

In ocean color, marine waters are divided into two main categories: Case 1, offshore waters, whose optical properties are mainly determined by phytoplankton and its degradation particulate and dissolved products, and Case 2, commonly coastal, where the optical properties are determined by other substances - such as suspended sediments, dissolved and particulate terrigenous particles - which vary independently of the phytoplankton concentration (Morel and Prieur 1977).