

Thermal Infrared

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- I. Introduction
 - a. Estimator of plant transpiration
 - b. Indicator of plant water stress
 - c. Easy to collect, log and non-destructive
 - d. Equipment moderately expensive, durable, accurate
- II. Thermal Infrared Basics
 - a. Emitted radiation, wavelength/radiance relationships, emissivity
- III. Thermal Infrared Sensor Performance & Characteristics
 - a. Thermocouple, thermopile, microbolometers, thermistors
 - b. Infrared Thermometer (IRT) Models available: Apogee, Everest, Fluke, etc. costs, accuracy, precision
 - c. Wavelength sensitivity, atmospheric window
 - d. Time scales, accuracy, uncertainty: time of day, measurement frequency, weather (clouds, wind, humidity)
 - e. View angle, plant vs. soil temperatures
 - f. Logging: microvolt sensitivity, time, location
 - g. Ancillary data: air temperature, humidity, windspeed,
- IV. Data analysis
 - a. Atmospheric correction
 - b. Maximizing signal: Plot averaging, reference temperature checks, temperature differencing to remove bias, diurnal correction
 - c. Extensions: compute stress index, ET estimate
- V. Conclusions
 - a. Stress response detection with thermal sensors
 - b. Durable, accurate, modest cost
 - c. Select high quality sensors with known calibration
 - d. Select 8-14 μm sensor window
 - e. Select field-of-view to match platform needs and signal/noise
 - f. Sensor response time < 1 s
 - g. Sensor logger requirements
 - h. Apply sky radiation correction
 - i. Consider temperature and time-temperature differencing to reduce errors
 - j. Collect reference temperatures at beginning and end of survey
 - k. Minimize data collection period
 - l. Watch the weather for uneven cloudiness and air temperature
 - m. For variety evaluation use best estimate of plant temperature as first step, then can consider CWSI, ET estimates afterwards

References

www.apogeeinstruments.com/infraredradiometer

www.everestinterscience.com

Agas, J.L, and Cairns, J.E. 2014. Field high-throughput phenotyping: the new crop breeding frontier, *Trends in Plant Science* 19(1): 52-61.

Fuchs, M. and Tanner, C.B. Infrared Thermometry of Vegetation, 1966. *Agronomy J.* 58:597-601.

Table 1. Characteristics of example thermal infrared sensors.

| Manufacturer | Apogee Instruments | Everest Interscience | Omega |
|------------------------|--|--|--|
| Sensor Name | Infrared radiometer | Enviro-Therm | Infrared thermocouple |
| Approximate Cost (USD) | 700-800 | | 300 |
| Part Number | SI-xxx; 12 variations | | OS36/80F |
| Web Site | www.apogeeinstrument.com | www.everestinterscience.com | www.omega.com |
| Temperature range | -30 to 60 °C | | 10 to 49 °C |
| Accuracy | 0.2 °C | 0.25 °C | 0.8 c |
| Response time | 0.2 s | | 0.08 s |
| Field-of-View | 22°-44° circular; 64°x26° rectangular | | 60 ° |
| Output | 20-60 µV/°C; analog or digital | Digital, digital to analog (DAC) | |
| Power supply | 2.5 V | | None |
| Sensor type | Thermopile/thermistor | | Thermocouple (type K or T typical, also J, E) |
| Spectral range | 8-14 µm | | 6.5-14 µm |
| Logging | mV datalogger or SDI-12 | | mV datalogger |
| Cabling | 5 m shielded twisted pair, 6 leads | | 2.4 m PFA coated, 3 leads |
| Dimensions | 2.3 cm diameter, 6.0 cm length | 5cm length? | 1.27 cm diameter, 4.45 cm length |
| Housing shape | Cylindrical | Cylindrical | |
| Weight (g) | 190 g with cable | | 15 g (sensor only) |
| Operating environment | -55 to 80 °C; 0-100% RH non-condensing | | -18-85 °C |
| Comments | Selection by field-of-view, signal output type (analog or digital) | | Short response time, no power needed, wide |

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| | Check for dust | | field of view, narrow calibration range, need stable cold junction |
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