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UTokyo Field Phenomics Lab

Procedural Geometric Modeling for Plant Phenomics by Blender: Case Study of Maize

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Background

01



1.1 Digital Clone for Agriculture

[1]



Digital Clone

“Digital clone is the digital equivalent of real-life object mirrors its behavior and status over lifetime in a virtual space” [2]

If apply in agriculture:

- Manage operation remotely based on digital information
- Simulate the operation effects and find the best operation.

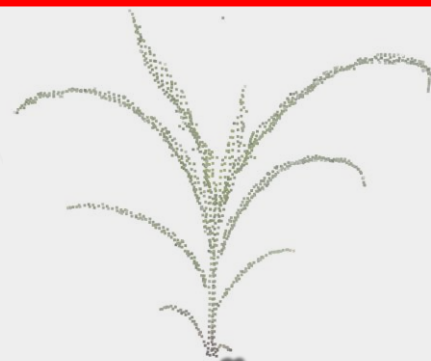
Plant 3D model is the fundamental

[1] <https://www.wur.nl/en/newsarticle/WUR-is-working-on-Digital-Twins-for-tomatoes-food-and-farming.htm>

[2] Verdouw, C., Tekinerdogan, B., Beulens, A., Wolfert, S., 2021. Digital twins in smart farming. Agricultural Systems 189, 103046. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.agry.2020.103046>

1.2 Digital Plant Data Formats

2D images



scatter

Most used
but hard to
analyze



raster image

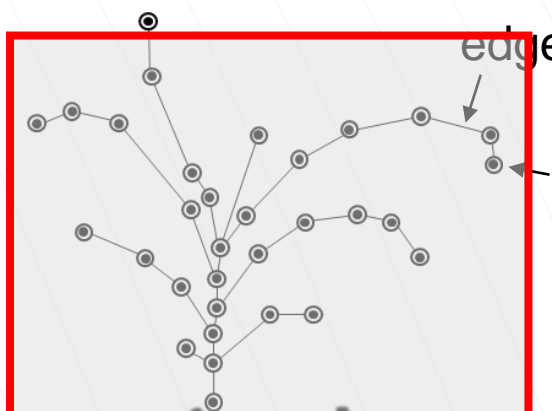
(m x n) matrix

Easy to
analyze but
often low
quality



voxel model

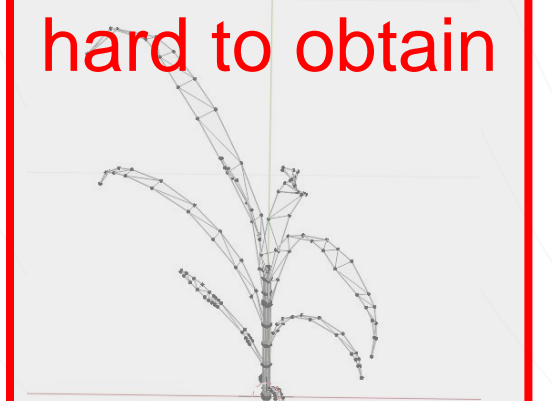
(m x n x k) matrix



vector graph

only record edge vertex points

Preferred but
hard to obtain



mesh model

only record edge vertex points

3D models



point cloud

group of (x,y,z) points

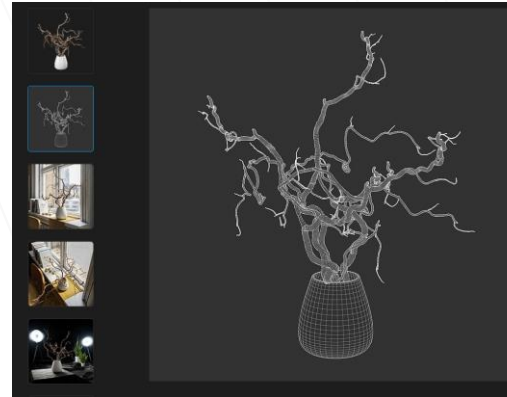
1.3 Obtain Plant 3D Models

■ Modeling

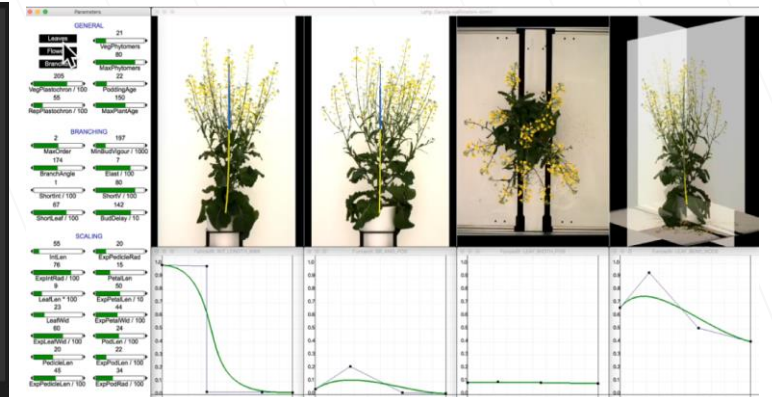
Non-existent plant based

Create “Non-existent” plant model from shape and structure simulation

manual modeling [1]



procedural modeling [2]



■ Reconstruction

Exist plant based

Build model from existing plants, by photos or 3D scanning devices



Laser based scanning

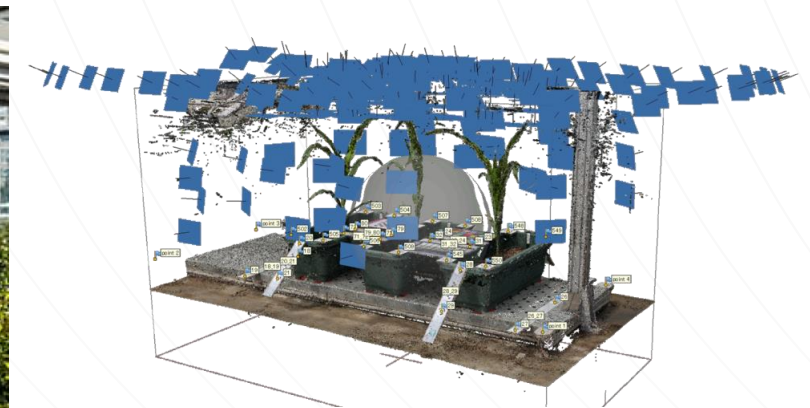


Image based reconstruction

[1] <https://www.poliigon.com/models/plants>

[2] M. Cieslak, N. Khan, P. Ferraro, R. Soolanayakanahally, S.J. Robinson, I. Parkin, I. McQuillan, P. Prusinkiewicz, L-system models for image-based phenomics: case studies of maize and canola, In Silico Plants. (2021) diab039. <https://doi.org/10.1093/insilicoplants/diab039>.

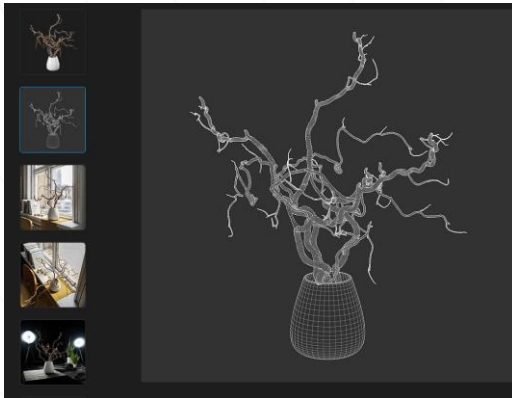
1.3 Obtain Plant 3D Models

■ Modeling

Non-existent plant based

Create “Non-existent” plant model from shape and structure simulation

manual modeling [1]



The most common way to get plant models, the performance highly relies on the modeler

Commercial models are also available on some website [1], the price around \$10 each

Suitable for CG / game industry assets, **NOT** a good choice for agricultural purposes (**variation for each plant**)

[1] <https://www.poliigon.com/models/plants>

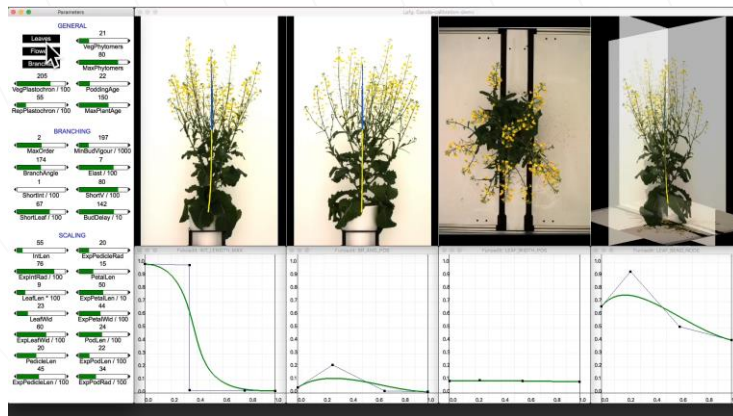
1.3 Obtain Plant 3D Models

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procedural modeling [1]



Advanced demo

Using parameters to control the shape of model

L-system

use string iteration to draw figures

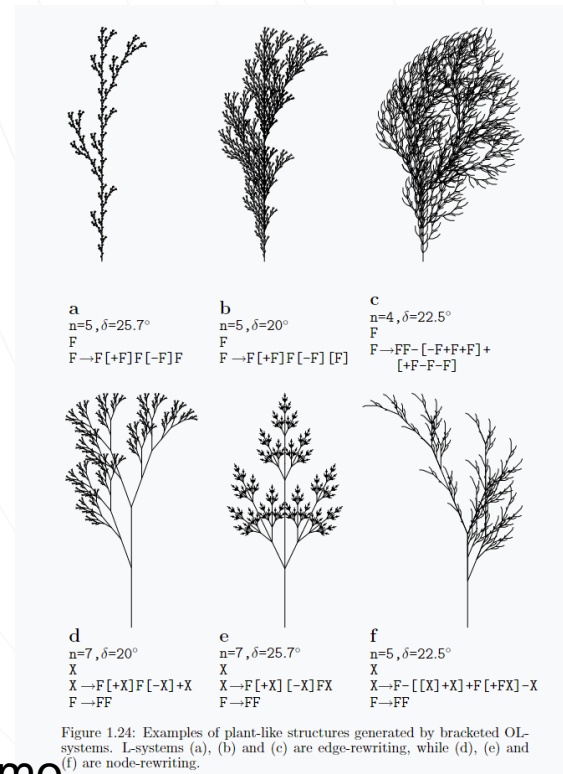


Figure 1.24: Examples of plant-like structures generated by bracketed OL-systems. L-systems (a), (b) and (c) are edge-rewriting, while (d), (e) and (f) are node-rewriting.

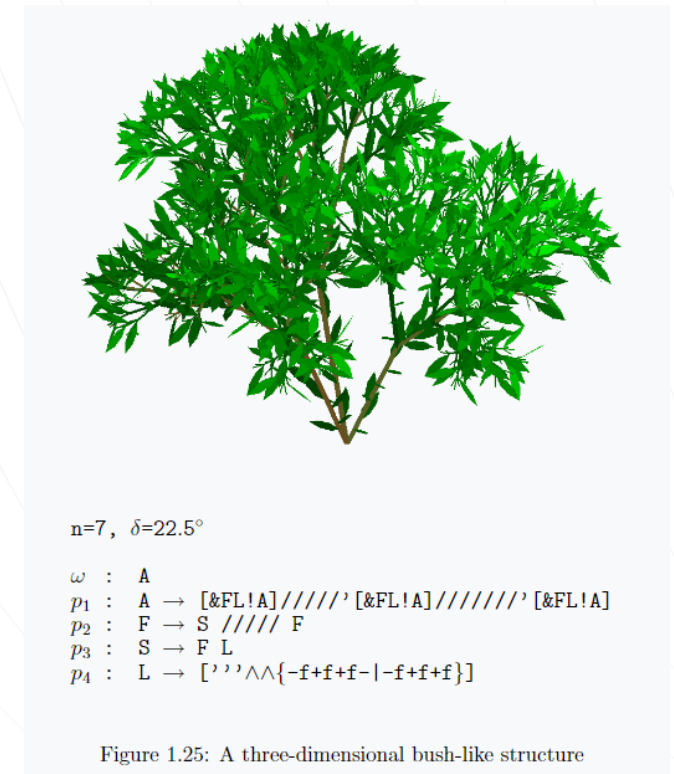


Figure 1.25: A three-dimensional bush-like structure

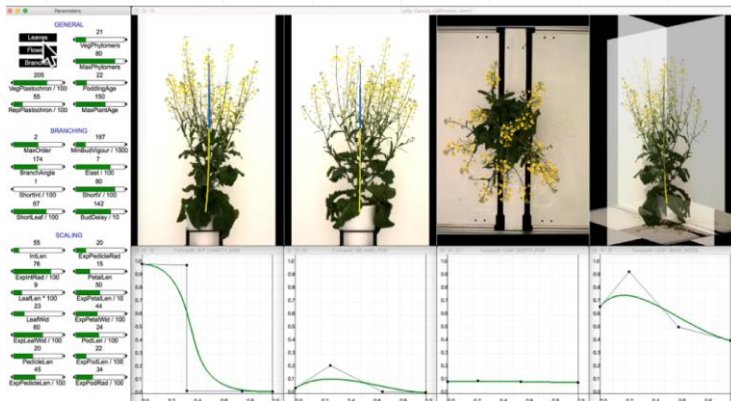
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procedural modeling [1]

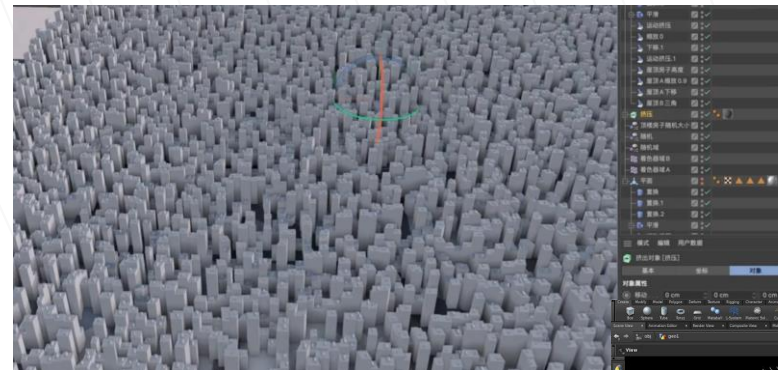


Using parameters to control the shape of model

L-system

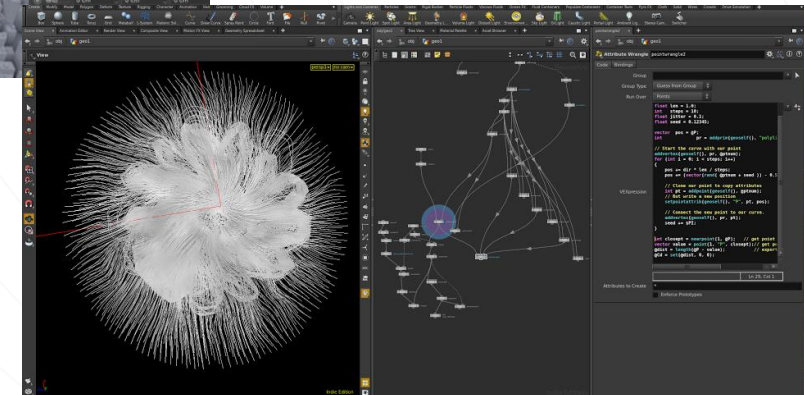
Commercial software

Most for buildings or arts



Cinema4D [2]

Houdini [3]



[1] M. Cieslak, N. Khan, P. Ferraro, R. Soolanayakanahally, S.J. Robinson, I. Parkin, I. McQuillan, P. Prusinkiewicz, L-system models for image-based phenomics: case studies of maize and canola, In Silico Plants. (2021) diab039. <https://doi.org/10.1093/insilicoplants/diab039>.

[2] <https://www.bilibili.com/video/BV1a7411w7EU/>

[3] Fractals and Procedural Production | Houdini, Fractals, Tutorial (pinterest.com)

1.3 Obtain Plant 3D Models

■ Modeling

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procedural modeling [1]

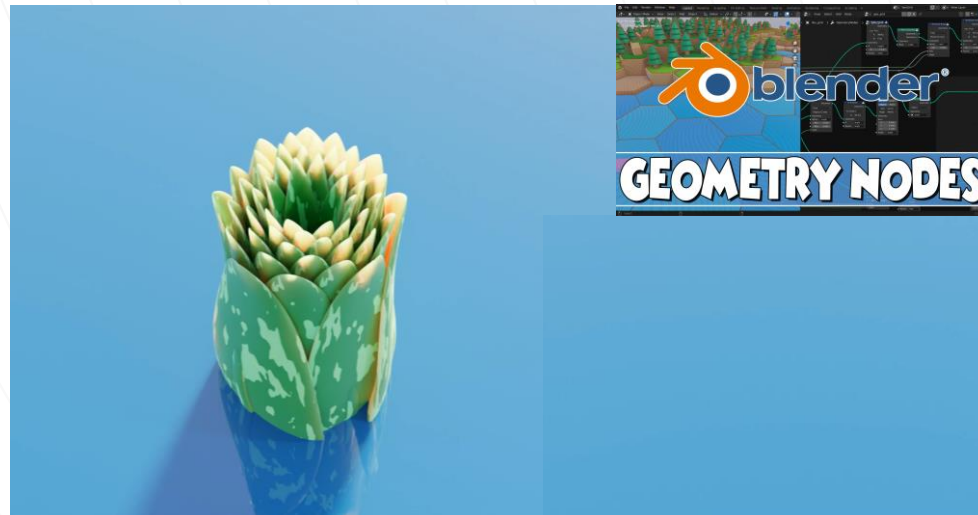


Using parameters to control the shape of model

L-system

Commercial software

Most for buildings or arts, and possible for plants



1.3 Obtain Plant 3D Models

■ Reconstruction

Exist plant based

Build model from existing plants, by photos or 3D scanning devices



Laser based scanning

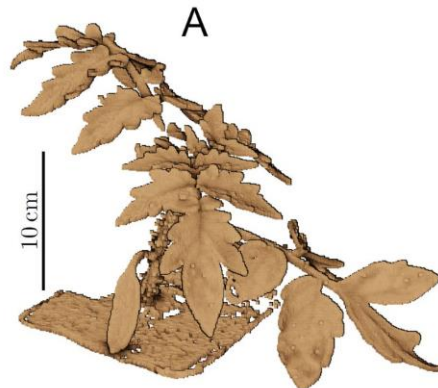
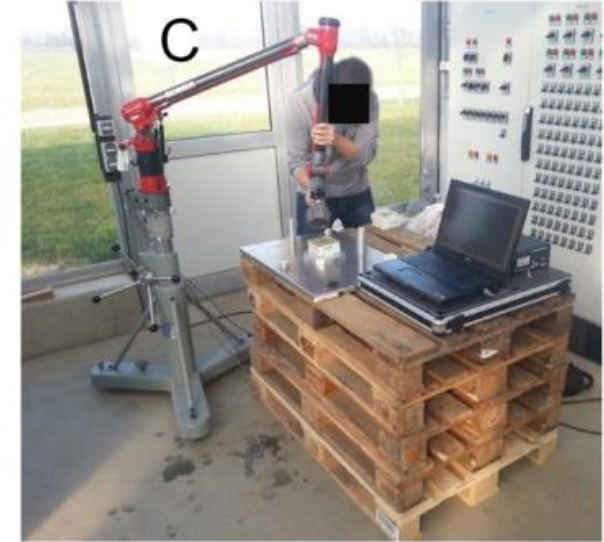
[1]



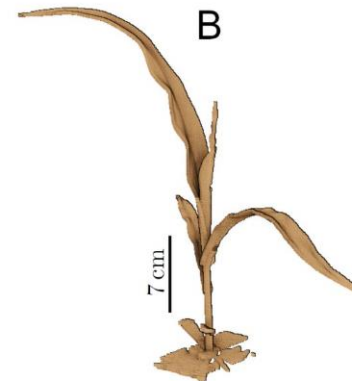
B



C



B



Accurate but device expensive

1.3 Obtain Plant 3D Models

■ Reconstruction

Exist plant based

Build model from existing plants, by photos or 3D scanning devices

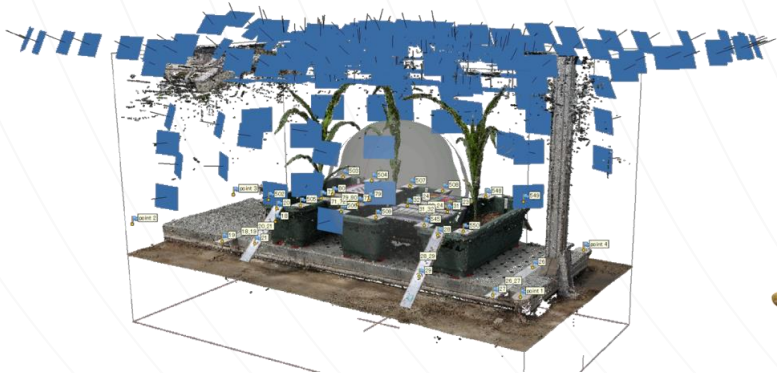
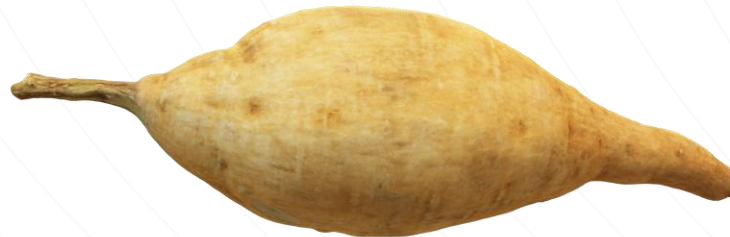
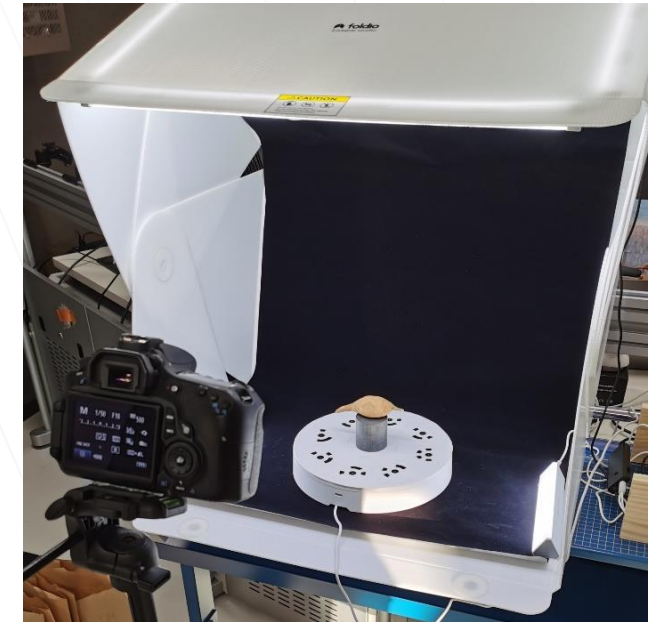
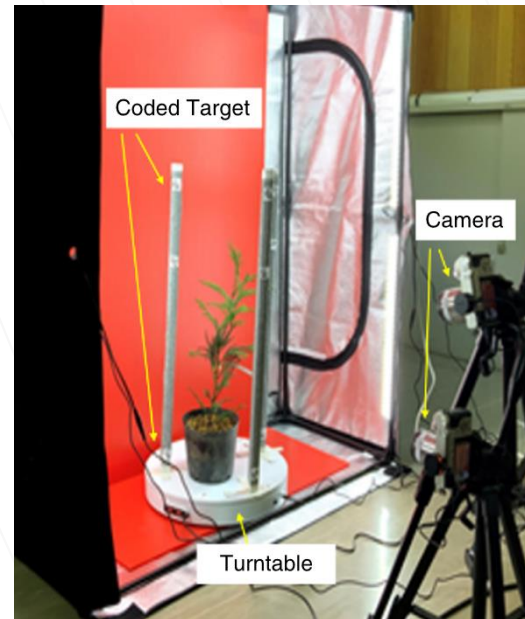


Image based reconstruction

[1]



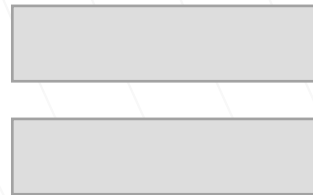
Cheap but need quality control

1.4 Research object

■ Modeling

Non-exist plant based

Flexible to adjust but **not “real”** plants



■ Reconstruction

Exist plant based

Real plants but **not flexible** to adjust

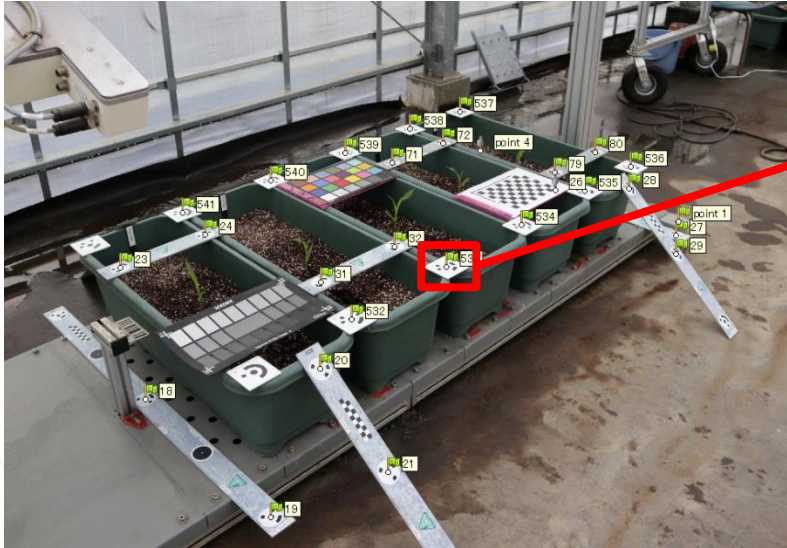


Adjustable real plants?

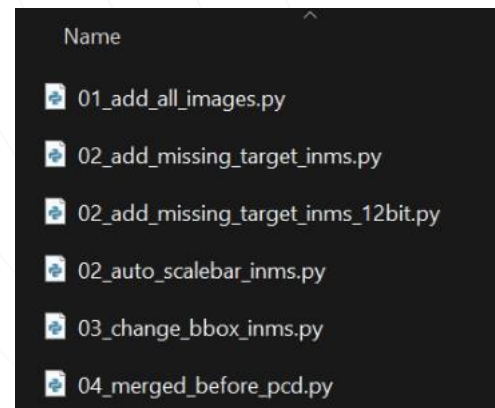
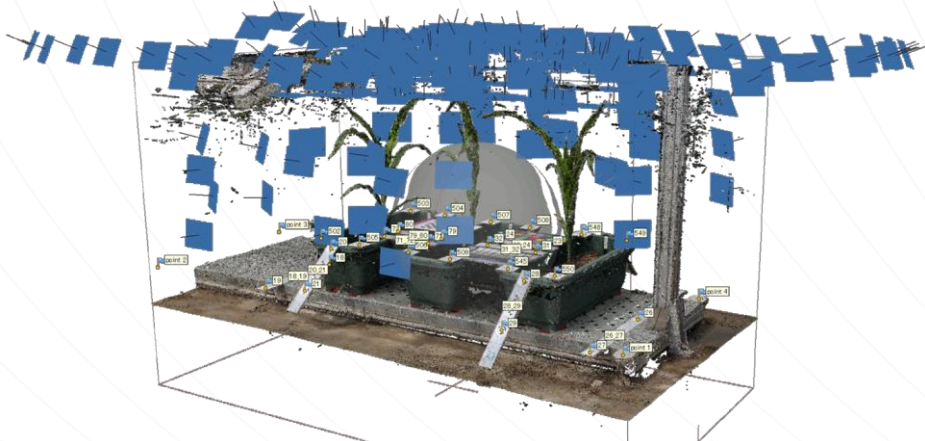
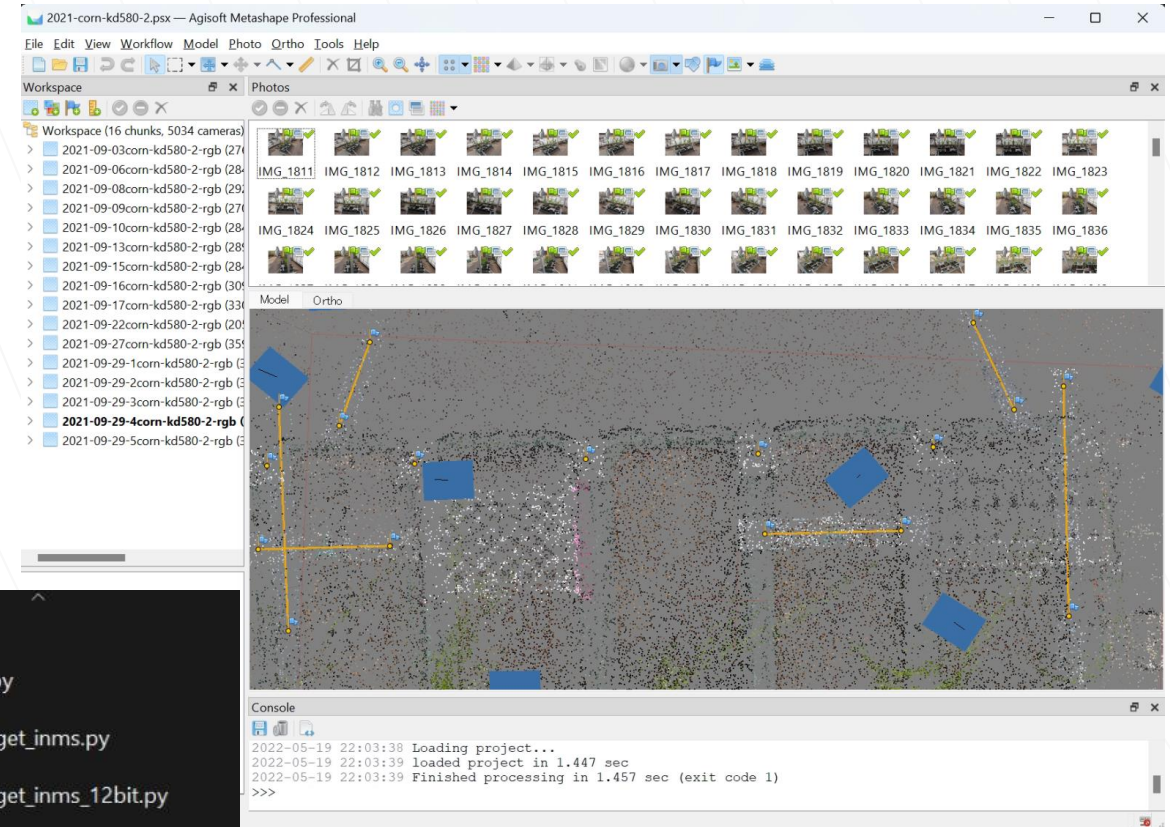
02 ■ Methods & Results

2.1 Collecting “real” maize by reconstruction

3D reconstruction platforms



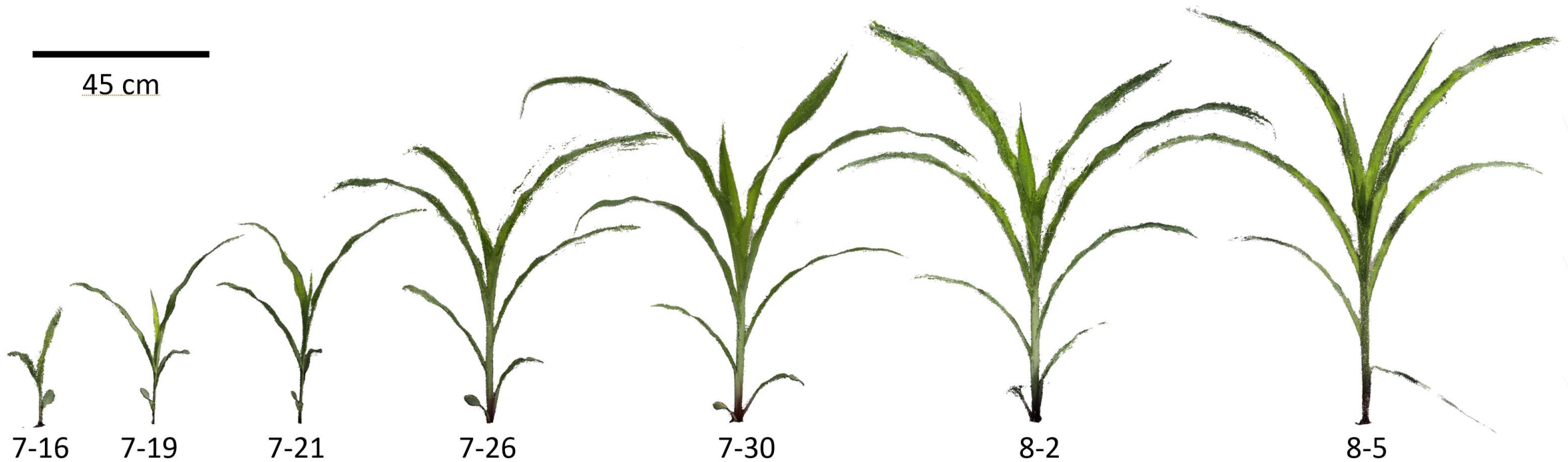
Auto-detectable markers



Batch processing scripts

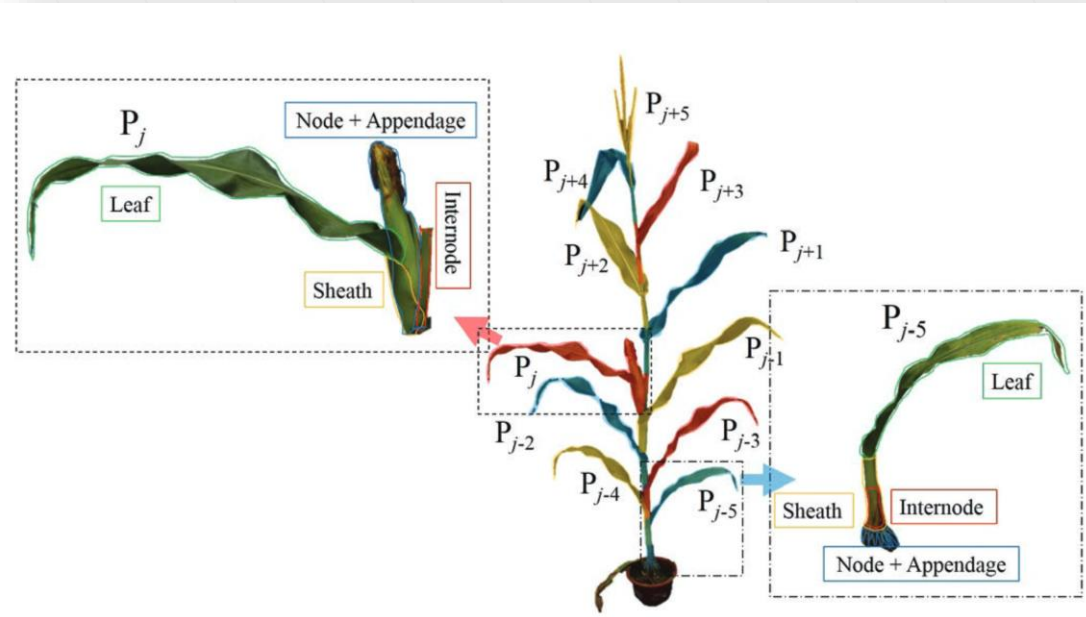
2.1 Collecting “real” maize by reconstruction

Obtained time-series “real” maize point cloud

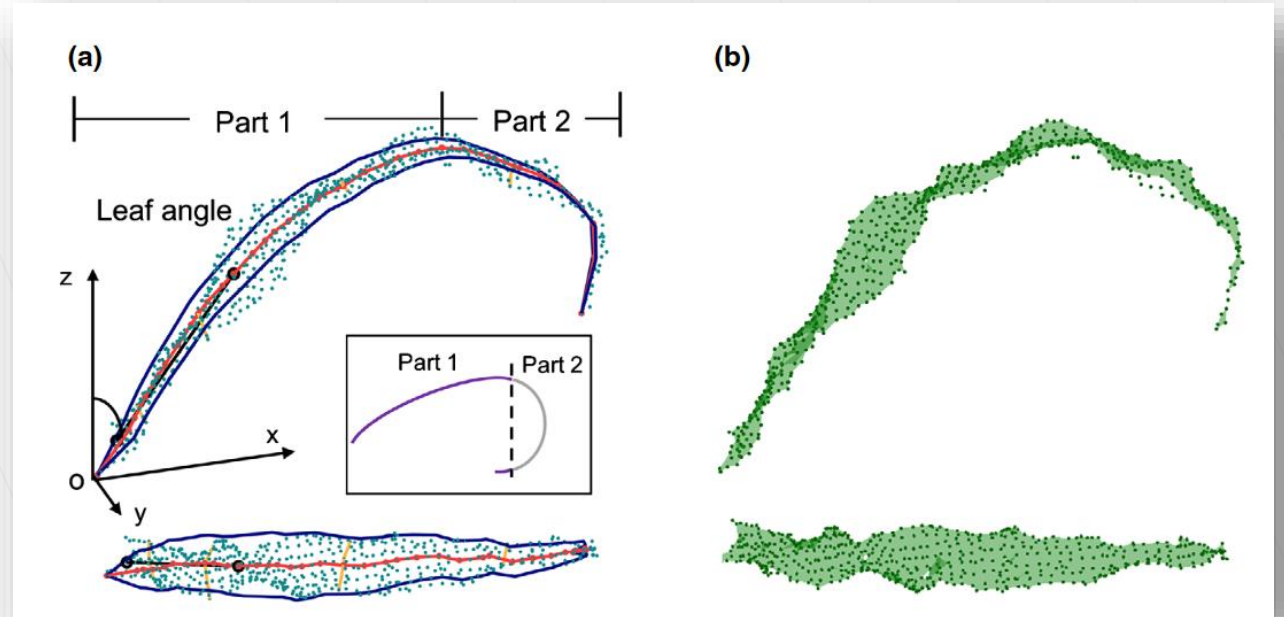


2.2 Link reconstruction data with adjustable model

Published maize model



Proper maize model unit – phytomer [1]



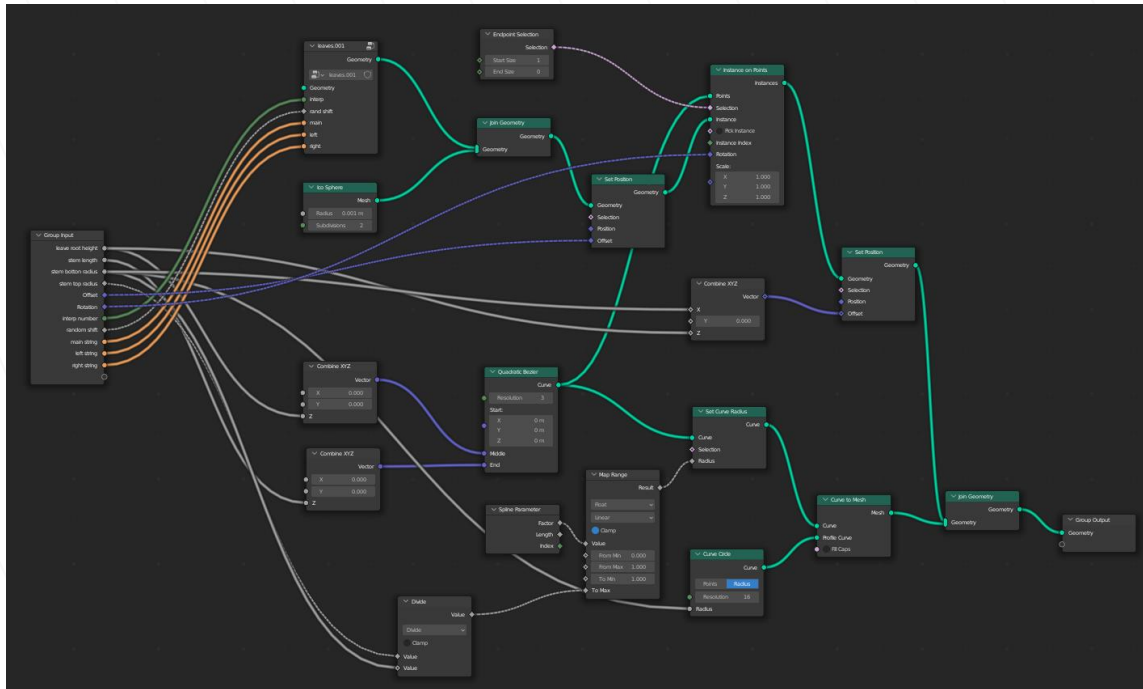
Method of maize leaf shape description [2]

[1] Wen, et.al., 2021. 3D phytomer-based geometric modelling method for plants—the case of maize. AoB PLANTS 13, plab055. <https://doi.org/10.1093/aobpla/plab055>

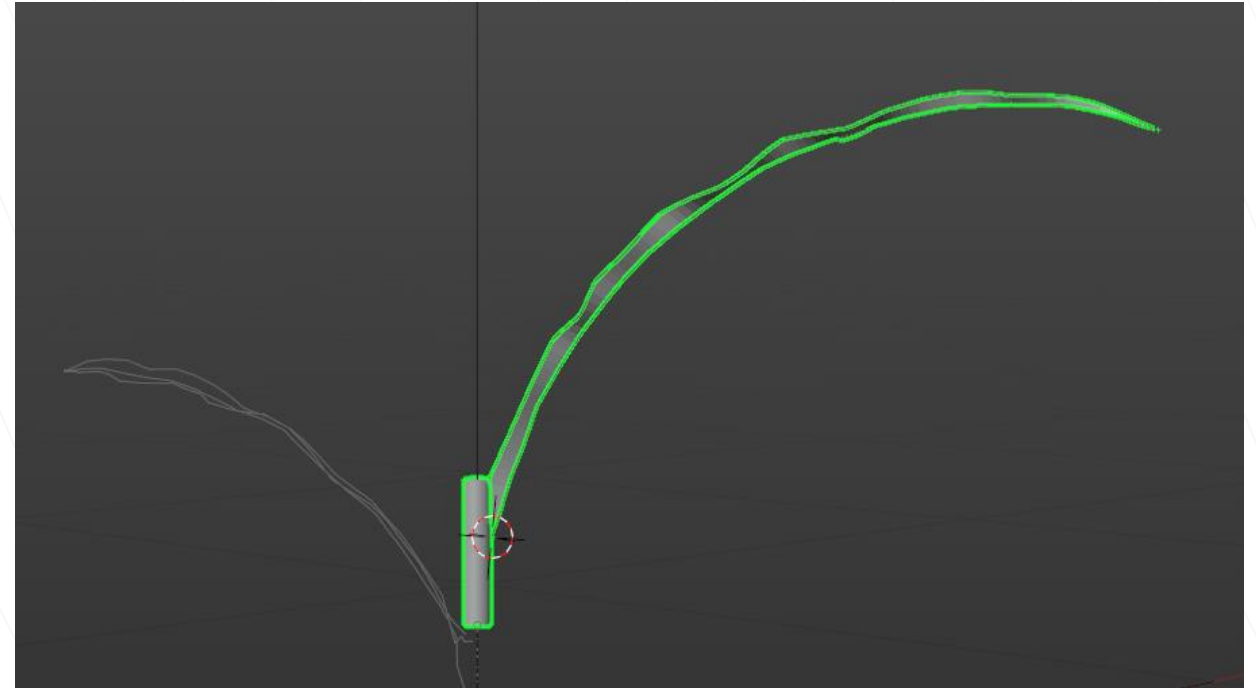
[2] Liu, et. al., 2021. Canopy occupation volume as an indicator of canopy photosynthetic capacity. New Phytol 232, 941–956. <https://doi.org/10.1111/nph.17611>

2.2 Link reconstruction data with adjustable model

Implementation in Blender



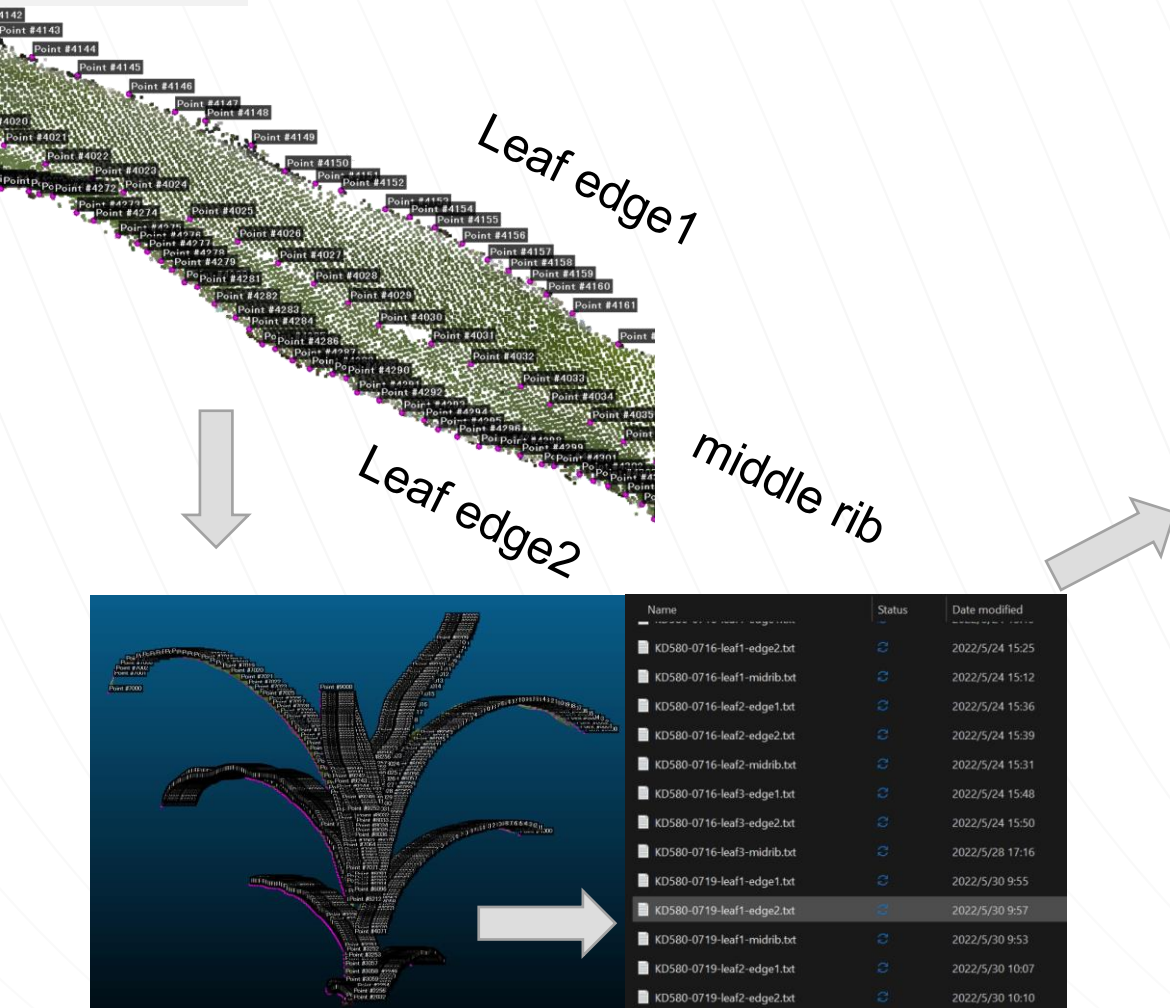
Geometry Node Graph (parts)



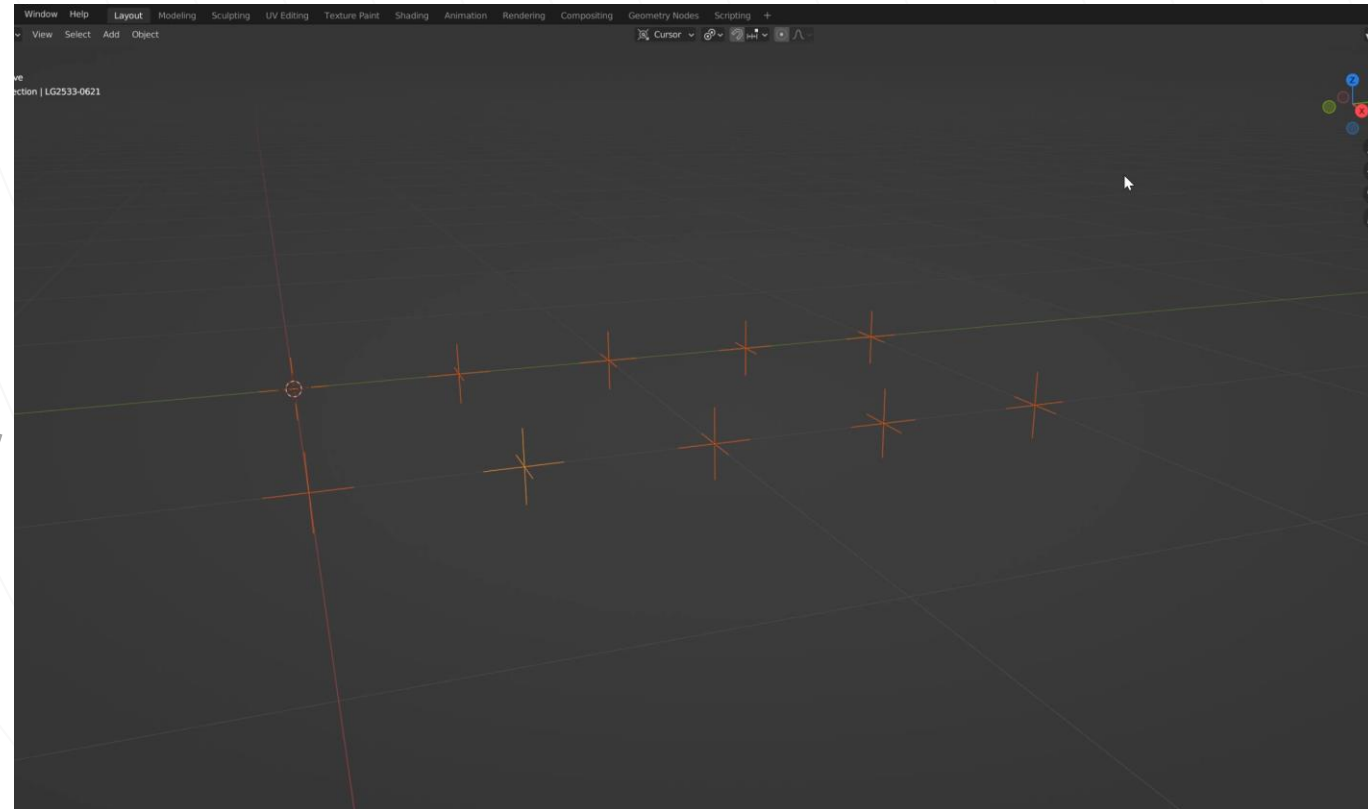
Maize phytomer in Blender

2.2 Link reconstruction data with adjustable model

Control models by parameters



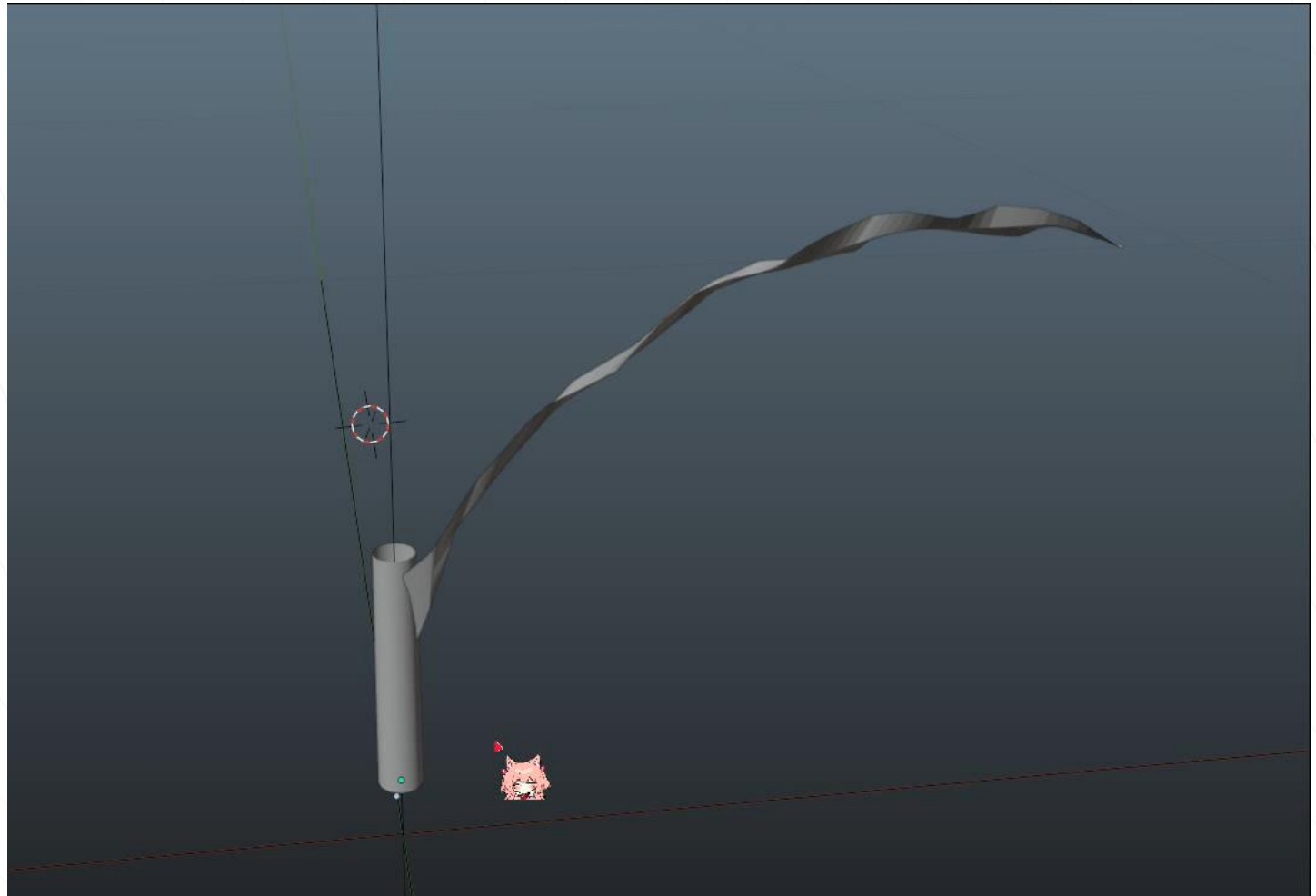
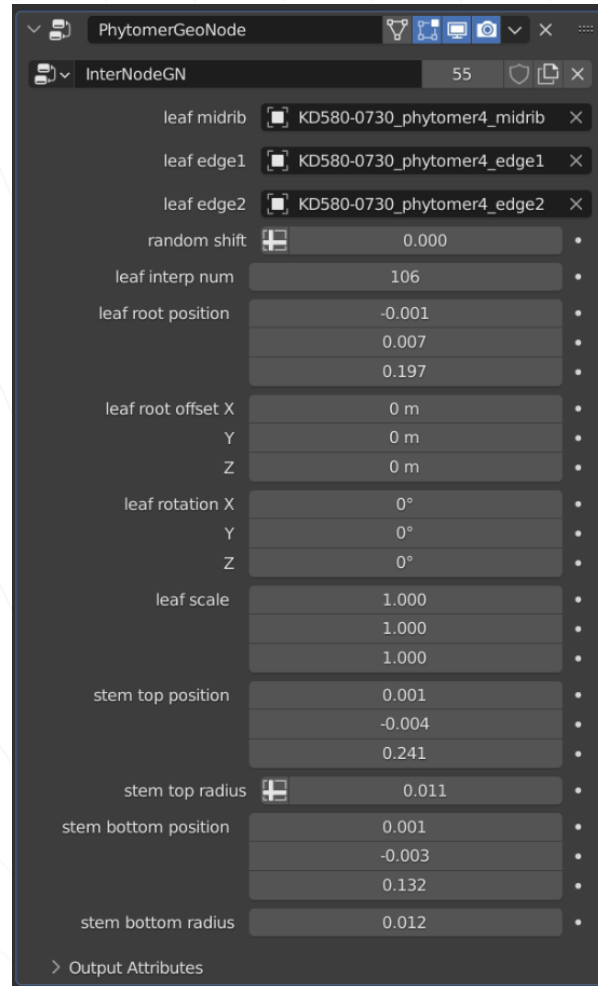
Batch loading skeletons to get mesh models



Pick each leaf

2.2 Link reconstruction data with adjustable model

Control models by parameters



03 ■ Summary

3 Summary

Study workflow



photos

Backward
projection

EasyIDP

Get leave texture & uv

Need further explore

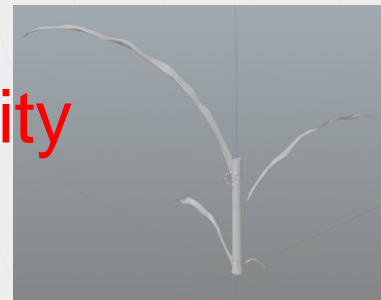


Room SfM platform



individual level
point cloud data

Used demo to validate feasibility



Paint texture



Organ
segmentation



Leaf edge
detection

Need automation



Python API



Get geometry
node model



template
database

Batch generate
maize models

For simulation, deep
learning training data, etc.

legend

- Done
- Doing
- Todo

==

Thank you

2022

