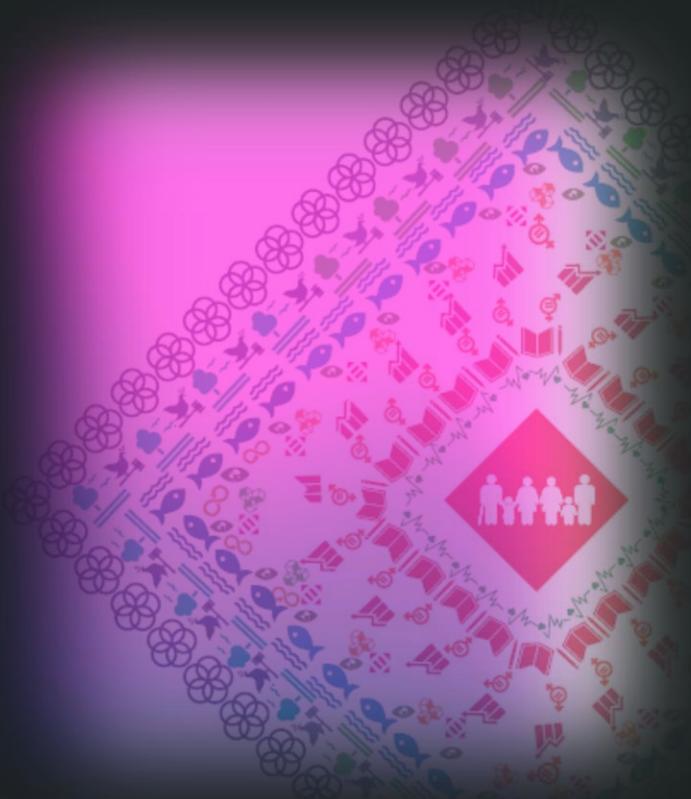


# Remote sensing of sustainability

Shailesh Deshpande

Principal scientist, TRDDC, TCS Research

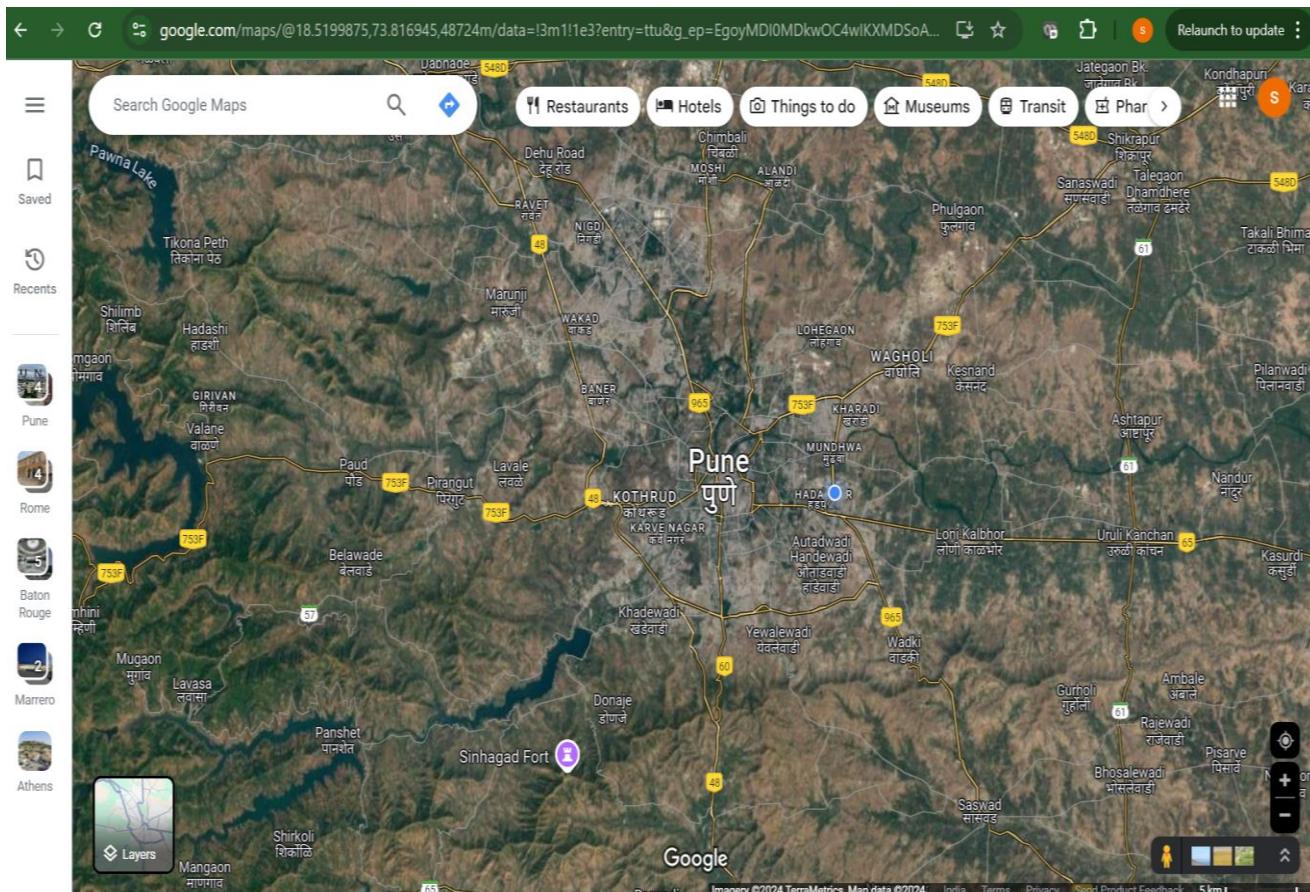
3 June 2025



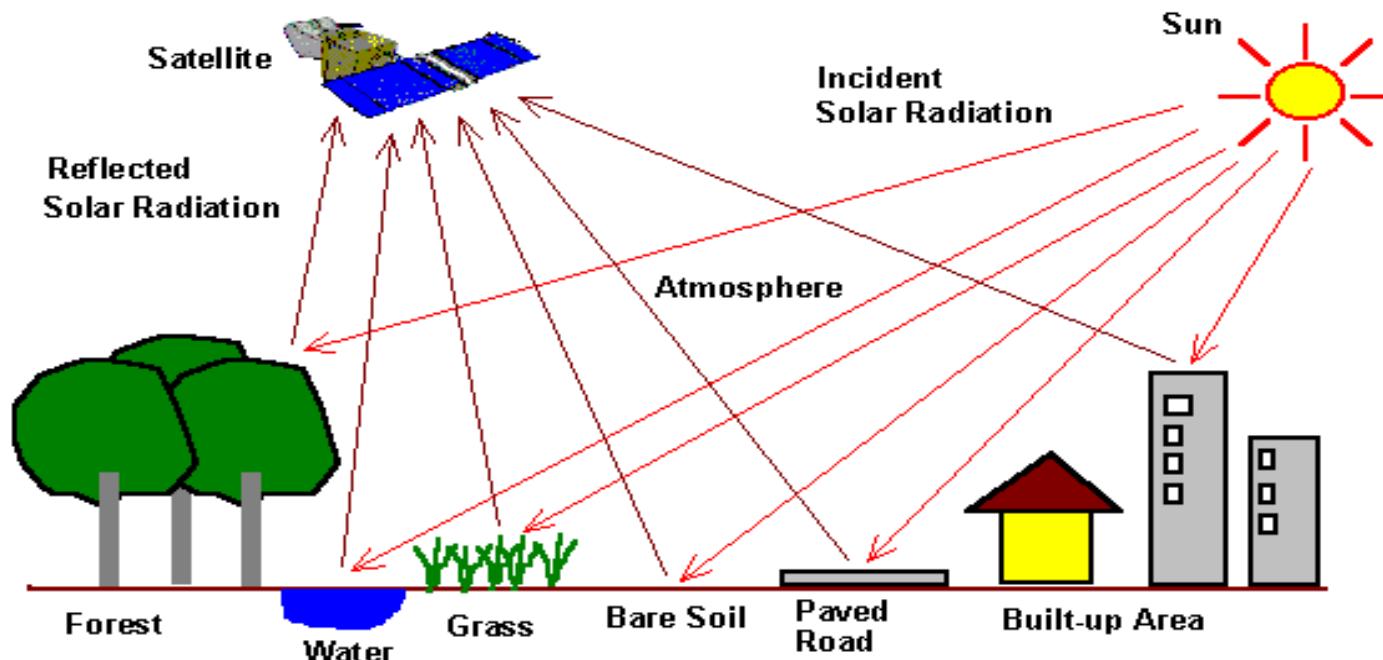
# Outline

- Remote sensing basics
  - Science and art
  - Some basic concepts
  - Special consideration
- Examples
  - Motivating example – Mula river changes, Pune
  - Monitoring of SDG indicators
- Exploration
  - Changes at IITGn campus in last 10 years

# Google map?



# Remote sensing



# A few significant applications

- Agriculture
  - Crop type detection,
  - Water stress, disease detection ...
- Environment-Pollution detection, quantification and monitoring
  - Air pollution, Water pollution
  - Land-use cover,
  - Sea temperature and global warming, Chlorophyll measurement
- Disaster management
  - Prediction and monitoring
  - Damage area assessment

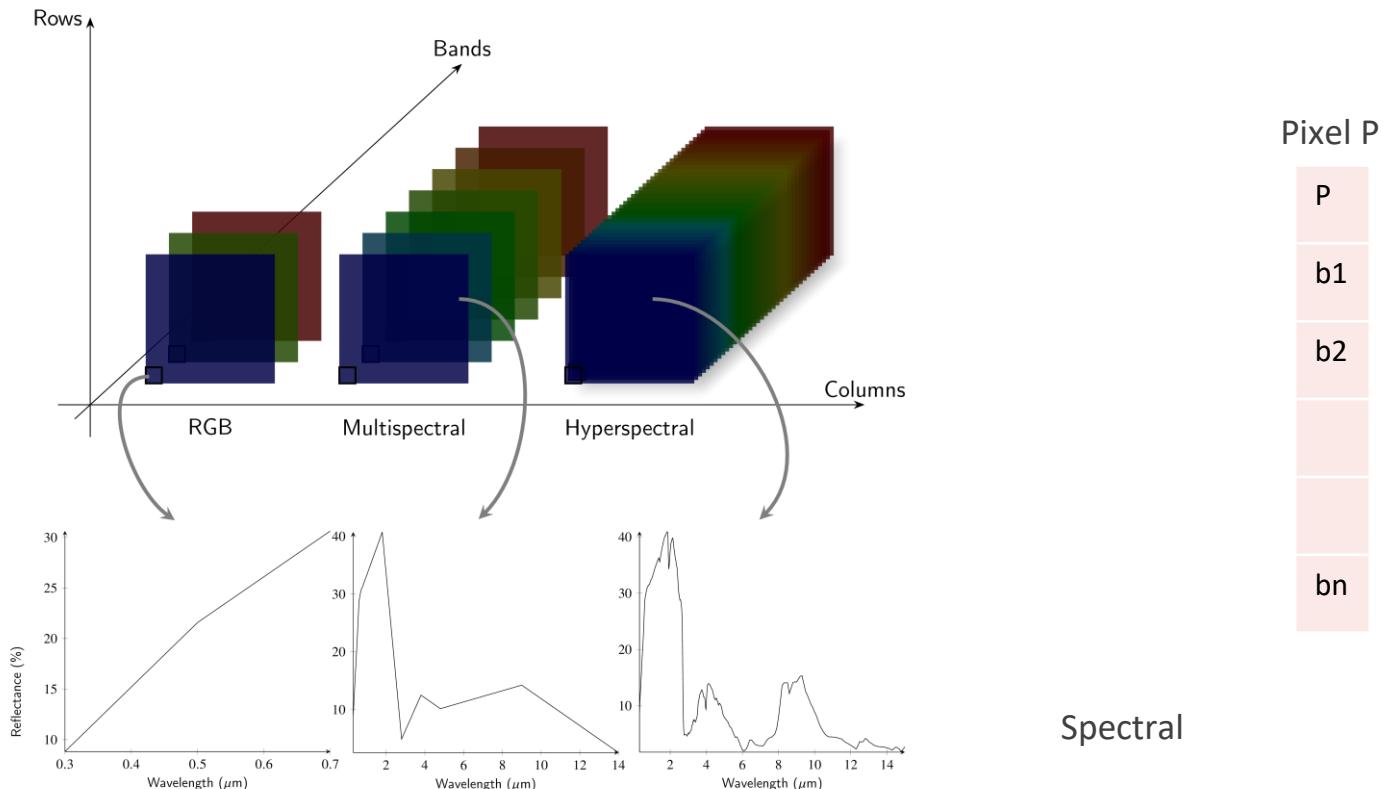
# Some fancy words

- Active vs. passive
  - Energy is not produced by RS platform – energy is produced
  - Photograph - Radar
- Sun-synchronized – geo synchronized
  - Revolving around the earth at height (700-800 km app) – Stationary (35 km)
  - Remote sensing satellite – Weather satellites

# Some fancy words cond.

- Resolution
  - Temporal resolution - revisit period (3-12 days),
  - Spatial resolution – 3 m - few kms,
  - Spectral resolution – narrow – broad (hyper spectral – panchromatic)
- DN, Radiance, Reflectance, Signature
  - Digital number indicating amount of reflected energy
  - Radiance – is actual energy measured in Watt/m<sup>2</sup>
  - Spectral reflectance characteristics of a particular object to be recognized

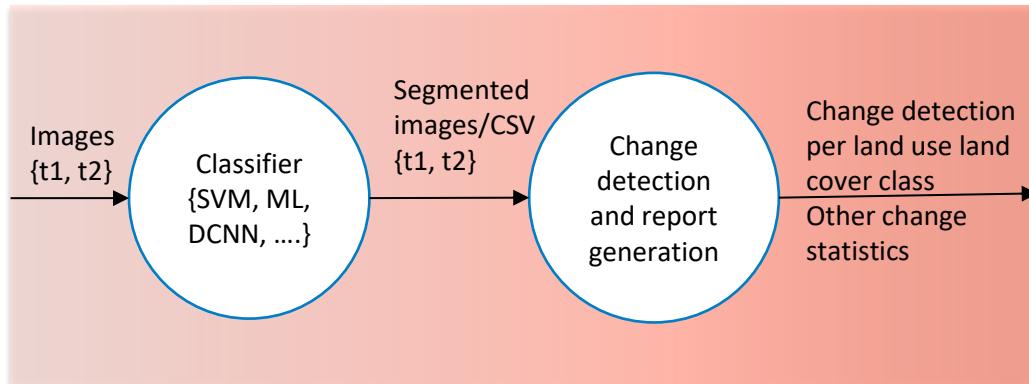
# RGB, Multispectral, hyperspectral



# Remote sensing workflow example

## Spectral

- RGB band values
- FCC
- Multispectral band values



## Spatial

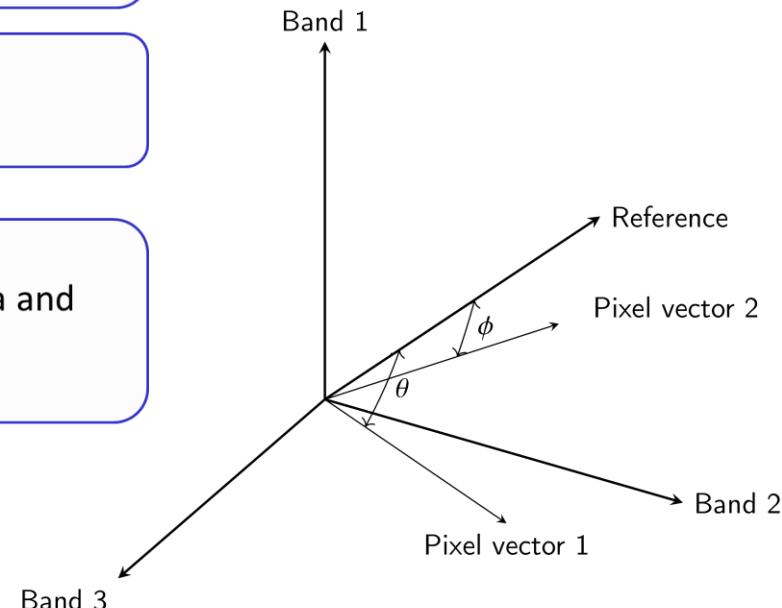
- Texture.
- Edges,
- contours
- Pixel to pixel association

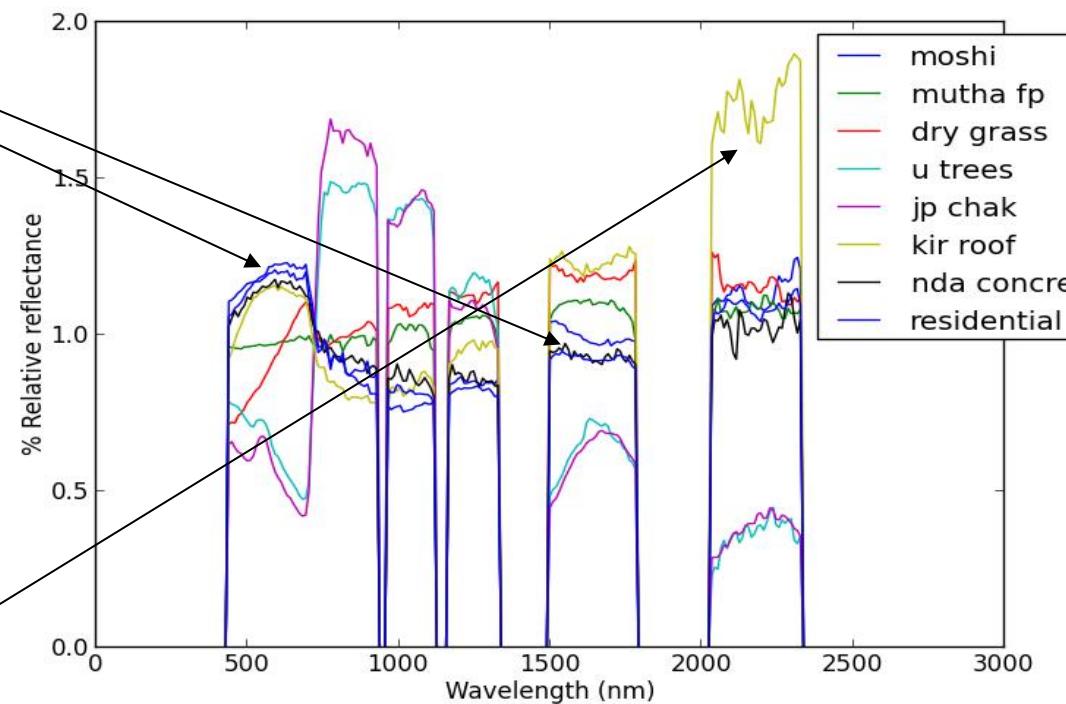


# Processing steps for multispectral/hyperspectral image



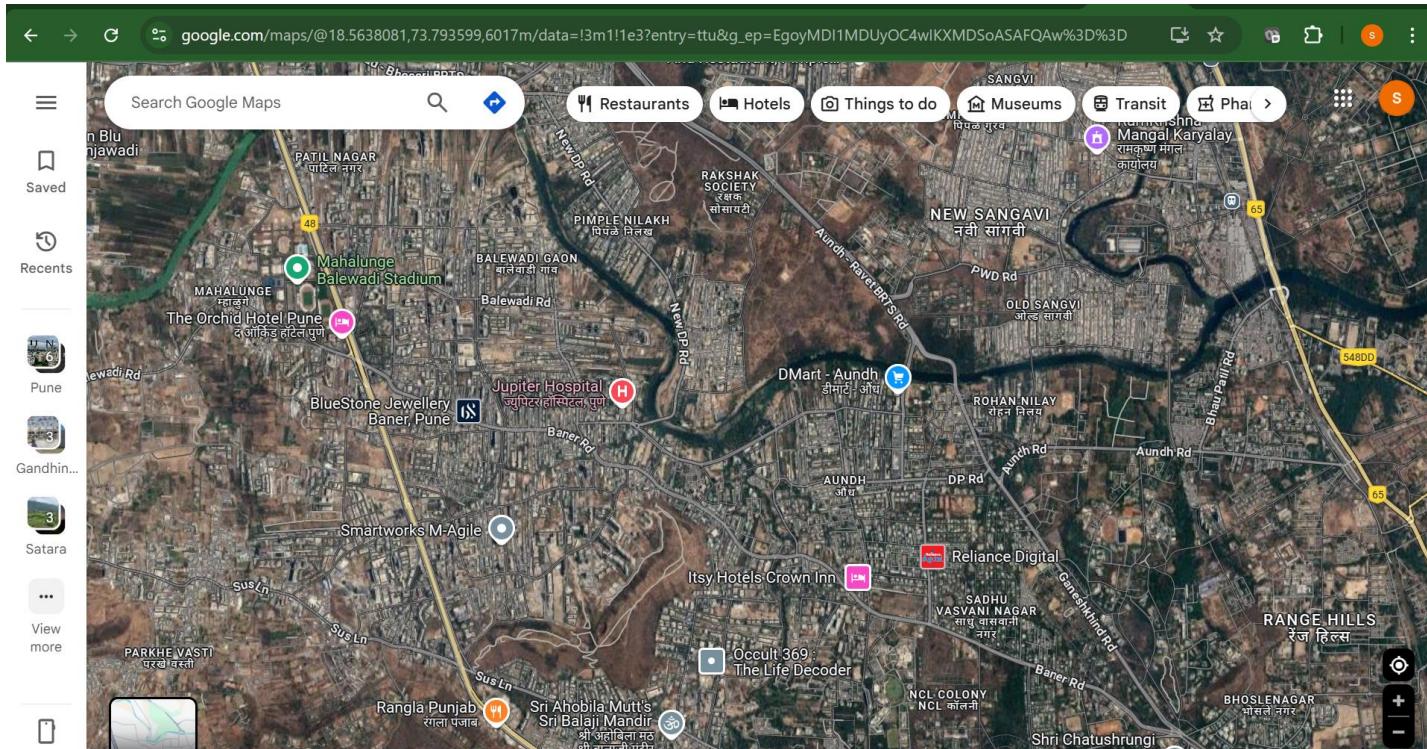
- Remove illumination differences by normalizing each pixel to constant sum
  - Remove haze using improved dark object technique
- 
- Calculate average spectrum
  - Divide each pixel by average spectrum
- 
- Extract reference signatures
  - Calculate similarity between reference spectra and spectrum of each pixel
  - Choosing a class with maximum similarity





# Motivating example

- Changes in the river channel because of beautification project



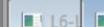
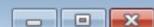


x1

0.333



Zoom out of image. Use shift key to zoom as fast as system can.



L6-LC09\_L1TP\_147047\_2025

Lat-Lo

Lat-Long (Decimal)

L

18.565375 - 18.565106

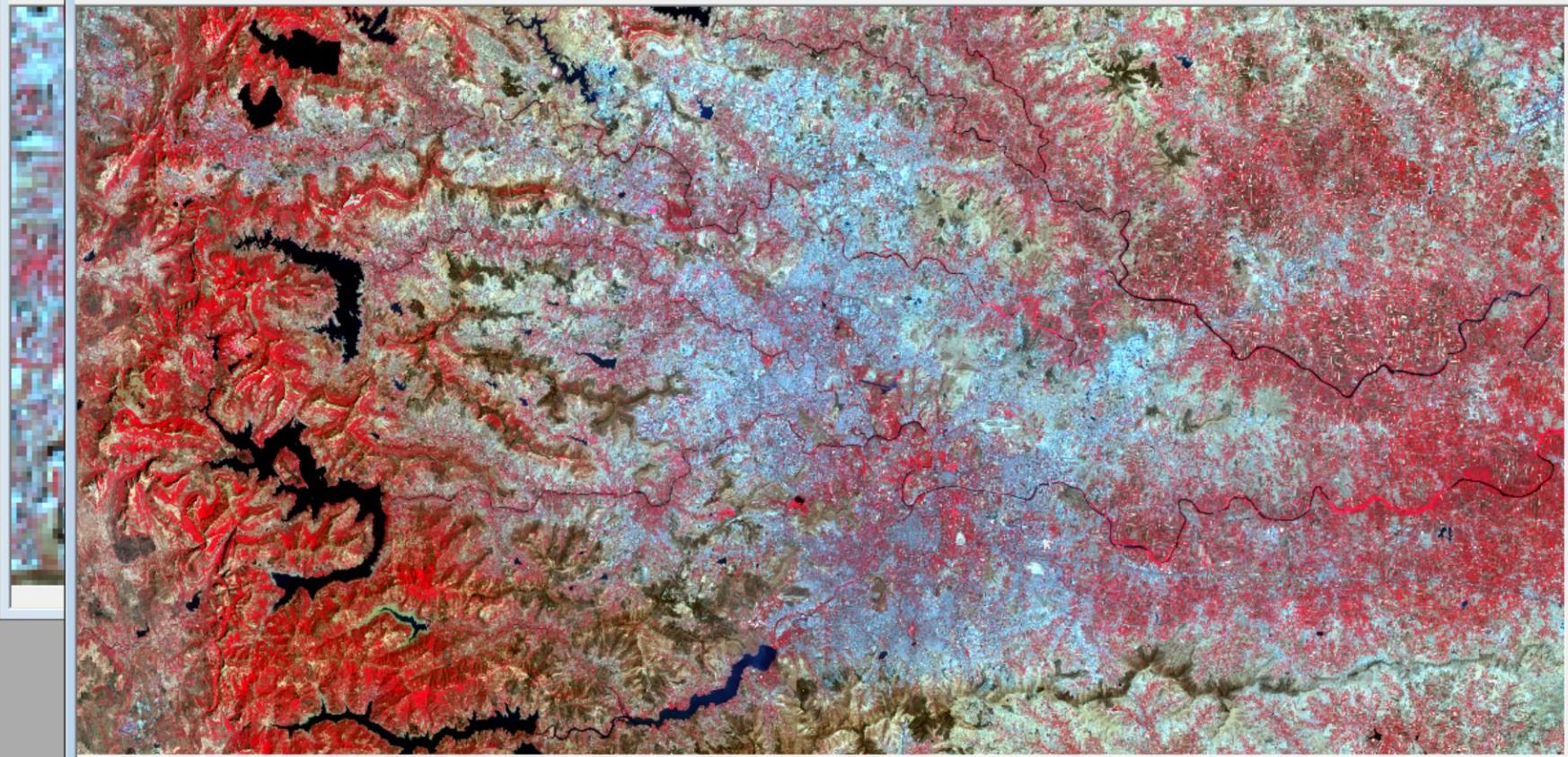
Number pixels

Scale

C

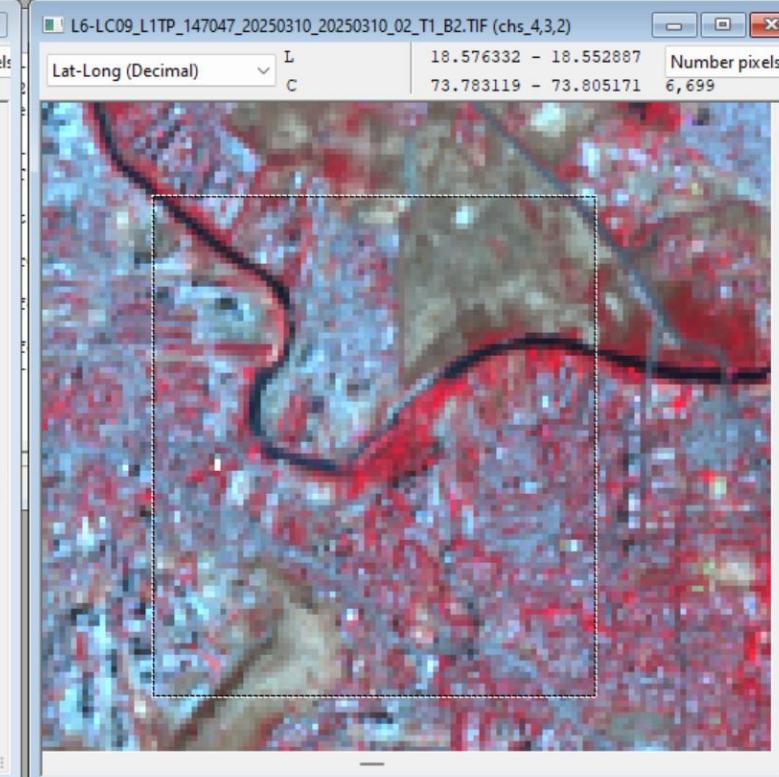
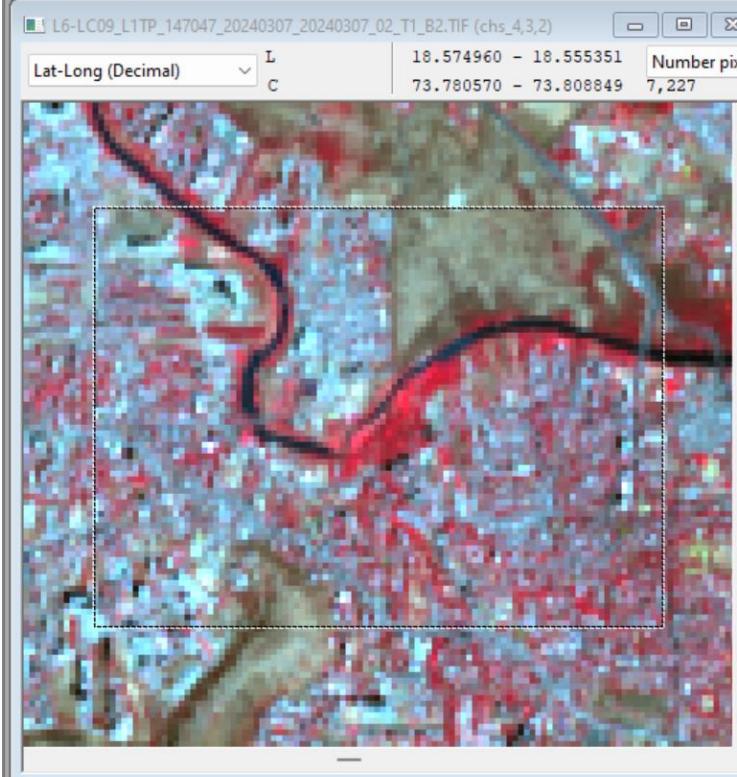
73.807927 - 73.808213

1





x1 x 4.0



Sada

## Mula-Mutha beautification impact

The changes are observed after analyzing the multispectral data from Landsat 2024 and 2025 Mar 10 imagery.

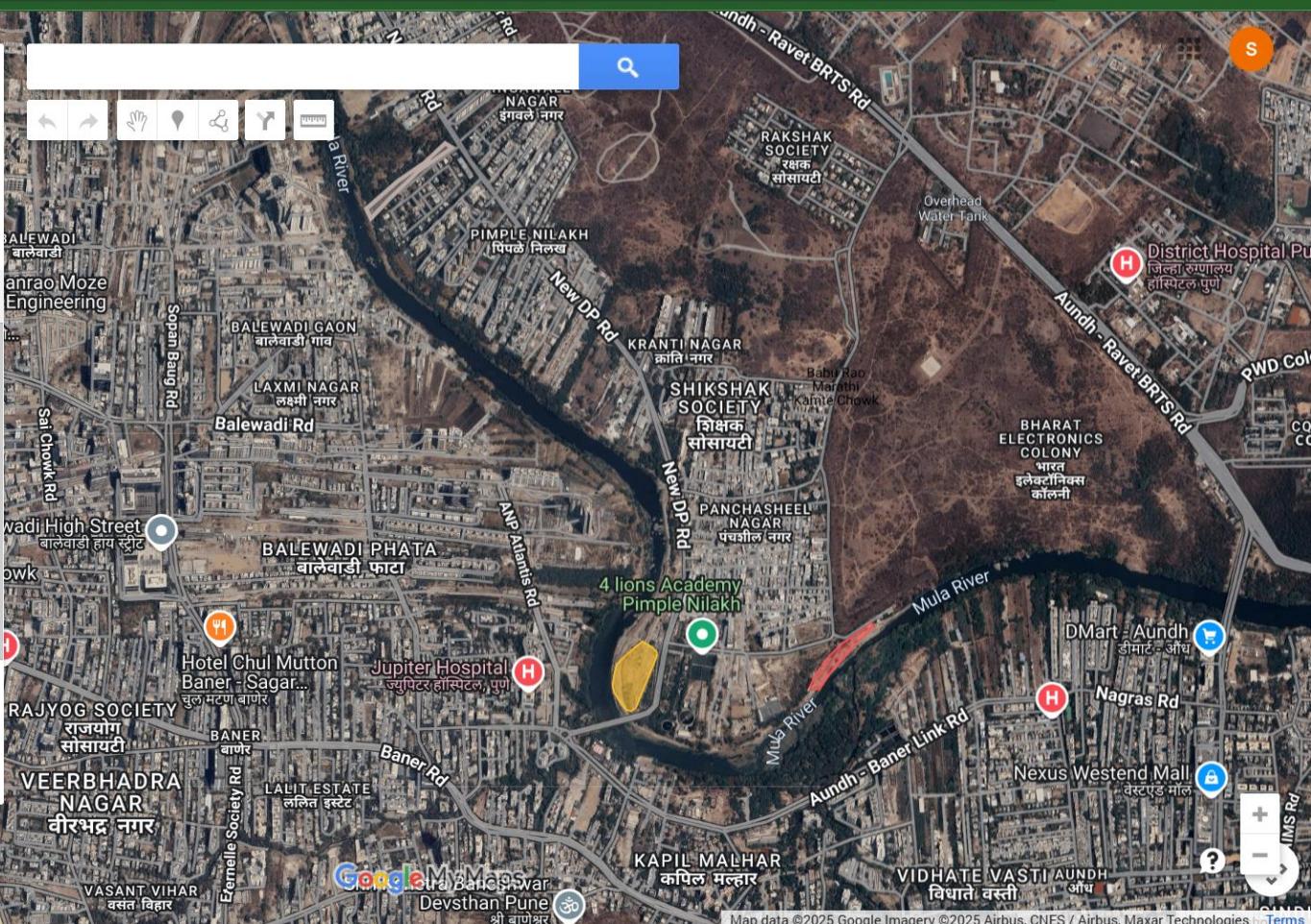
[more](#)

35 views

Last edit was seconds ago

[Add layer](#) [Share](#) [Preview](#) Changes from 2024 in Mula river ...[Individual styles](#)[Ambedkar bridge, East \(RMC...\)](#)[Ambedkar bridge, West](#)[Water edge](#)[Kaspate vasti](#) Untitled layer[Import](#)

Add places to this layer by drawing or importing data. [Learn more](#)

 Untitled layer



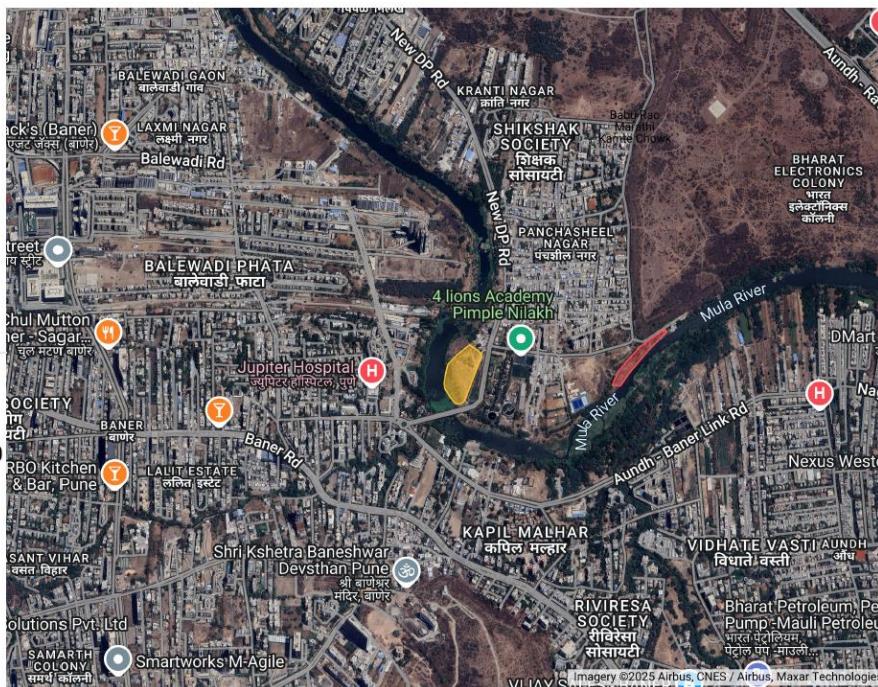
# Mula-Mutha beautification impact

Changes from 2024 in Mula river channel

- Ambedkar bridge, East (RMC end)
- Ambedkar bridge, West
- Water edge
- Kasgate vasti

The changes are observed after analyzing the multispectral data from Landsat 2024 and 2025 Mar 10 imagery.

Prepared by Shailesh Deshpande and Nilesh Hiremath





L6-LC08\_L1TP\_148044\_20250426\_20250429\_02\_T1\_B2.TIF (chs\_4,3,2)

Lat-Long (Decimal)

L 23.207393 23.213052 - 23.212785

Number pixels

Scale

1:56,693

C 72.716016 72.714015 - 72.714313 1



L6-LC08\_L1TP\_148044\_20150501\_20200909\_02\_T1\_B2.TIF (chs\_4,3,2)

Lat-Long (Decimal)

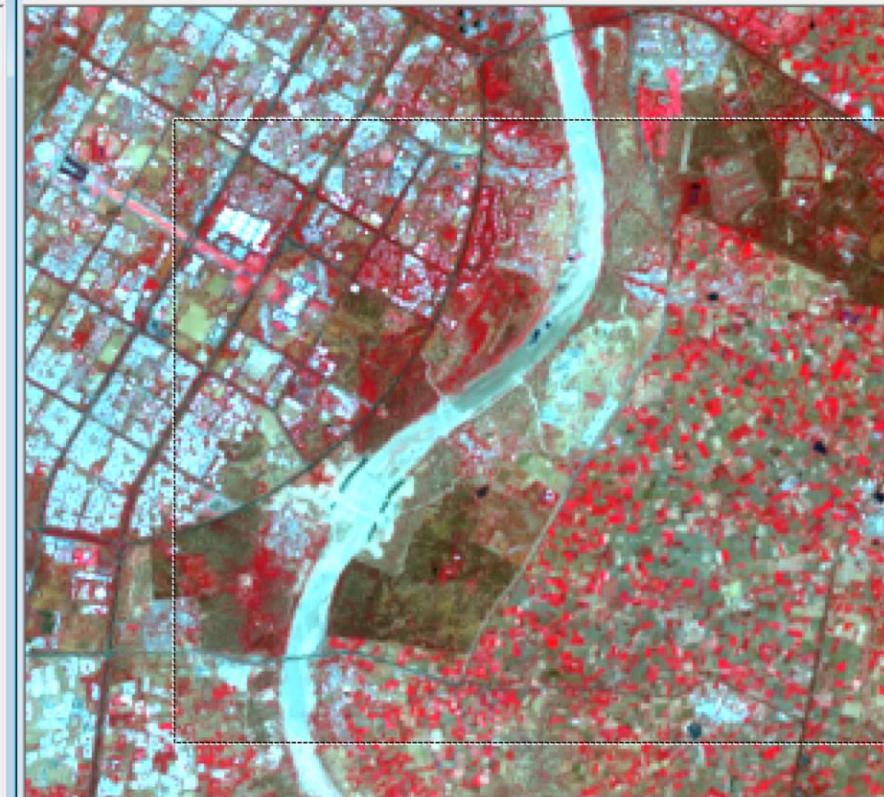
L 23.236125 - 23.178545

Number pixels

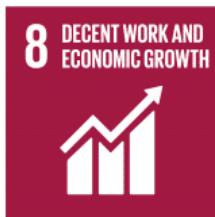
Scale

1:56,693

C 72.644162 - 72.725149 59,241

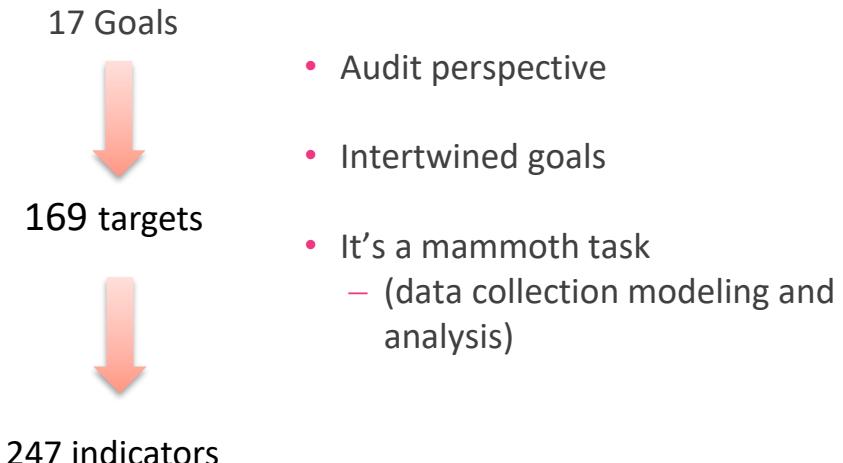


# SDG goals

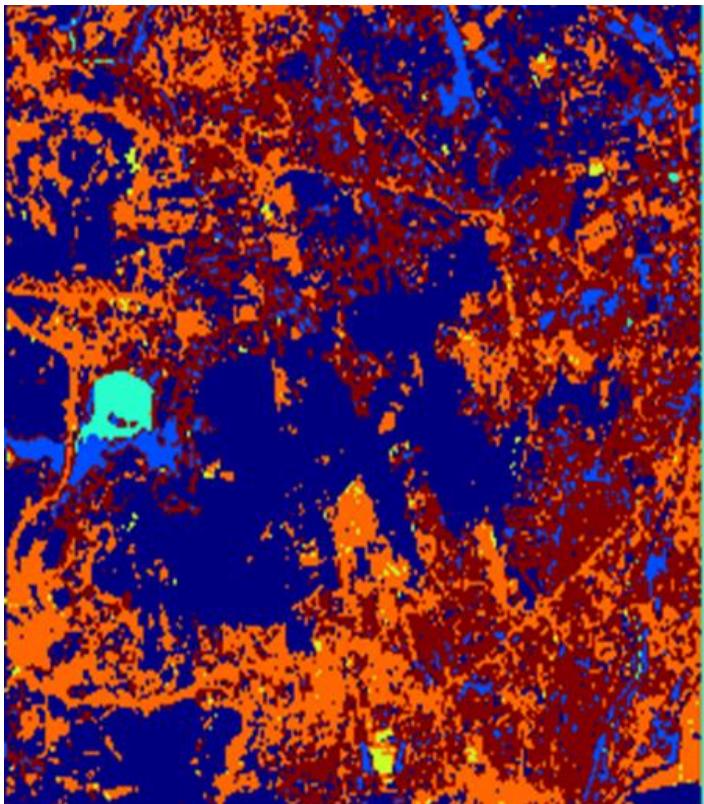


# Indicator framework and its implication

- 1.5 By 2030, build the resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations and reduce their exposure and vulnerability to climate-related extreme events and other economic, social and environmental shocks and disasters
  - 1.5.2 Direct economic loss attributed to disasters in relation to global gross domestic product (GDP)



# Land use land cover analysis



Thematic classification using hyperspectral signatures of different materials and mixture signatures

## Legend

- Residential - upmarket
- Residential
- Industrial
- Soil
- Trees
- Water

11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES



12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

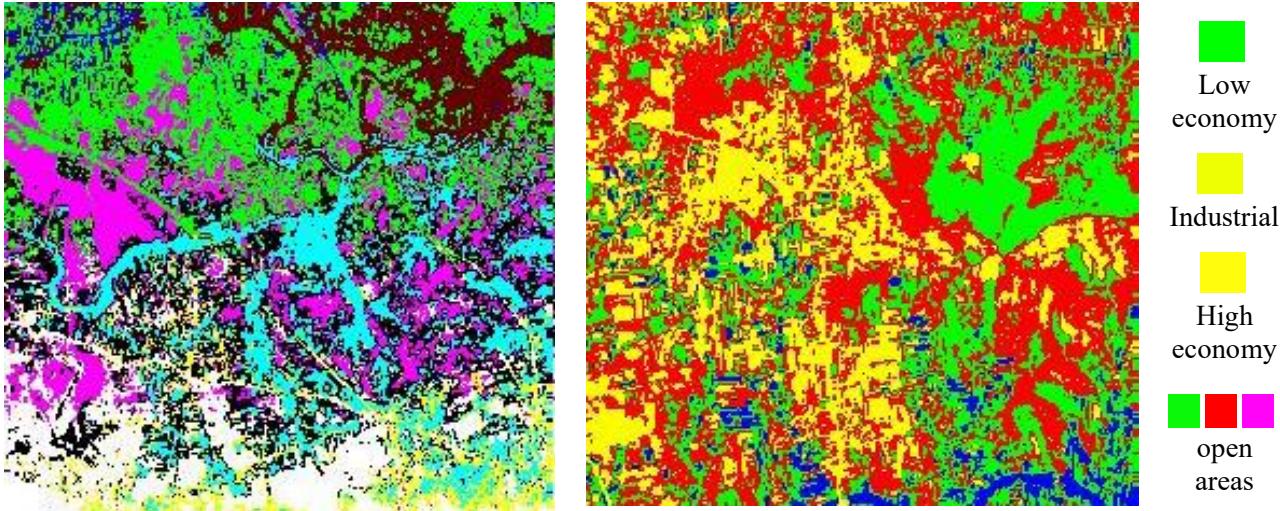


15 LIFE ON LAND



# Economic zones in the city

Economic zone classification: Each theme is treated as a collection of urban materials, e. g. High eco. zone would have more trees and open areas, whereas slum would have little vegetation ...



11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES  
AND COMMUNITIES



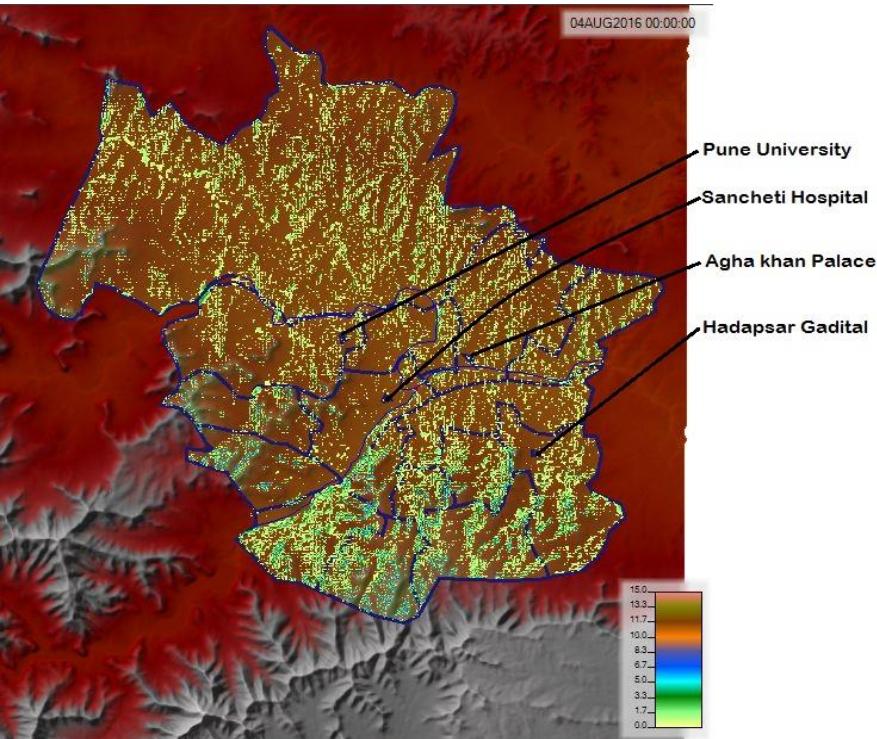
1 NO  
POVERTY



13 CLIMATE  
ACTION



# Urban flood prediction and monitoring



Depth of water in Pune City at Different Locations for 3 August 2016

SAR image of Mumbai, Jul 2 2019;  
bright white areas show flooded region



11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

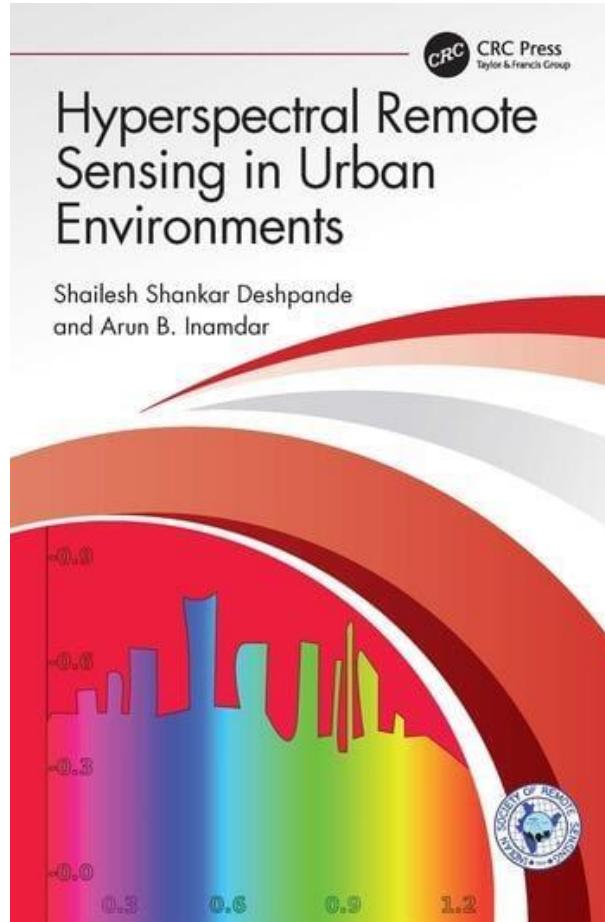


1 NO POVERTY



## To Sum it up !

- Remote sensing is an invaluable tool for solving global problems



Sustainable is smart !  
*Smart is sustainable !*

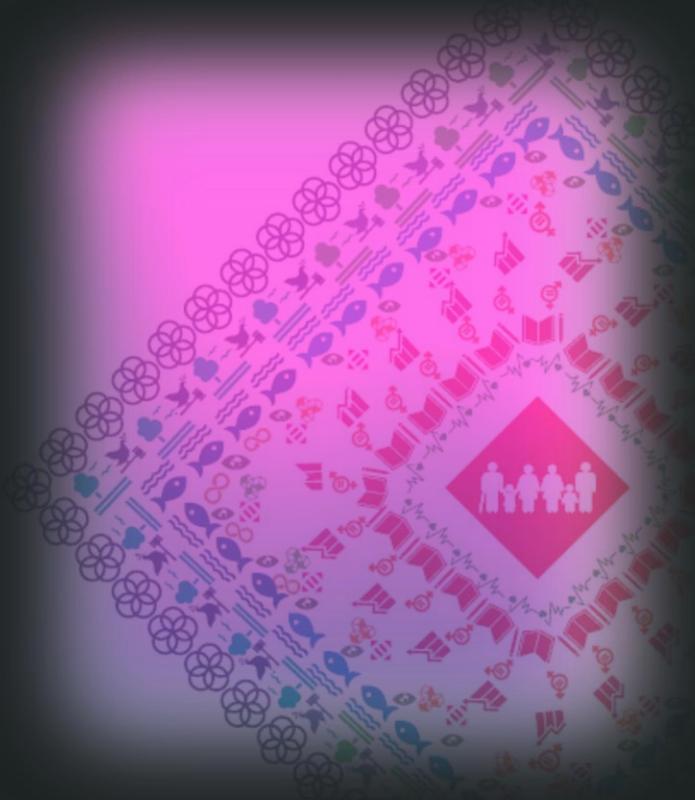
Source: Shailesh Deshpande, Arun Inamdar, Hyperspectral remote sensing of urban environment, Taylor and Francis

Key words –  
Hyperspectral remote sensing,  
Urban environment

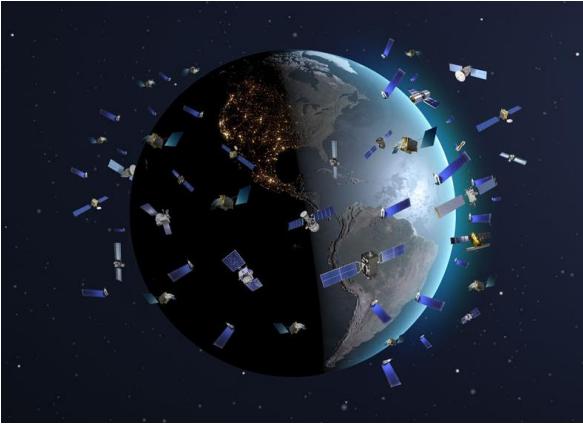
<https://www.routledge.com/Hyperspectral-Remote-Sensing-in-Urban-Environments/Deshpande-Inamdar/p/book/9781032359106>

Email –  
shaileshshankardeshpande@gmail.com

Thank You



# RS then and now



<https://www.google.com/url?sa=i&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.geospatialworld.net%2Fblogs%2Fhow-many-satellites-are-orbiting-the-earth-in-2021%2F&psig=AOvVaw0lzHMk-ZTw-JrRnzR9ikt/&ust=1701250386812000&source=images&cd=vfe&opi=89978449&ved=0CBIQJRxqEwoTCPD590ox5oIDFQAAAAAdAAAAAB>

**Number of satellites orbiting earth?**

6542 (UNOOSA/UCS), 906 earth observation



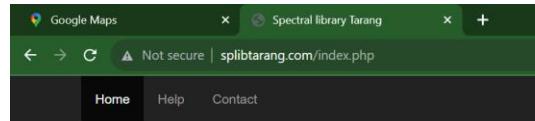
Note: Artist's impression; size of debris exaggerated as compared to the Earth  
Source - <https://www.universetoday.com/96248/space-junk-ideas-for-cleaning-up-earth-orbit/>

# Advantageous disadvantages

- Advantages
  - More accurate
  - Class label vs target material detection, chemical composition, quantification models
  - Unsupervised target detection is possible
- Disadvantages
  - Increase in size, dimensions
  - Atmospheric corrections are must
  - Spectral library resources are required
  - Mixed pixel problem
- Environmental
  - Pollution detection
- Defence
  - Hazardous chemicals
- Urban
  - Concrete age
- Industrial!
  - Drug manufacturing to plastic recycling

# Key takeaways

- Spectral vs spatial
  - Focus is on spectral
- Atmospheric correction
  - Must apply atm. correction
- Spectral library is essential
  - ECOSTRESS (USA)
  - SPLIB (USA)
  - SPLIB tarang (India)
  - <http://splibtarang.com/index.php>



# TARANG

Three functions have been provided :

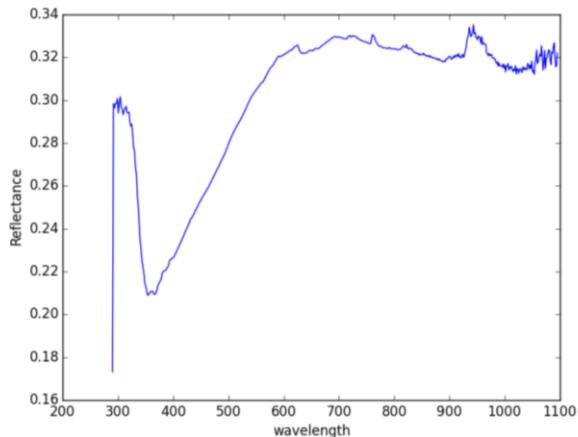
>> Clicking on "View Spectra", the applicaiton will show you all the spectral sign  
>> Clicking on "Search Spectra", the applicaiton will provide a search box for qu screen.

>> Clicking on "Match Spectrum", the application will provide you a text box for signature string. Top 3 signatures matching with the spectral signature of the query would appear on the screen.

[View Spectra](#) [Search Spectra](#) [Match Spectrum](#)

#	Material Class	Material Name	Usage	Remarks	Date	Time	File	File asd	Plot	plot asd
0	Aggregates	gravel	concrete aggregates	field-shirval	6/3/2013	11:29:07 AM	<a href="#">File</a>	<a href="#">Show</a>	<a href="#">Show</a>	<a href="#">Show</a>
1	Aggregates	rubble	soling	basalt	6/3/2013	11:24:28 AM	<a href="#">File</a>	<a href="#">Show</a>	<a href="#">Show</a>	<a href="#">Show</a>
2	Aggregates	sand	bright light	Remarks empty	27-04-2014	11:28:14 AM	<a href="#">File</a>	<a href="#">Show</a>	<a href="#">Show</a>	<a href="#">Show</a>
3	Aggregates	sand	casting	furnace sand	03-05-2014	13:29:08	<a href="#">File</a>	<a href="#">Show</a>	<a href="#">Show</a>	<a href="#">Show</a>
4	Aggregates	sand	casting	furnace-oil mixture-100	03-05-2014	13:32:59	<a href="#">File</a>	<a href="#">Show</a>	<a href="#">Show</a>	<a href="#">Show</a>
5	Aggregates	sand	casting	furnace-oil mixture-200	03-05-2014	13:37:31	<a href="#">File</a>	<a href="#">Show</a>	<a href="#">Show</a>	<a href="#">Show</a>

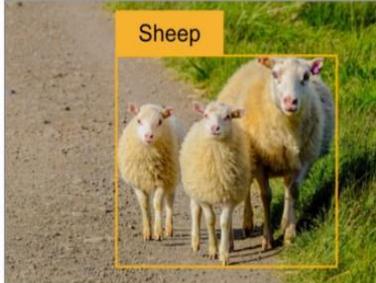
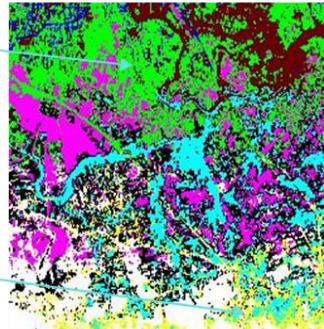
[splibtarang.com/FinalPlot/Data/Aggregates\\_gravel\\_concrete aggregates\\_field-shirval.png](http://splibtarang.com/FinalPlot/Data/Aggregates_gravel_concrete aggregates_field-shirval.png)



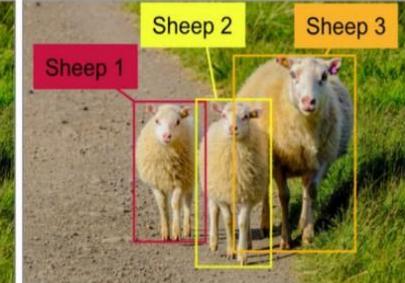
# Image processing considerations



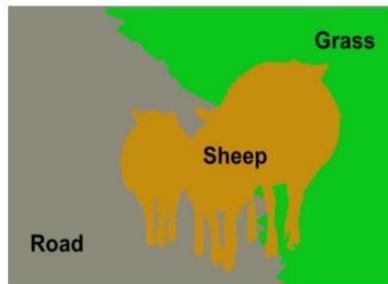
Economic zone classification: Residential vs Industrial,  
Upmarket vs mid-economy residential



Classification + Localization



Object Detection



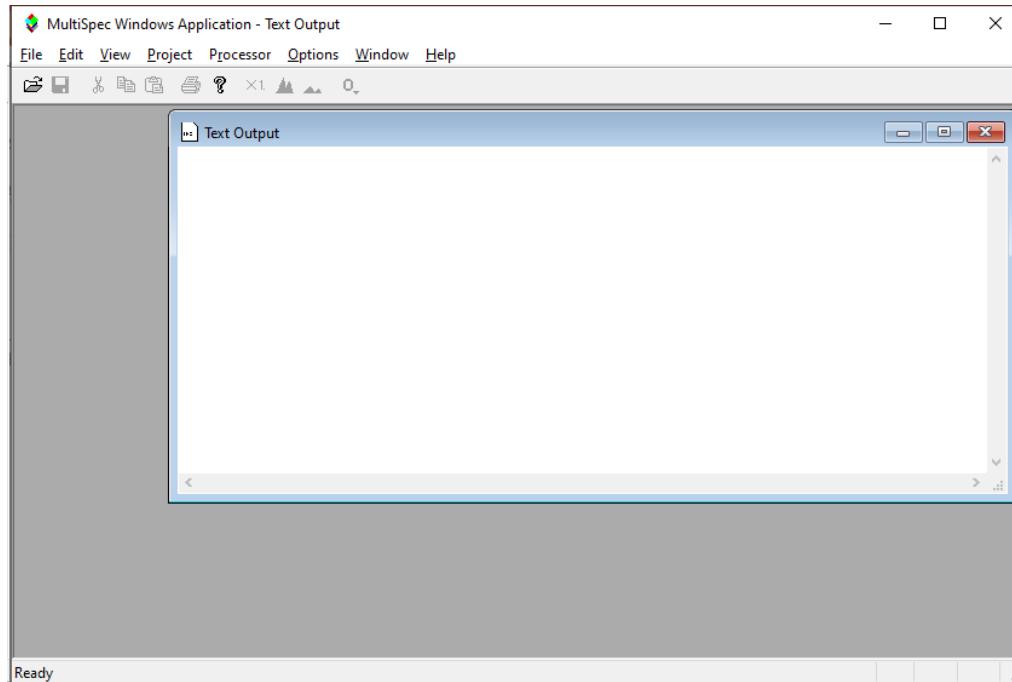
Semantic Segmentation



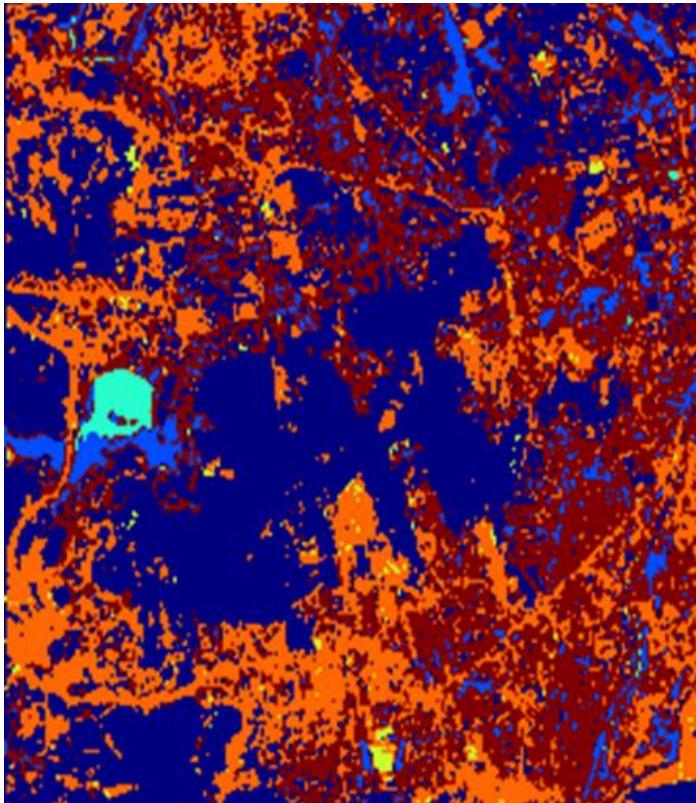
Instance Segmentation

# Explore Pune image with multispec

- Nice light package for exploring and working with MS and HS data



# Results of target detection using SAM



**Legend**

- Residential - upmarket
- Residential
- Industrial
- Soil
- Trees
- Water

**11** SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

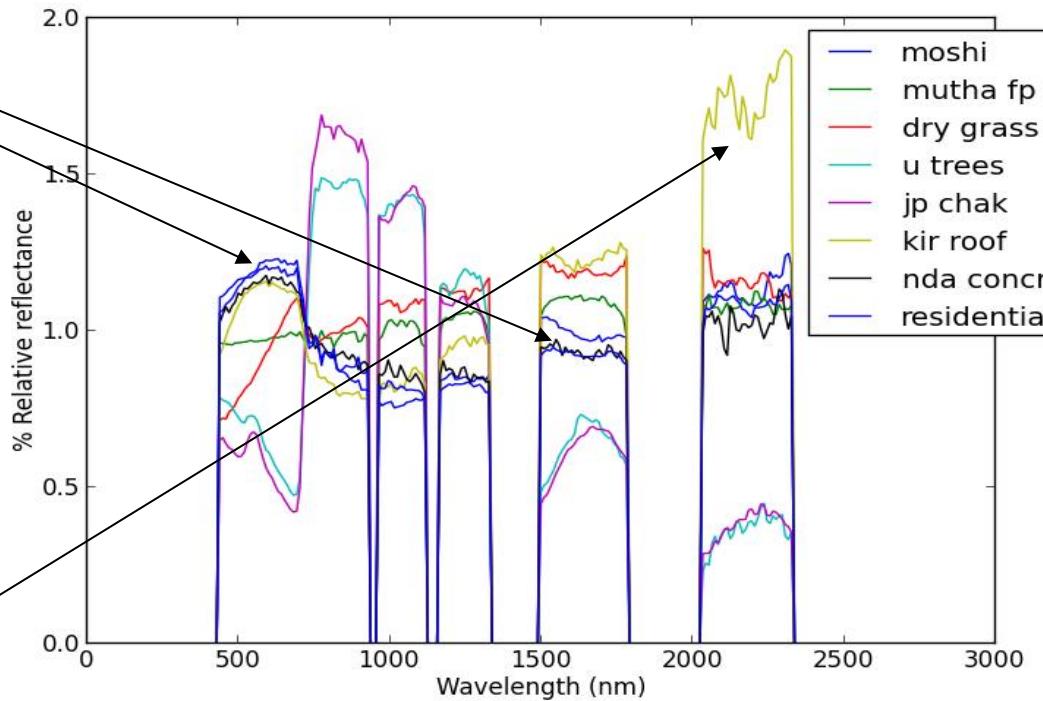
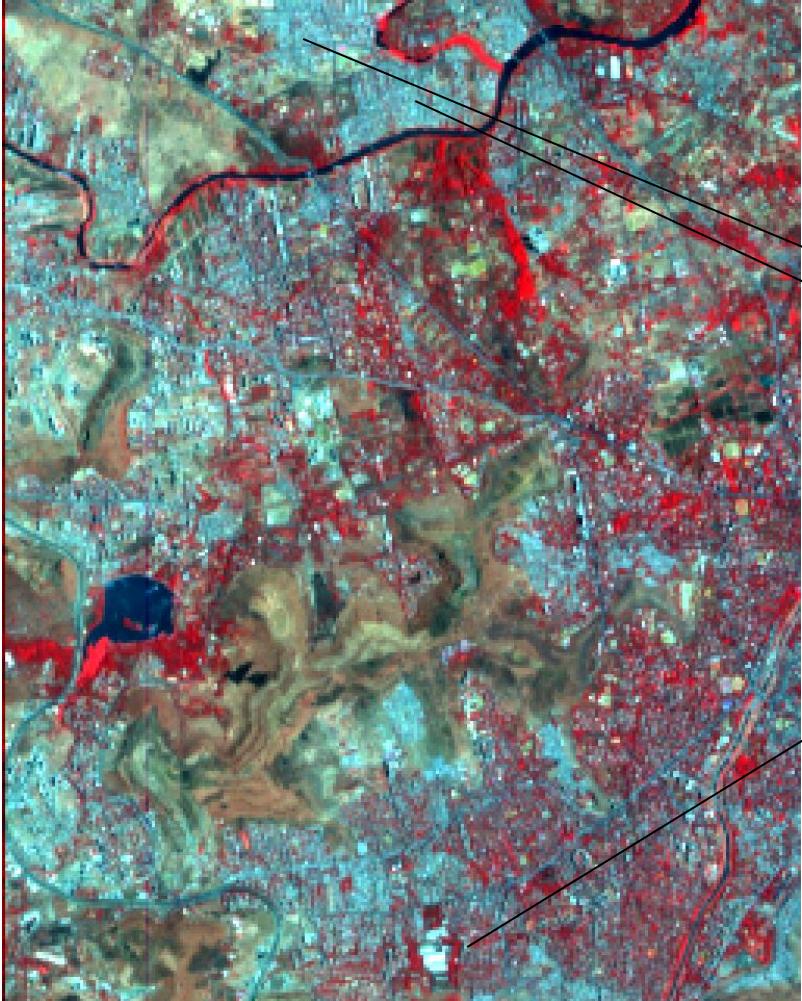


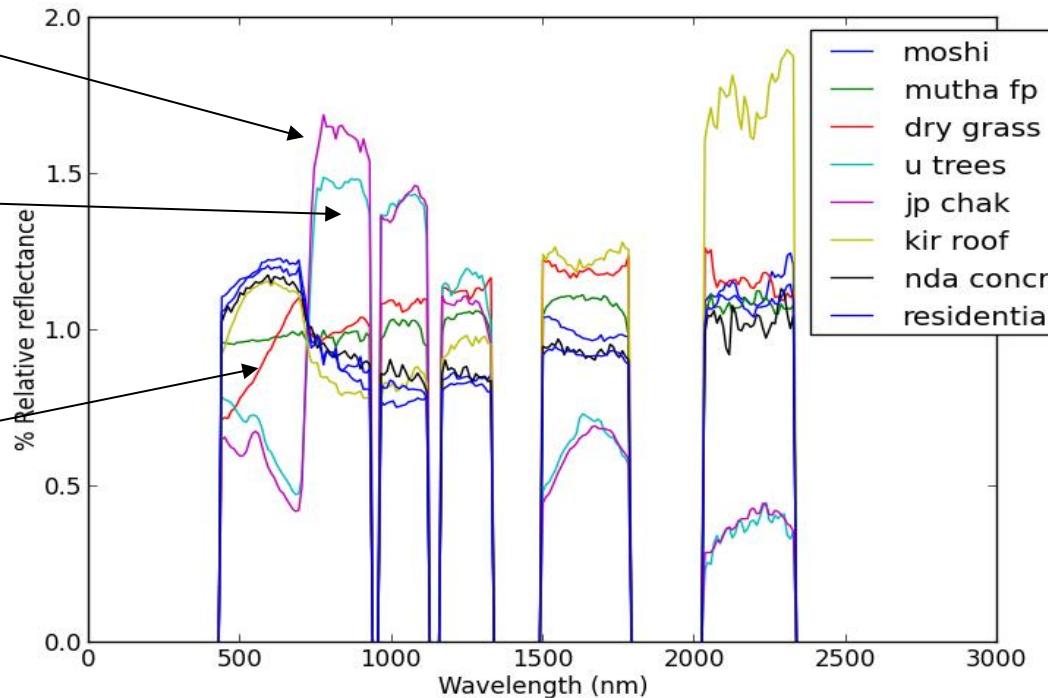
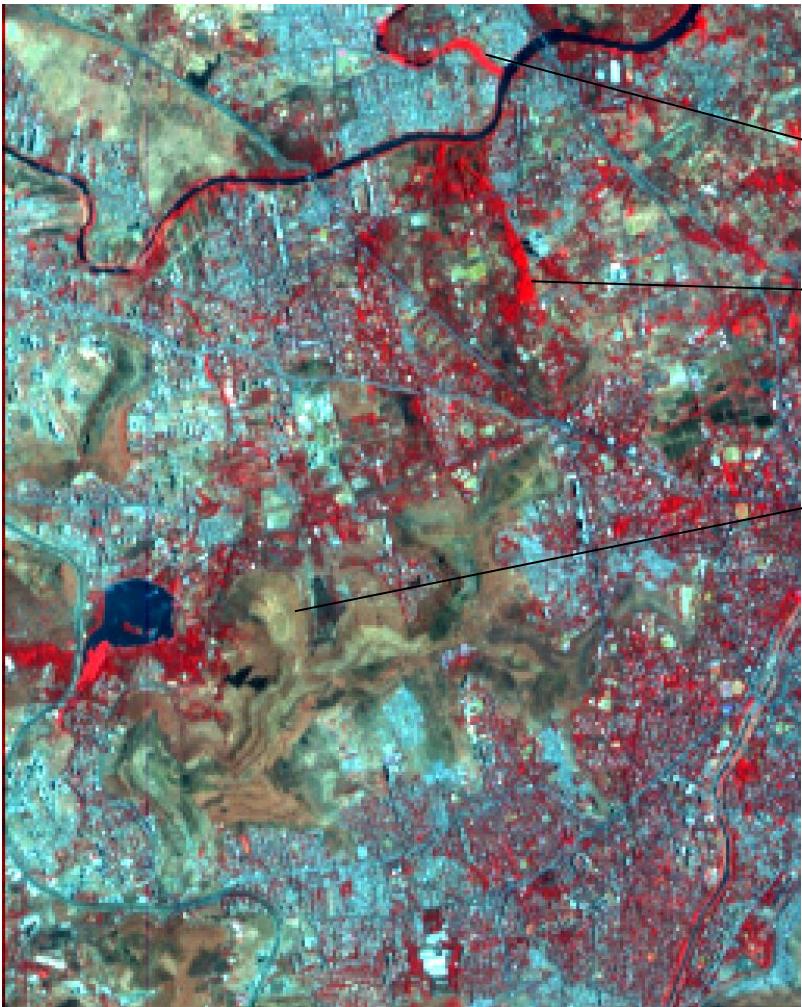
**12** RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

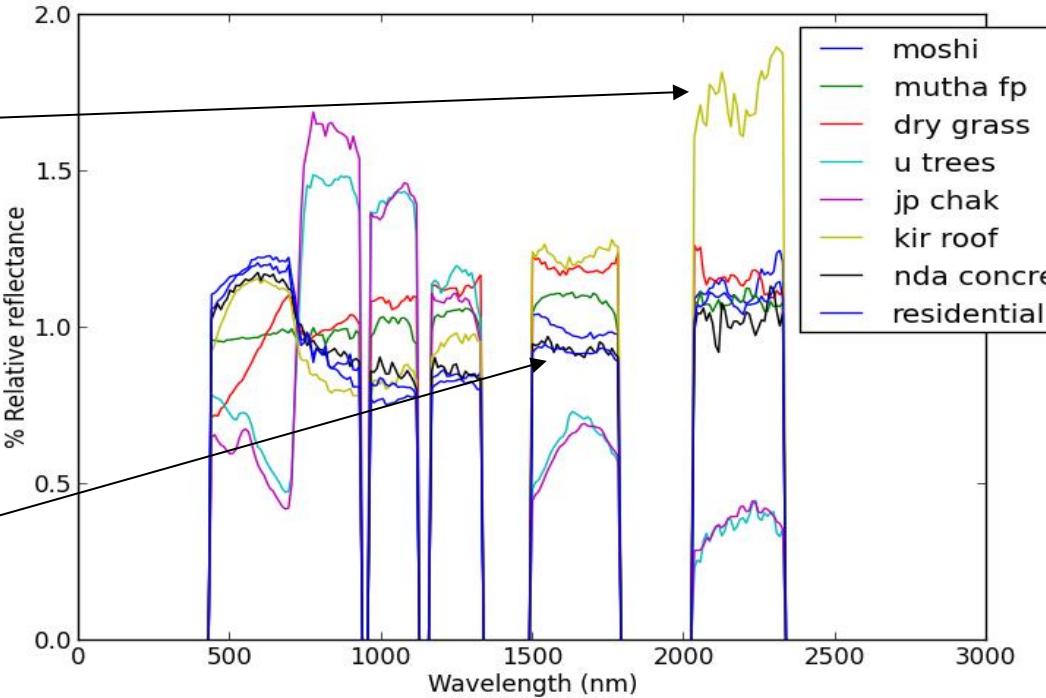
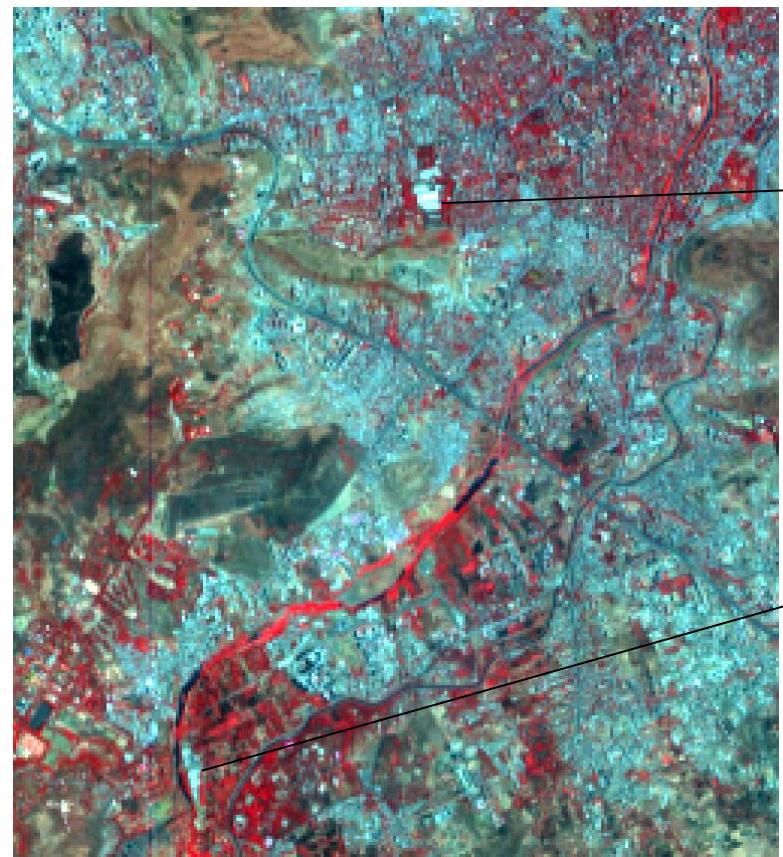


**15** LIFE ON LAND





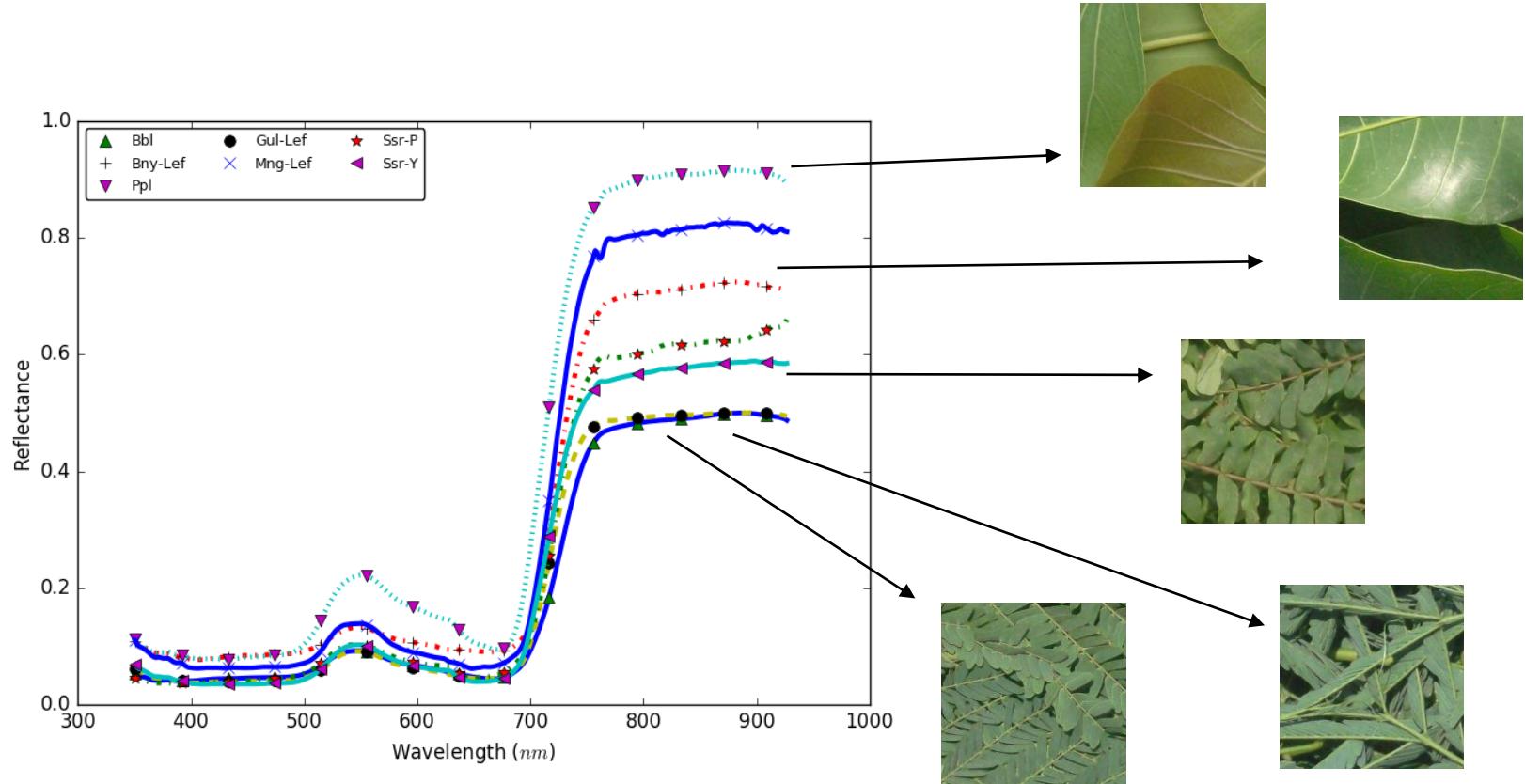




# Field spectrometer



## Example signatures contd.



## Example signatures contd.

