



Vilnius  
University

---

# WATER QUALITY PARAMETERS ASSESSMENT IN LITHUANIAN LAKES USING REMOTE SENSING AND MACHINE LEARNING

DALIA GRENDAITĖ

phD student

Supervisor: Edvinas Stonevičius

Institute of Geosciences, Vilnius University,  
M. K. Čiurlionio 21/27, LT-03101 Vilnius, Lithuania

Email address: [dalia.grendaite@chgf.vu.lt](mailto:dalia.grendaite@chgf.vu.lt)

# State monitoring system

**357 lakes and ponds**

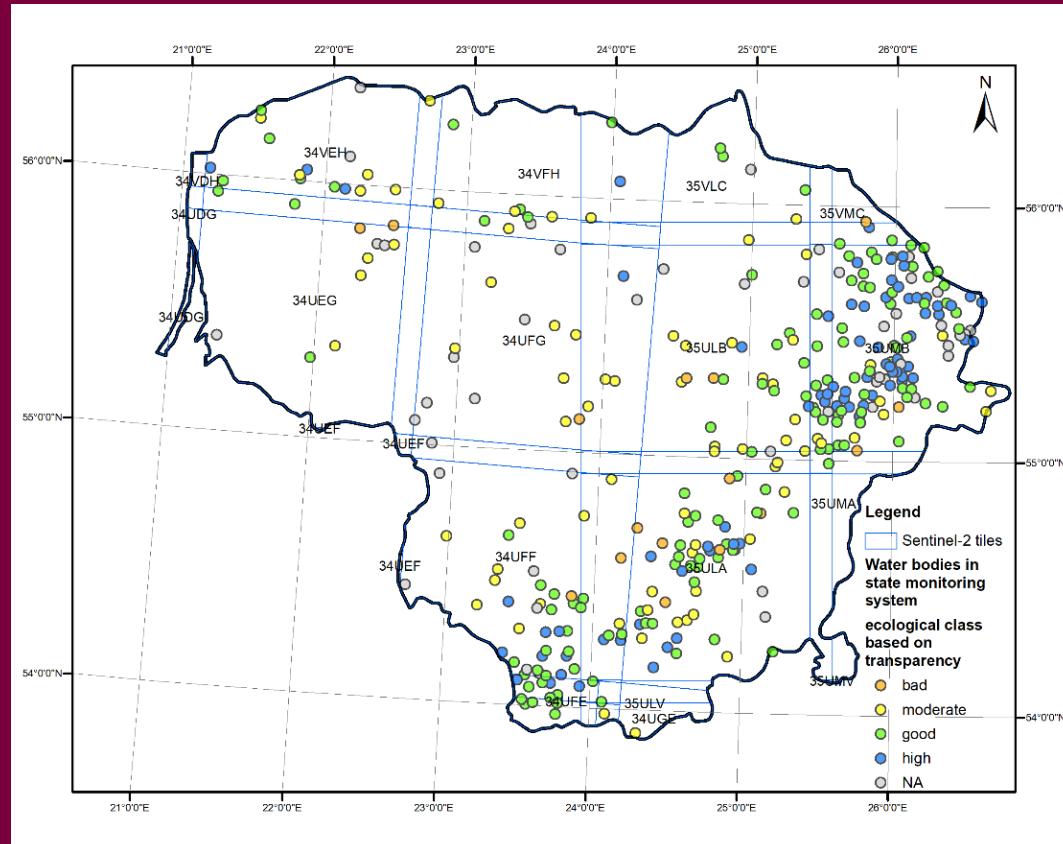
289 are natural, the rest –  
artificial or heavily  
modified

During years 2015-2020  
308 lakes and ponds were  
monitored.

60% good/high class  
(based on transparency)

## 26% bad/moderate class

14% NA



## Algal blooms



# Lake Jieznas



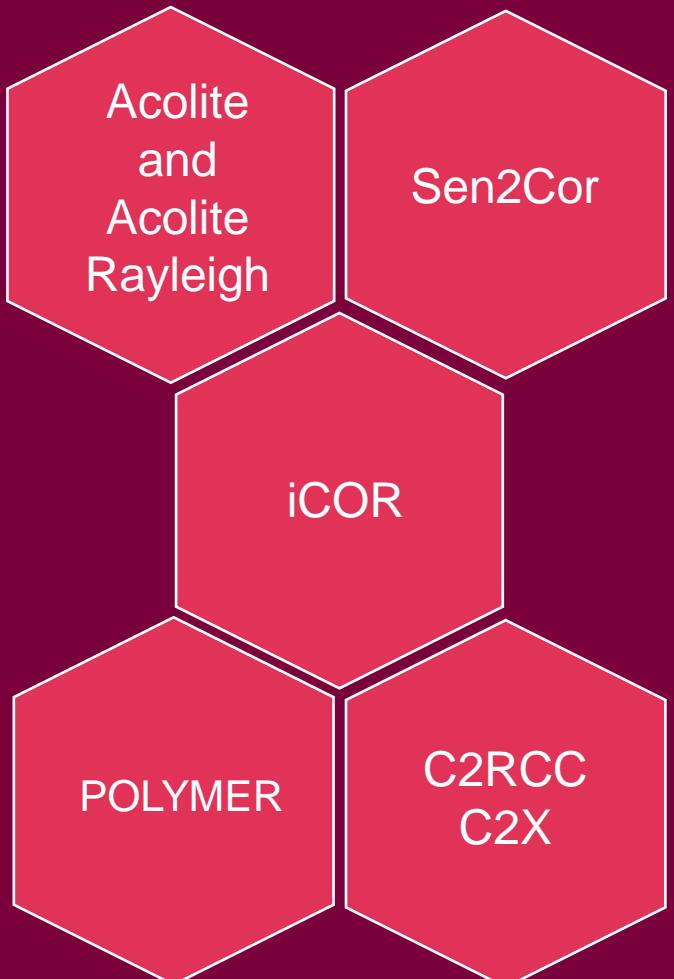
# Lake Mastis

# Remote sensing data

We need well performing **atmospheric correction algorithms** and  
good **parameter retrieval algorithms**  
to be able to use remote sensing data **more effectively and more  
reliably**.

# Uncertainty of atmospheric correction algorithm selection for chlorophyll $\alpha$ retrieval

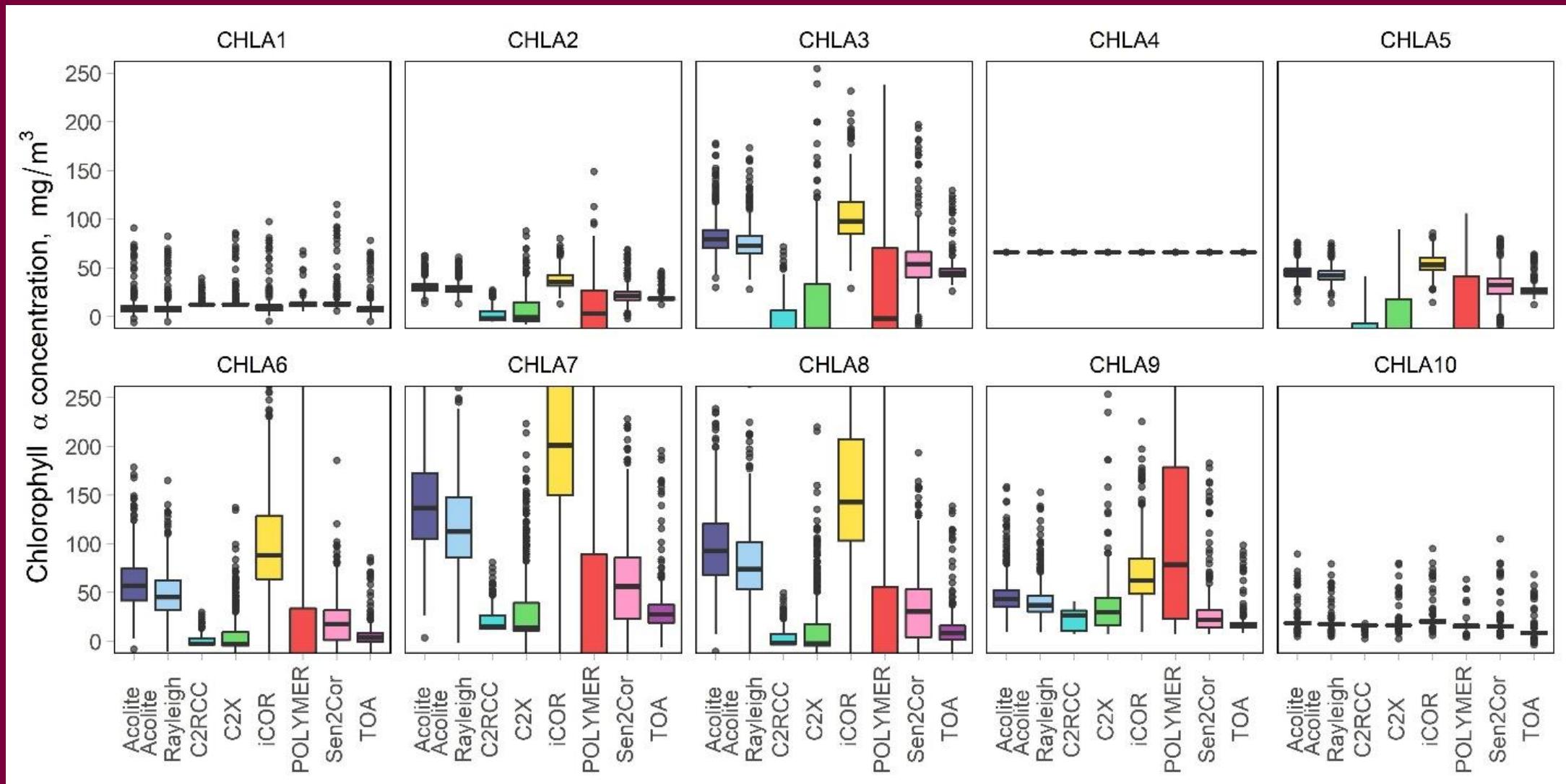
Vilnius  
University



Chlorophyll $\alpha$ algorithm code	Reference of empirical equation	Empirical equation
CHLA1	Toming et al., 2016	$-2231 * \left( R705 - \frac{R665 + R740}{2} \right) + 12.7$
CHLA2	Moses et al., 2009	$61.32 * \frac{R705}{R665} - 37.94$
CHLA3	Watanabe et al., 2019	$185.34 * \frac{R705}{R665} - 125.9$
CHLA4	Watanabe et al., 2019	$0.000001 * \frac{R705}{R665} / (705 - 665) + 66.038$
CHLA5	Soomets et al., 2020	$\frac{R665}{R705} * (-105.3) + 140.6$
CHLA6	Moses et al., 2009	$-232.29 * (R665^{-1} - R705^{-1}) * R740 + 23.174$
CHLA7	Watanabe et al., 2019	$474.69 * ((R665^{-1} - R705^{-1}) * R740) + 67.502$
CHLA8	Soomets et al., 2020	$-368.5 * \left( \frac{R740}{R705} - \frac{R740}{R665} \right) + 39.1$
CHLA9	Watanabe et al., 2019	$\left( \frac{R705 - R665}{R705 + R665} \right)^2 * (-1093.2) + 283.47 * \left( \frac{R705 - R665}{R705 + R665} \right) + 25.947$
CHLA10	Grendaitė, 2018	$2054(R705 - 1.05 * R665) + 17$

# Chlorophyll $\alpha$ concentration retrieval

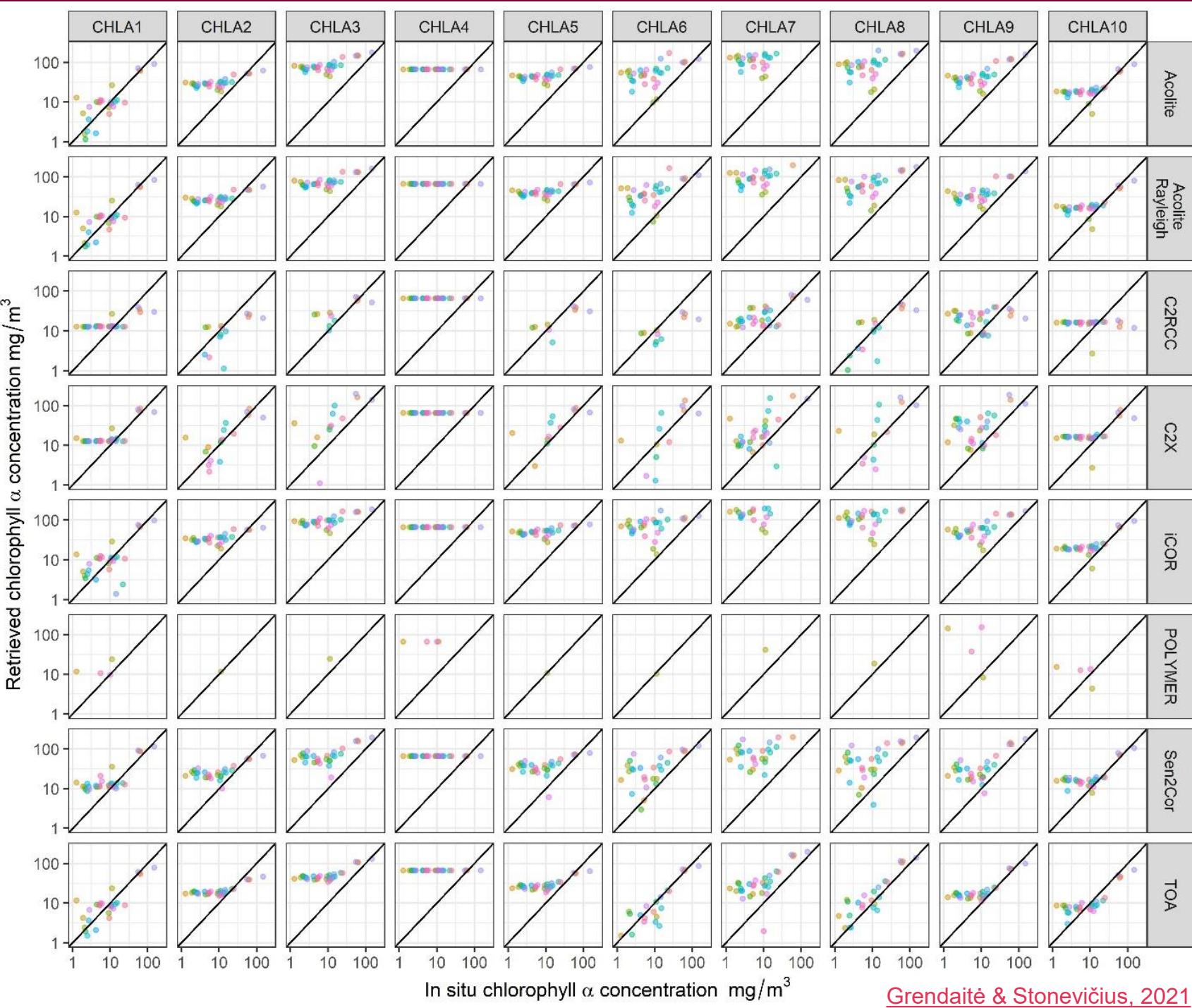
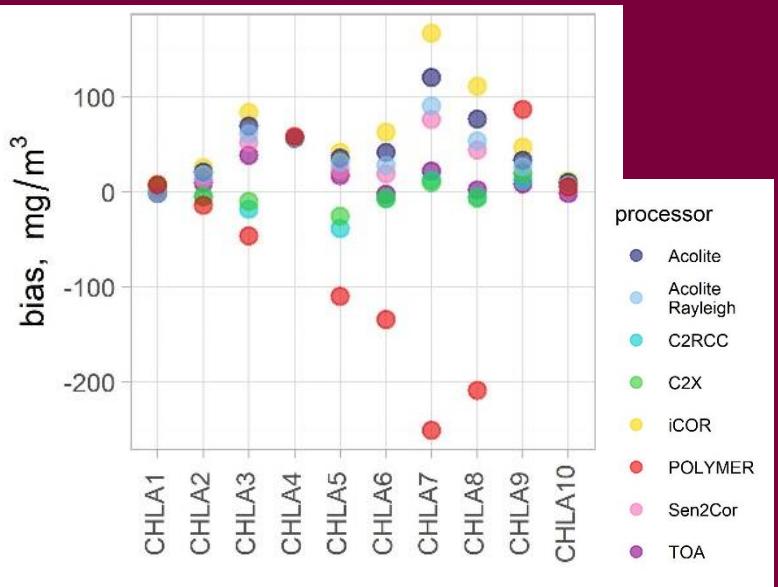
Vilnius  
University



# Chlorophyll $\alpha$ concentration retrieval – matchup analysis

30 matchup points

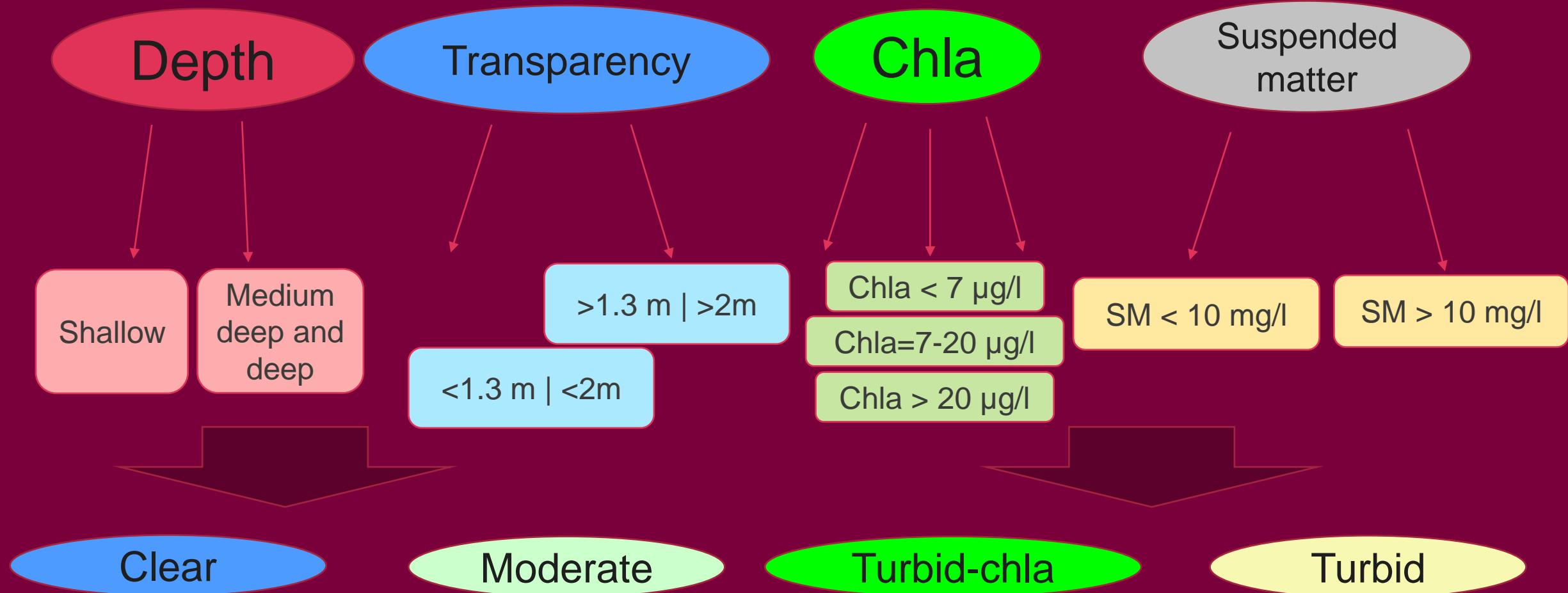
$0 \pm 1$  day difference between  
the in situ and the satellite  
acquisition



# Inland water classification

Vilnius  
University

Classification based on in situ measurements



# Lake classification

Two class problem

Class	Transparency, m	Chlorophyll $\alpha$ concentration, mg $m^{-3}$	Suspended matter concentration, g $m^{-3}$	Number of lakes	Number of cases
Clear	SD $\geq$ 1.3 m for shallow lakes SD $\geq$ 2 m for medium deep and deep lakes	Chla < 7.2	SM<10	119	336
Other	SD < 1.3 m for shallow lakes SD < 2 m for medium deep and deep lakes	any	any	149	375

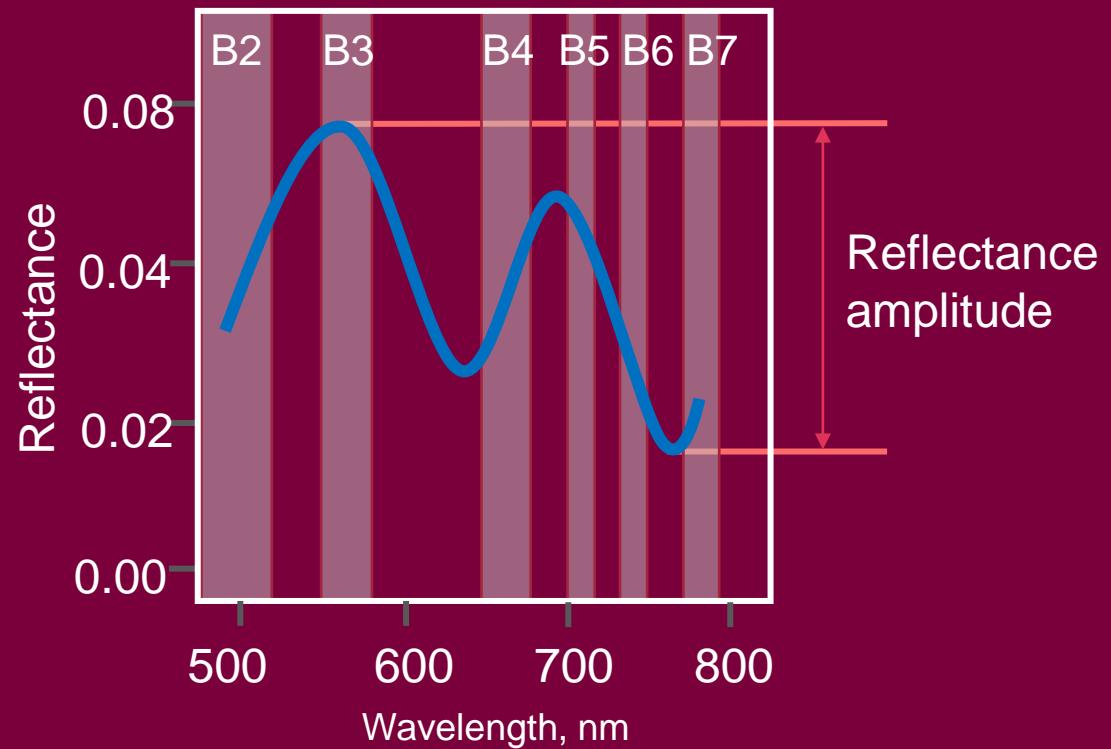
Three class problem

Class	Transparency, m	Chlorophyll $\alpha$ concentration, mg $m^{-3}$	Suspended matter concentration,	Number of lakes	Number of cases
Moderate	SD $\geq$ 1.3 m for shallow lakes SD $\geq$ 2 m for medium deep and deep lakes	Chla= [7.2, 20]	SM<10	93	168
Turbid-chla	SD < 1.3 m for shallow lakes	Chla>20	any	55	115
Turbid	SD < 2 m for medium deep and deep lakes	Chla<20		51	92

# A class retrieval from remote sensing data

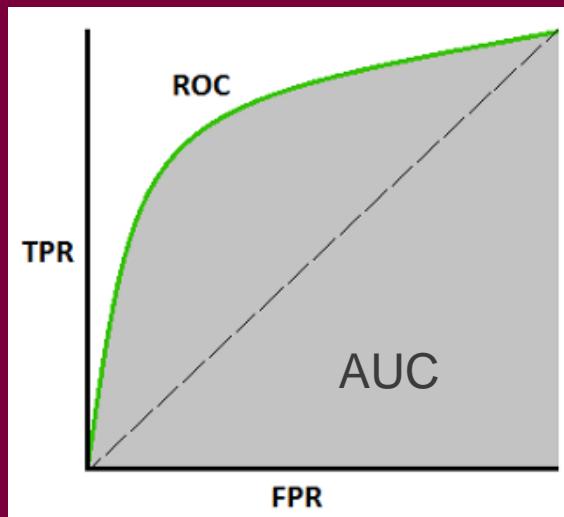
Features derived from remotely sensed spectra:

- reflectance amplitude,
- band ratios R705/R665, R560/R665, R560/R705,
- apparent visible wavelength (Vandermeulen et al., 2020),
- hue angle (van der Woerd et al., 2018) calculated based on visible 490-665 nm and red-edge 705 nm bands ,
- colour based on Forel-Ule colour scale as derived from hue angle (van der Woerd et al., 2018),
- month



# Machine learning algorithms

- Logistic regression (LR)
- Support vector machine (SVM)
- Ensemble methods:
  - AdaBoost (Ada)
  - XGBoost (XGB)
  - Random forest (RF)



## Model performance metrics:

		Predicted label	
		0	1
True label	0	True negatives (TN)	False positives (FP)
	1	False negatives (FN)	True positives (TP)

$$\text{accuracy} = \frac{TP + TN}{TP + TN + FP + FN}$$

$$F1 = 2 \cdot \frac{\text{precision} \cdot \text{recall}}{\text{precision} + \text{recall}}$$

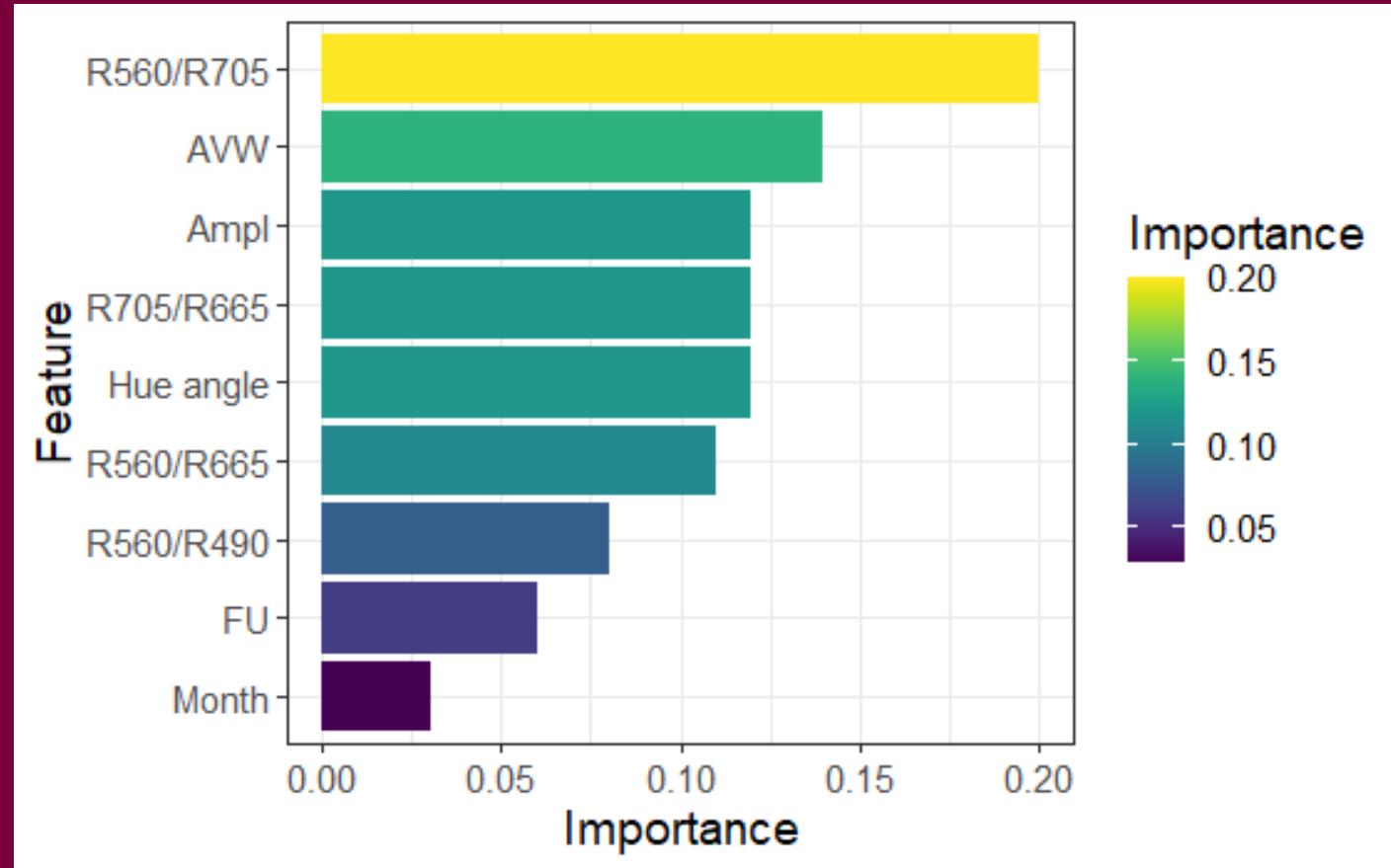
$$\text{precision} = \frac{TP}{TP + FP}$$

$$\text{recall} = \frac{TN}{TN + FN}$$

# Two class problem

Classifier	Hyper-parameter optimization	Validation accuracy	Validation AUC	Test accuracy	Test AUC
Logistic regression	No	0.8	0.86	0.79	0.8
	Yes	0.79	0.87	0.76	0.75
Support Vector Machine	No	0.79	0.87	0.76	0.77
	Yes	0.8	0.87	0.78	0.79
Random Forest	No	0.78	0.85	0.74	0.74
	Yes	0.78	0.85	0.78	0.78
AdaBoost	No	0.75	0.83	0.75	0.75
	Yes	0.76	0.83	0.73	0.73
XGBoost	No	0.78	0.85	0.78	0.78
	Yes	0.77	0.83	0.75	0.75

# Important features (random forest)



Feature importance as used by RF model

# Conclusions

Large uncertainties come from atmospheric correction algorithm and parameter retrieval algorithm selection.

We try to create a data-driven approach to get a class of a lake based on its spectrum from remotely sensed data. This could be used in areas where in situ spectral data is not available.

Important features: R560/R705 ratio, apparent visible wavelength, amplitude.

Lake classes can be used to create water quality parameter retrieval models.



Vilnius  
University

# Thank you for your attention!



## CONTACTS

DALIA GRENDAITĖ

phD student

Supervisor: Edvinas Stonevičius

Institute of Geosciences, Vilnius University,  
M. K. Čiurlionio 21/27, LT-03101 Vilnius, Lithuania

Email address: [dalia.grendaite@chgf.vu.lt](mailto:dalia.grendaite@chgf.vu.lt)