

**RESULTS FROM OVERFLIGHTS OF THE  
HOUSTON SHIP CHANNEL  
USING THE HYPERSENSPECTRAL AISA+  
SENSOR**

**JUNE 12 - 13, 2004**

Larry B. York

CITY OF HOUSTON  
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DIVISION

# THE SITUATION

- Facility inspection responsibilities, environmental monitoring needs, and costs have risen dramatically in recent years, which prompts responsible agencies to investigate alternative processes.
- The use of remote sensing will enable environmental agencies and local government officials to identify likely non-conforming facilities, and industrial or private processes that threaten the environment.
- Previously, multispectral or other remote sensing capabilities were limited to wide-area analyses using low-resolution data, a process ill-suited to the complex urban environment.
- Recent advances in hyperspectral collection yield more detailed information at higher resolutions, offering the capability of detection of illegal or unauthorized chemical releases or disposal on land, air, and water.

## VISION AND MISSION

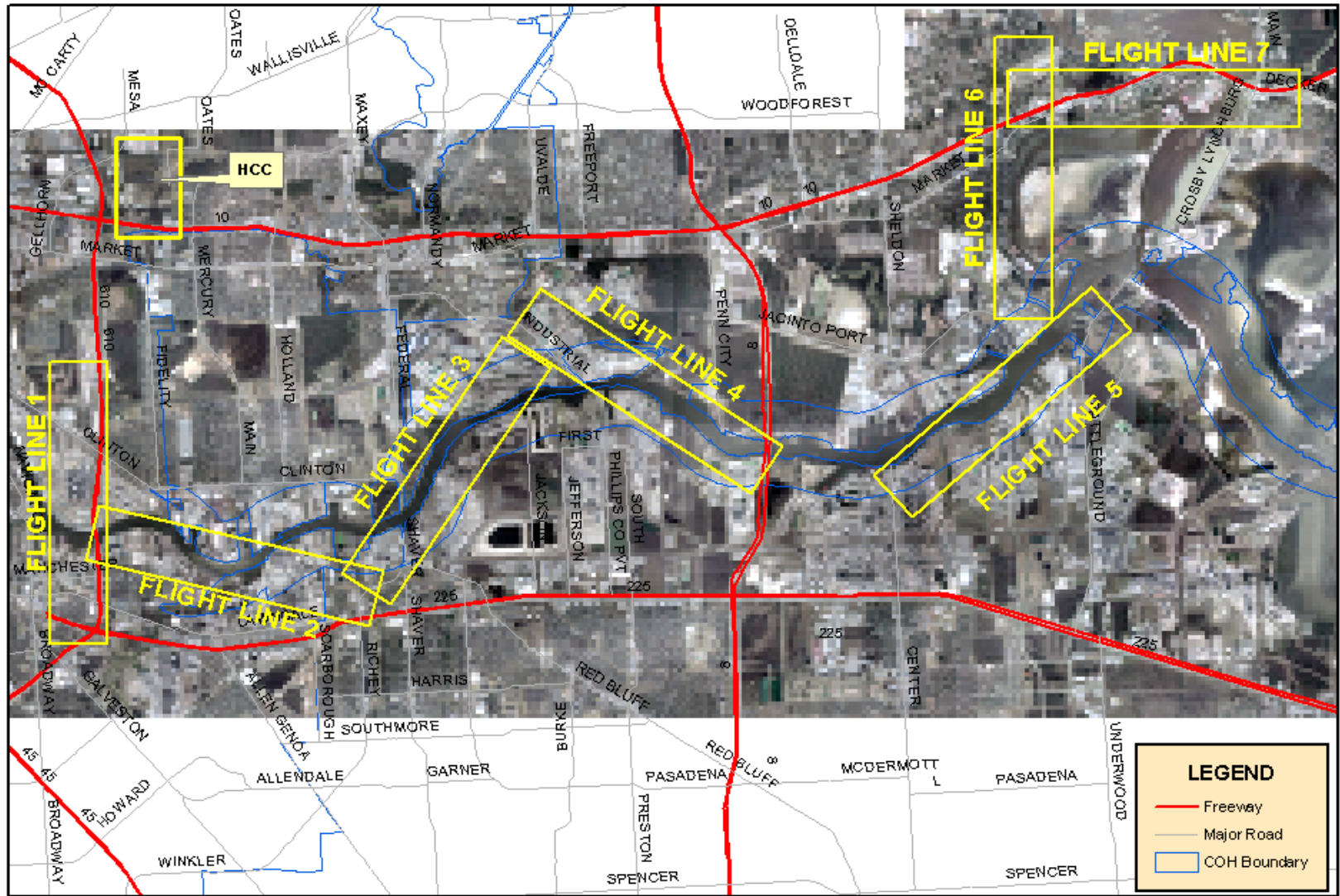
- Vision
  - Using hyperspectral imagery to detect, measure, and identify pollutant discharges and emissions.
- Mission
  - After identifying and sampling, to enforce local, state, and federal regulations and apply data as an enforcement tool.

# HYPERSPECTRAL PROJECT

The Hyperspectral Project was developed by the Environmental Health Division in the City of Houston Department of Health and Human Services. The original concept was to lease a hyperspectral sensor and, using a COH police helicopter, fly the sensor over selected areas along the Houston Ship Channel. The EPA in Region 6 ultimately approved and funded the project, and contracted with Remote Measurement Services, LLC. to collect and analyze the data from the over-flights. The EPA and various departments of the COH jointly conducted the project.



# PROPOSED FLIGHT LINES HOUSTON SHIP CHANNEL AREA



This map represents the best information available to the City of Houston. The City does not warrant the accuracy or completeness of this information. Users should verify the information before use.

Prepared by: Lamy & York  
4/23/04



HCC: Houston Community College

DATASOURCE: H-GIS 2002 Color Digital Orthophoto, 1:5000  
0 m Flight Date: January 2002  
Vector Data: COH - COHGE Ref. 9

**LEGEND**

- Freeway
- Major Road
- COH Boundary

CITY OF HOUSTON  
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DIVISION  
MAP DATE: MAY 12, 2004

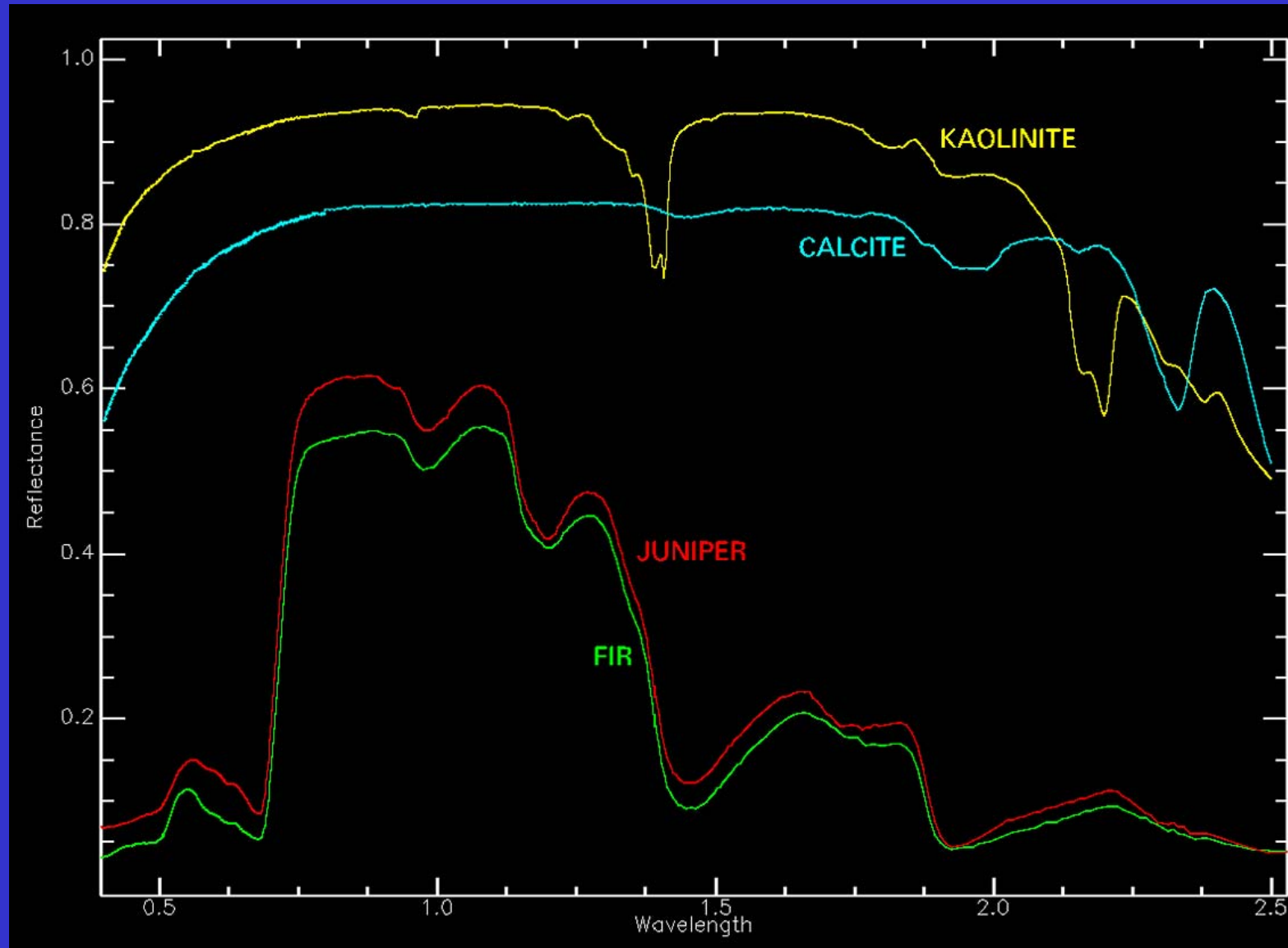
# Helicopter MD 500



# ASIA+ Sensor

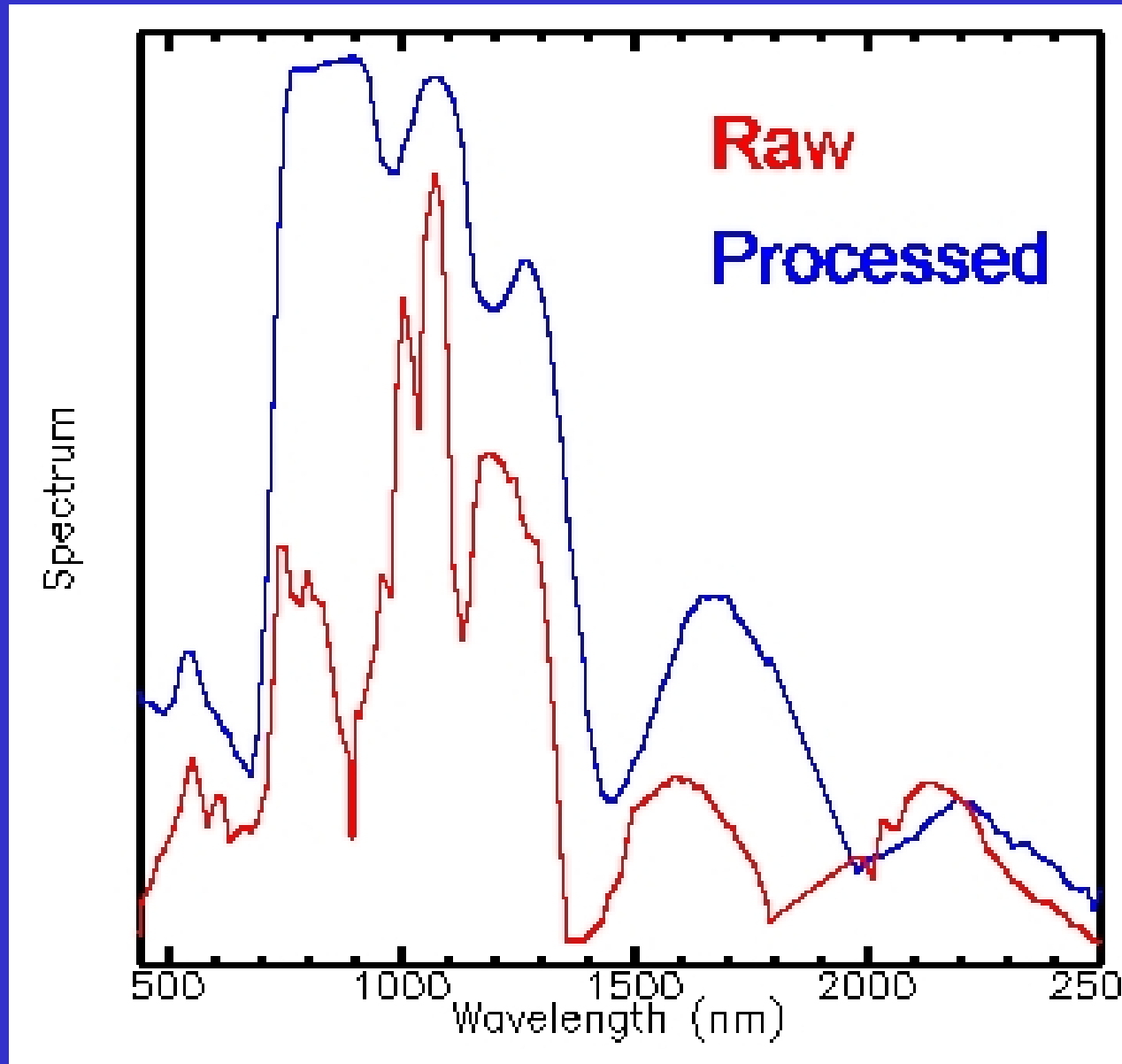


# Spectra From Different Materials





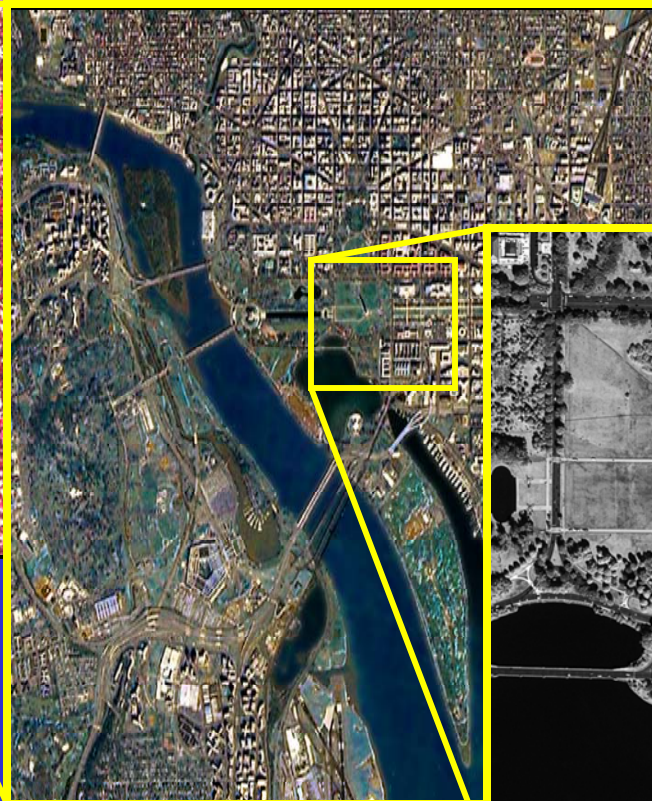
# Raw Vs Processed Data



# Pixel Size And Image Resolution



LANDSAT TM 30 m, BANDS 4,3,1

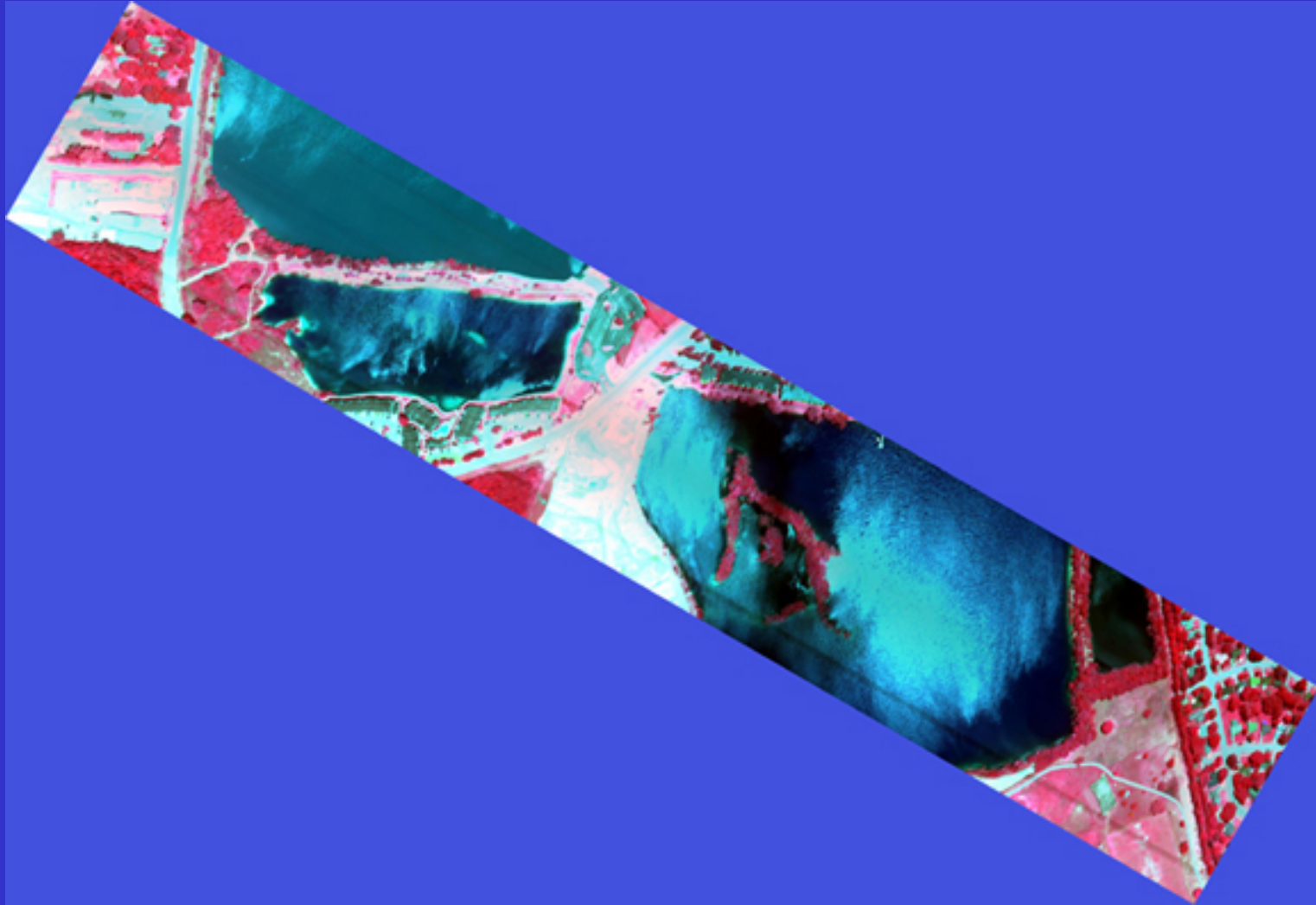


IRS-1C PAN 5 m, COLOR MERGE



IKONOS 1m PAN

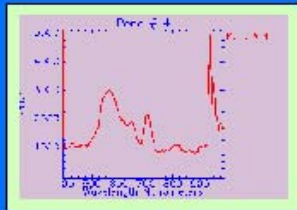
# ASIA+ Sensor – 2.1 Foot Spatial Resolution



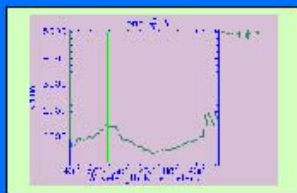


# Hyperspectral Imagery in Support of Suspect Amebic Meningo Encephalitis Case

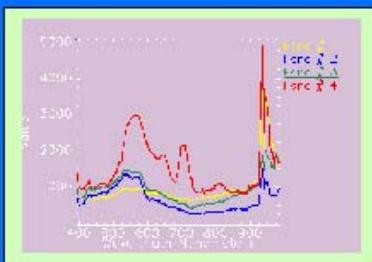
## Over Flight Date: June 12, 2004



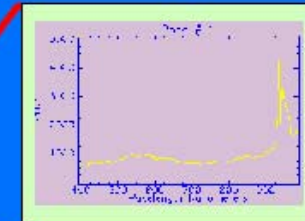
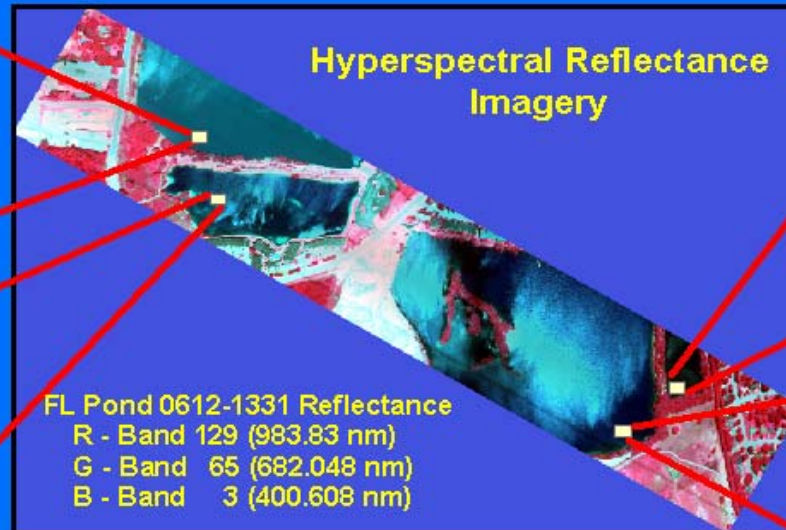
Plot #4



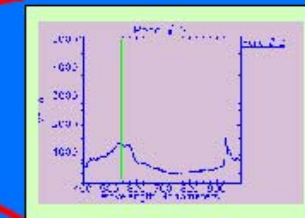
Plot #3



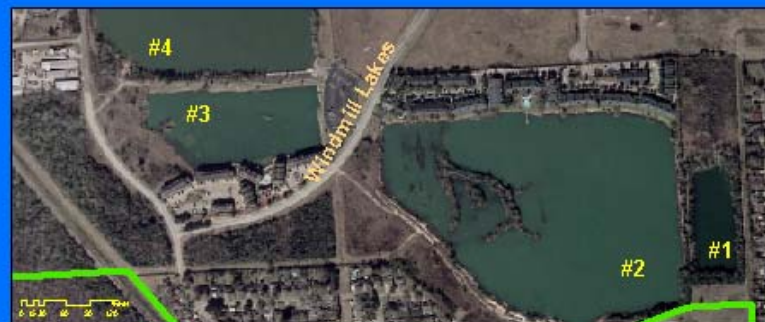
Four Spectral Plots



Plot #1



Plot #2



Color Digital Orthophoto  
NAD83, 1 ft Resolution  
Lambert Square: 5751  
Overflight Date: January 2002  
Key Map: 576 N & S

Prepared By: Larry B. York  
pj Beverly Hill Hyperspectral 2

CITY OF HOUSTON  
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DIVISION  
MAP DATE: JUNE 14, 2004



# MONITORING HOUSTON SHIP CHANNEL AREA USING HYPERSPECTRAL REMOTE SENSING

**Study Site Location**

STUDY AREA  
CITY OF HOUSTON, TX

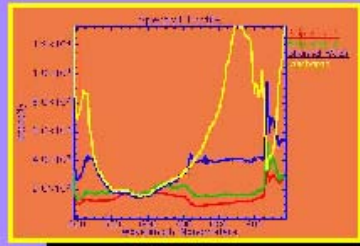
FLIGHT LINE 3  
0612-1358

AISA + IMAGE CUBE  
FLIGHT LINE 3

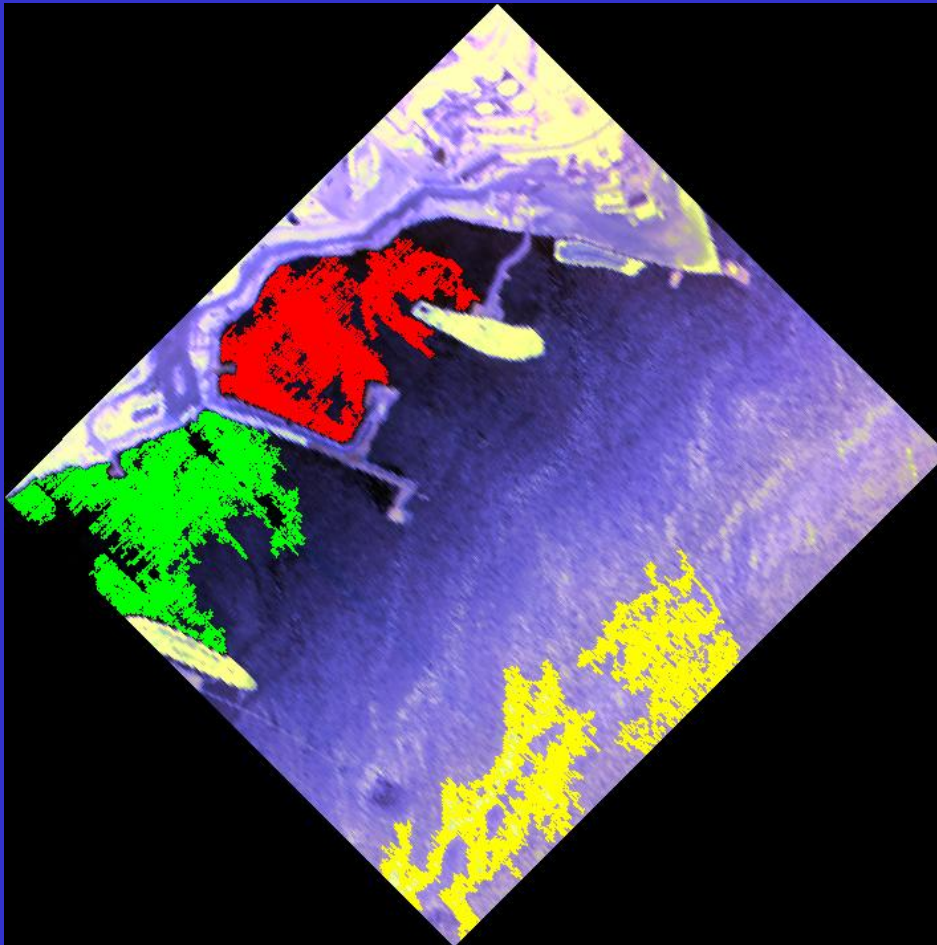


SUSPECT DISCHARGE AREA  
SUBSET OF FLIGHT LINE 3

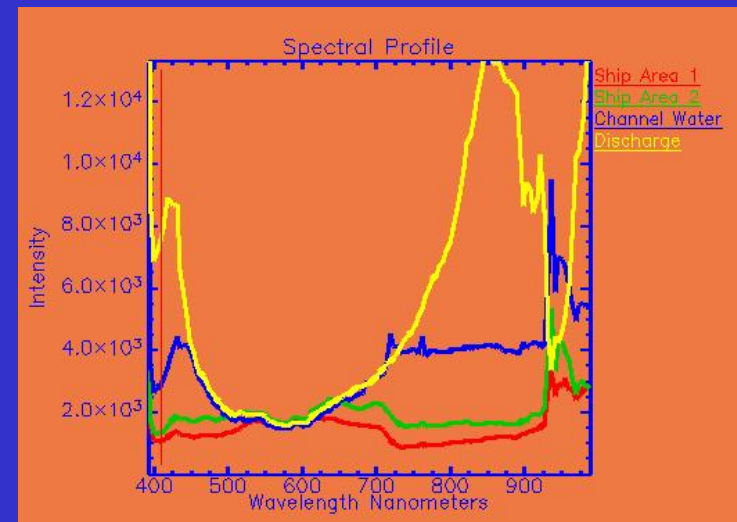
FL3 -0612-1358 REFLECTANCE  
 R - BAND 129 (983.8280 nm)  
 G - BAND 100 (846.9480 nm)  
 B - BAND 75 (728.9480 nm)



# Close-up Of Discharge Areas With Spectral Profiles



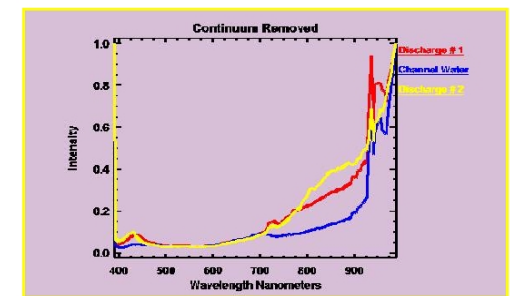
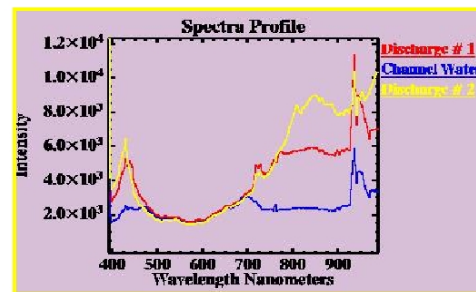
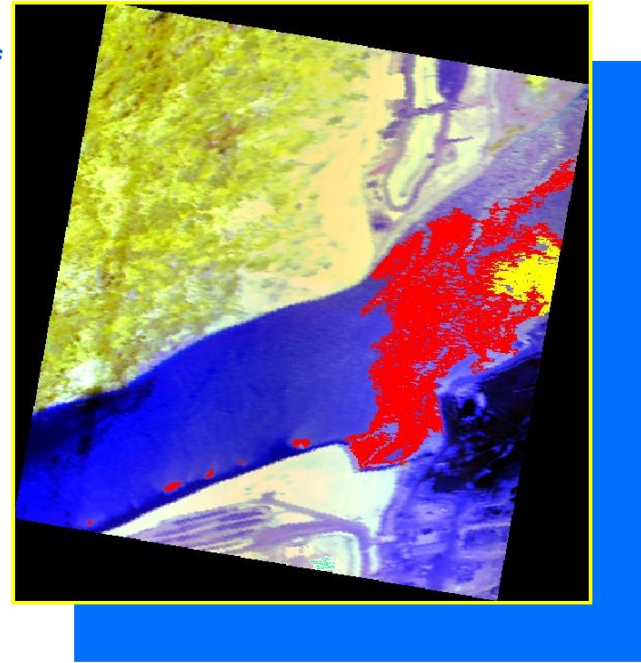
Flight Line 3 – 0612-1358 Ref  
June 12, 2004



# HYPERSPECTRAL IMAGERY DISCHARGES IN HOUSTON SHIP CHANNEL SIMPSON PAPER & CROWN PETROLEUM AREAS

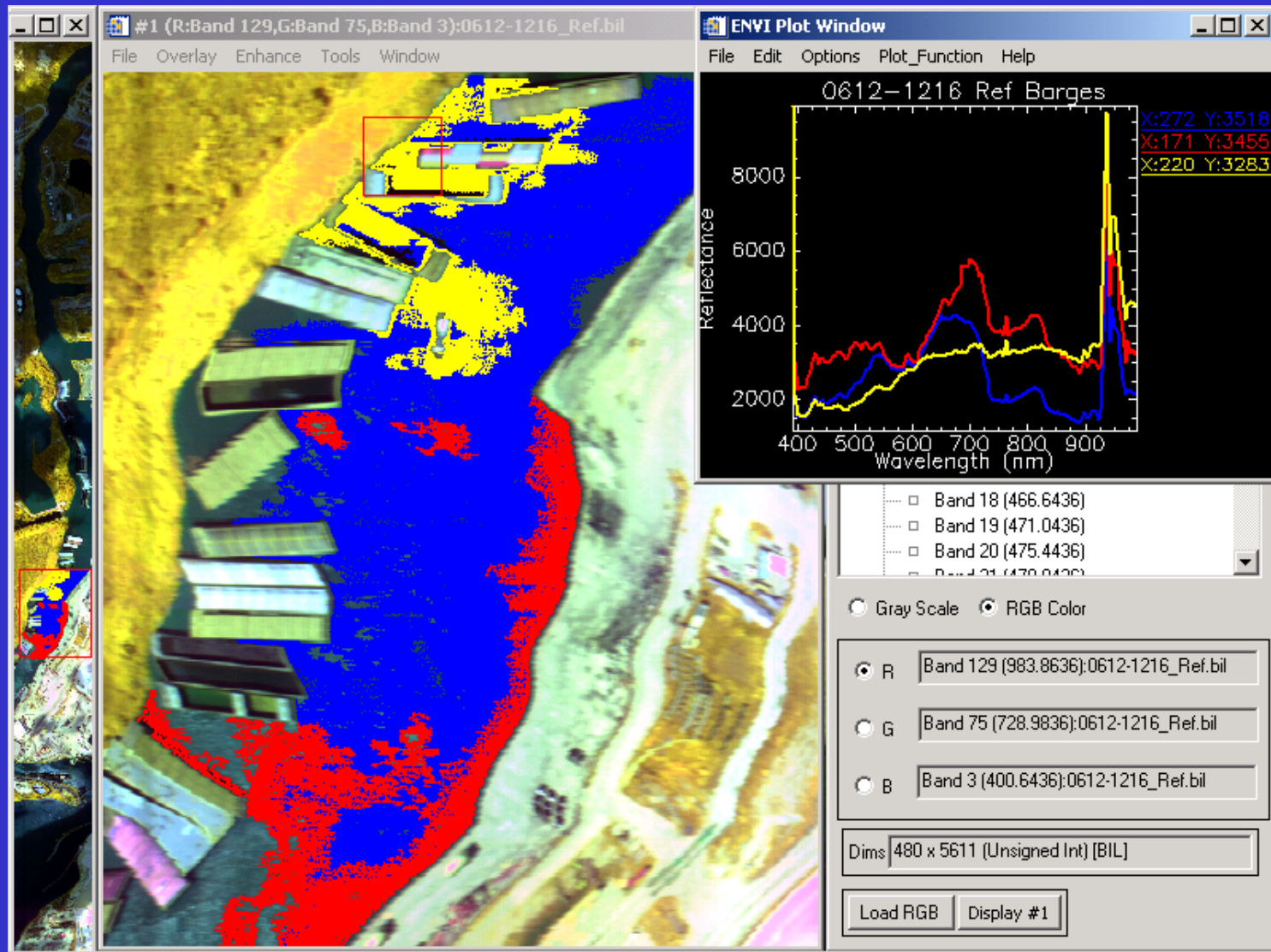


Hyperspectral Data  
Flight Line 3 0612-1358 Ref  
JUNE 12, 2004



CITY OF HOUSTON  
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DIVISION  
MAP DATE: SEPTEMBER 1, 2004

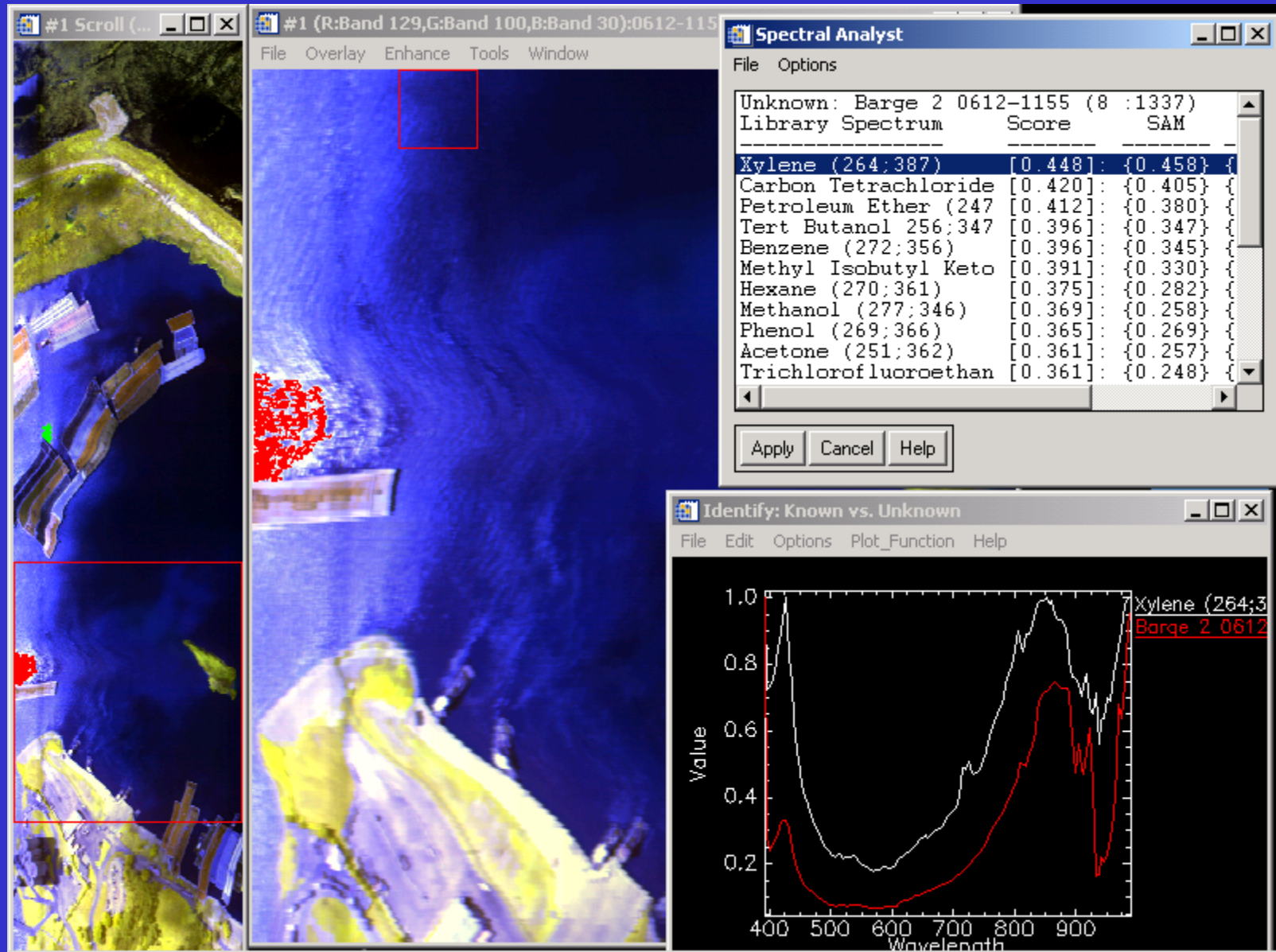
# Barge Area Greens Bayou Flight Line 4 – June 12, 2004



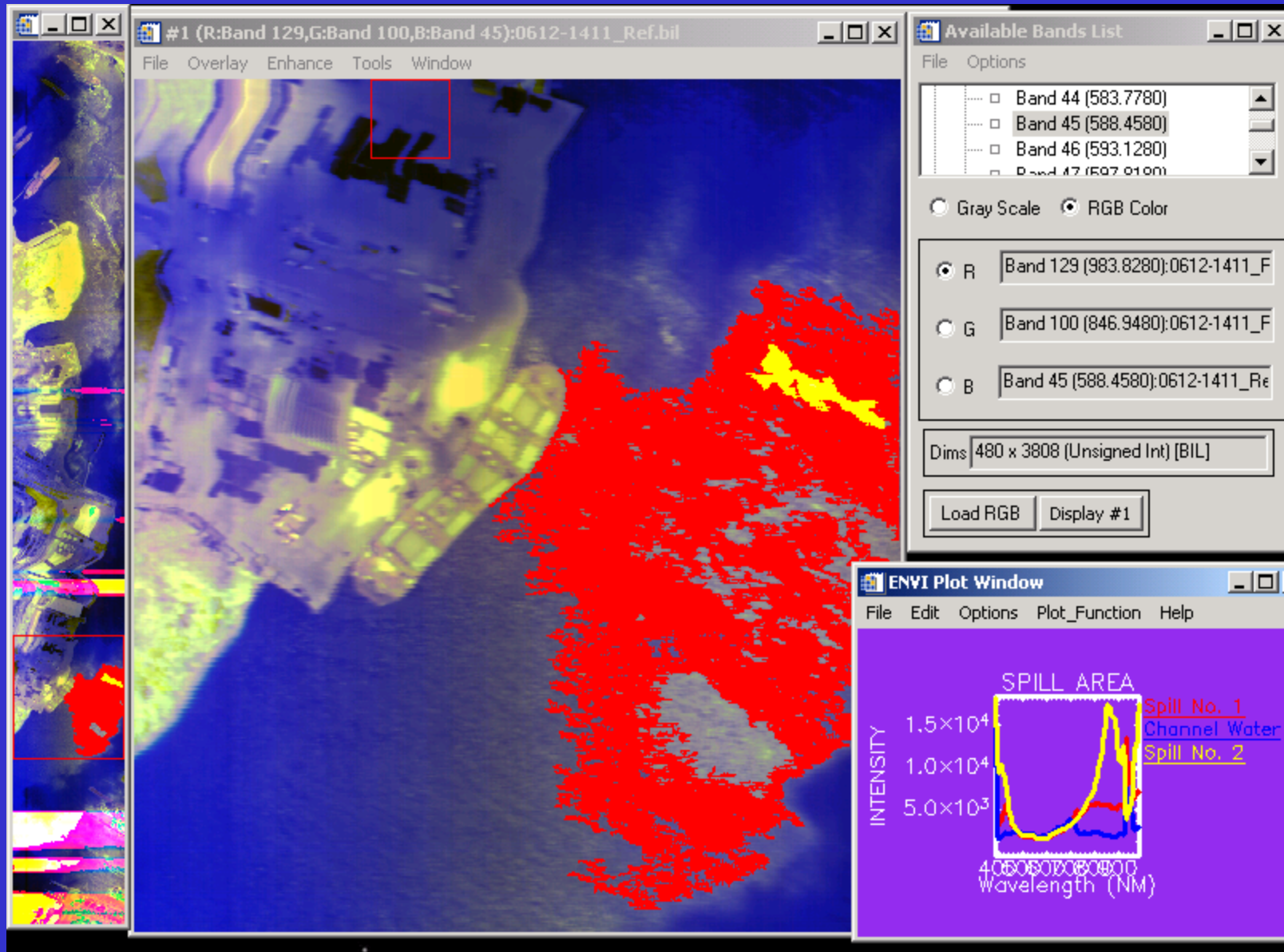
0612-1216 Ref



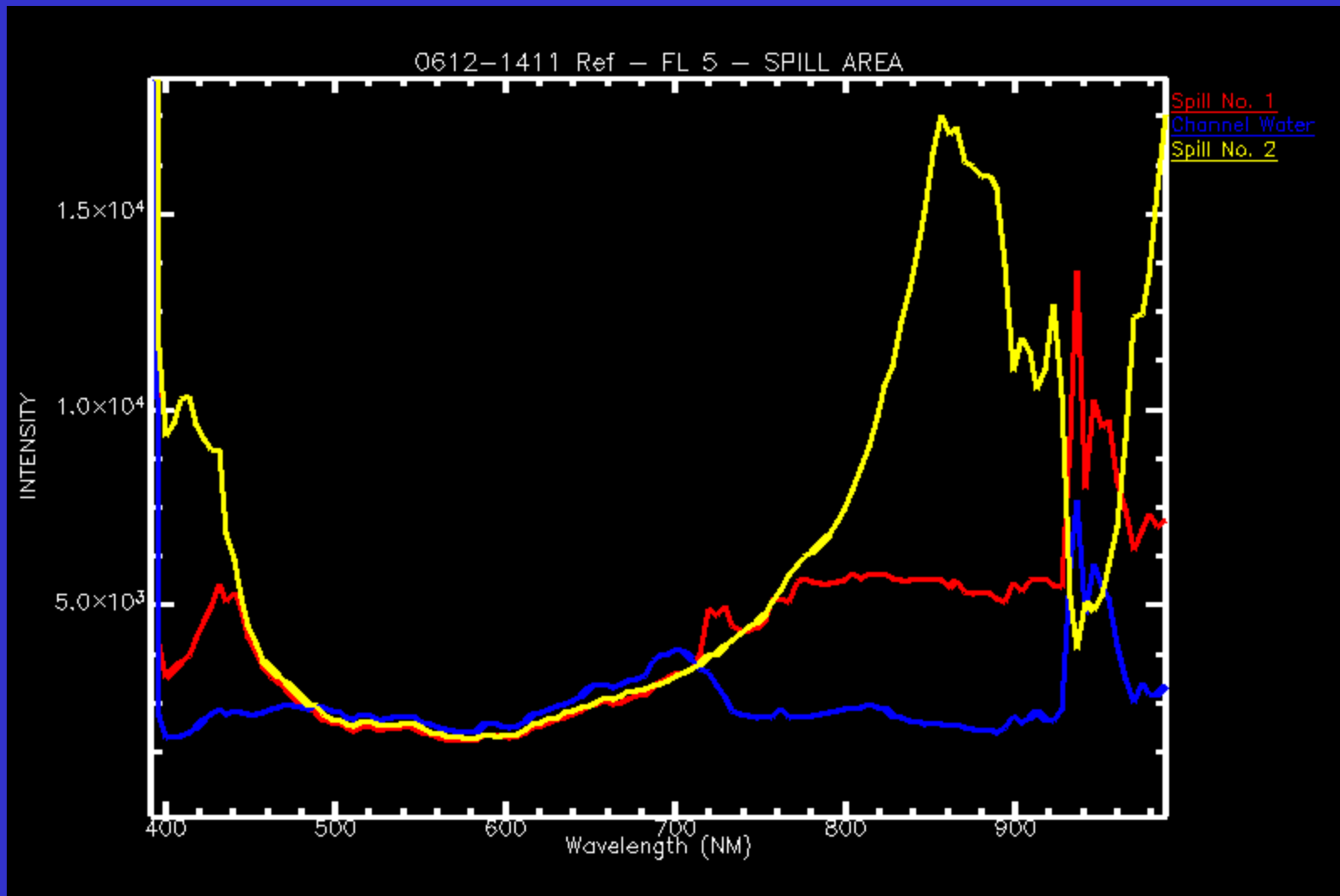
# Flight Line 6 – 0612-1155 Ref



# Flight Line 5 - 0612-1411 Ref



# Spectra Plots



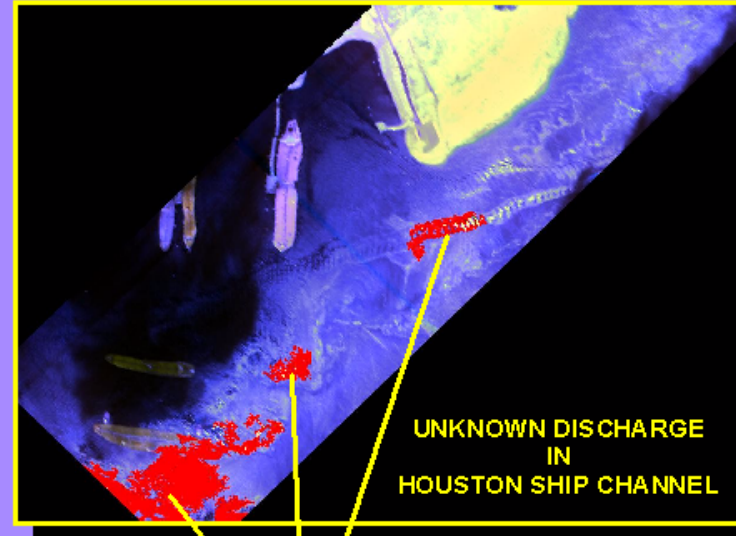
# AISA+ SENSOR HYPERSPECTRAL DATA HOUSTON SHIP CHANNEL AREA FLIGHT LINE 5 -0612-1411 - JUNE 12, 2004



OVER FLIGHT AREA  
HOUSTON SHIP CHANNEL



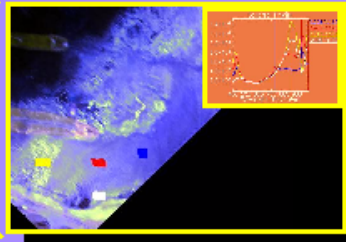
FLIGHT LINES  
0612-1411



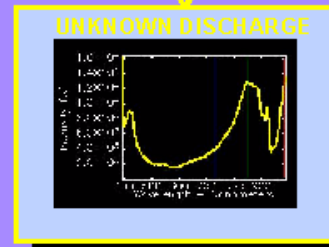
UNKNOWN DISCHARGE  
IN  
HOUSTON SHIP CHANNEL



SUSPECT DISCHARGE AREA  
SUBSET OF FLIGHT LINES



SPECTRA PROFILE  
FROM SUSPECT AREAS



UNKNOWN DISCHARGE

HYPERSPECTRAL IMAGERY  
FL5 -0612-1411 REFLECTANCE  
R - BAND 129 (983.8280 nm)  
G - BAND 100 (846.9480 nm)  
B - BAND 75 (728.9480 nm)

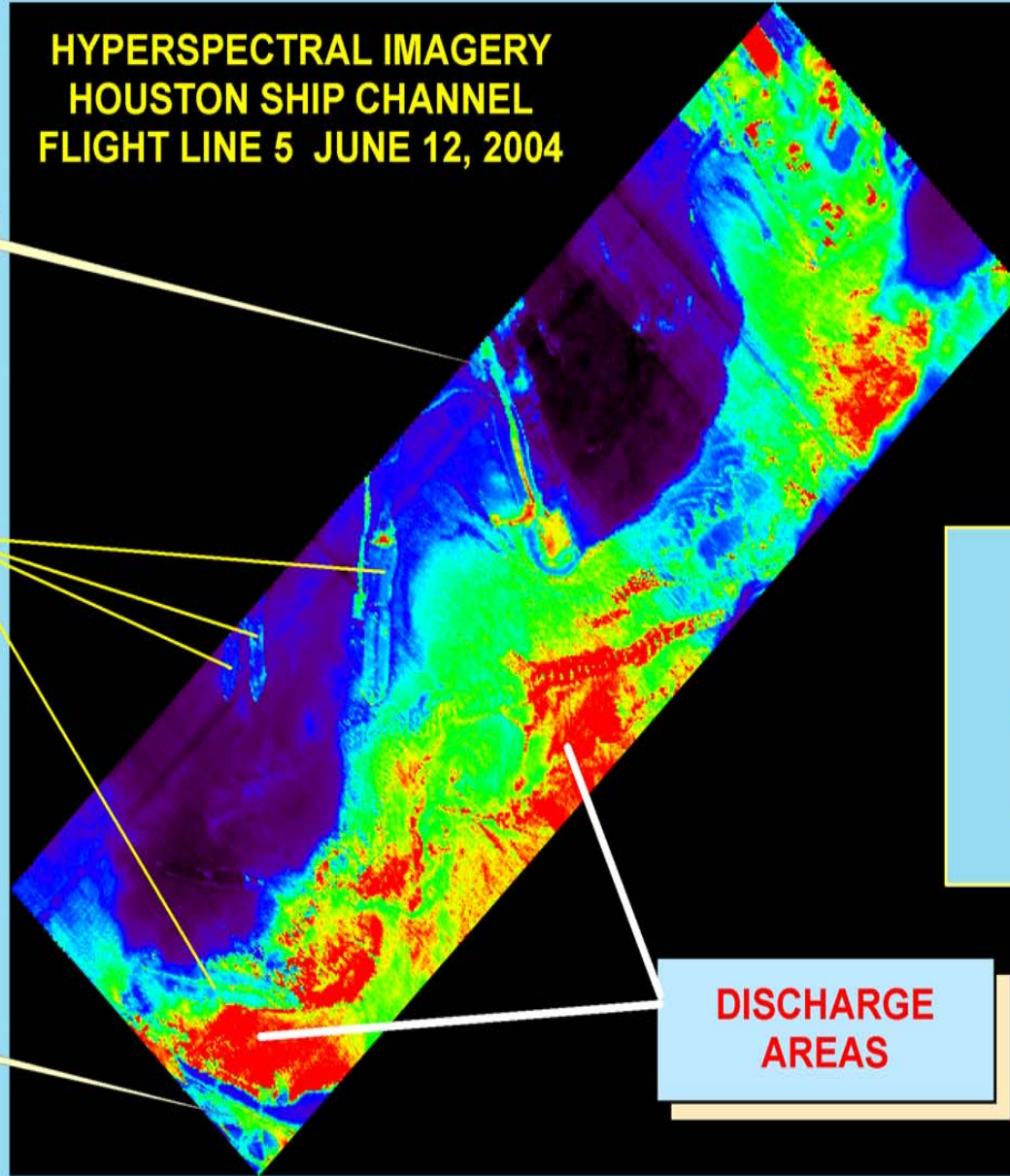


# HYPERSPECTRAL IMAGERY HOUSTON SHIP CHANNEL FLIGHT LINE 5 JUNE 12, 2004

OILTANKING HOUSTON

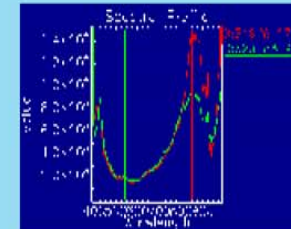
TANKERS

SHELL OIL CO.



DISCHARGE  
AREAS

## SPECTRA OF DISCHARGE

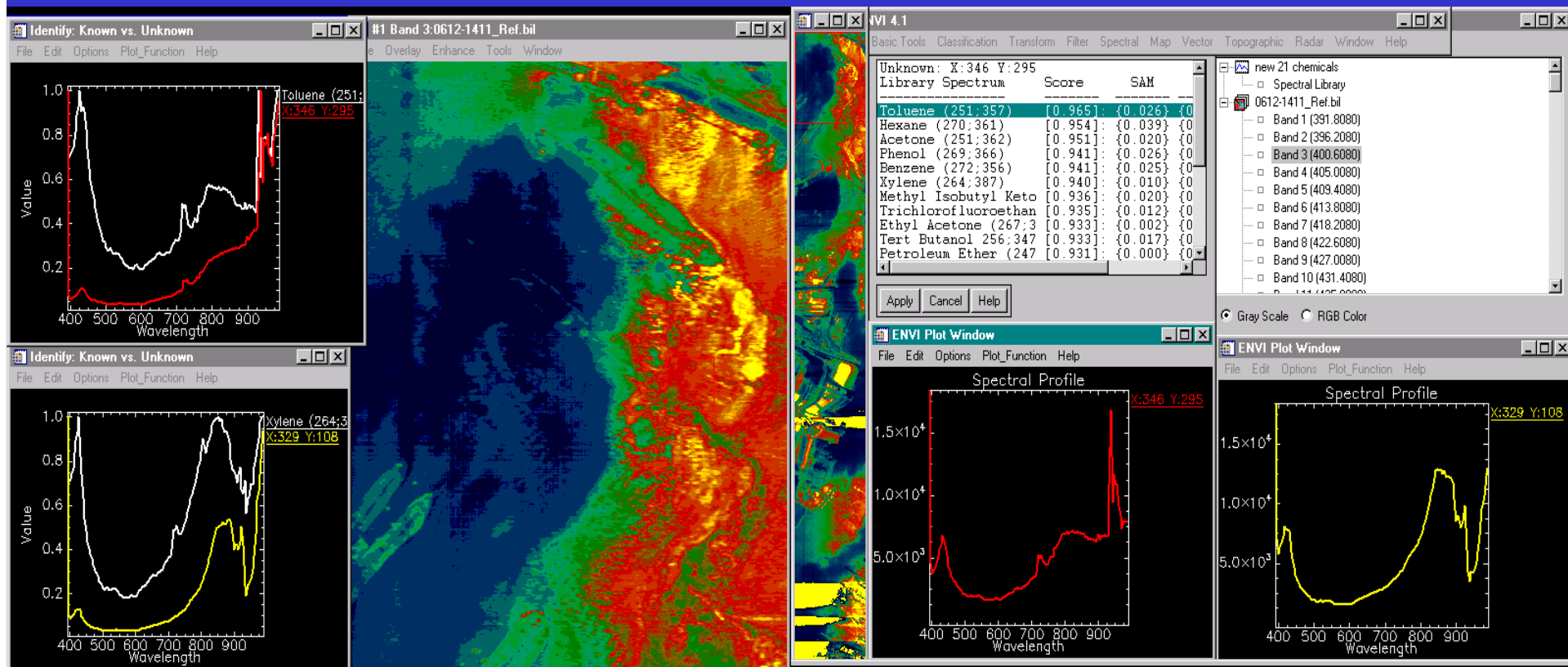


pj 1436

Prepared By: Larry B. York

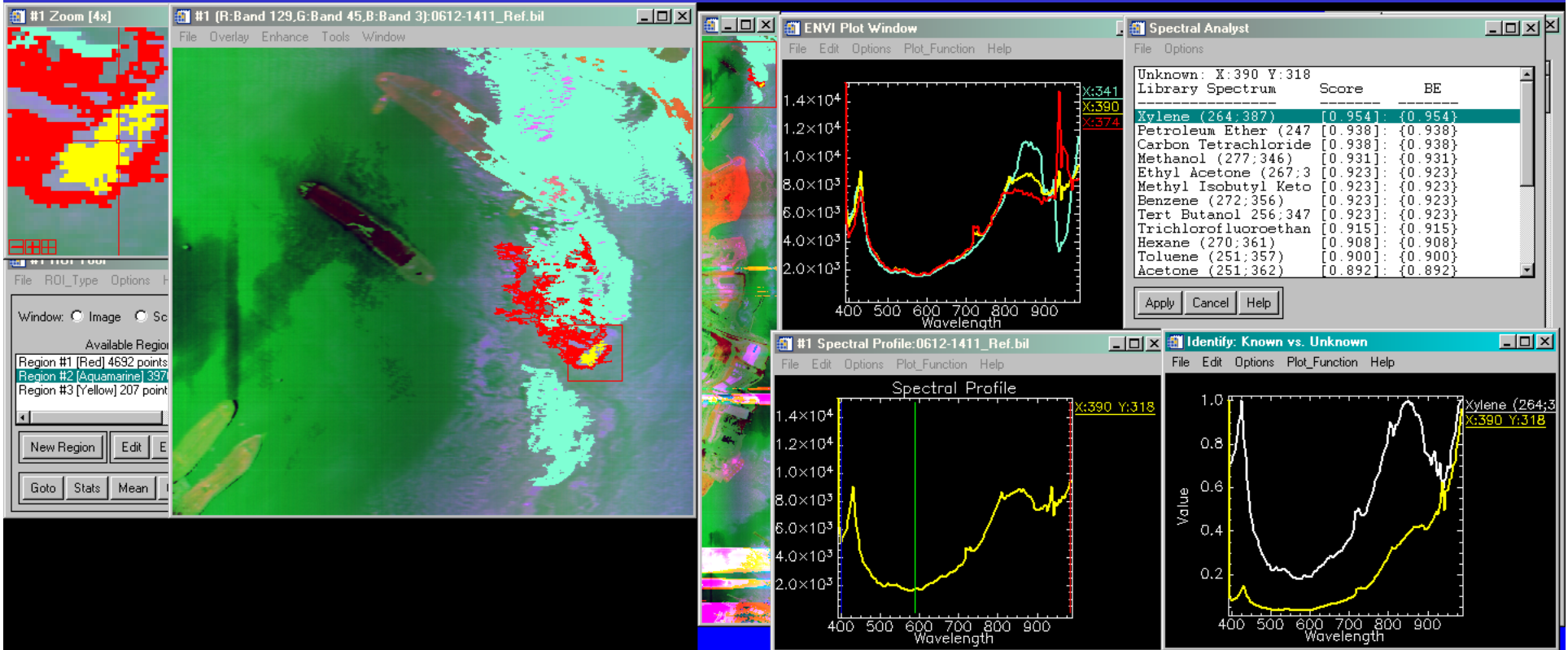
CITY OF HOUSTON  
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DIVISION  
MAP DATE: NOVEMBER 19, 2004

# IDENTIFICATION OF DISCHARGES FLIGHT LINE 5 – 0612-1411



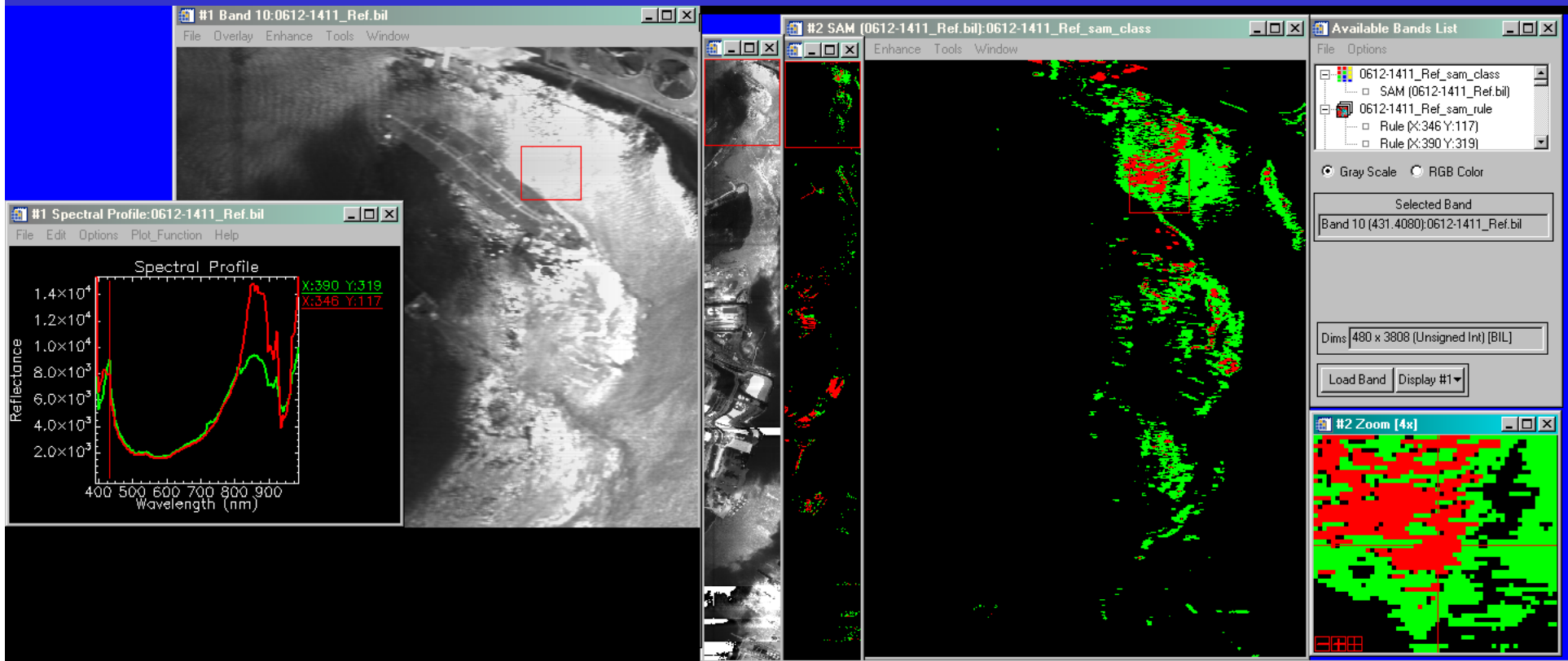
TOLUENE & XYLENE

# DISCHARGE OF TWO DIFFERENT MATERIALS



Flight Line 5 0612-1411 Reflectance

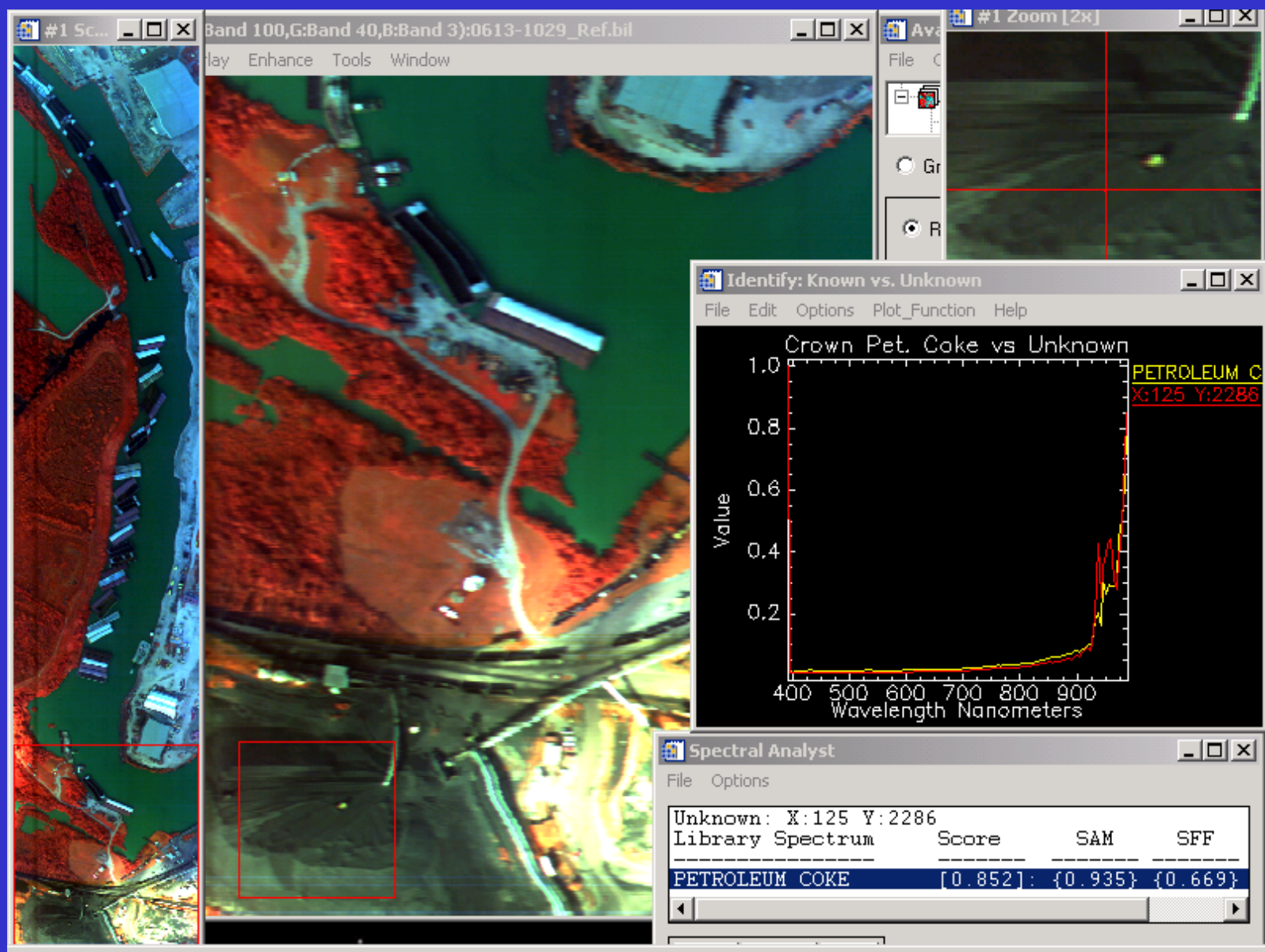
# DISCHARGE OF TWO DIFFERENT MATERIALS USING TARGET SPECTRA



Flight Line 5 0612-1411  
Reflectance

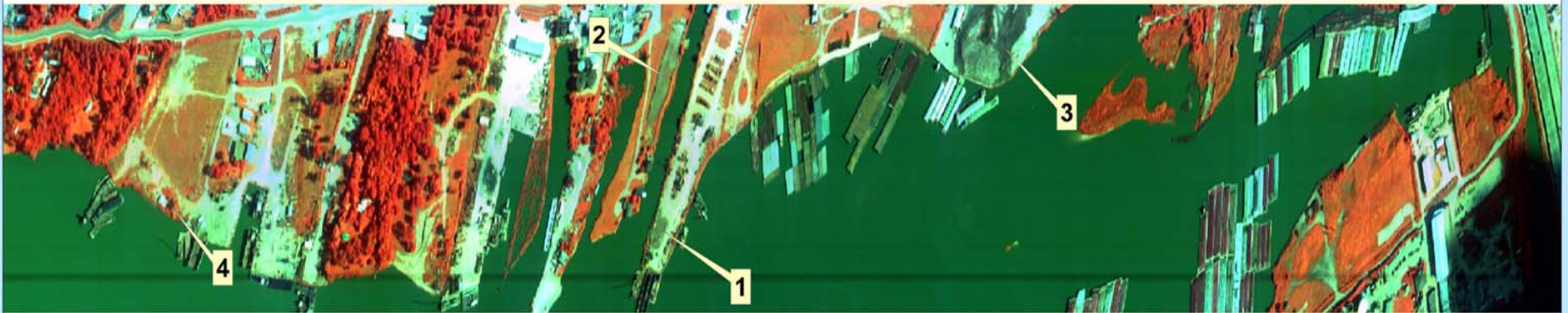


# CROWN PETROLEUM COKE Vs UNKNOWN





## HYPERSPECTRAL SENSOR DATA OLD RIVER AND SAN JACINTO RIVER AREA



Flight Line 7 0613-0959 Reflectance

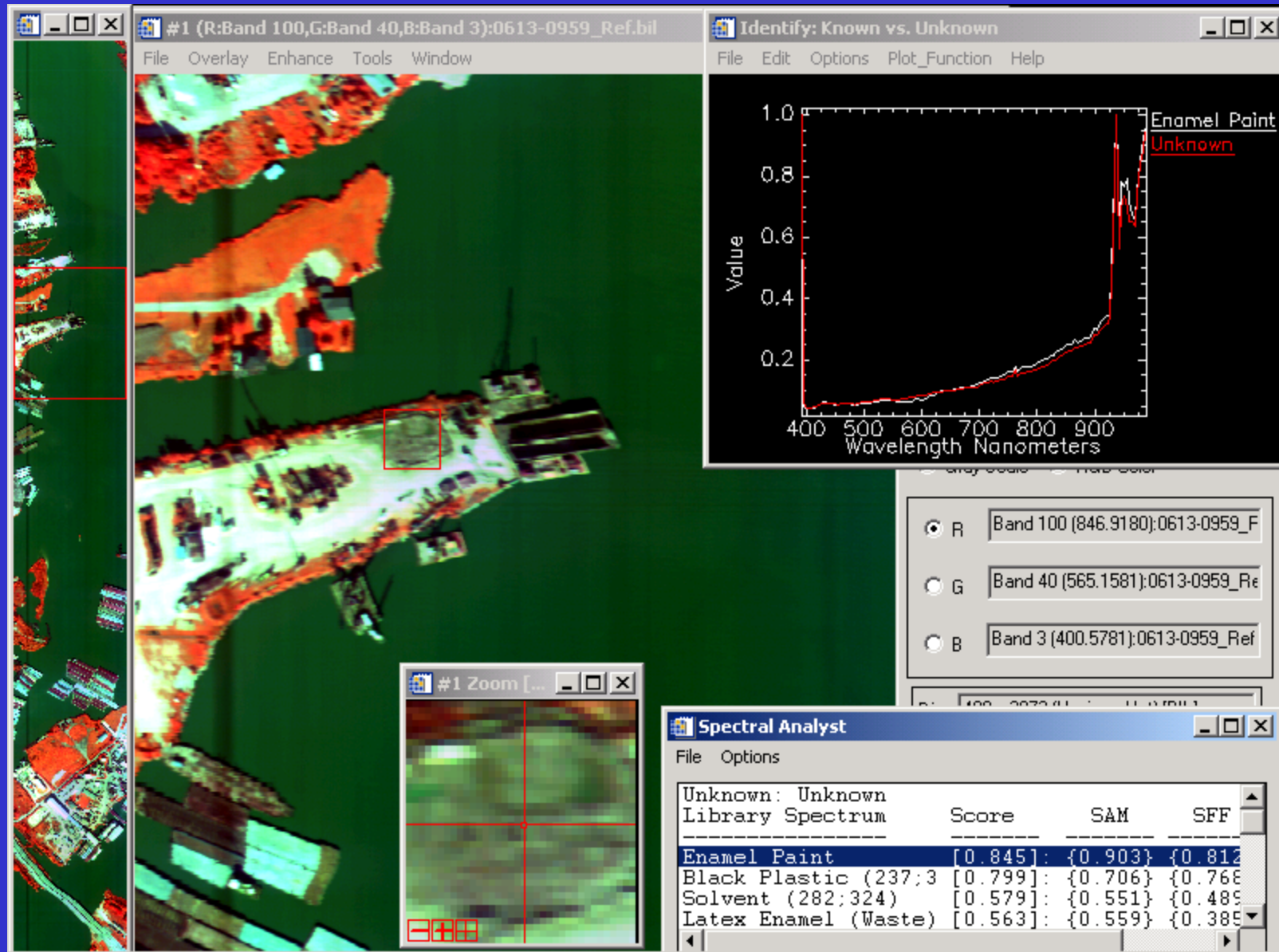
June 13, 2004

**1, 2, 3, 4: SUSPECT DISCHARGE AREAS**

Prepared By: Larry B. York  
pj FL 7 0613-0959

CITY OF HOUSTON  
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DIVISION  
MAP DATE: AUGUST 27, 2004

# Suspect Discharge Area No. 1



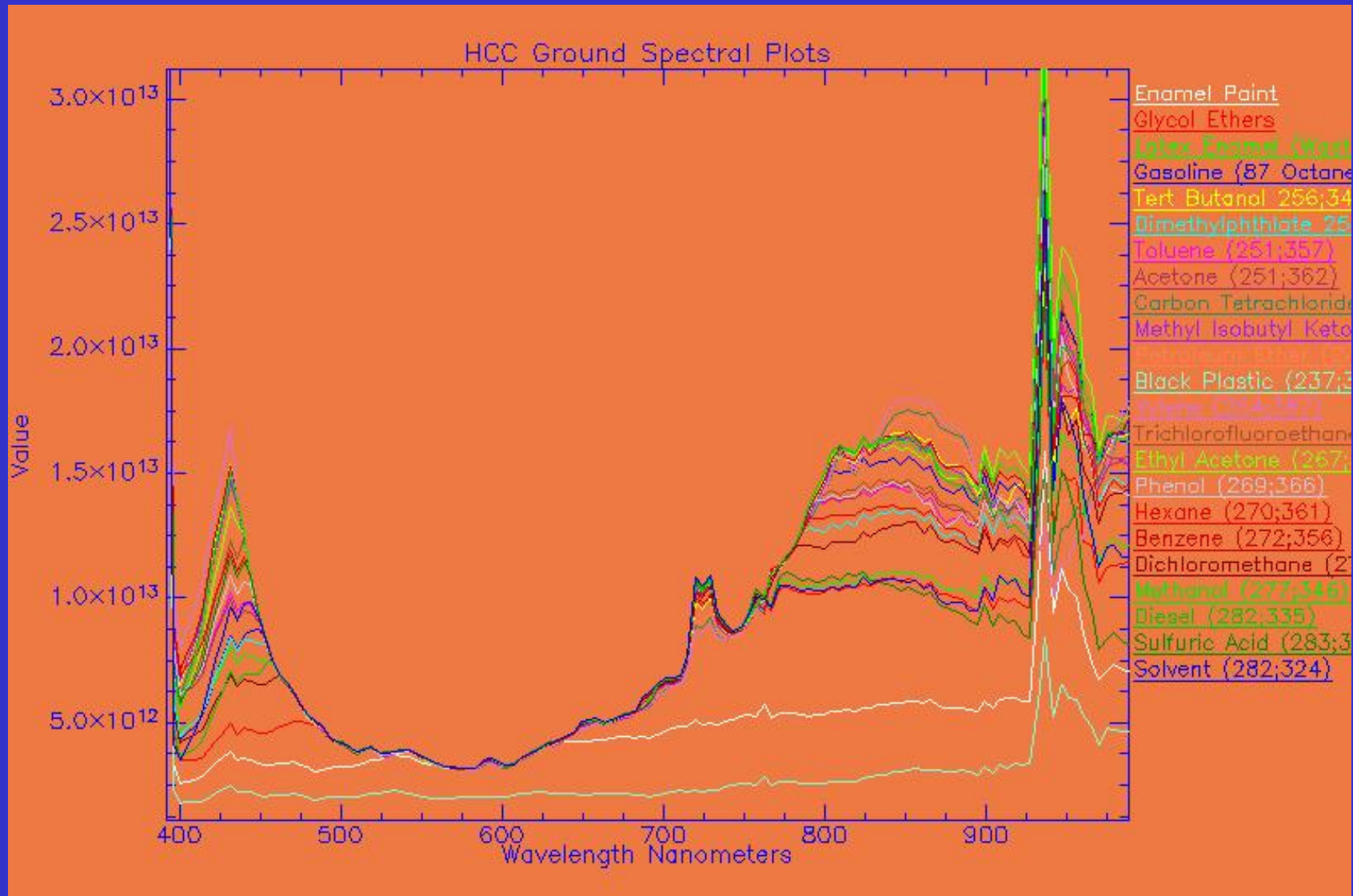
# Ground Targets And Chemical List

1. Solvent	2. Enamel Paint
3. Sulfuric Acid	4. Glycol Ethers
5. Diesel	6. Latex Enamel Paint waste
7. Latex Paint	8. Gasoline, 87 Octane
9. Methanol	10 Tert butanol
11. Dichloromethane	12. Dimethylphthlate
13. Benzene	14. Toluene
15. Hexane	16. Acetone
17. Phenol	18. Carbon Tetrachloride
19. Ethyl Acetone	20. Petroleum Ether
21. St. Augustine sod	22. Methyl Isobutyl Ketone
23. Trichlorotrifluoroethane	24. Pentane
25. Xylene	

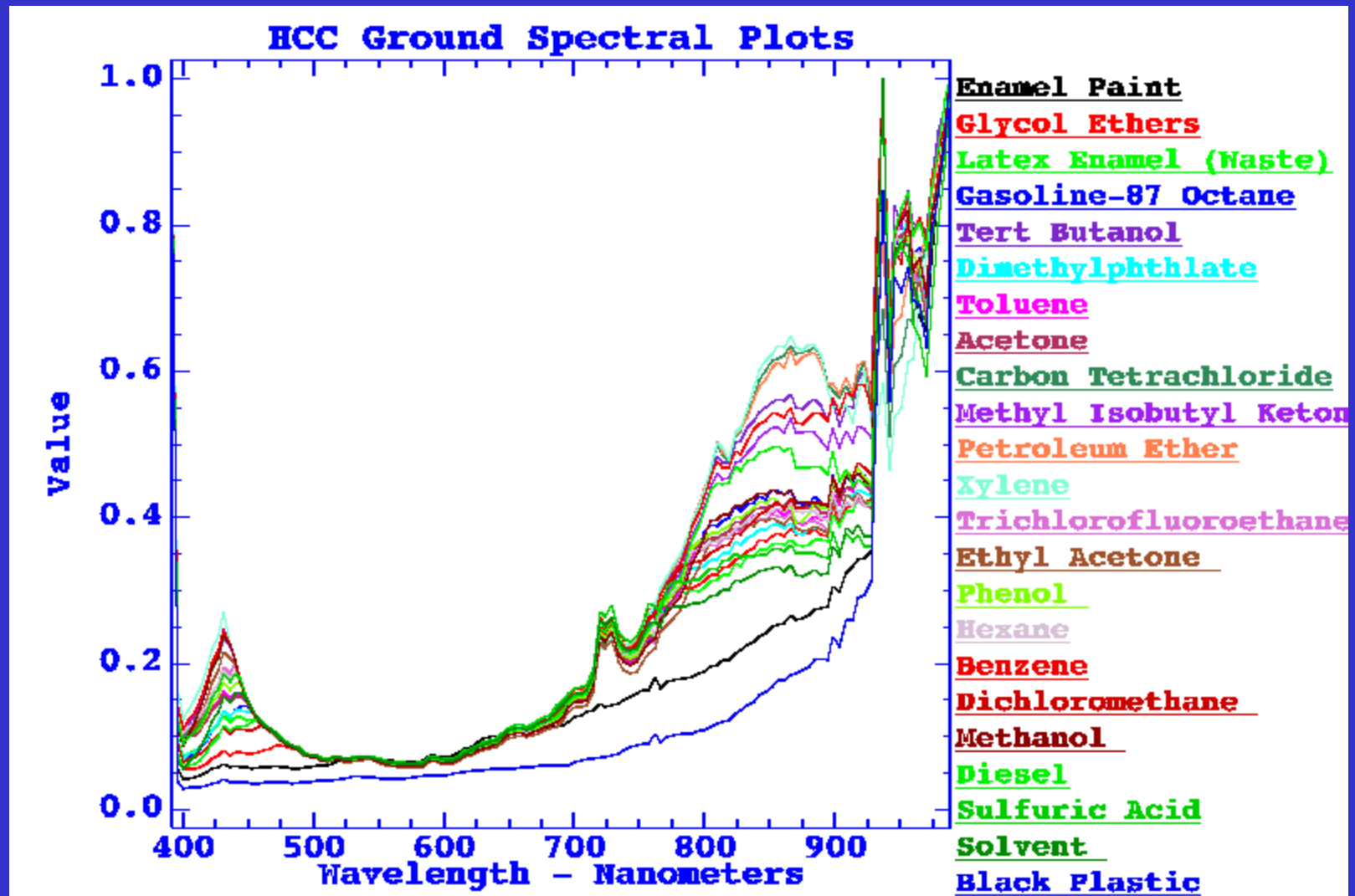


pj targets

# 21 Chemicals & Solvents



# 21 Chemicals and Solvents



# RESULTS FROM EPA OVERFLIGHT USING THE ASIA+ SENSOR

## **I. COVERED AREAS HAVING HIGH POTENTIAL FOR ILLEGAL DISCHARGES**

1. Seven flight lines in the Houston Ship Channel area were over flown
2. Flights were repeat over several flight lines on different days
3. Data was collected on a weekend of suspect areas

## **II. COLLECT OVERFLIGHT DATA AND PROCESS IN A TIMELY MANNER**

1. Up on landing – time was determine to transfer data to computers
2. Time was determined to look at raw data for ground personnel

## **III. SUSPECT AREAS AND RELAY INFORMATION TO GROUND DATA PERSONEL**

1. The over flight data was analyzed for illegal discharges
2. Information was relayed to ground personnel

## **IV. COLLECT GROUND TRUTH TO BE USED AS ENFORCEMENT PURPOSES**

1. Spectral for twenty-five different chemicals and materials was collected
2. A spectral library of the the materials was produced

## **V. PRODUCE MAPS OF THE OVER-FLIGHT AND TARGET AREAS**

1. Maps were developed covering suspect discharges areas
2. Ground truth sampling of suspect discharges was attempted

## **VI. REPORTS**

1. A Final Report of Project was produced
2. A Ground Truth Report was produced