

Applications of computer-vision for agricultural implement feedback and control

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Contents

1	Introduction	2
2	Evaluation of inter-row cultivator guidance system	1
2.1	Introduction	1
2.2	Literature Review	2
2.3	Methodology	5
2.3.1	Plant Segmentation	7
2.3.2	Row Estimation	8
2.3.3	Electro-hydraulic Control	11
2.3.4	Calibration	13
2.3.5	Trials	13
2.4	Results	13
2.5	Discussion	13
2.5.1	Future Improvements	14
2.6	Conclusion	15
2.6.1	Acknowledgements	16
3	Comparison of feature-based motion estimation algorithms	17
3.1	Introduction	1
3.2	Literature Review	1
3.3	Methodology	1
3.3.1	Camera Model	1
3.3.2	Image Processing	4
3.3.3	Keypoint Matching	4
3.3.4	Field Trials	5
3.4	Results	5
3.5	Discussion	5
3.5.1	Applications	6
3.6	Conclusion	6
4	Conclusion	7
A	Python Application	1

Chapter 1

Introduction

Abstract

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Chapter 2

Evaluation of inter-row cultivator guidance system

Abstract

For organic row crops, frequent cultivation is required for weed control, and these implements require precise guidance systems to assure proper positioning of the working tools. Legacy systems have made use of mechanical guiding rods, but these systems perform poorly in the earliest stages of crop growth. Modern techniques based on RTK GPS are available commercially but are prohibitively expensive for small-scale operations. Therefore, the objective of this study was to develop a low-cost CCD camera system which is capable of supplementing the mechanical row detection during inter-row cultivation. A computer-vision guidance system was developed for the Intel Atom architecture to interface with an electro-hydraulic steering hitch system. Two redundant CCD cameras were mounted to the cultivator toolbar in-line with crop rows to obtain a video stream of the plants passing beneath the implement. The OpenCV platform was used to develop an algorithm for identifying the lateral offset of the plant rows and adjust the hydraulic steering accordingly via PID control. The computer-vision guidance system was tested successfully without GPS RTK assistance at travel speeds of 6, 8, 10, and 12 km/h in corn and soybean fields under varying ambient light and crop conditions.



Figure 2.1: Mechanical guiding rods.

2.1 Introduction

Unlike conventional farming where herbicide application is the primary method for weed prevention, organic farmers must use tillage implements such as inter-row cultivators. Inter-row cultivation is a field operation which requires precise control of the implement in order to maximize the tillage area without causing damage to the crops. Often, cultivation is conducted at speeds of up to 12 km/h with an error tolerance of ± 5 cm. Many organic farmers are not equipped with RTK-guided tillage implements and prefer to use older, mechanically-guided systems. A common method for mechanically-guided cultivators employs guiding rods (also known as brushes) which are mounted to a rotating voltage divider (??). These rods make contact with the crop stems and their position approximates that of the crop row. The resulting reference signal is fed to a hydraulic control system which adjusts the steering mechanism of the implement accordingly. Although these mechanically-guided systems are rugged and maintainable, the guiding rods perform poorly with seedlings. During the early stages of growth guiding rods have the potential to cause damage to the crop or lose track of the row, forcing operators to travel at speeds of less than 6 km/h. To address this issue, modern systems implement non-contact detection methods, such as a secondary RTK GPS antennae or cameras, to estimate the lateral offset of the cultivator.

The objective of this study was to develop a low-cost, embedded system which extends computer-vision row detection functionality to existing electro-hydraulic implement guidance systems. To be considered effective, the system should be capable of 4 cm precision 95 % of the time for travel speeds up to 12 km/h and for crops up to 20 cm in height.

2.2 Literature Review

Demand for high precision tractor control has produced significant research interest over the past two decades. Prior studies by Hague et al., Kise et al., and Astrand et al. have demonstrated that by capturing a video stream of the crop rows passing by tractor, the lateral offset of vehicle relative to the crop rows can be estimated with a high degree of consistency. Several different computer-vision methodologies have been proposed for detecting the offset of the crop row: Stereo-vision, distribution of crop foliage, feature-based extraction, In order to identify the location of the crop row, the distribution of plant foliage within the captured images must be determined, a process known as segmentation. During this process, varying ambient light conditions is one of the major limiting factors for successfully implementing computer-vision guidance for weed control. Variations in the ambient color temperature occur naturally with changes in weather and time of day, as well as with the particular camera model being used. Additionally, irregular lighting intensity, also known as non-diffuse lighting, in the camera's field of view, such as from shadows cast by the cultivator, is also a major concern. Non-diffuse lighting results in greater difference in the intensity of pixels and reduces the effectiveness when differentiating between color hues.

Several different image filtering methods can be utilized for segmentation of plants from soil. Using unfiltered RGB data is not ideal due to the high correlation between the three channels. Therefore, conversion to an alternate color-space is necessary for plant identification.

An approach proposed by Meyer et al. (1998) demonstrates a contrast filter known as Excess Green (ExG) calculated using the following equation:

$$\left[\mathbf{X} + a \geq \hat{a} \sum_i^N \lim_{x \rightarrow k} \delta C \right] \quad (2.1)$$

where nx = image width (pixels); ny = image height (pixels).

The transformed image is passed through a low-pass filter to remove bright spots before a constant threshold value of 20 on a scale of 0 to 255 is applied. This method was tested in diffuse natural light conditions in a greenhouse environment between 11:30am and 12:30pm and resulted in a 100 successful rate of discrimination between plants and soil.

Alternative approaches have utilized HSV transform

After segmentation of the plants within the image, it is necessary to determine the lateral offset of the crop row. Methods for determining the lateral offset can be grouped into two classes based on whether the camera's angle of inclination is either equal to zero, or greater than zero; these classes are referred to as orthogonal or perspective, respectfully.

Orthogonal methods rely on a camera which faces vertically downward and is directly aligned with a single crop row of the cultivator. A basic approach proposed by Olson et al. (1995) for detecting the lateral offset of the crop relies on taking the sum of the pixel elements grey values in the direction of travel. The resulting curve represents the likelihood of the row's position for each x-index within the image. To isolate the most probable offset, two separate methods were compared: 1) a least squares regression of a sinusoidal wave, and 2) a Fourier Fast Transform (FFT) low-pass filter. Both filtration methods were effective in cereals to within an error of 10 mm, but performed poorly on sugar beets due to their characteristically large leaf volume. In a similar study by Slaughter et al. (1995), an algorithm for detecting the lateral offset of the row using individual segmentation of plants in the image was proposed. For each plant, a histogram of the intensities was calculated which was then used to find the median offset of each plant. If a plant's median was significantly different than the other plants in the image, it was considered a

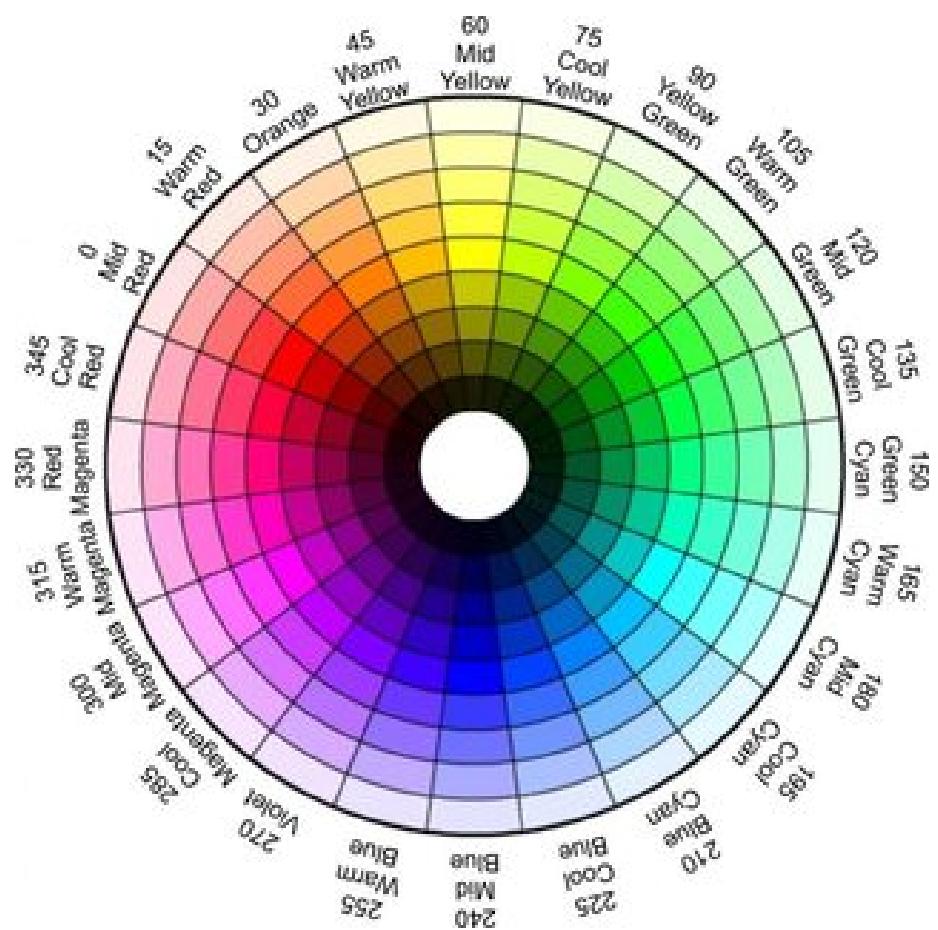


Figure 2.2: HSV Transform

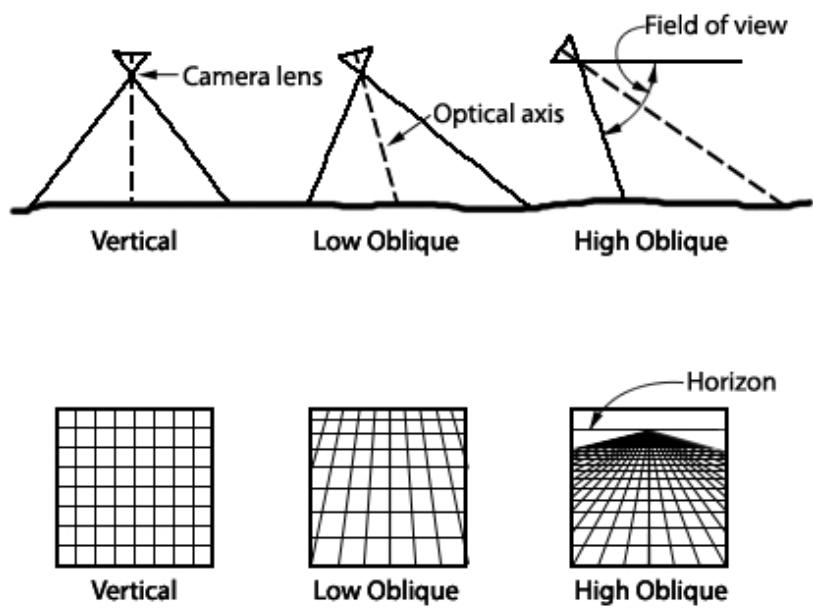


Figure 2.3: Perspective vs. orthogonal viewing angles.

weed and disregarded. The row offset was then calculated based on the medians of the remaining plants. This method was tested on lettuce and tomatoes for use with a band sprayer operating at 8 km/h and performed successfully with standard error of 9 mm and within 12 mm 95th of time.

Conversely, perspective methods rely on a camera with a positive angle of inclination with multiple rows in the field of view. One approach for perspective guidance utilizes the Hough Line Transform (HLT) algorithm to detect linear rows in cauliflower, sugar beets, and wide-spaced wheat. In a study by Pla et al. (1997), a system using HLT performed with an error of 18 mm, which was considered sufficient by the researchers. A similar perspective approach using a band-pass filter proposed by Hague et al. (2001) based on prior knowledge of the spacing of the crop rows was developed for use on cereals and beets. Supported by the British Beet Research Organization the developed system was capable of 3 cm precision at speeds of up to 10 km/h. The project was considered highly successful and was commercialized in 2001 in partnership with Garford Farm Machinery and Robodome Electronics under the name RoboCrop1.

When comparing the orthogonal and perspective methods, both have advantages and disadvantages. The perspective approach is less sensitive to missing plants and high weed density. However, perspective methods rely on prior knowledge of the crop spacing and linear rows with low curvature. Comparatively, orthogonal systems optimize resolution, in pixels-per-centimeter, and require very only basic calibration. Lens distortion is an issue for perspective systems. To compensate for increased subject distance, perspective methods require a higher resolution camera, resulting in greater computational requirements and costs. The reduced field of view for orthogonal systems is a concern when there are significant gaps in the crop rows. To address the issues inherent to the orthogonal approach, a system with two or more cameras may provide sufficient redundancy.

Actuation of the implement position can be achieved by several methods, such as vehicular steering, pivoting hitches, side-shift hitches, or stabilizer steering. Of these, vehicular steering has received tremendous interest however is not applicable in all environments. Some providers have produced mountable steering but no computer-vision versions have been successfully produced. Pivoting hitch systems have also been manufactured. For light cultivation, the side-shift style hitch has been demonstrated to be effective. However, this method causes problems when mounted to a heavy cultivator (deep harrows or coulters) due to “jumping”, i.e. the effect of the hitch shifting the tractor. To address this requires either removing tools or dramatically increasing the weight of the tractor, both of which are undesirable to the farmer. Stabilizer steering has applications in heavier tillage.

A hydraulic hitch positional control system can be expressed as a linear system. The output is the lateral error of the vehicle relative to the crop row and the input is the position of the steering mechanism. Additionally, state-information of the system is required, and it is assumed the angular speed is constant and travel speed is within acceptable bounds. To control this system, the voltage signal to the electrohydraulic steering can be modulated to adjust the lateral position of the cultivator.

2.3 Methodology

For field evaluation, a twelve row Hiniker cultivator equipped with a Sukup Auto-Guidance system mounted to a Fendt Vario 850 was used throughout the testing period. The cultivator toolbar was configured to a row-spacing of 30 inches. Steering actuation of the cultivator was achieved via two 75 cm stabilizers mounted 165 cm behind the cultivator toolbar and spaced 147.8 cm apart.



Figure 2.4: Diagram of the cultivator implement mounted to the tractor.

The hydraulic actuation of the stabilizers had maximum angular travel of ± 1.31 rad and angular velocity of 0.4 rad/s.

The computer-vision guidance system was installed alongside the existing mechanical guidance system to act as a replacement for the guiding rod potentiometer. The remaining components of the Sukup Auto-Guide system, including the electrohydraulic controller, center-pivot potentiometer, manual adjustment inputs, and hydraulic solenoids, were unmodified. This configuration allowed easily switching between the two modes of operation during field trials.

Images of the plants passing beneath the cultivator are captured by two weather-proof CCD cameras mounted via C-brackets to the toolbar. In a compromise between the orthogonal and perspective methods, the two cameras were mounted at a 30° inclination from vertical and a subject depth of 100 cm. This approach provides additional longitudinal field of view without significantly contributing to image distortion. To provide row estimation redundancy in the event of regions of high weed density or gaps in the crop rows, the two cameras were installed on the 3rd and 9th row of the cultivator.

An embedded Linux system based on the Debian 7.8 operating system (Linux Kernel 3.2) was developed for the Intel Atom D525 architecture. A 1.8GHz processor was used, with a 32 GB SSD, and 1 GB of RAM (Jetway). A run-time application was developed for the system using the Python programming language (v. 2.7.6) which operated as a local microwebserver. A high-speed database server (MongoDB 32-bit) was implemented for ultra-low latency storage and retrieval of data. This robust platform provided sufficient computing power for real-time image analysis at a relatively low

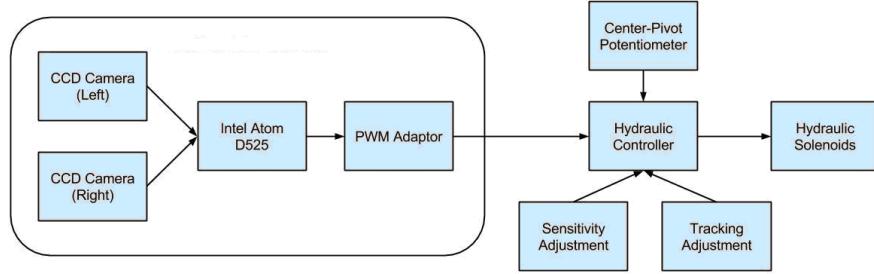


Figure 2.5: Diagram of the computer-vision system integrated with hydraulic controller.

cost.

To generate the output voltage signal of the control system, an ATmega328P microcontroller was used as an 8-bit PWM generator. The microcontroller was integrated as a Universal Serial Bus (USB) peripheral device with the microprocessor as the host.

To aid user operation, a graphical user interface was implemented which allows the operator to check the performance of the guidance system in real-time.

2.3.1 Plant Segmentation

Video of the crop rows were captured in real-time from the two CCD cameras. The cameras used for this study had a native resolution and frame-rate of 640x480 and 25 frames-per-second, respectively. However, were hardware downsampled to a resolution of 320x240 and 16 frames-per-second. After capturing an image, the image matrix was transformed from the Red-Green-Blue (RGB) color-space to the de-correlated Hue-Saturation-Value (HSV) color-space in order to simplify band-pass filtering operations (2.2).

$$\left[\mathbf{X} + \mathbf{a} \geq \hat{\underline{a}} \sum_i^N \lim_{x \rightarrow k} \delta C \right] \quad (2.2)$$

After transforming the image to the HSV color-space, a band-pass plant detection filter (BPPD) was applied to isolate pixels which could represent plant foliage. This filter selects for pixels with hue ranging from yellow-green to blue-green, saturation above the mean saturation, and value (i.e. brightness) between the extremes of under- and over-exposed. Threshold values were determined empirically using a training set of sample images in varying light and crop conditions. During this process, it was observed that the cameras experienced significant blue-shifting of crop foliage in very bright or low light, so the upper threshold for hue was set well into the cyan-blue region. This change did not have any noticeable negative impact on performance due to the relative lack of blue-tones in soil.

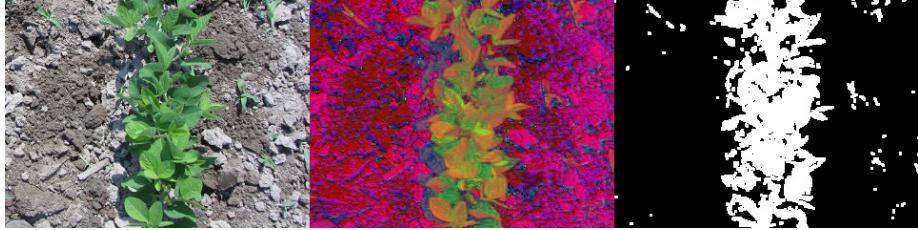


Figure 2.6: BPPD Normal

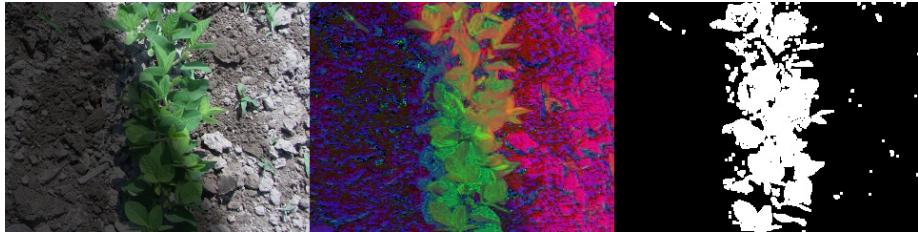


Figure 2.7: BPPD Shadow

$$\left[\mathbf{X} + \mathbf{a} \geq \hat{\underline{a}} \sum_i^N \lim_{x \rightarrow k} \delta C \right] \quad (2.3)$$

where $H_{min}=45$ lower hue threshold (yellow-green), $H_{max}=105$ upper hue threshold (blue-green).

The BPPD filter utilizes the linear interpolation percentile function to calculate the upper and lower thresholds of the Value and Saturation bands. This approach eliminates the need for static limits, reducing false-positive classification of pixels as green under varying lighting conditions.

As a final post-processing step, morphological opening with a 3 by 3 kernel was applied to the BPPD mask to reduce any remaining noise while preserving the structure of crop foliage:

$$\left[\mathbf{X} + \mathbf{a} \geq \hat{\underline{a}} \sum_i^N \lim_{x \rightarrow k} \delta C \right] \quad (2.4)$$

where K is a 3 by 3 kernel.

This three step process is computationally non-intensive, yet produces sufficient segmentation in diverse lighting conditions. Notably, the percentile-based band-pass filters of saturation and intensity produced reliable masks in scenarios of extreme exposure and shadows.

2.3.2 Row Estimation

After the plant foliage mask (M) has been produced, the column summation of the mask was calculated in the direction of travel, resulting in an array (C) representing the lateral distribution of plant foliage within the image.

$$\left[\mathbf{X} + \mathbf{a} \geq \hat{a} \sum_i^N \lim_{x \rightarrow k} \delta C \right] \quad (2.5)$$

where H=240

Indices of the C-array with low values suggest bare-soil, moderate values suggest sparsely distributed weeds, and higher values suggest presence of the crop row due to the longitudinal alignment of the plant foliage. Using this distribution, the centroid of the crop row was estimated by applying a high-pass filter to select for indices which are significantly greater than others:

$$\left[\mathbf{X} + \mathbf{a} \geq \hat{a} \sum_i^N \lim_{x \rightarrow k} \delta C \right] \quad (2.6)$$

where $\alpha=0.95$

The array (p) consists of all indices of the image which are most likely to represent the crop row. The estimated centroid of the crop row was determined by taking the weighted mean of the probable indices, where weight of each index was the normalized value of its corresponding column summation:

$$\left[\mathbf{X} + \mathbf{a} \geq \hat{a} \sum_i^N \lim_{x \rightarrow k} \delta C \right] \quad (2.7)$$

where N is the number of elements in p, and x is position the estimated centroid in pixels.

To compensate for errors in the detection process inherent to single camera systems, the row centroid estimation process was repeated for images, producing two column summation arrays (C1 and C2) and two estimated row centroids (x1 and x2). After calculating the estimated row centroid for each camera, the centroid and column summation values are compared to determine the final estimated offset of the crop row:

$$\left[\mathbf{X} + \mathbf{a} \geq \hat{a} \sum_i^N \lim_{x \rightarrow k} \delta C \right] \quad (2.8)$$

where E is the maximum acceptable error tolerance, W is the width of the camera in pixels.

This approach prioritizes centroid estimations which are in agreeance and in the event of disagreeance between the two cameras the dominant centroid was taken as the row. This provided a simplistic means for reducing errors due to weeds.

For the sake of performance evaluation, the error in pixels may be converted to centimeters using the relationship between the cameras' field-of-view of 64 cm, measured width-wise along the center-line, at a subject depth of 100 cm. For a resolution of 320 px in width, this results in a resolution of 0.2 cm/px.

$$\left[\mathbf{X} + \mathbf{a} \geq \hat{a} \sum_i^N \lim_{x \rightarrow k} \delta C \right] \quad (2.9)$$

where fov is the field-of-view of the camera (in centimeters), W is the camera width (in pixels).

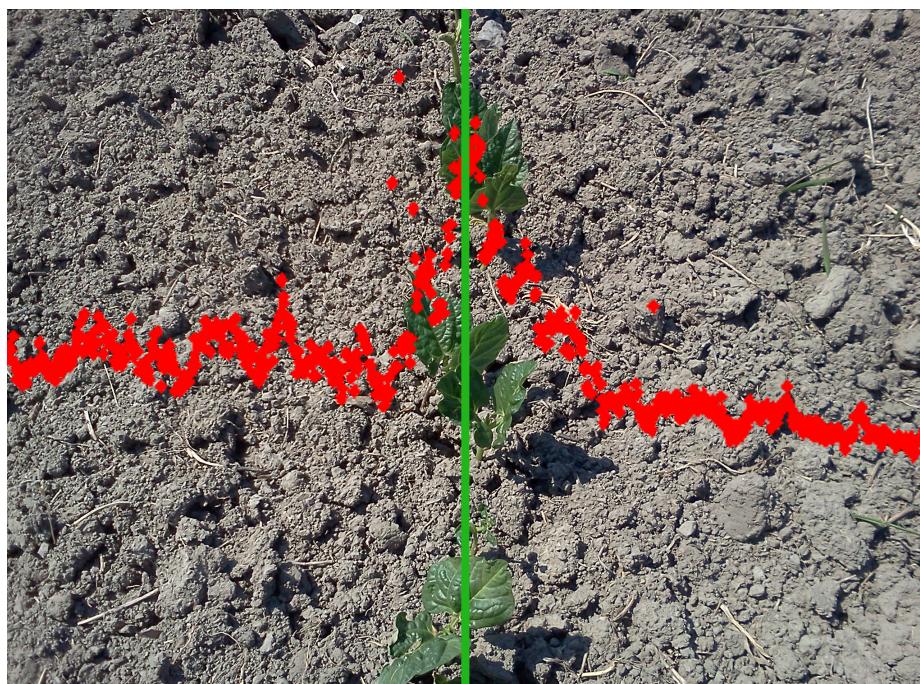


Figure 2.8: Demonstration of offset detection.



Figure 2.9: Rotating stabilizers

2.3.3 Electro-hydraulic Control

The rotary stabilizer mechanism was operated via bang-bang hydraulic solenoid controller whose actuation was based on the voltage differential between the feedback signal from the row detection system, i.e. the guiding rods or computer-vision module, and the potentiometer mounted to the rotary mechanism on the hitch.

To generate a smooth output signal, a signal conditioning based on a Proportional-Integral-Derivative (PID) feed-back controller was implemented. Coefficients were initially chosen to provide similar response to that of the guiding rods and were subsequently modified by trial and error.

$$\left[\mathbf{X} + a \geq \hat{a} \sum_i^N \lim_{x \rightarrow k} \delta C \right] \quad (2.10)$$

where $K_P = 1.0$, $K_I = 4.0$, $K_D = 0.5$, $N = 15$ is the number of integral samples, $M = 3$ is the number of differential samples.

The output value was transmitted via a weatherproof (IP68) USB connection to the microcontroller which was interfaced with the hydraulic solenoid controller. The microcontroller generates an analog output signal via pulse-width modulation (PWM) to produce a voltage range from 0.0 V to 5.0 ± 0.05 V. However, the operating range of the Sukup Auto-Guide system is from 0.10 ± 0.02 V to 8.0 ± 0.02 V with a fixed supply voltage of 9.70 ± 0.02 V. To account for this discrepancy, the PWM output range was scaled linearly and a logic level converter (LLC) circuit was used to rescale and shift the PWM signal to the required range.

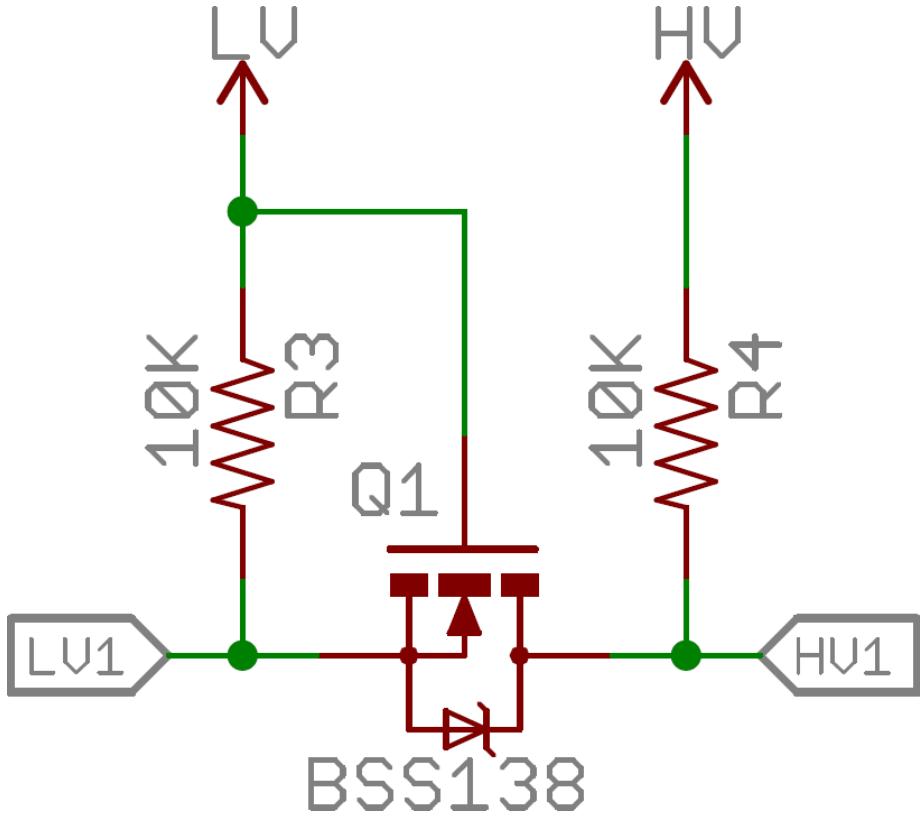


Figure 2.10: Rotating stabilizers

$$\left[\mathbf{X} + a \geq \hat{a} \sum_i^N \lim_{x \rightarrow k} \delta C \right] \quad (2.11)$$

where $V_{min} = 0.10$, $V_{max} = 8.00$, $V_{HV} = 9.70$, $V_{LV} = 5.0$

To produce this output, a signal condition circuit was employed making use of a MOSFET logici-level converter.

This final output voltage represents the desired set-point for angle of the steering stabilizers to be reached by hydraulic solenoid controller. The mapping between output voltage and position was found to be a linear, second order system, with saturation.

$$\left[\mathbf{X} + a \geq \hat{a} \sum_i^N \lim_{x \rightarrow k} \delta C \right] \quad (2.12)$$

where $K=0.3275$ rad/V at a sensitivity setting of 10.

Table 2.1: RMSE and 95th percentile with respect to travel speed.

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Manchester United	6	4	0	2	10	5	12
Celtic	6	3	0	3	8	9	9
Benfica	6	2	1	3	7	8	7
FC Copenhagen	6	2	1	3	5	8	7

2.3.4 Calibration

At the beginning of each day of field trials, a camera calibration procedure was followed to ensure proper alignment of the cameras: (1) the cultivator was aligned with the crop rows which was verified by measurements with a tape measure at the working tools; (2) lateral adjustments were made to the camera bracket to ensure the vertical center-line of each camera was aligned with the crop row; (3) vertical adjustments made to the camera bracket to ensure a subject depth of 100 cm from the camera lens to the soil surface.

Additionally, the Sukup Auto-Guide system provides basic user tuning in the form of sensitivity and tracking adjustment inputs. The sensitivity adjustment effectively changes the mapping between voltage and radial resolution of the stabilizers, with a range of 1 to 10 resulting in mappings from 0.1350 rad/V to 0.3275 rad/V, respectively. Similarly, the tracking adjustment offsets the zero position of the stabilizers on a scale of -3 to +3 corresponding to -0.435 rad to +0.435 rad, respectively. Therefore, at the beginning of each set of trials the following settings were ensured: (1) the sensitivity was set to 10 out of 10, and (2) the tracking adjustment was set to 0.

2.3.5 Trials

Field tests of the system took place over the summer of 2014 from June to August on straight-drilled corn and soybean crops. Only organic cultivars were considered for this study, therefore no pesticides were applied to the fields and weeds were present during testing. All fields used during testing were maintained by Agri-Fusion 2000 Inc., a 4000 ha organic farming operation in St-Polycarpe, Quebec.

Trials were classified into four stages of crop development: ≤ 10 cm, 10 - 15 cm, 15 - 20 cm, and ≥ 20 cm. For each run, five representative locations along the row were selected and the height of the crop from the soil surface was observed using a tape measure, and the resulting average determined the height stage of the trial.

To test the reliability of the two systems at differing speeds of operation, trials were conducted at four approximate travel speeds: 6, 8, 10, and 12 km/h. The travel speed of the tractor was set via the automatic speed controller of the vehicle.

2.4 Results

2.5 Discussion

With respect to RMSE, the two systems performed comparatively, with an average RMSE of less than 3.5 cm for both the computer-vision and the guiding rod systems for all crop stages 3.2.

Table 2.2: RMSE and 95th percentile with respect to crop stage.

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Manchester United	6	4	0	2	10	5	12
Celtic	6	3	0	3	8	9	9
Benfica	6	2	1	3	7	8	7
FC Copenhagen	6	2	1	3	5	8	7

However, with respect to the 95th percentile, usage of the guiding rods resulted in greater error than the computer-vision system for crops at the ≤ 10 cm, 10-15 cm, and 15-20 cm stages. Notably, the guiding rods resulted in an average 95th percentile of 6.57 cm and 6.53 cm for the ≤ 10 cm and 10-15 cm stages, respectively. Comparatively, the computer-vision system had an average 95th percentile of less than 4 cm for all four crop stages. The accuracy of the guiding rods increased dramatically as the plants matured, resulting in a significant decline in average 95th percentile and average RMSE at the 15-20 cm and ≥ 20 cm stages. The computer-vision system showed significantly lower error than the guiding rods for crop stages less than 20 cm in height, but a slight increase in error for plants greater than 20 cm.

There was no apparent correlation between error and travel speed for both systems, either with respect to RMSE or 95th percentile. Notably, the computer vision guidance system outperformed the mechanical system at all travel speeds; however, this affect is likely due to the interaction with crop height, not travel speed.

2.5.1 Future Improvements

Due to the fact that the cameras used for this study were intended for security applications, the cameras were designed for usage in a wide range of ambient lighting. Specifically, the photosensor of the cameras was sensitive to infrared (IR) light and featured a built-in array of 24 IR LEDs. Although this feature theoretically extended the daily hours of operation, IR-sensitivity proved to have a negative affect on color-quality under intense ambient light, i.e. ≥ 50000 Lux, resulting in over-exposure and blue-shifting of green tones in the HSV color-space. To correct this, applying contrast-limited adaptive histogram equalization (CLAHE) as pre-processing prior to the BPPD filter may reduce the negative affects of IR-sensitivity without requiring hardware changes (e.g. non-IR sensitive cameras or usage of an IR filtering lens).

In this study, since row offsets were determined by analyzing the plant foliage mask in the direction of travel with a relatively small subject distance, no perspective or radial (also referred to as lens-distortion) correction was implemented. However for alternate usage cases, e.g. cameras aligned at the mid-point between rows, it would be necessary for perspective and lens-distortion correction to be implemented. Due to the nature of how these systems are installed, a versatile method for in-field camera calibration demonstrated by Lee et al. in 2002 can be utilized. This method makes use of a checkerboard pattern which is placed in the camera's field of view. An image is captured and the positions of the corners are identified. Using the known size of the squares, the calibration coefficients can be calculated which can be used on new images to rectilinearize the image, thus correcting for perspective and radial distortion.

This study focused on a rotating stabilizer hydraulic steering system and therefore the orientation of the crop rows relative to the cultivator (and by extension the cameras) was effectively orthogonal. This approach is appropriate for rotating stabilizer and center-shift steering systems;

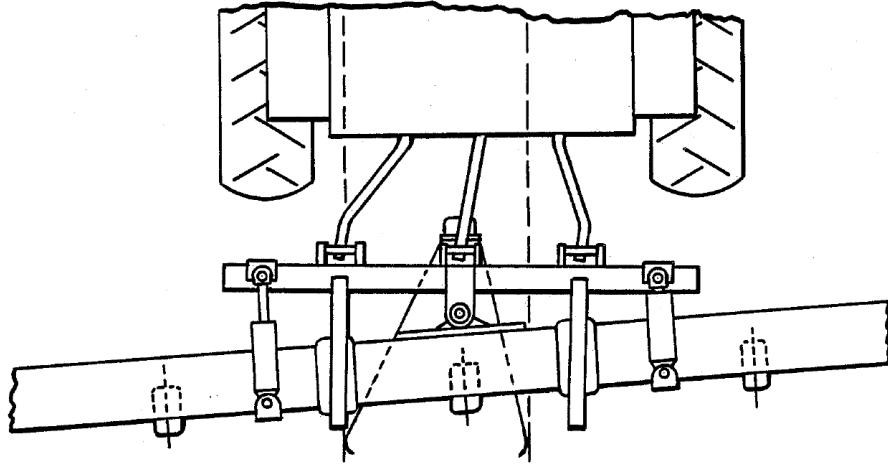


Figure 2.11: Pivoting hitch hydraulic steering system.

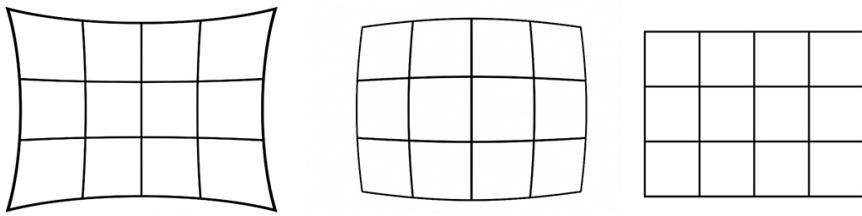


Figure 2.12: Lens distortion

however several commercially available hydraulic steering system designs make use of a pivoting hitch system (2.11).

Such pivoting hitch steering systems may rotate the cultivator toolbar as much as ± 5 degrees and would therefore significantly reduce the accuracy of row estimation. To compensate for this effect, knowledge of the camera orientation and its position relative to the pivot point is required. Motion estimation of the cameras using feature-based keypoint tracking may be a robust solution which does not require integration with the hitch controller and is therefore system-agnostic.

2.6 Conclusion

The BPPD method worked well in various lighting conditions and crop conditions. The computer-vision system achieved an average 95th percentile of ± 4.0 cm for all crop stages, and significantly outperformed the guiding rods at the earliest stages of ± 10 cm and 10-15 cm. Calibration procedure was simple

2.6.1 Acknowledgements

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Chapter 3

Comparison of feature-based motion estimation algorithms

Abstract

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3.1 Introduction

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3.2 Literature Review

Emerging applications for computer-vision on agricultural implements Row-crop cultivation Strip tillage Post-harvest spraying Motion feedback is very useful for such applications Orientation Responsiveness Incorporating speed detection into these systems can be problematic RTK GPS can be expensive Low-cost GPS units are less reliable Fifth-wheels can suffer from slippage

3.3 Methodology

3.3.1 Camera Model

An outdoor (dust-tight, water-tight) CMOS camera with 640x480 pixel resolution was mounted to the front of a New Holland T5050 (New Holland Agriculture, Turin, Italy) tractor in-line with a crop row to obtain a video stream of the plants passing beneath the equipment. The camera lens had an aperture of 2.4, a 6 mm focal point, and a 4:3 aspect ratio, which translated to a $43^{\circ}rc$ horizontal field of view and $32.9^{\circ}rc$ vertical field of view. For the specifications, the camera provided approximately 1.15 mm/px resolution when mounted 1.0 m above the ground and oriented orthogonally to the testing surface. In order to maximize the overlap between consecutive images at higher travel speeds, the camera was oriented width-wise in the direction of travel. The camera sensor was capable of automatically adjusting white-balance for varying lighting conditions and could capture images at a rate of approximately 25 frames per second. Additionally, the CMOS sensor of the camera was not IR-filtered and the camera enclosure was equipped with 24 infrared LEDs. This allowed the device to be used effectively in a wide range of ambient lighting conditions and was rated to a minimum illumination of 0.5 Lux.

In order to determine the ground speed of the vehicle using computer-vision, an application was developed with the Python OpenCV platform using the SURF (Speeded Up Robust Features) keypoint matching algorithm (Bay, 2006). The application was developed to run on an Intel i7 powered VMC3501-K (Nexcomm, Taiwan). A Trimble AgGPS RTK receiver position directly above the camera was used to obtain geographic longitude and latitude, time, and GNSS signal quality for each data point produced by the computer-vision algorithm. To account for variance in the subject depth, the distance from the camera to the surface, an ultrasonic sensor with 1 cm accuracy was mounted at the same vertical height as the camera.

Using the checkboard pattern, the lens and projection distortion was corrected.



Figure 3.1: Camera Bracket

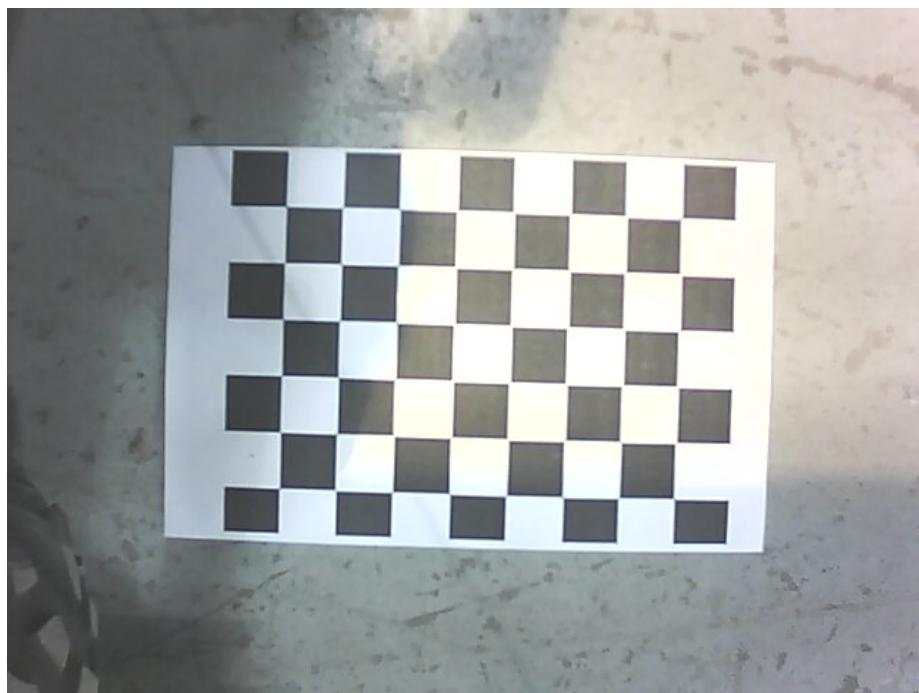


Figure 3.2: Checkerboard camera calibration

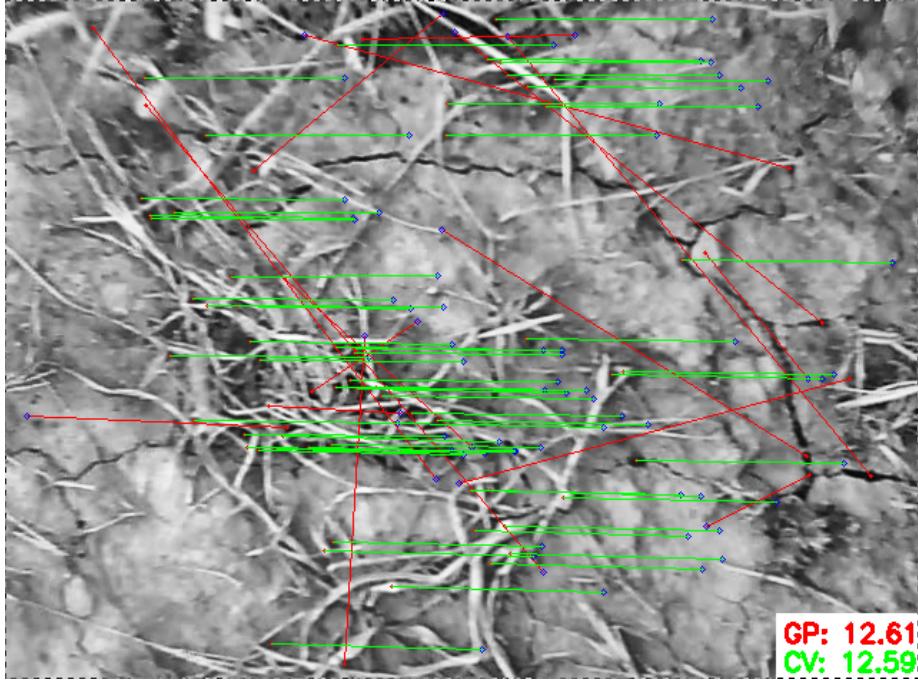


Figure 3.3: Keypoint tracking.

3.3.2 Image Processing

To determine the ground speed of the tractor using computer vision, the proposed algorithm captures two consecutive RGB images from the camera, M1 and M2, at times t1 and t2, respectively. Each image matrix is then transformed to grayscale by the following formula:

Contrast-limited adaptive histogram equalization (CLAHE) was used to optimize the gray-scale images. If any histogram bin exceeds the specified contrast limit of 40, those pixels are clipped and distributed uniformly to other bins before applying histogram equalization. After equalization, to remove artifacts in tile borders, bilinear interpolation is applied.

3.3.3 Keypoint Matching

Both sets of descriptors, D1 and D2, are then matched using k-Nearest Neighbors brute-force matching, where each of the keypoint descriptors of M1 are compared to those of M2. For the regression, two best matches were found for each query descriptor. This process results in a set consisting of pairs of possible keypoint matches and the corresponding error terms:

To filter the array of possible matches for good matches, for each pair of possible matches the error of each match is compared to the other. If the match has a first error term (eA) which is less than half of the second error term (eB), then the point is considered a good match and is stored to set Q.

For each good match in set Q, the key point's coordinates in M1 and M2, i.e. (x_1, y_1) and (x_2, y_2) , are projected from pixel space to real-space with the following transformation:

$$f = 2.0 * \tan(\alpha / 2.0) \lambda = W / f K = 0.95 r = \sqrt{X^2 + Y^2} Y = y * K * (1 + c1 * r^2 + c2 * r^4 + c3 * r^6) X = x * K * (1 + c1 * r^2 + c2 * r^4 + c3 * r^6) \quad (3.1)$$

Where α is the horizontal field-of-view (0.75 radians), W is the image width (640 px), S is the subject depth (1000 mm), and ρ is the pitch (0.0 radians).

The velocity of each keypoint between the two consecutive images was calculated by taking the hypotenuse between the coordinates in M1 and M2 divided by the rate of image capture (f):

$$v = f * \sqrt{(X2 - X1)^2 + (Y2 - Y1)^2} \theta = \arctan2((X2 - X1), (Y2 - Y1)) \quad (3.2)$$

The set of vectors was filtered by clustering by histogram and selecting for dominant vector angle within a tolerance of 0.05 radians. Consistently removes stationary objects and false pairs without being computationally intensive. Additionally, since the dominant vector angle is used, despite its simplicity this approach is orientation-agnostic.

3.3.4 Field Trials

To ensure precise estimation of speed, the following procedures were conducted prior to testing: Ensure orientation of camera within 1 degree. Ensure pitch of camera within 1 degree. Ensure height of camera at 1000 mm to concrete surface. Six (6) surface types Pavement / Gravel / Soil / Residue / Turf / Grass / Hay. For each surface type, five (5) videos were collected 0 km/h to 18 km/h to 0 km/h in 45 seconds.

3.4 Results

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Table 3.1: RMSE and 95th Percentile with respect to crop-stage (cm).

	RMSE (cm)				95 th Percentile (cm)			
	≤ 10	10-15	15-20	≥ 20	≤ 10	10-15	15-20	≥ 20
Computer-vision	0.50 ± 6.43	19.36 ± 8.11	63.69 ± 15.01	65.67 ± 16.49	38.86 ± 0.23	38.9 ± 0.29	145.55 ± 15.61	143.69 ± 16.17
Guiding rods:	21.33 ± 6.78	20.92 ± 7.97	66.33 ± 16.07	66.15 ± 16.71	38.39 ± 0.81	38.35 ± 0.79	133.34 ± 18.60	131.83 ± 15.94

3.5 Discussion

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Table 3.2: RMSE and 95th Percentile with respect to travel speed (km/h).

	RMSE (cm)				95 th Percentile (cm)			
	6	8	10	12	6	8	10	12
Computer-vision	0.50 ± 6.43	19.36 ± 8.11	63.69 ± 15.01	65.67 ± 16.49	38.86 ± 0.23	38.9 ± 0.29	145.55 ± 15.61	143.69 ± 16.17
Guiding rods:	21.33 ± 6.78	20.92 ± 7.97	66.33 ± 16.07	66.15 ± 16.71	38.39 ± 0.81	38.35 ± 0.79	133.34 ± 18.60	131.83 ± 15.94

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3.5.1 Applications

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3.6 Conclusion

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Chapter 4

Conclusion

Abstract

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Appendix A

Python Application

```
1 #!/usr/bin/env python
2 """
3 Agri-Vision
4 Precision Agriculture and Sensor Systems Group (PASS)
5 McGill University, Department of Bioresource Engineering
6 """
7
8 __author__ = 'Trevor Stanhope'
9 __version__ = '3.02'
10
11 ## Libraries
12 import cv2, cv
13 import serial
14 import pymongo
15 from bson import json_util
16 from pymongo import MongoClient
17 import json
18 import numpy as np
19 from matplotlib import pyplot as plt
20 import thread
21 import gps
22 import time
23 import sys
24 from datetime import datetime
25 import ast
26 import os
27 import threading
28 import cherrypy
29 from cherrypy.process.plugins import Monitor
30 from cherrypy import tools
31
32 ## Constants
33 try:
34     CONFIG_FILE = '%s' % sys.argv[1]
```

```

35     except Exception as err:
36         cwd = os.path.dirname(os.path.realpath(__file__))
37         config_path = os.path.join(cwd, 'settings.cfg')
38         CONFIG_FILE = open(config_path).read().rstrip()
39
40     # External Functions
41     def normalize_by_histogram(gray):
42         """
43             Normalize gray-scale by histogram
44         """
45         hist, bins = np.histogram(gray.flatten(), 256, [0,256])
46         cdf = hist.cumsum()
47         cdf_normalized = cdf * hist.max() / cdf.max()
48         cdf_m = np.ma.masked_equal(cdf, 0)
49         cdf_m = (cdf_m - cdf_m.min()) * 255 / (cdf_m.max() - cdf_m.min())
50         cdf = np.ma.filled(cdf_m, 0).astype('uint8')
51         gray_norm = cdf[gray] # Now we have the look-up table
52         return gray_norm
53     def is_number(s):
54         try:
55             float(s)
56             return True
57         except ValueError:
58             return False
59
60     ## Class
61     class app:
62         def __init__(self, config_file):
63
64             # Path
65             self.CURRENT_DIR = os.path.dirname(os.path.abspath(__file__))
66
67             # Load Config
68             if config_file is None:
69                 self.default_settings()
70             else:
71                 self.load_settings(config_file)
72
73             # Initializers
74             self.init_log() # it's best to run the log first to catch all
75                 events
76             self.init_cameras()
77             self.init_controller()
78             self.init_pid()
79             self.init_db()
80             self.init_gps()
81             self.init_display()
82             self.init_webapp()
83
84             # Thread states

```

```

84     self.running = False
85     self.updating = False
86
87     # Initialize Webapp
88     def init_webapp(self):
89         self.log_msg('HTTP', 'Initializing Webapp Tasks')
90         try:
91             self.run_task = Monitor(cherrypy.engine, self.run, frequency
92                                     =1/float(self.config['CAMERA_FPS'])).subscribe()
93             if self.config['GPS_ENABLED']: self.gps_task = Monitor(
94                 cherrypy.engine, self.update_gps, frequency=1/float(self.
95                 config['GPS_HZ'])).subscribe()
96             self.cameras_task = Monitor(cherrypy.engine, self.
97                 check_cameras, frequency=5).subscribe()
98             self.controller_task = Monitor(cherrypy.engine, self.
99                 check_controller, frequency=5).subscribe()
100            self.save_task = Monitor(cherrypy.engine, self.save_image,
101                                     frequency=1).subscribe()
102        except Exception as error:
103            self.log_msg('ENGINE', 'Error: %s' % str(error), important=
104                         True)
105
106     # Initialize Camera(s)
107     def init_cameras(self):
108
109         # Setting variables
110         self.log_msg('CAM', 'Initializing CV Variables')
111         self.log_msg('CAM', 'Camera Width: %d px' % self.config[
112             'CAMERA_WIDTH'])
113         self.log_msg('CAM', 'Camera Height: %d px' % self.config[
114             'CAMERA_HEIGHT'])
115         self.log_msg('CAM', 'Camera Depth: %d cm' % self.config[
116             'CAMERA_DEPTH'])
117         self.log_msg('CAM', 'Camera FOV: %f cm' % self.config['CAMERA_FOV']
118             [])
119         self.log_msg('CAM', 'Error Tolerance: +/- %1.1f cm' % self.config[
120             'ERROR_TOLERANCE'])
121
122         # Attempt to set each camera index/name
123         self.log_msg('CAM', 'Initializing Cameras')
124         self.cameras = []
125         self.images = []
126         for i in range(self.config['CAMERAS']):
127             try:
128                 cam = self.attach_camera(i) # returns None if camera
129                     failed to attach
130                 self.cameras.append(cam)
131                 self.images.append(np.zeros((self.config['CAMERA_HEIGHT'],
132                                             self.config['CAMERA_WIDTH'], 3), np.uint8))
133                 self.log_msg('CAM', 'OK: Camera #%d connected' % i)
134             except:
135                 self.log_msg('CAM', 'Warning: Camera %d failed to connect' %
136                             i)
137
138
139

```

```

120         except Exception as error:
121             self.log_msg('CAM', 'ERROR: %s' % str(error), important=True)
122
123     ## Attach a camera capture
124     def attach_camera(self, i):
125         try:
126             self.log_msg('CAM', 'WARN: Attaching Camera # %d' % i)
127             cam = cv2.VideoCapture(i)
128             cam.set(cv.CV_CAP_PROP_FRAME_WIDTH, self.config['CAMERA_WIDTH'])
129             cam.set(cv.CV_CAP_PROP_FRAME_HEIGHT, self.config['CAMERA_HEIGHT'])
130             cam.set(cv.CV_CAP_PROP_SATURATION, self.config['CAMERA_SATURATION'])
131             cam.set(cv.CV_CAP_PROP_BRIGHTNESS, self.config['CAMERA_BRIGHTNESS'])
132             cam.set(cv.CV_CAP_PROP_CONTRAST, self.config['CAMERA_CONTRAST'])
133             cam.set(cv.CV_CAP_PROP_FPS, self.config['CAMERA_FPS'])
134             if cam.isOpened():
135                 self.log_msg('CAM', 'OK: Camera successfully opened')
136                 return cam
137             else:
138                 self.log_msg('CAM', 'ERROR: Failed to attach camera!')
139                 cam.release()
140                 return None
141         except:
142             self.log_msg("CAM", "Failed to create camera object!", important=True)
143             return None
144
145     # Initialize Database
146     def init_db(self):
147         self.LOG_NAME = datetime.strftime(datetime.now(), self.config['LOG_FORMAT'])
148         self.MONGO_NAME = datetime.strftime(datetime.now(), self.config['MONGO_FORMAT'])
149         self.log_msg('DB', 'Initializing MongoDB')
150         self.log_msg('DB', 'Connecting to MongoDB: %s' % self.MONGO_NAME)
151         self.log_msg('DB', 'New session: %s' % self.LOG_NAME)
152         try:
153             self.client = MongoClient()
154             self.database = self.client[self.MONGO_NAME]
155             self.collection = self.database[self.LOG_NAME]
156             self.log_msg('DB', 'Setup OK')
157         except Exception as error:
158             self.log_msg('DB', 'ERROR: %s' % str(error), important=True)
159
160     # Initialize PID Controller

```

```

161     def init_pid(self):
162         self.log_msg('PID', 'Initializing Electro-Hydraulics')
163         try:
164             self.log_msg('PID', 'N Samples: : %s' % self.config['N_SAMPLES'])
165             self.log_msg('PID', 'P Coefficient: : %s' % self.config['P_COEF'])
166             self.log_msg('PID', 'I Coefficient: : %s' % self.config['I_COEF'])
167             self.log_msg('PID', 'D Coefficient: : %s' % self.config['D_COEF'])
168             self.offset_history = [ 0.0 ] * int(self.config['N_SAMPLES'])
169             self.log_msg('PID', 'Setup OK')
170         except Exception as error:
171             self.log_msg('PID', 'ERROR: %s' % str(error), important=True)
172
173     # Initialize Log
174     def init_log(self):
175         try:
176             self.LOG_NAME = datetime.strftime(datetime.now(), self.config[
177                 'LOG_FORMAT'])
178             error_log_path = os.path.join(self.CURRENT_DIR, self.config[
179                 'LOG_DIR'], self.config['LOG_MESSAGES'])
180             self.error_log = open(error_log_path, 'w')
181             self.log_msg('LOG', 'Message Setup OK')
182             if self.config['DATALOG_ON']:
183                 data_log_path = os.path.join(self.CURRENT_DIR, self.config[
184                     'LOG_DIR'], self.LOG_NAME)
185                 self.data_log = open(data_log_path, 'w')
186                 headers = ['time', 'estimated', 'sig', 'pwm', 'volts']
187                 self.data_log.write(','.join(headers) + '\n')
188                 self.log_msg('LOG', 'Datalog Setup OK')
189             except Exception as error:
190                 self.log_msg('ERROR', str(error), important=True)
191
192     # Initialize Controller
193     def init_controller(self):
194         self.log_msg('CTRL', 'Initializing controller ...')
195         self.calibrating = False
196         try:
197             self.log_msg('CTRL', 'Device: %s' % self.config['SERIAL_DEVICE'])
198             self.log_msg('CTRL', 'Baud Rate: %d' % self.config['SERIAL_BAUD'])
199             self.log_msg('CTRL', 'PWM Resolution: %d' % self.config['PWM_RESOLUTION'])
200             self.log_msg('CTRL', 'Voltage: %d' % self.config['PWM_VOLTAGE'])
201             self.controller = self.attach_controller()
202             if self.controller is None:

```

```

200             self.log_msg('CTRL', 'ERROR: Could not locate a controller
201                         !')
202         else:
203             self.log_msg('CTRL', 'Setup Successful')
204     except Exception as error:
205         self.log_msg('CTRL', 'ERROR: %s' % str(error), important=True)
206         self.controller = None
207
208     ## Attach Controller
209     def attach_controller(self, attempts=5):
210         try:
211             self.log_msg('CTRL', 'Attaching controller ...')
212             for dev in self.config['SERIAL_DEVICE']:
213                 for i in range(attempts):
214                     dev_num = dev + str(i)
215                     self.log_msg('CTRL', 'Trying: %s' % dev_num)
216                     try:
217                         ctrl = serial.Serial(dev_num, self.config['
218                                         SERIAL_BAUD'])
219                         return ctrl
220                     except Exception as err:
221                         self.log_msg('CTRL', 'WARN: %s' % str(err),
222                                     important=True)
223
224     # Initialize GPS
225     def init_gps(self):
226         self.log_msg('GPS', 'Initializing GPS ...')
227         self.latitude = 0
228         self.longitude = 0
229         self.speed = 0
230         try:
231             self.log_msg('GPS', 'Enabling GPS ...')
232             self.gpsd = gps.gps()
233             self.gpsd.stream(gps.WATCH_ENABLE)
234         except Exception as err:
235             self.gpsd = None
236             self.log_msg('GPS', 'WARNING: GPS not available! %s' % str(err
237 ), important=True)
238
239     # Display
240     def init_display(self):
241         self.log_msg('DISP', 'Initializing Display')
242         try:
243             self.output_image = np.zeros((self.config['CAMERA_HEIGHT'],
244                                         self.config['CAMERA_WIDTH'], 3), np.uint8)
245             if not self.config['DISPLAY_ON']:
246                 self.log_msg('DISP', 'WARN: Display disabled!')

```

```

245         except Exception as error:
246             self.log_msg('DISP', 'ERROR: %s' % str(error), important=True)
247
248     ## Rotate image
249     def rotate_image(self, bgr):
250         bgr = cv2.rotate(bgr)
251         return bgr
252
253     ## Check Cameras
254     def check_cameras(self):
255         """ Checks cameras for functioning streams """
256         if self.config['VERBOSE']: self.log_msg('CAM', 'Checking Cameras ...')
257         for i in range(self.config['CAMERAS']):
258             if self.cameras[i] is None:
259                 self.cameras[i] = self.attach_camera(i)
260             elif not self.cameras[i].isOpened():
261                 self.log_msg('CAM', 'Camera #%d is offline' % i)
262                 self.cameras[i] = None
263             else:
264                 self.log_msg('CAM', 'Camera #%d is okay' % i)
265
266     ## Capture images from multiple cameras #!TODO: fix halting
267     def capture_images(self):
268         a = time.time()
269         if self.config['VERBOSE']: self.log_msg('CAM', 'Capturing Images ...')
270         images = [None] * self.config['CAMERAS']
271         for i in range(self.config['CAMERAS']):
272             self.log_msg('CAM', 'Attempting on Camera #%d' % i)
273             try:
274                 cam = self.cameras[i]
275                 if cam is not None:
276                     (s, bgr) = self.cameras[i].read()
277                     if s:
278                         if np.all(bgr==self.images[i]): # Check to see if
279                             frame is frozen
280                             self.log_msg('CAM', 'WARN: Frozen frame')
281                             self.cameras[i].release()
282                         else:
283                             self.log_msg('CAM', 'Capture successful: %s' %
284                                         str(bgr.shape))
285                             images[i] = bgr
286                     else:
287                         self.log_msg('CAM', 'WARN: Capture failed')
288                         self.cameras[i].release()
289                 else:
290                     pass
291             except:
292                 pass

```

```

291     if all(v is None for v in images): raise Exception("No images
292         captured!", important=True)
293     self.images = images
294     b = time.time()
295     if self.config['VERBOSE']: self.log_msg('CAM', '... %.2f ms' % ((b
296         - a) * 1000))
297     return images
298
299     ## Plant Segmentation Filter
300     def bppd_filter(self, images):
301         """
302             RGB --> HSV
303             Set saturation/value equal to BPPD(S, V)
304             Take hues within range from green-yellow to green-blue
305         """
306         if self.config['VERBOSE']: self.log_msg('BPPD', 'Filtering for
307             plants ...')
308         if images == []: raise Exception("No input image(s)!", important=
309             True)
310         a = time.time()
311         masks = []
312         threshold_min = np.array([self.config['HUE_MIN'], self.config['
313             SAT_MIN'], self.config['VAL_MIN']], np.uint8)
314         threshold_max = np.array([self.config['HUE_MAX'], self.config['
315             SAT_MAX'], self.config['VAL_MAX']], np.uint8)
316         for bgr in images:
317             if bgr is not None:
318                 try:
319                     hsv = cv2.cvtColor(bgr, cv2.COLOR_BGR2HSV)
320                     threshold_min[1] = np.percentile(hsv[:, :, 1], 100 *
321                         self.config['SAT_MIN'] / 255.0)
322                     threshold_min[2] = np.percentile(hsv[:, :, 2], 100 *
323                         self.config['VAL_MIN'] / 255.0)
324                     threshold_max[1] = np.percentile(hsv[:, :, 1], 100 *
325                         self.config['SAT_MAX'] / 255.0)
326                     threshold_max[2] = np.percentile(hsv[:, :, 2], 100 *
327                         self.config['VAL_MAX'] / 255.0)
328                     mask = cv2.inRange(hsv, threshold_min, threshold_max)
329                     mask = cv2.morphologyEx(mask, cv2.MORPH_OPEN, np.ones(
330                         (self.config['KERNEL_X'], self.config['KERNEL_Y']))
331                         , np.uint8))
332                     masks.append(mask)
333                     self.log_msg('BPPD', 'Mask #%d was successful' % len(
334                         masks))
335                 except Exception as error:
336                     self.log_msg('BPPD', str(error), important=True)
337             else:
338                 self.log_msg('BPPD', 'WARN: Mask #%d is blank' % len(masks
339                     ), important=True)

```

```

327         masks.append(None)
328     b = time.time()
329     if self.config['VERBOSE']: self.log_msg('BPPD', '... %.2f ms' % ((
330         b - a) * 1000))
331     return masks
332
333     ## Find Plants
334     def find_offset(self, masks):
335         """
336             Finds indicies which are possible centroids
337             Note: Repeated for each mask
338         """
339         if self.config['VERBOSE']: self.log_msg('BPPD', 'Finding offset of
340             row ...')
341         if masks == []: raise Exception("No input mask(s)!", important=
342             True)
343         a = time.time()
344         offsets = []
345         sums = []
346         for mask in masks:
347             if mask is not None:
348                 try:
349                     colsum = mask.sum(axis=0) # vertical summation
350                     T = np.percentile(colsum, self.config['
351                         THRESHOLD_PERCENTILE'])
352                     probable = np.nonzero(colsum >= T) # returns 1 length
353                         table
354                     num_probable = len(probable[0])
355                     best = int(np.median(probable[0]))
356                     s = colsum[best]
357                     c = best - self.config['CAMERA_WIDTH'] / 2
358                     offsets.append(c)
359                     sums.append(s)
360                 except Exception as error:
361                     self.log_msg('OFF', '%s' % str(error), important=True)
362                     b = time.time()
363                     if self.config['VERBOSE']: self.log_msg('OFF', '... %.2f ms' % ((b
364                         - a) * 1000))
365                     return offsets, sums
366
367         ## Best Guess for row based on multiple offsets from indices
368         def estimate_row(self, indices, sums, tol=32):
369             """
370                 If within tolerance, check error between indices from both cameras
371                 If similar, take mean, else take dominant estimation
372                 1. Estimate the weighted position of the crop row (in pixels)
373             """
374             if self.config['VERBOSE']: self.log_msg('ROW', 'Smoothing offset
375                 estimation ...')
376             if sums == []: raise Exception("No input sum(s)!", important=True)

```

```

370     if indices == []: raise Exception("No input indice(s)", important=True)
371     if len(sums) != len(indices): raise Exception("len(x) must equal len(y)", important=True)
372     a = time.time()
373     try:
374         e = np.abs(np.mean(np.diff(indices)))
375         sums = np.array(sums)
376         if e > self.config['ERROR_TOLERANCE'] * self.config['CAMERA_WIDTH'] / self.config['CAMERA_FOV']:
377             indices = np.array(indices)
378             cur = indices[np.argmax(sums)]
379         else:
380             cur = np.mean(indices)
381     except Exception as error:
382         self.log_msg('ROW', 'ERROR: %s' % str(error), important=True)
383         cur = self.config['CAMERA_WIDTH'] / 2
384
385     # Insert current into local memory
386     self.offset_history.append(cur)
387     lim = int(np.ceil(self.config['N_SAMPLES'] / float(self.config['AGGRESSIVENESS']))))
388     while len(self.offset_history) > lim:
389         self.offset_history.pop(0)
390
391     # Smooth
392     n = int(np.ceil(self.config['N_SAMPLES'] / float(self.config['AGGRESSIVENESS']))))
393     m = int(np.ceil(self.config['M_SAMPLES'] / float(self.config['AGGRESSIVENESS']))))
394     est = int(self.offset_history[-1])
395     avg = int(np.mean(self.offset_history[-n:]))
396     diff = int(np.mean(np.diff(self.offset_history[-m:])))
397     b = time.time()
398     if self.config['VERBOSE']: self.log_msg('ROW', '... %.2f ms' % ((b - a) * 1000))
399     return est, avg, diff
400
401     ## Control Hydraulics
402     def calculate_output(self, est, avg, diff):
403         """
404             Calculates the PID output for the PWM controller
405             Arguments: est, avg, diff
406             Requires: PWM_VOLTAGE, PWM_RESOLUTION, MAX_VOLTAGE, MIN_VOLTAGE
407             Returns: PWM signal
408         """
409         if self.config['VERBOSE']: self.log_msg('PID', 'Calculating PID Output ...')
410         a = time.time()
411         try:

```

```

412     p = est * self.config['P_COEF']
413     i = avg * self.config['I_COEF']
414     d = diff * self.config['D_COEF']
415     sig = self.config['SENSITIVITY'] * (p + i + d) - self.config['
416         CAMERA_OFFSET'] # scale and offset signal
417     self.log_msg('PID', "sig = %.1f + %.1f + %.1f" % (p,i,d))
418 except Exception as error:
419     self.log_msg('PID', 'ERROR: %s' % str(error))
420     sig = 0
421 b = time.time()
422 if self.config['VERBOSE']: self.log_msg('PID', '... %.2f ms' % ((b
423     - a) * 1000))
424 return sig
425
426 ## To Volts
427 def to_volts(self, pwm):
428     volts_at_ctrl = (pwm * self.config['PWM_VOLTAGE']) / float(self.
429         config['PWM_RESOLUTION'])
430     volts = round(np.interp(volts_at_ctrl, [0, self.config['
431         PWM_VOLTAGE']], [0, self.config['SUPPLY_VOLTAGE']]]) / 1000.0,
432     2)
433     self.log_msg('PID', 'PWM = %d (%.2f V)' % (pwm, volts))
434     return volts
435
436 ## Control Hydraulics
437 def set_controller(self, sig):
438     """
439     1. Get PWM response corresponding to average offset
440     2. Send PWM response over serial to controller
441     """
442     a = time.time()
443     if self.config['VERBOSE']: self.log_msg('CTRL', 'Setting
444         controller state ...')
445     try:
446         if self.controller is None: raise Exception("No controller!")
447         v_zero = (self.config['MAX_VOLTAGE'] + self.config['
448             MIN_VOLTAGE']) / 2.0
449         pwm_zero = np.interp(v_zero, [0, self.config['SUPPLY_VOLTAGE',
450             ]], [0, self.config['PWM_RESOLUTION']])
451         pwm_max = np.interp(self.config['MAX_VOLTAGE'], [0, self.
452             config['SUPPLY_VOLTAGE']], [1, self.config['PWM_RESOLUTION
453                 ']])
454         pwm_min = np.interp(self.config['MIN_VOLTAGE'], [0, self.
455             config['SUPPLY_VOLTAGE']], [1, self.config['PWM_RESOLUTION
456                 ']])
457         if self.calibrating == True:
458             return pwm_zero
459         else:
460             pwm = sig + pwm_zero # offset to zero
461             if pwm > pwm_max:

```

```

450             pwm = pwm_max
451         elif pwm < pwm_min:
452             pwm = pwm_min
453         if self.config['PWM_INVERTED']:
454             pwm = pwm_max - pwm + pwm_min
455         self.controller.write(str(int(pwm)) + '\n') # Write to PWM
456             adaptor
457         res = self.controller.readline()
458         if int(res) != int(pwm):
459             self.log_msg('CTRL', 'WARN: Controller returned bad
460             value!', important=True)
461         else:
462             self.log_msg('CTRL', 'OK: Set controller successfully'
463             )
464         return pwm
465     except Exception as error:
466         self.log_msg('CTRL', 'ERROR: %s' % str(error), important=True)
467         #!TODO add bit here to automatically kill controller object
468         now?
469     try:
470         self.controller.close()
471     except:
472         pass
473     self.controller = None
474     b = time.time()
475     if self.config['VERBOSE']: self.log_msg('CTRL', '... %.2f ms' %
476         ((b - a) * 1000))
477
478     ## Log to Mongo
479     def log_db(self, sample):
480         """
481         Log results to the database
482         Returns: Doc ID
483         """
484         if self.config['VERBOSE']: self.log_msg('MDB', 'Writing to
485             database ...')
486     try:
487         if self.collection is None: raise Exception("Missing DB
488             collection!")
489         doc_id = self.collection.insert(sample)
490         self.log_msg('MDB', 'Doc ID: %s' % str(doc_id))
491     except Exception as error:
492         self.log_msg('MDB', 'ERROR: %s' % str(error), important=True)
493     return doc_id
494
495     ## Log to File
496     def log_data(self, data):
497         """
498         Open new text file
499         For each document in session, print parameters to file

```

```

493     """
494     try:
495         if self.data_log is None: raise Exception("Missing data
496             logfile!")
497         t = datetime.strftime(datetime.now(), self.config['TIME_FORMAT
498             '])
499         data_as_str = [str(d) for d in data]
500         self.data_log.write(, .join([t] + data_as_str + ['\n']))
501     except Exception as error:
502         self.log_msg('LOG', 'ERROR: %s' % str(error), important=True)
503
504     ## Log Messages
505     def log_msg(self, header, msg, important=False):
506         """
507             Saves important messages to logfile
508         """
509         try:
510             if self.error_log is None: raise Exception("Missing error
511                 logfile!")
512             date = datetime.strftime(datetime.now(), self.config['
513                 TIME_FORMAT'])
514             formatted_msg = "%s\t%s\t%s" % (date, header, msg)
515             self.error_log.write(formatted_msg + '\n')
516             if self.config['VERBOSE'] or important: print formatted_msg
517         except Exception as error:
518             print "%s\tLOG\tERROR: Failed to log message!\n" % date
519
520     ## Display window briefly
521     def flash_window(self, img, title=''):
522         cv2.namedWindow(title, cv2.WINDOW_NORMAL)
523         if self.config['FULLSCREEN']: cv2.setWindowProperty(title, cv2.
524             WND_PROP_FULLSCREEN, cv2.cv.CV_WINDOW_FULLSCREEN)
525         cv2.imshow(title, img)
526         if cv2.waitKey(5) == 0:
527             time.sleep(0.05)
528             pass
529
530     ## Draw Lines
531     def draw_lines(self, img, offset):
532         """
533             Draw tolerance, offset, and center lines on image
534         """
535         (h, w, d) = img.shape
536         try:
537             TOLERANCE = int((self.config['CAMERA_WIDTH'] / self.config['
538                 CAMERA_FOV']) * self.config['ERROR_TOLERANCE'])
539             cv2.line(img, (TOLERANCE + w/2 + self.config['CAMERA_OFFSET'],
540                 0), (TOLERANCE + w/2 + self.config['CAMERA_OFFSET'], h),
541                 (0,0,255), 1)

```

```

534         cv2.line(img, (-TOLERANCE + w/2 + self.config['CAMERA_OFFSET'],
535                   0), (-TOLERANCE + w/2 + self.config['CAMERA_OFFSET'], h
536                   ), (0,0,255), 1)
537         cv2.line(img, (offset + w/2, 0), (offset + w/2, h), (0,255,0),
538                   2) # Average
539         cv2.line(img, (w/2 + self.config['CAMERA_OFFSET'], 0), (w/2 +
540                   self.config['CAMERA_OFFSET'], h), (255,255,255), 1) #
541         Center
542         return img
543     except Exception as e:
544         raise e
545
546     ## Run Calibration
547     def run_calibration(self, delay=1.0, sweeps=2):
548         """
549             Execute calibration routine (if necessary) for hydraulic
550                 controller
551         """
552         self.calibrating = True
553         self.log_msg('LOG', 'WARN: Running calibration sweep ...',
554                     important=True)
555         v_zero = (self.config['MAX_VOLTAGE'] + self.config['MIN_VOLTAGE'])
556         / 2.0
557         pwm_zero = np.interp(v_zero, [0, self.config['SUPPLY_VOLTAGE']],
558                               [0, self.config['PWM_RESOLUTION']])
559         pwm_max = np.interp(self.config['MAX_VOLTAGE'], [0, self.config[
560                         'SUPPLY_VOLTAGE']], [1, self.config['PWM_RESOLUTION']])
561         pwm_min = np.interp(self.config['MIN_VOLTAGE'], [0, self.config[
562                         'SUPPLY_VOLTAGE']], [1, self.config['PWM_RESOLUTION']])
563
564     try:
565         for i in range(sweeps):
566             # Hold at min
567             self.controller.write(str(int(pwm_min)) + '\n') # Write to
568                 PWM adaptor
569             self.controller.readline()
570             time.sleep(delay)
571             # Sweep up
572             for pwm in range(int(pwm_min), int(pwm_max)):
573                 self.controller.write(str(int(pwm)) + '\n') # Write to
574                     PWM adaptor
575                 self.controller.readline()
576             # Hold at max
577             self.controller.write(str(int(pwm_max)) + '\n') # Write to
578                 PWM adaptor
579             self.controller.readline()
580             time.sleep(delay)
581             # Sweep down
582             for pwm in range(int(pwm_max), int(pwm_min)):
583                 self.controller.write(str(int(pwm)) + '\n') # Write to
584                     PWM adaptor

```

```

569             self.controller.readline()
570     except Exception as error:
571         self.log_msg('LOG', 'ERROR: %s' % str(error), important=True)
572     self.calibrating = False
573
574     ## Generate Output Image
575     def generate_output(self, images, masks, avg, volts):
576         """
577             Generates a single composite image of the multiple camera feeds,
578             with lines drawn
579         """
580         output_images = []
581         if self.config['HIGHLIGHT']:
582             if self.config['VERBOSE']: self.log_msg('DISP', 'Using mask
583                 for output images')
584             for mask in masks:
585                 try:
586                     if mask is None: mask = np.zeros((self.config['
587                         CAMERA_HEIGHT'], self.config['CAMERA_WIDTH'], 1),
588                         np.uint8)
589                     img = np.array(np.dstack((mask, mask, mask)))
590                     output_images.append(self.draw_lines(img, avg))
591                 except Exception as error:
592                     raise error
593             else:
594                 if self.config['VERBOSE']: self.log_msg('DISP', 'Using RGB for
595                     output images')
596             for img in images:
597                 try:
598                     if img is None: img = np.zeros((self.config['
599                         CAMERA_HEIGHT'], self.config['CAMERA_WIDTH'], 3),
600                         np.uint8)
601                     output_images.append(self.draw_lines(img, avg))
602                 except Exception as error:
603                     raise error
604             output = np.vstack(output_images)
605
606             # Add Padding
607             pad_y = self.config['CAMERA_HEIGHT'] * 0.15
608             pad = np.zeros((pad_y, self.config['CAMERA_WIDTH'], 3), np.uint8)
609             # add blank space
610             output = np.vstack([output, pad])
611
612             # Offset Distance
613             distance = round((avg - self.config['CAMERA_OFFSET']) / (self.
614                 config['CAMERA_WIDTH'] / self.config['CAMERA_FOV']), 2)
615             self.log_msg('DISP', 'Offset Distance: %d' % distance)
616             if avg - self.config['CAMERA_WIDTH'] / 2 >= 0:
617                 distance_str = str("+" + "%2.1f cm" % distance)
618             elif avg - self.config['CAMERA_WIDTH'] / 2 < 0:

```

```

610     distance_str = str("%2.1f cm" % distance)
611 else:
612     distance_str = str(" . cm")
613 cv2.putText(output, distance_str, (int(self.config['CAMERA_WIDTH'] *
614         * 0.04), int(self.config['CAMERAS'] * self.config['
615             CAMERA_HEIGHT'] + pad_y / 1.5)), cv2.FONT_HERSHEY_SIMPLEX,
616             0.75, (255,255,255), 2)
617
618 # Output Voltage
619 volts_str = str("%2.1f V" % volts)
620 cv2.putText(output, volts_str, (int(self.config['CAMERA_WIDTH'] *
621         * 0.72), int(self.config['CAMERAS'] * self.config['CAMERA_HEIGHT
622         '] + pad_y / 1.5)), cv2.FONT_HERSHEY_SIMPLEX, 0.75,
623         (255,255,255), 2)
624
625 # Arrow (Directional)
626 if avg - self.config['CAMERA_WIDTH'] / 2 >= 0:
627     p = (int(self.config['CAMERA_WIDTH'] * 0.45), int(self.config[
628         'CAMERAS'] * self.config['CAMERA_HEIGHT'] + pad_y / 2))
629     q = (int(self.config['CAMERA_WIDTH'] * 0.55), int(self.config[
630         'CAMERAS'] * self.config['CAMERA_HEIGHT'] + pad_y / 2))
631 elif avg - self.config['CAMERA_WIDTH'] / 2 < 0:
632     p = (int(self.config['CAMERA_WIDTH'] * 0.55), int(self.config[
633         'CAMERAS'] * self.config['CAMERA_HEIGHT'] + pad_y / 2))
634     q = (int(self.config['CAMERA_WIDTH'] * 0.45), int(self.config[
635         'CAMERAS'] * self.config['CAMERA_HEIGHT'] + pad_y / 2))
636 color = (255,255,255)
637 thickness = 4
638 line_type = 8
639 shift = 0
640 arrow_magnitude=15
641 cv2.line(output, p, q, color, thickness, line_type, shift) # draw
642     arrow tail
643 angle = np.arctan2(p[1]-q[1], p[0]-q[0])
644 p = (int(q[0] + arrow_magnitude * np.cos(angle + np.pi/4)), #
645     starting point of first line of arrow head
646     int(q[1] + arrow_magnitude * np.sin(angle + np.pi/4)))
647 cv2.line(output, p, q, color, thickness, line_type, shift) # draw
648     first half of arrow head
649 p = (int(q[0] + arrow_magnitude * np.cos(angle - np.pi/4)), #
650     starting point of second line of arrow head
651     int(q[1] + arrow_magnitude * np.sin(angle - np.pi/4)))
652 cv2.line(output, p, q, color, thickness, line_type, shift) # draw
653     second half of arrow head
654 return output
655
656 ## Update the Display
657 def update_display(self, images, masks, volts, avg):
658     """
659     Check for concurrent update process

```

```

645     Draw graphics on images
646     Output GUI display
647     """
648     if self.config['VERBOSE']: self.log_msg('DISP', 'Updating display
649         ...')
650     a = time.time()
651     if self.updating:
652         return # if the display is already updating, wait and exit (
653             puts less harm on the CPU)
654     else:
655         self.updating = True
656     try:
657         output_small = self.generate_output(images, masks, avg,
658             volts)
659         self.output_image = output_small
660         output_large = cv2.resize(output_small, (self.config['
661             DISPLAY_WIDTH'], self.config['DISPLAY_HEIGHT']))
662
663         # Draw GUI
664         self.log_msg('DISP', 'Output shape: %s' % str(output_large
665             .shape))
666         self.flash_window(output_large, title='Agri-Vision')
667     except Exception as error:
668         self.updating = False
669         self.log_msg('DISP', str(error), important=True)
670     self.updating = False
671     b = time.time()
672     self.log_msg('DISP', '... %.2f ms' % ((b - a) * 1000))
673
674     ## Update GPS
675     def update_gps(self):
676         """
677         Get the most recent GPS data
678         Sets: Global variables lat, long and speed
679         """
680         if self.config['GPS_ENABLED']:
681             if self.gpsd is not None:
682                 try:
683                     self.gpsd.next()
684                     self.latitude = self.gpsd.fix.latitude
685                     self.longitude = self.gpsd.fix.longitude
686                     self.speed = self.gpsd.fix.speed
687                     self.log_msg('GPS', '%d N %d E' % (self.latitude, self
688                         .longitude))
689                 except Exception as error:
690                     self.log_msg('GPS', 'ERROR: %s' % str(error),
691                         important=True)
692
693             ## Close
694             def close(self, delay=0.5):

```

```

688     """
689     Function to shutdown application safely
690     1. Close windows
691     2. Disable controller
692     3. Release capture interfaces
693     """
694     self.log_msg('SYS', 'Shutting Down!')
695     if self.controller is None:
696         self.log_msg('WARN', 'Controller already off!')
697     else:
698         try:
699             self.log_msg('CTRL', 'Closing Controller ...')
700             self.controller.close() ## Disable controller
701         except Exception as error:
702             self.log_msg('CTRL', 'ERROR: %s' % str(error), important=True)
703     for i in range(len(self.cameras)):
704         if self.cameras[i] is None:
705             self.log_msg('CAM', 'WARN: Camera %d already off!' % i)
706         else:
707             try:
708                 self.log_msg('CAM', 'WARN: Closing Camera %d ...' % i)
709                 self.cameras[i].release() ## Disable cameras
710             except Exception as error:
711                 self.log_msg('CAM', 'ERROR: %s' % str(error),
712                             important=True)
712     if self.config['DISPLAY_ON']:
713         cv2.destroyAllWindows() ## Close windows
714
715     ## Check Controller
716     def check_controller(self):
717         """ Checks controller for functioning stream """
718         if self.config['VERBOSE']: self.log_msg('CTRL', 'Checking controller ...')
719         if self.controller is None:
720             try:
721                 self.controller = self.attach_controller()
722             except Exception as e:
723                 self.log_msg('CTRL', 'ERROR: Failed to attach controller!',
724                             important=True)
725
726     ## Run
727     def run(self):
728         """
729         Function for Run-time loop
730         1. Capture images
731         2. Generate mask filter for plant matter
732         3. Calculate indices of rows
733         5. Estimate row from both images
734         4. Get number of averages

```

```

734     5. Calculate moving average
735     6. Send PWM response to controller
736     7a. Log results to DB
737     7b. Display results
738     """
739
740     if self.running:
741         return # Don't do anything
742     else:
743         self.running = True
744         try:
745             images = self.capture_images()
746             masks = self.bppd_filter(images)
747             offsets, sums = self.find_offset(masks)
748             (est, avg, diff) = self.estimate_row(offsets, sums)
749             sig = self.calculate_output(est, avg, diff)
750             pwm = self.set_controller(sig)
751             volts = self.to_volts(pwm)
752             self.log_msg("SYS", "err:%s, cams:%d, pwm:%d, volts:%2.2f"
753                         % (str(offsets), avg, pwm, volts), important=True)
754             if self.config['MONGO_ON']:
755                 sample = {'sig':sig, "pwm":pwm, "volts":volts, "est":
756                           est, "sums":sums, "offsets":offsets}
757                 doc_id = self.log_db(sample)
758             if self.config['DATALOG_ON']: self.log_data([est, sig, pwm
759                 , volts])
760             if self.config['DISPLAY_ON']:
761                 try:
762                     os.environ['DISPLAY']
763                     threading.Thread(target=self.update_display,
764                                     args=(images, masks, volts, avg),
765                                     kwargs={})
766                     .start()
767                 except Exception as error:
768                     self.log_msg('SYS', 'ERROR: %s' % str(error),
769                                 important=True)
770                 else:
771                     self.output_image = self.generate_output(images, masks
772                         , avg, volts)
773             except KeyboardInterrupt as error:
774                 self.shutdown()
775             except UnboundLocalError as error:
776                 self.log_msg('SYS', 'ERROR: %s' % str(error), important=
777                             True)
778                 self.shutdown()
779             except IOError as error:
780                 self.log_msg('SYS', 'ERROR: %s' % str(error), important=
781                             True)
782                 self.shutdown()
783             except Exception as error:
784                 self.log_msg('SYS', 'ERROR: %s' % str(error))

```

```

777         try:
778             for i in range(self.config['CAMERAS']):
779                 self.attach_camera(i)
780             except Exception as error:
781                 self.log_msg('SYS', 'ERROR: %s' % str(error),
782                             important=True)
782             self.running = False
783
784     ## Save Image
785     def save_image(self, filename='out.jpg', subdir='agionic/www'):
786         """ Save image to output file (to be loaded by webserver) """
787         try:
788             if self.config['VERBOSE']: self.log_msg('HTTP', 'Saving output
789                                         image to file')
790             filepath = os.path.join(self.CURRENT_DIR, subdir, filename)
791             cv2.imwrite(filepath, self.output_image)
792         except Exception as error:
793             self.log_msg('SYS', 'ERROR: %s' % str(error), important=True)
794
795     ## Save Settings
796     def save_settings(self, keyval, filename='custom.json', subdir='modes'):
797         """
798             Save current config to a custom config file """
799         keys = keyval.keys()
800         vals = [int(v) for v in keyval.values()]
801         new_settings = dict(zip(keys, vals))
802         self.log_msg('CONF', str(new_settings))
803         self.config.update(new_settings)
804         filepath = os.path.join(self.CURRENT_DIR, subdir, filename)
805         with open(filepath, 'w') as jsonfile:
806             jsonfile.write(json.dumps(self.config, indent=4, sort_keys=
807                                     True))
808
809     ## Default Settings
810     def default_settings(self, filename='default.json', subdir='modes'):
811         """
812             Resets config to default settings file """
813         filepath = os.path.join(self.CURRENT_DIR, subdir, filename)
814         print "WARNING: Loading %s" % filepath
815         if os.path.exists(filepath):
816             with open(filepath, 'r') as jsonfile:
817                 self.config = json.loads(jsonfile.read())
818         else:
819             print "FATAL ERROR: No config found!"
820             exit(1)
821
822     ## Load Settings
823     def load_settings(self, config_file, subdir='modes'):
824         """
825             Load config from input file """
826         filepath = os.path.join(self.CURRENT_DIR, subdir, config_file)
827         print "WARNING: Loading %s" % filepath

```

```

823     if os.path.exists(filepath):
824         with open(filepath, 'r') as jsonfile:
825             self.config = json.loads(jsonfile.read())
826     else:
827         print "ERROR: Specified config not found! Trying default!"
828         self.default_settings()
829
830     ## Render Index
831     @cherrypy.expose
832     def index(self, indexfile="index.html"):
833         """ Render index file for webhooks """
834         indexpath = os.path.join(self.CURRENT_DIR, self.config['
835             CHERRYPY_PATH'], indexfile)
836         with open(indexpath) as html:
837             return html.read()
838
839     ## Handle Posts
840     @cherrypy.expose
841     def default(self, *args, **kwargs):
842         """ This function is basically the API """
843         try:
844             url = args[0] #!TODO: select action depending on request type/
845             url
846             #self.save_image()
847             if url == 'update':
848                 # Parse JSON object to pythonic dict
849                 post = kwargs.keys()
850                 data = post[0]
851                 unicode_config = json.loads(data)
852                 new_configs = dict([(str(k), v) for k, v in unicode_config
853                     .items()])
854                 self.save_settings(new_configs)
855             elif url == 'config':
856                 self.log_msg("HTTP", "Caught /config request")
857                 return json.dumps(self.config)
858             elif url == 'default':
859                 self.log_msg("HTTP", "Caught /default request")
860                 self.default_settings()
861                 return json.dumps(self.config)
862             elif url == 'calibrate':
863                 self.log_msg("HTTP", "Caught /calibrate request")
864                 self.run_calibration()
865             except Exception as err:
866                 self.log_msg('ERROR', str(err), important=True)
867             return None
868
869     ## CherryPy Reboot
870     @cherrypy.expose
871     def shutdown(self):
872         cherrypy.engine.exit()

```

```
870
871 ## Main
872 if __name__ == '__main__':
873     session = app(CONFIG_FILE)
874     cherrypy.server.socket_host = session.config['CHERRYPY_ADDR']
875     cherrypy.server.socket_port = session.config['CHERRYPY_PORT']
876     conf = {
877         '/': {'tools.staticdir.on':True, 'tools.staticdir.dir':os.path.
878                join(session.CURRENT_DIR, session.config['CHERRYPY_PATH'])},
879         '/js': {'tools.staticdir.on':True, 'tools.staticdir.dir':os.path.
880                  join(session.CURRENT_DIR, session.config['CHERRYPY_PATH'], 'js
881                  ')},
882         '/logs': {'tools.staticdir.on':True, 'tools.staticdir.dir':os.path
883                    .join(session.CURRENT_DIR, 'logs')},
884     }
885     cherrypy.quickstart(session, '/', config=conf)
886     session.close()
887     #if session.reboot: os.system("reboot")
```