



Promoting learning:
the fine line between choosing materials that
challenge the user to think critically versus
those that are too complicated to interpret
to provide meaningful usage.

Bernie Connell¹, Jose Galvez², Erin Sanders¹

¹Cooperative Institute for Research in the Atmosphere (CIRA), Colorado State University, USA

²Systems Research Group (SRG) at NOAA NWS NCEP International Desks, USA



CONTEXT

Many GOALS:

- Educate Students
- Train entry level professionals
- Promote continuing professional development
- Enhance trainer knowledge
- Promote mentoring
- Build Capacity in organizations, countries, regions, and globally



Our 'Informal' Training

Monthly Regional Focus Group Sessions

Reinforce

Special Topic Sessions (2-4 hours)

Workshops (~40 hours)

Present concept and content

Our Mixed Audiences:

Students >

Early career (operational/researchers/educators/trainers) >

Mid career (listed above + managers) >

Senior level (listed above)

Poll 1

1. What category best describes you? / ¿Qué categoría lo describe mejor?

- ☐ a) Student / estudiante
- ☐ b) Early Career / principios de carrera
- ☐ c) Middle Career / carrera media
- ☐ d) Senior Career / carrera de mayores

2. What category describes your experience? / ¿Qué categoría describe su experiencia?

- ☐ a) Forecaster or Hydrologist / Pronosticador o hidrólogo
- ☐ b) Researcher / Investigador
- ☐ c) Educator or Trainer / Profesor o Entrenador
- ☐ d) Manager / Gerente
- ☐ e) other / otros

Poll 2

1. How often do you look at satellite imagery? / ¿Con qué frecuencia mira imágenes de satélite? (single choice)

☐ a) 3 or more days per week / 3 o más días a la semana

☐ b) once per week / una vez por semana

☐ c) once per month / una vez al mes

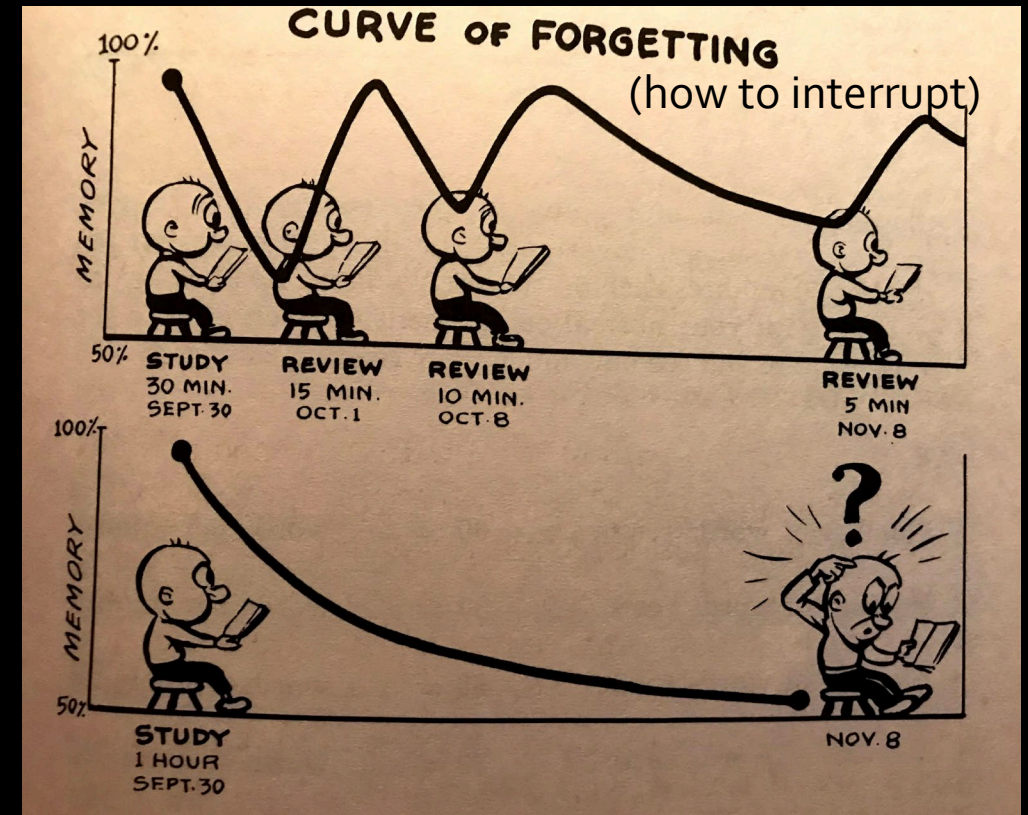
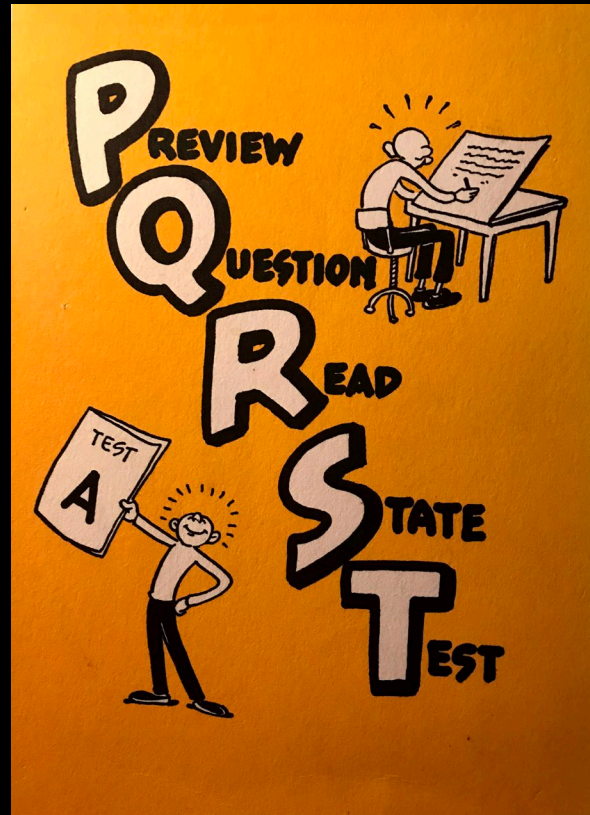
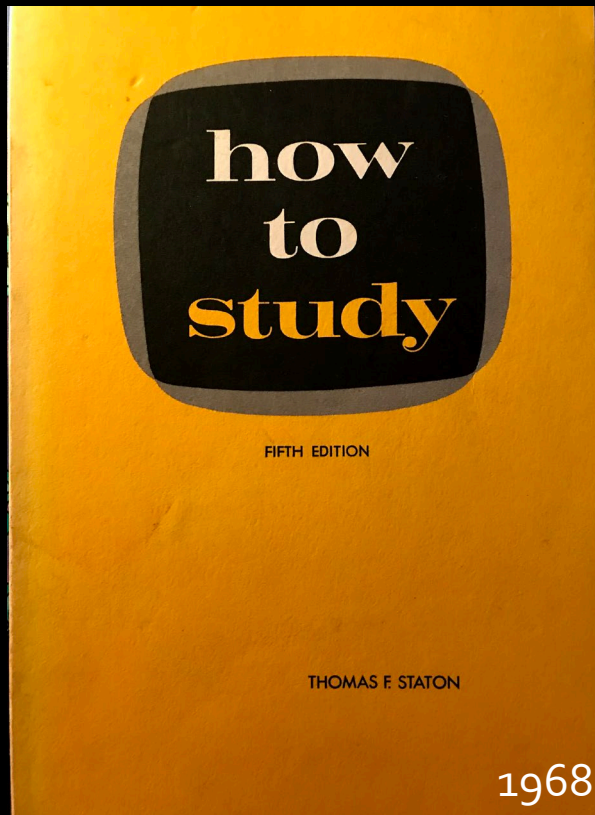
☐ d) once every 3 months / una vez cada 3 meses

☐ e) for special events / para eventos especiales

☐ f) never / nunca

Approaches for the back-door Meteorologist/Remote Sensing Specialist/Educator

Early Life Exposure



Approaches for the back-door Meteorologist/Remote Sensing Specialist/Educator

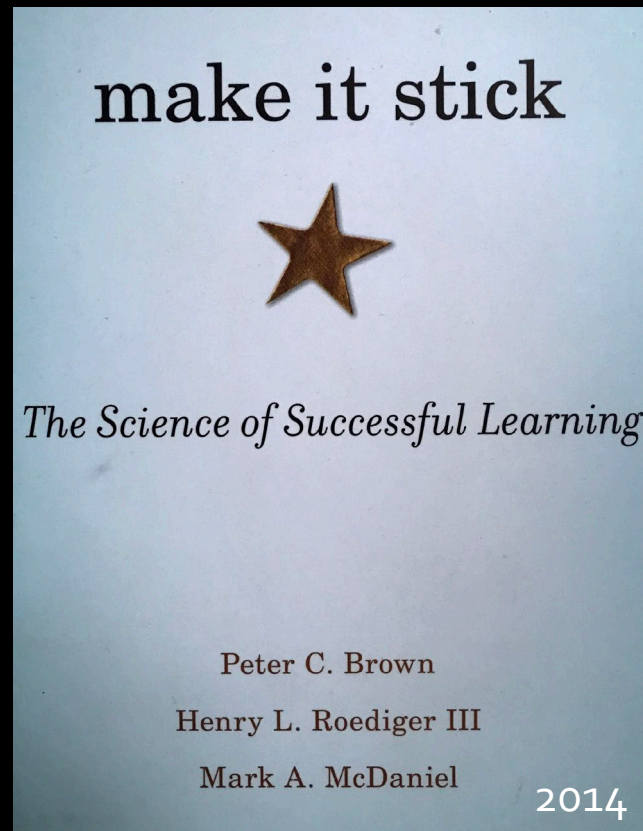
Early Life Exposure

Colleagues & Workshops

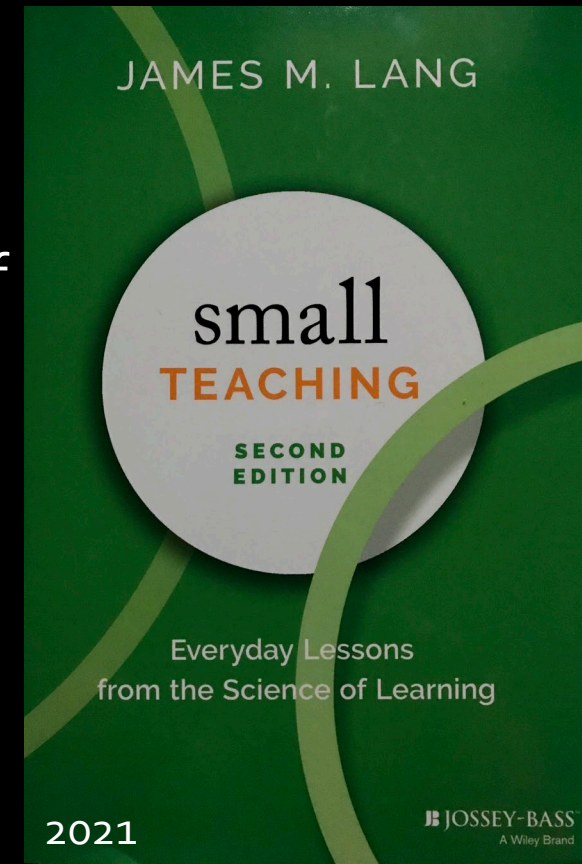
+

Books***

To Learn, Retrieve
Mix Up Your Practice
Embrace Difficulties

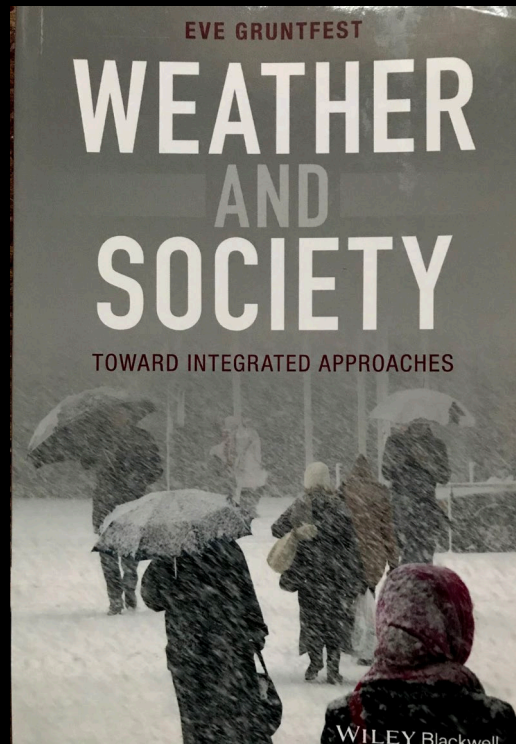
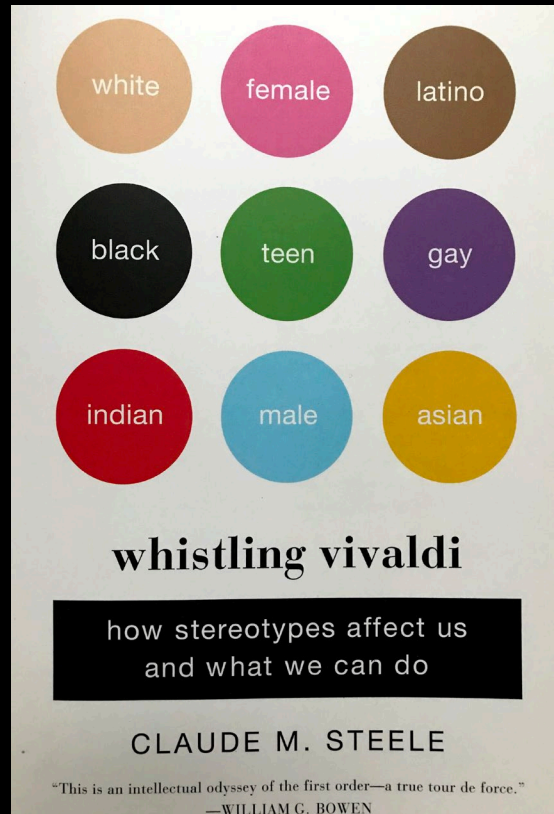


Small teaching activities of
prediction, retrieval, and
interleaving can provide
significant boosts to
mastery of foundational
knowledge and skills.



How can we incorporate Diversity, Inclusiveness, and Community?

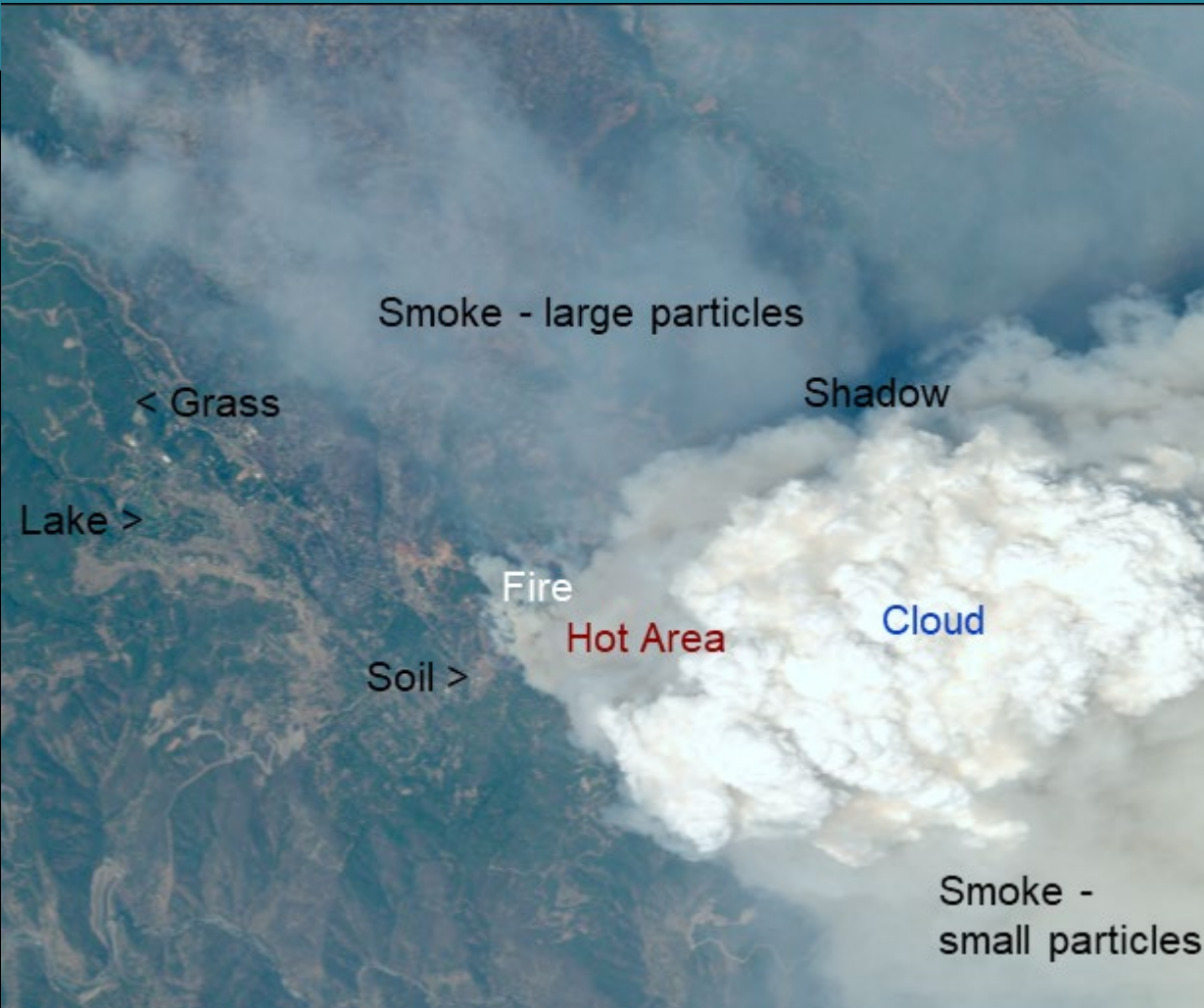
How can we incorporate Social Sciences?



Challenging!
Can we do it with small
steps?

Do you check the weather forecast every day? If not, how often do you check the forecast? (Replace forecast with satellite imagery!)

How can we seed and encourage conversations of exploration in subtle ways that enhance the abilities of the learner?



Why do we assign this homework before we review radiation topics?

- Precondition
- Review answers before lesson
- Explain further during lecture and build on concepts throughout the workshop (interleave).

Why do we ask the questions (listed)?

- We will review a few of them next.

What other questions would you ask?

AVIRIS Image. Linden, California, USA 20 August 1992.

Number of spectral bands: 224

Wavelength range: 0.4 to 2.5 μm .

Pixel size: 20m x 20m Scene: 10km x 10km

Loop courtesy of Mike Griffin, MIT Lincoln Laboratory

http://rammb.cira.colostate.edu/visitview/custom/AmeriGEOweek_Aug2019/AVIRIS_fire/HAniS_AVIRIS_fire.html



Poll 3

1. In what channel does the northern smoke disappear?

¿En qué canal desaparece el humo del norte?

___<40

___41-60

___61-80

___81-100

___>100

What does the range of answers tell us?

- People perceive the contrast in the scene differently.
- Does the background affect detection of smoke?
- The contrast differences can be due to their unique visual perception or be a result of the electronic device they are viewing it on.
- The change from smoke to no smoke is subtle with the narrow hyperspectral wavelength bands. It would be interesting to compare the same scene with broader multispectral bands.



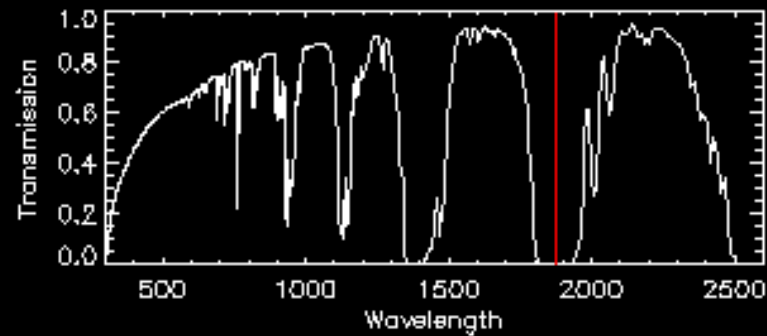
Depending on the knowledge level of the audience, the instructor can expand on question 3:

In which channel does the fire and hot area begin to glow white?

- *Wein's displacement law*
- *Use of this information in RGBs to detect fires. This is where a link between hyperspectral and multispectral can be made.*

AVIRIS Image. Linden, California, USA 20 August 1992.
Number of spectral bands: 224
Wavelength range: 0.4 to 2.5 μm .
Pixel size: 20m x 20m Scene: 10km x 10km
Loop courtesy of Mike Griffin, MIT Lincoln Laboratory

Channel 161 1873 nm



AVIRIS Image. Linden, California, USA 20 August 1992.
Pixel size: 20m x 20m Scene: 10km x 10km
MIT Lincoln Laboratory

Question 4:

How many times does the earth's surface disappear (everything that is outside the cloud)?

- A student listed ch 161 (in viewing the loop, this goes by quickly and I did not notice it before. I wonder if it is real as the wavelengths get out of order here...)*
- We then adapted the question to specify the part of the image that does not include the cloud.*



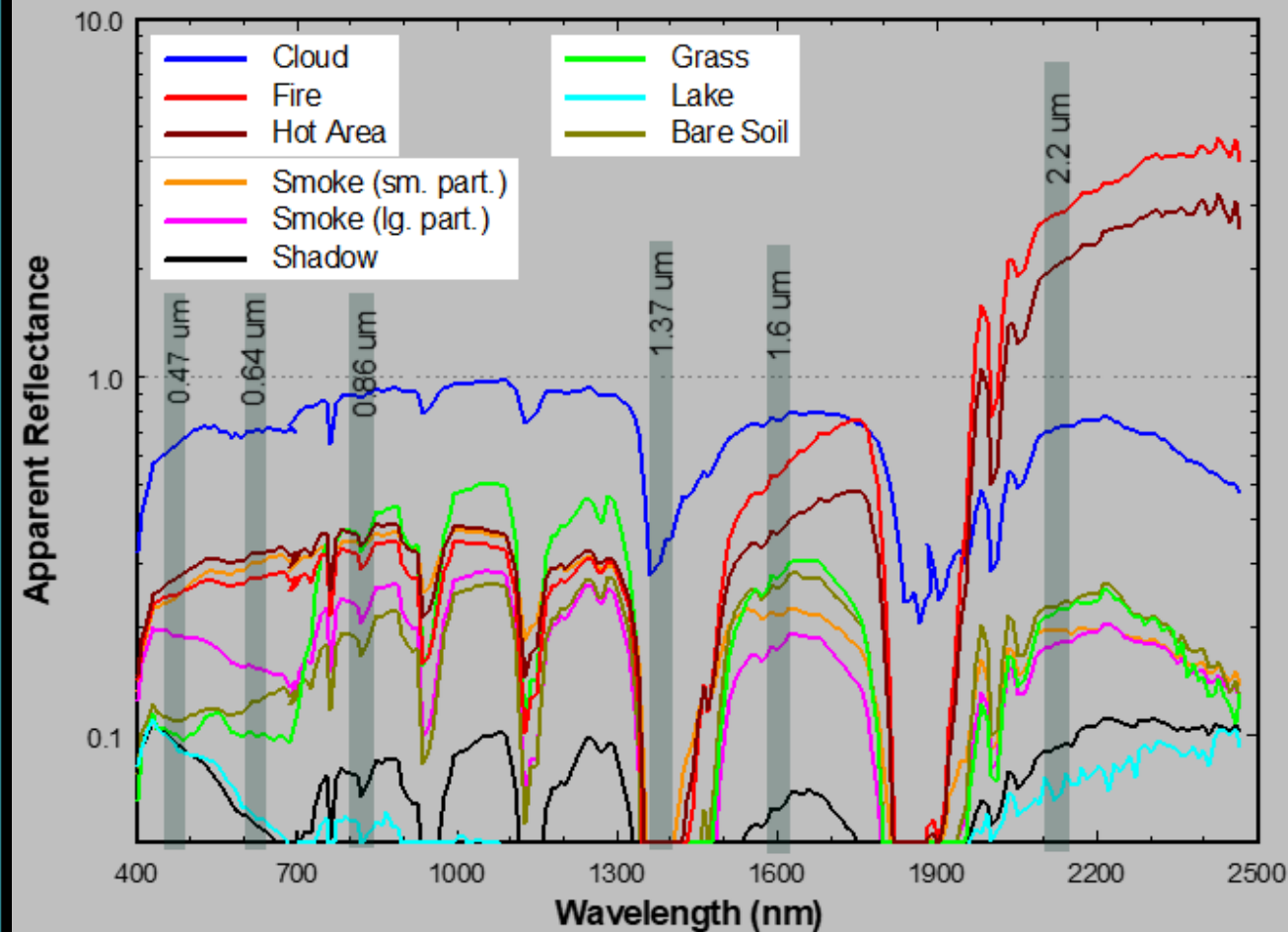
AVIRIS Image. Linden, California, USA 20 August 1992.
Pixel size: 20m x 20m Scene: 10km x 10km
MIT Lincoln Laboratory

Question 7 is new in response to a comment by a student in the workshop.

Which direction is the wind from?
What assumption(s) did you make?

What other questions would you ask about the homework animation?

Spectral Signatures of Selected Pixels

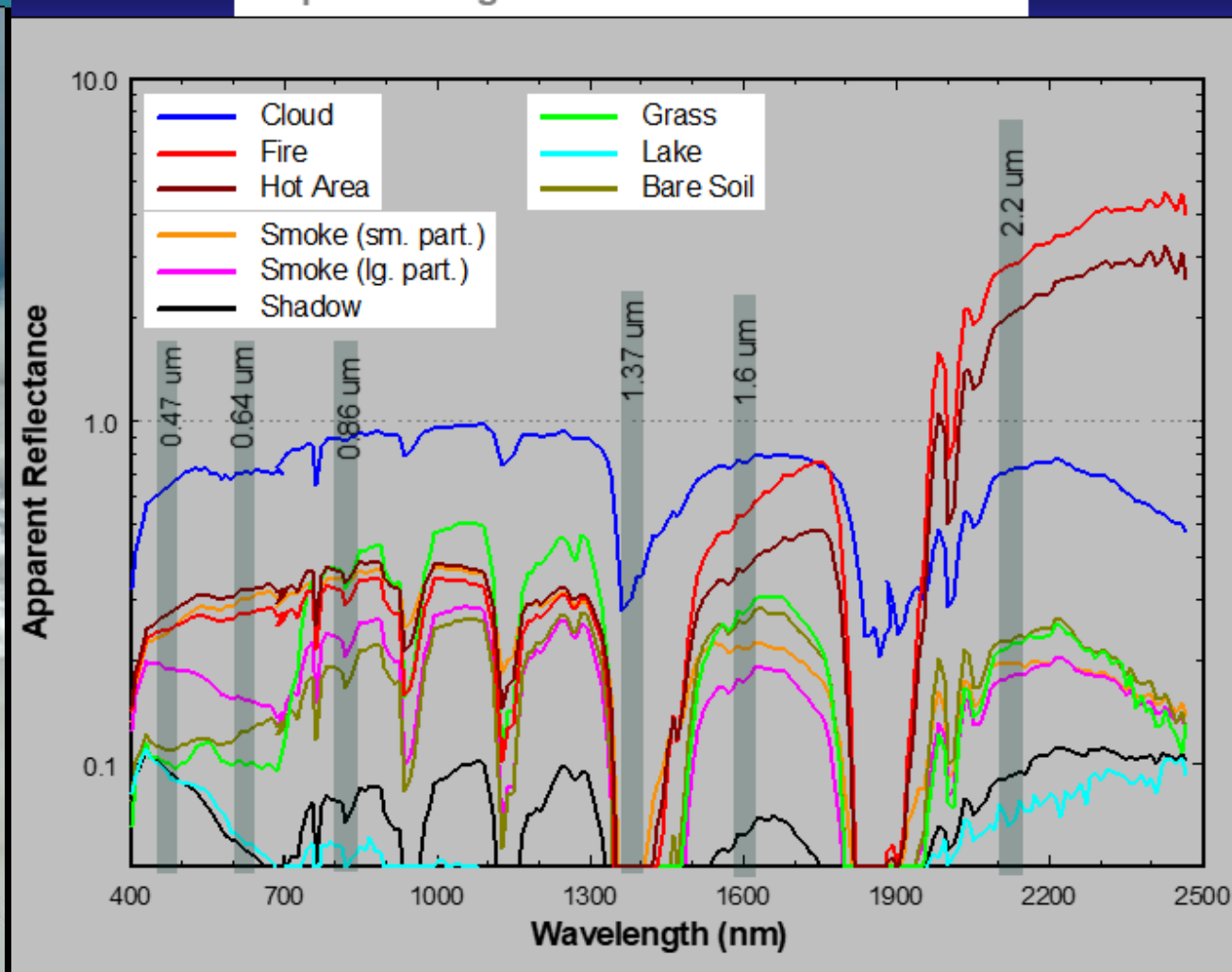


Graph derived from AVIRIS data. Linden, California, USA
20 August 1992. Pixel size: 20m x 20m Scene: 10km x 10km
MIT Lincoln Laboratory

During the third workshop, we added this graph during lecture to present the information in a different format. It also prepares the participants for the way information is presented for the upcoming section on the Infrared portion of the spectrum.

- Shows linkages to hyperspectral and multispectral coverage.
- Shows changes for different features across the spectrum
- Introduces linkages to RGB creation.

Spectral Signatures of Selected Pixels



Which approach catches your attention? Why?

We hope this has stimulated your curiosity.
Thank you for participating!