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Global ocean dimethylsulfide photolysis rates quantified with a spectrally and vertically resolved model

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Abstract

Photochemical reactions initiated by ultraviolet (UV) radiation remove the climate-active gas dimethylsulfide (DMS) from the ocean's surface layer. Here we quantified DMS photolysis using a satellite-based model that accounts for spectral irradiance attenuation in the water column, its absorption by chromophoric dissolved organic matter (CDOM), and the apparent quantum yields (AQYs) with which absorbed photons photodegrade DMS. Models with two alternative parameterizations for AQY estimate global DMS photolysis at between 17 and 20 Tg S yr^{-1}, equivalent to 13–15 Tg C yr^{-1}, of which ~73% occurs in the Southern hemisphere. This asymmetry results mostly from the high AQYs found south of 40°S, which more than counteract the prevailing low irradiance and deep mixing in that region. Simplified schemes currently used in biogeochemical models, whereby photolysis is proportional to visible radiation, likely overestimate DMS photolysis by around 150% globally. We propose relevant corrections and simple adjustments to those models.

Scientific Significance Statement

Dimethylsulfide (DMS) is a gas produced by marine microbes that, once emitted to the atmosphere, affects the formation of atmospheric particles (aerosols) and clouds, and hence climate. Several processes can remove DMS from the upper ocean layer, therefore controlling DMS emissions. One such process that has not been accurately quantified hitherto is the oxidation of DMS by chemical reactions initiated mostly by UV radiation. Using a model that combines satellite observations and in situ data, here we show that DMS photolysis varies across regions and seasons; and quantify global photochemical DMS removal from the surface ocean at around 20 million tonnes of sulfur per year, 30% less than DMS emission to the atmosphere. Our best estimates are not compatible with estimates from simplified equations for DMS photolysis that are currently used in the numerical models that inform climate projections, stressing the need to improve those models.

Introduction

The biogenic gas dimethylsulfide (DMS), produced mostly by pelagic microbial food webs, represents the largest natural source of atmospheric sulfur (Hulswar et al. 2022). The products of atmospheric DMS oxidation, chiefly methanesulfonic and sulfuric acids, promote new particle formation and growth, which overall results in planetary cooling through enhanced aerosol light scattering and cloud albedo (Shaw 1983; Charlson et al. 1987; Carslaw et al. 2013). Despite continued efforts to represent DMS-mediated feedbacks in Earth System models, these models do not accurately represent sea-surface DMS concentration fields (Tesdal et al. 2016) and cannot reliably predict future DMS emission trends under global change scenarios (Bock et al. 2021).

DMS is lost from the upper ocean mainly through bacterial and photochemical oxidation and ventilation to the atmosphere (del Valle et al. 2007, 2009; Galí and Simó 2015). Biogeochemical models must capture the variability in these processes to accurately reproduce sea-surface DMS concentration fields, which in turn largely control DMS emissions (Tesdal et al. 2016). However, large uncertainties in spatiotemporal DMS distribution remain owing to sparse observations, limited mechanistic understanding and insufficiently validated parameterizations (Le Clainche et al. 2010; Galí and Simó 2015).

Photochemical DMS removal is a photosensitized process, whereby DMS is oxidized by the reactive species generated through the absorption of solar radiation by optically active substances (Brimblecombe and Shooter 1986), mainly CDOM (Toole et al. 2003, 2004; Bouillon and Miller 2004; Galí et al. 2016). To quantify the efficiency of this process, an apparent quantum yield (AQY) is computed as the mol DMS oxidized per mol quanta absorbed by CDOM at each wavelength (λ). Typically, AQY decreases exponentially over the solar spectrum. Like other photochemical processes (Fichot and Miller 2010), the spectral product of AQY, CDOM absorption and irradiance produces a peak in DMS photolysis between 320–330 nm at the sea surface. The photolysis spectrum progressively shifts towards longer wavelengths as radiation propagates down the water column because shortwave UV attenuates faster than longwave UV and visible light. Thus, adequate spectral and vertical resolution are needed for accurate photochemical

92 modeling. Although this has been known for decades, DMS photolysis is still expressed

93 as a function of visible light in biogeochemical models (Chu et al. 2003; Vogt et al. 2010;

94 Belviso et al. 2012).

95

96 A global meta-analysis of in situ rates (Galí et al. 2016) found that variability in DMS

97 photolysis AQY at 330 nm, AQY(330), was to first order an inverse function of the

98 corresponding CDOM absorption coefficient, $a_{CDOM}(330)$ (Fig. 1). Smaller fractions of

99 variance were explained by nitrate and temperature, which were nevertheless unable to

100 account for the three orders of magnitude spanned by AQY(330) globally. Hence, it was

101 concluded that CDOM composition mainly controlled AQYs through yet unknown

102 processes. Building on this work, we implemented in the current study a spectrally and

103 vertically resolved model that uses remotely sensed data to compute DMS photolysis

104 rates in the global ocean and their spatiotemporal patterns. We compared our results to

105 those obtained with two simple parameterizations extracted from prognostic

106 biogeochemical models.

107

108 **2. Model description and implementation**

109 **2.1 Empirical AQY models**

110 Our spectrally resolved model relies on the empirical estimation of the DMS photolysis

111 AQY at 330 nm and subsequently the AQY spectrum, AQY(λ) (units of s^{-1} [mol photons

112 $m^{-3} s^{-1}]^{-1} = m^3$ [mol photons]$^{-1}$). In the dataset compiled by Galí et al. (2016), AQY(330)

113 data were fitted using two multiple regression models. The first model (*CDOM_NO3*)

114 represents AQY(330) as a function of $a_{CDOM}(330)$ and nitrate concentration [NO_3^-]:

115

116 $\log_{10}[AQY(330)] = -0.4548 - 0.8392 \cdot \log_{10}[a_{CDOM}(330)] + 0.0293[NO_3^-]$ eq. 1A

117

118 The second model (*CDOM_SST*) represents AQY(330) as a function of $a_{CDOM}(330)$ and

119 sea-surface temperature (SST), with a linear interaction term:

120

121 $\log_{10}[AQY(330)] = -0.4629 - 1.5774 \cdot \log_{10}[a_{CDOM}(330)] + 0.0049 \cdot SST +$

122 $+0.0374 \cdot \log_{10}[a_{CDOM}(330)] \cdot SST$ eq. 1B

123 Models *CDOM_NO3* and *CDOM_SST* accounted, respectively, for 84% and 83% of the

124 $\log_{10}$-space variance of AQY(330) in the Galí et al. (2016) dataset (n = 111). The two

125 models also had similar dispersion and bias (Fig. 1 and S1) and are therefore used in

126 subsequent calculations (section 2.2). Following Galí et al. (2016), the AQY spectrum

127 was computed from AQY(330) and a spectral slope S_{AQY} such that:

128

129 $AQY(\lambda) = AQY(330) \cdot \exp[S_{AQY} \cdot (\lambda - 330)]$ eq. 2

130

131 where S_{AQY} was itself a function of AQY(330) according to a fit that accounted for 29%

132 of its observed variance (n = 47):

133

134 $S_{AQY} = 0.0429 + 0.0147 \cdot \log_{10}[AQY(330)]$ eq. 3

135

136 **2.2 Depth-dependent spectrally resolved model**

137 Vertical profiles of the DMS photolysis rate constant, $k_{p,z}$ (d^{-1}), were computed as:

138

139 $k_{p,z} = \int E_{d,0^-}(\lambda) \cdot \exp(-K_d(\lambda) \cdot z) \cdot (1/\mu_d) \cdot a_{CDOM}(\lambda) \cdot AQY(\lambda)\, d\lambda$ eq. 4

140

141 where $E_{d,0^-}(\lambda)$ is the downwelling spectral irradiance just below the sea surface (mol

142 photons $m^{-2}\, d^{-1}\, nm^{-1}$), $K_d(\lambda)$ is the diffuse vertical attenuation coefficient of downwelling

143 irradiance (m^{-1}), μ_d is the mean cosine of underwater irradiance (required to convert

144 planar irradiance to scalar irradiance; unitless), and $a_{CDOM}(\lambda)$ is the CDOM absorption

145 coefficient spectrum (m^{-1}). The spectral terms in eq. 4 were computed at 5 nm resolution;

146 spectral integration between 290 and 500 nm yielded the photolysis rate constant at a

147 given depth. The vertical resolution decreased exponentially from 0.01 m at the surface to

148 20 m at 100 m (39th vertical bin). The bottom level was determined by the mixed layer

149 depth (MLD; obtained from Schmidtko et al. (2013)). Mean daily photolysis rate

150 constants in the upper mixed layer, $k_{p,ML}$ (d^{-1}), were computed through trapezoidal

151 integration of $k_{p,z}$ over time (3h intervals) and depth, followed by division by the MLD.

152
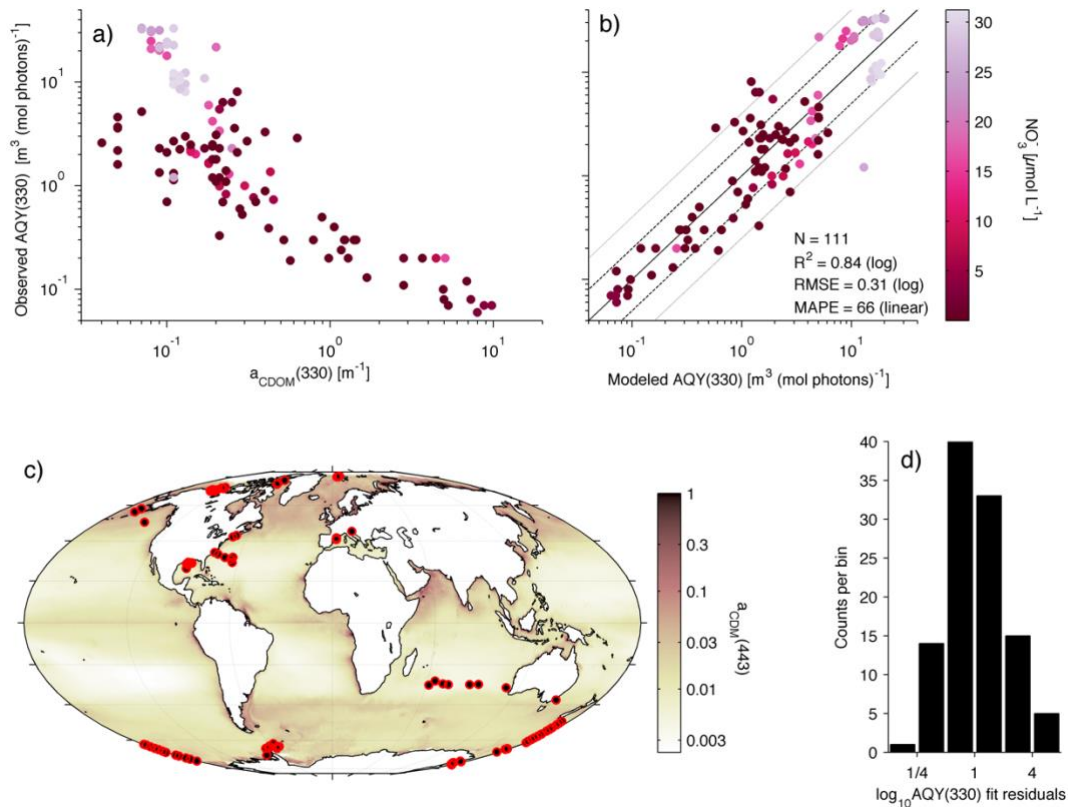
Figure 1. *(a) Relationship between apparent quantum yield at 330 nm, AQY(330), and the CDOM absorption coefficient, $a_{CDOM}(330)$; (b) comparison between observed AQY(330) and that predicted with an empirical model that uses $a_{CDOM}(330)$ and nitrate as predictors (eq. 1A); (c) map of the sampling locations overlaid on SeaWiFS-retrieved absorption of chomophoric detrital matter at 443 nm, $a_{CDM}(443)$, used to estimate $a_{CDOM}(330)$ in our model; (d) fit residuals. The color scale in a) and b) shows nitrate concentration. The black line in b) shows 1:1 model:data agreement, and the dashed and dotted lines show, respectively, deviations by a factor of 2 and 4 from the 1:1 line.*

Global $k_{p,z}$ fields were computed at 1°x1° horizontal resolution (Fig. 2), to which all input variables had been previously regridded. Mixed-layer photolysis rates, P_{ML} (nmol L^{-1} d^{-1}), were computed as the product of monthly 1°x1° fields of $k_{p,ML}$ and sea-surface DMS concentration (nmol L^{-1}) (Hulswar et al. 2022), assuming constant DMS in the upper mixed layer (UML). Gridded P_{ML} fields were finally integrated over different spatiotemporal domains (Table 1).

169

Detailed information on the input data and the optical sub-models used to compute the

factors in eq. 4 and generate the associated intermediate datasets is provided in the

Supplemental Material (SM1-3). Briefly, a global monthly climatology of $E_{d,0-}(\lambda)$ at 3h

sub-daily resolution was computed using the atmospheric radiative transfer code

SBDART (Ricchiazzi et al. 1998), as described by Laliberté et al. (2016); $K_d(\lambda)$ was

computed using the SeaUV algorithm (Cao et al. 2014) from a monthly climatology of

remote sensing reflectances (SeaWiFS sensor); $a_{CDOM}(\lambda)$ was computed with the model of

Swan et al. (2013); μ_d was computed using the model of Kirk (1991). Note that, instead

of a spectral μ_d, we used a broadband μ_d centered at 330 nm using as inputs the K_d and

the total absorption and scattering coefficients at 330 nm estimated from pre-established

bio-optical relationships. Additional analyses were performed to ensure consistency

between the various optical sub-models (SM2). We assessed uncertainty by altering the

input variables with Gaussian noise (SM3). Our calculations and the figures shown in the

main article and SM can be reproduced with the code and datasets provided in a public

repository (Galí et al. 2022), which requires Matlab® 2010b or later.

185

2.3 Pre-existing parameterizations

2.3.1 PAR-normalized photolysis rate constant

The spectrally-resolved model was compared with a simpler parameterization, named

K0_SCALED, whereby $k_{p,z}$ is proportional to broadband visible irradiance:

$$k_{p,z} = k^{PAR} \, PAR_{0-} \cdot \exp(-K_d(490) \cdot z) \hspace{4cm} \text{eq. 5}$$

where k^{PAR} is a rate constant normalized to broadband photosynthetically available

radiation (PAR) that takes a fixed value with units of $[d^{-1} \, (\text{irradiance})^{-1}]$. Here we

computed PAR_{0-} as the spectral integral of SBDART outputs between 400 and 700 nm,

and vertical PAR attenuation using K_d at 490 nm from SeaUV.

197

This approach was employed in early DMS models (Vézina 2004) and later adopted in

some global models (Bopp et al. 2008; Vogt et al. 2010) with varying k^{PAR} values. Here

200   we set $k^{PAR} = 0.0128$ m^2 (mol photons)$^{-1}$, the median of 111 globally distributed

201   measurements of $k_{p,0-}$ divided by their corresponding SBDART-derived PAR$_{0-}$ (Galí et al.

202   2016). This value facilitates comparisons between *K0_SCALED* and the spectral models

203   derived from the same dataset (section 3.2). Alternative PAR-dependent formulations

204   used in the PISCES model family, based on Belviso et al. (2012), are briefly discussed in

205   3.2 and analyzed in SM4.

206

207   2.3.2 Fixed photolysis rate constant

208   We tested an even simpler scheme, named *K0_FIXED*, that prescribes a fixed $k_{p,0-}$

209   regardless of subsurface irradiance, and attenuates $k_{p,z}$ following $K_d(490)$:

210

211   $k_{p,z} = k^C_{p,0-} \exp(-K_d(490) \cdot z)$ eq. 6

212

213   Following Chu et al. (2003), here we set $k^C_{p,0-} = 0.5$ d^{-1}.

214

215   **3. Results and Discussion**

216   **3.1 Spatiotemporal patterns**

217   According to our model, DMS photolysis removes between 17.5 and 20.0 Tg S yr^{-1} from

218   the upper mixed layer globally. The lower and upper bounds are obtained, respectively,

219   when AQY(330) is estimated with the empirical parameterizations *CDOM_SST* (eq. 1B)

220   or *CDOM_NO3* (eq. 1A). Sea-surface photolysis rate constants, $k_{p,0-}$, resulting from these

221   AQY parameterizations agree within ±30% in 50% of the pixels on an annual basis, but

222   differences are larger in the tropical Pacific and the Arctic (Fig. 3). Hence, although AQY

223   is the main source of uncertainty in our estimates (SM3), the two equations likely provide

224   realistic bounds for the estimation of global DMS photolysis.

225

226   Taking the *CDOM_NO3* model as a reference, we obtain a global area-weighted mean

227   $k_{p,0-}$ of 0.44 d^{-1} (all means reported hereafter are weighted by pixel area). Although the

228   mean $k_{p,0-}$ is higher during the summer, as expected from the seasonal cycle of irradiance,

229   relatively large spatial variations are observed, reflecting spatial AQY variability (Fig. 2).

230   Mixed-layer mean rate constants, $k_{p,ML}$, show wider seasonality than $k_{p,0-}$ (Fig. 2). This

pattern arises from the shoaling of the UML during the summer, itself a result of high

solar irradiance, which implies that a larger fraction of the UML experiences high UV

exposure, hence bringing $k_{p,ML}$ closer to $k_{p,0-}$.
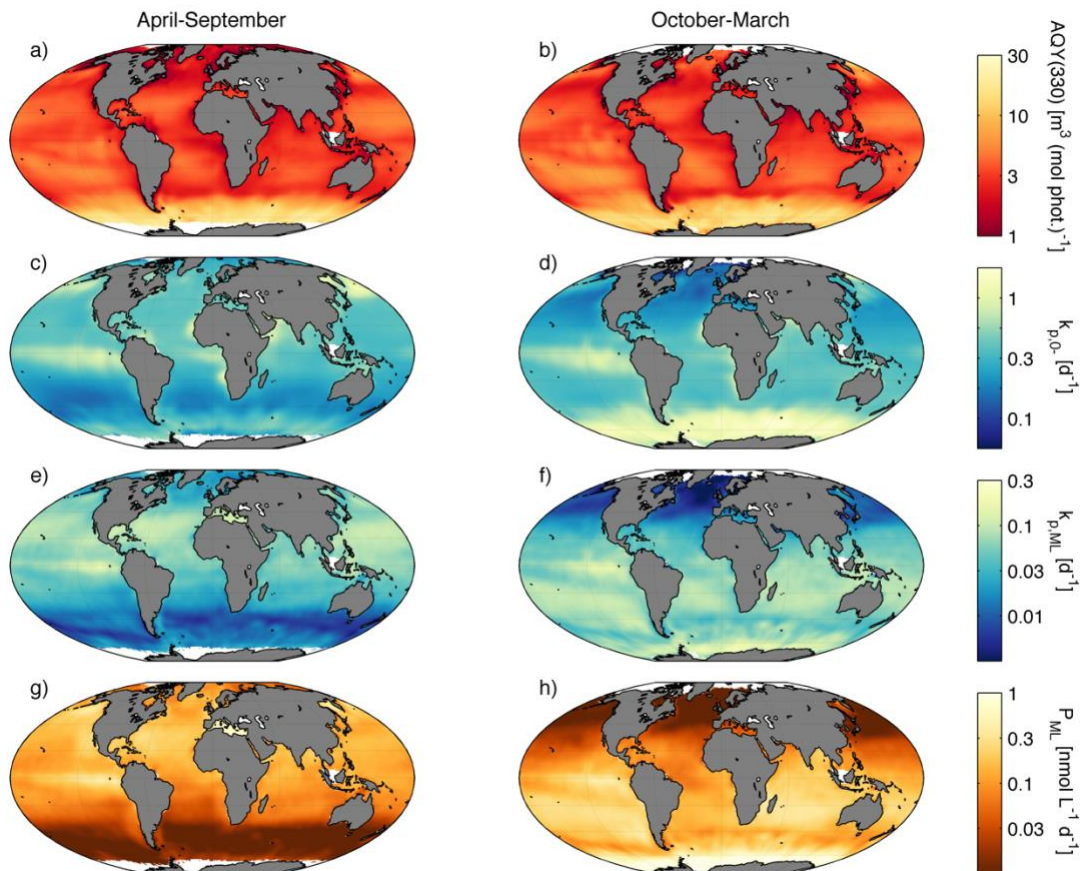
Figure 2*. Global DMS photolysis rates estimated with an empirical model and satellite data: (a, b) DMS photolysis apparent quantum yield at the reference wavelength, AQY(330); (c, d) daily mean photolysis rate constants at the sea surface (k_{p0-}); (e, f) daily mean photolysis rate constants in the upper mixed layer ($K_{p,ML}$); (g, h) photolysis rates in the upper mixed layer. Left and right panels show, respectively, the means for the boreal (a, c, d, g) and austral (b, d, f, h) summer semesters centered on the solstices.*

Photolysis rates are calculated from the product of $k_{p,ML}$ and a monthly climatology of

sea-surface DMS concentration. Since DMS concentrations peak during the summer and

are generally higher in subpolar and polar latitudes, summertime photolysis rates are

further intensified at high latitudes in comparison to $k_{p,ML}$. These general patterns hold

9

when the default DMS fields, provided by the most recent climatology (Hulswar et al. 2022), are replaced by the previous climatology (Lana et al. 2011). The older climatology produces slightly lower global DMS photolysis rates (16.8–19.8 Tg S yr^{-1}), despite having 4% higher DMS concentration globally, because of differences in the spatiotemporal DMS distribution.

Meridional asymmetry is possibly the most conspicuous feature in global DMS photolysis rates. Around 73% of the total annual photolysis occurs in the Southern Hemisphere, which accounts for 57% of the ocean area, and ~35% occurs south of 40°S, within 21% of the ocean area. This feature has not been reported for other photochemical processes, and results primarily from the high AQYs observed in the Southern Ocean (Toole et al. 2004), which are one order of magnitude higher than elsewhere (Fig. 2). High AQYs counteract the prevailing low irradiance in the Southern Ocean (Fig. S2), such that $k_{p,0-}$ south of 40°S are 62% higher than the global average (Fig. 2). Deep mixing plays a dual role in the Southern Ocean: it lowers $k_{p,ML}$ to 0.040 d^{-1}, slightly below the global mean of 0.052 d^{-1}, but increases total photolysis because the rates are integrated over a thicker layer.

In our spectral model, vertical attenuation of $k_{p,z}$ is variable by construction. To depict this variability, we computed the linear regression between ln($k_{p,z}$) and depth for each pixel and month. The resulting regression slope is $K_d(k_{p,z})$, the $k_{p,z}$ vertical attenuation coefficient. Over the first two optical depths, $K_d(k_{p,z})$ is generally within 10% of $K_d(330)$ (Fig. S2), and typically ranges between 0.09–0.28 m^{-1} (68% central values). On a global average, the 10% attenuation depth of $k_{p,z}$ is 14.5 m. Thus, DMS photolysis is usually confined in the UML. If we assume that sea-surface a_{CDOM} and AQY can be extrapolated below the UML, and do not truncate photolysis at z=MLD, the integral of $k_{p,z}$ increases by only 9% globally. This result agrees with global models of photochemical processes that show similar spectral dependence (Fichot and Miller 2010; Zhu and Kieber 2020).

3.2 Simplified parameterizations: caveats and potential improvement

Global DMS photolysis estimates based on the schemes *K0_FIXED* and *K0_SCALED*,

277   representative of current biogeochemical models, exceed our best estimates by more than

278   twofold (Table 1). The main reason for this overestimation is that they attenuate

279   photolysis vertically following PAR rather than UV radiation. Indeed, PAR-dependent

280    $k_{p,z}$ penetrates much deeper in the water column, with an average 10% attenuation depth

281   of 56 m. Consequently, these schemes overestimate photolysis in the UML (Fig. 3), but

282   also below it. Also note that, unlike the simplified schemes, our spectral photolysis model

283   is proportional to scalar downwelling irradiance, the quotient between planar irradiance

284   and the mean cosine (E_d/μ_d). Accounting for μ_d (i.e., the tridimensional light field) in the

285   simplified models would exacerbate their positive bias.

286

287   *Table 1*. *DMS photolysis rates (Tg S per period) obtained with our spectral model using*

288   *two alternative parameterizations (CDOM_NO3 and CDOM_SST) and with two*

289   *simplified parameterizations used in global biogeochemical models.*

Model	*Northern Hemisphere*			*Southern Hemisphere*			*Global*
	Apr-Sep	Oct-Mar	**Year**	Apr-Sep	Oct-Mar	**Year**	**Year**
CDOM_NO3 [a]	3.6	1.8	**5.4**	2.8	11.7	**14.5**	**20.0**
CDOM_SST [b]	3.0	1.3	**4.3**	2.2	10.9	**13.1**	**17.5**
K0_SCALED [c]	10.2	5.9	**16.1**	9.1	20.0	**29.1**	**45.2**
K0_FIXED [d]	9.2	6.9	**16.1**	11.8	19.5	**31.2**	**47.3**

290   [a] eq. 1A: Fit between AQY330 and $a_{CDOM,330}$ and NO_3^-.

291   [b] eq. 1B: Fit between AQY330 and $a_{CDOM,330}$ and SST with an interaction term.

292   [c] eq. 5: $k_{p,z}$ scaled to PAR_z as in Vogt et al. 2010, with modified parameters.

293   [d] eq. 6: fixed $k_{p,0^-}$ as in Chu et al. 2003.

294

295   The global average $k_{p,0^-}$ simulated with the simplified schemes (0.45–0.50 d^{-1}) and with

296   the *CDOM_NO3* scheme (0.44 d^{-1}) are in good agreement. Yet, they show distinct spatial

297   deviations (Fig. 3). Surprisingly, *K0_FIXED* shows better agreement with the reference

298   fields than *K0_SCALED* in terms of their annual mean $k_{p,0^-}$. Indeed, prescribing a fixed

299    $k_{p,0^-}$ is unrealistic in extratropical regions with a marked seasonal cycle of irradiance. The

300   *K0_SCALED* scheme exhibits a positive (negative) deviation at low (high) latitudes, with

301   particularly negative bias in the Southern Ocean. In the Belviso et al. (2012) and

302   subsequent PISCES model versions this spatial bias is corrected by adding a nitrate-

303 dependent photolysis term. However, these newer versions adopted a Michaelis-Menten

304 formulation for both PAR- and nitrate-dependent photolysis, which is not supported by

305 measurements (Kieber et al. 1996; Bouillon and Miller 2004; Toole et al. 2004).

306

307 In section SM4 and Table S2 we review the value of k^{PAR} in different models, which

308 determine each model's biases together with PAR forcing fields. Significantly, we found

309 an order-of-magnitude error in the value of the k^{PAR} parameter that apparently creeped

310 from the text of Lefèvre et al. (2002) and Vézina (2004) into, at least, the codes of Bopp

311 et al. (2008) and Vogt et al. (2010). We therefore recommend that future model studies

312 provide more careful descriptions of their parameters and forcing fields.

313

314 As a corollary to this subsection, we compare eq. 4–6 to analyze the implicit assumptions

315 made in each simplified scheme and evaluate their validity. Whereas *K0_FIXED* assumes

316 that the spectral integral $\int E_{d,0^-}(\lambda) \cdot a_{CDOM}(\lambda) \cdot AQY(\lambda) \, d\lambda$ is constant, the *K0_SCALED*

317 scheme assumes that only $\int a_{CDOM}(\lambda) \cdot AQY(\lambda) \, d\lambda$ is constant. For different reasons, none

318 of these assumptions holds when evaluated against our spectral model forced by

319 seasonally varying irradiance. By construction, the *K0_SCALED* scheme allows for more

320 realistic seasonality and could be readily improved by (i) prescribing spatial k^{PAR} arrays

321 adjusted to match the spectral model outputs, and (ii) empirically correcting the vertical

322 attenuation of $k_{p,z}$, $K_d(k_{p,z})$ (see 3.1). The latter can be estimated from remotely sensed

323 $K_d(490)$ using this regression equation: $K_d(k_{p,z}) = 1.9854 \cdot [K_d(490)^{1.0713}]$, with $R^2 = 0.83$.

324 This fit provides a direct means to correct $K_d(490)$ in eq. 5.

325

326 **3.3 Limitations of the spectral model**

327 With a mean absolute error of around 70% (Fig. 1 and S1), the $AQY(\lambda)$ parameterizations

328 are the largest source of uncertainty in our approach (SM3, Fig. S3 and Table S1). It is

329 worth noting that, with the aim of maximizing the explained AQY(330) variance, nitrate

330 and SST are used as empirical predictors (eq. 1). Thus, their coefficients do not reflect

331 their mechanistic effects on AQY(330), or account for additional causes of spatial

332 AQY(330) variation that remain poorly understood. Galí et al. (2016) found a consistent

333 nitrate-dependent increase of AQY(330) through meta-analysis of data from different

334 locations (Bouillon and Miller 2004; Toole et al. 2004). Yet, this effect could not explain

335 the AQY(330) variability left after removing the a_{CDOM}-dependent variability. The same

336 study found that temperature effects on photolysis kinetics were not consistent across

337 locations. New in-situ studies are needed to develop more mechanistic (and eventually

338 more precise) representations of AQY variability. Such studies should consider CDOM

339 composition, the presence of other photosensitizers, temperature effects, and their impact

340 on AQY seasonality, which could not be validated in our model. Additional uncertainties

341 arising from satellite retrievals and optical modelling are discussed in SM1–3.
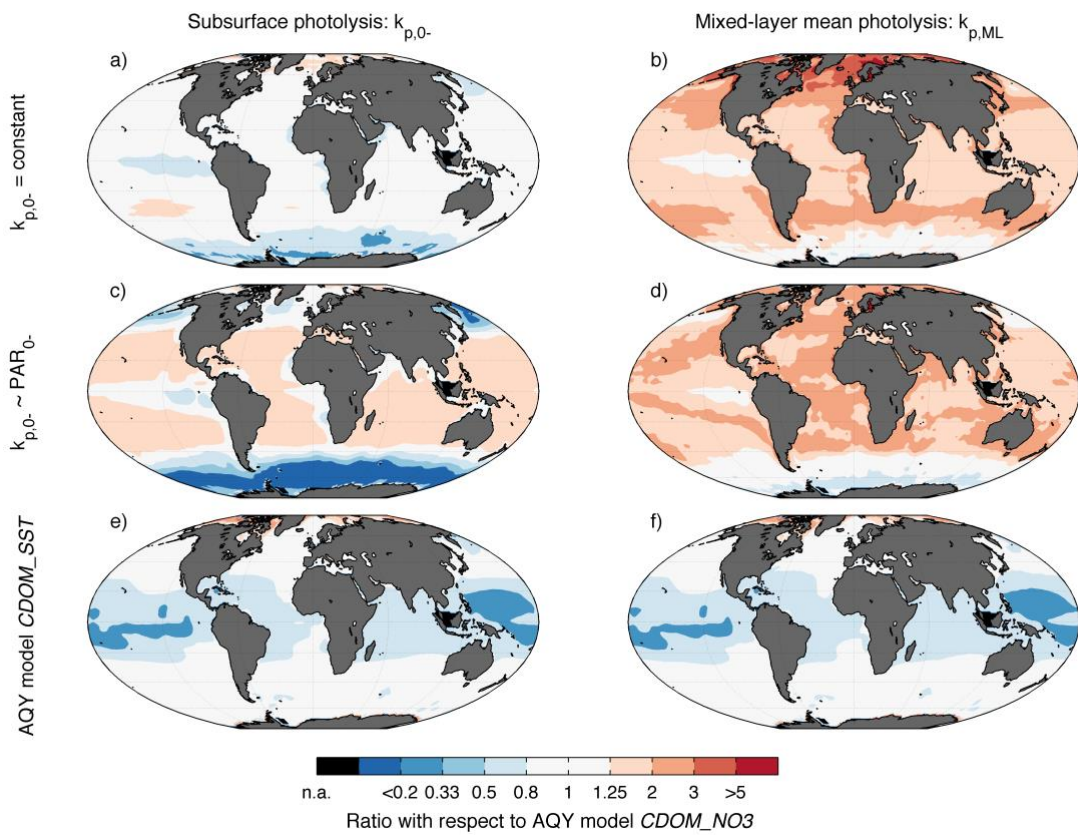
342

343 ***Figure 3***. *Comparison between annual mean photolysis rate constants for DMS at the sea*

344 *surface (left) and the upper mixed layer (right) obtained with different parameterizations*

345 *(rows), expressed as their ratio with respect to the reference model (spectral model with*

346 *AQY as a function of CDOM and NO_3^-): (a, b) K0_FIXED model with constant sub-*

347 *surface photolysis rate constant $k_{p,0-}$; (c, d) K0_SCALED model with $k_{p,0-}$ proportional to*

348 *subsurface PAR_{0-}; (e, f) spectral model with AQY as a function of CDOM and SST.*

349

3.4 Concluding remarks

Calculations based on the meta-analysis of in situ data suggested that photolysis was a larger sink for DMS in the UML than emission to the atmosphere (Galí and Simó 2015). However, our results imply that this is not the case but rather that photolysis removes approximately 30% less DMS than the 27 Tg S yr^{-1} removed by sea-air gas exchange (Hulswar et al. 2022). The bias of in situ sampling towards the summer season likely explains this discrepancy (Galí and Simó 2015). This unexpected conclusion of our study demonstrates the importance of using Earth observation data to extrapolate in situ rates to large scales.

Surface Southern Ocean waters stand out as a DMS photolysis hotspot globally. Secondary aerosols derived from atmospheric DMS oxidation play a key role in this region because of the low influence of anthropogenic and terrestrial aerosol sources and the summer minimum in primary marine aerosol (Fiddes et al. 2018; Fossum et al. 2018). Further work is warranted to understand the relative impact of photolysis and other DMS sinks in controlling DMS emission in this climatically important area.

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Supplemental Materials

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For the article

Global ocean dimethylsulfide photolysis rates quantified with a
spectrally and vertically resolved model

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CDOM; photosensitizer; ocean.

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Content: In SM1 and SM2 we describe the sub-models used to estimate the different
components of the DMS photolysis equation (eq. 4 of the main text). In SM3 we report
uncertainty assessment results. In SM4 we compare the parameterizations used in the
DMS modules of several global biogeochemistry models.

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SM1. Monthly climatology of sea-surface spectral irradiance

Downwelling spectral irradiance was computed using the Santa Barbara DISORT Atmospheric Radiative Transfer (SBDART) model (Ricchiazzi et al. 1998), a plane-parallel atmospheric radiative transfer model. Our specific SBDART implementation has been described and validated in previous works (Laliberté et al. 2016; Ayyala Somayajula et al. 2018). In this configuration, SBDART outputs the spectral irradiance (μmol quanta m^{-2} s^{-1} nm^{-1}) at a given location and time at a spectral resolution of 5 nm between 290 and 700 nm.

First, we calculated a five-dimensional look-up table (LUT) for spectral irradiance just below the water surface, $E_{d,0-}(\lambda)$ as a function of (i) wavelength (λ): 290 to 700 nm at 5-nm intervals; (ii) solar zenith angle (SZA): 0 to 90 degrees at 5° intervals; (iii) total ozone column: 100 to 550 Dobson units (DU) at 50-DU intervals; (iv) cloud optical thickness (COT): 0 to 64 in powers of 2 intervals (2^n, n from 0 to 6); and (v) surface albedo (A): 0.05 to 0.95 in 0.15 intervals. We additionally prescribed a constant aerosol optical depth of 0.05 at 550 nm representative of marine aerosols and vertical profiles of pressure, temperature, and water vapor profiles for a standard marine summer atmosphere. Total $E_{d,0-}(\lambda)$ was calculated as the sum of diffuse and direct irradiance considering their different reflection at the sea surface, following Fresnel's law for the direct component and assuming 6.6% reflectance for the diffuse component.

Second, for a given location and time, the LUT was interpolated using the input values provided by satellite observations. In this step, $E_{d,0-}(\lambda)$ was calculated under two situations: for a cloud-free sky, $E_{d,0-,CLEAR}(\lambda)$ (COT = 0), and for the satellite observed COT, $E_{d,0-,CLOUD}(\lambda)$. The final output was calculated as the mean of cloudy and cloud-free irradiance, weighted by the mean daily cloud fraction (CF):

$$E_{d,0-}(\lambda) = E_{d,0-,CLOUD}(\lambda) \times CF \ + \ E_{d,0-,CLEAR}(\lambda) \times (1 - CF) \qquad \text{(eq. S1)}$$

Satellite observations of the total ozone column, COT and CF were obtained from the Level-3 MODIS-Aqua atmosphere gridded product at daily 1°x1° resolution (Collection 005, MYD08_D3, https://modis-images.gsfc.nasa.gov/products_C005update.html).

Third, we used this setup to create a global monthly climatology at 5°x5° resolution by querying satellite data at the center of each 5°x5° macropixel. For a given day, spectral irradiance was calculated over 3 h intervals centered at 01:30, 04:30… and 22:30 (UTC time) to account for variations in SZA, obtaining an array with 83 wavelengths and 8 times. We computed $E_{d,0-}(\lambda)$ for the days 5, 15 and 25 of each month, and averaged the three arrays to obtain a monthly mean 83×8 array.
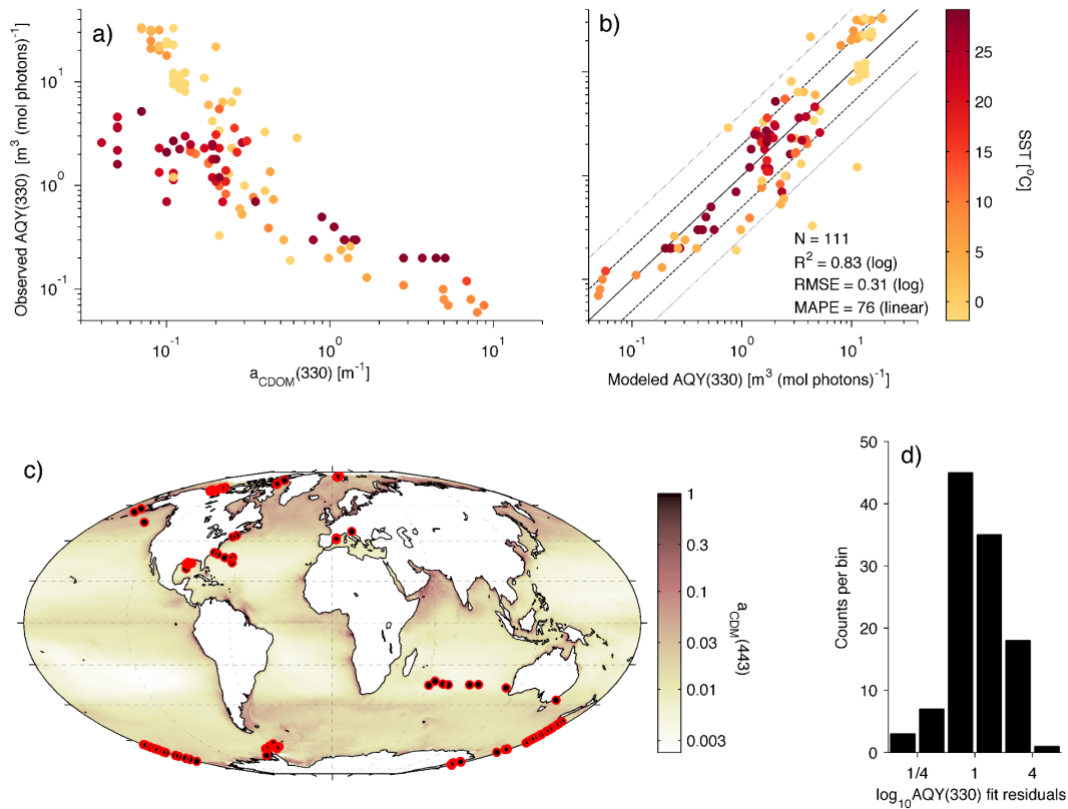
Figure S1. *As Fig. 1 of the main text but with $a_{CDOM}(330)$ and SST as predictors (eq. 1B).*

SM2. Underwater optics and irradiance fields

CDOM absorption spectra were estimated with a method (Swan et al. 2013) that exploits the nonlinear relationships between CDOM absorption coefficients, their spectral slopes between 320 and 400 nm, and the absorption coefficient of chromophoric detrital matter at 443 nm, $a_g(443)$. The latter is retrieved with the Garver-Siegel-Maritorena (GSM) semi-analytical algorithm (Maritorena et al. 2002). We applied Swan et al. (2013) algorithm to the full spectral range 290 and 500 nm, although the algorithm was not validated in the 325–412 nm spectral range. Given the typical exponential shape of CDOM spectra, we do not expect significant deviations in the vicinity of these validation wavelengths. Our calculations indicate that more than two thirds of total photolysis occur between 325 and 412 nm, such that algorithm inaccuracies outside this spectral region have a limited impact on total photolysis rate
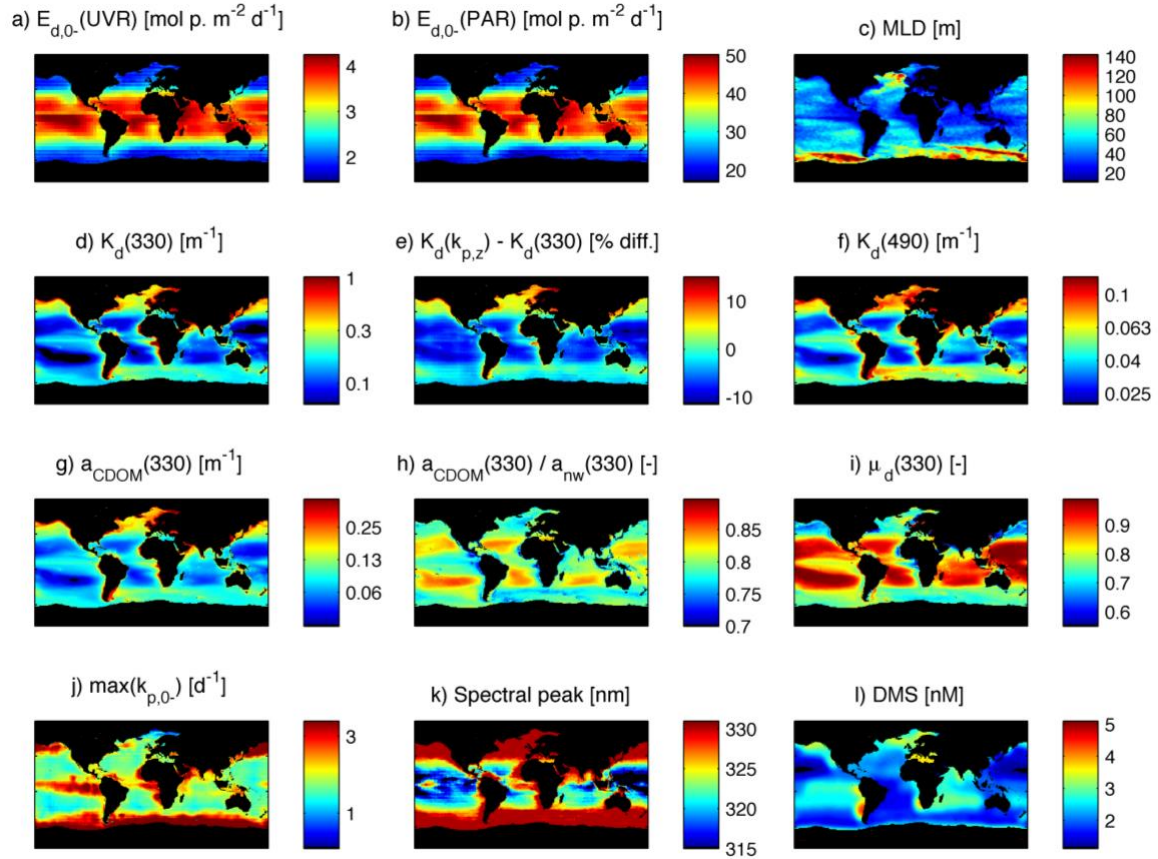
Figure S2. *Summary of the global annual mean distributions of relevant variables involved in, or resulting from, the calculation of spectrally resolved DMS photolysis.*

The spectral irradiance just below the sea surface was propagated downwards using the $K_d(\lambda)$ estimated with the SeaUV algorithm (Cao et al. 2014), using as input a climatology of remote sensing reflectances from the SeaWiFS sensor (412, 443, 490, 510, 555 and 670 nm). The SeaUV outputs (K_d at 320, 340, 380, 412, 443 and 490 nm) were spectrally interpolated to 5 nm resolution using the Matlab function 'interp1' with piecewise cubic Hermite interpolation ('pchip'). The same method was used to extrapolate their values between 320 nm and 290 nm.

The mean cosine of downwelling irradiance at 330 nm, $\mu_d(330)$, was estimated by inverting the model of Kirk (1991), by which:

$$K_d(\lambda) = \text{srqt}\{\ [a(\lambda)]^2 + G1 \cdot a(\lambda) \cdot b(\lambda)\ \} / \mu_d(\lambda) \qquad \text{(eq. S2)}$$

We set the dimensionless coefficient $G1 = 0.126$ (Pérez et al. 2016), and computed the total absorption and scattering coefficients at 330 nm as follows:

$$a(330) = a_w(330) + a_{phy}(330) + a_{nap}(330) + a_{CDOM}(330) \qquad \text{(eq. S3)}$$

575      $b(330) = b_w(330) + b_p(330)$ (eq. S4)

576   For pure seawater absorption and scattering coefficients we used the values tabulated in

577   Morel et al. (2007), $a_w(330) = 0.009$ m^{-1} and $b_w(330) = 0.0152$ m^{-1}. To estimate the

578   particulate absorption coefficient at 330 nm we used pre-computed bio-optical

579   relationships making some simplifying assumptions. First, we estimated phytoplankton

580   light absorption at 440 nm using eq. 2 of Bricaud et al. (1998),

581      $a_{phy}(440) = 0.0378$ Chl$^{0.627}$ (eq. S5)

582   where Chl is the chlorophyll a concentration at the sea surface; second, we assumed that

583      $a_{phy}(330) = a_{phy}(440)$ following the results shown in Fig. 5 of Bricaud et al. (2010), which

584   covered waters with wide-ranging trophic status. Although rough, this assumption

585   provides a plausible central value for the relationship between $a_{phy}(330)$ and $a_{phy}(440)$ in

586   the absence of a simple model of general applicability for $a_{phy}(330)$. Other studies found

587   similar results in meso- to oligotrophic Mediterranean waters (e.g. Pérez et al., 2021);

588   third, we estimated non-algal particulate absorption using eq. 3 of Bricaud et al. (1998),

589      $a_{nap}(440) = 0.0124$ Chl$^{0.724}$ (eq. S6)

590   and used the spectral slope of 0.010 nm^{-1} provided by Bricaud et al. (2010) (text and their

591   Fig. 12) to estimate a_{nap} at 330 nm,

592      $a_{nap}(330) = a_{nap}(440) \cdot \exp[-0.010 \cdot (330-440)]$ (eq. S7)

593   To calculate the particulate scattering coefficient at 330 nm we started from the equation

594   given in Table 2 of Loisel and Morel (1998), which estimates the beam attenuation

595   coefficient at 660 nm from Chl concentration:

596      $c_p(660) = 0.347$ Chl$^{0.766}$ (eq. S8)

597   We then followed Organelli et al. (2020) (eq. 2, Fig. 8 and text) to estimate the beam

598   attenuation coefficient at 330 nm:

599      $c_p(330) = c_p(660) [(330/660)^{-0.95}]$ (eq. S9)

600   Finally, the particulate scattering coefficient at 330 nm was calculated by subtracting

601   particulate absorption from total beam attenuation,

602      $b_p(330) = c_p(330) - a_p(330)$ (eq. S10)

603   This approach has the advantage of the reciprocal compensation of biases between

604      $b_p(330)$ and $a_p(330)$, whose total value remains bounded by $c_p(330)$.

605   Finally, scalar downwelling spectral irradiance was computed as $E_d(\lambda)/\mu_d(330)$, assuming

606   that $\mu_d(330)$ can be applied to other wavelengths because the photolysis spectrum is

607 heavily weighted towards wavelengths around 330 nm. Following previous studies
608 (Fichot and Miller 2010; Zhu and Kieber 2020) we neglected upwelling irradiance
609 because, at UV wavelengths that drive DMS photolysis, absorption coefficients are
610 generally much larger than scattering coefficients and therefore dominate light
611 attenuation. Under such conditions, the underwater light field is very directional (as
612 opposed to diffuse) and the cosine of underwater downwelling irradiance approaches 1.
613 As can be seen in Fg. S2, $\mu_d(330)$ is typically >0.9 in oligotrophic gyres and <0.8 in
614 temperate and (sub)polar regions. This results from the relatively larger particle load in
615 more productive waters, which lowers the contribution of CDOM to total non-water
616 absorption (a_{nw}) and simultaneously increases particulate scattering. Hence, neglecting
617 upwelling irradiance may cause a larger negative bias to DMS photolysis in temperate
618 and (sub)polar waters than in oligotrophic waters.

619 In summary, despite the uncertainties involved in the calculation of $\mu_d(330)$ through
620 several intermediate steps, its geographical patterns appear consistent with those of
621 better-known bio-optical quantities like Chl and a_{CDOM}. The global mean value of $\mu_d(330)$
622 is 0.82. Its inverse, 1.22, is the mean correction factor applied to E_d and is very close to
623 the constant factor of 1.2 previously used to model DMS photolysis in the Sargasso Sea
624 (Toole et al. 2003). Sargasso Sea waters oscillate between ultraoligotrophic conditions in
625 late summer and mesotrophic conditions during late winter. Based on radiative transfer
626 calculations for clear and cloudy skies and solar elevations typical of summer and winter,
627 the latter study reported a total range for this correction factor between 1.15 and 1.29,
628 which corresponds to μ_d between 0.78 and 0.87. For comparison, the annual range in
629 $\mu_d(330)$ produced by our approach at the same location (31°40′N 64°10′W) is 0.77–0.94.

630 Satellite datasets for $a_g(443)$, Chl, remote sensing reflectance spectra and $K_d(490)$ were
631 downloaded from the NASA Ocean Color website (https://oceancolor.gsfc.nasa.gov/; last
632 accessed on 12 May 2015). The global monthly climatologies from the SeaWiFS sensor
633 (1997–2010 period) were re-gridded from 1/12° to 1° resolution.

SM3. Uncertainty assessment

635 Following previous studies (Fichot and Miller 2010; Zhu and Kieber 2020), sensitivity
636 analyses were conducted by computing global monthly $k_{p,ML}$ fields with altered inputs of
637 AQY(λ), $a_{CDOM}(\lambda)$, $K_d(\lambda)$, $E_{d,0-}(\lambda)$ and Chl (which is used to compute μ_d, section SM2).
638 The input variables were altered by adding Gaussian noise according to the equation:

639 $$V_{altered}(\lambda) = V(\lambda) + V(\lambda) \cdot \varepsilon(\lambda) \cdot \gamma \quad\quad\quad\quad\quad\quad\quad \text{(eq. S11)}$$

640 where $V_{altered}(\lambda)$ and $V(\lambda)$ represent the altered and the original input variables, and γ is
641 the set percentage error, here defined as the mean absolute percentage error (MAPE;
642 often referred to as mean absolute percentage deviation).

643　We used $\gamma = 70\%$ for AQY(λ), $\gamma = 30\%$ for bio-optical variables (K$_d$(λ), a$_{CDOM}$(λ) and

644　Chl) and $\gamma = 10\%$ for E$_{d,0\text{-}}$(λ). These values are deemed representative of each variable's

645　uncertainty (see below).

646　In the case of Chl, the perturbation was applied as a normally distributed ε with mean = 0

647　and standard deviation = $1/\sqrt{2\pi}$. The latter expression is needed to translate the set

648　percentage error γ, i.e., MAPE, into standard deviation.

649　In the case of spectral variables, the random noise was expressed as:

650　$\varepsilon(\lambda) = U \cdot \varepsilon_U(\lambda) \cdot + C \cdot \varepsilon_C(\lambda)$ (eq. S12)

651　where ε_U represents spectrally uncorrelated noise (a different error at every wavelength)

652　and ε_C represents a constant error for the whole spectrum. Both errors are generated

653　randomly based on a normal distribution with mean = 0 and standard deviation = $1/\sqrt{2\pi}$.

654　U and C are the fractions of ε_U and ε_C , and U + C = 1. According to the results of the

655　previous studies where different U and C values were evaluated, we set U = C = 0.5.

656　Gaussian noise was generated with the Matlab function 'random'.

657　The choice of MAPE values is justified as follows:

658　　-　AQY empirical fits have a MAPE of around 70% (Fig. 1 and S1).

659　　-　a$_{CDOM}$(325) has the following validation statistics according to Swan et al. (2013):

660　　　　$R^2 = 0.77$, and model-data slope between 0.54 and 1.51 depending on the

661　　　　validation dataset. Our own assessment, based on the matchups between the

662　　　　a$_{CDOM}$(330) in the in-situ dataset (Galí et al. 2016) and that retrieved from

663　　　　SeaWiFS data (Swan et al., 2013), returned the following statistics: $R^2 = 0.85$,

664　　　　MAPE = 31%, RMSE = 0.14, mean bias = 2% for daily composites (n = 4), and

665　　　　$R^2 = 0.89$, MAPE = 32%, RMSE = 0.07 and mean bias = -23% for 8-day

666　　　　composites (n = 33), using 5x5 macropixels for matchups in both cases. Although

667　　　　larger datasets would be needed to obtain representative validation statistics in our

668　　　　specific dataset, it may be reasonable to assume that a$_{CDOM}$(330) retrievals have

669　　　　MAPE = 30% at the scale of 1°x1° pixels used for global photolysis estimates,

670　　　　because fine-scale spatiotemporal mismatches between in situ data and satellite

671　　　　pixels tend to cancel out over larger scales.

672　　-　K$_d$ has MAPE between 15% and 20% (Cao et al. 2014) for the 6 SeaUV spectral

673　　　　bands (320, 340, 380, 412, 443, 490 nm). The MAPE = 30% used here is

674　　　　probably an upper bound.

675　　-　Chl typically has log$_{10}$ root-mean-squared error between 0.16 and 0.25 for in situ

676　　　　matchup data representative of the open ocean environment (Brewin et al. 2016).

677　　　　These values correspond approximately to MAPE between 25% and 40%. Given

678   that errors tend to cancel out when averaged over the larger 1°x1° pixels over

679   monthly periods used here, we prescribe MAPE = 30%.

680   -   Broadband PAR estimates at monthly resolution have RMSE = 9.6% (Somayajula

681   et al. 2018) for the combination of SBDART with MODIS Aqua input variables

682   (Table 4, method "SB_M"). For normally distributed (Gaussian) error, this

683   corresponds approximately to a MAPE = 8%. Note also that spectral E_d error in

684   the UV is likely larger than broadband PAR error, but that spectrally-uncorrelated

685   error will partially cancel out when computing spectrally-integrated variables like

686              $k_{p,ML}$. Hence, here we assume MAPE = 10%.

687   To quantify the uncertainty associated with each variable we calculated the ratio between

688   the reference run (*CDOM_NO3*) and each perturbed run for the ensemble of monthly

689   1°x1° pixels. Given that this ratio had a non-normal distribution in many cases (Fig. S3),

690   we report the following non-parametric dispersion metrics in Table S1: the median ratio

691   between the perturbed and the reference run (quantile 0.5), and the quantiles 0.16 and

692   0.84. These quantiles bracket the 68% central values and correspond, therefore, to ± 1

693   standard deviation of a Gaussian distribution.

694   The AQY(λ) caused the largest uncertainty, with perturbed/reference ratios usually

695   between 0.5 and 2 and a non-normal distribution, with a long right tail but a mode < 1.

696   The following largest sources of uncertainty were $K_d(\lambda)$ and $a_{CDOM}(\lambda)$ spectra, whose

697   perturbation caused similar dispersion but larger right skewness in the case of $K_d(\lambda)$.

698   Smaller uncertainty was associated with $E_{d,0-}(\lambda)$ and Chl, in this order. Therefore, the

699   sensitivity of modeled photolysis rates to the bio-optical relationships used to compute μ_d

700   (eq. S2–10) is small. Finally, note that the uncertainty caused by the combination of

701   perturbed $a_{CDOM}(\lambda)$, $K_d(\lambda)$, $E_{d,0-}(\lambda)$ and Chl is also non-normally distributed, but smaller

702   than that caused by AQY(λ) alone. This test further justifies the use of 2 alternative

703   AQY(λ) parameterizations in the main article to obtain a more realistic uncertainty

704   assessment. We did not combine perturbations of AQY(λ) with perturbations of the other

705   variables because in our model AQY(λ) is a function of $a_{CDOM}(\lambda)$, such that altering both

706   variables simultaneously might overestimate uncertainty.

707
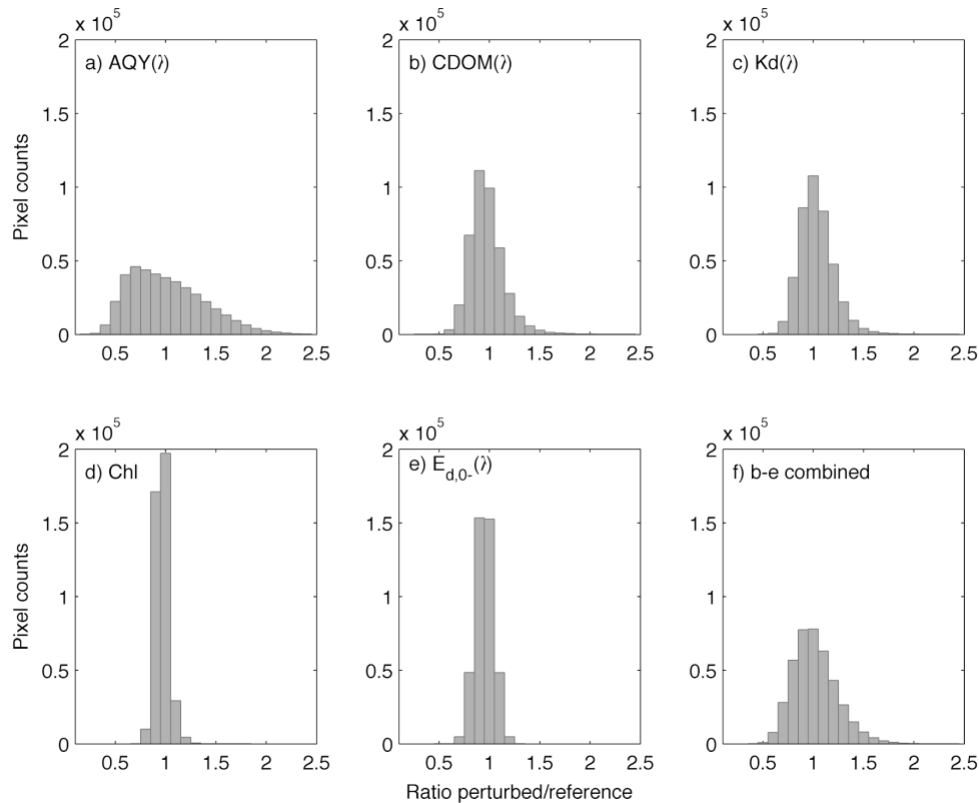
Figure S3. *Summary of the uncertainty assessment based on the addition of gaussian*
noise (SM3). For each altered variable, we show the histogram of the ratio between the
altered and the reference fields of $k_{P,ML}$. Larger spread around 1 indicates larger
uncertainty associated with that variable. Selected quantiles are reported in Table S1.

SM4. Comparison between PAR-driven simplified schemes in global models

The k^{PAR} parameter (eq. 5) and the PAR forcing fields together determine the
spatiotemporal changes in sea-surface photolysis in the *K0_SCALED* scheme. In our
study we set k^{PAR} = 0.0128 m² (mol photons)⁻¹, the median of 111 globally distributed
measurements of $k_{p,0-}$ divided by their corresponding SBDART-derived PAR₀₋ (Galí et al.
2016). This value was chosen to facilitate comparisons between *K0_SCALED* and the
models based on AQY spectra from the same dataset but differs largely from those
employed in other models.

In Table S2 we compare the value of k^{PAR} across different models, focusing on global
studies published after the review of Vézina (2004). Given that in most cases irradiance
was expressed in energy units instead of quantum units, we interconverted between them
units using a factor of $2.5 \cdot 10^{18}$ quanta s⁻¹ W⁻¹ (Morel and Smith 1974), which is
equivalent to assuming that 100 W/m² = 36 mol photons m⁻² d⁻¹. This conversion factor is

valid only for broadband PAR (400-700 nm) just below the sea surface because of the progressive spectral shift that occurs deeper down the water column.

***Table S1**. Summary of the uncertainty assessment based on the addition of gaussian noise (SM3). For each altered variable, we report the 16%, 50% and 84% quantiles of the ratio between the altered and the reference fields of $k_{p,ML}$. Larger spread around a ratio of 1 indicates larger uncertainty associated with that variable. The bottom row shows the result of simultaneously altering variables b-e. The distributions of the same variables are shown in Fig. S3.*

Altered variable	Prescribed MAPE	Quantile 0.16	Quantile 0.50 (median)	Quantile 0.84
a) AQY(λ)	70%	0.69	1.01	1.45
b) $a_{CDOM}(\lambda)$	30%	0.87	1.00	1.17
c) $K_d(\lambda)$	30%	0.93	1.07	1.24
d) Chl	30%	0.95	1.00	1.07
e) $E_{d,0-}(\lambda)$	10%	0.91	1.00	1.09
b-e combined	Variable-specific	0.86	1.04	1.28

Vézina (2004) proposed a value of k^{PAR} (named ϕ in their study) of 0.072 m^2 W^{-1} d^{-1}. This value is equivalent to the hourly parameter $\phi = 0.003$ m^2 W^{-1} h^{-1} *apparently* used by Lefèvre et al. (2002). We highlight *apparently* because the value reported by Lefèvre et al. (2002) in the text has an order-of-magnitude error. Quoting from that study:

"With onboard experiments in the equatorial Pacific Kieber et al. (1996) found a rate of 0.054 h^{-1} at an average irradiance of 750 W m^{-2} during 4 h for yearday 74 at latitude 0°. With our spectral module, the irradiance calculated between 400 and 460 nm for that day at the sea surface was found to be approximately 25% of the total irradiance. We calculated $\phi = 0.054 / (750 \cdot 0.25) = 0.003$ h^{-1} (W m^{-2})$^{-1}$ so that ϕ, the photo-oxidation rate, varies with depth and season along with the irradiance between 400 and 460 nm. Using this ϕ value on day 74 at latitude 0°, the model calculates a photolysis rate at the sea surface varying from 0.047 h^{-1} (with 90% cloud cover) to 0.067 h^{-1} (with no cloud cover)".

747 Obviously, $\phi = 0.054 / (750\cdot0.25) = 0.0003$ h^{-1} (W m^{-2})$^{-1}$, is tenfold lower than the value

748 given in the text.

749 The model study of Bopp et al. (2008) used the parameterization proposed by Vézina

750 (2004) and calculated photolysis rates as $P = \lambda^{PAR}_{DMS}\cdot PAR\cdot[DMS]$. In Bopp's model

751 λ^{PAR}_{DMS} was set to 0.05 m^2 W^{-1} d^{-1}, and photolysis was forced using total PAR rather than

752 the 25% of total shortwave irradiance, likely leading to overestimation of photolysis

753 rates.

754 Vogt et al. (2010) followed the parameterization of Bopp et al. (2008) and set their

755 corresponding parameter (named λ^{light}) to the same value, 0.05 m^2 W^{-1} d^{-1}. However,

756 Vogt's paper gives confusing information on parameter units. According to their Table 1

757 the units of λ^{light} are d^{-1}. However, photolysis rates are computed as $P = \lambda^{light}\cdot PAR\cdot[DMS]$

758 (eq. 4 and eq. 20 of Vogt et al. (2010)), which suggests λ^{light} actually has units of m^2 W^{-1}

759 d^{-1} and the parameterization is therefore identical to that in Bopp et al. (2008).

760 Belviso et al. (2012) introduced some innovations in the parameterisation of DMS

761 photolysis that remained in subsequent versions of the PISCES model (Masotti et al.

762 2015) and apparently up to recent CMIP6 simulations (Bock et al. 2021). First, Belviso et

763 al. (2012) computed the PAR dependent photolysis rate constant using a Michaelis-

764 Menten formulation following Archer et al. (2002):

765 $\lambda^{PAR}_{DMS} = f3 \cdot PAR/(PAR + h1)$ (eq. S13)

766 where f3 = 0.25 d^{-1} and h1 = 5 W m^{-2}. Second, they added nitrate-dependent modulation

767 of photolysis:

768 $\lambda^{NO3}_{DMS} = \max(L^{DMS}_{NO3}, 0.01)$ (eq. S14)

769 $L^{DMS}_{NO3} = [NO_3] / ([NO_3] + 10\,\mu M)$ (eq. S15)

770 Photolysis rates were finally computed as

771 $P = \lambda^{NO3}_{DMS} \lambda^{NO3}_{DMS} [DMS]$ (eq. S16)

772 As a result, photolysis rate constants in this scheme (the product $\lambda^{NO3}_{DMS} \lambda^{NO3}_{DMS}$) cannot

773 exceed f3 = 0.25 d^{-1}, and will be less than half of it wherever nitrate is lower than 10 μM

774 or PAR is lower than 5 W m^{-2}. This makes us wonder whether the actual expression

775 should be

776 $P = (\lambda^{NO3}_{DMS} + \lambda^{NO3}_{DMS}) [DMS]$ (eq. S17)

777 which would increase sea-surface photolysis rate constants from ~0.25 d^{-1} to ~0.75 d^{-1} for

778 [NO$_3$] = 10 μM, which seems to better represent observations. This parameterization was

779 adopted in subsequent PISCES model versions, possibly up to the PISCES-v2-gas model

780   employed in the recent CMIP6 exercise (Bock et al. 2021).

781   In Table S2 we also estimate the maximal mean daily photolysis rates that can be
782   achieved in each model, assuming a mean daily irradiance of 62.5 mol photons m^{-2} d^{-1}
783   just below the sea surface, which is the maximal mean daily value for PAR_{0-} in our
784   monthly climatology computed with SBDART. This value is equivalent to 173 W m^{-2}
785   according to the above conversion factors. One can arrive at a very similar value from
786   simple astronomical calculations. With a mean top-of-atmosphere solar irradiance ("solar
787   constant") of 1368 W m^{-2}, the maximal daily mean shortwave irradiance at the sea
788   surface (latitudes between 80°N and 80°S) would be 447 W m^{-2} during the month of the
789   summer solstice. Note that this value does not consider atmospheric attenuation.
790   Assuming a standard 6% sea-surface reflectance (Kirk 2011), we obtain 420 W m^{-2} just
791   below the sea surface. Given that the PAR wavelengths typically account for 43% of total
792   shortwave irradiance (Kirk 2011), the maximal daily mean PAR irradiance is
793   approximately 181 W m^{-2}, 5% higher than 173 W m^{-2}. This difference can be accounted
794   for by atmospheric attenuation on a very clear day.

795   Finally, we note that some global model studies were not analyzed here because their
796   descriptions of photolysis parameterizations were not detailed enough (Elliott 2009;
797   Cameron-Smith et al. 2011; Wang et al. 2015, 2018a; b).

798

799 **Table S2**. *Summary of the values of k^{PAR} used in different models. Bold face is used to*
800 *highlight k^{PAR} in the original units used in each model. The maximal daily photolysis*
801 *rates of each model are computed assuming a maximal mean daily PAR irradiance of*
802 *62.5 mol photons m^{-2} d^{-1}, approximately equivalent to 173 W m^{-2}.*

Reference	Original name of k^{PAR}	k^{PAR} [m^2 (mol phot.)$^{-1}$]	k^{PAR} [m^2 W^{-1} d^{-1}]	Maximum daily $k_{p,0^-}$ [d^{-1}]
Vézina (2004)	ϕ	0.20	**0.072**	7.2
Bopp et al. 2008	λ^{PAR}_{DMS}	0.139	**0.05**	8.65
Vogt et al. (2010)	λ^{light}	0.139	**0.05**	8.65
Belviso et al. 2012	not applicable (see SM4 text)	0.0082	**0.0029**	0.5
This study, *K0_SCALED*	k^{PAR}	**0.0128**	0.0046	0.8
This study, *CDOM_NO3*	not applicable: spectrally resolved model			4.47
Galí et al. (2016)	not applicable: meta-analysis of in situ studies			3.66

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