



HDR Institute:

# Imageomics: A New Frontier of Biological Information

Powered by Knowledge-Guided Machine Learning

[imageomics.org](http://imageomics.org)



-omics  
from images

Bird morphology. Erfl. Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 2.5 Generic license

**Imageomics(.org):**  
An interdisciplinary scientific field  
focused on understanding biology of organisms,  
particularly the biological traits and observable phenotype,  
from images.



## Traits (biology) | noun, singular: trait

- ▶ [t्रeɪts]
- ▶ characteristics of an organism, describing its physiology, morphology, health, life history, demographic status, and behavior (e.g., beak color, stripe pattern, fin curvature, fused teeth, scarring, size at birth, pollen feeding). Traits are determined by genes, the environment, and the interactions among them.

We need to make traits computable

Mendel's Pea Plant Traits							
	Flower color	Seed shape	Seed color	Pod color	Pod shape	Plant height	Flower position
Dominant							
Recessive							



# Sparse, imperfect, heterogeneous data

## Imageomics Data

3D Textured Model



Digital Xray



3D mCT w/  
Contrast



Videos in the Wild



Curated Images



## Text, Geo, Molecular...

### Text descriptions

Redbreast sunfish

Fish

The redbreast sunfish is a species of freshwater fish in the sunfish family of order Perciformes. The type species of its genus, it is native to the river systems of eastern Canada and the United States. The redbreast sunfish reaches a maximum recorded length of about 30 cm, with a maximum recorded weight of 2.3 lb.  
Wikipedia

### Geospatial



### Molecular



A. Karpatne, X. Jia, V. Kumar  
**Knowledge-guided Machine Learning: Current Trends and Future Prospects. 2024**

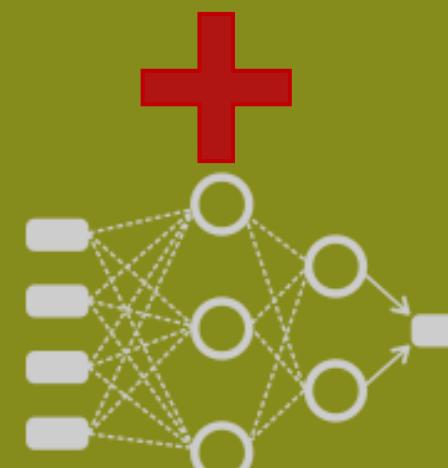
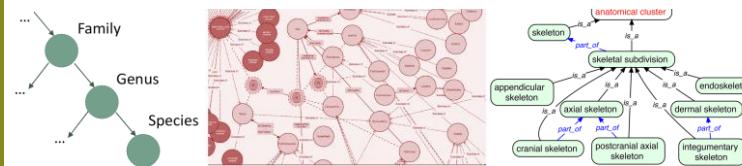
## Knowledge-Guided ML

### Biological Structures

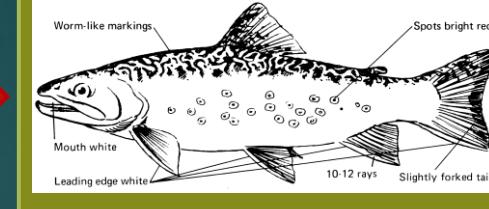
Phylogeny

Trait Ontology

Ethograms, etc.



## Explainable AI



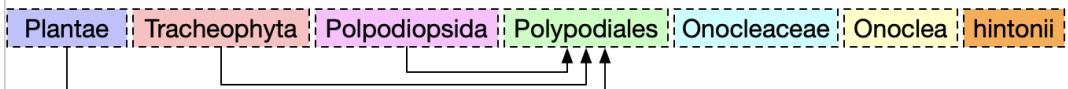


# BioCLIP: A Vision Foundation Model for the Tree of Life

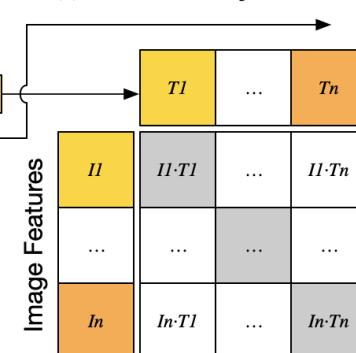
(a) Taxonomic Labels

Kingdom	Phylum	Class	Order	Family	Genus	Species
Plantae	Tracheophyta	Polpodiopsida	Polypodiales	Onocleaceae	Onoclea	sensibilis
Plantae	Tracheophyta	Polpodiopsida	Polypodiales	Onocleaceae	Onoclea	hintonii

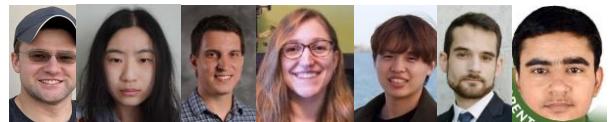
(b) Autoregressive Representations



(c) Contrastive Objective

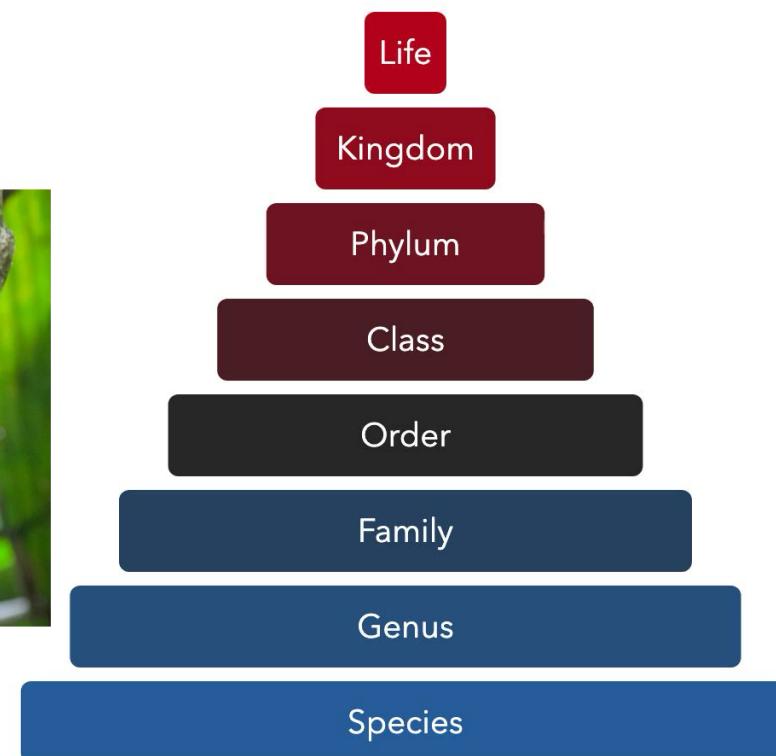


Samuel Stevens, Jiaman (Lisa) Wu, Matt Thompson, Elizabeth Campolongo, Chan Hee (Luke) Song, David Carlyn, Li Dong, Wasila Dahdul, Charles Stewart, Tanya Berger-Wolf, Wei-Lun (Harry) Chao, Yu Su  
CVPR 2024

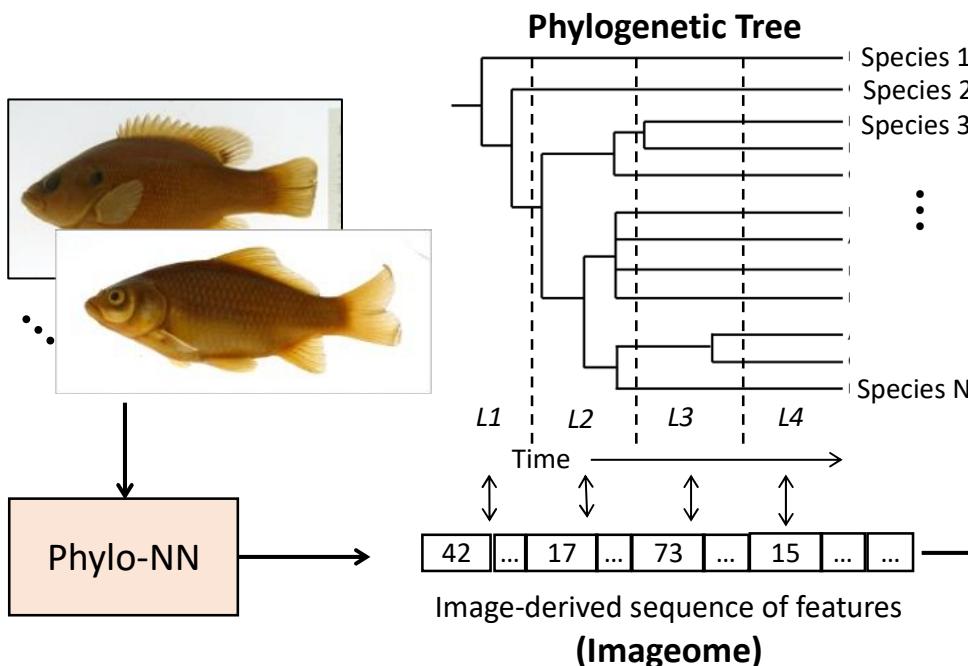


[imageomics.github.io/bioclip](https://imageomics.github.io/bioclip)

10M images, ~450K species

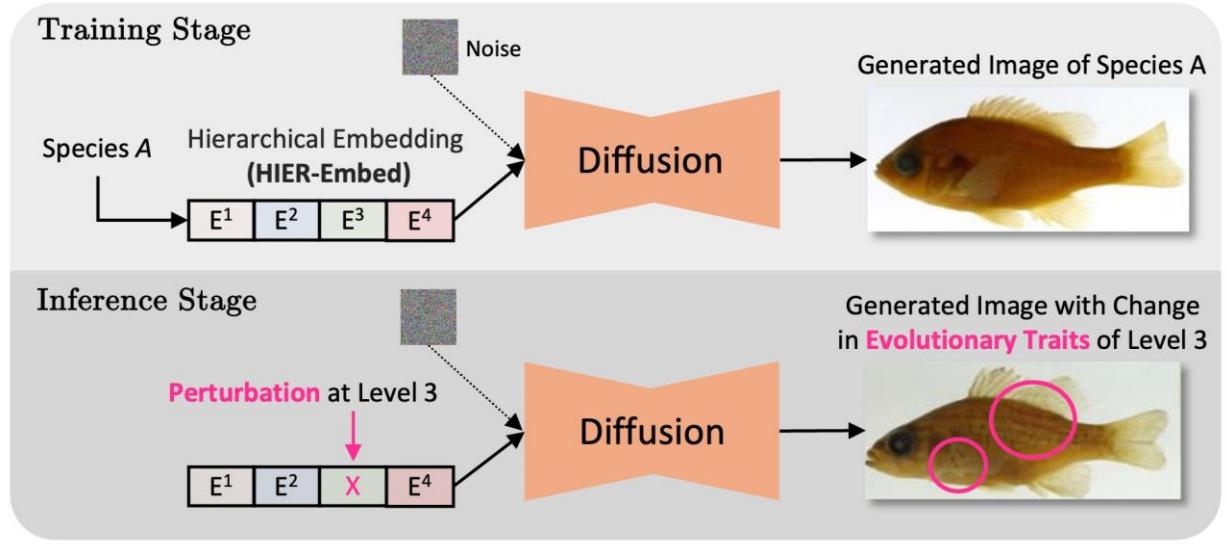


# Phylo-NN & Phylo-Diffusion: Trait Evolution From Images



Mohannad Elhamod\*, Mridul Khurana, Harish Babu Manogaran, Josef Uyeda, Meghan Balk, Wasila Dahdul, Yasin Bakis, Henry Bart, Paula Mabee, Hilmar Lapp, James Balhoff, Caleb Charpentier, David Carlyn, Wei-Lun Chao, Charles Stewart, Daniel Rubenstein, Tanya Berger-Wolf, Anuj Karpatne

Discovering Novel Biological Traits From Images Using Phylogeny-Guided Neural Networks [KDD'23]



Mridul Khurana, Arka Daw, M. Maruf. et al

**Hierarchical Conditioning of Diffusion Models Using Tree-of-Life for Studying Species Evolution [ECCV'24]**



[imageomics.github.io/phylo-diffusion/](https://imageomics.github.io/phylo-diffusion/)



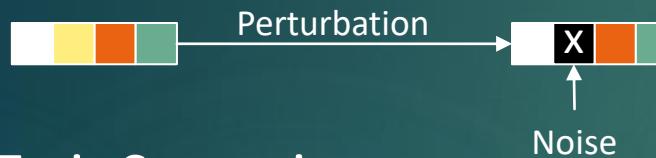


ANUJ  
KARPATNE

# Imageome experiments

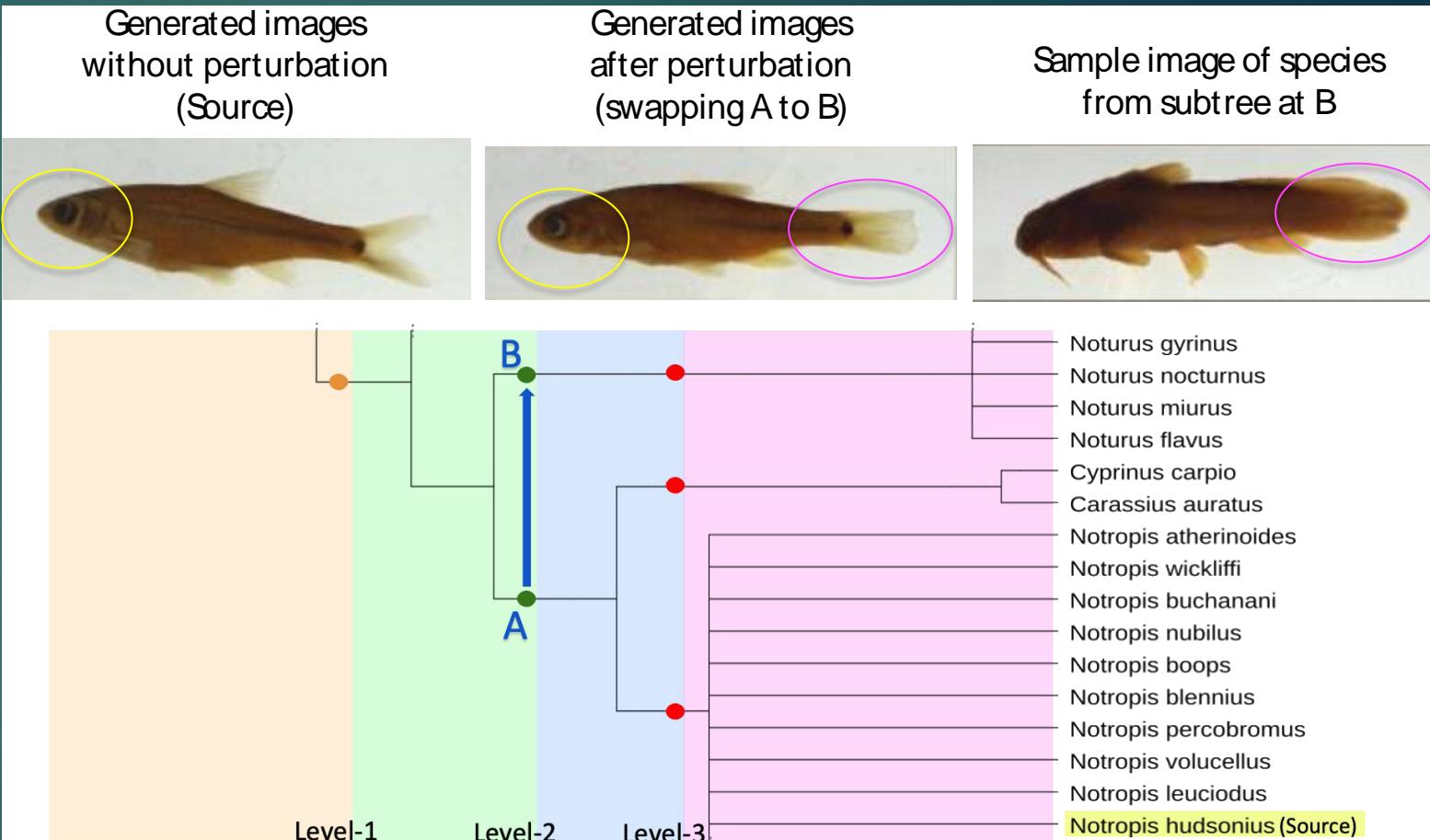
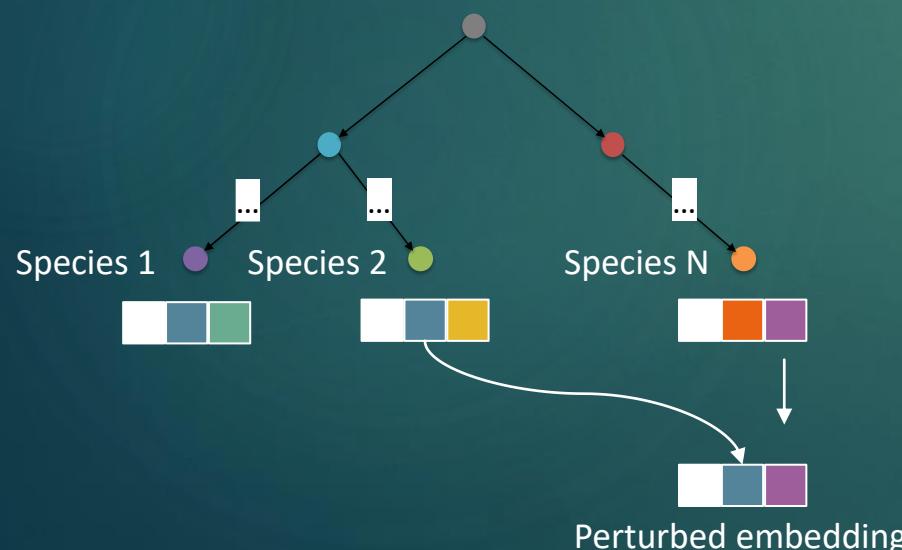
## 1. Trait Masking

- Replace components with noise
- Analogous to “Gene Knockout”



## 2. Trait Swapping

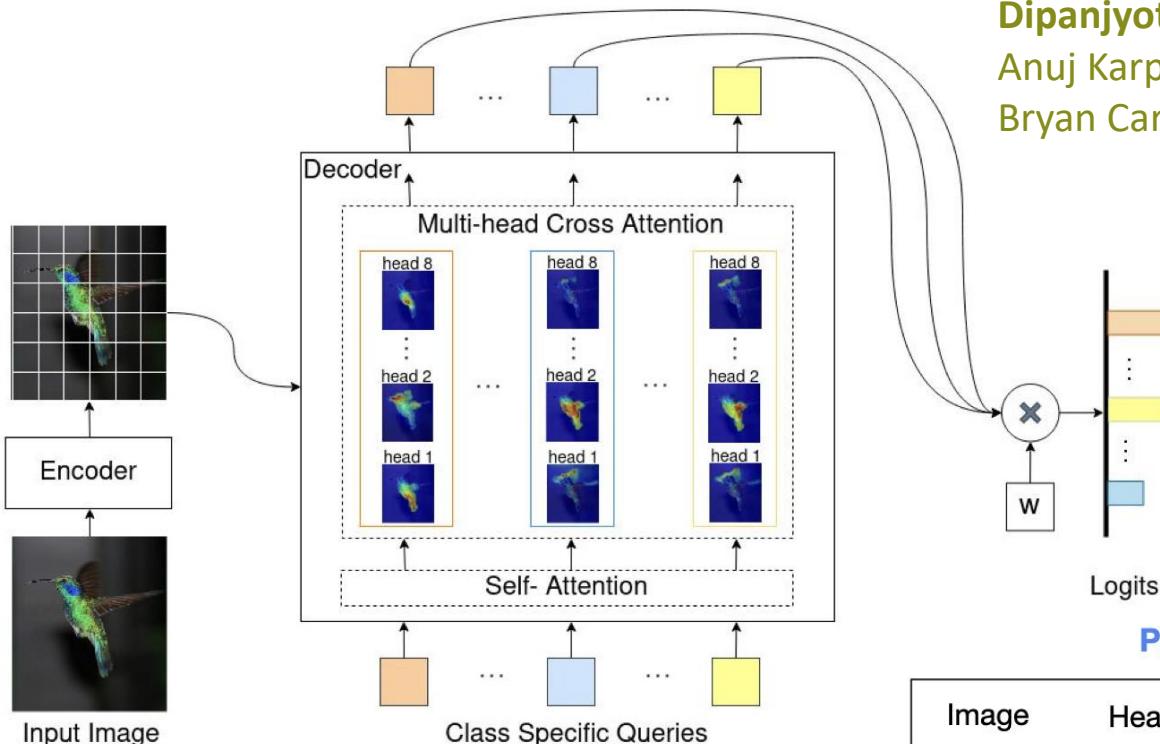
- Replace components with siblings
- Analogous to “CRISPR experiments”



Phylo-Diffusion generates novel hypotheses of trait evolution directly from images



# INTR – INterpretable TRansformer for Trait Discovery



Dipanjyoti Paul, Arpita Chowdhury, Xinqi Xiong, Samuel Stevens, Kaiya L Provost, Anuj Karpatne, Charles Stewart, Tanya Berger-Wolf, Feng-Ju Chang, David Carlyn, Bryan Carstens, Dan Rubenstein, Yu Su, Wei-Lun (Harry) Chao **ICLR 2024**



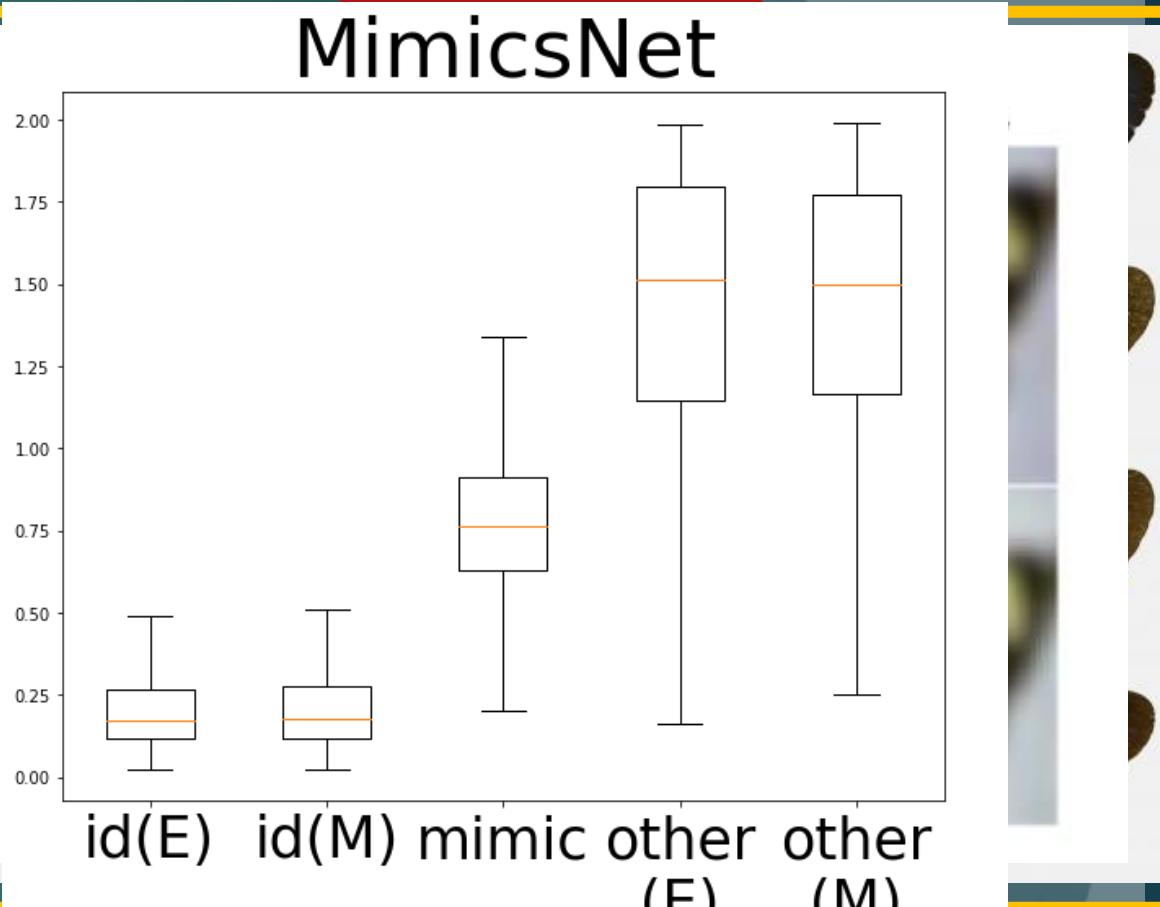
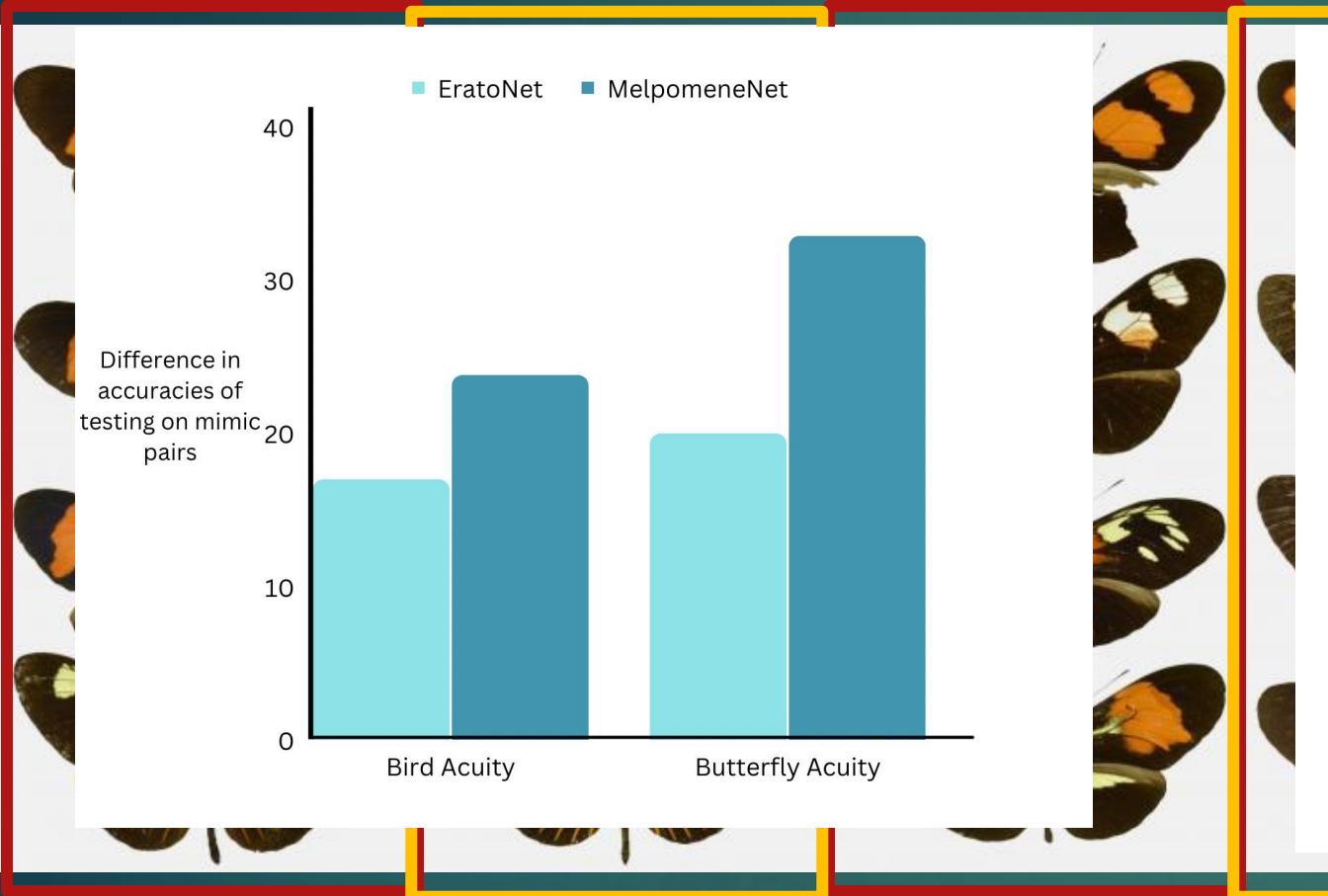
<https://github.com/Imageomics/INTR>

**Painted Bunting!! Do you see yourself? How do you interpret your decision?**

Image	Head-1	Head-2	Head-3	Head-4	Head-5	Head-6	Head-7	Head-8	Answer
									Yes
									Yes
									Yes
									No



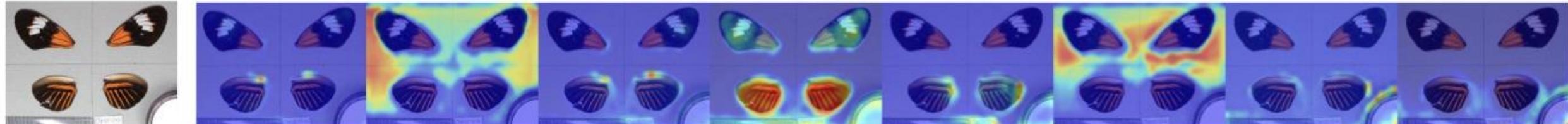
# Mimicry in the right light (Species Traits)



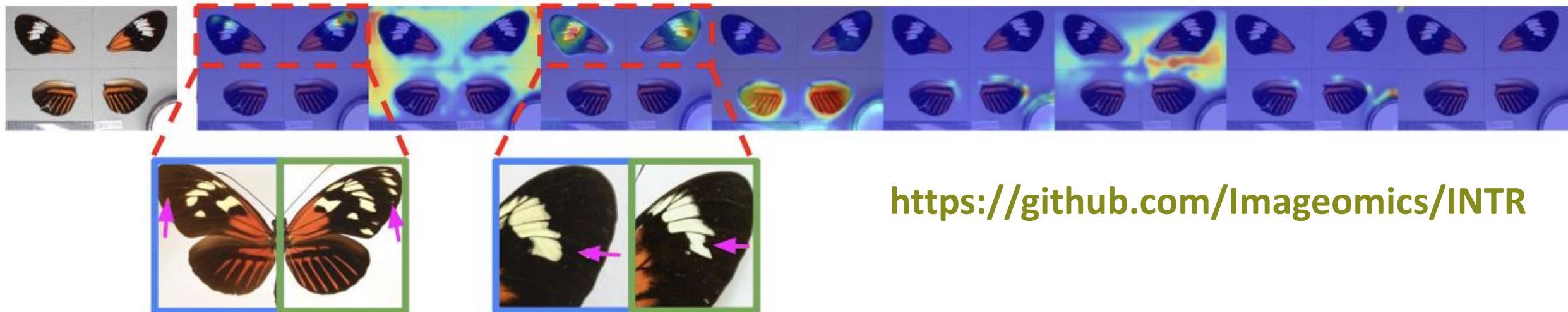
Christopher Lawernce, Reshma Ramesh Babu, Krzysztof Kozak, Harry Chao, David Carlyn, Mo ElHamod, Anuj Karpatne, Jihung Kil, Owen McMillan, Dan Rubenstein, Yu Su, Luke Song, Sam Stevens, Kris Chuck Stewart, Yael Stochel, Tanya Berger-Wolf  
CV4Animals@CVPR 2022, Traitfest, Leipifest, ...

# Finding traits

*Heliconius melpomene*, compared with all query



*Heliconius melpomene*, only compared with *Heliconius elevatus*



<https://github.com/Imageomics/INTR>



# Experiential Introduction to AI and Ecology





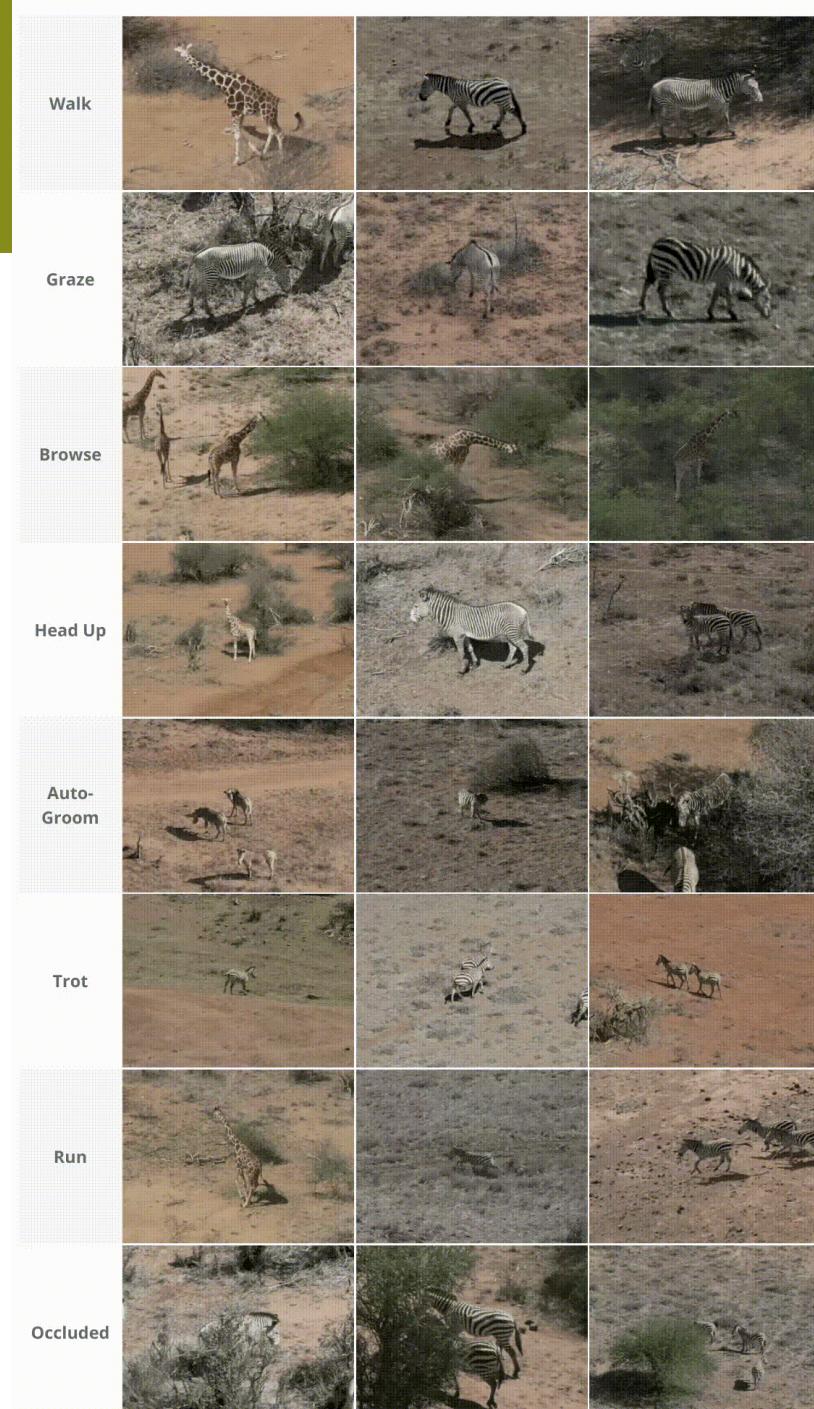
# KABR: In-Situ Dataset for Kenyan Animal Behavior Recognition from drone videos

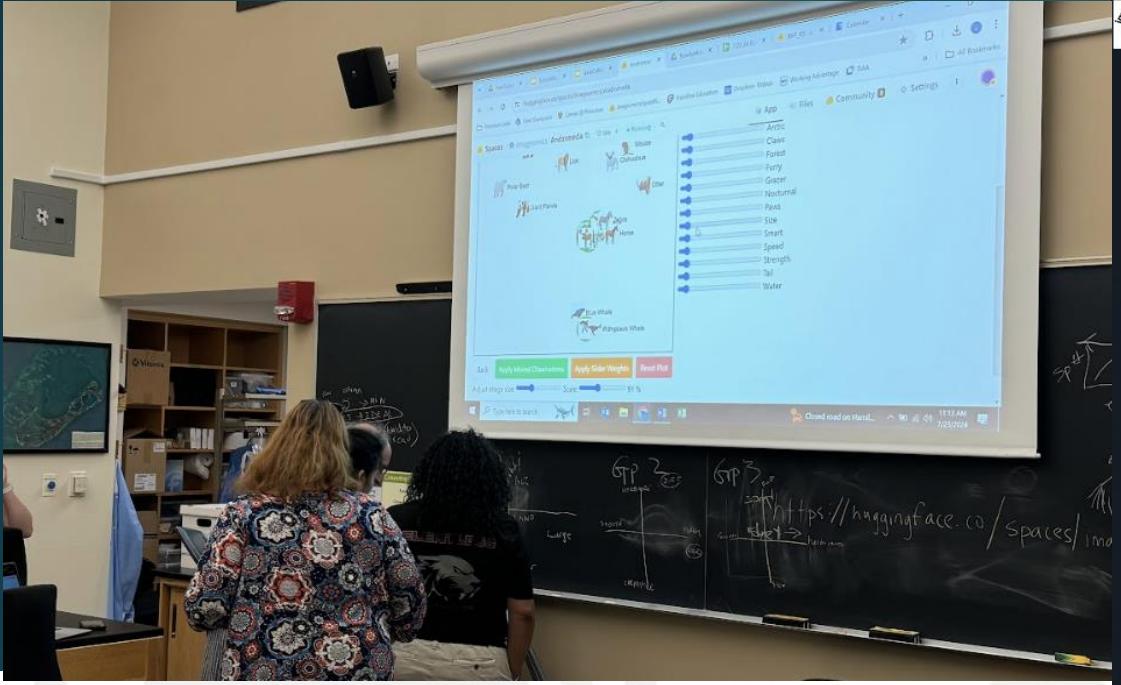
Maksim Kholiavchenko, Jenna Kline, Michelle Ramirez, Sam Stevens, Alec Sheets, Reshma Ramesh Babu, Namrata Banerji, Elizabeth Campolongo, Matthew Thompson, Nina Van Tiel, Jackson Miliko, Eduardo Bessa, Isla Duporge, Tanya Berger-Wolf, Daniel Rubenstein, Charles Stewart

WACV'24, CV4Animals'24



<https://dirtmaxim.github.io/kabr/>





Imageomics-AAAI-24

FIRST WORKSHOP ON

# IMAGEOMICS

(Imageomics-AAAI-24)

*Discovering Biological Knowledge from Images using AI*

Held as part of AAAI 2024

February 26, 2024, 9 am to 12.30 pm

Room 203, Vancouver Convention Centre – West Building | Vancouver, BC, Canada





# Impact



imageomics.org



CVPR'24  
Best Student  
Paper Award

100+  
publications  
and  
presentations

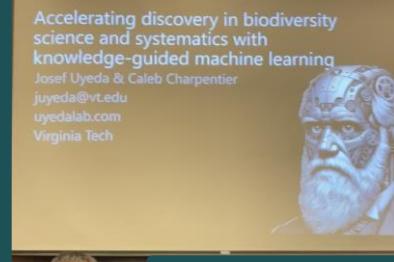


9+11  
published (HF)  
models and  
datasets



## Community:

- 150+ members
- Datapalooza & Beetlepalooza
- Experiential AI & ecology course
- Interdisciplinary training
- NextGen fellows and grads



## Workshops:

- AAAI
- Highschool science teachers
- Middle school camp
- Conservation practitioners

# AI for nature open challenges:

- ▶ Adding domain knowledge (KGML)
- ▶ Focus on the long tail, open set, distribution shift
- ▶ Novelty discovery
- ▶ Quantifying uncertainty
- ▶ Multimodal data analysis
- ▶ Model composition...
- ▶ ...including domain models
- ▶ Human-machine partnership by design

