

PhD Thesis Presentation

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

マルチスケールデータ融合による植物表現型の3次元計測に関する研究

王浩舟 (Haozhou WANG)

農学国際専攻 (IPADS)

指導教員 加藤洋一郎 教授  
Supervisor Prof. Yoichiro KATO

2023/09/23



# CONTENT

01 ■ Introduction

02 ■ Close-range  
pipeline

03 ■ Aerial  
pipeline

04 ■ Cross-scale  
data-fusion

05 ■ Conclusion

# 01 ■ Introduction

---

# 1.1 General background

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



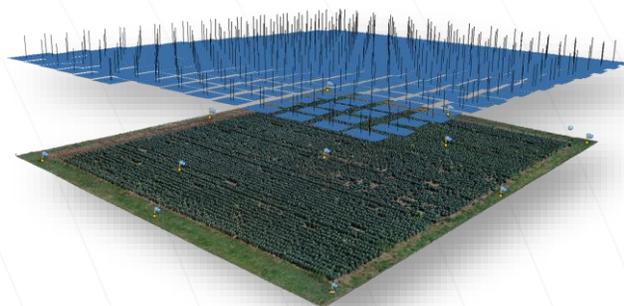
Traditional approach hard to meet such demand

High-throughput phenotyping technologies

# 1.2 Limitation of existing methods



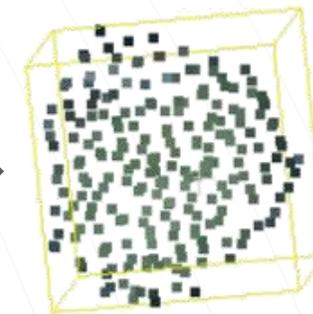
Aerial approach  
(distance to object > 5m)



Survey entire farmland efficiently



Low quality of organ structure



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

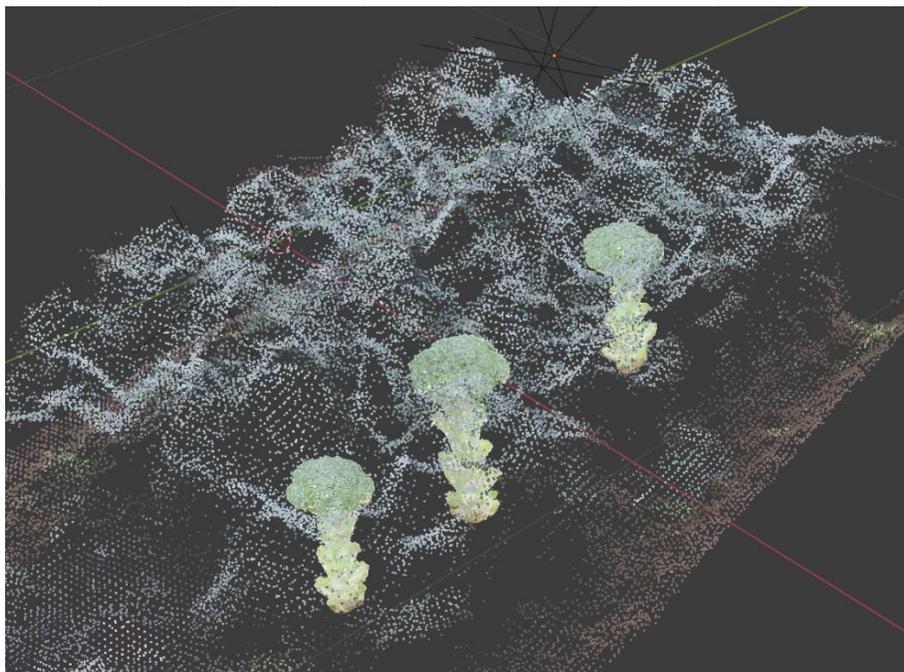


Obtain better organ structure



Low efficiency for surveying entire farmland

# 1.3 Research objective



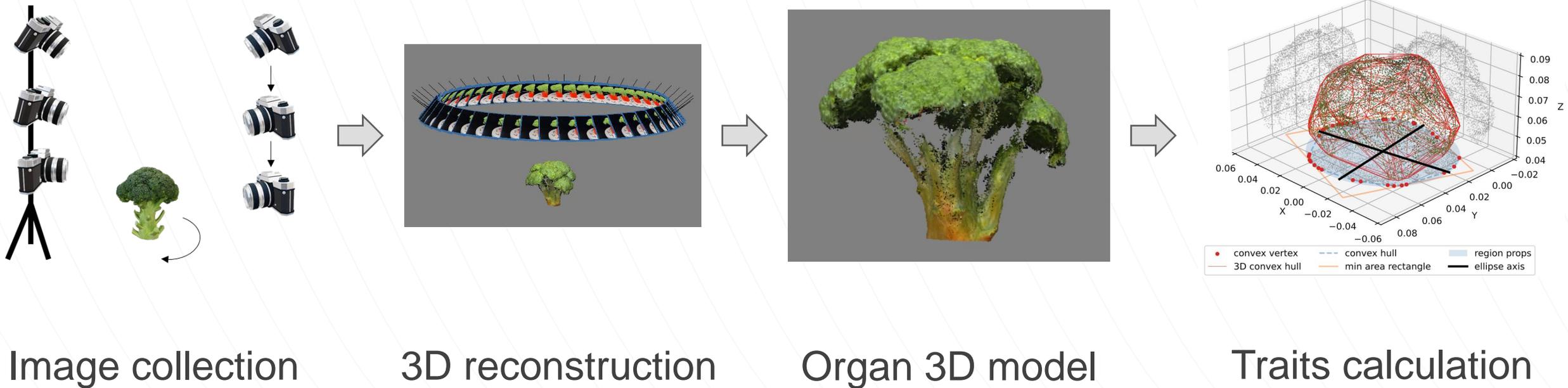
Can we obtain **high-quality** organ structure of entire farmland **efficiently** by **fusing both approaches**?

## 02 ■ Close-range 3D pipeline

---

## 2.1 Background

### Traditional close-range 3D phenotyping pipeline



## 2.2 Challenge

Traditional method cannot obtain complete organ structure



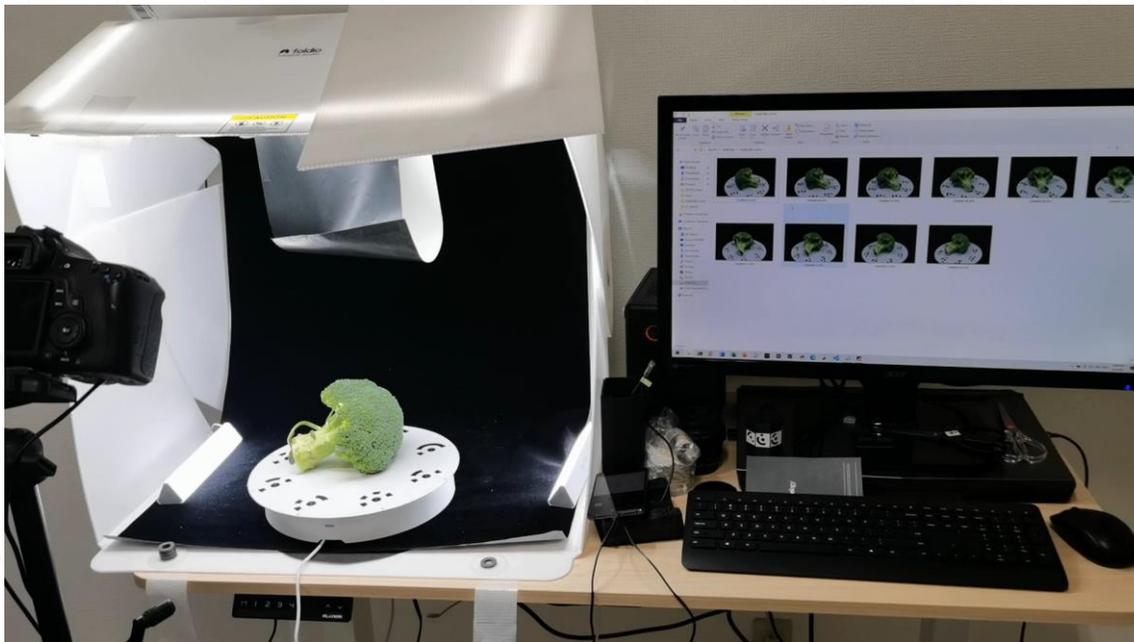
Obtained



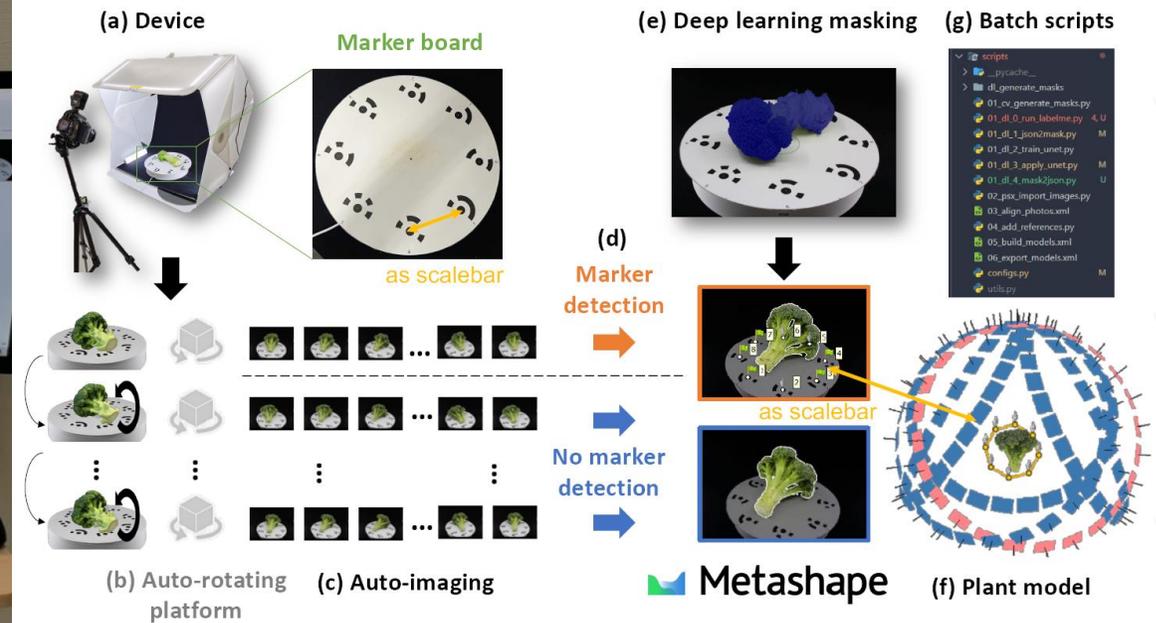
Expected

## 2.3 Solution

Implement an automatic data collection and 3D reconstruction pipeline



Automatic image collection

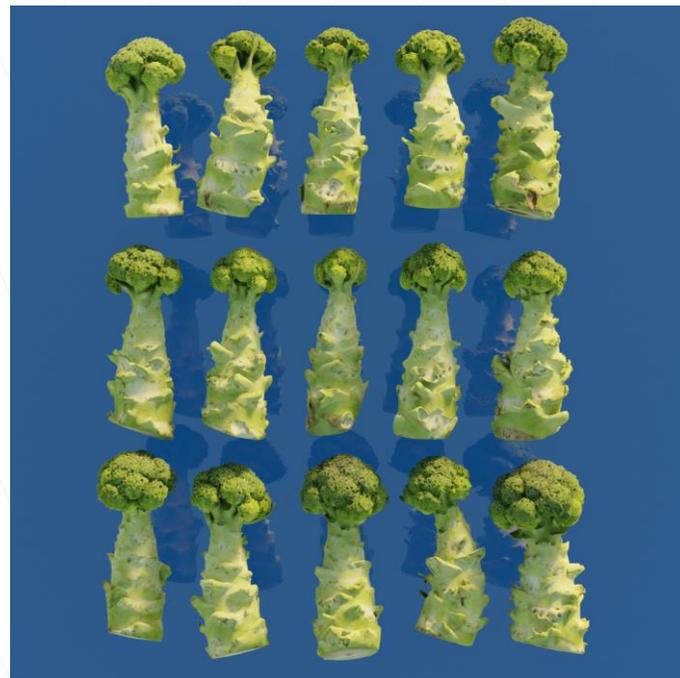


Dual rotation reconstruction pipeline

## 2.3 Results - obtained high-quality 3D model



Real world photo



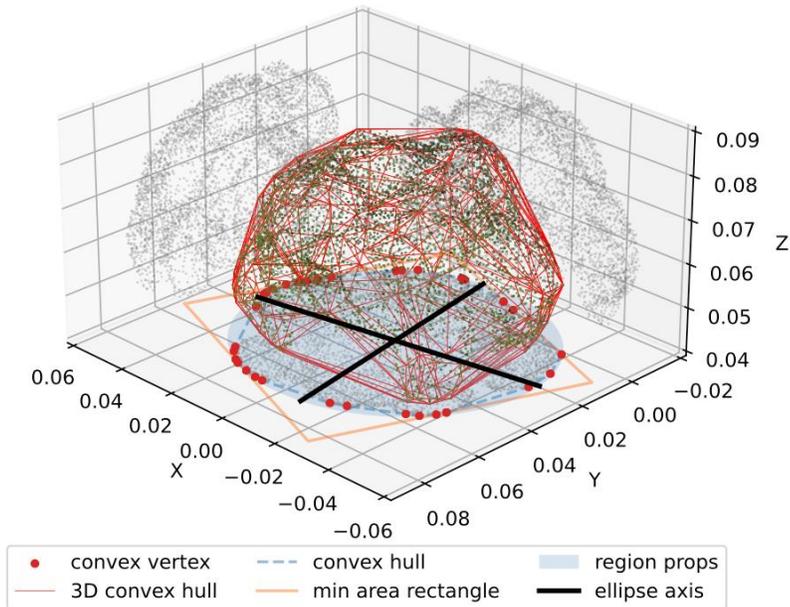
Obtained 3D model



Data pool of 3D high-quality broccoli heads

## 2.3 Results - 3D data processing

Calculate 3D-based morphological traits



Visualization

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

Final output traits list

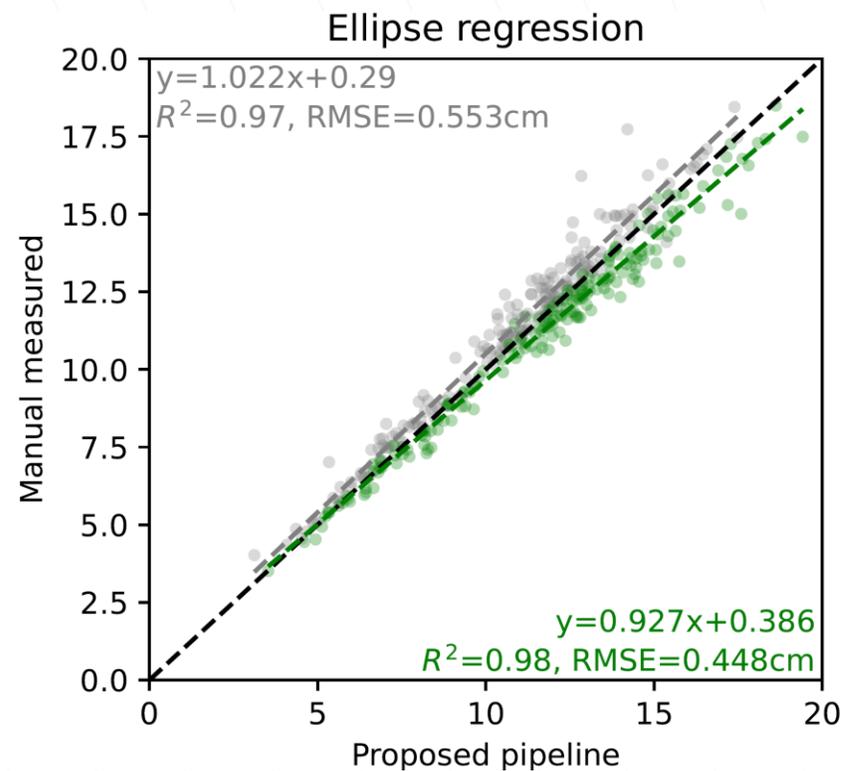
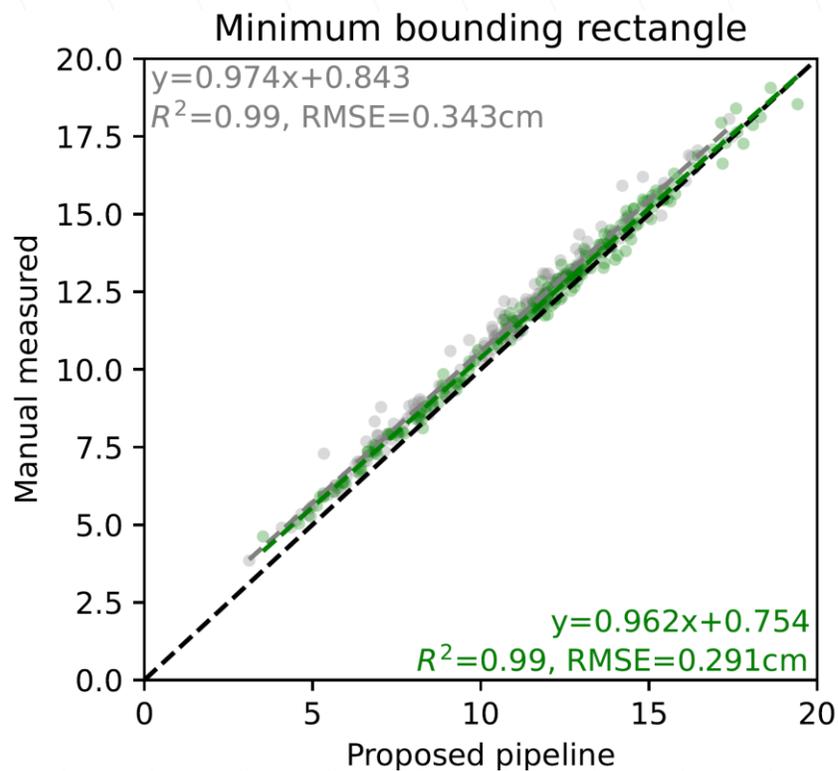


As model attributes

## 2.3 Results - traits accuracy validation

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

- shortest head length
- longest head length



## 2.4 Conclusion

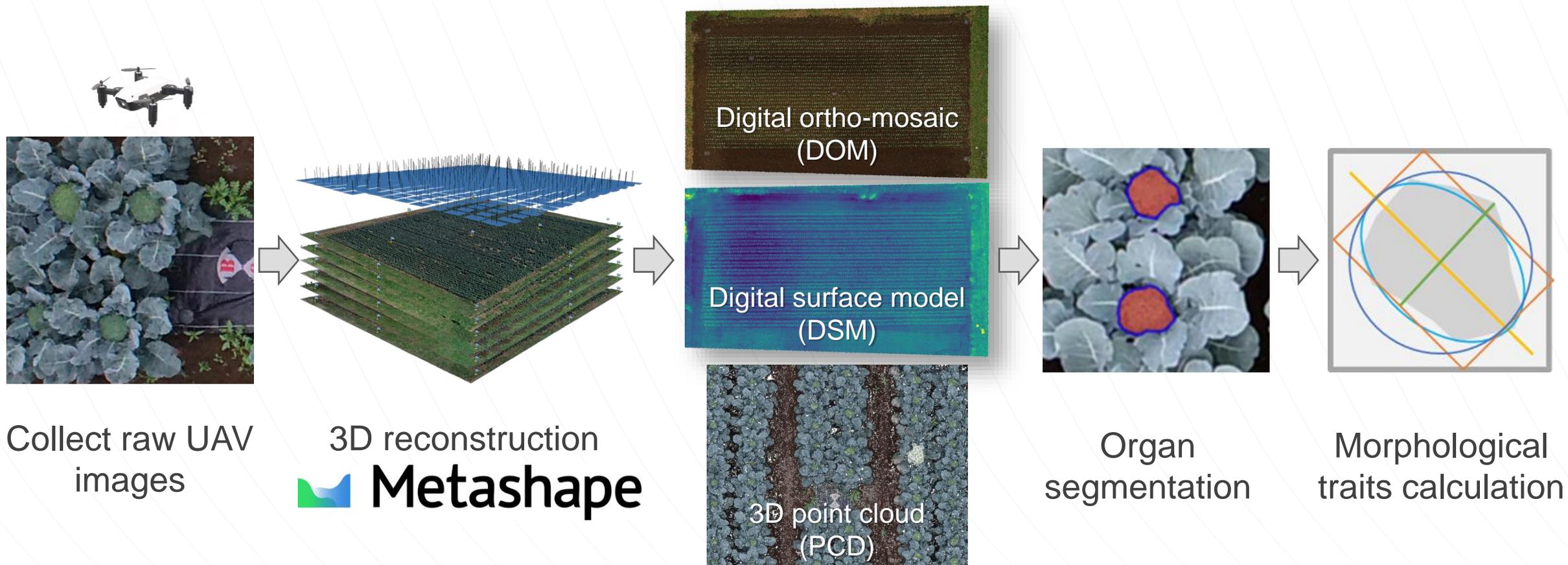
- Obtained the **high-quality** and **complete** 3D models
- Calculated the **3D-based traits** and validated **accuracies**
- Built a **data pool** for high-quality broccoli head 3D models

# 03 ■ Aerial 3D pipeline

---

# 3.1 Background

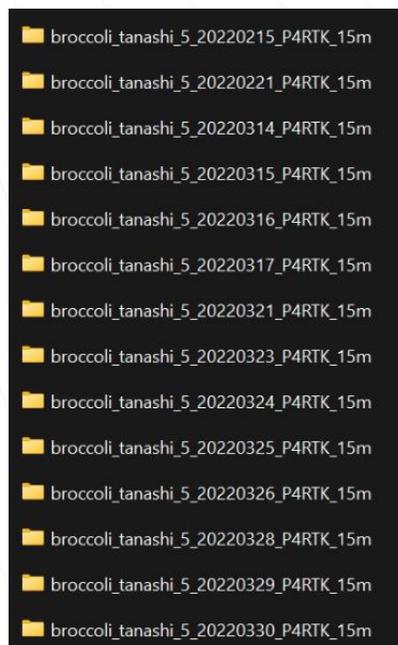
## Traditional aerial phenotyping pipeline



## 3.2 Challenges

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

Just for 1 ha

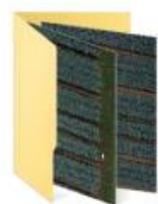


Large amount of time-series data  
(38 flights in 2022)

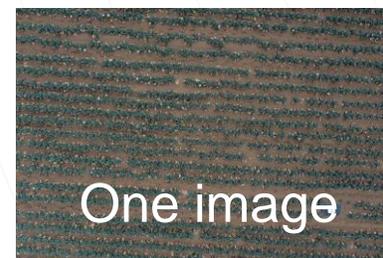
One flight



200+



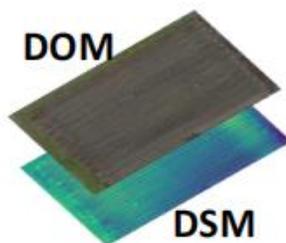
raw images  
(2.7GB+)



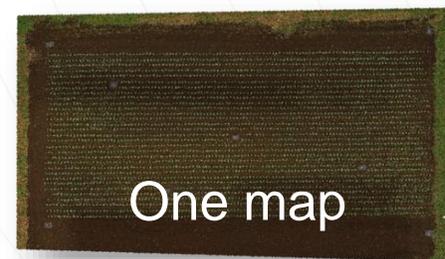
One image

5742 x 3648 pixels

200 x 20 billion  
=  
4 trillion pixels  
per flight



(1GB+)



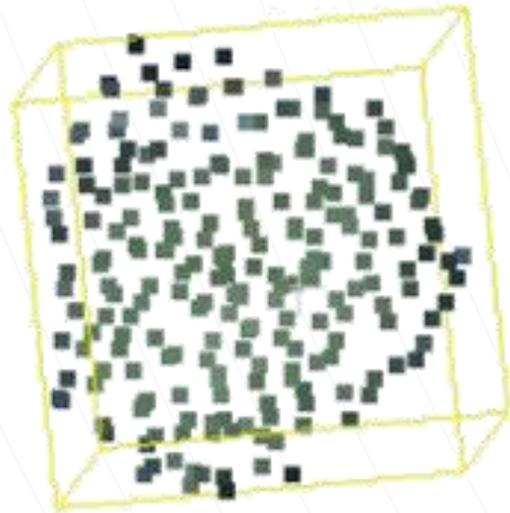
One map

19572 x 17664 pixels

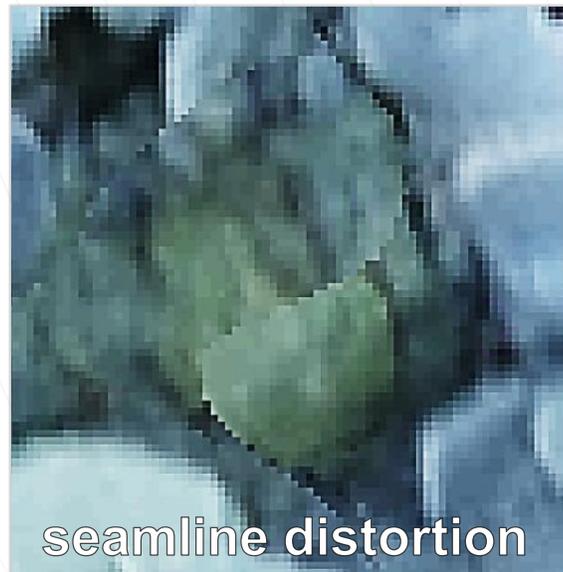
0.3 trillion  
pixels  
per flight

## 3.2 Challenges

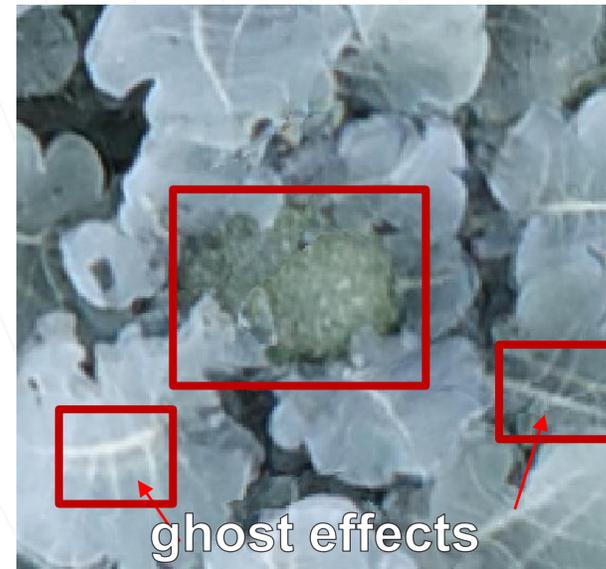
2. Hard to achieve the quality for organ-level analysis from aerial reconstruction



3D canopy model  
(PCD)



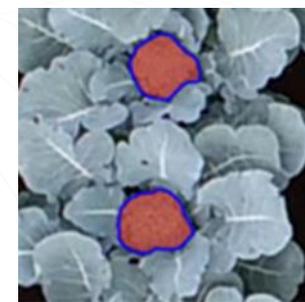
seamline distortion



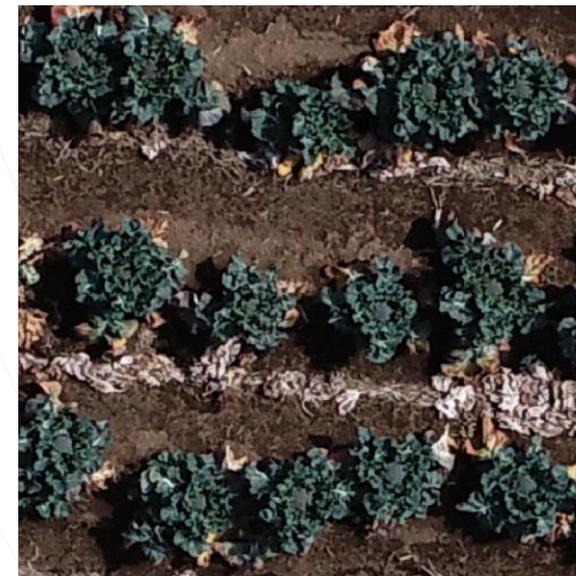
ghost effects

2D field map  
(DOM)

## 3.2 Challenges



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

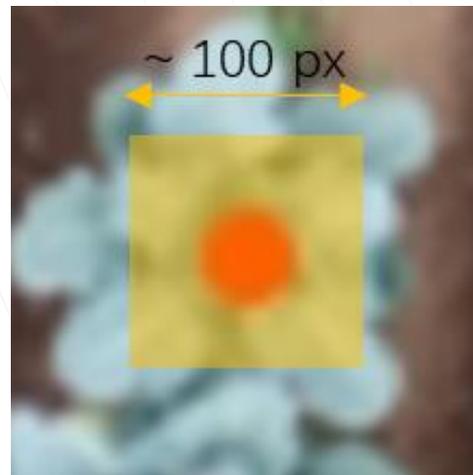
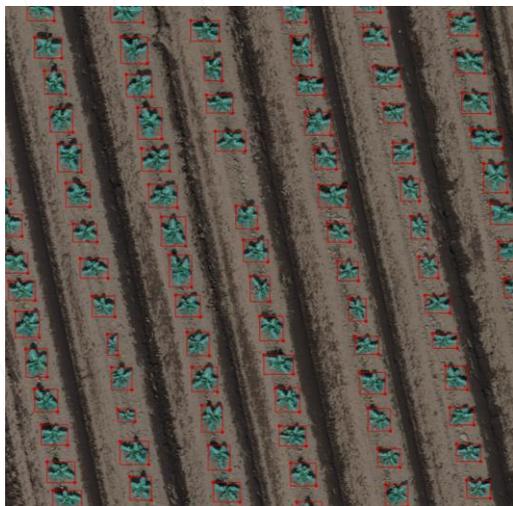


Huge differences between time, sunlight, soil condition, growing stage, cultivars

## 3.3 Solutions for analyzing huge amount of image data =

### Temporal data fusion

narrow the processing regions by using prior knowledge of agriculture



Broccoli head position is almost the same as its seedling position

Narrow the processing area around the seedling area

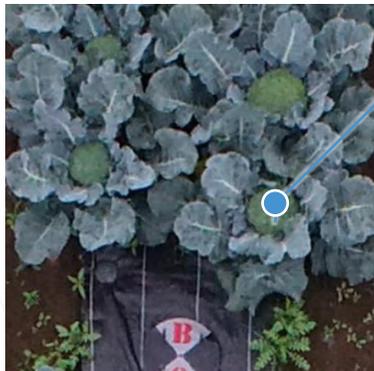
(100 x 100) pixels x 3000 count = 30 billion pixels **per flight** ~ **one raw image**  
 per crop

5742 x 3648 ~ 20 billion pixels

# 3.3 Solutions for not enough aerial quality

## Spatial data fusion

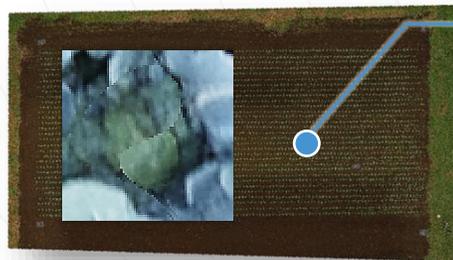
combine raw images (pixel coordinates) with field maps (geo coordinates)



(2341,1492)

Pixel coordinates

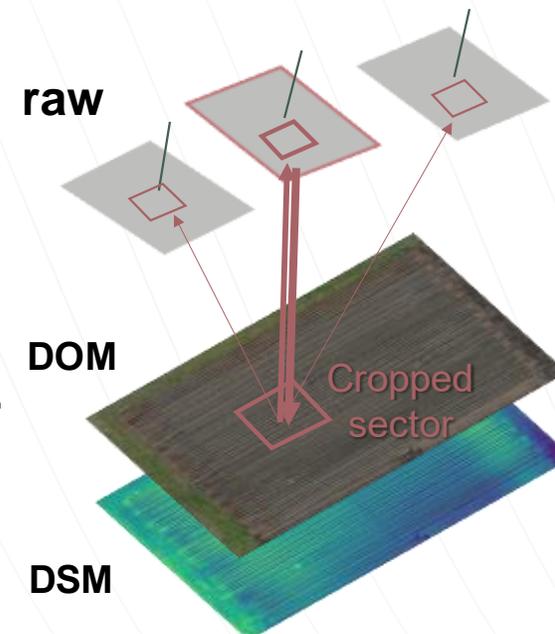
Better quality  
Lacks spatial context



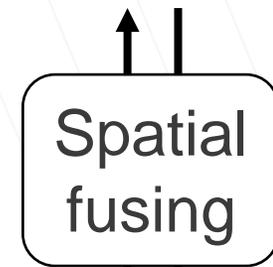
(35.7393N,139.5414E, 96.34m)

Geo coordinates

Lower quality  
Has spatial context



pixel-coordinates



geo-coordinates

EasyIDP Public

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

Python

☆ 31

MIT

3

26

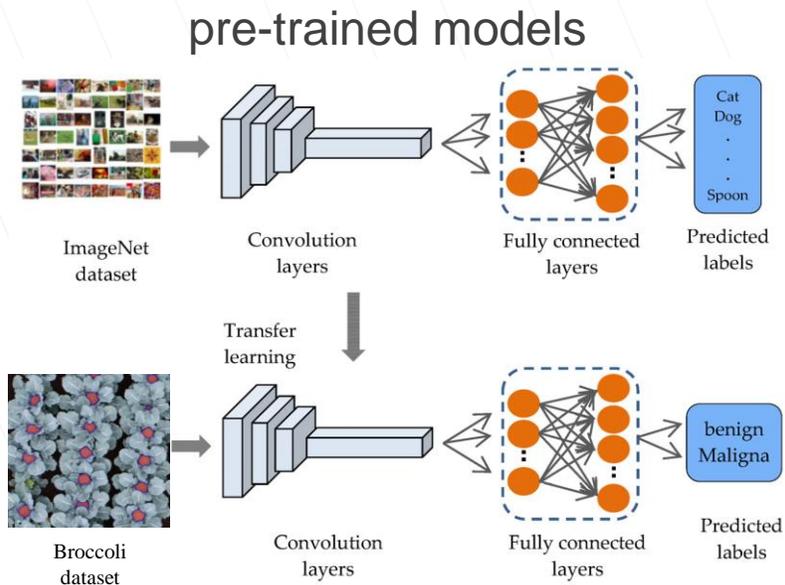
0

Updated last month

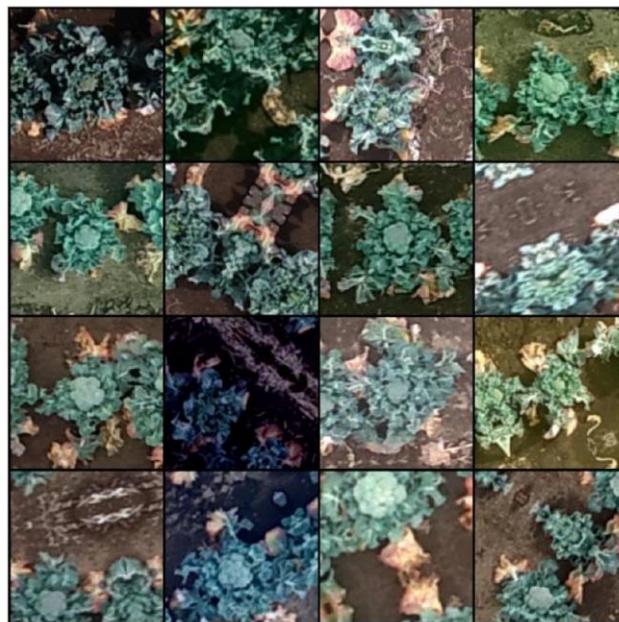
# 3.3 Solutions for lacking training data

## Deep learning data fusion

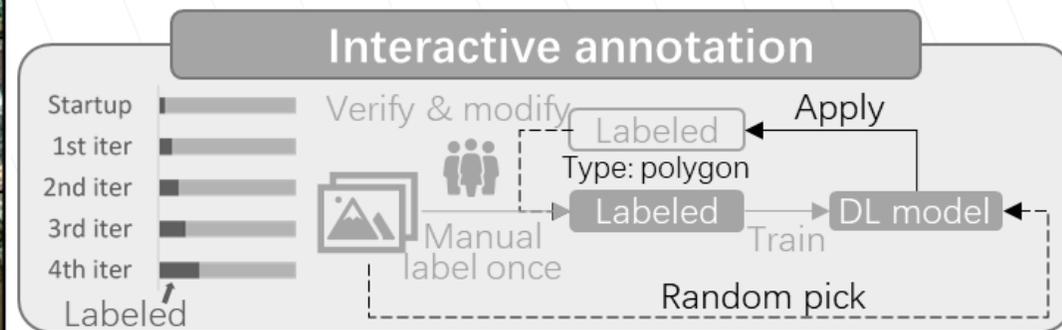
low labor cost for training data annotation



(a) Transfer learning

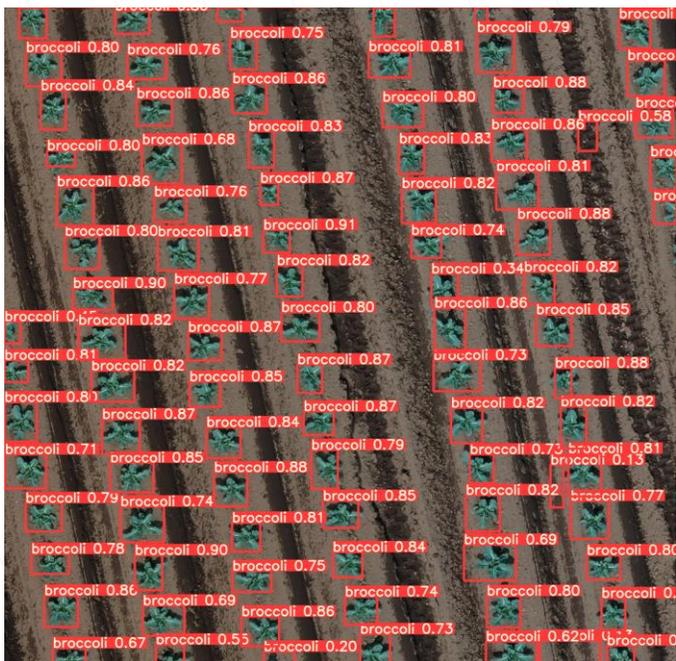


(b) Data augmentation



(c) Active learning

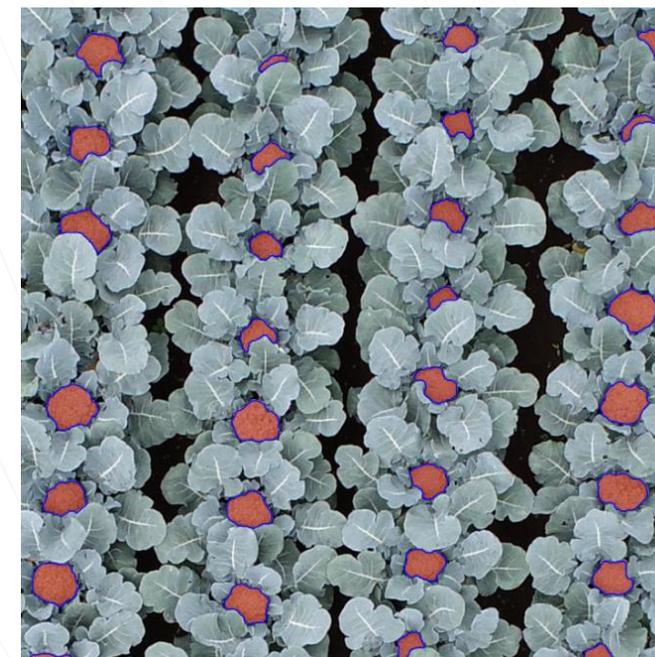
# 3.4 Results – temporal & spatial data fusion



Seeding detection by pre-trained Yolo v5



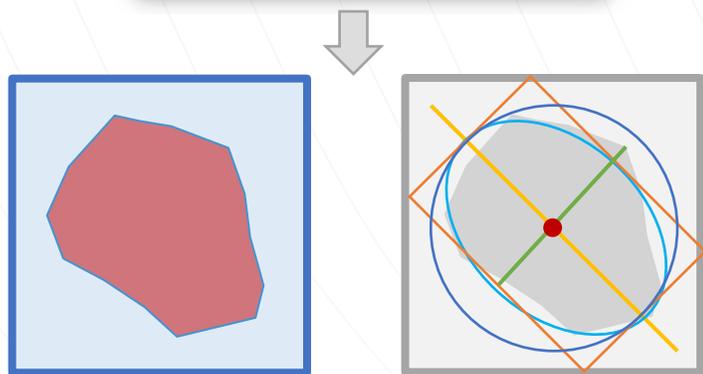
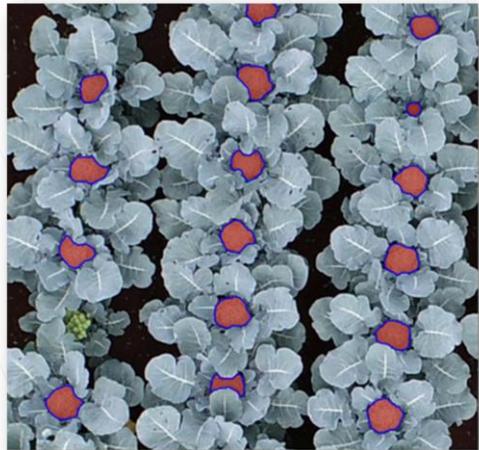
Temporal (time-series) data fusion during growing stages



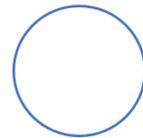
Head Segmentation results

# 3.4 Results - traits calculation

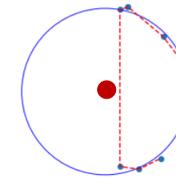
For each broccoli head



Minimum area rectangle max/min side-length



Equivalent diameter



broccoli center points



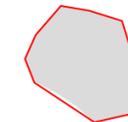
Eccentricity, circularity



Major axis length  
Minor axis length



Area, perimeter

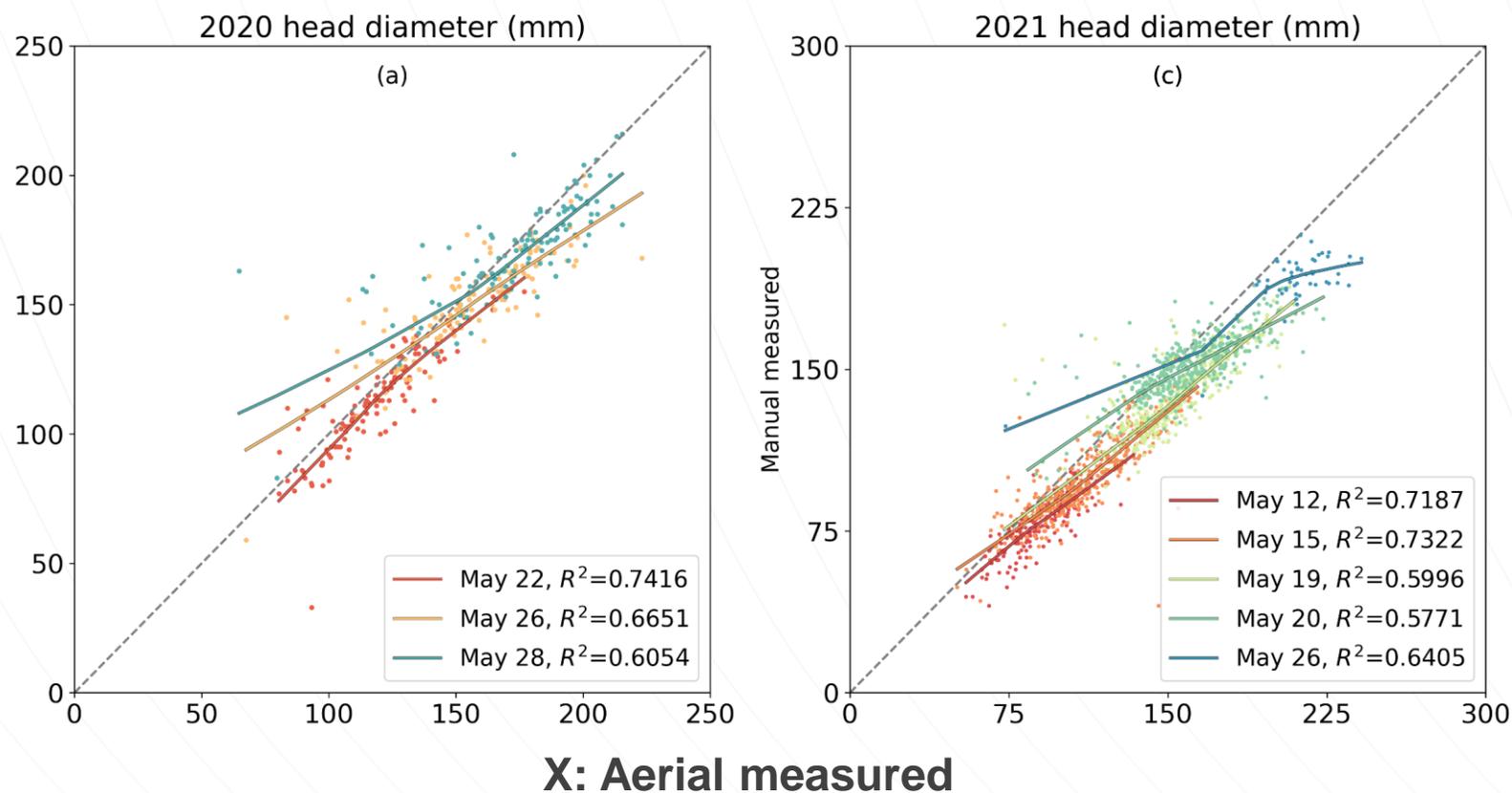


Convex area

# 3.4 Results - traits accuracy validation

Has acceptable correlation with manual measured head size

Y:  
Manual field  
measured



## 3.5 Conclusion

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

# 04 ■ Cross-scale data fusion

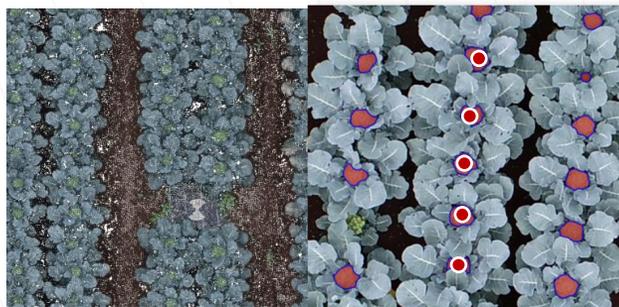
---

# 4.1 Background

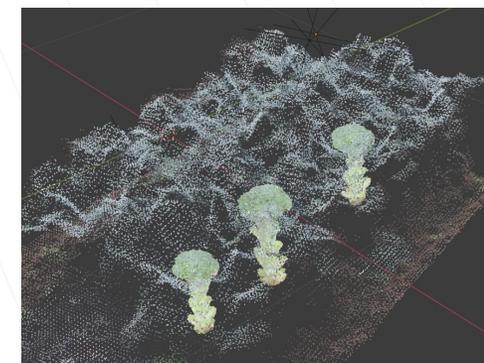
Part 2: close-range 3D pipeline



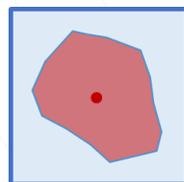
Part 3: aerial 3D pipeline



Part 4: cross-scale data fusion



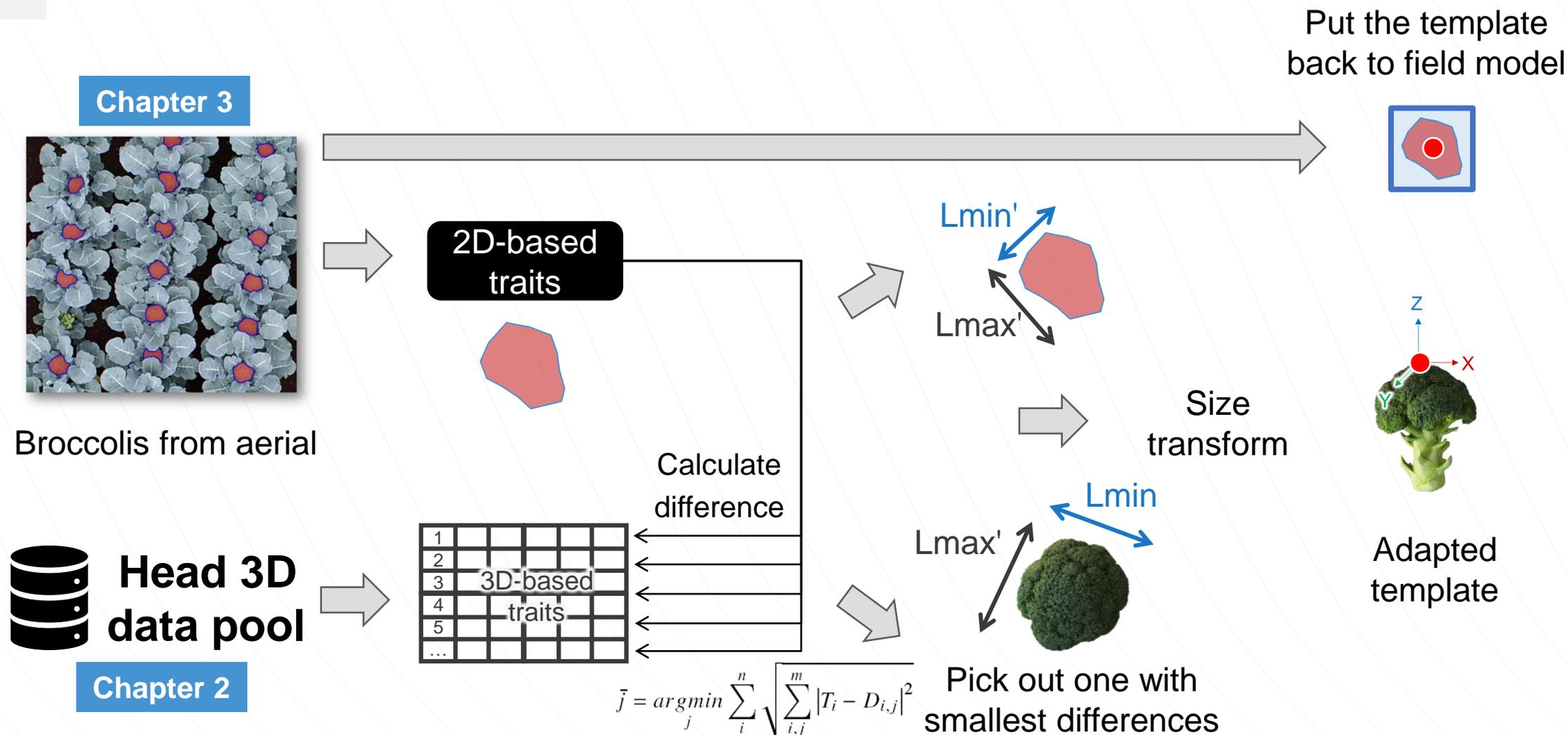
Head 3D  
data pool



Head shapes  
& positions in  
entire farmland

High quality  
head models of  
entire farmland

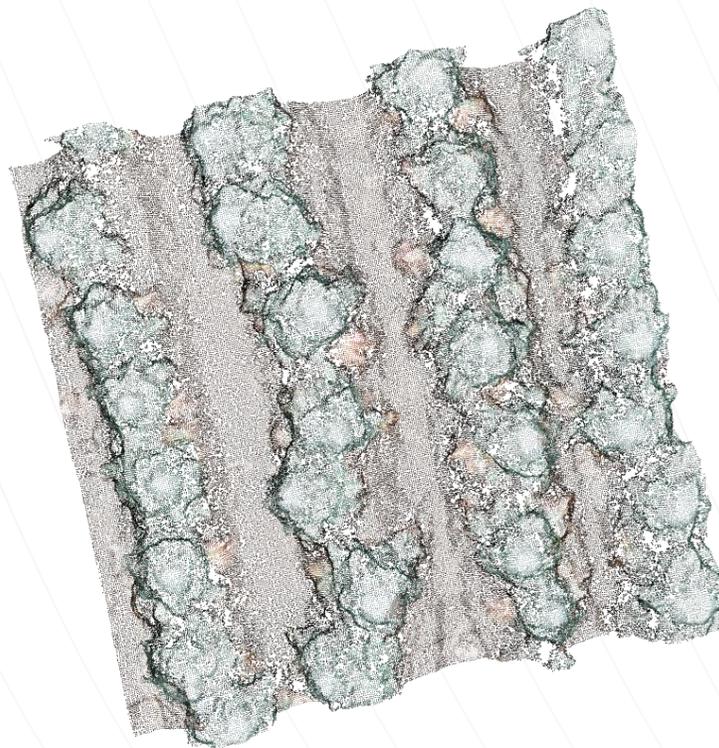
# 4.3 Solutions for cross-scale data fusion



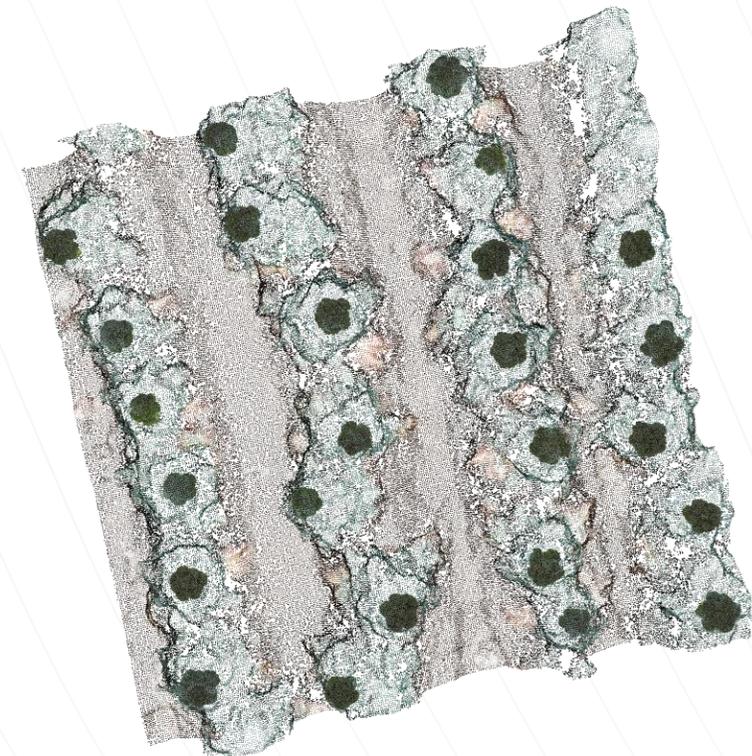
## 4.4 Results - cross-scale data fusion



Aerial segmentation results

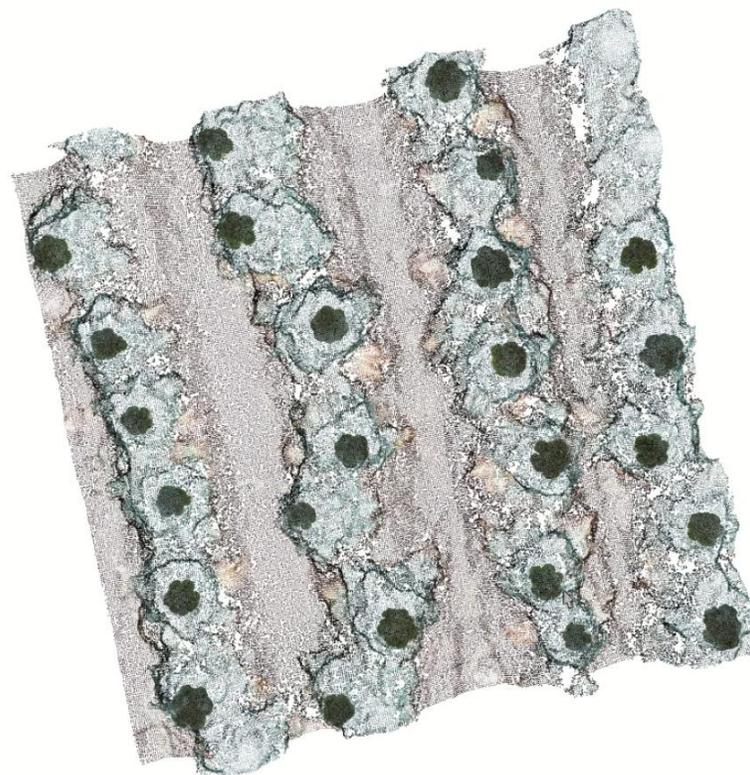


Aerial field 3D models



Data fusion results

## 4.4 Results - cross-scale data fusion



## 4.5 Conclusion

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

# 05 ■ Conclusion

---

## 5.1 Highlights

### Chapter 2

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

### Chapter 3

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

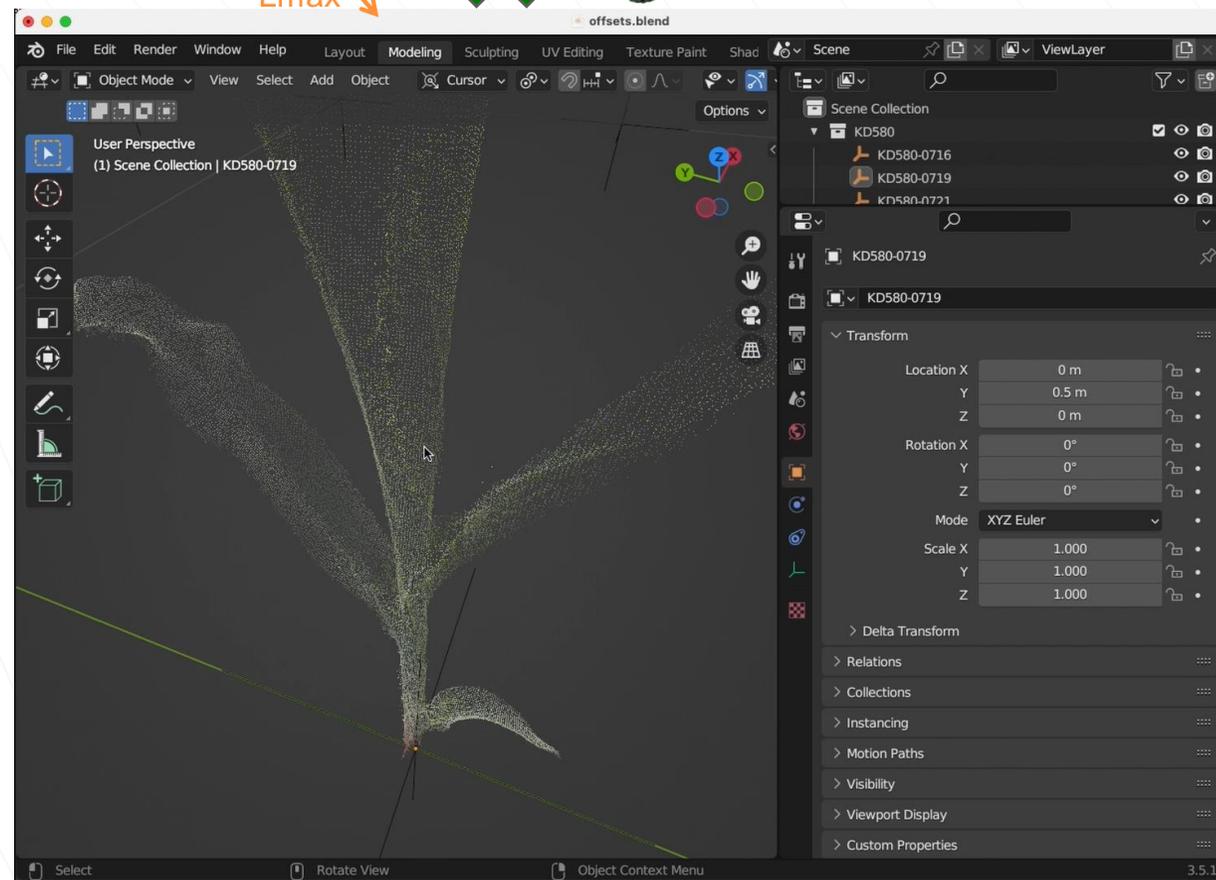
### Chapter 4

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

## 5.2 Future work



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



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

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

# Achievements

## Journals

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

## Conferences

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

# Acknowledgement

## Professors / Researchers

Dr. Yoichiro Kato (U. Tokyo)	Dr. Wenli Zhang (Beijing U. of Technology)
Dr. Wei Guo (U. Tokyo)	Dr. Yun Shi (Chinese Academy of Agricultural)
Dr. Yuji Yamasaki (U. Tokyo)	Dr. Yulin Duan (Chinese Academy of Agricultural)
Dr. Yuya Fukano (Chiba U.)	Dr. Feng Wang (Chinese Academy of Forestry)

## Staffs

Naomi Morinaga, Kozue Wada, and all the technical support staffs of ISAS

## Lab mates

Tang Li, Erika Nishida, Alexander Feldman, Kunihiro Kodama, Thum Chun Hau, Jaesuk IM, Passang Wangmo, Fanyu Liu,

And all friends & family members support my life.

||

# Thank you

