

3D processing TCRMP transects

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field methods

materials

- camera + lights, memory card

- scale bars
- ...

procedure (4-pass method)

- general
 - everything with the pink ziptie belongs to the 3d camera
- camera maintenance:
 - camera cinema gear
 - settings
 - programmable buttons
- housing maintenance (every few weeks, or if any leaks detected)
 - o-rings greasing
- day before
 - check housing/o-rings
 - charge camera
 - charge external battery pack
 - charge strobe light batteries
 - memory card- initialize media
- morning of:
 - **closing / sealing cam**
 - * install battery and memory card into camera
 - * attach lens
 - * check autofocus on (switch on lens)
 - * remove camera lens cap
 - * check for smudges on lens
 - * pull switch on housing so that can insert camera with the cinema camera gear
 - * seat camera in housing (pull out stage thing, screw camera on.

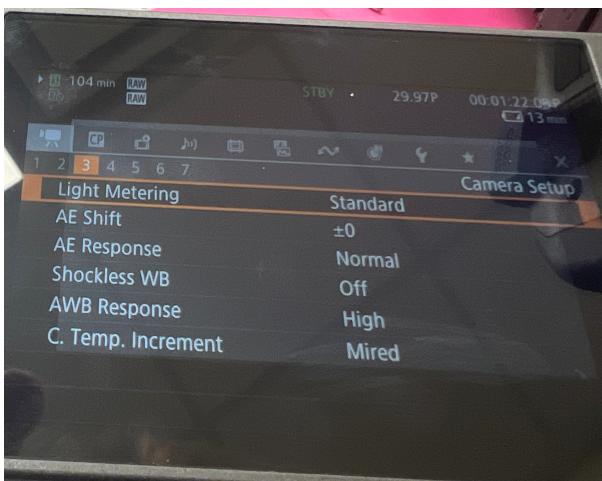
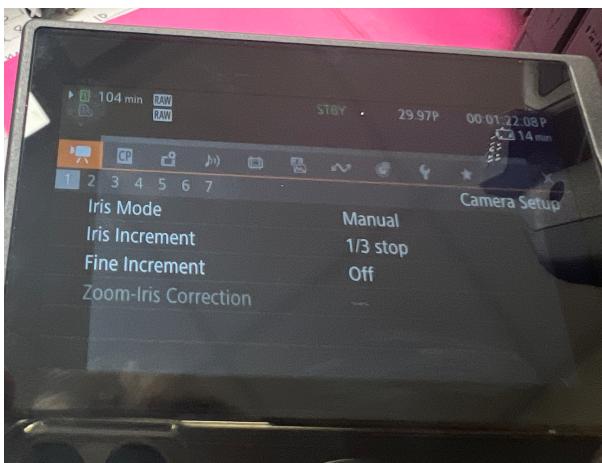
- * put camera into housing (careful to not scratch lens)
- * connect to external battery
- * add external battery to camera
- * once in housing:
 - turn alarm on
 - check for smudges on housing lens
 - check o-ring
 - close housing
 - use vacuum device until light turns green.

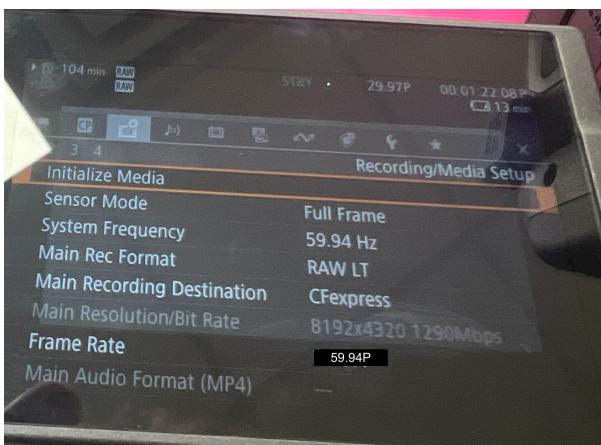
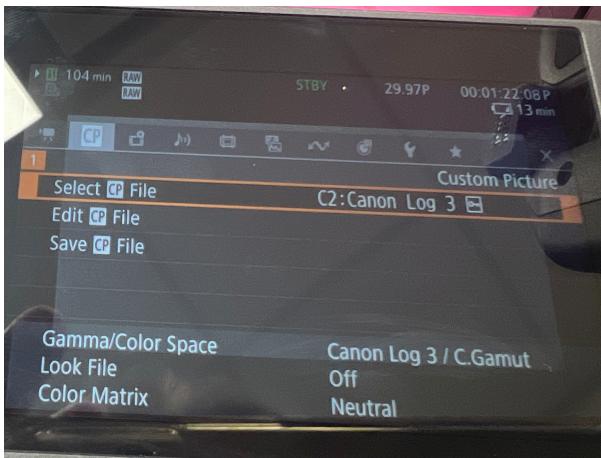
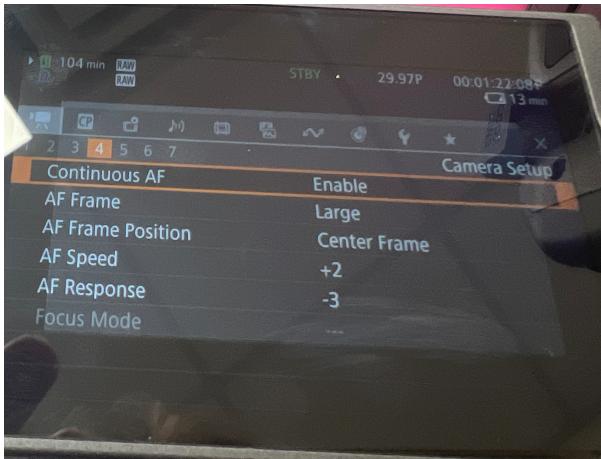
- check have materials:

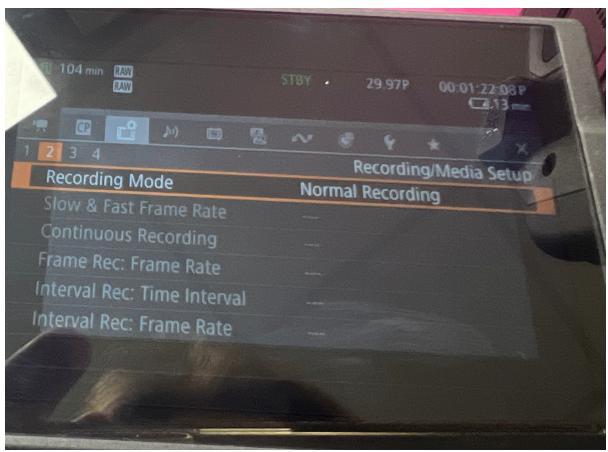
- * camera + mem card
- * housing
- * field box with extra stuff/towels, o-ring grease, cleaning materials, dry towels, etc.
- * slate
- * scale bars x 2
- * handle (clips, rope)

- check camera settings:

- * CP file : C2: Canon log 3 / C.Gamut Color matrix neutral.
- * Sensor mode: full frame
- * freq 59.94hz
- * Rec = RAW LT
- * Dest = CFexpress
- * Frame = 59.94 fps







in water :

- **Start of dive:**
 - Buttons: press all buttons to prime them
 - **Power:** turn on camera and lights (hold in/out buttons 1s, press middle button). put lights to sleep (hold center 2s)
 - **Leaks:** green light stays green, if turn red, return to boat.
- **Transect and Camera Setup**
 - **Scale bars:** Place at each end of transect, one perpendicular, one parallel to transect. make sure targets visible in some footage and scale bars do not move at any time during filming.
 - **Time code:** reset (Mode button).
 - **Arms:** extend to position lights as far apart as possible
 - **Lights:** turn on (hold Center Button 2 sec).
 - **White balance:** press Button 13, hold camera over white part of one of the scale bars.
 - **Exposure:** open WFM (Button 6) and false color (Button 9), Use F-stop dial to slightly overexpose, just below 100% on WFM.
 - **Altitude:** position camera so viewfinder covers length of scale bar, note height (should be ~70cm). Maintain this altitude throughout filming.
 - **Record:** Record button, show transect number, autofocus
- **Filming (4 passes, 10 m each, ~1 min, consistent altitude):**
 - Pass 1: Start at one end, camera facing straight down, transect line visible in left quarter of viewfinder.
 - Pass 2: Turn around, camera facing straight down, slightly away from transect line such that viewfinder sees 1m distance from transect while keeping ~0.5 m overlap with Pass 1 (~arm's length from transect)
 - Pass 3 & 4: Move ~20 cm from pass 1/2 position, tilt camera 45°, capture angled view of transect from either side.
- **After Filming:** press center button on each light for 2s to put light to sleep.

set up (this template)

download and unzip this template

rename the folder to some descriptive name of the footage going to process - eg TCRMP_2024_postBL

open the .Rproj in Rstudio to knit and follow along.

good idea to save this template to somewhere like dropbox where it can be constantly backed up.

open and populate 00_list.csv with the transects to be reconstructed with this template. use this to keep track of the steps, and it is used in step 3.py below.

video encoding (premiere pro)

- upload contents of memory card into computer (connect using special mem card reader compatible with CF Express, careful of magnets on the mem card reader)
- **starting with .CRM, export to MP4 without applying LUTs**
- export preset : step0_premierepro_uhd_8k_23sept2024.eps located in 00_scripts
- use the following naming convention :
 - eg TCRMP20240311_3D_BID_T1_3.MP4
 - * TCRMP20240311 = TCRMP plus date (YYYYMMDD)
 - * 3D = demographic
 - * BID = sitecode
 - * T1 = transect number
 - * 3 = pass number (if separated vids by pass)
- export to folder 01_vids (start backup to dropbox)
- format/wipe/initialize memory card after the videos have been uploaded

extract frames (R)

requires `ffmpeg` - much faster than using `av` package in R.

```
library(av)

npics <- 100 # number of pics to extract

# functions
get_video_duration <- function(video) {
  info <- av_media_info(video)
  return(info$duration)
}

extract_frames <- function(video, fps, dest_folder) {
  video_name <- tools::file_path_sans_ext(basename(video))
  output_pattern <- file.path(dest_folder, paste0(video_name, "_%04d.tiff"))

  cmd <- sprintf(
    '"%s" -i "%s" -vf fps=%f -c:v tiff -pix_fmt rgb24 "%s"',
    ffmpeg_path,
    video,
    fps,
    output_pattern
  )

  system(cmd)
}

get_transect_id <- function(file) {
  sub("\\.mp4", "", sub(".mp4$", "", basename(file)))
}

# script
directory <- paste(getwd(), "01_vids", sep = "/")

files <- list.files(directory, pattern = "\\.\mp4$", full.names = TRUE)

ffmpeg_path <- "/opt/homebrew/bin/ffmpeg" # Update this path based on your installation

transects <- unique(sapply(files, get_transect_id))
```

```

base_output_dir <- "02_pics"

# iterate over transects, apply the functions to extract frames
for (i in 1:length(transects)) {
  transect <- transects[i]
  transect_files <- files[grep(paste0(transect, ".mp4$"), files)]
  total_duration <- sum(sapply(transect_files, get_video_duration))
  frames_per_part <- sapply(transect_files, function(x) {
    duration <- get_video_duration(x)
    return(round(npics * (duration / total_duration)))
  })
  Folder1 <- file.path(base_output_dir, transect)
  dir.create(Folder1, showWarnings = FALSE, recursive = TRUE)
  for (j in seq_along(transect_files)) {
    video_file <- transect_files[j]
    duration <- get_video_duration(video_file)
    num_frames <- frames_per_part[j]
    fps <- num_frames / duration
    extract_frames(video_file, fps, Folder1)
  }
}

```

editing photos (lightroom classic)

In adobe lightroom, batch edit photos

apply `step0_lightroom_hdrphoto_r5c.xmp` located in `00_scripts`

summary of the settings:

- HDR Editing Enabled: Allows for greater dynamic range adjustments with a maximum HDR value of +8.00.
- Auto Tone Enabled: Automatically adjusts tonal settings for optimal exposure.
- Lens Corrections Applied:
 - Uses the Adobe lens profile for the Canon EF 24-70mm f/2.8 L USM lens.
 - Vignetting correction is intensified with a scale set to 200.
- Most other settings remain at their default values, making this preset suitable for general use without over-processing the image.

Export from lightroom as uncompressed tif with srgb colorspace and HDR , save in 03_editedpics/{SITE_TRANSECT}

i Note

in future may color correct algorithmically (eg [Sea Thru](#))

3D processing (metashape pro)

file setup

- open new metashape file
- add photos to it corresponding to each transect. can do 15-20 transects per psx, click and drag folder in edited pics for each transect into the metashape workspace where chunks are labeled.
- save as psx in 04_psx with title as all the site names (eg BIX_BID....psx)

step 1.py

Run 00_scripts/step1.py : in metashape, select tools, run script, and point to the 00_scripts/step1.py.

Briefly, This script automates the initial stages of photogrammetric processing using Metashape's Python API. It processes image alignment, point cloud generation, and camera optimization for each chunk in a Metashape project. Key tasks include:

- **Photo alignment:** Matches and aligns photos, creating a sparse point cloud.
- **Camera optimization:** Filters tie points based on reconstruction uncertainty, reprojection error, and projection accuracy, followed by camera optimization. For an explanation of the parameters, see @olinger2019
- **Region reset and transformation:** Resets the bounding region and rotates the coordinate system to the bounding box.
- **Optional 3D model construction steps:** Depth map generation, 3D model building, smoothing, and UV/texture building (commented out).

manual checks

go through each chunk and check

- each transect is roughly visible when you use 0 to reset view
- there are no mirror images, or huge gaps in photos (< 90% photos aligned should be a red flag)
- scale bars are visible

disable chunks that are not good quality (eg < 90% of photos aligned)

step 2.py



Warning

this is the most time consuming step, and can take a few hours per chunk.

Run `00_scripts/step2.py` : in metashape, select tools, run script, and point to the `00_scripts/step2.py`.

This script automates the creation of dense clouds, 3D models, and textures in Metashape using Python. It also generates and exports a processing report for each chunk. Key tasks include:

- Dense cloud creation: Generates depth maps (with no filtering).
- Model creation and smoothing: Builds a 3D model based on depth maps, smooths the model, and optionally decimates the face count (commented out).
- UV and texture generation: Generates UV mapping and builds a texture with GPU acceleration and various quality optimizations.
- Report export: Saves a detailed processing report for each chunk in the designated reports directory.

Key Parameters:

- **buildDepthMaps**: Ultra high quality and no depth filtering.
- **buildModel**: Uses depth maps data, arbitrary surface type, high face count, no volumetric masking, enabled interpolation, and vertex colors.
- **smoothModel**: Strength of 3, does not apply to selection, fixes borders, does not preserve edges.

- **buildUV**: Generic mapping mode, texture size of 8192, and one texture page.
- **buildTexture**: Texture size of 8192, diffuse map type, source images data, mosaic blending, fills holes, uses ghosting filter, enables GPU, and relaxed precision.

step 3.py

run 00_scripts/step3.py : in metashape, select tools, run script, and point to the 00_scripts/step3.py.

This script automates the process of copying chunks between Metashape projects based on a CSV file. It reads the CSV, appends chunks from source projects to destination projects, and saves the results. Key steps include:

- read the CSV file location:
- Project handling: For each unique project name in the CSV, the script opens or creates a destination .psx project and appends chunks from specified source projects.
- Chunk copying: It searches for the specified chunk in the source project and appends it to the destination project.
- Saving results: After processing, the destination project is saved, ensuring all chunks are properly appended.

manual straightening and scaling

Open each project and do the following for each chunk:

straightening

- load textured model
- change to rotate model view and rotate the transect so the transect line lines up horizontally and is top of view.
- model- region- rotate region to view
- resize region to “crop” to transect area (do this for top xy and side views)
- use rectangular crop tool to crop to transect area bound by region. may automate this in step 4.py in the future.

scaling (only if scaling manually)

- place markers on scales - set up at least 2 scale bars
- set distance in reference pane

- press refresh button -make sure error less than .01

save project

step 4.py

run 00_scripts/step4.py : in metashape, select tools, run script, and point to the 00_scripts/step4.py.

This script automates several key processes in Metashape, including decimation and Sketchfab uploads. The script processes multiple .psx projects based on values in a 00_list.csv file and performs the following steps for each project:

- **Model Scaling and Alignment:** If the model isn't scaled, the script detects circular 20-bit markers and creates scale bars between specific marker pairs.
- **Gradual Selection:** Applies a point cloud filtering step using connected components, removing points based on a threshold.
- **Orthomosaic Generation:** Builds an orthomosaic from the 3D model and exports it in TIFF format.
- **Textured Model Export:** Exports the textured model in OBJ format with JPEG textures.
- **Chunk Duplication and Decimation:** Duplicates the original chunk, decimates the duplicate to a specified number of vertices (nverts), and re-textures the model if needed.
- **Sketchfab Upload:** Uploads the decimated model to Sketchfab with customizable titles, descriptions, and tags.
- **Temporary Chunk Deletion:** Deletes the duplicated temporary chunk after uploading to Sketchfab.