

Drone Image Processing

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Outline for the day

- Workflow overview
- Case study
- Tutorial

Typical UAS imagery collection and processing workflow

- 1) Project planning:

Experimental design, hardware/sensor requirements

- 2) Mission/flight planning

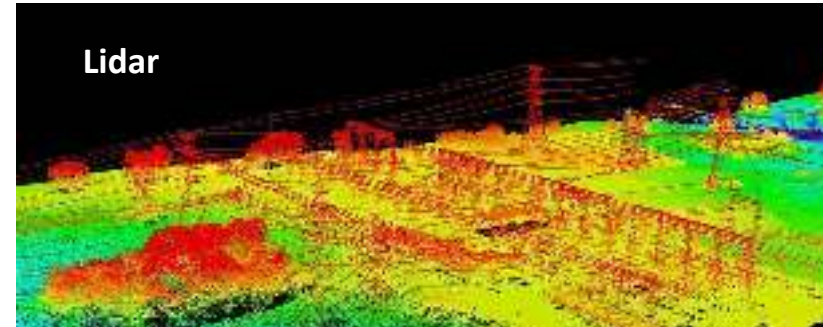
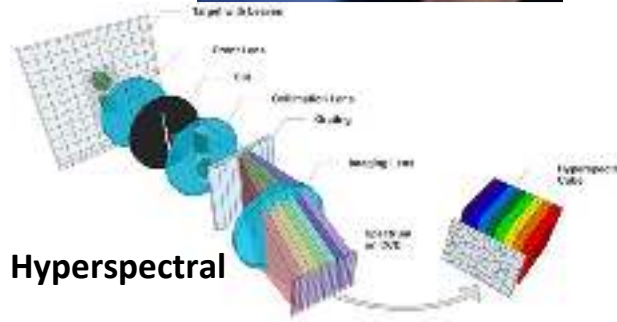
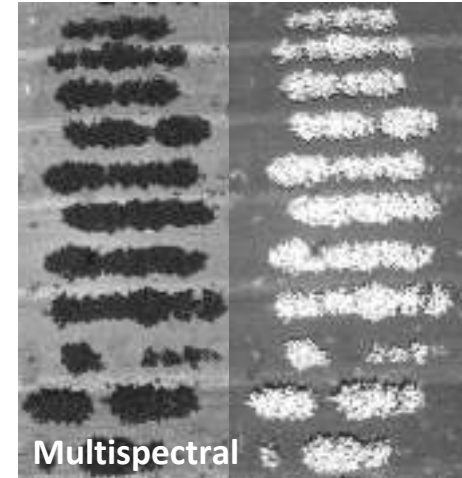
- 3) Imagery collection

- 4) Imagery processing

- 5) Post-processing and analysis

Project planning: Choosing the right sensor

- RGB
- Thermal
- Multispectral
- Hyperspectral
- Lidar



Project planning: Compatibility

Check software and hardware compatibility from workflow's start to finish:

- UAS + camera/sensor + guidance system
- Imagery type + processing service

Project planning: Choosing the right UAV

Main constraint: UAS-sensor compatibility

Variable flight times, stability, ease of use

- particularly notable differences between fixed-wing aircraft and copters

- consumer drones with RGB cameras can be very powerful at <\$1000



Ground Control Points

- Should be visible and recognizable
- Location should be carefully referenced
 - High accuracy GPS; less than .5 meter error
 - We use the app KoBo to track data
- Should have at least 4, but no more than ~10
 - 3D models need closer to 9
 - Depends on topography of the area and spread of GCPs



Ground Control Points

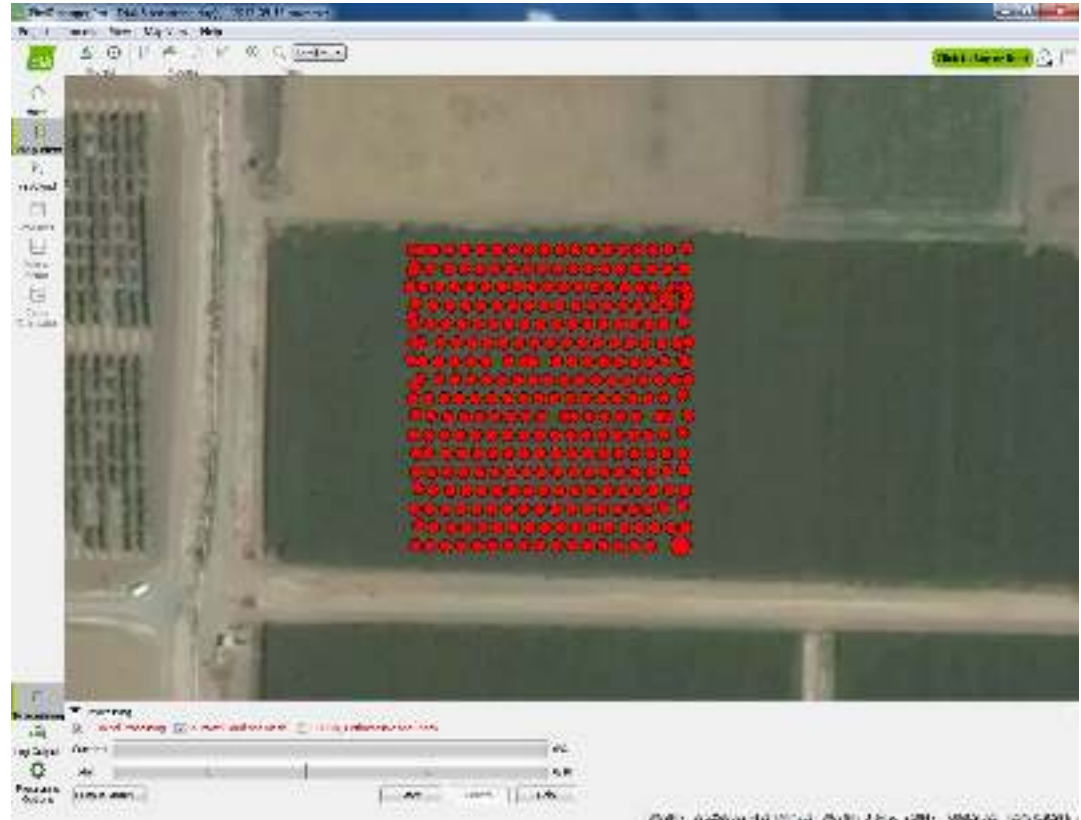
- Pix4D likes the following formats
 - *label,latitude[decimal degrees],longitude[decimal degrees],altitude[meter]*
 - *label,latitude[decimal degrees],longitude[decimal degrees],altitude[meter],Accuracy Horz [meter],Accuracy Vert [meter]*

Must be saved as either .csv or .txt

<https://support.pix4d.com/hc/en-us/articles/202558539-Input-Files#label3>

Mission planning

- Using a mission planning app facilitates uniform image spacing



Mission planning

- Several options are available, consider which is best for your needs

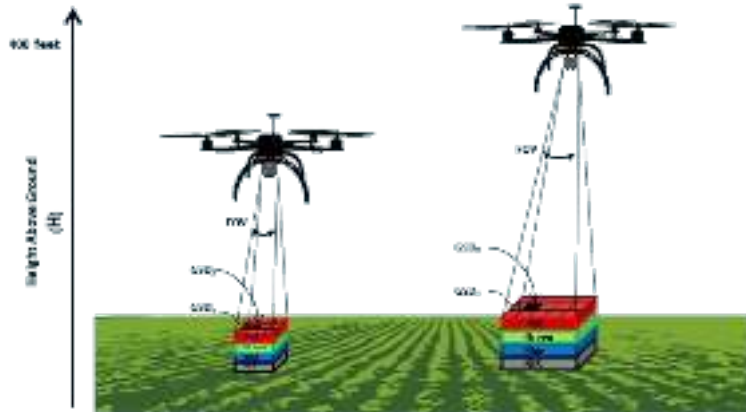


Mission planning

- Considerations before choosing an app
 - Compatibility with device, UAS, cameras
 - Mission resume, repeatability
 - Flexibility vs. ease of use
 - Probability of error
- Most are free or inexpensive, try several

Mission planning

- Trade-offs
 - Higher altitude=more area/time, but lower resolution.



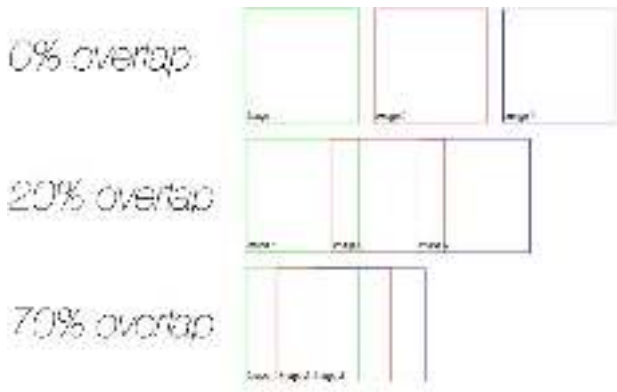
Altitude: 40m; Overlap: 75/85; Time: 9m 21s



Altitude: 80m; Overlap: 75/85; Time: 4m 12s

Mission planning

- Trade-offs
 - Higher overlap increases stitching quality, but reduces area/time
 - Ideal overlap depends on mapped surface



Altitude: 80m; Overlap: 75/85; Time: 4m 12s



Altitude: 80m; Overlap: 70/70; Time: 3m 12s

Imagery collection



Imagery processing

- Pix4D
- Agisoft Photoscan
- DroneDeploy, Maps Made Easy, Precision Mapper, others
- OpenDroneMap, MicMac
- Many others

Post-processing and analysis

GIS software:

- ArcGIS
- QGIS
- ENVI and

Imagery manipulation:

- Photoshop
- GIMP

Point cloud analysis tools

R

Case study: Genetics of early season growth rate



2016 Project

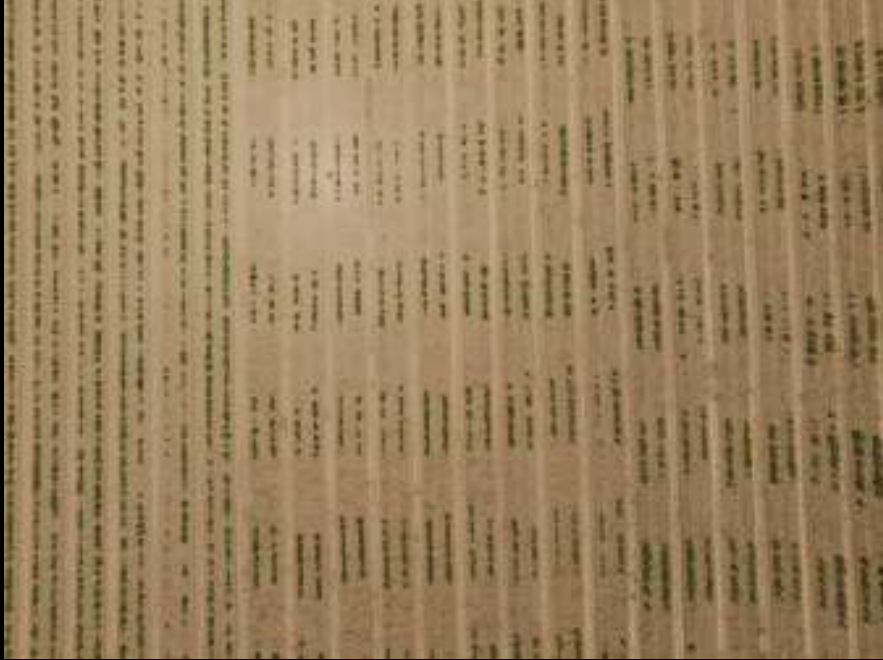


DJI Phantom 3 Pro



Map
Pilot

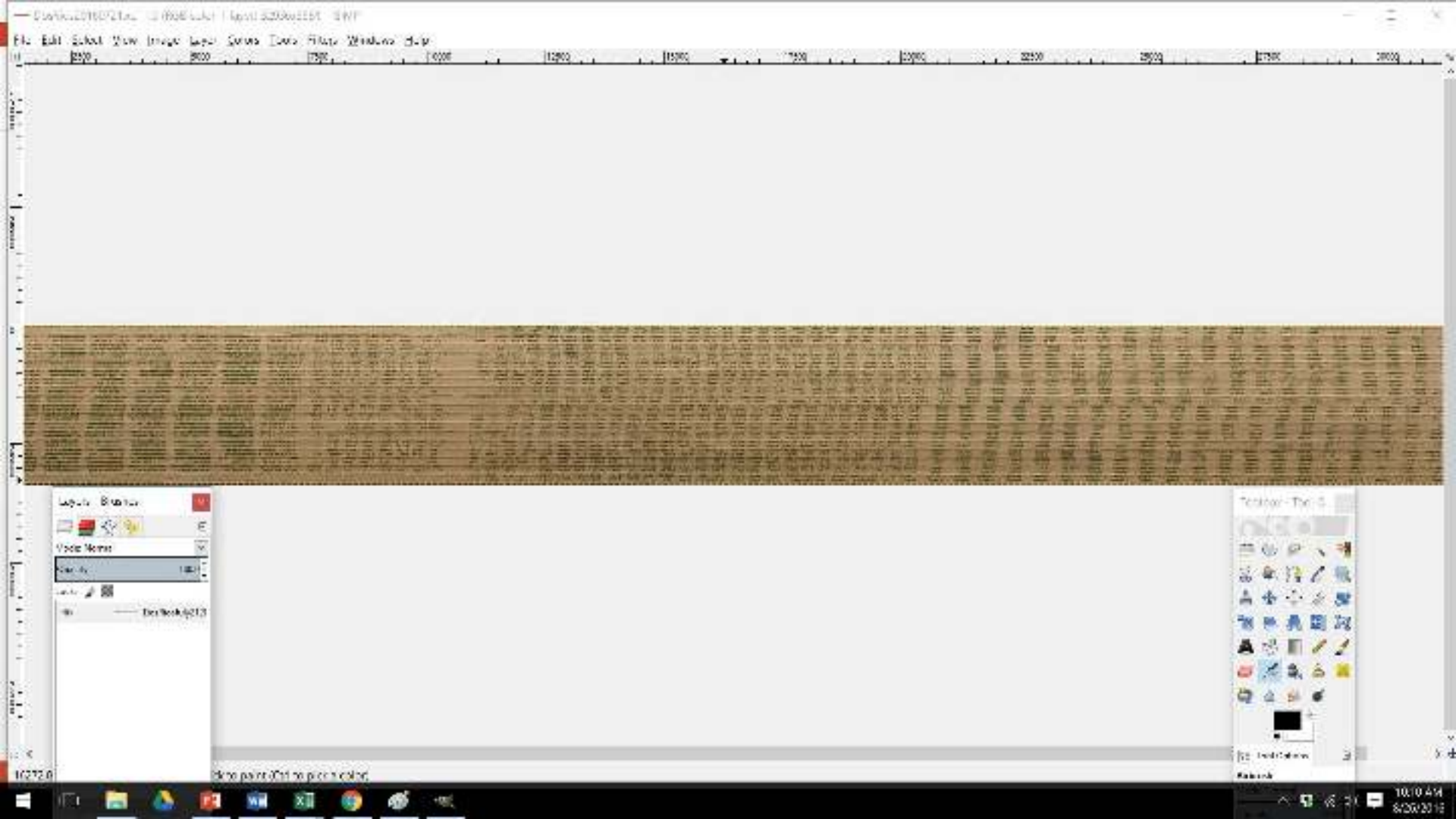
Raw images:





Weekly imagery at Dos Rios
ranch



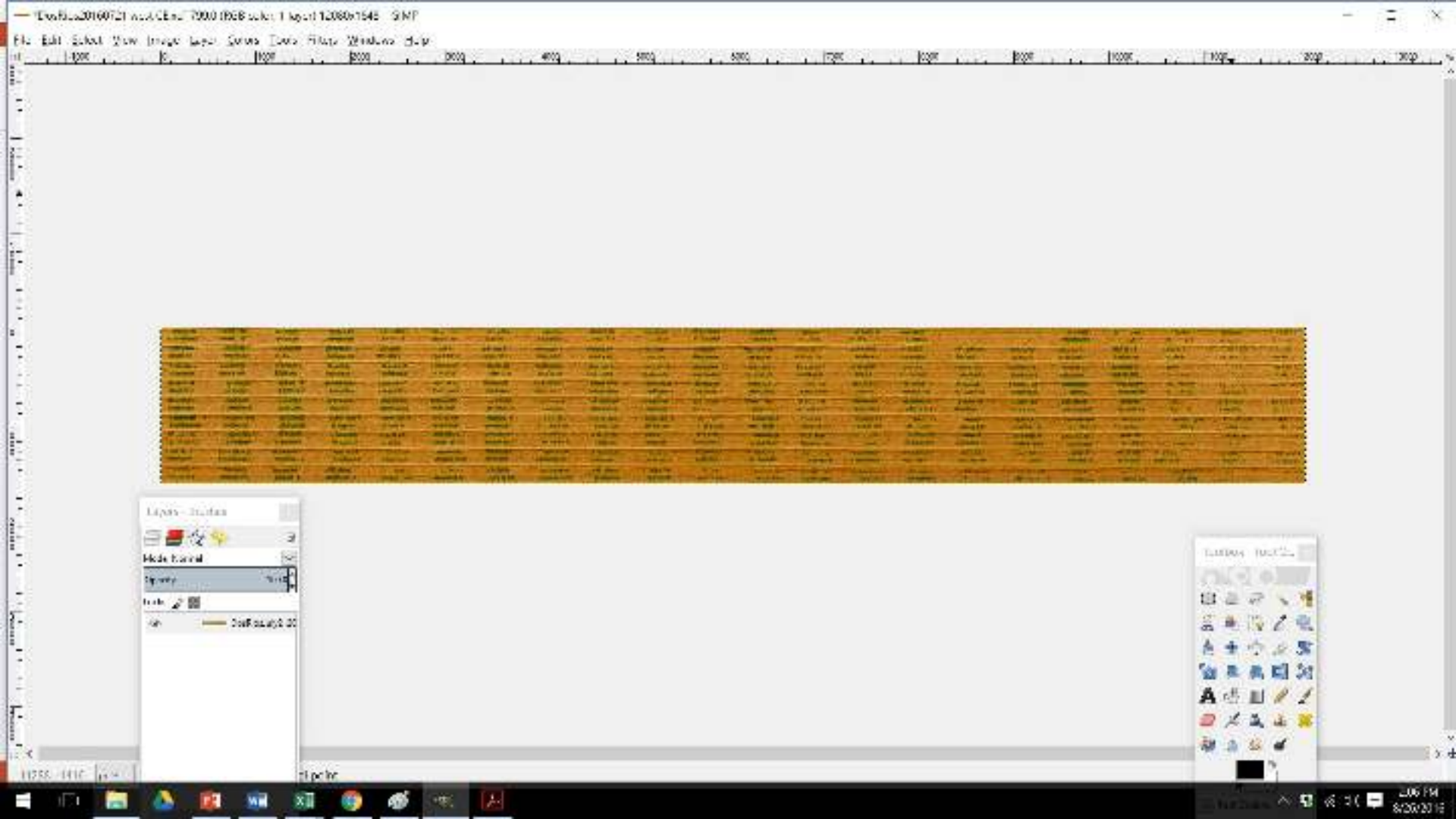


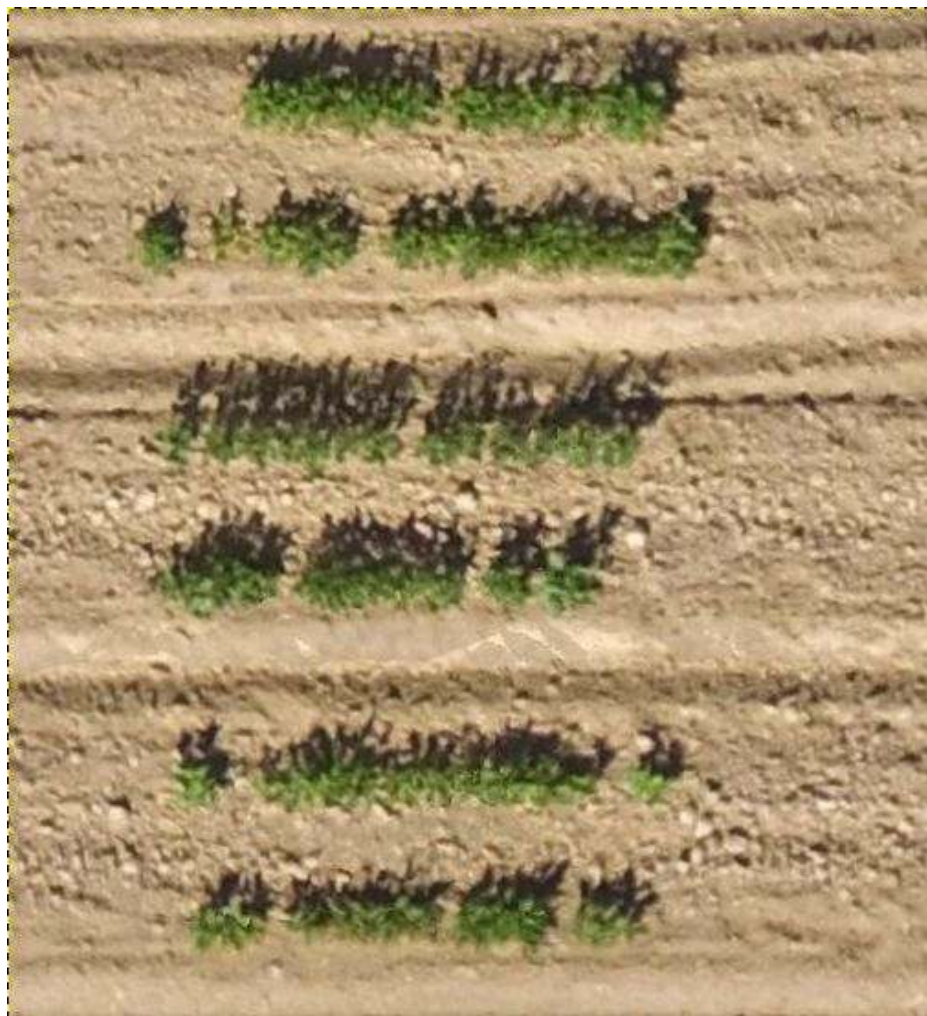
[illegible]

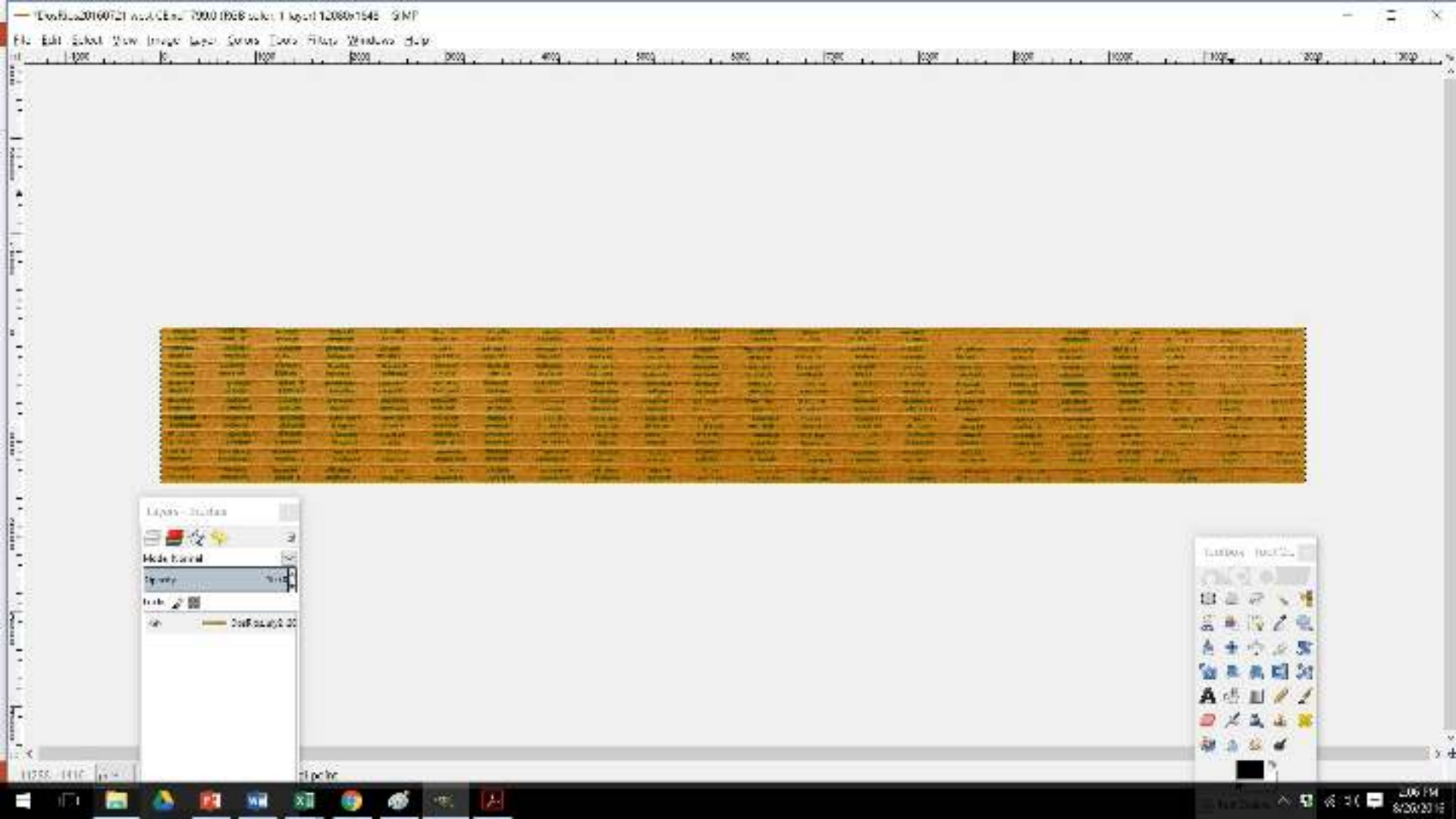
Logo:  **Ministarstvo obrazovanja i nauke**
Modi: normal
Tip: 10
Link: 
Trasiranje: 

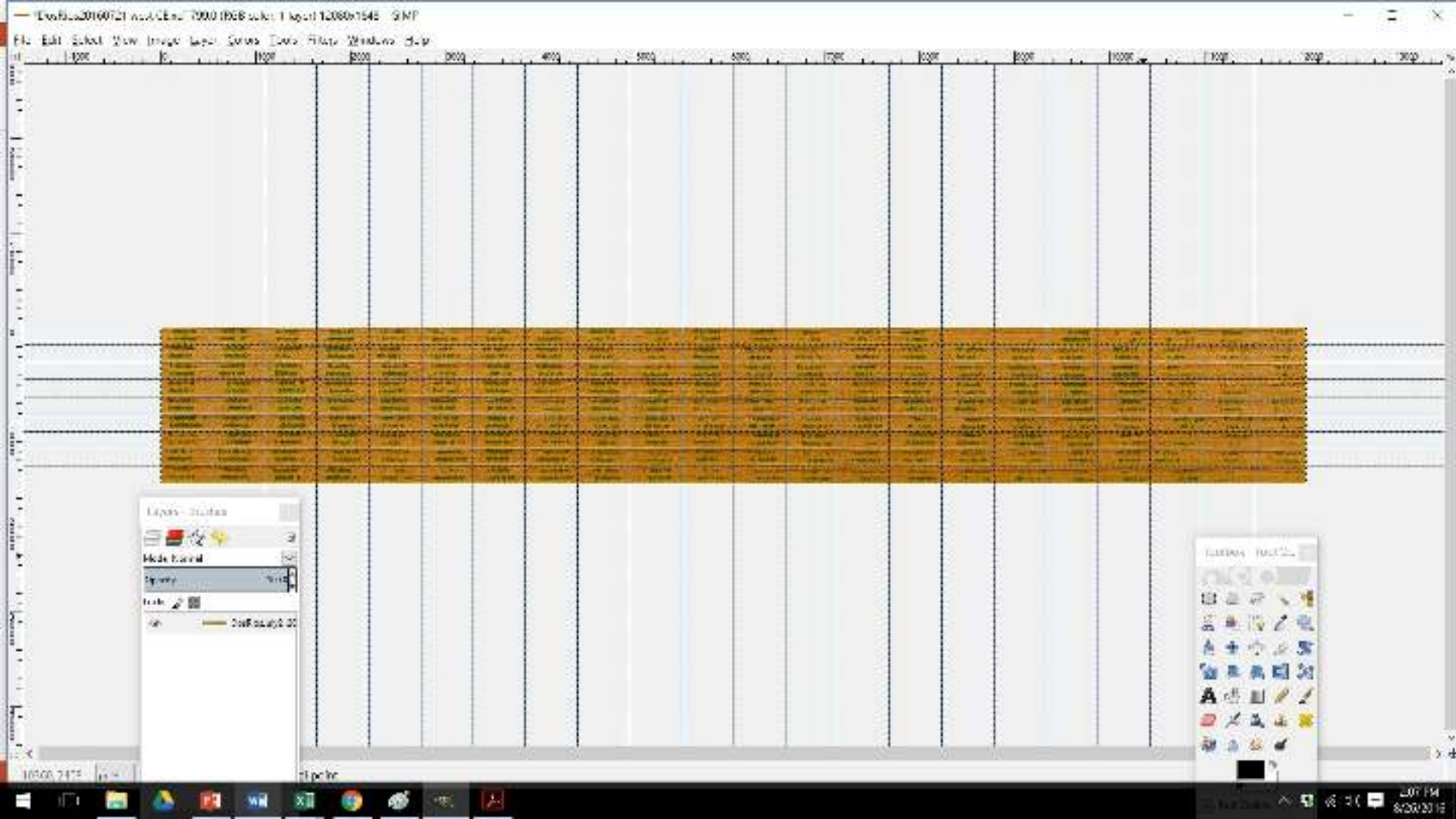
Toolbox: Tool Co. [Red X icon]

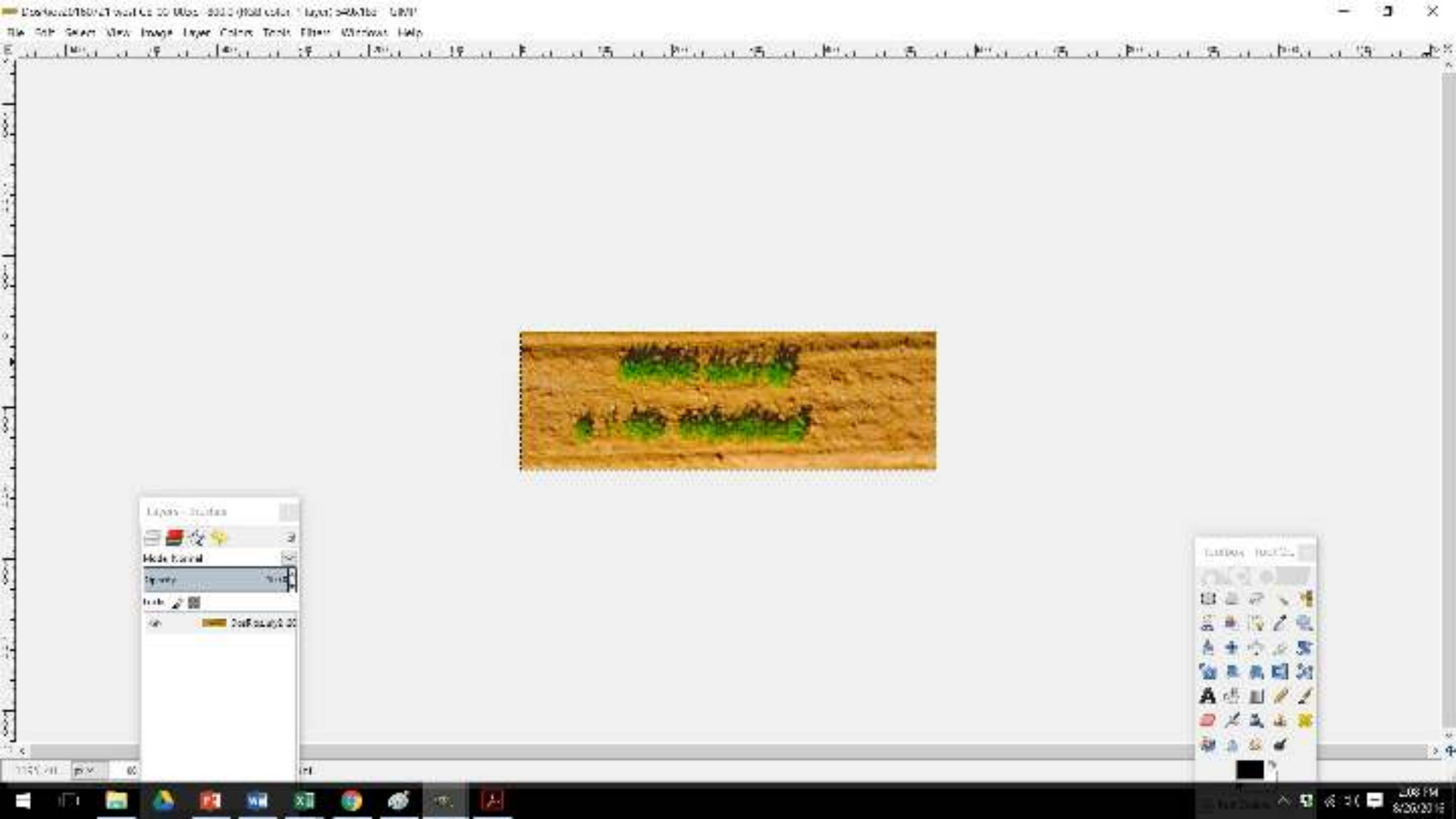
Line, Circle, Rectangle, and other drawing tools are visible in the toolbox.











Desktop0160741 MDP wheat CE-00-00.jpg 343x184
Leaf pixels: 13261 Scale pixels: 0 Leaf area: 53124.00cm²

Open an image

Auto settings

Analysis with current settings

Save analysis

☐ Flip image horizontal

☐ Rotate image 180 deg

☐ Delete background

Batch Processing

Select batch source folder

OK

Select batch output folder

OK

Start (leaves with current settings)

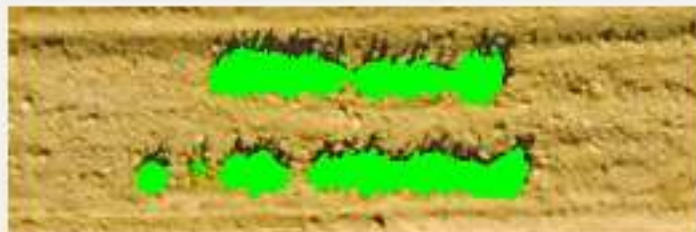
☐ Use auto settings

Load calib file

Add to calib file

Open output csv file

☐ Label Pixels



Leaf minimum Green RGB value:

0

0 50 100 150 200 250

Leaf Green Ratio: (G/R)

0.83

0.80 1.00 1.20

Leaf Green Ratio: (G/B)

0.80

0.80 1.00 1.20

Scale minimum Red RGB value:

22%

0 50 100 150 200 250

Scale Red Ratio: (R/G & R/B)

1.45

0.0 0.5 1.0

Scale area (cm²/g)

4.0

0.0 4.0 8.0 12.0 16.0 20.0

Processing Speed

1

1 2 3 4

Minimum Leaf Size (pixels)

0

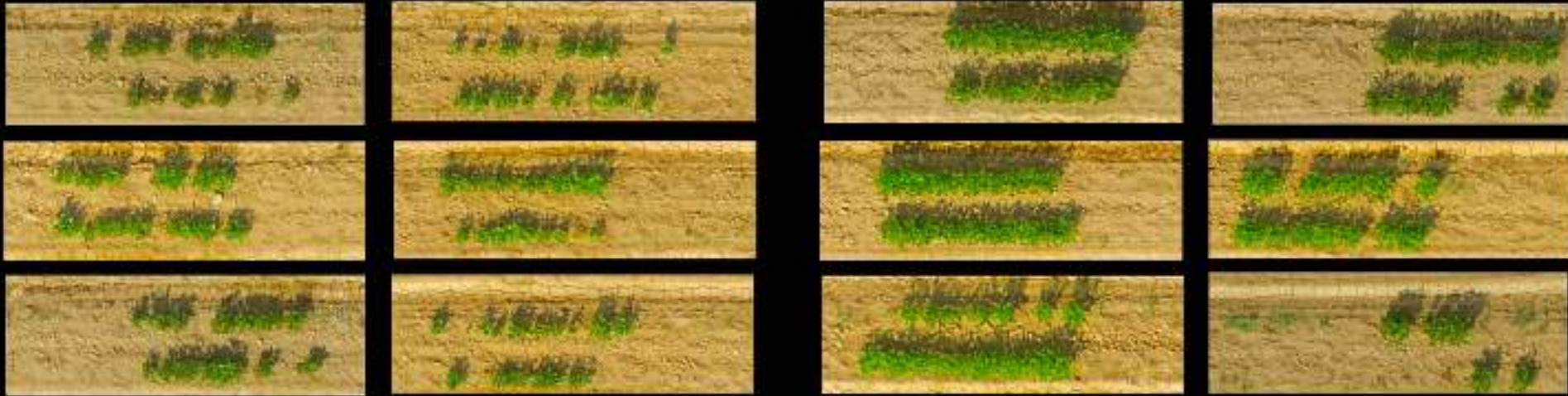
0 1000 2000 3000 4000 5000

☐ Only one Leaf component

Visual comparison (42 DAP)

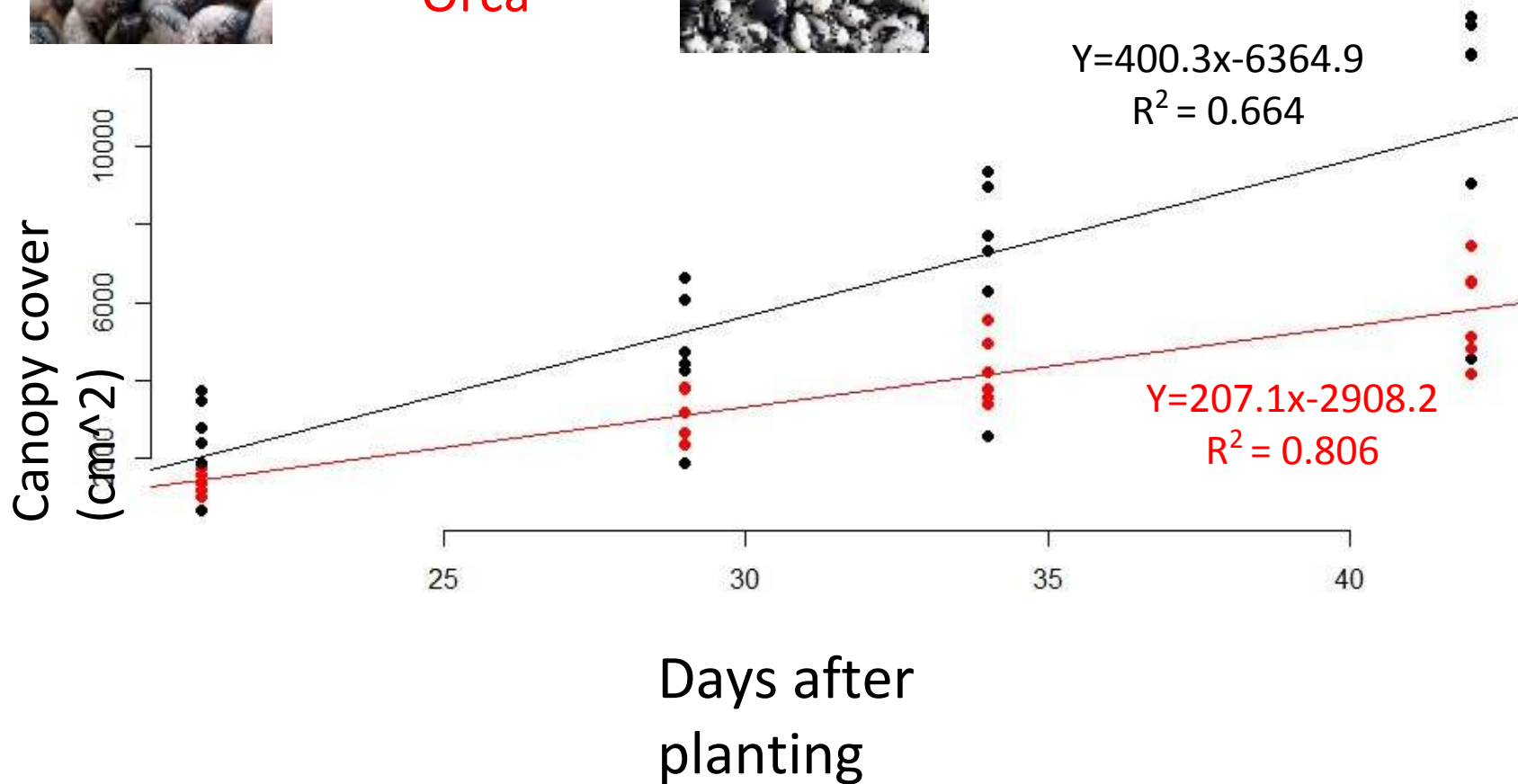
Orca

Black Nightfall





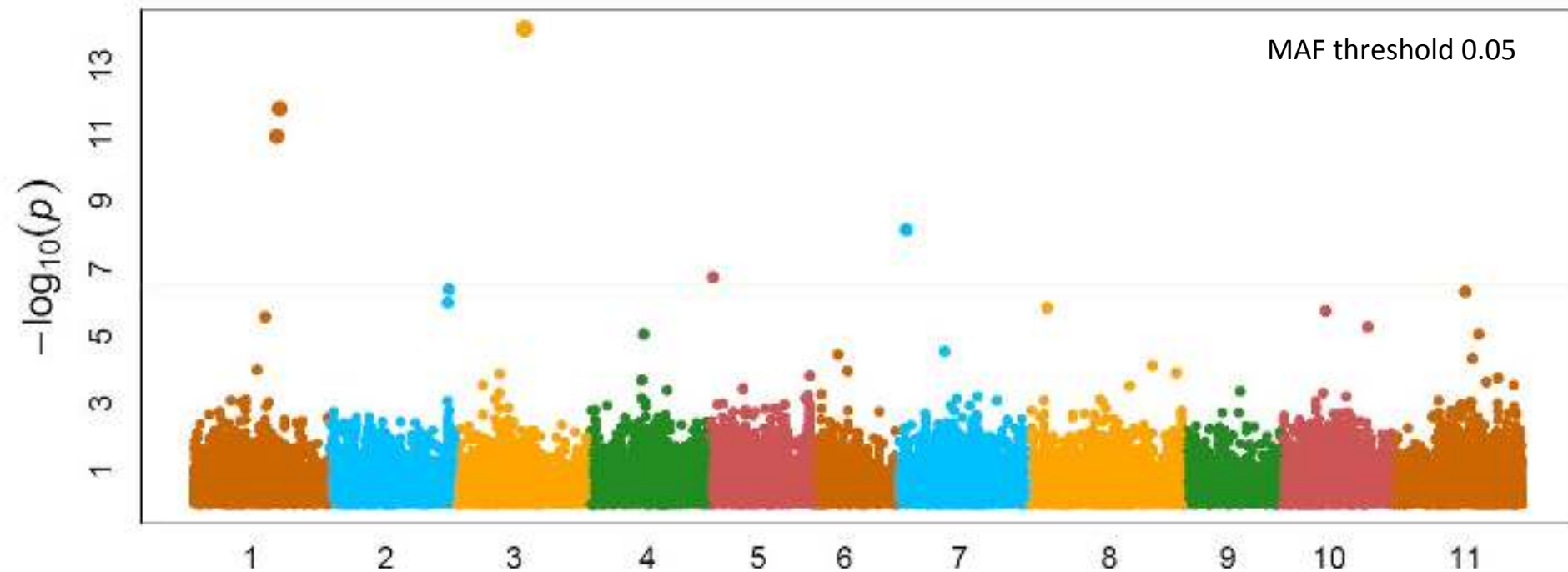
'Black Nightfall'
'Orca'



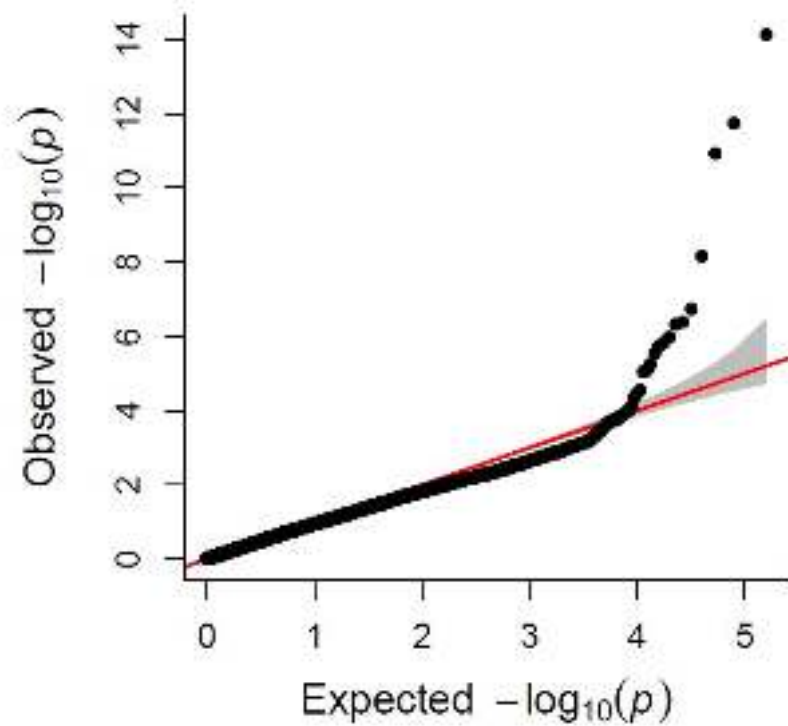


After correcting for the number
emerging!

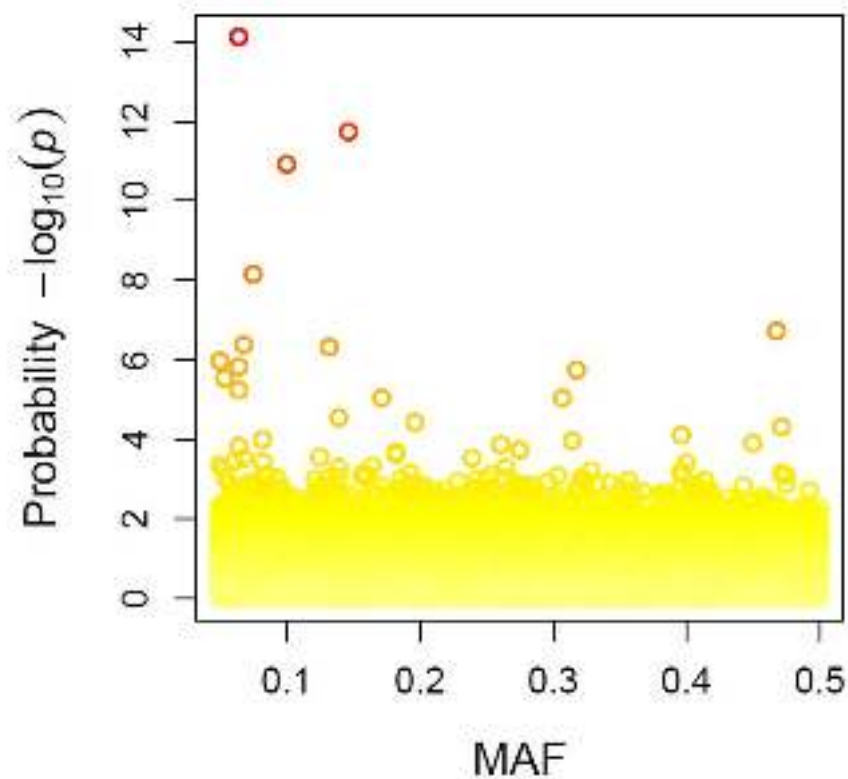
growth.per.plant.1



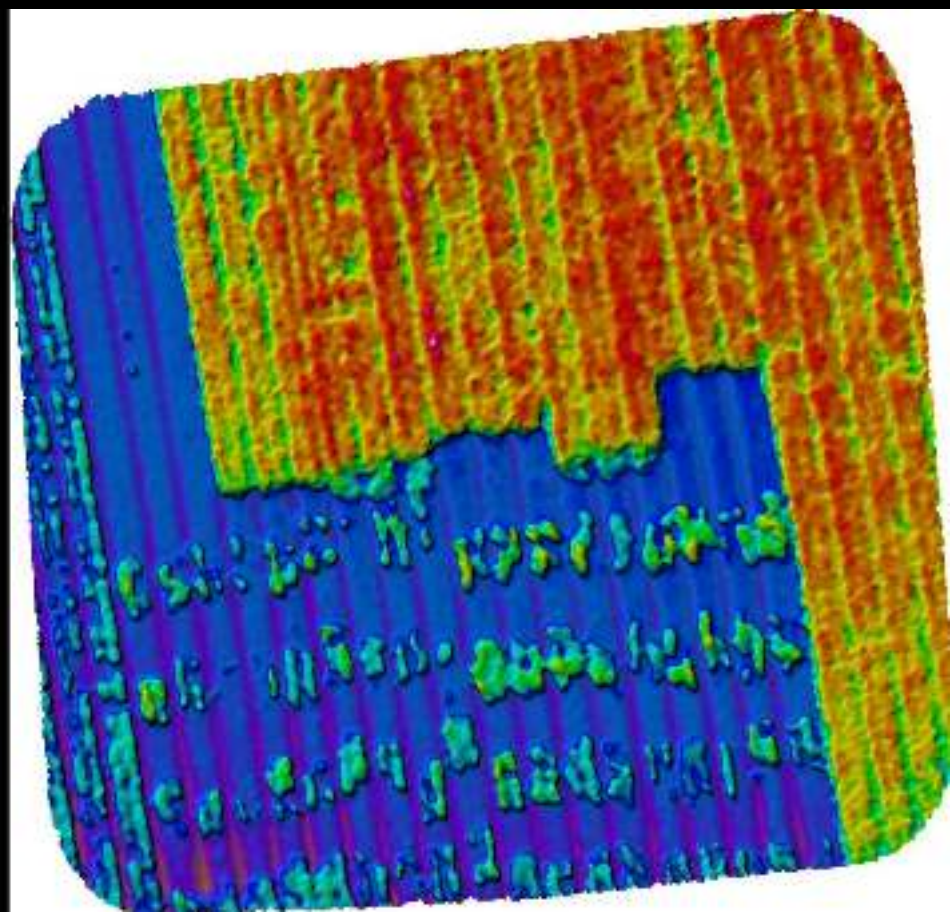
growth.per.plant.1



growth.per.plant.1



3D modeling





Value



Volume 1.7 m³

Best fit

[Add a comment](#)



Anova: Single Factor, HEIGHT BASED ON DRONE IMAGERY (8-18)						
SUMMARY						
Groups	Count	Sum	Average	Variance		
Column 1	6	282.6559	47.10932	7.301282		
Column 2	6	245.3834	40.89723	48.97779		
Column 3	6	288.7727	48.12878	121.144		
Column 4	5	257.9092	51.58184	21.14039		
Column 5	7	393.3417	56.19167	22.34569		
Column 6	6	267.1747	44.52912	24.72147		
Column 7	6	432.8275	72.13792	77.83961		
Column 8	6	305.0202	50.8367	75.25917		
ANOVA						
Source of Variation	SS	df	MS	F	P-value	F crit
Between Groups	3862.203	7	551.7433	11.06334	1.1E-07	2.249024
Within Groups	1994.852	40	49.87131			
Total	5857.056	47				

R²=0.66

Drone-based model may be better at separating height by genotype than hand-measurement

Anova: Single Factor, HAND- MEASURED HEIGHT (9-12)						
SUMMARY						
Groups	Count	Sum	Average	Variance		
Column 1	6	247.65	41.275	2.41935		
Column 2	6	232.41	38.735	13.38707		
Column 3	6	247.65	41.275	17.25803		
Column 4	5	220.345	44.069	2.338705		
Column 5	7	304.8	43.54286	11.13669		
Column 6	6	283.21	47.20167	18.97846		
Column 7	6	293.37	48.895	10.80643		
Column 8	6	229.87	38.31167	26.07522		
ANOVA						
Source of Variation	SS	df	MS	F	P-value	F crit
Between Groups	598.4793	7	85.49704	6.566621	3.48E-05	2.249024
Within Groups	520.7977	40	13.01994			
Total	1119.277	47				

R²=0.53



CDC Nighthawk	Common bean
JM-24	Common bean
Santa Fe	Common bean
Amadeus 77	Common bean
UI-111	Common bean
CA BE 46	Cowpea
CA BE 46	Cowpea
CA BE 46	Cowpea
CA BE 46	Cowpea
CA BE 46	Cowpea

Thermal model

Uploading Data into Pix4D and Georeferencing Demo

Project

Process

View

Navigation

Clipping

Point Cloud Editing

Click to Buy or Rent

Create

Layers

☒ Cameras

☒ Rays

☒ Tie Points

☒ GCPs / MTPs

☒ Automatic

☐ Point Clouds

☒ Point Groups

☐ Triangle Meshes

☐ Objects

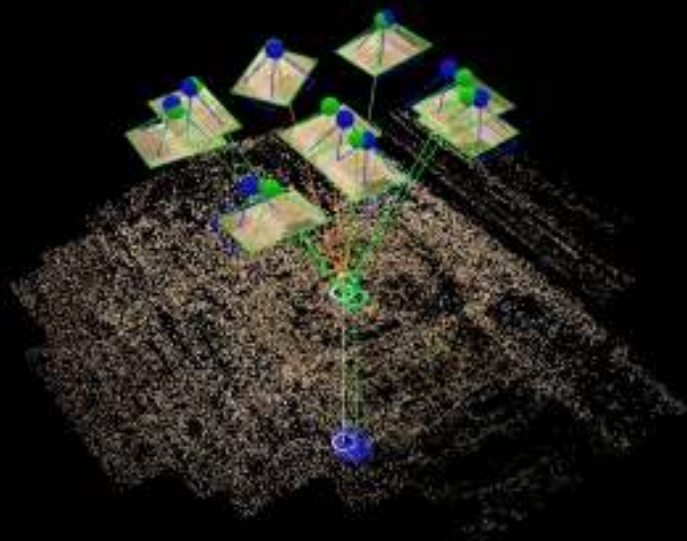
3D View

Properties

Selection

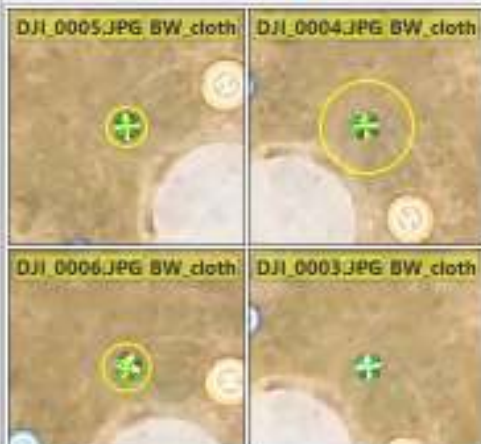
No Selection

Select an item from the layers or the 3D view in order to display its properties



Label:	BW_cloth
Type:	3D GCP
Latitude [degree]:	38.58816349
Longitude [degree]:	-121.70554150
Altitude [m]:	-21.852
Horizontal Accuracy [m]:	0.020
Vertical Accuracy [m]:	0.020
Number of Marked Images:	3
S_0^2 [pixel]:	1.7262
Theoretical Error $S(X,Y,Z)$ [m]:	0.031, 0.034, 0.111
Maximal Orthogonal Ray Distances $D(X,Y,Z)$ [m]:	0.032, 0.076, 0.017
Error to GCP Initial Position [m]:	0.150, -0.468, -74.635
Initial Position [m]:	612738.459, 4271870.655, -21.
Computed Position [m]:	612738.310, 4271871.123, 52.:
Automatic Marking	
Apply	
Cancel	

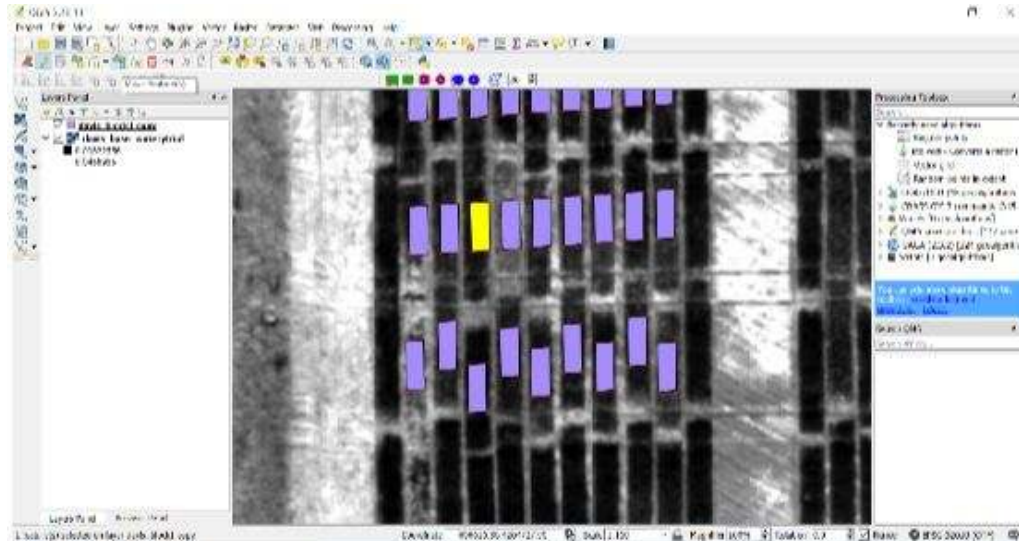
Images

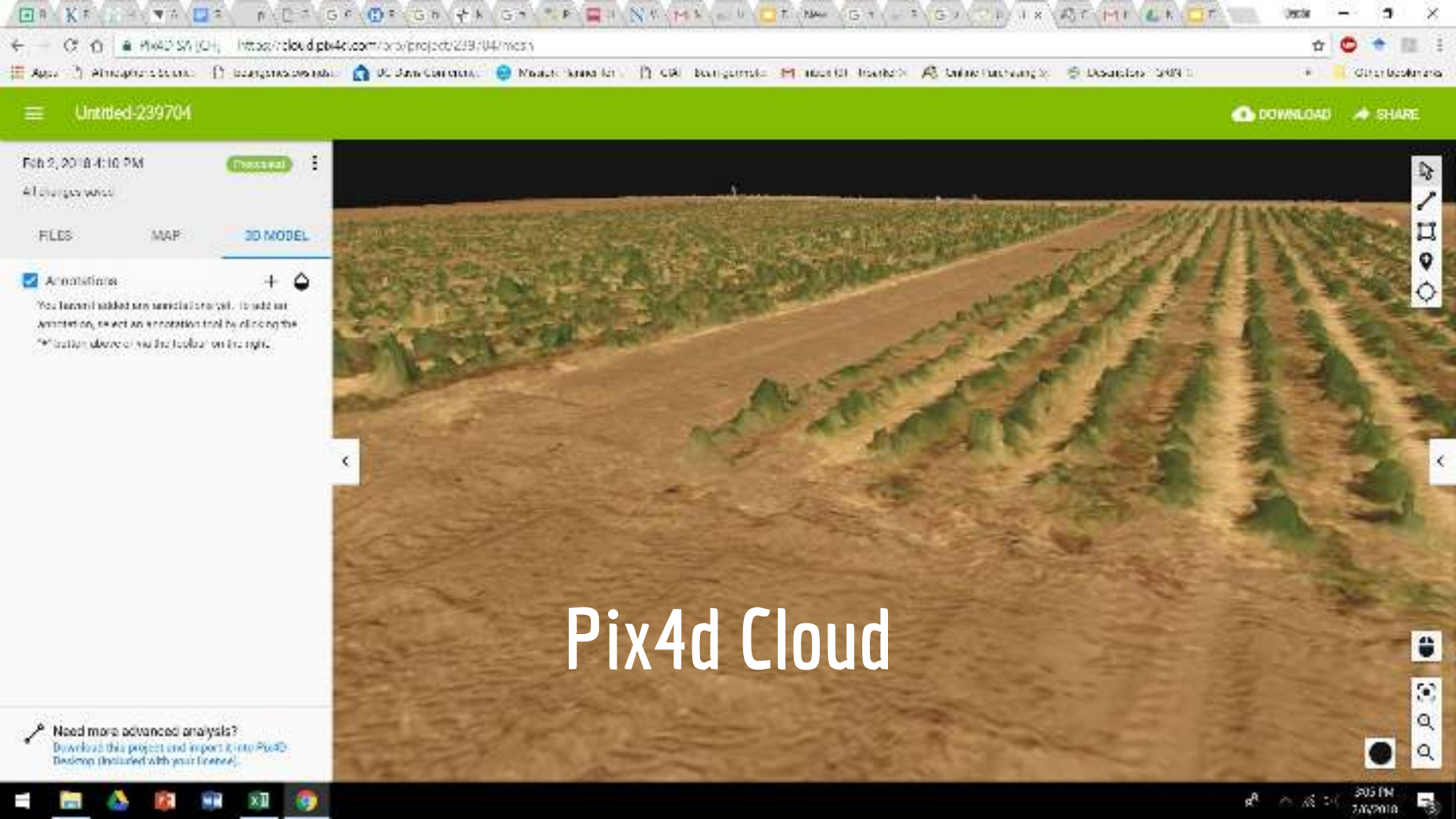




Using your tif in QGIS

- Useful for adding vector layers on top of your output
- Can be used to georeference other imagery through Tie Points
- Can convert your tif into other file types





Pix4d Cloud

Your Turn!

*Feel free to also explore
Pix4d Example sets!*

Download

Example Data - RGB Images -
quick download

Emily - Pix4D Post Processing
Instructions. .docx

OR

Using Pix4d Cloud Instructions
