

Norwegian University
of Life Sciences

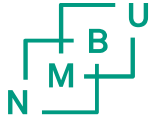
Robotic Platform for field phenotyping

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NPPN field day

17th June 2020





*“I choose a lazy person to do a hard job.
Because a lazy person will find an easy way to do it.”*

~ Bill Gates

- Remote platforms allow us to do things “smart” by reducing (direct) human input...
- And do even more “smart” things, impossible before

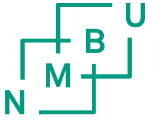


Thorvald II robotic platform

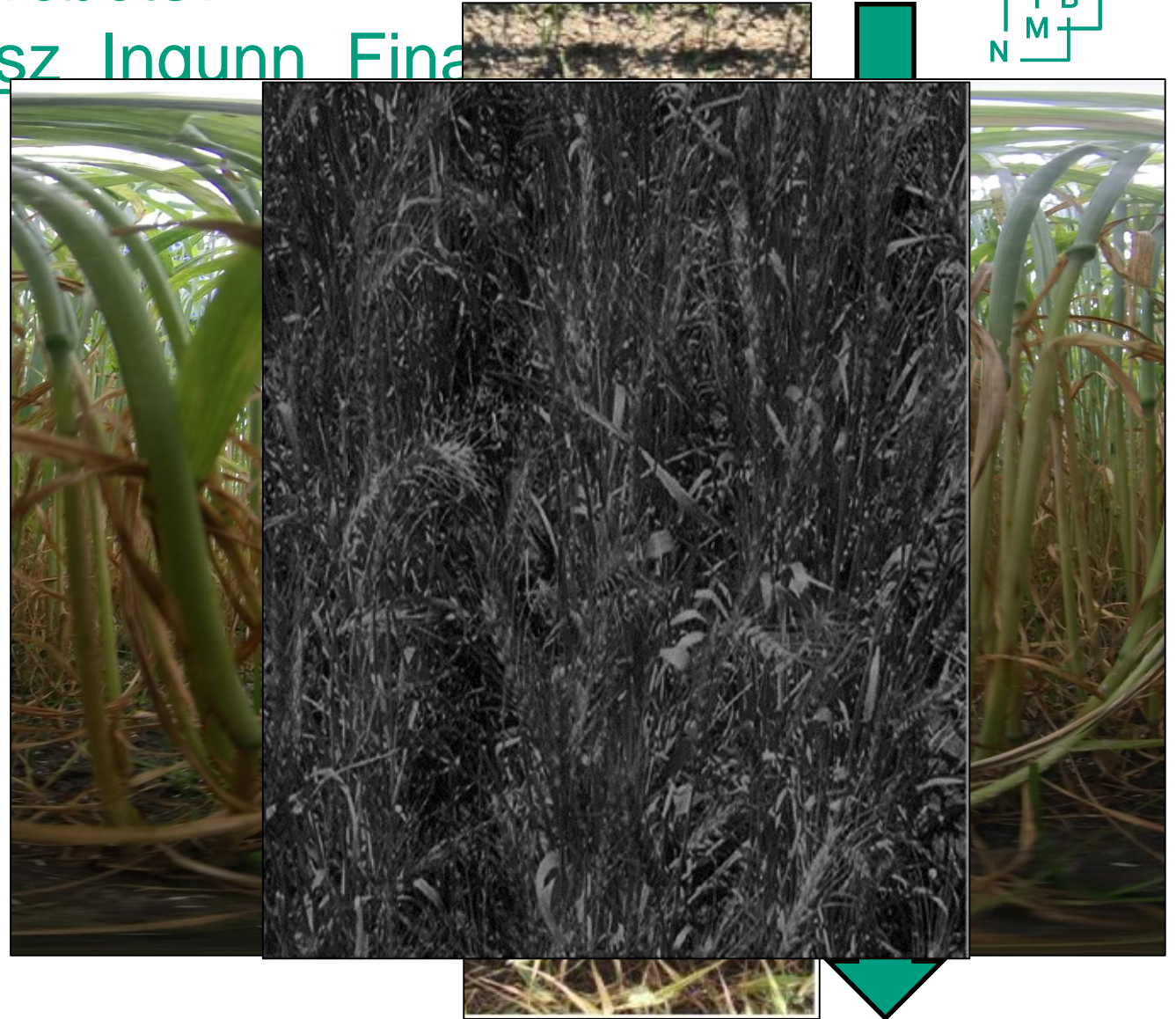
Movie Link

What data do we collect with robots?

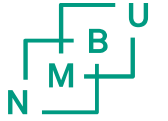
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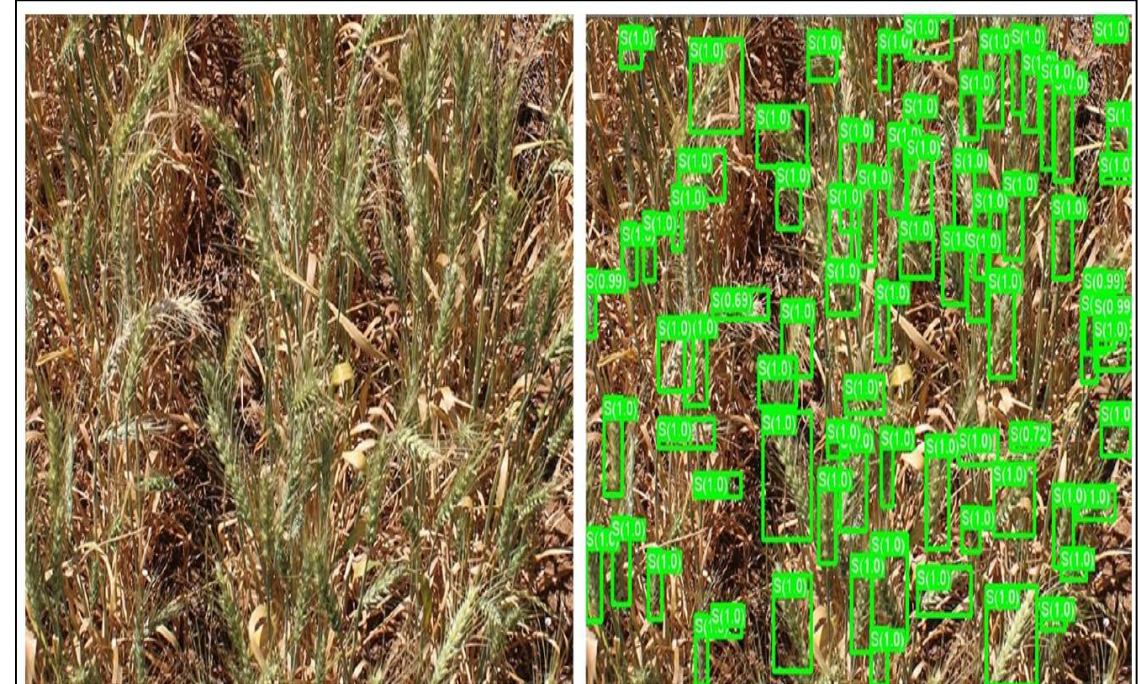
- Complementary to drone imaging
- Visual (RGB):
 - Top-down, high resolution
 - 360° inside the canopy
- Near infra-red (NIR) top-down



How can we transfer this data to knowledge?



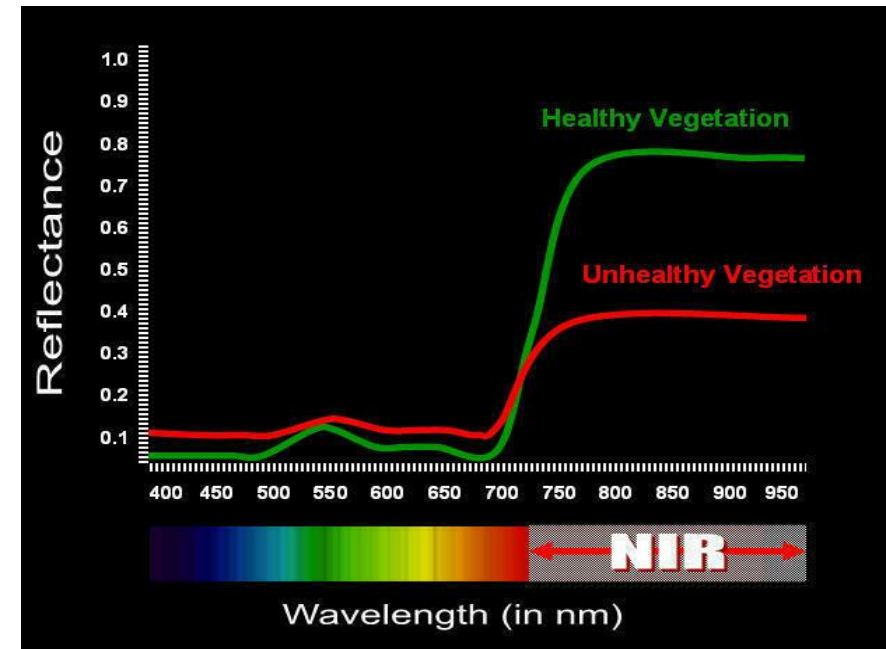
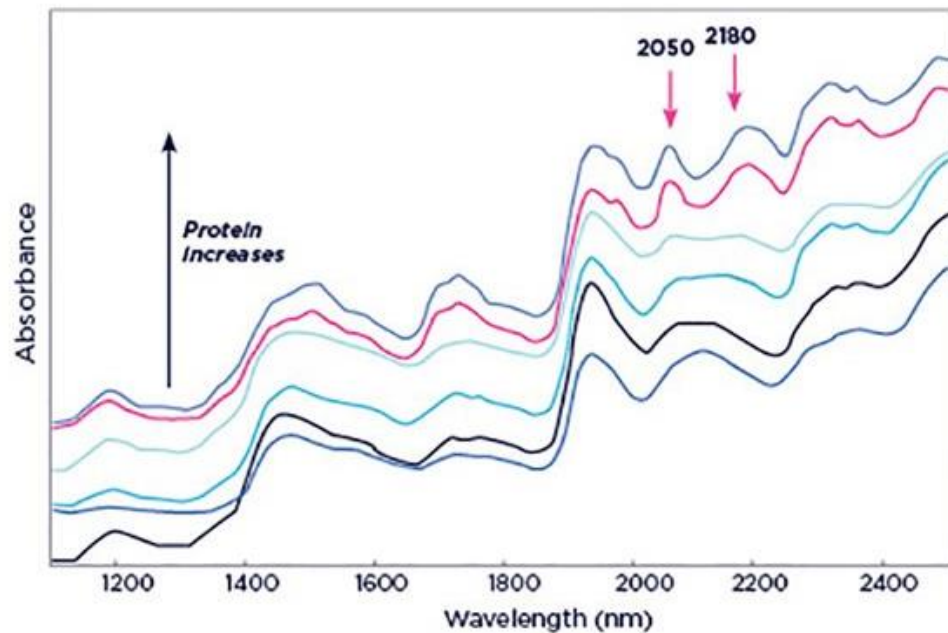
- Top down RGB images:
 - Estimation of growth stage
 - Number of heads
 - Spike size and properties
 - Stress/disease signs (chlorosis etc.)
- 360 images
 - Canopy architecture
 - Disease signs



How can we transfer this data to knowledge?



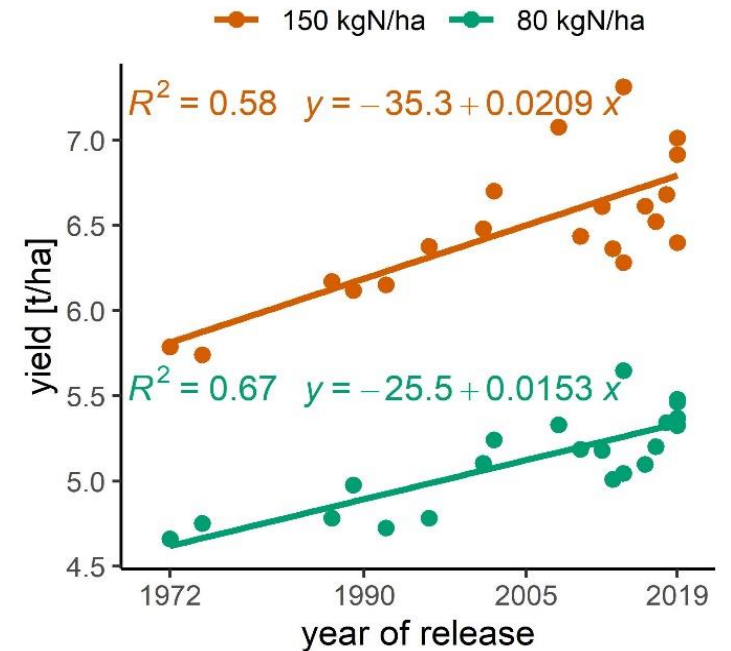
- NIR images
 - Nitrogen (protein) content in the canopy
 - Stress (physiological state)



How can we transfer this data to knowledge?



- Case study:
Historical yield and trait genetic gains in Norwegian spring wheat (Mroz et al, in prep.)
- Involved manual phenotyping
- Use robot images to:
 - Estimate the number of heads per area
 - Estimate presence of nitrogen stress
 - Estimate protein content in the canopy
 - Look into canopy architecture
 - Determine growth stage



How can we transfer this data to knowledge?

