



Plate 1 A global map of surface-ocean chlorophyll derived from satellite ocean color imagery. Images like this are used to determine relative distributions of ocean primary production; however, these are approximate because the relation between surface ocean color and primary productivity is variable and in some cases uncertain. The figure is the average of c.10 years of SeaWiFS ocean color data, 1997–2007. (The image is from the NASA/MODIS ocean color web site, <http://oceancolor.gsfc.nasa.gov>.)