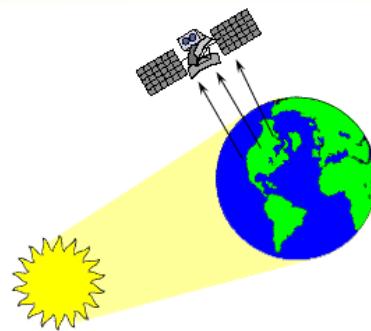


# VISUAL IMAGE INTERPRETATION



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**Special Thanks to  
iiirs dehradun**

# Disclaimer:

- ▶ This presentation is compilation of the study material provided from IIRS Dehradun, India and on the net as just study material.
- ▶ The aim of this presentation is to let students, researchers, professors, teachers to know, “ What is Visual Image interpretation?”
- ▶ As knowledge is not slave of human being, the copyright laws are fully violated and not subjected to any jurisdiction, so kindly consider it as study material only.
- ▶ Thanks
- ▶ Author

# IMAGE INTERPRETATION

3

- Act of examining images to identify objects and judge their significance.
- Information extraction process from the images.
- An interpreter is a specialist trained in study of photography or imagery, in addition to his own discipline.
- Aerial photographs and remote Sensing images employ electro magnetic energy as the mean of detecting and measuring target characteristics.
- Involves a considerable amount of subjective judgment
- Highly dependent on capability of mind to generalize
- Takes place at different levels of complexity

# IMAGE INTERPRETATION

4

- ▶ Image is a pictorial representation of an object or a scene.
- ▶ Image can be analog or digital.
- ▶ Aerial photographs are generally analog, while satellite data is in digital form.
- ▶ A digital image is made up of square or rectangular areas called pixels.
- ▶ Each pixel has an associated pixel value which depends on the amount reflected energy from the ground.

## Advantages of aerial photographs/Satellite Images over ground observation

- ▶ Synoptic view
- ▶ Time freezing ability
- ▶ Permanent record
- ▶ Spectral resolution
- ▶ Spatial resolution
- ▶ Cost and time effective
- ▶ Stereoscopic view
- ▶ Brings out relationship between objects

# Methods of Image Interpretation

## ► Visual

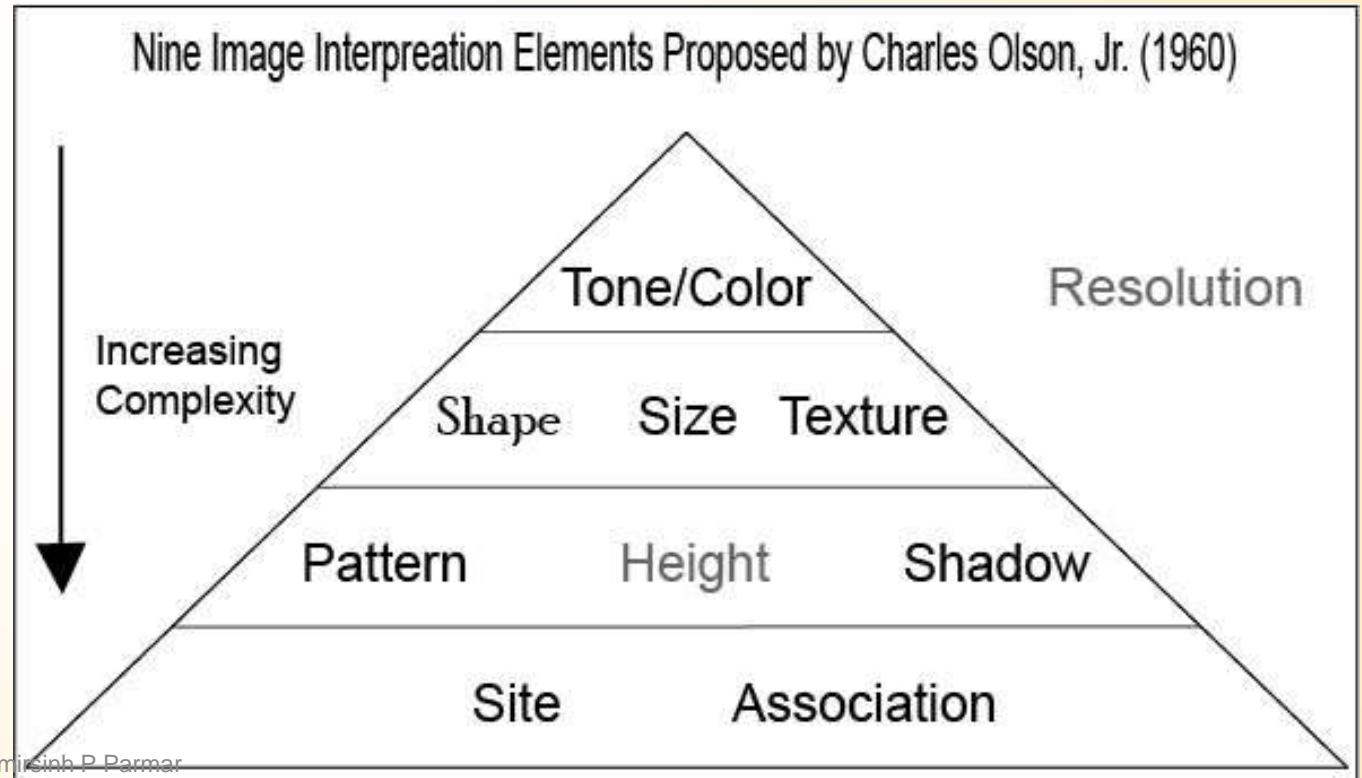
1. Visual image interpretation on a hardcopy image/photograph
2. Visual image interpretation on a digital image

## ► Digital image processing

# Types of interpretation

► Qualitative

► Quantitative



# Elements of Image Interpretation



**Shape**  
(depends on the object outline)



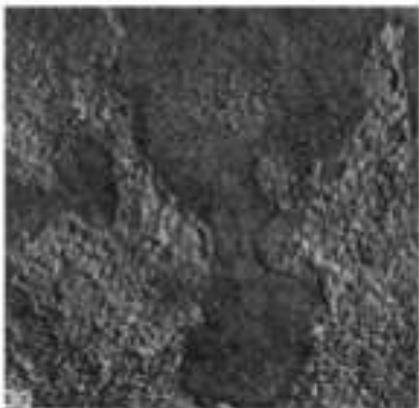
**Size**  
(relative to one another)



**Tone**  
(brightness-hue, color)



**Site**  
(location helps recognition)



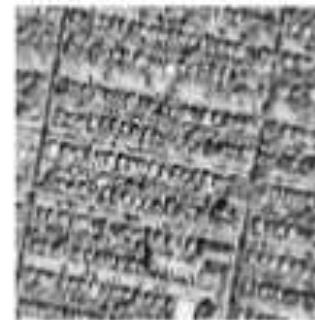
**Texture**  
(smooth or coarse) **(helps to determine height)**



**Shadow**



**Association**  
(features that are normally found near object)

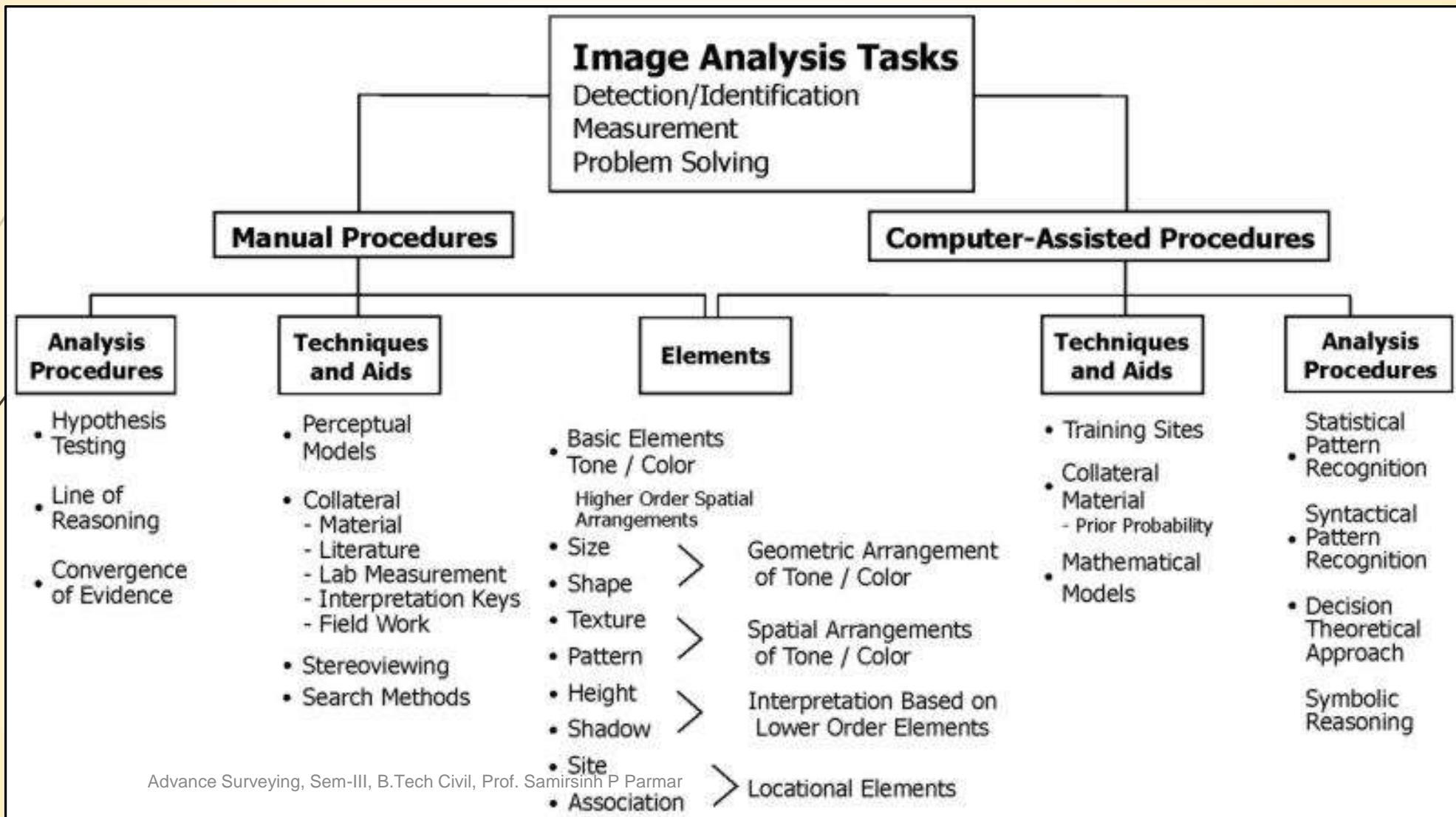


**Pattern**

# Typical Examples of Image Interpretation



# Methods of Image Interpretation



# Basic Principle of Image Interpretation

- Image is a pictorial representation of pattern of landscape.
- Pattern indicates type of objects and their physical, biological, and cultural relationships
- Similar objects under similar conditions reflect similarly.
- A systematic examination of photos and supporting material.
- Interpretation is made of physical nature of the object.
- Information extracted is proportional to knowledge, skill and experience of analyst; the methods and equipment used.

## Factors governing interpretability

- ▶ Training, Experience
- ▶ Nature of object or phenomenon
- ▶ Quality of photographs
- ▶ Equipment and method of interpretation
- ▶ Interpretation keys, guides, manuals and other aids
- ▶ Prior knowledge of the area.

# Techniques of visual image interpretation

- The development of interpretation techniques has been mainly by the empirical method.
- The gap between the photo image on the one hand and the reference level, i.e. the level of knowledge in a specific field, in the human mind on the other hand, is bridged by the use of image-interpretation.
- The techniques adopted for one discipline may differ from those adopted for another.
- The sequence of activity and the search method may have to be modified to suit the specific requirements.

## Techniques of visual image interpretation

- Image interpretation comprises at least three mental acts that may or may not be performed simultaneously:
  - 
  - i. The measurement of images of objects
  - ii. Identification of the objects imaged
  - iii. Appropriate use of this information in the solution of the problem.

## Methodology depends on.....

- ▶ Kind of information to be interpreted
- ▶ Accuracy of the results to be obtained
- ▶ The reference level of the person executing the interpretation
- ▶ Kind and type of imagery or photographs available
- ▶ Instruments available
- ▶ Scale and other requirements of the final map
- ▶ External knowledge available and any other sensory surveys that have been or will be made in the near future in the same area.

# ACTIVITIES OF IMAGE INTERPRETATION

- ▶ Detection
- ▶ Recognition
- ▶ Analysis
- ▶ Deduction
- ▶ Classification
- ▶ Idealization
- ▶ Convergence of evidence

# METHOD OF SEARCH

- Interpreter should work methodologically
- From general information to specific object
- From known to unknown

## BASIC METHODS

- **Fishing Expedition**- Examination of each and every object
- **Logical Search**- Quick scanning and selective intensive study

# INTERPRETATION KEYS-TYPES OF INTERPRETATION KEYS

## Scope of image interpretation

- ▶ Item key
- ▶ Subject key
- ▶ Regional key
- ▶ Analogous area key

## Technical level image interpretation

- Technical
- Non-Technical

# INTERPRETATION KEYS-TYPES OF INTERPRETATION KEYS

Intrinsic character of image interpretation:

- ▶ Direct key
- ▶ Association key

Manner of organization:

- ▶ Selective
  - 1. Essay key
  - 2. File key
  - 3. Photo key
  - 4. Integrated selected key

▶ Elimination

- 1. Disk key
- 2. Punch card
- 3. Dichotomous key

## Methods of analysis and reference levels

- ▶ Monocular and stereo analysis
- ▶ Densitometry analysis
- ▶ Multiple images
- ▶ Multi band images
- ▶ Multi date images
- ▶ Multi stage images

# Sensors in photographic Image Interpretation

- ▶ Black and white panchromatic
- ▶ Black and white infrared
- ▶ Colour
- ▶ Colour infrared/ false colour

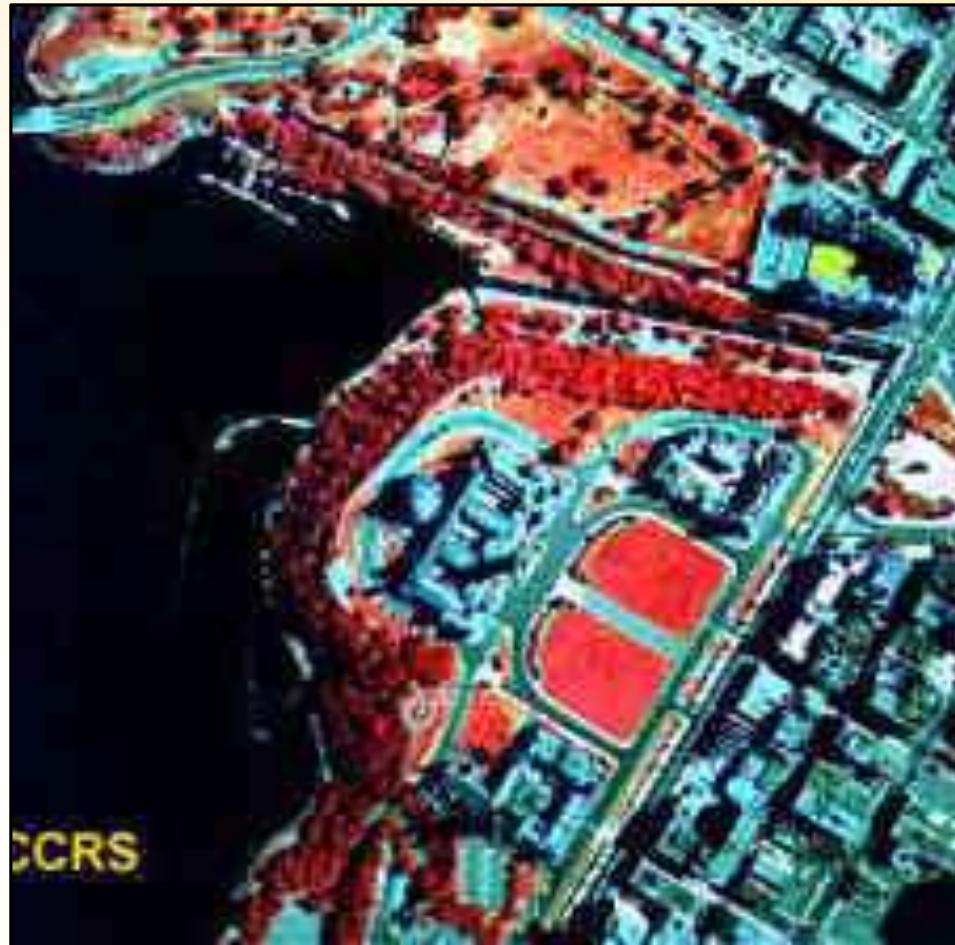




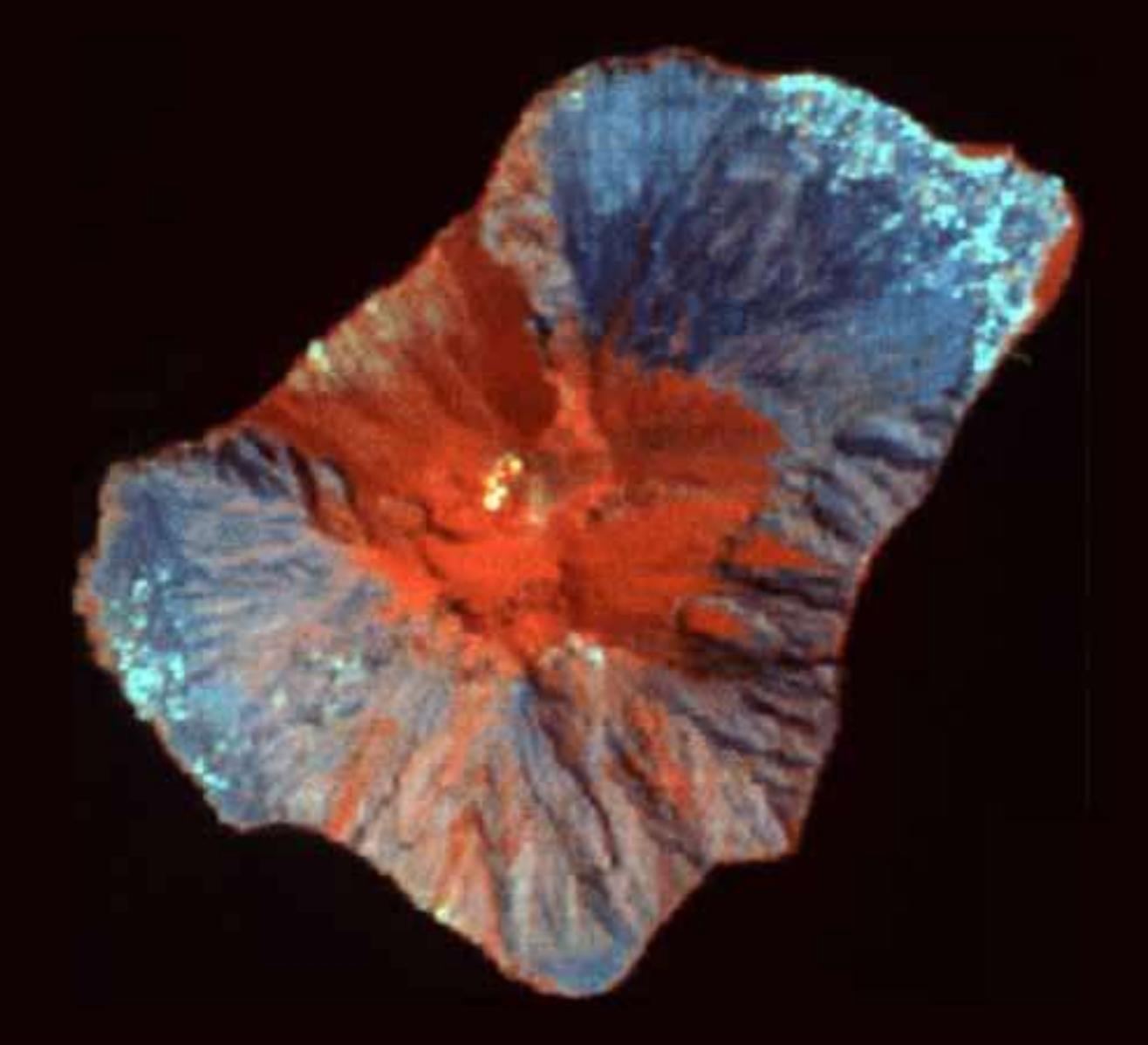
## B/W Aerial Photo

The image is stored on photographic film that is, generally speaking, sensitive to electromagnetic radiation from  $0.3 \mu\text{m}$  to  $0.9 \mu\text{m}$ . **Panchromatic films**, producing black and white images, is the most common type of film used for aerial photography.

In the upper right corner there is a hydrofoil ship. The other big ship is a tanker delivering fresh water to the island



**Colour and *false colour*** (or colour infrared) photography involves the use of a three layer film with each layer sensitive to different ranges of light. For a normal colour photograph, the layers are sensitive to blue, green, and red light - the same as our eyes. Accordingly, these photos appear to us the same way that our eyes see the environment. The colours resemble those which would appear to us as "normal" (i.e. trees appear green, etc.).



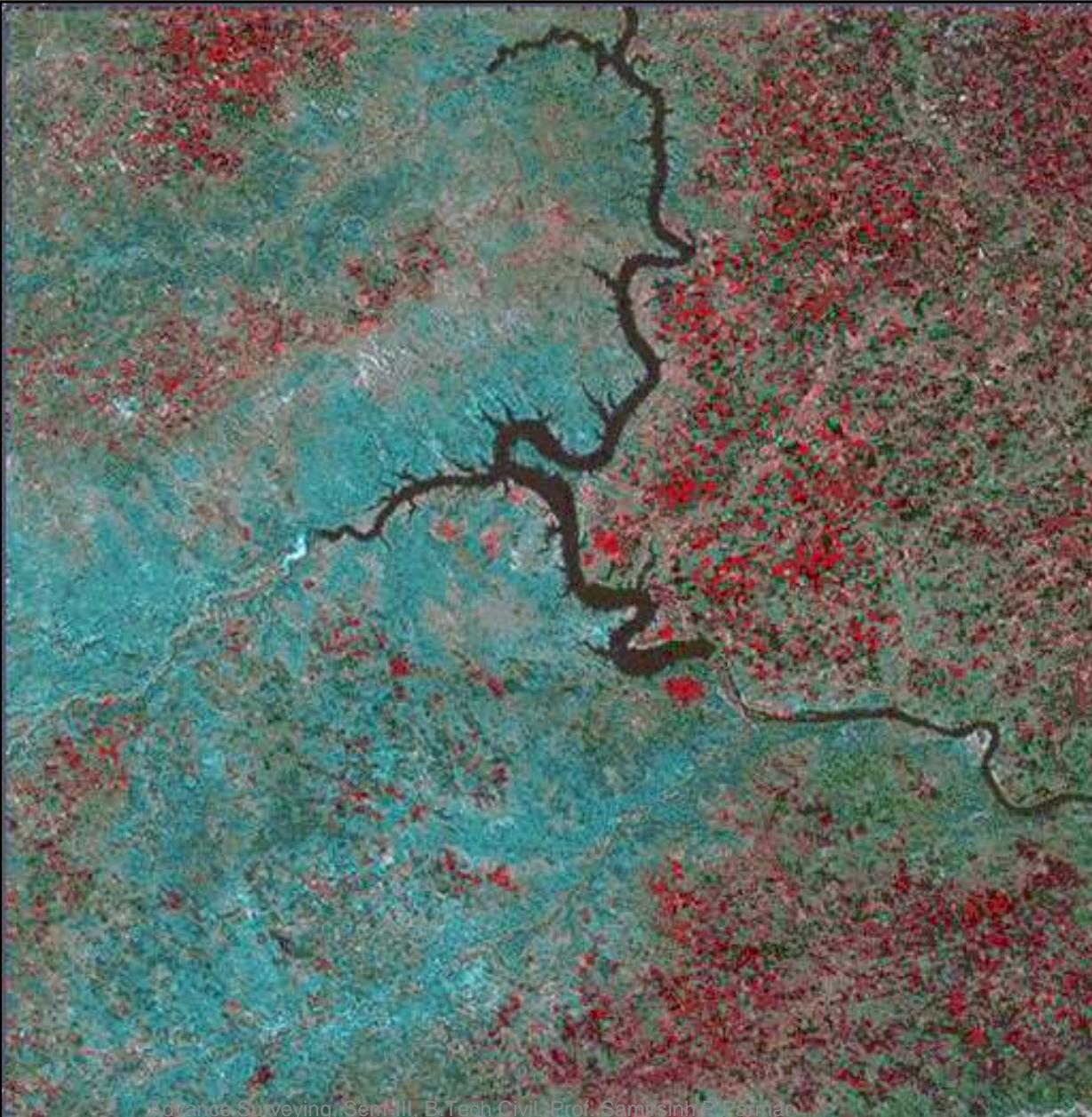
In **color infrared (CIR)** photography, the three emulsion layers are sensitive to green, red, and the photographic portion of near-infrared radiation (up to  $0.9 \mu\text{m}$ ), which are processed to appear as blue, green, and red, respectively. In a false color photograph, targets with high near-infrared reflectance appear red, those with a high red reflectance appear green, and those with a high green reflectance appear blue, thus giving us a "false" presentation of the targets relative to the color we normally perceive them to be.

# Image interpretation for Multispectral imagery

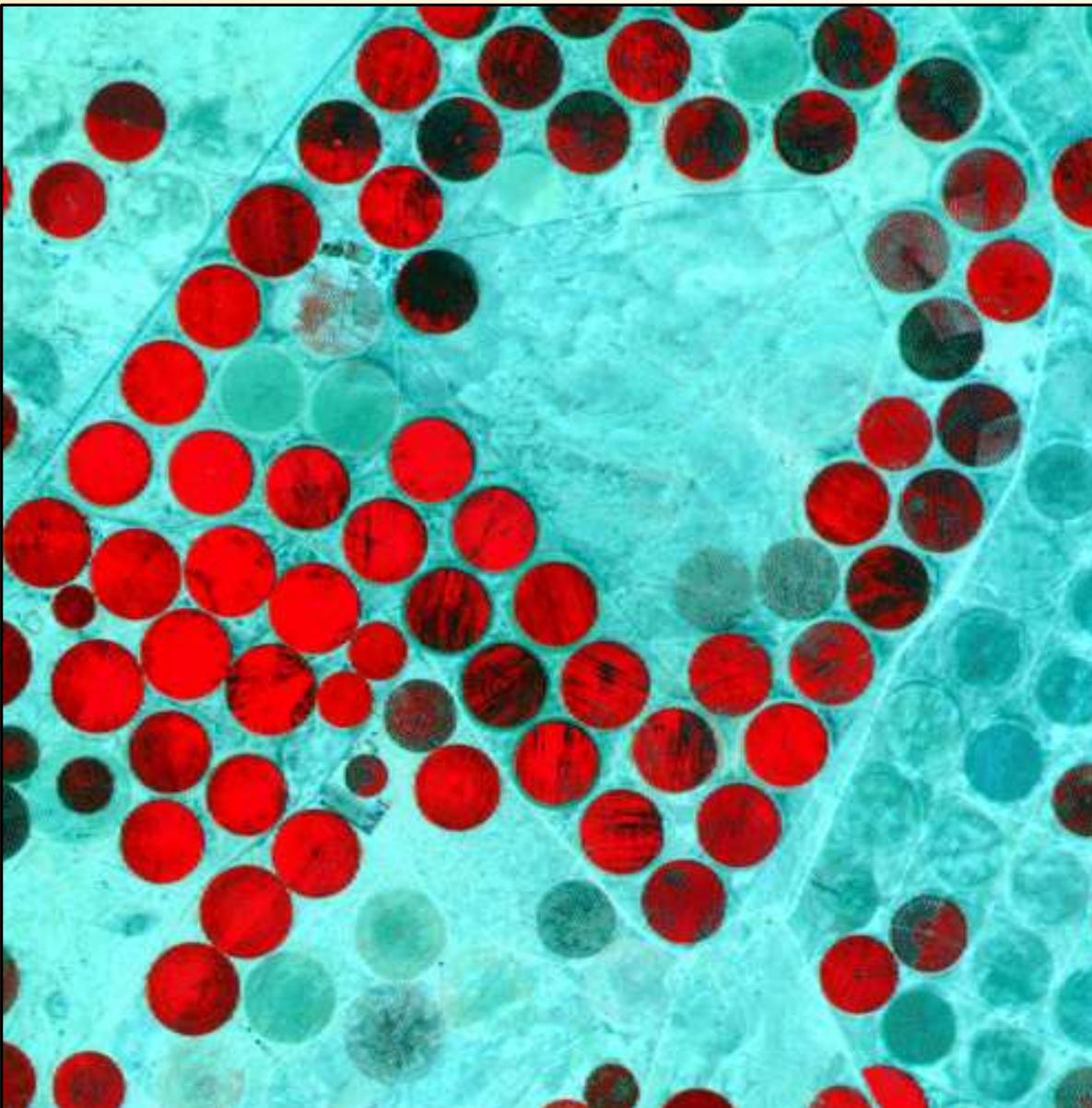
- Resolution
- Stereoscopic ability
- Individual Band Interpretation
- Temporal data



Landsat image Boston



Landsat image



Saudi Arabia

Sensor : IRS1C LISS III

The circular features indicate  
sprinkler irrigation systems.  
Red color indicates crop &  
dark color fallow land.



### Goa city , India

Sensor : IRS1D LISS III

Goa is the smallest ( area wise) of the Indian Union & is in the west coast of India situated between Karnataka & Maharashtra. The eastern sector of Goa is hilly and forms the northern edge of the Sahyadri Mountain ranges. This multispectral image shows Marmagoa & Tiswadi areas of Goa state. This image also shows the sedimentation in the River Zuari & River Mandovi & the red patches represent densely vegetated areas. The Dabolim airport near the town of Vascodagama is also visible in the lower middle part of the image.



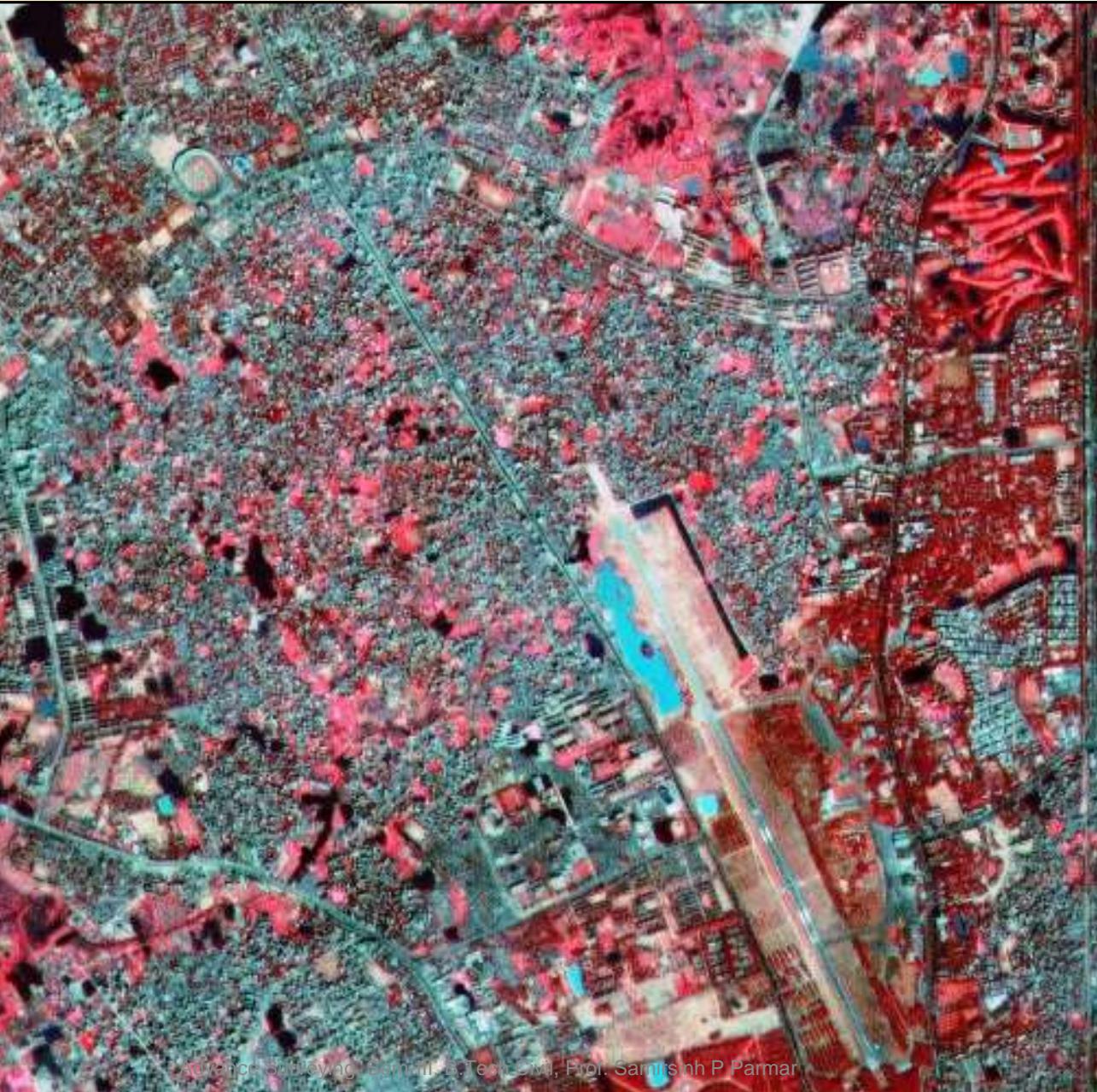
Advance Surveying, Sem-III, B.Tech Civil, Prof. Samirsinh P Parmar

**Sunderbans , West  
Bengal India  
Sensor : IRS1C WiFS**

This image shows East Coast of India & sunderbans. The Bay of Bengal is dark blue whereas waters in the shallow areas near coast are seen in light blue color. The mangroves are seen in bright red color in the wet land areas. The river Hoogly dispersing sediments into the sea can be seen clearly. .



**Part of Oman**  
**Sensor : IRS1D WiFS**  
The gulf of Oman is seen here. The mountains & rocky terrain of the area are seen through WiFS sensor .



**Dhaka , Bangladesh  
Sensor : IRS1C LISS  
III+PAN**

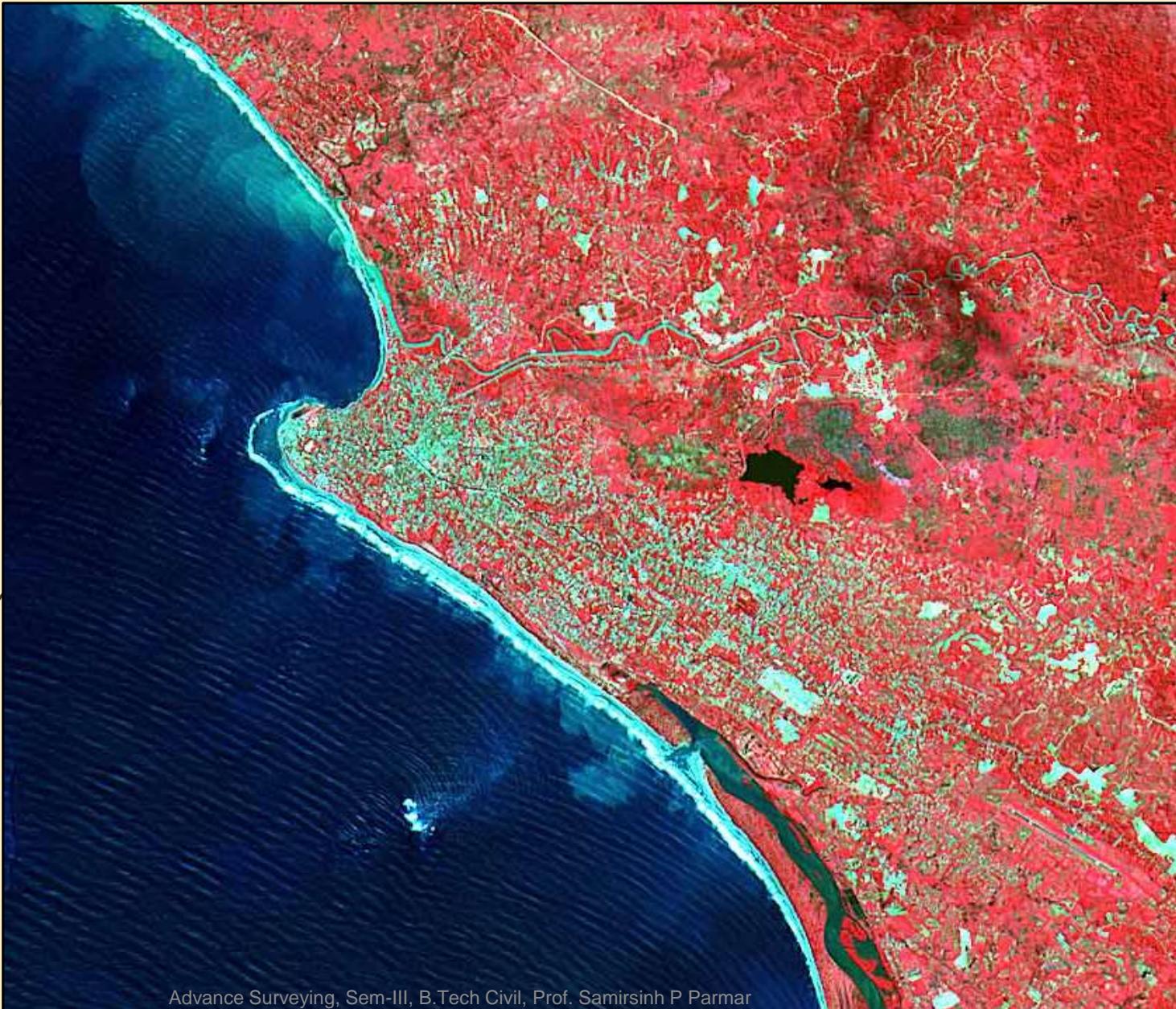
This image shows part of  
Dhaka city & its environments.  
Features like stadium & city  
airport are clearly seen.



Advance Surveying - Sem - II, B.Tech, Civil, Prof. Dr. G.S. Parmar

**Rome , Italy**  
**Sensor : IRS1C LISS**  
**III+PAN**

**This image shows part of  
Rome. The runways of the  
'h' shaped airport can also  
be seen.**



Advance Surveying, Sem-III, B.Tech Civil, Prof. Samirsinh P Parmar

**Spot multi-sensor image**  
**Roads, rivers, water bodies, topography and urban areas can all be distinguished.**



IIRS, Dehradun

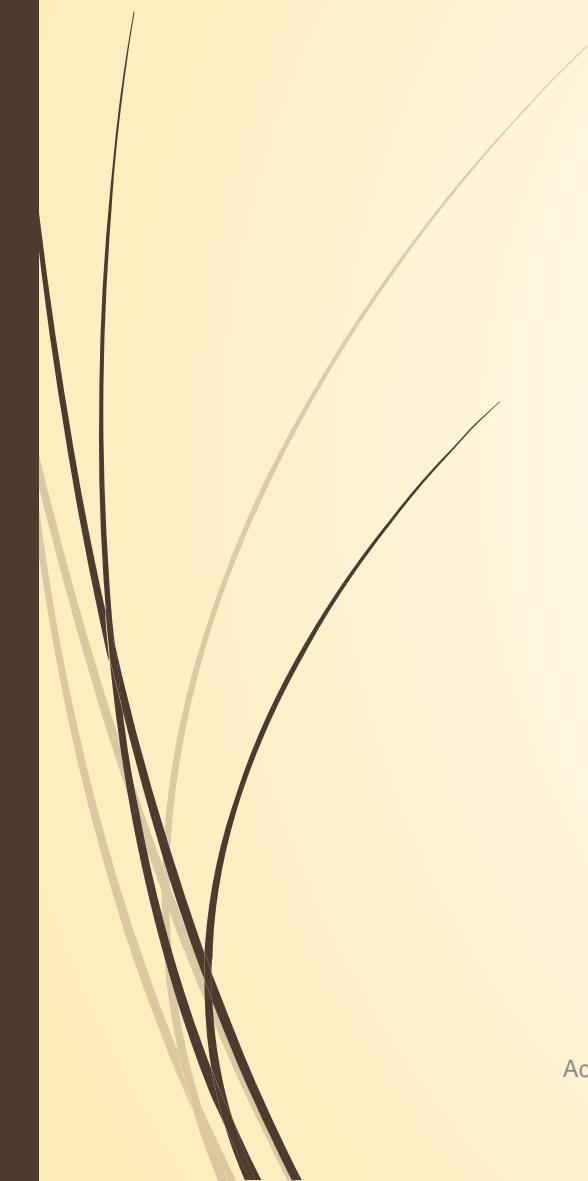


Image interpretation  
=  
relating images to reality

## Remote Sensing - Visual Image Interpretation

37



Advance Surveying, Sem-III, B.Tech Civil, Prof. Samirsinh P Parmar  
**Picture of the real world**

## Remote Sensing - Visual Image Interpretation

38



In image interpretation use is made of

**Image characteristics**

or

**Interpretation elements**

## Remote Sensing Visual Image Interpretation

The image characteristics can be distinguished into:

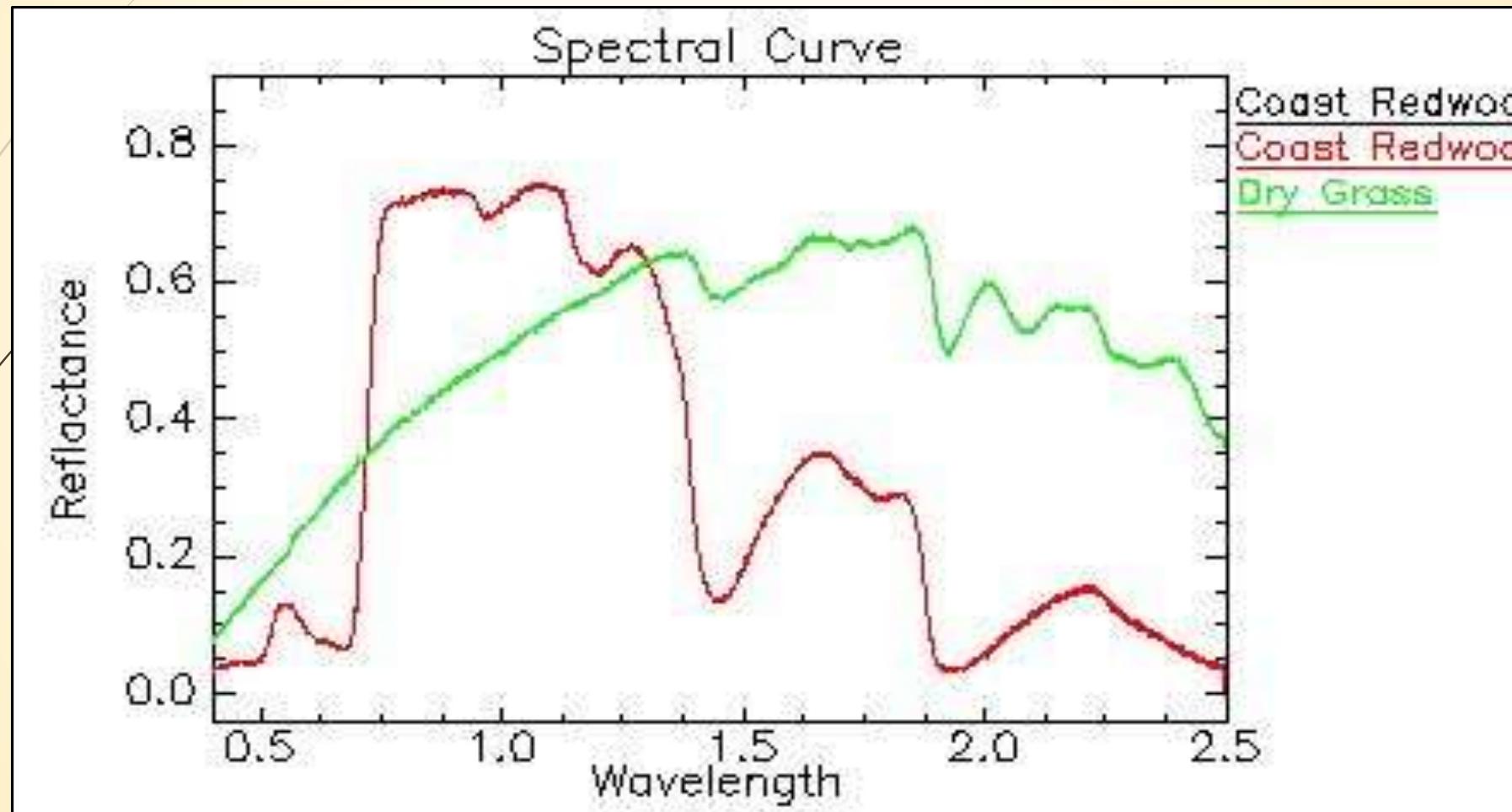
- spectral characteristics
- spatial characteristics
- stereo characteristics
- associated features

## Remote Sensing Visual Image Interpretation

Spectral characteristics are:

- grey tone
- colour

# Remote Sensing Visual Image Interpretation



# Remote Sensing Visual Image Interpretation

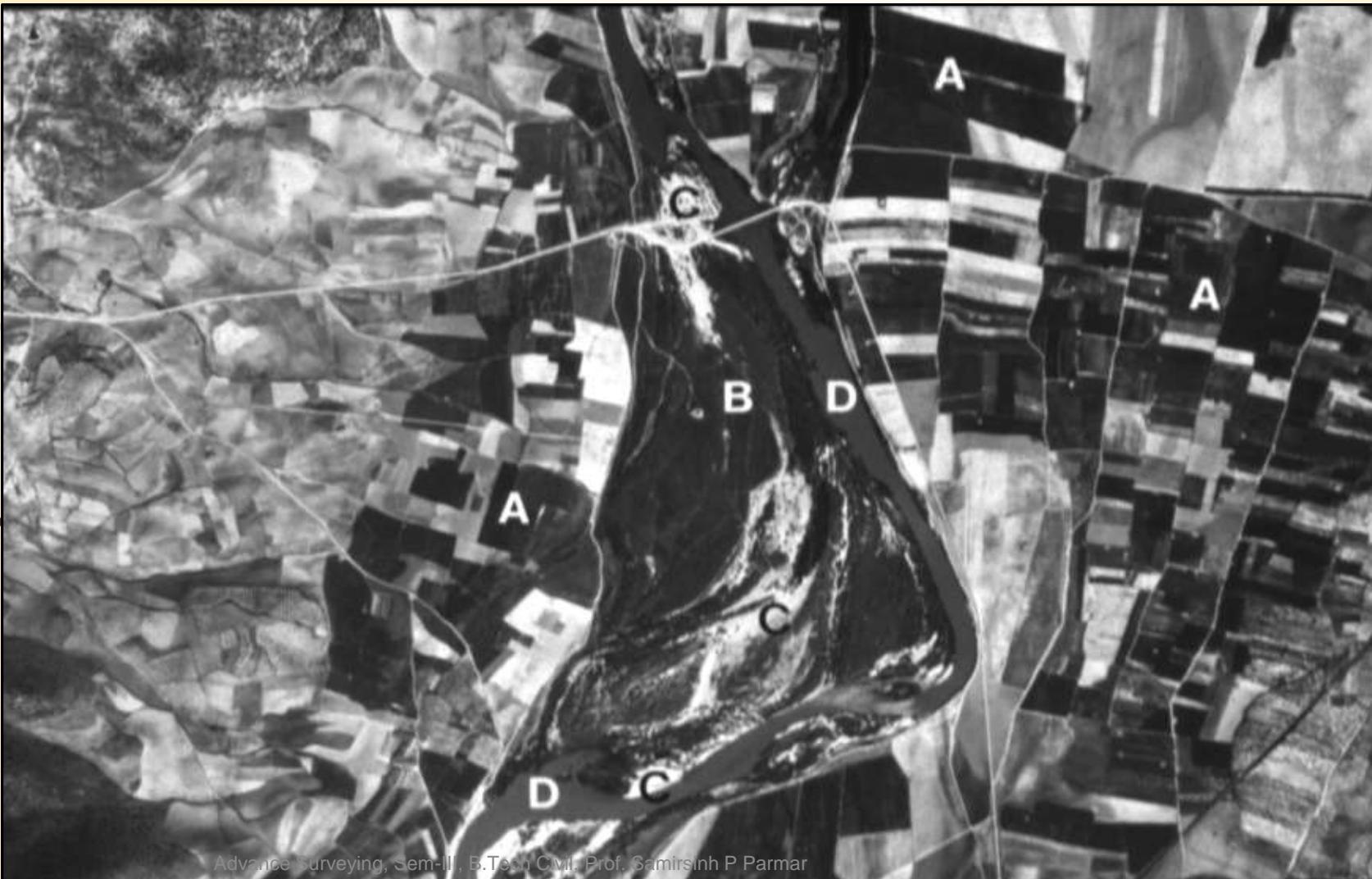
Spatial characteristics are:

- shape
- size
- shadow
- pattern
- texture

# Remote Sensing Visual Image Interpretation

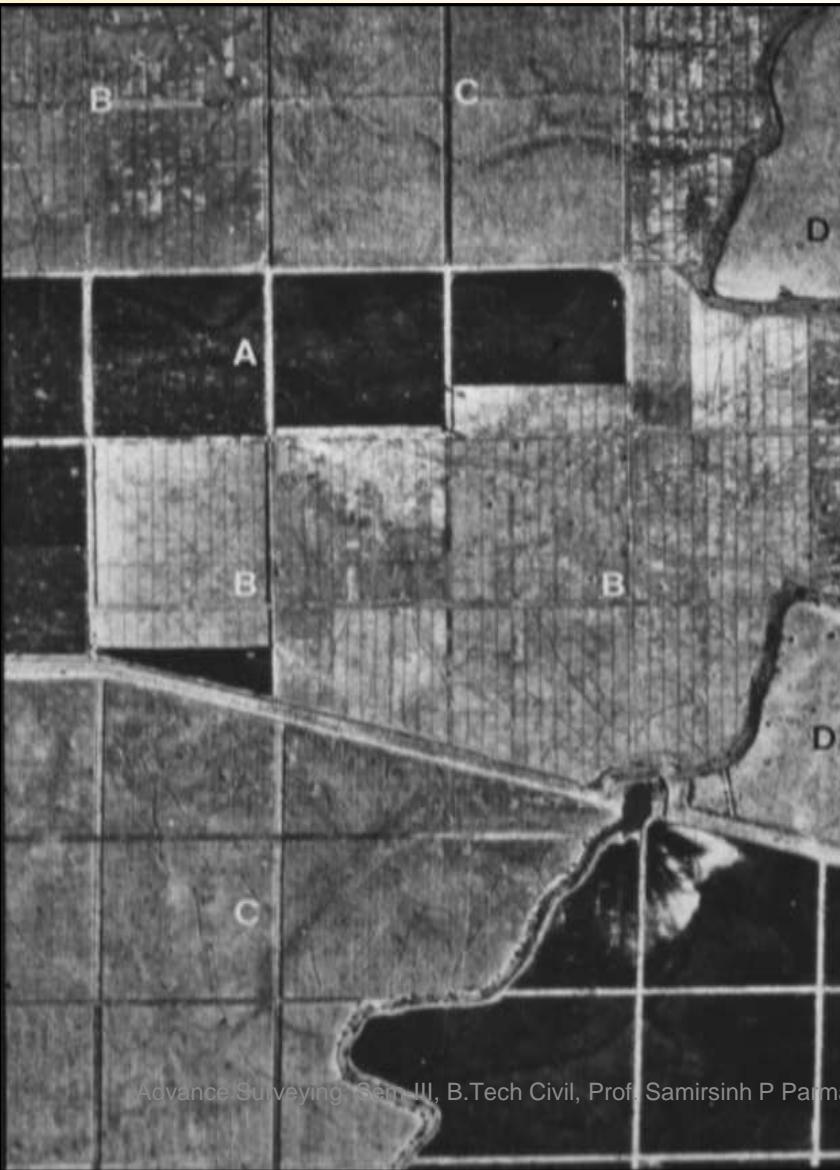
► Different aspects of greytone

# Remote Sensing Visual Image Interpretation



- A- Farm/fields
- B- River
- C-Silica/sands
- D- Water

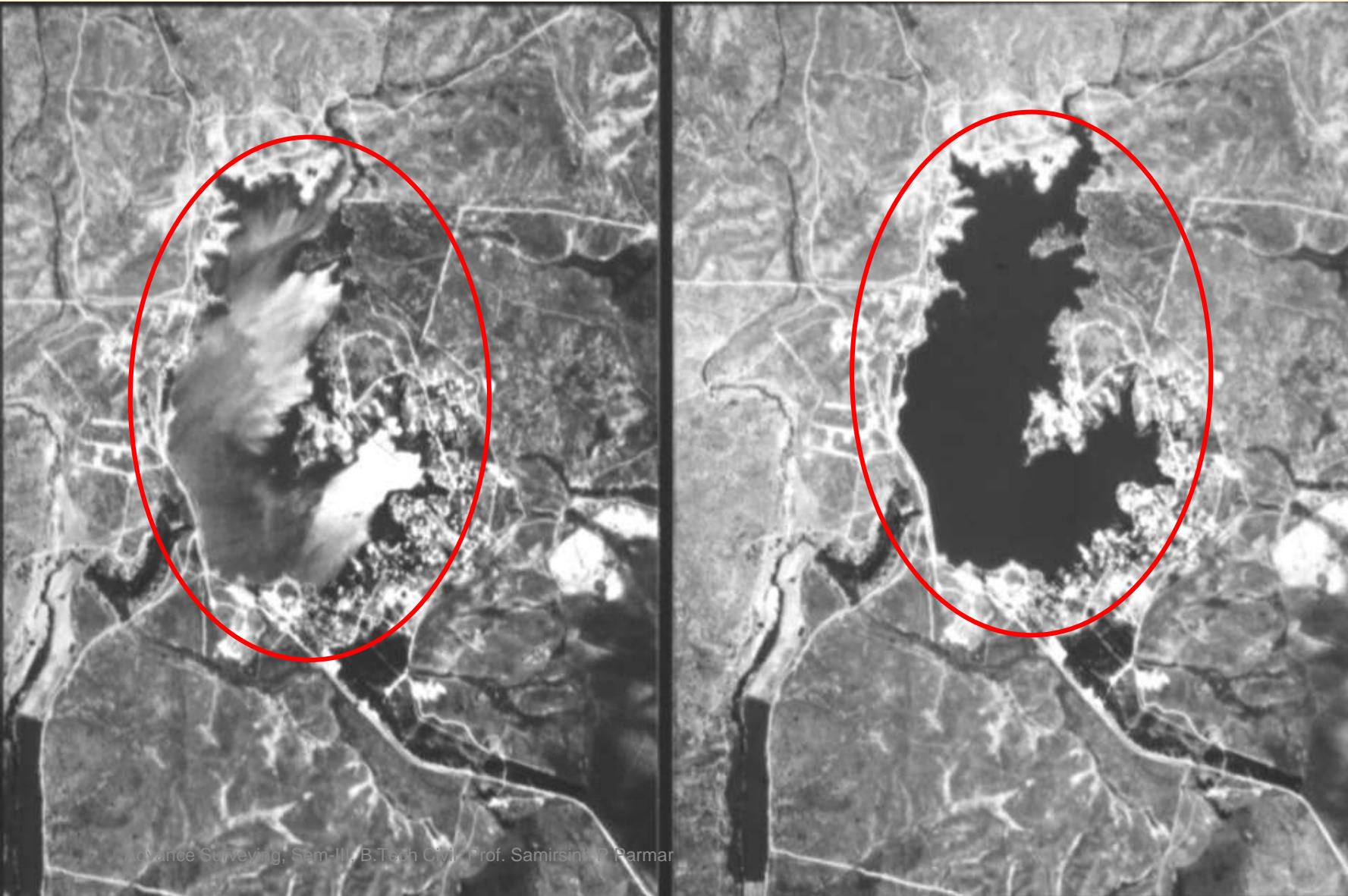
# Remote Sensing Visual Image Interpretation



- A- Green/Fresh Vegetation
- B- Small Plants
- C- Old plants
- D- Bushes/grass fields

# Remote Sensing Visual Image Interpretation

47



# Remote Sensing Visual Image Interpretation



# Remote Sensing Visual Image Interpretation

49



# Remote Sensing Visual Image Interpretation



# Remote Sensing Visual Image Interpretation

51



Full colour

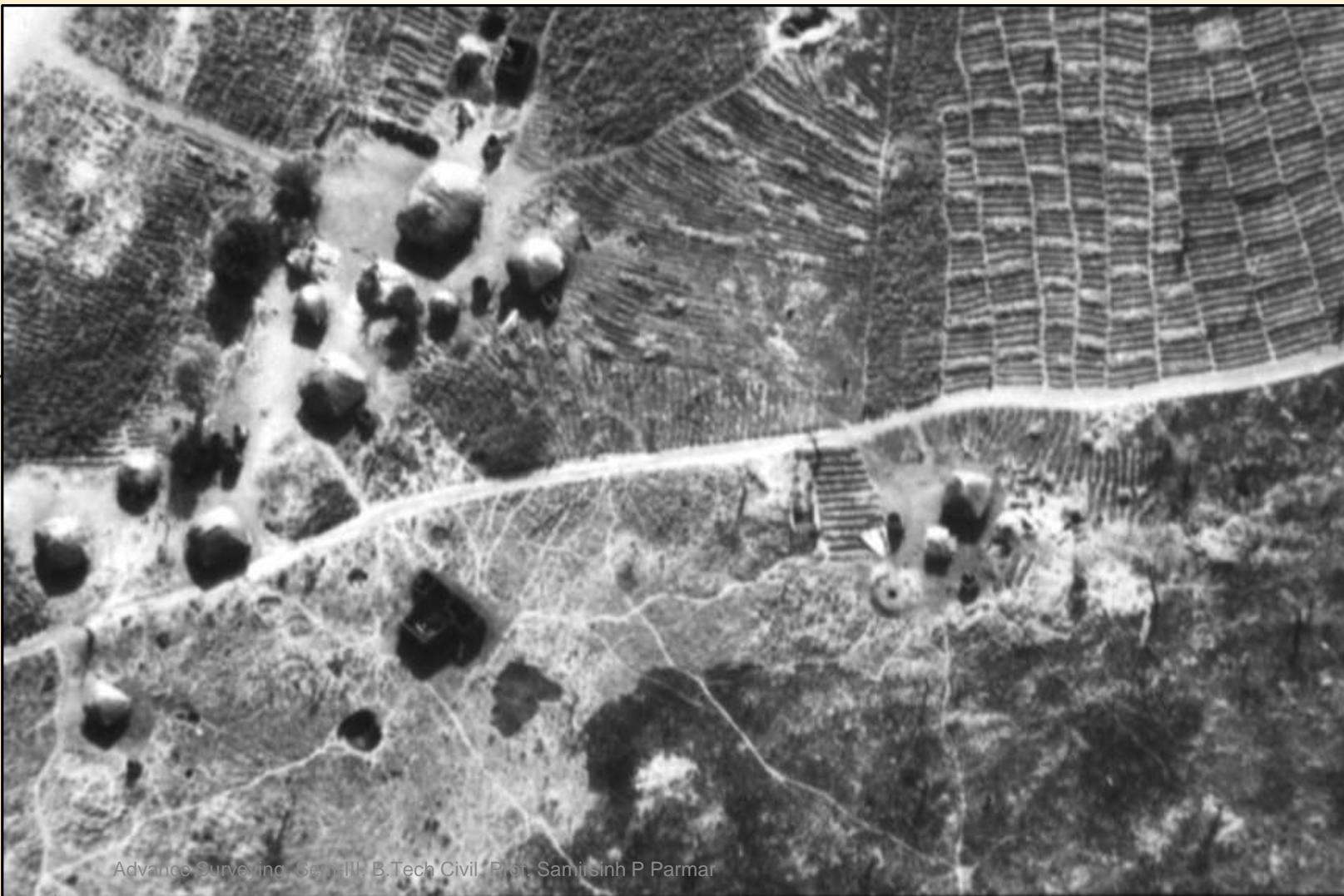


Panchromatic

# Remote Sensing Visual Image Interpretation

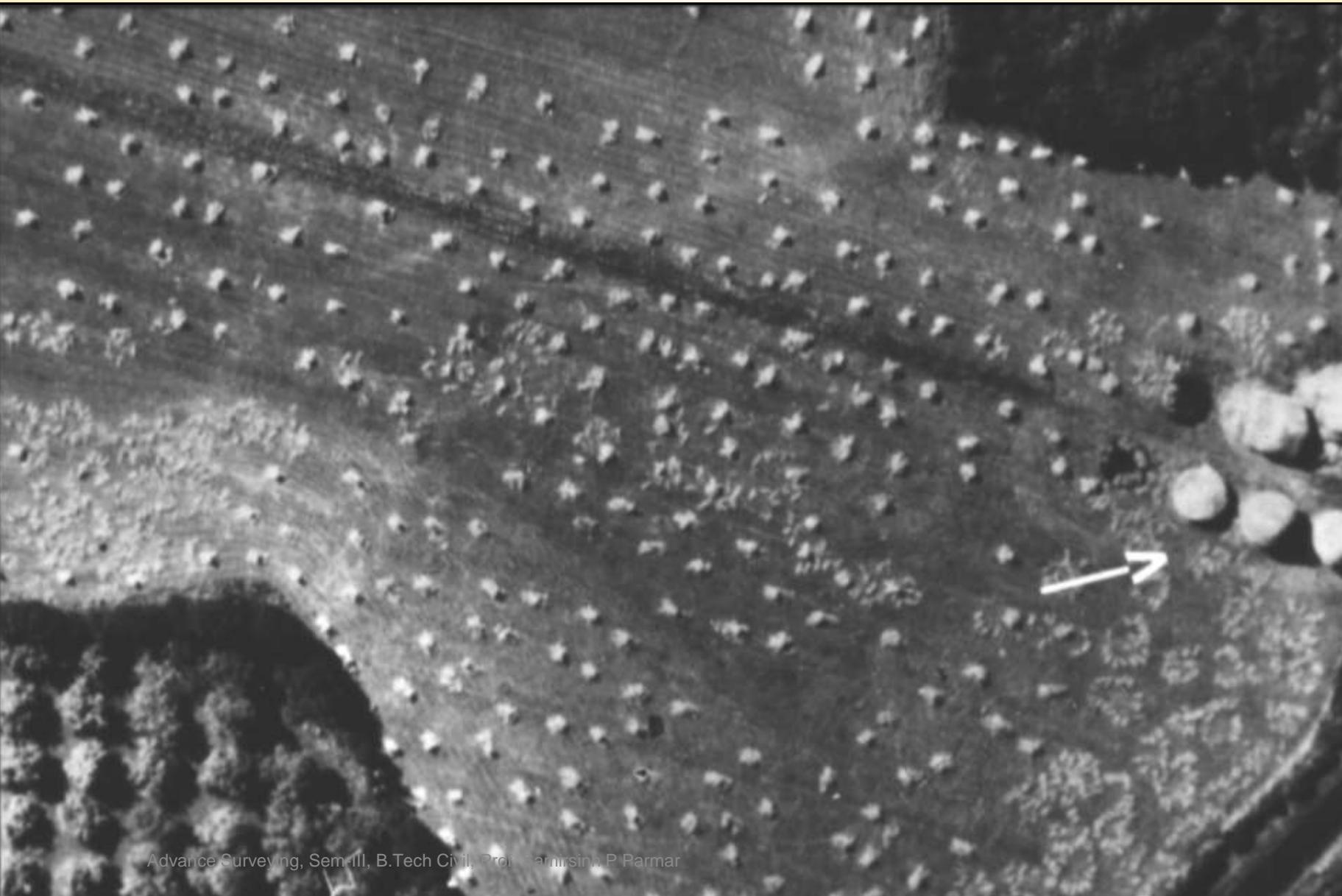
► Shape and size

# Remote Sensing Visual Image Interpretation



# Remote Sensing - Visual Image Interpretation

54



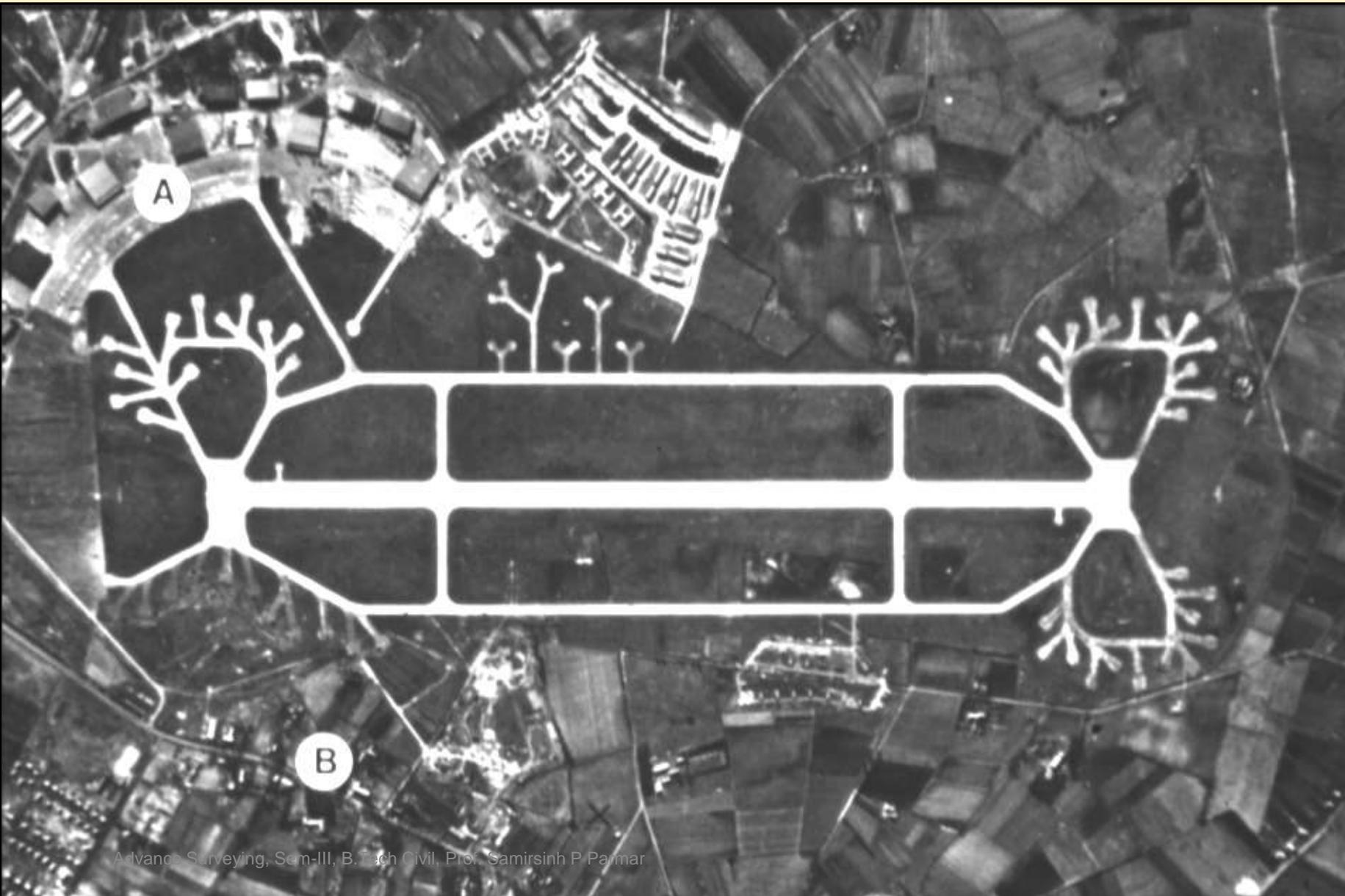
# Remote Sensing Visual Image Interpretation

55



# Remote Sensing Visual Image Interpretation

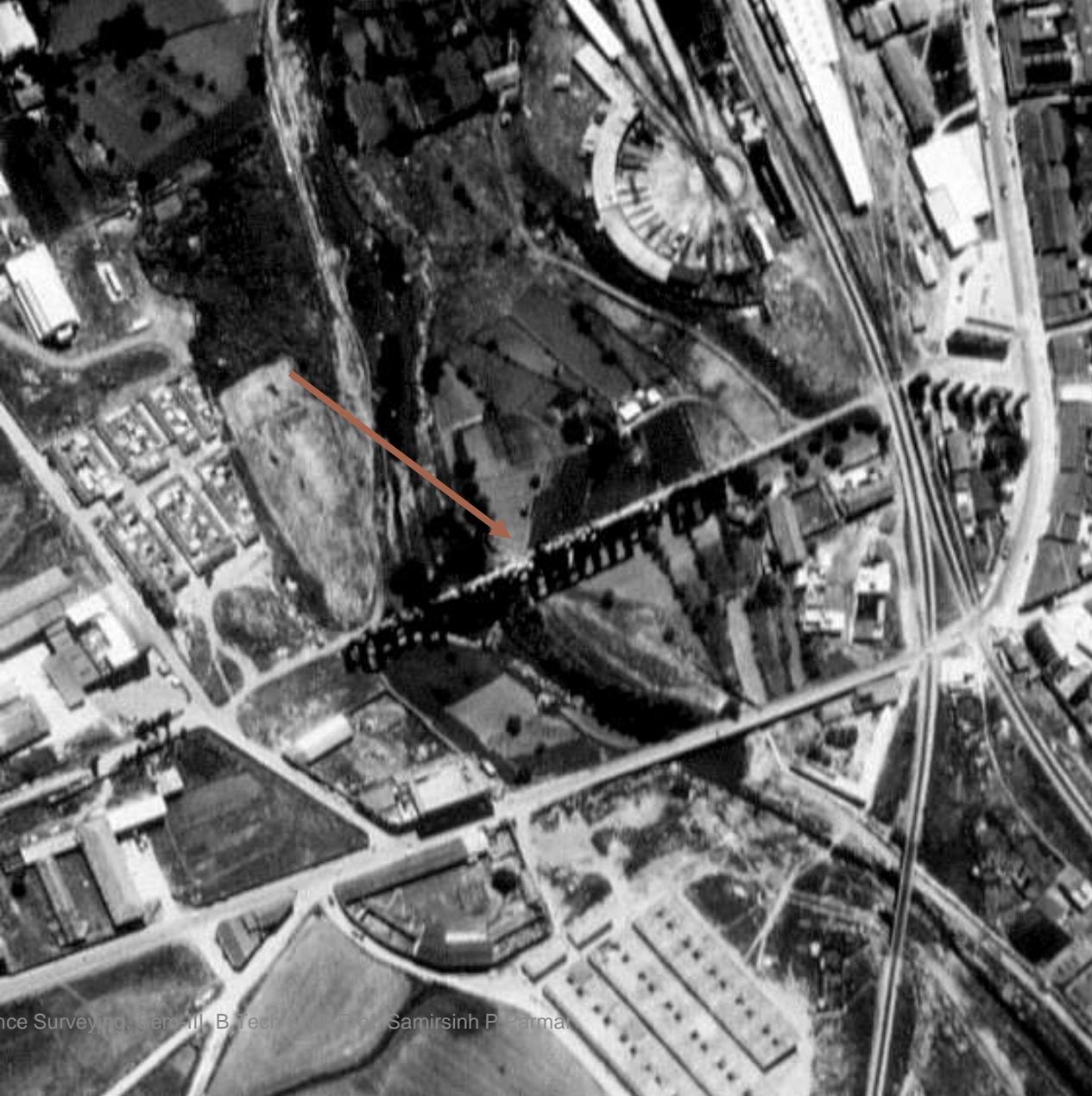
56



## Shadow

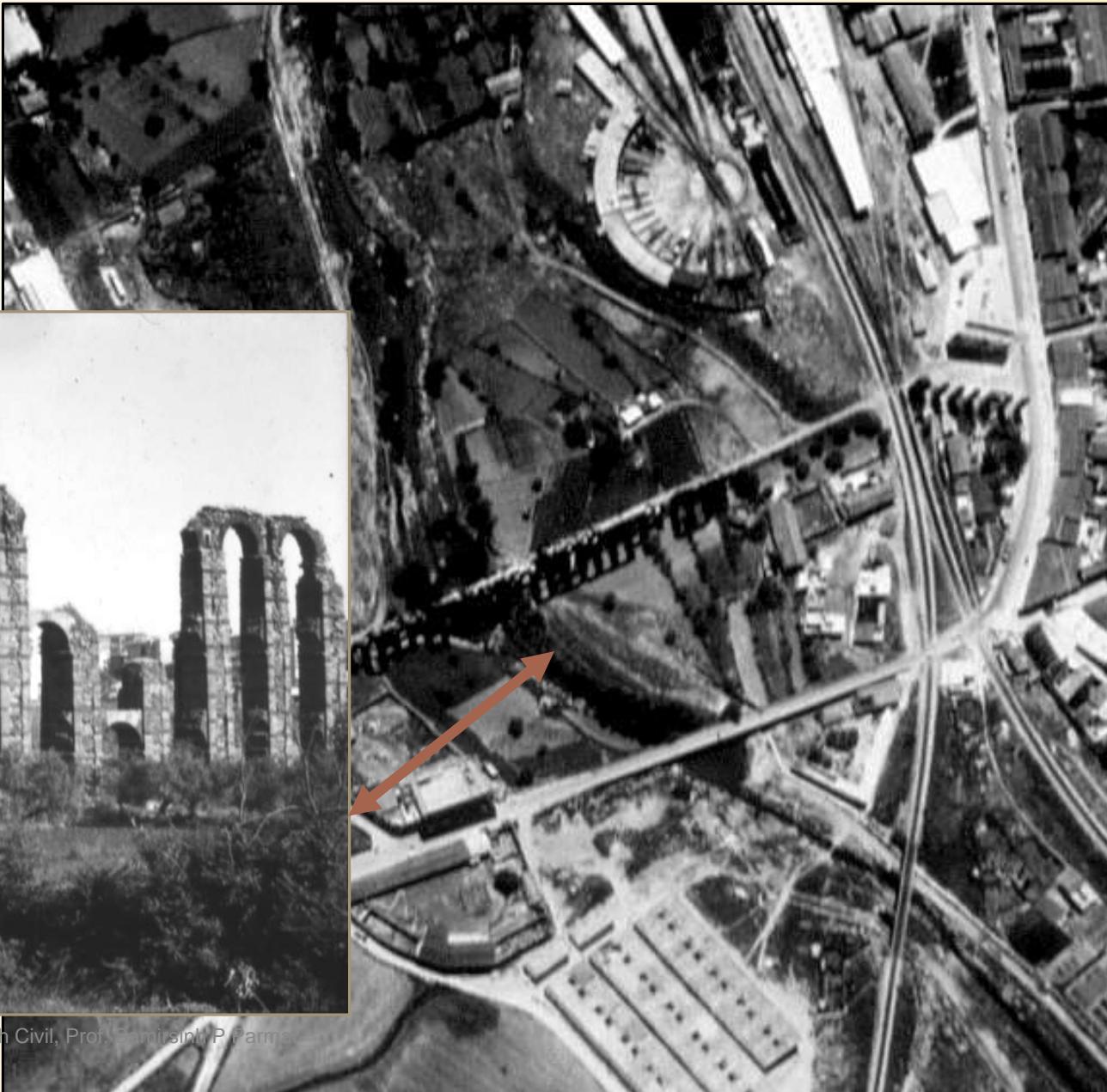
# Remote Sensing Visual Image Interpretation

58



# Remote Sensing - Visual Image Interpretation

59



# Remote Sensing Visual Image Interpretation

60



# Remote Sensing Visual Image Interpretation

61



# Remote Sensing Visual Image Interpretation



# Remote Sensing Visual Image Interpretation

63



# Remote Sensing Visual Image Interpretation

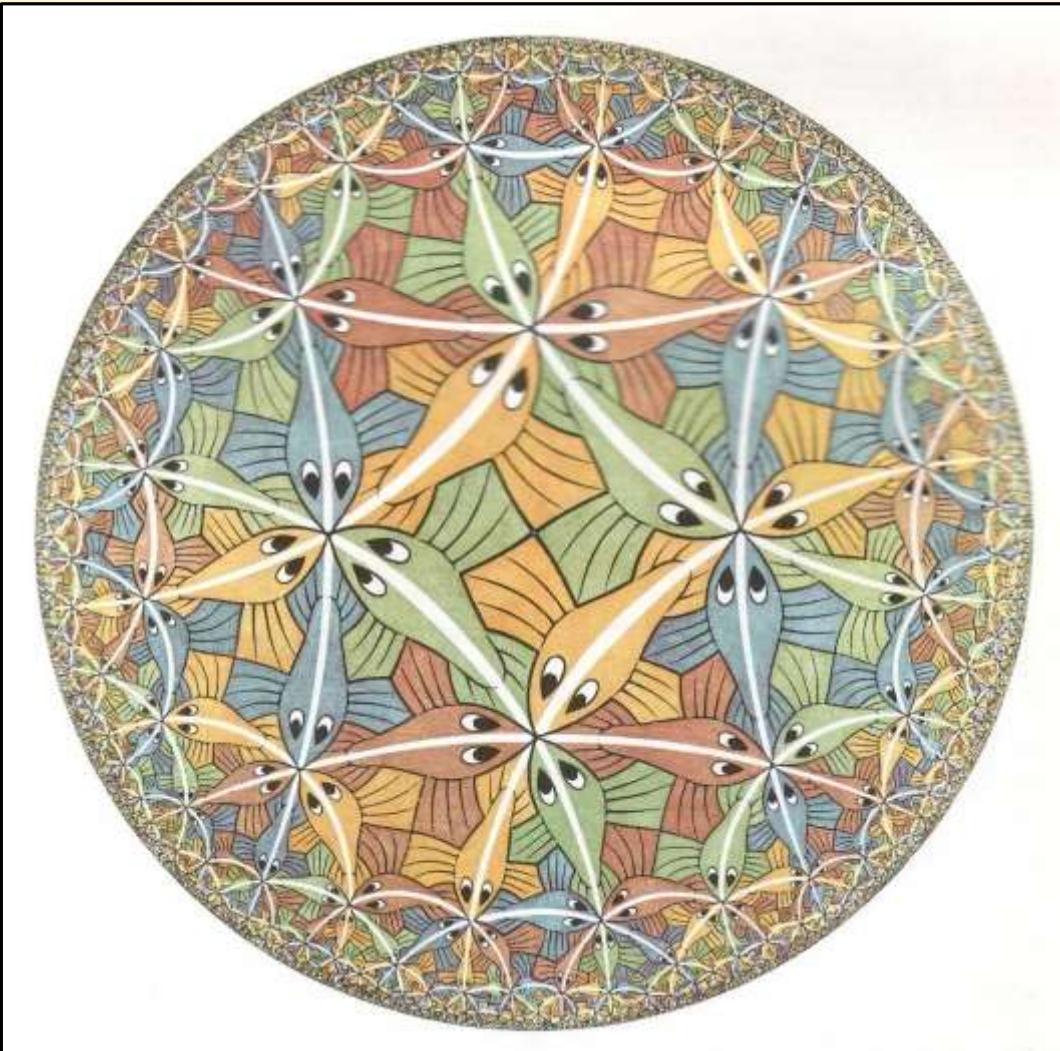
64



## Pattern and Texture

# Remote Sensing Visual Image Interpretation

66



M.C.Esscher

# Remote Sensing Visual Image Interpretation

67



# Remote Sensing Visual Image Interpretation

68



# Remote Sensing Visual Image Interpretation

69



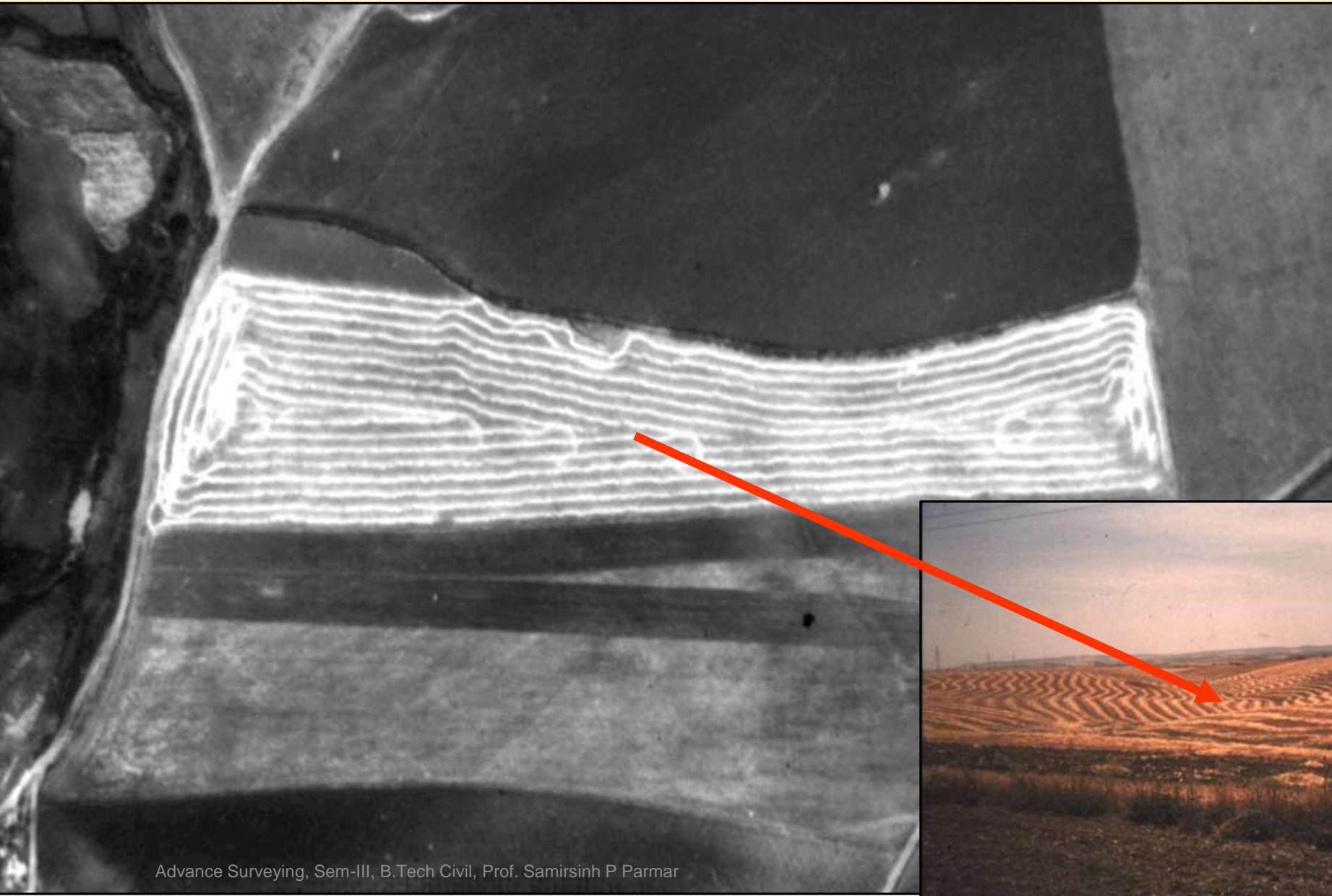
# Remote Sensing Visual Image Interpretation

70



# Remote Sensing Visual Image Interpretation

71



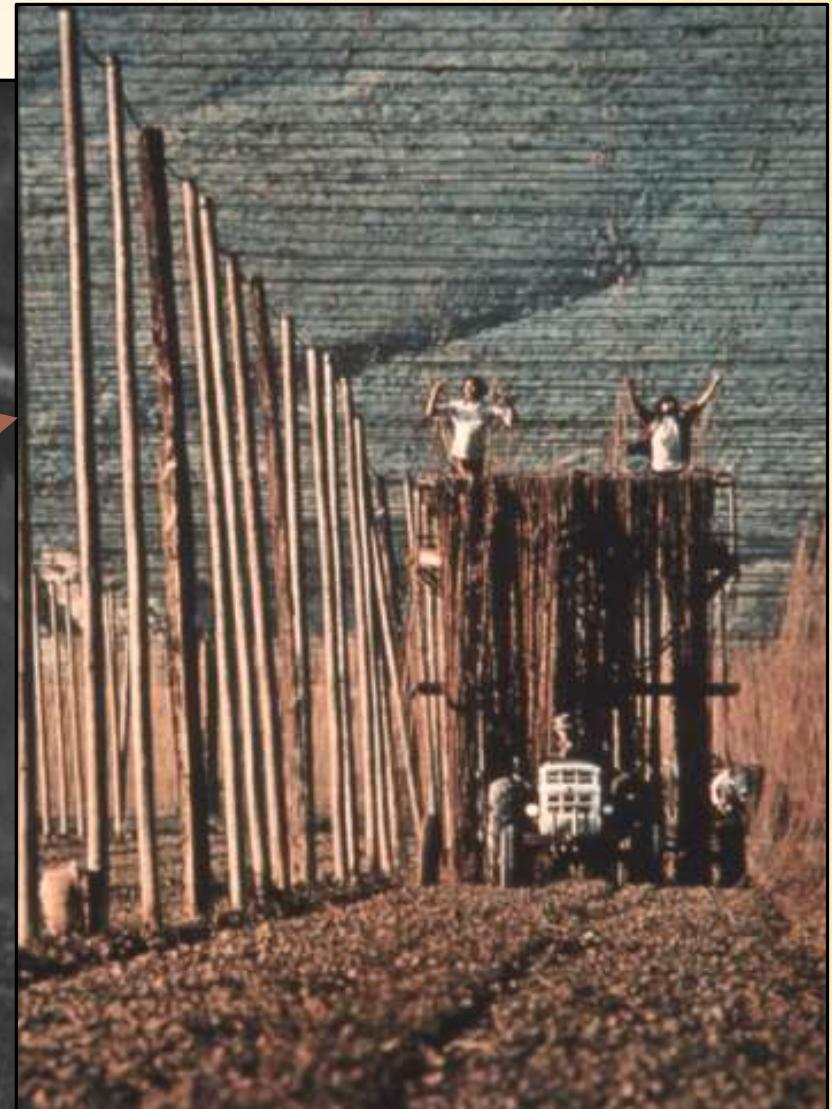
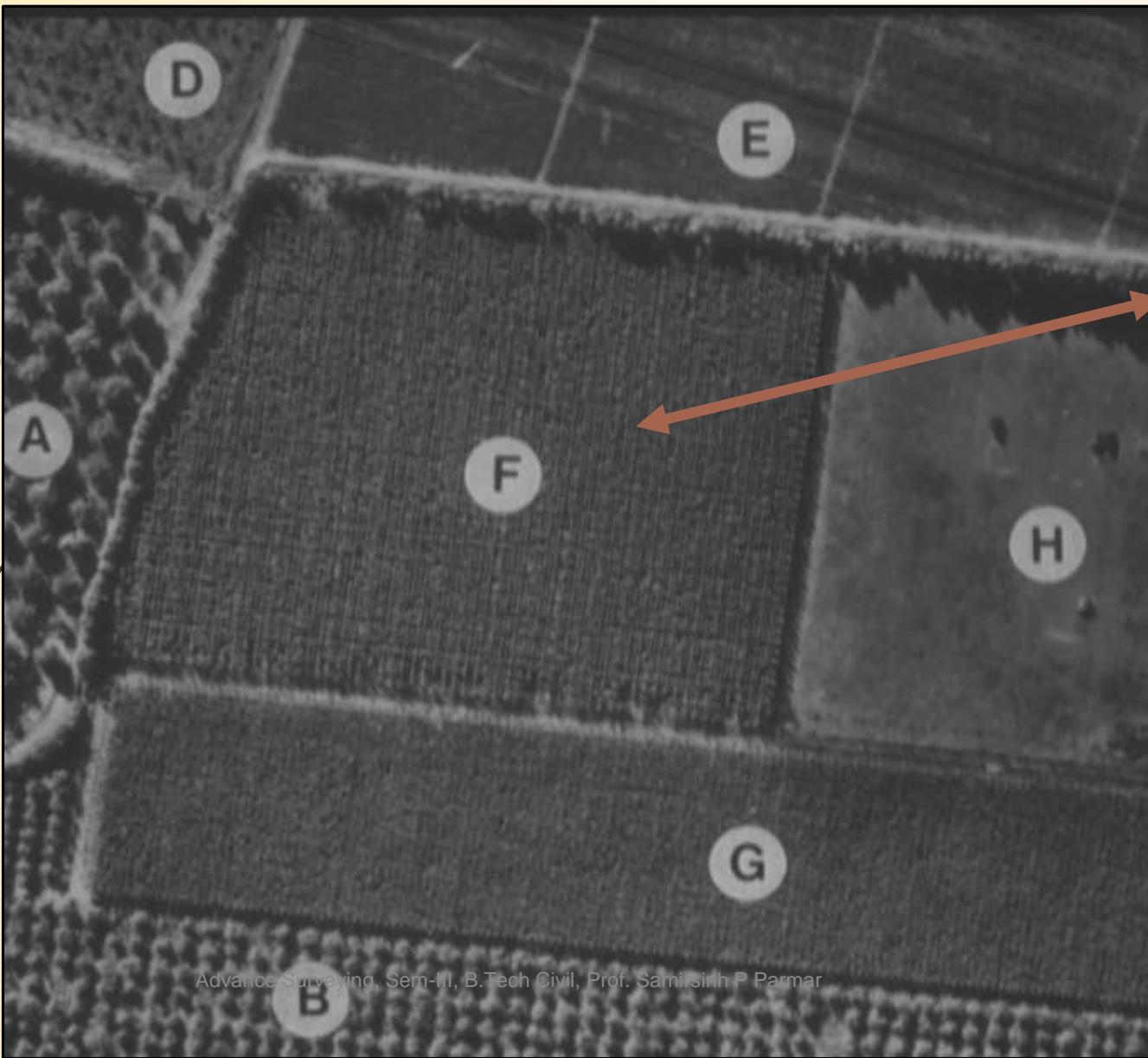
# Remote Sensing Visual Image Interpretation

72



# Remote Sensing Visual Image Interpretation

73



## Remote Sensing Visual Image Interpretation

In addition to the spectral, spatial and stereo image characteristics

## Associated Features

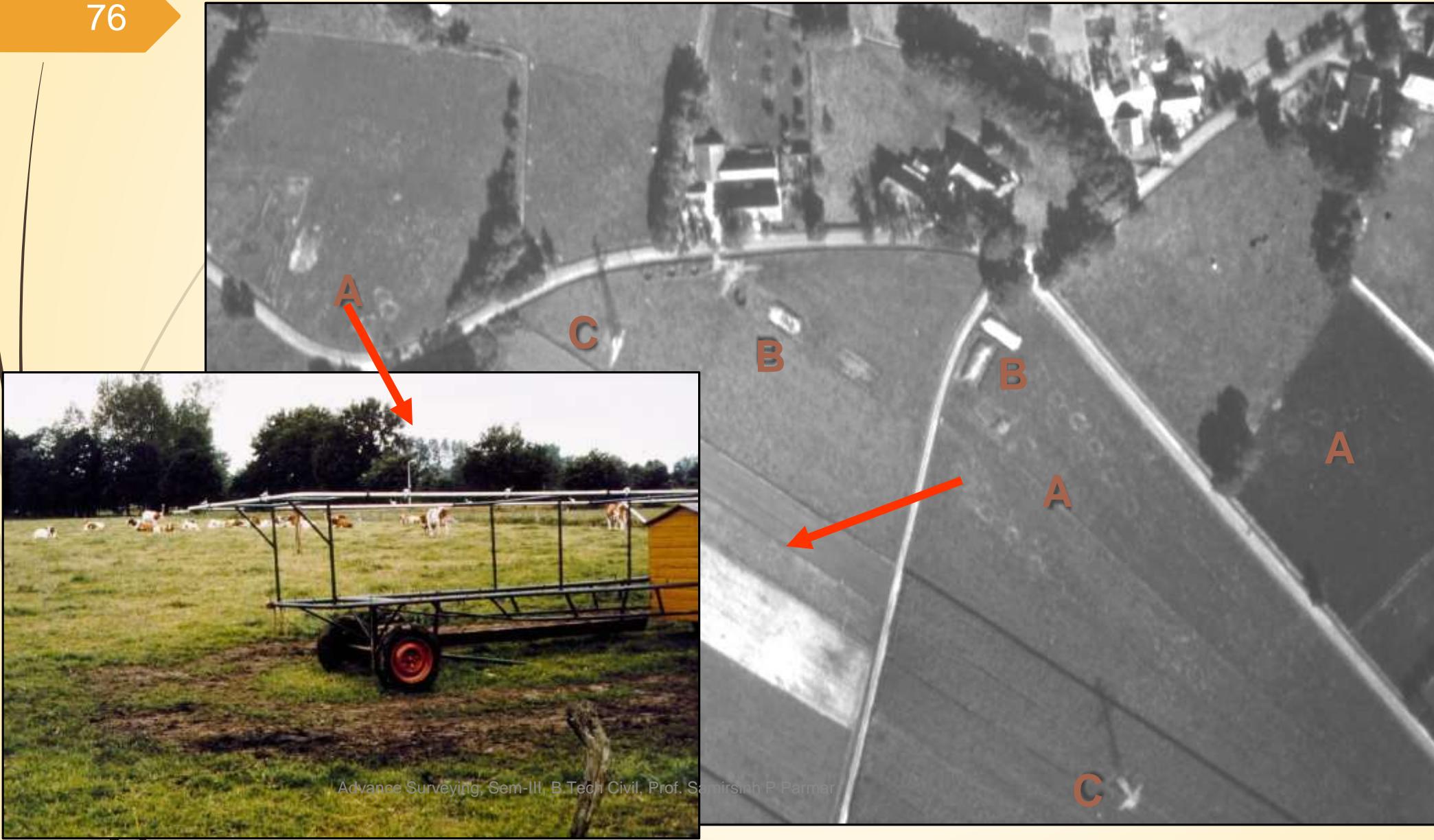
are of importance in image interpretation

# Remote Sensing Visual Image Interpretation



# Remote Sensing Visual Image Interpretation

76



# Remote Sensing Visual Image Interpretation

77

## IMAGE INTERPRETATION

- **Act of examining images to identify objects and judge their significance**
- **Information extraction process from the images**
- **An interpreter is a specialist trained in study of photography or imagery, in addition to his own discipline**
- **Aerial photographs and Remote Sensing images employ electro magnetic energy as the mean of detecting and measuring target characteristics**
- **Involves a considerable amount of subjective judgment**
- **Highly dependent on capability of mind to generalize**
- **Takes place at different levels of complexity**

## Remote Sensing Visual Image Interpretation

**Image interpretation comprises at least three mental acts that may or may not be performed simultaneously:**

- i) Measurement of images of objects**
- ii) Identification of the objects imaged**
- iii) Appropriate use of this information in the solution of the problem**

# Remote Sensing Visual Image Interpretation

## ACTIVITIES OF IMAGE INTERPRETATION (SEQUENCE OF INTERPRETATION)

- 1.Detection**
- 2.Recognition and Identification**
- 3.Analysis**
- 4.Deduction**
- 5.Classification**
- 6.Idealization**
- 7.Convergence of evidence**

# Remote Sensing Visual Image Interpretation

## Image Representation or Interpretation

For facilitating mental process [ procedures] we use some mental representations say rules for knowledge formation in particular domain.

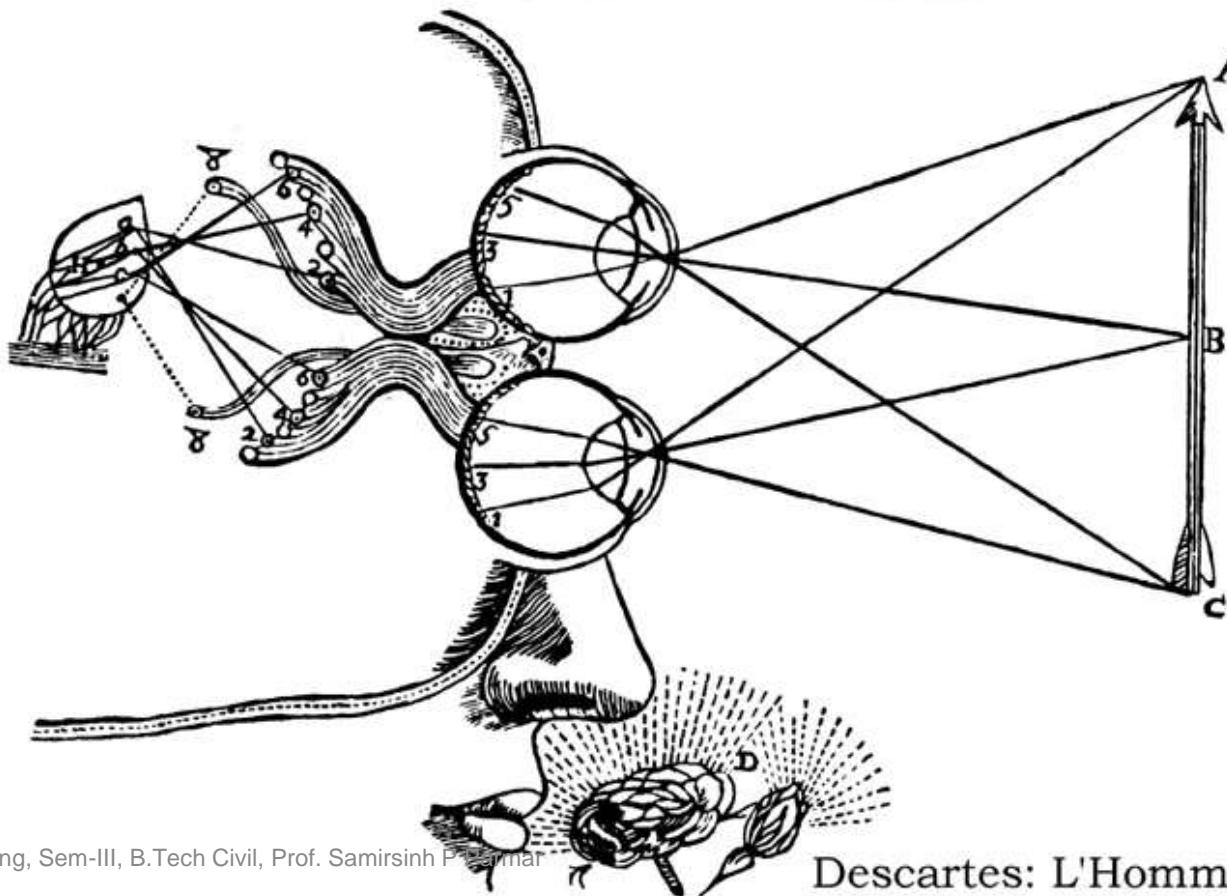
So, what can be the mental representations :

= Logical propositions, Thoughts, Percepts,  
Rules, Concepts, Idea, Impressions,  
Schemas

# Remote Sensing Visual Image Interpretation

**Basic idea**

optical structure → Processing → perception

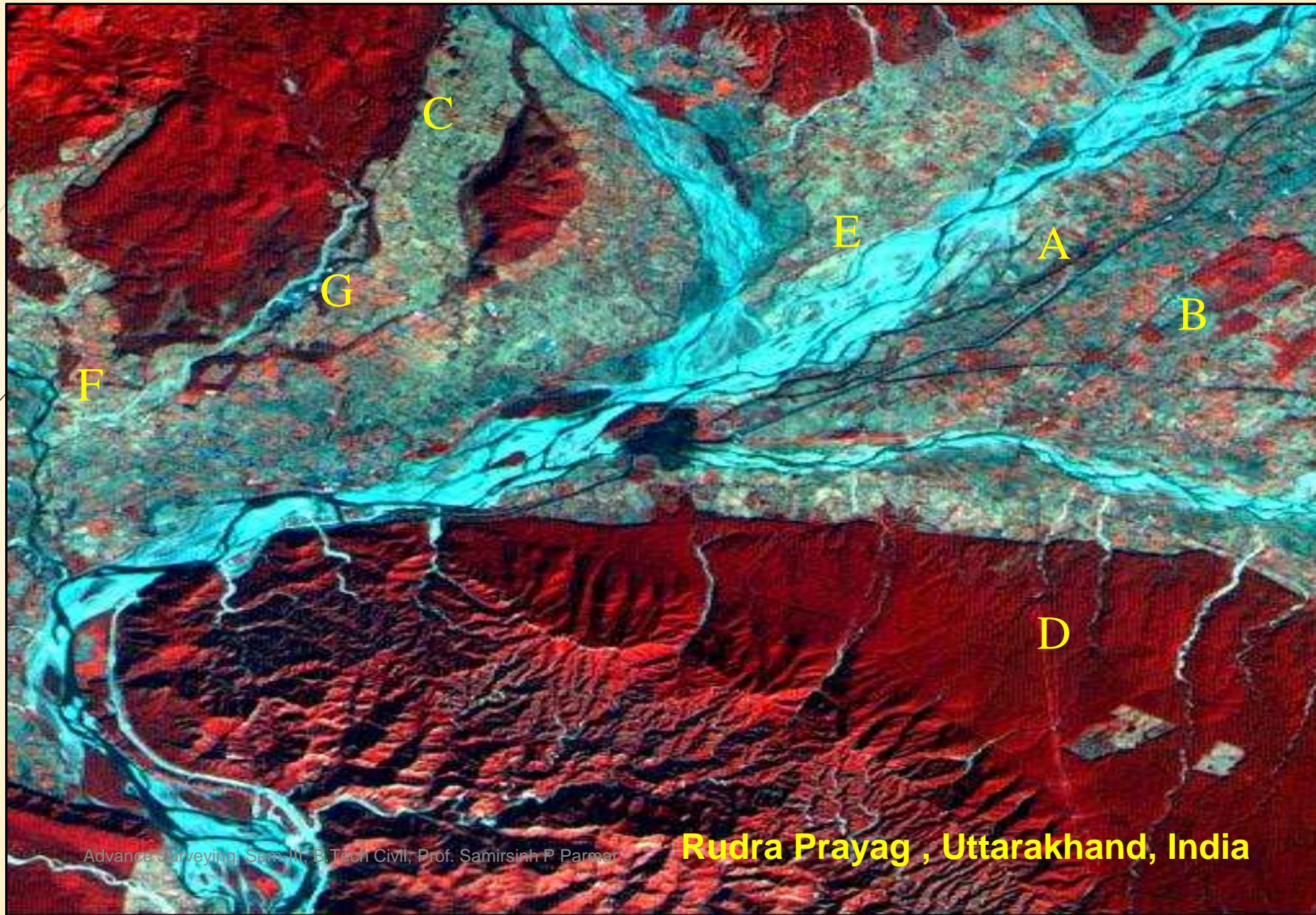


# Remote Sensing Visual Image Interpretation



# Remote Sensing Visual Image Interpretation

83



# Remote Sensing Visual Image Interpretation

84



# Remote Sensing Visual Image Interpretation

IIRS,  
Dehradun



# Remote Sensing Visual Image Interpretation

86

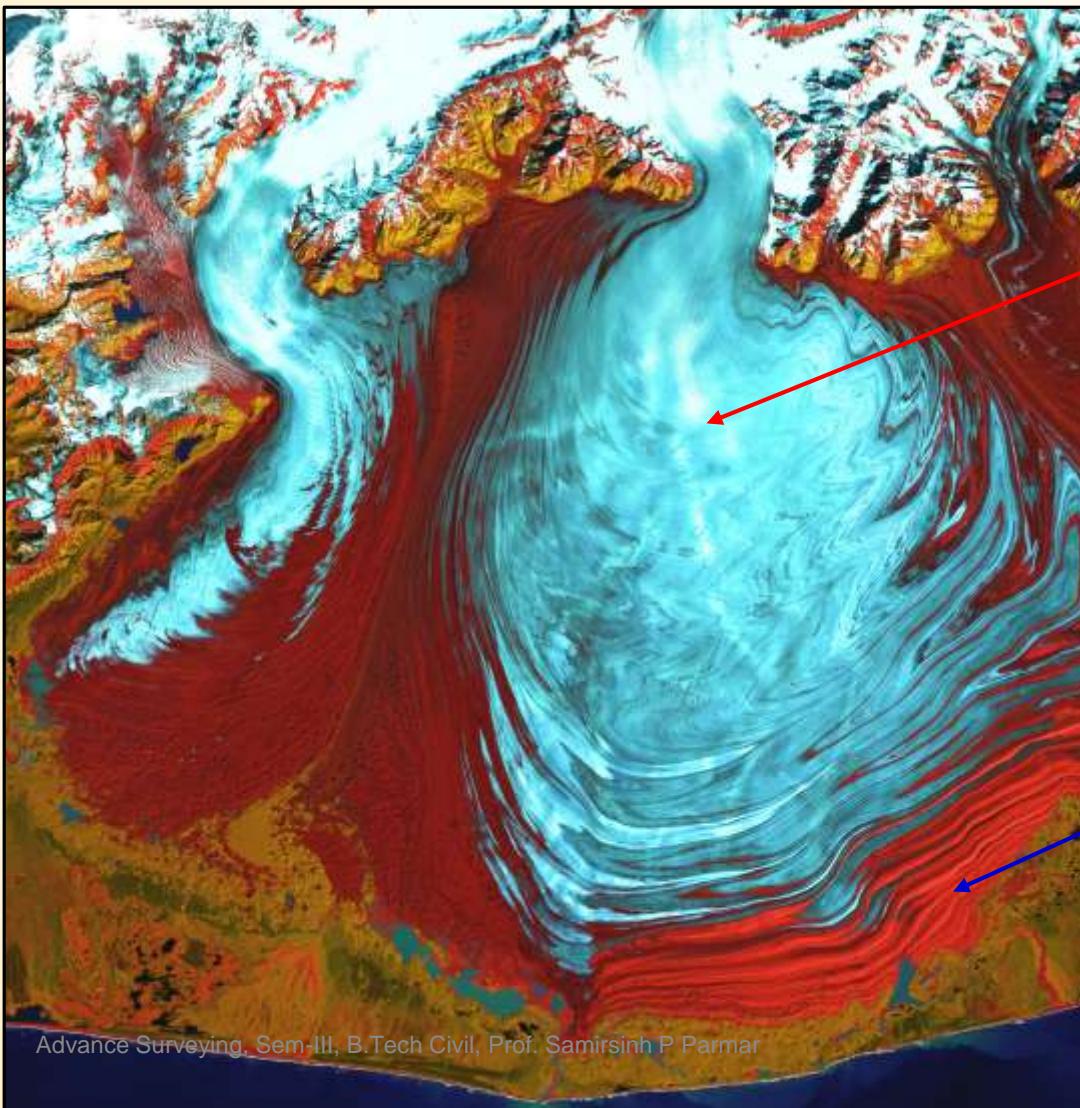
IIRS as seen by IKONOS



Clock Tower



# Remote Sensing Visual Image Interpretation



Lava Flow

Molten Lava Flow



ikonos-vancouver-canada-web

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[www.satimagingcorp.com](http://www.satimagingcorp.com)

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IKONOS (0.8 meter resolution)  
Vancouver, Canada  
October 29, 2002

# Any Question..?

Thank You