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ÚSTAV GEOGRAFIE
Prírodovedecká fakulta UPJŠ v Košiciach

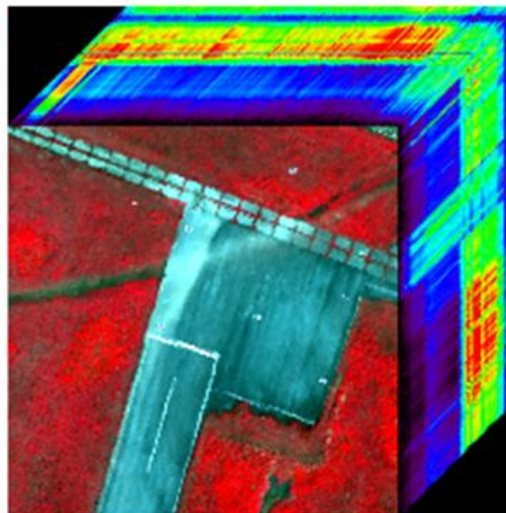
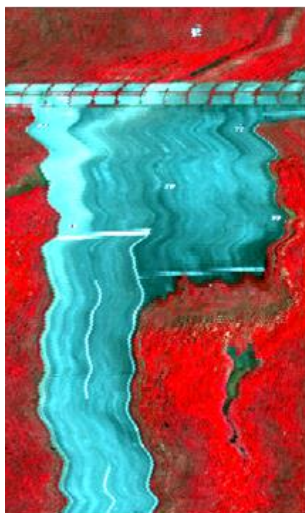
INTERNATIONAL REMOTE SENSING SUMMER SCHOOL , IV EDITION

Experiencing Remote Sensing on Sardinia inland site: Advanced summer school
on instruments and methodology for a CAL/VAL site for Optical data

SAN VERO MILIS | SARDINIA, ITALY | 21. - 25. JULY 2025

Introducing the UAV hyperspectral scanning

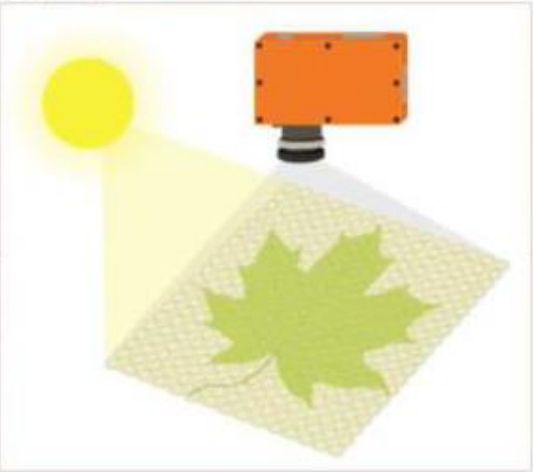
Michal Gallay, Katarína Onačillová, Ján Šašák



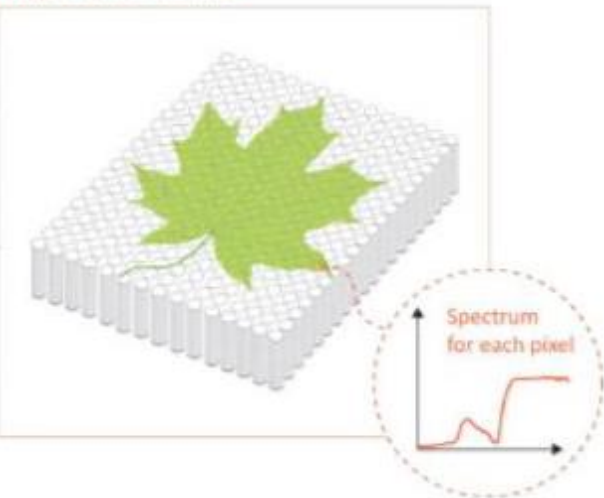
Target



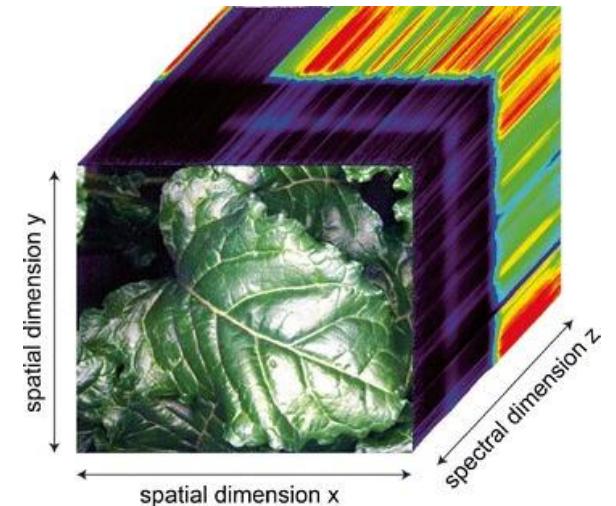
Hyperspectral camera



Hyperspectral data



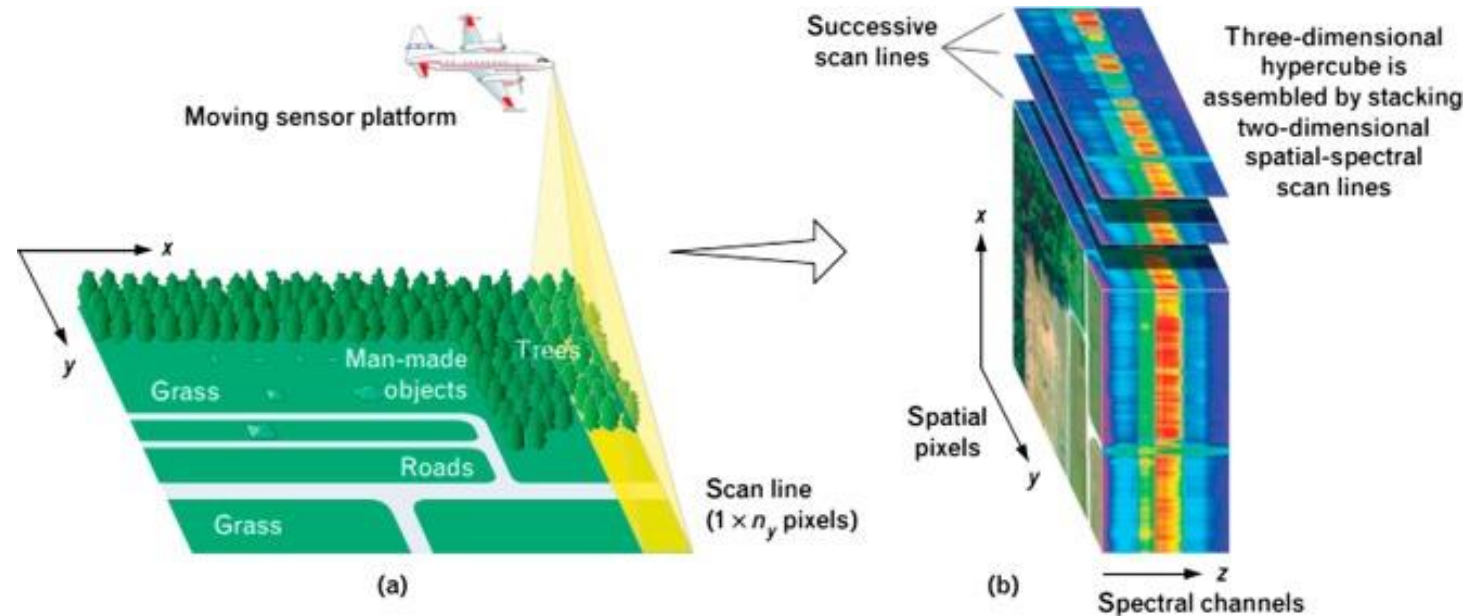
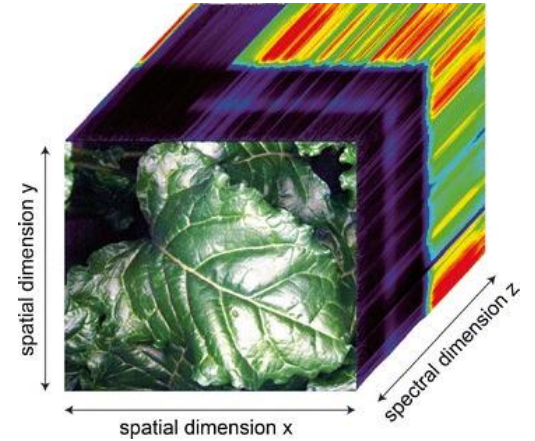
- Imaging spectrometer used for hyperspectral imaging
- Can measure thousands or hundreds of thousands of spectra
- The collected spectra are used to form an image of the target, thus we get spectrum and location
- Data that hyperspectral imaging provides is called a data cube
→ This is huge amount of accurate information



HYPERSPECTRAL CAMERA

WHY data cube?

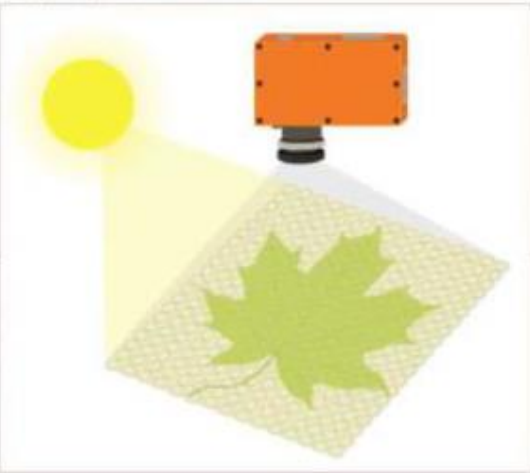
When HS camera moves relative to target we get our 3rd dimension, which is also location, but in perpendicular direction. This is why it's called a cube.



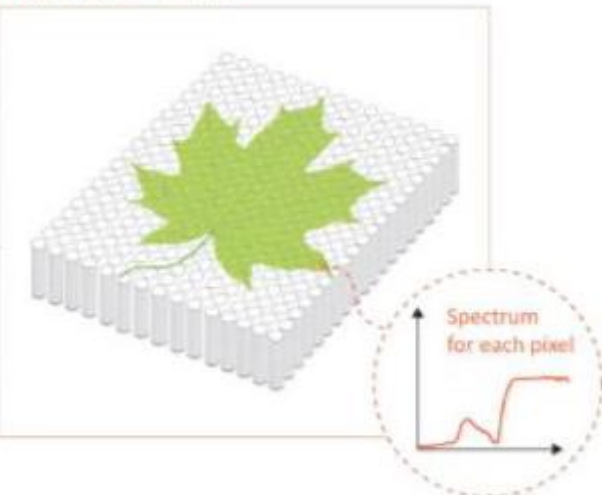
Target



Hyperspectral camera

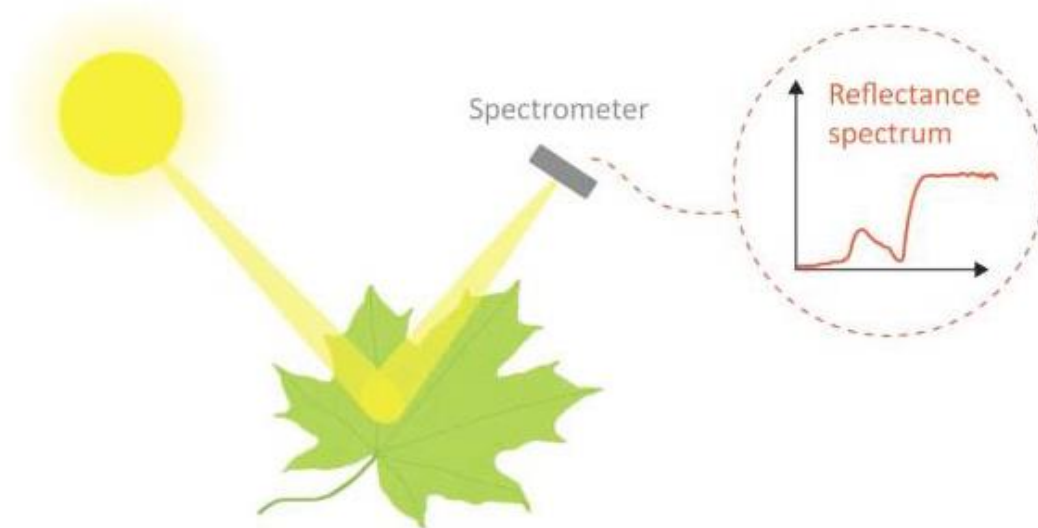
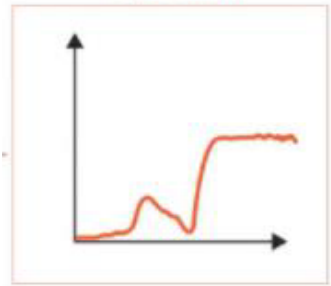


Hyperspectral data



SPECTRAL SIGNATURES

- Spectral signatures can be compared to fingerprints
- Since every material and compound reacts to light uniquely, their spectral signatures are unique too
- Just like fingerprints can be used to identify a person, spectral signatures can be used to identify material

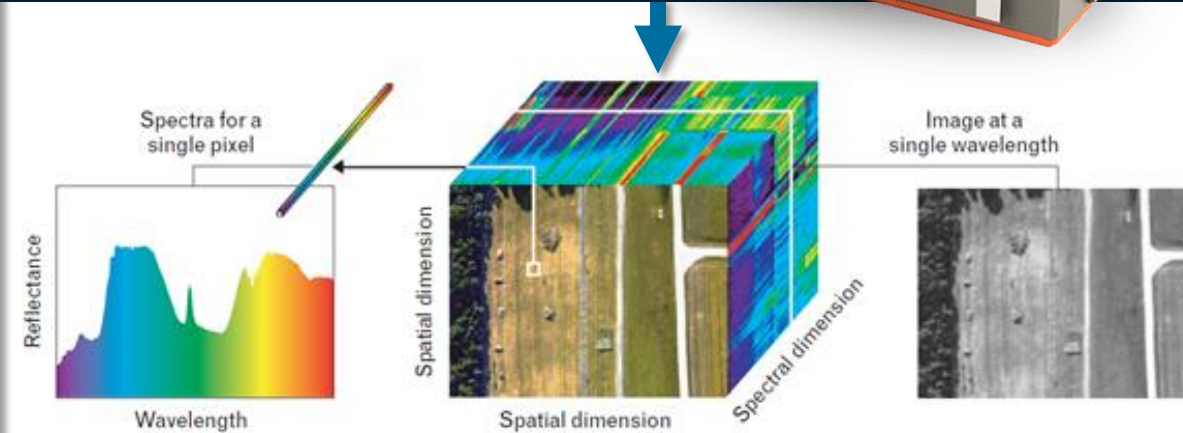


- Spectrometer is an instrument that splits incoming light into a spectrum
- In the example on the left light going through the spectrometer is reflected, and the result is called a reflectance spectrum

UAV HYPERSPECTRAL REMOTE SENSING



- Hyperspectral imaging combined with UAS:
 - fast, flexible and non-destructive detection of subtle spectral features
- Chance to develop R&D infrastructure via the EU structural funds

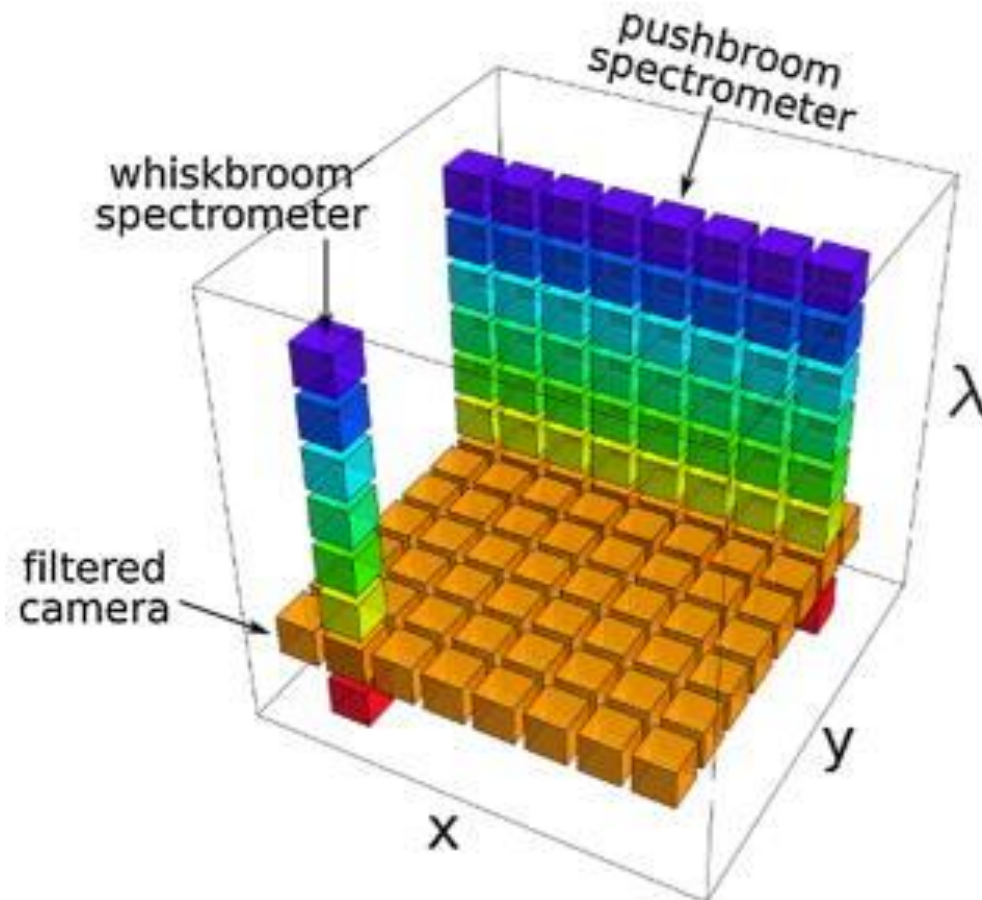


European Union
European Regional
Development Fund



OUR UAV HS SYSTEM

Push-broom (line) imaging scanner

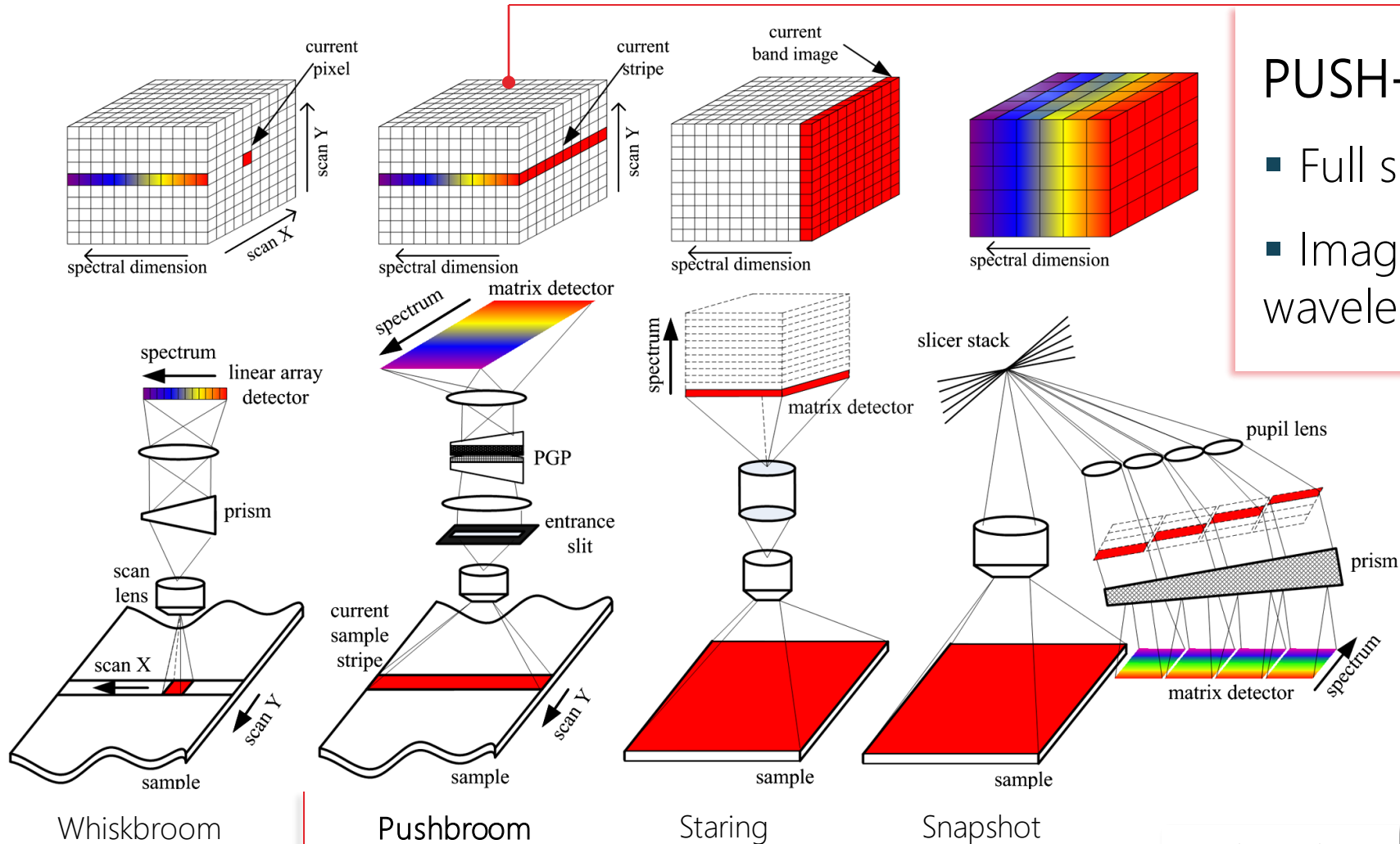


PUSH-BROOM

- Full spectral data simultaneously
- Image is recorded per line, for all wavelengths at the same time

OUR UAV HS SYSTEM

Push-broom vs other typical spectral imaging approaches



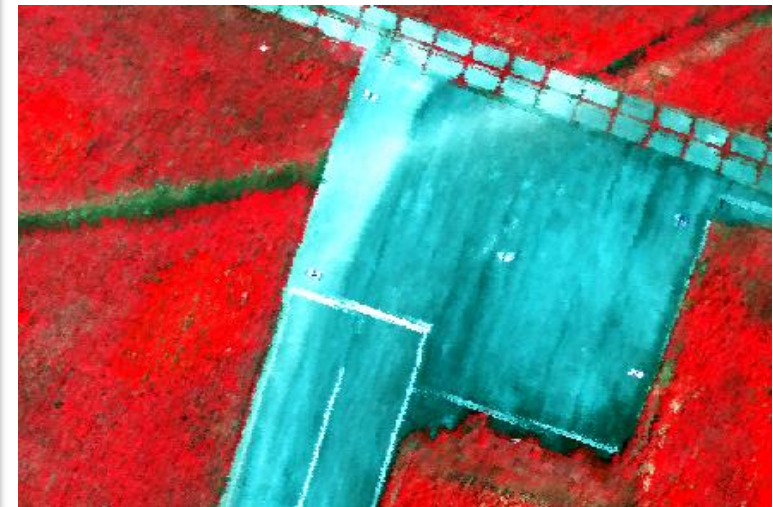
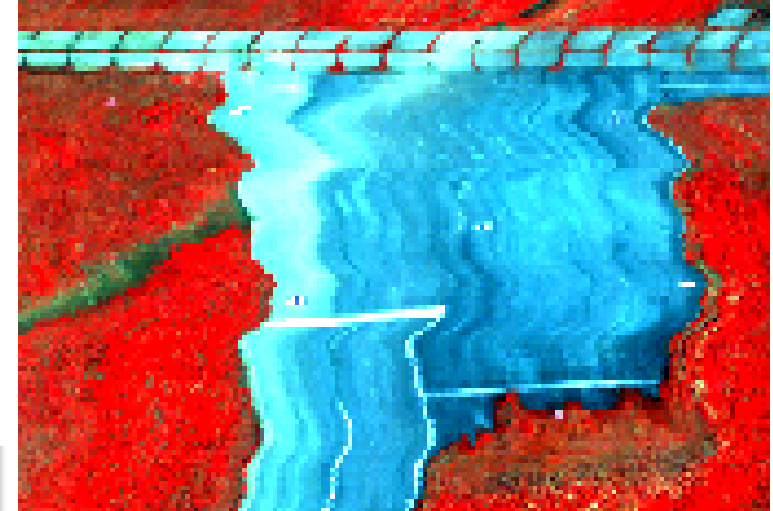
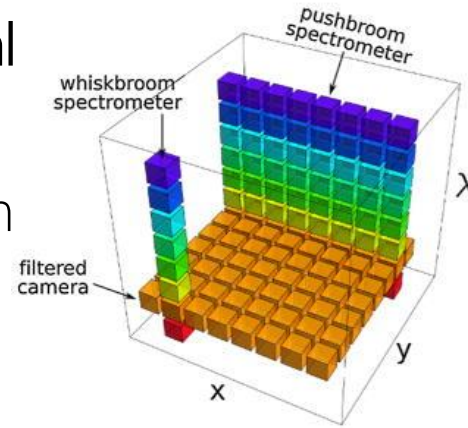
PUSH-BROOM

- Full spectral data simultaneously
- Image is recorded per line, for all wavelengths at the same time

OUR UAV HS SYSTEM

Rectification process

- With a push-broom spectrometer, full spectral image is recorded per line
- However, each line of airborne pushbroom images is collected at different time instants
 - perspective geometry varies with each line
 - different line displacement
 - Rectification process is needed



OUR UAV HS SYSTEM

Boresight calibration of push-broom sensor

- Rectification of the raw image data:
 - requires measuring **position** and **attitude** of the sensor enabled by IMU/GNSS unit on-board the UAV
- Accurate alignment of overlapping data strips requires compensating for geometric distortions caused by boresight misalignment → **BORESIGHT CALIBRATION**

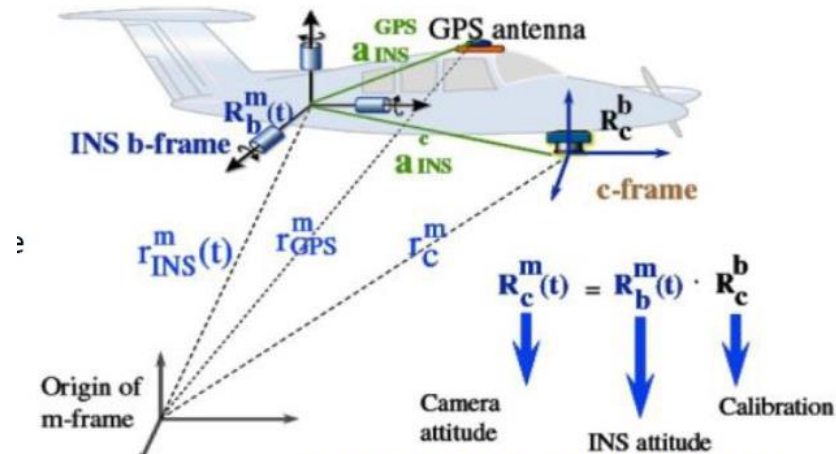
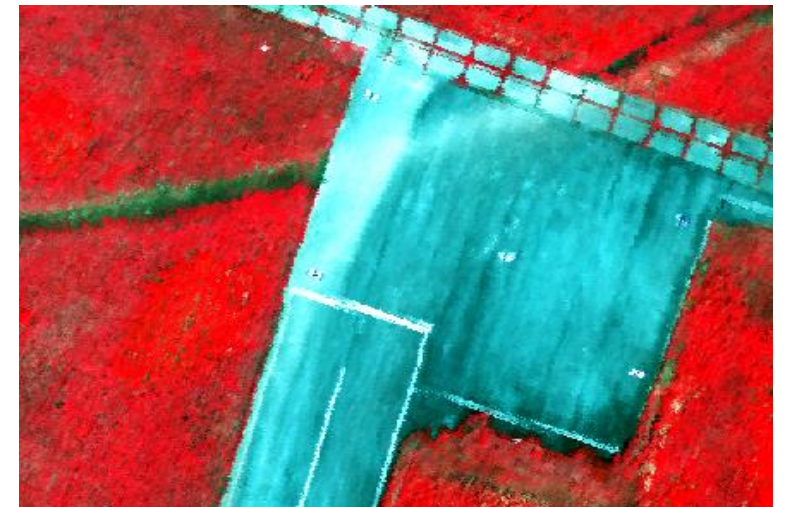
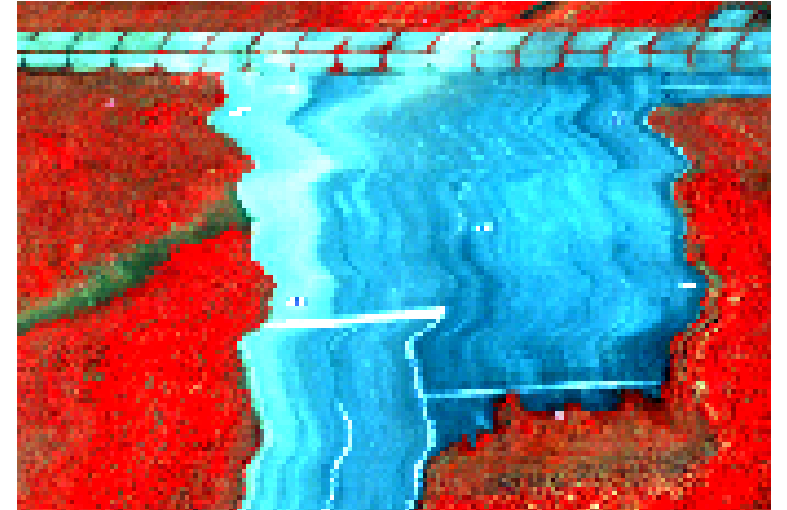


Image courtesy of <https://openi.nlm.nih.gov/faq.php#copyright>



OUR UAV HS SYSTEM

Hyperspectral payload

AISA Kestrel 10



- Push-broom camera, 4.75 kg
- F/2.4, FOV: 40°
- Spatial resolution: 1024 or 2048 pix.
- **Spectral range: 400 – 1000 nm**
- Spectral sampling: 1.75/3.5/7 nm
- **Max. number of spectral bands: 342**
- Radiometric res: 16bit unsigned integer
- Frame rate: <100 Hz
- SNR : 400-800
- Total system power: <41 W



UAV HYPERSPECTRAL MISSION



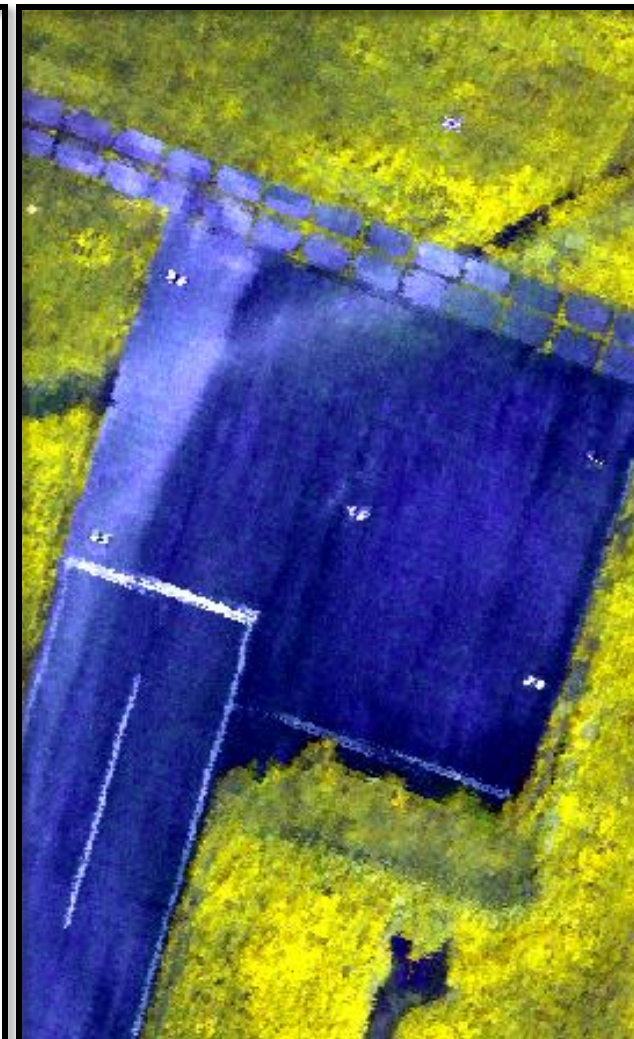
PLANNING



DATA ACQUISITION



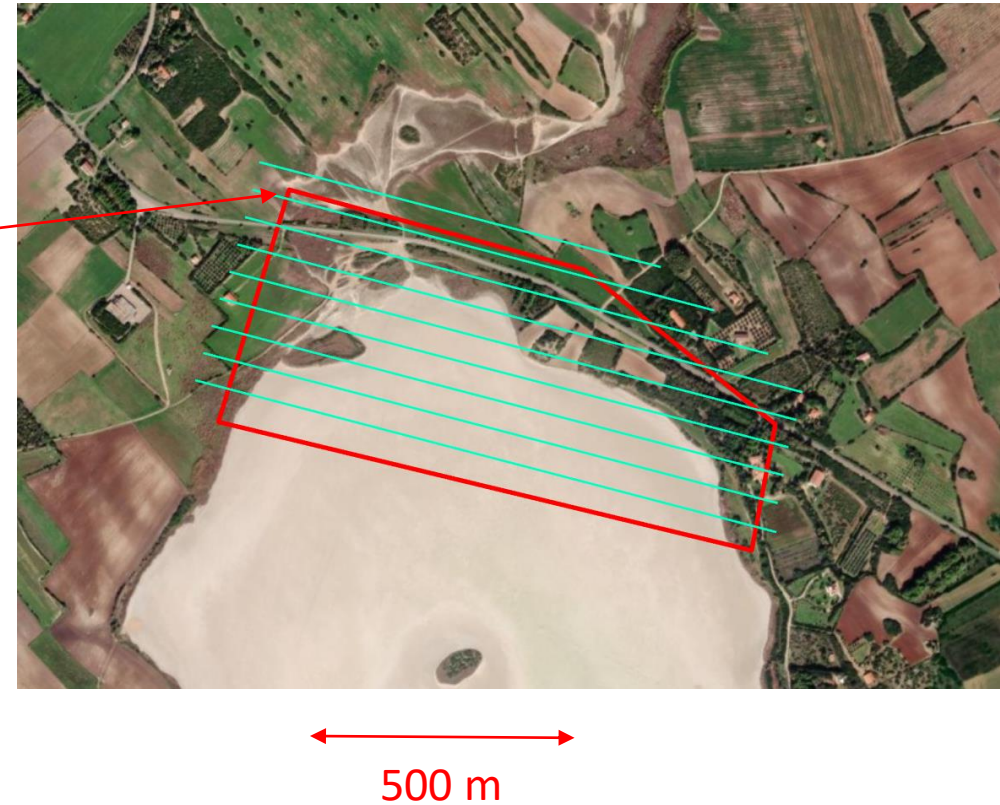
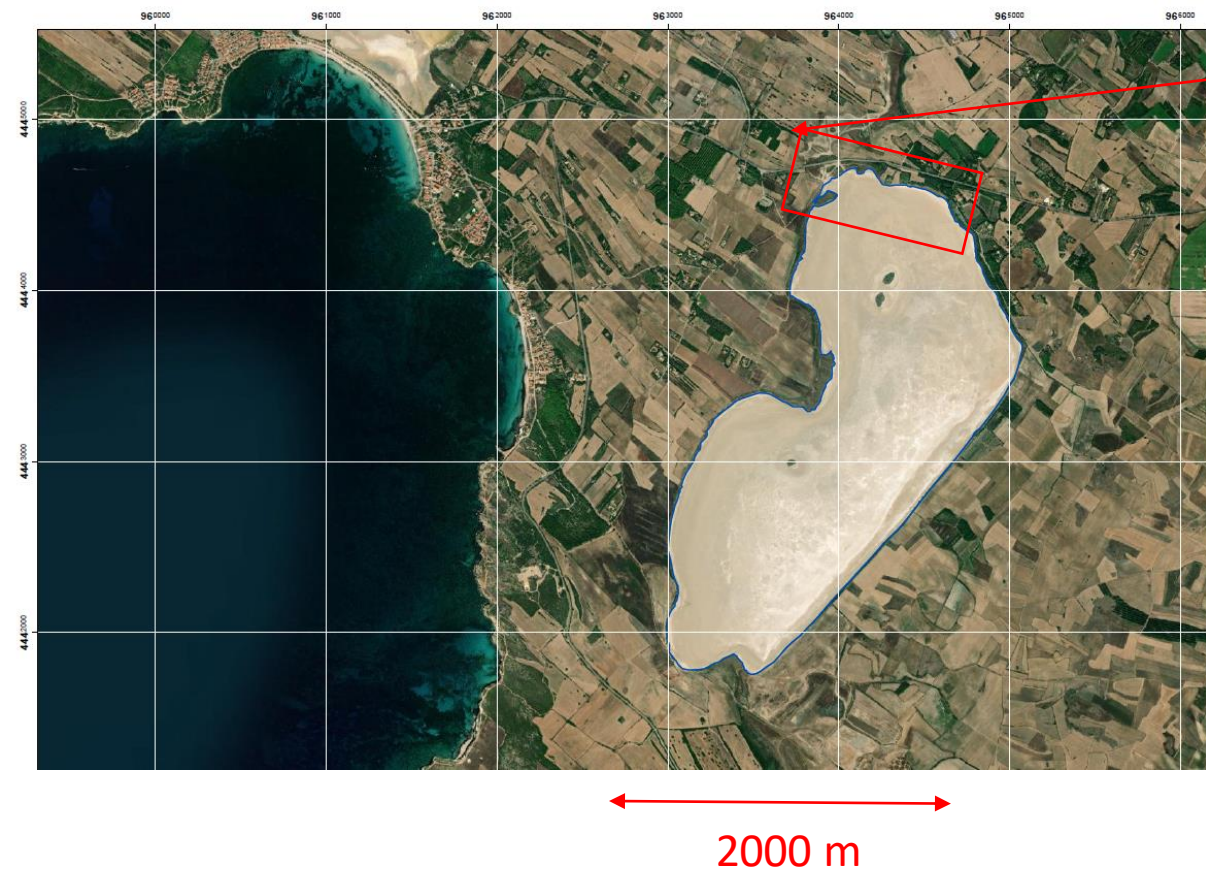
DATA PROCESSING



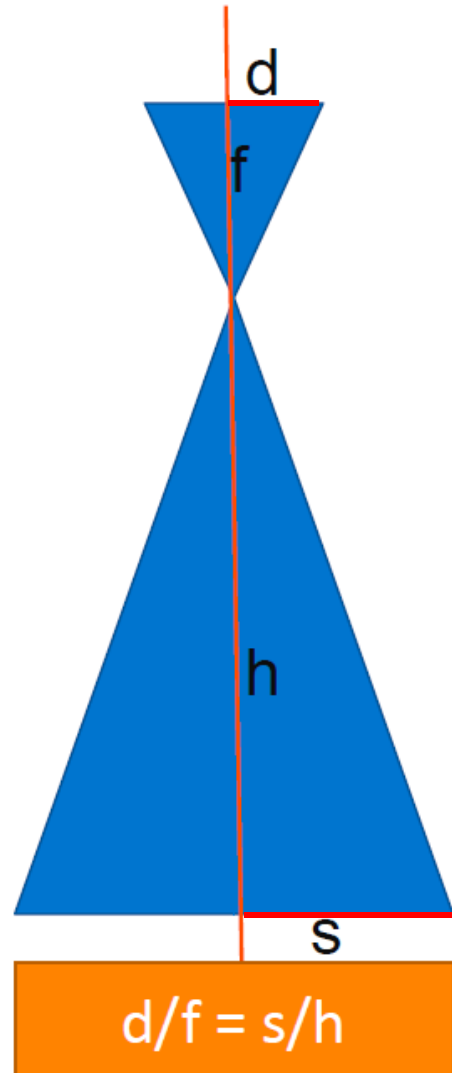
RESULTS

UAV flight mission: area of interest (AOI)

Stagno di Salede Porcus
Northern part, 500 x 1000 m



Flight mission parameters: FOV, swath width, spatial resolution



- Detector width $2d$, Focal length f
- Height h , Swath width $2s$
- For AISA Kestrel 10
 - $2d = 1024 \times 24 \text{ um} = 24.576 \text{ mm}$
 - $f = 35.445 \text{ mm}$
 - $\text{FOV} = 2 * \text{atan}(d/f) \approx 38.2$ vs. 40.2 measured
 - $\text{Swath} = h * 2d/f \approx h * 0.69$
 - $\text{Ground pixel} = h * 0.024 / f = h * 0.00068$

Height [m] / [ft]	Swath [m] / [ft]	Ground pixel
500 / 1640	346 / 1137	0.34 / 1.1
1000 / 3280	693 / 2274	0.68 / 2.2
1500 / 4920	1040 / 3411	1.0 / 3.3

Flight mission parameters: FOV, swath width, spatial resolution

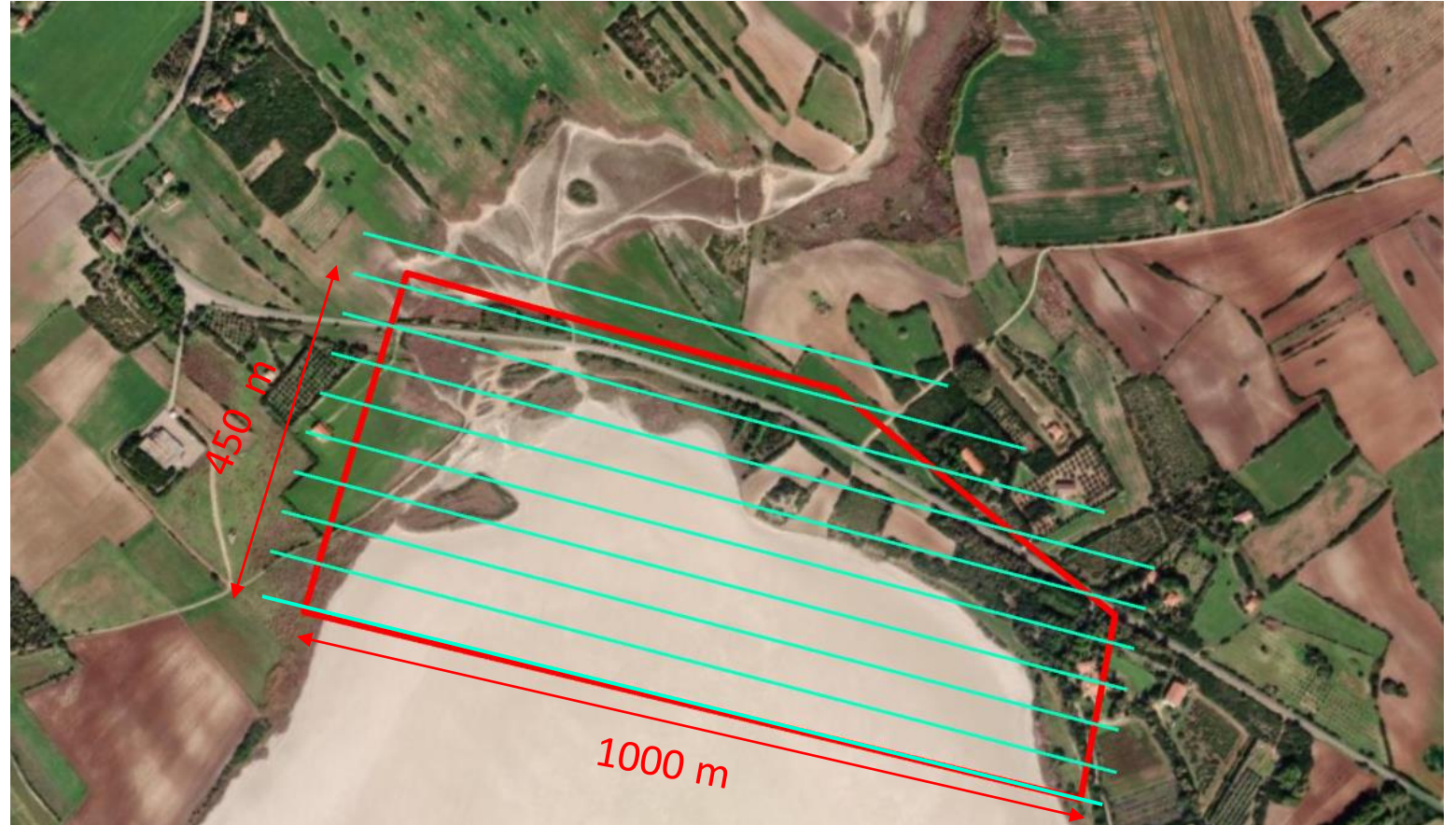
Stagno di Salede Porcus
Northern part, 500 x 1000 m

HS camera FOV = 40°
 $\tan(40^\circ/2) \times 90 \text{ m flying height} = 29,1 \text{ m}$, approx. **58 m swath width**

If 1024 pixels per line: $58 : 1024 = 5,6 \text{ cm}$

Number of flight lines given a 450 m width of AOI, **E-W direction**:
 $450 \text{ m} / 58 \text{ m} = 7.75 \text{ lines}$

Account for 20% flight line overlap:
 $7.75 / 0.80 = 9.68$ so that **10 flight lines**



Frames Per Second : Flight speed/pixel size =
 $5 \text{ m/s} / 0.056 \text{ m} = 89.2$ thus **90 FPS**
Exposure time 1/FPS: $1/90 = 0.011 \text{ s} = 11 \text{ ms}$

Settings of the HS camera before the mission

Recorder 1.4

Setup | Adjust | Capture

▼ Kestrel10_380009

Shutter ☒ Oper

Frame rate (Hz) 50.00

Exposure time (ms) 8.00

Spectral binning 2

Spatial binning 2

Trigger mode External

Kestrel10_380009 Fps: 50.15

Detector

Waterfall

Image correction

Enabled ☒ True

Dark subtraction Shutter

Run dark

White reference Constant

Run white

Focusing

Run

Wavelength

512
480
448
416
384
352
320
288
256

400 475 550 625 700 775 850 925 1000

DN

Pixels

512
480
448
416
384
352
320
288
256

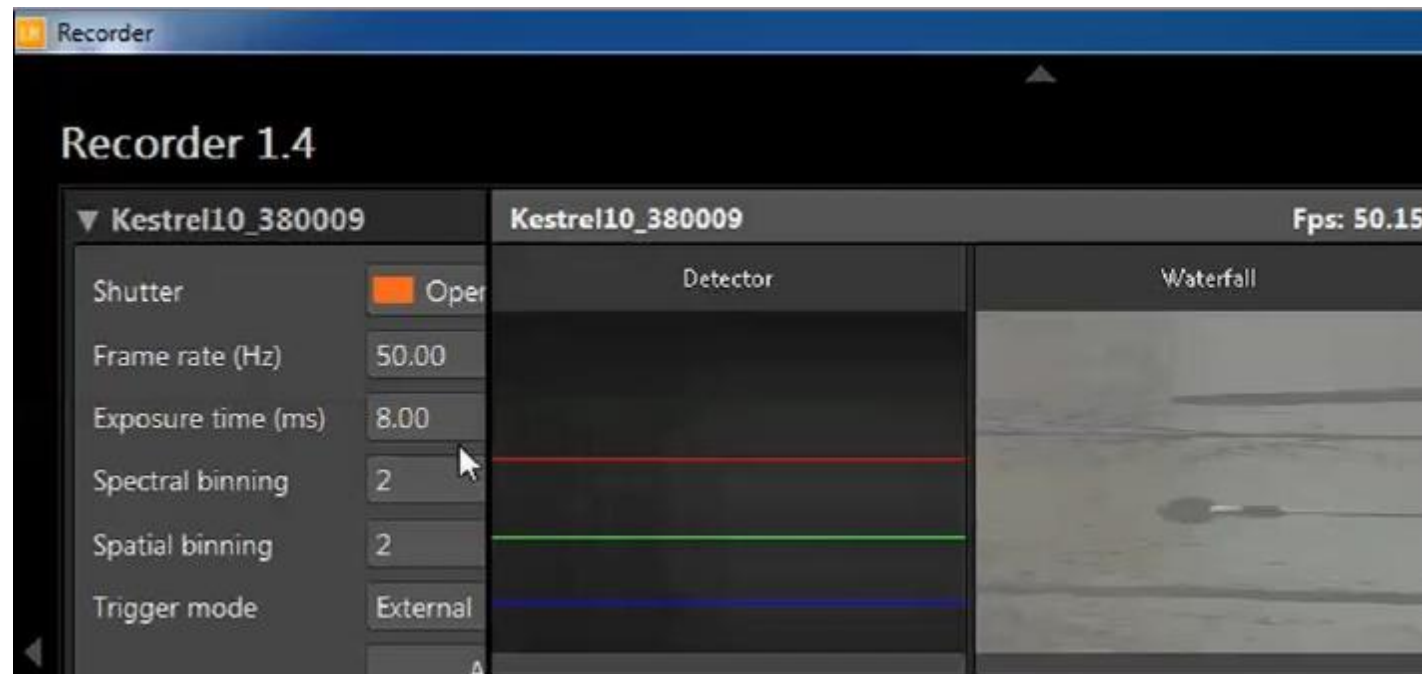
0 128 256 384 512 640 768 896 1024

DN

The screenshot displays the Recorder 1.4 software interface. On the left, a sidebar lists settings for 'Kestrel10_380009', including Shutter (checked), Frame rate (50.00 Hz), Exposure time (8.00 ms), Spectral binning (2), Spatial binning (2), and Trigger mode (External). The main area is divided into four quadrants: top-left shows 'Detector' with horizontal spectral lines; top-right shows a 'Waterfall' image of a landscape; bottom-left is a 'Wavelength' plot (300-1000 nm) with a green signal line and vertical reference lines; bottom-right is a 'Pixels' plot (0-1024) with a red signal line. The right sidebar contains 'Image correction' settings (Enabled, Dark subtraction: Shutter, White reference: Constant) and a 'Focusing' section with a 'Run' button.

Frame rate and frame time

- frame rate, given in frame per second or f/s , defines the rate for our target sampling
- In airborne systems this is related to airspeed, or ground speed to be more exact
- If our ground speed is 60 m/s our 1 m sampling on the ground using 60 f/s
- our max. frame rate is 100 , and max. flight speed 10 m/s
- thus, with this speed we can sample at 10 m



Frame rate and frame time

- frame time is also called frame interval
- It is given in milliseconds ms
- frame time is inverse of frame rate $1/f$ s
- It helps you to understand the relationship between frame rate and exposure time

- for example:

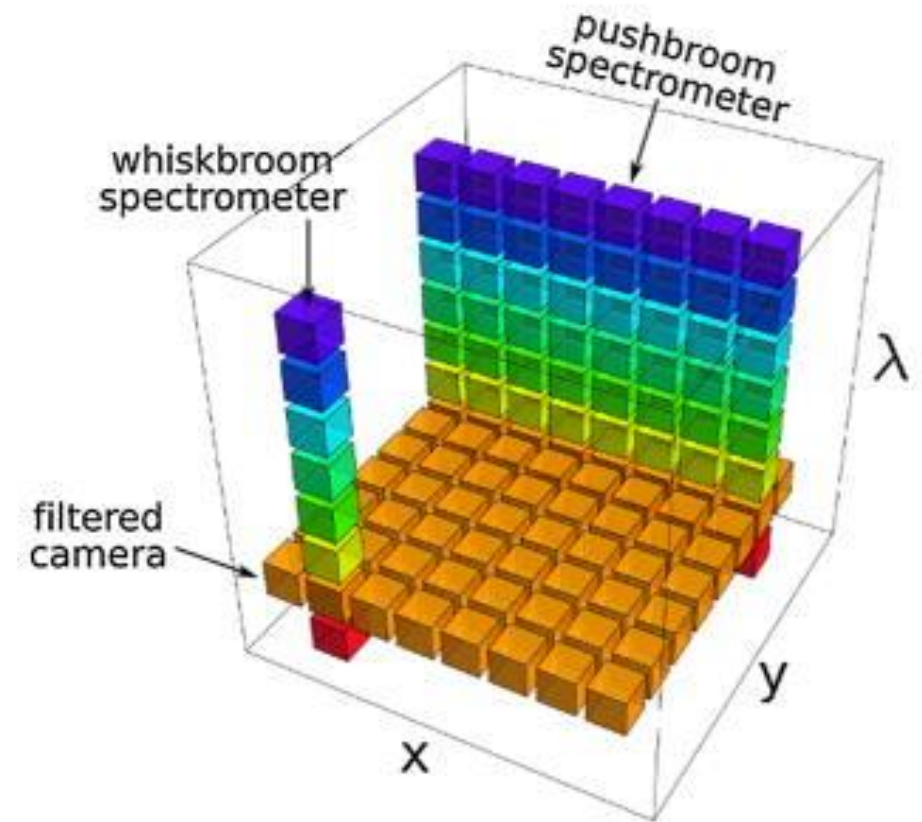
Frame rate [Hz]	Frame time [ms]
50	20
60	16.67
100	10

Motion blur

- Motion blur occurs when you have relative motion between the sensor and target
- The longer the exposure time, more blur there is
- It makes the image to look softer and less sharp
- To maximize signal you would like to use as long an exposure time as possible, but from the perspective of the shorter exposure time would be better. You need to compromise
- Be careful of overexposure more signal than an error or underexposure low signal and low SN
- Rule of thumb : To set the suitable frame time, the reference signal of a white target is at about 5% of a unit there is some reserve a unit

Spectral and spatial binning of the recorded signal

- Binning is the procedure of combining the signal from a number of adjacent pixels into an output for a single pixel
- Binning can be on-chip summation or off-chip summation or averaging
- In all AI-A instruments non-symmetrical 2, 1, 2, 4, 2, 8 binning is referred
- Vertical binning setting defines spectral resolution
- Horizontal binning controls spatial resolution
- Frame rate is independent of binning
- Number of rows is equal to square root of the binning factor



Spectral and spatial binning of the recorded signal

- here are two primary benefits from binning
- Improved SNR, due to less read noise, up to a factor of \sqrt{N}
- Increase frame rate, when vertical spectral binning is applied
- Horizontal binning reduces spatial resolution

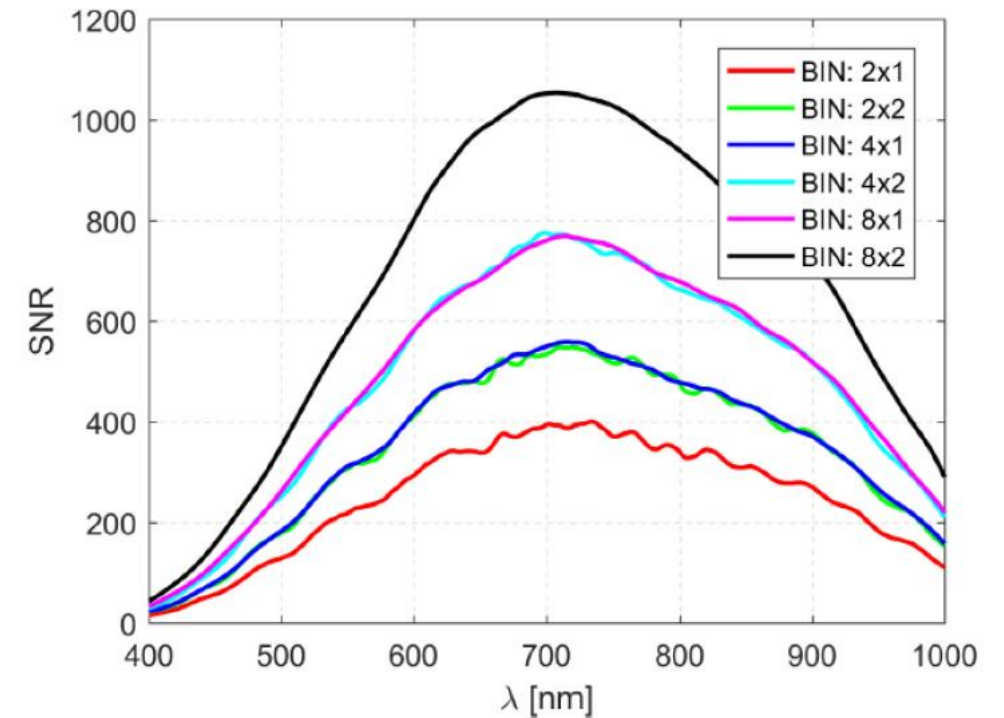
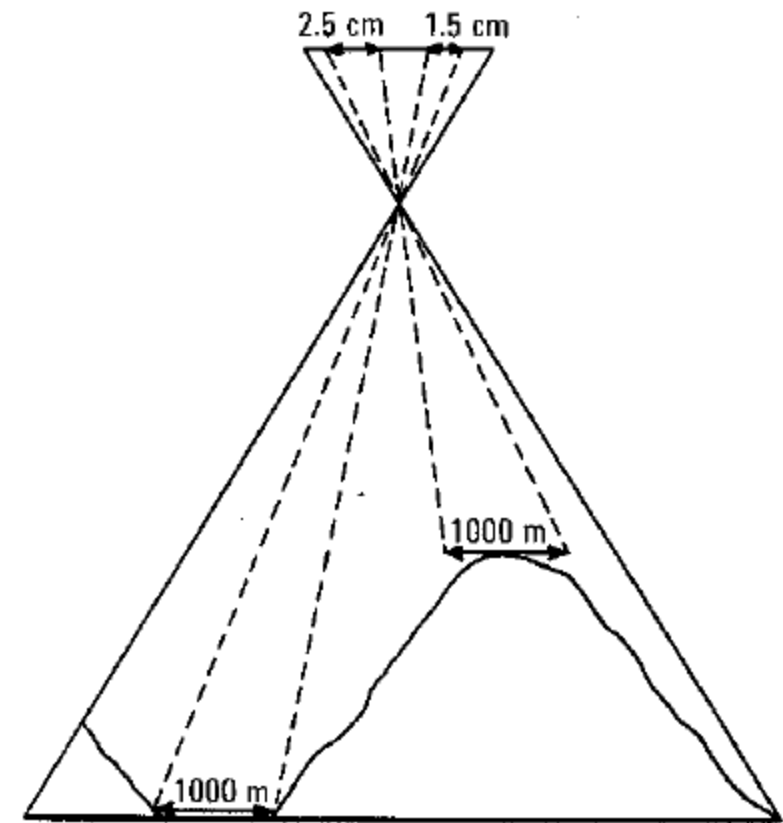


Figure 1.
Spectral SNR with halogen illumination.

DSM and ortorectification

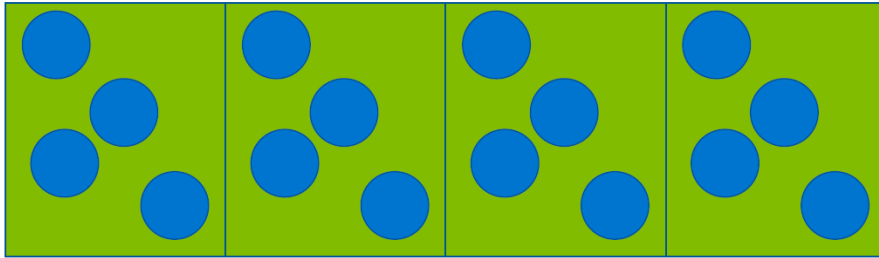
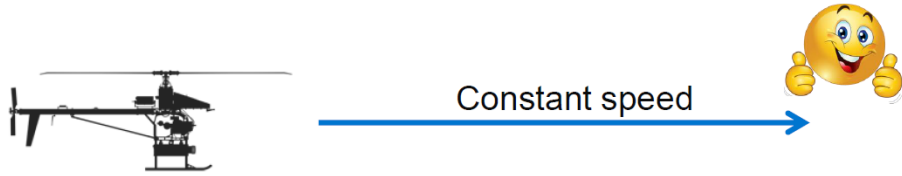
- Often the ground elevation and height of objects on the ground varies relatively large amounts from area to area
- In such a case it is important to use Digital Surface Model (DSM) when processing the data, because otherwise the distortions are large
- For flat surfaces constant elevation and use of DSM is sufficient



Issues to consider for mission planning/flight

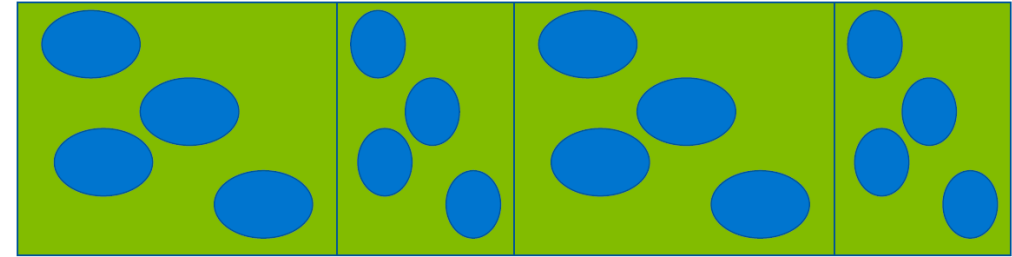
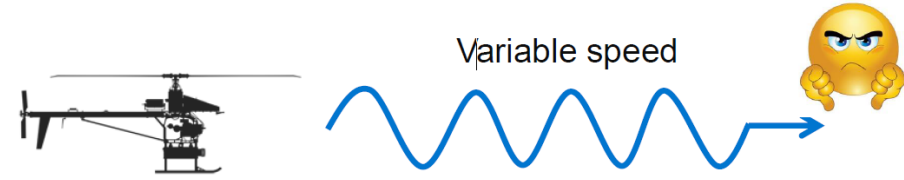
- Flying with pushbroom sensor is different from 2D image cameras
- Try to maintain as well as possible
- Constant speed
- Constant altitude
- Constant heading vs. course ..., not so easy due to wind/UAV tilt
- When acquiring data
- Do not hover above target/area
- Do not turn in-place

FLYING WITH CONSTANT SPEED



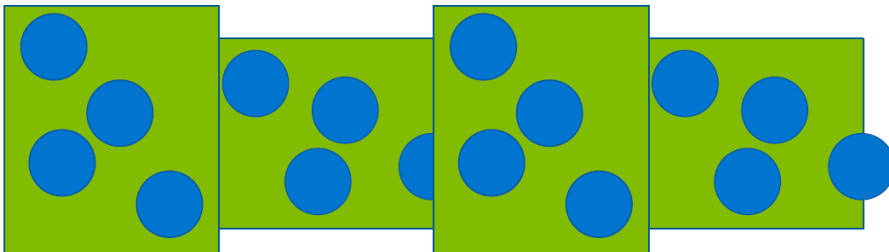
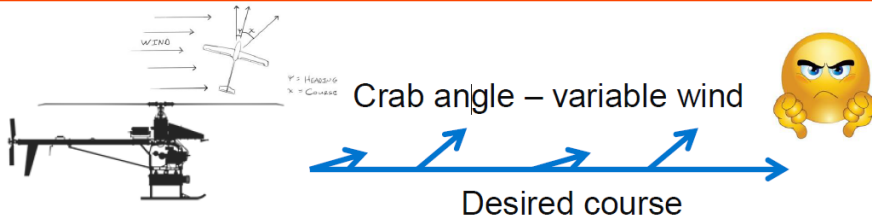
← No speed distortion →

FLYING WITH VARIABLE SPEED



← Speed distortion →

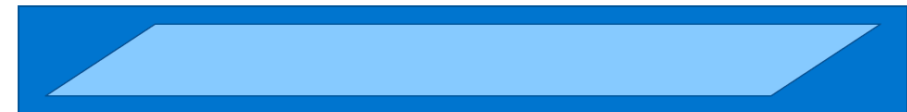
FLYING WITH VARIABLE CRAB ANGLE



← Variable crab angle →

FLYING WITH CONSTANT CRAB ANGLE

- - Pushbroom sensor slit direction changes causing
 - Sampling not perpendicular to flight direction
 - Narrower swath width, possibly leaving gaps between flight lines



Hyperspectral data acquisition and processing

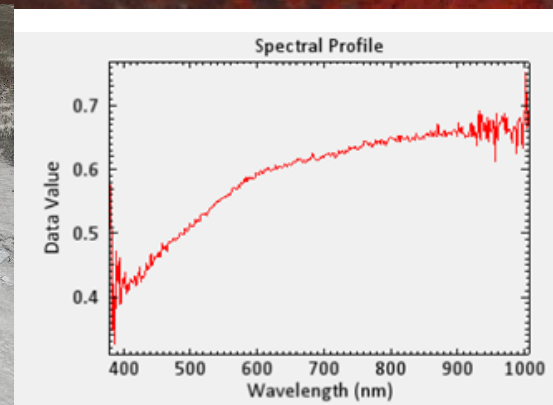
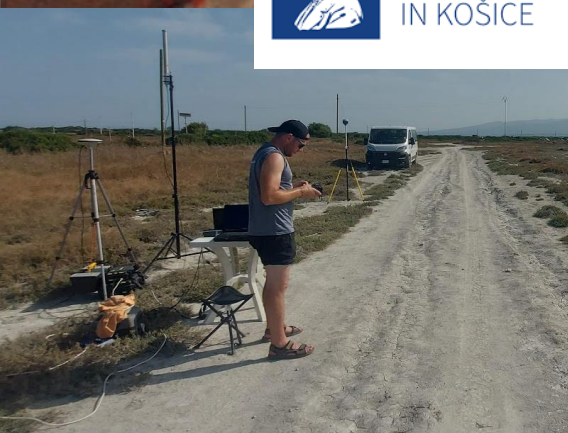
Stagno di Sal'e Porcus

18-20 July 2023

Michal Gallay, Ján Kaňuk, Ján Šašak, Katarína Onačillová



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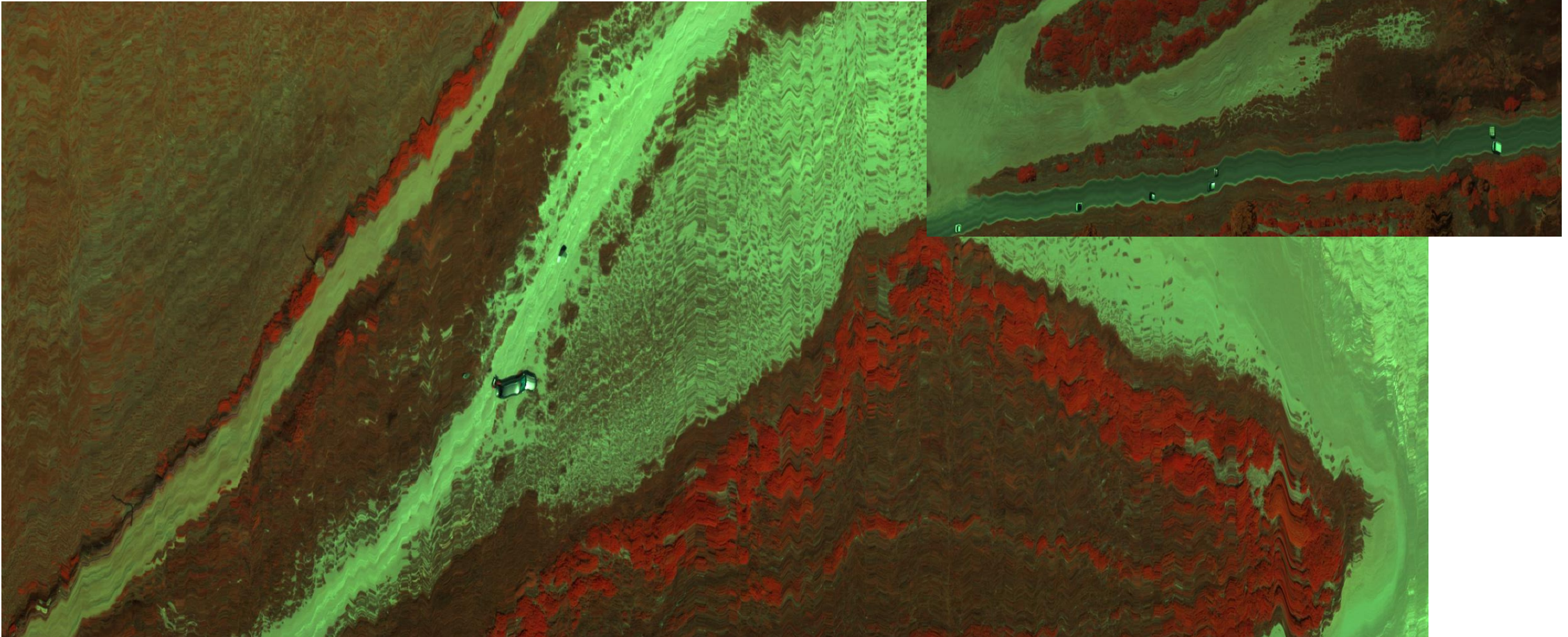


Description of UAV HS mission in the northern part of Salle Porcus, Sardegna, IRSS 2023

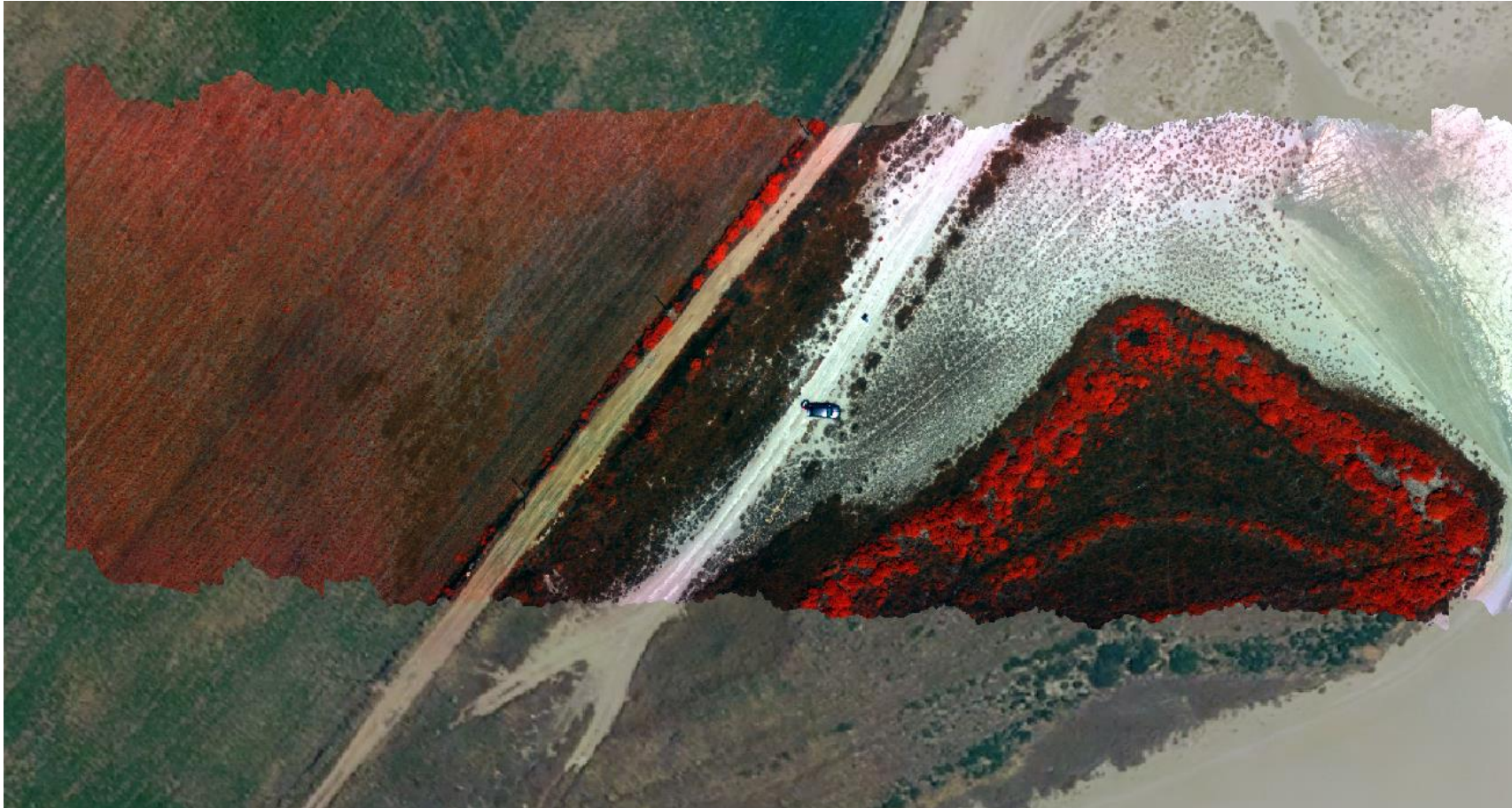
There were 2 UAV HS missions:

- 18.7.2023, sunny, grey sky with haze? of high cirrus, over 40°C, between 11-13:00
- 20.7.2023, sunny, blue sky, no visible cirrus, about 36°C, between 11-14:00
- 19.7.2023, radiometric targets were spectrally measured in the field, they were put on the surface of the salt lake, ASD FieldSpec, by Massimo from INGV Rome
- Sensor: ALSA Kestrel 10 by Specim
- Above ground flying height: 80 m
- Geospatial reference WGS 84 during acquisition,
 - after post-processing WGS 84 UTM 32 N
- DSM for orthorectification: cell size 50 cm, derived from lidar VUX1 UAV scanning performed on 18/07/2023

Example of raw data before rectification and georeferencing



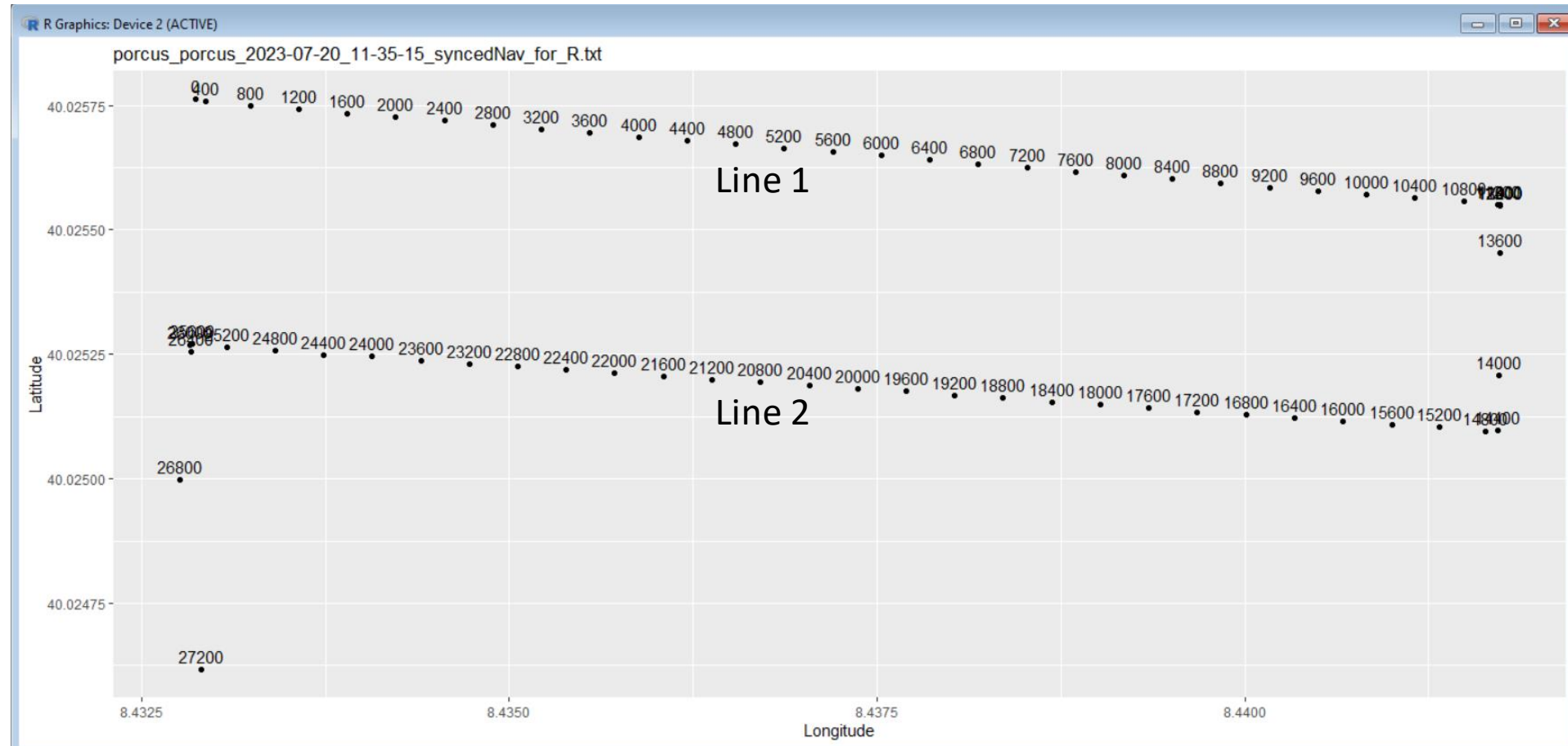
Example of spatial accuracy with respect to
orthophoto 2019 *SardegnaSentieri.it*



WSG 84 UTM 32 N

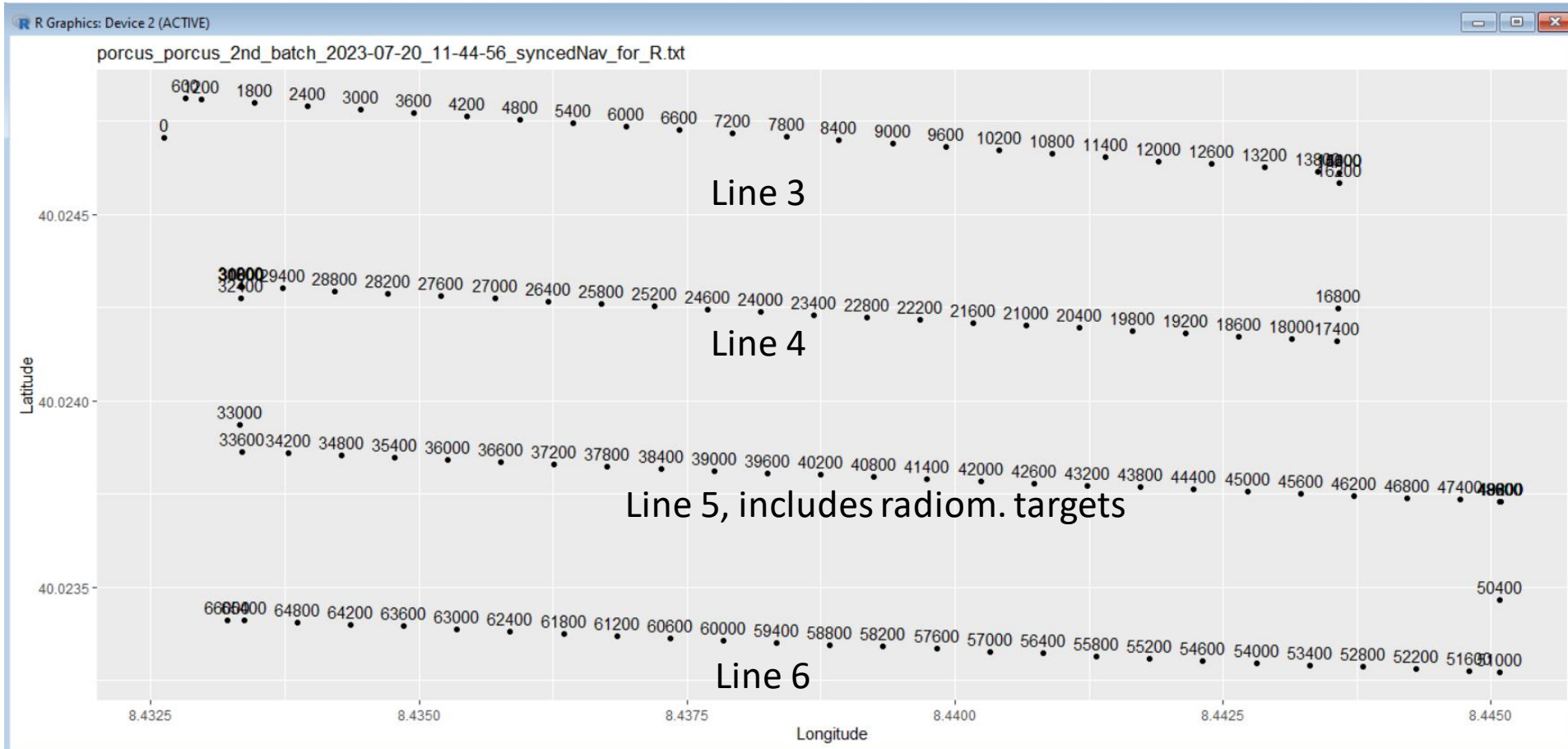
Flight trajectory and image line numbers

20 July 2023, spectral x spatial binning for data acquisition 2 x 2



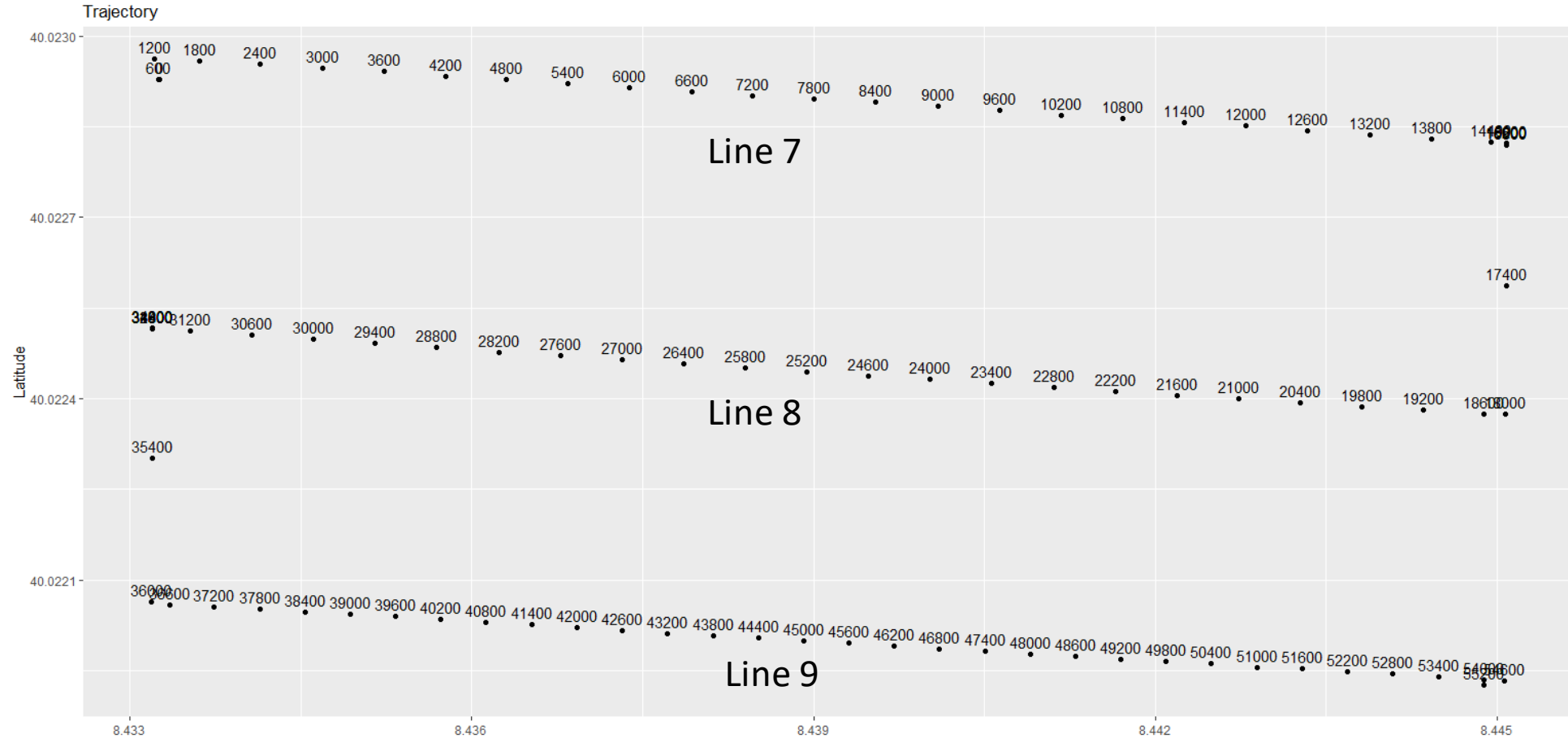
Flight trajectory and image line numbers

20 July 2023, spectral x spatial binning for data acquisition 2 x 2



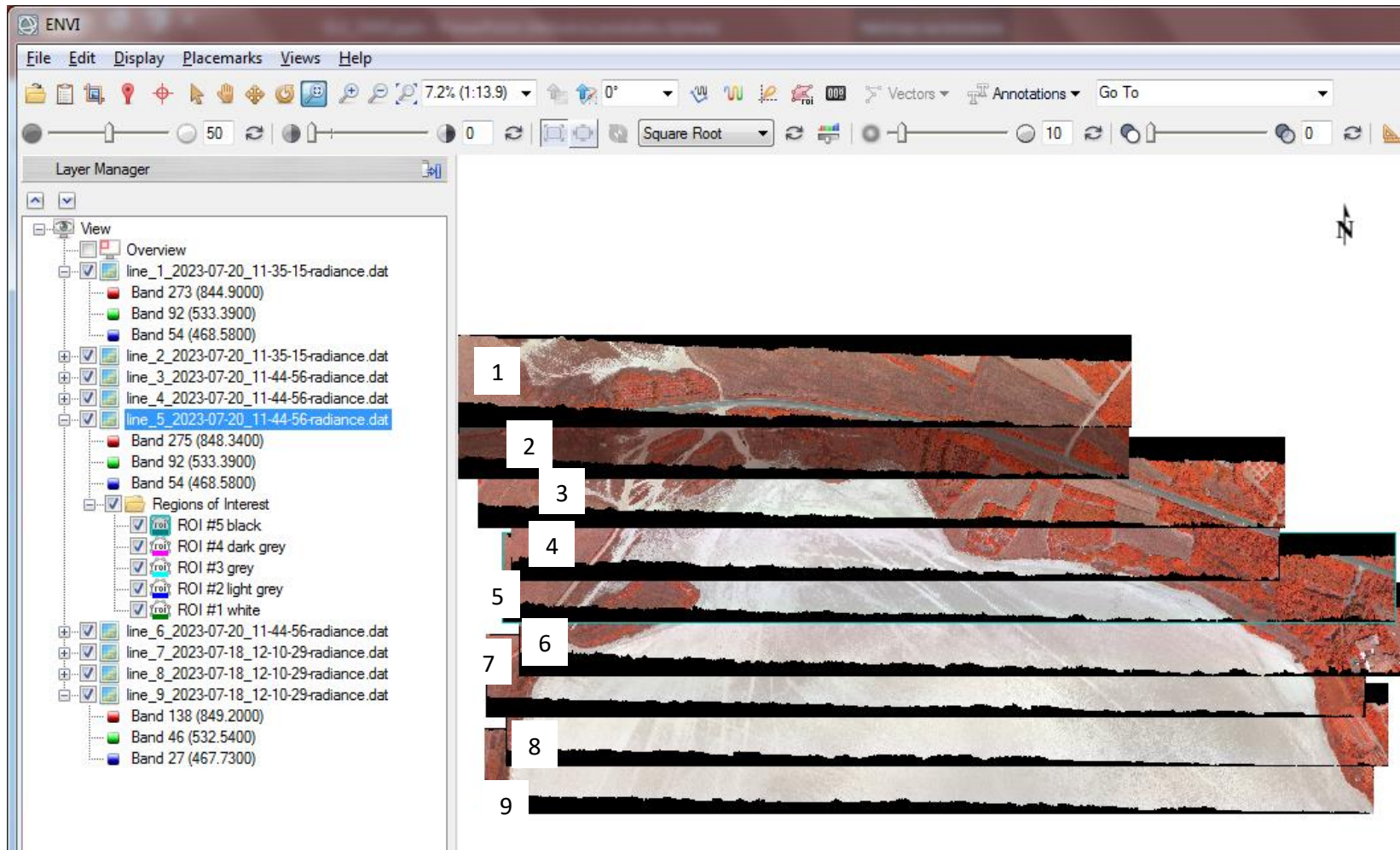
Flight trajectory and image line numbers

18 July 2023, spectral x spatial binning for data acquisition 4 x 2



Line 1-6 acquired 20 July and lines 7,8,9 on 18 July 2023 raw data processed in CaligeoPro, a software by Specim

- DN processed as **raw data – dark current, then into radiance**
- Georeferenced AISA data file radiometrically corrected to radiance ($\text{mW/cm}^2 \cdot \text{sr} \cdot \mu\text{m}$)*1000.00



Spectral x spatial

binning during acquisition flight

Line 1 : 2x2 – processed as 8x2

Line 2 : 2x2 – processed as 8x2

Line 3 : 2x2 – processed as 8x2

Line 4 : 2x2 – processed as 8x2

Line 5 : 2x2 – processed as 8x2

Line 6 : 2x2 – processed as 8x2

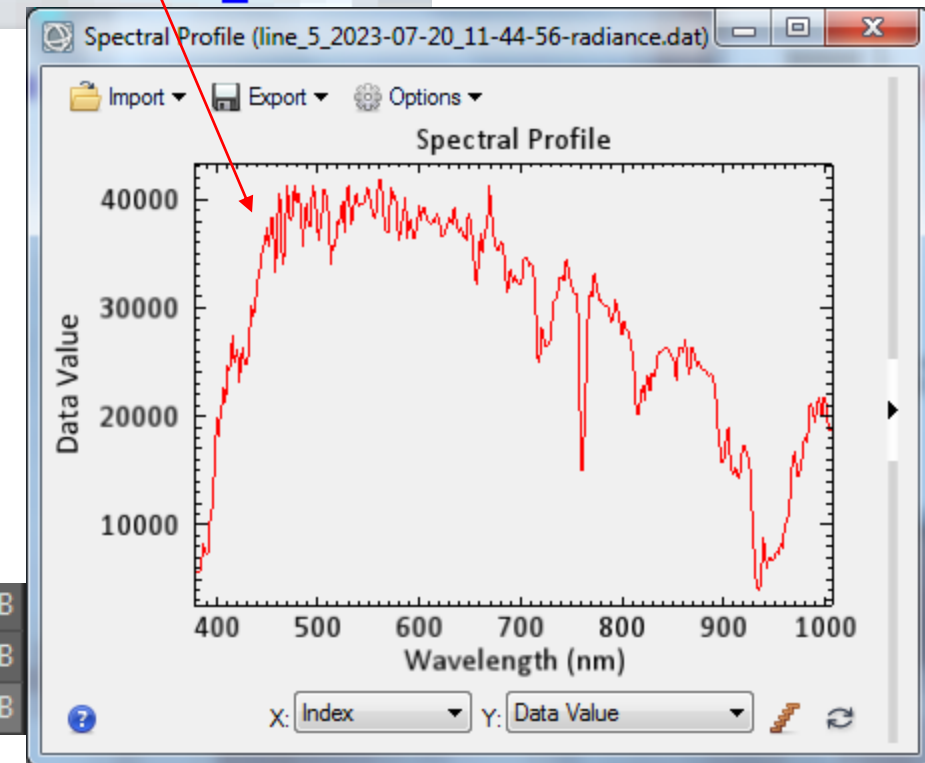
Line 7 : **4x2** – processed as 8x2

Line 8 : **4x2** – processed as 8x2

Line 9 : **4x2** – processed as 8x2

Spectral radiance

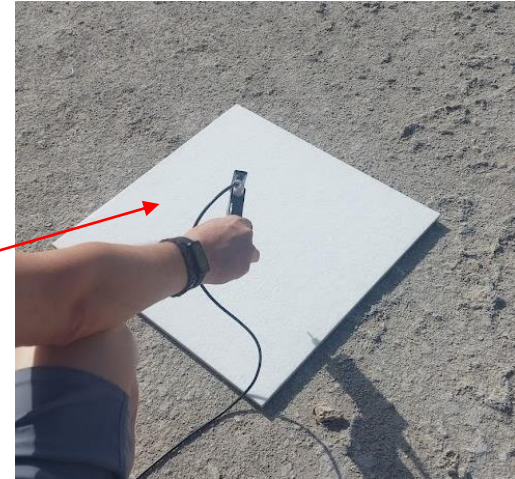
- $(\text{mW}/\text{cm}^2 \cdot \text{sr} \cdot \mu\text{m}) \cdot 1000.00$
- The radiance was produced by:
- Subtracting dark current values/signal from raw data
- Calibrating the resulting DN to calculate radiance by 8 spectral x 2 spatial binning
- Radiance values should be divided by 1000 to get $\text{mW}/\text{cm}^2 \cdot \text{sr} \cdot \mu\text{m}$
- resulting spatial resolution /pixel is 0.1 m
- 368 spectral bands from 380-1000 nm
- Orthorectification was based on a lidar DSM of 0.5 m spatial resolution
- This is the output from CALIGEO PRO software and should be used in ENVI for reflectance calculation
- Resulting files DAT (image data), HDR (header info), for the image file, OPT (metadata about processing the raw data)



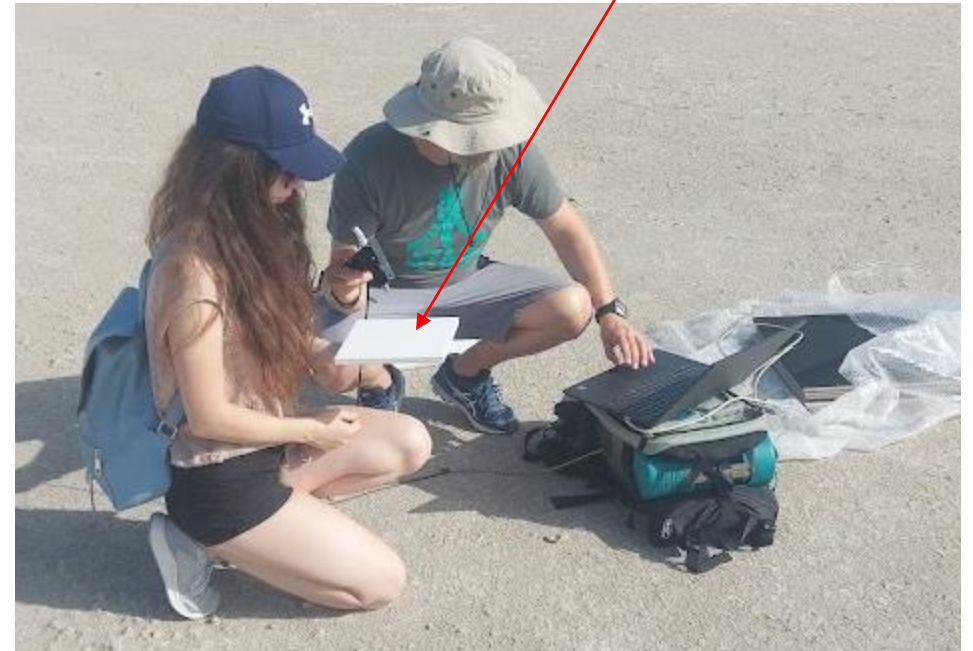
line_1_2023-07-20_11-35-15-radiance.dat	10. 2. 2024 9:24	Súbor DAT	4 947 680 kB
line_1_2023-07-20_11-35-15-radiance	11. 2. 2024 11:53	Súbor HDR	11 kB
line_1_2023-07-20_11-35-15-radiance.opt	10. 2. 2024 8:22	Súbor OPT	2 kB

Empirical line correction to calculate reflectance

- Spectral radiance data was used
- Based on 5 radiometric targets made of felt
- Reflectance of the targets measured in the field 19 July by ASD field spectrometer
- This reflectance was used in ELC to calculate reflectance of lines 1-6 from radiance data
- Alternatively just the white target could be used for simpler atmos. correction.
- $\text{Reflectance} = (\text{DN}/\text{DN white ref}) \times \text{Reflectance white ref}$
- E.g. $\text{Reflectance for DN} = 50 = (50/217) \times 0.85 = 0.19$

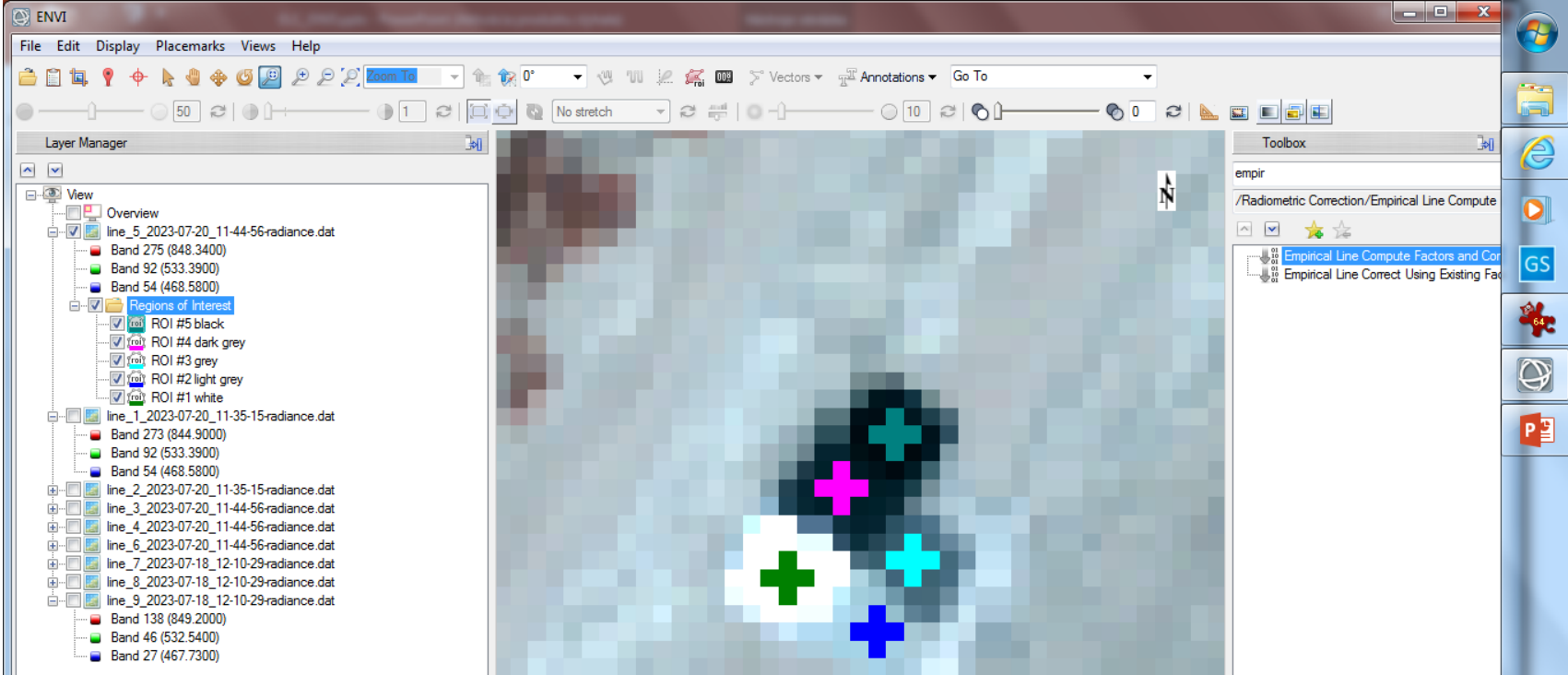


Spectralon
reference panel

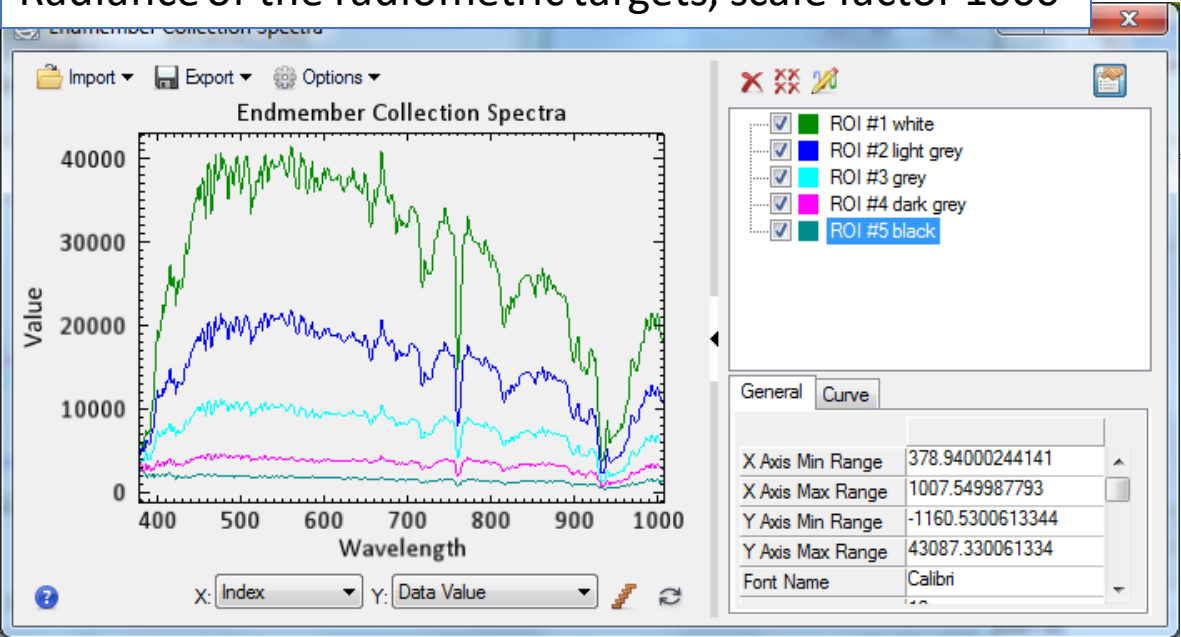


Radiometric targets in Line 5 with ASD field measured spectral reflectance

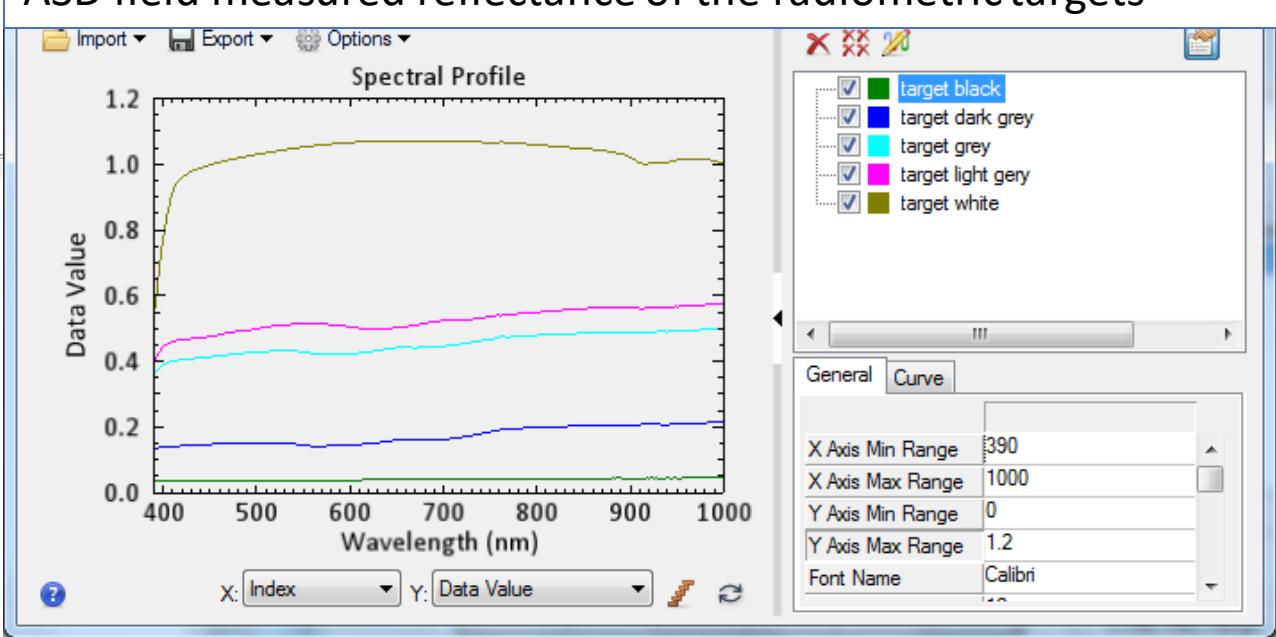
NB: ASD field measured reflectance of white target is higher than 1



Radiance of the radiometric targets, scale factor 1000

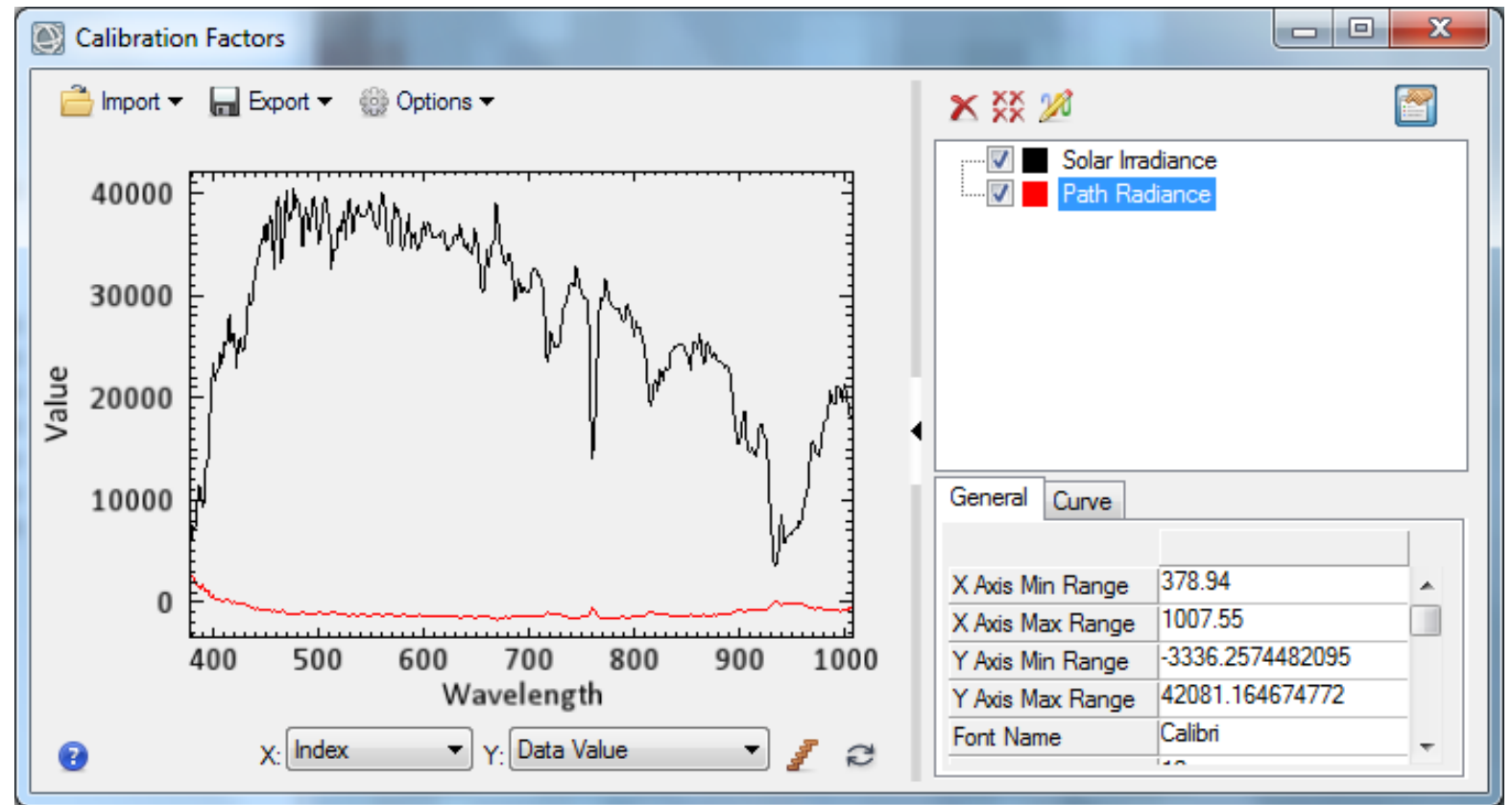


ASD field measured reflectance of the radiometric targets

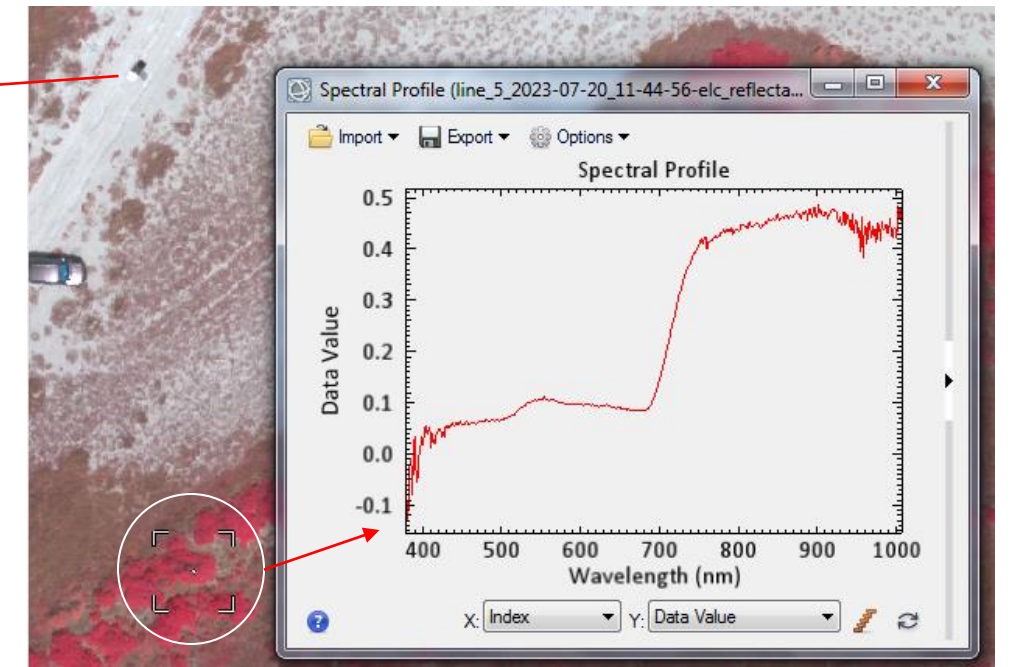
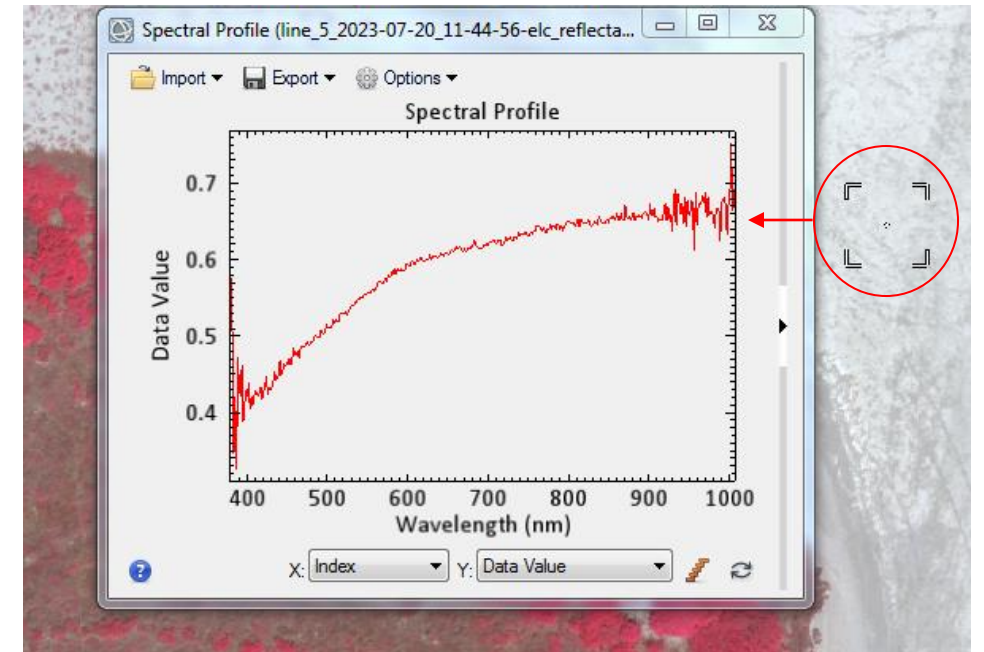
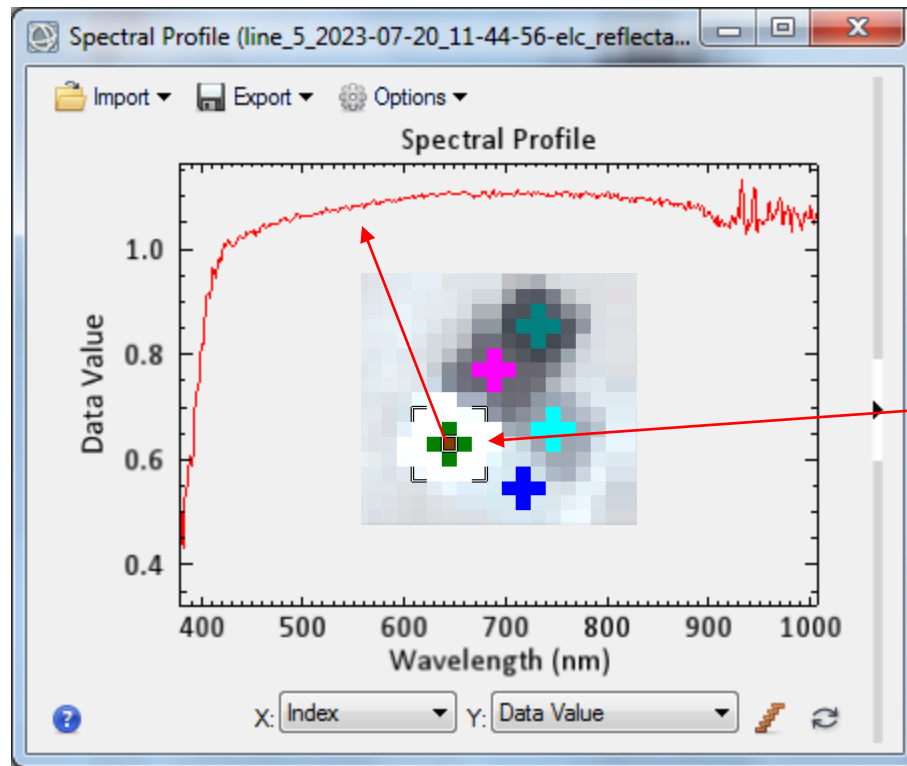


Calibration factors – solar and path radiance calculated based on line 5 radiometric targets

- Calibration factors file used to calculate reflectance of line 1,2,3,4,6
- Lines 7,8,9 have different spectral and spatial binning during acquisition, therefore, could not be corrected with this ELC methods



ELC reflectance



Empirical line correction (ELC)

Reflectance Measurement Metsälinkki White

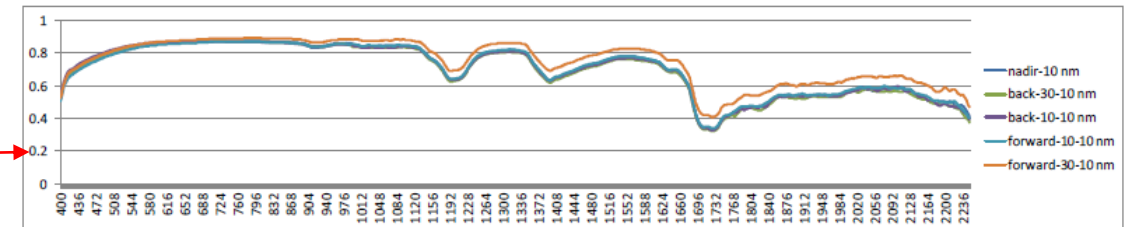
- Lines 7-9 were flown earlier on Tuesday with different spectral binning (4x2) which causes problem in applying ELC based on radiometric targets flown on Thursday at 2x2 binning
- FLAASH could be used to derive reflectance
- ELC reflectance in the image of line 5 is higher than 1 for the white target, as the field measurement was above 1 for this target.
- The supplier of the radiometric targets (a Finish company) measured reflectance of the felt, and it is about 0.2 value lower than measured in the field by ASD spectrometer (compare it for the white target)
- these laboratory measurements were not used to date, reflectance is calculated for lines 1-6 based on the ASD reflectance measurements of the targets in the field.
- This issue should be tested.

WhiteFelt

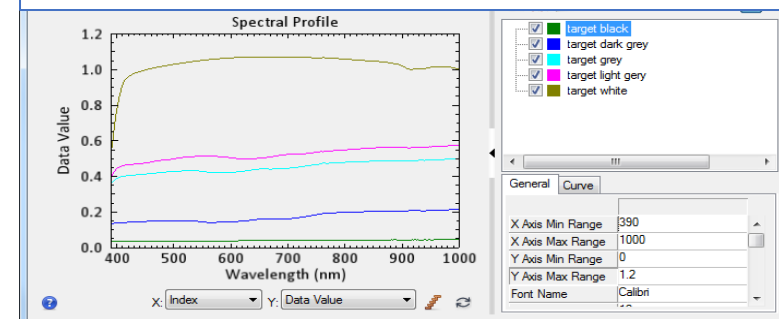
Metadata

Authors:	Teemu Hakala / MML
Target name:	Level 5 - White
Measurement instrument:	Reflectometer
Measurement light source:	Laboratory light source
White reference target:	Spectralon 99%
Measurement campaign:	2020 MosaicMillFelt
Measurement time:	2020 January
Measurement location:	FGI lab

Reflectance curve 400 – 2250 nm



ASD field measured reflectance of the radiometric targets





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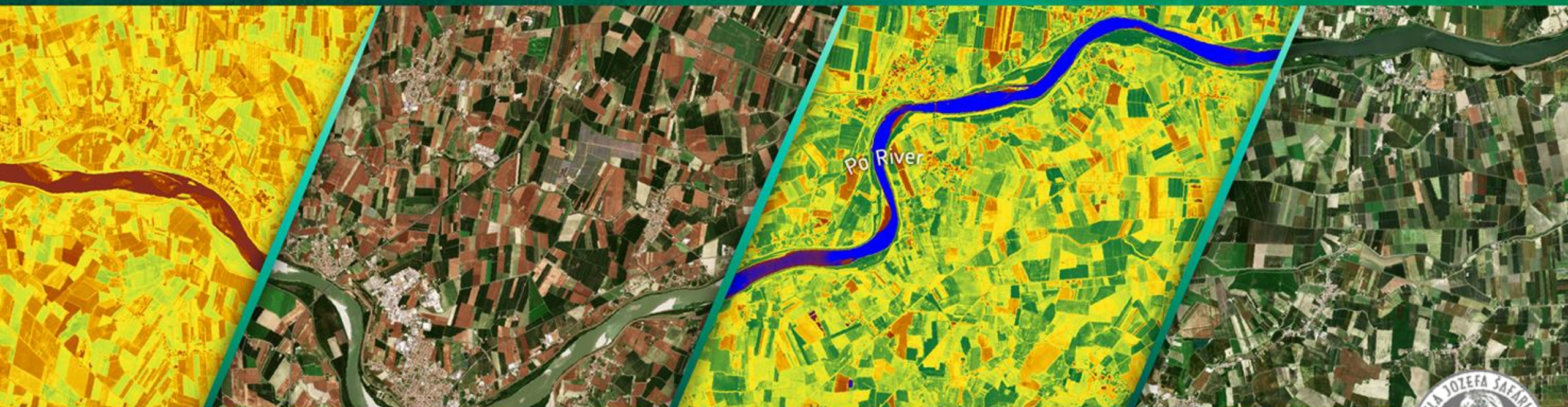
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