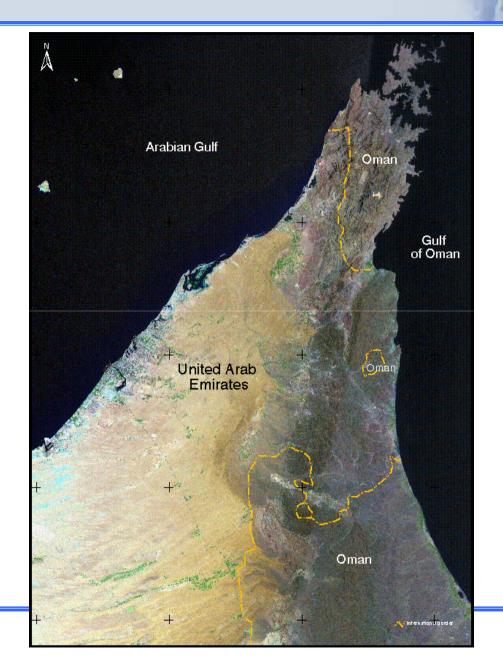
Case Studies

 Exploration of Water Resources in United Arab Emirates

Land Use Changes in a Wetland Area in Spain

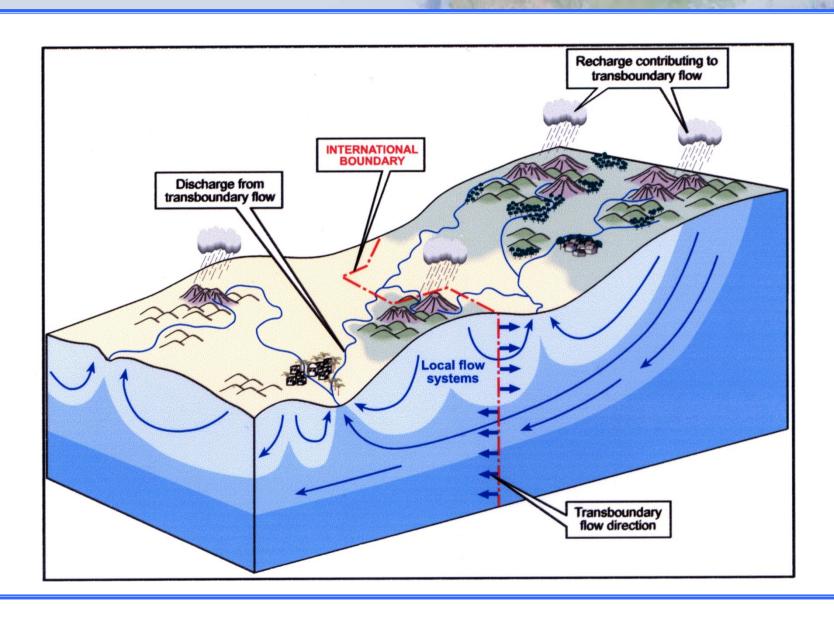
Water Resources in U.A.E.



Research Components

- Analysis of Precipitation Data
- Vegetation Mapping & Classification
- Land Cover / Land Use Mapping
- Structures & Drainage Mapping
- Thermal Anomaly Mapping
- GIS Spatial Correlation Analysis
- Hydrologic Modeling
- Recommended Sites

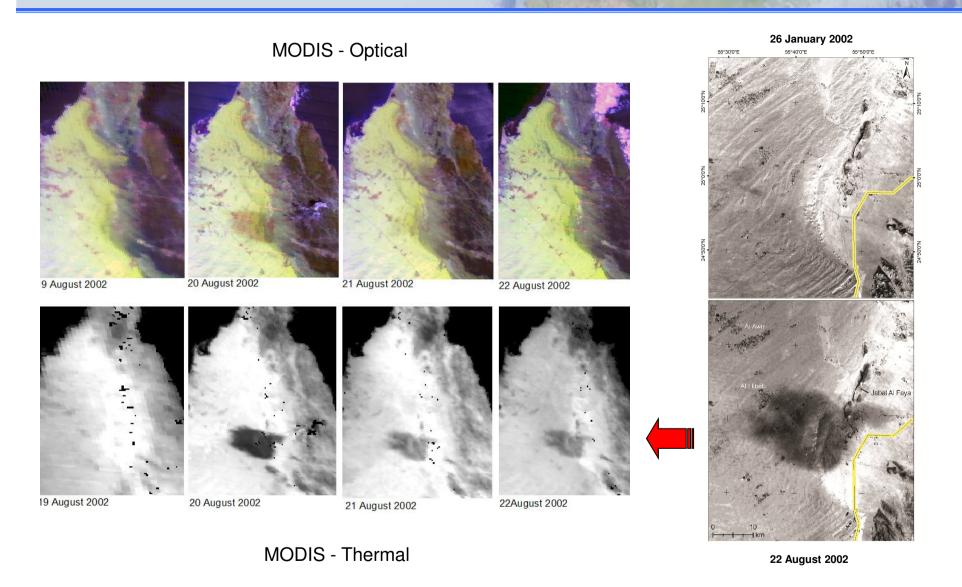
Arid Land Hydrology





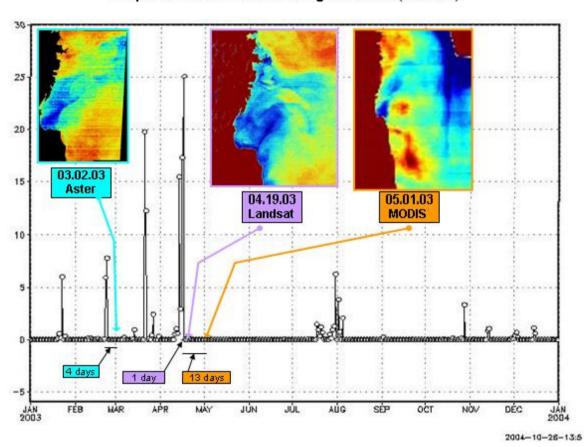


Thermal Anomalies (Inland)

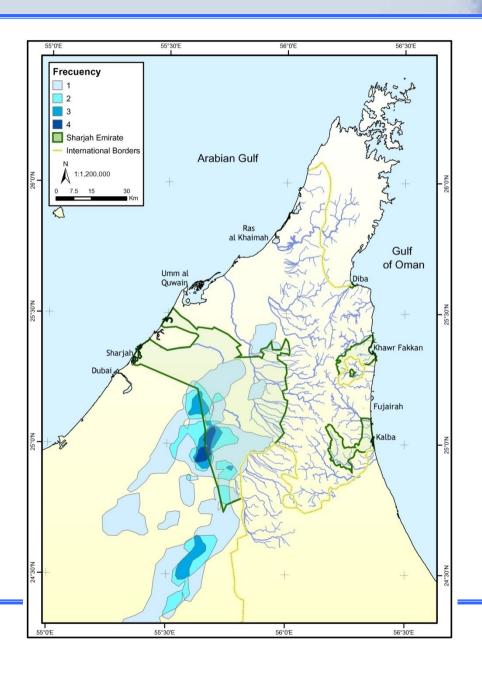


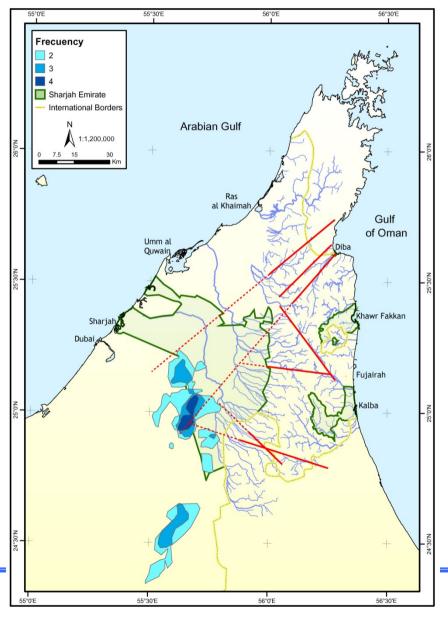
Thermal Anomalies (Offshore)

Accumulated Rainfall (mm) from the Tropical Rainfall Measuring Mission (TRMM)



Thermal Anomalies & Drainage / Fractures

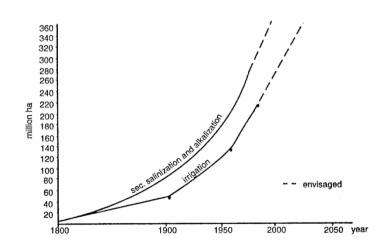




Water Demands for Agriculture

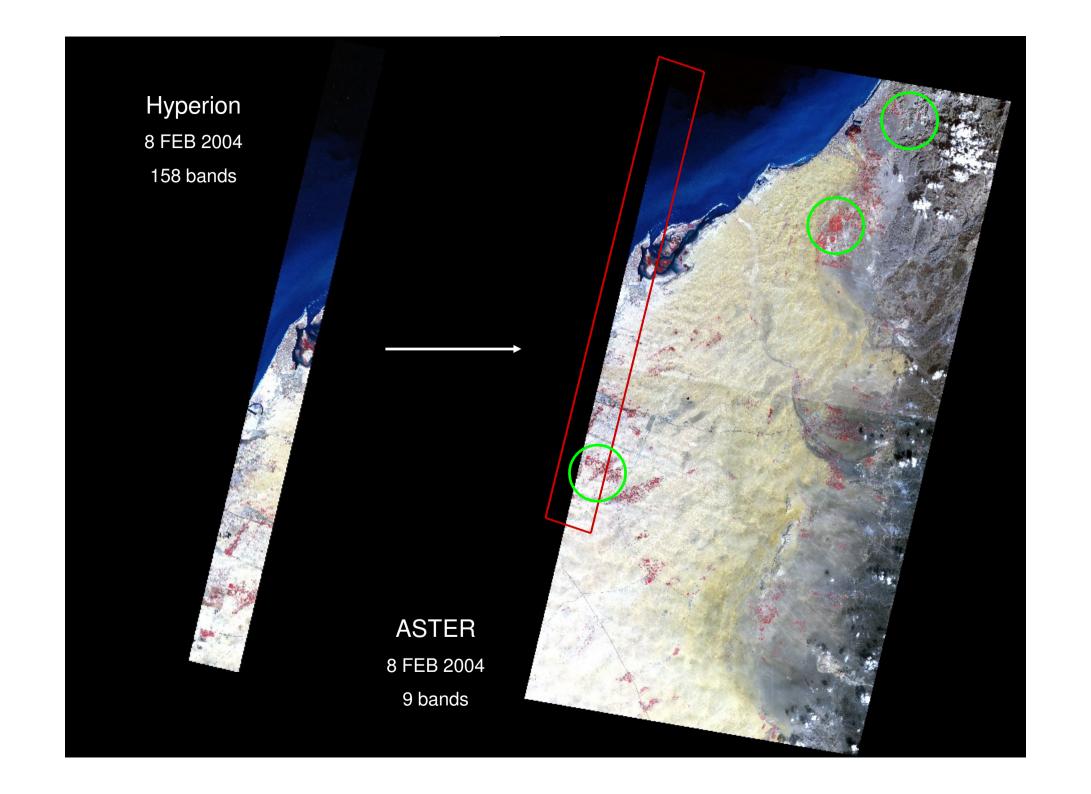
- Agriculture is the principal consumer of global fresh water
- Irrigation is expected to supply 50% of the world's food production requirements
- 75 % of irrigated land lies presently in developing countries
- Soil and water salinity is a major global threat to sustainable irrigation agriculture
- 2nd only to erosion, salinization is the leading cause of soil degradation

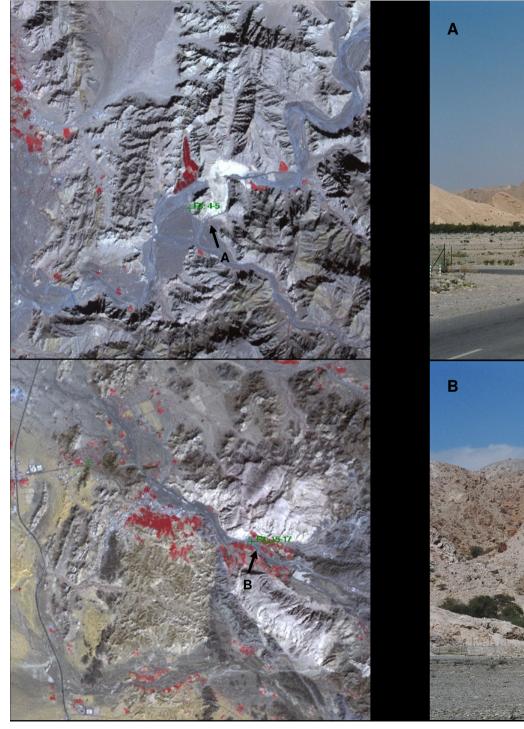
Region	1996		2000		%
	Km ²	%	Km²	%	increase
Abu Dhabi	476.96	59.70	2351.04	86.01	393
Central	166.14	20.79	192.99	7.06	16
Northern	97.51	12.20	113.40	4.15	16
Eastern	58.36	7.30	75.89	2.78	30



Change in total cultivated area in UAE between 1996 and 2000.

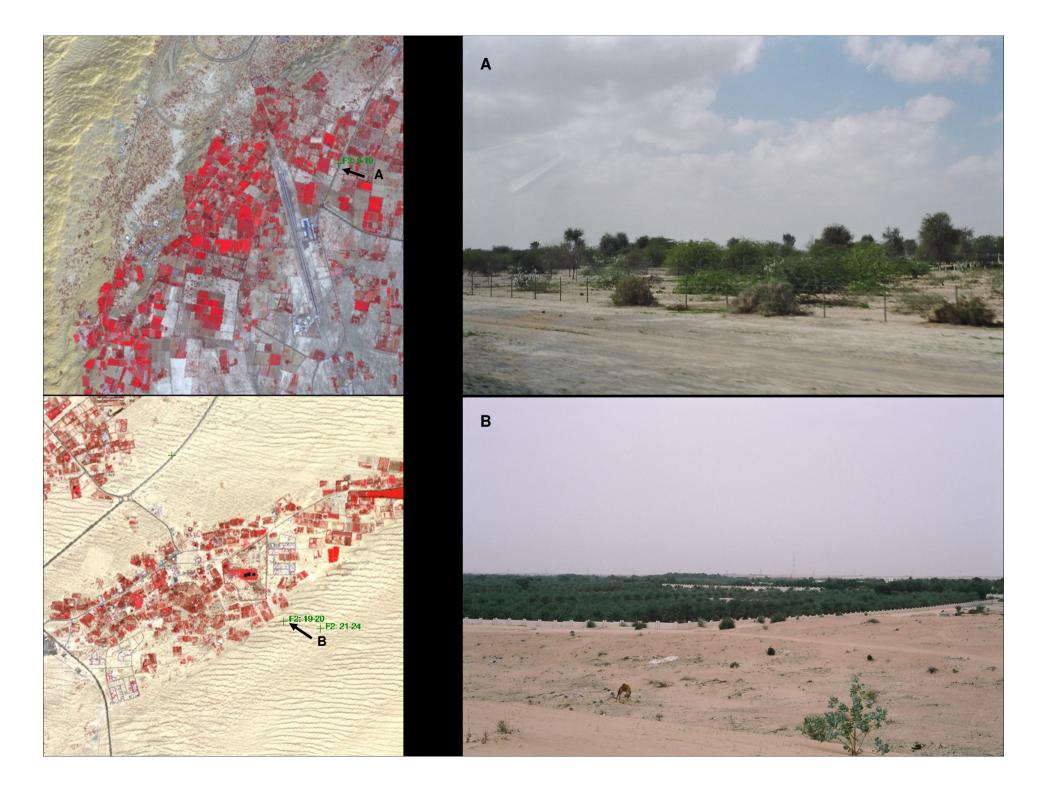
Figure 3. Global development of irrigation and secondary salinization of soils.

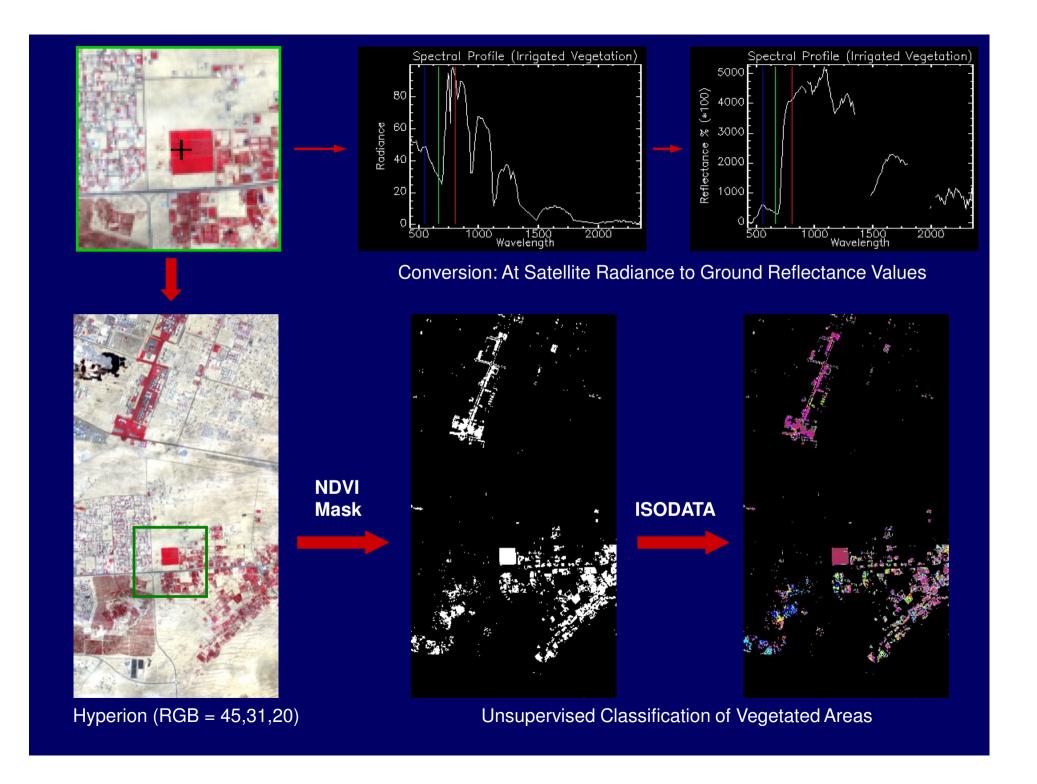








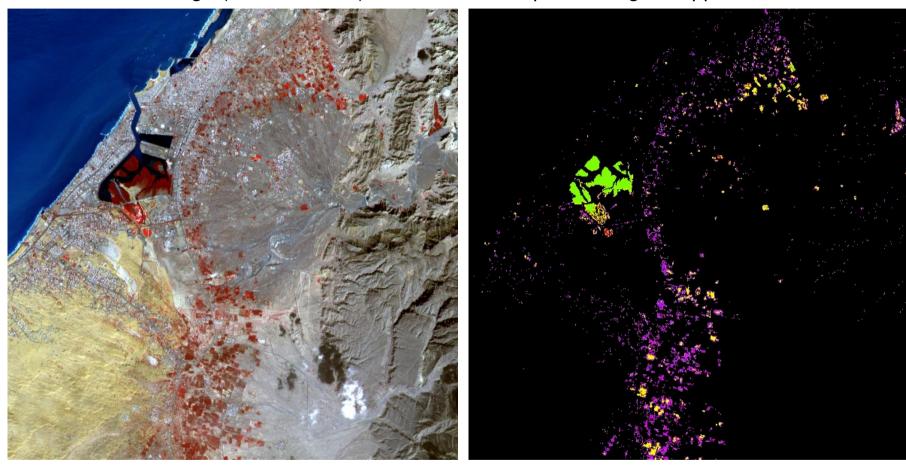




Classification of Vegetation

ASTER Image (RGB = 3, 2, 1)

Spectral Angle Mapper Classification



Discrimination of three main vegetation groups: mangroves, irrigated crops (e.g., alfalfa), irrigated trees (e.g., fruit / palm trees)

Remote Sensing of Agriculture

- Identification of vegetation types (crops) and their areal extent ⇒ change detection
- Maps of distribution, amount, type, and seasonal changes of vegetation patterns allow determination of rates of evapotranspiration, type of irrigation system used, and amount of water consumption
- Advantages of using multisensors:
 - ⇒ high spectral resolution of hyperspectral, and high spatial and temporal resolution of multispectral images
 - ⇒ extrapolation of detailed information over time and space enables change detection studies

Land Cover/Use Change in Los Monegros

Los Monegros area of NE Spain is experiencing significant land use change due to the introduction of extensive irrigation systems.

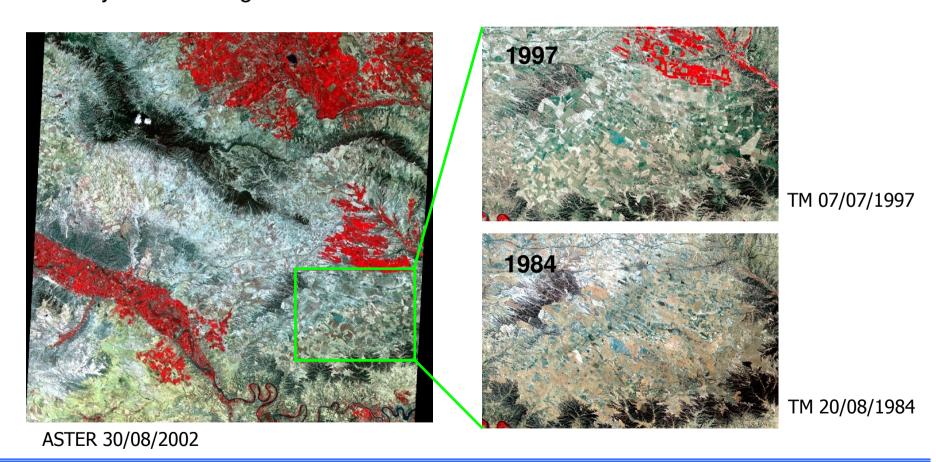
Current agricultural policy encourages farmers to plough marginal areas; and the effect of ploughing combined with land use changes may trigger/accelerate land degradation processes (water/wind erosion, soil salinization, vegetation loss).



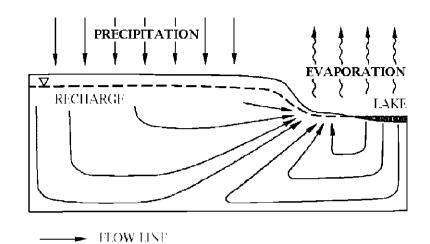


Impact of Agriculture on Wetlands

It is expected that changes in agricultural practices will have a profound impact on the ecology. Dryland farming was the traditional way of agriculture. However, a large scale irrigation project begun in 1986, bringing water from nearby rivers through a network of canals to this semi-arid environment.



Hydrology of Playa Lakes





Gypsum outcrop

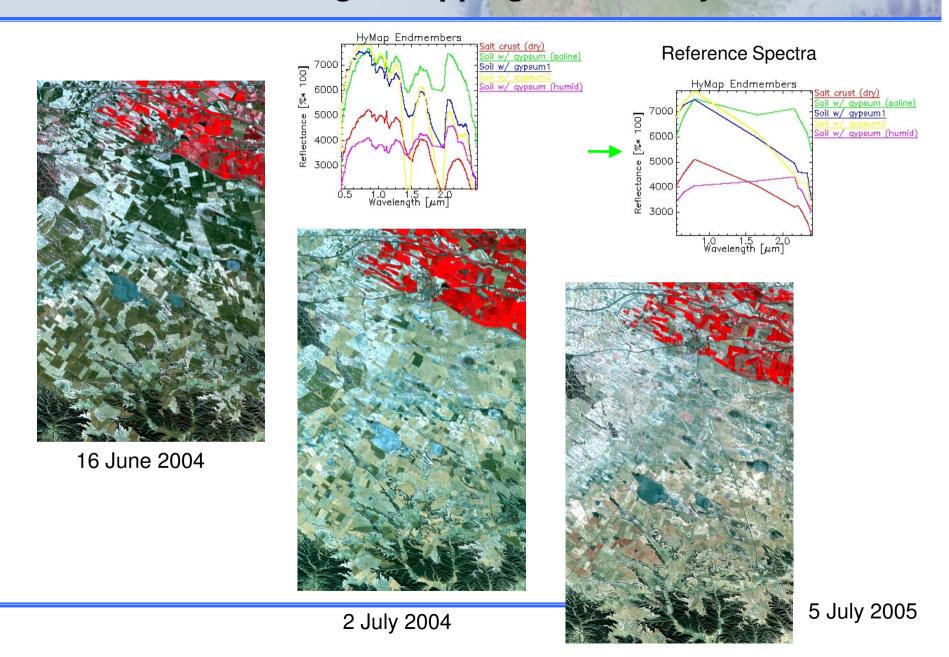
Doline filled with water



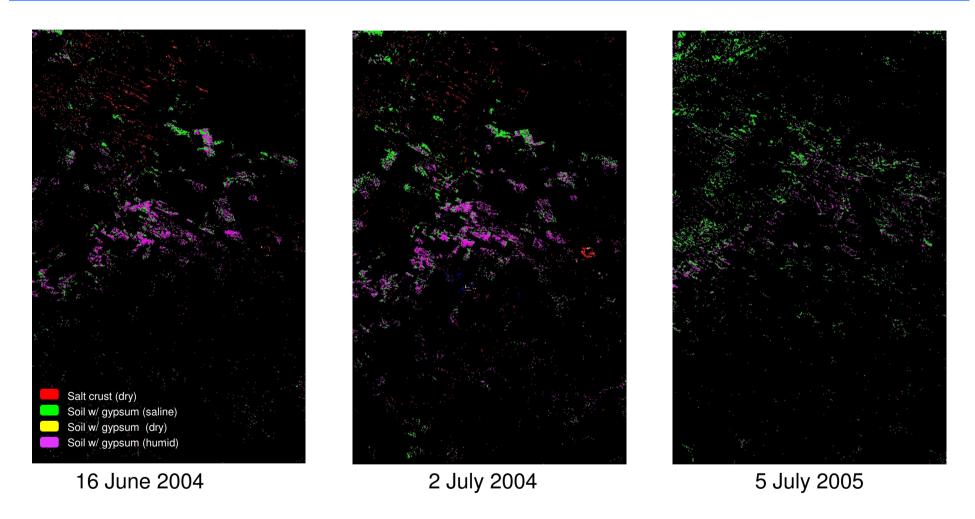


Playa lake with salt crust

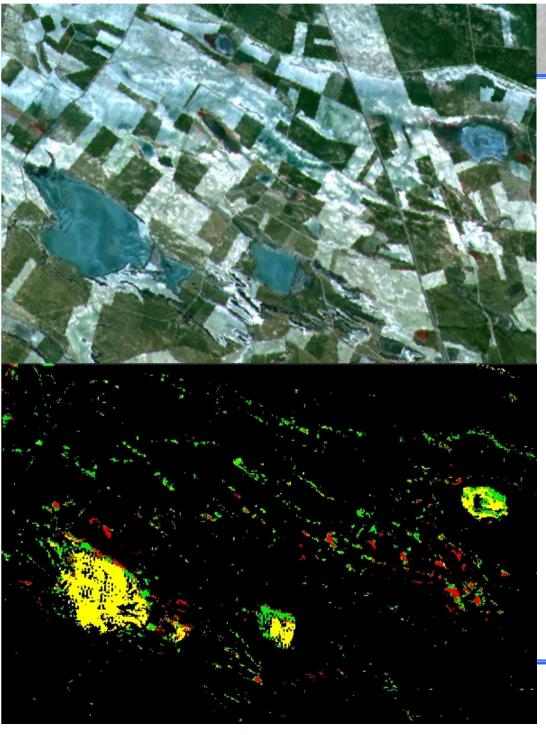
Detecting & Mapping Soil Salinity



Temporal & Spatial Distribution of Saline Soils



Spectral Angle Mapper: is a physically based classification method where image spectra are compared and matched to reference spectra (endmembers).



Soil Characteristics

- S08: Salt crust (very high content of soluble salts and some gypsum).
- S09, 11, 13: Salt-affected soils (salt efflorescence).
- P21: Gypsiferous soils with some calcite (Gypsiric Regosols).

Concluding Remarks

- As population increases demand for new land & water resources (especially in drylands that support agriculture)
- Dryland ecosystems are very fragile and react quickly to adverse environmental changes (water & vegetation stress, prolonged draughts)
- Sustainable land development and water resources usage presents a global challenge
- Drylands are especially susceptible to land degradation processes (soil erosion & salinization), land surface hazards (land slides, flash floods) and lack of water resources
- Mapping, monitoring, managing these ecosystems is essential in order to preserve them for future generations