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arpa-e phytosequestration workshop
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Introduction to GPR *Ground Penetrating Radar*

PHYTOSEQUESTRATION WORKSHOP

JULY 23RD & 24TH, 2015

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

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ORGANIZED BY



Purpose of Presentation

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- ▶ Introduce those unfamiliar with GPR to its basic functionality and how it could be used for Phytosequestration
 - ▶ What is GPR, What does it measure and Why use it.
 - ▶ Overview of a GPR System
 - ▶ Operating Frequency, Spatial Resolution, Penetration Depth
 - ▶ Effects of Soil, Clutter
 - ▶ Example Data / Simulation 2-3 slides
 - ▶ Imaging vs. Non-Imaging

What is GPR

- A method for non-invasively probing below ground surface using back-scattered electromagnetic radiation.
- Measures variations in the electromagnetic properties of materials.
 - Changes in dielectric and conductivity properties.
- Rapidly measure large areas.
- Provides detailed localized data (3D-images) of subsurface features.



Conclusions

- ▶ GPR can be used to produce 3D images of root structures
- ▶ GPR can be used to monitor and estimate root growth/biomass
 - ▶ Direct measurements & change detection
- ▶ cm to cub-cm voxel resolution may be possible under right soil conditions.
- ▶ Soil characteristics will determine overall performance/limitation of GPR
- ▶ Upper operating frequency <10GHz (needs further investigation)
- ▶ Penetration depth in good soils @ 10GHz ~0.5m (needs further investigation)Hetero
- ▶ Non-Homogenous conductive soils are bad for GPR performance
- ▶ Uniform non-conductive soils are good for GPR performance

GPR System

Typical Center Frequencies

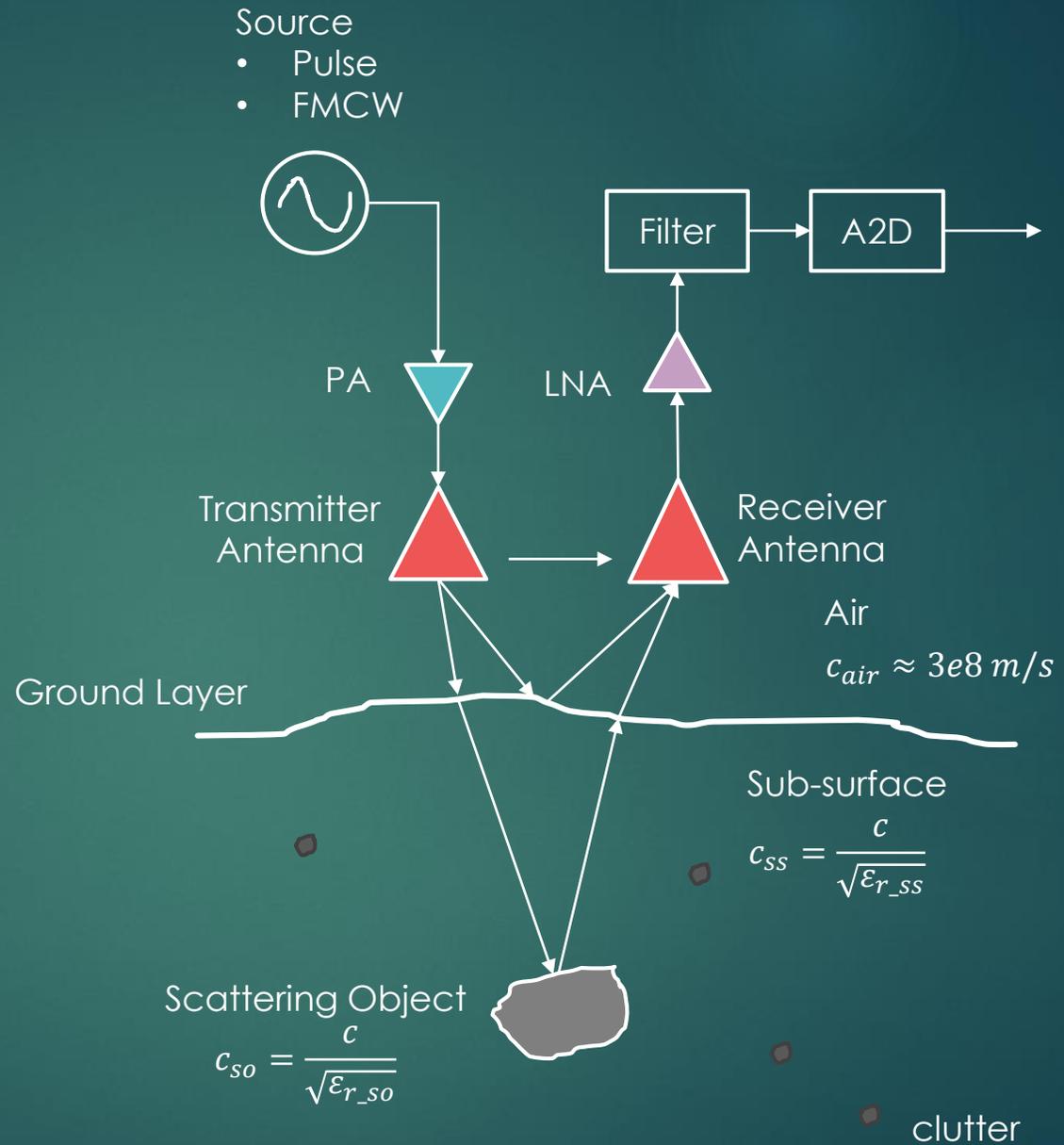
100 MHz – 2GHz

Typical Bandwidth

100MHz – 1GHz

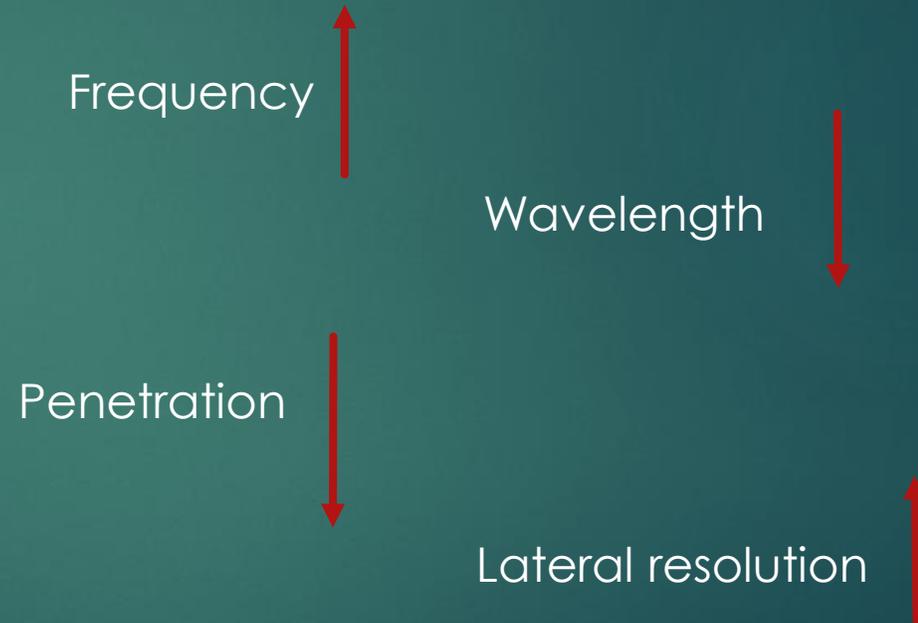
Typical Penetration Depth

Good Soil (Dry Sand)	Bad Soil (Wet Clay)
1-10m	0.01 – 2 m



General Factors That Effect GPR Performance

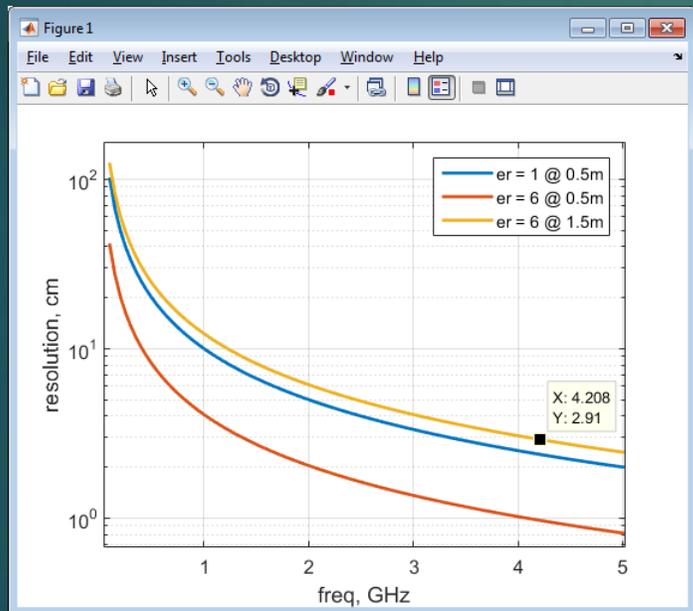
- ▶ Higher frequency = shorter wavelength
- ▶ Shorter wave length = better cross range resolution
- ▶ Higher frequency = decreases penetration
- ▶ Increased Bandwidth = better depth resolution



Resolution

Lateral Resolution

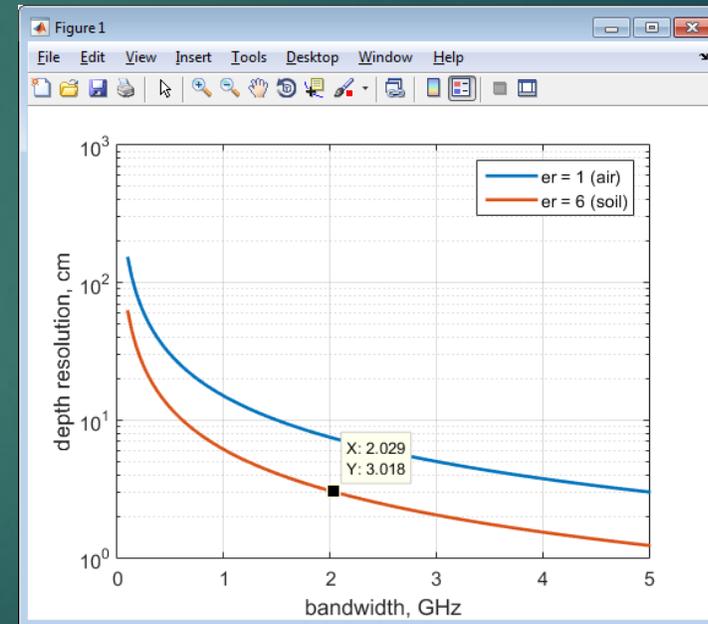
$$\Delta x = \frac{\lambda_r}{D} R \quad \Delta x_{sar} = \frac{\lambda_r}{2D_{sar}} R$$



D = 0.75m

Depth Resolution

$$\Delta z = \frac{c_r}{2 \times \text{Bandwidth}}$$



$$\lambda_r = \frac{c_r}{f}$$

$$c_r = \frac{c}{\sqrt{\epsilon_r}}$$

$\epsilon_r = 1$ (air)

$\epsilon_r = 3 - 10$ (soils)

Attenuation

$$L_a = 2 \times R \times 2\pi f \sqrt{\frac{\mu_0 \mu_r \epsilon_0 \epsilon_r}{2} (\sqrt{1 + \tan^2 \delta}) - 1}$$

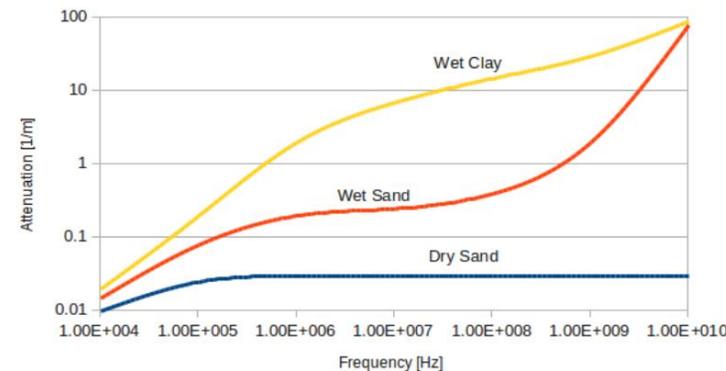
$$\tan \delta = \frac{\sigma_{dc}}{\omega \epsilon_0 \epsilon_r} + \frac{\epsilon''}{\epsilon_0 \epsilon_r}$$

Conductive soils, such as wet clays quickly attenuate radar signals and significantly limit the penetration depth

Table 2.3 Material loss at 100 MHz and 1 GHz

Material	Loss at 100 MHz	Loss at 1 GHz
Clay (moist)	5–300 dB m ⁻¹	50–3000 dB m ⁻¹
Loamy soil (moist)	1–60 dB m ⁻¹	10–600 dB m ⁻¹
Sand (dry)	0.01–2 dB m ⁻¹	0.1–20 dB m ⁻¹
Ice	0.1–5 dB m ⁻¹	1–50 dB m ⁻¹
Fresh water	0.1 dB m ⁻¹	1 dB m ⁻¹
Sea water	100 dB m ⁻¹	1000 dB m ⁻¹
Concrete (dry)	0.5–2.5 dB m ⁻¹	5–25 dB m ⁻¹
Brick	0.3–2.0 dB m ⁻¹	3–20 dB m ⁻¹

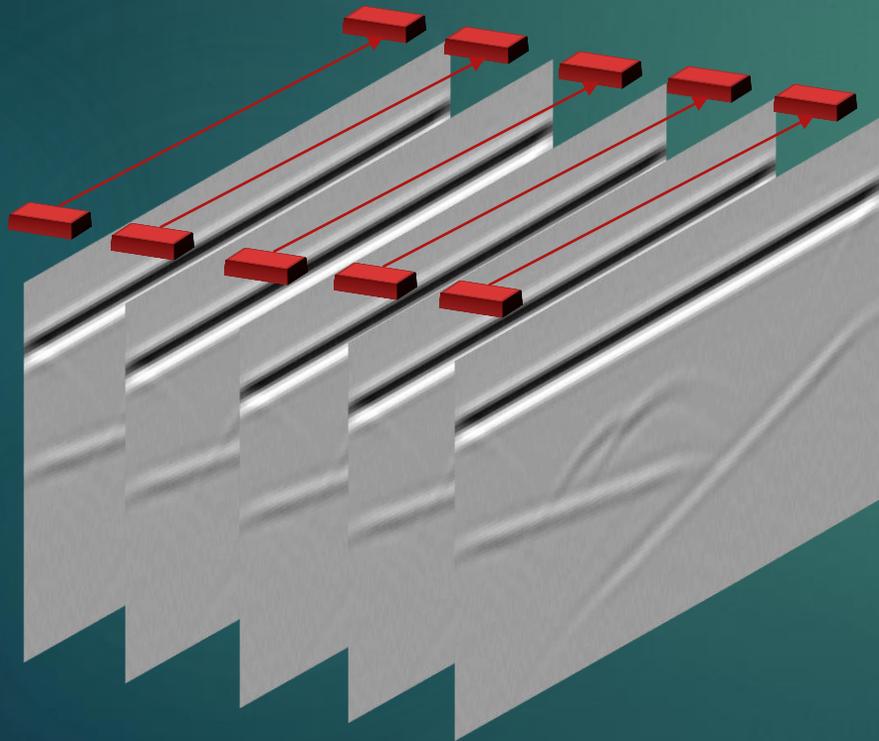
Ground Penetrating Radar, 2nd Edition. David J. Daniels



iGPR

imaging Ground Penetrating Radar

iGPR = Data Collection Method + Processing



INSERT 3D IMAGE HERE

Review of Factors that Effect GPR Performance

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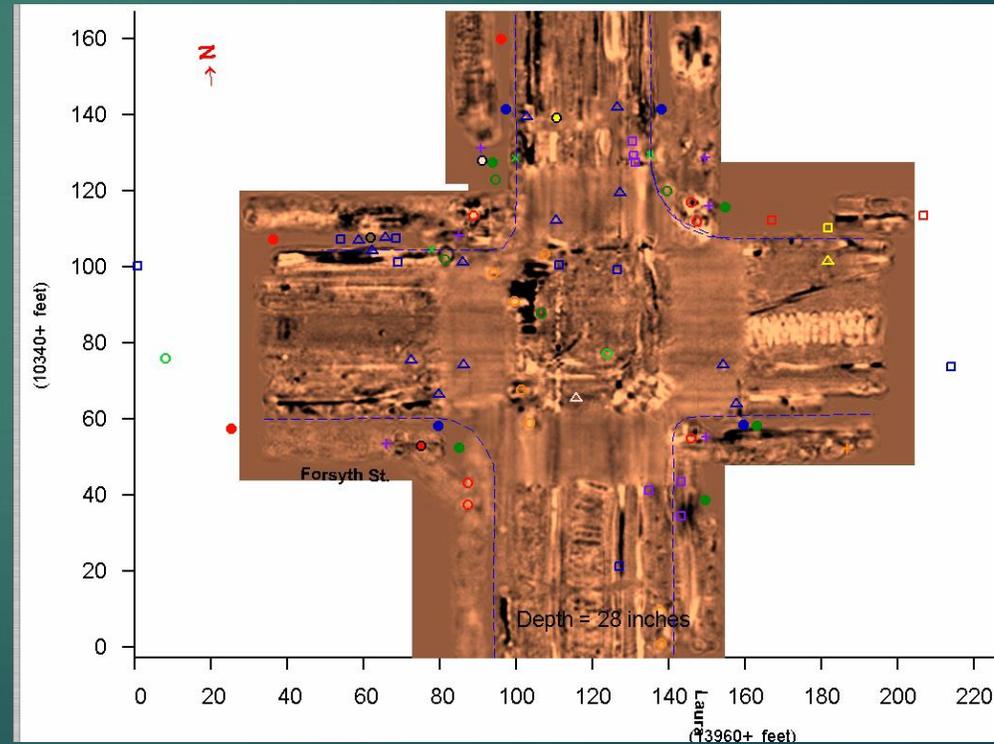
- ▶ Environment
 - ▶ Soil – conductive (bad) vs. dielectric (good). Homogenous (good) vs. heterogeneous (bad)
- ▶ System
 - ▶ Frequency – lateral resolution (higher better), penetration depth (lower better)
 - ▶ Bandwidth – depth resolution (larger better)
 - ▶ Power – depth penetration, SNR (higher better)
 - ▶ Polarization – clutter suppression (possibly)
 - ▶ Beamwidth – lateral resolution (wider better)
- ▶ Processing
 - ▶ SNR, Spatial Resolution, Object localization

Example 3D GPR Data

Visible



GPR Depth Slice



Resources

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- ▶ Literature
 - ▶ Ground Penetrating Radar, 2nd Edition. David J. Daniels
- ▶ GPR Soil Suitability Maps of US
 - ▶ http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/soils/use/maps/?cid=nrcs142p2_053622
- ▶ GPR Equipment Manufacturers
 - ▶ IDS
 - ▶ 3D-Radar
 - ▶ Mala-Geosciences
 - ▶ GSSI
- ▶ Professional Societies
 - ▶ **Near Surface Geophysics - European Association of Geophysicists & Engineers** www.nsg-edge.org
 - ▶ **Environmental and Engineering Geophysical Society** www.eegs.org
 - ▶ **Society for Exploration Geophysics** www.seg.org