

Mineral Identification using Tetracorder during the TREX Field Campaign

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Yellow Cat, Utah Field Site





- Yellow Pins: Hyperspectral Scan
- Contour Interval = 40ft (12.2m)
- Map: Utah Geologic Survey, Mollie Hogans Quad

Formation	Member	Map Symbol	
Cedar Mountain	Ruby Ranch	Kcmr	
	Poison Strip	Kcmp	
	Yellow Cat	Kcmy	
Morrison	Brushy Basin	Jmb	
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Tetracorder Results from AVIRIS (18m/pixel)



Kaolinite, Illite/Muscovite mixtures identified in Cliff 1 and Cliff 2





Motivation

Field Site

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Hyperspectral Survey

White Reference

165 Spectral Bands

- Resonon PIKA IR Camera
- Drone Mountable Configuration
- $\lambda = 0.9 \mu m 1.7 \mu m$, 165 bands
- AVIRIS range extended to $2.5 \, \mu m$

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PikaIR Data Yields Signal near the Water Absorption Band



Tetracorder Expert System

- Input: Calibrated PikalR Datacube
- USGS Mineral Library convolved to match PikalR channels
- Tetracorder Output:
 - **Fit:** Weighted correlation coefficient calculation
 - **Depth:** Weighted band depth calculation
 - **F*D:** Weighted fit times band depth calculation
- Developed for use with AVIRIS (0.35-2.5 µm)
- Python script to group spectra for mineral ID
 - Use Tetracorder results as inputs
 - Set a threshold for mineral ID
 - Compute average spectra of a group
- Manual mineral ID by comparing library spectra

Tetracorder Mineral Groups (Clark+ 1999)



Width and Position of 1.4 μm Features

- Many positions overlap with similar shapes- are they unique enough for ID?
- Do more minerals need to be added to the library?
- Example: Kaolinite, Halloysite, Montmorillonite, and Gypsum

Field Site

Motivation



Methods

- Sulfate
- Neosilicate
- Phyllosilicate
- Gibbsite
- Zeolite
- Vegetation
- Water
- Opal
- Scapolute
- Sodalite
- Elbaite
- Tourmaline
- Mica
- Kaolinite
- Halloysite
- Montmorillonite
- Gypsum

AVIRIS Results editing Tetracorder processing to use the PikalR Spectral Range for Cliff 1

Zeolite_natrolite
sulfate_na82alun100c
ulexite
sulfate_kalun150c

This mineral ID for cliff 1 is not reliable:

1. AVIRIS is averaging over too broad a range (18m/pixel) at a poor angle (imaging steep cliff from overhead).

2. Tetracorder isn't designed to work in reduced spectral range 0.9-1.7µm.

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Conclusion: Hyperspectral surveys provide valuable context for geologic origins

- Commercial drone-mountable instruments (e.g. PikalR) have a limited spectral range, but close distance to target (50m vs. 10,000m) enables some signal through atmospheric water band
- Developing semi-autonomous mineral ID could enable surface exploration in the outer solar system

Next Steps:

- Complete processing cliffs 2 and 3 from Yellow Cat, compare with TREX team VNIR and FTIR data
- More minerals may need to be added to the library
- Contact me about a postdoc!







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