

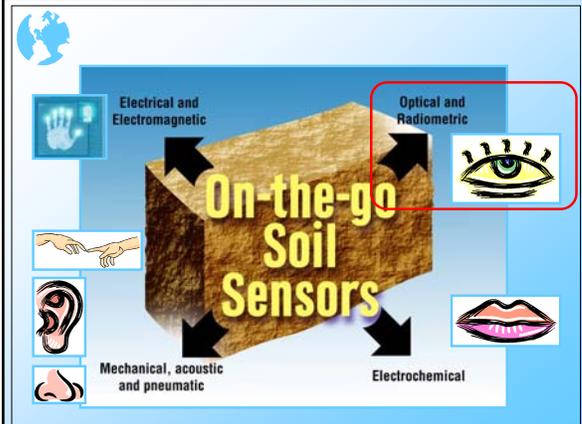
**The Third Global Workshop on Proximal Soil Sensing**  
(Potsdam, Germany)

## Analysis of the Repeatability of Soil Spectral Data Obtained Using Different Measurement Techniques

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**On-the-go Soil Sensors**

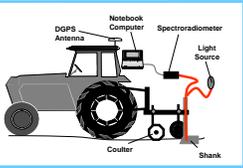
- Electrical and Electromagnetic
- Optical and Radiometric
- Mechanical, acoustic and pneumatic
- Electrochemical

## Optical Sensors

**Subsurface Soil Reflectance Sensors**

Visual ↔ Image analysis  
 Near-infrared ↔ Polarized light  
 Mid-infrared

- Organic matter (carbon) content
- Soil texture
- Cation exchange capacity (CEC)
- Soil water content
- Soil pH
- Mineral nitrogen and phosphorous



## Organic Matter Sensor

**Cross-section of the sensor**

660 nm LEDs  
 Photodiode

Shank

Purdue University (West Lafayette, Indiana)



## Traveling Spectrophotometer



Optical fibers for illumination  
 Laser displace sensor  
 Ground surface  
 Shank  
 Penetrator tip  
 Travel direction  
 Soil flattener  
 Soil surface illumination

Optical fiber for visible reflection  
 CCD camera  
 Optical fiber for NIR reflection  
 NIR thermometer

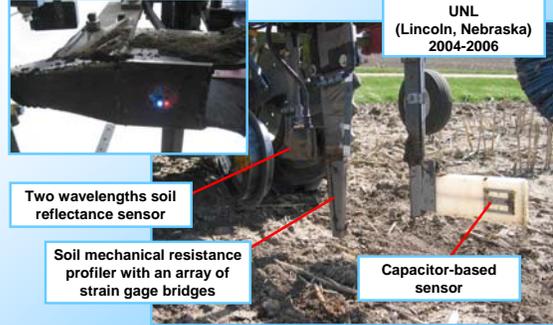
Load Cell  
 EC Electrode

Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology (Tokyo, Japan)

## Integrated Soil Physical Properties Mapping System (ISPPMS)

UNL (Lincoln, Nebraska) 2004-2006

Two wavelengths soil reflectance sensor  
 Soil mechanical resistance profiler with an array of strain gage bridges  
 Capacitor-based sensor



### Integrate Soil Mapping System (ISMS)

Load Cell Sensor

Optical Sensor

Dielectric Sensor

UNL and Holland Scientific (Lincoln, Nebraska)  
Retrokool (Berkeley, California)  
2009-2010

### Veris® OpticMapper™

Veris Technologies, Inc.  
(Salina, Kansas)  
<http://www.veristech.com>

660 and 940 nm

### VIS/NIR Spectrophotometer

Sapphire Window

Predicted Carbon

Measured Carbon

Veris Technologies, Inc.  
(Salina, Kansas)  
<http://www.veristech.com>

### Objective

Assess the repeatability of unprocessed visible, near-infrared, and mid-infrared spectra as well as their most common derivatives when the same soil samples were measured repeatedly in the lab or directly in the field

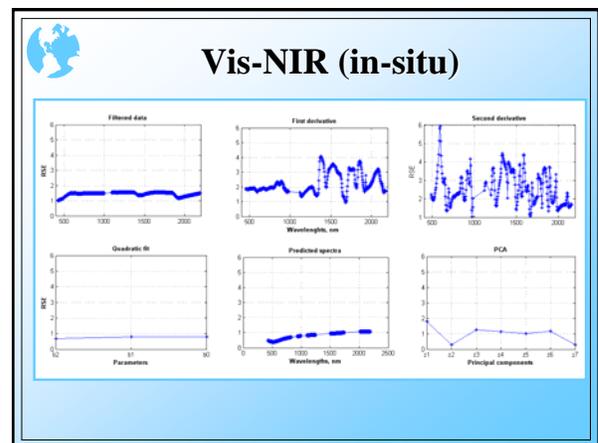
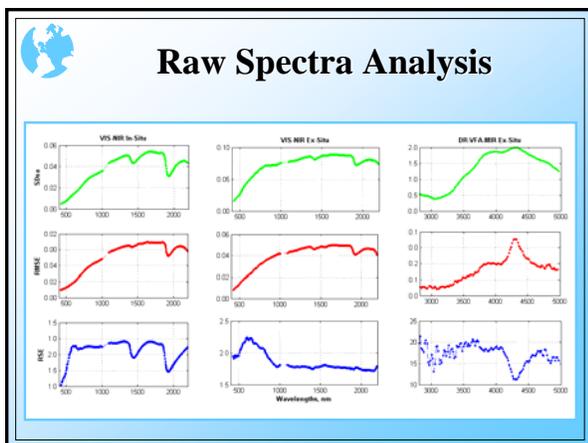
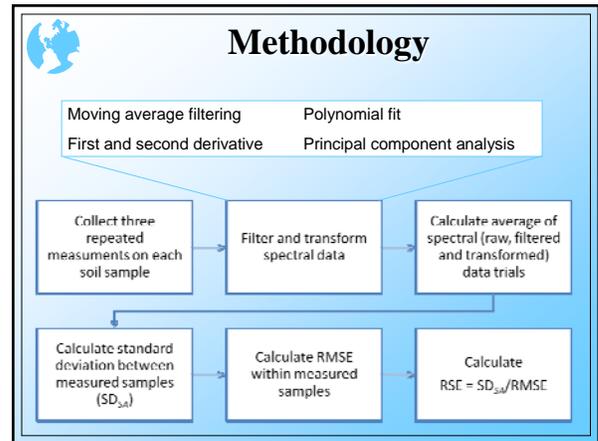
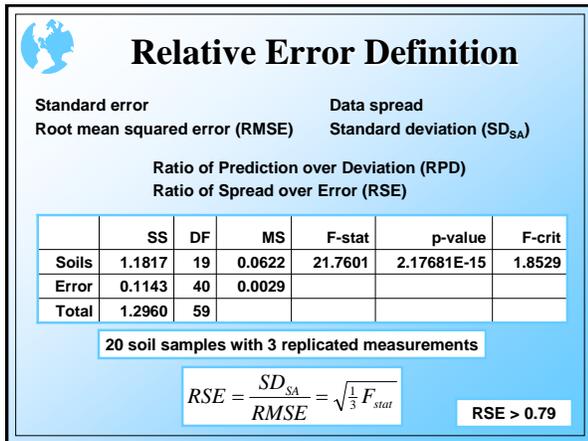
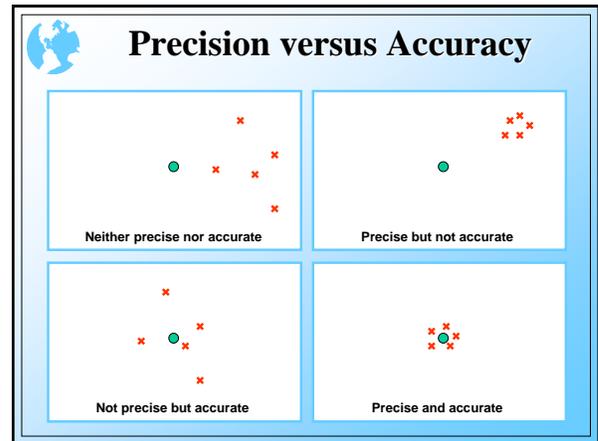
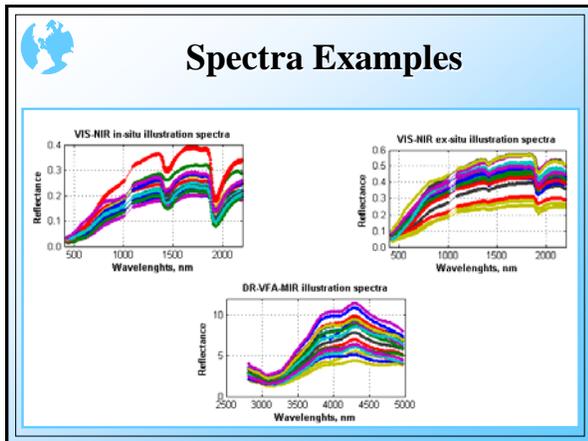
Three soil samples  
Three replications

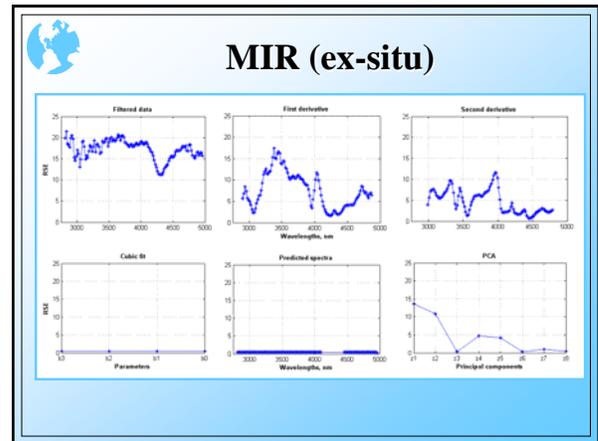
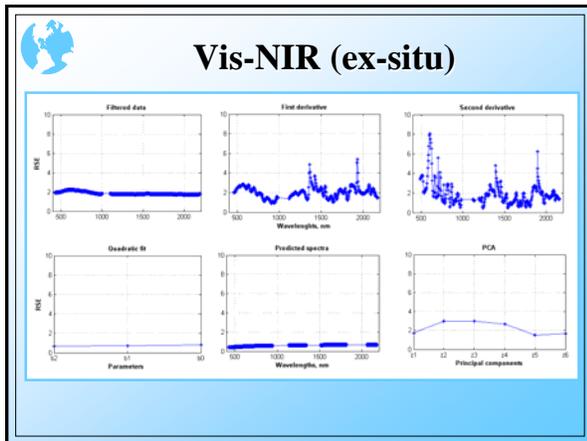
### Instruments

1. Visible/Near-Infrared spectroscopy (Vis-NIR) - 400-1000 nm and 1100-2200 nm
2. Diffuse Reflectance Variable Filter Array Mid-Infrared spectroscopy (MIR) - 2780-5096 nm

### Sites

Macdonald Farm, McGill University  
Ste-Anne-de-Bellevue, QC, Canada  
20 samples (top 15 cm)





### RSE Summary

Equipment and Method	Data Transformation	RSE				
		Min	25%	Median	75%	Max
VIS NIR <i>In-situ</i>	Filtered	1.01	1.39	1.49	1.54	1.56
	Polynomial fit	0.40	0.64	0.86	1.00	1.08
	First derivative	0.92	1.84	2.00	2.90	4.05
	Second derivative	1.04	1.83	2.36	3.19	5.93
	Principal components	0.29	0.48	1.15	1.24	1.80
VIS NIR <i>Ex-situ</i>	Filtered	1.72	1.76	1.78	1.85	2.24
	Polynomial fit	0.42	0.56	0.63	0.66	0.67
	First derivative	0.92	1.63	2.03	2.40	5.38
	Second derivative	0.47	1.20	1.68	2.25	8.07
	Principal components	1.52	1.64	2.21	2.98	3.00
MIR <i>Ex-situ</i>	Filtered	11.28	15.73	17.84	18.82	21.41
	Polynomial fit	0.40	0.44	0.47	0.47	0.48
	First derivative	1.64	4.11	6.88	10.78	17.40
	Second derivative	0.68	2.23	4.18	6.82	11.58
	Principal components	0.33	0.39	2.61	7.83	13.67

- ### Summary
- The filtered MIR measurements had the highest relative reproducibility across the entire spectrum
  - RSEs for the derivatives were dependent on the wavelength
  - Vis-NIR data ex-situ measurements were more reproducible than those conducted in natural soil conditions within a 0.5 m distance from each other
  - For both in-situ and ex-situ Vis-NIR data, the second derivative (spectral inflection data) yielded data that had the highest relative reproducibility in certain parts of the spectrum
  - Other types of data transformation did not yield higher RSE estimates

### Next Steps

- Six different instruments
- Five different datasets
- Precision versus accuracy analysis
- Optimized system for in-situ operation

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