



HYPERSPECTRAL AIRBORNE DATA FOR CARBONATE GEOLOGICAL MAPPING IN A VEGETATED MOUNTAINOUS AREA: AN ATMOSPHERIC CORRECTION APPROACH

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ABSTRACT

Carbonate are typical targets for oil exploration, outcropping often in large areas with minimum spectral differences between geological units. The typical carbonate spectral absorptions in 2.2 μm and 2.3 μm , are excluded from the wavelength range of AISA Eagle II. AISA Eagle II hyperspectral data are processed in flight lines of 1024 swath pixels in the visible to near-infrared wavelength range (0.40 to 0.97 μm). The spatial resolution is 1m and a total of 128 channels with a spectral resolution of 4.8 nm.

Trying to enhance spectral differences in the visible wavelength range among carbonate geological units, an atmospheric correction using field spectra from geologically selected targets in a limestone quarry was performed. This way, it was possible to map apart lithologically similar detrital units dominated by carbonate in a river plain. The limy river bottom displays spectra with a straight line in the visible wavelength range due to abundant organic matter and small grain size. The spectra of the upper terraces record absorption features related to iron oxide contents similar to the rock outcrops in ridges on mountain areas.

The use of field spectra in geologically selected targets improves the mapping capability of hyperspectral imagery in areas with geological units with a homogeneous spectral response. The spectral response of iron oxide coatings on the weathered rock surface in the visible wavelength range acts as a spectrally distinguishing parameter in wavelength ranges where the spectral diagnostic features of carbonate are absent.

