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Environmental Measurement

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73.1 Meteorological Measurement

John D. Garrison and Stephen B. W. Roeder

Meteorological measurements are measurements of the physical properties of the atmosphere. These measurements are made at all elevations in the troposphere and the stratosphere. For measurements made at elevations above ground or tower level, instruments can be carried aloft by balloons, rockets, or airplanes. Ground radar is used to detect the presence of water in the form of droplets or ice crystals at all elevations and the winds associated with them. Lidar (optical radar) of selected wavelengths is used to detect the presence and amount of aerosols and other constituents of the atmosphere and to determine cloud height. Instruments on satellites measure properties of the atmosphere at all elevations.

Quantities measured are: temperature, pressure, humidity, wind speed, wind direction, visibility, the presence and amount of precipitation, cloud amount, cloud opacity, cloud type, cloud height, broadband solar (or shortwave) radiation, longwave radiation, ultraviolet radiation, and net radiation, sunshine duration, turbidity, and the amounts of trace gases such as NO, NO₂, SO₂, and O₃. Some of the methods and instruments used to measure a number of these variables are discussed in this handbook in sections on pressure, temperature, humidity and moisture content, and air pollution monitoring. Additional information of interest is in sections on resistive sensors, inductive sensors, capacitive sensors, satellite navigation and radiolocation, and the sections under signal processing.

Meteorological measurements are made at individual sites, at several or many sites forming a local network, or at much larger networks. Much of the emphasis now is on global networks covering the entire northern and southern hemispheres. Individuals and groups can make measurements for their own purposes or they can use data provided by the various weather services. Weather service data are

stored in archives that can cover many years of measurements. The U.S. National Climatic Data Center, Asheville, NC, has archived data produced from measurements at U.S. weather stations and other National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) measurement sources, including satellites. It also has non-U.S. data. These data can be purchased. The Web site where information concerning NOAA data can be obtained is: <<http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/>>. The U.S. National Renewable Energy Laboratory has information on solar radiation and wind at Web site: <<http://www.rredc.nrel.gov/>>. Data at Web sites can often be retrieved by anonymous File Transfer Protocol (FTP).

Fabrication of meteorological instruments is usually done by companies specializing in these instruments. It is generally not economically feasible for individuals to fabricate their own instruments, unless their particular application cannot use commercially available instruments. The problem usually reduces to the determination of which commercial instruments to purchase. This determination depends on cost, durability, accuracy, maintenance requirements, ease of use and the form of the output signal. A number of instrument manufacturers and distributors market complete weather stations.

The instruments used for meteorological measurements are fabricated for use in the special environment of the atmosphere. This environment varies with the latitude and longitude of the site and the elevation above the ground and above sea level. A common requirement is that the instruments be protected from adverse conditions that can cause errors in the measurement of the meteorological variables. For proper operation, some instruments (e.g., spectroradiometers) need to be in a temperature-controlled environment. The sun's heating can cause errors. Solar radiation can cause weathering of the instruments and shorten their useful life. Moisture from precipitation or dew can affect measurements adversely and also cause weathering and corrosion of the instruments. Blowing dust or sand can cause weathering of the instruments and affect the operation of mechanical parts. Insects, birds, and ice can also affect instruments adversely. Some gaseous constituents of the atmosphere can be corrosive. Packaging of the sensors and housing of the instruments in enclosures can protect them, but this protection must not interfere with the measurement of the meteorological variable. Packaging a sensor and putting the sensor in protective housing generally increases the response time of the sensor to changes in the meteorological variable it is measuring. Solar heating can be reduced by covering the sensor, its protective packaging, or housing with a white coating. Generally, housing or enclosures used to protect the instruments should be well ventilated. Sometimes a fan is used to draw air through the housing or enclosure to reduce solar heating and make the air more representative of the outside air. Loss of measurement caused by loss of electric power can be avoided by having backup power from batteries or motor-generators.

Another common requirement of meteorological measuring instruments is that they be calibrated before installation in the field. This is usually done by the manufacturer. For some applications, it may be important that the calibrations are traceable to NIST (National Institute of Standards and Technology) standards. The calibration should be checked routinely. Some instruments are constructed to be self-calibrating.

Generally, there is no reason to measure many of the meteorological variables to high precision. The temperature, humidity, and wind, for example, can vary in relatively short distances and sometimes in relatively short times by amounts that are large compared to the accuracy of the measuring instruments. This is especially true near ground level. The exact value of a meteorological variable at a particular site has little meaning unless the density of measuring sites is very high. A mesoscale network with high density of measuring sites over a relatively small area might be of interest for ecological studies. Larger-scale or global networks have widely separated sites. For these networks it is important to install all of the instruments in a standard manner so as to reduce the effect of local fluctuations on the variation of the meteorological variables from site to site. Usually, this is done by placing them on a level, open area away from surrounding buildings and other obstructions and at a fixed distance above the ground. The ground should be drained ground and not easily heated to high temperature by the sun. In comparing temperatures, one must be aware of the "heat island effect" of large cities; furthermore, an increase in the degree of urbanization of a given site over time may affect the interpretation of the temperature trends observed.

The current trend is toward automatic measurement of meteorological variables at unattended sites with automatic data retrieval and computer processing and analysis of the data. Large-scale networks

consisting of many stations covering a large area (e.g., the Northern Hemisphere) are used for regional, national, and global weather forecasting.

Measurement of the Atmospheric Variables

Temperature

The mean temperature of the atmosphere for each hour of the day at a particular site has a fairly regular annual and a diurnal variation when this mean temperature is an average over many years for each hour and day of the year. The temperature at a given site and time is a superposition of the mean temperature and the fluctuations from this mean temperature caused by current cloud and wind conditions, the past history of the air mass passing over the site, and interannual variations that are not yet well understood.

More detailed sources of information on temperature measurement include the earlier section in this handbook on temperature measurement and References 1 through 5. The common methods of measuring atmospheric temperature include the following:

Electric Resistance Thermometer (RTD).

The variation of the resistance of a metal with temperature is used to cause a variation in the current passing through the resistance or the voltage across it. The electric circuit used for the measurement of temperature can utilize a constant current source, and temperature is determined from the voltage across the resistance after the circuit is calibrated. Alternatively, a constant voltage source can be used with the current through the resistance determining the temperature. Once the instrument is calibrated, it is generally expected to keep its calibration as long as electric power is supplied to the instrument. Commonly, platinum RTD thermometers are made of a fixed length of fine platinum wire or a thin platinum film on an insulating substrate. The variation of the resistance as a function of temperature is approximately linear over the range of temperature found in meteorological measurements. The quadratic correction term is quite small. The accuracy and reproducibility of the measurements and the ease of using an electric signal for transmission of data from remote unmanned sites makes electric resistance thermometers desirable for meteorological applications. Platinum is the best metal to use. With careful calibration and good circuit design, platinum resistance thermometers can measure temperature to a small fraction of a degree, much better than the accuracy needed for meteorological measurements.

Thermistors.

Thermistors usually consist of an inexpensive mixture of oxides of the transition metals. The log of their resistance varies inversely with temperature. The change in resistance with temperature can be 10^3 to 10^6 times that of a platinum resistance thermometer. Their change in resistance with temperature is used to determine temperature in the same manner as metal resistance thermometers. They are somewhat lower in cost and are somewhat less stable than platinum resistance thermometers.

Bimetallic Strip.

Bimetallic strips are discussed elsewhere in an earlier section. They are usually used for casual monitoring of inside and outside temperatures at dwellings and office buildings and for heating and cooling controls. The accuracy is generally about $\pm 1^\circ\text{C}$. They are low in cost.

Liquid in Glass Thermometer.

These are a well-known method of measuring temperature. They are usually used for casual monitoring of inside and outside temperatures at dwellings or office buildings. These thermometers are more difficult to read than meter or dial readings of temperature, do not lend themselves to electric transmission of their readings, and are easily broken. Their cost can be low.

Pressure

One standard atmosphere of pressure corresponds to 1.01325×10^5 pascals (N m^{-2}) (14.6960 pounds per square inch, 1.01325 bars, 1013.25 mbars, 760.00 mm Hg, or 29.920 in. Hg). This is approximately the mean atmospheric pressure at sea level. Atmospheric pressure at sea level usually does not deviate more

than $\pm 5\%$ from one standard atmosphere. Atmospheric pressure decreases with altitude. Altitude measurements in airplanes are based on air pressure measuring instruments called altimeters. At about 5500 m (18,000 ft), the atmospheric pressure is half its sea level value. The following instruments are used to measure atmospheric pressure.

Mercury Manometer

Originally, barometric pressure was measured with a mercury manometer. This is a tube, about 1 m in length, filled with mercury and inverted into an open dish of mercury. The height of the column of mercury that the external pressure maintains in the tube is a measure of the external air pressure. Hence, one standard atmosphere is 760 mm Hg. While accurate, this device is awkward and has been replaced for general use.

Aneroid Barometer.

It consists of a partially evacuated chamber that can expand or contract in response to changing external pressure. The evacuated chamber is often a series of bellows, so that the expansion and contraction occurs in one dimension. Basic aneroid barometers, which are still in use, have a mechanical linkage to a pointer giving a reading on a dial calibrated to read air pressure. High-quality mechanical barometers can achieve an accuracy of 0.1% of full scale. Aneroid barometers can also give electronic readout and eliminate the mechanical linkage; this is more the standard for serious meteorological measurements. In one method, a magnet attached to the free end of the bellows is in proximity to a Hall effect probe. The Hall probe output is proportional to the distance between the magnet and the Hall probe.

Barometric pressure is also measured with an aneroid type of device that consists of a rigid cylindrical chamber with a flexible diaphragm at its end. A capacitor is created by mounting one fixed plate close to the diaphragm and a second plate mounted on the diaphragm. As the diaphragm expands or contracts, the capacitance changes. Calibration determines the pressure associated with each value of capacitance. A range of 800 to 1060 millibars with an accuracy of ± 0.3 millibars for ground-based measurements is typical. Setra Corporation produces this type of instrument for the U.S. National Weather Service ASOS network, the latter produced by AAI Systems Management Incorporated. The ASOS network is discussed below. Measurement of pressure is also discussed elsewhere in this handbook.

Humidity

Instruments that determine the density or pressure of water in vapor form in the atmosphere, generally either measure relative humidity or they measure dewpoint temperature. The pressure of water vapor just above a liquid water surface when the vapor is in equilibrium with the liquid water is the saturated vapor pressure of the water. This saturated vapor pressure increases with the temperature and equals atmospheric pressure at the boiling temperature of water. Relative humidity is the ratio of the vapor pressure in air to the saturated vapor pressure at the temperature of the air. Relative humidity is usually expressed in percent, which is this ratio times 100. The dewpoint temperature is the temperature to which the air must be lowered, so the vapor pressure in the air is the saturated vapor pressure with the relative humidity at 100%. Knowledge of water vapor density is used in weather prediction and in global climate modeling. It also affects light transmission through the atmosphere. Relative humidity is an important meteorological variable. The temperature–dewpoint difference is an indicator of the likelihood of fog formation and can be used to estimate the height of clouds. More detailed sources of information on humidity measurement include the section on humidity in this handbook and References 6 to 9. Three common methods of measuring the vapor density in the atmosphere are given below.

The Chilled Mirror Method.

Chilled mirror instruments for measuring the dewpoint temperature are not sold by most instrument companies. A chilled mirror instrument developed by Technical Services Laboratory is used in the U.S. National Weather Service ASOS network discussed below. It has a mirror cooled by a solid-state thermoelectric cooler (using the Peltier effect) until water vapor in the air just starts condensing on the mirror. This condensation is detected using a laser beam reflecting from the mirror. When the reflected

beam is first affected by the condensed water vapor, the temperature of the mirror is the dewpoint temperature. The mirror temperature is controlled to remain at the dewpoint temperature by an optic bridge feedback loop. The mirror is a nickel chromium surface plated on a copper block. The temperature of the block is measured to $\pm 0.02\%$ tolerance by a platinum resistance thermometer imbedded in the block. An identical platinum resistance thermometer measures ambient air temperature. Outside air is drawn through the protective enclosure surrounding the instrument by a fan, so that the effect of solar heating on the measured values of the dewpoint temperature and ambient temperature is negligible and so that outside air is tested. The dewpoint temperature and ambient temperature are measured between -60 and $+60^\circ\text{C}$ to an accuracy of 0.5°C rms. Dewpoint errors are somewhat larger below 0°C . To avoid errors that might arise from deterioration of the reflective properties of the mirror, the mirror should be inspected periodically, particularly in dirty or salty environments. This method is of higher cost than other methods of measuring the amount of water vapor in the atmosphere.

Thin Film Polymer Capacitance Method.

The capacitance is formed with a thin polymer film as dielectric placed between two vapor-permeable electrodes. Water vapor from the air diffuses into the polymer, changing the dielectric constant of the dielectric and thus the capacitance. The capacitance can be measured electrically by comparison to fixed capacitance reference standards. The measured value of the capacitance is related to the relative humidity by calibration. Instruments using these capacitive sensors can measure relative humidity between 0 and 100% at temperatures between about -40 and $+60^\circ\text{C}$ to about $\pm 2\%$ of relative humidity. These sensors can be made very small for incorporation into integrated circuits on silicon chips [9]. They are low in cost. Usually, instruments measuring humidity also measure temperature separately. The circuits used to measure relative humidity using a thin polymer capacitance yield an electric output signal (often 0 V to 5 V), which lends itself to remote transmission of the relative humidity.

Psychrometric Method.

This method is discussed in the earlier section of this handbook on humidity. Errors are introduced if the water is contaminated, if the water level in the reservoir supplying water to the wick becomes low, or the reservoir runs dry. In extremely dry environments, it can be difficult to keep the wick wet, while salty environments can change the wet bulb reading. Accuracy is affected by air speed past the wet bulb. Because of these disadvantages, psychrometers have generally been replaced by more convenient methods of measuring humidity.

Wind Speed, Wind Direction, and Wind Shear

Anemometer.

Weather stations commonly employ a 3-cup anemometer. This consists of a vertical axis rotating collar with three vanes in the form of cups. The rotation speed is directly proportional to wind speed. [Figure 73.1](#) shows an instrument of this type. An alternative to the cup anemometer is a propeller anemometer in which the wind causes a propeller to rotate. There are several ways to obtain an electrical signal indicating the speed: a magnet attached to the rotating shaft can induce a sinusoidal electrical impulse in a pickup coil; a Hall effect sensor can be used; or the rotating shaft can interrupt a light beam, generating an electric pulse in a photodetector. Rotating anemometers can measure wind velocities from close to 0 up to 70 m s^{-1} (150 mph).

Ultrasonic Wind Sensor.

This sensor has no moving parts. Wind speed determination is as follows. An ultrasonic pulse emitted by a transducer is received by a nearby detector and the transit time calculated. Next, the transit time is measured for the return path. In the absence of wind, the transit times are equal; but in the presence of wind, the wind component along the direction between the transmitter and receiver affects the transit time. Three such pairs, mounted 120° apart, enable calculation of both the wind speed and direction. Heaters in the transducer heads minimize problems with ice and snow buildup. The absence of moving parts eliminates the need for periodic maintenance.

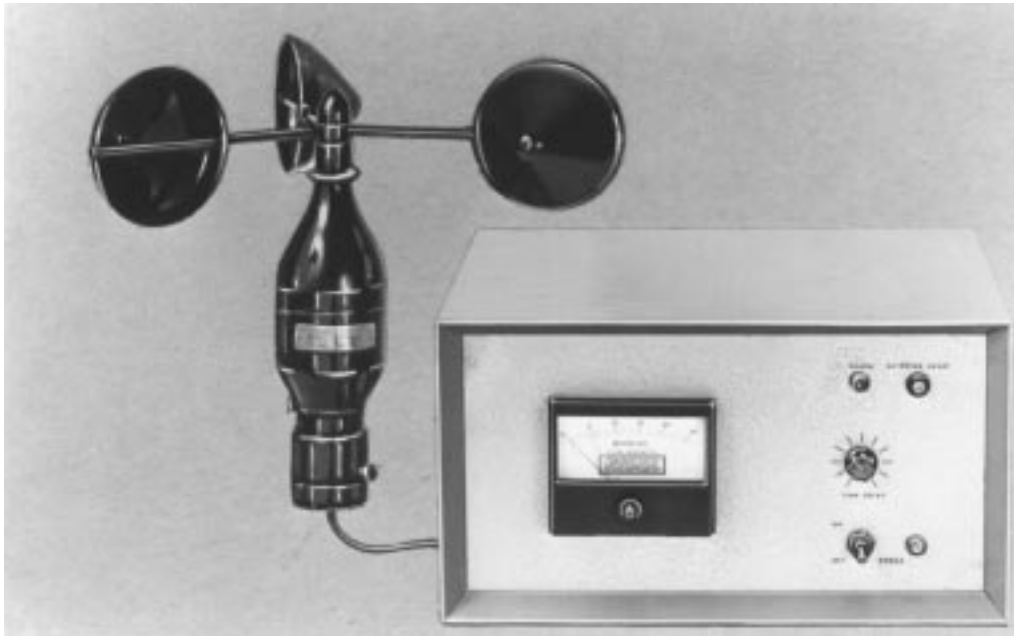


FIGURE 73.1 A cup type anemometer for measuring wind speed. (Courtesy of Kahl Scientific Instrument Corp.)

Wind Direction.

Wind direction sensors are generally some variant of the familiar weather vane. Sensitivity is maintained by constructing the weather vane to rotate on bearings with minimal resistance. Electronic readout can be achieved using a potentiometer (a “wiper” contact connected to the vane slides over a wire-wound resistor). The resistance between the contact and one end of the wire resistor indicates the position of the vane. Alternative methods of readout include optical and magnetic position sensors. Positional accuracy is $\pm 5\%$.

Combination Wind Speed and Direction Sensor.

A combination wind speed and direction sensor can be made in which a propeller anemometer is mounted on a weather vane. The vane keeps the propeller device pointed into the wind. Alternatively, two propeller anemometers, rigidly mounted in a mutually perpendicular arrangement can be used to determine direction and magnitude of the horizontal wind simultaneously. Rotating anemometers and weather vanes are susceptible to ice and snow buildup and can be purchased with heaters. They need periodic maintenance.

Wind Shear.

Wind shear occurs when wind direction and/or strength change significantly over a short distance. This can occur in horizontal or vertical directions or sometimes in both. Measurement of wind shear conditions is particularly important at airports. Wind shear is determined by comparing readings made at the center of the airfield with measurements made at the periphery. An automated system to perform this function, entitled Low Level Wind Shear Alert System (LLWAS), is found at some airports. Wind shear can also be detected by doppler radar. Doppler radar used by the U.S. National Weather Service is discussed below.

Precipitation

Precipitation measuring instrumentation includes devices that measure the presence of precipitation (precipitation sensors), those that determine the quantity of precipitation, those that measure rate of precipitation, and those that measure both quantity and rate.

Precipitation Presence Sensors.

These sensors usually consist of two electric contacts in close proximity. Moisture causes electric conduction that is detected by a circuit monitoring conductance. A typical application consists of a circuit board consisting of a grid of two arrays of strips separated by small gaps. If the surface of the detector is heated, then only current precipitation will be detected and dew will not form to affect the measurement.

Rain Gages.

These instruments measure amount of rainfall. A simple rain gage can consist of a cylinder, a funnel, and an inner collection tube of much smaller diameter than the funnel for amplification of the height of rain accumulation. The height of the water column in the inner tube is converted to total rainfall. Typical graduations on the tube enable determining rain accumulation to 0.025 cm (0.01 in.) of rain.

A tipping-bucket rain gage enables the measurement of both volume and rate of rainfall. A large funnel concentrates the precipitation, which is directed into one of two small buckets. When that bucket fills, it tips out of the way and empties, closing a switch to record the event, and another empty bucket moves into its place. Typical tipping-bucket gages respond to each 0.025 cm (0.01 in.) of rain. In conditions of snow and freezing rain, tipping-bucket rain gages can be equipped with heaters on the funnel to reduce snow and ice to water. The internal components are also heated to prevent refreezing. Reported accuracy for tipping-bucket rain gages is $\pm 0.5\%$ at 1.2 cm h^{-1} (0.5 in h^{-1}). Frise Engineering Company produces a tipping-bucket rain gage used in the ASOS network discussed below.

Highest accuracy rain gages that collect and concentrate precipitation should have their collection surfaces made of a plastic with a low surface tension for water. This minimizes losses from surface wetting.

Rain gages exist that do not rely on collection methods. Optical rain gages utilize an infrared beam. Drops falling through this beam induce irregularities in the beam that can be interpreted in terms of precipitation rate. This type of sensor is used for the precipitation identification or present weather sensor used in the ASOS network discussed below.

Solar Radiation

The mean annual intensity of solar radiation above the atmosphere (extraterrestrial solar radiation) continues to be measured to obtain a more precise value and to look for variations in the sun's energy output. It is called the solar constant. The solar constant is close to 1367 W m^{-2} . The intensity of solar radiation above the atmosphere varies approximately sinusoidally over the year with an amplitude of close to 3.3% of the solar constant and a maximum near the first of January. This variation arises from the variation of the distance of the Earth from the sun. The sun has a spectral distribution that is roughly that of a blackbody at 5777 K with a peak of the spectrum at a wavelength of about 500 nm. Solar radiation is attenuated by scattering and absorption in the atmosphere. Attenuation is greater at wavelengths corresponding to absorption bands of certain gases in the atmosphere. On a clear day near noon, the solar intensity at the Earth's surface can be as high as 1000 W m^{-2} . [Figure 73.2](#) shows a typical sea level solar spectrum with the sun about 48° away from the vertical (see, for example, References 10 and 11). This is called an air-mass 1.5 spectrum, because the distance the radiation travels through the atmosphere is 1.5 times the distance when the sun is vertical. About 99% of the spectrum is in the range of wavelengths shown by the figure. Measurements of the solar constant and the solar spectrum are scientific measurements made with specialized instruments. Additional information can be found in Iqbal [11] and Coulson [12].

Solar radiation instruments for general use in the field measure direct radiation from the sun, total or global radiation coming from the sky hemisphere, and diffuse or sky radiation (global radiation with the direct radiation removed). Solar radiation measuring instruments can be broadband instruments that measure the combined solar intensity (irradiance) at all wavelengths, or they can be spectrally selective instruments that measure the intensity at different wavelengths or in different wavelength bands. Only the much more common broadband instruments are discussed here. The instruments used for everyday measurement are field instruments. Field instruments are first class if they are of higher quality and provide greater accuracy and reliability (at higher cost).

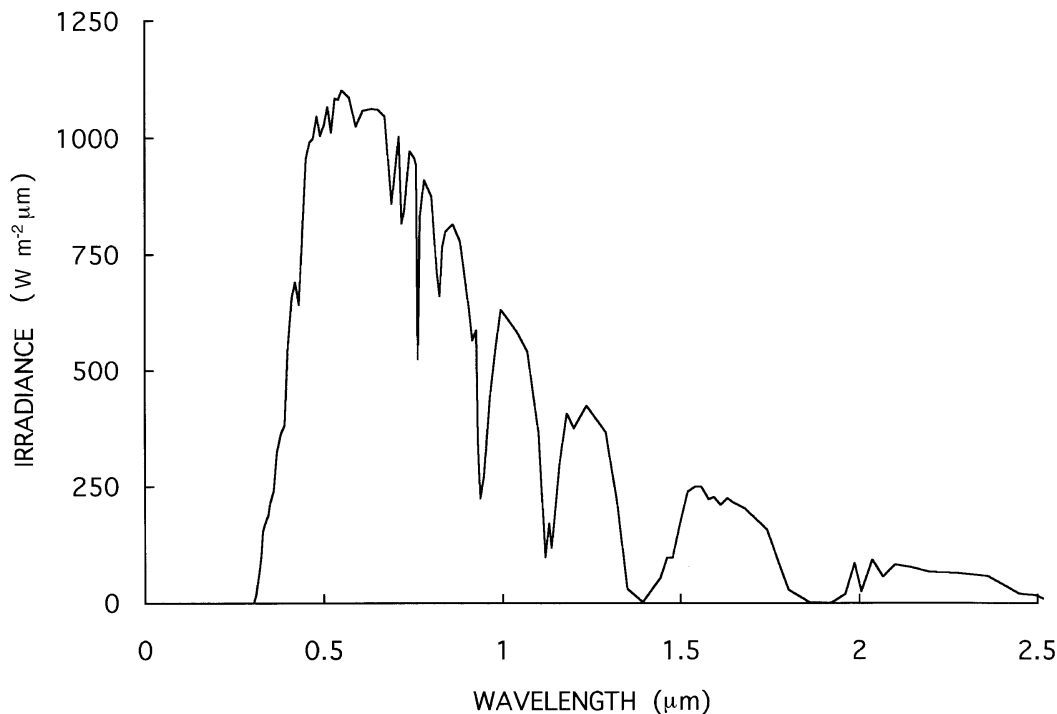


FIGURE 73.2 The intensity of solar radiation as a function of wavelength for a pathlength through the atmosphere of 1.5 times the vertical path length. The dips in the spectrum are molecular absorption bands.

Direct radiation is radiation coming directly from the sun without scattering in the atmosphere. Instruments measuring direct solar radiation usually include radiation coming from the sky out to an angular distance of about 3° away from the center of the sun's disk. They are called pyrheliometers. The radiation coming from clear sky near the sun, rather than from the solar disk, is the circumsolar radiation. This radiation can be subtracted from the pyrheliometer measurement for a more precise determination of direct radiation. This correction is often not made for routine measurements. The clear sky correction is calculated using the angular distribution of the intensity of the circumsolar radiation [13,14].

Instruments measuring global radiation are installed in a level position with a plane sensor facing up toward the sky. These instruments measure solar radiation coming from the whole sky hemisphere. They are called pyranometers. Global radiation measuring instruments should be sited in a level elevated area with no obstructions obscuring the sky hemisphere.

Diffuse radiation is the radiation coming from the sky hemisphere with the direct radiation subtracted. Pyranometers are used for measuring diffuse solar radiation and should be mounted in the same manner as pyranometers used for measurement of global radiation. They have an occulting (shade) disk or shadow band to prevent direct solar radiation from reaching the radiation sensor. The measurement of diffuse radiation involves correcting the pyranometer measurement for the part of the sky radiation shielded from the sensor by the occulting disk or shadow band. For clear skies, the occulting disk correction is calculated using the angular distribution of intensity of the circumsolar radiation. Corrections for partially cloudy and cloudy skies depend on the particular cloud conditions. Corrections for the shadow band are often determined by temporarily replacing the shadow band with an occulting disk when the sky is clear and when it is overcast. Corrections for measurements under other sky conditions can be determined by interpolation. The shadow band correction is discussed by LeBaron et al. [15]. The occulting disk must have a tracking system to make the disk follow the sun over the sky. The shadow band removes solar radiation received from a narrow swath of the sky along the path the sun follows

during the day. The shadow band must be adjusted regularly during the year as the path of the sun changes over the seasons. The more common solar radiation measuring instruments include the pyranometer and pyr heliometer.

The Pyranometer.

The sensor is usually a thermopile, consisting of a number of thermocouples in series, with alternate junctions heated by the sun. The unheated junctions are near ambient temperature. This is sometimes arranged by putting the unheated junctions in thermal contact with a white surface. Heating by the sun is accomplished by placing the junctions in contact with a matte black surface of high heat conductivity or by a black coating on the junctions. The blackened surface has a constant high solar absorptance (usually ~99%) over the solar spectrum. A constant high solar absorptance over the solar spectrum is important. The solar spectrum at the surface of the Earth varies with the time of day and year and the amount of clouds, because of the spectrally dependent scattering and absorption of solar radiation by the atmosphere. An absorbing surface whose absorption of solar radiation varies with wavelength will cause the sensor to have a different sensitivity for different wavelengths of the solar spectrum. Some less expensive pyranometers use a silicon photovoltaic sensor (solar cell) to measure solar radiation. These sensors have zero sensitivity above about $1.2\ \mu\text{m}$ and the spectral response below $1.2\ \mu\text{m}$ is not constant. This limits the accuracy of measurements of solar intensity with photovoltaic sensors. Instruments with a thermopile sensor can use a combination of thermopiles and resistors to compensate for the variation of the output of a single thermopile with temperature. The hemispherical windows of pyranometers are usually made of a special glass which transmits solar radiation of wavelengths between about 0.3 and $2.8\ \mu\text{m}$. This includes ~99% of the solar intensity. The absorbing surface must have a cosine response as a function of angle away from the normal to the surface (Lambert law response), and a flat response as a function of azimuth around the normal to the absorbing surface, for the global radiation to be measured correctly. The degree to which the pyranometer response is linear follows the cosine law, and is temperature, spectrum, and azimuthally independent, determines whether the instrument is a first class instrument. [Figure 73.3](#) shows a Kipp and Zonen (Netherlands) first-class pyranometer.



FIGURE 73.3 A class 1 pyranometer used for the measurement of global and diffuse solar radiation. (Courtesy of Kipp & Zonen Division of Enraf-Nonius Co.)



FIGURE 73.4 An automatic solar tracker with normal incidence pyrheliometer and cavity radiometer mounted on it. The tracker is coupled to two shade disks that shield direct sunlight from a first class pyranometer and precision infrared radiometer facing the sky hemisphere. (Courtesy of Eppley Laboratories.)

The Pyrheliometer.

The field pyrheliometers usually have temperature-compensated thermopile sensors with flat spectral response and linear output. The sensor is placed at the bottom of an internally blackened, diaphragmed, collimator tube that limits the angular acceptance for solar radiation to be in the range of about 5° or 6° total acceptance angle. The pyrheliometer is mounted on an equatorial mount tracker that keeps the direct radiation from the sun parallel to the axis of the collimator tube. [Figure 73.4](#) shows an Eppley Laboratory (U.S.) normal incidence pyrheliometer (on right) and a cavity radiometer (on left) mounted on a solar tracker. Also shown are a first-class pyranometer and precision infrared radiometer shielded from direct radiation from the sun by shade disks coupled to the tracker.



FIGURE 73.5 The xenon flash instrument that determines atmospheric visibility at an ASOS system station. This system is produced by AAI Systems Management Incorp.

Visibility

Visibility in meteorology is a measure of how far one can see through the atmosphere.

Visibility Sensors.

Measurement of forward scattering of light by aerosols in a given sample volume is used to determine visibility. A pulsed beam of near-infrared light (typically 850 to 880 nm wavelength) generated by an infrared-emitting diode is projected into the ambient air. A detector (usually a silicon photodiode), placed between 1 and 2 m away and oriented between 30° and 40° off the axis of the pulsed beam, samples the scattered light. The intensity of scattering is proportional to the atmospheric extinction coefficient. The extinction coefficient (k) is related to visual range (VR) by $VR = 5/k$ (km). Visual ranges measurable by such a system lie between about 0.3 km. and 60 km. [Figure 73.5](#) shows the visibility sensor used in the ASOS network. A xenon flash lamp source is used with this system.

Transmissometers.

These measure the attenuation of a light beam to determine visibility.

Lidar Measurements

Lidar is optical radar in which a laser emits pulses of electromagnetic radiation. Scattered radiation that returns to an optimally tuned detector at the laser site for observation are called echos. The time from emission of the pulse to return of the echo determines the distance of the scatterer. The echos are sampled at all times between pulses, and thus all distances up to the maximum range. This provides information about the atmosphere along the pulse path. The strength of the echo is connected with the density, size, and shape of the scattering particles. Laser pulses are linearly polarized. Spherical scatterers return echos that have the same linear polarization. Nonspherical scatterers depolarize the echos. Thus, polarization of the echo also provides information concerning the scatterers. Using high spectral resolution lidar

(HSRL), the scattering by air molecules can be separated from the scattering by aerosols. Differential absorption lidar (DIAL) measures the concentration of gaseous species in the atmosphere. Stephens [16] discusses the HSRL and DIAL methods. Zhao et al. [17] present an application of the DIAL method to the determination of O₃ concentration in the atmosphere. Because of their high power output, ruby, dye, neodymium, yttrium-aluminum-garnet (YAG), and CO₂ lasers are commonly used for lidar. The use of lidars in the observation of aerosols injected into the stratosphere by volcanic eruption, and their subsequent decay has become quite common (see Post et al. [18] and Jager et al. [19] and other articles in the same journal issue).

Clouds

Observer Estimation.

For many years, observers at weather stations have estimated the amount, type, and sometimes the opacity of low clouds, middle clouds, and high clouds. Estimation is usually every hour or similar period with the estimate in tenths or eighths (octa) of the sky covered. Satellite, radar, and ceilometer data are replacing observer estimation. Observer estimates have been archived.

Ceilometers.

Ceilometers measure the altitude of clouds. Most ceilometers are based on lidar technology using an infrared pulsed laser diode, usually GaAs. Laser pulses are reflected back (echos) to a receiver, usually a Si diode detector. The round-trip time is converted into cloud height. Common ceilometers can measure cloud base altitudes to 4000 m (12,000 ft). Recent instruments developed by Vaisala can measure cloud bases up to 23,000 m (75,000 ft) with an error of $\pm 1\%$. The Vaisala ceilometer is used in the ASOS network discussed below. Maintenance includes cleaning of the window. Heaters and blowers respond to automatic sensing units to clear precipitation from the window and control instrument temperature.

Companies producing and marketing meteorological instruments are presented in [Table 73.1](#). For information on additional companies marketing meteorological instruments in the U.S., see *Thomas Register of American manufacturer's* and *Thomas Register Catalog File* found in most major libraries. For manufacturers in other countries, search library catalog files under "manufacturers."

United States Weather Service Facilities

The U.S. National Weather Service, the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration, and the U.S. Department of Defense have joined in an upgrade of weather instrumentation and analysis for U.S. weather stations. Other national weather services are upgrading their facilities. The new U.S. National Weather Service system has four components to obtain weather data throughout the United States and its possessions:

1. The Automated Surface Observing Systems (ASOS): These systems, produced by AAI Systems Management Incorporated, are installed at over 850 sites. Each system usually measures visibility, surface temperature, dewpoint temperature, pressure, wind speed and direction, visibility, cloud height, precipitation identification, freezing rain, and precipitation accumulation. Instruments used for each ASOS site are discussed above with other meteorological measuring instruments. [Figure 73.6](#) shows the arrangement of instruments at an ASOS site.
2. Doppler weather surveillance radar (NEXRAD — WSR-88D): Doppler radar are produced by Lockheed-Martin Corporation and installed at approximately 160 sites in the U.S. Doppler radar surveys the weather out to about 300 km from the radar. The standard radar scans angles above the horizon up to about 6° in six ~1° intervals with a 360° azimuth. Rain scans go up to about 20°. Radar echos are reflection of the pulsed radar microwave signal from water drops in the form of rain or cloud. Ice crystals and snow reflect radar pulses with lower echo strength. Doppler radar can detect short-lived, possibly catastrophic events such as tornados, downbursts, and flash floods in real-time. The doppler shift of the echo determines the radial component of the wind velocity at the height and distance of the source of the reflected echo. The strength of the echo provides information on the precipitation rate. Powerful computers and sophisticated computer programs

TABLE 73.1 Companies Marketing Meteorological Instrumentation

AAI Systems Management Incorporated (Automated Surface Observing System) P.O. Box 238 Hunt Valley, MD, 21030-0238 Phone: (410) 785-0282	Kipp & Zonen Division, (SOL) Enraf-Nonius Co., P.O. Box 507 L 2600 AM Delft, Roentgenweg 1 NL 2624 BD Delft, Netherlands Phone: 011 31 15 269 8500 U.S.A.: 390 Central Ave., Bohemia, NY, 11716 Phone: (800) 229-5477
Atmospheric Instrumentation Research, Inc., (T, P, RH, RADS) 8401 Baseline Road, Dept. T Boulder, CO 80303 Phone: (303) 499-1701, Ext. 300	Lockheed-Martin Corp. (Weather Surveillance Doppler Radar) 365 Lakeville Road Greatneck, NY 11020 Phone: (516) 574-1404
Belfort Instrument Co., (VIS) 727 South Wolfe Street Baltimore, MD 21231 Phone: (800) 937-2353	Qualimetrics, Inc., (T, P, RH, W, PR, SOL, VIS, CEIL) ^a 1165 National Drive Sacramento, CA 95134 Phone: (800) 806-6690
Davis Instrument Mfg. Co., (T, P, RH, W, PR) ^a 4701 Mount Hope Drive Baltimore, MD 21215 Phone: (800) 548-9409	Rainwise, Inc., (T, P, RH, W, PR, SOL) ^a P.O. Box 443 Bar Harbor, ME 04609 Phone: (800) 762-5723
Electric Speed Indicator, (T, P, W) 12234 Triskett Rd., Dept. T-16 Cleveland, OH 44111-2519 Phone: (216) 251-2540	Scientific Technology, (W, PR, VIS) 265 Perry Parkway, Suite 14 Gaithersburg, MD 20877-2141 Phone: (301) 948-6070
Eppley Laboratory, Inc. 12 Sheffield Ave., (SOL) P.O. Box 419 Newport, RI 02840 Phone: (402) 847-1020, Fax: (401) 847-1031	Setra Corp., (P) 45 Nagog Park Acton, MA 01720 Phone: (800) 25-SETRA
Frise Engineering Co. (PR) 2800 Sisson Street Baltimore, MD 21211 Phone: (410) 235-8524	Vaisala Oy, PL 26 FIN-00421, (T, P, RH, W, PR, SOL, VIS, CEIL, RADS) ^a Helsinki, Finland U.S.A.: 100 Commerce Way Woburn, MA, 01801-1068 Phone: (617) 933-4500
Handar, Inc., (T, P, RH, W, PR, SOL, VIS, CEIL) ^a 1288 Reamwood Ave. Building T, Sunnyvale, CA 94089 Phone: (800) 955-7367	Viz Manufacturing Co., (RADS) 335 East Price St. Philadelphia, PA 19144 Phone: (215) 844-2626
Hycal Division, Honeywell Corp., (T, RH) 9650 Telstar Avenue El Monte, CA 91731 Phone: ((818) 444-4000	R. M. Young, Co., (T, P, W, RH, PR) 2801 Aero Park Dr. Traverse City, MI 49686 Phone: (616) 946-3980
Kahl Scientific Instrument Corp., (T, P, RH, W, PR, SOL, VIS) P.O. Box 1166 737 South Main Street El Cajon, CA, 92022 Phone: (619) 444-2158	

Note: Symbols: T = temperature, P = pressure, RH = relative humidity, W = wind, PR = precipitation, SOL = solar radiation, VIS = visibility, LID = lidar, CEIL = ceilometer, RADS = radiosonde.

^a Complete weather station available.



FIGURE 73.6 A view of an ASOS system sited at an airport near San Diego. The instrument of Figure 73.5 is seen in the foreground. A stand for the freezing rain sensor is not used. The next instrument is the ceilometer. Behind that is a metal box containing connections to the sensors and instruments to transmit the data to a remote collection and processing station. Along the same line of instruments beyond this is the precipitation identification or present weather sensor. This is followed along the same line by the sensor measuring ambient and dewpoint temperatures and a tipping bucket rain gage. To the north of the line of instruments is a pole with a cup anemometer, weather vane, flashing red lights, and lightning rod at the top.

are used to analyze the radar signals. Additional discussion of the use of radar for weather observations can be found in Stephens [16]. NEXRAD is discussed in References 20 to 23, for example.

3. Radiosonde upper air sounding: The northern hemisphere has a network of about 700 radiosonde sites, including the U.S. network, where soundings are generally made twice daily. The northern hemisphere is largely decoupled from the southern hemisphere for weather development. Radiosondes provide information on wind velocity, temperature, and humidity at all elevations up to 30 to 40 km. A temperature sensor, humidity sensor, and pressure sensor are carried aloft by

balloon at 0000 and 1200 UTC (± 1 h). The wind velocity at different altitudes is measured by determining the radiosonde position at all times during the flight. The horizontal position of the radiosonde can be obtained by OMEGA, LORAN, or VLF global positioning systems. Additional information on global positioning is found in the section of this handbook on satellite navigation and radiolocation. Pressure can indicate the altitude of the radiosonde. Radar or GPS can measure the radiosonde position in three dimensions. Radiotheodolites can track the radiosonde to receive the data transmitted by radio transmitter. The radiosonde manufactured by Viz Manufacturing Co. called Bsonde is used by the U.S. National Weather Service. The instruments are mounted on a lightweight white styrofoam container. The temperature sensor is a thin, 50-mm long rod thermistor painted white to minimize heating by solar radiation. It is mounted outside the container. It measures temperature to $\pm 0.5^\circ\text{C}$. The container has an air flow duct for ventilation of the relative humidity sensor mounted inside. The relative humidity sensor consists of an insulating strip coated with a film of carbon that measures relative humidity from 0 to 100% to $\pm 5\%$. The pressure sensor is a nickel, C-span aneroid pressure sensor coupled mechanically to a 180 contact baroswitch providing the output pressure signal. Pressure is measured from 1060 mb to 5 mb with an accuracy of ± 0.5 mb. Sensor signals are sent to the receiving station by an amplitude modulated transmitter operating from 1660 to 1700 MHz. The Vaisala Inc. radiosonde sensors used by the U.S. National Weather Service differ from Bsonde by use of a capacitance temperature sensor, a capacitance with polymer dielectric humidity sensor, and a capacitive aneroid pressure sensor.

4. Satellite remote sensing: Meteorological variables are deduced from measurements of the electromagnetic radiation coming from the atmosphere and the surface of the Earth using satellite based sensors. Usually, three or more different detector wavelength bands are used. The interpretation is difficult because the electromagnetic radiation can come from many levels of the atmosphere or the Earth's surface, all at different temperatures, and may have undergone multiple scattering in the atmosphere and Earth reflection. The energy coming from the atmosphere and the Earth's surface is mostly reflected and scattered solar radiation for wavelengths up to about $4\ \mu\text{m}$. Longer wavelength energy is mostly associated with thermal emission from the Earth and its atmosphere. Thermal emission from the atmosphere and the surface of the Earth consists of overlapping blackbody spectra of different temperatures. Absorption spectra characteristic of various gases in the atmosphere and their temperatures are superimposed on the overlapping blackbody spectra. Visible wavelengths from about $0.4\ \mu\text{m}$ to $0.7\ \mu\text{m}$ are useful for determining cloud coverage and cloud type. Infrared wavelengths from about $6\ \mu\text{m}$ to $7\ \mu\text{m}$ can be used to determine water vapor density. Infrared in the range from about $10\ \mu\text{m}$ to $12\ \mu\text{m}$ can be used to look at high clouds. It is also useful for night observation. Satellite measurements show the motion and development of the clouds and storm systems. More detailed discussion is available [16,24-27].

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73.2 Air Pollution Measurement

Michael Bennett

There is a huge range of atmospheric pollutants and for a given pollutant there may be a several commercially available detection systems. In a document of this size, it is clearly not feasible to discuss in detail the theory of operation of every possible system. After some general remarks about air pollution monitoring, a broad introduction to the physics of molecular spectroscopy (the most widely used

detection principle) will be presented. The detection of individual pollutants will then be discussed. Most of the practical examples given will refer to British experience, since this reflects the author's background. The principles involved, however, are universally applicable. The EPA's Web site (Table 73.5) provides a useful gateway to American legislation and practice.

Before spending money on a detection system, it is essential that the user understands the purpose of the measurement. This will affect both the choice of instruments and the location of monitoring sites. In general, active monitors with short response times will be more expensive than passive, slow-response instruments. A survey intended to determine spatial variations of an ambient pollutant might therefore be best to employ very many cheap, slow-response instruments. A classic example would be current national surveys to measure indoor radon pollution. In the U.K., the National Radiological Protection Board (NRPB) will supply householders with two passive detectors, each consisting of a strip of plastic inside a protective container. These are left in a living room and a bedroom for 3 months, at the end of which they are mailed back to the NRPB for analysis. (The number of α -particle trails in the plastic is counted). The householder is then reassured (or not) as to the safety of the dwelling; the authorities, meanwhile, can build up a national map of Rn concentration in relation to geology, building type, etc. The essence of the system is that the individual detectors are so cheap that the authorities can afford many thousands, such a number being necessary to provide realistic spatial coverage.

Identification of a particular source in the presence of background emissions, however, requires a sensor with a response time of minutes, or 1 h at most, supplemented by meteorological measurements. This need arises because, at temperate latitudes, the wind direction changes by 15° in 1 h and 90° in 24 h. Unless a source dominates local pollution, its impact is unlikely to be demonstrable through daily sampling.

Some applications may require response times of seconds or less. Odors are a very common cause of complaint. In this case, the complainant perceives fluctuations in concentration over periods of a few seconds, while he may become inured to steady concentrations over periods of minutes. It is also the case that many toxic gases are more damaging in high doses over short periods than at a steady concentration over some hours [1]. Flammability, of course, also depends on peak rather than mean concentrations.

Central to obtaining reliable information from such measurements is the protocol for the siting of instruments. This naturally depends on the objectives of the survey. The U.K. national survey for smoke and SO_2 [2], for example, was highly successful in demonstrating the effects on background pollutant concentrations of the 1956 Clean Air Act and (from the late 1960s) the availability of natural gas (cf. Figure 73.7). Sites were chosen so as not to be dominated by individual local sources, being typically in backyards or on the roofs of municipal buildings. By the early 1980s, however, urban air pollution had become increasingly dominated by road traffic emissions and the earlier network of sites no longer seemed appropriate [3,4]. Many roadside measurements have now also been made in addition to more general urban or rural surveys [5]. It should be noted that a *typical* site is not necessarily a *representative* one [6]. The former is what we experience about our daily lives. The latter is chosen through a protocol so that measurements from one site can be compared with those from another. Depending on the application, representative sites may be more or less typical.

A protocol is important not only for comparing one place with another, but also for comparisons between different times. One should not be dismissive of the old technology of the national SO_2 survey; the conservatism of the design allows one to rely on the time series of concentrations over the last 60 years. Clearly, there are advantages in keeping up with the latest technology. But, if interested in long-term trends, one must be very sure of the relative responses of "improved" instruments and methods.

The deployment of fast-response instruments around individual sources gives rise to somewhat different problems. Given the high cost of such instruments, one must be sure that statistically useful measurements of environmental impact will be made over the course of the survey. Concentrations should ideally be measured simultaneously upwind and downwind of the source. For an elevated buoyant source, it is desirable to measure downwind concentrations over a range of distances; atmospheric dispersion models are not yet so foolproof that the calculated distance from the stack to the peak ground-level



FIGURE 73.7 Annual average SO₂ concentrations in Central London, 1933–1997. The curve shows the average from two sites.

concentration can be relied on. At a given point on the ground, pollution from such a source can typically be detectable on only a few percent of hours. Mobile laboratories are therefore commonly used to enhance the capture of data, but it is then essential that some statistical and climatological analysis be applied to extrapolate the measurements obtained to long-term means at fixed target points on the ground. The protocol and analysis should be planned before the instruments are purchased.

Spectroscopic Principles

The most common principle employed for the detection of contaminants in air involves the interaction of the trace species with light. The advantages are obvious: with careful choice of system, the interaction can be made specific to the chosen molecule, and the photon will then transport itself from the point of interaction to the detector. Reference 7 provides a general undergraduate-level introduction to molecular spectroscopy, while Reference 8 describes specialized applications to atmospheric measurement.

The specificity of the interaction of light with a molecule arises from quantum theory. Light is absorbed or emitted as photons, of energy hc/λ , while individual atoms or molecules can only exist at discrete levels of energy or angular momentum. Light is thus only absorbed or emitted by gaseous species at discrete values of wavenumber, $1/\lambda$ (usually quoted in cm^{-1}). Generally, different molecular energy levels arise through three processes:

- **Rotational.** A molecule can spin with an angular momentum equal to a discrete value of $h/2\pi$. Transitions between angular momentum states are typically equivalent to photon energies of 1 to 100 cm^{-1} , i.e., microwave wavelengths.
- **Vibrational.** The atoms in a molecule can vibrate relative to one another. Transition energies between modes are typically on the order of 10^3 to 10^4 cm^{-1} , i.e., infrared wavelengths.

- Electronic. The electrons can occupy different orbitals within an atom. Transitions between these would typically take place at UV wavelengths.

Photons can initiate transitions between combinations of the above levels; observed molecular spectra thus tend to be extremely complicated, having structure over all scales of wavenumber. Atomic spectra, for example, from a monatomic gas like Hg, are simpler, since there are no vibrational or rotational modes. Nevertheless, even for molecular spectra, “selection rules” permit only a limited number of transitions to occur; a single photon can only effect a transition if the initial and final dipole moments of the molecule are different. (The direction of the change of dipole depends on the polarization of the associated photon.) Conservation of angular momentum also requires that a molecule’s spin can only change by one unit at a time.

Photon energies are broadened by temperature (which causes a Doppler shift in frequency) and by pressure (which shortens the lifetime of the excited state). In practice, of course, any commercial measurement system also has a finite resolution. Parts of the spectrum may thus contain so many possible transitions that it becomes impractical to distinguish individual lines. The specificity of molecule–photon interactions promised by quantum theory is thus seen to be rather limited in practice. Spectroscopic identification of a particular species relies on the existence of resolvable structure in an accessible part of the spectrum where there is no serious interference from other common gases. In general, this search must be solved individually for each analyte — with no guarantee of the existence of a satisfactory solution.

Absorption Techniques

Detection of a specific molecule may be through either its absorption or emission of light at a particular wavelength. Consider monochromatic light of flux I passing through a gas of concentration χ . In so far as each interaction between a photon and a molecule is an independent event, the rate of interaction is separately proportional to the number of photons and the number of gas molecules. Thus,

$$\frac{\partial I(x, \lambda)}{\partial x} = -\sigma(\lambda) I(x, \lambda) \chi(x) \quad (73.1)$$

where $\sigma(\lambda)$ is the absorption cross-section. For constant gas concentration, this can be integrated as a function of path length, x , to give the Beer-Lambert law:

$$I(x, \lambda) = I(0, \lambda) e^{-\sigma(\lambda)\chi x} \quad (73.2)$$

The argument of the negative exponential is known as the optical density at this wavelength. The gas burden, χx , along the optical path is thus given by:

$$\chi x = \frac{\log(I(0, \lambda) / I(x, \lambda))}{\sigma(\lambda)} \quad (73.3)$$

and, since $\sigma(\lambda)$ can be measured in the laboratory, one now has a measurement of the gas concentration.

The advantage of absorption techniques is that they require minimal disruption to the observed system. This is of benefit in ambient monitoring where, for example, a long-path measurement can be set up over many hundreds of meters without problems of safety or power. Equally, in emissions monitoring, it is advantageous to be able to measure gas concentrations *in situ* in the flue. Long-path techniques can also be applied in point samplers through the use of a multipass cell (e.g., a White cell [8]). The response time would then be limited by the volume of the cell in relation to the sample throughput.

Because of instrumental offsets and interference from other species, measurement of transmission at a single frequency is unlikely to give an accurate estimate of the gas concentration. More commonly, absorption is measured at several frequencies. Standard techniques include:

- Differential Optical Absorption Spectroscopy (DOAS). A broadband source is used in conjunction with a high-resolution spectroscope tuned around distinctive absorption features of the target gas. The difference between online and offline absorption then gives the gas concentration. If the measured spectrum is digitized, it can be fitted to the target spectrum, allowing some correction for interferent species. In a related analog technique, "Correlation Spectrometry," several online and offline signals are taken simultaneously from a spectrometer. Regressing the signal against a known absorption spectrum using an spectral mask gives the target gas burden.
- Fourier Transform Infrared (FTIR). The output from the gas cell is put into an interferometer. The Fourier transform of the output signal as a function of phase lag is then the absorption spectrum. Fitting programs can be applied to estimate the mix of pollutants responsible for this spectrum.
- Non-Dispersive Infrared (NDIR). Optical filters are applied to limit the input spectrum to a window where interference effects from other gases are small. No further spectral separation ("dispersion") is then applied. Gross absorption by the target gas is measured and can be calibrated by switching gas cells into the light path.
- TLDAS (Tunable Laser Diode Absorption Spectroscopy). This uses a very narrow-band source (viz. a tunable diode laser) and a broad-band receptor. The frequency of the source will typically be oscillated close to an absorption line of the target gas; the first harmonic of the signal is then proportional to the integrated concentration along the light path.

Emission Techniques

The converse of looking for the absorption of light of a given frequency by the target gas is to excite molecules of the gas and then examine the light emitted as they return to their ground state. The signal is passed through a narrow-band filter and measured with a photomultiplier tube. There are several standard techniques, including:

- Flame photometry. A flame (typically of H₂) is burned in the sample gas. The heat breaks up and ionizes the target molecules, which then relax to their ground state. Since one is now looking at fragments of the molecule rather than the molecule itself, the technique is not completely specific. Its advantage is that it tends to be very fast, being ultimately limited by the timescale for the ions to pass through the flame. A related technique, FID (Flame Ionization Detection), although not strictly spectroscopic, measures the conductivity of the flame that arises from such ionization.
- Chemiluminescence. A reactive gas is added to the sample gas. Light from the excited products of the reaction is detected.
- UV fluorescence. The sample gas is excited with UV light and the subsequent fluorescence measured. A related technique, PID (Photoionization Detection), is to measure the ionization current arising from such UV irradiation. This then detects all species whose first ionization potential is less than the photon energy of the lamp. The technique is extremely fast [9].

Particulate Sampling

Sampling of particulate matter in air gives rise to a different set of considerations from the sampling of trace gases. Note that:

- Spectroscopic methods are unlikely to be effective. The interaction of light with small particles is caused by Rayleigh or Mie scattering [10] and tends not to show very specific behavior as a function of particle composition.
- The aerodynamic behavior of a particle is a strong function of its size. Particles of diameter less than 10 μm (PM₁₀) tend to travel with the air flow. Since, moreover, their Brownian diffusivity

is very small, they exhibit very slow deposition [11]. At less than 5 μm , such particles may be inhaled deeply into the lungs; as such, they are known as “respirable aerosol.”

- Particles of diameter greater than 10 μm exhibit significant inertial and gravitational effects. They can thus deposit through impaction as the air flows around small obstacles. For particles larger than 50 μm , sedimentation becomes dominant.

The sampling method must thus be tuned to the range of particle sizes that one wants to monitor. For a general review, see the book by Vincent [12].

Slow Ambient Monitoring

The initial discussion focuses on systems with sampling times of 1 day and upward. These would typically be used for background monitoring.

Diffusion Tubes

A diffusion tube is the classic inexpensive, slow-response instrument that can be deployed in large numbers to quantify spatial variations of ambient pollutants. Typically, it consists of a sealed perspex tube with a removable cap and an active substrate at the closed end. It is deployed in the field with the open end downward and, after the prescribed exposure time (typically 7 days) it is returned to the laboratory for analysis. The system was originally developed as a personal monitor of NO_2 exposure [13] but has since been widely used for ambient urban surveys.

Assuming that the substrate is a perfect trap for the target gas, the diffusive flux of gas into the tube is given by $DA\chi/L$, where D is the diffusivity of the target species, A the internal cross-sectional area of the tube, and L the length of the tube. So long as the diffusivity remains constant over the period of measurement, the total deposition to the substrate is therefore a measure of the mean concentration over the period of exposure. Theoretically, D should vary with temperature and there may also be some circulation within the tube arising from wind across its mouth. A typical commercially available model has $L = 71$ mm and an i.d. of 12 mm, so such circulation is suppressed. Studies have shown acceptable correlation between samples from diffusion tubes and long-term means from adjacent point samplers [14].

The system employed for NO_2 is a substrate of triethanolamine deposited on a stainless steel mesh. The sample is dissolved in orthophosphoric acid and the nitrite detected colorimetrically using the Greiss/Saltzman technique. Systems are also available for SO_2 , benzene, xylene, toluene, fluoride, chloride, bromide, cyanide, and nitrate. A list of participating laboratories in the U.K. can be obtained from NETCen.

Drechsel Bottles

The classic bubbler (a Drechsel bottle) consists of a Pyrex® bottle containing a solution through which filtered sample gas is bubbled. Capture of the sample gas can be enhanced by passing it through a sintered plug, so that bubble size is reduced. For the detection of SO_2 , a solution of hydrogen peroxide is used so that:



In polluted areas, the H^+ ions are then detected by titration, it being assumed that all the acidity comes from atmospheric SO_2 . In cleaner, rural areas, this is insufficiently sensitive (NH_3 emissions from livestock can give apparently negative SO_2 concentrations!) and the sulfate ions are measured using ion chromatography. Sampling times are typically 24 h for a sensitivity of a few ppb.

As implemented in the U.K. national surveys of smoke and SO_2 , eight such bottles are mounted in a case with a separate pump and flowmeter. At some preset time each day, the airflow is switched from one bottle to the next; at the end of the week, the operator then visits, replaces all the bottles, and returns the old ones to the laboratory for analysis. Depending on the time of the visit relative to the switching

time, the sample on the day of the visit can be spread over two bottles. In this system, the air is first drawn through a separate filter (Whatman Grade 1) for each day of measurement. This captures particulate in the range 5 to 25 μm diameter; the blackness of the stain is measured photometrically to provide a 24-h sample of “black smoke.”

The system is simple, inexpensive (current list prices are less than \$3000), and requires minimal operator training. It was therefore possible to install many hundreds of such sites and run them for a considerable period. In central London, for example, such systems were first installed in 1933. Annual mean SO_2 concentrations were then found to be around $400 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$; 60 years later, this has dropped to less than $40 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$. Clearly, there has been considerable improvement. Such measurements have now been considerably scaled down, with 252 sites currently active in the U.K. [5].

In practice, the real cost of such a system is the manpower and the site. These are small if the system is sited in a municipal building and operated by existing staff. At a remote site, however, a secure cabin with power must be provided and it must be visited weekly. The practical difficulties of identifying, securing, and maintaining a site should never be underestimated when designing a monitoring network.

Deposition Gages [15]

Traditionally in the U.K., measurements of atmospheric dust have been made using the passive British Standard dust deposition gage, while measurements of “smoke” have been made using the active filter system described in the previous section. The standard dust deposition gage consists essentially of a bowl of diameter 300 mm and depth 225 mm mounted 1.2 m above the ground; the sample is washed into a bottle beneath the gage, from where it is filtered, dried, and weighed. After having been in use for the better part of a century, the collection efficiency of the standard gage was tested and found to be, in fact, rather poor. In very light winds, 50% of particulate at 100 μm and 80% at 200 μm might be captured, but these efficiencies fall off very rapidly with increasing wind speed.

More recent work has shown that a gage shaped like an upside-down Frisbee® has a far superior capture performance. With the addition of a foam substrate, collection efficiencies in excess of 80% in light winds, even for particle diameters as small as 50 μm , can be achieved and these efficiencies remain good at moderate wind speeds. Such gages are now commercially available.

Active Aerosol Sampling

Measurement of particulate matter of aerodynamic diameter less than 100 μm in air requires an active sampling system.

A conventional high-volume sampler for total suspended particulate (TSP) consists of a filter and a powerful blower. The system is mounted in a housing with a pitched roof, the air being drawn in under the eaves (i.e., at a height of about 1.1 m). Air sampling rates are in excess of $1 \text{ m}^3 \text{ min}^{-1}$. The filter can be changed and weighed, or otherwise analyzed, after 24 h.

Size discrimination is introduced into such samplers by requiring the air to follow a tortuous path. Small particles then follow the streamlines, while large particles are deposited. As a first stage, the high-volume sampler may have an inlet impaction chamber, which only allows the PM10 fraction to be captured in the filter.

In a more sophisticated system, the filter can be replaced with a cascade impactor. This consists of a stack of plates with successively smaller perforations. The holes are staggered so that air passing through one hole impacts on the following plate. As the perforation size diminishes, the air speed increases and the size of particle that can escape diminishes. By covering each plate with a removable membrane, the particulate captured in each size fraction can be analyzed and, in principle, weighed. See [Figure 73.8](#).

Low-flow systems ($1 \text{ m}^3 \text{ h}^{-1}$) are also available, which permit measurement of PM10 or PM 2.5. Inlet heads, certified by the EPA, are available for various cutoff diameters. Reference 16 quotes capture efficiencies for such devices as a function of particle size.

Active or passive aerosol sampling systems are marketed by, among others, Charles Austin Pumps, Graseby-Andersen, and Casella.



FIGURE 73.8 Cascade impactor with a 10 μm inlet head operating at a rural site in eastern England.

Fast Ambient Monitoring

The alternative to a mechanically based, slow-response sampler that must be visited regularly is an automatic, fast-response system, self-calibrating if possible, which is logged on-site and may be interrogated remotely. Routine visits are then minimized, while visits can be made urgently if there is an alarm. Instruments currently available for various common gases are listed below. Most of these systems are designed to be bench- or rack-mountable, weighing typically in the range of 15 to 30 kg. Auto-calibration versions are available for most of them. Most manufacturers also supply appropriate logging systems with user-friendly software. The quoted measurement range is from the lower detectable limit (LDL, typically 2σ) to the maximum concentration. (The full range is not necessarily achievable on a single range setting.) The response time is typically the rise time to 95% of final value; with some instruments, there may also be a significant lag time. Prices were quoted in the U.K. in August 1996; prices of individual models are not quoted since any useful comparison would depend on detailed specifications in relation to the needs of the individual user. Quoted prices of nominally similar instruments show a surprisingly wide spread: it is worth shopping around.

TABLE 73.2 Selection of Manufacturers of Point Samplers with Their Appropriate Model Numbers

Manufacturer	SO ₂	NO _x	O ₃	CO	CO ₂
Dasibi	4108	2100	1008	3008 ^a	
Horiba	APSA-360	APNA-360	APOA-360	APMA-360 ^b	
Monitor Labs	ML9850	ML9841A	ML9810	ML9830 ^a	ML9820 ^a
Signal-Ambitech	Ambirak	Ambirak	Ambirak	Ambirak ^c	
Thermo-Unicam	43C	42C	49C	48C ^a	41 ^a

^a Rotating wheel containing CO (or CO₂) and N₂ gas cells is used to modulate the signal.

^b Modulation is achieved by alternating between sample and reference gas in the absorption chamber.

^c Photoacoustic detection. Modulated change in pressure due to IR absorption in sample relative to reference cell is measured.

SO₂

Most ambient monitors for SO₂ now use UV fluorescence; when irradiated, SO₂ molecules re-emit light in the range 220 to 240 nm. The measured light intensity is then proportional to the SO₂ concentration. Currently available systems have response times of order 1 to 4 min, LDL of order 0.5 to 1 ppb, and maximum ranges of 1 to 100 ppm. Prices start at around \$9000. Most manufacturers also supply a converter that allows H₂S to be measured as a separate channel.

NO_x

Most ambient monitors for NO_x now employ chemiluminescence. Ozone generated within the instrument is mixed with the sample air. NO in the sample then reacts very rapidly to form NO₂, with the emission of IR radiation (peaking at 1200 nm). This is a first-order reaction. IR emission is therefore proportional to the NO concentration. Total NO_x can be measured by first passing the sample air over a catalytic converter to reduce any NO₂ present to NO. By alternating this conversion, or through the use of a dual channel system, NO₂ concentrations may be found by difference. Inevitably, the measurement of NO₂ will be noisier than that of NO or NO_x separately. Currently available systems have response times of order 1 to 4 min, LDL of order 0.5 to 1 ppb, and maximum ranges of 10 to 100 ppm. Prices start at around \$9000. Most manufacturers also supply a converter that allows NH₃ to be measured as a separate channel.

O₃

Most ambient monitors for O₃ now use modulated UV absorption. O₃ has a broad absorption spectrum in the UV, with a peak around 254 nm. Practical instruments alternate the gas in the absorption cell between sample air and a de-ozone reference gas; from the Beer-Lambert law, the log ratio of the signal must then be proportional to the O₃ concentration. Currently available systems have response times of order 20 s to 2 min, LDL of order 0.5 to 2 ppm, and maximum ranges of 1 to 200 ppm. Prices start at around \$7000.

CO and CO₂

The standard method of measuring ambient CO or CO₂ is to use modulated IR absorption (NDIR); modulation of the signal allows detector offsets to be removed. Currently available systems have response times of order 15 s to 2 min, LDL of order 0.05 to 0.1 ppm for CO and <2 ppm for CO₂, and maximum ranges of 10² to 10⁴ ppm. Prices start at around \$9000.

Table 73.2 provides a selective listing of manufacturers of point samplers.

Hydrocarbons

The instruments available for the detection of ambient hydrocarbons tend to be somewhat more diverse than for the gases listed above. The most widely used technique is flame ionization detection (FID). A hydrogen flame is burned in the sample gas between two electrodes and the flame conductivity measured.

This tends to be proportional to the concentration of $\cdot\text{CH}$ ions in the flame, although the calibration varies between hydrocarbon species. Most commercial instruments allow CH_4 to be measured separately by first passing the sample gas across an oxidation catalyst. Non-methane hydrocarbons (NMHC) are thereby removed from the sample; they can be estimated by difference from the total hydrocarbon (THC) channel. In principle, a FID is very fast, with some commercial instruments having response times as short as 1 s. There is, however, a tradeoff between sensitivity and response time, a sampling time of several minutes being required to give an LDL of 20 ppb.

Most of the manufacturers listed in Table 73.2 supply FIDs for ambient monitoring. Dasibi offers an instrument (Model 302) that combines an FID with a gas chromatograph, thereby giving good speciation. Photovac manufactures a hand-held FID (MicroFID), which is designed to be intrinsically safe and intended for, for example, workplace monitoring or leak detection. Prices for the standard instruments start at about \$12500.

An alternative technique for hydrocarbons is photoionization detection (PID). This is nonspecific, with the detector also responding to inorganic gases of low ionization potential (e.g., NH_3). It is, however, very fast (with response times from 0.2 s for an LDL of 10 ppb) and the instruments can be made to be economical, lightweight, and intrinsically safe. A typical application might be as a hand-held leak detector in a chemical plant, or as a personal monitor of toxic solvents. Instruments are marketed by Casella, Photovac, and RAE Systems.

Wet Chemiluminescence

In addition to the above dry systems, wet chemiluminescence systems for NO_x and O_3 are available from Unisearch Associates. In these instruments, sample air is drawn over a wick containing a proprietary solution that reacts with the target gas. Light emitted in the reaction is monitored. The system is fast (response time ≤ 0.5 s), sensitive (LDL ≤ 0.1 ppb), and lightweight. It is, however, somewhat more expensive than the dry systems.

Aerosols

Measuring atmospheric aerosol concentrations at ambient levels in real time is more demanding than measuring trace gases because the pollutant is concentrated into a relatively small number of tiny particles, inaccessible to spectroscopic examination. Methods based on the scattering of laser light are available (e.g., Grimm, Model No. 1.104), although they must be calibrated to the specific aerosol being sampled. Direct gravimetric methods are also employed, based either on beta-absorption or on an oscillating filter. The sensitivity required for such a measurement can be appreciated if one considers a sampler drawing 3 L min^{-1} that is intended to measure aerosol concentrations over a sampling period of 6 min. A detection limit of $5 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ then requires that the sample mass be measured to a precision of 90 ng.

In the beta-absorption technique (e.g., Horiba, Model APDA-360), the sample air is drawn through a filter exposed to beta-radiation. As atmospheric aerosol is deposited on the filter, its transparency to the radiation gradually diminishes. Differentiating the transmitted signal with respect to time gives an aerosol concentration at close to real time. Commercial instruments have an automatic system for regularly changing filters, which are then available for subsequent chemical analysis.

In the TEOM (Tapered Element Oscillating Microbalance; Rupprecht and Patashnick, Model No. 1400a) system, the filter is balanced on a hollow tube through which the sample air is drawn. The tube is clamped at its base and induced to vibrate at a frequency that depends on the mass of the filter. Again, the differential of the filter mass with respect to time provides the aerosol concentration.

Whichever system is employed, care must be taken in the choice of inlet port so that the desired fraction of ambient particulate is sampled. Typically, a PM10 sampling head would be employed.

Remote Monitoring

While point samples of air pollution can be very valuable, they are limited both in their position, which is normally near ground level, and in representing a single point rather than a broader spatial sample. A variety of optical techniques are available that permit more general measurement of pollution in the atmosphere.

Long-Path Measurements

With the use of a broadband source and a retroreflector, spectroscopic analysis of the returned light can provide spatially averaged measurements of a wide range of pollutants. Two commonly used systems are Hawk (from Siemens Environmental Systems) and OPSIS.

For ambient monitoring, OPSIS applies DOAS to an absorption spectrum ranging between the UV and the near-IR. The spectrum is digitized by scanning the output from the spectrometer and sophisticated fitting routines are then applied to detect target species in the presence of other absorbers and scatterers. Standard systems are available for monitoring three (NO_2 , SO_2 , O_3) or five (+ toluene, benzene) species, with the three-species system costing from about \$80,000. Modules can be added for a range of trace gases. The system can also be used for emissions monitoring. An absorption band in the IR can then be used and the calibration must be optimized to the optical density of the particular flue.

Hawk employs a broadband source and an oscillating interference filter. Since the spacing of the lines of the filter normal to the light path varies with the cosine of the angle of incidence, the positions of the absorption lines must also oscillate. The system is tuned to lie close to an absorption line of a target gas; the differential signal then measures the gas concentration. A given instrument is thus limited to one, or at most a few closely related analytes; the system is particularly good for alkanes. Instrument costs start at about \$16000, but there is no fixed price since costs depend on the complexities of the spectrum of the desired target species.

Overhead Burden

If one is interested in concentrations well away from the ground, a retroreflector may be impractical. In this case, spectral measurements of sunlight scattered from the sky can provide us with an estimate of the total overhead burden of a pollutant. "Cospecs" (Correlation Spectrometers) have been available since the early 1970s for the measurement of SO_2 or NO_2 burden. These are most valuable in conjunction with mobile surveys of elevated emissions, since they allow the operator to know when he is beneath the plume. With very careful calibration, and a knowledge of the wind speed, they may also be used to estimate the pollutant flux. The instrument has no absolute zero level and so has difficulty distinguishing very broad plumes. They are still made to order by Barringer Research.

The classic measurement of overhead pollutant burden is that of stratospheric O_3 using the Dobson spectrophotometer. This measures the difference in irradiance at two wavelengths 20 nm apart close to the peak of UV absorption by O_3 ; other things being equal, this difference is proportional to the overhead burden of O_3 . The system was used to detect the ozone hole over Antarctica [17]. The detection method has remained unchanged since the original instruments of 60 years ago, although the optics have been refined and the valve electronics have now been replaced with solid-state. The continuity of method was important in giving confidence in the surprising observation of the ozone hole in the mid-1980s. Instruments are available from Ealing Electro-Optics.

Lidar

Lidar (Light Detection And Ranging) is the optical equivalent of radar [8,18]. A pulse of laser light is directed into the atmosphere. Backscattered light is collected by a telescope and directed to a photomultiplier tube. The strength of the return signal corresponding to a given range $R = ct/2$ is given by the Lidar equation:

$$V(R) = \frac{CW}{R^2} \sigma_b n(r) \exp \left\{ -2 \int_0^R (\sigma(\lambda) \chi(r) - \sigma_e n(r)) dr \right\} \quad (73.5)$$

where C is a system constant, W the pulse energy, $n(R)$ the density of scatterers, σ_b and σ_e , respectively, the backscatter and extinction cross-sections for scattering, and $\sigma(\lambda)$ the absorption cross-section from a tracer gas of concentration χ . If the extinction is small, scanning the laser beam through an elevated plume allows a cross-section of the scatterer density to be built up. The range resolution of this cross-section

depends on the frequency at which the signal is digitized; a 60-MHz digitizer gives a range resolution of 2.5 m. The time resolution of the measurement depends on the pulse repetition rate of the laser. At 30 Hz, a 2-s scan would normally give adequate lateral spatial resolution. *A priori* calibration for particulate density requires knowledge of σ_b , which in turn depends on the particle size and refractive index. In practice, an independent gravimetric measurement must be made at some point in the scanned area.

Alternatively, shots can be alternated between two nearby wavelengths having very different values of $\sigma(\lambda)$. Neglecting variations in the other terms, the Lidar equation can be rearranged to give:

$$\chi(R) = \frac{1}{2(\sigma(\lambda_1) - \sigma(\lambda_2))} \frac{\partial}{\partial R} \log \left(\frac{V_2(R)}{V_1(R)} \right) \quad (73.6)$$

Since the differential absorption $\sigma(\lambda_1) - \sigma(\lambda_2)$ can be measured in the laboratory, one now has a remote, range-resolved measurement of the tracer gas. This technique is known as DIAL (Differential Absorption Lidar) [8] and has been applied to a wide range of atmospheric pollutants (SO_2 , NO_2 , O_3 , CH_4 , hydrocarbons, Hg, etc.). Its particular strength is in identifying and quantifying fugitive emissions, for example, CH_4 from cattle or leaks in refinery plant [19]. Because of the greater subtlety of the measurement, it does not in general have the spatial or temporal resolution of a simple backscatter Lidar. For a given DIAL system at a given range, the product of spatial, temporal, and concentration resolution is approximately fixed; optimal performance in one is at the cost of worse performance in the others. If the signal is rather weak, there is a temptation to average measurements over a period greater than the timescale for a significant change in the target gas concentration. Great care should be taken in this case since the nonlinearity of Equation 73.6 can then lead to very serious distortions [20].

DIAL services are available from, for example, the National Physical Laboratory (NPL) and Siemens Environmental Systems in the U.K. Elight in Berlin supplies complete DIAL systems.

Emissions Monitoring

Industrial plants are, in general, authorized to release effluent to the atmosphere on the condition that such emissions are monitored reliably enough to satisfy the regulator that authorized limits have not been exceeded. This has increasingly led to the continuous monitoring of prescribed substances, with measurements being automatically displayed and archived. Aside from satisfying regulatory conditions, such monitoring can also be of value to the operator in controlling his plant. Note that any measured value of pollutant concentration must be converted to standard conditions of temperature, pressure, humidity, and excess O_2 before comparison with a regulatory standard.

Isokinetic Sampling of Aerosol

The gold standard for the measurement of aerosol emissions is to take a sample of the effluent and weigh the particulate therein. This is done by introducing a sample line into the flue, pumping the gas through a filter, and measuring the mass gained per metered volume of flue gas. It is essential that the gas speed at the sample inlet is the same as the flow velocity in the flue; if it is too fast (or slow), large particulate will be under (or over) sampled. To ensure a representative sample, such measurements must be made at several diameters downstream of any bends or confluences in the flue. It is also necessary to take several samples (4 or 8) over the cross-section of the flue. Even taking every precaution, the precision of the method may be as poor as 20% of the mean value. In practice, the nominal calibration against continuous monitors can be found to be *very much* worse than this from trial to trial.

Since each sample can take 30 min, this procedure clearly does not give a real-time measurement of particulate load. In poorly designed plants, there may also be severe practical difficulties in gaining access to the flue with heavy, powered sampling equipment at a sufficient height for the flow to be uniform. Nevertheless, this is the only direct gravimetric method of measuring particulate concentration in a flue. For this reason, regular (at least annual) such measurements would be required for the calibration of any continuous monitors.

Aerosol Sampling: *In situ* Methods

In situ methods are particularly attractive for emissions measurements because the pollutant is measured directly without any possibility of loss or transformation in the path from flue to instrument.

The most obvious way of continuously measuring the dust load in a flue is to pass a beam of light across the flue and measure the obscuration. It can be assumed that the transmission obeys the Beer-Lambert law and that the optical density is proportional to the particulate load. Practical instruments, of course, require a degree of sophistication to allow for instrumental offsets. It will not generally be possible to turn off the plant at regular intervals to check the instrument zero! Typically, the light source will be modulated and a modulated signal measured. Purge air is normally blown over transmitter and receptor windows (and the retroreflector if used) in order to keep the light path clear. The sensitivity of the system will nevertheless drift with time (and will change with the composition of particulate), so regular gravimetric calibration is essential.

Such cross-duct monitors are simple and robust, and they provide a measurement across the full width of the flue. They are limited to optical densities in the approximate range 0.01 to 2.5. Systems are available from Codel, Land Combustion, Grimm, United Sciences, and others.

For very narrow ducts, or for very low particle densities, a more sensitive technique must be chosen. As with ambient particulate monitoring, it is possible to use sideways scattering from a light beam. The transmission and reception optics are now set up so that there is no direct path between the two. Light scattered from particles in the flue can, however, be detected. This gives a true zero level in the absence of particulate, and a signal proportional to particle density. Care must be taken to ensure that the light path is representative of the particle distribution in the flue. By switching the light path, it might be possible to route it through a filter of known optical density, thereby permitting online calibration. Such systems are available from Erwin-Sick and from United Sciences.

An alternative technique is the triboelectric monitor. In this device, a metal rod is inserted across the flow. Particles striking the rod transfer static charge to it. The leakage current (or, better, the rms component thereof) is thus proportional to the particle flux along the duct. This method is fast, simple, and robust; it is little affected by the accumulation of dirt on the probe and is insensitive to the presence of steam (which would, of course, preclude optical measurements of particle density). In very wet flows, there are possible problems with leakage across the insulated base of the probe; these can be overcome with the use of purge air or extended insulation. It should be noted that, with this device, calibration is required not only for gravimetric particle density but also for the flow speed in the duct. If this speed varies significantly, the implicit particle density will be in error. Systems are available from PCME.

Gas Sampling: Spectroscopic Methods

The cross-beam technique can be applied to *in situ* sampling for pollutant gases. Practical devices are usually based on nondispersive absorption of IR or UV. DOAS can also be used. Sophisticated instrumental design is necessary to ensure:

- Minimal interference from other species present in the effluent. In combustion gases, for example, high concentrations of H₂O, CO₂, and acid gases may be present. Measurement of CO in the IR involves the use of an absorption window at a wavelength of about 4.7 μm between the absorption bands of CO₂ and H₂O.
- Minimal interference from IR emissions from the hot flue gases. Typically, a modulated system would be used.
- Insensitivity to instrumental drifts (dirty windows, misaligned optics, aging of source and detector). This can be achieved with dual light-path systems, where only one path is sensitive to the target gas. The differential signal then gives a robust measurement of concentration in the flue. This can be calibrated online by switching in cells containing a known concentration of the target gas.

[Table 73.3](#) provides a selected listing of manufacturers of cross-duct emission systems.

TABLE 73.3 Selection of Manufacturers of Cross-duct Emission Systems

Supplier	Technique	Gases
Codel	NDIR	Multigas, CO, SO ₂ , NO/NO _x , HCl, H ₂ O, hydrocarbons, NO ₂ , CO ₂ , NH ₃ , VOCs
Erwin-Sick ^a	DOAS (UV)	SO ₂ , NO, NO ₂ , NH ₃
Land Combustion	NDIR	CO
Monitor Labs ^a	NDIR	CO, CO ₂ , H ₂ O
	Modulated UV	NO, SO ₂
OP SIS	DOAS	Many

^a In these systems, the beam is enclosed within an optical probe inserted into the duct. Sample gas diffuses in through a ceramic filter. Besides protecting the optics, this permits calibration by injecting reference gases into the measurement cavity.

Gas Sampling: Extractive Techniques

If flue gases are to be sampled by an extractive technique, great care must be taken in delivering the sample from the flue to the monitor. Most of the techniques used for extractive emissions monitoring are the same as those for ambient gas monitoring; in many cases, even the same instruments might be used. Since process gases tend to be hotter, wetter, dustier, and more acidic than ambient air, there will often be a need to change the condition of the sample so that it is acceptable to the monitor. The aim of sampling technology is to deliver an acceptable sample to the instrument at a target gas concentration that bears a known relation to the gas concentration in the flue [21].

In general, the sample can be conditioned by dilution, by filtering, by cooling, or by drying. The techniques chosen will depend on the gas being measured and on the instrument being used. At its simplest, conditioning may amount to the sample gas being diluted with several hundred times its volume of clean air. Normal ambient monitors could then be used, but separate measurements would have to be made of O₂ and H₂O in order to express the measured concentration in standard form.

To avoid clogging of the sample line, it is usual to filter the sample as soon as practically possible. To avoid condensation, the normal practice is to keep the line heated. If, however, the instrument cannot tolerate flue gas temperatures, cooling will be necessary at some stage. If this is done without dilution, water will condense out and subsequent measurements will be on a dry gas basis. In itself, this is advantageous, but any acid gases will remain with the water and be lost. Alternatively, the sample can be dried by passing it through a permeation drier. Such driers cannot tolerate acid gases. SO₂, for example, must therefore be measured on a wet gas basis, with temperature and condensation being controlled by appropriate dilution.

Considerable skill is involved in designing and implementing continuous extractive emissions monitoring systems. Instruments are available for hydrocarbons and for the conventional range of stack gases from Bernath Atomic (THC), Horiba, Land Combustion, Monitor Labs, Servomex, Signal-Ambitech, and Thermo-Unicam.

Table 73.4 provides the addresses of the various manufacturers of air pollution measurement instrumentation, and Table 73.5 provides Web site addresses for Table 73.4.

Defining Terms

Aerosol: Particulate matter so finely divided in a gas that it remains in suspension. The aerodynamic diameter of an aerosol particle is conventionally defined as the diameter of a sphere of density 1 g cm⁻³ which would have the same sedimentation velocity.

Burden: The integrated concentration of an analyte along a defined path.

Concentration: The mass or volume of an analyte in a unit sample volume. The volume may need to be defined in terms of temperature, pressure, humidity etc.

Deposition: The transfer of material from the atmosphere to a surface.

Monitoring: A routine series of measurements made for control purposes.

Protocol: A written list of instructions for obtaining a reliable measurement.

TABLE 73.4 Addresses for Manufacturers of Air Pollution Measurement Instrumentation

Barringer Research 1730 Aimco Blvd. Mississauga, Ontario L4W 1V1, Canada Tel: (905) 238-8837 Fax: (905) 238-3018	Bernath Atomic Gottlieb-Daimler Str., 11-15 D-3015 Wennigsen, Germany Tel: 49 (5103) 7093 Fax: 49 (5103) 709298	Casella (London) Regent House, Wolseley Road Kempston, Bedford MK42 7JY, U.K. Tel: 1 (1234) 841441 Fax: 1 (1234) 841490
Charles Austin Pumps Royston Road West Byfleet KT14 7NY, U.K. Tel: 44 (1932) 355277 Fax: 44 (1932) 351285	Codel International Station Road Bakewell Derbyshire DE45 1GE, U.K. Tel: 44 (1629) 814351 Fax: 44 (1629) 814619	Dasibi Environmental 506 Paula Ave. Glendale, CA 91201 Tel: (818) 247-7601 Fax: (818) 247-7614
Ealing Electro-Optics Greycaine Road Watford WD2 4PW, U.K. Tel: (1923) 242261 Fax: (1923) 34220	ELIGHT Warthe Str. 21 D-14513 Teltow-Berlin, Germany Tel: 49 (3328) 39500 Fax: 49 (3328) 395099	Environmental Protection Agency 401 M St., SW Washington, D.C. 20460
Erwin-Sick Optik-Elektronik Nimburger Str.11 D-79276 Reute Germany Tel: 49 (7641) 4690 Fax: 49 (7641) 469149	Graseby-Andersen 4801 Fulton Ind. Boulevard Atlanta, GA 30336 Tel: (404) 691 1910 Fax: (404) 691 6315	Grimm Labortechnik Dorfstraße 9 D-83404 Ainring, Germany Tel: 49 (8654) 5780 Fax: 49 (8654) 57810
Horiba 1080 E. Duane Ave. Ste. A Sunnyvale, CA 94086 Tel: (408) 730-4722 Fax: (408) 730-8675	Land Combustion Dronfield Sheffield S18 6DJ, U.K. Tel: 44 (1246) 417691 Fax: 44 (1246) 290274	Monitor Labs 74 Inverness Drive East Englewood, CO 80112-5189 Tel: (303) 792-3300 Fax: (303) 799-4853
NETCen Culham Abingdon OX14 3DB, U.K. Tel: 44 (1235) 463133 Fax: 44 (1235) 463011	National Physical Laboratory Queen's Road Teddington, TW11 0LW, U.K. Tel: 44 (181) 943 7095 Fax: 44 (181) 943 6755	NRPB (Radon Survey) Chilton Didcot OX11 0RQ, U.K. Tel: 44 (1235) 831600 Fax: 44 (1235) 833891
OPSIS AB Box 244 S-244 02 Furulund Sweden Tel: 46 (46) 738510 Fax: 46 (46) 738370	PCME Ltd. Stonehill, Huntingdon, PE18 6EL, U.K. Tel: 44 (1480) 455611 Fax: 44 (1480) 413500	Photovac Europe Sondervang 19 DK4100 Ringsted Denmark Tel: 45 (5767) 5008 Fax: 45 (5767) 5018
RAE Systems 680 West Maude Ave. #1 Sunnyvale, CA 94086 Tel: (408) 481-4999 Fax: (408) 481-4998	Rupprecht and Patashnick 25 Corporate Cir. Albany, NY 12203 Tel: (518) 452-0065 Fax: (518) 452-0067	Servomex Co.Inc. 90 Kerry Place Norwood, MA 02062 Tel: (781) 769-7710 Fax: (781) 769-2834
Siemens Environ. Systems Sopers Lane Poole BH17 7ER, U.K. Tel: 44 (1202) 782553 fax. 44 (1202) 782335	Signal-Ambitech Regal Way Faringdon SN7 7BX, U.K. Tel: 44 (1367) 242660 Fax: 44 (1367) 242700	Spring Innovations 216 Moss Lane Bramhall, Stockport SK7 1BD, U.K. Tel: 44 (161) 440 0082 Fax: 44 (161) 440 9127

TABLE 73.4 (continued) Addresses for Manufacturers of Air Pollution Measurement Instrumentation

Thermo-Unicam	United Sciences	Unisearch Associates
P.O. Box 208	5310 North Pioneer Rd.	222 Snidercroft Rd.
York Street	Gibsonia, PA 15044	Concord, Ontario
Cambridge	Tel: (412) 443-8610	L4K 1B5, Canada
CB1 2SR U.K.	Fax: (412) 443-7180	Tel: (905) 669-3547
Tel: 44 (1223) 374234		Fax: (905) 669-8652
Fax: 44 (1223) 374338		

Note: For reasons of space, only a primary address has been given for each manufacturer. Many of these companies will have subsidiaries or agents in your own country: a fax should elicit the local address.

TABLE 73.5 Useful Website Addresses for Organizations Listed in Table 73.4

http://www.barringer.com/	
http://www.bernath-atomic.com/	
http://www.casella.co.uk/	
http://www.pentol.com/codel.html	
http://www.dasibi.com/	
http://www.ealing.com/	
http://www.epa.gov/	
http://www.elight.de/	
http://www.sick.de/	
http://www.graseby.com/	
http://www.horiba.com/	
http://www.landinst.com/	
http://www.monitorlabs.com/	
http://www.aeat.co.uk/netcen/	
http://www.npl.co.uk/	
http://www.pcme.co.uk/	
http://www.perkin-elmer.com/photo/	(Photovac)
http://www.raesystems.com/	
http://www.rpco.com//index.htm	(Rupprecht & Patashnick)
http://www.servomex.com/	
http://www.siemens.co.uk/	
http://www.spring-innovations.co.uk/	
http://www.unicam.co.uk/	

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73.3 Water Quality Measurement

Kathleen M. Leonard

Maintaining and verifying water quality is important in many environmental applications. The most obvious is in drinking water applications; but industrial and municipal wastewater, natural surface/groundwater, industrial process waters, and closed-loop control systems all require a certain range or maximum concentration of species to operate properly. Therefore, the development of instrumentation for monitoring and detecting these contaminants is a highly competitive area. Of course, the chemical species of interest depend on the ultimate use of the water, but this chapter section deals with some of the water quality sensors and instrumentation being currently used.

Table 73.6 provides a list of the most commonly monitored chemical species in the area of water quality. The third column categorizes the parameters in the general categories of drinking water, wastewater (municipal), industrial, stormwater, and ambient water quality. The "ultimate reference" source for accepted methods of determining chemical concentrations in water is known as the *Standard Method for the Examination of Water and Wastewater* [1]. This book has been updated regularly since 1905 and contains the current techniques recommended by Water Environment Federation (WEF) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

The next chapter subsection introduces the theory behind the some of the major types of water quality sensors, including electrical, optical, and chemical separation. Since each technique has its own particular water quality applications, a brief discussion of advantages and disadvantages is included. This section is limited to commercially available instruments commonly used both inside and outside the laboratory,

TABLE 73.6 Common Chemical Species Monitored in Water Quality

Chemical Parameter	Chemical Symbol	Primary Use ^a
Ammonium	NH ₄	DW, WW
Arsenic	As	DW
Barium	Ba	DW
Bicarbonate	HCO ₃ ⁻	DW, WW
Cadmium	Cd	DW, WW
Calcium	Ca ²⁺	DW
Carbonate	CO ₃ ²⁻	DW
Chlorinated Hydrocarbons	Various herbicides and pesticides	DW, SW
Chloride	Cl ⁻	DW, SW
Fluoride	F ⁻	DW
Chromium	Cr	DW
Dissolved Oxygen	O ₂	WQ
Hydrogen (pH)	H ⁺	DW, WW, WQ
Iron	Fe	DW
Lead	Pb	DW
Magnesium	Mg ²⁺	DW
Mercury	Hg	DW
Nitrate	NO ₃ ⁻	DW, WW, SW
Nitrogen	N	DW, WW
Petrochemicals	Various	
Phosphates	PO ₄ ³⁻	WW, SW, WQ
Potassium	K ⁺	WW
Selenium	Se	DW
Silver	Ag	DW
Sodium	Na ⁺	DW
Sulfate	SO ₄ ²⁻	DW, WW
Gross Measures		
Alkalinity	As CaCO ₃	DW
Biochemical Oxygen Demand	BOD	WW, WQ
Conductivity		
Chemical Oxygen Demand	COD	WW, WQ
Hardness	As CaCO ₃	DW
Particle counts		WW, WQ
pH	H ⁺	DW, WW, WQ
Total Organic Carbon	TOC	SW, WW, WQ
Other Parameters		
Color		
Dissolved Solids	In ppm	SW, DW
Turbidity	In NTU	DW, WQ
Microbiological contaminants	Counts/100 mL	DW, WW, WQ
Radiological contaminants	In curies	DW

^a DW: Drinking water, WW: Waste water, SW: Storm water, WQ: Water Quality.

although emphasis is placed on field (i.e., portable) instruments. Future trends will be addressed in the conclusion section.

Theory

Electrical Methods of Analysis

There are various electric mechanisms employed for determining water quality concentrations. For example, in the area of electrochemical sensors, there are potentiometric, amperometric, and conductometric devices [2]. The pH sensor for determining hydrogen ion concentration is probably the most widely used instrument in this category.

Potentiometric Sensors.

This type of sensor is based on the relationship of the electrochemical cell and the chemical activity of a sample, based on the general form of the Nernst equation:

$$E_{\text{cell}} = E^0 - \left(RT/nF \right) \ln \left\{ \left(\text{red} \right) / \left(\text{ox} \right) \right\} \quad (73.7)$$

for the general reaction: $\text{ox} + ne^- \leftrightarrow \text{red}$. ox and red indicate the oxidized and reduced species [3]. The term RT/F has a value of 0.059. E^0 is the standard cell potential and E_{cell} is the adjusted cell potential. In short, the activities of the oxidized and reduced species determine the potential of the electrode. If the relationship of the reacting species is known, it is used to measure concentration of that species in another solution. In most electrochemical instruments, it is important to maintain a reference electrode whose potential remains constant for all cell conditions or one that can be easily calibrated for other species. These sensors are commonly known as ion-selective electrodes (ISE) in environmental applications (also known as ion-sensitive field-effect transistors or ISFET). They are all based on the activity level of a specific ion within a solution. The key to the ISE is the use of an ion-specific membrane with channel size proportional to the concentration of the ion. It is necessary to maintain a reference potential to ensure that the "ion concentration will be directly related to the substrate potential [4]." Specific electrodes can be based on a gas electrode, metal electrode, oxidation-reduction electrode, membrane electrode, glass, liquid membrane, crystalline membrane, or electrode with metal contacting a slightly soluble salt [5]. Examples of this type of sensor and instrumentation for gross measurements include pH sensors, dissolved oxygen, hardness, and dissolved solids.

Commercially available ion-selective electrodes include sensors for ammonia, chlorides, cyanide, iodide, fluoride, nitrates, potassium, and sodium. The instruments labeled as multiparameter water quality monitors, such as that available from Solomat, are usually composed of one meter with separate probes for each measurement parameter. However, some of these multiparameter monitors have been upgraded with a multichannel probe that contains the separate probes within a single housing.

A membrane probe in popular usage is the dissolved oxygen probe based on the principle of polarography. It consists of a gas-permeable membrane over a silver anode and a platinum cathode within a cavity full of electrolyte (usually KCl). [Figure 73.9](#) shows the placement of the anode and electrode in a typical polarographic membrane probe. Since the oxygen will be reduced at the cathode, a current is induced. The amount of oxygen can then be correlated to the current when a potential is applied to the anode and cathode.

The pH instrument is one of the most commonly used potentiometric sensors in water quality applications. It is based on a glass electrode that develops a potential related to hydrogen ion activity of the solution. Since this probe was initially developed in the early part of the 1900s, there are numerous probes and meters on the market. Small, battery-operated, hand-held units are excellent choices for fieldwork. However, for more precise applications, advanced (i.e., expensive) laboratory-grade instruments are also available. Most pH probes require standardization and may have other upkeep requirements after prolonged usage.

Amperometric Sensors.

The amperometric classification of electrical sensors is based on the measurement of current through a working electrode. An empirical relationship can be used to enhance the performance of these electrodes. An example of such a probe is an electrode for chlorine, consisting of a silver anode and platinum cathode within an electrolyte reservoir. A chemically specific membrane allows only the ions of interest within the probe cavity near the cathode. Reduction occurs at the cathode and then the silver anode reacts with the electrolyte and, through oxidation, positively charged ions produce a current.

Conductometric Sensors.

The conductometric sensors are based on measurements of concentration of a sample due to modulation in conductivity. For example, conductivity is usually measured with a direct reading of electrical conductivity in water, which is then correlated with the number of ions present. The probe usually



FIGURE 73.9 Simplified diagram of dissolved oxygen sensor based on polarography. The oxygen-permeable membrane surrounds the anode and cathode to deter other chemical species from entering the electrolytic solution.

consists of two voltage electrodes (+ and -) and two current electrodes (also + and -) supported by some type of housing. The newer instruments have a temperature compensation option and data storage. Most will also provide a reading of total dissolved solids. Conductometric sensors are also available for resistivity, salinity, and temperature measurements.

The most commonly available dissolved oxygen (DO) sensors are galvanic electrodes with replaceable membranes. The current is proportional to the DO concentration under steady-state conditions [1]. One of the drawbacks of this type of probe has been the need for periodic calibration, either in air or a saturated medium. Some of the newer products are self-calibrating, thus eliminating this error source. There are many companies that sell these products and the prices range from modest (\$300) to high, depending on extras. If the application will be messy, (e.g., wastewater), the added expense for the deluxe model, such as a self-cleaning probe may be realized very quickly. A company that has been producing DO instruments for many years is YSI. It has a “deluxe” model with microprocessor control and RS232 interface for continuous reading.

Optical Sensors

This category involves any type of measurement system that relies on an optical property to measure a chemical concentration, including reflection, colorimetry, fluorescence, or absorption of light. The general equation relating wavelength of light (λ) to the energy of a photon (E) is given by the Planck equation:

$$E = hc/\lambda \tag{73.8}$$

where h is Planck’s constant (6.626×10^{-34} J s) and c is the velocity of light (3.0×10^8 m s⁻¹). Some of these mechanisms are included in the category of “gross optical measurements.” This category includes any method that uses reflection/refraction of light beams, colorimetry, or absorption of light. For example, in order to determine the efficiency of a water treatment system due to deteriorating filter capacity or to optimize coagulant dosages, a particle counting method is used. This type of measurement can give not only quantity, but also size ranges. This method is helpful in guarding against the intrusion of cryptosporidium cysts and guardia in a drinking water facility.

Nephelometry.

In this method, light is directed to the sample and the light reflected at right angles to the beam is measured (Tyndall effect). This type of analysis is the accepted method for quantifying turbidity (cloudiness) since the intensity of light scattered by a water sample can be compared to the scattering of a standard (usually Formazin polymer) under similar conditions. The units measured are known as nephelometric turbidity units (NTUs), which are approximately comparable to the older “candle” units. A turbidimeter consists of a light source and a photoelectric sensor that measures the light scattered at 90° from the source.

Absorbance Methods.

Certain chemical species exhibit natural light absorbance patterns over a range of wavelengths. These include nitrates/nitrites, heavy metals, unsaturated organics, and aromatics. This approach is valid even in multicontaminant solutions, since no two substances have exactly the same absorbance pattern. Several commercially available instruments take this technology to water quality applications with online capabilities. For example, in the water/wastewater area, there are flow-through monitors that measure a broad range of wavelengths of ultraviolet light simultaneously. This pattern is checked against a “signature” for the contaminant of interest and both the presence and concentration are verified.

Some contaminants do not have a natural absorbance, so a “conditioning” step is required in order to use this method. This usually involves the addition of a secondary chemical, or indicator, that will absorb in the presence of the contaminant. This is commonly known as induced light absorbance. Ammonia, phosphates, and chlorine absorbance probes are available with this conditioning step.

There are several advantages to using absorbance, including low maintenance, especially when compared to ISEs, high reliability, and automatic compensation for turbidity (which can cause havoc in other systems). One of the major drawbacks of the available models is the need to buy a separate unit for each contaminant, at a comparatively higher cost than ISE.

Colorimetry.

This simple method works by correlating the color of a solution with the concentration of a specific chemical. The theory is that light absorption (A), which is the amount of light intensity (I/I_0) absorbed, as is related to concentration based on Beer’s Law [5]:

$$A = \log\left(I/I_0\right) = k^n C \quad (73.9)$$

where k^n is the constant for a particular solution and C is the concentration of the solution. Beer’s law is valid for most water quality ranges of concentration, but it can be verified using dilutions of a specific contaminant. The first and still simplest colorimetric methods involve the use of color-comparator tubes (or Nessler tubes) for comparing a range of standards to water samples. However, this method is susceptible to large discrepancies due to human error in selecting variations of tints of a color. An instrument that improves upon the accuracy of colorimetry is a photoelectric colorimeter. A light source is directed through a filter (making it monochromatic), then passed through the sample cell and on to the photoelectric detector. The obvious advantage over the comparator is the elimination of the human factor for identifying variations in color. Another adaptation is the spectrophotometer, which employs a diffraction grating to select the wavelength for a wide variety of uses. It is a very versatile instrument since both the incoming and outgoing wavelengths are selectable. Newer models incorporate computer chips for automatic programming and data storage.

Colorimetric tests include single analyte meters for chlorine and DO, and direct readout multianalyte photometers for many parameters. For example, the DPD colorimetric method is commonly used to measure total chlorine concentrations in water and wastewater. However, it must be used with caution, since turbidity, other organic contaminants, monochloramine, etc. will cause interference.

Fluorimetry.

This method utilizes the fluorescence, either natural or induced, of a compound. Fluorescent chemicals absorb radiation of a specific wavelength and emit at another. Fluorescent tracers are commonly used in water quality studies to determine direction of flow for both surface and groundwater systems. Fluorescent tracers include Rhodamine B, Fluorescein, and Pontacyl Pink B. The detection instrument is known as a fluorimeter, which range from moderate cost for a stationery (single chemical) wavelength model (<\$4000) to high cost for a unit with variable wavelength and detection capabilities.

Remote Fiber-Optic Spectroscopy.

In the area of *in situ* chemical analysis, remote fiber spectroscopy (RFS) shows much promise for a variety of monitoring applications. RFS is a fiber-optic application of existing spectroscopic techniques that can be applied to the monitoring of chemical species in remote locations. In this method, light of an appropriate frequency is launched into a single optical fiber or fiber bundle. The light is guided to the region of interest through the fiber by the mechanism of total internal reflection. An optical sensor (optrode) designed for a specific chemical or chemical group is positioned at either the distal end of the fiber, or a length along the fiber. The altered signal is returned through the same fiber to the spectrometer for signal decoupling and analysis. The major advantages to fiber-optic chemical sensors (FOCS) include their small diameter, *in situ* nature, resistance to harsh environments, and imperviousness to electric interference. These properties make FOCS ideal for many environmental applications.

The distinguishing feature of most RFS systems is the type of sensor employed. There are basically two approaches to the sensor, either intrinsic or extrinsic. The intrinsic method utilizes the fiber itself as the active element, for example, using change in index of refractions from the fiber to the media as the parameter being measured. The extrinsic method uses the fiber optic only as light pipe, and usually involves incorporating a chemical onto the fiber as the active element. Most of the related literature for fiber-optic chemical sensors (FOCS) deals with design and advantages of various types of optrodes, that exploit either absorbance, surface enhanced Raman scattering, or fluorescence. Although FOCS have been mentioned in literature for the past decade, there has been little success in developing a multicon-taminant sensor for practical applications.

The direct fluorescence approach (measuring the natural fluorescence of the media) is an attractive technique for applications where aromatic chemicals are to be monitored. However, since many chemicals that act as contaminants are nonfluorophores, a fluorescent intermediate can be incorporated in the FOCS. Ideally, the intermediate should be sensitive to either a group of chemicals or a specific compound, and exhibit a spectral response that could be exploited to identify the compound.

As mentioned previously, the standard pH instrumentation is based on a glass pH electrode; however, optical methods have obvious advantages in corrosive conditions and fluctuating temperatures [6]. Optical-based pH sensors are generally based on the changes in the absorbance or fluorescence of an indicator dye that has been immobilized on a fiber optic. Recently, pH sensors based on the immobilization of fluorescein dye in a sol-gel matrix have been developed. Sol-gel chemistry is a method of producing a porous glass matrix at a low temperature using a hydrolysis of an alkoxide (usually TEO). An example of such a probe is a pH probe based on fluorescein dye in a sol-gel matrix [7].

Optical sensors for O₂ and dissolved oxygen, which are based on fluorescence or phosphorescence quenching, have the advantage of size, nonconsumption of oxygen, and resistance to interference due to flow rates or sample stirring over traditional dissolved oxygen electrodes. The major limitations is finding an indicator dye with a strong sensitivity to oxygen quenching. There are many such studies being performed; however, most are still in the research stage. For example, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons such as pyrene and long-wave absorbing dyes have been investigated due to their ability to be quenched by oxygen [6]. A fiber optics-based sensor that is on the market detects VOCs, such as carbon tetrachloride, TCE, and BTX in water systems (FiberChem). A similar application is a fluorescence-based system for measuring petroleum products in the groundwater.

Other Sensors

Infrared Spectrophotometry.

Most organic chemical compounds exhibit absorption in the infrared. This attribute can be used to determine atomic groupings based on quantum mechanics [5]. An example is a unit that measures total organic content (TOC) using UV-promoted persulfate oxidation and nondispersive infrared detection. This methodology allows for online TOC monitoring. Correlations can be made to convert values of TOC to biochemical oxygen demand (BOD) and chemical oxygen demand (COD) for particular samples. Drawbacks to this method include pretreatment to remove inorganic carbon and the high cost of instrumentation.

Respirometry.

The standard method to calculate BOD₅ is to measure oxygen consumption (based on DO concentration) over a 5-day period. However, there are other respirometers based on extremely small differences in DO or CO₂ concentrations using external gas sensors. This method is great for respirometry rates of animals, biodegradable contaminants, and sediment oxygen demand studies.

Chemical Separation Techniques

Separation techniques are based on the phase partitioning of molecules within a mixture. Gas chromatography refers to a mobile phase of a vapor, while liquid chromatography refers, of course, to a liquid mobile phase. There are several commonly used types such as gas-liquid chromatography, high-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC), and ion chromatographs. An excellent reference book for these methods is *Chemistry for Environmental Engineering* [5]. The advantages of these instruments are the ability to detect components in complex mixtures and high sensitivity. Chromatography instruments have long been considered standard in environmental laboratories, but the size of the instruments has been a drawback for field applications. However, size constraints are being challenged with the availability of equipment with size reductions of over 90%.

Mass Spectrometry.

In environmental applications, these are usually used in conjunction with gas chromatography and are referred to as GC/MS. The attraction of these instruments is the ability to detect a variety of compounds and also determine the mass fragmentation patterns of a complex organic structure [1]. The MS essentially ionizes the substances with an electron beam. The ions are then accelerated through a series of lenses according to their mass-to-charge ratios. The charged fragments are detected by an electron multiplier, which results in a mass spectra for the particular compound. In addition to the old-fashioned lab-scale GC/MS, there are portable units now commercially available that can be taken into the field for on-site environmental characterizations. These are very useful for ambient air toxics analysis, process diagnostics, and “real-time” groundwater plume movement. However, a newer technique of capillary electrophoresis (CE) has been gaining in popularity over capillary GC since it requires less solvent and can be extremely sensitive.

Atomic Absorption Spectrometry.

Since metals have their own characteristic absorption wavelengths, they are usually measured by the atomic absorption method where a light beam is directed into a sample being aspirated onto a flame. The resulting light is then sent to a monochromator with a detector that measures the amount of light absorbed by the flame. This method exhibits high sensitivity and is applicable to all of the commonly found metals in water. The drawback of this type of instrument is that it is not portable and is more of a laboratory method.

Instrumentation and Applications

[Table 73.7](#) lists some of the instruments that are commercially available for specific water applications. This is not an exhaustive list of all types and manufacturers, but is indicative of the chemical parameters

TABLE 73.7 Instruments for Remote Water Quality Analysis

Product Name	Water Quality Parameters	Company
Biological Analyzers: portable HMB-IV-S	Bacteria and fungi	H & S Enterprises
Ion-Selective Electrodes: Single Parameter and Combination Types		
DO 201	Dissolved oxygen with automatic cleaning and calibration	HF Scientific, Inc
D63/5440D	Dissolved oxygen	Great Lakes Instruments
96 Series <i>ionplus</i>	(Fl, Cl, Br, Ca, Cu, I, Pb, Au, SO ₂)	Orion
97 Series <i>ionplus</i>	(Ca, NO ₂ , NO ₃ , P)	Orion
SCAMP	DO, temperature	Precision Measurement Engineering
D63/5440D	Dissolved Oxygen	Royce Instrument Corporation
520c	w/ammonia, nitrate, lead, chloride, electrodes	Solomat
FPA 200 Series	NH ₃ , Fl, Cy, NO ₃ , Na	Tytronics Inc.
FPA 300/400 Series	Acids, alk, hardness, Fe, sulfide	Tytronics Inc.
YSI 5000 series	DO	YSI Inc.
Nephelometers: Turbidity		
1110-TUX	Solomat	
Model 2600	Mindata	
Conductivity Sensors		
DataSonde3 Multiprobe	Conductivity, TDS, salinity, resistivity	Hydrolab
OS 200	Ocean Sensors	
Fast Conductivity sensor	Precision Measurement Engineering	
EC200	Conductivity	Greenspan Technology Pty Ltd
YSI 5000 series	DO	YSI Inc.
Optical		
PPC 200	Particle count	HF Scientific, Inc.
DRT- 200E	Turbidity	HF Scientific, Inc.
711	Turbidity and suspended solids	Royce Instrument Corporation
pH probes: with data storage and computer compatibility		
PerpHecT Line		Royce Instrument Corporation Orion
Respirometry		
Micro-Oxymax	Oxygen, CO ₂ , NH ₃ , CO	Columbus Instruments International Corp.
Spectrometer: In-line types only		
Laser Diode Spectrometer 3000		ALToptronic
FiberChem Sensor	TCE, BTEX, VOCs	FCI
FPA 1000 Series	Chlorine, oils in water, H ₂ S	Tytronics
UV Absorbance Instruments		
ChemScan	Nitrate, ammonia, iron, turbidity	Applied Spectrometry
Multiparameter Systems		
AQUALAB	Phosphate, ammonia, nitrate, pH, conductivity	Greenspan Technology
DataSonde	Temperature, conductance, TDS, resistivity	Hydrolab
Model 1260	pH, ISE, mV, ORP, cond., D.O., temp., BOD	Orion
WP 4007	(4 parameters at once, interchangeable)	Solomat
WP803	(32 channels)	Solomat
YSI 5000	BOD	YSI, Incorporated

TABLE 73.8 Companies That Make Water Quality Sensors

Applied Spectrometry Associates, Inc. W226 N55G Eastmound Drive Waukesha, WI 53186 Tel: (414) 650-2280	Ocean Sensors 9883 Pacific Heights Blvd., Suite E San Diego, CA 92121 Tel: (619) 450-4640
FiberChem Incorporated 509-376-5074	Precision Measurement Engineering 1827 Hawk View Drive Encinitas, CA 92024 Tel: (619) 942-5860
Great Lakes Instruments 9020 West Dean Road P.O. Box 23056 Milwaukee, WI 53224	Solomat 26 Pearl Street Norwalk, CT 06850 Tel: (203) 849-3111
Greenspan Technology Pty Ltd. 24 Palmerin Street Warwick, Queensland, 4370 Australia Tel: 61-76-61-7699	Royce Instrument Corporation 13555 Gentilly Road New Orleans, LA 70129 Tel: (800) 347-3505
HF Scientific 3170 Metro Parkway Fort Meyers, FL 33916-7597 Tel: (941) 337-2116	Tytronics Inc. 25 Wiggins Avenue Bedford, MA 01739-2323
H & S Enterprises 148 South Dowlen #120 Beaumont, TX 77707	YSI, Incorporated 1725 Brannum Lane Yellow Springs, OH 45387 Tel: (800) 765-4974
Hydrolab Corporation P.O. Box 50116 Austin, TX 78763	

and types of instruments that are useful for field use. For example, the chemical separations category is very sparse in the table; although there are numerous laboratory instruments, very few are useful in the field.

Many of the manufacturers provide helpful technical information on theory and applications for their products. For example, Hach Company has many excellent publications for a variety of water/wastewater applications. They sell and develop instruments that vary from inexpensive kits (e.g., for colorimetry) to spectrophotometers with computer compatibility. Additionally, due to the broad range of diversity in the water quality area, there are many small companies that produce instruments for specific applications. [Table 73.8](#) provides contact information for each of the companies listed in [Table 73.7](#). Another excellent source of information is the annual listing of industrial manufacturers by Water Environment Federation.

Data Evaluation

In the past, the better instruments may have had a self-storing data system, usually in the form of paper graph or a retrievable magnetic tape. Although this allowed for continuous sampling, it was not without problems. The ease of obtaining data, *in situ* data gathering, and digital data acquisition are all attributes that are attractive in environmental applications. New technology has made these wishes a reality. For example, radio telemetry is a wireless technology to link remote sensors to dedicated computers or Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) systems. This capability allows for truly automated data acquisition and real-time uplinks. Other systems can be hardwired to computers (usually via RS 232 boards) or through modems to a remote acquisition site.

Trends in Water Quality Measurements

Analytical Chemistry publishes a biennial review dealing with recent literature in the area of water analysis [8]. These review articles, while not in-depth on a single topic, are quite extensive in topic matter and really illuminate trends in environmental sensing. For example, in a recent review, the area of *in situ* analysis contains a significant amount of coverage. Since many water quality applications would benefit from *in situ*, real-time data, it will be an area of research and development growth for the next 5 years.

Defining Terms

<i>A</i>	light absorption
<i>c</i>	velocity of light ($3.0 \times 10^8 \text{ m s}^{-1}$)
<i>C</i>	concentration of the solution
<i>E</i>	energy of a photon
E_{cell}	cell potential adjusted
E^0	standard cell potential
<i>F</i>	Faraday's constant (96,500 C/equivalent)
<i>I</i>	light intensity
I_0	initial light intensity
k^n	constant for a particular solution
<i>h</i>	Planck's constant ($6.626 \times 10^{-34} \text{ J s}$)
<i>n</i>	number of moles
ox	oxidized species
<i>R</i>	ideal gas law constant ($8.31 \text{ J mol}^{-1} \text{ K}^{-1}$)
red	reduced species
<i>T</i>	absolute temperature
λ	wavelength of light

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73.4 Satellite Imaging and Sensing

Jacqueline Le Moigne and Robert F. Crompt

What Can Be Seen from Satellite Imagery

Satellite imaging and sensing is the process by which the electromagnetic energy reflected or emitted from the Earth (or any other planetary) surface is captured by a sensor located on a spaceborne platform. The Sun as well as all terrestrial objects can be sources of energy. Visible light, radio waves, heat, ultraviolet and X-rays are all examples of electromagnetic energy. Since electromagnetic energy travels in a sinusoidal fashion, it follows the principles of wave theory, and electromagnetic waves are categorized by their wavelength within the electromagnetic spectrum. Although it is continuous, different portions of the electromagnetic spectrum are usually identified and referred to as (from shorter to longer wavelengths): cosmic rays, γ -rays, X-rays, ultraviolet, visible ([0.4 μm , 0.7 μm]), near-infrared (near-IR), mid-infrared (mid-IR), thermal infrared (above 3 μm), microwave ([1 mm, 1 m]), and television/radio wavelengths (above 1 m). Figure 73.10 shows the electromagnetic spectrum and these subdivisions.

General Sensor Principles

Sensors are often categorized as “passive” or “active.” All energy observed by “passive” satellite sensors originates either from the Sun or from planetary surface features, while “active” sensors, such as radar systems, utilize their own source of energy to capture or image specific targets.

Passive and Active Sensors.

All objects give off radiation at all wavelengths, but the emitted energy varies with the wavelength and with the temperature of the object. A “blackbody” is an ideal object that absorbs and reemits all incident energy, without reflecting any. If one assumes that the Sun and the Earth behave like blackbodies, then according to the Stefan-Boltzmann law, their total radiant exitance is proportional to the fourth power of their temperature. The maximum of this exitance, called dominant wavelength, can be computed by Wien’s Displacement law (see References 1 to 4 for more details on these two laws). These dominant wavelengths are 9.7 μm for the Earth (in the infrared portion of the spectrum) and 0.5 μm for the Sun (in the green visible portion of the spectrum). It implies that the energy emitted by the Earth is best observed by sensors that operate in the thermal infrared and microwave portions of the electromagnetic spectrum, while Sun energy that has been reflected by the Earth predominates in the visible, near-IR, and mid-IR portions of the spectrum. Most passive satellite sensing systems operate in the visible, infrared, or microwave portions of the spectrum. Since electromagnetic energy follows the rules of particle theory, it can be shown that the longer the wavelength, the lower the energy content of the radiation. Thus, if a given sensing system is trying to capture long wavelength energy (such as microwave), it must view large areas of the Earth to obtain detectable signals. This obviously is easier to achieve at very high altitudes — thus the utility of spaceborne remote sensing systems.

The most common active satellite sensor is radar (acronym for “radio detection and ranging”), which operates in the microwave portion of the electromagnetic spectrum. The radar system transmits pulses of microwave energy in given directions, and then records the reflected signal received by its antenna. Radar systems were initially employed by the military as a reconnaissance system because their main advantage was to operate day or night and in almost any weather condition. They are very important in satellite

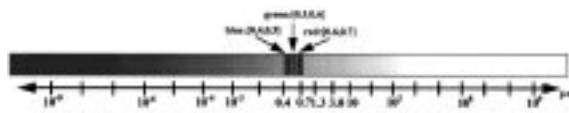


FIGURE 73.10 Electromagnetic spectrum.

remote sensing because microwave radiations are hardly affected by atmospheric “screens” such as light rain, clouds, and smoke. The time it takes for the radar signal to return to the satellite is also measured by instruments such as altimeters which are very useful in determining surface height measurements.

Polar Orbiting and Geostationary Earth Sensing Satellites.

Satellite remote sensing systems are also characterized by the different Earth orbiting trajectories of a given spacecraft. These two modes are usually referred as “polar orbiting” and “geostationary” (or “geosynchronous”) satellites. A polar orbit passes near the Earth’s North and South poles. Landsat, SPOT, and NOAA are near-polar satellites; their orbits are almost polar, passing above the two poles and crossing the equator at a small angle from normal (e.g., 8.2° for Landsat-4 and -5). If the orbital period of a polar orbiting satellite keeps pace with the Sun’s westward progression compared to the Earth rotation, these satellites are also called “sun-synchronous.” This implies that a sun-synchronous satellite always crosses the equator at the same local sun time. This time is usually very carefully chosen, depending on the application of the sensing system and the type of features that will be observed with such a system. It is often a tradeoff between several Earth science disciplines such as atmospheric and land science. Atmospheric scientists prefer observations later in the morning to allow for cloud formation, whereas the researchers performing land studies prefer earlier morning observations to minimize cloud cover.

A geostationary satellite has the same angular velocity as the Earth so its relative position is fixed with respect to the Earth. Examples of geostationary satellites are the GOES (“Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite”) series of satellites that orbit at a constant relative position above the equator.

Sensor Characteristics

Spectral Response Patterns.

The design of new satellite instruments is based on the principle that targets of interest can be identified based on their spectral characteristics. For example, different Earth surface features, such as vegetation or water, present very distinctive reflectance or emittance curves that are a function of the energy wavelength. These curves are often called the “spectral signatures” of the objects being observed. Although these curves are very representative of each feature and can help identify them, they do not correspond to unique and absolute responses. Because of different reasons, such as atmospheric interactions, temporal or location variations, the response curves of a given object observed under different conditions might vary. For this reason, these curves are often called “spectral response patterns” instead of “spectral signatures.” [Figure 73.11](#) shows an example of such reflectance patterns for several features: fir tree, clear lake water, barley, and granite.

Atmospheric Interactions.

Earth satellite sensors are designed to take into consideration the fact that all observed radiation must pass at least once through the atmosphere; therefore, the energy interactions of the atmosphere must be considered during the design phase. The distance through which the radiation passes through the atmosphere is called “path length.” The effect of the atmosphere depends on the extent of the path length and on the magnitude of the energy signal. The two main atmospheric effects are known as “scattering” and “absorption.”

Scattering is the unpredictable redirection of radiation by particles suspended in the atmosphere. The type and the amount of scattering mainly depend on the size of the particles but also on the wavelength of the radiation and the atmospheric path length. If these particles are smaller than the radiation wavelength, this effect is known as “Rayleigh scatter.” This scattering especially affects the shorter visible wavelengths of the sunlight (i.e., blue visible wavelength) and it explains why the sky appears blue to the human eye. In the evening, when the path length is longer, the effect of the Rayleigh scatter is only visible on the longer red wavelengths of the sunlight and the sky appears red or orange. If the particles are about the size of the radiation wavelength, the scatter is known as “Mie scatter”; this scattering effect is often due to water vapor and dust. When the atmospheric particles are larger than the radiation wavelengths, a “nonselective scatter” occurs; all visible wavelengths radiations are scattered equally and this type of scattering explains why clouds appear white.

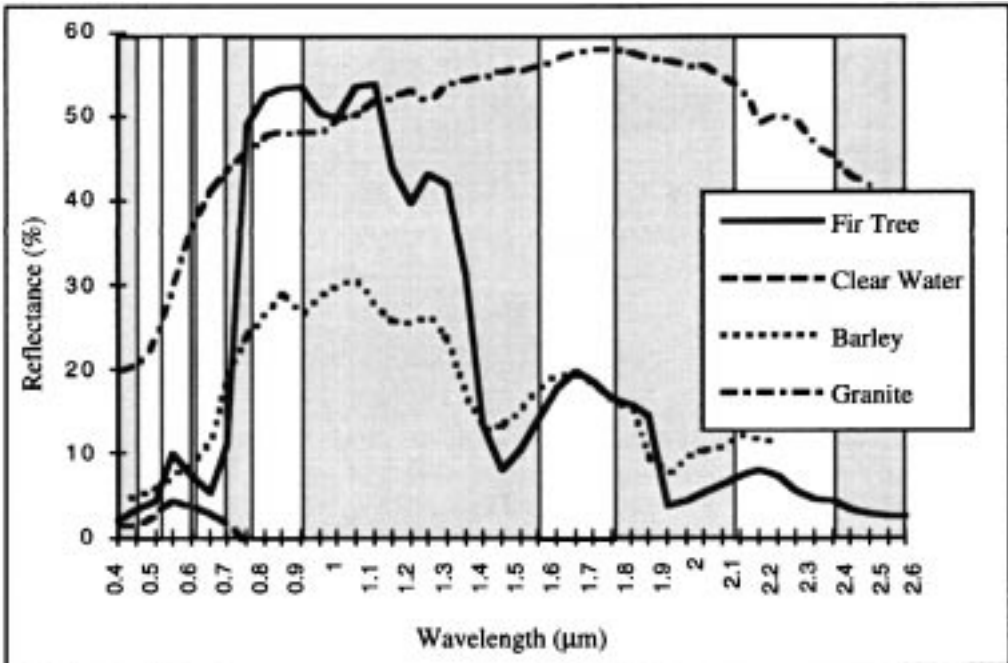


FIGURE 73.11 Examples of spectral response patterns for four different types of features, fir tree, clear water, barley (example of crop), and granite (example of rock). White areas show the portions of the spectrum corresponding to the 7 channels of Landsat-Thematic Mapper (TM-4&5).

Atmospheric absorption occurs in specific wavelengths at which gases such as water vapor, carbon dioxide, and ozone absorb the energy of solar radiations instead of transmitting it. “Atmospheric windows” are defined as the intervals of the electromagnetic spectrum outside these wavelengths, and Earth remote sensors usually concentrate their observations within the atmospheric windows. As an example, white areas of Figure 73.11 show the portions of the spectrum (i.e., the “channels” or “bands”) from visible to mid-IR used by the Landsat-Thematic Mapper (TM).

Spectral, Radiometric, Spatial, and Temporal Resolutions.

Although the spectral response patterns are not absolute, they play an important role in the design of new sensors. When a new sensor is being designed, the type of features to observe and the accuracy with which they will be mapped define which wavelengths are of interest, the widths of the wavelength intervals to be used, what is the accuracy to be achieved in these bandwidths, and what is the “smallest” or “faintest” feature that might be detected by the sensor. Following the examples of Figure 73.11, the best wavelength interval to distinguish between vegetation and granite will be the [1.55 μm, 1.75 μm] wavelength interval. The above sensor requirements correspond to the “resolutions” of the sensor by which it is usually identified — spectral, radiometric, spatial, and temporal resolutions. The term “resolution” is usually employed to define the smallest unit of measurement or granularity that can be recorded in the observed data. The spectral resolution of a sensor is defined by the bandwidths utilized in the electromagnetic spectrum. The radiometric resolution defines the number of “bits” that are used to record a given energy corresponding to a given wavelength. The spatial resolution corresponds to the area covered on the Earth’s surface to compute one measurement (or one picture element, “pixel”) of the sensor. The temporal resolution (or frequency of observation), defined by the orbit of the satellite and the scanning of the sensor, describes how often a given Earth location is covered by the sensor.

Signal-to-Noise Ratio.

Sensors are also characterized by their signal-to-noise ratio (SNR) (i.e., the noise level relative to the strength of the signal). In this case, the “noise” usually refers to variations of intensity that are detected by the sensor and that are not caused by actual variations in feature brightness. If the noise level is very high compared to the signal level, the data will not provide an accurate representation of the observed features. At a given wavelength λ , SNR is a function of the detector quality, the spatial resolution of the sensor, as well as its spectral resolution (see Reference 1 for a detailed formula). To maintain or improve the signal-to-noise ratio and therefore improve the radiometric resolution of the sensor, a tradeoff must be made between spatial and spectral resolutions; in particular, improving spatial resolution will decrease the spectral resolution. Of course, other factors such as atmospheric interactions will also affect the SNR.

Multispectral and Hyperspectral Sensors.

The remote sensing industry is experiencing a rapid increase in the number of spectral bands of each sensor. The first Landsat sensors (Landsat-1 and 2) were designed with four bands in the visible and near-IR portions of the spectrum. Landsat-4 and 5 were refined with seven bands from visible to thermal-IR. Then, Landsat-6 and 7 were planned with an additional panchromatic band, which is highly sensitive over the visible part of the spectrum. In general, most Earth remote sensors are *multispectral*; that is, they utilize several bands to capture the energy emitted or reflected from Earth features. The addition of panchromatic imagery, which usually has a much better spatial resolution than multispectral imagery in the visible part of the spectrum, provides higher quality detail information. Multispectral and panchromatic data, usually acquired simultaneously, are co-registered and can be easily merged to obtain high spatial and spectral resolution. Co-registered multispectral-panchromatic imagery is available from sensors such as the Indian satellite sensor, IRS-1, and the French sensor, SPOT.

Ideally, if a sensor had an infinite number of spectral channels (or bands), each observed area on the ground (or pixel) could be represented by a continuous spectrum and then identified from a database of known spectral response patterns. Adding more bands and making each of them narrower is the first step toward this ideal sensor. But, as previously explained in the previous section, due to technology limitations, it was very difficult until recently to increase the number of bands without decreasing the SNR. Due to recent advances in solid state detector technology, it is now possible to increase significantly the number of bands without decreasing the SNR, thus seeing the rise of new types of sensors, called *hyperspectral*. Although the boundary between multispectral and hyperspectral sensors is sometimes defined as low as 10 bands, hyperspectral imaging usually refers to the simultaneous detection in hundreds to thousands of spectral channels. The aim of hyperspectral sensors is to provide unique identification (or “spectral fingerprints”) capabilities for resolvable spectral objects. Potential applications include agricultural yield monitoring, urban planning, land use mapping, mining and mineral deposits, disaster relief/assessment, tactical military operations, and forest fire protection management. The NASA Airborne Visible InfraRed Imaging Spectrometer (AVIRIS) simultaneously collects spectral information from visible to infrared ranges (from 0.4 μm to 2.5 μm) in 224 contiguous spectral bands. Each band has an approximate bandwidth of 10 nm (or 0.01 μm), with a spatial resolution of about 20 m. The instrument flies aboard a NASA ER-2 airplane at approximately 20 km above sea level. The science objectives of the AVIRIS project are mainly directed toward understanding processes related to the global environment and climate change.

Super-Resolution.

When data is collected from a satellite sensor, each sample of information represents an area on the ground that might correspond to several features with different spectral responses and the final information represents a “mixture” of several disparate information. When a sensor does periodic imaging over the same area, the direction of observation slightly changes, and even when successive data are correctly registered (i.e., in a perfect correspondence), two respective samples might represent two slightly different areas on the ground. Super-resolution is an area of research that aims at combining such

information from different directions but taken under similar lighting conditions in the goal of improving spatial and spectral resolutions. As an example, some recent work [5] utilizes a Bayesian method for generating sub-pixel resolution composites from multiple images with different alignments. Software products have also been proposed by some commercial systems, such as ERDAS-Imagine and ENVI, to help in the unmixing of spectral bands (see Reference 6 for more detail).

Direct Readout Data

Examples of different spectral and spatial resolutions are given in [Table 73.9](#) with a summary of current Earth remote sensing systems that operate from visible to thermal-IR wavelengths. Table 73.9 provides information about their bandwidths and their spatial resolutions. The table also indicates if the data from these sensors can be acquired by direct readout. Sensors can transmit data in two modes. The first mode, called “direct readout,” transmits data as soon as it “sees” it, and any receiving station within that satellite footprint can receive this data. In the second mode, the sensor records whatever it sees for playback at a later time, and specialized receiving stations (or “ground stations”) are required to receive this data since it is transmitted at higher rates than direct readout. The data received by these ground stations can cover a larger extent. Historically, the cost of acquiring and processing Earth remotely sensed data has limited satellite data collection to a small number of expensive ground stations around the world, operated by the owners of the satellites. Direct readout sensors were mostly confined to meteorological applications that required timely data such as weather forecasting, severe weather identification and tracking, and disaster prediction and assessment. But this situation is changing; due to new technology, costs have been greatly reduced, and direct readout data that was initially expensive and beyond the reach of the nontraditional user, is now generating a growing interest. A small industry has evolved to design, install, and upgrade ground stations around the world that acquire direct readout data.

Typical Attributes Measured from Space

This section does not intend to be an exhaustive up-to-date description of all Earth and space applications of satellite imaging and sensing, but rather it presents a few representative applications and their associated satellite sensors. The References section as well as the World Wide Web (WWW) offer more extensive references to other applications and sensors.

Earth Science Applications.

Over the past few decades, a number of international global change research programs have been initiated whose goals are to understand the relation between human activities and the global Earth systems processes and trends. Mission To Planet Earth (MTPE [7]) is a multi-agency program, whose goal is to achieve this kind of understanding, especially through improved satellite observations. As part of NASA’s Mission to Planet Earth program, the Earth Observing System (EOS [8]) will launch, over the next 2 decades, several platforms of sensors aimed at ecology, oceanography, geology, snow, ice, hydrology, cloud, and atmospheric studies. Each platform will carry one or several instruments, thus globally covering a wide range of spectral, spatial, and temporal resolutions. Europe and Japan have similar programs, such as the ADEOS (ADvanced Earth Observation Satellite [9]), developed by the Japanese space agency, NASDA, in collaboration with France and the U.S. ADEOS, launched in 1996, flew for 9 months before it failed, and included remote sensing instruments for observing the Earth’s atmosphere, land surfaces, and oceans. Other examples of such programs are the ERS and ENVISAT satellites from ESA (European Space Agency) and the Indian satellites, IRS. ERS-1 and 2 were launched in 1991 and 1995, respectively, and ENVISAT will be launched in 1999. All these satellites carry on the same platform different instruments making simultaneous observations. The first satellite in the IRS series was launched in 1988, and in 9 years, India has designed and launched six remote sensing satellites. For more information on the IRS series, see Reference 10.

In all the above programs, studies concentrate on global processes occurring in the atmosphere (especially lower parts of the atmosphere), on the Earth surface (terrestrial studies), and in the oceans (hydrospheric studies). Results of all these studies will contribute to international programs such as the

TABLE 79.9 Summary of the Main Current Earth Science Satellite Data Operating from UV to Thermal IR ("D": Direct Broadcast)

Instrument (Spect. Resol.)	Number of Channels	Wavelength (µm)																						
		0.1	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.7	1.0	1.5	2.8	3.0	4.8	5.0	5.8	7.0	8.0	9.0	10.0	11.8	12.0	13.0	14.8	16.8		
		Ultra Violet	Visible	Near-IR	Mid-IR	Thermal-IR																		
AVHRR (D) (1.1 km)	5 Channels	1) 0.58-0.68	1	2	2) 0.725-1.10	3) 3.85-3.99	3													4) 10.3-11.3	4	5	6) 11.5-12.5	
TRMM/VIRS (12 km)	5 Channels	1) 0.58-0.68	1	2) 1.57-1.65	2	3) 3.56-3.94	3													4) 10.3-11.3	4	5	6) 11.5-12.5	
TOMS (50 km)	6 Channels	1) 0.313-0.319		2) 0.317-0.318	3) 0.3501-0.3317	4) 0.3393-0.3403	5) 0.359-0.368	6) 0.375-0.385																
Landat-TM (30 m)	7 Channels	1	2	3	4	5	7	1) 0.45-0.52	2) 0.52-0.60	3) 0.63-0.68	4) 0.79-0.90	5) 1.55-1.70	6) 2.08-2.35	7) 2.08-2.35							6		8) 10.4-12.5	
Landat-MSS (80 m)	4 Channels	1	2	3	4	1) 0.5-0.6	2) 0.7-0.8	3) 0.7-0.8	4) 0.8-1.1															
ERS-1 LIS-1 (73km) - LIS-2 (36.5m)	4 Channels	1	2	3		1) 0.45-0.52	2) 0.52-0.59	3) 0.63-0.68	4) 0.77-0.86															
JERS-1 (CI)-4 (80m), CI-5 (82.5km)	8 Channels	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	1) 0.52-0.60	2) 0.63-0.69	3) anod. 0.76-0.86	4) 1.80-1.71	5) 2.13-2.25	6) 2.01-2.12	7) 2.13-2.25	8) 2.27-2.40							
SPOT-HRV Panchromatic (150m)	1 Channel	1) 0.51-0.79	1																					
Spot-HRV Multispectral (20 m)	3 Channels	1) 0.5-0.59	1	2	3	2) 0.61-0.88	3) 0.79-0.89																	
CZCS (1 km)	6 Channels	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	1) 0.43-0.48	2) 0.51-0.53	3) 0.64-0.68	4) 0.66-0.68	5) 0.75-0.80							6		6) 10.5-12.5	
SeaWiFS (D) (1.1 km)	8 Channels	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	1) 0.402-0.422	2) 0.433-0.453	3) 0.68-0.90	4) 0.90-0.92	5) 0.648-0.666	6) 0.66-0.68	7) 0.746-0.768	8) 0.845-0.866							
TOVS-BIRS (D) (13 km)	20 Channels	1) 0.65-0.79	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20		
GOES (1 km), AMS-2 (6.5, 8km, 2)	5 Channels	1) 0.65-0.79	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20		
METEOSAT (V:2.3km, WV&IR:5km)	3 Channels	V) 0.4-1.1	Visible	WV) 6.7-7.1	Water Vapor	IR) 10.3-12.5	IR)																	

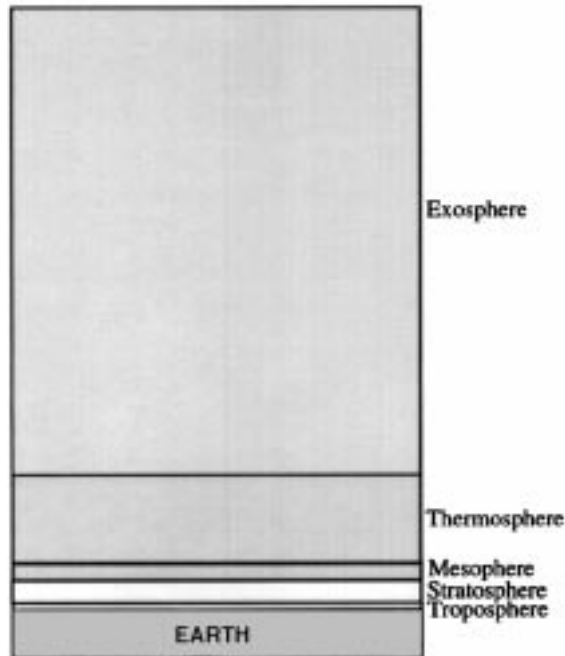


FIGURE 73.12 Simplified diagram of the different layers of the atmosphere.

World Climate Research Programme, the International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme, and the International Human Dimensions of Global Environmental Change Programme.

Several of these instruments show application promise for regional and local community interests, in helping farmers to monitor and control their agricultural productivity (weather, disease control), in early warning and in rescue efforts in case of severe storms (e.g., hurricanes), and in predicting the spread of diseases based on vegetation data combined with socio-economic data.

Examples of Atmospheric Studies.

One of the key issues in climate research is to understand global atmospheric changes and how human activity affects the composition and chemistry of the Earth's atmosphere. To create accurate models, a large number of multiyear global studies must be conducted.

The atmosphere is divided into several layers. From the Earth's surface up to interplanetary space, which starts at about 1000 km, these layers are called troposphere, stratosphere, mesosphere, thermosphere, and exosphere. [Figure 73.12](#) shows a simplified diagram of the different atmospheric layers. Each of these layers is characterized by differences in chemical composition that produce variations in temperature. The two lower layers, troposphere (up to 10 km) and stratosphere (10 to 50 km above the Earth), are particularly important since 99% of the water vapor in the atmosphere is included in the troposphere, and 90% of the ozone of the atmosphere is included in the stratosphere. All weather phenomena occur within the troposphere, with some turbulence sometimes extending to the lower stratosphere. The concentration of ozone, which should stay mainly concentrated in the stratosphere, is being studied in both the troposphere and stratosphere.

Ozone is a relatively unstable molecule made up of three oxygen atoms. Depending on the altitude where it is found, ozone is referred to as "good" or "bad" ozone. The largest concentration of ozone is located in the stratosphere, at an altitude between 20 km and 30 km, and plays a major role in the evolution and the protection of life on Earth. Since it absorbs most of the harmful ultraviolet radiation from the Sun, stratospheric ozone protects life on Earth. When found closer to the Earth's surface, ozone

may be harmful to lung tissue and plants. Recent studies have shown that the proportions of ozone in the air are increasing compared to decreasing amounts of protective ozone. However, studies still need to determine if these changes are due to human activity or if they are part of regular natural cycles.

The mission of the Total Ozone Mapping Spectrometer (TOMS) is to provide global measurements of total column ozone as well as of sulfur dioxide on a daily basis. The TOMS instrument measures the reflectivity of the atmosphere in six near-UV wavelengths (see Table 73.9) and provides differential UV absorption and surface reflectivity data. From these measurements, total ozone is computed by searching precomputed albedo tables, which depend on solar zenith angle, view angle, latitude, surface reflectance, and surface pressure; a lower amount of radiation measured by TOMS corresponds to higher concentrations of ozone. Maps of volcanic eruptions are a byproduct of TOMS sulfur dioxide measurements. The first TOMS instrument was flown on Nimbus 7 in 1978; successive ones were launched on a Russian Meteor spacecraft in 1991, on an Earth Probe satellite in 1994, and on the Japanese ADEOS satellite in 1996. See References 11 to 16 for more information on TOMS and ozone measurements.

The TOMS measurements are also being compared to the ozone measurements provided by the NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration) series of the Television Infrared Observing Satellite (TIROS) Operational Vertical Sounder (TOVS) data. The TOVS sounding unit consists of three instruments, including the High-Resolution Infrared Sounder-2 (HIRS-2) whose channels are shown in Table 73.9. TOVS-type instruments have been flying since 1978. These instruments provide information about the structure of the atmosphere, vertical temperature and moisture profiles, as well as cloud amounts and heights. Through analysis of this data, the TOVS Pathfinder data set is created and contains 74 layers of measurements on attributes such as temperature, water vapor, ozone level, precipitation, cloud coverage, etc. taken at various atmospheric pressure levels (e.g., 1000 mb, 850 mb, etc.). A full global coverage of TOVS data is produced twice daily, and a 16-year global data set for climate studies is being gathered [17].

Another satellite that obtains atmospheric data is the Upper Atmosphere Research Satellite (UARS). UARS was launched in 1991 and performs a comprehensive study of the stratosphere and furnishes important new data on the mesosphere and the thermosphere. UARS operates 585 km above the Earth in a near circular orbit inclined 57° to the equator. This orbit permits UARS sensors to provide global coverage of the stratosphere and mesosphere and measurements are made approximately every 36 days. The ten UARS chemistry and dynamics sensors are making measurements of temperature, pressure, wind velocity, and gas species concentrations. All these simultaneous measurements will help define the role of the upper atmosphere in our climate and its variability.

The Tropical Rainfall Measuring Mission (TRMM, [18]) is a joint project between the United States and Japan. The goal of this project is to measure precipitation at tropical latitudes and to provide accurate mapping of tropical rainfall. The mission consists of three instruments: a precipitation radar, a multi-channel microwave radiometer, and a visible-infrared scanner. The data provided by TRMM will be very important to verify and develop climate models.

The French space agency, CNES, has also developed the POLDER (POLarization and Directionality of the Earth's Reflectances) instrument, which flew on ADEOS. This is the first French/Japanese cooperative project in the area of Earth observation. A second, identical instrument is to be flown on ADEOS-2, successor to ADEOS, in 1999. POLDER is a wide field-of-view imaging radiometer that will provide global, systematic measurements of spectral, directional, and polarized characteristics of the solar radiation reflected by the Earth/atmosphere system, as well as aerosols, land and sea surfaces, and water vapor measurements.

NOAA's AVHRR (Advanced Very High Resolution Radiometer [19]) is very useful to study biomass burning in the tropics, and the interactions of smoke particles with clouds. More generally, information from the five AVHRR channels (see Table 73.9) is integrated into clouds and climate models.

Weather images are an everyday occurrence televised all over the world. Several weather satellites are operated by several countries. In the U.S., NASA and NOAA are operating the GOES series of geostationary satellites, which provide global weather data every 30 min since 1974, positioned at 36,000 km

above the Earth. GOES image and sounder data are also used for climate studies. In Europe, the Meteosat weather satellites are developed and launched by ESA, and financed and owned by Eumetsat, an international organization of 17 European weather services. Meteosat-1 was launched in 1977, followed by five others in 1981, 1989, 1991, and 1993. Three of them are currently in service, each equipped with an imaging radiometer. Table 73.9 shows the spectral ranges of operations of these two series of geostationary satellites. Several channels in the visible, water vapor, and thermal-IR spectral bands provide important information about cloud coverage, storm formation and evolution, as well as Earth radiation.

Examples of Terrestrial Studies.

Land Cover Applications. There are two basic types of data considered most important for global change research [20]; the data for documenting and monitoring global change, and the data for discovering the dynamical interplay among the various elements that define our environment. Previous studies show that global studies of land transformations require extrapolation among several scales (spatial, radiometric, and temporal). This extrapolation is especially important to control the minimum detectable change, whether spatial, spectral, or temporal. This accuracy in change detection, which is based on the properties of the sensing systems [21], can be especially essential in distinguishing between nature- and human-induced changes.

Getting accurate quantitative information about the distribution and the areal extent of the Earth's vegetation formations is a basic requirement in understanding the dynamics of the major ecosystems. Among all land transformations most critical to study for global change research, the assessment of tropical forests is one of the most important [22-25]. The tropical forest biome forms 7% of the Earth land surface, and its extensive loss could have a major impact on the future of the Earth (habitat fragmentation, species extinction, soil degradation, global climatic modifications, etc.). Previous studies have shown that in the last 2 decades, 50% of the areal extent of tropical forests might have been lost to deforestation [23]. At present, there is a wide range of estimates of the areal extent of tropical forests and of their rates of deforestation. Therefore, there is a great need to produce accurate and up-to-date measurements concerning the Tropical Forest worldwide. A range of different sensors must be utilized for such applications.

Other examples of land cover applications include agriculture and crop forecasting, water urban planning, rangeland monitoring, mineral and oil exploration, cartography, flood monitoring, disease control, real estate tax monitoring, detection of illegal crops, etc. In many of these applications, the combination of remote sensing data and Geographic Information Systems (GISs; see References 26 and 27) show great promise in helping the decision-making process.

Most instruments utilized to observe land features are on-board low Earth orbit satellites and are multispectral sensors with two or three bands in the visible part of the spectrum and at least one band in the infrared [6].

The Landsat series of satellites is the oldest land monitoring satellite system. Initiated in 1967, the Earth Resource Technology Satellites (ERTS) program was planning a series of six satellites to perform a broad-scale, repetitive survey of the Earth's land areas. After the launch in 1972 of the first ERTS-1, the ERTS program was renamed "Landsat." As of 1997, five Landsat satellites have been launched, each one carrying two instruments. The payload of Landsat-1 and -2 included a Return Beam Vidicon (RBV) camera and a Multispectral Scanner (MSS), while Landsat-4 and -5 still use the MSS and the Thematic Mapper (TM). The first RBV system consisted of three television-like cameras with a ground resolution of 80 m, each looking respectively at the green, red, and near-infrared portions of the spectrum. On Landsat-3, the RBV was 30 m panchromatic. MSS quickly became of primary interest due mainly to its capability of producing multispectral data in a digital format. The four MSS spectral bands are shown in Table 73.9, and the spatial resolution of MSS data is about 80 m. Very early on, the utility of MSS data was recognized for such applications as agriculture, mapping, forest monitoring, geology, as well as water resource analysis. The same MSS system was kept on Landsat-4 and -5, but the RBV system was replaced by the TM system. Like MSS, TM is a multispectral scanner, but includes spatial, spectral, and radiometric improvements over MSS. With seven bands instead of four (see Table 73.9), TM covers a larger portion

of the visible wavelengths, and includes two mid-IR and one thermal-IR bands. Data are quantized over 256 levels (8 bits) instead of the 64 levels for MSS, and the spatial resolution of a TM pixel is about 30 m. TM data is usually chosen to perform classification of land-cover features, man-made or natural. In vegetation and change detection applications, leaf segmentation is studied with TM visible channel data, while cell structure can be seen in near-IR, and leaf water content is found in the mid-IR channel data. The two mid-IR bands (5 and 7) are also useful for geologic applications. All the Landsat satellites are placed in low Earth orbit (at an altitude of about 900 km for Landsat-1 to -3 and 705 km for Landsat-4 and -5) and in a near-polar, sun-synchronous orbit. Landsat-4 and -5 cross the equator at 9:45 a.m. to hopefully take advantage of cloud-free imagery. Landsat-4 and -5 have a 16-day repeat cycle and their orbits are 8 days out of phase. Landsat-6 failed to achieve orbit in 1993; Landsat-7 is planned to be launched in 1998 and includes an improved TM instrument, the Enhanced Thematic Mapper (ETM), which will also include a panchromatic band at a spatial resolution of 15 m. For a more in-depth description of Landsat systems, see References 1, 29, and 30; for more applications and analysis of Landsat data, see Reference 30.

As previously mentioned, NOAA's AVHRR is primarily used for atmospheric applications but is also utilized for land surface applications. Having a near-polar, sun-synchronous orbit (at 833 km above the Earth's surface), the AVHRR instrument provides global data with a 1.1-km spatial resolution at nadir, and includes five bands, with daily or twice-daily (for thermal-IR) coverage. Since 1978, AVHRR data are available at full resolution (called Local Area Coverage (LAC)) or subsampled to 4 km (known as Global Area Coverage (GAC)). Because of its high temporal resolution, the AVHRR instrument is very useful in applications such as flood, storm, or fire monitoring, as well as volcanic eruption. Because of its global area coverage, AVHRR is also often utilized for studying geologic or physiographic features, vegetation conditions and trends at a global, continental or regional level, snow cover mapping, soil moisture analysis, and sand storms and volcanic eruptions worldwide. A popular parameter extracted from AVHRR data is the Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI), computed from GAC data as: $NDVI = (\text{Channel 2} - \text{Channel 1}) / (\text{Channel 1} + \text{Channel 2})$. GAC data is processed daily and composited on a weekly basis to produce a global map showing vegetation vigor. An example of NDVI applications is the monitoring of the Sahara desert extent. AVHRR data are also used for sea surface temperature.

The first *Système Pour l'Observation de la Terre* (SPOT), designed by CNES, was launched in 1986. SPOT-2 and SPOT-3 were launched, respectively, in 1990 and 1993. The SPOT satellites fly in a near-polar, sun-synchronous low Earth orbit at an altitude of 832 km and cross the equator at 10:30 a.m. SPOT's repeat cycle is 26 days, but due to its off-nadir viewing capability (viewing angle up to 27°), SPOT has a "revisiting" capability with which the same area can be seen up to five times every 26 days. This off-nadir viewing capability also enables some stereo imaging possibilities. The SPOT payload includes two identical high-resolution-visible (HRV) imaging instruments that can be employed in panchromatic or multispectral modes, with pointing capabilities. Spectral coverage of these two modes is given in Table 73.9. The panchromatic mode is 10 m spatial resolution, while multispectral data have a 20 m spatial resolution. Whereas Landsat is a scanning mirror-type instrument, SPOT employs a push-broom system with a linear array of detectors simultaneously acquiring all data pixels in one image line, which minimizes geometric errors. SPOT data are very useful for applications involving small features. Due to its increased spatial resolution, revisit and pointing capabilities, simultaneous panchromatic and multispectral data, and stereo data capabilities, SPOT opens a new range of applications, such as topographic mapping, studies of earthflows (e.g., land, rock, and mudslides), urban management, and military applications. SPOT-4 is planned for launch in 1998, and SPOT-5 in 2002. Among the planned improvements, a mid-IR channel will be added to SPOT-4, which will also carry a new AVHRR-type instrument, the European Vegetation instrument.

Since 1988, India has launched a series of five satellites, the IRS series. These satellites were designed in support of India's agriculture and exploration businesses, and they seem to be successful in this challenge of bringing remote sensing to the users (see Reference 10). For land applications, IRS-1A, -1B, and -1C all carry the LISS instrument, which is a multispectral scanner very similar to Landsat-TM. LISS-2 acquires imagery in four bands similar to bands 1 to 4 of Landsat-TM (from visible to near-IR)

at the spatial resolution of 36.5m (see Table 73.9 for wavelengths description). LISS-3, carried on IRS-1C, also acquires imagery in four bands, but the visible blue band has been suppressed and replaced by a mid-IR band similar to TM/band 5. Due to their similarity to Landsat data, IRS/LISS-2 data could be used as complements or replacements to Landsat data if needed until Landsat-7 is launched. IRS-1C also carries a 5-m panchromatic instrument whose data are co-registered with LISS-2 data. For more details on IRS data, see References 10 or 27.

Other instruments are also available. JERS-1, designed by Japan, was launched in 1992, and its payload includes both an SAR instrument and an optical-imaging system; see Table 73.9 for its spectral channels from visible to mid-IR wavelengths, with spatial resolutions of 18 m and 24 m. MOMS, the German Modular Optoelectronic Multispectral Scanner, has been flying as a research instrument on U.S. Space Shuttle missions, and has a spatial resolution ranging from 4.5 m to 13.5 m; see Reference 27 for more details on these different instruments.

Among the first EOS instruments to be launched is the Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectrometer (MODIS). MODIS is being developed to provide global monitoring of the atmosphere, terrestrial ecosystem, and oceans, and to detect climate change. MODIS will cover the visible to infrared portions of the spectrum with 36 channels at spatial resolutions of 250 m to 1 km. Many interesting land studies will be performed by fusing together AVHRR, Landsat, and MODIS data.

The fusion of several of these types of data is becoming a very important issue [26]. Already, sensors such as SPOT or LISS-3 present the advantage of acquiring co-registered panchromatic and multispectral data. It would be of great interest to combine data from sensors with different spectral and spatial resolutions, as well as different viewpoints. The combination of coarse-resolution viewing satellites for large area surveys and finer resolution sensors for more detailed studies would offer the multilevel information necessary to assess accurately the areal extent of features of interest (e.g., tropical forests). The fusion of multispectral data with SAR data would provide information on ground cover reflectance with the shape, roughness, and moisture content information from SAR. Of course, multidata fusion requires very accurate registration of the data, as will be described in Section 2.4.

Geologic Studies. Other examples of terrestrial studies are the mapping of geologic features, such as geologic faults and earthquake sites, or volcanic eruptions. Although many geologic features lie beneath the surface of the Earth, remote sensing (aerial or satellite) provides a valuable tool to perform geologic mapping, landforms and structures analysis, as well as mineral exploration. This is due to the fact that topography and soil properties provide clues to underlying rocks and structural deformations. Landsat and SPOT gather data about the effects of subsurface geologic phenomena on the surface. These data are especially useful to recognize some specific landforms (such as volcanoes), to depict topographic features, discriminate some geologic facies and rock unit distribution patterns and more generally provide regional overviews of surface geology. In mineral exploration, rock or soil alteration can be detected by spaceborne sensors and may indicate the presence of mineral deposits or oil reservoirs. Other types of sensors that are very useful for geologic applications are radar sensors, such as the two radar systems, SIR-C and X-SAR, carried on the Space Shuttle Endeavour in 1994. These sensors captured in real-time the eruption of a volcano in Russia and an earthquake in Japan [31]. For more information on geologic applications, see References 2 and 32.

Geophysics Studies. Other satellites, such as the LAEGOS-1 and -2, have proved very useful in geophysics for the study of the Earth's gravity field, tectonic plate motion, polar motion, and tides. LAGEOS sensors are reflector orbs covered with laser beams. For more information on these studies, see References 33 and 34.

Examples of Ocean Studies.

Oceans cover 75% of the Earth's surface and contain most of the energy of the planet. Although their role in climate evolution is very important, it is still poorly understood. By understanding chemical, physical, and biological processes in oceans, scientists will be able to model the interactions between oceans and the atmosphere and determine how these interactions affect Earth temperature, weather, and climate.

An example of interaction between oceans and the atmosphere is illustrated by the phenomenon known as El Niño/Southern Oscillation, which occurs in the tropical Pacific Ocean, usually around Christmas time. El Niño is due to a mass of warm water, usually located off Australia which moves eastward toward equatorial South America. El Niño develops every few years (observed on average every 4 years to a maximum of 7 years), and alters the weather in Australia, Africa, South Asia, and the tropical parts of the Americas. By understanding how winds and waves move in the tropical Pacific, scientists have been able to predict the El Niño phenomenon up to 1 year in advance. Similar phenomena are being studied in the Atlantic Ocean, where patterns seem to move much more slowly.

Besides being used to create global models, and in storm and weather forecasting, ocean data are also very important for day-to-day applications such as ship routing, oil production, and ocean fishing.

Ocean Color. Ocean color data are critical for the study of global biogeochemistry and to determine the ocean's role in the global carbon cycle and the exchange of other critical elements and gases between the atmosphere and the ocean [35,36]. It is thought that marine plants remove carbon from the atmosphere at a rate equivalent to terrestrial plants, but knowledge of interannual variability is very poor. For most oceans, the color observed by satellite in the visible part of the spectrum varies with the concentration of chlorophyll and other plant pigments present in the water. Subtle changes in ocean color usually indicate that various types and quantities of microscopic marine plants (i.e., phytoplankton are present in the water); the more phytoplankton present, the greater the concentration of plant pigments and the greener the water.

The recently launched (October 1997) Sea-viewing Wide Field-of-view Sensor (SeaWiFS), which is a part of MTPE, provides quantitative data on global ocean bio-optical properties to the earth science community. SeaWiFS is a follow-on sensor to the Coastal Zone Color Scanner (CZCS), which ceased operations in 1986. See Table 73.9 for a channel description of these two sensors; notice that all channels are concentrated in the [0.4,0.7] interval of the electromagnetic spectrum.

Other sensors for ocean color are the imaging spectrometer for ocean color applications MOS-IRS, launched on the Indian Remote Sensing Satellite IRS-P3 in March 1996, and the imaging spectrometer MOS-PRIRODA, launched aboard the Russian multisensor remote sensing module PRIRODA and docked to space station MIR in April 1996.

Ocean Dynamics. By studying ocean circulation and sea levels trends, scientists will be able to create global maps of ocean currents and of sea surface topography. Since sea surface height and sea level variations are related to sea surface temperatures, the monitoring of mean sea levels enables the gathering of evidence that can measure global warming or El Niño-type events. For example, conditions related to El Niño may result in a change in sea surface height of 18 cm or greater [37].

TOPEX/Poseidon (T/P) is an important collaboration between U.S./NASA and France/CNES. T/P uses radar altimetry to provide 10-day maps of the height of most of the ice-free oceans' surface. Circling the world every 112 min, the satellite gathers data for 3 to 5 years, and could be operational for 10 years. The T/P satellite was launched in August 1992 on an Ariane rocket. TOPEX measures the height of the ocean surface, as well as changes in global mean sea level. From these altimetry data, global maps of ocean topography are created, from which speed and direction of ocean currents are computed worldwide. Changes in mean sea level are monitored and currently are viewed mostly as related to natural ocean variability and not climate change. Climate change must be studied over a much longer time series of altimeter data. T/P also enables study of tides, waves geophysics, and ocean surface winds.

Sea winds are also being studied with scatterometers such as the NASA Scatterometer (NSCAT) and the soon to be launched EOS Scatterometer, SearWinds. These high-frequency radar instruments measure the reflected signals from the ocean surface to detect wind speed and direction.

ERS-1 is another satellite utilized to measure ocean dynamics. ERS-1 was launched in 1991 on a sun-synchronous, near-polar low-Earth orbit at an altitude of 780 km. ERS-1 orbits the Earth in 100 min and covers the entire planet in 3 days. Its payload consists of two specialized radars and one infrared sensor. The Active Microwave instrument, consisting of a synthetic aperture radar and wind scatterometer, produces extremely detailed images of 100 km swath of the Earth's surface, with a spatial resolution of

20 m. The radar altimeter provides accurate range to sea surface and wave heights, and the along-track scanning radiometer constructs detailed pictures of the thermal structure of the seas and oceans from surface temperature measurements at an accuracy of less than 0.5°C. ERS-1 images are also utilized for land applications where the instruments need to “look through” the cloud cover.

The study of sea ice with passive and active microwave sensors is also very important and additional reading in this topic can be found in References 14 and 38.

A Few Examples of Space Science Applications.

Astronomical satellites have been developed to observe far distant objects that are usually beyond the range of ground-based instruments. They explore phenomena in the solar system, and beyond. Satellite observation of astronomical objects is also less sensitive to atmospheric interactions and can achieve higher accuracy than ground-based measurements. This section will give a brief description of the most important space science satellites.

The first astronomical satellite to be put into synchronous orbit was the International Ultraviolet Explorer (IUE) laboratory. IUE was launched in 1978 under a joint program involving NASA, ESA, and the United Kingdom. In more than 15 years of service, IUE gathered observations on more than 10,000 celestial objects. A program for coordinating its observations with those of the ROSAT satellite has been carried out under the title RIASS (Rosat-IUE All-Sky Survey). ROSAT, the Roentgen Satellite, is a joint collaboration between Germany, the U.S., and the U.K., and was launched in 1990. It is an X-ray observatory that carries two instruments, the X-ray telescope and the wide field camera.

The Infrared Astronomical Satellite, IRAS, is a joint project of the U.S., the U.K., and the Netherlands. The IRAS mission was intended to provide a survey of infrared point sources (from 12 to 100 μm), but has also produced very high-quality image data. MSX (the Mid-Course Space Experiment), ISO (the Infrared Space Observatory), and SIRTf (the Space InfraRed Telescope Facility) are other examples of recently or soon-to-be launched sensors that provide an even finer resolution.

Hipparcos (High Precision Parallax Collecting Satellite) is an astronomy satellite launched in August 1989, with the purpose of determining the astrometric parameters of stars with unprecedented precision. After a life of 4 years, Hipparcos has produced two catalogs. The Hipparcos Catalogue provides position, parallax, and proper motion measurements with accuracy of 2 milliarcsec at 9 mag for over 120,000 stars. The Tycho Catalogue is the result of somewhat less precise astrometric measurements for some 1 million stars.

COBE, the Cosmic Origin Background Explorer developed by NASA, was launched in 1989. Designed to measure the diffuse infrared and microwave radiation from the early universe, it carried three instruments: a Far Infrared Absolute Spectrophotometer (FIRAS), a Differential Microwave Radiometer (DMR), and a Diffuse Infrared Background Experiment (DIRBE). The first full-sky coverage was completed in 1990.

The Hubble Space Telescope (HST) is one of the most well-known astronomical satellites. It was built as a joint NASA/ESA project, and was launched in 1990 as a long-term space-based observatory. The heart of the system is a large reflector telescope 2.4 m in diameter. All the instruments on-board the HST use the light gathered by the reflector telescope. Current HST instruments are the Wide/Field Planetary Camera 2 (WFPC2), the Space Telescope Imaging Spectrograph (STIS), the Near-Infrared and Imaging Spectrograph (NICMOS), and the Faint Object Camera, FOC, provided by ESA. These different instruments can observe astronomical objects from UV to IR wavelengths. In 1993, the HST was serviced to correct a preliminary fault affecting the mirror with a corrective optical apparatus named COSTAR. Despite the preliminary mirror fault, and even more after correction, the HST has achieved much better results than those from observatories on Earth. Since it is located above the Earth's atmosphere (at 600 km), the HST produces highly detailed images of the stars and can detect objects beyond the range of ground-based instruments. Observations with the HST are scheduled as a space-based observatory according to worldwide astronomers' proposals.

ASCA, the Advanced Satellite for Cosmology and Astrophysics, is the product of a Japan/U.S. collaboration. Launched in 1993, this X-ray astronomy mission was still operational in 1997, and carries four large-area X-ray telescopes with arc minute resolution. ASCA data are being archived and can be searched

and retrieved online at the High Energy Astrophysics Science Archive Research Center, HEASARC. GRO (Gamma Ray Observatory), and AXAF (the Advanced X-ray Astrophysics Facility) are other examples of space sensors which operate in this spectrum range.

Management and Interpretation of Satellite Data

Satellite sensors gather the electromagnetic energy reflected or emitted from Earth (or any other planetary) surface features. This energy is then converted into a digital representation that is visualized by a user and interpreted either visually or with a computer. This section summarizes some preliminary ideas on how the digital representation is formed and the basic types of data processing necessary before any further interpretation of the data. For more details on the processing of remote sensing data, see References 39 to 42.

Fundamental Data Levels

After transmission from the satellites, raw data are usually processed, calibrated, archived, and distributed by a ground-based data system. Most of NASA satellite data products are classified in the following data levels [7]:

- *Level 0 data* are the reconstructed raw instrument data at full resolution.
- *Level 1A data* are reconstructed, time-reference raw data, with ancillary information including radiometric and geometric coefficients.
- *Level 1B data* are corrected Level 1A data (in sensor units).
- *Level 2 data* are derived geophysical products from Level 1 data, at the same resolution and location; for example, atmospheric temperature profiles, gas concentrations, or winds variables.
- *Level 3 data* correspond to the same geophysical information as Level 2, but mapped onto a uniform space-time grid.
- *Level 4 data* are model output or results from analysis of lower-level data.

Image Restoration

Ideally, the scene as viewed and recorded by a sensor would be an exact rendering of the features within the sensor's viewing extent, represented as a spectral curve indicating the amount of energy reflecting/radiating for each point in a scene for a range of given wavelengths. From an engineering standpoint, this is impossible, however, because each image is discretized into a finite number of pixels. Variability defines nature, so each pixel will map into a region of the scene that contains a number of features, each producing its own unique spectral curve. The spectral signature recorded for a pixel is a function of these features and their relative sizes within the region covered by the pixel. The spectral response itself is also discretized into a finite number of bandwidths, where each bandwidth covers a small continuous band of the spectrum. The sensor records for each pixel the amount of energy observed for each band. This number itself, referred to as a Digital Number (DN), must be represented in a finite amount of computer memory, such as 8 bits, meaning that each band records activity as a whole number ranging from 0 to 255.

In practice, a number of events outside human control affect the quality of the observation, such as atmospheric scattering, variations in sun angle, high albedo, and instrument errors. Depending on the application, it may be desirable to correct for the presence of thin clouds within an image. The process of image restoration attempts to control and correct for these conditions [42].

Electromechanical effects due to the instrument itself can be discovered due to their periodic nature (such as caused by the repeated motion of a push-broom, or the revolving of a mirror, or the physical process of gathering calibration points). A Fourier transform applied to an image from a sensor undergoing periodic interference exhibits strong noise spikes. A filter can then be used to remove the offending data. Unfortunately, this also removes any good data that happens to fall at the same frequency, although normally this is but a small portion of the data. Data outages and instrument recorder failures appear as streaks in the image parallel with the scanline, and can be discovered by comparing the respective readings of the pixels in the surrounding scanlines of the image.

To account for the atmospheric effects of Rayleigh and aerosol scattering, an estimate of the portion of the signal that is due to the atmosphere is computed and subtracted from the recorded value. The reflectance of water in the near-infrared region of the spectrum should be effectively zero, so the value to subtract for the near-IR band corresponds to the reading of the sensor observed over clear open water. To compute values to be subtracted for each of the other spectral components, a histogram should be formed for each band of a number of sample readings over clear open water. The lowest reading in each band is then used as an estimate of the value to subtract from each pixel to account for the atmospheric effect. In addition, information derived from TOVS, balloon readings, or the atmospheric correction software 5S can be useful in dealing with atmospheric effects.

Data Compression

Data compression is one of the most important tools to overcome the problems of data transmission, storage, and dissemination [43]. Data compression methods are usually classified as either lossless or lossy. With a lossless data compression scheme, the original data can be reconstructed exactly without any loss; in a lossy compression scheme, original data are reconstructed with a degree of error. For transmission from the satellite to the ground station, a lossless data compression must be utilized. For browsing purposes, lossy compression enables quick searches through large amounts of data. A compression scheme is also characterized by its compression ratio, that is, the factor by which the amount of information which represents the data is reduced through compression. For earth science data, lossless compression schemes provide compression ratios up to 2 or 3, while lossy techniques can reduce the amount of information by a factor of 20 or more without degrading the visual quality of the data.

Among the lossless compression methods, the Joint Photographic Experts Group, JPEG, developed a lossless compression method that is based on a predictor, an entropy encoder for prediction error, and an entropy code specifier. Another lossless compression scheme is the Rice algorithm, which can adapt to data of any entropy range. It is based on a preprocessor that spatially decorrelates the data, followed by a variable length encoder. This algorithm gives some of the best compression ratios among all lossless methods, and has been implemented on VLSI chips at NASA.

JPEG has also developed a lossy method based on the Discrete Cosine Transform (DCT). Other methods such as vector quantization or wavelet compression provide either lossless or lossy compressions. In a vector quantization technique, a dictionary of representative vectors, also called a codebook, and all data are encoded relative to the codebook. In this method, the one-time encoding step is computationally expensive but the decoding step at the user end is fast and efficient. Vector quantization is also utilized in a progressive scheme for "quick look"/browsing purposes. In a subband/wavelet compression method, signals are decomposed using quadrature mirror or wavelet filters [44]. Most energy is contained in the low-frequency subbands and high compression ratios can be obtained by compressing the high-frequency information.

For more information or references on data compression techniques, see Reference 43.

Image Registration

In studying how the global environment is changing, programs such as Mission to Planet Earth [7] or the New Millennium program [45] involve the comparison, fusion, and integration of multiple types of remotely sensed data at various temporal, radiometric, and spatial resolutions. Results of this integration can be utilized for global change analysis, as well as for the validation of new instruments or of new data analysis. The first step in this integration of multiple data is registration, either relative image-to-image registration or absolute geo-registration, to a map or a fixed coordinate system. Another case of image registration is co-registration of multiple bands of one sensor. When the detectors of each spectral band have different spatial locations on the satellite's focal plane, there could be misregistration between each band's raw image [46,47].

Currently, the most common approach to image registration is to extract a few outstanding characteristics of the data, which are called *control points* (CPs), *tie-points*, or *reference points*. The CPs in both images (or image and map) are matched by pair and used to compute the parameters of a geometric

transformation. Most available systems follow this registration approach; and because automated procedures do not always offer the needed reliability and accuracy, current systems assume some interactive choice of the CPs. But such a point selection represents a repetitive, labor- and time-intensive task that becomes prohibitive for large amounts of data. Also, since the interactive choice of control points in satellite images is sometimes difficult, too few points, inaccurate points, or ill-distributed points might be chosen, thus leading to large registration errors. A previous study [48] showed that even a small error in registration can have a large impact on the accuracy of global change measurements. For example, when looking at simulated 250 m spatial resolution MODIS (Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectrometer) data, a 1-pixel misregistration can produce 50% error in the computation of the Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI). So, for reasons of speed and accuracy, automatic registration is an important requirement to ease the workload, speed up the processing, and improve the accuracy in locating a sufficient number of well-distributed accurate tie-points.

Automatic image registration methods can be classified into two types: those that follow a human approach, by first extracting control points, and those that take a more global approach. Among the first methods, the most common features utilized as control points are the centers of gravity of regions — with or without region attributes such as areas, perimeters, ellipticity criteria, affine-invariant moments, and inter-regions distances. More recently, features extracted from a wavelet decomposition have also been utilized, such as maxima and minima of wavelet coefficients, high-interest points, or local curvature discontinuities. A few methods utilize Delaunay triangulation methods to progressively increase the number of accurate control points. For the methods that do not match individual pairs of control points, the transformation is either found by correlation or by optimization, in the spatial or in the frequency domain. When in the spatial domain, correlation or optimization is performed either in the original data or on edge gradient data. Other methods propose a global image matching of edge segments or vectors linking feature points. Some recent research has also focused on the use of wavelets for global image registration. More complete surveys of image registration methods can be found in References 47, 49, and 50.

Dimension Reduction

The first step in analyzing multichannel data is to reduce the dimension of the data space. It is particularly important when the analysis method requires a training step, for example, supervised classification (see next section). The main issue in this case has often been referred as “the Curse of Dimensionality” [52]. If the original data has a large number of bands (e.g., for hyperspectral data), theoretical studies have shown that a very large training set should be utilized; but using a large training set deteriorates the estimation of the kernel density. To solve this problem, various dimension reduction schemes enable to perform classification in a smaller-dimensional subspace. Since the information contained in multiple channels is often redundant, it is possible to decorrelate spectrally the channels and reduce the number of channels to be analyzed without losing any information. Principal Component Analysis (PCA) and Projection Pursuit are the most common techniques for dimensionality reduction. For more information on these methods, refer to References 39 through 42.

Data Mining

One objective of the NASA-initiated Mission to Planet Earth is to gather sufficient data to enable scientists to study the Earth as a dynamic system, resulting in a better understanding of the interactions between humans, the atmosphere, and the biosphere [8]. The episodic nature of most interesting events would cause them to be missed if the data were not being gathered continuously. Comprehensive data sets allow scientists to construct and evaluate complex models of many Earth-related processes. But currently, due to computation and time constraints, only a small percentage of the data gathered by remote sensing is actually viewed by an individual user. Data-gathering missions tend to be multidisciplinary, so different aspects of the data sets are pertinent to different researchers.

Data mining can be defined as the process by which data content is automatically extracted from satellite data, enabling a scientist to query the data holdings based on high-level features present within

an image [51]. Given the projected large volumes of data, it is not feasible to rely solely on conventional data management paradigms. Standard methods of segmenting images are inadequate as standalone techniques for image recognition, regardless of the speeds of processing, because there are no general methods for automatically assigning meaningful semantics to any homogeneous regions that are isolated. Metadata derived directly from the image header are not rich enough to enable robust querying of a database in most instances, but limit a user to retrieving all images at a given latitude/longitude during some time period, for example, regardless of the image quality or the unique features existing due to some unexpected set of circumstances. New approaches based on techniques such as image classification (described in the next section) are now feasible, due to the phenomenal increases in computing speed, the availability of massively parallel architectures, and the breakthroughs in signal processing.

An example of data mining is the browsing of 15 years of TOVS data with two complete coverages per day, which would require looking through 10,958 scenes per attribute. Of the several products generated, the scientists are primarily interested in browsing those with some given resolution. After locating a browse product that seems to indicate an interesting structure or phenomenon, a scientist might then retrieve this data temporally, or any supporting data set for further analysis. Scientists using the TOVS data sets desire a more intelligent form of querying so they can quickly and easily find relevant data sets that are pertinent to their research. Certain TOVS observations are more “interesting” than others, and the definition of “interesting” is a combination of objective fact and subjective opinion. Data mining is applicable here to aid in evolving a retrieval heuristic based on an individual scientist’s definition of “interestingness.” In one approach, the scientist could prepare a representative set of images that are labeled as positive or negative instances of “interesting,” and a machine learning system (e.g., neural network, genetic algorithm) could perhaps be trained to classify the remaining images in the TOVS data set according to this definition. In a second approach, the scientists could be asked to identify explicitly structural features within the images that make them interesting, and image processing routines could then be applied to detect images with these features. Over time, a scientist could provide feedback to the heuristic classifier to improve its performance. Both approaches require that the underlying representation language (structures, bin size, spatial and temporal relationships) be robust and flexible enough to permit an appropriate level of expression.

Classification

Image classification is the task of developing a statistical model that labels every potential point in some multidimensional space. A *parametric classifier* assumes that data are described by some underlying parameterized probability density function (PDF). A training set of representative data from the domain is then used to supply appropriate values. For example, if a Gaussian or normal distribution is assumed, then the means, standard deviations, and joint-covariance matrix can be computed from the training data. A *nonparametric* or *unsupervised classifier* is typically used when there is insufficient knowledge about the type of underlying PDF for the domain. Self-organizing classifier models, such as certain kinds of neural networks, are also considered nonparametric classifiers when they make no *a priori* assumptions about any PDF.

In a *statistical* or *supervised classifier*, knowledge about the distribution of the data is utilized to assign a label to an unclassified pixel. Using “ground-reference data,” a training set of known points is created. A prototype vector can then be calculated as the mean of all samples for each of the classes. Assuming a Gaussian distribution in each of the channel readings for a given class, the standard deviation for each class is computed based on the sample. Then, the lowest distance from the given feature prototypes to an unclassified point determines the class of this incoming point. As simple and elegant as this approach might appear, in actuality its utility is limited. Features are not so discernible from a random labeling of an image. Thus, although this algorithm is inaccurate, it is consistent in its mislabelings. The algorithm’s deterministic nature and underlying use of a continuous function combine to produce predictable behavior. In general, this algorithm labels all points similarly if they fall within the same neighborhood in the feature space.

Other parametric classifiers follow the *Maximum Likelihood Decision Rule*, which allows the construction of discriminant functions for the purposes of pattern classification. For more details on this technique, refer to Reference 53.

The classifiers discussed above are, by definition, required to assign an unclassified pixel to the one nearest class. No measurement of the distance to that class or proximity to other classes is recorded, and no information on the confidence of the labeling is provided. *Fuzzy classifiers*, on the other hand, are not obligated to pigeonhole a pixel into a single class. Instead, the pixel is assigned a degree of membership for each possible class. Intuitively, and indeed for mathematical tractability, the pixel's memberships must sum to one, and the degree of membership for a given class must be between 0 and 1, inclusively. Two examples of fuzzy classifiers are given below. The *Fuzzy Nearest Neighbor* nonparametric classifier places an unclassified vector in the dominant class of its k -closest training vectors. If no class has an outright majority, then distances to the nearby vectors for each class which tied are summed and the unclassified vector is placed in the class with the minimum sum. The *Fuzzy Decision Tree Classifier* utilizes a decision tree as the data structure that encapsulates knowledge of what to do given a set of conditions. See Reference 51 for more information on this method. Although this algorithm is conceptually simple, it is only recently that it has become computationally feasible due to the need to search the tree for each unclassified pixel to locate the nearest path. The search algorithm can also be sped up by running the algorithm on a parallel architecture such as a Single Instruction Multiple Data (SIMD) machine.

Many researchers have investigated the use of *neural networks* for automatically extracting metadata from images [54]. Many different neural network models have been considered, but with respect to performance accuracy, the backpropagation training technique has shown to be the best classifier [55]. The *backpropagation algorithm* is the most common method for training a neural network, and is the backbone of much of the current resurgence of research into neural nets [56]. With respect to pattern recognition, backpropagation can be considered to be a nonparametric technique for estimation of a posteriori probabilities.

Accuracy Assessment

A measurement derived solely from satellite imagery is of questionable use unless the technique employed for computing that measurement on those data has been validated. A technique that appears to work accurately on satellite imagery over some given location at some given time may perform abysmally on data from the same sensor at another location, or for the same location at another time. The reasons for this are many: through the course of a year, the sun angle changes causing different lighting conditions; from pass to pass, the viewing angle of the instrument can be different; with seasonal changes, surface reflectance varies due to weather conditions and the alteration of land cover as crops appear in different stages; atmospheric conditions fluctuate; and the sensor and spacecraft themselves age and possibly perform differently.

The key factor in any accuracy assessment of remote sensing data is the method and source used for determining what the satellite sensor is actually viewing. This ground reference data is gathered independent of the remote sensing data itself. There are several sources that can be construed as ground reference data, and each source has its own degree of accuracy. The most obvious is an actual site visit to the area of interest. What is observed, also known as "ground truth," is recorded and compared to the digital rendition of the same spatial extent. This approach usually has a high degree of accuracy, but it is often prohibitively expensive. Depending on the time between the on-site ground reference gathering and the imaging of the area, the validity of the ground reference data may be lessened due to anthropomorphic or natural influences. The shorter the life of the feature being measured, the more difficult it is to find or gather meaningful time-critical ground reference data. If ground reference data is not available, it may be possible to perform photointerpretation with some degree of success. This itself depends on the knowledge of the photointerpreter, and the availability and suitability of a display device for viewing the image data and recording the photointerpreter's assessment. Another approach is to compare the digital image with other sources of ground reference data such as air photos or appropriate reference maps, provided the

feature of interest is detectable using those sources. The degree of correspondence between the ground reference data and the measurement derived from the sensor data can then be compared for accuracy. In the worst case, the lack of adequate/accurate ground reference data requires using an unsupervised clustering approach that is usually less accurate but much cheaper to produce.

The Future in Satellite Imaging and Sensing

Success of future earth and space science missions depends on increasing the availability of data to the scientific community who will be interpreting space-based observations, and on favoring interdisciplinary research for the analysis and the use of this data. One of the main challenges in the future of satellite imaging and sensing will be to handle, archive, and store all of these data in a way that can be easily accessible and retrieved by anyone who needs to use them. Systems such as the EOS Data and Information System (EOSDIS) [57,58], will require that over 1 terabyte per day be collected and processed into several levels of science data products within several hours after observation. After 15 years, the estimated amount of collected, processed, analyzed, and stored data will equal about 11,000 terabytes. Also at NASA, efforts are underway to design an advanced information system, based on an object-oriented database, with the express purpose of developing, incorporating, and evaluating state-of-the-art techniques for handling EOS-era scientific data challenges [59].

Another challenge will be to analyze this tremendous amount of data, and to find out new ways to fuse, integrate, and visualize this data. In particular, research in fast computational capabilities, such as field programmable gate arrays (FPGAs), will be of great importance.

On the other hand, the wide distribution of satellite data to the general public will be facilitated by regional distribution systems such as the Regional Application Centers, RACs [60,61], whose goal is to provide local users, such as industry, agriculturalists, urban planners, regional communities, with local and “on-time” information about regional applications.

Satellite imaging and sensing is a field with a history of more than 2 decades, but is still in full expansion. The future in satellite imaging and sensing will see developments in several areas. The next millennium will see an explosion of commercial satellite systems and the profusion of satellite data, which will have economic and sociopolitical implications. As of this writing, over 30 commercial Earth sensing satellites are either being planned or being built. MTPE and EOS will generate unprecedented amounts of diverse resolution data. The future will also see the development of locally directed satellite systems, in answer to specific applications for specific areas of the planet. Telecommunications will also be a large part of the space market. In space, after the large success of the Mars Pathfinder mission, exploration of distant planets will see a flourishing of distant satellite systems providing unprecedented amounts of data to analyze regarding other planets’ surface features, atmospheric, and magnetic properties. The understanding of other planets will also enable scientists to learn more about the Earth comparatively to other planets such as Mars, and to build a comprehensive data set to aid in planning future missions. The Mars Global Surveyor is an example of such a mission; it will map the entire planet Mars by taking high-resolution pictures of the surface. The future might see a 10-year NASA program that will send pairs of Surveyor-like orbiters and Pathfinder-like landers to Mars every 26 months. In order to gather novel and interesting data, this type of mission will need an increasing amount of on-board processing that will perform mission planning, image processing and understanding, as well as data compression and fusion. The design of systems including on-board processing will require new computational capabilities, such as reconfigurable hardware and parallel processors, as well as new developments in intelligent systems. In the near future, satellite imaging and sensing is a field that will produce unprecedented information about the Earth, its environment, and our solar system.

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