

Use of Digital Holographic Cameras to Examine the Measurement and Understanding of Sediment Suspension in the Nearshore

Daniel C. Conley*

Daniel Buscombe

Alex Nimmo Smith

daniel.conley@plymouth.ac.uk

**COASTAL
PROCESSES
WITH
PLYMOUTH
UNIVERSITY**



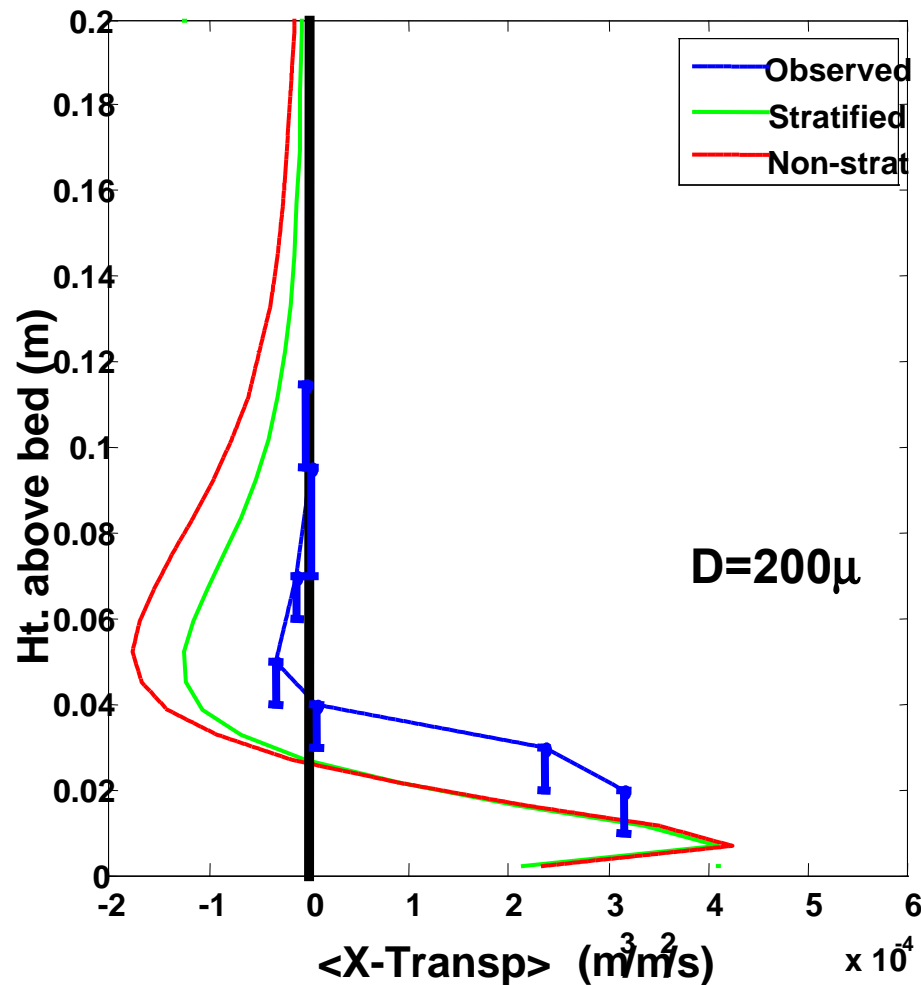
**PARTICLE
IMAGING
WITH
PLYMOUTH
UNIVERSITY**

OUTLINE

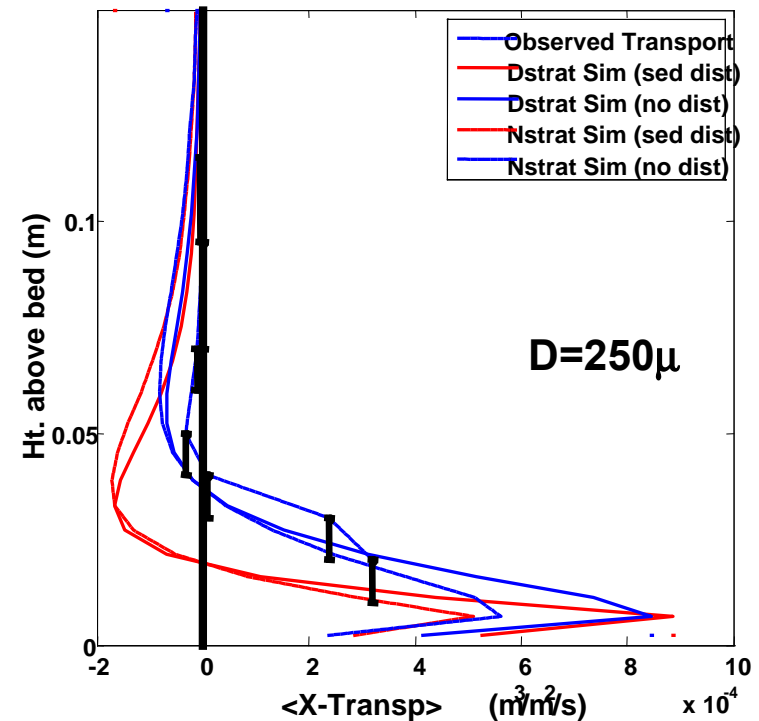
- Why suspended grain size important
- Praa Sands Experiment
- Technology
- Holo cam vs ABS comparison
- Grain Size Results
- Other Sensors
- Conclusions

Suspended Grain Size Importance

Study of suppression of turbulence by suspended sediment*

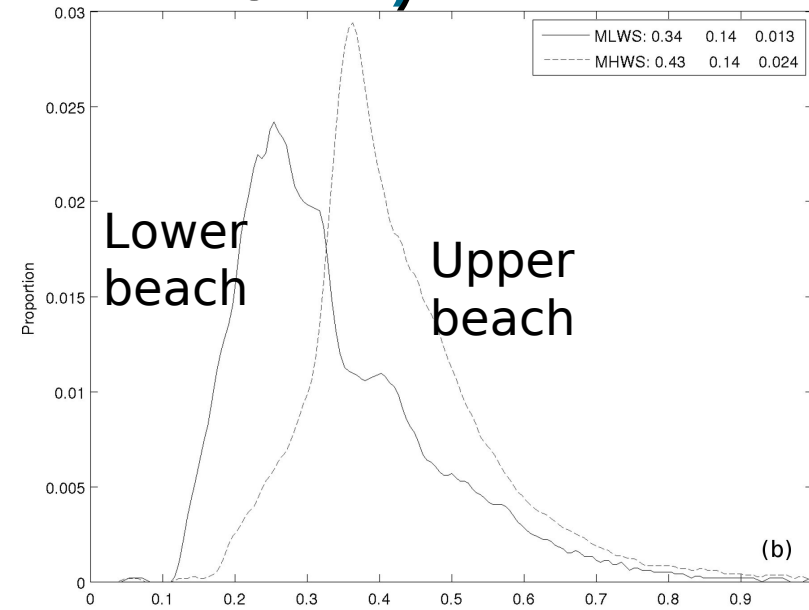
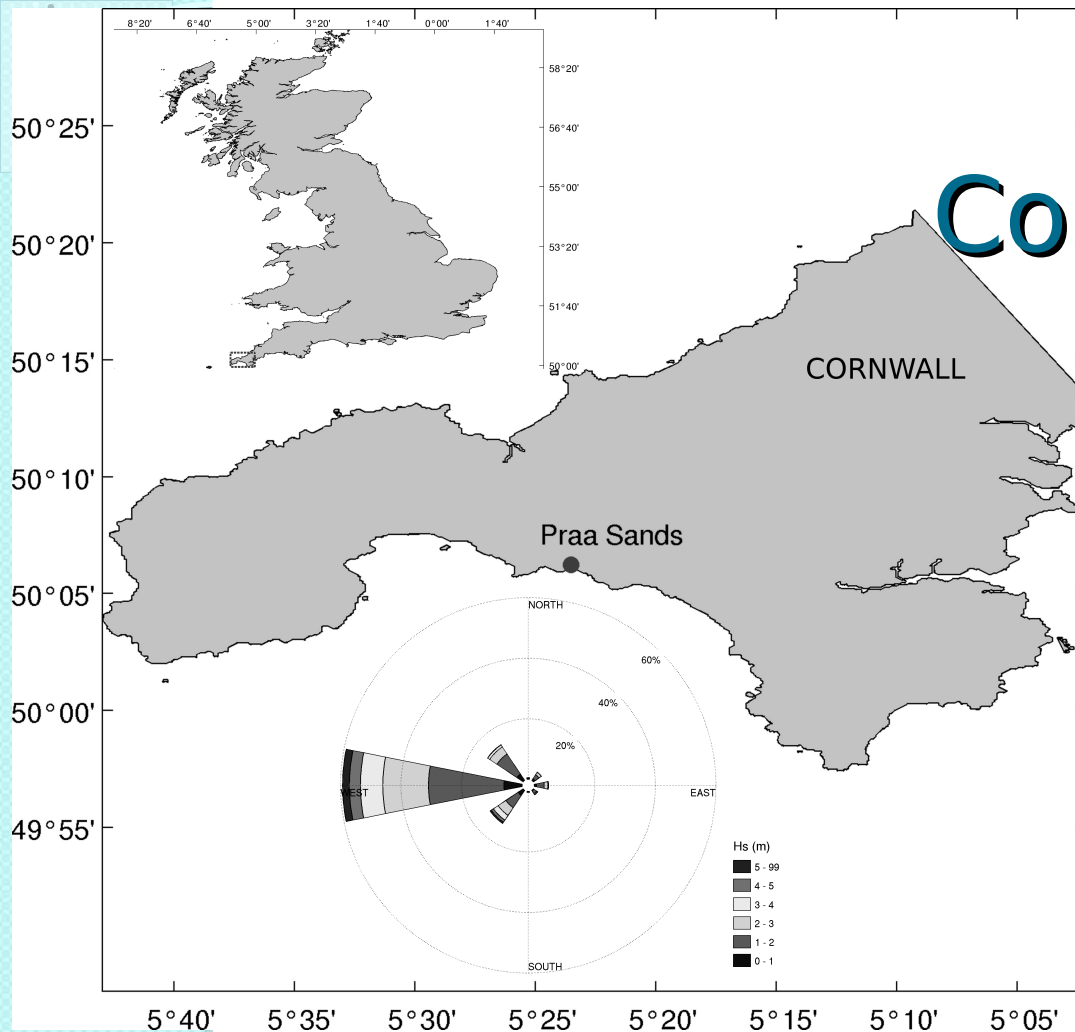


Effects of single grain size vs distribution



* Conley, DC, Falchetti, S, Lohmann IP & M. Brocchinin (2008), Jour. Fluid Mech. V. 610, pp 42-67

Experiment Cornwall, UK (May 2011)





FOBS Vectrinos

ABS

Holocam

ADV
(backscatter)

LISST-Holo

ADV
(backscatter)

OBS

Co-located acoustic backscatter sensor (ABS) and Holocam, plus other measures of SSC from FOBS, ADVs and OBSs

13 separate instruments for SSC located within 1 / 10m

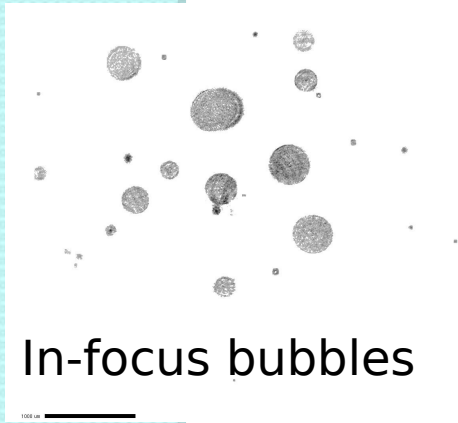
Particle Holography I



First deployment of holographic camera in surf zone - able to quantify relative abundance of sand, bubbles and other particles, their size distributions and volumetric concentrations

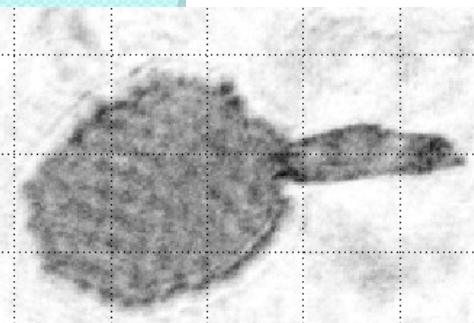
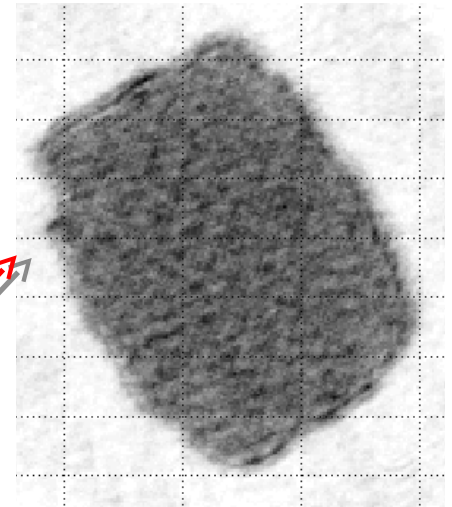
Particle Holography II

- Image of laser diffraction pattern is recorded at 5 Hz.
- Patterns can be refocused to provide original particle shape
- Shape information helps identify particle type
- Volume concentration available from equivalent sphere assumption

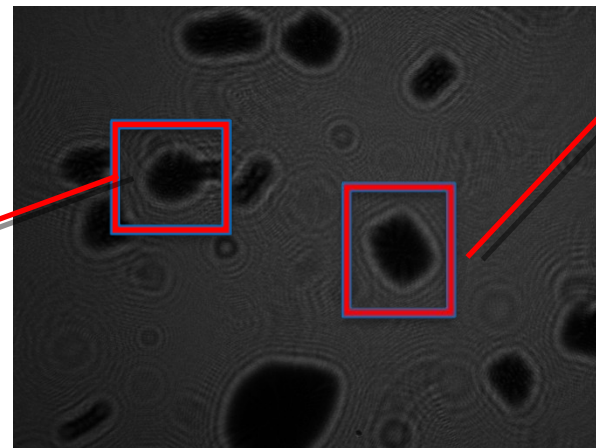


In-focus bubbles

In-focus diatom chains



In-focus sand grains



10cm above bed

Graham & Nimmo-Smith
(2010), Limnol. &
Oceanog. Methods 8,

Image Analysis

- 11 bursts from a range of flow conditions (mobility number 30 to 150) and water depths 0.5 - 3m

- Holographic images manually processed - each particle classified into 'sand', 'bubble', and 'organic' (diatom chains)

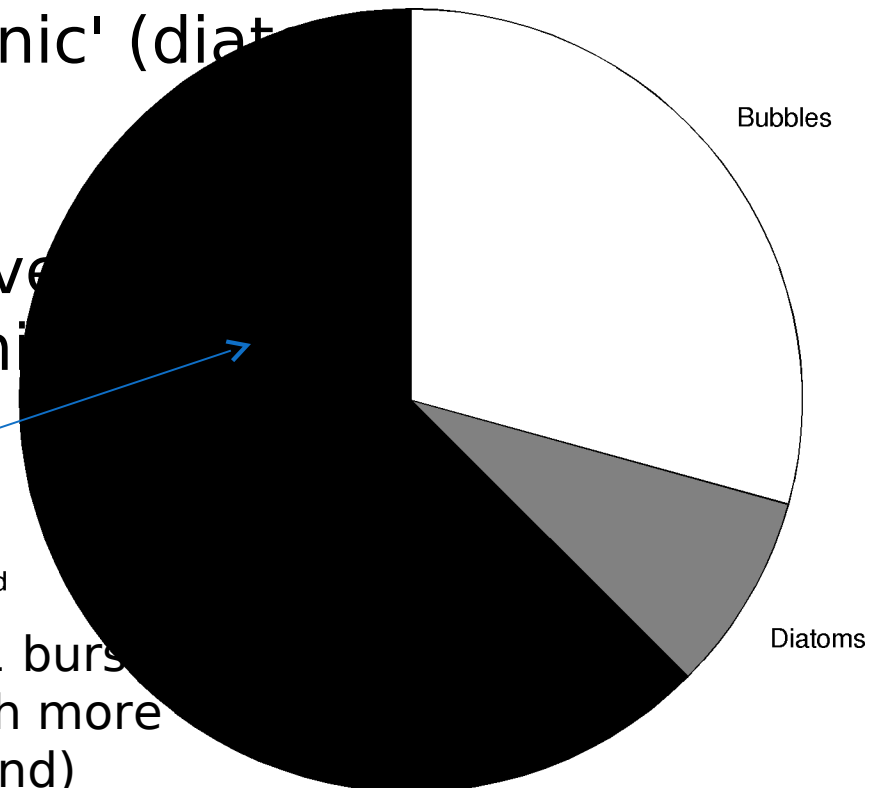
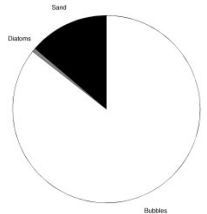
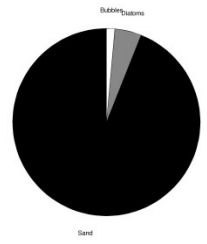
- Total of 2785 images have been analyzed by hand, containing

15009 sand grains

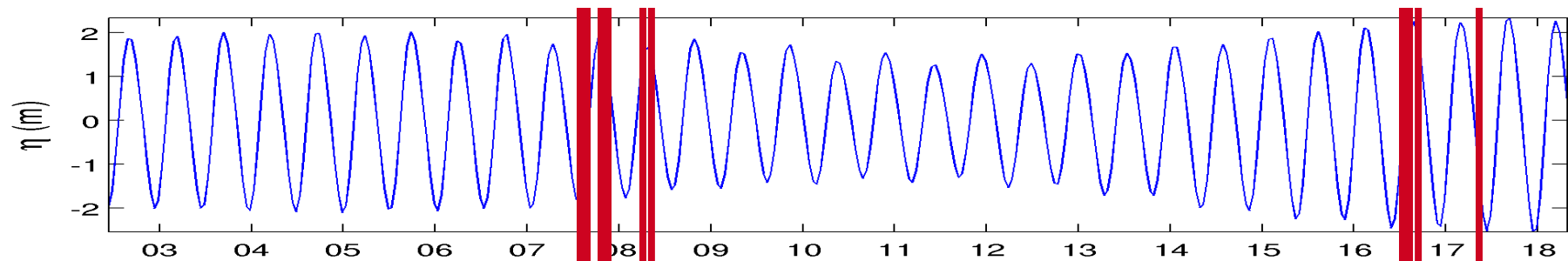
1973 diatom chains

and 7032 bubbles

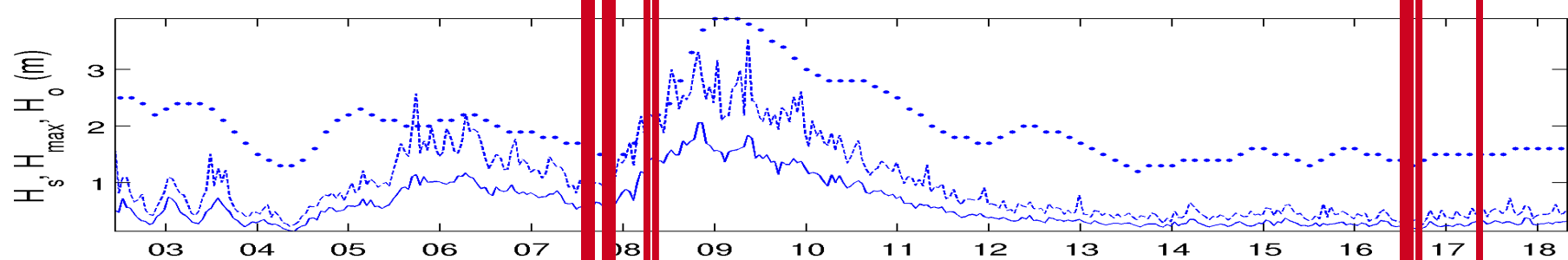
Relative abundance of frequency based on 11 bursts (relative volumes much more heavily weighted to sand)



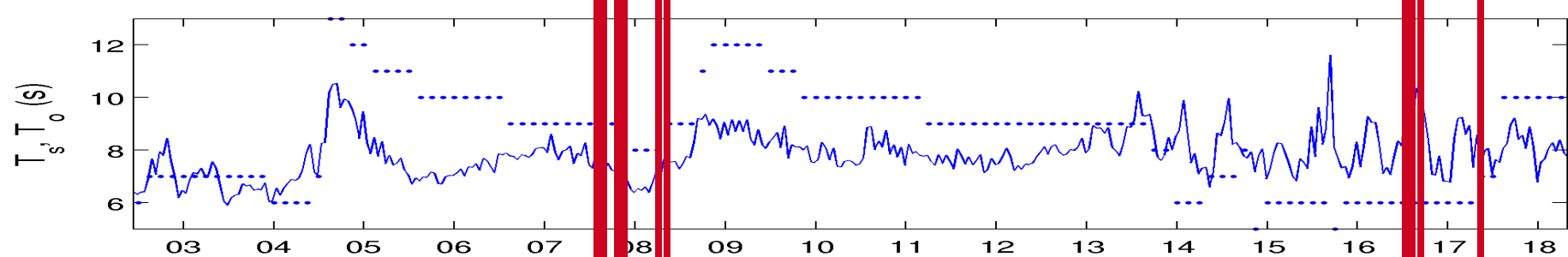
a)



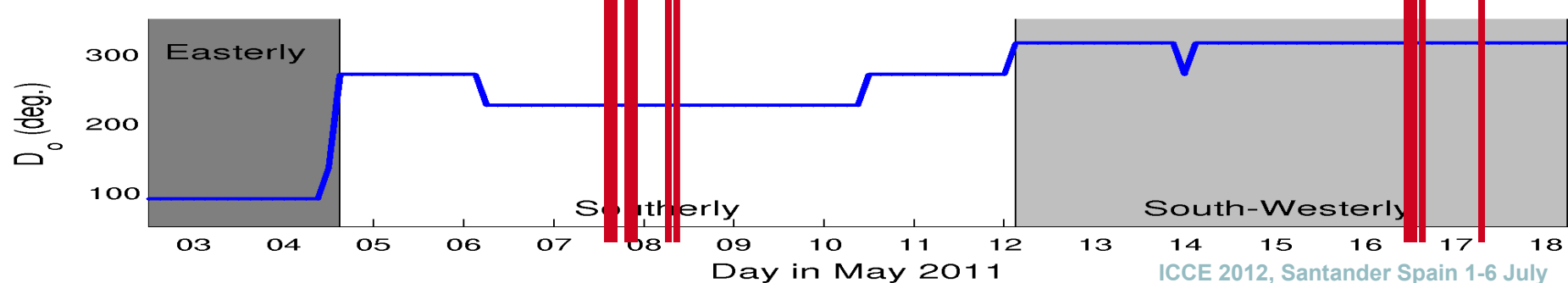
b)



c)

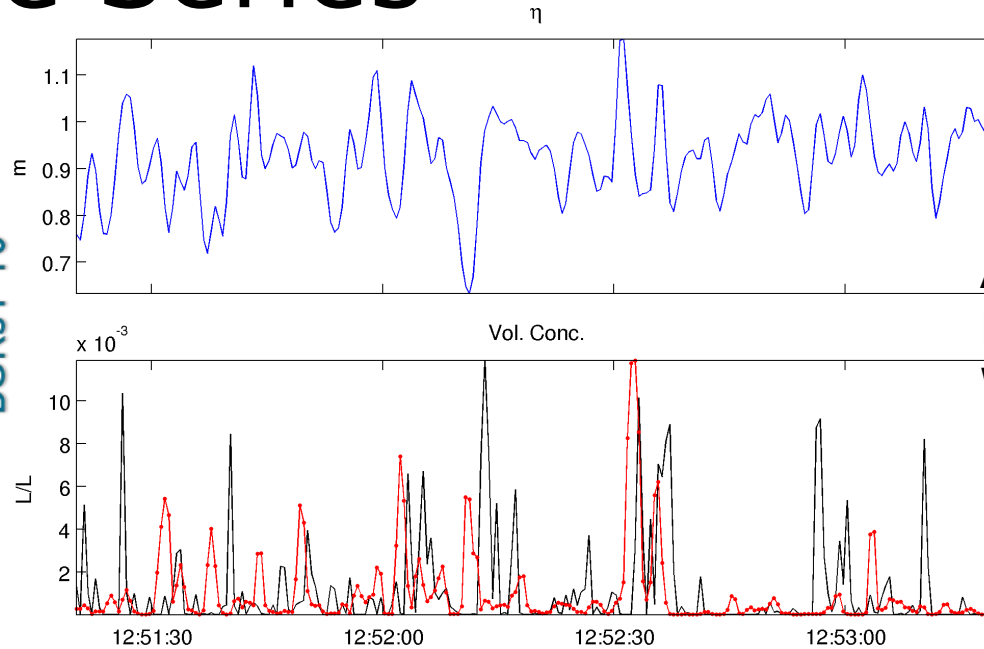


d)



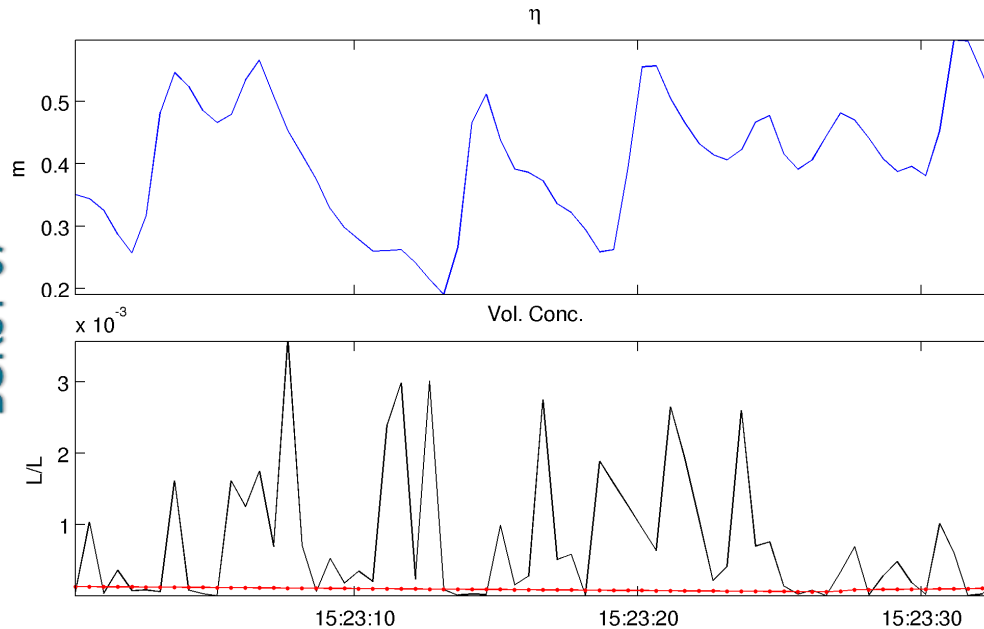
Time Series

BURST 10



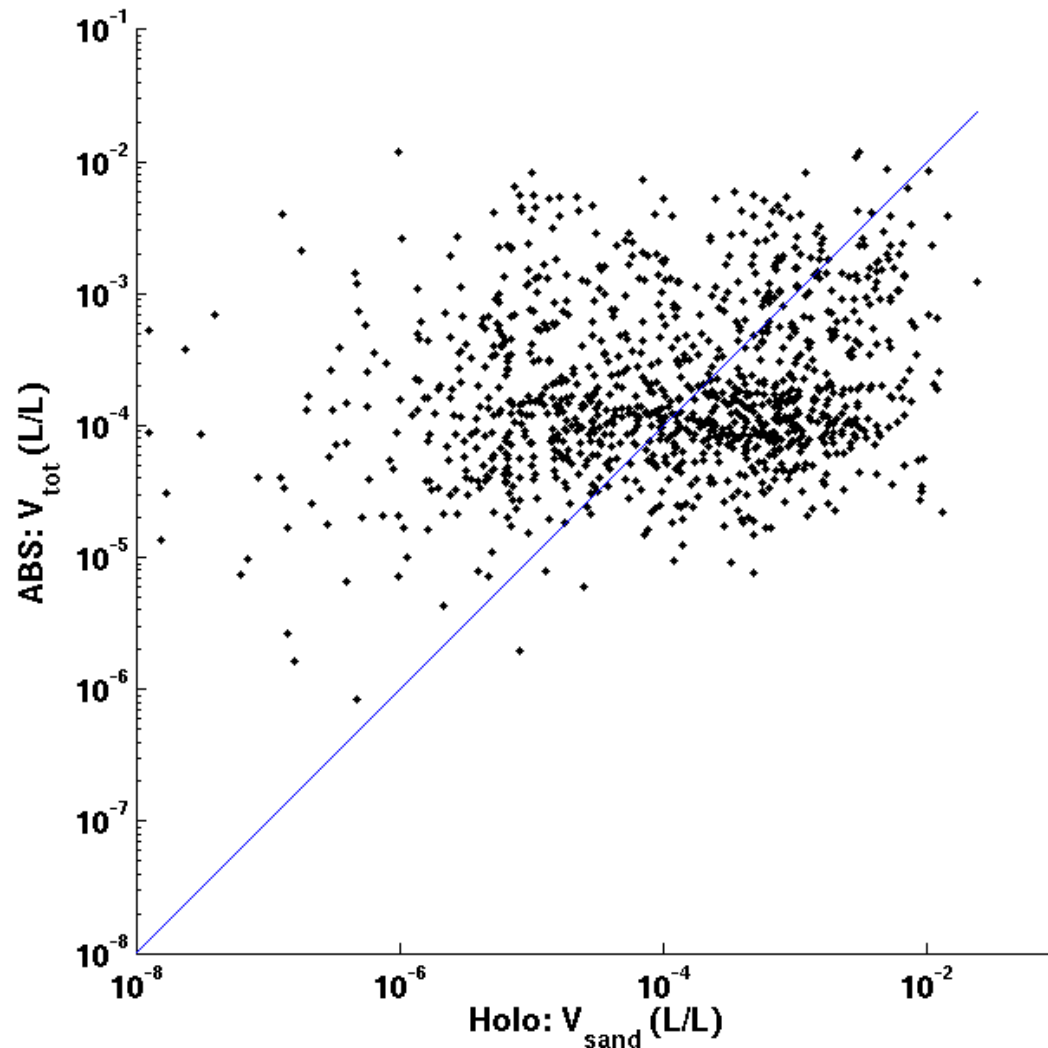
A 119s burst from tide 25
Mobility number: 47.07
Water depth: 0.92m

BURST 07



A 32s burst from tide 8
Mobility number: 141.07
Water depth: 0.42m

Instantaneous Comparisons

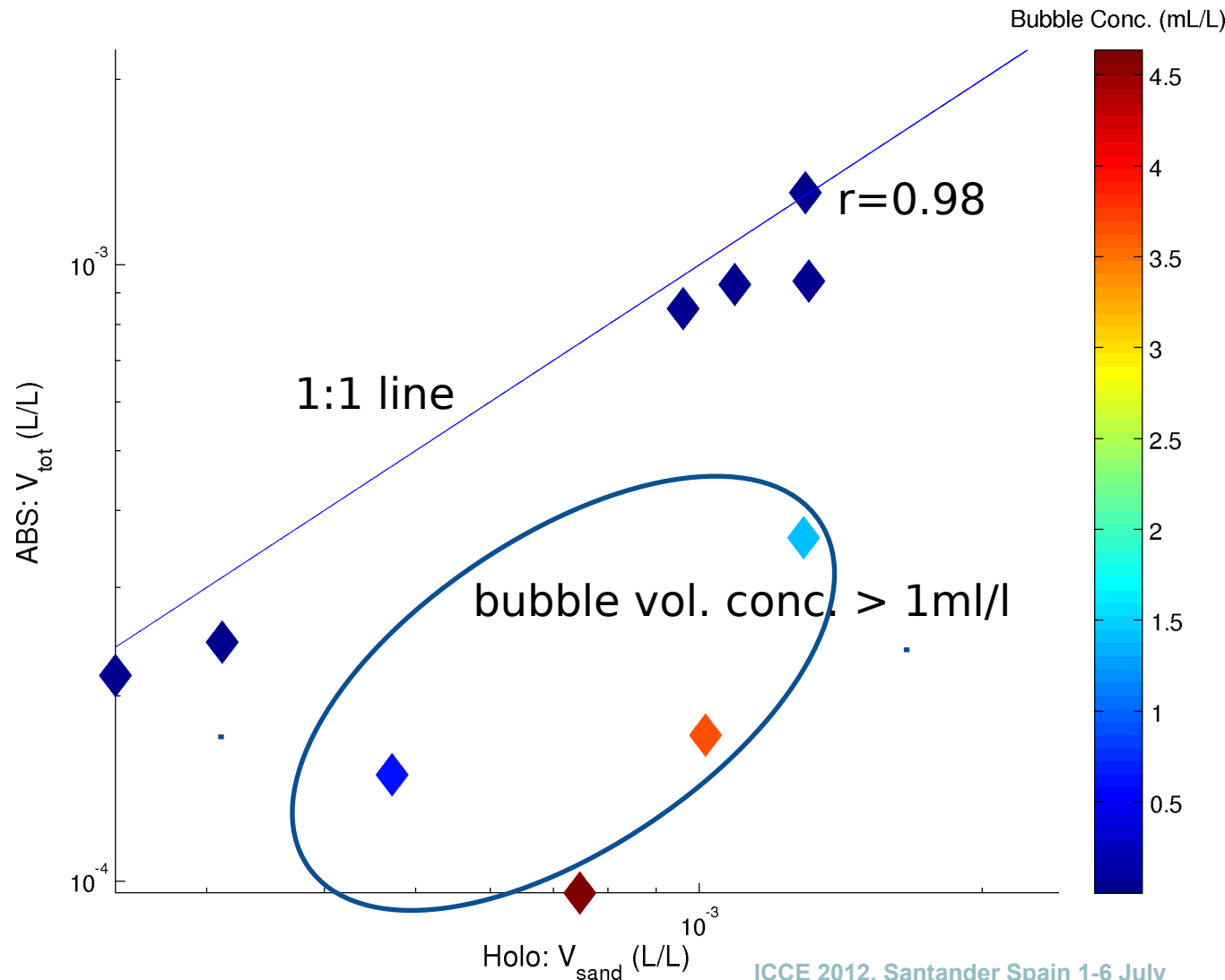


- Practically no correlation at 5 Hz ($r=0.14$)

Mean Concentrations

- Burst averaged data is very well correlated ($r=0.87$). Suggests that correlation length scale for instantaneous sediment $< 3m$.

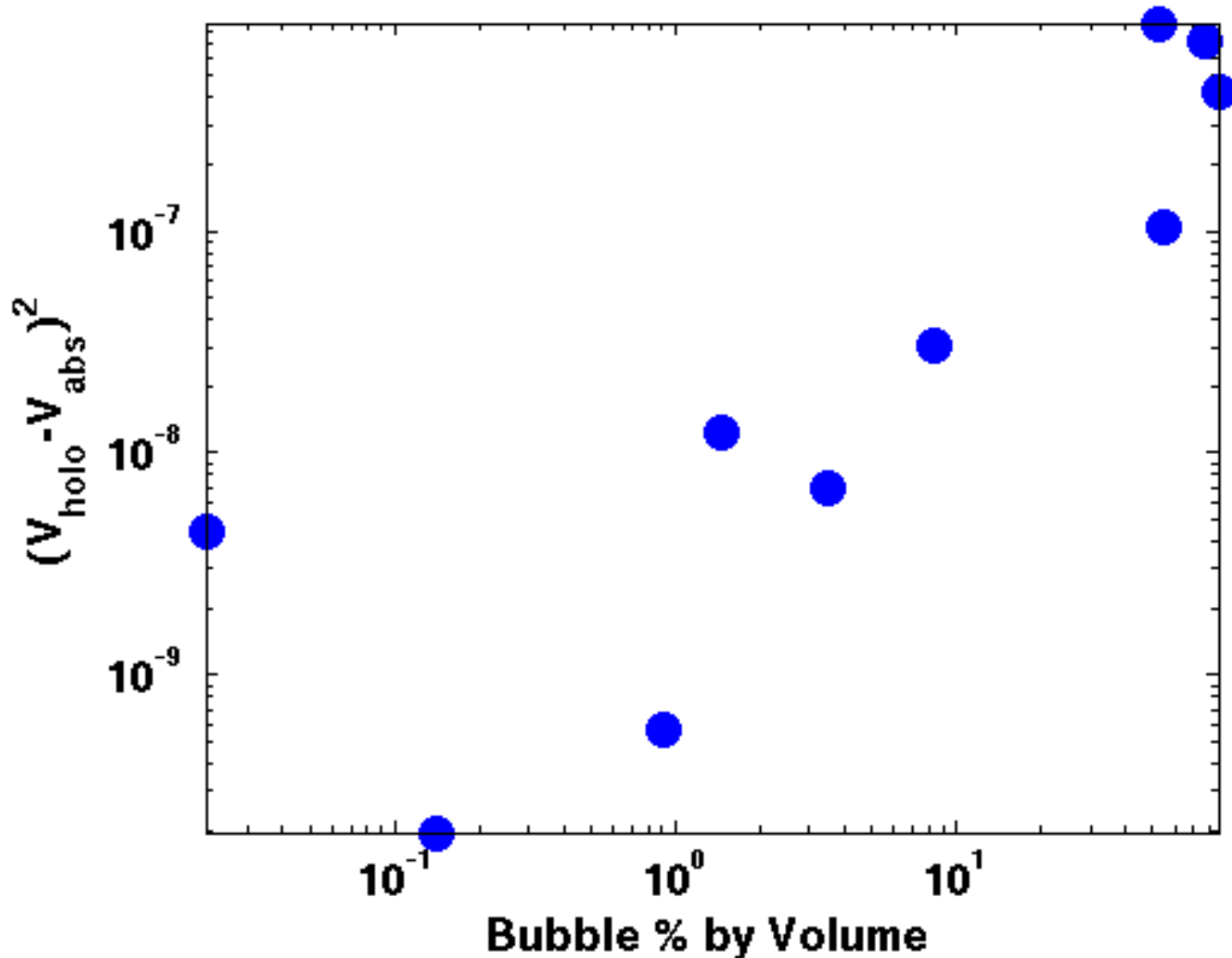
- When bursts with bubble volume $> 1 \text{ ml/l}$ are removed, correlation increases to $r=0.98$



Error relation-bubble volume concentration

- Clear relation between bubble volume concentration and discrepancy.

- Relationship is clearly non-linear with higher bubble volumes negating sediment concentration measurement

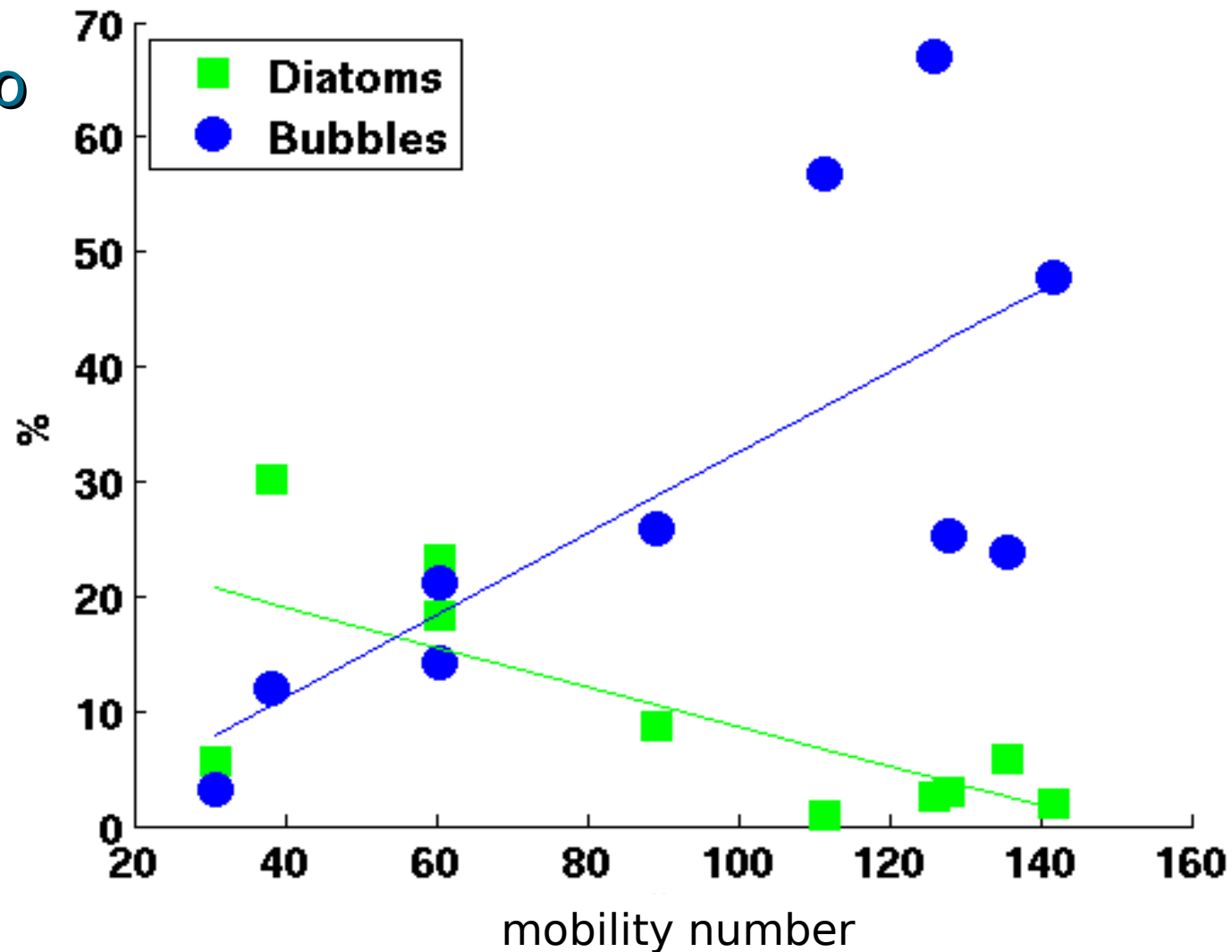


Relative Abundance Bubbles & Biology

- Bubbles proportional to mobility number

- Diatoms inversely related to mobility number.

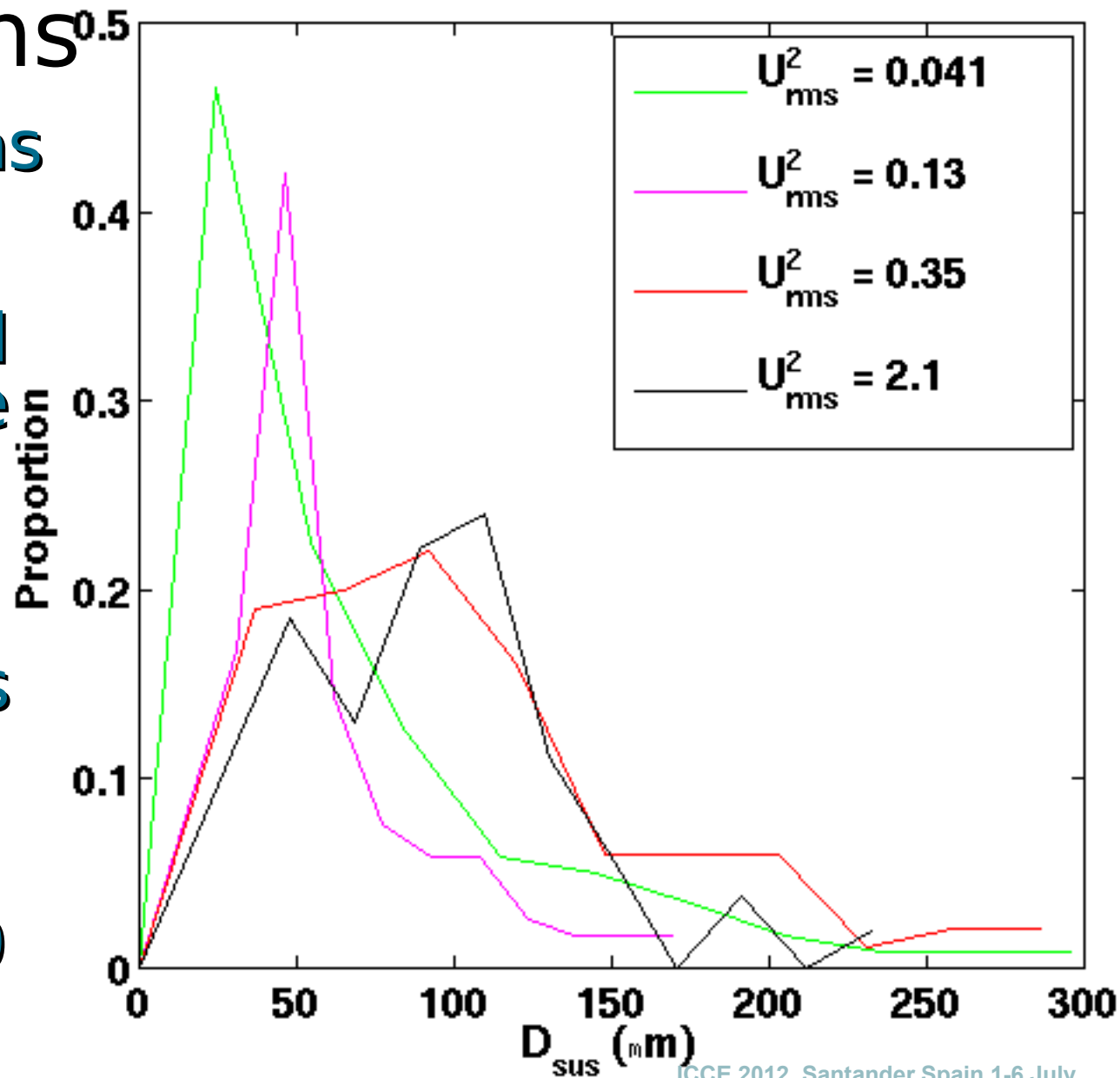
- Bubbles relation same when compared to H/h .



Suspended Grain Size Distributions

- Distributions in lower intensity flows biased towards fine grains

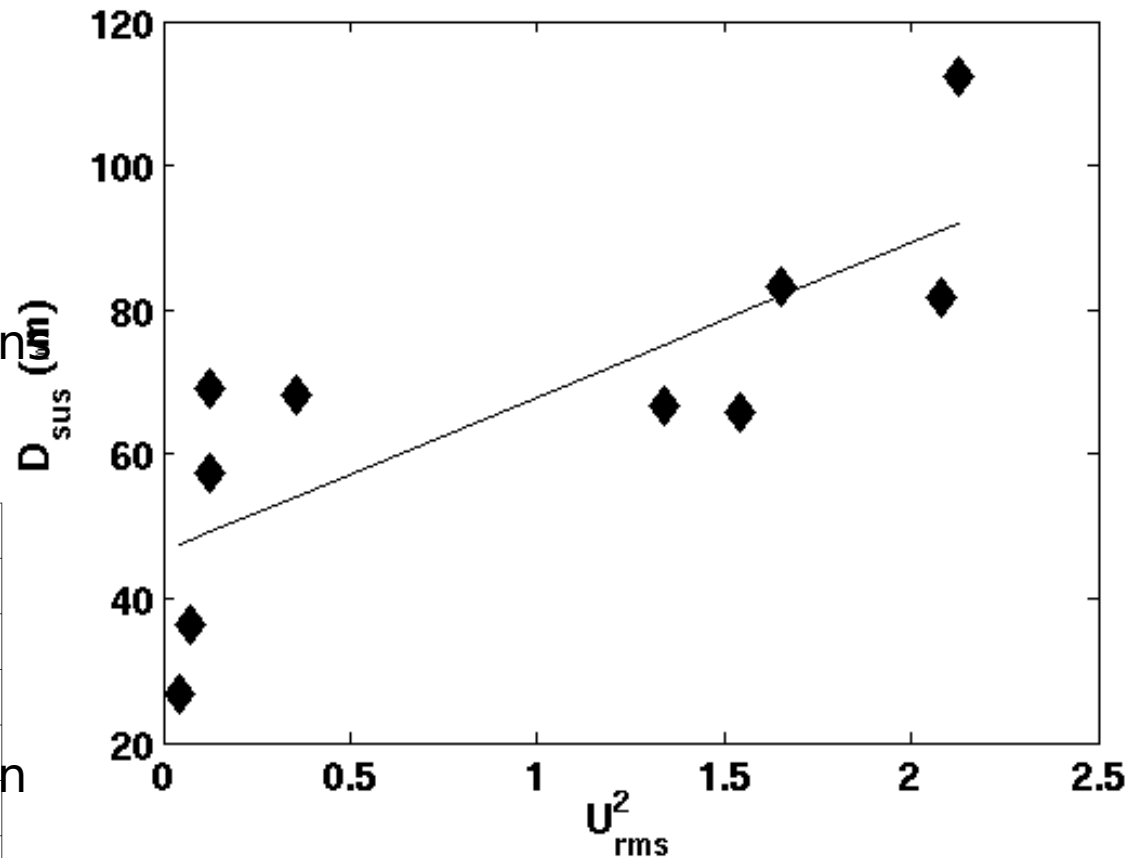
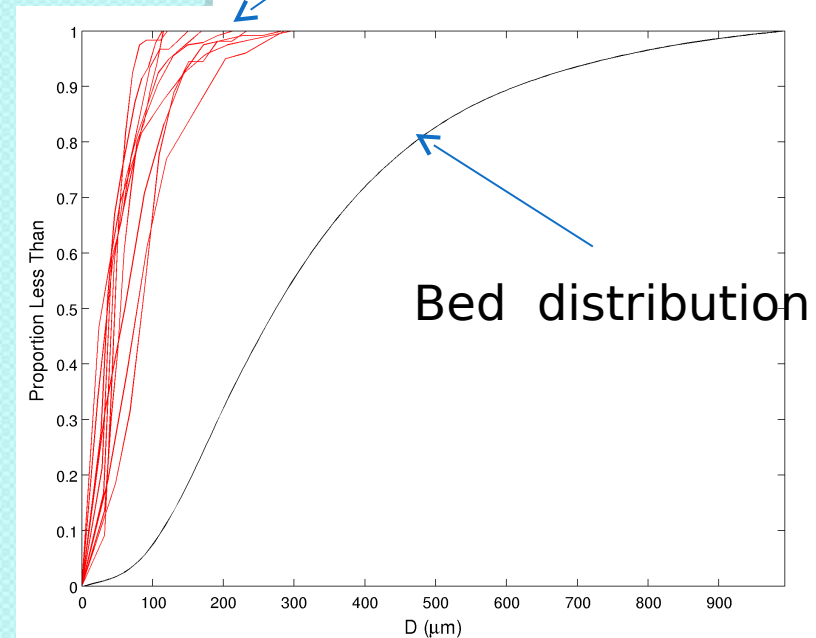
- Suspended distributions significantly finer than source material (10 cm above bed)



Mean Suspended Grain Size

As flow intensity increases, mean grain size increases.

Size-distribution of suspended grain

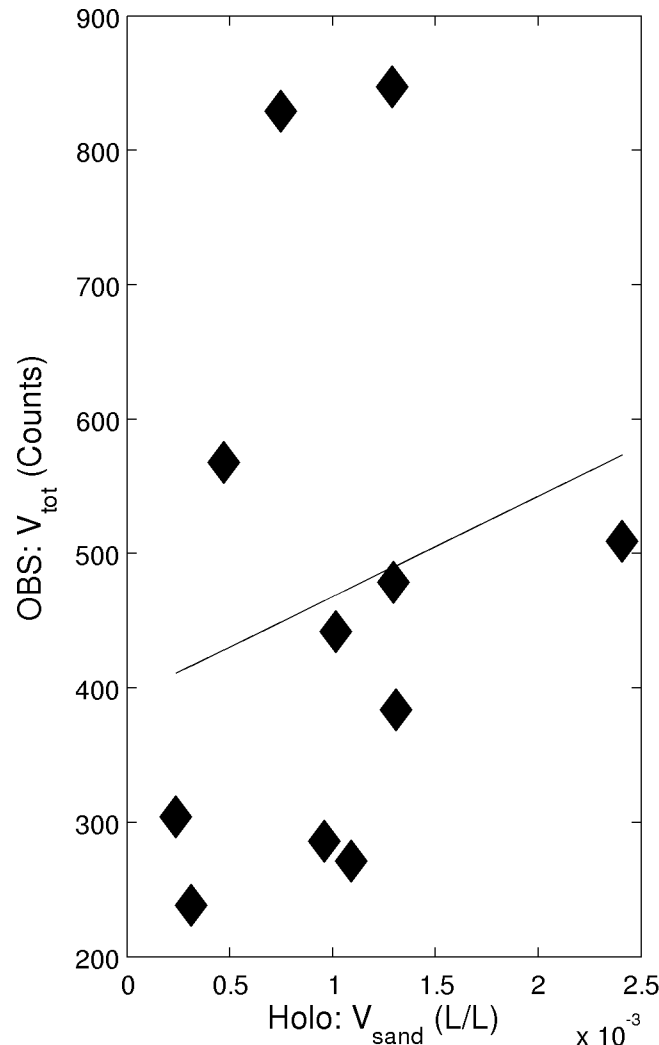


Holocam & OBS Comparison (10 m separation)

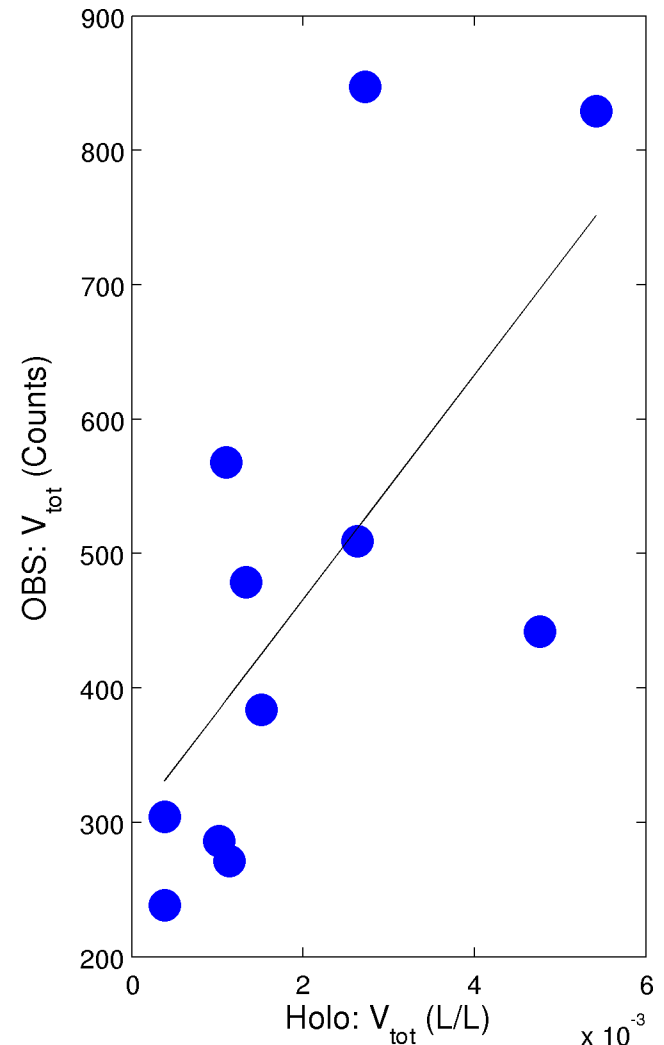
- Correlation between OBS & Holocam derived sand C low ($r=0.22$)

- Sand+bubble_diatom concentration better correlated ($r=0.67$).

- OBS clearly responds to everything.



Just sand concentration



'bulk' concentration

Conclusions

- Holographic camera is a highly useful instrument for determining in-situ size distribution information.
- ABS (1,2,4MHz) very good job at burst-averaged SSC estimation when bubble concentrations are low ($<1\text{ml/l}$)
- Appears to be a relation between error in ABS concentrations and relative bubble volume concentration.
- Suspended sediment grain sized distribution skewed towards finer grain sizes but shifts to larger grain size with increased flow intensity.
- OBS relatively poorly related to SSC and overly-sensitive to bubbles.

Thanks for your attention.

- Project website:

http://www.research.plymouth.ac.uk/tssar_waves/

- In-line digital holography website & software:

<http://holoproc.marinephysics.org/>

daniel.conley@plymouth.ac.uk



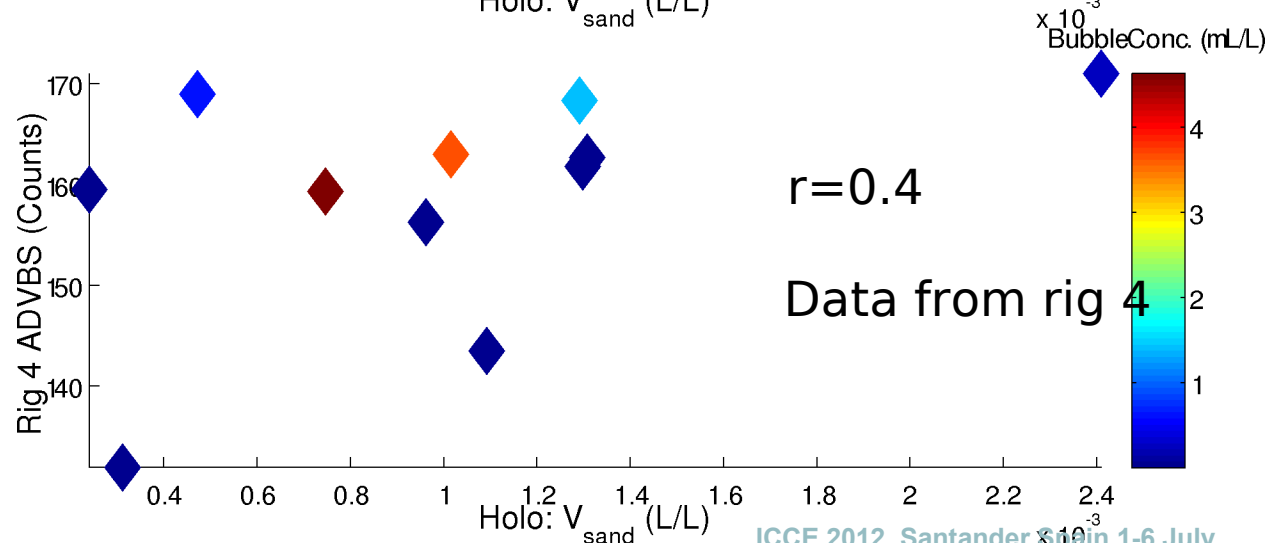
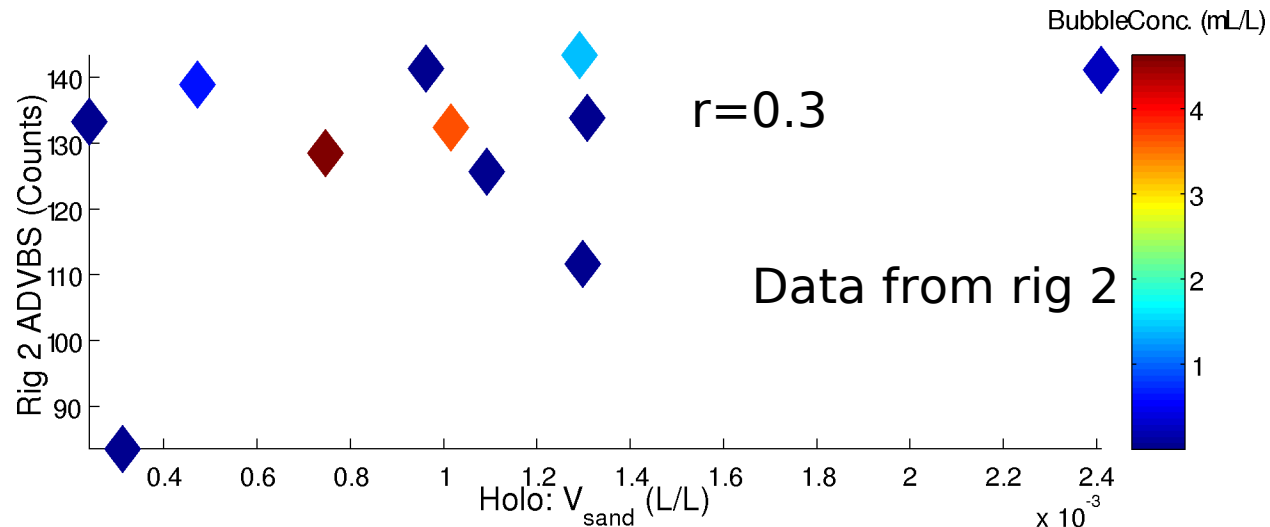
Burst-averaged SSC: Holocam versus ADV backscatter

relationship between concentrations of sand and ADV backscatter amplitudes was greatest in the Z or vertical component,

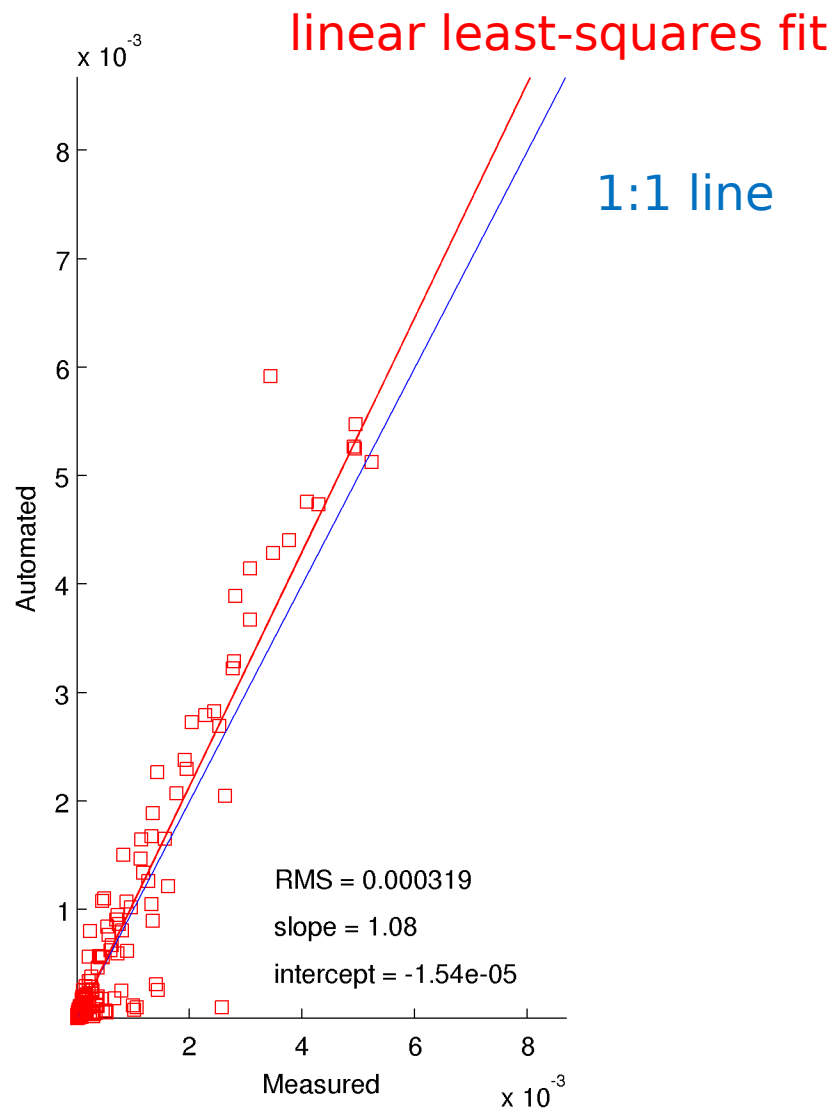
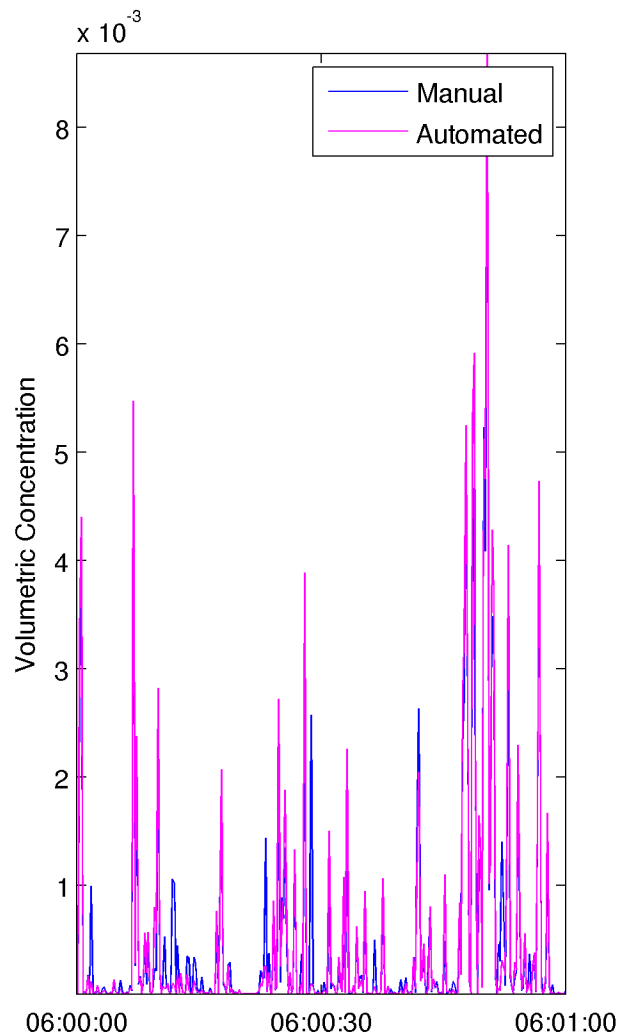
but nevertheless was relatively poor ($r=0.3 - 0.4$)

and did not improve when only bubble concentration less than 1ml/l were considered.

Acoustic frequency at 6MHz too high for these coarse sand grains (acoustic wavelength small compared to particle diameter) but



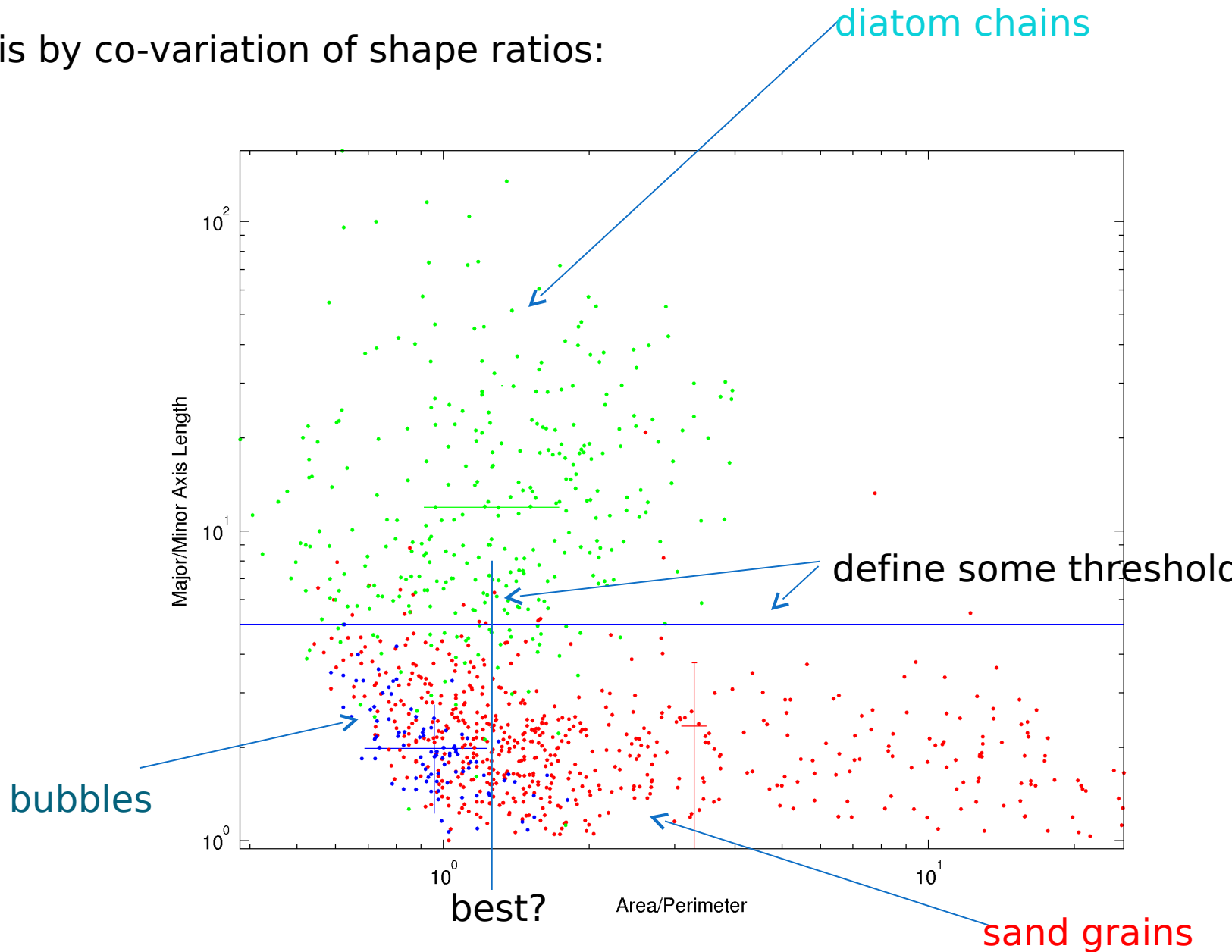
Manual versus automated analysis: total concentrations



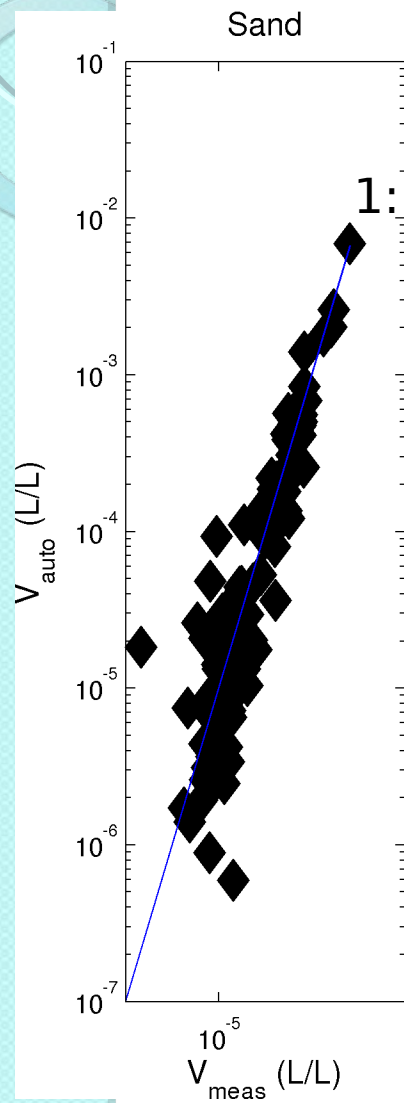
automated analysis overall does a very good job at measuring bulk concent

How best to automatically classify particles?

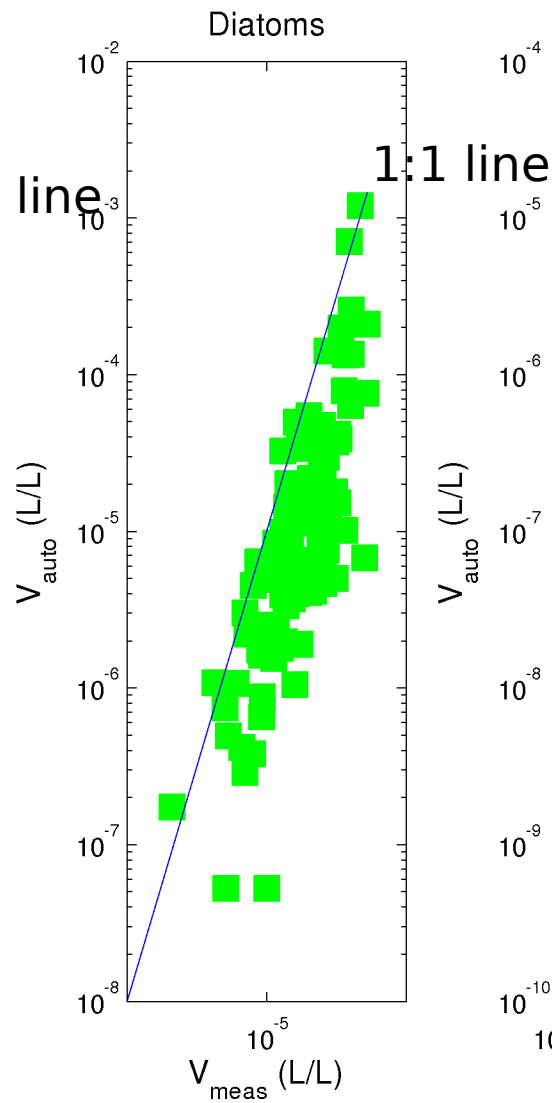
One simple way is by co-variation of shape ratios:



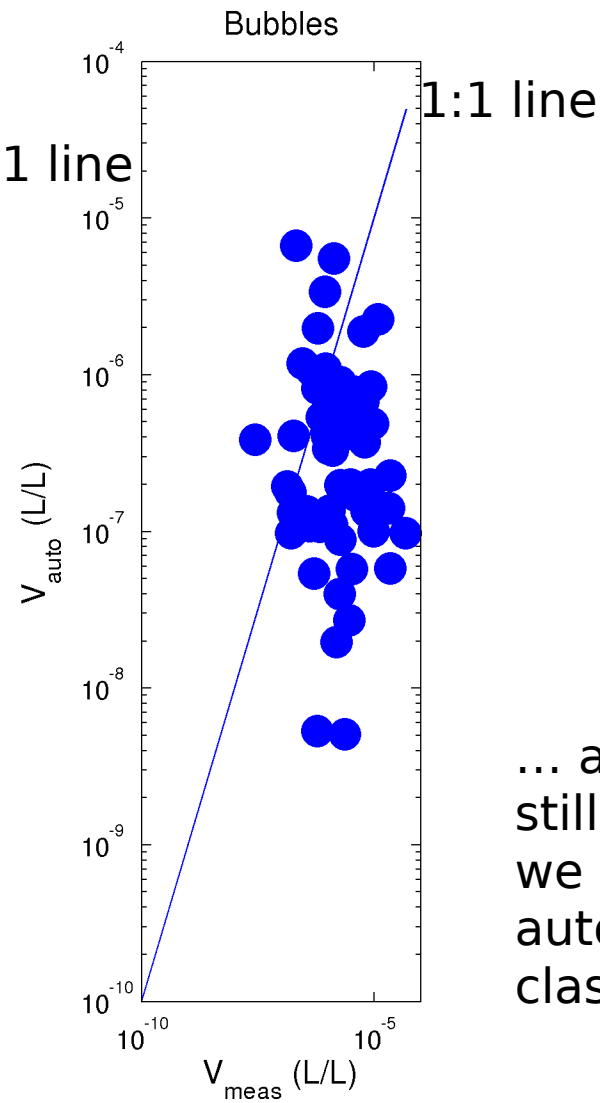
Good



Bad



Ugly



... a bit of work
still to do until
we can trust the
automated
classifications

