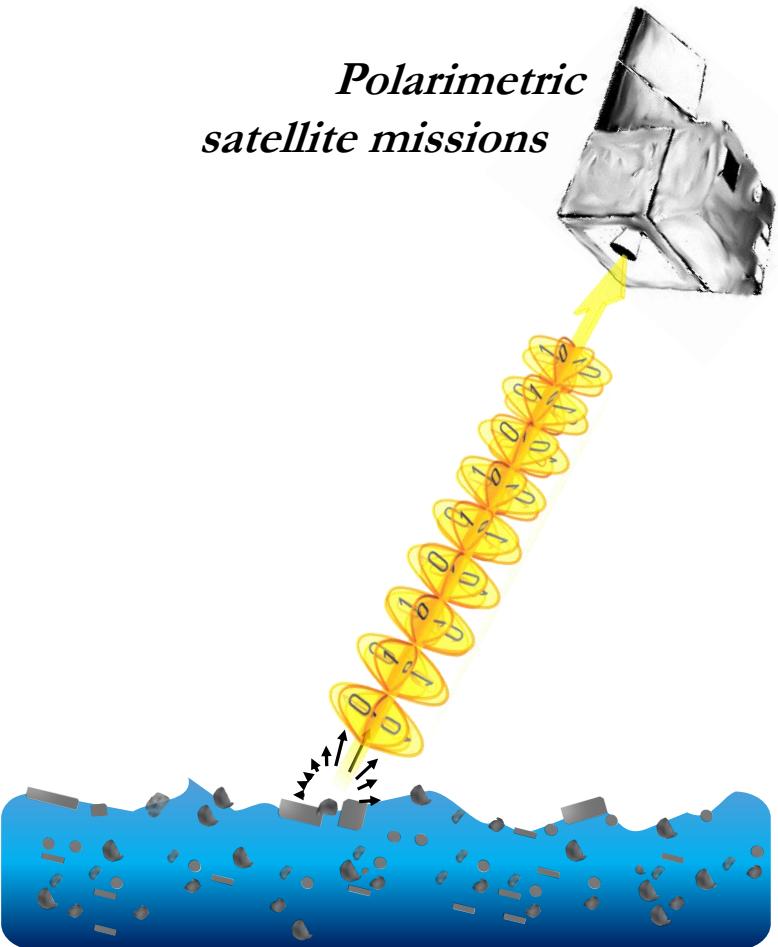
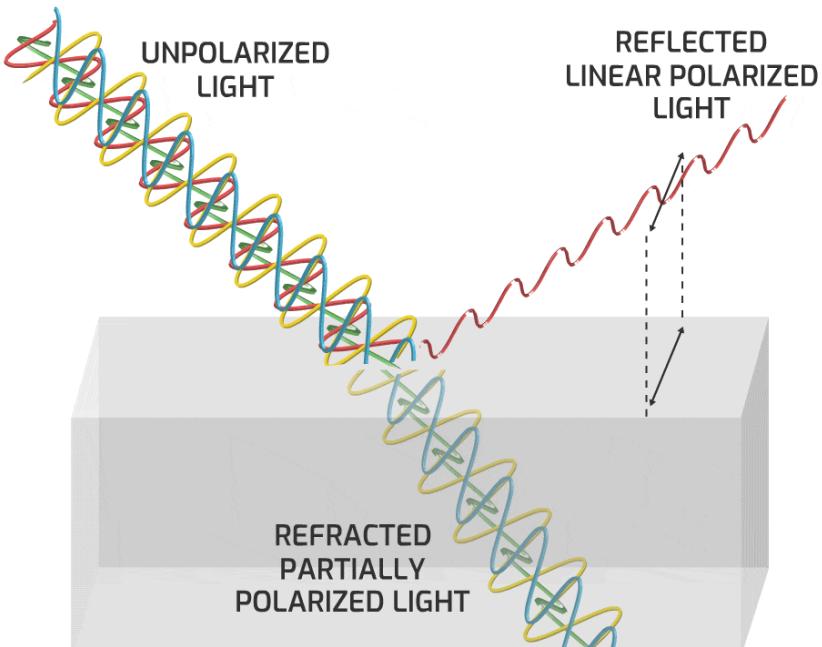
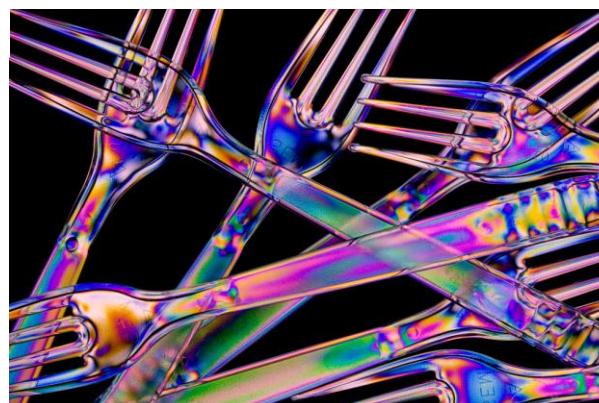
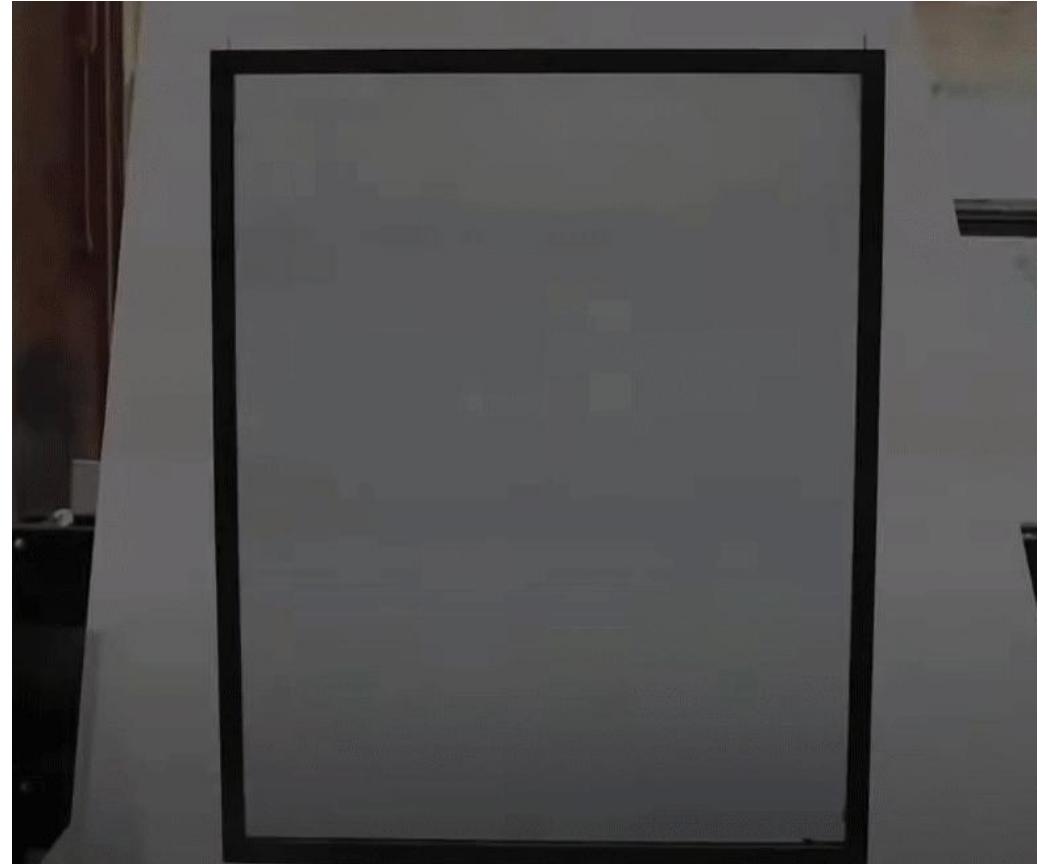


Image Interpretation

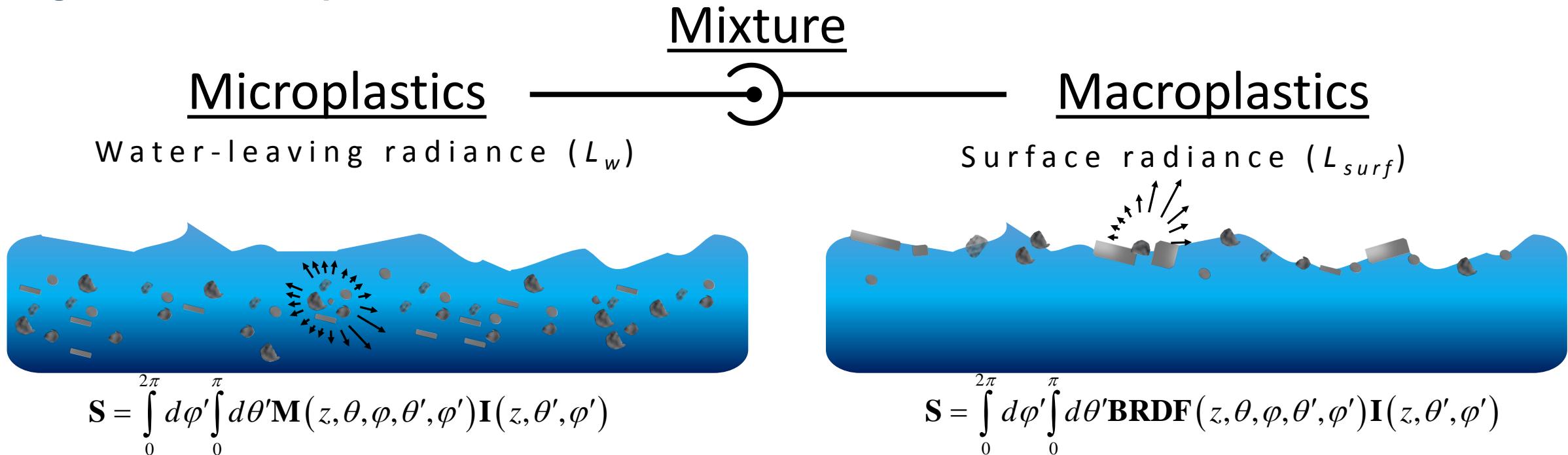
# Why Polarization?



From <https://thinklucid.com/>



## Posing the radiometric problem

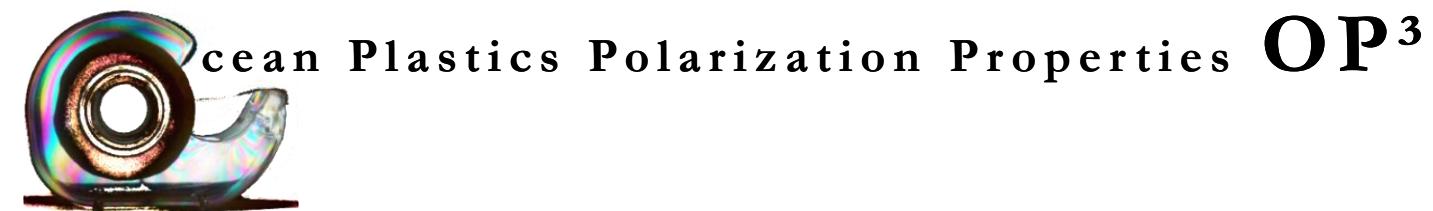


Need to document angularly and spectrally:

Scattering matrix **M**

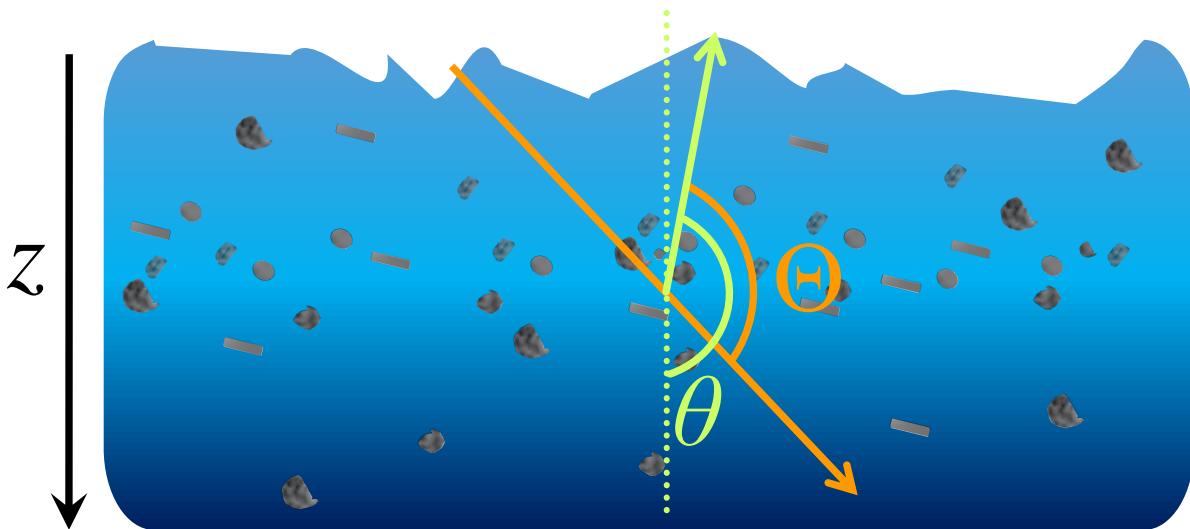
Reflection matrix **BRDF**

→ Forward model → Remote sensing exploitation



## Posing the radiometric problem

Radiative Transfer Equation\* (RTE)



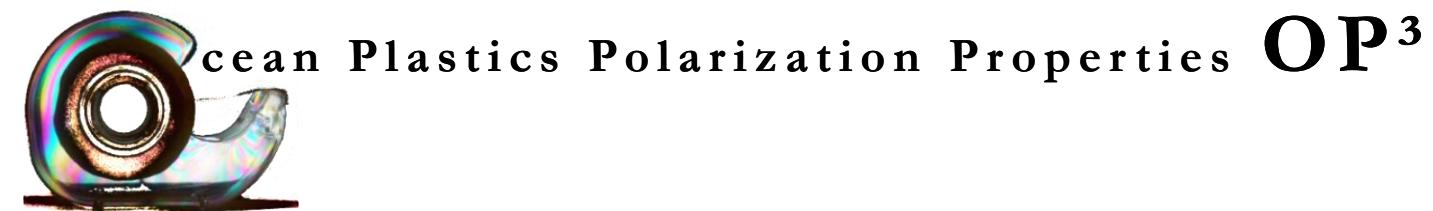
$$\cos \theta \frac{dI(z, \theta)}{dz} = -c(z)I(z, \theta) + \int_0^{\pi} VSF(z, \Theta)I(z, \Theta)\sin \Theta d\Theta$$

$$c = a + b$$

absorption + scattering

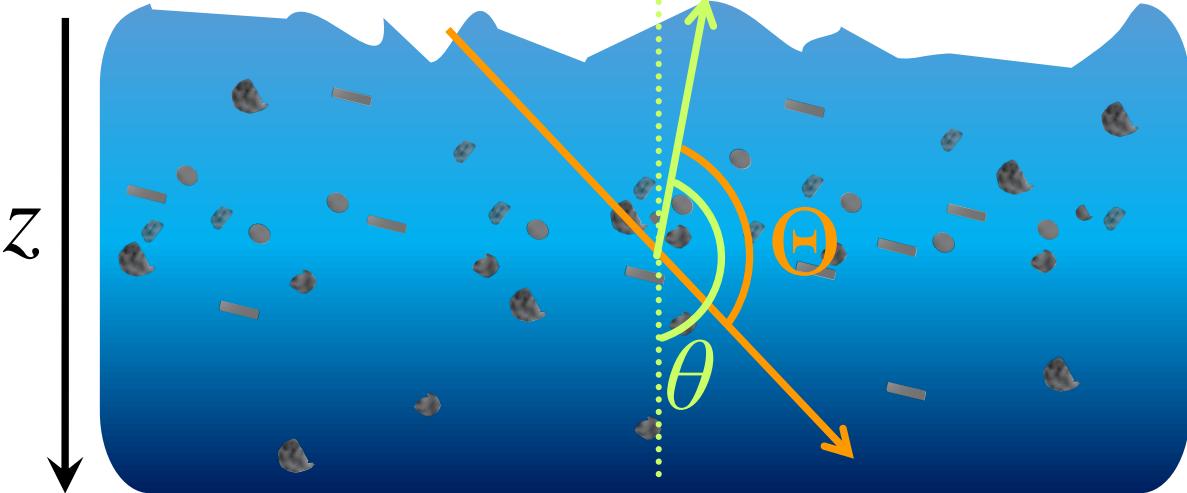
$$b = 2\pi \int_0^{\pi} VSF(\Theta)\sin \Theta d\Theta$$

\*simplified



## Posing the radiometric problem

Vector Radiative Transfer Equation\* (VRTE:  
with polarization)



$$\cos \theta \frac{d\mathbf{I}(z, \theta)}{dz} = -c(z)\mathbf{I}(z, \theta) + \int_0^\pi \mathbf{M}(z, \Theta)\mathbf{I}(z, \Theta)\sin \Theta d\Theta$$

$$\cos \theta \frac{d\mathbf{I}(z, \theta)}{dz} = -c(z)\mathbf{I}(z, \theta) + \mathbf{S}$$

Source function to be documented

Stokes Vector

$$\mathbf{I} = \begin{pmatrix} I \\ Q \\ U \\ V \end{pmatrix}$$

Mueller Matrix

$$\mathbf{M} = \begin{pmatrix} m_{11} & \dots & m_{14} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ m_{41} & \dots & m_{44} \end{pmatrix}$$

\*simplified

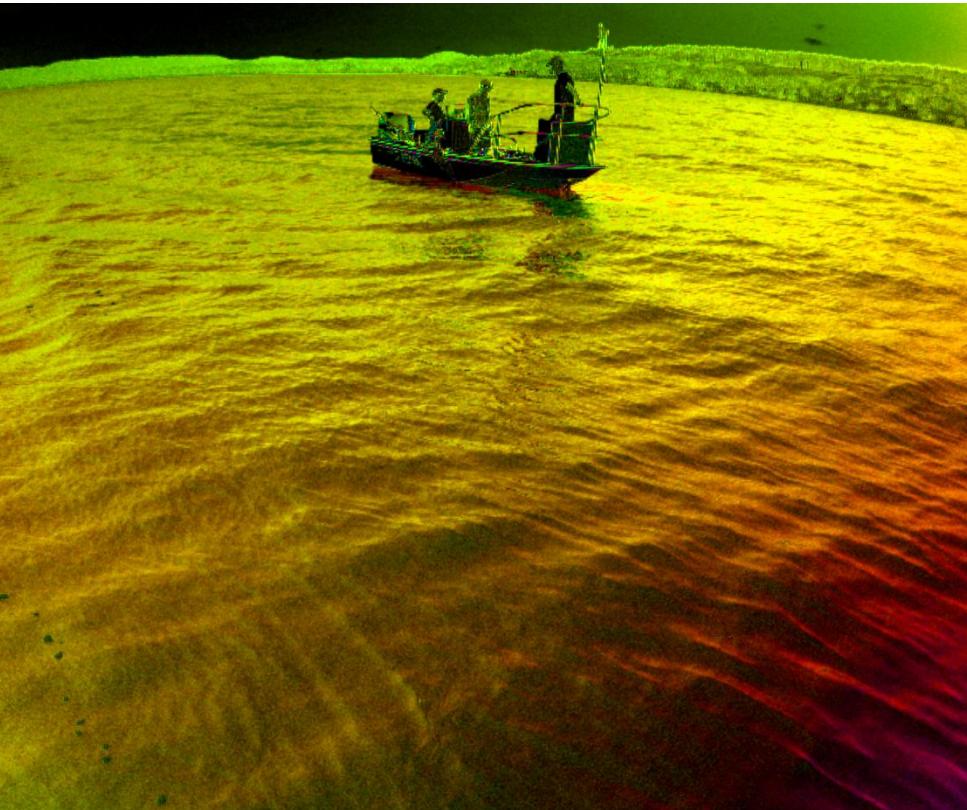
**FLIR camera**



## Degree of Linear Polarization

**Brightness**

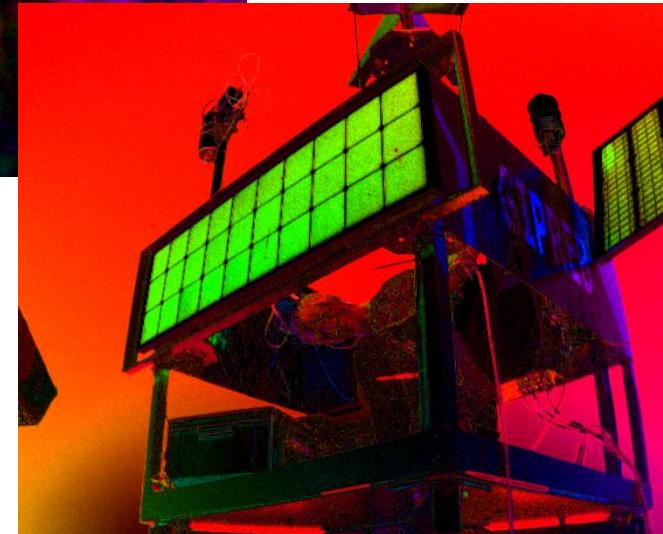
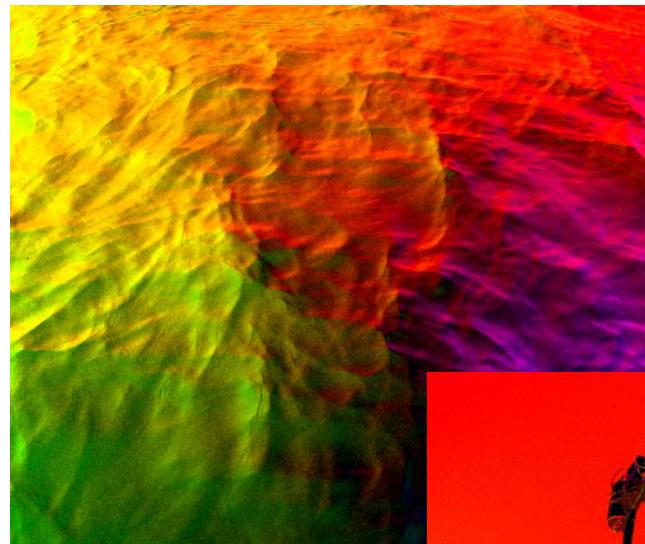
$$DoLP = \frac{\sqrt{Q^2 + U^2}}{I}$$



## Angle of Linear Polarization

**Hue**

$$AoLP = \frac{1}{2} \arctan\left(-\frac{U}{Q}\right)$$

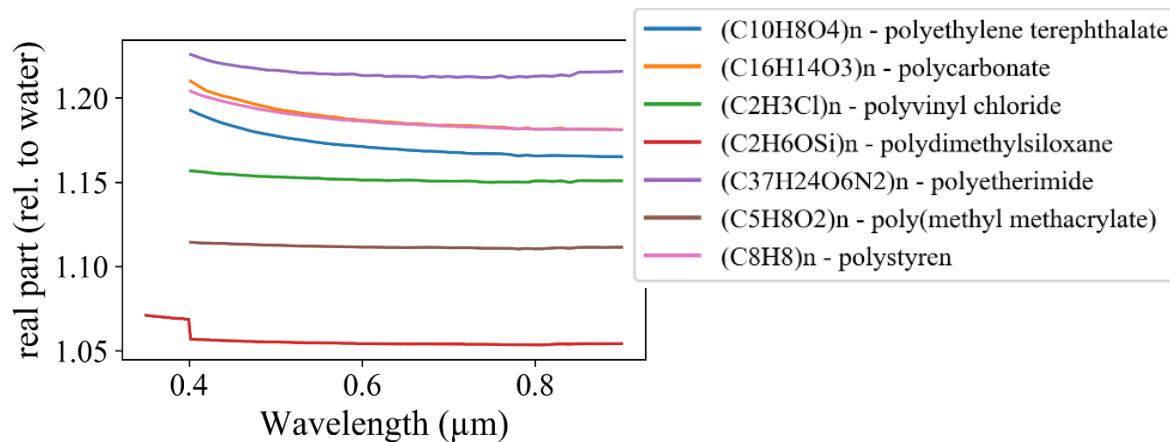


Field Campaign (PIs: Doxaran, Harmel, Gernez, Tormos)  
Lake Berre (France), HYPERNETS station



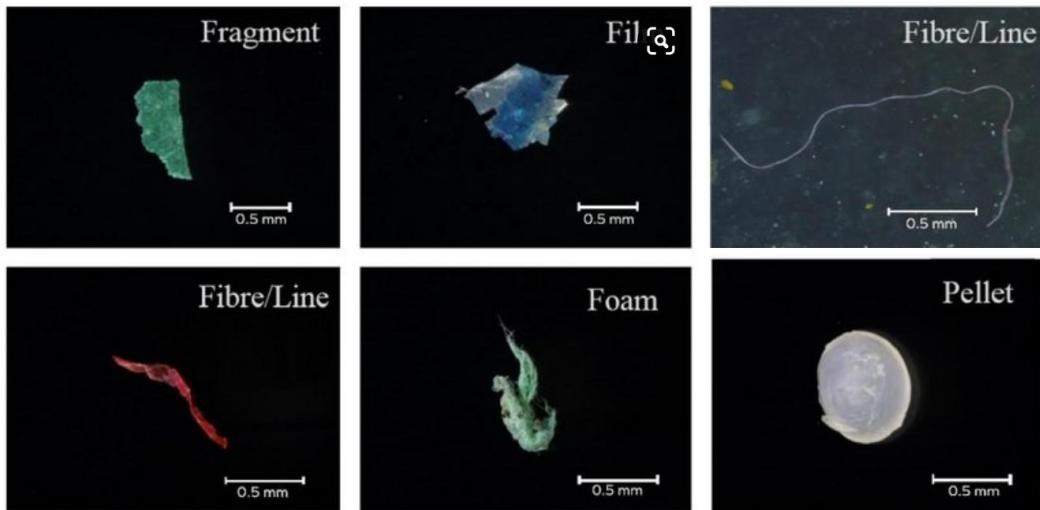
# ~plastic optical properties...What matters?

## Refractive index

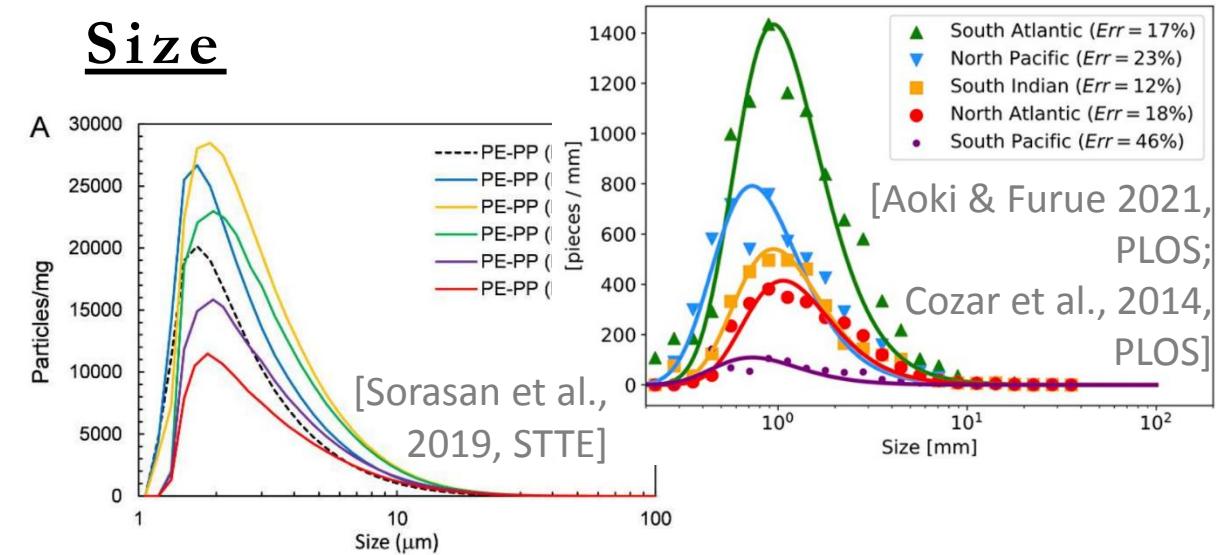


## Shape

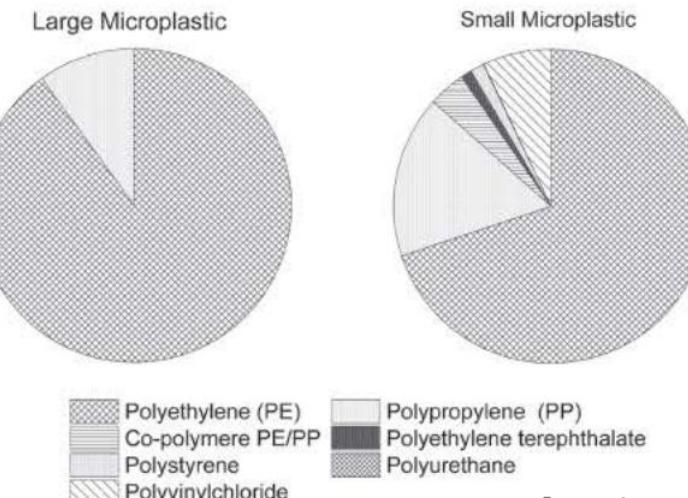
(from Robin et al., 2019, STTE)



## Size



## Composition/mixture

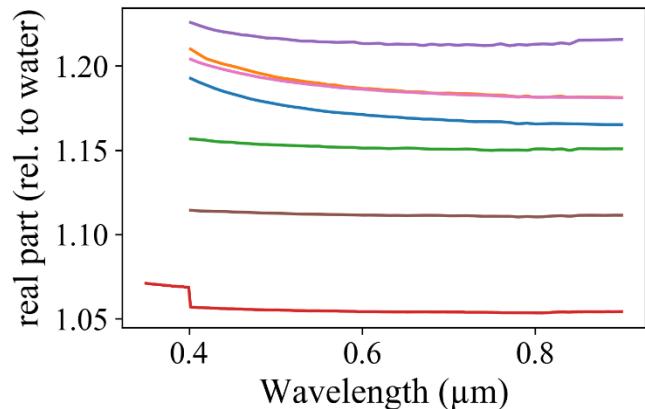


[Poulain et al., 2019, EST]



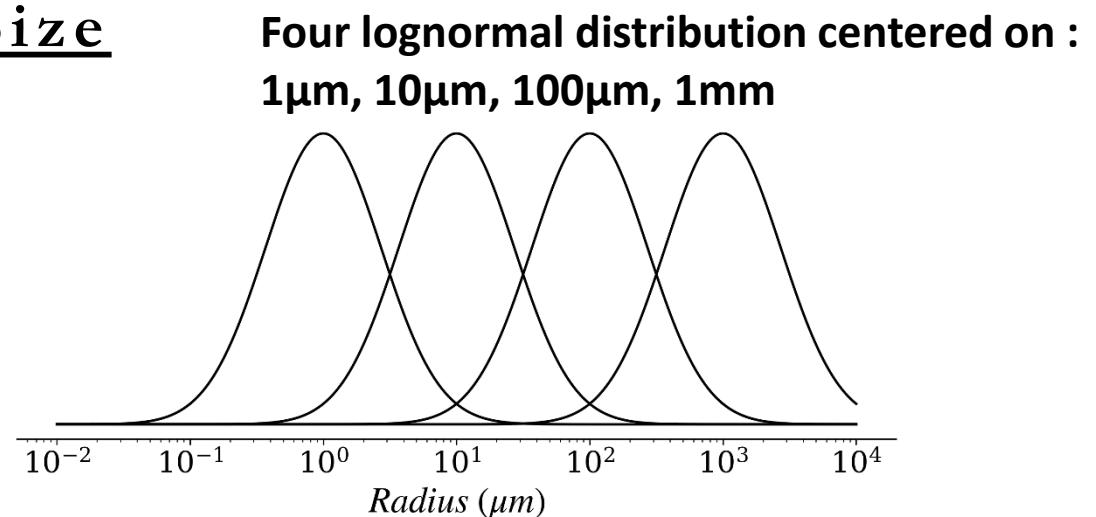
# ~plastic optical properties...Assumptions

## Refractive index



All the refractive indices  
from 1.05 to 1.22  
But imaginary part = 0  
(i.e., no absorption)

## Size



Four lognormal distribution centered on :  
 $1\mu\text{m}$ ,  $10\mu\text{m}$ ,  $100\mu\text{m}$ ,  $1\text{mm}$

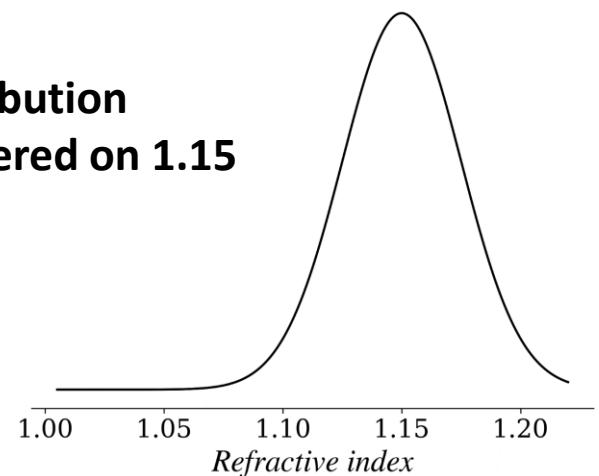
## Shape

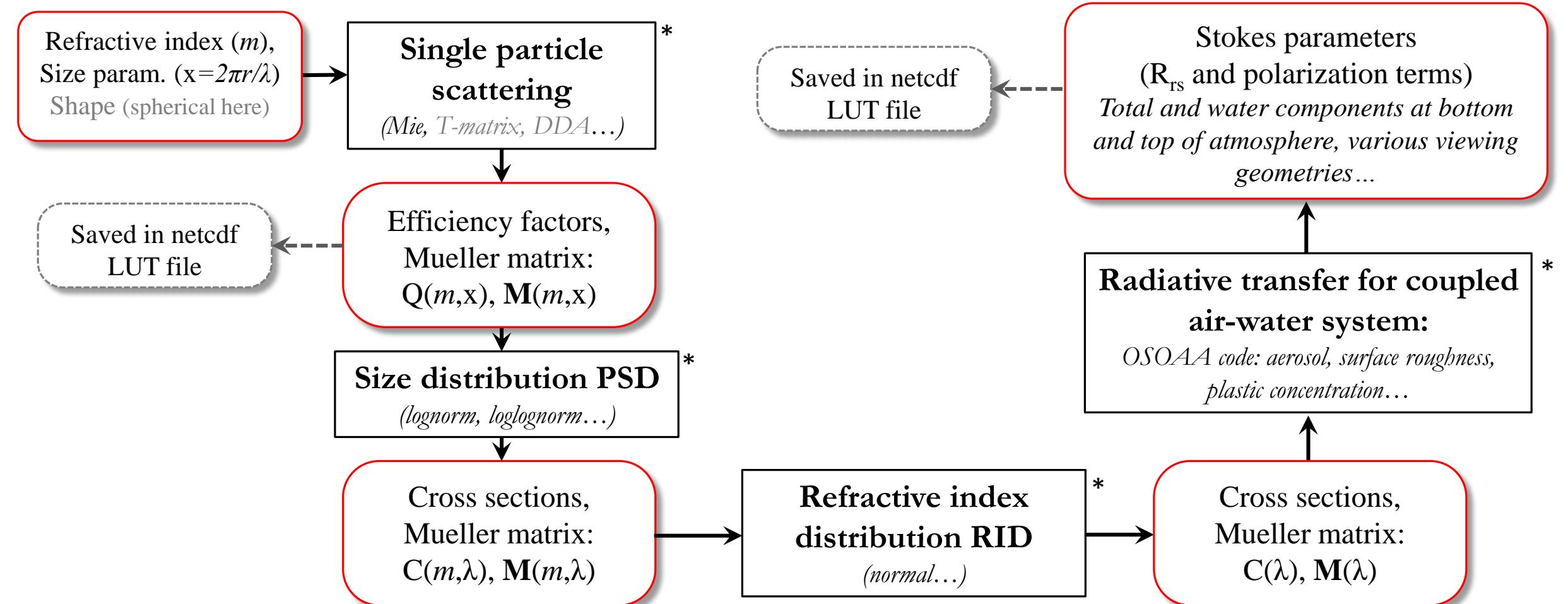
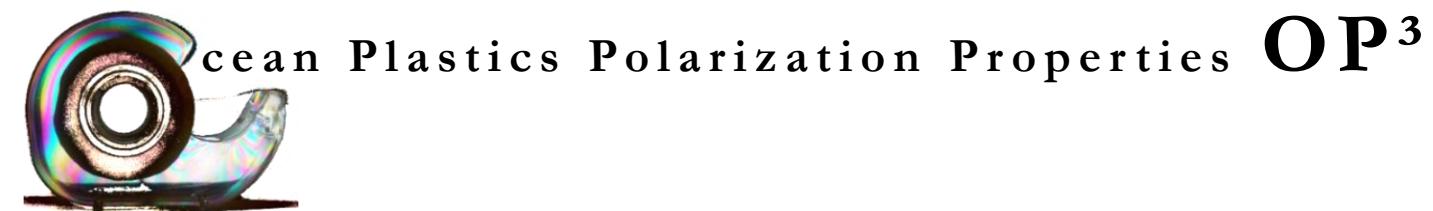
Homogeneous spheres



## Composition/mixture

Via refractive index distribution  
Normal distribution centered on 1.15





\*All the computations were performed in *multiproc* mode (Number of CPU = 40)



# Ocean Plastics Polarization Properties OP<sup>3</sup>

Refractive index:  
1.005:0.005:1.220,  
Size param.(x=2πr/λ):  
0.1:40000

## Single particle scattering

Saved in netcdf  
LUT file

### Mueller Matrix

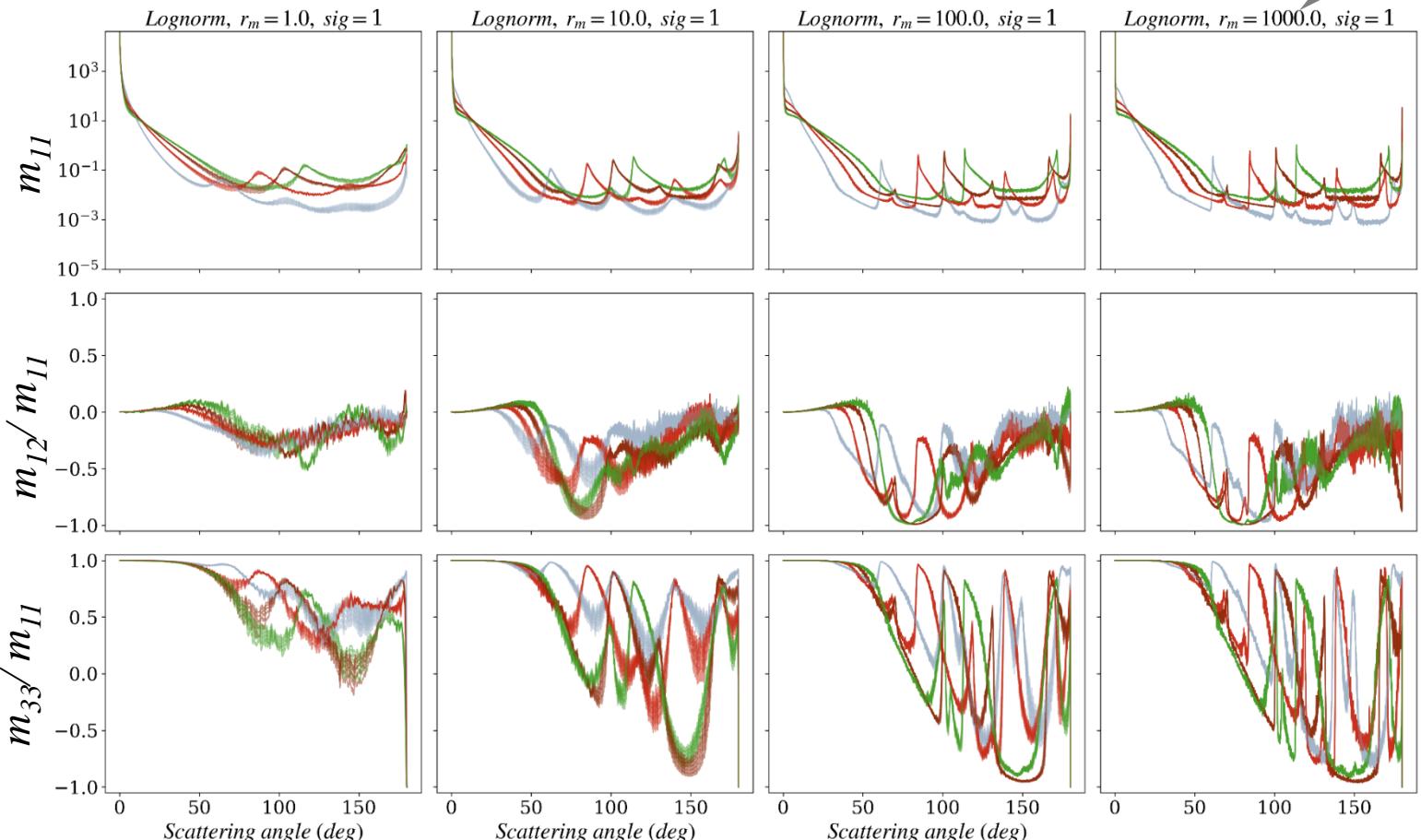
$$\mathbf{M} = \begin{pmatrix} m_{11} & \dots & m_{14} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ m_{41} & \dots & m_{44} \end{pmatrix}$$

Useful terms:  $m_{11}$ ,  $m_{12}$ ,  $m_{33}$

### Refractive index



Increasing size from 1 μm to 1 mm (median radius)



# Ocean Plastics Polarization Properties OP<sup>3</sup>

Refractive index:  
1.005:0.005:1.220,  
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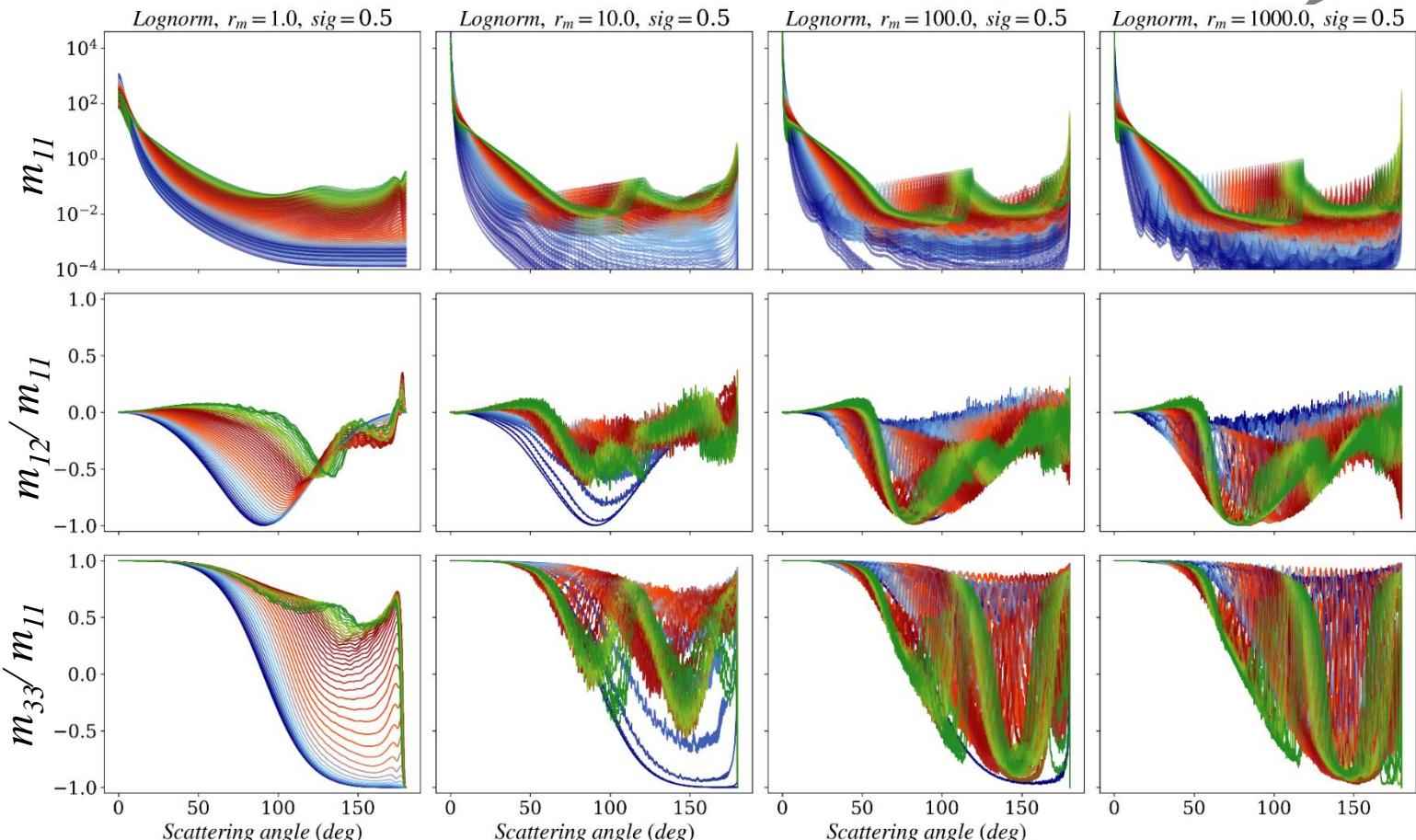
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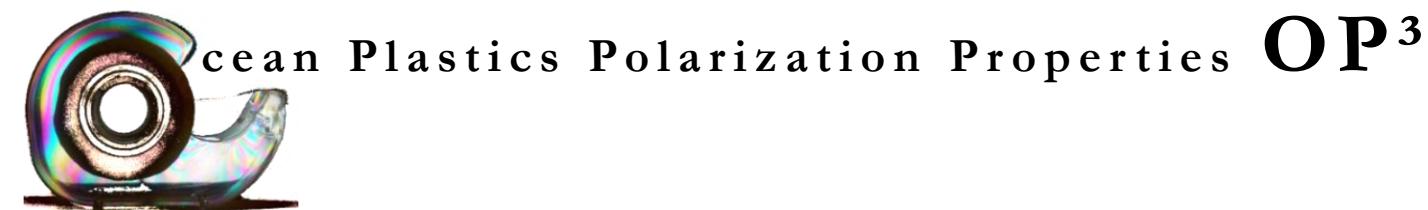
Useful terms:  $m_{11}$ ,  $m_{12}$ ,  $m_{33}$

### Refractive index



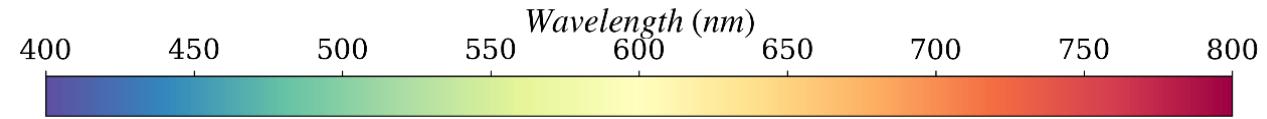
Increasing size from 1 μm to 1 mm (median radius)



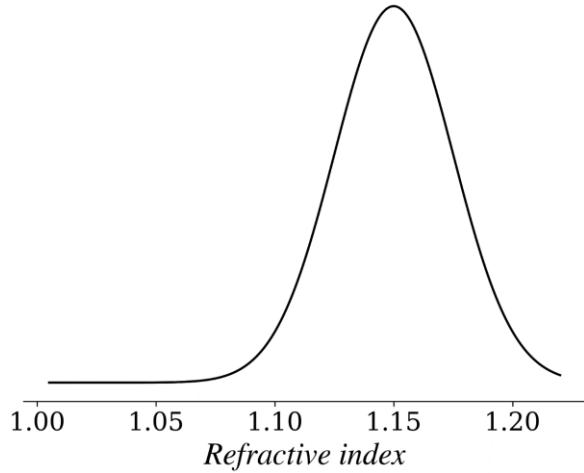


Refractive index:  
1.005:0.005:1.220,  
Size param.( $x=2\pi r/\lambda$ ):  
0.1:40000

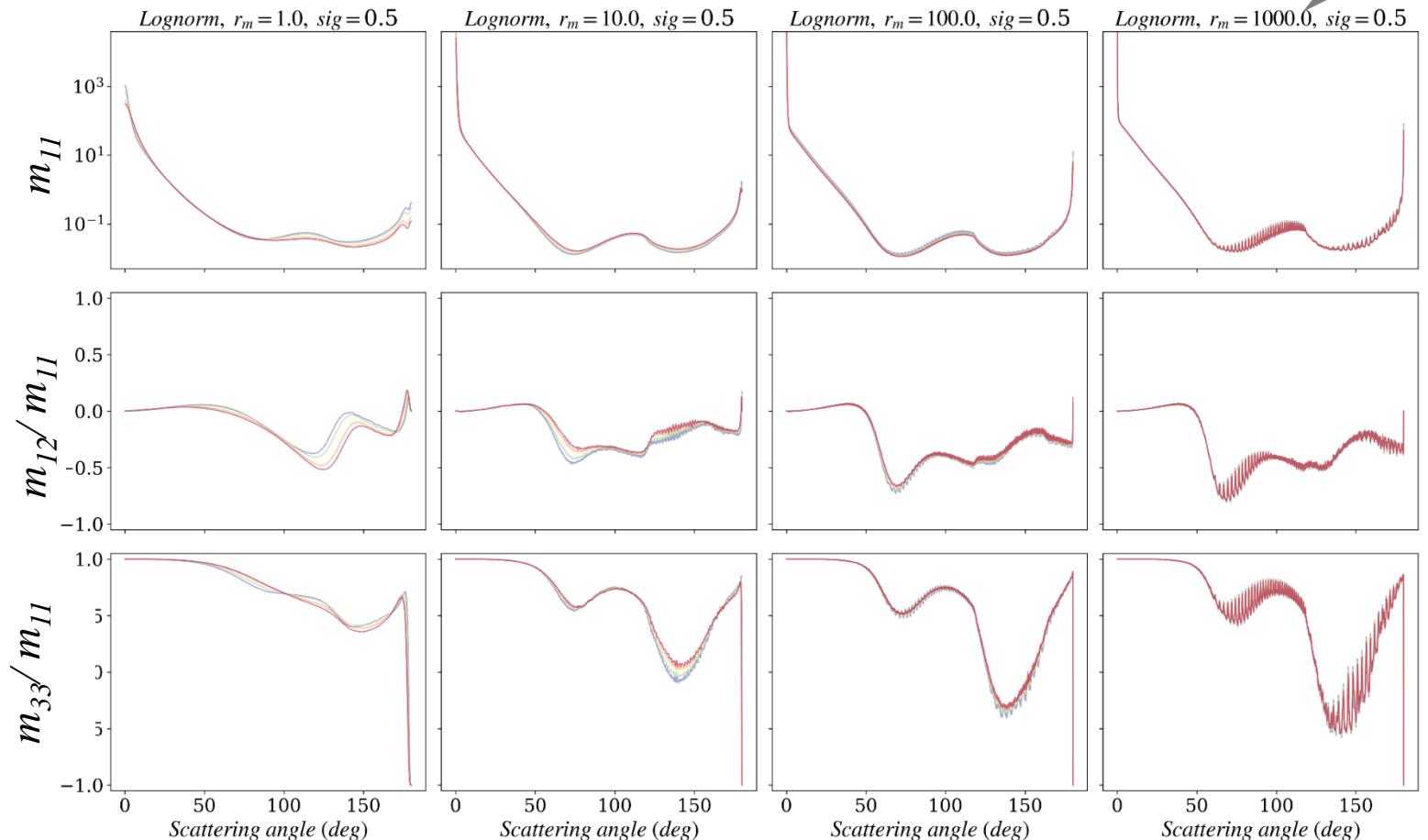
## Single particle scattering



Refractive index distribution RID  
(normal...)

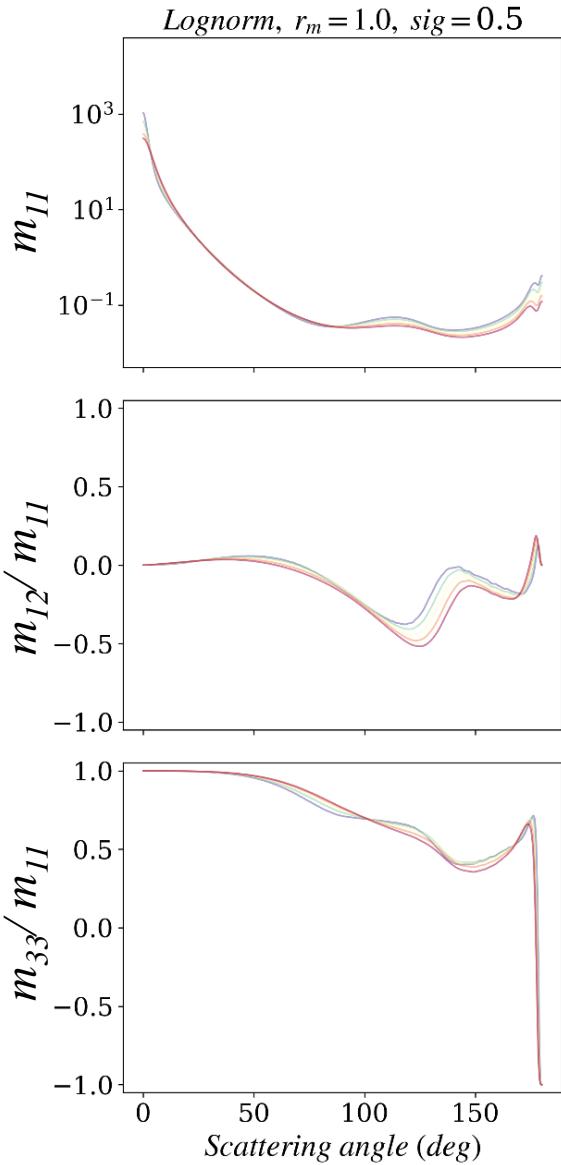


Increasing size from  $1\mu\text{m}$  to 1 mm (median radius)

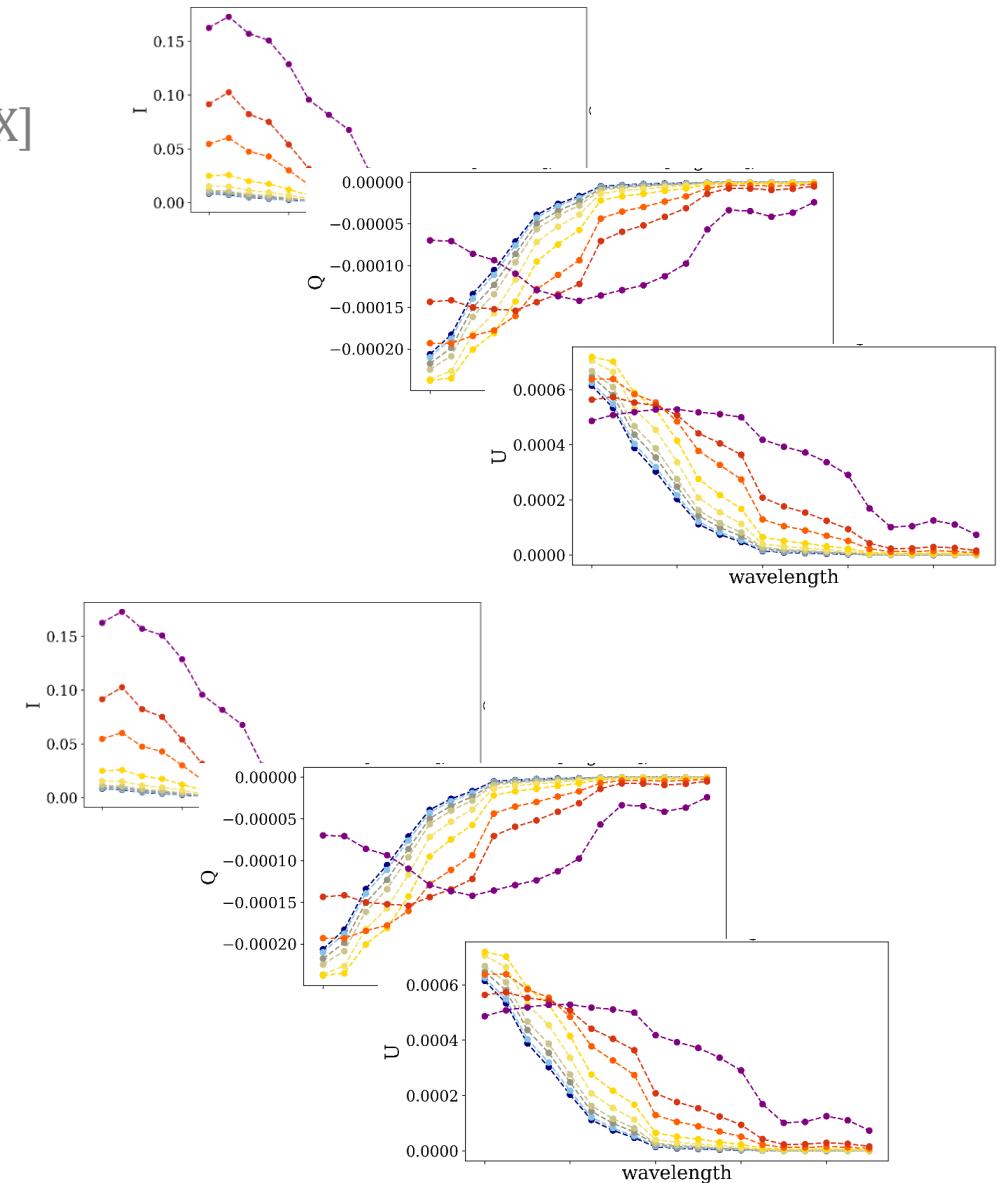
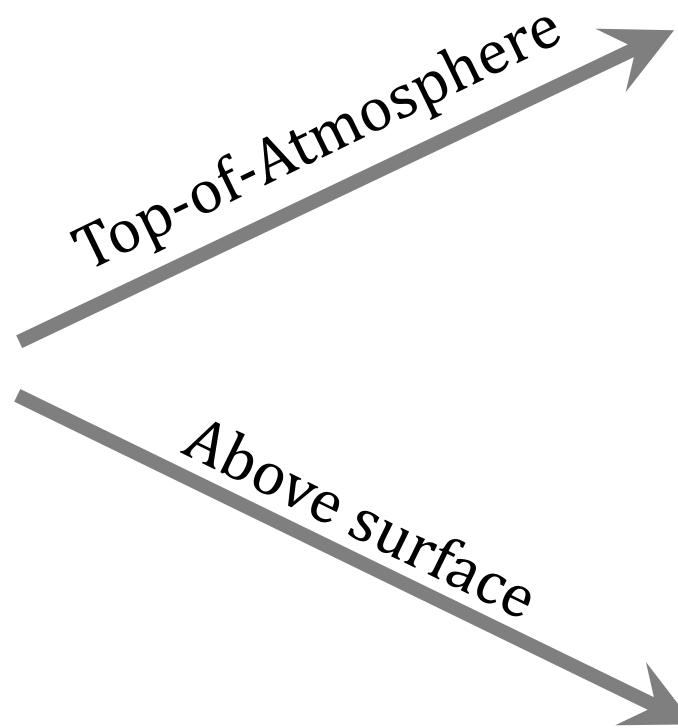




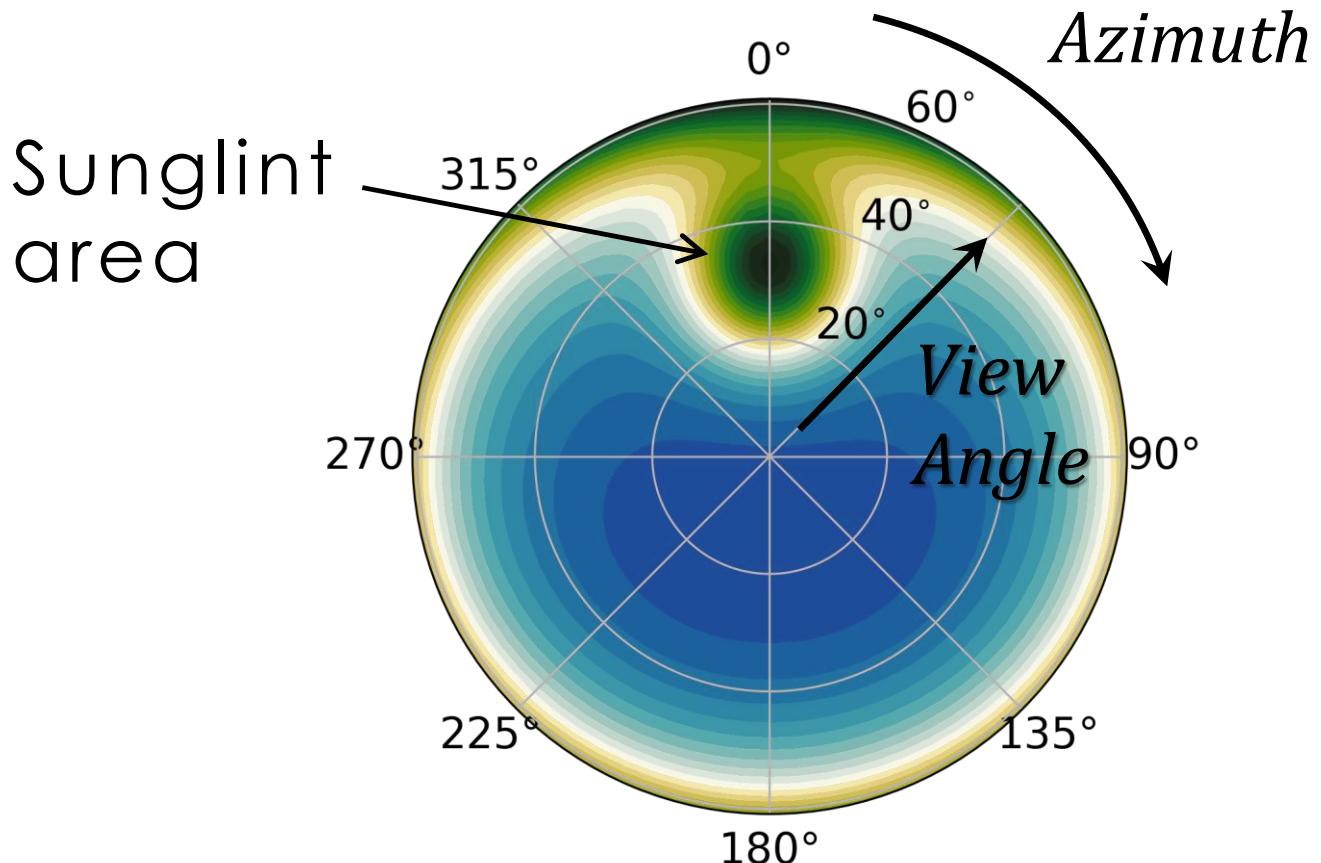
# Ocean Plastics Polarization Properties $\text{OP}^3$



OSOAA radiative transfer  
[Chami et al., 2015, OPEX]



# Radiative transfer simulation (directional)





# Ocean Plastics Polarization Properties OP<sup>3</sup>

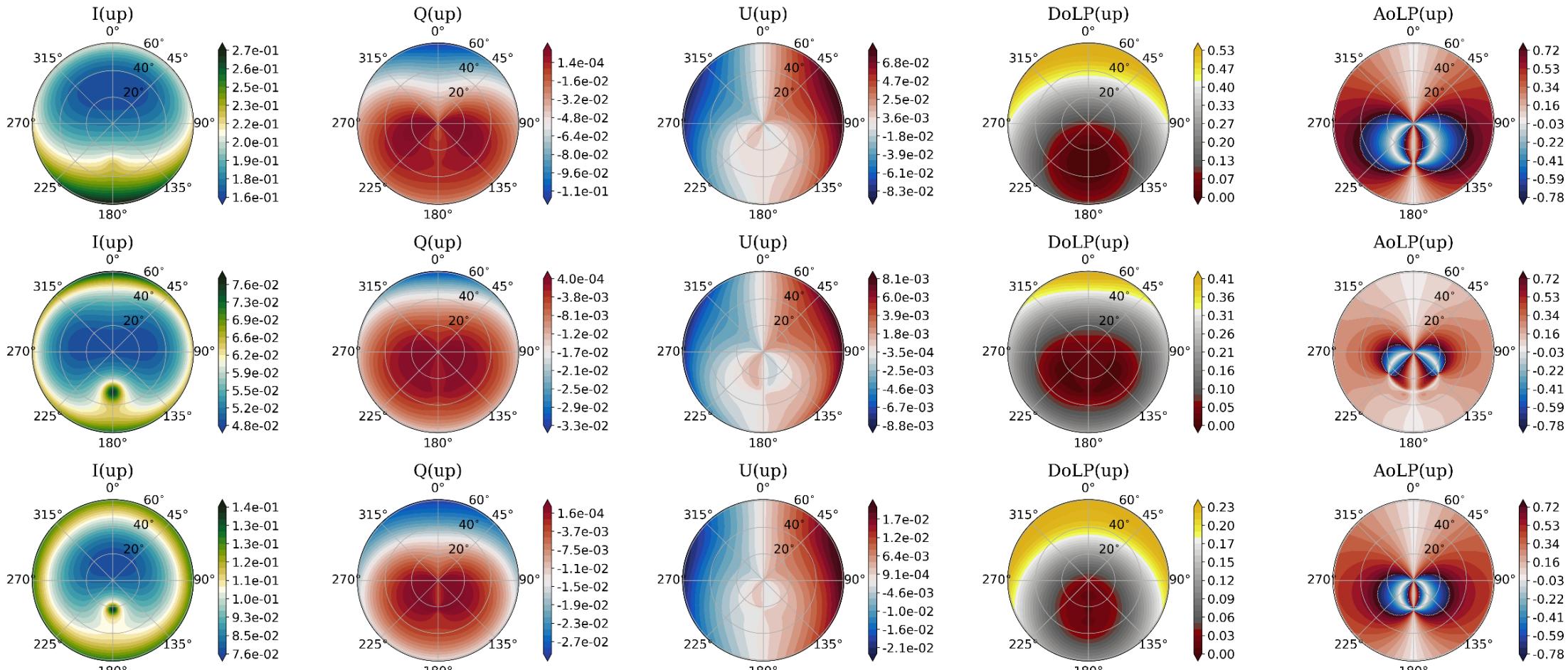
Total Stokes vector (radiance I + polarization) + DoLP + AoLP

Level

TOA

BOA  
Above  
surface

BOA  
Below  
surface

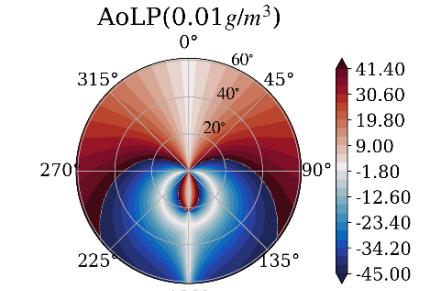
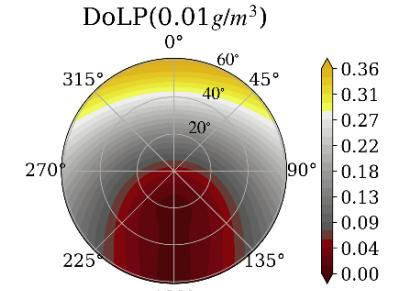
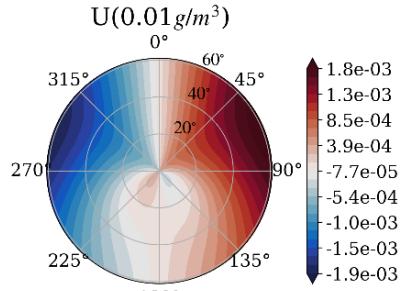
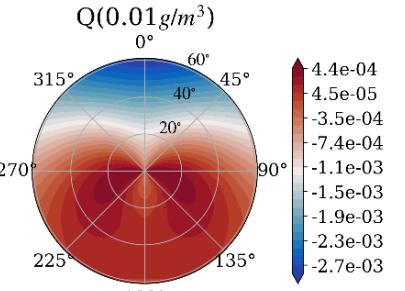
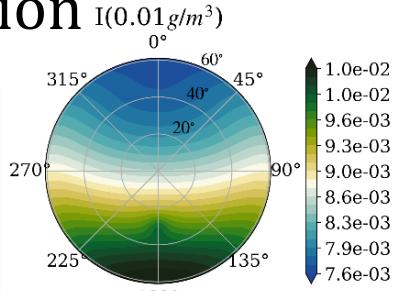




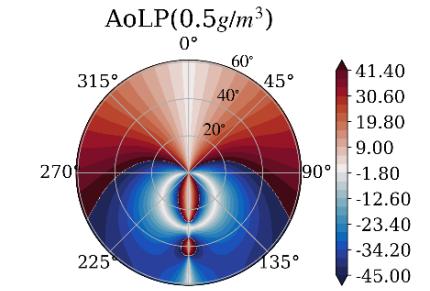
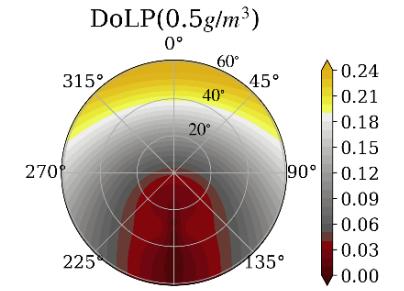
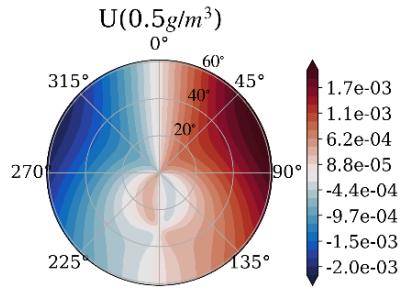
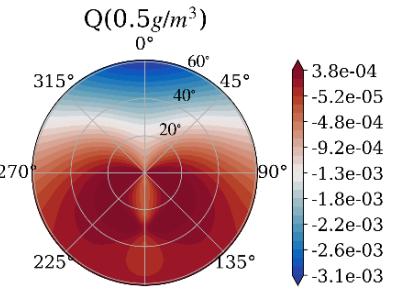
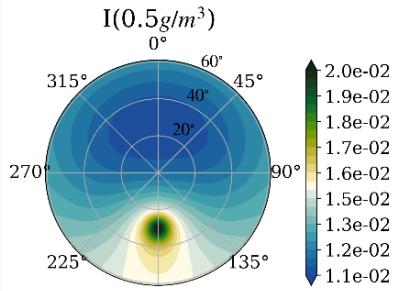
# Ocean Plastics Polarization Properties OP<sup>3</sup>

Plastic items  
concentration

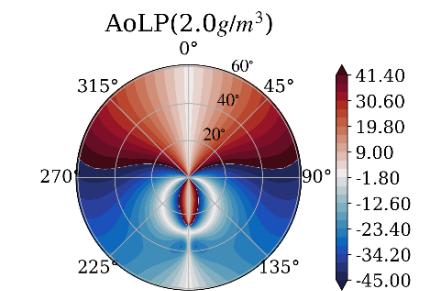
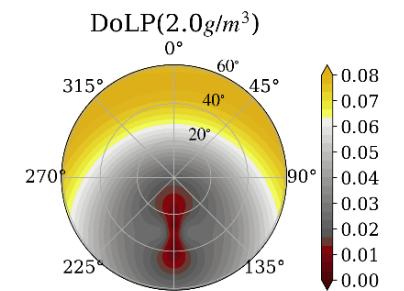
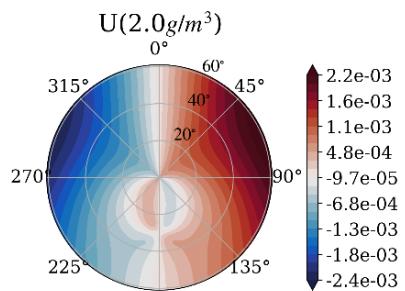
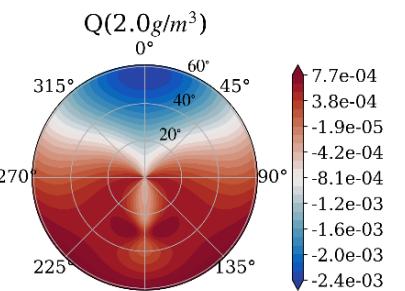
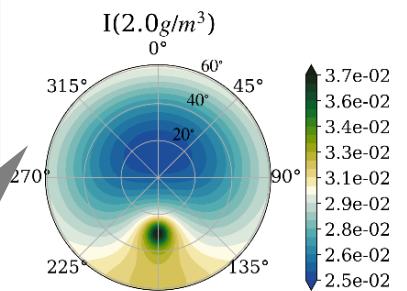
0.01 g/m<sup>3</sup>



0.5 g/m<sup>3</sup>



2 g/m<sup>3</sup>

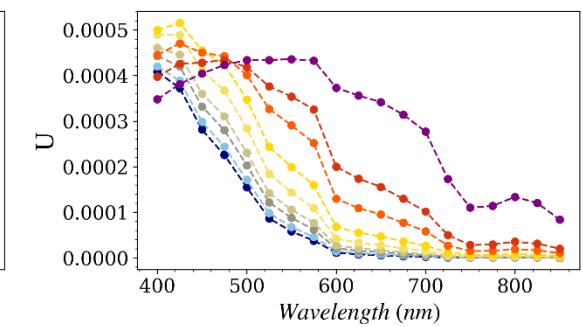
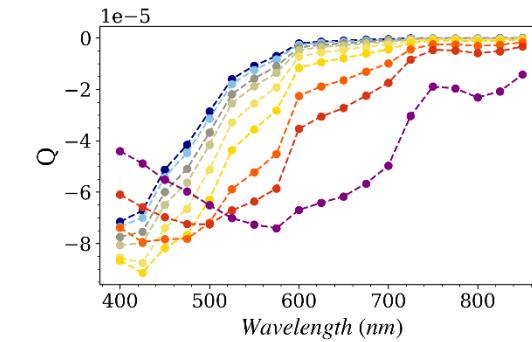
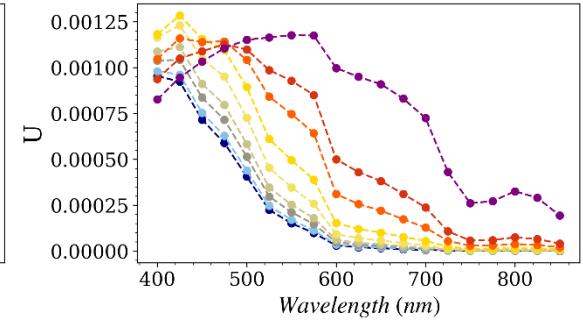
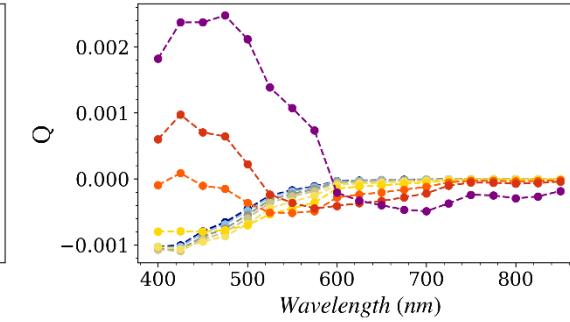
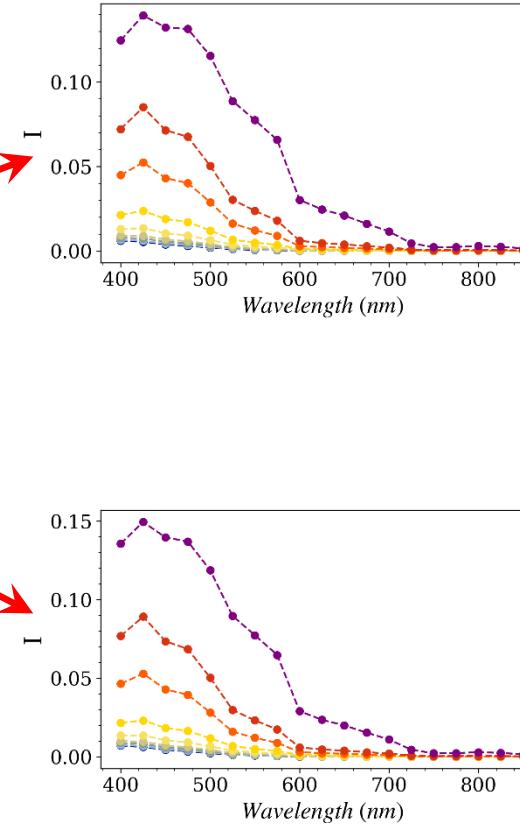
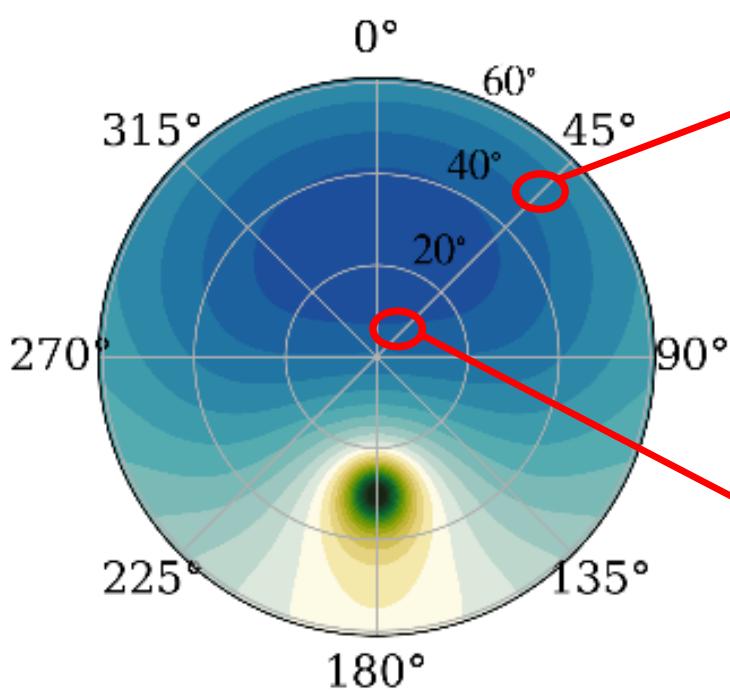
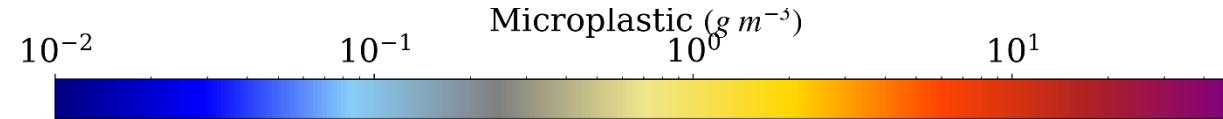


Water Stokes vector (radiance I + polarization) + DoLP + AoLP





# Ocean Plastics Polarization Properties OP<sup>3</sup>



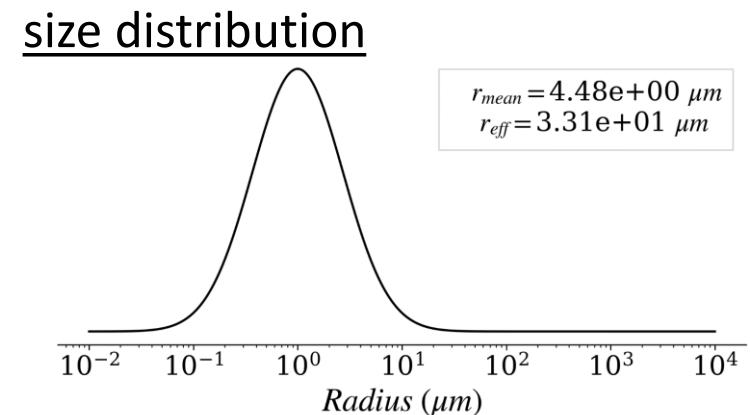
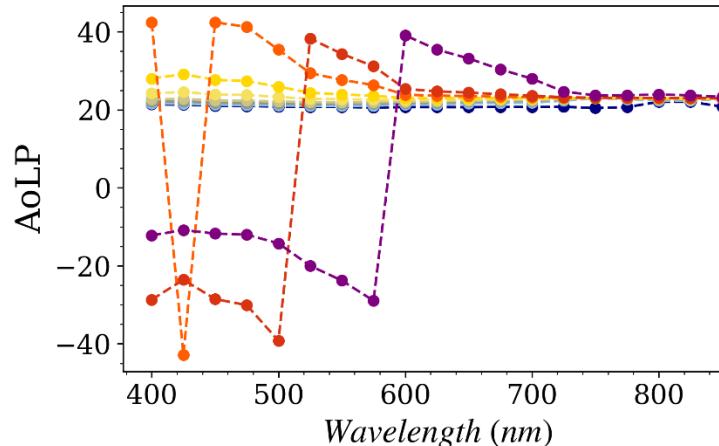
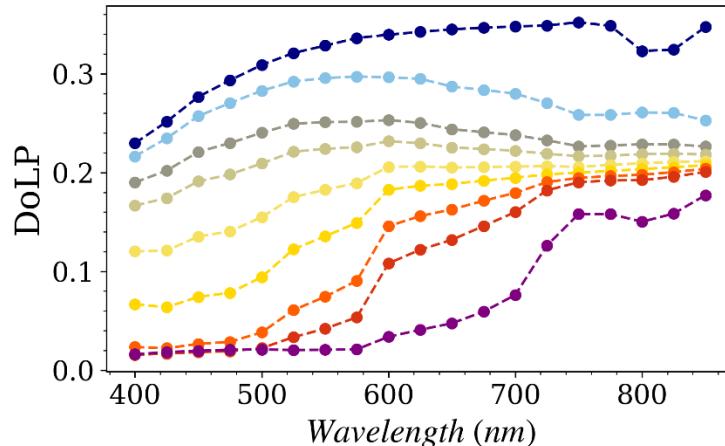
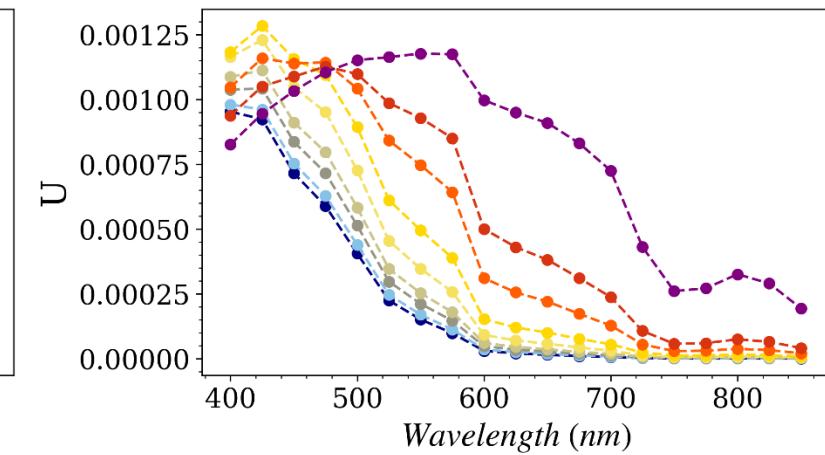
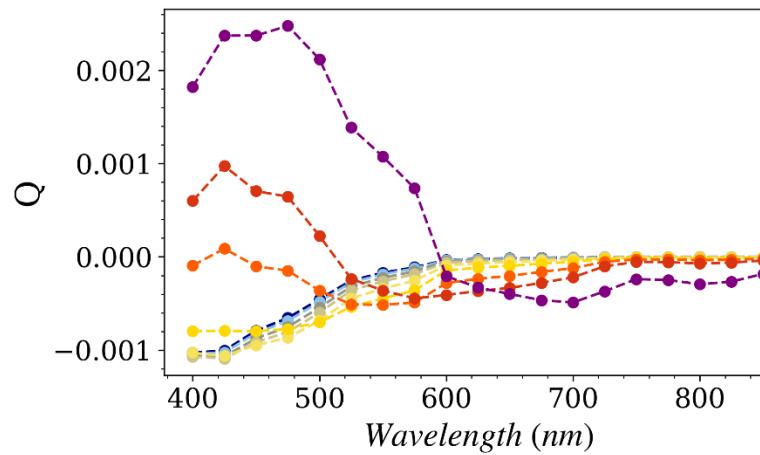
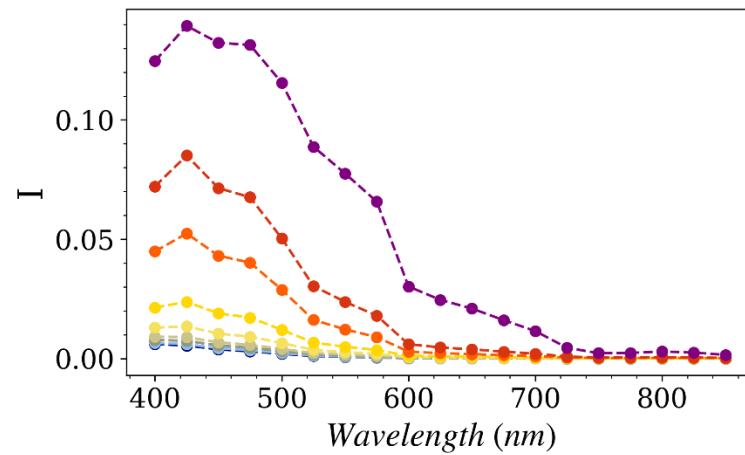


Ocean Plastics Polarization Properties **OP<sup>3</sup>**

Impact of size distribution: very small,  $\sim 10^{-3}$  mm

Stokes\_lut\_nr1.15\_rmed1.0\_sza30\_vza50.42\_azi45\_level1  
Microplastic ( $g\ m^{-3}$ )

DoLP: Degree of Linear Polarization  
AoLP: Angle of Linear Polarization  
I: reflectance  
Q, U: 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Stokes parameters





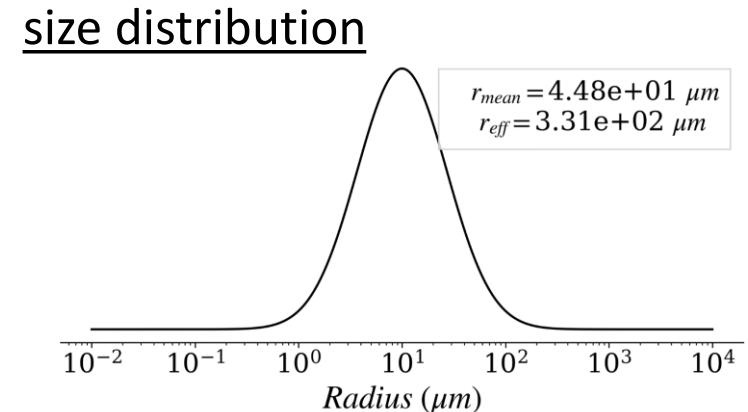
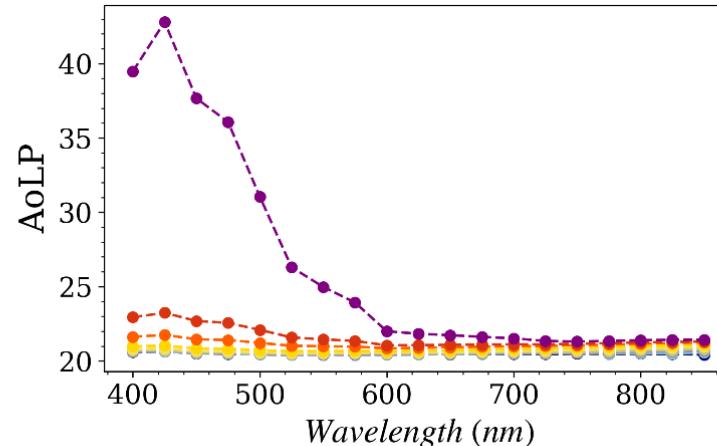
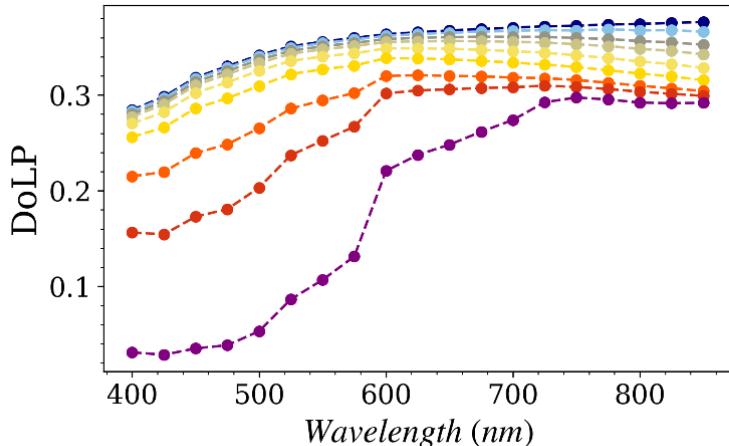
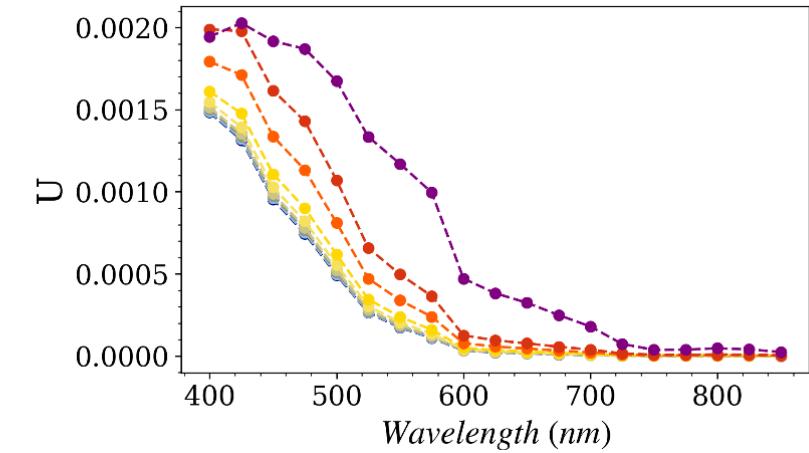
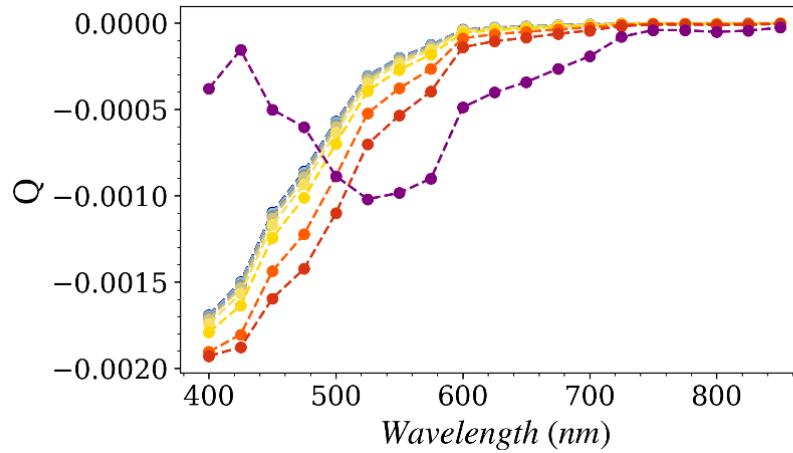
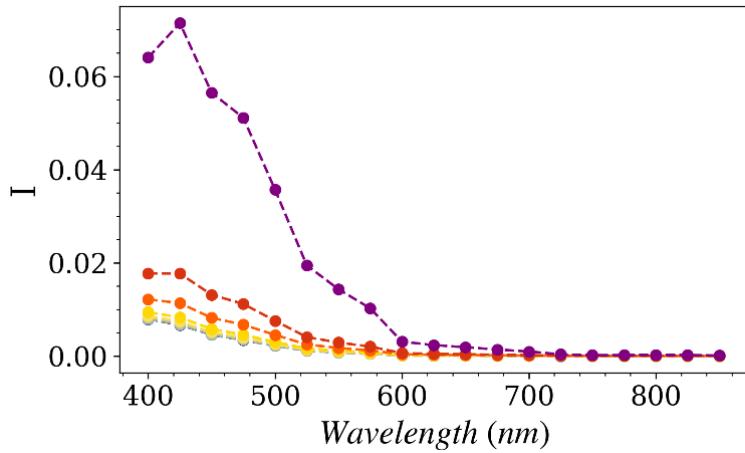
Ocean Plastics Polarization Properties **OP<sup>3</sup>**

# Impact of size distribution: small, $\sim 10^{-2}$ mm

Stokes\_lut\_nr1.15\_rmed10.0\_sza30\_vza50.42\_azi45\_level0  
Microplastic ( $g\ m^{-3}$ )

$10^{-2}$        $10^{-1}$        $10^0$        $10^1$

DoLP: Degree of Linear Polarization  
AoLP: Angle of Linear Polarization  
I: reflectance  
Q, U: 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Stokes parameters





Ocean Plastics Polarization Properties **OP<sup>3</sup>**

## Impact of size distribution: medium, ~0.1 mm

Stokes\_lut\_nr1.15\_rmed100.0\_sza30\_vza50.42\_azi45\_level0

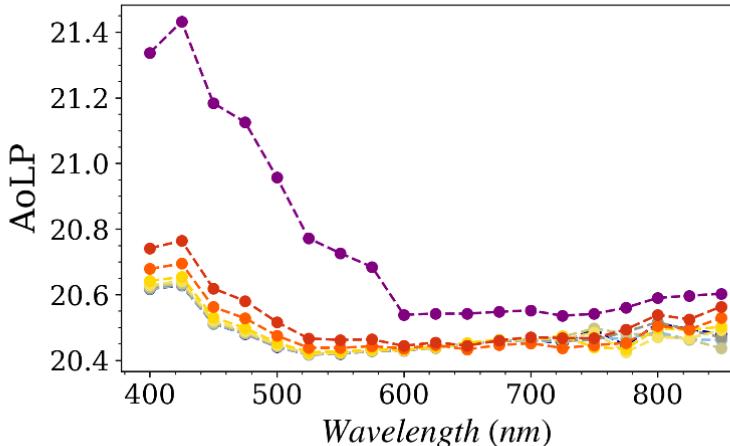
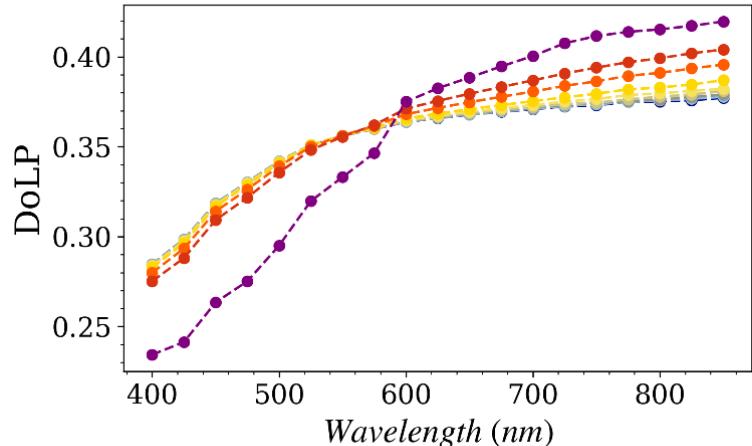
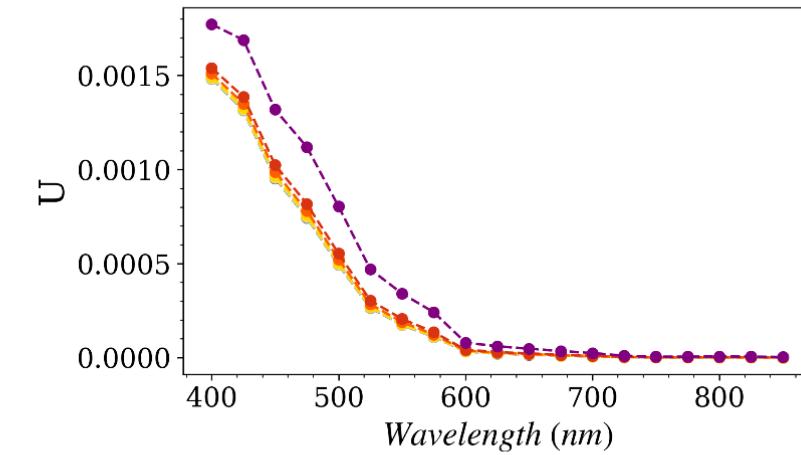
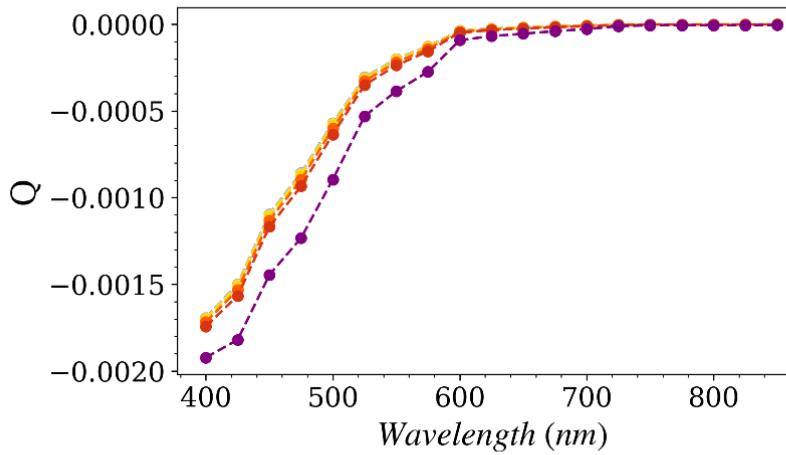
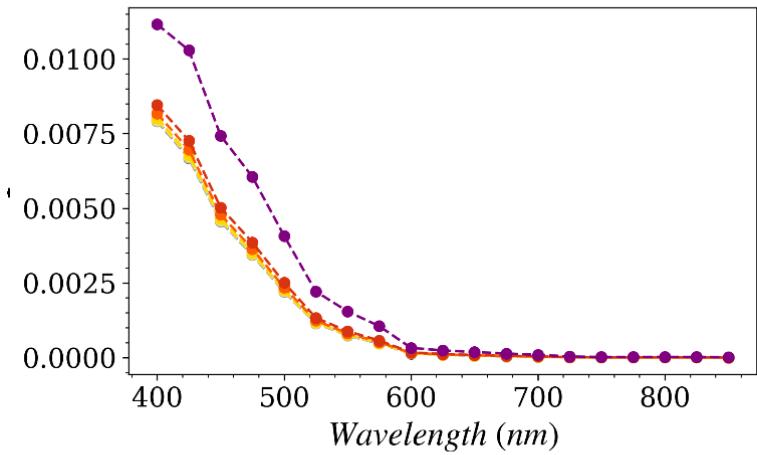
Microplastic ( $\text{g m}^{-3}$ )

$10^{-2}$

$10^{-1}$

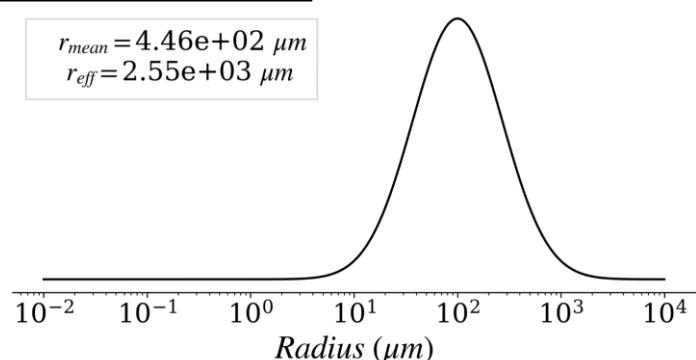
$10^0$

$10^1$



size distribution

$r_{\text{mean}} = 4.46 \times 10^2 \mu\text{m}$   
 $r_{\text{eff}} = 2.55 \times 10^3 \mu\text{m}$



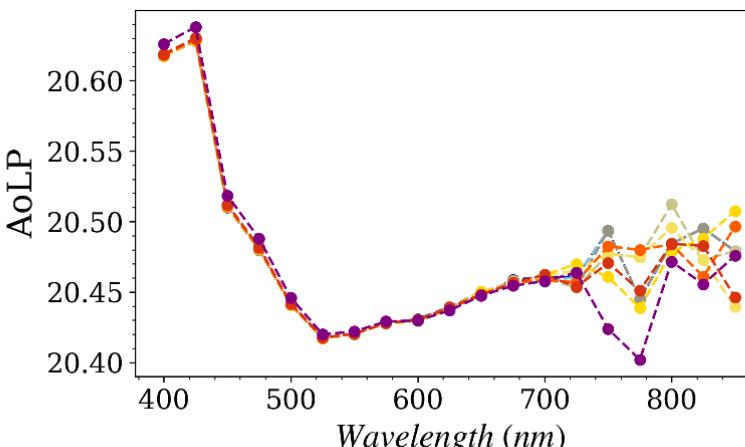
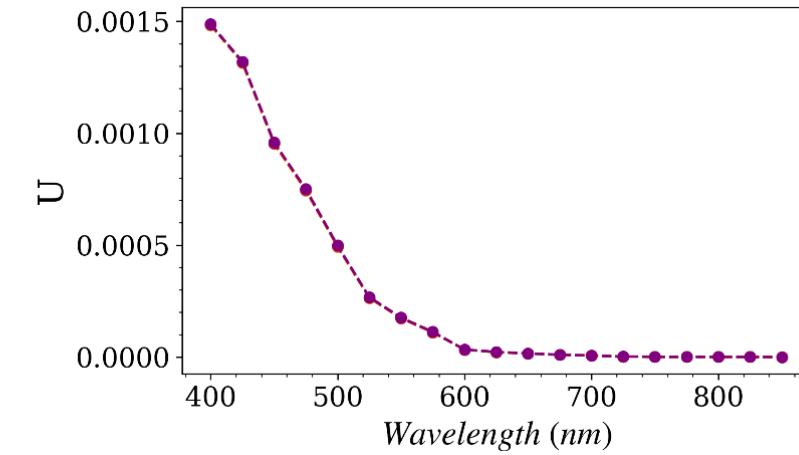
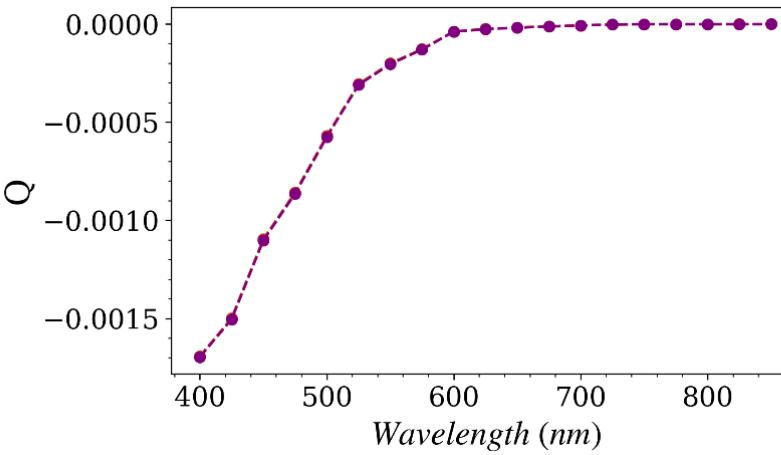
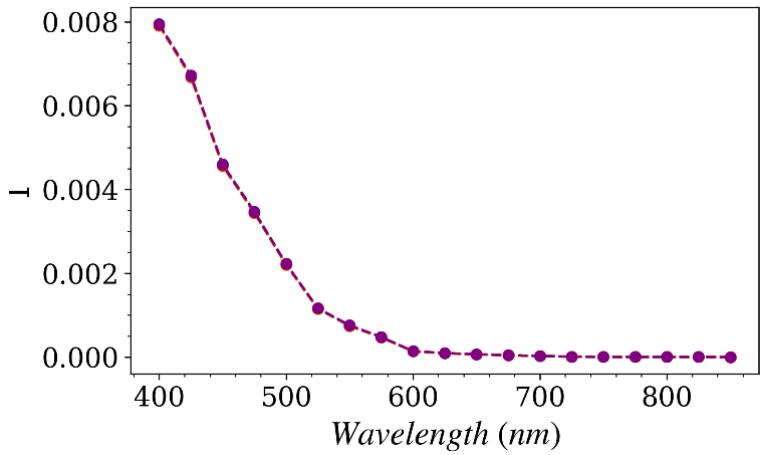
DoLP: Degree of Linear Polarization  
AoLP: Angle of Linear Polarization  
I: reflectance  
Q, U: 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Stokes parameters



Ocean Plastics Polarization Properties **OP<sup>3</sup>**

## Impact of size distribution: large, ~1 mm

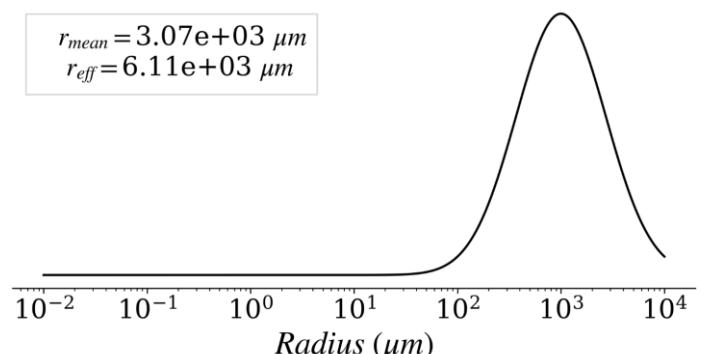
Stokes\_lut\_nr1.15\_rmed1000.0\_sza30\_vza50.42\_azi45\_level0  
Microplastic ( $\text{g m}^{-3}$ )



DoLP: Degree of Linear Polarization  
AoLP: Angle of Linear Polarization  
I: reflectance  
Q, U: 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Stokes parameters

### size distribution

$r_{\text{mean}} = 3.07 \times 10^3 \mu\text{m}$   
 $r_{\text{eff}} = 6.11 \times 10^3 \mu\text{m}$

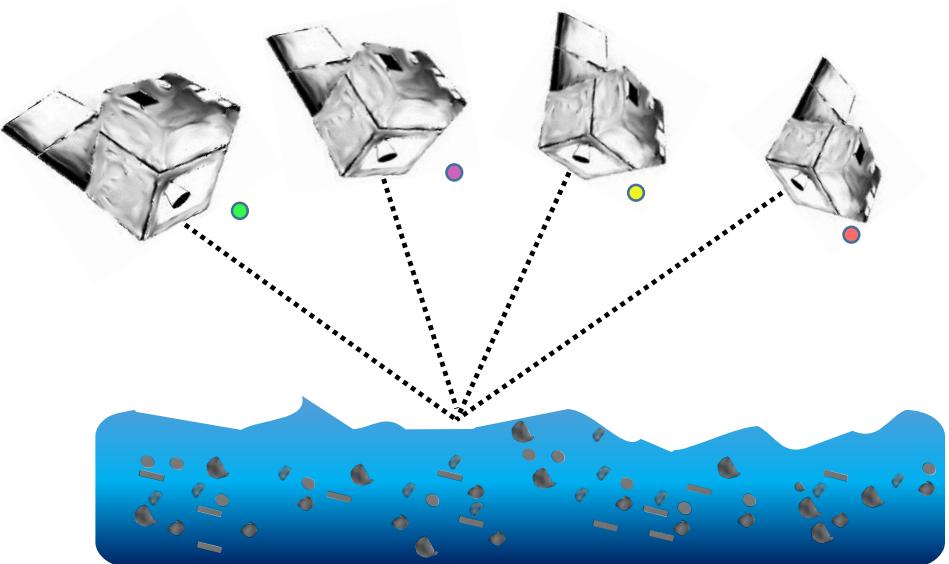
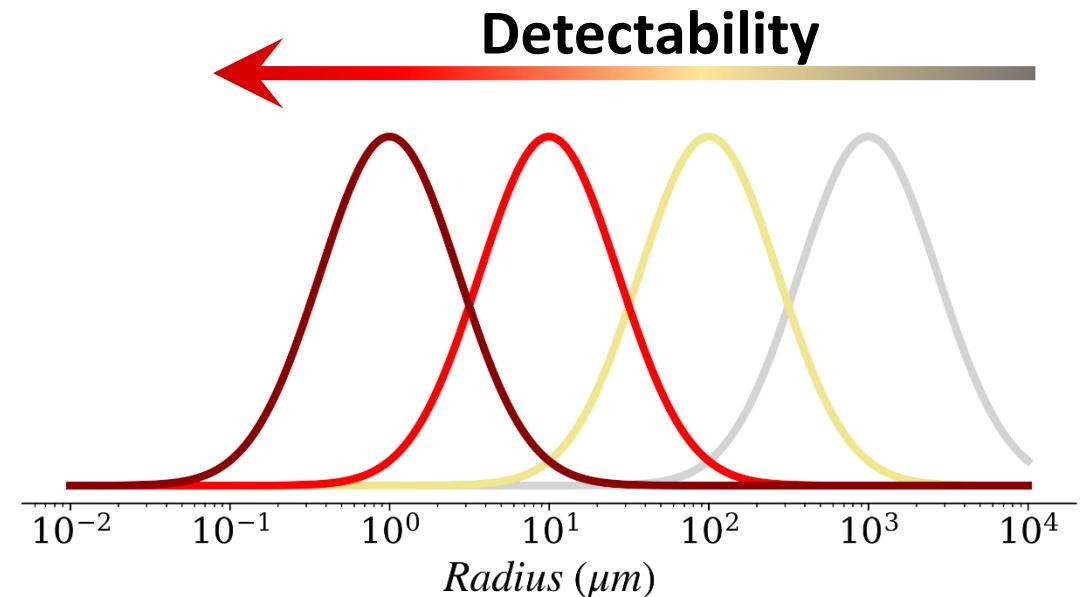
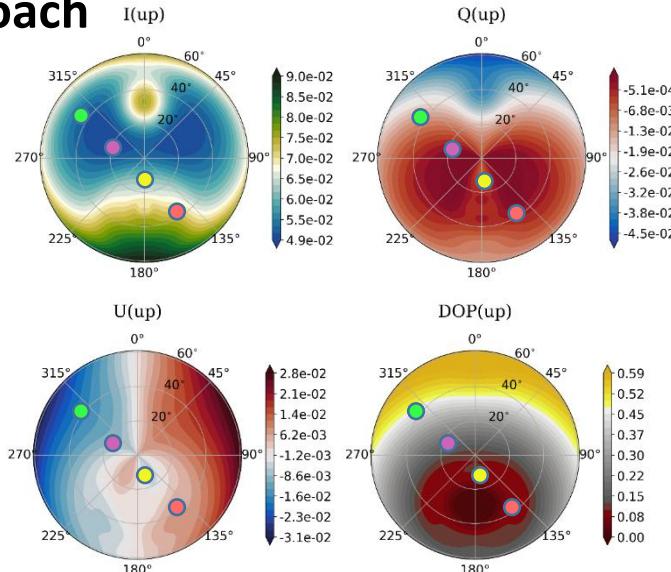


# Conclusions

- Detectability demonstrated for micrometric up to hundreds of  $\mu\text{m}$  depending on concentration
- limited for larger microplastic items ( $>1\text{mm}$ )
- Retrieval algorithms should be based on a multi-directional approach

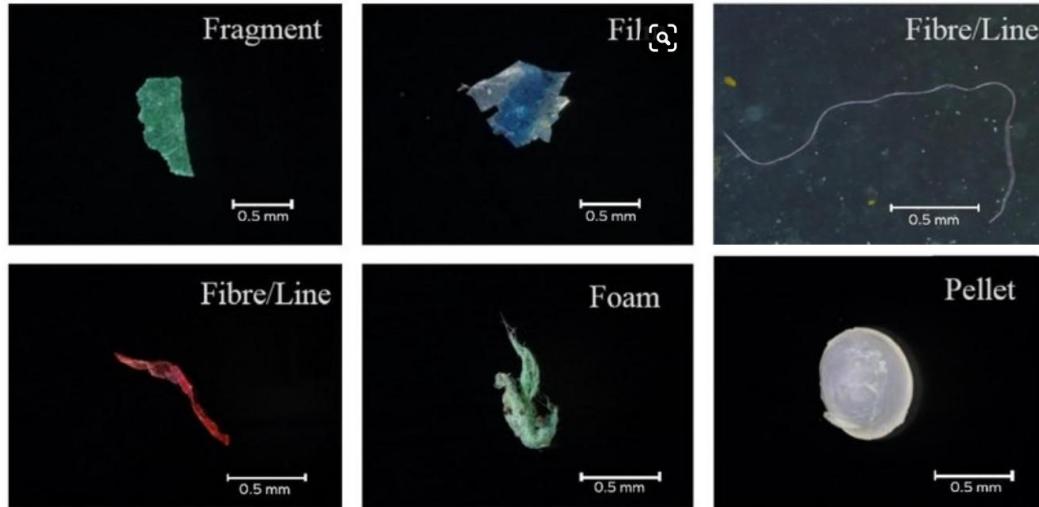
→ Exploitation of the CNES POLDER missions archive (~14 directions, 3 polar. Bands, >10years of data)

→ Waiting for PACE (NASA) and 3MI (EumetSat/ESA)



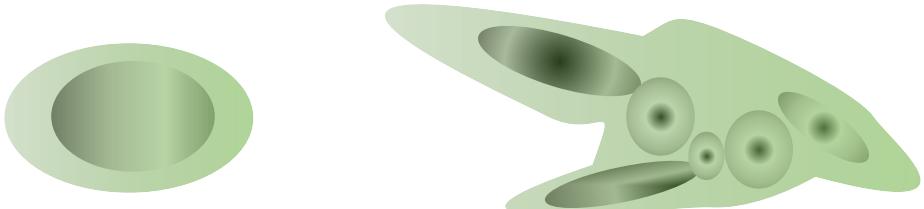
# Outlooks: going beyond the sphere

Need to consider several shape types:

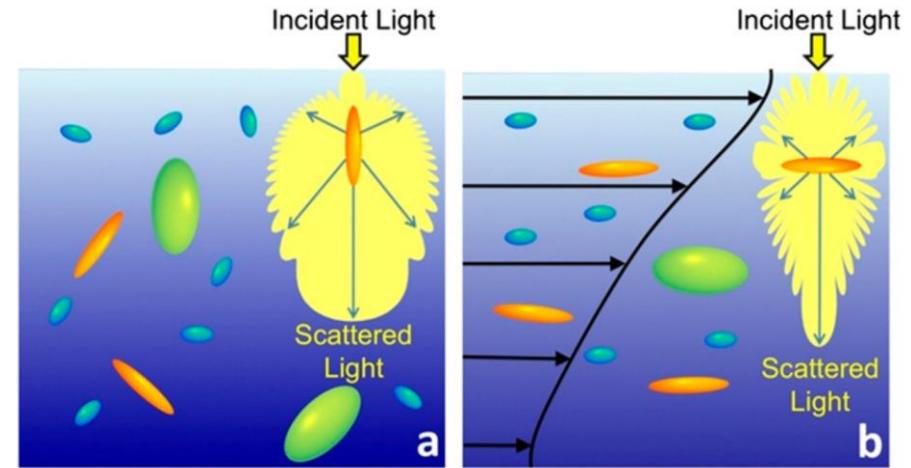


(from Robin et al., 2019, STTE)

Need to consider aggregates with biological coating/matrix:



Need to consider orientation and vertical profile



[Marcos et al., 2011, PNAS]

Need to several water types (Chl-a, CDOM, sediment)



gnu - www.aquaportal.com



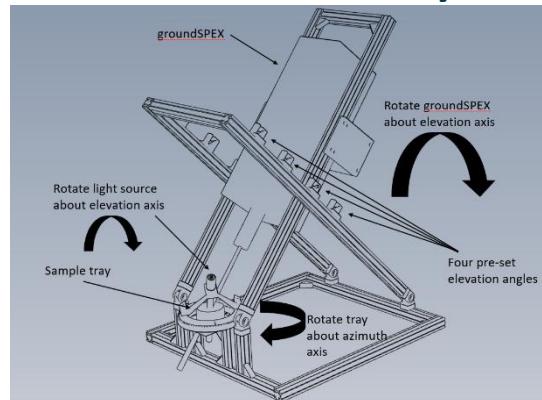
# Outlooks: critical need of actual data

Several sensors and prototypes

*Specim-IQ camera*



**GroundSpex Laboratory  
from Leiden University**



*FLIR camera*



**Mantis: an all-sky visible-to-near-infrared hyper-angular spectropolarimeter**

ROBERT FOSTER,<sup>1,\*</sup> DERIC GRAY,<sup>1</sup> JEFFREY BOWLES,<sup>1</sup> DAN KORWAN,<sup>1</sup> ILYA SLUTSKER,<sup>2,3</sup> MIKHAIL SOROKIN,<sup>2,3</sup> MICHAEL ROCHE,<sup>4</sup> ADAM SMITH,<sup>4</sup> AND LARRY PEZZANITI<sup>4</sup>



Mission of opportunity...  
Please join!



# Thank you!

Tristan Harmel, [tristan.harmel@magellium.fr](mailto:tristan.harmel@magellium.fr)

Olivier Burggraaff, [burggraaff@strw.leidenuniv.nl](mailto:burggraaff@strw.leidenuniv.nl)

Shungu Garaba, [shungu.garaba@uol.de](mailto:shungu.garaba@uol.de)

Robert Foster, [robert.foster@nrl.navy.mil](mailto:robert.foster@nrl.navy.mil)

Paolo Corradi, [paolo.Corradi@esa.int](mailto:paolo.Corradi@esa.int)

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