


Cost-effective plant phenotyping tools: combining emerging technologies and open source solutions

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What is cost-effective in phenotyping?

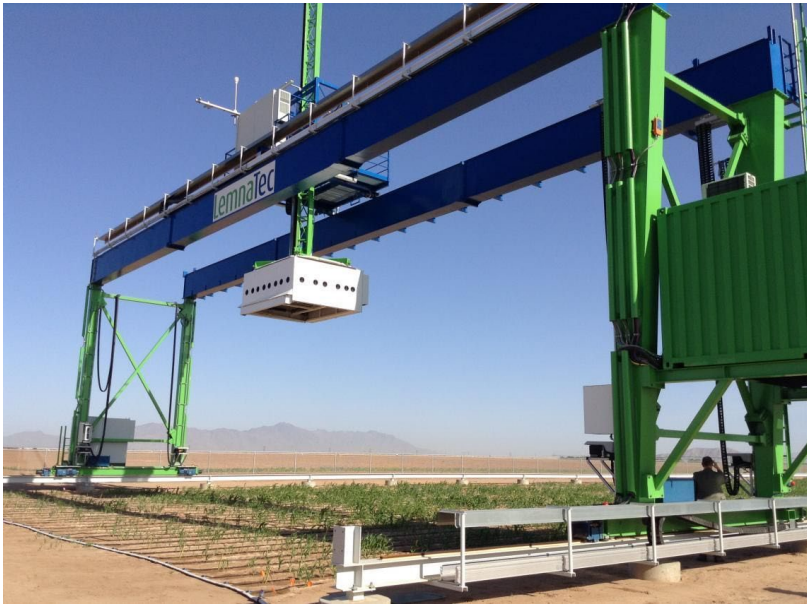
- **Low-cost vs cheap vs cost-effective**
- Cost per data point
 - Instrumentation
 - Labor (time per measurement)
 - Sample processing / analysis
- A matter of scale
 - Spatial: number of plants / plots / trials
 - Temporal: number of time points / dynamic traits

An aerial photograph of agricultural fields, showing rows of crops and a central orange text box. The fields are divided into sections by narrow paths or furrows. The crops appear to be in various stages of growth, with some areas showing more dense vegetation than others. The orange text box is centered over the middle of the image, containing the main title.

A practical use case: phenotyping plant height for growth rate

Instrumentation cost for plant height

Fixed phenotyping gantries



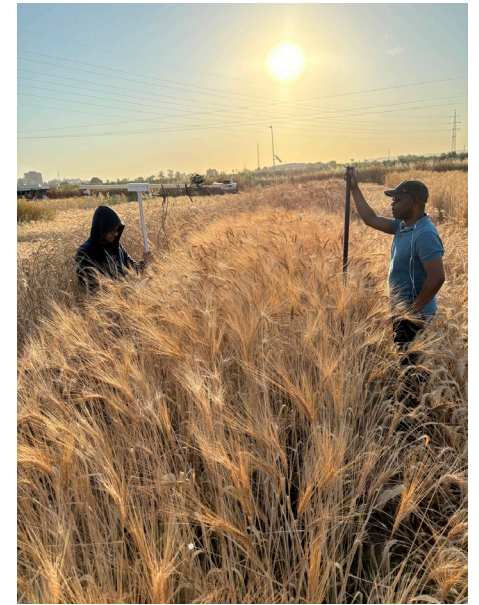
$\times 10^6$ €

Phenomobiles



$\times 10^5$ €

PhenoSticks

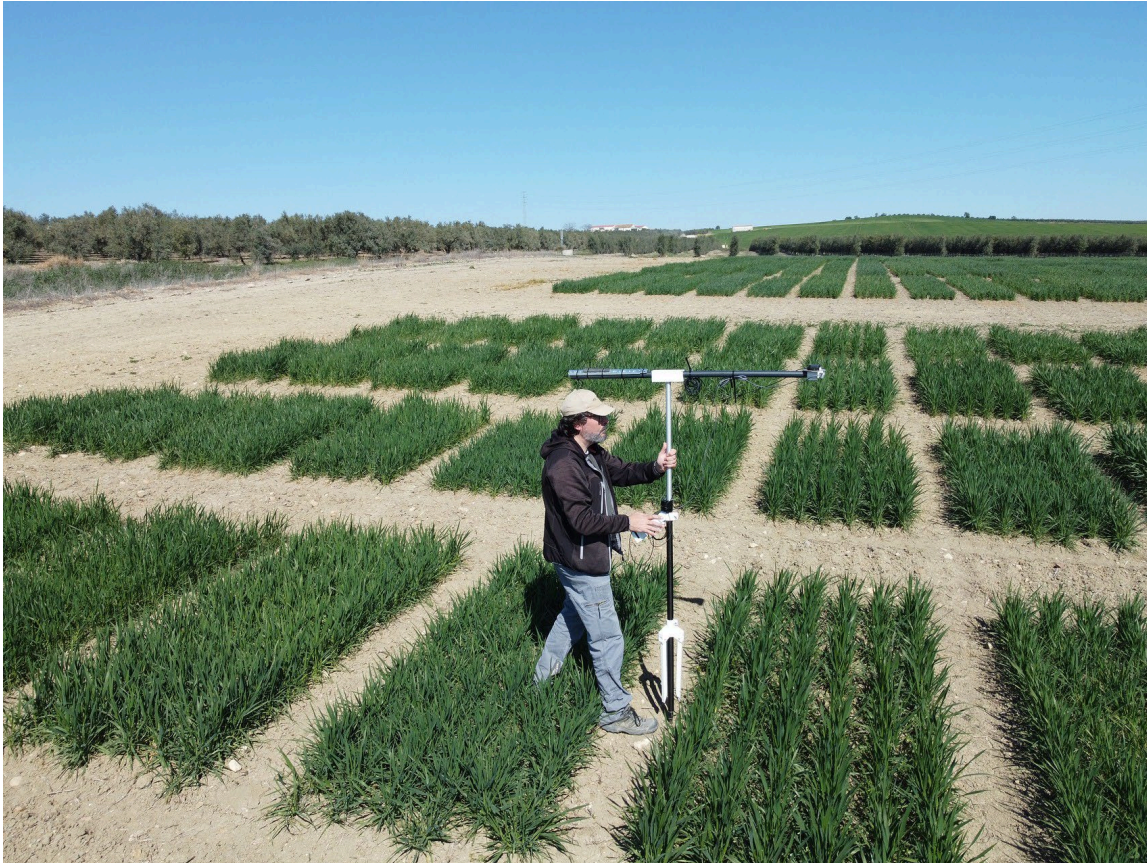


$\times 10^3$ €

Ruler

$\times 10^0$ €

QPheno: a phenostick based on 3D-RGB cameras

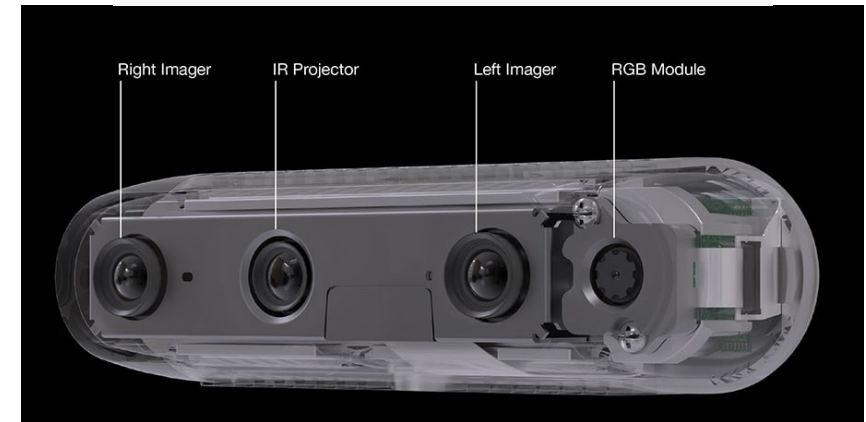


~ 10s per plot: RGB + Plant Height

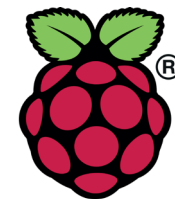
RTK GNSS
2cm accuracy



Intel Realsense
3D-RGB

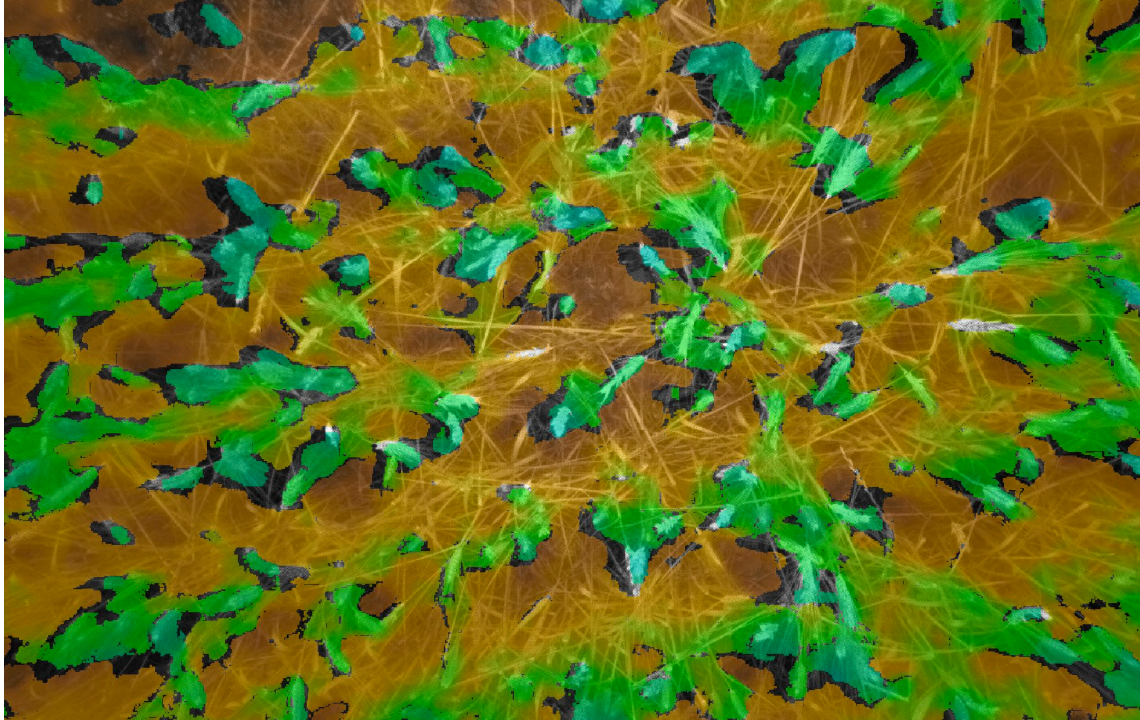


Raspberry Pi
Computer



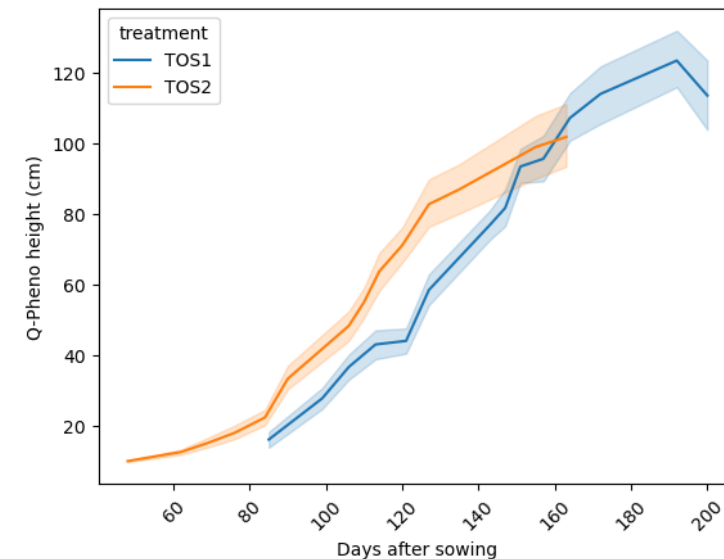
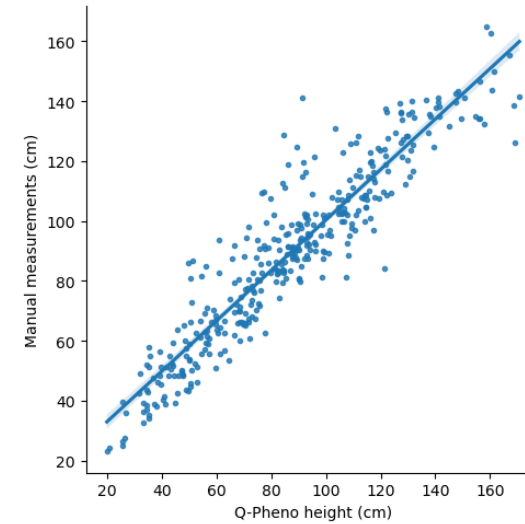
Raspberry Pi

QPheno: a phenostick based on 3D-RGB cameras

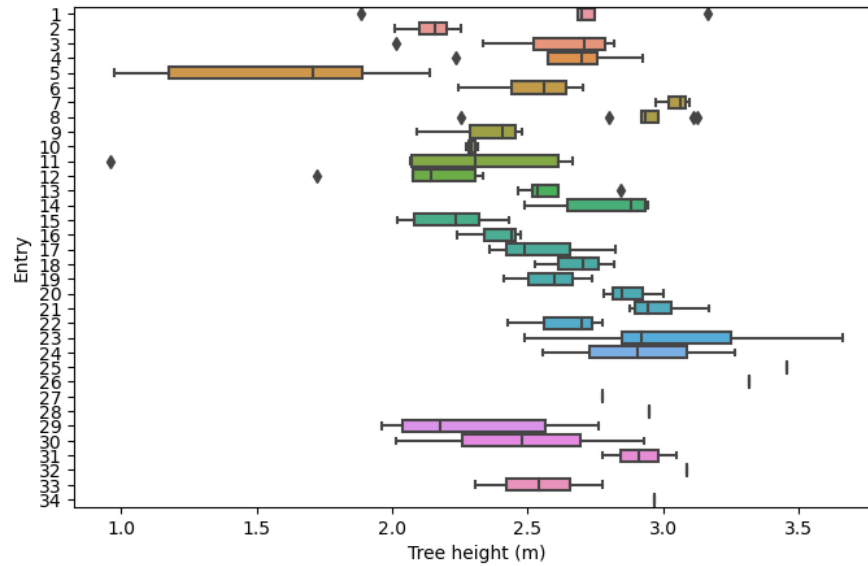
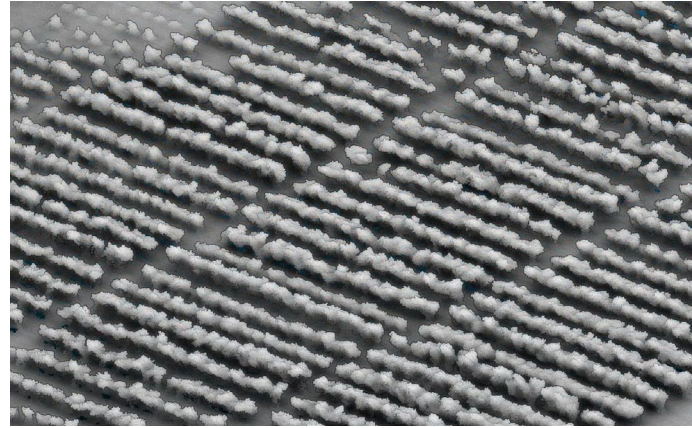


Overlay of RGB + Plant height

(Quintana, Bellido et al., in preparation)



What about phenotyping tree species?



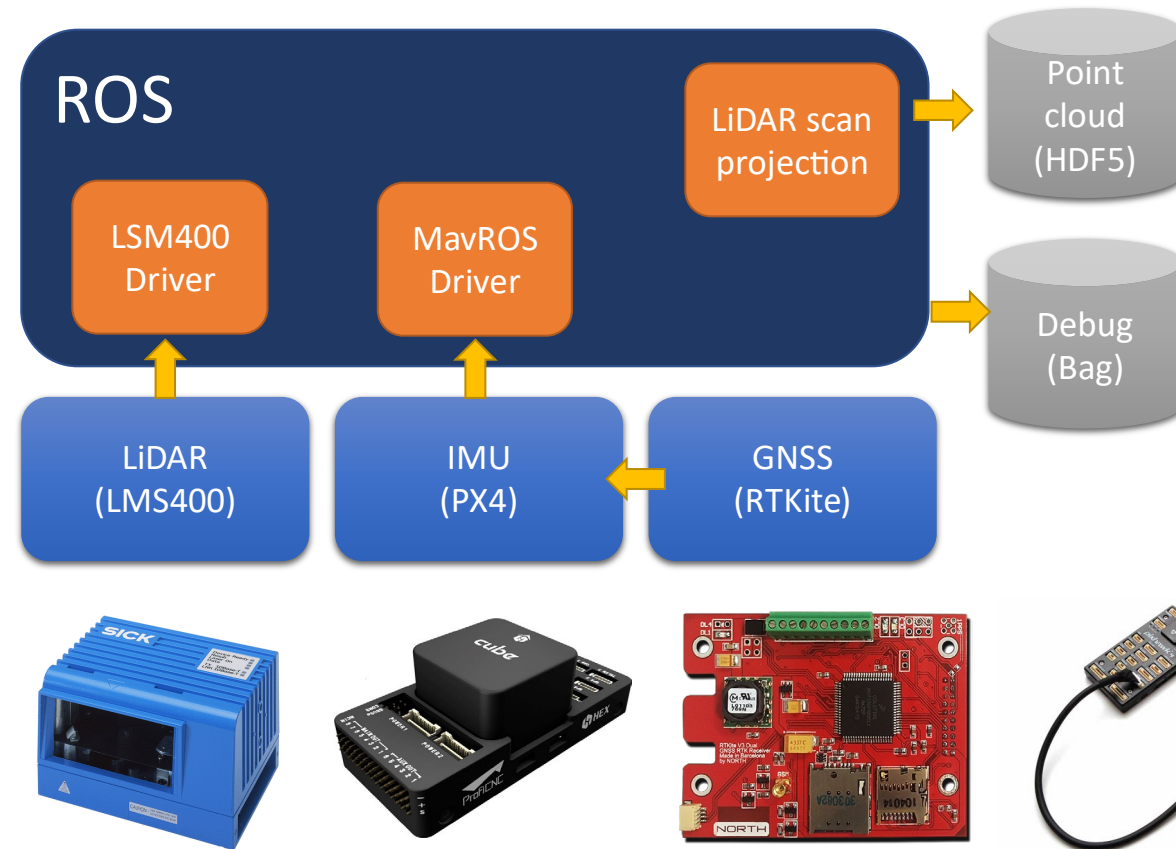
Manual measurements of tree volume

Characterization of olive genotypes using airborne LiDAR

Data acquisition: Open PhenoLiDAR

ROS

 **PEN**
PHENO-LIDAR



<https://github.com/OpenAgriTech/Open-PhenoLiDAR>



The background of the slide is a DNA microarray image, showing a grid of small spots in various colors (red, green, blue, yellow) on a dark background. A large, semi-transparent white box is centered over the image, containing the main title text.

A special case: phenotyping highly dynamic traits

Using temperature proxy for stomatal conductance

Stomatal conductance is time consuming



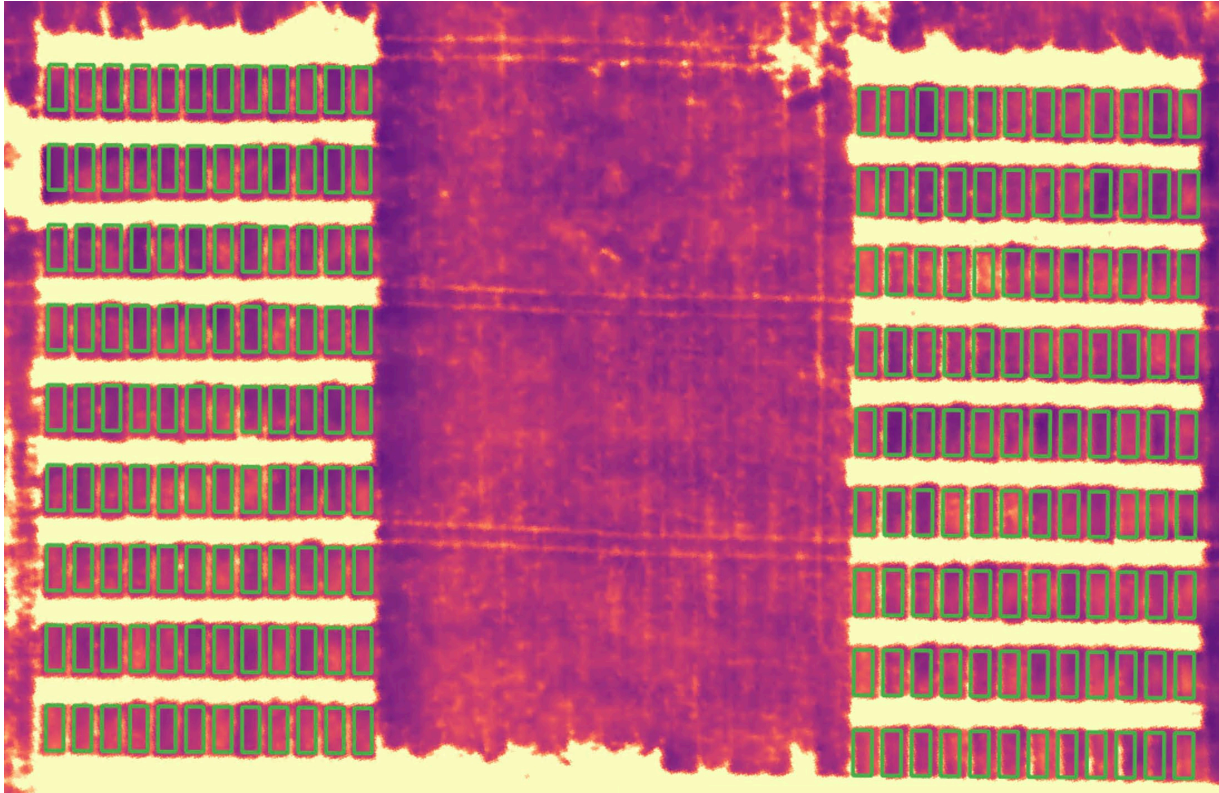
Continuous measurements of canopy temperature



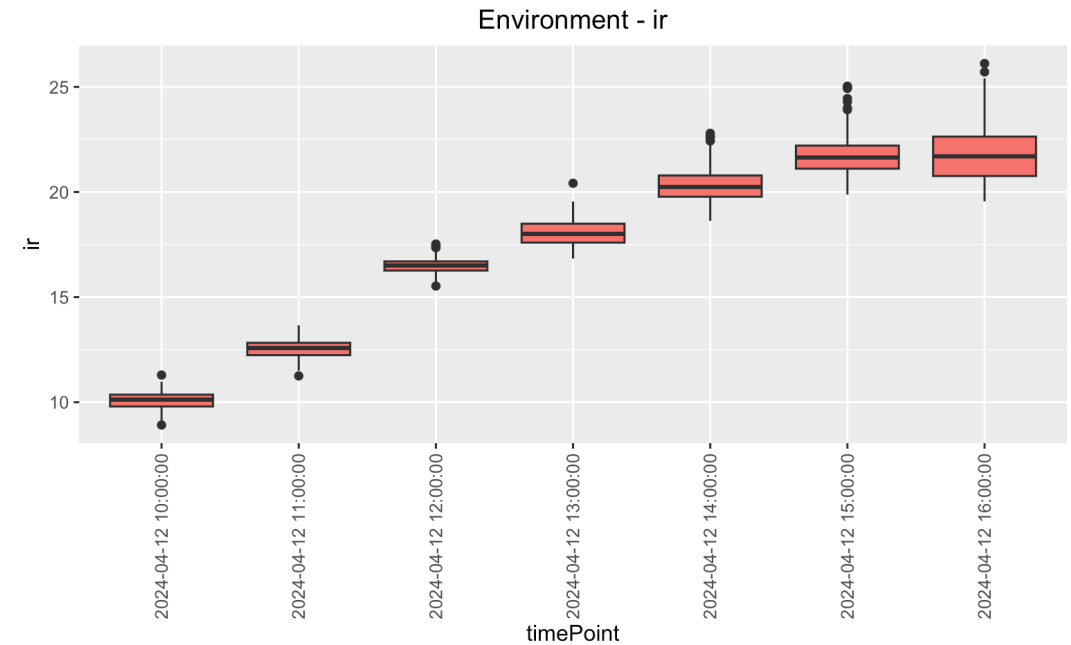
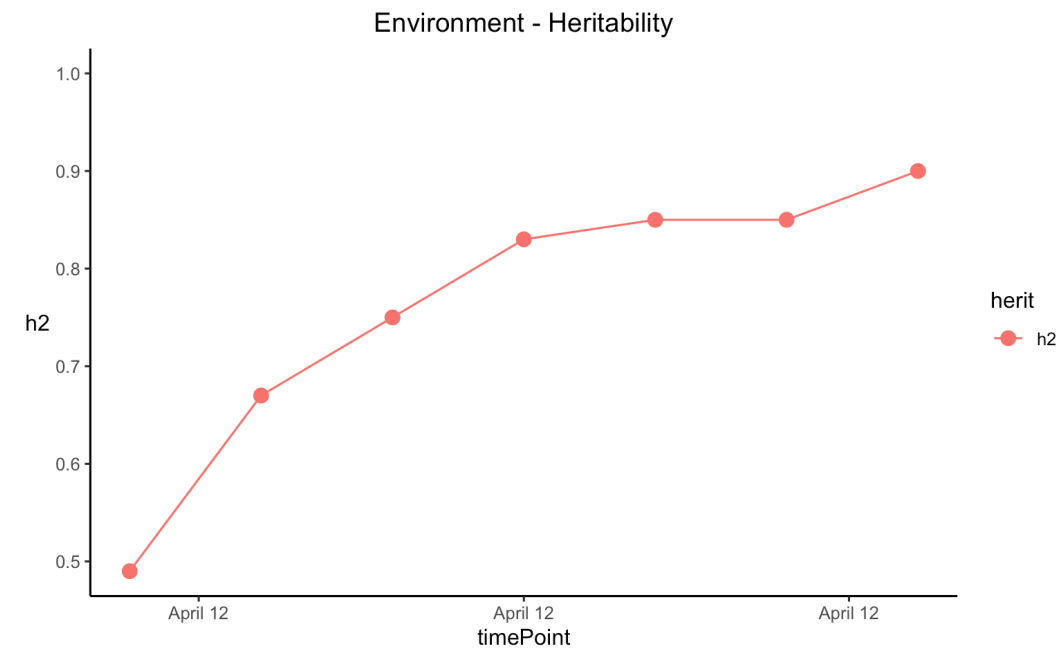
(Jimenez-Berni et al, Front. Agron., 2023)



Airborne thermography



Plot extraction with BreederMap Plug-in for QGIS (open-source)
Data analysis with statgenHTP (open-source)



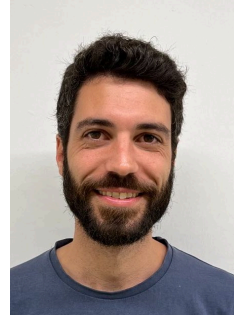
Take home messages

- Think about the cost of each data point and its value
- There may be low-cost tools but limited when scaling up
- LiDAR and 3D-RGB cameras for plant height and canopy architecture
- Canopy temperature traits have to be fast or continuous
- Open-source for data acquisition and analysis is critical
 - Cost
 - Transparency and reproducibility
 - Data soberanity
- A call for collaboration and build up communities

Thanks to a great team!



Rafa Orozco
Smart irrigation



Gabriel Soriano
Ground-based LiDAR



Kika Ruz
Heat and drought tolerance in wheat



Daniel Lozano
Técnico superior



Fernando Madrid
Ingeniería electrónica



Teresa García
Postdoc on phenomics and plant pathology



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THANK YOU