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Title	DISCOVERY: A Photo-Identification Data Management System
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DISCOVERY: A Photo-Identification Data Management System



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Photo-Identification





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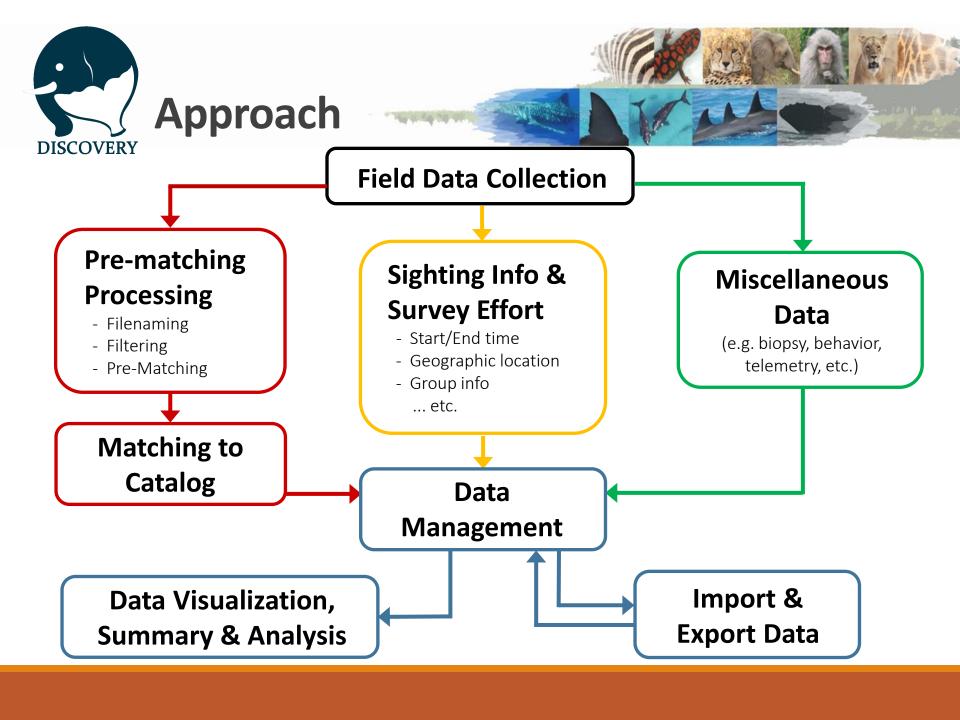
- Visually fatiguing
- Cross comparisons between databases







- Integrative system
 - Store, visualize, manage and analyze photo-ID/associated data
- Dynamic setting
 - Meet various needs of research projects and user preferences
- **Inclusive** of other tools (e.g. program R)
- Compatible with other software (e.g. MARK, SocProg, ArcGIS)
- Efficient to maintain long-term, multi-team datasets



Pre-Matching Procedures

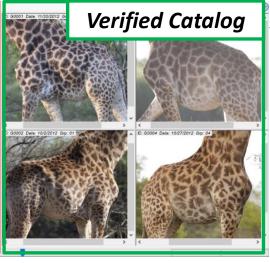
- Image processing
- Image filtering

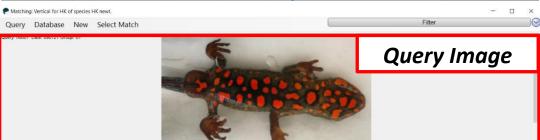


Photo-ID Matching











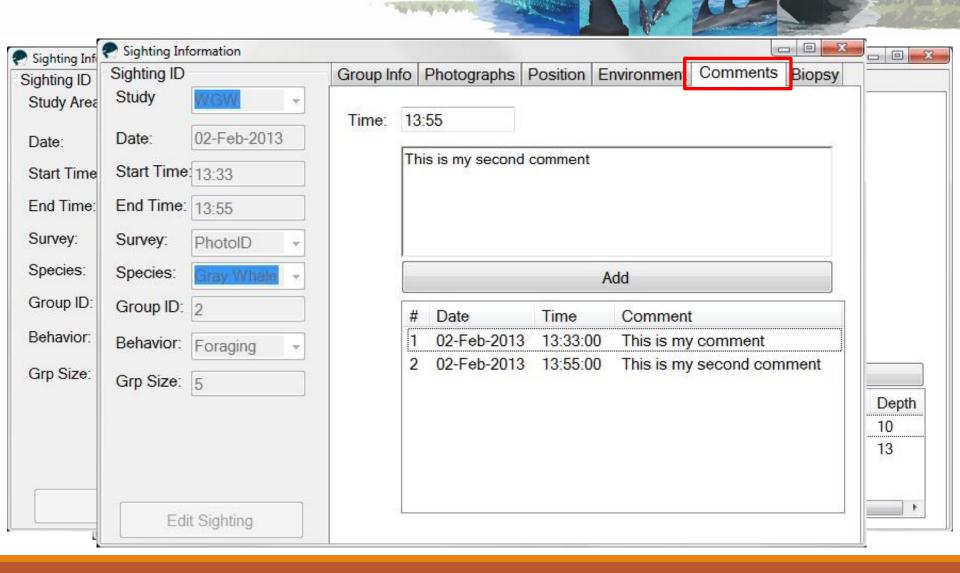
Horizontal View Mode

✓ Enhanced searching of IDs by categorizing database

√ User-defined settings to optimize efficiency

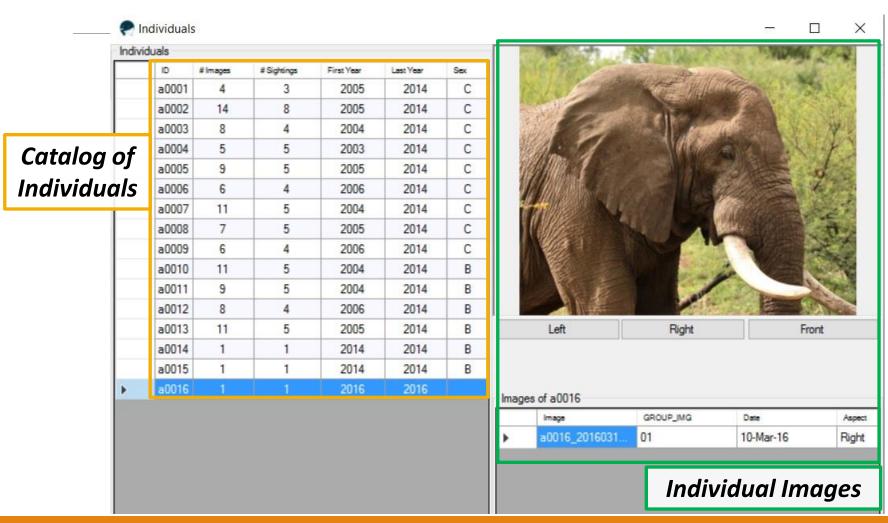
Vertical View Mode

Survey Associated Info.



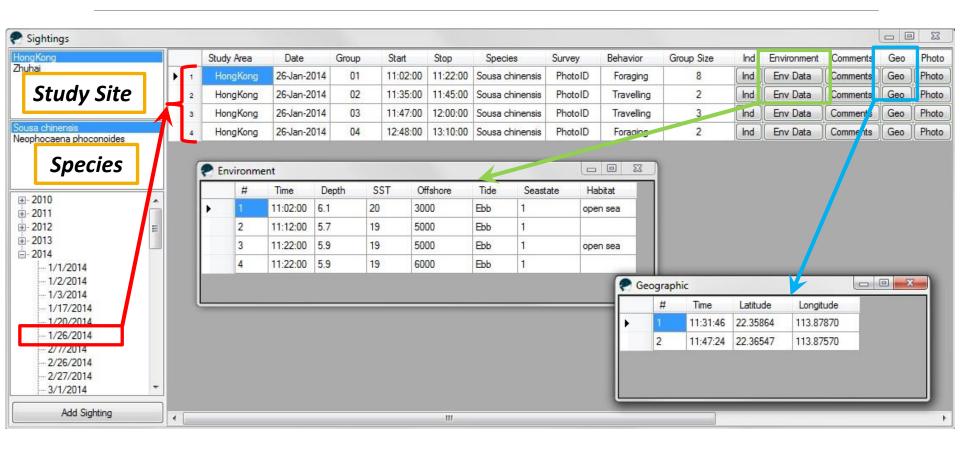
Data ManagementIndividual Catalog





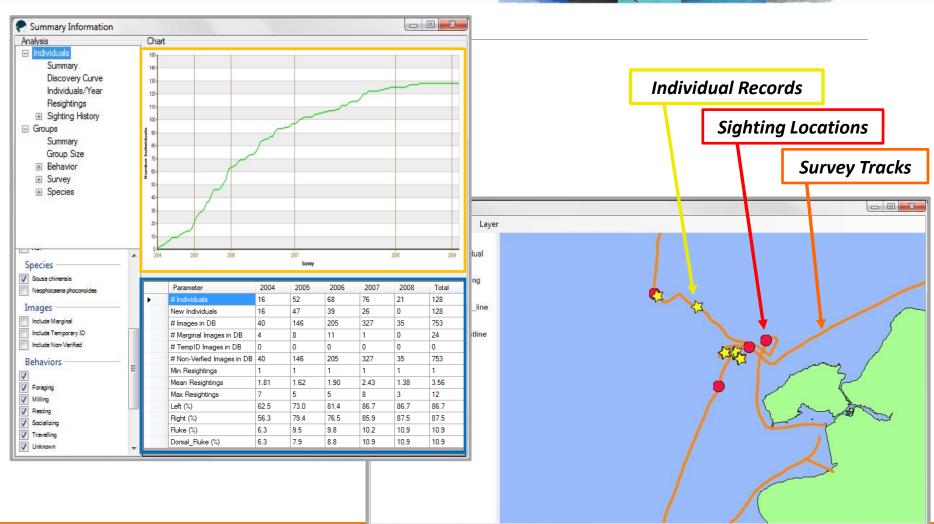
Data ManagementSighting Records





Data Visualization, Summary & Analysis



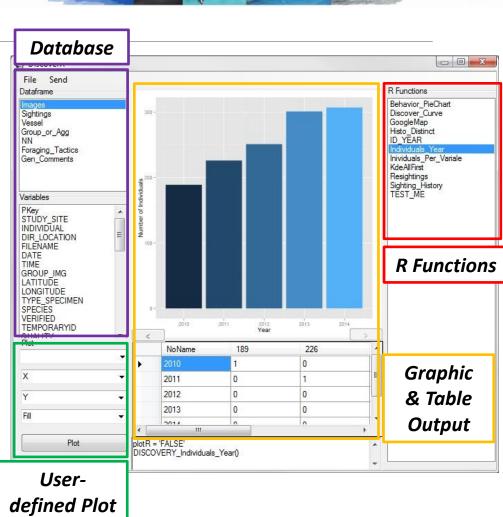


Discovery R



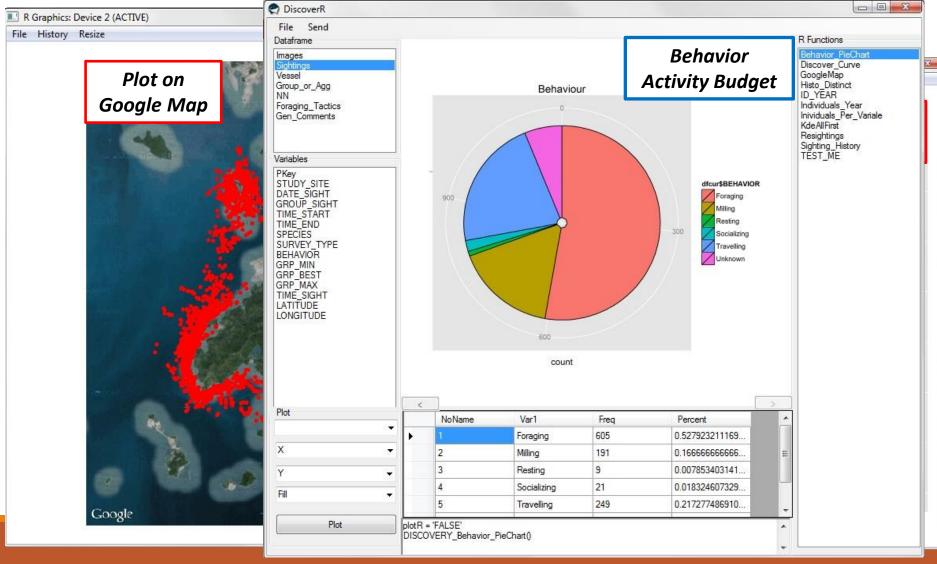


- Wide range of analytical and display functions (open source)
- Built-in interface for users not familiar with R



Discovery R

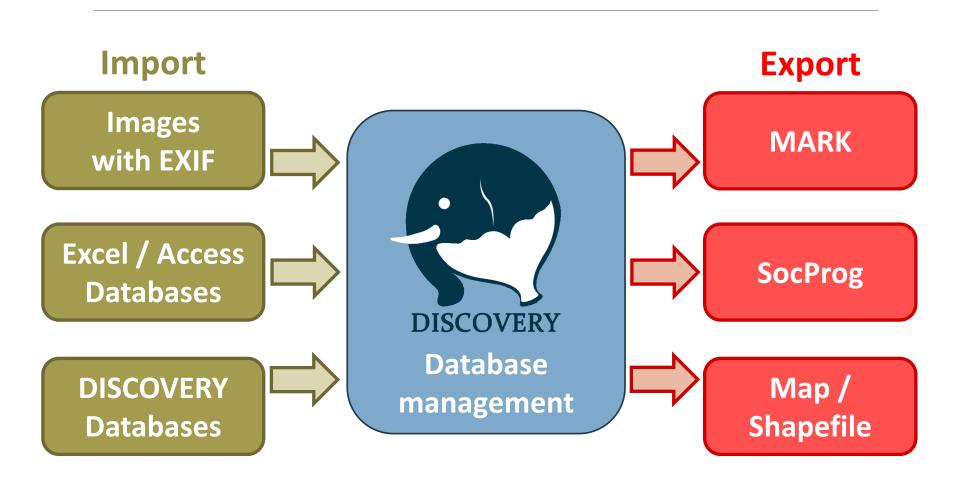




Data Management

- Import & Export





Website (program download and manual):

http://www.biosch.hku.hk/ecology/staffhp/lk/Discovery/

(New version out soon! Stay tuned!)

OR

Skukuza **Unit 225** (14th – 17th March)



DISCOVERY: Photo-Identification Data-Management System for Individually Recognizable Animals

About the Software

DISCOVERY Development Team

Download DISCOVERY

DISCOVERY Manual

FAQ

Related Links

Forum





About the Software

Individual photographic identification (photo-ID) represents a powerful technique to study behavioural and population ecology of free-ranging animals. This approach has been applied across species and habitats, both aquatic and terrestrial, gathering a large variety of data.

All photo-ID studies require many hours of intensive field surveys and even longer hours of subsequent, labour-intensive processing of photographic material. Thanks to the recent advances in digital photography, high quality digital images can be obtained in a short space of time and the photo-ID data can be processed immediately upon the completion of a field day, even in remote locations where processing of traditional photographic material would not have been possible. However, such fast accumulation of data can pose an obvious and often considerable obstacle to data



management. This is where DISCOVERY comes handy; it provides a dynamic, user-friendly platform to assist researchers not only with the matching of individual photo-ID data, but also at the multitude of steps of field data collection and the complex data management and analyses that follow after individual matching is completed.

The DISCOVERY system assists with filtering of raw data and all levels of individual-ID matching; it assists with processing, storing and managing digital images; it provides file naming routines and links sighting information with environmental, geographic, and numerous user-defined parameters; it provides graphic displays of data and basic analytical tools. DISCOVERY can be used to centralize a database for multiple species and multiple study areas; it is particularly useful for maintaining a single database for research projects collecting data at large geographical scales and between multiple research teams working on different databases. DISCOVERY also provides a means of linking the new system with traditional datasets based on film photography, to form continuous complete datasets. The DISCOVERY system has been designed so that it can easily facilitate integration of all collected and stored data to and from other tools; with a multitude of dynamic functions it was designed to meet project-specific requirements and user-specific needs.

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Principal Investigators

- Glenn Gailey
- Leszek Karczmarski

DISCOVERY Development Team

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National Research Foundation

Research Grants Council of Hong Kong

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