

# Estimation of pear tree vitality based on multimodal, multitemporal optical remote sensing data

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# Introduction

- Multitemporal monitoring of fruit orchard vitality with multisensor Belair data (Hypertemp)
  - The development of efficient management strategies in capital-intensive fruit crops.
  - Remote detection, mapping and monitoring of plant vitality



Project management  
Data collection  
Data preprocessing

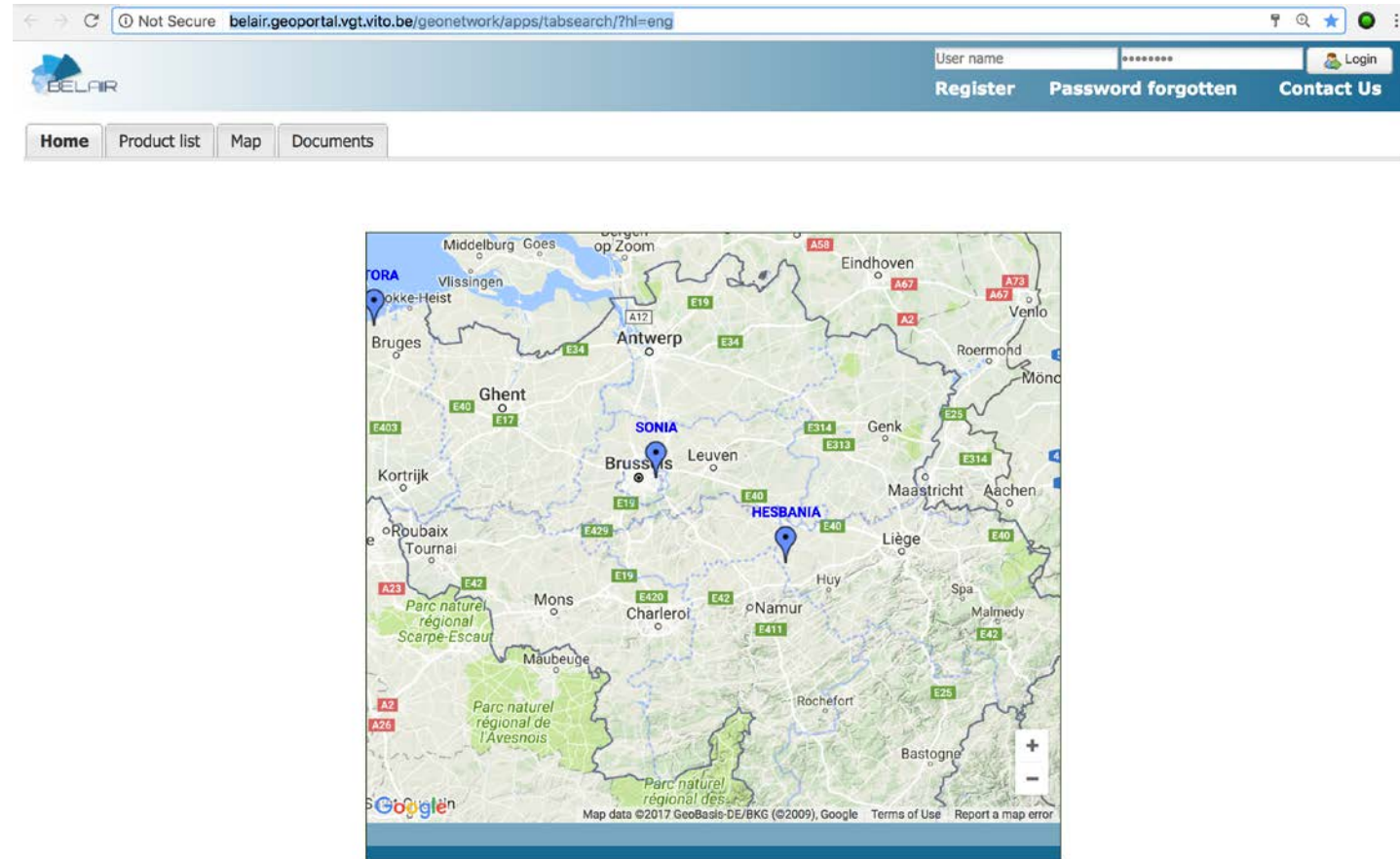


Biophysical parameter extraction



Multimodal, multitemporal data analysis

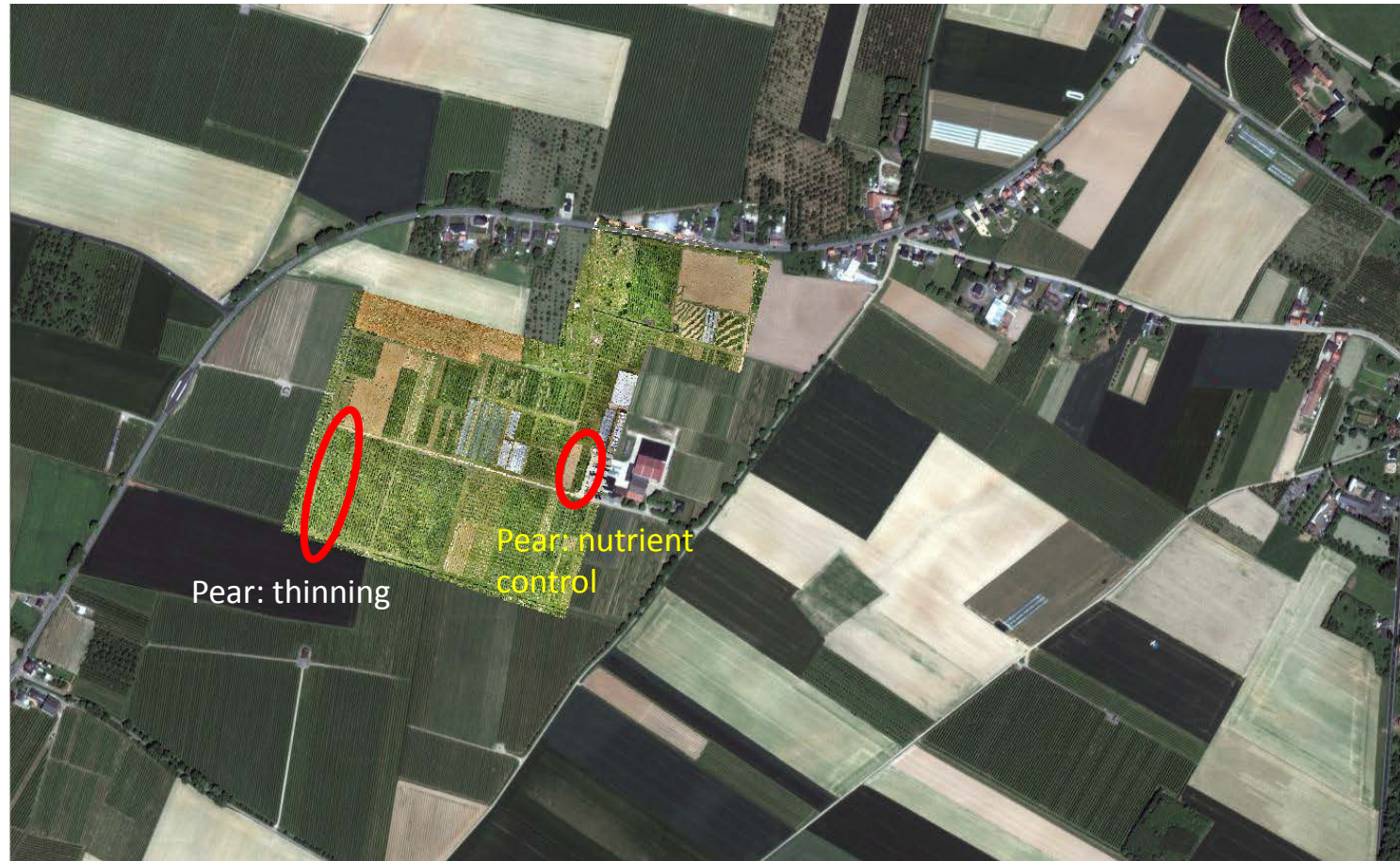
# Study region: Hesbania, BELGIUM



Build: 24/09/2014 - © 2013-2014 - VITO NV. all rights reserved. Terms of use

<http://belair.geoportal.vgt.vito.be/geonetwork/apps/tabsearch/?hl=eng>

# Study site: Pear orchard



# Study site: Pear orchard

- Design

- Pear trees under 4 different nutrient treatments
- 3 plots per treatment
- 3 trees per plot (2 buffer trees excluded)
- Total number of trees:  $4 \times 3 \times 3 = 36$  trees with 9 trees per treatment
- Interval of 1.5 meter
- Center position of each tree is given by shapefile

- In-situ data

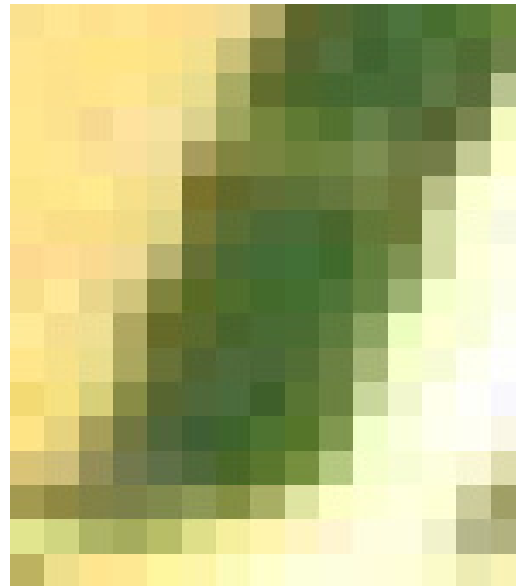
- **Harvest** (number of pears, weight of pears per tree, 2012-2015)
- **Chlorophyll** measurement by Chlorophyll content meter CCM-200 plus (20 leaves per tree, 2016)
- **Mineral contents** (50 leaves, middle trees of each plots, 3 tree per treatment)
- **Hyperspectral data** by ASD FieldSpec (leaf scale, canopy scale per tree, 2013, 2015, 2016)

| Color  | Treatment                      | Number of trees      |
|--------|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| Green  | CaNO <sub>3</sub> (artificial) | 9 (3 tees × 3 plots) |
| Yellow | Slurry (organic)               | 9 (3 tees × 3 plots) |
| Orange | Digestant (organic)            | 9 (3 tees × 3 plots) |
| Blue   | Liquid N (artificial)          | 9 (3 tees × 3 plots) |
| Black  | Buffer                         |                      |



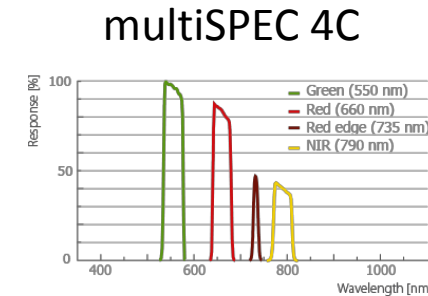
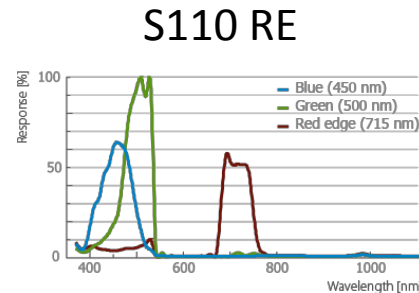
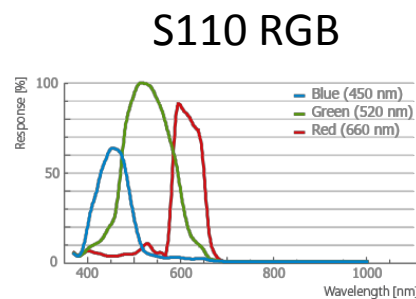
# Airborne image (APEX)

- Dates: 08/07/2013, 01/07/2015, 19/07/2016
- Bands: 267
- Spectral range: 400 - 2300 nm
- Resolution: 2.0 m (tree interval of 1.5 m)



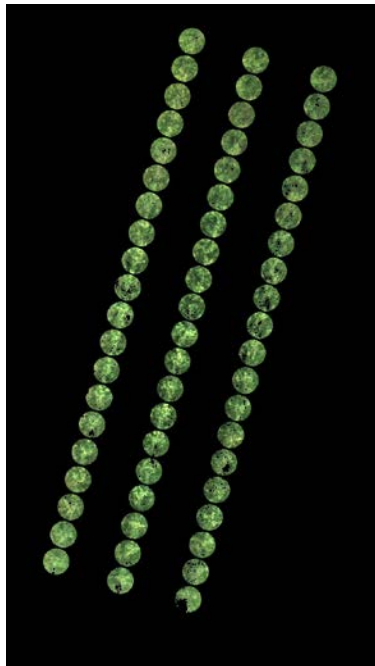
# Aerial observation based on UAV

- Platform: Remotely Piloted Aircraft System (PRAS), senseFly eBee
  - Weight: approx. 0.69 kg
  - Cruise speed: 40-90 km/h
  - Maximum flight time: 50 min.
  - Maximum coverage: 12 km<sup>2</sup>
- Optical sensors (multimodal)
  - S110 RGB (r,g,b), RE (b, g, red edge), Multispectral (g, r, red edge, NIR)



# Aerial images

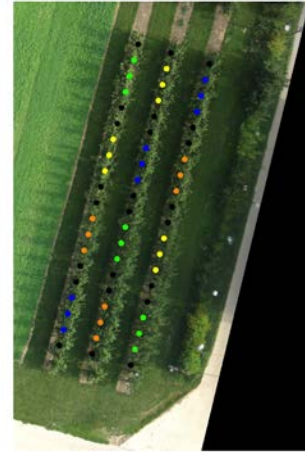
- Observation: 6 dates in 2015
- Georeferenced images (Geotiff format)
- Center position of each tree is given by shapefile
- Extraction of each canopy: within 0.7 m radius of center position



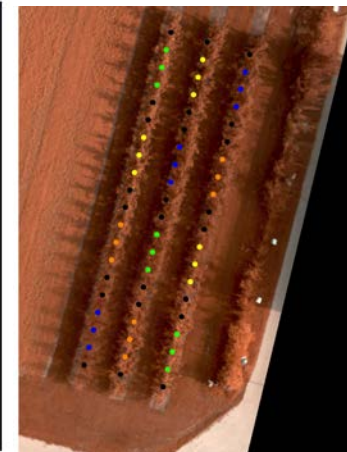
Spatial resolution (m)

| Date       | Time    | RGB              | RE               | MultiSpec   |
|------------|---------|------------------|------------------|-------------|
|            |         | DN value (uint8) | DN value (uint8) | reflectance |
| 11/05/2015 | unknown |                  |                  | 0.0900      |
| 21/05/2015 | 11h00   | 0.0261           | 0.0334           |             |
| 12/06/2015 | 15h35   | 0.0195           | 0.0239           |             |
| 01/07/2015 | 16h04   | 0.0190           | 0.0232           | 0.0943      |
| 13/08/2015 | 09h56   | 0.0189           | 0.0238           | 0.0945      |
| 09/09/2015 | 15h16   | 0.0275           | 0.0343           | 0.0900      |

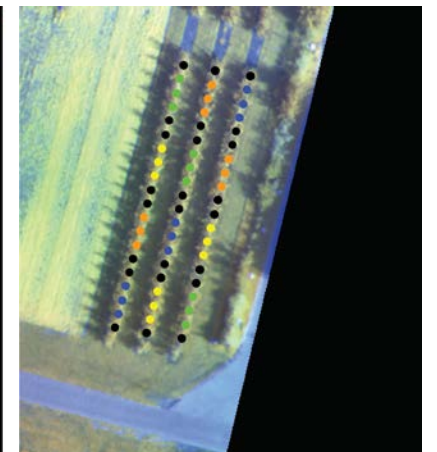
RGB



RE



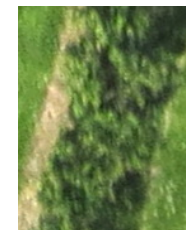
multispectral



16h04  
(01/07)



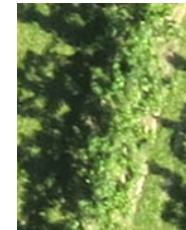
15h35  
(12/06)



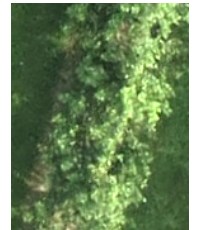
15h16  
(09/09)



11h00  
(21/05)



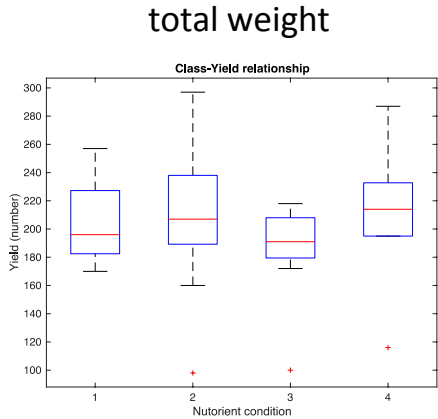
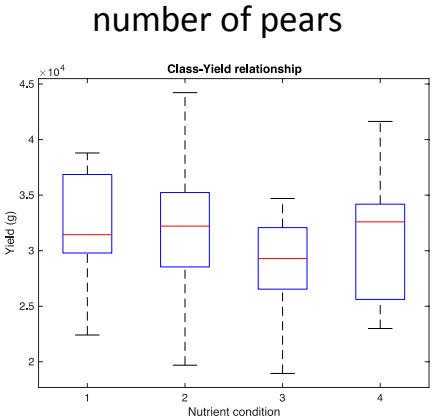
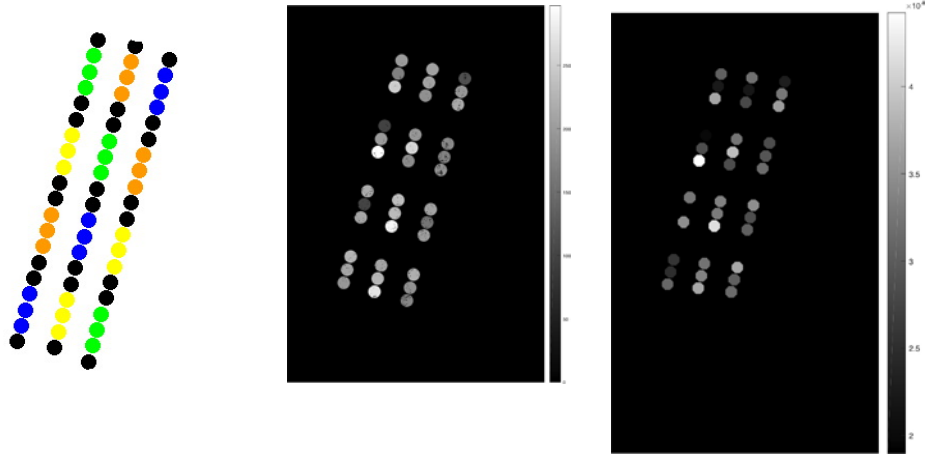
9h56  
(13/08)



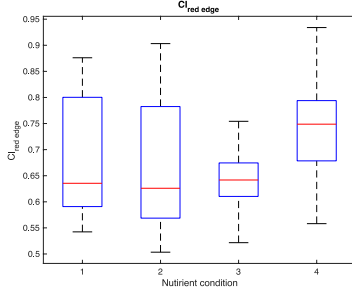
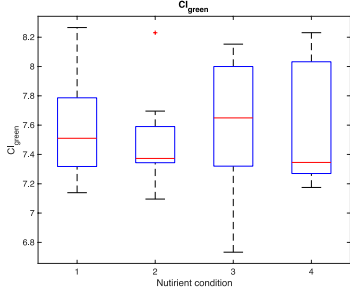
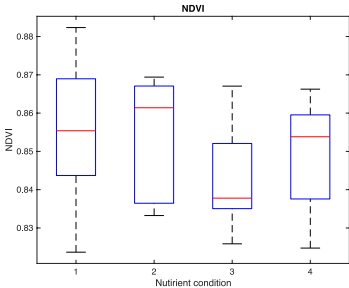
# Brief verifications

- No significant difference caused by nutrient conditions

| No. | Color  | Treatment             |
|-----|--------|-----------------------|
| 1   | Green  | CaNO3 (artificial)    |
| 2   | Yellow | Slurry (organic)      |
| 3   | Orange | Digestant (organic)   |
| 4   | Blue   | Liquid N (artificial) |



- Mean optical info is not sufficient for estimating growth states



$$NDVI = \frac{NIR - R}{NIR + R}$$

$$CI_{green} = \frac{NIR}{G} - 1$$

$$CI_{red edge} = \frac{NIR}{RE} - 1$$

## Correlation

|        | NDVI   | CI <sub>green</sub> | CI <sub>red edge</sub> |
|--------|--------|---------------------|------------------------|
| Number | 0.1902 | -0.0037             | 0.0274                 |
| Weight | 0.3241 | 0.0549              | 0.0980                 |

\*Each band information is an averaged value within canopy

# Estimation based on machine learning

- Objective
  - Classification: four different nutrient treatments
  - Regression: yields (number, weight)
- Features: single sensor on a single date
  - Mean value
- Estimation
  - Classifiers: LDA, SVM
  - Regression: linear regression, SVM, neural network
- Validation
  - 9-fold CV
  - Classification: overall accuracy
  - Regression: correlation

Classification (overall accuracy)

|  |          |
|--|----------|
|  | over 0.6 |
|  | over 0.5 |

|            | RGB (dim = 3) | RE (dim = 3) | Multispec (dim = 4) |
|------------|---------------|--------------|---------------------|
| 11/05/2017 |               |              | 0.62972             |
| 21/05/2015 | 0.34694       | 0.35667      |                     |
| 12/06/2015 | 0.42806       | 0.29556      |                     |
| 01/07/2015 | 0.28944       | 0.26         | 0.54139             |
| 13/08/2015 | 0.31833       | 0.53778      | 0.52639             |
| 09/09/2015 | 0.33222       | 0.18806      | 0.42111             |

Yield (number, correlation)

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
|  | over 0.4  |
|  | over 0.35 |

|            | RGB (dim = 3) | RE (dim = 3) | Multispec (dim = 4) |
|------------|---------------|--------------|---------------------|
| 11/05/2015 |               |              | -0.12104            |
| 21/05/2015 | 0.4502        | 0.25264      |                     |
| 12/06/2015 | 0.38375       | 0.31152      |                     |
| 01/07/2015 | 0.12502       | 0.45651      | 0.051739            |
| 13/08/2015 | 0.17649       | 0.21582      | 0.33369             |
| 09/09/2015 | 0.34256       | 0.061575     | -0.15193            |

Yield (weight, correlation)

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
|  | over 0.4  |
|  | over 0.35 |

|            | RGB (dim = 3) | RE (dim = 3) | Multispec (dim = 4) |
|------------|---------------|--------------|---------------------|
| 11/05/2015 |               |              | -0.36464            |
| 21/05/2015 | 0.26093       | 0.25191      |                     |
| 12/06/2015 | 0.2032        | 0.32681      |                     |
| 01/07/2015 | 0.32049       | 0.27679      | 0.060387            |
| 13/08/2015 | 0.15629       | 0.27663      | 0.16699             |
| 09/09/2015 | 0.43531       | -0.36829     | 0.078858            |

# Estimation using high-order statistics

- Canopy structure
  - DSM is not reliable
  - Shading is helpful
  - High-order statistics

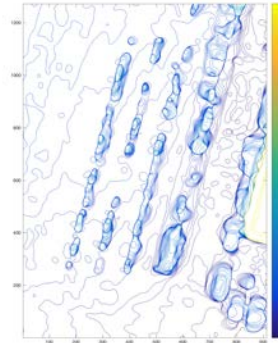
- Brief summary

- Mean optical information is not sufficient
- Shading represents canopy structure
- Temporal shading images

RE image  
(21/05)



DSM



Comparison of estimation accuracies based on high order statistics (multispectral data: 4 bands)

|  |          |
|--|----------|
|  | over 0.6 |
|  | over 0.5 |

Classification

|            | Mean value | Variance | Skewness | Kurtosis |
|------------|------------|----------|----------|----------|
| 11/05/2017 | 0.62972    | 0.31361  | 0.52028  | 0.26083  |
| 21/05/2015 |            |          |          |          |
| 12/06/2015 |            |          |          |          |
| 01/07/2015 | 0.54139    | 0.37333  | 0.27639  | 0.25528  |
| 13/08/2015 | 0.52639    | 0.31806  | 0.35056  | 0.31444  |
| 09/09/2015 | 0.42111    | 0.36278  | 0.36333  | 0.29639  |

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
|  | over 0.6  |
|  | over 0.5  |
|  | over 0.4  |
|  | over 0.35 |

Regression (yield, number of pears per tree)

|            | Mean value | Variance  | Skewness  | Kurtosis |
|------------|------------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| 11/05/2015 | -0.12104   | 0.17494   | 0.57952   | 0.61796  |
| 21/05/2015 |            |           |           |          |
| 12/06/2015 |            |           |           |          |
| 01/07/2015 | 0.051739   | -0.067606 | -0.099876 | 0.02339  |
| 13/08/2015 | 0.33369    | 0.17382   | 0.34362   | 0.16762  |
| 09/09/2015 | -0.15193   | 0.19629   | 0.22777   | 0.14162  |

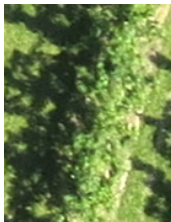
Regression (yield, weight of pears per tree)

|            | Mean value | Variance | Skewness | Kurtosis |
|------------|------------|----------|----------|----------|
| 11/05/2015 | -0.36464   | -0.26265 | 0.57641  | 0.45551  |
| 21/05/2015 |            |          |          |          |
| 12/06/2015 |            |          |          |          |
| 01/07/2015 | 0.060387   | 0.12788  | 0.080978 | 0.023766 |
| 13/08/2015 | 0.16699    | 0.29685  | 0.2957   | 0.21613  |
| 09/09/2015 | 0.078858   | 0.10918  | 0.19566  | 0.093726 |

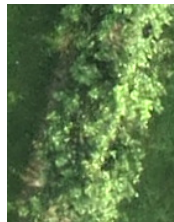
15h16  
(09/09)



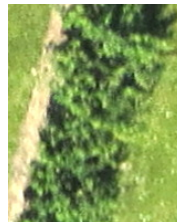
11h00  
(21/05)



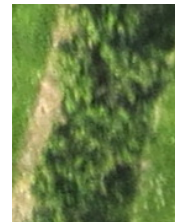
9h56  
(13/08)



16h04  
(01/07)

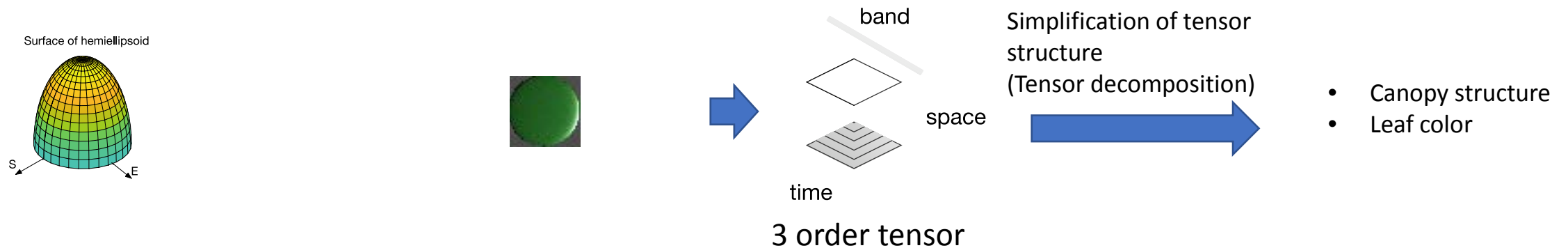


15h35  
(12/06)



# Shape from shading based on Tensor decomposition

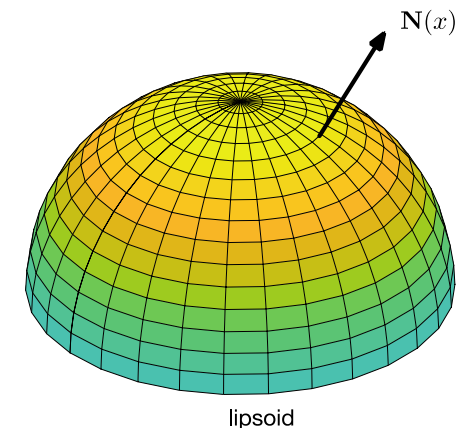
- Objective: retrieve canopy structure and inherent leaf color from multitemporal shading images



- Assumption (Reflection model)
  - Direct solar illumination is dominant
  - Leaves are under direct illumination

Dichromatic reflection  $\rho(\lambda_i) = \mathbf{N} \cdot \mathbf{L} k(\lambda_i) + S_s(\mathbf{N}, \mathbf{L}, \mathbf{V})$

Simplification  $\rho(x, t, \lambda) \approx \mathbf{N}(x) \cdot \mathbf{L}(t) k(\lambda)$



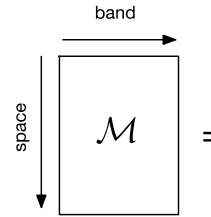
# Tensor decomposition for HS data

- Expansion of matrix decomposition to higher-order arrays

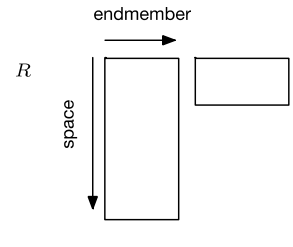
- Typical example of matrix decomposition (unmixing)

$$\underset{\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \|\mathcal{M} - \mathbf{A}\mathbf{B}^T\|$$

A: abundance  
B: endmember



=

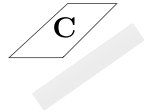


- Three-order array (canonical polyadic (CP) tensor decomposition)

$$\mathcal{D}_{ijk} = a_i b_j c_k$$

$$\underset{\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B}, \mathbf{C}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \|\tau - (\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B}, \mathbf{C})\|$$

A: abundance  
B: endmember  
C: additional array



- Examples 1: time-series of MODIS hyperspectral sensor (Alps during 2012 snow season)  $\Rightarrow$  abundance, endmember (snow, ice, debris, forest, etc.), temporal evolution

M.A. Veganzones, et. al., Nonnegative Tensor CP Decomposition of Hyperspectral Data, TGRS, vol. 54, no. 5, pp.2577-2588, 2016

- Example 2: multi-angle images of Compact Reconnaissance Imaging Spectrometer for Mars (outskirts of south permanent polar cap in Mars)  $\Rightarrow$  abundance, endmember, observation

M.A. Veganzones, et. al., Nonnegative CP Decomposition of Multiangle Hyperspectral Data: A Case Study on CRISM Observations of Martian Icy Surface, WHISPERS, 2016

# Tensor decomposition for canopy shading

- Assumption

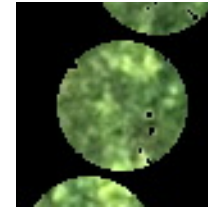
- One endmember per canopy
- Leaves are under direct sunlight
- Direct illumination is dominant
- Snapshot decomposition



A set of canopies



A canopy



$$\rho(x, t, \lambda) \approx \mathbf{N}(x) \cdot \mathbf{L} k(\lambda)$$

# Tensor decomposition for canopy shading

- Assumption

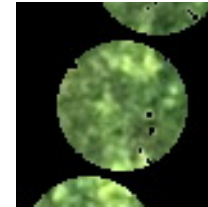
- One endmember per canopy
- Leaves are under direct sunlight
- Direct illumination is dominant
- Snapshot decomposition
- Multitemporal decomposition: multiple measurements within a day (different sun elevation  $\mathbf{L}$ ) are possible



A set of canopies

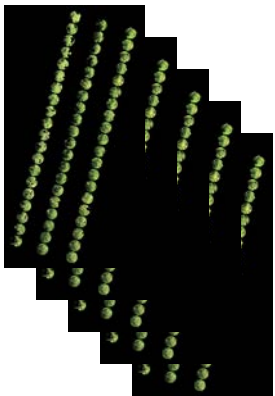


A canopy

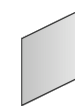


$$\rho(x, t, \lambda) \approx \mathbf{N}(x) \cdot \mathbf{L} k(\lambda)$$

Time series of a set of canopies



Canopy shading under multiple illuminations



$$\rho(x, t, \lambda) \approx \mathbf{N}(x) \cdot \mathbf{L}(t) k(\lambda)$$

# Tensor decomposition

- Tensor per canopy:  $\tau_i \in \mathbb{R}^{N_N \times N_L \times N_k} \ (i = 1, \dots, n)$

- Tensor decomposition

- Multilinear rank-(Lr,Lr,1) terms, Lr=3
    - Retrieve **N**, **L** and **k**
  - Tensorlab 3.0 (l l l . m)
    - <http://www.tensorlab.net>

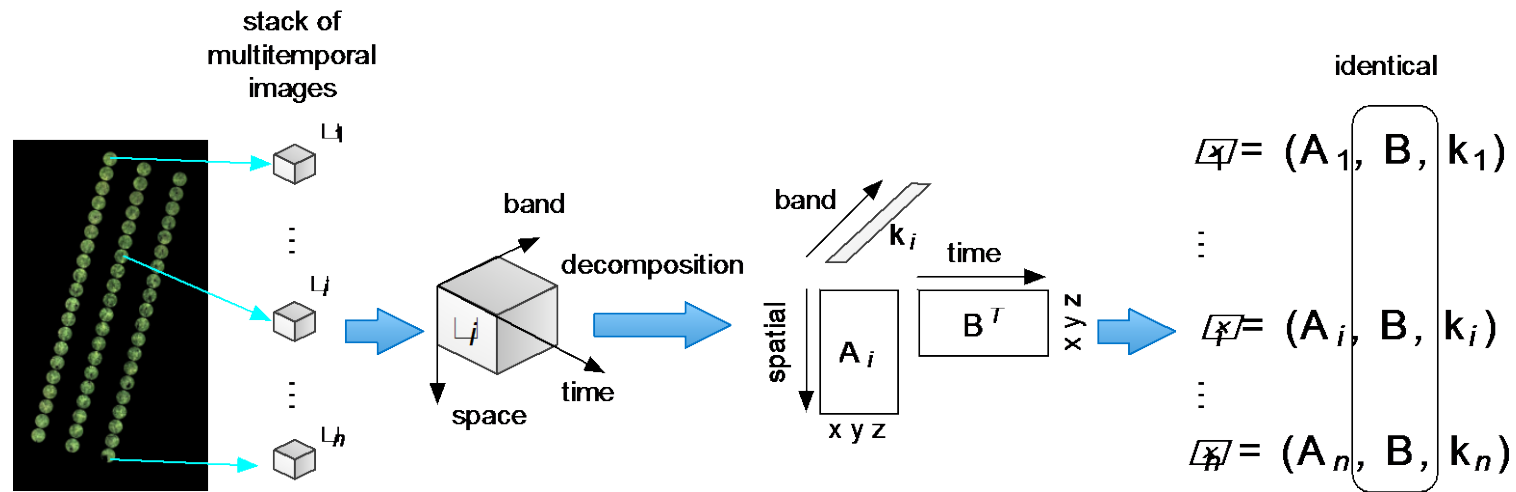
- Assumption

- Canopy regions are given
  - Multiple observation within a day is possible
  - Leaf color within canopy is homogeneous (only endmember)
  - Structure (**N**) and Lambert coefficients (**k**) are stable
  - Most of leaves are under direct sunlight

$$\rho(x, t, \lambda) \approx \mathbf{N}(x) \cdot \mathbf{L}(t) k(\lambda)$$

- Constraints

- B** is identical (coupling)
  - Lambert coefficients **k** are nonnegative



gative)

# Estimation of canopy structure

- Assumption

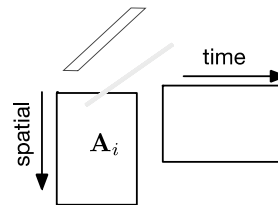
- Most of leaves are under direct illumination
- Canopy structure can be approximated by hemiellipsoid with parameter  $c$  (isotropic along  $x$ -,  $y$ -axes)

$$\frac{(x - x_c)^2}{R^2} + \frac{(y - y_c)^2}{R^2} + \frac{z^2}{c^2} = 1$$

- Estimation of  $c$  based on estimated  $\mathbf{N}$  ( $A_i$ )

- Uncertainty in order of elements ( $x, y, z$ )

$$\rho(x, t, \lambda) \approx \mathbf{N}(x) \cdot \mathbf{L}(t) k(\lambda)$$



- Calculate average value per element

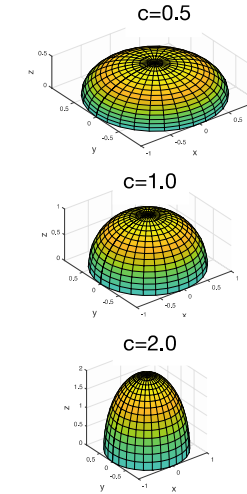
$$\bar{N}_e^i \quad \text{Average value of } e\text{-th element in } A_i$$

- Determination of  $z$ -element

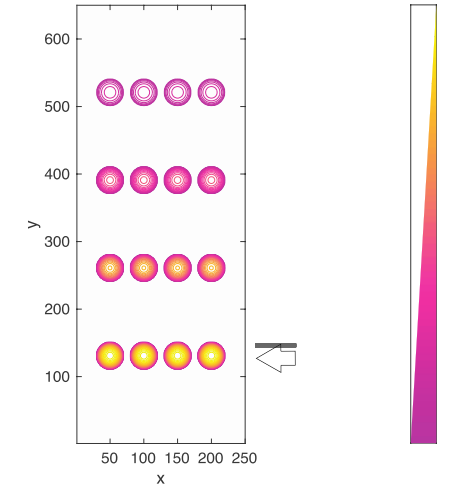
$$\hat{z} = \operatorname{argmax}_e \bar{N}_e^i$$

- Use the maximum averaged value as a structural parameter

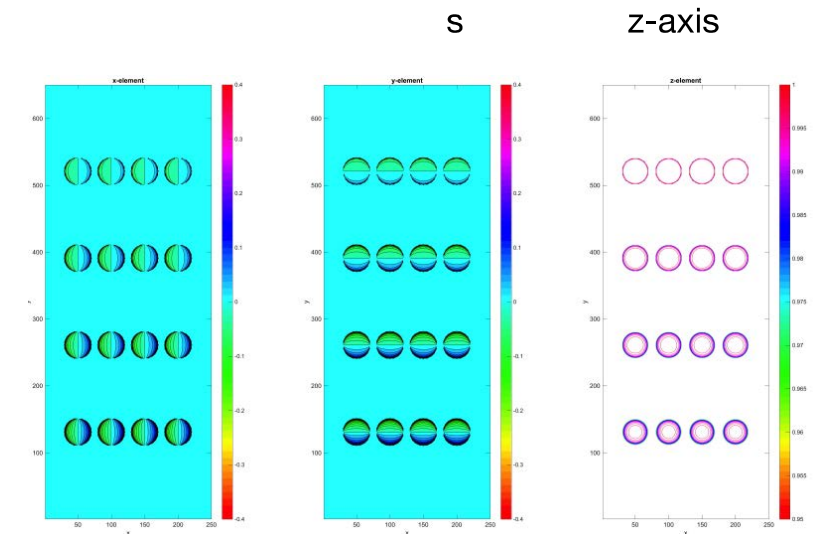
$$\bar{N}_{\hat{z}}^i$$



Height contour of hemiellipsoids



Elements of surface normal



# Estimation of canopy structure

- Assumption

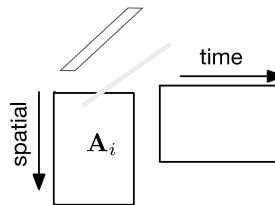
- Most of leaves are under direct illumination
- Canopy structure can be approximated by hemiellipsoid with parameter  $c$  (isotropic along x-, y-axes)

$$\frac{(x - x_c)^2}{R^2} + \frac{(y - y_c)^2}{R^2} + \frac{z^2}{c^2} = 1$$

- Estimation of  $c$  based on estimated  $\mathbf{N}$  ( $A_i$ )

- Uncertainty in order of elements (x,y,z)

$$\rho(x, t, \lambda) \approx \mathbf{N}(x) \cdot \mathbf{L}(t) k(\lambda)$$



- Calculate average value per element

$$\bar{N}_e^i \quad \text{Average value of e-th element in } A_i$$

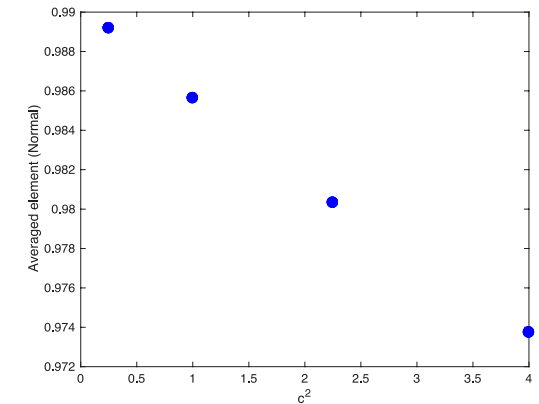
- Determination of z-element

$$\hat{z} = \operatorname{argmax}_e \bar{N}_e^i$$

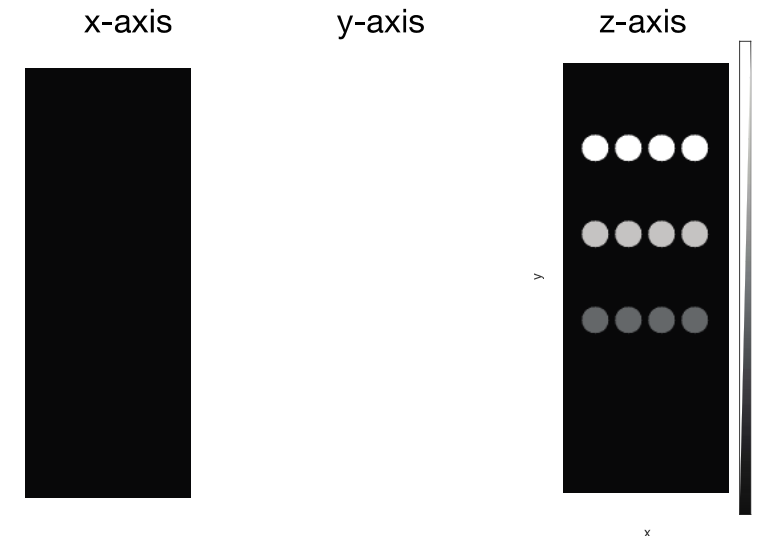
- Use the maximum averaged value as a structural parameter

$$\bar{N}_{\hat{z}}^i$$

Relationship between  $c$  and averaged values



Averaged normal element per canopy



# Flow of canopy-scale parameter estimation



Stack of multitemporal  
images

Extraction of ROIs

Generation of Tensors

Tensor decomposition

- identical  $\mathbf{L}$
- non-negative  $\mathbf{k} > 0$

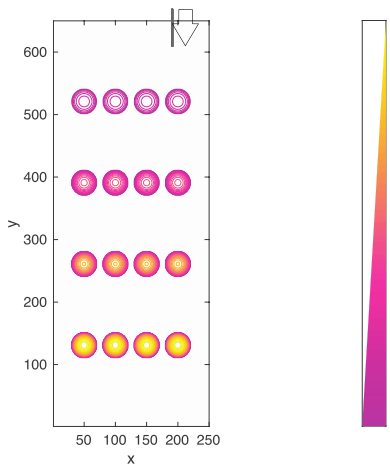
$\mathbf{A}_2$   
 $\mathbf{B}$   $\mathbf{B}$   
 $\mathbf{k}_1$   $\mathbf{k}_2$

Estimation of  $\mathbf{N}$ ,  $\mathbf{L}$  and  $\mathbf{k}$

# Simulation

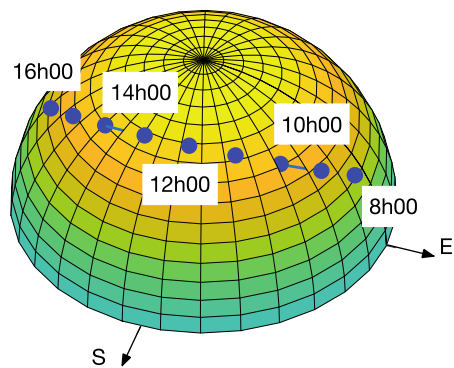
- Simulated data
  - Daily change in solar elevation
  - 4 types of hemiellipsoid: **A**
  - 9 illumination conditions: **B**
  - 4 endmembers (5 bands): **k**
  - Specular reflection included

Type of hemiellipsoid (A)

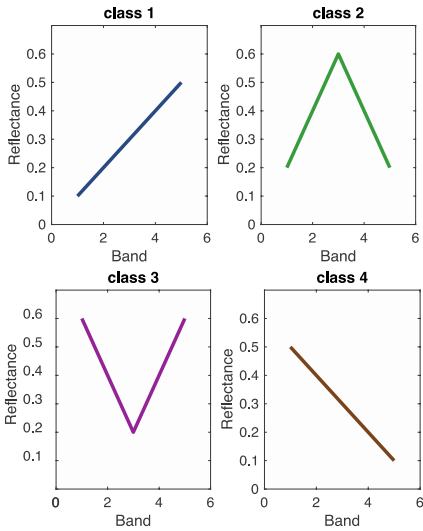


Original

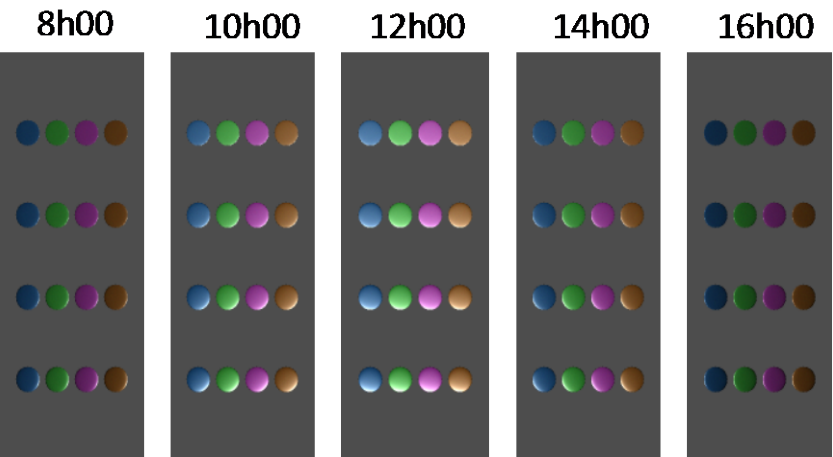
Illumination conditions (B)



endmembers



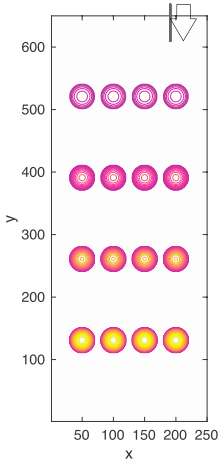
Generated images



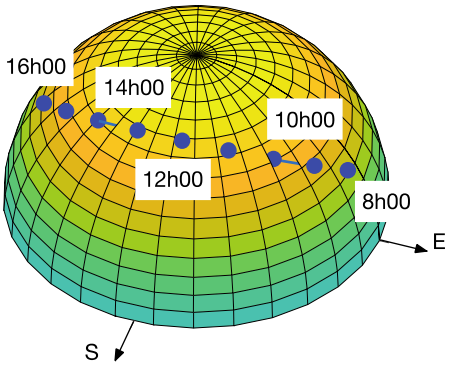
# Simulation

- Simulated data
  - Daily change in solar elevation
  - 4 types of hemiellipsoid: **A**
  - 9 illumination conditions: **B**
  - 4 endmembers (5 bands): **k**
  - Specular reflection included
- Tensor decomposition
  - Multilinear rank-(3,3,1) terms
  - **B** (illumination matrix) is identical (coupling)
  - Lambert coefficients **k** are nonnegative

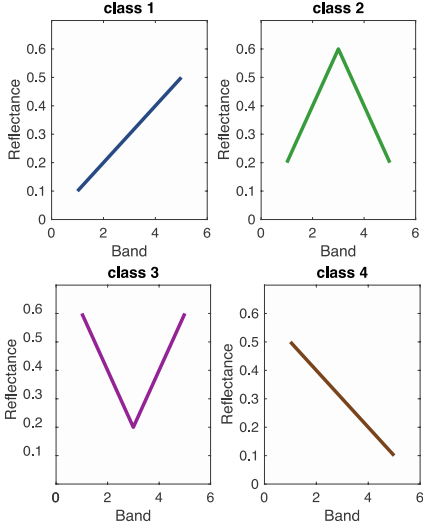
Type of hemiellipsoid (A)



Original  
Illumination conditions (B)

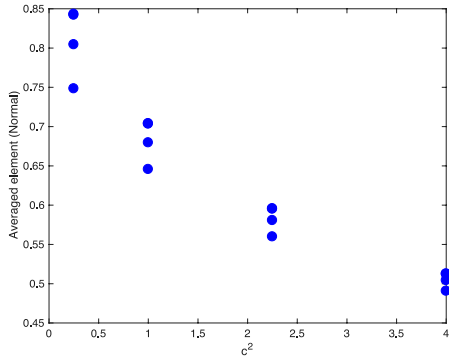


endmembers



## Estimation

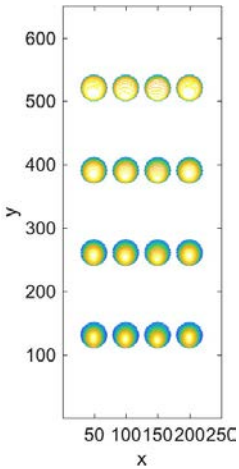
Relationship between  $c$  and  $\bar{N}_{\hat{z}}^i$



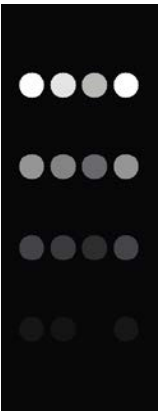
average of SAM (rad)

|             |        |
|-------------|--------|
| Endmember 1 | 0.1721 |
| Endmember 2 | 0.1367 |
| Endmember 3 | 0.0994 |
| Endmember 4 | 0.1721 |

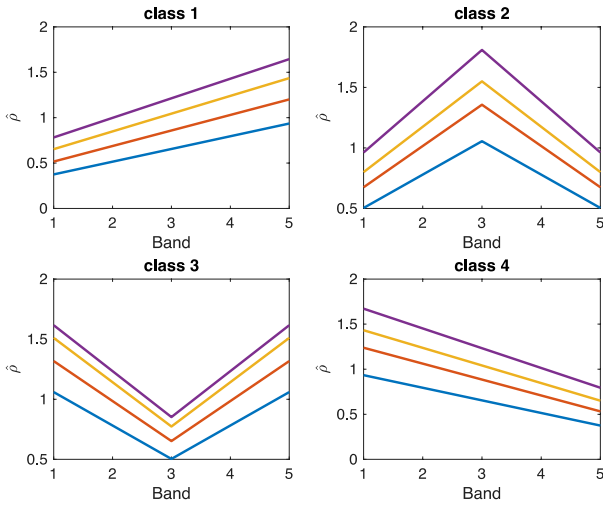
Distribution of  
z elements (N)



Distribution of  
 $\bar{N}_{\hat{z}}^i$

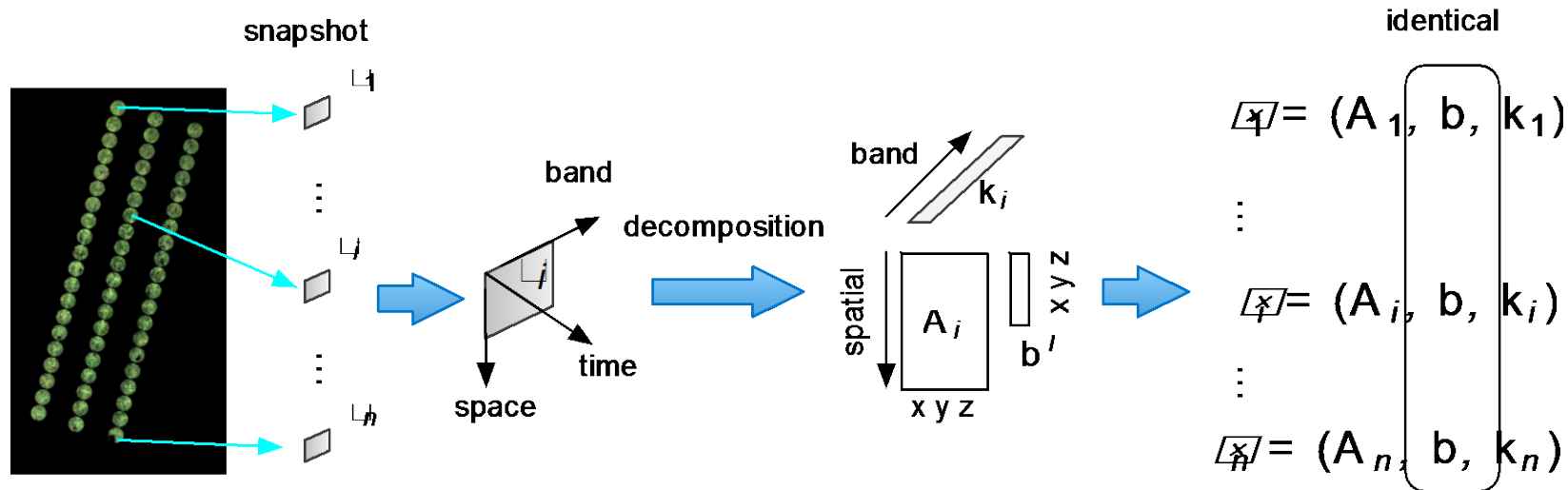


Estimated Lambert coefficients



# Tensor decomposition of multispectral data

- Restrictions
  - No multiple observations within a day (snapshot)
  - Pixel-to-pixel registration between different days is not possible
- Snapshot decomposition
  - $\mathbf{b}$  is identical (coupling)
  - Lambert coefficients  $\mathbf{k}$  are nonnegative



# Results and Discussion

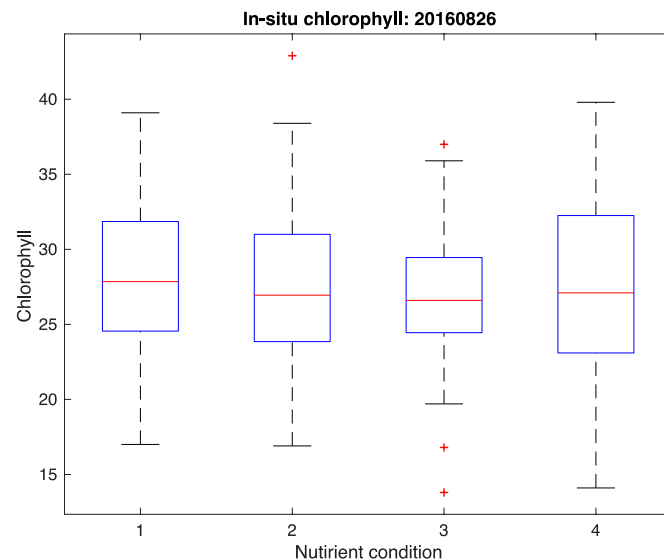
|  |          |
|--|----------|
|  | over 0.6 |
|  | over 0.5 |

Classification (overall accuracy, Multispec data)

|            | Mean value | Variance | Skewness | Kurtosis | k     |
|------------|------------|----------|----------|----------|-------|
| 11/05/2017 | 0.62972    | 0.31361  | 0.52028  | 0.26083  | 0.364 |
| 01/07/2015 | 0.54139    | 0.37333  | 0.27639  | 0.25528  | 0.326 |
| 13/08/2015 | 0.52639    | 0.31806  | 0.35056  | 0.31444  | 0.301 |
| 09/09/2015 | 0.42111    | 0.36278  | 0.36333  | 0.29639  | 0.436 |

- Classification (nutrient treatments) accuracy
  - estimated Lambert coefficients < original averaged reflectance
- There is not significant difference in in-situ chlorophyll contents among different nutrient treatments

**Chlorophyll** measurement by Chlorophyll content meter CCM-200 plus (20 leaves per tree)



**Mineral contents** (50 leaves, middle trees of each plots, 3 tree per treatment)

May, 2015

| Treatment     | mg/100 g fresh weight |         |         |         |          |
|---------------|-----------------------|---------|---------|---------|----------|
|               | N                     | P       | K       | Ca      | Mg       |
| Treatment 1   | 3.2                   | 0.27    | 1.45    | 1.1     | 0.36     |
| Treatment 2   | 2.9                   | 0.25    | 1.40    | 1.0     | 0.35     |
| Treatment 3   | 3.0                   | 0.28    | 1.57    | 1.1     | 0.37     |
| Treatment 4   | 3.0                   | 0.27    | 1.44    | 1.2     | 0.38     |
| Target values | 2.9- 3.7              | 0.2-0.5 | 1.5-2.5 | 0.9-2.0 | 0.25-0.5 |

Harvest, 2015

| Treatment     | mg/100 g fresh weight |        |        |        |        |
|---------------|-----------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
|               | N                     | P      | K      | Ca     | Mg     |
| Treatment 1   | 1.9                   | 0.11   | 0.52   | 2.48   | 0.46   |
| Treatment 2   | 1.9                   | 0.13   | 0.61   | 2.37   | 0.46   |
| Treatment 3   | 1.9                   | 0.12   | 0.56   | 2.17   | 0.44   |
| Treatment 4   | 1.9                   | 0.12   | 0.57   | 2.29   | 0.46   |
| Target values | 2.0-2.5               | > 0.14 | > 0.90 | > 1.50 | > 0.23 |

| Color | Treatment                      |
|-------|--------------------------------|
|       | CaNO <sub>3</sub> (artificial) |
|       | Slurry (organic)               |
|       | Digestant (organic)            |
|       | Liquid N (artificial)          |

# Results and Discussion (cont.)

- Yield estimation

- No correlation between yields and leaf color
  - Hyperspectral observation in 2017
- Some correlation between yields and structure parameter
  - Not sufficient for reliable estimation
  - Lack of temporal analysis
  - Higher spatial resolution images (e.g., RGB, RE)

- Schedule

- Multitemporal data analysis for real data
- Hyperspectral analysis
- Fusion of multimodal data (RGB, RE, Multispectral, HS)
- Multitemporal observation within a day

Regression (yield, number of pears per tree)

|            | Mean value | k      | $k + \bar{N}_{\hat{z}}^i$ | $\bar{N}_{\hat{z}}^i$ |
|------------|------------|--------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| 11/05/2015 | -0.12104   | 0.172  | 0.126                     | 0.377                 |
| 01/07/2015 | 0.051739   | 0.031  | 0.147                     | 0.267                 |
| 13/08/2015 | 0.33369    | 0.017  | 0.356                     | 0.311                 |
| 09/09/2015 | -0.15193   | -0.104 | 0.322                     | 0.424                 |

Regression (yield, weight of pears per tree)

|            | Mean value | k      | $k + \bar{N}_{\hat{z}}^i$ | $\bar{N}_{\hat{z}}^i$ |
|------------|------------|--------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| 11/05/2015 | -0.36464   | -0.029 | -0.004                    | 0.306                 |
| 01/07/2015 | 0.060387   | 0.086  | 0.198                     | 0.332                 |
| 13/08/2015 | 0.16699    | 0.117  | 0.312                     | 0.294                 |
| 09/09/2015 | 0.078858   | 0.051  | 0.229                     | 0.331                 |

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
|  | over 0.4  |
|  | over 0.35 |