



# 3D-CNN and Autoencoder-Based Gas Detection in Hyperspectral Images

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**Abstract:** The detection of gas emission levels is a crucial problem for ecology and human health. Hyperspectral image analysis offers many advantages over traditional gas detection systems with its detection capability from safe distances. Observing that the existing hyperspectral gas detection methods in the thermal range neglect the fact that the captured radiance in the longwave infrared (LWIR) spectrum is better modeled as a mixture of the radiance of background and target gases, we propose a deep learning-based hyperspectral gas detection method in this article, which combines unmixing and classification. The proposed method first converts the radiance data to luminance-temperature data. Then, a 3-D convolutional neural network (CNN) and autoencoder-based network, which is specially designed for unmixing, is applied to the resulting data to acquire abundances and endmembers for each pixel. Finally, the detection is achieved by a three-layer fully connected network to detect the target gases at each pixel based on the extracted endmember spectra and abundance values. The superior performance of the proposed method with respect to the conventional hyperspectral gas detection methods using spectral angle mapper and adaptive cosine estimator is verified with LWIR hyperspectral images including methane and sulfur dioxide gases. In addition, the ablation study with respect to different combinations of the proposed structure including direct classification and unmixing methods has revealed the contribution of the proposed system.

**Keywords:** Gas emission detection, Deep Learning, Hyperspectral image analysis, Longwave infrared (LWIR) spectrum, Hyperspectral gas detection, Radiance data, Luminance-temperature data, Classification.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Imaging spectroscopy has been utilized by physicists and chemists for over thirty years to identify materials and their compositions. The idea of hyperspectral remote sensing began in the mid-1980s and is still used by geologists to map minerals. The ability to detect materials depends on several factors, including the spectrometer's spectral range and resolution, the material's abundance, and its absorption properties. In recent years, gas leaks have become a significant environmental issue in developed countries. Some harmful gases contribute to global warming and pose short-term risks like explosions and long-term health risks, such as cancer, to nearby residents and workers. To reduce these risks, environmental authorities must monitor chemical and industrial plants for gas emissions. Infrared remote sensing technology distance.

To implement this technology, forward-looking infrared and Hyperspectral Cameras are used in high-risk areas for gas detection. These cameras can capture images across different wavelengths and work in medium-wave infrared (3–5  $\mu\text{m}$ ) and long-wave infrared (7–14  $\mu\text{m}$ ) bands. They have been employed to detect various gases, including carbon dioxide, propane, methane, and ammonia, among others. Detection methods typically use statistical detection techniques combined with basic signal processing operations like data transformation and matched filtering. Pioneer studies in gas detection include work by Pogorzala, who used linear regression on synthetic images to detect ammonia and Freon-114. Vallières et al. developed a method that converts hyperspectral data to temperature data, removes background data, and applies spectral matched filtering to identify gas-containing pixels. In another approach, Spisz et al. utilized principal component analysis for background removal before applying detection techniques. The other studies have focused on automatic detection of waste gases, employing methods that filter possible areas based on critical wavelengths, followed by matched filtering. Hirsch and Agassi presented a method for gas detection that does not rely on background information, using K-Means segmentation and correlation analysis. Kastek and Piątkowski proposed a method to identify gases in turbulent fumes using a spectral angle mapper. Additionally, studies by Kuflik and Rotman have explored the minimum number of bands required for gas detection.

## 2. LITERATURE SURVEY

R. O. Green et al., 1998.[1] Imaging spectroscopy is of growing interest as a new approach to Earth remote sensing. The Airborne Visible/Infrared Imaging Spectrometer (AVIRIS) was the first imaging sensor to measure the solar reflected spectrum from 400 nm to 2500 nm at 10 nm intervals. The calibration accuracy and signal-to-noise of AVIRIS remain unique. The AVIRIS system as well as the science research and applications have evolved significantly in recent years. The initial design and upgraded characteristics of the AVIRIS system are described in terms of the sensor, calibration, data system, and flight operation. This update on the characteristics of AVIRIS provides the context for the science research and applications that use AVIRIS data acquired in the past several years. Recent science research and applications are reviewed

spanning investigations of atmospheric correction, ecology and vegetation, geology and soils, inland and coastal waters, the atmosphere, snow and ice hydrology, biomass burning, environmental hazards, satellite simulation and calibration, commercial applications, spectral algorithms, human infrastructure, as well as spectral modelling.

Govender, K. Chetty and H. Bulcock, 2007.[2] Multispectral imagery has been used as the data source for water and land observational remote sensing from airborne and satellite systems since the early 1960s. Over the past two decades, advances in sensor technology have made it possible for the collection of several hundred spectral bands. This is commonly referred to as hyperspectral imagery. This review details the differences between multispectral and hyperspectral data; spatial and spectral resolutions and focuses on the application of hyperspectral imagery in water resource studies and, in particular, the classification and mapping of land uses and vegetation.

P. Y. Foucher and S. Doz, 2023,[3] Whether for environmental or industrial applications, infrared hyperspectral technology is an efficient tool for studying and monitoring gas leaks. But now users need to access to real-time gas leak quantification mapping. In this purpose, several gas tests campaign has been conducted since 2015 in order to validate our algorithms for visualizing and quantifying gas plumes for different kind of gas in a very large range of flow rate (0.5 g/s up to 250g/s) from hyperspectral infrared cameras in particular using TELOPS technology. In this paper, we present recent results from real time ground and airborne quantification during different hyperspectral campaigns. In particular during the NAOMI project in collaboration with TOTAL, hundreds of controlled methane leakages tests have been fulfilled. The real time algorithm IMGSPEC developed by ONERA shows a real good agreement with ground truth in term of gas flow rate. Then, airborne campaign results show the developed quantification algorithm coupling with airborne Telops Hyper-Cam system (from 600m to 1500m) provides real-time quantitative map (ppm.m), estimation of local concentration (ppm) and leakage flow rate with associated uncertainties. We finally show IMGSPEC application to other kind of gas as Acetone or Methanol.

A. Vallières et al., 2005.[4] Standoff detection, identification and quantification of chemicals in the gaseous state are fundamental needs in several fields of applications. Sensor requirements derived from these applications include high sensitivity, low false alarms and real-time operation, all in a compact and robust package suitable for field use. The thermal infrared portion of the electromagnetic spectrum has been utilized to implement such chemical sensors, either with spectrometers (with no or moderate imaging capability) or with imagers (with moderate spectral capability). Only with the recent emergence of high-speed, large format infrared imaging arrays has it been possible to design chemical sensors offering uncompromising performance in the spectral, spatial, as well as the temporal domain. It is clear from analytical studies that the combined spatial and spectral information holds enormous promises on improving the current performance of passive detection, identification and quantification of chemical agents. This paper presents detection, identification and quantification algorithms developed for hyperspectral imagers operating in the thermal infrared. The effectiveness of these algorithms is illustrated using gaseous releases data cubes acquired using the Telops FIRST imaging spectrometer in the field.

G. Fortin, F. Bouffard, H. P. Lacasse and J. Lévesque, 2013.[5] Imaging Fourier-transform infrared (FTIR) spectroscopy is a powerful method for the passive remote detection and identification of vapor emanations and surface contaminations. In the Defense and Security context, imaging FTIR can be used for the remote surveillance of locations suspected of illicit product fabrications. DRDC Valcartier recently initiated the development and field-validation of the novel imaging FTIR sensor MoDDIFS (Multi-option Differential Detection and Imaging Fourier Spectrometer) to address this remote sensing application. The proposed system combines the clutter suppression efficiency of the differential detection approach with the high spatial resolution provided by the hyperspectral imaging approach. The MoDDIFS sensor includes two configuration options, one for remote gas detection, and the other for polarization sensing of surface contamination. This paper reviews recent results obtained with MoDDIFS for the passive standoff detection of gases and liquid contaminants. Hyperspectral measurements done on difluoroethane, diethyl ether (gases) and SF<sub>96</sub> (liquid) serve to develop, test and validate GLRT-type detection algorithms. Detection results are presented and discussed in terms of the GLRT detection attributes.

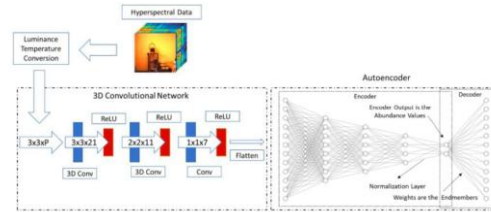
A. W. Messinger, 2004.[6] Recently, interest in gaseous effluent detection, identification, and quantification has increased for both commercial and government applications. However, the problem of gas detection is significantly different than the problems associated with the detection of hard-targets in the reflective spectral regime. In particular, gas signatures can be observed in either emission or absorption, are both temperature and concentration dependent, and are viewed in addition to the mixed background pixel signature from the ground. This work applies standard hard-target detection schemes to thermal hyperspectral synthetic imagery. The methods considered here are Principal Components Analysis, Projection Pursuit, and a Spectral Matched Filter. These methods will be compared both quantitatively and qualitatively with respect to their applicability to the gas detection problem. Comparison to truth outputs from the synthetic data provides an accurate quantitative measure of the algorithmic performance. Principle Components and Projection Pursuit are shown to have similar performance, and both are better than the Spectral Matched Filter. Additionally, both Principal Components and Projection Pursuit demonstrate the ability to separate regions of absorption and emission in the plume.

T. Piatkowski, R. Dulski, M. Chamberland, P. Lagueux and V. Farley, 2012[7] This paper presents detection and identification of gases using an infrared imaging Fourier-transform spectrometer. The principle of operation of the spectrometer and the method for gases detection and identification has been shown in the paper. The variation of a signal reaching the IFTS caused by the presence of a gas has been calculated and compared with the reference signal obtained without the presence of a gas in IFTS's field of view. Some result of the detection of various types of gases has been presented too.

F. Omruzun and Y. Y. Cetin, 2015.[8] Segmentation and identification of compounds or materials existing in a scene is a crucial process. Hyperspectral sensors operating in different regions of the electromagnetic spectrum are able to quantify spectral characteristics of materials in different states. Due to the fact that some chemical compounds in gas state have insignificant light reflectance characteristics in visible region of the spectrum, imaging sensors operating in infrared regions are needed to sense energy absorbency characteristics of these compositions. The present study proposes a novel method for detection of flammable gases in long-wave infrared hyperspectral images. Proposed method begins with Black-Body radiation curve compensation. Since a priori information regarding the compounds in the scene is not always available, endmember spectral signatures are extracted with VCA hyperspectral unmixing algorithm.

### 3. PROPOSED METHODOLOGY

This proposed methodology focuses on improving the accuracy and efficiency of gas detection in hyperspectral images using a 3D Convolutional Neural Network (3D CNN) and an Autoencoder-based approach. The primary goal of the proposed model is to enhance feature extraction and classification capabilities, ensuring precise identification of gases in hyperspectral data. It employs a deep learning-based framework that integrates techniques from computer vision, spectral image processing, and deep neural networks to achieve its objectives. Overall, this research is designed to address the challenges associated with hyperspectral gas detection by applying advanced deep learning techniques. The combination of 3D CNNs and Autoencoders enhances feature representation, improves detection accuracy, and provides reliable results. It finds applications in various fields, including environmental monitoring, industrial safety, and remote sensing, where accurate gas identification in hyperspectral images is critical for analysis and decision-making.



**Figure 1: Proposed 3D-CNN system.**

The proposed methodology typically includes the following key components:

**Hyperspectral Data Preprocessing:** The process begins with preprocessing hyperspectral images to remove noise, correct distortions, and normalize spectral data. This step ensures that the input data is clean and suitable for further processing.

**Feature Extraction Using 3D CNN:** A 3D Convolutional Neural Network (3D CNN) is employed to extract spatial and spectral features from hyperspectral images. This approach effectively captures the spatial dependencies and spectral correlations necessary for accurate gas detection.

**Dimensionality Reduction with Autoencoder:** An Autoencoder-based approach is used to reduce the dimensionality of the hyperspectral data while preserving essential features. This step helps improve computational efficiency and enhances feature representation for better classification accuracy.

**Gas Classification and Detection:** The extracted features are passed through a classification model that identifies the presence of specific gases in hyperspectral images. The deep learning framework enhances detection accuracy by learning complex patterns within the hyperspectral data.

**Performance Metrics Evaluation:** To assess the model's effectiveness, various performance metrics such as Accuracy, Precision, Recall, F1-score, and RMSE (Root Mean Squared Error) are computed. These metrics measure the reliability of gas detection and classification.

**Customization and Parameter Tuning:** The methodology allows for parameter adjustments such as the number of CNN layers, activation functions, learning rate, and loss function selection to optimize model performance for different hyperspectral datasets.

**Output:** The primary output of this model is a segmented hyperspectral image with detected gas regions accurately marked. The model provides enhanced visibility and classification of gas emissions. **Evaluation and Benchmarking:** The proposed method is evaluated against benchmark hyperspectral datasets, comparing its accuracy and efficiency with existing gas detection techniques. The goal is to achieve superior or comparable performance to state-of-the-art methods in hyperspectral gas detection.

### Applications:

The enhanced gas detection in hyperspectral images using 3D CNN and Autoencoder can be applied in various fields, including:

- Environmental monitoring (detecting and analysing air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions).
- Industrial safety (identifying hazardous gas leaks in factories and chemical plants).
- Agriculture (monitoring methane and ammonia levels to improve crop management).
- Remote sensing (analysing atmospheric gases).

### Advantages:

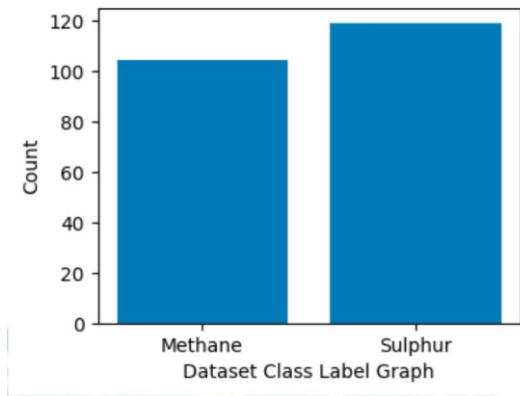
3D CNN and Autoencoder-based gas detection in hyperspectral images utilize deep learning and feature extraction techniques to enhance detection accuracy and efficiency. The key advantages include:

- **High Detection Accuracy:** 3D CNN effectively captures spatial-spectral features, leading to improved accuracy in identifying and classifying gases in hyperspectral images.
- **Feature Extraction Efficiency:** Autoencoders reduce the dimensionality of hyperspectral data while preserving essential features, making the detection process more efficient.
- **Improved Noise Reduction:** The deep learning architecture helps suppress noise and irrelevant spectral information, resulting in clearer and more reliable detection outputs.
- **Automated Feature Learning:** Unlike traditional methods that require manual feature engineering, 3D CNN and autoencoders learn relevant features automatically, reducing human intervention.

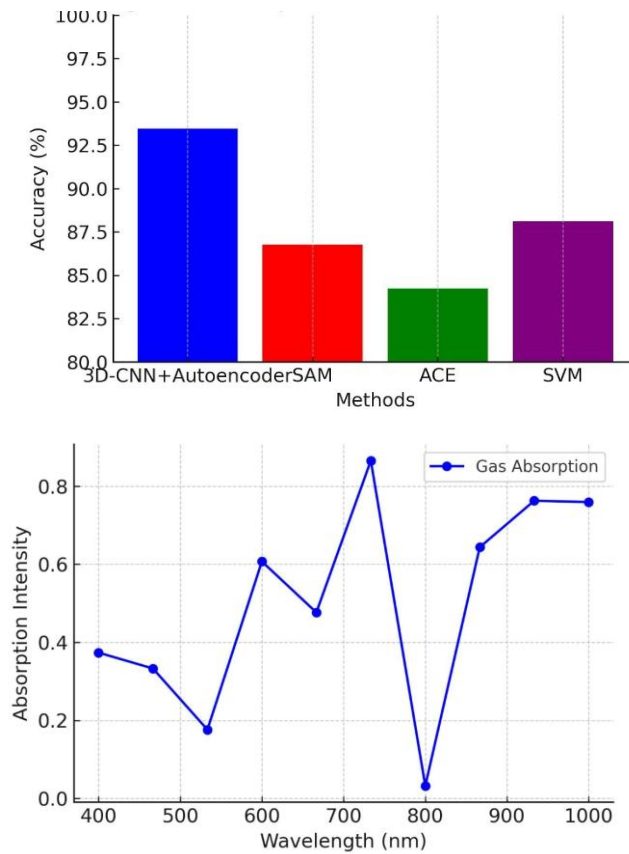
- **Faster Processing Speed:** 3D CNN processes hyperspectral cubes efficiently by analysing spatial and spectral correlations simultaneously, leading to faster gas detection.
- **Robust Performance in Complex Environments:** The deep learning approach improves gas detection in challenging scenarios, such as varying atmospheric conditions and background interference.
- **Generalization Capability:** The trained model can be applied to different hyperspectral datasets with minimal retraining, enhancing its adaptability across various applications.
- **Enhanced Visualization:** The method allows for better visualization of detected gases, aiding decision-making in environmental monitoring, industrial safety, and defence applications.

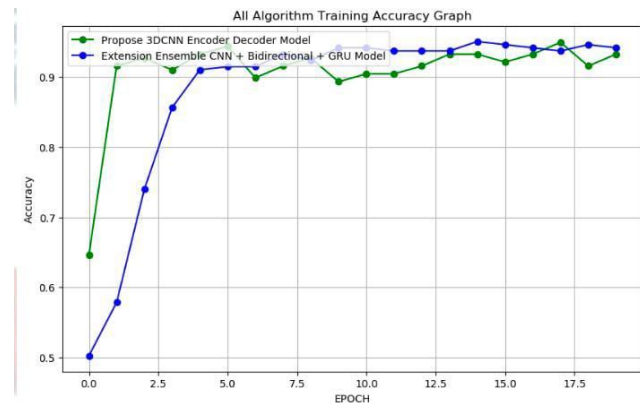
**4. EXPERIMENTAL ANALYSIS**

Figure 1 shows a hyperspectral image taken from the AVIRIS dataset, that are representing a scene with potential gas emissions. These hyperspectral images serve as the input to the proposed 3D-CNN and Autoencoder-Based Gas Detection Model. The purpose of this figure is to provide a visual representation of the spectral data that the model processes to identify and classify different gas types.



**Figure: Enhanced Image**





**Figure: Enhanced Images**

Figure 2 shows a gas emission detection heatmap generated by the proposed 3D-CNN and autoencoder-based model. Presents the gas absorption spectrum across different Wavelengths. Compare the accuracy of different gas detection methods, including the proposed 3D-CNN with autoencoder, Spectral Angle Mapper (SAM), Adaptive Cosine Estimator (ACE), and Support Vector Machine (SVM). The bar graph demonstrates that the proposed method achieves the highest accuracy, outperforming traditional techniques.

### 3D-CNN and Autoencoder Model for Gas Detection

- The proposed model integrates 3D Convolutional Neural Networks (3D-CNNs) and Autoencoders to improve gas detection accuracy in hyperspectral images.
- The 3D-CNN captures both spectral and spatial features, while the autoencoder enhances and denoises the data, improving classification performance.
- This model effectively detects and classifies gas emissions from hyperspectral images with high accuracy

## 5. CONCLUSION

We have proposed a deep learning-based gas detection method which combines 3D-CNN and autoencoder-based hyperspectral unmixing with neural network-based classification. The experiments reveal that a detection approach combining deep learning based unmixing with classification is better than the existing methods to handle the gas detection problem in LWIR range. An ablation study with respect to the possible different combinations for such a system, such as using direct classification methods or using the same structure with other unmixing methods are also performed. The proposed system combining unmixing with classification has given better performances than direct classification without unmixing. In addition, the 3D-CNN and autoencoder-based unmixing has indicated better results than the conventional unmixing for the proposed gas detection framework. The experiments have revealed that using SAM as a cost function in the proposed method yields more successful results than the MSE metric. The performed study does not require thresholding, unlike the conventional gas detection methods. Finally, the proposed gas detection method achieves better results than state of the art gas detection methods in LWIR range due to its high learning capacity with 3-D convolutional layers. Without loss of generality, the proposed system can be adapted to different gases by integrating the target gas signature into the classification module of the proposed system in the last stage.

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