

1 Arabidopsis phenotyping through Geometric Morphometrics

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4

5 **Abstract**

6 In recent years, much technical progress has been done regarding plant phenotyping including the model
7 species *Arabidopsis thaliana*. With automated, high-throughput platforms and the development of improved
8 algorithms for the rosette segmentation task, it is now possible to massively extract reliable shape and size
9 parameters for genetic, physiological and environmental studies. The development of low-cost phenotyping
10 platforms and freeware resources make it possible to widely expand phenotypic analysis tools for
11 Arabidopsis. However, objective descriptors of shape parameters that could be used independently of
12 platform and segmentation software used are still lacking and shape descriptions still rely on *ad hoc* or even
13 sometimes contradictory descriptors, which could make comparisons difficult and perhaps inaccurate.
14 Modern geometric morphometrics is a family of methods in quantitative biology proposed to be the main
15 source of data and analytical tools in the emerging field of phenomics studies. It has been used for
16 taxonomists and paleontologists for decades and is now a mature discipline. By combining geometry,
17 multivariate analysis and powerful statistical techniques, it offers the possibility to reproducibly and
18 accurately account for shape variations amongst groups. Based on the location of homologous landmarks
19 points over photographed or scanned specimens, these tools could identify the existence and degree of shape
20 variation and measure them in standard units. Here, it is proposed a particular scheme of landmarks
21 placement on Arabidopsis rosette images to study shape variation in the case study of viral infection
22 processes. Several freeware-based geometric morphometric tools are applied in order to exemplify the
23 usefulness of this approach to the study of phenotypes in this model plant. These methods are concisely
24 presented and explained. Shape differences between controls and infected plants are quantified throughout
25 the infectious process and visualized with the appealing graphs that are a hallmark of these techniques and
26 render complex mathematical analysis simple outcomes to interpret. Quantitative comparisons between two
27 unrelated ssRNA+ viruses are shown and reproducibility issues are assessed. Combined with the newest
28 automatons and plant segmentation procedures, geometric morphometric tools could boost phenotypic
29 features extraction and processing in an objective, reproducible manner.

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31 **Total word count: 11253**

32 **Images : 9 Tables: 2**

34 **Introduction**

35 Plant phenotyping is the process of recording quantitative and qualitative plant traits. It is key to study plant
36 responses to the environment (Granier and Vile, 2014).

37 A 2016 IPPN survey (https://www.plant-phenotyping.org/ippn-survey_2016) between plant scientists found
38 that most participants think that plant phenotyping will play an important role in the future, being stress
39 assessing and the model plant *Arabidopsis thaliana* mentioned between the topics of main interest.

40 Recently, many new techniques have been developed to facilitate and improve quantitative plant phenomics
41 (i.e. the full set of phenotypic features of an individual), going from destructive to non-destructive and even
42 high-throughput phenotyping (Vanhaeren et al., 2015). Whereas the throughput is an important aspect of
43 phenotyping, spatial and temporal resolutions, as well as accuracy, should be considered (Dhondt et al., 2013).
44 Several workers (Camargo et al., 2014; De Vylder et al., 2012; Green et al., 2012; Ispiryan et al., 2013; Tessmer
45 et al., 2013) have developed freely available software that overcome the difficult task of rosette segmentation
46 (an issue still under investigation) by different means. This software allows several rosette parameters to be
47 computed such as area and perimeter in addition to other more complex descriptors.

48 However, the persistence of *ad hoc* descriptors (Bonhomme et al., 2013; Krieger, 2010) and the lack of a gold
49 standard in this actively developing field, could give rise to reproducibility issues, due to different growing
50 substrate-segmentation algorithms combinations. Moreover, different approaches give sometimes the same
51 name to different parameters (e.g. “roundness” in ImageJ (Schneider et al., 2012) vs. (Camargo et al., 2014))
52 or different names to the same parameter (e.g. “solidity” in (Ispiryan et al., 2013) equals “compactness” in
53 (Camargo et al., 2014; De Vylder et al., 2012) and “surface coverage” in (Vanhaeren et al., 2015)). The need
54 of developing objective, mathematically and statistically sound and more accurate shape descriptors in plants
55 has been stressed out in recent reviews on the topic (Balduzzi et al., 2017; Bucksch et al., 2017; Lobet, 2017).
56 Nonetheless, image datasets analyses require a conceptual and statistical corpus of knowledge that is not
57 always present in a plant biologist’s research field. Plant phenotyping relies on skills and technologies that are
58 used to characterize qualitative or quantitative traits regardless of the throughput of the analyses (Granier and
59 Vile, 2014). One such knowledge corpus is morphometrics (Strauss, 2010).

60 Traditional morphometric analyses such as measures and ratios of length, depth and width were widely used
61 in Paleontological and Zoological studies throughout the 20th century. To the end of that century the seminal
62 work of (Thompson, 1917) was re-evaluated under the light of multivariate analysis and novel mathematical
63 developments (Kendall, 1977; Kendall and Kendall, 1980), giving rise to modern geometric morphometrics
64 (GM), in which was called a “revolution” in morphometrics (Adams et al., 2004; Bookstein, 1996b; James
65 Rohlf and Marcus, 1993).

66 GM combines geometry, multivariate morphometrics, computer science and imaging techniques for a powerful
67 and accurate study of organismal forms. This family of methods in quantitative biology is proposed to be the
68 main source of data and analytical tools in the emerging field of phenomics (Cardini and Loy, 2013). Formally,
69 GM is “a collection of approaches for the multivariate statistical analysis of Cartesian coordinate data, usually
70 (but not always) limited to landmark point locations” (<http://life.bio.sunysb.edu/morph/glossary/gloss1.html>).
71 Landmark methods have been successfully applied to various species, and have the advantage of being easy to
72 understand (Cope et al., 2012).

73 Besides enhanced statistical power and better descriptive and graphical tools, GM allow researchers to
74 decompose form in size and shape, and the whole configuration of the organism under study is analyzed, rather
75 relying on the description of relative displacements of pairs of points.

76 GM is now a mature discipline that has been widely applied in biology (Claude, 2013; MacLeod et al., 2013;
77 Zelditch et al., 2000) (see (Cardini, Rohlf, Klingenberg, Adams, 2013) for a review). In plants, leaves of
78 grapevine (Chitwood et al., 2016) and oak (Viscosi, 2015; Viscosi and Cardini, 2011) were studied using GM
79 methods.

80 Plant viruses cause important worldwide economic losses in crops (Scholthof et al., 2011). Symptoms include
81 plant stunting, changes in leaf morphology, and sometimes plant death (Matthews et al., 2002) and vary
82 depending on various aspects including genetic compatibility and environmental conditions.

83 Even given a particular host-virus interaction, different viral strains trigger different symptomatology, which
84 are more or less subtle for the observer to distinguish (Manacorda et al., 2013; Sánchez et al., 2015; Zavallo et
85 al., 2015). Comparing the severity of qualitative viral symptoms is a difficult task performed mainly by visually
86 rating symptoms (e.g. (Doumayrou et al., 2013)). Consequently, morphological differences could be difficult
87 to describe and reproducibility issues could arise.

88 *Arabidopsis thaliana* (L.) Heynh. has been extensively used in studies of influences of environmental factors
89 on plants, paving the path to the development and testing of experimental techniques or data analysis methods
90 (Ferrier et al., 2011). The *Arabidopsis* rosette is a nearly two-dimensional structure in the vegetative phase
91 (Ispiryan et al., 2013), which facilitates image acquisition and interpretation.

92 Here, it is proposed a case study where GM tools are applied to study and quantitatively describe morphometric
93 changes triggered in *A. thaliana* plants by RNA viruses belonging to two unrelated families. It is proposed a
94 particular selection of landmarks to locate in the *Arabidopsis* rosette during its vegetative phase. The study
95 spans from the earlier stages of viral infection to later ones, when symptoms are already visually detectable by
96 naked eye. Comparisons are made between discriminant power of computer-assisted classification and expert
97 human eye. Symptoms severity provoked by both viruses is also compared, based on the relative morphometric
98 changes induced relative to healthy controls. Changes in allometric growth, phenotypic trajectories and

99 morphospace occupation patterns are also investigated. Size analyses are also performed and the problem of
100 growth and development modeling is discussed in the context of viral infections. Throughout this work, several
101 bioinformatics resources are applied, in order both to extract the higher degree of information available, but
102 also to exemplify different and complementary possibilities that nowadays GM offers for the accurate
103 description of shape in Arabidopsis.

104

105 **Materials and Methods**

106 Plant growth conditions

107 *A. thaliana* Col-0 seeds were stratified at 4°C for 3 days. Plants were grown under short days conditions (10 h
108 light/14 h dark cycle, T(°C)= 23/21, Hr(%)= 60/65, and a light intensity of 150 $\mu\text{E m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$) in a controlled
109 environmental chamber (Convicon PGR14; Convicon, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada). Plants were grown in
110 individual pots in trays and treatments were assigned to plants in all trays. One experiment was performed with
111 ORMV and two independent experiments were carried on with TuMV-UK1.

112 Virus infection assays

113 ORMV (Oilseed Rape Mosaic Virus) (Aguilar et al., 1996) was maintained in *Nicotiana tabacum* (cv. Xhanti
114 nn) and infective sap was obtained after grinding infected leaves with mortar and pestle in 50 mM phosphate
115 buffer pH=7.5. TuMV (Turnip Mosaic Virus)-UK1 strain (accession number X65978) (Sánchez et al., 1998)
116 was maintained in infected *A. thaliana* Col-0. Fresh sap was obtained immediately prior to use to inoculate
117 plants with sodium sulfite buffer (1% K_2HPO_4 + 0,1% Na_2SO_3 [wt/vol]). Mock-inoculated plants were
118 rubbed with carborundum dust with either 50 mM phosphate buffer pH=7.5 or sodium sulfite buffer,
119 respectively. Plants were mechanically inoculated in their third true leaf at stage 1.08 at 21 DPS, (Boyes et al.,
120 2001) because those leaves were almost fully developed by the time of the procedure and therefore constituted
121 a source tissue for the export of virions to the rest of the plant.

122 Image acquisition

123 Zenithal photographs of individual plants growing in pots were taken with a Canon PowerShot SX50HS
124 camera mounted in a monopod at maximal resolution. Photographs were taken at the same time of the day in
125 successive days to minimize error. A ruler was placed in each image acquisition and only its central part (60-
126 80 mm) was taken into account to avoid image distortion at the edges of the photograph (Schutz and Krieger,
127 2007).

128 Landmark configuration and digitization

129 After imaging specimens at each DPI, .JPG files were placed in respective folders and opened with the TPSUtil
130 software, a member of the TPS Series of GM tools (Rohlf, 2015, 2017). TPSUtil allows constructing a .TPS
131 file that can be inspected with a text editor from the image files located inside a folder. TPSUtil allows adding,

132 deleting or rearranging landmarks or specimens, etc. and prepares the data for further analyses. Saving the
133 Output file into the images folder and opening it with TPSDig2 is the first step to digitization of landmarks.
134 The 11 landmarks were digitized in the same order on each picture, after setting a scale factor with a ruler, at
135 each DPI. Eleven landmarks were recorded for each plant. Landmarks were selected to fulfill the basic
136 requirements for 2D approximation (Zelditch et al., 2012) (see main text). Following (Bookstein, 1991)
137 criteria, landmark 11 (which is situated at the centre of the rosette) is a Type 1 landmark. Landmarks 1, 2, 3, 4
138 and 5 (which are located at the tip of leaves #8 to #12 and are the maxima of curvature of that structure) and
139 landmarks 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 (which are located at the intersection of the petiole and the lamina of each leaf
140 from #8 to #12) cannot be unambiguously assigned due to the continuous nature of the leaf curvature and are
141 Type 2 landmarks. Each specimen was digitized in less than 1 minute. The Output of TPSDig2 is a .TPS file
142 containing information about specimen name, scale factor, and raw coordinates of each landmark for all
143 specimens digitized. Landmark digitization was repeated to estimate measurement error for each specimen a
144 week after the first digitization.

145 Validation of the tangent space approximation

146 For a given M-dimensional structure with K landmarks (here, $M = 2$ and $K = 11$) it can be imagined an
147 individual's shape as a point in an $M \times K$ multidimensional space (a hypersphere). After centering and
148 rescaling, 3 dimensions are lost and shapes are said to be in a pre-shape space; they are not rotated yet. The
149 distance in the surface of the hypersphere at which rotation differences between shapes are minimal, is called
150 Procrustes distance. Afterwards, a reference (average) shape is selected and all other shapes are rotated to
151 minimize distances relative to it, generating a shape space and losing one more dimension (remaining $2K-4$).
152 Because distances over curved multidimensional spaces are non-Euclidean, conventional tools of statistical
153 inference cannot be used. Fortunately, for most biological shapes an approximation to Euclidean distances is
154 valid, by projecting shape points to a tangent Euclidean space (for a visual explanation see (Zelditch et al.,
155 2012)). This assumption should, however, be tested when new forms are being analyzed. The TPSSmall
156 program is used to determine whether the amount of variation in shape in a data set is small enough to permit
157 statistical analyses to be performed in the linear tangent space approximate to Kendall's shape space which is
158 non-linear. Since TPSSmall does not perform reflections, datasets analyzed with TPSDig2 were opened again
159 and specimens reflected when necessary to leave all clockwise rosettes.

160 Statistical analyses

161 Except otherwise stated, shape analyses were performed using MorphoJ (Klingenberg, 2011) and the TPS
162 series (Rohlf, 2015), as described in the main text.

163 Student's t, Mann-Whitney, paired Hotelling's tests and rosette growth parameters analyses were executed in
164 PAST (Hammer et al., 2001).

165 PTAs based on (Adams and Collyer, 2009) were run in R (RStudio Team, 2016).
166 Linear and nonlinear regressions for growth and development modeling and analysis of residuals
167 autocorrelations were performed in PAST and Infostat (Di Rienzo et al., 2012), since both software yield
168 complementary information. Lack-of-fit tests were performed in Infostat.
169 Excel 2010 was used for Durbin-Watson panel test, Holm's-Bonferroni sequential test for multiple
170 comparisons (Gaetano, 2013; Holm, 1979) and hyperellipses calculations using Real Statistics for Excel 2010
171 (ver. 4.14) (Zaiontz, 2017).

172
173

174 **Results**

175 This work aims to introduce the use of GM tools for the analysis of Arabidopsis rosette phenotypes in an
176 objective and repeatable way. As such, it is not intended to offer a complete introductory explanation of each
177 GM tool, an objective that is beyond the scope of this paper. Such a task was already performed by (Viscosi
178 and Cardini, 2011) and for a complete introductory explanation of GM tools applied in biological systems it is
179 recommended the lecture of (Zelditch et al., 2012). Software used in this work frequently has its own user's
180 manual and informative examples (Di Rienzo et al., 2012; Hammer et al., 2001; Klingenberg, 2011; Rohlf,
181 2015). Nevertheless, with the purpose to facilitate the comprehension of this work to newcomers in the field
182 of GM, each tool is briefly described prior to its application throughout the Results section.

183 Morphometrics aims at analyzing the variation and covariation of the size and shape of objects, defining
184 altogether their form. Shape and form might be confusing words, used as synonyms in many languages
185 (Bonhomme et al., 2013). Hereafter, it will be followed the GM definition of shape in the sense of (Kendall,
186 1977) that it is "all the geometric information that remains when location, scale and rotational effects are
187 filtered out from an object".

188 **Landmarks digitization, Procrustes fit and outliers detection**

189 At the heart of GM analyses is the concept of landmarks. Landmarks are discrete anatomical *loci* that can be
190 recognized as the same point in all specimens in the study. They are homologous points both in an anatomical
191 and mathematical sense. The selection of landmarks is based in the observance of five basic principles (Zelditch
192 et al., 2012):

- 193 1) Homology. Landmarks are sequentially numerated and each landmark must correspond to the same number
194 of landmark in all specimens under study.
- 195 2) Adequate Coverage of the Form. Landmarks should be chosen in a way they cover up the maximum possible
196 extent of the form of interest. It is important to bear in mind that a region not included between landmarks
197 is not analyzed.

- 198 3) Repeatability. The same landmarks should be easily identified in the same structure in order to avoid
199 measurement error.
- 200 4) Consistency of Relative Position. This attribute guarantees that landmarks do not interchange relative
201 positions.
- 202 5) Coplanarity. For 2D-landmarks, an assumption of coplanarity is required to avoid measurement error.

203 There is no absolute landmark configuration on any given structure. The choice of the number of
204 landmarks and their configuration depend on the hypotheses being tested. Here, the focus of the analyses is on
205 the phenotypic impact of viral infections on the Arabidopsis rosette through time. Hence, short-day conditions
206 were chosen to delay flowering, allowing the plant's aerial part to remain near two-dimensional during the
207 experiment. To encompass as broadly as possible the phenotypic changes experienced by the plant during the
208 infection, chosen landmarks should not only be present from earlier stages to the infection to later ones, but
209 also be placed in regions that experience dramatic changes upon infection. A relatively reduced number of
210 landmarks can be used to describe complex forms (Carreira et al., 2011; Viscosi and Cardini, 2011).

211 An 11-landmark configuration for the Arabidopsis rosette is shown in Figure 1A (see Materials and Methods).
212 Plants were inoculated in their third true leaf (24 plants were mock-inoculated and 17 were ORMV-infected)
213 and images were acquired starting from three days post-inoculation (DPI) to 12 DPI (see Materials and
214 Methods). Leaves below number 8 were not chosen for landmark placement for three main reasons: a) they are
215 hidden for younger leaves at later stages of infection b) these old leaves had almost finished their growth by
216 the time the first photographs were taken (and the form covered would be a less informative one for the process
217 of shape and size change upon viral infection) and c) the senescence process of older leaves lead to
218 morphological changes derived from dehydration and death. Younger leaves (beyond leaf number 12) were
219 not chosen because they were not present at the earlier stages of infections, therefore violating the requisite of
220 repeatability of landmarks.

221 A flowchart of data analyses throughout this paper is shown in Figure 1B. Image datasets for all DPIs and both
222 treatments were handled and digitized for further analyses using the TPSUtil and TPSDig2 software generating
223 .TPS output files. Digitization process was performed twice (see Materials and Methods)."

224 Several freeware could be used to extract shape information from .TPS files (Zelditch et al., 2012). Here, the
225 MorphoJ software (Klingenberg, 2011) was chosen mainly because of its ease to use and comprehensive tools
226 available. MorphoJ creates new datasets from several file extensions, including .TPS. The "Supplementary file
227 ORMV.morphoj" was created and 16 datasets were generated, one for each DPI and digitization instance.
228 Specimens were classified according with ID, Treatment, DPI and Digitization for each dataset. Combinations
229 of classifiers were also done to perform further grouped analyses.

230 The first step of shape analysis in GM consists in extracting shape coordinates from raw data obtained at the
231 digitization step. The procedure that has become standard in GM studies is the Generalized Procrustes Analysis
232 (GPA).

233 The purpose of Procrustes procedures is to remove from the specimens all information that is not relevant for
234 shape comparisons, including size. Specimens are firstly translated at the origin (“superimposed”) by
235 subtracting the coordinates of its centroid from the corresponding (X or Y) coordinates of each landmark.
236 Then, differences in size are removed rescaling each specimen to the mean centroid size (CS) (CS is calculated
237 as the square root of the summed squared distances of each landmark from the centroid, giving a linearized
238 measure of size). Differences in rotation are eliminated by rotating specimens minimizing the summed squared
239 distances between homologous landmarks (over all landmarks) between the forms. The process starts with the
240 first specimen, and then an average shape is found that now serves as a reference. It proceeds iteratively over
241 all specimens until no further minimization of average distances are found (Rohlf and Slice, 1990). MorphoJ
242 performs a full Procrustes fit, which is a variant of the analysis that is more conservative and resistant to outliers
243 of shape.

244 In Arabidopsis, the arrangement of organs along the stem (phyllotaxy) follows a predictable pattern, the
245 Fibonacci series. Phyllotaxy orientation can be either clockwise or counter-clockwise (Peaucelle et al., 2007).
246 This should be taken into account because clockwise and counter-clockwise rosettes are biological
247 enantiomorphs like right and left hands and must not be superimposed by GPA. Opportunely, MorphoJ
248 automatically performs reflections on every specimen when executing a GPA and therefore it is not a problem
249 at this stage, but care must be taken when using different software.

250 After executing a full Procrustes fit of each dataset, they were inspected for the presence of outliers. The shape
251 of one Mock-inoculated plant (M2) diverted the most from the rest in 11 out of 16 datasets. Therefore, it was
252 excluded from all datasets for successive analyses.

253 Afterwards, datasets were combined and the “Combined dataset 3-12 DPI” was created with 640 observations
254 included following a common GPA. Then, a wireframe was created that connects consecutive landmarks. This
255 tool aids visualization, as will be explained later. Next, the “Combined dataset 3-12 DPI” was subdivided by
256 DPI. This creates one dataset for each DPI, each one with the two digitization outputs for each plant.

257 **Validation of the tangent (Euclidean) space approximation**

258 Prior to conducting further analyses, a basic assumption of GPA-based GM analysis should be tested: that the
259 projections of shapes in Kendall’s shape space onto a tangent Euclidean shape space are good approximations
260 for the studied shapes. This task is performed by basically comparing the Procrustes distances (the conventional
261 measure of a morphometric distance in geometric morphometrics (Bookstein, 1996a)) obtained using both
262 shape spaces (see Materials and Methods). Two subsets of data were created for each DPI, one with Mock-

263 inoculated and the other with ORMV-infected plants. Next, datasets were manually combined using a text
264 editor to create three main datasets (Mock, ORMV and ALL plants). TPSSmall (v.1.33) was then used to
265 compare statistics for distance to reference shape both in Tangent (Euclidean) and Procrustes (Kendall's) shape
266 space for both treatments separately and for all plants together (Supplementary Table 1). Results showed that
267 maximum Procrustes distances from mean (reference) shape were 0.371 (ORMV), 0.405 (Mock) and 0.400
268 (ALL). They are all well below the largest possible Procrustes distance ($\pi/2 = 1.571$). Mean Procrustes
269 distances from mean (reference) shape were 0.168 (ORMV), 0.186 (Mock) and 0.184 (ALL). This indicates a
270 closer arrangement of ORMV shapes in shape space relative to Mock-inoculated plants. Tangent and
271 Procrustes distances were very similar (Supplementary Table 1) and regressions through the origin for distance
272 in tangent space, Y, regressed onto Procrustes distance, X, showed slopes > 0.98 and correlations > 0.9999 for
273 all groups (Supplementary Table 1 and Supplementary Figure 1). This results are in line with several similar
274 analysis performed onto a variety of biological forms (Bai et al., 2011; Dewulf et al., 2014; Parés-Casanova
275 and Allés, 2015; Viscosi and Cardini, 2011).

276 **Testing measurement error and variation between treatments using Procrustes ANOVA**

277 As mentioned before, two digitizations were performed on each plant at each DPI, in order to evaluate
278 measurement error. This procedure is important because digitization error should always account for far less
279 variance in the subsequent analyses than specimens and treatments do (Viscosi and Cardini, 2011). There are
280 the differences between specimens and particularly between treatments that are worth investigating, not human
281 error in landmark placement. Purposely, datasets for each DPI were combined and subjected to a hierarchical
282 analysis of variance (ANOVA). In MorphoJ this is a Procrustes ANOVA, requested in the "Variation" menu,
283 indicating "Treatment" as an additional main effect, "ID" for the individuals and "Digitization" as the Error1
284 source. In Procrustes ANOVA, variance is partitioned by means of hierarchical sum of squares (SS) which
285 implies that each effect is adjusted for effects that appear earlier in the hierarchy. This is taking into account
286 the nested structure of the data (an issue that is crucial if the design is unbalanced, i.e., with unequal sample
287 sizes as is here the case), thus allowing one to quantify differences in Treatments and plants regardless of
288 Treatment. The variance unexplained by any of these effects is measurement error and it is estimated using the
289 differences between digitizations. Hence, total variance was decomposed into main (treatment) and random
290 (ID and digitization) components and was expressed as a percentage of total variance for each DPI. The
291 analysis is executed simultaneously for both size and shape. Results are shown in Supplementary Table 2.
292 Explained variance (as a % SS) for which measurement error accounted for was in the range of 0.01 and 0.12
293 for size and 0.40 and 1.15 for shape over all DPIs. Thus, measurement error was negligible throughout the
294 digitization process. Detailed analysis of results shown in Supplementary Table 2 revealed that for size, the
295 Individual (ID) effect was highly significant at each DPI as evidenced by Goodall's F-test ($p < 0.0001$).

296 Treatment effect was insignificant from 3 to 5 DPI but starting from 6 DPI the virus affected the plant's size
297 ($0.0001 < p < 0.03$).

298 For shape, the Individual effect was also highly significant at each DPI as evidenced both by Goodall's F-test
299 ($p < 0.0001$) and by MANOVA (standing for Multivariate Analysis of Variance) results ($p < 0.0001$).
300 Treatment impacted earlier shape than size, since as soon as 5 DPI differences in shape were detected ($p <$
301 0.001).

302 **Ordination Methods and shape change visualization**

303 **PCA**

304 Once shape variables (the 22 Procrustes Coordinates) are extracted for all specimens at each DPI, it is useful
305 to plot differences between individuals and treatments. However, patterns of variation and covariation between
306 lots of variables are difficult to envision particularly because geometric shape variables are neither biologically
307 nor statistically independent (Zelditch et al., 2012). PCA is a technique that allows simplifying those patterns
308 and making them easier to interpret. By performing a PCA, shape variables are replaced with complex variables
309 (principal components, PCs) that do not covary but carry all the information. Moreover, as PC axis are
310 orthogonal and independent, and most of the variation in the sample usually can be described with only a few
311 PCs, shape analysis could be restricted to very few axes, avoiding the need of jointly interpret dozens of
312 variables. It is important to keep in mind that PCA is useful for the comparison between individuals, not groups,
313 and though a powerful descriptive tool, it does not involve any statistical test. Therefore, the relative separation
314 of groups in a PCA plot does not allow one to extract conclusions about significant differences (or its absence).
315 Firstly, this technique was used to inspection error measurement (previously quantified by Procrustes ANOVA,
316 Supplementary Table 2). A covariance matrix was created for the "Combined dataset 3-12 DPI" and then a
317 PCA was performed. Scatterplots were generated for the first 4 PCs, which together account for 87.2 % of the
318 total variance (Figure 2). The proximity of equally colored points indicates a small digitization error.

319 As measurement error explained a negligible percentage of variance, digitizations were averaged within
320 specimens and DPIs. From the "Combined dataset 3-12 DPI" it was created the "Combined dataset 3-12 DPI,
321 averaged by ID DPI" dataset, which contains all the 320 averaged observations. The averaged data were used
322 to find the directions of maximal variance between individuals. A covariance matrix was generated and a PCA
323 performed. PC1 accounted for 64.2 % of total variance and the first 4 PCs summed up to 87.4 % of it. PCs 4
324 and beyond accounted for less than 5 % of variation each and are therefore of little biological interest.
325 Afterwards, PCA output was used for which is one of its main purposes in GM: visualization of shape change.
326 Three types of graphs were obtained: PC shape changes (a diagram showing the shape changes associated with
327 the PCs); Eigenvalues (a histogram showing the percentages of total variance for which the PCs account) and
328 PC scores (a scatterplot of PC scores).

329 PC Scatterplots show the distribution of specimens along the axes of maximum variance (Figure 3A, B). To
330 aid visualization, dots corresponding to early stages (3-6 DPI) were lightly colored and later ones (7-12 DPI)
331 were darker colored. Results evidenced that PC1 is a development-related axis, because clearly separated early
332 (mostly negative values) from late (positive values) stages of the experiment (Figure 3A). Moreover, at later
333 stages ORMV-infected plants scored less positive in this axis, suggesting that infected plants retained a more
334 juvenile (pedomorphic) shape. Positive extremes of PC2-4 are related to ORMV shapes.
335 To this point, GM visualization tools are used to better understand what these relative positions on scatterplots
336 mean respect to shape differences.

337 *Visualization of shape changes*

338 Prior to showing graphs from the “PC shape changes” tab, a brief description of common GM visualization
339 tools is needed in order to accurately interpret the results. After the GPA, every configuration in the sample is
340 optimally aligned to the average configuration and nearly optimally aligned to every other configuration in the
341 sample. GPA removed differences attributable to size, position and orientation from configurations. All
342 differences that remain are shape variation. Accordingly, shape differences are found using the relative
343 displacements of the landmarks from one shape to another shape nearby in shape space (Klingenberg, 2013).
344 By superimposing a target shape to a starting shape and looking for the relative displacement of homologous
345 landmarks from one shape to another, insights on how variation between shapes occurs can be obtained and
346 hypotheses about the underlying mechanisms, proposed.

347 A key concept to bear in mind is that it is fundamentally wrong to consider landmarks displacements in an
348 isolated manner (Klingenberg, 2013; Zelditch et al., 2012). This is because all the landmarks included in the
349 GPA jointly determine the alignment of each configuration in relation to the mean shape. Then, variation in
350 the position of each landmark after superimposition is relative to the positions of all other landmarks. Though
351 a shift is shown at every landmark, these shifts are relative to all other landmarks. Lollipop and wireframe
352 graphs are based on these assumptions (see below).

353 Shape variation could be depicted by means of transformation grids. Transformation grids are mathematically
354 constructed following the thin-plate spline technique, whose detailed explanation is far from the objective of
355 this work and has been explained elsewhere (Klingenberg, 2013; Zelditch et al., 2012). Briefly, landmarks of
356 a starting shape are placed on a grid of an imaginary infinitely thin metal plate. Landmarks of a target
357 configuration are placed on another grid of equal characteristics, and both metal sheets are superimposed. Each
358 landmark in the starting shape (e.g., mean shape) is linked to its homologous to reach the target configuration,
359 and the deformation caused in the spline is calculated finding the smoothest interpolating function that

360 estimates energy changes in the spline between landmarks. Importantly, differently from lollipop or wireframe
361 graphs, transformation grids distribute the change in landmark positions to the space between landmarks, were
362 no objective information is available. Then, whereas a powerful descriptive tool, transformation grids must be
363 carefully interpreted, especially regarding regions of the object that do not have landmarks nearly positioned
364 (Klingenberg, 2013; Zelditch et al., 2012,). More details and examples are given below.

365 Wireframe graphs (Figure 3C-F) connect the landmarks with straight lines for the starting and target shapes,
366 thus showing the relative displacements of landmarks from a mean shape. Negative values of PC1 mostly
367 correspond to juvenile (and infected) shapes; positive values of PC1 belong to healthy controls and adults.
368 Hence, by depicting the $-PC1$ component, target shapes have negative values (Figure 3C). It can be seen that
369 $-PC1$ explains the relative shortening of leaves #11 (landmarks 4 and 9) and #12 (landmarks 5 and 10). It
370 makes sense, since younger plants have yet to develop these relatively new leaves. Petioles of leaves #10, #11
371 and #12 are particularly shortened. Relative to these shortenings, older leaves (#8 and #9) are relatively longer
372 but, interestingly, only its laminae, since its petioles are not relatively elongated. Taken together, PC1 reveals
373 that ORMV impaired the elongation of newer leaves to their normal extent. PC2 (Figure 3D) associates with
374 relative radial displacements of leaves; tips of leaves #8 and #9 (landmarks 1 and 2) come close together,
375 lowering the typical angle between successive leaves from near 137.5° to close to 90° . These relative
376 displacements determine that leaves #9 and #10 form an exaggerated angle of near 180° . PC3 (Figure 3E) also
377 mostly relates to radial changes in the infected rosette: leaf #10 is relatively displaced towards leaf #8 and the
378 main effect is, again, the increase of the angle between leaves #9 and #10 to near 180° . PC4 (Figure 3F)
379 explains less proportion of total variance (4.5%) and its effect is less clear; it is mostly related to the relative
380 displacement of the lamina of leaf #11 towards leaf #9, almost without altering its petiole, which functions as
381 a hinge. Leaves #9 and #10 are, as a combination of the effects depicted by PC2 and PC3, both relatively
382 displaced towards leaf #8. Taken together, the wireframe visualization of the first four PCs (which account for
383 more than 87% of total variance) show that ORMV induces the relative shortening of laminae and (especially)
384 petioles of newest leaves, which relates to a pedomorphic shape, and provokes the relative displacement of
385 leaves #9 and #10 towards leaf #8.

386 Displacement vectors (called “lollipop graphs” in MorphoJ) are arrows drawn between a landmark in a
387 starting shape and the same landmark in a target shape. The dot in the lollipop represents the starting position
388 and the vector is represented by a line departing from it (but in some software the inverse convention is
389 followed, i. e., PAST). Though these visualization are being displaced in the GM literature in favor of more
390 advanced tools (Klingenberg, 2013), here it is presented the case for $-PC1$, showing the relative displacements
391 of landmarks (Figure 3G). It can be directly compared with Figure 3C.

392 Lastly, transformation grids are exemplified for $-PC1$ in Figure 3H-I. Figure 3H depicts the starting (mean)
393 shape. Figure 3I show the transformed grid for $-PC1$. The compression of the grid in the central zone is the
394 result of the relative displacement of landmarks 3, 8 (leaf #10), 4, 9 (leaf #11) and 5, 10 (leaf #12) towards the
395 center of the rosette, whereas grid stretching is detected around landmarks 1 and 2 (revealing the relative
396 expansion of laminae of leaves #8 and #9, since its petioles remain relatively immobile, landmarks 6 and 7).
397 As stated above, visualization with these grids should be cautiously interpreted since the interpolation function
398 deforms the grid between places where no landmarks are placed (and no information about even the existence
399 of tissue is guaranteed). Therefore, only regions near landmarks should be discussed when viewing these
400 graphs. To see these changes in more detail, PCA analyses were performed for each DPI. The “Combined
401 dataset 3-12 DPI, averaged by ID DPI” was subdivided by DPI performing a common Procrustes fit, creating
402 eight new datasets (DPIs) (raw data in Supplementary file ORMV.morphoJ) . Covariance matrices were
403 generated and a PCA performed for each DPI dataset. PC1 accounted for between 27-43 % of total variance
404 and the first 4 PCs summed up from 78 to 84 % of it. PCs beyond PC4 accounted for 5 % or less of variation
405 each. Shape change visualization showed that PC1 gradually separated specimens belonging to different
406 treatments. Mock-inoculated plants were progressively more aligned with positive PC1 values. PC2 was more
407 generally related to ORMV-infected plants in its positive values. Relative shortening of younger leaves and
408 petioles, and relative displacement of leaves towards leaf #8 were progressively more accentuated
409 (Supplementary Figure 2).

410 *Discriminant Analysis*

411 So far, differences between individuals were addressed with the aid of PCA. Afterwards a Discriminant
412 Analysis (DA) was performed to test whether differences between treatments exist.
413 DA is a technique mathematically related to PCA. It finds the axes that optimize between-group differences
414 relative to within group variation. It can be used as a diagnostic tool (Zelditch et al., 2012). It is here used for
415 testing treatments using a series of tests for sample mean differences including an estimate of the accuracy of
416 shape in predicting groups. The capability of DA to correctly assign specimens to treatments was assessed
417 along the experiment using the averaged datasets for each DPI. In MorphoJ, Discriminant Function Analysis
418 was requested selecting “Treatment” as classification criterion. By default, DA in MorphoJ performs a
419 parametric Hotelling’s T-square test, and here there were also requested permutations tests for the Procrustes
420 and Mahalanobis distances with 1000 random runs. Hotelling’s test is the multivariate equivalent of the
421 common Student’s t-test. Procrustes and Mahalanobis distances show how far shapes from one group are from
422 the mean of the other group. Results of the tests are shown in Table 1. At 5 DPI the three tests found shape
423 differences between treatments ($0.001 < p < 0.005$). From 6 DPI and beyond, p-values were extremely significant
424 ($p < 0.0001$). These results coincide with those obtained by Procrustes ANOVA of shape (Supplementary Table

425 2). DA maximizes group separation for plotting their differences and predicting group affiliation
426 (classification). The classification of a given specimen (through the discriminant axis) is done using functions
427 that were calculated on samples that included that same specimen (resubstituting rate of assignment). Then, a
428 degree of over-fitting is unavoidable and leads to an overestimate of the effectiveness of the DA. To overcome
429 this problem, one solution is to use a cross-validation or jackknife procedure (Viscosi and Cardini, 2011;
430 Zelditch et al., 2012). Jackknife procedure leaves one specimen at a time not used for constructing the
431 Discriminant function and then tests the rate of correct specimen assignment. Only jackknife cross-validated
432 classification tables provide reliable information on groups. Results of DA in group assignment are shown in
433 Figure 4 for 3, 7 and 12 DPI and detailed for all DPIs in Supplementary Table 3. As expected, resubstitution
434 rates of assignment (Figure 4A, D, G) were higher than jackknifed counterparts (Figure 4B, E, H), but the latter
435 reached high levels of accuracy ($\geq 90\%$) from 6 DPI and beyond (Supplementary Table 3). To test whether
436 this level of accuracy was indeed good, these results were compared with classification/misclassification tables
437 completed by human observers. The entire image dataset of 7 DPI was given to three expert researchers
438 working with *Arabidopsis* (one of the authors (S. Asurmendi) and two other researchers from another
439 Institution). They were all blind to the assignment of treatments to each plant, except for one Mock-inoculated
440 and one ORMV-infected plant that were given as references. They classified the 38 remnant plants and results
441 are shown in Supplementary Table 3. Human accuracy ranged from 55 to 72.5 %, with an average of 64.2 %.
442 Therefore, DA outperformed expert human eye by 30 % at 7 DPI and yielded higher classification rates from
443 5 DPI.

444 Wireframe graphs for 3, 7 and 12 DPI (Figure 4C, F, I) show the difference from Mock group to ORMV group.
445 There is little difference at 3 DPI, if any (Figure 4C), consistently with nonsignificant differences found by
446 DA at this stage. At 7 DPI (Figure 4F), the relative shortening of leaf #11 (landmarks 4 and 9) is evident, as is
447 the relative increase in the angle between leaves #9 and #10. These tendencies persisted at 12 DPI (Figure 4I).
448 At this stage, petioles of leaves #11 and #12 are strongly relatively shortened. These results resemble those
449 obtained in Figure 3C-F and approximately summarize shape changes explained by the first 4 PCs, indicating
450 that these shape differences not only separated juveniles from adults but are also hallmarks of shape change
451 induced by ORMV. These results are interesting because discriminant axes not necessarily resemble PCA axes
452 (Zelditch et al., 2012).

453 **Allometric patterns and size correction**

454 As ORMV induced not only changes in shape, but also in size (Supplementary Table 2) it is worth investigating
455 whether shape changes are associated to size differences. In principle, group differences could arise if
456 individuals of one group are different in shape because they grew faster than the other group's individuals and
457 reached earlier a more advanced developmental stage. The association between a size variable and the

458 corresponding shape variables is called allometry. Isometry, by contrast, is the condition where size and shape
459 are independent of each other and usually serves as the hypothesis null. These concepts are rooted in the Gould-
460 Mosimann school of allometry that conceptually separates size and shape (Klingenberg, 2016). Though size
461 had been removed from forms after GPA, leaving shape differences free of it, there could be a linear
462 relationship between them. Allometry can be statistically tested for by tests of multiple correlation.

463 When groups are present, a single regression line through all groups cannot be fit to test allometry because
464 lines could have group-specific slopes or intercepts (Viscosi and Cardini, 2011). As TPSRegr (see below) uses
465 raw data coordinates and averaged by ID DPI datasets in MorphoJ do not have them, these analyses were
466 carried on with individual datasets from only the 1st Digitization. As proven earlier, differences between
467 digitizations were negligible (Figure 2 and Supplementary Table 2).

468 To test whether an allometric component is present in each group, separate regressions were performed for
469 each treatment and DPI with Procrustes Coordinates as dependent variables and $\ln(\text{CS})$ as the independent
470 variable. Permutation tests were requested with 10.000 runs. Respective p-values and predicted SS from
471 regressions (which correspond to allometric variation of shape) are shown in Figure 5A. Allometry accounted
472 for moderate to high proportions of the total shape variation since SS reached values of 36% at 6 DPI (Mock).
473 ORMV induced a reduction in the allometric component of shape variation as evidenced by lower predicted
474 SSs along the experiment and non-significant values of allometry for all except 4 and 5 DPIs. For both
475 treatments and particularly for healthy controls, a bell-shaped curve is detected and a maximum of allometry
476 is seen at 6 DPI for Mock plants but a day before for ORMV. Differences between treatments start sharply at
477 5 DPI, when allometry accounts for 32% of predicted SS for Mock but only 20% for ORMV. This analysis
478 shows that for ORMV, shape variation is much less driven by size heterogeneity (at a given DPI) and that for
479 Mock plants this situation (isometry) occurs at later stages of development (10-12 DPI).

480 When at least one group has regression slopes different from zero a series of tests could be done in order to
481 control for size and repeat analyses to assess whether differences in shape are actually the result of size
482 variation only (Klingenberg, 2016; Viscosi, 2015; Viscosi and Cardini, 2011; Zelditch et al., 2012). TPSRegr
483 (v. 1.41) was used firstly to determine whether group-specific slopes were parallel at each DPI (3-8). Only at
484 3 and 4 DPI this occurred ($p > 0.05$, slopes not statistically significant). As slopes were found to be parallel, it
485 is possible to test whether they are separate parallel slopes or coincident (same Y-intercept). TPSRegr tests
486 demonstrated that slopes are coincident ($p > 0.05$). Then, size-corrections could only be done for 3 and 4 DPI,
487 since from 5 to 8 DPI slopes were different ($p < 0.05$) and groups follow its own allometric pattern and for 10
488 and 12 DPI there are isometry and size do not correlate with shape variation. Size-correction was done for 3
489 and 4 DPI separately in MorphoJ, using all 40 plants. Shape variables were regressed onto $\ln(\text{CS})$ for each
490 dataset, pooling regressions within subgroups (treatments) and permutation tests with 10.000 runs were

491 requested. Residuals from the analyses contain the size-free information about shape only and can be used to
492 repeat DAs to test for improved accuracy of discrimination (Klingenberg, 2016). Results (Figure 5B-E) showed
493 that group separation was not improved. This is somewhat expected since at this stage of viral infection there
494 are no detectable differences in size nor shape yet (Figure 4 and Tables 1-3). This test and the large overlap
495 between populations in the scatterplot of regression scores onto size (Figure 5F, G) suggest that the effect of
496 size on shape is very similar for both treatments and DPIs: bigger rosettes have further distal displacements of
497 leaves #10, 11 and 12 relative to older leaves (#8 and #9) and elongated petioles (Figure 5H, I) thus reflecting
498 the differential internal growth of the rosette. Bigger, more mature rosettes have more developed newest leaves.

499 **Phenotypic Trajectory Analyses (PTA)**

500 Whilst the comparison of allometric vectors indicated that shape change is altered at definite DPIs during
501 ORMV infection, a holistic view of ontogenetic alterations needs to measure phenotypic evolution across
502 multiple levels. It allows ontogenetic patterns to be characterized as phenotypic trajectories through the
503 morphospace, rather than phenotypic vectors. The method proposed by (Adams and Collyer, 2009) “(...) *may*
504 *also be used for determining how allometric or ontogenetic growth trajectories differ, or for quantifying*
505 *patterns in other data that form a time-sequence*” (Adams and Collyer, 2009). Briefly, phenotypic trajectories
506 have three attributes: size, direction and shape.

507 Trajectory size (MD) quantifies the path length of the phenotypic trajectory expressed by a particular group
508 across levels. This represents the magnitude of phenotypic change displayed by that group. If trajectories of
509 two or more groups compared over comparable time periods differ in trajectory size then it indicates
510 differences in rates of morphological change.

511 Trajectory direction (θ) is a multivariate angle that describes the general orientation of phenotypic evolution
512 in the multivariate trait space. Statistical comparisons of trajectory direction can be used to provide an
513 assessment of patterns of convergence, divergence, and parallelism.

514 Trajectory shape (D_{Shape}) describes the shape of the path of phenotypic evolution through the multivariate trait
515 space. This information is useful because it indicates whether there are differences in how each group occupies
516 the morphospace through the time period.

517 PTA analysis proceeds by starting from the PCs for all specimens at all DPIs. They were obtained from the
518 “Combined dataset 3-12 DPI, averaged by ID DPI” of the Supplementary file ORMV.morphoj. The R script
519 developed by (Adams and Collyer, 2009) was run in RStudio (RStudio Team, 2016).

520 PTA approach (with 1,000 residual randomization permutations) revealed significant differences in the
521 magnitude of phenotypic evolution between the two treatments ($MD_{Mock,ORMV} = 0.100$, $P_{size} = 0.003$), implying
522 that ORMV-infected plants experienced a lower rate of ontogenetic phenotypic evolution relative to controls.

523 Overall direction of ontogenetic changes were also statistically significantly different ($\theta_{Mock,ORMV} = 18.34^\circ$, P_θ

524 = 0.001). Finally, shape assessment analysis showed differences between treatments regarding trajectories over
525 time ($D_{ShapeMock, ORMV} = 0.367$, $P_{Shape} = 0.001$) (Table 2). When phenotypic trajectories are plotted through
526 time for the first two principal components (Figure 6) these statistical conclusions are graphically confirmed.
527 Group trajectories diverge from 3 DPI and trajectory lengths are evidently different, specifically regarding the
528 relative stasis of the ORMV-infected group beyond 6 DPI. Both factors contribute to the overall difference
529 found in trajectory shape.

530 However, as pointed out by (Ciampaglio et al., 2001), no one method of disparity measurement is sufficient
531 for all purposes. Using a combination of techniques should allow a clearer picture of disparity to emerge. With
532 this aim, another available approach to compare shape trajectories through multivariate morphospace was used.
533 Originally developed to study unequal morphological diversification in a clade of South American fishes
534 (Sidlauskas, 2008), this approach is useful because allows investigating whether a group “explores” different
535 amount of morphospace than others, additionally to possible differences in magnitude of phenotypic evolution.
536 Moreover, density parameters (D) could be calculated to determine whether the amount of morphological
537 change is more or less constrained in the morphospace.

538 The method was adapted to the present case study: as there is not a phylomorphospace and both treatments
539 lack a “common ancestor” but each plant follow its own independent ontogenetic path, nodes and branches do
540 not exist. Rather, each plant possesses its own trajectory without points in common. Taken these considerations
541 into account, morphological trajectories were calculated for all plants. To do so, the “Combined dataset 3-12
542 DPI, averaged by ID DPI” of the Supplementary file ORMV.morphoj was subdivided by ID. Forty new
543 datasets (Mock- and ORMV-inoculated plants from the same previously performed Procrustes fit) were
544 obtained and Procrustes Coordinates and eigenvalues from the 7 PCs obtained were exported to an Excel
545 spreadsheet.

546 The morphometric change experienced by a plant throughout ontogeny equals the Euclidean distance (D)
547 between successive points in morphospace that represent its shape at each DPI. As PCs from a PCA carry all
548 the morphological information extracted from the Procrustes Coordinates, distances are simultaneously
549 calculated over all the PCs using the Pythagorean Theorem. These distances are designated as morphometric
550 path lengths ($\Sigma D = MPL$) (sensu (Sidlauskas, 2008)). Mock-inoculated plants traveled on average more
551 distance through morphospace than infected ones ($MPL_{Mock} = 0.6956$ vs. $MPL_{ORMV} = 0.5963$, $p = 0.00025$,
552 Mann-Whitney test). Other measures are traditionally used to detect changes in morphospace occupation
553 patterns and the amount of difference between character states among specimens in morphospace (Ciampaglio
554 et al., 2001), e.g. sum of variances (ΣVar). Control plants had higher ΣVar values than infected plants (ΣVar
555 $_{Mock} = 0.0350$ vs. $\Sigma Var_{ORMV} = 0.0230$, $p = 2.52 \times 10^{-6}$, Mann-Whitney test) a result that pointed to a higher
556 increase in shape change in controls (Ciampaglio et al., 2001). Morphospace density occupation measures

557 could be obtained taking into accounts not only MPLs but also variances of the PCs across the experiment. If
558 a group folded an equivalent amount of morphometric change into a much smaller region of morphospace than
559 the other, thus will have a higher density (Sidlauskas, 2008). Morphometric path density (D) could be
560 calculated as $D_1 = \text{MPL}/\sum\text{Var}$. ORMV-infected plants are more densely restricted in morphospace ($D_{1(\text{Mock})} =$
561 20.21 vs. $D_{1(\text{ORMV})} = 26.93$, $p = 2.89 \times 10^{-6}$, Mann-Whitney test) (Table 2).

562 An alternative measure of density ($D_2 = \text{MPL}/V$) considers the volume (V) that the group occupies in
563 morphospace. A variety of volumetric measures are possible (Ciampaglio et al., 2001). This study considered
564 the volume of a 95% confidence hyperellipse. It was obtained by calculating the square root of the product of
565 the eigenvalues of the PCs and comparing them with expected values for a X^2 distribution at $\alpha = 0.05$ (see
566 Materials and Methods). Mock-inoculated plants have hyperellipses of higher volume on average than infected
567 plants ($\text{Hyperellipse}_{(\text{IC}95\%)\text{Mock}} = 0.0129$ vs. $\text{Hyperellipse}_{(\text{IC}95\%)\text{ORMV}} = 0.0073$), but differences were not
568 statistically significant ($p = 0.11888$, Mann-Whitney test). Similarly, density measures based on hyperellipses
569 calculations were not statistically significantly different ($D_{2(\text{Mock})} = 111.47$ vs. $D_{2(\text{ORMV})} = 146.34$, $p = 0.25051$,
570 Mann-Whitney test), although ORMV-infected plants had a higher average density. These differences in
571 density measures could arise from the fact that hypervolume calculations can produce values that are extremely
572 small and variable. Since the hypervolume is calculated by taking the product of univariate variances, any axis
573 or axes with negligible variance will produce a value of hypervolume close to zero. Moreover, all multiplied
574 variances are given the same weight and consequently, PC axes that represent a minimal percentage of the total
575 variance could distort conclusions obtained with more informative axes. Thus, hypervolume can be very
576 sensitive to variation in a single character. To avoid this issue, only the axes with significant variances are
577 chosen to represent the disparity among points in morphospace (Ciampaglio et al., 2001). Therefore, the
578 analysis was repeated including only the first three PCs, which accounted for more than 95% of variance.
579 Results were similar to previously obtained for all parameters but hyperellipse's volumes were found to be
580 statistically significantly different ($\text{Hyperellipse}_{(\text{IC}95\%)\text{Mock}} = 0.022$ vs. $\text{Hyperellipse}_{(\text{IC}95\%)\text{ORMV}} = 0.014$, $p =$
581 0.0052597 , Mann-Whitney test) as the D_2 parameter ($D_{2(\text{Mock})} = 32.97$ vs. $D_{2(\text{ORMV})} = 41.87$, $p = 0.040172$,
582 Mann-Whitney test) (Table 2).

583 Taken together, PTA showed that Mock-inoculated and ORMV-infected plants follow separate paths through
584 morphospace. They differ in length, direction and shape (Figure 6), but also explore distinct regions of
585 morphospace in a disparate quantity. Control plants experience more diversification of shape, as evidenced by
586 the comparative length of trajectories (MD and MPL), have a higher amount of difference between shape states
587 through the experiment in morphospace ($\sum\text{Var}$) and explore more ample regions of morphospace (D_1 , D_2)
588 (Table 2). On the whole, ORMV infection not only alters the direction of ontogenetic shape development but
589 also diminishes shape change.

590 **Growth and Development modeling**

591 Even after finding that Mock- and ORMV-infected plants follow different ontogenetic trajectories of
592 shape it is possible to compare their rates and timings of growth and development. When groups have different
593 ontogenetic trajectories of shape, it is necessary to use a formalism that can be used when treatments follow
594 group-specific ontogenetic trajectories (Zelditch et al., 2012). One such possibility is to compare the rates and
595 timings at which groups depart from their own juvenile forms (Gould, 1977), an approach that can be applied
596 to compare growth (Hingst-Zaher et al., 2000) and development (Zelditch et al., 2003) rates between groups
597 with different ontogenetic trajectories. To linearize the relationship between size and age, $\ln(\text{CS})$ was regressed
598 on $\ln(\text{DPI})$ and growth rates were compared. Results showed higher growth rate for Mock (1.06, $\text{CI}_{95\%}=1.00-$
599 1.12) than for ORMV (0.72 $\text{CI}_{95\%}=0.64-0.79$) ($p_{(\text{same slope})}= 3,0309\text{E}-12$) (Figure 7A). Lack-of-fit was assessed
600 for both regressions and rejected ($p= 0.9975$ and $p= 0.3144$ respectively), thus indicating the goodness of fit
601 for both linear regressions. To compare developmental rates, it was measured the rate at which shape
602 progressively differentiates away from that of the youngest age class (3 DPI) from 4 to 12 DPI. The degree of
603 differentiation is measured by the morphometric distance between each individual and the average of the
604 youngest age class (Zelditch et al., 2003), using Euclidean distances as approximations of Procrustes distances
605 (Supplementary Figure 1 and Supplementary Table 1). Linear regressions with Euclidean distances (D) as a
606 dependent variable and $\ln(\text{DPI})$ as a regressor indicated a higher developmental rate for Mock- (0.34,
607 $\text{CI}_{95\%}=0.32-0.36$) relative to ORMV-infected plants (0.24, $\text{CI}_{95\%}=0.22-0.26$) ($p_{(\text{same slope})}= 5,4657\text{E}-13$) (Figure
608 7B). Lack-of-fit was rejected ($p= 0.1626$ and $p= 0.3278$ respectively). Healthy controls depart more from its
609 own juvenile shape from 8 DPI and beyond (Figure 7C), indicating that developmental change was relatively
610 impaired by ORMV. Together, these results indicated that ORMV reduced both growth and morphological
611 change.

612 Alternatively, nonlinear models have been widely applied to studies of growth in several biological
613 species (reviewed in (Zelditch et al., 2012)), including *Arabidopsis* (Tessmer et al., 2013). The latter decided
614 to apply a logistic model regarding *Arabidopsis* growth from seedling stage on the basis of the prevalence of
615 that model in plant growth studies. However for the present study it was decided to follow a less aprioristic
616 approach, more in line with that of (Zelditch et al., 2003) who tested several nonlinear models and compared
617 their relative performance regarding absence of residuals autocorrelation, percentage of variance explained and
618 minimal parameterization. Here, five nonlinear models were chosen to compare: Logistic, Gompertz,
619 Exponential, Monomolecular and Richards (Zelditch et al., 2003). For development analysis (Euclidean
620 distances respect to 3 DPI mean shape) Logistic model fitted the best, with minimal Mean Square Error and
621 low correlation between parameters, very close to the Gompertz model. However, all tested models showed a
622 strong autocorrelation of residuals as evidenced for the Durbin-Watson panel test (Appendix S1). When the

623 residuals are autocorrelated, it means that the current value is dependent of the previous (historic) values and
624 that there is a definite unexplained pattern in the Y variable (Euclidean distance in this case study) that shows
625 up in the disturbances. As a basic assumption of these analyses is the independence of residuals and
626 particularly, their absence of autocorrelation, neither analyzed model fitted the development accurately. The
627 same problem was found when the five growth models were applied to study growth, regardless choosing CS
628 or ln (CS) as the dependent variable and DPI or ln(DPI) as the regressor (data not shown). An explanation for
629 the autocorrelations of residuals is that data from successive DPIs (intra-group analyses) are not independent:
630 every specimen is recorded at each DPI. This leads to a multivariate longitudinal data analysis situation, a
631 branch of statistical analysis that has been recently addressed following different approaches (Verbeke et al.,
632 2014), and whose level of complexity is beyond the scope of this work.

633 However, intra-treatment paired comparisons of shape are possible using a paired Hotelling's test (a
634 multivariate analog of the paired t-test). It was found a strong effect of time on shape and differences are
635 extremely statistically significant for Mock plants (Supplementary Table 4).

636 Basic rosette growth and development parameters were studied (Figure 7). Rosette Growth,
637 Absolute Growth Rate (AGR) and Relative Growth Rate (RGR) had been proposed as measures of rosette
638 expansion and its velocity and rate, respectively (De Vylder et al., 2012; Vanhaeren et al., 2015). Mock-
639 inoculated plants were statistically significantly bigger from 6 DPI and beyond (Figure 7D). The graphic lacks
640 the typical sigmoidal shape of growth curves, probably because early stages of development (when landmarks
641 used in this work were not present yet) were not included in the analysis and plant growth had not reached its
642 plateau phase at 12 DPI yet. AGR and RGR analyses revealed an early change in growth tendencies between
643 treatments. As early as between 3 and 4 DPI, (two days before the detection of significant differences in rosette
644 area) ORMV started to slow rosette growth relative to healthy controls (Figure 7E-F). AGR graphic (Figure
645 7E) shows that, in contrast with control plants, ORMV-infected plants grew less rapidly from one day to the
646 following throughout the experiment with the exception of the period between 8 and 10 DPI. This indicated
647 different growth acceleration for each treatment. Growth acceleration (Figure 7G) peaked between 5 and 6 DPI
648 in control plants and remained near zero until 12 DPI, suggesting a stage of linear rate of expansion. Later on,
649 negative acceleration could indicate an entering in plateau phase reached by the region of the rosettes under
650 study. In infected plants, however, acceleration between 5 and 6 DPI was negative and differed strongly from
651 controls (difference = $1.94 \text{ mm}^2/\text{day}^2$, $p = 0.0009$, Mann-Whitney test), indicating that ORMV early slowed
652 down the velocity of plant growth in a drastic manner. A trend towards more negative values of growth
653 acceleration relative to controls was maintained in ORMV-infected plants until 10 DPI, though only marginally
654 statistically significant. At 10-12 DPI both groups decelerate their growth, possibly indicating an entering in a
655 plateau phase of growth. These results indicate that ORMV induces measurable changes in growth rates before

656 the mean CS is found to be statistically significantly different from healthy controls, and that the acceleration
657 of growth, which is characteristic from several growth models, is impaired by the virus.

658 A similar approach was followed to investigate developmental differences between groups. Mean
659 developmental rates were calculated between consecutive DPIs (Figure 7H). Mock –inoculated plants showed
660 a higher mean developmental rate from 5 DPI to the end of the experiment. The Mean Developmental
661 Acceleration (Figure 7I) showed a more complex pattern: Mock-inoculated plants peaked at 5 DPI and after
662 that, a deceleration of development was detected until 12 DPI. In infected plants, though, acceleration reached
663 a maximum at 6 DPI and then sharply decreased towards more negative values than control plants, indicating
664 a relative stagnation in morphological change. At 12 DPI ORMV induced a less negative value of Mean
665 Acceleration of development than controls, although its velocity remained lower ((Figure 7H-I).

666 Taken together, these results show that ORMV impacts both growth and development very early after
667 infection. Whereas a direct measure (CS) detected differences between treatments at 6 DPI, more elaborated
668 parameters (AGR, RGR and Mean Developmental Acceleration) allowed differences to be detected as soon as
669 4 DPI. Growth and developmental patterns differed between treatments in a dissimilar manner: AGR showed
670 differences in growth velocities at 4 DPI, whilst Mean Developmental Rate was clearly different later on.
671 Acceleration graphics (Figure 7G,I) indicated that ORMV has an early effect in decelerating both growth and
672 development, but the latter was more dramatically affected in comparison with relative growth deceleration
673 whose decrease was more or less stepwise. Mock-inoculated plants peaked developmental acceleration at 5
674 DPI and growth acceleration the following day. ORMV-infected plants peaked developmental acceleration at
675 6 DPI but lost the subsequent growth acceleration phase (Figure 7G,I). This and other comparisons indicate
676 that ORMV does not just induce delayed growth or morphological change patterns, but a more radical change
677 in the coordination of both parameters.

678 **Comparison with TuMV infections**

679 As stated earlier, one goal of applying the GM approach to the study of Arabidopsis is to make
680 phenotypic comparisons in a more objective and repeatable manner. To this end, the same experimental setup
681 was applied to the study of viral infections of *A. thaliana* with TuMV, an ssRNA+ virus unrelated to ORMV
682 (<http://viralzone.expasy.org/>). The experiment spanned from 4 to 10 DPI since at 12 DPI excessive curling of
683 some leaves induced by TuMV impaired the correct assignment of landmarks (Supplementary file TuMV
684 1st.morphoj). Individual datasets were created for each DPI and Procrustes Coordinates extracted. A combined
685 dataset was created and PCA carried on. After outliers exclusion, 27 Mock and 14 TuMV-inoculated plants
686 remained. PCA revealed that PC1 accounted for 49.2% of total variance (much less than the ORMV experiment
687 accounted for) and PC1 plus PC2 accounted for 69.3% of total variance. Again, PC1 mostly separates juveniles
688 from adult rosettes and negative values related predominantly to infected plants which retained a more

689 immature phenotype (Figure 8A). It was supported by the associated wireframe graph which depicts a relative
690 shortening of leaves #11 and #12, similarly to ORMV-infected plants (Figure 3C). PC2 was strongly positively
691 related to infected plants and, similarly to the ORMV case (Figure 3D), reflects the widening of the angle
692 between leaves #9 and #10. PCs 3 and 4 (Figure 8B-C) accounted for 17.7% of total variance and are mainly
693 negatively related to TuMV infection. Discriminant Analysis (Figure 8D-E) showed that, similarly as observed
694 with ORMV, group means were statistically significantly different starting from 5 DPI. Wireframe graphs also
695 evidenced a strong relative shortening of the petioles, similarly to that had been found under ORMV infections
696 (Figure 4F,I), indicating that more compact rosettes are a common outcome of these viral infections.
697 Discriminant power was slightly higher for almost all DPIs in the case of TuMV (Supplementary Table 5,
698 Supplementary Table 3). Moreover, Procrustes Distances were higher for every DPI in the case of TuMV,
699 which induced a Procrustes separation at 8 DPI only matched at 12 DPI for ORMV-infected plants
700 (Supplementary Table 5, Table 1). These results suggest that TuMV is a more severe virus than ORMV is in
701 Arabidopsis, since it induces a more pronounced departure from Mock mean shape.

702 PTA supported this evidence: A subset of 4-10 DPI datasets were selected to compare ORMV with TuMV
703 infections (Table 2, Figure 9A-B). Whilst trajectory size difference ($MD_{\text{Mock, TuMV}}$) was similar to the obtained
704 with ORMV, the multivariate angle ($\theta_{\text{Mock, TuMV}}$) that separates infected from healthy trajectories more than
705 doubled that of ORMV. Shape differences ($D_{\text{ShapeMock, TuMV}}$) between trajectories almost doubled. The majority
706 of the other measures indicated a slower rate of shape change relative to Mock plants, similarly to ORMV
707 infection, but relatively less marked (Table 2). To visualize and compare shape changes, transformation grids
708 with Jacobian expansion factors and lollipops were done in PAST for 10 DPI plants (Figure 9C-D). Both
709 viruses induced relative contraction of the rosette around leaf #11 (the most affected), but TuMV induced more
710 severe deformations. To confirm these results and to test for the reproducibility of the analysis, an independent
711 experiment of TuMV infection was executed (Supplementary file TuMV 2nd.morphoj). PTA analyses were
712 run and trajectory attributes compared (Table 2). There were obtained very similar results relative to the first
713 TuMV experiment.

714 Together, these results indicated that both TuMV and ORMV induced relative developmental arrest as well as
715 shape change, but symptoms triggered by ORMV are mainly driven by developmental arrest whereas TuMV
716 also promotes shape change in a relatively higher extent, thus impacting more strongly on overall shape.

717

718 Discussion

719 Here, several standard GM tools were applied to the study and comparison of morphological changes induced
720 in Arabidopsis by viral infections. GM analysis is a powerful approach due both to its statistical toolbox and
721 its appealing visual analysis of shape change. By conceptually separating size and shape, making them

722 mathematically orthogonal, both factors that determine form could be separately analyzed. Thus, the effect of
723 ORMV infection was detected earlier on shape and the derived measures of size (Tables 1-3, Figure 7E,F) than
724 in size itself (Figure 7D). GM analysis greatly outperformed diagnosis when compared against expert human
725 eye (Supplementary Table 3). The effect of time on shape was more pronounced than that of treatment, since
726 the former was detected earlier (Tables 2 and 5). This was particularly the case for control rosettes, reflecting
727 that normal rosette development is not a scaling up of previous shapes but a relative displacement of newly
728 developed structures, a process that is somewhat impaired by ORMV, which induced the retention of a more
729 juvenile-like phenotype (Figure 3).

730 Normal allometric growth comprised a lengthening of petioles and laminae of new leaves (#11 and 12) relative
731 to older ones (Figure 5H-I). This process was reversed by ORMV, which also distorted the normal angle of
732 approximately 137.5° between successive leaves. As a result, leaves #9 and 10 bended towards leaves #8 and
733 11, which in turn came close together, bending towards the inoculated leaf (#3) that is situated middle way
734 between them (Figure 4F,I). TuMV provoked similar outcomes (Figure 8) but the effect seemed stronger, not
735 only regarding the distorted inter-leaves angle, but for the relative contraction of leaf #11 respect to all
736 remaining leaves, including #12 (Figure 8E, Figure 9C-D). Taking into account the source-to-sink nature of
737 viral movement by phloem (Manacorda et al., 2013) and its radial structure (Taiz and Zeiger, 2006) it could
738 be hypothesized that virus or viral-induced hormones are distributed through the rosette in such a way that they
739 inhibit proximal systemic growth. These kind of data-based hypothesis is one desired outcome of the
740 application of GM tools (Zelditch et al., 2012) in particular and phenotyping in general. Future work should
741 test this hypothesis by means of comparing cell number or size in distal and proximal parts of systemic leaves,
742 or the effect growth hormones and mutants have in these parameters.

743 Both viruses diminished shape change, constraining virus-infected rosettes to smaller regions of multivariate
744 morphospace (Supplementary Table 1, Table 2 and Figures 6-9). Ontogeny (the development or course of
745 development of an individual organism) is a genetically-based endogenous process but can be altered by the
746 environment (Gould, 1977). Here, the departure of normal ontogenetic development is induced by both viruses.
747 The consequences of this departure should be analyzed by further work measuring relevant traits.

748 The availability of a standard measurement unit of shape change (Procrustes distance) allowed to compare
749 ORMV- and TuMV- induced shape changes relative to the departure from healthy control shapes (Figure 9A-
750 B, Tables 2-4 and 6) and objectively rank symptoms severity. Besides, visualization tools aided to identify
751 were the shape change differences allocated in the rosette (Figure 4C, F, I, Figure 8D-E and Figure 9C-D). In
752 sum, it was concluded that TuMV impacts more strongly on Arabidopsis rosette shape than ORMV does.
753 Trajectory and density parameters could be also used to compare developmental phenotypic plasticity (a term
754 generally used to summarize how a given group responds to a series of different environmental conditions by

755 producing an array of phenotypes (Pigliucci, 2004)). Multivariate reaction norms could be then obtained, using
756 shape variables but also controlling for other variables (size, external factors) and weighting their interaction.
757 This would enrich the description of phenotypes whilst offering a solid basis for comparisons.

758 After the genomic revolution, there is a need of objective, reproducible, and accurate assessments of
759 morphology as a critical missing link to supporting phenomics (Punyasena and Smith, 2014). The use of GM
760 allows standardizing deviations from controls in a consistent, objective manner. At the core of these conceptual
761 framework is the GPA, which permits to compare shapes in Procrustes units of distance.

762 The examples given in this work are necessarily limited, but other applications could be easily envisioned: as
763 the choice of landmarks placement is arbitrary on a given structure, other experimental setups could place them
764 differently to study different stages of growth or other anatomical regions of interest. Importantly, this
765 technique is not a competitor but a possible complementation of newly developed automated platforms for
766 rosette segmentation. It is now possible for some platforms to identify the tip of leaves, the center of the rosette
767 and the intersection between lamina and petiole (Apelt et al., 2015; Tessmer et al., 2013), thus giving the
768 landmarks used in this study and its coordinates, automatically.

769 Moreover, the same software used in this work permits GM 3D image analysis, therefore allowing the study
770 of plant species with a more complex architecture.

771 100 years after the revolutionary vision of D'Arcy Thompson's transformation grids and more than 40 years
772 since the beginning of the revolution in morphometrics, GM application for plant phenotyping is starting to
773 develop (Gómez et al., 2016; Viscosi, 2015; Viscosi and Cardini, 2011) and the plant model species
774 *Arabidopsis thaliana* should benefit from it.

775 **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

776 We thanks Dr Flora Sánchez and Dr Fernando Ponz for the kind gift of ORMV and TuMV virus. We thank
777 Dr. Ken Kobayashi and Nicolás Carlotto for human treatment assignments of plants in the Discriminant
778 Analysis comparison, Dra. Valeria Carreira for critical reading of the manuscript and Mariano Manacorda for
779 assistance in adapting figure colours to the Color Universal Design for accessibility to colour-blind people.
780 This research was supported by PICT 2014-1163 from Agencia Nacional de Promoción Científica y
781 Tecnológica (ANPCyT) and by project PE 1131022 (INTA). The authors declare that they have no conflict of
782 interests.

783

784 **Figures and Tables Legends**

785 **Figure 1.** (A) Landmark configuration in an *Arabidopsis* rosette. An 8 DPI Mock-inoculated rosette is shown.
786 (B) Analysis flowchart showing the different software used in this study, with main features extracted from
787 each one listed below corresponding icon. See main text and Materials and Methods for details.

788 **Figure 2.** Shape variation including all observations and replicas. PCA scatterplots of (A) PC1 vs. PC2 and
789 (B) PC3 vs. PC4. Equally colored dots represent both digitizations of the same specimen, for all DPIs. The
790 scale factor for this graph is directly the magnitude of the shape change as a Procrustes distance; the default is
791 0.1, which corresponds to a change of the PC score by 0.1 units in the positive direction.

792 **Figure 3.** Shape variation between specimens (averaged by measurement replicates). PCA scatterplots of (A)
793 PC1 vs. PC2 and (B) PC3 vs. PC4, which together explain 87.4 % of variance. Pale dots = juvenile (3-6 DPI)
794 plants. Dark dots = mature (7-12 DPI) plants. (C-F) Wireframe graphs showing shape changes from the starting
795 (average) shape (bluish green) to the target shape (orange) for the first four PCs. Negative (PC1) and positive
796 (PCs2-4) components are shown, respectively. Here and throughout this work, leaf number is indicated in the
797 wireframe in black. (G) Lollipop graph for the -PC1 component. Lollipops indicate starting position of
798 landmarks with dots. (H-I) Transformation grids for (H) the starting shape and for (I) the target shape (-PC1).
799 Shape changes (C-G and I) are magnified 2X for better visualization.

800 **Figure 4.** Discriminant analyses of shape variation between treatments at 3 (A- C), 7 (D-F) and 12 (G-I) DPI.
801 Frequencies of discriminant scores obtained by resubstitution rates of assignments (A, D, G) and a jackknife
802 cross-validation (B, E, H) are shown using histogram bars with percentages of correct assignments above each
803 graph. Wireframes comparing mean shapes (C, F, I) are shown magnified 2 times. Mock = bluish green;
804 ORMV = orange.

805 **Figure 5.** Allometric analyses. (A) Predicted sum of squares from regressions of shape onto $\ln(\text{CS})$ for each
806 treatment and DPI. P-values were corrected using Holm's sequential test ($\alpha=0.05$). * = $p < 0.05$; ** = $p < 0.01$.
807 Allometric analyses for (B, D, F, H) 3 DPI and (C, E, G, I) 4 DPI (Mock = bluish green; ORMV = orange).
808 Cross-validated DAs before (B-C) and after (D-E) size correction with percentages of correct assignments
809 above each graph. (F-G) Scatterplot of regression scores vs. $\ln(\text{CS})$. (H-I) Wireframes showing starting mean
810 shape (turquoise) and target shape depicting an increase in one unit of $\ln(\text{CS})$ (blue), without magnification.

811 **Figure 6.** Phenotypic trajectories for Mock and ORMV (3-12 DPI). Scatterplot shows the first two PCs of
812 shape variation across the experiment. Mean values for each DPI are colored and connected with lines. PTA
813 parameters are given (see main text). Mock = bluish green; ORMV = orange.

814 **Figure 7.** Growth and Development modeling. Comparisons of (A) growth and (B) developmental rates.
815 Linear regressions for Mock (black lines) and ORMV (orange) with CI95% bands (blue). (C) Euclidean
816 distances from own average juvenile shapes for mock and ORMV plants. Student's t tests were performed
817 separately for each DPI, contrasting mock vs. ORMV mean distances from its own average shapes at 3 DPI.
818 Bars indicate mean average shape distances from average juvenile shape +/- SE. ** = $p < 0.01$; *** = $p <$
819 0.0001. (D-G) Rosette growth parameters. Measures of (D) size, (E-F) growth rate and (G) growth acceleration.

820 Error bars indicate +/- SE. * = $p < 0.05$; ** = $p < 0.01$; *** = $p < 0.0001$, Mann-Whitney tests. (H-I) Rosette
821 developmental parameters. (H) rate and (I) acceleration. (C-I) Mock = bluish green; ORMV = orange.

822 **Figure 8.** Summary of GM analyses for TuMV-infected plants. (A-C) Shape variation between specimens. (A)
823 PCA scatterplot (PC1 vs. PC2). Pale dots = juvenile (4-5 DPI) plants. Dark dots = mature (7-10 DPI) plants.
824 Wireframe graphs from starting (average) shape (bluish green) to target shape (reddish purple) corresponding
825 to -PC1 (to the left) and +PC2 (top) are included. (B-C) Wireframes for -PC3 and -PC4, respectively. (D-E)
826 Frequencies of jackknifed discriminant scores for 7 and 10 DPI respectively, with wireframes depicting shape
827 changes included. Wireframes show starting shape (mock = bluish green) to the target shape (TuMV = reddish
828 purple). Shape change is magnified 2X.

829 **Figure 9.** Comparison of virus severity. PC plots of PTA for (A) ORMV- and (B) TuMV-infected plants,
830 compared with Mock-inoculated plants (4-10 DPI). PTA parameters are shown (see main text). Transformation
831 grids with lollipops and Jacobian expansion factors were executed in PAST for (C) ORMV- and (D) TuMV-
832 infected plants depicting shape change from controls at 10 DPI. Jacobian expansion factors indicate expansions
833 of the grid (yellow to orange red for factors > 1) or contractions (blue for factors between 0 and 1). Lollipops
834 indicate target position of landmarks with dots. Leaf #11 (landmarks 4 and 9) is positioned at the bottom.

835 **Table 1.** Statistical tests for differences between means of treatments at each DPI from DA. Permutation tests
836 with 1000 random runs.

837 **Table 2.** Comparative trajectory analyses for the full dataset of the ORMV experiment (3-12 DPI), the reduced
838 dataset (4-10 DPI) and the comparisons with TuMV experiments (4-10 DPI).

839
840 Appendix S1. Description of the Durbin-Watson panel test.

841 Supplementary Figure 1. Graphical assessment of the Tangent shape space approximation. Scatterplots of
842 distances in the tangent space against Procrustes distances (geodesic distances in radians) for (A) Mock-
843 inoculated plants, (B) ORMV-infected plants and (C) all plants, over all DPIs. A blue line is plotted to show a
844 slope of 1 through the origin. Then a least-squares regression line through the origin is shown in red (for data
845 in which the variation in shape is small this will hide the blue line).

846 Supplementary Figure 2. Wireframes depicting shape change associated with -PC1 values from 3 to 12 DPI
847 (A-H). Green = starting (average) shape; red = target shape. No magnification was applied.

848 Supplementary Table 1. Summary statistics for the comparisons between Tangent (Euclidean) and Procrustes
849 shape distances from average shapes and for regression slopes and correlations between the two distances.

850 Supplementary Table 2. Summary of centroid size and shape variation. Hierarchical sum of squares ANOVA.
851 Main effect: Treatments; random factors: Individuals (ID), Digitization. SS, MS and df refer respectively to

852 sum of squares, mean sum of squares (i.e., SS divided by df) and degrees of freedom. Error1 = Measurement
853 error.

854 Supplementary Table 3. Classification/misclassification tables from DA for each DPI and human observers for
855 7 DPI.

856 Supplementary Table 4. Statistical comparisons of intra-treatment shape changes across the ORMV
857 experiment. Holm's-Bonferroni sequential correction at $\alpha=0.05$.

858 Supplementary Table 5. Discriminant Analysis for TuMV. Statistical tests for differences between means of
859 treatments at each DPI from DA (with permutation tests with 1000 random runs) and
860 classification/misclassification tables for each DPI.

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1048 Table 1

Discriminant Function Analysis	3 DPI	4 DPI	5 DPI	6 DPI	7 DPI	8 DPI	10 DPI	12 DPI
Difference between means:								
Procrustes distance:	0.037	0.047	0.063	0.087	0.097	0.105	0.149	0.189
Mahalanobis distance:	1.799	1.924	3.815	5.117	6.651	7.035	9.078	10.863
T-square:	31.637	36.170	142.264	255.916	432.438	483.790	805.573	1153.389
<i>P</i> -value (parametric):	0.521	0.405	0.001	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001
P-values for permutation tests (1000 permutation runs):								
<i>Procrustes distance</i> :	0.549	0.182	0.005	0.002	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001
<i>T-square (Mahalanobis distance)</i> :	0.523	0.417	0.001	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001

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1051 Table 2

ORMV3-12 DPI		
		<i>p-value</i>
$MD_{Mock,ORMV}$	0.100	0.003
$\theta_{Mock,ORMV}$	18,34°	0.001
$D_{ShapeMock,ORMV}$	0.367	0.001
MPL_{Mock}	0.696	2.50E-04
MPL_{ORMV}	0.596	
$\sum Var_{Mock}$	0.035	2.52E-06
$\sum Var_{ORMV}$	0.023	
$D_{1(Mock)}$	20.21	2.89E-06
$D_{1(ORMV)}$	26.93	
Hyperellipse _{(IC95%)Mock}	0.022	0,005 *
Hyperellipse _{(IC95%)ORMV}	0.014	
$D_{2(Mock)}$	32.97	0,040 *
$D_{2(ORMV)}$	41.87	
ORMV4-10 DPI		
$MD_{Mock,ORMV}$	0.085	0.005
$\theta_{Mock,ORMV}$	16,46°	0.001
$D_{ShapeMock,ORMV}$	0.343	0.037
MPL_{Mock}	0.472	8,03E-04 *
MPL_{ORMV}	0.401	
$\sum Var_{Mock}$	0.022	2,21E-05 *
$\sum Var_{ORMV}$	0.015	
$D_{1(Mock)}$	21.77	3,61E-05 *
$D_{1(ORMV)}$	28.37	
Hyperellipse _{(IC95%)Mock}	0.012	0,075 *
Hyperellipse _{(IC95%)ORMV}	0.009	
$D_{2(Mock)}$	48.94	0,203 *
$D_{2(ORMV)}$	56.41	
TuMV4-10 DPI 1st		
$MD_{Mock,TuMV}$	0.093	0.015
$\theta_{Mock,TuMV}$	34,41°	0.001
$D_{ShapeMock,TuMV}$	0.613	0.001
MPL_{Mock}	0.504	0,049 *
MPL_{TuMV}	0.461	
$\sum Var_{Mock}$	0.030	0,007 *
$\sum Var_{TuMV}$	0.023	
$D_{1(Mock)}$	16.94	0,017 *
$D_{1(TuMV)}$	21.83	
Hyperellipse _{(IC95%)Mock}	0.019	0,156 *
Hyperellipse _{(IC95%)TuMV}	0.017	
$D_{2(Mock)}$	32.51	0,277 *
$D_{2(TuMV)}$	46.05	
TuMV4-10 DPI 2nd		
$MD_{Mock,TuMV}$	0.082	0.202
$\theta_{Mock,TuMV}$	35,05°	0.001
$D_{ShapeMock,TuMV}$	0.642	0.002

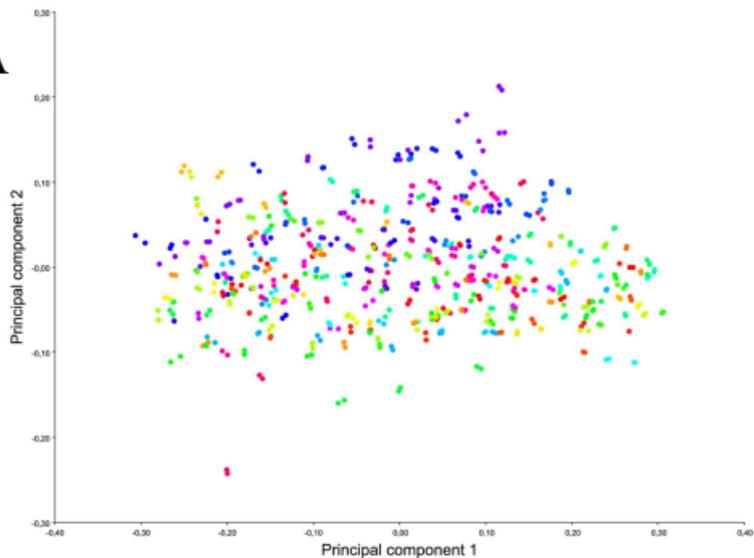
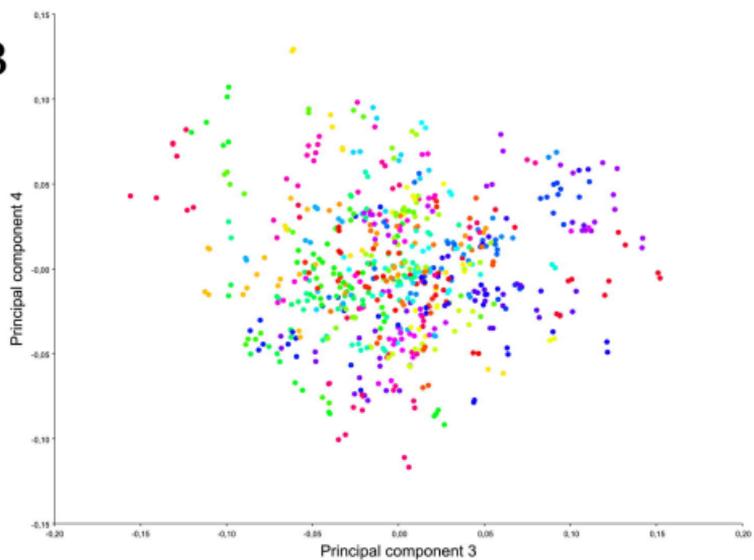
*= First 3 PCs considered (>95% total variance)

Units: MD = DShape = MPL = D1 = D2 = Euclidean distance.

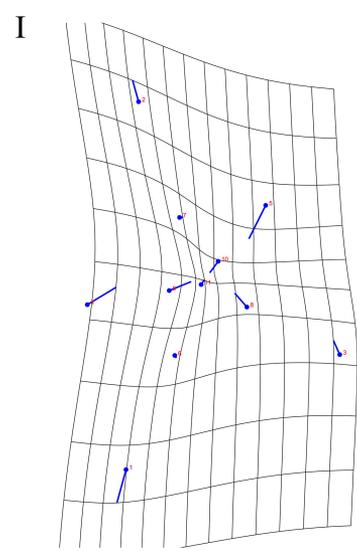
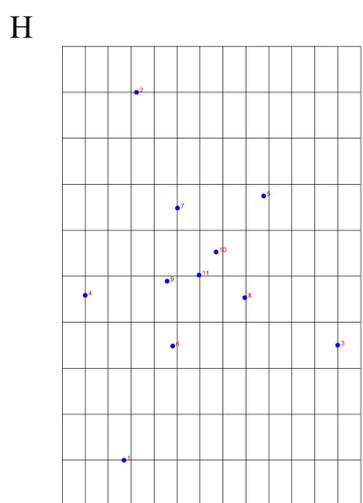
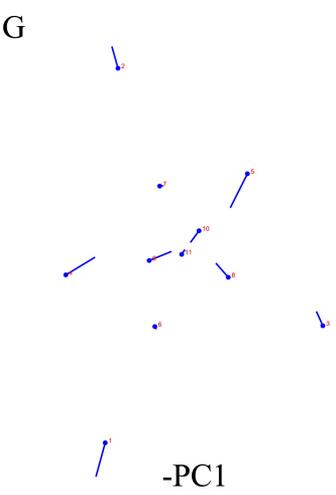
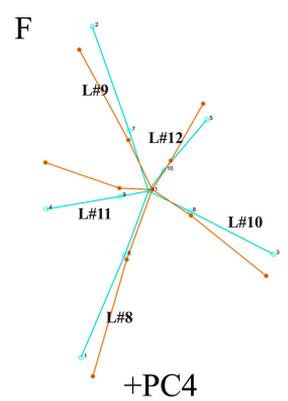
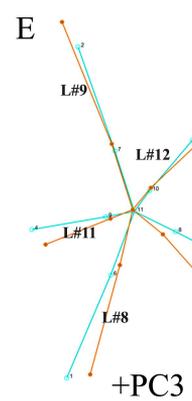
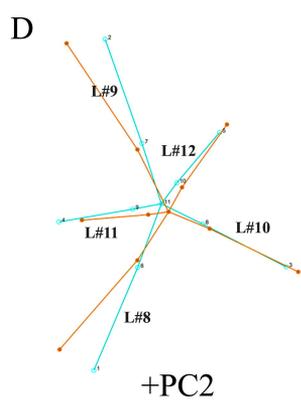
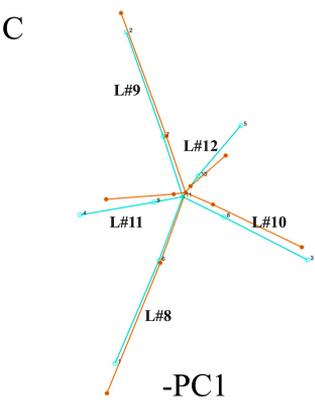
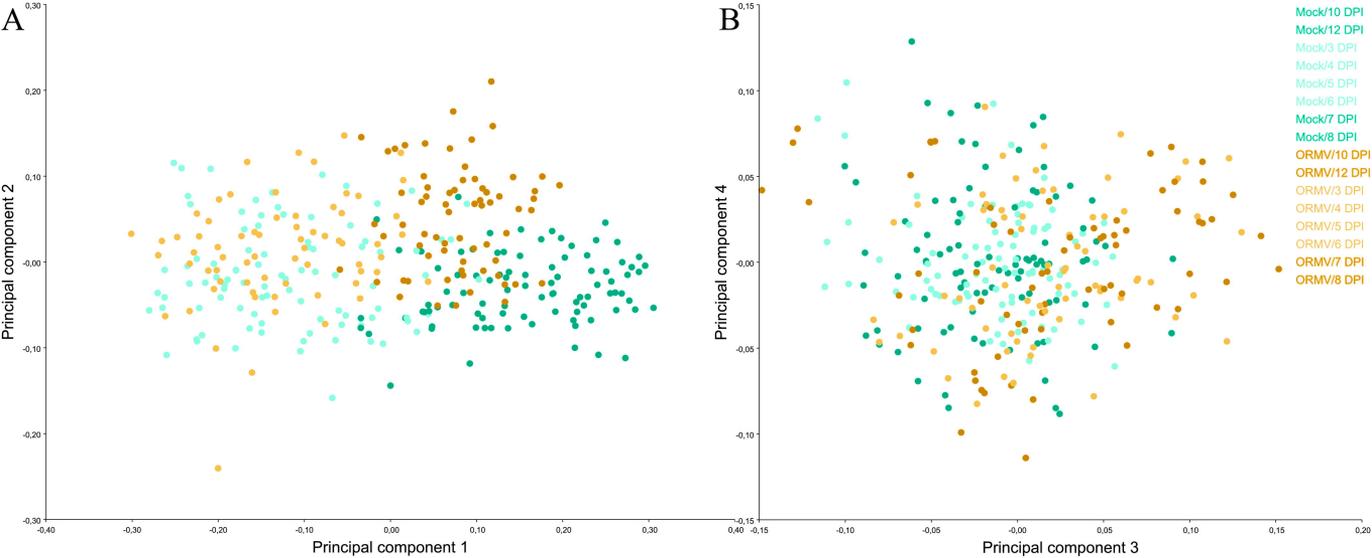
θ = degrees. $\sum Var$ = Hyperellipse(CI=95%) = dimensionless.

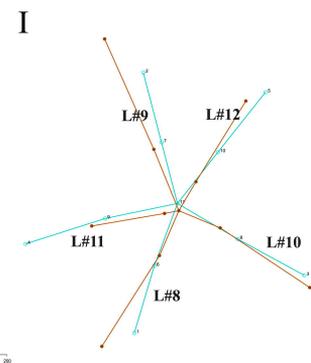
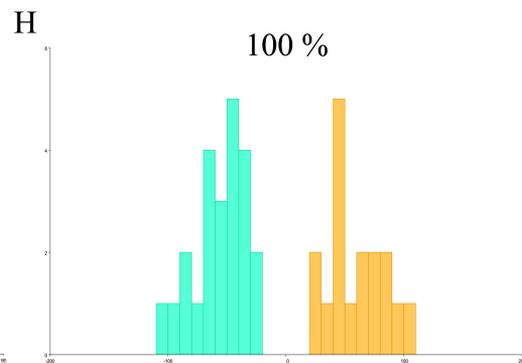
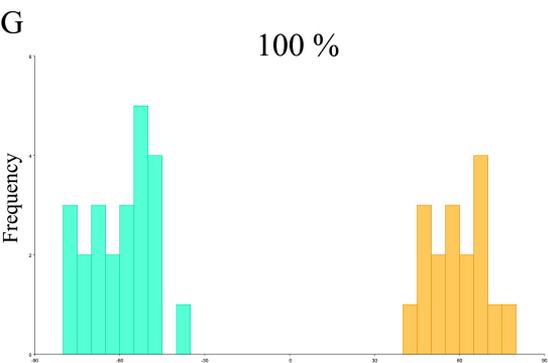
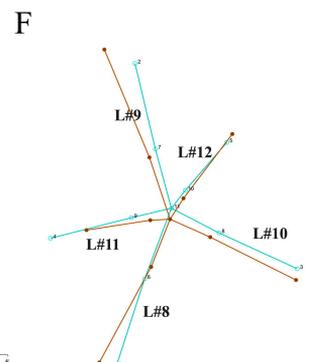
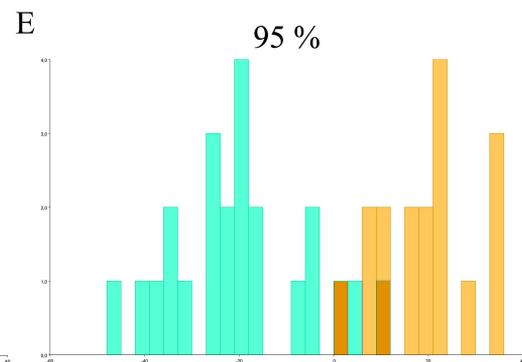
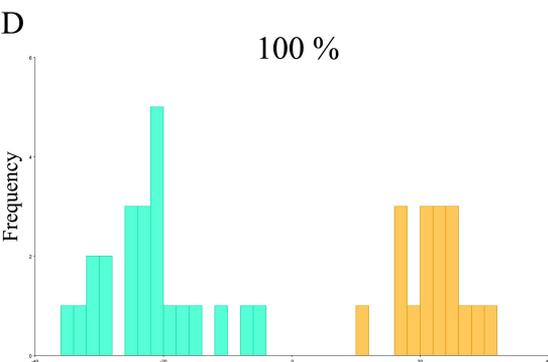
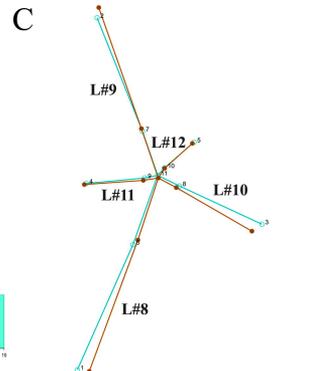
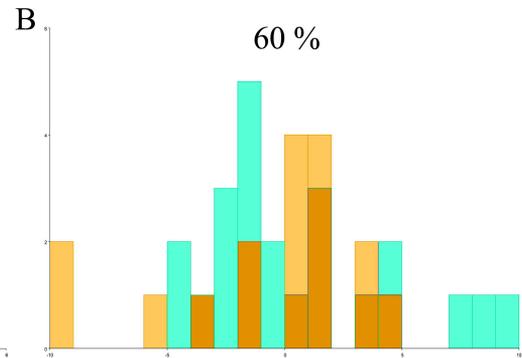
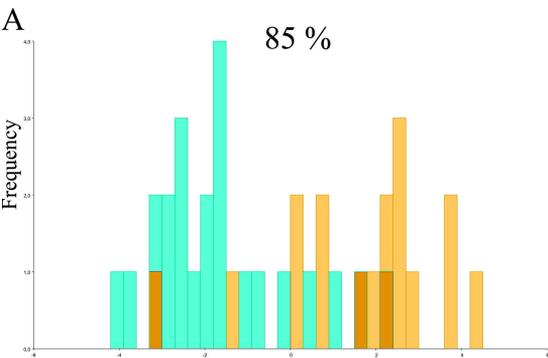
Statistically significant results in bold

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A**B**

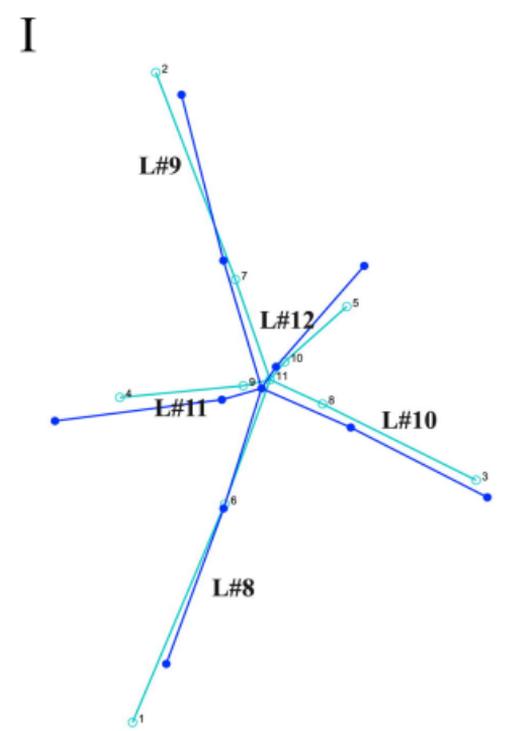
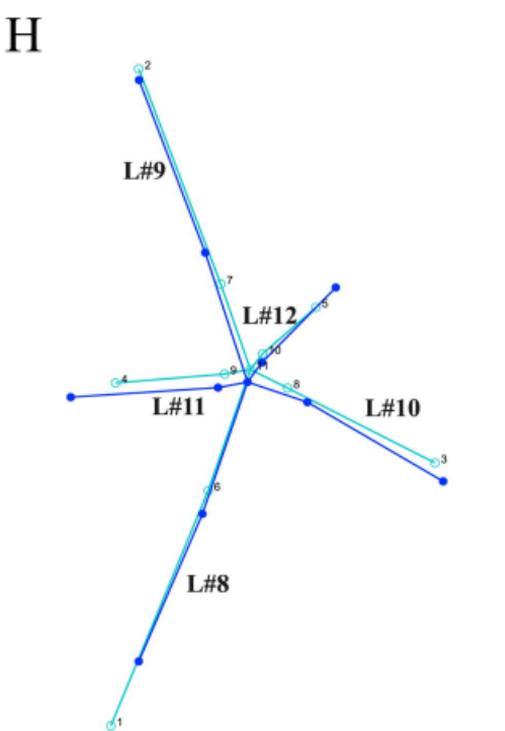
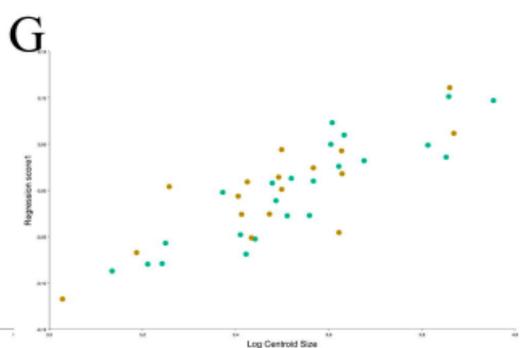
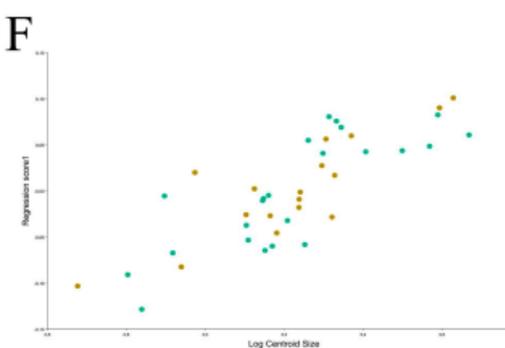
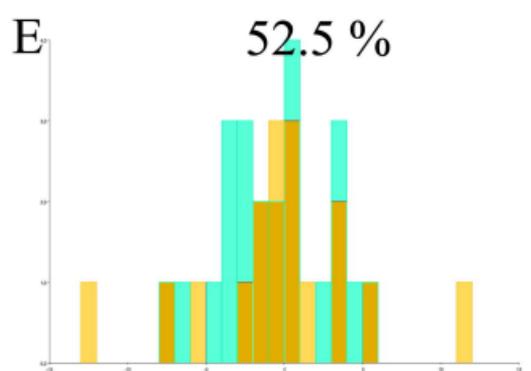
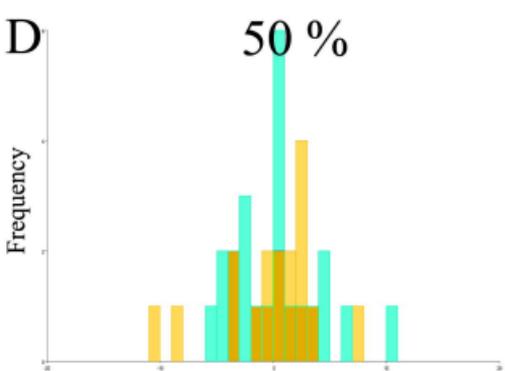
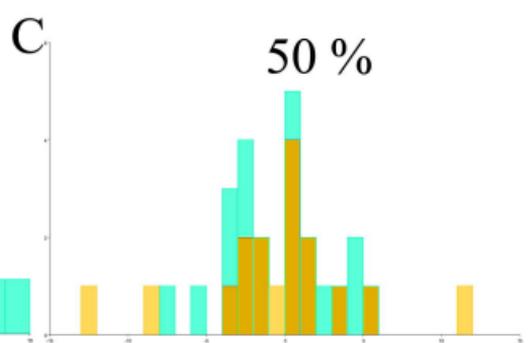
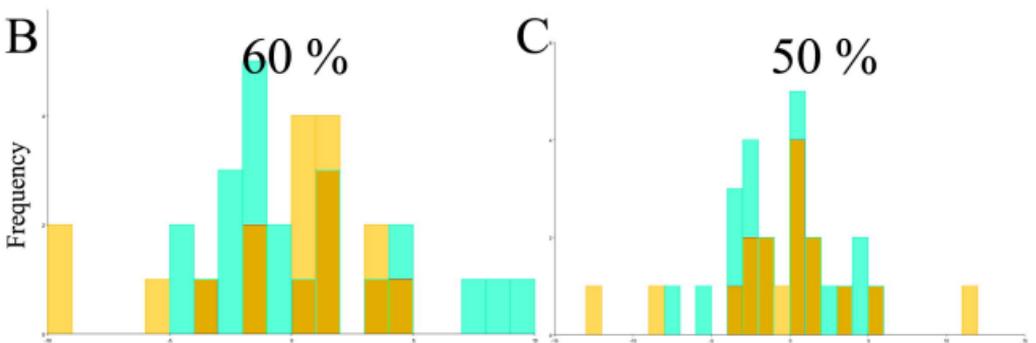
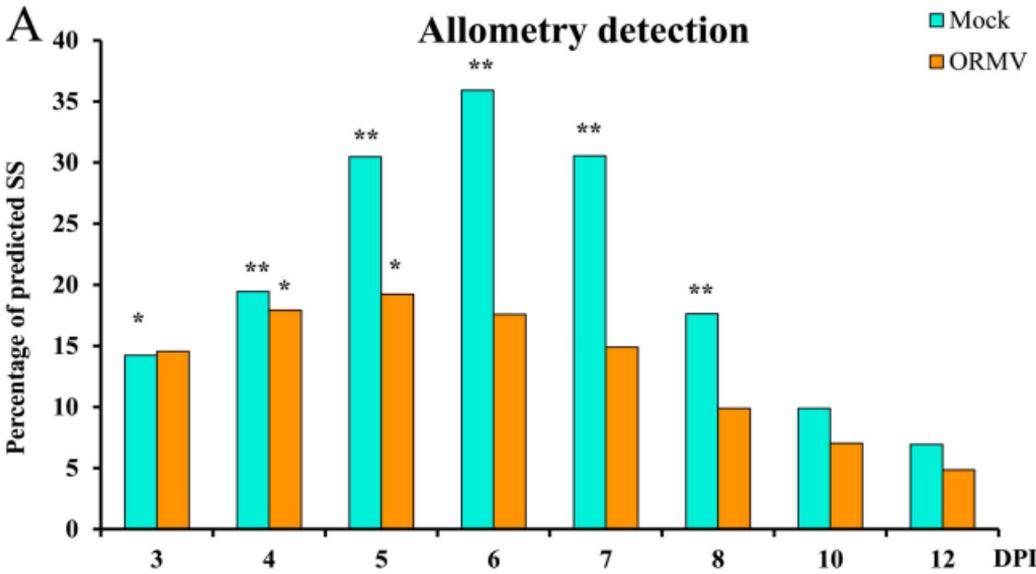
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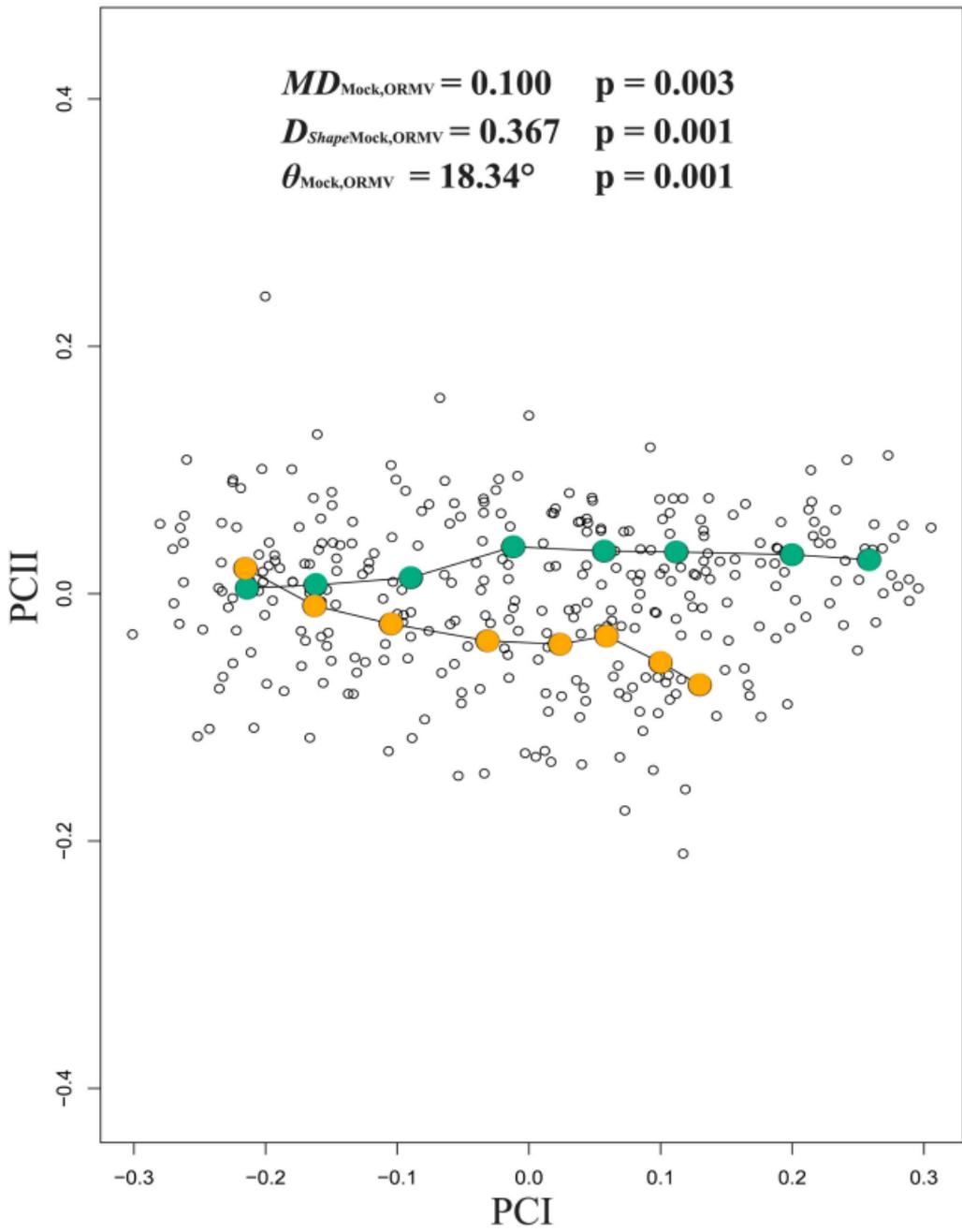


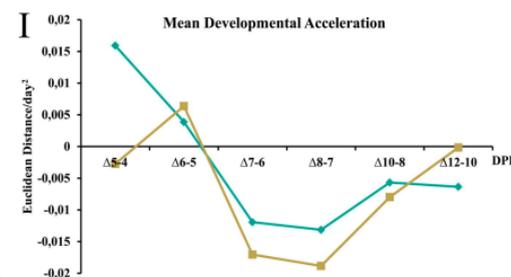
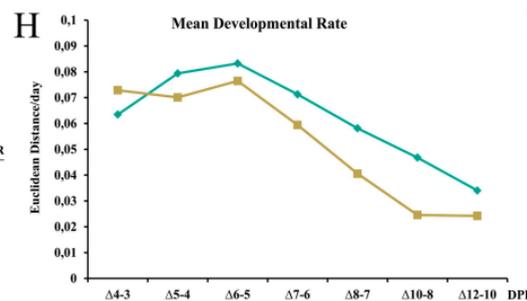
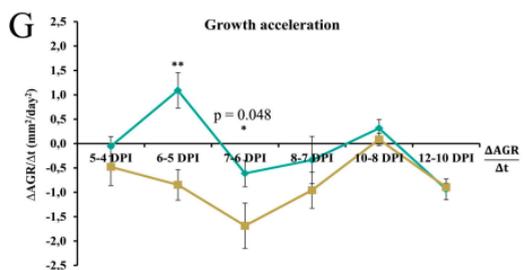
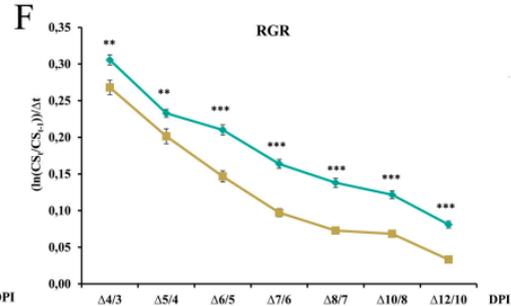
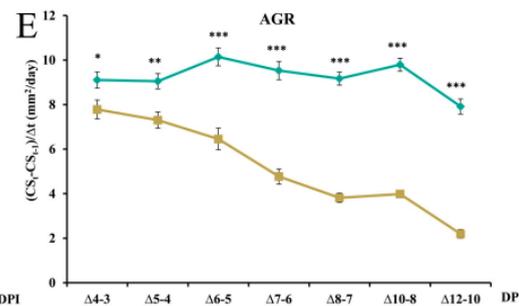
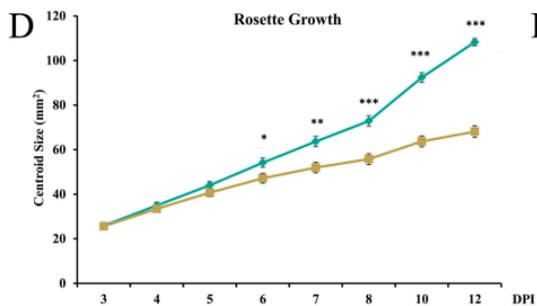
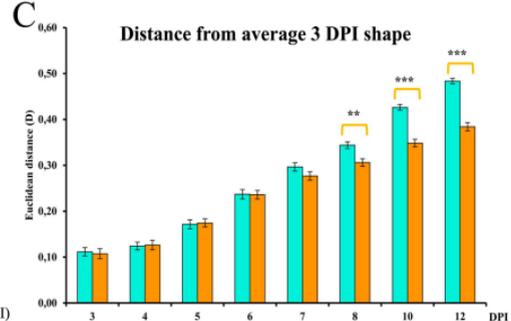
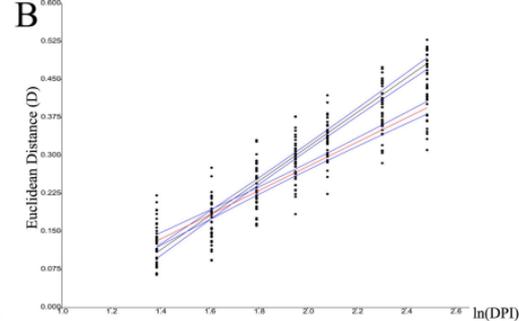
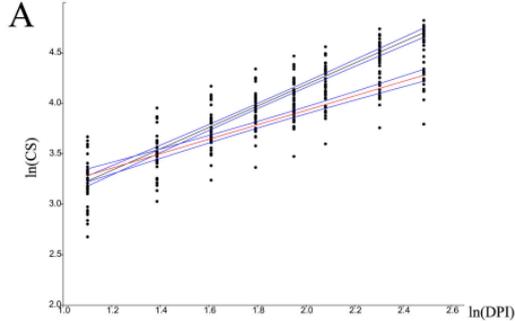


From Discrimination function

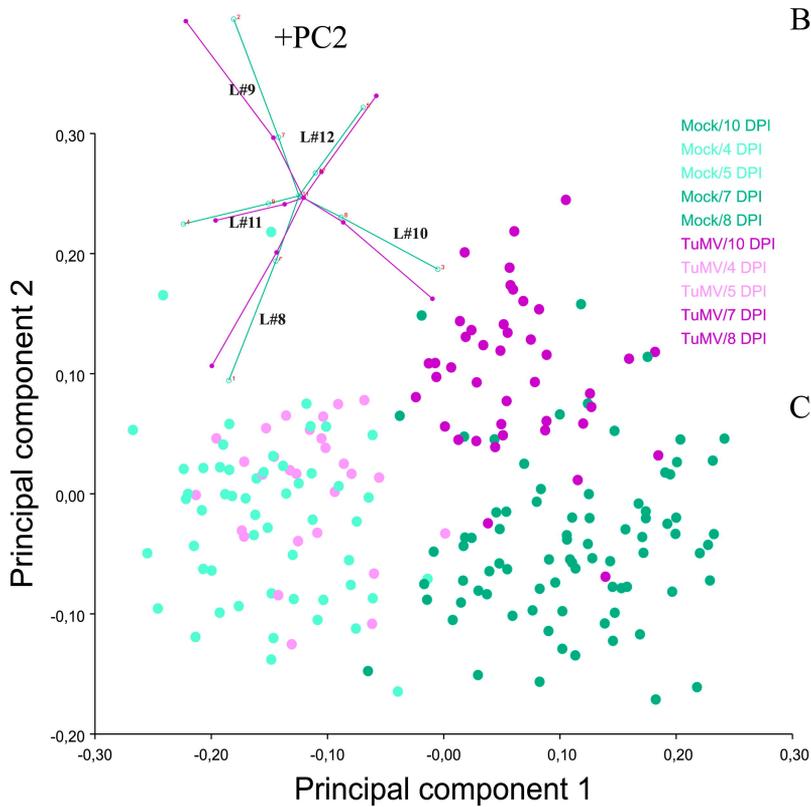
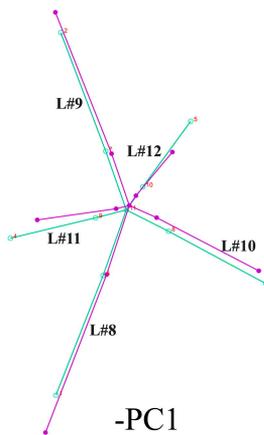
From Cross-validation



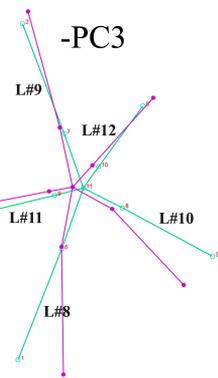




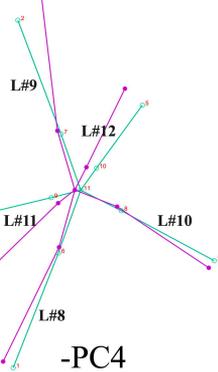
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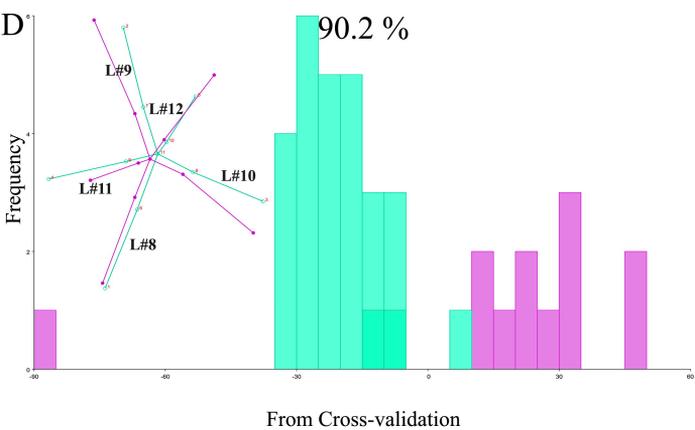
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