

Supplement Text S1

Agisoft Photoscan Digital Surface Model Workflow:

1. Add photos

- a. Manually disable/remove takeoff and landing photos
- b. Use all photos if there is minimal overlap in flight lines and few redundant photos (e.g., flight lines set up using mission planning software).
- c. If photo coverage is good, but repeat lines/photos are present, use $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of photos, align on low, and check coverage. Add additional photos to improve coverage if needed. Recheck alignment.

2. Camera calibration

- a. Check initial settings.
- b. Using “**auto**” alignment and default settings.
- c. For GoPro photos, change type to “**fisheye**.”
- d. Optional: break out different focal lengths and camera elevations into different calibration groups

3. Alignment

- a. Quality: “**highest**”
- b. Pair preselection “**generic**.” Selecting “**disabled**” will yield more points if camera positions aren’t systematic (e.g., in a line). With **disabled**, all photos are compared to one another, at the cost of additional processing time.
- c. Optional: if geotagged photos are used, select “**disabled**” to achieve better alignment (so alignment not limited by mediocre geotagged photo locations).
- d. Key point limit: **60k**, tie point limit **0** (no limit).
- e. Deselect “**adaptive model fitting**” (not sure what this does).
- f. **Optimize** cameras after initial alignment

4. Coordinate System

- a. Update geographic coordinate system. For Borah Peak, we used **NAD83(2011)** (EPSG::6318).
- b. Update “**Image coordinate accuracy**.” Marker accuracy is how well you can place the markers on the photos, so this depends on the image clarity and resolution. Generally, use a marker accuracy of **0.5 pixels** for GoPro and **0.3 pixels** for mirrorless (e.g., Sony a5100) cameras. If photos are really clear/sharp, **0.1 pixels** is justifiable.
- c. Tie point accuracy of **0.1-0.5 pixels**.
- d. Leave “**measurement accuracy**” as default values.

5. Markers

- a. Import CSV – with **GPS RMS** field used as “**accuracy.**” Set “**Start import at row**” to row with first point. Double check that columns are assigned correctly (compare headers in table preview).
 - b. Deselect any markers outside of project area and any geotagged photos in the Reference pane.
 - c. Build Mesh if helpful for locating targets.
 - d. Place a few markers, update georeferencing.
 - e. Hand place as many markers as possible, while minimizing “**Error (m)**” (model error in RMSE). Avoiding placing warped/distorted/poor resolution targets if possible (in some cases, needed to add these to reduce model error).
 - f. Optimize cameras using parameters **f, cx, cy, k1, k2, k3, b1, b2, p1, and p2**. Uncheck markers with high errors and re-optimize to reduce model error (RMSE).
6. **Gradual Selection.** This is an important step of cleaning the sparse point cloud before building the dense cloud. Optimize using parameters in step 5f.
- a. **Reconstruction uncertainty.** Filter out photo pairs (tie points) that have poor geometry. With a fixed wide angle lens, good overlapping flight lines, sharp photos, etc., reconstruction uncertainty will not exceed 10. With less ideal conditions, 15 is more reasonable.
 - i. Select points **>10-15**, being careful not to remove too many points (aim for ~10-50% depending on cloud size).
 - ii. Delete points and optimize.
 - iii. Check camera “projections” in error window. <200 projections = poor alignment and point cameras will not be used.
 - iv. Repeat (a total of 2 times).
 - b. **Projection accuracy.** Relative accuracy of tie-points at multiple scales. High quality photos/points – can go to 2; 3-6 more reasonable with image issues (artifacts, blurry, etc.). Not influenced by camera calibration.
 - i. Select points **>3** (can attempt 2.5), being careful not to remove too many points (aim for ~10-50% depending on cloud size).
 - ii. Delete points and optimize.
 - iii. Check for projections <200.
 - iv. Repeat (a total of 2 times).
 - c. **Reprojection error (~2-3x).** This is how well 2D and 3D reconstructions of the tie points match, measured in pixels. Iterate, aiming for <0.3 pixels.
 - i. Select points **>0.3**, or **~5–10%** of points, whichever is less. Watch for too many projections <200.
 - ii. Delete points and optimize.
 - iii. Repeat (at least 2-3 times), getting as close to 0.3 as possible.

7. Dense Point Cloud

- a. Quality: **High**
- b. Depth filtering: **Aggressive**

8. DSM

- a. Construct DSM in Photoscan using dense cloud as source.
- b. Export DSM as GeoTiff.