

PhD Thesis Presentation

Studies on 3D-based plant phenotyping by multi-scale data fusion

マルチスケールデータ融合による植物表現型
の3次元計測に関する研究

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■ Introduction

01

1.1 General background

Accurate and comprehensive data collection helps effective decision-making in agriculture



Traditional approach hard to meet such demand

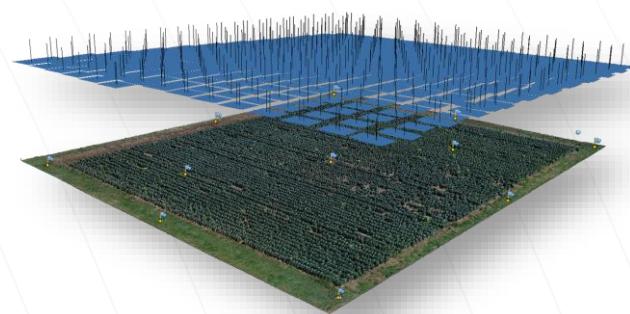
High-throughput phenotyping technologies

[1] <https://www.forbesindia.com/fbimages/900x600/proportional/jpeg/blog/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/Agriculture-is-a-potential-solution-to-meet-food-and-climategoals.jpg>

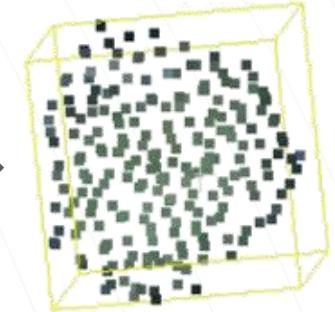
1.2 Limitation of existing methods



Aerial approach
(distance to object > 5m)



Survey entire farmland
efficiently



Low quality of
organ structure



Close-range approach
(distance to object < 2m)

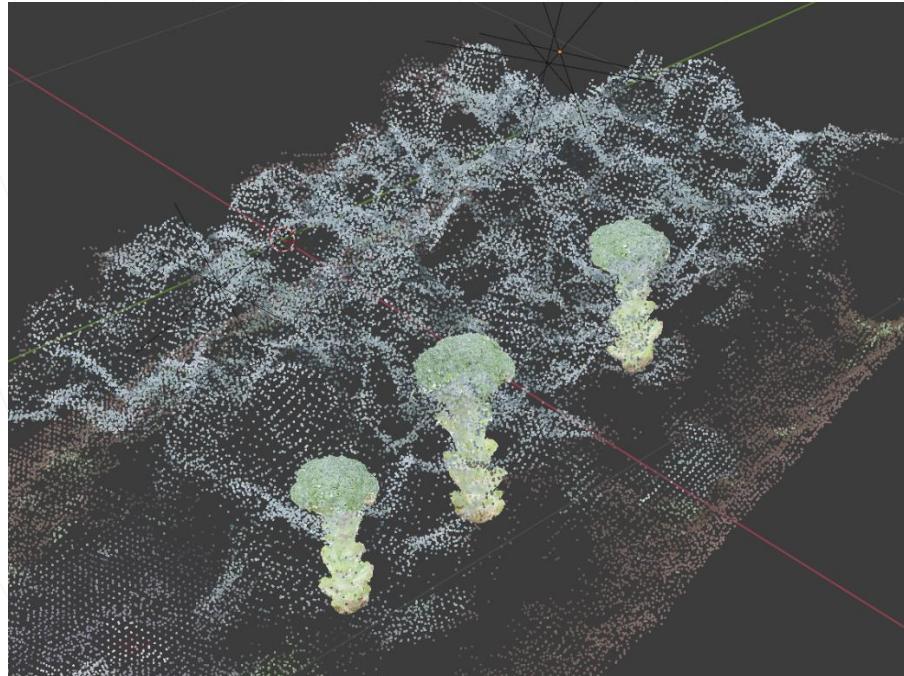


Obtain better organ
structure



Low efficiency for
surveying entire farmland

1.3 Research objective



Can we obtain **high-quality** organ
structure of entire farmland **efficiently**
by **fusing both approaches?**

■ Close-range
02 3D pipeline

2.1 Background

Traditional close-range 3D phenotyping pipeline

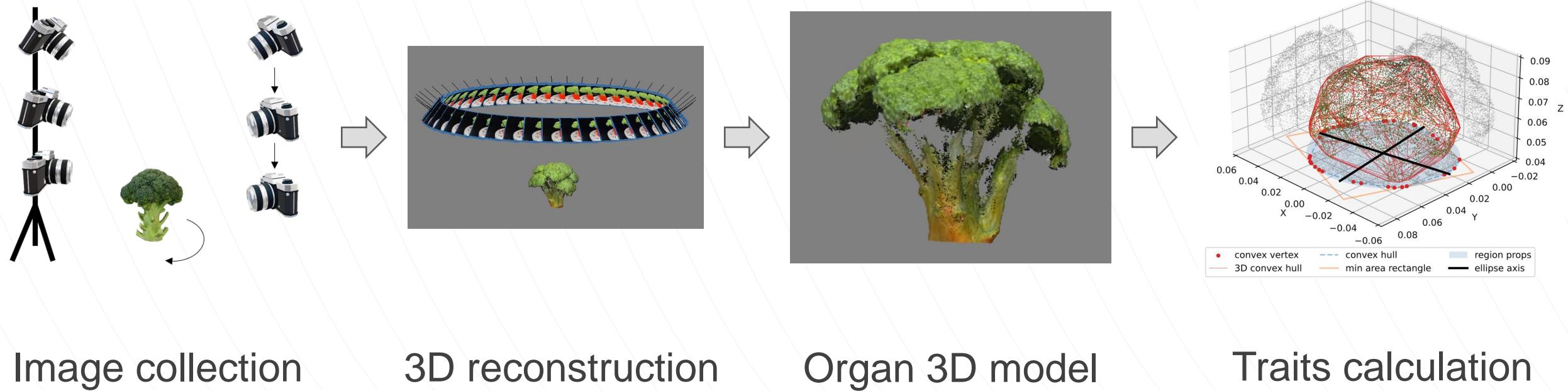


Image collection

3D reconstruction

Organ 3D model

Traits calculation

2.2 Challenge

Traditional method cannot obtain complete organ structure



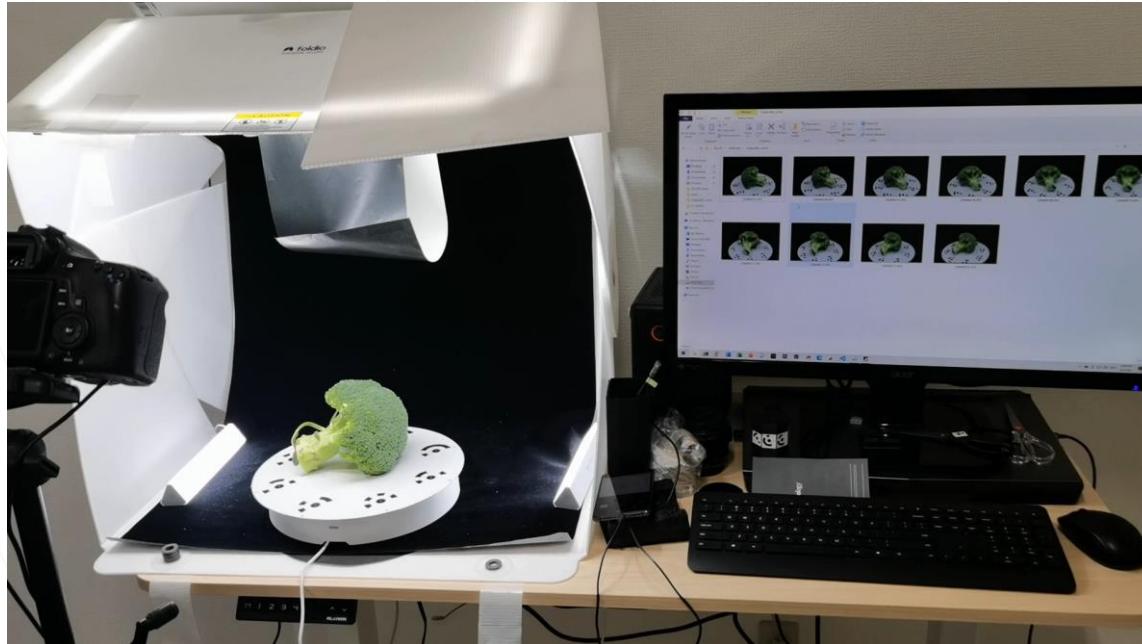
Obtained



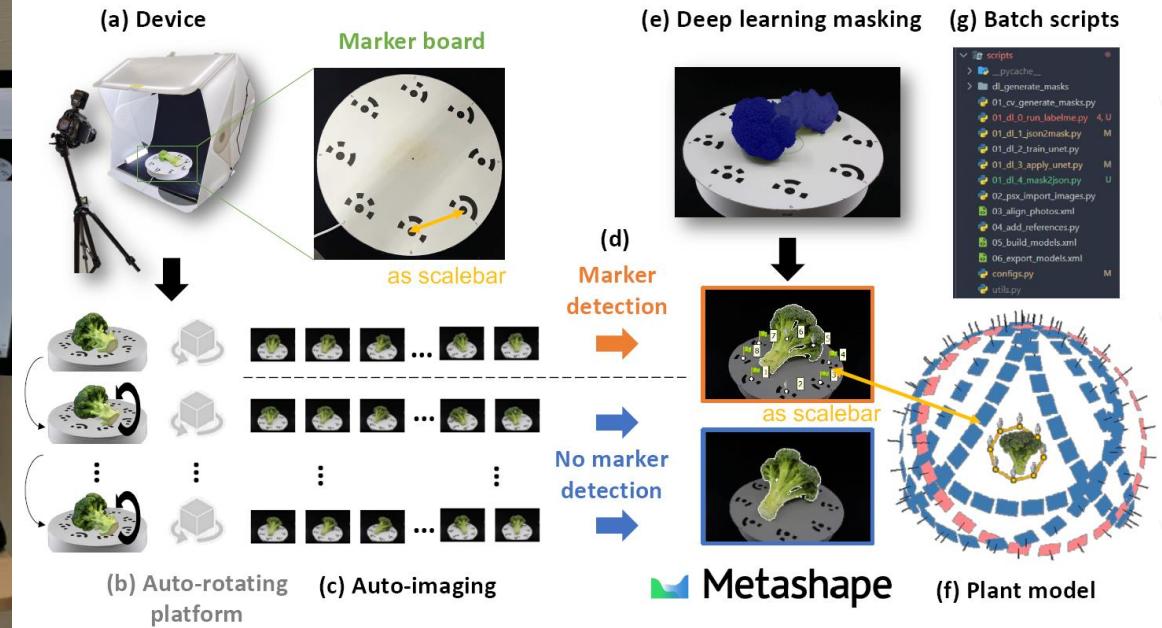
Expected

2.3 Solution

Implement an automatic data collection and 3D reconstruction pipeline



Automatic image collection

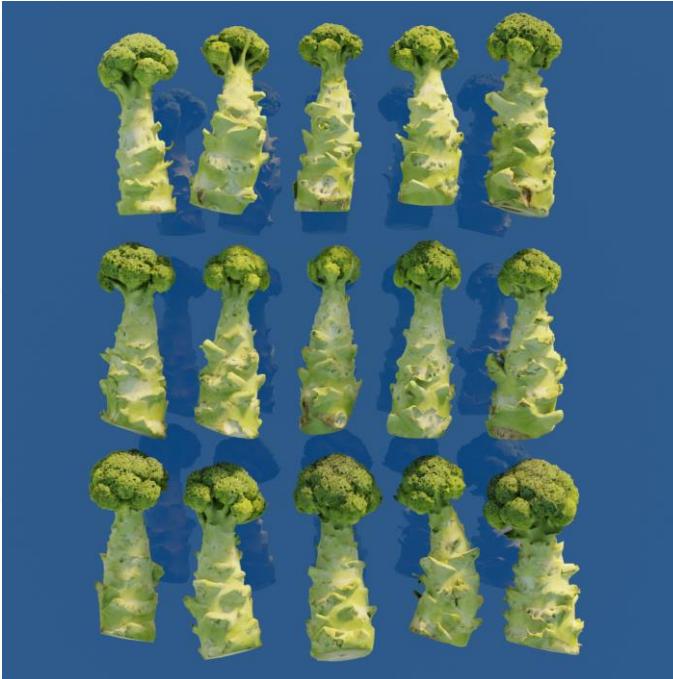


Dual rotation reconstruction pipeline

2.3 Results - obtained high-quality 3D model



Real world photo



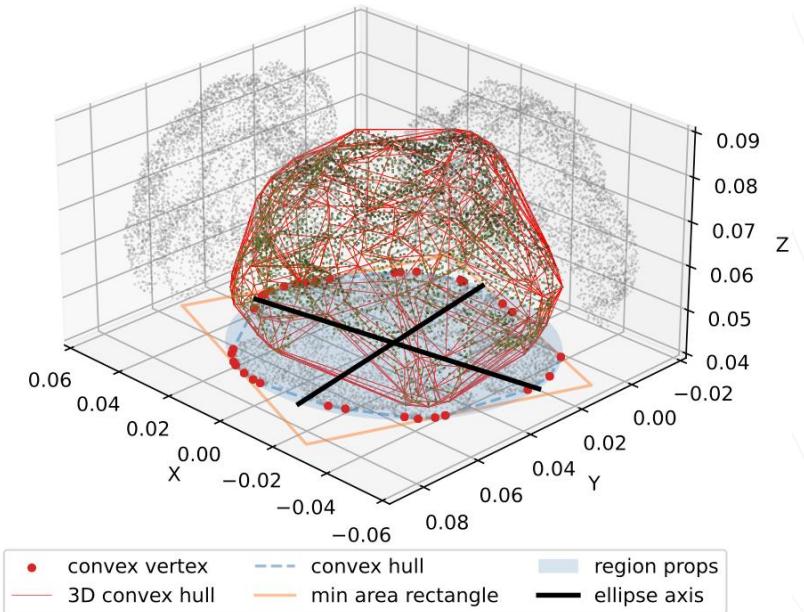
Obtained 3D model



Data pool of 3D high-quality broccoli heads

2.3 Results - 3D data processing

Calculate 3D-based morphological traits



Visualization

Traits	Unit
1D Crown/head height (m)	m
Center point (x, y)	m
Centroid point (x, y)	m
Roundness	-
2D Minimum area rectangle (width, length)	m
Ellipse axis length (long, short)	m
Ellipse orientation	degree
2D convex area	cm ²
Projected area	cm ²
3D 3D Convex volume	cm ³
3D Concave volume	cm ³

Final output traits list



Head 3D
data pool

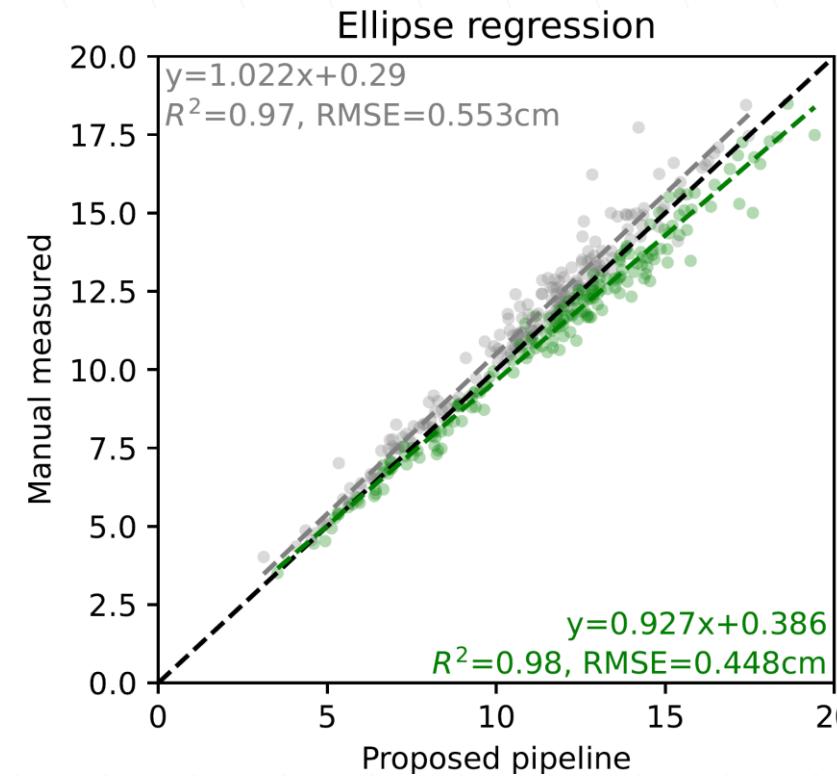
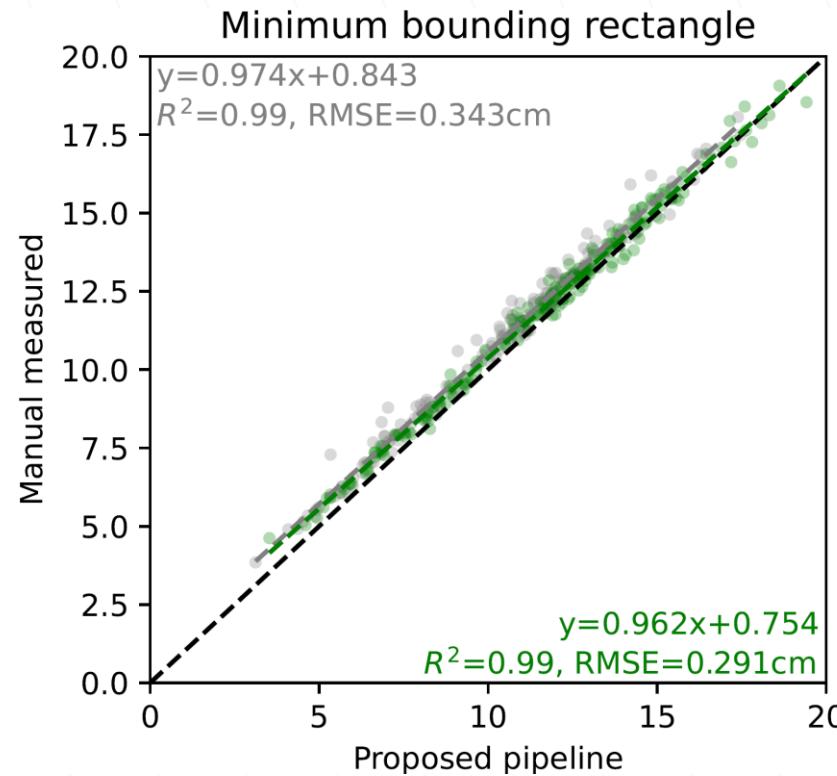
As model attributes

2.3 Results - traits accuracy validation

Compare the shortest and longest length
(hard to do manual measurements for 2D and 3D traits)

- shortest head length

- longest head length



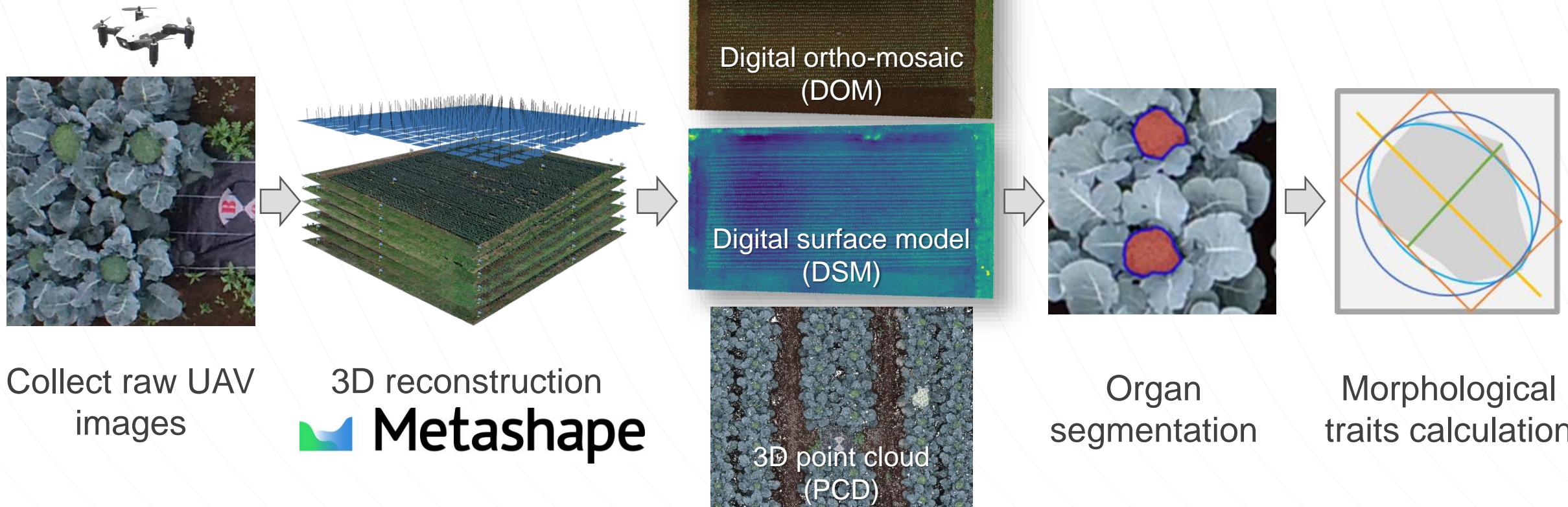
2.4 Conclusion

- Obtained the **high-quality** and **complete** 3D models
- Calculated the **3D-based traits** and validated **accuracies**
- Built a **data pool** for high-quality broccoli head 3D models

■ Aerial 3D
03 pipeline

3.1 Background

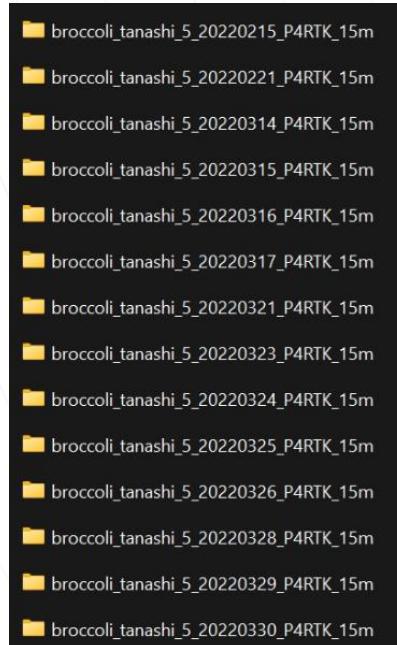
Traditional aerial phenotyping pipeline



3.2 Challenges

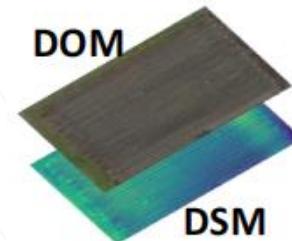
1. Need to analysis huge amount of image data
(difficult to process in time)

Just for 1 ha



One flight

200+
raw images
(2.7GB+)



(1GB+)

Large amount of time-series data
 (38 flights in 2022)



5742 x 3648 pixels



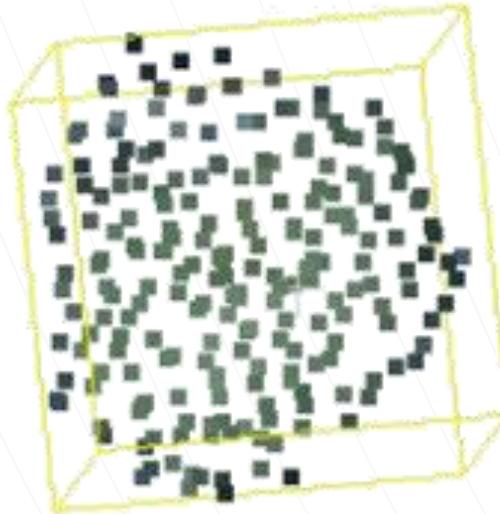
19572 x 17664 pixels

200 x 20 billion
 =
 4 trillion pixels
 per flight

0.3 trillion
 pixels
 per flight

3.2 Challenges

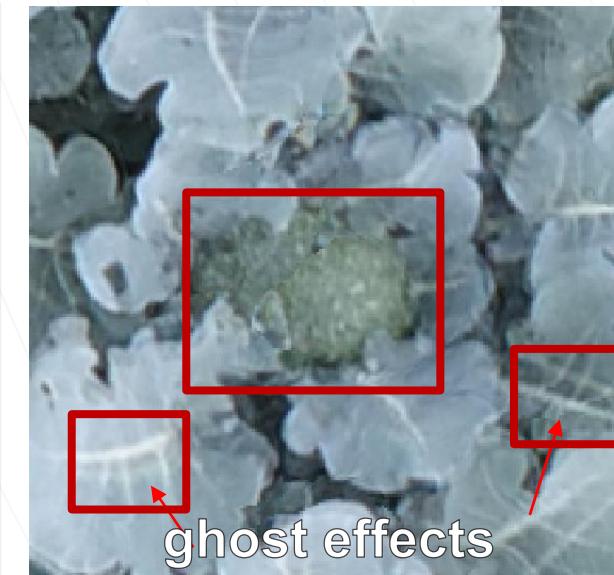
2. Hard to achieve the quality for organ-level analysis from aerial reconstruction



3D canopy model
(PCD)

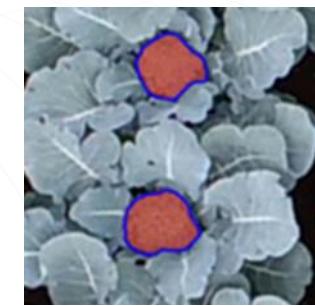


2D field map
(DOM)

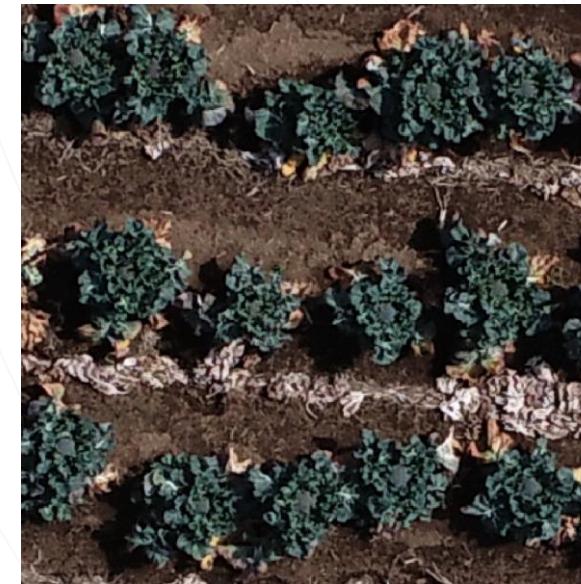
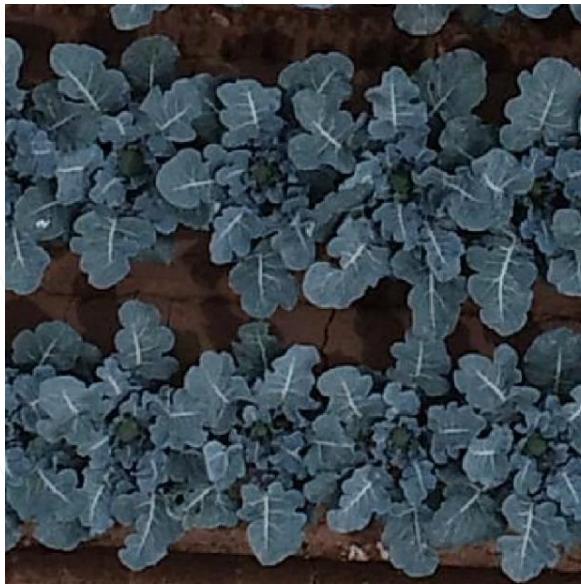


ghost effects

3.2 Challenges



3. Complex natural environment conditions makes segmentation tasks difficult
(deep learning needs large number of training data)

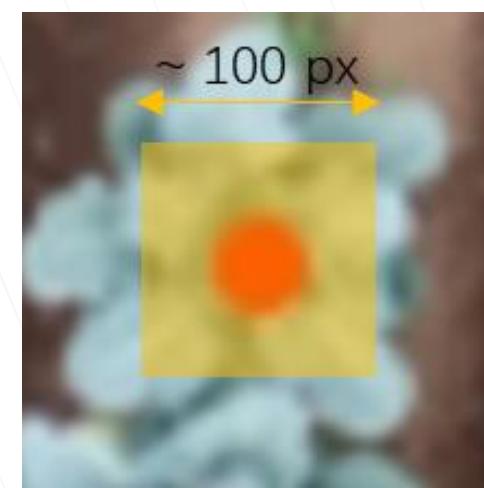
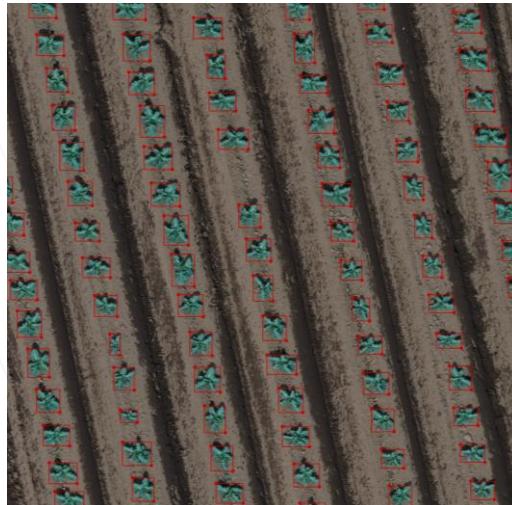


Huge differences between time, sunlight, soil condition, growing stage, cultivars

3.3 Solutions for analyzing huge amount of image data

Temporal data fusion

narrow the processing regions by using prior knowledge of agriculture



Broccoli head position is almost the same as its seedling position

$(100 \times 100) \text{ pixels} \times 3000 \text{ count} = 30 \text{ billion pixels}$ **per flight** ~ one raw image
per crop

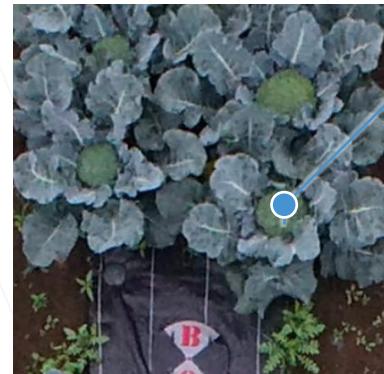
Narrow the processing area around the seedling area

$5742 \times 3648 \sim 20 \text{ billion pixels}$

3.3 Solutions for not enough aerial quality

Spatial data fusion

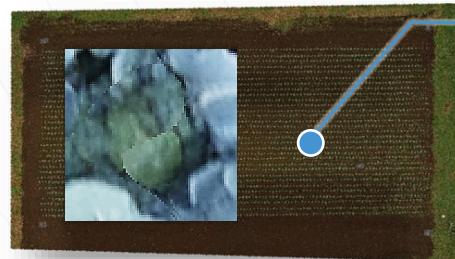
combine raw images (pixel coordinates) with field maps (geo coordinates)



(2341,1492)

Pixel coordinates

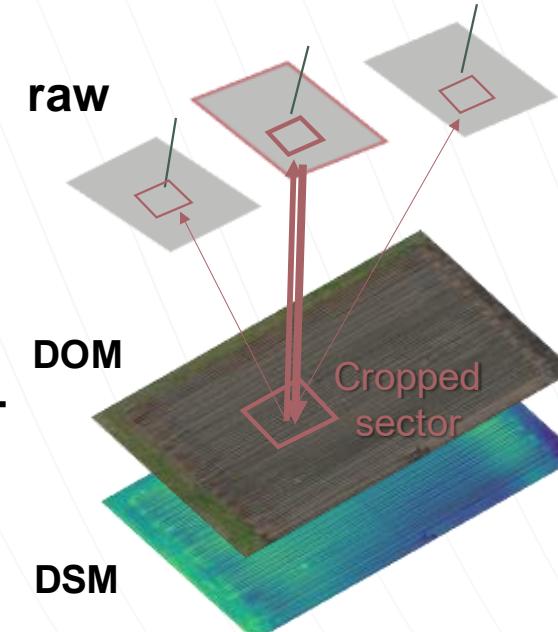
Better quality
Lacks spatial context



(35.7393N,139.5414E, 96.34m)

Geo coordinates

Lower quality
Has spatial context



pixel-coordinates

Spatial fusing

geo-coordinates

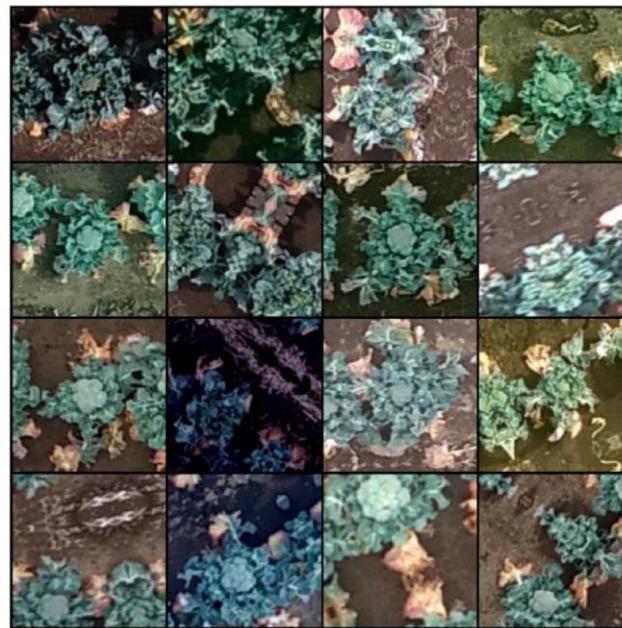
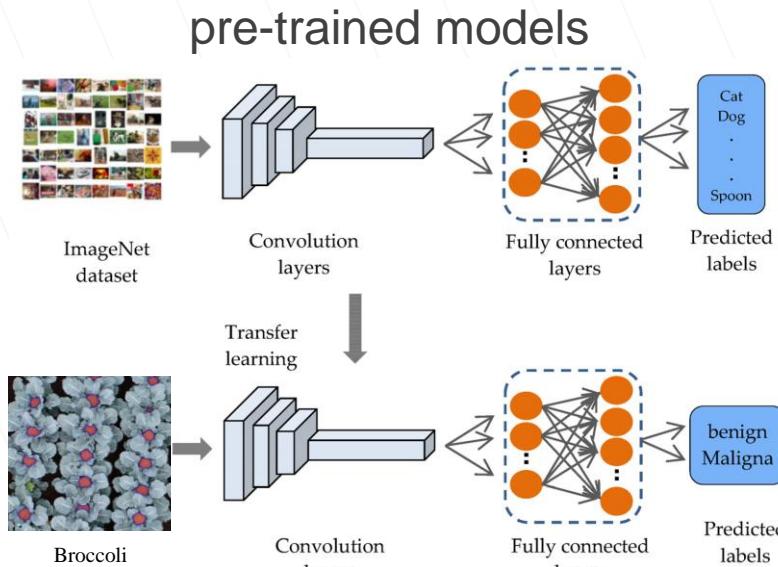
EasyIDP Public

A handy tool for dealing with region of interest (ROI) on the image reconstruction mainly in agriculture applications

3.3 Solutions for lacking training data

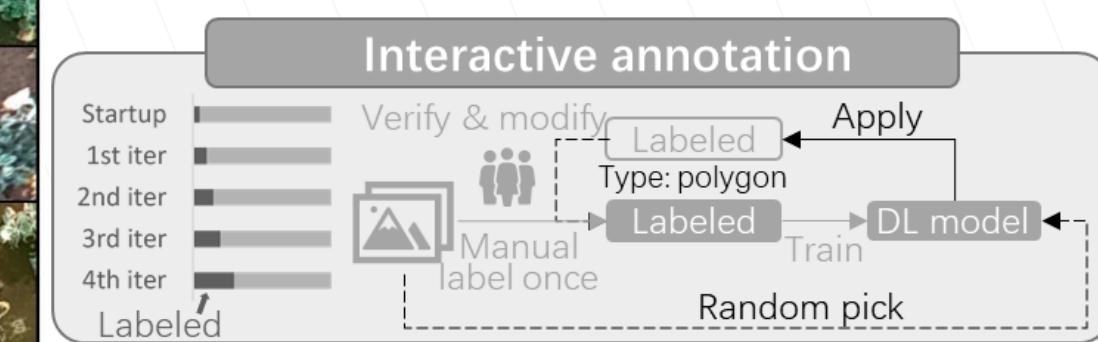
Deep learning data fusion

low labor cost for training data annotation



(a) Transfer learning

(b) Data augmentation



(c) Active learning

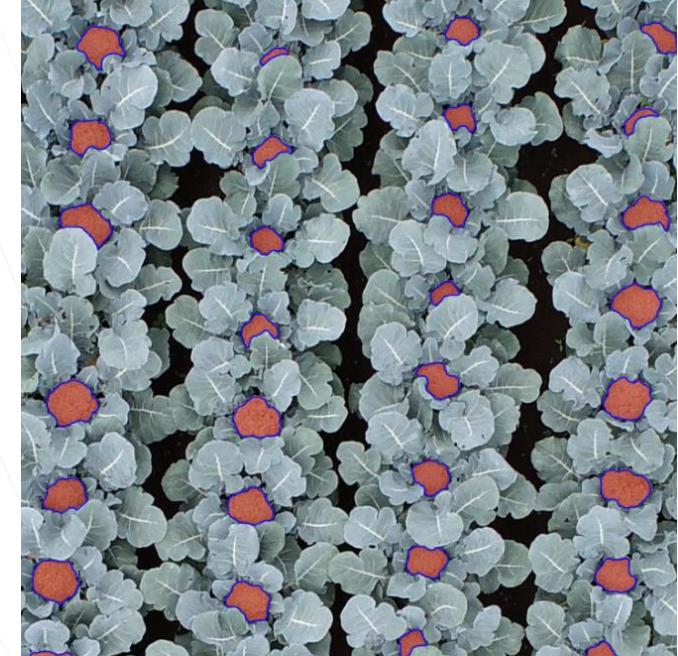
3.4 Results – temporal & spatial data fusion



Seeding detection by pre-trained Yolo v5



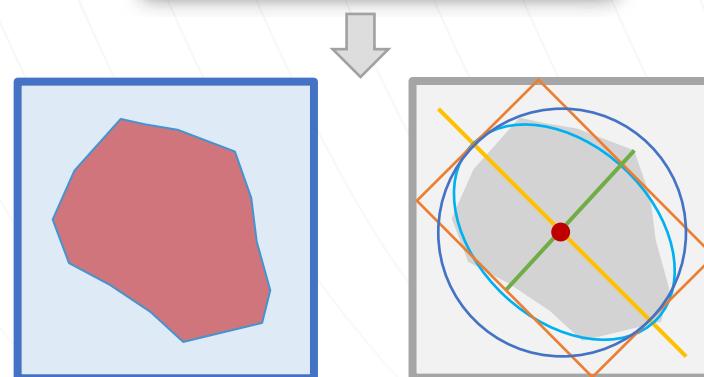
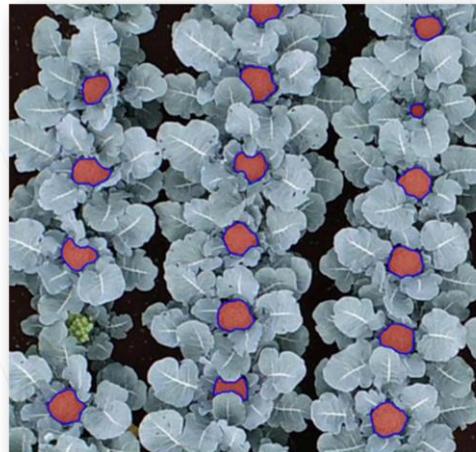
Temporal (time-series) data fusion during growing stages



Head Segmentation results

3.4 Results - traits calculation

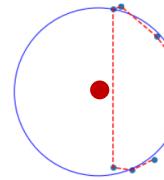
For each broccoli head



Minimum area rectangle max/min side-length



Equivalent diameter



broccoli
center points



Eccentricity, circularity

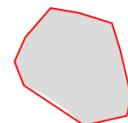


Major axis length



Minor axis length

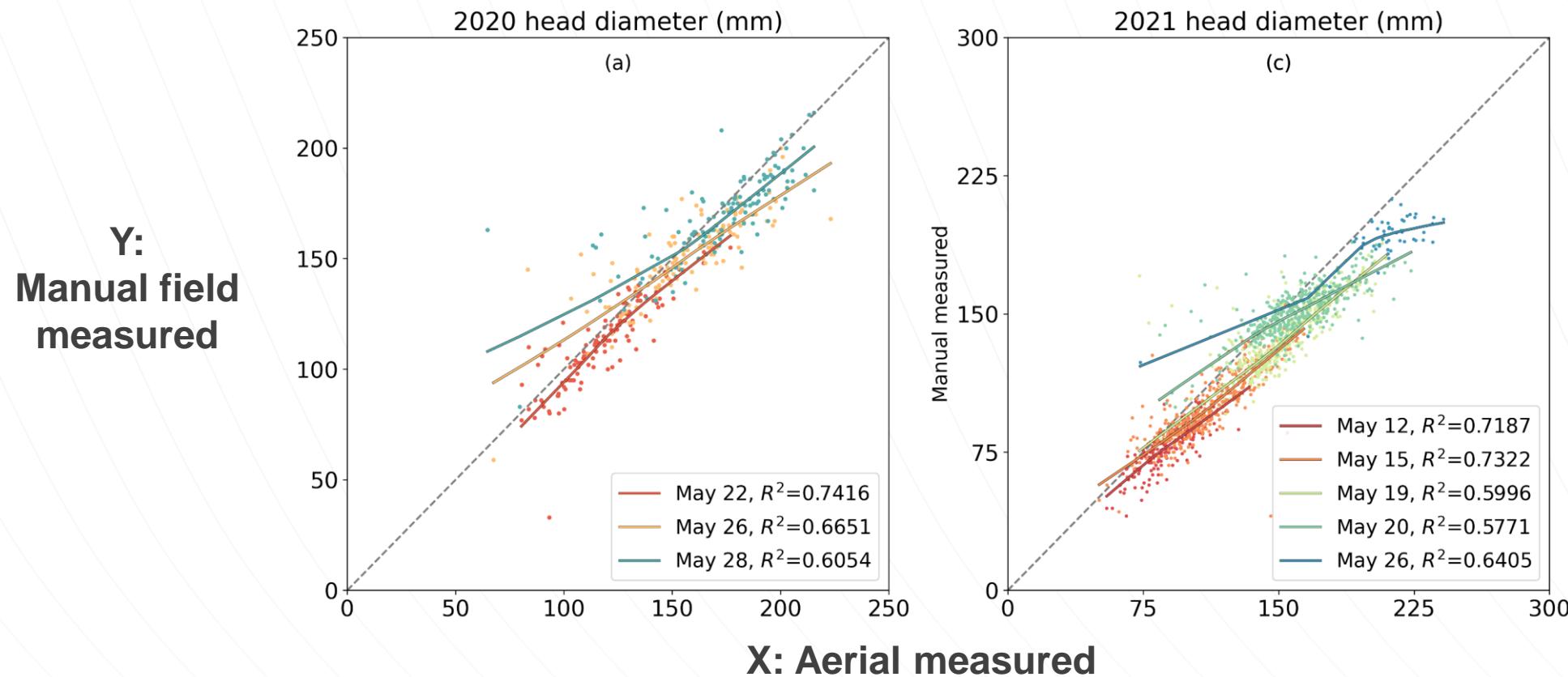
Area, perimeter



Convex area

3.4 Results - traits accuracy validation

Has acceptable correlation with manual measured head size



3.5 Conclusion

- Developed **temporal data fusion method** with prior knowledge of agriculture to dramatically save the computation cost
- Developed **spatial data fusion** to improve the organ-level image quality
- Developed **deep learning data fusion** to decrease the workload of training data annotation for head segmentation
- Improved 2D-based traits of broccoli head and validated by manual measurement

■ 04 Cross-scale
data fusion

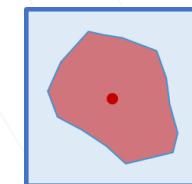
4.1 Background

Part 2: close-range 3D pipeline



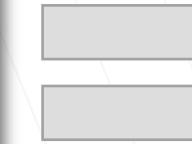
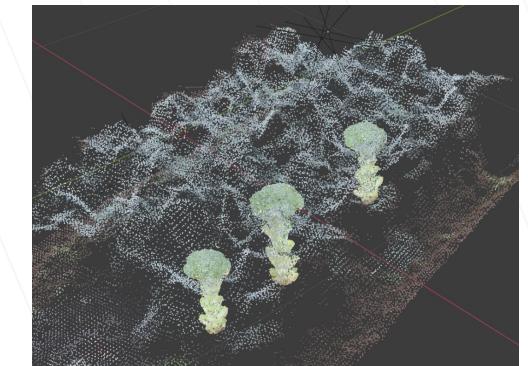
**Head 3D
data pool**

Part 3: aerial 3D pipeline



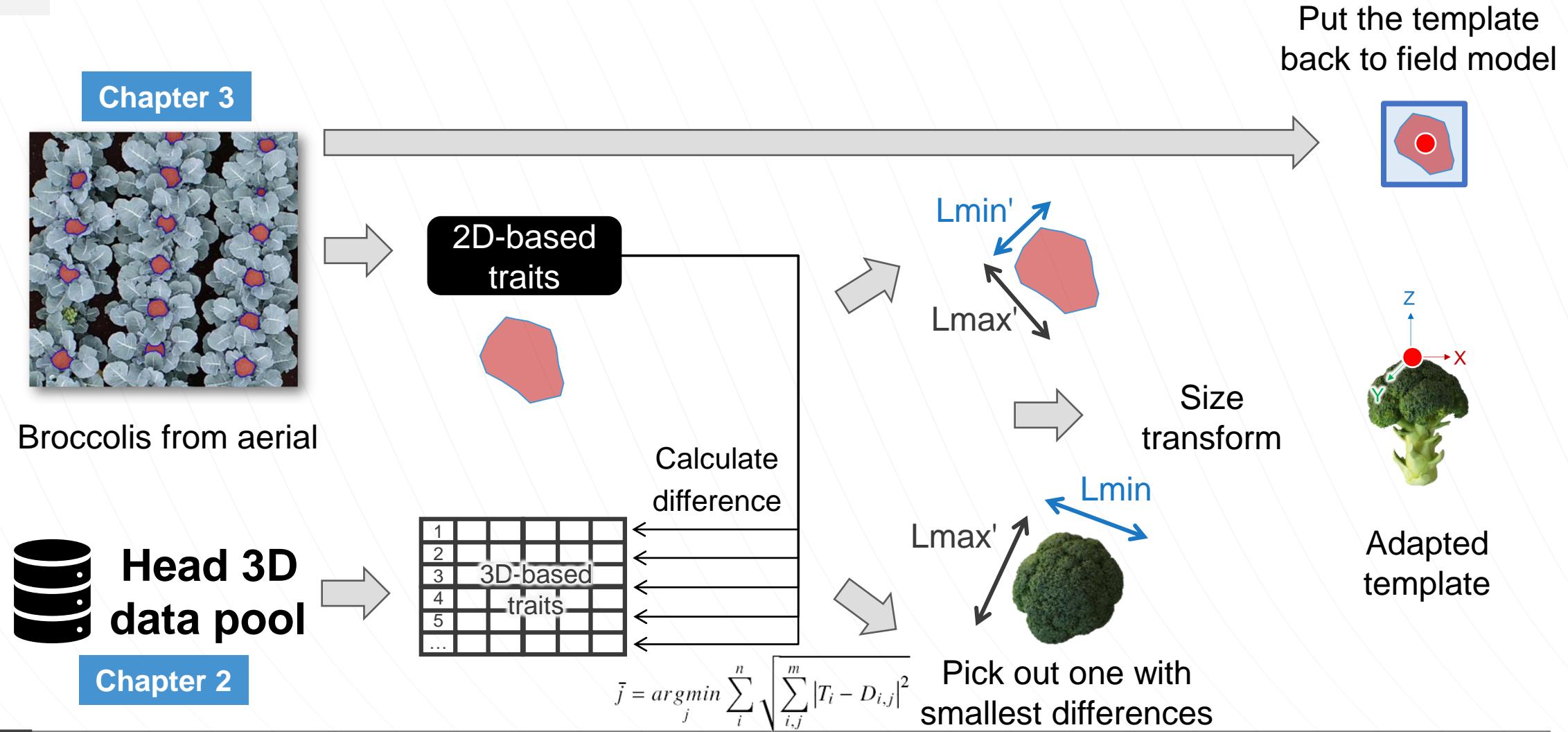
**Head shapes
& positions in
entire farmland**

Part 4: cross-scale data fusion



**High quality
head models of
entire farmland**

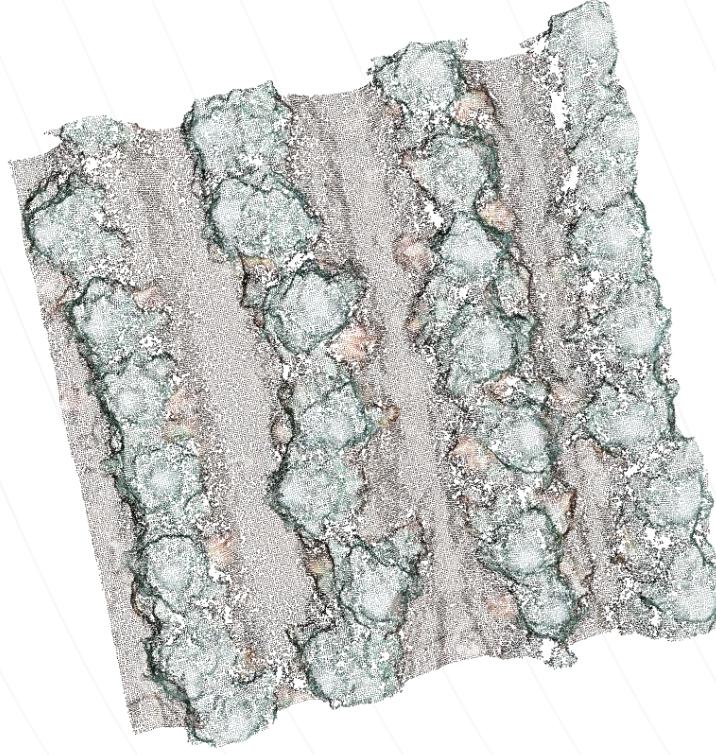
4.3 Solutions for cross-scale data fusion



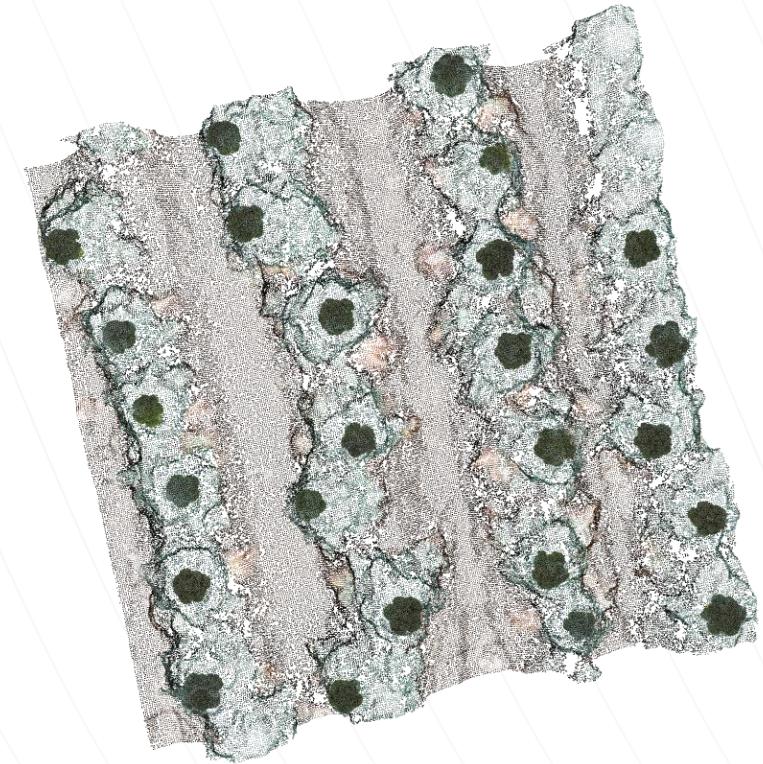
4.4 Results - cross-scale data fusion



Aerial segmentation results

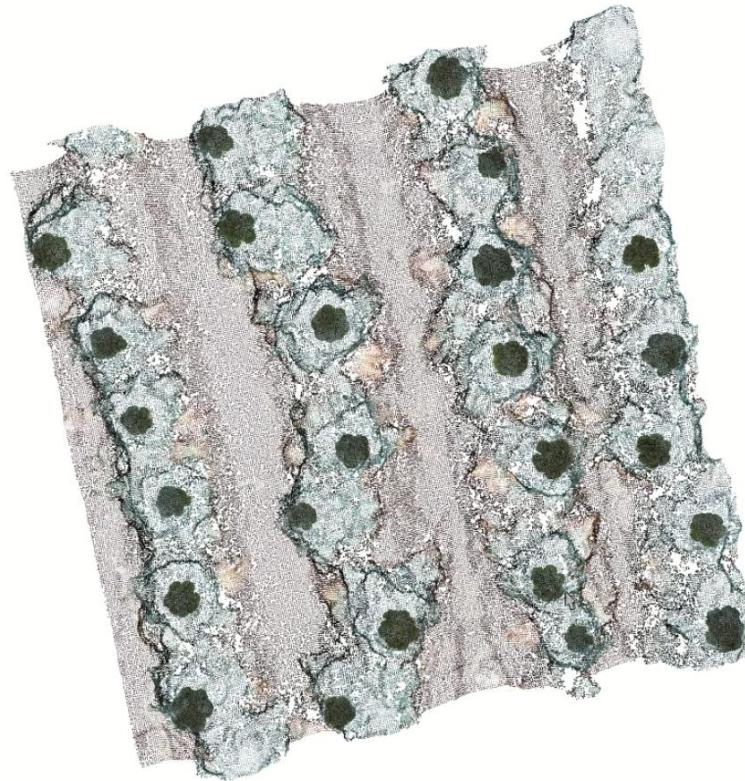


Aerial field 3D models



Data fusion results

4.4 Results - cross-scale data fusion



4.5 Conclusion

- Calibrated the shape errors caused by occlusion
- Selected the calibration model automatically by Auto-ML
- Developed **data fusion** workflow to place the best match from **close-range** data pool back to **aerial** field model

■ Conclusion

05

5.1 Highlights

Chapter 2

Built a **close-range** high-quality **data pool** with 3D-based morphological traits for 189 broccoli heads

Chapter 3

Decreased the **aerial** image processing workload and improved the organ-level accuracy by **temporal and spatial data fusion**

Chapter 4

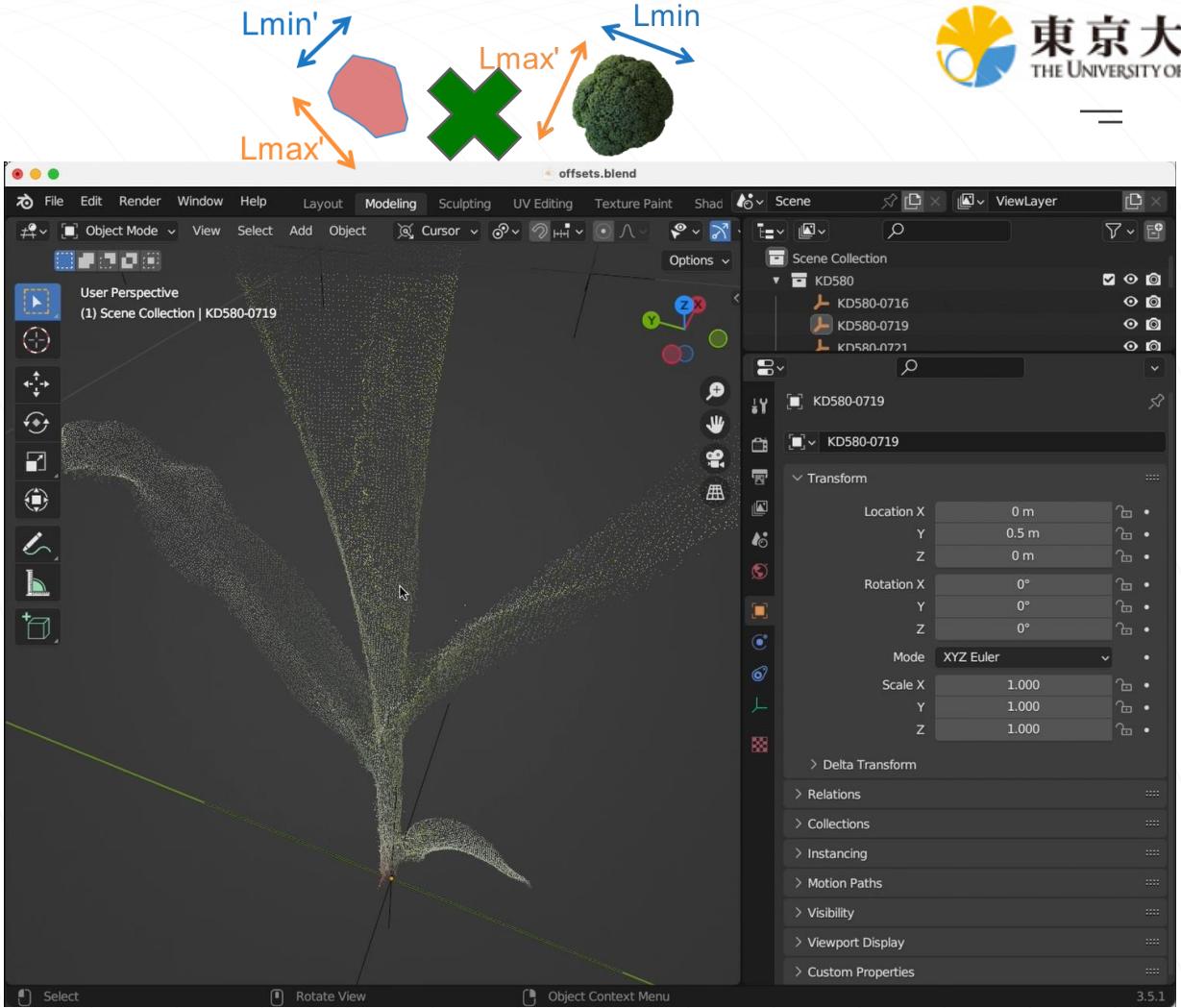
Developed **aerial & close-range data fusion** to place high-quality 3D models back to field.

5.2 Future work



Explore the deep learning 3D reconstruction approach, like NERF [1] **(faster and better quality)**

[1] <https://www.matthewtancik.com/ner>



Improve the data fusion approach by **procedural modeling** for complex plant structures

Achievements

Journals

- Wang, H.**, Duan, Y., Shi, Y., Kato, Y., Ninomiya, S., Guo, W., 2021. EasyIDP: A python package for intermediate data processing in UAV-based plant phenotyping. *Remote Sensing* 13, 2622. <https://doi.org/10.3390/rs13132622> (Published)
- Wang, H.**, Tang, L., Nishida, E., Fukano, Y., Kato, Y., Guo, W., Drone-based harvest data prediction can reduce on-farm food loss and improve farmer income *Plant Phenomics*. (Under review)
- Wang, H.**, Tang, L., Nishida, E., Fukano, Y., Kato, Y., Guo, W., Virtual broccoli farmland by drone-based phenotyping and cross-scale assimilation. (In preparation)

Conferences

- Wang, H.**, Tang, L., Nishida, E., Fukano, Y., Kato, Y., Guo, W. July 3-5, 2023. Virtual broccoli farmland by fusing close-range and aerial phenotyping, Fifth International Workshop on Machine Learning for Cyber-Agricultural Systems (MLCAS2023), Sarabetsu village, Hokkaido, Japan. (Oral)
- Wang, H.**, Tang, L., Nishida, E., Fukano, Y., Kato, Y., Guo, W. Sept 27-30, 2022. Estimate Optimal Harvest Time by Cross-scale Assimilated Digital Broccoli Farmland, 7th International Plant Phenotyping Symposium: "Plant Phenotyping for a Sustainable Future", Wageningen, Netherlands. (poster)
- Wang, H.**, Tang, L., Nishida, E., Fukano, Y., Kato, Y., Guo, W. July 20-22, 2021. Cost-efficient broccoli head phenotyping using aerial imagery and SfM-based weakly supervised learning, The 8th International Horticulture Research Conference, Nanjing, Jiangsu, China. (poster)
- Wang, H.**, Kato, Y., Guo, W., June 3-4, 2021. EasyIDP: A python package for intermediate data processing in UAV based plant phenotyping, 超分野植物科学的研究会の第1回研究集会 2021, Zoom online, Tokyo, Japan. (poster)
- Wang, H.**, Kato, Y., Guo, W., May 22, 2021. EasyIDP: A python package for intermediate data processing in UAV based plant phenotyping, 農業情報学会 JSAI 2021 年次大会, Zoom online, Tokyo, Japan. (poster)

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