



# Coordinating and integrating state-of-the-art Earth Observation Activities in the regions of North Africa, Middle East and Balkans and Developing Links with GEO related initiatives toward GEOSS

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**GEO-CRADLE webinar (4.2)**

**Wednesday, 14<sup>th</sup> June, 2017**

**Soil, spectroscopy and SSL**

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**The Remote Sensing Laboratory, Tel Aviv University**



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# Highlights



- The role of GEO-CRADLE  
The importance of building a global SSL
- Introduction to soil science  
Composition and its role in agriculture
- Basic principles of spectroscopy
- Soil spectroscopy



# The importance of building a global SSL

# Why Global Soil Spectral Library?

Data mining from spectral information to generate an attribute “model” requires hundreds of samples in order to provide reliable results

**Global Soil Spectral Library (GSSL)** will compose of hundreds samples that represents all the soils world wide



# The need of Soil Spectral Library



THE REMOTE SENSING  
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- For quantitative applications: many soil samples are needed **(Soil data mining of a “model” requires hundreds of spectra samples in order to provide reliable results.**
- Users are gathering many soil samples mostly under local scale.
- A need for regional and global scales' library is essential.
- Gathering local and regional spectral data (soil spectral library) needs agreed “standard and protocols”.

# Soil Spectral Library : The Practical Structure

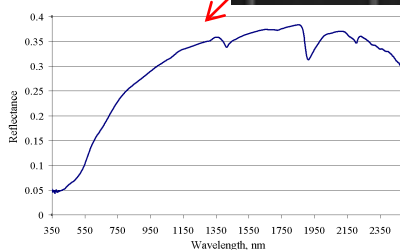
Soil samples at storage, with wet chemistry data plus reflectance spectra measured under a well accepted protocol process

## Soil Attributes

| Short | Length (d) (d) | In (d)  | Short | Length (d) (d) | In (d) |
|-------|----------------|---------|-------|----------------|--------|
| 1     | 22.0           | 3.0925  | 20    | 2.7            | 0.7885 |
| 2     | 11.6           | 2.4481  | 21    | 2.6            | 0.9426 |
| 3     | 8.5            | 2.2513  | 22    | 13.3           | 2.5701 |
| 4     | 4.6            | 1.5121  | 23    | 1.0            | 0.0092 |
| 5     | 10.7           | 2.1703  | 24    | 16.2           | 2.8174 |
| 6     | 5.5            | 1.2528  | 25    | 16.1           | 2.7767 |
| 7     | 5.1            | 1.6292  | 26    | 2.7            | 0.9593 |
| 8     | 14.4           | 3.5371  | 27    | 8.4            | 2.1322 |
| 9     | 1.5            | 0.1830  | 28    | 4.6            | 1.5188 |
| 10    | 16.6           | 2.8098  | 29    | 13.6           | 3.5135 |
| 11    | 0.9            | -0.0490 | 30    | 1.8            | 2.1748 |
| 12    | 0.7            | -0.1567 | 31    | 1.1            | 1.2060 |
| 13    | 1.4            | 0.1124  | 32    | 23.1           | 5.1104 |
| 14    | 2.3            | 0.8471  | 33    | 8.0            | 2.0811 |
| 15    | 4.0            | 1.1063  | 34    | 4.6            | 1.5331 |
| 16    | 4.2            | 1.4430  | 35    | 2.1            | 0.7177 |
| 17    | 8.6            | 2.5506  | 36    | 1.7            | 1.2173 |
| 18    | 26.0           | 3.2541  | 37    | 2.2            | 0.7722 |
| 19    | 7.7            | 2.0369  | 38    | 8.3            | 2.1381 |

## Soil Spectra Files

| File   | Short | Length (d) (d) | In (d)  | Short | Length (d) (d) | In (d) |
|--------|-------|----------------|---------|-------|----------------|--------|
| Sample | 1     | 22.0           | 3.0925  | 20    | 2.7            | 0.7885 |
| Sample | 2     | 11.6           | 2.4481  | 21    | 2.6            | 0.9426 |
| Sample | 3     | 8.5            | 2.2513  | 22    | 13.3           | 2.5701 |
| Sample | 4     | 4.6            | 1.5121  | 23    | 1.0            | 0.0092 |
| Sample | 5     | 10.7           | 2.1703  | 24    | 16.2           | 2.8174 |
| Sample | 6     | 5.5            | 1.2528  | 25    | 16.1           | 2.7767 |
| Sample | 7     | 5.1            | 1.6292  | 26    | 2.7            | 0.9593 |
| Sample | 8     | 14.4           | 3.5371  | 27    | 8.4            | 2.1322 |
| Sample | 9     | 1.5            | 0.1830  | 28    | 4.6            | 1.5188 |
| Sample | 10    | 16.6           | 2.8098  | 29    | 13.6           | 3.5135 |
| Sample | 11    | 0.9            | -0.0490 | 30    | 1.8            | 2.1748 |
| Sample | 12    | 0.7            | -0.1567 | 31    | 1.1            | 1.2060 |
| Sample | 13    | 1.4            | 0.1124  | 32    | 23.1           | 5.1104 |
| Sample | 14    | 2.3            | 0.8471  | 33    | 8.0            | 2.0811 |
| Sample | 15    | 4.0            | 1.1063  | 34    | 4.6            | 1.5331 |
| Sample | 16    | 4.2            | 1.4430  | 35    | 2.1            | 0.7177 |
| Sample | 17    | 8.6            | 2.5506  | 36    | 1.7            | 1.2173 |
| Sample | 18    | 26.0           | 3.2541  | 37    | 2.2            | 0.7722 |
| Sample | 19    | 7.7            | 2.0369  | 38    | 8.3            | 2.1381 |



Sample Location OM Clay Lime....  
A1 34,5467.67 2.4 % 34% 23.4%  
36,654,32



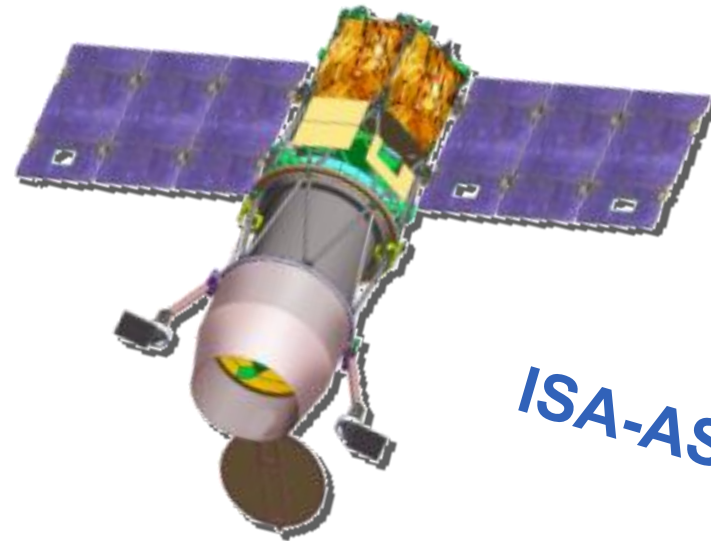
# The Concept of Soil Mapping using SSL and HSR from orbit



| Product Name   |
|--|
| Crop, Rangeland and Invasive Species Map               |
| Burnt Area Map   |
| Vegetation Status Indicators                           |
| Vegetation Damage and Stress Indicators                |
| Fire Fuel Map  |
| Mineral Map  |
| Coastal Bathymetry Map                                 |
| Urban And industrial Functional Area Map               |
| Lithological Map                                       |
| Lava Flow Parameters                                   |
| Soil Surface Pollutants Map                            |
| Volcanic Gas And Aerosol Emission Map                  |
| Forest Species Map                                     |
| Forest Biomass Map                                     |
| Ice Cover Map  |
| Soil Characterization Map                              |
| Land Cover Map   |
| Land Cover Change Detection Map                        |
| Snow Cover Map   |
| Forest Nitrogen and Chlorophyll Map                    |
| Wetlands Classification Map                            |
| Marine And Aquatic Quality And Productivity Indicators |
| Lava and ash distribution map                          |
| Snow And Ice Cover Characterization                    |

**SHALOM** (9m GDS)

**SHALOM** products that are based on GSSL

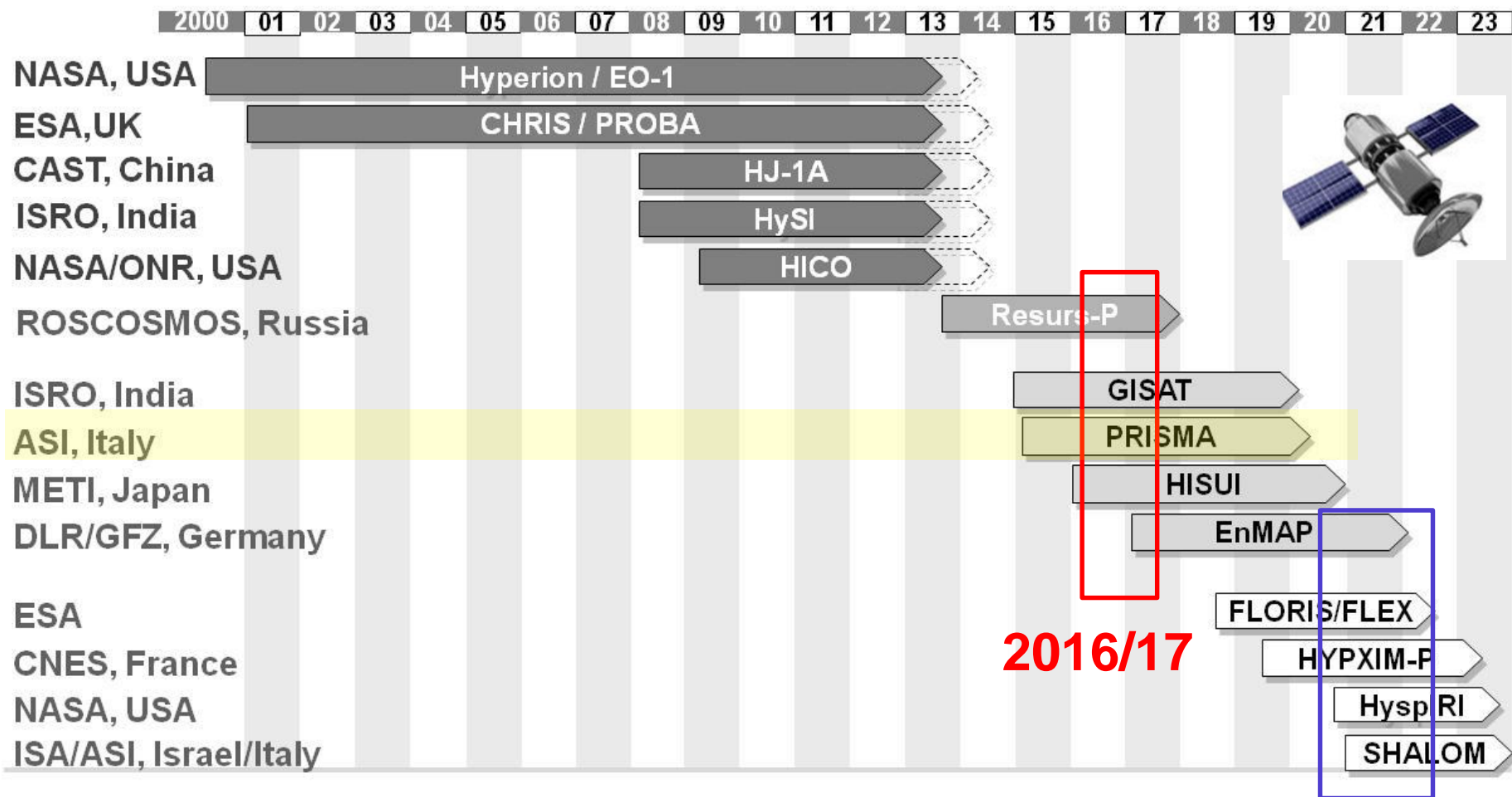


**ISA-ASI**





# HSR Satellites



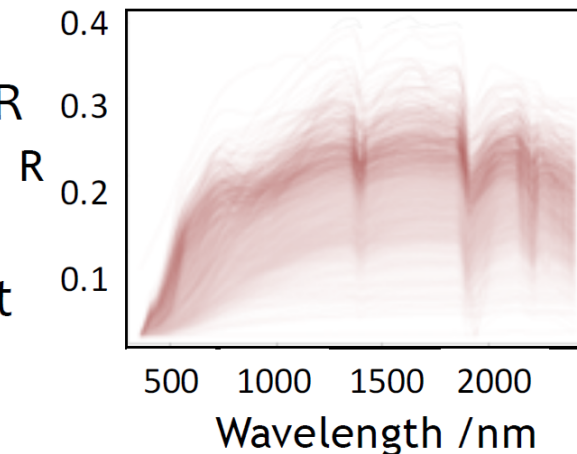
2020/22



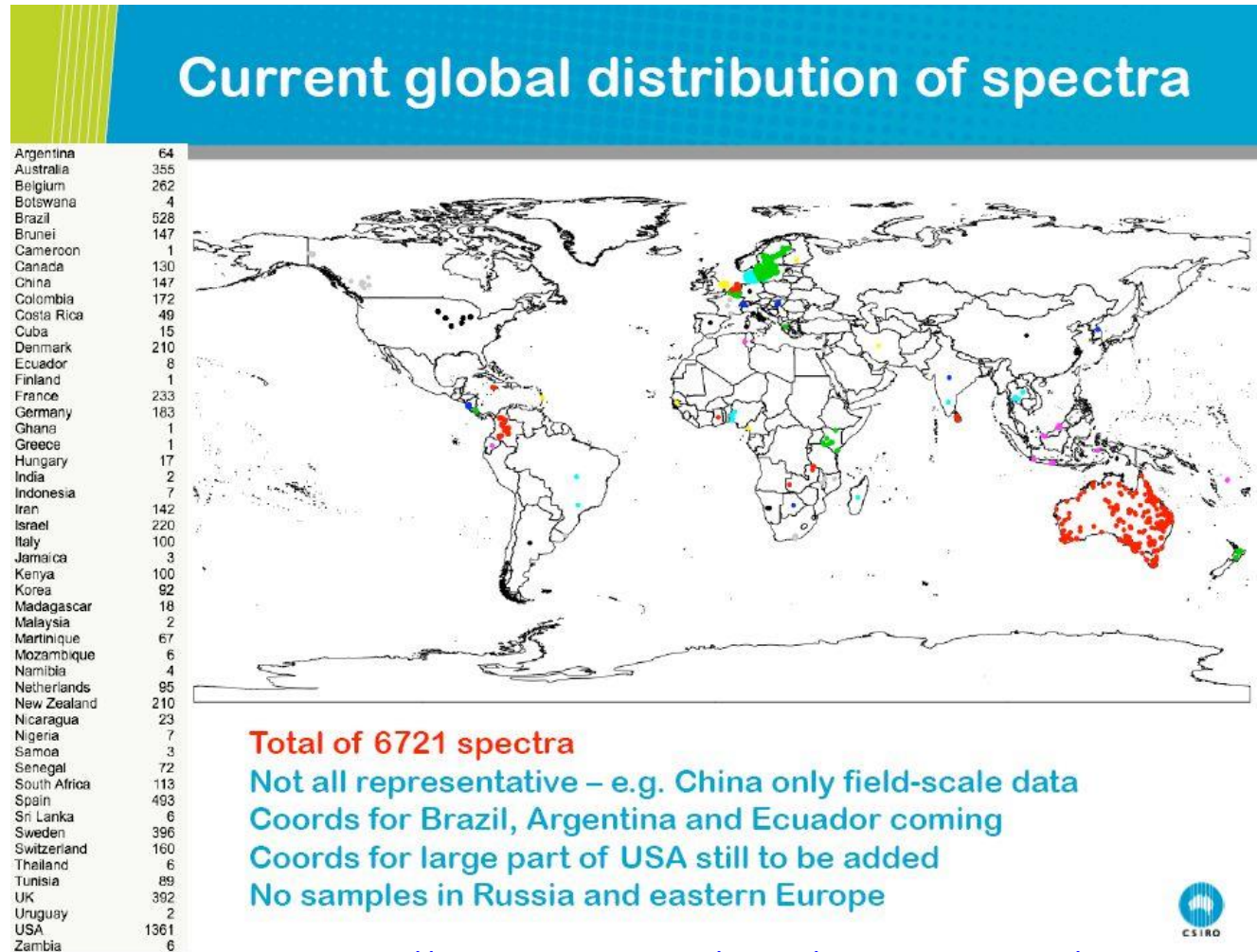
In 2006 *Raphael Viscorra Rossel* understood the GSSL importance and initiated an activity toward establishing the first GSSL

## Global spectral library project

- Started in 2008 as voluntary collaboration in response to growing interest in soil vis-NIR spectroscopy
- Scientists from each continent coordinated and developed guidelines and protocols
- Aim to bring together a community of scientists, encourage research, development of new applications and adoption of spectroscopy in the soil, earth and environmental sciences.



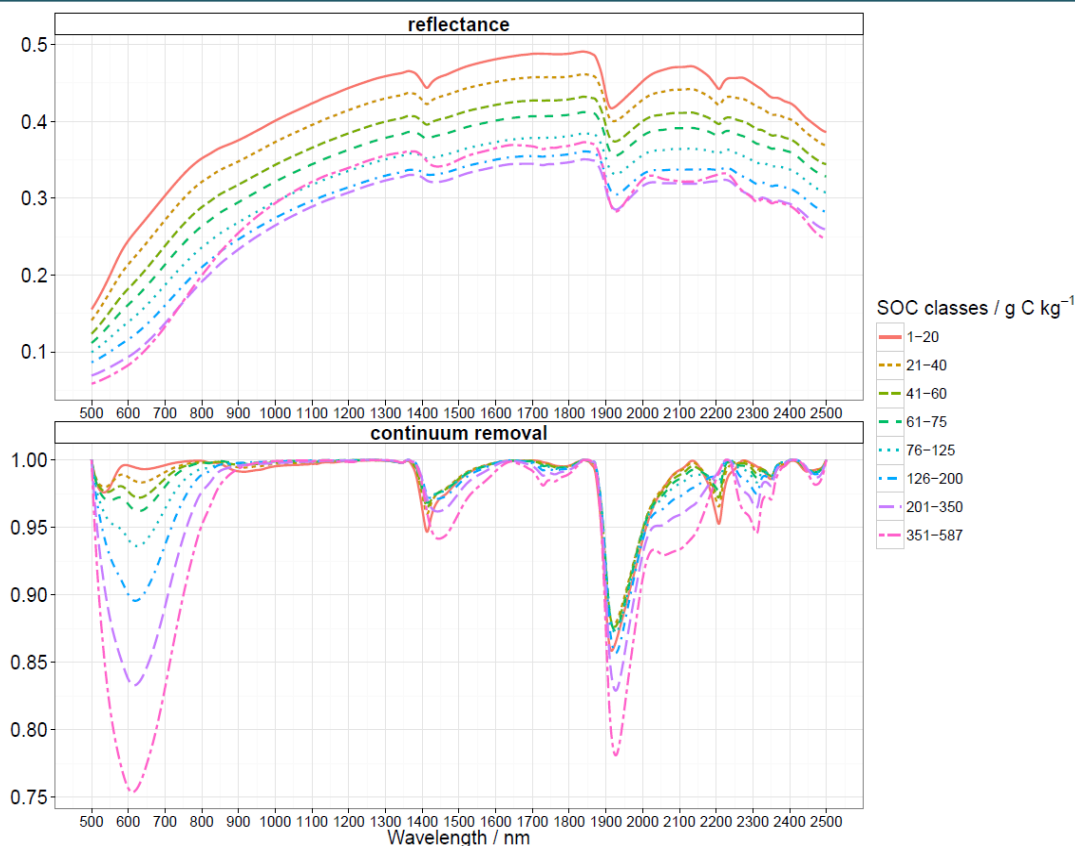
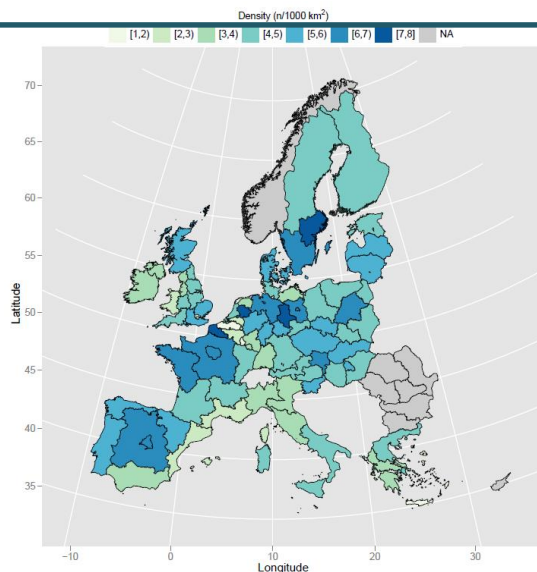
# First World Soil Spectral Library



## The LUCAS spectral library



THE REMOTE SENSING  
LABORATORIES  
2011



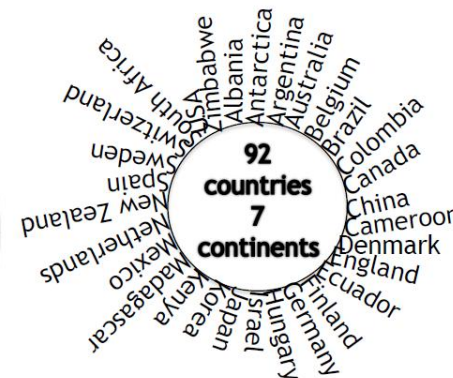
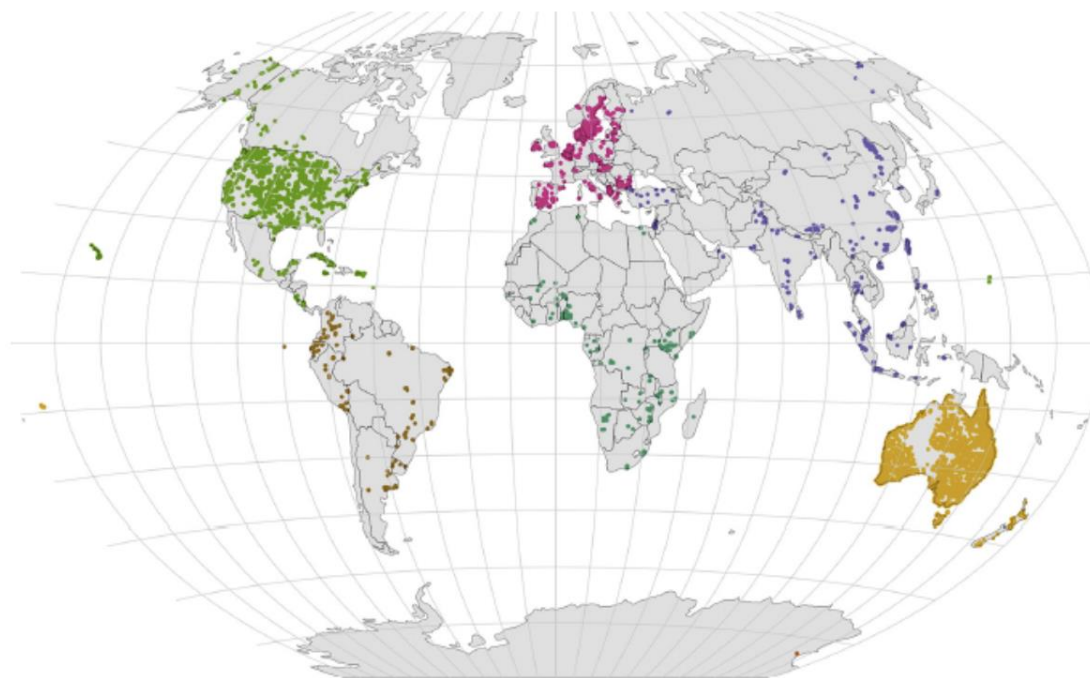
Current status:

- 23 European countries
- ~20,000 high quality spectral readings
- Metadata: Clay, silt, sand, OC, pH, CEC,  $\text{CaCO}_3$ , Geographical coordinates, land use, etc

Creation of four subsets: Cropland, Grassland, Woodland, and Organic soils

## Global Soil VNIR-SWIR Spectra

Some 20,000 VNIR-SWIR (350-2500 nm) spectra from 12,509 sites  
45 collaborators from 35 institutions



# Global soil vis–NIR spectra in numbers

## Continent

- 8646 **Oceania**
- 5198 **North, Central America**
- 3518 **Europe**
- 3097 **Asia**
- 1621 **Africa**
- 1407 **South America**
- 144 **Antarctica**

## Position

- 84% with **coordinates**
- 60% from the **0–30 cm**
- 30% from the **30–100 cm**
- 10% from **> 1m**

## Attributes

- **pH** 20,515 (20,515)
- **Organic C** 17,931 (9757)
- **Clay** 17,463 (10,064)
- **Sand** 12,058 (3395)
- **CEC** 9588 (5014)
- **Silt** 9542 (1280)
- **Fe** 4151 (3311)
- **CaCO<sub>3</sub>** 2960 (1388)

## Description

- 15% have **soil horizon**
- 95% with **FAO WRB**
- 80% with **land cover**



# There is a publication on the global library

Authors: Those who contribute to GSSL established by Viscorra Rossel



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## A global spectral library to characterize the world's soil



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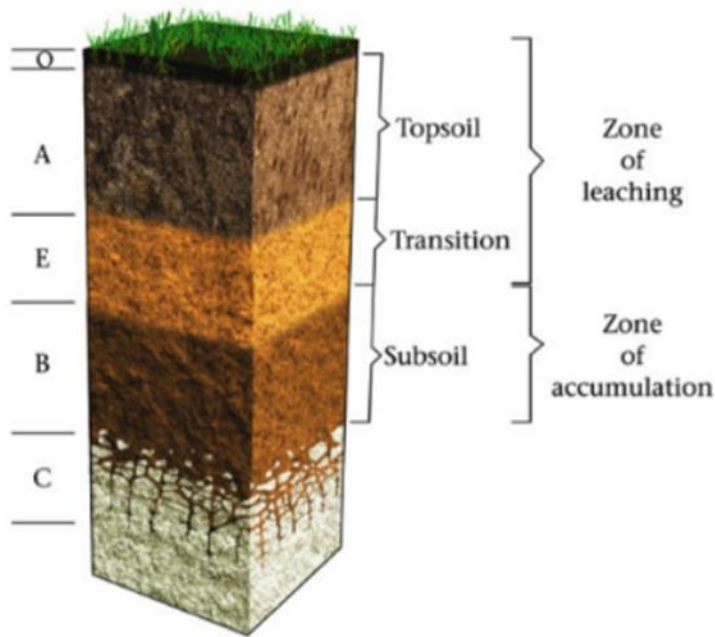


# Introduction to soil science



**Soil** - The upper layer of the earth ( $\approx 0\text{-}2\text{m}$ ) represent its loose surface material which is dug, plowed and being a **medium for plants to grow**. (Thompson 1957)

$$\text{Soil} = f(P, C, T, O, t)$$



(b)

FIGURE 5.11

Essentials of Geology, 2nd Edition  
Copyright (c) W.W. Norton & Company





# Introduction to soil science

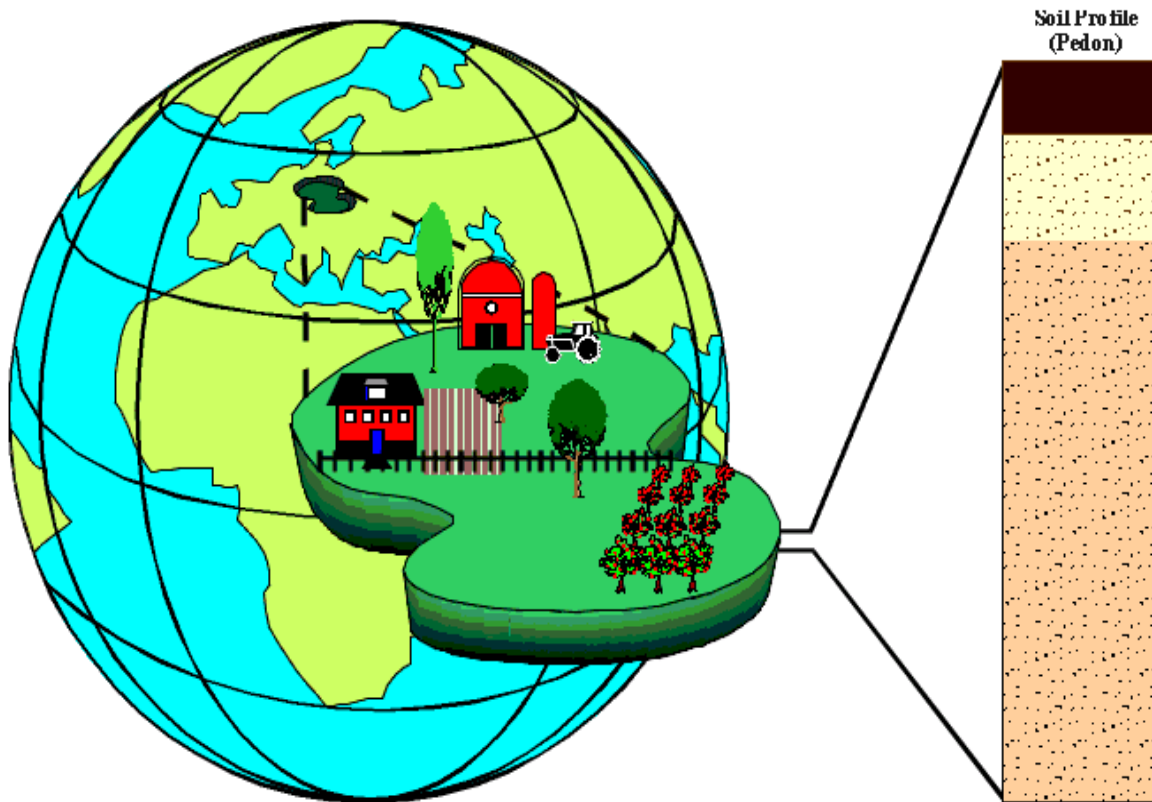


$$\text{Soil} = f(P, C, T, O, t)$$

| <u>Physical composition</u> | <u>Chemical composition</u> |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Texture                     | Clay content                |
| Specific surface area       | Organic matter              |
| color                       | Mineralogy                  |

# Soil as a Complex System

**Soil is a complex system characterized by chemical and physical attributes that provides an overview on the agricultural functions of the soil as a food producer**



An area of land and the soil profile (pedon) that characterizes it.

Soil is composed of

Clay  
silt  
sand  
organic matter  
carbonates  
iron oxides  
water  
particle size  
air  
Cations  
Anions  
Flora  
Fauna

Soils differentiate from one another by their chemical and physical composition

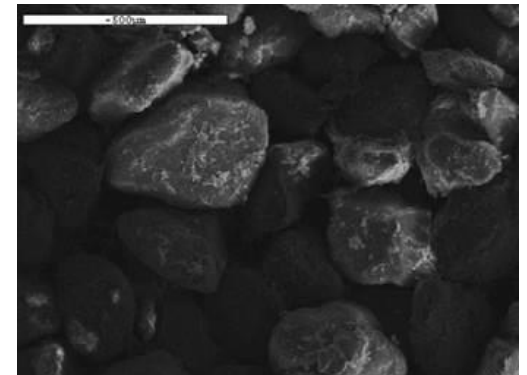
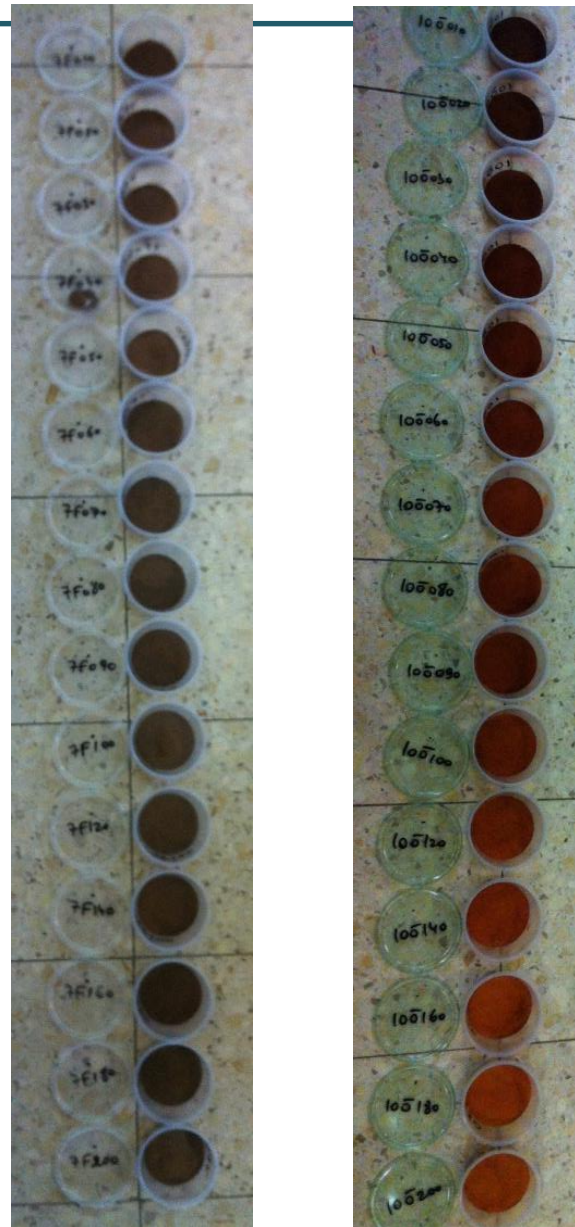
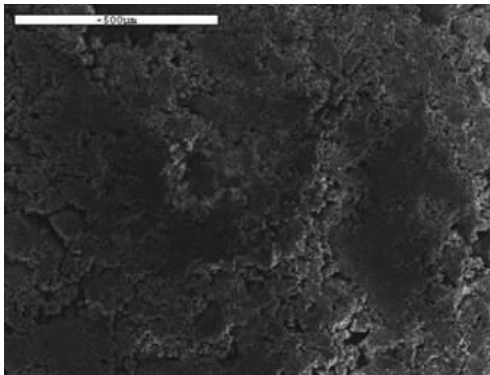






# Introduction to soil science

Spatial and vertical  
changes

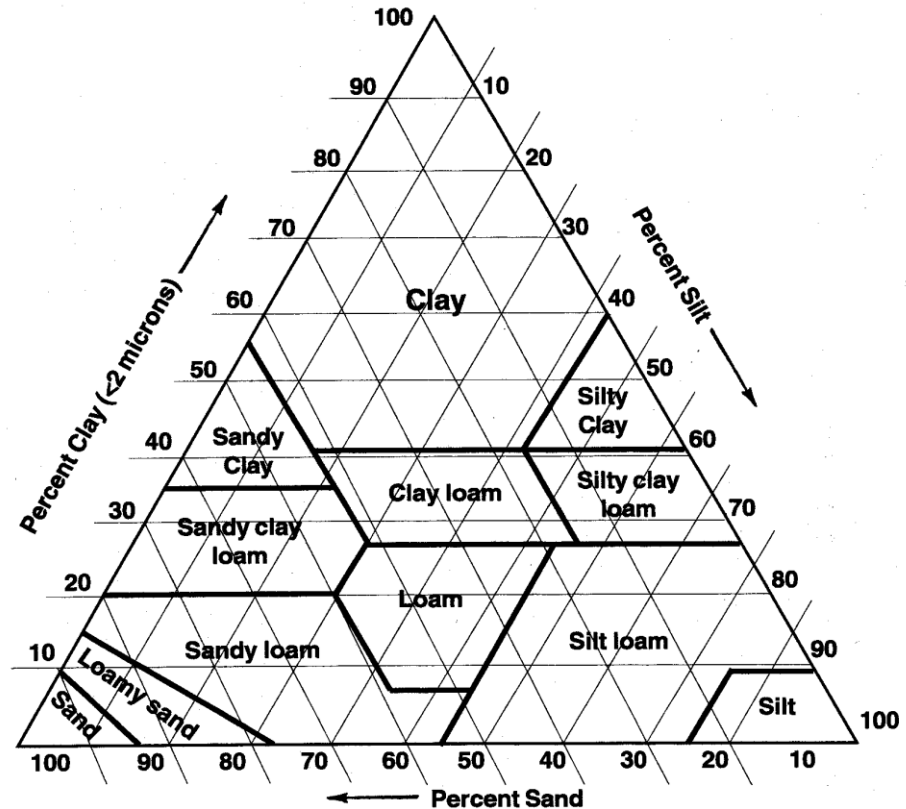


## Soil texture

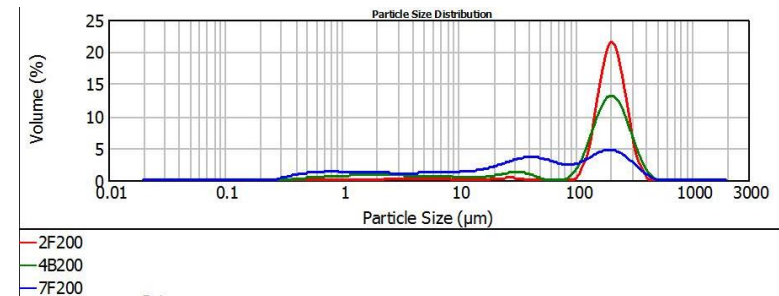
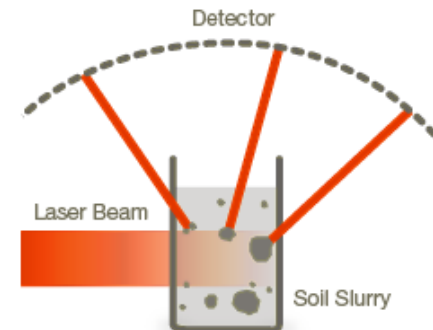
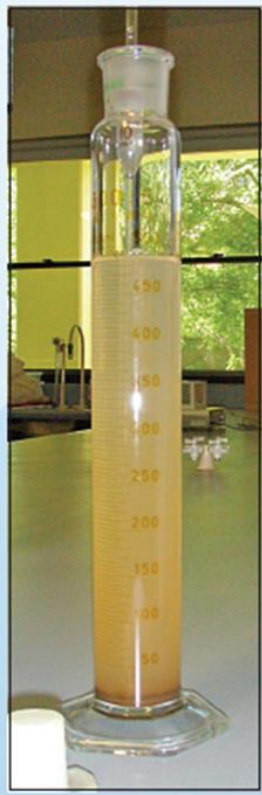
Hydrometer

Sieve

Laser diffraction



## Soil texture







# The importance of soils

- Plants grow on soils.
- Plants support animal life.
- Plants and animals support human life.
- World population is rapidly increasing, with high food demand.
- A large part of the world's population has inadequate nutrition.
- Soil affects all the above





# Basic principles of spectroscopy



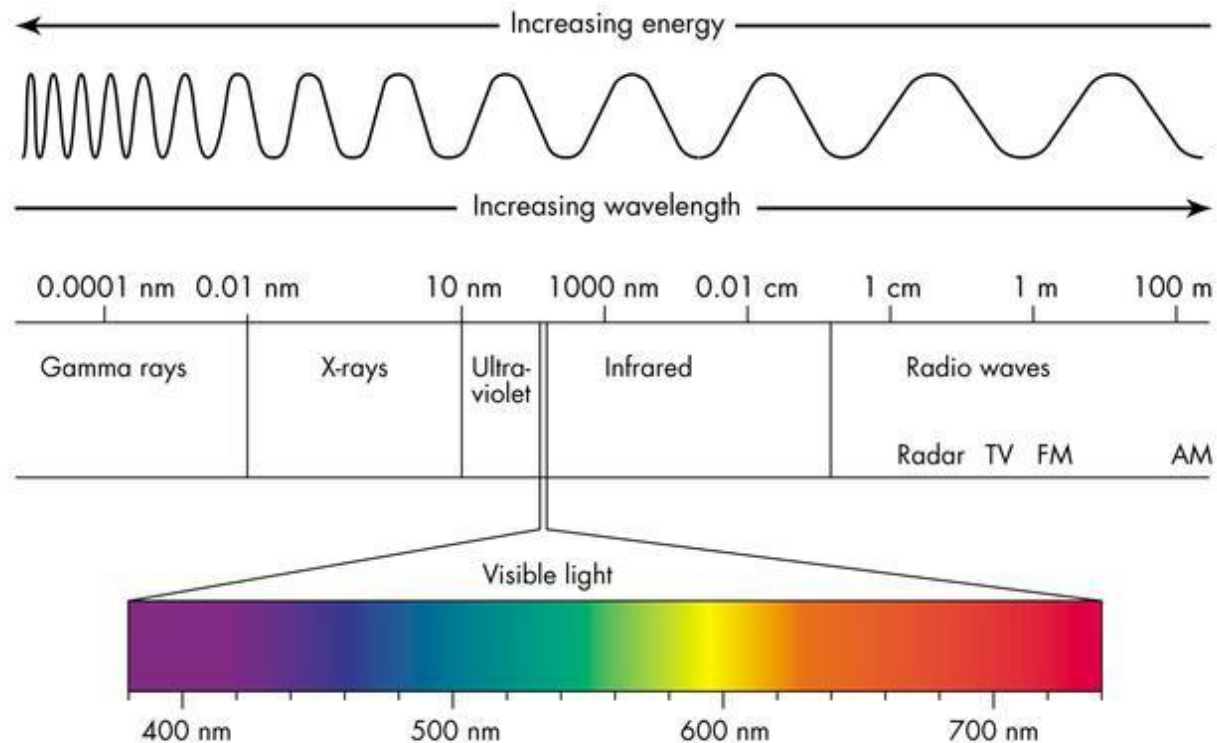
# Basic principles of spectroscopy



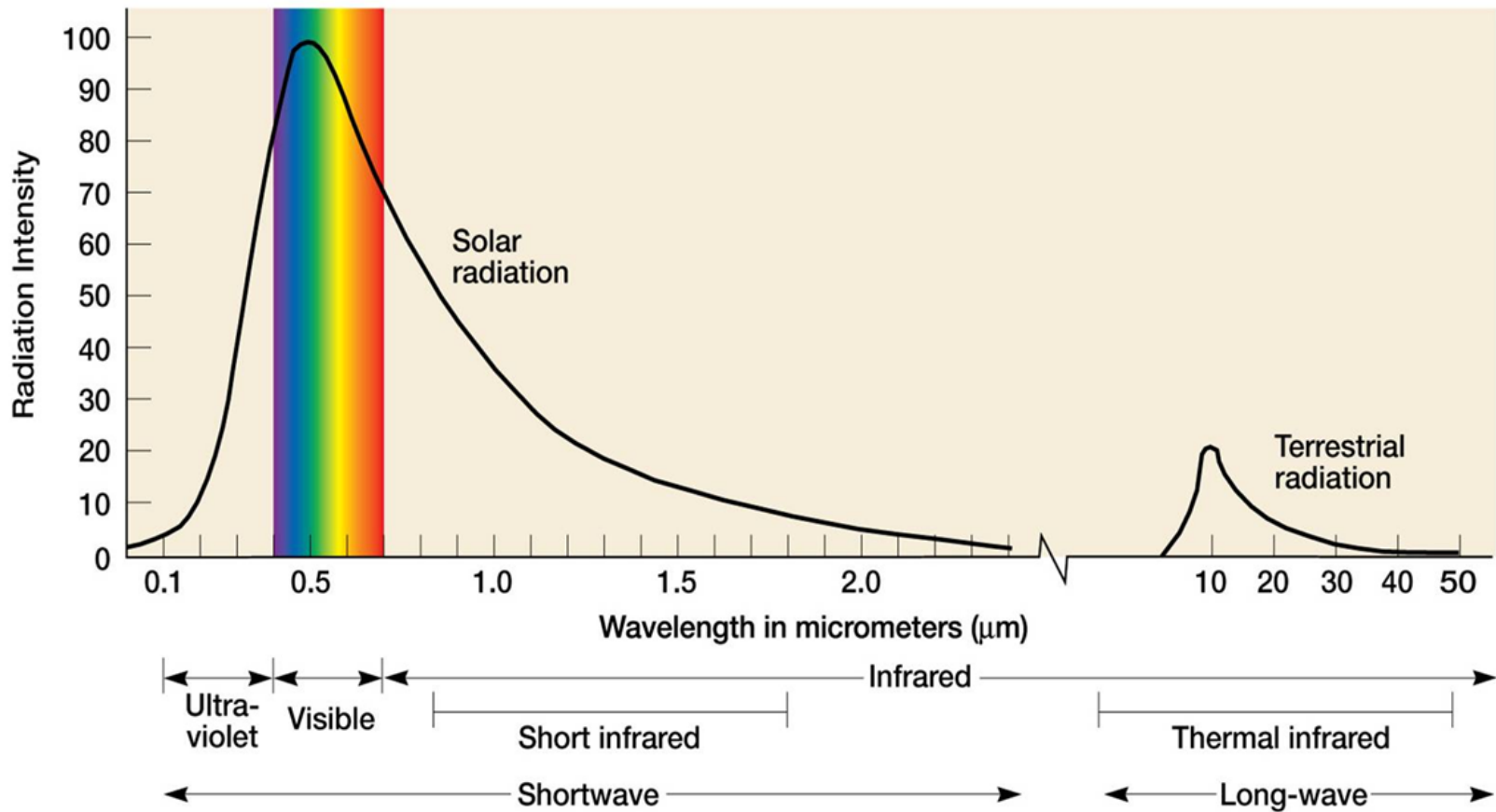
The study of interaction between matter and radiated energy.

**Spectroscopy** is used in physical and analytical chemistry to detect, identify and quantify information about the atoms and molecules and determine the chemical composition and physical properties of various targets.

## Electromagnetic spectrum



# Basic principles of spectroscopy

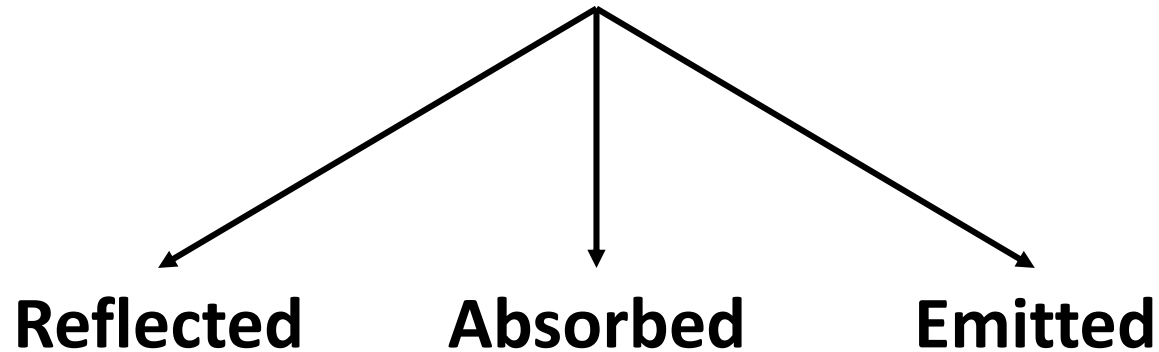




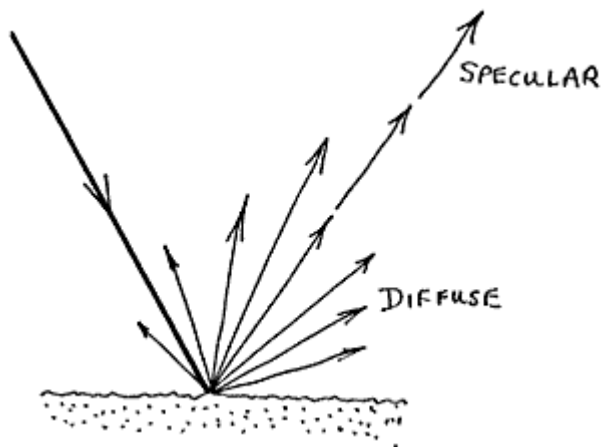
# Basic principles of spectroscopy

## Radiation

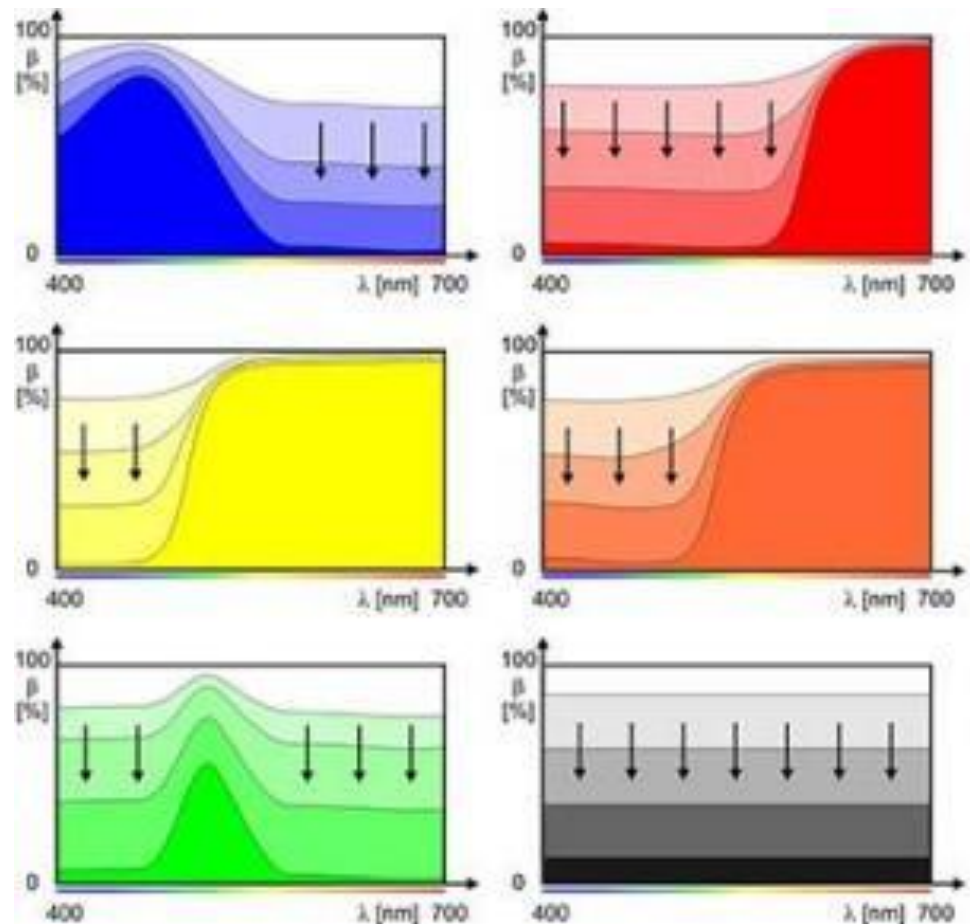
### Interaction with surface



## Reflectance



400-2500 nm  
0.4-2.5  $\mu\text{m}$







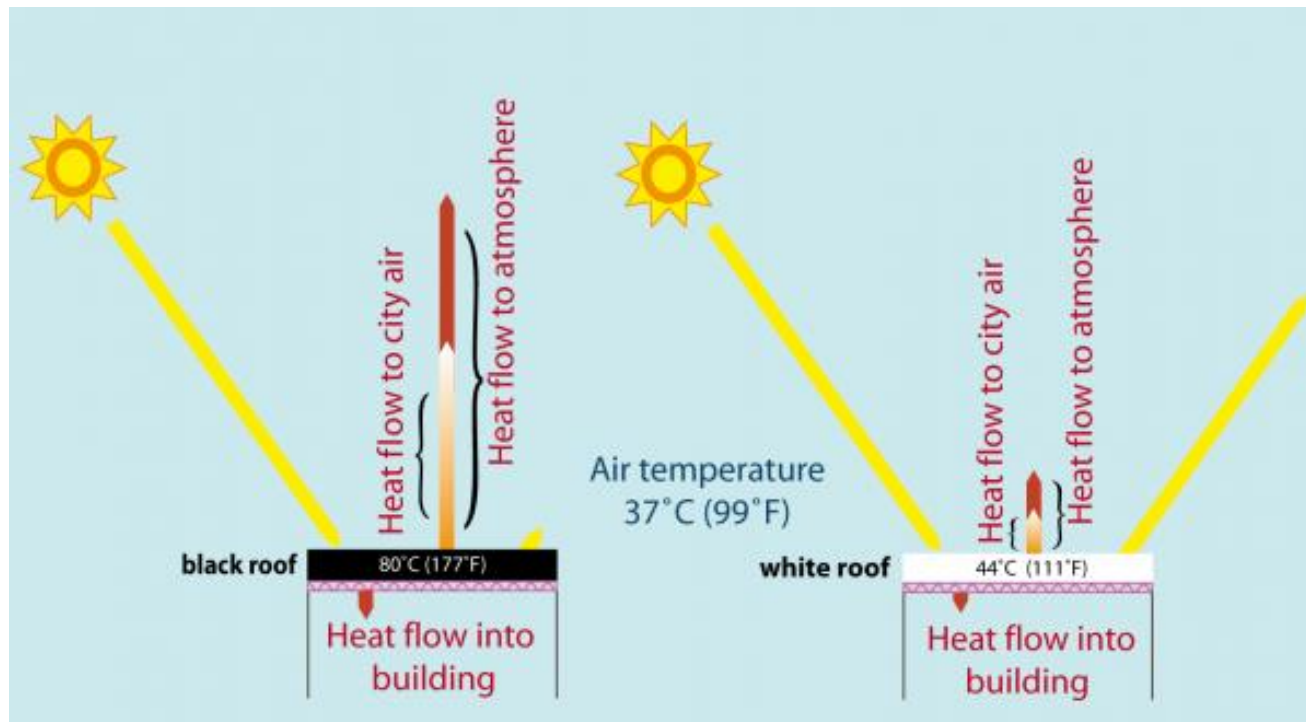
# Basic principles of spectroscopy



## Absorption

In the field of spectroscopy in the VNIR-SWIR ranges, two main processes exist which cause an absorption of energy: **excitation processes** between electronic states that cause electrons to shift from basic molecular orbital into excited orbital stage and **vibrational processes** which arise from molecular vibrations (Wallace and Hobbs, 2006).

## Emittance



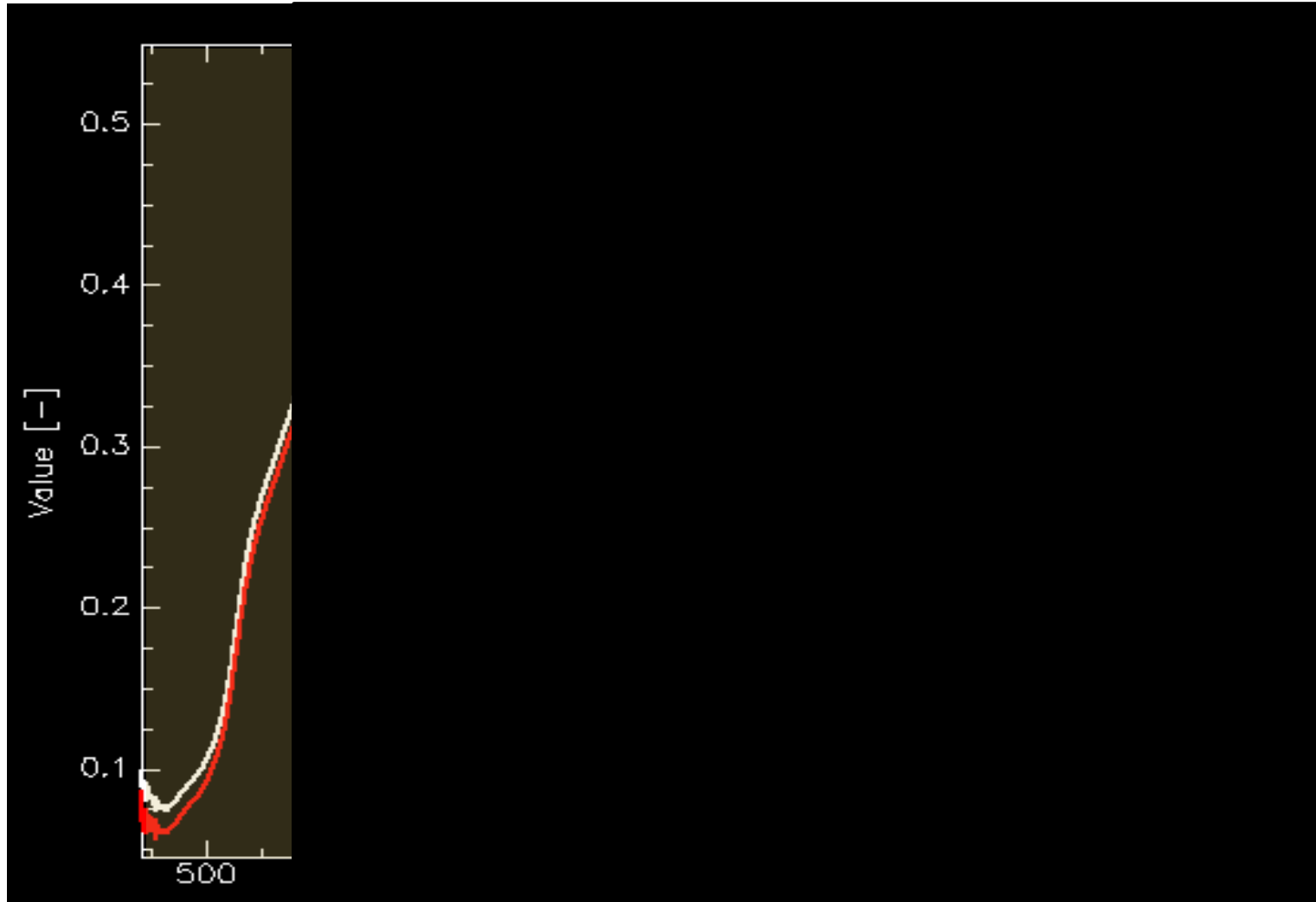
8000-12000 nm  
8-12  $\mu\text{m}$



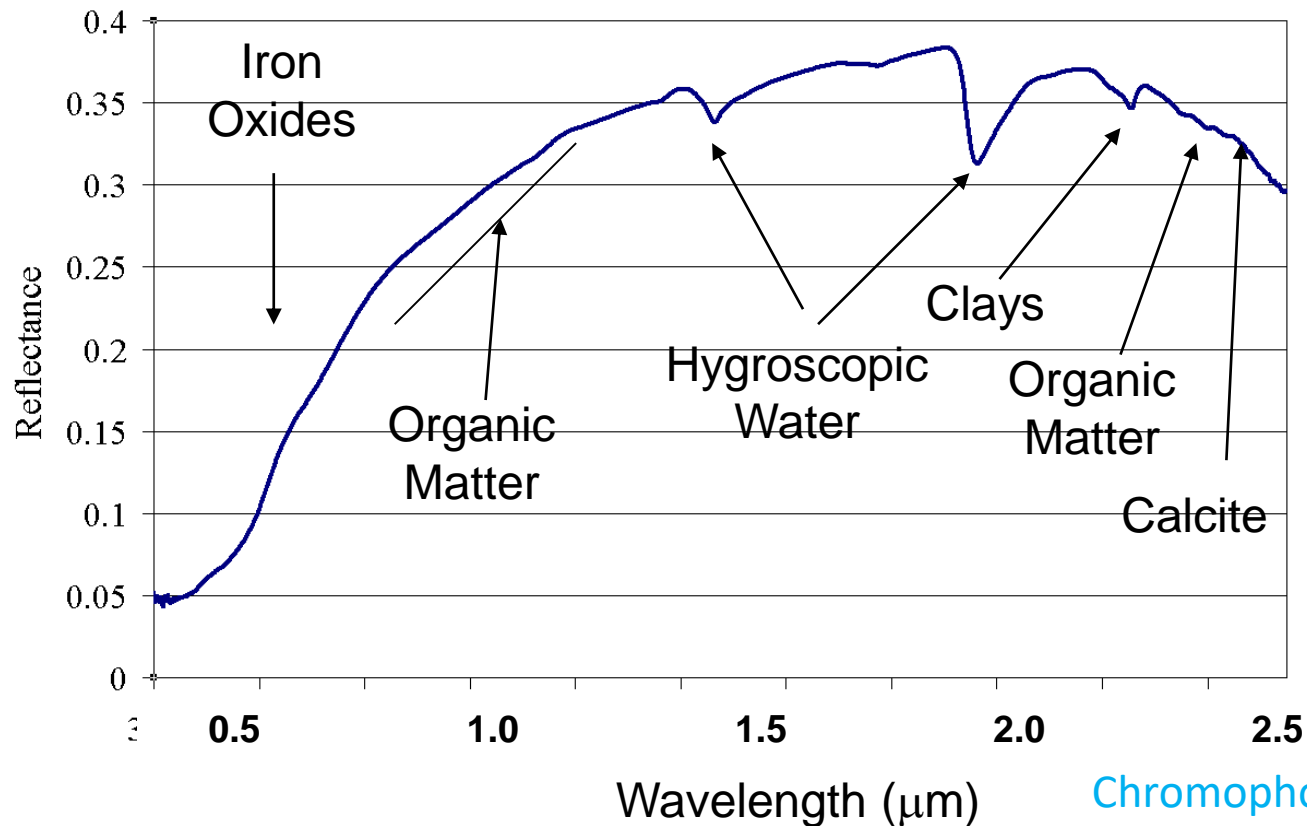
# Soil spectroscopy



# Soil spectroscopy

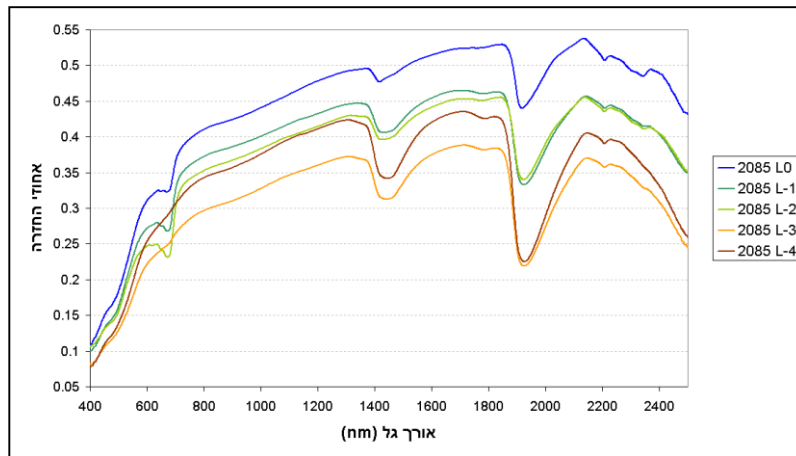


An effective way to simplest the complexity of the soil system

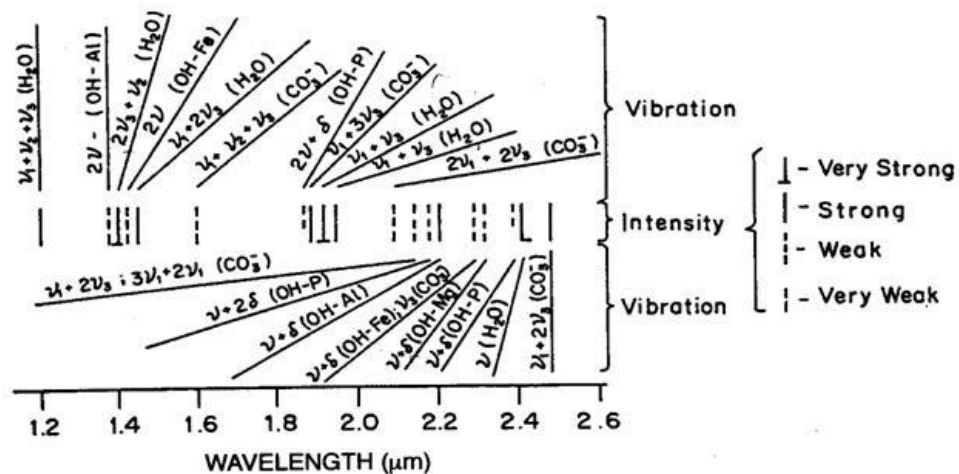
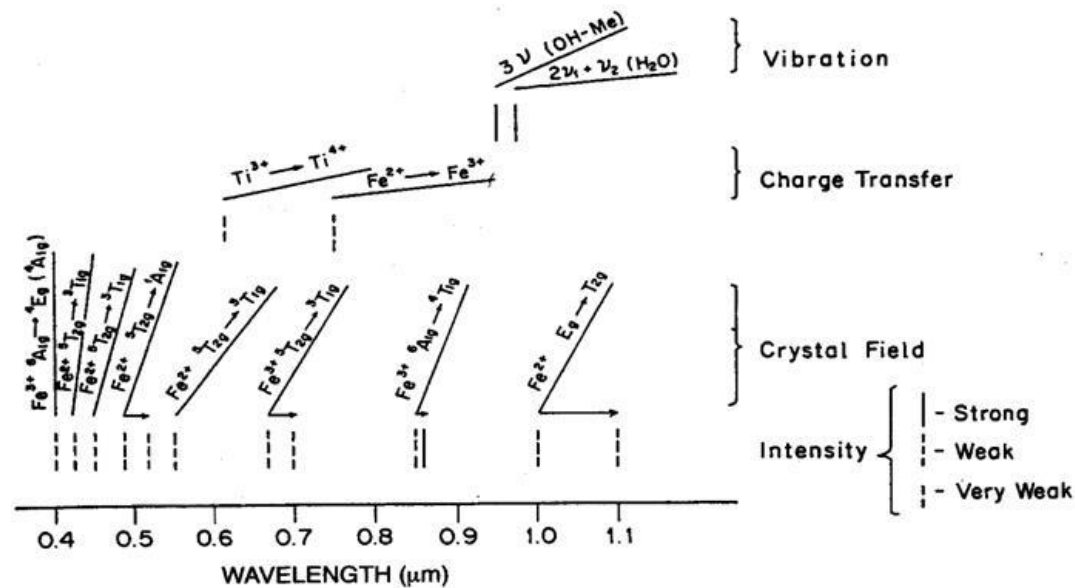


Chromophore = An attribute that interacts with the electromagnetic radiation

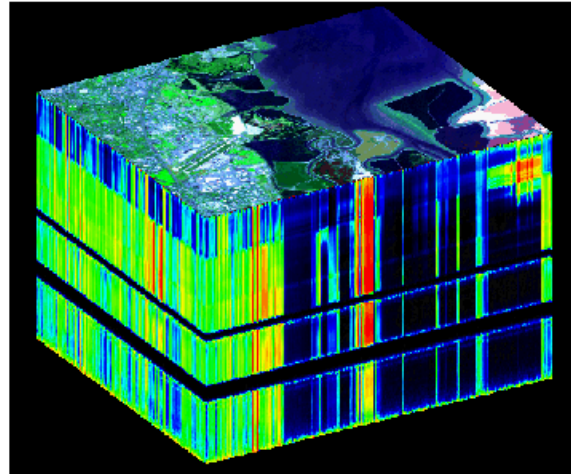
The reflectance/emittance part of the electromagnetic radiation that interacts with the soil across the VIS-NIR-SWIR-TIR spectral regions ( $0.35\text{-}14\mu\text{m}$ ).



Point – one pixel







adjusted From A. Goetz 1994

Simultaneous acquisition of images in many registered spectrally- high resolution continuous bands at selected (or all) spectral domains across the UV-VIS-NIR-SWIR-MWIR-LWIR spectral region (0.3-12 $\mu$ m)



# Strong Link between Point and Image Spectroscopy

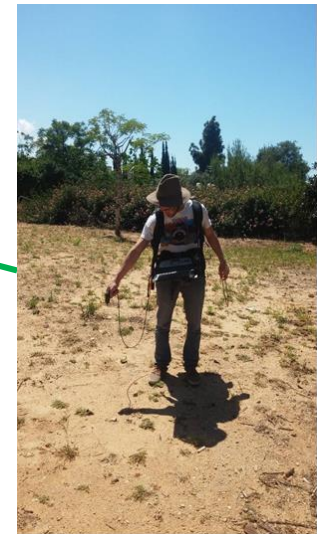
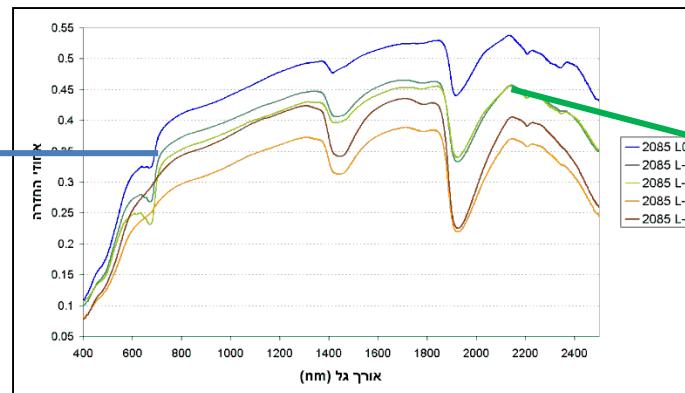
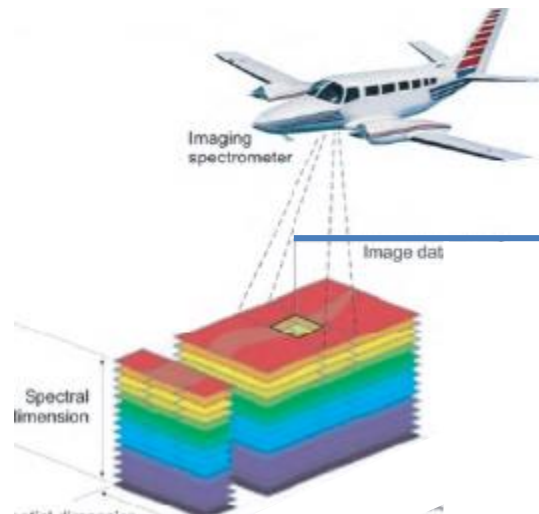


Image  
Spectroscopy

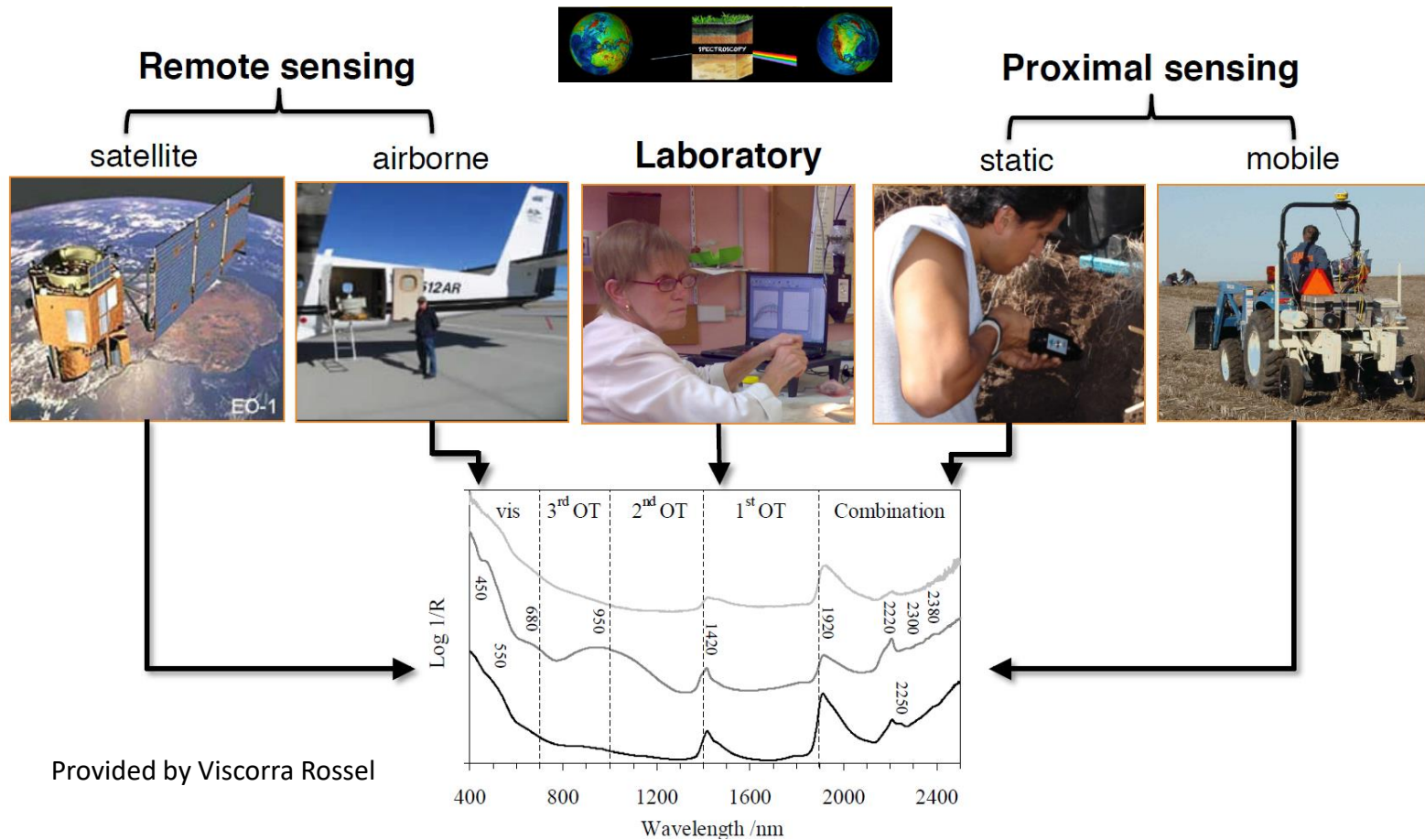
Geology  
Vegetation  
Water

Point  
Spectroscopy

Soil



## Why so much interest in soil spectroscopy?

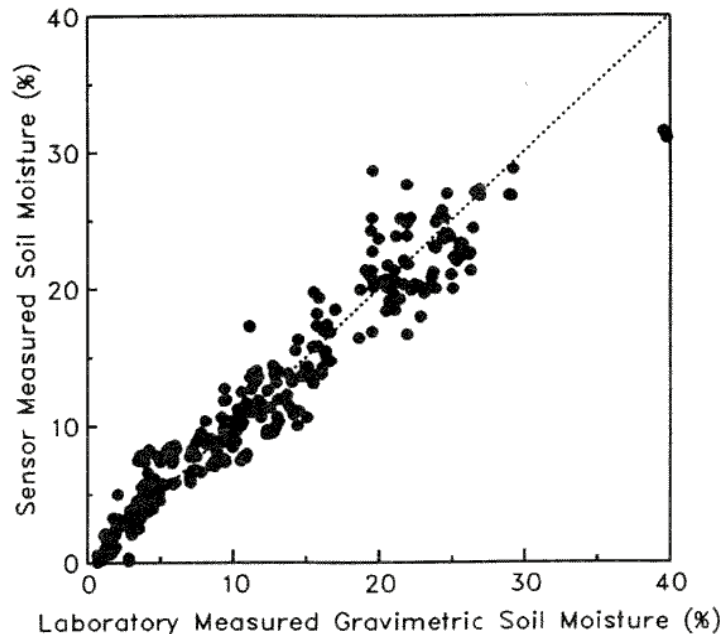




# Soil Spectroscopy

## Quantitative Information on soil attributes can be Extracted from soil spectral information

*Dalal, R.C., and R.J. Henry. 1986. Simultaneous determination of moisture, organic carbon and total nitrogen by near infrared reflectance spectroscopy. Soil Science Society of America Journal 50:120-12*



Simple, rapid, inexpensive and  
can be applied from large domains (laboratory, field, air and space)

## Examples of some of the soil attributes that can be extracted from spectral library (1)

| Soil attribute            | Spectral region | Spectral range (nm) | Multivariate method <sup>a</sup> | $n_{calib}$   $n_{valid}$ | RMSE | $R^2$ | Authors                       |
|---------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|------|-------|-------------------------------|
| Mg; g/kg                  | VIS-NIR         | 400–2500            | modified PLSR                    | 315                       |      | 0.90  | Cozzolino and Moron (2003)    |
| Mg (exch.); cmol(+)/kg    | VIS-NIR         | 350–2500            | MARS                             | 493 246                   | 11   | 0.81  | Shepherd and Walsh (2002)     |
| Mg (exch.); mg/kg         | VIS-NIR         | 400–2498            | PCR (9)                          | 30 119                    | 12.8 | 0.68  | Chang et al. (2001)           |
| Mg; mmol(+)/kg            | UV-VIS-NIR      | 250–2500            | PCR                              | 121 40                    |      | 0.63  | Islam et al. (2003)           |
| Mn (DTPA); mg/kg          | MIR             | 2500–25,000         | PLSR                             | 183                       |      | 0.57  | Janik et al. (1998)           |
| Mn (exch.); cmol/kg       | MIR             | 2500–25,000         | PLSR                             | 183                       |      | 0.66  | Janik et al. (1998)           |
| Mn (Mehlich III); mg/kg   | VIS-NIR         | 400–2498            | PCR (12)                         | 30 119                    | 56.4 | 0.70  | Chang et al. (2001)           |
| OC; %                     | MIR             | 2500–20,000         | PLSR                             |                           |      | 0.92  | Janik and Skjemstad (1995)    |
| OC; %                     | MIR             | 2500–25,000         | PLSR                             | 188                       |      | 0.93  | Janik et al. (1998)           |
| OC; g/kg                  | MIR             | 2500–25,000         | PLSR (17)                        | 177 60                    |      | 0.94  | McCarty et al. (2002)         |
| OC; (acidified soil) g/kg | MIR             | 2500–25,000         | PLSR (19)                        | 177 60                    |      | 0.97  | McCarty et al. (2002)         |
| OC; %                     | NIR             | 1100–2500           | MLR (1744, 1870, 2052)           | 72 48                     |      | 0.93  | Dalal and Henry (1986)        |
| OC; %                     | NIR             | 1100–2500           | RBFN                             | 140 60                    | 0.32 | 0.96  | Fidêncio et al. (2002)        |
| OC; %                     | NIR             | 700–2500            | PCR                              | 121 40                    |      | 0.68  | Islam et al. (2003)           |
| OC; g/kg                  | NIR             | 1100–2498           | PLSR (18)                        | 177 60                    |      | 0.82  | McCarty et al. (2002)         |
| OC; mg/kg                 | NIR             | 1100–2300           | PLSR (8)                         | 180 x-val                 |      | 0.94  | Reeves and McCarty (2001)     |
| OC (acidified soil); g/kg | NIR             | 1100–2498           | PLSR (17)                        | 177 60                    |      | 0.80  | McCarty et al. (2002)         |
| OC; g/kg                  | VIS-NIR         | 400–2498            | PLSR (6)                         | 76 32                     | 0.62 | 0.89  | Chang and Laird (2002)        |
| OC; g/kg                  | VIS-NIR         | 350–2500            | MARS                             | 449 225                   | 0.31 | 0.80  | Shepherd and Walsh (2002)     |
| OC; dag/kg                | VIS-NIR         | 350–1050            | PLSR (5)                         | 43 25                     | 0.36 |       | Viscarra Rossel et al. (2003) |
| OC; %                     | UV-VIS-NIR      | 250–2500            | PCR                              | 121 40                    |      | 0.76  | Islam et al. (2003)           |
| OM; %                     | MIR             | 2500–25,000         | PLSR (4)                         | 31 x-val                  | 0.72 | 0.98  | Masserschmidt et al. (1999)   |
| OM; %                     | NIR             | 1000–2500           | MRA (30 bands)                   | 39 52                     |      | 0.55  | Ben-Dor and Banin (1995)      |
| OM; %                     | VIS-NIR         | 400–1100            | NN                               | 41                        |      | 0.86  | Daniel et al. (2003)          |
| OM; %                     | VIS-NIR         | 400–2400            | SMLR (606, 1311, 1238)           | 15 10                     |      | 0.65  | Shibusawa et al. (2001)       |
| P (avail.); mg/kg         | MIR             | 2500–25,000         | PLSR                             | 186                       |      | 0.07  | Janik et al. (1998)           |
| P (avail.); mg/kg         | VIS-NIR         | 400–1100            | NN                               | 41                        |      | 0.81  | Daniel et al. (2003)          |
| pH                        | MIR             | 2500–20,000         | PLSR                             |                           |      | 0.72  | Janik and Skjemstad (1995)    |
| pH                        | NIR             | 1100–2300           | PLSR (8)                         | 180 x-val                 |      | 0.74  | Reeves and McCarty (2001)     |
| pH                        | NIR             | 1100–2498           | PLSR (11)                        | 120 59                    |      | 0.73  | Reeves et al. (1999)          |
| pH                        | VIS-NIR         | 350–2500            | MARS                             | 505 253                   | 0.43 | 0.70  | Shepherd and Walsh (2002)     |
| pH <sub>Ca</sub>          | MIR             | 2500–25,000         | PLSR                             | 183                       |      | 0.67  | Janik et al. (1998)           |



## Examples of some of the soil attributes that can be extracted from spectral library (2)

| Soil attribute            | Spectral region | Spectral range (nm) | Multivariate method <sup>a</sup> | $n_{\text{calib}}$   $n_{\text{valid}}$ <sup>b</sup> | RMSE | $R^2$ | Authors                       |
|---------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|--|------|-------|-------------------------------|
| OC; %                     | MIR             | 2500–20,000         | PLSR                             |  |      | 0.92  | Janik and Skjemstad (1995)    |
| OC; %                     | MIR             | 2500–25,000         | PLSR                             | 188  |      | 0.93  | Janik et al. (1998)           |
| OC; g/kg                  | MIR             | 2500–25,000         | PLSR (17)                        | 177 60   |      | 0.94  | McCarty et al. (2002)         |
| OC; (acidified soil) g/kg | MIR             | 2500–25,000         | PLSR (19)                        | 177 60   |      | 0.97  | McCarty et al. (2002)         |
| OC; %                     | NIR             | 1100–2500           | MLR (1744, 1870, 2052)           | 72 48  |      | 0.93  | Dalal and Henry (1986)        |
| OC; %                     | NIR             | 1100–2500           | RBFN                             | 140 60   | 0.32 | 0.96  | Fidêncio et al. (2002)        |
| OC; %                     | NIR             | 700–2500            | PCR                              | 121 40   |      | 0.68  | Islam et al. (2003)           |
| OC; g/kg                  | NIR             | 1100–2498           | PLSR (18)                        | 177 60   |      | 0.82  | McCarty et al. (2002)         |
| OC; mg/kg                 | NIR             | 1100–2300           | PLSR (8)                         | 180 x-val  |      | 0.94  | Reeves and McCarty (2001)     |
| OC (acidified soil); g/kg | NIR             | 1100–2498           | PLSR (17)                        | 177 60   |      | 0.80  | McCarty et al. (2002)         |
| OC; g/kg                  | VIS–NIR         | 400–2498            | PLSR (6)                         | 76 32  | 0.62 | 0.89  | Chang and Laird (2002)        |
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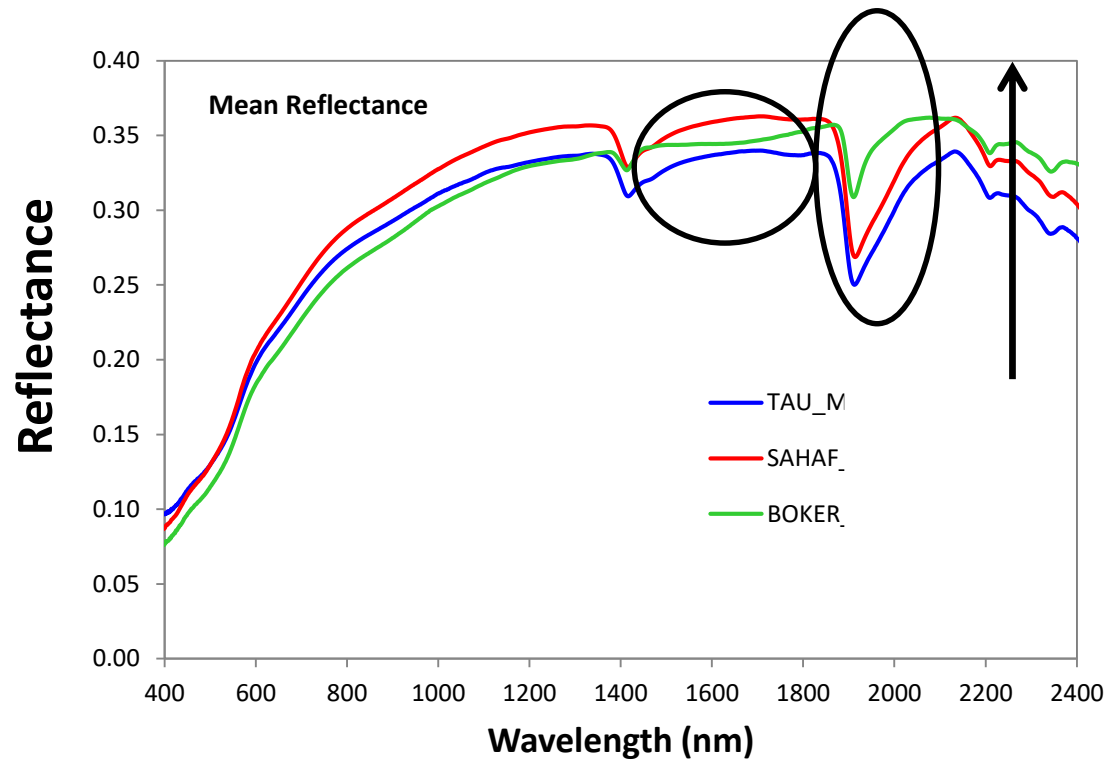
# Merging Soil Spectral Library : **The problems**

Most of the SSLs today are generated in the laboratory domains

- Users are focused on their own protocols  
(*measurement methods and instrumentation*)
- Protocol may affects the final spectrum.....
- Quantitative models are sensitive to these effects (small spectral changes) .....



## One soil: Three different protocols



## The problem - 2: *Analytical Domain*

**100 samples (60 cal, 40 val) – three protocols : Quantitative analysis**

| Instrument<br>/ Operator | Internal<br>standard | CaCO <sub>3</sub> | Clay Content | Organic Matter | Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> |
|--------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|--------------|----------------|--------------------------------|
|                          |                      | RMSEP             | RMSEP        | RMSEP          | RMSEP                          |
| <b>TAU</b>               | <b>Original</b>      | <b>13.24</b>      | <b>5.4</b>   | <b>1.54</b>    | <b>4316</b>                    |
| SAHAF                    | Original             | 13.33             | 8.2          | 1.50           | 5169                           |
| BOKER                    | Original             | 17.44             | 8.9          | 1.79           | 4687                           |

# Soil Laboratory Spectroscopy: Problems

## (Systemic = Non Systematic)



two sources are responsible for that:

**Systematic**  
**Non systematic effects**



**Systematic Effects:** e.g. Spectrometer Calibration, Geometry between measurement sets, Bulb Response

**Non Systematic Effects:** e.g. Spectrometer instability, Geometry within a measurement set, Bulb instability, atmosphere attenuations, user experience



**Correcting for Non Systematic Effect** - Using an agreed protocol

**Correcting for the Systematic Effects** – Using an Internal Soil Standard Method

# Protocol (Non systematic effects)

A simple protocol has  
established for new users  
Since 2014

## Reflectance Measurement of Soils in the Laboratory: Standards and Protocols



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8/20/2013

This document provides a detail instructions and routines on how to measure soil reflectance in the laboratory systematically and accurately in order to receive high performance and reproducibility. The document presents two standards and two protocols. The protocols are for a contact probe and a fixed geometry assemblies and the two standards are white sand dunes from Western Australia. It also provides a method on how to standardize each reflectance measurement to the proposed standard samples. The sand samples are used to check the stability of the measurement set up and more important to enable the user to exchange spectral libraries which were acquired under similar standardization conditions.



Reflectance measurements of soils in the laboratory: Standards and protocols

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### ABSTRACT

For the past 20 years, soil reflectance measurement in the laboratory has been a common and extensively used procedure. Based on soil spectroscopy, a proxy strategy using a chemometrics approach has been developed for soils, along with massive construction of soil spectral libraries worldwide. Surprisingly however, there are no agreed upon standards or protocols for reliable reflectance measurements in the laboratory and field. Consequently, almost every user reconstructs his or her own protocol based on the literature, experience, convenience and infrastructure. This yields significant problems for comparing and sharing soil spectral data between users, as spectral variations can be encountered from one protocol to the next. This further prevents the generation of a robust model for a given soil property versus the worldwide data archive. To solve this problem in the laboratory

# Internal Soil Standard (ISS) purse: to align with systematic effects of protocols

Adopted from the wet chemistry analytical practices

## Internal standard

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

An **internal standard** in [analytical chemistry](#) is a [chemical substance](#) that is added in a constant amount to samples, the blank and [calibration](#) standards in a [chemical analysis](#). This substance can then be used for calibration by plotting the ratio of the [analyte](#) signal to the internal standard signal as a function of the analyte concentration of the standards. This is done to correct for the loss of analyte during sample preparation or sample inlet. *The internal standard is a compound that matches as closely, but not completely,* the chemical species of interest in the samples, as the effects of sample preparation should, relative to the amount of each species, be the same for the signal from the internal standard as for the signal(s) from the species of interest in the ideal case. Adding known quantities of analyte(s) of interest is a distinct technique called [standard addition](#), which is performed to correct for [matrix effects](#).

$$F_R(i) = (\text{counts/gram})_{\text{standard}} / (\text{counts/gram})_{\text{component } i} \quad (1)$$

# Internal Soil Standards (ISS) characteristics

## **General:**

A simple and low cost material that can be shipped easily worldwide (no valuable cost, light in weight)

## **Spectral:**

A material that will hold stable absorption features, across the VIS-NIR-SWIR region and will be an inertial material

## **Radiometrical:**

A material that will hold the soil particle size (<2mm) and characterizes with no absorption features



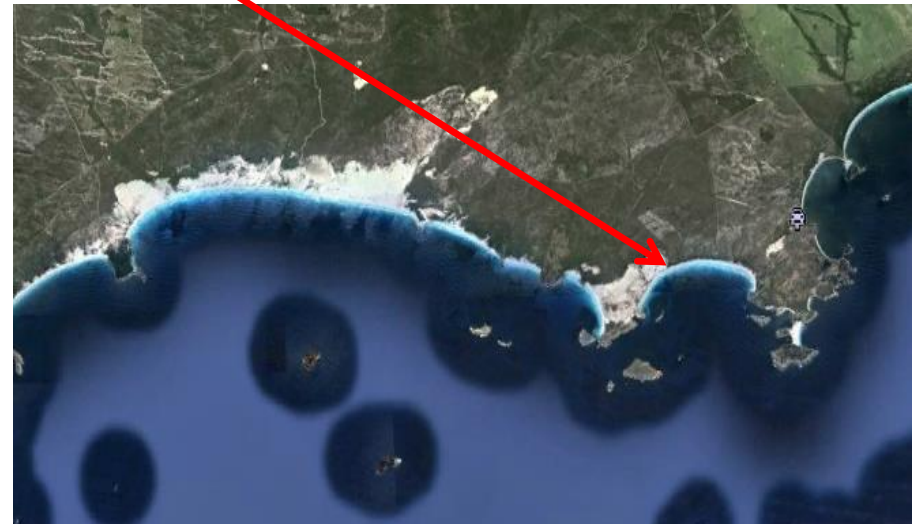
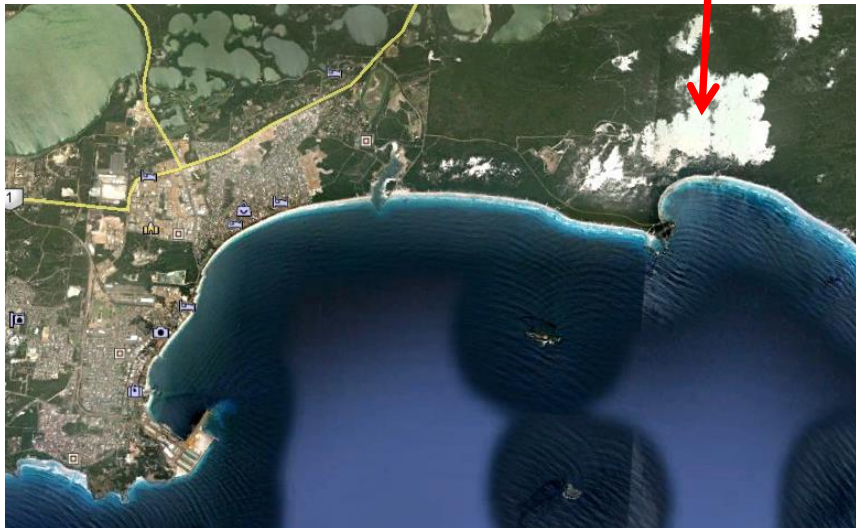
# Searching for an **ideal standard** took almost 4 years



Wiely Bay



Lucky Bay



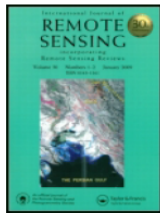
Lucky Bay

Wiley Bay



Soil Mineralogy

## Performance of Three Identical Spectrometers in Retrieving Soil Reflectance under Laboratory Conditions



International Journal of Remote Sensing

ISSN: 0143-1161 (Print) 1366-5901 (Online) Journal homepage: <http://www.tandfonline.com/loi/tres20>

## Normalizing reflectance from different spectrometers and protocols with an internal soil standard

Veronika Kopačková & Eyal Ben-Dor

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A wide range of electronic and mechanical noise factors can affect soil spectra when using different instruments or even when repeating a specific sample's measurements with the same spectrometer. In soil samples where very weak spectral features are monitored for chemometric purposes, alterations in wavelength location, peak absorption shape, or absolute intensity can limit the use of previously developed spectral models. To quantify this alteration and propose a standardization method, 12 soil samples and three different materials for internal standards (sand, glass and polyethylene) were analyzed. This population was concurrently measured with three identical spectrometers using a strict measurement protocol, and then by different operators with different protocols. Significant changes in the soil spectra were found when different operators performed the measurements, being reduced >50% when the strict protocol was applied. Sand was found to be the ideal internal standard for correcting the spectra to a reference spectrometer, even when different measuring protocols were used. This standardization also showed an improvement in the prediction of soil properties when applying chemometric spectral models even with different instruments, concluding that the use of an internal standard and a strict protocol must be applied for soil spectral measurements. As the measuring factors described in this research also affect any infrared diffuse reflectance spectroscopy measurements, the proposed method should be applicable to any instrumentation and configuration being used. This is crucial to enabling spectral comparisons between different spectrometers or, more importantly, to establishing robust chemometric models and to exchange soil spectral information.

Abbreviations: ASD, Analytical Spectral Devices, Inc.; CR, continuum removal; NIRs, near infrared analysis; PLS, partial least squares; RGB, red-green-blue color model; RMSEP, root mean square error of prediction; SAM, spectral angle mapper; TAU, Tel Aviv University.

Many reflectance spectroscopy applications have been developed for soils in the last 20 yr (Malley et al., 2004). Today, reflectance in the VIS-NIR-SWIR region is considered to be a solid and mature technique for qualitative and quantitative analyses of soil material (Ben-Dor et al., 2008b). Soil spectroscopy has advanced the discipline of soil science by providing a rapid and accurate methodology for quantitative analyses that bypasses the traditional "wet" laboratory analyses. Whereas most of the work in evaluating soil information from reflectance spectroscopy has been performed under controlled laboratory conditions, field applications are now rapidly gaining an important place in soil spectroscopy (Ben-Dor et al., 2009; Cecillon et al., 2009). Accordingly, portable spectrometers are being developed and utilized worldwide for many natural resource applications, such as soil, rock, vegetation, and water studies. In addition, a wide range of soil spectral measurements are being gathered around the globe with the intention of building a universal soil spectral library (Viscarra Rossel, 2009). However, this kind of initiative, or even the routine analyses of spectral data collected in one specific laboratory, are limited by the differences that are usually obtained when different spectrometers and protocols are used (Milton et al., 2009; Price, 1994). Spectral performance may vary among different types of spectrometers, or even among models from the same manufacturer, being therefore important to characterize

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# Spectral Normalization Process

## Spectral standardization

$$CF_{\lambda} = 1 - ((S\rho_{\lambda} - M\rho_{\lambda}) / S\rho_{\lambda})$$

$$Rc_{\lambda} = Ro_{\lambda} \times CF_{\lambda}$$

$S\rho_{\lambda}$  is the reflectance of the *Slave* reference (*your measurement of the ISS*)

$M\rho_{\lambda}$  is the reflectance of the *Master* reference (*standard ISS measured by a certified agreed-lab*)

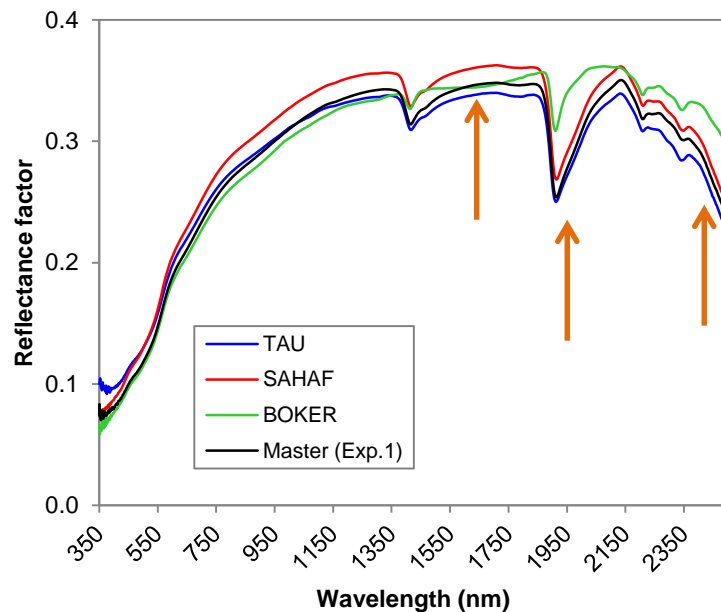
$Rc_{\lambda}$  is the corrected sample reflectance (to the internal standard conditions, *standard*)

$Ro_{\lambda}$  is the original sample reflectance (*sample*)

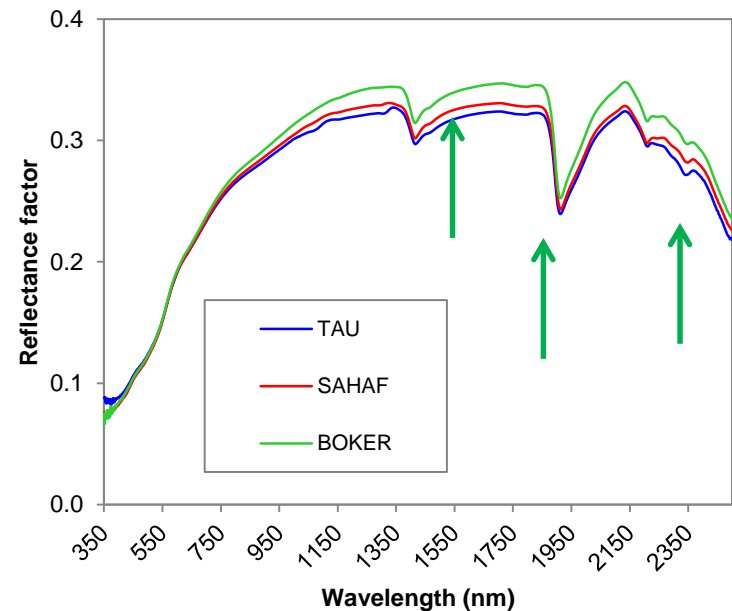
# Results - Standardization

## Soil B spectrum comparison before and after *Sand* standardization

Original

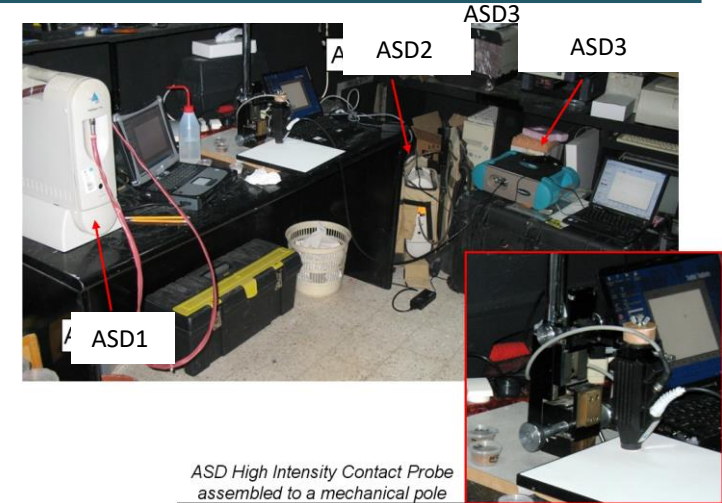


Sand corrected



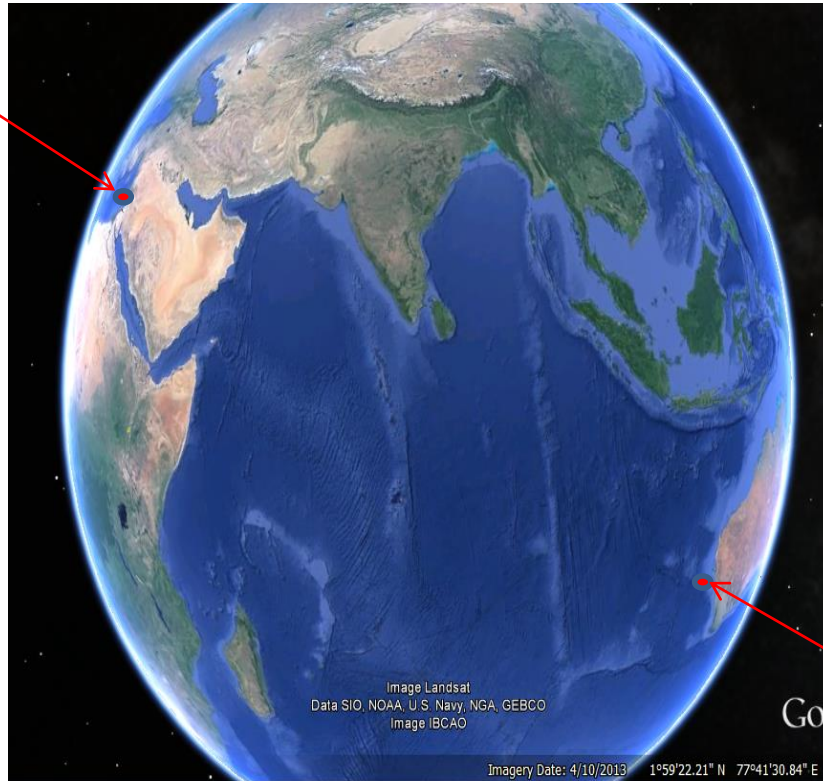


# Sets Up (**development**)



- 4 different protocols
- 5 different spectrometers
- 4 users
- 4 different White Reference
- 2 different geographical location

**Same Soil Samples, Same ISS**



Tel Aviv

September

Perth

August

**CSIRO 0** - Brand New HALON Plate as a WR with, ASD-2, contact probe (CP), User-1, Perth, Protocol A(0) → **MASTER**

# Standard for Systemic Effects



THE REMOTE SENSING  
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Lucky Bay

Wiely Bay



Soil Mineralogy

## Performance of Three Identical Spectrometers in Retrieving Soil Reflectance under Laboratory Conditions

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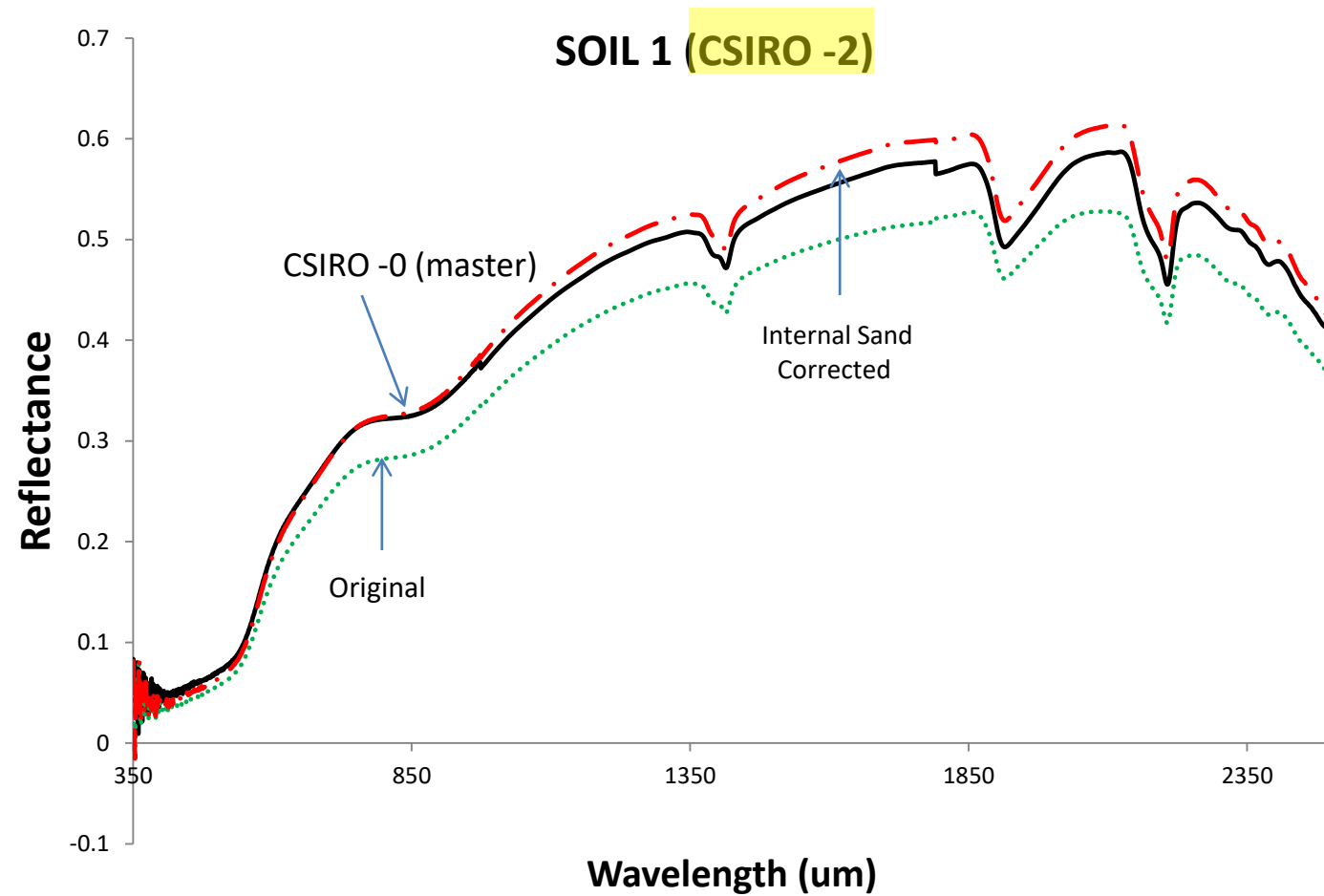
\*Corresponding author: pimstein@uc.cl.

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**ASDS** = Average Sum of Deviation Square  
(Ben-Dor et al., 2004)

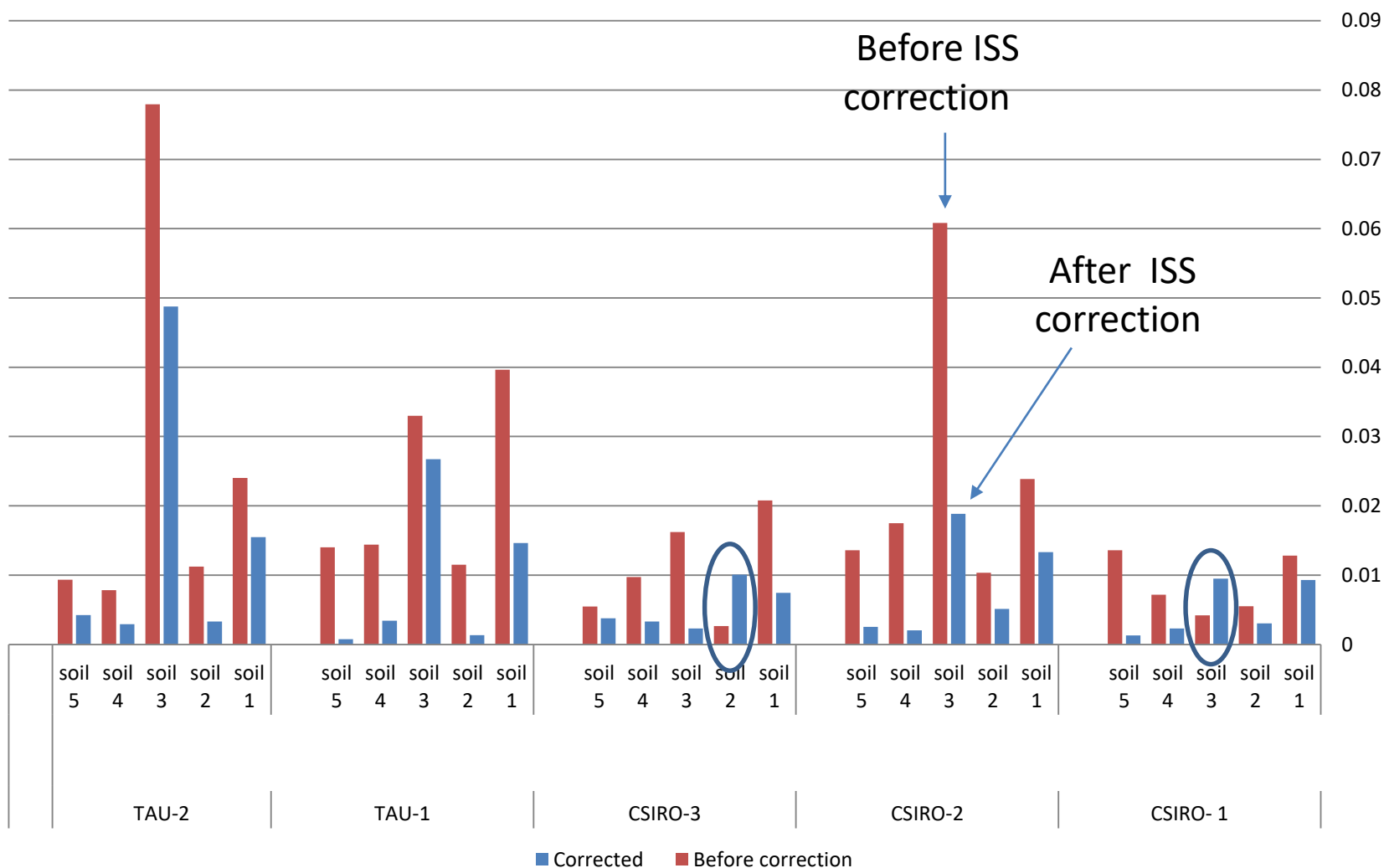
$$ASDS = \frac{\sum_{\lambda=350}^{2500} \sigma \left( 1 - \rho_{\lambda} / \rho^*_{\lambda} \right)^2}{2151}$$

$\rho$  : sample reflectance  
 $\rho^*$  : reference reflectance

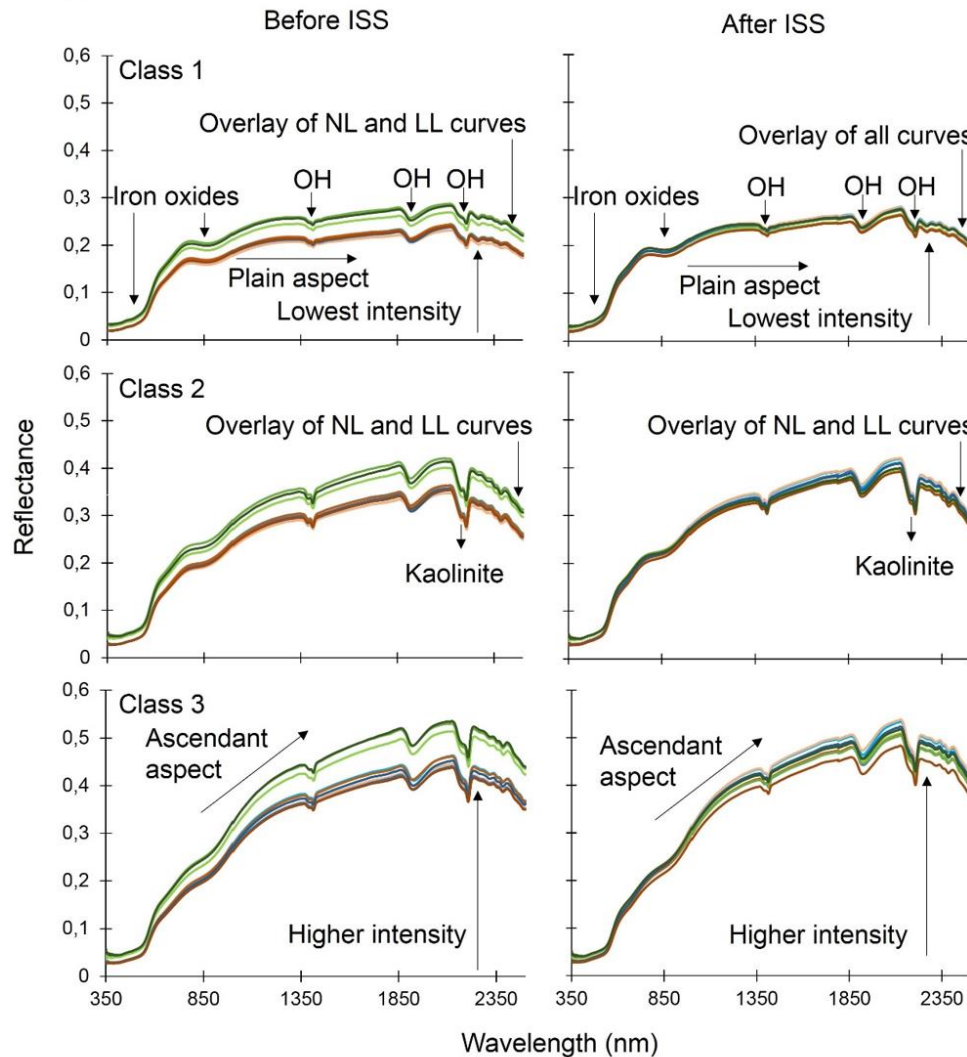
**ASDS  $\rightarrow$  0 = good match**

# ASDS

92% success



# Sets Up (validation II )



— S1\_LL\_CF — S1\_NL\_CF — S1\_CP\_CF  
 — S2\_LL\_CF — S2\_NL\_CF — S2\_CP\_CF  
 — S3\_LL\_CF — S3\_NL\_CF — S3\_CP\_CF

## Utilization of the Internal Soil Standard Method for the Brazilian Soil Spectral Library: Spectral Performance and Proximate analysis

Danilo Jefferson Romero<sup>a</sup>, Eyal Ben Dor<sup>b</sup>, José A. M. Demattê<sup>c</sup>, Arnaldo Barros e Souza<sup>a</sup>, Luiz Eduardo Vicente<sup>c</sup>, Tiago R. Tavares<sup>d</sup>, Mauricio Martello<sup>d</sup>, Taila Fernanda, Strabeli<sup>d</sup>, Pedro Paulo da Silva Barros<sup>d</sup>, Peterson Ricardo Fiorio<sup>d</sup>, Bruna Cristina Gallo<sup>a</sup>, Marcus Vinicius Sato<sup>a</sup>, Mateus T. Eitelwein<sup>d</sup>

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<sup>b</sup>Tel Aviv University, Israel

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<sup>d</sup>University of São Paulo, Escola Superior de Agricultura "Luiz de Queiroz" Biosystems Engineering Department, Av. Pádua Dias, 11, Piracicaba-SP 13418-900, Brazil

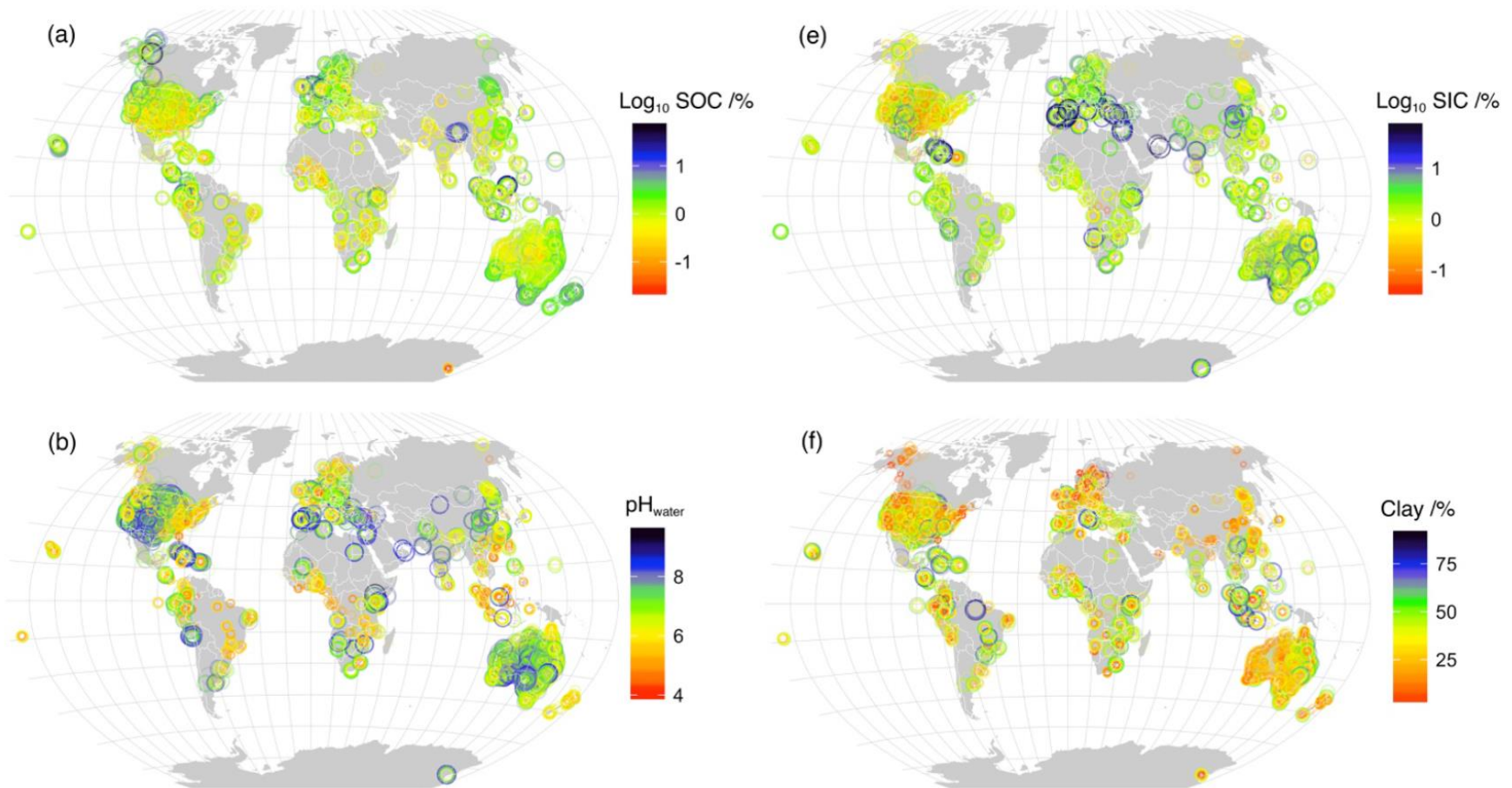
<sup>\*</sup>Corresponding author. Tel.: +55 193417-2109

e-mail address: jamdemat@usp.br

**The ISS method**  
**has been successfully adopted by**  
**Brazil for the national project entitle:**  
**Establishing the Brazilian National Soil**  
**Spectral Library “ 2015 -**

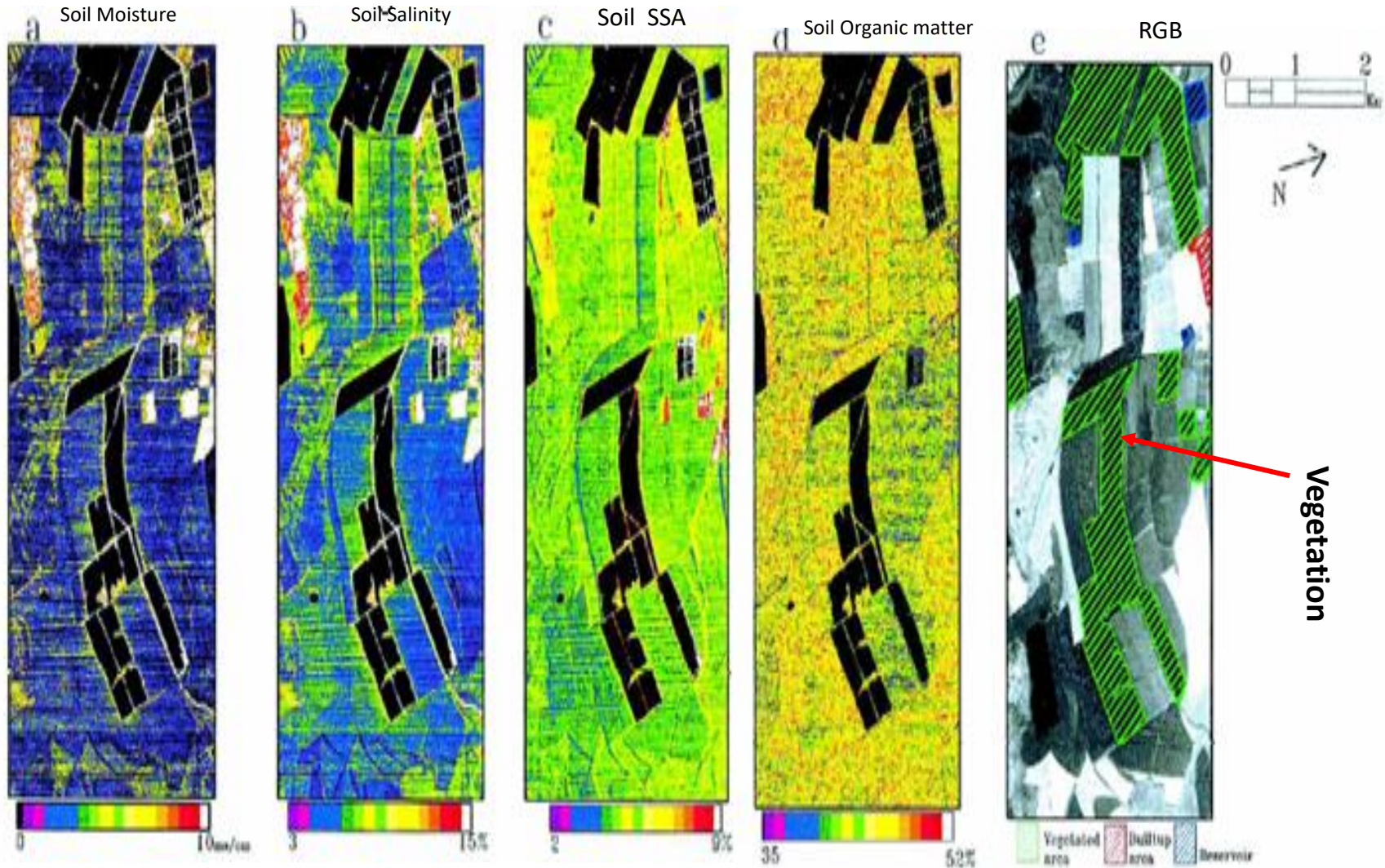
Chemometric (non linear spectral data mining) from the GSSL

## Spatial distribution of predictions





## Agricultural Soil Mapping based on Local SSL and HSR technology







# Soil Spectral Library : The Commercial Value (1)



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## SoilCares Soil Scanner

pH, N, P, K, EC, temperature and organic matter on your phone in 30 seconds.

[▶ Play the video!](#)



## How it works

Soil data and recommendations on your phone in 30 seconds.

1



**Scan**

Scan the soil

2



**Connect**

Upload the data via the app

3



**Analyse**

Let the database do the magic

4



**Act**

Receive your report

<http://www.soilcares.com/en/products/scanner/>

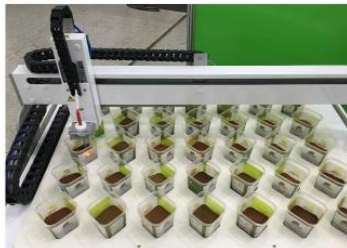
## News

10.18.16 | Research, Development and Innovation

### Innovative technology analyzes soil in just 30 seconds



Photo: André Marcelo de Souza



Embrapa Solos (RJ), in partnership with the private sector, has developed a technology package for the soil analysis that will revolutionize the market in Brazil. Called SpecSolo, it has the advantage of analyzing soil samples non-destructively, quickly and economically. Tens of fertility parameters (soil organic carbon, pH, calcium, magnesium, phosphorus, potassium, among others) and physical soil (clay, silt, sand) can be analyzed simultaneously in 30 seconds. Conventional analysis takes days to present the same parameters.

"The SpecSolo is based on the use of techniques of vibrational spectroscopy and artificial intelligence," explains André Marcelo de Souza, from Embrapa Solos researcher and responsible for technology. Souza

explains that the technology makes use of accurate and efficient algorithms. "These algorithms", explains the scientist, "will use a robust database with over one million representative soil samples from Brazil." Souza says that the samples and related analytical data were obtained from one of the largest laboratories in the world soil analysis, the Brazilian Institute of Analysis (IBRA), development of project partner and co-responsible for technology.

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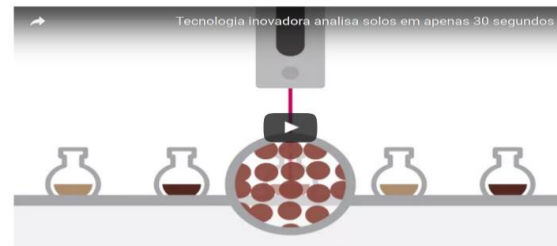
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"The SpecSolo analytical solution is one of the greatest innovations in the analysis of the last five decades soils in Brazil, resuming the mission of Embrapa to propose and implement new methodologies for soil analysis in the Brazilian agricultural scenario," reiterates the general head of Embrapa Solos Daniel Vidal Pérez. Both the instrument and technology have the seal of Embrapa. Therefore, the SpecSolo will be an official method recommended by the Company for soil analysis in Brazil.

How it works



For the duo of directors of IBRA Armando Saretta Parduoci Parduoci and Thiago Camargo, the partnership between Embrapa Solos and IBRA enabled the development of technology. "We are the pioneers in Brazil to build a robust database with such a significant number of samples of Brazilian soil, essential for the development and success of technology," says Armando Parduoci.

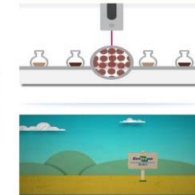
In addition to the large database, the technology package SpecSolo has a unique hosted software in the cloud for processing information and innovative equipment dedicated to soil analysis, called SpecSolo-Scan.

The equipment has an automatic sampler that allows simultaneous analysis of 40 soil samples and autonomy to work alone for 20 minutes. After that time, the analytical results are generated automatically, remotely accessing the database. The results can be released according to the service purchased by the customer and may be in the form of analytical results of each soil parameter or interpretation of bands of soil fertility.

The project also includes an expert system to generate fertilizer recommendations and liming, according to the main manual available in the country. SpecSolo-Scan is the first commercial instrument near infrared spectroscopy and visible (VisNIR) the world to present an autosampler and an integrated system with database fully dedicated to soil analysis.

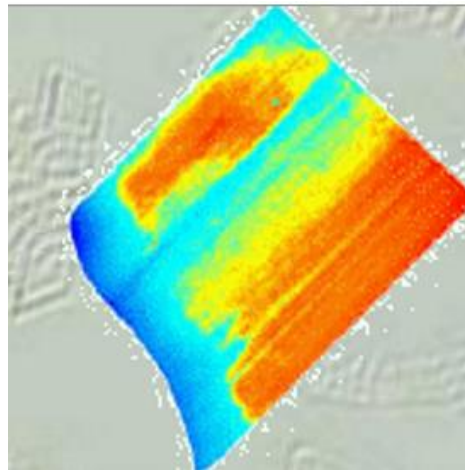
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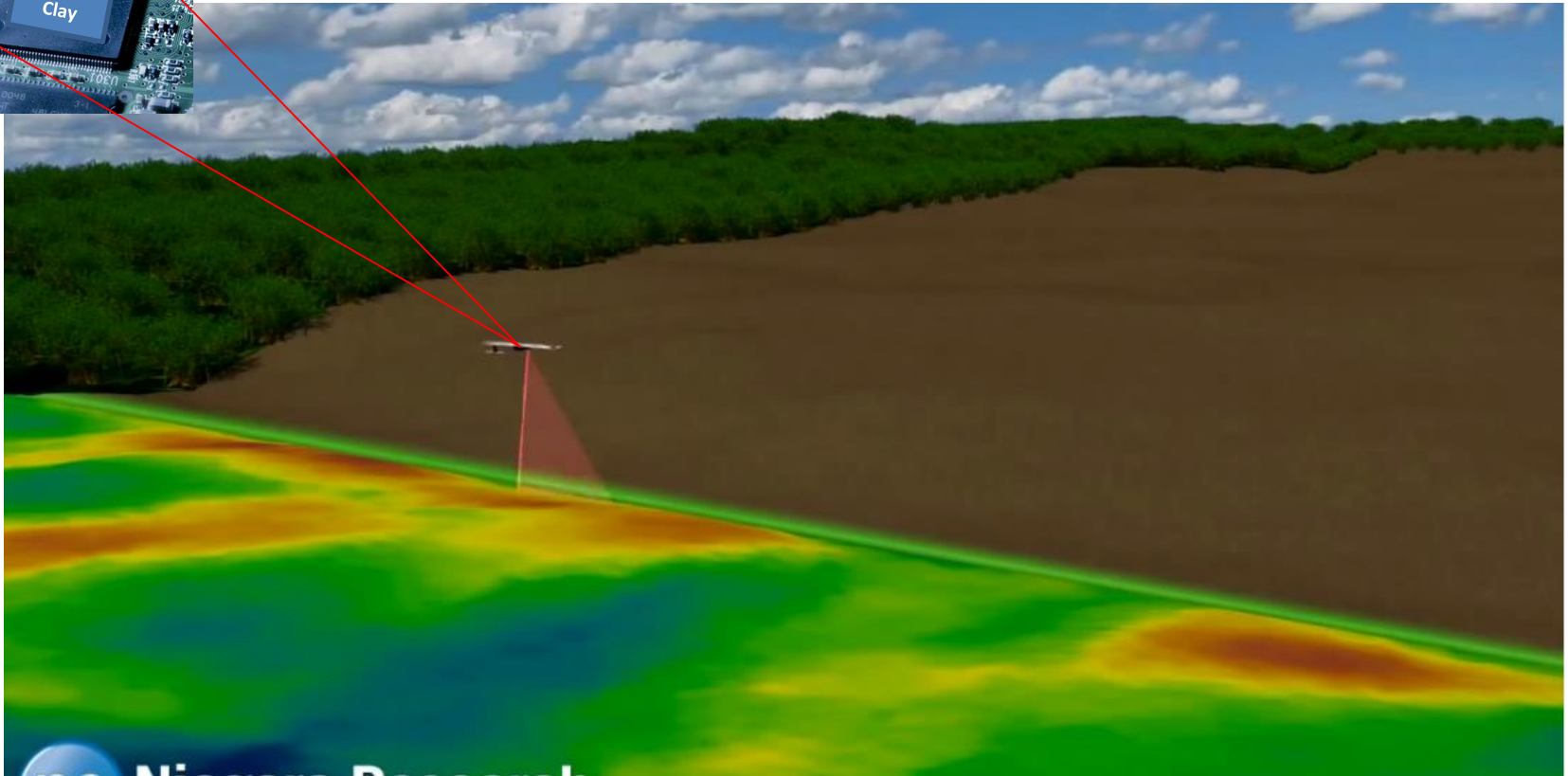
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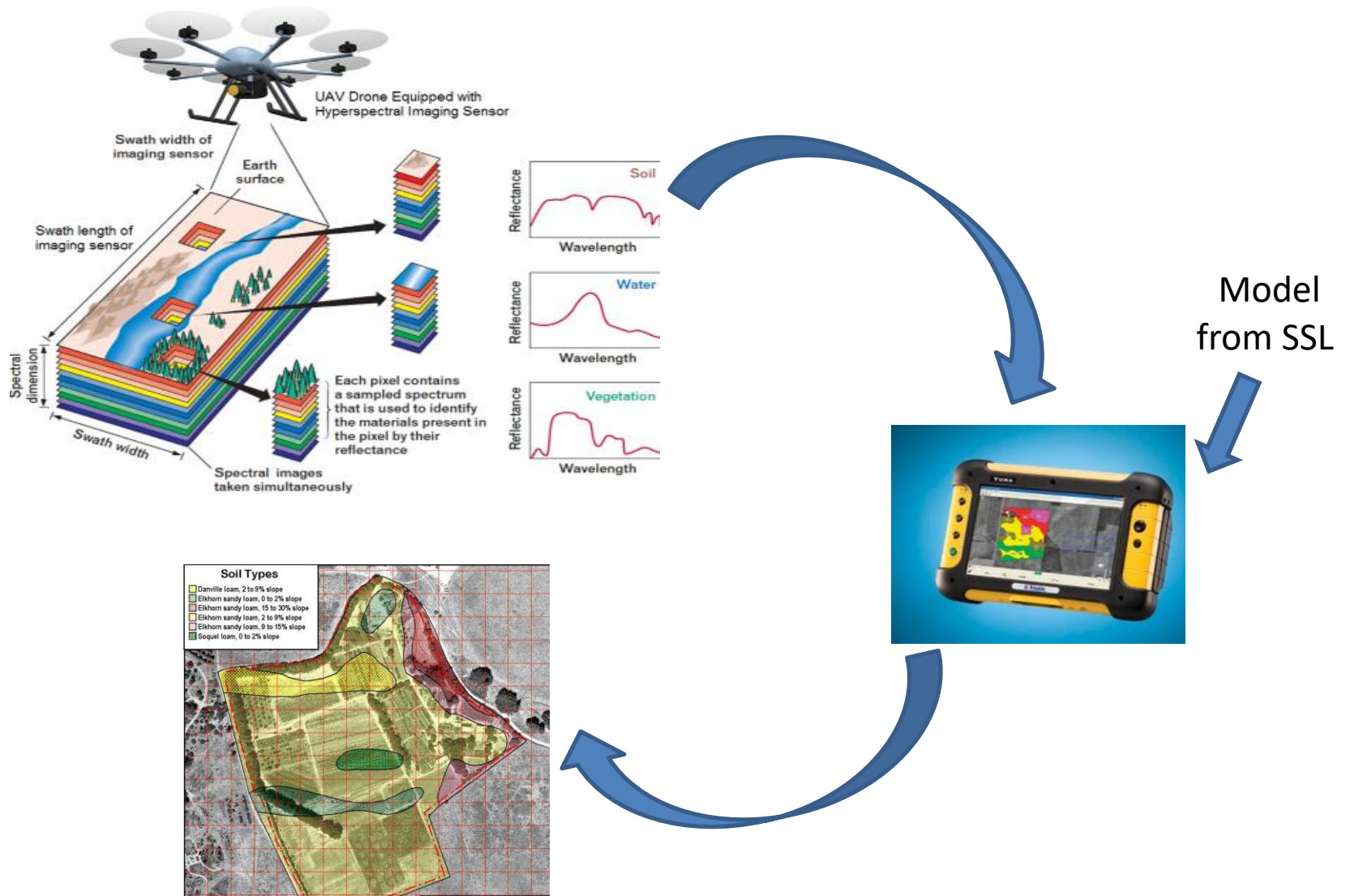
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## Drones







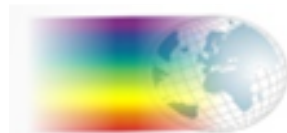
# The Soil Spectroscopy Library Summary



- Reflectance spectroscopy (RS) of soils is an important property for Food Security issues world wide.
- Spectral libraries are generated under regional, national, continental and global scales.
- The GSSL initiative paves the road to accumulate libraries from all scales and resources global wide.
- SSLs from North Africa, Mediterranean and Balkan countries should be extend in order to be a data base for modern precision agriculture activities.
- Standard and protocols are existing and should used for the GEO-CRADLE's Reginal SSL PILOT.



# Thank You !!



THE REMOTE SENSING  
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