



ISSN (E): 2277-7695
ISSN (P): 2349-8242
NAAS Rating: 5.23
TPI 2023; SP-12(9): 2426-2431
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www.thepharmajournal.com

Received: 20-06-2023

Accepted: 24-07-2023

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Use of hyperspectral remote sensing as advanced tools for study in soil characteristics: A review

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Abstract

Minimizing environmental consequences and enhancing crop yield are based on soil chemical, physical, and mineralogical properties. Traditional procedures, on the other hand, are time consuming and costly. Soil property mapping must be done quickly and accurately for agricultural, forestry, and environmental management. In addition to mapping and classifying soil, hyperspectral remote sensing can also be utilized for texture descriptions. The aim of this work is to extend and analysis an alternate approach for assessing soil parameters utilizing UV-Vis-NIR spectroscopy to existing soil analysis methods. Optical remote sensing analyzes variable electromagnetic radiation (spectral characteristics) reflected from various targets on the Earth's surface in the visible spectral area, namely near infrared, shortwave infrared, and thermal infrared (0.4 to 14 microns). The analysis and evaluation of reflected radiation detected by a large number of narrow, contiguous, and continuous spectral bands is the basis of hyper spectral remote sensing. It is also known as imaging spectroscopy. Imaging spectrometers' detailed spectrum characterization of surface absorption patterns allows robust inversion methods to be utilized to recover biological and geochemical information about the captured area.

Keywords: Hyperspectral remote sensing, soil characteristics, mapping

Introduction

Soil is a valuable natural resource that provides an irreplaceable and diversified environment for all eco-system (Breemen and Buurman *et al.* 2003 and Osman *et al.* 2014) [68, 75]. Soil quality management both globally and temporally is crucial for agro ecological sustainability (Hively *et al.* 2011 and Lagacherie *et al.* 2013) [27, 37]. However, one of the major challenges in environmental monitoring is the timely and accurate measurement of soil attribute. Traditional methods for analysis are accurate for identify and observe of soil attribute, but they require a more number of samples to detect spatial variability, which takes time and labor (Jaber *et al.* 2011 and Ciampalini *et al.* 2015) [28, 14]. Furthermore, the applications of these techniques are limited to local or small areas, whereas scientists and researchers need estimates of soil quality at a larger scale (Psomas *et al.* 2011) [50]. As a result, novel techniques for monitoring soil parameters are required.

Many contiguous narrow spectrum bands of electromagnetic radiation (EMR) in the visible, near-infrared, mid-infrared and thermal infrared regions are measured by hyperspectral sensors. Certain soil features have a specific absorption band that can be used to identify them, according to laboratory and field investigations. Soil water, for example, has lesser absorption bands at 970, 1200, and 1770 nanometer and more significant absorption bands at 1400 nm and 1900 nm. Similarly, gypsum and montmorillonite have absorption bands at 1800 and 2300 nm, as well as between 520 and 1000 nm. Soil spectral signatures that may be measured quickly can aid in the development of algorithms for estimating soil parameters (Shepherd *et al.* 2002, Brown *et al.* 2006, Rossel *et al.* 2016, Katuwal *et al.* 2017) [60, 9, 71, 32]. These created methods can also be used by unmanned aircraft and remote sensor devices to rapidly generate a map of a soil's attributes. A rapid scan of geocoded soil samples were estimated using spectral based algorithms however; this may require a large library of soil spectra representing diverse soil types in India.

Application of hyper spectral remote sensing in soil mineral identification

Geological surveys based Traditional mineral mapping is labor intensive, expensive and ineffective. Traditional investigations entail substantial structural mapping, landform study, petrology, mineralogical and soil chemical analysis (Kusuma *et al.* 2012, Ramakrishnan *et al.*

2015) [36, 52-53]. RS, on the other hand, provides significantly more affordable method of quickly finding and collecting mineral information across entire geographical area. This is because spectral data obtained by remote sensing might be utilized to infer hydrothermally altered mineral or altered mineral area, which have been linked various kinds of mineralize systems (Carrino *et al.* 2018) [11].

155 bands were evaluated using hyper spectral data to identifying and mapping the key altered minerals by absorption bands between VNIR and SWIR areas. SAM and SFF methods are utilized to determine the mineral are presents. Five minerals, kaolinite-5, kaolinite-2, muscovite, hematite, and kaosmec, are identified and used to create a mineral map using the SAM classifier on a Hyperion data (Rani *et al.* 2015) [54]. Despite the low signal to noise ratio of the Hyperion image they are capable to detect dolomite and dolomite with chlorite from the data. Spectroscopic studies are appropriate for identifying minerals and rocks (Govil *et al.* 2018) [23]. Significant discrepancies are noted for quartz-rich sediments, with SWIR overestimating their distribution and LWIR producing more consistent results when compared to current maps. Longwave infrared (LWIR) and shortwave infrared (SWIR) pictures were both influenced by widespread lichen coatings on mafic rocks (basalts and gabbros), with SWIR providing better findings than LWIR (Feng *et al.* 2018) [17]. Significant correlation between iron oxide concentration with near-infrared absorption feature depth and width across different empirical models, with root mean square error (RMSE) (Shaik *et al.* 2021) [58]. Mineral identification and mapping using airborne hyperspectral data employing methods such as spectral angle mapper (SAM), spectral feature fitting (SFF), and mixture tuned matched filtering (MTMF). The visible and near-infrared spectral reflectance of minerals is used to identify them. A total of 13 minerals were detected and a mineral map was created using various methods. The mineral map created by the MTMF method is more convenient and accurate than other algorithms (Jain *et al.* 2019) [29]. Vertical stripes are removed using a local split removal algorithm. Absolute area inversion was performed using the FLAASH module. Spectral information is reduced using minimal noise refraction techniques and applying quiet bands to the pixel purity index and the purest pixels on Earth's surfaces (Vigneshkumar *et al.* 2017) [70]. AVIRIS-NG hyperspectral data can and may be used to identify and determine hydrothermally changed, weathered, and clay minerals (Tripathi *et al.* 2017) [67]. A thorough examination of reflectance spectroscopy for identifying of minerals from rare earths in carbonatite samples from throughout the world (Neave *et al.* 2016) [44]. Short range hyperspectral image is helpful for detecting absorption features caused by base metal (Boesche *et al.* 2015) [8]. More advanced techniques of RS by implementing the resonant microwave cavity concept in hyperspectral SAR images. Beyond the mineral explorations, the authors used the hyperspectral imaging technique to corroborate its rapid capacity as an application in food safety. (Morrison *et al.* 2016) [30].

Application of hyperspectral remote sensing in soil nutrient prediction

Soil nutrients are important for assessing soil fertility and play an important role in soil productivity, food safety, and to sustain agro-ecological (Nowak *et al.* 2015) [45]. Soil nutrient mapping that is timely and precise can be very beneficial in minimizing nutrients losses and thus enhancing fertilizer

management. Hyperspectral remote sensing data has become an essential source of information for modeling soil nutrients due to its capacity to detect even the tiniest spectrum changes in soil nutrients (Song *et al.* 2018) [63].

Stepwise regression models based on spectral images formed from increased spectral variables produced good geographic distributions, indicating that this method has a high potential for predicting soil attributes. (Yu *et al.* 2017) [74]. The suggested machine learning method has the ability to efficiently determine soil nutrient spectral characteristic indices, improve the accuracy of results. LASSO and GBDT algorithms were used to increases the precision of soil total N, P and K estimation, which is important for managing agricultural land (Peng *et al.* 2021) [48]. A combination of SWIR, NIR, and visible region was found to be more useful for assessing plant nutrient levels (Mahajan *et al.* 2014) [40]. Computer vision hyperspectral remote sensing have been excellent assessment accuracy and efficient reflection for organic carbon, nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium content (Ma *et al.* 2022) [39]. Multiple linear regression (MLR), random forest regression (RFR), support vector machine for regression (SVR), and gradient boosting (GB) were used to analysed for N, P, K and organic carbon content using optical remote sensing data, terrain/climate data and real soil value. Suggest that GB and RFR performed superior than other sMAPE models (Kaur *et al.* 2020) [33]. Assessing soil nutrients the DWT-SVR (discrete wavelet transformation-support vector regression) method may be a good data mining strategy. (Sarathjith *et al.* 2016) [56]. The spectral region 993.2 nm has a distinct characteristic. As a result, a model for estimating N, P and K fractional abundance in soil samples is developed (Patel *et al.* 2019) [47]. The RF model outperformed the SVR model in reproducing micronutrient heterogeneity as well as extreme values in the resulting maps (Keshavarzi *et al.* 2022) [34]. Apply neural network model for predicting status of soil nutrients using principal wavelet components (Gulhane *et al.* 2017) [25].

Application of hyperspectral remote sensing in soil organic carbon estimation

SOC is an important source of plant nutrients, stimulates particle aggregation, improves soil structure, enhances water holding capacity, and gives habitation for soil microorganism. (Schoonover and Crim 2015) [57]. The impact of SOC on agricultural productivity has driven interest in digital soil mapping technologies (Chen *et al.* 2000, Frazier *et al.* 1989, Mishra *et al.* 2009 and Mulder *et al.* 2011) [13, 19, 42, 43]. Spectroscopy is utilized digital soil mapping systems since it have been shown to precisely and effectively relate spectral reflectance to soil characteristics (Bachofer *et al.* 2015, Gomez *et al.* 2008) [2, 22].

Soil organic carbon index (SOCi) had the potential to be used for forecast and map SOC using Worldview-2 satellite spectra data to the same range as the Rapid Carbon evaluation laboratory spectra (Thaler *et al.* 2018) [65]. The multiple regression equation among SOM content and spectral index was significant and the color index was greater significance in estimating soil organic carbon (Mandal *et al.* 2016) [41]. A statistical relationship between soil organic carbon content and image brightness value in the blue, red and green of an aerial image and a logarithmic equation was developed for prediction organic carbon status. After completing a spectral test on laboratory soil, the amount of organic matter in the soil in the range of 0.35 μm to 1.4 μm was assessed and the form

of the reflectance spectrum was calculated. The coefficient of the polynomial of degree 3 was used as a parameter to determine the shape of the continuous spectral curve for soil. Obtaining the spectral reflect values to calculate the polynomial coefficients is necessary for this method of predicting the organic matter content in TM or ETM images (Sharma *et al.* 2015) ^[59]. High organic matter content in soils its increases soil color changes light to dark the reflectivity of the soil spectra decreases and to predict model built using remote sensing technique becomes more precise (Xie *et al.* 2018) ^[72]. In an independent data set containing field spectroscopic data, random forest regression can more accurately estimate status of soil organic carbon. The PLSR model on the other hand, over fits the calibration data set. The visible range was the most critical wavelength for predicting soil organic content (Bangelesa *et al.* 2020) ^[3]. Soil organic carbon (SOC) content was evaluated and compared using ordinary kriging and cokriging geostatistical approaches with hyperion data as an independent variable. In general CK methods outperformed OK in the geographical to predict of SOC content (Saha *et al.* 2011) ^[55]. The artificial neural network (ANN) model was potential technique to predict the distribution of SOC using hyperspectral data in the agricultural field (Tiwari *et al.* 2015) ^[66]. Remote sensing (RS)-based indices using multiple linear regression stepwise (MLR- stepwise), partial least squares regression (PLSR) and principal component analysis-regression (PCA-R). The MLR-stepwise model was found to be superior in performance with high and minimal RMSE compared to PLSR and PCA-R and RMSE models for SOC prediction (Yami *et al.* 2023) ^[73]. SOC and spectral indices (NDVI and BSI) were found to have a statistically significant (Bhunia *et al.* 2017) ^[6].

Application of hyperspectral remote sensing in soil moisture estimation

Soil moisture is a vital phase in the hydrological system and their evaluations are to predict changes in a region's water balance. Direct soil moisture measurements are frequently expensive, time consuming, invasive, and technology dependant. RS data has been brought out as a promising technique for measuring soil moisture characteristics in various landscapes and sampling points as an alternative to point data in soil by providing a regional description of water redistribution at various temporal and geographical resolutions.

The NIR wavelength spectral reflections is high sensitive to soil moisture fluctuation than the visible and bands in this range were addressed while creating empirical models for soil moisture estimate (Gulfo *et al.* 2012) ^[24]. Metric learning-based soil moisture estimation methods outperform traditional methods that use principal component analysis for feature reduction (Tang *et al.* 2022) ^[64]. Precision agriculture can make better use of high resolution soil moisture data for irrigation scheduling (Lakhankar *et al.* 2009) ^[38]. In the laboratory, a recently developed model multilayer radiative transfer model of soil reflectance provides a good fit to measured soil moisture content (Eon *et al.* 2021) ^[16]. A significant statistical correlation between hyperion data and soil moisture probe data (Finn *et al.* 2011) ^[18]. We used Landsat 8 optical and thermal sensors to retrieve soil moisture using random forest (RF), support vector machine (SVM), artificial neural network (ANN) and elastic net regression (EN) techniques. The RF model outperforms the SVM, ANN and EN algorithms in terms of soil moisture predictions

(Adab *et al.* 2020) ^[1]. This study's objective was to determine whether SMI from Landsat 8 could be utilized to monitor soil moisture in agricultural fields and comprehend its link with soil temperature and crop growth (Sholihah *et al.* 2021) ^[61]. Passive microwaves have a greater probability of detecting soil moisture condition on a large scale, but have a low spatial resolution. The active microwave has a very high spatial resolution, but it has a relatively low return frequency and is more susceptible to vegetation and ground hardness. SAR is critical for retrieving regional soil moisture maps. Radar data (SAR) is considered the best tool to obtain information on soil moisture at the field level, but it also presents serious problems such as the presence of surface roughness, crop cover and variation in soil texture over large agricultural area (Snehlata *et al.* 2021) ^[62]. The hyperspectral imaging (HIS) technology can detect soil type and moisture content. (Haijun *et al.* 2017, Rajitha *et al.* 2022) ^[26, 51].

Application of hyperspectral remote sensing in soil texture

The most important soil factors is a soil texture, which is described as the mixture of three particle sizes such as sand, silt and clay. Because soil texture correlates with physical attributes such as consistency, rooting capacity and water and air retention capacity, it is an important criterion to define soil characteristics and plant growing conditions (Blume *et al.* 2010) ^[7]. Soil textural mapping at various scales is required; however the traditional method requires a greater number of samples and analysis to adequately determine the spatial diversity of soil texture (Curcio *et al.* 2013) ^[15]. Because standard techniques and field surveys are costly users are now developing indirectly estimating methods using proximal and remote sensors, especially reflected spectrometer (Brown *et al.* 2006) ^[10]. As input data for PLSR model, hyperion image data and soil information were used to successfully assess soil texture and generate maps containing regions of similar soil characteristics (Kanning *et al.* 2016) ^[31]. CHRIS was able to perform better than MIVIS in terms of its accuracy and ability to predict the texture of soil (Casa *et al.* 2013) ^[12]. Sentinel-2 imagery data are accurate and useful for detect and map variation in clay but don't for silt and sand (Gholizadeh *et al.* 2018) ^[21]. Soil classification using Support Vector Machine (SVM) is more significance for soil analysis of very complex region without reduction of dimensionality in satellite data (Vibhute *et al.* 2015) ^[69]. The PLSR technique has potential for forecast and assist us in geographical mapped of soil textural using hyperion data (George *et al.* 2015) ^[20].

Conclusion

HRS technology offers an attractive alternative for simple and fast soil analysis. However, there are technology constraints to get around in order achieving HRS utility.

- High resolution HRS data must be available, as well as the technological skills to analyze such data.
- To obtain farmer friendly HRS data products, there should also be national and regional spectral library databases with validated spectral algorithms.
- HRS, like any other type of remote sensing data, is confined to gathering information about the ground surface. Models must be developed to extend information from the surface soil to the profile parameters. Furthermore, the vegetation cover influences the evaluation of the soil by distant sensors.

In addition to the complexity mentioned above, it is predicted that hyperspectral data will be employed for operational monitoring of soil health in the near future. As a result, a dedicated space broadcast from polar orbits is critical for ground assessment by giving high-quality hyperspectral data.

Acknowledgements

The authors would like to thank to National Agriculture Higher Education Project (NAHEP), Centre for Advanced Agriculture Science and Technology on “Skill development to use data for natural resources management in agriculture”, College of Agricultural Engineering, Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Vishwa Vidyalyaya, Jabalpur for providing financial and other support.

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