## Chemical Currencies of the Surface Ocean Microbiome

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## **Abstract**

One quarter of all photosynthesis on Earth is cycled between marine phytoplankton and bacteria within days of fixation, yet surprisingly little is known about the organic compounds that act as currencies in these bacterial-phytoplankton interactions. We are using two-trophic-level model organism systems to identify novel metabolites in the ocean carbon and sulfur cycles and uncover metabolic interactions between microbes.