

# Al: Opportunities in Minerals Discovery

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GRADUATE STUDENTS







https://mining.utah.edu/ai.sys/



## **Discovering Minerals**







## Hyper Spectral, Geophysics



## **USGS, CSIRO Spectral Signatures**

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From: Ren, Z.; Zhai, Q.; Sun, L. ANovel Method for Hyperspectral Mineral Mapping Based onClustering-Matching andNonnegative Matrix Factorization.Remote Sens. 2022, 14, 1042https://doi.org/10.3390/rs14041042





## Al on Hyper Spectral, GeoPhysics

Vegetation can be an issue

Vegetation removal algorithms exist and can be improved

Possible application on old tailings piles

Combine with geochem etc for ground truthing





### AI for Gallium (Ga): Alaska DGGS Geochemical Database

Analysis presented in the next few slides are preliminary





#### LinePlot | Histogram | BoxPlot of Ga ppm ICP







## Gallium: All Alaska

### Key Factors →









### Gallium: All Alaska Stream Seds

### Key Factors $\rightarrow$

Ga trimmed to <50



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## Gallium: Rampart Area

	Lat	Long
Min	65	-153
Max	67	-148

### Key Factors →







### **Bird In Hand:**

### Al Opportunities in Mine Operations





## Monitoring Plant Performance: Newmont Peñasquito Mine, Mexico

SAG - 1



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## Custom Algorithm: Random Forest Modified

Mine	Data Set	scikit (R)	Ganguli (R)
Erdenet, Mongolia	Drillhole	0.78	0.83
Polymetal, Mexico	SAG*	0.86	0.89
Polymetal, Mexico	SAG	0.62	0.72

\*Provided time series relationship





## In development ...

### Algorithms that take into account nature of deposits





### Conclusions

Significant Opportunities Exist for Leveraging AI
Mail Mary opportunities exist, but ....

• Many have led to "interceptions" (misdirections)

Most opportunities require a "running game"

• Thoughtful approach to deploying AI







